

# The Trident

The Monthly Magazine of the GB Bus Group

## GB BG



*Seen on Driver Training Service is Stagecoach Megabus CN56LSL (54001)  
(Geoff Colclough)*

## Volume 2

## No 3 March 2007

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

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**Price £1.25**

# Noticeboard

## Editors Bit

David underwent surgery last month, so to aid his recovery I am editing this magazine, with David returning next month. I'm sure you'll join me in wishing David will and look forward to his speedy recovery – Jeff Hall

## Membership Details

Membership of the GB Bus Group is £13.00 per year. This gives a monthly magazine and 20% discount on all HB Publications Bus Books. Please make cheques and Postal Orders to GB Bus Group. Welcome to new members – Peter Clare (Derby), J. Hatch (Exeter), Roderick Nelson (Birmingham), Giovanni Sacco (Bedfordshire), Eric Smith (Oswestry), Peter Stears (Bucks), Stan Ward (Co. Durham), Simon Williamson (Gateshead) and John Woods (Bracknell).

## Urgent appeal for help!

In the January GB–BG magazine we appealed for help from members in the East Midlands and Welsh areas for news or for a member to take on the role of Area Representative – to date no one has come forward with an offer of help. We have a number of members in the East Midlands – surely someone could provide the Group with news – even if it is only one line?

As said before you can write, email or telephone any news item to me, if I am not available leave a message on the answer machine and I will get back to you ASAP.

In the February magazine we advertised for members to come forward and assist with sightings by taking on the role of **Sightings Editor** to type out members hand written sightings for magazine – to date no one has come forward. The practicality now - is that we will only be able to accept sightings by email or on a CD - unless some one comes forward to assist in typing them up in to Word?

Regarding the North West Area Representative - one member has come forward to assist.

Also wanted is an Area Representative for the West Midlands

We are also looking for members who are interested in assisting with compiling of bus publications We have over 170 members, with only a small minority involved with the operations of the group. If members do not come forward to help – **we will see a reduction in the page size of the magazine.**

**So I say to the membership – the long term future of the GB Bus Group rests entirely in your hands – PLEASE COME FORWARD AND HELP!**

If you require further information on helping with the GROUP – it doesn't matter how small, please contact me - Maurice Brown, 192, Alvechurch Road, West Heath, Birmingham B31 3PW  
Tel **0121 624 8641** or email [Maurice@gb-bg.co.uk](mailto:Maurice@gb-bg.co.uk) Thank you.

## Contributions

Thanks go to contributors Andrew Chadwick, Dave Stewart and LOTS, Derek Lines, Mark McCann, Terry Won Ming, and Ross Newman, Jonathan Twedde, Graeme Warnes plus of course your area representatives, with apologies to anyone whom we have inadvertently missed.

We look forward to receiving your valued contributions.

## Magazine

The deadline for the April magazine is March 30<sup>th</sup> 2007.

# Fleet News

## Arriva

**Arriva Midlands**– Scania OmniCitys 3550 YN56NNA, 3551 YN56NNB have arrived and are used on service 767 Tamworth – Kingsbury – Hams Hall – Coleshill – Birmingham Airport they are in Warwickshire Countylinks Livery. Arriva Midlands have purchased Chase Bus, Chase Terrace.

**Arriva London:** Currently in build at ADL with delivery over the coming weeks are Enviro200Darts for route 393 all being 9.3m

ENS1	LJ07EDK	ENS2	LJ07EDL	ENS3	LJ07EDO	ENS4	LJ07EDP
ENS5	LJ07EDR	ENS6	LJ07EDU	ENS7	LJ07EDV	ENS8	LJ07EDX
ENS9	LJ07EEA	ENS10	LJ07EEB				

**Arriva Scotland West** - Dart 1624 is now in Citylink livery

## First

**First Aberdeen** - Mercedes Artic 10046 and Olympian 31555 are both now withdrawn.

**First Beeline:** Darts 41171 and 41173 have been transferred to First Cymru

**First Eastern Counties** - Fleetnumber 37158 (possibly 37156 too) has been allocated to one of the incoming Volvo B9TL/Wright Eclipse Geminis. Unfortunately registration numbers are not currently known.

Sold are: Leyland Lynxes 62625/703 (F625RTC, G103HNP) to Carlton of Wigley  
Volvo B6/Alexander Dash 48002/6 (L102/6PWR) also to Carlton.  
Volvo B6/Alexander Dash 48001 (L101PWR) has been withdrawn.

**First Edinburgh** – The following vehicles are painted in a mauve livery for use on University of Stirling services : Scania L94UB 60197, 65694, 65722, 65723. Volvo Olympians 30740, 30746, 30750 are allocated to Bannockburn, with 30749 allocated to Livingstone. Scania N94UD 36007, 36012, 36022 have no route branding applied.

Allocations are 31638-D, 31682-LW, 32670/1-D, 36029/30-LW, 40946-L, 60191-L, 62284/7-G, 65748-G. Scania 62394 has left the fleet.

**First Glasgow** - Another Volvo B10M/Alexander from South Yorkshire is 60465 G610NWA..

**First West Yorkshire** : Optare Solo 50318 YJ53ELO has been transferred to Halifax from Huddersfield.

**First York** - Starting on Sunday 26th February we are commencing a new coach service between York Railway Station and Leeds Bradford International Airport. The vehicles rumoured to be used on the route are Volvo B10M-62 : 20461-4 X191-4HFB which were previously with First Manchester on National Express work, they were new to Wessex.

## Go Ahead

### Go North East

On February 3<sup>rd</sup> new Scania Omnicity was today noted on the road in plain all over red in Consett. The destination screen seemed to be displaying text only (no service number), so it was probably not in service. Volvo B10BLE / Wright 4906 (W906RBB) was reported as being repainted in orange.

Two days later the new Scania Omnicities from Stanley depot's 45/46 Newcastle - Consett routes started service. Those reported in service so far are 5237/8/40 (NK56KHE/F/H).

Some of the details of the interior of one of the new Scania Omnicities have been reported. It is worth noting that the bulkhead around the cooling system is in grey plastic, where the Arriva examples use the more stylish floor covering, the rear destination is not built-in to the rear window as such, but mounted in the middle of it, and the emergency door is the same as the modified examples fitted to certain Arriva Omnicities.

Reports of some early movements to Percy Main, as part of the latest round of fleet re-arrangements that will be caused by the service changes at the end of the month, and new vehicle deliveries. Percy Main have received Dennis Dart SLF / Caetano 8288 (X94FOR) and Volvo B10B / Alexander 4812 (L212KEF). Neil Wise and John report that Percy Main had Optare Solo 451 (S251KNL) out on service 308 yesterday vice Trident!

On February 8<sup>th</sup> it was reported that Go North East had moved Dennis Dart / Marshall 8108/24 (M818GFT, N124WBR) to Percy Main. Steven Hodgson reports that Scania L94UB / Wright 5229 (NK55OLG) has donned a variation of the Prince Bishops livery with more silver to the front end and "Swift" wording added.

Volvo B10BLE / Wright 4844 (R844PRG) and 4908 (W908RBB) are carrying "Diamond Durham Tyne Link" branding. Scania L94UB / Wright 5230 (NK55OLH) is another in Prince Bishops Swift livery. Scania Omnicity 5244 (NK56KHO), one of the latest delivered, is now branded as "West Durham Swift".

A whistle-stop tour of Stanley Consett and Gateshead this morning saw the **Go North East** Scania Omnicities 5238/41/2/4/9/51-3 (NK56KHF/J/L/O/V/X/Y/Z) all working for Stanley, with 5244/9 branded as West Durham Swift. It would appear that Stanley now have most of 5234-53 in use. News to top this, courtesy of Steven Hodgson, is the use of new Omnicities 5263/4 (NK56KJY/Z), in pink livery for the 21, on Red Arrows service X2 today from Washington! Whether this indicates a delay to the Mercedes Citaros' delivery is not known. It was noted today that Volvo B10BLE / Wright 4837-9/41/3/907/8 (R837-9/41/3PRG, W907/8RBB) are all now fully branded for the Diamond Durham Tyne Link. Volvo B10B / Alexander 4811 (L211KEF) is now at Stanley. Steven Hodgson note the repaint of Dennis Trident / East Lancs 3803 (V803EBR) into all over beige. This is understood to be for the new 1 that will replace the 301 in March. Grant Potter has noted former Go North East Optare Metrorider 426 (P426VRG) for sale on [ebay](https://www.ebay.com).



