

The Trident

The Monthly Magazine of the GB Bus Group

GB-BG



New liveried Travel West Midlands 1847 BV 57 XHP a Scania K230UB (YS2K4X20001858933) Scania B43F. It appears to be missing fleet names and number Photo – Chris Morton

Web Site – www.bg-gb.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 and welcome to February's magazine. Sadly this will be the next to last one that I shall be editing for the GB-BG, as I shall be editing the Lancashire independents section of the PSV Circle's newssheets shortly. I will miss this as it has been enjoyable putting the magazine together for the group. If there is anyone out there who feels that this may just be the ticket for them, please get in touch with Maurice (contact details above), or myself and we will be willing to help you get started.

On to the magazine lots of information for you once again, Cassandra has been getting more directions for you, and with the days slowly drawing out and hopefully a bit better weather, lets get out there and get spotting, photographing or what ever!!!

David

Membership Details

Membership of the GB Bus Group is £13 per year. This gives you a monthly magazine and 20% discount on all HB Publication Bus Books. Please make all cheques and Postal Orders payable to GB Bus Group

Welcome to new members Charles Ackroyd (Halifax), D. Anderson (Stockton – on –Tees), J. Blannin (Bristol), Steven Blyth (Leicester), Alexander Chesney (West Midlands), Martin Fearis (Bristol), Peter Nuttall (North Yorkshire), Stephen Ryans (Leicester), Brian Southward (Windermere), Terence Spriggs (Sheffield), Bill Storey (Lancashire), Tony Stroud (Dorset), Paul Tarrant (Kent), Rodney Whittaker (Leeds), C. Willavoys (Bristol)

Contributions

Thanks go to contributors : Dave Stewart, LOTS, Ross Newman, Tony Allen, Dougie King, Oxford & Chiltern Bus Page, Mrs E. Crocker, Stephen Evans, Arthur Moore, Chris Morton, Anthony Walton, Andrew Williams, and apologies to anyone whom we have inadvertently missed.

We look forward to receiving your valued contributions.

Editorial Vacancy

As mentioned in the Editors Bit there is a vacancy for a new editor. The post involves working with Microsoft Word, collating the Area Editors sections and other news items, to produce the magazine to a monthly deadline for sending off to the printers. It should take around four hours a month to complete the magazine, which can be either a blitz near to the deadline or as often the pieces come in from the middle of the month onwards an ongoing exercise spreading it out. That is up to you however you feel happiest working. Help will be provided to get you going and if you have any questions please get in touch with Maurice (contact as above) or me the outgoing editor via my e-mail address avro45@tiscali.co.uk in the first instance.

Magazine

The deadline for the magazine is 29th February 2008. Please can you send any contributions to the area editors a few days before to give them chance to deal with the information. Many thanks.

Fleet News

Arriva

London: An increase in driver training commitments has led to DWL36 being converted to a trainer with DWL37 and DWL38 to follow, all three from Wood Green. These buses have already been fitted with I-bus equipment thus relieving the need for additional training.

Kent Thameside: Darts 3181 and 3263 have moved from Dartford to Grays

Arriva North East

28/01/08 - Start Gray reports that **Arriva Durham County** have received Scania L113 / East Lancs 277 (P277VRG) at Bishop Auckland. It is not yet known whether 282 (N282NCN) has gone to Blyth in its place or will also move to Bishop. He also reports that Optare Vecta 1527 (L527FHN) has gone on loan to Peterlee - to the best of my knowledge the first time Peterlee have operated a Vecta.

28/01/08 - **Arriva Tees & District** Optare Vecta 1514 (K514BHN) is having spares removed at Redcar.

26/01/08 - **Arriva Northumbria** Volvo Olympian / East Lancs 7421 (M685HPF) is now at Jesmond ex Ashington, presumably filling the void left by the return of 7424 to Bishop Auckland. Dennis Trident / Alexander 7430-3/5 (W395-8/501RBB) and Volvo B7TL / Alexander 7445 (NK05GWX) are now branded for the 306 (I suspect 7434 is also, but it is as yet unseen). Volvo B7TL / Alexander 7446 (NK05GWY) is not branded. Scania L113 / East Lancs 282 (N282NCN) are now devoid of blinds, presumably ready to move to Bishop Auckland.

26/01/08 - Danny Howard reports that **Arriva Durham County** MCW Metrobus 630 (B90WUL) is today on loan to Peterlee

25/01/08 - Through a combination of my own sightings and reports from Stuart Gray, I can update on goings on at **Arriva Durham County**. DAF DB250 / Northern Counties 7451 (R208CKO) and Scania L113 / East Lancs 272 (P272VRG) are now at Bishop Auckland. Leyland Olympian / Alexander 7277 (J353BSH) is back in use ex repair at Bishop Auckland, while Volvo Olympian / East Lancs 7426/7 (M690/1HPF) are both under repair there. Sister to the latter, 7424 (M688HPF) is back at Bishop Auckland ex Jesmond. Volvo Olympian / Northern Counties 7420 (P420CCU), which had been operating on the X1 for Durham in exchange for 7424, is under repair after an accident. The double deck diagram on the X1 today was 7425 (M689HPF). Durham Optare Metrorider 2702 (R702MHN) is currently on loan to Bishop Auckland, working service 69 today. Leyland Olympian / Northern Counties 7285 (G762UYT) looks to have served its last, while Optare Vecta 1535 (L535FHN) is now dumped at Jesmond. It is anticipated that the next Optare Vectas that will transfer from Bishop Auckland to Stockton (following 1537) will be MAN-engine ones. MCW Metrobus 614/30 (GYE515W, B90WUL) and Leyland Olympian / ECW 7216/21 (D160/57FYM), while listed for disposal, continue in use at Durham.

23/01/08 - **Arriva Northumbria** Scania N113 / Northern Counties 7252 (L161GYL) is now operating from Jesmond. This and 7258 (N183OYH) are due there to replace Scania L113 / East Lancs 272/82 (P272VRG, N282NCN), which are expected to go to Bishop Auckland.

23/01/08 - **Arriva Tees & District** Optare Vecta 1514 (K514BHN) has left Loftus (apparently for Redcar) and that Optare Metrorider 914 (R9214JNL) is now operating there ex Ashington.

22/01/08 - **Arriva Northumbria** DAF DB250 / East Lancs 7436/7 (Y686/7EBR) have joined 7438 (Y688EBR) at Ashington. 7436 is repainted into the "cow horns" livery style.

22/01/08 - Stuart Gray informs me that **Arriva Durham County** Optare Vecta 1527 (L527FHN) is the next one expected to head to Stockton.

19/01/08 - **Arriva Durham County** have Scania L113 / East Lancs 276 (P276VRG) at Bishop Auckland from Stockton (where it was unused) and that this, previously mentioned 271/5 and two more are expected to remain at Bishop long term, displacing Optare Vectas. Indeed 1537 (L537FHN) is anticipated to be off to Stockton imminently.

16/01/08 - **Arriva Durham County** have Scania L113 / East Lancs 271/5 (P271/5 VRG) at Bishop Auckland for a few weeks and he and Gary Mitchelhill both note the arrival at Bishop Auckland of DAF DB250 / Northern Counties 7448/52 (R205/9 CKO). Also to note is the swap of Durham Volvo Olympian / East Lancs 7424 (M688 HPF) for Jesmond, and Volvo Olympian / Northern Counties 7420 (P420 CCU).

16/01/08 - **Teesside** have Scania L113 / East Lancs 276 (P276VRG) at Stockton.

13/01/08 - **Arriva Northumbria** Scania L113 / East Lancs 275/6 (P275/6 VRG) are the other two parked up at Jesmond. He understands that they are to move to Bishop Auckland, though there are probably more logical locations to which they could move! Dave also suggests that the use at Ashington of 7386 and possibly 7438 may just be loans.

13/01/08 - **Arriva Durham County** Leyland Olympian / ECW 7224 (D146 FYM) looks ready to donate its rear axle to Leyland Olympian / Alexander 7277 (J353 BSH) and confirms that Volvo Olympian / East Lancs 7424 (M688 HPF) has followed 7425 to Durham. Further vehicles are expected to arrive at Bishop Auckland from Ashington today.

13/01/08 - Following on from yesterday's excitement about a model of **Tees & District** Bristol LH 1599, further interrogation of the website shows that we can expect models of **United** Bristol LH6L / ECW 1673 (NGR 673P) and Leyland Olympian / Alexander 272 (L272 FVN). Time to raid the piggy bank.....

12/01/08 - I can update the status of **Arriva Northumbria's** new Alexander Dennis Enviro 400s. 7501-6 (NK57 DXX-YA, GWX/Y) are all now in service at Blyth and 7507-11 (NK57 GWZ-XD) are in service at Ashington. 7512 is parked up at Ashington ready to enter service and 7513 is under preparation at Jesmond. Scania N113 / East Lancs 7386 (N386 OTY) and DAF DB250 / East Lancs 7438 (Y688 EBR) are both now working at Ashington. Reports that Scania L113 / East Lancs 271 (P271 VRG) is delicensed, with blinds and ticketing equipment removed, and is parked up at the front of Jesmond depot. It is understood that two further Blyth examples are also present deeper in Jesmond. It would appear that these are ready for transfer away, but I don't yet know where to. Also noted Arriva London DAF DB250 / Plaxton open toppler DLP201 (V601LGC) in Jesmond.

While it is not completely unknown for these vehicles to visit Tyneside for mechanical repairs at an outside company, it is rare for them to appear on Arriva premises.

12/01/08 - Well done to the eagle-eyed Neil Wise for spotting that Britbus plan to release a model **Tees & District** Bristol LH. The vehicle depicted is Stokesley depot's [1599 \(WHN 599M\)](#), so will fit nicely in the display cabinet alongside EFE's model of Olympian 237 (A237 GHN), also of Stokesley.

07/01/08 - Steven Hodgson reports the entry into service of some of **Arriva Northumbria's** new Alexander Dennis Enviro 400s. He noted 7501/3 (NK57 DXX/Z) in use with Blyth on the 308. It is understood that the full allocation will see Blyth have 7501-6 and Ashington 7507-13.

07/01/08 - Reports that the three DAF DB250 / Northern Counties received by **Arriva Durham County** at Bishop Auckland are 7447/9/50 (R204/6/7 CKO). With a number of vehicles off the road at Bishop Auckland, only Volvo Olympian / East Lancs 7425 (M689 HPF) is due to leave so far, departing for Durham tonight. Leyland Olympian / ECW 7219 (D216 FYM) has been on loan from Durham.

05/01/08 - The first of **Arriva Northumbria's** new Alexander Dennis Enviro 400s are expected to enter service from Monday. Stuart Gray reports that Bishop Auckland are expecting to receive three of the DAF DB250 / Northern Counties from Ashington that these will displace. One of the victims of the resultant cascades is expected to be Leyland Olympian / Northern Counties 7285 (G762 UYT).

