

MEMBERS' DIARY

Date	Details
Thur 7 Mar 7.30pm	STG Annual General Meeting - Conference Room Summerlee Museum
Thur 4 Apr 7.30pm	STG Meeting Subject to be confirmed Summerlee Museum
5 - 8 Apr 10am-5pm	Easter Event with Facepainting, Making Cards, Egg Decoration Competition.. Summerlee Museum
Tue 9 Apr 7.30pm	SITA Meeting Subject to be confirmed City Halls Glasgow (Enter Door F Albion St)
4 - 6 May 10am-5pm	Spring Fling with all the usual fun for children over the weekend Summerlee Museum
Sat 23 June 10am-5pm	Historic Vehicle Festival - The Museum site packed vehicles Summerlee Museum

STG

SUMMERLEE TRANSPORT GROUP

OPERATING SCOTLAND'S
ONLY WORKING TRAMWAY

Gary C Conn
Summerlee Transport Group
February 1996

TROLLEY

KEEPING ALL THE CURRENT NEWS OF SUMMERLEE FLOWING TO YOU

ISSUE No. 15

FEBRUARY 1996



GRAZ 225 TRANSLATIONS &
THE WEST YORKSHIRE TRANSPORT MUSEUM

TROLLEY

STG

is a newsletter of the Summerlee Transport Group, a voluntary support group of Summerlee Museum. Registered as a charity.

YOUR STG COMMITTEE

Chairman	Mr B M Longworth
Secretary	Mr B Quinn (acting)
Treasurer	Mr R N Sutherland
Sales Officer	Mr J Wilson
Membership Secretary	Mr B Quinn
1017 Co-ordinator	Mr R Nocher
Trolley Editor	Mr G C Conn / D R White Asst
Ordinary Committee)	Mr P Ramsay
Members	Mr R Armstrong
Modelling Officer	Mr R Maclean
External Liason Officer	Vacant *

* The Committee will co-opt someone with the necessary experience for this post.

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

Trolley No. 16

Any news, articles, additions, corrections, letters, sales items etc for "Trolley" No. 16 must be with the editor at *** *****
*****, Cumbernauld, GLASGOW, G67 ***** (or left in the Members Mail Box) no later than the end of March.

The cover photo shows Lanarkshire 53, with member John Deegans at the controls, passing the colliery buildings. This view has been produced as a postcard by Summerlee Museum and can be purchased in the shop.

EDITOR'S NOTE

Welcome to Trolley No 15. With this issue being the first of 1996 may I begin by wishing all members the very best for 1996.

Since the last edition of trolley there have been a number of changes within the organisational side of Summerlee. The Heritage Trust no longer has trust status and has been fully integrated with Monklands District Council. It will be absorbed into the new North Lanarkshire Council from 1 April when local government reorganisation takes place in Scotland. The Trust's name has now been changed to Summerlee Museum. The main effect this will have on the Transport Group will be that our funding should come from the new council via Summerlee (hopefully)

NEWS

OPERATIONS

Throughout the Winter the service has been operated by either 225 or 9062 depending on car availability. 53 was officially withdrawn from service for the winter so that essential maintenance can take place.

NOTICE FROM COMMITTEE:

Motormen who cannot keep their appointments are asked to try and arrange a substitute. If unable to do so please inform Summerlee on 01236 431261 (tearoom - 01236 421051).

TRAMCARS

Lanarkshire 53 There has been tremendous progress with the outstanding brasswork on this car. Members have stripped one controller for overhaul and the braking system is also being overhauled

Graz 225 New tube lighting has been ordered from OSRAM in Germany. Quotes have been obtained for a replacement fuse box as spares for the original are becoming impossible to obtain. 225 has been unavailable for service during early 1996 due to these fuse problems.

Glasgow 1017 Work has virtually ground to a halt on this car as we have no members available with the relevant skills. *If you have*

ANY woodworking skills, no matter how little, your help is greatly needed for this project.

Bruxelles 9062 was having problems with its brake shoes. These seem to have been rectified and 9062 is the only car available for service with 225 out of action.

DEPOT COMPOUND

The area next to the depot has been drastically cleared so that when the tram shed is extended there will be less work required. A 40 foot container has been obtained by the Museum on our behalf. This will be used to store various spares and artefacts which there is little room for in the depot.

