

LEEDS TRANSPORT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEWS SHEET 172

FEBRUARY 2013



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

- Mon. 11 Feb. **Across the USA in search of a Tram to Roundhay** (Part 2) Jamie Guest
- Mon. 11 Mar. **Oddments from the Camera**
Mike Waring
- Mon. 8 Apr. **A.G.M.** + 107 update, Jamie Guest
The formal notice of the meeting, Minutes of the 2012 A.G.M. and Trustees' & Secretary's Reports are attached to this News Sheet.
- Mon. 13 May **British Tramway Liveries and Transfers** David Smith

OTHER LOCAL MEETINGS & COMING EVENTS

February

- Fri. 8 (LRTA) **Tramways in Europe** Mel Reuben
- Mon.18 (LTTG) **Across the USA in search of a Tram to Roundhay** Jamie Guest

March

- Tue. 5 (MRT) **Transport Cine** Malcolm Hindes
- Thu. 7 (NGRS) **Mining in the North Yorkshire Moors** Neil Rowley
- Tue.12 (LRTA) **Across the USA in search of a Tram to Roundhay** Jamie Guest
- Sat.9 (NGRS) **Narrow Gauge North** 10.00-17.00
Model Railway Exhibition at Benton Park School, Rawdon, admission £6
- Mon.18 (LTTG) **Transport Comedy** (postponed from January) Mel Reuben

April

- Tue. 2 (MRT) **Gricing around the world** Ian Smith
- Thu. 4 (NGRS) **Colorado - Railroad to Heaven**
Graham Lightfoot
to be advised
- Tue.9 (LRTA)
- Mon.15 (LTTG) **Cine Films** Malcolm Hindes

May

- Tue 7 (MRT) **Indian Narrow Gauge** Peter Jordan
- Thu. 2 (NGRS) **Slates from Blaenau Ffestiniog**
Andrew Neale
- Tue.14 (LRTA) Ian Dougill
- Mon. 20 (LTTG) TBA

Groups, Meeting Places & Times

- MRT** Middleton Railway Trust, The Engine House, Moor Road, Hunslet, 1930. No charge, refreshments on sale.
- LRTA** Light Rail Transit Association, Leeds Area, Committee Room No. 5, Civic Hall, 1900. (Note change of meeting night from March)
- LTTG** Leeds Transport Touring Group, at Grove Inn, Back Row, Holbeck, 2000. £1 inc. supper.
- NGRS** Narrow Gauge Railway Society, Yorkshire Area, Epicentre, Meanwood Valley Urban Farm, 7.45 for 8.00. Collection - £2 nominal, £1 minimum.

TRAM-TRAIN LINK TO LEEDS-BRADFORD INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT? **Press Release**

At a meeting of the All Party Parliamentary Light Rail Group on Tuesday 22 January Greg Mulholland MP outlined to an audience of cross-party MPs, and representatives from the Department for Transport, local government and the light rail industry the current progress on the planning of a TRAM-TRAIN link to Leeds-Bradford International Airport (LBIA).

The meeting followed a working lunch attended by Norman Baker MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Transport, West Yorkshire MPs and local government representatives to discuss a strategy for progressing the scheme. The cross-party support for the scheme is reflected in the selection of three local MPs to lead a campaign to promote the proposal: Greg Mulholland MP (LibDem, Leeds North West); Alec Shelbrooke MP (Con, Elmet & Rothwell); and Gerry Sutcliffe (Lab, Bradford South).

It was emphasised that this is a once in lifetime opportunity for a lasting infrastructure benefit as opposed to many of the short term road solutions already proposed.

After the meeting, Alec Shelbrooke said "The APPLRG meeting was invaluable for getting all political parties together as well as the major stakeholders to highlight the united aim we have in securing a TRAM-TRAIN link to LBIA for the benefit of Leeds, Bradford, West Yorkshire and The North. It is crucial we act quickly and with coordination to achieve this outcome and I look forward to leading this with Gerry Sutcliffe and Greg Mulholland in the future."

The Leeds City Region Transport Strategy (2009) contained a proposal for conversion of the Leeds-Harrogate-York Line to TRAM-TRAIN operation, including a link to LBIA. More recently, the Harrogate Line Strategy (2012) proposed overhead electrification of the route (complementing other electrification schemes in the region), with TRAM-TRAIN at either end of the route from LBIA via Horsforth to Leeds, and Poppleton to York. A link from LBIA to Bradford via Guiseley is also under consideration.

