



TABLE TALK

AUSTRALASIAN TIMETABLE NEWS

RRP \$4.95

No. 349, September 2021

Published by the Australian Timetable Association

RAIL & TRAM NEWS

QUEENSLAND



Train timetable changes

Due to Cross River Rail works, from Monday, 16 August for around seven months, on the Beenleigh Line, eight weekday services have a changed stopping pattern – running express between Yeerongpilly and Park Road.

The affected timetabled Bowen Hills services depart Fairfield at 07:08, 07:38, 08:00, 08:15, 08:30, while services departing Central at 16:34 and 17:04 (to Beenleigh) and 16:57 (to Kuraby) are the services impacted by this temporary change. Meanwhile, the 17:27 Kuraby service now departs Central three minutes earlier. **TRANSLINK**

NEW SOUTH WALES



Lockdown – part 2

The state's continued travails in managing the ongoing outbreak of COVID-19 Delta strain has seen a number of changes affecting rail services.

Following on from last month's related articles in *Table Talk* (pg. 1-4), Sydney Trains and NSW TrainLink services had their weekday timetables reinstated from **Monday, 2 August**. This followed the resumption of restricted construction activity across effectively half the city, which was halted in late July by the state government in light of the cities' worsening situation.

Additionally, on weekdays commencing 2 August, notices were issued with the following extra COVID distancing services **added** to the schedule – list tweaked from previous iteration:

T1 Western and North Shore Line:

- 04:48 Penrith to North Sydney (*deleted effective 16 Aug*)
- 05:27 Blacktown to Hornsby
- 05:36 St Marys to Hornsby
- 05:46 Hornsby to Penrith
- 05:58 Hornsby to Schofields
- 06:14 North Sydney to Penrith (*deleted eff. 16 Aug*)
- 13:30 Hornsby to Blacktown
- 14:27 Blacktown to Hornsby

T2 Inner West Leppington Line:

- 04:41 Leppington to City Circle via Museum
- 04:57 Leppington to City Circle via Town Hall
- 05:22 Glenfield to City Circle via Town Hall
- 05:24 Leppington to City Circle via Town Hall (*deleted eff. 16 Aug*)
- 14:29 Circular Quay to Leppington (*deleted eff. 16 Aug*)
- 14:59 Circular Quay to Leppington

T3 Bankstown Line:

- 05:18 Liverpool to City Circle
- 06:25 Circular Quay to Bankstown

T4 Eastern Suburbs and Cronulla Line:

- 05:16 Cronulla to City Circle via Museum (*deleted eff. 16 Aug*)

- 05:31 Hurstville to City Circle via Museum
- 05:59 Hurstville to City Circle via Museum
- 06:05 Circular Quay to Hurstville
- 06:19 Circular Quay to Hurstville (*deleted eff. 16 Aug*)
- 06:30 Hurstville to City Circle via Museum
- 06:32 Circular Quay to Hurstville
- 07:01 Circular Quay to Hurstville (skips Wollie Creek)
- 13:47 Hurstville to Martin Place
- 14:13 Hurstville to Martin Place
- 14:47 Martin Place to Hurstville
- 14:56 Martin Place to Hurstville

T8 East Hills Line (via Airport unless stated otherwise):

- 05:22 Macarthur to City Circle via Museum (*deleted eff. 16 Aug*)
- 06:02 Circular Quay to Leppington via Sydenham
- 06:20 Circular Quay to Leppington via Sydenham
- 06:35 Circular Quay to Campbelltown via Sydenham
- 06:44 Circular Quay to Campbelltown (*deleted eff. 16 Aug*)
- 13:46 Leppington to City Circle via Museum
- 14:42 Circular Quay to Campbelltown via Sydenham
- 15:12 Circular Quay to Campbelltown via Sydenham (*deleted eff. 16 Aug*)
- 15:58 Campbelltown to City Circle via Sydenham and Museum
- 16:28 Campbelltown to City Circle via Sydenham and Museum
- 16:29 Leppington to City Circle via Museum
- 16:45 Leppington to City Circle via Museum

By way of a late notice telegram, another layer was added with a selected service reduction in the 'peak of the peak' (i.e. reduced weekday timetable) on most lines. The following services were therefore **removed** from the base weekday working:

T1 Western and North Shore Line:

- 07:57 St Marys to Gordon
- 09:03 Blacktown to Hornsby

- 16:15 Hornsby to Emu Plains
- 17:52 Hornsby to Blacktown

T2 Inner West Leppington Line:

- 07:14 Leppington to City Circle
- 07:30, 08:00, 08:30 Ashfield to Circular Quay
- 06:55, 07:55, 08:10, 08:19, 08:34 Circular Quay to Ashfield
- 16:01, 16:16, 16:31, 16:46, 17:01, 17:16, 17:31, 17:46, 18:01 Circ. Quay to Leppington

T4 Eastern Suburbs and Cronulla Line:

- 08:03, 08:43, 08:59, 16:38, 18:18 Bondi Junction to Hurstville
- 08:50, 09:30, 15:51, 17:31 Hurstville to Bondi Junction
- 09:36 Bondi Junction to Sutherland
- 16:00 Sutherland to Bondi Junction

T8 Airport East Hills Line:

- 06:37, 06:52, 07:07, 07:22, 07:37, 07:52 Campbelltown to City Circle via Sydenham.
- 07:09 and 07:24 Macarthur to City Circle.
- 08:25, 08:40, 08:55 Circ. Quay to Sydenham
- 16:24, 16:54, 17:24, 17:54 Circular Quay to Campbelltown/Macarthur via Sydenham.

T9 Northern Line:

- 07:14, 07:29, 07:44, 07:59, 08:14, 16:42, 17:12, 17:27, 17:57 Epping to Central
- 08:39 Hornsby to Sydney Terminal.
- 07:35, 07:50, 08:05, 08:20, 08:35, 16:08, 16:38, 16:53, 17:23, 18:08, 18:38 Sydney Terminal to Epping/Hornsby.

Some remaining Standard Working Timetable services also had minor adjustments made (e.g. some selected T9 Northern Down PM services making an additional stop at Burwood to cover a cancellation from the above list).

City Circle short-workings have been removed from the list. Some Sydney Trains non-peak services were also removed initially.

Intercity Blue Mountains Line:

- 05:44, 06:14, 06:45 Mt Victoria to Central
- 16:17 and 17:17 Central to Lithgow
- 16:47 Central to Mt Victoria

Intercity Central Coast Shore Line:

- 06:03, 06:33, 07:03 Wyong to Blacktown
- 15:36 and 17:06 Blacktown to Wyong
- 16:21 Blacktown to Gosford
- 18:23 and 20:05 Wyong to Gosford

Intercity South Coast Line:

- 06:03 Dapto to Bondi Junction
- 06:43 Wollongong to Bondi Junction
- 16:52 Bondi Junction to Kiama

Regional:

- 07:09 Sydney to Casino
- 19:30 Casino to Sydney

From **Monday, 16 August**, due to a reported positive COVID-19 test result from a COVID tester at Central, NSW TrainLink Regional services were cancelled temporarily with no alternative travel option provided. Most train crew were required to undergo temporary isolation and COVID testing until cleared to return to work. By this stage, the whole of Regional NSW was in lockdown.

