
TROLLEY

PROVIDING THAT ESSENTIAL LINK WITH SUMMERLEE'S POWERHOUSE

ISSUE No. 5

JUNE 1992



TROLLEY

is a newsletter of the Summerlee Transport Group, a voluntary support group of the Summerlee Heritage Trust.

YOUR STG COMMITTEE

Chairperson	Mr R A Connor
Secretary	Mr C R S MacRae
Treasurer	Mr R N Sutherland
Project Co-ordinator	Mr R Nocher
Sales Officer	Mr J Wilson
Membership Secretary	Mr P Robertson
Trolley Editor/Producer	Mr G C Conn
Ordinary Committee)	Mr B M Longworth
Members)	Mr T B Caldwell

The views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the editor, the Transport Group or the Summerlee Heritage Trust.

TROLLEY No. 6

Any news, articles, additions, corrections, letters, sales items etc for "Trolley" No. 6 must be with the editor (Gary C Conn) at 10F Fergusson Road, Seafar, Cumbernauld, GLASGOW, G67 1LS (or left in the Members Mail Box) no later than the end of August.

The cover photo shows a merry band of STG volunteers on the front of Lanarkshire 53 in the Depot at the start of April, namely (left to right) Top: Graham, Brian, Douglas, Peter and Robin. Middle: Gary, Adrian and David. Bottom: Bob, Bob, Ian and Jim.

Welcome to "Trolley" No. 5 - bigger, brighter and hopefully better! If you have any comments or suggestions on the revised format or new features please send them to the editor at the address shown opposite. Any ideas for further new features would also be most welcome.

NEWS

OPERATIONS

The Tramway service has been operated daily by 225 except for a couple of days in March when the service was suspended to enable the power to be switched off to allow the tipper trucks supplying the tar for the roads to tip up safely without any danger from the overhead.

TRAMCARS

Lanarkshire 53 has had its new staircases fitted. Otherwise there has been little progress on 53 since the last report. The car was moved outside in March, on display, when Scotrail director Mr Bleasdale was in attendance opening the new railway line.

Oporto 150 is still awaiting removal from the depot to make way for 1017. The committee has submitted plans to the trust for the moving and future use of 150. A reply is currently being awaited.

Graz 225 has had its handbrakes adjusted.

Glasgow 1017 is still awaiting removal to the depot.

Bruxelles 9062 Window re-rubbering has now been completed and any remaining leaks have been sealed - we hope! This car is now in the process of being repainted, after receiving colour samples from Brussels. Work, electrically, however, on this car seems to have come to an almost halt.

DEPOT

The area of land adjacent to the depot (including the normal pedestrian entrance to the depot and the various works portacabins) has been fenced off.

PASSENGERS

It is hoped to provide a detailed analysis of passenger carryings and journeys for the last half of 1991 and the first half of 1992 in the next edition of "Trolley".

EXTERNAL FIXTURES

The shelter at the entrance terminus of the tramway has been cleaned down, repainted into traction pole green and reglazed.

RAILWAY

Trainees from British Rail's permanent way department have laid a short railway line running from the side of the depot to the Sunnyside terminus of the tramway, running parallel to the BR mainline, with a short siding adjacent to the coalmine leading from points adjacent to the depot fan.

The railway engines previously situated on the line between the tram track and the main building at the top end of the site have been moved to this new line. The Garrett, however, has not been moved. None of the engines have yet run under their own steam (or diesel).

MEMBERSHIP

From the membership renewals in January over 70% of members renewed. The meet the members/depot open night gained us an additional few new members from those whose membership had lapsed over the past few years. The current membership now stands at 63.

NEW LOGO

The logo printed in "Trolley Extra" No. 4(a) is, infact, not the final version of the Group's new logo. The competition winner, Douglas Robertson, is producing some variations to his design for the committee to decide which is the most suitable -more details in the next "Trolley".

BEAMISH

The group is organising a trip to Beamish, The North of England Open Air Museum, on Sunday 21 June 1992. Full details and a booking form are included with this newsletter.

SITE CONSTRUCTION

The majority of the roads on the site have been tarred, the footpaths have been covered with attractive flagstones and the stone cladding on the bridge is now complete. The basic structure of the coalmine is also complete and the surrounding 'hole' has been filled in. The miners' rows are progresssing well and a footbridge is to be built between the Ironworks Gallery/shop building and the area where the Vulcan is situated. This is to replace the path from the shop to the tram terminus which has long been fenced off and is now landscaped.

MEMBERS' LIBRARY



The position of librarian has been appointed to Peter Robertson by the committee. The library costs nothing to join (although a £5 deposit is required when you join and refunded if you leave). On joining you will receive a list of all the titles available to you. Thereafter it costs 25p per book hired per fortnight. Application forms to join the library will be issued once it is set up and operational.

