

# Ferrymead Tram Tracts

Newsletter of the  
Tramway Historical Society Inc  
P. O. Box 1126  
Christchurch.  
Website  
[www.ferrymeadtramway.org.nz](http://www.ferrymeadtramway.org.nz)



## New committee members wanted

**MURRAY SANDERS** wants to see some new faces

DURING THE LAST YEAR your Management Committee has decided in principle to pursue several new big ventures. My observation over the last two years is that everyone's spare time is limited and the Committee has failed to move forward a number of our existing projects.

It was disappointing that at the 2008 AGM there were no new names put forward for election to the Management Committee. This has resulted in new decisions being made, but an implementation vacuum has existed, outside our individual areas of expertise. I wish to bring this to the members' attention, well ahead of the August AGM. You may be a relatively new member with something to contribute, consider taking a more active part in the Society's

management and make known your availability to stand for the Management Committee. We particularly require candidates able to help with funding submissions, diesel and trolley bus management and electrical, archives and library.

Or under the Management Committee are several other working committees, including Fund-raising and Promotions, Workplace Safety and Health, Restoration, Bus Operations, Tram Operations. Most of these need more members. Anyone interested, discuss it with Graeme Belworthy.

Also Dave Carr is looking for one or two new trustees for The Heritage Tramway Trust, which manages projects involving the paid staff and liaison with Christchurch Tramway Limited



*Tar seal is being removed to allow replacement of sleepers under the Gisborne point. The realignment will make trailer shunting safer and easier, and track maintenance easier.*

Photo: Alan Roi

### COMING EVENTS

## This Month— Visit to Sumner Museum

The June meeting of the Society will take place on

**Wednesday 17 June**

and will comprise a visit to the  
**Sumner Museum.**

This promises to be a most interesting evening as Sumner figured very highly in the tramway scene right through the tramway era, being the longest and most colourful route on the system

**A bus will depart from Ferrymead at approximately 7.10 pm**

**A small charge of \$5.00 per person will be made to cover the cost of the bus fare, supper, and a small donation to the museum.**

Next month  
Bruce Dale's Transport  
Quiz!

Come and be educated.  
Test your knowledge  
Prizes

**Wednesday 15 July**  
**Full details next month**

## Next work party

The next work party is scheduled for **Saturday 20 June 2009**. Formal work parties are held every third **Saturday** of the month but there are also activities every **Saturday** and on **Monday** evenings.

**Editorial address: Joe Pickering, P. O. Box 17, Woodend, North Canterbury 7641. Phone 03 312 2578. Email [jpickering@clear.net.nz](mailto:jpickering@clear.net.nz).**

## Tying the knot...



Weddings still bring a bit of business to the tramway and here we see a bride and her retinue boarding the tram for the trip to the township on a greyish day a few months ago.

## ...and 26 progresses



On No 26 work continues on assembling the inside seats and on finishing off the insides of the bulkheads. A new axle has had gear and wheels fitted and the wheels trimmed in the lathe.

# Trolleybus 210 now fully legal



On 27 May ALAN ROI went and collected the number plates for 210. It is now fully road legal for the first time since 1956. The Rego is EYV 7. Alan is extremely grateful to the staff at VTNZ Jipcho Road who went out of their way to make sure it happened. We also need to thank the following members who all did their bit to get the bus going: Graeme Belworthy and John Shanks, both of whom organised the exemptions from modern legislation, Graeme (again), Cam Lill, Dave Carr, Barry Marchant, Larry Day, Mike Lawson, who all contributed to getting 210 up and running and helped on the day with the VTNZ man.

The photo shows 210 being lined up in tram barn 2 for an oil and grease. While there, the opportunity was taken to replace the perished rubber edging on the doors, and to turn a trolley retriever the right way up.

Photo: Barry Marchant

## Mystery!

PAUL MARKHOLM has a mate in Australia who recently sent him this photo. The covering emails say it all.

Hi guys, you just never know what you will see next! On my way to Port Adelaide this morning I came to a screeching halt when I saw this old horse tram coming out of an old warehouse on the back of a trailer. I followed it for a few kilometres until I could get a photo. It is privately owned—not Old Tailem Town or the museum in the station—and will be used for parts to complete a replica tram which has already been built. Cheers, Steve McNicol.

To those who might know:- Does anybody know anything about the history of the vehicle shown? Which vehicle mentioned has already been built? Cheers, Hugo.

*Editor's note: If anyone can shed light on this little mystery please let me know and I will pass it on.*



## Trolleybus overhead

MURRAY SANDERS seems to move in some pretty high places these days. Here he is modifying the trolleybus overhead at the entrance to the bus barn to ensure that the doors cannot make contact with live overhead.

More photos of activities around the trolleybus barn are shown on the next page. Alan Roi would like to acknowledge the assistance of the IHC gardening team who assisted with this work. The woman in red beside the wee 4WD is Tracy the supervisor who made her crew available. The other woman is Trudy (the other supervisor). The others are Kerry, Andrew and Nigel. Alan also features in one of the pictures.