DEPOT

A safety trip switch has been fitted to the 240V ring in the depot. 'Lye Live' light boxes are being fitted at the rear of the depot. Pigeons are once again causing problems in the depot. A permanent solution is being sought.

EX-LISBON TRUCKS

The three trucks currently stored from Lisbon have been moved from the Conservation Workshop to the outside end of the Exhibition Hall. They are covered in a strong tarpaulin.

HORSETRAM

The horsetram has been moved from the exhibition hall to the boatshop where there is specialist equipment to deal with the bodywork.

POTENTIAL ACQUISITIONS

Negotiations are still ongoing regarding acquiring Glasgow Works Car 21, currently at the National Tramway Museum at Crich. Further details will be given when known.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership renewal forms for 1996 were issued early in February. If you have not already done so please forward these to the membership secretary as soon as possible.

FIRST AID COURSE

A list of names is being compiled for members interested in taking part in a first aid course. If you are interested please contact a member of the committee to register.

MOTORSCHOOL

Mike Chalton has been taking a number of Summerlee's Visitors Services staff through the Motorschool to enable them to cover days when then the Group has no Motormen available.

TRAMWAY MODELLING GROUP

R. Maclean

The group continue to meet each Wednesday evening in the portacabin inside the tram depot compound at 7.30 pm.

All the original rails were lifted at the end of last year and new rails have now been laid. Overhead has been added and grass laid where there are no roads or buildings. The systems operated considerably better with the new trackwork.

It is planned to open the layout to the public at special events and a smaller layout is planned for attending outside events.

As usual new members are always extremely welcome to the model group.

PERMANENT WAY

Following quotes received concerning a number of areas of track Summerlee has lifted the setts around the concerned areas in anticipation of correction work beginning. When this task is complete it should remove all of the bad joints in the track.

MUSEUM NEWS

At the Hornock Colliery display a coal screening and bagging plant has been constructed at the pit-head complex. The structure is based on a similar one formerly at Spoutcroft mine near Newhouse. Gardens have been added on the land behind the two storey miners rows featuring four periods between 1900 and the present day. The grassed land adjacent to this will feature the 'Jubilee' fountain originally from Dunbeth Park in Coatbridge.

A new entrance gate has been created to help feed visitors through the shop highlighting the fact that they must buy their tickets there

before they can board the tram. It is eventually planned to use the small cottage at the bottom of Heritage Way as the entrance and this is being worked on at present.

The tearoom now located in the old meeting room in the Ironworks Gallery and is considerably larger with a bigger menu. The old tearoom is now the conference room where meetings are now held. The sawmill site next to the tram stop has been cleared in preparation for the display of woodworking machinery and the erection of a timber drying shed.

A stairway is being constructed at the side of the canal bridge (depot end) to the canal tow path. A large number of workers on a government supported scheme are working on this and other projects around the site.

1996 SPECIAL EVENTS

Provisional dates are as follows for Summerlee's Special Events. Final dates will be confirmed following the local council reorganisation in April:

Easter Weekend	Fri 5 - Mon 8 Apr
Spring Fling	Sat 4 - Mon 6 May
Historic Vehicle Festival	Sun 23 June
School Holiday Event	Sat 29 June - Sun 7 July
Grand Steam Fair	Sat/Sun 18/19 or 25/26 Aug
Model & Engineering Fair	Sat/Sun 14/15 Sept
Witches & Wizards	Sat 12 - Sun 20 Oct
Christmas Event	23 Nov - Jan 97

Please contact Summerlee Museum on (01236) 431261 for further details and confirmation.

As usual the Group will have a sales stall at these events as well as many outside the Museum. Please contact the Sales Officer nearer the time if you wish to lend a hand.

SUMMERLEE STAFF NEWS

Member Mike Chalton has joined the Summerlee workforce. He is in charge of Tramway operations. He also covers for Motormen during their lunch breaks and trains Summerlee's staff in tramway operation. Mike is contactable most afternoons in the depot.

Congratulations to Carol Haddow, Operations Manager, at Summerlee who has been successful in her application for Head of Museums and Heritage in the new North Lanarkshire Council. This will leave the top post at Summerlee vacant.

