

THE LEAN-TO

Over the past months work on extending the lean-to on the east side of the trams has gone ahead fairly well with the purchase of new bitchamin based corrugated panels. These were then fixed to timbers to form the roof structure - mainly scrounged from our own resources - longer timbers were a different matter and had to be purchased. We have now covered the centre part between the two trams and the whole side of No 48. Just the south end or front end of 48 needs some extra work to complete what we set out to do but at the moment it seems to be weather proof so I may not disturb that part until the weather is better. I realise that this is an important visual end that the visitors will see as they walk round to our site.

Another thing which has to be done within our shelter is to try to replace some of the glass to the windows frames of the tram. Reusable glass that we acquired free some time earlier and cut to size was found to be slightly oversize when we tried to fit it so I had to attempt to cut a few mm off, I was successful on two occasions but not so on the third, We will of course have to replace all the glass in the near future.

OTHER NEWS

A visit to the Black Country Museum and Crich Museum by Cliff Millet his wife and myself in October - Clifford was interested in going to Crich on that Sunday as they were holding a special Eastern European event which he was keen to take part in. Dressed in an East German police outfit I must say he looked the part and several people took his photograph along with other friends he knew who also had dressed for the occasion in typical uniforms. There was also a motor cavalcade of vintage east German cars and of course the German tram, along with the day to day trams that usually run at the museum. In all it turned out to be quite an interesting day. Apart from that our earlier visit to the Black Country Museum was not quite what we were expecting as we were visiting on a weekday (Fri) and being later in the season things were that quieter, plus also work was in progress around the Trolleybus Depot with a new building being erected which in turn cut short the running length of the tram which had to make do with a short run which started from a halfway point (The Mine) to just short of it's depot. Clifford and myself took turns conducting plus a little bit of driving on the turnarounds which made up for the day.

IDEAS FOR A TRANSPORT MUSEUM IN BEXHILL

A meeting took place in Bexhill in October '08 to discuss in general a plan to create ideas to develop the old railway station at Terminus Road Bexhill into Museum for Historic Transport. Unfortunately I was unable to attend and up until recently I did not know what the outcome of this meeting was, or even if it took place, I will try to keep you informed you later on if I hear anymore.

AMBERLEY MUSEUM

An invite to visit the museum in November '08 was for a consultation by the Southern Historic Tramway to see if they could run their Southampton tram No 57 at the Museum. One idea proposed was to run it from the museum entrance into the site itself. Derek and myself (Roy) attended and several tram films were shown.