

# TABLE TALK

AUSTRALIAN TIMETABLE NEWS
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Timetable ONLY \$10 EACH WAY Monday - Friday From Airport to City From City to Airport Blamey Sq. Russel Blamey Sq. Russel West Row Civid West Row Civic Airport Airport 7:08 AM 7:15 AM 7:30 AM 7:38 AM 7:52 AM 8:00 AM 8:08 AM 8:15 AM 8:30 AM 8:38 AM 8:52 AM 9:00 AM 9:52 AM 10:00 AM 9:08 AM 9:15 AM 9:30 AM 9:38 AM 10:30 AM 10:52 AM 11:00 AM 10:15 AM 10:38 AM 10:08 AM 11:08 AM 11:15 AM 11:30 AM 11:38 AM 11:52 AM 12:00 PM 2:00 PM 2:08 PM 2:15 PM 2:30 PM 1:38 PM 1:45 PM 2:38 PM 2:45 PM 3:00 PM 3:08 PM 3:15 PM 3:30 PM 3:45 PM 4:00 PM 4:08 PM 4:15 PM 4:30 PM 3:38 PM 5:00 PM 5:08 PM 5:15 PM 5:30 PM 4.38 PM 4.45 PM 5:45 PM 6:00 PM 6:08 рм 6:15 PM 6:30 PM 5:38 PM Saturday - Sunday From City to Airport From Airport to City Airport Blamey Sq. Russel West Row Civic | Blamey Sq. Russel West Row Civic 8:15 AM 8:30 AM 8:38 AM 8:52 AM 9:00 AM 8:08 AM 9:52 AM 10:00 AM 9:08 AM 9:15 AM 9:30 AM 9:38 AM 10:15 AM 10:30 AM 10:38 AM 10:52 AM 11:00 AM 10:08 AM 4:30 PM 3:38 PM 3:45 PM 4:00 PM 4:08 PM 4:15 PM 5:15 PM 5:30 PM 4:45 PM 5:00 PM 5:08 PM 4:38 PM 6:00 PM 6:08 PM 6:15 PM 6:30 PM 5:38 PM 5:45 PM Tickets can be purchased from the driver when boarding the bus. Booking online is recommended as priority is given to pre-booked tickets. ADVANCE BOOKINGS www.royalecoach.com.au | Tel. 1300 368 897

Canberra Airport new bus operator - page 6

# About Table Talk

**Table Talk** is published monthly by the Australian Association of Timetable Collectors Inc. (Registration No. A0043673H) as a journal of record covering recent timetable news items. The AATTC also publishes the **Times** covering timetable history and analysis. Contributions are very welcome and should be sent to the appropriate Editor. ABN 74248483468.

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**Membership of the AATTC** includes monthly copies of the *Times*, *Table Talk*, the Distribution List of timetables, and the twice-yearly Auction catalogue. The membership fee is \$60 (Adult) and \$36 (Junior) pa. Membership enquiries should be directed to the Membership Officer, P O Box 1253, North Lakes Qld 4509, (07) 3260 5329.

# **RAIL NEWS**

## **QR National: New line?**

QR National and a consortium of coal companies have agreed to construct a \$900m rail link to a new export terminal at Gladstone. The project includes construction of a 13km balloon loop near Gladstone, upgrades to sections of the North Coast Line, the Moura system, the Bauhinia branch line, and duplication of sections of the Blackwater System. Upon completion, the mainline Blackwater system will be fully duplicated. This will lead to 27 million tonnes per annum of coal being transported, a 30% increase, from the southern Bowen Basin coal region to the proposed Wiggins Island Coal Export Terminal at Gladstone. First railings are scheduled for mid-2014 and would be aligned with port capacity. All remaining works are due for completion by March 2015. QR National's network services division signed an agreement with eight coal companies including Xstrata Coal, Aquila Resources and Wesfarmers Curragh to build Stage One of the project, due to begin construction in early 2012.

# Queensland Rail: Future of outback lines

The Queensland Transport Minister, Annastacia Palaszczuk, says she is committed to rail in regional areas, despite many communities being concerned about its future, with, for example, only 10 livestock trains from Quilpie this year. She says rail services need to become more profitable but she has no intentions of closing services.

#### **Queensland Rail: South Brisbane station**

South Brisbane station will be closed from 31 October until 9 December for upgrading. During this period a free bus will operate from Southbank station. The upgrade will restore and preserve the heritage-listed building, improve station access for people with a disability, and enhance customer facilities.

## **NSW Budget**

Transport capital funding was the big winner in an otherwise tough first Budget by the new New South Welsh Coalition government. The Budget, presented on 6 September, provided for the North West and South West railways, and investigation of new tram lines and of restoration of trains on the Murwillumbah line. Funding was provided for additional express trains. Details are:

- Development of the 23km North West Rail Link between Epping and Rouse Hill, including \$222 million to buy land (\$314 million);
- Construction of the South West Rail Link, which includes 10.5km of double track between Glenfield and Leppington, stations at Edmondson Park and Leppington, car parking and a train stabling facility at Rossmore. This line will serve an area where 110,000 new homes are expected to be built over the next 30 years (\$292 million). For a very useful map of this line, see the October issue of Transit Australia magazine.
- More express trains (\$102 million over four years).(but see next item)
- Expand light rail, with funding of the inner west light rail extension (albeit delayed for 18 months) and examination
  of feasibility of light rail through the CBD and from the CBD to both the University of NSW and University of
  Sydney (\$103 million).
- Commence building the Wynyard Walk, a direct pedestrian link between the new Barangaroo development and Wynyard Station (\$1 million)
- Electronic ticketing, which will start with ferries in late 2012 (\$110 million).
- Boost community transport services and to set up an accreditation scheme for the sector (\$12 million over four years).
- Improve ferry wharves (\$13.4 million), and expand ferry services (\$11.8 million over four years) albeit now
  proposed to be provided by the private sector.
- Commuter car parks and public transport interchanges, including four new car parks and seven interchanges currently under construction (\$76 million).
- Buy and upgrade rolling stock (\$152 million), including \$130 million toward 99 new carriages for outer suburban services, \$15.1 million for rolling stock enhancements and \$7 million for the internal emergency door release program.
- Maintenance of the Country Regional Network, including \$57.5 million for new track sleepers, \$10.3 million to renew bridges and \$3.7 million to convert jointed rail to continuous welded track (\$159 million).
- Continue the Rail Clearways Program to improve reliability: construct the Liverpool turnback, the Kingsgrove to Revesby quadruplication, the Richmond line duplication and a new platform at Macarthur (\$198 million).

- Infrastructure for the new Waratah trains (\$106 million) and delivery of Waratah trains (\$358 million).
- New stabling facility at Emu Plains (\$154 million) and at Wollongong (\$10.5 million)
- Easy Access upgrades and accessibility improvements (\$30 million) and general station upgrades (\$69 million).
- Park and Travel Safety Fund (\$17 million).
- Conduct a study into the possibility of passenger trains on the Casino-Murwillumbah line, and the possibility of extending this line to Queensland (\$2 million).
- Passenger information systems to improve customer communications (\$12 million).
- 261 new buses worth \$118.8 million, 95 for State Transit and 166 for private operators.
- New bus depots to accommodate the expanding fleet (\$45 million).
- NightRide bus services (\$8.6 million), including \$1.8 million of an additional \$7.6 million over four years to increase services.
- Free shuttle bus services (\$9.2 million over four years).
- Investigation of a bus rapid transit system for the northern beaches (\$3 million).

# CityRail: Future express trains?

#### From the Sydney Daily Telegraph, 22 September 2011, by Andrew Clennall:

An election pledge to deliver an extra 135 express trains for western Sydney and the Central Coast will not happen for another two years - at least. Even then they will cost between \$50 million and \$100 million a year to deliver. Transport sources confirmed Railcorp had told the state government the new express services would come at a huge cost because more rolling stock and train drivers were required. This month's state budget stated that \$102 million would be provided over four years for the express rollout - but did not set out how and when that money would be spent.

Transport Minister Gladys Berejiklian could not provide a breakdown of that spending yesterday. "As I have always said, additional express and semi-express services to Penrith, Blue Mountains and Central Coast will be introduced within two years, following the timetable review," Ms Berejiklian said. "New services will be operating to Campbelltown by the end of the term [of government]."We remain committed to delivering 135 extra services."

When the policy was launched in February, the coalition promised an extra morning peak express service on the Blue Mountains line as well as five new services from Penrith. It also promised an extra 16 express services from Campbelltown - one an hour between 6am and 10pm - and six new express services from the Central Coast. Ms Berejiklian said at the time the policy could get up to 27,000 people off the roads and on to public transport every day.

# CityRail: 23 October Timetable

In addition to the changes noted in September *Table Talk* page 4, which will be introduced with the CityRail timetable of 23 October, the following changes will also occur:

- Illawarra / Eastern Suburbs lines: Two additional off-peak services between Mortdale and Bondi Junction; an
  additional Bondi Junction-Sutherland train after the morning peak; more off-peak services continuing to Town
  Hall, Martin Place and Bondi Junction, rather than terminating at Central; improved running times for some
  services by one or two minutes.
- North Shore line: An additional up service, leaving North Sydney just before the afternoon peak hour; reduced running times for some services by one or two minutes.
- Western line: Two extra services leaving Parramatta for North Sydney at 08:21 and 10:00. Trains currently terminating at Quakers Hill extended to Schofields (see next item).
- Main North line: Deletetion of the 07:39 between Chatswood-Epping-Hornsby and addition of a service leaving Chatswood at 08:40 for Hornsby.

A RailCorp spokesman said the changes were "focused on easing crowding, better matching capacity on trains with passenger demand and providing other operational enhancements." In 2005, the former government cut services and slowed trains down to help ensure they ran to timetable.

#### CityRail: Richmond line

Duplication from Quakers Hill to the new Schofields station (at about 42.8 km from Sydney, approximately 0.9 km closer to Sydney than the former Schofields station) will be brought into use during a major closedown of the Richmond branch from 4 to 28 October. Following that, trains currently terminating/starting at Quakers Hill will be extended to/from the new Schofields station.

# RailCorp NSW: October Working Timetables

CityRail has issued a "reprint" of its Sydney Passenger Working Timetable of 11 October 2010, dated 23 October 2011, Weekday and Weekend books.

New Freight Working Timetables come into effect from 8 October - Book 5, Weekends, and 10 October - Book 4, Weekdays. These make allowance for freight trains via the South Sydney Freight Line from Sefton to Leightonfield, notwithstanding that, in fact, opening of the new line has again been deferred.

