

The Trident

The Monthly Magazine of the GB Bus Group

GB BG



Hutchison's (Scottish Pullman) T732JGB a Volvo B10M-62 with Berkhof C51Ft bodywork at The Grand Atlantic Hotel, Weston - Super - Mare in July 2006. Photo Ian Turner

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Feature

Birmingham City Transport (No. 2548) Registration No. JOJ 548 - 1950 Guy Arab IV Part 2 16

Price £1.25

Noticeboard

Editors Bit

Welcome to the September magazine, once again packed with information. Except for a quick trip to Warrington it has been a very quiet month. Please note that Mark Watson has a new address, so if you are sending anything via snail mail, please send to his new one from now on. Last month I credited the photo of Birmingham's 2458 to Maurice Brown when it should really have been the 2548 Preservation Group. Part 2 is in this magazine. If you think we are missing out on anything, please get in contact, and we will try to cover it for you. All that's left is to say enjoy. David.

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

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
Welcome to new members – D.T. Cole (Birmingham), Paul Danks (Worcestershire), Dave Dawson (Littlehampton), Neil Fawcett (Tyne & Wear), David Pearce (Morecambe), Trevor Preston (Staffs) David Robertson (Bedford) Ian Turner (Horsham), Simon Wilson (London) and Adrian Wright (Uckfield)

Contributions

Thanks go to contributors : S J Bennett, Maurice Brown, Mike Enstone, Thomas Graham, Jeff Hall, James Holloway, Chris James, Chris Morton, Robert Moore, Arthur Moorse, Chris Newsome, Tony Platt, A E Spencer, Mark Watson, Andrew Williams, David Sharpe, Steven Hodgson, Simon Jennings, Ian Turner, David Wall, and apologies to anyone that I have missed.

We look forward to receiving your valued contributions.

Magazine

The deadline for the October magazine is September 29th 2006. If contributors can get items to the area reps a week earlier at the latest this will help us all round.

Fleet News

Arriva

Arriva Durham County MPD 1770 is currently on loan to Arriva Tees & District at Redcar. In rather an unfortunate incident yesterday (Saturday 6th August 2006), **Arriva Durham County** Volvo Olympian / East Lancashire 7429 (M693HPF) was de-roofed after taking a wrong turn and going under Albert Bridge in Middlesbrough. The return working was provided by Loftus depot using DAF SB220GS / Ikarus 4074 (T74AUA). DAF SB220GS / Plaxton 4029 (R429RPY) was yesterday (Tuesday, 8th August 2006), destroyed by fire.

Arriva Midlands – The following vehicles were noted at Delta Way Canook on week beginning 07/08 : 1147, 2029, 2209/11/99, 2314/35/6/8/9/60/2/3, 3075, 3312, 4163, 4344/53-5, 4503/6. Arriva Derby Volvo Citybus 4325 H659GPF was noted working on service 110 Tamworth-Sutton Coldfield-Birmingham on 12/08. DAF Spectras 4001/2 L94/5HRF are renumbered and replated to 4698 49XBF, 4699 815DYE respectively. The highest of the DAF Pulsars seen working off Wigston garage is 4762.

Arriva North East A new service X60 is from Newcastle to Scarborough

12/08/06 - Arriva North East have an MCW Metrobus (though to be 611) in service at Bishop Auckland. This is presumably a stand in for 4029. A couple of interesting reports have also popped up on various yahoo groups. On ybdn it has been suggested that two A/B reg Leyland Olympian / ECW are to come from Arriva Yorkshire, while on the renfrewshirebus yahoo group it is noted that reserve fleet MCW Metrobus 620/1/3/4 (WLT954, A959SYF, B112/6WUL) are in service with Arriva Scotland West.

Confirmation is that MCW Metrobus 611 (GYE396W) is indeed the one with **Arriva Durham County** at Bishop Auckland. This is apparently standing in for de-roofed Olympian 7429 which were due to transfer to Bishop Auckland with 7428 (M692HPF) which is already there. Leyland Olympian / ECW 7214/23 (D187/203FYM) have left Bishop Auckland, expected to go to Scotland West, to be followed by 7211/24 (C102CHM, D146FYM).

Craig Bell tells me that **Arriva North East** Volvo Olympian / East Lancs 7429 (M693HPF) is now parked up at Peterlee pending a new roof. Metroriders 2639/41 (P639/41FHN) is currently parked up at Jesmond ex Redcar alongside MPDs 1701/3 (T701RCN, V703DNL) which have come off loan to Darlington. In spite of the desire of Arriva North East to clear itself of Metroriders, a report on the Arriva NW&W Yahoo group suggests that at least one example is to come from there. This may be connected to the start of competitive services 153/4 Gateshead - Saltwell Park or, indeed, to some rumoured contract gains.

Arriva North West and Wales: Fleet Movements: Acquired: 4025 – 8 S265 – 8JUA DAF DB250/ALX400 ex Arriva Southend. Allocations: 1043/51 WD, 1107/8 w, 1124/42/3 CH, 1133 RL, 1139 wdn, 1230 WD, 1278/83/9 CH, 1242/58/9/64,6605/8/9 BN, 2867 (YJ06YRY) AY, 3343/6/9/837 WD, 3608 MA, 3975/6/7/9 RL, 6541 BT, 6586 BT, 6588 SD, 6592 BT, 6594 SD, 6595 BT, 6596/8 SD, 7623 – 6/30 WX. Disposals: 0355 Fleetlink, 1101/4/5 Arriva MN, 1921/2/3/7/8/32/3 to Blythwood Glasgow, 3221/647/51/90/2/832/5/6 Ensigns, 3672 NW Bus Sales, 3682 Gone?, . Vehicles renumbered 4020 – 2 now 4029 – 31.

Arriva Scotland West : - Acquired are ex ANE Metrobuses 620/1/3/4 allocations are 620/1/4 at Inchinnan, 623 at Johnstone. Metrorider 909 and NC/Oly 7450 have returned to ANE.

Arriva Shires and Essex: New Deliveries: 3716 – 28 YE06HRJ/HPA/C/F/J/K/L/N/O/P/U/HNT/U VDL SB120 Wt B28D, Allocated to Watford for TfL Routes H18/9. 3901 – 3 Allocated to Harlow, 3904 – 9 Allocated to Ware for Route 724. Disposals: 2124/58/4041/2/5000/842 Gone.

MK Metro Vehicles Renumbered into Arriva Shires & Essex Series: 1 – 4 now 2431 – 4, 5 – 10 now 2418 – 23, 11 now 2435, 12 – 16 now 2424 – 8, 17 – 25 2436 – 44, 26/7 now 2447/8, 28/9 now 2445/6, 30 now 2429, 31 now 2430, 32/3 now 2449/50, 43 now 3520, 44 now 3510, 45 – 9 now 3521 – 5, 50 now 3537, 51 - 8 now 3526 – 33, 59 – 61 now 3729 – 31, 62 – 4 now 3534 – 6, 80 – 8 now 3620 – 8, 107 – 31 now

2285 – 309, 141 now 3076, 202 now 6038, 216/24/36 now 5163/4/6, 416/9 – 21/3/4/6 – 8 now 3511 – 9, 601 – 9 now 1241 – 5/2099/1246/2100/2, 611 now 2103, 620/1 now 2060/1, 653 now 1240.

First

First Berkshire – Scania 60166 has been noted working on routes around Bracknell, this vehicle has come from First Manchester Bolton garage.

First Edinburgh :- Allocations 30832 - D, 30833 - Ln, 31681 - Ln. Scania 60220 is now allocated to Livingstone, it came from First Manchester.

First Glasgow – Volvo Citybuses are creeping back into service with 31310/1/20 at Parkhead and 31315 at Cumbernauld. The Alexander Strider B10's are on the move to Eastern Counties, although some are rumoured to be operating in Manchester as trainers.

First PMT – The new Scania for service 101 Hanley – Stone – Stafford have arrived they are : 65033 YN06WME, 65034 YN06WMF, 65036 YN06WMJ, 65038 YN06WML, 65039 YN06WMM, 65040 YN06WMO, 65041 YN06WMP, 65042 YN06WMT.

Go Ahead

Birmingham Coach Company - Former Go North East Dennis Darts noted in the new livery are M812HCU, M803/8GFT. Vehicles noted with fleetnumbers are : 281 R527YRP, 288 T443EBD, 404 KU52RYF, 425 R954JYS.

Brighton and Hove – Dennis Darts 65, 82-4 were sold to Ensign and were collected on 24/08, 81 should have gone but would not start. The first of the new Scania Omnidekkas have arrived they are 901, 902.

