



**M&T News** - The Monthly Magazine of the  
**SHEFFIELD OMNIBUS ENTHUSIASTS SOCIETY**  
[www.soes.org.uk](http://www.soes.org.uk)

**January**  
**2007**  
**N° 505**



**= SOES COMMITTEE =**

Chairman: Wayne Gilmore 27 Wingfield Road, Athersley South,  
BARNSELY S71 3PR  
Phone 07782-300672; e-mail **wayne@soes.org.uk**

Secretary: Matt Giles 23 Hough Lane, Wombwell, BARNSELY S73 0DP  
Phone 07951-511139; e-mail **matt@soes.org.uk**

Treasurer: Eric Wilson 5 Oxford Street, Pindar Oaks, BARNSELY S70 4PH  
Phone 01226 299048 (before 2000 please)  
E-mail **eric@soes.org.uk**

Other

Officers: Babs Moat 27 St Aidan's Place, Norfolk Park, SHEFFIELDS2 2NE  
Phone 0114 279-6385 (before 2000 please)  
E-mail **andy&babs@soes.org.uk**

Andy Moat - address, phone number and e-mail as above.

(2 posts vacant)

=====

CONTRIBUTIONS for *M&T* should be sent by post to ERIC WILSON (address above)  
or by e-mail on **eric@soes.org.uk**.

Opinions expressed in *M&T News* are not necessarily those of  
the Editor, the SOES Committee or the Society in general.

The SOES website can be found at **<http://www.soes.org.uk>**.

=====

**= COVER PHOTOGRAPH CAPTIONS =**

**Front top:** First South Yorkshire (FSY) 60707, a Volvo B7L with Wrightbus Eclipse body-work, carries advert livery for Sheffield's re-vamped Weston Park Museum.

This is probably one instance where the appearance may have benefited by extending the advert onto the windows using contra-vision film! **(Eric Wilson)**

**Front bottom:** As recorded in *M&T 504*, The Chesterfield 123 Group has acquired former Trent Leyland Leopard/Alexander T-type PRA109R. The vehicle is shown in 'Silver Fox' livery at Tideswell on its first outing with the Group. **(Shayne Howarth)**

**Rear top:** 2006 saw the end of FSY Dennis Dominator operation. A number of examples have been preserved including this trio photographed on 'Yorkshire Day' at the Sandtoft Transport Centre. Left to right they are: '2120' (KKU120W) in First livery with 'last day' embellishments, '2472' (D472OWE) in Mainline livery and 2490 (D490OWE) in SYT Fastline livery. **(Julian Shepard)**

**Rear centre:** Prior to its acquisition by Stagecoach, Yorkshire Traction did not operate any Volvo B10Ms with Alexander PS-type bodies. However, a number of the type have been drafted in over the past year including 20751 (K721DAO) seen here in the Barnsley Interim Interchange - note the '249' local fleetnumber. **(Wayne Gilmore)**

**Rear bottom:** FSY runs a considerable number of ex-London Volvo Olympians. Though some remain dual-door, others are now single-door, the conversion on Doncaster-based 34104 (T904KLF) being one of the 'quick' versions. **(Eric Wilson)**

# 'M&T News' No.505 - January 2007

We start the year with the Yorkshire Traction fleet finally adopting Stagecoach fleetnumbers - 12 months after the Traction Group was acquired - but being on the verge of losing its last MCW Metrobuses as new and cascaded vehicles arrive. Over at First a significant batch of new double-deckers is due in the coming months but the likely advent of 'ftr' operation in South Yorkshire has still to be confirmed. Whatever happens, 2007 will no doubt be a busy and interesting year.

**Eric Wilson**, Treasurer

=====

## = CONTENTS =

1 - Society & General Notes	5 - Model Bus News	30 - BACKCHAT 339
1 - Coming Events Calendar	6 - ROUTE NEWS	36 - Acknowledgements
1 - Do You Remember?	14 - FLEETNEWS	36 - Tour Booking Form

=====



## = SOCIETY & GENERAL NOTES =



**IN COMMITTEE** - The Meeting on 14 December 2006 heard the usual reports of Officers, including the October Day Tour and November Film Evening, both of which had been well received. The list of tentative dates for 2007 Film Evenings was confirmed - see *M&T 504* - though it was subsequently found that the usual venue, the Rutland Arms Hotel, has closed. The February tour will be held on the 25<sup>th</sup> to the West Yorkshire area. Subscriptions for 2007/2008 were also set - there will be a nominal 20p increase on the one-year adult rate which will cover a forthcoming rise in postage.



## = COMING EVENTS CALENDAR =



**Tue 23 Jan - SOES Film Evening.** This event has been **CANCELLED** owing to the usual venue not being available (see *IN COMMITTEE* above).

**Sun 28 Jan - Stagecoach Yorkshire 'Metrobus Farewell'** - Subject to availability, it is hoped to use MCW 15877 or 15878 for this tour which will start from Doncaster Depot (Milethorne Lane). Meet at the depot at 1000 for a 1030 departure. Tour will be via: svc.211 to Shafton Depot; svc.32 (via Cudworth) to Barnsley; svc.227 to Rotherham (via Barnsley Depot); svc.228/229 to Wath (via Rawmarsh Depot); via svc.222/223 back to Doncaster Depot. For further information or to reserve your seat, please call: Shayne Howarth, Projects Manager, Stagecoach Yorkshire on 07787-976360.

**Sun 25 Feb - SOES Day Tour** to operators in the West Yorkshire area. Depart Sheffield (Brown Street/Paternoster Row) 0930.

The booking form can be found on the last page of this *M&T*.

=====

## DO YOU REMEMBER? - Wayne Gilmore

 looks back to *M&T 385*, January 1997.

\*\*\*\*\*

**MAINLINE GROUP** official fleet changes for the period 10 November to 7 December 1996 were as follows; 'New' - Leyland Nationals 15/7 & 30 plus Volvo 400; Withdrawn to reserve - MCW Metrobus 1913 from Olive Grove [OG], Dodge 220 from Doncaster [DO], fire victim

Dennis Dominator 2110 from Rotherham [RO]; Re-instated from Reserve - Dominator 2158 at Greenland (GR); Transfers - Volvo B6s 401/8 from Halfway to GR; Placed on loan - Daimler 9005 & Leyland PD2 9012. On 7 December 1996, the list of vehicles for disposal comprised of: Nationals 26/9; Dennis Dominoes 45 & 48-50; Leyland Atlanteans 1697, 1702, 1750/2/6, 1778, 1780/2/4, 1803/7/8 & 1825/30/31. On the same date, the 'reserve' fleet was: Dodge-Renaults 195 & 220/4/6; Atlantean 287; Metrobuses 1858 & 1913; Dominators 2102, 2108-10/12-15, 2125/30/44/47/56. Fleetnumbers 15, 17 & 30 had been allocated to Nationals ABA15/17/30T which were on loan to Yorkshire Travel. 400 (M918MRW) was added to OG's allocation and was the ex-demonstration Volvo B6LE/Wright Crusader. Two similar buses were on order for early delivery to work the services with the Abbeydale Road Tesco, though these would not arrive before the store opened on 20 January. Ex-Rossie Daimler CVD6/Roe 220AWY (9005) and ex-Doncaster 188, Leyland PD2/Roe 388EDT (9012), were on loan to the '188 & 220 Group'.

**AMBERMILE GROUP.** Further ex-WMT Leyland Nationals were OOX804R & TOE-517N, both being Barnsley based. **ANDREWS** (Tideswell) added a 'decker' to the fleet - TIW2654 was a Leyland Atlantean/Alexander, new as 'SNS274S' to Busways. **ANDREWS-SHEFFIELD OMNIBUS** Daimler Fleetline/ECW 1810 (GWA822N) did not reach Strathtay as intended but was stored at YTC's Wombwell depot when Strathtay's need for the vehicle passed. 1810 did return to Ecclesfield but was not used and went for scrap on 12 December along with Fleetline/MCW 1704 (NOC389R). 1501 (D677SEM), a Dodge-Renault S56/ Northern Counties, had joined the fleet from BARNSELY & DISTRICT. **ASTON EXPRESS** (Killamarsh) had acquired ex-Stagecoach Manchester MCW Metroriders D659/668NNE. Also acquired was Dodge-Renault D317SDS. **CROWTHER** ('Black Prince' Morley) acquired AEC Routemasters RM2060 9ALM60B0 & RM2122 (CUV122C), ex-United Counties 717 & 707. Also acquired was ex-CHESTERFIELD Fleetline 158 (UWA158S).

**HOLLOWAYS COACHES** (Scunthorpe) had ex-MAINLINE Atlantean/Alexander 1802 (JKW302W). **HULLEY** (Baslow) had acquired 21 (D571VBV), a Freight-Rover Sherpa/Dor-mobile. **JOHNSON BROS** (Hodthorpe) added LVL809V, an ex-Lincolnshire RCC Bristol VRTSL3/ECW, to the fleet. **ROSS** (Featherstone) acquired ex-Leaside Optare 'StarRider' SR33 (F33CWY). In the **STAGECOACH EAST MIDLAND GROUP**, the remaining ex-CHESTERFIELD Fleetlines were withdrawn in December 1996 with 157 running a 'Fleetline Farewell' event on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. The end of the Fleetlines came with the arrival of 14 new Volvo Olympian/Alexanders. New vehicles intended for the EAST MIDLAND fleet were 418-20 (P-KWF), Dennis Dart/Alexander 'Dash' and 670-3 (P-LWB) Volvo B10M/Plaxton Interurban artics. The Darts were in service at Chesterfield in December 1996 as initially was artic 670 which had been used on svc 909. However, 670 later ran from the Grimsby-Cleethorpes depot and departed the group on the 28<sup>th</sup>. 671-3 were reportedly to have been licensed from 1 January 1997 but these were also moved elsewhere. Former CHESTERFIELD Nationals WBN470/73/79/80/82T & VKU76S had passed to the Birmingham Coach Company. **TRENT**'s contribution to the new Stagecoach Express 737/747/757 network were 56-8 (P-ETO), Volvo B10M/Plaxton Interurbans in full Stagecoach Express livery. The full batch of Dennis Darts was 901-16 (P-CTO) with 'Barton' fleet names.

**WILCOCK** ("Roy's", Morley) had ex-Greater Manchester PTE 'standard' Daimler Fleetline/Northern Counties YNA363M. **WILLIAMS & HAIGH** ('Town Bus' Huddersfield) has 7 Seddon Pennines numbered 1-3 (ASD826/34/37T) & 4-7 (BSD860/2-4T). An addition to the

**YORKSHIRE RIDER GROUP** fleet was 3301 (M107RRJ), a Dennis Dart/Northern Counties, ex-GMB North 1107. Withdrawals included the last of Rider York's Renaults (236), Star-Riders (2001/2) and Mercedes-Benz (2223-6). These had all moved within Firstbus - 236 to Leicester Citybus, 2001/2 to Eastern Counties, 2223-5 to Greater Manchester Buses North and 2226 to Western National. **YORKSHIRE TRACTION** Neoplan 'deckers 91/3/4 were sold in December 1996 when new Volvo B10M/Plaxton Première 350 coaches 58 & 59 (P-KWG) arrived, though these were not expected to enter service until mid- to late January 1997. Leyland Leopard 101 & Tiger 111 were also withdrawn in December 1996. 101 was being prepared for transfer to LINCOLNSHIRE in January, whilst 111 was to be re-instated with the coaching unit. Leopard/Alexander 113 had been withdrawn from passenger service but was to be converted to a tow vehicle for Rawmarsh depot.

**BACKCHAT 219** reported that:

- MAINLINE had acquired the former Sheffield United Tours depot on Charlotte Road.
- Hearson's 'Knotty Bus' premises at Stoke suffered arson attacks on three consecutive nights in late October. A number of former MAINLINE vehicles were operated. Ex-Mainline Leopard 20 was destroyed along with ex-St Helens AEC Swift/Marshall EDJ242J, similar ex-Blackpool OFR983M and three AEC Reliance/Plaxtons (NKN101, APM106T & WEB-407T). Vehicles damaged included ex London Country AEC Reliance/Park Royal JPA171K and Reliance/Alexander DVT167J.
- Eastern National's Clacton depot also suffered an arson attack. Two open-toppers were lost, but a 1939 Bristol K 'decker, though damaged, was saved.
- Staff arriving at Stagecoach Ribble's Bolton depot on 27 December 1996, discovered that vandals had played dodgems with buses over the Christmas break. Media reports had 34-37 vehicles being damaged in the Goodwin Street yard, the repair costs being estimated at between £200,000 and £250,000. Most of the buses involved were Leyland Nationals.
- Friday 6 December 1996 saw the official opening of YORKSHIRE RIDER's new Kingfisher Huddersfield garage. The £2.2m development stands on a 4.5 acre site on Old Fieldhouse Lane, just off Leeds Road, and features open air parking with covered workshops. The new facility became operational from Sunday 8 December 1996 when it replaced the old garage on Leeds Road as well as the Great Northern Street works.
- The first new tram to be designed and built in Britain for over 40 years was nearing completion at the Cardiff works of Pullman Design & Fabrication late in 1996. Traction equipment for the £1m 'Trampower' vehicle had successfully undergone year long testing in a Blackpool vehicle. It was rumoured that the lightweight (23 tonne) prototype tram would undergo testing with SUPERTRAM in Sheffield from February 1997.
- DAF's first lpg powered demonstrator was due to take to the road February. The vehicle, a SB220GG with low floor Northern Counties Paladin bodywork, featured a new 8.65 litre engine fed from roof mounted gas tanks.
- A low floor range - the ALX family - had been unveiled by Alexander for 1997. The ALX100 was a mini, the ALX200 a midi (in production late 1996), the ALX300 a full size saloon, the ALX400 a 2-axle double-decker, and ALX500 a 3-axle 'decker.
- Audley Forrester, SYPTE's Sheffield Transport Interchange Manager, had been awarded an MBE in the New Years Honours List.
- Half year figures from Firstbus showed an operating profit of £25.7m (up 81%) on a turnover of £246.8m (up by 41%). Operations acquired during the period - GMB North and

= 4 =

- Strathclyde Buses - added £69m to the turnover.
- For the year to March 1996, Blackpool Transport Services had a turnover of just under £16m and returned pre-tax profits of £899,511 - up by £252,025 on the previous year.
  - Stagecoach Holdings interim results for 24 weeks to mid-October 1996 indicated increases of 113% on turnover (to over £405m), 66% on operating profits (to over £42m), and 127% on pre-tax profits (to £47m).
  - MTL figures for the 1995/96 year showed a loss of £2.75m following restructuring costs of £3.5m and a £0.5m loan write-off. However, turnover rose from around £74m to almost £101m with operating profits increasing from £2.5m to almost £7m.
  - Past events included a 'Pre-Christmas Run' on Sunday 15 December 1996 using former CHESTERFIELD Leyland Panther ENU93H and HULLEYS SCH117X which was the last Fleetline built.