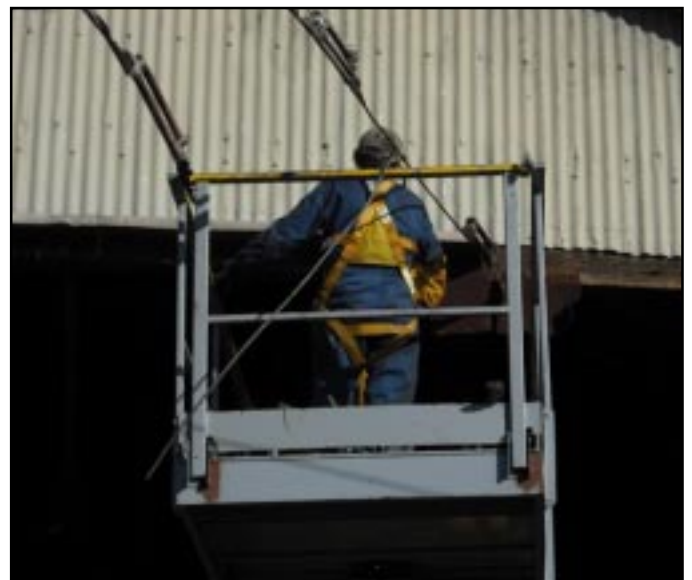


Photo: Alan Roi

# Accidents will happen!

TREVOR CRAIB has been delving into the newspaper archives and come up with a couple of stories from a hundred years—and more—ago.

## CLAIMS FOR DAMAGES AGAINST A TRAMWAY BOARD

CHRISTCHURCH, 19th July. Mr. Haselden, S.M., this morning gave judgment for the Tramway Board in two cases in which the board was sued for damages.

Dalgety and Co. sued for £3 12s, for loss of sheep killed on the tramway line at Sockburn, a car having run into a flock. Mr. Haselden said that the drover did not take reasonable precautions to avert an accident.

Mr. Fairthorne sued the board for £50 for damage incurred through collision with the board's sprinkler at the junction of two streets. Mr. Haselden found that the sprinkler was travelling at an excessive speed, and that the driver did not exercise due care, but, on the other hand, his Worship was of opinion that plaintiff

was intoxicated, but for which he could have avoided accident. If not intoxicated, he was guilty in a still higher degree of contributory negligence. As the driver was not without blame, he would award no costs.

*(Evening Post, Volume LXXVII, Issue 17, 20 July 1909, Page 3)*

## A Bad Tramway Accident

(PER PRESS ASSOCIATION.)

CHRISTCHURCH, April 12.

A tram accident occurred at the Ferry Road line last evening by which a number of persons were more or less injured.

The steam tram from Christchurch to Sumner and the horse tram from Woolston to Christchurch should have passed each other at the siding near the Caversham Hotel, but as the horse tram was not there, the steam tram, without waiting, went on and the collision took place some 100

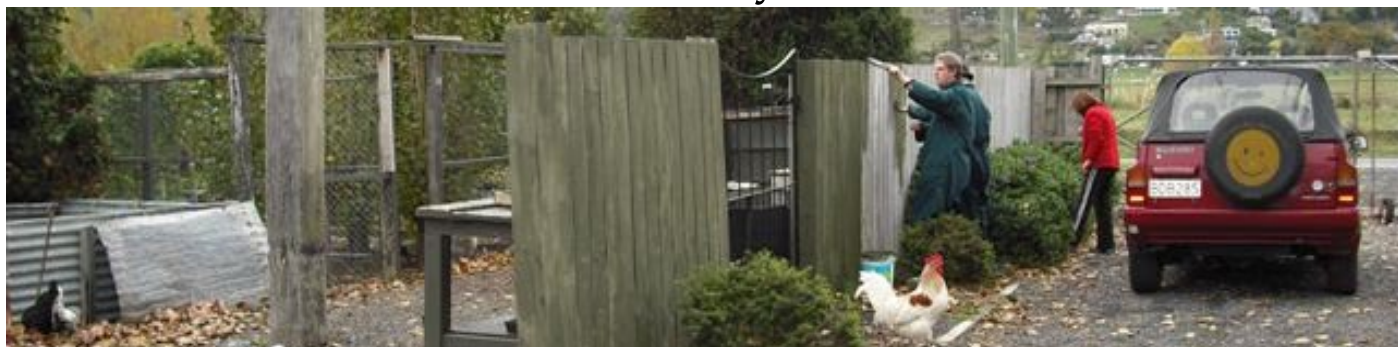
yards further down the line. It is said that the driver of the horse car rang his bell continuously, but without attracting notice, the driver of the engine being engaged in stoking his fire. Seeing that a collision was imminent, he pulled up his horses off the line, but one received such severe injuries that it shortly afterwards died.

Five persons are injured. The most serious case is that of a boy named Malcolm of Grafton Street, who is suffering from concussion of the brain. Mrs Buchanan, of Woolston, received a nasty injury to her eye, and her baby was somewhat bruised though not severely.

Mr Thomas Parsons (married) received some injury to his knee, the extent of which is not yet certain. Mrs Turner sustained a bad cut on the side of her head. Several other people on both trams were more or less injured.

*(Grey River Argus, 13 April 1903, Page 3)*

## More views from round the trolleybus barn area



Top: side view. Above: front view. Right: rear view.

Photos: Alan Roi