

Winter Newsletter 2014

**Welcome to new members:
Mark Beardsell, Thomas
Johnson, Tony Mowvley,
Oliver Wilson & Michelle
Wright**



Tool Appeal



Thanks to everyone that donated tools. We still need to get a cupboard organised and we are sure this will be sorted during the coming winter months. With restoration work slowing in the colder months our attention can turn to other tasks to keep the Monday crew busy and warm!

New Arrival – Woods of Mirfield EVD 406 a very welcome return home!

We sometimes like to keep things up our sleeve and make our Open Day events show stopping so when Andrew Beever decided to acquire the Woods of Mirfield Crossley he kept it under wraps for a month! Having hidden her away at Oakenshaw in mid-October she turned up for her Museum debut on 16th November. He must have been bursting to tell but managed to keep it buttoned!



Hidden away in a dark shed



Congratulations to Andrew for bringing this wonderful Roe beauty home and for expanding the Museum collection with another half cab decker.

Museum Building update!

During the colder months we undertake less activity on our vehicles. With the temperature dropping and our lack of heating in the building our attention has continued on getting things much more presentable. Our progress in the last six months includes the removal of a lot of Archive items from around the racks to enable numerous displays to be placed on the wall, hanging of the former Dewsbury Bus Station departure boards and other suitable boards from the roof apex and displaying several destination blinds on the rear walls. A concerted effort to tidy the building up on Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th October took place with the removal of much clutter.



To all those members that have helped a big

Competition!

How much space do you need to leave between two vehicles to get Andrew Beever between them to turn a master switch on and off?



Left; a picture clue.

Answers, in imperial measurements please, on a postcard

Vehicle updates

West Riding Leyland National XUA 73X

73 made her public debut in traditional West Riding livery on 16th November at the Open Day. There is still a major amount of internal painting to complete and the seat cushions have been taken to Calderclean of Mirfield for a deep clean. Some mechanical work is still needed to bring her up to MOT standard.

West Riding Guy Arab IV KHL 855

Much work has been completed in the last 12 months. She now starts on the button and has been driven from Clarks Garage at Little Smeaton to a barn in Kirk Smeaton. Completed in the last 12 months: new vac tank and straps fabricated and fitted, fuel tank renovated and new straps fitted with pipes blown through with new filters fitted, exhaust tidied up, rear axle renovated and refitted, two new rear leaf springs fitted, rear hubs shot blast and repainted, new drums fitted at the rear, refurbished shoes refitted, bearings and seals replaced, rear adjusters replaced, props refurbished and refitted, radiator refurbished and refitted, front brakes serviced, leaking pipes replaced, all missing glass fitted, six new tyres tubes and flaps fitted, minor welding and shot blasting and repainting of 2/3rds of the chassis.



Left: A delighted Mark about to place her on trade plates for the run from Little Smeaton to Kirk Smeaton

On 2nd October Mike did the driving honours whilst Mark sat in the lower deck and can confirm that she sounds just right. For those of you in the "know" this means the gearbox and transmission has lost none of its musical tones! The plan is to remove her paint before bodywork repairs can commence. The only other known major mechanical matter to sort out is replacement of the front leaf springs. After 30 years in store it is great to see progress on KHL. The work is continuing throughout the winter months and Mark has promised a further update on progress in the spring newsletter.

Todmorden Leopard NWW 89E

Lisa and Andrew took Tod 9 to F & G on 1st October and she sailed through her MOT. John said "It's lovely to have her active again" We assume he means the bus, not Lisa, who could never be described as in-active!

West Riding Reliance JHL 708

Mike is moving things along in the cab area. As we know the Reliance has sat patiently waiting its turn for attention for many years.

Halifax Leopard PJX 35

Kelvyn is pleased to report that PJX sailed through her MOT on 13th October. Tony Salmon was delighted too given he had already written up his draft timetable for the open day running!

County Motors CCX 801

Progress continues with various parts being renovated and the shot below shows Tony has quite a few bits of renovation on the go.



If only Tony knew where all the bits fitted back on!

West Riding Wulfrunian WHL 970

Colin and Stuart are progressing things nicely with Louis helping out each Monday. The offside panels are fitted and some glass has been re-instated.



