

NEWS OF THE BALLARAT TRAMWAY PRESERVATION SOCIETY

Registered by Australia Post Publication No. VBH 3548

Annual General Meeting: The Annual Meeting was held on Sunday, 13th October at the Tram Depot. The President, Frank Hanrahan welcomed the Members to the meeting and as is becoming customary at these meetings he was able to report on the acquisition of yet another tramcar. Frank announced the Society has been successful in negotiating the possession of former Ballarat Horse Tram No.1.

The significance of this vehicle being added to our fleet should be obvious to all members and the body of those assembled at the meeting expressed great interest at the news.

The election for the Board of Management was conducted and the Board for 1985-6 is:

- President Frank Hanrahan
- Ballarat Vice President Len Doull
- Melbourne Vice President Peter Winspur
- Treasurer Carolyn Dean
- Secretary Richard Gilbert
- Ordinary Board Members Alan Bradley
Stephen Butler
Paul McDonald
Andrew Mitchell
Howard Stoney
Garry Wood

After the close of formal proceedings the members enjoyed a ride on recently restored trams 27 and 40, and on return to the depot a sumptuous afternoon tea was served.

New Members: We welcome the following new Members to our Society and trust they will enjoy their Membership with us:-

Number	Name	Location
612	Steve Davis	Rockdale
613	Clayton Giles	Bell Post Hill
614	Malcolm Marcus	Ferntree Gully
615	Alf De Kort	Sebastopol
616	Guy Waters	Sandringham
618	David Tidy	Moorabbin

Charter business: Our Charter business has been booming at a record rate over the past few weeks. A number of schools and social clubs have chartered trams mainly during weekdays and the extra revenue has been most welcome. Our souvenir sales have also been popular with passengers on these charters.

The fares on our tramway have been increased to cover higher insurance electricity and administrative costs. The new fares are:-

Adult return 80c Child return 40c Adult single 40c Child single 30c

All Day Tickets \$1.60

New 80 cent tickets are being printed and for the interim period overstamped 5 cent tickets are being used. We currently have stocks of tickets for the other values.

Further weekday employment: The Board has been monitoring the success of the Community Employment Project which finished at our depot recently. The regular attendance by workers restoring the tramcars from Monday to Friday provided a good co-ordinated and consistent effort on the particular work task areas. After being approached with a suggestion by David Macartney, who developed skills in the woodworking area during this project, the Board has agreed to employ him in the afternoons from Monday to Friday during the summer months. This will allow the skills David has learnt to be carried on in a practical way to benefit our Society and at the same time allow the depot and museum/sales area to be open during weekdays.

The Board is also pleased to employ Jacki Edwards, one of our former C.E.P. workers, as an assistant to David on Friday afternoons. Her wages are being funded by the generosity of a society member who has donated the money to the society.

Sales items: Our sales department has been ordering some new stock and restocking some regular lines. Our Society recently supplied the Museum of Victoria with cable tram lapel badges as part of the Melbourne Cable Tram Centenary celebrations. The same design has now been ordered as a 'celeste' design teaspoon and it will be available shortly from our sales department at \$3 each. If ordering by mail add 60c for postage for each spoon or \$1.60 if ordering more than 3. An account for postage will be issued for large or trade orders.

Other teaspoons of Ballarat trams in stock are Single Truck Tram No.27 and Maximum Traction Tram No.38.

A new style of beer glass with a gold embossed line drawing of a single truck tram has been received. These are a good quality production and will compliment the earlier design of embossed glass that was in stock. The retail price has yet to be determined but should be either \$3 or \$3.50.

A further stock of the following books has been ordered -

'Melbourne Tramways', 'Tramways of Australia'

The price for these items is also to be finalised but if you wish to contact the Society to order them we will reply with the price when the books have been received.

Our recently upgraded and reprinted booklet 'Ballarat Vintage Tramway' is selling steadily and copies are available for \$1.75 plus 35c postage. This is an excellent book to have if you require a concise history of the Ballarat Tramways and a photo of each type of vehicle in our rolling stock fleet.

