

WEST YORKSHIRE

INFORMATION SERVICE

ISSUE NUMBER 589

APRIL 2000

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HARROGATE MEETING – Saturday 25th March

It was pleasing to welcome some 20 members and friends to this, our first meeting of 2000. There being little business to report, we went straight into the main item of the evening, an illustrated talk by [REDACTED] on the story of West Yorkshire destination indicators from the earliest times to the splitting up of the Company. [REDACTED] had spent many hours putting together a comprehensive selection of views showing many of the different variations that have existed over the years. As he said, there were others that appeared to have escaped being recorded on film, but by the end of the meeting we had not only wallowed in nostalgia but undoubtedly everyone in the room had learned something new.

Our grateful thanks to John for putting together the evening's programme and to the Omnibus Society North Western and Yorkshire Branch for the loan of the epidiascope, as well as our usual thanks to [REDACTED] for their help in connection with our use of the room.

Although it is some way off, the Committee's thoughts need to be turning towards our Autumn meeting and in this context, any member who has any thoughts on suitable subjects or speaker is invited to let [REDACTED] know, at the address shown above.

SPRING TOUR - Saturday 6th May

A booking form for this was enclosed with the last issue. Bookings are coming in nicely, but more are still needed if the day is to be a success. As explained last month, this is the first tour to be organised by the Tours Planning Team and they have worked out a varied and exciting day for us. The itinerary, given last month, included visits to no less than five interesting independents, all of which are happy for photographs of their fleet to be taken and all will either arrange their interesting vehicles in readiness for our arrival or will have someone on site who can move vehicles as required. We will also have fleet lists of several operators available for tour participants. Since last month, we have learned that Towler of Wisbech has acquired ex West Yorkshire/York City & District Bristol VR 1768 from Stagecoach Viscount. We have therefore arranged a short stop at Towler's, where the vehicle should be placed in a suitable position for photography. We shall now be welcomed at no less than six interesting independents during the day. Added to this the opportunity to view the current bus scene in a number of towns means that the tour will be of interest to all.

The pick-up in Leeds will be in the St. Peter's Street lay-by, opposite the bus station.

Please help to make the new Tours Team's efforts worthwhile and give this, the first of our "new look" tours, your support by sending in your booking form to [REDACTED] without delay.

SAMUEL LEDGARD SOCIETY

The Society is holding its first Ledgard Convention at Pudsey Civic Centre, Dawson's Corner, Pudsey, on Saturday 10th June. There will be slide and film shows, exhibits and talks. Admission £1, including refreshments.

PRESS DAY for the May issue will be on Saturday 6th May and all items should be sent, to arrive on or before that date, to [REDACTED]

HARROGATE & DISTRICT

FLEET CHANGES

Loaned Vehicle

- V493 NOH Volvo B6BLE ? Wright ? ? ?

Additional Information

The loaned Volvo is in a dark blue livery and arrived on loan on 22nd February. The same day it was used at Harrogate Bus Station for demonstrating a manual wheelchair ramp, fitted at the entrance, in connection with the new B6BLEs. It carries no lettering or fleetname, but shows "Volvo B6BLE – DEMONSTRATOR" as the destination. It did not stay for long, and was not used in service.

Loaned Volvo N967 TJF retains a red stripe on the passenger doors from its Stena Line livery (Stena Sealink is now called Stena Line). Whilst with Stena Line it mainly worked dockside at the port of Dover and carried "Stena Line LYNX" branding. It was still on loan as we closed for Press.

Sales & Disposals

March 2000:-

Tiger 307 to Ripley, dealer, Carlton. Noted on Monday 3rd April westbound on the M62 near Hartshead Moor services, still in full H&D livery with fleetnames and numbers.

VEHICLE NOTES

Livery Changes

Volvo B6 664 has had a gold stripe added to the livery under the black, as on Tigers 232/3. In addition, B10B 366 has also now gained a gold line under the black along the sides and upswept at the rear.

