

Rossendale Joint Transport Committee Rossendale Borough Transport



1968-1986

Contents

Rossendale Joint Transport Committee/ Rossendale Borough Transport	- Fleet History 1968-1986	Page 3
Rossendale Joint Transport Committee	- Bus Fleet List 1968-1974	Page 6
Rossendale Borough Transport	- Bus Fleet List 1974-1986	Page 14

Cover Illustration: No. 24 (VTJ731) was a 1955 Leyland PD2/20 with an East Lancs 59-seat body seen here in Bacup in 1971. (John Kaye).

© The Local Transport History Library 2024. (www.lthlibrary.org.uk)
For personal use only. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, transmitted or distributed in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical or otherwise without the express written permission of the publisher. In all cases this notice must remain intact. All rights reserved.

PDF-259-1

Rossendale Joint Transport Committee Rossendale Borough Transport 1968-1986

In 1961 the idea of a Joint Transport Committee formed by merging the three undertakings of Haslingden, Ramsbottom and Rawtenstall (which had been proposed some years earlier but abandoned because of the failure between the three councils to come to an agreement) was revived by Rawtenstall Council. The three undertakings already had a degree of co-ordination since they shared the same general manager. It took another seven years, however, before the Rossendale Joint Transport Committee was formed with Ramsbottom UDC opting to stay independent and just the other two undertakings of Haslingden and Rawtenstall combining, the Joint Committee coming into existence on 1 April 1968.

The Haslingden depot in John Street was closed and all operations transferred to Rawtenstall and the former Rawtenstall livery adopted. Haslingden vehicles were re-numbered into the Rawtenstall sequence and the combined fleet totalled 55 vehicles. Three of the Haslingden vehicles were immediately withdrawn and not used in service and not re-numbered.

With both undertakings preferring Leyland vehicles with East Lancashire bodywork it was no surprise that this combination continued to be purchased for fleet replacements.

In common with most other undertakings, as operating expenses continued to rise, economies had to be made and over the next few years the JTC began to purchase single-deckers more suitable for one-man operation.

Local Government re-organisation in 1974 created the new Borough of Rossendale which included both Rawtenstall and Haslingden and as a result Rossendale Joint Transport Committee was re-named Rossendale Borough Transport.

In 1974 Rossendale purchased five (Nos. 6-10) Bristol RESL6L chassis with coachwork by East Lancashire, a departure from the usual Leyland chassis. The following year four more were purchased (Nos. 11-14), two of which (Nos. 11-12) had dual-purpose specification with coach-style seating useful for Rossendale's private-hire trips.

The first rear-engined vehicles arrived in 1977 (Nos. 15-17) in the form of three Leyland Atlantean AN68A/1R chassis with East Lancs 73-seat bodywork and this enabled the introduction of one-man operation on double-deckers and also meant the end for the remaining rear-entrance double-deckers. This also heralded the introduction of route numbers, which Rossendale had never used. Over the next few years the Atlantean became the standard chassis ordered.

In 1982 the fleet became wholly one-man operated with Leyland PD3's Nos. 19 and 46 participating in a farewell tour on 20 November 1982.

Rossendale introduced electronic ticketing on 20 May 1984 with the entire fleet being converted to the Almex Timtronic system.

On 26 October 1986 under the regulations of the 1985 Transport Act a private limited company, Rossendale Transport Ltd, came into being bringing to an end municipal operations in Rossendale and surrounding areas, although the Council still retained overall control.

Rossendale Joint Transport Committee Bus Fleet List 1968-1974

This listing is in the format - Year into service; Fleet No; Reg. No;
Chassis; Chassis No; Body; Seating.

