

"SHINY RAILS IN BALLARAT"

It gives great pleasure to record another milestone in the history of the Ballarat Tramway Preservation Society.

At approx. 1.43 pm, some 37 months since the system closed in 1971, plus a few minutes whilst a certain photographer reloaded his movie camera - a tram once again moved - Grind! Flash! Arc! - under its own power in Ballarat.

Cutting the first notch for the test/ inaugural run was Melbourne Vice-President, Bill Jessup; who played such a founding rôle in calling the initial meeting in Melbourne in April 1971 of those interested in trying to save a part of the system in operation.

At a great rate of knots, watts and amps, together with the clicking of camera shutters and the sound of ripping streamers, Number 27 launched forth from 2 road and ground its way east across the depot fan.

With the heady smell of arcing metal from rails and overhead, 27 powered down the access track without incident - much to the amazement of all. The pole was swung, key and brake handle transferred to the other end - then the apparently missing gremlins struck!

Upon cutting a notch at the west end, juice flowed in the form of a 3 foot arc and blast from the controller. The crack of the power station circuit breaker as it dropped out was almost as bad!

Clyde Croft and Peter Winspur - as the BTPS men qualified on two motor cars - relinquished supervision of driving and teamed to nurse 27 back to the shed. With Clyde cutting reverse notches on the sound controller and Peter carrying out the safeworking with Inspectorial whistle blasts from the other end, 27 reversed sedately back to the depot where attention once again focussed on the faulty controller.

With power off the controller was opened. Peter Rees soon found the fault - the interlocking yoke on the forward/reverse barrel had become disengaged. Quick removal of four screws enabled the top of the controller and barrel to be lifted sufficiently to allow the offending yoke to be eased back to its correct position. Reassembly and contact cleaning followed quickly, plus a few tests without juice!

Cutting first notch produced forward motion and the sighs of relief were deafening. With no apparent damage, 27 was once again back on the road. For the next few hours, workers enjoyed some of the fruits of their labours under the expert supervision of Peter and Clyde.

Thanks to the aerobatics of Peter Rees with the trolley pole rope, the maladjusted frog pans were successfully negotiated each trip - lengthening the 'journey' by about 60 feet through the depot fan.

The only dampener on the day's events was the overcast weather which eventually turned to rain. The rain certainly made driving more interesting as momentum really made itself felt as far as adhesion went. Anyway, at least the rain helped to ease flange squeal on the level crossing curve. A few minor adjustments to gauge and everything ran smoothly - and a great time was had by all.

All this could not have happened but for Frank Hanrahan whose unceasing efforts in providing the power made it all possible. After numerous electrical supply problems which cropped up through the previous week, final testing in the substation was only achieved at 3.00 pm. on Friday 11th October.

October 12th - an extremely gratifying day for all concerned - for again there are shiny rails in Ballarat.

On a final note - there is not yet a public service. Only indemnified members of the Society may presently ride on the ears, although it is hoped that services in Wendouree Parade can begin just before Christmas.

OFFICE BEARERS 1974-75

The First Annual General Meeting of the B.T.P.S. Limited was held on Saturday 10th August at the Wendouree Public Hall.

As a result of the elections conducted at that meeting, plus the positions already filled unopposed; the following were returned in the positions shown.

President:	Maurie Calnin	Ordinary Board Members:
Ballarat Vice President:	Frank Hanrahan	Geoff Cargeeg
Melbourne Vice President:	Bill Jessup	Richard Gilbert
Secretary:	Clyde Croft	Graeme Inglis
Treasurer:	Allan Harnwell	Bill Kingsley
		Barry McCandlish
		Peter Winspur

BUNGAREE HOUSE

Work is gradually taking place in the house presently leased from the V.R. at Bungaree. The kitchen is being repainted, mainly by Peter Winspur, and a temporary supply of 12 volt lighting has been connected. This will be replaced by the conventional 240 volt supply as soon as Frank Hanrahan has some spare time away from the tram depot. Arrangements are still being made with the Bungaree and Wallace Waterworks Trust to have the reticulated supply reconnected. At present Society volunteers are not occupying the house at weekends but it is hoped it will be occupied within the next few weeks.

TRACKWORK

A considerable amount of work has been carried out on the access track across the park to make it suitable for carrying trams. The depot fan was lifted and packed a fortnight ago to allow the trams to clear newly completed cement blocks poured to within an inch or so of the bottom edges of the doors, thus making the depot and its contents much more secure from unauthorized entry. Some final bonding of joints was also completed. The works have proved worthwhile; the track successfully carrying at least 80 return trips by No. 27 during the past weekend.

