

WEST YORKSHIRE

INFORMATION SERVICE

ISSUE NUMBER 537

JANUARY 1996

Hon. President
Hon. Vice-Presidents
Hon. Chairman
Hon. Secretary
Hon. Publications Officer:
Hon. Tours Secretary
Hon. Photographic Officer
Bulletin Production
Hon. Editor

--ooOoo--

SEASONS GREETINGS

A Happy New Year to all our readers.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Please note the change of address of our Secretary, [REDACTED], which is now as shown above.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Members are reminded that these are now due and no further copies of the Bulletin will be sent to anyone who has not renewed for 1996. Please use the form enclosed with the last issue and return it with your remittance to [REDACTED] as soon as possible.

HARROGATE MEETING - Saturday 9th March

A meeting has been arranged for the above date, starting at 6.45pm and will be held at the usual venue, Russell Sergeant House, Harrogate & District Society for the Blind, East Parade, Harrogate. Our speaker on this occasion will be our President, [REDACTED], who will be concentrating on the rationale behind the various decisions of the last two years and explaining Blazefield's proposals for the next twelve months, with particular reference to vehicles.

Members should note that whilst [REDACTED] is also addressing the Harrogate Transport Touring Society in late March he will not be covering the same topics there as at our meeting.

PRESS DAY for the February issue will be on Saturday 3rd February and all items should be sent, to arrive on or before that date, to [REDACTED].

--ooOoo--

HARROGATE & DISTRICT

FLEET CHANGES

Withdrawals

Mercedes 224 went on loan to Yorkshire Coastliner in early January. The loan is expected to last until mid March and 224 may then be withdrawn. Also due to be withdrawn and sold shortly is Iveco 281 after donating its "Cherished Registration" H12 SDW to K&D Olympian 331.

VEHICLE NOTES

Advertisement News

Lynx 382 now has a black-based full rear advert for "The Academy" Health club.

SERVICE CHANGES

N & P 1694 8/12/95

N & P 1695 22/12/95

N & P 1696 5/1/96

Nil

OPERATING NOTES

Olympian 316 was on service 79 before Christmas as was similar 392 on 26/12. Lynx 382 was on service X50 on 16 and 21/12 and a "36" branded B10B was similarly used prior to Christmas.

B6 652, "1/2" branded, was on 78A on 6/12.

Bryant Homes Swift 207 was on the evening 96 Leeds-Knaresborough on 13th December. Swifts were once regulars on this service but it is now more often a Lynx or National 2.

B6 665 was on the 0735 Harrogate-Leeds (36C) on 21/12.

K&D Lynx 203 was on the Morrisons free bus service on 17/12.

No services were operated on 25 and 26/12 and 1/1.

Route plans for services 1/2 are carried by all of 645-654 and similar plans for 78/79 by 664/5, 781/2.

--ooOoo--

INGFIELD NORTHERN ROSE

FLEET CHANGES

Sales & Disposals

December 1995:- Ivecos D130 DRV, E446 TYG to Bluebird, Manchester

January 1996:- Ford Transit C63 LHL to South Pennine Motor Co, Halifax

--ooOoo--

KEIGHLEY & DISTRICT

FLEET CHANGES

Loaned Vehicle

- M918 MRW Volvo B6LE YV3R36S15SC005804 Wright Crusader T44 See below 8200Kg

Additional Information

Olympian 331 is due to receive "Cherished Registration" H12 SDW from H&D Iveco 281 in late March. Two other K&D vehicles are also expected to receive private plates shortly.

The Demonstration B6 arrived at Keighley on Friday 12th January and was expected to stay for up to a week. Owned by Volvo Bus Ltd, it is a low floor example with capacity for a wheelchair. Seating capacity is displayed as B36F+18; B28F+26 and B33F+18+1 wheelchair. It is in a silver-grey livery with silhouettes of figures on each side extending onto the glass. From the front these are a wheelchair-bound person; a mother with pushchair; mother with children and man with briefcase. It is understood to have a "kneeling" facility and has no steps internally, even at the entrance, until over halfway along the bus. This flat front area has 2 inward facing seats behind the driver, separated by the wheelarch, whilst on the nearside a luggage pen is then followed by a single inward facing seat. There then follows a large standee area well supplied with handrails and grab rails, which on each side has 4 fold-down inward facing seats and 2 fixed forward facing seats. It is in this area that a wheelchair would be accommodated. From there two steps take passengers into a raised portion - again well supplied with handrails - which holds 16 seats, with a final step giving access to the rear 5 seats. Whilst the concept of easy access is gaining ground and is to be welcomed, it has to be said that this particular example is probably less successful than some. With a maximum of only 15 seats available in the "low floor" area, these will soon be filled by mothers, children and pensioners and the rear portion of the bus, accessed by two quite steep steps, will prove difficult for the "overflow" to negotiate. In addition, standing in this rear portion - even with the plentiful handrails - raises the prospect of being thrown down the two steps into the lower part in the event of heavy braking or an accident, with consequent increased risk of injury.

