

**NTA (1963) LIMITED  
(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS  
AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
30 SEPTEMBER 2016

# **NTA (1963) LIMITED (LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

## Contents of the Report

Directors' Report	Pages 3-6
Statement of Financial Activities	Page 7
Balance Sheet	Page 8
Notes to the Financial Statements	Pages 9-12
Report of the Independent Examiner	Page 13

## **REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS, NTA (1963)Ltd 2015/16**

The Directors present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> September 2016.

### **STATUS**

NTA (1963) Limited is registered in England and Wales both as a company limited by guarantee number 937035 and as a registered charity number 288846. The company changed its name to NTA (1963) LIMITED from the Trolleybus Museum Company Limited on 7<sup>th</sup> June 2012.

The Company was established under a Memorandum of Association, which sets out the objects and powers of the company and is governed under its Articles of Association. The Company also operates under the name of National Trolleybus Association.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

Membership of the Company in September 2016 was 512 (at September 2014 – 496).

This membership is based as follows:

United Kingdom: 317 – membership fee £24.50 p.a.

Rest of Europe: 109 - membership fee £30.00 p.a.

Rest of the World: 86 - membership fee £35.00 p.a..

Each member of the Company guarantees the debts of the Company for £1. This guarantee continues to hold well for up to one year after ceasing to be a member.

Membership subscriptions were increased from 1 November 2014 to those shown above.

### **OBJECTIVES AND PUBLIC BENEFIT STATEMENT**

- (a) To advance public education by establishing and maintaining for the benefit of the nation an operating trolleybus museum and for the like purpose to promote the permanent preservation of omnibuses and trolley vehicles and equipment, and items of general transport interest of actual or potential historic or scientific importance and educative value.
- (b) Exhibiting to the public any such vehicles, equipment and items as aforesaid by means of temporary or permanent exhibitions and to demonstrate and assist in demonstrating to the public the working and operation of any such vehicles, equipment and items by means of static or mobile displays and by carrying the public on such vehicles or otherwise.
- (c) To promote and further the study of and research into trolley vehicles and trolley vehicle undertakings and other forms of transport and the historical, scientific, social and other aspects thereof and to publish the results of all useful research for the benefit of the public at large.

### **PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES AND BUSINESS REVIEW**

In pursuance of its objectives, the Company undertook the following activities during the year:

#### **a) Ownership, Restoration and Preservation of Five Historic Trolleybuses for Public Exhibition**

1. **Bournemouth 202.** A Park-Royal bodied Sunbeam MS2 built in 1935 and converted to open-top configuration in 1958. It is in active museum service on long-term loan at East Anglia Transport Museum at Carlton Colville. It is due for a re-paint and plans to do this are being considered.

2. **Huddersfield 541.** A Karrier MS2 with 70 seat Park Royal body, entered service in 1947 and, in 1966, became the first privately preserved trolleybus in the UK to operate on another trolleybus system, when it was used for a tour of Wolverhampton. Restoration to operating condition was completed in 2010 and 541 entered museum service at the Trolleybus Museum at Sandtoft on 29<sup>th</sup> August 2010. In 2013 the vehicle was towed to EATM where it formed the centre-piece in the celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the NTA. It operated there for a weekend.

Early in 2014 the need to repair wheel hubs, replace oil in the differentials and to install missing grease nipples on the back axles was identified. Repairs were made but further problems with the rear dome were

## **REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS, NTA (1963)Ltd 2015/16** **(Continued)**

identified and will also need to be repaired. The Board wishes to thank our member David Beach for his continued generous support for this vehicle.

3. **Wolverhampton 654.** The last Guy built trolleybus, being a BT Model of 1950, remains stored under cover in Northamptonshire as a longer term restoration project. Discussions with a vehicle restorer continue with a view to restoring this vehicle. The restricted fund for the restoration of the vehicle stood at over £12,000 by September 2016.

4. **Belfast 168.** A 1949 Guy BTX with a body built in Ireland by Harkness was the last trolleybus to operate in Ireland in 1968. During 2015 it was moved to the Keighley Bus Museum where restoration was started. The appeal for donations was boosted by publication of the History of Belfast trolleybuses by Trolleybooks. Donations of £3358 were received in 2015/16 and restoration work costing £14,900 was undertaken. The NTA contributed funds from unrestricted accounts to meet the restoration bill.

5. **Hastings 45.** A three-axle single-decker with Guy chassis and Ransome, Sims and Jeffries body dating of 1929, currently stored in Northamptonshire. A fund for its restoration stands at over £17,000.

6. **Storage Depot.** A fund was opened in 2015/6 to finance new storage to enable trolleybus spares and other assets to be consolidated. The first donation of £10,000 was received in 2016.

### **b) Publication of Journal**

The Company continues to produce the "Trolleybus Magazine" (TM) bi-monthly to provide knowledge and information to our membership about this form of transport. The magazine has established a high reputation for accuracy of content and quality of presentation.

Issues 324-329 were published in 2015/16. The Board authorised the expansion of TM to 32 pages plus covers from the first issue in 2015, number 319.