MUSEUM

Some new photographs have been added to the display, as well as some new Sales stock (see enclosed Sales list). The museum continues to prove a popular attraction in the Gardens area. Recent visitors from far afield include ex-tram-drivers from Vancouver and Auckland.

ELECTRICAL

Apart from the enormous task of connecting the traction supply, Frank Hanrahan will be wiring the new office soon to be built at the rear of the depot as well as the house at Bungaree.

ENQUIRIES

Following the appearance of newspaper advertisements inviting submissions to the Committee of Enquiry into Museums; and the National Estate; Clyde Croft wrote to these bodies outlining the Society's aims, objectives and achievements. Acknowledgement has been received from both offices, the latter in particular being most encouraging, suggesting that we have made ourselves known "federally" which augurs well for the future.

TRAM TOUR

Utilising car Nos. 7, 2 and 20; a tram tour is being organised in Bendigo on Melbourne Cup Day, 5th November. The fare is \$ 2-50 with the first tram departing the depot in Arnold St. at 12.30pm. At 1.45pm, car No. 2 will come on, to be replaced with No. 20 at 3.15pm. For those wishing to travel by train, discount return fares are available; ie. \$ 5-55. It would be preferable to pay on the day of the tour, but further details may be obtained from Lindsay Bounds, 29 Melby Avenue, Balaclava, 3183 and bookings lodged with him if you wish. P.S. The train departs Spencer St. at 8.45 am., returning for an 8.15pm. arrival. For your convenience a booking form is provided on page 4.

FILM STRIP

Through the courtesy of the A.R.E.; B.T.P.S. members can order their filmstrips direct from the ARE Sales dept; Box 221, Caulfield East, Vic., 3145.

ENTERTAINMENT MEETING

The next entertainment meeting will be held on Tuesday 29th October (Ooops! 5 Tuesdays in Oct.) at the V.R. Institute. Please check on the night for details of the room number.

POSTAGE INCREASES

As we all know, the normal postage rate rose to 10cents per item on 1st October. Similarly, other items have attracted a much increased rate. Our Sales Department has certainly been caught up with these increases, and unfortunately we have no alternative but to increase prices of every item to allow for these increased rates. Small items in particular have rocketed - to 150 % in one case.

To show the actual cost of the postage, the cost of the item and the postage is shown plus a combined total for convenience when ordering; as well as indicating the excellent bargains available which Jeff and Lindsay Bounds will be happy to supply as soon as possible after receipt of your order.

------(detach here)-----

SALES ORDER FORMNEW ITEMS

TALKING TRAMS	History of Bendigo Trams and story of the Bendigo Trust. \$ 1-00 ; 25c postage)	.... @ \$ 1-25	.....
LAST CAR	History of Glasgow trams 1873 - 1962. (\$ 1-00 / 40c postage)	.... @ \$ 2.00	.....
GLASGOW SUBWAY	History of Glasgow Underground. (\$ 1.00 / 30c postage)	.... @ \$ 1-30	.....
TRAMWAY OF THE MONKLANDS	- deals with a part of the Glasgow System (\$ 1-60 / 40c postage)	.... @ \$ 2-00	.....
END of the PENNY SECTION	- New Zealand tramways (\$ 6-50 / 60c postage)	.... @ \$ 7-10	.....
BY BIRNEY TO GOLDEN SQUARE	- Last years of Bendigo Trams (\$ 3-60 / 40c postage)	.... @ \$ 4-00	.....
MIND THE CURVE	- Melbourne Cable Trams 1885-1940. (\$ 3-90 / 40c)	.... @ \$ 4-30	.....
THE BALLARAT TRAM	-K.S. Kings- History of Ballarat system (\$ 0-75 / 25c)	.... @ \$ 1-00	.....
DRAWING of Ballarat No. 17	(20c/15c postage)	.... @ \$ 0-35	.....
DESTINATION SUBIACO	- Perth, Fremantle, Kalgoorlie and Leonora tramways (\$ 0-75 / 25c)	.... @ \$ 1-00	.....
DESTINATION G.P.O.	- Tasmanian Tramways (75c / 25c)	.... @ \$ 1-00	.....
THE RED LINES	= Tramways in Sydney's western suburbs, Balmain Rozelle etc. (\$ 2-40 / 30c)	.... @ \$ 2-70	.....
THE ENFIELD LINES	- Enfield (Sydney) system (\$2-00/30c)	... @ \$ 2-30	.....
The AUSTRALIAN TRAM	-photos of trams Australia wide \$ 1-00/30c	.... @ \$ 1-30	.....
TRAMWAY BYEWAYS	1st of a series - North Sydney (\$2-00/40c)	....@ \$ 2-40	.....
<u>NEW ZEALAND PUBLICATIONS</u>			
TRAMWAY TOPICS	- Very informative bi-monthly journal of tramway happenings past and present. 1973 Jan/Feb;Mar/Apr;May/Jun;Jul/Aug 1974 Jan/Feb;Mar/Apr;May/Jun. Please circle those required. Each 35c/15c post.	.....@50c.	...
ALL FARES PLEASE	- Christchurch Tramways (70c / 20c)	.... @ 90c.	.....
TRACTION ON THE MAIN LINE	(10c / 10c postage)	.... @ 20c	.....
RETURN TO FERRYMEAD	(45c/ 15c postage)	.... @ 60c	.....
PIONEER ELECTRICS	- Early South Island Electrification (75c/10c)	...@85c	.....
"TROLLEY WIRE"	- Well known bi-monthly of Australian Tramway Museums ... Feb. 1973(35c/20c) 55c; ... Apr; ...May; ...Jun;...Jul. ...Aug; ...Sep; ...Oct; ...Nov; ...Dec 1973 @70c (50c/20c)		.....

