

FARES PLEASE!

September 1992

Ballarat Tramways are Ballarat History

Annual General Meeting

Members are reminded that the nineteenth Annual General meeting of the Society is to be held at the tram depot on Sunday, 18 October commencing at 2.00pm. We urge all members to attend on the day. Bring your friends and families and enjoy a day in the Botanic Gardens. After the formalities of the meeting, the traditional tram ride along Wendouree Parade will follow. Afternoon tea will also be served.

The following members have nominated for Board positions which fall vacant on the day of the Annual General Meeting.

As there was no nomination received for all six board positions, nominations will be called at the meeting for this position.

	Candidate	Proposer	Seconder
President	Richard Gilbert	Carolyn Dean	John Phillips
Ballarat Vice Pres.	Stephen Butler	Peter Winspur	David Macartney
Melbourne Vice Pres.	John Phillips	Carolyn Dean	Leonard Miller
Secretary	Peter Winspur	Stephen Butler	Leonard Miller
Treasurer	Carolyn Dean	William Kingsley	Craig Tooke

Ordinary Board Members

Alan Bradley	Leonard Miller	John Phillips
Warren Doubleday	Peter Winspur	David Macartney
Leonard Millar	Peter Winspur	Alan Bradley
Greg Rodgers	Leonard Miller	Carolyn Dean
Peter Walker	Leonard Miller	William Kingsley

REMINDER

Launching of the Horse Tram and opening of the Museum Display Area will take place on Saturday November 7, at 2.00 p.m.

News of the Ballarat Tramway Preservation Society Limited.

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Annual Report

The preparation of the 1991-92 Annual report is running late. The financial statements have been completed and are ready to go, but the pressures of organising the 21st Anniversary has resulted in the preparation of the Officer's reports being delayed. It is hoped that we will have them in your hands about a week before the meeting. If not, they will be available at the meeting itself. A motion to accept the late running annual reports will be moved at the meeting, otherwise we will all have to be back there again a fortnight later.

Fares Please! is also running a bit late, but this was deliberate in order to include some photographs of the 21st Anniversary celebrations themselves.

Receipts & Membership Cards

For those members who have made donations as part of their renewals, they should find their receipts included within the mailouts.

Also enclosed will be membership cards for those who have recently renewed. For those members who have not renewed, a renewal reminder will be forwarded shortly.

New Members

The Society welcomes the following new members.

No. 666 Mr. P. Bardho Prahran

New Teaspoon

Recently arrived at the depot was the Society's 21st Anniversary teaspoon. This is a new format teaspoon featuring tram No. 40. This will be a limited run production, so for those who collect teaspoons or know someone who does, it will make an excellent gift. The price at the depot is \$5.00, or \$6.00 posted.

Horse Tram Launch etc.

The launching of the Horse Tram and opening of the Museum Display Area will take place at 2.00pm on Saturday November 7. Emeritus Professor Weston Bate, the author of *Lucky City: the First Generation at Ballarat, 1851-1901* has accepted our invitation to launch the horse tram. Professor Bate is the Chairman of the Museums Advisory Board, which advises the Ministry for the Arts. The Ministry has made a number of grants to the Society for these projects.

Preceding the afternoon events will be a meeting of the Central Highlands Historical Association Inc. in the morning at the depot. The CHHA is the regional association of local history societies, of which the Society is a member. This is first time that the Society has hosted the Association at the depot.

Electric Supply Co. tram No. 12 will be on formal display as part of the day. This is the next major project that is to be undertaken by the Society.

At the Depot

The last two months has been taken up with the completion of the horse tram to an operable stage, continuation of the fit out of the Museum display area and numerous other jobs.

The extremely wet weather has seen the water table in the parklands rise to the highest level we have ever seen. The pits have been full of water as a result. Fortunately we had completed the repair and re-setting up of the braking system of No. 38 prior to the start of the heavy rains. This tram has now been made available for limited service, due to its worn flanges.

Work on the horse tram has virtually been completed (at the 99.9% stage) with only a couple of dressing up jobs to be done. These jobs comprise such items as destination signs, off-side barrier gates and a cover over the part of the upper deck roof. The virtual completion of this project marks an important stage in the Society's history, and shows that we are able to tackle quite large jobs. Experience gained from this project will be invaluable for the restoration to operating condition of Electric Supply Co. No. 12.