31/12/07 - **Arriva Northumbria's** new Alexander Dennis Enviro 400s are slowly finding their way into the parking area at Jesmond (sorry about the grainy photo, best I could manage from the road opposite on a very dull day!) and onward to Ashington (where seven are bound), with the remaining six due to go to Blyth. Note that Optare Metrorider 914 (R914JNL), which is listed for disposal and briefly moved to Durham, is currently in service at Ashington.

21/12/07 - Lee Wardle reports that the first of the new Alexander Dennis Enviro 400s for **Arriva Northumbria** has arrived. As can be seen, it was only just visible from the depot forecourt at Jesmond.

21/12/07 - **Arriva** are proposing to [purchase the TGM Group](#), which includes Classic, Annfield Plain. It will be very interesting to see how this develops!

21/12/07 - Stuart Gray reports that **Arriva Durham County's** Bishop Auckland depot now has DAF SB220 / Ikarus 4084 (J927 CYL) for spares. It is expected that Optare Vecta 1551 (L551 GHN) will return from Arriva Scotland West to replace sister 1535 (L535 FHN).

Arriva E400

7501 – NK57 DXX 7502 – NK57 DXY 7503 – NK57 DXZ 7504 – NK57 DYA
7505 – NK57 GWX 7506 – NK57 GWY 7507 – NK57 GWZ 7508 – NK57 GXA
7509 – NK57 GXB 7510 – NK57 GXC 7511 – NK57 GXD 7512 – NK57 GXE
7513 – NK57 GXF

7501 – 7506 – are at Blyth & 7507 – 7513 – are at Ashington

North West & Wales: The full batch of Solo M880s now in service at Manchester are

660 CX57CYO 663 CX57CYT 667 CX57CYW 669 CX57CYY
661 CX57CYP 664 CX57CYU 668 CX57CYX 670 CX57CZA
662 CX57CYS 655 CX57CYV

Dennis Darts 7536, 7537 and 7538 have moved from Laird St to Chester. Mini Darts 890, 891 and 893 displaced by the new Solos have moved across to Liverpool. Leyland Nationals 8166 (DOC26V) and 8167 (DOC37V) have been sold to British Bus Sales. Scania 2109 and 2123 are now at Laird St from Speke via Bootle.

Arriva Scotland West :- New here at Johnstone Depot are Volvo B7RLE / Wright Eclipse Urban N37F 4401 - 4411 SF57NPK/NPN/SJ57DDZ/DDY/DDX/DDV/DDU/SF57NMO/NMM/SJ57DDO/DDN.

Southend: Three Enviro200Darts for use on TfL route 499 arrived at Grays in December, 3997 (GN57BOU), 3998 (GN57BOV) and 3999 (GN57BPE), but delay in the route transfer until June has led to 3997 and 3998 being used on the general allocation at Grays and 3999 moving temporarily to Horsham.

The Shires: Currently in use at High Wycombe, whilst one of the two Optare Versas in having some work carried out on it, is demonstrator YJ57EHE operating in all white. Another two Solo

M880s are 2493 (YJ57EJD) and 2494 (YJ57EJE) allocated to Stevenage. The pair were originally delivered to Milton Keynes but were not used there.

More vehicles scrapped are Darts 3099 (K447XPA), 3358 (K408FHJ), 3359 (K409FHJ) and 3818 (H368XGC) all sold to Hardwicks. Also sold to Hardwicks is Metrobus 5379 (C437BUV).

First

Bristol: Some missing regs for the new Volvo B9TLs / Wright Gemini's are now to hand 37342 (WX57HLC) 37346 (WX57HLG) 37347 (WX57HLJ) 37348 (WX57HLJ) 37353 (WX57HLP) 37355 (WX57HLU) plus a couple more new deliveries 37357 (WX57HLW) 37358 (WX57HLY) and 37359 (WX57HLZ). All allocated to Lawrence Hill.

First Edinburgh :- New Here are Volvo B9TL / Wright Eclipse Gemini H49/29F 37133 – 7 SN57HDH/J/CP/U/V 37139 – 42 SN57HCY/Z/AD/C 37143 – SN57HDD 37144/5 SN57HAE/F,

Volvo B7RLE / Wright Eclipse Urban N44F 69257 – 64 SK57ADO/U/V/X/Z/EA/B/C. 69254 – 6 SK07JVN/O/P.

First Glasgow :- New here are Volvo B9TL / Wright Eclipse Gemini H45/29F 37206-226 SF57MKC/D/G/J/K/L/M/N/O/P/U/V/X/Z/LE/J/K/L/N/O/U 37227 is still outstanding.

Hampshire & Dorset: Sold to Erith Commercials for scrap have been 52081 (M181XTR), 52095 (M195XTR) and 52099 (M199XTR).

Manchester: Moving to Leicester as a driver trainer is Volvo B10M 60311 (M516PNA)

London: The Enviro200 Darts noted last month have been diverted to Uxbridge for use on the 331 and A10. Incidentally they are classed DML.

Go Ahead

London: An order for the first Enviro 400 bodied Volvo B9TL double decks in the capital have been ordered for use on the 85 route from Putney. The Euro 4 engine buses will be to 10.4 m and seat 87 passengers. During the third week in January the new Mercedes-Benz Citaro Bendis for use on route 453 began arriving I only have a couple of fleet number tie ups at the moment MAL102 (BD57WDM) and MAL104 (BD57WDP)

Go North East

28/01/08 – Lee Wardle and Steven Hodgson update me on the latest movements at **Go North East**. DAF SB120 / Wright 8243-51 are now at Gateshead for the 27/27A, and DAF SB220GS / Plaxton 4820-2 are at Winlaton for the 91. Scania OmniCity 5259 is at Percy Main, where it is confirmed that MPD 508 is green. Optare Deltas 4759/93 (K759SBB, M793HCU) are at Deptford, the Deltas being seen on the X35 today. Volvo Olympian / Northern Counties 3929 are now yellow, while the black-liveried Scania have gained Loop branding.

26/01/08 - Go North East have repainted one of their MPDs lime green. It would appear to be a Percy Main example, as I noted it near the Coast Road. Percy Main Dennis Trident / East Lancs 3869 was today operating in what may be described as partly rubbed-down condition and fitted with an LED destination. It would seem that this may be about to be repainted for some interesting forthcoming changes to "Coaster" service 1. Reports have just appeared on the [Goaheadbusfans](#) yahoo group concerning the take over of a local independent (not the one the rumours are going around about!) - I wholeheartedly recommend joining this group to keep up with the latest at Go North East.

25/01/08 - Go North East DAF SB120 / Wright 8245 (NA52 BVB) is the first noted with full branding for the "Crusader" services 27/27A

23/01/08 - Full branding on **Go North East** DAF SB220GS / Northern Counties 4821 (P321AFT) for Team Valley Clipper service 91. This livery seems to suit these vehicles rather better than any of their previous liveries.

22/01/08 – Lee Wardle reports that **Go North East** are now using Scania OmniLink demonstrator YN07EZB, at Percy Main ex Stanley.

19/01/08 - Go North East have had loan (albeit not used in service) of 14.25m long tri-axle Scania / Caetano Levante FJ57 KHf. It is understood that an unconfirmed quantity are on order for National Express work. Thanks to the multitude of people who have reported that DAF SB220GS / Northern Counties 4820-2 (P320-2 AFT) are now repainted silver. Cadet 8250 is now claret.

13/01/08 - The **Go North East website** shows that Volvo B10M / Plaxton 7076 (YSU 876), which had been operating in white with National express symbols over-painted blue, has moved to the driver training fleet. Some former Go North East Dennis Darts are currently for sale on [eBay](#).

07/01/08 - It would appear that recent sightings of new Mercedes Citaros at **Go North East's** Saltmeadows works were erroneous (a mucky Red Arrows one perhaps?), as Andrew Tyldsley confirms that none are due until mid March. LW reports that Optare Deltas 4759/93 (K759SBB, M793HCU) were both working for Washington on Saturday - it is not known if they are loans or transfers. Paul Francis reports that Deptford now have Optare Solo 453 (S253KNL) for use on ex Sherburn Coaches service 238 in Peterlee. Further contract changes are due in County Durham at the end of February. Indeed, the latest **N&Ps** show that service 246 is to be taken over from Arriva and services 810-3 from JSB from the 24/02/07. It also shows the interesting extension of service X22 to Durham and X23 to Bishop Auckland from 24/02/07.

05/01/08 - **Go North East** have introduced a new facility to buy £1.99 single and £4.00 day tickets by text message. To advertise this, Scania OmniCity 5261 (NK56KJV) has gained "Txt2go" branding on its white livery, as pictured above by LW. Metro Centre Saturday services X57 and X68 have been withdrawn. Observations suggest that they were not heavily used. There have been internet reports of new Mercedes Citaros at Saltmeadows and Steven Hodgson passes on a report that a silver one is present.

31/12/07 - From my own sightings and those of Steven Hodgson, it would seem that not quite all of **Go North East's** yellow Olympians carry "Yellow Bus" branding. Those noted at Chester-le-Street over the Christmas period did not carry it, and similarly recently-repainted Percy Main 3832 (S832OFT) did not, unlike sister 3833 (S833OFT).

23/12/07 - Steven Hodgson reports that **Arriva Northumbria** has now received at least eight of their Alexander Dennis Enviro 400s. Those that have been observed after delivery to Jesmond depot are registered NK57 DXX-YA/GWX-XA. All of these wear the more exclusive version of Arriva livery as applied to many of the DAF coaches. Contrary to an internet report, Leyland Olympian / ECW 7217 (D165 FYM) remains in use at Jesmond, and was observed working the 45 for part of yesterday afternoon.

23/12/07 - **Go North East website** shows that Volvo B10B / Alexander 4810/1 (L210/1 KEF) have joined their sisters at Ashington, with Optare Deltas 4789/90 (M789/90HCU) moving down to Winlaton in their place. It is reported that Washington based Scania 4959 has gained additional "Superoute" branding. Almost all of the yellow Volvo Olympians now have "Yellow Bus" vinyls attached.

21/12/07 - It is now confirmed that the **Go North East** DAF SB120s being painted claret are for new services 27/27A that will replace the 527 and will be branded "Crusader". Steven Hodgson reports that they have been publicised in the [Shields Gazette](#). Ray Barber confirms that the 2000 fleet number on the Scania Omnilink is in fact from its visit to Arriva NW at Runcorn. Gary Mitchelhill and LW both have noted an increase in double deck use on service MC1 Stanley - Newcastle (one to watch tomorrow Elliot!). LW also provides photos of 4774 now at Deptford, 4812 now at Ashington and reports Volvo Olympian 3906 as another with Yellow Bus branding.

