

TRAMLINES

special

WELLINGTON TRAMWAY MUSEUM INC.

JULY 2014

Postal Address:

Wellington Tramway Museum Inc.
P O Box 2612, Wellington 6140,
New Zealand

Website:

www.wellingtontrams.org.nz

Email:

info@wellingtontrams.org.nz

Museum Site:

Queen Elizabeth Park
MacKay's Crossing
Paekakariki, 5034
Kapiti
New Zealand
Ph. 04 2928361

President:

Russell Jenkins, Ph.04 239 9482
Email: Rjenkins@xtra.co.nz

Secretary:

Henry Brittain, Ph 04 476 4155
Email: Henry.brittain@outlook.co.nz

Message from:

Keith McGavin,
Chairman, Tram 17 Sub-Committee

**DECEMBER 2015 WILL MARK FIFTY YEARS SINCE THE OPENING OF
THE FIRST SECTION OF THE KAPITI COAST ELECTRIC TRAMWAY
(KNOWN THEN AS THE QUEEN ELIZABETH PARK TRAMWAY).**

In our quest to preserve the history of Wellington's trams - and with them an important part of the history of Wellington city and suburbs - we have rarely had such an opportunity as now presents itself.

For many years a staunch group of members have been rebuilding tram 260 from the ground up – **the last tram to be built in New Zealand and the last new tram to enter normal city service in New Zealand.** By December 2015 tram 260 will be as good as, if not better than, new.

At the same time Wellington Tram 17, donated by its owners and retrieved by WTM members in 1986 from the backyard of a Raumati South (Kapiti) home, is having its chassis and body restored to new condition at The Wheelwright Shop in Gladstone, Wairarapa. Tram 17 is the only survivor of the first Wellington electric trams. It entered service on the opening of the Wellington electric tramways in 1904.

So there we have it – the last and the first, plus many in between.

**WHAT AN EXHIBITION FOR THE PEOPLE OF WELLINGTON,
TO HAVE BOTH OF THESE TRAMS ON SHOW 50 YEARS AFTER OUR OWN OPENING.**

WHAT WE NEED TO DO TO ACHIEVE THIS

Tram 260

Rebuilding of tram 260 is well advanced. A dedicated group of members are working hard to get this tram complete and, barring unforeseen events, it should be well and truly in service by December 2015.

Tram 17

Following generous donations by many people, including many members and friends of the Museum, plus grants from the Lotteries Board and gaming organisation trusts, we have sufficient funds to have the body and chassis completed by December 2015. The contract with The Wheelwright Shop covers this work.

There will be still much to do, however, before Tram 17 can enter service. Most of all is the need for motorised TRUCKS.

Tram 17 ran on an older style of TRUCK, known as Brill 22E's. Replica Brill 22E trucks can be manufactured, or derelict ones in Australia, if obtainable, can be restored and converted to Wellington's four foot gauge. Motors can be sourced and, with funding, all this could be done in time for the body and chassis completion at the end of next year.

THE WELLINGTON TRAMWAY MUSEUM BOARD BELIEVES IT IMPORTANT that we progress the restoration of the whole tram, including the trucks, so we therefore are embarking on a fund raising campaign.

Your collective assistance towards the body and chassis restoration was vital to the success of the Lottery Board grant application. WE NOW RESPECTFULLY ASK FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE ONCE AGAIN.

To meet the December 2015 objective the need is urgent.

All the details, together with a form, are in the enclosed brochure - but should you have any questions, or seek further information, please e-mail me at info@wellingtontrams.org.nz or write to WTM, P O Box 2612, Wellington.



Keith McGavin