

The Trident

The Monthly Magazine of the GB Bus Group

GB BG



National Express operate a number of Virgin liveried vehicles on the Heathrow Airport to Watford shuttle. Here FH05URN is seen at Heathrow Airport Coach Station (Jeff Hall)

Volume 1

No 4 April 2006

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Contents

Bus Observations		Millenium Stadium.....	16
Crewe & Warrington.....	13	Riverside	16
Croydon.....	13	Villa Park.....	16
Digbeth Coach Station.....	13	Fleetlists	
Inverness, Elgin & Aberdeen.....	12	Delaine.....	22
Leicester City Centre.....	12	Harrogate Coach Travel Ltd.....	21
London.....	13	New Deliveries	10
Wales.....	14	Noticeboard.....	3
Bus Spotting Location - Dublin.....	20	Preservation News	11
Company News.....	9	Publications	24
Fleet Profile - Reliance Motor Services	23	Trams & Light Rail	19
Football Match Coaches		Web Site.....	11
Bescot Stadium.....	16		

Price £1.25

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.

We still need representation in the following areas

Ireland

London

North East of England

South East of England

South West of England

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

We now have representatives as follows

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If you have any news, sightings, photographs etc. for inclusion in the magazine please contact the relevant representative. E-mail addresses are shown on page 2.

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 J Brett (London), Peter Chaplin (Bury St Edmunds), P Doxey (Clitheroe), Steve English (Crawley), Tony Gaze (Gloucester), Chris James (Reedham), Chris Newsome (Llanelli), Keith Parkes (Bloxwich, West Midlands), P Rogers (Banbury), T Seal (Barnsley) and David Sharpe (Blackburn).

Contributions

Thanks go to contributors : Maurice Brown, Anthony Charlson, Stephen Evans, Mike Enstone, Thomas Graham, Craig Hall, Jeff Hall, Martin Hall, Tim Jennings, Harry Metcalf, Steve Jenner, David Mallon, Neal Marshall, Arthur Moore, Chris Morton, Chris Newsome, Ken Pitt, E A Spencer, Mark Watson, Andrew Williams. We look forward to receiving your valued contributions.

Teaser

What is National Express's longest route, and between what points does it operate? The coach has to be refuelled en route in each direction, where? Answer next month.

Magazine

The deadline for the May magazine is April 28th 2006.

Fleet News

Arriva

Arriva London – Disposals are DLP 1 – 15 to Arriva OLST, L523/6/39/41/52 to Ensign Bus. Registration Changes VLW88/92/95/7 now WLT888/92/5/7

Arriva Midlands – Noted parked at Delta Way Cannock on 30/03 were Arriva North West Volvo B6's 7239 L239TKA, 7240 L240TKA, 7242 L242TKA.

Arriva North East - New vehicles are Dennis Dart MPDs 1790 NK 55 MYR, 1791 NK 55 MYS and 1792 NK 55 MYT. Acquisitions are Dennis Dart SLFs 1793 W 166 PNT, 1794 W 631 RNP, 1795 Y 258 KNB, 1796 Y 259 KNB, 1797 Y 215 BGB, 1798 SA 52 MYT, 1799 SF 04 RHA. 1793 - 1799 were acquired from First Stop Travel of Renfrew in late 2005.

Also acquired, from Arriva Yorkshire, are Dennis Darts 1685 L 141 YVK, 1686 J 220 HGY, 1687 J 221 HGY and 1688 J 468 OKP whilst acquisitions from Arriva North West are Plaxton Pointer bodied Volvo B6s 4531 L 201 TKA, 4532 L 210 TKA, 4533 L 216 TKA, 4534 L 219 TKA, 4535 L 220 TKA, 4536 L 232 TKA, 4537 L 235 TKA and 4538 L 244 TKA.

There are also 6 ECW bodied and 2 Alexander bodied Leyland Olympians arrived from Arriva London and Arriva The Shires but I cannot confirm their identities. I am led to believe that at least one of these has been deemed unsuitable for service with Arriva North East.

1686 is allocated to Redcar; 1790 & 1791 are at Hexham; 1792 at Jesmond; 1793 & 1797 at Darlington; 1798, 1799 at Blyth; 4531 & 4537 are at Bishop Auckland whilst 4532 is at Peterlee.

Arriva North West and Wales - New Deliveries are 2570 – 3 CX06BGU/V/Y/Z VDL SB120 Wright Cadet all allocated to Chester, also VDL 's 2574-83 CX06BHA/D/E/F/J/K/L/N/O/P are here for Arriva Merseyside and will be split between Green Lane and Speke. Volvo B7 Alexander ALX400 4116 – 9/22/4 – 9 CX06EAM/O/P/W/BC/ F/ G /J /K/L/M all allocated to Speke. Disposals: 70/3/4/5/80/3/4/5 / 7/8/9/151/307/8/11/34/80– 90/1140/ 222/753/73/4/5/950/3226/7/52/4/9/60/653/8183/90 to Dealers.

Arriva OLST - Fresh withdrawals MB121/495/553/603/748/1152 to Ensign Bus. M296/672/707 Blythswood Glasgow. Looks like all Metroliners will be disposed off some already sold to Blythswood Glasgow.

Arriva Shires and Essex - New Deliveries: Optare Solos 2461 – 7 KE55FDG/F/PJ/G/TJ/D/C 2461- 4 Allocated to Ware (WE) 2465-7 Allocated to Harlow (HA). Disposals: 3079/81/4016/39/40 Dealers, 5843

Arriva Southern Counties - New Deliveries: 3801 – 14 Volvo B7RLE Wright Eclipse B40F on order. 3801 GN06EVG delivered. All to be allocated to Northfleet (NF) for Fastrack service. Fresh vehicle scrapped is 3424.

First

First Cymru – Camarthen are using a BMC Falcon school bus it is: BX55OHH.

First Eastern Counties - 2 Volvo B7RLE's ,with Wright Eclipse Urban bodywork have borrowed from another First Group are, WX55TZM/W. 3 AEC Routemasters are Parked at Great Yarmouth. Their purpose unknown but a big bet would be a seafront service of somekind

First Edinburgh - A new vehicle here is Scania L94UB Wright Solar B43F 65754 SN06AHK.

Acquired from First Manchester 30355 G4110GD. Allocations 30355 – D, 65754 - M.

First Glasgow - New Deliveries are Volvo B7RLE with Wrightbus Eclipse bodywork :

69059 SF06GXH, 69063 SF06GXS, 69064 SF06GXT, 69065 SF06GXU , 69066 SF06GYB, 69067 SF06GYC , 69069 SF06GYE, 69070 SF06GYG, 69072 SF06GXV, 69074 SF06GXX, 69076 SF06GXZ, 69078 SF06GYJ, 69080 SF06GYN. Allocations for B7's delivered so far 21/03/2006 : -

PH – 69012-21, 69023-6, 69028-31/3, 69043-50/3-5, 69080, S – 69032, 69034-41, 69051/2, 69056/7/9-67, 69069/70/2-4/6/8, Belfast Contract – 69022/7/42. The surviving Ailsa's are 31196, 31212-6/9, 31221/3/5, 31234 all at S depot. Fresh withdrawals are 61345, 61346.

First London - Dennis Trident 32805 has been transferred to First Glasgow.

First Manchester - Vehicles sold are 30146/50/2/6/61/3/79/83/4/91/2/297/302/3/6/8/12–20/2/5/6/ 34/ 62260 to Barnsley Scrap Dealers

First Northampton - Dennis Lances 67113 L823HCY 67210 L210AAB, have been transferred from

Go Ahead

Birmingham Coach Company/ Diamond Bus (Tipton) - Further transfers from Go Ahead London are Volvo Olympians N530LHG, N543LHG, R361LGH.

Brighton & Hove - On 14/03 Dennis Tridents 872 and 884 were fresh in their new livery, with Scania Omnidecker 609 and Trident 887 taking their places in the Paint Shop – emerging on 23rd for 886 to enter and thus leaving one Trident in Stagecoach livery. 609 emerged on 22/03.

London Central/General - New Deliveries: AD Dart Pointer LDP273 – 86 LX06EYT/U/V/W/FBD/E/AA/F/J/K/M/O/U/BA 273- 86 All allocated to New Cross (NX) for upgrades on 225/C10. Disposals: LDP36, NV104/7 Birmingham Coach Co, RML2725 Ensign Bus.

Metrobus: New Deliveries: Scania N94UB Omnitowns 601 – 23 YM55SWU/V/YN06JXR/YM55SWX/Y/YN06JXS/YM55SXA/B/C/D/E/F/YN06JXT/YM55SXH/YN06JYU/V/W/X/YM55SXO/P/R/YN06JXY/Z. note reg nos. All allocated to Polhill, Scania N94UB OmniDekkas H45/29D 901 – 16 YN55PZC/D/E/F/G/H/J/L/M/O/P/R/U/V/W/X. 917 – 27 YN06JYB/C/D/E/F/G/H/J/K/L/O (On order for Route 127 to be allocated to Croydon Depot) Also 257 – 268, AD Darts on Order due April 06.