The Editor, Carl Isgar, and Directors would like to thank all those who assisted with TM particularly the News Editor, Peter Haseldine and the distribution undertaken by David Pearson and all those contributing articles, pictures and letters to the Magazine this year.

### **c) Web-site**

The company's web-site continues at [www.trolleybus.co.uk/nta](http://www.trolleybus.co.uk/nta). And is maintained by Ashley Bruce.

### **d) Meetings**

Regular monthly meetings continue to be held at Keen House, Calshot Street, London on many topics related to British and foreign trolleybuses. Members are also welcomed to meetings in Reading and Bradford by reciprocal arrangement with other societies. In May or June the London meeting commemorates the closure of the London trolleybus network and, in 2016, this was held jointly with the London Omnibus Traction Society at Conway Hall.

### **e) Trolleybooks**

The Company maintains a 50% share in the publishing venture "Trolleybooks". Surpluses made by Trolleybooks are paid to the shareholders. The NTA is represented on the Trolleybooks Panel by Mike Russell, Ashley Bruce and Ed Humphreys. Philip Johnson volunteered to assist in Trolleybooks sales and storing book stocks. Significant stocks are also held by R Symons.

The History of Belfast Trolleybuses by Mike Maybin was published by Trolleybooks on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2015. This was the first title printed digitally and has taken many years to prepare. In December 2015 Trolleybooks repaid the outstanding NTA loan of £4,500.

**REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS, NTA (1963)Ltd 2015/16**  
**(Continued)**

**f) Sales**

The Company sells publications at London NTA meetings, some other meetings and at several enthusiast events - sales tables were hired at five events during the year. It also operates a mail order service including trolleybus publications and back numbers of TM. Results for 2015/16 show satisfactory revenue and are due to the efforts of the Sales Officer, Philip Johnson and other volunteers.

**g) Collections**

The Company owns the following collections of trolleybus photographs.

1. The Mack Collection totals over 6,300 negatives of UK trolleybuses acquired from the estate of R.F.Mack. These photographs were mostly taken between 1946 and 1972.
2. The Brearley Collection of about 350 negatives was left to the Company when Harold Brearley passed away. The collection covers the period 1900 to 1972.

Both collections are being digitised.

In addition, a collection of provincial British trolleybus timetables was donated in early 2015; the Company also holds an extensive number of diagrams of trolleybus wiring layouts in its overhead wiring records.

**FUTURE ACTIVITIES**

The Directors fully expect to continue all operations during 2016/17. The Directors are committed to obtaining the finance to restore and safeguard the preserved trolleybus fleet, to maintain the publication of TM to the highest standards and also to maintain the NTA web-site to attract more visitors and more members.

**FINANCIAL RESULTS AND RESERVES**

The results for the year are set out in the associated accounts which have been subject to Independent Examination. The report of the Independent Examiner is included in the accounts.

The income for the year was £46,994 including donations of £2,100 towards the restoration of Belfast 168 from Alan Murray and £10,000 towards the building fund, both eligible for Gift Aid claims. Expenditure came to £41,154. The total reserves at the year-end were £80,679, the highest level so far achieved.

The Directors closely monitor the reserves of the Company. Restricted reserves cover trolleybus restoration work and storage cost and also loans to Trolleybooks. The balance of unrestricted reserves is held mainly for the purpose of meeting unexpected expenditure or a sudden drop in income. Where surplus income and reserves have arisen in the past, they have been utilised for the trolleybus restoration programme.

Restricted reserves of £42,050 were held of which most is for the restoration of our trolley vehicles, principally for Wolverhampton 654 (£12,336) a Hastings 45 (£17,621). All restricted funds held for Belfast 168 were spent on its restoration. In addition, £8,986 was transferred from unrestricted funds to support the restoration of Belfast 168; this was offset by £4,500 repaid by Trolleybooks. The new restricted fund for building stood at £11,146.

**APPRECIATION**

The Directors wish to record their appreciation to all members for their continued support during the year and in particular to those who gave donations large or small to help towards restoration and storage costs, particularly in support of Huddersfield 541 and Wolverhampton 654. The Directors also wish to record their appreciation to the officers and other volunteers who gave of their time freely throughout the year and without whom the work of the charity would be so much the poorer. In particular, the Directors would like to thank the volunteers at Carlton Colville for continuing to maintain Bournemouth 202, and to Sandtoft for the care of Huddersfield 541.

**REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS, NTA (1963)Ltd 2015/16**  
**(Continued)**

**DIRECTORS**

The following Directors held office during 2015/16:

A. R. Bruce	(resigned June 2016)
E. M. H. Humphreys	Treasurer
D. M. Lawrence	Membership Secretary
D. B. Pearson	TM Distribution
M. J. Russell	Chairman
J. H. Ward	Secretary

All Directors are members of the Company.

The Board wishes to express particular thanks to Ashley Bruce for his service on the Board and for his continuing efforts on the Trolleybooks Panel.

**DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES**

Company Law requires the Directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure for the financial year. In preparing those financial statements, the Directors should follow best practice and:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The Directors are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The report has been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (issued in March 2005) and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

Approved by the Directors on 15 June 2017 and signed on their behalf by:

M.J.Russell

Chairman