The following Intercity services were also affected with cancellation:

- 06:10 Lithgow to Central
- 06:09 Wyong to Blacktown
- 07:47 Gosford to Central
- 16:31 Central to Lithgow
- 16:36 Blacktown to Wyong
- 17:50 Central to Newcastle Interchange
- 19:28 Wyong to Gosford

From **Monday, 23 August**, in line with increased COVID-19 restrictions on movements across the city, the enhanced weekend timetable, which operated in late July resumed (see *Table Talk*, August 2021, pp. 2-3), with additional early morning services on many lines, and a handful of additional peak services on selected lines. NSW TrainLink Southern Highlands, Bathurst Bullet and Regional services continued to operate to the weekday timetable. This was a result of the continued spread of COVID-19 Delta variant, which NSW has been unable to squash over the past two-plus months.

One such example of increased restrictions was the 21:00-05:00 curfew for the local government areas of concern (Fairfield, Canterbury-Bankstown, Liverpool, Cumberland, Blacktown, Parramatta, Campbelltown,

Georges River, eastern half of Penrith, Bayside, Strathfield, and Burwood). Train services continue to operate through these areas to enable essential travel.

On pages 3-4 of August's *Table Talk*, we provided a line-by-line overview of additional peak services for the week commencing 26 July. This list closely mirrors the listed additional peak services for week commencing 23 August under the base Sunday timetable. Some further additional services follow:

- 05:16 Liverpool to City Circle via Bankstown and Museum then back out to Bankstown
- 05:22 Macarthur to City Circle via Museum then back out to Campbelltown via Sydenham
- 05:24 Blacktown to Gordon
- 05:35 St Marys to North Sydney
- 05:49 Mortdale to Bondi Junction
- 06:28 Hurstville to Martin Place
- 06:44 Bondi Junction to Hurstville
- 07:00 North Sydney to Parramatta
- 07:11 Martin Place to Hurstville
- 07:55 Parramatta to Olympic Park
- 13:30 Hornsby to Blacktown

An additional Olympic Park late night Sprint service was also provided at 00:20 due to extended hours of the COVID-19 mass vaccination centres there. The NSW TrainLink Central Coast, South Coast and Blue Mountains additional services are also nearly identical to the plan provided in last month's *Table Talk* for week commencing 26 July. On the Blue Mountains, further additional services were as follows:

- 02:38 Mt Victoria to Central
- 03:00 Lithgow to Central.

Meanwhile, Transport for NSW reports that L1 **Light Rail** services (Central-Dulwich Hill) continues to operate to its usual weekday timetable on weekdays (but skipping The Star station from 06:00 21 July, while overnight Central-The Star shuttle services have been suspended since April 2020), and L2 and L3 (City-Randwick/Juniors Kingsford) operate to a rolling Sunday timetable, with some extra L2 shuttle services added during peak times (06:00-09:00, 14:30-17:00) on weekdays.

Metro services are operating every 20 minutes (10 mins during peak periods).

This plan is expected to continue for some time, probably until COVID-19 vaccination rates hit targets set for around October. **SYDNEY TRAINS, TRANSPORT FOR NSW**

Disruption: 21 August

Planned COVID lockdown-related protest for Sydney CBD on Saturday, 21 August saw trains on all lines not stopping at Redfern, Town Hall, Wynyard, Circular Quay, St James, Museum and Martin Place between 11:00 and 15:00. Whilst the skip stops at Town Hall and Wynyard had already been included in the Daily Working Timetable until 14:00, this had to be amended based on advice. L1 light rail services were only operating between Convention and Dulwich Hill, while L2 and L3 services were reported as cancelled outright until 15:00, when services started to resume.

TRANSPORT FOR NSW

VICTORIA



New tram facility

Yarra Trams will be welcoming a new maintenance facility in the western Melbourne suburb of Maidstone confirmed by the state government in late August, with \$367 million dollars budgeted for the project.

The state government said that the new facility would house the upcoming Next Generation tram fleet. The contract to design, build and maintain the new fleet is due to be awarded next year. *LEN REGAN, HERALD SUN*

SOUTH AUSTRALIA



Budget

The state held its budget address for 2021/22 in late June, which the government said includes the largest infrastructure spend in the state's history.

Rail-related spend includes:

- **Gawler Electrification:** Additional \$100 million over three years to complete the project.
- **Station Refresh Program:** \$54 million over four years to upgrade Ethelton, Woodlands Park, Ovingham, Goodwood, Adelaide and 14 stations along the Gawler line.
- **Diesel Train Retrofit:** \$10 million over two years to retrofit diesel trains with "hybrid energy systems".

SA BUDGET

WESTERN AUSTRALIA



Transwa: Temporary alterations

Transwa advises: "From Saturday, 25 September 2021 to Saturday, 9 October 2021 some Transwa services have been altered due to the September/October School Holidays. For more information call us on 1300 662 205." *TRANSWA*

NEW ZEALAND



Lockdown

New Zealand has not been immune from the struggle of containing the COVID-19 Delta variant, with recent cases resulting in a return to Level Four lockdown. As a result, public transport services have been impacted.

In **Auckland**, trains are running to a Sunday timetable, while in **Wellington**, trains are running to a continuous Saturday timetable. *ROSS MORRISON, NZ GOVERNMENT*

Auckland: New rail operator confirmed

Auckland Transport announced on 27 August that it had awarded a new eight-year commuter rail operating contract to Auckland One Rail – a consortium of ComfortDelGro Transit and UGL Rail.

Valued at around \$130 million per annum, Auckland Transport said that the new contract would generate some cost savings, reduce organisational interfaces, and improve customer and safety outcomes.

Existing employees will be transferred over to the new operator on existing arrangements, while Transport Officers will continue to be employed directly by Auckland Transport.

The incumbent, Transdev, who have operated the system since 2004, was part of the consortium, Aka Tangata (with John Holland and CAF), that unsuccessfully participated in the tender process. Transdev, in partnership with Hyundai Rotem, operates Wellington's commuter rail system, with that contract running until at least 2025. Transdev also owns local bus operator Howick and Eastern Buses. *AUCKLAND TRANSPORT*

Hamilton-Auckland service

From 24 July, the Hamilton to Auckland rail service started operating directly into downtown Auckland, at The Strand, on Saturdays.

The extension means that, on Saturdays, passengers do not need to change trains at Papakura to reach central Auckland, although the service still stops there.

A trial run was conducted on 3 July and deemed successful. The train arrives at The Strand at 10:10 and departs at 17:40 for the trip back to Hamilton.

Meanwhile, KiwiRail is investigating after two rear train carriages on a service on Monday afternoon, 19 July separated from the remainder of the train. After recoupling, the passengers in the rear two carriages were moved to the front carriages. The service was later terminated at Pukekohe with replacement bus arranged. The train consisted of a locomotive and four carriages.

Stuff Online reported that the next day, the 05:46 train from Hamilton was cancelled, while the 18:25 departure from Papakura was replaced by bus. **THE WAIKATO TIMES, STUFF.CO.NZ**

Auckland: Light rail

Auckland's first light rail line is open for public consultation on potential routes and vehicles to be used.

The consultation confirms that route options include the Sandringham and Dominion Road arterials, and run through either along the southwestern motorway or town centres Mangere and Favona.

A detailed business case will follow, developed in the backend of this year, followed by further consultation next year. **STUFF.CO.NZ**

Wellington: Levin extension

A \$1 million business case will consider electrifying and extending the commuter network from Waikanae to Levin.

Transport Minister Michael Wood said "we've got significantly growing communities in the northern part of the region... [the extension] would potentially bring huge benefits to those communities".

The Minister said that the program would include signalling system upgrade, replacing 130 kilometres of track, upgrading or replacing 45 bridges and safety improvements at almost 30 level crossings.