1968

Vehicles transferred from Haslingden Corporation 4/68

11	MTC385	Leyland PD2/1	504292	Leyland	H30/26R
12	OTF164	Leyland PD2/12	522572	Leyland	H30/26R
13-14	PTF207-08	Leyland PD2/12	531232-33	Leyland	H30/26R
15	TTB302	Leyland PD2/12	540580	East Lancs	H31/28R
42	VTJ90	Leyland PD2/12	550997	East Lancs	H31/28R
43	11CTB	Leyland PD2/12	563316	East Lancs	H31/28R
44	1920TB	Leyland PD2/40	600663	East Lancs	H31/28R
45	XTF98D	Leyland PD3/4	L62201	East Lancs	H41/32F

1968 (continued)

46	DTJ960E	Leyland PD3/14	701802	East Lancs H41/32F
48	FTF732B	Leyland L1	L04362	East Lancs B44F
49	NTJ808C	Leyland L1	L40338	East Lancs B44F
4	KTJ879	Leyland PS2/1	493378	Burlingham B35F
15-16	MTC256-57	Leyland PSU1/13	501200/536	Roe B44F

Nos. 4, 15-16 were transferred but immediately withdrawn and not used in service and not re-numbered by Rossendale JTC.

Nos. 11-15 ex-Haslingden Nos. 6, 9-11, 5 respectively; Nos. 42-46 ex-Haslingden Nos. 12-14, 1-2 respectively; Nos. 48-49 ex-Haslingden Nos. 17-18 respectively.

Nos. 42-46, 48-49 to Rossendale Borough Transport 4/74 retaining fleet numbers.

Withdrawn **1968** (4, 15[MTC256], 16, 12), **1970** (11), **1972** (13), **1973** (14, 15[TTB302]).

1968 (continued)

Vehicles transferred from Rawtenstall Corporation 4/68

1-2	KTE721-22	Leyland PD2/1	492574/973	Leyland	H30/26R
3-4	KTE723-24	Leyland PD2/1	493109/2974	Leyland	H30/26R
5-6	KTE725-26	Leyland PD2/1	493108/240	Leyland	H30/26R
7-8	KTE727-28	Leyland PD2/1	493110/2972	Leyland	H30/26R
9-10	KTE729-30	Leyland PD2/1	493239/38	Leyland	H30/26R
16	NTD529	Leyland PD2/1	511127	Leyland	H30/26R
17-19	RTC821-23	Leyland PD2/12	532075/77/76	Leyland	H31/25R
20-23	RTE534-37	Leyland PD2/12	531014-17	East Lancs	H31/28R
24-29	VTJ731-36	Leyland PD2/20	550953-58	East Lancs	H31/28R
30-33	FTE630-33B	Leyland PD3/4	L04407-10	East Lancs	H41/32F
34-35	MTJ434-35C	Leyland PD3/4	L25149-50	East Lancs	H41/32F
36-37	MTJ436-37C	Leyland PD3/4	L40119/1709	East Lancs	H41/32F
38-39	XTJ938-39D	Leyland PD3/4	L62399-400	East Lancs	H41/32F
40-41	XTJ940-41D	Leyland PD3/4	L62412-13	East Lancs	H41/32F
50-51	FTE650-51B	Leyland L1	L04295-96	East Lancs	B44F
52	MTC255	Leyland PSU1/13	501199	Roe	B44F
55	MTB848	Leyland PS2/1	500192	East Lancs	B35R
56	MTB849	Leyland PS2/1	500193	East Lancs	B35F
57	RTB49	Leyland PSUC1/1	515177	Weymann	B44F

1968 (continued)

58	466FTJ	Leyland PSUC1/5	584768	East Lancs B43F
59	738NTD	Leyland PSUC1/5	597025	East Lancs B43F
42	HTF362	Leyland PD2/1	472033	Leyland H30/26R

No. 42 transferred as withdrawn vehicle.

Nos. 18-19, 23, 25-26, 28-41, 50-51, 58-59 to Rossendale Borough Transport 4/74 retaining fleet numbers.

Withdrawn **1968** (42, 52, 55-56), **1969** (20-21), **1970** (2, 8-10), **1971** (16, 24, 27, 57), **1972** (1, 3-4, 6-7), **1973** (5, 17, 22).

