



News Update on the Wessex Festival of Transport 2007:

Our Running Day & Rally on Sunday 8th July is to be sponsored by Ringwood Town Council this year and it will become part of the weeklong Ringwood Festival.

Planning of this is in the very early stages (as at Feb 2007); we do not know what other activities will be held (or if at all) in Ringwood Town Centre on the Sunday concerned. The Ringwood Festival Committee suggested and would like us to accept their offer of plaques to be given to Wessex entrants and even trophies for the best class of vehicle. We are likely to gratefully accept this, as we have not had sufficient funds in recent times to do so. Other good news is that Wilts & Dorset Bus Co will sponsor & supply us with drivers & vehicles so we can run again; Bournemouth Council will allow us to enter Bournemouth Interchange, and hopefully New Forest District Council will allow us to enter Moors Valley Country Park (pending a Public Liability agreement). Bill Santer is already looking forward to taking us again on one of his double-deck Mystery Tours.

Hants & Dorset Motor Services/Wilts & Dorset Bus Co Ticket Machines: a limited number of these redundant machines were cleared out from the Ashley Road, Parkstone office when it closed recently, and donated to the Wessex Transport Society. A number of these machines have sold via Ebay (and privately) specifically to bring in Festival funds. Funds are required for expensive public liability insurance for Avon Heath Country Park and also preserved vehicle donations. It has been interesting that one machine has been returned to its Conductor who worked with H&D in the 1960's, and another will shortly be fitted to back onto a preserved H&D Bristol RE! Stories to these with pictures will be hopefully be submitted to the bi-monthly magazine.

PSV Running Vehicle Entrants (bus & coach owners): we would request your forms returned as soon as possible so we can properly organise a program & schedule for you. We realise that some owners have commitments and can only know nearer a few days to the event-if this is the case we would ask you to sign the form, 'ACT AS SPARE'. We would not enter you into the program, as we wouldn't wish to disappoint visitors but there will certainly be a trip to do!

We would also like forms returned because it is a legal requirement & that we also should act in a professional manner - Thanks, Paul Donald, Running Vehicle Coordinator.