Greater Wellington Regional Council chairperson Daran Ponter said any decision should be tied with Council's plans to purchase electric trains for the city. **THE DOMINION POST**

Kingston Flyer returns

Eight years after folding, the Kingston Flyer heritage steam train on the 14-kilometre Kingston to Fairlight railway is once again commercially operable, following local Council consent.

Director Neville Simpson said "bringing it back from the brink has been a huge task. It has been the result of an incredible amount of work behind the scenes by some really committed people". He also said the Flyer would probably only operate for group bookings for now, but if it was booked on a Saturday, "we would probably do a run for the public on the Sunday as the engine's still warm".

For the moment, there is one locomotive available, AB795, which is almost 100 years old, while a second, AB778, still needs "complete restoration". **OTAGO DAILY TIMES**

INTERNATIONAL

London: Temporary timetable

Correspondent and ATA member Paul Brown notes that London rail services appear to be operating to a temporary timetable.

Whilst fully suspended previously, since June, Waterloo & City line services have resumed operating only during peak periods (06:00-10:00 and 15:30-19:00). Night Tube and Night Overground services continue to be suspended.

As at Sunday 29 August, Transport for London reported multiple service cancellations on many lines, with "severe" impact on the Piccadilly and Northern lines, and partial line suspension on the District line between Earl's Court and Kensington Olympia. Also, the Circle, and Hammersmith & City were temporarily suspended due to "temporary unavailability of control staff". **PAUL BROWN, MICHAEL MARSHALL, TRANSPORT FOR LONDON**

Scotland: Industrial action

On Sundays until at least 5 September, ScotRail services are running to a heavily reduced service due to industrial action. Some buses operate in lieu on some lines to support essential travellers.

The action first started on 28 March by National Union of Rail, Maritime and Transport Workers (RMT) over a pay dispute – a key issue said to be conductors being paid less than drivers when working on days off (overtime). A recent re-vote through ballot (in Scotland, ballot results expire after six months) saw over 80 per cent vote in favour of continued industrial action.

Ticket Examiners around Glasgow had joined the action from May until July, which saw Sunday cancellations in that period reach 90 per cent of timetabled services.

East Midlands Railway has also been subject to industrial action on Sundays since May, which at the time of publication is scheduled to continue until at least 10 October. *SCOTRAIL, NATIONAL RAIL, THE SCOTSMAN*

Eurostar adds services

From 6 September until 1 November, Eurostar will operate five daily return services between London and Paris, and another three daily return services between London and Brussels (with one of these extended to Amsterdam). *NATIONAL RAIL*

Germany: New contract

Berlin-Brandenburg transport authority VBB has awarded incumbent operator Niederbarnimer Eisenbahn with a new 12-year contract beginning December 2024 following a competitive tender process.

26 Siemens electric multiple unit (EMU) trains with batteries will be used to deliver many contract services, with the batteries enabling use on non-electrified lines. Another 16 diesel multiple unit (DMU) trains will be used across the remainder of the contract.

The government said that the northern and eastern parts of the region would benefit from increased services and better connections to Poland. *RAILWAY GAZETTE*

China: New lines opened

Coinciding with the 100th anniversary of the Chinese Communist Party's (CCP) founding, a number of railway lines opened on 25 June.

Tibet's first electrified rail line, the Lalin Railway, runs between Lhasa and Nyingchi, with nine stations, 47 tunnels and 121 bridges. The railway forms part of the larger Sichuan-Tibet railway project. 31 new 12-carriage Fuxing Plateau bi-mode multiple units will run on the line, with diffusion and distributed oxygen systems installed to ensure comfort when travelling through high altitudes and long tunnels.

The \$AU4.2 billion (20b Yuan) Taizhou-Jinhua railway also opened on this date, running between Taizhou West station, south of Shanghai, and Jinhua country in Zhejiang province, with over a dozen stations, 70 bridges and 58 tunnels en route. Up to 40 per cent travel time is saved by the trains on this line.

Meanwhile, the \$AU8+ billion (39b Yuan) Hangzhou-Shaoxing-Taizhou railway, a pilot public-private partnership, has completed construction, and is expected to open by the end of the year.

INTERNATIONAL RAILWAY JOURNAL

ENDS

BUS & COACH NEWS

NATIONAL



Firefly

As of Thursday 26 August 2021, the advice from Firefly is as follows for their network:

- **FE31** and **FE21** Melbourne – Sydney services suspended until 16 September 2021.
- **FE70** and **FE80** Melbourne – Adelaide suspended until 16 September 2021.
- **FE71** and **FE81** Melbourne – Adelaide suspended until 17 September 2021.

STEVEN HABY, FIREFLY

Greyhound

As expected the 'dog's' network has been severely impacted by COVID restrictions along the eastern seaboard and elsewhere.

At the time of writing the following services are affected:

- **GX882** and **GX850** cancelled on Wednesdays and Saturdays until Sunday 5 September 2021.
- **GX880** and **GX580** cancelled on Tuesdays and Saturdays until Sunday 5 September 2021.
- **GX233** and **GX322** cancelled until 30 September 2021.
- **GX422** and **GX244** cancelled until 30 September 2021.
- **GX200** and **GX203** only operate between Canberra and Thredbo. Additionally, from 16 August, these services operate only on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays for the remainder of the season.

However, given the ACT outbreak and subsequent lockdown of the territory in late August, it is not clear at the time of writing whether GX200 and GX203 are still operating at all. **STEVEN HABY, GREYHOUND**

Premier Motor Service

All services remain suspended between Nowra and the Queensland border until further notice. **STEVEN HABY, PREMIER MOTOR SERVICE**

QUEENSLAND



Bus changes

From Monday, 2 August, route 700, 760 and 768 buses are not servicing some Tweed Heads stops due to state border restrictions, with buses starting/finishing at Griffith Street, Coolangatta. Translink also advised that some school buses crossing the border could experience delays of up to 60 minutes due to the same reason.

Additionally, from Monday, 16 August, Route 777 (Gold Coast Airport-Broadbeach South), has been suspended until further notice.

Meanwhile, from 16 August, bus route 480 (Mt Coot-tha shuttle) was withdrawn “due to lack of demand”. Translink says route 471 provides a seven-day alternative. **TRANSLINK**

Timetable adjustments

Translink advised that some minor adjustments were made to Sunshine Coast bus timetables effective from Monday, 2 August, and Gold Coast timetables effective from Monday, 9 August to improve service reliability. Translink also advises that some bus trips during the upcoming school holidays (20 Sept-1 Oct) will be adjusted “to better reflect traffic conditions and improve service reliability”. **TRANSLINK**

Additional physical distancing services

The following temporary COVID-19 physical distancing route services have been extended until 10 December 2021 (see *Table Talk*, March 2021, p. 9):

- Route 227 – 17:55 Wynnum to city.
- 261 – 08:08 Mackenzie to Brisbane City
- 261 – 15:45 Brisbane City to Mackenzie
- 550 – 05:47 Browns Plains to Springwood

- 555 – 05:00 Loganholme station to Brisbane City
- 555 – 05:43 Brisbane City to Loganholme station
- P546 – 08:11 Park Ridge to Brisbane City
- P569 – 06:19 Loganholme station to Brisbane City

TRANSLINK

NEW SOUTH WALES



Lockdown – part 2

With the ongoing NSW lockdown, bus services across the city continue to be impacted with service reductions.