Godstone Garage closed on 24th February all buses transferred to: 158/9,314,344,380,394/6/ 759/60,823, GD/CY. 210–3 GD/MB, 201–9,315/6/7/9,322–30,339,431– 47,491,541– GD/C, 312/3 PH/C, 352/3/4/6/7/8 MB/C

Go Northern: Acquisitions from K Line, Honley are DAF Wright bodied DAF SB120s 8274 Y 291 HUA and 8275 Y 292 HUA. Further second hand Caetano bodied Dennis Dart SLFs to arrive are 8276 T 403 LGP, 8277 T 407 LGP, 8280 T 427 LGP, 8281 T 428 LGP, 8282 T 429 LGP, 8283 T 430 LGP, 8284 V 434 KGF, 8287 V 437 KGF.

A Plaxton bodied Dennis Dart SLF acquired is 8289 Y 558 KUX.

Two Wright bodied Scania L94s acquired are 4989 YN 51 MKV and 4990 YN 51 MKX.

New are Wright bodied Scania L94UB 5229 NK 55 OLG, 5230 NK 55 OLH, 5231 NK 55 OLJ, 5232 NK 55 OLM and 5233 NK 55 OLN.

Also new are Plaxton bodied Volvo B12B coaches 7092 K2 VOY and 7093 K 3 VOY.

Also in existence are Wright bodied Volvo B7TL 3962-3965 but I do not know their identities.

Bishop Auckland depot will close on April 8th 2006 with operation of most services passing to Arriva North East from the same date.

Go Northern have acquired Wright bodied Scania L94UBs 4991 YR 02 ZYK and 4992 YR 02 ZYM. We believe that these have come from Anglian, Beccles. An additional Alexander bodied Volvo B10BLE is 4993 S 590 KJF which has come from Beestons, Hadleigh

National Express

Travel London: New Deliveries: Volvo B7TL Wright Gemini, V45 – 69 LF55CZA/BX55XMW/Z/LF55CYZ/Y/X/W/V/ZB/BX55XNG/J/K/L/M/N/O/P/R/S/T/U/V/W/Y/Z. Allocated to Walworth (WL) V45 – 65 for routes 188/343, V66 – 9 Allocated to Hayes for route H50 conversion.

Travel West Midlands (Birmingham) –

Acocks Green (AG)- 4070 is VOR with body corrosion.

Birmingham Central (BC) - Dennis Trident 4384 has been noted in Bristol, this vehicle has been off the road over 2 years.

Perry Barr (PB) - Noted with accident damage in the garage on 26/03 was Metrobus 3017. Transbus Demonstrator 4698 has had its windows repaired, but has not been seen in use for several weeks.

Stagecoach

Stagecoach East Kent – Leyland Olympian 14938 G703TCD has been transferred to Hastings.

Stagecoach London : New Deliveries: AD Trident AD ALX400 18481 – 99 X55BDY/Z/EO/Y/FA/E/F/EJ/LX06AFZ/GO/U/V/Y/Z/HA/C/D/E/F. All allocated to Catford (TL) for route 47 upgrade. Disposals: 26020/3 to Stagecoach Devon

Stagecoach in Manchester - New Deliveries Dennis Trident ALX400 18375 – 390 MX55KRE/G/J/K/N/O/U/V/Y/Z/SE/J/K/N/O/U/ZNH. 18375 – 381 Allocated to Hyde Rd, 18382 – 390 Allocated to Stockport. Movements: 13642 Hyde Rd to Princess Rd, 15362/3 Stockport to Hyde Rd, 16006/7 from UCOG to Stockport, , 20914 – 7/9/20/2 Hyde Rd to Stockport, 20962/3 Priness Rd to Stockport, 22217- 9/23 Stockport to Hyde Rd, 22237/8 Princess Rd to Hyde Rd, 33081 Charles St to Glossop, 42567 Glossop to

Charles St. Diposals: 13609 to Stagecoach East Midlands, Volvo B10M's 20851/4/5/6, 20895/7/901/2/3/5/10/12/3 to Stagecoach Liverpool, 20852/3 Stockport to Stagecoach East (Northampton). In the process of being transferred from Stagecoach East are Leyland Olympians 14506/7/9/13/4.

Stagecoach in Merseyside - New Deliveries: 34786/7/90/3/7 – 800/5/6/7. PX55EFR/S/V/Z/GD /E /J /K/HB/C/D. (34809 – 20 PX06DVR/T/U/V/W/Y/Z/WA/C/D/E/F At Carlisle awaiting delivery to Merseyside to be Allocated to GM) Arrivals from other Stagecoach companies: 20171/97/851/4/97/ 20898/9/945. Vehicles Left Merseyside for Yorkshire Barnsley Dealers, Volvo B6's 30904/9/10/3/8/30/2, 32027/177/667/73/9/84/96/914. Arrivals from Stagecoach Manchester Volvo B10M's 20855/6/895/901/ 2/3/5/10/12/3. Due to increasing changes in this fleet have decided to list current status as of 06/02. Gillmoss : 20107/45/52/74/5/7/8/91/2/3/5/305/6/9/10/7/9/20/602/3/4/5/53/74/7/845/6/7/8/9/50/5/6/7/8/9 /895/901/2/3/5/10/2/3/21003/4/7/26004/6/30146/342/904/5/6/7/11/3/8/21/9/30/1/6/7/9/40/1/2/6/51/7/026/217 3/5/9/82/5/7/88/285/666/71/2/6/83/5/7/90/2/4/5 /8 /912/4/5/7/8/9/20/ /1 /2/3/4/5 /3132/3/5/41/2/3/4/ 5/6/7 /8 /9/50/61/2/3/4/5/6/7/8/9/70/1/2/3/4/4473/4/7/8/80/ 1/579/741/2/3/ 4/ 5/6/7/8/9/50/1/2/3/4/5/6/7/ 8/9/60/1/2/3/4/5/6/7/8/9/70/4/5/6/7/8/9/88/9/91/2/4/801/2/3/4/47156/7/8/9/60. Aintree: 20301/418/9 / 616/21/9/81/700/1/2/20/5/44/8/9/801/2/921/31/4/80/21005/8/9/10/1/2/3/66/7/8/69/70/1/2/3/4 /5/1106 /7/8/9/10/1/2/3/4/5/6/7/8/9/20/1/2/3/33131/4/6/7/8/9/40/75/6/7/8/9/4475/6/780/1/2/3/4/5. Training Buses: GM: 26005/9134/40/5/52146/210/1/2/57. Awaiting Disposal are 10257/83/570/612/24/703/33/4048/ 29131 / 43/30670/4/687/8/920/2/5.

Stagecoach North West - 10855 PR to LL, 10884 Res to PR, 14048 SC Liv to Store at LL, 16649 - 51 PR to LL, 20418/9 SC Liv to Store at LL, 22802/4/11 ex Flood to ME, 30342 SC Liv to Store at LL.

Stagecoach Yorkshire - Optare Metroriders 47956 N204VRC, 47964 N212VRC, 47967 N215VRC have been transferred to Stagecoach West at Gloucester.

Transdev

Burnley and Pendle - 214 has been sold to Wisharts (Scotland).

London United - 7 dd on order (unknown Chassis/Bodywork). Disposals: LLW7 South Liverpool Commercials, VA47 Destroyed by Fire.

Nottingham City Transport - Volvo Olympian 490 P490CVO based at Gotham has been specially painted in the former South Notts livery of indigo blue, cream and maroon, to celebrate the 80th Anniversary of that Company on 13th March. 490 is scheduled on Service 1 (Loughborough to Nottingham), for which a Commemorative Timetable Brochure of 1926 style has been produced, detailing also the journeys that 490 is scheduled to operate.

Independents

Eastern Counties

Anglian (Beccles) - 5 New Volvo B7RLE's with Wright bodywork have arrived here they are : 401 AU06BOV, 402 AU06BPE, 403 AU06BPF, 404 AU06BPK, 405 AU06BPO. Also a Transbus Enviro is on loan from Hansar AU55DYO. The Volvo's are for routes : 003 - Harleston to Norwich, 580 - Diss to Great Yarmouth, 588 - Halesworth to Norwich.

Swift Taxis (Great Yarmouth) - The fleet consists of the following vehicles Dennis Dart with East Lancs EL2000 bodywork L907JRN, DAF SB220GS Ikarus Citibus bodywork T826JSE, BMC Falcon. BX55OFN and a 55 plate Optare Solo. The Dart, SB220 and BMC are used on School runs in the Great Yarmouth area, and the Solo is used on the 600, Yarmouth to Belton Circular taken over from Anglian of Beccles.

London

Metroline - New Deliveries: AD Trident Enviro 400: TE680– 90 LK55KKO/P/R/S/T/U/V/LK06FLA/ LK55KKY/Z/LA. All allocated to Holloway (HT) for route 24 conversion. TE691/2 Outstanding.

Disposals: LLW28/9/30/2/3/4/8 sold to Dealers. LLW25/31/6/7 Sullivan Buses.

