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Silver glory

Paralympians Nazim, Bryce and Shane show off their Beijing silver medals as they prepare to board a low floor tram at one of the 284 platform stops on the Yarra Trams network.

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It was only a concept in 2006 but our tramTRACKER™ technology has recently passed a major milestone.

Melburnians have now used tramTRACKER more than one

million times to get real-time tram arrival information by phone, SMS or online.

The one millionth request came in an SMS from a Northcote woman as she prepared to head to her favourite tram stop on a Sunday morning. She told us she loves tramTRACKER and uses it every day.

The technology that brings you real-time information for every tram stop in Melbourne is also used in our Fleet Operations Centre. This is the Yarra Trams "mission control" where our fleet operators can view the location of every tram on their computer monitors. The automatic vehicle monitoring system provides updates every 10 seconds.

Our fleet operators use this information to adjust services in the event of delays or disruptions.

They also have an eye on the world thanks to a network of video cameras at strategic points on tram routes throughout the city. Our Fleet Operations Centre has a direct link with VicRoads traffic control which means a better coordinated response to incidents on our network.

With around 80% of the tram network operating in mixed traffic, there are many challenges but we'll continue to improve tram service reliability with the help of world class technology.

We're also making your tram travel experience even more convenient, with real-time information through tramTRACKER and passenger information displays at major tram stops.

Thank you for your continued support of Melbourne's tram network.

Season's Greetings.

Dennis Cliche
Chief Executive Officer

Green with the wind

Another wind powered tram is now on Melbourne's tracks.

It's part of a demonstration project by Yarra Trams to show that renewable energy options can help deliver a sustainable future for Melbourne.

The *Ride with the Wind* tram features an eye catching design combining movie nostalgia with a wind farm landscape.

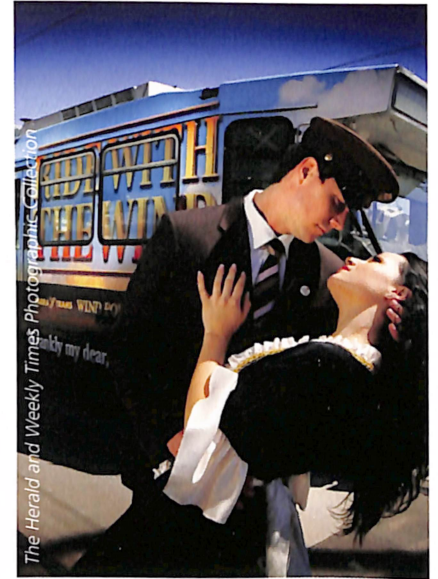
The catchphrase "Frankly my dear, we do give a damn!" reinforces the Yarra Trams commitment to a cleaner, greener city.

The *Ride with the Wind* tram was launched on the same day as Melbourne received some much needed rain to fill the tanks at its third **grendepot™** at Glenhuntly.

Rainwater harvested from the four hectares of tram shed roof will be stored in five tanks and used to wash trams and flush toilets.

The project is expected to save around 1.3 million litres of water each year.

At the same time, the Green Tram continues to carry messages of environmental sustainability around the City Circle. The historic W Class tram is also running on Green Power, generated by wind farms.



Mark and Elisha embrace the 'Ride with the Wind' concept.

Melbourne's first wind powered tram has been running since the end of March this year on the busy Route 96 (St Kilda Beach –East Brunswick).

"Combined with increased tram priority and a modernised, more efficient network, a move to renewable energy will further enhance the role of trams in achieving a more sustainable Melbourne." said Yarra Trams Chief Executive Officer Dennis Cliche.

"The sustainability of public transport means every one of us can make a difference," said Mr Cliche.



Celebrating the opening of Glenhuntly **grendepot™** are Yarra Trams staff and contractors (background) and in the foreground (from left) Cr Steven Tang (Mayor, City of Glen Eira), Malcolm Lettoof (Glenhuntly Depot Manager) and Dennis Cliche (CEO, Yarra Trams).

From Kokoda to Essendon

Yarra Trams Authorised Officer, Mohamed had the adventure of a lifetime when he trekked the Kokoda Trail with students from Debney Park Secondary College and police from Flemington.

As well as forming friendships Mohamed was able to give the students a new understanding of his role as an Authorised Officer. The group reunited for a tour of Essendon tram depot along with their porter from the trek Tau Daniels who was visiting from Port Moresby.

Yarra Trams has been a sponsor of the annual Kokoda expedition since 2006.

Below: Authorised Officer Mohamed at Essendon Depot with students from Debney Park Secondary College and Flemington Police.