# CityRail: South Coast line closedown 26 Sept – 10 October

Engineering work south of Waterfall from 26 September to 10 October, including the NSW long weekend of 8-10 October, resulted in buses replacing most trains between Waterfall and Wollongong, and trains between Nowra, Kiama, Dapto, Port Kembla and Wollongong operating to an amended timetable. During the morning peak, trains continued to operate from the South Coast to Central/Martin Place, although departing up to 20 minutes earlier than normal. During the afternoon peak, trains operated from Central to the South Coast although, in some cases, arriving 20 minutes later than normal. Some buses operating from Waterfall to Wollongong were extended to Kiama/Nowra. Timber sleepers were replaced with concrete sleepers and new rail and ballast installed on 3.5 km between Bulli and Corrimal at a cost of \$6 million. There

was also general maintenance. The next stage of the South Coast track reconstruction program is due to take place with a three-week closedown in November/December between Nowra and Dapto.

# **Countrylink: Elvis Express**

The next Elvis Express to the annual Countrylink sponsored Elvis Festival will depart Sydney Central on Friday 13 January 2012 at 09:23, Strathfield 09:34, Parramatta 09:46, Penrith 10:11, arriving Parkes at 16:14. The return train departs Parkes on Monday 16 January at 08:30, arriving Penrith at 14:58, Parramatta 15:24, Strathfield 15:39 and Sydney Central 15:52. An Elvis impersonator will perform in each carriage.

## **ARTC: North-South line**

On 1 August the **ARTC** signed an agreement with Leighton for the completion of the South Sydney Freight Line for \$150 million. The contractor's website seems to confirm that the next stage will be for the remainder of the SSFL with no suggestion that there will be any intermediate stage such as Leightonfield to Liverpool. The announcement lists October as the starting date with completion by the end of 2012 but some work has started at sites where there had not been anything done previously.

In June it was promised that the second re-instated **V/Line** train would return on the Victorian NE line in August. As of the end of September, there is still not a word about it.

The project to eliminate sharp bends on the **North Coast line** has reached a milestone with track realignment completed between Mindaribba and Paterson and between Nambucca Heads and Raleigh.

#### **ARTC: East-West line**

Elders Loop, 1800 metres in length, 67 km from Melbourne, was commissioned on 12 July. Manor Loop, 44 km from Melbourne, was relocated 50 metres in the up direction on 17 July. This is to allow for construction of Werribee West Junction for the Regional Rail Link.

#### ARTC: Charbon-Kandos closed

From 27 July 2011 the line between Charbon and Kandos, 4 km, was booked out of use, following closure of the Kandos cement works. However, it is possible that the factory may re-open in a few months.

# V/Line: Extra trains for Wendouree

The number of trains for Wendouree passengers will more than double from Sunday 9 October. V/Line will extend 85 existing weekly Ballarat trains. There were 63 weekly services, mainly during peak times and demand for extra trains has steadily grown. From 9 October there will be 158 trains per week at Wendouree.

The Public Transport Minister, Mr Mulder said as many trains as possible had been extended from Ballarat to Wendouree. The single track and limited number of drivers meant some trains still had to start and finish at Ballarat. "As more drivers come onboard and infrastructure improvements are considered, V/Line has the potential to extend even more trains to Wendouree in the future," he said. The cost of the improvements is \$470,000 pa.

A new timetable is available at **www.vline.com.au\_**and from staffed stations. The Minister's press release said that all times remain the same on the Ballarat line, except for the addition of the new Wendouree services, but this is not so. Firstly, many down trains now appear to arrive Ballarat earlier than before, but this is timetabling sleight of hand. The recovery time in the schedule for those trains extended to Wendouree has been transferred from the Bungaree Loop-Ballarat section to the Ballarat-Wendouree section. Secondly, most up trains on weekends now leave Ballarat one minute earlier than previously and take one minute longer to reach the metropolitan area.

# V/Line: North East bus alterations 26 June

Since 26 June:

- An additional bus runs every morning Mondays to Fridays from Corowa at 07:40 via Wahgunyah and Rutherglen
  to Wangaratta arriving at 08:30, where there is a lengthy connection to the 10:00 bus departure. This is in
  addition to the existing Mon, Wed, Fri departure which has been retimed to depart Corowa at 06:20 to connect
  with the re-instated passenger train. The afternoon departure from Corowa at 16:05 now runs on Mondays to
  Fridays instead of only on Wednesdays and Fridays.
- The 09:20 Mon, Wed and Fri Beechworth to Wangaratta V/Line bus departs five minutes earlier at 09:15 and runs via Oxley and Milawa. The 15:30 Wangaratta-Beechworth bus also serves these two new points.

# V/Line: Timetable booklets 24 July

V/Line has reprinted the following regional timetable booklets, effective 24 July 2011: Northern Victoria
South Western Victoria
Western Victoria.

#### V/Line: Patronage soars

Patronage on V/Line has more than doubled since 2004 attesting to the success of the Regional Rail network. V/Line's annual report shows more than 14.7 million passengers boarded trains and buses across the state in the year to June 2011. The record figure represents a sharp jump from 7.25 million trips in 2004/05.

Punctuality on short and long-distance services outside the metropolitan network in 2009/10 fell to 94.6% from 95.6% in the previous year. Customer satisfaction with V/Line train services dropped slightly to 73.4% from 74.5%. Satisfaction among bus passengers was 76.4%, down from 75.4%.

During the 2010 AFL season, 232,000 passenger trips were made on the regional "footy trains", particularly between Melbourne and Geelong, an 8.1% increase on the previous year.

