

The London Bus

Number 684
August 2021



London Omnibus Traction Society
www.lots.org.uk

Suspended since February 2020, LBC's route 339 returned on 10th July 2021. RMA 48 is outside Epping Station on this year's first day back to the Epping Ongar Railway. This bus and many others can be seen – and ridden on – at the EOR's event on Sunday 5th September.

(Nick Agnew)



Brigit's Bakery Afternoon Tea Tours can be seen around London with their ten Routemasters.

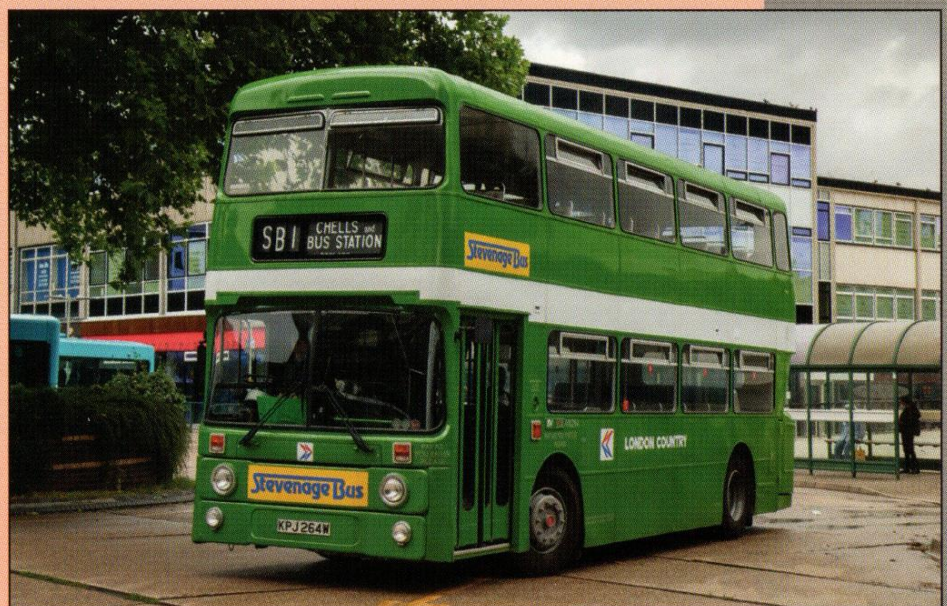
Among the RMs and RMLs, one notable fleet member is ERM 84, once open top but now with roof restored. Here it is taking a few lucky punters for tea and is in Pall Mall crossing Waterloo Place.

(Haydn Davies)



31st July was the 50th anniversary of LCBS's 'Superbus' operation. On that day AN 264 in the livery of its successor 'Stevenagebus' was on display in the town. This bus was new at Stevenage in February 1981 and stayed there until transferred elsewhere in April 1989.

(Keith Wood)



Front cover: Cardinal Coaches in NW Surrey operates several school routes like the 661 seen here in Hurst Road, Molesey. Dart SLF SN03 WMC has been restored to the red-based livery it wore when original owner Metrobus ran many TfL services that were eventually absorbed into Go-Ahead. *(Richard Godfrey)*



THE LONDON BUS
The monthly newsletter of the
London Omnibus Traction Society
website at www.lots.org.uk



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Managing Editor: David Stewart, 5 Kathleen Avenue, Wembley, HA0 4JH or e-mail via <davestewart297@gmail.com> I finalise the newsletter, deal with the photographs and miscellaneous items in TLBs such as Society Matters, Appeals & Adverts, notification of Publications and Events.

Our principal services are centred on the **LOTS general office** now at G16 Lombard Business Park, 8 Lombard Road, Wimbledon, London SW19 3TZ. **If you need to contact us**, we visit the office regularly to deal with Membership and Subscriptions (incl. changes of address), TLB/LBM Distribution and general admin. If using the post to Lombard please mark the envelope "Membership" or "Distribution" or as appropriate. The **E-mail lotsmemsec@gmail.com** can be used for quick enquiries and follow-ups, including for address changes, non-arrival of TLB/LBM and blank or missing pages.

