

What's on

The calendar below shows key events over the next few months, from RTiG and our associates. For further details of RTiG events please contact secretariat@rtig.org.uk

RTiG Committee

30 May 2018, London (TBC)

PTIC

5 June 2018, London

Intelligent Transport 2018 (Russell)

1-2 November 2018, London (TBC)

In this issue:

News and events: update on RTiG work

[Spring Meeting: Bus data](#)

[RTiG support](#)

[Current Working Groups](#)

In other news: around the patch

[Bus Services Act: franchising guidance published](#)

Members' news: showcasing innovation

[Ticketer schedule adherence helps](#)

[D & G Bus](#)

[Uno goes contactless, a first for Northampton](#)

[Rhode Island Public Transportation](#)

[Authority partners with INIT for Electronic Fare Management project](#)

Admin: useful facts about RTiG

[Committee members](#)

[Contact us](#)

[Next issue](#)

* = *To be confirmed*



For all administrative matters and enquiries please contact:

RTiG Secretariat, c/o Centaur Consulting Ltd,
Surrey, Research Park, Guildford, Surrey,
GU2 7YG

Tel: +44 (0) 1483 688270

Email: secretariat@rtig.org.uk

Web: www.rtig.org.uk

NEWS
AND
EVENTS**Spring Meeting: Bus data**

For those of you that were there, we hope you enjoyed RTiG's Spring Meeting (Leeds, 19 March).

As usual, we began the day with a series of presentations on the activities of our host authority – but with a couple of twists. David Gill (WYCA) introduced the context in West Yorkshire, and his colleague Mike Nolan gave an overview of the systems. Alongside this, Ben Gilligan (SYPT) presented the benefits and opportunities of joint working across the authorities, and in the wider Yorkshire region, which all seems to have gone remarkably smoothly. Emphasising the cooperative nature of the programme, Ricky Lake (First's Punctuality Manager for Yorkshire) spoke about the benefits to bus operators.

That was followed by a talk from Russell Gard (Nimbus/r2p), emphasising the need to manage systems on the basis of the information they capture and exchange, rather than the technology they use to do it. The importance of clear focus on customers' information needs, coupled with solid system engineering around open standardised data, had been crucial in r2p's implementations for the Yorkshire scheme.

After lunch we looked at the wider picture. Meera Nayyar (DfT) gave a detailed presentation of the findings of the recent "discovery project" on bus open data. The eight key findings include both operational problems (such as lack of incentives) and technical problems related to standards and their use. A decentralised approach to publication is being recommended.

Simon Linley (TfN) described the TfN's Integrated and Smart Travel programme, which includes among other things a central open data hub covering some of the more challenging types of data (fares, disruptions, etc). It will be interesting to see how this approach evolves in the context of DfT's proposed decentralisation.

N E W S A N D E V E N T S

We returned to operator thinking at the end of the day. Tony Pettitt (Reading Buses) described the systems that operators use, and how they could contribute to open data. He also presented the ground-breaking work that Reading Buses has done in partnership with independent developers, resulting innovations such as low-cost tree-strike warning systems.

We'd like to say a big thank you to all those who contributed to making RTIG's 2018 Spring Meeting a success – in particular WYCA for hosting and Atkins for sponsoring the lunch.

Members can find the presentations on the RTIG website as usual.

RTIG support

As you know, RTIG benefits from professional services provided under contract to assist in its management and operations. In line with procurement policy, this is open to competition every few years. The current contract (with Centaur Consulting) comes to an end in August 2018.

RTIG has therefore launched the re-procurement, with the publication of a notice in the Official Journal of the EU, reference 2018/S 062-137455. The key text is as follows:

RTIG Ltd (a subsidiary of Merseytravel) wishes to procure a contract with a provider of services to enable it to fulfil its functions in an effective, efficient, professional manner. It is envisaged that the services required of the successful contractor will include some or all of: Support to RTIG's corporate activities, coordination of business planning and reporting, general meetings and clerking services etc.

N E W S A N D E V E N T S

Closing date for receipt of tenders is 1 May 2018, and the four-year contract is envisaged to start in July (to allow a handover period).

The procurement documents are publicly available at www.the-chest.org.uk (free of charge, but registration is required). Additional information can be obtained from tender@merseytravel.gov.uk. The OJEU notice can be found at <http://ted.europa.eu/udl?uri=TED:NOTICE:137455-2018:TEXT:EN:HTML>.

Current Working Groups

The following Working Groups are currently active:

- **Information presentation WG** – the update of the RTiG Guide *Meeting the needs of disabled travellers* is almost complete, and a second document on screen layouts is now well advanced.
- **PTIC** (joint with ATCO and Traveline) – met at CPT in London, on 6 February 2018, with the main topic being the presentation of findings by Deloitte during its DfT discovery project. The next meeting is scheduled for 5 June 2018.

If you don't yet participate in one of these groups but would like to do so, please contact us at secretariat@rtig.org.uk.

I N O T H E R N E W S

Bus Services Act: franchising guidance published

DfT has just published a guidance document, explaining how local authorities can establish franchising for bus services in line with the Bus Services Act 2017. Bus franchising is one of 3 options available to local authorities when working in partnership with bus operators. Other alternatives are Enhanced Partnership or Advanced Quality Partnerships, for which guidance has previously been published.

