

BUS AND COACH SOCIETY OF VICTORIA INC..A0006261D

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

2010 Annual Report

President's Report: Mick Kane

Another year has passed with the Society continuing on much the same as normal. My thanks go out to the very few Committee members who keep the show on the road.

Thanks also to members who helped organise our tours during the year; we need a lot more of this type of help.

We have voted to set up a website for the Society but, for it to work properly, need some input from younger members & for perhaps a younger member to run it for the society.

As you will have seen the meeting venue has changed, this is due to the room we used at Ventura being changed into offices & the room next door becoming a quiet room for drivers during their breaks. Thanks go to Ventura for allowing us the use of the room for so long.

With the mass communications around today it is very hard for clubs to remain relevant, but there is still a role there but we need help to maintain that role.

So I would urge people to have a look & see if they can help in some way even if it's to help organise a tour, help with a BBQ or whatever, that way more can be organised

Secretary's Report: Paul Kennelly

Membership

Membership remained at the record high of 156 members. However, we need to ensure that more strategies are developed to attract new members.

Tours

Driver Bus Lines Heritage Tour – 20th September 2009

Fifty two participants made this tour probably the best attended in the history of the BCSV. More than a dozen visitors came from interstate. All 9 Driver Heritage Fleet vehicles were made available, as well as two brand new route buses. The Driver Group provided a magnificent BBQ lunch. Whilst all of the tours were most enjoyable, this tour was undoubtedly the highlight of the past year. Geoff Vickers from Bayside Coaches offered to sponsor a special colour publication to celebrate this tour and all members received one of these. The tour was organised by the Secretary.

Grenda Transit: Moorabbin and Invicta Depots – 7th February 2010

There were 40 participants on this first group visit to Invicta following its acquisition by Grenda's. The tour was organised by the Secretary, David Rae and Michael Lancaster.

AEC Regal Mark III – 15th March 2010

John Phillips provided his preserved Mark III and we travelled over many of the old routes that they great buses worked many years ago.

Farewell Fuji Artic Tour – 19th June 2010

Once again attracting visitors from interstate, this tour used one of the remaining Grenda Fuji artcis and traced the main Grenda routes where these buses had worked. The tour was organised by the President, the Secretary, David Rae, Michael Presta and Brad Woodford.

Meetings and other Events

Our meetings continued to be held at the premises of Ventura Bus Lines South Oakleigh and we were grateful to this company for their continued support of the BCSV. However, we trialled the November meeting at the Hawthorn Tram Depot, where John Stanley was the guest speaker. It was quite successful. As mentioned in the President's report, Ventura's depot is no longer available. Fortunately, we have been able to obtain use of Hawthorn Tram Depot for future meetings. Over the past year, we have had various photographic presentations including, buses from NZ and more from the John Masterton Collection.

The November 2009 Sandown Display was great success with around forty vehicles in attendance, including the preserved fleets of Driver, Grenda, and Invicta.

Geoff Foster provided a BCSV display at the BusVic BusExpo 2010 at Moonee Valley Racecourse on 28th & 29th June which was very well received. This is an important aspect of BCSV activities.

Archives and Heritage

The project to scan the Victorian records of members, past and present, continues. The entire bus photo collection of Graeme Turnbull was scanned and the first volume released for sale on CD. The first fifty sold out quickly and a repeat ordered made. The second volume will be released later this year.

Once again we must thank Hayden Ramsdale for his work in preparing CDs for sale.

Part of the photographic collection Paul Nicholson has also been scanned for the Society's archives. A selection of Neil Mackintosh's (SA) Collection was scanned.

The company collections of Grenda and Moreland BL have also been scanned for our archives.

Finances

The balance sheets show that Society continues to operate on a sound financial footing with a surplus for the year of more than \$1,100. Once again, we thank Ross Baird for providing his services as auditor.

Publications

Geoff Foster has producing another engrossing set of magazines for members (and others) during this past year. In particular, the Special containing the histories of Phillips and Elston's and Southland was most informative.

Restoration

Work proceeds at Moreland BL on their S&F Reo. Ray Higginson (Moonee Valley BL) has begun work on restoring an Organ's CAC Bedford SB. This was one of the first produced in early 1952 with the smaller OB type windows.

Finally

Thanks to the Committee for their work for the members and to Mick Kane in particular for providing encouragement when needed.

And lastly, thank you to all the operators, who so generously allow BCSV members to access their facilities in the interests of their hobby.