

# TRAMLINES

NEWSLETTER OF THE WELLINGTON TRAMWAY MUSEUM INC.

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## FUTURE EVENTS

### **SATURDAY 1<sup>st</sup> JULY**

***That's the changed date for our mid-winter film event in the Barn  
No longer 24<sup>th</sup> June as reported in the last TRAMLINES.***

The time: 6.30pm start with fish & chips and salad, tea/coffee/drinks followed by films.  
*(Between 5pm & 6.30pm we will run a twilight tram service, weather permitting)*

The details: The main film is the classic "**Titfield Thunderbolt**", which first screened in 1953. One of the esteemed "Ealing Comedies" from England, in technicolor of course, and starring Stanley Holloway.

The endearing story of villagers who are attached to their local branch line and run it themselves when closure is threatened. The inspiration for this film was the success of the world's first amateur preservation of a threatened operating railway – the Talylyn narrow gauge line in Wales, saved in 1951 and still thriving today. So *The TitfieldThunderbolt* is, in its way, a tribute to our whole scene of operating rail-based museums.

As well, there will be a couple of short (10-minutes each) tram interest videos to go with it.

**At the Barn, Kapiti Coast Electric Tramway – our place.**

*A great way to mark mid-winter. Partners and friends most welcome. For catering purposes, please let us know that you'll be there – by Thursday 29<sup>th</sup>. June at the latest – so we can be sure to have the right amount of food on hand!.*

**Phone: Keith McGavin 934-3418**  
**e-mail: keith.mcgavin@paradise.net.nz**

**RUNNING NUMBERS:**

Our regular statistical report continues – here's the summary up to the start of June 2006:

**Table 1 No. of days each tram has been in use in the periods shown**

PERIOD	DAYS USED				Total
	Tram 151	Tram 159	Tram 238	Tram 239	
YEAR to 24/12/04	19	52	3	115	189
YEAR to 24/12/05	23	52	1	120	196
Total days in use (2 years)	42	104	4	235	385
26/12/05 - 31/1/06	2	19	2	26	49
February 2006	2	3	0	13	18
March 2006	1	3	0	9	13
April 2006	0	6	1	14	21
May 2006	0	2	0	9	11
2006 year to date	5	33	3	71	112
TOTAL days use, 26/12/03 – 31/5/06	47	137	7	306	497

**Table 2 :No. of kilometres travelled (excluding around the depot area)**

PERIOD	KILOMETRES TRAVELLED				Total
	Tram 151	Tram 159	Tram 238	Tram 239	
YEAR to 24/12/04	364	945	12	2,817	4,138
YEAR to 24/12/05	518	886	4	2,868	4,276
26/12/05 - 31/1/06	53	615	8	648	1,324
February 2006	19	87	0	196	302
March 2006	4	26	0	146	176
April 2006	0	80	8	361	449
May 2006	0	19	0	182	201
2006 year to date	76	827	16	1,535	2,452
TOTAL kilometres, 26/12/03 – 31/5/06	958	2,658	32	7,218	10,866

**Table 3 :Passenger numbers as recorded by tram crews, from Boxing Day 2005**

PASSENGER NUMBERS	PASSENGER NUMBERS (from tram crew records)				Total
	Tram 151	Tram 159	Tram 238	Tram 239	
26/12/05 – 31/1/06	161	1729	0	1913	3,803
Feb 2006	6	216	0	598	820
March 2006	0	116	0	91	1,031
April 2006	0	187	0	950	1,137
May 2006	0	13	0	381	394

PASSENGER NUMBERS	PASSENGER NUMBERS (from tram crew records)				Total
	Tram 151	Tram 159	Tram 238	Tram 239	
2006 year to date:	167	2,261	0	4,757	7,185

2006 y.t.d. total of 7,185 passengers is 3,610 to Beach and 3,575 from Beach.

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**Trolleybuses:** The long-awaited opening of Ferrymead's "system" is now planned for November 2006. More details to follow. Let's all just hope that the future of the Wellington system is finally settled before then!  
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### **Become a motorman!**

Keith McGavin (Vice President, Marketing & Operations) would like to hear from anyone who is 20 years of age or over and who would like to be trained to become a licensed Tram Driver on the Kapiti Coast Electric Tramway.

You learn to drive both double-saloon and Fiducia type trams and have the privilege of driving trams on our tram line to the Beach - including over the hill - the only tramway in New Zealand (or Australia?) with a substantial hill en route.

The key requirements are to be a financial member of the Museum, to successfully complete the training course, to obtain the stipulated medical, and to be willing to commit to helping out on the tramway roster from time to time (usually about once a month whenever possible).

To successfully complete the training course requires a minimum of ten hours driving experience - including sufficient experience on each class of tram - and being passed by our examiner.

***A course is planned to start in mid or late July (exact date to be arranged), an objective being to have trainees receive their licences before Christmas.***

All those undertaking the course will receive training in our operating protocols, and also in how to conduct, and operate the shop.

