

TLB713

The London Bus

Number 713
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London Omnibus Traction Society
www.lots.org.uk



Since 24th August the 79 has avoided Alperton Station in favour of a re-routing to Stonebridge Park, much to the dismay of numerous passengers who now have to walk back. RATP's VH 45301 pauses in Wembley. *(Haydn Davies)*

Heathrow Airport has spawned several routes primarily for staff transport. Here we see Thames Valley Buses' Mercedes-Benz Sprinter YA23 ULU on its way to GatoGate – well, fairly near anyway! *(Mark Lyons)*



Front cover: Stagecoach is receiving a large batch of Wrightbus Electroliners for routes 86 and 199 on opposite sides of the River. 82006 on route 199 is on the Pepys Estate. *(Jimmy Sheng)*



THE LONDON BUS
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London Omnibus Traction Society
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Please note TLB closing dates at the foot of page 1, though we can usually include late items in the following three days if layouts allow it. Production will NOT be delayed for items received too late.

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This issue was finalised on 3rd to 6th Jan and is due for posting on Tues 16th January.

Closing date for TLB714 is Weds 7th February and due for posting on Tues 20th February.

Booked later closing dates are Wednesdays 6th Mar, 3rd Apr, 1st May 2024.

Editorial

The New Year sees some changes to the team bringing you TLB. Dave Stewart is relinquishing two parts of his job, with Chris Jennings taking on the Current Vehicles section and me (Thomas Young) assuming the role of Managing Editor. Both Chris and I have been involved in aspects of TLB for some time, but there may well be some hiccups while we get the hang of our new roles and I hope that readers will bear with us.

As he mentioned last month, Dave will be continuing to provide country route news and also manage the provision of photos. The trumpet that Dave understandably didn't really blow very hard was to mark the length and breadth of his service to LOTS. He casually mentioned that he had been Managing Editor for 40 years but that in itself is quite a staggering achievement, being more than twice as long as all the previous editors combined. Plus it should be pointed out that when Dave took on the role in January 1984, he had already been responsible for certain sections of TLB since 1975 AND he was the SUPs editor, churning out dozens of titles.

The job of the Managing Editor may seem fairly straightforward at first glance; you simply combine the sections written by the various sub-editors. I am already beginning to realise that the role has its own complexities and challenges, while it must also be mentioned that Dave performed the role in addition to being the sub-editor of some of the sections himself. He carried on with country routes and vehicles, eventually taking over the whole of the current vehicles section following the untimely death of Colin Lloyd in 2019. In short, a large part of very many TLBs has been Dave's own work. He will hopefully be with us for a long time to come but I'm sure you will join me in thanking Dave for all his past work and wishing him well in his semi-retirement!

If you are submitting reports or observations for TLB, please take note of the two new e-mail addresses. Items for a particular section should continue to go to the relevant sub-editor (contact details are shown at the head of each section), the only change being that Chris Jennings (e-mail chris_routemaster@hotmail.co.uk) will now be the contact for current vehicles. Anything else can be sent to a new e-mail address of lotstlbeditor@gmail.com, which I will be monitoring.

I am aware that there have been some quality issues with TLB over the past year or two, with the odd error or typo slipping through the net, and also the occasional presentational quirk. My first objective as Managing Editor will be to eliminate these issues and restore/maintain TLB as the definitive and comprehensive source of information that it has been for many years. I have no plans to change the current spread of topics and coverage, as these seem to be just about right, though I may try out some minor cosmetic and/or procedural changes once I have got my head around the basics.

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LOTS Meetings

We now meet at The Gallery at 77 Cowcross Street, Farringdon. It is 3-mins walk from Farringdon Station (Met/H&C/Circle lines, Thameslink plus Elizabeth line). Doors open at 6pm for a 6.30pm start.

Dates in 2024 are Mondays 19th Feb, 13th May, 24th June (AGM), 30th Sep, 25th Nov.

The February meeting will be a presentation by John Parkin: Pure nostalgia - LT and LCBS buses and coaches from the late sixties onwards, including bus garages, terminals and short workings, blind displays and bus crews.

Coming Events (LSS = LOTS Sales Stand due to attend).

Sat 3rd February: Aldenham Transport Spectacular, Allum Hall, Elstree 10:00-16:00, £4 entry (LSS)

Sun 11th and Wed 14th Feb: Oxford Bus Museum bus rides. Also on 10th and 31st March and 1st April.

Sun 25th February: Winter bus event at the Epping Ongar Railway.

Sun 10th March: Golders Green running day, covering parts of routes 13, 102, 210, 240 and 603.

Sat 16th March: Safeguard Coaches centenary event at Guildford Cathedral

Sat 23rd March: Barking Garage centenary open day, with vintage buses on 62 & 145. (LSS)

Sat 6th April: South East Bus Festival at Detling. (LSS)

Sun 7th April: Classic buses in rural Hertfordshire - running day centred on Hertford.

Sun 14th April: Spring Gathering at London Bus Museum, Brooklands. (LSS)

Looking ahead: London Bus Museum's other major events at Brooklands are on 23rd Jun and 20th Oct.

LOTS Postal Sales

Current LOTS items:

- **LOTS London Bus Review 2022.** *A4 glossy, 80 pages, 135 colour pictures with extensive captions. This is the ORIGINAL annual Review made with about 50 years' experience.* (£17.00)
- **SUP-45A** London Bus Garages, allocations and routes. *Lists all garages (irrespective of operator) from A to X. Each has a based fleetlist and a list of routes, types allocated and basic M-F PVR figures This first edition is dated September 2023.* (£5.50)
- **LBM** London Bus Magazine No.206 Winter 2023. *Two main articles, by Colin Stannard on his long career with (mostly) LT and successors, plus an account of the relatively recent Guildford 'bus war' between Arriva and Stagecoach by Andrew Babbs.* (£6.00)
- **Fleetbook 2023** (£8.00)
- **SUP 24J** Service Vehicles - current fleet April 2023 (£5.00)

From other publishers:

- Bus maps from Mike Harris: Greater London Bus Map No. 40 - 29/4/2023 (£2.00)
and Greater London Night Bus Map - 29/4/2023 (£4.00)
- London's Post-War Smaller Classes (STD, TD, G436, RLH, RFW, GS, RW, XA, XF, RC) by Ken Blacker. *Detailing types entering service between 1946 and 1965. Includes over 200 photos.* (Capital Transport, £35.00)
- Tracks of London's Trams 1949-1952 by R J Harley. *The text tells what it was like to ride on the trams and what it was like to work on them in their final years. 80 B&W photos and 25 colour photos.* (Heathfield Publishing, £25.00)
- Bluebird Reborn: The History and Restoration of LCC No. 1. Edited by Lynn Wagstaff. *Tells the story of LCC No. 1 from its inception in 1929, detailing its construction, service in London and Leeds, time spent in preservation and its recent restoration at National Tramway Museum.* (LRTA, £35.00)
- **NEW:** The London Enviro 200 by David Beddall. *History of the Enviro 200 and Enviro 200MMC in London service. 216 pages.* (Pen and Sword Books, £30.00)

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For anyone wishing to pay for Membership and Sales at the same time, please use "Mem + Sales" as the reference on the bank payment in addition to your name / Membership Number. The

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A full Sales List was in TLB711 and is also on our website. Orders from the Sales List or a letter are perfectly acceptable. In all cases above, if you send a cheque, please don't staple cheques to the form – they really won't get lost by us but might be when the banks try to process them electronically!

GENERAL and INDUSTRY NEWS

Section Editor: Andrew Boag, 88 Marine Parade, Brighton BN2 1AJ or by e mail to andrewj.boag@gmail.com.

National news, TfL and Politics

2024 will be a year of elections with a General Election at a date to be decided "in the second half of the year" and London Mayoral elections in May where Sadiq Khan is seeking re-election for a third term. Further afield, there will be presidential elections in the USA in the autumn with Joe Biden seeking re-election and could be challenged by Donald Trump. The wars in Ukraine and Gaza show no signs of coming to an end, so it is unlikely to be a quiet year. On a positive note, the UK rate of inflation has dropped to 3.9%, having peaked at 11.1% in October 2022 and the £2 single fare on most buses outside London will continue until at least June.

The Government and TfL have reached a new financial agreement. This will enable TfL to implement the full programme of improvements for vital infrastructure improvements in 2024/25 as set out in its Business Plan. An additional £250 million will be provided for capital investment. This is half the amount TfL had asked for. However, recovering ridership levels on all modes should mean more income and the introduction and building of new walk-through Piccadilly line trains should not be delayed. Plans to replace the 1972 stock on the Bakerloo line with similar trains will be progressed.

The agreement includes delivering the Bus Action Plan, which will support 25k of new bus lanes and continue the roll out of the Superloop network with a 4% increase in bus mileage in outer London and continuing the decarbonisation of the bus fleet. New bus lanes are planned for Bromley Road, in the Borough of Lewisham, Stamford Hill in the Boroughs of Hackney/Haringey and Woodford Avenue in Redbridge. Places for London, TfL's independent property company will continue to deliver a range of schemes with plans for 20,000 new homes with a focus on affordable housing in Wembley, Kidbrooke and Barkingside.

Bus and Underground usage continues to increase with bus demand up by eight per cent compared with 2022. On 'Black Friday' at the end of November, usage of Oxford Circus station was 27% higher than usual. The number of passengers using Superloop route SL7 (West Croydon to Heathrow) increased by 62% after it was launched, with a 15-minute frequency replacing the previous 30 minute service. Not bad for a route that was just hourly a few years ago! The other Superloop routes introduced during 2023 have all outperformed the six per cent year on year bus growth across the capital. The SL8 which replaced the 607 recorded 15% growth.

Claire Mann returns to TfL become Chief Operating Officer. She will re-join in March, after leaving her current post as Managing Director of South Western Railway. Before that, Claire was TfL Director of Bus Operations between 2017 and 2021. Glynn Barton, who led operations on an interim basis will remain to become TfL's Director of Buses. The previous Director of Buses, Louise Cheeseman has retired.

Industrial action continues. Some bus drivers employed by RATP Dev Transit London were on strike on 21st, 22nd and 23rd December affecting routes 13, 23, 28, 218, 295, 414, 452 and N28. On the Underground the RMT union proposes a week of disruption affecting different groups of staff each day so the impact will vary but the 8th & 9th of January were likely to be the most disruptive days. On a more positive note, the RMT union has suspended strike action on the National Rail network until at least the spring following agreement of a 5 per cent pay deal by its members.

Corporate and company news

Abellio is rebranding as Transport UK following the management buyout from NS Dutch State Railways last year (TLB 703 refers). By 3rd February, buses will display the new logo and the legal lettering will change on the side of vehicles. Depot signage will be changed later in 2024 or into 2025.

Bus manufacturer Mellor has been acquired by Guido Dumarey. The company went into administration in November (TLB 712 refers).

Go Ahead London has celebrated ten years of running battery electric buses in the Capital. The operator now has 520 electric buses and expects to increase this to over 1,000 by 2026. The first battery powered bus, a BYD K9E entered service on route 507 in December 2013.

Other General News

Bus usage in Great Britain increased by 20% in the year to March 2023 but remains below levels in 2019/20. The highest increase was in Scotland which may be partly due to the introduction of free travel for under 22s. A total of 3.7 billion bus journeys were made in 2022/23 which compares with 4.1 billion in 2019/20. Just over half of those journeys (1.8 billion) were in London. Outside London, the local authority areas with the highest bus use per head were Brighton & Hove (140), followed by Nottingham (118) and Reading (101). The area with the lowest bus use per head was in Rutland (1), then Windsor and Maidenhead (7) which shows the huge contrast with neighbouring Reading.

London Liverpool Street is now the busiest rail station in the UK according to the latest statistics released by the Office for Rail and Road. Over 80 million station entries and exists were recorded, based on ticket sales. It was previously the fourth busiest with Waterloo on top position, but the impact of the Elizabeth line has changed travel patterns. Waterloo is now third with Paddington second, followed by London Bridge and London Victoria. The busiest station outside London is Birmingham New Street. The least used stations were Teesside Airport near Darlington and Denton in Greater Manchester.

The Department for Transport has released details showing that 58 local authorities have expressed an interest in bidding for funds from the second round of the Zero Emissions Bus Regional Areas (ZEBRA) scheme.

In a surprise move, Swanley based **Go Coach has been sold** to Derbyshire independent Hulley's of Baslow. Go Coach was established in 2008 by Austin Blackburn who has expanded the operation and built a good local reputation, primarily in and around the Sevenoaks area.

The **Arriva Click** demand responsive minibus service in Watford was withdrawn on 31st December. It was introduced in July 2020 with a four-year contract to 30th June 2024 but the service was carrying just 10% of its predicted passenger numbers.

McGill's group has launched a new express 'Bright Bus' service between Edinburgh Airport and the City Centre competing directly with Lothian Buses and the tram with a £4 single fare which is £1.50 less than Lothian's Airport Express 100 service.

Brighton & Hove Buses ran services on Christmas Day for the second year in 2023, recording a 46% increase on usage in 2022. For the first time a service was provided beyond the city on route 12 between Brighton and Seaford. This carried almost 600 passengers on an hourly frequency. All services were provided commercially using volunteer drivers and charging standard fares.

In Berlin, BVG has withdrawn its last MAN tri-axle double deckers. The 13.7-metre-long buses were built between 2007 and 2010 and totalled 416 at their peak. They have been partially replaced by 150 British built ADL Enviro 500s, from an initial order of 200. BVG has an option for a further 230 but BVG has no electric double deckers and it is not clear if future deliveries from ADL will be electric.

TfL has admitted that the temporary brand take-over of **Bond Street station** as Burberry Street last September was confusing and resulted in a large number of complaints.

The **Northern line** will be closed between Golders Green and Edgware for a week in April to enable the rebuilding of Colindale Station.

Victoria bus station and Terminus Place have reopened following a six-week closure to allow for resurfacing and other improvements.

Hertfordshire County Council is considering franchising and has commissioned a feasibility study to investigate the possibilities.

Congratulations to John Traynor, former Managing Director at Go-Ahead London who has been awarded an OBE in the New Year's Honours list. He began his career as an apprentice engineer for London Transport.

GREATER LONDON AREA - Route Developments

Section Editor: Stephen Floyd, 4 Turnpike Gardens, Bedford, MK42 0AJ or by e-mail to stevefloyd1959@gmail.com This section covers local TfL bus services within the Greater London County boundary. Fuller detail of any commercial or county services that enter the Greater London County from outside will be in the Country Area Route Developments section that follows this section in TLB. Night services are indicated by e.g. =24 night only or 24/= day and night (24 hour) services.

LONDON BUSES - TENDERED ROUTES UPDATE

Routes 211, 411, 465, 627, 661, E3, SL5 and U4 from tranches 871C, 874, 875, 883, 884, 891 and 893 awarded, starting on 3rd February (SL5), 11th May (481), 1st June (E3), 29th June 2024 (211, 328, 465, C1), 5th October (661), 29th June (465), 28th September (411), 26th October (U4) and 2nd November (627). Route SL5 is for 14 months until 11th April 2025, E3 and 661 for 3 years, 211 for 5 years, 411, 465, 627 for 6 years and U4 for 7 years.

- 211 Awarded to Abellio using existing NRM New Routemaster vehicles (pvr 16 to 14). Currently operated by London United from Stamford Brook (V) garage.
- 411 Retained by London United using existing diesel single-deck vehicles (pvr 5).
- 465 Awarded to Abellio using existing diesel single-deck vehicles (pvr 7). Currently operated by London United from Tolworth (TV) garage.
- 627 Retained by Arriva London South using existing hybrid double-deck vehicles (pvr3).
- 661 Retained by Stagecoach Selkent using existing diesel double-deck vehicle (pvr 1).
- E3 Retained by London United using existing hybrid double-deck vehicles (pvr 20).
- SL5 New route awarded to Arriva London South using existing diesel single-deck vehicles (pvr 10).
- U4 Retained by Metrolink West using new electric double-deck vehicles (pvr 12).

A correction to the tranches – #873A should have been withdrawn as it is now due for re-tender from Tranche #915 in the 2025/26 programme.

The current contracts for routes 148/=: 160/660, 180 and 290 will now terminate early and will be added to the 2024/25 tendering programme as supplementary Tranches 893B, 894A and 895A.

Routes 299/389/399 are also moved to a separate Tranche 904A.

