

The Trident

The Monthly Magazine of the GB Bus Group

GB BG



AT03LCT, a Setra S315 of Hills, Wolverhampton adds a welcome splash of colour to the gloom of Digbeth Coach station on 1st June 2007

Photo by Dave Francis

Web Site – www.gb-bg.co.uk

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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 Maurice Brown.

Noticeboard

Editors Bit

Hello & welcome to the July issue of the Trident. Thankfully my recovery is progressing and I have been able to take a bit more active part this month. As you may notice above there have been one or two changes to the structure of the group. Firstly we are very pleased to have Steve Swain of Southdown PSV as our President, a real bonus for us. Jeff who has been our Chairman since the groups inception, now feels that it is the right time to step down, and in recognition of his efforts has been asked to stand as a Vice President. Chris Morton who many will know from the groups pre birth as the founder of the Midlands Bus Group, which grew to become the GB-BG has also been asked to stand as a Vice President. Both are happy to accept and feel it is an honour to do so. Gez Nicholls, has been asked to take on the Chairman's role which he also has accepted. In the Midlands Dave Francis steps into the breach, as the Midlands area representative. Welcome on board. Hopefully we will go on to even greater heights as a forward looking group, that is here for

one purpose to support you the members in your hobby. A packed mag as usual so all that is left to say is enjoy, and good spotting.

David

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 –John Cook, Stephen Ford, C. Fuller, Phillip Huggett, Peter Hulse , Alan Kent, John Martindale, D. Mcmillan, P.E. Weller

Contributions

Thanks go to contributors : Arthur Shelton, M&D and East Kent Bus Club, Southdown Enthusiasts Club, Stagecoach – various, Mike Enstone, Stephen Evans, Arthur Moore, Robert Moore, Chris Morton, Anthony Walton, Andrew Williams all your area reps, and apologies to anyone whom we have inadvertently missed. Many of the submitted sightings are now on the web site.

We look forward to receiving your valued contributions.

Magazine

The deadline for the August magazine is July 27th 2007. Please can any contributions for the area reps be sent to them a few days earlier so they have time to put their sections together.

Fleet News

Arriva

Guildford & West Surrey: Now arrived at Horsham for take up of route 465 from June 30th are six 10.2m Enviro200s

3976 GN07AVR 3978 GN07AVU 3979 GN07AVV 3980 GN07AVW 3981 GN07AUY
3977 GN07AVT

The Original Tour: The ten new Volvo B9 /East Lancs were delivered in early June

VLE611 LJ07XEN VLE613 LJ07XEP VLE615 LJ07XES VLE617 LJ07XEU VLE619 LJ07XEW
VLE612 LJ07XEO VLE614 LJ07XER VLE616 LJ07XET VLE618 LJ07XEV VLE620

Arriva Midlands North (Cannock) - The following vehicles were noted working on Walsall area services on 29/05/07 : Mercedes Minibuses : 1150, 1160, Dennis Darts : 2019, 2063, 2077, 2110, 2111. Fresh vehicles in are Dennis Dart 9SDL : 2113 K817NKH. Volvo B6-50 : 2115 L308HFP, 2116 L309HFP, 2117 L311HFP, L306HFP

Arriva Shires, Herts. & Essex

New into service are VDL SB120CS/Wrightbus Cadets 3732-38 (YJ07JVU-Z/F).

Optare Excel 3003 (V393KVY) is now into fleet livery. Dennis Dart/Wright Handybuses 3819/20 (H369/70XGC) have been transferred from Watford to Luton.

First

First Eastern Counties

Ipswich based Dennis Dart SLF/Plaxton Pointer MPD 43357 (V357DVG) has been repainted and has lost its 'Bury Shuttle' route branding.

First Edinburgh – Volvo B7 Plaxton Profiles 20354-20356 are operating from Livingstone Depot at the moment and can be normally be found on services X14 Bathgate – Glasgow, X15 Livingstone – Glasgow, one of the previous coaches at Livingstone Volvo B10M 20438 has not been seen for several weeks. New vehicles in service are Solar's 69273 YJ07WFZ, 69274 working in service off

Larbert, both vehicles carry First West Yorkshire fleet names and First West Yorkshire legals. Volvo B10 60812 has been transferred from First Manchester to Larbert.

Glasgow: A couple of the missing regs from last month, 37194 (SF07FEH), 37196 (SF07FEK) 37200 (SF07FEP). also to note 37166 to 37185 are B7TLs

Hampshire: Two recent arrivals at Hoeford for use as trainers are Volvo B10Bs 60299 and 60337 both ex Manchester

Go Ahead

London: Darts LDP101, 102, 103 and 105 have moved to Merton from Bexlyheath as they are no longer needed as the B16 route extension has been cancelled. Four 10.1m Enviro 400s have arrived at Sutton, for the 213, E58 (LX07BYC), E59 (LX07BYD), E60 (LX07BYF) and E61 (LX07BYG) they are H41/26D and for use on 213. The batch were to have been delivered to Stockwell where others of the type already work. PVL140 And PVL141 are the first of four training buses that will be used for driving tests.

Go West Midlands

A full update of the list that appeared in Datafile number 4 follows:

New

Volvo B10M-62, Plaxton Excalibur C49FT: 54 R257DWL (R9OXF) & 55 R258DWL (R12OXF)

Dart SLF SFD112, Plaxton Pointer 2 B36F (490 is B32F): 478 P732RYL, 490 P516RYM, 491 P734RYL, 492 P740RYL, 493 P742RYL, 494 P743RYL, 495 P744RYL

Dart SLF SFD212, Wright Crusader B35F: 479 R403FFC (R403FFC R3OXF), 480 R404FFC (R404FFC R4OXF), 481 R405FFC (R405FFC R5OXF), 482 R46FFC (R46FFC R6OXF), 483 R407FFC (R407FFC R7OXF), 484 R409FFC (R409FFC R9OXF), 485 R410FFC (R410FFC R10OXF)

Dennis Dart SLF SFD322, Plaxton Pointer 2 B35F: 486 W337VGX, 487 W338VGX, 488 W335VGX, 489 W336VGX

Dennis Dart SLF SFD212, Plaxton Pointer 2 B35F: 496 R454LGH, 497 R461LGH, 498 R482LGH, 499 R488LGH, 500 R489LGH

Volvo B10B-58, Plaxton Verde B51F: 604 N604FJO, 612 N612FJO, 621 N813WGR, 622 N814WGR, 623 N815WGR, 624 N816WGR

Also, 994 G130PGK a Volvo Citybus B10M-50, NC Palatine 1 H47/38F is still present, albeit withdrawn.

Amend 477 KU52RYK is fleet no. 466

Withdrawn 301/2/8/12/27, 726/9

Trainer 313/4/21

Gone 305/11, 715/7-20/5/7/8/30/2-7/72-85/7/8, 992/3, BAZ7379, GIL3275, D821RYS, J781/98KHD, T36-8EUA, T14/8FUM, T949JUG

On a separate note, GoVia, the Rail arm of Go-Ahead, is to take over parts of the Central Trains & Silverlink franchises from November.

National Express

Stagecoach

Stagecoach Devon:

This company has opened an outstation in Okehampton, with four vehicles, which change most days. This yard is shared with Taw and Torridge vehicles. There are five of these usually K100 TAW, G451 JCC, D100 XRY, B588 XN0 and E365 HFG.

Cooks Landlines:

Optare bus reg. no. YK 05 CAU was involved in an accident with a taxi in Tiverton in June. The bus received severe body panel damage and was taken out of service.

Stagecoach East

Volvo B10M-62/Jonckheere Mistral coach 52645 (KSU642) has been transferred to South Wales. Volvo Olympian/Alexander RH 16225 (S755DRP) has been painted out of the old Stagecoach stripes livery into the newer corporate livery.

Transferred into the reserve fleet from Peterborough are Volvo B10M-62/Plaxton premiere Interurbans 52398/415 (P108FRS, R115OPS).

East Kent & Hastings:

Depots (AD) Ashford (DO) Dover (FO) Folkestone
(HS) Hastings (HY) Herne Bay (TH) Thanet

New:

(U/A) 47461 GX07FXA Optare Solo

Transfers:

(AD) 20608 42378 (FO) 16388 32585

(HB) 16381 40954 42371 42372 42379

(TH) 16375 (U/A) 19023 19024 19025 19026 19027 19028 19029
40941 40942 40947

Disposals:

Ensign Bus, Purfleet 40943 40977

Fleetlink, Altrincham 40957 40959

For Scrap 91614

East Midlands:

Depots (DR) Deacon Rd (GA) Gainsborough (GY) Grimsby
(HU) Hull (LI) Lincoln (LO) Louth
(MD) Mansfield (NE) Newark (SC) Scunthorpe
(SK) Skegness (CH) Chesterfield

New:

(U/A) 38001 FJ07OSU Enviro 200 (U/A) 38002 FJ07OSV Enviro 200

(U/A) 38003 FJ07OSW Enviro 200 (U/A) 38004 FJ07OSX Enviro 200

(U/A) 47482 FX07LJA Optare Solo (U/A) 47483 FX07LJC Optare Solo

Transfers:

(GA) 33203 33204 33205 33216 33222 33252

(GY) 15972

(NE) 14359 14360 14361

(SK) 14344

(U/A) 14632 14664 15931 15943 15954 15962 16464 16476 16489 25808 26036 28642 28644
28646 28647 40761 40800

Disposals:

Ensign Bus, Purfleet 30153-30156 incl.

