



# **Council of Tramway Museums of Australasia**

## **Statement of Purpose**

Addresses and web sites for Members correct as at December 2009. For the most current information check the Member's website; which can be linked from the COTMA Web site [www.cotma.org.au](http://www.cotma.org.au)

**December 2009**

## 1. Introduction

The Council of Tramway Museums of Australasia (COTMA) is a voluntary non-profit association incorporated under Victorian legislation. The Council of Tramway Museums of Australasia, is the umbrella body for urban transport tramway and trolley bus museums or heritage tramcar operators in both Australia and New Zealand. We can be contacted at:

COTMA  
PO Box 61  
Carlton South  
Victoria 3052  
Australia

Email: [cotma@cotma.org.au](mailto:cotma@cotma.org.au)

Our web site is [www.cotma.org.au](http://www.cotma.org.au) Our constitution is available on request.

### 1.1 Mission Statement

*To promote and support excellence in tramway heritage in Australia and New Zealand.*

### 1.2 Objectives

- a. Promote heritage tramways.
- b. Foster excellence in Museum practice and presentations.
- c. Represent Members interests to Government agencies and corporate bodies.
- d. Facilitate regular gatherings of members.
- e. Communicate relevant information to Members and members.
- f. Encourage sharing of resources between Members.
- g. Distribute responsibility and equitably resources that are made available to COTMA.
- h. Ensure sound management and accountability for the operation of COTMA.

## 2. Membership

Membership of COTMA is open to non-profit organizations dedicated to the preservation of Australian and New Zealand tramway and trolley bus heritage. Most of its Member Museums operate on a purely voluntary basis, but a few have a small number of full-time employees.

All full member organizations have the right to appoint a voting delegate to represent them at COTMA general meetings, which are held annually, although from time to time extraordinary general meetings may be held.

New members join COTMA as affiliate members progressing to full membership subject to certain criteria.

Commercial or non profit organisations involved in heritage tramway or trolley bus operation are welcome as affiliate non-voting members of COTMA.

### 2.1 Newsletter

COTMA produces a *News Update*, which is published about 5 to 6 times a year. This newsletter provides a regular forum for distribution of news and exchange of views for member organisations with interests in heritage tramway and trolley bus issues. Two hard copies are sent to each Museum and an Adobe Acrobat file delivered via e-mail for on-forwarding to individual members. Soft copies are also sent to other affiliated bodies and interested parties.

### **3. Liaison**

A key role of COTMA is to act as a coordinating body for its members in dealings with government, industry bodies and commercial tramway and trolley bus operators. Working closely with the *Association of Tourist and Heritage Rail Australia (ATHRA)* and ATHRA's New Zealand counterpart, the *Federation of Rail Organisations of New Zealand (FRONZ)*, it represents the street tramway side of heritage rail sector to regulators and operators. Currently COTMA has 26 members who operate or control horse, steam, electric trams and trolley buses.

In addition, COTMA provides an opportunity for its members to combine their voices in lobbying government. This has become particularly important in the area of rail safety accreditation legislation and regulations, and the resultant compliance regimes that have become necessary to follow for all our members.

COTMA acts as the co-coordinating body in dealing with VicTrack, commercial operators, primarily in Melbourne and Adelaide and the Victorian Department of Infrastructure with regard to obtaining surplus equipment and allocation of retired tramcars to its members for preservation. This is a particularly important role for COTMA, as it enables a combined approach to be undertaken to remove the prospect for conflict between its members in dealings with these bodies.

COTMA is also taking a lead role in negotiating terms and conditions for third party access to the Melbourne tramway system for non-commercial operators, most specifically with in operation of heritage tramcars for special purposes. This is being done via a consultative process in concert with the Department of Infrastructure, VicTrack and Yarra Trams.

### **4. Conferences**

COTMA sponsors a heritage tramway and trolley bus conference held every two years. This conference is rotated between various states of Australia and New Zealand on a regular basis, so that the more geographically dispersed members have an opportunity to attend. Our members in each location provide a host function for this conference.

