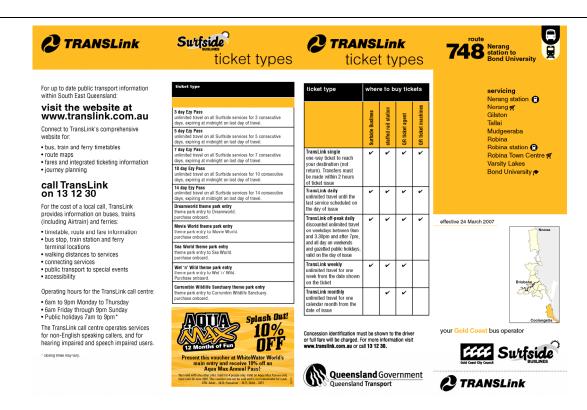


TABLE TALK

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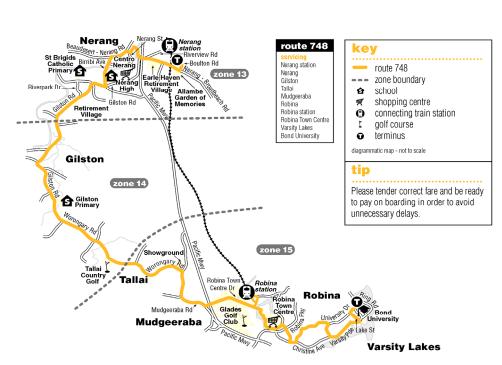


Table Talk is published monthly by the Australian Association of Timetable Collectors Inc. [Registration No: A0043673H] as a journal of record covering recent news items. The AATTC also publishes *The Times* covering historic and general items.

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Feature Timetable (front cover)

Extract from the new Surfside Buslines (Gold Coast) Route 748 timetable – see item below.

News

Gold Coast Region service change summary table - effective Saturday, 24 March 2007

| route and description | weekend route change | new timetable |
|----------------------------------|---|------------------|
| 3 | more Sunday and public holidays services | 24 March 2007 |
| (Oxenford to Southport) | Sunday and public holiday timetable will duplicate Saturday timetable | |
| | improved frequency and geographical coverage of service | |
| 4 | more Sunday and public holidays services | 24 March 2007 |
| (Broadbeach to West Burleigh) | Sunday and public holiday timetable will duplicate Saturday timetable | |
| | improved frequency and geographical coverage of service | |
| 5 | more Sunday and public holidays services | 24 March 2007 |
| (Coombabah to Broadbeach) | Sunday and public holiday timetable will duplicate Saturday timetable | |
| | improved frequency and geographical coverage of service | |

| <u>10</u> | more Sunday and public holidays services | 24 March 2007 |
|--|--|---------------|
| (Sanctuary Cove to Southport) | Sunday and public holiday timetable will duplicate Saturday timetable | |
| | improved frequency and geographical coverage of service | |
| 14 (Southport to Helensvale) | new Sunday and public holiday service introduced Sunday and public holiday timetable will | 24 March 2007 |
| , | duplicate Saturday timetables | |
| | increased frequency and geographical coverage of service | |
| 15 (Southport to Arundel | new Sunday and public holiday service introduced | 24 March 2007 |
| Crest) | Sunday and public holiday timetable will duplicate Saturday timetables | |
| | increased frequency and geographical coverage of service | |
| (Gaven Heights to | new Sunday and public holiday service introduced | 24 March 2007 |
| Southport) | Sunday and public holiday timetable will duplicate Saturday timetables | |
| | increased frequency and geographical coverage of service | |
| 18 | more Sunday and public holidays services | 24 March 2007 |
| (Southport to Pacific Fair) | Sunday and public holiday timetable will duplicate Saturday timetable | |
| | improved frequency and geographical coverage of service | |
| 20 and 20a | more Sunday and public holidays services | 24 March 2007 |
| (Southport to Pacific Fair via Carrara) | Sunday and public holiday timetable will duplicate Saturday timetable | |
| | improved frequency and geographical coverage of service | |
| 21 (Clearwater to Surfers Paradise) | new Saturday, Sunday and public holiday service introduced | 24 March 2007 |
| | increased frequency and geographical coverage of service | |

| <u>567</u> | | 24 March 2007 |
|---|--|---------------|
| (Beenleigh to Ormeau via Yatala) | new Saturday, Sunday and public holiday service introduced | |
| | increased frequency and geographical coverage of service | |
| 738 (Pacific Fair to Harbour Town via Griffith University) | new Sunday and public holiday service introduced | 24 March 2007 |
| | Sunday and public holiday timetable will duplicate Saturday timetables | |
| | increased frequency and geographical coverage of service | |
| (Nerang Station to Bond University) | new Saturday, Sunday and public holiday service introduced | 24 March 2007 |
| | increased frequency and geographical coverage of service | |

New Melbourne Bus Routes

Two new routes in the Caroline Springs area have been introduced.

