



# Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	01	04	2020		31	03	2021

## Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name

**BRITISH TROLLEYBUS SOCIETY**

Other names charity is known by

Registered charity number (if any)

**1033666**

Charity's principal address

**2 Josephine Court**

**Southcote Road**

**Reading**

**RG30 2DG**

### Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year
David Chick	Chairman & Portfolio Leader, Publications	
Andrew Barton	Secretary & Portfolio Leader, Membership	
Roy Fawcett	Portfolio Leader, Finance	
Graham Bilbé	Portfolio Leader, Engineering	
Helen Cross	Portfolio Leader, Policy Development/Administration	10 October 2020 – 1 April 2021
Paul Dicken		10 October 2020 – 1 April 2021
David Hall	Portfolio Leader, Library/Archive & Website	10 October 2020 – 1 April 2021
Maria Teresa Harvey	Committee member	1 April – 10 October 2020
Martin Harvey	Deputy Chairman & Portfolio Leader, Policy Development/Administration	1 April – 10 October 2020
John Stainforth	Burntwood Property Manager	1 April – 10 October 2020
Paul Weal	Portfolio Leader, Sales	
Francis Whitehead	Portfolio Leader, Vehicles	

### Custodian trustees for the charity

	Name	Dates acted if not for whole year
1	Lord Stoddart of Swindon	1 April – 14 November 2020
2	David Beach	
3	Robert Rowe	
4	Professor Francis Terry	

## Section B Structure, governance and management

### Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	1. Constitution (dated 5 October 2013) 2. Trust deed (under which the Charity's assets are vested in custodian trustees)
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Unincorporated association
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Elected by members at AGM

## Section C Objectives and activities

### Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The British Trolleybus Society (BTS), originally formed in 1961 as the Reading Transport Society (RTS), was registered as a Charity by the Charity Commissioners for England and Wales on 24 February 1994.

The trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Its primary charitable object is to educate the public about the operation and historical interest of public service vehicles, especially the trolleybus.

**Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)**

- (a) To maintain its vehicles and restore them to their original or an authentic condition, in order to display and operate them at the Trolleybus Museum at Sandtoft in North Lincolnshire
- (b) To assist in the progress and maintenance of the Trolleybus Museum at Sandtoft
- (c) To publish a journal of the affairs of the Society
- (d) To promote general interest in the preservation of passenger transport vehicles, but particularly to encourage the restoration, maintenance and general well-being of preserved trolleybuses and trolleybus equipment
- (e) To encourage the writing and publication of histories on trolleybuses, their operating systems and their technical equipment
- (f) To collect and maintain a library of such publications and other archival material that is relevant to trolleybuses

## Section D

## Achievements and performance

### Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

**Note:** *The Society's financial year runs from 1 April to 31 March. This report on the activities of the Society covers the twelve months to 31 March 2021. As has been the practice in previous years, for continuity this report also covers those planned events that have taken place since 31 March 2021.*

**AGM:** The fifty-ninth Annual General Meeting of the Society, which considered the activities of the Society from 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020, was held as a Zoom videoconference because of the Covid-19 pandemic. Maria Teresa Harvey, Martin Harvey and John Stainforth did not stand for re-election but Martin has continued to administer Gift Aid for the Society and John has continued in the role of Burntwood Property Manager. Thanks are due to Maria Teresa, Martin and John for their years of service on the Committee. Helen Cross, Paul Dicken and Dave Hall were elected to the Committee.

**President** The Committee was greatly saddened by the death of our President, Lord Stoddart of Swindon, in November. Lord Stoddart had been active in his role of Custodian Trustee and his wise counsel was always most welcome.

**Finances:** Subscriptions pay for all the costs of printing and distributing the magazines and the Society's running costs and make a contribution towards the cost of storing and maintaining the vehicle fleet.

The SponsorTrolley scheme makes a substantial contribution to vehicle storage and maintenance and helps to build funds for restoration. Most SponsorTrolley donations also qualify for Gift Aid, making the scheme even more valuable to the Society. We are grateful to these generous supporters and to David Beach, who continues to administer the scheme.

