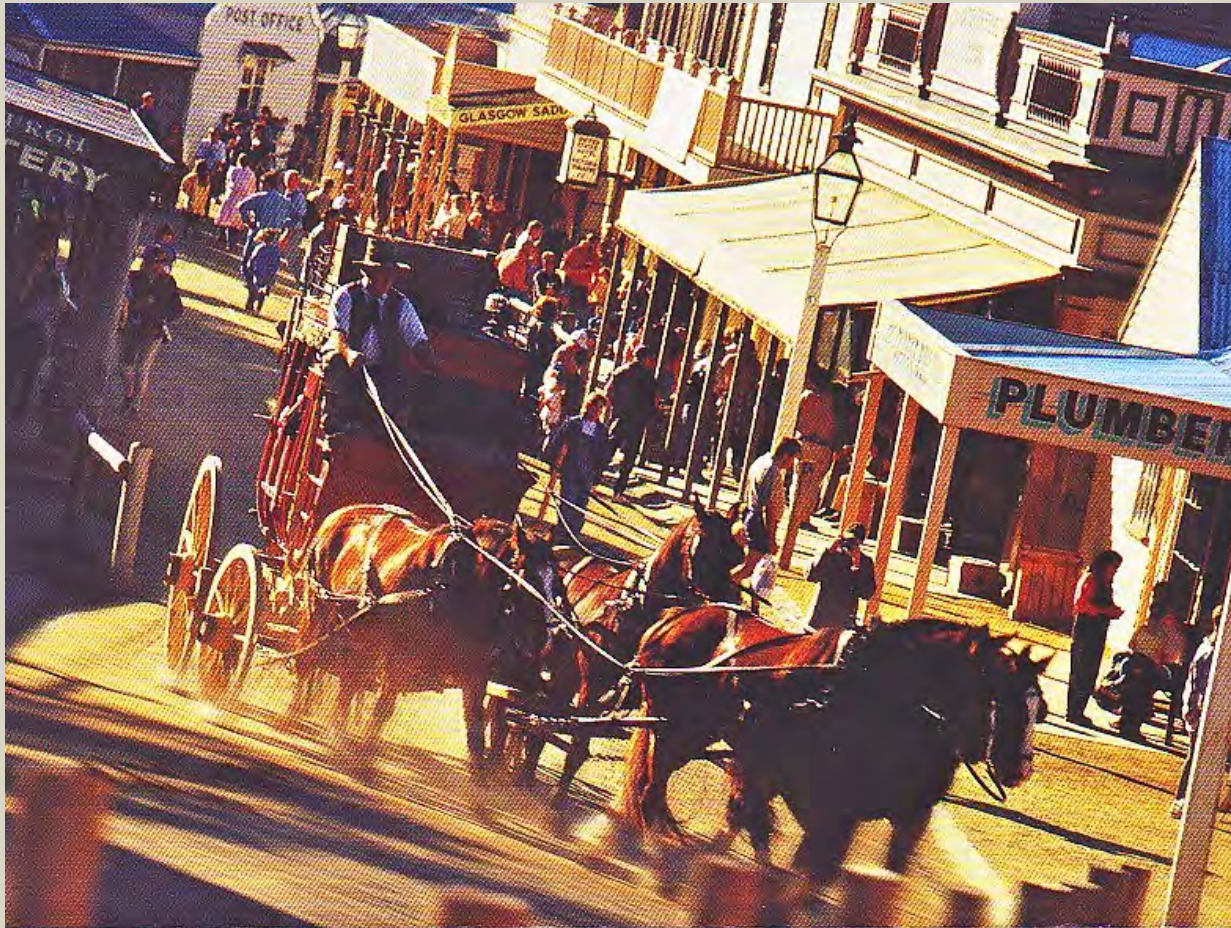


Horses at Sovereign Hill





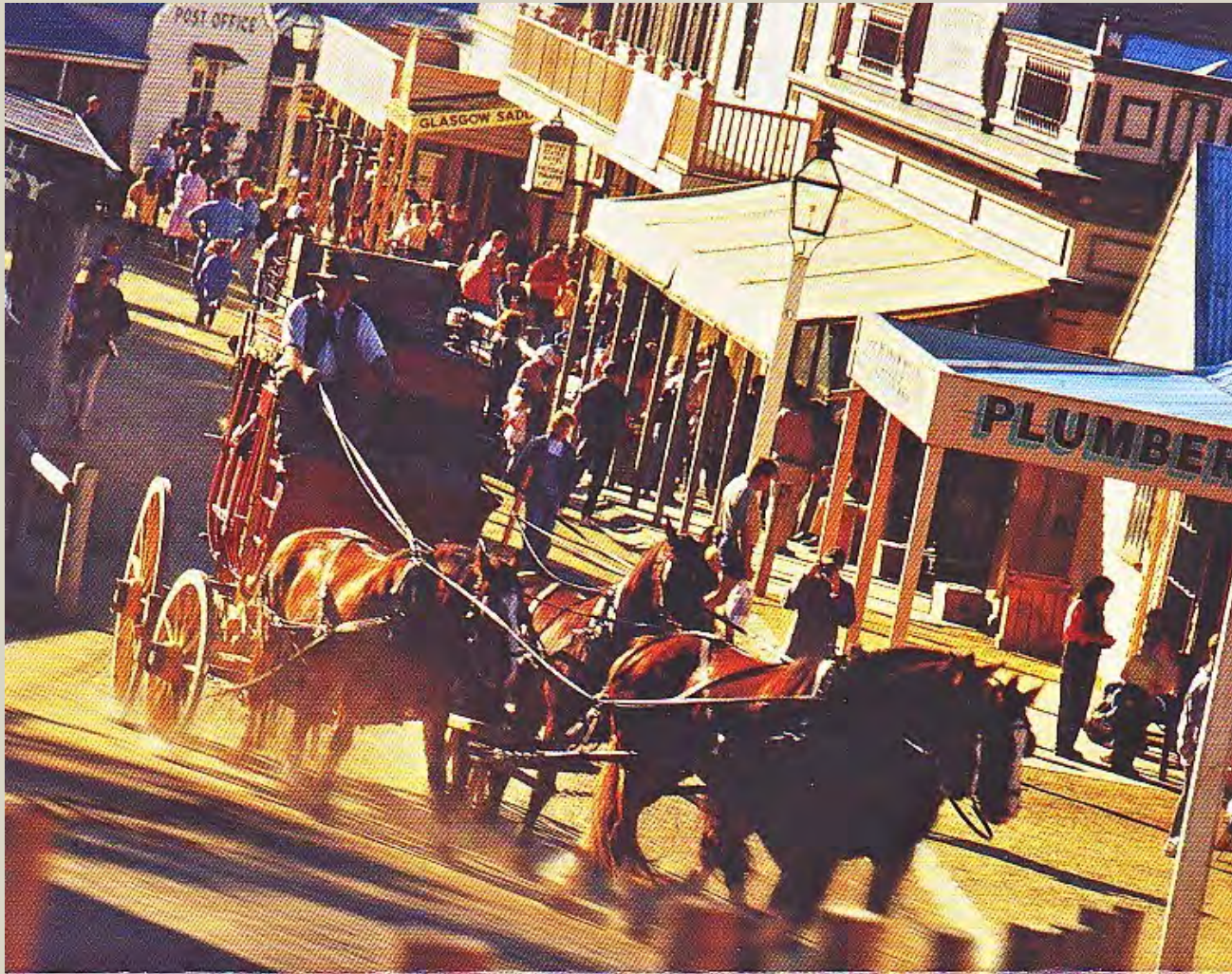
Sovereign Hill is an olden days town showing us what shops and houses were like in the olden days.

There are no cars at Sovereign Hill – cars were not invented in the olden days - so people used horses.

In this picture of the main street at Sovereign Hill I can just see the horse drawn coach at the end of the dirt street.



When the coach gets closer I can see the four big horses pulling it. The driver sits on a special seat at the front of the coach and steers the coach with long leather reins attached to each horse. I will keep out of the way of the horses.



The coach is very noisy, I will hear it rattling as it gets closer and I might hear the driver calling loudly to his horses.



This large wagon is called a Drag. It is like a horse drawn bus as it can carry a lot of people.

I might see this at Sovereign Hill, but it is only used when the museum is very busy so it is not always here.



We can buy a ticket for a ride on the coach or the drag at the Saddlers in the main street.

It is lots of fun riding in either the coach or the Drag.



This is where we can buy tickets for a ride in the horse drawn coach or the Drag.

This is the Saddlers shop and it is one of the shops in the main street at Sovereign Hill.

The saddler was the man who made all the leather harness and saddles for the horses so he was a very important man in town in the olden days.

If we are allowed, I will politely ask the saddler for a coach ticket.



The horses at Sovereign Hill are called Clydesdales. They are very big and strong.

They have very big feet. I will not get too close to them because it is dangerous.

I can see the metal horse shoes they wear to protect their feet



The wheels on the coach are made of wood with a metal tyre.

They are painted bright yellow and rattle and squeak as they turn.

I will hear the coach coming.



These horses are pulling the water cart which in the olden days was used to spray water onto the dirt roads to stop the dust.
I might see this cart on the streets at Sovereign Hill but it is not there every day.



If I am lucky I might see someone riding a horse along one of the streets.

I might even see someone riding a horse leading other horses along the street or back to their stables for a rest.



Sovereign Hill's horses are very friendly and will not hurt me but I must not get too close.

I will try not to make any loud noises near the horses as they get a fright and it is not a nice thing to be scared.



Mr Bloom, Sovereign Hill's horse master with three of Sovereign Hill's horses.