

MOTAT

2024 – 2025 IN REVIEW

- September 2024

- MOTAT marked the 75th Anniversary of the first tram route in Auckland to be replaced by trolley buses – Herne Bay on 24th September 1949.

- Preserved Auckland trolley bus No.50 came out of storage and gave rides over the weekend – a trailing skate being used in the tram rail to provide the negative return for the current.




STEM EXHAUSTION
ON THE MOVE
PLACE





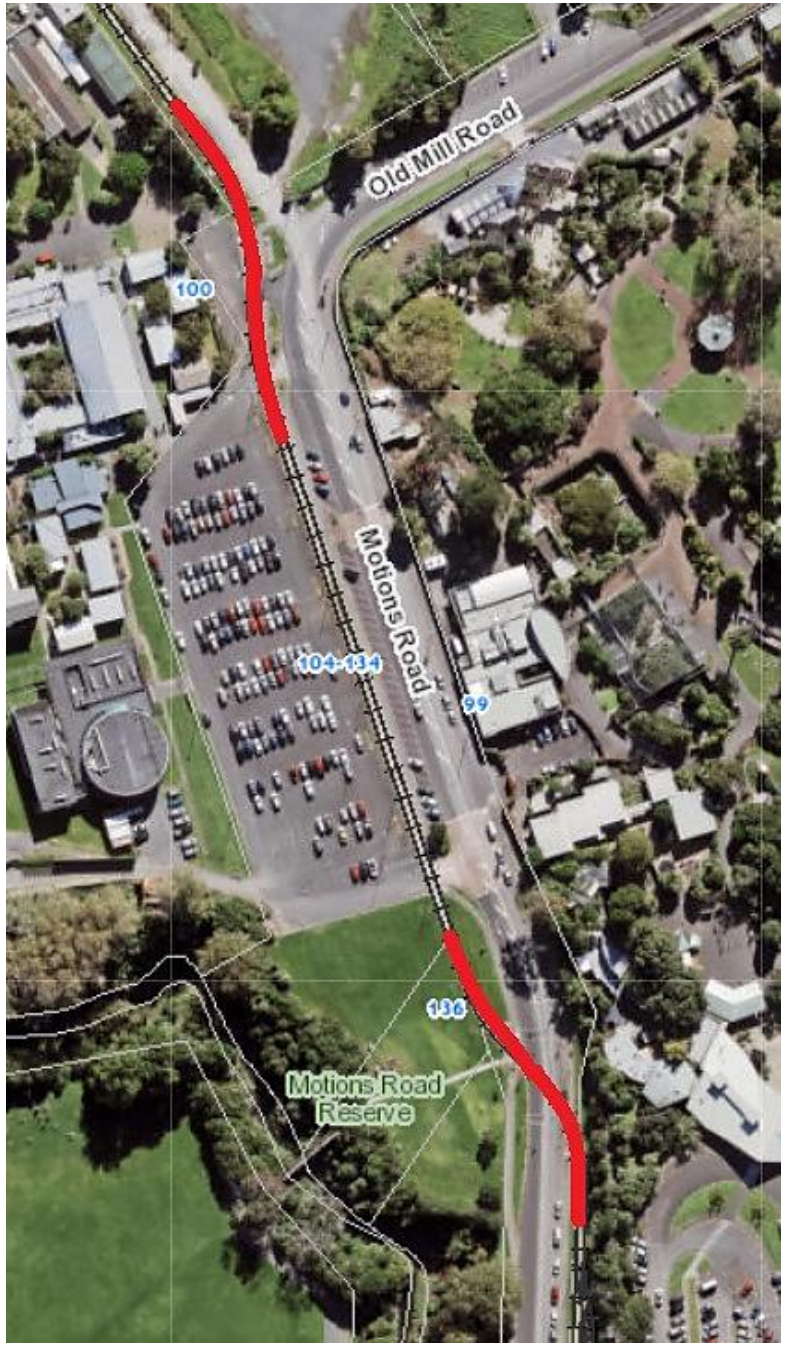
- As part of the 75th Anniversary Commemoration, opportunity was taken to recreate Graham Stewart's 1949 image of Auckland tram No.11 of 1902 alongside trolley bus No.14 at City Depot, Gaunt Street.
- 75 years of transport history later - No.11 is with trolley bus No.50 at MOTAT.

