

# The Trident

The Monthly Magazine of the GB Bus Group

**GB BG**



First Beeline Scania T825JBL, picture taken in Bracknell Bus Station  
by Chris Morton

**Volume 1**

**No 3 March 2006**

**Chairman:** Jeff Hall, 3 Ingham Grove, Hartlepool, TS25 2LH  
E-mail: jeff@gb-bg.co.uk

**Secretary:** Maurice Brown, 192 Alvechurch Road, West Heath, Birmingham B31 3PW  
Telephone 0121 624 8641 E-mail: maurice@gb-bg.co.uk

**Editor:** Chris Morton, 14 Keble Grove, Sheldon, Birmingham, B26 3DD  
Telephone 0121 722 3007 Email : chris@gb-bg.co.uk

**Membership:** Maurice Brown (as above)

**Treasurer:** Jeff Hall (Acting)

**Web Site:** Jeff Hall

**Sub Editors**

**Observations:** James Holloway, 246 Longmore Road, Shirley, Solihull B90 3ES  
E-mail: james@gb-bg.co.uk

**Major Operator News:** Mr Andrew Williams, 490 Shirley Road, Hall Green, Birmingham B28

**Preservation and Rallies** Maurice Brown – as above

**Small Operator News:** Ken Pitt, 52 Loxley Close, Redditch, Worcestershire B98 9JG  
E-mail ken@gb-bg.co.uk

### Area Representatives

**East Midlands & Yorkshire** – Chris Morton (chris@gb-bg.co.uk)

**Eastern Counties** – Chris James (chrisj@gb-bg.co.uk)

**Ireland** – Position Vacant

**London** – Position Vacant

**West Midlands** – Stephen Evans, 1 Fairview Close, Cheslyn Hay, Walsall WS6 7JH

**North East of England** – Jeff Hall (Temporary)

**North West of England** – Mark Watson, 1 Marbury Park, Kingswood, Hull HU7 3DG  
E-mail mark@gb-bg.co.uk

**Scotland** – Thomas Graham, 80 Corrie Avenue, Stenhousemuir, Falkirk (thomas@gb-bg.co.uk)

**South East of England** – Position Vacant

**South West of England** – Position Vacant

**Wales** – Chris Newsome (chrisn@gb-bg.co.uk)

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

## Contents

Bus Observations	Company News.....8
Birmingham.....12	Fleetlists
Blackpool Talbot Road Garage .....14	Reliance .....20
Bridgwater – Bath.....12	Wilfreda Beehive .....21
Birmingham City Centre.....17	Fleet News .....4
Central Liverpool.....16	Fleet Profile
Daventry and Northampton .....13	Somerbus .....22
Daventry, Coventry & Digbeth.....15	New Deliveries .....9
Leamington Spa.....16	Noticeboard.....3
Redditch.....16	Preservation and Rallies .....10
Riverside Football Coaches .....17	Publications.....24
Rugby.....14	Stagecoach Numbering System .....18
Rugby and Daventry .....14	Trams & Light Rail.....17
Solihull.....15	Web Site.....11
Villa Park Football Coaches .....17	
West Bromwich .....18	

**Price £1.00**

# Noticeboard

## Area Representation

As you can see we have had some volunteers to be your area representatives. If you have any information, sightings or news please send it to the relevant person. For areas not yet covered please send all information to Maurice Brown.

If you are interested in helping us, we are still looking for representation in the South East, South West, London, North East and Ireland.

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, or want further details, please contact Maurice at [maurice@gb-bg.co.uk](mailto:maurice@gb-bg.co.uk) or 0121 624 8641 – he awaits your call.

## 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 GB Bus Group

Welcome to new members

Michael Apps	Eastbourne, East Sussex
C J Barnard	Huntington, Cambridgeshire
Ian Bushell	Guildford, Surrey
Richard Delahay	Great Yarmouth, Norfolk
Derek Edwards	Birmingham
Clive Green	Somerset
Antony Hampson	Solihull
R Harris	Kingston on Thames
James Holloway	Solihull
Philip Houlton	Hull
Ronald Johnson	Liverpool
Alan Jones	Stirchley, Birmingham
Alan Langhelt	Feltham, Middlesex
Mike Lewis	Swindon, Wiltshire
Andrew McPartlin	Northampton
David Mallon	Darlington
Alan Meadows	Telford
Keith Myatt	Rugeley, Staffordshire
Daniel Shaw	Sheffield
Walter Stafford	Lancashire
K Taylor	West Midlands
R E Tew	Northamptonshire
Mark Watson	Hull, East Yorkshire
William Wilson	West Midlands
E Woolf	Romford

## Other

We have received a anonymous donation of £50.00 to Society funds. This will be used to help the society improve and expand in the future.

## Contributions

Thanks go to contributors Maurice Brown, Anthony Charlson, Stephen Evans, Mike Enstone, John Gillespie, Jeff Hall, Martin Hall, Harry Metcalf, Steve Jenner, Arthur Moore, Chris Morton, Ken Pitt, E A Spencer, Andrew Williams. We look forward to receiving your valued contributions.

# Fleet News

## Arriva

**Arriva Cymru (Llandudno)** – Leyland Lynx 2 1753 H733FWK is now parked in Hardwicks scrapyard. The following vehicles are paked up at the back of Wrexham garage : 301 R801YJC, 302 R801YJC, 303 R803YJC, 304 R804YJC, 307 R807YJC, 309 R809YJC, 310 R810YJC, 343 R113TKO, 346 R116TKO, 353 R123TKO. The following Dennis Dominators are the only ones now in service : 3832 G802THA, 3835 H805AHA, 3836 H806AHA, 3837 N716TPK.

**Arriva Liverpool, Manchester, North West (Liverpool)** - DAF DB250 3618 R203CKO has been transferred from Speke to Birkenhead. Dennis Darts 2201 2202 2203 2204 2207 allocated to Huyton have received the revised “Le Bus” livery. Details of the new Volvo B7TL’s with Alexander ALX400 allocated to Speke are as follows : 4100 CX55EAF, 4101 CX55EAG, 4102 CX55EAJ, 4103 CX55EAK, 4104 CX55EAM, 4105 CX55EAO, 4106 CX55EAP, 4107 CX55EAW, 4108 CX55EAY, 4109 CX55EBA, 4110 CX55EBC, 4111 CX55EBD, 4112 CX55EBF, 4113 CX55EBG, 4114 CX55EBJ, 4115 CX06EAK, 4120 CX06EAY, 4121 CX06EBA, 4123 CX06EBD.

**Arriva Midlands (Leicester)** – Fresh vehicles here are Dennis Darts with Northern Counties bodywork L127YVK L130YVK L131YVK L157YVK they have come from Arriva Yorkshire they are all allocated to Delta Way, Cannock..

## First

**First Devon and Cornwall (Plymouth)** – Leyland Olympian 34809 C809HJN was noted at Torpoint on 01/03 this has come from First Eastern Counties.

**First Eastern Counties (Norwich)** – Dennis Darts with Wright Handybus bodywork 45399 JDZ2399 & 45402 (JDZ5102) are missing from Lowestoft allocation so may well be withdrawn. Scania ‘s 65548 65569 S569TPW, 65570 , 65578 , 65587-65590 have been resprayed into Barbie 3 livery. Dennis Dart SLF’ x with Plaxton Pointer bodywork 42752 S652SNG, 42777 S677SNG, 42783 S683SNG have been transferred to First Devon and Cornwall. Leyland Olympian 34494 FUM494Y has gone to PVS Carlton for scrap. Other vehicles scraped awaiting collection are Leyland National 90280 G UW504W, Leyland Tiger 22024 7964VC. Leyland Olympian 34955 is still VOR with a defective engine.

