

# BUS AND COACH SOCIETY OF VICTORIA INC.

A0006261D Preserving Australia's bus and coach heritage ABN 86 829 759 481



## 2016 Annual Report



The first bus bodied by Noreng went to Curren 10/57



The first bus bodied by Mee went to Taylor & Bell 10/62

### President's Report: Mick Kane

First off, I wish to thank all committee members for their solid work over the past year.

Tours are not always easy to organize and can take a bit of back and forth before it all falls into place.

I would also like to thank all the operators that have let us visit or have given us the use of their vehicles and staff or allowed BCSV members to drive them.

Just a reminder to all members that drinking of alcohol on operator's premises is strictly prohibited. A further reminder that Hi Vis vests are required for all tours.

We do our best to fit tours in to benefit as many as possible, but in today's busy calendar, it is not always possible.

Also if anyone can write a little article for the magazine, the Editor would be most appreciative.

Lastly, the Society can always use some new blood, even if it is to just help organize one tour.

### Secretary's Report: Paul Kennelly

#### Membership

Membership was 176 members for the year, a new record.

It is with sadness that I report the death of two of our long time members during the year – Earl King and Vic Hayes. Vic's contribution to our "gen" section of our magazine from the earliest days was incomparable.

## **Tours**

### **Saturday-Sunday 17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> October 2015 - Donric Tour**

This weekend tour proved to be one of the most satisfying and successful tours that I have organised. We were able to visit five depots of the Donric company. On the Saturday, we visited Sunbury and Kyneton. At Sunbury, both parts of "Donric", Don McKenzie and Richard Baird, were there to talk to us about their company (formed in 1980) its progression and future. On the Sunday, we visited Melton, Bacchus Marsh and Ballarat. Throughout the two day, the various depots managers made us feel most welcome. We are indebted to Don McKenzie for facilitating this tour and to his team who did everything possible to make our tour a success. And of course, we need to thank Geoff Vickers of Bayside for providing our tour vehicles on both days and drivers Jason Lipszyc and Hayden Ramsdale.

### **Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> November- HCVC Historic Vehicle Display Yarra Glen**

The annual HCVC Historic Vehicle Display was, for the second time, held at Yarra Glen racecourse. Gary Driver provided transport for BCSV to the event from Lilydale RS in his historic fleet for which we thank him.

### **Saturday night 19<sup>th</sup> December 2015 - Ventura Christmas Lights Tour**

Andrew Fairhall again hosted an evening travelling around Melbourne in his decorated Christmas Bus, raising money for Vision Australia, with the society donating \$100 to the cause.

### **Saturday-Sunday 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> February 2016 - South West Victoria Tour**

Our first tour of 2016 was the most difficult, logistically, that I have had to organise. We visited 8 depots over the two days with overnight accommodation in Warrnambool – our first overnight tour in many years. There was high demand for this tour and we had to limit the number to 40 to ensure that it was manageable. We sincerely thank Luke and John Hutchison, Jeff and Jamie Cole, Glenn and Campbell Christian, Sam Lucas and Peter and David Pope. Geoff Vickers once again provided the tour coach and driving duties were shared between Michael Lancaster and Andrew Woods. Then there were the managers and staff at the depots as well as the BBQ helpers. To all, a sincere thank you for making the tour so successful.

### **Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2016 - ARHS joint tour to Daylesford**

This ARHS tour, to which BCSV members were invited, focused on a ride of the Daylesford Spa Railway.

### **Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2016 - Hawthorn Tramway Trust Centenary**

Moonee Valley Coaches, John Phillips and Michael Smith provided heritage transport for enthusiasts visiting the tram museums at Haddon and Ballarat or, alternatively, paddle boat cruises on Lake Wendouree on this privately organised tour.

### **Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2016 - Farewell Mercedes Benz O405 Tour**

A new arrangement for tours planning was implemented from this tour, with a Tours Sub- committee led by Ben Knight and Craig Halsall taking over from myself. Other members involved in this sub-committee included Jason Blackman, Matthew Ellen, Caleb Ellis, Mick Kane and Michael Presta. This tour was a full day travelling across Melbourne using seven MB O405s sourced from Ventura, Dyson's, CDC Melbourne, Transdev and Quinces. It was a massive logistical effort, planned by Craig Halsall and the team, which went according to plan and attracted 45 attendees. They were treated to a fitting farewell to the MB O405. Thanks to Andrew Cornwall at Ventura, Shane Dyson, Nick Yap at CDC, Mark Cant at Quince's and Transdev. Thanks also to the many drivers.