# Metro Trains Melbourne: Patronage soars

Weekday patronage on Metro Trains Melbourne has increased 41% in the past five years to an average of 736,000 daily. Weekend patronage has soared even more, doubtless due to changing social habits. Since 2004-05 Saturday patronage has increased 56% to an average loading of 342,000, and Sunday patronage has increased by 92% to 282,000. The *Age* (17 September) provided Weekend patronage figures for a few stations:

	2004-05	2009-10
Flinders St	60,110	77,860
Southern Cross	17,970	46,510
Melbourne Central	17,170	40,470
Parliament	7,570	13,240
Richmond	7,020	8,090
Box Hill	3,590	8,400
Caulfield	5,560	8,220
Springvale	3,330	8,600
Noble Park	2,700	9,050
Footscray	6,890	10,840

# V/Line: Yaapeet branch

The Dimboola to Rainbow section of the Yaapeet wheat freight branch in the Mallee, 66 km, will reopen for this year's harvest. Rehabilitation has involved \$5.3 million from the State government and \$1 million from Grain Corp. It will allow 120,000 tonnes of grain to be moved by rail. The Yaapeet line was last used to regularly haul grain in 2006, although it was temporarily reopened in 2010.

# **Metro Trains Melbourne: South Morang line**

Duplication from Keon Park to Epping is expected to be commissioned in November.

# Metro Trains Melbourne: Longer trains?

The *Herald Sun* (19 September) reported that Metro Trains Melbourne is considering longer trains to deal with booming patronage. The idea, raised in private talks with the State government, suggests nine carriage trains on the Dandenong line – about 70 m longer than the present six car trains. Platforms would need to be extended and there would also need to be alterations to signals and overhead lines. But not all stations would have platforms extended. Longer trains could run express, bypassing stations with shorter platforms. Cost estimates are yet to be completed, but Metro engineers believe it can be done.

# **Victoria: Public Transport Development Authority**

Legislation to establish a Public Transport Development Authority (PTDA) was introduced into State Parliament on 14 September. The authority is expected to be running in the first quarter of 2012. Minister for Public Transport Terry Mulder said, "The new authority will be the face of public transport and will be responsible for planning, coordinating and integrating transport services throughout Victoria. It will focus on the core business of a good public transport system — trains, trams and buses that run on time, simple and reliable timetables, passenger comfort and timely and accurate passenger information. Establishing the new authority through legislation ensures it can be properly scrutinised by Parliament which is critical when one of the things we want to overcome is accountability-dodging within the transport management sector. The current tangled web of bureaucracies allows agencies to shift blame and avoid responsibility but this will be a thing of the past under the new authority."

The primary objectives of the PTDA will be:

- Ensuring the public transport system operates as an integrated transport system which seeks to meet customer service needs:
- Managing the public transport system in a manner which supports a sustainable Victoria;
- Contributing to social wellbeing by providing access to opportunities and supporting liveable communities;
- Promoting economic prosperity through efficient and reliable movement of public transport users while also supporting rail freight services; and
- Improving the safety of public transport for passengers and staff.

# Victoria: Hungry and thirsty passengers

All but one of the six or seven food outlets formerly on the main concourse of Southern Cross station, Melbourne, has closed. The *Age* of 29 June said that this is partially because of diesel fumes. A wall hides some of the closed outlets. This is covered with two large historical photos - the famous, Clapp-inspired, original Fruit Drink Bar at Flinders St station, c1930s., and a photo of a news-stand at Spencer St station in 1927, including a banner advertising the original *Table Talk* magazine.

From 7 September no alcohol has been permitted to be sold on GSR's *Overland* within Victoria, although it is still available in SA. This appears to be a State government decision. Alcohol has not been available on V/Line trains for some time. *Overland* crews were advised by phone about 1100 of the day the ban came into effect, during an eastbound journey. In the past in the US, some trains stopped and started alcohol sales as trains crossed state borders.

An interesting exhibition about the history of train catering in **NSW** is at Rail Heritage, Sydney Central station (opposite platform 7), Mondays to Fridays, until 1 April 2012.

# **Yarra Trams**

Overcrowding in Melbourne trains has fallen to a six year low but overcrowding on trams has become dramatically worse in the past year, according to Department of Transport reports obtained by the *Age*. A tram survey, conducted in May,

focused on 13 major stops in and around the CBD in morning and afternoon peaks. It reveals the likelihood of trams at those locations carrying more passengers than the government's own load limit, which varies depending on the tram size, had almost doubled compared to the previous year. The peak hour crush means that trams at seven of the 13 locations, including along Victoria Street and Wellington Parade, regularly breach the limit in the morning peak, while four locations have a similar squeeze in the afternoon. The most overcrowded are city-bound morning services such as the no. 55 and no. 48 with 17% too many passengers. Tram overcrowding surveys in May began only in 2009 and it is understood methodology changes make it difficult to compare that with the most recent figures. Despite patronage growing by about one-third in the past seven years to 181 million trips annually, just five new trams, which can carry a total of fewer than 800 passengers, have been added.

#### SA ore lines

It is believed that One Steel is proposing to buy into the Wilcherry mine near Kimba on the Eyre Peninsula and build a railway from Buckleboo to Iron Knob and port facilities at Whyalla.

# WA grain lines

Lightly used grain lines York-Quairading, Merredin-Trayning, and Yilliminning-Bruce Rock closed from 1 July, although they may still be used for locomotive and rolling stock transfers.

#### Pilbara iron ore

On 24 June the WA government approved construction of a 342 km heavy duty railway from Port Hedland south to Roy Hill for Hancock Prospecting. It is expected to cost about \$7.2 billion and will be designed for possible third party access.

