

FARES PLEASE

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News of the

Ballarat Tramway Preservation Society

Box 632, P.O., Ballarat, Victoria, 3350

NOVEMBER, 1981

Annual General Meeting: The society Annual General Meeting was held on Sunday, 11th October, 1981 at the Tram Depot and thirty members attended. President, Frank Hanrahan, opened the proceedings and welcomed all those present. The business section of the meeting was and all the reports were adopted by the Membership. On the matter of the election for the position of Melbourne Vice President, Frank Hanrahan read a letter from Bill Jessup in which he stated he did not wish to stand for election. Frank went on to say that Bill Jessup had said he had a lot of other commitments this coming year and felt he could not devote enough time to the position. Only for an unfortunate lack of communication he would not have stood at all had he known Peter Winspur was standing.

Frank Hanrahan then announced the Board of Management for the 1981 - 1982 year is:-

President:	Frank Hanrahan
Ballarat Vice President:	Len Doull
Melbourne Vice President:	Peter Winspur
Treasurer:	Carolyn Dean
Secretary:	Richard Gilbert
Ordinary Board Members:	Allan Bradley
	Stephen Butler
	Campbell Duncan
	Andrew Hall
	Paul McDonald
	Andrew Mitchell

After the conclusion of the business part of the meeting the Members enjoyed a ride on the tramway and an afternoon tea at the depot.

Raffle: Our raffle to raise money for the Society has been drawn. The winner is Mr. I. Gilbert, c/o Malvern Tram Depot. Society Secretary, Richard Gilbert, points out the winner is not related to him in any way.

Approximately \$1,000 was collected for the raffle and after deducting costs approximately \$400 will be added to Society funds. The Board of Management sincerely thanks all those people who made the effort to sell tickets on our behalf.

3BA Community Club Awards: The 3BA Community Club Awards campaign has closed. The Society was not fortunate enough to win one of the weekly prizes but will be attending the Grand Final Pay Out night when we expect to earn a cash award as a participating group. Again, thanks to all those members who assisted us over the 12 week period of the awards by supplying various labels, wrappers and grocery store receipts.

Ten Year Books: We still have a number of our tenth anniversary souvenir books for sale at \$2.50 each plus 55cents for postage. These can also be purchased at the Tram Depot or from the 'Railfan' shop, 632 Bourke Street, Melbourne.

Tramcar Maintenance: Tram No.33 is on the lifting jacks and having quite an amount of work done. The wheels have been replaced with the reprofiled 'new' set from our stock. The wheels that were removed had some cracked spokes. The motor support bearings have been whitemetalled to allow a smooth fit over the machined axles. The traction motor power supply leads have been re-insulated with a strong plastic covering and in all a sizeable amount of work on the tram has been completed. The Melbourne and Metropolitan Tramways Board has again assisted us greatly by machining the rough cast tyres on the spare wheel stock and at the same time machining the journals on the axles.

Tram No.27 will shortly be tidied up with some paintwork on the floor and a good cleanout before it leaves for Melbourne on the 18th January to take part in the Australia Day Weekend Transport Cavalcade.

Some minor adjustments have been carried out on the controllers of 671.

Con't over/

Tram No.40 still persists with its problem of sluggishness and not wanting to go around corners. A number of people have looked at the matter but good results seem a while off.

The remainder of the fleet is performing satisfactorily. We recently received the new W3 and W4 class tram brake blocks. We had been unable to acquire any spare blocks for these trams and decided to get a new pattern made from which we can now get completely new blocks. Other museums requiring supplies of these brake blocks should contact us.

Rags: There is always a need for old rags to be used for cleaning trams. If you can help us please bring them to the depot or contact any Board Member to arrange collection.

Depot Interior: Our toilet, washroom area and running hot water is now installed and has greatly improved conditions at the depot. The washing up facility was most welcome at the afternoon tea during the tenth anniversary celebrations. John Phillips and Warren Doubleday have worked quite hard on this construction task. The rear area of the new shed has had filling placed in it to raise the floor level to that of the old shed. A combination of broken terra cotta pipes and quarry fines is used and this material packs down quite hard to form a good floor. The warm weather has caused a lot of growth in the grass around the depot and any member who wishes to make the effort to come along and clear as much as possible would be most welcome. If you can bring your own lawnmower it would assist us as the depot mower is proving temperamental. A concerted effort is required from those looking to assist us in moving the last of the terra cotta flooring supplies from the area behind our depot. If you can help come along to the depot any weekend and ask, we would be pleased to have some new workers.

Breakfast in the country: The Rail Touring Association held a weekend tour on 20th and 21st November and their special train called at Bungaree for breakfast on the Sunday morning. Our reliable catering team supplied a cooked breakfast for the 50 passengers. The weather was fine, the sun shone, the country atmosphere was great and people partook of their meal on trestle tables at the front of the house and watched to 'Overland' pass through. It was a pleasant way to start a day.

Adelaide Tour: The Australian Electric Transport Museum will be celebrating their Silver Jubilee at the St.Kilda Museum on Saturday, 20th March, 1982. In conjunction with the Association of Railway Enthusiasts we will be arranging a group tour to Adelaide for the weekend. The plan will most likely allow for travel on the 'Overland' from Melbourne on the Friday evening and returning from Adelaide on the Sunday evening. The Saturday would be spent at the museum and an outing to some other venue will be arranged on the Sunday. Details and costs have yet to be finalised but keep the date free.

Sir Arthur Nicholson: We have the sad duty to inform our Members of the recent death of Sir Arthur Nicholson. Sir Arthur was on the Ballarat City Council for many years and was Mayor at the time our tramway was given permission to operate and he officiated at the opening ceremony.

Old Magazines wanted: Tramway enthusiast, Robert Copeman, is seeking back copies of 'Trolley Wire' and 'Electric Traction' magazines. The copies required are:- 'Trolley Wire' - Anything before August 1965. Also the June 1976 issue. 'Electric Traction' - anything before June 1963 then July, October, December 1963 January, February, March, April, June, November 1964, February, October 1965, January, February, March, April, May, June, July, October 1966, January, February, April 1967.

If you can help please contact Robert at the society address.

Badge Sales: Our sales of souvenir enamel badges are running at a high level once again. The new 'Comeng' suburban electric train for Melbourne is most popular. The 'Polly' tank locomotive badge, depicting 'Polly' steam crane which is soon to go on public display next to the cable tram at the Melbourne Museum is also a most popular badge. The Sales Department is re-ordering 'R' class steam locomotive badges plus Society tram No.27 Badges are available from the tram depot or the 'Railfan' shop in Melbourne.

'Merry Christmas' As this is the last newsheet for the year we wish our Members and families, and friends, a 'Merry Christmas'.

Next 'Fares Please' issued January