National Express

Travel London: Five Tridents have been hired in, from Metrolink, TA82, TA83, TA84, TA86 and TA99 for use on the ELC service. Operating out of Walworth, they should be here until around mid February. With thanks to Dave Stewart a handful of movements to record:- Darts 8093, 8094 and 8095 moved from Fulwell to Byfleet with the Fulwell workings on the 555/557 routes. Darts 8476 and 8477 have moved to Beddington, allowing 8439 and 8440 to move to Fulwell. The remaining three of the batch 8473-8475 are used as spares for the 129 route until the Electocitys bed in. Dart/Caetano 8464, 8465 and 8466 are due to move to Hayes for an increase in pvr on route 112 from Feb 2nd.

Travel West Midlands

Acorks Green (AG) – Volvo B10L's 1414, 1436 have been transferred to Pensnett, 4512, 4513, 4514, 4517 have been transferred here from Perry Barr.

Birmingham Central (BC) – Volvo B7TL's resprayed in to a revised livery are : 4036, 4067 4074.

Coventry (WT) – Mercedes 0405's 1561, 1569, 1570 have been transferred here from Lea Hall, the batch now here is 1561/2, 1564-72.

Miller Street (XS) - Volvo BTL's noted awaiting refurbishment have been 4037, 4039, 4070, 4078, also 4030 is parked up with severe rear fire damage. Fresh metrobuses here are 2979, 2981, 2982 from Coventry, 2806 from West Bromwich. Vehicles sold are Metrobuses 2590, 2617, 2886, 3119.

Pensnett (PT) – Volvo B10L's transferred here are 1408, 1409, 1465 from Perry Barr and 1414, 1436 from Acocks Green. Volvo B6LE's 555, 592, 679, 683 have been transferred here from West Bromwich.

Perry Barr (PB) – Scania's 1843-1847 and Enviro's 4763-4767 are in service and were all noted in use by 19th January. The following Scania's were noted in use on the following dates : 1833 24/01, 1834 23/01, 1835 23/01, 1836 26/01, 1837 26/01.

Training Centre (TC) – Volvo B10L 1508 is in training livery.

Walsall (WA) – Enviro's 4768-4776 are in service and were all noted in use by 19th January.

West Bromwich (WB) – Volvo B&TL's 4229 and 4268 have been transferred here from Perry Barr.

Park Lane, Wolverhampton (WN) – The following metrobuses which arrived during December are to stay at Park Lane they are : 2792, 2833, 2835, 2843, 2907, 2971, 2976, 2978, 3069, 3075.

Stagecoach

Stagecoach Bluebird :- New here are 27532 – 41 SV57BYM/N/P/R/S/T/U/W/X/Y.

AD Enviro 300 N44F

Cambridgeshire: The Cambridge training unit has moved to Newmarket comprising the recently arrived Interurbans 52423 (R113OPS), 52440 (R539GSF), 52441 (R441GSF), 52442 (R442GSF) and 52443 (R443GSF). The remaining two of the batch 52398 (P108FRS) and 52415 (R115OPS) based at Peterborough. Of the Lynxes previously used 29101, 29111, 29115, 29607 and 29608 are on the disposal list whilst 29621 and 29626 are being held in reserve.

Devon: A few re allocations of late are 17055,34406/407 Barnstaple - Exeter, 17734-736 Exeter - Barnstaple, 18080/081 Paignton - Exeter and 17036/037 Exeter – Paignton. Currently in store are 14181, 14281, 15327, 15328, 15329, 28938, 32015, 32410 and 33774. Vandals damaged five vehicles parked overnight in *Exeter* Bus Station lower level on the evening of 16/1/08. One vehicle Dennis Dart 35168 was extensively damaged front end and chassis, it has been sent to repair specialists in Bristol. It was reported that two juveniles had been arrested in connection with this incident.

East: With the Milton Keynes – Luton Airport service dropping down to an hourly service from every 30 minutes two coaches made surplus 53275 (KX56JZN) and 53276 (KX56JZO) have moved to West Scotland.

East Midlands: Just the odd movement to note this month; 33155 WP - LN, 34196 LN - WP, 34193 SK - WP, 34194 LN - MD and 40804 WP – dis. Worksop trainer 52032 has been withdrawn following the arrival of 52213. Currently being used are two Volvo Olympians 16735 at Louth and 16736 at Chesterfield, they are in use here for around two months whilst indigenous vehicles are away for chassis work.

East Scotland:

(Fife) Olympian 14497 (J197VSS) has been sold to Dunsmore for scrap Darts 32206 (P606CMS) and 32208 (P608CMS) are now at Aberhill with Darts SLF 33433 (X433NSE) now at Cowdenbeath and 33435 (X435NSE) at Glenrothes, both ex reserve.

Manchester: Now to hand are the new numbers for the vehicles taken over from A Mayne and Sons

Mayne	SCM	Reg	Mayne	SCM	Reg	Mayne	SCM	Reg
6	15374	F711LFG	20	15375	F716LFG	38	28971	M521UTV
8	15384	R108YBA	22	15372	E705EFG	39	28972	M522UTV
9	15385	R109YBA	23	15373	E706EFG	40	28507	YN53PCV
10	15382	M210NDB	24	32938	R24YNC	41	28506	YN53GFJ
11	15383	M211NDB	25	18285	V125DJA	42	28975	M42ONF
12	15376	F112HNC	26	18286	V126DJA	43	28974	M113RNK

13	15377	F113HNC	27	18287	V127DJA	44	32286	K129LGO
14	15381	L114DNA	28	18288	V128DJA	45	33345	R45CDB
15	15378	G115SBA	29	18289	V129DJA	46	33346	R46CDB
16	15379	G116SBA	30	18290	MX03KZN	47	33347	R47CDB
17	15380	G117SBA	31	18291	MX03KZP	48	33348	R48CDB
18	32287	NDZ3160	32	28973	N632XBU	49	33349	R49CDB
19	32288	NDZ3161	37	28970	M113SLS			

The first Olympian transferred up from Cambridgeshire is 16124 (R124EVX) now at Stockport. 42005 (R505RWC) has been sold to the Stafford Bus Centre. Whilst 42006 is another now with Speedwellbus. 20602, 20603 and 20604 are now in service from Stackport.

Stagecoach NE

28/01/08 – Lee Wardle has supplied the news of **Stagecoach North East** Volvo B10BLE / Alexander 21157 (R257KRG) now operating from South Shields. This and 21138 (R238KRG) have replaced Volvo Olympian / Alexander 16735/6 (N735/6LTN) which are now on loan to Stagecoach East Midlands before going to Preston.

28/01/08 - Steven Hodgson has caught up with a couple of former North East vehicles in Wales. He found ex **Stagecoach North East** MAN 14.220 / East Lancs 80002 (PN03OWA) with Islwyn Borough Transport and ex **OK Travel** Optare Delta J203VHN with Shuttle Buses (Harris Coaches), Blackwood.

26/01/08 - Ray Parnaby Reports of the entry into service at **Stagecoach North East's** Walkergate depot of Alexander Dennis Enviro 400 19205. The registration is believed to be NK57DWM, but this is subject to confirmation. Danny Howard reports a number of things from the Wheatsheaf. Firstly is the surprising refurbishment and repaint of Mercedes 709 / Alexander 40499 (N499RVK) - these last few Mercedes seem set to go on forever! Volvo Olympian / Alexander 16832 (R832OVN) of Stockton are under preparation for repaint. Leyland Olympian / Northern Counties 14672 (H672BNL) is back in use at Sunderland after mechanical attention and sister 14668 (H668BNL) is similarly expected to return home to Hartlepool shortly. Dennis Dart / Alexander 32623 (P623PGP) are noted as delicensed.

23/01/08 - Steven Hodgson reports the entry into service of **Stagecoach in Newcastle** Alexander Dennis Enviro 400 19204 (NK57DWL) at Walkergate. It appears the SEM Olympian noted on the Tyne Bridge is up here for chassis refurbishment.

22/01/08 - Steven Hodgson and Lee Wardle pass on an observation from Mark McCann of **Stagecoach East Midlands** Volvo Olympian / Northern Counties 16476 (K106JWJ) on the Tyne Bridge! It is not known if it is in the region for repair nor is a transfer.

19/01/08 - **Stagecoach North East** have resumed receipt of new Alexander Dennis Enviro 400s, with three noted thus far. Also note that there may yet be further developments on the new vehicles front.

16/01/08 - Some clarity on the situation, with the **Stagecoach North East** new MAN 14.220 / Alexander Dennis Enviro 200, as all 19 are understood to be heading to Hartlepool (i.e. none for South Shields), owing to some sort of a tie-up with Hartlepool Council. He also reports that the vehicles used on the X34 Horsley Hill - Newcastle are likely to be rebranded again!

13/01/08 -Various reports have been received that **Stagecoach North East's** order for MAN 14.220 / Alexander Dennis Enviro 200s for Hartlepool and South Shields due in April may be redirected within the north east. These reports, from varying sources (some more reliable than others), do vary, so it may be a case of wait and see.

05/01/08 - Report that **Stagecoach North East** Leyland Lynx II 29629 (K629YVN) seems to be seeing sporadic use to cover for failures, rather than more routine work.

31/12/08 - **Stagecoach in Sunderland** Leyland Lynx II 29629 (K629YVN) was back in use on Friday.

23/12/07 - Reports that **Stagecoach North East** Leyland Olympian / Northern Counties 14668 (H668 BNL) is now up at the Wheatsheaf for engine attention. Parked next to it was Lynx II 29629 (K629 YVN), report awaiting MOT preparation. It will be interesting to see what the future holds for this venerable machine.

North West:

(In Cumbria): The open Top service between Windermere and Grasmere is to receive a makeover this year with five ex London ALX400 bodied Tridents being transferred up from Lancaster. They are to be converted to Open Top form probably around one a month from April, so it will be well into summer before the Titans finally retire. This is likely to cause more cramped conditions in the already tight constraints of the depot at Kendal as each bus that has been replaced in the last year or so has been with a bus longer than the one it replaced.

(In Lancaster): The big news here is the arrival of three Optare Versa due March/April for use on the 6/6A local service, the first new arrivals since the X reg'd MANs in late 2000. Also due to arrive around the same time are thirteen more Tridents from Manchester :- 18324 18325 18326 18327 18328 18330 18361 18362 18363 18364 18365 18381 and 18382. These should see the final withdrawal of our remaining Titans 10056, 1065 and 11003 along with some J reg'd Olympians. With these arrivals, which will be placed on the main 2/2A service, five S reg Tridents are moving to Kendal (qv) whilst the other eight will be moved onto the 40/41/42 group of services The two stored B10Ms 20700 and 20701 were collected on January 22nd by Yorkshire initially destined for Barnsley.