Transport for NSW said that buses were operating to the Saturday timetable from Monday, 23 August (Sundays excluded) with “a number of additional early morning and afternoon services for ‘essential worker’ peak periods; frequent services on known high-demand routes (dependent on driver availability); and additional weekday-only routes that service key employment precincts (dependent on driver availability).”

Busways, Hillsbus, CDC Forest each confirmed these arrangements, with no school services operating.

Busabout issued a leaflet for their routes, see the next page. **HILAIRE FRASER, TRANSPORT FOR NSW, CDC BUS, BUSWAYS**

Further COVID impacts

In mid-August, a positive COVID case in Transit Systems' Leichhardt depot necessitated mass cancellation of many inner Sydney route services.

Impacted routes included 305, 320, 406, 428, 430, 431, 433, 437, 438N, 438X, 440, 441, 442, 445, 470, 502, 503, 504, and 504X.

Routes were fully suspended for a few days, while deep cleaning and alternative arrangements could be made. With many drivers and depot staff impacted with isolate and test orders, Transport for NSW arranged for a number of services to be subcontracted to other providers to provide key shuttle services on key corridors until the impacted Transit Systems crew could return to work. **PAUL BROWN, GEOFF LAMBERT, TRANSPORT FOR NSW**

Additional Weekday Trips from Monday 23rd August 2021

BUSABOUT

Per advice from the NSW Government, Busabout will be operating enhanced Saturday timetables on weekdays (Monday-Friday) from Monday, 23rd August 2021 until further notice. Please see below list of additional trips that will also be operating on weekdays only.

Route 841

Monday to Friday	
Route Number	841
I Narellan Town Centre Elyard Street	05:04
H Rodeo Road & Camden Valley Way	05:09
G Gregory Hills Donovan Blvd & Gregory Hills Dr	05:11
F Gledswood Hills The Hermitage Way opp Devlin Dr	05:16
E Gledswood Hills The Hermitage Way & Providence Dr	05:21
D Emerald Hills Shopping Village	05:28
C Willowdale Estate Jamboree Av & Konara St	05:32
B Leppington Hotel Ingleburn Road	05:38
A Leppington Station	05:44
Leppington train to City departs	05:50
Leppington train to Blacktown departs	-

Route 841

Monday to Friday	
Route Number	841
Leppington train from Blacktown arrives	-
Leppington train from City arrives	05:47
A Leppington Station	05:57
B Leppington Hotel Ingleburn Road	06:00
C Willowdale Estate Jamboree Av & St Andrews Rd	06:06
D Emerald Hills opp Shopping Village	06:09
E Gledswood Hills The Hermitage Way opp Providence Dr	06:15
F Gledswood Hills The Hermitage Way opp Sandhurst Dr	06:20
G Gregory Hills Donovan Blvd & Gregory Hills Dr	06:26
H Rodeo Road & Camden Valley Way	06:30
I Narellan Town Centre Elyard Street	06:40

Route 880

Monday to Friday	
Route Number	880
A Campbelltown Station Stand E	-
B Macarthur Square	-
Campbelltown train from City arrives	-
D Campbelltown Station west side Stand H	- 05:15
E Woodbine North Steyne Rd & Badgally Rd	04:41 05:17
F Claymore Shops Dobell Rd	04:45 05:21
G Eagle Vale Shops Feldspar Rd	04:52 05:28
H Kearns Epping Forest Dr & Raby Rd	04:58 05:34
I St Andrews Raby Rd & Campbelltown Rd	05:03 05:39
M Minto Station west side	05:08 05:44
Minto train to City departs	05:20 05:50
N Minto Mall Brookfield Rd	-

Route 880

Monday to Friday	
Route Number	880
M Minto Mall Brookfield Rd	-
Minto train from City arrives	-
M Minto Station west side	05:10
J St Andrews Raby Rd & Campbelltown Rd	05:13
I Kearns Epping Forest Dr & Raby Rd	05:17
G Eagle Vale Shops Feldspar Rd	05:22
F Claymore Shops Dobell Rd	05:29
E Woodbine North Steyne Rd & Badgally Rd	05:36
D Campbelltown Station west side Stand G	05:38
Campbelltown train to City departs	05:44
B Macarthur Square	-
A Campbelltown Station	-

Route 881

Monday to Friday	
Route Number	881
A Campbelltown Station Stand F	-
G Campbelltown Macquarie Av & Russell St	-
I Leumeah O'Sullivan Rd & Turimetta Av	-
Leumeah train from City arrives	05:24
K Leumeah Station	05:54
L Leumeah Wyangala Cr & Tuross Pl	05:57
M Leumeah Westmoreland Rd & Townson Av	06:03
L Leumeah Wyangala Cr & Tuross Pl	06:07
K Leumeah Station	06:10
Leumeah train to City departs	06:19
I Leumeah O'Sullivan Rd & Turimetta Av	-
G Campbelltown Macquarie Av & Russell St	-
A Campbelltown Station	-

Route 882

Monday to Friday	
Route Number	882
Campbelltown train from City arrives	06:28
A Campbelltown Station Stand F	D06:33
B Campbelltown Waminda Av & Broughton St	06:36
H Leumeah Macquarie Av & Carrington Cct	06:40
I Leumeah Lindsay St & Burns Rd	D06:45
A Campbelltown Station	06:51
Campbelltown train to City departs	06:58

Route 885

Monday to Friday	
Route Number	885
Campbelltown train from City arrives	-
A Campbelltown Station Stand D	- L04:56 L05:26
B Bradbury Opposite Jacaranda Av Shops	-
C Bradbury The Parkway & Kippara Pl	04:30 05:02 05:32
D St Helens Park Woodland Rd Shops	04:36 05:08 05:38
B Bradbury Jacaranda Av Shops	04:43 05:15 05:45
A Campbelltown Station	04:51 05:23 05:53
Campbelltown train to City departs	04:57 05:29 05:59

Additional Weekday Trips from Monday 23rd August 2021

BUSABOUT

Per advice from the NSW Government, Busabout will be operating enhanced Saturday timetables on weekdays (Monday-Friday) from Monday, 23rd August 2021 until further notice. Please see below list of additional trips that will also be operating on weekdays only.

Route 887

Monday to Friday	
Route Number	887
Campbelltown train from City arrives	- 05:58 13:59
A Campbelltown Station Stand B	05:10 06:10 14:06
B Macarthur Square	M05:15 M06:15 14:13
Bus operates via	R R DR
K Appin Toggeral St & Appin Rd	-
F Appin Church St & Kennedy St	05:39 06:39 14:39
L Wollongong University of Wollongong	06:13 07:13 15:13
M Nth Wollongong Beach Bourke St & Cliff Rd	-
N Wollongong Station	06:25 07:25 15:25

Route 887

Monday to Friday	
Route Number	887
N Wollongong Station	06:35 07:35 15:35
M Nth Wollongong Beach Bourke St & Cliff Rd	- V15:40
L Wollongong University of Wollongong	- 15:45
K Appin Toggeral St & Appin Rd	-
F Appin Church St & Kennedy St	07:08 08:08 16:13
Bus operates via	DR DR R
B Macarthur Square	07:37 08:37 16:40
A Campbelltown Station	07:45 08:45 16:48
Campbelltown train to City departs	07:52 09:03 17:03

