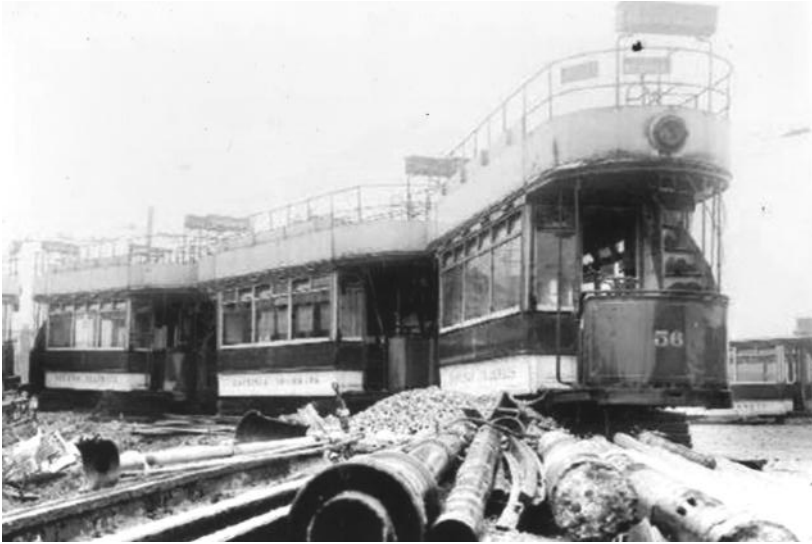


August 2008

No. 40

News sheet

## Hastings Tramways Club



*This recently uncovered photograph of the scrapping of the Hastings Trams, clearly shows our tram, number 56, in the foreground. Luckily, it did not face the fate of many of the other Hastings tramcars.*

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### DEVELOPMENTS AT ROBERTSBRIDGE *By Roy Austen*

Planning things around the trams at Robertsbridge continues, although plans have changed slightly due to developments at the Rother Valley site. As mentioned in the last newsletter, our plan was to site the tram truck alongside tram no. 48, although this has now changed and a new site has been found at the far end of the railway sidings, at the southern end. Here, a very short section of 3' gauge track has been laid down to accommodate the tram truck, which is to be re-assembled once more minus the electric motors (which have been stored nearer to the trams for more protection from the weather). As you will already know, the truck was meant to be sand-blasted, but this never took place due to one thing and another. If anybody is interested in helping assemble the truck, please let me know.

Tram car 48 has also now been moved into a better position, as previously planned, to be in line with no. 56. Derek and myself managed to move it on our own with the use of a winch, a jack, some scaffold poles and lots of hard work. With the ground being dry, we did not have too much problem with the jacks sinking into the ground! Pulling a tram full of our bits and pieces wasn't so easy, but we did manage it. We now have both trams in line and the next thing to do will be to get some roofing over them to keep the weather out. This will involve us having to dip into the club funds for materials. We have already started to replace the concrete fence posts at the back of no. 56, which were leaning outwards, causing water to leak into the tramcar. This is being fixed by repositioning the posts in new holes, which is considerably difficult due to the steep bank at the back of the fence.

## HASTINGS TRAMWAYS CLUB A.G.M.

The club's AGM was held on 8<sup>th</sup> April 2008 and was opened at 8pm at the RAFA club, Hastings. There were 9 members present. The Treasurer's report showed that we had £908.82 in the bank (at the time) and 30 paid-up members. The election of officers was carried out *en bloc* as proposed by Howard Williamson and seconded by Mike Turner. This means that the officers are as follows for 2008/9 :

<b>Chairperson</b>	Roy Austen	<b>Membership Secretary</b>	Derek Masters
<b>Vice Chairperson</b>	Steve Chapman	<b>Newsletters</b>	Oliver Boorman- Humphrey
<b>Secretary</b>	Chris Sweatman	<b>Fundraising</b>	<i>vacant</i>
<b>Treasurer</b>	Derek Masters	<b>Archives</b>	Barry Enefer

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## EVENTS

Through-out June, July and the beginning of August, the club has attended several local events to help boost the bank-balance. The weather could have been better at these events, as at the ones where it was not so good, takings were affected. We still did well though and enjoyed taking part and visiting these events. Below are the totals that we raised at each of the events.

EVENT	DATE	'PICK-A-TICKET'	SALES	GOLFING GAME	TOTAL
Mayor's Fun day	29/6/2008	£37.80	£13.40	N/A	£51.20
Appledore	20/7/2008	£26.00	£17.35	N/A	£43.35
Hooe Vintage Car Show	3/8/2008	£29.70	£33.65	N/A	£68.85
Crowhurst Summer Fayre	9/8/2008	£11.60	£21.60	£8.50	£41.70

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## 'INTERLINKING' IDEAS MEETING *By Roy Austen*

In June, a casual open meeting took place in Terminus Road, Bexhill under the leadership of Councillor Paul Lendon. Invites were given to a number of people, including me on behalf of the tram club. The object of the meeting was to see if there was the possibility for taking over the lease from E.S.C.C. of the old railway station at Terminus Road. There was the idea of opening a transport museum with local transport groups contributing to the displays. At present, it looks as if the current occupier wishes to renew the lease, but he seems keen to have something on display there. A further meeting will be held in October to discuss more ideas and developments.

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## DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next open meeting will be held on Tuesday 26th August 2008 at 8pm at the R.A.F.A. Club, Wellington Sq. Hastings

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<http://hastingstramwaysclub.tripod.com>