



SPOTLIGHT ON... ...SUMMERLEE, THE EARLY YEARS!

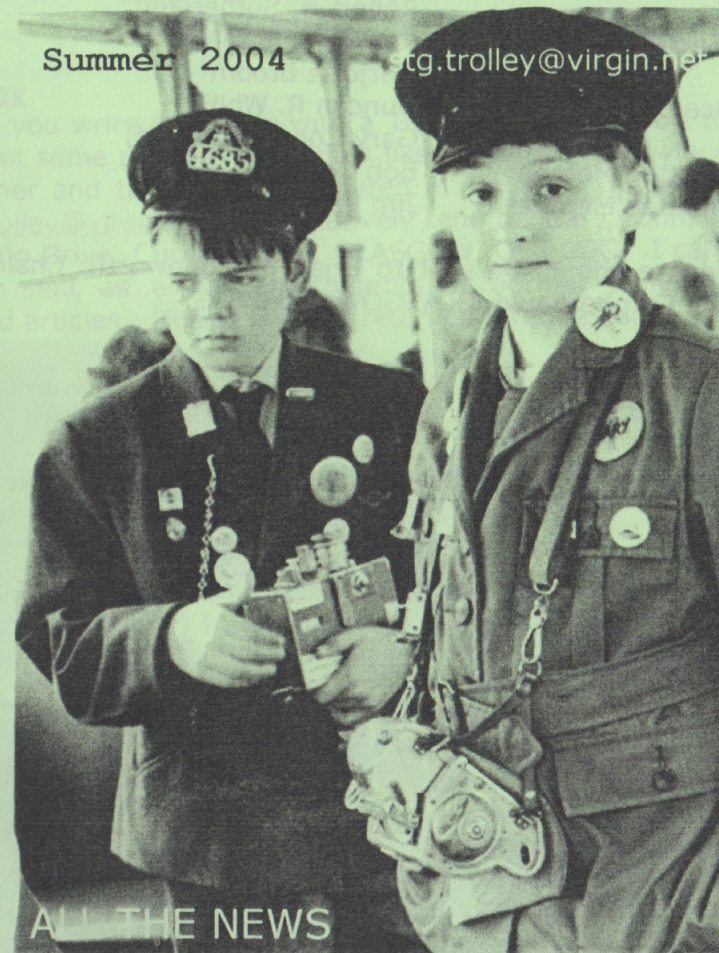


TROLLEY

NEWSLETTER OF THE SUMMERLEE TRANSPORT GROUP

Summer 2004

tg.trolley@virgin.net



ALL THE NEWS
FROM SUMMERLEE & HERITAGE
TRAMWAYS AROUND THE COUNTRY

TROLLEY

STG

Trolley is the newsletter of the Summerlee Transport Group, a voluntary support group of Summerlee Heritage Park and is registered as a charity. (Charity No SC020158)

YOUR STG COMMITTEE 2003/4

Chairman	Brian M. Longworth
Secretary	George Broom
Treasurer	Robert N. Sutherland
Membership Secretary	Ronnie E. Maclean
Sales Officer	Marjorie Broom
Modelling Officer	Duncan R. White
Trolley Editor	Gary Conn (co-opted)
Ordinary Committee Member	Bob Connor
Ordinary Committee Member	Jim Wilson

All correspondence should be sent to Brian M. Longworth, Chairman, 22 Ratho Drive, Cumbernauld, GLASGOW, G68 0GG.



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Trolley

Could you write an article with a Tramway or Transport theme? Have you got some pictures that you'd like to share? Then why not put them together and they can be featured in *Trolley*! The e-mail address is stg.trolley@virgin.net. Alternatively send to: Gary Conn, Trolley Editor, 6 Ratho Drive, Cumbernauld, GLASGOW, G68 0GG. I can use pictures either sent as e-mail attachments or normal prints enclosed with posted articles. Pictures will be returned if requested.

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

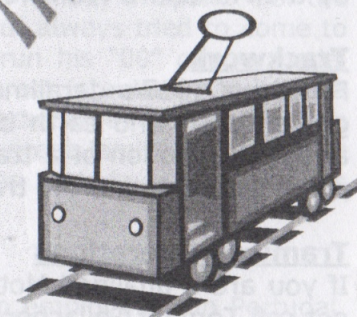
The **Cover Photo** (front) shows 2 conductors at work on 9062 in the late 80's. Can you tell who they are? Answers in the next edition!

Spotlight On... ..Summerlee, The Early Years! (back cover) Top - Brussels 9062 on 27 May 1990 before the extension opened (note the destination!!!). Bottom - Oporto 150, 9062 and 225 line up before the camera on 8 October 1989.

Left Blackpool 'Balloon' car 701 in 'Routemaster' livery at Fleetwood on 4 May 1991. Celebrate Blackpool trams through the years on 11th/12th September. See page 7 for more details.