# Hamilton-Auckland passenger train?

A Hamilton to Auckland commuter train has been recommended by a working party investigating it for the Waikato Regional Council. Trains would run from Frankton station in Hamilton, via The Strand to Newmarket in Auckland at peak times. An off-peak service could operate between Frankton and Britomart station in Auckland. Trains would stop at Huntly, Te Kauwhata, Tuakau, Papatoetoe and Newmarket. A 96-passenger Silver Fern railcar would be used. The group believes there could be approximately 130 passengers a day. The Government will not fund the service and it would need ratepayer subsidy.

**Thanks** to Tony Bailey, Scott Ferris, Peter Hobbis, Albert Isaacs, Victor Isaacs, Geoff Lambert, Michael Marshall, Lourie Smit, Stephen Ward, *Age* (Melbourne), *Daily Telegraph* (Sydney), *Herald Sun* (Melbourne), *Railway Digest, Sydney Morning Herald, Somersault* (journal of the Signalling Record Society of Victoria), www.vicsig.net and www.aktnz.co.nz for Railway news.

# **BUS NEWS**

## **ACT - Canberra**

During the annual **Floriade** floral festival in Canberra, running from 17 September until 2 October, Murrays Coaches has been contracted by city centre retailers to run a scheduled shuttle bus service from the Canberra Centre to Floriade every 45 minutes from 09:00 until 17:00 on Thursdays to Sundays.

Canberra's troubled bus service to the **airport** has had another change. On 18 July Deanes Buslines drastically reduced the service from 28 to eight services a day (see August *Table Talk* page 8). Then from 4 September Deanes discontinued operation of the service. From 5 September a service has been provided by Royale Coaches. This company also operates booked mini-bus services to Sydney and Gold Coast Airports. There are now ten services a day on weekdays – five in the morning and five in the afternoon. They depart Canberra Airport hourly from 07:08 to 11:08 and hourly from 13:38 to 17:38, with departures from the City Interchange hourly from 07:38 to 11:38 and from 14:08 until 18:08. Weekend services depart the Airport at 08:08, 09:08, 10:08, 15:38, 16:38 and 17:38, with return services from the City Interchange 30 minutes later.

Royale Coaches' new timetable is on our front cover - including the mis-spelling of the intermediate point of Russell.

# **New South Wales - Sydney**

#### Veolia Transport - Harris Park Hop

Parramatta City Council has contracted Veolia to run a free bus, entitled The Harris Park Hop, which commenced on Friday 26 August 2011 and will continue until Friday 25 November 2011, for a three month trial. The service runs 14 trips at a frequency of 15 minutes from Parramatta to Harris Park during weekday lunch hours from 11:30 to 15:00. The new service is designed to showcase Harris Park as a top multicultural dining destination. There are more than 300 businesses and a multitude of restaurants with authentic cuisine from all over the world. It is also New South Wales' largest Indian precinct, with more than 30 Indian restaurants. Throughout the trial, food businesses will offer 'Harris Park Hop specials' which will provide visitors a delicious lunch from a selection of multicultural cuisines. A dedicated vehicle appears to operate the service. For more information about the Harris Park Hop launch or to view a map of the service, visit www.parracity.nsw.gov.au/harrisparkhop

## **Hillsbus - Dural Timetable Adjustments**

Minor adjustments to the Hillsbus Dural Depot timetables started on Monday 12 September 2011. These changes address a range of service connection issues and community feedback. New timetables are now available and are being distributed to passengers of these routes. Timetables affected are:

603 - Parramatta to Glenhaven

620/1/2/ 642 - Castle Hill & Dural to City & North Sydney

625 - Parramatta to Pennant Hills

626 - Pennant Hills to Dural

632/3 - Castle Hill to Pennant Hills/Hornsby 635/650/1/2/3 - Castle Hill & West Pennant Hills to City & North Sydney 637/8/9/40/41 - Dural District

#### Hillsbus - Route 631

A timetable for a new Route 631 has been noted on the Hillsbus website. It consists of two school-day-only trips from Castle Hill to Pennant Hills via Castle Hill Rd direct in the morning peak period, but with no equivalent trips in the afternoon. It appears to have commenced on 15 August 2011. It seems that these services were previously school specials to Mt St Benedict's school in Pennant Hills that are now fully fledged public runs.

### **Veolia Transport - Metrobus M92**

An updated timetable dated 12 September 2011 for Route M92 has been posted on Veolia's website. However this timetable only reflects that there has been a change of stops for this route at Bankstown Centro, where buses now enter the shopping centre bus interchange instead of passing outside it. However, a further new timetable is due to commence on Monday 10 October 2011. Transport Infoline 131500 already shows this newer timetable as from that date. In this timetable basically the frequencies will remain the same, but there will be shorter layover times as a result of the shorter trip times, which were implemented some months ago on a trial basis. This will now become permanent. In lieu of the current common weekend timetable for M92, there will be separate Saturday and Sunday sections of the paper timetable, as running times will be faster on Sundays than on Saturdays. Other Veolia Metrobuses will be similarly adjusted later on.

# **New South Wales - Rural and Regional**

#### Red Bus Service - Gosford free shuttle Route 41

Red Bus's "The Entrance to Gosford" timetable for Routes 17/8/9/20/1/2/3/8/40/1/2/3/ has been reprinted to include the "correct" Route 41 Shuttle Bus timetable which replaced the previous route 41 some months ago. On Saturdays both 131500 and the Transport NSW brochure show that the service operates every 20 minutes on Saturdays. However this timetable shows a break of 40 minutes between the 12:05 and 12:45 departures.

