

OTIS KING Calculators

A History of Production 1920 -1977

Colin Barnes and **Tedford K. White**, Azimuth Print Ltd.

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Although billed as a revised, extended and updated version from 1999, this new publication is much, much more than that. By comparison, the earlier 1999 version (single author: Colin Barnes) was more a bundling of disparate information sources available at the time and the introduction of a preliminary model type classification scheme.

Coming out more than decade after the “1st edition”, the striking difference in this 2012 publication is understandably the quantity and quality of the figures and the use of colour. But more importantly, it is a complete rewrite. Thanks to the discovery of new post 1999 information sources and the original author pairing up with fellow collector, Ted White, it is now a succinct and easy to follow chronological account of how these much loved and uniquely designed calculators came about. Ted’s ratified database of 2000⁺ examples meant the original classification scheme could be refined and extended. Analysing this database also made it possible for the authors to determine the probable total production figures and devise a reliable dating guide. They also provide answers to previously unanswered questions like: “*Who was Otis King?*” Like me, I am sure many collectors have a fondness for the quirky OTIS KING pocket calculator. This reasonably priced book deserves a place in any collector’s reference library.

For ordering contact Colin Barnes: colinabarnes@talktalk.net. Payment by PayPal™ is possible.

David Rance