MOTAT





Celebrating 60 Years
October
1964 - 2024



MOTAT's biggest tramway project was the replacement of two sections of rail between the Zoo and MOTAT2 – these sections known as the S-Bend and the Road Crossing.

Work began on the S-Bend early February – breaking up the concrete, removing the worn ex-railway rail, installing the brand-new RI-57 tram rail, thermit-welding and concrete poured.





Libbet



10th March – Test Run over new track faultless!







Stage 2

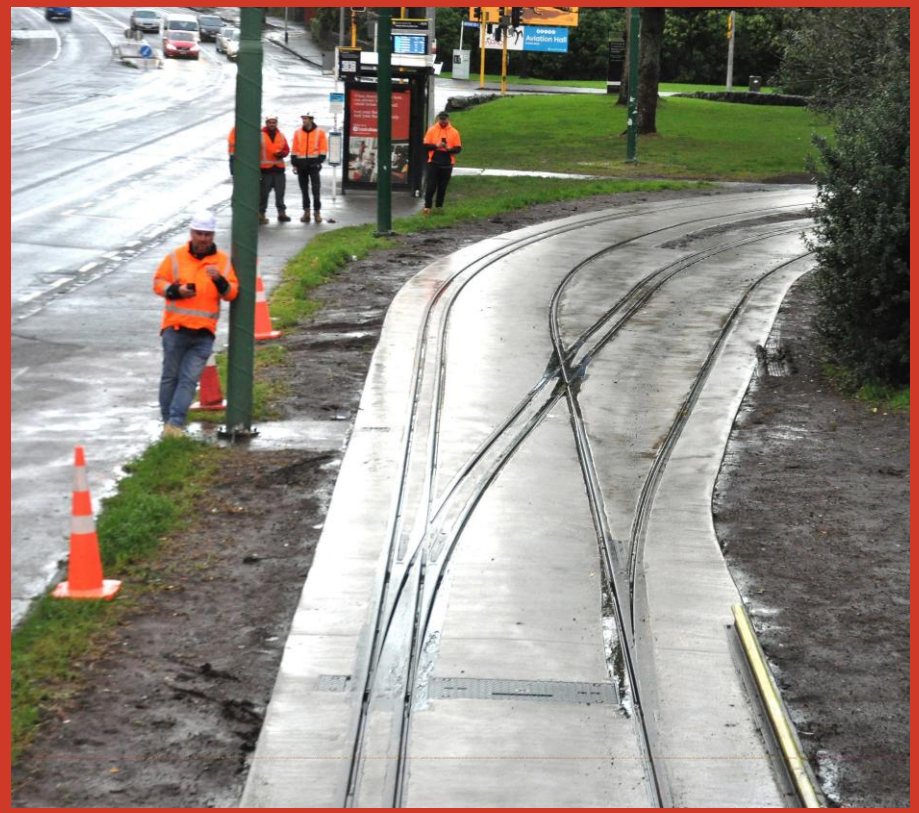
Road Crossing



Test Run made on 2nd April with trams running both standard and Wellington rail gauges – no issues!

Project completed by Libbet's a week ahead of the scheduled date.

May 2025 sees work begin on the Motions Road passing loop - the final stage of the rail replacement project.



