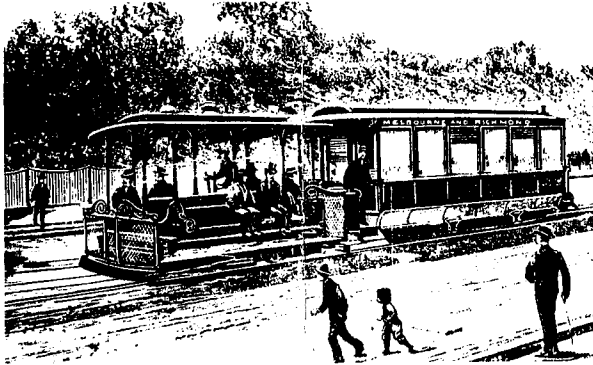


FARES PLEASE!

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January 1987

A Cable Tram in Wendouree Parade?!



The first weekend of March will see tramway history being made, with the first ever running of a cable tram in Ballarat. A meticulously restored Melbourne dummy and trailer will visit our tramway during the Ballarat Begonia Festival. Owned by Daryl Hawksworth of Blampied, the trailer is presented in the red, blue, brown and yellow livery of the Clifton Hill route. Newton Williams of Swan Hill owns and built the grip car utilising parts from a number of former cars. The cable car is powered by a small petrol-driven motor.

Our special cable tram service will operate over the 7th, 8th and 9th March, running between the Gardens Loop and the tram depot, where passengers will be welcome to visit our depot, museum and sales areas. We currently anticipate that the cable car service will commence at approximately 1 00 p.m. each day. A special highlight on the Sunday will be another visit by the Geelong City Band, who this time will hopefully be able to perform their street march in front of the tram (the weather conditions during their last visit confined them to playing only inside the tram - and we thought the bells were loud!!). The march will travel from the depot to the loop, beginning at 2 00 p.m.

News of the Ballarat Tramway Preservation Society Limited.

2..Fares Please!

A CABLE TRAM IN WENDOUREE PARADE!(cont.)

A complementary electric car service will operate over the normal route from 10 30 a.m. to approximately 5 30 p.m. during the weekend. Of course, our daily electric running during the remainder of the Begonia Festival will operate as normal, from Saturday 28th February till Sunday 15th March inclusive.

Another feature of the Begonias will be a visit to Ballarat by a steam-hauled vintage train, conveying visitors to the festival, on Sunday 8th March. Extra trams will run out to cover the anticipated passengers from the vintage train.

The 1987 Begonia Festival is promising to be one of the most exciting yet for our Society, especially with the visit of the cable car and we hope that as many members as possible will participate in these activities.

MEMBERSHIP

We welcome the following new and resuming members and trust they will enjoy their membership with us.

<u>Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
598	Dean Filgate	Kew
505	Alan Rees	East Coburg
629	Kerry Sandlant	Wendouree
630	Beryl Hooley	Camberwell
631	Ken Francis	St Kilda West

TRAFFIC

December proved to be a quiet month for our tramway due, no doubt, to the unfavourable weather. However, Christmas Day saw many passengers riding the tram, we being one of the few tourist attractions in operation that day.

As usual, we are running daily from Christmas until the end of the school holidays. At the time of writing, patronage for January has been very good, with over one hundred passengers travelling on all except one day; on several days, we have carried over 250 passengers, many of whom complemented their ride with a visit to the depot.

Sunday, 4th January saw another milestone in the Society's history: our 250,000th passenger was carried on the 2 15 p.m. trip from St Aidan's Drive.

As mentioned earlier in **Fares Please!**, we are looking forward to a very busy Begonia Festival. We estimate that on each of the days the cable car is to operate, we will need twelve staff to run the traffic operations. Crews will be rostered to work on both electric and cable trams during their shifts. Any members of the traffic staff who may be able to assist during the festival and especially over the 7th, 8th and 9th March weekend, please contact the Traffic Manager, Peter Winspur, or Roster Clerk, Gavin Young.