Sullivan Buses – Green liveried Routemaster RML2428 (JJD428D) is now in service for special duties. Acquired is Dennis Lance LLW37 (L37WLH) it has been painted blue for use on the Thorpe Park Shuttle this summer. Also being reported is the winning of a new contract, it being the W12 that runs between Elstree and Watford.

Midlands

Central Buses (Kingstanding) – Fresh vehicles here are Dennis Dart MPD's with Plaxton Pointer bodywork V944DNB, V946DNB.

De Courcey (Coventry) – New vehicles here are MAN Evolution 553 AE55VGM, and a plain white liveried coach PNO6KTG.

Green Bus (Great Wyrley) – A fresh vehicle here is former Stagecoach Mercedes Minibus N618VSS carries fleet number 17.

Midland Rider (West Bromwich) - Leyland Lynx 1008 F302AWW has been withdrawn. Vehicles sold are 1010 F286AWW, Dennis Dart 1011 K867LGN.

North Birmingham Busways (Erdington, Birmingham) - Leyland Atlantean 21 URN321V is withdrawn to the reserve fleet, Leyland Atlantean 64 OBV164X is withdrawn to be cannibalised. 21 was one of the original vehicles used when the company started in March 1994. Fresh vehicles in are 2 Leyland Olympians from Lothian Transport they are : 36 F346WSC, 37 F347WSC they are away at North West bus and coach repairs in Blackburn to have their centre doors removed, 37 did work occasionally with its centre door out of use. 36 is hoped to be in service from Monday 27th March.

Parrys (Cheslyn Hay) - New vehicles are Neoplans YN06FXF, YNO6FTT

North West

Ashalls of Manchester - A new delivery is Alexander Dennis E300 Alexander Dennis B62F MX55XGM.

Blackburn Transport – Fresh vehicles in here are Volvo Olympians with Northern Counties bodywork : 16–8 N416/24/5 JBV.

Bluebird Buses of Middleton - New Deliveries. 19 SS55BLU AD Dart AD B29F, OO06BLU AD Dart MPD Alexander B29F. Acquired 61 SN04EGF Transbus Enviro E300 Transbus B44F ex Go-Ahead Northern 4977. Re-reg S2BLU to S413JBA. Disposals, 18 MV54EEO Hansar Cheadle Hulme, 52 S413JBA Watts Dorchester, 70 M910MVR Holmeswood Holmeswood.

Finglands - New Deliveries are 377/8 YN55WTO/P Volvo B12M Plaxton Panther. Re-registered Vehicles: are 366 HIL7746 to M748UBA, 368 SIA6180 to ?????? 371 X371AVU to SIA6180

Manchester Airport - New Deliveries are SN55HSJ/K/L/O/U/V/X/Y/Z/TA/C-F Alexander Dennis Dart with Alexander Dennis bodywork with B28F seating.

Mayne (Manchester) - Fresh vehicles in are 37 – 9 M113SLS/M521/2UTV ScL113 Wt B47F(37)/B51F(38/9) from Nottingham Transport. Disposals, 55 IIL1355 Cheney Banbury. Also acquired is BUI1424 Scania N112DRB, Van Hool C47F from Bullock (Cheadle).

Preston Bus - New vehicles are Optare Solo's with B33F seating , 81 – 3 PX55WMD/F/G

UK North (Manchester) - Acquired are. 150 – 6 L242CCK/L407GDC/L254CCK/L701FWO /L838CDG, L840CDG/ L247CCK, they are Volvo B6-50 Ar B40F ex 150/2 Ace Gorton, 151 Go-Ahead, 153-6 Stagecoach Merseyside. Further Volvo B6's acquired are L401/2/3/4FVN,L410/1/2GPY, L414/6 KEF,M418PVN,M427/31RDC from Go Ahead NE.

WA Shearings - Ex WA YJ03VOC now in National Holidays Livery no new number. New deliveries are : Volvo B12M Van Hool 801 – 10 MX06AKO/P/U/V/Y/Z / LO/U/ MK. Volvo B12M Plaxton Panther 811 – 20 MX06AMO/U/V/NF/P/R/U/V/OA/B. 801 – 15 are in Grand Tourer Livery 816 – 20 WA Shearings Blue. Some coaches have been renumbered mostly old Grand Tourers 781 – 790 now 441 – 450, 791 now 341, 751 – 760 now 641 – 650, 761 – 770 now 541 – 550, 771 – 797 now 591 – 597, and 101/6 now 901/6, 452 – 459 now 982 – 989, also 576 now 991, it would appear that the T5xxEUB batch is being disposed of. 225/6/7 now 945/6/7. New Ford Toureno's 675/6 MX55UUL/UVU, 679 MX55GYP, 681 MW05ZHK and 682/3 MX55AXU/UUM.

UK North (Manchester) - Acquired are. 150 – 6 L242CCK/L407GDC/L254CCK/L701FWO /L838CDG, L840CDG/ L247CCK, they are Volvo B6-50 Ar B40F ex 150/2 Ace Gorton, 151 Go-Ahead, 153-6 Stagecoach Merseyside.

Warrington Transport - New Deliveries include Wright Bodied VDL SB120 Cadets 53 – 58 DK55OMM/O/P/R/PL/M

Scotland

Essbee (Coatbridge) - New vehicles here is Mercedes-Benz 0814D with Essbee bodywork and seating C24F 23 SF06HFT.

Henry Crawford (Neilston) - Vehicles reregistered are : HCC296 to M275TSB, HCC551 to M41JGB, NSK919 to M133FGD, NSK920 to N134HSD, N197DYB to XLM923. The following vehicles have left the fleet M275TSB, M133FGD, M41JGB.

Henderson Travel Ltd / Value Bus - New vehicles here is Optare Solo M880 Optare B33F YJ55YHC.

Horsburgh (Pumpherstons) - New vehicles here are Optare Solo M850 with Optare bodwork B33F seating capacity MX55WCV ,MX55WCW.

Lothian (Inc Edinburgh and Mac Tours) - Open top conversion 333(PO)/335(O)/337(O).

Single Door Conversions: 551/578

Mayne (Buckie) - New vehicles here are Volvo B12B Van Hool Ailzee C49FT : DM06GSM, GM06GSM, KM06GSM, MM06GSM, Man 18.310 Marcopolo Viaggio II C70F :SM06GSM

McKindless - McKindless do not show fleetnumbers on the any buses.

Munro's, Jedburgh - New Optare Solo's are 304 MX05OTP, 305 MX54KXO, 401 MX55WDS, 402 MX55WDT.

Parks of Hamilton - New vehicles here are Volvo B12M Plaxton Panther C53DLT : KSK954, KSK976, KSK977, KSK978. There are another 6 to follow. All 10 are for Citylink duties.

P.Canavan - The following vehicle has left the fleet S581PGB.

Stuart, Carluke - Fresh vehicle here is acquired Volvo B10M-50 Alexander RV H46/29D F103TML .

Wilson (Rhu) - New vehicle here is Optare Solo YJ06FZL .

South East

Buzzline (Lympne) – A fresh vehicle in is VX53AVF.

Chalkwell (Sittingbourne) – Fresh vehicles in from Ulsterbus are Dennis Dart's with Wright Handybus bodywork are CAZ6602/3/4.

Renown (Bexhill) - Fresh vehicles in are Ex Rossendale Lynxs G994/6VWV.

Thomsett (Deal)- Fresh in Ex Warne Ashford is E270NVT.

Nu-Venture (Aylesford) – Withdrawn is Leyland Lynx D101NDW, also withdrawn are PMY177W, XFG29Y. D101NDW is going for preservation.

South West

Frome Minibuses (Frome) - New Vehicle delivered in 01/06 was Mercedes- Benz O814D with Plaxton Bodywork and DP29FL seating its reg is VX55FWN, it was taxed from 05/01/06. The current fleet of Frome minibuses is : P473FJF, V450FOT, WU51CZC, WV02BEY, WX03YEK, SF53JNZ, YK53HSN, WU04KUF, YX54ACU, VX54CLO, VX55FWN

Glenvic (Somerset) - A fresh vehicle brought is W555GSM Volvo B10M Berkhof C51FT ex Wicksons 1/06.. The last Glenvic Atlantean SND489X was driven to Avon Vehicle Dismantlers on the A370 near Congresbury during January.

Mid West (Dealer)(Cheltenham) - The following vehicles have passed through this dealership recently : Mercedes-Benz 0814 S532GHT ex Marathon Travel 12/05 to Beeline, Warminster 1/06, Mercedes-Benz 0814 T34JBA ex Frome Minibuses 1/06 to Garrion, Motherwell 1/06, Mercedes-Benz 711D N616ESN ex Bodmans, Worton 1/06, Scania OLZ5412 ex Glenvic 12/05 to GM Travel, Ipswich 1/06, Bedford YNV HIL4585 ex GM, Ipswich 1/06 to Hayward, Carmarthen 2/06 Mercedes-Benz 0814 T630JWB ex Marathon Travel 2/06 to Turners, Essex 2/06, Mercedes-Benz 614 FY02LDE ex Clive allen, Coventry 2/06 to Travelbilly, Weston Super Mare 2/06, Mercedes-Benz 412D W611KFE ex Travelbilly 2/06, Mercedes-Benz 413CDI MX05CYP ex Hutchinson, York 2/06

Winford Queen (Cole, Winford Somerset) ceased operations at the end of December, and Javelin Duple F339YTG was bought in January by Glenvic. Volvo Van Hool TCZ6171 went to Filer, Stanton Wick, also in January.