The 2024/25 tendering programme is now as follows:-

Tranche No. and start dates	Routes out on offer (with current operators)	2-year extensions granted
#875 (04/24)	U1, U2, U3 (Metroline West)	--
#877A (04/24)	E1 (London United)	--
#880A (05/24)	639/670 (London United)	--
#883A (06/24)	28/N28(London Transit)	--
#884A (06/24)	65/N65, 71, 281/=, 371, 406/418, 681, K5 (London United)	--
#885 (07-09/24)	210, 382, C11, W7, W8 (Metroline Travel)	--
#886 (07-08/24)	17 (Metroline Travel)	--
#887 (08/24)	Tranche cancelled	533
#888 (08/24)	5/N15, 15, 115 (GA Blue Triangle), 66 (Arriva LN)	--
#890A (09/24)	618 (new route Ivybridge – Syon Lane)	--
#891A (09/24)	W12, W13 (S'ch ex HCT Group), W14 (S'ch ex T.Transit)	--
#892 (09/24)	90 (Metroline Travel), 222/= , H13 (Metroline West), 395 (London Sovereign)	--
#892A (09/24)	640 (Sullivan)	--
#893A (09-11/24)	49, 117, 697 (London United), 398, H9/H10 (London Sovereign)	--
#893B (09-11/24)	290 (London United)	--
#894 (09-12/24)	4, 6/=, 98/N98, (Metroline Travel), 341/= (Arriva LN)	--
#894A (09-11/24)	148/= (London United)	--
#895 (09-10/24)	669, 672 (S'ch Selkent)	--
#895A (10/24)	160/660, 180 (S'ch Selkent)	--
#896 (10-11/24)	103, 150, 175, 370 (Arriva LN), 257 (S'ch East London)	--
#897 (10-12/24)	22/N22, 88/=, 170 (GA London General), 33/N33, 419 (London United)	--
#898A (11/24)	34/= (Arriva LN), SL1 (N. Finchley – Walthamstow)	--
#898B (11/24)	192 (Arriva LN)	--
#899 (11-12/24)	18/N18, 94/=, 266/N266 (Lon United), 218 (Lon Transit) ..	--
#900 (11-12/24)	176/=, 188/=, 360 (GA London Central), 355 (GA Metrobus)	--
#900A (11/24)	45 (Abellio)	--
#901 (12/24-02/25)	258 (London United), 278 (Abellio)	--
#902 (01-03/25)	444 (GA London General), 323, (S'ch East London)	212, 357, 497
#903 (01-02/25)	121, 141, 329 (Arriva LN), 153 (GA London General)	--
#904 (01-03/25)	41/=, W4, W6 (Arriva LN), 657 (GA London General)	29/N29
#904A (02/25)	299/389/399 (Sullivan)	--
#905 (01-02/25)	99, 269, 401 (Arriva LN), 233 (GA Metrobus), 422, B14, SL3 (S'ch Selkent), B16 (GA London Central)	--
#905A (03/25)	R1, R2, R3, R4, R6, R8, R11 (GA Metrobus)	--
#906 (02-03/25)	36/=, 172, 343/N343 (GA London Central)	109/N109
#906A (02/25)	118 (GA London General)	--
#907 (02-03/25)	423, H22, H37, H98 (London United), H28 (Abellio)	--
#908 (03/25)	282 (Metroline West), 482 (Abellio)	--
#909 (03/25)	161, 181, 284 (S'ch Selkent), 225 (GA London Central), C10 (Abellio)	--
#910 (03/25)	138 (GA Metrobus)	126
#911 (03/25)	169, 247, 287 (S'ch East London)	--
#912 (03/25)	68/N68 (Abellio) 468 (Arriva LS), SL6 (ex X68) (GA London Central)	--

ROUTE AND SERVICE CHANGES

Monday 30th October 2023: As in TLB711/712.

Saturdays 4th, 11th and 18th November 2023: All as in TLB712.

Saturday 25th November 2023: As in TLB712, with a correction to the routeing of route SL10 at Hendon Central. In both directions it operates via Vivian Avenue, Central Circus, Queens Road and Brent Street, to serve Hendon Central Station.

Saturday 2nd December 2023:

- 51 (*Go-Ahead London Central-BX*) (Woolwich, High Street & Orpington Station) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
 - 61 (*Stagecoach Selkent-TB*) (Bromley North Station & Chislehurst, Gordon Arms) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
 - 72 (*London United-S*) (East Acton, Brunel Road & Hammersmith Bridge, North Side) and
 - N72 (*London United-S*) (East Acton, Brunel Road & Roehampton, Bessborough Road) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing DLE-class AD20D Enviro200 diesel single-deck vehicles.
 - 78 (Shoreditch High Street & Nunhead, St. Mary's Road), LBSL (QC) contract awarded to Go-Ahead London Central using a mix of existing EH-class AD40H Enviro400H and MHV-class Volvo B5LH MCV EvoSeti hybrid double-deck vehicles from Peckham (PM) garage. Previously operated by *Arriva London North* from Ash Grove (AE) garage using HA-class AD40H Enviro400H City hybrid double-deck vehicles. (Not HV-class as previously reported!)
 - 107 (*Metroline Travel-PB*) (New Barnet Station & Edgware Station) Revised daily schedule for operational reasons.
 - 152 (*Go-Ahead London General-AL*) (Pollards Hill, Westmoreland Way & New Malden, Fountain) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using new SEe-class BYD D8UR Enviro200EV electric single-decks in due course.
 - 157 (Crystal Palace & Morden Station) LBSL (QC) contract awarded to Go-Ahead London General using new Ee-class electric BYD D8UR AD Enviro 400EV City double-deck vehicles in due course, using existing WVL-class Volvo B9TL Wrightbus Gemini 2 and E-class AD40D Enviro400 diesel double-decks until electrics arrive. Allocation confirmed from Merton (AL) garage Mon-Fri SDO journey withdrawn. Previously operated by *Arriva London South* from Thornton Heath (TH) garage, using T-class AD40D Enviro400 diesel double-deck vehicles, although using buses based at Norwood (N) garage, Mon-Sat.
 - 261 (*Stagecoach Selkent-TB*) (Lewisham, Town Centre & Princess Royal University Hospital) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
 - 321/= (*Go-Ahead London Central-NX/BX*) (New Cross Gate, Sainsbury's & Foots Cray, Tescos) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using new Ee-class electric BYD D8UR AD Enviro 400EV City double-deck vehicles in due course. The PM SDO jny withdrawn. The nighttime service re-allocated to New Cross (NX) garage.
 - 381 (*Abellio-WL*) (County Hall & Peckham, Bus Station) and
 - N381 (*Abellio-WL*) (Whitehall & Peckham, Bus Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using new electric double-deck vehicles in due course, type to be confirmed. Mon-Sat daytime frequency reduced from x10-11 to x12mins.
 - 452 (*London Transit-X*) (Vauxhall & Kensal Rise Stn) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
 - 453/= (*Go-Ahead London Central-NX*) (Marylebone Station & Deptford Bridge Station) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
 - D7 (Mile End Station & Poplar, All Saints) LBSL (QC) contract awarded to Stagecoach East London from Ash Grove (HK) garage using new electric Volvo BZL/MCV double-deck vehicles in due course. Previously operated by *Go-Ahead Docklands* from Silvertown (SI) garage using WVL-class B9TL Wrightbus Gemini 2 diesel and EH-class hybrid double-deck vehicles. Mon-Sat daytime frequencies reduced from x10 to x12 mins, Sundays and evenings from x12 to x15mins.
-

PVR changes from 2nd December 2023:

Abellio: 381 to 15/15/13 #WL21+, N381 to 5 Su-ThN/7 Fr-SaN, using daytime running numbers.
Arriva London North: 78 withdrawn. Arriva London South: 157 withdrawn.
Go-Ahead Docklands: D7 withdrawn;
Go-Ahead London Central: 78 to 16/15/13 #PM151+, 321 to 16/16/13 #NX221+, =321 3 every night #NX401, no change to 51, 453 PVRs;
Go-Ahead London General: 152 to 14/14/8 #AL241+, 157 to 18/17/14 #AL301+;
London Transit: 452 to 16*/15/14 #X201+ (*414 as #X616) (PVR totals unchanged);
London United: No change to 72/N72 PVRs, (N72 using #S101+ from daytime allocation);
Metroline Travel: 107 to 11/10/11 #PB201+
Stagecoach East London: D7 to 9/9/9/ #HK41+;
Stagecoach Selkent: No change to 61, 261 PVRs.

Saturday 9th December 2023:

Normal schedules reinstated on 187, 260 and 297.

- 34 (*Arriva London North-AD*) (Barnet Church & Walthamstow Central Station) Mon-Sat daytime frequency reduced from x8 to x10mins with a SDO journey withdrawn. Revised to stand (out of service) at St James Street Station stand.
- 104 (*Go-Ahead Blue Triangle-RR*) (Stratford, Bus Station & Beckton, Bus Station) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 178 (*Go-Ahead London Central-MG*) (Woolwich, Calderwood Street & Lewisham, Town Centre) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 244 (*Go-Ahead London Central-BX*) (Woolwich Common, Queen Elizabeth Hospital & Abbey Wood Station) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 292 (*Metroline Travel-HD*) (Borehamwood, Rossington Avenue & Colindale, ASDA) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 300 (*Go-Ahead Docklands-SI*) (Canning Town, Bus Station & East Ham, Wordsworth Avenue) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 316 (*Metroline West-WJ*) (White City Bus Station & Cricklewood Garage) Extended daily to Brent Cross West Station via Edgware Road and Geron Way, returning via Geron Way and Edgware Road. Though it was curtailed at Cricklewood Garage on Saturday 9th December by local arrangement until the following day when the new station was opened!
- 329 (*Arriva London North-AD*) (Turnpike Lane Station & Enfield, Little Park Gardens) Re-allocated from Palmers Green (AD) to Wood Green (WN) garage.
- SL1 NEW ROUTE (*Arriva London North-AD*) (North Finchley, Bus Station & Walthamstow Central Station, Express) via route 221 to New Southgate, then via route 34 via Arnos Grove, Palmers Green, Edmonton (Silver Street), Crooked Billet, Walthamstow, Bell Corner and Market, although using the North Circular underpass at Great Cambridge Junction, direct via Sterling Way at Silver Street and the overpass at Cooks Ferry as no stops are served at these locations, although observations have been made in that buses have used the normal 34 route at congested times. Operated by HA-class AD40H Enviro400H City hybrid double-deck vehicles. Mon-Sat daytimes every x12mins and Sundays and evenings every x15mins. Note this is a variation to the 34 contract.

PVR changes from 9th December 2023:

Arriva London North: 34 to 18/17/14 #AD61+, 329 to 15/15/14 #WN181+, SL1 to 11/11/9 #AD1+;
Go-Ahead Blue Triangle: No change to 104 PVRs;
Go-Ahead Docklands: No change to 300 PVRs;
Go-Ahead London Central: 244 to 12/13/10 #BX161+, no change to 178 PVRs;
Metroline Travel: 292 to 7/7/7 #HD101+;
Metroline West: 316 to 18/18/13 #WJ51+;

Saturday 16th December 2023:

246 (*Stagecoach Selkent*-TB) (Bromley North Station & Westerham) Mon-Sat daytime schedule widened to x31-43 mins and Sun & evening timetable widened from x60 to x60-68 mins. This is to avoid conflict with route 464 whilst on diversion, until 30th December 2023. (*see diversions later*).

CHRISTMAS and NEW YEAR BUSES IN LONDON

Further to the summary in TLB712, a number of services gained additional or supplementary services on New Year's Eve, 31st December, these are listed below:-

Day routes operating in addition or with extra trips to normal Sunday Night services until 0200:-

6, 8, 21, 44, 87, 97, 104, 109, 129, 131, 132, 158, 171, 238, 280 and W3;

Day routes operating all night: **254, 297 and 407;**

Enhanced Night and 24 hour routes:-

N25, 35 (additional service Shoreditch & Clapham Junction and Elephant & Castle & Clapham Junction), **37, 47** (London Bridge & Lewisham until 0230), **108** (North Greenwich & Lewisham), **188** (North Greenwich & Canada Water), **N2** (Brixton & Crystal Palace),

N18 (enhanced with additional services until 0130), **N29** (Camden Town & Wood Green),

N86 (enhanced with additional service, Stratford & Romford),

N98 (enhanced with additional services until 0130), **N109, N205 and**

N207 (enhanced with additional services until 0200)

New Year's Day parade also closed Central London roads as well during the morning of 1st January.

The planned route changes after our closing date are listed below but may be subject to change.

Saturday 6th January 2024:

237 (*Metroline Travel*-AH) (White City, Bus Station & Hounslow Heath) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing VWH-class Volvo B5LH Wrightbus Gemini 3 hybrid double-deck vehicles.

419 (*London United*-AV) (Roehampton, Bessborough Road & Richmond, Bus Station) Re-routed in Barnes via Verdun Road and Lonsdale Road, therefore no longer serving Kilminster Road and Hovsman Road.

H26 (*Abellio*-TF) (Feltham, Sparrow Farm & Hatton Cross Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing diesel single-deck vehicles. Revised running time daily.

Saturday 13th January 2024:

603 (Muswell Hill Broadway & Swiss Cottage Station SDO) LBSL (QX) contract awarded to Metroline Travel using existing VWH-class Volvo B5LH Wrightbus Gemini 3 hybrid double-deck vehicles from Holloway (HT) garage. Previously operated by *Sullivans* from South Mimms (SM) garage using E-class AD40D Enviro400 diesel double-deck vehicles.

Fridays 12th January 2024 from 22:00 to Monday 15th January 2024 until 05:00:

Also repeated at the same times over the following weekends: 19th to 22nd, 26th to 29th January and 9th to 12th February 2024:

The southbound bore of Blackwall Tunnel is closed and as in the past, a split service will operate on route 108: Canning Town & Stratford International and North Greenwich & Lewisham although part of the Friday night and early Monday service maintain the through service with the southbound service diverted via Tower Bridge.

Saturday 20th January 2024:

- 91 (*Go-Ahead London General-SW*) (Trafalgar Square & Crouch End Broadway) and
- N91 (*Go-Ahead London General-SW*) (Trafalgar Square & Cockfosters Station) Re-allocated from Stockwell (SW) garage to Northumberland Park (NP) garage.
- 133 (Holborn Station & Streatham Station) and
- N133 (Liverpool Street Station & Morden Station) LBSL (QC) contract awarded to Abellio from Battersea (QB) garage using new electric double-deck vehicles in due course. Currently operated by *Arriva London South* from Brixton (BN) garage using a mix of HA- and HV-class AD40H Enviro400H or Volvo B5LH Wrightbus Gemini 2 hybrid double-deck vehicles.
- 137 (*Arriva London South-N/BN*) (Marble Arch & Streatham Hill, Telford Avenue) and
- N137 (*Arriva London South-N*) (Oxford Circus & Crystal Palace) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing LT-class NRM New Routemasters. Routes re-allocated in full to Brixton (BN) garage, so Norwood (N) garage allocation withdrawn.
- 228 (Maida Hill, The Chippenham & Central Middlesex Hospital) LBSL (QC) contract awarded to Metroline West, using new VMS-class Volvo BZL/MCV electric single-deck vehicles from Willesden Junction (WJ) garage in due course. Mon-Sat daytime frequency reduced from x20 (though widened to x24mins currently) to x30 mins. Currently operated by *London United* from Park Royal (RP) garage using DLE-class AD20D Enviro200 diesel single-deck vehicles.
- 333 (Elephant & Castle & Tooting Broadway) LBSL (QC) contract awarded to Go-Ahead London General from Stockwell (SW) garage, using new Ee-class AD40 Enviro400EV electric double-deck vehicles in due course, and using MHV-class Volvo B5LH MCV EvoSeti hybrid double-decks until electrics arrive. Currently operated by *Arriva London South* from Brixton (BN) garage using a mix of HA- and HV-class AD40H Enviro400H or Volvo B5LH Wrightbus Gemini 2 hybrid double-deck vehicles.
- 380 (*Stagecoach Selkent-TL*) (Belmarsh Prison & Lewisham, Lewisham Centre) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing diesel single-deck vehicles and re-allocated to Plumstead (PD) garage.
- 388 (*Stagecoach East London-HK*) (Stratford City, Bus Station & London Bridge Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing hybrid double-deck vehicles.

Saturday 27th January 2024:

Emergency schedules for London United Kingston, Cromwell Road Bus Station reconstruction withdrawn, although the Bus Station remains closed and temporary stands remain until August 2024.

- 9 (Hammersmith, Bus Station & Aldwych) and
 - N9 (Heathrow, Terminal 5 & Aldwych) LBSL (QC) contract awarded to Metroline Travel using existing LT-class NRM New Routemasters from Brentford (AH) garage. Currently operated by *London United* from Stamford Brook (V) garage.
 - 59 (*Arriva London South-BN*) (St.Bartholomew's Hospital & Streatham Hill, Telford Avenue) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing LT-class NRM New Routemasters.
 - 89 (*Go-Ahead London Central-BX*) (Lewisham, Town Centre & Slade Green Station) and
 - N89 (*Go-Ahead London Central-NX*) (Trafalgar Square & Erith, Cross Street) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract. Route N89 continues with existing EH-class AD40H Enviro400H hybrid double-deck vehicles, route 89 will be upgraded from existing EN-class Trident Enviro400 diesel double-deck vehicles to MHV-class Volvo B5LH MCV EvoSeti hybrid double-decks in due course when displaced from elsewhere.
 - 96 (*Stagecoach Selkent-PD*) (Woolwich, Thomas Street & Bluewater, Shopping Centre) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
 - 218 (*London Transit-X*) (Hammersmith, Bus Station & North Acton Station) Re-allocated from Westbourne Park (X) to Stamford Brook (V) garage, thus novated from London Transit to London United.
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Saturday 27th January 2024, continued:

- 306 (*Metroline Travel-AH*) (Sands End, Sainsbury's & Acton Vale, Bromyard Avenue) Re-allocated to Holloway (HT) garage.
- 428 (*Arriva London North-DT*) (Erith, Cross Street & Bluewater, Shopping Centre) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 472/= (*Stagecoach Selkent-PD*) (North Greenwich Station & Abbey Wood Station) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 476 (*Go-Ahead London General-NP*) (King's Cross St.Pancras Station & Northumberland Park Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing MHV-class Volvo B5LH MCV EvoSeti hybrid double-decks
- 486/= (*Go-Ahead London Central-BX*) (North Greenwich Station & Bexleyheath, Shopping Centre) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 601 (Thamesmead, Town Centre & Wilmington Schools, SDO) LBSL (QX) contract awarded to Go-Ahead London Central from Bexleyheath (BX) garage using existing MHV-class Volvo B5LH MCV EvoSeti hybrid double-deck vehicles. Currently operated by *Stagecoach Selkent* from Plumstead (PD) garage using a mix of diesel and hybrid double-deck vehicles.
- 602 (*Stagecoach Selkent-PD*) (Thamesmead, Town Centre & Townley Grammar School SDO) Renewal of LBSL (QX) contract using existing hybrid double-deck vehicles.
- B15 (*Arriva London North-DT*) (Horn Park, Alnwick Road & Bexleyheath, Shopping Centre) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.

