

Autumn Newsletter September 2014

Welcome to new members:

Rachel Stockton, David Aston,
Reece Collins, Philip Herron,
Trevor Wainwright, Stephen
Harrison, Mark Beardsell &
Louis Pilkington



Tool Appeal

Do you have any unwanted tools in good condition? We are in the process of setting up a tool cupboard for all members to use and need good quality items to place in the tool store. Please search out anything you have and let us have them!

2 Nationals re-united

After a day out with Tracky 245 she visited Ravensthorpe for an overnight stay. An opportunity to re-unite her with West Riding 73 was taken. These two ladies would have often rubbed shoulders in Wakefield Bus Station so here they are close together once again.



Left; Simon Turner admires the Nationals!

Museum Building gets some TLC!

A concerted effort to tidy things up is finally coming to fruition. We have made massive progress on getting things displayed as can be seen in the shots below.



Right; Keith at work!

The Trustees would like to specifically thank Keith Shenton and Louis Pilkington for their assistance with helping to get the display boards sorted out and fixed to the walls. Thanks also to Richard Hall for the donation of the costs involved in acquiring the new display boards. If you would like to donate any items for display please let any Trustee know.

The Sheffield Transport Study Group make a visit to the Museum

During the summer months a party of 40 arrived at the Museum for a tour of the building, a look at the exhibits and a ride on some of our vehicles. To make the most of the opportunity the Museum sales stall was set up and the Museum Café served drinks and snacks to the visiting group. Thanks to members John Alexander & Keith Shenton for assisting the Trustees with the evening.



Right; all set up and ready for action

Below: visitors enjoying a coffee stop and chatting to the Trustees



Left; a visitor!

We raised a substantial sum from the attendance and the evening was thoroughly enjoyed by all. If you know of any other groups that may like to visit then please let the Trustees know.

The Royal Invitation

On 23rd June Colin Poole & Stuart Goldthorpe attended the award ceremony held by the Transport Trust at Brooklands to officially accept the Wulfrunian grant recently received by WROPS.



Left; by royal appointment!

The certificate was presented by Prince Michael whilst Stuart (left) and Colin (right) enthused about the delights of the Wulfrunian. One wonders if a royal ever travelled on a Wulfrunian but if they didn't this is probably as near as it will ever get to happening! The grant has provided funding to complete the bodywork panelling and has got the ball rolling on the re-glazing.

We took delivery of the missing window rubber in August and Steve from Elite Glazing will be visiting very shortly to commence the work.

Out & About

Museum vehicles have been supporting several events during the summer months:-

Brighouse

We sent three buses to Brighouse to support a vintage themed weekend. PJX, TWY 8 and Ethel provided circular tours of the town over a full weekend of running. The formal timetable was suspended due to heavy loadings and a more frequent service was the order of the day. Thanks must go to Kelvyn Waites for setting this up and to Andrew Beever, Colin Poole, Stuart Goldthorpe, Keith Shenton, Steve Abrahams, Jack Berry and Dave Sayer who all helped out conducting or driving.

Peak Rail

Unfortunately a last minute technical fault prevented Huddersfield 472 from making a visit however not to be deterred members parked her up back in the shed and off they went in cars! Colin Sidaway was obviously disappointed that he could not take his beloved bus and Shrek remained in the shed all day!

Brook Street Wakefield

To celebrate 110 years of West Riding Arriva have provided a vehicle in a special livery and they displayed it just behind Trinity Walk. To promote the Heath Common event on the following day we also took along the PD2 and Olympian.



Left; Arriva "unzipped" for the first time

"Well done" Arriva for promoting the heritage of local buses and for supporting Museum events – we appreciate it! The bus is aptly named "Guy Wulfrunian"

Heath Common Wakefield

The Museum heavily supported this event and as can be seen in the shots below a great time was had by all. Over 3500 passenger journeys took place.



Above: Vising buses mixed with Museum exhibits and a West Riding line up

Sandtoft Trolleybus Museum

On 27th July members of the Museum enjoyed a trip out to Doncaster on 245. As she passed through Doncaster we wondered how long it had been since a Tracky National had been seen in Doncaster?