Wales

Edwards (Llantwit Fardre) - Several New Scania Irizar coaches with 06 plates have been acquired, the only one so far identified is YN06CHH.

Thomas (Rhondda) - A new vehicle acquired is Bova Futura WA06CTF.

Company News

Selwyns Travel of Runcorn have taken over **Hardings Tours** of Merseyside, creating a 75 coach company. The existing Hardings depot at Liverpool will remain as the main operations centre for the fleet of 12 vehicles, and will be run as a separate division within Selwyns Travel. The company now has four operating centres in Runcorn, Manchester Airport, Huyton and St Helens from where it runs a fleet of six Technobuses on behalf of Merseytravel.

Customers using the Burtons Coaches operated **National Express** route 010 from London to Cambridge now have access to a free super highspeed broadband connection.

G Barlow & Sons Coaches of Oldham have decided to call it a day. The decision to cease operations was not caused by lack of profitability, but instead by the amount of red-tape that now exists within the industry. The seven coaches owned by the company, mainly newly purchased Dennis Javelins, are in the process of being sold.

French Transport giant **Veolia's** subsidiary **Veolia Transport UK** have taken over **Dunn-Line**. Veolia says the company will operate as a separate entity and will make minimal changes. Based in Nottingham, Dunn-Line operates a fleet of over 200 buses and coaches from several sites in the East Midlands, Hull and the North East

Veolia Transport UK has traded previously as Connex and last October acquired Bebb Travel.

Worthing Coaches, part of the Lucketts Travel Group, has bought **Flagship Eastbourne**, the coach company set up three years ago by Eastbourne Buses. The Flagship Eastbourne brand will continue and the vehicles will continue to operate from Birch Road, Eastbourne.

Bus Atha Cliath (Dublin Bus) has put it's 20 strong Volvo B7L / Wright Eclipse Fusion articulated buses back in to service. They are now being used on the new route 4 service between Ballymun and the Rock Road. Previous problems with the vehicles causing route congestion due to their size saw them in long periods of storage.



Dublin Bus's Wright Eclipse Fusion 00-D-65001 is seen at Parnell Square West working a route 4 service to Ballymun (Jeff Hall)

New Deliveries

Coastal Coaches of Warton Lancashire, have taken delivery of a Mercedes-Benz Tourino (BX55FYN). The Tourino, which brings the company's fleet to seven vehicles, will be used on corporate charter work.

Irish Operator **Dualway** have taken delivery of three new vehicles comprising of a full size coach, a midi-coach and a mini-coach. The full size is a 53 seater DAF / Marcopolo; the midi-coach is 33 seater Esker Cimo; the mini-coach is a 29 seater Mercedes-Benz Indcar Wing 814.

Elcock Reison of Telford have taken delivery of an Esker Touring based on a Mercedes-Benz Atego 1523LL chassis. The 37 seater coach, which is built to a high executive specification, was supplied by Harry Ferguson Coach Sales.

Firth Travel of Ackworth, near Pontefract, have taken delivery of a 12m Volvo B12B / Van Hool Alizee 79 Alicron (YJ06GLF). The vehicle, supplied by Moseley PCV, is very well equipped and will be used on tour work.

Five Star Travel Group from Merseyside taken delivery of a 49 / 53 seat Bova Futura FHD 12.30XE (YJ06GOA). The vehicle, which was supplied by Moseley PCV, is to be used on the Company's national and international tour programme.

Garnetts Coaches of Bishop Auckland now own a bright yellow Volvo B7R / Sunsundegui Sideral (FJ06BSZ). The coach, which has 57 seats, will be used on the company's UK tour programme and was supplied by Volvo Coach Sales.

Leons Coach Travel are now the proud owners of a Bova Magiq (AT06LCT). The vehicle has been built to a very high specification, has 49 seats and was supplied by Moseley PCV.

Lochs and Glens Holidays have taken delivery of five Volvo 13.75m tri-axle B12B's with Jonckheere Mistral 70 bodies. The coaches, which have 57 seats and are fitted with toilets, were supplied by Volvo Coach Sales.

McLeans Coaches, based in the Cotswolds, have taken delivery of two Sunsundeguis. The vehicles (FJ06BTE and FJ06BTF) are equipped with Volvo DH12D engines and were supplied by Volvo Coach Sales. One of the vehicles has 43 seats for use on contract hire with Grand UK Tours whilst the other has 49 seats for use on McCleans own UK Tour programme.

Prentice Westwood have taken delivery of a Volvo B12B / Berkhof Axial (SN06AEF) with a variable seating configuration of 49/53. The vehicle was supplied by Volvo Bus.

Shearings have taken delivery of 10 Plaxton bodied Volvo B12M's. The Plaxton Panthers are all destined for continental touring with five being Grand Tourer 36 seat specification with the remainder being 42 seat Premier Class. The coaches were supplied by Plaxton.

Stewarts of Mortimer have taken delivery of six Plaxtons. Two are Dennis R series / Plaxton Paragons of 49 and 57 seats. The four remaining vehicles are Plaxton Cheetahs / Mercedes-Benz Vario's two with 29 seats to executive specification with the other pair being 33 seaters. All vehicles were supplied by Plaxton.

The Kings Ferry have taken delivery of two Setra Comfort Class S416 GT-HD coaches.

Uni-Link the University of Southampton's fleet has been expanded with two more buses for their free shuttle service. The 29 seat vehicles are East Lancs Myllennium Darts on an ADL Dart SLF chassis being supplied by East Lancashire Coachbuilders.

Preservation News

Preservation News & Events

Events:

Lincolnshire Road Transport Museum: April 16th - Bus Running Day*

Sheffield Bus Museum: 16th April, Tinsley Tram Sheds – Open day.

Weston Park, Shropshire: 16/17th April - Midlands Festival of Transport

B&MMOT: 16-17th April - Easter Eggstravaganza

Brighton Coach Rally – 22/23rd April

Keighley Bus Museum: 22/23rd April – St. Georges Day - display in Market centre on Saturday. Sunday - Routemaster rides around the town.

East Grinstead: 23rd April - LT Country Bus Rally

Middlesbrough: 23rd April – Teesside Vintage Bus Running Day*

Oxford Bus Museum: 23rd April – Open day

Manchester Museum of Transport: 23rd April – London Bus day

London Transport Museum, Acton Depot: 28/29th April - Depot Guided Tours

Bookings on 0207 379 6344

The Trolley Bus Museum: 29th April – 1st May – Open days

Llandudno Transport Festival: 29th April – 1st May. Including the Crosville Centenary Road Run - Rhyl to Llandudno on the 30th April (01924 545053)

Ribble Vehicle Preservation Trust: 1st May (“Brief Encounter 4”) Carnforth Railway Station*

HB Publications – Bus Data Files will be on sale at these Rallies

(Look out for the Harold Peers Sales Stand)

Sometimes the above Rallies can be cancelled at short notice – so please check before hand, as you don't want a wasted journey.

News

Routemaster RM 2106 operated by the Big Red Bus Company, will be running a new summer Sunday service on Route 12. The service will run between Seaton Tramway and Beer Pecorama commencing on the 28th May to the 3rd September 2006.

The Amersham & District Motorbus Society will be having three events this year -Slough/Windsor, Hemel Hempstead and Amersham.

For Preservation News please contact Maurice Brown

Web Site – www.gb-bg.co.uk

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.

New features on the web site are a National Express page and e-bay sales.

With the National Express page we hope to show which Companies are providing vehicles for particular routes based on your sightings. If you have any information on National Express workings please send it to Jeff Hall (contact details are on page 2)

Chris James is supplying us details of vehicles for sale on e-bay – you never know you may pick up a bargain!