Merseyside: A few Darts sporting new registrations are 34817 (PX06DWC) now S22ABC, 34818 (PX06DWD) now S33ABC, 34919 (PX06DWE) now S44ABC and 34820 (PX06DWF) now VKB708.

South: Another batch of Solo M880SLs are in service based this time at Andover 47543 (GX57DJK), 47544 (GX57DJO), 47545 (GX57DJU), 47546 (GX57DJV), 47547 (GX57DJY) and 47554 (GX57DJZ). Please note the gap due to 47548-47553 already having been used on Solos at Stroud last year. Darts 32454 and 32532 have been placed into reserve with similar 32555, 32560 and 32580 being withdrawn. Also being withdrawn are minibuses 40895, 40897, 40918, 40945 and 40971. Tridents 18194, 18510-18513 have been moved from Portsmouth to Chichester as a result of changes to the operation of the long 700 route. Various vehicles into Portsmouth are Olympian 26278, B10M 20607 and Dart 34107. Two merc 709Ds sold to Chepstow Classic Buses are 40662 and 40905.

Wales: This month's allocation list has gone walkabout so I am unable to bring you the latest movements.

West Scotland: The new Enviro 300s, except for 22526 and 22527, carry branding for the 585 "Clyde Coaster" Ayr – Greenock. More now delivered and in service are 22523 (SF57LUE), 22524 (SF57LUH), 22525 (SF57LUJ), 22526 (SF57LUL), 22527 (SF57LUO) these along with 22521 and 22522 are at Ardrossan with 22528 (SF57LUP), 22529 (SF57LUR), 22530 (SF57LUW), 22531 (SF57LUY) and 22532 (SF57LUZ) based at Ayr. Two more 22533 (SF57LVB) at Ayr and 22534 should be in service as this is readFive Volvo B10Ms have transferred from Ardrossan down to Dumfries 20114 (N214LTN), 20521 (R521VSE), 20532 (P532ESA), 20536 (P536ESA) and 20556 (P556ESA) to replace Scania 28951, 28952, 28953, 28954 and 28955 which are now for disposal. 20511 (M483ASW) is now at Glasgow ex Kilmarnock. Whilst at Cumnock Olympian 13609 (J701HWY) has arrived replacing 13644 (G278YRJ) which is now in the reserve fleet. Merc 709Ds 40060, 40063, 40099 and 40622 are now on the disposal list along with B6 30312 ex Kilmarnock following the arrival of B10 20568 from Ardrossan and Darts 32137 and 32145. Olympian 13644 (G278YRJ) is at Ardrossan whilst similar 13619 is being repaired following accident damage. 53275 and 53276 transferred up from East are at Kilmarnock for use on the X76. B10Ms 20570 and 20580 are currently in service at Stranraer replacing 20424 and 20425 which are earmarked for disposal

Yorkshire: The first of the new MAN 18/.240s due for Doncaster and Shafton depots 22535-22563 have begun to arrive during January, already noted have been 22535 (YN57MXB) 22536 (YN57MXC) and 22537 (YN57MXD).

Transdev

Accrington Transport: Now here are Metroriders 635 (N635LFR) and 641 (R642OBV). A disposal is similar 87 (R87BDW).

Independents

London

Chalfont Coaches: Sold to Moseley is Volvo B12M WA04MHJ.

East London Bus Group: A couple of re-registrations to note are 17100 WLT491 to V474KJN, 17890 WLT890 to LX03OPZ and 23076 WLT888 to LX04LCV. Trident 17276 is now at North St.

The Big Bus Company: Four ex Metrobus Dennis Tridents have been added to the fleet LV51YCD, LV51YCL, DA3 (YV51YCM) and DA6 (LV51YCH) the latter being part open top,

Epsom Buses: Currently being used is Enviro 200 demonstrator SN54GRU

MCH (Uxbridge): A couple of new vehicles to note are YN57ABX a Setra 216SHD C49FT and a smaller Unvi bodied Mercedes-Benz 616cdl YN57DVF.

Tellings Golden Miller: Recently transferred from sister company Linkline is GB04LLV at Volvo B7R C53F

Midlands

A 2 Z (Walsall) – Fresh vehicles in are Dennis Dart SLF's with Marshall Capital bodywork S517KFL, S519KFL and have come from Metroline (London). Fleet renumbering as follows : 1109 K109XHG, 1307 L307VFE, 1451 S451LGN, 2026 J26GCX, 2203/8 L203/8YAG, 2701/3/4 K701/3/4NDO, 2706-9 L706-9HFU, 3517/9 S517/9KFL, 3699 R699MEW, 3701-5/7/9 R701-5/7/9MEW, 3865/7/9 S865/7/9MCE, 3942 P942EMS, 4901/2/4/6/7-10 ODZ8901/2/4/6/7-10, 5605/46 C605/46LFT, 6087 T87VUK, 6112 M112RVP, 6517 R517VUT, 6532 S532KJU, 6543 R543PFJ, 6790 P790VYS, 7363 AEZ1363, 8121, AEZ121, 8154/5 AEZ9154/5, 8361 AEZ1361, 9442 AEZ7442, 8488 X488AHE, 9195 FDZ8195, 9372 KUI1372, 9462 HIL6462, withdrawn are C618LFT AND K702NDO.

Centrebus: A transfer from Centerbus North is SB120 / Centro 606 (FJ56YBW) with Darts SLF 555 (SN55DVC) heading in the opposite direction. This means all eight Centros 601-608 are operating in the southern area.

Nottingham City Transport: Three new arrivals are 2 axle Ethanol fuelled Scania Omnilinks: 304 (YN57FYV), 305 (YN57FYW) and 306 (YN57FYX) all B45F.

Red Kite (Tilsworth): Recently acquired from Arriva (Shires) is former London Olympian D197FYM

Uno (Hadfield): An unusual purchase, through Southdown PSV if of three ex Dublinbus Olympians N429FKK ex 96-D-269, N430FKK ex 96-D-277 and N431FKK ex 96-D-276.

Whittle Bus and Coach (Kidderminster) – The following vehicles are no longer based here and may have been transferred or returned back to East Yorkshire : Dennis Javelins R308/11RCJ, P28/35XUY, Mercedes Minibuses R449/50/2/3RPH.

North East

28/01/08 Lee Wardle reports that **First Choice Travel** has repainted Optare Delta K761RBB white, with Tyneside Travel branding.

25/01/08 Noted in use with **Ferryhill Village Travel** on their 110 service today was ex JSB Mercedes 709 / Plaxton J862HWS

22/01/08 Paul Thompson kindly reports a further new Optare Solo for his **Leven Valley** fleet. This one is MAN-engine S222JDC, which has seatbelts, so is suitable for their one remaining school service. The registration harks back to Middlesbrough Corporation Guy Arab JDC222 of 1958.

Steven Hodgson has noted previously unseen Setra BU06CUK with **Procters, Bedale**.

19/01/08 Nightingale, Stanley currently has former OK DAF MB230 / Duple E907 MDC for sale on [eBay](#). It is hoped that this fine machine finds a good home.

Steven Hodgson notes previously unseen Volvo B10M / Van Hool KIW 949 with **Wright Bros, Alston**. John Robinson reports that **Coatham Coaches, Redcar** have new Mercedes Vario / Plaxton Cheetah YN57MDO.

Steven Oliver reports that **Perrymans, Berwick** continue to use Metrider M865 KCU.

16/01/08 Report that **Alrite Travel, Middlesbrough** has retained Dennis Dart / Plaxton H94 MOB. None of the vehicles that passed to A1 have been used there.

Report that **Classic, Annfield Plain** DAF SB3000 / Van Hool X143 WNL is now branded for the Blackpool Express and that Optare Solo Y291PDN is out of use long term. The take-over of TGM

by Arriva now looks almost certain – see

http://www.arriva.co.uk/arriva/en/media_centre/press_releases/2008/2008-01-14/

Report some new vehicles for **Stanley Taxis, Oxhill**. They are Mercedes Vario /Plaxton YN57 OUV and Ford Transits M2/3 STX

13/01/08 Former **Darlington Transport** (new to Nottingham) Daimler Fleetline PAU 207R is also for sale on [eBay](#). This could potentially be a very interesting preservation prospect.

Stuart Gray has noted two ex K&J, York MCW Metrobuses parked up at **Scarlet Band, West Cornforth** and understands that a third is due.

Tees Valley, Eaglescliffe has Leyland Olympian / Alexander E218 WBG for sale on [eBay](#) for a second time.

12/01/08 Paul Thompson kindly advises that **Leven Valley, South Bank** have sold Mercedes 709 / Midland Coach Concepts P788 BJU to Mitchell's, Plean.

07/01/08 Steven Hodgson illustrates the new livery of **NMC, Ashington** as displayed by Volvo B12B / Plaxton KX07 HDN. Steven Hodgson has noted previously unseen Volvo B10M / Plaxton N256 THO with **Durham City Coaches**. Steven Hodgson has noted that **Dubmire, Hetton** have Volvo B10M / Jonkheere YIL 4028 in use in the livery of Coast and Country Travel.

05/01/08 **A1 Coaches, South Bank**, who has been operating their service 66 since Wednesday, has now acquired several vehicles from Alrite. These are Dennis Dart / Carlyle H94 MOB, Optare Metroriders N413 NTN, P418 VRG and a Volvo B6. **Franks, Haswell** has ex Arriva Leyland Lynx G508 EAJ in stock. He has also noted **First Choice Travel** Optare Delta K761 SBB at Rovers, Wingate, though it is not clear if this has been sold to them or is possibly outstationed there.

Ian Moorcroft notes that **Travelsure, Seahouses** Scania K93 / Plaxton RIL 4165 are now with Andrews, Tideswell.

31/12/07 Steven Hodgson reports that **Weardale, Stanhope** has new Iveco Eurorider / Beulas YN57 AAY. Steven Hodgson reports the sighting of a vehicle not previously noted with **First Choice, Stanley**. This is Volvo B10M / Van Hool KIB 5227.

23/12/07 Reports that, in spite of the legal lettering, it was **Low Fell** who was operating CWR510Y when photographed, so **Tees Valley** look to have sold or loaned them it. Also, Tess Valley Leyland Olympian / Alexander E218 WBG have been sold on eBay.

21/12/07 Carl "Rove" Irwin reports that the Optare Delta believed to be with TDK Travel is in fact likely to belong to **McDonalds, Bishop Auckland**. This operator also owns two Volvo coaches - one with Van Hool bodywork and one with Ikarus bodywork.

The Eden, West Auckland is taking delivery of a factory-built LDV minibus and a Skoda taxi.

Gary Mitchelhill has managed to photograph ex Cleveland Transit Dennis Dominator / Northern Counties C221WAJ with **Kingsleys, Birtley**. LW noted **Tees Valley, Eaglescliffe** Leyland Olympian / ECW CWR510Y. Neil Wise has noted Plaxton Primo KX07KOA working for **John Smith, Thirsk**. Meanwhile, Barry Woods reports that former **Munro, Jedburgh** Primo MX55WDS is now operating in Wolverhampton, believed to be with Rotala Group.