SERVICE CHANGES

Notices & Proceedings 1805 10/3/00
Nil

Notices & Proceedings 1806 24/3/00

Variations

PB 5206/1746 1/2 HARROGATE Bus Station – JENNYFIELD
Timetable amended 16 April 2000

PB 5213/1746 36/36A LEEDS – RIPON
Timetable amended 16 April 2000

PB 5236/1746 B5 HARROGATE Bus Station – HARROGATE Bus Station
Timetable amended 16 April 2000

PB 5238/1746 1/2 HARROGATE Bus Station – CARMIRES/EASTFIELD
Timetable amended 16 April 2000

Notices & Proceedings 1807 7/4/00

Variation

PB 11858/1746 770/771 LEEDS City Bus Station – WETHERBY Bus Station
Route and timetable amended 2/5/00

General

Service 78A no longer operates on evenings and Sundays to Stutton from 5th March.

OPERATING NOTES

Further details to last month's notes are that loaned Volvo N967 TJF was outstationed at Pateley Bridge on at least 21 and 22 February and worked on 24 all day. It was also on 1430 Harrogate - Pateley Bridge (24) on 11/3.

Route 36 branded Strider 365 was on 0820 Ripon-Boroughbridge (143) on 25/2. On non-school days this journey is usually a 36 branded vehicle as it works onto 36 later in the morning on Mon-Fri only.

B10B Striders 361/2 were both on 36 on 15/3 and Tiger 233 was on Leeds-Ripon (36) on 22/2.

The regulars on services 78/79 have now settled down to Volvo B6s 664/665/781/782 and Lynxes 382/383. Variations to this over the past month have included on service 78 Tiger 232 (29/2); B10B 361 (4/3); B6 650 (route 1/2 branded)(8/3); Tiger 244 (9/3 and 24/3); B10B 362 (23/3) and B6LE 641 (27/3). On 79 have been Tiger 233 (29/2); Tiger 244 and B6LE 642 (both 3/3); Olympian 314 (4/3); Mercedes 418 (22/3) and B10B 362 (24/3).

Lynx 324 was an unusual vehicle on Carmires (1) on 5/4.

KEIGHLEY & DISTRICT

FLEET CHANGES

Stored Vehicle

Olympian 351, re-acquired from Sovereign (Huntingdon & District) for spares, remains in Keighley depot.

Unladen Weights

347 – 10220 Kg (ex 9728 Kg); 349 – 9583 Kg (ex 9890 Kg); 383 – 9458 Kg (ex 9628 Kg).

VEHICLE NOTES

Repaints

March 2000:- Volvo B10Bs 507/8
April 2000:- Volvo B10B 509

Livery Changes

The Volvo B10Bs retain Star Bus livery without route branding.

Advertisement News

Mercedes 108, in H&D livery without fleetnames, is the only K&D Mercedes to carry an advertisement – currently a rear one for Spices Takeaway, Alice Street, Keighley.

Olympian 393 has now lost the full rear advert for Procter Homes in favour of fleet livery. Various other changes have taken place to full rear adverts recently – the two Mirage Contravision adverts, on 372/83, have been replaced by normal full rear adverts for Emu Furniture (372) and Whitaker Animal Feeds (383); 348 now has a full rear advert for Workouts (ex Calder Jewellers) and 975 is a further example to carry a full rear advert for Yorkshire Sofa Company (ex International Boulevard). The following recent examples are included for interest:-

WHITAKER **ANIMAL FEEDS**

Suppliers of all animal & pet foods

Balcony Works • Oakworth Road

Hill's **SCIENCE PLAN** **Approved stockist of Hill's Science Plan**

Tel/Fax: Keighley 01535 606222

383

One Of The North's Leading Furniture Retailers

EMU FURNITURE CENTRE LTD

Open 7 Days

Vast Range of 3 Piece Suites in stock

Large Selection of Beds

Bedroom Furniture
Dining Suites
Wall Units etc.

