



NEWTOWN e-NEWS Summer 2004

The e-newsletter of the Bournemouth Passenger Transport Association

A tale of two 40s

Two very different buses that carry the same fleet number are currently in the news.

In 1965, Bournemouth grasped wholeheartedly the concept of convertible open-toppers and to facilitate the removal and replacement of roofs, converted Weymann-bodied wartime Arab 2 No 40 of 1944 (FRU 224) into a mobile crane.

Until this year it performed these duties, not only for Yellow Buses, but also for Wilts & Dorset.

It has now passed to Bournemouth Museums for a well-deserved retirement. Who said utility buses wouldn't last!



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The influx of rear-engined double deckers began unexpectedly in 1964 with two buses diverted from Belfast Corporation with bulky but not unattractive bodies by MH Coachworks of Northern Ireland.

After a long period of storage No 40 is to be returned to full running order.



40's 'sister 41 ©Mark Maidment

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