

# FARES PLEASE

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News of the

Ballarat Tramway Preservation Society  
Box 632, P.O., Ballarat, Victoria, 3350

March, 1980

**Transport Cavalcade:** The Melbourne Transport Cavalcade held on Monday, 28th January 1980 was a great success. Ballarat tram No.40 performed admirably along with Bendigo No.19 and Melbourne Vintage trams 676, V214, 164. No.40 conveyed 765 passengers and a total of 5282 passengers were carried on all five trams.

Prior to the event No.40 was given a good amount of preparatory work at Preston Workshops and much thanks is due to the Tramways Board staff in this field for their good co-operation. Brambles Transport Company moved the tram very efficiently between Ballarat and Melbourne and they are recommended for tasks such as this.

The Board wishes to thank all members of the Society for their hard work prior to the cavalcade also during and after it which has helped make it the success that it was. The good standard of our uniformed staff on the cavalcade day was commented on by members of the public.

**No.40 back in Ballarat:** Tram No.40 was returned to Ballarat on Friday 15th February. On the weekend prior to this a rush effort by our members laid a length of track inside our new depot and extending out the back towards Gullies Street on which to receive the tram. This work party had all the signs of enthusiasm that we experienced during earlier tracklaying days. This intensive work effort was completed by the Sunday evening.

Tram No.40 arrived at 2pm on the following Friday and was unloaded with the help of Barry James Lifting Service after which it was pushed into our new building. Although marooned from the operating tracks on its own island of track this is the first tram to be placed in the new depot. This was done because 40's place in the old depot was taken by No's 14 and 11 which were transferred from Sebastopol the same day that No.40 went to Melbourne.

**Tower Truck:** The society has acquired a tower truck from the Melb. & Metro. Tramways Board and this arrived at Ballarat on the same day as tram 40. Now fully roadworthy and registered it has been used on overhead repair work already. This vehicle will be a great asset as we can get to span wires, pole collars and other high points of equipment not near the contact wire. Prior to this we had to use ladders leaning against poles or stand on the roof of a tram.

**Depot Works:** Our Contractor, Mr. Béel, has completed the track supports on the large pit at the new depot. Rails have been put in position and will be fastened to the supports. A ditch digger machine will be hired after the Begonia Festival to complete all digging necessary to lay the drainage pipes around the depot fan. Once this has been completed tracklaying for the area can go ahead.

**Begonia Traffic:** At the time of writing we are experiencing our normally busy Begonia Festival. This commenced on Saturday 1st and concludes on Monday 11th March.

In addition to our Saturday, Sunday and Monday 11th operation we have decided to operate trams on Wednesday 5th, Thursday 6th and Friday 7th March. The first weekend has proven to be busy with passengers and of course the road traffic, which has to be seen to be believed.

The 'Sunday Press' in Melbourne recently published a Begonia supplement and the society placed a large advertisement in this feature. Easter will soon be with us and trams will run from 4th to 7th April inclusive. All Traffic Branch members who can assist are asked to contact the Acting Roster Clerk, Richard Gilbert on 93 8034 or leave their dates in the Availability Book at the Depot.

**Newspaper Clippings:** In our last mailout we included a page of 'Newspaper Clippings' as part of a new feature. This idea has not been dropped, but there are, quite frankly, no clippings of any importance worth printing at this time. We hope we receive more newsworthy ones by the next issue.

**Z3 Badges:** The Sales Department has produced a lapel badge of Melbourne's newest trams, the Z3. The badges are similar to others produced by our society, but have been supplied by a different manufacturer. They cost \$2.50

The badges can be purchased at the tram depot or by mail. A Sales List is enclosed.

Entertainment Meetings: No meetings have been organised as yet as the Victorian Railways Institute at Flinders Street Station does not rent rooms anymore. We would prefer a city venue for our meetings, but these are hard to find at cheap rentals. Any ideas from our members in this regard can be passed on to Richard Gilbert at the society address.

New Address: For the information of all - The General Manager, Traffic Manager Richard Gilbert now lives at 3 Oak Avenue, Mentone 3194. Telephone 93 8034.

Roof advertising: Two new roof advertisements are in place on our trams. Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement has produced a fine metal sign and Brambles Transport Industries have produced an equally good sign. Both are on Tram No.40. The Society sign completed by Dave Macartney and displayed in Melbourne on both Transport Cavalcades is also on tram No.40.

New Museum Display: Single truck tram No.11 which spent some years at Daylesford after closure of the S.E.C. tramway system has been placed in the depot and fitted out as the museum display tram. This released one of our operable single truck trams to traffic and as it needs restoration and has no traction motors it is now fulfilling a useful task.

A sign asking for donations to help restore the tram has been placed above a 'used ticket' receptacle at one end of the tram and this has realised quite an amount of revenue. Graham Jordan is the brainwave behind this idea and he has also painted external parts of the very 'faded' tram where it is seen by the public. The souvenir items such as drinking glasses, badges, teaspoons, postcards and cloth badges have been arranged in the glass case containing the model of our depot and these are now well presented for the public to select from.

New Members: The Society extends a warm welcome to the following new Members:-

Number	Name	Location
520	J. Phillips	Mooroolbark
521	D. Wood	Ballarat
522	A. Kiely	Hartwell

Member 521 Damien Wood has been a member of our Junior section for some time and has now joined the full Membership. We invite our new Members to take part in Society activities. The Society offers overnight accomodation at Bungaree for those not resident in Ballarat, just ask at the Tram Depot for details.

New transfers: New S.E.C. transfers were placed on trams 28 and 38 recently. Both trams have been repainted and although we had number transfers we did not have and S.E.C. transfers. Graham Jordan offered to pay for new ones to be produced and this offer was accepted with thanks, as especially at the time, our funds were more than limited. The transfers add a final compliment to the new paint schemes of these trams.

COTMA Conference: Advice has been received from the Brisbane Tramway Museum Society that there is a serious shortfall of bookings for the 1980 conference in Brisbane of the Council of Australasian Tramway Museums. This conference will run from 13th to 17th June and will co-incide with the opening of the Brisbane Tramway Museum by the Deputy Premier of Queensland, Hon. Dr. Llew Edwards, M.L.A.

These conferences are quite interesting and a valuable amount of information exchanges hands. Included in this conference will be visits to transport installations and rides on the new Brisbane suburban electric ~~XXXX~~ trains. Any Member who would like to attend should contact Geoff Dean at the Society address or telephone (03) 88 4086 for details and costs. The closing date on which bookings can be lodged with the BTMS is 31st March.

Proposed Charter: The railfan groups are proposing to operate a double headed 'K' class steam train excursion to Ballarat on the occasion of a visit to Australia by 20 to 30 members of the National Railway Historical Society, Philadelphia Chapter on Saturday 12th April 1980. Included in the arrangements is a visit to the Ballarat Gardens and tram rides for those passengers on the train who wish to do so. This will be busy time for our Society and we hope to present a good image to our American visitors.