Route 460 commenced on 30 April and operates between Watergardens Station and Caroline Springs town centre at roughly hourly frequencies.

Route 461 commenced on 23 April and operates between Watergardens Station and Taylors Hill at approximately 40 minute frequencies.

Both services operate seven days a week up to about 9pm.

Route 218 Caroline Springs to Albion Station was to cease from Saturday 28 April.

Melbourne Bus Route Upgrade News

Between April and June 2007, another 35 bus routes will be upgraded to operate with extended hours, seven days a week. These upgrades are being introduced under Phase Two of the Victorian Government's "Meeting Our Transport Challenges" transport package, which will upgrade more than 200 local bus routes in Melbourne over the next four years.

The upgraded bus routes will generally operate with the following extended hours:

6am to 9pm Monday and Friday

8am to 9pm Saturdays and public holidays

9am to 9pm Sundays, Good Friday, and Christmas Day.

The following routes have been upgraded from Monday, 16 April 2007:

530 - K-Mart Campbellfield - North Coburg (via Fawkner)

541 - Roxburgh Park - Broadmeadows (via Meadow Heights)

544 - Broadmeadows - Craigieburn (via Roxburgh Park)

791 - Frankston – Cranbourne West (via Cranbourne Station)

The following routes will be upgraded from Monday, 7 May 2007:

- 402 Footscray East Melbourne
- 451 Sunshine Deer Park North
- 457 West Melton Melton Railway Station (via Woodgrove Shopping Centre)
- 458 East Melton Melton Railway Station
- 459 Westlake Brookfield Melton Railway Station (via Woodgrove Shopping Centre)
- 472 Williamstown Moonee Ponds (via Footscray)

The Melbourne SmartBus Plan:

1. Completion of the Red Orbital (Box Hill to Altona). Development work has commenced.

The Red Orbital will be the first bus route to traverse across middle Melbourne, connecting over 90 activity hubs, including Mordialloc, Oakleigh Train Station, Chadstone Shopping Centre, Box Hill Shopping Centre and Train Station, Doncaster Shopping Centre, Heidelberg Railway Station, Northland Shopping Centre, Preston Railway Station, Essendon Railway Station, Sunshine Railway Station and Altona Railway Station.

The Red Orbital currently operates between Mordialloc and Box Hill (Warrigal Road, route 700).

2. Extension of the Green Orbital from Nunawading to Airport West. Development work will commence in 2007/08.

The Green Orbital currently operates between Springvale and Nunawading (routes 888/889) connecting Springvale, Glen Waverley, and Nunawading.

This extension of the Green Orbital will traverse across outer Melbourne, connecting over 70 activity hubs, including, Doncaster Shopping Centre, Eltham Railway Station, Greensborough Shopping Centre and Railway Station, Keon Park Railway Station, Broadmeadows Shopping Centre and Railway Station, and Airport West Shopping Centre.

3. Completion of the Yellow Orbital (Frankston to Melbourne Airport).

The first part of the Yellow Orbital is Outer Eastern (Stud Road) SmartBus which will link Frankston, Dandenong and Ringwood; development works have commenced.

The Yellow Orbital will traverse across outer Melbourne, connecting over 50 activity hubs, including Frankston, Dandenong, Ringwood Shopping Centre and Railway Station, Blackburn Railway Station, Greensborough Shopping Centre and Railway Station, Epping Shopping Centre and Railway Station, Roxburgh Park Shopping Centre and Railway Station, and Melbourne Airport.

Development work for the second part of the Yellow Orbital will commence in 2008/09.

For further information please visit the Department of Infrastructure website: doi.vic.gov.au

Sydney Lane Cove Tunnel

From the STA website – "New Prepay Only Bus service through Lane Cove Tunnel from 16 April A new Route 297 Prepay only bus service will commence on Monday 16 April, operating through the new Lane Cove Tunnel.

This service is a peak hour service, operating Monday to Friday.

