

# FARES PLEASE!

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## TRAMCAR AND DEPOT WORKS

In the last two months, work at the depot has primarily been confined to the restoration of Horse Tram No. 1. The roof slats are being prepared to be placed back on the car. Prior to doing this, all the slats will have been varnished on one side. We had sufficient slats from the old car's roof to do the central portion of the roof, but new ones had to be cut for the sides of the car. The roof ribs have been completed and varnished. Two of the original side panels have been screwed back into place. These are the upper panels on the cars. New lower panels are currently being made up from ply wood, laminated together to form the curved panels. One other job completed has been the installation of the glass in the new window frames and the fitting of the numerous window components.

The repainting of the Museum Display car has recommenced, following the completion of the preparation of the sides of the car. The sectioning of the various portions of the MV101 motor have been completed and the motor reassembled. It is planned to install it the 22E truck within the next couple of months. Some special fabrications will be necessary to support the motor as it is smaller than the normal motors that the trucks are designed for.

Tram car 13 returned to service after a break of some 16 years. Prior to returning to traffic, the seat bases were recovered in the same vinyl material that we have used in a number of cars. Quite a few minor jobs were necessary prior to the car returning to service, including cleaning out the sand boxes, which were full of rubbish, old tickets etc.

The SEC recently removed some old DC street light fittings from the Ballarat. An alert storeman noticed them and contacted us prior to them being carted off in the scrap bins. They were converted to AC light fittings many years ago. A quick survey of Ballarat streets showed that a number of them are still in service, complete with glasses.

Two truck loads of fine crushed rock have been purchased to continue to fill the depot fan trackwork to rail level.

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# News of the Ballarat Tramway Preservation Society Limited.

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## SEASHORE TROLLEY MUSEUM USA

The Society exchanges journals with the Seashore Trolley Museum, The Museum of Mass Transit, at Kennebunkport, Maine USA. From their recent mailout came the sad news that they founder and President, Theodore Santarelli passed away in Dec. 1987. Seashore was a pioneer in preserving electric trams, thus setting the scene for many similar bodies around the world.

On a more happy note, Seashore reported that they recently acquired the body of Lake Shore Electric Railway car No. 177. The 60 foot long, 35 (imperial) ton car; with 4x140 HP motors was used until recently as a "Diner" in Ohio.

### TRAM BODY DISPOSAL

The Board has deliberated over the position of the future of tram bodies 121 and 32. Number 121 is a HTT maximum traction tram and was sold by the MMTB in 1939 to a property owner at Mount Evelyn. It was given to the Society in 1975 for possible restoration, and is currently stored on leased land at Bungaree. Number 32 is a former SEC single truck tram and was disposed of by the SEC in 1971 to a group in Maryborough. The Society purchased the remains, primarily for the truck and motors a few years ago.

In considering the matter, the Board has decided to seek expressions of interest from other museums, through COTMA, to ascertain if any would be interested in acquiring these bodies. In the case of 32, only the body portion, no mechanical components would be disposed of. The Board's determination was urged on by the fact that No. 121 is in the weather at Bungaree and the condition of its body can only further deteriorate. The body of No. 32 would require a lot of restoration work and the Board feels that the Society has a considerable numbers of similar single truck cars. This will allow the truck to be used for other restoration projects.

### MODEL RAILWAY SPECTACULAR

During the Queens Birthday weekend from 11 to 13 June inclusive the Society will have a stand at the Ballarat Model Railway Spectacular. The event will be held at the Ranger Barracks Drill Hall, Curtis St. Ballarat. We will have a display showing Society Members at work, hopefully tempting new members to join our Society. and a video of the Ballarat Tramways as they are operated by our members along with some archival footage of the tramways in the 1960's. A sales section will also be part of the stand and will feature our latest teaspoon production, plus the varied range of badges and books we have in stock.

If any member would like to staff the display stand, we would welcome hearing from you. Please contact Richard Gilbert on (03) 583 8034 or leave a message on our answering machine at the depot (053) 34 1580.