Saturday 3rd February 2024:

- 43/= (*Metroline Travel-HT*) (Friern Barnet, Library & London Bridge Station) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 134/= (*Metroline Travel-PB*) (Warren Street, University College Hospital & North Finchley) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- SL5 NEW ROUTE (*Arriva London South-TC*) (Bromley North Station & Croydon, express) via route 138 to Westmoreland Road, Hayes Lane, South Eden Park Road, Links Way Monks Orchard Way then via route 119 to East Croydon to Park Street, terminating at Katharine Street, using ENX-class AD20D Enviro200 diesel single-deck vehicles. Mon-Sat daytimes every x12mins and Sundays and evenings every x15mins.

Saturday 10th February 2024:

- 3 (*Abellio-WL*) (Victoria Station & Crystal Palace) and
- N3 (*Abellio-QB*) (Oxford Circus & Bromley North Station) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 122 (*Stagecoach Selkent-PD*) (Crystal Palace & Plumstead Garage) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.

Saturday 17th February 2024:

- EL1/= (*Go-Ahead Blue Triangle-RR*) (Ilford Hill & Barking Riverside (Northgate Road) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing LT-class NRM New Routemasters.
- EL2 (*Go-Ahead Blue Triangle-RR*) (Becontree Heath, Leisure Centre & Dagenham Dock Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing LT-class NRM New Routemasters.
- EL3 (*Go-Ahead Blue Triangle-RR*) (Little Heath, Haw Bush & Barking Reach, Mallards Drive, SDO jnys to Barking Riverside, Northgate Road) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing LT-class NRM New Routemasters.
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Saturday 24th February 2024:

- 242 (Aldgate Station & Homerton Hospital) and
N242 (Tottenham Court Road Station & Homerton Hospital) LBSL (QC) contract awarded to Stagecoach East London from Ash Grove (HK) garage using new electric Volvo BZL/MCV double-deck vehicles in due course, though with AD40H Enviro400H hybrid double-deck vehicles initially. Currently operated by *Arriva London North* from Clapton (CT) garage using HV-class Volvo B5LH Wrightbus Gemini 3 hybrid double-deck vehicles.
- 277 (*Stagecoach East London-WH*) (Dalston Junction & Crossharbour, ASDA) and
N277 (*Stagecoach East London-BW*) (Islington, White Lion Street & Crossharbour, ASDA) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing vehicles though converting to new electric Volvo BZL/MCV double-deck vehicles in due course later in the summer.
- 283 (*London United-V*) (East Acton, Brunel Road & Hammersmith, Bus Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing DLE-class E20D Enviro200 diesel single-deck vehicles. Early morning frequency on Saturday and Sunday early AM increased from x20 to x15 mins and revised daily running time.

Late February/Early March 2024:

Superloop Routes SL2 (Walthamstow & North Woolwich) and SL3 (Thamesmead & Bromley) are likely to start although dates will hopefully be confirmed in the February TLB. It has been confirmed that SL3 will be with LT-class NRM vehicles from Bromley (TB) garage.

Saturday 2nd March 2024:

Note that the new contracts for the Croydon/Sutton scheme are confirmed as starting, though details of the other routes affected had not been finalised by TfL at time of going to print, so just a hint to photographers for changes due on routes **80, 164, 166, 312, 407, 455, 470, S3 and S4**. For details see TLB 675 and 706. Hopefully more details next month.

- 58 (*Stagecoach Lea Interchange-LI*) (East Ham, Central Park & Walthamstow Central Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing vehicles though converting to new electric Volvo BZL/MCV double-deck vehicles in due course later in the summer.
- 97 (*Stagecoach East London-WH*) (Stratford City, Bus Station & Chingford Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing vehicles initially, although awarded to Stagecoach Lea Interchange, so is expected to be transferred to Lea Interchange (LI) garage using existing Wrightbus StreetDeck HEV96 hybrid double-deck vehicles from 30th March (to be confirmed next month). Evening frequency increased from x15 to x12mins.
- 101 (*Go-Ahead Blue Triangle-RR*) (Wanstead Station & Beckton, Bus Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using new Ee-class electric double-deck vehicles in due course.
- 123/= (*Arriva London North-AR*) (Ilford, High Road & Wood Green Station) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 158/= (*Arriva London North-EC*) (Stratford, Bus Station & Chingford Mount, Prince Albert) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 215 (*Stagecoach East London-T*) (Walthamstow Central Station & Lee Valley Campsite) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing LT-class NRM New Routemasters. LTs have been making frequent appearances of late.
- 238/= (*Stagecoach East London-WH/BK*) (Stratford, Bus Station & Barking Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing AD40D Enviro400 vehicles initially but converted to AD40H Enviro400 hybrid vehicles displaced by electric vehicles later in the summer. Re-allocated in full to Barking (BK) garage so West Ham (WH) allocation withdrawn.
- 275 (*Stagecoach East London-T*) (Walthamstow, St.James Street Station & Barkingside, Tesco) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
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Saturday 2nd March 2024, continued:

- 309 (*Stagecoach East London-HK*) (Canning Town, Bus Station & Bethnal Green, Bonner Road) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing AD20D Enviro 200 diesel single deck vehicles.
- 325 (Prince Regent Station & East Beckton, Sainsbury's) LBSL (QC) contract awarded to Go-Ahead Blue Triangle from River Road (RR) garage, using new SEe-class AD20 Enviro200EV electric single-deck vehicles in due course. Currently operated by *Arriva London North* from Barking (DX) garage using ENL-class AD E200Dart Enviro200 diesel single-deck vehicles.
- 439 NEW ROUTE (*Go-Ahead Metrobus-C*) (Whyteleafe South, Wapses Lodge Roundabout & Waddon Marsh) via route 407 via Godstone Road, Kenley Station, then via Park Road, Oaks Way, Oaks Road, Northwood Avenue Higher Drive, Beaumont Road, Foxley Hill Road, via existing route 434, then via Godstone Road, Purley Cross, Banstead Road, Foxley Lane (return direct), Purley Way, then via existing route to Waddon Marsh, via Ampere Way. Every x30 mins daily though no evening service after 20:00, using new SEe electric single-deck vehicles in due course.
- S2 NEW ROUTE (*Go-Ahead London General-A*) (Belmont HMP Downview & St.Helier) From Belmont to Downs Road, then via existing route S4 to St.Helier, replacing it over this section, running every x20 mins Mon-Sat, x30 mins Sundays & Evenings, thus introducing a Sunday service on this section, using new SEe electric single-deck vehicles in due course.
- S4 (*Abellio-BC*) (St.Helier Station & Roundshaw, Wilson's School, Mon-Sat) ROUTE WITHDRAWN (*see S2*).
- W11 (*Stagecoach East London-AW*) (Walthamstow Central Station & Chingford Hall Estate) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using new MetroCityEV electric vehicles in due course.

Saturday 9th March 2024:

- 167 (*Stagecoach East London-BK*) (Ilford High Road & Loughton Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing AD20D Enviro 200 diesel single deck vehicles.
- 379 (Chingford Station & Yardley Lane Estate, Boardman Avenue) LBSL (QC) contract awarded to Stagecoach East London from Walthamstow Avenue (AW) garage, using new MetroCity EV electric single-deck vehicles in due course. Currently operated by *Go-Ahead London General* from Northumberland Park (NP) garage using WS-class Wrightbus StreetLite diesel single-deck vehicles.

SERVICE PROPOSALS

The consultation for Superloop **SL5** from Bromley to Croydon was published. As noted earlier, this was awarded to Arriva London South to start on 3rd February, although only for a short term of 14 months. There were 1,359 responses, with “74% saying this will make their journey more convenient, 81% will make their journey quicker and 58% saying they are likely to use the new express service than using a private car.” There were a number of alternative suggestions for extra stops, with TfL agreeing to serve an additional stop at Westmoreland Road/Barnfield Wood Road. In response to feedback the route will also stop at Croydon Park Street/ St. George's Walk although the number of stops in Bromley will be reduced from 4 to 3. (*See also tender and route news earlier*).

A summary of the main proposals variously awaiting results and/or start dates:

TLB675 p13-14: Croydon / Sutton changes; updated TLB706 p13 and TLB707 p13. (also see earlier).

TLB686 p12: 410 stop changes in Norwood;

TLB703 p13: 344 diversion away from Southwark Bridge s/b to operate via London Bridge.

TLB704 p14-15 : Upminster (346/347 withdrawal and replaced by 497).

TLB705 p14: 419 fixed stops in Barnes.

TLB705 p14: Catford Town Centre proposals.

TLB707 p13: W12, W13, W14, 549 Walthamstow and Wanstead changes.

TLB707 p13: 336 Downham routeing and stop changes.
TLB708 p16: Oxford Street.
TLB708 p16: Silvertown Tunnel Cyclists service.
TLB708 p17: 281 Tolworth rerouting.
TLB708 p17: 309 Poplar rerouting.
TLB709 p15: E1 extension to Osterley, new route 618.
TLB710 p14: R1, R2, R3, R6, and B14 routes in Orpington.
TLB711 p12: 178, 335 B16 in Kidbrooke.
TLB711 p13: 91/N91, 123, 232 in Harringey Heartlands.
TLB712 p14: U1, U2, U3 and E7 in Hillingdon.
TLB712 p14: 394 in King's Cross, Canal Reach.

FORTHCOMING CHANGES IN BRIEF

This list includes tenders that have been decided and principal route changes already in past TLBs. All dates and all details are subject to alteration or deferment. Just a note to say that contracts are increasingly being awarded or renewed for various lengths; all contracts do have “break” clauses” and can be terminated by the operator or TfL at any time and for any reason, which remain commercially confidential of course!

Notes: CE+2 = Contract extended by 2 years. CR5 = Contract awarded or renewed for 5 years, with a potential +2 year extension. CR2 = Contract awarded or renewed for 2 years,

CR3 = Contract awarded or renewed for 3 years, CR4 = Contract awarded or renewed for 4 years,

CR6 = Contract awarded or renewed for 6 years, CR7 = Contract awarded or renewed for 7 years.

The * suffix = award specified new buses; the # suffix = award specified part new bus allocation. Not all award dates will be necessarily the same date that new buses are introduced.

TBA 2024: 77, 211 as part of the Central London review.

23rd Mar 24: CR5 on 76/= (G-A London General to Arriva LN), 259 (Arriva LN),
CR6 on 20, 362, 462 (S'ch East London), CR6 on 393 (Metroline Travel).

30th Mar 24: CR5 on 19/N19 (Arriva LN), 249 (Arriva LS), CR6 on 2/N2 (Arriva LS),
CR7 on 113/N113* (Metroline Travel), 262*, 473* (S'ch East London to G-A Blue Triangle), 396* (G-A Blue Triangle), CE+2 on 317 (Metroline Travel), 372 (S'ch East London), 493 (G-A London General).

6th Apr 24: CR7 on S3* (London United to Abellio)

13th Apr 24: CR6 on 195 (Abellio), CR7 on 306* (Metroline Travel to Abellio), 689* (Arriva LS)

27th Apr 24: CR6 on 110 (London United), 236 (S'ch Lea Interchange), 394 (S'ch East London), P4 (S'ch Selkent to G-A London Central), CR7* on 206 (Metroline West).

11th May 24: CR3 on 481 (London United to Metroline Travel).

18th May 24: CR6 on 464 (Abellio).

25th May 24: CR6 on 272, 440 (London United), E11 (Abellio), CR7 on E6* (Metroline West to Abellio),

1st Jun 24: CR5 on 253/N253, 254 (Arriva LN), CR3 on E3 (London United)

22nd Jun 24: CR3 on 260, 302 (Metroline Travel), R68 (Abellio), CR6 on 120 (Metroline Travel),
CR7 on 143* (Metroline Travel), R70* (Abellio).

29th Jun 24: CR5 on 211 (London United to Abellio), CR3 on 328 (Metroline Travel), CR6 on 465 (London United to Abellio), CR7 on C1 (London United).

13th July 24: CR7 on 382* (Metroline Travel).

20th July 24: CR7 on 280* (G-A London General), C11*, W8* (Metroline Travel).

17th Aug 24: CR7 on 243/=* (Arriva LN), W7* (Metroline Travel).

24th Aug 24: CR6 on 130 (Abellio), 410 (Arriva LS), CR7 on 50*, 194*, 250/N250*, 255* (Arriva LS), 320* (G-A Metrobus).

31st Aug 24: CR7 on 289*, 663* (Arriva LS), 314* (S'ch Selkent).
21st Sep 24: CR7 on 210* (Metroline Travel).
28th Sep 24: CR7 on 131* (G-A London General), CR6 on 411 (London United).
5th Oct 24: CR3 on 201 (Abellio). 661 (S'ch Selkent)
26th Oct 24: CR7 on U4* (Metroline West)
2nd Nov 24: CR6 on 627 (Arriva LS)
TBA in 2025: CR7 on 129*, CR7 on SL4* (G-A Blue Triangle)

OTHER SPECIAL and MISCELLANEOUS non-TfL OPERATIONS IN LONDON

Nothing new to report this month.

DIVERSIONS, DEVIATIONS AND DISRUPTIONS

Central: From 8th to 20th December, owing to electrical works in Mooorgate, routes **21, 43/=, 76 and 141** were diverted southbound via South Place, Eldon Street, Blomfield Street and London Wall, with 21, 43/= and 141 continuing via Wormwood Street, Bishopsgate and Gracechurch Street. Nearby and from 11th to 22nd December, owing to telecommunications works in London Wall, routes **344 and N133** were revised to start and finish journeys in Bishopsgate. Victoria Station forecourt re-opened by 29th December (*see TLB 712*). The bus stands and Victoria Place have been resurfaced with a “new design” to reduce the likelihood of sinking under the weight of buses, together with non-slip pedestrian crossings and new lights.

South-East: From 16th to 30th December, although finished early on 22nd December, Westerham Hill was closed owing to water main replacement. As noted in the route section, route **246** gained a special timetable to avoid meeting route **464** on the narrow road diversion as follows, diverting in both directions via Lebanon Gardens, Stock Hill, Sunningvale Avenue, Polesteep Hill, Ricketts Hill Road, Church Hill, Ship Hill, to Tatsfield, then Tatsfield Approach Road, Clarks Lane, Croydon Road to Westerham Market Square. From 11th to 22nd December, owing to water works in Jerningham Road, New Cross, route **343/N343** was revised to terminate at New Cross Sainsbury's arriving via Vesta Road, Shardeloes Road, Lewisham Way and New Cross Road. From 27th December to 5th January, Pettman Crescent, Plumstead was closed for bridge works between Western Way and Plumstead Road. This is the roundabout that gives access to Plumstead (PD) garage, so a temporary contraflow was used with buses departing the garage diverted via Western Way to Belmarsh roundabout returning via Western Way. Routes **96, 99, 177, 180, 422, 469 and N1** were diverted eastbound via Burrage Road, Crescent Road, Bloomfield Road, Plumstead Common Road, Waverley Crescent, Griffin Road, Orchard Road (restriction lifted here) and Plumstead High Street. Route **244** southbound was diverted via Western Way and Pettman Crescent, route **380** was also diverted southbound via this route, but after serving Miles Drive/Merbury Way and Battery Road loop. Route **301** was diverted in both directions via Western Way and Central Way. Route **53** was curtailed at Plumstead Common and route **122** was curtailed at Woolwich New Road, using route 54 terminal working. Route **54** was therefore re-routed to use the Thomas Street stand in Woolwich. Finally, Route **N53** was curtailed to start and finish in Plumstead Road, operating via PD garage out of service.

South: The water works in Poplar Walk, West Croydon was extended to 4th December. Meanwhile the alterations in Croydon imposed for Covid restrictions back in 2020 have been extended until 2nd March 2024, although road alterations were proposed some while ago so may also be linked with re-development in the area. Some stops were changed from 13th January. Routes affected include **60, 109/N109, 119/=, 312, 405, 407, 412, 455, 466, 468, 645 and N68**.

