

The Trident

The Monthly Magazine of the GB Bus Group

GB BG



Arriva North West. Leyland Lynx G327NUM pictured at Crewe on 31/10/05
(Andrew Williams)

Volume 1

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London – Position Vacant
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South East of England – Position Vacant
South West of England – Position Vacant
Wales – Position Vacant

All reports and queries are most welcome by forwarding to the relevant person above. For further information please ring, write or email Chris Morton.

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Price £1.00

Noticeboard

Area Representation

Are you interested in helping us? As we are a newly formed Society we are looking for you, our membership, to help us operate and grow.

Initially we need help in representation in the different areas of the country. As you can see from the list opposite we still need representation in a lot of areas.

The Area Representative would need access to a personal e-mail system, as a GB-BG e-mail address would be allocated, and would be responsible for the collation of information for use in the Magazine and Web Site.

If you are interested please contact me at jeff@gb-bg.co.uk

Membership Details

Membership of the GB Bus Group is £12 per year. This gives you a monthly magazine and 20% discount on all HB Publication Bus Books. Please make all cheques and Postal Orders payable to C Morton

Welcome to new members

A E Ashcroft	St Helens, Merseyside
David Carter	Chester Le Street, County Durham
P T Clemmens	Tipton, West Midlands
Stephen Eke	London
Thomas Graham	Stenhousemuir, Scotland
Ian Hamilton	St Albans
Don Harrison	Dagenham, Essex
William John Highway	Stourbridge, West Midlands
Neil Howard	Oldham, Lancs
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Ian Quelleron	Edinburgh
Philip G Ratcliffe	Shrewsbury
E A Spencer	Nottingham
Revd Leslie Turner	West Hunsbury, Northampton
S J Bennett	Birmingham
Ray Powell	Telford, Shropshire
Guy	Orpington, Kent

Contributions

Thanks go to contributors Maurice Brown, Anthony Charlson, Stephen Evans, John Gillespie, Mike Enstone, Steve Jenner, Arthur Moorse, Chris Morton, Ken Pitt, David Sharpe, Andrew Williams, Jeff Hall and Martin Hall, Ray Powell. We look forward to receiving your valued contributions.

Fleet News

Arriva

Arriva Midlands (Leicester) - Another of the Volvo Citybuses with East Lancs bodywork has sustained severe roof damage after hitting a bridge at Oakengates, Telford. Former Arriva North West Dennis Darts with East Lancs bodywork 2103-6 L153-6UKB entered service at Cannock in early January.

Arriva Cymru (Llandudno) - Recent transfers are Dennis Darts 1112 J312JHF, 1118 L148WAG, 1340 M160SKR are transferred to Chester from Bangor, 7541 P541MBU, 7542 P5412MBU have transferred to Bangor from Runcorn.

Arriva Liverpool, Manchester, North West (Liverpool) - Transfers out of Laird Street, Birkenhead are DAF SB's 1790 1791 1792 1793 1794 to Bolton, DAF SB 2454 to Speke, Volvo B10M Citybuses 3695 3699 for Disposal, Dennis Darts 7550 to Chester, 7551 to Wrexham, 7552 7554 7556 7557 7558 to Manchester. DAF Double Deckers 3610-3618 have been transferred in to Laird Street, Birkenhead from Speke.

Arriva London - London Buses returned to Brentwood after an absence of many years, when the Arriva London route 498 commenced operating on 26/12/05. It replaces services 351 and 551 previously operated by First between Romford and Brentwood. The service operated initially with Arriva Darts, but Double Deck (DLA's) are due imminently, with new VDL Cadets due in May.

First

First Cymru (Swansea) - New Vehicles here are Optare Tempo X1200's 64501 YJ55BJE , 64502 YJ55BJK, 64503 YJ55BJF they are in TrawsCambria livery, with yellow rears and bicycle racks.

First Edinburgh (Edinburgh) - Scania single deck 55752 SN55JVD has been fitted with a screen to protect the driver, this is the first of these vehicles noticed like this here.

First Glasgow (Glasgow) - Volvo Olympian 31497 R655DUS has been fitted with an orange destination screen.

First Somerset and Avon - Ex Yorkshire Coastliner Volvo Double Decker 435 W435CWX is now at Bath numbered 34108.

First Wyvern (Worcester) - Dennis Lances 67244 M244MRW, 67245 M245MRW are now allocated to Kidderminster garage.

National Express

Travel West Midlands (Birmingham) –

Acocks Green (AG) - Vehicle VOR is Volvo B7L's 4070 V470MOA with body corrosion. Volvo B7TL's 4517 - 4527 have received route branding for service 37 Birmingham to Solihull via Warwick Road.

Birmingham Central (BC) – The operating of National Express Airport Service 210 passed here from 29/01/06, 10 new Scania PB Coaches are used on the service they are numbered C001 – C010 the fleet number and reg details are as follows : C001 YN55NDV, C002 YN55NDX, C003 YN55PXU, C004 YN55PXW, C005 YN55PXO, C006 YN55PXE, C007 YN55PXC, C008 YN55PXD, C009 YN55PXA, C010 YN55PXM.

Bordesley (BY) – Fresh respray is 1691, it is also branded in the new style branding for service 66 [Ladywood – Birmingham City Centre - Erdington.

Miller Street (XS) - Fresh vehicles noted here are Private Hire Metrobuses 2911 D911NDA, 2912 D912NDA. Vehicles sold are Mercedes Minibuses 230/5/6 P230/5/6EJW, Metrobus 2822 B822AOP. Fresh withdrawals are Driver Trainer Leyland Lynx's 9065 C65HOM, 9210 G210EOG. Driver Trainer 9258 G258EOG has been transferred to Travel Dundee for spare parts.

Perry Barr (PB) – Noted on service 52 on 11/01/05 was Volvo B10L 1409.

Walsall (WA) - Fresh resprays are Volvo B10L's 1510, 1513 and Dennis Trident 4134. 4134 was formerly branded for service 529 Wolverhampton – Willenhall – Walsall.

West Bromwich (WB) – Mercedes Minibus 245 was noted working on service 128 on 30/01/06.

Wolverhampton (WN) – Optare Solo 3237 S237EWU is off the road, with a defective gearbox.

Yardley Wood (YW) – Fresh Metrobuses transferred from Park Lane, Wolverhampton after the finish of Christmas Park and Ride are 2837 B837DOM, 2862 B862DOM, 2866 B866DOM, 2894 C894FON, 2897 C897FON. Volvo B10B 1365 and Metrobus 2626 were involved in a head on RTA in early January no news on the extent of the damage at the moment.

Travel Dundee have now stopped providing coaches for the Scottish Citylink services

Stagecoach

Stagecoach Bluebird – New Vehicles here are Volvo B7R coaches with Plaxton Profile bodywork details on vehicles seen are : 53222 SV55EER, 53223 SV55EES, 53225 SV55EEU, 53226 SV55FKA, 53227 SV55FKB, 53229 SV55FKE, 53230 SV55FKF, 53231 SV55FKG, 53232 SV55FKH, 53233 SV55FKJ, 53235 SV55FKL, 53237 SV55FKN, 53238 SV55FKO, 53243 SV55 FJX, they are to be used on Inverness – Aberdeen services.