## **Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> August Moonee Valley Coaches/Skylight Buslines/Rockleigh Tours**

Our most recent tour had pick up vehicles supplied by Gary Driver and Craig Coop. In a surprise, Driver's Flexible Clipper and Denning Phoenix were joined that the Moonee Valley Coaches depot by their PD4107, MC7 Challenger and an almost finished (inside work still to be done) PD 4106. They provided a spectacular line-up with MVC's Ansair bodied International KB6 now beautifully repainted into original Pioneer livery. The tour then went to Skylight Buslines where, most people agreed, we saw a high class operation. Serge and Mustafa Kuvanci, with their full team, also put on a spectacular show with a delicious Middle Eastern morning tea. Another added bonus was travel to and from the Skylight depot in Australiner's preserved Hino. After our BBQ lunch at MVC, we travelled to Rockleigh Tours and rode on their two double deckers. Thanks to Craig Coop & Jason Blackman; Gary Driver, Daryl Driver and team; Garry, Craig and Daniel Higginson; Serge and Mustafa Kuvanci; Peter Davine and James; Laurie Pincini as well as all of our drivers. Another packed tour that attracted much praise.

### **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 2015 meeting featured Geoff Foster's slides on Victorian School Buses – part 1. The March 2016 meeting featured Geoff Foster's presentation on Buses in Europe, featuring Germany, Austria and Switzerland.

The May 2016, saw Tony Finneran and Jim Lynch join forces to talk about Ansair and Scania over the years. We sincerely thank both for agreeing, at short notice, to fill in after the sudden death of Bill Slattery's wife which meant the postponement of Bill's scheduled address.

The July 2016 meeting featured the next installment in the "Buses Around" series, this time "Buses around Geelong 1920-1990" presented by Paul Kennelly.

With Geoff Foster overseas, Paul Kennelly provided the BCSV display at the BusVic 2016 Conference. This featured Victorian Bus Body Builders 1920-1980. Over 500 photographs were displayed at the Conference, this year held at Pullman Hotel at Albert Park for the first time. Companies displayed were H A Grummet & Son, W A Newnham & Sons, Cheetham & Borwick, Martin & King, R F Weber, Symons & Fowler, Ansair, CAC, Cook, Freighter Victoria, R V Piper, Noreng, Comeng Victoria and R E Mee.

### **Archives and Heritage**

Work has continued on the Society website and Virtual Museum (see separate report).

Charles Craig's collection was sent to Melbourne by his widow, Joyce, and much has been distributed to rail and tram groups. Work continues on scanning his photo negatives which will also be sent to the appropriate group.

I visited David Withers in Sydney with a view to writing the history of Parlorcars under Withers ownership.

I also visited Joyce Cheetham, widow of Jack Cheetham of Cheetham & Borwick, and was able to scan their photo collection.

In the middle of the year, I caught up with Phillip Symons who is the son of Symons & Fowler co-founder, Sam Symons. The history of this company is now finally known.

More recently, the histories of Progress Bus Lines, Northern Engineering and Mee's Bodybuilding have been researched.

Thanks to Brian Weedon for his assistance in much of the research work.

## **Finances**

The balance sheets show that the Society continues to operate on a sound financial footing with a surplus for the year of around \$1,900. More details in the accompanying financial statements.

## **Publications**

Geoff Foster has produced another high class and informative set of magazines for members (and others) during this past year. Extra copies of the July/August edition were ordered as giveaways for the BusVic Conference.

The Society acted as agent for the sale of the second in the series of historical photographic bus books published by Tony Finneran in NSW. The Society was proud to support Tony and his work for the National Stroke Foundation.

## **Restoration**

Throughout the year, I have had a number of calls regarding registration of buses turned into campers with a view to putting them on club plates. The Committee determined that such vehicles, which are no longer buses, should not be registered on BCSV club plates. Instead, enquiries will be referred to the HCVCA who have registered such vehicles in the past. VicRoads is also examining the issue.