ELECTRONIC NEWS SHEET **Malcolm Hindes**

Many thanks to those members who have agreed to receive this News Sheet by e-mail, saving the Society a substantial postage bill (£2 per member per year), useful funds for other work such as the Horse Tram.

If you are also willing to consider electronic distribution, e-mail me at malcolm.hindes@btinternet.com and we will do the rest. You will receive the sheet as an attachment as soon as it is ready (usually the day of the meeting). We promise that email addresses provided for this purpose will not be disclosed or used otherwise without your permission.

HORSE CAR 107 UPDATE

Jamie Guest

Since the last Newsletter there has been much progress on the horse car. Just before Christmas we moved from the Engine House museum into the main workshop. Here we are sharing the carriage shop with a parcels van (PMV) that is being converted into an accessible coach. There is only just enough room and the B end staircase is actually between the buffers of the coach and very close to the drawhook. The great advantage is that we have much easier access to the mess room and the machine shop.

The main areas of work have been the upper deck and the handrail system. The handrail stanchions have been erected on the top deck and much work has gone into designing and producing the specialized components for the rails on the stairs. All the tube for the handrails has been bought. The crowning glory of these is (in my opinion) the special handrail knobs for the staircase which have to have the rails passing through at an angle of 58°. This causes design problems as the 1" diameter hole nearly severs the ball from the spigot. Malcolm Johnson, the head machinist at Middleton has worked closely with me to design and produce these from solid brass bar (which isn't cheap).



These have been produced on a copying lathe that Malcolm wanted to learn how to use, so both societies have benefited. These parts plus six other specialized handrail knobs for other areas have now been polished and look stunning.

Meanwhile work has progressed in putting all the latts down on the upper deck and landings and then in the past few weeks we have put canvas on the canopies. This has not been an easy job as they need continuous beading round the irregular curves of the canopy bends. Paul has made these beads and they look well.



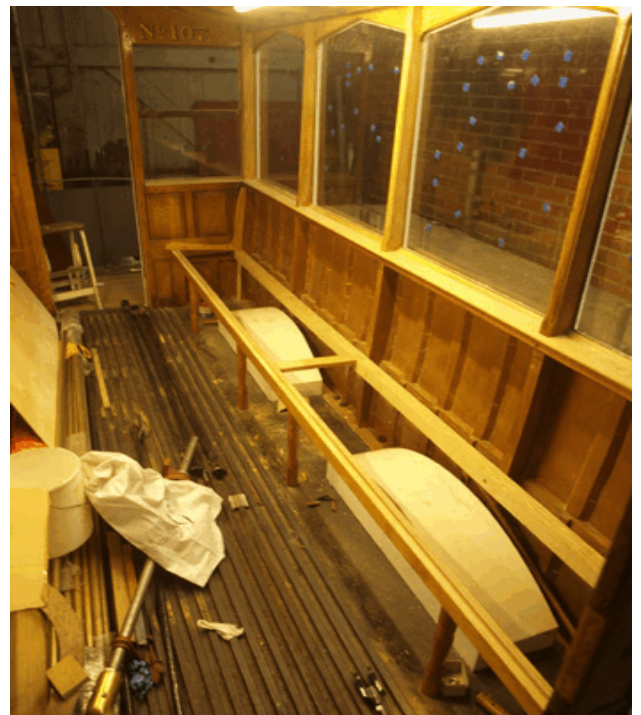
Inside the tram Jim has fettled one of the window sills, which has now had its first coat of varnish and the four wooden mudguards have been made and fitted. These

are mainly made out of old pew seats salvaged from a chapel in Headingley [Woodhouse Moor Methodist - Ed.] many years ago. The mudguards are quite large wooden boxes that fit over the holes in the floor that the wheels protrude through. Once the timber had been cut to shape Jim made and painted them at home. Now with a coat of bitumastic paint on the inside they are ready for fitting.

The platform steps have also been fitted and they make the job of getting on and off the tram much easier. I personally hate sheet metal work but have been taught to use the folding machine and have managed to produce the two end plates for the platform steps. Design work for the lamp units is also ongoing and these are going to be made by a man from Shropshire who makes Traction Engine lamps. David Smith from the TMS has also produced the design for the garter and number on the side and these look stunning.