Members may be interested in a "translation" of the Volvo "Vehicle Identification Number" (or VIN) codes:- YV3 = Manufacturer code (Volvo Bus Corp); R3 = chassis type (B6); 6S = engine type (TD63 ES); 1 = brake system (compressed air); 5 = control number; P = year model (1993); C = assembly plant (Irvine, Scotland); 005406 = chassis number. Further, the TD63 ES has a bore of 98.425mm, stroke of 120.00 mm, displacement of 5.48dm³ (litres) and compression ratio of 18.3:1. Output @ 2600 rpm = 154 kw or 210 hp; Torque @ 1560 rpm = 700 Nm or 71 kpm. It meets Euro 1 requirements.

Withdrawals

January 1996:- Tiger 248. This was withdrawn directly off loan to Yorkshire Coastliner and is at Manse Lane, Knaresborough for disposal.

Sales & Disposals

December 1995:- Iveco 194 to Bluebird, Manchester
National 251, at Manse Lane, is to be used for spares.

VEHICLE NOTES

Repaints

December 1995:- Olympian 352
January 1996:- Olympian 353

SERVICE CHANGES

N & P 1694 8/12/95

N & P 1695 22/12/95

Nil

N & P 1696 5/1/96

Variation

PB 12785/1748 67 SKIPTON Bus Sta - CROSS HILLS South Craven School
Route amended 4 Dec 1995

OPERATING NOTES

Further to our notes last month, the school journeys running north of Grassington are not ETS, with Pride of the Dales now advertising the following:-

0645 Buckden - Skipton	Service 71
0735 Halton Gill - Grassington	Service 17
0730 Cray - Grassington	Service 18
1620 Grassington - Halton Gill	Service 17
1620 Grassington - Cray	Service 18
1652 Halton Gill - Skipton	Service 72
1655 Cray - Grassington	Service 72

The services from Halton Gill and Cray are interesting, whilst the 0645 ex Buckden means an early start for school children.

It is understood that K&D 101/103 (Malham - Settle) are to become contract journeys from January and cease to be advertised.

--ooOoo--

RIDER YORK

FLEET CHANGES

Loaned Vehicles

1340	JUB 646V	Leyland National 11351A/1R	06586	B52F	9120Kg
1544	KUB 548V	Leyland Leopard PSU3E4R	7903852	Plaxton 7911LX543	DP49F 9017Kg

Additional Information

1544 is an addition to the vehicles listed last month and was from the CalderLine fleet at Halifax, though of course it was new to West Yorkshire as 2574. Olympian 5206 should be deleted from last month's list, however; it appears that it was not on loan and was probably at York with a Private Party for the St. Nicholas Fair. At least 1544 and 7121 gained York blinds, but 5201 did not and the position with 7038 is not known. The Olympian had gone from York by 26/12, the Fleetlines followed by 30/12 and 1544 had gone by 15/1. 1340 is from the Leeds City Link fleet at Kinsley and is one of the two Volvo re-engined ex West Yorkshire Nationals. It was at York in early January. Also at York, on 13th January, but not in service was ex Kingfisher Huddersfield Mercedes 2221.

VEHICLE NOTES

Repaints

December 1995:- DAF 1208

Livery Changes

New Rider York livery:- 1208. This uses a darker green than previous examples 1202/5; this later version is slightly darker than Rider green - almost Tilling green. At least 1202 has now gained the darker green over its previous paler green. A more detailed description of the livery is that the sides have a green skirt which rises in two stripes towards the rear; cream above the rubber body strip and a green stripe along the cant rail. All except the cant rail stripe continues round the front, but the rear is all green except for a cream area below the rear window which contains the Rider York fleetname in red and FirstBus symbol in grey. These appear on each side towards the front and on the front itself below the windscreen. Fleetnumbers are black at the front, on the cream, and yellow at the rear, on the green.

