

DUNEDIN HERITAGE LIGHT RAIL TRUST AND HIGH STREET CABLE CAR SOCIETY INC.



Items in this newsletter:

- Progress report on the Cable car project at Mornington Park
- Report on Funding applicatiuon.
- Report on restoration progress of Cable Car 103 From Don McAra
- Progress report from the Trustees

Welcome to our current newsletter updates and articles on the cable car progress.

Since our last newsletter in February the Trust has been working on the preliminary work for Stage Two. This work is time consuming and demanding, but necessary as we progress further.

The Society and its volunteers have been on duty at the cable car house showing the many visitors around the area, talking to them, answering many questions on the project, receiving donations and gaining much needed support.

Please read on!

Editors: NK Jemmett, PJ Jemmett

Last December, with the help of a professional company we submitted an application to the Governments Provincial Growth Fund for a \$100,000 grant to employ a professional company to facilitate an indepth feasibility study on our project. The Trustees are still awaiting a response from our application. Hopefully, in the not too distant future, we will receive some positive news and the feasibility study can then be actioned.

This study should be completed within three months after the application has been decided upon and funding approved.

Update on happenings in and around the Cable Car display...

The Society and its band of volunteers have made themselves available on most days during the cruise ship season. The first visitors' book has been filled with a second one started.

The Steampunk Society and Dunedin Gasworks Guild of Gadgeteers held an enjoyable and well attended "High Tea" event recently for members and the general public. Society Volunteers and Trustees were on hand to provide information (and to act as photographers). The Amenities Society's "Town Belt Walk" passed by the building with a large number of walkers stopping to view the cable cars. Many photos were taken before they continued on their journey. The Society were out in force to make their visit memorable. Many thanks for their efforts for both events.



A number of the public and groups have visited the display and were amazed on just how well the cars have been restored and cannot wait to ride on them.

Onsite the donated planting is beginning to grow and provide a floral display. A winch has been acquired to move Cable Car 95 in and out of the building and will shortly be in operation, hopefully reducing the current minimum of three people required to push it out and in.

Between now and the next cruise ship season (October), the Trustees hope to have plans set up to receive the cruise ship visitors. Promotional work, sale memorabilia display area, volunteers and publicity will be to the fore and ready for the expected influx of visitors.

Below: Mornington Cable Car 103 and Mornington Trailer 111 at the Tramway Historical Society workshop area prior to restoration work on 103. In their working days these two vehicles regularly travelled up and down High Street as a pair. It will be around 2 years before 103 is totally restored. It has been agreed that 103 will be leased by the Trust and returned to Dunedin. It is intended that these two vehicles will be back at work on the Mornington line with a new lease of life that ended in 1957. (Note Trustee Don McAra leaning on the front of Trailer 111)



**REPORT FROM DON McARA
ON THE RESTORATION PROGRESS OF MORNINGTON CABLE CAR 103**

Work is progressing slowly as so much of the original body work had borer. The metal and window frames are permanently in, as are their pillars. The bulkhead pillars define where the cabins are between them and the ends. The inner ones are almost entirely shaped and I am now preparing mortise holes for the dwangs that will go between the outer and inner pillars. A couple of the original dwangs can be used but the other two have borer. These dwangs serve as the sills for the four bulkhead windows none of which exist now and have to be fabricated. You can see some wood strips clamped to the pillars to hold them in the correct position. Curved topped connecting timbers to support the roof will be installed across the rebates in the bulkhead pillars, new timber again, using the original borer ridden ones as patterns.

It is hoped, that by the end of next year, we will have 103 almost ready to send to Dunedin, but we are not working full time on it so it may take a little longer. On the body there is a lot of panneling and remaking the sliding doors and constructing non existing seats. Even with an extensive workshop at our disposal, it takes a lot of time for mainly just the two of us.



Top: Pictures of the current position of restoration work on 103

Bottom: Pictures of Mornington Cable Car 103 in storage at Ferrymead before Tramway Historical Society members began its restoration

Remembering 62 years ago.....



Cable Cars on upper High Street on a sunny day shortly before they were taken from our streets permanently. Note the lack of maintenance on the downhill one. What a sad way to go.

LOOKING AHEAD ...

- * Up to date information on where the current status of the project
- * A progress report on Stage Two
- * Report on funding application to the Provincial Growth Fund

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Website: www.dunedincablecars.co.nz
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Donations: can be made by an endorsed cheque to the above address or directly through internet banking to:

Dunedin Heritage Light Rail Trust
A/c 38-9016-0787291-00

- Please leave a reference name and contact detail to enable us to send a receipt.