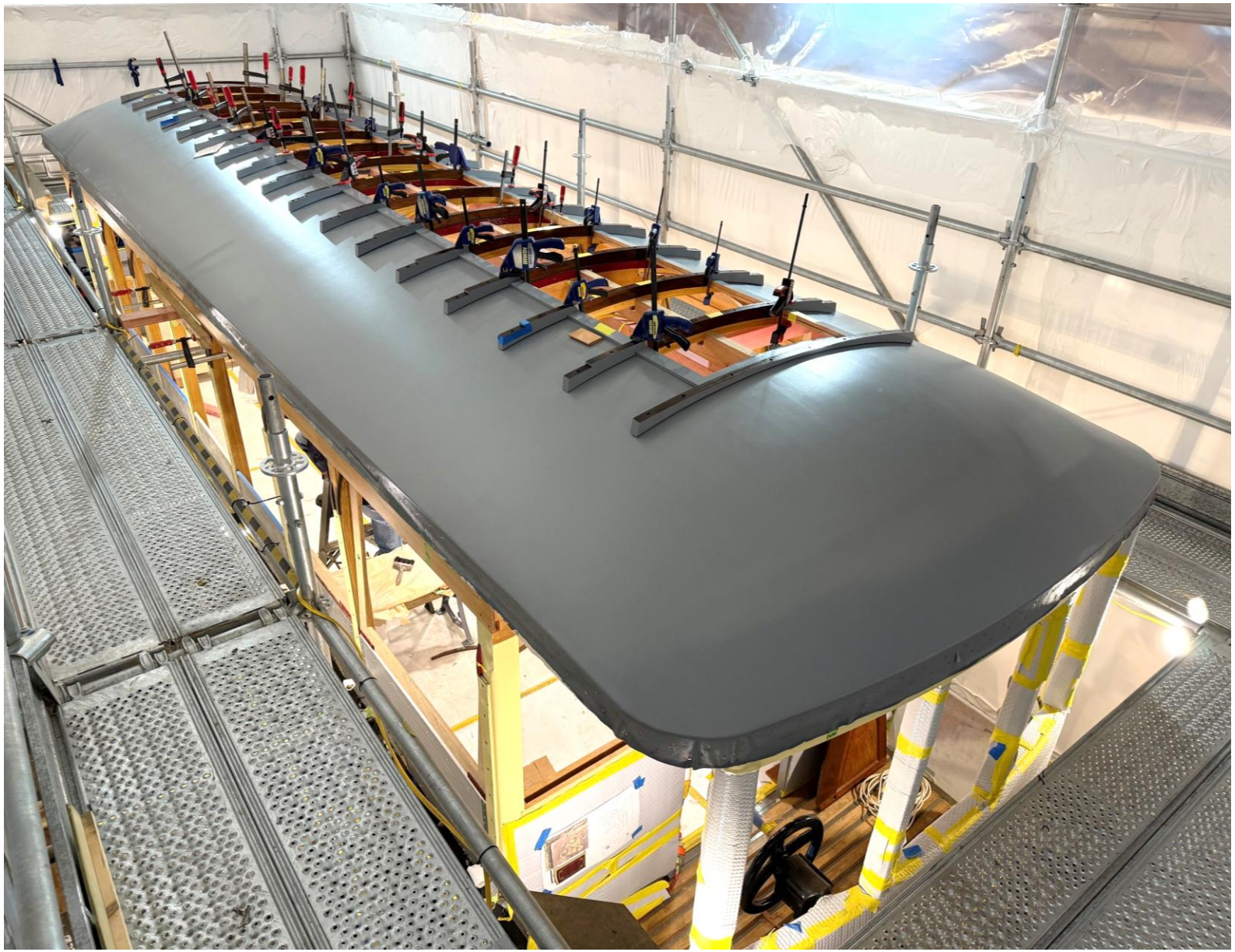
June 28 saw
the Motions Road Loop
completed, and a selection
of trams used on
the official test run.

