

OTA

ONLINE TRANSPORT ARCHIVE

At a recent Board Meeting it was agreed that the OTA should publish a periodic newsletter to keep interested parties up to date with our activities and to see how we are fulfilling our aims and objectives as required by the Charity Commissioners.

News

Firstly, and most importantly, the archive continues to grow from strength to strength and now houses and is responsible for over 100 transport-

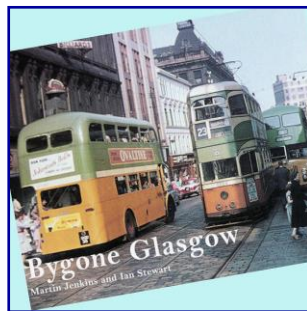
related collections of negatives, colour slides, cine films and prints. Whilst many other collections are covered by wills, OTA urges everyone to ensure that the future of their collections is secure by making water-tight provision in their wills. OTA is able to provide recommended wording. We also ask people to consider leaving the Archive a financial legacy to cover the cost of transporting their collection, its cataloguing as well as helping towards the conservation and preservation of the Archive's material.

Included among recent extensive collections passed to OTA are those from 'Curly' Cross, the late Phil Tatt and the late John McCann. Other material has come from Ray Bicknese, Edward Springer and the late Ron Copson.

Changes

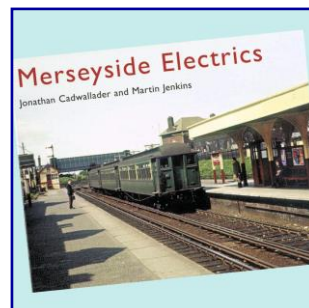
At the AGM in December 2010 a number of changes to the Board were agreed. After some years in the Chair, Martin Jenkins decided to stand down and was replaced as Chairman by Charles Roberts. Peter Waller was

elected Secretary and Philip Hanson and Kevin McCormack were both appointed as new OTA Directors. Martin remains as a director and has taken on the role of President. The Directors would like to thank him for all his efforts in establishing OTA, and are happy that he will continue his involvement in the future



Newsletter

Issue 1, May 2011



Charitable status

Since January 2004, the company has been registered as a charity. Its stated object, as registered with the Charity Commissioners, is: 'to advance the education of the public, particularly but not exclusively, in the history of railway, tramway, road, air and water transport through the collection of film, colour slides, photographic negatives and prints, videotape, electronic images in all formats and other artefacts.'

It operates through a board of directors/trustees, most of whom have standing in the fields of transport heritage, photography and film making. Its Treasurer has continued to ensure that finances have been managed on a prudent basis. The directors each take an active role in furthering the company's aims and are actively assisted in this by a number of members. A continuing aim is to increase the number of younger directors and members who are essential for the future well-being of the Archive

Future plans and publications

The number of enquiries relating to future deposit of collections is increasing notably. One of our priorities for 2011 involves the upgrading and regular upkeep of the website. The site will contain background information and list collections with some illustrations. The website address is www.onlinetransportarchive.org

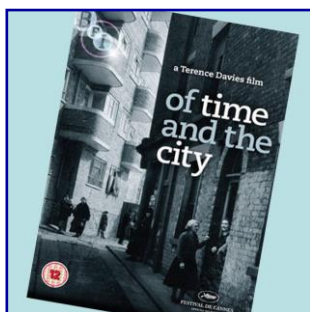
OTA continues to provide prints and slides to a range of authors and publishers. During the past year, OTA images have appeared in over 25 books and magazines. Film footage has appeared in several TV programmes as well as in the Terence Davies film *Of Time and the City*.

OTA is indebted to some of its Directors and members who have written books commissioned from OTA and donated their entire writing fees to the Archive. Also many photographers whose images were used in these books kindly waived their royalty payments. The titles include *The Heyday of Crosville*, *Merseyside Electrics* and *Bygone Glasgow*, the latter being a joint venture with the Scottish Tramway and Transport Society. Upcoming books including *Liverpool – Seaport City*, *The Colours of the Merseyside Area* and *British Trams in Colour 1945-1963*. Authors Neil Cossons and Jonathan Cadwallader also donated their writing fees to the Archive. This income has enabled OTA to invest in high quality scanning equipment and purchase a series of secure cabinets.

We shall continue to monitor the latest technological developments to ensure OTA keeps up to date especially re-scanning slides and films which are showing serious signs of deterioration. OTA recommends everyone to check the state of their slides especially those over 35-40 years old.

We are currently exploring the cost of transferring vulnerable cine film including some excellent 9.5mm which is fragile due to its centre sprocket. OTA was recently given a superb early post-war 9.5mm projector.

OTA is always interested to hear from people looking for a long-term home for their collections. We should also like to hear from people who are willing to be more closely involved. For example, we need help with cataloguing, remounting slides, viewing unidentified film footage, repairing damaged film etc.



OTA's activities can be summarised as:

- care and administration of transport-related film and photographic collections;
- collection conservation work;
- assistance to bona fide authors/researchers in the field;
- availability of the Archive to authors, publishers and recognised Societies thereby ensuring the collections are made available to the public at large

Contacting OTA

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