The Executive Committee is grateful to Roy Fawcett for his ongoing management of the Society's finances, and to the independent examiner, Jim Gallagher. After more than 55 years, 54 of them as Treasurer, Roy is standing down from the Committee. We wish to thank him for his many years of dedicated service to the Society. Jim Gallagher is also retiring as Independent Examiner.

**Sales:** The national restrictions which were introduced as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic meant that no meetings or events have been held during the year under review, but our online sales have been very successful. In the present year events have restarted but the use of cash has reduced and so BTS Sales now has a card reader for credit and debit card sales. Thanks are due to our Sales Officer, Paul Weal, for raising significant sums of money for the Society.

**Calendar:** The Society's 2021 calendar made around £300 profit for the BTS. Our thanks to Tony Belton for providing the photos and captions. Another calendar has been produced for 2022.

**Monthly Prize Draw** The Monthly Prize Draw provides funds for vehicle restoration. The 2020 Draw attracted 33 members, holding a total of 110 shares. The Draw yielded £1,280 towards the completion of the restoration of Bournemouth 99. The Draw normally takes place at the Reading meetings but since their suspension, the organiser has conducted it at home. The proceeds from the 2021 Draw will help to finance the repaint and necessary mechanical work to London 1812, so that it is fully serviceable on its return to Sandtoft; a record number of 44 members are taking part, holding a total of 136 shares. The organiser, Andrew Barton, is grateful to the participants for making this valuable contribution towards vehicle restoration.

**Gift Aid:** During the year under review the Gift Aid recovered amounted to £11,666. Our thanks to Martin Harvey for his work in recovering the substantial sum involved each year.

**Membership:** Membership as at 31 March was 271, of whom 13 are complimentary members; in addition 9 subscribe just to *Bus Fare*. Seventeen members, 5 of them overseas, receive their journals on-line. Nine members joined the Society during the year under review, all but one of them on-line. Sadly three members passed away during the year. Of the 254 members receiving their journal by post, 172 include email addresses in their membership records and thus receive their renewal reminders directly by email (their ability to receive the newsletter is an incentive). This eases the work of the membership secretary.

and distribution officer in their not needing to prepare and send them renewal forms.

Members who had not renewed their subscriptions received a letter reminding them with their May 2021 issue of *Trolleybus*; about half of them have since renewed.

Since the end of the last financial year 3 members have joined the Society. The membership at the end of July 2021 stands at 270.

**Publications:** The Society's three magazines (*Trolleybus*, *Bus Fare* and *Wheels*) are all published monthly and we wish to thank the Editorial and production teams (Dave Chick, Jody White, Bruce Lake, James Cusworth and Philip Jenkinson) as well as everyone who supplies news, articles and photos, and Derek Pearson, who envelopes and posts our journals plus inserts every month, turning them round very quickly after receiving them. In addition the Society's Publicity Officer, Paul Dicken, has introduced a News & Events monthly newsletter that has been distributed by email and has been much appreciated by members.

In September 2021 Philip Jenkinson has given notice of his resignation from the post of Production Editor and an appeal for a member to take on the design and layout of *Trolleybus* will appear in the December edition of *Trolleybus*. A new editor is also being sought for *Wheels*.

**Website and Social Media:** The BTS website continues to play an important role in recruiting new members. Our Facebook page now has more than 1200 followers. The Committee is grateful to Ashley Bruce our Webmaster and to Dave Hall and Simon Guppy who maintain the content.

**TROLLEYBOOKS (joint publication panel of the BTS and NTA)** "A London Trolleybus Reborn" by Dave Chick was published during the year  
Bob Rowe, David Mulvey and Dave Chick are the BTS Trolleybooks Representatives and Roger Clark is the Trolleybooks Treasurer.

These publications significantly contribute to Society funds (£6000 in 2020 – 2021) and the Panel has an exciting schedule of new books in preparation.

**MEETINGS** Unfortunately no meetings have taken place since March 2020 because of the Covid-19 pandemic. However, well-attended monthly meetings have been held by Zoom videoconference. London meetings are restarting in September 2021 and Reading meetings in January 2022.