**BACK IN JANUARY 1987**, M&T 265 reported very little SYT news - only that former 'Roadshow' Atlantean M6 had been repainted red from the upper deck waist down to promote Barnsley Council's Enterprise Centre. **GROVES** AEC Swift JPF101K had re-entered service after repairs and had been joined by ex-Southdown Bristol RE/Marshall TCD486J. **YORKSHIRE RIDER** sold Atlanteans 2453 & 2462/4-9 to Hull as its 453 & 462/4-9. These replaced Hull 218,304/7/9 & 313 which had gone to Fylde as 90-4. Blackpool Transport had acquired ex-WEST YORKSHIRE PTE Leyland Olympians 5005/11/15 to replace Atlanteans lost in a depot fire, whilst Easiway Travel - a new operator on the transport scene in Blackpool - was using ex-WYPTE Leopard/Plaxton Derwents 8501-6 on a route to Cleveleys. **YORKSHIRE TRACTION** had re-licensed reserve buses in December 1986 after re-assessing its requirements and had not undertaken its usual post-Christmas withdrawal programme. Ex-YTC Leopard 384, which had been sent to the Falklands, had surprisingly returned to the UK, being noted at Liverpool Docks.

**BACKCHAT** reported that:

- *The Star* on 4 December 1986 had carried an advert for drivers to operate 25-seat buses from SYT's East Bank, Herries and Doncaster garages.
- The NBC was getting into its stride with selling subsidiary companies, five having been disposed of. The sixth to be sold would be the 269 vehicle strong Cambus fleet which had been split off from Eastern Counties back in September 1984. There were four or five other sales nearing completion, one of which was that of City of Oxford which was the subject of a battle between its management and Stagecoach. Locally, a management buyout was being prepared in a bid to acquire YORKSHIRE TRACTION.
- Plaxton's original site, the Castle Works on Scarborough's Seamer Road, had been sold for £1.7m. All operations, including the head office, were moved to new premises on Clayton Low Road in nearby Eastfield. In the past year turnover had increased but profits had dropped, leading to diversification such as the purchase of the Kirkby Central concern.
- In London, London Transport's Aldenham Works closed in mid-November 1986 after 30 years of operation. All heavy work was transferred to Chiswick with lesser overhauls being devolved to garages. Delivery of Leyland Olympians had topped 200.
- The SOES Committee had set subscription rates for 1987/88 at £4.20 for adults and £2.85 for under-16s.
- The SBMT was making slow progress with the lease for the Tinsley premises.

= 5 =

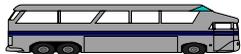
**BACK IN JANUARY 1977** M&T had reported on the sudden demise of the rear-loader double-decker in Sheffield with the mass withdrawal of the type by SYPTe on 20 December 1976. The buses involved were all AEC Regents - MCW bodied 439/51/58/60 & Alexander 878. 439 had the honour of being the last in normal service, whilst a hurriedly arranged evening tour had used 878. Other withdrawals included Atlanteans 885/8 & 995/8, Ford 1021, Seddon 1067 and Daimler CVGs 1161/71/73 & 1277/79/82. This saw the end of the ex-Rotherham Corporation buses in Sheffield as those still in service - CVGs 1280/1 and Fleetlines 1485/6 - were returned to RO. Delivery of Volvo-Ailsa and Leyland Fleetlines was nearing completion with the arrival of 421-23/5/6 & 1564/70. The new Rutland Way paintshop was in use but, owing to scaffolding not having been delivered, the painters could not reach the tops of 'deckers. This resulted in some strange part-repaints - ex-STD buses in all cream with the blue bands having been painted out, PTE liveried ones with the upperdeck window surrounds and roofs left untreated. Leyland PD3/Roe 913 had been converted to a driver trainer, whilst similar 475 had been cut down to a gritter/towing vehicle.

At Charlotte Road, the 'Sheffield United Tours' name had finally disappeared, along with the early National 'Sheffield United' and 'Sheffield' fleet names.

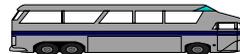
Work on preserved PD2/Roe 1156 was progressing well with the upperdeck refurbishment being almost complete.

A past event had been a day tour to the Manchester area using SYPTe Regent 439. This had turned out to be the last full day hire of a rear loader and could easily have gone into a second day because on the return to Sheffield 439 was one of the last vehicles to get over Woodhead before it was closed by the Police owing to a heavy snow fall.

-----



## = MODEL BUS NEWS =



Recent **EFE** releases include the following which retail at around £19.50-£20 each.

**25710** - Daimler Fleetline DMS-type dual-door 'decker. DMS1877 (GHM877N) wears plain red LT livery relieved only by yellow entrance doors. It carries stylised white bulls eye logos, 'LONDON BUSES' Forest District symbols plus a variety of adverts - for the Tube, 'Red Bus Rovers' and, on the engine cover, 'Please let the Bus Go First'. The destination displays are for route 66 to 'LEYTONSTONE'.

**27618** - Volvo/Wright Renown low-floor saloon. V207EBV is presented when new as Blackburn Borough Transport 207 in cream with a green 'wedge' around the front plus skirt bands in two-tone green and yellow, these being swept up to waist level at the rear. Fleetnames are '**Blackburn Transport**' in white (on the sides) or black (front & rear) and stylised 'EASY Access' logos (with the 'A' being shared by both words) feature too. The destination display reads 'BLACKBURN 1'.

**30604** - AEC Renown (sliding cab door). Former East Yorkshire GAT819D is depicted in later life as Northern General Transport 3210. It carries the 'Tyne & Wear' version of National Bus Company livery, that is, yellow with a white band. This is adorned by maroon '**NORTHERN**' fleetnames, 'double-N' logos plus the inevitable 'SHOP AT Binns' adverts front and rear. Side adverts urge the reader to use the bus and 'Join the big fuel saver' whilst a 'WALLSEND 302' destination adds a finishing touch.

**31701** - AEC Routemaster RMC. This new casting 'Routemaster Series' release is of RMC1506 (506CLT) in Brunswick green with light green band and bright green lining around the windows. Gold-edged-black '**GREEN LINE**' fleetnames - with 'LONDON TRANSPORT' in the underlining - feature along with gold LT bulls eye logos and black & yellow destination displays for route 719 to 'LONDON VICTORIA'.

**32101** - AEC Routemaster RMF. This eighth and final model in the current 'Routemaster Series' is of prototype front-entrance RMF1254 (254CLT) in red with a cream band. All adverts are for British European Airways and the otherwise blank (black) destination displays have 'B.E.A.' in white on a red background in the ultimate apertures.

=====

 = **ROUTE NEWS** =  = **ROUTE NEWS** = 

**NEW/REVISED SERVICES** are presented by area and include further/corrected information to previously published details without specific reference back necessarily being made.

**Barnsley** - Unless otherwise stated operator is **STAGECOACH** (Yorkshire Traction) and the start/change date is **27 January 2007**.

svc.1A (Staincross-Mapplewell-Athersley North-Barnsley) - New MALLINSON ("Tate's Travel") Monday-Friday hourly daytime registration from 29 January.

svc.18 (Barnsley-Staincross) - MALLINSON timetable to be amended from 29 January (initially registered as 5 February): most journeys will run 5 minutes earlier; two Saturday journeys withdrawn - 1627 ex-Staincross & 1700 ex-Barnsley.

svc.20 (Barnsley-Penistone-Huddersfield) - Re-routed on journeys from Huddersfield via Peel Street in the town centre.

svc.29 (Denby Dale-Penistone-Sheffield) - Operation passes from FIRST SOUTH YORKSHIRE to STAGECOACH from 28 January and will be worked by Barnsley-based vehicles from the Penistone outstation.

svc.33 (Barnsley-South Hiendley) - 1705 Barnsley-Shafton journey to depart at 1655.

svc.63/64 (Barnsley-Worsbrough Bank End) - Re-routed from 11 December 2006 in Kendray via Birk Terrace to serve the new Health Centre.

svc.64 (Barnsley-Kendray) - Minor timetable changes.

svc.67/67A (Barnsley-Hoyland/Wombwell-Barnsley) - As svc.63/64 above.

svc.68 (Barnsley-G<sup>t</sup> Houghton) - As svc.63/64 above.

svc.69 (Barnsley-Darfield) - As svc.63/64 above.

svc.92 (Barnsley-Cawthorne) - BARNSELY & DISTRICT (B&D) registration cancelled.

svc.211 (Barnsley-Doncaster) - Revised Monday-Friday timetable:  
0740 Barnsley-Doncaster to run at 0730.

svc.212 (Barnsley-Doncaster) - Revised timetable with Monday-Friday  
0700 ex-Barnsley journey running up to 15 minutes later.

svc.226 (Barnsley-Thurnscoe) - Monday-Friday 0740 ex-Barnsley Hospital  
to start from Barnsley Interchange at 0750.

svc.265 (Barnsley-Sheffield) - Exchange of evening & Sunday running between Barnsley

= 7 =

- and Chesterfield depots; re-routed in central Sheffield via Waingate & Haymarket.  
svc.412 (Barugh Green-Barnsley) - GLOBE HOLIDAYS route & timetable  
to be revised from 16 February.
- svc.451 (Barnsley-St Michael's Sch.) - Revised LINBURG TOURING timetable from 4  
January.
- svc.455 (Shafton Green-Willowgarth School) - B&D registration cancelled.
- svc.472 (Grimethorpe-Cudworth) - B&D registration cancelled.
- svc.662 (Hoyland Common-Wath, [Pope Pius School]) - B&D registration cancelled.
- svc.662/667 (Hoyland Common-Wath, [Pope Pius School]) - Revised timetable.
- svc.X33 (Bradford-Barnsley-Sheffield) - ARRIVA YORKSHIRE registration cancelled.
- Doncaster** - Unless otherwise stated operator is **FIRST SOUTH YORKSHIRE**,  
and the start/change date is **28 January**.
- svc.16 (Doncaster-Balby) - Revised timetable evening & Sunday timetable  
with most journeys running 5 minutes earlier.
- svc.19/19A (Doncaster-Balby) - As svc.16 above .
- svc.42 (Doncaster-Scawsby) - Minor STAGECOACH Monday-Friday timetable changes  
from 27 January: ex-Doncaster 0725 & 0755 to run at 0720 & 0745 respectively; ex-  
Scawsby 0735 withdrawn, 0805 to run at 0755.
- svcs.49 (Doncaster-Sprotbrough) - Minor STAGECOACH morning peak timetable changes  
from 27 January with the 0745 ex-Doncaster round trip running 10 minutes earlier.
- svc.50/50A (Doncaster-Skellow) - As svc.16 above .
- svc.57 (Doncaster-Cantley) - Monday-Saturday early evening headway will be 20 minutes;  
Bessacarr journeys will start/finish at Warning Tongue Lane railway bridge.
- svc.59 (Doncaster-Cantley) - Revised timetable; route extended in Bessacarr  
to start/finish at Warning Tongue Lane railway bridge.
- svc.62 (Doncaster-Bentley) - STAGECOACH timetable to be reduced to off-peak provision  
from 27 January with early morning & late afternoon journeys being withdrawn.
- svc.63 (Doncaster-Bentley) - Registration cancelled (see svcs.64/64A & 76).
- svc.64/64A (Doncaster-Arksey) - Revised timetable: 0850 svc.64 ex-Doncaster replaced by  
a svc.64A journey from Kendal Road at 0900 Monday-Friday or 0850 Saturday;  
additional journeys introduced at 2100, 2200 & 2300 (to replace svc.63A).
- svc. 66 (Doncaster-Intake) - Revised timetable with 20 minute evening & Sunday headway.
- svc.72 (Doncaster-Doncaster Leisure Park) - Monday-Friday 0813 Catesby Park-  
Doncaster journey withdrawn.
- svc.76 (Doncaster-Clay Lane) - Route extended to Bentley (replacing svc.63);  
extra evening journeys introduced (replacing svc.84A).
- svc.78A (Doncaster-Woodlands) - Revised timetable with departures 5 minutes earlier.
- svc.84 (Doncaster-Hatfield) - Revised timetable with additional svc.84 journeys  
replacing svc.84A (see also svc.76).
- svc.149 (Doncaster-Mexborough) - Revised STAGECOACH timetable from 27 January with  
the 0820 Doncaster-High Melton journey running at 0825 and the 0800 High

= 8 =

Melton-Doncaster journey at 0750.

- svc.204 (Doncaster-Tickhill) - WILFREDA-BEEHIVE route revised to use Duke St on journeys towards Doncaster from 31 January.
- svc.211 (Doncaster-Barnsley) - See under BARNLSLEY heading, page 6.
- svc.212 (Doncaster-Barnsley) - See under BARNLSLEY heading, page 6.
- svc.396/397 (Doncaster-Rotherham) - POWELLS BUS svc.397 replaced by revised svc.396 which will also cover svc.398 (see below 6).
- svc.398 (Doncaster-Conisbrough) - POWELLS BUS registration cancelled but the provision will be partly replaced by revisions to svc.396 (see above 6).
- svc.432 (Skellow-Adwick Comprehensive School) - Revised STAGECOACH timetable from 27 January with the 1455 ex-Adwick withdrawn.
- svc.X78 (Doncaster-Rotherham-Meadowhall-Sheffield) - Revised timetable: increased journey times at peaks; a 9-minute Monday-Saturday daytime headway. Provision also re-registered as a through route rather than being on the Doncaster-Meadowhall & Meadowhall-Sheffield split registrations.
- svc.X92 (Doncaster-Rotherham-Meadowhall) - STAGECOACH timetable & route changes from 27 January; re-routed in Denaby Main to serve Harrogate Drive.

**Rotherham** - Unless otherwise stated operator is **FIRST SOUTH YORKSHIRE**, and the start/change date is **28 January**.

- svc.1A (Rotherham-Maltby) - Revised timetable: morning departures from Rotherham will leave 5 minutes earlier; 1635 ex-Ravenfield will depart at 1640.
- svc.3 (Rotherham-Ravenfield) - Re-routed between Rotherham & Brecks via Moorgate, Oakwood & Whiston (not via Stag) to restore the link between Rotherham Hospital and the Flanderwell & Sunneyside areas; revised timetable.
- svc.4 (Rotherham-Ravenfield Common) - Revised timetable with a Monday-Saturday daytime headway of 30 minutes.
- svc.10A (Rotherham-Maltby) - Operation of the Monday-Friday 2115 ex-Rotherham journey will pass from FSY to TM TRAVEL.
- svc.21 (Rotherham-Sheffield) - Most journeys will be slightly re-timed.
- svc.23/23A-C (Rotherham-Sheffield) - Svcs.23/23A/23B re-routed via Loughton Common; 0502 svc.23B ex-Sheffield and 0540 Dinnington-Rotherham journeys replaced by svc.23C running.
- svc.24 (Rotherham-Sheffield) - Revised timetable.
- svc.25 (Rotherham-Dinnington) - Revised route & timetable: in Dinnington diverted via Littlefields R<sup>d</sup>, Undergate R<sup>d</sup>, Outgang L<sup>n</sup>, Loughton R<sup>d</sup> & New St<sup>l</sup> in both directions to serve Dinnington College.
- svc.27/27A (Rotherham-Killamarsh) - Svc.27 will no longer run to/from Killamarsh, being curtailed to run half-hourly Rotherham-Crystal Peaks with a revised route in Swallownest/Aston; svc.27A withdrawn.
- svc.28 (Killamarsh-Crystal Peaks-Meadowhall) - Re-routed between Crystal Peaks & Sothall

via Orchard L<sup>n</sup> (withdrawn from Grange R<sup>d</sup>); withdrawn from High Moor & Norwood in Killamarsh; revised timetable with additional journeys on schooldays to serve Westfield School and on Saturdays.

