

## **Museum collections report for 2020 - 2021**

The Report to last year's AGM mentioned that we had submitted our Accreditation Return to the Arts Council on 31 December 2019. The subsequent Covid pandemic halted its processing, and our Accreditation status was twice extended, currently until 1 April 2022. We have just received notification that our Return will be soon available to update and resubmit in the coming months.

The team responsible for the submission in 2019 have continued to meet so as to further our work on the collections. This has proved useful and not only to consider some strategy on future improvements but also helped progress documenting the archive and the sorting of ephemera.

In that time we gained a small grant from the Association of Independent Museums to undertake a Collections Care audit by Peter Meehan, a professional conservator. His report was positive, but highlighted the need to seek a further detailed report on some of the more delicate documents in the archive. As a consequence we funded a report from paper conservator Emma Lloyd Jones, who provided a detailed assessment on the care and conservation of the Buxton Motive Power Circulars books we hold.

The recommendations suggested in both reports are to be pursued as and when time and opportunity allows.

This is a reminder that we welcome any assistance with maintaining and documenting our archive, with the intention that we will soon be able to publish a catalogue and pursue a long-held ambition of making the archive available for research.

Our YouTube video channel, created 18 months ago to further the themes in our museum exhibition, continues to attract an audience. Currently there are 116 subscribers and the channel has received some 9700 views.

One new exhibit in the museum has been the trainspotter manikin. Appropriately dressed and with duffel bag and lunch, the intention is to give him voice through the use of facial video projection.

I'll end, as always, with my thanks to those who help maintain the museum and the Learning Coach in a fit and proper state, and who treat the public with due respect and courtesy.

Pete Skellon  
30 October 2021