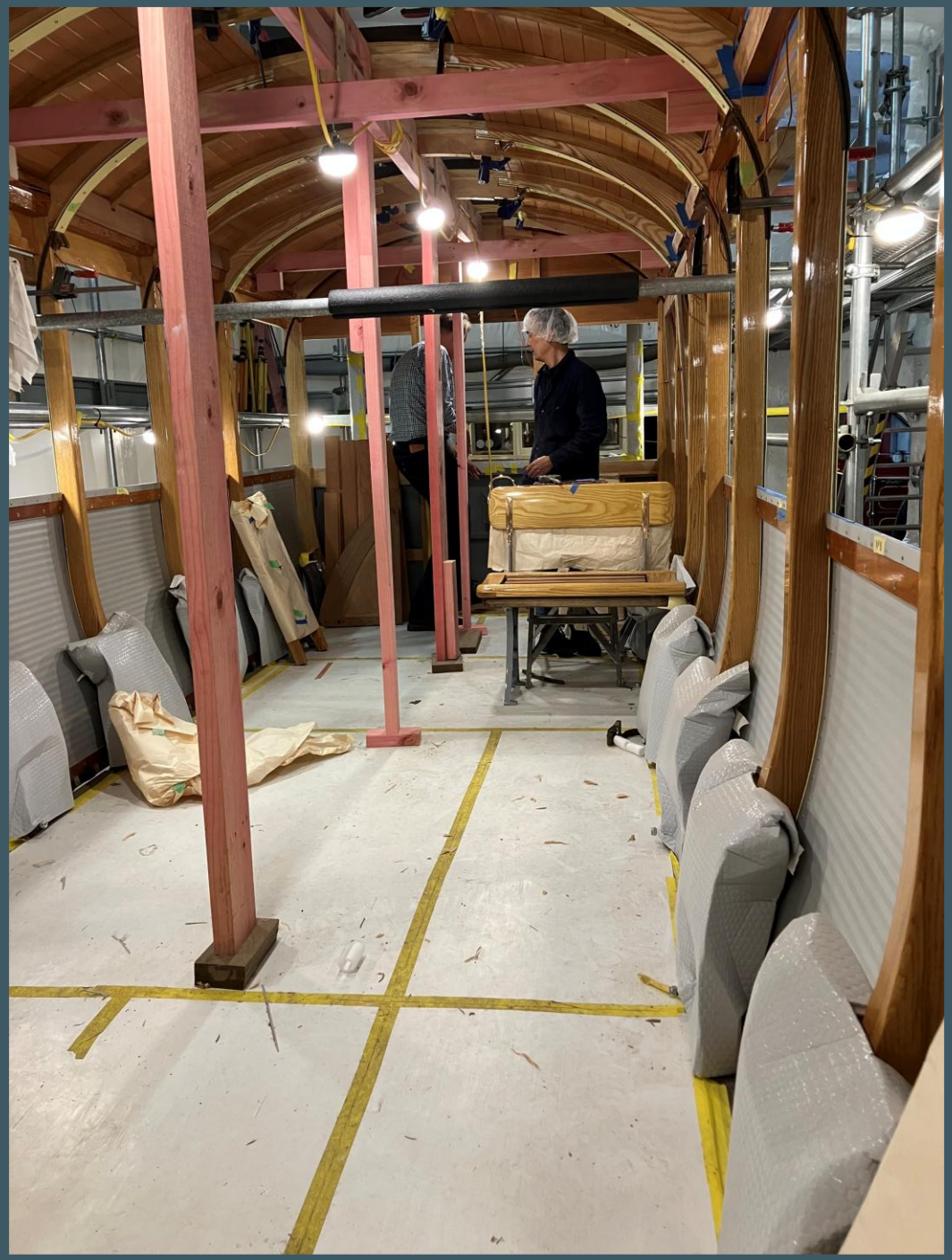
The new dual gauge tongue
switches worked perfectly!



WANGANUI "CONVERTIBLE" TRAM TRAILER NO.21 BUILT IN 1920 BY BOON & CO(CHRISTCHURCH)

- The 21 "rebuild from scratch" team have the finish in sight for later this year on this 10 year-plus project.
- Finishing the roof has been the major goal of recent months.
- The canvas laid and stretched taut over the wooden roof before a special paint treatment was applied.
- Now time to lay out the monitor roof joinery.