South-West: On 21st/22nd December, Hatton Road at St.Mary's Church was closed for Thames Water works. Routes **H25 and H26** were diverted in both directions via Stanwell Road and Great South West Road to Clockhouse Roundabout and Staines Road (H25). Also, eastbound buses had to double-run via the Animal Reception Centre. Thanks to member Roland for the report. The same diversion occurred from 23rd to 27th November, a collapsed sewer being the cause for this so perhaps further work was

required. Member Ian advises that the Whitton diversions (*see TLB712*) continued to 8th December and should be corrected as follows: **110** diverted via Hounslow Road, Whitton Dene and Rugby Road, **281/= and 681** diverted via Whitton Dene and Rugby Road, with **481 and H22** diverted via Hounslow Road and Whitton Dene.

West: Member Chris advises that on 11th December, routes **222/=, U1, U3 and U5** were diverted via Horton Road, Stockley Road and Falling Lane. From 18th to 23rd December, owing to a water leak in Larden Road, Acton Vale, route **272** was diverted in both directions via Bath Road, Stamford Brook Road, Goldhawk Road and Askew Road.

North-West: Further to TLB708, southbound routes in Wealdstone affecting routes **140, 182, 186, 258, 640, N18 and N140** were restored via Wealdstone High Street, George Gange Way, Canning Road and Wealdstone High Street by October 2023.

North: From 4th December 2023 to 3rd June 2024, owing to building works in Wimbourne Street/Cropley Street, Hoxton, route **394** is diverted eastbound via Eagle Wharf Road, New North Road, Baring Street, Bridport Place, Poole Street and New North Road. From 12th December to 7th January 2024, owing to a pothole in Edmonton Green Bus Station, routes **102/=, 144, 149/=, 191, 259, and W6** on departure were diverted via west exit, The Green and The Broadway, with route 191 double-running via the roundabout. Through buses calling at the bus station on routes **279/N279, 349, 491 and W8** operated direct via The Green.

COUNTRY AREAS - Route Developments

Section Editor: David Stewart, 5 Kathleen Avenue, Wembley, Middlesex, HA0 4JH or by e-mail to davestewart297@gmail.com This section is set out in adjacent geographical areas anti-clockwise around London from Tilbury to Gravesend. It covers all local bus services of all operators running outside the Greater London County but within the traditional LT/LCBS 'London Country' areas.

West and South ESSEX, including THURROCK

Correction to TLB712, page 17: The new route 201 (op.Mon/Wed/Fri) is by First Essex (not NIBS)

HERTFORDSHIRE and southern BEDFORDSHIRE

Sunday 4th December 2023: Start of DRT in Hertford and Ware.

Monday 25th December 2023: 757 (Luton & London, AtS) Special operation on Xmas Day.

Saturday 31st December 2023: Last day of the "Arriva Click" DRT system in Watford.

Tuesday 2nd January 2024:

410 (*Central Connect*) (Harlow & Cheshunt, Brookfield) Timetable changes and renumbered 25. The 25B number is applied to the last journeys that end at Broxbourne instead of Cheshunt.

Sunday 7th January (additional to TLB712)

66, 310, 395, 724 (*Arriva KT*) Timetable changes for reliability.

80 (*Centrebus*) (Stevenage & Hitchin. M-S) Most journeys rerouted in Hitchin via Nightingale Road between the Rail Station and Town Centre.

324 (*Arriva KT*) (Ware & W.G.City, Daiiy) Operator change from AKT to Centrebus. Most journeys now run via Hertingfordbury and Birch Green. Additional evening journey. Some peak hour journeys extended from Hertford to Ware. Overall service improved to an hourly Daily (including Suns and P/Hola) .

333 (*Central Connect*) (Hertford Town & Bengoe) Renumbered H5/H6 (see below)..

351 (*Central Connect*) Hertford & Bishop's Stortford via The Hadhams, M-S) Renumbered, most journeys as **35**, with school variations as 35C. Additional commercial journeys early mornings and evenings between Stanstead Abbots and Hertford as 35B.

Saturday 7th January, continued:

- 383/384 (*Central Connect*) (Hertford & Stevenage via Dane End, M-S) Revised timetable throughout. All 383 journeys now go via Aston. Additional commercial journeys on Saturdays between Watton-at-Stone and Stevenage earlier and later. The Friday only SDO journey from John Henry Newman School withdrawn.
- 386 (*Central Connect*) (Stevenage & Bishop's Stortford, M-S) Timings on pm SDO jnys revised.
- 392 (*EFCT*) (Harlow & Hoddesdon, M-F) To additionally serve Hyde Mead House in Nazeing on just one journey each way on Weds and Fris.
- 400 (*Centrebus*) (W.G.City town, M-S) Withdrawn covered by 323 (see TLB712) and 402.
- 402 (*Centrebus*) New route, Welwyn Garden City Town & QEII Hospital via Peartree Lane and Woodhall Parade, Daily x30mins service..
- 601, 602, 610. 614/644., 635, 653 (*UNO*) Timetable changes. On 635, between North Herts College and Stevenage Bus Station rerouted via St Georges Way and Fairlands Way.
- H1, H2, H3, H4 (*Central Connect*) (Hertford Town Services) Revised as follows:
H1 Town & Pinehurst, hourly Mon-Sat with M-F peak extensions to North Station.
H2 Town & Campfield Road, M-S) New limited Sunday service added.
H3/H4 Town & Horns Mill, Daily) Timetable revisions every day.
- H5,H6 (*Central Connect*) Re-numbered from 333. H5 Town & Bengoe via Parker Avenue, offpeak.
H6 Town & Bengoe via Parker Avenue and The Avenue Shops in peaks, and The Avenue Shops in offpeaks. H6 is hourly on Sundays.

Monday 4th February:

303. 331 (*Sullivan*) SDO routes, timetable adjustments for reliability.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE AND EAST BERKSHIRE and boundary parts of OXFORDSHIRE

Monday 31st October 2023

- 167 (*Red Rose*) New route (Tues) Ivinghoe to Leighton Buzzard.

Friday 8th December:

- 650 (*Red Rose*) (Aylesbury & Wing, Cottesloe School, SDO) Last day of operation. From Monday 11th revised timetable with more journeys on route 100 (Aylesbury & MK via Wing)..

Thursday 22nd December

- 581, 583 (*Carousel*) Minor timetable adjustments.

Xmas Day 25th December: First Berkshire operated special services 7 Britwell via Slough and Langley to Heathrow T5 and A4 Cippenham via Slough and Langley to Heathrow Central.

Tuesday 2nd January:

- 701/702 (*Reading Transport*) Timetable changes.

Sunday 7th January: (additional to TLB712)

- X20/120 (*Redline*) (Aylesbury & Oxford) The 120 no longer serves Wheatley on school journeys, running instead on the A40.

Tuesday 9th January:

- 322 (*Red Rose*) New SDO route from Longwick to Watlington, Icknield School via Bledlow, Chinnor and Lewknor.

SURREY and northern parts of WEST SUSSEX

Monday 8th January:

- 28, 436, 456 (*Falcon Coaches*) Timing adjustments for reliability.
-

North and west KENT

At Arriva, Timetable changes have been registered from 7th January in the Medway area. The only effect within TLB area is a re-timing of the Sunday service on 190.

Go-Coachhire, Swanley : On 1st December it was announced that this business had been sold to Hulley's of Baslow, Derbyshire.

School service S11 (*Go Coach*) was de-registered from 5th January. C1A, C1B and C1C are replaced by C1 from 2nd January. This new service runs Monday to Saturday as a circular from Longfield Station, with six departures which operate a rather complex timetable. The main routing is via New Barn, Southfleet, Bean, Bluewater, Darent Valley Hospital, Fleet Estate, Darent, looping via Village Hall and Hill Rise, then returning to Bluewater, Bean, Green Street Green and back to Longfield, but there are several variations and short workings. (*Thanks to Invicta (M&DEK Bus Club)*)

PUBLICITY NEWS

Section Editor: Andrew Webb, 11 Tentelow Lane, Southall, Middlesex, UB2 4LQ or by e-mail to andrew_d_webb@hotmail.com (note the two underscores).

Brent Cross West is the main addition to both versions of the December 2023 “**Tube map**”, the rear advert being the defining characteristic. One version carries the advert for the TfL Go App seen on the May 2023 edition reviewed in TLB706, whilst the other carries an advert for Santander bike hire. It *appears* that the cycle hire advert version is distributed in stations serving the area where bikes are available, with the former version being used for outer London stations. Both versions are otherwise identical, carrying Joy Gregory's ‘A Little Slice of Paradise’ on the cover. Inspired by Transport for London's one hundred-year history of staff cultivated station gardens, Joy Gregory has created a rich photographic collage of flowers. The ‘Check before you travel’ panel gains entries for Bermondsey lacking step free access between 4th December 2023 and June 2024, whilst special fares account for the inclusion of the Elizabeth line stations at Heathrow Airport. Each of the stations gains the dagger symbol on the map.

The launch of the second all new Superloop route on 9th December 2023 was heralded by “**SL1 Walthamstow Bus Station to North Finchley Bus Station.**” The double sided A5 is presented in Superloop colours and features a vertical line diagram of the stops served by the route. Unfortunately, an error has crept in with one stop being named ‘Forest Hill / Bell Corner’ instead of the correct ‘Forest Road / Bell Corner’. The reverse has information about the route and its place in the wider Superloop network. The leaflet was distributed by staff stationed at key stops on the first day, along with the ‘Superloop London's Express Bus Service’ leaflet reported in TLB708.

“**2024 Events**” from London Bus Museum is a double sided slimline promoting the Spring Gathering on 14th April, Summer Festival on 23rd June and TransportFest on 20th October. The reverse advertises ‘Shillibeer Place’, the museum's shop. Before any of these is “**Routes 62 & 145 heritage day Saturday 23rd March 2024.**” A period photograph of RT1989 on the former route illustrates the single sided A5 sheet, along with a line diagram of the two routes plus narrative about the event and the Barking Bus Garage Open Day on the same date.

Hertfordshire County Council have reissued “**907 Bus Times**” dated 29th October 2023. The slimline with a black cover is in the same format as the previous edition reviewed in TLB706. Also valid from the same date is “**908 Bus Times**” for the route linking Stevenage with Welwyn Garden City. The slimline has the same style of black cover as that for the 907. Both leaflets carry a new advert for the Hertfordshire SaverCard, reflecting the launch of three new versions to cover twenty – twenty five year olds, twenty six – fifty nine year olds and those over sixty, complimenting the existing provision for eleven – nineteen year olds.

CURRENT VEHICLE NEWS

Section Editor: Chris Jennings, 30 Kingcup Avenue, Green Lane, Leverstock Green, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire HP2 4GF or by e-mail to chris_routemaster@hotmail.co.uk. This section covers the current vehicle news (including initial disposals) of bus operators within the 'TLB' area, roughly comprising the old LT/LCBS areas.

New sub editor:

As a New Year begins, a new sub editor for the Current Vehicle News section also starts. Following Dave Stewart's long and devoted 40-year contribution and dedication to LOTS TLB, I have now taken over this section. I will aim to keep the same level of detail, accuracy and information as before and look to further develop the good work Dave has delivered. Please feel free to get in contact with any useful observations and information regarding operator fleet news in our LOTS coverage area, using the new contact details above.

General news:

Nearly half of the TfL owned LT buses have been refurbished and repainted so far, here is a re-cap of the ones known to have been completed: LT1-44, 46-100, 102-157, 159-162, 164-170, 172-176, 178-192, 194-222, 224-228, 230-236, 242, 244, 246-250, 252-254, 256-259, 262-305, 310, 312-320, 322, 324-326, 354-356, 357-389, 395-398, 401, 402, 404-406, 408, 410-412, 414, 415, 418, 420, 424, 426, 428-444, 446-451, 454-457, 464-477, 479-484, 486-495, 497, 499-507, 509-511, 513-516, 547, 551, 558, 560, 561, 564-592, 594-602, 645, 646, 649, 651, 653, 655, 657.

Taking part in the Ensign Bus running day on 2nd December were M1, MD60, RLH61, RM1361, RMC1477, RMLs 882, 2396, 2405, 2588 and 2734, RTs 191, 624, 1499, 3232 and 4779, RTL453, RTW335, T986 plus Bluestar Enviro 400 SN56 AWX, Ensignbus Metrobus 192 (F292 NHJ), Maidstone & District Leopard 2816, Southend Fleetline 233 and Astromega 245, and Sovereign Leyland Lynx G293 KWY.

Various preserved Routemasters congregated at the Ace Cafe in Stonebridge Park on 9th December, then ran along route 159 from West Hampstead to Thornton Heath before returning to central London to see the Christmas lights. This annual event was to mark the (18th) anniversary of the ending of regular operation in London and attendees (at various stages) included RMs 188, 357, 848, 1033 (re-registered DSL 540), 1214, 1650 (in silver as SRM3), 2097, 2116 (in 1933/1983 livery) and RMLs 2276, 2440 (in country green) and 2746.

The Bromley running day on 18th December saw RFs 368, 395, 429 and 486 on route 227 and RMs 1397 and 2179 plus RT1702 working between Grove Park and Petts Wood as route 94 (the pre-1982 version).

ABELLIO LONDON (BC,QB,WL), ABELLIO WEST LONDON (DH,GW,TF)

Additional information to TLB712 is now known for the 56 Electroliners on order: 3048-58 are for route 306 (QB), 3059-85 for route 133 (QB), 3086-102 for route 381 (WL) and 3103 as a top up bus for the +1 PVR increase on route 111 (TF).

The last diesel E20Ds on route 322 (QB) ran on 6th November, these being 8204/8206. Since then the route has been solely worked by Switch MetroCity EVs (1001-11) aided by a handful of the batch due at GW for route E5, thus far 1015-20.

Route 363 (WL) was taken over from Go Ahead on 11th November and is worked by refurbished E40H MMCs (2569-76) and temporarily other E40D/E40Hs, until the 7 new Electroliners are released from QB (3031-37). To make space at WL to accommodate route 363, route 196 moved into QB along with its allocation of E40Hs (2603-18).

3427 was unusually out on route 45 on 22nd December, with 3418 repeating such a visit on 30th.

Wright GB Kite 1703 (LV73 FGZ) and Electroliner 3038 (LV73 FHK) started the ball rolling in receiving the new 'Transport UK' logos, instead of Abellio London, which reflects the company's new owners. From mid-December buses across the fleet started to receive the new company logos and the plan is that by 3rd February the whole fleet would be treated. From next month's TLB714 edition I will move the Abellio London section to the new 'Transport UK' section name instead.

ABELLIO LONDON continued

The next batch of Electroliner EV buses (3038-47) are starting to be delivered, thus far 5 have arrived at QB. The intention is for 3038-47 to stock route C3 and release loaned 3027-30 back to route 111 (TF) and move 3031-37 to WL for their intended home on route 363.

E40D MMC 2618 suffered frontal damage when it collided with a lamppost on 21st December 2023.

Recent reported repaints/ refurbishes include 8142 and 8845.

New buses currently in the process of being delivered (December onwards):

Wrightbus GB Kite Electroliner 10.9m B**D. 1704-12 are LV73 FHA/B/C/D/E/F/G/H/J.

Wrightbus StreetDeck Electroliner 10.6m H40/20D - 3038-45 are LV73 FHK/L/M/N/O/P/R/S.

Transfers:

Long term VOR 2486, last used on the 5/10/2022, is now known to be withdrawn. - QBu/QBw.

(October 2022): Correcting TLB712 – 8205 BC/QB should be 8206; 8205 stayed at BC.

(April 2023): 8327 BC/BCw.

(May): LT604 QB/QBu. 2409 BC/BCu.

(July): 2464 QB/QBu. LT694 WL/WLu.

(September): 8780 BCu/BC.

(October): LT688 QB/TF. 3027 TF/QB.

(November): Correcting TLB712: 1012/13/14/21/22/23/24 are QBu and not QB and not in use yet.

2579 BC/TF. 2572 BC/WL (to clarify TLB712, as duplicated with two different garages).

2573 QB/WL. 8204 QB/TF. 9519 QB/BC/QB. 9525 DH/GW.

(December): LT21 QB/GW. LT631 TF/QB. 1500 WLu/WL. 1539 WL/BC. 1708-11 -/BCu.

2618 QB/QBu. 3028 QB/TF. 3038/39/40/41/43 -/QBu. 8126 BC/TF. 8204 TF/BC. 8569 DH/GW.

8782 DH/GW.

Livery changes:

3011 from advert for Poppy appeal back to Red

LT20 from advert for British Gas back to Red

LT26 from advert for Uniqlo HeatTech back to Red

LT168 from advert for Super Mario Pink to one for Go Kerala

LT613 from advert for VB Perfume back to Red

LT623 from advert for Rimowa to one for Ginori 1735

LT682 from advert for Expo 2030 v2 to one for Ginori 1735

LT684 to advert for Go Kerala

LT695 from advert for Expo 2030 v2 back to Red

LT710 from advert for Elf Cosmetics back to Red

LT711 from advert for EE Mobile back to Red

LT769 from advert for Starfield back to Red

LT775 from advert for TK Maxx back to Red

A2B TRAVEL GROUP, Royston

Fiat Ducato minibus YX61 BHE was stood down in October 2023, joining E200 KX09 GJJ.

Update to Fleetbook 2023: Scania BV55 UCU is single door and now H45/33F.

