

TRAMLINES

NEWSLETTER OF THE WELLINGTON TRAMWAY MUSEUM INC.

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			Mackay's Crossing
			Paekakariki,
			NEW
			ZEALAND.

IN THIS ISSUE:

This is a very quick and brief issue, due to some annoying computer problems at the Editor's place! A fuller issue will come out shortly, to report back on the outcomes of the AGM last month, and of our application to Lotteries for the Buildings Project.

The main thing now is to focus on a successful summer 2007/8 season. Below are some more details on this – please note the key dates and actions.

SEASONS GREETINGS

Henry Brittain and his Board colleagues wish all members and their families a very Merry Christmas, successful New Year and happy holidays.

Thanks go out to Richard Gray for all the arrangements around the Christmas Dinner, held this year at Phyphers Lounge in the Porirua Club.

The AGM last month was well-attended and a good chance to reflect on the many achievements at our Museum in recent times. These certainly provide us with a good foundation for the many challenges ahead – starting with a successful second Anything Vintage Festival at the end of this month. Contact the Museum to offer your help in Anything Vintage or in the many other projects on the go.

Next year we hope to get *Tramlines* out to you four or five times – it is an occasional newsletter about practical things, complementing *Tramway Topics* (the Museum's journal of official record) and the website with its

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ever-changing up-to-the-minute information. For now, here on p.3 is Keith's summary of 2007's traffic statistics – a great result, thanks to all involved.

THE TRAMWAY DIARY

Saturdays 15th and Sunday 16th December - The big **WORKING BEE DAYS**.

Denys Peck reports: The main tasks [of 101] being a clean up of all our trams, palace, barn display, shop etc so that all is spic and span ready for the summer holiday rush and the Anything Vintage Festival..

Also the M & E team has urgent jobs for that weekend, so there is plenty to do.

At 4pm on both days there will be a training session at the Kiosk where the mysteries of our new EFTPOS system will be revealed to you with the purpose of ensuring you come away an expert on this electronic marvel, again in time for the summer rush.

You are urged to attend one of these sessions as it's important that we have as many members as possible trained on our EFTPOS system.

For those who can last the distance there will be a Happy Hour at the end of each day with drinks and nibbles---A time to unwind and talk about trams, track laying, EFTPOS systems, cash registers and all those other fun things we have and do at the KCET.

This is a focused burst to ensure that everything is ready for our peak summer visitor and operating season – from Christmas and right through January. Even if you can only do an hour or so, your help will contribute to getting us well prepared.

Wednesday 26th December: Daily tram operation begins, through to the end of January. This is our peak traffic season, with the highlight being the second **ANYTHING VINTAGE FESTIVAL** over the three days Saturday 29th – Monday 31st December.

Those Discount fares:

Robert Hatton reports:

A colourful KCET advertisement has appeared in the Kapiti Info Street Map, which has just been published. This publicizes that there is a \$2.50 discount offer available, if people present the map when buying a family ticket at WTM.

So this is an alert to our rostered members on this. The procedure should be as follows:

(1) Clip the advertisement on any map presented, to prevent multiple use. (2) When using the Cash Register, put in \$10.00 PRIOR to pressing the Family Ticket button. This will override the normal \$12.50 charge. (3) Issue Adult ticket and special tickets as usual.

Making life easier when you're working on site:

Neil MacDonald reports:

A new "Passenger Compartment light" has been fitted in Brisbane 133. The switch is to the left of the existing vestibule light switch. It gives low-level light just in front of the

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projector, to help the operator. Please remember to turn off the “projector location light” when exiting the tram.

And – a Flexible Freezer pack is now kept in the Palace freezer, for use on sprains and other injuries where swelling will occur. Do NOT apply directly to the injured area – but first wrap in a towel or similar material, and then apply the cool pack.

KCET STATISTICS – by Keith McGavin

The trends for the first few months of this year have continued, with nearly double the number of passengers carried this year (the eleven plus a bit months from Boxing Day 2006 to the end of November 2007) compared with last year.

The following chart shows this year to date, compared with each of the preceding three years:

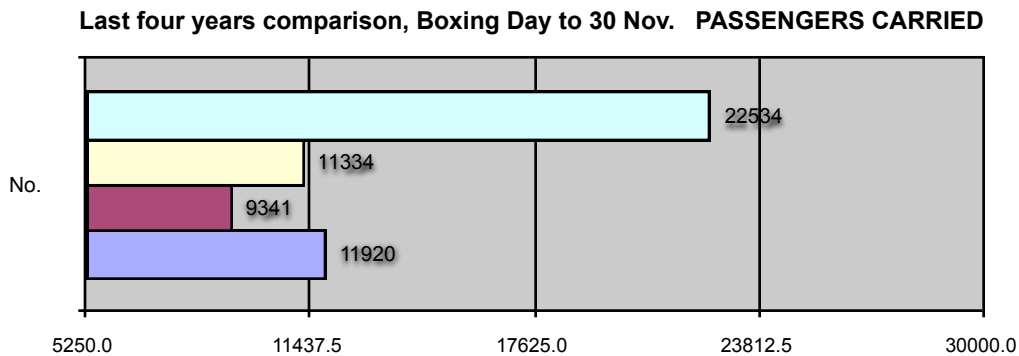


Table 1 Kapiti Coast Electric Tramway – tram passengers

By far the biggest impact has been the “Anything Vintage” festival at New Year, followed by our “Sunday Funday” celebrations on the last Sunday of each month. But ordinary weekends have been busier too – a very welcome turn of events, probably brought about by the new and improved access to the Park from State Highway One, and a carryover of the effects of Sunday Funday publicity (especially radio advertising).

The increasing cost of petrol is a concern as in the past this has had a negative effect on visitor numbers. However, to date each of the last four months (since August) has produced a higher number of passengers than the same month last year.

A second piece of good news is that while tram passenger numbers have almost doubled tram usage has increased by just 23%. More trips are being run but not nearly as many as

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the increased passenger numbers would suggest. The result is a higher average number of passengers per trip. Tram kilometres over the same period are 4,992 – compared with 4,050 in the previous year.

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Contributions and notes for Tramlines always welcomed.

Compiled by Alan Smith Alanesmith@xtra.co.nz phone 04-566-3034

10 December

2007