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## COTMA CONFERENCE

Details of the biennial conference of the Council of Tramway Museums of Australasia to be held in Sydney have been received. The conference will run from Friday Sep. 2 to Monday Sep. 5. The format will be one of workshops discussion groups in which the maximum use of the time can be used in the most constructive manner. Our Society is please to see a return to this format as much is learned from the either one person presentations or group discussions. The only area that we feel is letting down the potential of these conferences is the lack of follow up printed conference proceedings which is the permanent record of the event. Hopefully these backdated reports can be finally got moving at this conference.

Should members wish to attend this conference, to observe the proceedings, please contact Richard Gilbert for details. The Conference fees are quite high, which has caused our Board some concern as we feel they may preclude some members from attending, but at least for this conference we are committed to the plan and the venue, which is the Crest Hotel, Kings Cross.

The maximum price, which covers all conference participating papers and accommodation \$370. This reduces to \$190 if you participate in the conference but make your own accommodation arrangements.

## WEDDING BELLS

Board Member Alan Bradley was married on 23 April. The wedding was a very pleasant occasion and a few Society members were invited along and enjoyed a most cheerful evening. Alan, and his wife, Nicole went to America for their honeymoon and whilst there arranged to meet Jim Walker of the Orange Empire Trolley Museum. Jim was the guest speaker at the 1984 COTMA conference held in Auckland.

## AUS STEAM

During October this year, as part of the Australian bicentenary Celebrations, a large steam hauled railway extravaganza has been planned. Locomotives from other states of Australia, plus the 'Flying Scotsman' LNER locomotive 4472 from England will be here for the event. On Sunday 23 Oct. a public open day will be held at Spencer St. Station consisting of a static display of all the locomotives and other railway equipment. The veteran restored electric trains will be operating trips for the public.

The tram, bus and other historic vehicle groups have also been invited to attend and as such our Society has been asked. A service of vintage trams will operate along Spencer St. during the day and our Society has advised the organisers that we wish to operate the cable tram set.

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## AUS STEAM Cont.

The owners of the cable tram set, Daryl Hawksworth and Newton Williams, are very keen to run the tram in Melbourne. As you will be aware, the tram has run successfully in Ballarat during the last two Begonia Festivals. We feel the operation of this tram will immensely to the historic authenticity of the proposed tram display as the cable trams of Melbourne were so famous. The Ministry of Transport is pleased to have us involved and negotiations are well advanced.

## COMMUTING BY CABLE

The Association of Railway Enthusiasts has after much research and production released a 54 minute video tape of the Melbourne Cable trams. The tape is professionally produced and edited, and is narrated by John Reid of the ABC. Our Society has arranged to purchase tapes from the ARE at bulk rates and is to make the tape available at the same price as other retail outlets. It can be bought at the Tram Depot or by mail order. The enclosed brochure sets out the details. Please allow a couple of weeks for delivery as the tapes are still being produced.

## BTPS CO-OPERATIVE

A meeting was held at the Tram Depot on Sunday 22 May by the BTPS Co-operative Society Limited to discuss the winding up of that Co-operative as its loan commitments are now fully paid out. This group was set up in 1972 to raise money to build the tram depot. Co-operative Society members will be informed by separate mailout of the position regarding the co-operative.

A prominent member who attend the meeting was our first Society President, Halvert Cain who we had not seen for a couple of years. Hal was especially welcomed to the meeting and he responded by saying that he thought it was appropriate to come along to the meeting that agreed to wind up the co-op as he was involved in the hard work and organisation of setting it up. He wished it to be recorded in the minutes his appreciation to the Directors who had kept the co-op running so well over the 16 years. All those present confirmed his feeling and on closing the meeting a pleasant afternoon was enjoyed

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Fares Please! is published six times a year in alternate months commencing in January and is distributed to members and friends of the Ballarat Tramways. For further information regarding the Society's activities and publications, please contact:

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