Over the coming weeks the handrails will be fitted and after various tidying up jobs the seats will be finally fitted. Once the better weather comes the dashes will be fitted. To do this we need to open the doors of the shed and there are two cranes in the way. Then the brakes can be fitted and tested. That just leaves the final painting and various details such as the bell system, which needs to be produced from scratch.

The tram is finally nearly finished and we are planning the launch event. This is to be at some point during the



August Bank Holiday. The Middleton Railway Trust are organising a Leeds Transport Gala over the three days of the Bank Holiday with hopefully old buses, steam road vehicles and of course 107 as the star of the show. The plan is for it to be offering horse drawn rides up and down the car park on one or two days of the weekend. Due to space constraints at Middleton it will have to move to Crich on the Tuesday so this will be the only chance to ride on 107 in Leeds, virtually on the trackbed of the old Middleton Light Railway, unless of course the Department of Transport see sense and convert the trolleybus scheme to a tramway, in which case we would try to offer rides round the city centre.

THE LEEDS TRANSPORT HISTORICAL SOCIETY (Reg. Charity 501642)

NOTICE OF THE 2013 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING and associated documents

Notice is hereby given that the next Annual General Meeting of the Society will be held on Monday 9th April 2013 at the Richmond Hill (formerly Yorkshire Rider) Social Club, Railway Street, Leeds, LS9 8HS, commencing at 20.00 hrs.

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held in 2012
3. Matters Arising from the Minutes.
4. The Trustees' Report
5. The Secretary's Report.
6. The Treasurer's Report
- 6.1 Approval of the accounts for 2012
- 6.2 Subscription rates for 2013
7. Election of the Trustees:
 - a. Chairman
 - b. Vice-Chairman
 - c. Secretary
 - d. Treasurer
 - e. Three Ordinary Members of the Committee.
8. Appointment of the Auditor to the Society for the current year.
9. Updating of Constitution.
10. Future projects
11. Any other business.

Members who wish to nominate a person for a position on the Committee should seek the consent of that person before the start of the meeting.

Anyone with queries about the Annual General Meeting or who needs further information should contact the Hon. Secretary at the address below:

17 Church Street
Gildersome
LEEDS
LS27 7AE

J. M. Guest
Hon. Secretary

Tel 0113 252 2797

7th February 2013

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 2012

Held at the Yorkshire Rider Social Club, Railway Street, Leeds, LS9 8HS on Monday 16th April 2012 starting at 20.07 hrs.

1. **Present:-** J.M. Guest, I.M. Dougill, J. Soper, M.J. Waring, A. Cowell, J.M. Hindes, E. Smith, J.B. Parkin, C.M. Bogg, S. Longthorpe, C. Youhill, D. Punchedard, M. Walker, H. Pullan, V. Squires.

Apologies for Absence:- I. Johnson, R. Syms, H. Heyworth, G. Welburn, P. Malone, R. B. Shaw, P. Johnson.

The meeting opened at 8.07pm and I. Dougill thanked all members for attending.

2. **Minutes of Previous AGM 2011.** These were accepted subject to adding E. Smith to the list of apologies; they were then approved nem con.

3. Matters Arising:- None.

4. Trustees' Report. This was adopted and received with thanks having been circulated prior to the meeting.

5. Secretary's Report. This had been circulated previously to members and was accepted.

6.1 Treasurer's Report. Mr. Cowell submitted his report. There were no questions and it was accepted nem con.

6.2 Subscriptions. A.C. reported that they needed to double to cover the Society's running costs, particularly postage, and had not been raised for some years. Various levels were discussed and a level of £8 for 2012/13 was proposed by J.B. Parkin, seconded by J. Guest. This was accepted unanimously.

7. Election of Officers.

- a) Chairman: I. Dougill elected unopposed.
- b) Vice Chairman: S. Longthorpe elected unopposed.
- c) Secretary: J. Guest elected unopposed.
- d) Treasurer: A. Cowell was elected unopposed.
- e) Ordinary Members: J.M. Hinds, J. Soper and M.J. Waring were all nominated and elected unopposed.

8. Appointment of Independent Examiner for 2012. The Treasurer stated that Roger Mercer was willing to act in this capacity again and the meeting approved this nem con. The meeting expressed its thanks and appreciation to Mr. Mercer for his work.

