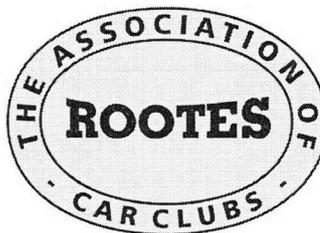




Supported
by



Rootes Archive Centre Trust
Association of Rootes Car Clubs
Cherwell Business Village
Southam Road
Banbury OX16 2SP

November 2015

Dear Rootes Car Club Member

Re: Launch of the RACT Building Fund

This letter comes to you jointly from the Chairman of the Rootes Archive Centre Trust (RACT) and the Chairman of the Association of Rootes Car Clubs (ARCC).

As many of you will be aware, the ARCC is an umbrella organisation for the many individual marque and model clubs associated with products of the Rootes group and successor companies. Through membership of the ARCC it is hoped that clubs can benefit from a wider audience for collaboration in events and spares re-manufacture, more favourable public liability insurance premiums, membership of the Federation of British Historic Vehicle Clubs and complete access to the engineering drawing archive held by the RACT (see below).

In 2002 the ARCC rescued the engineering drawing archives from Peugeot and later established the RACT, a Charitable Trust to house and manage the unique vintage collection. This body operates independently from the ARCC and currently has a board of seven volunteer, unpaid trustees from individual clubs who are personally liable for the actions of the RACT. There is no liability on the ARCC or member clubs, although their financial support is, of course, vital for the RACT's survival.

Since the RACT was established both the ARCC and RACT have experienced considerable funding pressure and five years ago the trustees of the RACT took the difficult decision to move the archive and reduce the amount of space rented in order to reduce their financial burden. However as income from insurance commission to the ARCC continues to plummet year on year the ARCC and RACT calculate that within two years there will once again be the need to drastically re-think the future of the archive.

Having access to the archive of engineering drawings for research and to aid the re-manufacture of un-obtainable parts to keep our vehicles on the road makes us the envy of many other historic vehicle clubs. Not only is the archive an asset to the Rootes community it is also an important piece of national heritage and both the ARCC and the RACT want to fight to preserve it for current and future generations.

We need your help! In order to break the cycle of short term rental contracts and declining funding, **we propose to purchase a permanent home for the archive – a modern fit for purpose building with space to expand if and when necessary, facilities for clubs to hold meetings and events and, most importantly, permanent, safe and secure housing for the archive.** Can you help us make this happen? We implore you to complete the pledge form overleaf and show your support. Donations of any amount will be much appreciated, but a commitment to give £500 (as a one off, in 5 yearly instalments or even £1.93 per week) will help to make this exciting and ground breaking idea a reality!

Yours faithfully

Gordon Jarvis and Richard Sozanski