

# Trolley Flash

June 2009

Membership Newsletter of  
Australian Electric Transport Museum (SA) Inc  
Operators of Tramway Museum, St Kilda, SA  
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Photo by Kevin Collins

## General News *from Colin Seymour*

### Annual General Meeting

The 52nd Annual General Meeting of the Museum was held at the Tramway Museum site, St Kilda, on Saturday 30 May 2009 at 4.00pm.

The new Committee is:

President	Ian Seymour
Vice President	Chris Andrews
Secretary	Andrew Hall
Treasurer	Barry Fox
General Manager	Vacant
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 and a barbeque. Members also enjoyed 9 old 16mm tramway and railway short films screened onto the external Gallery wall by Tim Bell. Many thanks Tim for providing much enjoyment.

### Life Membership

It was announced to acclaim at the AGM that at the Executive Committee Meeting on 22 April 2009, the Committee elected Ron White to be a Life Member. Ron has given the Museum many years of service as Operations Manager and ensured that our Sunday operations and Charter operations ran smoothly. He has been a stalwart of Museum operations since the early 1970s and also a Committee member for much of that time. Congratulations to Ron.

### Trolleybus 417

Member (and hard working Friday gang participant) Bruce Lock is concerned about our double deck trolleybus 417. Bruce asked the Committee to seek ideas from any members interested in doing

something about the state of the exhibit. If you have a workable plan, please contact the Committee.

### Order of Australia Medal

Our contract cabinet maker, Mirko Husnjak, received a Queen's Birthday Order of Australia Medal (General Division) for service as a craftsman through carpentry projects of historical significance. The Museum provided a letter of support for Mirko's nomination.

The bulkheads and crossbench seats supplied for our 'Bib and Bub' set and car 118 are testament to Mirko's craftsmanship. Well done Mirko.

### 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Glenelg Tram Line

The Museum is looking at a combined event with the AETA to celebrate the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Glenelg tram line – possibly a dinner near 14 December 2009. Keep your eyes out for more info. Including on the Museum web site.

### Publications

A new book – *Adelaide Trams Today* by Steve McNicol, is available from the Museum Bookshop for \$9.90.

### Subs Reminder

The 2009-10 member subscription of \$50.00 is now due. Please send your subs through ASAP.

### Trolley Flash by Email

Are you receiving your Trolley Flash by email? Many members are – and they receive it much sooner. If you would like to receive Trolley Flash by email, just email your details to Colin Seymour: [cgs Seymour@bigpond.com](mailto:cgs Seymour@bigpond.com)

## Car 118 Funding *from David Williams*

In its incomplete form and with special approval subject to conditions issued by the Rail Safety Regulator, E 118 was advertised for its first outing for members only at the conclusion of the 30 May AGM.

It might be noted work on 118 started in the mid 1990s, so this was a special event a long time coming. And it might be further noted that re-commencement of serious work on 118 plus 14/15 as a package project has been solely funded by special sponsorship undertaken by four members.

Because 118's roll out also meant all three cars in this project had now reached the stage of being capable of traction, the sponsors and members who have been working on 118 in various ways were invited to a special run prior to the meeting and a celebratory afternoon tea afterwards to celebrate this milestone. Expenditure to date on the three car project is approx \$72,000.

### Operations Report *from Mark Jordan*

#### Roster

The prompt return of the Roster Availability Notices enabled the June - September roster to be completed early in May, and was much appreciated.

Despite the relatively poor patronage on the extra days that we were open during History Week, it is still important that we continue to support the concept.

#### Charters

There are a number of mid-week charters in the coming months, so any members able to help out on these please peruse the dates on the notice board and indicate availability.

We are looking at having Charters on set days to make better use of our human resources (possibly Wednesdays & Fridays). I would like to hear from operations staff who could be available on these days and could keep these days free.

#### Fiscal

Could the designated Fiscal officer please ensure that they are on site no later than 11.45am, as on a few occasions the paper-work/tickets and cash have not been made available for the Gallery Attendant, which naturally creates a problem for visitors arriving at 12 noon!

#### Fit for Duty

Remember that signing on means you are fit for duty. It is a Rail Safety requirement that you inform the Museum if you are unwell on the day.

#### Gallery/Bookshop

Gallery staff please note that we have been advised by our bankers that the Museum cannot accept Visa & Mastercard debit cards on our old fashioned card imprinter.

### Rolling Stock *from Mike Bosworth*

#### E Type Tram No. 118

Michael Crabb and Bruce Lock have worked hard preparing Adelaide's type E tram 118 in readiness for Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> May. 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.



*Annual Report cover photo of car 118 is finally on the move again as seen in Shell Street on 17 April 2009.*

*Chris Summers*

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.



*New AETM member Andrew Gilbertson (transferring from Sydney Tramway Museum), installing hand rails in the open (toast rack) area of 118. on Friday 5 June 2009.*

*Chris Summers*

A motor had to be purchased, bearings machined, a new pinion gear, rewire the car, 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 a 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**

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.

### **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.

Ian reports that the 2 pony wheels sets for Ballarat 38 are finished and the main drivers will be started soon. Bronze motor bearings have been roughed out and will be machined to suit Ballarat 38's wheels and motor conditions as was done with E car 118.

## **Heritage Rail South Australia**

### **Name Change for Council of Historic Railways & Tramways of SA (CHRTSA)**

At the AGM held on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2008 it was agreed to change the name CHRTSA to Heritage Rail South Australia Inc. (HRSA) to better promote the Organisation.

Other changes to the Constitution include changing the title of Convenor to President and provision for Sub Groups which, although having existed for some time have not been formally provided for

### **HRSA Members**

The members of Heritage Rail South Australia are:  
Cobdogla Steam Friends Society  
Lions Club of YP Rail  
Murray Bridge Wharf Railway  
National Rail Museum  
Pichi Richi Railway Preservation Society inc  
Port Milang Historic Railway Museum  
St.Kilda Tram Museum

SteamRanger:  
The Steamtown Heritage Rail Centre

### **New HRSA Web Site**

A new Web site has been established for Heritage Rail can be found at <http://www.heritagetrainsa.org.au/>

A copy of the latest HRSA *Newscast* newsletter is attached. If you would like to continue to receive *Newscast* with *Trolley Flash*, please advise Colin Seymour C/- the Museum postal address or by email: [cgseymour@bigpond.com](mailto:cgseymour@bigpond.com)

## **From the Past June 2009 to August 2009**

### **100 years ago**

21 July 1909 - Hyde Park electric tram route opened to Northgate St.

### **70 years ago**

29 June 1939 - Hilton line extended to Richmond.

### **50 years ago**

21 July 1959 - Museum took delivery of the Hanson (now Pulteney) Street signal cabin from a salvage company.

### **40 years ago**

Mid 1969 - One saloon of dropcentre 282 was completed well enough to open to the public.

### **30 years ago**

Mid 1979 - Refurbishment of W2 294 was nearing the final stages.

### **20 years ago**

5 - 7 June 1989 - Mangrove St level crossing relayed in joint effort with Salisbury Council.

### **10 years ago**

August 1999 – Work was progressing well on completing the refurbishment of 'H' 360 in time for the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Glenelg tram line on 14 December 1999.

## **From the Past President** *Colin Seymour*

The changing nature of my training consultancy business has meant that I am no longer available to commit to the Museum administration activities at the required time levels. As a result I was unavailable for nomination at the recent AGM. I plan to continue my involvement with Trolley Wire, Trolley Flash and the Museum web site.

Many thanks for your support over the years.