

# The Times

January 2014

A journal of transport timetable history and analysis



Inside: The Paris-Baghdad Express
Alimentary My Dear Watson
Completely Ridiculous!
Going for Gold on the VR

RRP \$4.95 Incl. GST

## The Times

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Welcomes all contributions. Our Authors' Guide will soon be available on our web-site

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## **Elementary Dr Watson**

	MYE				l com		
Route#	Section	In/Out		Date	Time	Bus	Trip
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KNEW, AS WE SAT AROUND THE fire, drinking Mrs. Hudson's coffee, with Holmes puffing on his pipe and gazing at me in his habitual frustratingly patronizing manner, that he was inviting me to ask for an explanation. So I did.

"Well, Watson, it is like this: I will lead you down the path until the colour of her hair should be plain to you. Let us scrutinize this ticket.

First of all, we see that it is a Mybus3 ticket. This is a rather long-distance ticket, is it not?"

"How should I know?- I travel exclusively by hansom cab!"

"Well it is. These allow travel over 6 sections or more. They allow 10 trips- and all have been used up. Observe that there are 10 lines of dot matrix printing here, set out in the manner of a timetable."

"I *knew* you would manage to insert a reference to timetables into the conversation-you nearly always do."

"But, of course. And, in this case, the entries really do form a variety of timetable-they are a record of trips taken. One can see that by the numbers 1 to 10 down the right hand edge, followed by the notation NO RIDES LEFT. Notice also that this is a concession ticket- that is vital to our line of enquiry. If there were headings to these columns, they would be as I have written down in red on the ticket.

So- the first entry shows an inbound trip on a route 890 UNSW bus late in the afternoon of September the  $27^{\text{th}}$ .

That is a bus to Central Station, but it does not need a MyBus3— one can do that trip on a MyBus2. My *Baker St Irregulars* inform me that many students try to do the trip on a MyBus1. Sometimes they get

caught at Moore Park and are evicted from the bus. Well, anyway, using a MyBus3 for a MyBus2 trip alerts us that there are wheels within wheels. Does the date mean anything to you, Watson?"

"Well the date is the date upon which the Afghan bullet entered my shoulder and lead to my repatriation back to England and our long subsequent association."

"You amaze me sometimes Watson!"

"I amaze myself sometimes."

He grimaced. "In this case, the date fell on a Friday—it was the end of Second Term at UNSW. That does not tell us much until we come to the later entries."

"About the bus number", I expostulated, "I never knew that Sydney Buses had that many buses."

"You amaze me again", said Holmes, "but there are two reasons for this. First, when new buses are purchased and old ones scrapped, the old numbers are not always re-used immediately. However, in this case, the reason lies elsewhere- only the last three digits refer to the bus numberthe first digit has been replaced by a code which indicates the bus type."

"Geoff Lambert said in a recent issue of *The Times* that the UNSW bus carried route number 891".

"Hogwash- if Lambert said that, he was talking through his hat! That's the sort of stupid thing Lestrade of the Yard might have said. Lambert should know better. He should know that bus routes are numbered odd and even for Up and Down buses- just like trains- except the other way about. But I suspect he *didn't* say that- I suspect you didn't read the article with the attention to detail required from an Assistant Consulting Detective. At any rate, it is time for us

to move to Trip 2.

This is interesting Watson, is it not?"

"I suppose so- but I cannot for the life of me see why."

"It is interesting because it is the last bus out of Central Station on a Sunday night, the night before the UNSW 3<sup>rd</sup> term commenced. This hour is too late for her to have come down on a country XPT- even though we know they could easily run that late. No, I think she has come in from Cabramatta or somewhere similar.

"'She'?, 'Cabramatta?'"

Yes- I already told you that it was a woman as soon as you brought the ticket up from Mrs. Hudson. As for Cabramatta, we will get to that. We cannot see from this ticket where she would have got off the bus. However, we can see from the entry for Trip 3 that she boarded a 394 bus the next morning, not very far south of Maroubra Junction."

"How can you be so sure?"

"I am sure because it is in Section 6, and only 2 minutes prior to the time that this particular bus is due to pass through Maroubra Junction."

"I suppose you have memorized every Sydney Buses timetable?"

"Not a bit of it, old boy- I simply looked up *TripView* on my *I-phone* while you were still huffing and puffing from climbing the stairs. The complete running is there."

"Hmph!"

"That was the only trip she made on that day and the last she made for nearly a fortnight. I suspect that she normally walks from Maroubra Jct to UNSW- it is only a couple of km. UNSW students are renowned, however, for turning up early on the first day of term- until they see how the land lies and which lectures they can safely miss."

"Are they?- you seem to know an awful lot about them."

"Well, I do, but only because I browse the UNSW transport web-page. And, besides, Geoff Lambert said as much in his article in *The Times*- I thought you said you had read that? Trips 4 and 5 are fairly plain on their face, are they not?"

"No- they mystify me as much as the others."

"They are plain to a Consulting Detective such as myself. I dare say brother Mycroft—so much more a man of the world than am I—would be able to fill you in... she's a rager. She went raging in Oxford St on that night. Oxford St never really warms up until midnight and it mostly winds down by about 4 AM. That is why it is plain on its face. She probably went with her girlfriends- they do that you know"

"No, but I will let it pass- please carry on."

"As you wish. So, here we are at trip 6, a relatively early return from UNSW- I am sure you will agree. She must have wanted to get a good night's sleep."

"Holmes- I cannot, for the life of me, deduce such abstruse factoids from a bus ticket!"

"Watson- you only need to look at the next line down to see why.

She catches an X94 bus at a relatively early hour. Now, the X94 will not stop to set down at UNSW, so she is on an urgent errand to somewhere north of it. This bus reaches Martin Place *via* the Eastern Distributor Tunnel. It emerges from the tunnel at the Mitchell Library, just down the road from the Conservatorium of Music. I happen to know—and you can hardly protest surprise at this, because I looked up the timetable—that, on that morning, the Conservatorium began its 2013 auditions for post-graduate admissions into its 2014 courses. She arrived early for the exam. I am sure she had her violin with her."

"See here Holmes, it's all very well for you to deduce, on our first meeting in 1888, that I had just returned from Afghanistan, but this is simply beyond the pale."

"No it is not. You wrote of that in *A Study in Scarlet*, admitting that it was an absurdly easy deduction for me to have made then. Let us now carry the story forward to trip 8, which was on the L94, 1201 service.

It may have been running a little bit late, but we can see, from the time she boarded (1210), that she probably did not board at the Quay. That is another clue. She probably boarded at Martin Place, given the boarding time."

"I hope the audition went well", said I, straining to add a note of levity to Holmes'

dispassionate discourse.

"But, naturally it went well. She was accepted into the course. Why else would she go raging afterwards on a Monday night?

Monday is not a night for raging on Oxford St.—*ipso facto*, something special had happened. I deduce it was a positive outcome—had it been a negative outcome, she would probably have gone west to her Uncle and Aunty in Cabramatta."

"I am ashamed to admit it, but I will agree that it is absurdly simple when you put it in your usual logical manner. You have led me by the nose down a very mazy path, but I am still unable to deduce the colour of her hair."

"You know my methods. Apply them."

"I cannot."

"Yes you can. How often have I said to you that, when you have eliminated the impossible, whatever remains, however improbable, must be the truth?"

"I *still* cannot- and it is now time for me to begin my house visits. My patients await me".

"Well my patience is exhausted—her hair must be black, surely, Watson? Nothing else will fit so nicely. Here we have a person almost certainly studying music at UNSW and who lives during term at Maroubra Junction-very probably in a communal flat-but goes somewhere else during term holidays. Dr Watson, I hate to type-cast people, as you well know, but Asian students comprise some 70% of those at UNSW and 90% of those studying music. The latter are nearly all girls. People like that live along Anzac Parade from Kensington as far south as Matraville. She clearly likes to let that lovely black hair down, but it simply would not do for an aspiring Sydney Symphony Orchestra

violinist to bleach it in the manner of so many of her fellow students. So it is black."

"Why is she a violinist?"

"Ah, here you have me hoist by my own petard, Watson. This I do not know for sure— but how could she choose otherwise than to study this most wonderful of all the instruments?", he said, taking up his own violin and commencing the *Barcarolle* from the *Tales of Hoffman*—his favourite.

I beat a hasty retreat.