SPECIAL EVENTS 1992

Please see the "Members Diary" on the backpage for dates of this years' special events. It is likely that the Group will have a stall (in conjunction with SITA) at the Vintage Vehicle Rally, Grand Steam Fair and Model Engineering Fair. If any member can help out on the stall on any of these days please contact the Sales Officer, Jim Wilson. To help on the Tramway itself please contact Chief Motorman Bob Connor.

MEET THE MEMBERS

As mentioned above, this occasion was fairly successful. A number of members, ex-members and visitors attended to see what progress there been since they were last at Summerlee, or in the depot (if it was built!), and to see what they could do to help in the depot or on the Tramway.

PRESENTATION

Alex Christie, Summerlee's Chief Engineer, has now retired. On Sunday May 10 he was presented with a louvre window for his greenhouse - an unusual retirement present you may think, but it was chosen with guidance from his wife. Thank you to all members who gave something towards this collection at the winter meetings.

TURN OVER FOR TROLLEY'S NEW FEATURES



NEW FEATURES ☺



MOTORMAN'S LOG

This new feature was once a popular column in the "Traction News". Written by the Chief Motorman, Bob Connor, it will, hopefully, now be a fairly regular feature, here, in "Trolley".

No. 3

R. A. Connor

This is the initial appearance of this feature in the "Trolley" newsletter, and possibly it may appear in occasional future issues. Basically, it is intended to cover ground similar to that of the Motorman's Log feature of the former Summerlee Traction News which ceased with the unexpected departure of Robin Chesters, the Tramways Superintendent, from the Heritage Museum in Dec. '89. He had not only promoted the establishment of STN, but had ensured its progress and production through the Summerlee office system.

Last year there was, unfortunately, no examination of Trainee Motormen, the result being a back-log. M/M., having demonstrated their competence in controlling the Car, have still to have a practical examination. At present these are classed as List 2 M/M., but allowed to control the Car as those of List 1. This arrangement with the approval of the Summerlee Management. Perhaps not the most satisfactory situation for the Motormen concerned, but there seems no obvious solution out of the impasse.

For the last 18 months, Graz 225 has been the only operational Car at Summerlee. The Bruxelles Car (9062) initially was withdrawn for attention to the Westinghouse compressor, but once into the Car-sheds the Summerlee engineering staff decided to replace the "back-up" controller on the rear platform with a main controller acquired as a spare from Bruxelles. This was a task first mooted for implementation within the first few weeks of the inauguration of the Electric-traction service at Summerlee. However, in view of the magnitude of this operation, the STG urged caution and deferment of any action on this front, until a second operational Car was available for service. We were quite relieved when the matter was allowed to remain on the back-burner for several years.

With the Graz Car having no air-brakes, motormen grown accustomed to that type of brake on 9062, found it quite a culture shock having to adapt to regular of the mechanical hand-brake, and the tendency was for some Motormen to start relying on the Electric-brake, contrary to advice against this practise stated at the Motor-school. However, all M/M. are now fully aware of the dangers inherent in the regular reliance on this method of controlling Cars.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Air your views through another one of the new features. If something is bothering you or you would like to make a point about something, get your pen and paper out and write to the editor at the address shown inside the front cover. We will try to answer any questions you have to the best of our ability. The editor reserves the right to cut and edit any letters submitted.

PLACES TO VISIT

If any member has recently visited another tramway or museum (or will be doing so soon) then they may wish to write a short article about it to give other members ideas for days away, weekend tours or even a full holiday. Please send any reports to the editor at the above address.

REVIEWS

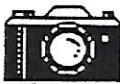


If any member has recently read any new tramway or transport books or viewed any similar videos then any short reviews on these would be warmly welcome. Please send any reviews to the editor at the above address.

SALES COLUMN

If any member has any transport related items (e.g. books, magazines, ticket machines etc...) which you wish to sell you can advertise them here - for **free**! Please send the details along with your name and telephone number to the editor at the above address by the end of August for inclusion in "Trolley" No. 6.

PHOTOSPOT



The top view opposite shows Bruxelles cars 7006 and 9041 at the Tervuren Terminus.

The bottom view shows car 9066 (which is from the same batch as 9062 and 9041).



MEMBERS' DIARY

<u>Date</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Venue</u>
Sun 21 June	1992 STG Trip	Beamish
Sun 28 June *	Vintage Vehicle Rally	Summerlee
Sat & Sun 4 & 5 July	Festival of Model Tramways	Tramway Musuem, Crich
Sun 19 July*	Tram Sunday	Fleetwood
Sun 16 Aug	Monklands Canal Steam Boat Rally	Summerlee
Sat & Sun 22 & 23 Aug *	Grand Steam Fair	Summerlee
Sat 29 Aug *	Scottish Vintage Bus Museum Open Day	East Whitburn, West Lothian
Sat & Sun 12 & 13 Sept *	Model Engineering Fair	Summerlee
Sat 19 Sept	Lanarkshire Classic Reliability Trial	Summerlee
10-18 Oct	October Fair	Summerlee

* The Group usually has a sales stand at those events marked with an asterisk (normally in conjunction with SITA).

Gary C. Conn
Summerlee Transport Group
June 1992