

## "FARES PLEASE"

DECEMBER 1975

## NEWS OF THE BALLARAT TOURIST TRAMWAY

The Board of the society extend their Christmas and New Year greetings to all readers of "Fares Please".

Enclosed with this copy of "Fares Please" is the 1974-5 annual report and financial statement. The report provides considerable detail about the society's operations and makes very interesting reading.

**NEW BOARD** Following the annual general meeting of the society on November 9th the following new board was elected to manage the society

President	Frank Hanrahan
Melbourne V.P.	Bill Jessup
Ballarat V.P.	Len Doul
Secretary	Campbell Duncan
Treasurer	Noel Forster
Board Members	Richard Gilbert
	Peter Winspur
	Barry McCandlish
	Graeme Jordan
	Clyde Croft
	Bill Kingsley

Richard Gilbert was reappointed by the new board as the General Manager and as the Traffic Manager. Bill Kingsley was reappointed as the Engineering Manager.

**FARE RISE** Because of the increasing costs of generating electricity rises in material costs and the increasingly important requirement that the Tourist Tramway generate as much internal capital as possible for future developments, fares have been increased as from the 1st of Nov. 5¢ fares have risen to 10¢, 10¢ to 20¢ and 20¢ to 30¢. The fares charged on the tramway are at the same level as those charged in Melbourne and are still considerably below the level charged by most tourist attractions in Victoria. Only through the continuing efforts of our volunteer workforce is it possible to keep the fares so low while adequately maintaining the vintage trams.

**CUP DAY TOUR SUCCESS** The B.T.P.S. in conjunction with the A.R.E. operated a successful tour to Yallourn on 4th Nov. 126 passengers travelled in spite of the fact that at the last moment the "B" class electric locomotive was unavailable. A extensive and most interesting tour of the Yallourn works area was undertaken in Latrobe Valley Busline buses. A thorough inspection was made of the S.E.C. of Victoria's metro gauge electrified railway system and the tour proceeded through the Yallourn open cut. Because of the outstanding popularity of this tour future tours of this nature will be organised. The chief organiser of the Yallourn tour was Geoff Cargeeg.

**PLUMBER REQUIRED** If there is a qualified plumber in the society who would be prepared to assist in the installation of a water main into the tram depot would he please contact Bill Kingsley by telephoning 288-5273. Work performed by a volunteer plumber could save the society a large sum of money.

**CHRISTMAS TRAMWAY OPERATIONS** An attempt is being made to operate the tramway every day excepting Christmas day from Sat. Dec. 20th to Sun. Feb. 1st. The passenger demand during this period is intense. Workers are urgently required during this period. There is still time for you to be trained as a conductor and work on the trams during this period. If you are already trained as a conductor or as a driver please offer your services wherever possible. Contact Richard Gilbert on 90-3466 if you are interested in training as a conductor and in the future as a driver. If you are already trained ring Gavin Young on home 844-3153 or work 391-5111 ext. 3229 to arrange for yourself to be rostered on during Jan-Feb. If you can assist the society with car maintenance please contact Bob Prentice on 51-2664. If you wish to assist with engineering works please contact Bill Kingsley on 288-5273, he will be only too glad to hear from you.

**TOURIST TRAMWAY OPERATING TIMES** The tramway operates every Saturday, Sunday, Public Holiday (excepting Christmas Day), Victorian School Holiday and during the Begonia Festival. The usual hours of operation are between 11.00am and 5.00pm. Note that during daylight saving and the Begonia Festival the tramway often operates until well after 5.00pm. The tramway operates right through winter.

**NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS** The annual B.T.P.S. New Years Eve party and Bar Be-Que will be on once again this year at the society's Bungaree House. All members be they active or non active are invited to this successful annual event. The usual outdoor movie and slide show will be operated weather permitting. Bring some food and drink along. The evening will get under way from about 7.00pm onwards.

**BUNGAREE HOUSE** Currently Bungaree House is having a well earned repaint in traditional V.R...D.R. colours.

**SOVEREIGN HILL** Sovereign Hill Historical Park has provided the society with a very attractive advertising sign for eventual erection on the roof of one of the vintage trams.

**GARDENING, LANDSCAPING, WEED REMOVAL ETC...** The Gardening Committee have established a lawn between the depot fan and the trout hatchery fence currently war is being waged on the thousands of weeds that have sprung up around the depot area.

**SOCIETY ORGANISATION** The society is divided into four branches. The Secretaries (Campbell Duncan) which covers administration, legal, sales and publicity. Treasurer (Noel Forster) which covers all financial matters relating to the society. Traffic which controls all aspects of the operations of the tramway services (Richard Gilbert) and Engineering (Bill Kingsley) which supervises all engineering and maintenance work on the tramway.

The positions of Secretary and Treasurer are elected board positions. The General Manager and Traffic Manager (combined positions at the moment and filled by Richard Gilbert) and the Engineering Manager are elected by the board normally from ordinary board members.

The society's board meets once a month (2nd Friday in the month at Bungaree House) with additional meetings as required. Arrangements can be made through the Secretary for members to attend. The Finance and Planning Committee of the board meets on the last Tuesday in each month at various board members homes. This committee is a type of "think tank". Membership of the committee extends beyond the board and is open to any society member who wishes to actively participate in the running of the B.T.P.S. (If you are interested in becoming involved ring Campbell Duncan the Secretary on 568-2379 for further details.) Finance and Planning meetings are often held in Melbourne.

The Traffic Committee, Car Maintenance Committee and the Sales & Publicity Committee meet on a regular basis and participation is welcomed, in most cases it is just a matter of advising the Secretary and he will put you on to the chairman of the committee you are interested in assisting.

**C.O.T.M.A.** The society has joined the Council of Australian Tramway Museums and firmly backs the development of this organisation. It will be remembered that the B.T.P.S. sponsored the conference that led to the establishment of this organisation. Bill Kingsley our Engineering Manager has been appointed as the Executive Officer for C.O.T.M.A. Bill was the driving force behind the organisation of the conference in Ballarat.

**SALES** Currently selling and proving very popular are the society's new badges, they may be ordered through the Sales Department, P.O. Box 632, Ballarat 3350, Victoria, Australia. One badge costs 20¢ add 20¢ to mail up to 3 badges and 30¢ postage to mail up to 10..... Postcards are currently being printed and will be available around Christmastime. Further details will be provided in the next "Fares Please".

**VOLUNTEERS ARE URGENTLY REQUIRED TO KEEP THE TRAMWAY SERVICE OPERATING THROUGH THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS. CONSIDER HOW YOU AS A MEMBER MAY BE ABLE TO ASSIST THE SOCIETY IN THE NEXT TWO MONTHS.... GIVE RICHARD GILBERT A RING ON 90-3466 OR GAVIN YOUNG A RING ON HOME 844-3153 WORK 391-5111 EXT. 3229 TO FIND OUT HOW YOU CAN HELP THE BALLARAT TRAMS KEEP ON RUNNING**