

JULY 1983

P.O. Box 632, Ballarat. 3350

NEWS OF THE BALLARAT TRAMWAY PRESERVATION SOCIETY

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Annual General Meeting: Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Ballarat Tramway Preservation Society Limited will be held at 1.30pm at the Tram Depot, South Gardens Reserve, Ballarat on Sunday, 2nd October, 1983.

Nominations are called for the following positions which become vacant on the Board of Management from that date:-

- President
- Melbourne resident Vice President
- Ballarat resident Vice President
- Honorary Secretary
- Honorary Treasurer
- Ordinary Board Member (6 positions)

Any two members may nominate any other member to serve as an Office Bearer or Ordinary Board Member provided that no person who at the time such nomination is an Unfinancial Member shall be entitled to be a Candidate for election or a proposer or seconder pursuant to the Articles of Association.

The nomination shall be sent in writing to the Returning Officer to reach him not later than 5.00pm on Friday, 26th August, 1983. Nominations may be sent to the Returning Officer, Mr. S. Lodington, 2A Gordon Street, Mont Albert, 3127 or handed to him. Nominations are not to be forwarded to the society address. The nomination shall be signed by the proposer and seconder and consented to in writing by the candidate and may be accompanied by a statement of not more than 500 words of the candidates policies and records of service and experience.

A member may be nominated at any one time as a candidate for more than one position on the Board provided that upon his election to any position on the Board a Members' nomination for any other position shall forthwith lapse.

Membership Renewals: Enclosed is your Membership Renewal Form. Because of rising costs in servicing Members the Board has had to increase the Membership fee to \$6. We value your Membership with us and trust you will renew.

New Members: We welcome the following new Member to our Society and trust he will enjoy his Membership with us:-

<u>Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
580	I.D. Rintoule	Auburn

Metropolitan Transit Authority: As from 1st July, 1983 the transport organisations in Victoria were reformed into new structures. The Melbourne and Metropolitan Tramways Board and the Victorian Railways were abolished. All tramway operations, private bus and suburban railway operations now come under the direction of the Metropolitan Transit Authority. From now on in 'Fares Please' we will refer to the MMTB as the Melbourne Tramways. The Metropolitan Transit Authority, ~~Tram~~ and Bus Division is a bit too long and clumsy to be placed throughout our newsheet.

M.T.A. Colours: The 'Comeng' suburban trains are being painted with MTA colours of green and yellow, but it appears the S.E.C. tramways have led the way again. First it was tail lights on trams and used ticket bins in tram doorways - now the S.E.C. 'tiger stripes' are on the front of the 'Comeng' suburban trains. What a pity we didn't patent the design - think of the royalties!

Trackwork: A working bee on the weekend of 16th & 17th July saw the rails laid out for No. 6 and 7 roads at the depot. Once these are laid our trackwork construction to the depot will be completed. A supply of new

sleepers has been ordered through the 'Bellarine Peninsula Railway' and delivery is expected within a month. The temporary track inside the depot on No.6 road, which holds No.39, has been relaid as a permanent track. The relaying of the curve that leads to No.4 and 5 roads is not far away. The present curve has been found to be too sharp for all the trams and especially so for the maximum traction trams.

Tramcar Maintenance: The following works are being carried out on our trams by the maintenance team -

- No.14: The brake rigging and brake cylinder have been overhauled. A new leather gasket was placed around the brake piston and now the braking performance on this tram has improved noticeably.
- No.18: A total overhaul of the brake rigging has been completed. A number of parts required rebuilding.
- No.26: Restoration continues with the Motormans bulkhead at No.2 end now almost complete. Following a recent acquisition of some second hand components, enquiries are now being made into the construction of new tip-over seats and fittings for the drop ends.
- No.39: The exterior of this tram has been cleaned up.
- No.40: New wheel tyres have been pressed on and profiled at Preston Workshops. They will soon be returned to Ballarat for fitting to the bogies. New axle boxes have also been made.
- No.661: The repainting of the tram body will continue when more stable weather and temperatures return. The 16 exterior saloon windows have been sanded down in preparation for varnishing.
- No.671: The second and final coat of roof paint has been applied to this tram. The floor has also been repainted in MMTB grey colour. The metal sheeting over the side destination boxes has been removed and reglazing is in hand.

Following the repainting of W3 661, it is expected that W4 671 will then be repainted. With the formation of the M.T.A. and its new colour scheme of green and yellow, it has been suggested by a number of members that 671 should be repainted in the 1950's colours of the former MMTB.

Co-operation between kindred tramway museums was again evident recently when our Society exchanged our surplus ex Melbourne trolley poles and skid fittings (these came from our ex Melbourne trams) with the Tramway Museum Society of Victoria for some of their surplus ex Ballarat trolley poles, wheels and fittings.

'No smoking': At the June Board meeting the Board re-affirmed its decision of some years ago that 'smoking in the Depot is prohibited'. The extra stock of paints, varnishes, kerosene and the like now in the premises has caused this review of the ruling.

Souvenirs: A reminder that we have in stock the souvenir teaspoons. The photograph of the tram in the Gardens has reproduced with great detail and the spoon itself is a good design. Each spoon is individually boxed in a plastic case with a clear top and the spoon sits on a red foam layer in a white plastic base. The price of these is \$3. Postage is 60c for up to 3.

As of this time our stocks of enamel badges are:- 'R' class steam loco. Orange 'B' class Diesel electric locomotive, 'Y' class diesel electric locomotive, 'Comeng' suburban train, 'Silver' suburban train. The price of our souvenir items has been increased because of rising costs of production. All enamel badges now sell for \$3. Some badges we purchase from other museums have risen from \$3 to \$3.50. Our button badge showing a single truck tram is now 35 cents and postcards are 25 cents.

The new postcard is currently being produced but here is the big news - the long awaited 'Tait' train enamel badge is now ordered. (Fanfare and acclamation at this point) These should be available by the Annual General Meeting.

New display posters showing our sales items have been produced by John Phillips and these will be placed in each tram. Each poster has a photograph of the Sales Item on it.

Depot Works: The overhead troughing in the old depot will be re-suspended by new metal brackets similar to those in the new depot. The present wooden supporting beams spanning the depot will be removed to allow the construction of the museum and offices on No.1 road.

Next 'Fares Please' issued in September