General:- Many of the York double deckers have lost their side fleetnames but some of the VR's have retained the YR flashes at front and rear where main YR fleet examples have had these removed.

General News

DAFs 1201/2 are now branded for Clifton Green Line Park & Ride, with green stickers. 1202/4 (but not 1201) have Park & Ride vinyls on the nearside panels under the windows reading "GREEN LINE Park and Ride" in similar style to the Scanias.

SERVICE CHANGES

N & P 1694 8/12/95

N & P 1695 22/12/95

N & P 1696 5/1/96

Nil

OPERATING NOTES

Tiger 1623 is now a regular on route 31 Holme on Spalding Moor, whilst solitary Bedford 1171 was on "Heslington" one Saturday before 24/12.

On 5/12, Olympian 5193 was on Askham Bar Park & Ride with 5521 standing by.

Leopard 1544 was on the Tesco contract to Tadcaster on 7/12.

The loaned double deckers, 7038/121 and 5201 were all seen at Tadcaster Grammar School during December.

--ooOoo--

YORKSHIRE COASTLINER

FLEET CHANGES

Loaned Vehicle

"224" F402 XWR Mercedes 811D 670303-20-890503 Optare 458 DP33F 4385Kg

Additional Information

The additional vehicle receiving attention at Keighley, referred to last month, was Tiger 431. Olympian 408 failed in Leeds on 12/1 and was recovered to Keighley rather than Knaresborough for repairs.

Mercedes 224 is on loan until mid March from Harrogate & District. It rejoins it's sister, YC 401, and presumably could be given Coastliner number 402.

K & D Tiger 248 has now been withdrawn direct from loan to YC

VEHICLE NOTES

Advertisement News

Tigers 431/3 now have Nutbrown & Oxberry lower rear adverts.

Tiger 434 has a Dalby Forest lower rear advert.

Swift 411 has now regained its J.B.Motors advert.

SERVICE CHANGES

N & P 1694 8/12/95

Nil

N & P 1695 22/12/95

New Registration

PB 12838/1873 94 MALTON BS - HELMSLEY Market Place
via Slingsby, Hovingham. From 2 Jan 1996. Mon-Sat 7 returns.

Variation

PB 11194/1873 348R MALTON PRIMARY SCHOOL - CASTLE HOWARD
Timetable and route amended 2 Jan 1996

Cancellations

PB 6525/1873	81 MALTON - YORK	1 Jan 1996
PB 6526/1873	83 MALTON - YORK	1 Jan 1996
PB 6527/1873	85 MALTON Market Place - LEAVENING Jolly Farmers	1 Jan 1996
PB 11192/1873	105 MALTON BS - ASKHAM BAR Tesco	1 Jan 1996
PB 11195/1873	104 SACKLETON - MALTON BS	1 Jan 1996

N & P 1696 5/1/96

New Registration

PB 12894/1873 81 Malton Bus Sta - YORK Rail Sta
via Sheriff Hutton. From 2 Jan 1996. Mon-Sat 6 returns per day.

OPERATING NOTES

K&D 248 was on service 840 on at least 5, 14, 15, 16, 20, 28, 30/12. 413 was on this service on 13 and 23/12; on 19 and 22/12 it was noted in Leeds on 842 Thornton Dale

--ooOoo--

SOLD STOCK NEWS

YORKSHIRE RIDER

In the split of vehicles between Companies on reorganisation day, 1st September 1995, the former West Yorkshire vehicles were distributed as follows:-

Leeds City Link:- Bristol VRs 725/9/35/6/44/5/8/52/6, 988/92/3 (allocated to Kirkstall)

Nationals 1339-42/5/8 (allocated to Kinsley)

CalderLine:-

Leopards 1544/5 (allocated to Halifax)

Olympians 5198/9 (allocated to Halifax)

Olympians 5190-2, 5517-20 (allocated to Todmorden)

Bradford Traveller:-

Ivecos 2067/71/5/6/8/81, 2100-7 (allocated to Bradford)

Quickstep:-

Nationals 1/3/10/42-4, 1343

Ivecos 45/62/71, 2070/93

Note that some of these vehicles have since been withdrawn. On the subject of withdrawal, there appear to be a large number of Ivecos currently held awaiting disposal:- 2068/9/72-4/7/9/80/2/94-6 in the main fleet and ex Quickstep 59-61/3-5.