**First Glasgow (Glasgow)** - New vehicles are single deck Volvo B7’s with Wright bodywork : Garage codes P : Parkhead, S : Scotstoun, : 69012 SF55UAD P, 69013 SF55UAE P, 69014 SF55UAG P, 69015 SF55UAH P, 69016 SF55UAJ P, 69017 SF55UAK P, 69018 SF55UAL P, 69019 SF55UAM P, 69020 SF55UAN P, 69021 SF55UAO P, 69023 SF55UAR P, 69024 SF55UAS P, 69025 SF55UAT P, 69026 SF55UAU P, 69028 SF55UAW P, 69029 SF55UAX P, 69030 SF55UAY P, 69031 SF55UAZ P, 69032 SF55UBA S, 69033 SF55UBT P, 69035 SF55UBV S, 69037 SF55UBX S, 69043 SF55UBC P, 69044 SF55UBD P, 69045 SF55UBE P, 69046 SF55UBG P, 69047 SF55UBH P, 69048 SF55UBJ P, 69049 SF55UBK P, 69050 SF55UBL P, 69051 SF55UBM S, 69053 SF55UBO P, 69054 SF55UBP P, 69055 SF55UBR P.

## Go Ahead

**Birmingham Coach Company (Tividale)** – 4 Volvo Olympians with Northern Counties bodywork have been transferred from London General (Mitcham) they are NV104 P904RYO, NV107 P907RYO, NV129 P929RYO, R380LGH.

**Brighton and Hove (Brighton)** – Dennis Lance 281 has returned from Salvador Caetano in early February. “I’m On The Bus” Adverts are now carried by 827, 828, 832, 833, 834, 838, 839, 840, 881, 882.

**London Central/ London General (London)** - Noted at Fleetwood Docks during February were WVL220 LX55JHV, WVL221 LX55JHY, WVL222 LJ55 JFV , WVL254 LX55JLV, WVL256 LJ55JMU, WVL257 LJ55 JMV.

**Peoples Express (West Bromwich)** – This operator has was purchased by Go Ahead in early February.

## **National Express**

### **Travel West Midlands (Birmingham) –**

**Acocks Green (AG)** - Vehicle VOR is Volvo B7L's 4070 V470MOA with body corrosion. Metrobus 2763 A763WVP has been transferred here from Wolverhampton. Fresh advert buses are 4084 Yell.Com (Rear Advert).

**Lea Hall (LH)** - Metrobus 2872 B872DOM has been withdrawn and was noted at Miller Street on 24/02.

**Miller Street (XS)** - Noted here on 24/02/05 was Travel Dundee Scania N113CRL with East Lancs bodywork 111 K411MSL

**Walsall (WA)** - Dennis Trident 4128 has lost its Golden Jubilee livery and gained revised fleet livery. Dennis Trident 4134 suffered major fire damage in Wolverhampton Bus Station on 15/02/06 when children set the upper deck on fire.

**West Bromwich (WB)** – Dennis Darts have started to occasionally appear on service 16 Birmingham – Hamstead.

**Yardley Wood (YW)** – Fresh advert buses are 4160, 4362 Lynx (Rear Advert)

## **Stagecoach**

**Stagecoach in Cumbria (Carlisle)** – 3 new vehicles have entered service on route X53

Kendal, Grange-Over-Sands, Ulverston & Barrow-In-Furness, They are Dennis Tridents with East Lancs Myllemium Lolyne bodywork 18278 PX55AHF, 18279 PX55AHG, 18280 PX55 AHJ. They are in a special livery, blue with green swoops on the side.

**Stagecoach East/ United Counties (Northampton)** - Volvo Olympians 16006 P806GMU, 16007 P807GMU have transferred transferred to Stagecoach Manchester, in exchange Northampton have received Volvo B10M-55 with Alexander PS bodywork 20852 P852GND, 20853 P853GND. Vehicles in for refurbishment are Volvo Olympian 16672 L672HNV. Noted at Bedford garage on 27/02/06 were 34826 KX06JYH, 34827 KX06JYJ, 34828 KX06JYK, 34829 KX06JYL, 34830 KX06JYN, 34831 KX06JYO, 34832 KX06JYP, 34833 KX06JYR, 34834 KX06JYS, 34835 KX06JYT they are in the new Mars network livery.

**Stagecoach in South Wales** – Vehicles acquired with the purchase business of Glyn Williams (Pontllanfraith) are : BMC Falcons's with BMC bodywork: 29705 CN04RFY, 29706 CN04RFZ, 29707 CN04XCK, 29708 CN04XCL, 29709 CN53GWO, 29710 CN53GWP, Dennis Dart SLF with UVG UrbanStar bodywork : 33271 P423PBP, 33272 R407AOR, 33273 R408AOR, 33274 R409HKG, 33275 R410HTG, 33276 R421AOR, 33277 R422AOR, 33278 R424AOR, 33282 S787NRV, 33283 S788NRV, 33284 S846SNY, Dennis Dart SLF with Marshall bodywork : 33279 R719BNF, 33280 S100CBC, 33281 S300CBC, Dennis Dart SLF with Plaxton Pointer bodywork : 33285 T601DAX, 33286 T602DAX, 33287 T603DAX, 33288 T604DAX, 33289 W713DAX, 33290 W714DAX, Dennis Dart SLF with Caetano Nimbus bodywork : 33291 X191FOR, 33292 X192FOR, 33293 HX51LRZ, Optare Solo M1020 with Optare bodywork : 47431 YJ55YFW, 47432 YJ55YFX.

**Stagecoach South Yorkshire (Barnsley)** - Fresh vehicles here for use as Driver Trainers are DAF SB220's with Optare Delta bodywork 26012 J712CYL, 26021 J721CYL, 26025 J725CYG, 26031 K631HWX, 26033 K633HWX. 26025 is allocated to Doncaster.

## **Transdev**

**Yorksire Coastliner** – A new vehicle here is Volvo B7TL with WrightBus bodywork 407 YK55ATU.

## **Welgalde**

**Trent/ Barton (Derby)** – Optare Tempo 303 FD54JYB was involved in a collision outside Nottingham Train Station on 08/02, damage seemed to be confined to the side windows.



**Trent Volvo B10M 56 in the new Trans Peak Livery (Andrew Williams)**

## **Independents**

### **Eastern Counties**

**Ambassador Travel (Great Yarmouth)** - Optare Solo 's 605 MX04VLN, 607 MX53FEH have been noted here.

**Mulleys (Ixworth)** - Acquired from Moffat and Williamson Scotland are Mercedes Benz Vario 0814's with Transbus bodywork SP04FKM, SP04FKN..

### **East Midlands**

**Nottingham City Transport ( Nottingham)** – Volvo Olympians 471 R471RRA and 474 R474RRA have been sold to Silverdale tours of Nottingham, both were still in Network Green livery in Mid February. 474 has Silverdale on the front over the Route panel box.

### **London**

**Mint (Marble Arch)** - A new vehicle here is Mercedes –Benz 0814 with Mellor bodywork and C29F seating VU06KFF.

### **Midlands**

**A Line (Smethwick)** – New operator, this company is using H106MOB and is still in full Glovers of Ashbourne livery.

**A2Z Travel (Walsall)** – Fresh vehicles here are Dennis Lances with Wright bodywork ODZ 8906 ODZ8907.

**Chapel End Coaches (Nuneaton)** - Fresh resprays in to the new red and cream livery are B5CEC and CEC62.

**Happy Days (Stafford)** – A new vehicle here is Neoplan DX06HUY.

**Hardings (Redditch)** - They left their Tanners Croft Garage in January, and have found secure parking at Oxleasows Road on an industrial estate in Moons Moat. It is partially visible from the First Wyvern services 57 58 Matchborough Circulars between Church Hill and Winyates, close to where the Bus Lane passes over the Coventry Highway.

