

ISSUED TO ALL FINANCIAL N. S. W. MEMBERS

The Trolley Wire

A.E.T.A. N. S. W. Branch Bulletin.

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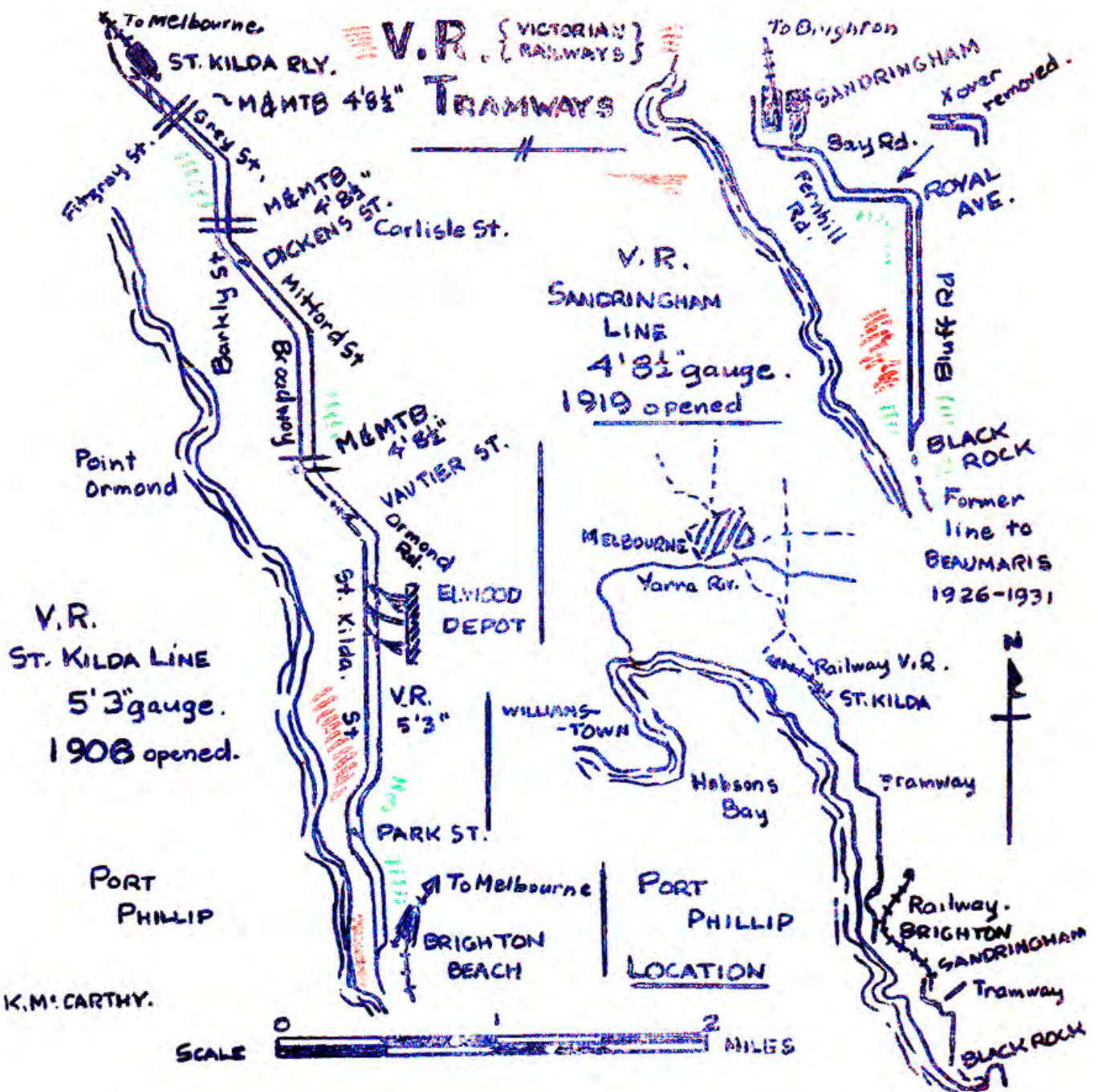
BLACKTOWN ELECTRIC TRAIN TOUR. The joint our held by the A.R. & .L.H.S. and the A.E.T.A. over the new electrified section to Balcktown on Saturday February 26th was a great success even though the weather did its best to ruin this memorable occasion.

Because of the number of official trains in the area no great speeds were recorded, but elec. Loco 4501 performed well and an enjoyable outing was had by all those present.

FILM NIGHT. A film night will be held in the Vacuum Oil Theatrette at 8pm Thursday May 26th 1955. He films shown will be of great intersst to members and friends, and we hope to show a film of the last day of the Kogarah steam trams. Tickets are available from the Secretary, Mr. I. Brady, 24 Wallace St. GREENWICH.