Commencing from Denistone East, the service will operate all stops to Epping Rd near Pittwater Rd in North Ryde and then express via the tunnel to Wynyard and then every stop to the QVB.

On the return journey, the first stop after the tunnel is Blenheim Rd near Warwick St. No tickets will be sold on this bus. Customers will need to prepay before they ride.

The current Route 286 services operating to the City via the Freeway are being converted to Route 297 via the Lane Cove tunnel.

Current 286 services that operate via the Pacific Highway and North Sydney will be maintained."

In fact further information indicates that eight 286 services are being changed to 297 so no extra services. Awaiting further timetable information.

As from the same date Hillsbus will also be operating a number of services through the Lane Cove tunnel. The timetables introduced in March already show the services will operate through the tunnel but a new timetable is expected covering the following routes:-

| 620 | Dural-City |
|-----|---|
| 642 | Dural - City via Thompsons Corner |
| 650 | West Pennant Hills - City via Blocks Road |
| 652 | West Pennant Hills - City |
| 654 | Dural - City |
| | , |

Also three new brochures have been prepared:-

* Lane Cove Tunnel Bus Service Guide - 610, 610X, 612, 613, 614, 614X, 615, 615X, 616, 616X, 617X (The Hills) - red

(http://www.hillsbus.com.au/uploads/announce/07116%20TNSW%20Hills%20LCT%20Brochure.pdf

* Lane Cove Tunnel Bus Service Guide - 620, 620X, 642, 642X, 650, 652X, 654 (Dural) - yellow (http://www.hillsbus.com.au/uploads/announce/07018%20TNSW%20Dural%20Brochure.pdf)

Both brochures are effective 16 April 2007.

A separate PDF bus service guide map for buses using Lane Cove Tunnel has also been prepared (http://www.hillsbus.com.au/uploads/announce/LCT%20full%20services%20map.pdf) - this also shows the STA route 297 service from Denistone East to QVB via LCT and Freeway (renumbered 286 Freeway journeys).



National:

Great Southern Railway has issued new brochures for the Overland & Indian Pacific/Ghan effective from 1 April 2007 to 31 March 2008.

Warrnambool Race train

V/Line will be operating a special Grand Annual Race Train service to Warrnambool for the final day of the May Race Carnival on Thursday 3 May 2007. This special service arrives in Warrnambool in time for the $1^{\rm st}$ race and departs after the last.

Race Train times:

To Warrnambool: Departs Southern Cross at 06.28, Geelong at 07.27, arrives Warrnambool 09.55. To Melbourne: Departs Warrnambool at 19.00, Arrives Geelong at 21.30 and Southern Cross Station 22.28.

Timetable Discussion in the Daily Press

The Melbourne Age on 27/4 carried an item outlining views on the Government plan to add a third track on the Dandenong line. It suggested that public transport advocates believe the project is a waste of money and a reconfigured timetable would "double passenger numbers" (should that read capacity?) without adding extra track. The article stated that Government figures show the Dandenong line carries 12,000 people on 21 services in the morning peak. Dr Paul Mees from Melbourne University is reported to have prepared his own timetable with a more regular pattern of service. Trains originating from Dandenong (and presumably beyond) would stop all stations to Oakleigh then stop at Caulfield, South Yarra and Richmond. Supplementary services would run to and from Oakleigh, using the third and 'disused' platform, serving intermediate stations. No mention was made as to the number of additional train sets required.

CityRail New timetables:

Eastern Suburbs - Reprinted September 2006

Airport & East Hills – Reprinted June 2006. A separate DL leaflet has timetable for additional am peak hour service Campbelltown – City starting on 19 February.

South & Inner West - Reprinted September 2006

North Shore - Reprinted September 2006

South Coast 28 May 2006 - Reprinted September 2006

Central Coast & Newcastle – Reprinted February 2007

Overseas Rail

The Spring/Summer edition of the Amtrak System Timetable, "effective April 2, 2007 – October, 2007" was recently sighted. As this author has not seen the last few editions of the Amtrak T.T., this review traces changes made to these T.T.s over the last couple of years.

The T.T. is now of 134 pp including glossy covers and fold-out map. It is in full colour and takes advantage of modern printing and publishing methods and is, therefore, one of the most attractive and useful T.T.s currently available in hard format.

The following features have been noted:

After some years, the Northeast corridor section has again been included in the T.T. with the rest of the system, rather than having its own, separate book.