Route 888

Monday to Friday	
Route Number	888
Campbelltown train from City arrives	-
A Campbelltown Station Stand B	- 04:24
B Macarthur Square	- M04:29
C Ambarvale Shops	- 04:32
D Ambarvale Copperfield Dr & Dickens Rd	- 04:34
E Rosemeadow Marketplace Fitzgibbon La	- 04:35
F St Helens Park Kellerman Dr & St Helens Park Dr	03:57 04:37
G Rosemeadow Copperfield Dr & Appin Rd	04:00 04:40
E Rosemeadow Marketplace	04:03 04:43
D Ambarvale Copperfield Dr & Dickens Rd	04:05 04:45
C Ambarvale Shops	04:08 04:48
B Macarthur Square	M04:12 M04:52
A Campbelltown Station	04:18 04:58
Campbelltown train to City departs	04:27 05:14

Route 890/893

Monday to Friday	
Route Number	890
M Harrington Pk Sir Warwick Fairfax Dr & Harrison Av	05:13 -
L Harrington Pk Fairwater Dr & Harrington Pky	05:21 -
K Narellan Town Centre Elyard St	05:27 A05:33
J Elderslie Merino Dr & Macarthur Rd	- 05:39
I Spring Farm Richardson Rd & Springs Rd	- 05:43
H Narellan Vale Holdsworth Dr & Morsehead Rd	-
G Narellan Vale Waterworth Dr & Holdsworth Dr	05:32 05:48
F Mt Annan Swansona Av & Mt Annan Dr	-
E Mt Annan Welling Dr & Mt Annan Dr	-
D Currans Hill Tramway Dr & Glenfield Dr	-
C Mt Annan Narellan Rd & Mt Annan Dr	05:42 05:59
B Macarthur Square	N N
A Campbelltown Station	05:50 06:07
Campbelltown train to City departs	05:59 06:16

Route 892

Monday to Friday	
Route Number	892
Campbelltown train from City arrives	05:58
A Campbelltown Station Stand A	06:03
B Macarthur Square	N
C Mt Annan Narellan Rd & Mt Annan Dr	06:10
D Currans Hill Tramway Dr & Glenfield Dr	-
H Narellan Vale Holdsworth Dr & Morsehead Rd	06:12
G Narellan Vale Waterworth Dr & Holdsworth Dr	06:16
E Mt Annan Welling Dr & Mt Annan Dr	06:21
F Mt Annan Swansona Av & Mt Annan Dr	-
I Spring Farm Richardson Rd & Springs Rd	-
J Elderslie Merino Dr & Macarthur Rd	-
K Narellan Town Centre Elyard St	-
M Harrington Pk Sir Warwick Fairfax Dr & Harrison Av	-
L Harrington Pk Fairwater Dr & Harrington Pky	-

Route 886

Monday to Friday	
Route Number	886
Campbelltown train from City arrives	05:58
A Campbelltown Station Stand B	06:02
B Macarthur Square	M06:07
H Glen Alpine Heritage Wy & Glen Alpine Dr	06:10
I Ambarvale Crispsparkle Dr & Cleopatra Dr	06:16
B Macarthur Square	M06:22
A Campbelltown Station	06:30
Campbelltown train to City departs	06:37

NSW TrainLink 899 coach trial extended

Transport for NSW (TfNSW) confirmed in July that its **899** Wyangala to Canberra coach service trial, which includes one return trip on Fridays (excluding public holidays), operated by Live Better Services, has been extended until the end of this year.

Member for Cootamundra, Steph Cooke, said “TfNSW has received positive feedback from customers with a survey finding more people were travelling on the service since the operator introduced an additional bus to cater for the increased demand last year”, while the Member for Goulburn, Wendy Tuckerman, said “I’d encourage even more locals to continue to use this service to help TfNSW evaluate its future”. **COWRA GUARDIAN**

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY



Lockdown

In response to the COVID-19 lockdown in the ACT, Transport Canberra commenced an interim bus timetable on Wednesday 25 August 2021, to continue until further notice.

The interim timetable is the same as the summer timetable. Thus weekday daytime local services and the weekday daytime Rapid 10 run at least every 30 minutes. All other weekday Rapids run at least every 15 minutes during the day and at least every hour after 8pm. Weekend bus services are unchanged, as are all tram services.

Dedicated school bus services are cancelled, since most ACT school students are now learning at home. Those few students who are attending school and need a dedicated school bus service are being given a bespoke service.

Special Needs Transport and the Flexible Bus Service are continuing to operate.

Transport Canberra noted that an increasing number of bus drivers are unable to work due to directions from ACT Health.

Face masks have been mandatory on public transport in the ACT since Monday, 28 June. Since Thursday, 15 July, use of the 'Check In CBR' mobile application has been mandatory onboard all ACT buses and trams.

Supplied by - AGNES BOSKOVITZ, DALE BUDD, DAVID CRANNEY

Source - TRANSPORT CANBERRA, ABC NEWS (2)

VICTORIA



Night Network changes

The Melbourne Night Network bus changes overviewed in the July edition of *Table Talk* commenced from Friday 27 August, including considerable changes to routes. Firstly, a number of existing daytime routes have been extended to run 24 hours a day over the weekend from Friday night. Secondly, several existing Night Network bus routes have either been altered or cancelled altogether.

The following existing daytime bus routes had their hours extended to operate generally on an hourly frequency between the last service and first service on the next day as per the normal weekday and Saturday timetable prior to the changes.

Note that not all routes operate the full route length (e.g.: the 788 is truncated at Sorrento rather than running all the way to Portsea).

Daytime bus routes with extended operating hours

- **150** Williams Landing – Tarneit (buses wait up to 20 minutes for late running connecting trains at William Landing).
- **180** Tarneit – Werribee
- **207** City – Doncaster – Box Hill (does not operate between Doncaster and Box Hill)
- **250** City – La Trobe University
- **357** Thomastown – Epping – Wollert West (buses will wait up to 20 minutes for connecting trains at Epping and Thomastown)
- **386** Bundoora – Mernda – South Morang (buses will wait up to 20 minutes for connecting trains)
- **406** Footscray – East Keilor (buses will wait up to 20 minutes for connecting trains at Footscray)
- **410** Footscray – Sunshine (wait times as per 406)
- **420** Sunshine – Watergardens
- **630** Elwood – Monash University (buses will wait up to 20 minutes for connecting trains at Gardenvale).
- **670** Ringwood – Lilydale (buses will wait for up to 20 minutes for connecting trains at Ringwood).
- **693** Oakleigh – Belgrave (buses will only operate as far as Scoresby from Oakleigh and wait for up to 20 minutes for connecting trains at Oakleigh).

- **703** Middle Brighton – Blackburn (buses will wait for up to 20 minutes for connecting trains at either terminus).
- **788** Frankston – Portsea (only operates as far as Sorrento from Frankston and buses will wait for up to 20 minutes for connecting trains at Frankston).
- **833** Frankston – Carrum (wait times as per 788).
- **900** Caulfield – Stud Park SC (buses will only run from Oakleigh to Stud Park SC and will wait up to 20 minutes for connecting trains at Oakleigh).
- **901** Frankston – Melbourne Airport (will operate only between Dandenong and Ringwood and buses will wait for up to 20 minutes for connecting trains at either terminus).
- **905** City – The Pines SC
- **907** City – Mitcham
- **908** City – The Pines SC (will only operate between Doncaster Park and Ride and The Pines).
- 963 Ringwood – Lilydale replaced by 670.
- 964 Croydon – Lilydale replaced by 967 Glen Waverley – Croydon and 965 Lilydale – Healesville.
- 965 Lilydale – Woori Yallock – Healesville to now incorporate Mount Evelyn.
- 966 City – Box Hill replaced by 207 but not all buses extend to Box Hill.
- 967 Glen Waverley – Bayswater extended to Croydon and Montrose.
- 969 City – Rowville – Ringwood replaced by tram route 67, routes 693, 900 and 901 plus trains on the Sandringham and Frankston lines.
- 970 Carrum – Frankston – Rosebud replaced by routes 833 and 788.
- 978 Elsternwick – Dandenong will now operate as Clayton – Dandenong. The remainder of the former route is serviced by 630 and 900.
- 979 Elsternwick – Dandenong truncated as per 978 and route 703 to provide coverage for the remainder of the former route.
- 981 Dandenong – Cranbourne extended to Cranbourne East.
- 982 Dandenong – Cranbourne extended to Cranbourne West.