Editor's note: I didn't make all of this up. A few years ago, I did find such a ticket wedged into the back of a seat in an L94 bus. I had the advantage of seeing it put there by a young Chinese violinist who boarded the bus near the Conservatorium of Music. After she got off - at Maroubra Jct, of course—I snaffled the ticket. The entries on the ticket were very much as were those on the ticket which Mrs. Hudson recovered from the gutter. I could readily see what Holmes was forced to deduce. I felt it would make a good story. I asked Linda, my Vietnamese Research Assistant, whether she thought it made sense and, more importantly, whether the story would be offensive to a person like her. Not a bit of it, said Linda. She in fact suggested the Cabramatta bit, because she made a trip from her parents to UNSW every day.

Between finding the ticket and sitting down to write this story, I lost the ticket somewhere. Not a good look for a timetable collector. It did, however, give me the opportunity to craft a "better" ticket, which better lent itself to a narrative.

If you go to the Conservatorium's web-site timetable page, you will see Holmes' music student illustrated there.



## A timetable for the Paris-Baghdad Express

### **NEVILLE FENN AND GEOFF LAMBERT**

n September 2008, I went on an independently-organised tour of Egypt. Whilst in Kharga Oasis I looked over a map of Southern Egypt looking at the proposed route from there to Luxor. I noticed a few odd names and spoke with our tour guide and asked for a detour the next day on our way to Luxor. "Not a problem" was the answer.

We left Kharga about 0800 and headed south for about thirty kilometres along the main road. We made a short stop at the Luxor turnoff before continuing south passing through new settlements known as Palestine, Kuwait and Baghdad before arriving at the destination we were heading for- Paris (some maps show Baris).

These settlements have been set up by the Egyptian Government to house the nomadic Bedouin tribes and water is piped up from Lake Nasser (south east of the region). As I have an interest in railways, I noticed railway tracks running alongside the main road as we approached Paris. Upon reaching Paris, I spotted the railway station and stopped for an inspection and photo-taking. There was a diesel locomotive [a Henschel AA22T- Ed] and one passenger carriage sitting in the platform [these were still there 3 years later, according to Google Earth- Ed]. There wasn't anybody else at the platform. I opened the door of the passenger carriage to have a look inside and disturbed a flock of pigeons which had settled in the carriage. They flew out an open door at the other end. They had evidently been there for quite awhile as there were droppings all over the seats and floor.

There were no signs on the platform or any information lying around and it looked fairly new. When we eventually reached Luxor that night, I enquired at the station

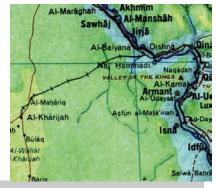
about the train and if there was a timetable available, but could not get an answer. When I arrived home in Australia, I researched on the internet and managed to find a timetable dated 2005 (page 6).

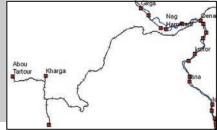
### **Editor's notes**

The Egyptian National Railways is the second-oldest railway system on the planet; the train in the photos belongs to ENR. The Kharga-Paris railway line—in the *New Valley Government* area—was part of a pet project of Hosni Mubarak to irrigate the desert valleys. Central to the idea was the pumping of water from the Aswan Dam to a valley at Koshi, to create the "Koshi Lakes". A pipeline from Koshi appears to irrigate the oases along the Paris line.

In 1906-08 the British constructed a "direct" line to El Kharga from near Al Balyana on the Nile (top map). In the 1970s, Janes World Railways still showed this line, but it is said that it later became submerged in sand. Google Earth still shows hints of its roadbed. In 1977, Egypt announced a plan to construct a phosphate railway to run from the port of Safaga to phosphate mines at Aboul Tartour, northwest of Kharga. This latter line appeared on maps of the 1980s (e.g. bottom map),

The phosphate railway crossed the Nile at Qena, where it also passed over the main line of the Egyptian State Railways. The two lines may not have been connected until the Kharga-Paris line was built. The latter was opened by Mubarak in October 1996 A trailing connection to the Nile valley line now exists at Qena. There is an elaborate triangular junction south of Kharga. The north east apex of this triangle connects to Kharga, a few kilometres away. The northwest apex wanders into the desert to Aboul Tartour.





The Kharga-Paris line was constructed in conjunction with the Qena-Kharga line and services began in 1996. One source suggests that the ultimate destination was to be Koshi. There is a stop block in the desert just south of Paris station, which itself is to the northeast of the Paris oasis.

Everything about the line was very grand, as exemplified by the Kharga Station (below). Even the station at Paris (page 5 Google Earth photo) is elaborate, with a vast landscaped parking area and driveway— but neither cars nor people. Paris Junction, a mere spot in the desert has two long platforms, a large station building, a signal box and signals. From Google Earth, it appears to have a rake of trucks standing in a siding. The track layout (drawn from Google Earth) is shown on the next page.

The timetable which Neville found on the Web is in English and was written in Excel. It is not at all clear that this was an official timetable—it may have been some-



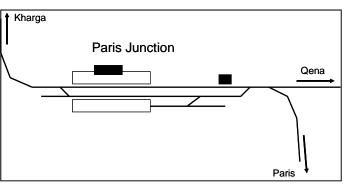
one's attempt to translate the Arabic PTT into English. The current PTT has also been translated into English and can be purchased on-line for £2.

Clearly—from both the timetable and Google Earth—the Paris line was worked out of

Kharga, trains returning from there to Paris Junction, where there was a facing connection

The service seems peculiar in that the Kharga-Paris line got a daily "commuter" (?) service (trains 885-888, Paris-Kharga-Paris), but the main line train from Luxor (#881) ran only on Thursdays. This train connected with the 888 Kharga-Paris service at Paris Junction. The latter train ran earlier on Thursdays to make this connection. The track layout reflects this priority— neither the local service nor the Luxor service was required to reverse at Paris Junction. The Luxor service was not so lucky— it had to reverse in each direction at Qena.

The reason for the choice of names for the stations between Paris Junction and Paris is obscure. If the railway was built to encourage Bedouin settlement, perhaps the names



were chosen to entice the settlers. The settlements all seem to be small oases, with vegetation and farmed plots.

Possibly phosphate trains still run to Aboul Tartur. It is likely that everything else is totally abandoned- a common fate of so many North African railways with ambitious dreams. Neville's photos clearly show the dilapidated and inactive state of the line in 2008. Parts of the Baris line were ripped up by rebels in the 2011 revolution and other parts have been covered by sand. As one blogger noted, on taking the photo at the foot of this page, "We passed the railway line that goes from Kharga all the way to Toshka, far out in the southern Sahara, now all sanded up and I wondered who cleans up the tracks when a train is coming.





		888	888
Stations	Arr/Dep	ThO	FX
Kharga	dep	13:30	15:00
Nasr el-Thawra	dep	13:46	15:16
Bulaq	dep	13:54	15:24
368 Km	arr	14:17	15:47
Paris Junction	dep	14:18	15:48
Palestine	dep	14:30	16:00
Jeddah	dep	14:44	16:14
Baghdad	dep	14:57	16:27
Paris Oasis	arr	15:10	16:40

		885
Stations	Arr/Dep	FX
Paris Oasis	dep	6:00
Baghdad	dep	6:14
Jeddah	dep	6:27
Palestine	dep	6:41
368 Km	arr	6:52
Paris Junction	dep	6:53
Bulaq	dep	7:17
Nasr el-Thawra	dep	7:25
Kharga	arr	7:40

### Notes

ThO Thursdays Only FX Fridays Excepted

Kilometres			881
from Cairo	Stations	Arr/Dep	ThO
671	Luxor	dep	7:00
609	Qena	dep	8:00
	368 Km	arr	14:10
	Paris Junction	dep	14:20
	Kharga	arr	15:10

Kilometres			882
from Cairo	Stations	Arr/Dep	FO
	Kharga	dep	8:00
	368 Km	dep	8:50
	Paris Junction	dep	9:00
609	Qena	dep	15:20
671	Luxor	arr	16:15

### Notes

ThO Thursdays Only FO Fridays Only



## Timetable Ridiculosities

HIS ARTICLE IS ABOUT SOME of the strange things in Australian railway timetables. It is not about the times of trains as such, but rather about other peculiar things associated with the timetables that appeal to my sense of the ridiculous. No doubt, many readers will have other favourite silly timetable items.