New Vehicles

52-54	JTF152-54F	Leyland PSU4/2R	800432/90-91	East Lancs B44F
55-56	LTD955-56F	Leyland PSU4/2R	801204-05	East Lancs B46F

Nos. 52-54 ordered by Rawtenstall Corporation; to Rossendale Borough Transport 4/74 retaining fleet numbers.

Nos. 55-56 ordered by Haslingden Corporation; to Rossendale Borough Transport 4/74 retaining fleet numbers.

Rossendale JTC; Rossendale Borough Transport 1968-1986



No. 45 (XTF98D) was a 1966 Leyland PD3/4 with East Lincs H41/32F bodywork, formerly No. 1 in the Haslingden UDC fleet. (Richard Simons).

Rossendale JTC; Rossendale Borough Transport 1968-1986



No. 55 (LTD955F) was a Leyland PSU4/2R with East Lincs B46F bodywork new in 1968 and was ordered by Haslingden UDC before the merger (John Kaye).

1971

60-62 ETC660-62J Leyland PSU4A/2R 7003110-12 East Lancs B46F
63-65 ETC663-65J Leyland PSU4A/2R 7003232-34 East Lancs B46F

Nos. 60-65 to Rossendale Borough Transport 4/74 retaining fleet numbers.

1972

66-70 MTC866-70K Leyland PSU4B/2R 7200892-96 East Lancs B46F

Nos. 66-70 to Rossendale Borough Transport 4/74 retaining fleet numbers.

1973

1-5 WTJ901-05L Leyland PSU4B/2R 7204573-77 East Lancs B46F

Nos. 1-5 to Rossendale Borough Transport 4/74 retaining fleet numbers.

Rossendale JTC; Rossendale Borough Transport 1968-1986



No. 4 (WTJ904L) was a Leyland PSU4B/2R 'Leopard' with East Lancs B46F bodywork new in 1973 and seen here in the depot. (Joe Gornall courtesy Malcolm Jones).

Rossendale Borough Transport Bus Fleet List 1974-1986

This listing is in the format - Year into service; Fleet No; Reg. No;
Chassis; Chassis No; Body; Seating.

1974

Vehicles transferred from Rossendale Joint Transport Committee 4/74

1-5	WTJ901-05L	Leyland	PSU4B/2R	7204573-77	East Lancs	B46F
18-19	RTC822-23	Leyland	PD2/12	532077/76	Leyland	H31/25R
23	RTE537	Leyland	PD2/12	531017	East Lancs	H31/28R
25-26	VTJ732-33	Leyland	PD2/20	550954-55	East Lancs	H31/28R
28-29	VTJ735-36	Leyland	PD2/20	550957-58	East Lancs	H31/28R
30-33	FTE630-33B	Leyland	PD3/4	L04407-10	East Lancs	H41/32F
34-35	MTJ434-35C	Leyland	PD3/4	L25149-50	East Lancs	H41/32F
36-37	MTJ436-37C	Leyland	PD3/4	L40119/1709	East Lancs	H41/32F
38-39	XTJ938-39D	Leyland	PD3/4	L62399-400	East Lancs	H41/32F

1974 (continued)

40-41	XTJ940-41D	Leyland PD3/4	L62412-13	East Lancs	H41/32F
42	VTJ90	Leyland PD2/12	550997	East Lancs	H31/28R
43	11CTB	Leyland PD2/12	563316	East Lancs	H31/28R
44	1920TB	Leyland PD2/41	600663	East Lancs	H31/28R
45	XTF98D	Leyland PD3/4	L62201	East Lancs	H41/32F
46	DTJ960E	Leyland PD3/14	701802	East Lancs	H41/32F
48	FTF732B	Leyland L1	L04362	East Lancs	B44F
49	NTJ808C	Leyland L1	L40338	East Lancs	B44F
50-51	FTE650-51B	Leyland L1	L04295-96	East Lancs	B44F
52-54	JTF152-54F	Leyland PSU4/2R	800432/90-91	East Lancs	B44F
55-56	LTD955-56F	Leyland PSU4/2R	801204-05	East Lancs	B46F
58	466FTJ	Leyland PSUC1/5	584768	East Lancs	B43F
59	738NTD	Leyland PSUC1/5	597025	East Lancs	B43F
60-62	ETC660-62J	Leyland PSU4A/2R	7003110-12	East Lancs	B46F
63-65	ETC663-65J	Leyland PSU4A/2R	7003232-34	East Lancs	B46F
66-70	MTC866-70K	Leyland PSU4B/2R	7200892-96	East Lancs	B46F

