

LEEDS TRANSPORT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEWS SHEET 188

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2017



OBITUARY - Brian Shaw

Long-term member of LTHS and many other local transport societies, Robert Brian Shaw died in his sleep on 26 January after a short illness. His funeral was on Thursday 23 February at Pudsey Parish Church, where Brian was a valued member. It was well-attended, with members of LTHS and other societies as well as the church congregation itself.

Brian was a career railway man and his knowledge of railway operation, both past and present, was always enlightening, and often amusing. His final position was a Manager at Stourton Freightliner Terminal where he took early retirement on the Company's re-organisation.

His passion for transport extended to Buses, Traction Engines, Trucks and of course railways of any gauge. Many thanks to Mick Holt for biographical info.

Stop Press The death has also been reported of Richard Buckley on 1 March. Although not a LTHS member, Richard was well known to many as a regular speaker, past editor of both Tramway Review and the TMS Journal and producer of many tramway books. Only two years ago, Richard officiated at Roger Benton's funeral in Sheffield.

FORTHCOMING L.T.H.S. MEETINGS & EVENTS

Meetings at Richmond Hill Community Club, Railway Street, Leeds, LS9 8HB, 1930 for 2000

- Mon. 13 Mar. **Tramways on ciné film**
Malcolm Hindes
- Mon. 10 Apr. **Annual General Meeting**
- Mon. 8 May **Video from the camera of Mike Waring**
- Mon. 12 June **Leeds area buses photographed by Don Wilson**
Jim Soper
- Tue. 11 July **Evening Visit to Heaton Park Tramway, Manchester**
- Sat. 9 Sep. **Day Visit to Tramlink, Croydon**
Provisional date - more details later

OTHER LOCAL MEETINGS & COMING EVENTS

March

- Thu. 2 (NGRS) **The Ruston Story** Andrew Neale
- Tue. 7 (MRT) **Modernisation Plan diesel locos at work, on shed and in preservation**
Howard Bolton
- Sat. 11 (NGRS) **Narrow Gauge North**
(Exhibition) Pudsey Civic Hall
- Sat/Sun 11/12 **Keighley Model Railway Show**
University Academy of Keighley,
Green Head Road, 1000-1630
- Tue.21 (LRTA) **Trams on DVD** Charlie Watson

April

Tue. 4 (MRT) **Britain on film – railways**
(DVD presentation)

Thu. 4 (NGRS) **Boston Lodge from old photographs**
Adrian Gray

Tue. 18 (LRTA) **tba**

May

Tue. 2 (MRT) tba

Wed. 3 **Samuel Ledgard Society Annual Film Show Evening** by Yorkshire Film Archive.
Grove Centre, New St., Horsforth, 1930.

Admission £3, contact Barry Rennison on (0113) 236 3695 or rennison@cc-email.co.uk

Thu. 4 (NGRS) **Quarry railways & tramways in the Yorkshire Dales** Stewart Liles

Tue. 16 (LRTA) **tba** Malcolm Hindes

Groups, Meeting Places & Times

MRT Middleton Railway Trust, The Engine House, Moor Road, Hunslet, 1930. No charge, refreshments on sale in the interval.

LRTA Light Rail Transit Association, Committee Room No. 5, Civic Hall, 1900. collection £1.

NGRS Narrow Gauge Railway Society, Yorkshire Area, The Epicentre, Meanwood Valley Urban Farm, 7.15 for 7.30. Collection £2. Refreshments (and fresh eggs!) on sale.

tba Information to be advised

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

As usual, our April meeting is the Society's AGM.

The formal notice of the meeting, Minutes of the 2016 AGM and combined Trustees' & Secretary's Report are being distributed to members with this News Sheet. As previously, to avoid duplication, we have combined the Secretary's Report with the Trustees' Report, which is, of course, also our official report to the Charities Commission.

Accounts will be available at the meeting, or on request from the Hon. Secretary at the address on the back page (SAE please).

Members' attention is drawn to item 6 on the agenda. The Committee is always seeking to recruit new members, and nominations for election can be made beforehand to the Secretary or at the meeting. The nominee's assent must, of course, be obtained.