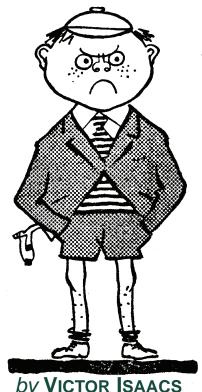
### HISTORICAL (also HYSTERICAL) VICTORIA, RMSP 20, WARBURTON LINE

The Warburton branch served beautiful hilly country east of Melbourne. It opened on 13 November 1901 and closed to passengers from 14 December 1964 and to goods from 29 July 1965 - one of a number of lines which were very foolishly closed just as expansion of the big city was underway.

Steam trains were replaced by Rail Cars in the late 1950s. However, sometimes steam trains still operated the service, when the Rail Cars were not available and at times of heavy traffic. When the Rail Cars were

introduced, RMSP (Rail Motor Stopping Place) No. 20 was opened between Lilydale and Mt Evelyn. The Rail Cars stopped there if required. However, a footnote to the timetable stated "Steam train, when substituted for Rail Motor, does not stop at this location." But people would not always know of a substitution in advance. Just imagine a poor prospective passenger requiring to travel to Melbourne for an urgent medical appointment. He is waiting at RMSP 20 and it is not until the train is almost in sight (because the location was on a downgrade) that he hears the "puff, puff" of a steam locomotive (left) rather than the growl of a Rail Car (right) and then experiences it passing through without stopping.

(Below) From Victorian Railways Metropolitan Time Table Alamein, Belgrave, Lilydale, Healesville & Warburton Lines (Road Motor) East Kew as at February 19. 1962, Price 3d. The bad news about RMSP 20 was in footnote F.



by VICTOR ISAACS

11-29-12	1	Mon. to Fri.	Mon. to Fri.	to Fri.	Sat.	Sat.	Sat.	Sun. A Pass.	Sun. B Pass.
WARBURTON Millgrove Wesburn Yarra Junction Launching Place Woori Yallock Killara Seville Wandin	Lv.	7 25 7 27 7 33 7 36 7 45 7 50 7 56	a.m.  11 4M  17 10  11 12  11 18  11 21  11 30  11 34  11 39  11 44	p.m. 4 29M 4 35 4 37 4 43 4 46 4 55 4 59 5 4 5 9	a.m. 7 14M 7 20 7 22 7 28 7 31 7 40 7 45 7 51 7 59	III 6M 11 6M 11 12 11 14 11 20 11 23 11 32 11 37 11 43 11 51	9.m. 4 54M 5 0 5 2 5 8 5 11 5 20 5 25 5 31 5 39	p.m. 6 15 6 21 6 24 6 30 6 34 6 44 6 49 6 54 7 0	b.m. 7 15 7 21 7 24 7 30 7 34 7 44 7 49 7 55 8
Mount Evelyn R.M. Stop. Place, No	20		11 52 5F	5 17 5F	8 12 SF	p.m. 12 4 5F	5 52 5F	7,10	8,11
LILYDALE R Mooroolbark Croydon Ringwood	{ <b>6</b> %	8 34E 8 40 8 45 8 49 8 52	P.M. 12 10E 12 16 12 16 12 16 12 16 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12	5 30C 5 36E 5 42 5 47 5 54 5 54 5 54 6 6 6 6 6 9 6 6 7 6 17	8 25C 8 30E 8 36 8 41 8 45 8 48 8 59	12 17C 12 21E 12 27 12 32 12 39 12 43 12 49 12 54 12 54 12 58 12 58 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	6 5C 6 9E 6 15 6 20 6 24 6 27 	7 26 7 34 7 40 7 45 7 48S 8 0\$	9 27 8 34 8 40 8 45 8 48\$ 9 0\$



WITH AN ALL-LINES TICKET Telephone 62 0311, Ext. 2376 for all details





### 170 GILMORE—BATLOW—KUNAMA.

Mile- mile fro Syd	age	DOWN.	1	UP.	2	2
Miles.	Chains.	WEEK-DAYS.	Mixed.	WEEK-DAYS.	Mixed.	Mixed.
		TUMUT††† dep.	Mons., Weds., Fris., Sats. a m	<b>KUNAMA **</b> †dep.	Tues. & Thurs.	Fris. & Sats. p m
328	57	Gilmore **† $\begin{cases} arr. \\ dep. \end{cases}$		Batlow†{arr. dep. Brightside*	 1 50	  2 15
331	23	Windowie * $\begin{cases} arr. \\ dep. \end{cases}$	 10 a 39	Wybalena * {arr. dep.	 2 6 2 a 11	 2 31 2a36
334	49	Wereboldera** $\begin{cases} arr. \\ dep. \end{cases}$	10 49 10 a 54	Shaw's*	a	a 3 3 0
341	52	Shaw's *	a a	$\mathbf{W}$ ereboldera** $\left\{egin{align*} & \mathrm{arr.} \ & \mathrm{dep.} \end{array} ight.$	3 a13	3038
342	62	$ \text{Wybalena} * \dots \begin{cases} \text{arr.} \\ \text{dep.} \end{cases} $	11 54 11 a 59	Windowie * $\begin{cases} \text{arr.} \\ \text{dep.} \end{cases}$	3 23	3 48
343	50	Brightside *	 p m 12 15		3a25	3a50
344	74	Batlow† {arr. dep. KUNAMA**†arr.		Gilmore **††† {arr. dep.	3 33 4 15 4 24	3 58 tl
350	21	KUNAMA**† arr.	***	TUMUT †††arr.	4 24	4 59

No. 1 connects at Gilmore with No. 9 Tumut Passenger. No. 2 connects with No. 12 Passenger at Gilmore on Fridays and Saturdays and with No. 14 Mixed on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Nos. 1 and 2 Mixed trains work all stations and sidings between Gilmore and Batlow.

All Up Mixed and Goods trains, whether controlled by the Westinghouse Air Brake or not must be stopped at the Stop Boards at mileages 350.0, 344.67, and 342.56, and vehicle hand-brakes applied; the brakes to be released at mileages 346.20 (Kunama Branch), 343.40 (Batlow Branch), and Wereboldera (Wybalena Bank).

There is no regular train service beyond Batlow, and the extension to Kunama is only worked by Shunting Trip from Batlow as may be necessary to meet requirements of traffic. Engine and Van of No. 1 to be used. Passengers may be allowed to travel between Batlow and Kunama by Shunting Trip, when running.

I was given a Victorian Railways All Lines Ticket during the school holidays. I explored Victoria. I was not bored.

### NSW, KUNAMA LINE

The mountainous Batlow branch line in Southern NSW actually extended another five miles (eight km) further to a location called Kunama. The line from the junction at Gilmore all the way to Kunama was opened on 17 December 1923, but the extension beyond Batlow was closed earlier than the rest of the branch — on 11 February 1957, one of the very few NSW lines to be explicitly closed by an Act of Parliament. However, the extension from Batlow to Kunama never made it into Pub-

lic timetables, for the reasons that there was no regular service on this stretch, and that there was nothing there anyway. Nevertheless, when the four times a week Batlow mixed train (no.1) was extended to Kunama, passengers could travel on it. In general, passengers were able to travel on goods trains in NSW, but in this case, the Working Timetable, for some reason, was absolutely explicit that they could do so. In the 1940s and early 1950s New South Wales Railways Southern Division Working Timetable included this note:

"There is no regular train service beyond



From NSW Railways Southern WTT of 30 November 1947

Batlow, and the extension to Kunama is only worked by Shunting Trip from Batlow as may be necessary to meet requirements of traffic. Engine and Van of No.1 are to be used. Passengers may be allowed to travel between Batlow and Kunama by Shunting Trip, when running."

I have a mental image of a prospective passenger who for some unfathomable reason wanted to travel from Batlow to Kunama and wouldn't / couldn't walk. Imagine him arriving at Batlow station. The Station Master says, "Sorry mate, no train to Kunama today. Try again in a couple of days. We may or may not have a train then."

### NSW, CROOKWELL LINE

Extract below from Country Time-Table New South Wales Government Railways From May 5, 1968, Price Ten Cents. This shows the Crookwell branch plus passenger services on the Picton-Mittagong Loop Line, once the Southern mainline and on the Unanderra-Moss Vale line, which has now become a freight mainline.