For enquiries about, or, orders to **Postal Sales**, please **E-mail** lotspostalsales@gmail.com

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Reports for TLB should first go to individual section sub-editors (each section is headed by the contact details) or via my e-mail and it will be passed to the appropriate person. The TLB Editors should be addressed direct by e-mail or post - Please do **NOT** use Lombard for TLB items as it will miss the deadline. If it is specifically for the LBM Editor, e-mail to lbm.editor@yahoo.co.uk or write via the Lombard address, marking envelope for which service or who it is that you want.

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.

The Editors reserve the right to defer items to achieve page layouts or target dates, or to allow time for confirmation where appropriate. Every effort is made to ensure factual accuracy but the Editors and the Society cannot accept responsibility for errors of fact subsequently discovered.

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Other specialist services: Please include a stamped self-addressed envelope if you want a reply.

London Bus Magazine: e-mail to lbm.editor@yahoo.co.uk or write via G16 Lombard Business Park, 8 Lombard Road, Wimbledon, London SW19 3TZ, address, mark envelope for 'LBM Editor'

TLB Backnumbers from Charlie Turton, 21 Coleridge Walk, Langney, Eastbourne, BN23 7QJ.

LOTS Members' Information Service (your requests for historical info. on London bus matters): Les Stitson, 3 Purley Close, Barkingside, IG5 OTP or by e-mail to lots.infosvs@btinternet.com

LOTS Ombudsman: (complaints and problems about LOTS services): David Kemp, 10 Weare Gifford, Shoeburyness, Essex SS3 8AB) (In letters to Info Service and Ombudsman, **please add sae**).

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This issue was finalised on 6-8 August and due for posting on Tues 17 August.

Closing date for TLB685 is Weds 8th September and due for posting on Tues 21 September.

Booked later closing dates are Wednesdays 06Oct, 03Nov, 01Dec 2021, 05Jan 2022.

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Society Matters – including LOTS Meetings

We have reserved the meeting hall (s) at Conway Hall, Holborn for a resumption of LOTS Meetings on Mondays 27 September, 25 October and 29 November (No meeting in December).

As in previous years the delayed AGM will be held in the smaller Brockway Room at Conway Hall. It is planned to take place in the usual main hall on 27th September at 7.30 p.m. Conway Hall authorities currently request that visitors are encouraged to wear face masks and that those feeling that they have Covid symptoms are asked not to attend.

Anyone wishing to nominate people for the 2021-22 Committee should send nominations to the Secretary at the LOTS office by 6th September. Each person nominated must be a fully paid up member of the Society, proposed and seconded by fully paid up members of the Society. Each nominee must sign to accept their nomination.

The AGM papers comprising Annual Reports and Accounts for 2019 and 2020 will be available after 20th September. Those requiring e-mail copies should e-mail to LOTSChairman@yahoo.com by 20th September. Those requiring paper copies should send a Stamped Addressed Envelope addressed to “Report and Accounts” at the LOTS Office address (at Lombard SW19).

At the meeting on 25th October is a photographic presentation “When Boris let me out!” by Russell Young. The second is on 29th November and details will be published asap. These will both be in the main hall. All the arrangements above are, of course, subject to any changes in Government Covid policy. Any changes will be in TLBs and on our website.

For 2022, the very high costs of room hires, the reduced attendances in recent years and reduced revenue from the Sales Stand mean that we must scale down on meetings. Therefore we propose four Conway Hall meetings in February, May, September and November plus the statutory AGM in June. All will be on the usual Mondays. Due to costs the ‘Bus Rides’ evenings will no longer be held.

