

TROLLEY WIRE REVIEW.

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OPEN DAY AT MUSEUM SITE

Easter Monday April 22nd will be an open day at the site of the South Pacific Electric Railway.

Visitors will be able to inspect the Museum building and view the exhibits at the new site at the Royal National Park.

All interested persons and members of historical, model making, railway and allied organisations are cordially invited to attend.

Those persons favouring public transport should take the electric train to Loftus station from which point a short walk will bring one to the Transport Museum. By private transport one should leave Princes Highway by the track turning off the left hand side just short of the National Park branch grade crossing.

Cool drinks will be provided free for the visitors, those wishing afternoon tea should provide their own as no facilities are available as yet.

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FINAL "K" CLASS TRAM TOUR

The final historical tour in "K" 1296, will take place on the last Sunday prior to the car being moved to National Park. Approximately the end of February.

The tour will be a rather long one in order to fit in most lines not yet covered and will include Botany, Cooks River, Earlwood, City Lines, Lilyfield, Alexandria, Glebe Point and many others. Several items of unusual workings will be included to make it an interesting trip for this "farewell" to Sydney of single truck passenger cars (as such).

The tour will be tabled to commence around 10.30 am and should conclude no later than 6.00 pm. It will run from Rozelle Depot and return to this point, the lunch stop of course will be made at Central Railway as this is the most convenient point to get a quick bite to eat. All interested persons should contact the Secretary later in the month.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING

The next General Meeting will be held on Friday, March 8, 1957, at 8.00 p.m. at the Devonshire Street Railway Institute. You may have spoken to someone who is mildly interested in what you are doing --- bring him along.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN BRANCH

At the Executive Meeting held on January 6, Messers. Mac. Alexander and John Radcliffe were appointed Museum Representatives in the State of South Australia until such time as a Branch can be formed.

Shortly representations will be made to the Trust of the National Park in Adelaide for a site, which could result in a setup similar to that which we have in Sydney. The area Mac. and John have in mind offers a length of 1-1/4 miles, connecting Belair Station to sports grounds and tennis courts further into the park, and, we understand, holds possibilities for the operation of trolley-buses.

THINGS THAT HAPPEN IN A BIG CITY

Congratulations go out from all of us to Arthur and Norma, and Kel and Carrol on their recent engagements. Our best wishes for a long and happy future are extended to those four lucky people.

SITE

The Executive extends special thanks to those members who gave a hand in the removal of track from Yarra Bay. Altogether, 55 lengths of rail, plus the points and frog, were removed from the section extending from Yarra Bay Junc. to the trestle (who can forget it!).

No. 4 road of the shed has been laid and packed, and construction of No. 3 road commenced. As yet, 2 panels have to be put on the western side of the shed and work on the doors is almost complete.

The amount of rail now on site is sufficient to lay the four depot roads, the fan and the throat track to the main line. The cost of purchasing, cutting and removing the rail amounted to £91.

FINANCE.

Members will realise that the Museum has not reached its present state of development without very heavy expenditure, most of which has been borne by the Executive. As of January 10, this amounts to more than £600, and we are faced with further costs in the immediate future.

We appeal to you all for as generous a contribution to the funds of the Australian Electric Transport Museum as lies in your power.

GENERAL NEWS.

The remaining Wylde Street trolley buses, No. 2, 4 & 5, were sold recently by tender. No. 1 which the Museum asked the Department for was donated to the Museum of Applied Arts, Ultimo and is stored in their depot at Shea's Creek. No. 3, of course was scrapped many years ago after an accident in College St. City.

The water tram No. 54 "W" was also put up for sale by tender last month and as yet we do not know who brought it. This leaves the car applied for by the Museum No.113 "W" the sole remaining member of this once numerous class of water sprinklers.

During dismantling of the Yarrah Bay Junc., Botany Cemetery section of the Botany, La Perouse extension for the Museum, several old and interesting copper track bonds were discovered. These were in the shape of a piece of trolley wire about 18" in length and branded with a patent date "July 1896." A check shows us that these were once common, but are not now used except where they have existed for years, on track that rarely ever gets renewed. The bonds have been placed in the Museum.

MODEL EXHIBIT

Mr. Parle and Mr Mc Carthy have been busy these past weeks getting the various parts of the exhibit ready for next May when the Museum will operate a model tramway as part of the Legacy Models Exhibition. Mr. Mc Carthy's models in "O" gauge of the Museum's cars will be featured. A model of "K" 1296 is now nearing completion and all will be in good order for the exhibition.

WORK ROSTER

Work has almost finished on the first part of our depot building at National Park. We will now be able to have a bit of a breather from the "grind" of the past six months. However there is still a lot of work to be done before we write "finis" to our task. The following list of dates will help those who can only give limited time up on site.

There will be an officer in attendance every Sunday from 9 am to 5.30 pm for those who wish to go each week. For the others the following are days to remember as being important.

SUNDAY . . . 27th Jan., 10th, 24th Feb., 3rd, 10th, 17th March, 1957.

REMEMBERS... The railway is to be completed and operating by September 1961 and this will not be achieved without a maximum of work from everyone.

MUSEUM ITEMS

Any member or interested person who has any item of electric railway or tramway material which he feels would be of interest to the Museum or more particularly to the general public, should let us know as soon as possible so we can arrange for it to be seen on the first Public Day to be held over Easter next.

Each item received will be recorded and the donor's name suitably displayed.

Should the material be of a bulky nature the Museum will arrange to pick up and transfer it to National Park.