Also Full Range of Carpets **01535 602 500**

Low Street Mills • East Parade • Keighley

372

www.workouts.co.uk

Workouts
HEALTH CLUB

tel: 01535 690645

Aerobics • Circuits • Boxercise

224-226 Oakworth Road, Keighley

Fully Qualified Staff
Separate Ladies Only studio
Fast Tan Sunbeds & Tan Tube
3 State-of-the-art Gymnasiums
Cardio Fitness area
Free Trials
Big Screen TV Projector
e-mail: info@workouts.co.uk

348

CAR AUDIO SECURITY

SAFE & SOUND

PIONEER ALPINE HAN KENWOOD Panasonic
Clarion **TEL 01535 691611** VEHICLE SECURITY SYSTEMS

SCORPION SONY

247 BRADFORD ROAD STOCKBRIDGE KEIGHLEY

SAFE SOUND

CAR AUDIO
CAR ALARMS
IMMOBILISERS
CENTRAL LOCKING
STYLING ACCESSORIES
ELECTRIC WINDOWS

347 and 373

SERVICE CHANGES

Notices & Proceedings 1805 10/3/00
Nil

Notices & Proceedings 1806 24/3/00

New Registration

PB 18121/1748 X27 KEIGHLEY – BINGLEY

From 9 March 2000. Mon-Sat. This is the temporary service to serve South View, East Morton, for the duration of the closure of Swine Lane for roadworks. It is being funded by the developer.

Notices & Proceedings 1807 7/4/00

Variations

PB 13088/1748 812 HAWORTH – PONDEN MILL
Timetable amended 23 April 2000

PB 8432/1748 770 LEEDS City Bus Station – WETHERBY Bus Station
Timetable amended 2 May 2000

FIRST YORK

FLEET CHANGES

Acquired Vehicles

It is now confirmed that Mainline Atlantean tuition bus 9105 has been acquired, as has similar 9112. Details of both have been given previously.

Additional Information

The situation regarding the takeover of York Pullman has now been clarified and we are grateful to the Company for advising us that the deal has now been completed and the effective date will be Sunday 16th April. As suggested in the February issue, the intention is to retain only the 7 Easylink Darts (short R120-2 FUP; long R130-2 FUP and SPD S140 AGR) and the 86 seat ex Busways Atlantean (AVK 179V), used on a Tadcaster Grammar School contract. It is still intended that First York will operate an open top service during the summer, but will provide it's own vehicles for this and for the other school contracts.

Additional forthcoming news is that it is hoped to replace the remaining Leyland Nationals during the current year, probably by double deckers transferred in, but the two Leyland Leopards, 1595/6, are expected to continue for at least a further two years, unless suitable replacements can be found within the group inside that time.

Withdrawals

Tuition bus 9389 is currently officially "parked up" at James Street.

Stored Vehicles

National 333 remains stored at the premises of Ebor Trucks, Acaster Malbis, but is expected to be sold shortly. Atlantean 6336 is still at James Street and has now had a couple of lower deck windows removed.

Sales & Disposals

March 2000:- National 1350 to Norths, dealer, Sherburn for scrap.

VEHICLE NOTES

Repaints

March 2000:- DAFs 1202/3/51/4, Darts 3218/305, Olympian 5197
April 2000:- DAF 1208

Livery Changes

All the repaints are into two tone green, making this the most common livery in the York fleet. Although the livery is intended to eradicate variations, differences in the amount of light green relief being applied, together with placing of fleetnumbers, makes the identification of individual vehicles still quite easy. All five DAF/Deltas are now in the new livery, except 1252 is all green; similarly, 3305 is the last of the batch to go green, though 3304 is in all over green.

DAF 1253 has regained a rear fleetnumber, as has 5189 (in gold) at the front. The latter still does not have "FirstF" on the front, or York on the sides, and has never had York on the nearside since repaint.

General News

Recently acquired ex First Manchester Atlantean 6463 has an Olympian front grille with the radiator opening blanked off behind, whilst sisters 6464/5 have standard plain Atlantean fronts.

Advertisement News

Mercedes 2222 has had the Contravision extended to the side windows to advertise the Hudson Moody website.

Following repaint, DAF 1254 retains a rear Airport advert.

Positioning of Day Rover advertisements on the bodywork of vehicles continues. These are now being applied in the same position as Metro stickers on Leeds vehicles. 368, 1349 and 1255 are examples. 5186 has had its Day Rover sticker removed from the bodywork.