Stagecoach East/ United Counties (Northampton) - The 11 Alexander Dennis Tridents that are on order for Northampton have provisionally been given numbers 18398 – 18408.

Stagecoach Merseyside (Liverpool) - Transferred from Stagecoach Devon are Volvo B10M-55's with Alexander PS bodywork : 20616 L616TDY , 20621 L621TDY, 20801 N801DNE , 20802 N802DNE.

Stagecoach Strathtay (Scotland) - The first vehicle painted into Stagecoach livery is Volvo Olympian 956 R956TSL.

Stagecoach South Coast - Dennis Dart 34197 is now allocated to Worthing depot, it still has its centre door and carries London City Airport livery.

Stagecoach in South Wales – Fresh transfers are as follows : Volvo B10M-55 20351 M751LAX VOR to Aberdare, Volvo B10M-61 52499 R779CDW Refurbished to Brymawr, 52500 R780CDW Refurbished to Brymawr .

Stagecoach South Yorkshire/ Yorkshire Traction (Barnsley) - New vehicles here are Optare Solo 519 YJ55BLK, the first vehicles delivered in Stagecoach Ownership are MAN 18.220's with Alexander bodywork 22365 SV55EEN and 22366 SV55EEO.

Independents

Eastern Counties

Dereham Coaches (East Dereham) - A new vehicle here is Volvo B12B-62 with Van Hool T9 bodywork is YJ55EZE.

Ensign - Fresh vehicles in are from Arriva London AEC Routemasters RML2264/2324/2521/2545 RML2549/2572/2573/2636/2730/2753/2759. From Arriva Leaside coaches : D14/D17/DP5/DP6/DP1A/DP2A DP3A/TPL1A/TPL2A/TPL8A/TPL518/DVH6/DVH8, from Metroline : DL77, AV4/5/6/7/8/9/10 AV11/12 AV13/14/15/16/17/18/19. From Metrobus (Orpington) Leyland Olympians G804/6TMX H807XMY K814/5/6HMY. From Aintree Coaches (Liverpool) Leyland Olympian B962WRN.

Iford - The use of step entrance buses in the Iford area came to an end on 13/01/06. Metrobuses M1320 and M1367 ran on the 679 service and Metrobus M1405 was on the 667 service.

Semmence (Wyndham) - Acquired from Ambassador Travel is Volvo B10M-62 R425YWJ.

Midlands

Attain (Witton, Birmingham) - A fresh vehicle here is DU02YBS noted in Shirley Road, Hall Green, Birmingham on 11/01.

Choice Travel (Wednesfield, Wolverhampton) - Fresh vehicles here are 115 R408XFL and 116 R409XFL which have come from Halton Borough Transport, Widnes. Both vehicles have entered service in Halton livery.

Flights Hallmark (Nechells, Birmingham)

Two ex Trent Excels 160 S160UAL, 165 S165UAL were noted parked at Long Acre depot on 24/12/05. They were formerly with MASS of Lincoln. From 28/01/06 Flights Hallmark lost the contract to operate National Express Shuttle service 210 Wolverhampton – Birmingham – Birmingham Airport – Coventry – Banbury – Heathrow Airport – Gatwick Airport. The vehicles formerly used on this service were S364/500B, S489PJF, S295-8WOA, V447-9EAL.

Midland Rider (West Bromwich) - A fresh vehicle here is Dennis Dart with Wright Handybus bodywork KAZ6617 and is still in full Ulster Bus livery.

West Midlands Special Needs Transport (Birmingham) –

New vehicles here for schools contract at Calthorpe School, Highgate, Birmingham are All vehicles were noted on 06/01 except for vehicles marked * which were seen on 11/06.
0529 BX05BCK, 0530 YX55FSA, 0537 FD55RFX, 0538 FD55RGX, 0539 FD55RHJ, 0541 FD55RHX, 0542 FD55RHO, 0543 FD55RHU, 0544 FD55RHV, 0545 FD55RHX,* 0547 FD55RHZ, 0548 FD55RFY, 0549 FD55RFZ, 0550 FD55RGO *, 0551 FD55RGU, 0552 FD55RGV, 0553 FD55PZU *, 0554 FD55RGY, 0555 FD55RGZ *, 0558 FD55RDZ, 0559 FD55REU, 0560 FD55RFE, 0562 FD55RFJ *, 0563 FD55RFK, 0564 FD55RFL, 0565 FD55RHE, 0566 FD55RFN *, 0567 FD55RFO, 0568 FD55PZR, 0569 FD55PZS, 0570 FD55PZT *. 0537 –70 are painted in a blue livery.

South East

Solent Blue Line (Southampton) - Volvo Olympian 741 R741XRV has gone to Southern Vectis on loan, to cover for refurbishment of their M reg Volvo Olympians.

South West

Plymouth Citybus (Plymouth) - Volvo Citybus 205 has been resprayed into the new livery, it was noted in Plymouth City Centre on 01/01/05.

Western Greyhound (Cornwall) – A fresh vehicle in is Mercedes 814 Vario with Plaxton Beaver 2 bodywork it is 558 SK02NZB. It has been acquired from Fairline (Glasgow) where it was used on Glasgow Airport shuttle.

Hookways - A fresh vehicle here is Y164EAY it is a Volvo B10M with Jonckheere Mistral bodywork, it was previously with Ellis (North Acton, London). Noticed operating on the Exmouth Line Rail Replacement on 31/01/06 were: 3427HP, 4691HP, 7876HP, 9880HP, Y164 EAY.

Wales

Berwyn Coaches (Trefor, Wales) - Fresh vehicles in are Volvo B10M-62 with Van-Hool bodywork P823GBA which was new to Shearings and Mercedes-Benz Vario O814D with Plaxton Cheetah bodywork W379WGE. Volvo B10M K285NHU has been sold.

Goodsir Coaches (Holyhead) - A new vehicle here is Optare Slimline Solo YJ55BLZ, freshly acquired is Leyland Olympian with ECW bodywork is C261UAJ.

Company News

Operators

Dunn Line has completed its move from its Basford base, with the purchase of three new depots, all in the Nottingham area. Two new sites are at Heanor Gate Industrial Estate with the third being at Beechdale Road in Nottingham. The Heanor Gate Industrial Estate sites will open up new routes into Derbyshire, for which the company has applied for a new operator licence to cover 42 vehicles, whilst Beechdale Road will house the remainder of the Nottingham operation, along with the Head Office. The company has completed its acquisition of Alpha Coach Company.

Go Ahead North East has announced the closure of its Bishop Auckland depot along with its operations from there. The closure, which will take place in April of this year, marks the final withdrawal of former OK Motor Services operations, which it acquired in 1995.

Arriva North East, who has a depot in Bishop Auckland at Cockton Hill, will be the main beneficiary from this closure, with around 25 vehicles worth of work being sold on.

Lothian Buses have ordered 10 Volvo Euro IV B7RLEs along with 75 Euro III Volvo B7TLs. The Euro IV vehicles, which will have Wrights Eclipse Urban bodies, are scheduled for a January 2007 delivery for use on the city's guided busway, whilst the Euro III vehicles will have 11.3m Wrights Eclipse Gemini bodies and will be delivered in July of this year.