The T.T. is now divided into the following sections: Northeast; East; Midwest; West; West Coast. These are colour-coded and are easy to find because of coloured tabs in the right-hand margin of each page.

The T.T. now includes a feature that was never previously found in Amtrak T.T.s, although in past years the Official Guide contained this feature. The front pages of each section (as above) now include a list of "Host Railroads", that is, the owners of the lines over which the various Amtrak trains operate. For enthusiasts, this is a most useful list.

As in past issues, the full-colour fold-out map contains all long-distance rail and connecting buses in the US, as well as virtually all rail in Canada (both VIA Rail and privately owned lines). However, there are now a set of regional maps, also found in the front pages of each section.

The Western region map (and, unfortunately, only the Western region map) shows those sections of line that are covered by passenger trains during the day and those that are traversed at night. This is the first time that this author has seen anything like this inclusion. It is a most useful tool, even though there is no indication of seasonal variations.

There are a number of references to an Amtrak feature, now a few years old; that is the "Quiet Car", a Coach carriage on many services (normally not sleeping car services) in which noisy electronic equipment and even loud conversations are banned. What a wonderful idea – when will Australian railway introduce such a valuable service?

Although the Sunset Limited currently runs New Orleans-Los Angeles, with the Orlando-New Orleans section presently not operating, the stations in this section are retained on the table and in the index, along with a footnote explaining the situation and sating: "Future service has not been determined".

There is a listing of were anticipated track work will take place during the currency of the T.T., along with an indication of what alternative arrangements have been put in place.

Amtrak's legal department has included a small-print list of all the train names and brand names, officially registered by Amtrak. This list includes names that are no longer used, for example "Three Rivers".

It is interesting to see an Amtrak advertisement completely in the Spanish language. Inter alia, this advert refers readers to the Spanish version of the Amtrak website.

On the negative side, the fold-out map has not been updated and still contains page reference numbers that are now out of date. If one wants to find the real page for a particular line, one has to consult the Table of Contents, or refer to a particular station in the index.

The T.T. is still printed on the cheap newsprint that has always been used by Amtrak for its Public T.T.s.

(Albert Isaacs)



New South Wales/ACT

Sydney

Sydney Buses.

New timetables:

371 372 373 X73, March 2007, v8

395 396 X96 397 X97, March 2007, v8

180 L80, February 2007, v6

233 236 238, February 2007, v3

202-210, effective March 2007, v6

323-326, effective April 2007, v10

471-472, effective March 2007, v10

501, effective April 2007, v6

518 X18, effective February 2007, v8

(Norbert Genci)

252-294 Pacific Hwy to City, v 7, effective Feb 2007

501 West Ryde to City, v 6, effective April 2007

435-440 Leichhardt, effective Feb 07, version 9

155/156/158 Feb 2007 v.5

169/E69/172/E72/173/E73 Feb 2007 v.8

518/X18 Feb 2007 v.8

534 Feb 2007 v.10 (Michael Marshall)

New Route 297 timetable guide brochure, effective 16 April 2007.

With the introduction of the new 297 prepay service and alterations to route 286, the Epping Road to City (288-296) timetable has been revised, effective 15 April 2007, version 8, now in print form. No sighting of a printed North Ryde to City (286-289, 297) timetable, which has been issued as a web PDF only at this stage.

Route L38 (Abbotsford - CQ) will be converted to a Prepay Only service from Monday 30 April - a web PDF brochure is available (similar to the 297 brochure issued).

Route 460 extension to Rhodes flyer

A route 460 double-sided DL flyer advertising the trial extension to/from Rhodes Shopping Centre (with timetable and map as per web PDF) has been issued, effective 23 April 07.

A new UNSW Express Bus timetable for routes 890-895 has been issued, effective April 2007. A PDF is available on the STA website - it is the first time in a few years that it has been produced as a standard DL-size format TT. (Adrian Dessanti)

Sydney Private Bus

Veolia has issued a revised timetable for route 910 Bankstown - Parramatta, effective Monday 2 April 2007.

Minor changes have been made to increase servicing during the AM peak until 10am towards Granville and Parramatta, and some minor alterations have been made for evening services towards Bankstown.

The timetable also features selected wheelchair accessible trips.