--ooOoo--

PROPERTY

LEEDS The rebuilt Central Bus Station was fully opened for business on Monday 23rd October. Similar to the Bus Station at Huddersfield, buses drive up to the opening doors to each stand and then reverse out after loading.

YORK An application has been made by Wainhomes Yorkshire Ltd to build 65 houses and flats on the site of Barbican Road depot with an exit in Regent St and Wellington St (to the rear of the depot area).

--ooOoo--

WEST YORKSHIRE HISTORY

WEST YORKSHIRE DOUBLE DECKERS IN THE 1950s (continued from last month)

A list dated 2/10/51 lists the normal type of vehicle used on WY services, in particular the double decker duties:-

Service	Always	If available	Possible	Single Deckers
1	4			
2, 3, 4, 5			2	1
7				1
8				1
9, 9A, 11, 12			3	
13				2
14, 15, 16			3	6
17, 18			1	
17A, 18A			2	
20			3	2
23, 24, 27				6
30	4			2
31	7	2	1	(1 KWY)
32, 47, 48	6	2		
33	1			1
34	3			
36, 10	11	1		2
38	4			2

Service	Always	If available	Possible	Single Deckers
39				3
42				7
43 York-Leeds	5	1		4 (1 YWY)
43 York-Scarboro'	2			10 (2 YWY)
43, 46				5
44, 45				1
50				2
51, 53	11	1	2	
55	3			
56, 57	4			
58, 59, 61	1	1	12	1
62			1	1
63, 68	4			
64				1
65				1
66			1	
67, 69	11			
70, 71				3
72				1
74			4	1
75				1
76	3			
80	1		2	(1 YWY)
81				1
82				1
84, 85				2
86				1
88, 89				2
91				1
92				1
96, 97	3			(1 YWY)
Duplication	3	2		45

TOTALS

Double deckers always 91

Borrowed

6

Balance

85

Double deckers if available

10

Double deckers for conversion

39

134

Notes in the margin suggest that the following services were operated by J types:- 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 13, 17, 18, 17A, 18A, 64, 65, 66, 81, 82 and 92 and that 39 seaters were for services 14, 15, 16, 43 and 80 but not 20, 38, 39, 70, 71.

It appears that the fleets reached the 500 mark, probably for the first time ever, in June 1952, made up of

Fleet	DD	SD	Total
WY	104	277	381
KWY	38	16	54
YWY	<u>55</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>65</u>
TOTALS	197	303	500

Also as a comparison with the October 1950 and 1951 figures, given above, the same figures for October 1952 and October 1953 (though only the totals are available) are:-

	1952	1953
DD	202	216
SD	248	183
C	<u>inc</u> above	<u>53</u>
TOTAL	450	452

During all this the question of whether the new double deckers should be 7ft 6ins or 8ft wide arose. On 12/7/49 a letter to Mr. Dean from the Tilling Group raised the question of producing all double deck chassis "in say 1951 eight feet wide instead of 7ft 6ins as at present. A change over will have to be made sometime.

"Will you please, therefore, investigate the possibility of using this wider type of vehicle on your various services and see whether the number you are ordering for 1951 onwards could be absorbed.

"The production of double decker in two different widths will not be as economical as producing one type.

"As a rough guide I believe that the Licensing Authorities will not generally object to the use of the wider vehicle on a road having a 20' wide carriageway. At a later date application would, of course, have to be made to the Licensing Authorities for the sanction to operate."

Mr. Dean replied on 14/7/49 "...I think we can safely say that the double decked vehicles to be ordered from 1951 onwards can all be 8ft wide.

"When the programmes have been settled we can make application to the Licensing Authority for sanction to operate them, and we should be able to find a number of Services which would be approved".

One last document is undated and in manuscript headed "Double deckers" and list routes and numbers:-

Bradford - Baildon		12
Bradford - Ilkley		4
Bradford - Yeadon - Otley		2?
Bingley - Eldwick		2
Shipley - Wrose		1?
Hirst Wood - Windhill	1	
Harrogate - Skipton		3?
Leeds - Wetherby		5
York - Wetherby		2
York - Scarborough		4
York - Thirsk		2
Increase on Leeds - Keighley		5
Skipton - Grassington	2 (crossed out)	
Total		47 (amended to 45)
Leeds - Ripon		3?
Harrogate - York		6
Harrogate - Tadcaster		
Harrogate locals		

--ooOoo--

TML 18/1/96