Newly arrived for the "The Robin Hood Airport Lynx" services, X29 from Retford and X30 from Worksop, whose branding they carry are Enviro 200s 36002 (FJ07OSV), 36003 (FJ07OSW) and 36004 (FJ07OSX). Olympians 16464, 16465 and 16466 are now at Mansfield ex Worksop

East Scotland:

Depots (A) Aberdeen (AB) Arbroath (B) Blairgowrie (C) Cowdenbeath
(D) Dunfermline (DD) Dundee (F) Forfar (G) Glenrothes
(K) Kirriemuir (M) Montrose (P) Perth (R) Reserve
(S) St Andrews

New:

(P) 54018 SP07CAA Volvo B12 (P) 54019 SP07CAE Volvo B12

(P) 54020 SP07CAO Volvo B12 (P) 54021 SP07CAU Volvo B12

(P) 54022 SP07CAV Volvo B12 (U/A) 54035 SP07FCX Volvo B12

London:

Depots (BK) Barking (BW) Bow (NS) Romford (SD) Stratford
 (T) Leyton (U) Upton Park (WA) Waterden Rd
 (TB) Bromley (TL) Catford (PD) Plumstead

Transfers:

(NS) 17238

On Loan:

34274 Y274FJN to London United

34275 Y354FJN to London United

Manchester:

Depots (CS) Charles St (GP) Glossop (HR) Hyde Road (PR) Princess Road
 (ST) Stockport

Transfers:

(CS) 22094 22095 22096

(HR) 13616 13653

(U/A) 13300 13301 42004 42005 42006

Disposals:

????? 18373 42012 42013 42014

Merseyside: Aintree depot finally closed on June 22nd**North East:**

Depots (HA) Hartlepool (SL) Slatyford (SS) South Shields
 (ST) Stockton (SU) Sunderland (WA) Walkersgate

New:

(SL) 19141 NK07HBE Enviro 400 (SL) 19142 NK07GZV Enviro 400

(SL) 19143 NK07GZW Enviro 400 (SL) 19144 NK07GZX Enviro 400

(SL) 19145 NK07GZY Enviro 400 (SL) 19146 NK07HBF Enviro 400

(SL) 19147 NK07HBG Enviro 400 (SL) 19148 NK07HBH Enviro 400

Transfers:

(U/A) 16726 16727 28902

(WA) 52310 52446 52628 (Megabus) Disposals:

Scrap 40470 40476

40481 40487

????? 50046 50047

North West

In Lancaster: I don't think I made it quite clear, last month, but B6 30668 has been sold to the "North West B6 Fan Club". Can't be many B6s in preservation!!

South:

Depots (AT) Aldershot (AR) Andover (BE) Basingstoke (CH) Chichester
 (PM) Portsmouth (WG) Worthing (WI) Winchester

Transfers:

(PM) 18513 20623 20668

(U/A) 15202 32518 40656 40895

Devon 13613 13621 13622 13631 13635 (Megabus)

Disposals:

Ensign Bus, Purfleet 30141 30142

Emsworth & Dist. 32548 40731

Wealden PSV 52081 52085

52106

New at Winchester are Enviro 200s 36016 (GX07FXD) and 36017 (GX07FXE), part of a batch of 13 that will be delivered over the coming weeks.

South West: The first movement to the recently acquired Cooks is Vario 42115

Wales:

Depots (AE) Aberdare (BD) Blackwood (BR) Brynmawr (CY) Caerphilly
(CW) Chepstow (CN) Cwmbran (MR) Merthyr (PH) Porth

New:

(CN) 54003 CN07BAA Volvo B10 (CN) 54004 CN07BAO Volvo B10
(CN) 54005 CN07BAU Volvo B10 (CN) 54006 CN07BEE Volvo B10

Transfers:

(BD) 33277
(CN) 52404
(CY) 32610
(PH) 20357
(U/A) 32966

Manchester 13619 13623
Scotland 50133 50135 50140
50143 50148
Refurb 52300 @ Plaxton's

Warwickshire:

Depots (LN) Leamington (SD) Stratford-U-A (NN) Nuneaton (RY) Rugby

Transfers

(RY) 34121 34122 34123
52601 52659 – ex Yorkshire
(U/A) 31321 31323 31324

On Loan

(SD) O/Ts 208 219 252 348 350 370 ex Ensign
16527 16539 34119 & 34120 are being converted for O/T use at Stratford.

West:

Depots (CM) Cheltenham (CR) Cirencester (GR) Gloucester (RW) Ross-on-Wye
(SD) Stroud (SN) Swindon (CD) Coleford

Disposals:

Ensign Bus, Purfleet 14609 14610

Six new Solo M920s have been placed into service at Stroud.

47548 VX07LXY 47550 VX07LYA 47551 VX07LYC 47552 VX07LYD 47553 VX07LYF
47549 VX07LXZ

West Scotland:

Depots (11) Head Office (21) Kilmarnock (23) Cumnock
(31) Ayr (41) Dumfries (42) Stranraer
(51) Ardrossan (54) Arran (90) Glasgow City

New:

(41) 53302 SF07LCJ Volvo B7 (42) 53303 SF07LCK Volvo B7

Transfers:

(11) 50134 – ex Wales
(31) 50138 – ex North West

Two more Neoplans into service on the X77 from Ayr are 50130 (SV54ELU) and 50134 (CN05APX). Now at Kilmarnock as a trainer is 52208 (L638LDT)

Yorkshire:

Depots (BY) Barnsley (CD) Chesterfield (DR) Doncaster (ED) Ecclesfield
(HK) Holbrook (HD) Huddersfield (RH) Rawmarsh (SN) Shafton

Transfers:

(BY) 14524 14525 47281 47282

(DR) 31032 32483 32484

(SN) 20423 20435 20436 20437

Fresh withdrawal is Dennis Dart with Wright Handybus bodywork 32492 K418HWG. Optare Solo's for use as Supertram feeders confirmed are 47468 YN07OSF. Other new Optare Solo's are : 47464 YN07OSB, 47465 YN07OSC, 47466 YN07OSD.

Transdev

London United: Delivered to Fulwell on June 11th, for eventual use on the 148, were new Scania N230UD / East Lancs Olympus SO1 and SO2 H45/23D, the other seven of the batch following close behind

SO1 YN07LHP SO3 YN07LHT SO5 YN07LHV SO7 YN07LHX SO9 YN07LHZ
SO2 YN07LHR SO4 YN07LHU SO6 YN07LHW SO8 YN07LHY

These buses are unusual in London by having leather seats.

Travel Group

Travel West Midlands

The first ten Trident/Enviro 400's (of 59) are starting to arrive. Known registrations so far are 4718 BU07LGO, 4720 BU07LGW, 4723-7 BU07LGZ/HA-D.

539AG Still VOR in Acocks Green garage, 1312WA: Reinstated to service, 2590WA Withdrawn now at Miller Street, 2605LH Fresh respray, 2731LH In Walsall works, 3090WA Withdrawn now at Miller Street, 3614WB Away for repairs at Bristol, 4234BC Fresh respray, 4266PB Overall side advert for B and Q, 4312PL Returned to service after suffering major fire damage,

The following vehicles were notes at Miller Street on 30/05/07 : Mercedes 0810D : 271, 275. Leyland Lynx : 1079, 1120, 1188, 1192, 1195, 1206, 1219, 1231, 1233, 1237, 1299, 9072, 9073, 9074, 9260, 9265. Volvo B10B : 1371, 1374. Metrobus : 2503, 2572, 2588, 2590, 2931, 2932, 2939, 2945, 3026, 3044, 3090 9958. LDV : J784LNV, Ex Travel London Dennis Trident : V317KGW (painted white, possible fresh driver trainer) The scrap row consisted of : 9073, 2503, 2588, 1374, 3044, 2945, 2572, 3026.

Veolia

Wales: The first two of the long awaited batch of Caetano Levantes have arrived at Llantwit Fadre, FJ07DWK and FJ07DWL

Independents

Eastern Counties

A&P Travel, Great Barway

The outstations at Ely and Soham are no longer in use neither is the 'Leroy Travel' fleetname.

Barkerbus, Royston

Advertised for sale have been Plaxton 425 Integral J8WSB and Neoplan Skyliner H203AOB.

Hedingham Omnibuses

A new delivery here is ADL Enviro 400 EU07GVY which carried fleetnumber L355.