Even if you don't want, or don't qualify, to become a motorman Keith would still very much like to hear from you if you would be willing to be trained in operating the shop and as a tram conductor and would be willing to help on the roster in these capacities from time to time.

***Becoming a volunteer motorman or a shop operator/conductor on our tramway is another way you can help the Museum and have a lot of fun and enjoyment at the same time.***

Please phone, e-mail or write to Keith:  
 Phone - evenings 04 934-3418)  
 e-mail [keith.mcgavin@paradise.net.nz](mailto:keith.mcgavin@paradise.net.nz)  
 write c/- Wellington Tramway Museum, PO Box 2612, Wellington.

### **Operating Notes – Updates and Changes**

#### **Shop Operator's Manual**

Don't forget that a Shop Operator's Manual is located near the cash register. This was described in the April Tramlines. It provides all the information you need to answer those tricky questions on pricing, how to operate the zip-zap machine and the cash register and other things that arise.

*A page is included that shows special reduced prices to members for some shop items.*

Also shown are discounts that are applicable on tram fares for groups of six or more people. Fares charged to groups granted a discount should simply be rung up on the cash register with the total amount as a "special". Special tickets to be issued to each group member.

#### **Whiteboard**

A whiteboard is installed on the wall above the sink in the shop. On this are recorded any information notices concerning operation of the shop. It could contain advice of "special sales" – items that we want to promote, and other items. Continual improvements are being made to the shop and to signs – notices on this whiteboard will keep you up to date with latest developments. *Notices concerning tram operation and safety matters will not be on this notice-board – they will still to be found on the Palace notice-board.*

#### **Signs**

Don't forget to put out the small yellow and black "open" sign that slots into brackets on the post with the car-park sign toward the gates on the right hand side of the road.

#### **Shop Counter**

This has recently been extended so that more space is available for serving.

#### **Restocking the Ice-Cream Freezer, and the Drinks Cooler**

Bulk stocks of ice-creams are lower down in the freezer, underneath the top bins. When restocking from the bulk stocks *make sure remaining old stock is put on top*. Likewise, when re-filling the drinks cooler, *put the new stock at the back, behind the old stock which must be brought to the front*. Also, take care not to mix your drinks (eg don't put Coke in front of the Fanta).

#### **The King Kong Tram**

Make sure the DVD inside is turned on every morning and turned off in the evening. Neil McDonald has just completed a switching system for the DVD player and TV plus the interior lights:

- **The switch inside the tram above the window to the right of the TV turns everything on, and off. That's the only switch you normally need to operate.**
- **The switch above the interior sliding door (as you get in the tram) independently operates the 230 volt interior lights. You can normally leave this switch on.**

#### **Donation Stand**

A new donation stand is located in the Barn at the entrance to the King Kong tram and is proving very successful. Please just be aware that it is there – make sure it is alright if you happen to be in its vicinity.

#### **Tram Handles**

Tram handles are now located in a pigeon-hole cabinet on the west barn wall near the tram cleaning equipment.

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### **Other News in Brief**

Good progress is being made on all the main projects on the go at present , which are:

- Tram 260 restoration (Trevor Burling). Work is currently focusing on the aluminium beading and guttering.
  - Bogies for tram 260 ex 235 (Ray Shand)
  - Body repair and repaint tram 151 (Trevor Burling or Keith McGavin)
  - Concrete floor repair work in barn (Barry Ollerenshaw)
  - Roof over the fire-sprinkler container (Neil McDonald)
- as well as normal overhead, track and tram maintenance.

**The next special clean-up day is Saturday June 24<sup>th</sup> when it is planned to tackle tram 159 and the cable-car. All welcome, start 10 am.** On May 27<sup>th</sup> tram 133 and the barn display area were cleaned - with great results.

Some 76 sleepers were loaded at Kaiwharawhara On-Track depot on June 10<sup>th</sup> and delivered to the Park. Thanks to all who helped. A number of the sleepers are long ones for placing under point-work.

#### **Building Development**

The Board has accepted a proposal from Athfield Architects Limited to scope the works in stage 1 of the new Building Programme (detailed in the April Tramlines). This will enable costing and valuation of the works to be carried out which is essential to facilitate fund-raising.

**Safety Case**

Under the new Railways Act all holders of a Rail Licence are required to adopt a new "Safety Case" that follows stipulated guidelines, and have it accepted by Land Transport New Zealand. The Safety Case for the Kapiti Coast Electric Tramway was approved by the Board and submitted on time to Land Transport New Zealand. A response has been received and a number of items are being followed up to have the Safety Case completed to Land Transport New Zealand's satisfaction.

**Tramlines**

An occasional newsletter for members of the Wellington Tramway Museum Inc. Its aim is to keep members in touch with practical notices and the details of current developments – it is deliberately kept modest in style and does not aim at all to compete with *Tramway Topics*, our official journal of record. Contributions and notes always welcomed. Compiled by Alan Smith [Alanesmith@xtra.co.nz](mailto:Alanesmith@xtra.co.nz). 12/6/06