

TRAM Lines





August 2008 Issue 19

Painting of the Wishbone Bridge

Work has begun to revamp the Wishbone Bridge in Wolverhampton with a new coat of paint. Due to the scale of the job, the bridge will be painted between 30 August and 28 September 2008 and as a result some service changes will be required.

On Saturday 30 August until Tuesday 2 September Metro services will run between Birmingham Snow Hill and Priestfield tram stop only. From Wednesday 3 September until Sunday 28 September the service will be extended to and from The Royal. During this period a shuttle bus will operate between Wolverhampton St Georges and The Royal and Priestfield tram stops.

For the duration of the four week maintenance Metro tickets and passes will



The bridge is a well known Wolverhampton landmark.

be accepted on the shuttle bus service and also on National Express West Midlands buses between Wolverhampton

and Priestfield. Midland Metro apologises for any inconvenience to customers during this

essential work and we look forward to unveiling the newly painted bridge in September.



Mislaid on the Metro

There is something about public transport that often makes customers forgetful. It seems that in customer's eagerness to get to work, home or meet friends and family they often leave their most treasured personal items behind when leaving the tram!

In the first six months of the year there have been 267 items left on the tram by customers. These include the usual umbrellas, items of clothing – including a set of women's lingerie and a cuddly toy. The most peculiar item left on the tram to date is a set of skis!

All lost items are held for 28 days by the Midland Metro to allow time for owners to collect their possessions. If you do leave any personal items on the tram, call on 0121 502 2006, and you may just be re-united with that trusted umbrella, lost brief case or mobile phone. Oh yes, and those skis...

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Working to enhance road safety along Metro line

A bridge which carries the Metro line between Wednesbury Parkway and Bradley Lane tram stops is the subject of a major safety project by Sandwell Council to reduce the amount of road traffic accidents occurring in the area.

The bridge, which crosses Great Bridge Road, has been struck by lorries on 20 occasions over the past five years, subsequently causing disruptions to the Metro service while the bridge and track are inspected for damage.

Reflective warning signs have been placed either side of the bridge by Sandwell Council to alert car and lorry drivers and increase visibility of the bridge's height limit during the night. Black and yellow reflective chevrons have also been applied to the girders on either side of the bridge to alert drivers to the limited head room.

These safety precautions will help to reduce the road accidents at this bridge, which will in turn reduce any service disruption to the Metro.



View along road looking towards Gospel Oak.

More Metro customers

Metro customers are on the increase with over 50,000 more customers using the tram service in the first seven months of 2008 compared to the same period last year.

It is thought the increase in fuel prices has contributed to the significant increase in passenger numbers during

July as more people realise the benefits of leaving their cars at home and using the tram. With a journey time of 35 minutes between Birmingham and Wolverhampton the Metro is a fast, environmentally friendly and value for money alternative to the car.

Service Performance

Performance in July was very impressive with 99.42% of services operating in line with the timetable.

Meet the team

Name: Lita Marlow

Job title:
Administration
Assistant

How long have you been working at Travel Midland Metro?

Almost 9 years

What are your interests outside of work?

Visits to the countryside, reading, swimming and socialising



Interesting fact about yourself:

My family and I play an active part in fund raising for bone cancer charities following the loss of my 8 year old nephew, Mervyn, with the disease 10 years ago