**New to the Go North East fleet is Scania Omnicity NK56KHV (5249) seen in Newcastle on the X21 to Eldon Square (Steven Hodgson)**

The new **Mercedes Citaros** are indeed delayed. Nine pink Scania will fill-in at Washington until their arrival, with the result that the transfer of Tridents from Chester/Gateshead to **Oxford** will be delayed. The Volvo B10B / Plaxton 4813-6 (N813-6WGR) are due to transfer to **Go West Midlands** and corrects by saying that 5254 is not at Stanley.

Some Deptford vehicles are being repainted beige for the "Drifter" 60/61, with one being done at a time and the first repaint being done currently. Movements recorded on the ever-useful Go North East website but not yet noted here are of Dennis Dart / Marshall 8099 (M809GFT) from Chester-le-Street to Deptford, Scania L94UB / Wright 4989/90 (YN51MKV/X) from Chester-le-Street to Washington, Volvo B10BLE / Wright 4844 (R844PRG) from Gateshead to Stanley and 4849-5/96-8 (R849/56/1-5PRG, V986-8ENL) from Stanley to Chester-le-Street, DAF SB220GS / Northern Counties 4820-5 (P320-5AFT) from Chester-le-Street to Deptford, Volvo B10B / Alexander 4809 (L209KEF) from Winlaton to Chester-le-Street, Optare Delta 4759 (K759SBB) from Chester-le-Street to Gateshead and 4789 (M789HCU) from Chester-le-Street to Winlaton, Dennis Dart SLF / Marshall 586/95 (T407/26AGP) from Stanley to Deptford and VDL SB120 / Wright 8268 (NK54NKU) from Deptford to Gateshead. Optare Sigmas 4782/6 (L482/6CFT) are withdrawn (the latter understood to have fire damage), along with Dennis Lance / Alexander 4768 (J110SPB) and Dennis Dart / Marshall 8097/119 (M807GFT, N119WBR).

Following fire damage, Dennis Trident Plaxton 3887 is being repaired, before being transferred to Oxford.

Volvo B10BLE / Wright 4902 (W902RBB) has been branded as "Lime Cross County Connection" for the 8/78/X8 and Scania 5234 as Red Kite for the 45/46 group.

The former Bishop Auckland depot has now been completely flattened, ready for new homes to be built on the site.

## **National Express**

### **Travel West Midlands**

**Acocks Green (AG)** – The elusive Volvo B7 1787 was noted in service on 16/02, 4 weeks after the others entered service.

**Birmingham Central (BC)** – Dennis Trident 4370 has been noted back in service here after being transferred to Yardley Wood earlier in the month. The early series of Volvo B7TL's 4023-4041 are due to go in for heavy refurb soon.

**Lea Hall (LH)** – The influx of MCW Metrobuses continues here with 2731, 2750 from Yardley Wood, 3017, 3018, 3035, 3040, 3061 from Perry Barr. MCW Metrobuses 2599, 2729, 2785 are now withdrawn.

**Miller Street (XS)** - The following vehicles were noted parked here on 23/02 :

Mercedes 0814 : 271

Leyland Lynx's : 1079, 1120, 1156, 1192, 1195, 1206, 1207, 1208, 1232, 1233, 1237, 1275, 1299

Metrobus Mark 2's : 2555, 2572, 2588, 2599, 2623, 2725, 2729, 2785, 2915, 2927, 2932, 2939, 2945, 3026, 3029, 3094

Driver Trainer Leyland Lynx : 9072

**Walsall (WA)** – There is a lot of speculation about the future of the Gas Buses 1501-1514 as they are due off lease later this year. Leyland Lynx 1240, 1290 have been noted at Walsall garage, 1240 has had its route branding removed.

**Travel London:-** a couple more TA transfers to note are 4, 10-12 heading to Battersea for the C3, 26-29 are moving to Twickenham for the Kingston University service

**Travel Dundee** - 7311 N125YRW has returned to West Midlands.

## **Stagecoach**

**Megabus** - Stagecoach at Cwmbran have received the first two 15metre Volvo/Plaxton Panthers for Megabus work, these are 54001 CN56 LSL and 54002 CN56 LSO. There is a considerable amount of driver familiarisation to undertake before they enter Megabus service.

Exeter based Mega bus drivers went to Winchester in February to be type trained with one of the new Volvo B12/ Plaxton 15 metre 3 axle coaches which will replace the Neoplans being used at the moment. The vehicle used was FN 54001 (CN 56 LSL)

Stagecoach Devon – have acquired Megabus 13601 BIW 4977.

**Stagecoach Devon** - Awaiting disposal are 14510, 14511,14512,42105 and 42108.

**Stagecoach East** - The following fleet alterations have been noted here;

Leyland Olympian/Alexander RL 14047 (G647EVV) from reserve to Kettering.

Leyland Olympian/Alexander RL 14476 (D376XRS) from reserve to Bedford.

Leyland Olympian/Alexander RL 14477 (D377XRS) from Bedford to Northampton.

Volvo Olympian/Northern Counties Palatine 16008 (P808GMU) from Cambridge to Bedford.

Volvo Olympian/Northern Counties Palatine 16528 (P528EFL) from Bedford to Cambridge with this bus, along with 16541/3 (P541/3EFL) going to South East Coachworks for open top conversions.

Volvo B10M-55/Alexander PS 20201 (M201LHP) Warwickshire to Northampton.

Volvo B10M-55/Alexander PSs 20206/809 (N206TDU, N809DNE) Warwickshire to Bedford.

Volvo B10M-55/Alexander PSs 20814/6 (N814/6DNE) Warwickshire to Northampton.

Volvo B10M-55/Alexander PSs 20845-8/50/6/7 (P845-8/50/6/7GND) from Liverpool to reserve.

Dennis Dart/Alexander ALX200 33184 (VX51RCU) from Bedford to reserve.

Mercedes 709D/Alexander Sprint 40311 (N311XRP) from ancillary to Kettering.

Volvo B10M-60/Plaxton Premiere Interurbans 52156/60-2 (L156/60-2JNH) from Northampton to reserve.

Volvo B7R/Plaxton Profile Interurban 53272 (KX56JZK) from Bedford to Northampton.

Sold are;

Mercedes 709D/Alexander Sprint 40307 (N307XRP) to a private buyer.

Mercedes 709D/Alexander Sprints 40324/44 (N324XRP, M344DRP) to Erith Commercials.

Optare Solo 47355 (AE06TWX) from Cambridge to Stagecoach West.

Optare Solo 47395 (AE56LOU) new to Cambridge.

Volvo B10M-62/Berkhof Excellence 52035 (N45MJO) to Ensign.

**Stagecoach East/ United Counties** - Trident 18402 has again had to be towed away from Northampton garage with mechanical failure.

**Stagecoach Manchester** - Trident 18373 MX55KPZ. Suffered major fire damage after the upper saloon caught fire on 05/02.

**Stagecoach North West** - The following vehicles are currently stored at Lillyhall ; Mercedes-Benz 709D : 40001/5/7-10 N201/5/7-10UHH, 40024 N124YHH, 40398 N198LFV, 40442 N462VOD, 40519 N519BJA, 40614/5/7

N614/5/7VSS, Volvo B6 : 30278 L278JAO, 30306/9 M746/9PRS, 30456 M456VHE, 30652 L652HKS, 30665 L665MSF, 30905 M773BCS, Volvo B10M-55 : 20418/9 H618/9ACK, 20435 M235TBV, Leyland Olympian : 14045/8/9 G645/8/9EVV, 14249 H119SAO.

**Stagecoach Warwickshire (Rugby)** – New vehicles are Scania OmniCitys 28501-28505 YN56NNC-G allocated to Nuneaton for the 717/777 group of services that work out of Birmingham Aiport.

**Stagecoach Yorkshire (Barnsley)** - Volvo B10M 52648 T668XTV is now allocated to Barnsley for use on Megabus work. Olympian 14834 K4YCL has been towed away from Rawmarsh

(possibly for scrap). Volvo Olympian 16584 has been transferred up here from Stagecoach East/ United Counties.

