



## Sydney Tramway Museum, Loftus - November 18

Having missed the equivalent event in 2017, many were keen not to miss out again. Arriving on or before 8:30 were Bob Gilliland, Jim Bowen, Jai Sommers (with Jim's gold Lowlight), Rex & Mary Peters, Les Whale and John Bowmer. A bit later, Terry & Fay Cullen, Mark & Suzanne Sullivan, and Ray Selby just snuck in before the 9.00am deadline.

There were nine Morrisies on display and all but two red ones were different colours. Parked right alongside the tram line in front of the



Nine Morrisies, eight colours, a great sight

museum building it made a great sight.

We all boarded the first tram to depart (the destination read 'Camberwell Depot'; for those who saw the TV series 'The Sullivans', you might remember that it was set in the Melbourne suburb of Camberwell, with this tram used in the show) and enjoyed the ride up to Sutherland, then back and out to the Royal National Park.

On our return, we found Stuart Treuer & Ann Thompson and Keith & Gail Cosgrove had arrived while we were enjoying the ride. Near our picnic spot, an old gentleman sketched and made water-colour paintings of the trams that caught his attention.



Maroubra Junction tram, bringing back some memories

We then spent some time in the museum building, where they have an extensive display of trams, not only from Sydney but also from Melbourne, Brisbane, Newcastle, etc and even some from Europe, plus other memorabilia and hundreds of old photos.



A highlight was the Sydney Prison Tram. Les: "I remember seeing it passing through Maroubra Junction on its way to Long Bay Gaol on many occasions when I was a very young boy." This was the very tram car from which the notorious Darcy Dugan escaped en route from Long Bay to Darlinghurst Courthouse in 1946 by cutting through the roof.

Lunch time came... and it took six men to try and start the two barbeques. Neither BBQ would start so assistance was



sought from the Museum staff to get it going. Jim, Bob and Keith were the chefs for the day and did a great job in cooking up a feast.

After a final tram ride out to the National Park, accompanied by an unwilling

passenger in the form of Ray Selby (ask him about it), we packed up and headed homewards. This was another good outing with good friends, good cooks, good location and good cars. Once again thanks to Jim Bowen for organising another great outing - well worth repeating!



Story and photos: Les Whale and Mark Sullivan