
ST KILDA (Museum Notes and News – August 2009)

Australian Electric Transport Museum (SA) Inc.

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Annual General Meeting

The 52nd Annual General Meeting of the AETM was held at the Tramway Museum site, St Kilda, on Saturday 30 May 2009.

The new Committee is:

President	Ian Seymour
Vice President	Chris Andrews
Secretary	Andrew Hall
Treasurer	Barry Fox
Operations Manager	Mark Jordan
Rolling Stock Mgr	Michael Bosworth
Track & Overhead Mgr	Andrew Gilbertson
Site & Safety Manager	John Pennack
Trustee	Chris Andrews
Trustee	Ian Seymour
Trustee	Colin Seymour

Colin Seymour stepped down as President after 23 consecutive years due to business commitments.

After the meeting members enjoyed a ride on car 118 to the loop and a barbeque. Members also enjoyed nine old 16mm tramway and railway short films screened onto the external Gallery wall by Tim Bell.

E Type Tram No 118

Michael Crabb and Bruce Lock have worked hard preparing Adelaide's type E tram 118 in readiness for the AGM. On this day the sponsors and all who assisted in the restoration of this tram were invited to ride the car to the loop and back in appreciation of their support. Following the AGM, museum members were given the opportunity to also have a ride.

There is still a lot of work required to finish the restoration, but to get it into operating order over the last twelve months has been quite an achievement. A motor had to be purchased, bearings machined, a new pinion gear, the car rewired, controllers and a line breaker installed, then the under-frame guides to accommodate the truck had to be modified, as the Brill 22E maximum traction trucks from an ex SEC, ex Melbourne car are slightly different from Adelaide's 22E trucks. Much testing has been carried out during the last few months and it is a tribute to the restoration team that the mechanical and electrical equipment operated so well.

A recently purchased cut-off saw has enabled Jack Pennack to cut steel tubing in readiness for Bruce and Mike to bend to the correct shape for handrails to be used on cars 14, 15 and 118. Many of the original brass handrail brackets are missing and others too damaged for reuse. Fortunately an Adelaide foundry has been able to cast replicas to be used on these cars.

Bib & Bub 14 & 15

With all the effort being concentrated on car 118, work has slowed on these cars for the time being. The remaining running board brackets, fashioned from modified C type brackets, due to a shortage of original A car brackets, have been installed on car 15. New member, William Adams, has assisted with the fabrication of these brackets.

Restaurant Tram 378

A week before car 378 was due to be used for a winter solstice evening run, the batteries supplying the low-voltage lighting and control circuit failed. A replacement set from another tram soon rectified that, only to be followed by another problem just before the tram was due to be taken out of the shed. An airline to a door engine burst. Thankfully Ian Seymour was on hand and he quickly replaced it, enabling the tram to make its after dark runs, to the delight of visitors.

Wheel Lathe

It has indeed been fortunate for Ian Seymour that Mike and Bruce have been able to work on 118 without close supervision as it has allowed Ian to commence re-profiling a number of sets of wheels for the Ballarat Tramway Museum using St Kilda's wheel lathe. Some visitors to the Museum during History Week had the rare experience of observing the wheel lathe in operation. They were impressed with its size and noise as shards of steel peeled away from the wheel in a plume of steam.

Winter Solstice Day

A Winter Solstice Day was held on Sunday 21 June 2009. The event also enabled members and friends from other SA rail societies to celebrate the 85th birthday of active Friday gang member, Peter Letheby (Peter is also a member at Pichi Richi Railway). A number of after dark runs were made, including some trips on Restaurant tram 378.

The traditional barbeque was held for members and friends. Once again, Tim Bell provided entertainment by screening 16mm films screened onto the external Gallery wall. Luck was on our side with no winter rain and wind for both this event and the AGM four weeks earlier.

	<p><i>Adelaide Bogie Open Combination (E type) car 118 in Shell Street, St Kilda on a test run on 17 April 2009.</i></p> <p><i>Chris Summers 01 AETM Aug</i></p>
	<p><i>New AETM member Andrew Gilbertson (transferring from Sydney Tramway Museum), installing hand rails in the open (toastrack) area of 118. on Friday 5 June 2009.</i></p> <p><i>Chris Summers 02 AETM Aug</i></p>