



## **PRESS RELEASE**

29<sup>TH</sup> March 2010

Howard Snaithe Coaches have taken delivery of two, new, Plaxton Elite coaches. A tri-axle 14 metre and twin axle 12.6 metre have joined the Northumberland based company's fleet. The 14 metre version has a high specification, including extras such as Wi-fi, Sky TV, I-Pod docking station, a Playstation for 7 people and 240 volt power supply. These features are in addition to the usual ones found on Plaxton's flagship vehicle such as leather seating, rear servery and washroom, power operated lockers and the vehicle is fitted with 7 tables.

The twin axle 12.6 metre model is also to a high specification including Wi-fi and Sky TV and Politecnica extra wide seats with leather headrests and piping. It has a centrally mounted servery and toilet unit.

The 14 metre coach is based on the Volvo B12BT platform with 420 BHP engine and 12 speed automated I-Shift gearbox and the smaller coach on a Volvo B9R with 380 bhp engine also with Volvo's 12 speed I-Shift.

Howard Snaithe are currently the only operator to have both versions of the Plaxton Elite and the new vehicles will reinforce their position as a premium coach operator within the north eastern area of England and Scottish borders. They join an impressive fleet that has received a regular flow of incoming new vehicles over the past few years.

Alison Snaithe commented "The Volvo/Plaxton combination has been our choice for full size coaches for many years and the launch of the Plaxton Elite model has reinforced our view that currently, Plaxton have the skills and capabilities to match, and indeed exceed, that of rival

manufacturers, so we took the opportunity to try both models. They will act as flagship vehicles within our current range of late model Executive specification vehicles. We have a growing range of customers who are delighted to see regular investment in new vehicles, demonstrating our desire and enthusiasm to serve their needs”

The first trip out for the 14metre coach was to London and afterwards Snaiths received a very complimentary letter of praise from the clients saying “what a pleasurable experience it had been to travel in such luxury and how comforts such as Sky TV, computer points, kitchen facilities, reclining leather seats and tables had helped to make the journey a lot easier and pleasant for the party” The same client is now looking forward to their next journey on the coach, which is a ten day trip to Italy.

A third new Plaxton bodied vehicle has also joined the fleet in the shape of a 33 seat Cheetah bodied Mercedes-Benz Vario 0.816 demonstrating Snaith’s commitment within this sector of the market. The coach features a 156bhp OM904LA Blue Tec Euro 5 engine and 6 speed gearbox,

All three vehicles are fitted with Look CCTV.