





## 1930's ...

The Kowloon Motor Bus Company (1933) Limited ("KMB") was established on 13 April 1933. In the same year, it was granted the right by the Hong Kong Government to operate franchised bus services in Kowloon and the New Territories.

Beginning with 106 single-deck buses, KMB increased its fleet to 140 single-deck buses by 1941, just before the outbreak of the Second World War. In those days, roving conductors were engaged to sell and punch tickets on the buses.

KMB operations came to a halt during the Second World War. After the war, the population of Kowloon increased rapidly, and many manufacturing plants were built and residential and commercial buildings sprang up in the developing parts of Kowloon. In order to meet the escalating transport demand, KMB introduced Hong Kong's first double-deck bus, the "Daimler A", in 1949.



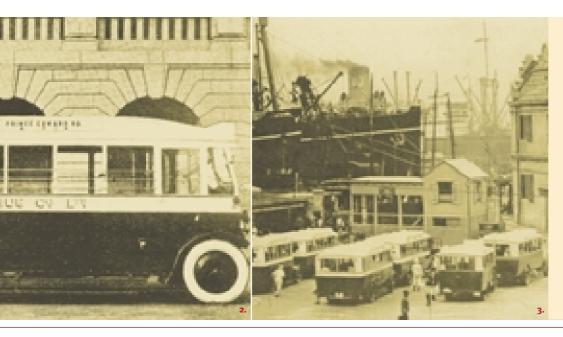
**4.** Double-deck buses were first introduced in 1949 to meet the increasing travel demand.

**5.** Conductors were engaged on board to sell tickets to passengers until the 70's.

6. Bus terminus facilities were rudimentary during the 50's compared to today's standards.

(1) and (3) The Bus Fleet History of The Kowloon Motor Bus Co (1933) Ltd, Mr Michael C Davis; (2) Commercial Motor magazine; (5) Photographed by Mr Fred York

The Kowloon Motor Bus Holdings Limited



**1.** A small single-deck bus named "Cygnet", or "Little Swan", taken in 1938. This bus could carry up to 37 passengers.

2. In the 30's, wood signboards were installed on the tops of some buses to show route numbers and destinations.

**3.** KMB's terminus at the Tsim Sha Tsui Star Ferry Pier was already a major transport hub in 1933.

## 1950's ...

Training has always been a top priority of KMB to maintain and improve its service standards. In the late 1950's, KMB appointed driving instructors from its experienced crew of bus drivers. Today, the training of bus captains is a highly specialised process. KMB has deployed considerable resources to enhance its training facilities and methods. External consultants have frequently been brought in to help train bus captains as well as other frontline staff on customer service techniques.

On 1 May 1961, KMB listed its shares on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange. In the same year, KMB had about 700 buses and a ridership of over one million passengers a day.

During the 1960's, larger double-deck buses with a carrying capacity of up to 120 passengers each were deployed by KMB to meet the travelling demand of the soaring population. Among these large buses, one model which was named "Daimler E" or "Long Bull" became the core member of the fleet during the 70's and 80's.