Interior starting to take shape with trial fitting of a seat component

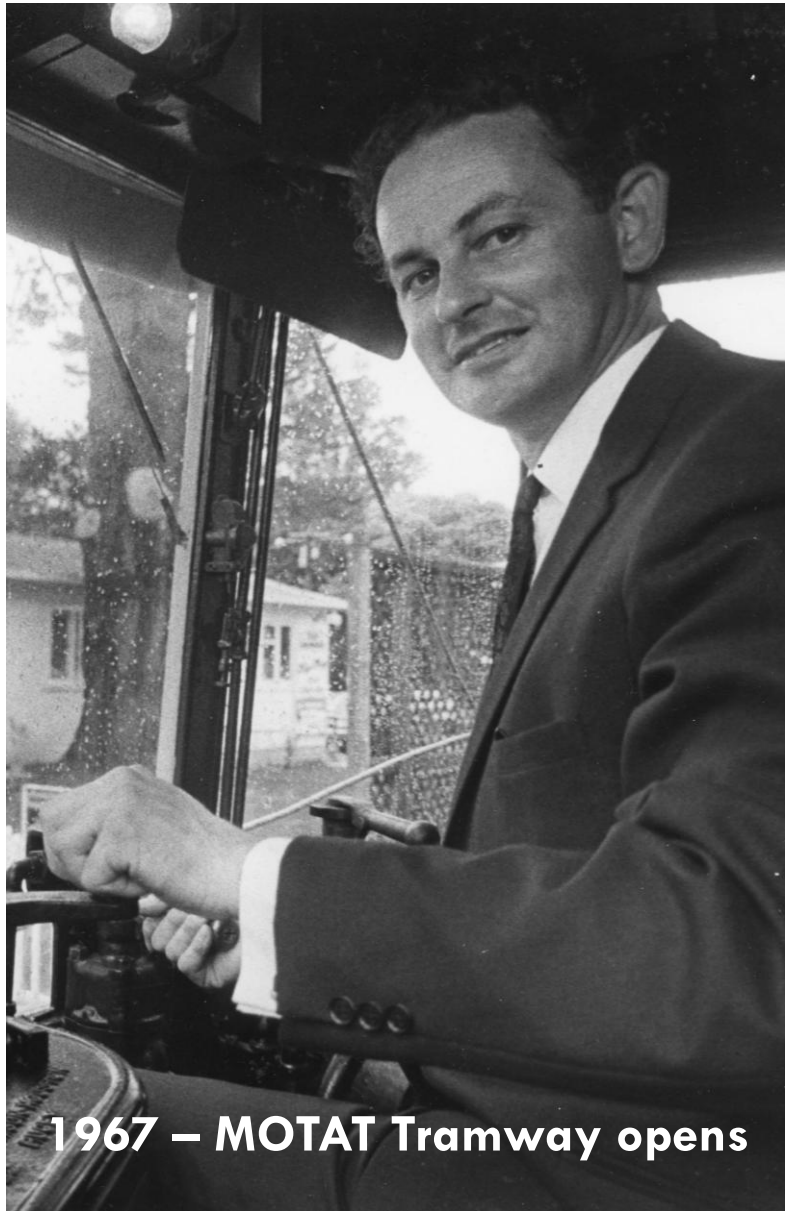






MOTAT continues to operate the Dockline Tram in Wynyard Quarter on Sundays for Auckland Council.

Refurbishment of the "spare" Dockline Tram, Melbourne SW6 No.852 for MOTAT, continues at a measured pace with components slowly going back into the tram. Sadly, tight financial budgets have brought this project to a halt – so close and yet so far!.



1967 – MOTAT Tramway opens



2023 – ever the photographer riding the Dockline Tram

A Mighty Kauri has fallen

Graham Stewart MNZM – 1932-2025

In late January we learned of the loss of the last link with MOTAT's Founders, with the passing of Graham Stewart MNZM.

Graham's lone decision to save Auckland Streamliner Tram No.253 for future generations in 1957 was the catalyst that saw other enthusiasts join him in setting up the Old Time Transport Preservation League which later became what we know today as MOTAT.



Western Springs Tramway