Members Craig Coop, David Rae and Steve Bayer have purchased vehicles for preservation. Companies Dyson's, Driver, Australiner, Moonee Valley Coaches and Simcock's have also acquired vehicles. New members Alan and Irene Jolly have a small Hino. A number of members, including Michael Lancaster and Brad Creek continue to work on their buses.

## **Finally**

Thank you to the Committee for their work for, and on behalf of, the members. Mick Kane, Craig Coop, Craig Halsall, Ben Knight, Jason Blackman, Michael Presta and Caleb Ellis have provided me with the support needed to meet the needs of the members and the Society more generally. It has been another productive year for the BCSV.

## **2015/2016 Website Report: Craig Halsall**

Matt Fleay-Daly has undertaken the task of creating the long awaited BCSV website and virtual museum over the past 12 months, in a semi-paid role. Matt, who has studied multimedia as part of his current VCE studies, has led all stages of the website development and design. Tasks have included picking out a suitable web hosting service; WordPress installation; sourcing plug-ins; designing the website layout; integration with Facebook; development of an events calendar, membership form and online store; search engine optimisation and file hosting. Matt has also set-up a webmail client and dedicated email accounts for committee members.

Subject to final content being provided by the BCSV Committee, the initial website should be live by the end of 2016. Future plans include a photograph database and a members-only portal.

The website is supported by our Facebook page, which Craig Halsall maintains, advising the enthusiast community of upcoming events and society news as well as answering questions.

**BUS AND COACH SOCIETY OF VICTORIA INCORPORATED A6261D ABN 86829759481**

**STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016**

<u>INCOME</u>	<u>2015/2016</u>	<u>2014/2015</u>
Membership subscriptions	\$10,027.00	\$9,385.00
Sales	2,157.37	2,297.00
Badges	33.00	63.00
Meetings and Tours	7,585.00	1,575.00
Interest	693.96	1,098.48
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$20,496.33</b>	<b>\$14,418.48</b>
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	<u>2015/2016</u>	<u>2014/2015</u>
Panorama	7,638.53	7,614.56
Administration	579.29	780.81
Badges	11.00	44.00
Subscriptions	225.00	200.00
Sales	1,219.46	510.74
Meetings and Tours	6,821.67	560.05
Insurance	871.50	871.50
Website	1,096.94	-
Other	100.00	100.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$18,563.39</b>	<b>\$10,581.66</b>
<b>Surplus</b>	<b>\$1,932.94</b>	<b>\$3,836.82</b>

**Bank reconciliation 30/6/15 to 30/6/16**

<b><u>Bank Balance 30/6/15</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 17,156.13</u></b>
Less advance memberships for 2015/16	6,657.00
<u>Subtotal</u>	<u>\$10,499.13</u>
Plus Income 2015/16	\$20,496.33
<u>Subtotal</u>	<u>\$30,995.46</u>
Less Expenditure 2015/16	\$18,563.39
<u>Subtotal</u>	<u>\$12,432.07</u>
Plus two un-presented cheques from 2015/16	\$150.00
<u>Subtotal</u>	<u>\$12,582.07</u>
Plus advance membership fees 2016/17	\$6,010
<u>Subtotal</u>	<u>\$18,592.07</u>
Less interest transfer to term deposit	\$607.56
<u>Subtotal</u>	<u>\$17,784.51</u>
Less transfer to term deposit	\$8,550.70
<b><u>Bank Balance 30/6/16</u></b>	<b><u>\$9,433.81</u></b>

Plus term deposits: \$35,005.07 @ 2.6% to mature 4/5/19 & \$10,000.00 @ 2.25% to mature 5/5/17.

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**Statement by the Bus and Coach Society of Victoria Inc (BCSV) Committee**

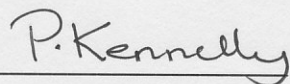
In the opinion of the BCSV Committee:

1. These financial statements have been prepared so as to give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Society as at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2016, and of the performance of the Society for the year ended on that date;
2. The Society is able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

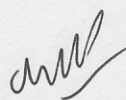
Signed at Mentone, 11<sup>th</sup> September 2016



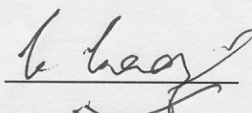
Michael Kane



Paul Kennelly



Craig Halsall



Craig Coop