Go London

London General's Volvo B9TL 'B9' duly entered service this past week, and so far it has been on routes 11 and 87.

Go North East

Optare Tempo 9177 YJ55 BLX had left the fleet on 21st July.

On Sunday 30th July major route changes were made across Tyne and Wear, especially branded routes in Sunderland.

It was reported in the “Shields Gazette” (South Shields), that this operator has an order for 42 single deck vehicles, this was in the paper on 15th July. However I was informed that the new vehicles are to be Mercedes Benz Citaros, however due to the fuel MPG, it has been understood that this would not happen. It is also known that Scania has placed an interest with Omni range, mainly the OnmiCity.

A Mercedes Benz Citaro demonstrator arrived on the 1st August and used on the X2 service for further evaluation. This is the same vehicle that was in the fleet last year on routes X20 and X50. Numbered 9176 BX05 UVZ is in plain white.

A few movements (01/08/06), noted at **Go North East** are Volvo B10M / Plaxton 7058/62/74/5 (M58LBB, GSK962, YSU874/5) from driver training to Washington for the X2, MPD 515 (NK51MJU) from Percy Main to Deptford, 517/8 (NK51MJX/Y) Percy Main to Washington, Dennis Dart / Marshall 8118 (N118WBR) Sunderland - Washington, Optare Sigma 4779-81 (L479-81CFT) Sunderland - Gateshead and 4782/3 (L482/3CFT) Washington - Gateshead. Also, Volvo B10B / Plaxton N603FJO, which is on loan from Oxford, are numbered 9603.

Anyone who wishes to take pictures of coaches in the smart “red Arrows” livery should hurry as this is temporary until new vehicles arrive due in October; see “42 vehicles”, order details above.

The full list of recent fleet movements is as follows:

Type:	No's:	From:	To:
Volvo Olympian	3812-6	Gateshead	Stanley
	3920	Gateshead	Deptford
Leyland Olympian	3676/7/947/8	Deptford	Delicenced
	3953/4/6/9-61	Stanley	Delicenced
Optare Delta	4790/1	Winlaton	Chester-le-Street
Optare Sigma	4776	Deptford	Winlaton
	4779-81	Deptford	Gateshead
	4783-5	Washington	Gateshead
DAF SB220	4867	Stanley	Chester-le-Street
Volvo B10BLE	4848	Gateshead	Stanley
Scania L94UB	4937-41/67-9	Washington	Deptford
	4991/2	Chester-le-Street	Deptford
Volvo B10M	7058/9/62/74/5	Driver Training	Washington
Dennis Dart	8095/102/5/9	Deptford	Gateshead
	8118/9	Deptford	Washington
	8099/108/10/20/1	Deptford	Delicenced
Dennis Dart SLF	580-2	Chester-le-Street	Deptford
	583-5	Stanley	Deptford
	588-97	Deptford	Stanley
Mini Pointer Dart	514-6	Percy Main	Deptford
	517/8	Percy Main	Washington
Optare Solo	456	Stanley	Percy Main

Vehicles removed from the fleet are Optare Metroriders 401/11, Leyland National 4707/11/8, Optare Delta 4738/50/1, Leyland Tiger 5102-4/18/28, Dennis Dart 8090-3/111/2/5 and Volvo B6 8417.

On 6th August another branding was launched, this time the “Stanley Shuttle”, for routes 40 (new), 43, 43A and 44 all between Stanley to Newcastle Eldon Square Bus Station via Metro Centre Bus Station. The livery is standard Go North East but with Yellow lettering with black and white edging on a yellow circle with Thunderbirds arrow pointing up wards to make the “A” in Stanley to overlap shuttle below. The logo and other interesting bits of Sunderland’s branding can be seen on the company’s website on www.simplygo.com or www.gonortheast.co.uk both addresses are the same site.



Today (Wednesday, 09 August 2006), saw the re-entry in service of Gateshead Scania Wrights Artics, at least 4950 and 4951 started on the X66 their usual haunt, but with full internal refurbishment, such as flooring, handrails (light blue), and seating with seating covers as those on the Wrights deckers on the 724, dark blue with the “GO” logo within, all done at Rotherham. Externally received a lick of paint too with metallic light blue from the skirt fading to metallic silver on the roof, there are no vinyl lettering yet. Paintwork was carried out at Blyth

This was not the only batch of vehicles to be so treated, 4916 was repainted in to “Lime” green as in preparation of Gateshead area re-branding, to the such as those reported in Sunderland of recent. This also received a refurbishment internal as to the same as the bendies here, the green as with the dark yellow vehicles in Winlaton area 8219 to 8228 now excluding 8222 (still at Sunderland), the darts have not been so lucky with internal refurbishment.

National Express

Travel West Midlands

Birmingham Central (BC) – Noted in the garage Volvo B10L 1422AG, Dennis Tridents 4127WA, 4163WA, 4305WA. DAF 4015 is up on the jacks with major mechanical failure. Dennis Tridents 4439-4443 have had their Coventry Road branding removed.

Perry Barr (PB) – Fresh respray 2976.

Walsall (WA) – The following vehicles have been on loan 4059, 4062, 4063, 4065 from AG, 4183, 4193 from LH, 3116 from WN, 4143, 4354 from YW.

West Bromwich (WB)– Several metrobuses have been on loan from PB 2779, 2903/9, 3021/51/62. Volvo B7TL's noted in service on service 87 on 4/8 4705/12-4.

Wolverhampton (WN)- Metrobus 3078 and Optare Excel 696 collided in Wolverhampton Bus Station on 8/08, it appeared that 3078 reversed into the side of 696.

Stagecoach

Stagecoach Bluebird :- Withdrawn are 11121/30651/30679/30680/31801 and 40419.

Stagecoach East (Northampton) – Volvo Olympians noted in the old striped livery are 16232, 16686/96/8.

Stagecoach Fife :- New are Optare Solos 47364 SP06FNA, 47366 - 47368 SP06FNC - FNE

Stagecoach in Manchester: Fleet Movements: (P5): Fleet Movements: 16764 HE to ST, 19003/5 – 15/8/20 new to ST, 19001/16/7/9/21/2 new to Res, 20918 GP to Res, 22117/8/20/2/7/8 ST to GP, 22135/42/4 – 8 ST to HE, 22218/9/21/3 HE to ST. 40660 GP to Res, Disposals: 18389/90 to SC East Scotland Bluebird (Inverness), 33094 – 7 to SC Yorkshire (Ecclesfield, Sheffield)

Stagecoach North East

01/08/06 - Due to the speculation (and there was lots of it mind you), that the forthcoming Alexander Dennis Enviro 400's did not materialised on 1st August as per reported, this is apparent a regular happening within the group, so it is the case of see them first then report details here!

10/08/06 - Stagecoach is to trial a bio-ethanol fuelled Scania Omnilink at several locations during August - see <http://www.stagecoachgroup.co.uk/scg/media/press/pr2006/2006-08-09/> . It is to visit Newcastle on 21/08/06 and 22/08/06.

11/08/06 - **Stagecoach in Newcastle's** Slatyford depot is currently housing a pair of Alexander Dennis Enviro 400s. One of these seen is SN06JSY. It is believed that these may be the first of a batch to work services 62/63/X63 in Newcastle. The likely movements that would result from the entry into service of these vehicles would seem to explain

11/08/06 - A sighting of four MAN 18.220 / Alexander heading towards South Shields with Stagecoach in **Darlington** fleet names and that Stockton is to lose some or all of its Volvo B10Ms

14/08/06 – There has been confirmation that the new Alexander Dennis Enviro 400s for **Stagecoach in Newcastle** are to be numbered 19023-45. So far noted SN06JSY/TO/U/Z has been delivered so far.

25/08/06 - More Stagecoach Enviro's 400 were outside the rear of Slatyford Depot, here with no details is SN56 AVY, might suggest that as these enter service on 3rd September, those that were reported with 06 mark should technically be re-registered with 56 marks. Others seen are SN56 AVV, SN56 AVW and SN56 AVX along with the one mentioned SN56 AVY. These have no fleet names and no fleet numbers, as my internal sources reveals they visit Wheatsheaf Depot in Sunderland for radio and ticket machine fitment. CCTV is fitted too as an external camera is fitted on the orange stripe between the white advert panel and the rear red side panel between decks!

Stagecoach in South Yorkshire (Barnsley) – Former Yorkshire Traction Leyland National Mark 2 229 LWE229W has been brought for preservation.

Stagecoach South: New Deliveries: 35118 – 27 GX56KVU/V/W/Y/Z/WA/B/C/D/E Ds DtSLF/ADL B38F. Solos 47369 – 79 to be Allocated to Dover.

