COTMA Conference
POST CONFERENCE TOUR

Adelaide 2012



COUNCIL OF TRAMWAY MUSEUMS OF AUSTRALASIA

POST CONFERENCE TOUR

Tuesday, 21st to Friday,24th August, 2012

Tuesday, 21st August;

The Post Conference Tour departs at the AETM St. Kilda Museum in the late afternoon, travelling north to the famed Copper Coast of South Australia.

The area was important to South Australia and the Cornish heritage, being home to a large number of mining families in the late 1800's when copper was discovered. Remnants of the Cornish heritage continue to be evident including stone cottages, mine sites and engine houses throughout the area.

Our first night is at Kadina, the district centre for the Copper Coast Region. We will stay at the Kadina gateway Motel, with excellent accommodation. Our coach will take us to the Kadina Hotel for Dinner at the well-appointed and most importantly, capable Dining Room to quickly attend to our group. The hotel was built in 1904 and is a fine example of a South Australian stone building. The coach will return to the Motel after Dinner, and for those wishing to linger on at this, and the Royal Exchange Hotel, a walk of not too much distance will get you home to the motel.

Kadina was a railway junction and time will be allowed to have a visit to the station which is being used as a real estate agents office.

Wednesday, 22nd August;

Departing Kadina at 9.15am we travel to Wallaroo and Moonta following the closed railway. A stop will be made at Wallaroo to inspect the former railway station building, now in use as a local council office. The former tourist railway was based here.

Continuing our drive, we travel to Moonta where in May 1861 Patrick Ryan discovered traces of copper on his pastoral lease. Later the same year the mines had commenced and 5,000 tons of ore had been produced. The mines employed an average of 1900 people during the 33 years of operation, which came to an end in 1929.

We will travel on the 2 foot gauge Moonta Mines Tourist Railway on the award-winning tourist train for a 50 minute trip through the historic landmarks of the former mining operations with the driver explaining workings of the ore sorting floors, reservoir and the tunnel through Ryan's tailing heap.

After our ride there will be time to visit the Moonta Mines Sweet Shop located in the old Moonta Mines Post Office. This stone building of the 1860's stocks old fashioned sweets and drinks, bringing back many childhood memories. Our coach will then take us on a tour over two of the three former horse tram routes of Moonta. Because of the size of the town and suburbs, Moonta once had a horse drawn tram service, and one of the old horse trams will be seen at the railway station on the Moonta Mines tourist railway.

As we leave town, our coach will call at the former Moonta Railway Station which has been lovingly maintained and now operates as a tourist centre, well stocked with bric-a-brac and cuddly soft toys and souvenirs particularly for the ladies on our tour.

Returning to Kadina, across country, we will enjoy a nice sandwich lunch with like minded people in our hobby. We will lunch at the 'Copper Coast Rail' miniature railway, adjacent to the Farm shed Museum and Tourist Centre. This railway group will welcome us to their clubrooms, for lunch, and provide a train for us to ride. The Tourist Centre has a well-stocked sales area with plenty of souvenirs.

After lunch, our coach will take us to Bute and Snowtown following the closed railway and once across the Barunga Gap ranges we travel through the famed Clare Valley to the Barossa Valley, where we spend two nights at a truly unique motel, Barossa Junction Motel. This motel has all the accommodation provided in converted South Australian Railways carriages, and the Reception area is within a recreated railway station building with the Bar and Dining Rooms located in converted freight wagons and livestock carriages. There are signals around the motel grounds, railway track and another miniature railway. A very interesting motel.

Our Dinner tonight is provided in the 'Dining Car'.

Thursday, 22nd August;

Departing at 9.15am we travel around the magnificent vineyards of the area, sightseeing various attractions including Seppeltsfield family estate and winery, established in 1851, and the incredible family mausoleum. The coach will then take us to a choice of two destinations;

The first being Maggie Beer's Farm Shop. A qualified staff member will host a private cooking demonstration and then host a lunch for our group. Maggie has

a busy schedule, but may be there on the day. The alternative venue sees the coach take us to the Greenock Creek Tavern for lunch. Adjacent to the hotel is the Barossa Brewing Company micro-brewery, producing various high quality beers. The hotel serves two of them on tap.

You make the choice on the Booking Form as to which venue you wish to attend.

After lunch, and the sampling of really quality beers, our coach will depart the Greenock Creek Tavern, calling at Maggie Beer's Farm to pick up the rest of our group, and then travel to the charming Barossa town of Angaston.

Free time is allowed here to walk the streets and see the famous cheese shop, bric-a-brac and collectables shops, or try out the 2 hotels for a drink. The railway station is preserved, the railway having lost the passenger service in 1968 and closed completely a few years ago.

The town has well preserved buildings, huge street trees and a most delightful shopping area. It is the centre of a rich pastoral district with viticulture, fruit growing and quarrying. The railway still operates to the Penrice Quarry, a couple of kilometres short of Angaston. The famous wine brands of Yalumba, Saltram and Angus Park are local to the town.

Our coach will return us to our Barossa Junction Motel for Dinner in the Diner, and then the night entertainment will be the screening of a friendly, happy movie that should warm us all. The motel boasts a conference venue which will act as our cinema.

The motel also houses and excellent motor museum and this will be specially opened for us.

Friday, 24th August;

Departing at 9.15am our coach will take us through Nurioopta and Angaston, leaving the Barossa Valley behind and travel through Mount Pleasant, and across the Adelaide Hills to more arid country and hills adorned with large boulders. We descend to the flatter riverland country of the Murraylands. We pass through Tunkillo and Palmer on our journey to Murray Bridge.

Murray Bridge, established in 1856, has a history of riverboat services and the railway. The first railway bridge, a combined road/rail bridge spanned the Murray in 1886 linking Adelaide with Melbourne. The box girder railway bridge was opened in 1925 and this allowed the bigger locomotives and heavier trains of the 20th century to operate. The South Australian Railways was an American railway in Australia. The engineering of infrastructure and locomotives, along with rolling stock, put the S.A.R ahead of virtually the rest of Australia's railways in that sector.

After lunch at the Murray Bridge Hotel, we will visit the former Refreshment Rooms at the railway station, with the very stylized S.A.R chrome and timber Bar fittings. Our group will then walk along the cutting of the original 1886 line, walking down to the former Wharf branch line, and then under both bridges to arrive at the Wharf. A collection of old railway vehicles and a steam locomotive can be found here.

From this point we join 'Captain Proud Paddle Wheel Cruises' for a paddle boat journey along the Murray River. An afternoon tea of sandwiches with tea and coffee will be served as we cruise this famous river. A cash Bar will also operate.

After our one hour journey, we rejoin our coach for a quick trip along the freeway to Adelaide, some 80km's away.

We arrive in Adelaide around 6.15pm, bringing our COTMA Post Conference Tour to an end, leaving us with happy memories and the continuing bond of our friendships.

Tour Cost

Twin Share or Double – Per person	**$555**
Single person	**$645**

Included in the cost; All breakfasts, lunches, dinner (except dinner at Kadina. This is at patrons cost) Admission to Moonta Tourist Train and Captain Proud cruise and three nights of accommodation.