Konect, Dereham

In from Trent are Optare Excel L1180s W216-9PRB, another acquisition is former Chase Leyland National TRN809V. It is believed that the National will be painted into fleet livery and used on school services (makes me wish I was back at school seeing that).

Sun Fun, Earith

Sold is Ayats Bravo double deck coach AE03DYA.

Acquired from Ensigns is Leyland Olympian/Northern Counties F254YTJ.

London

Addison Lee Coaches: A new division of Redwing two noted so far are Merc 413 203 (YX07AYN) and Setra 205 (BX07NLD)

City Circle: A pair of new Jonckherre SHVs are FJ07VWL and FJ07VWP

Metroline: The company took over route 7/N7 from First on June 23rd and as widely anticipated the new Scania had not been delivered so several Tridents have been leased from First TAL32937/39/41/46/48-52 and TNL32900/01/02/04/05. Eleven indigenous Tridents, TPL237-247, have been transferred from Holloway to Perivale to make up the shortfall.

Wiltax: The three vehicles taken over with the Surrey Connect routes are R382GTW a DAF SB250 / NC Palatine 2, V140XVL a Scania L94UB / Wright Axxess Foline and SN04EFH a Transbus Enviro 300

Midlands

A2Z, Walsall

Another arrival is W100LCT, a Scania K124IB4 / Van Hool T9 C49FT

Hills, Wolverhampton

Additions are AT03LCT, a Setra S315GT-HD & AF06MMF, Setra S415HD, both C49FT.

Hi - Ride

A new arrival is Dennis Dart/Wright Handybus B29F K131LGO.

Johnson Bros (Hodthorpe): Two new additions are a pair of ex Stagecoach MANs T616DWL ex T50UBE and T617DWL ex T55UBE, this latter having taken up reg T3JBT

Rotala (Central Connect/Fights-Hallmark)

Further Plaxton Primos reported are YX07HJP, HNO/P, HPA/C/E/F/J, JJU.

It has been announced that Rotala is to acquire North Birmingham Busways & Ludlows. The ex-U.K.North Olympians may replace the Atlanteans at NBB.

Sania International (Walsall) - Fresh vehicle in here is Bluebird Q M51HUT, this was new to University Bus, Hatfield.

Thamesdown: A total of six former Lothian Olympians have been purchased to replace the some of the fleetlines 954 (L954MSC) and 957 (L957MSC) are the first two to arrive

Tiger European (Nottingham) Another ex Stagecoach MAN to find a home is T48BBW now here as T100GER

North East

North West

Avon Buses: Two more Dart SLF/ MCV Evolutions have been acquired 107 (AE07DZS) and 207 (AE07DZT) both B32F.

Bu-Val (Smithybridge): A recent acquisition from Jim Stones is MPD MH02NGN

Happy Als: Two fairly new second hand purchases are a pair of Volvo B12B / Jonc Mistral from Allander (Milngavie) SF05KWA and SF05KWB both C51FT. B6BLEs N100ALS and N900ALS have

been sold to Avon Buses I expect the reg's will be retained. Both are currently out of use having been used as spares.

Napier Point: Another used vehicle is N211TBC a Plaxton Premiere bodied Volvo B10M C49FT

Raddoneur: New are two Plaxton Primo's MX07BCZ and MX07NTN

Reays (Wigton): Have bought their first Volvos for several years, one noted is PX07GXT

Travellers Choice: A recent addition to be used as back up for National Express operations is an ex WA Volvo B12M/ Jonc Mistral C48FT

Scotland

Browns (Edinburgh): New here is a Volvo B12B / Van Hol Alizee SK07FUY

Goosecroft Coaches – A fresh vehicle here is Mercedes 709D M853ATC which was new as Bristol 7853.

Horsborough – Correction to info from last month the MAN is actually an ADL Dart ex Cavalier (Long Sutton), the registration of the Volvo B7RLE should have read FJ07AAZ. 2 of the Volvo B7 Wright Gemini's for airport services 555 and 777 have entered service they are Y555EMH, Y777EMH.

Telfords – Correction to the reported vehicle last month the registration of the fresh vehicle is P119RSF.

South West

This month's new coaches (or at least the ones I have found out about) are –

Bakers, Moreton in Marsh (formerly Enstone, Oxon) – CB07 MTB (Irisbus/Plaxton Panther C53F), Volvo B7R CB53 MTB out in part exchange (there may be a 2nd)

Andy James, Easton Grey – AJ07 BUS (Bova FHD127-365 C55FT), AJ04 BUS out but re-registered WO04 VFE first

Smith, Pylle (Somerset) – WA07 XYA (Volvo B12B/Plaxton C53F)

Western Greyhound has taken over Toppings of St Ives (Sunset Travel) and their assortment of bus services in the far West.

Two Mercedes 814D/Plaxton Beaver 2's were acquired with the business, YN56 DYM is now 591 in the WGL fleet and YN56 DZE is 592.

Older Mercedes Vario's 507, 508, 509 & 510 have been re-instated from the reserve fleet and Topping's Vario T296 ROF is on loan for a few weeks while the 56 plate Vario's are repainted in WGL livery and prepared for service.

The following buses will be allocated to the new depot at St Ives – 500, 501, 502, 503, 521, 528, 591, 592 and one other.

Full fleet lists as well as timetables are available on the company website.

Peters, Bristol (Abus) – two second hand double deckers have been acquired to modernise the fleet a little, J814 NKK is a Leyland Olympian ON2R with Northern Counties Palatine H47/30F body formerly Stagecoach East Kent 14814 and K159 PGO is a DAF DB250 with Optare Spectra H44/27F body ex Go Northern 3857 and formerly registered WLT 625 and K325 FYG. Both entered service in the previous owner's liveries and will be repainted in the school holidays. This operator's Bristol VR's will be heavily involved in the movement of people to the Glastonbury Festival.

Flights-Hallmark, Patchway (Wessex Connect)

So far six of the Volvo B7RLE/Plaxton Centro's ordered for the Avonmouth Park & Ride service have been delivered, these being BX07 KPN, KPO, KPP, AXO, AYU and WX07 UOB. Of the DAF/Plaxton Centro's originally used, YJ07 JJO, JJU & JRO remain, often working with the mini Darts on the 585-589 group of services while the rest of the batch and Olympian R368 DJN have gone to Birmingham.

A batch of Mini Pointer Darts are in use on the 585-587 group of bus services, these being T74 JBA, V899 DNB, W361 ABD, Y2 JPT, Y3 JPT, KP51 UFG & KP54 BYW. These are also assisted by the two larger South Gloucester Dart/Plaxton's MW552 PZP & PZR which now seen to run on F-H discs on loan, as do South Gloucester Olympian's E219 WBG, G508 SFT, G509 SFT, L222 SGB & L333 SGB on services for the University of West of England in North Bristol.

Thanks to David Oakley for sorting this lot out. For a complete fleet list of South Gloucester see David's website www.sgbc.20megsfree.com

ACL of Hewish have started their bus service from Weston Super Mare to Bristol in opposition to First using the ex Go Ahead Dennis Lance. It runs 2 hourly.

Bugler, Brislington – This Company was recently sold, the new owners moving operations from 100 School Road to the secure ex MoD industrial estate at Burnett near Keynsham that Bath Bus use. The experimental hybrid Optare Solo WP52 YSJ has been converted to a conventional diesel engine and now sees regular use on the 500 service. Sadly former owner Bob Bugler died after a long illness only days after the sale was completed.

Taunton School: Have a new Volvo coach reg. no. WA 56 ENR. Traded in for this coach was Volvo Plaxton reg.no. F703 COA. It was reported last month, that this coach belongs to Falcon Self Drive, Taunton.

Carmel Coaches

In are Scania Irizar S331 SET ex Weaver Newbury Bova FHD 10 UTF 119 ex Holmeswood Group Mercedes Benz Bus S281 LGA

Harveys, Mortenhampstead:

New in are two minibuses reg.no. X832 MFL and DX 05 VJD, probably both non psv.

Company News

Western Greyhound has expanded further into Cornwall with the take over of Penzance based Sunset Travel following the owner, Ian Topping, deciding to retire. Its varying fleet of minibuses are to be replaced by Western Greyhounds standard Mercedes / Plaxton Beaver models. Sunsets existing bases at Hayle, Penzance and St Ives are to remain open.

Wiltax: At the beginning of June several Surrey County Council workings of Surrey Connect were taken over along with the depot at New Haw, which was next to the base of Wiltax. Three vehicles were also acquired along with eight employees.

Rotala PLC has acquired North Birmingham Busways for £860,000 following the owners decision to retire. It is anticipated that operations will be merged with it existing operation at Longacre. This was followed the week later by agreeing to pay £850,000 for Ludlows of Halesowen. The deal is as yet conditional on several factors including Rotala's enquiries into Ludlows finances.

Go Ahead Group announced on June 29th that it has purchased Blue Triangle for £12 million. Around 60 vehicles with eight Tfl contracts and nine Essex County Council contracts are included, but the heritage fleet is not included in the sale.

