AFTER CONVENTION RAMBLE – January 10th – 16th 2012

The "After event Ramble" has been planned to allow visitors from the south to enjoy several great railway related venues on the way home. It is a drive yourself ramble, you can join or leave as you wish. We would appreciate you registering your plans with us so we can advise the hosts of the expected numbers at the various venues. We also may be able to assist you with accommodation bookings – There is plenty of Accom available at the Mana Ariki Railway inc. at Taumarunui.

Tuesday 10th Jan	8.30 am Travel to Auckland – Visit Mainline steam depot in Parnell, After lunch run trains at the Manukau live Steamers club, Robertson Road Mangere, Evening meal on site. Accom available near the club in Manukau.
Wednesday 11th Jan	8 30 am – travel 2 ½ hrs to Coromandel. We have booked 32 seats on the 11.30 train for our ramble group on the unique "Driving Creek" 15 inch gauge Zig Zag mountain railway. Lunch in Coromandel, Visit the water powered toy farm nearby, Travel 1 hr 20 minutes to the Thames miniature railway for a late afternoon run and evening meal. Accom. in Thames.
Thursday 12th Jan	8 30 am travel to Mamaku Station near Rotorua. Ride the hybrid 4 seat "RAILCRUISERS" thru the native bush on the disused Rotorua branch line on the 3.5% grades. The return trip takes about 1 hr 20 minutes. The "Cruisers" are battery electric with a quiet generator-set which assists on the long steep upgrades. The Afternoon is free, enjoy a visit to see the boiling mud pools in Kuirau park or ride the LUGE at speed down the mountain at the Gondolas. Accommodation in Rotorua.
Friday 13th Jan	8 30 am leave via Lake Taupo for Napier. View the art deco buildings on the way to the Havelock North Live steamers track for a late afternoon run. Evening meal and accommodation in Havelock North.
Saturday 14th Jan	8 30 am Drive 4 ½ hours to the Mana Ariki miniature railway 6 km north of Taumarunui. Unload equipment for an afternoon run on the 3000 metre mountain railway track which climbs 16 metres via spirals, viaducts and tunnels to the summit. Food and accommodation for all on site.
Sunday 15th Jan	Run trains all day on the Mana Ariki Railway. For those interested there will be a 1 ½ Hr conducted tour starting at 10 30 am around the Mana Ariki Marae site. Wear sturdy shoes. Pack up the trains at 4 pm – Evening meal and accommodation on site.
Monday 16th Jan	The tour may split here, Those heading south will leave on their journey home, Those heading North will call in at the Hamilton Live Steamers railway for an afternoon run. – We hope you enjoy the after event ramble
PLEASE NOTE :	IF YOU WISH TO JOIN THE RAMBLE PLEASE REGISTER YOUR PLANS WITH DAVE OR LYNNE GILES – Ph 021 959106 –
	or e mail Lynne Giles ikon@xtra.co.nz with your plans.