1995/6 SEASON OF MEETINGS

After the AGM there is only one meeting left this season, in April, on Thursday 4th at 7.30pm in the conference room at the Museum. A speaker has still to be arranged for this night and will therefore be a surprise night - so come along and be entertained.

SOCIAL EVENTS

In early May it is proposed to have an outing to the Scottish Vintage Bus Museum at Lathalmond in Fife please contact any committee member if you are interested for further details.

It is planned to have a Group outing in June. Previous successful outings have seen members visiting Beamish and The Black Country Museum in recent years. Some suggestions include Manchester, Sheffield, Newcastle Metro or the Grampian Transport Museum at Alford near Aberdeen. Further details will be given as soon as known.

At Christmas time a number of members went for a Christmas meal followed by a few games of ten-pin bowling. This was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended. I am still trying to work out if the effects of alcohol improve your bowling skills - further research required!

FRIENDS OF SUMMERLEE

The Friends of Summerlee are arranging a bus trip to Leadhills and Wanlockhead on Saturday 27 April departing and arriving Summerlee 9am and 5pm respectively. The trip includes a visit to the Museum of Lead Mining with a guided tour around the Lochnell Mine. It may also be possible to arrange a trip on the narrow-gauge Leadhills and Wanlockhead Railway although the visit is outwith the operating season. The return will be by Moffat. The cost is £9.00 Adults, £8.00 OAP/Unwaged and £4.50 Junior. For further details contact Carol Haddow or Trevor Rees at Summerlee (01236) 431261.

GRAZ 225: TRANSLATION OF NOTICES Part 1 by Paul Geissler
Members may have often wondered what many of the signs and adverts on 225 actually mean. Paul Geissler gives you the opportunity to do just that, or you can just pretend to visitors that you actually know the translations!

THE DRIVERS COMPARTMENT:

Bügel abziehen - Pull Down Pantograph

Vor Öffnen Bugel-Abziehen - Before Opening Pull Down Pantograph

FAHREN - Power; *BREMSEN* - Braking

Scheinwerfer - Headlight; *Fern* - Full; *Nah* - Dipped

Weichen - Points; *Richtungs Zeiger* - Direction Indicator

Rechts - Right; *Links* - Left; *Ein* - On; *Aus* - Off

Signal Gibt - Signal Received

T Triebwagen - Motor Car; *Al Anhängewagen I* - Trailer 1

All Anhängewagen II - Trailer 2

Tür vorne - Forward Door; *Tür hinten* - Rear Door

Türfreigabe - Door release; *Löschen* - Cancel

Spannungsverteiler - Voltage distributor

Dem Wagenführer ist es untersagt, mit den Fahrgäste zu Sprechen -
It is forbidden for the driver to speak to the passengers.

ON THE PLATFORM

Bitte der Fuhrerstandeingang freihalten -
Please keep the entrance to the drivers compartment clear

Abgefahrene Fahrscheine - Used Tickets

9 Stehplätze a. d. vord. Plattform -
Standing room for 9 on the front platform

12 Stehplätze a. d. ruck. Plattform -
Standing Room for 12 on the rear platform

Die Fahrgäste werden gebeten, nach Lösen bzw. Überprüfen den Fahrschein in das Wageninnere vorzugehen damit der Fließverkehr reibungslos abgewickelt werden kann -

After ticket purchase or having it checked passengers are requested to move forward to allow passenger flow

Es wird ersucht, den Weisungen des Schaffners Folge zu leisten -
It is requested that you follow the conductors instructions

IN THE PASSENGER COMPARTMENT

Bitte denken an die Möglichkeit einer Notbremsung, und BENÜTZEN SIE DAHER DIE HALTEGRIFFE -

The car may have to make an emergency stop, THEREFORE USE THE HAND GRIPS

Jugentliche macht ältere oder körperbehinderten Personen anaufgefordert Platz -

Young persons should give up their seats to the elderly and disabled without being requested

Bitte diesen Sitzplatz bei Bedarf zu überlassen -
Please give up these seats on request

Danke für den Sitzplatz - Thank you for the seat

RAUCHEN VERBOTEN - No Smoking

Elektrischer Teil - Electrical Components

'ELIN'

AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT FÜR ELEKTRISCHE INDUSTRIE -
Electric Industry Co Ltd

KUPPELEISEN - Coupling Bar

Beförderungsbedingungen - Regulations
Fahrpreise - Fare Tables

Mitteilungen an die Fahrgaste - Information for Passengers

More of Paul's translations will appear in the next edition of Trolley.

