

What's on

The calendar below shows key events over the coming year or so, from RTIG and other key industry bodies. For further details of RTIG events please contact secretariat@rtig.org.uk

PTIC

6 February 2018, London

RTIG Committee

16 February 2018 (TBC), London

Spring Meeting and AGM

19 March 2018, Leeds

Intelligent Transport 2018 (Russell)

1-2 November 2018, London (TBC)

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Spring Meeting and AGM

RTIG's annual Spring Meeting takes place in Leeds, at the offices of the West Yorkshire Combined Authority (Wellington House, a stone's throw from the mainline station). As usual we will be holding our Annual General Meeting during the day.

The environment for RTIG is more lively, we think, than it has been for some years now. Partly this is due to background events: the continuing march of technology, of course, not only in information services but also in public transport developments like mobility as a service, connected and automated vehicles, and smart city concepts. Partly it is cyclical: the current generation of travel information services, implemented in the years just before the financial crisis, are now showing their age, and – despite the crushing pressure on local authority budgets – there is an increasing recognition that something must be done. And partly it is regulatory: with the passage of the Bus Services Act, and (while it remains relevant) the semi-associated European rules on public transport information, there is a more formal obligation on *all* stakeholders to “get it right” for passengers.

This year, therefore, we're going to take a look at data. A full programme will be issued closer to the time, but we expect to have most of the core stakeholders represented: DfT, public authorities, operators and suppliers. In particular we will have a perspective from TfN as the first subnational transport body: TfN has put a lot of work into integration systems and services across the north of England, and it will be fascinating to see how this will inform and assist both the national and local authority pictures.

Members have free access, as usual, and non-members have access for a modest fee. Registration will open later in February.

Open data

With the Bus Services Act now in force, focus now moves to its implementation. As previously notified here and elsewhere, the UK Government has been devoting first few months to the (sometimes contentious) issues around franchising and enhanced partnerships. It has, however, not ignored the third pillar of the Act – open data provision.

It is clear that we are still some way away from having the secondary legislation for open data in place, including the specification of what data that must be provided and how. Our understanding is that this isn't likely before the end of 2018, possibly into 2019. However, during the coming year the picture should become increasingly clear, and RTiG is of course doing its bit to help steer this to something practical, effective, fair, and proportionate.

At the moment, DfT is working with Deloitte, which is coming to the end of a "discovery phase" about what the market does (and wants) and how this could best be achieved. Many of you may – like RTiG – have held meetings with the Deloitte team. Initial findings should become available during February, and we'll be commenting on them.

Committee for 2018-2019

A letter has now been issued to members inviting nominations for next year's Chair and Committee. Please contact us if you are interested, or just want to find out about eligibility. Existing Committee members have always been open to discuss the role with potential colleagues. The deadline for submission of nominations is 16 February.

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

We are happy to say that we have at least one excellent candidate for the role of Chair: Ben Gilligan, Director of Public Transport at South Yorkshire PTE.

Current Working Groups

The following Working Groups are currently active:

- **Information presentation WG** – background work is underway to update the RTiG Guide *Meeting the needs of disabled travellers*, and to take forward the other group documents.
- **PTIC** (joint with ATCO and Traveline) – the next meeting will take place at CPT in London, on 6 February 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.

CIHT issues new bus planning guidance

On 23 January, the Chartered Institute of Highways and Transportation (CIHT) launched its new guidance on “Buses in Urban Developments”. It addresses “how bus services can be placed at the heart of development planning and urban transport”.

The document provides a reference for spatial and transport planners, highway and traffic engineers, developers and urban designers to help ensure that buses can perform efficiently in the urban travel market. It aims to help practitioners implement a sustainable development policy by presenting aspirational, but achievable, standards of bus service provision and bus-oriented development, and indicating what is necessary to promote high levels of bus use in new developments.

The key messages are as follows:

- New developments should be sufficiently compact or dense to support high-frequency bus services with long-term viability;
- The layout of streets and paths in new developments should facilitate not only bus operation, but also direct and pleasant walking routes to bus stops;
- Policies should cascade logically from the governing spatial plan to the development management regime, coupled with local transport policies that satisfy this aim;
- Good bus services should be available as soon as any new development is occupied, either from existing nearby routes or from new or extended routes.