9. Whitkirk Depot. J. Guest explained that we would have to vacate the depot at Whitkirk once 107 moved to the Middleton Railway and asked for volunteers to help clear the premises and to store books and other items.

10. Future projects. J Guest reported that the production of *Leeds Transport On Postcards* was well under way and it was due for publication later in the year. Work to produce a new DVD was also in hand. Initial research was also to be undertaken to research the feasibility of building a replica of a Roundhay Electric car and that four Committee Members were intending to go to the USA on a research trip later in the year.

11. Any Other Business

11.1 R. Buckley's book on Leeds Trams: E. Smith asked about this book and mentioned the number of factual errors it contained and if the Society had had an input. I.D. explained that we had no control over this type of thing, but if approached by authors were happy to help.

11.2 E. Smith offered talks on two subjects:-

- a) "Five Summers of Leeds from the Back Platform" about his experiences as a temporary conductor in Leeds
 - b) A video on French Tramways.
- I.D. said he would discuss these with E. Smith.

11.3 J.M. Hinds asked about the possibility of using a **PA system** during meetings; I.D. was to talk to V.Squires about this.

11.4 J. M. Hinds apologised for the late production of the March News Sheet.

11.5 J. Guest said that he would be organising another trip out in the autumn, this time to the Manchester Metrolink System, details to follow in due course.

The meeting closed at 9.16pm

It was followed by a presentation by J. Guest about the progress with 107. This was coming on at great rate with the running gear now assembled and the tram glazed and roofed. It was due to move to Middleton in August where it would be wheeled before completion in 2013.

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2012

The Objects of the Society: To promote for the benefit of the nation the preservation of public transport vehicles and items of allied transport interest which are of historic and educational value. Further details are given in the Society's constitution, a copy of which may be obtained by application to the Hon Secretary.

The Trustees: I.M. Dougill (Chairman), S. Longthorpe (Vice Chairman) J.M. Guest (Secretary), A. Cowell (Treasurer), J.M. Hindes, J. Soper and M.J. Waring. The Trustees were elected at the Annual General Meeting held on 16th April 2012 and form the Society's Committee. All Trustees serve in an honorary capacity and are elected annually. Five meetings of the Committee were held during the year.

Income and Expenditure: This was generated mainly by the sales of books. *Leeds Transport on Postcards* was published during the year and this has generated significant sales along with continuing sales of previous volumes of *Leeds Transport*. The remainder comes from the sale of photographs, models, video tapes, DVDs and donated items at Transport related events. Income this year was over £12,000. We also received cash donations from members including larger ones 'ring fenced' towards the restoration of Leeds Horse Tram No.107. Expenditure on materials for the restoration of 107 has continued to rise as more parts have had to be manufactured. Copies of the audited accounts for the Society are available from the Secretary at the address above.

Sales Stands: We attended seven events where we had sales stands. These were Pudsey Civic Hall in January, Dewsbury Bus Museum in March, Middleton Railway in June and July, Sandtoft Trolleybus Museum in July and the Leeds Model Railway Society Show in October. The stand has been revamped and the stock reorganised and sales have gone well during the year aided particularly by sales of *Leeds Transport on Postcards*.

Publications: *Leeds Transport on Postcards* was published at the end of October and initial sales have gone well. The book has been reviewed in a variety of magazines, including *Old Glory*, *Postcard Monthly* and *Today's Railways UK*. The Society is also continuing to work on the production of some DVDs using rare archive film of Leeds transport which has been collected and digitised by the Society. Internet based sales have also been very encouraging.

Restoration Work: Leeds Horse Tram 107 is now nearing completion. The seats were produced, both inside and outside, then in August the body and the running gear were moved to the Middleton Railway and united so that 107 became a proper railed vehicle again for the first time since 1901. An initial coat of paint has transformed it. Since then work has continued to fit the upper deck seats and to design and manufacture the handrails. Other detail fittings are being produced and fitted and the tram is due to be completed in August 2013. This has generated considerable publicity and several articles have appeared in the *Yorkshire Post*, the *Yorkshire Evening Post* and *Old Glory*, as well as being featured on Radio Leeds. Much assistance has been given by the Middleton Railway Trust, for which the Society is very grateful.

