
TROLLEY

Newsletter of the Summerlee Transport Group

JUNE 1999

EXHIBITION
EDITION

Bob
Sutherland
and
Andy
Jamieson
with
53

A Typical Glasgow Street



The Committee 1999

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Secretary	Mr B. QUINN
Treasurer	Mr R. N. SUTHERLAND
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The Summerlee Transport Group is a voluntary group and is registered as a charity.

The views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the Editor, the Transport Group or Summerlee Museum.

**OPERATING SCOTLAND'S
ONLY WORKING TRAMWAY**

TRAMCAR NEWS

9062 - The car has run quite well all winter, with no real problems.

225 - Work is progressing on the repainting of the truck. Once this is completed the motors will be refitted and the truck re-attached.

53 - This car has ran since Easter and there have been no running problems.

1017 - The truck has now arrived back. It will be re-assembled as soon as 225 is mobile. The No. 2 end windows will be started shortly.

FINANCIAL QUESTIONS FROM THE TREASURER

Bob's Quiz

By using the T.I.M.'s we are all still familiar with OLD MONEY (£.s.d.). Yes?

Can you add up the following answers (To start you, your Treasurer is 1/- i.e. a 'bob').

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------|---|---|---|
| 1. Your Treasurer | £ | : | : |
| 2. A Stone | : | : | : |
| 3. Unwell Sea-Creaturers | : | : | : |
| 4. A Type of Singer | : | : | : |
| 5. A Type of Transport | : | : | : |
| 6. Portion of Lady's Undrewear | : | : | : |
| 7. A Leather Worker | : | : | : |
| 8. Part of Queen's Headgear | : | : | : |
| 9. A Type of Pig | : | : | : |
| 10. Mars, Venus, Saturn | : | : | : |

Answers on next page

A Visitors View of Coatbridge

As members of the Summerlee Transport Group, and with our involvement in the Summerlee Museum, we are very aware of Coatbridge, its industrial history, its heritage and its people. But what was the reality and what did visitors think of the town 100 years ago?

It is interesting, therefore, to read in 'Murray's Handbook for Scotland (1894) - a Handbook for Travelers in Scotland' the description of the countryside and the town on a rail journey from Law Junction Station.

"Line to Stirling and the North branches rt. through the heart of the *Black Country* to

"2¼m. Wishaw Central Stat., surrounded by coal-pits, by which the town is partly undermined. 1½ m. N.E. are the *Coltness Iron Works*, and 1½ m. N.W. *Wishaw Ho.*, the seat of Lord Belhaven, in a park of great beauty.....

"10½ m. Coatbridge Stat. [*Branch W.* to Glasgow by *Baillieston* and *Rutherglen*; and *E.* (from *Sunnyside*) to Edinburgh.] A large mining town, the Capital of the Black Country, and the centre of a group of blazing *Iron Furnaces*, surrounded by a network of rlys. on the *Monkland Canal*. It is a desolate, black district - of smoke, coal, and ashes, - treeless, sunless, the verdure of Nature's surface scarified and loaded with rubbish heaps. Yet it deserves to be seen as a busy and crowded hive of human industry."

In our romantic way we think of the past as golden. The sun always shone, everyone was carefree and during the holidays it never rained. It brings one down to earth to find that the reality was somewhat different.

P.R. Geissler 1998

Answers to Bob's Quiz

1. A Bob 1/-, 2. £14, 3. Sick Squid £6.
4. A Tenor £10, 5. A Penny farthing 1 1/4d.,
6. Half a (k)nicker 10/-, 7. A Tanner 6d.,
8. Half-a-Crown 2/6, 9. Guinea £1.1/-,
10. Three far things 3/4d.

Total £31.15/2

NEW APPOINTMENTS

At the Annual General Meeting there were some new appointments:

Mr B. Quinn takes over as Secretary
Mr R. Maclean, Membership Secretary
Mr A. Jamieson, Committee Member

Full Committee is printed on Page 2

If you have not yet renewed your Membership will you please do so by filling out the enclosed Renewal Notice and sending it to Ronnie Maclean, Membership Secretary.

Model Tramway Exhibition

by Ronnie Maclean

The last week-end in March saw something different for Scotland - A Model Tramway Exhibition run by Summerlee Transport Group Model Club at Summerlee. Unusually admission was free as it is a Council owned site and there is no admission charges to the museum. An additional attraction was of course the chance to ride on Scotland's Only Operating Tramway with both Brussell's 9062 and Lanarkshire 53 out on both days.

All the layouts and static exhibits came from the Edinburgh/Glasgow area and comprised of 8 x "oo" running layouts, including an unusual Trolleybus one, the writer's "o" gauge Glasgow layout with Standard, Coronation and Cunarder cars and an end-to-end "G" gauge. We had three static 3/4 models including Bradford 104. There was a static display of Nigel Macmillan's 30 "o" gauge trams showing the evolution of the Glasgow Tram and John Wright's static models in "oo" of the Glasgow Underground - old and new, plus the London under-ground in a cutaway tunnel.

Children were able to control the trams on the magnificent Weir Group layout, with hand held Gaugemasters and some had to have them prized out of their hands!

Tramstop had in addition to their usual 2 x "oo" layouts an impressive new diorama of an Edinburgh street while Duncan White had his automatic "oo" Blackpool layout (Tower included) running with all types represented.

Colin Lees had his "oo" Glasgow layout running past tenements and industrial buildings, very reminiscent of the 1950's. whilst Alan Hall, John Geraghty and John Spittal's layouts all added to the tramway magic along with the Transport Group's Sale Stall. Saturday was a cold but sunny day and we had around 900 visitors and on a very wet Sunday (clock change week-end) a creditable 400. I was especially pleased to see many tramway modellers who had come up from England to visit our exhibition.

This was the first type of event North of the Border and I am sure will not be the last.

Many thanks to Duncan White who helped to organise the Exhibition with me and to Brian Quinn, Andy Jamieson, Bobby Armstrong, Jim Wilson, John Spittal and Brian Longworth who helped set things up on the Friday.