SERVICE CHANGES

Notices & Proceedings 1805 10/3/00

Variations

PB 6907/1747 10 NETHER POPPLETON – STAMFORD BRIDGE
Timetable amended 1 April 2000

PB 6711/1747 **3/3A/3B/3C/X3/Y3 STRENSALL/YORK – ACOMB PARK**
Route and timetable amended 10 April 2000

PB 6713/1747 **1/1A/1B/X1/2A WIGGINTON – ACOMB**
Route and timetable amended 9 April 2000

PB 6727/1747 **7 TANG HALL – CHAPELFIELDS**
Timetable amended 9 April 2000

PB 7711/1747 **5/5M/Y5 ASKHAM BAR – OSBALDWICK**
Timetable amended 9 April 2000

PB 16860/1747 **511A/99 McARTHUR GLEN DESIGNER OUTLET – McARTHUR GLEN DESIGNER VILLAGE**
Timetable amended 28 February 2000

Notices & Proceedings 1806 **24/3/00**

Public Inquiries

Decision. **PB 1747** **RIDER (YORK) LTD t/a FIRST YORK.**

At a Public Inquiry held in Leeds on 1 March 2000 the Deputy Traffic Commissioner decided to take no formal disciplinary action against the Operators Licence.

A Formal Warning was issued that "all buses operating registered services must comply with Regulation 13(1)(b) of the Public Service Vehicles (Registration of Local Services) Regulations 1986".

The background to this is that evidence was given by Vehicle Inspectorate bus monitors that in September 1999 they had observed a number of journeys running as much as 18 minutes late and up to 11 minutes early and that two journeys had not been seen. It was claimed that there had been difficulty in identifying journeys as drivers had been changing destination blinds and route numbers before completing their journeys. The Company argued that there was a reasonable excuse in that between 6th September and 11th November, York City Council had conducted experiments with traffic light phasing at the Holgate Road junction. The Council had written to confirm that the experiments had caused severe disruption to the highway network as far as the outer ring road. The Company had known nothing about the experiments before they were carried out and they first came to their attention following complaints from platform staff. The Company has a quality partnership with the City Council and the deputy traffic commissioner commented that despite this, he was being told that the buses had run up to 18 minutes late through a lack of communication with the Council; he found that quite astonishing. The Company's representative advised that lack of communication had never happened before and the evidence was it would not happen again. The deputy commissioner accepted that there was a reasonable excuse for many of the failures as he had no alternative but to conclude that the changes at Holgate Road had a significant effect on the ability of the company to achieve a reasonable performance; he therefore took no action.

However, he warned the company that its buses must show the correct destination and service number and pointed out they were required to do so by the 1986 regulations. As a result of this decision, services 12 and 22 can no longer change their destination display at Stonebow. Buses passing through Stonebow showing "Station Road Monument" will still continue to Haxby or Wigginton as at present, with 12s changing to 22s at the Monument and vice versa. The ruling may also affect services 3/33 at Acomb Park, 2/4 at Foxwood Lane and 1/5 at Beckfield Lane.

Notices & Proceedings 1807 **7/4/00**

Operator Licensing

A variation in vehicle authorisation to 150 vehicles has been granted.

General

New Operator Licences applied for this month are for:-

PB 4259/SN [REDACTED] t/a the Door to Door Bus Co, 24 Greenwood Grove, Acomb Wood, York, YO24 3DT. Operating Centre: Garage Services, The Raylor Centre, James Street, York, YO10 3WW. Transport Manager [REDACTED]; Vehicles 2.

PB 4263/R [REDACTED] t/a Fairway Travel, 20 Parker Avenue, Acomb, York, YO26 5DU. Operating Centre as above; Vehicles 1.

PB 4254/SI [REDACTED] t/a Stephenson's of Easingwold, Nine Acres, Stillington Road, Easingwold, YO61 3DZ. Operating Centre: Moor Lane Industrial Estate, Tholthorpe, York, YO6 1SR. Transport Manager [REDACTED]; Vehicles 8.

PB 4255/SN [REDACTED], t/a Top Line Travel, 18 Rivelin Way, York, YO30 4WD. Operating Centre: Navigation Road, York, YO1 9XG. Transport Manager [REDACTED]; Vehicles 5.

██████████, t/a Jolly Roger Coaches, have been called before a Public Inquiry at Hillcrest House, Leeds, on 5th April.

Other changes to York area operators sees Reliance Motor Services applying for a licence (PB 18120/1502) for a National Railway Museum to York Racecourse service from 22 April, whilst Eddie Brown Tours of Helperby is applying for 3 services, all from 2 April, as follows:-

F15 York-Helmsley via Easingwold, Coxwold, Byland Abbey and Ampleforth.

