

**DALKEITH TRAVELSHOP TO CLOSE**

Lothian Buses has announced that the Dalkeith Travelshop will close permanently at 16.45 on Friday 1 September.

Lothian Buses report that “the shop has seen a significant decline in use with more customers choosing to access information online, and ticket sales have halved in the last four years with this trend set to continue as more of our customers choose to adopt our best value direct debit option. The facility no longer has a commercially viable future and with the lease due for renewal, Lothian has taken the opportunity to close the shop. The shop is staffed by a small team who work across all of our facilities and will continue to work across our other sites following the closure.”

“We recognise that this may have an impact on the small number of customers who continue to use the Travelshop. Unfortunately, we cannot justify its continued operation. However, we remain committed to providing an excellent service for customers in Midlothian, as can be seen by the service improvements we have made in recent years. We encourage customers to use our online and telephone services to access information and tickets, as well as the local PayPoints for topping up Ridacards.”

Top-ups for Ridacards are available from 250 PayPoint outlets in the Lothian Buses area, including four in Dalkeith:-

- **RS McColl, 11 Jarnac Court, EH22 1HU – Mon-Sat 0730-1800**
- **Dalkeith Metro, 1 Jarnac Court, EH22 1HU – Daily 0800-2200**
- **Costcutter, 182 High Street, EH22 1AY – Daily 0700-2200**
- **Dalkeith Newsagents, 48 Gibraltar Gdns, EH22 1EQ – Daily 0700-2200**

Full details of other PayPoint outlets around Midlothian are available from <https://www.paypoint.com/en-gb> or by calling 0800 310 0000. The location of PayPoint outlets is also marked on the Midlothian Travelmap.

Information and tickets for all Lothian Buses services are available from www.lothianbuses.co.uk, by calling 0131 555 6363 or through Lothian Buses mobile apps.

Timetable leaflets about Lothian Buses services that operate in Midlothian are already available from the Travel Team carousels located at each Midlothian library, Midlothian and Fairfield Houses in Dalkeith, the Midlothian Community Hospital, health centres at Pathhead and Penicuik, and Rosewell Development Trust.

CHANGES TO LOTHIAN BUSES SERVICES

Sunday 3 September 2017 brings the closure of Leith Street in Edinburgh city centre to all traffic, including buses, for 44 weeks [up to July 2018]. This road closure is part of the St James redevelopment which will involve demolition of existing buildings on the west side of Leith Street, then new construction work.

The road closure will have a major impact on many routes in Edinburgh.

Some buses that currently run from the Bridges via Leith Street to Leith Walk will be diverted via Waterloo Place, Regent Road, top of Easter Road and London Road. This includes the 49 route that serves Midlothian.

City centre routes on the Nightbus network will also change as a result of Leith Street closing. Nightbus services will no longer be able to call at the OMNI, or run to Elm Row direct. No Nightbus journeys will be withdrawn.

As well as the Leith Street closure, the new layby at Gorebridge terminus is complete and bus services 29, X29, 33 and N3 will switch from running the one-way circular route via Birkenhead estate to running up and down Powdermill Brae and turning at the new facility at the entrance to the new Harvieston Park estate.

A summary of the September changes for Midlothian routes is given below.

29/X29 / Terminus changes at Gorebridge plus one additional X29 journey in the morning from Gorebridge to Muirhouse via the city on Mondays to Fridays. The new journey will depart Gorebridge at 0637 and Newtongrange at 0652, arriving in Gilmerton at 0704, North Bridge at 0726 and Muirhouse at 0751.

33 / Terminus changes at Gorebridge

49 / Route in the city centre will change to run between the Bridges and Leith Walk via Regent Road and London Road. Buses will not call at bus stops along the diversion in either direction

N3 / Terminus changes at Gorebridge

N31 / 0343 from Hopefield will terminate at Waverley Steps instead of Elm Row

N37 / The first journey from Scott Monument to Penicuik will start from Queensferry Street. The last journeys back to the city will run to Waverley Steps instead of Elm Row

New timetable leaflets will be published by Lothian Buses for these services. These will be available via all Midlothian libraries, usually 14 to 10 days before the change date.

LOANHEAD LIBRARY

Please note that a new library will be opening in Loanhead this month. The library will now be part of the new Loanhead Hub [together with Paradykes Primary School and the leisure centre]. This is just across the road from the old library which closed in July.

Loanhead library will continue to stock application forms for bus passes, Blue Badges, Ring & Go cards and also timetable leaflets/booklets for all bus and train services in Midlothian. However, users of the library will see a difference.