# **NSW Budget**

See item in Rail news.

#### Queensland - Brisbane

Hornibrook Buslines: New timetables effective 6 June 2011:

680 Redcliffe to Chermside

681 Mango Hill to North Lakes & 682 Mango Hill to Petrie Station via North Lakes

683 Kallangur to Petrie & 684 North Lakes to Kallangur.

#### SA – Adelaide Metro 2 October

Adelaide Metro has issued the following timetables effective 2 October 2011:

167,168, 169 City-Marleston & Glenelg via Richmond Rd

170, 172 City-Urrbrae/Kingswood via Duthy St

171,173 City-Mitcham Square & Blackwood via Fullarton Rd

174, 177, N178 City-Paradise/Newton via Payneham Rd

178,179, 579, N178City-Athelstone/Paradise via Payneham Rd

195, 196, 694 City-Blackwood via Unley Rd

222 City-Mawson Interchange

241, 245, 248 City-Warradale/Marion

280, 281, 522 City-Klemzig/Paradise

287, 288 City-Henley Beach/West Lakes via Ashley St

600, 601, 605, G30 Aberfoyle Hub-Marion & Darlington-Blackwood

712 Old Reynella Interchange-O'Halloran Hill TAFE

721, T721, N721 City-Noarlunga Centre Interchange via Main South Rd

722, T722 City-Noarlunga Centre via States Rd

723, 733 City/Marion-Colonnades Shopping Centre via Woodcroft

724, 734 Colonnades Shopping Centre-Marion

725 City-Noarlunga Centre Interchange via Acre Av

745, 747, T748 Seaford Circuit

B10, B11, B12, 312 Magill-West Lakes, Tennyson via Grange Rd

C1, C2, 548, N1 City-Elizabeth & Greenwith

C1, C2, G40, M44 Adelaide O-Bahn Mega GoZone

G4, G40 Golden Grove-Flinders Uni

G10, N10, N21, Blair Athol-Marion

H20, H21, 580 Paradise-Glenelg via Marion Rd

H22, H23, H24, H32, N22 Wattle Park-Henley Beach South

H30, N30 Paradise-West Lakes via Henley Beach Rd

H31 Rostrevor-Henley Beach via Cheadle St

JI, J2, 162 City-Glenelg & Harbour Town

J7, 374 West Lakes-Marion

These timetables, which have been included in the October Distribution List, have been produced by TransitGraphics and are in the new format. Due to new operator contracts some through routes have been discontinued.

JI Glenelg-Elizabeth via City has been split into JI Glenelg-City & CI City-Elizabeth. J2 Harbour Town-Greenwith via City has been split into J2 Harbour Town-City & C2 City-Greenwith. J1 & J2 continue as 174 through the city to Paradise via

Payneham Rd. This means 174 now travels via Grenfell St, City rather than North Tce. 171 Mitcham now operates through to 167, 168 Glenelg rather than 174. Previously 167,168 Glenelg ran through to 281 Paradise. Now 281 Paradise operates through to 287 Henley Beach, 288 West Lakes.

241, 245, 248 Marion & Warradale services which had operated through to 287, 288 now terminate at the City.

530 City-Firle via O-Bahn services and 578 City-Athelstone via O-Bahn have been discontinued, requiring O-Bahn passengers to transfer at Paradise. Also 521 City-Paradise via O-Bahn has been discontinued and replaced by new 280 Klemzig-Paradise, requiring passengers to transfer at Klemzig.

548 Greenwith-Marleston TAFE has been split into 548 Greenwith-City & new 169 City-Marleston TAFE. J7 West Lakes-Flinders Uni is now West Lakes-Marion. G10, 600, 601 buses no longer link through with J7.

# Victoria - Melbourne

### New Kinglake service:

Route 565 Whittlesea – Kinglake via Humevale commenced on 12 September 2011 for a trial period of six months. Operated by Dyson's, departures from Kinglake are at 07:10 and 09:15 weekdays and 09:55 Saturdays. Return trips depart Whittlesea at 16:50 and 19:15 weekdays, 17:40 on Saturdays. Some trips are through routed with 562 Greensborough to Whittlesea.

#### Other new timetables:

562 Greensborough to Whittlesea (Dyson) – new timetable from 12 September in conjunction with the introduction of route 565 above.

508 Alphington to Moonee Ponds (Dyson) - reprinted with train times effective 10 October 2010.

684/685/686/687 (McKenzies) - bus times 6 June 2010/train times 8 May 2011 v1 (11 July).

900 (joint Eastrans/Grenda) - bus times 10 October 2010/train times 8 May 2011 v1 (11 July).

# Victoria - Regional

To improve efficiency of services, **Bendigo** bus routes 9 and 14 were changed from Monday, 12 September 2011:

- Route 9 to East Bendigo: buses no longer travel via Pall Mall. Instead, buses travel via Myers St. The bus stop for passengers travelling to East Bendigo is located on Mitchell St, outside Toyworld.
- Route 9 to Bendigo Station: buses are not affected.
- Route 14 to Strathdale: buses now travel via Ellis and Sharon Streets to a new terminus in Sharon St, outside La Trobe University.
- Route 14 to Bendigo: buses leave from the new terminus in Sharon St.

