

The Society's Library

— Air transport history

The Society's Library holds an extensive collection of material (books, journal articles, papers, photographs etc.) recording the international development of air transport and airline operations around the world, past and present, including a particularly fine collection of early airline timetables, route maps and posters from the 1920s-1940s. Among the airlines represented are as follows:

Aberdeen Airways Ltd
 Aero Expresso Italiana (AEI)
 Aero Lloyd
 Aeropostale
 Air France
 Air Union
 Allied Airways (Gandar Dower) Ltd
 Avio Linee Italiane S.A.
 British Continental Airways Ltd
 China National Aviation Corporation
 Compagnie Generale Transsaharienne
 Compagnie Internationale de Navigation Aérienne (CIDNA)
 Dansk Lufttransport A/S/Danske Luftfartselskab A/S
 Deutsch-Russische Luftverkehrs-Gesellschaft ('Deruluft')
 Deutsche Lufthansa
 Deutsche Zeppelin-Reederei GMBH
 Europa-Union
 Eurasia Aviation Corporation
 Farman Air Lines/Lignes Aeriennes Farman
 German African Lines (Deutsche Ost-Afrika-Line)
 Guernsey Airways Ltd
 Isle of Man Air Services Ltd
 Japan Air Transport Co Ltd
 Junkers-Flugzeugen
 Jersey Airways Ltd
 Koninklijke Luchtvaart Mattschappij (KLM)
 Air Lines (Royal Dutch Air Lines)
 KNILM (Royal Netherlands Indies' Airways)
 Misr Airwork
 Pan American Airways Systems
 Pan American-Grace Airways Inc (Panagra)
 Patco Airlines (Philippine Aerial Taxi Company)

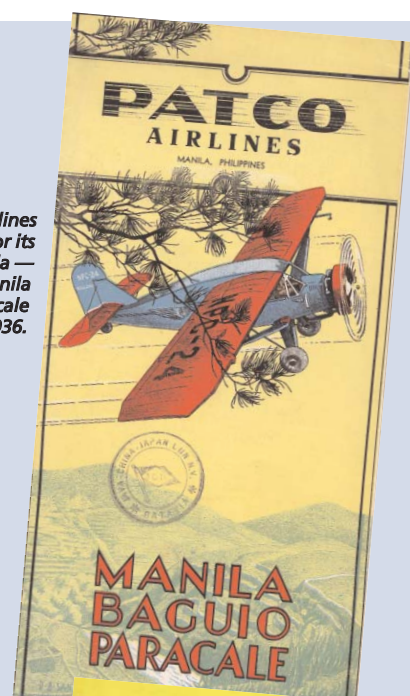
Qantas Empire Airways
 Polnische Luftverkehrs AG ('Aerolot')
 Railway Air Services
 Rhodesia and Nyasaland Airways Ltd (RANA)
 Sabena
 Scottish Airways Limited
 Societa Aerea Mediterranea
 Trans-Europa-Union
 Union Airways
 Western Airways

In particular, the Society's Library does hold a wealth of material relating to the aircraft and operations of Imperial Airways. The material includes bound sets of its journals *Imperial Airways Weekly News Bulletin* 1936 No 27 — 1939 No 166 and *Imperial Airways Gazette* 1929 Vol 1 No 10 — 1939 Vol 11, annual reports, timetables, route maps, books and other papers.

In addition many references to the development of air transport (airlines, routes and the aircraft they operated) can be found recorded in detail in the contemporary aviation journals of the time such as *Flight*, *Aviation*, *The Aeroplane*, *Air*, *Airways*, *Air Transport* and *Airport Engineering* and the *Commonwealth Air Transport Council Newsletter*, the world-wide coverage of its journal holdings being a key strength of the Society's Library. As gathering such material has been a policy of the Society's Library since its formation, it has resulted in probably a unique collection of journals recording aviation and aeronautical developments across the world, the Library holding extensive bound runs of many important early pre-1939 journal titles published in Czechoslovakia, France, Germany, Holland, Italy, Norway, Poland, Spain, Romania, Sweden, Switzerland and many other European and non-European countries worldwide.

All enquiries regarding this material should be addressed to: Brian Riddle, Librarian, Royal Aeronautical Society, 4 Hamilton Place, London W1J 7BQ, UK. Tel: +44 (0)20 7670 4362. e-mail: brian.riddle@raes.org.uk.

Patco Airlines timetable for its Manila — Baguio/Manila — Paracale routes, 1936.



From an original poster (c.1934) in the Society's Library depicting a Handley Page HP42E G-AAXC Heracles operated by Imperial Airways.

Pioneers in the development of international civil aviation, the airliners and flying boats of Imperial Airways during the 1920s and 1930s linked the far corners of the British Empire during the 'golden age' of air travel.

