

APRIL 1978

NEWS OF THE BALLARAT TRAMWAY PRESERVATION SOCIETY

Depot Extensions: Tenders have been called for the construction of foundations for the depot extensions. At this stage seven tenderers have replied and it is expected a successful one will soon be selected. The tenders for the steelwork will be called shortly.

South Australian Transport Celebrations: Over the South Australian Queens Birthday Weekend (10th - 12th June) celebrations will be held to commemorate the centenary of organised urban public transport in Adelaide. A number of trams from the AETM museum will be taken to the City Tram Depot and will run between South Terrace and Victoria Square on Sunday 11th June. Actual details of the day and events on other days of the weekend are still to be finalised, however, this Society intends to offer a weekend 'package' tour to Adelaide to allow members to take part in celebrations.

Details and a 'Booking Form' are on the enclosed page.

Overseas Visitors: Two recent overseas visitors to our tramway have been Mr. Geoffrey Claydon, Secretary of the Tramway Museum Society of Great Britain and Mr. Klaus Matzka a tramway enthusiast from Austria. Mr. Claydon visited on Saturday 15th April and Mr. Matzka visited on Saturday 22nd April. Both were very impressed with our tramway and took quite a number of photographs to add to their collections and show their friends back home. Mr. Claydon also thanked us for providing very hospitable accomodation at our members house at Bungaree.

Tramcar aquisitions: On Saturday 22nd April the society aquired two more tramcar bodies. Number 121, a former MMTB maxim traction tram (former HTT) was donated to the society from where it had rested at Mount Evelyn for many years by Geoff Cargeeg. Tram number 35, a former SEC Ballarat tram was donated to the society by the Clarendon College at Ballarat where it had rested since 1971.

Removal costs were paid for by a number of BTPS members. The plan at this stage is to create one good operable Hawthorn Tramways Trust bogie tram from a combination of 39, 35 and 121.

Tramcar Maintenance: The suspected faulty armature on tram No. 38 has again been removed and will now be taken to our electrical contractor for repair. We hope this unexpected repair does not take too long as the tramcar maintenance committee is anxious to see the tram enter service. David Macartney has varnished the seats along with painting the interior ivory ceiling whilst Damien Wood has been busy polishing the brasswork making the tram look quite splendid on the inside. Dulux paints are going to mix up a special paint, which should be the closest match that can be got to SEC tramcar green and it is proposed to paint the whole exterior of 38 before it enters service.

New Members: The society extends a warm welcome to the following New

Members:-	Number	Name	Location
	494	A.W. George	Ballarat
	495	S. Vanderhind	Chadstone

We welcome new members and invite them to take part in society activities. The society offers overnight accomodation at Bungaree for those not resident in Ballarat.

3CR: General Manager, Richard Gilbert, was interviewed concerning the tramway on 3CR, Community Radio, Melbourne. The interview, done one weekday morning recently, went for 10 minutes and one of our members, Dave Mickle, who heard it by chance said it came over very well and sounded quite professional. The questions asked by the female announcer were quite constructive and provided the basis for a good and constructive session.

Extra traffic: The annual Head of the Lake rowing carnival was held on Saturday 8th April but extra traffic normally generated by this meeting was disappointing. A standby tram was provided for return traffic, as many students from local colleges attending the carnival in the past have descended on the trams after the last race, but the ordinary service car was able to adequately cater for the numbers offering.

Two groups of students from Oxley High School, near Tamworth, travelled on the ordinary service on Tuesday 25th April (Anzac Day) and Saturday 29th April.

Two Charter trips have been booked for May and in addition the trams will operate over the school holiday period from Saturday 13th May to Sunday 28th May inclusive. Our Roster Clerk, Gavan Young would like to hear from any person in the Traffic Branch who can help in the running of trams over this period.

Publicity: Discussions have been held with the Victorian Railways Public Relations Department to ascertain if a brochure can be produced advertising a day trip to Ballarat on the Sunday train incorporating the Wendouree stop (provided originally for the society) and the attractions of the Gardens and Sovereign Hill. The VR are interested and are talking in terms of an all in one package tour in which the ticket would be sold in Melbourne covering train, tram and bus travel and admission to Sovereign Hill. The society fully supports that view and will be urging the early production of such a brochure.

A Request: Member Bill Kingsley asks that Traffic Branch staff please check their uniform. On the Labour Day weekend a uniform jacket belonging to Bill Kingsley disappeared from among those hanging in the spare tram. It is quite likely that another member of the Traffic Branch took the wrong jacket by mistake, since another jacket enjoying the confines of the spare tram seems to have no owner. Would all members please check their jackets to ensure that they indeed have their own, as Bill is very keen to get his own jacket back.

Entertainment Meeting: After a long break it has been decided to hold an entertainment meeting in Melbourne. The meeting will be held on Tuesday 9th May at 8pm at Room 409, Victorian Railways Institute, Flinders Street Station.

Movies will be shown including the one made recently by Richard Gilbert on the VR trams in which Bob Prentice is interviewed, and also the Transport Cavalcade at Spencer Street.

Reports on depot extensions and tramcar acquisitions will be made by respective Board members. It should be an interesting night and we would be pleased to see a good turn up of members to keep justifying the continuation of these meetings.

Sales: Following the success of the sale of Melbourne 'Z' class tram badges the Sales Department is in the process of ordering lapel badges of BTPS tram No.27. These are being made in England and will be advertised to members as soon as the stock is received.

The popular souvenir society badges, sold on the trams, have been re-ordered as the stock was virtually exhausted after the Begonia Festival.

Among new stock for sale is:-

Romance of Australian Trams (\$11.95) This very good quality book features many never seen before photo's including a good number of colour plates. It is well bound as a hard cover edition. \$1.50 extra posted

Preserved Railway and Tramway Rolling Stock in Australia (\$4.80) This comprehensive directory produced by the Association of Railway Enthusiasts gives the traveller around this country a detailed description of all preserved rolling stock in Australia, and is a never before attempted production. It is a well bound soft cover edition. \$0.60 extra posted.

Directory of Australian Railway and Tramway Societies (\$3.00) This book is produced by the Diamond Valley Railway and gives more on the location of each museum and its operating times plus a number of photographs, but less information on the rolling stock preserved. It is a soft cover stapled booklet. \$0.40 extra posted.

For any order by mail from the Sales Dept. please forward a cheque and short letter explaining what you want.

Next 'Fares Please' issued June