Since 2009 most other libraries have used a "Travel Team Carousel" to display all these Travel Team items in one place. Loanhead will display

the Travel Team items without the carousel as there will be a bespoke leaflet display area as part of the interior design for the new facility.

Loanhead Library will still be dealing with validation of completed bus pass application forms.

YOUNG SCOT CARD DISCOUNTS IN EUROPE



European Youth Card Association

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Anyone resident in Scotland and between their 11th and 26th birthdays can apply for a Young Scot card. In Midlothian schools, the opportunity to obtain a Young Scot card is given to all new high school entrants. Others not attending a Midlothian school can apply via any Midlothian library.

For the 15 years that each person can access a Young Scot card, there are discounts at retail and service outlets in Scotland. Additionally, for all between their 16th and 19th birthdays, and for those working as volunteers up to their 26th birthday, there is a Scotland-wide bus concessionary fare scheme which allows Young Scot cardholders to travel on buses with a one-third discount off the adult single fare to the nearest 5p below, or to apply for a Young Persons' Railcard for discounted train fares.

There is an additional benefit. Young Scot cards now bear the above EYCA logo. Cardholders can use their card anywhere showing this logo in 36 countries across Europe. A sample of the discounts and offers available gives an idea of what is possible with the Young Scot card.

Trips in Bulgaria and Greece with Usit Colours	10% off
Paragliding over the Asturian coast in Spain	€40 special rate
Sightseeing bus tours in Vienna	15% off (online tickets)
Check out the dolphins at the zoological park, Athens	€14 special rate
Over 100 monuments, castles, museums in the Czech Republic	Up to 30% off

Whatever your European destination, discover more about this offer at the [EYCA website](#)

NAPIER UNIVERSITY – TRANSPORT RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Faqhrul Islam is a PhD student at Napier University in Edinburgh. The main focus of his research is the impact of real-time public transport information from smartphone apps.

As part of this research, Faqhrul is conducting a survey of public transport passengers' use of real-time data sources. He's now looking for survey participants, and I offered to include this article to ask if any readers of the Travel Team Newsletter would be willing to take part.

Some may not be interested in answering surveys. Others may not have the time to participate. But if you are interested and do have the time [12-15

minutes] then please click on the link below. This will take you to the survey [mostly questions with optional answers such as agree, neutral, disagree, don't know etc].

Hopefully your participation will contribute towards improving public transport information systems in the UK.

Participants have a chance to win one of two £50 shopping vouchers. All you need to do is provide your email address after the survey has been completed.

To reach the survey, please follow the link below:

<http://www.questionpro.com/t/AMNPLZYPj> [Control key + click]

Researcher Details: Faqhrul Islam MSc, PhD Student at the School of Engineering and the Built Environment, Merchiston Campus, Napier University, 10 Colinton Road, Edinburgh, EH10 5DT

LinkedIn: <https://uk.linkedin.com/in/faqhrul-islam-9bb44b74>

Edinburgh Napier's Transport Research Institute, www.tri.napier.ac.uk

NEW HITACHI TRAINS PASS DfT DIGITAL TESTS



Hitachi's new intercity trains, due to enter passenger service on the East Coast service between Edinburgh and London in 2018, have passed digital technology tests required by the Department for Transport.

The UK-built fleet, designated "Class 800", is among the first in the country to successfully test an advanced level of digital signalling. The technology is part of the Digital Railway – an industry programme for digital modernization to increase rail capacity, ease overcrowding and improve performance on Britain's rail network.

A test train fitted with the digital technology carried out tests at Network Rail's state-of-the-art signalling facility in Hitchin just north of London. Testing included recreating real life scenarios experienced on the UK rail network and ensuring the new system met rigorous safety requirements.

The UK railway network carries twice as many passengers as it did just two decades ago. With demand predicted to rise dramatically in the years ahead, “The Digital Railway” is the industry’s plan to tackle Britain’s need for more capacity. Digital modernization of the railway will offer capacity and performance improvements at lower cost and with less disruption than conventional enhancements.

The digital system tested by Hitachi, known as European Train Control System (ETCS), will feed more continuous information from track side equipment into the driver’s cab, enabling trains to run closer together and creating the opportunity for more frequent services.

ETCS is a far cry from the long standing signalling system currently used on the country’s rail network, which operates like traffic lights. Hitachi’s Class 800 intercity trains use an advanced level of ETCS called Baseline 3.