## VEHICLES

- London Transport Q1 1812 had been on loan to the London Bus Museum since October 2015 and was removed in October 2020 following the end of the loan period. A very successful campaign has raised the funds necessary to have major mechanical work undertaken and this was due to commence before the AGM. It is also intended that 1812 will be repainted before returning to Sandtoft in time for the commemoration of the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the London closure. Our thanks to the large number of members who have contributed and to Robert Williams for making a storage space available.
- The fund for the major restoration work required on Mexborough & Swinton 34 continues to grow, with a large donation being received from a generous member. A group of volunteers at the Long Shop Museum, Leiston, is preparing to restore Ipswich Garrett 26. A BTS group is visiting this team in September to begin a collaboration which will benefit No. 34.
- Bournemouth 301 moved to Keighley Bus Museum where the electrical work was carried out followed by a full external repaint. In the present year it has been taken to Hooton Park to have its window rubbers renewed.
- Reading 113 received attention prior to operating at the BTS 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary weekend.
- Funds continue to be built up for the restoration of Aachen 22, including a substantial donation during the review year. Thanks to John Stainforth's persistent efforts, 22 returned to undercover storage following an extended period outside.
- Bournemouth 99's defective resistor bank has been removed but not yet taken to be refurbished.
- Glasgow TB78. A prototype replacement interior vent has been produced using 3D printing. The rear platform has been rebuilt.
- South Shields 204 is available for service at Sandtoft.
- Walsall 342 remains in storage at Thorpe.
- Walsall 872 still has a hydraulic leak and electrical defects.

- Cardiff 203's back brakes need a complete strip-down and re-assessment.
- Huddersfield 631 continues to be a regular performer at Sandtoft.
- Manchester 1344 also sees regular service at Sandtoft.
- Reading 47 The Society's 1935 AEC Regent bus was used for the sad task of carrying mourners for John Whitehead's funeral in December 2020.
- William, the horse tower wagon, remains in the depot at Sandtoft.

Thanks are due to Graham Bilbé and Francis Whitehead for their continuing leadership of this aspect of the Society's work.

### **PUBLICITY**

The appointment of a Publicity Officer has led to an increase in publicity for the Society, with articles about London 1812 generating donations for the restoration fund.

### **EVENTS**

The Covid-19 pandemic prevented the Society from holding a Members' Day in 2020. Other than the August 2021 Trolleydays at Sandtoft planned events to celebrate the Society's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary could not be held, there will be events in April 2022.

### **THE TROLLEYBUS MUSEUM AT SANDTOFT (TM@S)**

The BTS has continued to work closely with the Board of Sandtoft Transport Centre Ltd. as one of the Museum's three supporting societies. There is now communication between the BTS Chairman and the Museum's Chief Operating Officer prior to every Board meeting.

BTS and STCL also have a Joint Working Group to plan the Museum's expansion and this is reported below.

### **BURNTWOOD**

The BTS Burntwood Sub-Committee met several times and was wound up after its meeting in February, with its responsibilities transferring to either the BTS Committee or the Joint Working Group, as appropriate. John Stainforth produced a comprehensive handover document. The Sub-Committee comprised Dave Chick, Roy Fawcett, Martin Harvey and John Stainforth. We are grateful to them for their work.

Planning Permission to widen the Burntwood entrance gateway was granted in June 2020. We also received approval from North Lincolnshire Council (NLC) for the change of use of Burntwood to a combination of museum purposes and hostel accommodation. This made us eligible to switch from Council Tax to Business Rates, saving the Society about £2,000 per annum thanks to the charitable relief for which we are now eligible.

Because of the pandemic and the closure of the Museum less use was made of the property for volunteer accommodation, although it was still a very valuable facility.

Mark Boulton has replaced the rotting timberwork on the front of the bungalow and with his wife Jess has planted and cared for 240 shrubs along the fenceline, which was a condition of planning permission.

The Society is grateful to John Stainforth for continuing in the role of Burntwood Property Manager and to Stewart David who is the local point of contact and regularly checks the property.

A smart meter has been installed.

### **BTS ARCHIVES**

The Society's archives and in particular the extensive photo archives continue to be maintained by Dave Hall and are a useful source for authors of new works about trolleybuses.