Martingdales (Shildon, County Durham) is in bother with the Traffic Commissioner. This follows VOSA inspections and the subsequent failure to comply with the recommendations and notices. The company, which for the present is still being allowed to operate, has now been given a number of Improvement Notices which, if not complied with, could see the revoking of the company's licence.

Travel West Midlands has started its first National Express contract, taking over from Flights of Birmingham, on the Wolverhampton to Gatwick and Heathrow route. The company will use ten Scania Irizar PB coaches based at their Birmingham Central Depot. This contract gives Travel West Midlands, a National Express Company, a platform to tender for further National Express diagrams.

Wilts and Dorset Bus Company, a Go Ahead subsidiary, has bought Hants and Dorset trim, which a reversal for bus companies to divest themselves of trim shops. Go Ahead now has two trim shops, the other being in the North East.

Builders

East Lancs' is about to unveil newest product. The Esteem, the first product of the company's in house design team, will be launched next month on a Scania 10.6m N230 chassis. This is the company's first new model since the Millennium in 1999, over 300 of which are on the road.

The new bus will be available from launch on a range of chassis:

Scania N94 and N230 in 10.6m and 12m

Volvo B7RLE in 12m and 12.8m

Dennis from 9m up to the 12.8m Enviro 300

Later the Esteem will be also available on VDL SB120 and 200 chassis's.

Orders at the moment are from

Metrobus is taking 10.6m Scania N94s and 12.9m Dennis Darts.

Thames Travel is taking four 10.6m Scania N94s

Preston Bus has ordered seven 12m Scania N94s

Plaxton have unveiled its latest bus – the Centro. The body will be built in the vacant facility next to its coachbuilding plant, where it used to build the Pointer. The Centro will initially be available on the VDL

Bus SB120 chassis, carrying up to 61 passengers on a 10.7m body (with a 10.2m option for London). A 12m version on a MAN 14.220 chassis, with space for 42 seats, will follow. Both versions will be 2.5m wide. The Centro is derived from the Transbus Bus 2000 project which was dropped in the UK in favour of the Enviro 200.

VDL Bus and Coach has reported 2005 as being a record year with turnover leaping by 45% with increased profits. The company delivered 1,743 coaches and buses last year in addition to 1,240 chassis modules, 40% of which went to other constructors. The company also made 370 mini/midibuses.

New Deliveries

Alexander Dennis (Falkirk) - parked at their factory in Falkirk on January 29th 2006 were for **Arriva Merseyside** Double Deckers CX55EBL, CX55EBN, CX55EBP,

Stagecoach Pointer Darts PX55FEW, PX55EFZ, PX55EGC, PX55EHC
ALX 400 Double Decker MX55KSU

Metroline Enviro 400's LK55KKT/ LK55KLA

Arriva North West Wales have taken delivery of 30 Volvo B7TL / Alexander ALX400 from Volvo Bus. These vehicles are to be used on two routes in Liverpool.

Callinan Coaches (Galway) is about to take delivery of ten Volvo 9700 Prestige coaches. One of the vehicles will be a Prestige plus coach for carrying golf fans when this year's Ryder Cup is staged in Ireland. The other nine vehicles will be outshopped in CIE Livery for use on the express service Callinan run under contract. The vehicles are being supplied by Irish Commercials.

Fishwick of Leyland has taken delivery of a further two Wrightbus Commanders bringing the total of Wrightbuses in the fleet to eighteen. The new vehicles are GPS equipped in readiness for the introduction, by Lancashire County Council, of real-time information on the Leyland to Preston route.

Four Square Coach Company (Pontefract) has taken delivery of its first ever new vehicle, a Volvo B12M with Sunsundegui Sideral body (FD55 RZJ). The vehicle, which was supplied by Volvo Buses, will be used on private hire work, much of which is with local schools and colleges.

Metroline are taking delivery of twenty eight Alexander Dennis Enviro Double Deckers for use on its TfL-contracted route 24. All the vehicles will be allocated to the company's Holloway garage.

Pullman Coaches (South Wales) have taken delivery of four Optare SlimLine Solos for use on services running from Swansea to Gorseinon and Felindre. The 9.2m 31 seater buses join two 7.8m Solos purchased in 2005.

Joe Russell Mini Coach Hire (Stathaven, Lanarkshire) has taken delivery of a Mercedes-Benz 616cdi Esker Riada. The vehicle, supplied by Harry Ferguson Coach Sales, has a very high executive spec.

Silverdale Tours (Nottingham) has taken delivery of six Volvo 12B / Plaxton Panther coaches for use on the company's National Express contracts. They have entered service on the Nottingham to London, Derby to London, Retford to London and Nottingham to Newcastle routes and will be in operation seven days a week throughout the year.

Turners Coachways (Bristol) have taken delivery of two Volvo B12B / Jonckheere coaches. One of the principal reasons behind the purchase was the company's wish to try Volvo's I-Shift transmission.

Weardale Motor Services (County Durham) have taken delivery of a 33 seat Mercedes-Benz Vario O.814D / Plaxton Cheetah from Plaxton.

Web Site – www.gb-bg.co.uk

The site is currently under construction and therefore we are quite flexible as to what we can include to help you – our members. Topics currently covered are –

Bus Advertising – the Travel West Midlands Fleet is featured

Bus Database – the database is supported by the information in the current HB Publications.

Fleet Lists – we are currently featuring a small number of operators.

HB Publications – a full list of HB's Bus Books with fleets covered in them

Magazine Back Issues – as each magazine is produced the previous issue will be archived for reference

Operator Web Sites – the web sites included are those Operators who feature fleet lists on their sites.

Preserved Bus Database – the database is supported by the information in the recently HB Publication.

Photo Gallery – the galleries feature photographs from GB Bus Group members

Sightings – sightings from GB Bus Group members

If we want the site to succeed we need information from you to keep it as up to date as possible. If you have any information to help, us please forward it to jeff@gb-bg.co.uk or by post to Jeff Hall at the address on page 2.