Updates to National Coaches (Bus Datafile no. 12)

Bebb, Llantwit Fardre

2 of the expected Levantes have arrived. They are Scania K340EB4 FJ07DWK/L.

Bournemouth Transport

4 Levantes are due to replace 381-4 W381-4UEL.

Classic, Annfield Plain

2 arrivals are (8950/1) FJ07DWF/G, Scania K340EB4/Caetano Levante. These should replace (8943/4) X143/4WNL.

EYMS

38-44 are withdrawn, 38-43 have already been sold.

Flights-Hallmark

KBZ1800 apparently suffered fire damage in May. Flights diagrams will cease on 8 July.

Hills, Wolverhampton

Will cease their 777 Birmingham-Wolverhampton shuttles after 8 July.

National Express owned Operations

Another Volvo/Levante is NXVC17, FJ07DWN. No further news of NXSC3-7 at present.

Tri-axle Levantes are in course of delivery at Start Hill. NXL16-28 are expected to transfer to Veolia Birmingham in order to operate the former Go West Midlands duties from 2 July. NXL1-15 transferred to Veolia Birmingham on 6 June.

Latest allocations are:

Crawley: D21, D312-5/7/9/27/9/31, NXVC5-17, NXVP1-4, V32/3

Sipson Rd: 226-36/8-51, 512/3, 1095, D5-8/10/1/22/4/5/7, D308/9/11, NXL29/32, NXVC1-4, V26-8, V320/2-5

Start Hill: D23/6/8, D301-4/7, NXSC1/2, S359/928, V29-31/4-9/41-3, V208/13/823-5

Travellers Choice

A new arrival is 2594XI, a Volvo B12M, Jonckheere Mistral 50 from the Wallace Arnold fleet, livery code is NE.

Veolia, Birmingham.

Operations commenced from the new premises on 4 June with the transfer of C001-10 from Travel West Midlands. For the first 2 days, they operated on National Express discs, Bebb (!) discs were applied on 6 June. NXL1-15 & the NX Digbeth operations transferred her on th same day. NXL16-28 are expected here to operate the former Go West Midlands diagrams from 2 July. Fights 777 turns will be operated from here from 9 July.

New Deliveries

Anderson Travel, London

WA07BHD/E, VDL Bova FHD120-365, Bova Futura, C53F

Arriva Herts, Shires & Essex

YJ07JVU-Z/F, VDL DE12CSSB120, Wrightbus Cadet, B??F (Fleetnumbers 3732-8)

Arvonja, Caernarfon

BX07NNA, Setra S416GT-HD, Setra, C48FT

Callinan Coaches

Unknown, VDL Bova Synergy, Bova, CH(83)DT

Coliseum Coaches, Southampton

MIB650, Neoplan Tourliner, Neoplan, C44FT

David Palmer Coaches

YJ07JPX, Van Hool T916, Van Hool Astron, C48FT

Doigs of Glasgow

FJ07ACV/ADV, Volvo B7R, Sunsundegui Sideral, C57F

East Yorkshire Motor Services

YX07HJC-G/J/K, Volvo B12B, Caetano Levante, C49FTL (Fleetnumbers 61-67)

Fourway Coaches, Leeds

YN07DVK, IrisBus Eurorider, Plaxton Panther, C57F

Hedingham Omnibuses

EU07GVY, Alexander-Dennis Enviro400, ADL Enviro400, H(80)F (Fleetnumber L355)

Hills Coaches, Wolverhampton

BX07NKM, Mercedes Benz Tourino, Mercedes, C36F

Judge's Mini Coaches, Corby

MX07JPU +1, Plaxton Primo, Plaxton, B28F

Lochs & Glens Holidays

FJ07AEA/C, Volvo B12B 14m, Jonckheere HV14, C57F

MacPherson Coaches, Derby

Unknown x2, Mercedes Benz Tourino, Mercedes, C32FT/C34F

McLeans, Oxfordshire

BX56VTG, Setra S416GT-HD, Setra, C53FT

P&O Lloyd, Bagillt

YJ07EHZ +1, Optare Solo M710SE, Optare, B19/21F

Pearces, Oxford

Unknown x2, Dennis Javelin 10m, Plaxton Profile, C41F

Perry's Coaches, Malton

YJ07JPV, VDL SB4000XP, Van Hool Alizee T9, C53F

Pierce Kavanagh, Kilkenny

07-KX-3017, Volvo B12B, Jonckheere Mistral 50, C49FT

Princess Coaches, Southampton

MX07BBJ +4, Plaxton Primo, B28F

Rapsons Coaches

SY07CFU +4, Volvo B7RLE, Wrightbus Eclipse Urban, B45F

Roy McCarthy Travel, Macclesfield

YN56NHK, Volvo B12M, Plaxton Paragon, C53F

Slacks Travel

YJ07DVR, Mercedes Benz Vario O.815DT, Sitcar Beluga, C29F

Solus Coaches (Tamworth)

YJ07JHH +1, Temsa Safari HD, Temsa, C51FT

Thirlwells Coaches

YN07NTO, Volvo B12B, Plaxton Panther, C49FT

Thomas of Rhondda

Unknown, VDL Bova XHD122-340XE, Bova Magiq, C49FT

Utopia Coaches, Allerton Bywater

Y3UTO, Mercedes Benz Sprinter 616Cdi, Mercedes, B25F

Westbus UK Ltd, Hounslow

YJ07JFK +1, VDL SB4000XF, Van Hool Alizee T9, C53F

Unknown, Mercedes Benz Vario O.816DT, Sitcar Beluga, C25F

Wings Luxury Travel, Uxbridge

BX07NKE, Mercedes Tourino, Mercedes, C34FT

Zeebus, Canterbury

MX07JOV, Optare Solo M950 (MAN), Optare, B33F

Preservation News

Events:

Ipswich Transport Museum: 15th July – Ipswich Engineering Day

Keighley Historic Vehicle Rally: 15th July – Marley Showground

Sandon Hall Classic Car & Transport Show: 15th July – Sandon, Staffs
N. E. Bus Preservation Trust: 22nd July – North Tyneside Bus Rally
Western National Preservation Group Rally: 22nd July – Plymouth Hoe
LT Country Bus Rally: 22nd July – Eastbourne Mini Event
Trolleybus Museum, Sandtoft 29th July – Sandoft Gathering
Worthing Bus Gathering & Running Day: 29th July – 10th Anniversary event on seafront
Truckfest: 4/5th August – 25th anniversary year at Royal Highland Centre, Edinburgh
Transport Festival: 5th August – Trentham Gardens, Stoke –on- Trent
Running Day: 5th August - 80th Anniversary of Stevenson's of Uttoxeter
Bedford OB Coach Gathering: 5th August - Kemble Airfield Wilts
Historic Commercial Vehicle Society: 5th August – 39th Trans Pennine Run
Herne Bay Bus Rally: 5th August – at High Street Bus Garage
Trolleybus Museum at Sandtoft: 11/12th August – Trolley weekend (1940s/50s theme)
Huddersfield Festival of Transport: 12th August – Greenfield Park
Nottingham Transport Heritage Centre: 12th August – Annual Bus Gala
Bristol Vintage Bus group: 12th August – Open Day with the Avon Valley Railway

Sometimes the above rallies can be cancelled at short notice – so please check before hand, as you do not want a wasted journey

