

THE TRAMWAY MUSEUM SOCIETY OF VICTORIA LIMITED.

Registered Office: 141 High Street, Prahran, Vic, 3181.

T028.

27th. Special Outing.

26th. December, 1968.

M. & N. T. B. Tramcar No. 671, Class "W4"

Tramcar No. 671 is one of the Board's five "W4" class cars, and entered service on 9th. July, 1934. The Board originally planned to construct twenty tramcars of the "W3" class, but, after sixteen had been commenced, the remaining four were cancelled and their allocation replaced by an amended design designated as "W4" class. The "W3" class pioneered Melbourne's all-steel frame/twin saloon with intermediate drop-centre style, and rode on 33 inch wheel trucks to give a smoother ride than previous classes. The disadvantage of the large diameter wheel was the increased step heights, which adversely affected loading and unloading of passengers. The "W4" design retained the smooth-riding large diameter wheel but managed to lower the step-heights by almost building the body "down and around" the trucks. This meant that the wheels and the tops of the arches of the truck side-frames came above floor level. This problem was ingeniously solved by installing four pairs of back-to-back seats in each saloon, so that each wheel ran up under each seat. Each seat is "boxed-in" beneath the seat squabs, and passengers are quite ignorant of the interesting feature of this class of car. However, the wide saloon created a problem in the drop-centre: the floor width here had to be narrowed to keep the step within the maximum permissible width of the loading gauge. This created a staggered side-frame line and caused the curved drop-centre sides. The cost of constructing this special framework proved high, and the class was not proceeded with. These four cars were numbered 670 to 673. Subsequently, it was decided to construct a fifth member of the class, and No. 674 came into existence. The class has lead a fairly quiet life. Modifications were made to the brake rigging of No. 671 in 1949, while the large, opaque light shades were removed from the interior of the car in 1952 and the cream-painted masonite ceiling installed. No. 671 has always differed from the other cars of this class in its Barrier Rails; those on the wide entrances are of "W2" type Rail but running on special internal rods. All five cars of this class were withdrawn from traffic and stored in October, 1968.

M. & N. T. B. Tramcar No. 101, Class "L"

Tramcar No. 101 is one of the Board's six "L" class cars, and entered service on 31st. March, 1921. The wooden body was built on a steel chassis by James Moore and Sons Pty. Ltd., is carried on Brill 77E pattern trucks, and fitted with GE electrical equipment. No. 101 was originally painted chocolate with cream trim and rocker panels, and was re-painted green and cream in the very early 1930's. The drop-centre of the car, originally with three panels, four centre entrances and three and two seating, was altered to standard "W2" style in 1934. In 1947, the floor in the drop-centre was raised some 4", while in 1950 the 26<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>" diameter wheels were replaced by 28" wheels. These alterations involved considerable work on the car on each occasion. The former heavily-framed windshields were twice rebuilt in the late 1940's and early 1950's to improve the motorman's vision. The wooden saloon seats were removed and deep upholstered seats substituted in 1959, while carbon insert sliding shoes replaced the trolley wheels in November, 1961. The interior of the roof-boards was sprayed "Colorflek" in 1959.

Data and Specifications.

TRAMCAR No.	101.	671.
CLASS.	L.	W4.
BUILDER.	James Moore & Sons.	M. & M.T.B., Preston Workshops.
LENGTH.	45' 6".	46' 0".
TRUCK.	Brill 77E.	M. & M.T.B. No. 9C.
WHEEL DIAMETER.	28"	33".
WHEEL BASE (per truck).	5' 1 1/2".	5' 9".
TRUCK CENTRES.	24' 6".	27' 6".
MOTORS.	4 x 40 h.p., GE 247A.	4 x 40 h.p., MV 101AZ.
TARE.	17.5 tons.	16.4 tons.
CONTROLLERS.	GE K35AA2.	GE K35JJ.
COMPRESSOR.	W.H. DH16.	W.H. DH16.
SEATING CAPACITY.	48.	48.

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The ticket printer expresses his regrets at a mistake he made during the pre-Christmas rush. This outing is of course, the 27th, not the 29th.

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The Sales Department has numerous books and other traction items on sale. Some of the material available is noted below:-

- DESTINATION PARADISE. ADELAIDE TRAMCARS 60 cents.
- TROLLEY WIRE...June, August & October. 25 cents each.
- 1:10 Scale DESTINATION CURTAINS-
  - FOOTSCRAY 15 cents.
  - POINT ORMOND 5 cents.
  - BALLARAT 20 cents.
  - BENDIGO 15 cents.
  - GEE LONG 20 cents.

Complete set only 60 cents.

Century of N.S.W. Tramcars

\$5:60.