WEATHER STOPS WORK ON TRAMWAY

Work on extending the Birkenhead Tramway can to a standstill last month because of the freezing weather that had affected most of Britain.

Project engineer Bill Blackburn said "We couldn't do anything this week because it was too cold to pour concrete. We're about three weeks behind."

The existing 370 metre track, between the Pacific Road Transport Museum and Woodside, is proving to be a popular weekend attraction.

The extension will add another 420-metre of track taking it as far as the Egerton Dock Bridge.

Traction poles bearing the Birkenhead coat of arms are already in place and holes have been dug to take the foundation plinths which will support the rails.

Further extensions are envisaged to take the track out to Birkenhead Park and round in a loop back to Woodside via Conway Park and Hamilton Square.

Thanks to Alf Jacob for this information and for the photo below showing one of the replica Birkenhead cars travelling on street track.



NORTH WALES TRAMWAY RESTORATION ... UPDATE

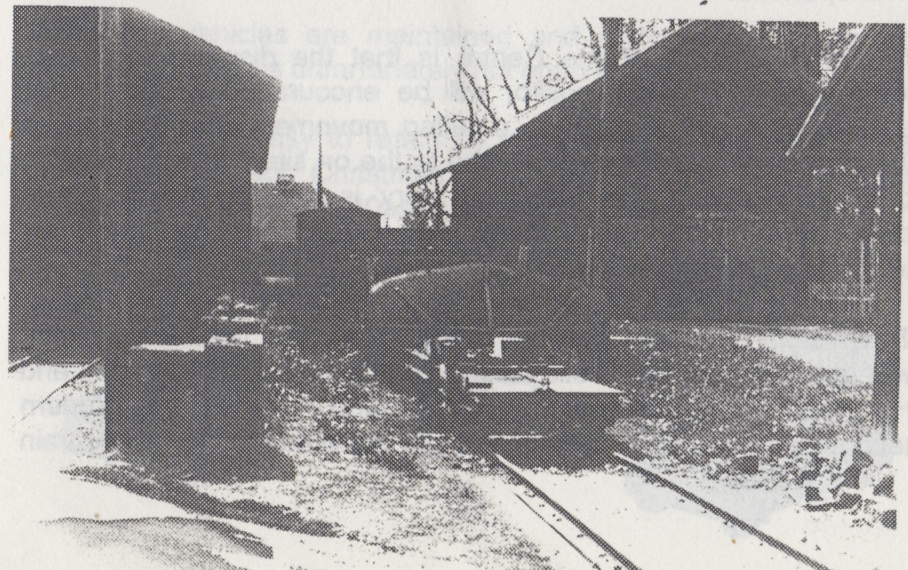
Members may remember the article in Trolley No 10 (July 1994) in which we told of the Llandudno and Colwyn Bay Electric Railway Society and its restoration of Northampton car 21. In a newsletter I received from my Merseyside correspondent, Alf Jacob, who has recently reached the grand age of 90 - Congratulations!, I have learned that this society has decided to disband due to lack of progress on the restoration of 21. The car has been sold to a Mr Harvey in Kent for £1,000, who intends to use 21 to help him build an almost identical car, Colchester 10. He hopes to obtain trucks and controllers from Lisbon. He eventually hopes to run the car at the east Anglia Tramway Museum, Lowestoft.

Visitors can still visit the site at Tal-y-Cafn, which now owned by the newly resurrected North Wales Tramway Museum Assoc., on most Saturday afternoons. The site houses a fifteen inch gauge railway, Southend Pier car No.7, a Bristol LHS bus and there are plans to bring Bournemouth car No. 7 from a nearby factory for further restoration.