In the late 1960s/early 1970s the branch from Goulburn to Crookwell had a very sparse service – only thrice a week. Leaving Goulburn at the lovely time of 4.12 am, it was due in Crookwell at 7.2 am (such exactitude!). On Mondays and Fridays this was a Mixed train. However, the Public timetable went to some effort to explicitly state that on Wednesdays it was a "Goods train with passenger accommodation". Huh? Same service, same times, probably the same standard of accommodation. What was the practical difference? On the return journey the "Goods with passenger



,		GOU	LBU	RN-CF	OOKWELL			• TABLE
Height	Dist.	Si	uns ues	Thurs		Mons Fris	Weds only	
feet	miles		Mail	Mail		Mixed	Goods	
67 55 53	٠÷،	SYDNEY R 7 A/V[v]	9 50	p.m. 10 15	CD C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C	a.m.	a.m. ±.e	
53	7± 20 86‡	Liverpool It	0f 3 0f 29	10/28 10/53	CROOKWELL Iv	10 30		
2208	86 <u>1</u>		0f 29 2 f 43	1f 8 2x18	ROSLYN	8 11	11 17 5 8 8 11 38 5 8	
i			1x53	2x18	Woodhouselee	11 18 11 39	11 45 . 20	
2074	1374		ns, W	eds, Fris		p.m.	p.m. 10 2	
20/7	13/1		ced¶		The Forest	12 13	12 43 ¥ 8.	
	i	l ar			Argyle	1 7	1 38	
2096 2120	139 140‡	Argyle 4	12 4	Ved-	ar	Jx12	1×42	
2120 2523	140 <u>£</u> 148	Kenmore 4	46 22		GOULBURN ]	Pas		
2660	1564	The Forest 5 Woodhouselee 5	48		R	р.п <b>2</b>		
3225	162	PORIVE FEE 6	22 4	y Goods 1 passenger medatien nese	Moss Vale 2 ar	3 1	5	
	1684	McAlister 6	22 6 32 6 48	3 2 2	Liverpool Strathfield R	5d1: 5d3	2	
2910	173£	CROOKWELLar 7		-ae	SYDNEY RAN	5 5		

		SYI	ONEY to	Stations, (also CA	GOULB PTAIN'S F	URN—QUEANBE LAT Line)	YAN—	CANBERRA MA—BOMBALA	TABL	.E. 8
		Train No.—	II Sun Tu Thu Fri	ns es irs	39 Daily	Mons to Sats	255 Weds only	I3 Mons to Sats	Suns only	
Height feet 67 55 53 2208	miles 7½ 20	SYDNEY RAN		m. 45 58 22	P	*+ 2.m. 7 30 7 42 8  2 9 30	••	a.m. 9 52 10f 4 10f 25 p.m. 12 12 1x30	p.m. 5 25 5 6 37 5 6 5 7 7 38 8 42	
•		GOULBURN R)ar	Mons	Mons Weds Fris Sats	Daily	Mons Emo O D P	Weds only	43 Mons to Sats Goods§	Suns	
2074 2121 2170 2220 2258 2466 2325 2292	137½ 147 152½ 157 161 169½ 175½ 180	GOULBURN R IV Komungla Inveralochy Lake Bathurst Tarago Mount Fairy Butmaroo BUNGENDORE Hoskinstown	2a23 0 2a23 0 2 59	a.m. a.m. 1 58 2 1 7 3 7 3 34 2 1 2 3 34 3 34 3 34 3 34 3 34 3 3	a.m. 5 46  6 25  6 57	CANBERRA—MONARO EXPRESS  17   17   17   17   18   19   19   19   19   19   19   19	\$ Goods a.m.  \$ Goods a.m.	p.m. 2 30 a a 3 37 a a 4 37	9 31	
2848 2288 1901	204 192 197½ 202½	Captain's Flatar Burbong	3 44	4 10 mm 4 22 00 mm 4 32 mm 50	7 34 7 36 7 46	* <u>12 15</u> 12 18 12 28	<u>117</u>	6 17	10 42 10 45 10 55	
2430 2597 2419 2301 2324 2359	206½ 213½ 217½ 228 239 246	Tuggeranong Iv Royalla Williamsdale Michelago { ar Iv Colinton Bredbo	4 13 4 31 4 41 5 4 5 8 5 30 5 44	seeping and sitt	  	12.43 a 1.9 1.38		** ** ** ** ** ** ** ** **	••	
2383 2441 2662	257 262½ 268	Chakola Bunyan COOMA A/V Rar	6 11 6 22 6x42 Mons Weds Fris Sats Goods	Conveys through car with s	<u>::</u>	g g g g g g g g g g g g g g g g g g g	==	<u></u>	<u>:</u>	
2662 2929 3354 3503	268 278 284 292	COOMA A/V R iv Rock Flat Coonerang Nimmitabel	a.m. 7 39 a a 8 56 9 16	Conve	••	Sats p.m. 3 0 a 3 49 3 54	••	••	00 00 00	
3079 3242 2679 2294 2313	299 304 <u>1</u> 314 <u>1</u> 320 <u>1</u> 330	Maclaughlin	a a a a II 22		••	a	••	••	**	

P On Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays conveys air-conditioned through car, with sleeping and sitting accommodation from Melbourne to Canberra.

For other explanatory notes, see page 40.

accommodation" on Wednesdays ran thirty minutes later than the "Mixed" on Mondays and Fridays, but the running times were exactly the same. (Incidentally, isn't the name Crookwell an oxymoron?)

### **NSW/ACT, CANBERRA LINE**

In the 1960s and 70s there was a passenger train departing Sydney on Saturdays at 11.20 pm, arriving Goulburn at 4.0 am. There was a train departing Goulburn daily at 5.46 am and arriving Canberra at 7.46 am. Actually, on Sunday mornings this was the same train. But this fact was never mentioned in the timetables. It was a deep,

dark secret. If you happened to know about it, this through service provided a useful service after an evening at the fleshpots of Sydney.

But there was another, even bigger secret about the 5.46 am Goulburn-Canberra train. This conveyed a through combined sleeper/sitting carriage from Melbourne to Canberra. The NSW Railways also tried to keep this useful information from the public, only disclosing it in an easily overlooked footnote to the timetable. This through carriage and its southbound equivalent also never made it to the list of

sleeping carriages in the front of the Public timetable books.

An extract from Country Time-Table New South Wales Government Railways From May 5, 1968, Price Ten Cents. This shows the 5.46 am Goulburn to Canberra train plus other horror services on the Canberra line. is shown above.

### VICTORIA, WHITE CITY

White City was a station one km beyond Tottenham on the way to Sunshine. It served a very, very dreary industrial area. It had only one platform on the down side

## ST. ALBANS LINE TO MELBOURNE—MONDAYS TO FRIDAYS

ET. ALBANS Albion Sunshine Tottanham Wat Faducray Mid. Faducray Foducray South Kansington North Melbourns Spencer Screet Finders Screet (MELEO URNE)	 	1.v. 3 14 3 24 3 25 3 25 3 25 3 3 3 46 Ar. 1 45	3 32 3 36 3 38 3 47 3 47 3 49 3 55 3 55 4 7	58 2 4 4 8 11 13 4 16 4 17 22 4 228 Rwd	4 181 4 21 4 23 4 25 4 30 4 33 4 37 5hm	_	P.70. 4 36 4 40 4 42 4 449 4 51 4 51 5 5 3 6 Chtq	5 5 6 9 1 1 3 1 6 6 5 7 5 7 5 7 5 7 5 7 5 7 5 7 5 7 5 7	9.m. 5 7 5 11 5 12 5 22 5 22 5 33 5 34 Hor	5 21 5 23 5 27 5 30 5 34 5 37 5 40 5 43 5 44 Mor	p.m. 5 29 5 335 5 342 5 346 5 355 5 346 5 555 5 559 Ala	5 44 5 44 5 45 5 55 5 57 6 6 7 6 12 8 m	p.m. 5 50 5 50 5 50 6 3 6 5 6 10 6 19
BT. ALBANS Albion Sunthine Tottenham West, Footstray Mid, Footstray Footscray South Kensington North Melbourne Spencer Street Finders Street (MRLEOURNE)	 	Ev. 6 3	6 23 6 27 6 29 6 33 6 36 6 38 6 40 6 43 6 49 6 52	P.M. 6 53 6 57 6 59 7 7 6 7 10 7 15 7 18 7 22 GW	P.m. 7 21 7 25 7 37 7 34 7 36 7 36 7 37 7 41 7 47 7 50	P.M. 7 50 7 54 7 56 8 8 5 7 8 10 8 19	9.70. 8 24 8 34 8 35 8 35 8 38 8 44 8 46 8 46 8 46	9-m. 8-50- 8-54- 8-54- 8-54- 9-3- 9-7- 9-10- 9-11- 9-1	p.m., 9 17 9 21 9 27 9 30 9 31 9 34 9 34 9 34 9 46	0 15	P.M. 10 20 10 26 10 30 10 33 10 35 10 37 10 46 10 46 10 47 GW	6.m. 10 54 10 56 11 3 11 5 11 7 11 13	p.m. 11 21 11 22 11 23 11 27 11 32 11 34 11 34 11 44 11 47



The Victorian Rallways make every effort to ensure passenger comfort — even to non-smoking compartments. But such comfort cannot be assured without the cooperation of those who enjoy a smoke, whose consideration will be much appreciated.