- svcs.43/43A (Greasbrough-Meadowhall) - Revised timetables include an additional Monday-Friday svc.43A 2010 Meadowhall-Rotherham journey.
- svc.66 (Rotherham-Chapelton-Sheffield) - Provision re-registered as a through route rather than being on split registrations (Rotherham-Chapelton & Chapelton-Sheffield); revised timetable to co-ordinate with svc.17 departures from Sheffield.
- svc.69 (Rotherham-Sheffield) - Revised evening & Sunday timetable to give better co-ordination with svc.130 running between Tinsley & Sheffield.
- svcs.70/70A (Rotherham/Meadowhall-Crystal Peaks) - Revised timetable on expiry of contract with provision reduced to certain busier journeys being retained on a commercial basis; svc.70A runs up to minutes later.
- svc.122 (Rotherham-Maltby) - POWELLS BUS registration cancelled but provision replaced by TM TRAVEL (TMT) Rotherham-Dinnington service which also replaces svc.251 between Firbeck & Dinnington.
- svc.130 (Rotherham-Sheffield) - Revised timetable: additional Monday-Friday journeys at 0800 Meadowhall-Brinsworth & 0900 Canklow-Sheffield; Saturday afternoon journeys will depart Sheffield earlier.
- svc.133 (Rotherham-Sheffield) - Revised timetable with the 0808 ex-Sheffield journey starting from Catcliffe at 0827.
- svc.251 (Dinnington-Crystal Peaks) - Revised TMT route with the Gildingwells-Dinnington section being withdrawn (see svc.122 above); additional journey to High Moor introduced - see svc.27 under the SHEFFIELD heading on page 10.
- svc. 287/X7 (Bawtry/Cedar Drive-Sheffield) - Svc.287 Saturday afternoon journeys will depart earlier; all svc.X7 morning journeys will depart 5 minutes earlier and the 1745 evening journey will run at 1755.
- svc.397 (Rotherham-Doncaster) - See under DONCASTER heading, page 8.
- svc.662/667 (Wath, [Pope Pius Sch]- Hoyland Common) - See under 'BARNESLEY', page 7.
- svc.676 (Maltby-St Bernards School) - POWELLS BUS registration cancelled.
- svc.M92 (Harley-Warren-Chapelton-Ecclesfield-Fox Hill-Grenoside) - From 29 January 2007, wholly contracted Monday-Friday hourly operation passes from FSY to POWELLS BUS.
- svc.X2 (Laughton-Sheffield) - Re-routed in Dinnington via Outgang L<sup>n</sup>; timetable reduced to 2 journeys to Sheffield and 1 to Laughton.
- svc.X78 (Sheffield-Meadowhall-Rotherham-Doncaster) - See under 'DONCASTER', page 8.
- svc.X92 (Meadowhall-Rotherham-Doncaster) - See under DONCASTER heading, page 8.
- Sheffield** - Unless otherwise stated operator is **FIRST SOUTH YORKSHIRE (FSY)**, and the start/change date is **28 January 2007**.
- svc.1 (Hillsborough-Meadowhall-Jordanthorpe) - Revised evening & Sunday timetable as a

= 10 =

- consequence of interworked svc.33 passing to TM TRAVEL (TMT) - see below; will improve the spacing of svc.1 & 7 buses on the Darnall-Manor Top section of route.
- svc.3 (City-Millhouses) - Contracted evening & Sunday operation to pass from FSY to TMT.
- svc.7 (Shirecliffe-City-Darnall) - Revised timetable with evening & Sunday operation reduced to contracted hourly headway but buses on svcs.7 & 33 will be evenly spaced on the Shirecliffe-City section; Monday-Friday 0735 journey from Shirecliffe will run at 0730.
- svc.10 (Manor Park-Royal Hallamshire Hospital-Upperthorpe) - Major route revisions to SHEFFIELD COMMUNITY TRANSPORT (SCT) provision from 29 January: to be re-routed between Manor Park & Manor Top serve Raynald Rd; from Upperthorpe will be extended back to City via Netherthorpe as a partial replacement for svc.32; from City will then run via Skye Edge to Manor Park as a partial replacement for svc.M29.
- svc.13/14 (Woodhouse-City-Wisewood/Loxley) - Revised timetable on contracted Saturday early morning, all evening & Sunday journeys.
- svc.17 (Meadowhall-Hillsborough-City) - To be re-timed with additional evening & Sunday journeys; re-routed via Yew Lane in Parson Cross (to replace svc.78).
- svc.21 (Sheffield-Rotherham) - See under ROTHERHAM heading, page 8.
- svc.22 (Nether Edge-City-Wybourn) - Revised Monday-Friday morning peak timetable (to improve punctuality) and additional Sunday journeys introduced (20 minute headway).
- svc.23/23A-C (Sheffield-Rotherham) - See under ROTHERHAM heading, page 8.
- svc.24 (Sheffield-Rotherham) - See under ROTHERHAM heading, page 8.
- svc.27 (Crystal Peaks-Killamarsh) - TMT evening journeys withdrawn and replaced by a single additional Monday-Saturday journey on svc.251 at 1920 ex-Crystal Peaks to High Moor, extended via Mansfield Rd to terminate at Norwood roundabout at 1940.
- svc.27/27A (Killamarsh-Rotherham) - See under ROTHERHAM heading, page 8.
- svc.28 (Meadowhall-Crystal Peaks-Killamarsh) - See under ROTHERHAM heading, page 8.
- svc.29 (Sheffield-Penistone-Denby Dale) - See under BARNSELEY heading, page 6.
- svc.30 (Dore-City-Crystal Peaks/Plumbley) - Revised route & timetable from 3 January to serve the new Westfield School site on Eckington Road. From the 29<sup>th</sup>, route generally curtailed to run Dore-City-Crystal Peaks except that Plumbley will continue to be served Monday-Saturday evenings & peak hours as well as Sundays.
- svc.31 (City-Hillsborough) - Wholly contracted operation to pass from FSY to SCT.
- svc.32 (City-Hillsborough) - Registration cancelled but from 29 January the route will be partially covered by an extended SCT svc.10 (see above).
- svc.33 (Hillsborough-City-Norton Lees) - Evening & Sunday contracted Hillsborough-City-Chancet Wood running to pass from FSY to TMT on a revised timetable.
- svc.41/741 (Hallamshire Hospital-City-Halfway) - Revised Monday-Friday morning peak timetable (including the withdrawal of svc.741 owing to the re-locating of Westfield School); revised Monday-Saturday evening timetable.
- svc.43 (City-Jordanthorpe) - Contracted daily operation passes from FSY to TMT.
- svc.53 (Ecclesfield-City-Low Edges/Bradway) - Improved Monday-Saturday mid-evening

- timetable on a 20 minute headway to suit Bassett's shift workers finishing at 2200.
- svcs.57/58 (City-Oughtibridge-Deepcar-Stocksbridge) - Evening & Sunday contracted operation to pass from FSY to STAGECOACH (Ecclesfield).
- svc.60 (City-Fulwood) - Timing changes within the 'frequent intervals' part of the timetable.
- svc.66 (Sheffield-Chapeltown-Rotherham) - See under ROTHERHAM heading, page 9.
- svc.69 (Sheffield-Rotherham) - See under ROTHERHAM heading, page 9.
- svcs.70/70A (Crystal Peaks-Meadowhall/Rotherham) - See under 'ROTHERHAM', page 9.
- svc.75/76 (Jordanthorpe/Low Edges-City-Ecclesfield/High Green) - Revised evening & Sunday timetables will improve bus spacing in the Chapeltown & High Green areas.
- svc.77 (City-Chapeltown/High Green) - Revised timetable & route; most Monday-Saturday daytime journeys will run to/from High Green in response to public demand; evening & Sunday journeys will serve Bevan Way and show '77A'.
- svc.78 (City-Parson Cross) - Registration cancelled "owing to poor demand" but certain areas (eg Yew Lane) will be served by a revised svc.17 route (see page 10).
- svc.80 (City-Endcliffe-University of Sheffield) - Confirmed as running 'term time only'; revised timetable introducing later evening journeys from 29 January.
- svc.81/82 (Stannington-City-Bents Green) - Svc.82 Monday-Friday 0750 journey extended to/from Ringinglow; revised early morning Sunday timetable with contracted journeys being replaced by fewer commercial ones.
- svc.82 (City-Ecclesall-City) - Revised POWELLS BUS timetable ex-City with the 0935 now running on schooldays but the 1535 running only in the school holidays .
- svc.84 (City-Ringinglow) - 1720 journey round trip from City re-timed to 1740.
- svc.97/98 (Totley/Totley Brook-City-Ecclesfield) - Amended registration to reflect the correct directions in which the routes run around Ecclesfield.
- svc.123 (Crystal Peaks-Woodhouse-City-Walkley) - Contracted STAGECOACH evening & Sunday provision introduced over the City-Woodhouse section to replace svcs. 723/732 which were operated by FSY.
- svc.130 (Sheffield-Rotherham) - See under ROTHERHAM heading, page 9.
- svc.133 (Sheffield-Rotherham) - See under ROTHERHAM heading, page 9.
- svc.218 (Sheffield-Buxton) - Revised intermediate timing at Totley on journeys towards Sheffield to improve punctuality.
- svc.251 (Crystal Peaks-Dinnington) - See under ROTHERHAM heading on page 9 and also svc.27 on page 10.
- svc.265 (Sheffield-Chapeltown-Barnsley) - See under BARNESLEY heading, page 6.
- svc.285 (Sheffield-Dronfield) - Slightly revised TMT timetable includes the 1555 journey from Dronfield Station being reduced to running on schooldays only.
- svc. 287/X7 (Sheffield-Bawtry/Cedar Drive) - See under ROTHERHAM heading, page 9.
- svc.293 (Meadowhall/Sheffield-Dronfield-Chesterfield/Royal Hospital) - Revised TMT timetable & route: will no longer run between Chesterfield town centre and the Royal Hospital; most buses will terminate in Sheffield and not serve Meadowhall; the

= 12 =

Monday-Friday provision will have a more regular headway; additional journeys will be introduced on Saturdays.

- svc.634 (Heeley-Newfield School) - Revised LINBURG TOURING timetable from 4 January with the morning journey running 10 minutes earlier and the afternoon one 65 minutes earlier.
- svc.635 (Hemsworth-Newfield School) - As svc.634.
- svc.645 (Heeley Bank R<sup>d</sup>/Lowfields-Newfield School) - As svc.634 for LINBURG TOURING departures; POWELLS BUS registration cancelled.
- svc.664 (Rivelin Valley R<sup>d</sup>-Bradfield School) - Revised LINBURG TOURING timetable from 4 January.
- svc.676 (Hemsworth-All Saints School) - POWELLS BUS registration cancelled.
- svc.723/732 (City-Woodhouse Circles) - Registration cancelled (see svc.123).
- svc.730 (Mosborough [Westfield Sch]-Sothall) - Revised route (Moor Valley-Sothall) & timetable from 3 January 2007 to suit the re-located school.
- svc.751 (Tupton School, Darwin Lane-City) - Registration cancelled on expiry of contract.
- svc.M17 (Jordanthorpe-Dore) - Contracted operation passes from STAGECOACH (Chesterfield) to SCT from 29 January.
- svc.M22 (City-Firth Park) - Contracted operation passes from STAGECOACH (Ecclesfield) to POWELLS BUS from 29 January.
- svc.M29 (Broomhall-City-Manor Park) - FSU service withdrawn but from 29 January the City-Manor Park section will be partially replaced by extended SCT svc.10 (see page 10).
- svcs.M49/50 (Firth Park locals) - STAGECOACH (Chesterfield) service withdrawn on expiry of contract.
- svc.M92 (Grenoside-Foxhill-Ecclesfield-Chapeltown-Warren-Harley) - See under ROTHERHAM heading, page 9.
- svc.P1/P2 (Southey Green CrossLink) - Revised SCT provision from 29 January will include a revised route between Longley & Firvale to serve Firth Park.
- svc.X2 (Sheffield-Laughton) - See under ROTHERHAM heading, page 9.
- svc.X33 (Sheffield-Barnsley-Bradford) - See under BARNSELEY heading, page 7.
- svc.X78 (Sheffield-Meadowhall-Rotherham-Doncaster) - See under 'DONCASTER', page 8.
- svc.X92 (Meadowhall-Rotherham-Doncaster) - See under DONCASTER heading, page 8.

**NATIONAL EXPRESS** will introduced revised timetables from 5 March on a number of services including the 240 (Bradford-Sheffield-Heathrow-Gatwick) & 312 (Rotherham-Blackpool).

**DIVERTED SERVICES ETC.** In the run up to Christmas 2006 and New Year 2007, Police in Doncaster closed Silver Street and made Hall Gate one-way outbound in a bid to improve public safety for the large number of revellers. These overnight restrictions were in place from 1900 to 0400 next morning on Fridays & Saturdays 8/9 & 15/16 December 2006, and also Fridays-Sundays 22-24 & 29-31 December 2006. Accordingly it was necessary to

= 13 =

divert buses on certain services as detailed below.

- svcs.76 & 84A inbound: as normal to Nether Hall R<sup>d</sup> then via Market R<sup>d</sup> & Greyfriars R<sup>d</sup> to the Interchange.
- svcs.76 & 84A outbound: as normal to Danum Corner then via Hall Gate, Princes S<sup>t</sup> & East Laith Gate to join the normal route at Sunny Bar.
- svcs.66, 81/82, 84, 87 & 88 inbound: via Thorne R<sup>d</sup> to Odeon then via Waterdale & Wood S<sup>t</sup>. (Unaffected outbound.)
- svcs.55B & 205 inbound: via Waterdale & Wood S<sup>t</sup>. (Unaffected outbound.)

Over in Sheffield, Eckington R<sup>d</sup> at Beighton was closed from 0830 on Friday 8 December 2006 to 0730 on the 11<sup>th</sup> for highway works associated with the new Westfield School site. During this period buses were diverted in both directions via Ringwood D<sup>r</sup>, Ringwood A<sup>v</sup> & Ringwood R<sup>d</sup>. Buses on svc.27A were additionally diverted via Hartland A<sup>v</sup> to and from Owlthorpe Greenway.

Back in the Doncaster area, Church Street in Conisbrough was closed from 0700-1700 on Saturday 9 December 2006 to permit a Christmas market to be held. During the closure buses on svc.X78 were diverted as follows:

- towards Doncaster as normal through Conaby to Conisbrough Library then via West S<sup>t</sup> & High S<sup>t</sup> to join the normal route on Castle S<sup>t</sup>;
- from Doncaster as normal to Church S<sup>t</sup> then via Wellgate & Elm Green L<sup>n</sup> to join the normal route on Old R<sup>d</sup>.

Still in the Doncaster area, Arksey level crossing was closed from 2230 on Saturday 9 December 2006 until 0915 on the 10<sup>th</sup>. This caused the 2300 departure on svc.63A to run via the svc.63 route.

Back in Sheffield, part of Southey Green Road was closed from 0800 on Saturday 9 December 2006 to late on the 10<sup>th</sup> to permit traffic calming features to be introduced. Buses were diverted via Crowder R<sup>d</sup>, Herries A<sup>v</sup>, Herries D<sup>r</sup>, Herries R<sup>d</sup>, Moonshine L<sup>n</sup> & Southey Green R<sup>d</sup> in both directions.

Heavy traffic and a number of minor incidents, including broken-down vehicles at two strategic junctions, resulted in Sheffield City Centre becoming gridlocked around 1700 on 14 December 2006. Buses were inevitably delayed for a considerable time with progress up High Street being noted as only a third of a mile/hour as late as 1900 - the congestion had cleared by 2000. However, the northbound side of Waingate was closed for a time around 2025 when a pedestrian was in collision with First South Yorkshire Volvo 62235 which was working svc.22 to Wybourn.

