

Ferrymead Tram Tracts

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



Society busy on many fronts

President GRAEME BELWORTHY reports



Nigel Hogg (CRS) left and John Shanks (THS) right with visitors David Morgan, Lisa and Einar Hoff

Photo: Dave Hinman

OVER THE LAST MONTH or so we have had several overseas visitors visit the tram barn starting with David and Tina Frodsham from York who is a member of Crich Tramway, David Morgan of UK's Heritage Railway Association and Europe's Federail which FRONZ is affiliated to, Derek and Sarah Redman from Crich and also Einar and Lisa Hoff from the Danish Tram Museum. They all seemed to enjoy their time at the Park. David Morgan is more into steam than electric but still enjoyed a drive of the tram. It was a pity we don't have Kitty

operational.

On the matter of Kitty we have had the spare boiler looked at by an engineer and he felt it worth further investigation, an acid wash followed by ultra sound. If all this shows it to be sound it could give us up to 10 years more life.

Murray spent a lot of time working on the spare truck for 236 which is now under the tram and working well.

Barry is working on 22 repairing and varnishing windows. The cable car team are back on their project after helping with 236. Larry has been busy with work

for the City trams but hopes to start the truck for 26 shortly.

Graeme is working away on 26 as well as still helping when required with work for the Tamakis. And on that point there is good progress being made there as well. The bridge across the creek is ready and the Main Entrance/Waka House building is well under way. They hope to have the official opening at the end of April.

Ken's team continues with the track improvement with the expert guidance from Ces. The major project of

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**.

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resleeping and replacing the ballast under the track in front of the Square shelter will take place in the next few weeks.

A start has been made to get trolleybus 210 into service. Contact has been made with Land Transport New Zealand. It now a case of making application for an exemption from vehicle standard rules. More on this later.

And BARRY MARCHANT adds...

I AM CERTAIN that visitors to Ferrymead are not aware of the range of THS activities, and this possibly also applies to some of our members.

My recent count-up produced a surprising list...

- The major project is the reconstruction of tram no 26, including two Peckham 14D5 trucks.
 - The overhaul and erection of the superstructure of the Heathcote electric lifting bridge.
 - Overhaul of a truck for the restaurant tram (a second truck awaits the return of an overhauled motor).
 - Ongoing track maintenance with a supply of sleepers for points having recently been received.
 - Costing the rebuilding costs of Roslyn No 1 for Otago Settlers Museum.
 - Assessing the condition of the Kitson boilers for repair or replacement.
 - Making a pattern and new brasses for coupling rod journals on the steam tram.
 - The body of Brisbane No 236 has been completely repainted since Labour weekend 2006.
 - Brisbane No 236 made its first run on 30 March on the newly reconditioned truck. A good job done Murray & helpers.
 - Trams 22 and 1 are undergoing ongoing body maintenance as circumstances permit.
 - Street lights are being fabricated for Ferrymead Heritage Park.
 - The supply line to our sprinkler system is being relocated as part of the land deal with the Christchurch City Council.
 - Ongoing overhead line maintenance.
 - Training of new drivers.
- There are probably others that I have missed, Haa well....

Fundraising and Promotions Committee under way

Convener DAVE HINMAN reports

YOU WILL RECALL from the AGM the need for the Society to get serious about fundraising was recognised. We can now report that a "Fundraising and Promotions Committee" is now set up, has met twice and is getting on with the job of sourcing funding for a number of identified projects.

The members are Graeme Belworthy (Convenor), Dave Hinman, Graeme Richardson, Max Taylor, John Shanks and Stephen Taylor) plus a representative of the Heritage Tramways Trust yet to be appointed.

The Management Committee has approved the following terms of reference for the Committee.

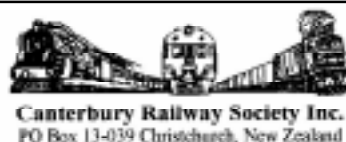
- Confirmation of short, medium and long term funding needs
- Determine tasks needed to achieve this funding
- Identify who might assist in undertaking the necessary tasks
- Communication with members

— starting now!