Left; front offside steering

Andrew & Stuart managed to get all the steering bits back together in the right order and it all seems to be working nicely. (much to Andrew's surprise)

Yorkshire Woollen Ford GHD 215

Simon Turner put his hand to changing a failed water pump recently as can be seen below work commenced immediately to rectify it.



Left: work in progress and all sorted in a matter of days – Simon clearly doesn't mess about getting things sorted!

South Yorkshire Motors TWY 8

On her return journey from the excellent Aire Valley Group event at Skipton she threw a belt off in Bradford. Mike and Andrew soon got her sorted whilst she was parked back up in the Museum building and she now sports replacement belts.

Other Vehicles

We would love to have more news from the owners of various vehicles in the Museum collection so if you have any news or photographs please let Andrew or Mark have an update for publication!

From the Archive

With the tidying of the building in progress the plan is to move the Archive further towards the front of the building to allow easier access for visitors (we will then only have to move one bus not two when we need access to it)

We had a recent request from St Saviour's church at the end of the road to support their 150 year celebration. An exhibition and flower festival took place in late September and to celebrate the occasion a display of transport related materials was requested. Without hesitation we assisted and a special thank you must go to Simon Turner whom willingly loaned items from his extensive personal Yorkshire Woollen collection.



Right: Our display in the church (& flowers)

During research for the event it also became apparent that Ravensthorpe is also 150 years old so that makes this a triple celebration with our silver jubilee in full swing too!

As we promised in our last edition here are some Yorkshire Woollen gems that we have uncovered during the tidying of the Archive:



Left: Uniform overcoat and jacket – winter and summer?



Left: 1970's timetable



Left: Distinctive Bus Stop

If you have any items you would like to donate please bring them to the Museum.

If you go down to the woods today.....

The Beever, the Bennett and Paul Salmon went walkabout in deepest Cambridgeshire and came across three former Leeds City Transport single deckers languishing in a wooded area.



Right: What a shame to see her like this

The interior of TUA 31 is looking a little past its sell by date, along with two sister vehicles at the same site. What a shame that not one of the trio is worth saving. That said, those seats look remarkably like the ones in Mark's Roe bodied Arab IV so it's just as well he has a fully renovated set ready to refit. However, those window sliders would have come in handy for our stock! Next time take a full set of tools lads!

A major donation to WROPS

One of our longest serving Trustees, Tony White, has recently donated his collection of transport related items for the benefit of the ongoing restoration of the WROPS collection of buses. Mark and Richard have retrieved the models and books and as can be seen a fine sight they made on the WROPS stalls at the recent open day. Thanks to Trevor Wainwright and David Byard manning the stalls a magnificent sum was raised.



Left; 800 models ready to sell!

A very large collection of slides is yet to be tackled and if anyone knows a good potential purchaser for them please let Richard Hall or Mark Byard know.

AGM Update

The AGM took place on Monday 20th October. Key changes to note are that Colin Poole has decided to relinquish his Health and Safety role and Keith Shenton was elected to replace him. The Trustees would like to formally thank Colin for his sterling work in the area of Health and Safety over many years. Colin says he will now have more time to focus on getting the Wulf & National back on the road whilst also fulfilling his other charitable activities in his home village.

The meeting had many positive aspects to it not least the report on the healthy financial position of the Trust and the progress being made on the restoration of vehicles housed in the building.

The Trustees also confirmed that progress is being made to look at extra space for storage of the many rare parts acquired by the Charity and WROPS and construction of a mezzanine has commenced. The option to extend the building to the front to provide better facilities including toilets is also being reviewed.

Our Events update

Sunday 16th November

We held our own open day at the Museum Building and Tony Salmon delivered the goods in what can only be described as our best ever event with our highest number of vehicles in service and more than 40 buses in attendance making this a record number too. We have come a very long way in a short space of time thanks to the efforts of all those members that regularly help. The Trustees wish to say a formal thank you as this clearly demonstrates what a fantastic team approach we have at Dewsbury. Let's make sure we keep it that way! It is worth reminding ourselves that without the initial help of Tony Hanson, the original Events Organiser in the early 1990's, our regular open day events may never have got off the ground – so a special thanks to Tony for getting the ball rolling all those years ago.