The next COTMA Conference is September 2010 in Wellington NZ, hosted by the Wellington Tramway Museum and the following conference is in Sydney 2012, hosted by the Sydney Tramway Museum. The COTMA web site has details of planning for forthcoming conferences and past conferences proceedings.

The objectives of the conference are:

- To provide a forum for the exchange of technical information and expertise;
- To provide a networking opportunity for our members that is not otherwise available, due to geographic separation of our members.

In addition, a wide ranging program of social activities related to heritage tramway and trolley bus areas, as well as related transport interests, is combined with conference activities.

### **5. Sharing of Expertise**

The members of COTMA have built up a great deal of expertise over their years of operation, with many museums having developed specialist skills in particular areas relevant to heritage tramway and trolley bus operation. COTMA fulfils the function of a clearing house for this operation, acting as a referral service for its members in directing them to other members that have developed skills or technology in the relevant area of inquiry.

In our experience, the most common areas that these requirements arise are as follows:

- Rail safety accreditation;
- Operational processes and procedures;

- Tramcar maintenance and design issues;
- Engineering standards and certification issues;
- Coordinating joint purchase of new parts to achieve cost savings.

## **5.1 Representation**

COTMA represents its Member's interests in a number of forums, generally in conjunction with the Association of Tourist and Heritage Rail Australia (ATHRA) and the Federation of Rail Organisations of New Zealand (FRONZ). This is primarily in the areas of Rail Safety Accreditation and street tramway matters. COTMA is a member of the Australasian Railway Association (ARA) and works with its Industry Standards Board, the Rail Industry Standards and Safety Board (RISSB), along with other Australian Tramway Operators to assist with understanding of the tramway/light railway industry so they are not considered to be the same type of rail operator as that of a heavy interstate rail freight operator.

## 6. Our Full Members

This section gives a brief overview of each of our full members, together with contact details.

### 6.1 Victoria

#### 6.1.1 The Tramway Museum Society of Victoria

The TMSV has an extensive number of electric tramcars from Melbourne, Ballarat and Geelong, together with a unique collection of cable and horse trams from Melbourne. Its museum is located 53 km from Melbourne, at Bylands, with a 1 km tramway on a former railway reservation. It is also notable in having a heritage listed building on site, the last remains of the annexes to the Exhibition Building of 1880-1, relocated from the Docklands area of Melbourne. Contact details:

c/- 18 Arlington St  
Ringwood Vic 3134

[www.tramway.com.au](http://www.tramway.com.au)  
[secretary@tramway.org.au](mailto:secretary@tramway.org.au)

#### 6.1.2 Melbourne Tramcar Preservation Association

The MTPA operates a museum at Haddon, just south of Ballarat, which is open to the public on an arranged basis. Its collection consists of 6 Melbourne tramcars, including one from Victorian Railways. It specialises in the mechanical and electrical engineering areas of heritage tramcars, having built up a notable level of expertise in this area. Contact details:

324 Sago Hill Rd  
Haddon Vic. 3351  
Phone: (03) 5342 4642

[www.mtpa.com.au](http://www.mtpa.com.au)  
[mtpa@vtown.com.au](mailto:mtpa@vtown.com.au)

#### 6.1.3 Ballarat Tramway Museum

The BTM operates along a section of original tram track in the picturesque surrounds of the Ballarat Botanical Gardens. Its mission is to develop a working museum to preserve the style of Ballarat's former street tramways and trams. The collection includes many of the original Ballarat trams and some from Melbourne. The Museum is also in possession of a large collection of Ballarat tramway artefacts. It is an Accredited Museum through the Museums Australia (Vic) Museum Accreditation Program. Contact details:

PO Box 632  
Ballarat, Victoria 3353  
Phone / FAX (03) 5334 1580

[www.btm.org.au](http://www.btm.org.au)  
[info@btm.org.au](mailto:info@btm.org.au)

#### 6.1.4 Portland Cable Tram

PCT Inc. operates restored Melbourne Cable Trams over 4km of track along the foreshore at Portland in Victoria's South West. The Trams have been fitted with diesel hydraulic drive and operate five times a day seven days a week. The Tram Depot has a souvenir shop and museum with a display of horse coaches, old cars, motorbikes and model trains. Contact details:

2A Bentnick St  
Portland, Victoria 3305  
Phone: (03) 5523 2831

[www.portlandcabletrams.com.au](http://www.portlandcabletrams.com.au)  
[manager@portlandcabletrams.com.au](mailto:manager@portlandcabletrams.com.au)  
Fax: (03) 5523 2851

## 6.1.5 Bendigo Tramways

Bendigo Tramways, a division of the Bendigo Trust operates the well known Bendigo Talking Tram Tour. The Talking Tram Tour runs over a 4.2 kilometre route - every day (except Christmas Day) to a regular timetable with passengers able to catch the tram at the Central Deborah Gold Mine, Charing Cross, the Tram Depot, the Joss House at North Bendigo or at Lake Weeroona. The organisation also provides limited restoration services to other tramway and railway groups and commercial operators on a commercial basis.

1 Tramways Ave  
Bendigo Victoria, 3550  
Phone: (03) 5442 2821

[www.bendigotramways.com](http://www.bendigotramways.com)  
[manager@bendigotramways.com](mailto:manager@bendigotramways.com)  
Fax: (03) 5441 3820

## 6.2 New South Wales

### 6.2.1 Sydney Tramway Museum

Australia's first operating tramway museum opened in 1964 in The Royal National Park, moving to a new site in 1988. It has a large collection of 66 trams from Sydney, other Australian cities and the USA, Germany, Japan and Italy. It operates a 2 km line from Loftus into the Royal National Park and a museum line 1 km towards Sutherland with plans for expansion into the township. Contact details:

PO Box 103  
Sutherland NSW 1499  
Phone: (02) 9542 3646

[www.sydneytramwaymuseum.com.au](http://www.sydneytramwaymuseum.com.au)  
[robert.merchant@bigpond.com.au](mailto:robert.merchant@bigpond.com.au)  
Fax: (02) 9545 3390

### 6.2.2 Steam Tram and Railway Preservation Society

This is a small, specialised group, established in 1954 concentrating on the preservation and operation of Sydney steam trams. It has built up enviable expertise in the restoration of steam trams and rolling stock, achieving amazing results from small beginnings and following a devastating arson attack in 1993. Its operations were re-established at the Valley Heights Locomotive Heritage Museum, Tuscalum Road, Valley Heights. The depot is open on the first and third Sundays of the month from 10am to 4pm. with the steam tram usually in steam on the third Sunday and track maintenance vehicles on the first Sunday.) Contact details:

PO Box 571  
Springwood NSW 2777  
Phone (02) 4751 4638

[infoblue mountains.net.au/locodepot/tram/](http://infoblue mountains.net.au/locodepot/tram/)  
[tillyfox2@bigpond.com](mailto:tillyfox2@bigpond.com)

## 6.3 Queensland

### 6.3.1 Brisbane Tramway Museum

The BTMS has a collection of 24 Brisbane tramcars and operates a short demonstration line in Brisbane City Council parkland at Ferny Grove. The trams and ancillary equipment were donated by the City Council when it converted its public transport to buses. A large restoration workshop was recently completed with State Government funding and materials are on hand for an extension of the operating tramline to Ferny Grove railway station. Contact details:

PO Box 94  
Ferny Hills, Queensland 4055  
Phone: (07) 3351 1776

[www.brisbanetramwaymuseum.org](http://www.brisbanetramwaymuseum.org)  
[info@brisbanetramwaymuseum.org](mailto:info@brisbanetramwaymuseum.org)

### 6.3.2 Archer Park Station and Steam Tram Museum

The Rockhampton City Council owns a turn of the century restored operational Purrey Steam Tram, which is the only operational Purrey in the World. Nine Trams and six trailers made up the fleet between 1909 and 1939. The tram operates on Sundays between 10am and 1pm except between the end of November to the first week in February. The Purrey Steam Tram is housed at the heritage listed Archer Park Station & Steam Tram Museum which incorporates a rail and tram museum and operational refreshment room, the museum opens

between 10am and 4pm each day except Saturdays (closed). Archer Park is closed completely for one month each year from the 24th Dec. to the 20th January reopening Monday 23rd Jan. Contact details:

PO Box 1860  
Rockhampton Queensland 4700  
Phone (07) 4922 2774

<http://steamtram.rockhampton.qld.gov.au/>  
[archerpark@rcc.qld.gov.au](mailto:archerpark@rcc.qld.gov.au)  
Fax (07) 4927 0120

## **6.4 South Australia**

### **6.4.1 Australian Electric Transport Museum**

The AETM operates a 2 km tramway at St Kilda, north of Adelaide. It specialises in tramcars and trolley buses that operated in Adelaide or were constructed by South Australian companies, and has achieved the notable accomplishment of museum accreditation through the History Trust of SA. Its collection consists of 22 electric tramcars, 4 trolley buses and other ancillary items. Contact details:

PO Box 213  
Salisbury SA 5108  
Phone: (08) 8280 8188

[www.railpage.org.au/aetmsa/](http://www.railpage.org.au/aetmsa/)  
[htram373@hotmail.com](mailto:htram373@hotmail.com)

### **6.4.2 Victor Harbor Horse Tramway**

A unique collection of four double deck the basis of the collection of this museum along a former tramway operated up to the 1950's by the South Australian Railways. The line and the trams were totally re-constructed and currently carries in excess of 177000 passengers per year. Contact details:

PO Box 11  
Victor Harbor, South Australia 5211

[www.horsedrawntram.com.au](http://www.horsedrawntram.com.au)  
[info@horsedrawntram.com.au](mailto:info@horsedrawntram.com.au)

## **6.5 Western Australia**

### **6.5.1 Perth Electric Tramway Society**

PETS operates a 4 km tramline in Whiteman Park, a major recreation park on the northern outskirts of Perth. It currently operates with six Melbourne and one Ballarat tramcars, together with an original Fremantle tramcar, but has a large collection of other tramcars from Perth, Fremantle, Kalgoorlie and Brisbane. PETS is restoring Perth Tram No. 66 (the last tram to run in Perth in July 1958). Operating days:- School Holidays:- Daily. Other times: - Tuesday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Public Holidays. The Society has an "Open Day" on the 4th Sunday of every month (except December) where the Car barn and other buildings are open for inspection. Free Guided Tours are given, and no appointment is necessary. Contact details:-

PETS  
PO Box 257  
Mt Lawley, Western Australia 6050  
Phone: (08) 9249 2777

[www.pets.org.au](http://www.pets.org.au)  
[pets1@iinet.net.au](mailto:pets1@iinet.net.au)

## 6.6 Tasmania

### 6.6.1 Tasmanian Transport Museum Society

The TTMS is largely a static technology museum located in Glenorchy, a suburb of Hobart. The collection includes a number of locomotives and railcars, as well as Hobart's last tramcar and trolley bus. Unfortunately it does not have the capability of operating these last two heritage icons on a regular basis as they are both fully operational. Contact details:

GPO Box 867J	<a href="http://www.railtasmania.com/ttms/">www.railtasmania.com/ttms/</a>
Hobart, Tasmania 7001	<a href="mailto:ttms@railtasmania.com">ttms@railtasmania.com</a>
Phones: site (03) 6272 7721; mobile phone 0428 386 843	

### 6.6.2 Launceston Tramway Museum

This organisation is one of the more recently founded members of COTMA, operating under the sponsorship of the Launceston City Council. It is located in the original Launceston tram depot, and has restored Launceston bogie tramcar 29 to operating condition. The tram is regularly operated. Contact details:

PO Box 889	<a href="http://www.ltms.org.au">www.ltms.org.au</a>
Launceston, Tasmania 7250	<a href="mailto:jeanette.oakley@ltms.org.au">jeanette.oakley@ltms.org.au</a>

## 6.7 New Zealand

### 6.7.1 Museum of Transport and Technology of NZ (Western Springs Tramway)

The Western Springs Tramway at MOTAT has a collection of 18 tramcars, from Auckland, Wellington and Melbourne, and operates a dual gauge tramway within the museum site and with external street trackage, linking to the Auckland Zoo. This is only part of the operations of a general science and technology museum. Contact details:

PO Box 44114	<a href="http://www.motat.org.nz">www.motat.org.nz</a>
Pt Chevalier, Auckland 1246 New Zealand	<a href="mailto:czeff@clear.net.nz">czeff@clear.net.nz</a>

### 6.7.2 Tramway Historical Society

The THS operates a 2 km tramline in Ferrymead Village, a re-created historic park only 4 km from the centre of Christchurch. It also provides heritage tramcars for the Christchurch City Tramway, on a daily tramway operation in the heart of Christchurch. It has built up enviable expertise in tramcar restoration, achieving excellent results from salvaged bodies; totalling 10 restored vehicles with 18 to go. Contact details:

PO Box 1126	<a href="http://www.ferrymeadtramway.org.nz">www.ferrymeadtramway.org.nz</a>
Christchurch Mail Centre, Christchurch 8140 New Zealand	<a href="mailto:secretary@ferrymeadtramway.org.nz">secretary@ferrymeadtramway.org.nz</a>

### 6.7.3 Wellington Tramway Museum

This museum operates at Queen Elizabeth Park, near Paekakriki, north of Wellington, on a two km tramline connecting the park to the nearby sea front. It has collection of 16 Wellington tramcars and one from Brisbane, of which four are currently operational. It also possesses a number of trolley buses, which are occasionally operated on the Wellington trolley bus network. Contact details:

PO Box 2612	<a href="http://www.wellingtontrams.org.nz">www.wellingtontrams.org.nz</a>
Wellington, New Zealand	<a href="mailto:wgtnteamwaymuseum@paradise.net.nz">wgtnteamwaymuseum@paradise.net.nz</a>



#### **6.7.4 Omnibus Society**

Based in Wellington and an affiliate member of COTMA this member museum is in a unique position that it is our only member museum with a collection of vintage buses as it's fleet. The collection consists of 31 buses, many of which are from the Wellington City District. Ten are electrically powered trolley buses. Contact details:

PO Box 9801  
Wellington 6141, New Zealand  
Phone: (04) 9701 405

[www.omnibussociety.wellington.net.nz](http://www.omnibussociety.wellington.net.nz)  
[obnz@paridise.net.nz](mailto:obnz@paridise.net.nz)

## **7. Our Affiliate Members**

### **7.1 Victoria**

#### **7.1.1 Australian Railway Historical Society (Vic Div)**

Established in 1945 the Australian Railway Historical Society, Victorian Division, Inc. has a proud history of over 60 years of catering for all who have an interest in the railway history of Victoria. The ARHS (Vic Div) have collected a number of former Victorian Railways Tramcars, including Victorian Railways Tram No. 53, which was restored to operational condition in 2006. Contact details:

PO Box 748  
Williamstown Vic 3016

[www.arhsvic.org.au](http://www.arhsvic.org.au)  
[md707@hotmail.com](mailto:md707@hotmail.com)

#### **7.1.2 Tramcar W2 568 Inc.**

Formally based at the former North Fitzroy depot, a group who is currently restoring Melbourne W2 568 and other tramcars to operable condition so they can recommence the provision of chartered trams on parts of the Melbourne network. Contact details:

Shane Moore  
9 Hillview Road  
North Balwyn Vic 3104  
Phone: (03) 9859 5126

### **7.2 New South Wales**

#### **7.2.1 City Tram**

This organisation is supporting the Sydney City Council in it's endeavours for the extension of Light Rail from Central Railway to Circular Quay and in particular a "tourist line" from East Circular Quay via The Rocks to Darling Harbour. The proposal is to operate this line with Sydney R & R1 class trams, stored at Rozelle Depot, which are now under the control of other Sydney Tramway Museum, but with the continued involvement at Rozelle, by City Tram. Contact details:

PO Box A530  
Sydney South PO  
Sydney NSW 1235

[uellie182@hotmail.com](mailto:uellie182@hotmail.com)

#### **7.2.2 Glenreagh Mountain Railway**

The GMR was established in 1989 as a heritage tourist railway at Glenreagh, near Coffs Harbour, New South Wales, Australia. The railway objective is to restore and operate a heritage tourist railway on the Glenreagh to Ulong section of the Glenreagh to Dorrigo railway line. To assist with operations, the Railway has obtained a number of ex-Melbourne W class tramcars, powered by a generator trailer. Contact details:

PO Box 104  
Glenreagh NSW 2454

[www.gmr.org.au](http://www.gmr.org.au)  
[russjude@exemail.com.au](mailto:russjude@exemail.com.au)

### **7.3 Tasmania**

#### **7.3.1 Hobart City Council**

The Hobart City Council owns a number of former Hobart Tramcars which have been rebuilt to an operable condition. A planned tramway in the historic wharf area is currently in abeyance. Alternatives are being sought. Contact details:

GPO Box 503E  
Hobart Tas 7001

parkerl@mailnet.hcc.tas.gov.au

## 7.4 New Zealand

### 7.4.1 Cablecar Museum of Wellington

The Museum tells the story of the colourful 100+ year history of the "relentless red machine", Wellington Cablecar. Located at the upper terminus of Kelburn, it is part of the Wellington Museums Trust with funding assistance from the City of Wellington. Contact details:

PO Box 893  
Wellington NZ  
Phone: +64 4 475 3578

[www.cablecarmuseum.co.nz/](http://www.cablecarmuseum.co.nz/)  
[admin@cablecarmuseum.co.nz](mailto:admin@cablecarmuseum.co.nz)

### 7.4.2 Christchurch Tramway Ltd.

Christchurch Tramway is a quality inner city tour experience that combines the heritage of the trams, attractions and historic buildings with the culture of the Garden City. The trams are from the Tramway Historical Society collection. The Wood Scenic Line Limited (WSL) are the owners and operators of the Christchurch Tramway and the Christchurch Gondola. Contact details:

PO Box 872  
Christchurch NZ 8001  
Phone: +64 3 366-7830

[www.tram.co.nz](http://www.tram.co.nz)  
[j.smith@tram.co.nz](mailto:j.smith@tram.co.nz)  
Fax: +64 3 366-6943

### 7.4.3 Heritage Trams for Henderson Society

This group, currently based in Auckland restored the body of Wanganui 1912 Boon tram No. 12. It has since been transferred to Wanganui. The group is now restoring 1926 Lisbon tram number 520 [526 waits in storage]. Contact details:

527 West Coast Road  
Oratia, Waitakere City  
Waitakere City  
New Zealand.

[daveharre@xtra.co.nz](mailto:daveharre@xtra.co.nz)

### 7.4.4 Tramways Wanganui Trust

Tramways Wanganui Trust is a non-profit organisation tasked with restoring to running condition and running No 12 Tram. They have obtained a suitable tram truck (bogie) from the USA and with the aid of COTMA obtained from VicTrack, parts to enable the tram to be made operational. Contact details:

Tramways Wanganui Trust  
14 Seaforth Road  
Castlecliff  
Wanganui 4501  
New Zealand

[www.tramwayswanganui.org.nz/](http://www.tramwayswanganui.org.nz/)  
[martin.emerson@clear.net.nz](mailto:martin.emerson@clear.net.nz)

### 7.4.5 NZ Heritage Transport Museum Trust

The trust, the owner of a former Melbourne SW2 class tram is aiming to set up an operable tramway museum with the town of Masterton on the North Island. Contact details:

PO Box 848  
Queen St  
Masterton 5901  
New Zealand

[amcintyre@xtra.co.nz](mailto:amcintyre@xtra.co.nz)

## 8. COTMA's Executive

The current Executive members of COTMA are: (as at Dec. 2009) The COTMA web site has the current details as well.

Chairman	Warren Doubleday	tramwad@alphalink.com.au
Vice Chairman	Henry Brittain	henry.brittain@xtra.co.nz
Executive Officer	Craig Tooke	tookec@bigpond.com
Assistant Executive Officer	Rod Atkins	ozrod_au@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Howard Clark	hclark@iinet.net.au
Australian Museum Liaison Officer	Ian Seymour	ian.stkilda@gmail.com
New Zealand Museum Liaison Officer	Clinton Pearce	clint@tipworks.co.nz