**Stagecoach in Cumbria:** The three Olympians 14045/8/9 that were due to go to Devon last year have been sold to Ensign (dealer)

**Stagecoach in Lancashire:** Two more ex CMT Northern Counties bodied Darts have arrived at Preston 32920 (N653CHF) and 32923 (N656CHF)

**Stagecoach in Lancaster:** Mercedes mini 40882 was withdrawn from service on February 14<sup>th</sup> and is being stripped for spares. Its replacement 40641 arrived two days later and entered service on February 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Stagecoach Busways:** Steven Hodgson reports that **Stagecoach in Newcastle** now have ex Teesside Volvo B10M / Northern Counties 20267 (M707KRH) in service. Note that it is seen operating along Newgate street - this area is rumoured to be becoming a one-way system while some long-term demolition and rebuilding works are undertaken in the area

**Stagecoach Transit** Volvo Olympian / Northern Counties 16433 (WLT528) and Dennis Dart / Alexander 32762 (L762ARG) remain in use at Stockton and Hartlepool, respectively.

**Stagecoach North East** are sending the remaining ex Stagecoach North West reserve fleet Olympians to Yorkshire - this presumably comprises 14182/91/2/4/8 (G182JHG, H191/4/8WFR, J198HFR).

**Stagecoach Bluebird** - Acquired are  
13508 C168HBA, 13517 C50HNF from Manchester  
13617 H445EGU, 13625 H511FRP from Yorkshire Traction,  
13645 H51SKG, 13648 J515WAX from Cheltenham District  
16199 L27JSA from Fife, 41988 N253XKR from Strathgry.  
Re-registered is 13645 H51SKG to WLT744 and withdrawn are 10601, 14458, 32804 and 41511

**Stagecoach Fife** - Acquired is 40586 L316JSA from Bluebird .Withdrawn are 40468 & 40794.

## Independents

### London

**Blue Triangle:** Two of the Darts hired to London United DN181 and DN188 have been returned to allow take up of Thurrock route 11. The rest remain on hire being used where needed.

**Epsom Coaches/Quality Line:** Eleven new Enviro200/East Lancs Esteem entered service in mid February the first two being 8.9m examples for route S4 joining Solos already operating with the rest for the S1 and are 9.5M versions

SD43	PE6UFH	SD44	PE56UFJ	SD45	PE56U FK	SD46	PE56U FL
SD47	PE56U FM	SD48	PE56U FN	SD49	PE56U FP	SD50	PE56U FR
SD51	PE56U FS	SD52	PE56U FT	SD53	PE56U FU		

**Sullivan Buses:** The Polhill operations have been sold to depot manager David Booker who will trade as Griffin Travel with the following vehicles M563, M755, M842, M854, M1097, T569, T830 and T995

## **South West**

**Alansway, Newton Abbot** have acquired Optare VL51XCT, Optare R91HUA and Mercedes-Benz P922 LPO, P923 LPO, P213 JKL, P324 TGS, X532 AAV and X534 AAV.

**Eurotaxi, Syston (Bristol)** – In is W218 UMW, a Volvo B7R/Plaxton C57F ex Mid Wales, Penrhyncoch

**Frome Minibuses** – VX56 NAE is a new Optare Solo M850SL B27F, Vario YN53 HSN is withdrawn and sold to Western Greyhound.

**Hatts, Foxham** – In is FG03 JDJ, a Plaxton Paragon bodied Iveco Eurorider new to Hay, Huntley as W10 HAY

**Hookways** – In are X783 BTT (Volvo 10M/Plaxton Excalibur C49FT) ex Bus Eireann VP112 and S559 EKN (Scania K126IB6/Irizar Century C34FT) ex Kings Ferry plus Mercedes-Benz A20KHA and Volvo / Plaxton X783 BTT.

D567 MVR (Volvo/Plaxton Paramount) is working for an unknown operator in South Wales still with Hookways names, and Volvo/Plaxton Supreme URU 651X is active in the Helston area of Cornwall. The former 6740 HP, now E717 EDV, is still in service. Volvo/Jonckheere Mistral Y373 BFS is now 3315 HP with "Classic Tours" names.

**Ridlers, Dulverton** have acquired Scania / Irizar YN05HDH from Haytons, Burnage

**Riverlink, Totnes** – In from Plymouth Citybus is Dart/Plaxton K101 SFJ

**South Gloucester, Patchway** – In are R998 YWE, a Mercedes 614D/Mellor ex Tameside Central Transport and R369 NSR, a Mercedes 814D/Keillor ex Redcar & Cleveland Council. Darts W144 WGT and W146 WGT are temporary loans until more T reg ex Mitcham Belle examples arrive.

**Taunton School** – new here is WA56 ENR, a Volvo B12B/Van Hool C59F which replaces Volvo/Plaxton Paramount 4000 F703 COA

**Trathens Plymouth:** Prior to Christmas 2006 they received a fleet of new Neoplan Coaches. One came to grief on an M4 interchange in London.

From the enquiries to this accident, it was decided to return this batch of coaches to the dealer.

The vehicles were LSK 507, LSK 807, LSK 808, LSK 815, LSK 819, LSK 821, LSK 824, LSK 825, LSK 827, 290 WE, SF 56 OLM plus one other. these vehicles are reported to be replaced By a fleet of Volvo / Plaxton 3 axle 15 metre coaches.

The vehicles being used on the 570 London – Birmingham – Blackpool are Volvo B12's with Jonckheere bodywork, SJ04KAU, HSK646, HSK647, HSK656 are regular performers.

**Western Greyhound** – new second hand arrivals here (all Mercedes 814/Plaxton Beaver 2's) are CJZ 3681 (new as V384 HGG) ex Halford, Bridport – this is to be replaced as V22 WGL

YN53 HSN ex Frome Minicoaches

MX04 VMJ ex Eurotaxi, Syston

SF04 HXM ex Rowe & Tudhope, Kilmarnock

**Wills Bow, Devon** have acquired Scania / Irizar W341 MKY

## **East Midlands and Yorkshire**

**East Yorkshire Motor Services (Hull)** – Volvo B6 261 is on loan at Driffield while Dennis Dart 319 receives a repaint.

**Ellie Rose (Hull)** - The following MCW Metrobuses have been acquired from Stagecoach in South Yorkshire NOA437/64X, POG523/53Y. All the vehicles were new to WMPTE.

## **Eastern Counties**

**Crusader Holidays** - Setra S315s V105/6OJN and W113/4BHJ have been advertised for sale.

**Ensign Bus** - Dennis Dart SLF/Marshall Capital R625VEG has been taken into fleet strength as their 725 and this, along with the other Marshall bodied Darts 719-27/9-32/8 (R619-27/9-32/38VEG) have been upseated to B37F and have been fitted with Hanover electronic displays. Dennis Condor/Duple Metsec 448 (H648PVW) has been sold to Bear Buses in Surrey. Withdrawn are ex Stratford Blue Dennis Dart/Carlyle Dartlines ANZ8798/9 with both passing to Renown of Bexhill.

**Excel Coaches** - The following have been issued fleetnumbers Dennis Dart/Plaxton MPD BU51REG (601), ADL Dart/MPD EU56FTO/GVG (602/3), Dennis Dart/Plaxton Pointer J226HGY (604), Dennis Dart/Northern Counties Paladin L113YVK (606) and Dennis Dart/Plaxton Pointer K708KGU (607).

**Fargo, Rayne** - Purchased from Ensign are ex Hong Kong Leyland Olympian/Alexander RH FS4891/6392 now registered L762/808SNO.

**Ipswich Buses (Ipswich)** - New vehicles Scania OmniCitys which entered service on 29/01 are : 70 YN56NVB 71 YN56NVC 72 YN56NVD 73 YN56NVE 74 YN56NVF 75 YN56NVG

### **Konect of Dereham**

New deliveries here are Optare Tempo X1200s YJ56WVA/B (407/8) and are route branded for the '5' Queen's Hills – Dereham Road – Norwich route.

DAF SB220LC/Optare Delta 353 (K353FAL) has been withdrawn following a road accident, it is believed that it will not return to traffic.

### **Stephenson's of Rochford**

In from Ensign is Leyland Olympian/Alexander RL F621MSL.

### **Sun Fun Holidays**

Sold to Ensign are Leyland Lynxes H460WWY, H816EKJ and J41GGB and coming the other way are Volvo Citybus B10M-50/Northern Counties G133/8PGK.