The former newsletter of the LL & CB ERS, *Trolley* is being continued as a private venture with any profits going to tramway restoration. Further details can be obtained from Trolley Pole Publications, 119 High Street, Bangor, Gwynedd, LL15 1NT.

TRAM SNOWPLOW

Member Bill Tolan has sent in this unusual photo of a Tram Snowplough on Sopra Bolzano.



THE WEST YORKSHIRE TRANSPORT EXPERIENCE

For a number of years there have been plans afoot to develop a Transport Museum with a difference on the outskirts of Bradford. The West Yorkshire Transport Museum Trust was founded by the local County Council in 1984 who would provide the bulk of the funding for the project and subsidise the operation. The Trust acquired 26 acres of former railway land south of Bradford and 5.5 miles of the disused Spen Valley Railway. A major stumbling block was the abolition of the CC in 1986. The new local councils were supportive of the new project but were unable to provide the necessary financial backing. Furthermore the reduction in grant aid made the need for private sector funding even greater.

Consultant architects and planners who had experience with Garden Festivals and other leisure projects were appointed to report on the feasibility of the proposals.

The Transport Centre has an excellent location adjacent to the M62 with some 9 million potential visitors within 90 minutes driving time.

The Centre will focus not only on the Transport of the past, but will include the present and future as well.

Construction work began on the main buildings in early 1994 and the centre opened in mid-1995 under the imaginative title of 'Transperience'.

The main concept of the Centre is that the displays are cross referenced so that the visitor will be encouraged to move and explore from one to another, creating movement which relates to the concept of the interchange and to the on site ride opportunities offers to visitors. The 'transport story' is examined on an issue basis rather than the more conventional chronological or technological perspective.

The historic transport network is known as the Translink system, where vintage Buses, Trolleybuses from Bradford and Sweden and Hungarian Trams transport you around the park. Modern technology allows you to drive a tram, trolleybus, motorbus or train

on vehicle simulators. You can even try your hand at changing rail or road signals and there is the ultimate 'feelie' box where you try and identify items.

In the Visitor Centre you can discover how the Park was built and you can purchase souvenirs in the well stocked shop. The Concourse Building houses the 'Moving On' and 'Shock of the New' displays which includes how different forms of transport are powered and you can re-live the shock of 'new' inventions like steam trains and how important they were to people who used them and other new events like the dawning of the tram and eventually the trolleybus and you can see what the future holds for transport. The Concourse Building also houses the Gallery restaurant and gift shop.

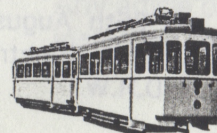
In the Auditorium you can watch and listen to the conductor as he attempts to keep control of the passengers on his bus. You can sit back and enjoy the clips giving a humorous insight into public transport vehicles and their roles in television and films through the ages.

In the Exploratory you can find out what makes it go and you can try one of the driving simulators. There is also a cafe in this area.

At the tram terminus there is a childrens adventure park and a picnic area.

All of the vehicles are maintained and restored in the on-site Workshop, which is unfortunately not open to the public.

The museum is easy to reach by road or public transport and is open daily except Christmas and Boxing Day 10am-5.30pm summer and 10.30am-4.30pm winter. Telephone Transperience on (01274) 690909 for further details



VIDEOVIEW

by Duncan R. White

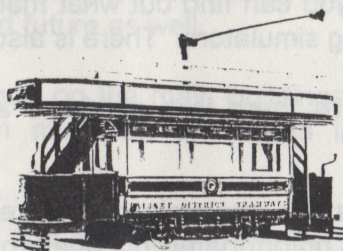
BLACKPOOL TRAMS

PART ONE 1885-1961

THE history of Blackpool Trams part one 1885-1961. Blackpool has one of the oldest tramways in the world; the oldest in Britain; and the only surviving first generation tramway on the mainland. For over a century, its trams have catered for residents as well as holiday-makers, and its fleet of illuminated trams has excited worldwide acclaim. However, during its life, the system has had to survive many trials and tribulations including the threat of total closure. The selection of films (much in colour) depicts Blackpool's trams including most types in action at key locations. Early footage includes a conduit operating Dreadnought, the first electric cars in Lytham, the building of the re-aligned prom, and of course the illuminated trams. The tape is silent with commentry, no added trams sounds.

