

**Annual Trustees' Report for the Tramcar Sponsorship Organisation for the period  
1st November 2022 to 31st October 2023**

**Trustees**

Trustees who have served through the year (and currently) are:

M B Higham (Chairman & Treasurer)  
F A Bagshaw (Secretary)  
P R Burgin  
C Heaton  
P J Whiteley  
M C Wright

**Bankers**

Barclays Bank Plc  
59 High St,  
Alfreton,  
Derbyshire  
DE55 7DP

Tramcar Sponsorship Organisation Unrestricted Fund and Fylde Tramcar Fund.

Virgin Money  
370 Harrogate Road  
Moortown  
Leeds  
LS17 6QA

Blackpool Railcoach Fund

**Independent examiner**

A J Williams B.Sc.  
55 Bowmans Road  
Dartford  
DA1 3QP

## **Objectives and Activities**

- The main work of the Tramcar Sponsorship Organisation (TSO) this year has been to continue to raise funds towards tramcar restoration projects in the National Collection displayed and operated at The National Tramway Museum.

## **Achievements and Performance**

- Blackpool Luxury Toastrack 'Boat' Car 236, this restoration was funded by the TSO and the Fylde Tramcar Fund (FTF), remained in service and continued to be popular with the general public. Sheffield 510 another tram the restoration of which was comparatively recently part funded by the TSO has also remained in service.
- Payments totalling just over £8,000 have been made to the Tramway Museum Society (TMS) towards the restoration of Blackpool 298 during the year. No further payments have been made to the TMS in respect of Newcastle 102.

## **Financial performance**

- There are no outstanding payments to the TMS or any other body. Further payments towards the restoration of Newcastle 102 and Blackpool 298 will be made in the next financial year.
- Other expenditure has been kept low and is entirely associated with production and postage of newsletters and meeting documents.

## **Management and Governance**

- The charity is governed by 'The Rules of the Tramcar Sponsorship Organisation'. It is an unincorporated association.
- The organisation is managed by a committee of not more than six nor less than three trustees who are members of the organisation. Trustees are elected to serve for a period of three years. At each Annual General Meeting the two longest serving trustees, in their current period of service, retire and, if eligible, can offer themselves for re-election.
- The committee meets on at least two occasions a year and normally there are at least two meetings for members to attend, the Annual General Meeting (AGM) and the Half Yearly Meeting (HYM). These meetings were once again held at the museum. Some committee meetings are still held by video conferencing. Decisions on expenditure on tramcar restoration are made at one of the twice-yearly meetings or occasionally by referendum.

## **Public Benefit**

- Public Benefit is expressed through our support for the activities of the TMS (Registered Charity No. 313615). There is no direct interface with the public by the TSO and all the elements of the public benefit expressed by the TMS in their Annual Report are supported. We support the restoration and demonstration of trams which are then on display at The National Tramway Museum.

## **Plans for the future**

- Quarterly meetings continue between the TMS and the TSO to progress current restorations and identify suitable projects that would benefit from TSO backing.
- Newcastle 102 is now undertaking test running. The launch of this tramcar was delayed by additional work to meet health and safety requirements. It is now anticipated that it will return to service in 2024.
- Work continues on the restoration of Blackpool 298. The wooden frame of the body has been repaired where necessary and reconstruction of the body on the new underframe has commenced. Progress was slow during quarters 1 to 3 of the year but improved in quarter 4.

## **Sustainability**

- The main source of income for the TSO is through members' contributions. Membership of the TSO is open to everyone. In order to sustain the organisation, there is a need to continually attract members. A leaflet explaining the activities of the TSO and including a membership form is readily available at the National Tramway Museum and on the TSO Facebook page. Some members are recruited by informal means. The number of members is reported twice annually at the AGM and HYM.