Coming Events

All events are subject to any Covid-19 restrictions at the time. Events that seem likely to go ahead are below, although you should check before travelling. (LSS= LOTS Sales Stand should attend).

The Reading (11July), Ash Grove open day (undated) and Dorking running day (01Aug) events were all cancelled. The electric London to Brighton rally (18 July) was postponed at just one day’s notice due to Covid-19 cases at Brighton&Hove. The BBPG Running Day on 5 Sept is also postponed.

- Sat 21 Aug: Warminster (Wilts) – Routemasters to Imber (no other traffic allowed),£10 all-day ticket.
 - Sun 22 Aug: Coach/bus/car show at Lodge’s, High Easter near Chelmsford. Entrance fees apply.
 - Sun 22 Aug: Festival of Transport, War Memorial Park, Basingstoke.
 - Sat/Sun 28/29 Aug: 90 years of Bedfords at Pages Park, Leighton Buzzard. Displays and a road run on 28th, vehicle demonstrations on 29th.
 - Sat 04 Sep: ‘East Kent at 105’ at Dover Transport Museum.
 - Sun 05 Sep: ‘70 years of the RF’ Running Day at Epping Ongar Railway, North Weald. Normal bus 339 from Epping Station, feeder bus 718 at 10am from Chingford Station. (LSS)
-

- Sun 05 Sep: ****POSTPONED, DATE TBA****: BBPG Running Day Godstone & East Grinstead.
- Sat 11 Sep: Metroline open day at Alperton Garage, marking the closure the night before of this fine 1939 brick-built garage; vehicle displays, special bus services, trade stands. **(LSS)**
- Sun 12 Sep: King Alfred Running Day from Winchester Broadway. (Also a static display Sat.11Sep)
- Sat 18 Sep: NLETE Transport Fair at Christ Church Hall, St Albans Road, Barnet 11am-3pm, admission £2 (accompanied children free).
- Sat 18 Sep: The Big Lemon's postponed electric vehicle London to Brighton run.
- Sun 26 Sep: Showbus at Hertfordshire Showground, Redbourn. **(LSS)**
- Sat 02 Oct: NLETE Transport Bazaar at Theydon Bois Village Hall, 11am-3.30pm. admission £3 (accompanied children free).
- Sun 03 Oct: A&DMBS' Country Running Day from Chesham Broadway.
- Sat 09 Oct: London Bus Museum's Running Day on route 93 between Putney Heath Green Man and Epsom and Dorking. Like the 65 event last April, this will be a combination of free public service along most of the current 93 (excluding the congested Putney High Street section) plus the historic route to Epsom and Dorking. It will include a road run for vehicles that prefer not to run in service. It also allows non-LEZ compliant buses to operate on the North Cheam- Dorking section.
- Sun 10 Oct: South East Bus Festival, Detling, Kent. **(LSS)**
- Sun 24 Oct: Transportfest at London Bus Museum, Brooklands.
- Sat 30 Oct: Stagecoach Plumstead Garage, 40th anniversary Open Day. **(LSS)**.
- Fri/Sat 05/06 Nov: Aldenham Spectacular at Borehamwood, detail to come **(LSS)**.
- Sun 07 Nov: Muswell Hill Running Day on former routes, e.g.RTs on 212express, 244, 251A; RM on 134A, RF on main 212. Full timetables will be available in due course.
- Sat 20 Nov: NLETE Transport Bazaar at St Paul's Centre, Church Street, Enfield. 11am-2.30pm. admission £3 (accompanied children free).

Membership Details

Don't forget that you can pay through the banking system if you wish. Our account number is 11725054, sort code 16-32-45. Please just add your name to the paying-in slip and then send us an e-mail to lotsmemsec@gmail.com with your name, address and membership number (if known) to tell us what you have subscribed to. Occasionally we receive payments without any idea as to what they were for – or even from whom. The same email address can be used to query membership matters, to query non-arrival of TLB or LBM, missing or damaged pages, queries about Postal Sales or even if you wish to discontinue membership for some reason.