And a number of minor incidents - including two broken down vehicles on Sheaf Street - resulted in severe congestion in Sheffield during the evening peak on the 15<sup>th</sup> too.

Sunderland Street & Market Place, the two main roads in Tickhill, were closed on 24 December 2006 between 1845 & 2000 for a Parish Council event. This meant that svc.22 buses had to be diverted in both directions from Common L<sup>n</sup> & Alderson D<sup>r</sup> via Harworth and Styrrup to Oldcotes.

= 14 =

The A629 Cowley Hill was closed between Nether Lane & Smithy Wood Road (to the west of M1 jct.35) over the weekend of 5-8 January. This, to permit the demolition of the old coking plant haul road bridge over the A629, was from 1900 on Friday the 5<sup>th</sup> to 0700 on Monday the 8<sup>th</sup>. As the road was closed to pedestrians as well as vehicular traffic, a 24-hour free minibus service was provided around the closure. The through buses on svc.66 are thought to have diverted via the M1 from jct.35 to 35a then through the Warren area to the A6135 to rejoin the normal route at Chapelton.

**DISRUPTED SUPERTRAM SERVICES.** On 2 December 2006, a broken down bus - Stagecoach Sheffield 33234 - blocked the tramway near to the City Hall tramstop. For a time from around 1115, BLUE & YELLOW route trams were being turned at Cathedral and Shalesmoor.

Re-the page 13 and the notes relating to 14 December 2006, because trams were being held up in the general traffic jam on West Street, provision was being maintained between City and Meadowhall (YELLOW route) or Halfway (BLUE route) by shuttle services with trams at Cathedral.

A broken down lorry outside the Co-op on Middlewood Road blocked the tramway and disrupted YELLOW route trams for a time on 18 December 2006, possibly from around 1000 until 1245.

=====



= FLEETNEWS =



= FLEETNEWS =



**'ARRIVA YORKSHIRE GROUP'**. Further to *M&T 504*, Castleford [CF] still had Arriva Midlands North 2030 (J327VAW) on loan on 1 December 2006 when it was seen in Tingley having failed. An internal loan from November 2006 saw DAF 461 going from Belle Isle [BI] to Heckmondwike [HE].

LED destination displays have been fitted to Optare Spectra 636 and Volvo B7TLs 662 & 671/4. Dennis Dart 186 has been repainted into wartime grey complete with 'Yorkshire' fleetnames and appeared thus on 8 December 2006, but 186 will reportedly receive 1940s maroon livery early in 2007.

**B LINE TRAVEL ('B Line', Royston)** has withdrawn MCW Metroriders E758XWL & F186-YDA, Freight-Rover 'Sherpa' D912PRJ and Ford Transit E576MCK. An addition to the fleet is N477RNR, a Mercedes-Benz 711D with LCB bodywork which was new to Wakefield MBC but was acquired via LOCKWOOD ('BL Travel', Kinsley). Also acquired is J955-SBU, a Dennis Dart/Northern Counties, which came from Munroe (Jedburgh).

**BAILEY, T. ('Trevor Bailey Travel', Kirkby-in-Ashfield).** Noted at Meadowhall on 19 December 2006 was C6CBT, a Hestair-Duple 425 integral which carries a Van Hool T9 dash panel. It is thought that this coach may be L1L8542 (new as 'J81CRR') re-registered; the previous C6CBT was a Dennis Javelin/Marcopolo new as 'P550BAY'.

**BANNISTER ('Isle Coaches', Owston Ferry).** Leyland Titan A859SUL has been sold

and is now with Chapman (Leicester).

**BASSI TRAVEL Ltd (Huddersfield)** sold Mercedes-Benz/Reebur SIL5309 at the BCA auction held at Belle Vue (Manchester) on 18 December.

**CLARCK ('Central Coach Tours', Wickersley).** During December 2006, Mercedes-Benz M643CTL was being offered for sale at a yard in the Parkgate area of Rotherham. It still carried Clark's livery and retained full legal lettering.

For the record, sold ACE Puma/Plaxton E923LCP was new to Stanton (Cannock).

**CLARKSON (South Elmsall).** Aüwaerter Neoplan Starliners YR02UOC/F and Euroliner YN51XMO were being offered for sale by dealer Evobus UK (Coventry) in mid-December 2006. Previously sold Mercedes-Benz R626ECT has passed from Simpson (Rosehearty) to Petrie (Forfar).

**COOPER (Killamarsh).** Restored ex-Glenton (London) AEC Reliance 6MU4R/Plaxton C32C JMC121K was noted on site on 24 December 2006. This coach may have been acquired, having been recently advertised for sale in the trade press.

**CT PLUS (Yorkshire) Ltd. (Wakefield).** BMC Condor 220 57-seat schoolbus BC012 is registered YJ56XSR - previous notes refer. The other 'missing' vehicle - BC014 - is expected to enter service early this year.

**DAVID PALMER COACHES Ltd ('David Palmer', Normanton)** has sold EOS coaches NIL6921 (new as 'F101UNV') & NIL9982 (new as 'H447VHN') and Volvo/Plaxton PIB277. Further to previous notes: Toyota/Caetano 'M490HBC' has been re-registered to M444DPC; LDV/Jubilee 16seater 'M75RJW' is now registered JAZ6795.

The following have been added to the fleet:

M111DPC	EOS E180Z	EOS C48Ft	- new as 'T107AUA', ex-Arriva Hire;
M222DPC	EOS E180Z	EOS C49Ft	- new as 'M635RCP';
S129SJV	Mercedes-Benz 614D	Autobus C19F	- ex-Todd (Reddish);
MX03OYU	LDV Convoy	Concept M16	- ex-Martin (Normanton);
YJ05PYG	DAF DE40XSSB4000	Van Hool C51Ft.	

**DAYS COACHES (Kilnhurst).** Former Dennis Javelin/Duple E41SBO was being offered for sale by Invincible Coach Sales (Tamworth) in late 2006.

**DEWHIRST (Bradford)** has sold Volvo/Plaxton 4239KR (new as 'K573JUB') and DAF/Van Hool L539EHD to RIGBY (Drighlington).

**DOYLE (Alfreton)** used route 147 branded Dennis Dart KU52JYS on svc.213/214 into Sheffield on 13/18 December 2006, whilst a step-entrance Mercedes-Benz - possibly former TRENT S287UAL - was noted on the 27<sup>th</sup>.

**DUNN-LINE GROUP UK Ltd (Nottingham).** The four 12.6m long Optare Tempos for

= 16 =

Nottinghamshire work are YJ56WVS-WVV which wear red & grey Veolia livery and are to B49F+22 layout. On 24 December 2006, 'Nottingham College' lettered MAN/MCV Evolution 5414 (AE54MVZ) was being used on Doncaster-Finningley svc.191.

**FIRST PMT** has received further Scania L94UB low-floors from First Manchester, all with Wright Access Foline bodies: 60169-71 (S916-918SSF) to B40F layout; 60176/90 (V124/138DND) which are B42F; 61143 (S361MFP) which is B40F.

**FIRST SOUTH YORKSHIRE.** It is reported, but not confirmed, that 6 Optare Solos are expected at Olive Grove [OG] in January. Official fleet changes to 30 December 2006 (Period 9 of the 2006/2007 year) were as shown below.

- 'New' to Commercial Unit [CU] for preparation - Volvo B6LE/Wrights 40448 (M918MRW) & 40483/4 (N446/7BKY) from First Devon & Cornwall.
- 'New' to service from CU - Volvo B6LEs 40480/1/6 to Doncaster [DO];  
- Leyland Lynx 62612 to Training School.
- Withdrawn to reserve- Volvo B6 40466 & Volvo B10M 60498 from Rotherham [RO];  
- Dennis Dart 40977 from Olive Grove [OG].
- For disposal, ex-Reserve - Volvo B6 40466 & Volvo B10M 60498.
- Transferred within FSY - Volvo B10M 60495 from DO to RO.

Further information and observed changes include the following:

- Former FSY Scania 60754/5/8 appear to be allocated to First Berkshire's Slough depot.
- In the week commencing 4 December 2006, Leyland Lynx 62612 (S612RTC) joined the training fleet. This is a LX2R11C15Z4R model which was new to B49F layout.
- Re-acquired Volvo B6BLE 40480 arrived at DO on 6 December 2006 and entered service on the 7<sup>th</sup>. This allowed Volvo B10M 60495 to be returned off loan to RO.
- On 8 December 2006, re-acquired Volvo B6BLE 40486 arrived at DO but did not enter service (on the 65) until the 14<sup>th</sup>.
- Dennis Dart/Wright 40977 was taken out of service at OG on 17 December 2006.
- Re-acquired Volvo B6BLE 40488 had arrived at DO by 21 December 2006.
- On 22 December 2006, Volvo Olympian 34106 arrived at DO having been converted to single-door (H47/31F?).
- An unidentified OG-based Volvo Olympian/Northern Counties was noted being attended to by the Fire Service at around 0830 on 3 January 2007 on the A625 Hathersage Road between Sheephill Rd & Stoney Ridge Rd. The bus, which was en route towards Fox House, appeared to have suffered a fire in the engine compartment.
- Also by 3 January, open-top Bristol VRT 39909 & Leyland PD2 '1156' had been moved from OG to Halfway.
- Dennis Falcon/Northern Counties 90096 has been sold to 'Barrels & Bottles' (Sheffield) but was still at RO in early January.
- Re-acquired Volvo B6LE/Wright 40448 had entered service at DO by 5 January.

Recent repaints into First corporate livery include: Volvo Olympian 34106; Volvo B6

= 17 =

40467; Volvo B6BLEs 40448/86; Volvo B10Ms 60547/81; Volvo B10BLE 60638. Regarding recent repaints, the following B10BLEs lost their route branding when repainted: 60638 (Line 1/2), 60680 (52) & 60694 (51). Volvo B7TL 30571 carried dark red full-height rear advert for 'Meadowhall Christmas' throughout December 2006 whilst similar 30574 has a rear advert for 'Grand Theft Auto'.

Re-M&T 504: Volvo B7TL 37150 and B7Ls 61202/5 have also been noted showing 'reversed' black-on-yellow destination displays when working Sheffield svc.80; B10M 60477 - and other buses on the 80 - has been noted showing the usual 'SORRY NOT IN SERVICE' rather than 'PRIVATE'.

Further to the *And finally* piece in *BACKCHAT 331*, at least 4 ex-London Volvo Olympians - 34211/2/9 & 34240 - retain the scrolling advert on the 'BUS STOPPING' sign for drivers for First London ('phone 0208 801 0974) and show 'STOPPING', 'HOLD TIGHT' when the bell is rung.

In early January, the Commercial Unit at RO was dealing with the following FSY buses: accident damaged Optare Solo 50235, Volvo B10M 60530, Volvo B7Ls 60719 & 60742; preparation of cascaded Volvo B6BLE/Wrights 40483/4 & 40804/34/40; centre-door removal from Leyland Olympian 34097. The Unit was also dealing with: the refurbishment of ex-First Glasgow Volvo Citybuses 30350/77, 31269/70/84 & 31315; accident damaged First London Dennis Dart DML41763 & First Essex Leyland Olympian 34013; London Coaches Volvo/Plaxton 20463 (plus another) for repaint.

The following odd workings have been noted on routes operated by DO & RO:

- 'Step entrance' buses on 'low-floor' routes: 34097 on 66 - 12 December 2006; 40545 on 91 - 14<sup>th</sup>; 40686 on 91 - 15 December.
- Double-deckers on single-deck routes: 34107 on X78 on 9 December 2006; 31778 on 72/75, 34088 on X78 - 12<sup>th</sup>; 34093 on X78 - 13<sup>th</sup>; 34101 on X78 - 14 December.
- General: 60638 on X78 - 4<sup>th</sup>; 40523/46 on X78 - 7<sup>th</sup>; 40542 on X78, 50232 on 69 - 9<sup>th</sup>; 'Line 41/42' 40533 on 133 - 12<sup>th</sup>; 40479 & 40975 on X78, 50234 on 901 - 13<sup>th</sup>; 40536 failed on X78 and was replaced by 34101, 50234 on 71 & 88 - 14<sup>th</sup>; 40974 on X78 - 15<sup>th</sup>; 31777 & 34100 on X78 - 17<sup>th</sup>; 50236 se 901 - 19 December.

The following odd workings have been noted on Sheffield area routes. Note that svcs. 81/82 were officially designated as 'low-floor' from September 2006.

- 'Step entrance' vehicles on 'low-floor' routes: 60528 on 60, 60608 on 13 - 2 December 2006; 40979 on 81/82, 60541 on 52, 60605 on 75, 60609 on 97 - 4<sup>th</sup>; 30546 on 94, 30557 on 81, 60480 & 60540 on 75, 60538 & 60606 on 52, 60607 on 25A - 5<sup>th</sup>; 60479 on 20, 60530 on 75, 60531 on 53, 60534 on 76 - 6<sup>th</sup>; 50213 on 51, 60535 on 52, 60572 on 20, 60617 on 60 - 7<sup>th</sup>; 60530 on 13, 60603/7 on 52 - 8<sup>th</sup>; 50211 on 22 - 9<sup>th</sup>; 30546 on 41 - 10<sup>th</sup>; 34055 & 60609 on 76, 60568 & 60601 on 25A, 60569 & 60604 on 75, 60603 on 20 - 12<sup>th</sup>; 60536/68 on 75, 60540 on 25A, 60556 on 94, 60603 on 20A - 14<sup>th</sup>; 60538 on 25A, 60573 on 75 - 15<sup>th</sup>; 30553 on 47/48, 60533 on 20, 60538 on 25A, 60570 on 76, 60607 on 52 - 18 December.
- Single-deckers on double-deck routes: 60647 on 41 - 2 December 2006; 60648 on 41 - 6<sup>th</sup>; 34054 on 85, 34055 on 38 - 7<sup>th</sup>; 60620/2 on 41 - 8<sup>th</sup>; 60622 on 41 - 10<sup>th</sup>; 60621/3 on 41 - 12<sup>th</sup>; 60647 on 41 - 14<sup>th</sup>; 60619 on 41 - 15 December.
- Double-deckers on single-deck routes: 31131 on 1/33 - 4<sup>th</sup>; 31130 on 52 - 5<sup>th</sup>; 30574 on 53 - 6<sup>th</sup>;

= 18 =

30871 on 51 - 8<sup>th</sup>; 31786 on 80 - 12<sup>th</sup>; 31141 on 52 - 18 December.

- General: 40979 on 80 - 5<sup>th</sup>; 'Line 41/42' 40535 on 24 - 6<sup>th</sup>; 40162 on M29, 60664 on 53 showing 'BODDINGTON' instead of 'Ecclesfield' - 12<sup>th</sup>; 'Line 60' 37152 on 75, 'Line 20' 61192 on 52 - 18 December.

**FIRST WEST YORKSHIRE/YORK** placed a large number of 57-seat BMC 220 Condor school buses in service from September 2006: 68649-55 (YJ56LJA/C/E/F/K/N/L), 68656-60 (YJ56LLG/K/M-O), 68661/2 (YJ56LNC/A), 68663 (YJ56LKE), 68664/5 (YJ56LJY/LJZ), 68666-8 (YJ56LKA/C/D), 68669 (YJ56LMX), 68670-2 (YJ56LRU/N/L) & 68673/4 (YJ56WGC/A). Of these: 68649-62 are allocated to Bradford [BD]; 68663-69 & 68671/3/4 to Halifax [HX]; 68670/2 to Huddersfield [HD].