The Operators, we know of, who currently provide Fleet Lists on their sites are

Anglian Bus & Coach	http://www.angliancoaches.co.uk/fleet_profile.php
Blackburn Transport	http://www.blackburntransport.co.uk/enthusiasts/fleetlisting.htm
Blue Triangle, Rainham	http://www.bluetrianglebuses.com
Brighton & Hove	http://www.buses.co.uk/frameset.html?history/fleethist/current.htm
Cardiff Bus	http://www.cardiffbus.com/company/fleet/fleet.htm
Central Buses, Kingstanding	http://www.centralbuses.com/fleet.htm
Chambers, Bures	http://www.chamberscoaches.co.uk/html/our_fleet.html
Classic Coaches, Stanley	http://www.classic-coaches.co.uk/html/fleet_list.htm
Confidence Bus & Coach Hire	http://www.confidencebus.co.uk/stats/fleet/index.html
East Yorkshire Motor Services	http://www.eyms.co.uk
Fishwicks	http://www.fishwicks.co.uk/dloads/fleetList04.xls
GHA, Wrexham	http://www.ghacoaches.50megs.com/custom2.html
Go Northern	http://www.simplygo.com/fleet_list.xls
Halton Transport	http://www.haltontransport.fsnet.co.uk/Fleet%20List.pdf
Ipswich Buses	http://www.ipswichbuses.co.uk/fleet.html
Jim Stone Coaches, Warrington	http://www.jimstonescoaches.com
Jones of Llanisilin	http://www.tanatvalleycoaches.50megs.com/about.html
Konectbus, Dereham	http://www.konectbus.co.uk/fleet.pdf
Lincolnshire Roadcar, Lincoln	http://www.roadcar.co.uk/enthusiasts/fleetlist.xls
M K Metro	http://www.askmk.com/mkmetro/fleet/fleetlist.html
Metrobus	http://www.metrobus.co.uk/fleet.php
NIBS, Wickford	http://www.nibsbuses.co.uk
Norfolk Green	http://www.norfolkgreen.co.uk/fleetlist.htm
North Birmingham Busways	http://www.northbhambusways.co.uk/fleet.htm
Nottingham City Transport	http://www.nctx.co.uk/Enthusiasts/FleetList.htm
Oxford Bus Company	http://www.oxfordbus.co.uk/cgi-bin/cms-pull.cgi/?oasis-ims/img/oxfordbus/live/20051202_OBC%20fleet%20list.pdf
Reading Buses	http://www.reading-buses.co.uk/fleet.htm
Regal Busways, Chelmsford	http://www.regalbusways.com/page4.html
Rosendale Transport	http://www.rosendalebus.co.uk/internet%20fleetlist.xls
Stagecoach London	http://www.stagecoachbus.com/uploads/Period12FleetList.pdf
Stagecoach Manchester	http://publishcms.stagecoachbus.com/uploads/FleetcardPeriod9.pdf
Stephensons of Essex	http://www.stephensonsofessex.com/soefiles/busenthusiastspage.htm

Sullivan Buses, Potters Bar	http://www.sullivanbuses.com
Tanat Valley	http://www.tanatvalleycoaches.50megs.com/catalog.html
Thamesdown	http://www.thamesdown-transport.co.uk/latest/scripts/fleet_pub.asp
Travel West Midlands	http://www.travelwm.co.uk/news/fleetlist.jsp
Truronian	http://www.truronian.co.uk/index.cfm?articleid=384
Warrington Borough Transport	http://www.warringtonboroughtransport.co.uk/new/fleet.htm
Western Greyhound	http://www.westerngreyhound.com/enthusiasts.html
Zaks Buses, Birmingham	http://www.zaksbuses.com/fleet.pdf
Mayne's Coaches, Buckie	http://www.maynes.co.uk/fleet.htm



Go North East have invested in 3 Volvo B7L / Wrightbus Eclipse Geminis to operate the X10 Newcastle to Middlesbrough route. On February 11th 2006 NK05 GZO (3941) is seen approaching Middlesbrough Bus Station with a service from Newcastle (Jeff Hall)

Preservation and Rallies

West of England Transport Collection (WETC) Open Day, Winkleigh Sunday 2nd October 2005 (Steve Jenner)

86GFJ	86	Leyland PD2A	Massey	Exeter City Council
237AJB		Volvo B10M-61	Van Hool	Roselyn, Par
373FOR	353	AEC Regent V	East Lancs	WETC
532DWN		Bedford SB5	Plaxton	Jacobs (WETC)
792UXA	RM792	AEC Routemaster	Park Royal	Quantock Heritage, Norton Fitzwarren
ADR183	141	Leyland Titan	Leyland	Tucker, Liskeard
A749NTA		Ford Transit	Ford	WETC
A927MDV	7	Ford Transit	Carlyle	Whott, Clyst St Mary
AFH186T	186	Leyland Leopard	Duple	Fricker and Powlesland, Exeter
AFJ705T	1140	Bristol VRT	ECW	Unknown
AFJ739T	3319	Bristol LH6L	Plaxton	Grey and Pratt (WETC)
AFJ745T	1143	Bristol VRT	ECW	
AFJ766T	1163	Bristol VRT	ECW	Partidge, Saltash
AFJ770T	1163	Bristol VRT	ECW	Partidge, Saltash
ANA553Y	553	Leyland AN68D	Northern Counties	Hoare, Chepstow
ATA563L	563	Bristol VRT	ECW	Bennett, Sherbourne
ATT922		Bristol JJW6A	Beadle	Cook (WETC)
AYG941H		Bristol VRT	ECW	Hoare, Chepstow
BAS563		Bristol LDG6	ECW	Quantock Heritage, Norton Fitzwarren
BDV318L	1318	Bristol LH	Marshall	Steve Cocks, Redruth
BJV103L	114	Daimler CRG6LX	Roe	Unknown
C671FFJ		Ford Transit	Carlyle	Fricker, Crediton
C748FFJ		Ford Transit	Carlyle	Shears (WETC)
CRM927T		Leyland DAB	Leyland AB-D	Chambers, Exeter
CTT513C	513	AEC Regent V	Park Royal	Shears (WETC)
CYA181J	9	AEC Reliance	Plaxton	Quantock Heritage,
DBV32W		Bristol VRT	ECW	Hoare, Chepstow
DBV43W		Leyland Leopard	East Lancs	WETC
DDR144	114	Leyland PD1A	Weymann	Tucker, Liskeard
DEK219		Leyland Titan	East Lancs	Quantock Heritage, Norton Fitzwarren
DOD474		AEC Regal I	Weymann	Shorland (WETC)
E823MOU		Mercedes-Benz 811D	Optare	First Somerset and Avon
ECY937V		Bristol VRT	ECW	Hoare, Chepstow
EDG250L		Leyland Leopard	Plaxton	WETC
EFJ241	26	Leyland TD5	Leyland	Shears (WETC)
EFJ666		Leyland TS8	Cravens	Shears (WETC)
ETT946		Bristol L5G	Beadle	WETC
ETT995		AEC Regent	Saro	WETC
F701BAT	28701	Scania N112CRB	East Lancs	Stagecoach Devon
F705BAT	28705	Scania N112CRB	East Lancs	Stagecoach Devon
FDV803V	3547	Leyland Leopard	Plaxton	Billington, Maidenhead
FFY401	184	Leyland PD2	Leyland	Royden, St Helens
FWA450V		Leyland DAB		KBM Trust, Keighley
FWR218T	BT218	Bristol VRT	ECW	Unknown
GLJ957	1145	Leyland PD1A	ECW	Leatherdale (WETC)
GNM235N		Bristol LH6L	Plaxton	Shears and Rowley (WETC)
GTA935		Bristol LL5G	Bristol	Cook (WETC)
HTT487	SR487	AEC Regal 1	Weymann	Ron Greet, Broadhempston
(JFJ498N) 31909 159		Bristol LH6L	Plaxton	Fricker and Powlesland (WETC)

