

Tom Russell

A few articles about Tom.

Mr T. H. Russell, M.Eng.Sc., B.C.E., C.E., M.I.E.Aust. commenced with the Board as a diplomate engineer in January, 1943, and subsequently obtained his Bachelor and Masters Degrees at the University of Melbourne. He was Assistant Divisional Engineer, Traralgon from 1952 to 1959 and in 1959 was appointed Assistant Bridge Engineer. In 1968 he became Deputy Chief Engineer - Bridges.

Mr Russell became Deputy Chief Engineer in 1970 and later that year was appointed Chief Engineer. In 1971 he became Member of the Board.

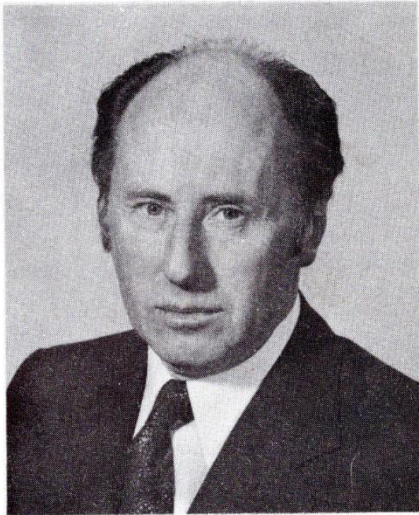


This photo is Tom Russell's send off from Traralgon Division to the Bridge Branch in Head Office at Kew. Ian provided the names of the people who are sitting in the middle row. Reading left to right they are Leslie Roberts, Peter Allbers, Mavis Worm, Frank Docking (Divisional Engineer), Alan Barr, Pat Russell, Tom and Mrs Docking. Ian Goldie is the young man standing behind Tom on the right. Doug Watts (Ian's brother-in-law) is down the front holding a large ear. The ear was presented to Tom because they said no matter where you were or how quiet you spoke Tom could still hear you.

Appointments To Board



Mr T. H. Russell



Mr W. S. Brake

Mr T. H. Russell, formerly Member, was appointed Deputy Chairman of the Country Roads Board earlier this year.

Mr W. S. Brake, previously the Board's Chief Engineer, was appointed Member of the Board.

The two appointments followed the retirement of Mr J. D. Thorpe, Deputy Chairman. **Mr R. E. V. Donaldson** continues as Chairman of the Board, an appointment he has held since 1971.

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NEW CRB CHAIRMAN

Mr T H Russell, MEngSc(Hons), BCE(Hons), DipCE, CE, FIEAust, is the new Chairman of the Country Roads Board.

He succeeded Mr R E V Donaldson, who retired on December 8 after seven years as Chairman.

Mr Russell was appointed Board Member in 1971 and then Deputy Chairman in 1975.

Mr Russell's appointment by the State Government in November was followed by the appointment of Board Member, Mr W S Brake as Deputy Chairman and Mr N L Allanson as Board Member. Mr Allanson was formerly Secretary of the CRB.



● Mr T H Russell

Mr Russell joined the Board in 1943 as a diplomate engineer from the Gordon Institute of Technology. His early service with the Board was mainly in the drafting, surveying and construction supervision field, including approximately one year in the Northern Territory on the construction of the North-South Road.

In 1946 Mr Russell was granted leave without pay to undertake his degree in civil engineering at the University of Melbourne which he completed in 1948. He immediately undertook further postgraduate studies leading to the award of the degree of Master of Engineering Science in 1949.

On his return to the Board in 1950, he worked in both Benalla and Traralgon Divisions and was subsequently appointed Assistant Divisional Engineer, Traralgon Division. From 1959 onwards he occupied various positions in Head Office including Assistant Engineer for Plans & Surveys, Assistant Bridge Engineer, Chief Bridge Engineer, Deputy Chief Engineer, culminating in his appointment as Chief Engineer in 1970.

Mr Russell attended the Advanced Course of the Australian Administrative Staff College in 1960, and accompanied the Hon Sir Murray Porter MLA, who was then Minister for Public Works, on an overseas mission in 1965.

Mr Russell is a Fellow of the Institution of Engineers Australia and was Chairman of the Structural Branch of Victoria Division in 1967, and is currently a member of the Engineering Faculty of the University of Melbourne.

Since 1973 Mr Russell has been closely associated with the National Association of State Road Authorities Economics of Road Vehicle Limits Study which has resulted in a great deal of progress towards the rationalization of mass and dimension limits for heavy vehicles throughout Australia.

Mr Russell, 53, is married with two children and lives at North Balwyn. He is a former President and District Governor of the Association of Apex Clubs and is now an Honorary Life Member of that organisation. Mr Russell is a member and Past President of the Rotary Club of Hawthorn.

In the sporting field Mr Russell represented Victoria in interstate amateur football and Traralgon in Victorian Country Week Basketball. His current sporting interests are golf, jogging and vocal support for Geelong Football Club.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN BOARD MEMBER



● Mr W S Brake



● Mr N L Allanson

Mr. Donaldson retires . . .

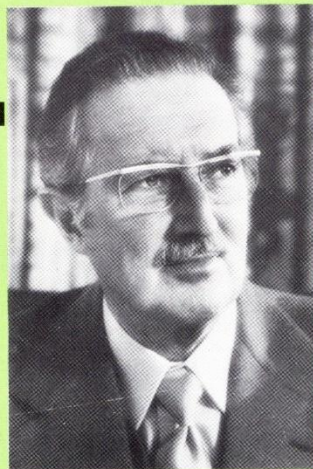
Mr R E V (Ted) Donaldson retired as Chairman of the Country Roads Board on 8th December, 1978.

Mr Donaldson's retirement ended 33 years' service with the CRB, the last seven as Chairman. He rose through the administrative ranks to the position of Secretary on 1st July, 1956, before being appointed Board Member in August, 1962, and then Deputy Chairman in July, 1963.

He has also served terms as Chairman of the Australian Road Research Board, and Chairman of the National Association of Australian State Road Authorities.

Mr Donaldson completed study tours of parts of North America, the United Kingdom and Europe in 1967 and attended the Permanent International Association of Road Congresses Conference in Mexico City in 1975 and the International Road Federation Conference in Japan in 1977.

Mr Donaldson attended the Advanced Course at the Australian Administrative Staff College in 1961.



● Mr R E V Donaldson

During the period of Mr Donaldson's Chairmanship, the CRB continued with the development of high standard roads in Victoria.

Mr Donaldson listed the progressive construction of divided highways and the opening of sections of freeways amongst the important achievements of the CRB during his period as Chairman. He was proud to welcome 213 officers and employees of the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works to the CRB in 1974.

Mr Donaldson said the biggest management challenge that faced the CRB during his term as Chairman was the shrinking of the CRB's financial resources, coupled with increasing demands on the road system.

"In 1970-71, CRB expenditure on roads in Victoria totalled \$109 million, representing \$259 million in today's money values. Unfortunately, funds available to the CRB in 1978-79 are estimated to be only \$236 million. This reduction in the real value of road funds has occurred during a period when the number of vehicles on our roads has risen by 30 per cent.

"This shortage of road funds presents a continuing challenge to the CRB," Mr Donaldson said. "By constant review of our management and technological methods the CRB endeavours to extract as much work value as possible from every dollar we receive. However, it is essential that the Commonwealth Government realises its financial responsibilities to the States and returns a large share if not all of the revenue received from fuel tax to the States for expenditure on roads."

Mr Donaldson listed as his future interests golf, fishing, gardening, sailing and travel.