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In addition to writing into the LOTS Office, **orders may be e-mailed to lotspostalsales@gmail.com** and make a direct bank payment sent to our bank account:- London Omnibus Traction Society, Royal Bank of Scotland Sort Code 16-32-45 and account number 11725054. In your e-mail please ensure that you include your name, address and LOTS Membership Number (as shown on your TLB envelope label) and also use as a reference for your bank payment your name, Membership Number and the words "Postal Sales". (The payment goes through but the bank doesn't tell us who you are and what you ordered)!

NOTE: For anyone wishing to pay their Membership renewal subscription at the same time, please use "Mem + Sales" as the reference on the bank payment in addition to your name / Membership Number. The LOTS Postal Sales Team will inform the Membership Secretary accordingly. Any follow-up enquiries concerning Postal Sales can also be sent to the same e-mail address; this even applies if you have written in with your order originally. Please remember that all orders will be dealt with as soon as possible, subject to 'staff' availability - especially in these current times - but, please still allow the usual 28 days for receipt of your order.

If you use the post, please address your orders to LOTS Postal Sales, Unit G16 Lombard Business Park, 8 Lombard Road, Wimbledon, London SW19 3TZ. Make sure that the 'Postal Sales' name is included prominently, so we can give the order the best attention. The most recent Sales List was included with TLB681 and in any case the Sales List on our website can be used. Orders from the Sales List or a letter is perfectly acceptable. In each case, 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! For any subsequent query over Postal Sales you can email to lotspostalsales@gmail.com

Recent and new publications:

LOTS London Bus & Tram Fleetbook 2021: Updated to TLB681. (£7.00). ****NEW****

TLB Extra 1956 The last of the series although there is a difference. 1956 was a fairly slack year for vehicle changes so this book has been expanded from 60 to 80 pages to include a summary of all the updates to all the other issues 1948-1955 and 1957-1984. Fully illustrated in B&W but with original 1956 colour cover pictures. (£7.00). ****NEW****

LOTS Review 2020: An A4-size 80-page book detailing all the London region events of last year, with over 100 colour pictures. £13.00. ****NEW****

LOTS LBM196 Summer 2021 London Bus Magazine (£5.00). The main features are 'Step entrance buses in and around London - the last years: Part 1 (TfL routes to 2005)'; 'A Woodford walkabout during 2020' and 'The last regular RM operation (route 15H)'. ***NEW****

LOTS SUP-39B TfL Bus Operators Fleet Allocations and PVRs at 6th February 2021 (£4.50).

LOTS LBM195 Spring 2021 London Bus Magazine (£5.00).

LOTS LBM194 Winter 2020/21 London Bus Magazine (£5.00).

From other publishers: ****ALL new****

Southdown Fleet History Part 31: 1966 The last standard PD3s (SEC) (£7.00)

SEC Fleet Book 2021: covering Stagecoach South; Stagecoach South East; Brighton & Hove; First Hampshire & Dorset (SEC) (£7.50)

Sussex Independents 2021: A guide to fleets and services of smaller operators (SEC (£6.00)

Surrey's Spring Line - A History of Country Bus Route 408 by Peter Osborn (LHRG); A4. 72 pages. Many colour and B&W photos. This marks the centenary of the first East Surrey service between Guildford and Epsom in November 1921 which became the 408. (£10.00) ****new****

The London Dennis Trident by M. Wharmby (Pen & Sword) (£35.00) ****new****

Working For London Buses - Stories from those involved. Capital Transport £25.00; 128 pages, A4 Hardback, covering "stories behind 16 aspects of London Bus operation over the past 50 years".

London Trolleybus Collection by Mick Webber. Bowden Publishing £40.00; 194 pages, A4 Hardback, "illustrating the many and varied aspects of trolleybus operation in London from 1931 to 1962. Further overseas use in Malaya and Spain is also featured".

