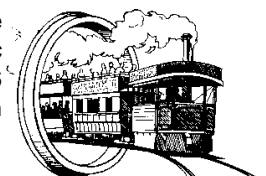


# Ferrymead Tram Tracts

Newsletter of the  
Tramway Historical Society Inc  
P. O. Box 1126  
Christchurch



March 2007

## Track News

KEN HENDERSON reports

WORK CONTINUES on the track. Since December, tie rods have been fitted to the Square Shelter platform road, No 1 and 2 barn roads to help keep them secure until resleepering. Lifting and packing of the Big Curve is complete, foot crossing for Tamakis on the Paddock Straight is installed which involved resleepering. The check rail on the "Out" road by the Square Shelter had been reset and a kink taken out of the running rail which has resulted in a much smoother ride.

Contact has been made with OnTrack and a supply of screw spikes is now on site as well as some second hand sleepers to be used on No 2 barn

road. New sleepers for the Square Shelter platform road are on order thanks to a large grant from the Community Trust. This work will be started after Easter.

Other preparatory jobs such as making bed plates for use with check rails and reboring bed plates have been done. The track gang—Ken, Graeme Belworthy, and Ces (recently made an Honorary member of the Society in recognition of his services to track work—well done Ces!)—thank other members like Stephen, Graeme Richardson and Dave Carr for their assistance. We would also like to thank tram drivers for their patience whilst we have occupation of the track, only hope you can notice the difference!

## Welcome visitors to Ferrymead



On 29 January, Colin Loach was at Ferrymead with his camera that goes with him everywhere, and captured visitors Seddon (Snow) Fenn from Wellington, John Shanks and Larry Day from you know where, and Ian Seymour from Adelaide.

### Next work party

The next work party is scheduled for **Saturday 21 April 2007**. Formal work parties are held every **third Saturday of the month** but there are also activities **every Saturday** and on **Monday evenings**.

## Welcome and congratulations

FIRSTLY WE WELCOME our new membership secretary, Phyllis Schau, who is doing a great job of keeping me up to date with new members. This means that we can extend a warm welcome to them in *Tracts*.

So, based on the information she has provided we can welcome Ken Watson who is the gentleman who hires our buses from us for various charters.

Another new member is Lloyd Williams who has seen the light and has returned to Christchurch after a period of 30 years in the North Island. He is a former member of the THS.

At the Management Committee meeting 16 January 2007 it was recommended that Ces Tucker be made an Honorary Member for his work on the tracks this was approved at the General Meeting held 21 February 2007. A certificate and membership was presented to him on 24 February 2007.

Great work, Ces. Good on you—well deserved!

## A thank you from Kitty

SOME THOUGHTFUL person has left a tidy pile of carefully folded brown paper bags to be filled with coke. Kitty is most appreciative and says a big "thank you" to the person who did this.

Further gifts of bags suitable for filling with Kitty coke are always welcome. Kitty says just drop them in the Kitty "cage" in the No 2 tram barn and they will be put to good use. We still have a huge pile of coke to bag up, so all contributions are appreciated.

Regards to all my friends in the tram barn.

Well thank you too Kitty. This is the first time you've graced our pages. We look forward to hearing more from you—Editor

## *Remember these?*



*These old Bedford trucks were a familiar sight in the streets when I was young, and the gray P&T (Post and Telegraph) double cabs were quite distinctive. The P&T extended these cabs in their own workshops. Dave Hansen tells me that this one is an OLB Bedford and was first registered in 1951. It now belongs to the Ferrymead P & T Society and is often seen round the site, usually with Dave at the helm. It was captured beside tram No 22 which was doing a wedding special on 6 January.*

**Photo: Colin Loach**





THIS LITTLE CONUNDRUM comes from the editor and refers to the photograph above. It will no doubt be common knowledge to most, but the photo which appeared in the *Press* a few years ago had your editor scratching his head. It shows a Brill with a facing mother and a double decker trailer leaving Sumner. The

question is: why is it not using the bridge? The bridge was not new when the Brills appeared so it is not a case of it being incomplete. I did not realise that the line around the bay was retained in full working order after the bridge was completed. Can someone please dispel this editorial ignorance?