F3 Sutton Bank – Danby Lodge via Helmsley, Kirkbymoorside, Hutton le Hole and Castleton.

The above two are Moorsbus Daffodil routes

M15 York Rail Station – Danby Lodge via Easingwold, Coxwold, Byland Abbey, Ampleforth, Helmsley, Kirkbymoorside, Hutton le Hole and Castleton. This is part of the Summer Moorsbus network.

Leaflets

From 31 January 2000:-

Services 13/14

Services 18/19/X19/Y28

From 9 April 2000:-

Services 7/7B/7D

Also a leaflet covering Good Friday and all Bank Holidays 2000. The arrangements are that special timetables will operate on Good Friday on the following services:- 1A/2A/3/4/5/7/23B/10/13/19/Y28/X19. Services not listed will not operate on Good Friday.

On the remaining Bank Holidays for 2000, Sunday services will operate with additional journeys on 1A/2A/3/7/10/X19. Designer Line 99 and Park & Ride buses operate as normal.

Off peak fares apply all day on Bank Holidays including Good Friday.

Publicity

The April 2000 issue of Buses magazine has an article on the short lived Yorkbus operation. The following double page spread has photographs of First York vehicles including 1255, 3365, 6463 and a Scania as well as V253 UYV, the Volvo B10BLE/Alexander ALX300 recently acquired new by independent operator Reliance.

OPERATING NOTES

City of York Council will shortly be seeking the views of local residents to help it formulate a five-year Local Transport Plan for York. This will be submitted to the Government in July for funding.

At the City of York Planning and Transportation Committee's meeting on 9th February, it was agreed that a Traffic Regulation Order will be advertised for a City Centre Bus Priority Scheme. This £50,000 scheme aims to cut congestion and under it a single site, directly opposite Garden Place mini roundabout, will be used to control access to Stonebow and Coppergate. A combination of "modern technology" and a "rising bollard" will be used to control traffic movement. The impact of the scheme on St. Saviourgate will be assessed three months after implementation.

Dart 3374 was seen at Bainbridge, near Hawes, on 5/3 showing "Private Hire" on the destination.

Dart 3368 was used at a "Bus surgery" event on 25/3 in Parliament Street. Present at this quaintly titled event (which did not allow visitors to make alterations or repairs to buses!) were representatives from First York, Arriva and the City Council.

McArthur Glenn Dart 3313 was working on 23 on 14/3 whilst an Alexander Dart was on the 99. The McArthur Glenn vehicles are apparently often used before 0900 on other duties before going onto the 99.

A Yellow Line bus works right through from Grimston Bar and on to the White Line to Askham Bar to transport students to the Sixth Form/Technical College in a morning, with the reverse in the evening.

3343 was noted working on 22A on 23/3.

YORKSHIRE COASTLINER

VEHICLE NOTES

Livery Changes

Olympian 427 ran for a time without fleetnames after repaint, but has now had these added.

General News

Volvo B10 454 has no fleetnumber at front or rear at present.

New indicator blinds are being fitted to all the B10Bs and to Olympians 426-9, which are to be retained. The new blinds will also be fitted to the new Olympians when they arrive:-

SORRY NOT ON SERVICE	COPMANTHORPE VIA YORK TECHNICAL COLLEGE	WHITBY VIA YORK CASTLE HOWARD & PICKERING
PRIVATE	TADCASTER VIA YORK	LEEDS VIA PICKERING & YORK
SCHOOL BUS	THORNTON DALE VIA PICKERING	MALTON
BRIDLINGTON/FILEY VIA YORK	THORNTON DALE VIA YORK & PICKERING	LEEDS VIA YORK LIMITED STOP
SCARBOROUGH	THORNTON DALE VIA YORK CASTLE HOWARD & PICKERING	BRIDLINGTON/FILEY VIA YORK LIMITED STOP
SCARBOROUGH VIA YORK	LEEDS VIA YORK	WHITBY VIA YORK LIMITED STOP
LEEDS VIA YORK	WHITBY VIA PICKERING	YORK
LEEDS VIA CASTLE HOWARD & YORK	WHITBY VIA YORK & PICKERING	SORRY NOT ON SERVICE
MALTON VIA YORK		

Advertisement News

Mercedes 421 has received a new lower rear advert.

