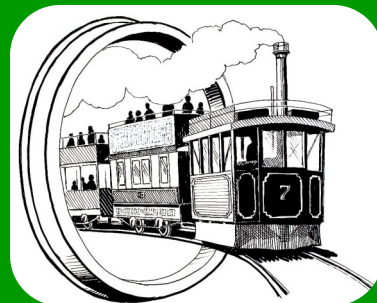
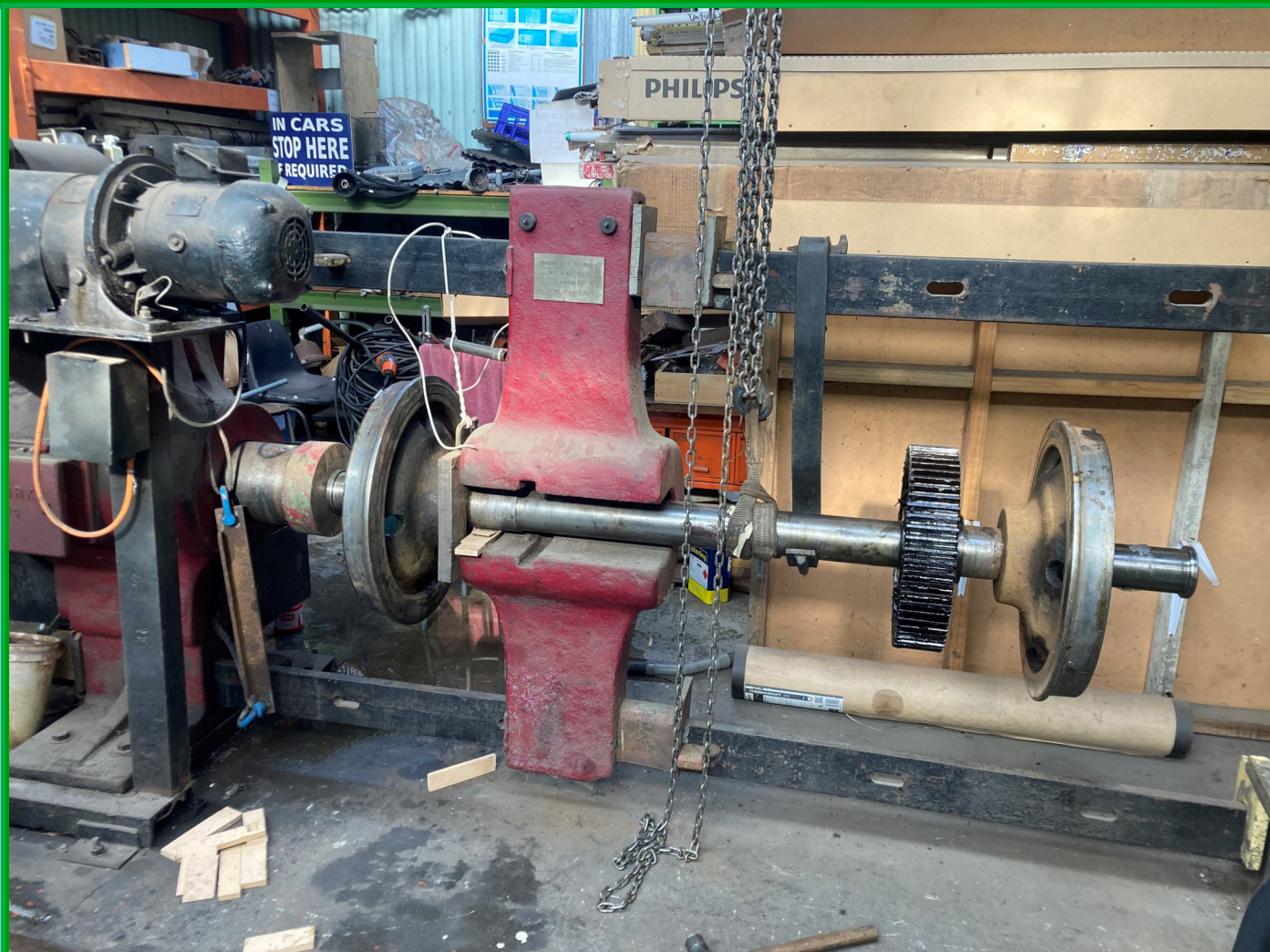


Ferrymead Tram Tracts



The Newsletter of the Tramway Historical Society Incorporated

August 2022



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Monthly Newsletter of the THS - Editor: Alex Hunter

Contributions welcome. Please send to tracts@ferrymeadtramway.org.nz

All contributions must be in by the 23rd of the month. Tracts released for distribution on 1st of following month.

