



NEWSLINE 2017 EDITION





KDR & Yarra Trams

As the custodian of Melbourne's iconic tram network, KDR Yarra Trams knows that our people are our greatest asset.

We've brought together more than 2000 employees from three companies to form one team. Thanks to them, we've exceeded targets for punctuality and service delivery every month since the franchise began.

Our training academy is delivering new skills and our company-wide employee survey is helping to shape our future.

KDR combines the international public transport expertise of Keolis with Australia's oldest rail company Downer EDI.

KDR is committed to Australia and proud to be shortlisted in a partnership to build and operate the new Gold Coast rapid transit light rail system.



yarratrams.com.au



Keolis | Downer EDI Rail

VICTORIAN BRANCH

LEVEL 2, 365 QUEEN STREET
MELBOURNE VIC 3000
TELEPHONE:
FAX:
EMAIL:
WEBSITE:
SECRETARY:
ASSISTANT SECRETARY:
PRESIDENT:
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT:
JUNIOR VICE PRESIDENT:

03 9600 3030
03 9600 3363
rtbu@rtbuvic.com.au
www.rtbuvic.com.au
TREVOR DOBBYN
LOU DI GREGORIO
BRIAN HEAD
GRANT WAINWRIGHT
DOUG BRADY

ADMINISTRATION, SUPERVISORY, TECHNICAL & PROFESSIONAL DIVISION

LEVEL 2, 365 QUEEN STREET
MELBOURNE VIC 3000
TELEPHONE:
FAX:
EMAIL:
SECRETARY:
PRESIDENT:
INDUSTRIAL CAMPAIGNS &
WOMEN'S OFFICER:

03 9600 3030
03 9600 3363
rtbu@rtbuvic.com.au
STEVE KOZMEVSKI
CHRIS TSIRKAS
LUBA GRIGOROVITCH

FLEET MANUFACTURE, OVERHAUL, MAINTENANCE & SERVICE DIVISION (WORKSHOPS)

LEVEL 2, 365 QUEEN STREET
MELBOURNE VIC 3000
TELEPHONE:
FAX:
EMAIL:
SECRETARY:
PRESIDENT:
ORGANISER:
INDUSTRIAL CAMPAIGNS &
WOMEN'S OFFICER:

03 9600 3030
03 9600 3363
rtbu@rtbuvic.com.au
WAYNE LEAHY
PHIL BARNETT
CALVIN HARVEY
LUBA GRIGOROVITCH

INFRASTRUCTURE DIVISION

LEVEL 2, 365 QUEEN STREET
MELBOURNE VIC 3000
TELEPHONE:
FAX:
EMAIL:
SECRETARY:
PRESIDENT:
ORGANISER:
INDUSTRIAL CAMPAIGNS &
WOMEN'S OFFICER:

03 9600 3030
03 9600 3363
rtbu@rtbuvic.com.au
KEVIN KILENDER
BOB WILSON
CALVIN HARVEY
LUBA GRIGOROVITCH

LOCOMOTIVE DIVISION

LEVEL 14, 222 KINGS WAY
SOUTH MELBOURNE VIC 3205
TELEPHONE:
FAX:
EMAIL:
WEBSITE:
SECRETARY:
ASSISTANT SECRETARY:
PRESIDENT:
VICE PRESIDENT:

03 9682 1122
03 9682 3344
rtbu@iprimus.com.au
www.rtbuvicloco.com.au
BRIAN HILL
PAUL CARR
TERRY SHEEDY
DARREN LAMONT

RAIL OPERATIONS DIVISION

LEVEL 2, 365 QUEEN STREET
MELBOURNE VIC 3000
TELEPHONE:
FAX:
EMAIL:
SECRETARY:
PRESIDENT:
INDUSTRIAL CAMPAIGNS &
WOMEN'S OFFICER:

03 9600 3030
03 9600 3363
rtbu@rtbuvic.com.au
VICTOR MOORE
BOB BASSETT
LUBA GRIGOROVITCH