SERVICE CHANGES

Notices & Proceedings 1805 10/3/00
 Notices & Proceedings 1806 24/3/00
 Nil

Notices & Proceedings 1807

Variations

PB 6520/1873 840/842/843/845/X40/X45 LEEDS City Bus Station – YORK Railway Station
 Timetable amended 30 April 2000

PB 6521/1873 840/842/843/845/X40/X45 YORK Railway Station – MALTON Bus Station
 Timetable amended 30 April 2000

PB 6522/1873 843 MALTON Bus Station – SCARBOROUGH
 Timetable amended 30 April 2000

PB 7738/1873 93 PEASEY HILLS – FIELD VIEW LAY BY
 Route and timetable amended 2 May 2000

PB 8038/1873 840/842/843/845/X40 MALTON Bus Station – THORNTON LE DALE/WHITBY
 Timetable amended 30 April 2000

PB 17418/1873 845/X45 MALTON Bus Station – BRIDLINGTON
 Timetable amended 30 April 2000

OPERATING NOTES

A correction to last month's bulletin is that Mercedes 404 was working the 0711 Tadcaster-Scarborough.
 On 29/2, B10B 452 was on Driver Training duties in Tadcaster, whilst an unidentified B10B – possibly 452 again – was parked on the Stray at Harrogate on 1/3 on similar duties. On 15/3, H&D Tiger 233 was noted in Harrogate in the hands of a Coastliner driver, again probably on Driver Training.
 B10s noted on 843 have included 454 on 29/2 and 455 in the afternoon of 22/3.

SOLD STOCK NEWS

E445 TYG (Ex 182, Iveco sold County Bus & Coach, 9/92)

This was the Iveco which passed to Arriva North West Ltd in 1/00 and not E455 TYG (ex 187) as reported last month.

PWY 586W (Ex 1019, Leyland National 2 sold County Bus & Coach, 5/90)
Still with Yorkshire Terrier, Sheffield, and has been repainted into the latest livery of dark green and yellow. During March it was in use on route 10 to Darnall, which runs on tram tracks for some of its route out of Sheffield.

MNW 133V (Ex 1504, Leyland National 2 sold Yorkshire Rider, 4/90)
Latterly with Swanbrook, Cheltenham. This was due to be sold to M.Nash, dealer, Weybridge. 3/00 for resale.

PNW 599W (Ex 1506, Leyland National 2 sold Yorkshire Rider, 4/90)
To Hunter, Sauchie, East Scotland, 11/99 ex Mitchell, Plean.

SWX 536W (Ex 1517/K&D 283/H&D 336, Leyland National 2 sold Yorkshire Traction Group, 2/97)
Still operating with Andrews' Sheffield Omnibus, Sheffield. Now carries an advert for Butlins on the middle body panels for the complete length and rear of the vehicle on the blue Andrews livery.

AYG 852S (Ex 1709, Bristol VRTSL6G sold Rover, Bromsgrove, 1/92)
Scrapped on site with Thomas, Porth, 1/00.

LUA 716V (Ex 1733/Rider York 733, Bristol VRTSL6G sold Eastern National, 3227, 12/94)
Transferred to First Eastern Counties and numbered 317, by 2/00. Allocated to Ipswich.

PWY 49/50W (Ex 1763/4, K&D 319/20, Bristol VRTSL6G sold Viscount Bus & Coach, 7/90)
To Rapson, Brora, Scotland, 2/00.

SUB 792W (Ex 1768/YC&D, Bristol VRTSL6G sold Viscount Bus & Coach, 4/90)
This passed via Fleetlink, dealer, Mossley Hill to Towler, Wisbech, Cambs, 1/00 and NOT to Davies GHA, North Wales as given last month. We understand other ex Viscount VRs have gone to Davies, but not ex 1768, which ran for Towler at least initially in Stagecoach livery.

SUB 793W (Ex 1769/YC&D, Bristol VRTSL6G sold Viscount Bus & Coach, 4/90)
To Fleetlink, dealer, Mossley Hill, 9/99 and to Grey, Witchford, Cambs, 12/99, but also reported as to Rapson, Brora, Scotland with ex 1763/4 (above).