ĸ

TRAIN GOES TO: Chen-Chaiteham. Als-Alsmain. Drg-Uandenong. Em-Eastmaivern
32-Belgrave. GW-Gien Waverley. Mort-Mordielloc. Rwa-Ringwood. Stam-Sandringham.

4-Train does not stop at this station.



and a number of down suburban trains stopped there. In the 1960s and 70s there was only one up train. It arrived empty, and then departed from the sole platform, using a crossover to gain access to the up line. The train went to Flinders St station and then in the 1960s on to Sandringham and in the 1970s on to Alamein. In other words, this train connected one of the dingiest parts of Melbourne to some of the most up-market residential suburbs.

The table at the top of page 10 is from the Victorian Railways Metropolitan Time Table Williamstown, Altona, St. Albans and Werribee Lines as at April 16, 1962, Price 3d. The one up train left White City at 4.17 pm and appears in this timetable from Tottenham at 4.18 pm.

### PRESENT DAY

### V/LINE, GIPPSLAND TOWNS

V/Line operates an excellent train service to Traralgon. The trains are supplemented by occasional buses. According to the current timetable there are three buses in the down direction, but none the other way. Between Warragul and Yarragon, these buses stop at the tiny settlements of Nilma and Darnum. But going the other

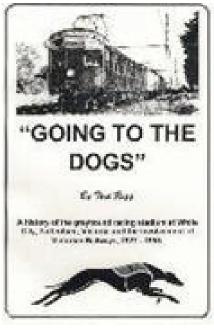
way, nothing stops at these places. You can go to Nilma and Darnum, but you can never come back!

How to get to Nilma and Darnum according to the current V/Line timetable of 28 April 2013, is shown on our page 11..

### V/LINE, BRIGHT BUS

The current printed and online PDF V/Line timetables inform us that the 1415 bus from Bright makes a nice 22 minute connection (1545 to 1607) at Wangaratta to the next train to Melbourne. But (there is always a "but"), this is not to a V/Line train, it is to NSW Train Link's daylight XPT on its run from Sydney to Melbourne. So, our prospective passenger having discovered this useful service, turns to V/ Line's online fare calculation facility and seeks to buy a ticket. This tells him explicitly to "Wait at Wangaratta Station for 2 h 31 min" from 1545 to 1816, that is, for the next V/Line train. Which V/Line documentation does he believe? And how does he obtain his through ticket?

V/Line's current Bright (pun intended) timetable, of 28 April 2013. is shown on page 12 (left upper). V/Line's fare calculation tool is shown below it. Which V/Line document do we believe?



### NSW, TRAIN LINK

Gladys' recent reforms have combined into NSW Train Link the long-distance trains of the former Countrylink with Interurban services to Newcastle, Blue Mountains and Goulburn of the former CityRail. But you will never know it from its Public timetables. Those for each category of train still refuse to admit that the other type of train exists. Try to plan your trip in designed ignorance!

NSW Tran Link's North West Public Timetable of 20 October 2013 appears on page 12 (right. It shows just one long-distance train. However, in fact, there are also many other passenger trains running south of Scone. But there is not even a hint of these in this publication.





## Traralgon – Melbourne

### Traralgon - Melbourne

		MON	DAY –	FRIDA	Υ															
Service No.		8400	8402	8404	8406	8408	8410	8412	8414	8416	8418	8420	8422	8424	8426	8428	C404	8430	8434	8432
Train/Coach		TRAIN	TRAIN	TRAIN	TRAIN	TRAIN	TRAIN	TRAIN	TRAIN	TRAIN	TRAIN	TRAIN	TRAIN	TRAIN	TRAIN	TRAIN	COACH	TRAIN	TRAIN	TRAIN
Seating/Catering							<b>★聖</b>							<b>★里</b>			ė.			★聖
							IC							IC						IC
							BD							BD					MA	BD
TRARALGON	dep	04:31	05:30	05:58	06:39	07:13	07:45	08:03	09:10	10:15	11:15	12:15	13:12	14:05	15:05	16:00		17:10	17:51	19:32
Morwell Stn		04:41	05:38	06:07	06:48	07:22	07:56	08:14	09:19	10:24	11:24	12:24	13:21	14:16	15:14	16:10		17:20	18:00	19:43
Moe		04:52	05:48	06:17	06:58	07:32	08:07	08:26	09:29	10:34	11:34	12:34	13:30	14:28	15:24	16:21		17:31	18:10	19:54
Trafalgar		04:59		06:23		07:38		08:33	09:36	10:42	11:42	12:42	13:38		15:36	16:28		17:38		20:01
Yarragon		05:05		06:28		07:43		08:39	09:41	10:47	11:47	12:47	13:45	GL	15:42	16:34		17:44		20:07
WARRAGUL		05:14	06:03	06:36	07:13	07:51	08:26	08:48	09:49	10:55	11:55	12:55	13:53	14:47	15:51	16:43		17:53	18:27	20:16
Drouin		05:20	06:09	06:41	07:19	07:56	08:33	08:55	09:54	11:00	12:00	13:00	13:58	14:54	15:57	16:49		17:59	18:33	20:22
Longwarry		05:26		06:47		08:02		09:05	10:00	11:06	12:06	13:06	14:05		16:04	16:56		18:08		20:32
Bunyip		05:30		06:51		08:06		09:09	10:03	11:09	12:09	13:09	14:08		16:08	17:00		18:12		20:36
Garfield		05:34	06:19	06:55	07:29	08:10	08:46	09:13	10:08	11:12	12:12	13:12	14:12	15:07	16:12	17:04	18:03A	18:16	18:45	20:41
Tynong		05:38		06:59		08:14		09:17	10:12	11:16	12:16	13:16	14:16		16:16	17:08	18:06	18:20		20:45
Nar Nar Goon		05:42		07:03		08:18		09:21	10:16	11:20	12:20	13:20	14:20		16:20	17:12	18:12	18:24		20:49
PAKENHAM		05:50		07:11	07:42	08:26	09:00	09:30	10:22	11:28	12:28	13:28	14:29	15:21	16:25	17:22		18:34	19:02	20:58
Berwick						08:35d														
DANDENONG		06:07d	06:51d	07:37d	08:02d	08:44d	09:17d	09:47d	10:46d	11:45d	12:45d	13:45d	14:46d	15:39d	16:49d	17:41d		18:54d	19:24d	21:17d
Clayton		06:20d	07:02d	07:51d	08:15d	08:54d		09:57d	10:56d	11:55d	12:55d	13:55d	14:56d		17:02d	17:56d		19:03d	19:33d	
Caulfield		06:33d	07:15d	08:05d	08:28d	09:07d	09:37d	10:06d	11:06d	12:06d	13:06d	14:06d	15:06d	16:05d	17:16d	18:09d		19:15d	19:43d	21:45d
Richmond		06:42d	07:25d	08:15d	08:38d	09:17d	09:47d	10:15d	11:15d	12:15d						18:21d		19:24d		
MELBOURNE																				
(Flinders Street)	arr	06:47d	07:30	08:19d	08:42d	09:23d	09:51d	10:19d	11:19d	12:19d	13:19d	14:19d	15:19d	16:19d	17:31d	18:25d		19:29d	19:57d	22:01d
(Southern Cross)	arr	06:59		08:25	08:47	09:28	09:57	10:27	11:27	12:27	13:27	14:27	15:27	16:44	17:42	18:31		19:35	20:06	22:06