The fitting out of the Museum Display area is now well underway. The first display panel featuring the horse tram era will be complete as will be the display case, some of the photo display viewing leaves. The rest of the display area will be completed over time, based on reaction we receive from our visitors as to readability, layout etc.

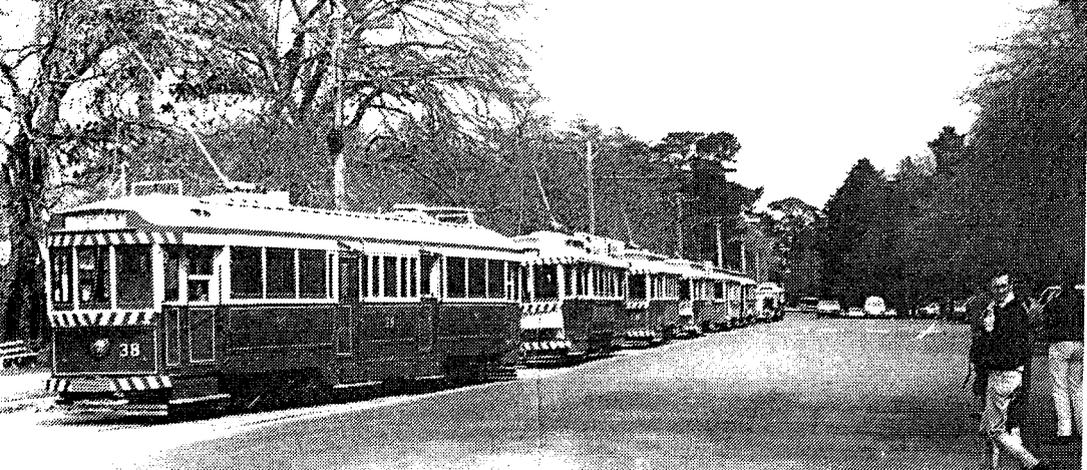
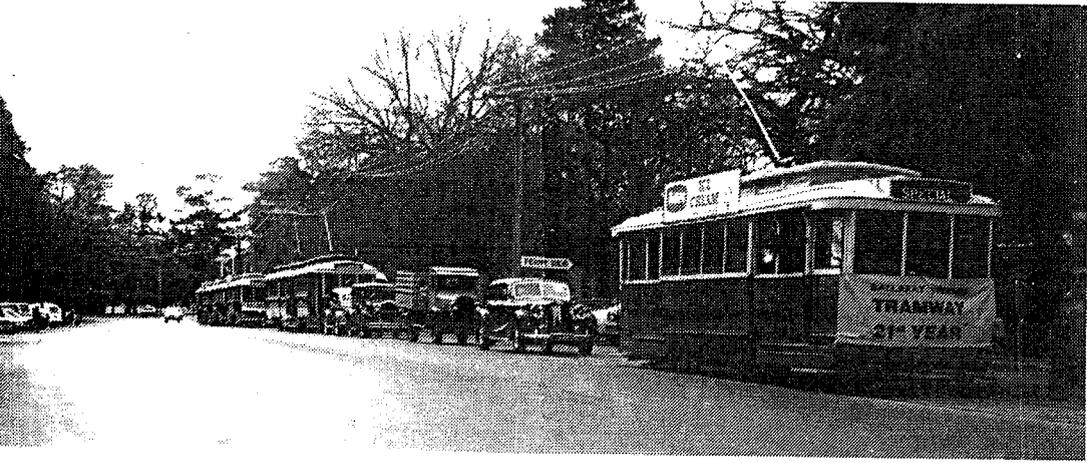
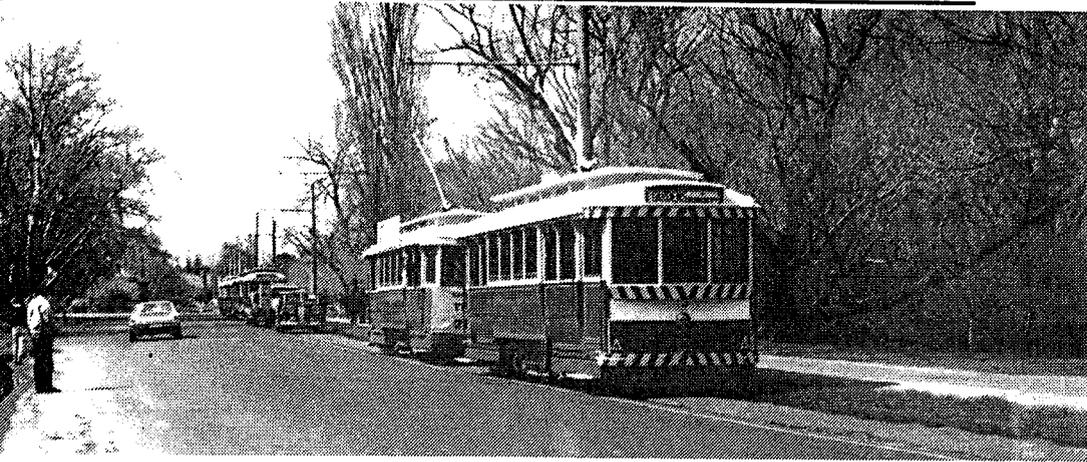
Work on a major tidy up of the depot, installation of new lights, alterations to the feeder cables etc. have been commenced by our workers. Part of the work has been made necessary to allow the location of Horse Tram No. 1 at the rear of the No. 2 road. The storage areas above the change room is being rearranged as well.

