

# ENGINEERING HERITAGE VICTORIA

## WEBNEWS

SEP 2007



*This is an occasional newsletter from Engineering Heritage Victoria (EHV) sent to all members on our email list. Enquiries, discussion or correspondence should be directed to [ehv@engineersaustralia.org.au](mailto:ehv@engineersaustralia.org.au) If necessary, contact can also be made through the Victorian Divisional Office of Engineers Australia at 21 Bedford Street North Melbourne.*

The next **EHV Guest Speakers' presentation** will be on 18 October 2007 and is a talk on the “**Leadership & Management Style of General Sir John Monash**”. The speaker will be Ken Crompton who is the CEO of the Gen Sir John Monash Foundation”. The talk will cover the attributes that made Monash a unique and influential Australian engineer, lawyer and army general. Ken will also give an overview of the aims and achievements of the GSJM Foundation. Career orientated young engineers are particularly welcome to attend. **Date: 18 October 2007** at 21 Bedford St North Melbourne – 6.00 to 7.00 PM with light refreshments from 5.30 PM. Further information will be provided in the October event flyer.

**The Ballarat - Daylesford Trip** : (24/25 November 2007) is being planned as a guided “self-drive” tour of regional facilities, mostly dating back to the Victorian Gold Rush. We will meet near Ballarat about 9.30 AM on Saturday for a look at the Ballarat water supply system (pre 1915 back to about 1869). Lunch (at own cost) will be at Ballarat and the afternoon will be spent viewing (optionally) City statutory & fountains OR a tour of the 19<sup>th</sup> century railway facilities and storm water works. A walking tour of the historic buildings of the Ballarat CBD will follow in the late afternoon. A dinner (at own cost) is optional on Saturday evening. Sunday will see an early start for the mining precinct of Creswick then on to Anderson’s Oat Mill, a Monash bridge and stone highway bridge over Birch’s Creek. Lunch (at own expense) will be at Daylesford before concluding with a return trip on the Central Highlands tourist railway. EHV Members and their guests will be welcome to join us for all or part of the tour. Bookings will be essential and further detail will be provided by flyer during October.

The “**Gas Producer Talk**” will take place in February 2008 (date and location to be advised). My apologies to those who contributed information and have been patiently awaiting an outcome! The delay has been caused by many interesting topics that needed to be slotted into the EHV 2207 Guest Speakers’ Program.

Laurie Sparke’s “**History of Holden and Vehicle Safety**” is now online. EHV wishes to record its appreciation for Laurie’s generosity in allowing both the audio and shownotes to be made available for downloading from the webpage. See [www.consuleng.com.au](http://www.consuleng.com.au) for further details.

**Colonial Engineers List (CEL) – going online.** In fact, the first group of 1900 Municipal Engineers is on the website [www.consuleng.com.au](http://www.consuleng.com.au). These names are direct from the Victorian Municipal Directory and must surely be eligible for inclusion on any list of “colonial engineers”. The full CEL will go online soon. It is intended to run the listing as an email discussion group – along with the inevitable discussion on the definition of an “engineer”.

**Past Events** : As proof that at least one person reads these eNewsletters, he and I joined one of the tours through the Newport Railway Workshops during Engineers Week. It was a most interesting visit with a surprising level of heritage value - and few restrictions on where we could go and what could see. Even probing questions were answered with refreshing frankness. Thanks to Downer EDI and DoI for arranging the event.

**Annual Budget Report** : during the last financial year, we underspent our budget by about \$900. Expenses on field trips were well below budget but the cost of providing refreshments at the Speakers’

Program sessions was up against last year. Our funds are supplied by the Victorian Division of Engineers Australia for the purpose promoting the past achievements of the engineering profession.

**EHV Webpage.** Regular visitors to our webpage (currently hosted on [www.consuleng.com.au](http://www.consuleng.com.au)) will have noticed a proliferation of files available for download. Some files have been made available by various parties in response to the last newsletter. However, a significant batch of papers (the entire set of the 1985 and 1992 Engineering Heritage Conferences) have now been uploaded as a result of the efforts of John Metcalfe and his scanner. The system is simple and effective. John scans the pages from original documents and forwards them by email for basic editing, collation and upload to the webpage. The papers are thus available to anyone with an interest in engineering heritage – without the need for constant access to (and degradation of ) the copies held in public repositories. This is quite an ambitious project with a lot of material to go yet - before we start on the IE Aust Journals and Transactions etc. **Offers of additional assistance and direct contributions will be appreciated.**

The EHV webpage is still being hosted at [www.consuleng.com.au](http://www.consuleng.com.au). Much of the archival material will shortly be transferred to the Engineers Australia webpage which is seen as the proper long-term repository for such material. The continued use of the Consuleng webpage has been for editorial convenience as the Consuleng webpage can be modified instantly; entries on the EA webpage cannot. Some changes to the style of the Consuleng webpage can be expected over the next couple of months as material is transferred to the EA webpage. Because the use of the Consuleng webpage is likely to continue for a while yet, this newsletter is now referring to the direct Consuleng link in preference to using the (longer) EA URL. However, you can still access the EHV website by following the links down through the EA Webpage.

**EHV Events for 2008** : Engineering Heritage river cruises are planned for the Yarra and Maribyrnong in the early part of 2008. Further information will be provided soon but feel free to make suggestions about other places of interest at any time.

*Don Bartlett  
Chairman  
Engineering Heritage Victoria*

**MEETINGS & NOTICES** : EHV tries to limit the number of times we contact you by email. Speakers' Program notices are usually issued about a fortnight ahead of each session. However, availability of speakers, venues and unspecified emergencies often complicate this schedule. In general, the EHV Newsletter is issued every two months (in the odd numbered month). Event Flyers are circulated "as required".

**DISCLAIMER** : This newsletter has been prepared on behalf of Engineering Heritage Victoria which is a Special Interest Group of the Victorian Division of Engineers Australia and the Institution of Engineers (Australia). Any "historical" content is given in a topical sense and is not the result of exhaustive research on the part of the Editor. Where deemed to be relevant, references are quoted - if they exist. From time to time, there will be errors or misleading claims. However, the newsletter is also intended to promote discussion. Although mistakes are regrettable, the Editor (presently the Chairman EHV) is ready and willing to retract, clarify or argue the case - as appropriate - should anyone care to point out the alleged blemishes.