**Leons (Stafford)** - New vehicles noted at Scania, Worksop are ; 161 BT06LCT , 162 CT06LCT, 163 DT06LCT, 164 ET06LCT, 165 FT06LCT

**Midland Rider (West Bromwich)** - A fresh vehicle here is Dennis Dart with Wright Handybus bodywork CAZ6617 and is still in full Ulster Bus livery, also ex Ulster Bus is 1016 CAZ6617 this is in full Midland Rider livery.

**Travel Express (Wolverhampton)** - 2 Dennis Darts have been acquired from Hansons (Lye) they are H879LOX and H849NOC, they are still in full Hansons livery.

## North West

**A 2 B Travel (Prenton, Liverpool)** – A fresh vehicle here is V482XJV.

**WA/ Shearings (Wigan)** – New vehicles known about are : 802 MX06AKO, 803 MX06AKP, 804 MX06AKU, 805 MX06AKV, 808 MX06ALO, 809 MX06ALU, 810 MX06AMK, 811 MX06AMU, 812 MX06AMO, 813 MX06AMV, 814 MX06ANF, 815 MX06ANP, 816 MX06ANR, 817 MX06ANU, 818 MX06ANV, 819 MX06AOA, 820 MX06AOB.

## Scotland

**McCleans (Airdrie)** – Fresh vehicles are Bovas V10NAT and X20NAT which have come from Bruces .

**Parks of Hamilton** – From 01/03 LSK499,LSK511, LSK512 ex Trathens double deck coaches will appear on Citylink routes.

## South West

**Barnes (Aldbourne)** – A new vehicle here is Volvo B12M with Van Hool Alizee T9 bodywork it is registered WA06CDK.

**Beaumont Travel (Gloucester)** – Fresh vehicle in is Mercedes Minibus N347OBC, it has come from Dukes Travel (Coleford) . It was new to Arriva Fox County.

**Dukes Travel (Coleford, Gloucester)** – This company has been brought by Stagecoach vehicles included in the buy out were DAF SB220's with Optare Delta bodywork 26064 J302BVO, 26065 J303BVO, 26066 J304BVO, 26067 J305BVO, DAF SB220 with Ikarus bodywork 26068 J995GCP, 26069 J807KHD, Dennis Lance with Wadham Stringer bodywork 27300 K315MWV, DAF SB with Hispano Bodywork 26070 G247CLE, 26071 G293CLE, Dennis Dart MPD with Plaxton Pointer bodywork 32100 LUI 9496, 33294 T51JBA, Dennis Dart SLF with Caetano bodywork 33295 W1CTS, Dennis Dart with Alexander bodywork 33296 Y202KNB, MAN with MCV Stirling bodywork 39610 CU04AMV .

**Reading Transport (Reading)** - Optare Spectra 723 YJ51ZVG is still painted in Golden Jubilee livery.

**Swanbrook (Cheltenham)** – A fresh vehicle here is Mercedes-Benz 0814 with Plaxton bodywork and BC33F seating YX05DWA, it as come from Hutchinson York.

**Thamesdown (Swindon)** – New vehicles here are Scania L94's with Wright Solar Bodywork they are : 501 WX55ZZR, 502 WX06JYD, 503 WX06JXR, 504 WX06JXS, 505 WX06JXT, 506 WX06JYE, 507 WX06JYC, 508 WX06JYB, 509 WX06JYA, 510 WX06JXZ, they should be entering service beginning 06/03/06.

**Truronian (Truro)** - A new vehicle here is Volvo B12 TT55TRU.

## Wales

**Lloyds Coaches (Machynlleth)** - Leyland Tiger with East Lancs bodywork A590AAX has been sold to Clydebak Bus Company, Glasgow.

**Williams (Criccieth, Porthmadog)** - Mercedes-Benz 709D G241GCC and G682AAD are withdrawn.

## **Yorkshire**

**Hutchinson (York)** - New vehicles here are Mercedes-Benz 413CDI with Onyx bodywork and C16FL seating VU06KFA, Mercedes-Benz 814D with Plaxton bodywork and C33F seating VU06KFE.

# **Company News**

**Alexander Dennis** says that it now has well over 200 orders in the pipeline for its Enviro 400. These include previously announced orders for 28 for Metroline, 39 for Go Ahead London and 130 for Stagecoach.

**Arriva** has bought the parent company of **MK Metro**, Premier Bus, for a net price of £5.6m. MK Metro has been running services in Milton Keynes since 1997 and now operates 20 services in the city and in Bedfordshire and Northamptonshire.

**Bova** have been on the road with their latest product – the Magiq. The Magiq is equipped with all the latest gadgets and gizmos to keep the passengers entertained for hours. It features Satellite Navigation and tracking, plasma screens for gaming, DVD's and external views plus adjustable seating to ensure the passengers are comfortable as possible. The week long tour as arranged by Moseley PCV and was aimed at operators proving high profile or executive travel. Hopefully next season we may see one at the Riverside Football Stadium.

**Dukes Travel (Coleford, Gloucestershire)** – This company is now owned by Stagecoach group and comes under the management of Stagecoach Cheltenham and Gloucester, for more info please see Dukes Travel in fleet news section. The garage at Coleford is retained for the moment.

**Ellison's Travel** in St Helens has also been showing off a new coach to the Premiership Football Clubs – this time it was the turn of the new Neoplan Starliner. All the clubs were very impressed wanting one now! Ellison's are due to take delivery by the end of the year with other orders going to Mentor Coach and Bus in Rotherham.

**First Wyvern:** Service 67 (Redditch – Studley) was reduced to hourly from February 27<sup>th</sup>, but being combined with 247 to Evesham still offers a 30 minute frequency for Studley

**Glyn Williams** has been bought out by Stagecoach, with the business being incorporated into Stagecoach South Wales with immediate effect. The family owned business had been operating in South Wales since 1973.

**First in York** are to introduce the Wrightbus articulated Streetcar. The vehicle will be introduced on May 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Lumsden Garage** of Aberdeenshire has had it's vehicle allowance reduced from 8 to 7. This follows concern over the company's maintenance procedures culminating in the wheels coming off a coach. In addition the company has been banned, for a six month period, from operating at weekends (1900 Friday to 0700 Monday)

**National Express**, the official travel sponsor of Big Brother, has provided a specially fitted out coach to audition the next batch of contestants. The Casting Coach if has a Diary Room chair and TV production set and will travel to areas not covered by the main auditions. To date it has visited Cork, Inverness, Aberystwyth and Londonderry.

**People's Express** has been bought in a £2.4m by Go Ahead. The Birmingham based company, owned by Probus Management, will be merged with the recently taken over Birmingham Coach Company. The 100 vehicle fleet will be reliveried to the Birmingham Coach Company Diamond Bus branding which will eventually see the demise of the People's Express name. Operations will continue from the leased premises at Hilltop which is just two miles from BCC's purpose built depot at Tividale. Probus Management came into being in the late 1990's.

**Pilkington's of Accrington**, following a two year absence, is set to make a comeback. Following the revocation of its operating licences in 2004 the situation was reviewed by the Deputy Traffic Commissioner and, subject to six conditions being met, the company could be back in business.