Into the fleet: Volvo B7TL BX55 XNY has been acquired by September 2023.

Disposal: Volvo B7TL AU53 HKD departed the fleet in September 2023.

ARRIVA LONDON (part of Deutsche Bahn)

ARRIVA LONDON NORTH - AD, AE, AR, CT, DT, DX, E, EC, GY and WN.

ARRIVA LONDON SOUTH - BN, N, TC and TH.

Following the loss of route 450 to Go Ahead on 30th September, the SLS class are being moved over to TH to replace the E200s (ENS15-28) on route 410, with ENS28 being the last of the batch still in use. Just SLS7, 15 and 19 are still to transfer.

Following the loss of route 157 to Go Ahead on 2nd December, 20 x E400s are earmarked for disposal, including T98-109, 186/188/190, 193, 227, 295, 298 and 299.

Some of the Electroliners ordered for route 64 are being stored at EC, until electrification works at TH is complete. In the meantime, ES21, 22, 29-32, 34 are being used at BN, alongside existing Electroliners (ES38-50) on route 417, but also appearing on route 50, 133 and 333.

EMN1 has arrived at E and was seen undertaking driver type training duties in December prior to entering service on route 377 along with EMN2-4 (also delivered and currently stored at E/EC). In turn EN34-37 are due to transfer onto route 318 (AR) to join other E20D MMCs (EN38, ENR1-7) and replace the oldest E200s (EN13, 18, 20 and 21) in the fleet.

Superloop SL1 (North Finchley – Walthamstow Central) duly commenced on 9th December, using HA1-14 released from the loss of route 78 the week before (2nd December). Superloop SL1 is operated by AD garage and E40Hs HA2-14 have received Superloop SL1 branding (HA1 not yet done as of late December). To make space at AD, route 329 transferred into WN on the same day, along with E400s (T260-76). As a direct result, route 102 (AD) is now worked by HVs only and no longer has a mixed allocation of T/HV buses. From the same date, route 34 had a slight frequency decrease.

Superloop SL5 (Bromley North – Croydon) has been awarded to Arriva London South and is due to commence on 3rd February 2024, initially on a 14 month contract, using existing diesel single decks in the fleet. Superloop SL2 (Walthamstow Central – North Woolwich) has been awarded to Arriva London North and is due to commence on 2nd March 2024.

HA41 suffered frontal damage, when it collided with a bus shelter in Tooting on 2nd December.

Recent repaint/ refurb notes include HV201, HV203, HV208, HV210, HV212, HV218, HV222, HV223, HV225, HV226, HV256, HV258, LT218, LT219, LT220, LT221, LT222, LT228, LT230, LT354, LT355, LT356, LT495, LT571 and LT600.

New deliveries (November):

EMN 1-4 (YJ73 BVB/C/D/E) Switch MetroCityEV MC950EV are 9.5m and confirmed as B24F.

Detail confirmation:

Wrightbus StreetDeck Electroliner ES17-37 are H40/20D, not H30/20D (correcting TLB712).

The full batch ES1-50 are H40/20D and 10.6m (not 10.5m) in length (correcting TLB711).

Transfers:

(April 2023): LT593 AR/ARu.

(July): T191 DX/DXu.

(September): SLS7/15/19 N/Nu. SW1/8 AD/ADu. SW6/9 TC/TCu. T293 BN/BNu.

(October): Delete TLB712 entry EMN1-4 -/E (See November entry below).

Delete TLB712 entry SLS19 N/TH (See September entry above). T99, 103 N/Nu. T186 N/Nu.

ES17, 23 -/THu. ES18-20, 24-28, 33, 35-37 -/ECu. ES48 -/BN. SW7 AD/ADu.

(November): Delete LT593 AR/ARu (TLB712, see April entry above). DW501 WN/EC. EMN1/2 -/Eu.

EMN3/4 -/ECu. ES21 -/BN. HA16 AE/AEu. T100, 295, 298 N/Nu.

(December): DW502 WN/EC. DW505/7 WN/E. EMC13 TCu/TC. EMN1 Eu/Et.

ENN49 WN/AR/WN. HA1-14 AE/AD. HA15/17/18 AE/AEu. HA20 AE/TH. HA 41 BN/BNu.

HV90-92 WN/AD. LT183/184/220 E/AE. SLS 10, 16 N/TH. T98, 102, 105, 107, 188-190, 193 N/Nu.

T100/103/295/298 Nu/CNw. T101/104/106/108/109 N/Nu/CNw. T187 N/BN. T191 DXu/DX.

T192 N/BN. T260-76 AD/WN. T277, 292, 294 N/Nu. T299 TH/THu/CNw.

ARRIVA LONDON continued

Livery changes

LT185 from advert for Expo 2030 v2 back to Red
LT198 from advert for Brewdog back to Red
LT542 from advert for JD Forever Forward back to Red
LT729 from advert for Super Mario Blue back to Red
LT731 from advert for Gucci Cosmos back to Red
LT837 to advert for Remy Martin
LT982 from advert for Nakd Bars back to Red

ARRIVA'S 'COUNTRY BUSES' (within ASC and ATS)

Vehicles in each part that are based at the relevant garages are covered in full, with any transfers to or from other areas of AtS and ASC outside our sphere of coverage mentioned where necessary. These are: Colchester (CO), Southend (SE), Milton Keynes (MK), Gillingham (GL), Maidstone (MD) and Tunbridge Wells (TW).

Part 1: North West Kent (NF, AKT licence) Southend (SE).

Transfers: (November): 1002, 1021, 1034 NFs/NFu. (December): T484 NFt/NFw.

Part 2: Hertfordshire and West Essex (HA, HH, SV, WA, WE garages, all on AKT licence)

Watford's 'ArrivaClick' minibus service, launched in July 2020, has been discontinued from 31st December. Citing the impact of increased running costs and inflation, the service has not attracted the level of custom to make it financially viable.

Correcting TLB712, the acquired VDL SB200s (3760/63) transferred in from Arriva North West and not Go Ahead North West.

Correcting comments in TLB712, the E40D MMCs at HH (6524/5/6/7) are usually (not rarely) to be found on local route 2.

Correction to TLB710, E40D 6492 has not been repainted and remains in inter urban livery.

Transfers: 1012 WEs/HAs (by December 2023). 4120 AKS MD/HA (December 2023).

Into this area from Maidstone: 4120 (SN67 WUJ) AD E20D – AD Enviro200 (MMC) 11.5m B45F.

Out of area: StreetLite 2310 to Area 3 (LD).

Disposal: 4045 (GN09 AWW) to Shelton Motors, Ramsey, Cambs (December 2023). Had latterly been stored at AKS Gillingham for possible repairs.

Part 3: Bedfordshire and Buckinghamshire (AY, LD and WB garages, on AtS licence)

Volvo B7RLE 3953 (KX12 GZP) suffered an engine fire at around 07:35 on 11th December 2023 whilst on route 321 on Harpenden Road, St Albans, causing substantial rear end damage.

StreetLite 2310 and Volvo B7RLE 3944 have been repainted into the light blue livery.

Into this area:

2310 (GN14 DXW) Wrightbus StreetLite DF 10.8m B40F from Area 2 (HA) – Update to TLB707.

6149 (UUI 2907) Volvo B7TL/ Wright Eclipse Gemini 10.6m H41/29F from Arriva Maidstone.

Transfers:

2310 Area 2 (HA)/LD. 2979 WB/WBu (August). 3580 WB/AYu/WBu (August).

4749 WB/WBw (October). 3032 AYu/AY (November). 3920 AY/WB (November).

3953 LD/LDu (December). 6149 AKS MD/WB (December). 7201/3 LDu/LD (December).

Disposals: 3621 (YN55 PZY) and 3658 (LK14 FTN) to Shelton Motors, Ramsey, Cambs (December).

CARDINAL BUSES, New Haw, Surrey

Correcting TLB712, acquired E400 - TE1073 is registered LK10 BZV, not BSV.

TE833 (LK57 AXN) has been repainted into the two tone red fleet livery.

CARLONE BUSES, Lyne, Surrey

Into the fleet: YK73 FFM Mercedes-Benz Sprinter 516CDi B16F (September 2023). This bus has been branded for the 442 and not YK73 FFN (Correcting TLB712). YK73 FFN is also in the fleet (TLB710) and is in plain white.

CAROUSEL BUSES, High Wycombe

Correction to TLB709, loaned E20Ds are 511/512 (YX69 NVE/F), not YX69 NUE/F.

These are both in two tone grey livery, branded for the 'Connector' - Science Transit shuttle, from their former role on the ST2 service in Oxford.

Mercedes Sprinter 973 (BU18 YRP) has transferred to Oxford Bus by September 2023.

CENTRAL CONNECT (Galleon Travel 2009 Ltd), Harlow and Stansted

The Vectare company website states that 10 newer buses are arriving in the fleet from late 2023 and that 15 brand new buses are on order for delivery in mid-2024. In theory the younger buses, namely the E20D MMCs, the MetroDecker and Sprinter are staying, with everything else earmarked for replacement in the next 12 months.

Newly acquired E20D SF66 ARW is the first in the fleet to be repainted into the two tone blue Vectare style livery, but with Central Connect fleetnames. The rest of the fleet will follow in due course.

The fleet has been renumbered to fit within Vectare's existing fleet numbering system:

StreetLite CC11 BUS from 1201 to 48.

Sprinter CC04 GAL from 1101 to 223.

E20Ds CC21/CE21 GAL, CC71/CE71 GAL, YX22 OKA/B/C/D/E from 1601-9 to 327-35.

E20Ds YX72 ONA/B/C/D/F from 1610-14 to 336 to 340.

MetroDecker CT21 GAL from 2101 to 501.

Scania OmniCity deckers YP59 OEM/O/S/T/V from 2002/8/4/9/5 to 595-99.

StreetLite CC10 BUS from 1202 to 910.

E200 LJ58 AVE from 1406 to 912.

E200 LJ57 USU from 1405 to 913.

E200 LX07 BYA from 1401 to 914.

E200 SN57 DWZ from 1404 to 917.

E200 LX09 AZL from 1409 to 918.

E200 KX08 HMF from 1410 to 919.

E200 LK08 DWE from 1412 to 920.

E200 YX60 DXY from 1413 to 921.

E200 YX12 FPY from 1414 to 922.

E20Ds YX12 DHM/O from 1415/6 to 923/24.

E20D ML62 OGY from 1417 to 925.

E20D MX12 DZE from 1420 to 926.

E200s L8, L9 XEL from 1418/19 to 927/28.

In practise this exercise is only on paper for now and has not been physically applied to the fleet as yet.

Dart SLF KP02 PVO is a 'training bus' and isn't assigned a fleet number, formerly 1301.

The following buses are withdrawn and not renumbered:

1089 (SGZ 1089), 1102 (YX10 AYF), 1403 (SN57 DWV), 1407 (CC55 BUS),

2001/3/6/7 (YP59 OEX/R/U/N).

Into the fleet:

322 (YX22 OJJ) - AD E20D – AD Enviro200 MMC 10.9m B39F, from Vectare, Essex.

323/324 (YX73 OVN/O) – AD E20D – AD Enviro200 MMC 10.9m in two tone blue livery.

349 (SK73 COU) - AD E20D – AD Enviro200 MMC 10.9m (currently in white).

353/354 (YY73 RGZ, YY73 RHA) – AD E20D – AD Enviro200 MMC 9.0m (currently in white).

915 (GW16 BUS) – AD E20D – AD Enviro200 MMC 10.9m B41F, from Red Rose Travel, Aylesbury.

SF66 ARW – AD E20D – AD Enviro200 MMC 10.9m B41F from Red Rose Travel, Aylesbury.

CENTRAL CONNECT continued

On loan from Vectare (East Midlands):

Mercedes Sprinters 201/2/4 (RX20 RJV, WV20 VDG and RX70 SKZ) and from Vectare (Essex) is E20D 317 (YX16 OBS).

Disposals:

Dart SLF/ East Lancs 1302 (PO56 JFE), E200 1411 (LK08 DWA) and Optare Solo 1001 (SGZ 2221) departed the fleet in September 2023.

E200 1408 (CC54 BUS) departed the fleet in April 2023.

E200 GX07 HUU departed the fleet in July 2023.

CENTREBUS, Luton

Adding to TLB707 – E20Ds 595-9 are in dark blue livery and branded up for ‘Herts Connect’ route 907.

In the fleet: 518 (YX63 ZVU) AD E20D – AD Enviro200 10.8m B39F from Centrebus (North).

Optare Solo 237 (YJ07 VRV) was stood down in November 2023.

DIAMOND BUS SOUTH-EAST (Hallmark Connections Ltd) Stanwell (including Hotel Hoppa) part of Rotala plc

Adding to TLB706, the electric buses on order for the Bedfont Lakes contract (BL1/2 routes) are confirmed to be 3 x Custom Denning 10.2m single deckers (B24F). These are to be fleet numbered 39001-3 and are due from February and likely to enter service in the Spring. These will replace StreetLites 20168/69/72 that are currently branded up and allocated to those routes.

ENSIGNBUS, Purfleet

Volvo B9TL 130 (LX15 GPY) has been repainted into ‘heritage’ livery of green and cream, celebrating 20 years (2004-2024) of route X80 (Lakeside & Bluewater).

FALCON COACHES, Byfleet

E200 KX58 GVE is advertised for sale through Chartwell Bus Sales, but in the meantime is still in daily use here.

Into the fleet: SW65 GSW and WW65 GSW AD E20D – Enviro200 MMC 10.9m B41F (September) and both have been repainted into fleet livery.

New deliveries:

YX73 PGY – AD E20D – AD Enviro200 MMC 10.9m B41F and in fleet livery.

YX73 OYP/R – AD E20D – AD Enviro200 MMC 9.0m B30F and both in fleet livery.

Disposals:

Volvo B7RLE SK07 CFP, E200s YX58 DWV and YX12 DLF have departed the fleet in December 2023, replaced by brand new E20Ds (see above).

E20Ds YX67 VGJ/K have passed to D&G Buses, Staffordshire (December 2023).

FIRST in BERKSHIRE (First Beeline Buses Ltd) (RG, SH depots)

Fiat Ducato Mellor Orion 59200 (SJ71 HRM) and Switch MetroCity EV YJ72 EVV were last used in September on Milton Park services on ‘autonomous bus trials’ and have now been stood down.

Disposals:

E20D 44564 (YX63 LLD) to Go North West (by November 2023).

Volvo 7900H 69931 (BJ63 UJV) departed the fleet in December 2023.

1ST BUS STOP, Gravesend

Update to TLB712, 111 is registered B22 TOP, not B22 KOP (which is ex ML TE979 - LK59 DZC).

GHOST BUS TOURS, North Greenwich

Into the fleet: AEC Routemaster RML2737 (SMK 737F) in August 2023 and repainted into black livery. See also TLB708, pg.35 and TLB712, pg.29.

GO-AHEAD LONDON

BLUE TRIANGLE RR,DS; **DOCKLANDS BUSES** SI; **LONDON CENTRAL** BX, MG, NX, PM, Q; **LONDON GENERAL** A, AF, AL, GM, NP, LZ, RA and SW; **METROBUS** C, MB.

Commercial outstations: FK=Folkestone, KL=King's Lynn, LZ=Leighton Buzzard, NH=Newhaven, PU=Pulborough, RG=Ringmer.

New vehicle orders are as follows:

13 x BYD E200EV 10.9m (to be SEe291-303) for route 325 (RR).

9 x BYD E200EV 9.7m (to be SEe304-312) for route S2 (A).

16 x BYD E200EV 10.9m (to be SEe313-328) for route 39 (AF).

3 x BYD E200EV 9.7m (to be SEe329-331) for route 439 (C).

4 x BYD E200EV 10.9m (to be SEe332-335) for route 396 (RR).

12 x BYD E400EV-City 10.9m (to be Ee263-273) for route 262 (DS).

To confirm the buses with Superloop SL7 branding are WVL334-44, 454, 484-95, giving a pool of 24 buses to meet a PVR of 20.

Route 151 is operated by the DOE buses left in the fleet (DOE38-44, 46-54) and is still awaiting Wallington Station forecourt area to be remodelled to accommodate the longer E400EVs.

E400EVs Ee187-204 and Ee218-242 are now all in use at Q and allocated to route 40 and 185, with appearances also on route 35. The 7th November saw the first Ee introduced on to route 57 (AL), the type now part of the daily type mix. The next batch of E400EVs due in will be Ee243-262 (for route 157) for AL. SEe223 is now at AF for driver type training duties, prior to the batch (SEe220-32) entering service on route 265. SEe223 is being charged by a portable charger at AF. Several new E200EVs are currently in store at Go Ahead Swindon, including SEe260-71, intended for route P12 (PM) and SEe276-86/88/89 as part of the batch SEe276-90, for route 152 (AL). Both batches are awaiting additional charging terminals to be installed and connection to the National Grid.

With the recent transfer of MHV1-10 into RR to partly stock route 147 and to start the conversion of the route to hybrids, E400s E163-71 have been stood down. MHV63-69 are currently in the process of being refurbished and repainted, in time for the tender award of route 601 (BX) from the 27th January. The first of these arrived at BX in November and were initially used just on school routes 624, 625 and 658, with very occasional appearances on the 51.