		SATL	ATURDAY											SUNDAY									
Service No.		8404	8408	8410	8414	8418	8420	8422	8424	8426	8430	8432	8434	8404	8408	8410	8418	8420	8422	8424	8430	8432	8434
Train/Coach		TRAIN	TRAIN	TRAIN	TRAIN	TRAIN	TRAIN	TRAIN	TRAIN	TRAIN	TRAIN	TRAIN	TRAIN	TRAIN	TRAIN	TRAIN	TRAIN	TRAIN	TRAIN	TRAIN	TRAIN	TRAIN	TRAIN
Seating/Catering				**					★聖			<b>★</b> 里				<b>★</b> 聖						<b>★</b> 聖	
				IC					IC			IC				IC				IC		IC	
				BD					BD			BD				BD				BD		BD	
TRARALGON	dep	06:01	07:21	07:55	09:20	10:40	11:40	12:58	13:48	14:54	16:29	18:03	18:49	06:01	08:01	09:16	10:40	11:40	12:58	14:54	16:29	18:03	18:49
Morwell		06:10	07:30	08:06	09:29	10:49	11:49	13:07	13:59	15:03	16:38	18:14	18:58	06:10	08:10	09:27	10:49	11:49	13:07	15:03	16:38	18:14	18:58
Moe		06:19	07:39	08:17	09:38	10:58	11:58	13:16	14:13	15:12	16:47	18:25	19:07	06:19	08:19	09:38	10:58	11:58	13:16	15:12	16:47	18:25	19:07
Trafalgar		06:25	07:45		09:44	11:04	12:04	13:22	GL	15:18	16:53		19:13	06:25	08:25		11:04	12:04	13:22	15:18	16:53		19:13
Yarragon		06:30	07:50		09:49	11:09	12:09	13:28		15:24	16:59		19:19	06:30	08:30		11:09	12:09	13:28	15:24	16:59		19:19
WARRAGUL		06:38	07:58	08:36	09:57	11:17	12:17	13:37	14:32	15:33	17:08	18:44	19:28	06:38	08:38	09:57	11:17	12:17	13:37	15:33	17:08	18:44	19:28
Drouin		06:43	08:03	08:43	10:02	11:22	12:22	13:42	14:38	15:39	17:14	18:50	19:34	06:43	08:43	10:03	11:22	12:22	13:42	15:39	17:14	18:50	19:34
Longwarry		06:49	08:09		10:08	11:28	12:28	13:48		15:46	17:21		19:41	06:49	08:49		11:28	12:28	13:48	15:46	17:21		19:41
Bunyip		06:52	08:12		10:11	11:31	12:31	13:51		15:50	17:25		19:45	06:52	08:52		11:31	12:31	13:51	15:50	17:25		19:45
Garfield		06:55	08:15	08:56	10:14	11:34	12:34	13:54	14:51	15:54	17:29	19:03	19:49	06:55	08:55	10:17	11:34	12:34	13:54	15:54	17:29	19:03	19:49
Tynong		06:59	08:19		10:18	11:38	12:38	13:58		15:58	17:33		19:53	06:59	08:59		11:38	12:38	13:58	15:58	17:33		19:53
Nar Nar Goon		07:03	08:23		10:22	11:42	12:42	14:02		16:02	17:37		19:57	07:03	09:03		11:42	12:42	14:02	16:02	17:37		19:57
PAKENHAM		07:10	08:31	09:11	10:29	11:49	12:49	14:09	15:06	16:09	17:44	19:16	20:04	07:10	09:10	10:29	11:49	12:49	14:09	16:09	17:44	19:16	20:04
DANDENONG		07:27d	08:48d	09:28d	10:46d	12:06d	13:06d	14:26d	15:24d	16:26d	18:04d	19:34d	20:21d	07:27d	09:27d	10:46d	12:06d	13:06d	14:26d	16:26d	18:04d	19:34d	20:21d
Clayton		07:37d	08:57d		11:00d	12:19d	13:19d	14:39d		16:39d	18:19d		20:32d	07:37d	09:37d		12:19d	13:19d	14:39d	16:39d	18:19d		20:32d
Caulfield		07:47d	09:07d	09:47d	11:13d	12:33d	13:33d	14:53d	15:53d	16:53d	18:33d	20:03d	20:43d	07:47d	09:47d	11:13d	12:33d	13:33d	14:53d	16:53d	18:33d	20:03d	20:43d
Richmond			09:15d	09:55d	11:22d	12:41d	13:41d				18:41d				09:56d	11:22d	12:41d	13:41d					
MELBOURNE																							
(Flinders Street)	arr	08:00d	09:20d	10:00d	11:26d	12:45d	13:45d	15:05d	16:05d	17:05d	18:45d	20:14d	20:54d	08:00d	10:00d	11:26d	12:45d	13:45d	15:05d	17:05d	18:45d	20:14d	20:54d
(Southern Cross)	arr	08:06	09:26	10:06	11:32	12:51	13:51	15:13	16:11	17:11	18:51	20:20	20:59	08:06	10:06	11:32	12:51	13:51	15:11	17:11	18:52	20:20	20:59

### Legend

★ - First Class available. ♥ - Catering available. ♦ - These services are wheelchair accessible. arr - Arrive. dep - Depart. d - Stops to set down passengers only.

Red times represent coach services. Black times represent train services. IC - Inter-City. A - Connects with train from Melbourne. MA - Connects to/from Maffra. GL - The Gippslander.

BD - From Bairnsdale. ■ Peak services. ■ Reservation required on these services.

### Coach stop locations

Bunyip – Primary School, Darnum – General Store, Princes Highway, Drouin – Corner Princes Way and Bank Place, Garfield – Opposite Toilet Block, Nilma – Queens Street extension, corner Bloomfields Road, Warragul – Queen Street, opposite Railway Station.

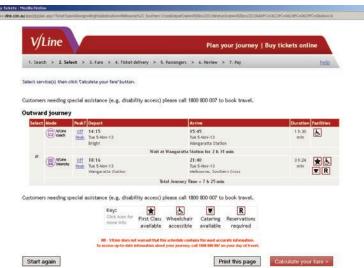
For more information and reservations visit **ptv.vic.gov.au** or call **1800 800 007** (6am – midnight daily)



V/Line Pty Ltd ABN 29 087 425 269 (500D)

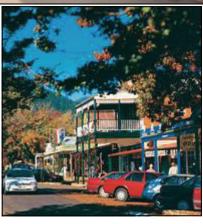
### Mt Beauty, Bright and Beechworth to Melbourne via Wangaratta

			NDAY – FR		M,W,F		M-F	MON, W			SAT-SUN
Service No.		C340	C342	C350	C344	C354	C346	C348	C352	C356	C346
Train/Coach		COACH	COACH	COACH	COACH	COACH	COACH	TAXI	COACH	COACH	COACH
Wheelchair Accessible		8	ė.	ė.	8		8.	(see note)	8		6
MOUNT BEAUTY	dep							10:55			
BRIGHT	arr							11:40			
Service No.								C346			
CHANGE SERVICE								COACH			
Wheelchair Reservation								6			
BRIGHT	dep	06:10				10:05	11:50	11:50	14:15	15:55	14:15
Porepunkah (1)		06:15				10:25	11:55	11:55	14:20	16:00	14:20
Myrtleford		06:35		WCL		10:45	12:15	12:15	14:40	16:20	14:40
Beechworth			06:30	07:43	09:15		12:40	12:40	15:05		15:05
Everton (2)				07:58	09:25						
Milawa					09:38						
Oxley					09:43						
Wangaratta City		07:10	07:05	08:30	09:53	11:30	13:20	13:20	15:40	16:55	15:40
WANGARATTA Stn	arr	07:15	07:10		09:55X	11:35	13:25	13:25	15:45	17:00	15:45
Service No.		8610	8610		C300		8620	8620	8622		8622
CHANGE SERVICE		TRAIN	TRAIN		COACH		TRAIN	TRAIN	TRAIN		TRAIN
Seating/Catering		**	**				**	**	**		**
		IC	IC		IC		ıc	IC	XPT		XPT
Wangaratta Stn	dep	07:31	07:31		10:00		13:41	13:41	16:07		16:07
SEYMOUR Stn	arr	09:00	09:00		12:00	-1	15:10	15:10	17:25b		17:25b







