



Tram Jacks

Edinburgh trams were fitted with a device, which scooped up anyone unfortunate enough to be hit by a tramcar or to remove anybody from the tracks. This consisted of hinged wooden slats and a wooden floored area under the driver's cabin. When operated by a person being knocked down by the tram the hinged section moved backwards and allowed the person or object to be scooped up and deposited on the wooden boards under the cabin.

The Jacks were held at various stations throughout the city and when required were brought to the scene of the accident and fitted to the front of the tram allowing it to be jacked up, thus facilitating the rescue by firemen of the trapped person. In most cases, the casualties escaped with minor injuries. Perhaps we should reconsider a re-issue if the new trams are designed with a similar safety feature.