Yea to Yarra Glen and Healesville: This trial service runs three days per week; on Thursdays from Yea to Yarra Glen and on Fridays and Saturdays to Healesville. The trial has been extended twice (although not reported in these pages) but is due to finish on 31 December 2011. Seymour Coaches driver Leif Elenius said that whilst there were a few regular passengers, numbers still need to increase to improve the likelihood of the State government making the service permanent. Copies of the timetables for this service are available in the October 2011 AATTC Distribution List.

Warrnambool bus timetable (Transit South West) - February 2011. The Warrnambool to Port Fairy service is Route 10.

# WA - TransPerth: 11 & 18 September changes

The following timetables were issued effective 11 September 2011 (18 September for Eastern 104):

South Eastern 17 (Swan Transit)

517/8/9 Murdoch-Southern River, Piara Waters, Armadale

Postponed due to uncompleted roadworks.

South Eastern 19 (Swan Transit)

34 Perth-Cannington via Como

35 Perth-South Perth (new)

Route 72 no longer appears on this timetable but is still contained on South Eastern 15

Western 38 (Veolia Transdev)

502 Fremantle-Bull Creek via Sainsbury Rd

Western 40 (Veolia Transdev)

501 Fremantle-Bull Creek via Marmion St

Saturday service improved from 60 minutes to 30 minutes.

Eastern 100 (Swan Transit)

36 Perth-Midland

37 Kings Park-Perth Domestic Airport

40 Perth-Redcliffe

Sunday route 37 services improved from 60 minutes to 30 minutes.

Eastern 104 (Path Transit)

340 Bassendean-Caversham

341/2 Morley-Beechboro

Southern 123 (Swan Transit)

527 Cockburn Central-Aubin Grove (extended)

Southern 124 (Veolia Transdev)

540/1/2/3 Kwinana Local Services

Southern 130 (Veolia Transdev)

557/562 Rockingham-Port Kennedy, Secret Harbour West

Southern 131 (Veolia Transdev)

558/9/61 Rockingham-Mandurah, Secret Harbour, Secret Harbour West

Southern 133 (Veolia Transdev)

591/2/4 Mandurah-Erskine, Dawesville West, Dawesville East

Southern 135 (Veolia Transdev) (new)

564 Rockingham-Baldivis via Arpenteur Dr (amended route)

568 Warnbro-Baldivis via Baldivis Rd (new).

#### **Proposed Butler Changes**

New route 480 Clarkson-Butler via Marmion Av will be co-ordinated with upgraded 490 Clarkson-Two Rocks to provide a bus every ten minutes in peak, every 30 minutes off peak, and every 60 minutes on weekends between Clarkson and Marmion Av, Butler.

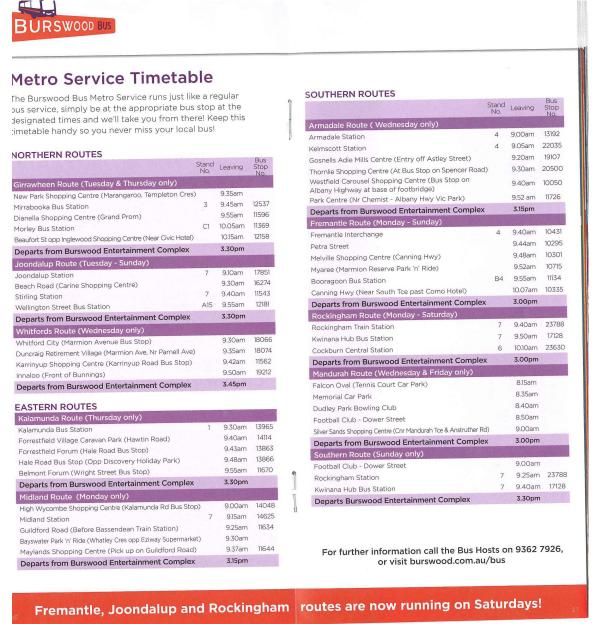
#### **Proposed Mandurah Changes**

588 Mandurah Stn-Silver Sands, 589 Mandurah Stn-Madora Bay to be renumbered 583, 584 respectively and operate directly to Mandurah Stn via Allnutt St rather than via Mandurah Foreshore.

590 Mandurah Stn-Mandurah Foreshore to be replaced by new 588 Mandurah Shuttle (clockwise) and new 589 Mandurah Shuttle (anti-clockwise).

## **Burswood Casino bus**

The following timetable is undated but believed to be current.



**Thanks** to: AREA, Tony Bailey, Ian Cooper, Hilaire Fraser, Robert Henderson, Peter Hobbis, Victor Isaacs, Duncan MacAuslan, Michael Marshall, Len Regan, Lourie Smit and ATDB, Viclink, Roger Wheaton, David Whiteford, *The Yea Chronicle* for Bus news.

# FERRY NEWS

# **Sydney Ferries**

140 weekly services discontinued by the former NSW government are to be re-instated from 24 October. There will also be an extra 25 weekly services along the Parramatta River. The new timetable provides for:

#### Woolwich/Cockatoo Island:

- Current 06:35 weekday service to Woolwich will change to 06:30 and be combined with a Parramatta River service to Rydalmere.
- Additional evening departures from Cockatoo Island to Circular Quay on Saturday evenings on the Parramatta River route.

#### Mosman route:

- Restoration of half-hourly service between 09:30 and 15:30, with Sydney Buses timetables amended to ensure connections.
- Mosman services between 0930 and 15:30 will now depart from Wharf 2 instead of Wharf 4.

#### Neutral Bay route:

 Restoration of half-hourly service between 09:30 and 15:30, with Sydney Buses timetables amended to ensure connections.