Co-Operative Society: The Ballarat Tramway Preservation Society Co-Operative Limited is seeking the services of a Secretary. At the annual meeting of the Co-Op, recently held, an interim Secretary was appointed but the position is being advertised again. The task of Secretary/Treasurer is a responsible one but not an overdemanding one, the duties being to supervise the issue of shares and maintenance of existing ones, calling of one Annual General Meeting and a few Board Meetings to comply with the Co-Operative laws. The Co-Op is a separate legal entity set up by our Society to raise loan money to build both depot buildings. The first building has been paid off and that loan has been wound up and the repayment of the loan for the second building is still underway.

You don't have to be a share holder to occupy this position. It's the sort of job that can be done from someone own home once every couple of months. If you are in a position to help it would be greatly appreciated. Please contact; The Secretary, BTPS Co-Op Ltd, PO Box 632, Ballarat. 3350.

Works report: John Phillips recently commenced construction of the walls for the new crew meal room. The framework for the first wall section was built then lifted and secured in position. As John comes to Ballarat over the next couple of months he will continue on with the job. Our thanks to him for a job well done.

Ballast and gravel have been placed over No. 7 Road at the depot to rail head height to allow the tower truck to be easily driven out. The grass around the depot is growing rapidly in this warm and wet spring climate and therefore has to be cut virtually every week. Stephen Elliot has been doing a fine job with our power mower.

Restoration work on Tram No.26 is going well. The drop end seat bases complete with varnished wood slats are in position and the soon to be completed drop ends are looking very good with the metal work at the ends of the seats and the polished conductors bells and brass fittings. Work on the window frames on No.14 is well underway and the tram is being repainted. It will still be kept in the standard SEC colour scheme. Andrew Mitchell is working on the restoration of the tram shelters and when completed they will be placed at the Gardens Loop and the Dept Junction.

Our tram stop signs have been repainted to accomodate the new fares. David Macartney has also constructed some new signs to provide us with enough for all our stops and he has been trying his hand at signwriting which has been most acceptable and saved us the cost of a professional sign writer.

The Society Board of Management wishes every Member a happy Christmas as our next Newsheet will be issued in January. Come and ride the trams holiday period!



At our recent Annual General meeting, the President Frank Hanrahan, was pleased to report the news that the Society has been negotiating the possession of former Ballarat Horse Tram No.1.

The negotiations with the present owner are proceeding very well and we hope to be in a position to remove it from his property in the not too distant future. The Society Board, Ballarat City Council and other groups and individuals who have assisted in the negotiations so far are extremely enthused over the proposal to restore this historic tram to its original former glory.

Tram No.1 entered service when the Ballarat Tramways commenced in 1887 and it is thought it was withdrawn from service in the late 1920's, possibly used until this quite late date as a trailer behind the electric trams conveying employees bicycles between the City Office and the Tram Depot.

The tram is an historic, tangible link with the history of the Ballarat Tramways from their inception and the project aims to attempt restoration of the vehicle by 1987, which will be the Australian Bi-Centenary and the Centenary of the Ballarat Tramways. When restored, the tram would be run a few times each year for special occasions and at other times it would be on display at the depot along with our other trams which are being painted in the various colour schemes depicting the different eras of the tramway history.

This important project will of course cost a considerable amount of money and labour to complete it, but initially the Society will fund the removal of the tram to the depot where a full assessment of the project can be made. We are seeking support from the membership in the form of donations to help defray the costs of transport of the tram to the depot and we respectfully ask for your support in this exciting project. If you can help with a donation of any amount, it would be gratefully appreciated.

TO: B.T.P.S.
BOX 632,
BALLARAT. 3550

Dear Treasurer,

I wish to donate \$ towards the removal cost of Ballarat Horse Tram No.1.
My cheque is enclosed.

PLEASE NOTE: All donations of \$2 and over are tax deductible. Make cheques payable to Ballarat Tramway Preservation Society Limited.