Since the documents for the AGM are being sent out with this News Sheet, all members will receive hard copies regardless of usual arrangements.

However, as always we appeal for anybody prepared to receive the News Sheet in electronic form (pdf), saving the Society at least £3 a year in printing and postage to email malcolm.hindes@btinternet.com.

PUZZLE PICTURES

No longer "Spot that Tram/Bus" since this popular item has happily developed into a location identifying game. As usual, let's start off with some answers, both to November's puzzles and to an ongoing one.



First of all an easy one (?). 756 on the 59 Circular is on Park Lane, approaching Westgate roundabout. The single-storey building is Benjamin Simon's factory, whilst in the background, on Hanover Lane, is John Barran's, both prominent in the Leeds clothing trade. The cars are parked on the original alignment of Park Lane, which was diverted slightly when the roundabout was built.



The second photo, of Weymann-bodied 654 on the No.7 is another easy one, being on Low Road, Hunslet, near the bottom of New Pepper Road.



The next photo caused a lot of head-scratching! The route destination display on 635 proved very much a red herring, since this photo was actually taken on Hunslet Road. The white building is the Royal George Hotel by the junction with South Accomodation Road;

the shop with distinctive contrasting brickwork round the windows was at the corner of Dawbridge Street and the wall of Airedale Foundry is just visible on the left. The bus is returning empty to Hunslet garage, which operated the 35 route at the time (our thanks to David Farrer for that).



Most people got this last one, since the area is very little changed. It is Burmantofts Street of course, just by the junction with Beckett Street and Nippett Lane.



Finally, we are indebted to Bill Jagger for nailing this earlier brain-teaser. The location is Wellington Street, just by its junction with Cropper Gate. The "Service Station" sign on the right is for Rippon Bros. garage and what appears to be an upper floor is actually the back of another building on Westgate. The cars are parked on Grove Street, which parallels Wellington Street at this point. Both these buildings were demolished early in 2016, and a photo taken shortly beforehand still shows the faint outline of the lettering.



Now for our this issue's posers. Once again, Chris Spring invites us to peruse his collection. We've got an idea where some were taken, but what do you think?

First off, a nice rural(?) colour shot of Daimler CVG6 555 on the 41 route.



Now, two pictures for "The Friends of The 57 Circular" - or maybe it should be "The Daimler CVD6 Appreciation Society"?

526 is in fairly familiar territory....



.. but where is this country (?) view of 523?



Finally AEC. Regent III No. 449 is seen passing a Bus Stop for 46 BRAMLEY and 29 INFIRMARY STREET, but where is it?

That's it for now. Let's hope we have some answers for you in News Sheet No.189



END OF THE LINE FOR THE BORIS BUS

Mel Reuben

It appears that the much maligned modern day London Routemaster known universally as the "Boris Bus" will cease to be manufactured by Wrightbus of Ballymena, Northern Ireland.

The Mayor of London Sadiq Khan is no lover of the TfL vehicle which was introduced in 2012. Mr Khan has decided that the bus costs too much. One of the prime concerns is that the hop-on-hop-off concept is a folly as nearly all Boris Buses running around the capital have the rear doors closed most of the time. Also by holding off new orders it would help to pay for a four year fares freeze. An order for another 195 buses costing £62 million has been cancelled. Boris Johnson envisaged that a fleet of 2,000 buses costing a whacking £325,000 each would grace London's streets.

Mayor Khan has stated that TfL will be investing in a new generation of buses that would help to improve air quality in London. Last December Wrights announced that they have developed a new environmentally friendly Hydrogen-fuelled bus. TfL have placed an order with Wrights for 20 of these buses as part of a £10 million part EU-funded project with TfL providing another £5 million, however with last year's Brexit election victory it remains to be seen if EU money will be forthcoming. The former Mayor is gutted by the decision as he single-handedly championed the project and described the bus as a "stunning piece of automotive architecture".

The work force of 1,800 employed by Wrights are concerned that there is a possibility of a reduction of staff at the plant in Ballymena.