TRAM & BUS DIVISION

LEVEL 2, 365 QUEEN STREET
MELBOURNE VIC 3000
TELEPHONE:
FAX:
EMAIL:
SECRETARY:
ASSISTANT SECRETARY:
PRESIDENT:
VICE PRESIDENT:

03 9600 3410
03 9600 3610
trambus@bigpond.net.au
LOU DI GREGORIO
PHIL ALTIERI
DOUG BRADY
MARTIN STREBS

CONTENTS

BRANCH SECRETARY'S REPORT Trevor Dobbyn	3
BRANCH PRESIDENT'S REPORT Brian Head	5
LOCOMOTIVE DIVISION REPORT SECRETARY Brian Hill	7
BRANCH ASSISTANT SECRETARY'S REPORT SECRETARY TRAM & BUS DIVISION Lou Di Gregorio	8
TRAM & BUS DIVISION REPORT ASSISTANT SECRETARY Phil Altieri	9
TRAM & BUS DIVISION REPORT PRESIDENT Doug Brady	10
RAIL OPERATIONS REPORT SECRETARY Victor Moore	12
INFRASTRUCTURE/WORKSHOP DIVISION REPORT ORGANISER Calvin Harvey	13
INDUSTRIAL CAMPAIGNS & WOMEN'S OFFICER Luba Grigorovitch	14
NATIONAL SECRETARY'S REPORT Allan Barden	14

SEE INSIDE
FOR YOUR 2011 LIFT-OUT CALENDAR



LOU DI GREGORIO
Branch Assistant Secretary's
Report
Secretary Tram & Bus Division

THANK YOU FOR YOUR 21 YEARS OF SUPPORT

THIS year is my 21st year as a Secretary of the Tram & Bus Division. Sometimes I wonder how I lasted this long and others probably wondered the same thing. Nobody can be in that position for so long without the strong support of the membership.

I have enjoyed serving my members and also have seen so many changes over the last 21 years. In that period of time I had to deal with labour government twice in the 1980's and liberal government in the 1990's and the current labour government. In that time I've seen no less than 7 Ministers of Transport, 2 liberal, 5 labour and all of them have always promised the world and delivered, not much. That is why they haven't stayed on the job too long.

I have seen so many CEO'S come and go and they always get in with big promises and usually go out with a big payout. One thing is constant; we are still here to protect the tram system and our members.

When I became Secretary in 1989 the wage of the Tram Driver was roughly \$200 less than a Bus Driver and many Tram Drivers at the time used to become bus drivers to make ends meet. Today I am very proud to say the wage of the Tram Driver is much more than a Bus Driver. We have also managed to retain all our conditions such as; 5 weeks annual leave, 15 days sick leave, PLD's, Penalty Rates, and wage increases. All these improvements have been achieved through strong support from the membership and most importantly, 100% membership in the tram industry.

In the old days, there used to be two groups of people in the Tramways, "us" and "them". "Them" were Managers, Inspectors, Depot Starters, Office Clerks and Shed Staff. When I was elected as Secretary, my vision was to one day turn "them" into "us" and everyone will be true trammies and equal no matter which area you came from. I am very happy to say that today everyone that works in the Tram Depot is a member of our Union, they have become the elusive "us". This has helped our membership and delivered better outcomes because when we face management and Government we speak with one voice and represent 100% of the Depot.

Remember the 1990's with the Kennet Government? They were determined to destroy the Union. Well, they are gone and we are still here. The last 11 years we have been privatised and everyone thought that would be the end of the world, instead we have improved our conditions and we got private companies to work with us. Everything we have achieved has been through unity and 100% membership. I hope this unity will continue regardless of who is the Secretary so we can all look forward to a great future.

On the 10th October, 2010 I have completed 45 years of service in the Trams. I have enjoyed every bit of it. I have filled roles like most trammies from being a Conductor, Driver, Trainer, Depot Delegate, National Council Delegate, National Executive Delegate, Branch Assistant Secretary and, Tram Divisional Secretary of the RTBU. In that time I have made a lot of friends and have served membership to the best of my ability. I have been re-elected to this position a number of times by the membership.