RECENT VISITORS

We were pleased to welcome to our tramway, Mr. Mike Taplin, the Editor of **Modern Tramway** magazine. A tour of the depot and museum was provided by Dave Macartney for Mr. Taplin.

Recently, Dave Macartney also entertained a visitor to the museum whose father had been a motorman in the forties and who related some interesting tales.

In 1949 the driver of No. 17 got off at Ashkar's Pies near the Post Office and some kids released the brake for a bit of fun. No. 17 derailed at the bottom of the hill cleaning up the doughnut stall parked opposite. A baby sleeping on a shelf in the stall was propelled onto a pile of doughnuts and was not injured. No. 17 was retrieved by the Eclipse Motors tow truck but the Motorman's services were no longer required.

Shortly after, another car got away from the Lydiard St North terminus while the driver was answering a call of nature. The motorman leapt onto the running board of a passing motor car and gave chase, making a stuntman-like transfer somewhere near Howitt Street, thus saving the day. A woman passenger approached the motorman, saying "I'm going to report you, driver!" The motorman immediately thought of instant dismissal for allowing his tram to run away. "I'm going to report you for not stopping for those people back at Landsborough Street!" The motorman happily accepted a minor reprimand for failing to pick up passengers and remained on the job until his retirement.

TRAMCAR AND DEPOT WORKS

The depot fan is taking on a new appearance, with the disconnection of 1 road from the rest of the fan. The old 1 and 2 roads junction points have been removed, with new track, running directly into the shed, being laid on 2 road.

At the time of printing, the ceiling of the new crew room and office area is expected to be installed within days. Work on the conversion of No. 39 to our museum display area continues at a steady pace, though some problems have been encountered with the body, which have caused some delays.

No. 1 has seen the paint stripped off and window frames measured and ordered. Lead light windows have been installed in No. 26, along with roll-over seat backs. Footstep brackets are being made up for this car. No. 13's truck has been reassembled excepting the motors. New motor suspension bearings are currently being prepared, allowing time to perform work on the underside of the body, prior to the truck being refitted complete.

As part of their sponsorship of Horse Tram No. 1, Telecom Australia is now advertising on two of the Society's tramcars, Nos. 14 and 40. The design features various modes of telephone and telegraph communication from the introduction of telecommunication services in Australia till the present.

4. Fares Please!

HORSE TRAM No.1

General restoration work continues on the horse car with, as yet, no major work being undertaken. As part of the preparatory work, Dave Macartney and Jackie Edwards have been carefully removing the several layers of paint applied to the vehicle over the years. Underneath the original coat, they have found a rather unusual example of graffiti, 1887-style. Sketched in indelible pencil are two gents "squaring off" bare-knuckle style, with the caption, "A sober man fighting a drunken one". A study of the photograph of the staff assembling No. 1 reveals a couple of larrikin types who may have been the perpetrators. Queen Victoria was still on the throne - we wonder if she would have been amused.

SALES

To celebrate the visit of the cable tram, the Society will be obtaining a supply of commemorative cable car brooches. It is intended that these will be available in time for the cable car visit. Prices for the brooch and postage are not yet known.

Also available are the set of six "Rose Series" postcard reproductions featuring the Electric Supply Co. era of tramway operation in Ballarat. These postcards are priced at \$2-00 per set or \$0-40 each.

Another new sales item is the reproduction of the 1887 By-Laws of the Ballarat Tramway Co., pertaining to horse tram operation. Measuring approximately 25 cm x 43 cm, the facsimile is available at the Depot for only \$1-00.

Other items on sale include two styles of teaspoons featuring Nos. 27 and 38 respectively (\$3-50 each), our vinyl car stickers (\$1-00 each) and our Society button badges, now available in four different colours (\$0-40 each). For mail orders, postage rates are available on application.

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