North West

Anthony's (Runcorn): New here is a Mercedes-Benz Turismo OB07ANT it is C51FT. Whilst leaving the fleet to Mentor (dealer is Neoplan ANT856T re-reg'd to T855JWB).

Ashalls Coaches: The two withdrawn Metroriders M627WBV and M630WBV have been noted, at the beginning of January, with South Yorkshire (Pontefract)

Aintree Coachline: A new arrival from Ensign is a SYPTE Dennis Dorchester VIW4896 ex B975DWG and latterly with Manns Travel of Gravesend. Olympians SJR616Y and B143WNB as have Merc 709Ds F210DCC and F216DCC.

Bennetts (Warrington): Mercedes J465UFS is no longer in the fleet

Courtesy Coaches: A pair of Scania / Eats Lancs Cityzen deckers have been added V3BLU and V4BLU acquired from Kings Ferry. The pair being no strangers to the area having originally been with Bluebird

JP Travel (Middleton): Two new buses in service are a pair of Plaxton Centro bodied MANs KX57OVR and KX57OVY OVR in blue and yellow fleet colours but with no titles when noted in mid December and OVY operating in white.

Kirkby Lonsdale: Another minibus addition just after Christmas has been a Vario SN03UBG which replaces sold 709D M103WKA.

Nip On (St Hlens): A recent arrival is H139GVM an ex Stagecoach Manchester Dennis Dominator (15039)

Rossendale Transport: New here is Optare Solo M850 5 (PJ52LXL) B25F bought from Wyre Marine Services who used it on the Ferry replacement service between Fleetwood and Knott End. It is noted though to need a large amount of remedial work before use.

Selwyns (Runcorn): This years new coach intake has been put back until September. Sold to BYB Travel is DAF/Ikarus 79 (W226CDN), along with 102 (S426JUA).

Speedwellbus (Hyde): Another Mercedes-Benz Vario bought from Stagecoach Manchester is R506YWC

Staceys (Carlisle): Mercedes O.815/Sitcar YJ03GYF has moved from the very north of Cumbria to the very north of Lancashie and is now with Alan Stephenson of Cowan Bridge.

Staintons (Kendal) Setra BU57JYT has also been reported as BV57JYL, so may have been me being unable to read my writing I will confirm which is correct when I see it again. It is **BV** Ed.

North West Datafile: Missing is Stagecoach 52214 (M404BFG) Volvo B10M/ Plaxton Premiere a trainer Arriva Optare Solo 655 at MA should read 665. Anthonys Travel: Details are missing for MB07ANT it is a Setra N2216SHD C48FT.

Scotland

P Canavn, Kilsyth :- This company changed its trading name to CBCS Ltd.

Clyde Coast :- New here is SF57FZZ a Volvo / Van Hool Ailzee

McColl Coaches :- Acquired is Mercedes-Benz O814D / Alexander ALX300 R273XDA.

Nordi (Lanark) – These operator is operating s service from Livingston Bus Station and is using Mercedes 709D N956NAP, which was previously with J Line of County Durham. This vehicle was new to Stagecoach East Kent in 1996.

West Coast Motors :- New here are AD Dart 10.8m / AD Enviro 200 N37F SN57DXF at Dunoon and AD Dart 8.9m / AD Enviro 200 N29F SN57DXG at Rothesay.

South East

Greenhill (Westcliff): A recent arrival in the shape of Bova Futura LUI5561 has been noted ex P499GOL

Renown (Bexhill): Three more former Metroliner Marshall bodied Darts arrived late last year T63KLD, T64KLD and T65KLD. Two second Hand Optare Solos have also been acquired a M920 N31F V649EEF and M850 N23F W283EYG, the latter from Arriva in Scotland. Departing the fleet have been Volvo Citybuses G133PGK and G138PGK along with a B10M K200SAS

Southdown PSV Update (Steve Swain)

The new vehicles for route 526/527 – The new Enviro registration numbers are **GX57BXG & GX57BXH**

Stansted Transit: Anew arrival here is of Northern Counties bodied Leyland Olympian F259YTJ bought from Aintree Coachline.

South West

New:

Berkeley Coach & Travel, Paulton – the new one is WA57 CYW, Volvo B12BT/Van Hool Acron C53FT and it entered service on Saturday 19/01/08.

Plaxton Excalibur P2 POW went in part exchange

DAC, Callington – the new Bova Majiq is WA57 CYZ with C53FT layout

Thamesdown Transport, Swindon – New are 511 to 516, WX57 TLY/TLU/TLV/TLZ/TLN/TLO. All are Scania K230UB's with Wright Solar body.

There is to be a charity running day with two Daimler Fleetlines on Saturday 16th February

Acquired:

A Bus, Bristol – two surprise purchases are N646 FKK, ex 95 D 243 when with Dublin Bus (Volvo Olympian with Alexander Belfast H47/27D body) and SN04 CPE, a Scania N94UB Omnidecker with East Lancs body to CO51/34F layout.

Axe Vale, Biddesham – in from Mc Gowan of Neilston is SF54 NBG, a Volvo B7R/Plaxton Profile C70F. Bova Futura's M212 UYD and R6 BRD have been upseated to C70F.

Vehicles from this fleet featured extensively on rail replacement work around Bristol on the weekends of 5/6th and 12/13th January.

Bluebird of Weymouth VN 51 XMO Au N316 SHD VIM 03 HR6 Bova FHD Futura

Buglar, Keynsham – the three ex Go West Midlands Dennis Darts have been re-registered BIG 9866/68 & 69 and now operate the 533 service from Keynsham.

Dawlish Coaches FN02VCE Ivo Bs

Dealtop, Plymouth (Target Travel) – two Iveco Euroliner's new to Pullmanor have joined the fleet, LV02 LLC and LLE.

Hookways, Meeth – In from De Courcey of Coventry is N564 DJW, a Volvo B10M with Jonckheere Deauville body L531 XUT Vo Je. Coach being prepared for resale

Riverlink, Totnes – In from Arriva are Alexander bodied Mercedes 814's P102 HCH and P108 HCH, now numbered 4 and 5 in this immaculate fleet.

Seward of Dalwood SN 02 N6P Vo JE ex Parks of Hamilton.

Taw & Torridge, Merton – In here are 5 ex Parks of Hamilton Volvo B12M/Jonckheere's, SF06 VYL/VYM/VYS/VYU/VYW & BU 51 LHF Ta Co

Beard of Cinderford ceased operation just before Christmas.

Trevs Travel Bilston

The traffic Commissioners cancelled his operator's licences, and the local council cancelled his local school contracts. The reason for this was unsatisfactory operating procedures mechanically administratively, health and Safety. The company operated six vehicles.

Terravision Stanstead and Manchester

Terravision operate five coaches out of Manchester to Liverpool /Airport, and also Five from London to Stanstead Airport the Company had asked for a new Licence for six vehicles operating in London.

The traffic commissioners were not happy with the resulting inquiries, following an accident which involved a Terravision coach in London January 2005.

The on going inquiries have resulted that the request has not being granted,

Two coaches only are allowed to be used at any one time in Manchester,

The owners of this company reside in Italy.

The traffic commissioners have given them a few weeks to review their daily operating procedures by management and staff.

Parrys Cheslyn Hay

This company will be operating a new fleet of twelve new Van Hool, Astron T917, 14 metres long coaches powered by 12 litre 480 bhp Man engines. There will also be a Beaulas Cygnus and two Mercedes Benz smaller coaches.

Turners Coaches, Chulmleigh Devon

This operator is experiencing financial operational problems, and it is reported the company has received a cash injection to support its problems. They operate some buses on lease arrangements.it is understood they have several coaches for sale.

Wales

Alpine Travel: A recent arrival is W761AAY a Marcopolo bodied MAN C57F whilst B176WYV a Wadham Stringer bodied Tiger Cub has been sold for scrap.

Clynog & Trefor: A new acquisition is 807HEA and Paramount 3200 bodied Volvo B10M . Also new is C53F Volvo B10M-62 / Jonckheere Deauville MAZ7093 ex M986HHS latterly with Stanley Gath.

Irish News from Michael O'Reilly

Volvo-Wright Eclipses are appearing in increasing numbers and one has been assigned to Route 5 (Hospital-Clock Tower-Hillview). I am told the total allocation will be 15. At that point city route 5 will be extended from the hospital further up the Dunmore road to Knockboy and route 2 from the greyhound track to the hospital via the outer ring road which means it will serve Tesco Ardkeen (& Homebase)

Kenneallys have announced a new route from Ballygunnar to Tramore serving the hospital, Tesco Ardkeen (and Homebase) and Superquin.

I believe the new Vovo Enviro 500's are appearing in Dublin on the 39 Routes to the Blanchardstown/Clonsilla. This was the original Quality Bus corridor route initiated nearly 15 years ago during the Montgomery era ("City Swift" service) using new specially purchased "P" class S/D with the unique combination of Plaxton Verde body with DAF engines! These vehicles have since been transferred to Bus Eireann for use in the school bus service.

Company News

Ausden Clark: The Leicester based operator has opened a new depot in Market Harborough, following the purchase of Alan Smith and Son Coaches.

Courtesy Coaches of Oldham have announced the purchase of the business of Glossop based Woodward Coaches. This follows the decision by its owner John Woodward to retire. Only one vehicle, A Dennis Javelin with Plaxton Preimere bodywork is included in the sale. The other five vehicles currently operated are to be sold through Direct Coach Sales. The Woodward name and livery is to continue with vehicles transferring from the main fleet.

East London Bus Group are holding a special visit to Stratford (SD) depot on Saturday February 16th.

Routemasters RML2760 and Enviro 18500 will run from Mile End Station direct to Stratford at 1000, 1100, 1200 and 1300, running back at 1100, 1200, 1300 and 1400. Additional journeys will operate if demand exists. This will be the last opportunity to visit the depot as it closes a week later when operations are moved to West Ham, and the area is taken over by the Olympic development.