Mirfield Show & Crich

Kelvyn Waites promoted the Museum by using his Halifax Leopard on a free circular service at the Mirfield Show and Simon Turner kindly took along our A frame board to Crich to promote our events. Thanks Kelvyn & Simon!

Support our friends at Aire Valley Group – Skipton Rally 12th October

We have an excellent relationship with the Aire Valley crew so put this date in your diary and hitch a lift on a Museum bus to support this excellent event

Put your back into it lads & lasses!

More work is still needed on sorting out the scrap on the storage racks and we plan to have a "Final Fettle" before the November open day (see below)



All able bodied members on Saturday 25th Oct from 10am!

Auction of Memorabilia

At our July members meeting we auctioned off some of our duplicated Archive items. We raised the sum of £70 and this money has gone towards the glazing costs of Wulfrunian 970. Recent sales on eBay provided some surprises too. A Derby City & Trent National Bus Company era Bus Stop raised £45

- **Congratulations - To all founding members**
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The Museum is 25 years old!

A visit from Scotland

In the middle of summer we had a surprise visit from one of our members who resides in Scotland. Having realised that the Museum building is usually manned on a Monday Chris Ellum arrived unexpectedly and spent several hours with us. Chris shared many stories of his working days at Yorkshire Woollen and West Riding and thoroughly enjoyed his visit. Richard Hall acted as his tour guide so Chris is now fully appraised of what we are working on at the moment.

Christmas Dinner

Before we know it we will be wrapping gifts and placing the decorations on our Christmas Trees but more importantly we will be sitting down for our members Christmas dinner on Monday 24th November at 730pm.



If only there was a Roe bodied Regent under the tree!

This year we will be holding our event at Silkwood Farm Dewsbury Road Ossett WF5 9TP. A standard carvery plate is only £6.35 so with a dessert on top a tenner should cover it! If you would like to attend and enjoy a few festive drinks and a hearty roast dinner then speak with Richard to book your place with a £1 deposit. Final date for confirmation of numbers is Monday 20th October.

Preservation prospect - WHL 275J Alexander bodied Fleetline

For those of you attending the regular Museum meetings you will already be aware that we have located a West Riding Fleetline in Holland. Our thanks to member Ian Hunter for putting us in touch with the right people. We are in the early stages of attempting repatriation so here are some shots to whet your appetite.



Left; out to grass.

Sporting the "wrong" green paint and parked up near a windmill in Holland



Just imagine it with the blind set to Eastmoor Estate or Ferry Fryston!

The interior – not quite right. The seats are original but some are facing the wrong way. Let's hope the missing ones are stored upstairs.



Looking a little dusty but she appears to be very original. Having entered service in tilling green she was repainted poppy red in National Bus Company days but had moved on before the fleet received Verona green and buttermilk colours. The interior clearly shows she was a green bus when new!

At the moment we cannot attempt repatriation as we have too many projects on the go. If you would like to lead the project to get her home speak up!

Vehicle updates

West Riding AEC Reliance JHL 983

With the interior now clear of the Archive boxes a start has been made on tidying up the interior of the Roe Dalesman coach. Below; Luxury travel 1950's style.



She still looks very smart despite the fact that everything is original and that she is almost 60 years old. We are looking for someone to be custodian of this vehicle so if you are a member of WROPS and interested speak up. Until the National or Wulfrunian are completed she will continue to rest but at least we have her clear of clutter so that we can crack on when other projects are completed. With a custodian in place we could at least commence the interior deep cleaning.

West Riding Leyland National XUA 73X

Painting is almost completed and the National looks fantastic. There are now some mechanical issues to attend to before 73 can be taken for MOT. Work continues on the interior restoration and we have decided not to include a photograph in this issue so that she can make a big entrance on the open day! If she doesn't make the MOT in time she will make a fantastic static exhibit.

West Riding Guy Wulfrunian UCX 275

We were really disappointed not to be able to take 995 to Heath Common following her MOT failure. Mike Bennett is attempting to source parts.