Observations

Inverness Bus Station and town services (1105 -1330) Saturday 4th March 2006 (Thomas Graham)

Rapsons 012, 046, 077, 207, 208, 215, 216, 217, 495, 644, 655, 656, 667

Stagecoach Bluebird 16200, 16201, 16250, 33414, 33437, 33471, 33473, 33474, 33475, 33476, 34482, 34485-90, 34731, 34733, 34734, 34736, 34796, 40362, 47161, 47162, 50133, 52238, 52258, 52606, 52608, 52610, 53214, 53219, 53220, 53225, 53230, 53235, 53238, 53239

Rapson's Garage

Rapsons 011, 044, 073, 075, 077, 078, 082, 084, 199-202, 302, 306, 328, 330, 352, 353, 357-59, 454w, 542, 629, 639, 643, 654, 671

Stagecoach Bluebird 51061

Stagecoach Bluebird Garage

Stagecoach Bluebird 14490, 30679, 34483, 34484, 40045, 40048, 40051, 40052, 40542, 40670, 40736, 52245, C330DND

Cairngorm Travel YN54JPU

Crawford, Neilston S29HCC

D&E, Inverness X799AVN

Scotbus URN170Y, L309YDU, S378PGB

Westerbus YIL4029

Elgin Bus Station(1505-1535)

Stagecoach Bluebird 34061, 34062, 34069, 34070, 47080, 47180, 47181, 52269, 52292, 52605, 53232, 53237

Stagecoach Taxibus OW03OYP

Aberdeen Bus Station(1740-1820)

First Aberdeen 62125, 62127, 62190, 62195, 62216, 62217

Stagecoach Bluebird 13176, 14407, 14491, 14963, 16119, 16153, 20143, 20144, 20704, 20862, 20881, 22352, 22355, 22362, 22363, 22702, 22704, 31496, 32104, 32380, 32802, 33479, 34039, 40928, 41520, 52119, 52228, 52230, 52290, 52292, 52609, 53204, 53206, 53211, 53214, 53216, 53230, 53243

Trathens YN51XMU

Leicester City Centre (1535-1610) March 8th 2006 (Craig Hall)

Arriva Midlands 1162, 1165, 1167, 1175, 1176, 2209, 2219, 2241, 2259, 2263, 2265, 2266, 2267, 3467, 3491, 3492, 4001, 4002, 4134, 4136, 4138, 4141, 4142, 4143, 4157, 4162, 4166, 4168, 4172, 4174, 4175, 4178, 4180, 4503, 4607, 4609, 4611, 4641, 4650, 4703, 4704, 4707, 4712, 4715, 4735

Audsen Clarke V100ACL

Centrebus A708UOE, A719UOE, B794AOC, B870DOM, D944NDA, G374NRC, G377NRC, H233LOM, S446LGN, S466LGN, Y2DRM

First Leicester 32054, 32055, 32058, 32061, 32065-67, 32069, 32072, 32074, 32075, 32077-79, 32086, 32087, 32089-92, 32094, 32277, 32631-33, 32641, 32542, 32644-46, 32648-50, 39167, 62603, 62733, 62738, 62749, 62750, 66304-10, 66313, 66318, 66319, 66321, 66973, 66975, 66977, 66980, 67623

Fleetline. A738WVP

Stagecoach in Northampton 52370

Woods LKZ3613

London Sunday March 19th 2006 (Neal Marshall)

Brixton Garage 08.00-08.20

Arriva London
(DW) 56, 67, 68, 71, 73, 81, 83, 85
(DWL) 10, 15, 17
(VLA) 150, 155, 162, 165, 167, 177,
Go-Ahead London
(NV) 185, 186
(PVL) 384
(WVL) 116
Centra (DP) 77

Elephant & Castle 08.45-09.10

Stagecoach London 17120 17307 23003
Arriva London
(DLA) 176, 204
(VLA) 44, 45, 94
(VLW) 98
Go-Ahead London
(AVL) 15, 27
(LDP) 87, 147
(MAL) 63, 75
(PVL) 89, 212, 224, 242, 297, 339, 374
Travel London
(DP) 113, 120
(TA) 32
(V) 17, 41, 61
East Thames Buses (VWL) 16
Transdev London (VLE) 42
TWH Travel FJ03ZZS

St. Paul's Coach Park 09.20-09.50

City Circle 17 22 23 24 25
Stagecoach London 17881, 18210, 18229, 18474
First London 33192 33368
Clarkes BU03LYS, FP51EUR, R128NFE,
Y372UOM
Globus BX05UVE
TWH Travel FJ03ZZT
Tellings Golden Miller Y504TGJ
Metroline (TP) 59
Arriva OLST (VLY) 608
Go-Ahead London (WVL) 122, 152

Tower Gateway 10.10-11.30

Stagecoach London 17881, 17911, 17913,
17930, 18205, 18222, 18224
(RM) 324, 871, 1933, 2050, 2089

Docklands Light Railway Rail Replacements

First London 32430, 33085, 33343, 33360,
64001, 64007, 64008, 64009
Stephensons Rail Replacement C383SAO
Arriva London
(ADL) 971, 975, 977, 979
(DDL) 16, 17

Travel London
(DP) 106, 110, 111, 118, 120
East Thames Buses
(ELS) 7
(VWL) 4, 13, 15

Docklands Light Railway Rail Replacements

Blue Triangle
(TL) 913, 918
(TPL) 926

Ambassador Travel FN52HRM
WA Shearings 730
First 20117

London Bridge / Monument 11.48-13.40

Stagecoach London 17526, 17831, 17832
18483, 18485, 18493

Docklands Light Railway Rail Replacements

First London 33085, 33229, 33360
Blue Triangle (TPL) 927

Arriva OLST
(EMB) 770, 771, 775
(OA) 342, 345
(VLY) 603, 608, 609
Arriva London
(DLA) 93
(DLP) 53, 55
(MA) 6, 22, 23, 49, 70
(VLW) 42, 68

Big Bus Company A831SUL, G954FVX,
G964FVX, G969FVX, G96SGO, OHV676Y,
OHV739Y, OHV792Y

Go-Ahead London
(PDL) 31
(PVL) 157, 210, 234, 266, 280, 284, 299, 305,
308, 311, 328, 353, 356, 403
(WVL) 9, 10, 76, 87, 99, 162

Metroline
(TP) 55, 35
(TPL) 240, 252
(VP) 339, 504
(VPL) 141, 588

Westbus WE52BUS

Brixton Garage 14.30

Arriva London
(DLA) 58, 231, 324, 337
(DW) 57, 59, 72, 77, 83, 90
(VLA) 144, 147, 150, 156, 163, 167, 173, 174,
177
Megabus 13608
Centra (DP) 18, 19

Croydon Sunday March 26th 2006 - 08.50

(DPP)	421, 422, 425, 428
(DW)	1, 8
(DLA)	216, 218, 253
(ADL)	12, 13
Norwood	09.30
(DLA)	173, 207, 209, 276, 312, 313, 319
(VLA)	1, 11, 13, 16, 17, 31, 35, 36, 40, 46, 48, 53, 106, 112, 120
Norwood	15.00
(DLA)	91, 317, 319
(DW)	108, 118, 119, 121
(VLA)	14, 15, 47, 120, 123

Crewe Saturday March 25th 2006 (David Sharpe)

Arriva North West	
Mercedes-Benz	192
Dennis Dart	877, 879
Volvo B6-50	7224
D & G	
Mercedes-Benz	57
Optare Solo	67
First Manchester	
Dennis Lance	60989

Warrington 16.00-17.00

Arriva North West	
Dennis Dart	2202, 7561
Volvo B6-50	7233
Warrington Borough Transport	
Dennis Dart SLF	1, 4, 7, 8, 15, 19, 22, 24, 25, 30, 31, 33
Dennis Dart	238
DAF SB120	36, 37, 44, 45, 46
VDL SB120	47, 49, 53, 54, 57, 58
Optare Metrorider	114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 120, 121

Digbeth Coach Station, vehicles on National work Saturday March 25th 2006 (Stephen Evans)

Ambassador	183
Birmingham Coach Company	T178FUM, YP52KRZ
East Yorkshire Motor Services	39
First Devon and Cornwall	20547
First Manchester	20461
Go Ahead North East	7090
National Express Operations	NXL1, NXL3, NXL18, NXL29
Selwyns	64
South Gloucestershire Bus and Coach	N294EYB
Stagecoach North West	52648
Tellings Golden Miller	YN55WSU
Trathens	515, KSK986
Travel West Midlands	C004, C005, C009

Wales March 25th-27th 2006 (Andy Bolton / Mark Watson)

March 25th 2006

Ross on Wye

Stagecoach West 16203,16204, 16205, 16206, 18200, 33978, 33979, 33980, 34402, 34403

Coleford

Stagecoach West 20204, 20205, 32132, 32257, 41152, 41159, 41805, 47956, 47962, 47964, 47967, N63MTG

Dukes Travel (several of the fleet are in the process of being transferred to Stagecoach West)

G293CLE, G247CLE, H4GBD, H9GBD, H10GBD, K315MWV, P939HVX, T51JBA, B5GBD, V395KVY, W1CTS, VX51ABF, CU04AMV

Chepstow

Stagecoach in South Wales 20392, 20707, 20874, 32965, 32967, 40537, 40541, 40556, 40563, 40714, 52399

Newport Town & Depot

F Drake YIL3167

Edwards WA06JFX

First Cymru 21150

H & H R46XWO

Jones MJ12050

Newport Transport 5, 10-25, 31-46, 53-60, 62-80, 82-85, 90-95, 99,102, 141, 176, 184, W833PWS

Stagecoach Glyn Williams R409HKG, R787NRV, S100CBC, X191FOR, CN53GWO, CN53GWP, CN04RFZ, YJ55YFW, YJ55YFX

