

WESTERN NATIONAL / DEVON GENERAL JOINT SERVICE No. 217

EXETER – MINEHEAD & RETURN

EASTER MONDAY, APRIL 2ND 2018

ORGANISED JOINTLY BY

THE THAMES VALLEY & GREAT WESTERN OMNIBUS TRUST (TV&GWOT) &**THE DEVON GENERAL OMNIBUS TRUST (DGOT)**

FOR SUPPORTERS OF TV&GWOT AND MEMBERS OF THE DEVON GENERAL SOCIETY

Invitation:

The Trustees of TV&GWOT and DGOT wish to invite Supporters of TV&GWOT and Members of the Devon General Society to join us for a re-creation of the joint Western National and Devon General Service No. 217 between Exeter and Minehead, via Tiverton and Dulverton. Partners welcome but booking essential.

The Route:

The origins of this route go back to the 1920s and it was jointly operated from July 1928, numbered 13A by the National Omnibus & Transport Co, becoming 217 after the formation of Western National in 1929, and numbered 46 by Devon General, subsequently being changed to 53 in 1930. Both companies operated the route under the same number, 217, from June 1955.

The route follows the picturesque A396, with a dog-leg through Silverton village and on to Silverton School, and loops off to Bampton and Dulverton. Although there are no major climbs (characteristic of other services at the northern end of the route), the terrain is varied and taxing. Picturesque highlights include Bickleigh bridge and Dunster village. There will be a short stop at Tiverton on both outward and inward journeys to use the facilities and change between vehicles and several other photo-stops will be scheduled along the route. Natural hazards include a three mile stretch with warnings of "Pheasants in the road", with potential for dinner...

**Vehicles:**

Up to two* WN and two* DG single deck vehicles, both half cabs and underfloor engined vehicles. Opportunities to sample each vehicle during the day. **subject to demand*

Key Timings:

10:00 Depart from Exeter Bus Station.

17:30 Return to Exeter Bus Station

**Cost:**

An illustrated souvenir programme, containing history of the route, will be on sale for £10 with proceeds going to cover printing costs and support both charities. If you have photographs of DG/WN vehicles on the route suitable for inclusion in the programme, please let us know.

Register as soon as possible!! – see below**Registration information.** Please send the following information by Sunday 18th March

By post to: TV&GWOT, Ledger Farm, Forest Green Road, Fifield, Maidenhead SL6 2NR, or

By email to: enquiries@tvagwot.org.uk

Name: _____ Partner's name (if applicable): _____

Address: _____

_____ Post code: _____

Tel: _____ Email: _____