JFJ500N	320	Bristol LH6L	Plaxton	WETC
JG9938		Leyland Tiger	Park Royal	Quantock Heritage, Norton Fitzwarren
JJD390D	RMC39390	AEC Routemaster	Park Royal	First Devon & Cornwall
JMJ134V		Ford R1114	Duple	Taw and Torridge, Merton
K124SRH	32124	Dennis Dart	Plaxton Pointer	(Stored) Stagecoach North East
K876GNH	40039	Mercedes-Benz 709D	Alexander	(Stored) Stagecoach North West
KFM893		Bristol L5G	ECW	Quantock Heritage, Norton Fitzwarren
LDX75G		Leyland PDR/1	ECW	Hoare, Chepstow
LTA906	1430	Bedford OB	Duple	Ron Greet, Broadhempston
LTV702		AEC Regal III	Weymann	Blood (WETC)
M574RCP	5013	DAF SB3000	Van Hool	Go Ahead, Damory Coaches, Blandford Forum
M76HHB	30726	Volvo B6	Plaxton	(Stored) Stagecoach in South Wales
MPX945R		Ford Transit	Robin Hood	Shears (WETC)
MRO343H		Unknown		Unknown
NLP581	RT4598	AEC Regent III	Park Royal	WETC
NNC855P		AEC Reliance	Duple	Haddock, Altrincham
NRL101F		Bedford VAS5	Duple	Thomas, Roche
OAE957M		Bristol RELL6L	ECW	Hoare, Chepstow
OD5489		Vauxhall Cadet VY	Mount Pleasant	WETC
OD5868		Leyland LT5	Weymann	Shears (WETC)
OD7500	DR213	AEC Regent 1	Bursh	Shorland (WETC)
ODV287P		Volvo B58-56	Duple	Hunt, Merton
OTA632G	1460	Bristol RELH6G	ECW	Williams, Penzance
PHA505G		BMMP S22	BMMO	Rowley, Yelverton
PTT106R		Bristol LH6L	Plaxton	Welsh, Northampton
R116NTA	42116	Mercedes-Benz 0814D	Alexander	Stagecoach Devon
R122OFJ	22	Dennis Dart SLF	Plaxton Pointer	Plymouth Citybus
SVK617G		Leyland PDR1A	Alexander	Hoare, Chepstow
TDV217J	217	Leyland PSUR1B	Matshall	Whott, Clyst St Mary
TJD464		Unknown	Unknown	WETC
UPB308S	SNB308	Leyland National	Leyland	Potten (WETC)
UPB309S	SNB309	Leyland National	Leyland	Potten (WETC)
VDV122S	1122	Bristol VRT	ECW	Partridge, Saltash
VDV817	DR817	AEC Regent V	ML	Pratt (WETC)
VIB5231	31	Leyland TRCTL II	Plaxton	Konect, Saham Toney
VJY141V	141	Leyland AN68	East Lancs	Thmoas, West Elwell
VVV966W	966	Bristol VRT	ECW	Hoare, Chepstow
WWV617S		Bristol VRT	ECW	Hoare, Chepstow
XFD98D	45	Leyland PD3/4	East Lancs	Barber, St Helens
XJJ661V	961	Bristol VRT	ECW	Hoare, Chepstow
YN55RDV		Scania	East Lancs	WETC
YNW33X		Leyland Leopard PSU3E	Plaxton	Hookways, Meeth

**If you have any Rally reports or Preservation News, please forward the information to
Maurice Brown – details on Page 2**

Bus Observations

Bilston Bus Station Thursday 29th December 2005 (Stephen & Gary Evans)

Travel West Midlands

Mercedes Minibus	271	272				
Optare Solo	294					
Volvo B6LE	674	680				
Optare Excel	688	698	708			
Volvo B10B	1324	1343	1381	1387		
Metrobus	3005	3072	3077	3097	3098	3108
Optare Solo	3237					
Dennis Dart	3605	3610				
Dennis Trident 2	4164	4321	4538	4558	4569	4581

Wolverhampton Town Centre and Bus Station

Mercedes Minibus	247											
Optare Solo	295	299										
Optare Excel	407	412	413	416	417	418	419	420	421	422		
685 686	687	689	690	691	696	697	698	699	701	702		
703 704	705	707	708	710	711	713	714	715	717	718		
Volvo B10B	1317	1319	1322	1326	1329	1330	1331	1333	1334	1335		
1336 1338	1339	1340	1341	1343	1383	1389	1392					
Metrobus	2767	2837	2862	2897	3003	3024	3058	3072	3076	3077		
3078 3080	3083	3084	3089	3091	3097	3098	3103	3108	3111	3113	3117	
3122												
Dennis Trident 2	4162	4163	4165	4166	4168	4170	4173	4175	4178	4179		
4311 4312	4314	4316	4319	4323	4327	4535	4537	4538	4540	4545	4546	
4548 4550	4551	4552	4553	4555	4557	4558	4560	4561	4562	4563	4565	
4568 4569	4570	4571	4573	4574	4575	4576	4577	4579	4580	4582	4583	
4586 4587	4589	4590	4594	4595	4600	4601	4602	4605	4607	4609		

Dudley Bus Station Saturday 31st December 2005 (Stephen & Gary Evans)

Travel West Midlands

Volvo B6	116	119										
Mercedes Minibus	262	263	264	268	269	272	273					
Optare Solo	278	283	286	287	290	300	301					
Volvo B6LE	503	504	508	511	512	520	538	542	545	550		
570 579	585	597	596	600	601	604	605	607	611	612	614	
615 619	620											
Volvo B10B	1371	1373	1374	1375								
Volvo B10L	1445	1448	1449	1450								
Mercedes 0405	1558	1578	1581	1583	1585	1587	1592	1625	1627	1656		
1657 1659	1706	1707										
Metrobus	2535	2623	2807	2894	3077							
Dennis Trident 2	4163											
Volvo B7TL	4293	4295	4297									
Dennis Trident 2	4310	4312	4314	4535	4537	4539	4544	4545	4546	4559		
4561 4570	4572	4573	4574	4575	4576	4578	4579	4581	4583	4584	4585	
4589 4590	4594	4600	4603	4605								



**Travel West Midlands Optare Solo 294
in Wolverhampton Bus Station.**

Taken by Andrew Williams

**Digbeth Coach Station Monday 2nd January 2006
(Chris Morton)**

A2Z (Walsall)	AEZ1361			
Ambassador	183			
Barnes	SIB7515			
Birmingham Coach Company	M67LAG	W30DTS	YP02AAX	
Bebb	CN54HFE			
Black and White (Scunthorpe)	K535EHE			
East Yorkshire	43			
First Devon and Cornwall	20536			
First Manchester	23019			
Four Square	SK02OZL			
Flights Hallmark	S364OOB	S2398WOA	V447EAL	
Go North East	7083			
Hardings	P5HCR			
Haytons (Manchester)	M628KVU			
Helleyers (Fareham)	A3HFU	A19HOF		
National Express Operations	YN55NDL	NXL5	NXL8	NXL18
P and O Lloyd	6709PO			
Selwyns	T58AUA			
Shaw Hadwin (Travllers)	X222WGH			
South Gloucestershire	OIL9264			
Tellings Golden Miller	YN54WWF			
Tetley	XDK913			

Trathens	514	524
Voel	CX02KDV	
Worthen	VJI9901	

Cheltenham- Gloucester- Stroud Saturday 14th January 2006 (Andrew Williams)

Ebley Bus

Mercedes Minibus	R629YOM
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First Wessex

Scania K114	23301	23302	23303
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Stagecoach Cheltenham and Gloucester

Leyland Olympian	14501	14610	14633						
Volvo Olympian	16080	16126	16127	16142					
Dennis Trident	17060	17061							
DAF SB	26002	26015	26026						
	30711								
Dennis Dart	32236	32257	32313	32320	32613	32937	32970	32998	33603
Mercedes Minibus	40145	40543							
Optare Solo	47122	47241	47242						
Volvo B10M	52396								