In addition to the new 910 timetable dated 2 April 2007, Glen Hunter has also sent me timetables dated the same date for 906, 907, 908 and 912. All with small changes to times. (Robert Henderson)

Hillsbus has issued a new timetable for routes 620-654 inclusive (Dural to City-QVB), effective 16 April 2007, version 1, incorporating changes to services via Lane Cove Tunnel on routes 620X, 642X and 652X.

Canberra

73/74(Orange) Belconnen District

81(Orange) City - National Zoo & Aquarium - Black Mountain - Botanic Gardens

902/906/907(Brown) Belconnen, McKellar, Evatt, Spence, Florey, Melba, Flynn, Charnwood, Fraser East

912/915(Brown) Tuggeranong, Isabella Plains, Calwell, Theodore

All are dated 4 Dec 06 - Version 6.

.ACTION is introducing revised timetables for several of their services from Monday 30 April.

Full details are available at the following page on the ACTION website:

http://www.action.act.gov.au/timetable_changes.cfm

The routes affected include 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 313, 117, 217, 21, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 36, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 45, 46 and 47.

Queensland

Brisbane

Updated TransLink timetables:

Westside Bus Service

463 effective 26 February 2007

500 501 effective 26 February 2007

502 503 510 effective 26 February 2007

- Note that the website needs updating for Route 502 - should read "Bergins Hill to Ipswich"

504 505 effective 26 February 2007

506 516 effective 26 February 2007

507 517 527 effective 26 February 2007

508 509 effective 26 February 2007

511 521 effective 26 February 2007

- Note that Route 523 no longer is contained within this timetable.

520 Springfield to Redbank all stops and 523 Springfield to Goodna all stops effective 26 February 2007

Thompson's Strathpine

671 672 673 674 675 effective 31 March 2007

(David Hutton)

Brisbane Transport - new timetables

357 359 350 351 355 effective 19 February 2007

Picked up the following Logan City Bus Service printed timetables:

Loganholme bus stn to Kingston effective 18 September 2006

Logan Central Plaza to Garden City effective 18 September 2006
 Beenleigh to Trinder Park effective 26 January 2007
 Windaroo to Loganholme bus stn
 Windaroo to Brisbane City (David Hutton)

Logan region: service change summary table - effective 23 April 2007

| route and description | weekend route change | new timetable |
|--|--|---------------|
| 550 (Browns Plains - Springwood) | Peak frequency increased to every 30 minutes, with four additional morning and four additional afternoon trips per day (40 additional trips per week). | 23 April 2007 |
| 551 (Crestmead - Brisbane City) | Afternoon peak frequency increased to every 30 minutes, with two additional afternoon trips per day between 4.15pm - 6.15pm (10 additional trips per week). | 23 April 2007 |
| 552 (Loganholme bus station - Kingston) | Timetable amended in order to provide service to Ikea. New Sunday service introduced connecting local residents to key activity centres in the region including Logan Hyperdome and Ikea (20 additional trips per week). | 23 April 2007 |
| 555 (Loganholme bus station - Brisbane City) | One additional morning trip and two additional afternoon trips per day (15 additional trips per week). | 23 April 2007 |
| 560 (Loganholme bus station - Browns Plains) | Peak frequency increased to every 30 minutes, with two additional morning and four additional afternoon trips per day (30 additional trips per week). | 23 April 2007 |
| 561 (Crestmead - Brisbane City) | One additional morning trip per day (5 additional trips per week). | 23 April 2007 |
| 566 (Windaroo - Brisbane City) | Timetable changed to better reflect running times. | 23 April 2007 |
| 569 (Loganholme bus station - Brisbane City) | Two additional morning trips per day between 6.35am - 8.20am (10 additional trips per week). | 23 April 2007 |
| 571 (Cornubia - Brisbane City) | Timetable changed to better reflect running times. | 23 April 2007 |
| 573 (Loganholme bus station - Brisbane City) | Two additional morning trips per day between 5.50am - 8.20am (10 additional trips per week). | 23 April 2007 |

South Australia

Adelaide

Michael Marshall has supplied a list of changed SouthLink Adelaide timetables effective 29/4/2007 too long to include here but all of the 700 series routes and the 680 group have new timetables from this date with the exception of the 738 group. Also SouthLink 745, 747, T748 Seaford Circuit, Noarlunga Centre to Seaford Rise 29/4/07.

Victoria

V/Line Coach Services

As from Sun April 29 there are minor changes to Shepparton - Griffith, and Speedlink services. These are revised running times, mainly around a new in-town stop at Tallygaroopna.

