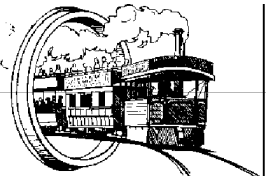


# Ferrymead Tram Tracts

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



May 2012

## Hills car No 24 continuing steadily an update from STEPHEN TAYLOR



As shown in the picture on page 1 of April last *Tracts* (as a work in progress) we have now removed all the old aluminium panels from the convertible section. These will eventually be replaced with the new panels made as the old ones have corrosion in them. The two exterior sliding doors to the convertible section have also been removed. These will be repaired, repainted and replaced in the fullness of time.

The ceiling panels from the convertible section are now also down —along with half a bale of hay/straw found hiding above them. The plywood panels will be replaced but the surrounding frame will be cleaned and repaired. And the hay has been tossed!

Some of the exterior down pipes

and associated brackets have been removed, and the rest will follow. Overall, progress is slow but steady as we are needing to ensure everything is photographed and recorded as we go—and to determine what fittings are missing or need to be repaired and replaced.

## Ken's track report

from KEN HENDERSON

THE WEEDS along the track and around the yard have had a dose of glyphosate which will hopefully see us through the winter. The track gauge behind the Radio Ferrymead building has spread in places and some resleepering is under way to hold things together so this section is closed to traffic in the meantime."

## Coming events

### Memories of the Past

Be sure to come to see the  
“**Virgin Delights**”

promised by

**John Shanks**

in his forthcoming slide show.

Details are:

**Date:** Wednesday 16 May 2012

**Venue:** Lions' Building at  
Ferrymead

**Time:** 7.30pm

Supper will be provided by  
Phyllis and a \$2-00 donation will  
be requested.

The June meeting will take the  
form of a

### film show at Graeme Johnson's theatrette.

This will be limited to 20  
people. Costs TBA probably  
\$3 to \$4 including supper..

*Full details next month.*

## A couple of drivers' tips

from KEN HENDERSON

1. Dead **SLOW** going through facing points.
2. **DEAD SLOW** when passing workers on the track and be prepared to stop and wait for signal to pass. Sound warning gong on approach.

## Next work party

The next work party is scheduled for **Saturday 19 May 2012**. Formal work parties are held every **third Saturday of the month** and Alan Roi provides a cooked midday meal. There are also activities every **Saturday** and on **Monday evenings**.

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## Roslyn car No 1 progress

THIS TRAM is being restored by the HTT as a static exhibit for the Dunedin Settlers Museum and is due for completion in July. Below we see it in its latter stages of restoration.



Upper: Brian Fairbrass polishing the interior.  
Above: Graeme preparing a cover for a saloon door.

Photos: Alan Roi

## Bus gets ready for paint job



Bus No 452 being prepared for painting.

Photo: Barry Marchant



Photo: Barry Marchant

ANOTHER SMALL low key project which is slowly progressing is the phone box. It has now got to the stage of receiving a coat of traditional red paint—Roslyn 1 in the background.

## 2012 COTMA Conference booking forms available

THE BOOKING FORMS for the August 2012 Adelaide Conference, the Partners tour and the Post Conference tour are now available through the web site or can be posted out to those we know who are not on emails. Copies have also been sent to member museums. If you know of a friend who may not have seen the booking forms, please pass a copy on to them or let us know and we will get a copy to them.

For Conference details and forms please see: [www.cotma.org.au/conference.html](http://www.cotma.org.au/conference.html)

If you have any queries regarding the conference, please contact Ian Seymour, the Conference Convenor at [adelaidecotma2012@gmail.com](mailto:adelaidecotma2012@gmail.com)

A late fee of \$50 applies to bookings received after 20 June 2012 and bookings close on 6 July 2012. Please book early as this will assist the Conference organisers in their planning.

An excellent Partners tour program has been arranged by Simon Green; and Richard Gilbert has planned another wide ranging post conference tour.

Thanks to all those involved in organising the conference, partners tour and post conference tour.

A wide range of conference papers have been received, including a number to be presented by Adelaide Metro staff who were responsible for the recent extension to the Entertainment Centre.

We look forward to seeing you again and renewing friendships.