New Hitachi Class 800 trains will begin running passenger services on the Great Western main line from autumn 2017 and **on the East Coast main line between Edinburgh and London from 2018**. The trains were designed in Japan but are being built at Hitachi’s UK manufacturing facility in Newton Aycliffe, County Durham. Hitachi is building [and will then maintain] 122 new Class 800 trains as part of the Department for Transport’s £5.7bn Intercity Express Programme. A further order for more trains of this type will see the Class 800s running on Transpennine Express routes from 2019.

Andy Rogers, Programme Director for Hitachi Rail Europe, commented on the milestone: “Our new trains are helping to transform UK rail by using industry leading technology. Passing digital signalling tests is a major breakthrough for the industry and another step towards easing the problem of overcrowding.

“The trains will significantly boost capacity on some of the busiest routes in the country through more seats, greater use of on-board space and pioneering digital technology.”

“ASK THE TRAVEL TEAM” SESSIONS AT THE LIBRARIES

These are ongoing, visiting each of the nine libraries in Midlothian in turn on a rota basis [but with no visits scheduled for December, January and July]. The next three venues are always shown at the foot of this newsletter. From September, the sessions will start at 1800 and end at 1900, giving one hour at each location.

N & P Entries [Buses]

The following Notices & Proceedings [N&P] have been circulated by the Traffic Commissioner for Scotland since the last Travel Team Newsletter.

Operator licensing

Black with red highlighting licence number, operator name and location

Bus route registrations

Blue with red highlighting licence number, operator name and route number

XNY – Variations for the Christmas/New Year period only

Only N&P issues with at least one Midlothian entry are shown in the list

2136 - Monday 7 August 2017

PM 000002/Lothian Buses Ltd of 55 Annandale Street, **EDINBURGH**, EH7 4AZ submitted the changes that will start on Midlothian services **29/X29, 33, 49, N3, N31, N37** from Sunday 3 September – see feature on page 2 for full details

PM/1067704 R – Sybil Boyd of 7 Cowden Crescent, **DALKEITH**, EH22 2HH has been called to a Public Inquiry at 1000 on Thursday 31 August 2017 at the Traffic Court in Waterloo Place, Edinburgh to consider possible disciplinary action in accordance with The Public Passenger Vehicles Act 1981 [Section 17] and The Transport Act 1985 [Section 28].

At the same time, the Traffic Commissioner will consider an application from **Sybil Boyd** for a brand new operator licence **PM/1148994 SN** under The Public Passenger Vehicles Act [Section 14].

A + D Entries [Goods]

The following Applications and Decisions [A&D] have been circulated by the Traffic Commissioner for Scotland since the last Travel Team Newsletter.

Operator licensing

Blue with **red highlighting** licence number, operator name and location

Only A+D issues with at least one Midlothian entry are shown in the list

2005 - Monday 12 June 2017

OM 1148089 R / Aask Events Ltd, Brunstane Farm, **PENICUIK**, EH26 9LD has been granted a new operator licence with an authorization for one vehicle. The directors are Stefan Klausmeyer and Anthony Aherne

OM 1022565 R / C-Plan Telecommunications Ltd, Errigal House, Clifton View, **BROXBURN**, EH52 5NE has been granted a variation to an existing licence to add a new operating centre at Seafield Mill, **BILSTON**, EH25 9RQ with an authorization for 10 vehicles. The directors are James G Boyle, Hamish Ferguson, Alex Spicer, George Bowers, Denis Anthony Boyle and Leslie William Carter.

2008 - Monday 3 July 2017

OM 1138285 SN / HRT [Scotland] Ltd, 84 Rockbank Crescent, **COATBRIDGE**, ML5 2TA has applied to vary its existing operator licence to add three new operating centres, one of which will be in Midlothian at Old Pentland, **LOANHEAD**, EH20 9NU with an authorization for 1 vehicle sought.

OM 0008711 R / Greggs Plc, 75 Westburn Drive, **CAMBUSLANG**, G72 7NA has applied to vary its existing operator licence to remove one operator base, the one in Midlothian at Unit 36, Dryden Road, **LOANHEAD**, EH20 9LZ. Directors are Richard John Hutton, Raymond Robert Reynolds, Roger Mark Whiteside, Ian Charles Durant, Helena Louise Ganczakowski, Allison Kirkby, Peter Lawrence McPhillips and Sandra Turner.

