



**BALLARAT
TRAMWAY
MUSEUM**



Agenda

01	Tramcar restorations Returns and new arrivals
02	Solar system renewal project
03	Archives migration Digitisation project
04	Recent awards
05	Volunteers and events

01

Tramcar restorations Returns and new arrivals





M&MTB W7 1029

Built: M&MTB 1956

Operated by: M&MTB/PTC

Into preservation: Stored at Newport Railway Workshops before acquisition by BTM in 2018

Significance to BTM: First wheelchair accessible tram in the BTM fleet.

Restoration highlights and features:

- Fully restored to 1956 M&MTB appearance
- Low voltage lighting and auxiliary electrical system
- Space for one wheelchair in drop centre section
- Used in conjunction with boarding ramp at the Depot
- Saloon and cab heating
- CCTV monitoring of saloon
- Safety systems including saloon door and low air pressure traction interlock
- LED party lighting and audio system





Benjamin Boehle-Mitchell 2023



Benjamin Boehle-Mitchell 2023





SEC No. 14

Built: Meadowbank, 1915

Operated by: P&MTT/M&MTB; MESCo Geelong (1927); SEC Ballarat (1936)

Into preservation: Donated to City of Ballarat in 1971, on long term loan to BTM

Significance to BTM: Represents Ballarat single truck trams from late 1960s-1971

Restoration highlights and features:

- 24V DC lighting with battery backup
- Saloon heater
- High-speed traction circuit breaker
- Low-air pressure alarm
- Driver fault indicator lights
- Stainless steel air pipes
- New traction cables
- Overhauled compressor, resistances, controllers, brake systems
- Rewound armature, new bearings, axle boxes
- Full truck rebuild, wheels turned
- Returned to service 30 March 2025









SEC No. 34

Built: Duncan and Fraser, 1917

Operated by: HTT/M&MTB; SEC Ballarat (1947)

Into preservation: AETM (1971), transfer to BTM once restored

Significance to BTM: Represents 'Hawthorn' drop-centre bogie cars

Restoration goals:

- Body repairs and structural restoration
Currently underway by Bendigo Tramways workshop
- Mechanical and pneumatic overhaul
Currently underway by Bendigo Tramways/BTM workshop
- Electrical restoration and modernisation (new 24v systems)
- Return to service as part of the operational fleet in late 1950s appearance









ESCo No. 12

Built: Duncan and Fraser, 1905 (saloon from 1892 Sydney cable trailer)

Operated by: ESCo Ballarat

Into preservation: BTM (1990), recovered from house extension

Significance to BTM: Represents first type of electric tramcars in Ballarat

Restoration achievements:

- Tramcar body reconstruction nearly complete
- New Brill 21E type truck manufactured by local firm from original drawings
- Body united with new truck in December 2024 after 90 years
- Milestone in Australian tram restoration engineering.

Further restoration goals:

- Electrical, pneumatic and mechanical systems
- Complete body and interior
- Finish restoration to 1905 appearance











SEC No. 18

Built: Duncan and Fraser, 1913

Operated by: P&MTT/M&MTB; ESCo/SEC Ballarat (1931)

Into preservation: Donated to Borough of Sebastopol (1971), to BTM on long term loan from 1982

Significance to BTM: Represents Ballarat single truck trams in early 1960s appearance

Restoration goals:

- Body repairs and structural restoration
- Mechanical, pneumatic and electrical overhaul/modernisation to same standard as SEC No. 14
- Return to service as part of the operational fleet in early 1960s appearance

This project continues our long-term commitment to maintaining and showcasing early single-truck tramcar designs, ensuring they remain part of both the operating fleet and the wider interpretation of Ballarat's tramway history.



M&MTB SW5 829

Built: M&MTB, 1938

Operated by: M&MTB/PTC

Into preservation: Stored at Newport Railway Workshops before acquisition by BTM in 2024

Significance to BTM:

- Hand painted by Victorian First Nations artist Lin Onus for *Transporting Art* project in 1991
- Significant cultural expression on heritage transport
- Expands interpretation into contemporary stories

Future goals:

- Restore artwork - consult and include Ballarat First Nations artists
- Public exhibition in Museum Display Hall



Benjamin Boehle-Mitchell 2024





M&MTB Z3 116

Built: Commonwealth Engineering, 1979

Operated by: M&MTB/PTC/Yarra Trams

Into preservation: Allocated to BTM through VicTrack release programme (2025)

Significance to BTM: First Z3 class tram in preservation

- Overhauled by Yarra Trams before release to BTM
- Donated in a complete and operational condition
- Expands our coverage of later phases of Melbourne tramway history and tramcar design
- Retain in long term storage pending a decision on its use







02

Solar system renewal project



02

Solar system renewal project

- Initial solar system was installed on the roof of the Ballarat depot building in 2014.
- Installed 18 kW system (72 panels, 2 inverters)
- In 2023, system expanded to ~50 kW (80 new panels, Solis inverter, network protection relay)
- New offsite facility system added ~19 kW (45 panels, Sungrow inverter)



02

Solar system renewal project

Electricity consumption assessment from 2025 indicates:

- ~26% reduction in grid energy use at the Ballarat depot
- ~63% reduction in grid energy use at offsite facility
- Significant export credits from excess generation

In future, we will explore feasibility of on-site battery storage to increase self consumption as feed-in rates decrease.



03

Archives migration Digitisation project

- After completion of the Museum building, our entire collection has migrated to the dedicated Archives Room
- Archives team now comprises 6 people regularly working on the collection
- 10,000 documents and artefacts have been digitised and catalogued
- 9,000 items are available to view online at Victorian Collections



Items featured online

9161 items



Search within these items...