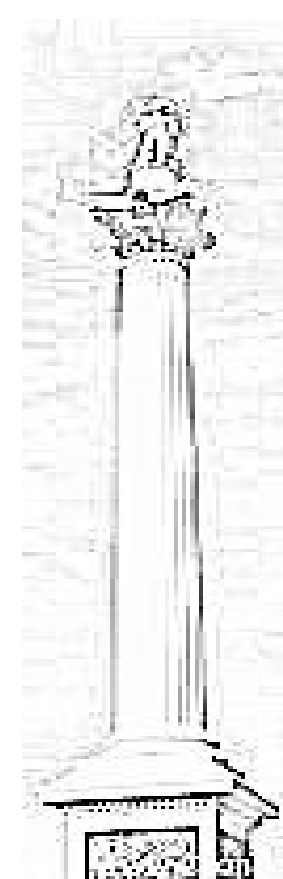
To conclude, Firstbus stated in their opposition to NGT in Leeds that if the scheme got kicked out they would invest in 200 Routemasters to serve Leeds. However there is a deafening sound of silence coming out of Donisthorpe St!

CHARLIE'S COLUMN

Charlie Watson

The Leaf Green and Poppy Pink

The National Bus Company descended on the Humber like a sea fret - only it had a bigger impact on the citizens of this delightful part of the country.



Overnight, both Lincolnshire Road Car Company and East Yorkshire Motor Services found themselves under common ownership and their new owners handed out the order that all companies should paint buses into standardised liveries. The chosen colours were Leaf Green or Poppy Red. The management at Bracebridge Heath quickly set to work ensuring that buses with more than six months to go with the company were repainted into the new colours, and to be fair the results looked quite good - bright green panels with white band, black wings, grey wheels and NBC lettering and arrow.

It did look good - for a while - but all too soon the lack of rubbing down began to show through - quite literally.

Across the river, things were more of a problem, because EYMS had enough indigo

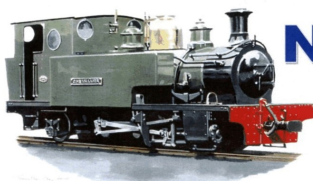
(never blue!) paint to last for a very long time so rather than pour it down the drain NBC relented and decided on indigo with white band, grey wheels and NBC lettering. I really like this as it updated the "old" EYMS livery and was really easy for the painters - just paint out the primrose (never yellow!) band white and change the fleet name - job done.

Unfortunately this happy state of affairs did not last, as by about 1974 Poppy Red started to appear, which caused real problems as to cover the indigo with red meant the panels had to be stripped back to bare aluminium before the transformation could begin. By this time Lincolnshire RCC had got to grips with the leaf green and buses around Scunthorpe and Grimsby were quite smart.

The red was quite a change but all too soon the problems started to emerge - not of the old paint showing through but the red turning pink as it faded alarmingly quickly; not only on old vehicles but new ones as well after a few trips through the bus wash, and it didn't just affect East Yorkshire but any red bus fleet.

There was nothing NBC could do about it but make sure buses got repainted whenever things got too bad, until the NBC was torn apart and Lincolnshire RCC and East Yorkshire went their separate ways again and the standardised paint schemes could be forgotten - as soon as possible!

Model Railway Exhibition **NARROW GAUGE** **NORTH** **2017**



Pudsey Civic Hall

Dawsons Corner, Pudsey, Leeds, LS28 5TA

Saturday 11th March

10.00am-4:30pm

Adult £6

Accompanied Child (6-16yrs) £1

Working layouts in all the popular narrow gauge modelling scales

A full range of trade and society stands

Refreshments available

All proceeds to Sue Ryder Wheatfields Hospice



www.narrowgaugenorth.org.uk

Sue Ryder

Published by the Leeds Transport Historical Society, (a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, Registered No. 1160446)

Committee & Trustees: Ian M. Dougill (Chairman); Malcolm Hindes (Vice-Chairman); Tony Cowell (Treasurer);

Jamie Guest (Secretary); Jim Soper; Mike Waring; Melvyn Reuben;

Registered Office: 17 Church Street, Gildersome, Morley, Leeds, LS27 7AE

web site <http://lths.co.uk/>

Printed and published in the West Riding of Yorkshire