

BALLARAT TRAMWAY PRESERVATION SOCIETY

P.O. Box 632, Ballarat, Victoria 3350

Information for Members and Interested Parties - April-May 1972.

Due to changes in the dates of our Board Meetings because of the Easter holiday break, there was no April news sheet.

DEPOT: The Board is extremely pleased to announce that our depot has been constructed. It was erected during the first two weeks of May, and the finishing touches are now being applied. The Building Committee is now planning measures to improve the surroundings of the building, to keep them in line with the general high standard of the Botanic Gardens area.

NEW MEMBERS: The Board welcomes the following new members, and thanks them for their support in helping to retain part of Australia's history for the benefit and education of future generations.

Terrence Conway, (Hunters Hill, NSW) 294. Steven Kay, (Sydney) 295. Geoff Careeg, (East Bentleigh) 296. Denis Scott, (Sefton, NSW) 297. David Frost, (Brighton) 298. J.F. Metcalfe, (Camberwell) 299. Edmond Brittain, (Surrey Hills) 300. G. Bond, (Camberwell) 301. Noel Simons, (Longueville, NSW) 302. Monash Railway Club, (Clayton) 303. Stephen Thomas, (Ballarat) 304. James Kerley, (Surrey Hills) 305. Raymond Marsh, (Pascoe Vale) 306. Ernest Craig, (French's Forest, NSW) 307. Geoffrey Parker, (Dandenong) 308. Terrence Revell, (Penguin, Tas) 309. ~~Chris Jeffrey, (South Caulfield) 310. Keith Rogers, (Elsternwick) 311.~~ H.A. Davis Motor Service Pty. Ltd., (Ballarat) 312. Ballarat Historical Park Association, (Sovereign Hill) 313. Mrs B. Campbell, (Cheltenham) 314. P. Hiscock, (Cheltenham) 315. Robert Corwell, (Armadale, WA) 316. G. Allerton, (Thornleigh, NSW) 317. Mrs M. Hanrahan, (Sebastopol) 318. Lionel Stewart, (Killara, NSW) 319. John Holloway, (Ballarat) 320. Lindsay Bounds, (East St Kilda) 321. P. Kennedy, (Kingston SE, SA) 322. John Fitzsimons, (Malvern) 323.

BALLARAT VICE PRESIDENT: Board Member, Maurie Calnin, has been elected to the position of Ballarat Vice President, which has been vacant since the constitution was adopted in September 1971.

TREASURER: With regret, the Board has accepted the resignation of Treasurer, Campbell Duncan, who has been forced to relinquish his position because of increasing university commitments. The Board has received a report on the Society's financial affairs, and a new Treasurer, as well as a Membership Officer and Honorary Auditor is expected to be appointed at the next meeting.

OTHER BOARD NEWS: A promotions and publicity sub-committee comprising Hal Cain, Maurie Calnin and Paul Nicholson has been formed.

ENTERTAINMENT MEETINGS: There was a successful entertainment meeting in Melbourne on 26th April, where Member, Jeffrey Bounds, gave an illustrated talk on the history of certain SEC trams, particularly those in the care of the BTPS. The next entertainment meeting will be held on Wednesday 28th June at 8.00pm in Room II at the Victorian Railways Institute, Flinders Street, Melbourne. There has been a good attendance at previous meetings, but new faces are always welcome, so, if you haven't attended, please come along.

GENERAL: Three Members of our Board met the Directors of the Tramway Museum Society of Victoria on 20th April, when matters of mutual interest were discussed.

WORKS: In addition to the construction of our depot, much work has been carried out at the SEC depot. All of "O" road has been lifted and much work has been carried out on our cars, and sorting out our mass of spare parts. Work parties are conducted each weekend and, although there has been an extremely good response from members, more volunteers, especially from the Ballarat area, are required. It is most desirable for volunteers to telephone either Bill Jessup or Hal Cain, to determine the location and time of the work parties. Ballarat area inquiries should be directed to Hal Cain (Area Code 053) and Melbourne area inquiries to Bill Jessup (Area Code 03) 874 5329.

EXHIBITIONS: The Society will have a display at the model railway exhibition at the Railways Institute at Geelong on the weekend of 20th-21st May. It will be open from 9.00am to 10.00pm on the Saturday and from 10.00am to 6.00pm on the Sunday. The Institute is located at the Warrnambool end of the platform.

We are considering running a bus tour in Geelong on 20th May to visit former Ballarat tram 43. The plan is to use the last remaining bus that replaced the trams to run over several former tram routes, to Queens Park. The tour will connect with the 12.15pm train from Spencers Street. Its operation will depend on the number of passengers offering, so if you plan to take part, please contact either Paul Nicholson (89 6228) or John Fitzsimons (50 7983) for further particulars.

DONATIONS: The Taxation Department has advised us that donations to our museum fund are allowable tax deductions. Each person who has made a donation to the Society will be notified by us in due course. Only those people who receive these notices may claim the deduction.

SPECIAL APPEAL: The Society is in a position where it is almost certain that another former Ballarat tram can be obtained. To acquire this valuable asset, which operated in Ballarat until the closure, will require sufficient funds to cover transport back to Ballarat. A fund has been set up for this operation and we are calling on members to write to the Assistant Secretary advising him of the maximum amount that would be prepared to donate to the cause. Because of our other financial commitments this fund will have to cover the complete cost of the operation, so it is up to all Members to decide whether we get this car.

SALES DEPARTMENT: The latest addition to the stocks of the Sales Department is the souvenir edition of the "Bendigo Advertiser" containing a supplement on the history of the trams. These can be obtained from the Sales Department for 20c (including postage).

Also we have "All Fares Please", the history of the Christchurch trams. It also has a supplement the restoration of a Brill tram, and New Zealand Railways electric trains. Total price is 70c (including postage).

Souvenir car transfers from the Ferrymead tramway museum can be obtained for 12c (including postage).

Don't forget our line drawings of a Ballarat tram for 35c (including postage in a sturdy mailing tube) and our copies of the souvenir edition of the "Ballarat Courier" for 20c (including postage).

BENDIGO CLOSURE: The Bendigo tramway system closed on 16th April 1972. Last car into the depot was 28 which carried special guests, but some energetic enthusiasts managed to clamber aboard. The last car carrying regular passengers was 26, which operated the last service from Eaglehawk to the city. As a goodwill gesture to mark the end of tramway operation, the SEC gave everybody the rare opportunity to see trams running up Pall Mall and McCrae Street side by side on the official last run.

The Bendigo Trust is negotiating over the retention of the line between the Central Deborah Mine and the Chinese Joss House (at North Bendigo terminus) as a tourist attraction.

15th May 1972.