

QUEEN VICTORIA MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY

CHS 43

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The Institute owned and operated its own Library, a suggestion originally made in March 1937.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

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

2. Minutes of Meetings

2/1	Minute book, Northern Railways Picnic	1933-1935
2/2.1	Minute book, Northern Tasmanian Railways Institute	1936-1955
2/2.2	Minute book, Northern Tasmanian Railways Institute	1938-1940
2/2.3	Minute book, Northern Tasmanian Railways Institute	1940-1943
2/2.4	Minute book, Northern Tasmanian Railways Institute	1943-1944
2/2.6	Minute book, Northern Tasmanian Railways Institute	1952-1955
2/2.7	Minute book, Northern Tasmanian Railways Institute	1948-1977
2/3	Northern Railways Institute Cricket Club	1943-1946
2/4.1	Minute book, State Council, Tasmanian Railways Institute	1947-1952
2/4.2	Minute book, State Council, Tasmanian Railways Institute	1953-1957
2/4.3	Minute book, State Council, Tasmanian Railways Institute	1963-1968
2/4.4	Minutes, State Council, Tasmanian Railways Institute	1967-1970
2/4.5	Minute book, State Council, Tasmanian Railways Institute	1969-1973
2/4.6	Minute book, State Council, Tasmanian Railways Institute	1973-1977
2/4.7	Minutes, State Council, Tasmanian Railways Institute	1974
2/5	Minutes, Retired and Ex-Railway Employees Association	1989-2001

3. Correspondence

3/1	Correspondence, Devonport Branch	1975-1984
3/2	Correspondence, Wynyard Branch	1975-1984
3/3	Correspondence, Tasmanian Government Railways, Managers Office	1887

3/4	General correspondence	1981-1984
3/5	Correspondence, Canteen	1970-1980

4. Financial Records

4/1.1	Tobacco rationing, northern daily supply and balance sheets	1948-1951
4/1.2	Tobacco rationing, northern stock sheets	1957
4/1.3.1	Tobacco rationing, northern supply and balance sheets	1943-1947
4/1.3.2	Tobacco rationing, northern supply and balance sheets	1943

5. Membership Records

5/1.1	Membership account book	1946-1953
5/1.2	Membership account book	1962-1970
5/1.3	Membership account book	1960-1970
5/2	Membership card numbers	nd
5/3	Membership ledger	1942-1986

6. Miscellaneous Items

6/1	Miscellaneous ephemera, including sports ephemera	1968-1975
6/2.1	Cricket score book	1939
6/2.2	Cricket carnival score book	1948

7. Photographs

7/1	Photograph album of Tasmanian Government Railways rolling stock	1950s-1970s?
7/2	Miscellaneous photographs of Tasmanian Railways Institute sports teams and events, State and northern <i>Oversized item</i>	1897-1985
7/3	Australian Railways Institutes Football Carnival, Launceston, 1 st - 12 th August 1959 <i>Oversized item (Vertically Stored)</i>	1959