The Tramcar Sponsorship Organisation

Registered Charity No. 518466  
Receipts and Payments for the year ended 31 October 2023

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	2022 £
<b>Receipts</b>				
Members' Subscriptions	20,990		20,990	21,292
Donations	432	3,529	3,961	3,570
<b>Interest Received</b>	9,280	1,997	11,277	4,590
<b>Income Tax Recovered</b>	4,743	721	5,464	5,810
<b>Other Income</b>	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<u>35,445</u>	<u>6,247</u>	<u>41,692</u>	<u>35,262</u>
<b>Payments</b>				
<b>Direct Charitable Expenditure</b>				
Tramcar Restoration	9,200	8,172	17,372	39,274
<b>Other Expenditure</b>				
Management and Administration	276	-	276	124
<b>Total payments</b>	<u>9,476</u>	<u>8,172</u>	<u>17,648</u>	<u>39,398</u>
<b>Net receipts</b>	<u>25,969</u>	<u>- 1,925</u>	<u>24,044</u>	<u>- 4,136</u>
<b>Balances brought forward at 1st November 2022</b>	683,166	180,904	864,070	868,206
<b>Balances carried forward at 31st October 2023</b>	<u>709,135</u>	<u>178,979</u>	<u>888,114</u>	<u>864,070</u>

The Tramcar Sponsorship Organisation

Registered Charity No. 518466

Receipts and Payments for the year ended 31st October 2023

<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>BRF £</b>	<b>FTF £</b>	<b>Total restricted £</b>
<b>Receipts</b>			
Donations	2,614	915	3,529
<b>Interest Received</b>	1,845	152	1,997
<b>Income Tax Recovered</b>	485	236	721
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<u>4,944</u>	<u>1,303</u>	<u>6,247</u>
<b>Payments</b>			
<b>Direct Charitable Expenditure</b>			
Tramcar Restoration	8,172		8,172
<b>Other Expenditure</b>			
Management and Administration	-	-	-
<b>Total payments</b>	<u>8,172</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,172</u>
<b>Net receipts</b>	<u>- 3,228</u>	<u>1,303</u>	<u>- 1,925</u>
<b>Balances brought forward at 1st November 2022</b>	159,371	21,533	180,904
<b>Balances carried forward at 31st October 2023</b>	<u>156,143</u>	<u>22,836</u>	<u>178,979</u>

**The Tramcar Sponsorship Organisation**  
**Registered Charity No. 518466**  
**Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31st October 2023**

	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Bank and Building Society</b>	709,135	178,979	888,114
<b>Other monetary assets</b>			
Income tax recoverable	2,329	357	2,686
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Tramcar restoration	126,000	155,000	281,000
Management and Administration	-	-	-

**Signed on behalf of the Trustees by:**

M.B. Higham

**M B Higham, Chairman & Treasurer**

8th March 2024.

**Date**

## **Accounting policies**

1.) These accounts are based on receipts and payments in accordance with the Charity Commission guidelines CC16

### 2.) Restricted Funds

#### a.) The Blackpool Railcoach Fund

This fund comprises subscriptions and donations towards the restoration of Blackpool Railcoach no. 298, which together with related interest and income tax recoverable, may only be used towards the restoration cost of this car. No other of the TSO's restricted funds may be used on this car.

#### b.) The Fylde Tramcar Fund

In 2003, a fund commenced in conjunction with the Fylde Tramway Society for the restoration of Blackpool tramcars that are part of the Tramway Museum Society's collection. Donations to this fund, together with related interest and income tax recoverable, may only be used towards the restoration costs of nominated Blackpool tramcars. No other of the TSO's restricted funds may be spent on these cars.

3.) Liabilities shown under the heading Tramcar Restoration are estimates for the remaining funds committed to projects that are currently in progress.

**THE TRAMCAR SPONSORSHIP ORGANISATION  
REGISTERED CHARITY NO 518466**

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES**

I report on the accounts of the above-named charity for the year ended 31 October 2023.

**RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES AND EXAMINER**

The charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

**DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

I am a regular subscriber to the Tramcar Sponsorship Organisation, but apart from acting as Independent Examiner I have not had any other direct involvement in the financial management of this charity.

A. J. Williams B.Sc.,  
55 Bowmans Road,  
Dartford,  
DA1 3QP.



Dated the 8<sup>th</sup> day of March 2024