The Ballarat Water Board has installed a new water supply line to the our next door neighbour, the fish hatchery. The pipeline crosses under our access track at the Wendouree Parade end and then follows the line up to the fish hatchery fence. They completed the work just prior to the heavy rains, but the area remains a bit of a mess at this stage.

21st Anniversary Celebrations

The most enjoyable 21st celebrations have been going well. The Members Grand Buffet Dinner at the Lake Lodge Restaurant on Saturday, 19th September was attended by 73 members and friends. An enjoyable evening with a quality meal, commented on by many, and a slide show made this a most enjoyable and memorable night. The highlight was the first screening of our nearly completed production of the history of the Ballarat Tramways. The production, by John Phillips, is absolutely professional and all who watched were heartily impressed. Lorraine Doull made a 21st year cake decorated with white icing and a drawing of a single truck tram. Richard Gilbert and Carolyn Dean were pleased to cut this celebratory cake, and all at the Dinner received a piece.

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Opposite:

TOP: Tram No. 13, the service car meets up with the cavalcade being prepared at St Aidans Drive.

MIDDLE: Tram No 28 with the anniversary banner leads the cavalcade by the Ferry Rides stop.

BOTTOM: Tram No. 38 completes the cavalcade, not quite clear of Gardens Loop.

PHOTOS: Carolyn Dean

Below:

Society President Richard Gilbert and Treasurer Carolyn Dean, 'cut the cake' PHOTO: Len Millar



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21st Celebrations cont.

Trams No. 18 and 38 were parked at the front of the restaurant and were spotlit during the evening. At the end of the function, the revellers enjoyed a tram ride along the line 'after midnight'. The last car ran into the depot at 12.40am.

On Saturday, 26th September the full SEC style tram service was run from 6.30am to 11.20pm. The atmosphere of being at the Gardens Loop at 6.30am with the start of a new day, the early morning light, the gardens and the swans along with our tram was most nostalgic and well worthwhile for those who were there.

Back at the depot, the BBQ was being set up for the public to come along and enjoy a cooked breakfast with us. Not many did turn up, but there were enough to make us work consistently for the two hours it was on. The free tram rides between 9am and 11am were well patronised and the announcing of the 'Courier' colouring competition was enjoyed by all. The 65 entries looked colourful when placed on the boards for all to see.

The tram cavalcade took place from St. Aidans Drive to the depot at 1.15pm. The cavalcade was led by No. 28 with loudspeakers playing military marches, followed by four historic motor vehicles from the Ballarat Vintage and Classic Car Club. Trams 26, 27, 14, 18, 33 and 38 then followed. A photostop was held at the Lake Lodge restaurant and the cavalcade reached the Depot at 1.35pm. This was the most trams (seven plus the service car, No. 13)

that we ever had run at the same time. The substation did not even blink, though the amp meter peaked at around 280 amps. The BBQ was well attended for the next hour.

The Tramway Museum Society of Victoria travelled from Melbourne to visit us and join in the celebrations from 1pm to 'last car'. They had two chartered trams in the course of the day and a BBQ evening meal. A group of eight members of the Central Highlands Tourist Railway at Daylesford arrived at 10.15pm for rides to the 'last car'.