**Stagecoach** has announced a £50m 464 vehicle order. The order consists of

- 30 Alexander Dennis Trident ALX400's
- 130 Alexander Dennis Trident Enviro 400's
- 165 Alexander Dennis Dart Pointers
- 13 Alexander Dennis Enviro 300's
- 95 Optare Solo's
- 31 Plaxton Profile / Volvo B7R's

**Warrington Transport (Warrington)** – There is a lot of speculation and rumours at the moment that First Group have brought out the company. When anything is confirmed I will let you know.

**Wrightbus** has received an order for 110 single-decker vehicles from the Northern Irish state owned operator Translink. The vehicles will be Wrightbus Solars on Scania L94UB chassises with the majority having 44 seats. Six of the fleet, to be used Belfast International Airport Airbus services will be fitted with 40 seats.

## New Deliveries

**Alexander Dennis** – noted on their premises on March 3<sup>rd</sup> were:-  
SN06BMY, SN06BMZ, SN06BMU, SN06BMY - Pointer/Darts for HTL Buses.  
FX06AEF, GX06DXB, GX06DXC, GX06DXF – Pointer/Dart for Stagecoach.  
SN06BKX, SN06BKY – Pointer Darts – LDP285/LDP286 for London Central.  
LX06AHA – ALX400 possibly for Metroline.  
AE06GZV – ALX400 - Stagecoach.

**Carousel Buses** of High Wycombe have taken delivery of two Irisbus Agora Lines / Optares with a third on order. The vehicles, C1WYC and C2WYC, will operate between Chesham and High Wycombe.

**Clarksons Coaches** of South Emsall has taken delivery of a 49 seat Mercedes-Benz Touro. The coach, BX55FZA, was supplied by Evobus (UK).

**Cosgrove Travel Services** has added a 33 seat Mercedes-Benz O.814D / Esker Riada to its fleet. The vehicle was supplied by Esker Bus and Coach.

**Elcock Reisen** of Telford have ordered a 49 seat Volvo B12B / Plaxton Panther and a Volvo B12M / Plaxton Paragon. Due for a Spring delivery, both coaches were ordered from Plaxton.

**Excelsior Coaches** have taken delivery of a 49FT Salvador Caetano Enigma / Volvo B12B from Caetano, Leicestershire.

**Ferris Holidays** of Cardiff have ordered four Volvo B12B / 13.75m Berkhof Axial double-deckers which, when they enter service, will bring the company's fleet operating the Cardiff to Costa Brava route

to twelve. The 70 seat vehicles will include a ventilated smoking room at the rear of the upper deck which, if anti-smoking laws are introduced, can be removed to give an extra 2 seats.

**Fourways Coaches of Leeds** have taken delivery of a Volvo B12B / Plaxton Panther carrying a cherished registration plate. The LD55RFC plate, along with a Pride of Headingley motif, signifies the company's involvement with the transport of the city's foremost Rugby teams, the Leeds Tykes and the Leeds Rhinos. The coach was supplied by Paxton.

**Ian's Midi Coaches** of Carlisle has taken delivery of a 24 seat Mercedes-Benz O.814D / KVC minicoach conversion. The vehicle, which has been fitted out with coach seats, was supplied by Esker Bus and Coach.

**Irving's Coach Hire** has taken delivery of a Bova Futura FHD 13.340XE. The extra long coach, V11BUS, was supplied by Moseley (PCV).

**John Flanagan Coach Travel** of Warrington has taken delivery of a 39 seat Mercedes-Benz Atego / Esker Touring from Esker Bus and Coach. The vehicle is equipped with a wheelchair lift and the capacity to carry up to five wheelchairs.

**J J Kavanagh & Sons** of Ireland has taken delivery of 10 Setra 415HD's for use on touring and inter-urban express work. The coaches are a mixture of 41 and 51 seats. In addition the company has added a 41 seat Mercedes Citaro to its City Service fleet in Waterford.

**Lakeside Coaches** of Ellesmere have taken delivery of two 53FT Salvador Caetano Enigma / Volvo B12B's from Caetano, Leicestershire.

**Pearces of Oxford** have taken delivery of two 53 seat Irisbus Eurorider / Plaxton Paragon. The vehicles, DU55GUJ and DU55GUF, were supplied by Plaxton.

**Shamrock Travel** of Pontypridd has taken delivery of three Optare Solos. Two of the vehicles are operating local services in the Pontypridd area whilst the third is operating with a sister company in Cardiff.

**South Lancs Travel** has added three Scania / Wrihbus Solars to it's fleet. The new buses carry a Shevington Shuttle livery and will operate between Wigan and Appley Bridge. They were supplied by Wrightbus.

**Wings Luxury Travel** of Hayes in Middlesex have added two 34 seat Mercedes-Benz Tourinos to their fleet. The coaches, supplied by Evobus.

**Worth's Motor Services** of Enstone have taken delivery of a 53 seat Salvador Caetano Enigma / Volvo B12B from Caetano, Leicestershire.

## Preservation News

The ex Stagecoach Manchester, Atlantean A700 HNB built in 1984 that was purchased by North Birmingham Busways in August 1997 is still waiting to depart to the SELNEC Preservation Group, at Manchester. The bus - a Leyland Atlantean AN68D/1R has a northern Counties body H43/32F and had the fleet number 70

One of the oldest pre - war RT8 London Transport Bus FXT 183 has been obtained for restoration from the USA, by Ensingbus. The vehicle has been there for 44 years.

Preservation news please contact Maruice Brown

# Web Site – [www.gb-bg.co.uk](http://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](mailto:jeff@gb-bg.co.uk) or by post to Jeff Hall at the address on page 2.

Web site updates in the last month have been.

February 7 <sup>th</sup> 2006	TWM Photogallery updated Preserved Bus Database updated
February 10 <sup>th</sup> 2006	TWM Advertising page updated
February 13 <sup>th</sup> 2006	TWM Photogallery updated Premiership Photogallery updated
February 15 <sup>th</sup> 2006	Stephensons of Easingwold added to Fleet Lists Yorks Coaches added to Fleet Lists McKindless added to Fleet Lists TWM Photogallery updated Birmingham Observations for February 2nd 2006 added January Magazine archived February Magazine archived
February 16 <sup>th</sup> 2005	Redwings added to Operator Links page
March 4 <sup>th</sup> 2006	McKindless photogallery updated Highland Country photogallery updated Rennies photogallery added Irvines photogallery added Stuarts photogallery added Whitelaws photogallery added Photoflash photogallery added Details of South East Bus Book uploaded Details of South West Bus Book uploaded Details of Scottish Bus Book uploaded Premiership Photogallery updated Barfordian Fleet List added Tetleys Coaches Fleet List added WA / Shearings / National Holidays Fleet list added Woottens Coaches added to Operator Links
March 5 <sup>th</sup> 2006	Arriva North East photogallery added Stagecoach Busways photogallery added Stagecoach Transit photogallery added
March 6 <sup>th</sup> 2006	Skills added to Fleet Lists Gary Watson's Sightings added

# Bus Observations

## First Bus Sunday 15th January 2006 (Steve Jenner)

### Bath

10174 10179 10181 66937 66939 66944 66947 66951 66955

### Bridgewater Depot

34505 34705 34710 39914 42830 42831 42832 42833 46082 46197 46727 46730  
51585 51593 51594 51596 51599 51613 51685 51688

### Wells Depot

46229 46720 51095 51096 51102 51104 51241 51742 60088 66717 66718 66723  
66724 66934 66935 66936