## **Midlands**

**Bakers/ Bakerbus (Biddulph)** - A fresh vehicle in is Optare Solo MX54KXY and is numbered 197.

**Meadway (Birmingham)** – The following vehicles have been sold: S295/6 EOB.

## North East

A couple of North East vehicles have been noted for sale on ebay. **Shoreline Suncruisers, Scarborough** are selling former United/EYMS Leyland Tiger / Plaxton A521EVN, while a well-known Stockton-based enthusiast is selling ex Go North East Leyland National 2 4697 (FTN697W).

## North West

**Northern Blue;** The company will once again operate Clitheroe local services from March 3<sup>rd</sup>, two Solos 57 MX07BCV and MX07BCY have been acquired for the operation both slimline versions

**Traveller Choice:** Three coaches recently sold to South Gloucs are B10/Duple 320 F722KEC and B10/Plaxton Premieres N338/339EEC. Four Volvo B12B/Jonckheree SHVs are due imminently for Trafalgar work.

**Warrington Borough Transport:** Dart 231 (S231SWM) is reported to have left the fleet now with Eastonways of Ramsgate

**WA, Shearings:** Amendment, EURO TOURER not EUROPE TOURER, is the new name for their European tours.

**National Holidays:** The latest on National Holidays - it will now remain part of the Shearings Group.

## Wales

**Alpine (Llandudno)** - Leyland Leopard with Warrior bodywork HEN867N has been withdrawn.

**Bebb** - Former Shamrock, Iveco CN53FVY has been noted working on National Express work in a plain white livery.

**Chester City Transport** - Dennis Dominator 110 A110UCA was noted on the M53 on the back of a tow truck.

**Clynog and Trefor** – Bristol VRT DBV30W has been sold for scrap, it was new to Ribble in 1980 as 2030.

## Scotland

**Alexander / Dennis** - Noted at Falkirk were:

Stagecoach Enviro 400 - FX07CLV/CMF, MX07HLV/HLY/HMZ

Arriva London Enviro 200's - ENS 1 - LJ07EDK, ENS 6 - LJ07EDU, ENS 7 - LJ07EDV, ENS 9 - LJ07EEA also LJ07EDX, and ENS 2/ 4/ 10.

London General Enviro 200's - SE 1 - LX07BXH, SE 7 - 13 LX07BXO/BXP/BXR/BXS/BXU, LX07BXV/BXW plus BXJ/BXN/BXZ

Challenger (NCP) Enviro 200 - ADL 01 - SK07DXE.

There were also some Enviro 400's for Travel London and Yellow Enviro 300's.

**Caledonian Travel:** LSK 514 was observed in Exeter being operated by Parks of Hamilton.

**Harlequin (Dunblane)** - In service here are Optare Solo 1020's YJ06FXO, YJ06FXZ and are used on a Park and Ride service.

**Mackies of Alloa** – Noted in service here is Volvo B7RLE with Wright bodywork SN06GGK.

**McDades** – A fresh vehicle noted working here is Mercedes 0814 with Plaxton Beaver 2 bodywork VX55FWN.

**Passenger Transport Services** - A fresh vehicle here is Optare Metrorider MR17 M452HPG, which was new to London and Country in 1994.

**Highland Country** - New arrivals are:-

Leyland Olympian/Alexander G818GSX

Volvo B10M-62/ Plaxton C70F DAZ1566/8/71, EAZ2590 from Ulsterbus (fleetnumbers unknown) 680 is SIL1895

Re-registered are 645 V943JST to OXI431, 646 V944JST to OXI459, 676 M873GYS to 200UWX.

Withdrawn are 307 and 464. 461 is re-instated.

**Lothian** - Olympians 828 - 35/ 964 - 6/ 8/ 9 have been put in reserve.

**Coakley Bus and Coach** - Acquired from Lothian are Olympian/Alexander G820-5GSX

**Henderson Travel Ltd** - New 156 YJ56WVH Optare M780 Optare B24F

**McGill, Greenock** - New are BX56VTK/L Mercedes-Benz O530 Mercedes-Benz B42F

**McKindless** - Acquired are

476CEL Volvo B10M-60 Plaxton C50FT, P339JND Volvo B6LE Alexander ALX200 B35F

P105-7OLX, P511RYM Dennis Dart SLF Plaxton B32F, S159UAL Optare Excel L1150 Optare B43F, V898DNB Dennis Dart SLF Plaxton B32F

**Parks, Hamilton** - The following Volvo B12M Jonckheere C53F have been transferred to Trathens Travel Service HSK651-657, 2HW, SJ04KAU/BN/EK. Sold is SJ04KAE.

## Company News

**South Gloucestershire Bus and Coach** - Rotala (Flights Hallmark) have acquired the Bus side of the business, but will continue to operate the Coach side of the business.

**Flights Hallmark**, part of the **Rotala Group**, has secured contracts to operate two Bristol park and ride services.

**Arriva** has expanded its business in the Midlands with the acquisition of **Chase Coaches**. Chase has 27 vehicles plus 40 employees and an annual turnover of £2 million.

EYMS subsidiary **Finglands** has ordered a 13.8m tri-axle Volvo 9700 to transport Manchester City Football Club. At £300,000 it is the most expensive coach ever purchased by the EYMS Group.

Northern Ireland based **Chambers Coach Hire** has been bought by private investment fund, Enterprise Equity. Chambers Coaches was founded in 1967 and at the time of the takeover was operating 105 vehicles.

# Ensign (dealer)

## Vehicles In.

From East London: RML2665 Volvo B10M's M407/9BFG S134KRM S905/6THG. Tridents T648/9KPU

Olympians P802/3GMU.

From Metroline: AV1, V214/215

From Stagecoach E Mids: Olympian C649LFT.

From Stagecoach NW: Olympians G645/8/9EVV.

From Stagecoach Warwickshire: Merc 709's M343LHP, N353AVV Olympian C964XVC.

From Stagecoach West: Merc 711 N159MTG, Olympian C633LFT.

From Stagecoach Western: Olympians C601/2/26/53/62/63LFT. Merc 709's M653/4FYS.

From Halls Coaches: Tiger XJI 9426

From Sun Fun Holidays: Lynx's J41GGB H460WWY H816EKJ.

## Vehicles Out.

Bedford MUY41X: Chris Cartwright, Gateshead for preservation.

Dublin Olympian 92-D-151 now K140KNO with Aintree Coaches.

Dublin Olympian 92-D-148 now J745CEV with Holloway, Scunthorpe.

Metrobus LAT507V: City Sightseeing Washington.

Metrobus A144AMO Merc M652FYS: Halls coaches, Kennoway.

HK Olympian FS6392 now L808SNO with Fargo, Rayne, Essex.

HK Olympian FS4861 now L762SNO with Fargo, Rayne, Essex.

Olympians C601/62/3LFT: McKindless, Wishaw.

Olympians C615/8/51LFT: A2Z Travel , Walsall.

Olympian C626LFT: Jack Bell, Newtonards, N Ireland.

Olympian C673LJR: Trimeer Travel, Romford.

Olympian C964XVC: Charlton Services, Ox.

Olympian E161OMD: Trimmer Travel, Romford.

Olympian E155OMD: Ambassadors Coaches, Farnham, Surrey.

Olympian F621MSL: Stephenson's, Southend.

Olympians G519/55VBB: Shorey's Travel, Ox.

Olympian G526VBB: Herberts Travel, Shefford, Beds.

D10M's G133/8PGK: SunFun Holidays, Earith, Cambs.

RML2434: Nigel Bennett, Dublin.

RML2516 (The former DRM2516) Marden Signs, Benfleet, Essex.

M399: McLean Energy, Ballachlisch, Argyle, Scotland.

M555: Erotica, Romford.

M1004 M1427: PVS for scrap.

T612: Richard de Clare School, Halsted, Essex.

Dart L503HKM: Red Route Buses, Northfleet.

Dart N134XND: Pennine, Skipton.

Darts ANZ8798/9: Renown Coaches, Bexhill.

Merc 709 M653FYS: A1 Travel, Hewish, Somerset.

Tiger XJI9420: Fowlers Coaches, Holbeach Drove.

Olympians P480/5MBY: Now part open toppers with Scotguide, Glasgow.

# New Deliveries

## **Airport Parking and Hotels**

YJ56APV, (+1 other, reg. unknown) Optare Tempo X1060, DP25F.

## **Astons Glastonbury**

Maxim 2 YN 56 BFM

## **Austin Coach Travel (Earlston)**

Reg, unknown, Bova MHD131-340XE, Bova Magiq 13.1m, C52FT (Fitted with leather seats)

## **Bakers Coaches (Biddulph)**

4x (regs. unknown), Optare Solo M990 (Mercedes), B33F.