Editors Note stg.trolley@virgin.net

The next autumn issue will feature "The New Motorman" by Douglas Boyle and "A Visit to San Francisco" by Albert Hill. G Conn



NEWS

Tramcars

Lanarkshire 53 has been used mainly at weekends when crews are available, weather permitting.

Graz 225 was the main service car until late July when it had to be withdrawn after receiving a broken windscreen as a result of an act of vandalism. This should have been replaced and the car back in service by the time you receive *Trolley*.

Dusseldorf 392 still remains stored outside the depot. The Museum has indicated that they don't want foreign trams in the long term at Summerlee. The Group is now assessing what outstanding expenditure is required on the car and whether this can be justified.

Glasgow 1016 See news from other Societies/Tramways.

Glasgow 1017 Has now returned to service following repairs and modifications after the unfortunate incident on 2nd February. Some paintwork on the dash and bumper has yet to be completed but the car had to re-enter service due to 225's damaged windscreen.

Glasgow 1245 Peter Ramsay has been surveying the condition of the electrics on this car. Also, the suitability of sympathetically modifying this car to accommodate wheelchair passengers was being investigated by the Museum's Tramway Technician.

Trackwork

Following 1017's derailment in February, the Museum has installed a gravel 'drag' and earth bank at each end of the tramway. This is to arrest the motion of a tramcar and prevent it from hitting the traction pole at each end of the track.

Tramway Operations

If you are a qualified Motorman and have some spare time to fill, why not call Tommy Gallacher at Summerlee (01236 431261) to see if there are any uncovered duties that suit. Volunteers are also sought to crew on the Steam & Model Fair (28/9 August).

Depot

There have been no Thursday depot work evenings since May. These should resume after the appointment of a new Tramway Technician.

Tramway Modelling Group

The Group has been quiet over the summer. 800 people visited during the Spring Fling earlier in the year and will be open again on the Sunday of the Steam & Model Fair. The Group will also have a layout in the exhibition on both days of the Steam & Model Fair.

Membership

Membership renewal forms were enclosed with the Spring edition of *Trolley*. Thank you to those who have renewed. If you haven't got round to renewing yet, please return it as soon as possible to Ronnie Maclean, 104 Main Road, Cumbernauld, GLASGOW, G67 4AY. Please make cheques payable to *Summerlee Transport Group*. This will be the last communication if you do not renew.

Sales

The Group's sales stall was open at the Spring Fling and will get an airing again at the Steam & Model Fair. Volunteers to help staff the stall are always very welcome.

Website

Unfortunately this is still inactive. As promised, details of the web address will be published in *Trolley* when the site becomes active.

People

John Geraghty. One of the first members of the model club, John Geraghty died recently at the age of 75 whilst on holiday in Spain. For the last few years John suffered from bad health, but always tried to come to the model club on special event weekends to run his "00" gauge model trams. Apart from trams John had a great interest in aviation and had a collection of model planes. John had an electrical background which proved of great assistance at times. He was a great family man and our thoughts go out to his wife Margaret, his sons and daughters and his grandchildren.

Tramway Technician

Bob Docherty left Summerlee in May to take up employment in Portugal. The vacant post has been advertised, if is anyone interested, please contact Neil Ballantyne at Summerlee for further details: BallantyneN@northlan.gov.uk / 01236 431261.

SPECIAL EVENTS AT SUMMERLEE IN 2004

Saturday 28 and Sunday 29 August - Grand Steam and Model Weekend

Developments at Summerlee, 2004

Neil Ballantyne

2004 has been another busy year at Summerlee Heritage Park. In 2003 our visitor numbers increased by around 25% to a total of 90,705. This mainly resulted from the opening of the new play area at Easter 2003, grants for schools buses during traditionally quiet periods, various events efficiently organised by Carol Ann Kerr and long spells of sunny weather! Although this summer has not been so good, visitor numbers have continued to climb; from January to June 2004 over 48,000 people visited Summerlee, almost 3,400 higher than the same period last year. In order to maintain this level of interest Summerlee has to keep on improving and evolving. During 2004 various developments have taken place.

George MacIntosh started work as Steam and Sawmill Technician in October 2003 and has been busy throughout 2004 getting Whittock & Reid's Sawmill and Drying Shed ready to receive visitors. This structure was an eyesore for many years and is finally becoming an interesting display. The Foster steam engine now drives the band-saw, although the propulsion system for the table remains a problem. The sawmill should prove a popular new attraction at this year's Steam Fair and throughout the remainder of this summer.

In September the area next to the Miners' Rows will be transformed into an attractive and usable space, incorporating grassed areas, a herbaceous border, benches and a playing area for French boules or quoits. We have benefited from advice and assistance from the Council's Grounds Maintenance Section, a grant of £600 by Coatbridge Rotary Club as well as the hard work of Harry Laird, Summerlee's weekend site assistant.