Two withdrawn Leyland Olympians were re-instated in September 2006 - 30646 at BD and 30733 at HX. The following have been withdrawn: Leyland Olympians 30614/32/47/48, 30680, 30721/5, 30744-49 & 30751/69; Dennis Darts 40605/6; Mercedes-Benz 50245; Dennis Lance 60970 - for use as a trainer; trainer Leyland Lynx 62560.

BMC school bus 68521 has been transferred to First Essex. Dealer Erith Commercials has taken Dennis Dart 40089 and Mercedes-Benz 50249/53. Dealer/breaker PVS (Carlton) has taken the following for scrap: Leyland Olympians 30631/32/47/48, 30724/8 & 30775/6/9; Scania 31083/7 & 31100; Mercedes-Benz 50246; Volvo B10BLE 60817 (fire victim).

Recent re-allocations have been from HD to HX: Volvo Olympian 30844; Volvo B10B 60774; Volvo B7RLE 66790; BMC 1100FE 68545.

Repaints into corporate First livery include: Leyland Olympian 31738; Dennis Dart 40612/73; Volvo B10B 60785; Dennis Lances 60960/1; Scania saloons 61035/36/67 & 61106. Volvo B7L 60928 is now in York Park & Ride livery.

On 8 December 2006, 'ftr' 19013 (YJ06XLS) was noted on test in Sheffield City Central at noon & 1400, and also in the Meadowhall area around 1230. It is understood that the bus was in the area for timing trials and also a 'rapid bus transit' working group meeting which was held at the Magna Centre on the 12<sup>th</sup>. The BBC tv's *Look North* program on 3 January 2007 suggested that at least one 'ftr' was in use - or was soon to be used - on Leeds svc.4.

**GELDARD (Leeds)** is reported to have used Routemaster SMK702F in service on  
11 December 2006.

**GLOVERS TRAVEL Ltd ('Glovers of Ashbourne')** has G945JPW, an ex-HULLEY (Baslow) Volvo B10M-60 with Plaxton Paramount C53F/C46Ft coachwork. Re-previous notes, Leyland Tiger C808FMC was once with ASTON EXPRESS (Killamarsh).

For the record, Volvo/Plaxton A143SCW - a former DAY (Kilnhurst) vehicle - was new to Glenton Tours (London) as 'PYT153R' with a Duple Dominant C38C body. It was re-bodied in 1984 with a Plaxton Paramount 3200 C40F body and was re-registered 'A184UJD', later becoming '6682WY'.

**GOODRIDGE ('Ladyline', Rawmarsh).** Volvo/Van Hool F324MGB remains in the old blue & white livery but was unlettered when seen on 19 December 2006. One time

= 19 =

Bova Futura 1083RD ('B899GWJ') has recently been sold for scrap by McCall (Lockerbie).

**GORDON & PARKINSON 'Fourseasons Coaches', Kippax** has disposed of Volvos FTH996W & **K2/3FST**, DAF XX17347 (new as 'TND422X') and Scania A990JEC.

The current fleet only comprises of two coaches:

E210GNV Volvo B10M-61 Jonckheere C57F - originally 'E210GNV' then 'MIB653';  
P920HNA Dennis Javelin Aüwaerter C49Ft.

**HALIFAX BUS CO LTD** has disposed of the following: Ford Transit/Mellor TJ3 (B3TGW, new as 'D121PTT'); Ford Transit/Carlyles TJ7 (TJ19147, new as 'C63LHL'), TJ9 ('B9TJW', new as 'D526HNW'), TJ12 (B12TJW, new as 'D554NOE'), TJ15 ('B15TJW', new as 'D525HNW'), TJ16 ('B16TGW', new as 'C603NPU') & TJ18 ('B18TJW', new as 'D527-HNW'); Ford Transit/Dormobiles TJ8 (TJ19148, new as 'H192EKN'), TJ21 (TJ19146, new as 'G737PGA'), TJ42 (TJ19142, new as 'E624MEH') & TJ44 (TJ19144, new as 'H191EHA'); LDV/Dormobile TJ10 ('B10TJW', new as 'H657XUM'); Mercedes-Benz/Plaxton TJ19 ('B19-TJW', new as 'L868LFS').

Additions to the fleet are: Ford Transit/Crystal B20F TJ7 (TJ19147, new as 'G441-ETW'); Ford Transit/Dormobile B20F TJ8 (TJ19148, new as 'H187GKM'); Mercedes-Benz 709D/Alexander Sprint B23F M164LNC; Mercedes-Benz 811D/Plaxton B29F P939HVZ; Mercedes-Benz 709D/Plaxton B25F vehicles P473APJ & P380KPY (acquired as 'J3SLT'); Iveco Daily 49/UVG B16F R48CNY.

Further to previous notes: withdrawn Ford Transit/Steedrive TJ2 (B2TGW, new as 'F419EVU') has been re-instated, with the 'new' TJ2 ('M309TFR') being briefly re-numbered TJ29 before becoming TJ3 on being re-registered B3TGW; Ford Transit/Crystal TJ7 ('TJ1-9147', new as 'M377ELA') was re-numbered to TJ24 but is now TJ12 and is re-registered B12TJW; Ford Transit/Dormobile TJ15 (B15TJW) was originally registered 'N188EHE'; Mercedes-Benz/Plaxton TJ22 ('N571OUH') has been re-numbered TJ18 and re-registered B18TJW; Iveco Daily/Leicester 'N464NHW' is no.TJ19 and is re-registered B19TJW;

**HARRISON ('Central Cab Co.', Sheffield).** Further to *M&T 504*, two vehicles are used on the Sheffield 'Hospital Connection' service - the previously reported P478DPE and sister vehicle P476DPE another Mercedes-Benz 711D with Plaxton Beaver B27F bodywork.

**HODGSON ('Hoggies', Barnsley)** has a plain white Setra coach registered SIL385.

**HORNSBY TRAVEL SERVICES (Ashby).** Former Dennis Javelin/  
Plaxton Paramount H299GVL is now with Peelings (Tittleshall).

**HOWIE ('Howie of Roberttown', Liversedge)** has AC54ABC, a second Bova Futura.

**HUDSON ('South Yorkshire Motors', Pontefract).** Re-*M&T 501*: Leyland Olympians B87/95SJA are now with A1 (Skelmersdale); Volvo B6/Alexander Dash 206 (L246-CCK) is to DP40F layout.

= 20 =

**HULLEY (*Baslow*)**. Volvo/Plaxton 10 (G945JPW) has passed to  
GLOVERS TRAVEL Ltd (Ashbourne).

**INTEGRATED TRANSPORT GROUP LTD. (*'MASS', North Anston*)** was using a plain white coach registered HKZ1330 on Sheffield schools svc.619 on the afternoon of 5 December 2006. This registration was last reported on withdrawn ex-Leon 162, a DAF SB3000 with Van Hool Alizée coachwork which was new as 'M575RCP'.

**JARVIS (*Maltby*)**. Leyland Tiger/Plaxton JSV468 (new as 'FNM865Y') has recently been sold for scrap by McCall (Lockerbie).

**JOHNSON BROS. (*Hodthorpe*)**. Further to previous notes, we are advised that the most recently acquired Leyland Olympians are additional vehicles for contracts which required double-deckers rather than being replacements for Bristol VRTs.

**JONES, A (*'Alverley Travel', Doncaster*)** had a 2003 model 16-seat Mercedes-Benz Sprint 313 for sale in December 2006.

**KIRKHAM (*"Kirkham's Coaches", Wheatley Hills*)**. Previously sold Leyland Tiger D154-HML has been exported to the Falkland Islands where it is operated by Falkland Islands Tours and Travel (Port Stanley). It carries fleetnumber 17 and registration F 733 E. Volvo/Berkhof MIB986 (new as 'A586RVW') was being offered for sale by Direct Coach Sales in early January.

**LEACH (*'Whitegate Travel', Bawtry*)** has recently advertised a 1997 P-registered 16-seat Fiat Ducato for sale.

**LINBURG TOURING LIMITED (*Sheffield*)** is confirmed as having sold Van Hool/ MAN T815 integral 38 (USU638, new as 'C434RJR').

**LYLES, T&H (*'A Lyles', Batley*)** was offering a 1994 53-seat EOS 90 for sale in late 2006. This is presumably either GSU340 or WIL3619.

**M TRAVEL Ltd (*Normanton*)** has ex-Poynter (Wye) DAF SB220/Optare Deltas G254EHD & G937MYG. Neither were in use in early January.

**MAINLINE/SYT/SYPTE**. Daimler Fleetline/Roe ex-1308 (OET108M) - which was new as ROTHERHAM CT 108 - is being prepared for use in the 2007 season by Toronto ShopDine Tours. The latter has acquired the bus from Piccadilly Circus Club (Toronto). Leyland Atlantean/Alexander CWG694V has been sold for scrap by Watermill (Fraserburgh).

**MALLINSON (*"Tate's Travel", Darton*)** was noted using Dennis Dart/Plaxton K856LGN on the Abbeydale Tesco free bus (svc.505A) on 11 December 2006.

**MARSLAND (*"Alan's Mini Coaches", Rotherham*)**. Further to previous notes: DAF/Plaxton TND401X was still owned in mid-December 2006 - see *M&T 504s*; Iveco/

= 21 =

Beulas X918VWX came from dealer Evobus (Coventry); Volvo/Plaxton JIL3756 was sold to dealer/ breaker Wigley (Carlton) for scrap but was extant in December 2006.

**MAXFIELD (Aughton)** is offering a 1987 53-seat Bova Futura for sale which is thought to be MXI2709 (new as 'D231FOF').

**McEWEN ('McEwan Travel', Mansfield Woodhouse).** Further to previous notes: Leyland Olympian/ECW B266LPH is an ONTL11/1R to H43/29F layout and was ex-Travel-speed (Burnley); Leyland Olympian/N. Counties B82PJA is now H43/30F (ex-H40/30F); Scania/Berkhof G13MCT is a K113CRB which was new as 'J884MBE' and then carried 'WEE584' and 'J884MBE' again; DAF/Van Hool 7842KR is a SB3000KSFB601 now to C51Ft layout which was new as 'L556EHD'; MAN/Berkhof G8MCT is an 11-190 model new as 'N10BSL' which was ex-Neild (Thrapston); Dennis Javelin/Wadham Stringer N602CVP is C47F; Volvo/Plaxton 3553FH is a B10M-62 to C53Ft layout which was new as 'N198DYB' and then carried 'WSV500' & 'N368PYJ'; Mercedes-Benz/Plaxton M50MCT is an O814D to C33F layout which was new as 'S555BUS' and then carried 'S241UPW'; Volvo/Plaxton 'V9-VOL' is actually J9VOL, a B10M-62 to C49Ft layout new as 'X812XEX'; Mercedes-Benz/Excel 'Y474HWE' is now registered G8TRU; Iveco/Sitcar FE52HEP is a CC80E model to C29F layout; Volvo/Plaxton LD04MCT is to C53F layout.

Hitherto unreported additions to the fleet are:

HPN487D	Bedford J2SZ10	Plaxton C20F - preserved;
B157FWJ	Bedford VAS5	Plaxton C27F - ex-Barsby (Mansfield Woodhouse);
R933YBA	Volvo B10M-62	Plaxton C50F - ex-SHEARINGS;
W521EOL	Mercedes-Benz 614D	Crest C24F - new as 'W521WOL' then 'T8GLC', ex-GL Coaches (Linthorpe).

**MILLWARD ('Parkway Coaches', Sheffield)** has sold Volvo/Plaxton B197CGA to an operator in the Durham area and is now offering Bedford/Plaxton C516KMW for sale - *M&T 500* refers.

**NOTTINGHAM CITY TRANSPORT** has withdrawn Volvo Olympian/East Lancs Pyoneer 478 and Scania L113CRL/Wright Access-ultralows 525-7. Volvo B10Bs 603-7 & 610 were sold to dealer Ensign (Purfleet) with 604 then passing to Hedingham Omnibuses. Volvo B10B-58/Alexander Striders 612/5 have been noted with Poynter (Wye).

In December 2006, dealer Stephenson (Rochford) was offering the following ex-NCT single-deckers for sale: 3 P-registered Scania/East Lancs Flyte 53-seaters (640-2?); 2 N-registered Scania/Wrights 47-seaters (two of 523-5?); 2 N-registered Volvo B10M/Alexander PS 48-seaters (two of 767-71?); an N-registered Volvo B10B/Alexander Strider 51-seater (one of 611/3/4?).

**OWEN ('Jagger Coaches', Barnsley)** is reported to have re-registered Bova Futura 'M275-UYD' back to J44GGE. Regarding previous notes, Kässbohrer Setra F891TOY is a S210HL model to C28Ft layout which was new as 'F82GGC' and then carried 'RIB6198'

followed by 'WET880'.

**PEGASUS.COM (Yeadon).** Optare Solo YN53ZWE passed to TEAMDECK (Honley) but was not used and is now with TLC TRAVEL (Bradford).

**PEMBERTON ('Pemberton Coaches', Upton)** has YN56NDV, a Mercedes-Benz Sprinter 413CDi with 16 seat KVC extended body conversion. Similar vehicle YN05RXV has gone in part-exchange.

**PLAXTON (Dealer, South Anston).** On 31 December 2006, the following vehicles of interest were on site: Stagecoach Kent Volvo/Plaxton Paragon GU52WTD in all over white, ex-National Express livery; ex-Ulsterbus Volvo/ Plaxton Premières EAZ2594 & EAZ2956; Go Ahead Oxford Volvo B10B/Wright T815CBW; ex-WALLACE ARNOLD Volvo/ Plaxton Première P324VWR; MARSHALL (Sutton~on~Trent) Volvo/Caetano FJ03VNG; Garnetts of Tindale Crescent TIB4880, a Volvo/Plaxton Excalibur.

**POPPLETON (Pontefract)** has disposed of the following: Leyland Leopard MPG151P; Leyland Tigers BAJ119Y, A704HVT, B877OLJ & B83SWX; MAN DDD7Y; Dennis/Wadham Stringer FOD942Y; Bova Europa 522CTF (new as 'NGE882Y'); Dennis/Northern Counties C219/222WAJ. Additions to the fleet are:  
522CTF Volvo B10M-61 Plaxton C53FI - new as 'E638EFW' then 'YNA887', 'E852HFW', 'WT8355' & 'E801WOK', ex-Wickson (Walsall Wood);  
F29NLE Volvo B10M-46 Plaxton C39F - new as 'F29NLE' then 'MIL9312',  
ex-Young (Bearstead).

**POWELLS BUS (Wickersley).** Further to previous notes: 24 (LIL7769) is a Mercedes-Benz 811D with Reeve Burgess B31F bodywork which was as 'F426GAT'; Setra TIL1397 is a 70-seat S210HD which was new as 'B34AAG' and then carried '74DRH', 'RIA1445', 'RIW8799' & 'B34AAG' again; Volvo/Plaxton L299KKW is a B10M-60 to C53F layout; Volvo/Plaxton L976UBR is a B10M-60 to C51Ft layout which was new as 'L10OAE' then 'ALZ-9219'; Volvo/Plaxton R424FWT is a B10M-62 to C49Ft layout; BMC BX55NYC is a Probus 850 to C35F layout.

**PREMIER (Buxton)** has acquired MK52BGZ (?), a Mercedes-Benz Sprinter, from Alan White ('Minis To Midis'), ex-Corporate Coaching (Watford).