Stagecoach Western :- New Optare Solos 47356 - 47362 at Ayr. Reg's are SF06xxx.

Transdev

Both the **Lancashire United** and **Burnley & Pendle** fleets now have the majority in the new TRANSDEV fleetnames, with B&P lagging behind slightly in terms of numbers completed. **Burnley and Pendle:** Fleet Movements: Disposals: 208/13 Sold to McKindless (Scotland).

Veolia

Nottingham Transport – Correction to last months notes Scania Omnidekka's 748-54 are YN06TGF/J/K/O/U/V/X. Volvo B10Bs 603, 613 are off the road in Parliament Street garage, while 609 was out on Driver Training duties on 21/08. Livery changes are 657 Network Purple, 659 Network Green, 662-4 Go2 Green Line were Go2 Pink Line.

Independents

Eastern Counties

Ambassador (Great Yarmouth) – Volvo B10M's 148/9 P411/2MDT are now in plain white livery.

East Midlands

Doyles (Ripley) – Mercedes-Benz 0814D R183OCW carries an overall advert for a computer company.

Trent/ Barton - Volvo B10B with Paladin bodywork 134 was seen in Nottingham on Driver Training duties on 16/08, and is in a plain red livery.

Midlands

Bull Ring Travel (Great Bridge) – This is the new trading name of what was East West Travel. The following vehicles are confirmed in the fleet Optare Metroriders : L734PUA, L739PWW, Dennis Darts : L148YVK, L903JRN, Volvo B6 M419PVN.

North Birmingham Busways - Leyland Atlantean 64 OBX164X has gone to Trevor Wrigley for scrap. Fresh vehicle in is 6 H536YCX a DAF SB2320 with Optare Delta bodywork, it has come from Claribels, it was new to OK Travel in 1991.

Ring and Ride (Birmingham) – New vehicles noted here are 0604-7 at Garretts Green depot, 0608-11 Windsor Street, 0622/3 at Bloxwich depot.

Worths (Enstone, Oxford) - Leyland Olympian BBW216Y is now with Confidence, Leicester.

North East

Dunn-Line (Durham), Hetton-le-Hole.

New Nexus Contract gained with this operator are new service 69 at Heworth Metro; 329 in Walkergate; late evening journeys on 331 at Four Lane Ends and 592 and 593 services early morning and evening journeys to and from Doxford Park International. New here are Optare Solos for Nexus Contracts, seen are YB06 VOK, YJ06 YRM, YJ06 YRN, YJ06 YPP and YJ06 YPR are in Nexus "Link up" livery, these are apparently part of a batch of 10. On loan here, is Optare Solo demonstrator YJ55BKX

Classic Coaches

New Nexus contracts and services gained are service 29 in Gateshead a journey on 45; full service on 350 and 351 at Four Lane Ends and journeys on Saturday morning on 772 and X7.

Here as promised last month, a photo of Classic's new corporate livery, gone with the all over red, and now white base with red and maroon lines and wave.



Classic has updated their fleetlist online http://www.classic-coaches.co.uk/html/fleet_list.php The most notable acquisitions are Volvo Olympian / East Lancs S10/20BCL ex Burtons, Haverhill and Volvo B10BLE / Alexander W901/2UJM ex Network Colchester.

To complete the list of acquired vehicles here is a run down:

Optare Solo

6741 - W441 CWX

6731 - Y291 PDN

6733 - Y293 PDN

6734 - Y296 PDN

Volvo B10B/ Alexander ALX200

7801 - W901 UJM

Volvo Olympian/ East Lancashire

7901 - S 10 BCL

Mercedes L609D/ Reeves Burgess

6866 - F166 XCS

6735 - Y294 PDN

6732 - YJ51 JWW

6500 - YL02 FKY

7802 - W902 UJM

7902 - S 20 BCL

Low Fell Bus Company, Gateshead

New Nexus contracts gained here are route 10C at the Metro Centre and 331 at Four Lane Ends Metro Interchange. On the first day of 10C was Optare Solo CE52 UWV, still in all over plain white livery. This is usually found on day time route 106 in Newcastle. Also in this fleet is a Volvo East Lancashire Volvo D10M, formerly Nottingham City Buses. Noted here are Scania K112 / Plaxton J964YWJ, which would appear to have had a past career with Yorkshire Traction.

Northumbria Coaches

Has lost and withdrawn routes 70, 316 and 318 in the recent changes on 30th July.
Northumbria has sold Dennis Dart Plaxton Min 33/4 NK04UTJ/L to a Scottish operator.
Optare Solo 23 GD02 DPV still remains in the fleet despite rumours of its withdrawal.

Atkinsons, Ingleby Arncliffe

New is Bova Futura WA06LZL here

Redby Travel, Sunderland

Seen today at Redby Travel premises was two open top Metrobuses reg GYE 533/9W both from the sightseeing company (London), also a RM inside the garage, is RML2546.

Compass Royston, Stockton

Has retired their final Bristol VR. MOU746R remains intact with working dual doors and tested until April. A significant number of school contracts have been won in East Cleveland from Redcar & Cleveland BC (mainly in lieu of Skelton Coaches) and much long distance MOD work (as part of Procter's ongoing contract) is being operated, whereas non-seatbelt local work has been lost. Fleet changes (both actual and intended) beyond those mentioned already are as follows:

1 - Five B10M/Plaxton have been acquired from Esk Valley Coaches - F408 DUG (Paramount), and Premiere's L8 TCC (its original registration mark), ESK 793 (originally Eddie Brown M551 WWT), P981 JBC & R459 BAY. The last two are automatics and originated in Eire with CIE, as did previously acquired P432 JJU ex Procters.

2 -The MFC team coach Touro NK05 UEM has been sold to Eddie Brown, apparently for use as the Hull City FC team coach. In part exchange, B10M/Premiere 551 ALW has come to Compass, and has subsequently been re-registered T797 FRU, with the cherished mark being returned to Eddie Brown. A new dedicated MFC coach has yet to be finalised. Volvo B12B/Sunsundegui FJ54 ZDM has been sold to Four Square Coaches, Pontefract.

3 -All existing "standard" and 72-seat coaches have been advertised for sale, except for 72-seat B10M/Supreme PBZ 8343. These are: B10M's LIW 4291 (Duple Goldliner), KIW 7812 (Jonckheere Deauville), C702 KDS (Caetano), Paramount 1624 WY, HIL 9271, TAZ 4059, LIL 9815/6, MIW 9046, and Dennis/Duple 72-seaters F481 KFM, PIL 9276 & H194 TYC. These vehicles remain in service at the present time. It is intended to convert two other B10M's to the 72-seat layout to partly replace the Dennis's.

4 -Mercedes 709D G98 NBD has been withdrawn and is being cannibalised. Mercedes 811D/Wright HDZ 2615 is repainted in the new white livery. Thus the "Town Link" livery is being phased out with only 709D E91 LBV (& Fiesta van S919 ABR) remaining in it. Mercedes 814L minicoach P557 DPY (ex Commercial) is undergoing extensive bodywork rebuilding before entering service.

5 -Delta Coaches K5 URE, Scania/Van Hool tri-axle that remained unsold when Delta reverted to taxi-only work in January 2003, has been acquired by ITC and overhauled, mainly at Procters. The toilet has been removed and it is up seated to 54 from 50. Initially touted to be operated within the group, it has now been advertised for sale with the vehicles listed above.

6 -Certain Procters work is being covered from Stockton by Compass, for which B10M's DSU 313 (Plaxton Premiere), T730 UOS (Jonckheere), USU 345 & Y2 POB (Berkhofs) are on loan from Procters.

7 -To clarify, the two white Touros BU04 UTF and BX04 MZT are Evobus "swing" vehicles based at ITC that are loaned to operators for demonstration and/or maintenance cover. They sometimes appear on loan to Compass. The Sprinter demo BX55 FYD is used similarly. ITC also owned the DAF/Caetano B773 OSB used by Compass, though this had been sold to a new operator, CE Euro Travel in autumn 2004. It suffered

severe vandal damage soon after and had latterly been laid up at Compass. It has recently been removed for scrap.

North West

Ashalls of Manchester: Fleet Movements: Aquired: 127/8/30 M627/8/30WBV Oe Metrorider Oe B31F ex Blackburn 627/8/30. 114 R251RUM MBO814D/Pn B27F ex Dukes Travel.

Bluebird (Middleton, Manchester) – A white liveried Mercedes 0530 Citaro BX05UVZ was noted being used in Manchester on 21/08 on service 112.