I thank all of the members of the Tramways for the strong support you have given me for over 21 years.

Continued >

RETIRED TRAMWAY EMPLOYEE'S ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA



Any employee who is retiring or leaving the service is most welcome to join the above club.



We have outings once a month on the third Thursday where we meet all our old work mates and your partner is also welcome.



If you are interested or know of any passed employee who wishes to join please contact any one of the below people.

Membership \$5-00 Yearly

President Joyce Spark 29 Kitchener Rd Pascoe Vale 3044 Ph: 9306 6248	Secretary Pam Pritchard 2/187 Henry Street Greensborough 3088 Ph: 9434 1961
--	---

Seasons Greetings

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the members for their ongoing support over 2010.

I will endeavour to continue to work closely with all members to protect our future.

On behalf of my office team, Phil Altieri – Assistant Secretary, Doug Brady – President and Louisa Ray – my Personal Assistant and the Tram & Bus Division Executive and myself, we wish all our members and their families a safe and a prosperous new year for 2011.



PHIL ALTIERI
Tram & Bus Division Report
Assistant Secretary

THE OLD AND THE NEW

THE RTBU Tram & Division has been heavily involved in formulating submissions in relation to:

1. The ongoing commitment to operate our iconic w-class trams for the long term.
2. The procurement of new trams for Melbourne's Tram network.

Firstly, Melbourne's iconic w-class trams, the fact is our much loved w-class trams have been allowed to deteriorate over a number of years. The last w-class tram to have a major overhaul was in the late 1980's at the Preston Workshops. Since then neither government nor employers have committed the necessary funds. The RTBU has argued that the appropriate funding be allocated to restore these iconic trams back to their former glory.

The RTBU Tram & Bus Division has been arguing for a number of years that our great city needs our w-class trams to run, not only because they are a Melbourne icon and the public love them, but also they give our tourism industry and our economy a major boost. The RTBU, the national trust and a business activist have tabled a submission to the Victorian Government and the Department of Transport, detailing a plan on how w-class trams can run in Melbourne for the long term.

The submission entails a tourist route developed, taking in 60 Melbourne attractions via the Arts Centre, South Melbourne, St Kilda and Richmond with the idea being, a new hop on, hop off tourist service that would traverse Melbourne's inner suburbs.

The combined submission is currently being considered by the Victorian Government.

The contract for the delivery of Melbourne's 50 new trams has been awarded to Bombardier Transportation. Bombardier is a Canadian global transportation company that employs about 63,000 workers in more than 60 countries, including Australia.

The proposed tram the "flexity E-Class Tram" has been custom designed to accommodate our Melbourne tram network. Stakeholders submitted their requirements, including a detailed submission developed by the RTBU Tram & Bus Division and a consultative committee of RTBU members, to create a wish list of features for our new trams. These features include: a dedicated driver door for easy access, driver's personal climate control, CCTV, turning bogies and much more. The tram length will be 33 metres in 3 sections; it will carry up to 210 passengers. The contract is structured to deliver 5 trams initially commencing late 2012. Only after rigorous checks and balances have been passed, the rest of the 45 will follow. The manufacture of the body shells and assembly of all 50 new trams will be carried out in Dandenong. This will deliver more than 500 local jobs when production is at its peak. Bombardier will have the overall responsibility for the maintenance of these new trams. However Yarra Trams will undertake the day to day on-vehicle maintenance as it now does with the broader fleet.

Yarra Trams employees will have the opportunity to work in Dandenong for training, testing and driving purposes. A

prototype mock up tram will be unveiled next year for members and public comment before the tram goes into production.

The RTBU Tram & Bus Division will continue to be heavily involved in both the future of our iconic w-class trams and ensuring that Melbourne gets the best of the new trams.

I take this opportunity to thank all the hard working RTBU delegates and also thank the strong support from all RTBU members.

I wish all the RTBU members and their families a safe and happy festive season.