Presidents Piece -

Stephen Taylor reports.

Its late July as I write this to try and get it in to Alex before his Tracts deadline -(and a lot later than I'd planned – sorry Alex). And to continue a theme that has been all too common in July, I can hear it raining outside again – something it has been doing all too much on July.

The middle two weeks of July also covered the period of the July School Holidays. I am pleased to report that we had rostered drivers running the trams every day during the school holidays – even if the weather did not co-operate as much as we would have liked. Thanks for all your efforts. And I am pleased to report we have two additional drivers to add to the drivers roster: Callum Brieske & Andrew Lyttle have both gained their Ferrymead Tramway tram driver licences during July.

July was also the month we did our report back of the FRONZ 2022 conference with a photo show from a number of our members who attended the Invercargill FRONZ conference and associated field trips over Queen's birthday weekend. And while the night was another typically (for July) damp outside, we had over a dozen members meeting in the Lions club building inside for a slide show with discussion of some of the activities, followed by supper and socialising afterwards.

And speaking of functions – a reminder that the Society's AGM is planned for 24th August. The venue has had to be changed however as the Lion's club building at Ferrymead is no longer available that night (due to a clash with the "Illuminate" Event being held in the Park from mid August through early September) so we have arranged to meet in the Board Room at the Christchurch South Library in Colombo Street instead – see the updated meeting notice elsewhere in this issue of Tracts. It would be pleasing to see a good turnout of members for that night.

And while there have been a lot of progress on other activities occurring around the site that I expect will be reported on elsewhere in this issue of Tracts, I want to give a quick update on the work

around the Cranmer building. This work has slowed down over the last few months while we raise funds to allow us to complete the needed exterior weather proofing of the building. The major cause of delay here is the need to fit guttering and storm water drainage to make the building more watertight before we can progress much further – this work this has been delayed due to a lack of funds for materials.

But the work has progress over the last few months with good progress being made on the easternmost of the two large side rooms at the west end of the building, mostly due to the efforts of member George Wheallans (aka Jawj). He has virtually single handedly cleared the entire contents of that room to the other side room (thanks Jawj), and then removed both the carpet and the deteriorated damp and soft chip board floor which needed replacing. It is planned that we will replace the floor with the same type of "Strandfloor" flooring material previously used in the main display hall after undertaking any necessary re-levelling the floor supports. [See photo below]

And finally from me, I am also pleased that we have another new member this month – Trevor Lymburn – who is Westport based and who has an interest in restoring buses. Welcome Trevor.

A picture of the floor in the Cranmer building showing all George's hard work removing the old flooring, Great work and keep it up!



Cover Photo: here is the Ex Dunedin City Tramways Wheel press in action pressing apart some wheels for CTL's 244 truck overhaul.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2022

Updated location See Below.

The 2022 Annual General Meeting of the Tramway Historical Society will be held on Wednesday 24 August 2022 at 7:45pm at the **Boardroom of the Christchurch South library 66 Colombo St.** - On the night, please use the '**After Hours Entrance**', the door closest to Colombo St., there will be someone on the door from 7.30pm to let people in.

The purpose is to review the activities of the Society since the last AGM, to approve the annual accounts for the year ended 31 March 2022, to elect the Management Committee, to consider and deal with any notices of motion (these must have been submitted to the Secretary no later than 21 days before the meeting) and any general business.

The meeting will be followed by Supper and informal discussions– Cost \$2

We look forward to your attendance.

Illuminate Festival at Ferrymead Heritage park!

**Chch Double decker
26 will be dressed up
with illuminations
and giving rides.**



ILLUMINATE
EXPERIENCE MORE THAN JUST LIGHTS

**ILLUMINATE LIGHT & SOUND
EXPERIENCE**

Proudly brought to you by Event Hire & Aurora Capital

When:
18th - 21st & 25th - 28th August 2022
5:45pm-9:00pm

Where:
Ferrymead Heritage Park, Christchurch

Get your tickets at www.eventhire.co.nz or
scan the QR code here



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NINE/TWENTYONE **CHRIS LYNCH CHRISTCHURCH'S NEWSROOM**

Hills Car 24 Restoration.