A consignment of Bradford trolleybus archives has kindly been donated by the family of the late Stanley King. Some archive material has also been received from Brain Deans' executor.

Because of the increase volume of archive material a larger room at Burntwood is to be used from the end of 2021.

### **THE FUTURE**

The BTS/STCL Joint Working Group (JWG) has met several times to coordinate plans for the overall development of the Museum. It had been intended that further study visits would be held but this was not possible during the pandemic. Following presentation of the JWG Report to the BTS Committee and the Sandtoft Board a joint meeting was held on 29 August and the JWG's recommendations were either accepted or amended.

A great deal of hard work will be required but the BTS and the Trolleybus Museum at Sandtoft stand to benefit enormously from the proposed developments.

Some of the events that were planned for our anniversary year are now scheduled to be held 12 months late.

We look forward to the continuing support of the membership in our endeavours.

## Section E

## Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

### British Trolleybus Society Policy Concerning its Financial Reserves

1. The Society is positively maintained as a going concern, adopting robust management methods to ensure that it has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.
2. The trustees regularly review the level of the Society's financial reserves.
3. Over and above the requirement to meet in full the Society's spending commitments, the trustees shall maintain sufficient reserves to:
  - (a) bridge the gap between the spending and receiving of income
  - (b) cover emergency repairs and other unplanned expenditure on the Society's charitable assets and freehold property
  - (c) satisfy the requirements of all the donors to the Society's restricted funds, and those of the providers of grants

The trustees consider that there are sufficient reserves in total, amounting to £79,682 at year-end, to provide adequately for these contingencies, including the restricted funds which at year end amounted to £58,859.

The trustees are of the view that the charity is a going concern and have a reasonable expectation that it has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

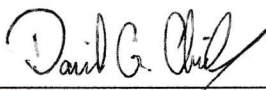
None

## Section G

## Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	A. Barton	
Full name(s)	Andrew John Barton	David George Chick
Position	Secretary	Chair
Date	16 OCTOBER 2021	





# Receipts and payments accounts

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For the period  
from

Period start date  
01/04/2020

To

Period end date  
31/03/2021

## Section A Receipts and payments

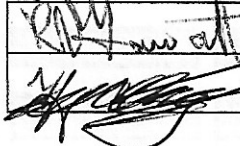
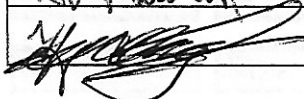
	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Membership subscriptions	8,209			8,209	8,358
Prize Draw receipts		2,914		2,914	2,320
Sales income	3,059			3,059	5,052
HMRC Gift Aid	5,113	6,553		11,666	6,033
Donations towards Burntwood costs					1,089
Burntwood Council Tax Refund	6,102			6,102	
Burntwood Covid Support Grant	11,218			11,218	
Other donations and legacies					967
Payments from STCL for use of trolleybuses					531
Trolleybooks: BTS share of profits	6,000			6,000	4,500
Reading area meetings/ AGM					1,061
Vehicle sponsorship		55,453		55,453	12,051
Bank account interest	99	3		102	60
Miscellaneous income	57			57	846
STCL subscriptions collected by BTS	1,615			1,615	1,639
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>41,471</b>	<b>64,923</b>		<b>106,394</b>	<b>44,507</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales</b>					
None					
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>41,471</b>	<b>64,923</b>		<b>106,394</b>	<b>44,507</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Magazine production and postage	13,557			13,557	9,869
Prize Draw prizes		1,380		1,380	1,198
Prize Draw expenses		8		8	39
Sales stock	1,861			1,861	2,655
Burntwood council tax, utilities & repairs	4,726			4,726	5,877
Vehicle storage - STCL		8,550		8,550	8,400
Vehicle storage - other		2,667		2,667	1,960
Vehicle restoration		1,550		1,550	6,767
Vehicle towing, insurance & other costs					1,038
Tow of 144 to Reading and return					1,140
Reading area meetings/ AGM					780
Miscellaneous expenditure	716			716	1,351
Repayment of Burntwood purchase loan					55,000
STCL subscriptions forwarded to STCL	1,615			1,615	2,287
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>22,475</b>	<b>14,155</b>		<b>36,630</b>	<b>98,361</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases</b>					
None					
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>22,475</b>	<b>14,155</b>		<b>36,630</b>	<b>98,361</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>18,996</b>	<b>50,768</b>		<b>69,764</b>	<b>-53,854</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>-5,953</b>	<b>5,953</b>		<b>0</b>	
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>20,822</b>	<b>58,859</b>		<b>79,682</b>	<b>133,536</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>33,865</b>	<b>115,580</b>		<b>149,445</b>	<b>79,682</b>

## Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	TOTAL to nearest £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	Lloyds TSB 60-day account	7,798	115,580	123,378
	Lloyds TSB Current Account	23,259		23,259
	PayPal Account	0		0
	Prize Draw account	2,714		2,714
	Petty cash and floats	94		94
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>33,865</b>	<b>115,580</b>	<b>149,445</b>
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	
	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	TOTAL to nearest £
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>		-	-	-
	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>			-	-
	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>	Freehold land and property - Burntwood	Unrestricted	425,000	-
	Sales stock	Unrestricted	7,163	
	Historic vehicles	Restricted	14,100	
	Overhead and trolleybus equipment	Unrestricted	2,781	
	<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>449,044</b>	<b>-</b>
	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>				
	<b>TOTAL</b>		-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature

Print Name

R. V. FAWCETT  
T. J. GALLAGHER

Date of approval

5/10/21

## STATEMENT OF RESTRICTED FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

	<u>BALANCE AT</u> <u>31/3/20</u>	<u>RECEIPTS</u>	<u>PAYMENTS</u>	<u>TRANSFERS</u> <u>BETWEEN</u> <u>RESTRICTED</u> <u>FUNDS</u>	<u>TRANSFERS</u> <u>FROM</u> <u>UNRESTRICTED</u> <u>FUNDS</u>	<u>BALANCE AT</u> <u>31/3/21</u>
1. Bournemouth 99	2,659.91	1,530.00	905.00	1,014.83	210.00	4,509.74
2. Reading 47	451.50	815.31	1,296.00	0.00	756.00	726.81
3. Reading 113	1,097.63	1,080.00	2,355.00	0.00	1,635.00	1,457.63
4. Glasgow TB78	598.67	1,000.00	855.00	0.00	375.00	1,118.67
5. South Shields 204	1,041.38	1,037.00	855.00	0.00	97.00	1,320.38
6. Mexborough & Swinton 34	16,035.34	27,512.50	855.00	0.00	35.00	42,727.84
7. Walsall 342	242.86	1,018.75	855.00	0.00	165.00	571.61
8. Walsall 872	1,394.40	1,072.50	855.00	0.00	35.00	1,646.90
9. Cardiff 203	697.70	1,086.25	855.00	0.00	205.00	1,133.95
10. Huddersfield 631	1,468.50	838.75	855.00	0.00	435.00	1,887.25
11. London 1812	4,726.25	8,767.50	351.00	0.00	1,800.00	14,942.75
12. Manchester 1344	706.26	1,040.00	855.00	0.00	205.00	1,096.26
13. Bournemouth 301	6,260.10	1,402.50	1,020.00	0.00	0.00	6,642.60
14. Aachen 22	17,352.82	13,805.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	31,157.82
15. Horse tower wagon	201.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	201.00
Total vehicle-specific funds	54,934.32	62,006.06	12,767.00	1,014.83	5,953.00	111,141.21
Reading 50th Anniversary HLF grant	1,725.01					1,725.01
Prize Draw fund	2,200.00	2,916.68	1,387.85	-1,014.83		2,714.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>58,859.33</b>	<b>64,922.74</b>	<b>14,154.85</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>5,953.00</b>	<b>115,580.22</b>



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/  
members of

BRITISH TROLLEYBUS SOCIETY

On accounts for the  
year ended

31 March 2021

Charity no 1033666

Set out on pages

1,2 and 3

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/03/2021

Responsibilities and  
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent  
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below \*) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

\* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

Date:

Name:

T. J. GAULT GALT

Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):

Address:

191 CORNWALL ROAD  
READING  
RG30 4TH