## Birmingham City Centre (0730-0930) Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2006 (Chris Morton)

AK Travel G522VYE H157NON J707CUM L424XVV

Arriva North Midlands 2063 3419 3424 4194

Birmingham Motor Traction H133MOB H548XGK

Central Buses K570PDY

Cityway Travel H116MOB

Claribels V390KVY YD02RCZ YJ53VDL YJ54CEA

YJ54CEK YJ54CEN YJ55KZX

### Diamond Bus (Birmingham Coach Company)

J706EMX J604XHL K301YJA K303YJA K304YJA K305YJA

K312YJA K313YJA K321YJA P87BPL P502OUG P503OUG

P504OUG P505OUG P506OUG YH51EKA YJ51EKF YJ51EKG

YD02PZM

East West Travel H677YGO H705UNW J693CGK L739PUA

Golden Line Buses H462UGO

Midland Rider H149MOB J377AWT

North Birmingham Busways 28 33 49 54

St Buses J118DUV J124DUV

Star Bus Services H117MOB H120MOB H611MOM

Sunrise Travel MUI1343 MUI1733

Travel Express H112MOB J232JJR

### Travel West Midlands

626 1080 1168 1183 1216 1315 1357 1358 1361 1362 1363 1364  
1366 1370 1402 1406 1432 1439 1455 1456 1460 1463 1476 1477  
1478 1479 1520 1527 1533 1558 1560 1573 1575 1581 1582 1585  
1587 1627 1629 1633 1634 1637 1639 1643 1645 1649 1651 1667  
1673 1677 1683 1684 1693 1694 2453 2503 2529 2535 2555 2572  
2588 2596 2621 2623 2631 2660 2670 2678 2680 2710 2718 2725  
2726 2734 2741 2760 2784 2786 2801 2815 2819 2827 2833 2841  
2842 2843 2845 2859 2879 2893 2908 2926 2931 2945 2971 2975  
2976 2990 2995 3008 3009 3011 3021 3026 3029 3032 3043 3044  
3046 3050 3062 3066 3082 4001 4023 4025 4028 4044 4046 4047  
4049 4051 4052 4054 4057 4059 4060 4062 4065 4069 4072 4073  
4076 4079 4082 4091 4102 4108 4110 4111 4113 4114 4115 4132  
4145 4150 4151 4152 4157 4158 4161 4180 4183 4184 4187 4189  
4192 4198 4200 4218 4225 4240 4245 4246 4250 4253 4260 4261

4264	4266	4267	4268	4270	4274	4275	4276	4282	4283	4285	4291
4294	4297	4300	4303	4316	4325	4326	4327	4328	4341	4347	4352
4356	4357	4359	4370	4371	4377	4381	4383	4391	4433	4435	4461
4464	4465	4468	4469	4470	4472	4473	4475	4477	4478	4483	4485
4487	4488	4490	4491	4494	4495	4497	4502	4503	4504	4505	4510
4517	4519	4525	4527	4528	4530	4531	4546	4547	4550	4558	4563
4566	4576	4578	4579	4611	4614	4615	4618	4619	4620	4621	4623
4627	4628	4631	4653	4682	4684	4685	4686				

**West Midlands Special Needs Transport (Ring and Ride)** 0417

**Zaks** Y32YVV

## Daventry and Northampton Friday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2006

(Mike Enstone)

<b>Catteralls</b>	LIL2050	RIL4413	G77RGG									
<b>Chapel End Coaches</b>	C8CEC	W4CEC										
<b>Country Lion</b>	L7JSF	L10NBB	L10NU									
<b>First Coaches</b>	23204	23206										
<b>First Manchester</b>	23016											
<b>First Northampton</b>	31452	38083	38085	38122	38124	38135	66615	61148	66327	66335		
	66340	66342	66344									
<b>MK-Metro</b>	13	419										
<b>Stagecoach United Counties/East</b>												
	16004	16221	16224	16227	16234	16332	16681	16685	16687	16690	16691	18111
	20853	33815	33817	33455	33456	33457	34102	34587	34590	34594		
	34595	52160	52162	52371								
<b>Souls (Olney) Garage</b>												
	50DBD	230WYA	751EKX	821FHU	872PYA	966MBM						
	IAZ5657	KYV77	LIL9811	MLZ4288	MLZ4287	MLZ4290						
	RBW396	TAZ4995	VUD483	WJI6166								

### Yorks (Cogenhoe) Garage

16	17	19	38	45	47	48	54	56	57	58	59
60	61	71	72	74	92	90	91	93	96	99	100
296	P388WVL (Applebys livery)										

## First Northampton Garage Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2006

(Mike Enstone)

<b>First Coaches</b>												
	20459	20460	20510	20511	23206							
<b>First Northampton</b>												
	ANH154	20037	20417	32627	32629	38083	38097	38099	38121	38122	38124	
	38125	38126	39022	60358	66001	66041	61148	66324	66325	66327	66330	66332
	66335	66336	66339	66340	66342	66344	66345	66347	66348	66962	66963	66969
	66970	66971	68507	68508	68509	68510	90266					
<b>Stagecoach United Counties/East Northampton Garage</b>												
	14476	16004	16005	16225	16230	16688	16697	16698	16699	33320	33459	34098
	34141	34160	34585	47123	47124	47125	47128	52032	52061	52161	52368	52372

**First Bus Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2006  
(Steve Jenner)**

**Bath**

In Compound	60085	60987	60988	62633	62634	62658	62662	62653	62657	62637	62654
	62655	62600	62612	62624	62650	62651	62649				
In Depot	66960	66956									
Working	10177	10182	66943	66944	66948	66954					

**Blackpool Talbot Road Garage Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2006  
(Harry Metcalf)**

**Blackpool Transport**

DAF SB220		1	3	101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108
109	110	111	113	114	115	116	117	118	119	120	122
Optare Excel		210	211	213	214	215	216	217	218	219	220
221											
Optare Solo		249	250	251	253	254	256	257	258	259	260
261	262	263	264	265	266	267	269	271	272	273	274
275	276	277	278	279	280	281	282				
Dennis Trident		301	302	304	305	306	307	308	309		
Transbus Trident		310	311	312	313	314	315	317	318	319	322
323	325	326	327								
Leyland AN68D		350	351	352	353	355	356	357	359	361	363
364											
Leyland Olympian		365	366	367	368	369	371	373			
Volvo Olympian		374	375	378							
Leyland Olympian		401	402	403	404	405	406	407	408	409	410
Optare Metrorider		501	503	504	505	506	507	508	510	511	512
513	515	516	517	518	585	586	587	588	589	590	591
592											

**Rugby Garage Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> February  
(Mike Enstone)**

**Stagecoach in Warwickshire**

14371	14374	14381	14382	14387	14932	14937	14944	20202	20816
31327	33353	52020	52641	52657					

**Rugby and Daventry Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> February**

**Flexibus (Harbury) YN54DCF**

**Geoff Amos (Daventry)TBZ5793**

**Hunters Coaches (Daventry)**

X197FOR

W1GAC

AM05BET

NIL4988

VIB9485

VIL9988

W382OSN

LV02LKJ

YX54AYD

**Johnsons (Henley in Arden)**

Y656HWY

**Stagecoach United Counties/East**

16221 16230 16681 16695 34594 40382

**Stagecoach in Warwickshire**

20224 31323 31324 31325 33555 40154 40155

**Travel De Courcey (Coventry)**

R772LHP 523

**Woods (Leicester)**

LKZ3623

## Daventry – Coventry - Digbeth Coach Station Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2006

(Chris Morton)

<b>Birmingham Coach Company</b>	T38EUA	T164FUM	W30DTS	X423WVO				
<b>Bebb</b>	CN54HFG							
<b>De Courcey Travel</b>	531	551						
<b>Dunn Line</b>	5514							
<b>East Yorkshire Motor Services</b>	42							
<b>First Wessex</b>	23312							
<b>National Express Operations</b>	P77SAS							
<b>Northern National</b>	7088							
<b>Peoples Express</b>	G123NGN	G647SGT	P206PVM					
<b>Travel Coventry</b>	587	2983	3019	3055	4216	4404		
<b>Travel West Midlands</b>	4089	4346	4367	4368	4375	4389	4390	4425
	4432	4439	4445	4447	4449	4622		
<b>Yorkshire Traction</b>	67							