Buses & Coaches In and Around Walton-on-Thames and Weybridge 1891-1986 by Laurie James. Pen & Sword Books £30.00; 208 pages with "200 colour and black & white photos and maps".

Do not alight here: updated 2021 handbook-size edition with maps of the walks. By Ben Pedroche (Capital Transport). (£8.95) ****new****

In Focus 12 lowbridge London: Julian Bowden and Michael Dryhurst (Bowden Publishing). A5-size 60 pages, a photo review of the lowbridge buses operated by LT from early Leyland TDs, STs, STLs, Ds, hired Bristol Ks and Guy Arabs to RLHs. (£10.00) ****new****

Today's London Buses: Reiss O'Neill (Pen & Sword Books), 288 pages with 200 colour photos covering the last few years of the London bus scene. (£35.00) ****new****

Trolleybuses in East London (LTPS) on the latest Sales Bulletin is now no longer available.

GENERAL and INDUSTRY NEWS

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

TfL, politics and the Coronavirus Crisis

The easing of Covid restrictions went ahead on 19 July as planned. Fears that infection rates could double or even treble appeared to be unfounded as daily rates began to fall in late July. Government advisors suggested this could be partly explained by fewer people being tested during the school holidays. The reluctance of young people to be jabbed has continued to be a concern. Uber and Deliveroo are amongst the companies offering discounts to people who have been vaccinated. There has been much controversy over ‘vaccine passports’ and the Government appears to have back-tracked over plans to require those attending night clubs to prove their vaccination status from September. Many other countries are imposing similar requirements.

The main issue during July was the so called ‘pingdemic’. Over 600,000 people a week who use the NHS app were being ‘pinged’ on their mobile phones (including this sub-editor!) for coming into contact with an infected person and instructed to self-isolate for up to ten days (the isolation period was less if notification had been delayed). This led to staff shortages, especially in the haulage industry and retail with empty shelves in some shops because there were either no drivers to deliver goods or a shortage of store staff to display them. The hospitality industry was hard hit again, just after it had fully reopened; some pubs, cafes and restaurants had to close or restrict their menus while staff self-isolated. Many National Rail services were reduced, and the Underground was also affected with severely restricted services on some lines, especially the Metropolitan line. The Government announced on 19 July that those who had been double jabbed would no longer need to isolate after 16 August. They refused to advance this date under pressure but did concede concessions to some groups of essential workers, including transport staff. Foreign travel continues to be difficult although some further easing has taken place for travellers to and from amber listed countries in Europe (except France) and the USA. However, on 4th August the Government changed the rules on France yet again.

TfL has published its revised budget for 2021/22. This builds on the previous budget agreed in March 2021 and is a condition of the funding agreement agreed with the Government. Combined ridership has now reached around 54% of pre-pandemic levels during the working week, rising at weekends to 60-65%. Savings have been made by deferring some capital expenditure. TfL now assumes a full year funding requirement of £1.9bn, down from £2.7bn in the March 2021/22 budget. Of this, £1.4bn has already been secured through recent funding agreements with the Government. However, a £500 million shortfall remains for the remainder of this year, beyond 11 December when current support runs out. TfL continues to discuss the need for a longer-term deal with the Government. An above inflation 5% fares increase looks likely in January 2022 along with further reductions to bus service frequencies this autumn, mostly affecting inner and Central London routes.

Business groups have expressed their concern that these measures will not help London to recover from the pandemic and could deter people from returning to public transport. London Mayor Sadiq Khan has urged Ministers to treat TfL as they do private rail operators and commit to a long-term funding agreement. He said this is vital not only for the good of London but for the whole country. Transport Commissioner Andy Byford also called on the Government to secure a long-term funding agreement so that TfL can get back to financial self-sufficiency.