POPS Rally – Potteries Traction ‘Meet’ 20th May 2007 - Cassandra Sweeting
A747GRE (Paul Pearson) Olympian, **URE677S** (Dave Parry) VR, **G330XRE** (RML) Mercedes with PMT ‘Ami’ body, **NEH466** (Pops) OPD, **C120VBF** (Pops) Mercedes, **766EVT** (Pops) Atlantean, **OEH604M** (Pops) VR, **805EVT** (Quantock Heritage) Reliance ‘Jubilee class, **TVT127G** (John Crankshaw) Leopard, **TVT128G** (TVT128G Group) Leopard, **JEH198K** (Potteries Bus Group) RE, **PVT207L** (Mark Plant) RE, **EXI6301** (Gary Crosby) Leopard, **J910SEH** (Steve Townley),
Displayed by First Potteries: 65042 **YN06WMT**, 60043 **H801GRE** (Training), 60094 **H860GRE** (Training), 30033 **G757XRE**, 30038 **G762XRE**, 40019 **W478SVT** (Sold, painted for new Keele University Service)
Exhibited by Stagecoach: 15513 **MBE613R**,
Exhibited by Arriva: 2636 **CX07CRZ**, 2375 **FJ55BWE**
Visiting Wedgewood – Visitor Centre:
SK07FVA (Brown of Edinburgh), **6267UA** (Traveller’s Choice - John Shaw, Carnforth), **LH4226** (Seven of Dundalk), **GB03MTY** (Motts of Aylesbury), **BBZ6818** (Kadien Travel), **PE55WL** (Traveller’s Choice), **6280RW** (Bakers – Guideissue)
Exhibits: **GOU732**, **932GTA** (Atlantean Open), **JJD518D** RM, **BVP811V** Nat M2, **FDV829V**, **DTJ58**, **GAU728L**, **KEH8**, **MRR811K**, **LEO734Y** Fleetline (Barrow Corporation), **EHA424D**, **SND120X**, **ENU93H** (Chesterfield), **AG6470** Red (Bounty Motors), **WX2658** Dennis, **HL7538** (Pritchard), **ETA280**, **WP6114**, **JP7538**, **NKR529**, **XRC194**, **YRC191**, **XRB415L** National, **MTV755P** Leopard, **CWX671**, **NWU265D**, **798UXA** RM1168, **PYY28D**, **YX55BGY** (Wardle), **S2WMS** (Wardle), **JJD515D** RM, **GJW43N**, **DBN978**, **RSD732J**, **EHL344**, **SOA674S**, **YSU483**, **9RDV**, **MOF102**, **RFR177P**, **KFM774**, **URE281**, **FDB334C**, **UMY362**, **K345OFM** (Wardle), **BYW366V** (Chase), **CUV3237** RM, **PDL491H**, **MCA620P**, **WWY115G**, **VUB396H**, **H35HBG** Lynx (Halton), **ATS689** OB, **NSG869**, **MXX326**, **ORC545P**, **AFM402A** **DFG38** (Crossville), **LED73P**, **UNB524**, **RNA236J**, **C55HOM**, **KDZ580S** (Midland Rider), **RIB7002** RML, **Y452WWT** (Trina Coaches), **D553NOE**, **B141GAU** – Last/not least **DA51XTC** Dart kindly supplied by Wardle Travel as ‘Rally Control’ vehicle where your contributor finally met her ‘Waterloo’ After four years of avoiding work at the POPS Rally - they finally got me! Due to unforeseen circumstances – ‘lie’ I couldn’t leg it quick enough, I was entrusted with the Rally control job! For about 15 minutes I was the POPS (fat) Controller! The power, the glory!!! Then wiser heads sussed and I was demoted and would resume playing on the buses. Today POPS, tomorrow the Galaxy. Cassandra reportedly still cackling, stroking a white cat & laughing uncontrollably back up the hills!

Show report

The day itself, was sunny, excellent planning (except for leaving me in charge!) A number of new interesting buses, plus old faithfuls, plenty of variety, good crowds and opportunity to renew old friendships; wish we could do it every Sunday! The POPS Rally sets a bench mark for other rallies to aim at. Each year gets better, the open top Atlantean was particularly welcome as it's rarely seen. All **GB – BG members** are welcome when we do it again in 2008. Each year I believe it's the best, 2007 will be a hard act to follow. It was good to see an increasing number of disabled enthusiasts and POPS members working together for the common good. A rally of this magnitude can be likened to a swan – seemly gliding thru the water effortlessly but unseen; its little legs are pounding away, to provide pleasure *"The Friendly Rally"*. Floreat POPS

Spotted at the London flower show:- M.E. Hayman

VLT9 RM9 NML604E RML2604, RML2472, PVL252, 263, 264, 265, NV134, 170, 171,

Visit report Shamrock Bus Premises - John Smart and Barry Owens

A visit was made on May16th 2007 to the above at Shamrock Bus premises in Poole. Prior permission was given in advance over the phone a few days earlier. The telephone number being: 01202-733722 and not as stated in some publications. The heritage vehicles are stored on the left hand side of the garage and very tightly packed in a torch could be handy in places.

Heritage vehicles seen:-

8154 EL PD3/1, 8156 EL PD3/1, 8159 EL, 6167 RU PD3A/1, BOW 162 BL L56, DKY 711 KARRIER W TRLYBUS, DKY 712, FRU 224 GUY ARAB, YLJ 147 PD3/1, JFJ 16, JLJ 403 PS2/3 FLEET NO 226 (POSS CUB RRU 903), KEL 110 (110) PD2/3, KEL 12, KEL 133 PD2/3, KLJ 346 (212) BUT 9641T TROLLYBUS, NLJ 268 (258) PSUI/3, NNU 234 BUT 9611T TROLLEYBUS, RRU 904 PSUC1/1, ALJ 340 B CRG6 LX, CRU 103C (103) PSU3/2R, CRU 180 C (180) CRG6 LX, CRU197C (197), KRU 55F SRC6, ORU 230G (230) PDR1A/1, XRU 277K (277), DLJ 111L CRL6, DLJ 116L FEL 105L PSU3B/4R, AJT 143T, FLEET NO 73 ?

SHAMROCK VEHICLES SEEN:-

RAU 804M, JFR 3W, JFR 10W, JFR 11W, OFV 14X, OFV 22X, OFV 23X, TJT 191X, TJT194X, NUW 645Y, KUI 2269, UIB 3987, A901 JPR (W&D 4901), B863 XYR, B865 XYR, B866 XYR, B135 WNB, C178 ECK, C481 YWY, D84 UTF, E921 KYR, F86 MJH, F87 MJH, G801 GSX, G804 GSX, G809 GSX, G810 GSX,

It is said that Shamrock will be re-locating within the year

50th Anniversary of Bristol Omnibus Company Harbourside Rally and Running Day, Sunday 20th May 2007 – Steve Jenner, Mike Pinder, Barry Harper & Marc Baker

Preserved Vehicles:

KED546F Leyland Panther, **UHY360** Bristol, **OHY938** Bristol, **GHT127** Bristol, **AFB592V** Bristol, **FHU59D** Bristol, **A954SAE** Leyland, **UHY384** Bristol, **CUV344C** AEC, **NML657E** AEC, **AAX466A** Leyland, **OJD45R** Bristol, **CLJ413Y** Bristol, **YHT802J** Bristol, **675COD** Bristol, **ETT956** Bristol, **DOD518** Bristol, **CVF842** Bristol, **LAX101E** Bristol, **336EDV** Bristol, **KJD413P** Bristol, **NDP31R** Bristol, **TOF702S** Leyland, **DBC190C** AEC, **CYD724C** AEC, **KPM91E** Bristol, **LFJ862W** Bristol, **GEU371N** Leyland, **HHW920L** Bristol, **154FCY** AEC, **NCY626** AEC, **JTH756P** Leyland, **LTG798P** Leyland, **UDL454** Bedford, **PDW484** Leyland, **KAD359V** Leyland, **JHU899X** Leyland, **VAE499T** Leyland, **UMR112** Daimler, **JOU161P** Bristol, **WTG348T** Bristol, **D5CTB** Leyland, **NNC855P** AEC, **OWC182D** Bristol, **GHY135K** Bristol, **OTA290G** Bristol, **BXI2590** Bristol, **BYW382V** Leyland, **LHY976** Bristol, **LTA958** Bristol, **NNN7M** Bristol, **LHT911** Bristol, **BHU92C** Bristol, **EWS753W** Bristol, **CCG704C** Bedford, **NHU2** Bristol, **FHW158D** Bristol, **338EDV** Bristol, **924AHY** Bristol, **536JHU** Bristol, **969EHW** Bristol, **EDV502D** Bristol

Other vehicles attending rally:

A9562SAE Leyland, **A962THW** Leyland, **WA55VJE** Volvo, **OAE954M** Bristol, **XHK221X** Bristol, **XAN431T** Bristol, **RJJ67** Volvo, **J248LLK** Van Hool, **UMR199T** Leyland, **CV55ABN** Volvo, **WA54JWD** Dennis, **G522WJF** Leyland, **D601GHY** Volvo, **S174BLG** Mercedes,

Vehicles not in HB Preserved Bus Book:

CUV344C, NDP31R (*now H41/27D not H-/D*), **NML657E, AAX466A, KAD359V**

The Devon General Society 25th Anniversary Rally, Oldway Mansion, Paignton Sunday 27th May 2007 – Steve Jenner, Mike Pinder & Marc Baker:

Preserved:

OD7497 AEC, **KOD585** AEC, **CTT51C** AEC, **CTT518E** AEC, **EOD524D** AEC, **JFJ873** Daimler, **1RDV** AEC, **ROD765** AEC, **A680KDV** Leyland, **VDV137S** Bristol, **OD7500** AEC, **A686KDV** Leyland, **MSJ499** Leyland, **AFH186T** Leyland, **NTT661** AEC, **890ADV** AEC, **HTT487** AEC, **9RDV** AEC, **100VRL** AEC, **KTT42P** Bristol, **TDV217J** Leyland, **NNC855P** AEC, **PWS492S** Leyland, **C526FFJ** Ford, **A927MDV** Ford, **L929CTT** Iveco, **XTA839** Albion, **XUO721** Bristol, **913DTT** Leyland, **TUO74J** AEC, **931GTA** Leyland, **932GTA** Leyland, **VDV817** AEC,

Other vehicles attending:

WA56OJN Dennis, **WJ55NMA** Dennis, **J828 HMC** Scania, **AJH854T** Bristol

Report on the Harrington Gathering at Amberley Museum, 10th June 2007 - Ian Turner

