

The TROLLEY WIRE

N.S.W. BRANCH BULLETIN --- AUSTRALIAN ELECTRIC TRACTION ASSOCIATION.

Vol. 4. No. 5.

Issue No. 40

19th May 1955.

A.E.T.A. WEEKEND IN MELBOURNE.

OPENING OF BOURKE ST. LINE NEXT MONTH – CLOSURE OF FOOTSCRAY LINE

Are you coming to the A.E.T.A. Weekend in Melbourne? Here is your chance to participate in a real electric railfan's holiday.

Unfortunately, the opening date of the Bourke Street line has not yet been fixed and we can't hope to give you more than a few weeks notice. During this weekend Headquarters will be our hosts, so if you are interested contact the Secretary (I.Brady) JF 1387, he will be making the block rail and hotel bookings and will also be able to tell you of the exact date of opening. If you wish to make your own hotel and transport arrangements still contact the Secretary so that H.Q. can be advised of the numbers.

Proposed Itinerary.

FRIDAY:-

Depart Sydney 7.30pm Express or 8.10pm Limited.

SATURDAY:-

Arrive Melbourne at Noon S.O.P., Book into Hotel, lunch.

P.C.C. 980 departs 1-30pm proceeding over the new Spencer St.-

Northcote route, thence over other selected lines. During the tour a stop will be made at the new Clifton Hill Sub-Station and the East Preston Depot. In the evening the car will proceed to Preston Workshops, where a tour of inspection followed by a showing of films will take place.

SUNDAY:-

Morning free.

Afternoon and evening:- Federal Conference of Association Officers and Representatives, others free.

MONDAY:-

Suggested that Sydney Members journey to Warragul over the V.R, main line electrification. Return to Sydney by S.O.P. departing 6-30pm.

TUESDAY:-

Arrive Sydney either 9-12am or 10-56am.

The cost of rail & hotel fees will be £9-10-0 to £14 depending on class of rail travel, while the cost of the whole tour (meals, etc. inclusive) £14-£17. Members should be prepared to pay secretary for rail and hotel costs on demand.

Melbourne Weekend (Continued).

FOOTSCRAY CLOSURE. We regret to announce that in all probability the Footscray lines (with the exception of Footscray Station to Moonee Ponds) will be replaced by buses released by the Bourke St. tramway opening. No definite date has been announced for this closure, but members visiting Melbourne in the near future should make a point of riding on these lines.

Don't forget ring JF 1387 for details of the coming electric railfan's weekend – 10 Sydney members are going, so far, so why don't you? THE MORE THE MERRIER.

FILM NIGHT – THURSDAY 26th. MAY 1955. 8pm.

Get your tickets from the State secretary (I. Brady) for the film night to be held at the Vacuum Oil Theatrette, Margaret St. Sydney as soon as possible.

The programme will include a number of films of transport interest relieved by general interest movies. Two films of considerable interest to members will be one of the Kogarah Tramways on the last day of steam tram operations and the first day of trolleybuses. The other film will be a General Electric documentary "GOING PLACES", and it makes no apologies in its assertions that the transport Industry and Authorities must wake up and provide the public with Rapid Electric Transport or perish with the flood of automobiles on the city streets. You will see, what is commonplace in Sydney on any week day, thousands of people trying to drive down the same street and getting nowhere. You will see modern forms of electric traction in use, the vehicles which this Association is advocating.

Tickets are available now from the Secretary at 2/- each, (donation), all welcome but no monies must be handled at the theatre.

NEXT MEETING. The next general meeting will be held at the Devonshire St Railway Institute at 8pm. Thursday June 16th 1955.

Printed for and on behalf of the N.S.W. Branch of the A.E.T.A. State Council by the publishing staff.

SYDNEY NEWS.ULTIMO DEPOT.

On Saturday (Easter) 9-4-55 Ultimo Depot was again used to store Dowling St. cars awaiting to take up racecourse running. The following "P" cars stood-over at Ultimo between 9030am & 11am. 1588/1556; 1686/1521; 1634/1541; 1674/1888.

Ultimo Depot was also reopened during this month again, when a number of "O" cars were taken to Randwick for scrapping and a similar number arrived from Dowling St. at Ultimo to enter covered storage.

"O" 1212 scrapped.

The first car to cross the Harbour Bridge is in Randwick to be scrapped.

FEEDER CABLES.

Road widening at Drummoyne in Victoria Rd. near Lyons Road necessitated the erection of new poles to carry the former tramway feeder, which is still retained for operating the Gladesville Swing Bridge mechanism. Poles 59 & 60 were the ones in question.

TRACK LIFTING & WIRE REMOVAL.

Track lifting in Harris St. Pyrmont is now approaching Ultimo P.O. (from Pyrmont), the City Council is carrying out this job. Track between Wharf Rd. and Crown St. Gladesville is also being lifted.

Wire removal on the Canterbury and Summer Hill lines commenced at Canterbury terminus during the week after Easter. All the Summer Hill and Hurlstone Park to Canterbury sections have now been removed.

FIVE-DOCK.

The authorities managed to manipulate a petition to the Abbotsford people for the reopening of the tramway between Fivedock and Abbotsford to one requesting a continuous direct bus service to the City. As a result when the buses, which are at present convalescing from fractured stub axles, re-enter service a direct bus service will be instituted between Abbotsford and the City, with the Fivedock trams only running at peak periods.

IRON COVE BRIDGE.

The new bridge over Iron Cove will be opened for traffic on July 30th replacing the present Iron Bridge built in 1884. This bridge was designed to carry tramway traffic but the uncertain policy of the Department and Drummoyne Council re transport has caused this Bridge to be completed for road traffic only. At present during peak periods the old bridge is worked a one way traffic with approx. 5 minute duration for alternate traffic flow.

BRANCH LIBRARY.

Mr K. Bramall has now completely reorganised the branch library, anyone wanting to borrow books should contact him at general meetings.