Stagecoach South Wales

Volvo B10M	20887
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Miller Street Garage Saturday 14th January 2006 (Stephen & Gary Evans)

Travel West Midlands

Volvo B6BLE	526									
Leyland Lynx	1156	1158	1166	1188	1192	1206	1209	1221	1237	1312
Metrobus	2532	2574	2581	2585	2701	2757	2759	2761	2793	2814
2839 2876 2836	2937	2950	3093							
Optare Solo	3232									
Leyland Lynx	9061	9074	9076	9096	9147	9149	9210			
Metrobus	9917									

Perry Barr Garage

Travel West Midlands

Metrobus	2903	2941	2985	3013	3035	3062
Volvo B7TL	4085	4284				
Volvo B7TL Gemini	4477	4499				
Scania N94	6023	6026	6030			

Burton on Trent Saturday 21st January 2006 (Stephen & Gary Evans)

Arriva Midlands

Mercedes Minibus	1251	1252								
Dennis Dart	2004	2002	2003	2006	2007	2009	2013	2023	2030	2034
2083 2084 2092	2094	2095	2252	2316	2317	2321	2322	2324	2326	
Leyland Lynx	3109									

Trent

Optare Solo	447	448
Dennis Dart	927	929

Villa Park Football Coaches Saturday 28th January 2006

(Andrew Williams)

Happy Days (Stafford)	CAZ2818	TDR725	K11HDL	YR02ZZO
Hills (Wolverhampton)	YN03AXR	YN03DFF		
Leons/ Dunwood Travel (Stafford)	131 132	133 134	137 139	141 142
	143 144	151 152	154 156	
Proctors (Stoke on Trent)	HIL7613			

Birmingham–Luton–Stevenage–Birmingham Tuesday 31st January 2006

(Andrew Williams)

Arriva the Shires (Luton)

2128	2131	2154	2155	2417	3091	3098	3105	3106	3108	3112	3122	3129
3132	3143	3147	3148	3149	3156	3170	3174	3192	3193	3195	3196	3197
3198	3199	3201	3202	3212	3219	3240	3245	3248	3249	3261	3262	3265
3267	3270	3272	3280	3281	3282	3284	3285	3287	3288	3289	3291	3303
3306	3338	3342	3416	3453	3454	3457	3459	3496	3498	3601	3603	3604
3608	3613	3614	3615	3616	3618	3619	3846	4055	4362	4364	4517	4547
5093	5104	5170	5835									

The following **Arriva the Shires** vehicles are still in Sovereign livery with there old fleet numbers

124	140	141	142	143	144	145	170	171
456	506	705	934	983				

Birmingham Coach Company

X433WVO

Burtons (Haverhill)

YN54ZHM

Dunn Line (Nottingham)

5406

Easy Bus (Milton Keynes)

KE04WBF KE04WBG KE04WBJ KE04WBK

First Wessex (Bristol)

23201 23202 23205

Geoff Amos (Daventry)

111

Grant Palmer

H390OHK RK53AZV

Leons (Stafford)

AT04LCT BT03LCT BT04LCT CT52KCT DT03LCT

MK Metro

5

Motts (Aylesbury)

MT04MTT

National Express Operations

NXL28 (YN55NDO)

NCP Luton Airport

KU02UTW KU02UTY KW02CWS KX53SFD KX53SFF KX53SFJ

KX53SFN AE05EVC

Red Rose

N803GRV

Shearings Wallace Arnold

425

Silverdale (Nottingham)

FJ55ZDN

Stagecoach East (Northampton)

16538

Stansted Express

WLT946	J302WHJ	J303WHJ	J306WHJ	J307WHJ	J308WHJ
J309WHJ	K710KJU	N410NTN	P106OLX	T401LHP	T414LHP

UNO (Hatfield)

R648VBJ R652VBM S713TNM KE04UMC

West Midlands Special Needs Transport t/a Ring and Ride (Birmingham)

0521 BX05UBV

Perth Area (Thomas Graham)

Thursday 12th. January 2006**Docherty of Auchterarder** - noted in garage

YN03WYD, V77JDS, SK02VNX, JDS77J, SN05FHL, T77JDS, N77JDS

4488WD, SN05FHM, X77JDS, Y77JDS, W77JDS, W7JDS, SF04LKG

P77JDS, JA5515 (Preserved)

In service SK52HYP, YN04XZC, YR52VEX

Stagecoach Bluebird Workshops

Volvo B10 20151/20154/20172/20868

Man 22719/22722

B10/Bk 52029

Dominator 15046

Solo 47054

Titan KYV470X (Stored)

Atlantean MSF466P (Stored)

Stagecoach main garage

Ld Oly 13653/14408/14409/14455/14458/14469/14486/14608/14706

Dart 32805

Merc 41304

Dominator 15049

B10/Pn 52087/52104

Nearby service centre

Lochs and Glens Coaches FJ04ETD, FJ04ETF**Highland Heritage Coaches** SN05DWJ, SN05DWK**Pegasus Coaches** R79EDW, YN05HVF, SP03ADG, Y744HWT, FIL7661

N387DRW, J981EUM, G262EHD, LWS116Y (Stored), H725LOL (Hulk)

Noted in town centre

Merc MB 41509

Solo 47051-47053/47218-47227

Man 22277/22712-22718

B10 20112/20150/20176/20860/20867

Dart 33428/33430-33433/33435/33436

B10/Pn 52668

Ley On 14468/14471/14496

Stagecoach Fife

Vo Oly 16850
 Man 22350
 Merc MB 40586

Strathtay

Merc MB 166/225
 Tiger 437
 Ley On 919
 Volvo On 961

Smiths of Coupar Angus

SP53GZC, YD02RBY, YD02RBZ

Wednesday 11th. January 2006**Edinburgh Waverley Steps 14.00-15.30****Lothian Buses**

Darts 53/56/61-64/67-70/84-92/94/96-98/100/156/173
 B7 101-104/106-109/111/113-115/117-119/122-129
 Ley Oly 201-206/208-213/216/218/220/225/228/230-234/345/367/369-371/811/813/814/817
 822/828/829/833/835/839-843/848/849/857/859/865/869/876/877/879/882/884/893
 950/951/955/957/960/961/963/964/966/968/971/972/979
 Vol Oy 251/252/254/257-263/265/267/271/276/279/281/284/403/404/407-409/416-19/422/425
 429/432
 Trident Ar 501-503/505
 Trident Pn 506/507/510-513/515-518/520/521/523/525/527/528/535/542/547/549/551/553/558/559
 562/563/569/577/579/582/584-589/593/594/601/602/604/606/608/609/611-615/624/629
 635/637-640/642/646-649/651-653/657/658/661/667-670/672-676/678/681/683/687-692
 694-699
 B7 291/294-297/701-703/705/707-711/713/714/717-720/725/727-733/736-741/743-746/749
 Tours and Trainers
 28/308/309/312/314/TB316/TB320/357/358/875

First Edinburgh

Ley Oly 30208/31728/31734
 Vol Cbus 30356/30384/31629/31630/31632/38093/38094/38096
 Vol Oly 31570/31643/31648/31657/31660/31662/31664/31665/31667/31668/31671/ 31672/31678
 B7 32669/32671-32675/32679/32681-32683
 Sca Omn 36007/36008/36010/36015/36019/36022/36024-36029
 Sca 61215/61220/61224/61227/61230-61232/62324/62338/62387/62395/65720/65751
 MB 62281/62371/62400/62403/62404
 Darts 40703/40706/40708/40887/40890/40916/40919/40926/40929/40930/40932/40934
 40937/40943