DUF179 1937 Leyland Tiger, **EYA923** 1938 Leyland Cheetah, **JYC855** 1947 Leyland PS1, **PPF492** 1950 AEC Regal 111, **NKN650** 1951 Commer Avenger Mk1, **HVJ583** 1951 Leyland PS2, **KHJ999** 1955 AEC Reliance, **MMR552** 1955 Leyland Tiger Cub, **MMR553** 1955 Leyland Tiger Cub, **390DKK** 1958 AEC Reliance, **VHO200** 1959 Seddon Mark 19, **699RPA** 1960 AEC Reliance, **2722CD** 1961 Leyland Leopard, **326CAA** 1961 Bedford, **28TKR** 1962 AEC Reliance, **AMX8A** 1963 AEC Reliance, **900SAF** 1963 AEC Reliance, **487GFR** 1964 AEC Reliance, **ABO145B** 1964 AEC Reliance, **100VRL** 1964 AEC Reliance, **CNW155C** 1965 Bedford Val, **HLP10C** 1965 AEC Reliance, **CYD724C** 1965 AEC Reliance

*On loan to the museum was the Big Bus Company Leyland PD2 D/D **XMD47A** this vehicle was giving rides all day.*

*Outside the museum in the Amberley Railway Station car park were – **KPA356P, H140AFV, R902BKO, M578RCP***

Observations

Day trip: Leek to Stratford – upon – Avon on 5th June 2007 – Cassandra Sweeting

The bus station has closed, buses use stops in Bridge Street, which are used by stagecoach/First Wyvern/Johnson's.

Nearest Railway Station: Stratford – upon - Avon

There are a number of places of interest:-

Leisure Centre coach park – National Express stop, large coach park on Warwick Road.

There is an excellent café, good place for photography and there are toilet facilities.

Cross Road & left to junction, right, in front of Pen & Parchment pub – Sightseeing open toppers, cross bridge then cross road into Bridge Street, continue to junction, cross veer left and follow street towards Shakespeare's Fountain. Continue past taxi rank to traffic lights; turn right into Windsor Street, Shakespeare's Birthplace Museum coach park. At the end turn left into Birmingham Road (A3400) continue ½ mile to Land Rover Dealership turn left into Weston Road (Avenue Farm Industrial Estate) the Stagecoach garage is now visible at end of the road. Some numbers are visible from public land.

Sheila's Taxi's 07788 922898 are ENTHUSIAST friendly, plus she drives a Mercedes. For the non tourist I recommend Queens Head in Ely Street, across is the Kingfisher Chip shop/café (Mon –Sat 11.45 14.00). There is also a Park & Ride on N/W side of town – serviced by Johnson's Solos

Leek: **YN06EPE** Scragg's Coaches, **40027** First Potteries

Stoke: **OKZ2652** Stanway's

A53 Endon: **MIL2173** Kelsall ? Neoplan D/D (*Thandi*)

Stratford Tour: **EWF450V, BYX219V, H648GPF**

Leisure Centre Coach Park (11.00) 515EAD92 (F), BRVL11 (NL), FJ03VMU, McCleans, FJ06BTE McCleans, NBZ4127 Hawkes, Y157EGR Urquhart, 07CW1 Kavanagh, DX53YUG Lakeside, FJ55BXX Lakeside, PN03OVP Alfa, R633VNN Bowen, KJZ8510 Doves, PSK619 Stevenson, MIW1607 Dudley, RIL1020 Staffords, MC02ALC Ashford,

Town – Stagecoach: 32629 P629PGP, 32630 P630PGP, 16072 R172VPU, 16076 R176VPU, 32001 P101MNH, 16598 NS18XER, 20220 P220HBD

Independents:

L965VGE, L120OWF Johnson's

Park & Ride:

YJ55BMU, YN53YHA, X433KON – all Johnson's

Stagecoach Garage: JJD565D, 27542 SN04EFM, DS27EFL, D539EFL, 32575 K575NHC, VO52AFA EYE325 (An electric bus – now withdrawn) 304CLT & WLT752 (on hire from Ensign)

Note: There are NO withdrawn Stratford Blue Buses on Site

Shakespeare's Birthplace Coach Park (Windsor Street): BRXV57 NL, CX55AGV, W2126JBN, BX05WVN, YG07EGX

Bridge Street: 67651 VX54MYTU (First Wyvern), 16600 N520XER (S/Coach) 20823 P823FVU (S/Coach) MIW1607 (Dudley), YJ03VMW (Shearings)

Leisure Centre Coach Park (15.00) 05-DL-3191 (Eire), LIL7332 (Graham) MX03ABZ

(Shearings), IIW828 (Graham), WAC828 (A.C. Williams), T368AJF (Harrington), T108JBA (National Holidays), PSK619 (Stevenson), SIL4463 (Sureline) FJ06BTE (Grand Link), YN06EPE (Scragg), FJ03VMW, YJ05FXV, WT03DAF (Wicksons), 7206JBE (Safford), ZL67737 (CZ), BIG6584 (Carter), 8481FLZ (E), 3H42140 (CZ), N732UVR (Heyfordian), SJ54GBE (Nat. Exp) on the 539 to Bournemouth,

Town: 16614 S914 ANH (S/Coach)

M6 Castle Bromwich:

SN05MFY & Neoplan D/D

M6 J13 Stafford:

3 Arriva S/D's on delivery (London Red) 07AYB or AYR?

Meir Heath:

M67HHB (D&G)

Meir:

60082/171/1143/1145 (First Potteries)

It was a very hot and sunny day. Managed to avoid the touristy areas, local cabby recommended, decent pub, nice chippy and I found the Stagecoach staff very friendly.

I missed c. 30 coaches on motorway - distance & high speed made it very difficult to register the digits

Additional:

DWF450V Olympian ? Stagecoach (Stratford Blue) Tour BWS

Mckindless Newmains Garage log – 12th June 2007. – Simon Wilson

Just arrived ex DLA 3 01 D34172 ex "AERDART" from the rep of Ireland.

NML 600E - RML 2600 YDL 318, R116 DLY, A990 SYF, B207 WUL, GYE544W, A980 SYF, B291 WUL, B109 WUL, B133 WUL, B164 WUL, P511 RYM, 52 GYY, A730 YFS, C632 LFT, C464 LFT, KYV773X, KYV721X, R179 VLA, G501 XBL, G746 RTY, R809 OYS, YBZ 6469, R114 RLY, 476 CEL, C663 LFT, L101SDY, WIL 9207, WIL 9201, R103 VLX, L141 BFY, P422 JDT, SIL 1816, K889 BRW, WIL 9228, JIL 5145, V193 DRC, P335 JND, R102 VLX, R730 RYL, P105 OLX, A729 YFS, R691 OYS, AMS 513K – TOW TRUCK R694 OYS, BX 56 XAP

The following are for spares:

K339 FAL – only the back half of this bus is extant.

KYV661X, YIB 7073, B129 WUL, KYV798X, KYV732X, KYV714X, WIL 9225, G734 RTY, GYE 469W K342 FAL, J325BVO, K338 FAL, L833 CDG, RIL 9304, VIL 4589, G510 XRC, WIL 9204, A731 YFS, G536 VBB, G741 RTY, B159 WUL, B293 WUL, B139 WUL, MRL 493P, KYV 765X, YIB 9500, L169 YAT, L164 XRH, RIL 9868, WIL 9206, S162 UAL – *needing an new engine* G503 XBL, C609 LFT & C610 LFT - *still in stagecoach beachball colours*

M670 SSX - *ex "Barrhead Bus Co." the reason these two are here is for the engines.*

M671 SSX - *ex "Barrhead Bus Co"*

McColl Coaches Garage Log – 13.06.2007 – Simon Wilson

B853 AOP, C785 SFS, POG 493Y, POG 527Y, E326 BYO, P257 RUM, P259 RUM, W514 RSF, SF 04 RHK, L388 BGA, D947 NDA, B852 AOP, B810 AOP, B777 AOP, TX1 4242, P223 EJW X83 AAK – *Bus covered up for re-painting*

the following are for spares

B925 AAT (ML 29) – *former “Arriva London” sightseeing bus, (believe used for spares by “Scotline Tours”)* D935 NDA, F27 XOF, L410 BBC, L407 BBC, L405 BBC, E987 VUK SJI 5624, CBZ 9062 – *used as a seat store*

Avondale Coaches Garage Log – 13.06.2007 – Simon Wilson

(change of company address: 189 Dumbarton Road, Clydebank, G81 1UF)

M362 LAX, SN03 LFV, F311 DET, L416 BGA, G293 TSL, M367 LAX, X626 DYB

K225 VTB & K581 MGT - *complete, but not sure if are currently used*

The following are for spares – the Mercs are, I believe are for scrap, most of the Darts are awaiting for a few parts, e.g. engines etc..., but the Solos’s are going to be repaired.