C63 CYG (Ex 2414, Leyland Tiger sold Yorkshire Voyager, 7/89)
Last recorded with D.B.Evans, t/a Acton Coaches, Wrexham, N.Wales, re-registered NIL 4693. On a recent visit to the premises, in 2/00, the owner advised that the vehicle had been "traded in" to A.W.Group, dealer, Ratby, Leicester, about 12 months ago. A vehicle fitting the description has been advertised by A.W.Group thus - "1986 Leyland Tiger 245 Duple 340. 53 reclining seats, courier seat, rear toilet, sink unit." No price was quoted.

DWY 659T (Ex 2557, Leyland Leopard sold J.Dodsworth, Boroughbridge, 1/89)
Still operating with Procters of Bedale. This vehicle has received a major bodywork rebuild and new floor internally, however, after this had been completed it suffered engine failure and is currently in Procter's yard awaiting a replacement engine. The owner also intends to fit new seats whilst it is laid up, replacing the originals. According to the owners "it may be one of our oldest but it is one of the most reliable!"

KUB 543V (Ex 2569, Leyland Leopard sold Johnson, Harthill, 10/89)
Re-registered CHT 718V. Last reported on "Emmerdale" set as sandwich bar at Harewood, by 2/98. It appears that this vehicle is still roadworthy as an all-over green Leopard registered CHT 718V was seen northbound on the A1 on 28th March 2000.

A907 LWU (Ex 2707, Leyland Tiger sold Dorset Travel Services, 4/89)
Now re-registered VJI 6669 and operating for A & S McLaughlin Coaches, Penwortham, Preston. Painted into fleet colours of white, blue and yellow and used on everything from contracts to tours. Seen recently near Leyland parked up in a lay-by.

B84 SWX (Ex 2712, Leyland Tiger sold Yorkshire Voyager, 7/89)
Withdrawn from Arriva serving Southend (Southend Transport) and passed to Houston Ramm (dealer), Rochdale, by 2/00. Still wearing Green Line livery and for sale. Staff at the Rochdale yard advise that B83 SWX (ex 2711) has also been acquired and was in the paint shop, but this is not confirmed.

N408 ENW (Ex Rider York 8408, Scania)
Now in First Group corporate "willowleaf" livery and reported as having been re-seated to First Group standard, though this is not confirmed. During January was in use on service X22 into Edinburgh. It is thought that due to a slight decrease in vehicle requirements on "Fife First" services, this vehicle has been released into the main First Edinburgh fleet for general use. It carries fleet number 508.

EPD 542V (Ex K&D 263, Leyland National sold "Passoon", 6/98)
Further to the note in the February issue, it is now understood that this vehicle was at Imperial Travel, Rainham, for maintenance on behalf of Mike Nash (dealer), Weybridge, the current owner. However, the display of Imperial Travel legal ownership on the vehicle suggests that Imperial may have used it for a short time.

D926 KWW (Ex HIT/H&D 105, Dodge sold Ripley, Carlton)
Still running 2/00 with Banga Travel, Wolverhampton.

ROAD CAR LEYLAND NATIONALS

Further to last month's notes, the four vehicles at Gainsborough, UWY 65/70/73/76X, are used on rural services to Retford and Worksop, for example on 23rd February UWY 65/73X (Road Car 295/3) were on the Retford service, UWY 76X (Road Car 296) was on the Worksop service and UWY 70X (Road Car 297) was on the Scunthorpe service. The vehicle at Lincoln, PNW 605W (Road Car 292) forms a float of 6 vehicles there, though Lincoln's National 2s are often outstationed in a small shed at Walcott village, south of Lincoln.

OTHER INFORMATION

INTERNET WEBSITES

For members who have access to the Internet, the following websites are worth a visit. First Bradford include a fleetlist on theirs (www.FirstBradford.co.uk). A very good website is that of East Yorkshire (www.eyms.co.uk). Here there is much of interest to passengers and enthusiasts. For the latter group there is a full fleetlist with allocations, up to date lists of new vehicles and some superb pictures of their very latest W registration buses as well as a good selection of the rest of the fleet. Highly recommended.