OM 0000232 SN / Dalkeith Transport & Storage Co Ltd of Lady Victoria Business Centre, **NEWTONGRANGE**, EH22 4QN. The operator licence has been

revoked by the Traffic Commissioner without public inquiry. The directors are Marshall Wright and Peter C Wright.

2009 - Monday 10 July 2017

OM 2000387 R / City Access Scaffolding Ltd of 14 Saint David's Grove, **DALKEITH**, EH22 3FG has withdrawn an application to vary an operator licence prior to determination by the Traffic Commissioner. The company had sought a new operating centre at Murrays Coal Yard, Melville Road, **ESKBANK**, EH22 3NJ with an authorization for 2 vehicles. The directors are Mark Skinner, Jonathan Allan and Kirsty Allan.

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2013 - Monday 7 August 2017

OM 2005785 R / Armadilla Ltd of Orchard House, The Walled Garden, Whitehill Road, **ROSEWELL**, EH24 9EQ has applied for a new operator licence at this address for 2 vehicles and 2 trailers. The directors are Anne Kathleen Hunter and Archibald Donald Hunter.

OM 2000387 R / City Access Scaffolding Ltd of Unit 7/A2 Dalhousie Business Park, **BONNYRIGG**, EH19 3HY has applied to vary its operator to include a new operating centre at the above address in **BONNYRIGG** with an authorization for 2 vehicles. The directors are Mark Skinner, Jonathan Allan and Kirsty Allan.

<p>“Ask the Travel Team” Next 3 Library Sessions</p> <p>Roslin – Thu 7 Sep 2017 1800-1900</p> <p>Gorebridge – Thu 5 Oct 2017 1800-1900</p> <p>Penicuik – Thu 2 Nov 2017 1800-1900</p>	<p>The next issue is 100</p> <p>Are there any topics that you want to be covered in the next or future editions? Please let the editor know by e-mail to karl.vanters@midlothian.gov.uk</p> <hr/> <p>Attachments to this newsletter 099</p> <p>Supplementary File with General Information</p>
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TRAVEL TEAM NEWSLETTER – GENERAL INFORMATION

SUPPLEMENTARY TO TTN 099

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Midlothian Travel Team

including **Public Transport Unit**, part of **Travel and Fleet Services**, Midlothian Council, Resources Division, Midlothian House, Buccleuch Street, **DALKEITH**, EH22 1DN
E-mail – ptu@midlothian.gov.uk [generic email for the whole Travel Team]

Travel and Fleet Services Business Manager, Vehicle and Equipment Purchase, Budgets, Risks, Works Committee, Stobhill and Bonnyrigg Garage Fleets
Contact **Trevor Docherty** – Tel - 0131 561 5448 – **Midlothian House**

Bus Routes, Bus Operator Liaison, Midlothian Travelmap and other public transport publications, Travel Team Newsletter editor, Tripshare Midlothian, Ask the Travel Team, Bus Diversions due to Road Closures, Carousel Maintenance
Contact **Karl Vanters** – Tel - 0131 561 5443 – **Midlothian House**

Sheriffhall Park and Ride, Bustracker and BustrackerSEStran Real Time Info, Routewise and NaPTAN.
Contact **Ricky Dunbar** – 0131 561 5466 - **Bonnyrigg Garage, High Street**

No Smoking Signs, Bus Shelters, Bus Stops, Bus Stop Information Displays, Emergency Notices. **Forbes Brash** – 0131 561 5467 - **Bonnyrigg Garage, High Street**

Schools' Transport including home-to-school travel and excursions, Social Work Transport [children], Academies Transport
Contact **Debbie Hunter** – Tel - 0131 561 5453 – **Midlothian House**

Fleet allocation, Vehicle hiring, Driver Licensing, Invoice Control, Purchase to Pay, Social Work Transport [adults]
Contact **Heather Coutts** – Tel - 0131 561 5445 – **Midlothian House**

Blue Badges, Concessionary Bus Travel for 60+ and Disabled, Young Scot [YS holders attending a Midlothian school contact their school office, school-leavers and those Midlothian residents attending a non-Midlothian school contact their local Midlothian library], Midlothian Taxicards, Midlothian Ring & Go
Contact **Jackie Young** – Tel – 0131 561 5455 – **Midlothian House**

Buses

If you have had to complain to a bus operator in Scotland and feel that you have not received a satisfactory response, or you have received no response within a reasonable time, you should contact **Bus Users Scotland [BUS]**.