Stagecoach Fife

B10/Ar 20330/20339/20340
 B10/Pn 52361/52362/52365/52366/52380/52424

Stagecoach Western

Man 50052

Rapson 653
Ulsterbus 691
Shearings Y719HWT

Prentice, West Calder B10DPC
MacEwan, Amisfield SA03YDB, W58WTA, K766DAO
Edinburgh Coach Lines W658RSX
Parks, Hamilton LSK873, LSK877, SG03ZBH, SG03ZHS

Glasgow 23rd November 2005 (Jeff Hall)

Still with the Scottish theme and continuing from last month's report of Edinburgh sightings, this is what we saw in Glasgow. These observations were principally in the Argyll Street area

Arriva

Dennis Dart SDL / Plaxton Pointer 408, 418, 433
 Dennis Dart SLF / Plaxton Pointer 839

First

Volvo B7LA / Wright Eclipse Fusion 10016/133/136/141/147/183
 Volvo B10BLA / Wright Fusion 10045/104/109
 Leyland Olympian / Alexander RH 30097/098/099/105, 31526
 Volvo Citybus B10M-50 / Alexander RV 31265/266/268/270/273/280/282/283/285/291
 Leyland Olympian / Alexander RL 31389/391/399/402/408/410/411/412
 Volvo Olympian / Alexander Royale 31422/424/430/477/683
 Volvo Olympian / Northern Counties Palatine II 31431/479/480/483/485/490/493
 Volvo B7TLT / East Lancs Nordic 31511/514/515
 MCW Metrobus / Alexander RL 31610
 Leyland Olympian / Alexander RL 31622
 Volvo B7TL / Wright Eclipse Gemini 32543/545/546/548/551/553/559/562/566/572/573/574/576
 32579/581/583/590/591/595/598/32601/604/608/616/622/623
 Dennis Dart SLF / Plaxton Pointer 40722/736/741/770/773/774/800/805/808/811/812/820/842
 Volvo B6LE / Alexander ALX200 40759
 Alexander Dart / Alexander Pointer 42877/878/879/880/881/883/885/886/887/888
 Volvo B6 / Alexander Dash 48077
 Mercedes-Benz O.814 / Plaxton Beaver 50367/384/387
 Mercedes-Benz O.810 / Plaxton Beaver 50383/393
 Volvo B10M-55 / Alexander PS 60550, 61263/269/270/271
 Scania L94UB / Wright Axxess Floline 61292/295/298/667/669/679/680/681/682/686/687/688/690
 61693/694/696/699/704
 Volvo B10B-58 / Alexander Strider 61351/359/361/367/368/369
 Volvo B10M-55 / Alexander PS 61374/376/388/390/392/393/397/399/402/403/407/410/413
 61416/417/421/426/427/431/433/434/436/437445/446/447
 61448/451/455/458/464/473/487/491/493/495/496/500/509
 61510/511
 Scania L113CRL/Wright Axxess-Ultralow 61526/527/535/551/552/577
 Volvo B7L / Wrightbus Eclipse 61588/590/591/592/594/627/633/635/637/638/639/640/641
 51642/643/646/647/650/651/660/663
 Volvo B10BLE / Wrightbus Renown 61597/598/599/600/602/603/605/607/610/612/617/619/620
 61622/623/653/654/705/706/708/710

Stagecoach (Magic Bus)

C169LFT, C462SSO, C601LFT, C603LFT, C619LFT, C625LFT, C626LFT, C629LFT
 C656LFT, C657LFT, C796USG

Citybus

YJ03FJF

Dial a Bus

N798FSD

Eastwood

L383YFT

Glasgow Tours

A949SUL, A983SYF (M983)

Liberton

L1TTC

McKindlessB297WUL, H105THE, H107THE, H108THE, H109THE, H611TKU, J122HGF, J224HGY
K621PGO, L152WAG, L155WAG, L162XRH, L167YAT**Middlesbrough Bus Station February 11th 2006
(Jeff Hall)**

Spent 40 minutes here prior to the Middlesbrough Chelsea game – what a result!

Arriva

Optare MetroRider / Optare	877/97, 911, 2607/15/35/36
DAF / Plaxton Prima Interurban	1209
MAN 11.190 / Optare Vectra	1510/13/14/23/29/33/37/42/57
Dennis Dart SLF / Plaxton Pointer	1624, 1721/23/44/47
DAF / Wright Cadet	1904/10/15/20/22
Mercedes Benx O.405 / Optare Prisma	3021/27
DAF / Optare Delta	4020
DAF / Plaxton Prestige	4037/39/42/45
DAF / Ikarus Citibus	4074/75/76/79, 4109
Scania CN95UB / Scania	4650/57/59

Stagecoach

Volvo Olympian / Alexander RL	16839
Volvo B10M-55 / Alexander PS	20101/102/104/554
Volvo B10M-55 / Northern Counties Paladin	20245/246/248/251/253/254
Volvo B10B / Plaxton Verde	21032/037/038/039
MAN / Alexander ALX300	22061/062/063/065/454/455/456/660/661/665/667/670/674
Dennis Dart SLF / Alexander ALX200	33825
Dennis Dart SLF / Transbus Pointer	34561/566/568

Go Ahead

3941

National Express (Go Northern)

524 FUP (7088)

Leven Valley

T28 BXG (28)

Middlesbrough v Chelsea Riverside Stadium February 11th 2006

Chelsea Team Coach

Ellison's LOT7E

Supporter's Coaches

Priory A453TAG, UJI1778, TJI4963

W B Kerr PIL2166

Cedar Coaches W31COM

Redwing BX54EDU, BX05UVG

Tram and Light Rail News (Martin Hall)

Birmingham - Air fresheners are being fitted to Midland Metro Trams – with the smell of the seaside! More people are using the tram system to travel to Wolverhampton. The figures released show a 3% increase

Blackpool Trams - The Gillmor's based firm Tram Power Ltd. Has unveiled its new 'City Class Tram' at Birkenhead. This is hoped to be the first of many to modernise the heritage fleet on the system. Restoration of **OMO 8** is still continuing.

Birkenhead - Another test run for **Lisbon 730** as far as Woodside Ferry, Which included the two Hong Kong cars.

Restoration progress:

Wallasey 78 is having its paintwork attended to. **Warrington No. 2** is having its interior restored and fleet numbers have been added to **Lisbon 730**

Crich - Restoration of **LUT 159** continues with work now progressing on sanding gear and lifeguard metal work. A short blasting cabinet is expected shortly for the workshop to help with the restoration work.

Croydon Tramlink - The extension planned has got the go ahead but they will not get any new trams so will have to rejig the timetable

DLR - Units **50 & 56** are in the new fleet livery

Edinburgh Tram - With many objections now withdrawn the tram system can hopefully go ahead.

Leeds - The Leeds Supertram has now been cancelled so one option is to have tram-trains running on existing rail routes to fill the transport gap.

South Hampshire- With the tram system now cancelled there may now be major problems with road congestion in the region and economic stagnation.