VU02 TTO, YJ05 XNS, YJ05 XNP, YJ55 YGP, K153 LGO, K583 MGT, K151 LGO, M213 EGF, K225 VTB, K224 VTB, J10 WBT, K221 VTB M211 EGF, K222 VTB, L395 BGA, L375 BGA, L300 RHU, L495 BGA, L139 XDU, L140 XDU

DB Travel Garage Log – 13.06.2007 (Located further down the road from Avondale)

N796 PDS, B321 CGG L123 DRN F214 DCC, F429 GJC, F219 DCC, K446 XRF, K438 XRF
the following are for spares L203 UNA + 2 white buses, along with 1 red bus (unknown id’s)

Alexander Dennis Factory, Falkirk - Arthur Moore

29th May

Epsom Coaches SK07DZJ

Metroline

DES793 LK07BDV DES796 LK07BDZ DES798 LK07DEO

Travel West Midlands

4721 BU07LGX 4722 BU07LGY 4723 BU07LGZ

4724

5th June

Arriva London

ENS11 LJ07ECF ENS14 LJ07ECV

London General (Go Ahead)

E58 LJ07BYC E61

Metroline

DES792 LK07BDU DES794 LK07BDX DES797 LK07BEJ

DES799 LK07BEU DES800 LK07BEY DES801

DES802

Travel West Midlands 4719 BU07LGV

Demonstrator SK07DYB

12th June

Stagecoach

AE07KYS AE07KYU GX07FXC GX07FXD

Travel West Midlands

4718

19th June

Dublin Bus 07-D-3007

Stagecoach

AE07KYT GX07FXB GX07FXE GX07FXF

NK07HAX

Travel West Midlands

4724 BU07LHA	4725 BU07LHB	4726 BU07LHC
4727 BU07LHD		

26th June**Arriva Southern Counties**

3983 GN07DLF	3986 GN07DLO	3987 GN07DLU
3988 GN07DLV		

Dublin Bus

07-D-3005	07-D-3006	07-D-3008	07-D-3009
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Stagecoach

GX07FXH	GX07FXJ	GX07FXK	GX07HUZ	NK07HBC
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PLEASE REMEMBER PERMISSION MUST BE OBTAINED BEFORE ENTERING ANY BUS GARAGE

Anthony Walton**Sunday 22nd April 2007****Arriva Midlands.****Wellington Garage**

Dennis Dart	:	2021	2075								
Volvo B6-50	:	2108	2109								
Dennis Dart SLF	:	2279	2280	2359	2360	2361	2362	2363	2364	2366	
Volvo B6LE	:	2630	2631	2633	2635	2636	2637	2639			
DAF/ VDL SB	:	2712	2713	2714	2715	2716	2717	2718	2719	2724	2730
		2731	2732	2733	2734	2735	2736				
Dennis Falcon	:	3073	3074	3081	3082	3083	3085	3086	3089		
DAF SB	:	3705	3706	3708	3707	3709	3710	3711	3712	3714	3715
		3718									
Leyland Tiger	:	9503tr									

Sunday 15th 2007**D & G.****Adderley Green Depot.**

Optare Solo	:	1	2	3	4	5					
Dennis Dart	:	6	7	11	12						
Mercedes Minibus	:	17	18	19	25	26	27	32	33	34	36
		44	46	47	50	51	52	53	54	59	40
Optare Solo	:	61	62	63	70	71	72				
Mercedes Minibus	:	77									
Dennis Dart	:	84	87	88	89						
Mercedes Minibus	:	95	96	105							
Optare Solo	:	112	174								

Cassandra's Notes & Sightings:

The ex Boyden's coach **S362SET** Scania Irizar Century is believed to be owned by Sonata Leisure, Selly Oak in Birmingham.

The former Boydens bus garage at Winkhill, and site, has been purchased by W G Tankers

Hanley Bus Station, 19th May 2007

M880ATC Volvo B6 Plaxton B35F (*Former Lincolnshire Road Car is an additional to RML and is still in Roadcar livery*)

20th May 2007

65038/041 (marked for 101 Hanley – Stafford) on Hanley to Leek route, the use of such exalted transport is to give us a bit of luxury while the normal cross is serviced.

Hanley bus station C1000 **FJ540TV and JEH198K**
C1400 **OEH604M**

Fenton (passing) **WJI5173** Wild of Derby

Leek 23rd May 2007

BX56XAF School Bus, **IAZ4776** Mayne (MCR) to Auton, **M4YNF** Mayne (MCR) Tour
Y15CCL A. Huntie? To Auton, **H726GPS** Ashton of St Helens - Mystery Trip

Hanley 24th May 2005

R259DWL GO WM Nat Ex,

Leek 26th May 2007

P186NAK J.A. K. Travel, **JSK264** Plymouth City Coach, **JSK265** Plymouth City Coach

Leek 30th May 2007 (10.00 – 11.35)

7LZ2659 & J946JJR Proctor, **5905LHG** Alton Towers, **LUI9639** D&G, **40030/154/155/175** - First Potteries, **60077** First Potteries, **BX54FRV** Warringtons, **K617WFR**, **L24LSG**, **M127YCM & M129YCM** - Clowes, **N466VOD** P.J. Clowes,

Leek 1st June 2007

MK02HDA & MA25YCM Aimee's, **CKZ5994** D&G, **650345**, **40030/153/154/155/175** - First Potteries, **K865ODY**, **L24LSG & M129YCM** - Clowes, **N466VOD** P.J. Clowes, **5905LHG** Alton Towers, **N30XEG**, **J946JJR** Proctor, **M1B614** Copelands, **MX03AET** Shearings, **GJZ9591**

Leek 6th June 2007

GNZ3406 D&G, **65033**, **40030/175/158/154/155** First Potteries, **ELZ2972**, **L24LSG M127/129YCM**, **K865ODY**, **J946JJR**, **K320FYG** (Proctors), **MX07BBN** Solo (additional) Alton Towers ***FC03WVE** (Belle Vue Coaches), ***MX56HYN** (Fingland's) - Market Visits
BX54FRV (Warringtons of Ilam) – Wednesday only market service, **M125YCM** (Aimee's), **MK02HDA** (Aimee's)

Fleet Profile

Sorry, the gremlins got in last month and part of the profile was deleted off, here is the missing bit, plus an updated fleetlist from the company.

Islwyn Borough Transport Ltd; Kingfisher Travel

Brief history of the Company:

The Company was formed following the Transport Act 1985. It was wholly owned by Islwyn Borough Council which changed to Caerphilly County Borough Council upon local government reorganisation in 1996. Originally the Company operated only local services and school contracts, however, this changed in 1989 when Kingfisher Travel was formed which is the coaching arm of the company. This division undertakes a full holiday programme throughout the UK and Europe (see web site www.kingfishertravel.com) with a current turnover in excess of £2 million. It operates 21 vehicles and a total staff of 34.

The stage carriage division operates 27 vehicles with a staff of 46 and covers 1.2 million kilometres per year. The following routes from Blackwood to Bargoed, Newbridge, Wyllie, Penllwyn, Ystrad Mynach, New Tredegar, Markham, Pontypridd (jointly with Veolia) and Cardiff (jointly with Stagecoach) are operated. School contracts are undertaken for 4 local authorities and contract buses are provided for shoppers to 3 Asda stores and Tesco.

The Board of Directors consists of the Managing Director, Commercial Director 5 Councillors and the Deputy Chief Executive.

I have been with the Company since it was formed and became M.D. in 1992. The anticipated turnover for the current financial year will be approx £4 million.

Livery is Blue and White and the ticket system is Wayfarer.