Finglands: Fleet Movements: 6 x Enviro 300 ADL on order.

Mayne: (Warrington) Fleet Movements: New Vehicles 35 – 7 YN06JXF/G/H Sca K114IB4/Ir C55F. Aquired: 33/4 RJ18684/B18JCT Bova FHD12-290 Bova C49Ft. Disposals: LJX139/MJI5766 Gone?.

Rosendale Transport: Fleet Movements: Vehicles Renumbered : 66 (G728JJC) to 18, 67 (G727JJC) to 17, 126/7/8/9 to 6/7/8/9.

Selwyns: Fleet Movements: Disposals: 12 (K200SLT), 25 (K525OFM), 59 (VA02NTK) Gone.

South Lancs Travel: Fleet Movements: Aquired: W396/7/8PRC Sca L94UB/Wt B43F ex Dunn Line. Rereg: YN53YGY now K60SLT.

Scotland

Allander (Milngarvie) – A new coach here is SF06NEM.

Dodds ;- New CC06DOT - Volvo B12B/ Jonckheere

Irvings (Law) - Dennis Dart J388GKH was noted in Bathgate, so has probably been sold to another operator ? .

Henderson :- New Solos are B20F YJ06YSE and B33F YJ06YSF

Harlequin :- New Solos are YJ06FXO/FXZ for a Stirling Park & Ride service.

Horsboroughs (Livingstone) – The remaining Leyland National Greenways that were with Blackburn Transport have migrated up north and appear to be with this operator. Leyland Olympian B762GSC ex Lothian is also fresh here and has come from Marbil (Beith).

Lothian :- New are Scania Omnidekka's 995 - 999 SK06AHG/AHH/AHJ/AHL/AHM.

McKindless :- Acquired is NC/OLY G539VBB from Arriva.

South West

Bath/ North East Somerset Council – A new vehicle purchased is Optare Solo YJ06YSB for use on the 672, 674 contract services, the contract at the moment is being operated by Eurotaxi.

A recent visit to Cheltenham produced two ex Whitelaw of Stonehouse Volvo B7L/Wright's working local stage carriage services for **Marchants of Cheltenham**, SA02 CCU & SA02 CDE. The same visit found **Swanbrook** using Optare Solo BU51 OWL on their interlinked town services, again one I have not seen before.

The following have also been seen recently, not yet reported in by PSVC as far as I can recall –
North Dorset Coaches, Bournemouth – VL05 VOL, Volvo B12B/Plaxton Panther ex Volvo demonstrator.
Wickson, Walsall Wood - WT06 HOL, VDL/Van Hool (37164 body no.) **Hillier, Foxham (Hatts)** – PN06
TMV, MAN/Marcopolo C57FL & YN55 NPA, MAN/Noge Catalan C57F **Aztec, Bristol** – VU06 KFL,
Mercedes 814D/Plaxton Beaver 3 (the Cheetah front on a Beaver body) **Ebley Coaches, Stroud** – R267
SDT, Mercedes 0404/Hispano

A visit to **Bristol Bus & Coach Sales** on Sunday 13th found a number of used buses in stock including the usual herds of ex First minibuses, Lynx's and Olympians. One notable Olympian was A957 THW (First Bristol 34557) which had been used by a film crew for an episode of "Holby City". Fleet names and adverts had been suitably doctored, and the bus had received extensive damage. Ex First Devon and Cornwall was former Torpoint VR LFJ 846W in a dark green and gold livery destined for Silverstone race track. Recent non First arrivals were the coach fleet of Weston-Super-Mare based driving school WTTS, Bova Futura OIW 2261, Bova Europa OIW 1303 and Bedford YLQ/Plaxton Supreme AWE 54T. Another Bedford/Plaxton Supreme present was YMT FTO 550V which has also recently served as a driver trainer (fleet number 1013, Stagecoach?). A rare Bristol LH/Plaxton Elite new to Robinson of Great Harwood, NWW 163K, is also present. Looking rather battered was new to Darlington Leyland Leopard/Duple Dominant bus PHN 570R, which despite the Ross Travel names visible had (like NWW 163K) come from Deeble of Upton Cross (Caradon Riviera)

South Gloucester Bus & Coach

Much activity here with the arrival in the last two weeks of 10 Optare Excel's from Eastbourne, R206 DKG to R215 DKG. These were new to Cardiff Buses and have also worked for Reading Transport, and are B42F. At least one second hand minibus has recently arrived, Frank Guy bodied Mercedes 609D P437 NKU. New to Bebbs Volvo B6/Marshall L84 CNY has been re-instated to service. Bought new Dart MW52 PZP is in light blue fleet livery and now sees normal service instead of contract work.

Plenty of decker activity recently with both a music festival and the Bristol International balloon festival taking place at Ashton Court with SGBC providing the bus services.

Tedburn Coaches (Exeter) - This operator is at the moment is the process of being sold to Carmel Coaches (Okehampton).

Wales

Alpine (Llandudno) – Leyland Olympian ONLXB/1R with Northern Counties bodywork B143WNB has been acquired for conversion to open top conversion, this vehicle was new to GMPTE is 3143 in 1985.

GHA Coaches (Wrexham) – Former Arriva North West and Wales Mercedes-Benz with Mellor bodywork R962FYS is fresh here. Its was obtained from Stafford Bus Centre and has been fully refurbished and is in GHA livery.

Company News

Alexanders (Falkirk) – Noted here on 19/08/06 were: Enviro 300 SN06JVX for Monmouthshire County Council in yellow schoolbus livery. Enviro 300 SN56AYJ /AYK all white. ADL Dart/Pointer - YN56HBG/HBK/ HBL all in Stagecoach Livery. There were more Pointer Darts in Stagecoach Livery and also Enviro 400's all unregistered. Lots of white Enviro 200 and 300 vehicles also. Noted here on 22/08/06 were: Stagecoach South ADL Dart/Pointer - GX56KWF/KWG, YN56GZW/ GZX/ GZY/ GZZ. For Stagecoach East Midlands or Yorkshire ? YN56HBD/ HBG/ HBK/ HBL/ HBP/ HBU. Enviro 300 - SN06JVX. Dublin Bus Volvo B7 / ALX400 06-D-532 (AX532). Also the usual un-registered Pointers, Enviro 200 and 400 and 4 Manchester Enviro 400 and one dark blue Enviro 400.

Stagecoach North East Enviro 400's

Hot off the press thanks to Steven Hodgson

Fleet No.	Chassis No.	Body No.	Registration No.	Depot
19023	SFD43GBRA6GXD3977	5424/22	SN56 AVM	Slatyford
19024	SFD43GBRA6GXD3978	5424/23	SN56 AVO	Slatyford
19025	SFD43GBRA6GXD3979	5424/24	SN56 AVP	Slatyford
19026	SFD43GBRA6GXD3980	5424/25	SN56 AVR	Slatyford
19027	SFD43GBRA6GXD3981	5424/26	SN56 AVT	Slatyford
19028	SFD43GBRA6GXD3982	5424/27	SN56 AVU	Slatyford
19029	SFD43GBRA6GXD3983	5424/28	SN56 AVV	Slatyford
19030	SFD43GBRA6GXD3984	5424/29	SN56 AVW	Slatyford
19031	SFD43GBRA6GXD3985	5424/30	SN56 AVX	Slatyford
19032	SFD43GBRA6GXD3986	5424/31	SN56 AVY	Slatyford
19033	SFD43GBRA6GXD3987	5424/32	SN56 AVZ	Slatyford
19034	SFD43GBRA6GXD3988	5424/33	SN56 AWA	Slatyford
19035	SFD43GBRA6GXD3989	5424/34	SN56 AWC	Slatyford
19036	SFD43GBRA6GXD3990	5423/1	SN56 AWF	Slatyford
19037	SFD43GBRA6GXD3991	5423/2	SN56 AWG	Slatyford
19038	SFD43GBRA6GXD3992	5423/3	SN56 AWH	Walkergate
19039	SFD43GBRA6GXD3994	5423/4	SN56 AWJ	Walkergate
19040	SFD43GBRA6GXD3993	5423/5	SN56 AWM	Walkergate
19041	SFD43GBRA6GXD3995	5423/6	SN56 AWO	Walkergate
19042	SFD43GBRA6GXD3998	5423/7	SN56 AWP	Walkergate
19043	SFD43GBRA6GXD3999	5423/8	SN56 AWR	Walkergate
19044	SFD43GBRA6GXD4000	5423/9	SN56 AWU	Walkergate
19045	SFD43GBRA6GXD3996	5423/10	SN56 AWW	Walkergate