- Re engage with "mentors" – John Simpson and Peter Helms
- Identify and remove impediments to achieving success in fundraising (eg. collections policy required, complete strategic plan, increase membership, re-obtain charitable status under new Act).

So far we have identified our short- medium term needs which would cover completion of the Bendigo parts purchase, replacing depleted reserves, Kitson repairs and completing the land purchase for the bus barn site, Bridle Path Road, amounting to some \$75,000. This does not include capital funding for further tram restoration, construction of the bus barn or other major works such as the power house project.

So the Committee has a significant challenge ahead of it, and to succeed it will from time to time be seeking assistance from the wider Society membership. We will keep you posted.



Invitation

The Canterbury Railway Society invites members of the Tramway Historical Society to attend the official opening of the electrification of the Ferrymead Railway between Moorhouse and Ferrymead stations on

Saturday 9 June 2007

at 1.30 pm

in the Moorhouse Railway Station.

The programme will comprise speeches, the opportunity to ride trains hauled by electric locomotives Ec7 and Eo3, and afternoon tea. The afternoon will also feature an electrically hauled goods train and plenty of photo opportunities.

R.S.V.P.

If you would like to attend this ceremony please **ETHER:** contact

The Organiser,
P. O. Box 17,
Woodend,
North Canterbury 7641.

OR

email Joe Pickering: jpickering@clear.net.nz, stating the number attending.

For catering purposes please reply by **Friday 25 May.**

Tram owner dies



Some members will remember Mr Leo Holland who was a member of our Society for several years and who was the owner of Brill No 194, the last tram to be built by Boon and Co, which he and his family had converted into a bach at Oxford in the 1950s. Mr Holland died several months ago. He was very proud of this tram and when 178 was commissioned in the City Tramway he would often ride. He would proudly produce a photo album containing photos of his Brill which was in superb order. The last photo in the album was of the tram in service in Riccarton Road.

Our warmest, if belated condolences go to Mr Holland's family.

Photo: Joe Pickering

Welcome new members

OUR MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY, Phyllis Schai—not Schau, as I erroneously called her in our previous issue—informs me that we have two more new members. No 1 is David Whale from Diamond Harbour. No 2 is Darryl Healy whom is a Junior member from Spreydon. Darryl is 11 and a half years of age and has already spent a fair amount of time down at the tram barn helping. Our warmest welcome to both of you.

Society social programme

THE SOCIETY wishes to revive its sadly neglected social programme. John Shanks has been asked to work on this.

Out there amongst our members there are undoubtedly lots of good ideas and people who would like to see them happen. John would like to talk to you about your ideas and would also like to hold an informal chat meeting with interested people to put together a workable programme of meetings, social gatherings and trips.

If you are interested or have a good idea to share, please telephone John on 366-8936 to tell him about it. He is looking forward to hearing from you.

No response!

WE HAD NO RESPONSE at all to our query last month about the tram departing Sumner. I'm sure somebody knows something about this so please let us hear from you.

Colin's Puzzle

COLIN HAD A COUPLE of responses to his question regarding the identity of the Father Christmas figure in the last issue, but neither was correct. We've decided to let this run for another month before revealing the truth. We will, however, confirm that it is not Peter Michie; nor is it Stuart Hobbs. Ring Colin Loach on 338 4316.

Interesting observations

from STEPHEN TAYLOR

JUST BROWSING the latest (e-mailed) *Tracts* that I have just received, and I have a few quick comments...

The picture of 236 on page 3 is, I think, the first published picture of 236 subsequent to its recent DULUX restoration. I think this could be the subject of a future article—by someone who knows more about it such as Alex Hunter.

On page 1—I think it is Phyllis Shai, not

Phyllis Schau, who has become the membership secretary. And related to this appointment, Graeme Belworthy has (at the same time I think) been elevated to the role of Membership Secretary's Secretary as well as President.