*Brisbane No 236 and Christchurch No 1 rounding the big curve on the way back from the township on 1 March 2007.*

**Photo: Colin Loach**

## The Dunedin postcard scene



WE HAD SOME responses to last month's postcard story by Russell Grigg. VERN CAMPBELL has studied the picture and is pretty certain that it dates from 1939, the picture first appearing on the

Christmas edition of either the *Auckland Weekly News* or the *Free Lance*. Vern says that the Logan Park car appears to be one of the formerly open cars.

The combo car in front of the Exchange, which Russell did not mention, is probably a No 8 car bound for Tahuna. The Sydney bogie is probably bound for Normanby rather than St Clair.

GRAEME BELWORTHY adds: "When I showed the photo of Dunedin on the back page of February's *Tracts* to my father it brought back old memories for him as he grew up in Dunedin and knew the area well. He looked for the policeman (Constable Oswald) that was always on duty at that corner directing traffic. That looks like him in the bottom right corner beside the dark coloured car. My grandfather (Dad's father) drove trams, mostly Sydney bogies on the St Clair run so maybe the one in the photo could be him."

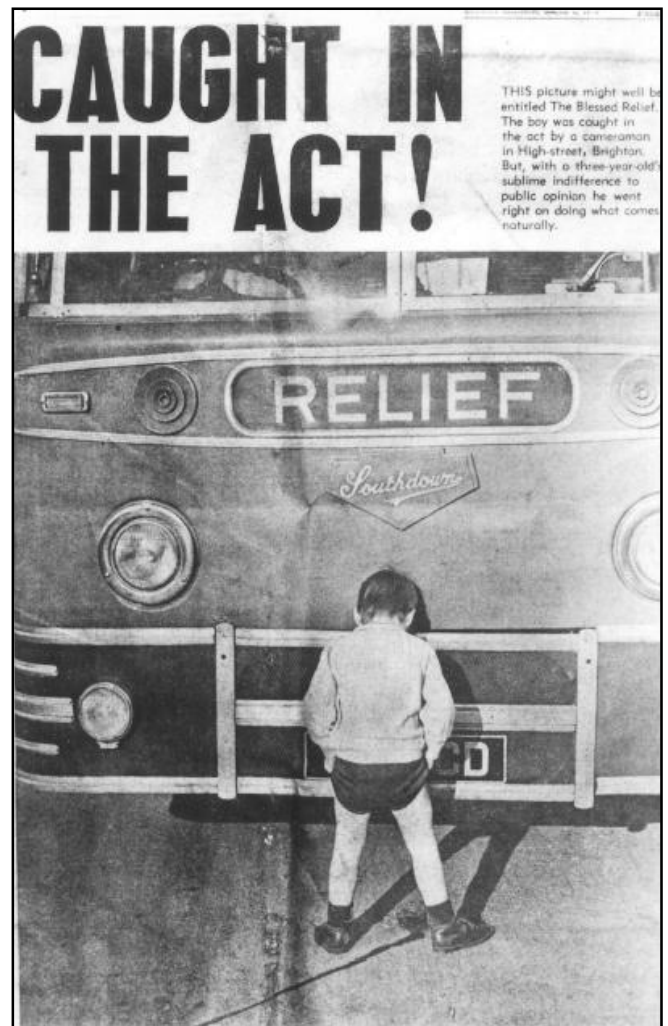
### Don't forget!

*Tracts* can be received by email. That way you get it slightly sooner than by snail mail and in full colour. To use this option, send an email to Barry Marchant, [barry-m@paradise.net.nz](mailto:barry-m@paradise.net.nz)

## Guess who!



Colin Loach took this photo and is offering chocolate fish to anybody who correctly guesses who the figure is. "Father Christmas" or "Santa Claus" are not acceptable as answers and the person in the uniform is not eligible to enter. If you think you know the identity, give Colin a ring on 338 4316.



Bruce Dale sent this little gem to us some time ago. The caption reads: "This picture might well be entitled *The Blessed Relief*. The boy was caught in the act by a cameraman in High Street, Brighton [presumably the English Brighton]. But with a three-year-old's sublime indifference to public opinion, he went on doing what came naturally."