

THE CLASSIC LONDON BUS SOCIETY
Memorable days out by bus for enthusiasts



NEWSLETTER 4 - April 2008

Introduction

Firstly a thanks to all those who came on Sunday's trip to Reading, and unexpectedly got a ride on 3 RMs ! For those not in the know, RMA58 sadly decided to give up at the Hogarth Roundabout on the way to Heathrow, and had to be subbed by RM54. The fault has been diagnosed as fuel starvation, with it needing to be bled through before starting again.

We eventually got to Reading, and a good time was had by all courtesy of James Freeman and his team, and Mike Russell who drove us on former Mainline routes on his RM999. I have the picture of our group posing in front of RM54 if anyone wants a copy, and a full report of the day will appear on the website in the near future. Plenty of good pictures on the usual fotopic sites of 'Wonger', Jimmy and Bob. <http://londonbuspics.fotopic.net/>
<http://jimmyshengukbuses2.fotopic.net/> <http://bobsroutemasterpage.fotopic.net/>

Cobham

As reported yesterday, due to a change in schedule from Cobham, our RM54 needs to depart earlier than originally planned from London in time for it's first duty. We will now leave from outside Embankment Tube at 08:15 and opposite Victoria Coach Station at 08:30. It will return at approximately 17:00.

For those travelling independently by train to the event, be advised there is major engineering work across the South West Trains network on Sunday, including replacement bus services to Weybridge (where you can pick up the Cobham shuttle services) from both Tolworth and Effingham Junction directions. Full details can be seen at <http://www.southwesttrains.co.uk/SWTrains/Timetablesearch/EngineeringWorks/080406SU.htm> and thanks to Terry Wong Min for the tip off. Time permitting we may pull in at Tolworth en route for an additional pick up, so look out for us if you are stuck in a queue!

Sittingbourne & Kemsley Steam Railway

I still have 14 places left for the trip on Saturday week, 12 April. The Tiger Cub Coach will depart from outside Embankment Tube Station at 10:30, for Sittingbourne. On arrival we will board a steam hauled locomotive for the 15 minute trip to Kemsley. There we will get a brief introduction on the workings and history of the railway, a tour of the loco sheds and you can visit the museum and shop. The station cafe is also at Kemsley, and will be serving hot sausage rolls, soup, tea and coffee and the usual selection of biscuits, crisps and soft drinks. No sandwiches or other hot food will be available, but it would be nice if we could support the railway by using the facility as much as possible.

Two steam engines will be in operation during the day, and each will cover a round journey from Sittingbourne to Kemsley and return, whilst the other provides footplate rides (included in the cost) at Kemsley Station. Timings will be flexible, and it's really up to us to decide on the day what works best for the group.

So if you have still not booked, please do so soon. You are very welcome to bring friends or family members (special rates apply), as I really would like to fill the coach. You also have the option of travelling independently to the railway at a reduced cost if it is easier for you.

Castle Point Museum, Canvey Island

RT 3232 (that's Ensign's silver and blue RT) will be used for this outing on Saturday May 10th, and bookings are being taken now. A tour of the museum, followed by bus rides is what is on offer for the day.

Brighton on RTL1427

This is proving to be a popular trip, with over half the seats gone already, so don't delay if you want to join in. Two departure times, a bonus 'early-bird special' at 10:30 from Brighton Station with a return at 11:30 to pick the rest of the group up, before proceeding to Amberley.

To close

Finally thanks for all your suggestions on possible days out, and comments on the Society generally. Your input is much appreciated.

That's all for this time. Hope to see many of you at Cobham, either on our bus or at the event.

Best regards to you all.

Trevor