Looking for a place to stay this holiday? RTBU TRAMWAY HOLIDAY UNITS 'Kayleen Court' 781 Point Nepean Road, Rosebud 3939



Contact management!
Units have 2 bedrooms
and all facilities included

Situated in beautiful Rosebud
100 metres from the beach, within an
hour's drive from Melbourne

Rates

Off Peak: March to November	Peak: December to February
Sun - Thurs MEMBERS: \$50	Sun - Thurs MEMBERS: \$70
NON MEMEBERS: \$60	NON MEMEBERS: \$100
Fri - Sat MEMBERS: \$60	Fri - Sat MEMBERS: \$80
NON MEMEBERS: \$70	NON MEMEBERS: \$100
Weekly MEMBERS: \$220	Weekly MEMBERS: \$350
NON MEMEBERS: \$330	NON MEMEBERS: \$700

Transport Health Members' Rates In Peak Periods only:
Sun - Thurs \$70 | Fri - Sat \$80 | Weekly \$550

For more info please contact the Caretaker on 59 822 766

Continued >



DOUG BRADY
Tram & Bus Division Report
President

MALVERN 100 YEARS

ON Sunday May 30th Malvern Tram Depot celebrated 100 years of public transport service for the Malvern and Prahran area. The celebration day was a great success with approximately 1200 people attending to pay tribute to Malvern Tram Depot first century.

As far back as 1891 the Malvern council were successful in amending the Tramway Act 1890 in Parliament with the view to run cable car trams. The Melbourne Tramway and Omnibus Company who operated the cable car system declined as the cost of building a system was too high for the returns from the tramway would not be sufficient.

In 1905-06 Elections were held for Malvern and Prahran Councils and the results were any councillors who favoured a tramways system were elected. The councils met on 26th April 1906, and one month later a detailed report on a proposed electric Tramway system along high street Prahran to Malvern was presented to the councils.

An application was made in October 1907, by the Prahran and Malvern councils to construct a Tramway under the Tramways Act 1890 on the 6th July 1908, was approved by the Governor in Council. An Act was passed constituting "the Prahran and Malvern Tramways Trust" its first chairman was Alexander Cameron and the first Secretary was West Outtrim Strangward.

After the construction of the Depot and Tram system the first tram (No.1) left the depot to officially open the Prahran and Malvern Tramways Trust system on 30th May, 1910. It was estimated that a crowd of 2000 people lined Glenferrie Road to see the first tram leave, and later to take part in the festivities held that night at the Depot.

In 1911 the Trust was reformed to include Caulfield and St. Kilda councils. From 1911 to 1918, 18 new tram lines or extensions were added by the Prahran and Malvern Tramways Trust including a new tram Depot where Kew Tram Depot is now in 1915.

In 1917 the Trust was served with a log of claims by Australian Tramways Employee's Association after numerous meetings the first agreed to back pay its employees for the period January 1st 1917 to September 1st which cost 6321 pounds and one penny.

In 1918 the Melbourne and Metropolitan Tramway Board was introduced and the Chairman of the Prahran and Malvern Tramways Trust Alexander Cameron was appointed as Chairman of the new board. On the 1st February, 1920 the MMTB took over the running of the various Tramways Trusts which included the Prahran and Malvern Tramways Trust. Since then the depot has been renovated and enlarged over the years to cater for growing population, new tram routes and an increase of employees.

Malvern Tram Depot today is the biggest tram depot in Melbourne with approximately 260 people working from that depot covering six tram routes serviced by approximately 85 trams today. On the first day of operation in 1910 there were only 13 single bogie trams with approximately 50 people working from the Depot.

Last year members from Malvern Depot and Bendigo Depot approached the Union in relation to the 100 years centenary celebrations for Malvern Depot. There were two original trams

from Prahran and Malvern Tramways Trust days at Bendigo Tramways. One was partially renovated number 84 (original tram number 1) and no 44 which needed a complete renovation. Union Officials approach the then Transport Minister Lynn Kosky who supported the renovations and provided the funds for these trams. To be ready for the 100 years celebration also funded the Transport of these trams to Melbourne and back to Bendigo after the event.