Online Video (Black & White and Colour)
Running Time 90 minutes

R.R.P. £15.95



TRAMWAY JUBILEE

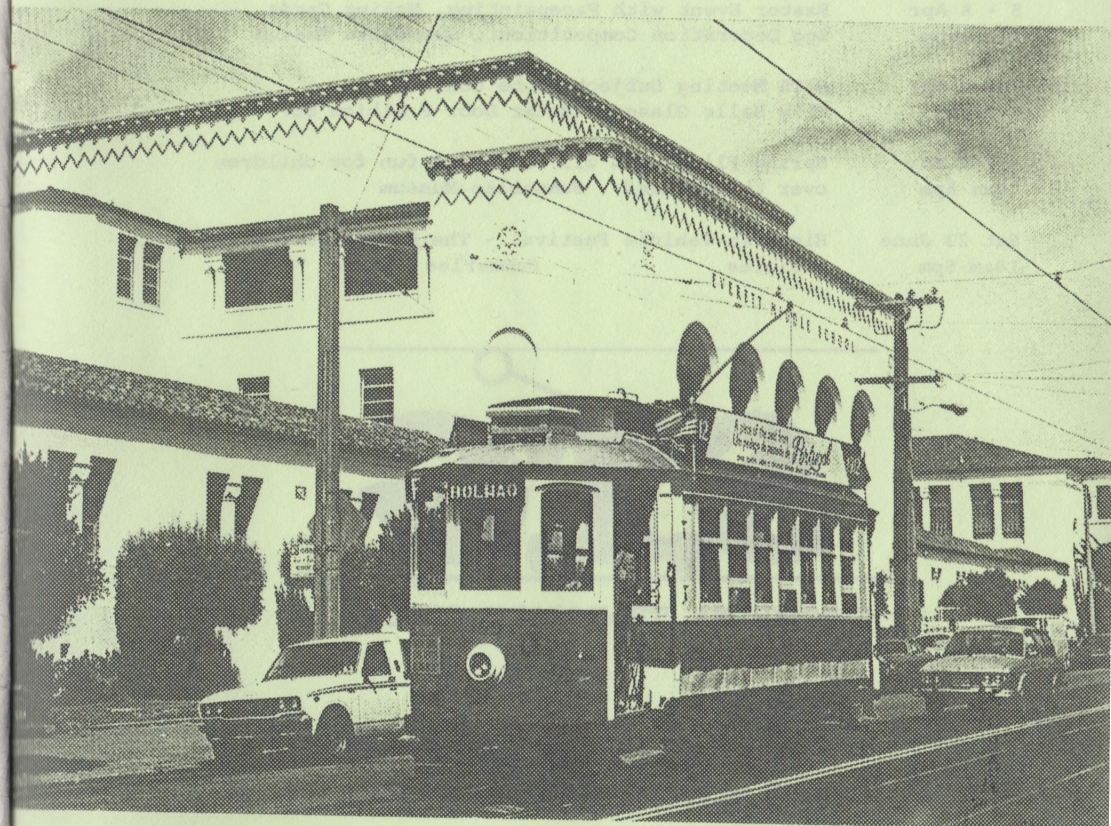
1995 marks the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Seaton Tramway. The line runs from Seaton to Colyford and Colyton on a 2' 9" gauge and uses the old trackbed of the ex-LSWR. The replica trams, beautifully built and painted have been supplemented with cars from other parts of the country. A new terminus at Seaton has been built to celebrate the Silver Jubilee and was opened by Ian Allan, O.B.E. on 26th August. Our congratulations go to the Seaton and District Electric Tramway.

D.R.W.

POSTCARD VIEW

Remember with summer approaching yet again if you receive or purchase any unusual transport postcards please send them to the address inside the front cover for inclusion in Trolley.

The view below shows single truck car No. 189 built by Oporto workshops, Portugal in 1929, a copy of a J. G. Brill product of 1909, passes Everett School at Church and 17th Streets, San Francisco on 25 August 1987.



COMING SOON

As well as all the usual news of happenings at Summerlee your future editions of *Trolley* will feature:

Any article or photos that you can send to the address
inside the front cover - we need your articles - NOW!

and much, much more!