Stagecoach in South Wales 16149, 16444, 16447, 20404, 20708, 32985, 32994, 33556, 33613, 33616, 33617, 34106, 34127, 34128, 34138, 34623, 34624, 40573, 40578, 40579, 40582, 41405, 41412, 41414, 41415, 41423, 41429

Private Operators 408DBO, 868NHT, PDW484, EDW68D, KNY495D, BKG713R, RDL309X, ATK154W, FBV490W, J54TWO, L291WDU

C Williams YAZ8922

Cwmbran

Private Operator RAZ5279, F264RJX, P558CFT

Stagecoach in South Wales 13608, 20362, 20366, 20870, 40547, 40566, 40578, 40708, 41408, 41417, 50134, 52404

Pontypool

Stagecoach in South Wales 40577, 40595, 41331, 46273, 52015, 52153, 52220, 52267, 52300, 52401, 52402, 59801, IL8656

Blackwood

Stagecoach in South Wales 29705, 32997, 32998, 33611

Stagecoach Glyn Williams R407AOR, R408AOR, R422AOR, R719BNF, T603DAX, T604DAX, W714DAX, X192FOR, HX51LRZ, CN04XCL

Pontalinfraith

Islwyn Borough Transport 10, 18, 20, 21, 23, 28, 31, 33, 35, 36, 41, 42, 43, 79

GNZ1577, IIL7331, LIL3934, LIL5845, PIL7240, TIL5405, UIL7808, UIL7809, YIL8340, WPH126Y, B13JCT, D46MBO, M943LDV, W868AAAY, W868AAAY, FJ04FRX

Stagecoach in South Wales 33559

Caerphilly

Harris M16SMC, YK04KVX, YJ04KVZ, YJ55YHD

Howells AVK143V, AVK152V, CIB347, CNZ2577, D132WCC, E218MFX, EJ106W, EJ123W, F490KGG, F750JAY, GAX137W, GIL2774, GSC638X, GSC642X, GSC647X, GSC657X, H226TCP, JIL7657, JMB165V, K705UTT, K707UTT, K923VDV, KCK201W, L813LRB, M835DN, MIW3853, MUI5881, MUI5882, MVK515R, MVK521R, OHV199Y, P557MLD, P558MLD, PIW4791, PXI8931, SCN233S, SCN256S, TAZ5539, TAZ5541, TAZ5542, TJI4691, UHG146V, UJY85, WRN134V, YJI1310, Shamrock L209ONU, T448JCR

Stagecoach in South Wales 33561, 33607, 33611, 33617, 33618, 33625, 34037, 34663, 34665-78, 41155,

46272, 47185-88, L83CWO

Stagecoach Glyn Williams T602DAX

Llanwit Fardre

Edwards 210HKT, 978HHT, A228LRU, AHZ1250, ANA161Y, B870ADX, BOK48V, BOK50V, BOK78V, BX05UVT, CN51SVR, CN54LGF, CN55FBX, DEM821Y, DEM822Y, GOG125W, HCF175W, HCF177W, JBD972Y, K600BUL, KJW279W, LHG445T, LMO185X, LMO186X, LMO187X, LMO188X, M505XFY, M720LTC, NUI3217, PVV315, R408GWO, R678HTG, R704RNN, RIL1759, S637MGA, SIL5382, SJI2449, TIL8236, TRN476V, W265YER, W632OTH, WA03EYF, XBZ4111, XHR104, Y36HH, Y37HHE Y38HHE, YAP104, YN06CJJ, YN06CKG

Bebb CE52UWP, CE52UWR, CE52UWS, CE52UWT, CE52UWU, CE52UWW, CE52UWY, CE52UXB, CE52UXC, CE52UXD, CE52UXE, CE52UXF, CN04NFD, CN54HFB, CN54HFC, CN54HFD, CN54HFF, CN05ARO, CN05JYP, CN06UXA, CN06UXB, CN06UXC, CN06UXG

Merthyr Tydfil

Stagecoach in South Wales 47189, 47190-97

Aberdare

Stagecoach in South Wales 20350, 20351, 20355, 20358, 20421, 30705, 30706, 32242, 32960, 32968, 32984, 32986, 32989, 32992, 40539, 40565, 41166, 41168, 41401, 41403, 41416, 41421, 47198-211, 52215

Porth

Stagecoach Glyn Williams S788NRV

Stagecoach in South Wales 20001, 20406, 20871-73, 20884, 20885, 20890, 20891, 23950, 23951, 32052, 32053, 32078, 32611, 32995, 33606-08, 33621-23, 33627, 34038, 34135, 34500, 34502, 34504, 34506, 34508-10, 34513, 41150, 41164, 41165, 41404, 41411, 41419, 41422, 41426-28

Brecon

Stagecoach in South Wales 25101-03

26/03/06

Bridgend

All vehicles First Cymru unless stated otherwise 21111, 42215, 42325, 42334, 42687, 42715, 42716, 42861, 42862, 42863, 45311, 46020, 46092, 46203, 46208, 46501, 46514, 46517, 46519, 46701, 46703, 46707, 46713, 50072, 50074, 50101, 51025

Maesteg

42302, 42303, 42305, 42322, 42324, 42330, 42333, 42633, 42717, 42836, 46223, 46706, 50073, 50482, 62672

Port Talbot

20355-57, 20364, 20365, 20369-72, 22019, 42304, 42323, 42332, 42335, 42336, 42427, 42428, 42621, 42626, 42685, 42686, 42688-92, 42714, 42863, 45305, 45316, 45411, 46703-05, 46708, 46718, 50100, 51542, 90208

Swansea

20358-63, 20411, 21006, 21115, 21119, 21146-48, 42680, 42693, 42694, 42866, 51551

Pontadawe

20366, 20367, 20373, 20374, 34349-51, 42591, 42592, 42594, 46502-06, 46511, 46557, 46709, 46711, 46712, 46714, 46715, 46720, 46721, 46844, 47070, 50089, 50096, 50097, 50104

Tycroes

42590, 42674-78, 43838, 43841, 43903

Llanelli

21123, 21151, 42682-84, 43837, 46209, 46510, 46521, 46522, 46524, 46527-39, 46549, 46561, 46563, 46564, 46702, 46719, 51028, 51221, 51227, 51537, 51539, 51541, 51569, 55000, 55003, 67501, 68503

Carmarthen

21098, 21099, 21112, 42238, 42569, 42570, 42865, 42868, 43836, 43901, 45406, 50066, 50070, 55004, 64501-03, 68006, 68501, 68504-06, 68513, 68514

Evesham

First Wyvern 604, 605, 34808, 52511, 52556, 52558, 66612, 66614, 67219, 67220, 67242, 67252, 67322, 67631, 67645-48, 67651, 68549

27/03/06

Peterborough

Stagecoach in Peterborough 18411, 18413-24

Kettering

Stagecoach East 18407-09, 47401-12, 47417, 47418

Northampton

First Northampton 20037, 20417, 20418, 32627-30, 66010, 66962-71

Football Match Sightings

Bescot Stadium - Walsall v Bradford (Stephen & Gary Evans)

Gordons (Rotherham)	P408MDT
Travel Express (Rotherham)	F259RJX
WGS	R5HMC

Riverside Stadium - Middlesbrough v Bolton Sunday March 26th 2006 (Jeff Hall)**Bolton Team Coach**

Eavesway YD02RCU

Away Supporters

Anyroad Minicoaches YN54XSO

Bon Chance HIL2331

Shearings / Wallace Arnold 537, 538, 620

**Villa Park - Aston Villa v Fulham Saturday March 26th 2006
(Andrew Williams)****Fulham Team Coach**

YN54AKF

Away Supporters

Armchair (London) XAZ807

Croydon Coaches N846DKU

Kings Ferry (Gillingham) A8TKF, Y10TTL, Y11TTL, GN03TYB, GJ02LUZ, GJ52MUV

**Powergen Cup Semi-Finals Coach Log Millenium Stadium, Cardiff
Saturday 4th March 2006 (Chris Newsome)**Acorn Travel, Nottingham
DEZ6134Andrews Coaches, Frome
H476UYDAngela, Southampton
MJI2379Anglian Travel, Cambridgeshire
A4JVTArleen, Peasedown St John
152EKH, RIL4022, RIL7644,
WP51WXY, YR02UNYArvonias, Caernarfon
YR52ZKKAtlantis Travel, Leicester
A8UKC, K77SAS