Preservation News

Preservation News & Events

Events:

Enfield Spring Transport Bazaar: 23rd February – St Stephens Hall, Enfield

Commercial Transport in Preservation: 24th February – Gillingham, Dorset

Vehicles of Yesterday 'Rally: 15th March – Pevensey Bay car park

Manchester Museum of Transport: 15/16th March – 'Spring Transport Festival'

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

First trip of the New Year, 1st January 2008, OXFORD BUS MUSEUM, LONG HANBOROUGH - Mike Pinder, Steve Jenner and Marc Baker

Finish work at 06.00 straight home, Shower, Change and picking Marc up at a Quarter to 7, over to Weston Super Mare to pick up Steve, 2 mugs of coffee later and the show really gets on the road. Up the M5(North) and into Staverton Airport to see what aircraft we could, then through Cheltenham to Brize Norton Airfield, from here to Long Hanborough for the Oxford Bus Museum. This is the same trip as we did last year on the same day and what a difference we found straight away on arrival. Gone were the old shed housing a fire engine (Engine also gone) and the old Toilets, Cafe and separate shop have all been replaced by new Portacabins. Very clean and beautifully heated, we were welcomed at the shop and relieved of £9 as it's £3 to gain entry, then looking after my sylph like figure into the cafe for a bacon and egg sandwich, really good value (here I Nit Pick! ,it was in bread not a bap) however we then come to the cup of Tea ?. The Lady who made it didn't have a wedding band on her finger and after looking at the Tea in the mug I could understand why, it wouldn't have melted a plastic spoon let alone a metal one, seriously even with milk added you could see the bottom of the mug. I hope she gets more practice before next year. Into the Fray everything spotlessly clean in the garage's (2) and in the Repair shop, the main hall is also well laid out and Photography should pose no problems. I love this place for the

friendliness of all helpers and for the way the Museum is going forward unlike some of the other so called museums.

Now to the exhibits

NEW HERE

BBW 214Y Leyland Olympian, ECW body ex Wootons (And Oxford before that) Waiting Restoration

Here Last Year BUT NOT THIS YEAR

A896 SUL Leyland Titan, OWC 182D Bristol MW6G and YNX 478 AEC Duple

OTHERS

14 LFC Morris Commercial under Restoration (as last Year)

304 KFC Dennis Loline 2 Restored (as last Year)

305 KFC Dennis Loline 2 Sectioned (as last Year)

756 KFC AEC Reliance Restored (as last Year)

850 ABK AEC Reliance under Restoration (as last Year)

956 AJO AEC Regent 5 Restored (as last Year)

ABW 87F Guy Recovery wagon Non PSV

B106 XJO Ford Transit Restored (as last Year)

BBW 21V Leyland Leopard Restored (as last Year)

C724 JJO Ford Transit Restored (as last Year)

D122 PTT Ford Transit Restored (as last Year)

DBW 613 Bedford OB Waiting Restoration (as last Year)

DU 4838 Daimler Y Waiting Restoration (as last Year)

EUD 256K AEC Reliance Waiting Restoration (as last Year)

FWL 371E AEC Renown under Restoration (as last Year)

GJB 254 Bristol LWL6B Restored (as last Year)

HUD 476S Bristol VRT Restored (as last Year)

JO 5032 AEC Regent Chassis only (as last Year)

JO 5403 AEC Regent Restored (as last Year)

JUD 597W Ford R1014 Restored (as last Year)

JVF 528 Bedford OB Restored (as last Year)

L247 FDV Fiat 49-10 Restored (as last Year)

NAC 416F Leyland Atlantean Waiting Restoration (as last Year)

NJO 703 AEC Regal 3 Restored (as last Year)

OFC 205 AEC Regal 3 In as found scene (as last Year)

OFC 393 AEC Regent 3 Under Restoration (as last Year)

PWL 413 AEC Regent 3 Running trips (as last Year)

SFC 609 AEC Regal 4 same condition as last year, believed to be project for cutting up and scrapping.

SFC 610 AEC Regal 4 Restored (as last Year)

TWL 928 AEC Regent 3 Running Trips (Under Restoration last Year)

UFC 430K Daimler Fleetline Under restoration (as last Year)

VER 262L AEC Reliance Under Restoration (as last Year)

YL 740 Morris Commercial (1 ton) Restored (as last Year)

YWB 494M International Harvester Waiting Restoration (as last Year)

No Reg. Daimler chassis, new body under construction (just chassis last Year)

On leaving we went to Kidlington Airfield and on returning through Gloucester called at the Historic Dockyard before we all came home to Wales on the old road via Lydney and Chepstow thus saving the toll money £5-30 which went towards a Pizza to help keep my strength up. Junk foods are great, especially to a 10 year old dog like me! It was a lovely day out.

On Tuesday 1st January 2008 I visited the King Alfred Buses Running Day at Winchester, the weather was fine and there was quite a good turn out from the public, visiting vehicles were as follows :- Visit report – Peter Weller

OU 9286 Dennis E, **AHC 442** AEC Regent, **GOU 732** Tilling Steven, **HOD 75** Bedford OB. **JFM 575** AEC Regal III, **KFM 893** Bristol L5G, **KHJ 999** AEC Reliance,
LTA 752 Bedford OB, **POU 494** Leyland Titan, **WCG 104** Leyland Tiger,
326 CAA Bedford SB3, **595 LCG** AEC Renown, **AFJ 86B** AEC Reliance,
BBK 236B Leyland Atlantean, **CCG 704C** Bedford Val, **DPV 65D** AEC Regent V, **GLJ 748D** Bristol FLF 6G, **HOR 592E** Leyland Atlantean, **KOW 91** OF AEC Regent V,
UOU 419H Leyland Panther, **TRU 947J** Bristol RELL6G, **NDL 637M** Bristol VRT, **HOR 306N** Leyland Atlantean, **OJD 95R** Bristol LH6L, **UHG 736R** Leyland National,
PWS 492S Leyland Leopard, **UFX 858S** Bristol VRT, **AFJ 766T** Bristol VRT, **ELJ 220V** Bristol VRT, **MNK 429V** Leyland Leopard, **KRU 848W** Bristol VRT, **MFX 174W** Leyland Fleetline, **G515 VYE** Dennis Dart

The following vehicles were in the Static Display in St Catherines Park & Ride

OHR 919 Bristol Lodekka LD6G, **ORV 989** Leyland Titan PD, **USK 625** AEC Routemaster,
27 4 KTA Bristol SUL4A, **793 UXA** AEC Routemaster, **ALD 95 5B** AEC Routemaster,
JJD 396D AEC Routemaster, **AFM 103G** Bristol RELH6G, **AFM 106G** Bristol RELH6G,
TYJ 4 S Leyland Atlantean, **JWV 272W** Bristol VR/SL3, **WDD 17X** Bedford YMT, **P228 VCK** Volvo Olympian, **W100 TEN** Volvo B12M, **CU57 FRK**.

Visiting Stagecoach Winchester Depot on the way home I observed the following vehicles:-

HOR 305N Leyland Atlantean
Leyland Olympian 13620, 13652, 14816, 14953, 14955, 14973, 16277, 16288,
16293, 16304, 16322
Volvo B10M-55 20460, 20631,
ADLEnviro300 27511, 27513, 27514, 27515
Dennis Dart SLF 33027
Mercedes Benz 709D 40945, 40971, 46612
Volvo B10M-62 52021, 52267, 52641, 52657
Volvo B12-M 53029

Scottish Preserved bus ULS658T update – Thomas Graham

This is just to let you know that my bus will be taxed from 01/02/08. The bus should be getting painted in Kelvin Scottish 2 tone blue livery sometime that week and the bus is being used to give some free enthusiast trips around Glasgow and Falkirk on 16-18/02. The vehicle will be promoting GB Bus Group & Inter City Railway Society memberships and publications

Observations

Rail Replacement – North East

Noted this weekend on Rail Replacements, the penultimate weekend, were the following:

Saturday 19/01/2008

7822VW B12/Jonckheere Wright, Nenthead
789GTD B10M/Plaxton Pre Stainthorpe,

Guisborough

273GYE B10M/Berkhof Lee's, Langley Moor
210WVK Scania/Berkhof Crooke, Swarcliffe

CAZ2747 Royal Tiger Anbry, Washington
DSU313 B10M/Plaxton Pre Compass
Royston, Stockton
DSU708 Auwaerter N212H Smith, Thirsk
GIB1097 B12M/Jonckheere Weardale,
Stanhope
GIL1082 B10M/Plaxton Para Gillingham's,
Catchgate
GIL2163 EOS E180Z Brown, Darlington
GSU230 B10M/Plaxton Pre Compass
Royston, Stockton
HVU736 B10M/Van Hool Tiger Travel,
Consett
JSV487 B10M/Plaxton Pre Durham City,
Brandon
KIW949 B10M/Van Hool T9 Wright, Nenthead
KSU981 B10M/Caetano Littler, Hartlepool
LIL8200 B10M/Plaxton Pre Stainthorpe,
Guisborough
MIL3085 DAF/Caetano Brown, Darlington
NIL7914 B10M?/Caetano Wears, Fenham
NIL9247 B10M/Plaxton Pre Wright Bros,
Nenthead
NJI5510 B10M/Van Hool T9 Eddie Brown,
Boroughbridge
NKC921 B10M/Van Hool Wears, Fenham
OLZ3934 B10M/Plaxton Para(Mod) K & J
Logistics, Rufforth
OUI9054 B10M/Van Hool Simpson, Whitby
OUI9684 B10M/Jonckheere Lee's, Langley
Moor
TIL8213 B10M/Van Hool T9 Stainthorpe,
Guisborough
USU345 B10M/Berkhof Procter's. Leeming
Bar
VIL8246 Scania/Irizar Just Travel,
Copmanthorpe
XSV691 B10M/Plaxton Pre Stainthorpe,
Guisborough
YIL1224 B10M/Van Hool Compass Royston,
Stockton
YIL1226 B10M/Van Hool Compass Royston,
Stockton
YIL1227 B10M/Van Hool Compass Royston,
Stockton
ALL173Y B10M/Van Hool Lee's, Langley
Moor
A3HFU Bova Durham City, Brandon
B12KJT Scania/Van Hool T9 K & J Logistics,
Rufforth
F482KFM Javelin/Duple Smith, Thirsk
F258RJX DAF/Van Hool Adamson's,
Cramlington
G448CDG B10M/Plaxton Para Rayner's, Esh

Winning
G14LYS B10M/Plaxton Exc Gillingham,
Catchgate
G66RGG B10M/Plaxton Para Bowerbank,
Tanfield Lea
J204HWS B10M/Plaxton Para Just Travel,
Copmanthorpe
K110TCP DAF/Van Hool Adamson's,
Cramlington
M1STX B10M/Plaxton Pre Stanley Taxis,
Stanley
N2DCC B10M/Jonckheere Durham City,
Brandon
N973EUG B10M/Van Hool Plumley,
Humshaugh
N256THO B10M/Plaxton Pre Durham City,
Brandon
P432JJU B10M/Plaxton Pre Compass
Royston, Stockton
P464JWB B10M/Van Hool Gillingham,
Catchgate
R459BAY B10M/Plaxton Pre Compass
Royston, Stockton
R98GNW DAF/Van Hool Adamson's,
Cramlington
S105KJF Iveco/Beulas Hunter, Gateshead
T50EBT B12M/Plaxton Pan Eddie Brown,
Boroughbridge
T797FRU B10M/Plaxton Pre Compass
Royston, Stockton
T724JHE Scania/Irizar Crooke, Swarcliffe
T9KCC B12M/Van Hool KC Transport,
Carluke
T813KHH Iveco/Beulas Bell, Peterlee
T234SBB Bova Gardner (Rowell), Prudhoe
V453KPY B10M/Jonckheere Compass
Royston, Stockton
W441DYG B10M/Van Hool Burrell's, Barnard
Castle
W828LEF B10M/Plaxton Pre Compass
Royston, Stockton
Y995TOJ Mercedes 0.404/Hispano J & B
Travel, Horsforth
CL51LEE B10M/Caetano Lee's, Langley
Moor
FP51DJY Auwaerter N316SHD Jordison,
Hetton le Hole
FL02ZXF B7R/Jonckheere Compass
Royston, Stockton
FL02ZXG B7R/Jonckheere Compass
Royston, Stockton
PG02YWD B12M/Jonckheere Durham City,
Brandon
YD02PXS Bova Durham City, Brandon