## **Blue Iris Coaches (Bristol)**

WX56TNN, Toyota Coaster, Caetano Optimo 5, C22F.

## **Centaur Coaches (Sidcup)**

Reg. unknown, MAN R33 18.360, Noge Catalan Star, C51FT.

## **Classic Coaches (TGM)**

WA56ENN, Volvo B12BT 13m, Van Hool Astrobel T9, CH61/18CT.

## **Docherty's Midland Coaches (Auchterader)**

2x (regs. unknown), Volvo B12B, Jonckheere Mistral, C51FT.

## **Don Prentice Coaches (Haddington)**

SC56DPC, Volvo B12M 12.8m, Plaxton Paragon, C59FL (Fitted with side mounted PLS w/chair lift)

## **Ellison's Coaches**

YJ56CEV, Bova MHD122-410XE, Bova Magiq, C49FT.

## **First Devon & Cornwall**

6x (regs. unknown), ADL Dart SLF, ADL Pointer 2, B37F.

## **Ipswich Buses**

YN56NVG, (+5 regs unknown) Scania CN230UB Omnicity, DP36F.(Fitted with leather seats)

## **Irving's Coach Hire (Carlisle)**

Reg. unknown, Volvo B12B, Van Hool Alizee T9, C57F.

## **McElligott Coaches (County Limerick, Eire)**

Reg. unknown, Volvo B12B, Jonckheere Mistral, C49FT.

## **Meadway Private Hire (Birmingham)**

YJ06LDV, VDL SB4000PF, Marcopolo Viaggio 320, C55F.

## **Metrobus (Go Ahead)**

YJ56MVG, (+1 other, reg. unknown) Optare Solo M740SL (MAN), B17F.

## **P&O Lloyd (Flintshire)**

YJ56ATN, Optare Solo M920 (Mercedes), B33F.

## **Rapsons Coaches (Inverness)**

SN56AXU/V, (+1 other, reg. unknown) ADL Enviro300 12.5m, B52F.

## **Safeway Coaches (Batley)**

SF56WAY, Volvo B7R, Plaxton Profile, C70F (Fitted with 3+2 seats and fully DDA compliant)

## **Silverjet (Luton Airport)**

2x (regs. unknown), Plaxton Primo, B28F.

## **Stagecoach Warwickshire**

YX56NNF, (+4 others, regs. unknown) Scania CN230UB Omnicity, B41F.

Operated on behalf of Warwickshire County Council.

## **Thames Travel (Wallingford)**

AE56OUD, (+1 other, reg. unknown) MAN 14.220, MCV Evolution, B40F.

## **Travel London (National Express)**

LJ56VSY, (+11 others, regs. unknown) ADL Enviro200 Dart 8.9/10.8m, B26/29F.

## **Travel Wright (Newark)**

YN56BKK, MAN R33 18.360, Noge Catalan Star, C51FT.

## **Turners Chulmleigh**

Mercedes Benz Turismo BX 56 VTA

## **Yeomans Canyon Travel (Hereford)**

YJ56WVW, Optare Solo M990 (Mercedes), B35F.

# Bus Observations

All observations are gratefully received some observations will be posted on Website

## Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2006

(Ian S Turner)

**Chichester Bus Station**

**Stagecoach South Coast**

14818, 14975, 15760, 16278, 16281,  
16306-16309, 16311, 18515, 20648,  
20667, 20835, 32509, 35218, 35248,  
32552, 32553, 32555, 32556, 32562,  
32614, 34523, 34527, 40971, 52096

**Chichester Rail Station**

**(Rail replacement)**

**London General** NV184

**Solent Blue Line** 706, 721, 728, 729,  
731, 754, 756, 819

**Stagecoach** 18194

## Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> / Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> December 2006 (Harry Metcalf)

**Blackpool (The Gynn Square)**

**Dodds (Ayr)** AA05DOT, BB05DOT

**Parks of Hamilton** KSK978, LSK497

**WA Shearings** MX05AHJ, MX05AJV

**Smith (Rochdale)** FJ03JDU

## Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> / Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2007

(Harry Metcalf)

**Blackpool (The Gynn Square)**

**Dunn-Line** FE02FBU

**WA Shearings** YJ03VNE, YJ03VOD

**TM Travel (Staveley)** TM06ONE

**Trafalgar Coaches** L544XUT

## Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> / Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2007

(Harry Metcalf)

**Blackpool (The Gynn Square)**

**Gordons (Rotherham)** B13WGS, B18WGS

**Stewart Coaches (Warwick)** P455KFC

**Weardale Coaches (Stanhope)** YN06FVR

## Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> / Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2007

(Harry Metcalf)

**Blackpool (The Gynn Square)**

**KM (Lundwood)** 1518KM

**Parks of Hamilton** HSK655, LSK496

**Pullmanor (London)** BX54EDP

**Skill (Nottingham)** SIL7027

## Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2007

(Stephen Evans)

**Digbeth Coach Station**

**Ambassador** 181 (308)

**Arriva Derby** FJ56PCX (320)

**Bebb** CN04NFF (321), CN05DZJ (536)

**Bruces** SJ54GDE (539)

**East Yorkshire** 38 (322)

**First Coaches (Wessex)** 23203 (318)

**First Cymru** 20521 (528)

**First Devon and Cornwall** 20519(328),

20522 (330), 20548 (339)

**Go Northern** 7084 (531), 7085 (332)

7088 (304), 7092 (530)

**Go West Midlands**

30 W30DTS (325), 46 YP02AAV (420)

50 YJ03PGZ (777), 52 YJ03PNN (777)

**Haytons** 23 YN55WSO (325),

36 YN56BDY (314)

**National Express Operations**

NXL1, 6, 9, 15, 10-12, 20, 24

**Parks of Hamilton** LSK509 (538)

**Selwyns** 74(305), 109(420), YJ51EKZ (303)

**Tellings Golden Miller** YN54WSV (324)

**Trathens** HSK647 (570), HSK655 (570)

**Travel West Midlands**

C001, 002, 004, 008, 010

**Travellers / Hadwin**

PO55OWY (341), PE56UJX (570)

**Voel (Eurolines)** 4543VC (861)

**Passing Digbeth Coach Station**

**Go West Midlands**

401, 404, 406, 414, 417, 418, 419, 420, 426,  
441, 459, 466, 467

**Ring and Ride**

0229, 0318

**Travel West Midlands**

530, 627,

1516, 1518, 1519, 1571, 1572, 1575, 1576

1628, 1629, 1631, 1632, 1636, 1637, 1646,

1647, 1650, 1654, 1655, 1661,

1770, 1771, 1773, 1775-1786,

2531, 2564,

2605, 2658, 2689,

2785,

4003, 4008, 4012, 4058, 4059, 4078, 4094,

4106, 4146-4148, 4151, 4190, 4193, 4195,

4199,

4254,

4300, 4332, 4339, 4346, 4351, 4360, 4361,  
4367- 4370, 4373, 4375, 4379, 4380, 4382,  
4383, 4389, 4390, 4393,  
4425, 4426, 4430, 4437, 4445, 4447, 4449,  
4452-4455, 4463,  
4632-4634,

**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> / Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2007**

**(Harry Metcalf)**

**Blackpool (The Gynn Square)**

**KM (Lundwood) 893KM**

**McCarthy (Macclesfield) Y11BLC**

**WA Shearings YJ03VMM, YJ03VOB**

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> Feburary**

**(Eric Smith)**

**M54 Telford Services 6.30pm**

**Anderson (London) YJ03GXR**

**Berwyn (Trefor) N418EJC**

**All the following seen were at the  
operators Depots :**

***Coach Choice (Wolverhampton)***

ORE543, A11BHX

***Den Caney (California, Birmingham)***

DEN69D, DEN80D, DEN83D, L600DEN,  
M500DEN

***Zara (Halesowen)***

ANA190Y, F33XOF, M749WWR, KXI599

***Evergreen (Blackheath)***

LIW2941, LIW2943, T363JWA, W466EON,  
YN04AVG, YN05BVO, YN06CKD

***Newbury Coaches (Oldbury)***

BAZ7360, J244NNC

***Ludlows (Halesowen)***

KIB6828, P865PWW, P912PWW,  
R562XOM, S371SET, X808NWX,  
W447DOP, Y283HUA, YJ51EKM, YJ06LFW

***Skyline (Oldbury)***

LJI8154, Y3AEJ

***Stevens (West Bromwich)***

BAZ7058, PIL2068, PIL9784, PSU977,  
RJI8923, TJI2805, VIL9481, A6YET,  
G484KBD, K802HUM, Y774HEC

***Goodes (West Bromwich)***

A17GOO, P970DNR

***Prospect Coaches (Lye)***

CLZ4009, LRU822, MUI6462, PCZ5794,  
SIL4191, VIL5317, WJI3488, B10MHC,  
B10MNC, P22TCC, P66TCC, P425JDT,  
P426JDT, T637JWB, W561WKH, R06BET,  
PR06PET, PR56BEC