Avalon

N757CYA, P403CTA

B.S.S Coaches, Bolton

C9 BSS

Barnes, Swindon

LIB3903, WA06CDK

Barry's, Weymouth

YHA320

Beeline, Warminster

FNZ7669, JJZ3487, XCZ4146

Berkeley, Paulton

LIB6445, L2POW, T4POW,

WX05YTT

Berrys, Taunton

R199WYD

BJ Travel, Paulton

R907FNB

Blue Iris, Bristol

T568SUF, WX54PEO

Bodman, Worton

P214RUM

Bromsgrove Bus & Coach Ltd

787LOM

Cavalier Travel, Lutterworth

T792JNT

Centurion, Midsomer Norton

RIB8817, R627VNN, WP52WBZ

Clapton Coaches

WA53FOF

Mike de Courcey, West Midlands

MJI2365

Cooks, Wellington

JUI 717

Coombs, Weston super Mare WX04YCY, WX04YCK	YF02XVV, FN04CZZ	Harry Shaw, Coventry 3 KOV
Crudge, Honiton M534TVH	Luxicars N600SAS	Silcox, Pembroke Dock Y199JDE, FY02WHF
Coachstyle, Chippenham T710UOS	McEwans, Mansfield G8MCT	Steventon Transport, Hampshire Y304HPG
Cross Country, Swindon TIL7910	John Martin XIL5453	Stones of Bath(Bath RFC Team Coach)
DT Coaches of Frome YRX481	Mailine, Gilfach Goch(Llanelli Scarlets Team Coach)	R7JMJ
Davies, Llanelli R91GWO, F726ENE	CAZ2045	Stones of Bath
Deans, Leicestershire J725WWK, N66MCL	Makins, Melton Mowbray TLT48	TSV787, TSV788, KIB260, KIB734, J467NJU, L18RMS, YN05GZT
Finch Coaches, Malmesbury FX03GJY	Minerva Travel P888ASH	Swift Valley Coaches,Leicester T934YRR, W315SBC
Gorslas Minibuses, Gorslas CE55GZB	Motts Travel, Aylesbury S5MTT	Tally Ho, Kingsbridge KIW6512
Halford, Bridport T713YDV	New Bharat Coaches Ltd, London BC06NBC	Tates, Hertfordshire KBG520
Hatts, Chippenham JIL3959, M6HAT, M8HAT, T905LKE, AJ03LXD, YX04FXF, YE55BUS, YN55NPA	Newbury Minibuses Ltd, Hermitage Y802YBC	Taw & Torridge of Devon X509HNR
Hawkes, Swansea KSU455	Owens, Knighton S903LHG	Terry's Coach Hire, Coventry L797BUT
Heyfordian, Bicester T723UOS	Premiere, Nottingham N3OTTS, FN04FSG	Thomas, Pencader VIL9219, V750 EJF, Y657 YOL
Highway Travel, Somerset G641WMG	Price, Trimsaran HIL2395, RTG332Y, A3VPC, J796KHD, N500GSM	Total Travel, Leicester MIL9577
Hills, Wolverhampton V350EKY	Pulham, Bourton-on-the-Water WDD194	Travel Filer's, Bristol H633UWR, VX04KTF
HL3,High Wycombe X766HVL	Reading Transport YN04AHE (214)	Turners, Chulmleigh M619ORJ
Hughes, Llandudno AP05ALP	Redwoods, Cullompton YN04AKU, YN04AWR	Unicorn Travel, Wincanton J62GCX
Hookways, Meeth RIL1578	Rees, Gwaun-cae-Gurwen L122BPH	Way, Wokingham XIL7396
Andrew James, Chippenham AJ04BUS, AJ55BUS	Reliant, Leicestershire FG03KLL	Webberbus, Minehead WJ51FDK
James, Llangeithio N281MRN, WA53ONL	Reynolds, Watford BUI2782, NSU991, L19ORC, N6 RDC, N10RDC, N11RDC	Williams, Upper Tumble VWG383
Jones, Llansaint RIL5127	Richardson Travel, Midhurst YR02ZMV	Williams, Lower Tumble 4858DW, A17AVT, BEZ 230, BXI637, GDZ886, SJI2156, A829JEY, H20DBW, N2BJT
Jones International, Llandeilo MJI2050	Ridlers, Somerset P125GHE	Paul S Winson W9PSW, W10PSW
Johnsons, Solihull L98RYB	Roberts, Leicestershire RIB913, T744JHE	Woods of Leicester 782EUL, 4687NU, CHZ4745, CHZ4746, CHZ7466, NIL8649, WDZ7683, T501EUB
KB Coaches FX04EET	Ryan, Bath W644MKY	Unknown Operator F200GMR
Lewis Coaches, Stalybridge YAF624	Sharpes of Nottingham BHZ122, HBZ651, NLZ708, NBZ301, RIL516, TIW112, VXI476	
Little, Leicester		

Tram and Light Rail News (Martin Hall)

Birkenhead - Tram 69 (Hong Kong) is to receive a repaint and have new windows fitted. The new livery will be in blue and cream

Birmingham -Although the Midland Metro and Birmingham New Street railway station are having money spent on them the West Midlands Regional Assembly is thinking about building new roads rather than looking at public transport schemes.

Blackpool -The North West Regional Assembly has put the upgrade of Blackpool's Tram System as a priority to enhance its heritage appeal. Tram **622** is in the paint shop for a repaint and **709** had its sea life vinyls removed. Both cars are now undergoing livery attention. Vinyls have been removed from Balloons **715 & 721** & both trams are now in the paint shop for attention

Tram - update:

626 Blackpool Zoo advert with contravision
641 Orion Bingo
645 Palm Beach Hotel,
648 Major refurbish in progress
660 Cream with Green
675/685 Red & Yellow,
680 Central Pier advert
701 Palm Beach Hotel
707 Buccaneer Bar

709 Sealife Centre,
711 Lambrini
713 Asda
715 All over white
717 Major refurbish in progress
721 all over white,
722 TGWU
761 all over cream
762 Unison.

Mothballed - 607/621/625/627/632/634/636/637/676/677/686/687/679/704/708/716

Withdrawn cars in the depot are: 259/732/733/734/735

Vintage cars passed for service: 40/66/147/304

Vintage cars not for service: 5/513/619

Brighton-The Volks Electric Railway is hoping to extend its line to produce a more intensive service on the sea front service.

Bristol-Bristol City is still looking at getting rid of its old railway lines and replacing them with a guided busway and not a tram system, I suppose for financial reasons

DLR – SERCO have retained the Docklands Light Railway franchise for another seven years.

Edinburgh-Although the project is moving forward there are still problems with funding and so the plan is to look at the project on a line by line basis to manage the funds more effectively..

Manchester – Tram **1025** is now back in service after its mid – life refurbishment. Tram **1008** was involved in an accident in Moseley Street on March 1st. The tram hit an elderly women - causing her minor injuries. Fares were increased on the system, mainly affecting single journeys. Tram **1009** back in service after its mid life overhaul. The saloon floor has been replaced and the tram is in a revised livery.

Merseytram - The government I believe is being very short sighted as it is blocking the plans to build a tram system in Liverpool and in other cities. It is very different on the continent where many cities are having new systems or upgrades of existing ones although it is easier there because many have retained their tram systems not like here where we swept most of them away in favour of trolley buses then normal road buses

NET – Passenger journeys have risen from 8.4 million in 2005 to 9.7 million in 2006

Bus Spotting Locations

Dublin (Jeff Hall)

On March 26th 2006 the wife and I ventured over to Dublin for a four day break. As with Edinburgh we managed to secure a Hotel room overlooking a bus route – in this case Parnell Square. For those interested the Hotel's name was Jury's Inn.

The principal operator in Dublin is Dublin Bus (Bus Atha Cliath) who seemed to operate all the city routes with Bus Eireann operating services in and out of Dublin. Air Coach operate a frequent Cork to Dublin Airport service.

The principal operating areas for buses on the north side of Dublin are –

Parnell Square – the buses operate in a clockwise direction around the square, with those coming into the city stopping in Parnell Square East whilst those going out in Parnell Square West. Vehicles will also lay over in Parnell Square West.

O'Connell Street is a two way street being divided by a central walkway. Buses travelling to and from Parnell Square will travel along O'Connell Street crossing O'Connell Bridge to the South side of Dublin. A good spot to view the buses is the junction between O'Connell Street and Abbey Street, as this is both where Dublin Trams cross O'Connell Street and where Bus Eireann vehicles leave the street for Connolly Bus Station.

Central Bus Station can be found close to Connolly Railway Station with the tram line running past it and terminating at Connolly Railway Station. Follow the tram line east from O'Connell Street and you will reach the Bus Station. The principal operator in the Bus Station is Bus Eireann with Dublin Bus operating services past it .

On the south side of the city we have

Wellington and Aston Quay which are adjacent to the River Liffey provide the principal route out the city for Bus Eireann. The route in to the Central Bus Station, for those vehicles not travelling along O'Connell Street, is on the opposite side of the River.

St Stephen's Green reputedly the largest Green in Europe, serves a shopping centre and a Dublin Tram terminus. A lot of these services only serve the south side of the city so will not travel along O'Connell Street.

College Green / Burgh Quay, situated on the southeast side of O'Connell Bridge, are close to Tara Street and Pearse Street Railway Stations and once again principally serve routes on the south side of the city.

Airport Services are provided by Dublin Bus as Circular Express Services. The 747 operates to the Central Bus Station via O'Connell Street returning by the same route, whilst the 748 runs to the Central Bus Station via the North Star Hotel then crosses the River Liffey runs west to Heuston Station then back along the north side of the River Liffey to the Bus Station and on to the Airport.

City Sightseeing is provided by Dublin Bus, Dualway and Guide Friday all operating open top double deckers.