Amended Night Network bus routes

- 941 City – Sunshine – Watergardens truncated to run Sunshine – Watergardens.
- 942 City – Sunshine – St Albans replaced by routes 410 and 420.
- 943 Watergardens – Melton extended to West Melton.
- 944 City – Point Cook replaced by 947 Newport – Altona – Footscray and 949 Williams Landing – Altona Meadows.
- 945 City – Wyndham Vale replaced by routes 947, 150, 180 and 190.
- New route 947 Footscray – Newport.
- New route 949 Williams Landing – Altona Meadows.
- 951 City – Moonee Ponds – Glenroy truncated to operate Brunswick – Glenroy only.
- 952 City – Footscray – Essendon – Broadmeadows replaced by 406 and 959 City – Broadmeadows.
- New route 953 Broadmeadows – Craigieburn.
- 955 City – Mernda replaced by route 86 tram, 250 and 386.
- New route 959 City – Broadmeadows.
- 961 City – Doncaster replaced by routes 905, 907 and 908.

STEVEN HABY, HILAIRE FRASER, PTV

Donnybrook Bus Interchange

Effective from Saturday, 29 August, bus routes 511 and 525 as well as the Melbourne to Seymour Night Coach will have an altered route into Donnybrook station's bus interchange through Cloverton Boulevard and Station Parade. *HILAIRE FRASER*

Level crossing removal: shuttle buses

Following the closure of Mooroolbark station for level crossing removal works from Friday 16 July to Sunday 24 October 2021, a shuttle bus is currently operating between Lilydale – Mooroolbark and Croydon with trains now running express. Ventura is operating the shuttle buses.

From Sunday 25 July 2021, Edithvale, Chelsea and Bonbeach stations were closed as part of the level crossing removals project on the Frankston line and will reopen in November 2021. During this time, shuttle buses in a special livery are operating between Aspendale and Carrum every 5 to 10 minutes. The bus route operates via Nepean Highway on the 'up' and Station Street on the 'down'. Interestingly, there are

<<<<<<<< *Continues bottom of page 12* >>>>>>>>

Melbourne weekend Night Bus network



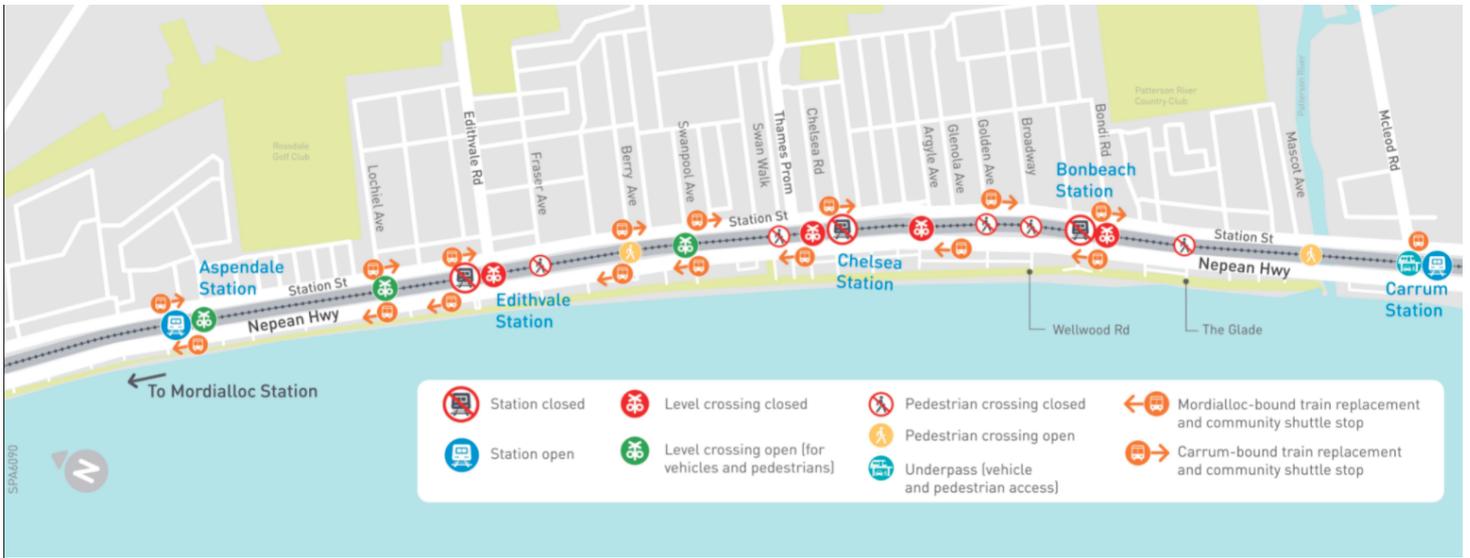
PTVMS322/20



For more public transport information visit ptv.vic.gov.au or call 1800 800 007.

Authorised by the Victorian Government, 1 Treasury Place, Melbourne

Melbourne's Night Network bus map prior to the 27th August changes (source: PTV).



Aspendale – Carrum shuttle bus route map. Note that the route 706 Chelsea – Mordialloc bus route is not shown. (source: PTV).

EFFECTIVE 12 JULY 2021

710, X710, 711, 712, 714, 715, 716, 718, 719

Huon Valley to Hobart

ROUTE NUMBER	ROUTE
710	Huonville to Hobart
X710	Huonville to Hobart EXPRESS
711	Kingston to Ranelagh
712	Ranelagh to Hobart
714	Cygnets to Hobart
715	Cygnets to Kingston
716	Geeveston to Hobart
718	Dover to Hobart
719	Dover to Hobart

Also shows route 410

WHO OPERATES MY SERVICE?

tasolink
710, X710, 711, 712, 714, 715, 716, 718, 719
tasolink.com.au
1300 300 530

Metro
410
metrotas.com.au
13 22 01

Online trip information
transport.tas.gov.au

Tasmania – Huon Valley timetable extracts.

extra stops included en route other than those at the stations and it is being touted as a 'community' shuttle bus as well. Ventura are contracted to provide the service.