#### Darling Harbour/Balmain East route:

 The 17:55 departure from Circular Quay will now depart at 17:50 on weekends and public holidays, to avoid congestion on Wharf 5.

#### Parramatta River route:

- New 06:30 weekday service from Circular Quay to Rydalmere, via Woolwich.
- Current 07:15 service from Sydney Olympic Park to Darling Harbour will be extended one stop and start at Rydalmere at 07:10.
- New 07:25 weekday service from Rydalmere operating all stops to Darling Harbour.
- Minor changes to the 15:10 weekday service from Circular Quay to Rydalmere and return.
- New 17:03 weekday limited stops service from Circular Quay to Meadowbank and return 17:38 from Meadowbank all stops to Circular Quay filling a two hour gap.
- New 19:05 weekday service from Circular Quay all stops to Sydney Olympic Park via North Sydney filling an hourly gap.
- Minor changes to late night services on a Saturday, with additional evening departures from Cockatoo Island to Circular Quay at 20:56, 22;06 and 23:06, and
- Current 18:00 service express to Parramatta will change to an 18:05 departure on weekends and public holidays to avoid congestion on Wharf 5 at Darling Harbour.

Thanks to Tony Bailey and Lourie Smit or Ferry news.

# **AIR NEWS**

## **Domestic**

**Tiger Airways** resumed Melbourne-Perth flights from 7 September. This follows earlier resumption of flights from Melbourne to Sydney, Brisbane and the Gold Coast.

#### International

**Singapore Airlines** will increase services to Adelaide from daily to ten weekly flights between 9 December and 1 February, and Brisbane services from 21 to 24 weekly flights.

China Southern Airlines will increase Guangzhou-Brisbane flights from three to four a week and add Beijing to the route.

Thanks to Tony Bailey, the Australian and the Canberra Times for Air news.

# **AND FINALLY**

An **Indian Railways** special train from Tirupati to Varanasi lost its way and ended up at a wrong destination. Officials only realized the mistake only after passengers started screaming about the train's "changed" path. The train passed through three railway divisions before the gaffe was noticed. The furious passengers then informed station authorities, who immediately alerted the divisional officer. Since it was a special train, many on-duty staff were not aware of the train schedule. While the train was given clearance to return to Vijayawada, officials had a three-hour teleconference where it was found that a communication gap had led the train to the wrong route. The Warangal station superintendent requisitioned an engine to change the direction of the special train after nearly 1,000 passengers rushed to his cabin.

Thanks to Tony Bailey for this item.

The Editor adds: Before you laugh too much, I recall that in 1995 a group of AATTC members were travelling on the **Countrylink** evening train from Sydney to Canberra after the Association's AGM. The train had a scheduled diversion via Granville because of trackwork. However at Granville, the train was sent on to the wrong line. That mistake was discovered immediately, but it did take quite a while to sort out.



# Members' News - October 2011

# Australian Association of Timetable Collectors aattc.org.au

# AATTC AGM: 15 OCTOBER 2011, 1400, QUEANBEYAN

The AGM will be on Saturday 15 October at 1400 (2 pm) at Queanbeyan Railway Station. The AGM will be preceded by our usual social lunch. This will be at the Central Café, 111 Monaro St, Queanbeyan at 1230. The AGM is being hosted by the Canberra Division.

# **DIVISION MEETINGS**

**Adelaide:** Meetings are held twice a year at 2c Bakewell St Tusmore 5065. Inquiries to Adelaide Convenor, Roger Wheaton, at *rogertw@adam.com.au* or 08-8331 9043.

**Brisbane:** The next meeting will be on Sunday 20 November at 1400 (2 pm) at 8 Coachwood Street Keperra. Attendees are invited to bring a favourite timetable for discussion. Inquiries to Brian Webber *bwebber5@bigpond.com*, 07-3354 2140 or 8 Coachwood St, Keperra.

**Canberra:** The Canberra Division meets at 1830 on the second Thursday of **every** month at the Ainslie Club, Wakefield Avenue, Ainslie. Good conversation and a meal are features. Enquiries to Ian Cooper, GPO Box 1533, Canberra ACT 2601, *iancooper@goldweb.com.au* or 02-6254 2431.

**Melbourne:** Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of odd months from March to November. All meetings commence at 2000 at the home of David Hennell, 3/29 Croydon Road, Surrey Hills, which is a short walk from Chatham Railway Station on the Lilydale/Belgrave line.

**Sydney:** Sydney meetings are held at 1400 on the first Saturday of February, May, August and November at the church hall, Roseville Uniting Church, 2 Lord St, Roseville. This is a very short walk from Roseville Railway Station on the North Shore line. All members and non-members are welcome. Large grab tables for the exchange of timetables, and cake, are always features. Inquiries to the Sydney Convenor, Geoffrey Clifton, *G.Clifton@itls.usyd.edu.au* or GPO Box 1963, Sydney NSW 2001.

# **AATTC AUCTION**

The next AATTC Auction is coming up in November. Our Auctioneer, Stephen Ward, would like to hear of any items you may have for sale. Please note his altered contact details:

Mail: Unit 12, 1219 Centre Road, Oakleigh South, Vic 3167, or

E-mail: swar3841@bigpond.net.au or Stephen.ward@lnnf.com,

Phone 03-9544 2735, or 0429892263.

AATTC Members' News is compiled by Victor Isaacs, President. Contributions to <u>abvi@iinet.net.au</u> please. The deadline is the last weekend of each month.