New Deliveries

Bessway Travel (Perivale)

YX55DBU, Mercedes Sprinter 616Cdi, Optare Soroco, C22F

Brent Thomas Coaches (Glamorgan)

FJ06ZLD, Volvo B12M, Jonckheere Mistral, C51FT

CCH Aviation Logistics (West Drayton)

A4CCH, Mercedes Atego 1120L, Optare Solera, C39F

Castleways (Gloucestershire)

FJ06BNV, Volvo B7R, Sunsundegui Sideral, C55F

Chauffers (Birmingham)

BU06CUY/W, Setra S315GT-HD, C32FT

Cropley Coaches (Lincolnshire)

WUY713, Volvo B7R, Sunsundegui Sideral, C45FL

Unknown, Volvo B12B, Sunsundegui Sideral, C49FT

Delaine (Bourne)

AD56EBL, Volvo B9TL, East Lancs. Olympus, H??F (On order)

Dublin Bus

100x Volvo B7TL, Alexander ALX400, H76F (on order)

East Yorkshire Motor Services

YX06HVL (+5 others), Plaxton Primo, B28F

Eavesway (East Yorkshire)

YJ06LFW (+3 others), Van Hool T917 Integral, C54FT

Unknown, Van Hool T917 Integral, C34FT (Leeds United FC team coach)

GHA Coaches (Corwen)

2x Volvo B7R, Plaxton Profile, C70F (registrations unknown)

Greys of Ely (Cambridgeshire)

G15ELY, ADL Javelin (10m), Plaxton Profile, C41F

Henshaws Coaches (Moreton-in-the-Marsh)

GL06HET, Mercedes Vario O.814D, Plaxton Cheetah, C33F

Horseman Coaches (Reading)

20x Volvo B12B, Plaxton Panther, C??F (On order)

Jim Stones (Cheshire)

BUS51T, ADL E200 Dart, ADL, B37F

MacPherson Coaches (Derbyshire)

Unknown, Setra S415GT-HD, C49FT

Marshalls (Leighton Buzzard)

2x Volvo B12B, Plaxton Panther, C49FT (registrations unknown)

2x Volvo B7R, Plaxton Profile, C53F (registrations unknown)

Marshalls (Sutton-on-Trent)

YJ06YSP, Optare Tempo X1200, B42F

Redwing Coaches (London)

4x Volvo B12M, Berkhof Axial 50, C53F

2x Volvo B12B, Berkhof Axial 50, C53F

Safeguard (Guildford)

YJ06FXM (+2 others), Optare X1130 Tempo, B34F

Silverline Landflight (Solihull)

Unknown, Mercedes Atego 1523L, Esker Touring, C37FT

Unknown, Mercedes Atego 1523L, Esker Touring, C41F

Silver Star Holidays (Caernarfon)

CX06AHJ (+1 other), Setra S415GT-HD, C49FT

Skills Holidays

5x Setra S416GT-HD Comfort Class, C49FT

Titterington Holidays (Cumbria)

FJ06BOV, Volvo B12M, Jonckheere Mistral, C43FT

TJ's Coaches (Brigg)

MX06KWL, Iveco 50C13, Excel, C16F

Voel Coaches (Rhyl)

FJ06URL (+1 other), Volvo B12B, Caetano Enigma, C49FT

Westbus (London)

2x Setra S415GT-HD, C49FT (Registrations unknown)

Preservation News

Preservation News & Events

Routemaster Association: 17th Sept. - "Northern Event" London Transport 1950s & 60s running day and show at Hotton Park, Wirral.

West Country Historic Omnibus & Transport Trust: 17th Sept – Bus, Coach & Lorry Gathering at Westpoint Showground.

****EFE Showbus Rally:** 24th Sept – Duxford Airfield, Cambridge

London Transport Museum: Acton 29/30th Sept – Guided Tours

Crich Tramway Village: 30th Sept - Enthusiasts day

Walthamstow Pump House: 30th Sept – AEC Rally

Amersham & District Motorbus Society: 1st Oct – Amersham Running Day

****Wirral Bus & Tram Show:** 1st Oct – At Birkenhead

Ipswich Transport Museum: 1st Oct - Come and ride on our Buses

Glasgow Vintage Vehicle Trust: 8th Oct – Open day

****Aire valley Transport Group:** 8th Oct – Vintage Running Day

Sheffield Bus Museum: 8th Oct – Open Day, Tinsley Tram Sheds

Amberley Working Museum: 8th Oct – Vintage Vehicle Show

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

(Look out for the Harold Peers Sales Stand)

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

Sightings Saturday 15th July 2006 – Steve Jenner & Mike Pinder

- Devon Coastal Run at Exeter Coach Park

KTT42P	112	BL LH6L	ECW	S/D	Devon General
A686KDV	1814	LD on LXB	ECW	D/D	Devon General
NTT679	DR679	AEC Regal111	Weymann	D/D	Devon General
UFJ296	56	Guy Arab 1V	PR	D/D	City of Exeter
VDV817	PR817	AEC Regent V	MC	D/D	Devon General
A680KDV	1804	LD ONLXB	ECW	D/D	Devon General
LFJ862W	1215	BL VRT	ECW	D/D	Devon General
86GFJ	86	LD Titan PDZA	Massey	D/D	City of Exeter
A927MDV	7	FD Transit	Carlyle	S/D	Exeter Minibus
L929CTT	1000	Iveco	Mellor	S/D	Exeter Minibus
VDV137S	937	BL VRT	ECW	D/D	Devon General
TDV217J	217	LD Panther	Marshall	S/D	WHOTT
LTA729	1250	BL LL6B	Duple	CH	Royal Blue
NDV37G	537	LD Atlantean	MC	D/D	Devon General
PWS492S		LD Leopard	PN	CH	Badgerline
MMR552	10	LD Tiger Cub	Harrington	CH	Silver Star
C526FFJ	526	FD Transit	Carlyle	S/D	Bayline
CGG704C		BD Val 14	PN	CH	King Alfred

News

For Preservation News please contact Maurice Brown

Birmingham City Transport (No. 2548) Registration No. JOJ 548 - 1950 Guy Arab IV

Part 2 - The Passenger Service Years 1950 - 1968

When new, 2548 had a starring role in experiments carried out by BCT in Quinton Garage with a variety of recovery apparatus, and a photographic record was made of the arrangements. In all probability, the fittings used during the trials were to be put to good use over the ensuing years as it would appear that 2548 was either very unlucky in its early years of service, or else the standard of driving in the 1950's and early 1960's left a lot to be desired. The record cards reveal that she was sent to BCT's central repair works at Tyburn Road, Erdington, no less than seven times between 1950 and 1962 for rectification of serious frontal collision damage and once in 1964 for a rear collision.

The most serious was in December 1951 when the repair card shows a long list of panels and fittings replaced, internally as well as externally, structural repairs, repair or renewal of upper and lower saloon front bulkheads, a new front axle, steering box and radiator.

However, her luck seemed to improve after 1964 because no further works visits were needed as a result of collisions and she settled down to a steady routine of service work punctuated by time off duty for BCT's rigorous programme of 'special cleans' carried out approximately once every 4 to 6 weeks and preventative maintenance of body, electrical and mechanical components based on mileage. This would involve time spent on the pits in Quinton Garage, for example, after 50,000 miles for fuel sprayers to be changed, after 75,000 miles for propeller shafts to be changed, 100,000 miles for dynamo and main brake servo change, 150,000 miles for front brake servos and steering box, 200,000 for front axle change, etc.

In April 1964, she received her third engine, No 71055, replacing No 82665, which had been in since July 1954.

Apart from four days spent at Selly Oak and three weeks working out of Harborne Garage in early 1965, 2548 remained a Quinton bus until spring 1968, covering the following routes:

3 City Centre to Ridgacre Road/Lane, **6** City Centre to Sandon Road, **9** City Centre to Quinton

10 City Centre to Quinton Road West, Gorsy Roa, **11** Outer Circle

33 Quinton to Kingstanding, Finchley Road & **34** Kingstanding, Finchley Road to Quinton

The final annual 'dock' carried out at Quinton at the beginning of February 1968 must have revealed a problem that afflicted most of this particular class of buses after so many years of service. A weakness in the chassis rails where the front hanger brackets of the front springs were fixed resulted in cracks appearing. The remedy was to cut a groove in the chassis where the crack occurred, weld it up and then weld a heavy box section over the affected area. 2548 was taken off the road and eventually sent to Tyburn Road Works for this treatment.

Re-allocation to Hockley took place in April 1968 when the bus was still out of action and it was not until week ending 18th May 1968 that she once again entered traffic.