Route 78 was duly taken over from Arriva London (AE) on the 2nd December, now operated by PM garage, using a mix of EH/MHV buses, made available from the loss of route 363 in November 2023. Following the loss of route D7 on the 2nd December, WVL423-34 were transferred into AL for temporary allocation onto newly won route 157, alongside existing WVLs (292, 481-3) and E400s already at AL, until their ordered batch of E400EVs arrive (Ee243-62).

MHV18 was a very rare visitor to route 172 on 5th December.

Route 91 is planned to move from SW to NP along with EHV1-16 and WHV50 on the 20th January. In preparation, EHV1 moved into NP in December 2023 for driver type training duties. Route 366 is due to transfer from DS to RR along with SEe200-19 on the 27th January, at which point route 376 would move from SI into DS and start the introduction of E200EVs (SEe272-5) along with other 10.9m SEe buses released from NP and route 444, which is converting to fully 12m E200EVs, thus far SEe3/4/5/8/9/24 have transferred into NP, joining SEe30-36 already in use there. These SEe should be upseated from B21D to B33D by now, confirmation needed please, if anyone can assist? The other ex RA route 507/521 buses are being upseated and are earmarked for allocation to route 108, pending the electrification installation at MG.

The Irizar i.e Trams (IE1-20) for route 358 at Orpington (MB) are now not expected to enter service until Spring 2024.

Ee35 suffered a head on collision with a sports car on Hoe Street, Walthamstow on the evening of the 18th December, whilst on route 230, resulting in severe frontal damage.

GO-AHEAD LONDON continued

Recent refurb/ repaints noted LT397, LT401, LT411, LT415, LT482, LT503, MHV64, MHV67, MHV68 and MHV69.

Additional length and seating total details:

Adding to TLB712, SEe220-232 are confirmed as 10.9m long and B29D. These are for route 265 (AF).

New deliveries: (November + December)

SEe276-90 (LG73 FSL/N/O/P/S/U/V/X/Y/Z, FTA/C/D/E/F). BYD D8UR - AD Enviro200EV (MMC) 10.2m B25D for route 152 (AL), although stored for now (See below).

Registration numbers for buses due imminently (January 2024 onwards):

Ee243-62 (LB73 KKN/O/P/R/S/T/U/V/W/X/Y/Z KLA/C/D/E/F/J/K/L) for route 157 (AL).

BYD D8UR-DD – AD Enviro400EV-City 10.9m H42/23D.

Back in the fleet:

Correction to TLB710, E400 EN14 (SN58 CFE) is still in the fleet as its transfer to Go North West never materialised. Its home garage is NXc (See Commercial fleet allocation below).

Demonstrator EL1 (LY71 GHZ) returned to Q in November after use by RATP, though it has not yet been noted in service here (it was last used at Q in February 2023).

Transfers:

OM11/12/14 are now known to be stored at MGw (dates unknown).

OM11 last used on the 6/11/2021. OM12 last used on the 28/8/2022. OM14 last used on the 12/12/2021.

SE85 BXs/BXc (exact date unknown). SEe6/7/10-15/18/23/25/26 RAu/NPu (exact dates unknown).

SOE40 Au/As. (exact date unknown). WVL307-12 BXt/Qt (exact dates unknown).

(March): WHV116 AF/AFu.

(September): EH132/36 RR/SW.

(October): EH15 C/NX. LT876 SW/RR. SEe220/21 DS/Qu. SEe222-29 DS/SIu.

(November): Delete TLB712 entry for Ee206, bus not delivered or in use as yet.

Delete TLB712 entry for EH15 C/NX and LT876 SW/RR (See October transfers above instead).

Correction to TLB712, WSD2-12/14-20/22/23 AL/SW, not including WSD1 (that bus left the fleet a long time ago).

E163-171 RR/RRu. Ee179/183/184 -/AL. Ee223/226/230/242 -/Q. EH62 Q/PM.

MHV26, 29 PM/Q. SE143/44/65/66 PM/PMu. SE277 DSu/AF. SEe3/8/9 RAu/NP.

WHV163/64 AF/SW.

(December): Ee35 NP/NPu. Ee182 -/AL. EHV1 SW/NPt. MHV26, 29 Q/PM. MHV66/67 Q/BX.

MHV71/72 Q/NX. SEe5/24 RAu/NP. SEe223 SIu/AFt. SEe272 -/DS. WHV116 AFu/AF.

WSD13 AL/SW. WVL434 SI/AL. WS4 C/NP.

Latest information on new buses delivered and stored (exact dates unknown):

Ee99, 100, 173-176 at MGw.

SEe220/221 at Qu. SEe230/231 at SIu. SEe232 at NPu.

SEe260-71, SEe276-86/88/89 at Go Ahead Swindon. SEe273/4/5 at SI. SEe287/90 at BYD Hounslow.

Latest Commercial fleet home garage information, to supersede all previous TLB transfer info and SUP45A: (exact dates unknown):

E3 SWc/Cc. E6 RGc/NXc. E9 ALc/GMc. E11 Cc/PMc. E12 SWc/Cc. E14 Cc/SWc. E103 ALc/SWc.

E255 PMc/BXc. E256/258 PMc/Cc. E259 PMc/SWc. EN3/13/14/16/17 RGc/NXc.

EN10/11/12 Cc/PMc. EN15 BXc/NXc. MEC14 RRc/DSc (spare bus for HereEast Contract)

MDL1 u/FKc. RM9, RML2305, RML2318, DRM2516, RML2604 BXc/NXc. SE26 Cc/SIc.

SE86 LZc/NPc. SE90 AtS LD/SWc. VC10-13 KLc/LZc. VWL45 RGc/NHc. VWL47-50 FKc/BXc.

51/53 PUc/NHc.

GO-AHEAD LONDON continued

Unchanged allocations are: E4 BXc, E5/10/15 SWc, E7 and EN2 NPc, E100 ALc, E257 PMc, E281/2/3 GMc, E284/5 and EN1 Cc, LDP35 LZsp, SE87 BXc, SE91 Cc, VC7-9 LZc, VWL51-54 LZc, 52 NHc and SEe37-40 DSc (these are allocated to the HereEast Contract in Stratford, E20).

Livery changes

EP13 from advert for Zero Emissions back to Red
LT189 from advert for Gucci Cosmos back to Red
LT430 from advert for JD Forever Forward back to Red
LT443 from advert for British Gas back to Red
LT447 from advert for Mentos back to Red
LT451 from advert for Rimowa back to Red
LT455 from advert for Super Mario Green back to Red
LT456 from advert for Cos back to Red
LT501 from advert for Gucci Cosmos back to Red
LT845 from advert for Peroni back to Red
LT848 from advert for Super Mario Red back to Red
LT862 from advert for Brewdog back to Red
LT867 from advert for Pepsi Max back to Red
LT872 from advert for EE Mobile back to Red
LT874 from advert for Hunger Games back to Red
WHV196 to advert for £1.75 Hopper (**NOT** Peroni as reported in TLB711)

Disposals:

E48 departed the fleet in January 2023.
E163-171 to Go North East 6232-40 (November/December).
EH74 departed the fleet to ADL in March 2018 and is confirmed as not coming back. Last used in July 2017.
EH133 has been scrapped (by December). Last used in March 2022.
SE143, 144, 165, 166 to Go East Anglia (December).
VHP1/2 off lease back to Volvo (by December). Last used in June 2022.
WHV1 has been stripped of hybrid parts and scrapped (by December). Last used in January 2022.
WVL356 to Go North East (c.December).
215 to Ensign Bus October 2018.
66358/LUT5 (Y186 HNH) departed the fleet in October 2021.

GO-COACH HIRE, Swanley

It was announced on the 1st December that the company had been sold to Hulley's of Baslow, Derbyshire. The Go Coach branding, fleet, garage and staff are retained. The associated Bus Doctor dealership was discontinued about a year ago.

KEANE TRAVEL, Grays

Additional info to TLB706/7: Scania GRZ 1260 (ex BV55 UCX) is confirmed as H45/33F.

Into the fleet: SN55 BPE Volvo B9TL – Wrightbus Eclipse Gemini H44/30F (September 2023) and re-registered to KIG 1261 in December 2023 (not to be confused with BX55 XLW below).

Disposal: Volvo B7TL KIG 1261 has been re-registered back to BX55 XLW and departed the fleet in September 2023.

LANDMARK, Arlesey

Tridents LX53 JYJ, LX53 JZP and Dart SLF AA05 BLU have been stood down.

Disposals:

Dennis Trident V192 MEV has been scrapped in April 2023 (See TLB711, pg.30).

Dennis Trident LR02 BCX departed the fleet in November 2022.

LANES COACHES, Dunstable

Acquired: YJ14 JEO Yutong coach C51Ft (by February 2022) and re-registered to GC51 LAN.

Disposal: Volvo B7TL V107 LGC to Masons Coach Hire, Long Marston, Herts (June 2023) – See TLB712, pg.30.

LITTLE JIM'S BUSES, Berkhamsted

Optare Solo MX53 FEF was stood down in November 2023.

Acquired: Optare Solo M780SL YJ54 BTE from P & O Lloyd, North Wales (December 2023).

LONDON BUS COMPANY, Northfleet and Ongar

Acquired: AEC Routemaster RML2729 (SMK 729F) by November 2023. See also TLB712, pg.29.

LONDONER BUSES, Wandsworth

Further to TLB711, RM1650 (650 DYE) is on loan from London Bus 4 Hire and retains its silver livery, SRM3 fleet number and has had the livery modified with white festive images and adverts as a Christmas bus. Also on loan is RML2344 (CUV 344C) – See TLB712, pg.29.

Open top E400 LK08 DXP (ex ML TE879) has been on loan from its parent company, Transpora and has been used on the Christmas lights tour service T2, which commenced on the 17th November and ran up to 30th December.

METROBUS, Crawley and Copthorne (part of B&H Buses within the Go-Ahead Group)

Update to TLB712: Volvo B7RLEs BN14 CUC/G are still in the fleet, renumbered (from 6001/2) to 7004 and 7005 respectively and converted to training buses and have been repainted into an orange (front end) and yellow (rear end) livery.

Correction to TLB712, 6005 (BN14 CUK) to Brighton & Hove Buses (now fleet numbered 153, not 1530), joining brother BN14 CUJ (fleet numbered 152) and been repainted into the teal+aqua livery.

Disposal: Volvo B7TL 550 (LK04 CSU) departed the fleet in March 2023.

METROLINE TRAVEL – AC, AH, EW, HD, HT, KC, PA, PB, PV, SG and W, also

METROLINE WEST – G, HZ, UX and WJ.

(within the Comfort DelGro of Singapore).

The mention of odd workings on route 295 (TLB712) belonged under the RATP section.

Route 190 and Brentford garage (AH) became 100% double-deck following the departure of DE1586 (vehicle movement recorded in TLB712) after the 9th October.

Route 316 was duly extended from Cricklewood Bus Garage to the newly-built Brent Cross West Station on 10th December. In late December, several LTs were moved between HT and W to aid the contractual age requirements of LT buses for the renewal of TfL contracts on route 32.

PV garage had a shortage of hydrogen on the 6th December, leading to VWHs being allocated to route 7, instead of the usual WHD class. A rarity was OME2653 on route 263 (PB) in the afternoon on 12th December. WDE2786 was in use on route 240 (EW) on 18th December and WDE2771 also on route 240 (EW) on 20th December, leading to the regular appearance of the type on the route now.

Volvo BZL MCV VMSS2834 is at PB for driver type training duties, which commenced on 19th December and it is hoped that the batch VMSS2834-42 will enter service on route 384 in the coming weeks. Volvo BZL MCV VMSL2846 is moving to EW for driver type training duties, which are due to commence in early January 2024, with a target date for the batch (VMSL2843-56) to enter onto route 251 later in the month. Watch this space! Likewise Volvo BZL MCV VMS2809-33 are gathering in store at PA for future use on routes 187 and 487, pending the electrification work at WJ.

METROLINE continued

Another batch of 23 WDE-class Wright StreetDeck Electroliners has been ordered for routes 113 and N113.

Recent repaint/ refurb include LT547, LT646, LT649, LT655, VWH2058, VWH2139, VWH2140, VWH2170, VWH2174, VWH2179, VWH2181, VWH2212, VWH2227, VWH2232, VWH2233, VWH2237, VWH2243, VWH2295 and VWH2299.

New buses in fleet (November + December 2023):

To re-cap on delivered Volvo BZL MCV electric buses:

VMS2809-12/14-33 (LF73 DVN/O/P/R/U/V/W/X, DWX, DVY/Z, DWA/C/D/E/G/J/K/L/M/N/O/P/W).

Note the out-of-sequence registrations on VMS2818 (LF73 DWX) and VMS2833 (LF73 DWW). Just VMS2813 outstanding.

Volvo BZL - MCV 10.3m B25D for route 187, 487 (WJ), all stored at PAu.

VMSS2834-42 (LF73 DWU/Y/Z, DXA/B/C/D/E, DWV).

Volvo BZL - MCV 9.7m B23D for route 384 (PB). VMSS2834 is at PBt. VMSS2835-42 are at PAu.

VMSL2843-46/48/50-56 (LF73 DXG/H/J/K/M/P/R/S/T/U/V/W). VMSL2847/49 are outstanding.

Volvo BZL - MCV 10.8m B29D for route 251 (EW), all stored at PAu.

WDE2800-8/57/58/60/61/64/66/68/70-75 (LV23 EBD/F/G/J/K/L/M/N/O, EYD, EZG, YZZ, ZBC/F/J/N/P/R/T/U/W/X). Wrightbus StreetDeck Electroliner H40/20D 10.6m, all stored at PAu.

Transfers: (h suffix = Hertfordshire Commercial Fleet).

(January 2023): VWH2136 Gu/PAu.

(February): TE983 EW/PB/PBw.

(May): TEH1231 W/Wu.

(June): TEH1217 W/Wu. TEH1463 G/Gu.

(September): Delete transfer of VMH2435/6 in TLB710, they correctly moved from PAu/HT in October, as reported in TLB712. LT175 HT/HTu.

(October): DEL2157 UX/WJ.

(November): Correcting TLB712: VMH2482 stayed at HT and didn't transfer to PV. VW1366 PV/PB. VW1817 HD/PAw. VW1826 PV/PAw. WDE2863/65/67 PB/PAu (back in store, joining the WDEs mentioned above).

(December): VW1186 PV/HT. VW1265/1365 PB/PV. TE1577 PBu/WJw. TE1578 WJu/WJw. TE1580/81 UX/PAw. DE1588 W/WJ. VW1820 PB/PAw. VMH2437/38 PAu/G. LT190/460 HT/W. LT643/45/46/47/49/50/51/53-55 HT/W. LT791-93/95-99 W/HT.

Livery changes:

Correction to TLB712: LT641 from advert for Expo Korea 2030 v2 to advert for Cos.

LT661 to advert for Go Kerala

LT748 from advert for British Gas back to Red

LT751 from advert for Brewdog back to Red

LT752 from advert for Expo 2030 v2 back to Red

LT756 to advert for Remy Martin

LT759 from advert for Super Mario Yellow to one for Ginori 1735

LT762 from advert for Elf Cosmetics to one for Ginori 1735

LT811 from advert for Rimowa back to Red

VWH2210 from advert for Let's Do London v3 back to Red

VWH2302 from advert for Let's Do London v3 back to Red

VWH2340 to advert for £1.75 Hopper

VWH2366 from advert for Lucozade back to Red

METROLINE continued

Disposals:

DE1607 and 1654 departed the fleet by December.

DE1648 to Dawsongroup (by August).

TE983 to New Adventure, Cardiff (July).

TE1079/85/87/92, TE1577/78/80/81, DE1653, VW1817/20/26 to Ensign Bus (December).

GRANT PALMER, Flitwick

E200 LJ56 ONN is a driver ‘training bus’ and is in a unique blue and red livery and un-fleet numbered.

Transbus Trident/ALX400 704 (LX04 FYN) was stood down in June 2023.

New deliveries:

235/6 YX73 OVS/T – AD E20D – AD Enviro200 (MMC) 9.0m B30F and both in fleet livery.

RATP-DEV TRANSIT LONDON including

LONDON UNITED - AV, FW, RP, S, TV, V and WK (ex HH)

LONDON SOVEREIGN – BT, CP and SO. (c suffix= commercial) and

LONDON TRANSIT – X garage.

Superloop SL10 (Harrow – North Finchley) duly commenced on the 25th November 2023, operated by SO garage using BCEs released from X (BCE47087-92) and others made available from the PVR reduction on route 183. BCE 47087-90, 92, 111-119 have received Superloop SL10 branding.

School route 698 moved from BT to AV from the 27th November 2023, along with VH45298-303. Route H14 along with ADH45289-97 transferred from SO to CP on the 25th November 2023, to make room at SO to accommodate the new Superloop SL10. Incidentally the Sunday working on route H14 is covered by SO and is allocated BCEs spare from route 183.