Ballarat Tramway Museum

Photograph - Black & White
Photograph/s, Dave Macartney,
13/12/1985 12:00:00 AM

Black and white photograph, vertical format, of the unloading of the body of Horse Tram No. 1 at the rear of the depot, on Fri. 13 December 1985. Garry Wood assisting with the body, Barry James.



From the collection of

Ballarat Tramway Museum

9161

Items featured online

Photograph - SECV Ballarat 17 under repair, Mal Rowe, 31/12/1968

SECV Ballarat 17 under repair

**Historical information**

The photograph shows Ballarat tram 17 undergoing repairs to a curved top fascia section with one of the driver's panels taken off and placed on the side of the depot building. The controller has been taken out as well. Taken by Mal Rowe on 31/12/1968.

Significance

Yields information about the repairs to tram 17 at the depot.

Physical description

Digital image of a black and white photograph.

Subjects

tramways, tramcars, depot, tram 17, repairs

[Copy the URL for this item](#)**Identifier** 10193**Date made** 31/12/1968**Photographer** Mal Rowe**Production methods** photograph**Materials** Digital image**Cite this page**

Victorian Collections

<https://victoriancollections.net.au/items/68d473a3th377676d02b12234>

Accessed 1 October 2025

This record was last updated 6 days ago

Completeness

If you want to ask a question, or you know something about this item, contact the collector

Ballarat Tramway Museum: [Website](#) | [Email](#)

04

Recent awards

WINNER

Volunteer-run Project

**Ballarat Tramway
Museum**

*Creating a Contemporary
and Accessible
Tramway Museum*



2024 Victorian Museums
& Galleries Awards



Australian Tourist and Heritage Rail Association - 2025 Awards

- **ATHRA Excellence Award**
BTM President and Technical Services Manager Paul Mong
- **ATHRA Engagement Excellence Award**
BTM Museum building and Display Hall
- **ATHRA Passenger Vehicle Excellence Award**
Overhaul of SEC No. 14
(shared with Daylesford Spa Country Railway and Pichi Richi Railway)



05

Volunteers and events



05

Volunteers and events

What have we been up to? Well...

- 50 years of BTM operations
- W Class Centenary event
- Horse tram operations
- VR 41 and Geelong No. 2 operating days
- Begonia Festival
- Hot Choc on the Night Tram

...not that much, really!





Benjamin Boehle-Mitchell 2023

Greg King basks in the headlight while preparing No. 13 for a twilight run.



Benjamin Boehle-Mitchell 2024

Richard Gilbert drives No. 40 out of the Depot - 50th anniversary celebrations - 21 December 2024



Benjamin Boehle-Mitchell 2024

Plaque unveiling - 50th anniversary celebrations - 21 December 2024



SEC tramcars at the St. Aidans Drive terminus - 50th anniversary celebrations - 21 December 2024



SEC tramcars at the St. Aidans Drive terminus - 50th anniversary celebrations - 21 December 2024



© Benjamin Boehle-Mitchell 2025

The Museum Display Hall with Geelong No. 2 showing off its low voltage display lighting



Benjamin Boehle-Mitchell 2024

Crews pose for the obligatory photo op - W Class Centenary event - 23 June 2024



Benjamin Boehle-Mitchell 2024

W2 407 and L 103 meet at Depot Junction - W Class Centenary event - 23 June 2024



Benjamin Boehle-Mitchell 2024

W7 1029, W2 407 and L 103 in convoy - W Class Centenary event - 23 June 2024



Benjamin Boehle-Mitchell 2024

Black swans plotting their next road disruption; the Museum and No. 28 in autumn



Benjamin Boehle-Mitchell 2024

No. 939 "Cuthberts939" prepares to tow BTCo No.1 down to the Gardens Loop - 10 November 2024



Benjamin Boehle-Mitchell 2024

"Have we forgotten something?" "Oh yes, the horses!" - 10 November 2024



Benjamin Boehle-Mitchell 2024

Three men to manage two horsepower - 10 November 2024



Benjamin Boehle-Mitchell 2024

It takes a village to run a horse tram! - 10 November 2024



No. 28 viewed from the Botanical Gardens as it leaves the Gardens Loop.



Headlight! - VR 41 leaves for another trip as No. 28 arrives - 2024 AGM - 27 October 2024



Geelong No. 2 and VR 41 at St. Aidans Drive - 2024 AGM - 27 October 2024



Benjamin Boehle-Mitchell 2025

Geelong No. 2, VR 41 and W4 671 lined up on the Museum fan - 26 January 2025



Benjamin Boehle-Mitchell 2025

Keeping a watchful eye for motorists, Geelong No. 2 crosses Wendouree Parade - 26 January 2025



Benjamin Boehle-Mitchell 2024

No. 38 on display in the Museum while it awaits its major overhaul



Greg, Jess and Chris pose for a publicity photo for the Hot Choccy on the Night Tram event



No.14 at Carlton Street - Hot Choccy on the Night Tram event - July 2025



Turn some lights on, we can't see a thing! - Hot Choccy on the Night Tram event - July 2025



Hot Choccy on the Night Tram event - July 2025



© Benjamin Boehle-Mitchell 2025

BTM President Paul Mong in a rare moment of relaxation



Benjamin Boehle-Mitchell 2025

No. 40 and W4 671 meet at Depot Junction - Begonia Festival - March 2025



Benjamin Boehle-Mitchell 2025

No. 40 passes three of Lake Goldsmith Historical Society's traction engines - Begonia Festival - March 2025



Inspector Ryan keeps the trams moving - Begonia Festival - March 2025



Aston watches for any late running passengers - Begonia Festival - March 2025



Fifty four years since closure of the Ballarat system - 19 September 1971 and 2025

*Thank you for
having us!*



**BALLARAT
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