TOURS QUESTIONNAIRE – RESULTS

An excellent response from members to the questionnaire included with the December 1999 issue resulted in 48 replies being received. Our thanks to all who took the time to respond and, in so doing, gave the new Tours Team some valuable guidance on what members would or would not like to be included in our future Tours. A brief summary of the main points is as follows (note that not every question was answered by every respondent):-

Do you participate in WYIS Tours? Yes (= 40); No (= 8).
If you do not at the moment, would you if these were made more attractive? Yes (= 3); No (= 4) (1 each at Bacup, Northumberland, Keighley and Loughborough); Maybe (= 1).
Would you prefer to travel on Saturday (= 13); Sunday (= 7) or either (= 25).
Are two tours sufficient each year? Yes (= 40); No (= 6).
If no, how many would you prefer? Two say 2; two say 3 or 4 and two say 4.
Are you happy with the dates that the tours are held? Yes (= 39); No (= 4).
If not, when? Various responses - *Evenly spaced; Winter/Spring/Summer/Winter; Mid-June (max. light); April and November; Avoid double bookings with others; Include Rallies; Not Summer.*
Is your interest in the Large Groups (= 34); Corporations (= 34); Independents (= 33); Coach Firms (= 16); or Other? (= Local Operators (1); Leyland Nationals (1); Old buses/Museums (1); Any other transport (1)).
Would you like to have included Rail (=24); Aircraft (=14); Ships (=13); Rivers (= 14); Canals (=12); Trams (=33); None (= 5).
Would you prefer a visit to one of these to the exclusion of buses? Yes (= 12); No (= 30); Either (= 6)
Would you like to visit the newer parts of the Blazefield Group? Yes (= 32); No (= 8).
Where do you prefer to be picked up for the tour? Leeds (= 23); Bradford (=14); York (= 8); Harrogate (= 7); (1 each at) Armley; Crossflatts; Huddersfield; Malton; Otley; Saltaire; Tadcaster; Tingley; Yeadon.
Do you rely on public transport to reach your picking up point? Yes (= 31); No (= 12); Not always (= 8).
What is the earliest time you could be available at the picking up point?
Saturday Any (= 5); Depends (= 3); 0700 (= 7); 0730 (= 3); 0800 (= 14); 0830 (= 6); 0900 (= 2).
Sunday Any (=4); Depends (= 3); 0700 (= 3); 0730 (= 0); 0800 (= 10); 0830 (= 6); 0900 (= 6); 0930 (= 1).
What is the latest that you would wish to arrive back at your chosen point?
Saturday Depends (= 2); 1800 (= 3); 1830 (=0); 1900 (= 2); 2000 (= 7); 2030 (=2); 2100 (= 9); 2130 (= 2); 2200 (= 7).
Sunday Depends (= 2); 1800 (= 0); 1830 (=2); 1900 (= 2); 2000 (= 9); 2030 (=2); 2100 (= 6); 2130 (= 1); 2200 (= 8).
What is the maximum amount you would be prepared to pay for a more varied tour?
£8 (= 1); £10 (= 9); £10+ (= 2); £12 (= 6); £10-£15 (= 12); £15-£20 (= 4); £20 (= 2); £50 (= 1); Any (= 9).
If we included an attraction with admission charge, would you agree with this being included in the cost rather than separately on arrival (we may be able to negotiate a group rate)? Yes (= 42); No (= 2).
In addition, many respondents added comments and suggestions, all of which were constructive and for which we thank them.

Readers will be able to summarise these responses in their own mind and we do not intend to summarise them here, but they will certainly be taken into account by the Tours Team when planning future tours.

WEST YORKSHIRE HISTORY

QUERY CORNER

In the February issue we queried why, on a photograph of a Leyland Royal Tiger Doyen in Classic Bus, the vehicle should have been carrying London Country and Sovereign Olympian registration number A138 DPE. The answer is given in the current issue of Classic Bus. It appears that the photograph is a publicity shot taken by Leyland and the vehicle was actually A839 SYR for Grey-Green. The body was built by Roe at Crossgates and at the time the photograph was to be taken, for some reason the vehicle was still unregistered. A handy registration plate must therefore have been "borrowed" from a nearby vehicle on the production line, which was Olympian A138 DPE, simply for photographic purposes. A final note on this matter is that the Doyen has now been acquired for preservation by Mike Nash.