YS02YYJ B10M/Plaxton Pan Redby,
Sunderland
NL52WUO B12/Plaxton Exc Redby,
Sunderland
YP52KAE B12M/Berkhof Law, Mexborough
FJ03AAN B12B/Berkhof Procter's, Leeming
Bar
LC03RJC Scania/Irizar RJC Executive,
Burnopfield
BU53ZWT Mercedes Touro Procter's,
Leeming Bar
YK04FVZ Bova Durham City, Brandon
YN54WDC B12M/Plaxton Pan Procter's,
Leeming Bar
YN54XSE BMC 850 J & B Travel, Horsforth
FN05DFU B12B/Berkhof Procter's, Leeming
Bar
GO05WMS B12M/Plaxton Pan Weardale,
Stanhope
OO05STX Mercedes 0814D/Plaxton Stanley
Taxis, Stanley
YN05VRY Iveco/Plaxton Pan Godson's,
Crossgatesey
YN07DVA Irisbus/Plaxton Pan Procter's,
Leeming Bar
YJ57EZE Bova Jordison, Hetton le Hole
YN57AAY Irisbus/Beulas Weardale, Stanhope
YN57OUU B7R/Plaxton Profile Stanley Taxis,
Stanley

Not a complete list by any means, spent some
of the day travelling
and stuck in Durham due to lack of coaches

Sunday 20/01/2008

891FUO B10M/Plaxton Para Lee's, Langley
Moor
273GYE B10M/Berkhof Lee's, Langley Moor
AEZ7248 B10M/Berkhof K & J Logistics,
Rufforth
CAZ2747 Royal Tiger Anbry, Washington
ESU263 B10M/Van Hool Stainthorpe,
Guisborough
FBZ4780 B10M/Plaxton Pre Eddie Brown,
Boroughbridge
FEZ9047 Scania/Van Hool K & J Logistics,
Rufforth
GIL1082 B10M/Plaxton Para Gillingham,
Catchgate
GIL1792 B10M/Plaxton Para Gillingham,
Catchgate
GIL1307 B10M/Van Hool T9 Gillingham,
Catchgate

GIL2163 EOS E180Z Brown, Darlington
HVU736 B10M/Van Hool Tiger Travel,
Consett
JSV487 B10M/Plaxton Pre Durham City,
Brandon
JSV496 DAF/Plaxton Para Smith, Thirsk
KIW989 B10M/Plaxton Pan Wright Bros,
Nenthead
MIW5785 B10M/Plaxton Pre K & J Logistics,
Rufforth
MIW5792 B10M/Plaxton Pre K & J Logistics,
Rufforth
MIW5794 B10M/Plaxton Pre K & J Logistics,
Rufforth
MJ16405 B10M/Plaxton Pre Wright Bros,
Nenthead
NJI5510 B10M/Van Hool T9 Eddie Brown,
Boroughbridge
NSV373 DAF/Van Hool (Mod) Smith, Thirsk
NUI7803 B10M/Plaxton Para Harrogate
Coach Travel
OUI9684 B10M/Jonckheere Lee's, Langley
Moor
TFG154 B10M/Plaxton Pre Wreglesworth,
Wiggington
UIL1459 B10M/Van Hool K & J Logistics,
Rufforth
USU345 B10M/Berkhof Procter's, Leeming
Bar
VIL6937 B10M/Plaxton Pre Wren, Carlin How
YOI7757 B10M/Van Hool Simpson, Whitby
A13EBT B10M/Van Hool T9 Eddie Brown,
Boroughbridge
B12KJT Scania/Van Hool T9 K & J Logistics,
Rufforth
B13KJT Scania/Van Hool T9 K & J Logistics,
Rufforth
B18KJT Bova K & J Logistics, Rufforth
E967PFV B10M/Plaxton Para Rayners, Esh
Winning
G14LYS B10M/Plaxton Exc Gillingham,
Catchgate
G66RGG B10M/Plaxton Para Bowerbank,
Tanfield Lea
G406XMK B10M/Plaxton Para K & J
Logistics, Rufforth
(Still carries Ridders, Dulverton titles &
colours)
J203HWS B10M/Plaxton Para Just Travel,
Copmanthorpe
M123SKY Scania/Van Hool Cass, Stockton
M208UYD Bova Jordison, Hetton le Hole
N2DCC B10M/Jockheere Durham City,
Brandon

N973EUG B10M/Van Hool Plumley,
Humshaugh
N786ORY B10M/Caetano Godsons,
Crossgates
N334RGB B10M/Van Hool Cooper, Dunston
N622PUS B10M/Van Hool Gillingham,
Catchgate
P432JJU B10M/Plaxton Pre Compass
Royston, Stockton
P469KPY Bova Cass, Stockton
R988PFT Bova Gardner (Rowell), Prudhoe
P4STX B10M/Plaxton Pre Stanley Taxis,
Stanley
R72VVP Scania/Van Hool K & J Logistics,
Rufforth
S105KJF Iveco/Beulas Altona, Gateshead
T123APT Bova Brown, Darlington
T50EBT B12M/Plaxton Pan, Eddie Brown,
Boroughbridge
T9KCC B12M/Van Hool T9 KC Transport,
Carluke
T234SBB Bova Gardner (Rowell), Prudhoe
V501EJR Bova Gardner (Rowell), Prudhoe
W628FUM B10M/Plaxton Pre Hodgson's,
Barnard Castle
W157SUP Bova Gardner (Rowell), Prudhoe
X947PAJ B10M/Jonckheere Compass
Royston, Stockton
Y437DAB Dennis R/Plaxton Pan Jewitt,
Chollerford
Y157EGR Bova Gardner (Rowell), Prudhoe
Y995TOJ Mercedes 0.404/Hispano J & B
Travel, Horsforth
YP52KAE B12M/Berkhof Law, Mexborough
FG03JEJ Iveco/Beulas Patterson, Seahouses
FJ03AAN B12B/Berkhof Procter's, Leeming
Bar

LC03RJC Scania/Irizar RJC Executive,
Burnopfield
SG03ZJC B12M/Plaxton Pan Stephenson,
Easingwold
BU53AXK Mercedes Touro Compass
Royston, Stockton
BX04NBA Mercedes Touro Compass
Royston, Stockton
YN04WTJ B12M/Plaxton Pan Cooper,
Dunston
YN54XSE BMC 850 J & B Travel, Horsforth
BT05EBT B12B/Plaxton Pan/Eddie Brown,
Boroughbridge
FN05DFU B12B/Berkhof Procter's, Leeming
Bar
SF05HOF Setra S315GT-HD Patterson,
Seahouses
YN05BWW MAN/Noge Law, Mexborough
BX55FWC Mercedes Touro Durham City,
Brandon
BU06CTY Setra S415GT-HD Shaw, Whitley
BU06CUK Setra S415HD Procter, Leeming
Bar
CT06EBT B12M/Plaxton Pan Eddie Brown,
Boroughbridge
YJ06GNN Bova Magiq Cochrane's, Peterlee
BX56VUE Setra S415HD Britannia, Otley
YJ07DVY Bova Shaw, Whitley
YN07DVA B12M/Plaxton Pan Procter's,
Leeming Bar
YN07DVB Iveco/Plaxton Pan Procter's,
Leeming Bar
YN07KNA B12M/Plaxton Pan Law,
Mexborough
YJ57EZE Bova Jordison, Hetton le Hole
YN57OUU B7R/Plaxton Pro Stanley Taxis,
Stanley

TEIGNMOUTH STATION - RAIL REPLACEMENT (Mrs E. Crocker)

17 November 2007

Dart Line **LIL 9990**, Majestic Dawlish Coaches **W 157 RYB**, Truronian Truro Cornwall **SF 05 XDT**,
Mid Devon **M 305 BAV**

24 November 2007

Dart Line **LIL 8052**, Wood Brothers Travel Buckfastleigh **Y 404 DAB**

2 December 2007

Carmel Coaches Devon **Y872 GDV**, AB Coaches **NBZ 139**, First Bus 2014 **S315SRL**
Dart Line **RLZ 1670**

9 December 2007

Target Plymouth **M 3 59 LFX**, Abbor Coaches Newton Abbot **C 18 ACT**, Dart Line **RLZ 1652**,
Dart Line **LIL 8823**, First Bus 20412 **S 312 SCV**, Hookways **NIL 9875**,

16 December 2007

Carmel Coaches Devon Y 872 GDV

Welsh Trip Report 2nd January 2008 - Mike Pinder & Steve Jenner

Today was a local trip to Cardiff and into Newport. Cardiff in the morning and Cassandra would not have enjoyed today, f, f, f, f, f, flipping f, f, f, f, freezing and worse to come, the Egg on Ronnie was shut, now got the sulks all day!. Can confirm that the deckers for Cardiff bus are Scania, Reg's noted **460 CN 57 BKA, 461 BKD, 467 BKL, 468 BKO and 469 BKU** there are 10 altogether from **460 to 469**, East Lancs bodies. also seen 12 Veolia, 2 EST, 1 Easyway, 1 Arriva (Mersey), 3 East Yorkshire (Nat. Travel), 3 Bebbs (Nat Travel), 2 First (Nat Travel), 30 Stagecoach, 10 First Bus (Not Nat. Travel) and 12 Veolia and all in an hour and three quarters, so cold we travelled back to Newport to get warm. Newport was still as cold but not so windy and we had a dinner in Ferris's Cafe at the bus station before braving the elements for just over two hours, sensible food of course, Faggots, Chips & Peas, (still looking after my figure so that my cozzie fits in the summer, a one piece, from neck to toe!). Newport was one surprise in the two hours we saw all the usual Newport bus, More new Stagecoach Deltas from Blackwood, **25211 BYX, 25212 BYV, 25213 BYZ, 25214 and 25215** Not seen, 25216 BZC and Omni Cities from Cwmbran **47521 CN 57 FWL** (Note the odd Reg. compared to the rest) **47522 CN 57 BXA, 47523 BXB, 47524???, 47525 BXD, 47526???, 47527 BXF, 47528 BXG, 47529 BXH, 47530 BXJ, 47531 BXK, 47532 BXL, 47533 BXM**. We also noted Drakes travel have **MV 06 EKB** and **MX 07 BAA** Plaxton Primo ex Mistral on local services, Newport Bus have a new Driver Training vehicle P136 LNF Ex Meteor Parking (Go Ahead). Cardiff bus **138 (N138 PTG)** Optare Metrorider is now working for Ward (Gilwern) also noted were 6 Bebbs, 4 Pencoed Travel, 3 Chapman (Tonyrefail), 2 Thomas (Pencader), 2 Bluebird (Neath) and one each from Gwyn Jones (Bridgend), R.J. Jones (Aberystwyth), Bysiru Cwm Taf (Whitland), Globe (Aberdare), First Choice (Cardiff), A.L.S. (I.O. Wight), Ivanhoe (Cardiff), Cymru Coaches (Skewen), Henderson (Tonypany), Associated Coaches (Newton Abbot), Davey (Bridgend), Jones (Llandeilo), Pullman (Swansea), Ridgeway (Port Talbot), and Nelson (Glynneath). These were bringing New Year Revellers back to Wales so don't expect things to be as good as this every day of the week.