Nos. 1-5, 60-70 to Rossendale Transport Ltd 10/86 retaining fleet numbers (67, 69 as withdrawn vehicles).

Withdrawn **1974** (18-19, 23, 42-43), **1975** (25-26, 28), **1977** (29, 32-33), **1978** (34, 36, 44, 59), **1979** (40-41, 58), **1980** (38, 48), **1981** (31, 49-51), **1982** (30, 35, 37, 39, 45-46, 52-53), **1984** (54), **1985** (55-56, 67, 69).

1974 (continued)

New Vehicles

6-10 YTC306-10N Bristol RESL6L [RESL-8/]419-23 East Lancs B46F

Nos. 6-10 to Rossendale Transport Ltd 10/86 retaining fleet numbers.

1975

11-12 JDK911-12P Bristol RESL6L [RESL-8/]447-48 East Lancs DP42F

13-14 JDK913-14P Bristol RESL6L [RESL-8/]445-46 East Lancs B45F

Nos. 11-14 to Rossendale Transport Ltd 10/86 retaining fleet numbers.



No. 13 (JDK913P) was one of four Bristol RESL6L's delivered in 1975, this one had B45F bodywork by East Lancs. (Joe Gornall courtesy Malcolm Jones).

1977

15-17 PTD415-17S Leyland AN68A/1R 7701177/209/26 East Lancs H43/32F

Nos. 15-17 to Rossendale Transport Ltd 10/86 retaining fleet numbers.

1978

18-19 STE18-19S Leyland AN68A/1R 7705238/43 East Lancs H43/32F

Nos. 18-19 to Rossendale Transport Ltd 10/86 retaining fleet numbers.

1979

20 VTD720T Leyland AN68A/1R 7804548 East Lancs H43/32F

21-23 ABN721-23V Leyland AN68A/1R 7806978/7089/84 East Lancs H43/32F

Nos. 20-23 to Rossendale Transport Ltd 10/86 retaining fleet numbers.

Rossendale JTC; Rossendale Borough Transport 1968-1986



Seen here in Rawtenstall Bus Station is No. 16 (PTD416S), a 1977 Leyland AN68A/1R 'Atlantean' with East Lancs H43/32F bodywork. (Richard Simons).

Rossendale JTC; Rossendale Borough Transport 1968-1986



No. 21 (ABN721V) was a 1969 Leyland AN68A/1R with East Lancs H43/32F bodywork that passed to Rossendale Transport Ltd in 10/86. (John Law).

1980

24-25	DDK24-25W	Leyland AN68B/1R	7904147/51	East Lancs	H43/32F
26	DDK26W	Leyland AN68B/1R	8000110	East Lancs	H43/32F

Nos. 24-26 to Rossendale Transport Ltd 10/86 retaining fleet numbers.

1982

27-28	SND27-28X	Leyland AN68C/1R	8101541/44	East Lancs	H43/32F
50-51	SND550-51X	Bristol LHS6L	[LHS-]395-96	East Lancs	B28F

No. 27 re-seated to CH43/23F and to CH43/27F in 10/86.

Nos. 27-28, 50-51 to Rossendale Transport Ltd 10/86 retaining fleet numbers.

1983

52	TPJ56S	Bristol LHS6L	LHS-263	ECW	B34F
----	--------	---------------	---------	-----	------

No. 52 ex-London Country Bus Services (No. BN56; new 1977); to Rossendale Transport Ltd 10/86 retaining fleet number.