Silver glory *Continued from page 1*

As proud sponsor of the Victorian Wheelchair Rugby League, Yarra Trams was delighted when four Victorians helped Australia win silver at the Beijing Paralympic Games.

Bryce Alman, Shane Brand, Nazim Erdem and Greg Smith were in the Australian team for the gold medal decider which the USA won 53-44.

Yarra Trams congratulates the boys and looks forward to continuing its partnership with Wheelchair Sports Victoria. The Yarra Trams Wheelchair Rugby League competition is held on Friday nights between 7pm and 9pm at Aqualink in Box Hill.

For more information visit wsv.org.au



An excited Liliana Braumberger with her new iPod touch!

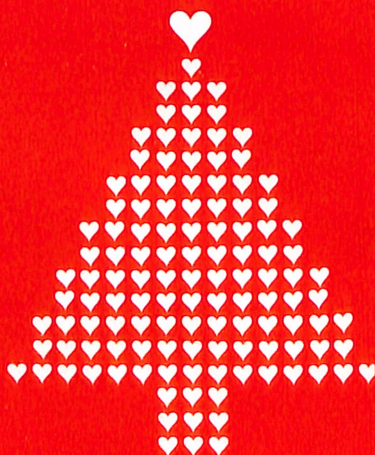
Winners are gridders

Liliana Braumberger from Coburg couldn't wipe the smile off her face as a winner in our *Did you know?* competition.

Her creative video entry focused on the message that tram travel benefits the environment as featured on card nine of the series.

For her efforts Liliana won an iPod touch and a monthly Metcard.

Thank you to the 5500 people who entered the 10 *Did you know?* competitions.



Give a gift from the heart

In the lead up to Christmas, Yarra Trams has partnered with the Australian Red Cross Blood Service to encourage Melburnians to "give a gift from the heart".

The campaign promotes visits to Blood Donor Centres that are easily accessible by tram.

Blood donors at the Airport West, Bourke Street, Southbank and Latrobe University centres will go into the draw to win a dinner for two on the Colonial Tramcar Restaurant.

They might also cross paths with Jake the beagle, our tramTRACKER mascot but he'll only be donating his time!



January prizes

During January, don't forget to keep your Metcard.

Yarra Trams and Luna Park will be giving away a family pass to Luna Park every day of the month.

Winners of the unlimited ride ticket for two adults and two children will enjoy a school holiday bonus.

Visit yarratrams.com.au during January for more details.



Summer services

Watch out for details of the Yarra Trams summer timetable which operates between Sunday 21 December 2008 and Saturday 10 January 2009.

Information can be found at tram stops, on board trams and at yarratrams.com.au



City Circle Tram – the musical

Passengers on the City Circle Tram have been joining in weekend singalongs led by Melbourne musician Tony Moore.

The musical journey features traditional Australian songs like *Waltzing Matilda* and *Click Go the Shears* as well as Tony's own composition *City Circle Tram* from his *My Melbourne* CD.

For more information visit Tony's website: mymelbourne.net.au



Art horse

Route 16 passengers may have noticed some horsing around in Hawthorn in the lead up to the Spring Racing Carnival.

The popular Glenferrie Road shopping strip was home to model horses painted by local organisations.

Tram drivers from Yarra Trams Malvern Depot were lucky enough to paint one of the equine artworks.

It attracted many a tram gong with its distinctive colours matching the design on the Yarra Trams fleet.

Driver Tim gets into the spirit of Spring Racing with the Yarra Trams model horse.



They're back

After a 15 year absence, trams have returned to the North Fitzroy depot on Nicholson Street.

It's the new home of the City Circle trams which have moved from Southbank depot to make room for the Bumblebee trams.

The 10 iconic W Class trams operate the free tourist route between 10am and 6pm from Sunday to Wednesday and between 10am and 9pm every Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

City Circle Trams run every day except Christmas Day and Good Friday.

COMPETITION Win a summer prize pack!

For your chance to win a Yarra Trams summer prize pack including a monthly Metcard, double pass to "Setting the Scene" at ACMI, two ground passes to the Australian Open and an Entertainment Book, just answer the following question...

What milestone has tramTRACKER™ passed?

Email your answer, along with your name, phone number and address to competition@yarratrams.com.au or write your answer and contact details on the back of a standard size envelope and post to:

tramlines competition

Yarra Trams

GPO Box 5231

Melbourne 3001

Entries close 16 January 2009. One entry per person please.



Modernising the tram network means renewing and maintaining tracks and overhead wires at locations all over town.

With works happening just about every weekend and some week nights as well, our online Works Alert provides residents and traders with all they need to know about traffic and tram arrangements.

Visit yarratrams.com.au and click the Works Alert button on the home page.