There will be new 'Pocket' Timetables as there is some minor earlier running involved. (GC)

Mildura District

One new timetable leaflet picked up on my recent travels is for Sunraysia Bus Lines – Mildura dated 1 February 2007. In addition to the routes listed for the previous timetable dated 1 Sep 2005, the latest timetable includes a Mildura – Dareton – Wentworth service with no route no. shown.

This leaflet supersedes the four individual timetables listed for Sunraysia at the end of the Western Services section dated 19 May 97. (Michael Marshall)

Melbourne

The Melbourne Bus Link **Route 216/219** timetable has now been reprinted, but there is still one error - its missing the trip time arriving at Brighton Beach on Saturdays after 2.01pm, so this timetable will be withdrawn & reprinted yet again!

Reprinted 232 timetables should be available shortly.

(These are in addition to the 600/922/923 reprint, still dated 19 June 2006, but in small print on rear it reads "V.1.1 - 02.2007", with previously mentioned errors have been corrected.) (Jason Blackman)

Westrans has reprinted their **406 & 407** timetables in Metlink format, dated 4 December 2006. The only change is the 15:05 trip on Route 407 from Highpoint now runs via Essendon Grammar on school days only. (Jason Blackman)

The Reservoir Bus Company Route **553** (Preston to West Preston) timetable has been reprinted in DL Metlink format and is dated 1 September 2006. (Craig Halsall).

Picked up in the early hours of Sunday morning was a reprinted timetable for the **Rosebud Nightrider** effective 2nd March 2007. There is no mention of the new route number that has been given to this service, Route 970. The only change I can find is that on the rear it now states that "Met fares apply to Mt Martha", instead of "Met tickets are not valid on Nightrider". (Craig Halsall)

Cranbourne Transit Routes **789/790/791** (Cranbourne West - Frankston) have been upgraded to minimum standards level as of April 16 2007. The new timetable can be viewed at www.cranbournetransit.com.au/789 790 791.shtml

The Sunday service now runs hourly instead of 80 to 120 minutes intervals, and the section between Cranbourne Station and Cranbourne West is now served. All trips operate as Route 791. On weeknights the former Friday night only trips now are nightly, while the only significant change on Saturdays is the addition of an 20:50 trip from Cranbourne West to Lyall St.

The Cranbourne Transit website also shows an updated 893 (Cranbourne - Dandenong) Sunday timetable. The 12:00 trip to trip now leaves Lyall St at 12:18, while the 13:00 Dandenong - Cranbourne service operates at 13:02.

New printed timetables are available at the Cranbourne Transit depot. (Craig Halsall)



Melbourne

Extra Sunday Services on Route 16 - Kew to Melbourne University

(From: http://www.yarratrams.com.au/default.jsp?xcid=1773)

From Sunday 25 March 2007 Yarra Trams will be operating additional trams on Route 16. Trams on Route 16 will now operate to a 12-15 minute frequency from the City to Luna Park between 9:55am and 7pm and from Luna Park to the City between 8:53am and 7pm.

Passengers travelling between Malvern Depot and St Kilda Beach should check their stop specific timetables as the new services have resulted in arrival times being adjusted by a few minutes.



Ferry and Shipping

Sydney Ferries: New timetables

Watsons Bay - 2007

Taronga Zoo – January 2007

Manly - January 2007

Darling Harbour - 2007

Mosman - 2007

Parramatta River – 2007. A separate DL leaflet has timetable for trial service to Cockatoo Island starting on 2 April. (MM)



Δir

Oneworld™ expansion: Japan Airlines, Royal Jordanian, Malev and LAN affiliates LAN Ecuador and LAN Argentina joined oneworld on April 1 2007. Dragonair will also join the oneworld alliance as an affiliate airline later in 2007.

Late-breaking News

Newcastle Buses amended its weekday timetables from 22 April 2007 to overcome chronic late running after its revised timetables on 28 January 2007 reduced running times. The times for 160 trips affecting all 15 timetables were altered, either by starting earlier or later and / or changing the running times. Some trips departed up to 15 minutes earlier. There were no public timetables available for the start of these changes. Notices were placed in buses listing the trips that departed earlier. (This is available from the Distribution List). The revised public timetables were placed on the Newcastle Buses website on Friday 27 April, and print copies were available in early May. A full set of the new timetables is available from the Distribution List.

A Short Note...

Steven Haby will resume the editorial chair from next month.