

1.



POPPA'S FIRST TRAIN

This was Poppa's first train. It ran on steam. Poppa called it "Lady Alison" after

Nan, whose name is also Alison. Daniel was a small boy then and he loved coming to Nan & Poppa's and riding the train along the rails on the front lawn



2.



LADY WENDEL

Was Poppa's second engine. It was named after Aunty Wendy and Aunty Delwyn.

It was a lovely green train and Poppa would take it to Auckland to drive on the model

engineers track. Here Poppa is putting more coal on the fire to raise steam for his next run. He liked taking the girls and boys for a ride.

3.



Poppa's First Electric Locomotive

Poppa thought he would have a change from building steam trains so built an electric train, just like the ones on

the Frankton to Palmerston North run. This was a 30 class EF which is on it's first trial run at the Manukau Live Steamers track in Auckland. Nan is sitting behind Poppa with Daniel, Alissa, Aunty Wendy and Uncle John.

4.

Poppa's Phantom

This lovely big blue engine was called a "Phantom 36". Poppa was very proud of this and often would take it to Manukau Live Steamers where he would pull several carriages and give children and their mums and dads rides around the track. The Phantom was a steam locomotive and could pull a lot of people at once.



5.



MR SANDMAN

Poppa liked helping other people so he helped his friend build another Phantom. This one was painted bright red and because

it was Poppa's friends dream come true he called it "Mr Sandman". Poppa's friend loved driving it and giving people rides around the Thames Small Gauge Railway especially as it made a noise over the small bridge. It would blow out smoke and toot it's whistle as it sped along the track.

6.



LINUS

Nan liked driving trains too so Poppa built her, her own train which she called Linus after one of the peanuts characters. The children loved riding with Nan as she

was such a good driver and liked having lots of people on her train. Linus was a dark blue locomotive. It was an electric shunter with a very loud toot that would wake people up. Nan was proud of Linus. Linus had lovely red wheels and side rods that whirled around as it went along.

7 & 8

The Three Shunters RATU-LINUS-SQUIB



Linus was a very popular Shunter and Poppa's friends wanted some similar shunters so Poppa made two more shunters for them. They were given names by their new owners of RATU and SQUIB. These shunters worked hard at the Thames track pulling lots of people. They seemed to like hard work and were always ready for another trip around the track.

9.



INTER CITY 125

Poppa liked the look of this streamlined trains that they ran on the tracks in England so he decided that he would make one that would have a petrol motor and

hydraulic drive. These were a very fast train and would get the passengers to their stations very quickly. Poppa has some happy children riding behind him at the M.L.S. track in Auckland. This train has the name "Sting" as it looked like a bumble bee.

10.



Poppa's 1st EC09 “Electric”

It was not very nice going through long tunnels in a steam train and the passengers would get dirty with smoke and find it

smelly and hard to breath so they started to electrify the long tunnels in New Zealand. The Ec was one of the first electrics to be used between Christchurch and Lyttelton in the late 1920's where they had a very long tunnel. Poppas friend takes his wife for a ride at the Thames track. Look at all those tracks!

11.



DXR 8007

The Thames Small Gauge Railway got Poppa to build this locomotive for the club. It is a big powerful train that can pull lots of passengers. It is painted just like the real Tranz Rail

Locomotives were. Poppa likes having a drive of this train. The club decided to call this locomotive “Dexter”. It sounds just like the real diesel trains but really is electrically driven.

12.



TRANZ RAIL DH Shunter

This was named
“Deborah” using the
first and last letters of
it’s designation.
Deborah is a smaller
locomotive. These are
still use in NZ, for

shunting in Auckland. This locomotive is now being used
at a childrens park north of Auckland to take people for
rides so is working very hard earning a living.

MY POPPA’S TRAINS



As compiled by Poppa Christmas 2006

14.



ANOTHER “EC”

Poppa took his latest EC to Thames for their open weekend in 2006 and it was very popular. One of Poppa’s friends is seen driving the EC on the Thames Track. It looks nice towing the Toyota ride

car which matches the train. These trains run very quietly and all you hear is the noise of the wheels on the tracks. This train was named “Jesse”

13.



THE BABY EC

Poppas trains sometimes run on rails that are only 5 inches apart and some have the rails 7¼ inches apart. This is called the baby EC because it runs on the 5 inch track. While it is like the other two it is much smaller but it can still pull a number of people and two passenger cars. This locomotive was called “Lucy”

15.



BIG YELLOW

Poppa helped build Big Yellow for the Tauranga Model Engineering Club. It is a favourite with the children with it's bright yellow body and good looks.

16.

AN UNUSUAL STEEPLE CAB SHUNTER



Poppa often takes his trains to other tracks and lets other people have a drive.

Here is one of his trains on the Rotorua track at their open weekend 2006. This is one of Poppas latest trains and he has called it "Lucida" the same as Poppa and Nan's vehicle. Lucida means "excellence"

17

5" Gauge EW RUBY



It didn't take poppa long before he built this lovely red train. It has a swivel joint in the middle which means it is articulated. This make is easily go around tight corners.

Big trains like these ran on the Wellington electrified lines from 1952 for quite a few years.

These engines were very powerful and ran on electricity.

EW Added Jan 2008

18

7 1/4" Gauge EO



Poppa was happy building his next train which was a model of an older train which ran through the Otira tunnel for many years. It was electric so the people on the train didn't have

smelly smoke in their eyes and on their clothes. It was repainted recently to use on the Wellington passenger trains. Here it is at Tauranga. This was named "Elmo"

Added Dec 2010

**When asked to send some photos of my trains by my grandson Timothy
I thought it would be a good exercise to make
a photo collection book for each of the grandsons.
This is the result.
I hope it gives them much pleasure,
and in due course gives them a love of trains like their Poppa.**

**Stephen G James
Tauranga NZ
December 2006**