We raised in excess of £4000 and WROPS had an excellent day of trading with their two stalls (their proceeds not being included in the £4000 figure)

Official Museum photographer John Alexander has supplied the shots below.



Above: Lynx & Olympian.



Crossley & Albion.



Plaxton Derwent Leopard.



Above: Exhibits line up.



Two modern visitors.



Yorkshire Blue supporter!

Facebook comments have been amazing- take a look at our Website Homepage.

Finally a special thanks to our key sponsors: First, Arriva, Elite Specialist Glazing, Whiteleys, Charlottes, Calder World of Travel and Viamaster

2015

Planning has already started and your ideas are most welcome. What should our August event look like? Let us know what you think and share your ideas with the Events Organiser Tony Salmon.

Out and about

Showbus

Erm..... Is it a bird, is it a plane (after all we are on an airfield) - no it's a bus!



Left: Mike looking for the wings?

School visits

We have continued to support local schools with educational visits. In October Tony, Richard and Mark took Ethel to Grange Moor. Mark was particularly impressed with the pupils efforts to ring the bell to the tune of "the wheels on the bus go round and round" for all of ten minutes.

In November Andrew and Richard took TWY 8 to Bywell and an enjoyable time was had by all.

The PD2 makes a special home visit

Many of our members know that long serving member and Trustee Tony White is quite ill and unable to get out an about very often. The WROPS team decided it was time that he saw the completed restoration of the PD2 so a special journey was made to Wakefield and the bus was taken to collect him from home to allow Tony the experience of a ride on the bus he had helped to restore.

It's fair to say he was chuffed to bits. Thanks to all those who made the effort to make Tony's day.

Thornes

Ethel made the trip to the Thornes event and a great time was had by all. Several vehicles were sampled on the day and by all accounts it was well worth a visit.

Lincoln

A posse of members made the visit to Lincoln on Andrew Tindall's Bread Van to enjoy this very busy event. Tony Hanson was in charge of catering arrangements so a wonderful fish and chip supper had be organised before the return to Wakefield.

Word has it that Tony is currently pulling together a 2015 world "fish and chip" tour. So far he has only got as far as Cleckheaton and has already run out of suitable buses to use. His back up option is a "full English Breakfast" weekend tour starting at the Redbeck Motel in Crofton and ending somewhere in Huddersfield. (This may be more manageable)

In the meantime Monday lunchtime fish and chip fodder continues to be organised by Tony!



Two of our long standing members have been under the weather recently and we just wanted to say "get well soon" to June Hare and Jack Berry. You have both been missed at our monthly meetings and at the recent Open Day.

In the meantime Irene Day and Steve Abrahams are looking after our monthly raffle and will gladly accept any unwanted Christmas Gifts at our monthly members meetings.

The Final bit - Its annual subs time

To save on postage and to simplify the renewal process please find attached to this newsletter the renewal form. During the AGM a vote was taken and it was agreed that annual subs will be slightly increased to £10 for associate members and £15 for full members (with effect 1st January 2015.)

The Trustees consider that we offer excellent value for money compared to many other Transport related clubs and associations and we hope that you all agree. Certainly those attending members at the meeting did agree as they endorsed the change to the membership fee!

We are pleased to confirm that these regular Newsletters will continue each quarter and we have added an extra event in August to ensure you get maximum value for money from your membership. We will continue to hold monthly meetings at Eastborough WMC in Dewsbury on the third Monday of each month at 7.15pm

Please complete the form and send it with a cheque payable to WROMT to the address on the slip or you may pay your subs in cash at the January members meeting or at the Museum building. If you have already paid then please still send the completed form back so that we can check we have your details correctly recorded. **All subs must be paid no later than 31st January 2015. Please note that reminders will not be sent out and memberships will automatically lapse if payment has not been made.**

Please note that we would welcome any additional donation you may be able to make with your annual subs payment. As you know we are making greater steps forward because we are raising more cash through a variety of ways. More donated cash means we can make the Museum even better in 2015.

We have commissioned the new mezzanine floor that will be sited above the Dalesman coach and Reliance in the back right hand corner of the Museum building. As we go to press work on its construction should have commenced and all that remains is for it to be paid! If you can spare a few extra pounds with your annual subs you will be assisting the expansion of the infrastructure of the building.

Thank you for your support and the Trustees wish you a very happy 2015.