Welsh Trip Report 3rd January 2008 - Mike Pinder & Steve Jenner

Today we started off going to Cwmbran. Worth mentioning that the Town is under cover everywhere the shops are, only a square in the centre is open to the elements, and ALL of the CAR PARKS ARE FREE. The Stagecoach depot is opposite the rail station and the bus station is in the centre of the Town. Three quarters of an hour here will suffice as then the buses are repeating. Of interest in the Square was **YN07 EAO** of Kingfisher (Blackwood) a MAN, **N361SHD** Neoplan, 49 or 53 seats fleet number 75. on the side of the bus it states that it is a **N631 SHD!!??!!** If so it's the only one ever built. Then onto Blackwood, once again into the cafe for breakfast, 4 degrees outside but the cafe had heating on today (don't get your hopes up Cassandra it was only 5 degrees inside) BUT the Juke box was broken so earplugs not needed. 17 IBT, 3 Harris, 11 different Stagecoach to what had been seen traveling up here, 1 Veolia and 1 Clarkes (Tredegar) not a bad morning, White stuff blowing about and it's not dandruff so enough of a good thing and back to Newport for Steve to catch a bus back to Bristol and Weston super Mare and me to go home and sort out numbers etc and get ready to go back to work 0500 tomorrow.

Welsh News Item – Mike Pinder

Outside the Railway station (Newport) the road works have nearly finished on the dual carriageway and now the road markings are down, on both sides of the road there are Bus Stops AND a dedicated bus lane, leaves only one lane for the every day motorist (we loose again!) workers say a new Bus Station will be built on the old Red Star Parcel ground next to the Railway station to be used by the Stagecoach and out of town services, the present bus station will continue to be used by Newport Transport but the Bus Station will be cut in half with one part of it being shops/hotel etc. New here is the way the council are preserving the existing footpaths and roads so that they do not wear out. Layers of used chewing gum all over liberally covered by pigeon and seagull shite, works a treat, now wondering if the council will supply the residents of Newport with Anti Slip soled

shoes to help combat slipping on the stuff or even getting stuck to the pavements!! What a way to die eh

PLEASE REMEMBER PERMISSION MUST BE OBTAINED BEFORE ENTERING ANY BUS GARAGE

Sunday 5th August 2007

Arriva North West - Runcorn Depot

0808, 0809
1042, 1044, 1045, 1046, 1048, 1049
1247
1407
2048, 2049, 2052, 2053, 2054
2515 -17, 2521, 2523, 2524, 2527- 29, 2531,
2533- 35, 2537, 2538,
2541, 2542, 2544, 2546-49, 2551, 2554
8172

305, 306, 309-13, 316, 320, 323-30, 330, 338-
46, 348, 350-2
420, 467, 468, 480, 481, 485, 489, 491, 499,
500, 501, 539, 548, 551, 574, 576, 578, 582,
593, 595,
604, 607, 611, 622, 624, 625, 633-6, 644,
658, 663, 665, 670, 672,
673, 674, 676-8, 680, 688, 691, 692, 694,
696, 697, 699
700-2, 705, 709, 712, 716, 722, 724-6
812
8851, 8833
9910, 9912
P118XUY, P32XUY ex Whittles
S398HVV (BBC LIVERY)

Tuesday 1st January 2008

First Eastern Counties - Ipswich Depot

20122
32489 - 91, 32493, 32494
34873
43436, 43445, 43488
48090
60297
60766, 60767
60808, 60812, 60813
65541-43, 65546, 65549, 65550, 65570,
65588, 65589

Beestons (Hadleigh) YN54ABB

Sunday 13th January 2008

First West Yorkshire - Skircoat Road and Elmwood Depots, Halifax

30231, 30655, 30657, 30661, 30662, 30664,
30665, 30667-70, 30737-39,
30840,
31151, 31738
32509, 32510, 32513, 32516, 32518, 32520,
32521, 32523-25, 32527,
32530, 32533, 32534, 32537, 32538, 32540-2
37048
40634-6, 40668, 40678, 40868, 40880, 40881
50262, 50318
60628, 60778, 60781, 60796, 60944, 60953
62118
66746, 66757, 66758, 66787, 66789
68549,
68604, 68637, 68642, 68657, 68668,
68676-9, 68681, 68683

Saturday 12th January 2008

**East Yorkshire Motor Motor Services -
Anlaby Road - Hull Depot 2030 -2130 Hours**

(2 yards opposite each other)
31, 34, 37, 47, 50, 54, 61, 65
202, 224, 250, 252-4, 261, 262, 265, 268,
270, 283, 290, 292, 293,
295, 297, 299,

Fleet Profile

Buster Werkenbak/ Valley Travel

The business is owned by the Castle Vale Housing Trust, which operates a couple of stage services and also does some community transport work

Office address: Farnborough Road, Castle Vale, Birmingham

Depot: Enterprise Park, Park Lane, Minworth

Livery Dennis Dart: Purple and LDV's in White

Fleet

J106DUV	Dennis Dart 8.5SDL/3010	Plaxtron Pointer	B24F
W694EOP	Dennis Dart SLF	Plaxton Pointer MPD	N29F
BD02SVF	LDV Convoy	LDV	B10L
BU05AOR	LDV Convoy	Concept	B10L
BU05AOP	LDV Convoy	Concept	B10L
MX05NFA	LDV Convoy	Concept	B10L
MX05NUB	LDV Convoy	Concept	B10L
MX05XTY	LDV Convoy	Concept	B10L
PO55GHA	LDV Convoy	Concept	B10L

Routes Operated:

*95 Chelmsley Wood - Coleshill
696 Castle Vale Local Service*

Thanks go to Chris Morton, who obtained the above information

Bus Spots for Spotters - By Cassandra Sweeting

Challinor, Nelson Industrial Estate, Talke, Newcastle – under – Lyme

Sited off West Avenue, which links the A5011 (the old A50 Linley Road) and Congleton Road (A34). From A5011 turn into West Avenue, after c400yds turn left opposite SJS Building Supplies (first junction) onto unmade track. The buses are parked on the left and are visible from public land
Rail – Kidsgrove (long walk)

Bus – First Potteries 20A 34A from Hanley, pass closely. Get off at Cauldwell Arms pub, walk along A5011 c100yds turn into West Avenue (First Day ticket available)

Food – Café/pub on A34

Note: Nearby on the A34 is the birthplace of Reginald Mitchell of Spitfire fame

Wardle, off Nevada Lane, Sneyd Trading Estate, Burslem, Stoke –on – Trent

Nevada Lane is accessed from Sneyd Hill, from either Smallthorne (B5049) or off the A53 (Sandbach Road) passing Salts Bus Works and World Renowned – Moorcroft Pottery

Rail – Longport – then bus

Bus 98, Newcastle – Ball Green or 98A Newcastle – Brown Edge (First day ticket available)

Get of at Park Road/Lingard Street opposite College, cross road, precede ahead keeping college on left. Turn left up slight hill Wardle is in front of you

Many buses are visible from public land but binoculars are recommended. Wardle operates three re - imported Olympians.

Food: Hot food caravan close by

Warning – At night Nevada Lane is a red light area frequented by ‘creatures of the night’ offering the kind of business that your GB-BG membership does not cover and should be avoided

Also a garage site – continue up Sandbach Road, take first left

Further up on right is an HGV garage, which sometimes has buses being worked on.

There is a passable chippy on the Sandbach Road.

Nearby on the wall of former Dog & Partridge pub Hot Lane/North Road is a Great War Street Memorial. It was popular immediately after the war for residents to list those killed who’d lived in the street. After demolition - now very rare (Lest we forget?)

Tollgate Industrial Estate, Stafford. Coach Aid and Top Travel, Leone

Sited at the North of Town at Beaconside near to former 16 MU RAF Stafford.

The main Road (A513) links the M6 (junction 14) and A518 Stafford - Uttoxeter Road. Turn off the A513 into Tollgate Industrial Estate. First right is Coach Aid, next right is Leon’s continue past Leon’s to Top travel.

Nearest station – Stafford

Bus – A considerable walk

At all three sites the buses are visible from public land

Food – Burger van

DEK (Eagle) Ladfordfields Industrial Estate, Seighford, in Staffordshire

Sited on the former Technical area at the WW2 RAF Seighford

From junction 14 (Stafford North) M6 take A5013 signposted Eccleshall

At great Bridgeford, turn left immediately after the Railway Bridge onto B5405. Turn right into Ladfordfields Industrial Estate, DEK is on the left

The buses are visible from public land

Nearest train station - Stafford

Bus – Arriva runs Stafford – Eccleshall, then considerable walk c 3 miles

Food – Burger van

Moorfields Industrial Estate - Cotes Heath

Sited just south of junction of A51/A519 off the A519 and houses

Stafford Bus Centre (Bus Brokers), Bennett's and RML

All three companies are at the end of the public road

SBC – Some of the vehicles are visible from public land, many are not. The management are enthusiast friendly BUT appreciate a polite request to enter their property

Bennett's – Enthusiast friendly, a polite request will bring access

RML – All vehicles visible from public Land. Management are enthusiasts, Preserved bus /RM and commercial operators (and jolly good all round eggs)

Train – Stafford

Bus -?

A rural location but well worth a visit

Food – none seen



The new National Express livery shown here on Travel West Midlands new 4772 BV 57 XKS an Alexander Dennis Trident (SFD46MBRA7GX34363), AD (7409/5) H43/33F Photo - Chris Morton