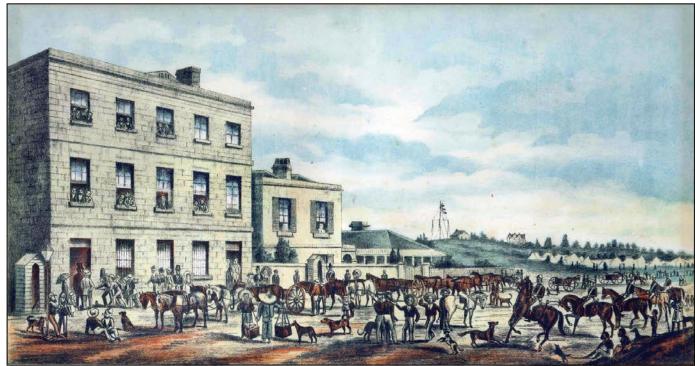


Inverell – Tenterfield – Armidale – Walcha – Walcha Road – Tamworth – Sydney (Central)

	G	<del>(A</del>	C	C	•
Destination	Armidale	Walcha Rd	Tamworth	Armidale	Sydney
Days of Operation	Daily	Daily	Daily except Tue	Tue	Daily
Service No.	328	814	312	338	224
Inverell			06:30	06:20	
Delungra			06:53		
Warialda			07:20		
Warialda Rail			07:28		
Bingara			07:58		
Cobbadah			08:28		
Barraba			08:48		
Upper Manilla			09:11		
Manilla			09:26		
Attunga			09:46		
Tenterfield	05:40				
Bolivia	06:00				
Deepwater	06:20				
Dundee	06:30				
Glen Innes	07:00				
Glencoe	07:15				
Llangothlin	07:35				
Guyra	07:51				
Gilgai				06:35	
Tingha				06:50	
Bundarra				07:20	
Yarrowyck Armidale arr	08:20			07:53 08:19	
Connection	08:20			08:19	
Armidale dep					> 08:40
Uralla					08:56
Walcha		08:45			
Walcha Road arr		09:10			
Connection					
Walcha Road dep					>09:22
Kootingal					10:09
Tamworth arr			10:06		
Connection					
Tamworth dep					<b>→</b> 10:27
Werris Creek					11:07
Quirindi					11:31
Willow Tree					a11:41
Murrurundi					a12:04
Scone					12:28
Aberdeen					a12:37
Muswellbrook					12:48
Singleton					13:24
Maitland					13:55
Broadmeadow					14:19
Fassifern					d14:39
Wyong					d15:06
Gosford					d15:21
Hornsby					d16:03
Strathfield					d16:23
Sydney (Central)					16:38

## Going for gold on the VR

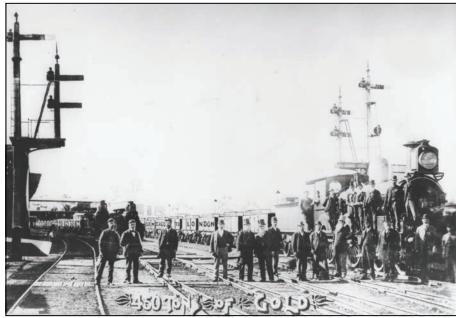
### GEOFF LAMBERT on Victoria's gold-mine tracks and trains



tons of gold is a lot of gold. It is nearly twice Australia's present production— and Australia is the second highest in the world (China is 1st).

Whether these three trains standing at Sandhurst station really had that much gold on board is unclear- the picture appears on a undated glass plate negative which the photographer has clearly touched up. It seems unlikely we are looking at 450 tons of gold, because the total gold production in Bendigo from 1850 to Federation was "only" 770 tonnes (25 million ounces). The amount cited was equal to the total world production of gold at the time. An article in the Bendigo Advertiser of 1st October 1884 referred to the total production of gold in the 14 square miles of the Bendigo area up to that time as being "400 tons of gold". These trains, then, might have contained no gold at all!

Prior to the railway, Bendigo gold was moved to Melbourne by road (if such could be called "roads") and were usually accompanied by the "Gold Escort"- the first of which is shown above, arriving in William St in Melbourne in 1852. The motive for building this railway, and the reason for its elaborate construction was clearly gold. Subsequent to construction, gold was taken to the nearest railway station on the "Main Line"- again by the Gold Escort. On page 14 is a Government Gazette notice from 1866, notifying the transport of gold from Blackwood to Kyneton



to meet the "midday train", the 1870 timetable for which is shown as well.

Gold was not the only commodity moved around the goldfields. Particularly after the alluvial gold-rush days of the 1850s and 1860s, after which mines literally had to dig deep, rail was used to move materiel for the deep lead and deep quartz mines. Mining in quartz required explosives and regular "powder trains" ran to most gold mining areas to supply them. Two such timetables, from the VR 1883 and the 1889 Working Time Table are shown at the head

of page 15. Even after such mines were worked out, advantage was taken of their huge mullock heaps to provide ballast for the railways and for other purposes. During the building of the Hume Weir, for instance, a branch line was run from the Albury line to old mining areas in the Chiltern district. No timetable for this sort of exotica seems to have survived, but it was clearly very busy for some years

It would seem natural to suppose that gold miners patronised trains throughout the goldfields, but it is not possible to show

that trains put on specifically for miners existed. Had they existed, it would seem that they might have been provided to take deep lead miners from towns to outlying mines at shift times. These were common in coalfields and in mining areas in other states. They were, for instance, known to have operated on Tasmania's West Coast and gold miners trams ran at Beaconsfield in Tasmania. There appears to have been only one such service in Victoria. On page 15, we show the timetable for a busy service to the Deep Leads mines near Maryborough. The 23/4 mile line to these mines was built by the Victorian Railways in about May 1904, after protracted negotiations with a mining company consortiumthe Deep Leads Electric Transmission Company, which constructed Australia's first 3-phase powerhouse to supply power for pumping the consortium's mines. The notion was generated by Herbert Hoover, later to become the USA President. The Companies negotiated a back-room deal for the line directly with the Government, rather than VR. The line was built primarily to supply the mines with timber and the powerhouse with fuel, but it seems as if a passenger service was operated.

The VR operated the line with old "handme-down" light locomotives and rolling stock, quite possibly the Rowan Steam Car, according to an article in The Age. The timings in the attached "S circular" make it look like that trains arrive and depart from the mines around logical shift change-over time of 8 AM, 4 PM and midnight. This service appeared in the December 1906 WTT and possibly earlier (the previous WTT was in late 1904, after the line was opened). The service was shortlived and is not shown in the 1909 WTT. The mines mostly closed in 1908, being described by one of the companies' Directors as a "ghastly failure". The site of the Deep Leads mines became the town of Baringhup and, later, the construction site of the dam wall of the Cairn Curran Reservoir.

The gold mining city of Ballarat was a beehive of rail activity during the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. The "ABC type" timetable which appears on page 16 is taken from Crisp Brothers "Railway Guidebook" for the Melbourne-Adelaide line, produced in 1891 for the opening of the "direct route" through Bacchus Marsh. Tabulated are 31 "suburban" services each way per day. The services to Buningyong, Scarsdale, Creswick and Waubra (at least) would probably not have been in existence had it not been for the deep lead mines along these lines. The WTT for the Buninyong line for 1892 is shown below the ABC guide. Quite a few of the trains cancelled a/c the "Coal Strike" in Crisp's timetable seem not to have returned.

### BLACKWOOD GOLD ESCORT.

THE Blackwood Police Gold Escort will be re-established on the following conditions and will run fortnightly until the following conditions, and will run fortnightly until further notice, commencing on Tuesday, the 24th of May, and reaching Kyneton in time for the mid-day train:—

Gold will be received on alternate Mondays, commencing the 23rd proximo, at Blackwood, for escort, but only for delivery to known residents at Kyneton, or to bank agents on route by the mid-day train, whose appearance must be previously guaranteed by the banks, and who must be provided with orders from the managers of their respective banks to receive parcels of treasure from the police at Kyneton.

The police will take delivery of such parcels of treasure, sealed, at Blackwood, and take receipts for the same number with unbroken seals, at Kyneton; but no responsibility whatever will be incurred by the police as to their value or contents.

Should doubt arise as to the person presenting himself to receive the treasure being duly authorised to receive it, or should no person appear at all, the treasure, if any, will be stored at the Police Barracks, Kyneton, until removed by the bank; no responsibility being incurred, no charge will be exacted for its custody.

Managers of Banks or other persons desirous of availing themselves of this escort will therefore be good enough to notify, in writing, before the 15th proximo, to the officer of police in charge at Kyneton, whether they will appoint agents to take delivery on the foregoing terms, of parcels of treasure from the police escort officer, on the stoppage of the mid-day train at the Kyneton railway station.