To be continued.....

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!

Bus Observations

Saturday 22nd July
Tony Platt

WA Shearings Exhall Coach Station

WA/ Shearings

205/9/12/5/8/9, 303/5-7/15,
 3/8/9/21, 404/6/10/9-21/4-6,
 433/47/60/1/4/6/9/70/5/6/82/4,
 491, 501/2/5/6/14/6/22/3/5/6,
 531/2/41/3/5/50/5/7/9/61/3/9,
 570/82/92-4, 618/25/6/45/7/9,
 673/7, 701/6/8/9/11/2/25/6/8
 729/30, 811/4/7/9

Around Birmingham and Coventry

A to Z AEZ9155
Abbey K44TMT

Abbotts of Leeming
 OK06OAL

Birmingham Coach Company
 S391HVV

Chapel End Coaches
 CEC61

Claribels
 V385KVY

Coachleasing
 LVO45W, R329VJO

Corporate Coaching
 MK52UGZ

De Courcey 523/41

Elcock Reisen
 OIW7026, R924LAA

First Wyvern
 67211/632/3

Flights Hallmark
 V447EAL

Hambridge NRU634

Hardings
 B4HCR, KU52RXL

Hunts 5611FH

Johnson Brothers (Mansfield)
 FN02UCM

Johnsons (Henley in Arden)
 L120OWY, T935WWY

Midland Rider 1016

NCB Motors B2NCB

Parks of Hamilton LSK876

Price International
 HUI6828, LJ18160,
 M377KVU, SIB3934

Proctors K539RJX
Ring and Ride 0316
Sania P4CNG
Siesta R4SCC
Skyline R7RBD

Thandi Coaches
 OUI3268/93

Travel Coventry
 1594, 1608, 4203, 6005/12

Travel West Midlands
 537, 1479, 1642/80/98, 4045,
 4055/61/82, 4105/18, 4260/1,
 4342/4/8/73, 4428/9/46/9/53,
 4454/72, 4502/3/22/63/78,
 4615/32/3/47/56

Wainfleet MIW5787

Woodstones Coaches (Kidderminster)

FJ53KZF/L, FJ06BNY
Zara Travel (Halesowen)
 F33XOF

Saturday 22nd-28th July
Exeter -Torquay – Newton
Abbot – Paignton
Stephen Evans

First Devon and Cornwall
 20050/352/412/531,
 34194-8/200, 38016, 40033,
 41160, 42438/61, 46406/663

National Express Services
First Devon and Cornwall
 20518 (315), 20536 (336)

Stagecoach Ribble
 52648/9/658/9, 53022 (341)

Stagecoach Warwickshire
 52641/57 (337)

Go Ahead
 7080/6/9/91-3 (530)

Trathens
 HSK646, LSK873, 514/5
 520/2/4 (501)

Tellings Golden Miller
 YN54WWG, YNWWSU/W
 (324)

Stagecoach Devon
 09999, 14180/1/3/5/9/281,
 14375/510/1/717/942/3/87/8,
 15205/8/323-9, 16017/50/2,
 16057/9/69/71/164/601-3/9,

17002-6/734/6, 18061-81,
 18112-6/8/301-8/29/67/8,
 18383/4, 20347/480, 26023/7,
 31702/3/6/8/9/13/4, 32015-7,
 32019/20/56/79/252/3/62,
 32410/1/34-7/9/40/2/6,
 32619/39/40/991/3, 33160,
 33200/803/4/7, 34115/859-64,
 34866-9/71/3/4/7, 40501,
 40507-15/7/8/49-51/3/711,
 40716/7/9/32/4/78-80,
 42103/7/8/10/2/3/6-8,
 46608/9, 47082/3/9/91/2,
 47095-7/9/101/5/7/8/10,
 47313, 52071/341/3/6

Saturday 29th July
Chesterfield - Sheffield
Andrew Williams

First South Yorkshire
 30553/64/7/71, 30871/3,
 31133, 31784/790/2/3/6-8,
 31800-3, 34055/206/7/11,
 34212/7/9-21/42/7, 40452,
 40454/62/30/42/57, 60406,
 60466 /71/8/9/85, 60500/1,
 60504/12/29/33/40/54/5/9,
 60563/7/70/6/8/9/88/607,
 60614/8/20/2/4/7/9/30/2/48,
 60659/60/6-8/74/7/80-2/6/9,
 60705-8/10/1/3/8/9/21-4/6/9,
 60739-41/4/57/60/3/4/885,
 60890/3, 61192-4/6,
 61200/2/5-7/9-11/58, 62240/3,
 66112-4/9

Hulleys
 AE55EHL

Stagecoach East Midlands
Chesterfield Depot

13165/70/8/81/5/93/5/221,
 14170/901/8/9/18/22/5,
 15077/9-81, 42356/585/7
 52051/630

Stagecoach Yorkshire
 26107, 30188/94/5/9/202/9,
 30213/22-5/8, 31901/2/4,
 31905/7/13, 33232/4, 47386/9

TM Travel
 MW52PZD, R668LFV,
 R561UOT, S779RNE,

W923JNF, Y198KNB,
YN52SYG

Sunday 30th July
Great Yarmouth Coach
Station
10.50 – 11.30
Chris James

Alec Leonard HUI3584
Buckbys P512MBD
Burton's of Haverhill
T200BCL
Caledonian Travel T127JBA
Gillinghams P464JWB
Harold Wood Luxury Travel
P50HWC
Kiddles T847JWB
Lees of Durham 720HKH
Mil-Ken Travel JAZ8315
Moffatt & Willamson
T676ASN
Mullany Starline R914YBA
PamWay Travel A4PTL
Souls S50ULS
Swift Taxis
SF04RHY
Towlers
CNZ8600, TIL4553
Upwell & District 824CDM
Welsh's Tours W7HOL
Wigan Coachways
L530EHD
Wooton's
VN06MX Y

17.50

Altonian S131SET
Barfordian SN03TK
Barnes Coaches MIB6310
National Holidays T197JBA
Pageant (Redwing?)
YN05ARO
Silver Fox SIL1102
Shearings 208, 306

Wednesday 2nd August
Birmingham – Brighton
Gordon and Andrew Williams

Bowens
KR06TVV/W/Z/TWC
City Sightseeing

251, 308/55

Brighton and Hove

5/7/12/4/5/7/1/3/6/8/9,
96/8, 101/2/7/11-4/6
201-9/11/3-8/20-30,
232/4-6/46, 402, 509,
602/4/6/7/9/11/2/5/8/9,
621-38/40-3/6-8/52-63,
665-70, 712/25-7/9,
751-62/4/8/70-2/4/6,
777/9-81, 801/2/4/5/7-15/7,
819-25/7/8/32/3/5-44/7-9,
851-8/60/1/3-5/67-72,
875/6/81-3/6/7, T2

Compass

L717OMV, GX04AZA,
V594DSM, YN53ETK

Dunn Line FJ54ZDE
Excelsior A17XEL
Hardings ER02HCR

Harringtons (Bedworth)

L701MRA, Y52HBO

Jeffs

NUI7726, W607FUM

Johnsons

YJ03GYD, YJ04GYD

Major Coachways (Walsall)

NIW2230

Megabus

13613, 13622

Metrobus 298, 823

National Express Ops

P111SAS, R400SPK,
ST52GZD, T205AUA,
W337CDN, Y308/13HUA,

Stagecoach South / East Kent

16308/9/12/22-4,
18515/6/21-4, 20643/52,
34020/514-6/20-2/4,
40892

Wainfleet MIW5790/3

Thursday 3rd August

Mike Enstone and
Chris Morton

Claribels/Birmingham

International Garage
1000

T792FWR, X92FOR,
X132NWU, Y667HWY,
YD02RCX, YK04FWA,
YJ54CKL, YJ06GKV,

Miller Street, Newtown

Travel West Midlands

1030

247/62, 526, 1079, 1108/41,
1151/92/5, 1206/9/32/7/75,
1311, 2473, 2574/81, 2648,
2730, 2892, 2911, 3039, 9073,
9148, 9264, 9410/1, J784LNV

Zaks Bus and Coach depot

Great Barr, Birmingham

1115

KBZ1410/87/3617/9/908,
KBZ4067/631/6282,
J375GKH, N104KBX,
N498PYS, N580GBW,
R684JMA, S81DOX,
T76XPA, T418/461HNNH,
T702PYX, T714EJB,
T912ASR, V509NOF,
W303EOP, W571JVV,
X857XEW, Y32/7YVV

