

# Glossop Tramways



1903 - 1927

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Cover Illustration: No. 3 was a 1903 Milnes-built 48-seat 4-wheel car seen here at the Queens Arms at Old Glossop, probably on the opening day 20th August 1903. (LTHL collection).

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Promoted by the Urban Electric Supply Company, the Glossop Tramway was the idea of one of its employees, local engineer, Charles Knowles.

Authority for the tramway was given under the Glossop Electric Tramways Order of 1901 and provided for a single-track line running from Hadfield Station on the Great Central Railway's Manchester to Barnsley line, through Glossop to the terminus at the Queen's Arms Hotel in Old Glossop. A ½-mile branch line from the main line at Norfolk Square in the centre of Glossop ran to Whitfield. The line weaved around a number of mills along its 4½ mile length, although the two terminal points were less than half this distance apart as the crow flies. There were nine passing loops on the main line and just a single passing loop on the Whitfield section. The tram depot was at the United Electric Supply Company's works in Glossop.

The initial fleet consisted of seven Milnes open-top double-deckers, joined later by a BEC single-decker, and finally a second-hand ERCTW single-decker from Sheffield liveried in green and cream.

The line opened on the 20th August 1903, with trams running every 15 minutes from Hadfield to Glossop with alternate cars serving Old Glossop and Whitfield in turn.

From 1905, however, revenue began to fall, barely covering the tramway's costs. Although extensions to join the Manchester system were considered, in the end the system remained as it was and this also affected its viability. The advent of World War 1 caused the tramway to become run down. The Whitfield branch was closed in 1918. Although the tramway was offered for sale to Glossop Council it was never purchased

and closed down at short notice on the 24th December 1927. The service was replaced by the motorbuses of the North Western Road Car Company.

## **Tram Fleet List 1903-1927**

This listing is in the format - Fleet Nos; Type; Trucks; Builder; Seating.

### **1903**

1-7; Double-deck open-top 4-wheel; ? ; Milnes; 26/22

Withdrawn 1927 (1-7).



1903 Milnes 4-wheel open top double-deck car No. 1 at the Queens Arms in Old Glossop. (LTHL collection).

**1904**

8; Single-deck demi-car; ? ; BEC; ?

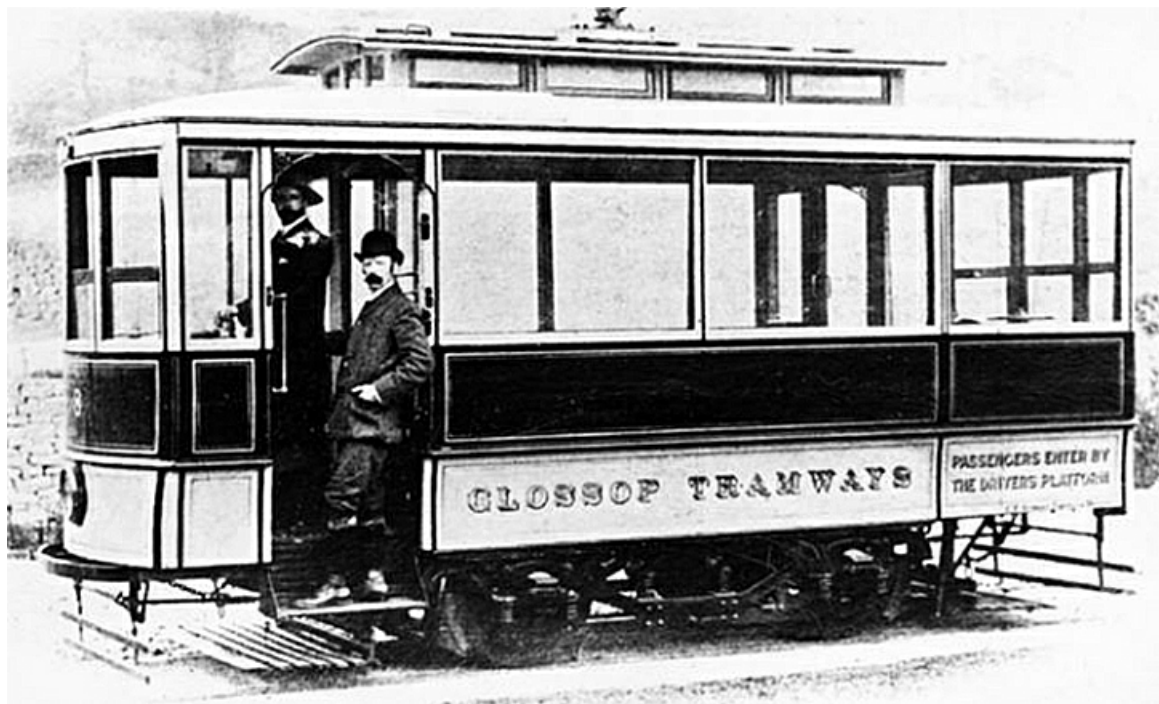
Withdrawn 1927 (8).

**1918**

9; Single-deck; ? ; ERTCW; ?

No. 9 ex-Sheffield Corporation (No. 56, new 1899).

Withdrawn 1927 (9).



In 1908 Glossop Tramways purchased this single-deck demi car. It spent most of its life on the Whitfield route when passenger numbers declined. (LTHL collection).



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