General Activities: Members are interested in all forms of public transport and meet at the Richmond Hill (formerly Yorkshire Rider) Social Club, Railway Street, Leeds, on the second Monday of each month except for July and August. Several members and visiting speakers gave talks using slides, films, video and DVDs to cover a variety of transport topics including technical and museum subjects in many parts of the world. A second club outing to Manchester Metrolink was organised in October and eight members enjoyed a day riding and viewing a modern tramway system that is expanding rapidly. Five News Sheets were published in 2012 with reports on our activities and articles and 'snippets' of information. A separate programme of meetings was also issued. In addition to restoration work on the Leeds Horse Tram and research into and writing of the various Society publications, work has continued with the digitisation of Leeds transport photographs. After a gap of many years Society working parties at Crich recommenced with several members helping J. Soper to create a new park area round the bandstand. The bandstand was repainted over several months ready for its rededication. Members of the Society also give illustrated talks about the 107 Project to interested groups. Four members also undertook a research trip to the USA to investigate the feasibility of building a replica of a Roundhay Electric car from 1891. The Society has also assisted Ipswich Transport Museum with advice on the proposed restoration of Cambridge No. 7, which has turned out to have originally been Bradford and Shelf No. 7.

I.M. Dougill
Hon. Chairman

HON. SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR 2012

This, my third Secretary's report is a pleasure to write as I am able to report so much progress with the Society's various projects. The amount of work that has been done reflects great credit on the enthusiasm of the members involved and has succeeded in raising the profile of the Society.

The Committee and its meetings. We again started the year with a full Committee following the 2012 AGM. It consisted of Ian Dougill, (Chairman), Stephen Longthorpe (Vice Chairman), Jamie Guest (Secretary), Tony Cowell (Treasurer), Jim Soper, Malcolm Hindes and Mike Waring who were elected at the AGM. The Committee met five times during the year. Stephen, Ian and Mike all missed one meeting. All meetings took place at Jim Soper's House and we are very grateful to him and his wife Val for their hospitality.

Leeds Transport on Postcards and other publications. *Leeds Transport on Postcards* was published at the end of October. It was produced in both hard and soft back formats and both styles are selling well. The publication also generated interest in other volumes of *Leeds Transport*. The distribution contract with Parcellforce has continued and the price has reduced for the second year running. Another encouraging sign is the growth in internet based sales, either through the website or via Amazon. As last year it is felt that in the current economic climate this is a very good result for all the hard work put in.

Horse Car 107 This has progressed very well. Manufacture of the interior seats and production of parts for the upper deck seats continued. In August the great move to Middleton took place. Over two successive Wednesdays the body and then the running gear were moved using a large Hiab and lorry. They were then united at Middleton using a Smith of Rodley crane and by the evening of the 22nd August 107 was a true rail vehicle again for the first time since 1901, and was able to be shunted inside on its own wheels. The suspension behaved very well. Since then work has continued with the platform steps and floor latts fitted, the handrail stanchions are also in place upstairs and the parts for the staircase rails are being made. Other detailing jobs are ongoing by leaps and bounds and the car is resplendent in a first coat of the correct paint. It is due to be completed in August this year when a public launch will take place before it is moved to Crich.

Sales Stephen Longthorpe has had another good year as Sales Officer and the stand has been revamped with new lightweight display boards purchased. The Society attended events at Pudsey Civic Centre, Heath Common bus rally, the Middleton Railway, Dewsbury Bus Museum and the Leeds Model Railway Society Show at the end of October. Sales have gone well with takings up considerably including the new Postcard book.

The Society Website. The website, which had been produced by a volunteer from Crich, did not perform well but the Society still has a web presence and is hoping to have a rebuilt website online this year. www.lths.org.uk is still available and updated regularly along with progress reports about 107.

J.M. Guest
17 Church Street, Gildersome
LEEDS, LS27 7AE
7 February 2013

The **TREASURER'S REPORT and ACCOUNTS** will be available at the A.G.M. or on application to the Secretary at the registered address (below) with stamped, addressed envelope.

Contributions of news or articles for News Sheets are always welcome and may be submitted to the News Sheet co-ordinator, Malcolm Hindes, at 34 Moor Park Villas, Headingley, Leeds, LS6 4BZ, e-mail malcolm.hindes@btinternet.com
All statements and comments are those of the contributors and do not necessarily represent Society policy.

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