**PRICE (Warmsworth).** Re-previous notes, YX03HRZ is not a Mercedes-Benz but is a 16-seat LDV Convoy.

**PROCTOR ('Wicker Motors, Diamond', Sheffield).** The 828EWB registration which was used by this concern is now on a Volvo B10M/Caetano C49Ft coach with Prentice (West Calder). This particular vehicle was new as 'K594VBC' to Dorset Travel Services.

**RAINE ('M&W Private Hire', Harworth)** has 16-seat Renault Master HN02ETJ.

**REGAN ('Expressway', Wath~Upon~Dearne).** Re-previous notes: W424FWL - originally

= 23 =

reported as a Mercedes-Benz - is actually a Volkswagen LT35 with Concept M3I bodywork; Volvo/Plaxton Y749HWT is to C48Ft layout; Mercedes-Benz YR02PXP is a 614D model to C33F; Mercedes-Benz YR52OEC is a 413CDi with Onyx C16FI body; Mercedes-Benz YR52MDE has a Plaxton body; Mercedes-Benz YN03LPL & YN53CMV have Onyx bodies; Mercedes-Benz YN04WLK is an O814D with a Plaxton C33F body; Mercedes-Benz MX05CWM is an O814D with Onyx C23FI bodywork.

Dennis Javelin/Berkhof R832OJM has been sold, as have the following Mercedes-Benz: Coachcraft-bodied E789RBE, Autobus T87RJL and Onyx L771SWM & P165HKU.

**RIGBY (*Drighlington*)** has disposed of the following: Volvo/Plaxton TIL9737; MCW Metro-liners TJ11703 (new as 'C132CFB') & EAZ3529 (new as 'E668YDT'); Bedfords GHL108N & C470JHS; Mercedes-Benz TCP520X, EAZ3527 (new as 'TKY630Y'), EAZ3528 (new as 'A714XSC') & JIL7909 (new as 'E115DVH'); Bova Futuras RIL2241 (new as 'B145-XFB') & JIW3694 (new as 'C903JOF').

Mercedes-Benz/Crest W529EOL is now C24F, ex-DP18F. Additions to the fleet are:

4239KR	Volvo B10M-60	Plaxton C49Ft	- new as 'K573JUB';
JIW3694	DAF MB230LT615	Van Hool C51Ft	- new as 'L521EHD';
L539EHD	DAF SB3000DKV601	Van Hool C51Ft;	
N625EWD	MAN 11-190	Caetano C35F	- new as '96-D-37352' then 'WT8590';
N743NAY	Dennis Javelin	Marcopolo C70F	- new as 'N742NAY' then 'L8TVL';
P775BJF	Volvo B10M-62	Caetano C49Ft.	

Of the above, 4239KR & L539EHD were ex-DEWHIRST (Bradford); JIW3694 was ex-Arriva Hire Fleet; N625EWD was ex-Brown (Builth Wells); N743NAY was ex-Holcroft (Middleton); P775BJF was ex-Reliant (Heather).

**RIGGOTT, CA (*'Four Square', Kinsley*)** has disposed of the following: Leyland Leopard/Plaxton TVT863R; MCW Metroliner A333BSC; Dennis/Duple CIW708 (new as 'A767HPF'); Leyland Tiger/East Lancs B26ADW; Volvo/Van Hools LIW9272 (new as 'G600-CVC') & VAZ4859 (new as 'G400CVC'); Volvo/Plaxtons GAZ4633 (new as 'G742TEW'), M869EEA & N472MRN; DAF/Caetano G952VBC.

Further to previous notes: Volvo/Plaxton P432JJU is a B10M-62 currently to C49Ft layout which was new as '97-D-29954'; Volvo/Sunsundegui Sideral CE02YRZ is a B12M to C53Ft layout; Scania/Irizar Centurys SK02OZL/OZM are type K114EB4.

**RIGGOTT, C (*'CR Travel', Carlton*)** currently only operates CE52TNK, a 16-seat Renault Master. The following have been sold: Mercedes-Benz/Devon DYA69A (new as 'B77UBU'); Ford Transits E344UKP & K841OBY; Volvo/Plaxton F21CWW; DAF/Van Hool SIB3266 (new as 'F653OHD'); Renault K392NGG; Plaxton 425/Lorraine L346MKU.

**ROBSON (*'Camelot Coaches', Doncaster*)** has sold Bedford/Plaxton EWF209V. Re-previous notes Scania/Van Hool B188VPP is a K112CRS to C49Ft which was new as 'B188VPP' but then carried 'RYX492'.

= 24 =

**ROSS (*Featherstone*)**. Further to previous notes, Bova Futura T868FWW is a FHD12-340.

**SAFEWAY COACHES Ltd (*Batley*)** has disposed of Mercedes-Benz/Reeburs D85SGB & F542MTT plus DAF/Caetano F237RCX. Additions to the fleet are:

L37LRC	Mercedes-Benz 814D	? C26FI	- ex-Hawkins (Mirfield);
P825ADO	Mercedes-Benz 412D	Autobus M16	- ex-Heffernan (West Harrow);
YN04AXB	MAN 18-360	Noge C57F;	
FA04LHX	Volvo B12B	Plaxton C49Ft;	
SF54WAY	Setra S415HD	Kässbohrer C-F.	

DAF/Duple 'D278XCX' has been re-registered to YX13396.

**SCRAFIELD (*'Redmires Travel', Sheffield*)**. Mercedes-Benz Sprinter ML02JBE is a 413CDi with 16-seat Onyx bodywork - previous notes refer.

**SCUTT (*Owston Ferry*)** has disposed of Leyland Tiger/Plaxton JSV365 (new as 'XPP296X'), Dodge/Northern Counties D965PJA and Bedford/Plaxton E833EUT.

**SHARPE (*'JR Sharpe'/'1st Link Minibus', Sheffield*)** has sold Ford Transit N462PJR. LDV Convoy S553UAW is now a 16-seater (ex-12).

**SHARPE & SONS (*Nottingham*)** has two Volvo B10M/Van Hool Alizée T8 coaches registered ACZ103 & LAZ130.

**SHAW (*'Michael Shaw Coaches', Swallownest*)** has sold MAN/Caetano C10NPT. Re-previous notes, Volvo/Caetano Enigma W301SBC is a B10M-62 to C49Ft layout.

**SHEARINGS-WALLACE ARNOLD/NATIONAL HOLIDAYS**. Ex-**Shearings** Volvo/Van Hools W207-209/84JBN and ex-**WA** Volvo/Plaxtons P339/42/5VWR, T529EUB, W648/51FUM & F429DUG (the latter last with Kingswinford Coaches) were all being offered by Volvo Coach Sales (Loughborough) in early December 2006.

On 12 December 2006, dealer Bob Vale (High Wycombe) had ex-**WA** Volvo/Plaxtons F403DUG & N221HWX and Volvo/Van Hool P315VWR, plus ex-**Shearings** Volvo/Van Hools G872RNC & R902YBA.

Ex-**Shearings** Volvo/Van Hool M659KVU is now with Dudleys (Inkberrow) whilst a Van Hool T815 integral now registered XIL8438 is with Peelings (Tittleshall). Volvo/Van Hool N711UVR, latterly with Royale European, was with dealer EvoBus (Coventry) in December 2006; similar M959XST (new as 'M680KVU') is with Marshall (Baillieston), ex-Mathieson (Inverness); J234NNC is with Western Greyhound (Cornwall). Leyland Tiger/Plaxton F705-ENE is with Lindsay (Lochboisdale), ex-Stainthorpe (Skelton); Leyland Tiger/Duple G799-RNC is with McCall (Lockerbie), ex-Roberts (Ruthin). Volvo/Plaxton 'C516DND' was re-registered 'MIL3218' by Milligan (Mauchline) but sold it to Prentice (West Calder) who then re-registered it YSV618. Prentice has recently sold Volvo/Van Hools RIA5991 & 755ABL (new as 'A190MNE' & 'A194MNE' respectively) to Burlinson (Scunthorpe). Volvo/Van Hool 'D551MVR' has passed from Hilton (Newton-le-Willows) to THOMPSON & COPLEY ('JM

Coaches', Royston) as SKY31Y.

Ex-**WA** Volvo/Plaxton N211HWX has passed from Abbey (Neilston) to Ayrways (Patna); Volvo/Jonckheere P60PSW (new as 'P357VWR') has passed from Winson (Loughborough) to Islwyn Borough Transport. Volvo/Plaxtons W605/38FUM, last with McLeans, were with dealer EvoBus (Coventry) in December 2006. Similar N211HWX has passed from Abbey (Neilston) to Ayrways (Patna) whilst T517/20EUB are now with McGill (Greenock).

**SHEFFIELD COMMUNITY TRANSPORT** acquired Optare Alero YL51ZTG as a non-runner from SOUTH YORKSHIRE PTE in mid-December 2006.

**SHEFFIELD UNITED TOURS.** AEC Reliance/Plaxton Panorama 322 (1322WA) has passed to the Sheffield Bus Museum Trust Ltd.

**SHELDON ('Rackford Coaches', N.Anston)** has sold Mercedes-Benz/Whittaker E177YWE and former WEST YORKSHIRE PTE Leyland Leopard/Plaxton Derwent LUG515P.

**SHERIFF ('Nova Tours', Brampton)** has sold Bova Futura GIL2786 (new as 'B240AGK').

**SILVERDALE TOURS (Nottingham).** Volvo/Plaxton R964RCH had passed to Volvo Coach Sales (Loughborough) by early December 2006.

**SINGH ("Paul's Travel", Huddersfield)** has a C49Ft Bova Futura Y717SUB which was new to Fraser Eagle (Accrington).

**SLACK ("Slack's Tours", Matlock)** has re-registered DAF/Van Hool 'K113TCP' to PSV503. Re-previous notes: Volvo/Jonckheere Y377BFS is to C53F layout; Aüwaerter Neoplan Euroliner YR02UMJ is to C36Ft layout.

**SLEIGHT ("Sleight's Coaches", Swinton).** Further to previous notes, Volvo/Van Hool HIL5837 is a B10M-61 model which is currently to C49Ft layout. This coach was new to SHEARINGS as 'F761ENE' and then carried 'GSV351', 'CSU253' & 'F372DUS'.

**SLY ("Dave's Mini Bus", Clarborough)** has 16-seat LDV Convoys X839AWS & FT02FUE whilst earlier DAF model H175UNV has been sold.

**SOUTH YORKSHIRE PTE.** In mid-December 2006 Optare Alero YL51ZTG - last allocated to ROTHERHAM COMMUNITY TRANSPORT for 'Rotheride' duties - was sold to SHEFFIELD COMMUNITY TRANSPORT as a non-runner.

**'STAGECOACH EAST MIDLANDS GROUP'.** Official fleet changes for Period 8 of the 2006/2007 financial year included the following:

- 'New' - Dennis Tridents 17715-17 to Hull [HU] from Stagecoach Manchester (\*see below).
- Withdrawn to Reserve - Leyland Olympians 14632/5 from HU.
- Withdrawn for disposal, ex-Reserve at from Grimsby [GR] -Dennis Dominator 15084; Dennis Lances 27301-4 & 27701-9.

= 26 =

- Sold from HU - Leyland Olympian 14630 to dealer/breaker PVS (Barnsley); DAF tow wagon 97008 (FBY451Y) to Plaxton (South Anston).
- Sold to dealer/breaker PVS (Carlton) - Scania 28751/2; Volvo B6R s30186 & 30958; Dennis Darts 32469 & 32471/3-5.

\*17715-17 (MK02EFU-EFW) are 10.1m long Dennis Trident 2 models with Alexander ALX400 H51/28F bodies.

By mid-December, all Mansfield & Worksop based vehicles appeared to have had their legal lettering changed to the new HQ address at Lincoln.

Former East Midland MS Bristol VRT/ECW 'BAU178T' - now registered UEY551T - was still in service with Williams (Deiniolen) in late 2006.

**'STAGECOACH SUPERTRAM' (Sheffield)** applied separate DayRider and MegaRider window adverts to all trams in early/mid-December 2006. Both adverts appear twice on each side of the vehicles.

122, the eighth tram to be 'refreshed', was officially available for service from 26 December 2006. Following the completion of 122 just before Christmas, there was a 3 week holiday break for contractors undertaking the 'refresh' programme.

**'STAGECOACH IN YORKSHIRE'**. The majority of the Yorkshire Traction and Barnsley & District fleets finally received their corporate Stagecoach fleetnumbers over the Christmas 2006/New Year 2007 period, the vehicles seemingly being treated a batch at a time. Those not done by 2 January 2007 appeared to have been treated by the 8<sup>th</sup>. Accordingly from this issue of *M&T*, these notes will now also use the Stagecoach fleetnumbers.

Further to previous notes, the MCW Metrobus partially de-roofed under the Fife Street bridge in Sheffield on 23 November 2006 was 15990. The impact peeled back the roof for 3 window bays. The bus was recovered to Ecclesfield, withdrawn, and is being cannibalised.

The second of the MAN 14.220/MCV buses had arrived at Barnsley [BY] by 7 December 2006 - YN56OSP. YN56OSU was noted at BY on the 12<sup>th</sup> and three more had arrived by the 23<sup>rd</sup> - YN56OSR, YN56OSW & YN56OSX. The seventh - YN56OSV - was at BY by the New Year when YN56OSR/W were moved to Rawmarsh on the 3<sup>rd</sup>. Note, however, that all 7 vehicles are to have modifications carried out to the cab doors/assault screens before they can enter service.

The 4 new Scania K340EB/Caetano Levante C49FI coaches which arrived around the second weekend of December 2006 are 59201 (FJ56PDX), 59202 (FJ56PEO) & 59203/4 (FJ56PFA/PFD). The other two - 59205/6 (FJ56OBR/OBS) - had arrived by the 21<sup>st</sup>; all 6 are in National Express livery. By 21 December 2006, Mercedes-Benz coach 59641 had been repainted plain white (at Chesterfield [CH]) pending its disposal.

Also by the end of December 2006, 3 new Alexander-Dennis Dart buses - YN56SGZ & YN56SHJ/SHV - had arrived at CH.

A visit to Holbrook [HK] on 2 January 2007 revealed that Volvo B6/Alexander 30232 was out of use having been last used in mid-December 2006. The cannibalised remains of

MCW Metrobus 15973 (POG545Y) were still at HK along with four cannibalised Volvo B6s - 30426/8/9 & 302658 - plus withdrawn Volvo B6 30227 which was intact. Over at Ecclesfield [ED] on 2 January, non-serviceable buses were intact B6 30223 and partially de-roofed MCW Metrobus 15990 (qv).

Note that Volvo B10M/Plaxton driver trainer coach 52092 was still on loan to BY from CH in early January, as was similar 52212 which has been on extended loan from Stagecoach Merseyside since August 2006. As still in store at BY is Leyland Leopard/Marshall towing bus 25736 (CHE536K) which was recorded as sold to dealer/preservationist Carl Ireland (Hull) in October 2006.

Withdrawn Dennis Dart/Wright 32492 had been returned to service at Doncaster [DR] by 11 December 2006 when DR also had similar 32499 on loan from Shafton [SF]. By the 17<sup>th</sup> Dart/Reeve Burgess 32191 appeared to have been re-instated at SF - an unidentified B&D-livered DAF/Optare Delta was also on loan to SF on that date. Around Christmas 2006 Volvo Olympian 16580 went on loan from BY to SF but had been returned by 3 January 2007. On 4 January, Dennis Dart/Plaxton 32167 was on loan to DR from SF.

