



Route 75  
is now  
even longer  
PAGE 02



East Preston  
goes Green  
PAGE 04



## Congratulations Lenny on 50!

*Yarra Trams is celebrating Lenny Bates' 50 years of service to the tram industry.*

*Passengers on Route 109 and Route 48 will recognise Lenny because he still wears his distinctive peaked cap as part of his Yarra Trams uniform.*

*In fact it was the uniform that first attracted Lenny to tram driving in 1955 but he soon found out that helping the passengers is what the job is all about.*

*'When I started 50 years ago, I did not expect to be here for so long. My colleagues at Kew Depot have been a part of my family ever since I can remember. When you work with good people, it's easy to stay at the one place. I like my job very much and that's why I am here,' said Lenny.*

*Yarra Trams Chief Executive Officer, Hubert Guyot describes Lenny Bates as a living legend who is 'the patron saint of tram drivers'.*



It is not often that one has the opportunity to be in the company of a living legend but I had the pleasure recently when Yarra Trams honoured our most senior driver Lenny Bates.

Lenny has reached the amazing milestone of 50 years of service with the tram industry.

He started on the W-Class and has driven just about every model of tram, including the latest low floor tram, the C-Class or Citadis.

Back in 1955 it was compulsory for tramways employees to wear a hat. And that tram driver's cap is still Lenny's trademark today.

He has a great rapport with his regular passengers who always greet him with a good morning or a hello.

This patron saint of tram drivers is a shining example of dedication and professionalism to all of his colleagues in Yarra Trams and I am sure that all of our customers will join me in thanking Lenny for his 50 years of service.

**Au revoir Melbourne**

This will be my last message to you as CEO of Yarra Trams.

After six wonderful years in Melbourne, I have accepted a position as Managing Director of the public transport company in Genoa, Italy.

I have enjoyed working with the team at Yarra Trams during a period of innovation and modernisation of Melbourne's tram network.

My hope is that all Melburnians will do everything they can to ensure that the city retains and values its unique tram system.

Because every tram potentially replaces more than 100 cars, it is clear that trams are crucial to the future of this beautiful city.

So it is with fond memories that I say *au revoir Melbourne*.

Hubert Guyot  
CEO

# Route 75 is now even longer

A Yarra Trams family tradition has continued with the opening of the new Vermont South tram extension.

Tram route 75 now extends three kilometres further along the Burwood Highway to the Vermont South Shopping Centre.

The new tram service forms part of the Knox Transit Link which has an integrated bus service to Knox City shopping centre.

The first tram to Vermont South on Sunday 24 July was driven by Tim Finnigan.

His father Basil Finnigan was the driver of the first tram to East Burwood on 20 July, 1978.



## Metlink's fare evasion awareness campaign



If you see a group of people huddling at the back of a tram and holding their breath, they'll be fare evaders. Metlink's latest advertising campaign offers humorous advice to fare evaders on how they might assist those who pay their way.

The television, radio and press campaign is backed up by interior advertising on Yarra Trams.

It responds to independent research in which 93% of participants agreed that people should always pay their fare when using public transport.

'Our feedback from fare paying passengers is that there is simply no excuse for people not paying fares. People who do the right thing are actually getting angry with us for

letting fare evaders get away with it,' said Bernie Carolan, Metlink CEO, at the launch of the campaign.

'Public feelings are running high on this issue, confirming what we've been seeing in letters to the editor and our customer feedback channels.' The Metlink campaign is part of a permanent strategy to address more than \$50 million lost every year to fare evasion.

Other elements include a brochure explaining the powers of Public Transport Authorised Officers, increased and escalating fines for repeat offenders and mobilisation of plain clothes and uniformed Authorised Officers.

# New platform stops for new look Flinders Street



The removal of the Flinders Street overpass will bring a new streetscape and improve safety and accessibility for tram passengers.

Three new platform stops will be constructed on Flinders Street at Spencer Street, east of the new King Street intersection and between Market and Queen Streets.

During the overpass removal project, Yarra Trams has been running a shuttle tram between Flinders Street at Market Street and the Docklands.

*An artist's impression of the new intersection of Flinders and King Streets*



## A facelift for Bourke Street

Yarra Trams replaced the tram tracks along part of Bourke Street in the CBD over the Queen's Birthday long weekend (10-14 June 2005).

The track replacement works, between Elizabeth and Russell Streets, form part of the City of Melbourne's Bourke Street Mall redevelopment.

New double platform stops will be located on the east side of the intersections at Bourke and Elizabeth Streets and Bourke and Swanston

Streets. The platform stops will improve accessibility and safety for passengers.

Further information about the Bourke Street Mall redevelopment is available from the City of Melbourne. Visit [www.melbourne.vic.gov.au](http://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au) or call 9658 9658.

Stage two of the Bourke Street track renewal project (from Elizabeth Street to William Street) was completed at the end of July.

## what's new



## Yarra Trams is proud to support the world's fastest game on wheels

Wheelchair Sports Victoria and the Victorian Wheelchair Rugby Association hosted the 2005 Season one, Victorian Wheelchair Rugby Grand Final. The event was held at the Whitehorse Aquatic & Leisure Centre on Friday June 24. Those who attended were privileged to watch the two best teams in Victoria battle it out for the premiership. In a close match; the Vikings defeated the Spokebusters 27 points to 20.

## East Preston depot goes green

The East Preston tram depot has become the first Green Depot in the Yarra Trams family.

The installation of three water tanks means all trams at the depot are now washed with rainwater collected from our massive roof space.

This will save around 730,000 litres of Melbourne's precious drinking water each year.

Reduction of overall energy use combined with the production of green power on site is a core part of the Green Depot concept.

Again making use of the roof space, the installation of 60 solar panels produces enough electricity to meet the lighting requirements of the depot.

A new state-of-the-art air conditioning system as well as light and motion sensors throughout the facility has enabled us to reduce overall energy consumption at East Preston Depot by more than 40 per cent.

The Green Depot also features a newly landscaped and very water efficient native garden.



## Thinking about trams and cars



Sydney Road has had the Think Tram treatment.

The aim is to increase the reliability of the Yarra Trams route 19 service.

Passengers who travel north of Bell Street might have noticed the 420 metres of yellow safety strip adjacent to the tram tracks. It's designed to minimise delays to trams from vehicles driving on the tram tracks.

The other Think Tram initiatives on Sydney Road involve changes to traffic signal phasing at 17 locations between Bakers Road and Brunswick Road.

In many cases, cars turning right should get a green arrow to allow an approaching tram to cross the intersection unimpeded.

Yarra Trams is a partner with VicRoads in the Think Tram program.



Copies of the Yarra Trams Passenger Compensation Code and Yarra Trams Customer Charter are now available from [yarratrams.com.au](http://yarratrams.com.au) or by calling **Metlink on 131 638**



## Competition

For your chance to win a Shark Dive at the Melbourne Aquarium, which includes a pre-dive briefing, a practice dive and all equipment (valued at \$264) plus a daily Metcard 5 pack (valued at \$43.70), please answer the following question:

**Name a tram route that can take you to the Melbourne Aquarium**

**\* Special Offer – present your valid Metcard at the Melbourne Aquarium until November 2005 to receive 20% off the price of entry.**

Send your answer, along with your name, phone number and address to:

Tram Lines Shark Dive Competition,  
GPO Box 5231, Melbourne 3001  
or email your entry to:  
[competition@yarratrams.com.au](mailto:competition@yarratrams.com.au)

Entries close  
Friday 23 September, 2005

Last month's competition winner was B. Thompson of Hawthorn East