May 2004 witnessed the departure of Bob Docherty, the Conservation Technician, who carried out maintenance work on the fleet of trams, the track and the overhead line. Bob's job is currently being advertised and it is hoped that the new Technician will continue to develop the tramway, help to train new drivers and undertake the conservation of 1245, a double-decker Glasgow tram.

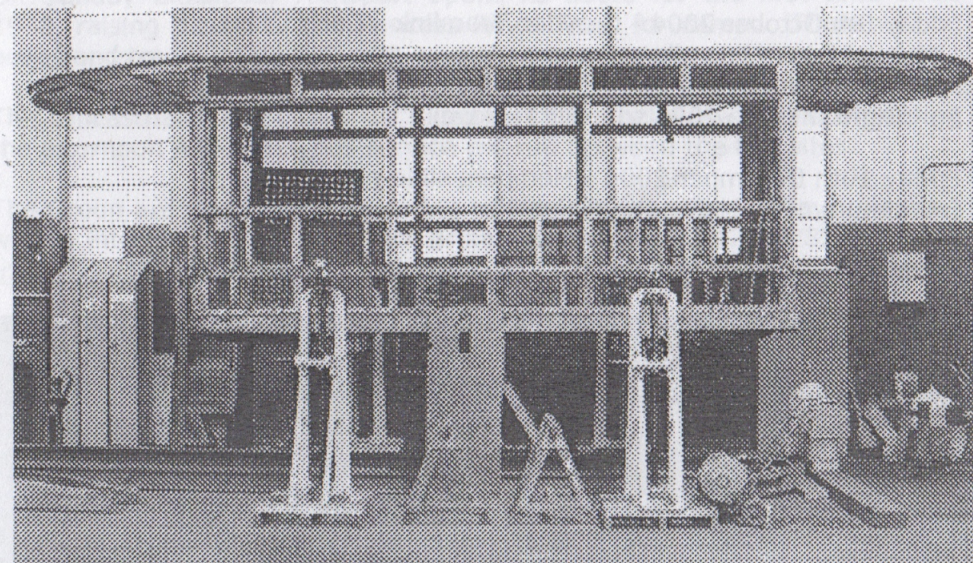
Finally, efforts have continued to tidy various areas of the site that have resembled a dumping ground for many years. This will help improve the park's appearance, remove the atmosphere of neglect that some areas suffer from and provide visitors with a more enjoyable experience when they visit Summerlee.

Neil Ballantyne is General Manager of Summerlee

NEWS FROM OTHER SOCIETIES/TRAMWAYS

SITA - Scottish International Tramway Association

Glasgow 1016 The body has been raised up on jacks and an assessment of what work is required is being undertaken. Short lengths of track have been laid to allow the truck to be stored underneath the car and moved out when required. The car is at the Bridgeton Bus Garage of the Glasgow Vintage Vehicle Trust.



Glasgow Vintage Vehicle Trust

There will be an open day on Sunday 10 October 2004 from 10am-4.30pm, admission £3 with concessions/family tickets. On show will be vehicles from the Trust's own collection as well as visiting vehicles. There will also be sales stands and catering facilities.

The event will be co-ordinated with the city's Museum of Transport which this year celebrates its 40th anniversary. The Museum's theme for October is to be buses. There will be a regular service of vintage buses to link the two venues with a stop in the city centre.

①**Web-link** Visit www.gvvt.org for further details and for information on other vehicles at Bridgeton. For the Museum of Transport visit www.glasgowmuseums.com and click on *Museum of Transport*

Scottish Tramway & Transport Society

MEETINGS 2004-2005

STG members are invited to attend the monthly meetings of the STTS. Meetings are usually held on the second Friday of every month (September - May) in the Kirk Lounge, Renfield St. Stephen's Church Centre, 260 Bath Street, Glasgow G2 4JP, unless otherwise stated. Visitors most welcome.

Friday 10th September 2004 - Glasgow Memorial Evening
An Edinburgh man's impression of Glasgow - Alastair Gunn

Friday 8th October 2004 - Croydon Tramlink - Curly Cross

Friday 12th November 2004 - Rhein-Ruhr Taster
An insight into the 2005 trip. Bill Tuckwell

Friday 10th December 2004 - Members slide night
(maximum of 20 slides per member)

Friday 14th January 2005 - USA Tram-Bus-Rail - Sholto Thomas

Friday 21st January 2005 - New Year Dinner - Venue to be advised

Friday 11th February 2005 - More Rails by Bike - Gordon Casely

Friday 11th March 2005 - The Westwell Years - Alan Millar

Friday 8th April 2005 - Berlin U-Bahn & S-Bahn - Brian Hardy

Friday 29th April 2005 - Trams systems closed, Part II, 1954-1963
Martin Jenkins

Friday 13th May 2005 - A.G.M. (members only please)

Friday 10th June 2005 - Annual Dinner in Edinburgh
Venue to be advised - Names to Colin Lees

July 2005 - Continental Tram 5 day Trip to Rhein-Ruhr region.
Based in Düsseldorf. Dates subject to flights availability.