DAF/Optare Deltas 26047/9 were withdrawn from Huddersfield after Christmas and were in store at BY by the New Year. BY-based Scania/Van Hool coach 59652 had also been withdrawn by the New Year.

The remains of DAF/Optare 26042, which was stripped at CH to provide parts to repair 26062, passed to dealer/breaker PVS (Carlton) in mid-December 2006. Around that time, Dennis Darts 32194 & 32488 were at BY awaiting collection by PVS, whilst Dart 32494 was collected by the same on the morning of the 20<sup>th</sup>.

Recent repaints at BY have included DAF/East Lancs 26105/8 (completing the batch), Optare Solos 47287/97 & Volvo B6 30206. Repainted Volvos at CH have been Alexander-bodied 20496, Wright 21134 & Jonckheere 52659 (megabus.com, ex-National Express).

By mid-December 2006 a start had been made on changing the legal lettering on the Chesterfield-based allocation to new HQ address at Barnsley.

Recovery of failed Stagecoach in Yorkshire vehicles is usually undertaken by Ossett-based Bridge End Motors. However, by December 2006 a 4-axle Mercedes-Benz truck operated by Roy's Autos of Mapplewell, Barnsley, was also engaged on such work. It is believed that Roy's may have been retained by Bridge End on sub-contract.

Unusual workings in Sheffield have included:

- Step-entrance vehicles on 'low-floor' routes: 30196 on 52 - 2 December 2006; 30201 on 52 - 5<sup>th</sup>; 30197 on 120 - 8<sup>th</sup>; 30201/33 on 52 - 12<sup>th</sup>; 30188 on 52 - 15<sup>th</sup>; 30189 on 52 - 18<sup>th</sup>.
- General: 33231 as a change-over on svc.43 on the afternoon on 7 December 2006; '120' branded 31911 on 52 - 8<sup>th</sup>; 47384 on 123 - 10<sup>th</sup>; '120' branded 31909 on 25 - 14<sup>th</sup>.

Unusual workings in the Barnsley area have included: 47282 on X19 - 11 December 2006; 32591 on 44, 39624 on X12 - 14<sup>th</sup>; 47299 on X92 - 15<sup>th</sup>; 15412 on 325 - 30 December 2006; 15415 on 11 - 5 January 2007. Over at RH, the new Darts have strayed from svc.108 with 35228/30 being noted on the X92 on 12/13 December 2006.

= 28 =

Unusual workings in Chesterfield have included the following: '39' branded 47318 on 44 - 4 December; '39' branded 47318 on 253 - 7<sup>th</sup>; 35000 on 43 - 12<sup>th</sup>; 16467 on 19B - 14<sup>th</sup>.

Ex-Yorkshire Traction Volvo/Plaxton coach 60 (P160MDT) had passed from Cropley (Fosdyke) to Volvo Coach Sales (Loughborough) by early December 2006. Ex-YTC Volvo coach 'R761XWG', latterly registered FJV931 with Amvale (Grimsby), was destroyed in a fire over the Christmas period which destroyed 4 other vehicles and badly damaged a sixth one. Former YTC Leyland Olympian JWR150Y (new as 'SHE619Y') has been withdrawn and is being cannibalised by Merseypride (Bootle).

**STOTT (*Milnsbridge*)**. Volvo B10M-62/Plaxton Premières P836/7KOX were being offered for sale through Volvo Coach Sales (Loughborough) in December 2006. The following have already been sold: Leyland Tiger/Plaxton C820FMC; DAF/Van Hool 'A14ESS' as F657OHD; Volvo/Plaxtons P836/7KOX.

Previously reported Volvo B10M-62/Plaxton C49Ft 'R480GLG' is correctly R481GUG; sister coach R481GUG is also owned - this was latterly registered 'SEL702'. Also added to the fleet is SA02CCX, a Volvo B12M/Sunsundegui C49Ft, which was ex-Whitelaw (Stonehouse) - note that similar SC02MXD is also a B12M to C49Ft layout.

**SWIFT (*'Happy Days Travel', Blaxton*)** has sold DAF/Van Hool F22GRC.

**TEAMDECK (*'K-Line', Honley*)** acquired PEGASUS.COM Optare Solo YN53ZWE on the demise of that operation. However, this vehicle was not used by Teamdeck due to its condition but - after receiving extensive mechanical attention at Honley - has now passed to TLC TRAVEL (Bradford).

Re-previous notes: Optare Alero YJ56ARO is numbered 29; DAFs 3/4 (Y293/4HUA) are type DE12CSSB120; DAF 8 (KUI9268) was new as 'N614DWY' before carrying 'N19-FUG'; VDL 9 (YJ06LFO) is a DE12BSSB120 model and 25 (YJ55WTD) is a DE02CSSB200 model; Dennis Dart 26 (KUI6564) was new as 'S782RNE' but then carried '98-D-70563' before reverting to 'S782RNE'.

**THOMPSON & COPLEY (*'JM Coaches', Royston*)** is confirmed as having sold Bedford/Plaxton BKW81T. An addition to the fleet is SKY31Y, a Volvo B10M-61/Van Hool C53F which was ex-Hilton (Newton-le-Willows). New to SHEARINGS as 'D551MVR', this coach later carried 'CSU921' and then 'D551MVR' again.

Further to previous notes: Volvo/Van Hool FDZ4730 is a B10M-61 model which was new as 'A179MNE'; the Bova Futura previously reported as 'A63SNU' is actually registered A63FNU and is a FHD12-280 model to C40FI layout; Iveco K818WVH is a 59-12 model with Mellor bodywork and was previously a non-pcv in the Barnsley area.

**TLC TRAVEL Ltd (*Bradford*)** has former PEGASUS.COM Optare Solo YN53ZWE which came, unused, via TEAMDECK (Honley). This is a M850 model to B29F layout for use on contracted Otley svcs.940/1/2/3/6 which Teamdeck had been running on an emergency tender. At 1 December 2006, the rest of the fleet comprised of:

= 29 =

M115UES	Mercedes-Benz 711D	Keillor M12I	- ex-Bradford MBC;
S105KNR	Mercedes-Benz O814D	LCB M12I	- ex-Calderdale MBC;
S106KNR	Mercedes-Benz O814D	LCB M14I	- ex-Bradford MBC;
V231-4LWU	Optare Solo M850	Optare B18F	- ex-Bradford MBC;
X176/77/81/82NWR	Optare Solo M850	Optare B18F;	
KF02ZWW	Mercedes-Benz 413 CDi	UVG M16I	- ex-Sevenoaks Council;
MX54KXV-KXX	Optare Solo M850	Optare B29F;	
MX54KYK	Optare Solo M780SL	Optare B24F;	
MX05OSY/OSZ/OTA	Optare Solo M780SL	Optare B24F.	

**TM TRAVEL (Staveley)** has 33-seater Optare Solo YN56OWP and Y1WCT. The latter is a 2001 Volvo B10M with Van Hool C53F coachwork which was ex-Wickson Travel (Brownhills). DAF 1294RU (new as 'J852KHD') was earmarked to go in part exchange for the Volvo. The following vehicles have all been repainted in plain red: Mercedes-Benz R933AMB & Y161HWJ; Optare Solo Y198KNB; Dennis Dart/UVG R561UOT.

Further to previous notes: Leyland Tiger KGS489Y is a TRCTL11/3R model; Optare Solos 352 (MW52PZD) & MX03YDF are M920 models; Enterprise/Plaxton Primo YN55KMV is numbered 155.

Sold Volvo/Plaxton K55TMT is now with Asset Travel Tours (Walsall).

**TOWER AUTO SERVICES (Liversedge)** has RIL5713, a Volvo B10M-60 with Plaxton C49Ft bodywork, which was previously registered 'G21CEH'. Leyland Tiger/Plaxton A867MEH (new as 'A100JJT') has been sold.

**TRAVELGREEN COACHES Ltd (Skellow).** Re-previous notes, Mercedes-Benz/Optare Sorocco FX53EGJ has been sold. Note that the 4WA registration, latterly on an Esker Cimo, is now on proprietor Dave Green's Range Rover.

**ULPH ('Brecks International', Rotherham)** has sold coach PIL2663 which was never fully identified, whilst 'preserved' Bristol LHS/Plaxton PHL454R is being offered for sale.

**UNWIN ('Gleadless Travel', Sheffield)** has a plain white long wheelbase Ford Transit registered SM03DMD.

**WIGMORE (Dinnington).** Long since sold Bedford VAL/Duple Midland bus NWR788D was recently been discovered in Blackburn. It was converted to a stockcar transporter some 30 years ago but is available for sale. Anyone genuinely interested should contact Richard Taylor on 01254-886819 or e-mail enquiries@autotuneuk.com.

**WILFREDA-BEEHIVE (Adwick-le-Street).** Scania 'Skool' coach YN54OAV worked 'Solo' svc.52 on 12 December 2006 whilst 'LocalLinks' Optare Solo 200 (YJ54UBR) was on svc.58A on the 13<sup>th</sup>. Note that 'LocalLinks' liveried vehicles can often be seen working svc.65 in Barnsley.

= 30 =

**WILLIAMSON (Rotherham).** Former fleet member 5753PF, a DAF-powered Van Hool/LAG E180Z integral which was last with Bank View Coach Hire (Preston), was on offer at the BCA auction held at Belle Vue (Manchester) on 18 December 2006.

**WIZARD COACH HOLIDAYS LTD (Rotherham).** Previously sold C87HCX, a Van Hool/MAN T815 integral which was last with GR Lewis (Bryneithin) went for re-sale at the BCA auction held at Belle Vue (Manchester) on 18 December 2006.

**WOMBWELL COACH TOURS ('Wombwell Coaches', Wombwell).** Sold Volvo/Berkhofs L10CCH & M8/9CCH - all still in Cantabrica Coaches livery - were being offered by Volvo Coach Sales (Loughborough) in early December 2006. One of these - L10CCH? - had been with Ayrways (Ayr) since leaving South Yorkshire.

**WOODSIDE MOTORS TRAVEL Ltd (Sheffield)** had re-registered Volvo B10M/ Van Hool 'M4WMT' back to N445PYS by 17 December 2006.

**'SEEN AROUND & PASSING THROUGH'**

- ◆ KKV703V, a Ford R1114/Plaxton Supreme, has been noted in a yard near Millmoor in Rotherham. New to Smith (Wilmcote), this coach was once operated by ANDREWS ('Laser Travel', Thurcroft), but now appears to be a stockcar transporter.
- ◆ On the morning of 5 December 2006, ex-TWM MCW Metrobus 2574 (POG574Y) was noted northbound on the M1 near Woodall services, presumably heading for one of the Barnsley area breakers' yards.
- ◆ A number of coaches were in use on a rail replacement service between Doncaster & Scunthorpe on 27 December 2006. These were: Amvale (Grimsby) Scania/Irizar BJV787 & Volvo/Plaxton XWC339; Ellie Rose (Hull) Leyland/Plaxton KIB6474 (new as 'A159EPA', once with 'YORKSHIRE TERRIER'); COOPER (Killamarsh) Volvo/Van Hools R80JCS & TIXI2426; SMITH ('P&M', Sheffield) Volvo/Plaxton 7345FM; ex-LAW (Mexborough) MAN/Berkhof M2LLT; ROSS (Featherstone) Bova Futura T868FWW.
- ◆ Leyland Olympian/Roe UWW13X - new to WEST YORKSHIRE PTE but latterly Arriva Northumbria - was noted parked on Kirkstall Road, Leeds, at around 1400 on 1 January 2007. The bus retains Arriva livery and was showing 'Whitley Bay' on the front destination.

=====



= **BACKCHAT 339** =



= **BACKCHAT 339** =



**Local operator licensing:**

- ◆ New applicants: Mohammed ASHFAQ (Rotherham) - 1v Restricted [R]; Anthony CROSS-LAND (Bridlington) - Standard National [SN] with 29v at Bridlington & 3v at Morley, Leeds; Zaheer Ahmed MALIK ('A2Z Executive Travel', Sheffield) - 1v R; Colin NAYLOR ('Finlandia Travel', Barnby Dun) - 1v R; PRESTIGE TRAVEL SERVICE Ltd (Thurcroft) - 1v R; Michael WEST ('Wicker Autos', Dronfield) - 2v R; WOODSIDE CONTINENTAL TOURS Ltd (Sheffield) - Standard International for 3v at Pollard A<sup>v</sup> & 3v at Sussex S<sup>t</sup>.
- ◆ New licences have been granted to: William Edward BOWLING (Normanton) - 2v R; Ray-

- mond Paul FRY ('Fry Travel', Bradford) - SN with 3v at Wibsey & 3v at Low Moor; Mark GODLEY ('MG Travel', Sheffield) - 1v R; GUNDIGGER Ltd ('Sentinel', Yeadon) - 3v SN; Philip HAMILTON (Cantley, Doncaster) - 1v R; M TRAVEL Ltd (Normanton) - 15v SN; MAS SPECIAL ENGINEERING Ltd - SN with 40v at N. Anston & 15v at Finningley; Yusuf Ebrahim PATEL ('YEP Coaches', Batley) - 2v SN; Stephen SMITH (Barnsley) - 5v SI.
- ◆ The licence application made by Anthony FLYNN & Anita HAWKINS ("Aaron's Travel", Dewsbury) has been refused.
  - ◆ Changes of Operating Centre have been approved for: Stephen Thomas & Jacqueline BURTON ('S and J Travel', Kirkby-in-Ashfield) - from Farm View R<sup>d</sup> to the Wollaton R<sup>d</sup> registered office; James Matthew GODSON ("Godson's Coaches", Leeds) - from Lowfield R<sup>d</sup> to Long & Sons (Haulage) Ltd at Crossgates & Pickup Services Ltd at Stanningley with 6v at each; LEEDS ALTERNATIVE TRAVEL Ltd - from Roundhay R<sup>d</sup> to Whingate Business Park, Leeds - where the new registered address is Unit 15 Antwerp House.
  - ◆ Continuation of the following O-licences were not sought from 7 December 2006: Simon Lee BARDEN & Michael Andrew CROWCROFT ('Excel Travel', Blacker Hill); Douglas LEESLEY ('DJ Travel', Chapelton); Mark Howard STIRLING ('Stirling Travel', Brampton). And continuation of the O-licence held by Asad HANIF ('Star Travel', Sheffield) was not sought from 12 December 2006.
  - ◆ A fleet increase has been granted to Craig DOWNS ('RWB Coaches', Featherstone) - from 1 to 2v.
  - ◆ Formal warnings were issued following a joint Public Inquiry at Leeds on 14 December 2006 to Nottingham-based BELLAMY COACHES Ltd and BELLAMY HOLIDAYS Ltd.
  - ◆ A joint Public Inquiry was held at Leeds on 4 January into the future of the O-licence held by Paul BURKE & Neil ALLEN ('Wrose Travel', Bradford) and also the new application by WROSE TRAVEL Ltd.
  - ◆ A Public Inquiry is scheduled to be held at Leeds on 26 January into the future of the O-licence held by Michael Edward KINSLEY ('Kinsley Coaches', Stocksbridge). The repute of the Traffic Manager will also be considered.