TfL has appointed Louise Cheesman as its new Director of Buses. She took up her new role on 2 August having previously worked for Hull Trains where she had been Managing Director since 2018 and had begun her transport career as a train guard, in 2001. Her previous roles included key operations and safety roles at Serco Docklands and Manchester Metrolink.

A series of 24-hour tube strikes, starting at midday and spread over two days were called by the RMT union for August. The dispute is over changes to rosters for Night Tube drivers. The first of these on 3/4 & 5/6 August were called off but those planned for 24/25 & 26/27 August could still go ahead if no settlement is agreed by then. TfL has given assurances the changes will not lead to any job losses.

----- *General & Industry News* -----

Changes are proposed to the **Congestion Charge**, which, if agreed, would take effect from February 2022. The daily charge would remain at £15 so there would be no return to the pre-pandemic rate of £11.50. Similarly, the current penalty charge would remain at £17.50 if not paid within three days. The charging period, currently 07:00 to 22:00 daily would be shortened to finish at 18:00 and the weekend charge would start at 12:00. A consultation on the proposed changes is open until 6 October.

The **Croydon Tram Crash Inquest** found that the seven passengers who died did so as a result of an accident and were not unlawfully killed when their tram overturned at Sandilands junction in 2016. Families of those killed have branded the inquest a farce claiming that TfL and the tram operator should have been called to give evidence.

Corporate and company news

The new **Go-Ahead chief Executive** is Christian Schreyer who succeeds David Brown who is retiring. Mr Schreyer is a German citizen who has been working for Transdev since 2014, most recently as Chief Executive of north and central Europe. He also spent more than 15 years working for the Deutsche Bahn Group.

First Group Chief Executive Matthew Gregory stands down in September. His resignation came after Coast Capital, First's largest shareholder, demanded that he and two other board members resign. However, Mr Gregory insisted it was his own decision to leave, saying he had successfully met his objective to sell the First Student and First Transit businesses in the USA. David Martin, who is currently Chairman, will become interim Executive Chairman.

Neil Collins has been announced as the new Managing Director of **Wrightbus**. The company now employs 600 staff, compared with 50 when it was rescued from administration in 2019.

Other General News

London's newest tourist attraction appears to have become a huge flop. **The Marble Arch Mound** opened on 23 July with tickets costing £4.50. The £2 million 25-metre-high hill type structure was commissioned by Westminster City Council and was supposed to give "soaring views across Hyde Park and central London". Visitors have described it as an eyesore and a 'slag heap', some saying it resembled the Teletubbies house. The original plans, shown in the Evening Standard, look rather different from what was actually built. Ticket sales were suspended at the end of July and Westminster City Council said it was addressing 'teething problems'.

Hammersmith Bridge has unexpectedly re-opened to pedestrians and cyclists following a series of safety checks carried out by Hammersmith & Fulham Council. A replacement ferry service due to start in September is now in doubt.

National Express increased its scheduled coach services again from 2 August. Departures on many Inter-city services increased by 20% while services to Stansted Airport have gone up by 150% with a half hourly service now being provided. **Flixbus** has also increased its services and has expanded into Scotland for the first time, in a joint venture with McGill's.

Bus travel in **Swansea** has been made free on Mondays to Fridays between 30 July and 30 August. The initiative is funded by the local authority as a trial and may be repeated during school holidays throughout the year if it is a success. All operators are included in the scheme, the only exceptions being travel to and from Park & Ride services and an express service to Cardiff. Meanwhile in **Scotland**, free bus travel will be available to all under 22s from January 2022.

Over in the Republic of Ireland, the **National Transport Authority** has announced more large vehicle orders. The NTA is buying 200 ADL Enviro200EVs and plans to buy 120 battery electric double deckers of an unspecified type. This is in addition to the 600 ADL Enviro400ERs currently being delivered. It has also taken delivery of three hydrogen powered Wrightbus double deckers for **Bus Eireann**. These are 11.5 metres long and have a total capacity of 79. Interestingly they feature the traditional Wright Gemini 2 style curved front windscreens which have continued to be specified by the NTA.