## Solihull Station and Solihull Town Centre Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2006

(Stephen and Gary Evans)

### Travel West Midlands

Optare Solo	314	315	316	317						
Volvo B6LE	524	535								
Volvo B10L	1439	1412	1426	1427	1429	1433	1435	1441	1452	1454
MCW Metrobus	2572	2714	2721	2726	2750	2811	2832	2876	2905	3000
3086										
Volvo B7TL	4060	4061	4065	4066	4069	4071	4073			
Dennis Trident	4143	4144	4147	4156	4157	4158	4160	4333	4335	4336
4339 4342	4350	4352	4436	4440	4444	4448	4453			
Volvo B7TL Gemini	4494	4499	4509	4519	4520	4521	4523	4524	4525	4526
4528										
Dennis Trident	4625									
Volvo B7TL Gemini	4678									
<b>Acocks Green Village</b>										
Volvo B6LE	525	528	529	530	536	537	539	627		
Volvo B10L	1426	1427								
MCW Metrobus	2795	2816	2849	2876						
Volvo B7TL	4065									
Volvo B7TL Gemini	4519	4521	4522	4523	4524	4525	4534	4635	4638	4646
4647 4652	4654	4658	4659	4667	4675	4676				

### Rail Replacement Coaches

<b>A2Z Travel (Walsall)</b>	AEZ1363	AEZ9154		
<b>Chapel End Coaches (Nuneaton)</b>	C6CEC			
<b>Elcock Reisen (Wellington)</b>	W199TUJ			
<b>Happy Days (Stafford)</b>	18XWC	YR02ZZL		
<b>Hardings (Redditch)</b>	DSK514			
<b>Hills (Wolverhampton)</b>	L100CLA	L400CLA	BU51FXJ	
<b>LS Court (Fillongley)</b>	CIB4812			
<b>Nashs (Smethwick)</b>	NIL6339	NUI6162	NUI6163	

**Redditch Bus Station Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2006 (1600-1650)**  
**(S J Bennett)**

**First Wyvern**

Alexander Dennis Dart SLF	42891(X33)			
Dennis Lance	67216 (68)	67243 (58)	67252(246)	
Transbus/ Dennis Enivro	67600	67635 (58)	67637(70)	67638
	67639	67641	67642	67643(58)
	67644			
Dennis Trident	33401(57/8)	33402(57/8)	33403(57/8)	33405(57/8)

**Hardings (Redditch)**

Mercedes Minibus S3HCR(350)

**Johnsons (Henley in Arden)**

DAF SB120 YJ03PMX(178)

**Peoples Express**

Dennis Dart SLF	N606WND(57)	R660GCA(57)	R86XNE(58)
Y212HWJ(57)	PJ02RGY(58)	KU52RXW(57)	

**Central Liverpool Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2006**  
**(Andrew Williams)**

**Arriva Merseyside/North West**

1039	1044	1046	1048	1297	1009	2002	2010	2022	2027	2030	2031
2033	2034	2061	2062	2063	2516	2519	2287	2288	2316	2321	2323
2324	2401	2402	2476	2523	2526	2533	2534	2540	2541	2545	2549
2550	2716	2717	2718	2719	3222	3223	3225	3282	3286	3292	3352
3602	3605	3608	3609	3610	3611	3615	3616	3617	6513	6519	7238
7631											

**Stagecoach Merseyside**

20107	20301	20305	20309	20317	20319	20320	20616	20621	20702	20725	20802
420855	20897	20905	20912	20931	20980	21005	21066	21070	30906	30907	30911
32672	32918	33132	33133	33136	33176	33177	34579	34749	34774	34776	34777
34779	34780	34783	34785	34786	34788	34790	34793	34797	34801	34803	34806
34807	52146										

**Leamington Spa Upper Parade and Garage Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2006**  
**(Stephen and Gary Evans)**

**Stagecoach Warwickshire**

Leyland Olympian	13644	13647	13650	14517						
Volvo Olympian	16014	16016	16070	16515	16599	16600	16614	16615	16616	16618
	16619	16620								
Volvo B10M	20201	20220	20558	20560	20804	20808	20821			
Transbus Enviro	27504									
Leyland Lynx (Trainer)	29617									
Volvo B6LE	31330	31333								
Mercedes-Benz 709D	40143	40163								
Optare Solo	47002	47003	47004	47006	47007	47010	47011	47012	47013	47015

**In and around Birmingham Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2006  
(Chris Morton)**

Claribels V389KVY YJ54CEK  
Travel Dundee 111  
West Midlands Special Needs Transport (Ring and Ride) 0325

**Villa Park Supporters Coaches Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> March  
(Andrew Williams)**

Cheney M614ORJ  
Coach Leasing A675UOE  
Lucketts YN04GOH YN04GOJ  
Vision Travel R890SDT

**Coaches at Middlesbrough vs Birmingham City Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2006  
(Jeff Hall)**

**Birmingham City Team Coach**

Flights Hallmark KX05KFB

**Birmingham City Supporters Coaches**

Flights Hallmark YR02ZKV FE02FBU YR02UOE YR02ZKW  
Hardings W2HCR X2HCR  
Nash's NIL6342



**Flights' YR02 ZKV is seen with a Birmingham City Supporters Coach at the Riverside Stadium on Saturday March 4<sup>th</sup> 2006. The Away Supporters Coach Park is behind the East Stand (Jeff Hall)**

## West Bromwich Bus Station from 11:20 -12:10) Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2006 (James Holloway)

### Diamond Bus (The Birmingham Coach Co)

H122THE	H129THE	J605XHL	J610XHL	J702EMX	J703EMXJ
J706EMX	K303YJA				

### Ludlows of Halesowen Ltd

P865PWW

### Peoples Bus (Probus Management Ltd)

R529YRP	R530YRP	R531YRP	T441EBD	W901JNF	W903JNF
W904JNF	W905JNF	X634AKW	X636AKW	X639AKW	X641AKW

### Travel West Midlands

245	261	262	272	515	519	533	551	555	590	591	621
622	623	624	625	628	629	630	631	634	635	637	638
650	665	666	671	672	673	674	675	676	677	681	682
683	1524	1525	1526	1527	1528	1529	1530	1531	1532	1533	1534
1535	1537	1539	1557	1560	1578	1580	1581	1582	1583	1584	1585
1594	1614	1617	1621	1622	1624	1626	1656	1657	1706	1743	2660
2697	2910	3601	3605	3606	3608	3610	3611	3613	4163	4277	4278
4292	4318	4322	4323	4325	4543	4548	4590				

## Tram and Light Rail News (Martin Hall)

**Blackpool** - Many of the old trams are getting substantial face -lifts and a new tram like the Skoda 03T are being considered as additions. The system that opened in 1885 is now hopefully looking to the future. In the paint shop is **Ballon 718** having a new all over advert. **Tram 717** has been fitted with new underframe. Balloon 713 is having a new all over ASDA advert applied

**Crich** – New trucks have arrived for **LUT 159**. Minor work is still to be carried out on Chesterfield tram **No. 7**

**Edinburgh** - The city is go for its tram system although there still social issues to be sorted out.

**Midland Metro** - 40 new trams have already been promised to Midland Metro and the present fleet is to be put on the second hand market. Centro is looking at a guided bus-way scheme between Walsall and Brownhills. Disruption caused by an accident at Monmore Green, when a car smashed into a wall there in the early hours - killing two people. Tram services had to terminate at Priestfield. Replacement bus services were put on from Wolverhampton.