NO	REG.	CHASSIS NUMBER	CHASSIS TYPE	BODY TYPE	SEATS	DATE REG.
01	YK55 ENJ	SAB1900000002144	OPTARE	OPTARE SOLO M850	29	17-01-06
02	L4 USE	WDB6703032N016012	MERCEDES	DORMOBILE	33	13-01-94
03	G502 XBL	318807	DAF SB 220 LC	OPTARE DELTA	49	11-09-89
04	G504 XBL	325413	DAF SB 220 LC	OPTARE DELTA	49	26-09-89
05	G509 XBL	325250	DAF SB 220 LC	OPTARE DELTA	49	24-10-89
06	YJ56 APY	SAB1900000002187	OPTARE	OPTARE SOLO M850	28	01-10-06
07	YJ56 ASX	SABENJAF06L192188	OPTARE	OPTARE SOLO M850	28	01-10-06
10	N572 OUH	WDB6703032N037168	MERCEDES 811D	PLAXTON	29	04-12-95
18	PN03 OWA	WMAA66ZZZ2H002395	MAN 14.220	E/LANCS	35	28-03-03
19	YN05 UPY	WMAA66ZZZ3H002784	MAN 14.220	E/LANCS	38	24-04-05
20	YN04 FKL	WMAA66ZZZ3H002797	MAN 14.220	E/LANCS	35	06-04-04
21	YN04 FKJ	WMAA66ZZZ3H002796	MAN 14.220	E/LANCS	35	06-04-04
22	AE04 PJU	WMAA66ZZZ3H002813	MAN 14.220	MCV 005 STIRLING	35	22-06-04
23	AE04 PJV	WMAA66ZZZ3H002814	MAN 14.220	MCV 006 STIRLING	35	22-06-04
24	M957 VWY	G094667	MAN 11.190	OPTARE VECTA	40	18-01-95
25	N813 XJH	WMA4691995G104409	MAN 11.190	OPTARE VECTA	40	02-01-96
26	N812 XJH	WMA4691994G104388	MAN 11.190	OPTARE VECTA	40	07-12-95
27	M811 PDP	G094582	MAN 11.190	OPTARE VECTA	40	12-12-94
28	M810 PDP	G094571	MAN 11.190	OPTARE VECTA	40	05-12-94
30	TIL 5405	WMA4692034G106155	MAN 11.190	OPTARE VECTA	40	02-01-97
31	TIL 5406	WMA4691945G102413	MAN 11.190	OPTARE VECTA	40	02-01-97
32	TIL 5407	WMA4691943G102401	MAN 11.190	OPTARE VECTA	40	17-04-97
33	TIL 5408	WMA4692033G106132	MAN 11.190	OPTARE VECTA	40	17-04-97
34	N671 CLV	98SDL3054/2763	DENNIS DART	MARSHALL	40	12-01-96
35	N673 CLV	98SLD3054/2727	DENNIS DART	MARSHALL	40	12-01-96
36	WPH 125Y	8200262	LEYLAND TIGER	E/LANCS	51	01-09-82
42	C42 GKG	8500391	LEYLAND TIGER	E/LANCS	47	03-12-85
56	IIL 7331	261795	DAF	CAETANO	53	05-05-87
76	P60 PSW	YV31MA61XVA047103	VOLVO B10M	J/KHEERE MISTRAL 50	53	20-06-97
77	B11 JCT	XL9AA18CF0L004503	BOVA FHD 12-290	BOVA FUTURA	70	15-01-90
78	B12 JCT	XL9AA18CF0L004407	BOVA FHD 12-290	BOVA FUTURA	70	01-12-89
79	B13 JCT	XL9AA18CF0L004435	BOVA FHD 12-290	BOVA FUTURA	53	01-11-89
80	FJ53 KZM	YV3R9F8183A001135	VOLVO B12M	J/KHEERE MISTRAL 50	51	24-11-03
82	LIL 3934	YV31MKC12JA017453	VOLVO B10M	J/KHEERE	53	22-04-88
83	FJ53 KZN	YV3R9F81X3A001136	VOLVO B12M	J/KHEERE MISTRAL 50	49	24-11-03
84	PIL 7240	YV31M2B10PA031703	VOLVO B10M	J/KHEERE	49	19-05-93
86	UIL 7808	YV31MGD12LS025352	VOLVO B10M	J/KHEERE	53	02-01-92
88	YIL 4360	YV31MA610TC060282	VOLVO B10M	PLAXTON	49	18-04-97
89	AK04 KKC	WF0EXXGBFE4B86618	FORD	TRANSIT 2500	16	18-03-04
90	FJ04 ERX	YV3R8F81741014429	VOLVO B12B	J/KHEERE MISTRAL 50	49	29-04-04
91	YIL 8340	YV31MA615WC060606	VOLVO B10M	BERKHOF AXIAL	49	03-04-98
93	RIL 1027	WMA4691231G081940	MAN	CAETANO	35	01-01-94
95	W868 AAY	YV31MA617XC061273	VOLVO B10M	PLAXTON EXCALIBUR	49	10-04-00
96	TIL 1690	YV31MGD14LS025496	VOLVO B10M	J/KHEERE	49	11-02-93
97	TIL 1691	YV31MGD12NA030494	VOLVO B10M	VAN HOOL	53	17-02-93
98	UIL 4720	WKK13400001015077	KASSBOHRER	SETRA S250	48	17-03-97

Clarkson Coachways Ltd.

Clarkson Coachways are from Barrow in Furness. The company first started operating on 1st October 1987 as a sole proprietor. Later becoming a partnership involving my wife Susan, in the last two years it has become a limited company – with me and my wife as directors. We have had a total of 30 different vehicles over the years – we started with an YMT Bedford with a Duple body, the fleet has also included Leyland's and a number of Javelin's.

The fleet stands at twelve vehicles but will be reduced to ten in the near future.

Our primary work is in contract and general private hire, although an international licence is held, we don't travel abroad on a request basis.

We partake in tour work on behalf of some large tour companies, although this has reduced in recent years.

The fleet now consists of 5 Javelins with Caetano, Berkoff & Marco Polo bodies, 1 Ford Transit with Optare Bonito body and 1 LDV 16 seats and an ex Lothian Atlantean open top Double Decker bus from Guide Friday which is used for special occasions and possible summer service along the coast road - **Neil Clarkson, Company Secretary**

Registration	Make	Body	Seating
FN02RXC	MAN 18.310	Caetano	C53 <i>This vehicle for sale</i>
S706NRN	MAN 11.220	Berkof	C35
Y273BCV	MAN 13.220	Marco Polo	C37
FNT595	Dennis Javelin	Berkof	C51 <i>This vehicle for sale</i>
UCE836	Dennis Javelin	Berkof	C53
572GYA	Dennis Javelin	Marco Polo	C55
P12LON	Dennis Javelin	Berkoff	C38
V444SMC	Dennis Javelin	Caetano	C53
Y27SMC	Mercedes 614D	Crest	C24
YM53KNA	Ford Transit	Ferqul	B16
R160HGC	LDV	Convoy	B16
GFS 443N	Leyland Atlantean	Alexander	OT45/33

Thanks go to Neil Clarkson for providing the above information



UCE 836 Dennis Javelin (721BR4VGJ22112) WITH Berkhof (3680) C53F bodywork on the M6 at Preston 28th May 2007

Photo by David Sharpe

Darwen Transport Trust – East Lancs Rally and East Lancs Coachbuilders Open Day, Sunday 1st July 2007 – David Sharpe

I visited this event again this year, but once again it was blighted by atrocious weather, which clearly kept the numbers attending well down on last year. Also noticeable was the reduction in participants on the rally, or so it appeared to me compared to recent years. Maybe it's time to move the date and hope for a better day.

Displayed vehicles

838	YN07LFE	Scania EL Olympus	Reading Transport
500	CU56AVP	Man Kinetic	Whitelaws, (may now be on hire to Preston)
332	PF06EZP	Alexander Trident EL	Blackpool Transport
364	B364UBV	Leyland AN68D/1R EL	Blackpool Transport
1602	YJ06WLZ	VDL DE02PSDB250 EL	Arriva West Yorkshire
17698	MW52UJE	Dennis Trident EL	Stagecoach Manchester
23	S863DGX	Volvo Olympian NC	Rosendale Transport
	RFR177P	Leyland Leopard	Bassetts
1039	FKF918F	Leyland Panther MCW	Liverpool
1021	A101HLV	Leyland AN68D/1R Ar	Merseyside PTE
KDG26	CWX671	Bristol K5G Roe	Keighley – West Yorkshire
115	DJP754	Leyland PD2 NC	Wigan
104	LEO734Y	Leyland AN68D/1R NC	Barrow
152	GCM152E	Leyland PD2 Massey	Birkenhead
9	NEK9K	Leyland AN68/2R NC	Wigan
733	EHL344	Leyland PS2 Roe	West Riding
54	ANA564Y	Leyland AN68D/1R NC	North Birmingham Busways
91	MJA891G	Leyland PD3 EL	Stockport
11	TTD386H	Leyland PD3 EL	Ramsbottom

Shuttle Buses

111	E111KYN	Scania N112DRB EL	Travelspeed, Burnley
161	H661GPF	Volvo B10M-50 EL	Travelspeed, Burnley
39	JTF217F	Leyland PD2 EL	Darwen

In various stages of build

S06		Scania Olympus	Transdev London
	YN07EXF	Scania Omnidekka	Metrobus
	YN07EXG	Scania Omnidekka	Metrobus
501		Man Kinetic +	Reading Transport (ex Demonstrator)
836	YN07LFB	Scania Olympus	Reading Transport
837	YN07LFD	Scania Olympus	Reading Transport
839		Scania Olympus	Reading Transport
840		Scania Olympus	Reading Transport
SEL739		Scania Olympus	Metroline
SEL742		Scania Olympus	Metroline
Plus another 16 Scania Olympus for Metroline. If anyone wants the chassis/body numbers for these, drop me a line.			



Travel West Midlands 3001 F301XOF receives a helping hand back to Coventry, Wheatley Street garage on 1st May 2007.
Photo DaveFrancis



One of Metroline's new buses on the production line at East Lincs Coachbuilders 1st July 2007
By the time you are reading this it will probably be in service.
Photo David Sharpe