## Another great painting from the brush of Don McAra (and another most generous offer)



*This is another commissioned painting of someone's (our Treasurer Stephen Taylor's in this case) favourite tram. Hills Car No 24 is shown stopping for passengers at Gwynfa Avenue, Hackthorne Road in the late 1940s. A reminder that artist Don McAra is offering to paint anyone else's favourite tram, in a location and at a price to be arranged, with the entire payment going into Tramway Historical Society funds.*

*This painting is a watercolour approx. 350 x 530mm, framed. Now a quiz question: What special event happened near the location shown in this painting in March 1945? Forward your answer to the editor who will pass it on to Don.*

### Bill Kingsley



Many members will be saddened by the passing of Bill Kingsley on Wednesday 3 May in the evening due to cancer. Bill was essentially the creator of COTMA and although no longer an office bearer, still took an active part in COTMA

activities such as the Conferences.

Bill joined the then Ballarat Tramway Preservation Society in 1971 and was an active participant in the construction of the track work and then driving trams which he enjoyed. He had just spent his normal Easter break driving trams in Perth which he said gave him great pleasure.

Bill along with other members of Ballarat arranged the first tramway museum conference in 1975 and subsequent to the formal formation of the Council of Tramway Museums of Australasia, became its first Executive Officer, a post he held for many years. Prior to myself taking over the position of Chairman in 2002, Bill was the Chairman.

I saw Bill in hospital on Saturday

21 April, where he was in good spirits and planning to attend the Adelaide Conference. I spoke to him again on Tuesday 24 April, just before leaving for a six week trip in Europe. He said he was tired, but had just commenced a new round of treatment and was looking forward to going home in a couple of days. Sadly, just over a week later, Bill had passed on.

Bill's work in founding COTMA and his subsequent vision is why COTMA is a successful organisation. He was 76. We all thank Bill for 40 years of support and work for the tramway museum sector in Australasia.

Warren Doubleday  
COTMA Chairman

Berlin  
4/5/2012

## Arrival of Brill 185 immanent

by DAVE HINMAN

IN PREPARATION for the imminent arrival of Brill 185 from Mid Canterbury, one of the modified Melbourne No 1A trucks formerly used on 178 (until genuine Brill 77E trucks were obtained) is being put back together for temporary use under the new arrival (see photo below).

This truck had its wheel sets and motors removed installation in the replica truck made for Birney 15, and we have now found a spare wheel and axle set and the original bolster and have now reassembled it.

185 is expected to arrive by the end of the month, complete with the shed which has sheltered it for the last 40 or more years.



Photo: Dave Hinman

## Fund-raising in the sixties and seventies

BRIAN HARRIS recalls those early efforts to raise money and members

In the days when the Tramway Historical Society did not have much money and only relied on the tram fares, membership fees and donations, a few members banded together and thought of some fund-raising ideas and came up with the following.

### Bottle drive.

We organised a bottle drive in the Sumner and Clifton area. Some notices were printed and we went down to Sumner and the Clifton area and put the notices in every letterbox in the area and up on the steep Clifton Hill advertising that the bottle drive would be held the following Saturday starting at 9.00 am. An army of cars and trailers was organised and a band of volunteers and a covered truck from Brightlings Transport Ltd. Some volunteers went with the cars and trailers and some stayed at Ferrymead Park to sort and stack the crates of bottles and to tie the newspapers up which were not tied together in some cases. We had a marvellous day and collected thousands of bottles and about three or four tons of newspapers. I can't remember the names of all those who helped with this but they included Alan Roi, Carl Pumpa, the late Ken Lavender and Allen Hill, and many others. Moneywise it was a great success for the Society.



Photo: Brian Harris

*No that is not a Hills car despite what is written on the side. It is a truck kindly loaned by Brightlings Transport Ltd for one of the Society's bottle drives.*

### Sponsored trek

Another fund-raiser was a sponsored trek. We had about 150 children enter and they were from schools and some of our own members too. Some of our members were along the route supervising the children. If I remember rightly, the winner came from the Woolston School. The first prize was an Instamatic camera and there were two other prizes as well.

### Newspaper collection

From the bottle drive the newspaper collection carried on with the late Ken Lavender looking after the paper shed each week after members brought their papers down. Ken always arrived with a trailer load of papers too. This was always a success.

### Open day

There was one open day which was held at the tram barn end of the site where we had trams running and buses on display. The Cranmer building was open with the fire engines on display and the tramway had a display set up in the tram barn. There were other stalls selling different things but the tramway had a tent set up selling cups of coffee, tea and orange drinks. We were also selling hot dogs and tomato sauce in bread. These proved very popular. This was a very successful money spinner as well. Some of the people who helped on the stall were Alan Roi, the late Allen Hill and a couple of others.

*Concluded next month*