WK has at long last had success in the electrification work and route 235 is now operated by E200EVs (BE37062-84), with 11th December being the first day of an entirely electric bus allocation. An additional 6 BEs from the intended batch for route 226 (BT) are here (BE37089/90/92/99-101) to ensure the route gets a full electric bus allocation. The route was taken over on the 8th January 2022 from Metroliner (AH) and for nearly two years has been operated by loaned DLEs from both BT (DLE30258-66) and FW (DLE30238-49). With the BEs now at WK, FW has received its DLEs back for re-allocation onto route K3. In turn DEs and DLEs return to route 33. BT has also started to receive their DLEs back from WK for re-stocking of route 288 and 303 back to full DLE operation (joining DLE30250-7 already there), which will in turn release DEs for withdrawal.

Route 218 (X) is now mainly operated by E200s (DE20094, 95, 149-56) and only a handful of StreetLites are now in use.

A batch of 8 DLEs (30267-74) have transferred into BT, indirectly from the loss of route H17 (RP) for the contract renewal of route H11. DLEs are also starting to transfer into S for the contract renewal of route 72 with existing diesel single-decks, thus far DLE30131/33-36/38/39 are here, which in turn will replace DEs. These DLEs are technically available from the loss of route 265 to Go Ahead London (AF).

The comments regarding odd workings on route 295 (TLB712, pg.25) belong under RATP and not Metroliner. The Optare MetroDeckers at X (OME46001-37) are allocated to route 23 and 28 with occasional appearances on route 295 (alongside BCEs).

Optare MetroDecker OME46007 was unusual on route 452 on 16th October, with OME46034 seen on the route on 6th November, and OME46027 the following day. After a short lapse another type new to the 452 ventured out on Friday 10th November when BCE47092 covered a midday duty. Then, on 27th November, OME46012 became the first to visit route 295, with multiple OMEs following on subsequent days.

Wrightbus StreetDeck Electroliner EL1 (LY71 GHZ) was trialled on route 23 from 23rd October to 9th November and the bus has since returned to Go Ahead London and is now parked up at Q.

The two Scania OmniCity SPs (40051 and 40206) soldier on at AV into 2024, allocated faithfully to the H98 and occasionally on the 696, 697 and 698 School routes.

VH45192 suffered frontal damage in a RTC on route H12 on the 30th December 2023.

RATP-DEV TRANSIT LONDON continued

Recent repaint/ refurb include SDE20297.

Transfers:

(May): Correcting TLB712: ADH45069 X/Xu (not VH45069). ADH45009 V/Vu.
(July): Delete BE37091 Xu/X (TLB708) and remains Xu. ADH45040 RP/RPu.
(August): MCL30301-07 AV/AVu.
(September): DLE30132 AV/FW. DLE30260/1 AV/WK.
(October): DE20128 FW/FWu. DLE30134/37/38/40 RP/V. EL1 GoAheadLondon/RATP X.
(November): Delete transfer of DLE30260/1 in TLB712 (see September entry above).
Delete transfer of BE37075/78/80 FW/WK in TLB712 (see December entry below).
Delete transfer of BE37081 FW/S in TLB712. It has been at S since October 2022.
ADH45069 Xu/X. DE20120 X/FW. DLE30265 WK/AV.
EL1 X/Xu and then to GoAheadLondon Qu. VH45184 V/AV. VH45301/303 BT/AV.
(December): ADH45009 Vu/V. BE37064/65/67/68/81 S/WK.
BE 37071/75/77/78/79/80/82/83/84 FW/WK. BE37090 Xu/WK. DE20018 S/AV. DE20095 BT/X.
DE20055 S/AV. DE20112/13/75 BT/AV. DE20117 RPu/AVu. DE20123/24/25 BT/FW.
DE20174 BT/TV. DLE30131 AV/S. DE30134/38/40 V/S. DLE30135/36/39 RP/S.
DLE30061, 30239/44/45/46/48 WK/FW. DLE30258/59/60/63/66 WK/BT. DLE30261/62 WK/AV/BT.
DLE30264 WK/AV. DLE30330 WK/AV/RP. VH45184 AV/WK. VH45191 V/WK.
VH45192 BT/BTu. VH45298 BT/AV.

Livery changes:

BCE47008 from advert for Poppy Appeal to one for Fenty Creeper Phatty
LT75 from advert for Rimowa to one for Go Kerala
LT665 from advert for Expo 2030 v2 back to Red
LT667 from advert for Gucci Cosmos back to Red
LT680 from advert for Brewdog back to Red

Disposals:

DDE20294 went for scrap in October 2023. This was a fire victim from September 2022.
MCL30303/4/6 to Ensign Bus (November 2023).
SP40193/198/200 to Ensign Bus (November 2023).

READING TRANSPORT and THAMES VALLEY BUSES

To clarify previous TLBs: E40Ds 732-5 are branded for Londonline 702, E40Ds 736/7, 781/2 and 795 are branded for Flightline 703. These are all in two tone green livery. E40D 731 is in generic two-tone grey livery and serves as a spare.

Further to TLB711, E40D 1208 (GO11 LDN) has been re-registered RG05 BUS and is now based at Reading and no longer in our coverage area.

E40Ds 760-2 (YY15 OYB/C/D) have been branded for Flightline 730/1 (correcting TLB709) and now based at Newbury & District and no longer in our coverage area. Incidentally Flightline 730/1 has now received its new Volvo B8R Plaxton Panther coaches 1423-5 (YX73 MUU/MUV/MVA), which are in two tone green livery and route branded.

Volvo B7RLE 452 (BD14 KXX) was stood down in October 2023.

Disposal: Volvo B7RLE 456 (BG14 OPE) sold to Transpora, Bristol (by September 2023).

RED EAGLE BUSES, Dinton, near Aylesbury

Dart SLF FP04 CFE was stood down in October 2023, joining withdrawn Dart SLF KX05 KFF.

REDLINE BUSES, Aylesbury

Correction to TLB711/712: Optare Solos MX58 KYR/T have passed to Red Rose Travel (See below).

The Volvo B8RLEs BV73 MTE/F/J/K arrived in white and have now been repainted metallic red and are allocated to route X20 (Aylesbury – Oxford).

Disposals:

E20Ds SW16 BUS and WH66 BUS were stood down in October 2023 and have both departed the fleet. Optare Solo MX58 KYS departed the fleet in January 2023.

RED ROSE TRAVEL, Dinton near Aylesbury

Correction to TLB711/12, Optare Solos MX58 KYR/T have been acquired from Redline.

Disposals: E20D GW16 BUS is confirmed as having left the fleet and is now with Central Connect. E20Ds JW16 BUS, SF66 ARV/W were stood down in October 2023 and have departed the fleet. Of these, E20D SF66 ARW has passed to Central Connect.

REPTONS, Bookham, Surrey

Adding to TLB712, brand new E20D SL73 REP is B40F and in company livery. Dart SLF SL52 REP has been re-registered back to KU52 RXX and has now left the fleet.

RICHMOND'S, Royston

Disposals: Optare Solo YJ05 XMY left the fleet in December 2022.

Optare Solo SR YJ65 EVC to Stanley Travel, County Durham (December) and has been re-registered to R6 STX.

SAFEGUARD, Guildford

Update to TLB708, Optare Tempo YJ06 FXM is advertised for sale by Chartwell Bus Sales, however in the meantime is still in regular use here. Additionally, Optare Excels X307/308 XBT are preserved within the fleet, both now with Class 5 MoTs.

Into the fleet: YX18 KOD AD E20D – Enviro200 8.9m B29F.

Repaint into company livery is expected shortly, prior to its intended use on route 81 (Woking – Barnsbury Estate) to replace Dart SLF VU02 TTJ.

STAGECOACH LONDON (part of Stagecoach Holdings) incorporating:

EAST LONDON – AW, BK, BW, CS, HK, NS, RM, T and WH.

SELKENT - KB, PD, TB and TL; **LEA INTERCHANGE BUS CO** – LI.

Correcting TLB710, the 40 Volvo BZL/MCV double-deckers on order for routes D7, 277 and 58 are to be numbered 86031-86070 (not 68031-68070). The numbering follows on from a batch of similar buses delivered to Stagecoach East at Cambridge in spring 2023.

To date 13x Electroliners are in use at TL on route 199, with just 82012 still to enter service.

9x E40Ds have transferred into HK for temporary allocation onto route D7, taken over on 2nd December until the ordered Volvo BZL MCV (86031-41) arrive and electrification work at HK is complete.

45004, one of the stored 8.7m Switch MetroCity EVs for route W5, was used on route 339 (LI) on 7th December, joined by 45001 and 45008 on the 9th December. These are being used alongside the longer 9.5m Switch MetroCity EVs (67001-12) and sole 9.7m StreetLite 39139 on route 339.

Correction to TLB712, Route 215 (T) is now seeing daily allocation of LT buses (as opposed to a full allocation), to start the conversion of the route from E400s to LT operation for its contract renewal.

The dual door Optare Solos (47991-99) assigned to route 309 (HK), are gradually being stood down, thus far 47991/93/94/97 are stored at LI and 47996/8 stored at HK, all awaiting disposal off lease. In the short term these are replaced by E20Ds (37554/56/57/58/60), spare owing to the conversion route 339 to Switch MetroCity EVs. On Sunday 31st December, route W5 was worked by AD200 (MMC)s rather than the usual Optare Solos.

STAGECOACH LONDON continued

The former hydrogen refuelling facilities at LI have been demolished to make way for more electric chargers, to facilitate additional electric buses, namely the Volvo BZL/MCV single deckers on order for route 276 (66026-44), the part allocation of the Electroliners on route 86 (82042-48) and full allocation of the Volvo BZL/ MCV double deckers for route 58 (86056-70). Note: the other Electroliners for route 86 (82015-41) will be based at NS. 82020/21 are already at NS for driver type training duties.

SuperLoop SL3 (Bromley - Thamesmead) has been awarded to Stagecoach London and is due to use LT buses from TB.

To recap - the 'training bus' fleet consists of Scania 15007-10, E400s 19137-40, E200s 36263/80-83, 36362/68/69, E20Ds 36556/57/59/61/62/65-69 and StreetLites 39121, 39122. Of these, 15007-10, 36263/81/83, 36362/68, 36556/57/59/61/62/65-68 and 39121, 39122 are confirmed as being in purple livery. 36569 is in a light blue livery. 15007-10, 36280-3, 36368/9 are based at WH. 19137-40, 36263, 36362, 36556/57/59/61/62/65-67 are based at RM. 36568/69, 39121/2 are based at LI.

The CitySightseeing fleet consists of Scania 15002-4/6/12/14-16/19/24-31/35/48/114-17 and E400s 19757-63, all of which are based at WH. The older open top E400s 19131-34 are withdrawn.

Recent refurbs/ repaints reported: LT244, LT246, LT259, 10339, 10342, 12504, 36623, 36631, 36641, 37724, 37737.

E40H 12500 and E40D 19841 have had a red repaint.

The correction regarding 36665 that appeared in TLB710 was itself not quite correct, the real story being rather bizarre. The bus did go off-lease in April 2022 and passed to Watermill Coaches of Fraserburgh. It was re-registered to WC17 LTD but curiously was not repainted, and there are photos of it in service in Aberdeen in June 2022 with the new reg. but still in London red complete with roundels. It was fitted with LED blind displays soon afterwards. In April 2023 it reverted back to its original registration (SN17 MMU) and was part-exchanged for a new Yutong coach, passing to Pelican, Castleford (dealer) then on to Ensign bus. Finally (for now!) it returned to the Stagecoach London fleet in June 2023, initially stored at T before entering service from RM in September, with traditional roller blinds restored.

New deliveries: Wrightbus StreetDeck Electroliner 10.6m H40/20D.

(October): 82012-14 (LV73 FET/U/X)

(November): 82038-48 (LV73 FGC/D/E/F/G/J/K/M/N/O/P)

Transfers:

(July): 12504 HK/HKu.

(August): 45001 LIu/AWu (seen on the 17/8/2023) then returned back to LIu. LT255 BW/BWu.

(September): 37557 LIu/HK.

(October): 37560 LIu/HK. 47998 HK/HKw. 82012-15 -/LIu.

Delete TLB712 entry 37554 LI/HK, already correctly recorded in TLB709 as transferred in August 2023.

Delete TLB712 entry 37557 LI/HK (See September entry above).

(November): Delete TLB712 entry 37560 LI/HK (See October entry above).

Delete TLB712 entry 45001-8 -/AWu, they stayed at LIu (see TLB704/5).

Delete TLB712 entry 82015 TLu/TL (See October entry above). 12398 PD/BK.

10349/50 TL/BK. 13100 TL/PD. 47996 HK/HKu. 47997 HK/LIw.

82007 LIu/TLu/TL (update to TLB712). 82012 LIu/TLu. 82013/14 TLu/TL.

82038-48 -/LIu (joining 82015-19/22-37 already stored at LIu).

(December): 10348 TL/WH. 11037 TB/TL. 12504 HKu/HK. 19843 TL/HK. 36345 LIu/LI.

45001/4/8 LIu/LI. 82003 TLu/TL.

Livery changes

84160 from advert for Ovo Energy back to Red

LT243 from advert for Rimowa back to Red

LT244 from advert for Elf Cosmetics back to Red

LT260 from advert for EE Mobile to one for Go Kerala

LT265 from advert for Sonic Superstars back to Red

STAGECOACH LONDON continued

LT271 from advert for Peroni back to Red
LT272 from advert for Kurt Geiger back to Red
LT358 from advert for Uniqlo HeatTech back to Red
LT359 from advert for Brewdog back to Red
LT360 from advert for Nakd Bar back to Red
LT363 from advert for JD forever Forward back to Red
LT369 from advert for Comfort back to Red
LT372 from advert for British Gas back to Red
LT373 from advert for Brewdog back to Red
LT374 from advert for Apple TV+ Monsters back to Red
LT381 from advert for Cos back to Red
LT384 from advert for Mentos back to Red

STAR TRAVEL, Aylesbury

Disposal: Optare Solo SCZ 3843 left the fleet in July 2023.

SULLIVAN BUSES, South Mimms

An observation of late is that E20D MMCs AE17-9 are usually allocated to route 299, alongside the StreetLites.

Transfers:

SL96 SM/SMu (August 2022). SL98 SM/SMu (September 2022). SL97 SM/SMu (May 2023).
E43 SM/SMu (June 2023). SL96 SMu/SM (December 2023).

TOP VIEW SIGHTSEEING LONDON, Wimbledon

The fleet has now gained fleet numbers, as follows (previous operator and fleet number in brackets):

401 SN12 EHT (ML TE 1991)	414 YR59 FYZ (RATP SP 40118)
402 SN12 EHD (ML TE 1981)	415 YR59 FZC (RATP SP 40121)
403 SN12 EHV (ML TE 1993)	416 YR59 FZF (RATP SP 40124)
404 SN12 EHW (ML TE 1994)	417 YT59 PBX (RATP SP 40129)
405 SN12 EGY (ML TE 1999)	418 YT10 UWG (RATP SP 40169)
406 SN12 EGZ (ML TE 2000)	419 YT10 XBX (RATP SP 40174)
407 SN12 EHR (ML TE 1989)	420 YT10 XBY (RATP SP 40175)
408 SN12 EHF (ML TE 1983)	421 YT10 UWH (RATP SP 40170)
409 SN12 EHJ (ML TE 1986)	422 YT10 XBU (RATP SP 40171)
410 SN12 EHK (ML TE 1987)	423 YT10 XBV (RATP SP 40172)
411 YT09 ZCO (RATP SP 40063)	424 YT59 RYF (RATP SP 40080)
412 YT09 BJX (RATP SP 40066)	425 YT10 XBW (RATP SP 40173)
413 YT59 RXS (RATP SP 40069)	

Of these, only 402, 407, 416, 420 and 423 have yet to be seen in service. 402 was used for driver training in June, while 420 was complete at South East Coachworks in November. All 25 have been converted to part open-top and repainted into red fleet livery. The E40Ds are now PO41/24D, while the Scania's are PO41/22D.

UNIVERSITYBUS (t/a uno), Hatfield and Northampton

On 28th November it was reported and confirmed that Stagecoach will take over the Northampton local bus routes from March 2024, in a partnership deal with the University of Northampton. The Hatfield and Cranfield routes are unaffected.

Funding has been allocated here from the ZEBRA (Zero Emission Bus Regional Areas) in partnership with Hertfordshire County Council, which will see 27 electric buses, enter into service from later in 2024 until 2026. This is a re-allocation of funding from the originally planned funding for 27 electric buses for Arriva Stevenage, however in March 2023, Arriva pulled out of the plan.

E40H 1478 (SN65 ZGO) has been refurbished and repainted red for allocation onto the TfL School routes, however brothers 1479/80 (SN65 ZGP/R) are now known to not be coming. E40D 286 (YY64 GXG) has been refurbished and repainted red (from pink/purple) and transferred from Northampton to Hatfield, for further use on the TfL School services. It has been renumbered to 1479. This bus was originally a TfL demonstrator model, working for a period with Abellio London and CT Plus as fleet number 2400.

Into the fleet:

GX72 BGK Mercedes-Benz Sprinter 516CDi - EVM B16F (December 2022) and in black livery for the HertsLynx service and allocated fleet number 45.

YJ23 CWS Mercedes-Benz Sprinter 517CDi - Atlas B16F (July 2023) and in black livery for the HertsLynx service and allocated fleet number 40.