Manchester Metrolink- The system has made progress with its extension plans as the government believe it will help the city's transport needs. Vehicle **1009** in the new livery has returned to service, which includes small fleet numbers carried on the front and rear dash panels.

South Hampshire - With the tram system now cancelled there may now be major problems with road congestion in the region and economic stagnation.

West London Tram- With all support dropped by Hammersmith and Fulham Council the tram system now looks dead in the water.

Bus Spotting Locations

Hartlepool

To kick things off I thought we might look at Hartlepool – home of Hartlepool United FC, Hartlepool Marina and a reputation for hanging monkeys – or should I say Napoleonic Spies!!

The main operator in Hartlepool is Stagecoach Transit. Stagecoach Transit comprises of Stagecoach Stockton, Darlington and Hartlepool. The Hartlepool garage is situated on Brenda Road. To get to the garage come into Hartlepool on the A689 (from Billingham) and at the 2nd roundabout take the 3rd exit into Brenda Road – the garage is 200m on your right. The rear of the garage can be viewed by taking the 3rd exit on the next roundabout. If travelling by bus take the No 1 from the Grange Road (service to James Cook University Hospital) and alight at B&Q Brenda Road – the garage is on the other side of the road.

Other operators that use Hartlepool are Arriva, Go Ahead and National Express. Independents operating school services are P&E Coaches and Richardsons.

Most services will run along York Road and a good place to view these are at the junction of York Road and Grange Road. If you walk down Grange Road, towards the Town Centre, you will come to the traffic lights at the junction with Stockton Road – this is a good location for taking photographs. Any National Express or Holiday Charter services do not run in to the town centre, but instead run along Stockton Road either passing the Marina (northbound) or towards Stockton (southbound). If you now turn left towards the Marina then first right you will find the Arriva stop over point for Sunderland services. If instead of turning right you continue towards the Marina you will come across the Go Ahead stop over point, which is opposite to ASDA. Go Ahead operate services to Sunderland.

Observations on Tuesday February 7th (1400-1500) were

Stagecoach

Leyland Olympian / Alexander RH	14668
Volvo B10M-55 / Alexander PS	20124, 20263, 20550, 20841
Volvo B10M-55 / Plaxton Paladin	20256, 20264
Volvo B10M-55 / Northern Counties Paladin	20296, 20297, 20298, 20299
MAN 18.22 / Alexander ALX300	22656, 22660, 22667
Dennis Dart SLF / Alexander ALX200	33483, 33484
Dennis Dart SLF / Transbus Pointer 2	34550, 34565, 34566, 34569

Arriva

Dennis Dart SLF / Plaxton Pointer	1714
Optare MR35	2627
DAF SB200L / Optare	4093, 4097
Leyland Olympian / Alexander RH 7273, 7274	

Go Ahead

Dennis Dart SLF / Transbus Pointer	549
Volvo Olympian / Northern Counties	3818

Richardsons

Leyland Tiger TRCTL11/2R / Plaxton	OIB3516
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Fleet Lists

Ellen Smith Tours

231	T231JNC	Volkswagen	Caravelle	M7
232	T232JNC	Volkswagen	Caravelle	M7
303	FJ03DGU	Iveco	Beulas	C49F
344	T344NBV	Bova	Futura	C49F
354	BX54EBA	Mercedes	Touro	C49F
355	YJ55EYVD	Bova	Futura	C49F
370	R570ANB	Volkswagen	Caravelle	M7
385	W855BNA	Iveco	Beualas	C49F

Stephenson – Easingwold

Reg	ChassisNo	ChassisName	Model	Seats
LUI 9598	21631	Volvo	Coach	70
YNJ 434	32375	Volvo	Coach	49 exec
A101 JVT	5091	Volvo	Coach	53
FAV 8Y	14161	Volvo	Coach	57
LIW 1337	239319	DAF	Coach	53
YN04 WTG	7350	Volvo	Coach	53
S159 JUA	5940	DAF	Bus	49
A132 DTO	6930	Volvo	Decker	77
D901 EAJ	294758	DAF	Coach	70
S309 KNW	5947	DAF Optare	Bus	49
R596 GDY	46233	Volvo	Coach	53
SJI 8099	9332	Volvo	Coach	53
LUI 1571	16566	Volvo	Coach	57
J18 BUS	21143	Volvo	Bus	53
JWR 146Y	ON792	Bristol	Decker	77
A20 SOE	22973	Volvo	Coach	57
JTY 403X	173	Olympian	Decker	77
LBZ 6829	14935	Volvo	Coach	53
JTY 405X	175	Olympian	Decker	77
TRN 772	21140	Volvo	Bus	53
JTY 399X	129	Olympian	Decker	77
SJI 8105	15535	Volvo	Coach	57
R423 FWT	48962	Volvo	Coach	49 exec
A944 SUL	7425	MCW	Decker	77
KNP 1X	45275	Volvo Caetano	Coach	49 exec
A280 ROW	1066	Olympian	Decker	77
YN54WDA	10252	Volvo	Coach	70
YN54WDD	10283	Volvo	Coach	70
PEX 611W	7229	National 2	Bus	53
LUI 1572	672	Olympian	Decker	77
IDZ 3504		FORD	Transit	8
JTY 368X	198	Olympian	Decker	77
X226AWB	61345	Volvo B10M	Coach	49exec
WSV 568	16727	Volvo	Coach	53
YX54 HBB	10302	Volvo	Bus	38

HB Publications

All members of GB-BG are entitled to a 20% discount on all HB publications.

Eastern Counties Bus Datafile	£8.00	(£6.40)
East Midlands Bus Datafile	£7.00	(£5.60)
Irish Bus Datafile	£6.00	(£4.80)
Liverpool & Manchester Bus Datafile	£6.00	(£4.80)
London Bus Datafile	£12.00	(£9.60)
National Operators	£7.00	(£5.60)
Preserved Buses	£9.00	(£7.20)
South East Bus Datafile	tba	
South West Bus Datafile	tba	
Welsh Bus Datafile	£8.00	(£6.40)
West Midlands Winter 2005 Bus Datafile	£11.00	(£8.80)
Bus Log	£6.00	(£4.80)

These are available from Jeff Hall, 3 Ingham Grove, Hartlepool TS25 2LH

Please make all cheques or postal orders payable to Jeff Hall

Publications Review

New Titles

Preserved Buses – details of over 5,000 Preserved Buses that are located in Museums, Heritage Fleets, Collections or Privately Owned. Details included are Registration Number, Vehicle Make, Vehicle Type, Livery and Location. The information is presented in both Location and Registration Number order.

112 pages - £9.00

South East Bus Datafile – as your magazine goes to press this book is in last stages of preparation and will be available week commencing February 19th. The format of the book is the same as all HB Publication Bus Books and includes the vehicles in Registration number order.

If you want a copy send your details to Jeff Hall who will provide it along with an invoice – price is expected to be in the £10 range

South West Bus Datafile – like the South East book this book is in last stages of preparation and will be available week commencing February 19th. The format of the book is the same as all HB Publication Bus Books and includes the vehicles in Registration number order.

If you want a copy send your details to Jeff Hall who will provide it along with an invoice – the price is still to be set

Forthcoming Titles.

Scotland – due March 2006

East Midlands and Yorkshire – due March 2006