STG members are very welcome to join the STTS for the above trip. If you would like further information please contact Brian Longworth - detail as per page 4.

Blackpool Transport Community Open Day

This is a two day event to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the Balloons and Boats at Blackpool on the 11th and 12th of September 2004.

The Saturday event is a procession departing Pleasure Beach at 1030 with a return trip to Little Bispham. Standard car 147 will lead with cars 600, 706, 700, 712, 702, 703, 724 and 762 following showing different cars and liveries over the last 70 years.

On Sunday Blackpool Transport opens its doors for the first time since 1988, raising funds for the Princess Royal Trust for carers. There will be buses and trams on display with workshop tours, stalls and model layouts.

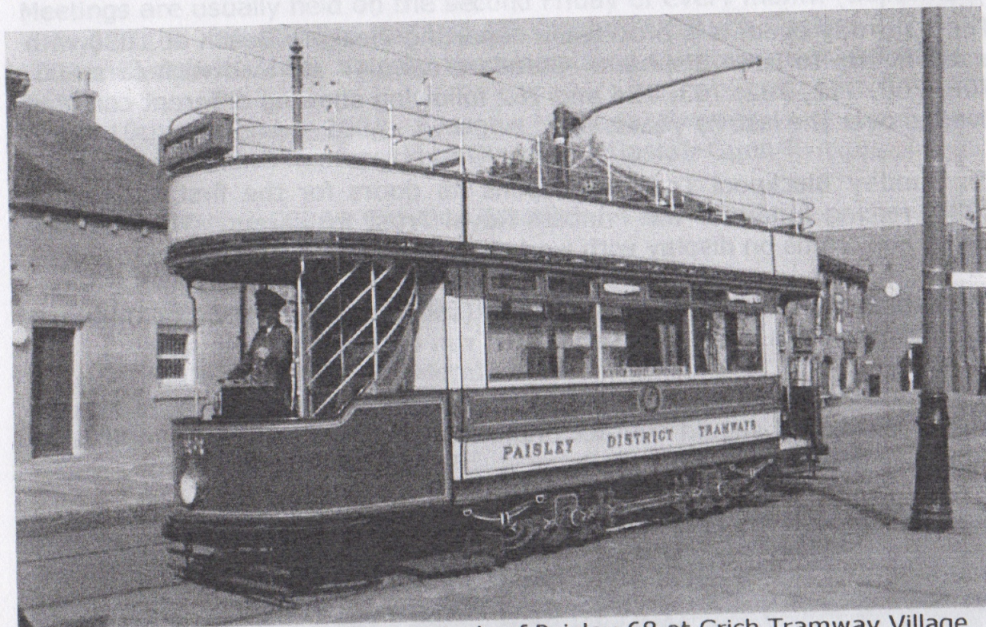
The Lancastrian Transport Trust's depot (shown below) will be open during the afternoon and a free bus service will run between the two sites.

The Group are considering an outing to Blackpool for the Sunday. Anyone who is interested should contact Brian Longworth on 01236 782488 or at trambrian@hotmail.com



Crich Tramway Village

Glasgow 22, 812 and Paisley 812 have been regular performers throughout this season at the home of the National Tramway Museum.



Above: Brian Longworth at the controls of Paisley 68 at Crich Tramway Village
Below: Popular Glasgow cars 812 and 22 at Town End Terminus Editor



The current restoration project, **Leeds 345** (shown on back page), is progressing extremely well, and has a target completion date of April/May next year.

The overhaul of **Blackpool** toastrack **166** is also progressing well. It is planned to launch the car at this year's Enthusiast's Day on Saturday 25 September.
① **Web-link** www.tramway.co.uk

Beamish North of England Open Air Museum

Two trams collided at slow speed on the tramway at Beamish on Monday 5 July. The trams involved were **Gateshead 10** and **Beamish 196** (ex-Oporto tram similar to car 150 that came to Summerlee to provide parts for Lanarkshire 53). The two trams were carrying teenagers from two schools in Sunderland who were at the Museum as part of a school trip. Seven of those on board suffered minor injuries but these were in the main only bruises with around 40 other people being treated for shock at the scene. The trams collided on the single track running between Home Farm and the Colliery Village. It is unclear how the two trams came to be travelling in opposite directions on the same stretch of single. It is reported that one of the trams did manage to stop before the collision. The Museum has remained open throughout investigations and trams have continued to run on other sections of the track.
① **Web-link** www.beamish.org.uk