"BENDIGO TOUR"
c/- 29 Melby Ave.,
Balaclava,
Vic., 3183

Dear Sir,

I will be travelling on the tour on Tuesday 5th November.

I will be paying on the day of the tour.

Enclosed is my remittance of \$ 2-50 and a self-addressed envelope for tickets.

Name Address

New Item WAIT HERE FOR TRAMS Story of Sydney trams in their last ten years.
Features all classes of cars. (\$ 3-00/40c)@ \$ 3-40

Tramway Booklets: Sydney/Newcastle L.P. Class (20c/10c) ... @ 30c

Brisbane Drop centre Car (20c/10c) ... @ 30c

Ryde Tramway (20c/10c) ... @ 30c

Brisbane Four Motor Car (25c/ 10c)@ 35c

Postcard: No14, Ballarat 14 in Victoria St. in late 1970. (15c/10c)...@25c

RAILWAY NEWS ...June74; ...July; ...August; ...Sept74(10c/10c) ... @20c

"Dreadnought" Brisbane Tramway Museum Journal
... Jan/Feb 1974(10c/10c); ... @ 20c

... Mar 74; ...April; ...May;...June; ...July;
... Aug74; ...Sept 74; each 20c/10c postage ... @ 30c

V.T.P.S. Poster 10 in x 15 in. "Ballarat's Trams are Ballarat's History"
20cents each/ 20 cents postage ... @ 40c

VELS ACROSS THE VELDT South African Rail Journey (\$ 1-25/20c) ... @ \$1-45

Pictorial tribute to steam hauled Newcastle Flyer
(\$ 2-75/ 25c) ... @ \$3-00 ...

LOCOMOTIVE 600 - S.A.R. big Pacific steam power (\$2-25/ 25c) ... @ \$2-50 ...

Postcards: Sorrento Steam Tram at Back Beach (10c/10c) ... @ 20c ...

Bendigo No 10 at Charing Cross 1954 (10/10c) ... @ 20c

Photographs and Slides:

For a detailed list of photos and slides, send a stamped, self addressed envelope to the Sales Department.

1972 Melbourne Flood Set A set of 10 photos taken in the great flood of Elizabeth St. on 17/2/72. Set: 90c/10c/ @ \$ 1-00

"T" Shirts Featuring single trucker Ballarat tram. Sizes: 32,34,36,38 ins.
Assorted colours. Price \$ 1-75 / 25c postage @ \$ 2-00 /...

1975 STEAM RAILWAY Calendar 13 full colour photos of Australian Railway Scenes.
Price \$ 2-25 plus postage 30c @ \$ 2-55

Total this page

plus Total brought forward

TOTAL

Please make cheques payable to "Ballarat Tramway Preservation Society"

Send Orders to: BTPS SALES DEPT., P.O. Box 632, Ballarat, 3350

From:

Address: ; ;