Also on page 1—you mention Lloyd Williams "...has seen the light...". A very interesting comment—were you aware he is a retired (?) Anglican minister? (I was helping him gain experience driving 22 on Sunday...

Keep up the good work. Stephen.

Editor's note: Thank you Stephen for those interesting comments.

I think I've got Phyllis' name correct now and no I didn't know about Lloyd's connection to the church. But I do know that there seems to be a strong connection between the church and the interest in tramways and railways.

Our Society has had at least three Anglican ministers as members and many others connected with the church in other ways. CRS had the late Rev Bill Pierre as president many years ago and there are many other instances throughout the world of clergy—and organists including people like my-son-in-law and the late Cyril Evans—taking an important role in the rail movement.

The Reverend Awdry of Thomas the Tank Engine fame is another who springs to mind.

Trolleybuses running

BRADLEY KNEWSTUBB advises that the overhead for the new system has been completed and that trolleybuses were due to run at Easter. Unfortunately the information arrived too late for the previous issue. Congratulations, Bradley, to you and your team on a job well done.



First electric passenger train to Ferrymead

ON SATURDAY 17 MARCH Eo 3 hauled the first passenger train, comprising two cars, from Moorhouse to Ferrymead. Ec 7 was to have performed this duty which was arranged for a student television crew making a documentary on the CRS's Electric Traction Department. Unfortunately the Ec had retired to the depot with motor-generator problems. A transplant is currently being carried out and hopefully she will have made a complete recovery in time for the opening on 9 June (see invitation page 2).

A diesel shunting locomotive was on hand to propel the locomotive round the unwired loop, but the opening day will be all electric without a diesel or steam locomotive in sight.

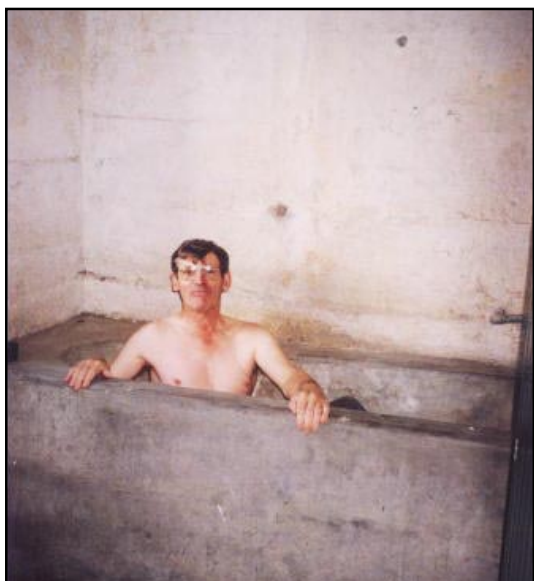
The following Sunday (10 June) electric trains will be running in public service.

The photos show: (top) the train about to depart Moorhouse station for Ferrymead, and (left) the train arriving at Ferrymead.

Photos: Dave Hansen



The photographer photographed



Colin Loach, the man who is usually on the other end of the camera is caught having a scrub up before his next assignment.

Photo: Trevor Craib

National Railway Museum of New Zealand launched



CONGRATULATIONS TO COLIN DASH and his team for the launch of the National Railway Museum of New Zealand to be built at Ferrymead. This organisation is now separately incorporated and is embarking upon a fundraising programme with, we understand, the intention of starting building in the second half of next year.

The complex has been designed by architect Peter Beavan and will be situated opposite the Moorhouse station. As well as heritage locomotives, carriages and wagons the museum will feature signals, historic books and documents and interactive displays.

As part of the fundraising programme a "Friendship Line" has been set up which will be a permanent display on the interior walls of the new building. Each sleeper on the Friendship Line will feature names of friends, families and businesses who purchase sleepers for a cost of \$250 (Including GST) each.