From the Editors Camera.

24 has made some progress this month, however an unwanted round of Covid-19 illness knocked out most of the workforce for a week or so of which made the workshops quite silent.

However the HTT workshop staff are all back and have been working on the following items.

New Kauri seat backs have been manufactured by a local CNC joinery company and look quite the part, they have been cut out from recovered Kauri from a recently demolished building, they just need cutting out the last few millimeters and sanding the machining marks away.

Underneath the tram Bob Williams has been busy doing the various bits of engineering, he has made a long bracket to hold the resistance grids, and also a mounting to hold the 8" brake cylinder. Other work includes the making of some of the brake gear, luckily some original drawings survive out of the CTB drawing office for 24's brake gear, and these have been very useful in sorting the various components.

Murray Sanders has been busy sorting the electrics on 24, recently Murray and his team have been installing the trolley line which runs from the pole bases, then through the lightning arrestor choke, then along to the respective circuit breakers, they have also renovated some old GE switches for the lights and other switched components.

Additionally Mike Hobbs has been busy in the paint booth doing more components, the drivers doors are getting the attention now and are looking great.

Top and Mid top: The new seat backs.

Mid lower: Bob Williams machining more parts for the handbrake system.

Bottom Right: Brian Fairbrass fitting the slides on the pillars after they have been painted.

Bottom left: The drivers doors in the paint booth.



Kitson Steam Tram Update - Alex Hunter reports.

Greetings all, and another month has passed just like that!! Progress continues on with the Kitson and the following work has been done on it in July.

First of all I'd like to thank all the folks who have been turning up regularly to the work parties and your time is appreciated.

Earlier in the month Stephen Taylor had completed the new T&G boards and these had gone across into the paint booth for priming and painting the grey on the interior side. These have now been fitted and screwed in place by Stephen and looking great.

The newly overhauled original chimney has been refitted, this took a bit of working out the hinging mechanism as it was removed a few years ago by myself and the Late Mike Lawson one afternoon, I admit id forgotten how it went together! But all is well now and its back where it should be.

Callum set himself a task to clean up the original chimney cap, as it is a copper one it certainly looks the part, it also had a crack up the side of it which needed repairing. Callum took it away and copper TIG welded it back together and it looks great.

The valve gear is 99% complete now, the last component to sort was the drive pins in the coupling rod, these are now in their new position, I spent a bit of time on the lathe and machined these up and I'm certainly quite chuffed with how they have turned out.

The Downpipes at the rear have made good progress also, Steve Lea has made the new ones and is in the process of fitting them, some new saddles have been made and welded to the pipes to stop the pipes slipping down. These are now in the paint booth to be painted black.

The side skirts have received attention also, they have been trial fitted, now they have been cleaned up and sanded ready for painting.

More next month. (Photo Captions next page)



Top Photo : Steve Lea and Clinton Pearce visiting from Auckland sanding the T&G boards ready for the top coat of paint.

Upper mid: Stephen Taylor fitting the new boards on the side of the body.

Lower Mid: The Side rods now fitted to stay.

Bottom Right: A new valve gear drive pin ready to be fitted.

Bottom Mid: Callum doing repairs to the side skirts.

Bottom Left: Steve Lea making a new downpipe for the back end of which will be a great addition.

This page: Steve is a great part of the team I'd be lost without him, and virtually tackles any job that is handed his way! Here he is water blasting the roof wirework for the Kitson.



Ken Henderson recently was discussing the Glasgow subway and has some interesting info on it.

Did you know.....

The Glasgow Subway the third oldest underground system in Europe was first opened in 1896 as a cable operated railway on a 10.5 km circular route with two tracks and 15 stations using island platforms. Unusually the gauge was 1219mm (4 foot) and there were no points, vehicles requiring maintenance were craned off at the depot. The system was electrified in 1935 using 600v DC. Modernisation took place between 1970 and 1980 but it seems the original flavour is still there. As usual plenty more information available in Google .

Very interesting! Thanks Ken.

Recently Graeme Richardson has spotted some Tram Rail in the street somewhere.

Can you guess where it is...?