**Manchester Metrolink**- Needs more trams to provide a better service and four companies are being looked at, these being Alstom, Ansaldo, Bombardier and Siemens. Trams are having small frames fitted inside the vehicle above the driver's door for possible adverts. The transport interchange at the Shudehill tram stop has now opened

**Mersey Tram** - We could still see the Mersey Tram system begin construction by March even though the government is still coming up short with funding.

**South Hampshire Rapid Transit** - This is now dead in the water but the county council still has a bill to pay for the failed bid, which does not seem quite fair when they were hoping to improve traffic problems.

# Stagecoach Numbering System (Including Traction Group types)

10xxx	Leyland Titan	32xxx	Dennis Dart
11xxx	Leyland Titan	33xxx	Dennis Dart SLF
12xxx	AEC Routemaster	34xxx	Dennis/TransBus/Alexander Dennis Dart SLF
13xxx	Leyland Olympian (Manchester & Hong Kong)	35xxx	Optare Excel
14xxx	Leyland Olympian	396xx	MAN 14.220LF
15xxx	Dennis Dominator	3980x	Bristol LH
151xx	Dennis Dragon	3985x	Leyland Swift
152xx	Volvo Citybus B10M-50	399xx	Preserved Single Deckers
153xx	Scania N113DRB	40xxx	Mercedes-Benz 709D
154xx	Scania N94UD OmniDekka	41xxx	Mercedes-Benz 711D/811D/814D 609D/L608D
155xx	Daimler/Leyland Fleetline	42xxx	Mercedes-Benz Vario
157xx	Bristol VRT	46xxx	Iveco Daily/TurboDaily
158xx	Leyland Atlantean & MCW Metrobus	470xx	Optare Solo
159xx	Leyland Atlantean & MCW Metrobus	471xx	Optare Solo
16xxx	Volvo Olympian	472xx	Optare Solo
169xx	Volvo B7TL	473xx	Optare Solo
17xxx	Dennis/TransBus/Alexander Dennis Trident	478xx	Optare Alero
18xxx	Dennis/TransBus/Alexander Dennis Trident	479xx	Optare MetroRider & MCW Metrorider
199xx	Preserved Double Deckers	480xx	Dodge/Renault G13 (Commando) training buses
20xxx	Volvo B10M	481xx	Renault Master
210xx	Volvo B10B/B10L	482xx	Renault Master, Rohill (low floor)
211xx	Volvo B10BLE	495xx	Mercedes-Benz Sprinter, Koch (LF)
212xx	Volvo B7RLE	496xx	LDV Convoy
22xxx	MAN 18.220	497xx	Toyota Hiace
230xx	Mercedes-Benz Citaro articulated	498xx	Ford Transit
239xx	Mercedes-Benz O.405	5000x	MCW Metroliner double deck
251xx	Optare Tempo	500xx	MAN 24.350 double deck
254xx	Leyland National	501xx	Neoplan Skyliner double deck
257xx	Leyland Leopard	51xxx	Volvo B10M articulated
258xx	Leyland Tiger	52xxx	Volvo B10M
260xx	DAF SB220	530xx	Volvo B12M/B12R
261xx	DAF SB220LF	532xx	Volvo B7R
270xx	Dennis Falcon/Javelin	590xx	Leyland Tiger
272xx	Dennis Lance	591xx	Dennis Javelin
273xx	Dennis Lance	5960x	Mercedes-Benz Sprinter, Onyx
274xx	Dennis Lance SLF	5961x	AEC Reliance
275xx	Alexander Dennis (TransBus) Enviro 300	5962x	Bova Futura
277xx	Dennis Lance	5963x	Hestair Duple 425
279xx	Dennis Lance	5964x	Mercedes-Benz O.404
28xxx	Scania	5965x	Scania
291xx	Leyland Lynx	597xx	Volvo B6R
295xx	Leyland Lynx	598xx	Volvo B9M
296xx	Leyland Lynx	599xx	Preserved Coaches
297xx	BMC 1100FE	60xxx	Mercedes-Benz Vito taxibus
298xx	Irisbus Scolabus & Ford R1114	61xxx	Designline Olympus
2989x	Spartan TX/TXM & Kirn Mogul	80xxx	Demonstrators
30xxx	Volvo B6		
31xxx	Volvo B6LE/B6BLE		



# Fleet Lists

## Reliance Motor Services

(February 2006)

York Road, Sutton-on-the Forest, York YO61 1ES

G622OTV	Volvo D10M	Alexander RV	H47/37F
H940DRJ	Volvo B10M	Plaxton Paramount 3200	C53F
J222YLS	Dennis Javelin	Plaxton Paramount 3200	C35F
K100BLU	DAF SB3000	Van Hool	C53F
R362DJN	Volvo Olympian	East Lancs Pyoneer	H51/32F
R363DJN	Volvo Olympian	East Lancs Pyoneer	H51/32F
X618VWR	Volvo B10BLE	WrightBus Renown	N46F
YJ51NXX	Volvo B6BLE	WrightBus	N42F
YJ52HEA	Volvo B7TL	Wrightbus Gemini	N45/29F
YJ05UKR	Volvo B7RLE	WrightBus Eclipse	N43F

## Wilfreda Beehive

(January 2006)

Apex House, Church Lane, Adwick-le-Street, Doncaster, South Yorkshire DN6 7AY

1	YN04AXC	Neoplan Euroliner		C49F
2	T410OWA	Scania	Irizar	C49F
3	V310EAK	Scania	Irizar	C49F
4	FY02WHR	Optare Solara	Optare	C35F
5	V320EAK	Scania	East Lancs	H78F
6	V330EAK	Scania	East Lancs	H78F
7	R202XKU	Dennis Javelin		C53F
8	R203XKU	Dennis Javelin		C53F
9	F371CHE	Scania	Duple 320	C55F
10	A541HAC	Leyland Olympian	ECW	H77F
11	304VHN	Daimler	ECW	H61F
12	JWL993N	Bristol VRT	ECW	H77F
13	JWL997N	Bristol VRT	ECW	H77F
14	PFE544V	Bristol VRT	ECW	H77F
15	YN54VVP	BMC		B60F
16	YN54VVR	BMC		B60F
17	YN54XBO	BMC		B60F
18	YN54XBM	BMC		B60F
19	YN54OAU	Scania S-Kool		B70F
20	YN54OAV	Scania S-Kool		B70F
21	YN54OAP	Scania S-Kool		B70F
22	YN54OAO	Scania S-Kool		B70F
23	YN04OAW	Scania S-Kool		B70F
24	Y334HWT	Optare Solo	Optare	N27F
25	Y337HWT	Optare Solo	Optare	N27F
26	Y338HWT	Optare Solo	Optare	N27F
27	YJ54UBP	Optare Solo	Optare	N29F

28	YJ54UBR	Optare Solo	Optare	N29F
29	YJ54UBT	Optare Solo	Optare	N29F
30	YJ54UBU	Optare Solo	Optare	N29F
31	YJ54UBV	Optare Solo	Optare	N23F
32	YJ54UBW	Optare Solo	Optare	N23F
33	YR02ZMX	Mercedes-Benz	Plaxton Beaver 2	B33F
34	YS02XPM	Mercedes-Benz	Plaxton Beaver 2	B33F
35	YN54DCE	Mercedes-Benz	Plaxton Beaver 2	B33F
36	YJ05XOO	Optare Tempo	Optare	N37F
37	Y747OBE	Mercedes 413CDI		M16F
38	MX55VJN	Mercedes 416CDI		M16F
39	DA05BTE	Mercedes 111CDI		M8F
40	DA05BTF	Mercedes 111CDI		M8F

## Fleet Profile

### Somerbus Ltd – Bristol

The Somerbus Company was set up in 1987 – but the family interest in the bus and coach industry goes back much further than that. In 1975 Tim Jennings with his two brothers purchased a 1950 Leyland Royal Tiger Harrington Dorsal Fin a 36 -seated coach registration number NCV 500 from Deebles, Cornwall. The vehicle was involved in a serious accident, with the result it was quickly despatched to NCV Barnsley.