The 100 years Celebration day was a huge success with the two original trams in the Prahran and Malvern Tramways Trust livery. Four shuttle trips were rostered to run between Malvern Depot and Hawthorn Road, as they proved to be extremely popular. Extra services were run to cater for the people. A plaque was unveiled celebrating the 100 years by the CEO of Yarra Trams, Secretary to the Minister of Transport and the Mayor of Stonnington Council next to the original foundation Stone. Bendigo Tramways Trust and Yarra Trams also had information and give-way tents as well.

On Monday 31st May a presentation as made to the current employees of Malvern Depot, each one received a plaque with a picture of the first tram and public engraved on it.



I would like to wish all the members and their families a very Merry Xmas and a safe New Year.

Continued >






Slater & Gordon

Lawyers



Practice areas

- ▶ Workers compensation
- ▶ Motor vehicle accident claims
- ▶ Other insurance & negligence claims
- ▶ Asbestos litigation
- ▶ Family law
- ▶ Wills, estates & probate
- ▶ Conveyancing

Member benefits

- ▶ Free first consultation for members
- ▶ Discounted fees in many instances
- ▶ No Win - No Fee™ in most Personal Injury matters
- ▶ Home & hospital visits available

Call our Legal Help Line - Freecall

1800 555 777

www.slatergordon.com.au

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY • NEW SOUTH WALES • QUEENSLAND • SOUTH AUSTRALIA • TASMANIA • VICTORIA • WESTERN AUSTRALIA

No Win No Fee
*Conditions apply.
Does not include other party costs.
May not include out of pocket expenses.



LEISURE AND LIFESTYLE


VRI Membership

Join now for as little as \$2.30 per week and experience the great lifestyle benefits and products of the VRI.

- ✓ **Members' Benefits book** (Leisure and Lifestyle) vouchers.
- ✓ **Quality holiday accommodation.**
- ✓ **Insurance service** – 10% discount – Home and Contents, Landlords, Boat & Caravan, Car, Travel.
- ✓ **Dining and recreation discounts.**
- ✓ **Huge savings on all cinema tickets** – Hoyts, Village and Reading cinemas throughout Victoria – including Gold Pass.
- ✓ **'The Drip'** – Interest free, long term payments for purchase of electrical goods.
- ✓ **Preferential seating** to theatre, concert and sporting events.

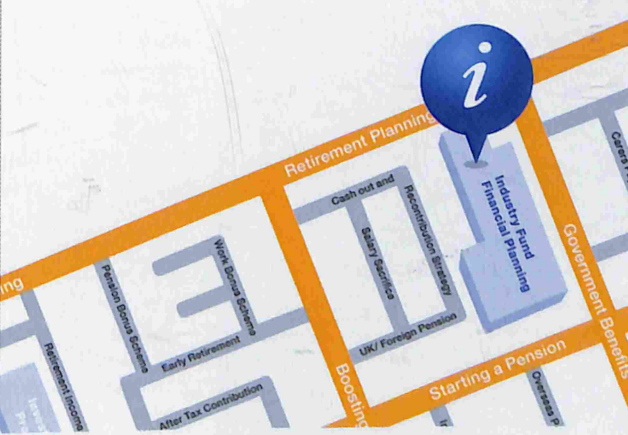
For more information contact VRI on
03 9610 7100 or www.vri.org.au

Our members are our business



Industry Fund Financial Planning

Options, Advice, Results



Visit our website or call us to arrange an appointment with one of our planners.

1300 138 848
iffp.com.au

Industry Fund Financial Planning is a division of Industry Fund Services Pty Ltd (IFS) ABN 54 007 018 195 AFSL 232 514, a wholly owned subsidiary of Industry Super Holdings Pty Ltd (ISH). ISH is owned by a number of leading industry funds. For a list of shareholders go to ifs.net.au. © Industry Fund Services Pty Ltd, 2010