



2014 Annual Report



President's Report: Mick Kane

Hi, all members. Another year of BCSV has passed & has been pretty much steady as she goes. As President, I thank all Committee members for their efforts during the year especially Paul as he is the engine room of the society. Thanks to all the members as you are what the Society is there for. Also thanks to all companies that welcome us into their Depots & the use of their vehicles. Special thanks to Nuline/Bayside (Geoff Vickers) for the generous use of vehicles & Jason Lipszyc for driving them & the Driver Group for their support.

Finally, there is always room for more people on the Committee, for new ideas or even to organise a tour or a Sunday meeting syllabus item.

Secretary's Report: Paul Kennelly

Membership

Membership was 161 members for the year, a slight rise on last year. It is with sadness that I report the death of three of our members during the year – Ian Johnson, John Bullen and Ross Ward. Ian Johnson was one of the early members of the BCSV. His contribution to the Society was immeasurable and he will be greatly missed.

Adoption of Model Rules

At last year's Annual General Meeting, the 2012 changes to the Victorian law regarding the conduct of incorporated associations were discussed. In particular, the changes to auditing requirements for relatively small associations (like the BCSV) were brought to the attention of members. For associations with revenue less than \$250,000 (the BCSV's is less than \$15,000), there is no longer a requirement for an external audit, unless requested by members. The financial statements can now be signed off by two members of the Committee. The BCSV had been fortunate over recent years in having our audit done without cost. This was not guaranteed into the future.

A new set of "model rules" were developed as part of the changes and is contained in the relevant legislation.

The adoption of the new Model Rules for the Society allows for the changes to the audit requirement. At last year's AGM, the following resolution was passed: *"That a Special General Meeting be called to be held on 17th November with the single item of business being the adoption of the model rules for the Society."*

The Special General Meeting was held on Sunday 17th November to coincide with the tour of CDC Huntingdale and the following resolution was carried: *"That the model rules be adopted for the BCSV."*

Tours

Saturday 16th November - A Visit to Driver Coastal on the Mornington Peninsula

Using a preserved Denning from the Driver Heritage Coach fleet and one of the current fleet, 43 attendees travelled to the Mornington Peninsula to visit the Driver Coastal operations. Numerous rides were taken on Coastal vehicles around the Peninsula, including to Arthur's Seat. The support of Gary Driver and the Driver Group to the BCSV and its activities is outstanding, and this tour was no exception.

Sunday 17th November- A visit to the new CDC depot at Huntingdale

This was the first visit to the new CDC depot in Huntingdale. It was also the first day of the full tour of all CDC operations in Victoria. Forty two attendees were shown over the new facilities and then went to Oakleigh sub depot which was still needed due to the recent acquisition of the route services of Driver Bus Lines. The tour was made possible by Bram Kefford at CDC and we enjoyed at the hospitality of John Argimatagi and Ben Knight at CDC Huntingdale.

First Tour Weekend for 2014 - 8th/9th February

Our major February weekend tour took in the remainder of the CDC operations in Victoria. On the Saturday, despite the abnormality hot weather, thirty-seven attendees visited the Westrans operation in Sunshine, Altona and Hoppers Crossing. We thank Jason Holmes for providing rides on CDC vehicles and for enabling the movement of vehicles at Altona and Hoppers Crossing for photography.

On the Sunday, forty attendees visited the CDC operations at Ballarat and Geelong. At Ballarat, we took the opportunity to visit the Ballarat Tramway Museum and to have a ride on some of their trams.

On both days, Bayside/Nuline provided the tour vehicle for which we sincerely thank Geoff Vickers and Jason Lipszyc for the driving.

Farewell Ventura Scania L113CRB Tour - Sunday 14th September

Ventura received its first Scania bus in 1992. Now, their first generation of Scania L113CRB is all but gone. This all day tour farewelled the remaining Scantias. Ventura provided two vehicles, and member Michael Presta brought along his ex Ventura Scania. The thirty attendees were treated to beautifully presented buses. The tour traversed many of the routes these buses worked on and we thank Craig Halsall for his work on the comprehensive tour itinerary. Special thanks to drivers Andrew Fairhall, Brad Creek, Brad Woodford, Ben Knight and Michael Presta. Once again, the support of the BCSV by Andrew Cornwall, and his team, at Ventura enabled this historical tour to proceed. We owe him a great debt.

Meetings and other Events

Our meetings continued to be held at the premises of Hawthorn Tramway Museum and we are grateful for this opportunity and for their continued support of the BCSV. The venue has excellent facilities and has proved popular with members. The November 2013 meeting featured Geoff Foster's presentation on Buses in NSW. The May 2014 meeting provided an opportunity for members to show their photographs taken on the many bus rail-replacement days for the construction of the Regional Rail Link project.

The July meeting continued the successful "Transport Around" series presented by Paul Kennelly and Craig Coop, this year looking at the many operators in the area between Mentone and Portsea.

The 2013 HCVC Display at Sandown on Sunday 24th November was most successful with over 40 vehicles in attendance. However, it will be the last at this venue with the 2014 event moving to Yarra Glen Racecourse.

Geoff Foster once again provided the BCSV display at the BusVic 2014 Maintenance Conference at Moonee Valley Racecourse on 8th & 9th July which was very well received. This year, as there was no display of new vehicles, the BCSV worked with BusVic to enable the attendance of preserved buses and other historic vehicles. This included vehicles from the Driver Group, Ventura, Dyson's, John Usher, Moonee Valley Bus Lines, Bayside Coaches, McKenzie's and Sunbury Bus Service. It was a sparkling display.

Archives and Heritage

A number of smaller photographic collections were scanned, including those from Ian Johnson. Ian's wife Jan, has donated his library to the Society. The daughter of Ross Ward also donated his library to the Society and expressed the wish that it be passed on to a young enthusiast.

Finances

The balance sheets show that the Society continues to operate on a sound financial footing with a surplus for the year of more than \$4,000. More details in the accompanying financial statements.

Publications

Geoff Foster has producing another informative set of magazines for members (and others) during this past year. The quality of the production has improved immeasurably due to the new digital printing process with full colour production.

The Society acted as agent for the sale of historical bus books published by John Birchmeier in NSW and Railmac publications in SA. Whilst the BCSV makes a small profit on these sales, the main aim is to get the publications to as wide an audience as possible so that the work of the authors can be appreciated.

Restoration

Moonee Valley Coaches is continuing their restoration of buses and is constructing a museum to house them. The grand opening will be in November.

Finally

Thank you to the Committee for their work for and on behalf of the members. Mick Kane, Craig Coop, Craig Halsall and Geoff Foster have provided me the support needed to meet the needs of the members and the Society more generally.