The new document includes:

- Non-statutory guidance explaining how the new provisions introduced through the Act work in practice, and offering some practical suggestions as to their application.
- Statutory guidance to which a local authority or auditor must have regard in exercising relevant functions, and is issued under specific provisions of the Act.

The guidance document is available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/bus-services-act-2017-bus-franchising-creation> .

MaaS launches in West Midlands

The UK's first explicit "Mobility as a Service" service has been launched in the UK by TfWM, using the Whim smartphone app (developed by Finnish company MaaS Global).

Whim provides access to a range of transport options including buses, trams, taxis and hire cars. There are three account options:

- Pay as you go

IN OTHER NEWS

- *Whim Everyday* for £99 per month which includes unlimited public transport with taxis and best-price car hire;
- *Whim Unlimited* for £349 per month which includes unlimited public transport, all taxi rides within a three-mile radius of your location and up to 30 days car hire per month

The scheme aims to "challenge the way people start to think about their journeys and let them see that vehicle ownership doesn't have to be the only way forward".

National Express West Midlands, Gett, Enterprise Rent-A-Car, nextbike and other transport providers have already signed up to the scheme with others lined up to get involved.

Whim is now looking for the first 500 people to sign up to the scheme. If you can make it, there is a showcase in Central Square, Brindley Place until 14 April.

Details are available at <https://whimapp.com/uk/> .

M E M B E R S N E W S

Keeping in touch with you

As well as keeping you up-to-date with all the latest news from RTiG, this newsletter aims to provide a community forum for members. We therefore offer RTiG members the opportunity to submit a short article here on any issue or innovation that might be of interest to the community.

There are two ways of becoming involved in this:

- ▶ Email pieces to us when you have them – press release format is fine and pictures are welcome.
- ▶ Nominate a marketing contact who will be included in the editor's monthly process of 'chivvying'.



M E M B E R S N E W S

Ticketer schedule adherence helps D & G Bus

D & G Bus has switched to Ticketer ETMs in order to give passengers more payment options and also to utilise the built-in schedule adherence feature. D & G's old machines were becoming unreliable and were no longer able to process smartcards. All 94 vehicles in the D& G Bus fleet have now been fitted with Ticketer ETMs. Passengers have quickly adapted to all the new payment options, including barcodes, multi-journey and cross availability products. More importantly, passengers are now able to use contactless, which along with other cash-free payments, has improved boarding times.

All Ticketer ETMs have a schedule adherence facility, which D & G Bus is using to ensure the buses are running to timetable and to identify where any changes need to be made.

D & G Bus also has plans to utilise the bespoke coupon printing facility that the Ticketer the system offers.

www.ticketer.co.uk

Uno goes contactless, a first for Northampton

Uno Buses, along with the University of Northampton, has launched contactless payments on their new Ticketer ETMs, the first operator to go live across Northampton.

Contactless is available on all Uno services including their Violet 19 route, meaning customers no longer need to give 'carrying the right cash' a second thought - they can simply tap their bankcard. Students and residents can use Apple and Android Pay to buy their tickets.

M
E
M
B
E
R
S

N
E
W
S

Last October, £1.5 million was invested in new Violet buses, eight state-of-the-art, environmentally friendly vehicles with free superfast Wi-Fi and USB charging points. The new contactless payments have been described as 'the icing on the cake'.

www.unobus.info

Rhode Island Public Transportation Authority partners with INIT for Electronic Fare Management project

The Rhode Island Public Transportation Authority (RIPTA) has chosen INIT to implement an account-based electronic fare and back office revenue management system on their fixed route fleet of more than 240 buses. The contract includes EMV-capable e-fare validators, the integration of a Bytemark mobile ticketing app, as well as an option to implement platform validators and Ticket Vending Machines (TVM) in future phases of RIPTA's fare collection upgrade project and plans.

Once implemented, RIPTA's passengers will be able to pay fares by simply tapping their card or mobile device on a validator. INIT's back end processing software, MOBILEvario, will calculate the fare, validate the transaction against the back office account and display the remaining balance to the rider in real time.

This means riders can instantly view their account transactions at any time. The new system will allow passengers to enjoy faster boarding and more convenient fare options.

www.initse.com

A D M I N

Management Committee Members

The Management Committee for the year 2018-19 was appointed at the AGM on 19 March 2018. Membership is currently as follows:

Chair: Ben Gilligan (SYPTe)

Members: David Gill (WYCA), Andrew Wilson (Solent), Russell Gard (Nimbus), Richard Holland (21st Century), Tony Brown (Atkins), Chas Allen (Stagecoach), Tony Pettitt (Reading Buses), Meera Nayyar (DfT)

A Deputy Chair may be appointed at the first Committee meeting of the year.

Contact us

Best by email: secretariat@rtig.org.uk.
Alternatively call us on +44 (0)1483 688270.

<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8557065>

Next issue

Issue 108 – Friday 4th May, 2018.

Please send all contributions to secretariat@rtig.org.uk at any time up to Tuesday 1st May, 2018.

RTiG's newsletters are distributed by email.

To subscribe: simply email us with your request and a valid email address.

To unsubscribe: email with the subject "unsubscribe" – or simply reply to your notification telling us you'd like to be taken off the list.