The Williamstown line completely closed from 20:30 on Friday, 20 August to enable the removal of the level crossing at North Williamstown and the construction of

EFFECTIVE 12 JULY 2021

710, X710, 711, 712, 714, 715, 716, 718, 719

from Huon Valley towards Hobart

Monday to Friday

ROUTE NUMBER	X710	716	X710	714	718	718	712	716	716	X710	710	X710	712	410
Cygnets, Esplanade Rd/Channel Hwy	08:00	08:00	08:00	08:00	08:00	08:00	08:00	08:00	08:00	08:00	08:00	08:00	08:00	08:00
Cradoc, Channel Hwy/Cradoc Park	-	-	-	-	08:50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dover, Huon Hwy near Station Rd	-	-	-	-	08:50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Geeveston, Honeywood Ln	-	-	-	-	08:50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Franklin, Huon Hwy near Old Rd	-	-	-	-	08:50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ranelagh, Margate St	-	-	-	-	08:50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Huonville, Bus Station, Skinner Dr	08:05	08:45	09:05	09:15	09:40	09:40	09:45	09:53	09:53	09:55	09:55	09:55	09:55	09:55
Grove, Huon Hwy/Mountain River Rd	08:15	08:53	09:15	09:23	09:48	09:48	09:53	09:53	09:53	09:55	09:55	09:55	09:55	09:55
Lower Longley, Huon Hwy/Huon Rd	08:30	09:00	09:20	09:30	09:56	09:56	09:56	09:56	09:56	09:56	09:56	09:56	09:56	09:56
Sandfly, Huon Hwy/Sandfly Rd	08:28	09:05	09:26	09:35	09:51	09:51	09:51	09:51	09:51	09:51	09:51	09:51	09:51	09:51
Kingston, Summerlea Rd	-	-	-	-	09:54	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kingston, Calvin School, Marianne Rd	-	-	-	-	09:54	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kingston, Channel Hwy/John St	-	-	-	-	09:54	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hobart College	-	-	-	-	09:57	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hobart City, Macquarie St	09:50	09:50	09:50	09:50	09:50	09:50	09:50	09:50	09:50	09:50	09:50	09:50	09:50	09:50

Monday to Friday (cont)

ROUTE NUMBER	718	410	714	410	712	410	716	410	715	719	716	710
Cygnets, Esplanade Rd/Channel Hwy	-	-	-	-	10:35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cradoc, Channel Hwy/Cradoc Park	-	-	-	-	10:35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dover, Huon Hwy near Station Rd	9:33	-	-	-	10:46	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Geeveston, Honeywood Ln	10:00	-	-	-	10:46	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Franklin, Huon Hwy near Old Rd	10:14	-	-	-	10:46	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ranelagh, Margate St	-	-	-	-	10:46	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Huonville, Bus Station, Skinner Dr	10:25	-	-	-	11:00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grove, Huon Hwy/Mountain River Rd	10:33	-	-	-	11:08	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lower Longley, Huon Hwy/Huon Rd	10:40	-	-	-	11:15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sandfly, Huon Hwy/Sandfly Rd	10:43	-	-	-	11:18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kingston, Summerlea Rd	10:51	-	-	-	11:26	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kingston, Calvin School, Marianne Rd	-	-	-	-	11:26	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kingston, Channel Hwy/John St	10:55	10:59	11:30	11:59	12:40	12:59	1:30	1:59	3:15	3:45	4:35	5:30
Hobart College	-	-	-	-	11:35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hobart City, Macquarie St	11:13	11:23	11:48	12:23	12:58	1:23	1:48	2:23	-	-	-	-

WHO OPERATES MY SERVICE?

tasolink
710, X710, 711, 712, 714, 715, 716, 718, 719
tasolink.com.au
1300 300 530

Metro
410
metrotas.com.au
13 22 01

Online trip information
transport.tas.gov.au

a new station – it will not reopen until Saturday, 13 November 2021. Shuttle buses are operating between Williamstown and Newport connecting with trains from Newport, Laverton and Werribee. Dyson's are the contractor for the bus replacement service.

Bus News editor comment: Route 706 Mordialloc – Chelsea operates three trips each weekday and

essentially is a shopper/school bus operates along Station Street - it would be an interesting observation to note if loadings have increased or not. It is curious as to why PTV did not consider a temporary upgrade to this bus route rather than operate this extra shuttle. **STEVEN HABY**

Suburban Rail Loop next steps

The state government released the Business and Investment Case for the long-term Suburban Rail Loop (SRL) project in August.

With revenue service anticipated to begin in 2035, the state government said that the Case shows that the 90-kilometre SRL will connect Melbournians to 550,000 jobs, take 600,000 cars off the city's streets and stimulate the local economy with \$58.7 billion in various benefits, and a benefit-cost ratio of between 1.1 and 1.7, which the state government called "positive".

The project has been divided into three sections:

- SRL East: Cheltenham-Box Hill.
- SRL North: Box Hill-Airport.
- SRL West: Airport-Werribee.

The SRL East and North sections are expected to cost a combined \$57 billion, with the government saying that planning for SRL West was continuing. **ROSS MORRISON, VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT, ABC NEWS**

TASMANIA



New Huon Valley network

An upgraded bus network commenced in the Huon Valley from 12 July 2021, operated jointly by Metro Tasmania and Tassielink. See the previous page for extracts from the current timetable. **HILAIRE FRASER**

NEW ZEALAND



Lockdown

New Zealand has not been immune from the struggle of containing the COVID-19 Delta variant, with associated impact to public transport systems as a result of the country's Level Four lockdown.

In **Auckland**, from Friday, 20 August, buses are running to the Saturday timetable until further notice, while routes with no timetabled Saturday services have had some services added for essential travel. In exception to this, routes **352, 504, 866, 966** and **986** still operate to the regular weekday timetable on weekdays, however do not operate at all on weekends. Extra services have also been added between 05:00 and 07:30 on weekdays on routes **982** (3 extra services), **941** (2), and **125** (1). Route **395** only operates two trips per weekday (06:50 Waiuku to Papakura, and 17:33 Papakura to Waiuku). Route **333X** only operates one trip Mondays to Saturdays (23:30 Britomart to Otahuhu). Route **321** operates to a "special timetable" daily. School buses and Friday & Saturday Night Rider services have been suspended until further notice.

In **Wellington**, Metlink bus services are mirroring the train network by running to a rolling Saturday timetable.

In **Christchurch**, buses are running to a continuous Sunday timetable.

In **Dunedin**, Route 1 Palmerston and Mosgiel services (80/81) are maintaining their weekday timetable on weekdays, despite the lockdown, while all other buses have been reduced to the Saturday timetable. The Sunday timetable continues to operate on Sundays. **ROSS MORRISON, NZ GOVERNMENT, AUCKLAND TRANSPORT**

Auckland: Route 376 enhancement

Due to "continuing growth", from Sunday, 22 August, the route 376 timetable was updated to provide an enhanced service offering, as follows:

- 20-minute service frequency during peak periods.
- 30-minute service frequency at other times.
- Buses now operate between 05:30 and 22:30 daily.
- Route extended to the new housing development at Auranga.

AUCKLAND TRANSPORT

AT Local to continue

Auckland Transport's trial ride share service, *AT Local*, will continue after Liftango won a competitive tender process. It will start operating the On Demand service in the coming months in South Auckland, with hundreds of boarding/alighting stops across the designated zone. **PR WIRE**

Wellington workaround

Another stop-work meeting for Wellington's bus drivers occurred on Tuesday, 13 July, although operator Tranzurban said it avoided service cancellations by re-arranging shifts among some employees.

Meanwhile, in Christchurch, 500 Canterbury bus drivers will move onto what the local union calls the "living wage" of at least \$NZ22.75 an hour, an increase of almost one dollar. Living Wage New Zealand says the "living wage" is what is needed to pay for "the necessities of life and participate as an active citizen in the community" *THE DOMINION POST, STUFF.CO.NZ*

Christchurch: Mass rapid transit

An interim report by the Greater Christchurch Partnership (GCP) investigating the feasibility for introducing a 'mass rapid transit' service in Christchurch has found it could be done but would need to be supported by more intensive population growth near stations along the route.