West Riding Leyland Olympian A577 NWX

577 made her first public appearance on Brook Street and her preservation "in service" debut at Heath Common. There were many favourable comments about the standard of restoration carried out and particularly the paint job. Steve Hurley acquired 577 direct out of service from Arriva on 12th September 2007. During the last seven years she has spent time at Keighley, Belle Isle Depot, Dewsbury and Sykehouse. She is now once again garaged at home in the Wakefield area. Congratulations to Steve on seeing this restoration through to completion.



Left: unveiled to the sound of a marching band!

West Riding Guy Wulfrunian WHL 970

David Hudson has completed the first stage of panel fitting and the window rubber has been received. Work continues on the interior and mechanical overhaul and Colin, Stuart, Andrew and David have got her sat back on her own six wheels (with new tyres) for the first time in years. She looks great!

County Motors Guy Arab CCX 801

Number 70 is being quietly worked on and is currently over the pit. As we all know Tony Hanson and Andrew Tindall are at the Museum every Monday and with David Hudson helping things are moving along slowly but surely. Once completed the Arab will be a fine vehicle to ride on. All Guy Motors fans start the queue now!

From the Archive

Now we are getting the Archive organised here are a few gems that we have found. All the advertisements below are taken from the trade press of the 1950's



Guy were over the moon about a repeat order for 45 more Arab IV for West Riding, Roe were singing the praises of their bus bodied Reliance for West Riding and with a big fanfare the Wulfrunian had arrived, with "full air suspension" of course!

Now all we have to do is get the Arab IV, the Reliance and the two Wulfs back to "as delivered" condition as shown in the advertisements. Well, not quite! As can be seen the Wulf shown was the unique prototype with a slightly embellished front end. The Arab shown was from the first batch of 20 with open rear platforms rather than the platform door version that adorned the final batch of 45. Mike's Reliance? Well it could be repainted in the dual purpose livery not shown on the advertisement! In the next edition we will review what Yorkshire Woollen items we have found.

Twins!

Member John "Alexander" admires his twin - Whites of Calvert "Alexander" bodied Leyland Leopard on a recent visit to the Museum.



Left; Alexander & Alexander side by side!

Our Events update

Sunday 16th November

Enclosed with this newsletter you will find a stock of leaflets to promote our next event. Please distribute or display them wherever you can! More stocks are available at the Museum building.

If you can help with anything on the day then shout up. Irene Day has already committed to make some of her excellent scones and this time we will serve them with Jam and Cream! Jan Sycamore, Heather Goldthorpe and Rachel Stockton will be donning their aprons and manning the Café. Homemade cakes and buns gladly accepted! Donations towards the cost of buying bread, milk, ham, cheese, tea, coffee etc. are most welcome. Please see Mark Byard if you can sponsor anything.

We would also like to make the display of our homemade cakes and buns more visible to encourage even more sales so Jan is appealing for any members to donate any old cake or bun stands to the Museum for ongoing use. You can bring them to the Museum or a members meeting.

For the uninitiated (probably most of us) here is the sort of thing she is after!



Left: imagine this loaded up with Irene's scones

2015 Museum Events

Planning has already started and your ideas are most welcome. We will be having a third open day at the Museum in the summer months so let us know what you think and share your ideas with the Events team – Tony Salmon and Paul Salmon. 13th August saw initial ideas drafted into a plan by the team.

The end

To **end** our autumn newsletter we thought we would share the “rear **end**” of a superbly restored coach.



Right; Ethel coach EHL 336 back in Wakefield

A special note of thanks must go to Roger Burdett for making the long journey up north to allow us the treat of seeing this wonderful West Riding coach again. Experts will note that the rear is missing the West Riding oval garter. We have a replacement garter from a sister vehicle in safekeeping so all we need now is to acquire a coach to fit to it! This may sound daft but on a final note ask Steve Hurley about his acquisition of a waspy moquette three seat cushion he purchased in 2006. In 2007 he bought the Olympian to fit to the cushion!