Tim's first attempt at business began in 1981 with a parcel and light freight operation. It was while working for Yeates in 1987 that Somerbus Limited was set up, and an operator's licence for two vehicles was obtained. Tenders were submitted in late 1987, after which the company was awarded the service 565 between Harcliffe and Bristol Centre to start in March 1988.

Two vehicles were needed to operate the service a Ford R1114's NAS147R a Dominant with bus seats ex Highland Scottish, and TFD350R a Plaxton Express from Andy James. The service was a 30- minute frequency between Hartcliffe and Broadmead (Monday to Saturday.) In their 19 year of history – Somerbus has operated a wide variety of vehicles, which ranged from mini buses, single deckers, double deckers and coaches, the fleet also included some well known names – Leyland National, Daimler, Bedford and AEC.

#### Vehicle fleet:

N375VRC	Dennis Lance	Optare Sigma	B46F	1995
816SHW	Mercedes-Benz 811D	Marshall	B33F	1996
MX04DSV	Mercedes-Benz 0814	Onyx	C24F	2004
NHG541	Optare Solo M850	Optare	DP27F	2004
ER05BUS	Optare Solo M850	Optare	DP27F	2005
Other Vehicles				
R229ORB	Iveco 59 – 12	Leicester Carriage Builders	C29F	1997

#### Services operated:

185 Midsomer Norton to Trowbridge via Chew Stoke, Radstock, Writhlington, Faulkland, Norton St Phillips, Woolverton, Rode and Southwick (*Thurs*)

640 Bishop Sutton to Keynsham (Co –Op) via Chew Stoke, Chew Magna, Stanton Drew, Pensford, Woollard, Compton Dando and Chewton Keynsham – (*Fri*)

668 Midsomer Norton to Bristol -via Radstock, Camerton, Timsbury, Keynsham. (*Tues*)

754 Bishop to Sutton to Radstock via West Harptree, Compton Martin, Ubley, Chew Stoke, Chew Magna, Stanton Drew, Clutton, Temple Cloud, Farrington Gurney and Midsomer Norton. - (*Mon*)

757 Bath to Peasedown via Coombe Hay, Wellow and Shoscombe. One return journey on Tuesday continues beyond Peasedown to Norton Radstock .(*Mon – Fri*)

757 Bath to Midsomer Norton (Tesco) via Combe Hay, Wellow, Shoscombe, Orchard Way and Radstock. A *Mon to Fri* service operates between Shoscombe and Bath. (*Tues*)

776 Shepton Mallet to Midsomer Norton via Oakhill, Stoke St Michael, Holcombe, Stratton - on – Fosse and Chilcompton. (*Mon to Fri*)

782 Paulton to Radstock Tynning via Tesco, Greenacres, Withies Park, Midsomer Norton, Westfield, Waterford Park and Radstock.(*Mon to Sat*)

968 Paulton to Writhlington via Midsomer Norton, Westfield and Radstock. (*Mon to Fri – School Holidays*)

997 Chelford to Midsomer Norton via Farmborough, Timsbury, Camerton, Clandown, Radstock, Westfield (*Mon to Fri - School Terms*)

We wish to thank Tim Jennings – Proprietor, Somerbus Ltd.,  
for supplying us with the necessary information



**Both the Somerbus Slimline Solos are seen together at the 2005 Bristol Harbourside Rally**

# HB Publications

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

No. 1 - South West of England - updated to February 2006 .....	£10.00
No. 2 - South East of England - updated to February 2006 .....	£10.00
No. 3 - London - Fleets to September 2005 .....	£12.00
No. 4 - West Midlands - updated to December 2005 .....	£11.00
No. 5 - Eastern Counties - updated to August 2005 .....	£8.00
No. 6 - East Midlands - East Midlands Fleet to July 2005 .....	£7.00
No. 7 - North East of England - due April 2006	
No. 8 - Liverpool & Manchester - Fleets to September 2005 .....	£8.00
No. 9 - Wales - Most Welsh Stage operating Fleets to March 2005 .....	£8.00
No. 10 - Scotland - Major Scottish Fleets to February 2006.....	£11.00
No. 11 - Ireland - Major Irish Fleets to January 2005... ..	£6.00
No. 12 - National - Nationally operating fleets to September 2005 .....	£7.00
No. 13 - Preserved Buses - updated to December 2005 .....	£9.00
No. 14 - UK Registration List - due September 2006	
No. 15 - Bus Log - record your sightings in this 100 page logbook .....	£6.00

These are available from Jeff Hall, 3 Ingham Grove, Hartlepool TS25 2LH  
Please make all cheques or postal orders payable to Jeff Hall

## New Title

The **Scottish** Book is now available and contains information on the following Operators

ABC Travel	Henry Crawford Coaches Ltd	Munro's of Jedburgh
Allander Travel	Scottish Pullman (Coaches)	Nicoll
Arriva Scotland West	Highland Heritage Ltd	Oban & District
Avondale Coaches	Highland Country	Orkney Coaches
Ayrways Coach Travel Ltd	E & M Horsburgh	Pride of the Clyde Executive Coaches
Stagecoach Bluebird	Henderson Travel; Value Bus	Parks of Hamilton
Linn Park Buses; Caledonia Buses	Irvin's Coaches; Law Bus & Coach	Prentice Westwood
Coakley Bus & Coach Ltd	Jay a la Carte	Rennie's of Dunfermline
Clyde Coast Coaches Ltd	J J Travel	Red Lion Transport
P Canavan Co	James King	Roberts of Rothiemay
City Sprinter; S&A Coaches	J W Coaches	Rowe & Tudhope Coaches
Deveron Coaches	Kineil Coaches	Riverside Transport Training Ltd
Dicksons of Erskine	Kirkpatrick of Deeside	Stagecoach Fife
Dochertys Midland Coaches Ltd	Keenan of Ayr	Stagecoach Western
Dodds of Troon	James Liddell	Shuttlebus
Edinburgh Coach Lines	Lothian	Slaemuir Coach Hire
Easter Ross Coach Co	John Leask & Son	Smith & Sons
Essbee Coaches Ltd	Mac Tours	Southern Coaches
Edinburgh Tours	Mair Hire Services Ltd	Spa Motors
First Aberdeen	Marbill Travel	Strathtay Scottish Omnibuses Ltd
Fitzcharles Coaches Ltd	Mayne's Coaches	William Stokes and Sons Ltd
First Edinburgh	McKendry Coaches	Stuarts Coaches Ltd
First Glasgow	McDade's Coaches	T&E Docherty
Fishers Tours	McGill's Bus Services Ltd	Travel Dundee
First Stop Travel	McKindless	West Coast Motors
Glasgow Citybus	McCull Coaches Ltd	Whyte's Coaches
Golden Eagle Coaches Ltd	MacEwans Coach Services	Whitelaws Coaches
Gibson Direct Minibus Service	Moffat & Williamson	Watermill Coaches
Galson-Stornoway Motor Services	Mackie of Alloa	