The GCP comprises local councils and New Zealand Transport Agency. In the run-up to last year's election, Jacinda Ardern's Labour Party campaigned for a rapid transport network in the city.

The three options assessed were using the existing heavy rail corridor, using existing streets with buses, and using existing streets with light rail vehicles. Each option found the need for greater population density and employment areas nearby to secure its viability. *NEW ZEALAND HERALD*

ENDS

From Cronulla – 10:00, 13:00 and 18:00

From Bundeena – 09:00, 12:00 and 17:00

On school days, the operator also organises the following:

Morning (from Bundeena):

- 1x bus departing 07:00

- 3x buses departing 08:00

Afternoon (from Cronulla):

- 2x buses departing 15:30

- 1x bus departing 16:30

According to Bundeena & Royal National Park Visitor Guide, the recent disruption history of the ferry service includes:

- 21 March 2021 – Reduced timetable due to severe weather
- 07 May – Ferry replaced by bus due to damaged wharf
- 29 May – Ferry replaced by bus due to large swells
- 19 June – Ferry replaced by bus due to large swells
- 26 to 28 June – Ferry replaced by bus due to mechanical issue

It also says that replacement buses are organised with Maianbar Bundeena Bus Service.

Apparently, it is the oldest-running 'timetabled' ferry in the country. Further information can be found at <http://bundeena.info/cronulla-bundeena-ferry-timetable/> *CRONULLA FERRIES, BUNDEENA INFO*

FERRY & SHIP NEWS

NEW SOUTH WALES



Bad weather plan

Cronulla Ferries, operator of the Cronulla Bundeena Ferry, operating in south-eastern Sydney, has a Bad Weather Plan, available on their website. The plan, when bad weather results in their ferries being unable to operate, consists of arranging buses to depart at these times (daily):

TASMANIA



Hobart ferry trial

As previously noted in *Table Talk*, the Hobart trial weekday ferry service across the River Derwent was confirmed to start operating on 19 July for a minimum 12-month period, between Bellerive Pier and Sullivans Cove (Brooke St Pier).

The journey takes 15 minutes, with departures from Bellerive at 06:20, 07:00, 07:40, 08:20, 09:00, 16:10, 16:50 and 17:30. Meanwhile, departures from Hobart are at 07:20, 08:00, 08:40, 15:50, 16:30, 17:10 and 17:50. The timetable, dated 1 August, is found on transport.tas.gov.au.

The route provides an alternative to using the Tasman Bridge for drivers and cyclists. Clarence City Council Mayor Doug Chipman said that "some people may want to ride to school or work but the bridge is too daunting. With this service, they'll be able to ride down to the wharf, catch the ferry, then ride on."

Mr Chipman said that he is hopeful the ferry is here for good, and wants to see the ferry transport network expand to take in more of the city's riverside communities - "People have been crying out for years to have ferry services on the Derwent. It's not just nostalgia and harking back to the days when the bridge was down and we had lots and lots of ferries, but people just love the ambience of the river."

The trial service is using an Excella as the primary vessel, with capacity for 107 passengers and 15 bicycles. The transport department said there is the "potential to upscale to a larger ferry if there is demand".

During the trial, travel is fare-free for passengers with a Metro Greencard, bicycle or e-scooter. Otherwise, fares are \$3.50 adult, \$2.40 adult concession and \$1.80 child/student. The service is operated by Derwent Ferries, a division of Roche Brothers transport group. This service has been designated as **F2**. Possibly, the Bruny Island Ferry also found on transport.tas.gov.au will be designated as **F1**. **STEVEN HABY, ROSS MORRISON, TASMANIAN TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT, TASMANIAN PREMIER'S DEPARTMENT**

NEW ZEALAND



Lockdown

New Zealand has not been immune from the struggle of containing COVID-19 Delta variant, with associated impact to public transport systems as a result of the country's Level Four lockdown.

In **Auckland**, from Friday, 20 August, ferries are running to a reduced timetable as follows:

- Devonport and Waiheke - hourly frequency.
- Pine Harbour – two-hourly frequency.
- Half Moon Bay and Hobsonsville Point – 150-minute frequency.
- West Harbour, Gulf Harbour, Bayswater and Birkenhead – cancelled outright.

Meanwhile, in **Wellington**, harbour services have been cancelled outright for the duration of the Level Four lockdown. **ROSS MORRISON, NZ GOVERNMENT**

ENDS

AIR NEWS

DOMESTIC



Launceston Airport

The Examiner newspaper advises that Launceston Airport has experienced a 47 per cent decline in passengers this year, while flights in/out of the Airport are down by 27 per cent. **ROSS MORRISON, THE EXAMINER**

INTERNATIONAL



UK expands inbound non-quarantine

The United Kingdom government announced that from 02:00 Monday, 2 August, it would expand the list of countries whose fully-vaccinated visitors it would welcome without mandatory quarantine. These "amber" countries include the United States, Canada, Monaco, Vatican City, and amber European Union nations.

Conditions include they must have completed their full vaccination at least a fortnight prior to arrival, and conduct two COVID-19 tests – the first no more than three days prior to travel, and the second test within two days of arrival in the UK. Travellers are still required to complete a "Passenger Locator Form", which is available on the government website. **SAMCHUI.COM**

Afghan exodus

With the changed political climate in Afghanistan, *Samchui.com* has provided a list of 10 countries and the aircraft that they are using for flights in and out of the country, ahead of the agreed 31 August deadline. It has been reported that at least 28,000 people were taken out of the country in the week (two-thirds by the United States) following the Taliban's return to control of the country on 15 August. According to Reuters, 111,000 people had been evacuated in the fortnight to 27 August.

The article reports that Australia, through the RAAF, is using C-130 and C-17 aircraft, with flights out of Kabul operating to Al Minhad Air Force Base in the UAE.

The list, also including Canada, Germany, the US, France, Spain and India can be found online:

<https://samchui.com/2021/08/22/countries-flying-kabul-rescue-flights/> SAMCHUI.COM, AGNES BOSKOVITZ, REUTERS

Emirates resumes further flights

Emirates has added further flights to its service network following a further easing of travel restrictions in the United Kingdom and the United Arab Emirates.

The airline said that during August and September, it would be increasing flights to/from London Heathrow, so that by October, it will be operating 73 weekly flights to/from the UK, including 42 at London Heathrow (with 28 of these using the A380), 14 at Manchester, 10 at Birmingham, and seven at Glasgow.

Simultaneously, the airline will boost its service frequency to US cities including New York, Houston, Boston and San Francisco. Within South Africa, four extra flights a week are being added at Johannesburg (to 11), linked with Durban. SAMCHUI.COM

Qatar brings back A330s

Qatar Airways has pressed some of its A330 fleet back into service following recognition of a defect with its burgeoning A350 fleet, reportedly involving degradation underneath the paint. SAMCHUI.COM

Return from warm storage

Samchui.com has provided a 10-minute video showing the work in getting a B747 plane from long-term warm storage in the desert back into service. See <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E1dIC6-Rf-4> . SAMCHUI.COM

ENDS

About *Table Talk*

Print ISSN 1038-3697, Online ISSN 2209-718X.

Table Talk is a monthly publication produced by the Australian Timetable Association Inc. (ATA) (Registration No. A0043673H) as a journal of record covering timetable and other transport-related news. The ATA also publishes *The Times* each month, covering timetable history and analysis. ABN 74248483468.

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Back issues of *Table Talk* are available on our website, www.timetable.org.au, after two months from print publication.

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