

## Script for modified Ballarat Tramway Video tape for CHHA exhibition

New sections in ordinary type, existing excerpts in Italics.

00 - start of titles section      {Title - How did they cope?}

Over footage from video tape before 15-25 of ESCo and SEC operations

When the State Electricity Commission took over the Ballarat Tramway system in 1934, they found a worn out tram network. It would have not been capable of coping for the almost three fold increase in passengers that occurred by 1942, the height of activity in Ballarat during the Second World War, when Australia was under the greatest threat. In 1934, such a war was only a possibility and would not have been planned for.

**Title - Coping with conditions here**

--0-0-0-0-0-

15-25 *"The SEC realised that ..... but history would reveal it would run for a further 40 years"*

15-48

-0-0-0-0-0-0-

15-59 *"The rehabilitated system ran through the 1930's...`and through the second World War."*

16-14 *"and women were employed on the trams for the first time."*

*with Mrs Maxwell. Use photo of first three conductresses as well, and put in voice over with Mrs Maxwell.*

17-43 *"Through the SEC era, .... tramway only ran at profit twice - use graph to replace present footage and extend out with some music. . . . . and saw patronage rise dramatically."      (If you can fit in both graphs in here please)*

To 18-00

-0-0-0-0-0-0-

*Over footage of the Treasure tram, 27 with headlight cover, drawing of headlight cover , photo of Mrs Mitchell and photo of three conductresses on the tram steps..*

-0-0-0-0-0-0-

The attack on Pearl harbour in December 1941 saw the introduction of brownout conditions in Ballarat. Shades were placed over the headlights of the trams to prevent the spread of light. This made operation of the trams difficult and caused visibility problems for tram drivers, passengers and other road users. Everyone had to cope as best as they could. White bands were applied to the bumper bars and steps of the trams as shown here on Ballarat Tramway Museum's tram No. 27 to make them safer to see and to board.

The war also saw shortages of materials such as paint and spare parts. The staff had to make do, but the rehabilitation of the tramway system in the mid 1930's saw this cope better than some other tramways in Australia.

### **Title - Conductresses' Triumph! here**

An important part of the war effort was the raising of patriotic funds. In 1944 a most popular conductress competition from amongst the 12 Victorian government tram and bus depots was run to raise money for the Red Cross Prisoners of War Fund. Ballarat's Sylvia Mitchell raised over 3,500 pounds, twice that of any other depot. This excellent result was the outcome of a well organised effort around Ballarat to raise funds, including many balls, concerts, boxing and wrestling tournaments and a grand raffle that featured a 'Treasure Tram' full of hard to get items. The Treasure tram brought in a thousand pounds, a great effort in 1944.

The fundraising went to assist the many Australian Prisoners of War. In a 3BA interview in late 1944 between Sylvia Mitchell and a former prisoner of War, Sergeant Staples, he said that the clothing, food and books bought by the funds 'helped quite a lot to cure what we called barbed-wire-itis'

From 18-00 *"The War ended in 1945 and the first of the conductresses was relieved"*

18-09 - *Use footage of Mrs Maxwell*

18-23 *and through to the end of the interview with Norman Lorenzi.*

19-03.

-0-0-0-0-0-

Finish with 'Australia Remembers' symbol.

-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-

Footage of 27 and Australia remembers logo yet to come.





## 'Ballarat's Trammies at War'

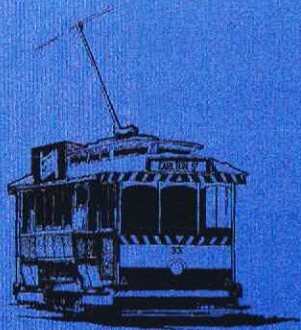
**Welcome to our temporary exhibition reviewing  
Ballarat's Tramways during World War II..**

**Please view our five minute video and our two display  
stands.**

**The exhibition runs until the end of December 1995.**

***Ballarat Trams are Ballarat History***



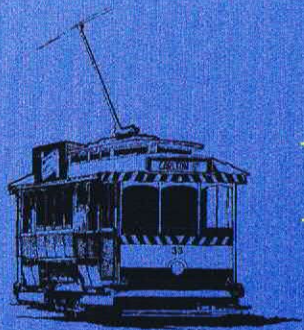


# **Ballarat's Trammies at War!**

## **How Did They Cope?**

**Ballarat Tramway Museum Inc**



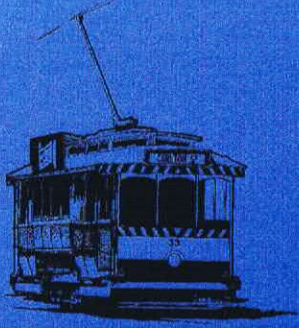


# **Ballarat's Trammies at War!**

## **Coping with Conditions**

**Ballarat Tramway Museum Inc**





# **Ballarat's Trammies at War!**

# **Conductresses' Triumph!**

**Ballarat Tramway Museum Inc**





# Ballarat's Trammies at War!

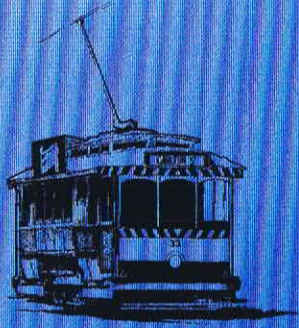
Produced by the Ballarat Tramway Museum

- Video production - John Phillips
- Script - Warren Doubleday & Richard Gilbert
- Research - Alan Bradley
- Narration - Bruce McLean

With assistance of the State Library of Victoria

*Ballarat Trams are Ballarat History*





# Ballarat's Trammies at War!

Exhibition by the Ballarat Tramway Museum

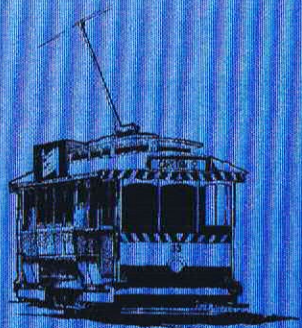
- Design & Graphics - Warren Doubleday
- Photographs - John Phillips
- Research - Alan Bradley

With assistance of the:

- State Library of Victoria
- Len Millar, Gary Wood, Alan Snowball
- Peter McMahon, Richard Gilbert
- Alastair Reither, & Paul Mong

*Ballarat Trams are Ballarat History*





## **Ballarat Tramway Museum Inc**

We are looking for further information, items or photographs about Ballarat Tramways during the 1930's and the 1940's. Any assistance would be very helpful to the Museum.

Please see our counter staff.

Thankyou

***Ballarat Trams are Ballarat History***