***Choice Travel (Wednesfield)***

BHZ8675, GNZ3461, GNZ3462, GNZ3561,  
JJZ5250, JJZ5289, JJZ5291, JJZ5312,  
OUI2376, OUI7148, OUI9120, OUI9143,  
G114PGT, G122PGT, G531TBD,  
G541TBD, J203JRP, J204JRP, K405FHJ,  
M456EDH, N472EHA, P134MEH,  
R741BUJ, R742BUJ, R743BUJ, R744BUJ,  
R987EWU, R110VNT, R211VNT, S2CLA,  
S3CLA, W718WUD, Y301KNB, Y302KNB,  
Y381HKE, Y383HKE, Y386HKE, Y391HKE,  
Y392HKE, Y393HKE, YN53ELV, YN53SVT,  
DX04XMS

***Diamond / Go West Midlands***

***(Tividale)***

229CLT, G123NGN, G130PGK, J603XHL,  
K301YJA, K308YJA, K328YJA, L202YAG,  
M803GFT, M812HCU, M815HCU,  
P101HCH, P506OUG, P510OUG,  
P907RYO, P929RYO, P87BPL, R259DWL,  
R361LGH, R364LGH, R380LGH, R381LGH,  
S404JUA, V267BNV, V385JWK, YJ51EKD,  
YJ03PGY, YJ03PNN

***Khookar***

***(Pikehelve Street, West Bromwich)***

BEW277V, DHE696V, D433TCA, F122YVP,  
G502VYE, M360OVU

**Exeter St Davids - Rail replacement**

**Feb 18 2007 (John Hatch)**

***First Devon & Cornwall***

20044/145/305/408/441/443

***C J Down MaryTavy***

3594 /5448/8515/8933 CD

***Pointmost Lee Mill***

KSU 460, TIL 5636.

***Holmans Mary Tavy***

J784 KHD, P241 AUT.

***Taw & Torridge***

407 JWO, A 4 EXC, OUI 4678/9

***Hookways***

1434 HP, 990 XYA, 409 FRH, KAZ 6911,  
N843 NBV, RIL 1578, R762 OVN,

***Wood Buckfastleigh***

M756 XET

***Tally Ho***

IIL 4005

***Roselyn Par***

728 FDV

***Target Travel***

M359 LFX

***Carmel Okehampton***

B10 MTT

# Preservation News

## News & Events

**"Vehicles of Yesteryear" Rally:** 24<sup>th</sup> March – Pevensey Bay car park  
**Manchester Museum of Transport:** 24/25<sup>th</sup> March -Spring Transport Festival  
**London Bus Preservation Trust:** 1<sup>st</sup> April - Annual Open Day and Bus & Coach Gathering  
**Commercial Transport in Preservation:** 1<sup>st</sup> April - A – Z Spring Road Run, Salisbury  
**Eden Classic Vehicle Group:** 7/8<sup>th</sup> April – Commercial Vehicle Rally  
**Lincolnshire Road Transport Museum:** 8<sup>th</sup> April – Open Day  
**Midlands Festival of Transport:** 8/9<sup>th</sup> April - Weston Park, Shropshire  
**Chatham Historic Dockyard:** 8/9<sup>th</sup> April- Medway Festival of Steam & Transport  
**The Transport Museum (BaMMot):** 8/9<sup>th</sup> April – Holiday Operating Days

## **Preserved Vehicles owned by – Marshalls of Sutton**

B30	<b>RAU624R</b>	Bedford	Plaxton	C45F	(Gash, Newark)
DD7	<b>LNN353</b>	Daimler	Duple	L27/26RD	(Gash, Newark)
1409	<b>FW5696</b>	Leyland	Bulingham	B35F	(Lincoln RoadCar)

## Sightings Report:

### Gillingham Gathering , Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2007

- Mike Pinder, Steve Jenner, Barry Harper and Marc Baker

Preserved buses there **336EDV** Bristol SUL4A ECW body DP33F in *Western National* colours with a different fleet number to when last seen 1202 not 442 **A 927MDV** Ford Transit Carlyle body B16F in *Devon General* colours fleet number 7. Still working bus **KJD413 P** Bristol LH6L ECW body B43F *Tally Ho (Kingsbridge,Devon)* and in their colours

TW5228 Burrell Steam traction engine works number 4049 named Daphne. I put this one in as I do not know if it comes under ".Showmans". And that was it. To be honest it was worth going to see the lorries, fire engines and old cars, but from a mercenary point of view, buses was a no goer. *The traction engine was owned by N.Baker (Gillingham)*

## Tram and Light Rail News (Martin Hall)

**Edinburgh-** The growth and prosperity of the city is at risk if they do not get funding for their tram system

**London-** The future for London and other cities is LRT because congestion is now reaching unsustainable levels and road pricing is not the answer. More tram systems in London would improve traffic flow and could carry some 3000 passengers per hour and if we could link other tram systems, underground stations and BR stations it would make the movement of people far easier and would reduce cars and pollution. We could even have freight trams as they do in some other European cities.

**Midland Metro-** Although many people would like trams to run into Birmingham City Centre there has been so many problems that government money may now be hard to get.

**South Hampshire Rapid Transit-** It now looks like they will end up with a guided busway, which is not what they wanted but all they could afford.

**Stourbridge-** The experimental service of the PPM has now ended but it did show that the Parry People Mover is a safe, reliable form of transport

### Tram Briefs.

**Birmingham** – It has now been confirmed that tram **06** was the vehicle involved in the derailment on 29<sup>th</sup> January

**Isle of Man** -There are plans for Manx tramcars to be adapted to hold bikes.

**Manchester** -Tram **1007** was involved in an accident on 12<sup>th</sup> February; Tram **1021** named *Starlight Express*; Window adverts removed from trams **1018** and **1021**

**Sheffield** - Tram **122** is reported to have had a livery change

# Bus Garage Sightings

*Remember to obtain permission before entering any bus garage*

Anthony Walton

## Monday 1<sup>st</sup> January 2007.

A visit to the garages of Arriva the Shires & Essex at Ware and Harlow found the following vehicles.

### Ware

Mercedes-Benz 811D	:	1260 (P438HKN)	this is to be renumbered 2163					
Mercedes-Benz 709D	:	2122	2159					
Optare Solo M880	:	2461	2462	2463	2464			
Dennis Dart	:	3399						
Dennis Dart SLF	:	3417	3418	3435	3439	3440	3483	
Transbus Dart SLF	:	3828						
VDL SB20	:	3830	3831	3832				
Mercedes-Benz 0530	:	3902	3904	3906	3908			
VDL SB120	:	4521	4522					
Dennis Trident	:	5423	5424	5425	5425	5426	5428	5429
		5433	5442	5445	5447	5451		

### Harlow

Optare Alero	:	0443	0444					
Mercedes Vito	:	1258						
Mercedes-Benz 709D	:	2136	2155					
Mercedes Vario 0810	:	2175	2177	2189	2190	2370	2371	
Optare Solo M880	:	2453	2454	2455	2457	2458	2459	2460
		2465	2466	2467	2473	2474		
Dennis Dart	:	3100						
Volvo B6	:	3123	3124	3129				
Dennis Dart SLF	:	3230	3231					
Volvo B6BLE	:	3250	3251	3252	3253	3254	3255	3256
		3257						
Volvo B6-50	:	3336	3341	3342	3346			
Dennis Dart	:	3356	3357	3359	3360	3362	3363	3364
		3366	3367	3368	3369	3371	3372	3398
		3413						
DAF SB220	:	3444						
Volvo B10B	:	3855						
Volvo B7RLE	:	3856	3857	3858				
Dennis Dart	:	3812						
Mercedes-Benz 0530	:	3907	3909					
Leyland Olympian	:	5379						

\*3855 N415NRG is completely burnt out.