A clue is that its in the South Island.

Send your answers to the editor and we will try and get you a chocolate fish!

Good guesses will be considered also for half a chocolate fish...



Bus Department Activities - Alan Roi reports.

In the Shed.

The recent weather, as some of the local readers will know has not been conducive to outside work. We have been cleaning out the parts store at the trolleybus shed. Since the last issue of Tracts, we have decided to re-use the existing parts room and to turn the front room (ex-artefact store) into an area for minor maintenance jobs. We had collected a mass of both trolleybus and motor bus bits over the years and the room has now been emptied and the bits stored temporarily in other parts of the building. The floor has been painted and material for building proper shelving brought down from the Cranmer building. It is hoped that we will have started installing shelves by the time you read this.

CTB MAN Bus 614.

Bus 614 was mentioned last time as being prepared for painting. It was in the Trambarn 3 spray booth and has received all the red paint. The black and white will be added next time and then the 614 will match sister bus 612. As the booth was needed by the HTT guys for work on 24, the bus was taken down to the trolleybus shed and placed inside. This is protecting the masking and paint from the weather until we can return it and finish the job.

Overhead.

More tidying has taken place on the overhead tuning circle as weather has permitted and this area is starting to look really good.



Top Photo: A bit of flooding from the rains...

Photo Maria Storer

Mid : The Infamous dirt pile has been flattened! A great achievement to all involved, here we see Peanut giving the Case loader some attention.

Photo : Editors camera.

Bottom: Bus 614 in the paint booth receiving its red paint, it will return in the future to get the white and black details painted on.

Photo: A L Roi



Cable Car 103 Report.

From the Editors Camera.

I'm always impressed by Don and his team of volunteers that turn up to the regular working parties to work on the Dunedin Grip Car 103. Recently they have made new roof boards and have painted them.

Next up Don will put his artistic touch to use by doing the signwriting on the new roof boards, these have 'DCT' (Dunedin Corporation Tramways) on the bottom in big letters, and on the top is 'Mornington' in small letters. Additionally the end apron panel have been prepared for painting in Red the same as original. Keep up the good work!



Top: Don sanding the roof board ready for painting.

Bottom Right: Marceline and Don working away.

Bottom Left: The apron panels in the paint booth.

Photos: Editor.



Drivers Tip for Tram Motormen by David Jones

When going into service as the first tram out for the day it is important to be extra vigilant in watching the track ahead throughout the entire first circuit. You are looking for anything out of place or unusual - stones or other obstacles on the track, damage or vandalism and interference with the switch blades and levers operating the points. Should damage that might impair the safe passage of the tram be found DO NOT try to traverse the damage before contacting the Safety Case Manager and the workshop.

Health and Safety notes. By Dave Sanders

Friends – we are in the midst of a particularly wet and considerably cold winter. Please take care when walking outside or driving at this time of year. A slip or a fall can cause anyone quite an injury.

If you do fall on the THS facilities, please complete FORM 61 on the notice board in TBI and leave on the angled work station for me to collect. It is important that all issues are reported so that an appropriate review can be done and possibly changes be made to improve things.

We are also back down to two working members on the Health and Safety Committee. We need more people. Your time commitment is minimal (typically one meeting and a few hours a month).

**If you are keen to become part of this
– Contact Dave Sanders by email at brownda@xtra.co.nz ."**



A couple of snaps from the Frons Conference visit.

A bolt for every job..... Literally!!!

This sign was spotted on a visit to the famous E.Hayes Hardware shop in Invercargill on the recent Frons conference visit, a must see if you're in the area!

Photo: Editor.

Below is the replica Lady Barkly locomotive on display on the edge of town on the way to the Invercargill airport.

The Lady Barkly locomotive ran on wooden rails and was first run in 1863, The original locomotive was manufactured by Hunt and Opie of Ballarat, Australia.

Photo : A.Cross



Then and now....

Top photo: shows the Christchurch Tramway Board 1928 Dennis truck in the snow in the 1940s fitted with a snow plow heading north on Colombo St., about to cross Armagh St. and head up Victoria St.

Bottom Photo: Shows the much changed scene today, the only remaining building is the Cathedral in the back-ground and to the right the verandah of the former National Bank.

Top photograph provided by the Ferrymead Photographic society. Bottom photo is the editor's. Enjoy!

