

QUEEN VICTORIA MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY

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NORTHERN TASMANIAN RAILWAYS INSTITUTE COLLECTION

Railways, Launceston
Employees, Launceston

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INTRODUCTION

The Northern Tasmanian Railways Institute was formed in February 1936 in Launceston. Its purpose was 'to promote welfare and social activities amongst Railway men'. The Institute was based on the Victorian Railways model. The first meeting was called by W A Price, elected the first Chairman. J Cummings was elected as the first Secretary, H R Fisher as Treasurer (he later became President) and six members were elected to the Executive Committee.

At the first meeting, it was recommended that the Tramway offices be altered and accepted as the Institute's buildings. The buildings were essentially a day area, a decision being made not to sell alcohol.

The Institute owned and operated its own Library, a suggestion originally made in March 1937. In February 1938, the first constitution was adopted. Subsequent amendments were made over the years to suit the times and needs of the Institute. The Institute also had a canteen where workers could purchase soft drinks, confectionery, tobacco etc, and played a role in the rationing of tobacco during the Second World War and for a period afterwards. Dances were held for members and their partners, and concerts were also held from the earliest days of the Institute.

The Institute was involved in many sporting activities, such as football, cricket, basketball, badminton and lawn bowls, and competed regularly in interstate carnivals and against other branches of the Railways Institute. The Railways Institute later owned a number of properties that were rented to members and their families at a reduced rate to allow members to take holidays.

In August 1947, the first State Council meeting of the Institute was held in Hobart. The National Institute also helped in the design and implementation of a personal injury plan to be distributed to all members in brochure form.

In 1968, arrangements were made with some business houses for Institute members to be granted discounts. Some of the articles that members could buy, after obtaining permits, were tyres, seat belts, batteries, shock absorbers, all electrical goods and fittings. Up to 15% discount was available on clothing, clocks, watches, furniture and paint, in fact almost anything that was needed.

1. Legal Records

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|-----|--|-------|
| 1/1 | Tasmanian Railways Institute, constitution and rules
1969
(booklets, 1947, 1954 and 1969 editions) | 1947- |
| 1/2 | Australian National Institute, constitution, general
by-laws etc | 1991 |

2. Minutes of Meetings

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|-----|--|-----------|
| 2/1 | Northern Railways Picnic, December 1933-January 1935 | 1933-1935 |
| 2/2 | Northern Tasmanian Railways Institute (February 1936-
November 1946, June 1948-Feb 1950, September 1952-
December 1955, includes annual general meetings 1951-
1955) | 1936-1955 |
| 2/3 | Northern Railways Institute Cricket Club (October 1943-
May 1946) | 1943-1946 |
| 2/4 | State Council (August 1947-November 1952, February 1953-
December 1957, February 1963-August 1968, August 1969-
August 1970, February 1969-August 1973, October 1973-
November 1977, February-May 1974) | 1947-1974 |

3. Correspondence

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|-----|--|-----------|
| 3/1 | Devonport Branch, March 1975-December 1984 | 1975-1984 |
| 3/2 | Wynyard Branch, June 1975-November 1984 | 1975-1984 |
| 3/3 | Launceston Branch, February 1977-July 1984 | 1977-1984 |
| 3/4 | General, June 1981-October 1984 | 1981-1984 |
| 3/5 | Canteen | 197?-1980 |

4. Financial Records

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|-----|---|-----------|
| 4/1 | Northern Tasmanian Railways Institute, ledgers (1946-1955,
1950-1953, 1962-1971) | 1946-1971 |
| 4/2 | Bank Book | 1949-1951 |
| 4/3 | Cash Book | 1953-1955 |
| 4/4 | Journal | 1955-1969 |
| 4/5 | Tobacco rationing, Northern rationing sheets
1947 | 1943- |

4/6	Tobacco rationing, supply and balance sheets (2 volumes)	1947-1953
4/7	Tobacco rationing, Northern stock sheets	1957
4/8	Canteen accounts ledger	1948-1955
4/9	Canteen stock sales book	1955
4/10	Canteen register of receipts	1973-1978
4/11	Australian National Institute, canteen bank ledger	1978-1980
4/12	Snooker rent book	1970
4/13	Conara, register of receipts and expenditure	1969-1985
4/14	Conara receipt books	1981-1982
4/15	Tasmanian Railways Institute, summary of receipts and expenditure	1976-1981
4/16	Records, Launceston	1978-1979
4/17	Financial statements, invoices, receipts etc	1985-1988
4/18	Financial papers	1990-1991
4/19	Hobart Branch and State Council ledger	1975-1978
4/20	Hobart Branch and State Council ledger	1977-1981
4/21	Australian National Institute, Hobart Branch statements, receipts etc	1984-1985
4/22	Hobart Branch receipts	1986-1989
4/23	Regional Council, register of expenditure	1981-1985
4/24	Regional Council, financial statements, receipts etc	1984-1985
4/25	Tasmanian Region, holiday homes, receipts, bank statements	1988-1989
4/26	Launceston receipts	1973-1975
4/27	Launceston accounts	1984-1985
4/28	400 Club ticket book	nd

5. Membership Records

5/1	Membership, card nos	nd
5/2	Membership account books (1946-1953, 1960-1970, 1962-1970) (3 volumes)	1946-1970
5/3	Membership ledger	1942-1986

6. Miscellaneous Items

6/1	Newsletter, 1968; Personal Injury Plan (brochure); sports programs; basketball rosters; Christmas outing	1968-c1975
6/2	Index book	nd
6/3	Cricket score book	1939
6/4	Diary	nd

7. Photographs

7/1	Photograph, L K Brannan	nd
7/2	Basketball teams (1975, 1983) (2 photographs)	1975-1983
7/3	Lawn Bowls team	1978
7/4	Badminton team (Conara)	1979