Rossendale JTC; Rossendale Borough Transport 1968-1986



Leyland AN68B/1R No. 25 (DDK25W) with East Lancs H43/32F bodywork dating from 1979. (Joe Gornall courtesy Malcolm Jones).

Rossendale JTC; Rossendale Borough Transport 1968-1986



No. 52 (TPJ56S) was a second-hand purchase from London Country in 1983 and was a 1977 Bristol LHS6L with ECW B34F bodywork. (Cliff Essex).

1984

29	HGG243N	Leyland AN68/1R	7500118	Alexander	H45/31F
30	JUS795N	Leyland AN68/1R	7503185	Alexander	H45/31F
31	KSU857P	Leyland AN68A/1R	7504640	Alexander	H45/31F

Nos. 29-31 ex-Strathclyde PTE (Nos. LA894, LA948, LA981 respectively; new 1975); to Rossendale Transport Ltd 10/86 retaining fleet numbers.

1985

80	DKG272V	Leyland PSU3F/5R	7904563	Plaxton	C53F
81	GB0243W	Leyland PSU3F/5R	8030223	Plaxton	C53F
82	GB0245W	Leyland PSU3F/5R	8030204	Plaxton	C53F

Nos. 80-82 ex-Hills, Tredegar (new 1980[80] or 1981]); originally named 'Rossendale Enterprise', 'Rossendale Rose' and 'Rossendale Forester' respectively in 6/85; to Rossendale Transport Ltd 10/86 retaining fleet numbers.



No. 30 (JUS795N) was a 1977 Alexander H45/31F-bodied Leyland AN68/1R 'Atlantean' ex-Strathclyde PTE in 1984. (Richard Simons).

Rossendale JTC; Rossendale Borough Transport 1968-1986



No. 80 (DKG272V) was a 1980 Leyland PSU3F/5R 'Leopard' with Plaxton C53F coachwork ex-Hills of Tredegar in 1985. (Richard Simons).

1986

53-54	D953-54NOJ	Freight-Rover	267853/8003	Midland Red	DP20F
55	D595NOJ	Freight-Rover	268525	Midland Red	DP20F
83	NDW149X	Leyland TRCTL11/2R	8102460	Plaxton	C53F
84	NDW148X	Leyland TRCTL11/2R	8103116	Plaxton	C53F
175	CTC175J	Leyland PDR1A/1	7002532	East Lancs	H45/33F
176	HTF176K	Leyland PDR1A/1	7103429	East Lancs	H45/33F
179	HTF179K	Leyland PDR1A/1	7103432	East Lancs	H45/33F

Nos. 53-55 purchased by Rossendale Borough Transport 10/86 but probably not operated; to Rossendale Transport Ltd 10/86 retaining fleet numbers. Nos. 83-84 ex-Hills, Tredegar (new 1982); to Rossendale Transport Ltd 10/86 retaining fleet numbers.

Nos. 175-176, 179 ex-Hyndburn Borough Transport (Nos. 175-176, 179 respectively; new 1971 to Accrington Corporation); to Rossendale Transport Ltd 10/86 retaining fleet numbers.

If you enjoyed reading this booklet please consider making a donation of any amount to help fund the production of more booklets.

Donate



© Local Transport History Library 2024

Additional information, corrections and photographs are always welcome.
Our general email address is: lth.library@gmail.com

In producing this booklet reference has been made to the following publications; PSV Circle Fleet History PC/PC4A, 1987; Hyndburn & Rossendale - 75 Years of Municipal Operation, Deegan, Omnibus Society, 1982; Rossendale Transport - A Centenary Celebration 1907-2007; Postlethwaite, Venture, 2007.

Photographs courtesy John Kaye, Richard Simons, Joe Gornall (courtesy Malcolm Jones), John Law, Cliff Essex.

Series Editor: Peter Gould (secretary.lthl@gmail.com).