

## THE 2013 AGM

With a membership that extends the length of the British Isles, plus some overseas, choosing a location for the PHRG AGM is no easy task. But this year we opted for the Oxford Bus Museum and members were attracted from as far away as Somerset, Suffolk, Sussex and Liverpool. The museum was an ideal venue with members arriving in time to make use of the cafe facilities whilst enjoying the opportunity to meet old friends and make new ones. A stroll around the cafe, eavesdropping on the various conversations going on, was confirmation that, within the group, we have a wealth of knowledge and our members are keen to share it. The museum was not open to the public on the day of our visit so we were free to explore at will. There is a splendid array of vehicles on site, but this is more than just a collection of vehicles and a visit is well worth while.

After we had had a good look around it was down to the business of the day. As is the way of the PHRG, under the guidance of our Chairman, Paul Lacey, we conducted our affairs in a businesslike and yet very informal atmosphere. The reports of the various 'officers' of the group were presented, all of which reflected a positive year and an encouraging future. Our membership numbers have shown a healthy increase and it was possible to record a growth of 14% on the previous year. Our publications continue to be well received and two, *North Yorkshire Independents* and *Area Agreements* have called for a reprint. Whilst our earlier book, *South West Lancashire*, continues to sell steadily and overall it could be said our publishing strategy is proving itself. Even our Treasurer, a breed not renowned for over-optimism, was very upbeat about our financial situation. We were appraised of the current situation of the new website and, although our name implies that we relish the past, we are keenly looking forward the opportunity to embrace this modern medium.

We had considerable discussion over the location of our 2014 AGM as it is our policy to move around the country. Next year we may well be coming your way.

Our thanks go to all the members who joined us and to Colin & Sheila at the Oxford Bus Museum who helped the day go so well.

David Grimmett