Over in the North West Traffic Area, the O-licences held by associated Manchester-based UK North and GM Buses companies were temporarily suspended on 22 December 2006 until 2 January 2007. This action by Traffic Commissioner Beverley Bell stemmed from her concerns over the safety of the firms' Polish drivers. Of the 130 drivers employed by the companies, 100 are Polish whose training Ms Bell considered to be somewhat lacking. Investigations into the companies followed an accident on 1 November 2006 when a sign writer in a hydraulic lift sustained fatal injuries when he was hit by a UK North bus.

### **Fares and ticketing news:**

- ◆ In mid-December 2006, transport operators in South Yorkshire agreed to fix the price of TravelMasters for a further 12 month period until January 2008, which means that prices will not have been increased for 19 months. Sales of the all-modes TravelMaster have doubled over two years.
- ◆ As in previous years, Stagecoach's YORKSHIRE TRACTION extended the validity of pre-paid tickets over the Christmas/New Year period. Weekly MegaRiders & GoldRiders bought between 18 & 24 December 2006 inclusive were valid for an additional 3 days, whilst the monthly versions purchased in December 2006 were valid for an additional

week. The same extended availability applied to tickets for STAGECOACH buses and trams in Sheffield too...

- ◆ ... However, both First South Yorkshire and South Yorkshire PTE did not make similar concessions but instead advised passengers to consider what ticket they needed over the holiday in view of there generally being no buses on 3 days.
- ◆ Further to *BACKCHAT 338*, from 6 January 2007 FIRST SOUTH YORKSHIRE's Travel-Adda ticket went up to £1.20 (from £1.00) and the Switcha ticket to £2.50 (from £2.20). It has been pointed out that a FirstDay ticket in South Yorkshire now costs £4 compared to only £2.50 in Manchester.
- ◆ STAGECOACH EAST MIDLANDS has introduced a new ticket, the 'Accompanied Child Return'. This is £1 and covers up to 2 children so long as they are travelling with an adult using a Day Return or DayRider ticket.

Following the collapse of the Leeds Supertram project, West Yorkshire PTE wants to introduce trolleybuses to the City. These could be running by 2012 on three routes to the north, east & south of the City. Three-section double-articulated 'tram like' dual-mode buses - like those used in some French towns - are favoured at a cost of around £1.1m each.

### **SYLTE snippets:**

- ◆ After the 'S10' leaflet which only summarised the timetables - and failed to correctly show the 120 as running to Fulwood - comes a similar area guide for Meadowhall. This is also not without fault, the most glaring one being that the 201 is incorrectly routed via Meadowhall Road - rather than Meadowhall Way & Meadowhall drive - to Weedon Street.
- ◆ Eleven-year-old Clarrisa Smith of Barnsley won the trip to Lapland which was the competition prize in what was the last ever edition of the quarterly public transport magazine *Travelogue*. Rather than being advertised in *Travelogue*, future changes to bus services across South Yorkshire will be publicised using leaflets.
- ◆ Toilets at Meadowhall Interchange have been awarded the National Category winner in the Bus and Coach Stations section of the recent British Toilet Association's 'Loo of the Year' Awards. Three other loos in South Yorkshire interchanges - at Sheffield, Hillsborough and Swinton - were all awarded the maximum five star rating.

On 21 December 2006 it was announced that megabus.com had more than doubled its passenger capacity on London-Glasgow route to help people hit by flight cancellations at Heathrow Airport. Fog forced the cancellation of hundreds of domestic flights at many airports around the UK from the 20<sup>th</sup> causing a backlog of thousands of passengers. Two extra coaches were added to the megabus.com 2345 departure from London Victoria.

### **News from Blackpool:**

- ◆ Blackpool Transport Services (BTS), as well as operating City Sightseeing Tours in the resort, also runs that operation in Manchester.
- ◆ To mark the end of normal Leyland Atlantean operation, six such vehicles ran Coastline Service 20 (Zoo via Town Centre & South Shore to Marton Mere) on Saturday 28 October 2006 and Coastline Service 6 (Mereside via Town Centre to Grange Park) on Sunday the 29<sup>th</sup>. It is expected that one coach-seated Atlantean will be retained as a heritage vehicle.
- ◆ The Heritage Lottery Fund has approved a grant of £278,000 for the complete restoration of the illuminated Western Train tram. This first took to the rails in 1962 and was with-

drawn at the end of the 1999 season.

- ◆ As part of a 2-year £11.8m package, this winter will see the renewal of the tram track between Pleasure Beach and Manchester Square. Tram passengers have to change onto buses at North Pier which, between there and Starr Gate, use Coastline Service 1 bus stops rather than tram stops.
- ◆ BTS operated the usual, long-standing, Special Services on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve, plus Boxing Day and New Year Day.

First Devon & Cornwall ceased running Bristol VRTs in December 2006 with a 'farewell running day' being held at Penzance on the 9<sup>th</sup>. The buses used, 38698 (AFJ698T) & 38747 (AFJ747T), are understood to have been the last Bristol-built buses in regular service with any First fleet - First Hampshire & Dorset's VRTs were generally withdrawn at the end of the 2006 summer season.

### **Premises:**

- ◆ First Hampshire & Dorset's Portswood depot in Southampton - the former City Transport premises - looks set to be demolished and the site redeveloped. Full planning consent has been sought for a supermarket with 398 parking spaces and 14 residential properties. However, a later outline application has been submitted for the same size supermarket but with 441 parking spaces, 73 residential properties plus a health care facility.
- ◆ Further to *BACKCHAT 337* under the *First South Yorkshire snippets* heading, on 21 December 2006 FSY officially announced the planned closure of its Halfway depot. The statement said that "The decision to give notice on the depot lease has been taken as part of a review of all operational costs within the business. Existing services from the Halfway depot will be unaffected and in future will be operated from either the Olive Grove depot in Sheffield or the Midland Road depot in Rotherham. In total, 18 existing supervisory operational and engineering posts are affected by the closure but the company aims to minimise the number of job losses wherever possible".
- ◆ Up in Aberdeen, First has failed to find a compromise with the planning authority and - in October 2006 - abandoned plans for a new HQ & depot at Woodside. Instead it now intends to redevelop the existing King Street premises with a new HQ building and the upgrading of engineering facilities. A new planning application will soon be submitted and it is hoped to start work on site in the summer. The latest proposal also include plans for a new UK national training facility which could not have been incorporated in the Woodside project. The King Street site had previously been rejected for re-development due to the difficulties of simultaneously operating the bus depot whilst building on the site. There were also problems working with the Grade 2 listed building but these can be overcome by the latest construction techniques.

The Oxford Bus Company has painted two vehicles into old style liveries to mark the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of The City of Oxford & District Tramways Company. One Volvo/Wright Renown wears traditional City of Oxford maroon, red & duck egg green, whilst another is in maroon & cream Oxford Tramways Company colours.

### **Behind ROUTE NEWS:**

- ◆ Some of the late January FIRST SOUTH YORKSHIRE service changes in Sheffield are understood to be paving the way for the closure of Halfway depot in May. Svcs.27 & 30

will inter-work at Crystal Peaks and be operated by Rotherham depot with some input from Olive Grove, probably mainly during the evenings and on Sundays.

- ◆ The change to svcs.97/98 is a paper exercise. The route description on the previous October registration was incorrect and showed the routes going the wrong way round the Ecclesfield loop, an error perpetuated in the PTE's publicity although they are shown correctly on First's new Sheffield map. As staff and passengers had become accustomed to the present situation, which was what First intended, it was decided that the easiest way of correcting the error would be to change the registration - and the PTE's publicity!
- ◆ ARRIVA YORKSHIRE's withdrawal of the Bradford-Barnsley-Sheffield X33 sees the old White Rose network reduced to the X12 Rotherham-Barnsley route which is the successor of the old X36 of 1969. It also sees the end of Arriva operation into Sheffield.

Re-*BACKCHAT* 338, FIRST WEST YORKSHIRE road staff did take strike action on 11 December 2006 but the stoppages for the 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> were cancelled. A free skeleton service was provided by management on the 10<sup>th</sup>.

### **Buyings, sellings and the like:**

- ◆ The remaining National Express coaching operation run by Arriva North East has been sold to Tellings-Golden Miller's Classic Coaches subsidiary. In the deal, 7 DAF/Van Hool coaches and 26 drivers have transferred from Arriva Northumbria to Classic.
- ◆ But on 11 December 2006 Arriva plc announced that it had acquired Czech Republic bus operator Transcentrum Bus for approximately £5m. With an annual revenue of around £5.4m, Transcentrum Bus is a privately-held company operating 120 buses in an area to the north of Prague and employing 200 people. The acquisition provides an established platform for Arriva to begin operating bus services in the Czech Republic and brings the number of countries in which Arriva operates to nine.
- ◆ Veolia continues its expansion in Wales with the acquisition of a fifth business - Hawkes Coaches of Gowerton - through its Pullman Coaches subsidiary. The latter will manage the 19-vehicle Hawkes business which employs 35 people.
- ◆ And Veolia has spread into Ireland with the purchase of Bus Nestor of Galway which is reportedly to be re-branded 'Nestor Airlink'.
- ◆ WA-Shearings is reportedly considering selling off its budget National Holidays subsidiary following an approach from an un-named potential buyer. National Holidays runs around 80 coaches based at Hull and Washington.

While rumours persist that First companies in York and Leeds have fallen out with the 'ftr' concept, a business case has been made for using these vehicles on Bolton-Manchester route 8. However, the operator admits that the fare collection problems encountered in York must be completely eradicated before First Manchester could use this type of vehicle.

Meanwhile it is rumoured that the 'ftr' vehicles destined for First South Yorkshire could now be allocated to Rotherham for use on a 'new' cross-town service.

### **Manufacturer news:**

- ◆ Volvo Buses has received an order for 25 B9L buses for the JGSP transit company in Novi Sad, Serbia. These will be the first low-floor buses - and the first buses with Euro4 engines - in that country. Delivery will be made in the spring of 2007 starting in March.
- ◆ And Volvo Buses' subsidiary in Canada, Nova Bus, is to supply 322 articulated buses to

the Province of Quebec's transit authorities over the period 2009-12. The vehicles will be 18 metre long articulated versions of the Nova LFS low-floor rigid. Part of the deal is a 2-year option for the purchase of an additional 100 buses in 2013/14.

- ◆ Optare has supplied 17 Solos to Preston Bus to operate a new orbital service around, and into, the City of Preston. The service has been introduced in collaboration with Lancashire County Council following a successful bid for funding of £977,000 under the Department for Transport's 'Kickstart' scheme. This sum covers the purchase of the Solos, revenue support for the service, and road infrastructure improvements along the 17-mile route. The latter include the upgrading of 80 bus stops with raised kerbs, new bus lanes, traffic lights that give priority to buses, and real-time information displays in bus shelters. Eleven of the Solos are 9.2 metre 29-seaters and the remainder are 8.5m 25-seaters. The larger buses operate the service throughout the day and are supplemented by the shorter vehicles at peak times. The arrival of the Solos has allowed the disposal of 13 Optare MetroRiders.

On 12 December 2006, Stagecoach gave a 'cautious welcome' to proposals announced by the Department for Transport following its review of bus services. A spokesman said: "We are pleased the Government recognises the crucial role played by the bus in meeting the transport challenges facing our country. The Government's proposals reflect the significant contribution that partnership working is making to the development of bus services and the strengths of the private sector in delivering and improving public transport". However, the spokesman added that "While we will need to study the proposals closely, and the fine detail of the recommendations has still to be finalised, it is /continued overleaf...

=====

See overleaf for the **BOOKING FORM** for the  
 'WEST YORKSHIRE' TOUR, Sunday 25 February 2007.

This should be sent to:

ANDY MOAT,  
 27 St Aidans Place, Norfolk Park, SHEFFIELD S2 2 NE  
 with the correct deposit of **£2** per seat booked  
 - cheques & POs should be crossed and payable to '**SOES**'.

-----  
**Please indicate below where you wish to join this Tour**

- \*further details will be provided nearer the event.

Sheffield (Brown St)

Barnsley (M1 jct.37)

Haigh (M1 jct.38)

West Yorkshire\*

clear a number of our ideas for improving the environment in which bus services operate have been embraced by the Government".

However, South Yorkshire PTE was more positive towards the plans which include strengthening working partnerships between local authorities and operators to attract more passengers in the long term. A PTE spokesman said that the announcement was "in line with our thinking about the way bus services should be managed".

**And finally** a passenger on 'Tracky' single-decker on the X62 Leeds to Huddersfield route was recently somewhat alarmed to read notices which told him that if he would be fined if he travelled outside Bexley Heath!

=====

**THANKS** to everyone who has contributed to this 'M&T', including Eric & Roy Wilson, Wayne Gilmore, Andy & Babs Moat, Matt Giles, Gareth Atherton, Richard Barnes, Duncan Bingham, Jason Cardwell, Terry Cooper, Iain Crofts, Sean J. Dennell, John Hardey, Shayne Howarth, Mark Keenan, Paul Kipling, Andy Metcalfe, John Myers, Rowley Osborn, Chris Orme, David Robinson, Darren Sentance, Mark Skidmore, Robert G Smith, Julian & Martin Shepard, Mark Smith, Robert A Smith, Mick Taylor, David Turner, Barry Smith & family, Graham Ward, Lee Whitehead, Steve Whitlam, First Group Enthusiasts, the PSV Circle, Metro Transport News, Transpire - The Chesterfield Bus Society.

We are also grateful to the editors of *BUSES* and *THE STAR* for allowing us to reproduce certain items from their respective publications. Thanks too to First South Yorkshire Ltd, South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive, 'Stagecoach East Midlands', and 'Stagecoach Yorkshire', for the supply of official information.

=====

.. ✂ .. ✂ .. ✂ .. ✂ .. ✂ .. ✂ .. +

# SOES BOOKING FORM

for the 'WEST YORKSHIRE' TOUR,  
Sunday 25 February 2007.

Please book \_\_\_ ADULT, \_\_\_ Under-16 SOES MEMBER seats  
\_\_\_ ADULT, \_\_\_ Under-16 NON-Member seats on the above.

I enclose a deposit of £2 per seat booked and understand that this will be deducted from the fare payable on the day, or forfeited should the booking not be taken up. Should the event be cancelled then all deposits will be refunded in full.

Deposit: £\_\_\_

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Signed:

Date:

**PLEASE INDICATE OVERLEAF WHERE YOU WISH TO BOARD \***

David  
Tummon's

# Sheffield

Telephone  
0114 255-3010

## Transport Models

206 London Road, SHEFFIELD S2 4LW

Opening times: Sunday - 11am-1pm; Monday - CLOSED  
Tuesday to Saturday 10am-5.30\*pm  
(\*late night Wednesday to 7.30pm)

*Catering for your requirements in:-*

MODEL RAILWAYS - Hornby, Bachmann, Lima, etc.

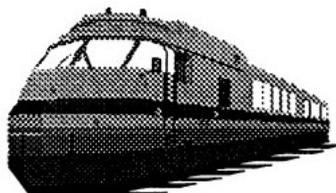
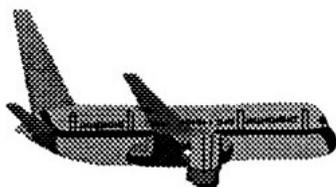
DIECAST - Corgi, EFE, Lledo - and other transport models.

TRANSPORT BOOKS - road, rail and other fields

from most publishers both large and small.

SECOND HAND GOODS bought and sold.

**PLUS** *Slot racers, modelling materials, paint etc, 'bits & pieces'  
and much more - why not call in?*



### Why not use this space for your transport related advert?

For details of our competitive rates please  
contact Eric Wilson.

