

# Herald Sun



THE push to bring back Melbourne's tram conductors is about to hit the big screen. A stirring documentary arguing the case for the city's much-loved "connies" will premiere this weekend at the Melbourne International Film Festival.

Launching in the midst of the city's \$3 billion myki debacle, *Bring 'Em Back!* is poised to revive debate for the return of the human touch to public transport. Director Phillip Donnellon urged the State Government to embrace the idea of a multi-pronged system. "I don't want to be antimyki... but I think if we had conductors on the tourist routes and aboard W-class trams... then it would actually help," Donnellon said.

The last conductors were removed from trams in 1998 after a long and bitter battle. Supporters argue that conductors didn't just sell tickets - they improved safety, were tourist guides, helped the elderly and disabled, and offered companionship and even counselling.



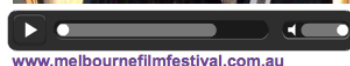
## Bring 'em back!

July 23, 2010, 3:36 PM by Sally Rope



Noni chatted with Phillip Donnellon, who is the Director of a documentary showing at the Melbourne International Film Festival called 'Bring 'Em Back!', about tram conductors. You can listen to Noni's interview with Phillip below...

[Download the audio file](#)



[www.melbournefilmfestival.com.au](http://www.melbournefilmfestival.com.au)

[Blogs.abc.net.au/files/phillip-donnellan.mp3](http://Blogs.abc.net.au/files/phillip-donnellan.mp3)