YE73 PYG and YE73 PZZ Mercedes-Benz Sprinter 517CDi - EVM B16F (November 2023) and YE73 RBV Mercedes-Benz Sprinter 517CDi - EVM B16F (December 2023) have joined the fleet and are also in black livery for the HertsLynx service. Awaiting fleet number info.

Out of fleet:

E40Hs 1479/80 (SN65 ZGP/R) - the purchase never materialised. Both are out of MoT since October 2021 (SN65 ZGR) and April 2022 (SN65 ZGP). Both were last used with Tower Transit (LI) in April 2020 (SN65 ZGR) and in April 2021 (SN65 ZGP), when allocated to TfL route 69.

VALE TRAVEL, Aylesbury

Into the fleet: BYZ 6521 Volvo B7TL - Alexander ALX400 H49/27F 2005.

VECTARE, Rettendon, Essex

E20D 317 (YX16 OBS) is on loan to Central Connect.

Out of the fleet: E20D 326 (YX22 OJJ) transferred to Central Connect and in two tone blue livery.

WHITE BUS SERVICE, Winkfield

Volvo B8RLEs 77 (SJ16 CRZ), 78-84 (BV73MKF/G/J/K/L/M/N) have received full company livery, complete with the green rectangle adornment at the rear.

E300 36 (MX09 GZL) is on long term loan to Fernhill Travel, Bracknell.

NB: Both White Bus Service and Fernhill Travel are part of the Rowgate Group.

Disposals:

E20Ds 56 (SN16 OSW) and 69 (SN16 OSX) have passed to Select Bus Services, Staffordshire.

E20D 59 (YX68 ULV) has left the fleet and is now in use with Thames Travel, Didcot.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW? (Subsequent vehicle disposals)

Section Editor: Andrew Morgan, Easton House, Easton Lane, Bozeat, Northamptonshire NN29 7NN or by e-mail to andrew@morgan1368.co.uk Note that the former London company names are listed in code to allow more space for narrative detail. ALN=Arriva London, FLN= First London, GAL= Go-Ahead Group London, LU= London United, ML= Metroline, SLN= Stagecoach London.

Routemasters:

RM1643 (643 DYE) from Paul Whittle Car Sales to Carvery & Grill, Alfreton, Derbys. (May). It was noted in use from July in its new role as a bar bus and was with RM1262 at Chatsworth House in November and December.

RML2396 (JJD 396D) made its debut with Ensignbus at the running day on 2nd December.

RML2759 (SMK 759F) has been sold from Morgan Motor Company (January), but no details of the new owner are known.

Olympians:

NV52 (R252 LGH) (ex GAL) from Generation Travel to Hawkes (dlr), Coalville, Leics. (July).

NV141 (R341 LGH) (ex GAL) from Finch to Lethers Coaches, Bramley, West Yorkshire (August).

VA144 (R144 EVX, ex YIL 9116) (ex SLN) further to TLB712, it is confirmed that it passed to Manchetts (dlr), Peterborough, Cambs. (July).

Miscellaneous low-floor double deck types:

DLA384 (SHZ 8495, ex LJ03 MYU) (ex ALN) regained its original registration in August and passed from Tyrers to Providence Travel, Warrington, Cheshire (September).

DW53 (LJ04 LDZ, ex CSZ 3894) (ex ALN) from Warrington's Own Buses to Ripley, Barnsley, South Yorkshire (December).

DW284 (LJ59 LWM) (ex ALN) was sold from Xelabus (February), most likely returned to Bus & Coach Centre (dlr), Forest Hill, Oxon. Then passed to Tomorrow's Travel, Wimborne, Dorset (October) and is now in all over purple livery.

DW288 (LJ59 LWR) (ex ALN) from Xelabus (February), most likely returned to Bus & Coach Centre (dlr), Forest Hill, Oxon. Then to Garnetts Coaches, Bishop Auckland, Co. Durham (November).

DW291 (LJ59 LVW) (ex ALN) further to TLB710, this DW is now with AVMT, Seaton, Devon (November).

VLW183 (LJ03 MMA, ex J600 JBT) (ex ALN) was re-registered to HIL 7386 by Holmeswood in September.

DNH39112 (WLT 428, ex 294 CLT, ex SN12 APZ) (ex FLN) regained its original registration and passed from Candy Coaches to BM Coaches, Hayes, Middlesex (February). It was re-registered to YUI 5566 in July.

VNW32362 (LK04 HYM), 32421 (LK04 JCX) (ex FLN) from Ellie Rose to Collier (dlr), Earith, Cambs. (November) and then to Cambridge Bus (dlr), Fen Drayton, Cambs. (September).

E30 (LX06 EZE) (ex GAL) was used as the Santa Bus for 2023 by Go South West in Plymouth complete with LED outline of a reindeer and sleigh on both sides.

PVL156 (X556 EGK, ex HXZ 9741) (ex GAL) from Shears (dlr) to unknown owner, Exmoor, Devon (August).

PVL212 (Y812 TGH) (ex GAL) was re-numbered by Dartmouth Steam Railway & Riverboat Company from 10 to 2 in June.

PVL224 (Y824 TGH) (ex GAL) was last reported as on loan to Go East Anglia in July 2022 (see TLB699) and has subsequently been reported as on loan to Brighton & Hove in August 2023.

VP17 (X169 FBB) (ex GAL) was re-numbered by Dartmouth Steam Railway & Riverboat Company from 6 to 3 in June.

WVL149 (LX53 BJK) (ex GAL) was noted in used with Chiltern Automotive in November; this WVL was latterly part of sister company The Vintage Red Bus Company.

WVL176 (LK05 EZJ) (ex GAL) further to TLB711, this WVL is confirmed with M&D, St. Helens, Lancs.

WVL270 (LX06 ECD) (ex GAL) from Go North East to Alpha Recovery (dlr), Cramlington, Northumberland (August).

WVL469 (LJ12 CHC) (ex GAL) has been named “Alan Blackburn” with Brighton & Hove.

977 (YR10 BCO) (ex GAL) from Selwyns Travel to Chartwell Bus Sales, Horsham, West Sussex, and then to Summer Berry Fruits, Chichester, West Sussex (all in December) for use as non-pcv staff transport.

SP40044 (YT09 BMY) (ex LU) from Ensign Bus, Purfleet, Essex to Travel Mayflower / Coach Event Services, Eastleigh, Hants. (September) where it joins SP40052, 40053, 40054 (see TLB712). As with the others, it is also in black and blue livery.

SP40102 (YT59 SHJ) (ex LU) correcting TLB713, its new fleet number with Go North West is 3613 (not 3614).

SP40177, 40185 (YT10 XCA, XCJ) (ex LU) from Ensign Bus, Purfleet, Essex to Belle Vue, Stockton, Greater Manchester (August).

VP129 (W477 BCW) (ex LU) was sold from Premier (July) for scrap.

SEL742 (LK07 AZZ) (ex ML) from Westbus to Yorkshire Buses, Leeds, West Yorkshire (December).

TE879 (LK08 DXP) (ex ML) was loaned from within the Transpora Group to Londoner Buses for use in December on the Christmas Lights route T2.

TE986 (LK59 DZL) (ex ML) from Ensign Bus to Aintree Coachlines, Maghull, Merseyside (December).

TE1095 (LK60 AHC) (ex ML) from Springfield Bus and Coach / Howards Travel (dlr) to Peoplebus, Netherton, Merseyside (December).

TP376 (K15 ONO, ex LR52 KWU) (ex ML) was re-registered by Burrows Coaches in September back to original, and then passed an unknown glamping site, Dorset (September)

VP334 (LR52 BNL) (ex ML) was sold from Premier Connections (July) for scrap.

VP532 (LK04 CUC) (ex ML) from Go Ahead Metrobus to Scrapco (dlr), Paddock Wood, Kent (August) for scrap.

VPL140 (X664 LLX) (ex ML) was re-registered by Towlers Coaches to P200 GDS in July 2022.

VPL597 (LK04 NNF) (ex ML) from Willenhall Commercial to Bus Link, Stanton, Derbys. (August).

TA 17097 (T697 KPU) (ex SLN) further to TLB701, this TA remains with Fords Coaches and has been used for spares.

TA 17123 (G310 FWC, ex V479 KJN) (ex SLN) re-gained its original registration with Fourways Coaches in September.

TA 17315 (X315 NNO) (ex SLN) from Swanbrook to Ripley, Barnsley, South Yorkshire (July) for scrap.

TA 17360 (Y508 NHK) (ex SLN) from Garnetts Coaches to Bus & Coach Centre (dlr), Forest Hill, Oxon (July) and then to unknown owner, Cherbourg, France (October).

TAS 17489 (LX51 FMJ) (ex SLN) was sold from Stagecoach North West (December).

TAS 17553 (LJZ 1460, ex LY02 OBE) (ex SLN) was sold from Chalkwell Coach Hire (August).

TAS 17575 (LV52 HFH) (ex SLN) was re-registered by Howard Snaith Coaches to H22 BUS in March.

TAS 17582 (LV52 HFP) (ex SLN) from sold from Towlers Coaches (October 2022) for scrap.

TA 17778, 17824 (LX03 BVP, BXW), 18472 (LX55 ERO) (ex SLN) from Applegates to Ebley Coaches, Nailsworth, Glos. (July).

TA 17835 (LX03 BYL) (ex SLN) further to TLB710, it is confirmed that this TA passed from Yorkshire Buses to Bus & Coach Centre (dlr), Forest Hill, (May) and then passed to unknown owner, France (November) for conversion into a bar.

TA 17854 (LX03 BZH) (ex SLN) has been sold for scrap from Taylors Travel (by July) after use for spares.

TA 17883 (LX03 NGZ) (ex SLN) from Harris Travel to A&A Coach Travel, Boroughbridge, North Yorkshire (August), and then to Rigby's, Blackburn, Lancs. (October).

TA 17902 (LX03 ORU) (ex SLN) from Tetley Coaches to PVS, Barnsley, South Yorkshire (August).

15138 (BB58 BUS, ex LX59 CNC) (ex SLN) further to TLB692, this has not been sold and remains with Border Bus.

Low-floor single deck types:

ENL44 (CC54 BUS, ex LJ09 KPG) (ex ALN) latterly with Trustybus, has been reported as scrapped in April.

DML44057 (YX58 FPV) (ex FLN) from Dawsongroup to BM Coaches, Hayes, Middlesex (May) and then to Solus, Tamworth, Staffs. (June).

DML44072 (YX58 HVB) (ex FLN) from Dawsongroup to BM Coaches, Hayes, Middlesex (by August) and then to Solus, Tamworth, Staffs. (August). It is believed that this DML has subsequently been re-registered.

DML44161 (YX10 BGO, ex AB10 PAN) (ex FLN) from Panther Travel to Chartwell Bus Sales, Horsham, West Sussex, and then to Turners Coaches, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk (all in December).

DML44281 (YX61 FYD) (ex FLN) was re-registered by Ben Shaw Training to D19 BST in May.

ELS6 (YU02 GHA) (ex GAL) latterly with Konectbus (part of Go East Anglia) passed to PSV Recycling (dlr), Hadleigh, Suffolk (by June), and then to Borderbus, Beccles, Suffolk (June) for continued use as a driver trainer.

LDP20 (P720 RYL, ex WLT753) (ex GAL) from South London Bus Society to BBPG (April) and was displayed at Brooklands in October freshly repainted into Go Ahead London General livery.

LDP142 (Y842 TGH) (ex GAL) has been sold by Mr D Pandya (by March).

LDP211 (SK52 MMU, ex 9041 PU) (ex GAL) further to TLB702 this LDP is now part of BBPG having been acquired in December 2023. Can anyone confirm where it was prior to this date ?

SE231 (YY64 TXR) (ex GAL) further to TLB712, this one is also confirmed to Konectbus.

DE953 (LK58 CSY) (ex ML) from Grey Line to Omega Busways / Howards Travel, High Walton, Lancs. (December).

DE1633, 1648 (YX58 FPV, HVB) (ex ML) – see corresponding entry for DML 44057, 44072 (ex FLN) above.

DES800, 801 (LK07 BEY, ELJ) (ex ML) updating the report in TLB712, these went via Chartwell Bus Sales, Horsham, West Sussex.

DSD214 (LR02 BEU) (ex ML) further to TLB706, is confirmed from Omnibus Kitchen to The Bus Stop, High Heath, Shropshire (September 2022).

OTH974 (OO 8617, ex LK09 EKG, ex LK58 CUC), 975 (OO 8226, ex LK09 EKH, ex LK58 CUG) (ex ML) from Thorpe Underwood Services to Ripley, Barnsley, South Yorkshire (January 2019) for scrap.

SERVICE VEHICLES

Section Editor: Thomas Young by e-mail to tom@ltsv.com or by post to Lombard address (see page 1) marked "TLB SVs". The LTSV website at www.ltsv.com has an on-line database of service vehicles, with photos, plus the facility to record your own sightings and comments. A # after the livery of a vehicle below indicates that it has no markings.

LUL/LBSL/TfL Fleet; Newly reported vehicles

None reported

Additional information and updates

An error in TLB711 was that the lorry now paired with the Emergency Control Unit body (DB25) is actually WU67 AJY rather than LV66 XYD. Displaced MAN demountable lorry 2587 was still in the lorry yard at Acton in December, though it was no longer with body DB15.

Vehicles withdrawn are 8448F (following accident damage), 8480F, 8681R and 9116R.

Bus Company Fleets; Newly reported vehicles

-	RJ66 YXC	Kia Ceed Hatchback Car	Abellio	Silver #	TF
-	AJ17 MJK	Kia Ceed Estate Car	Abellio	Black #	TF
-	WG67 EPU	Vauxhall Astra Hatchback Car	Abellio	Green #	TF
-	FL23 JCZ	Vauxhall Combo Van	Arriva London	White	CT
-	EA69 MWK	Ford Transit Custom LWB Van	Go-Ahead London	White #	AF
-	EA69 MXB	Ford Transit Custom LWB Van	Go-Ahead London	White #	MG
-	DV73 FRR	Vauxhall Combo Life Electric Car	Stagecoach London	White	LI
-	DV73 FSK	Vauxhall Vivaro Electric Van	Stagecoach London	Red	LI

Additional information and updates

More cars that may now be with Abellio are red Kia Ceed hatchback RE67 CUH and grey Vauxhall Astra hatchback MT68 FNA, both seen at Hatton Cross. Further reports of these (and any others) would be welcomed. Cars WUI 2247 and DU66 VSV have moved TF to GW, with MF13 PGO going from GW to BC. YT06 DDX, EK10 XLJ, ET11 KWV, EK61 WWA, MK12 LBY and GJ23 TSO (which was only recently added) have left the fleet.

Arriva London FL23 JCX is allocated to CT (along with similar FL23 JCZ listed above). DA69 OZF, DA69 TFE, DE69 CZX, DF69 PYU, DN69 AOA, WV69 FZS, DN20 GXR, FE70 OFN and KP70 DZB have been withdrawn.

Arriva Southern Counties LN18 XZD, DV68 WMD, NV68 KMK, OV68 VZC and MD69 OUS are withdrawn, as are Arriva the Shires 9747 (GX13 AWG), 9748 (GX13 AWO) and 9750 (YF13 XUR) and Ensign Bus 801 (KY18 VSO).

Go-Ahead London EO16 PKZ is withdrawn and is now with Southern Vectis, repainted white and numbered 9114. EA69 MWJ has also been withdrawn, though two more vans from the same batch have now been added to London stock (perhaps transferred from another Go-Ahead company) as shown above. Vans EY67 ZCE (from RR) and EA69 MXE (from MB) both appear to now be at Q. EF19 HHE at SI is out of use following accident damage.

Metroline Ford Puma car AY23 KVM has gained an all-over advertisement for bus driver recruitment, described as being “very colourful”. Similar AY23 KUG at PV is out of use with accident damage. The allocations of some crew ferry vehicles seem to have changed. For example, Renault Grand Scenic cars MD69 OCR, MF70 NFD and MF70 NFE have been seen at Perivale CELF several times recently, having initially been at HT, HT and AH respectively, while Renault Minibus MD23 RHZ (originally at AH) has since been noted at PA then PB.

Stagecoach London VU69 FYO and WM69 GEJ have been withdrawn, as have Uno AT57 NLA and White Bus 96 (HY54 OPC).

----- THE END -----

This TLB closed on 3rd January and is due for posting on 16th January. Closing date for TLB714 is Wed 7th February and due for posting on Tues 20th February. Contributions to Editors by post or e-mail to lotstlbeditor@gmail.com or refer to heads of sections for specific contact points. Later closing dates are Weds 6th March, 3rd April and 1st May 2024.



Ensignbus has this Volvo B9TL – Wrightbus Gemini in green and cream branding for route X80 that crosses the River from Lakeside to Bluewater. No.130 is seen at Bluewater on 5th December. *(Richard Godfrey)*

Beeline has transferred some StreetLites from Southampton. No.47695 is now in this livery but forsook the bright City Red livery. Now closer to home it traverses Langley Road, Slough. *(Mark Lyons)*



Rear cover: A nice shot of a standard bus in London. Abellio No.2574, one of many Enviro400H hybrid buses in the fleet. It was pictured in south London at St George's Circus. Abellio is now re-named Transport UK. *(Haydn Davies)*



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