BUS has a government contract to monitor bus operators to ensure they comply with the timekeeping and route details registered with the **Traffic Commissioner for Scotland**, and to provide a complaint service.

Bus Users Scotland, Hopetoun Gate, 8b McDonald Road, EDINBURGH, EH7 4LZ
Tel – 0300 111 0001 / Email – enquiries@bususers.org

Traffic Commissioner for Scotland [TCS]

TCS [currently Miss Joan Aitken] can be contacted at:-

Office of the Traffic Commissioner, Scottish Traffic Area Office
Level 6, The Stamp Office, 10 Waterloo Place, Edinburgh, EH1 3EG

Tel – 0300 123 9000 / E-mail – joan.aitken@otc.gsi.gov.uk

Public Transport Timetable Information

Traveline Scotland – public transport information call centre at Airdrie
[covers all of Scotland including all bus/train/tram/ferry services to/from/within
Midlothian]

0871 200 2233 [24 hours a day/365 days a year]

www.travelinescotland.com

One-Ticket

PICK A BUS ANY BUS!



Buy bus-only one-tickets via app [above], online at website www.one-ticket.co.uk, call 0845 055 1770 or visit PayPal outlets or Lothian Buses Travelshops including South Street, Dalkeith

Rail+Bus one-tickets : can only be purchased from staffed rail station booking offices

One-tickets cannot be purchased from the bus driver or train conductor

Midlothian Disability Access Panel [MDAP]

Chair – Mike Harrison on 0131 448 0930 or chairman@middap.org.uk

NEC Hotline

Hotline to report abuse of National Entitlement Cards [bus passes] 0800 328 5690

Cycling

Midlothian Council Cycling Officer:

Dave Kenny - 0131 271 3398 or dave.kenny@midlothian.gov.uk

Cycling page on Midlothian Council website: www.midlothian.gov.uk/cycling

Cycle route planning tools: <http://www.cyclestreets.net/> or <http://routes.bikehub.co.uk/>

Roads in Midlothian

There is a bespoke email address to report problems with roads in Midlothian such as potholes, traffic signals not working etc – roaddefects@midlothian.gov.uk

Travel Team Carousels

A full range of all Midlothian bus timetables, application forms etc is available on the Travel Team Carousels located at the following 14 sites throughout Midlothian

Midlothian Libraries – Dalkeith, Danderhall, Gorebridge, Lasswade, Loanhead, Mayfield, Newtongrange and Penicuik. Due to space limitations, the range of leaflets etc at Roslin Library is restricted to those relevant in the immediate local area only.
Midlothian Council Offices – Fairfield House and Midlothian House, both in Dalkeith
Health – Pathhead and Penicuik Health Centres, and Midlothian Community Hospital
Other – Rosewell Development Trust, next to Rosewell Primary School

Borders' Railway

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National Rail Enquiries – 0845 748 4950 **ScotRail Online – www.scotrail.co.uk**

ScotRail general enquiries – including telesales purchase of tickets – contact the ScotRail Customer Relations department on 0344 811 0141 or email customer.relations@scotrail.co.uk

Disabled Assistance – contact 0800 912 2901 [speech] or 18001 0800 912 2901 [textphone service for the hard of hearing]

British Transport Police

Report non-emergency incidents or suspicious behaviour on the railway [trains, tracks, railway land] by calling the British Transport Police [BTP] on 0800 40 50 40 or text 61016.

There are proposals to merge the BTP in Scotland with Police Scotland. More details to follow if/when this goes ahead.

Edinburgh Airport

Airport contacts – 0844 481 8989 or www.edinburghairport.com
Edinburgh Airport, Edinburgh, EH12 9DN

Edinburgh Airport Aircraft Noise Line – 0800 731 3397

[Blue Badge Website – Official Scottish Government Website](#)
USE FOR ONLINE APPLICATIONS FOR BRAND NEW BADGES

www.mygov.scot/apply-blue-badge

Blue Badge Scam Websites to Avoid !!! DO NOT USE THESE LINKS

http://parking-permits.org/blue_badge/apply.php

https://blue_badge/apply.php

https://parkingpermitsonline.org/blue_badge/apply.php

<https://bluebadge-uk.org>

Anyone who has unwittingly paid money to a scam outfit may wish to contact Citizens Advice Consumer Services [CACS]. Advice will be given on how to report this website and whether or not it may be possible to recoup any monies paid. CACS: 0345 404 0506 or www.citizensadvice.org.uk/index/getadvice/consumer_service.htm

Other website addresses will be added as more scam sites are identified