MEETINGS. The next meeting will be held on Thursday April 21st. at 8pm at the Devonshire St. railway Institute. It is hoped to have a visiting speaker present at the meeting.

DESTINATION SIGNS. We were all surprised to see the Department turn up with Maitland staff tickets many yeears ago, but seeing a sydney tram showing BROADMEADOW last month just about takaes the prize. Old rolls are now being used as leaders and trailers on new rolls, so this accounts for the newcastle sign on a Sydney roll.



WARRAGAMBA DAM ----- CONSTRUCTION RAILWAYS.

No. 2. (Continued from last issue.)

THE AERIAL ROPEWAY (Continued)

The ropeway was constructed by British Ropeway London and assembled by Perry Ltd. of Adelaide. The ropeway is carried by towers approx. 30ft. high the running cables hanging on each side being approx. 18-20ft. above ground level through the bush lands. Near the town terminus the towers are considerably higher, the average height of the rope here being 30 ft.

The skips are held onto the large running cable by a block containing four running wheels, two on each side of the skip column. To move along the wire a gripping attachment not unlike that used in the old cable trams, engages with the smaller haulage wire. To change from one haulage wire to another a ramp device on the section tower lifts the grip attachment and the skip travels over a dead section, of approx. 2 ft. under its own momentum.

The whole structure is finished off in silver and is well maintained. The skips travel along the system clockwise, i.e. keeping to the left.

CEMENT FALSEWORK LINE.

This line is situated on the second level (see map) of the dam workings. This line is approx. 6ft. gauge and is of minor importance to rail fans.

Several four wheel trollies are on this line and their job is to carry the mould forms used for the pouring of the cement, from the crane on the 18 ton cable way to a storage space.

2ft. & 4ft GAUGE LINES.

On the third level we have two lines of considerable interest.

The 4ft 8½in line is employed in transporting the mixed cement from the ice, and cement mixing plants to a position under the 18 ton cable way. The terrace which holds the railway and mixing plant is 30 ft. below the cableway terminus, and the ice plant is the largest in the southern hemisphere. Both plant buildings are framed with pre-stressed concrete.

(To be continued.)

SERVICE VEHICLES.

The following service vehicles were noted in Randwick Workshops during the week for various reasons. 125s, 134s, 137s, 46u, 113w, and the "hoodoo" 1273 along with 833 were burnt on 11-3-55 at the shops.

LECTURES.

Forthcoming talks to be given to the branch general meetings are listed below.

MAY.	Mr. Goodman on Trolley Buses in Sydney, Present and Future.
JUNE.	Mr. E. Stevens on Continental Tramways and Electric Railways supported by films on the two subjects.

OUTING (Historical).

On Sunday afternoon 27-3-55, an Historical Tour over the Manly-Spitt and Manly-Harbord lines will be held. This tour will take place as an unofficial hike over the abovementioned abandoned tramway systems. Many points of interest still remain and will be pointed out on the way. Those interested should meet the Historical Officer Mr. Chinn on Wynyard tramway Platform at 12.50 pm SHARP.

DESTINATION ROLLS.

In a recent issue of the weekly notice the Department scolds its employees for using "OBSOLETE" destination signs ??? Just how in the case of some tramcars it would be possible to do anything is hard to see. Although some new chums give us some interesting combinations sometime. Suburban Motor Cars.

It is noted that all the "Bradfield" motor cars, as they go in for maintenance, are being fitted with sliding doors to the guards compartment.

HOLIDAY.

How would you like a holiday in the Queen City of the South? You would. Then why not take one and give yourself a "WEEKEND IN MELBOURNE" and at the same time attend the opening of the first section of the new Bourke St. Tramway AND the first A.E.T.A. Interstate Convention. If successful this convention could be held each year in a different Capital City. Get to know your fellow Association members better. "UNITED WEST AND" Remember.

BLACKTOWN ELECTRIFICATION.

As mentioned on page 1 of this issue the extension of the Sydney electric suburban system between Parramatta & Blacktown was officially opened by the State Premier and the Minister for Transport on Saturday February 26th. The first 8 car set to run over the new extension made the test run on Wednesday February 16th. On Sunday February 27th passenger services commenced and a half hour service is now being provided to Blacktown by electrics while the Penrith Steam service has been accelerated. The electric extension to Penrith is to be opened later this year.

TRACK RELAYING.

The much needed tram track relay in George St, City near the Millers Point Junction is now well in hand. Work is also progressing rapidly on the Doubler Bay Shopping centre relaying work.

RYDE LINE OVERHAED.

The last piece of disused overhead on the former Ryde tram line, that along Ultimo Rd. and Quay St. Ultimo, was removed in mid FEBRUARY. The overhead between Harris St. Junction and Ultimo Depot along Harris Street is still in place.