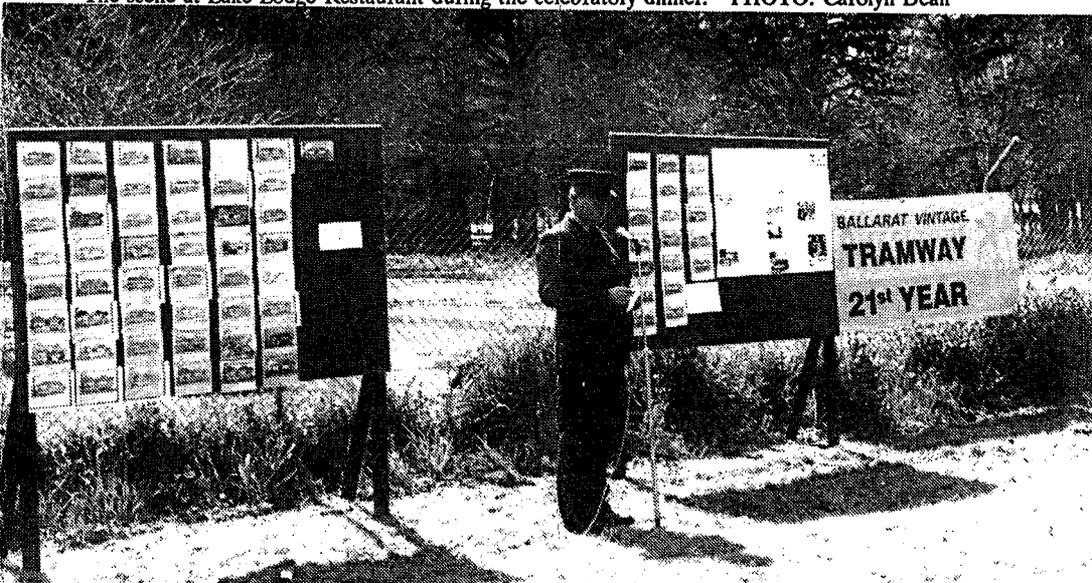
Our motorman, Alan Bradley found out from first hand experience what it was like to drive a tram on a cold Saturday night in Ballarat. Though he always had some passengers with him, they generally sat in the warmer saloon of the car. It was marvellous to board the well lit, but 'noisy' tram from one of our stops in the relatively dark, and very quiet Wendouree Parade. The noises of the trolley wheel, the motors and that of the general steel wheel and rail were very apparent against that of the still and cold night. It certainly brought back memories of 21 years ago.

After supper at the depot, the last car from Gardens Loop left at 11pm for a return trip over the line and it was well loaded. When it ran in at 11.20pm, all felt satisfied at what had been a great day and may reflected on the happy times of similar rides on the 'Ballarat trams' in those final SEC days.

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The scene at Lake Lodge Restaurant during the celebratory dinner. PHOTO: Carolyn Dean



Society President, Richard Gilbert announces the winners of 'The Courier' colour competition. PHOTO: Carolyn Dean

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21st Celebrations cont.

Sunday, 27th September was set aside for the Councillors of the City of Ballarat and the Borough of Sebastopol. Councillors, and their families, were shown around the depot, given a ride on the 'Borough Tram' No. 18 and treated to a sumptuous afternoon tea prepared by Earl Ewers. The guests commented on how much we had done that they just were not aware of, and they now knew what was in the big green building in the gardens. It was a day of pleasure and one we were proud to show our achievements. The previous afternoon due to personal commitments on the Sunday, the City Mayor had visited the depot.

A number of members worked hard to make the events so far, a success

and particularly Richard Gilbert, Barry Macandlish, Stephen Butler, Carolyn Dean, John Phillips, Len Millar and Earl Ewers made much effort to this end. Many thanks also to all the members and friends who took part in cooking at the BBQ, crewing the trams, or just looking after things.

The BBQ breakfast was sponsored by H.A.Morris, Meat Wholesalers and Sunicrust Bread. The 'Courier' colouring competition was sponsored by 'The Courier', Sovereign Hill Historical Park, Castlemaine and Maldon Tourist Railway, Toy Kingdom of Wendouree, and McDonalds Family Restaurants. We sincerely thank those business houses for their support and encourage our members to advertise these organisations and their products.



Trams No.s 38 and 18 are spotlighted outside Lake Lodge Restaurant. PHOTO John Phillips

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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