Sydney Electric Train Society Inc.

The New and Old Electrics Tour

Saturday 22nd December 2012.

On behalf of the committee of Sydney Electric Train Society, I would like to welcome you aboard the "New and Old Electrics Tour".

This tour is the result of months of planning and came about by a vote from members who wanted to see tours organised with a two car K set and a brand new Oscar. The tour was originally planned to operate on Saturday 15th December 2012, however track work from Newcastle to Gordon and Strathfield meant the overhead wiring was switched off at Hornsby Maintenance Centre, so we moved the tour to Saturday 22nd December and a visit to Loftus Tramway Museum was arranged.

I would like to sincerely thank those who have made this tour possible, especially Kevin Ellison from RailCorp's Special Events Unit for arranging the trains and pathing, Peter McCallum and all of the team from Sydney Tramway Museum and all who have come along for a day out with SETS.

Oscar H sets:

The Outer Suburban Car (Oscar) fleet consists of 221 carriages which are made into 55 four car sets and one spare Driving Trailer car. The contract for Oscar sets was signed on 13th February 2003 with the first set emerging from UGL Rail at Broadmeadow on 6th December 2005. The Oscar cars were delivered in three stages:

- Stage 1 was made up of H1 to H 10 plus spare car OD 6921.
- Stage 2 was for H 11 to H 30 plus spare car OD 6922.
- Stage 3 was for H 31 to H 48 plus two power cars to form H 49 with cars OD 6921 and OD 6922 which relinquished their role as spare cars.
- Stage 3A (extension of stage 3) was for H 50 to H 55 plus spare car OD 6999. The cars in this series were given fleet numbers that were unused from the Outer Suburban Tangara G sets which finished production with the delivery of the spare car OD 6841 in February 1998.

Two car K sets:

The two car K sets entered service in October 1981 and were the first all air conditioned suburban train for NSW. They have a few unique features that are not seen on the main production cars that rolled out from 1982 to 1985, including additional seating and a smaller electrical cabinet behind the crew compartments. The doors were originally set up in a similar manner to the V sets, with a door release function, requiring the passenger to open the doors manually, keeping the air conditioning inside in cars where the doors have not been opened. This function was removed very early in their operating life and the doors were fully automated from the guard controls.

In the mid 1990's the cars were refurbished as part of the City Decker project and this saw the reactivation of the Driving Trailers after a lengthy period of being used only as a trailer car. Some improvements were made at this time including the fitting of a slackless drawbar between the motor and trailer car which eliminates the kick that an auto coupler gives when accelerating, coasting and breaking.

The two car sets have been operating on the Central Coast line since November 1996, when they progressively replaced the retired single deck Interurban U sets. The two car K sets are targeted K 1 – K 4 and operate services between Newcastle, Morisset and Gosford. In 2013, they will be replaced by Oscar H sets on these services, with the K sets returning to Sydney to operate suburban services.

PHOTO STOPS

A few photo stops have been arranged that will allow members and guests to record the tour at various locations throughout the day.

- You **MUST** follow all instructions given by the Rail Corp's Train Manager, and staff, as well as SETS Tour Officials.
- You **MUST NOT** trespass beyond the areas designated for passengers on Rail Corp property. This means keeping wholly within the yellow line, as well as staying on the platform side of the fences at the ends of station platforms.

We would like to see everybody enjoying themselves on the day. Please be mindful not to get in the way of another photographer and also to keep noise and chatter to a minimum for those who are recoding audio and video footage.

H 55 Photo stops will be at the following locations:

Lakemba – 5 minutes duration

Berala – 2 minutes duration

Rosehill Gardens Racecourse – 12 minutes

Strathfield – 5 minutes

Redfern – 5 minutes

Arncliffe – 5 minutes

Hurstville – 13 minutes

Jannali – 5 minutes.

`Lunch break at Sydney Tramway Museum

*******Please return to Platform 1 at Loftus Station by no later than 2:50pm*******

K set Photo stops will be at the following locations:

Como – 5 minutes

Banksia – 5 minutes

Sydenham – 5 minutes

Bexley North - 5 minutes

East Hills - 10 minutes

Revesby – 5 minutes

Mascot – 5 minutes

Croydon – 5 minutes

Fairfield – 5 minutes

Yennora – 5 minutes

Parramatta – 5 minutes

A FEW RULES TO KEEP IN MIND:

Please respect and follow all instructions from RailCorp's Train Crew and Train Manager, as well as SETS Tour Officials at all times throughout the day. They will be able to assist you where needed on the tour.

UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES are patrons to tamper or otherwise interfere with any equipment on the train that may affect the safe operation of the train – this includes the Emergency Help Points on the Oscar set.

SMOKING IS NOT PERMITTED anywhere aboard the train, including in the vestibules, or passenger saloons at any time throughout the journey.

You **MUST NOT** stand between the carriages for any reason, throughout the course of the day. These walkways are a thoroughfare only.

We ask you all to **BE CIVIL AND SHOW RESPECT** for each other throughout the day. Bullying, intimidation, harassment and causing general discomfort to other passengers on our tour will not be tolerated.

Please do not leave your rubbish on the train. There will be rubbish bins available to dispose of any unwanted material on the various stations throughout the day.

TOILETS will be made available for use at key stations throughout the day. Due to the limited timing of each photo stop, we ask passengers to either take photos or use the toilet on the station as required, but not both.

We trust that you have a great day out with SETS, and we look forward to seeing you again on another SETS tour.

Michael McGinty
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