## Lothian Buses launch new bus for play scheme

■ LOTHIAN AUSTISIC CHILDREN GET ON THEIR OWN LOTHIAN BUS

To recognise a year working with Lothian Autistic Society, Lothian Buses have built a bespoke model bus for the charity to use at their holiday playschemes.

Built by the engineers at the company's Seafield depot, the 'ride on bus' is painted in Lothian Buses colours with company vinyls and a bus number plate . It sits up to four children who can pretend to be riding on their favourite bus.

During the 12 months that Lothian Autistic Society have been the bus company's charity of the year, they received over £60,000 of support which included on bus advertising, free bus travel and donations from staff and passengers.

Ian Craig Managing Director said:

'Lothian Autistic Society were chosen as our first Charity of the Year and we have enjoyed getting to know them and helping with the work that they do. With many of the children that they support loving our buses, a toy bus seemed like the perfect gift.'

Kristin Armour, Lothian Autistic Society said:

"We have had a fantastic year with the support of Lothian Buses and it has been a joy to meet so many wonderful people. The children will thoroughly enjoy this ride on bus as it can help the children with simple things such as sharing with others, taking turns and general social skills which they can find difficult at times. To have something so personal to LAS made by the engineers is very special to us."

And the face of Lothian Buses, Grant Stott, was on hand to

present it to the children.