

TravelWatch NORTHWEST

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Winner of CILT award for best practice in passenger transport (2013)

promoting quality public transport.....



Chris Dale
Chairman TravelWatch NorthWest
2008 – 2020

Chris Dale who died suddenly on June 22nd 2020 will be widely missed by many people and organisations who knew him and benefited from his extraordinary knowledge and experience of buses and trains.

In early life an avid Railfan and train spotter, Chris' enthusiasm matured into an active involvement in public transport campaigning for over 30 years. Owing no car he was a dedicated user of public transport with an extraordinary knowledge and experience of buses and trains. Chris will be missed by a wide range of people and organisations who knew him and benefited from his astonishing, encyclopaedic grasp of transport facts.

Chairman of TravelWatch NorthWest for the last 12 years, Chris was a former Director of Campaign for Better Transport and he chaired the Crewe to Manchester Community Rail Partnership. More recently he was heavily involved with Cheshire Best kept stations

Displaying no airs and graces and no attitude of self-importance, Chris' style was always verging on the modest and unassuming, yet effective because of his profound knowledge of the transport industry. He was deeply conscious of the interests of passengers, nevertheless fair in his dealings with transport operators. He had a very positive working relationship with those operators and indeed local authority and other procurers and was very well respected throughout the transport industry.

There was a lot of warmth towards Chris and for the great campaigning work he did and the following comments are typical of the many that have been received following his untimely death -

“I am so very shocked and sorry to read this. He really was one of the best, and always so good-humoured, always up with all the latest news and with a chuckle and a grin to go with it. I am really going to miss him, and I know many others will too.”

“(Chris) was always cheerful, down to earth and committed to improving public transport.”

“He always came over to say hello, and his impression on me, that I found charming, was that even when he was dead serious he was smiley. A nice man”.

“He was a likeable, generous spirit with humour and humility and a surprisingly popular man. I will miss Chris as someone I could trust and always be assured of a welcoming smile.

“I will remember him as always cheerful, always sensible with a wealth of knowledge, an all-round decent man. His death is a big loss to the community of public transport advocates.”

“Chris led his life to the full with things he loved doing, with so many people gaining so much as a result. I will miss him - you will miss him - and, although they may not immediately realise it, a vast number of people in the North West will miss what he has, so very quietly and without fuss, done for them.”

We at TravelWatch NorthWest will miss Chris’ example and leadership. It is now for us to take forward his good work as we look to the future and the immense challenges now facing public transport.

John Moorhouse
July 2020