### **Hookways Pinhoe on site February 18<sup>th</sup> 2007**

X3PCL, N843NBV, 990XYA, R762/3OVN, 4691HP, 4846HP, 6230HP, J42VWO, H659UWR, 6185RU, RIL1578,748JTA, A20KHA, FIL7663.

### **Dartline Clyst St Mary on site February 18<sup>th</sup> 2007**

J825MOD, T503/6EUB, P429JDT, R773WOB, D353RCY, LIL6537/38, LIL7802, LIL8823/76, LIL9917/90, G958VBC, P882FMO, XFJ466, LBZ2571, J824MOD, K775 UTT, RLZ 1667/72, L422 WHR, L345 ATA, S671 ETT, WJ 02 KEU, YJ 54 EXE, WJ 05 WCX/Y/Z

# Carlisle to Lancaster Rail Replacement (Gez Nicholls)

The recent West Coast Main Line Pendolino derailment saw the use of coaches on Rail Replacement work between Carlisle and Lancaster. Here is what I noted on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> from 1500 at Lancaster

Staceys YJ06GOE Bova Magiq

Bibbys BIB1186 DAF/Van Hool

both on Standby joined later by Airport Services Merc 413CDI SN05FBD

Passing through were

Ribble Valley Coaches G881OKU B10M/Plaxton

Tyrers (Addlington) N715SYC Van Hool

Global Travel (Kingsgrove) PIL9740 Plaxton 3500

Travllers PG04XUA Plaxton Profile

Gibsons (Moffat) WDZ4724 Volvo/Van Hool, OAZ9372, BX06UMS Setra

Kimberly (Prudhoe) DJZ9860 DAF BS2000/Van Hool

Then a shoot up to Carlisle as a 1645 extra Carlisle calling at Penrith the Bibbys doing an Oxenholme

Arriving 1830ish not due off until 2130 so dump the bus at the bus station, a quick pot of tea and back to see what else was about.

Standby were

Staceys YJ05FXB a merc 0815, Compass Royston FN05DFV Volvo Double Deck and Gibsonz BX06UMT Setra

Memory Lane Coaches MLC2P B9M/Van Hool

Bibbys PN03DAF

Reays FPN259, TFO532, USU641 all Bova Futuras

Mcleans (Airdrie) T709UOS Vol/Plax Prem, N10SOU, W153RYB Futura

Photoflash Coaches (Carlisle) 5692FM Van Hool, L5BUS Jonc Deauville

Compass Royston BX04NBA in Leger silver service livery and BU53AXM, P981JDC NV51YFU on the coach park near the castle not 100% sure of regs

North West Coaches N475KHU Plax Prem

NBM M36NJR Van Hool

Staceys B13SCL Bova Futura

Red Line 12RED Van Hool

KC TRansport (Carlisle) KC02 BUS three axle Van Hool

Shaws (Whitley) BU06CTH Setra S415GT HD

Irving (Carlisle) Y11 BUS, JH54BUS Futura

Adamsons (Cramlington) K110TCP DAF/Van Hool

K & B K545GSS Van Hool

Ladybird R205VJF Iveco Eurorider

Stagecoach Lancaster 16662 and 17013

First on the X95 was 65746 and passed on the way out to the M6 another Gibsons Setra BX06UMU

# Football Match Sightings

## Wolves versus Leeds 24<sup>th</sup> February 2007

**Dewhurst** YJ05PYV  
**Eavesway** YJ55KZY  
**Eddie Brown** N51FWX , YN03FWN,  
YJ03ZKZ, CT06EBT  
**Four Ways** YN51ELJ, YJ51ENO  
**Hutchinson** YN06MXZ  
**J.B. Travel** Y995TOJ  
**Motts** 5723MT  
**Riddings** XIL3614  
**Tetleys** ILL7077, XOK933  
**Travel Link** CN04JUT  
**Wizard** PIJ667  
**Unknown** 34BCG

## Bescot Stadium

### Walsall versus Boston

**Sleafordian** T774JWA, MX04HRR

### Walsall –V – Barnet

**Cantabrica** Y3CCH  
**Fargo** YJ03GXS

## Exeter v Rushden & Diamonds

**Yorks Cogenoe** OUI3916, SYK901

## Middlesbrough v Bolton (Jan 20th 2007)

Team Coach  
**Eavesway** YD02RCU  
Supporters  
Fraser Eagle YJ05XXK, YJ06GNO

## Middlesbrough v Arsenal (Feb 3<sup>rd</sup> 2007)

Team Coach  
**Ellisons** ODR29  
Supporters  
**Edinburgh Coach Lines** PSU619,  
SN05FTK  
**The Kings Ferry** YN06NYH, BV55FPN,  
GN03TYB  
**Tetley's** W551DYG  
**Watts** CW05JMW  
**Unknown** BU51ZAK

## Middlesbrough v Reading (Feb 17<sup>th</sup> 2007)

Team Coach  
**The Kings Ferry** YN56AAE

## International Rugby at Cardiff

Visiting coaches for Wales v Ireland

### Ireland Coaches

Team Coach  
**Eire Bus** 06 D 6286 (SP85)  
**Murrays Mallow** 05 CN 476, 07 CN 224,  
04 D 23565  
**Cronin, Cork** 99 C 27387  
**Bray** 06 WW 4000  
**Rowan Kilkenny** 06 KK 4468  
**CIE Tours** YN06RWF  
**Hodsons Navenby** JC02HOD  
**Edwards Llantwit Fardre** BX05UVT  
**Impact London** FN03DXE  
**Williams LowerTumble** A17AVT, YDR224  
BEZ 7230.  
**Nelson Glyn Neath** M647UCT  
**Taylor Stourport** CC05BUS  
**Williams Brecon** WIL 2645, MIB 552  
**Hayward Carmarthen** TIL 4527  
**Rees Ilanelly Hill** H228 TCP  
**Jones Login** CU 06 ABX, CV 55 AVK,  
**Price Trimsaran** J796 KHD  
**Anderson Bermondsey** YJ 06 GKY  
**Owens Four Crosses** R504 XAW  
**Brodyr Williams** XIJ 616, EAZ 8418,  
**Lakeside Ellesmere** YN56ORZ, YX54BGO  
**Richards Cardigan** K530RJX,  
CV02JSU, W894NDE, W439NDE,  
P916DEJ, T141RDE  
**Silcox Pembroke** CU51HVS,  
CV55AZM, CU54KWS, W109NDE  
**Davies & Jones Letterston** YDE734  
**Solus Fazeley** P721JYA  
**Jones International** 730MM, B10MM,  
MJ13560  
**Williams Newtown** N21BDT  
**Thomas Neath** T936KEC  
**Davies Lampeter** X998JOH  
**Brown Builth Wells** W208CDN  
**Thomas Llangadog** CSU936  
**Lane Tredegar** R132XWF  
**Hughes Llanelli** SF56GLP  
**Williams Felingwm** P054MKG,  
X915CWN,  
**Price Aberdare** M884RJW  
**Thomas Neath** T134RGA  
**Bysai Cwm Taf Whitland** N543SJF,  
T50TAF, BC06TAF  
**Edwards Tiers Cross** N50PDE  
**Jones Llanidloes** J215NNC

# Fleet Profile - Marshalls

Marshalls is based at Main Street, Sutton – on – Trent, Newark. The company commenced operations in the late 1980's when Mr J.A. Marshall purchased a second hand Bedford YLQ with Plaxton 45 seat bodywork. In 1989 Marshalls was granted an Operators licence for a once a week market day service from Dunham –on – Trent to Newark. Further vehicles were purchased for a network of school contract journeys which the company had built up. In 1998. Marshalls purchased their first brand new vehicle – a Plaxton bodied Dennis Javelin, followed by a Plaxton bodied Dennis Dart for their first venture into stage carriage work. Today the company operate services seven days a week 363 days a year, mainly between Tuxford and Newark.

Livery is Blue/Cream and the ticket system is Almex.