Like most cities Dublin also attracts many Tour Operators most of which seem to travel along O'Connell Street taking in the Landmarks.

All in all it was a very enjoyable visit and we shall certainly be returning for more of the same. Next month I will publish a log of the vehicles observed and in the meantime will be posting photographs to our web site at www.gb-bg.co.uk.



Bus Eireann Scania / Irizar 02-D-5047 (SR4) is seen crossing the Tram Lines leaving the Central Bus Station (Jeff Hall)

Fleet Lists

Harrogate Coach Travel Ltd

Reg	Chassis	Body	Config	From	
C171 ECK	Leyland Olympian	ECW	DPH42/28F	Lancashire United 2002	
C172 ECK	Leyland Olympian	ECW	DPH42/28F	Lancashire United 2002	
F380 JTV	Scania N113DRB	Alexander	H47/33F	Black Prince 2005	
G752 SRB	Scania N113CRB	Alexander	B51F	Jones Executive, Walkden 2005	
H79 CFV	Mercedes Benz 811D	Alexander	B31F	Lancashire United 2002	
K761 JTV	Scania N113CRB	Plaxton	B53F	Nottingham 2003	
MAZ 7584	Leyland Royal Tiger	Leyland	C49FT	Fletchers of Malton 2004	Ex D904 FHN
NUW 636Y	Leyland Titan	Leyland	H44/27F	Stagecoach C&G 2002	
WX 6025	Scania N113DRB	East Lancs	DPH78F	Chambers of Bures 2005	Ex W89 HRT
YN53 SVJ	Optare Solo	Optare	B29F	Optare 2004	
Disposals					
J704 CGK	Optare Metrorider	Optare	B26F	Blackburn Tpt 2002	Scrapped 2003
G381 MWU	Leyland Lynx	Leyland	DP47F	Sovereign 2003	Sold /03 2 Travel, Swansea
E264 TUB	Leyland Lynx	Leyland	B51F	Stephensons, Essex '03	Sold /04 Routemaster, Daventry
G383 MWU	Leyland Lynx	Leyland	DP47F	Sovereign 2003	Sold /04 The Big Picture nPSV
TPC 102X	Leyland Tiger	East Lancs	B55F	Hansar Finance 2004	Sold /05 Carter, Ipswich
G382 MWU	Leyland Lynx	Leyland	DP47F	Sovereign 2003	Sold 12/05 Dansway, Rochester
J691 CGK	Optare Metrorider	Optare	B29F	Hillary, Bp Auckland 2003	Sold Dlr 2003
J710 CGK	Optare Metrorider	Optare	B29F	Blackburn Tpt 2002	Sold operator in Chepstow 2004
E46 TYG	Leyland Royal Tiger	Leyland	C53Ft	Lawns of York 2003	Sold RJI Travel of York 2004

Delaine

8 Spalding Road, Bourne, Lincolnshire, PE10 9LE

45 p	KTL780	Leyland Titan PD2/20	Willowbrook	H35/28RD
50 p	RCT3	Leyland Titan PD3/1	W.S. Yeates Ltd	H39/34RD
72 p	ACT540L	Leyland Atlantean AN68/2R	Northern Counties	H47/35F
100	E100AFW	Leyland Tiger TRCTL11/2RZ	Duple Dominant Bus	B59F
103	F603VEW	Leyland Tiger TRBTL11/2R	Duple 300 Bus	B59F
116	M1OCT	Volvo Olympian	East Lancashire	H51/35F
117	M2OCT	Volvo Olympian	East Lancashire	H51/35F
118	N3OCT	Volvo Olympian	East Lancashire	H51/35F
121	P1OTL	Volvo B10M	East Lancashire	B53F
122	P2OTL	Volvo B10M	East Lancashire	B53F
127	R4OCT	Volvo Olympian	East Lancashire	H51/35F
128	S5OCT	Volvo Olympian	East Lancashire	H47/33F
129	T6OCT	Volvo Olympian	East Lancashire	H47/33F
130	X7OCT	Volvo B7TL	East Lancashire	H45/31F
131	ANA7Y	Leyland Olympian	Northern Counties	H43/30F
132	ANA8Y	Leyland Olympian	Northern Counties	H43/30F
133	ANA9Y	Leyland Olympian	Northern Counties	H43/30F
134 w	ANA10Y	Leyland Olympian	Northern Counties	H43/30F
135	Y8OCT	Volvo B7TL	East Lancashire	H45/31F
136	AD03OCT	Volvo B7TL	East Lancashire	H45/31F
137	P87SAF	Volvo B10B	Wright	B51F
138	P112RGS	Volvo B10B	Wright	B51F
139	AD04OCT	Volvo B7TL	East Lancashire	H45/31F
140	AD05OCT	Volvo B7TL	East Lancashire	H45/31F



Volvo Olympian / East Lincs T6OCT is seen leaving Peterborough Bus Station with a service for Stamford (Jeff Hall)

Fleet Profile

Reliance Motor Services

Reliance Motor Services is based at Sutton-on-the-Forest, York. Bus operations commenced way back in 1929. The present owners are John Duff and his wife Margaret, who purchased the business in 1980. The company runs local bus services, school contracts and private hire. The vehicle livery is green and cream and the ticket system is wayfarer. Reliance operates a modern and well turned out fleet.

John Duff looks after the engineering and vehicle registrations side while his wife runs the office.

Their grandson Gary is involved with the company also and is responsible for the operations end; he also helps John in the engineering department when required. There is also a son in law who does driving. So it is definitely a family run business. In 2005 - Reliance won the Best Operator award in the 1 – 10 fleet category

Fleet:

Buses:

Double Deckers

R362DJN	10.02.98	Volvo Olympian	East Lancs Pyoneer	B51/32F
R363DJN	12.02.98	Volvo Olympian	East Lancs Pyoneer	B51/32F
G622OTV	05.01.90	Volvo B10M	Alexander RV	B47/37F (<i>Trent. 1998</i>)
YJ52HEA	01.04.03	Volvo B7TL	Wrightbus Gemini	B74F

Single Deckers

YJ05UKR	01.04.05	Volvo B7RLE	Wrightbus Eclipse	B43F
YJ51NXX	12.11.01	Volvo B6 BLE	Wrightbus	B42F
X618VWR	19.01.01	Volvo B10 BLE	Wrightbus Renown	B46F

Coaches:

J522YLS	01.04.92	Dennis Javelin	Plaxton Paramount 3200	C35F (<i>MacKay, Edinburgh 1998</i>)
K100 BLU	31.03.93	DAF	Van Hool	C53F (<i>Blue Bus, Horwich, 2001</i>)
H940DRJ	03.01.91	Volvo B10M	Plaxton Paramount 3500	C53F (<i>Capital, Heathrow, 1997</i>)

Routes operated: -

Service 30 * Easingwold – York (Monday to Saturday)

Easingwold Market, Aine, Tollerton, Shipton, Skelton, Rawcliffe Mitre, Clifton Green, Leenan Road, York Station Av. - Terminating at York Exhibition Sq.

Service 40 * Askham Bryan – York – Easingwold – Crayke (Monday to Friday)

Askham Bryan Coll, York College, York Station, York Exhibition Sq., Bumper Castle, Wigginton L.E., Reliance Garage, Eastmoor, Sutton, Huby, Stillington, Crayke, Eastingwold Market - Terminating at Crayke.

Service 40 * Easingwold – York (Saturdays only)

York Station Av., York Exhibition Sq., District Hospital, Bumper Castle, Wigginton L.E., Reliance Garage, Eastmoor, Sutton, Huby, Stillington, Crayke, Easingwold Market – terminating at Crayke.

(On Sunday the 9th April, a Sunday service commenced on the 40 route.)

HB Publications

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

No. 1 - South West of England to February 2006	£10.00
No. 2 - South East of England to February 2006	£10.00
No. 3 - London to September 2005	£12.00
No. 4 - West Midlands to December 2005	£11.00
No. 5 - Eastern Counties to August 2005	£8.00
No. 6 - East Midlands & Yorkshire due April 2006	
No. 7 - North East of England due April 2006	
No. 8 - Liverpool & Manchester 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

Publication Update

The **East Midlands & Yorkshire** Book will soon be available. This book is an updated version of the East Midlands and expanded to include fleets in Yorkshire.

By the time this magazine reaches you, the **North East** Book should be available when

Whilst the prices haven't been set yet you can order either of the above two books from Jeff by post, telephone or e-mail and receive an invoice. We don't expect the prices to be above £9.00.

The **North West** Book, which expands the Liverpool and Manchester Book to encompass more fleets in the North West of England, should be available in May.

The **National Coaches** Fleet Book is due to be updated in May. The new book will contain a full fleet list to allow cross-referencing of vehicles to facilitate easier identification.

With the completion of the North West Book we will have all the areas in the UK covered which will allow us to produce Volume 14 the Full UK Registration List, which we believe will be the first book of its kind. This volume will contain all Registrations featured in Volumes in 1 to 12 with details of the Operating Company and the Volume the vehicle is featured in.