Birmingham Motor Traction

parked in Zaks Yard

BIG5149, G115TND,
G261TSL, N778VOD,
P405KAV, P695UBD,
X184BNH

Central Buses parked in Zaks
yard

H97MOB, J117DUV

North Birmingham Travel

parked in Zaks Yard

R748RTN, W781XCE

TWM West Bromwich garage

1315

549/51, 621/81, 1534/7/56,
1617/52, 2678, 4264,
4700/1/5-7/10/2/3

Bull Ring Travel garage

Great Bridge

1345

H705UNW, L148YVK,
L734PWW, L739PUA,
L903JRN, M419PVN

Diamond Bus Garage

Hallbridge Way, Tividale

1415

H128THE, K320YJA,
KU52RYH, P102HCH,
P502/5/9OUG, P829BUD,
R527YRP, R970MGB,
W30DTS, YJ03PGZ,
YJ53VHF,

Prospect Coaches Garage, Lye

1600

B10MNC, CLZ4009,
E735LJT, F640OHD,
GAA471S, LRU822,
M950JBO, P22/66/77TCC,
P88TCC, P425/6JDT,
PR06BET, PCZ5794
PIL5208, SIL3121/4191/5395,
SIL7883, TIL2505,
T637/8JWB, TSN391S,
VIL5317, W561WKH,
WJI3488/9, WLJ210S,
YBZ3360, YIL2759/60

**Hansons Bus and Coach
Garage, Lye****1700**

AOR947A, BV55UPO,
H849NOC, J119/20HGF,
KP02PUU, N672CLV,
P369MOA, SIL7102,
W224KDO

**Saturday 5th August
Stephen Evans****Birmingham New Street
Rail Replacements****Deer Hill (Staffs)**

PLZ3063

Elcock Reisen

1577NT, OIW7026

Hardings

B2/3HCR, KU52RXL

Harringtons HIL8416**Hills S478WFX****Johnsons Bros (Mansfield)**

B736ECN, C656LJR,
YN03AVE

JST International (Staffs)

MIW4890

Newbury Coaches (HFD)

R410/442FWT

Price Travel (Staffs)

N48MDW

Prospect

LRU822, YIL2579

Sania SBZ5832**South Gloucestershire**

L500SGB

Tappins 179 N179LHU**Travel De Courcey**

ROX656Y

Travel West Midlands

4153, 4236, 4437, 4456,
4502, 4506, 4523, 4654,
4655

Travel Coventry 4412**Zaks**

KBZ3619, S81DOX

West Bromwich Bus Station**Travel West Midlands**

514/5/33/40/2/55/91-3,
622/4/5/9/30/2/3/66-8,
670-4/6/8-81, 1525/8/9,
1531/2/4-6/8/9/60/78,
1580/2/3/7-9, 1613/4/6,
1620/2/6/7/40/52, 1704/6/7,
2535, 2646/97, 2807/41,
2861/79, 2902/4, 3604/5
3608/9/12/3, 4274/94/7

Saturday 5th August**Andrew Williams****Cardiff – Porth – Pontypridd
– Merthyr – Cardiff****Bebb**

CN54HFB/C

CN06BXC/E/J/L/P/S

First Cymru

20355/68/70, 21111

Islwyn 33**Johns of Merthyr**

JT10 L439FPA

JT12 W74XCE

JT14 M675TNA

Shamrock owned Companies

AIG7826/7/916/44,
H788NUH, M252KNR,
M425/6JNY, M402PCK,
M501ALP, M851JHB,
N161YEG, N224BAL,
N420GBV, N986KKG,
P122DMS, R704TRV,
R503VOR, T161/2PNY,
T448JCR, TIL1186/7,
V236LWU, W302/3MKY,
W391/2/4WPX,
W674/5DDN, YJ55BHZ

Sixty Sixty Travel

GX54AOR

Stagecoach in South Wales

20697/972, 33621/6,
34038/153, 41162/5,

41404/11, 47194/7,
47342-4/7/950, 52273/7

**Stagecoach in South Wales
Porth Garage**

20001/406/871, 23951,
32051/995, 33283/607/21/5,
41166, 41416, 52182

Thomas of Rhonnda

A151/61HLV, ANA6Y,
B965WRN, C214FLD,
CN55FCY/Z,
D204/22/59FYM, F457BKF,
F991UME, FT52WGT,
JT02WGT, FT03WGT,
FJ54MLZ, JT03WGT,
NUW609Y, P2WGT,
TDT1L, W353UWO,
W422XVE, WA06GTF

Saturday 12th August**Andrew Williams****Birmingham New Street
Rail Replacements****Hills FJ06BOU****Johnsons T935WWY****Newbury (Ledbury)**

R422FWT

Skyline R578NFX**Stagecoach Cheltenham and
Gloucester****Cinderford Town Centre**

41805, 42588

Coleford Depot**Lakers Road, Coleford**

16203/8, 20694, 26071,
27300, 32257, 33294, 47434

Coleford Town Centre

32086, 40595, 41159, 42586,
47433

**Stagecoach Cheltenham and
Gloucester****Gloucester Depot**

41806, 47964, 52265

Saturday 12th August**Stephen Evans****Digbeth Coach Station
0930-1315**

Ambassador
 FD54DHY (308)
 195 P803BLJ (308)

Birmingham Coach Company
 49 YJ03PGY (420)
 50 YJ03PGZ (777)
 52 YJ03PNN (777)

Bennetts (Tamworth)
 A10BNT

Bebb
 CN53NWB (321)
 CN04NFF (320)
 CN05DZH (536)

Bruces
 SJ54GBE (539)

Dunn Line
 ECZ9139 (342)

East Yorkshire
 41 (322)
 43 (322)

Elcock Reisen
 A2EXC (545)

First Coaches
 23201 (318)

First Cymru
 20428 (528)

First Devon and Cornwall
 20519 (328)
 20523 (339)
 20542 (330)

First Manchester
 20463 (314)
 23016 (305)

Girlings (Plymouth)
 TIL5636

Go Northern
 7083 (332)
 7088 (304)
 7092 (531)
 7093 (530)

Hardings
 H3HCR, Y3HCR

Haytons
 YIL7722
 YN05HGJ (325)
 YN55WSO (325)

Parks 509 (538)

Riddlers W357MKY

Selwyns
 74 (303), 103 (420)

South Gloucestershire
 L60SGB (318)

Stagecoach Warwickshire
 52645 (320)

Stagecoach North West
 53022 (341)

Stagecoach Yorkshire
 66 (335)

National Express Ops
 NXL1/3/9/15/20/1/2/9/32

Tellings Golden Miller
 YN55WSV (324)

Trathens
 YN51XNE (570)
 YN51XNL (570)

Travel West Midlands
 C002/4/5/8/9/10

Travellers
 PO55OWY (570)

Truronian
 T2TRU (330)

Voel
 4543VC (861)

Zaks
 BU51ZAK (570)

**Birmingham New Street
 Rail Replacements**

Audsen Clarke
 NIB8179, XIL5932

Coachleasing (Nuneaton)
 LSV45W

Elcock Reisen OIW7026

Hardings
 B4HCR, KU52RXL

Harringtons (Bedworth)
 AAL453A

Hills N738EWD

**Johnsons Brothers
 (Mansfield)**
 G754UYT

Johnsons (Henley)
 N10JRJ, B10JCT,
 T936WWY, W119DUA,
 W162DYG, YJ04GYC

Newbury (Ledbury)
 T529EUB

Prices HUI6828

Travel Coventry
 4414, 4695

Travel West Midlands
 4434/96, 4506/14,
 4618/77

Wicksons WT02WCT

Saturday 19th August
Stephen Evans

**Cannock Bus Garage
 Delta Way, Cannock**

Arriva Midlands
 1158, 2081, 2105, 3101/3
 4163, 4301/23/44/7/9-1/4
 4391, 4503/28/69

Cannock Bus Station

Alfa Holidays
 39 PN06KJZ

Arriva Midlands
 1159, 2020/2/58/73/85
 2105, 2286/7/89-94
 2323/5/54-8, 2701, 3301-3

Outside Stafford Rail Station

Arriva Midlands
 1181, 2087/99, 2318/29/30,
 2334/5/7/71/3-6, 2731/4-6

V festival vehicles

Arriva Midlands
 3039/86, 3311-3, 3423/4/7
 4323/5/96, 4504/6/71, 9501/6

First PMT
 61243, 65001-3/5/6/26

Wolverhampton Bus Station

Banga Travel
 HEZ5186, L369JBD

Travel West Midlands
 C010, 2635, 3082/7/8

V festival vehicles

Arriva Midlands
 3072/4/8/84/6/91/2, 3106,
 3306, 3423/7

First Devon and Cornwall
 20547/8 (328)