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'.



21st Century brings real-time passenger information to Worcestershire

21st Century has supplied Worcestershire County Council with real time passenger information screens in a project funded by a £1.8 million investment from the Department for Transport.

The screens, showing up-to-the-minute expected bus arrival times to eliminate unnecessary waiting at the bus stop, have been installed in more than 50 bus shelters in Worcester and Malvern.

In conjunction with the display boards being installed in shelters in Worcester and Malvern, passengers can also access a live feed on their mobile phones, enabling them to check an accurate arrival time before leaving their home or workplace.

www.21stplc.com

INIT processes first Virtual Fare Card via Android Pay

The Tri-County Metropolitan Transportation District (TriMet) recently announced the beta launch of the first virtual public transit card via Android Pay.

Through a partnership announced with Google, select TriMet riders will now be able to tap and pay their transit fare using a virtual Hop card stored securely in their Android smart phone with Near Field Communication (NFC). The groundbreaking development constitutes a history-making milestone for TriMet, moovel (the provider of the Hop Fastpass TM mobile app) and INIT.

INIT's back-end processing system, MOBILEvario, serves as the core intelligence for the project processing all forms of payment for the multi-agency system including physical debit or credit cards or digital versions stored in Android Pay, Apple Pay and Samsung Pay, and now virtual Hop Fastpass TM transit cards via Android Pay.

When a rider taps their device to any of the 1200 INIT PROXmobil validators, MOBILEvario calculates the fare, validates the transaction against the back office account and displays the fare validation result to the rider in real time. Since all transactions are performed against the back office, riders can get accurate and up-to-date account information any time and any place. The Hop Fastpass TM system was designed following an open architecture approach which was a success of the project to allow easy integration with partners like Google. Due to the open architecture design, more than a dozen partners associated with the project were integrated without changes to the core system.

www.initse.com

IVU technology for Nigerian metropolis Lagos

IVU Traffic Technologies has successfully completed its first project on the African continent.

Based on the standard solution IVU.suite, the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system in the Nigerian metropolis of Lagos is now kitted out with a brand-new planning and traffic control system, including on-board computers for more than 400 buses.

With a population of around 16 million, Lagos is one of the five biggest cities on the planet. In 2009, Africa's first BRT entered service here as a system for channelling the dense and chaotic traffic into well ordered lanes.

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Since then, buses have been conveying around 180,000 passengers daily to the city's key transport hubs using 22 km of traffic lanes that are largely separate from the main road traffic. However, frequent congestion at the stops kept resulting in irregular operations and long waiting times for passengers. The products that come with IVU.suite are designed to ensure that everything runs more smoothly.

Planners at the Lagos Metropolitan Area Transport Authority (LAMATA) are now implementing stable and needs based run and duty schedules using the planning tools IVU.timetable, IVU.run and IVU.duty. With the help of the IVU.fleet fleet management system, the authorities have also set up a new traffic control centre where they can carry out live traffic monitoring and quickly intervene when necessary. The IVU.box on-board computer, which is installed in all vehicles and runs on the IVU.cockpit operating system, continuously gathers traffic data and transmits it to both the traffic control centre and the IVU.realtime passenger information system. Interlinked stop displays keep passengers informed about current departure times and any disruptions.

Working as part of an international consortium, IVU is supplying more than 60% of the project scope. IVU's South African partner ICT-Works is responsible locally for all customer service and project implementation activities associated with this World Bank-financed project.

www.ivu.com

A D M I N

Management Committee Members

The Management Committee for the year 2017-18 is currently as follows:

Chair: vacant

Members: David Gill (WYCA), Andrew Wilson (Solent), Russell Gard (Nimbus), Darren Maher (21st Century), Tony Brown (Atkins), Chas Allen (Stagecoach), Tony Pettitt (Reading Buses), Sherri Davies (DfT).

David Gill is Deputy Chair, and is acting as chair for the time being. The Committee for 2018-19 will be appointed at the AGM on 19 March 2018.

Contact us

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Next issue

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Contributions to secretariat@rtig.org.uk at any time up to Monday 26th February, 2018.

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