Should no such notification be received from either residents at Kyneton or bankers there or elsewhere, the escort will not start.

J. McCULLOCH.

Chief Secretary's Office. Melbourne, 29th April, 1864.

UP. Echuca to Melbourne. DAMEY Transfer Sestantial.

1731	4.4 (	* %t.:	24,540	****		
				History B.O.		litars.
Forther		dep.		5.15		4.30
ROCHARTER		p	-:-	B.54		5.9
Regulation and account		dure.		0.17		5,32
RUBBYMBER		dep.		0.22		5,37
Goodneso		en-la-		0.46		6.0
SAMDHURRT	٠	ger.		10.30	•	6.40
	• • •		4 K %	Xul.		Mail.
			4.60	D		p.m.
PARDITURAL		afeji,	6.30	19.0		7.15
				p m.		
KANHAROO FLAT			6.37	19.7		7.22
RAVKNAWOOD			6.52	12.23		7.38
HASCOURT		• • •	. A		• •	2.2
LANGUAGE & CAR		acr.	7.21	12.50	-	8,6
LANTI-EMATRY		dep.	7,24	12.53	• •	8,8
tiga-between b			7.40	1,11		8.26
LARADALA	-	• • •	7.46	1.17		6.32
MARADALURY Company		'·	7.57	1.27		8.47
Kyngron	• •	olate:	8.11	1.43		8.55
K VNIETON .		dep.	8.31	1.53	4-	9.8
TYTUES AND CAR.	IAR I	IIK ,.	A.,	A.	•-	**
Westpicks	• •		8.85	2.8		9.23
MACRICON	• •	••	8.58	¥.26		9.41
COURTY CHARE	• •		9.10	2.36	-	9.33
LANGEPIRED HOAD		41	9.20	2.4B	**	10.3
NUMBER		strr.	9.35	3.5		10.30
MINEURY			9.38	3.8		
I HOUSE AND THE	• • •	dep.	3779		• • •	10.23
KEILOR ROAD			0.54	3.28	• •	10.43
POUTMORA F			10,22	3.54		11.7
Normal Alkenous		•		3.6		•••
Francis Res		gyr.	10.30	4.D		11,13
	•					,

Down.	MARYBOROUGH	AND	AA0CV	LINE.

		MARYBOROUGH TO AVO	GA.					AVOCA TO MARYBOROUGH.		
Height above the See.	Miles.	STATIONS.		Pwdr. Tues. Mixed	2 Mixed	Height above the Sea.	Miles.	STATIONS.	1. Mixed	2 Mixe
	1112	MELBOURNE W MARYBOROUGH tW	dep.	8,0	4.W. 6.45 11.48 13.20	ft. 794 805 767	- 3		9.45	P.M. 3.30 3.44 4.0
767 805	7112	Bung Bong Homebush A  AVOCA †	arr.	8,22 8,38 8,50	12.42	787 32	15	MARYBOROUGH + W { arr dep MELBOURNE W arr	10.35	5.5

Ūp,

On Mondays and Saturdays only.

S. 380/07.

Guards on the Up journey must stop the train on the summit of the down and pin all truck brakes; and take them off on arrival at Everton.

(A. 2.)

VICTORIAN RAILWAYS.

# Maryborough—Deep Leads Mines Service.

Hereunder is the Service now in force on the above line. The latest alteration to No. 5 Down on Sats. (9.25 to 9.35 p.m., S. 345/07), commencing 2nd February is included:—

UP.		1	3	4	5	6	7
Maryborough Carisbrook New Havilah Junct. Deep Leads Mines	Dep Arr Dep , ,	7 23 7 33	Sats only. P.M. 2 13 2 23 2 33 2 45	Sats. & Suns. excepted. P.M. 3 13 3 23 3 33 3 45	Sats.  9 35 9 45 9 47 9 57 10 9	Sats. & Suns. excepted. P.M. 11 13 11 23 11 33 11 45	Mons.  A.M. 12 13  12 23 12 38 12 45
DOWN.  Deep Leads Mines New Havilah Junct. Carisbrook Maryborough	Dep.	S 32 8 42	Sats. only, P.M. 3 20 3 32 3 42 3 55	Sats. & Suns. ex. P.M. 4 20† 4 32 4 42 4 55	Sats.  P.M.  10 20  10 32  10 42  10 55	Sun. & Mons. ex.  A.M. 12 20 12 32 12 42 12 55	Mons.  A.M. 1 1 1 13 1 23 1 36

<sup>†</sup> On alternate Fridays this train is to leave 10 minutes later.

The maximum speed on Deep Leads Mines Lines is now Twenty (20) miles per hour, subject, however to a maximum speed on the 600 feet curves of Eight (8) miles per hour.

Please substitute this for Table shown on pages 34 and 66 Working Time table.

### J. A. ROBERTSON.

Supt. Pass Train Service.

Spencer-street, January 30, 1907.

228/1/07

## TRAINS ON BRANCH LINES FROM THE MAIN LINE.

Trains leave Ballarat for Buninyong Line at 5.15 a.m\*., 7.5 a.m., 8.40 a.m\*., 9.55 a.m., 11.25 a.m., 1.10 p.m\*., 2.40 p.m., 4.40 p.m., 6.20 p.m\*., 8 p.m., (11 p.m. Saturdays only.)

Trains leave Ballarat for Scarsdale and Linton Line at 9.40 a.m., 4.20 p.m., (10.40 p.m. Saturdays only.)

Trains leave Ballarat for Geelong Line at 5.50 a.m., 10.45 a.m., 3.30 p.m\*., 7 p.m.

Trains leave Ballarat for Creswick and Daylesford Line at 4.40 a.m., 8.20 a.m., 1.30 p.m., 5 p.m., and (11.10 p.m. Saturdays only, as far as Allendale only\*.)

Trains leave Ballarat for Maryborough Line at 7.45 a.m., 12.25 p.m., 3.35 p.m., and 10.55 p.m.

Trains leave Ballarat for Waubra Line at 6.20 a.m., 11.30 a.m\*., 4 p.m., (10.10 p.m. Saturdays only.)

Trains marked thus \* are now cancelled through the coal strike

			В	UNINY	ONG LI	NE.		,				
Down.			BALL	ARAT T	o Bun	INYON	G.					<del></del> .
Height above Sea.	Miles	STATIONS.	1 Pass.	2 Mixed.	3 Pass.	. 4 Pass.	5 Pass.	G Pass.	7 Pass. Sats. only.			*
feet 32	-	MELBOURNE W C dep.		А.М.	A.M. 6 50	P.M.	A.M. 11 10 P.M. 3 28	P.M.	P.M.			
1415 1413 1417 1457 1453 1519 1471	74 13 3 5 8	BALLARAT W C dep Ballarat East † Buninyong Junction Eureka Siding Canadian Mount Clear BUNINYONG †	7 25 7 28 7 29  7 35 7 41	8 45 8 48 8 49  8 55 9 1 9 10	11 0 11 3 11 4  11 10 11 16 11 25	2 40 2 43 2 44 2 50 2 50 2 50 3 5	4 45 4 48 4 49  4 55 5 1 5 10	6 20 6 23 6 24  6 30 6 36 6 45	11 0 11 3 11 4  11 10 11 16 11 25		:::   :::   :::   :::	
Up.			BUNI	ANONG	TO BA	LLARA	r.					
Height above Sea.	Miles	STATIONS.	1 Pass.	2 Pass,	3 Pass.	4 Mixed.	5 Pass.	G Pass.	7 Pass. Sats. only.			
feet 1471 1519 1453 1457	- 3 5 6}	BURINYONG † dep Mount Clear Canadian Eureka Siding	8 14 8 20	A.M. 9 20 9 29 9 35	NOON. 12 0 12 9 12 15	F. M. 3-30 3-39 3-45	P.M. 5 35 5 44 5 50	P.M. 7 10 7 19 7 25	P.M. 11 35 11 44 11 50		:::	:::
1417 1413 1415	71 71	Buninyong Junction Ballarat East †	8 27	9 41 9 42 9 45	12 21 12 22 12 25	3 51 3 52 3 55	5 50 5 57 6 0	7 31 7 32 7 35	11 56 11 57 12 0	:::	:::	
32	8 82	BALLARAT W C { dep		11 10 P.M. 2 25			7 20 10 35					