National Express
 NXL3

Monday 21st August
Andrew Williams

A Bus
 AP53BUS, AP04BUS,
 B222AJP, B892/9UAS,
 BU54AJP V444AJP

City Sightseeing
 A931SUL, B285WUL,

First Bristol
 30210/1/537, 31841/6,
 32002/5/12/7-9/22/279,
 32280-2/5-7/9/92/701,
 34008-10/46/9/51//132-5/7/8,

34143-5/8/50/5/7/61-3/5/8-70,
3412/3/5/7-82-4/6/7/9/90/1,
34555/68/606-12/4/5/7-9
34622-4, 37001-15/7/8/9,
38000/9, 41199, 42703/4/6-9,
42711/9/23/4/32/4/6-8,
42900/38/9/50/2-62/4-6,
46205/11/15 /20/31/2/41/3/4,
46603/8/15-7/9/20/2/5/8/30-2,
46641/5-50/2/3/6/8/9/704/33,
46903/7-9/11, 48210-2/4/6/21

48222-4, 50258, 60949/63/4,
60966/8/9/75/7/9-81/90-2,
61012/107/8/16/20/71/350,
66351/3/512/723/6/7/29/30,
66732/5/6/952/61/121/2/30,
67132-4/6
First Somerset and Avon
32637/8, 34190, 38001/7,
38010/1/7, 39912/20,
41331/3/4, 42221/2, 46253/6,
46259/60-4/605/729, 51001,

51079 /96/7/102/3/6/67/8/241,
51558/64, 66100/2/3/5/9/18,
66206/7
South Gloucestershire
BHZ6984, G922VWV,
H357WWX, H460WWY,
K624YVN, L84CNY,
L70/300/400/555SGB,
N600WGL, R207DKG
Truronian W3TRU

Football Match Sightings

August 23rd – Middlesbrough v Chelsea
Team Coach
Ellisons – LOT7E
Supporters Coach
Redwing
YN54AAK

Team Coach
Classic Coaches – WSV572 (Probably flew up
and staying in a local hotel)
Supporters Coaches
Vision Travel – VIL5305
Lucketts – Y3HLC

August 28th – Middlesbrough v Portsmouth

Why don't you send in your sightings if you go to a match? E-Mail them to David Sharpe address on page 2.

Tram and Light Rail News (Martin Hall)

Blackpool - Tram 622 is now out of the paint shop. The body is blue and the roof yellow. Brush Tram 287 is now being prepared for restoration work. Flooring in the saloon has been removed and has revealed that the underframe is in fairly good condition - with only small amount of corrosion.

Bristol - The Bristol Supertram failed because of the costs but a Bristol company Sustraco has put forward a plan to produce a light weight hydrogen powered tram which would cut costs and be environmentally friendly.

Cardiff - Super buses in designated busways will be a waste of time as the car owners will not use them. Although a tram system would be far more expensive it would be, in the long term as they did on mainland Europe, a better option.

Docklands Light Railway - The DLR has ordered 31 more vehicles from Bombardier on top of the 24 it has already ordered to cope with the transport needs of the 2012 Olympics.

Manchester - The organisation is not working on the Metrolink as trams are now sitting in jams along with buses and cars and this was not envisaged when the tram system was set up. Back in service after refurbishment is car 1018 in the new livery. The tram has had the *Sir Matt Busby* stickers removed. Small fleet numbers are now appear on the front and rear panels
Disruption of services on the Metrolink on Friday 4th August, caused by a car crashing into a the Navigation Road level crossing

Norwich – Will possibly be having a feasibility study into a tram link between the east and west of the city. The cost of the study is a £100,000

Tyne & Wear Metro - Nexus, the people who run the TWM have been told that if it wants to modernise its metro it will have to find its own money from private investors. Construction on the 60th Station at Simonside in South Tyneside commences construction in the autumn. Those of you not familiar this would be between Bede and Tyne Dock on the South Shields section.

West London Tram - Although there are disagreements about the tram system which has been opposed by some London Councils, Ken Livingstone has said that the scheme will still go ahead



National Holidays 975 N735HWT a Volvo B10M-62 with Plaxton C49Ft bodywork at The Grand Atlantic Hotel, Weston – Super – Mare in July 2006

Photo Ian Turner

Fleet Lists

Hills Coaches, Canalside, Hordern Road, Wolverhampton

BU03LYW	Kassbohrer S315GT-HD	Kassbohrer	C49FT
BU51FXJ	Mercedes-Benz O404	Hispano	C49FT
BX06JXO	Mercedes-Benz 604		C23F
F478WFX	Volvo B10M-60	Duple	C57F
FJ04ETA	Volvo B12M	Berkhof	C51FT
FJ05ETA	Volov B12B	Berkhof	C51FT
FN06BOU	Volvo B7R	Plaxton Prima	C70F
GIL3273	Volvo B10M-60	Plaxton	C57F
H290XNS	Volvo B10M-60	Van Hool	C53F
K838FEE	Mercedes-Benz 811D		C33F
L100CLA	Volvo B10M-62	Van Hool	C49FT
L400CLA	Volvo B10M-62	Van Hool	C49FT
N738EWD	MAN 11.190	Berkhof	C53F
SIB6719	Volvo B10M-61	Plaxton	C49FT
V350EKY	Mercedes-Benz O814D	Plaxton Cheetah	C33F
W317SBC	Volvo B10M-62	Caetano Enigma	C49FT
W597KFE	Mercedes-Benz 410D	Autobus Classique	M14F
YN03AXR	Auewaerter N316SHD	Auerwaerter	C53F
YN03DFF	Scania K114EB4	Irizar Century	C49FT
YN04GOP	Scania K114IB4	Irizar Century	C55F
YN05HVG	Mercedes-Benz O814D	Plaxton Cheetah	C33F

Fleet Profile

Company – Robinsons Holidays

Robinsons Holidays have been in the coaching business for over 80 years. The fleet is garaged at Park Garages, Park Lane, Great Harwood in Lancashire. Robinsons also own five hotels. Its operations include continental tours, UK tours, private hire, excursions and school contracts.

Their coaches are of high quality with large panoramic windows plus all the latest technology which includes: Climate control air – conditioning, refreshment & refrigeration facilities, TV/Video/DVD and speaker systems for onboard entertainment.

Fleet colours are blue with yellow lettering, although 247 is still in its old green and black.

Fleet:

No	Registration	Year New	Seats	Chassis/Body
200	PF 05 RFZ	2005	3	Honda Accord
201	PG 05 FKL	2005	1	Peugeot 206
202	N780 EWJ	1996	2	Fiat/ Iveco Van
203	Y203 PBH	2001	8	Ford Transit
207	Y207 PBH	2001	8	Ford Transit
204	Y756 OAE	2001	3	Fiat Marea Weekend
205	MT 55 NDZ	2005	4	Citroen Berlingo
206	MJ 55 XFL	2005	4	Citroen Berlingo
208	MJ 06 VVC	2006	4	Citroen Berlingo
247	J247 LFR	1992	49	DAF/ Van Hool
256	P256 YFR	1997	43	Volvo B10M/ Plaxton
257	P257 YFR	1997	43	Volvo B10M/ Plaxton
258	S258 JFR	1998	43	Volvo B10M/ Plaxton
259	S259 JFR	1998	43	Volvo B10M/ Plaxton
260	S260 JFR	1998	43	Volvo B10M/ Plaxton
263	NB03 BUZ	2003	48	MAN/ Neoplan
264	NE03 BUZ	2003	48	MAN/ Neoplan
265	YR 02 UNJ	2002	43	MAN/ Noge
266	YR 02 UNK	2002	43	MAN/ Noge
267	YR 02 UNL	2002	43	MAN/ Noge
268	YN 03 AXD	2003	35	MAN/ Noge
269	FN 04 JZU	2004	48	Volvo B12B/ Jonckheere
270	FN 04 JZV	2004	48	Volvo B12B/ Jonckheere
271	FN 04 JZW	2004	48	Volvo B12B/ Jonckheere



263 YR02UNK MAN / Noge at Robinson's garage 31st August 2006

Photo David Sharpe

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No. 22 – Major Fleet Budget Series – First **NEW**	£5.00

Publication Update

The long awaited UK Registration list is now available. The book, which contains over 60,000 registrations, is made up from the entries in Volumes 1 to 10. Each registration has a unique Operator Code next to it, which in turn can be looked up to get the Operator Name and the HB Publication Volume the vehicle is featured in.

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