The Proprietor of the company is John Marshall, who founded the business in 1989 and was its main driver. Today he is mainly confined to the office overseeing the running of the company. Operations Manager Kenneth Tagg, who looks after the logistics, ensuring that vehicle and drivers are in the right place at the right time, the Assistant Operations Manager, is Chris Brown, who oversees the smooth running of their day excursions and is also one of their front line drivers as and when required. The Fleet Engineers is Paul Marshall. He and his team undertake all types of engineering work. The person who keeps an eye on finances is Sally Sloan, Accounts Manager. For further information on the company visit their web Site at

<http://www.marshallscoaches.co.uk>

<u>Fleet</u>	<u>Reg</u>	<u>Chassis</u>	<u>Body</u>	<u>Former Owners</u>
VL42	H3YRR	Volvo	Plaxton	C53F ( <i>Westerham, Kent, 1994</i> )
DS50	S3YRR	Dennis	Plaxton	C53F ( <i>Owned from new, 1998</i> )
DS51	S4YRR	Dennis	Plaxton	N39F ( <i>Owned from new, 1998</i> )
MN54	W3YRR	MAN	Berkof	C35F ( <i>Owned from new, 2000</i> )
MB56	X56LRY	Mercedes	Plaxton	DP33F ( <i>Owned from new, 2001</i> )
DD57	E925CDS	Leyland	Alexander	H49/37F ( <i>Nottingham City Transport, 2001</i> )
DD58	A3YRR	Leyland	Alexander	H49/37F ( <i>Nottingham City Transport, 2001</i> )
VL59	R3YRR	Volvo	Plaxton	C53F ( <i>Essex Express Ltd, 2002</i> )
OP60	YG02FWL	Optare	Solo	N33F ( <i>Owned from new, 2002</i> )
MB61	P535PLB	Mercedes	Autobus	DP29F ( <i>Stonehouse Coaches, 2002</i> )
DD63	P353ROO	Volvo	East Lancs	H51/35F ( <i>London Buses Ltd, 2003</i> )
DD64	R358XVX	Volvo	East Lancs	H51/35F ( <i>London Buses Ltd, 2003</i> )
VL66	YN04HJV	Volvo	Plaxton	C53F ( <i>Owned from new, 2004</i> )
VL67	JKV441	Volvo	Van Hool	C49Ft ( <i>Redfern Coaches Ltd, 2004</i> )
DD68	F127PHM	Volvo	Alexander	H46/40F ( <i>Local Link Buses Ltd, 2004</i> )
DD69	H114ABV	Volvo	Alexander	H47/35F ( <i>Blue Bus &amp; Coach Services, 2004</i> )
VL70	PM05JAM	Volvo	Plaxton	C49Ft ( <i>Owned from new, 2005</i> )
IC71	YN05UGO	Iveco	Indcar	C29F ( <i>Owned from new, 2005</i> )
OP72	YJ06YSP	Optare	Tempo	N42F ( <i>Owned from new, 2006</i> )
VL73	TBC	Volvo	Plaxton Panther	C53F
DD74	POG583Y	MCW	Metrobus	H44/30F ( <i>Stagecoach in Lincolnshire, 2006</i> )

## Recovery Vehicle:

HAU97N Dodge K1050 (Ex Travel-Wright 2005)

## Previous Registrations:

(VL42) H3YRR; H836AHS

(DD57) E925CDS: E161 YGB, FSU 661

(DD58) A3 YRR: E938CDS, E163 YGB, WLT 364

(VL59) R3YRR: R919HTW  
(VL67) JKV441, J1JBT, K463VVR

**Services:**

**39** Low floor wheelchair accessible service between **Newark & Tuxford**. This runs seven days a week

**22** Peak time services from the **Newark area to Grantham** predominantly used for travel to the Grammar & High Schools and Grantham College.

**X5** Fridays only service, linking the **Trent valley villages with Lincoln for the Markets**.

**S5** Thursday only, serves **Balderton, Fernwood, Claypole, Dry Doddington, Westbotough, Long Bennington and Foston with Grantham Bus Station and ASDA store**.  
(Thanks go to Kenneth Tagg, Operations Manager for providing the information for this profile)



*Acquired from London Buses Ltd in 2003 are Volvo / East Lancs R358XVX & P353ROO*

## Birmingham City Transport No. 2548

### Part 3 - The Passenger Service Years 1968 – 1972

Re-allocation to Hockley took place in April 1968 when the bus was still out of action and it was not until week ending 18<sup>th</sup> May 1968 that she once again entered traffic, now becoming a regular sight at Wednesbury, West Bromwich and Dudley on the West Bromwich Corporation & BCT joint services as follows:

- 71 City Centre to Handsworth, New Inns
- 72 City Centre to The Hawthorns
- 73 City Centre to Carters Green
- 74 City Centre to Dudley
- 75 City Centre to Wednesbury
- 76 City Centre to Great Bridge
- 77 City Centre to Dartmouth Square, West Bromwich
- 78 City Centre to Dudley Port
- 79 City Centre to Hill Top

Other services worked whilst at Hockley were:

- 8 Inner Circle
- 15 Hamstead to Yardley, Whittington Oval
- 16 Yardley, Whittington Oval to Hamstead
- 29 Kingstanding, Kings Road to Hall Green, Highfield Road
- 30 Hall Green, Highfield Road to Kingstanding, Kings Road
- 69 City Centre to Lozells, Wheeler Street
- 70 City Centre to Handsworth, Oxhill Road
- 83 City Centre to Soho
- 90 Hall Green (Baldwins Lane) – Pheasey Estate
- 91 Pheasey Estate – Hall Green (Baldwins Lane)

Around this period, Quinton's original allocation 2526 – 2565 were dispersed to other garages. At Hockley, 2548 joined sister vehicles between 2539 and 2563, whilst 2526 – 2538 went to Harborne and 2564 – 2565 went to Liverpool Street. Strangely, some of the former Acocks Green vehicles of the same batch, 2581 – 2584 and 2586 – 2601, were subsequently moved in to Quinton.

From 1st September 1969 Birmingham City Transport became the largest constituent of the newly formed West Midlands Passenger Transport Executive (WMPTE). The old city coat of arms carried on the sides of the bus since delivery was replaced by the new PTE logo although it was not until 11<sup>th</sup> June 1971 that she was out-shopped in the new livery incorporating royal blue rather than the original deeper Prussian blue. With the arrival of the PTE, reorganisation of routes meant that Wolverhampton was added to the list of destinations to which 2548 operated - in fact she was noted working the 79 to the town on its first day of operation, February 28<sup>th</sup> 1971.

Another effect of the formation of the PTE was that many buses were re-allocated to garages previously owned by other operators. Numerous worn out yet newer buses owned by Walsall and Wolverhampton Corporations were withdrawn and the sturdy and well maintained Birmingham Guys were moved in to take over. Additionally, many newly delivered vehicles were allocated to these garages meaning that there were fewer available to replace Birmingham's massive and aging post-war fleet. Although 2548 continued to work at Hockley, many other members of the 2526 - 2625 batch were sent to 'foreign' garages. This all meant that 19 year old buses like 2548 which BCT had begun to scrap in the last few months of its existence suddenly had a new lease of life.

BCT's high standards of preventative maintenance continued under the PTE's South Division and 2548's record cards show many new or overhauled components fitted as a matter of routine at each annual 'dock' carried out in preparation for the MOT test. In addition, an overhauled engine, No 92509, was fitted between 10<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> May 1971 and a replacement gear box was fitted on 12<sup>th</sup> January 1972. After all this attention 2548 appeared to have many miles of regular service in front of her when she was sent to Harborne to be 'docked' in January 1972. She passed her MOT test on 28<sup>th</sup> February and returned to Hockley at the beginning of March 1972. However, with the rapid onset of 'one man operation' through the West Midlands, half cab buses only suitable for conductor operation were often withdrawn en masse regardless of condition as each route was converted and so just two months after this final dock she was withdrawn from service on 30<sup>th</sup> April 1972.

# HB Publications

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No. 31 – North of England Bus Station & Garage Directory.....	£5.00

## Publications Update

Updated publications available this month are **East Midlands & Yorkshire, Irish** and **Preserved Bus Books**. The Irish has been updated to include a lot more operators, whilst the Preserved now contains more detail presented by Registration Number, Chassis Type, Owner and Museum Collections.

A new publication available this month is the **North of England Bus Station / Bus Garage Directory**. This book looks at those locations that have a major bus company fleet allocation. For each location we provide Bus Station details, and those companies serving it, National Express services serving the location. Also detailed is how to get to the major operator garage. Soon to be available is the Major Fleet Budget Series book covering **Municipal & Major Fleets**. We will also be updating the **Major Fleet Budget Series of Stagecoach, First and Arriva**, hopefully by the end of March.

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