Exeter's new bus station was opened by HRH the Prince of Wales on 25 July. It replaces a much larger facility on the same site built in the 1960s.

GREATER LONDON AREA - Route Developments

LONDON BUSES - TENDERED ROUTES UPDATE

Starting from Tranche 782 and thus the start of the 2022-23 Tendering programme, contracts are now offered on the basis of 7-year fixed Quality Incentive Contracts, although shorter terms can be agreed between TfL and the operators. This is mainly to encourage the drive towards electrification. The 2-year route extensions listed below remain in place having been previously agreed, and future tendering programmes will reflect revised start dates. When 'existing fleet vehicles' are specified, this means compatible refurbished vehicles, not necessarily those in current use on the route. From 1st March 2021 all buses are to Euro-VI emissions standard.

Routes 70, 111/=, 135, 177, 217, 617, 629, 678, 613 733 and U10 from Tranches 781, 782, 787, 789, 793, 794, 796 and 800 were awarded, starting on 15th January 2022 (733), 2nd April 2022 (617, 629 & 678), 30th April 2022 (111/= and U10), 21st May 2022 (135), 28th May 2022 (177), 4th June 2022 (217), 25th June 2022 (70) and 30th July 2022 (613).

- 70 Retained by London United using existing electric single-deck buses (pvr 19).
- 111/= Awarded to Abellio using new electric double-deck vehicles. Currently operated by London United from Hounslow (AV) garage (pvr 25 to 27).
- 135 Awarded to Tower Transit using existing hybrid double-deck vehicles. Currently operated by Docklands Buses from Silvertown (SI) garage (pvr 16 to 15).
- 177 Retained by Stagecoach Selkent using existing hybrid double-deck vehicles (pvr 19 to 18).
- 217 Retained by Sullivan Buses using existing diesel double-deck vehicles (pvr 11).
- 613 Retained by London United using existing hybrid double-deck vehicle (pvr 1).
- 617 Retained by Sullivan Buses using existing diesel double-deck vehicles (pvr 2)
- 629 Retained by Sullivan Buses using existing diesel double-deck vehicle (pvr 2 to 1)
- 678 Awarded to Tower Transit using existing hybrid double-deck vehicles. Currently operated by Stagecoach East London from West Ham (WH) garage. (pvr 4)
- 733 New Route awarded to Tower Transit using existing hybrid double-deck vehicles (pvr 15).
- U10 Retained by Metroline West using existing diesel single-deck vehicle (pvr 2 to 1).

2-year extensions have been agreed for various routes in the 2022/23 tendering programme, which can be listed up to tranche #829. Routes 439 and S2 have been moved from Tranche #778 in the 2021/22 programme to a new Tranche 819A. Routes 142 and 642 will be retendered as a single contract in Tranche #821.

The tendering programme is updated below.

Tranche No. and start dates	Routes out on offer (with current operators)	2-year extensions granted
#797 (6/22)	245 (Metroline Travel)	143, 260, 302
#798 (6-7/22)	Tranche cancelled	120, 465, R68, R70
#799 (7/22)	186 (Metroline Travel)	382
#799A (7/22)	383 (Uno), 384 (Metroline Travel).....	--
#801 (7-8/22)	Tranche cancelled	17, 243/=, C11, W7/=, W8
#802 (7-8/22)	116, 662, 665, 671 (London United)	--
#803 (8-9/22)	Tranche cancelled	5, 15/N15, 66, 115
#804 (8/22)	119/= (GA Metrobus), 198, 264/= (Arriva LS)	50, 194, 250/=, 320
#805 (8-9/22)	Tranche cancelled	130, 255, 289, 314, 410
#806 (8-9/22)	664 (S'ch Selkent), 684 (GA Metrobus)	--
#806A (8/22)	638 (S'ch Selkent)	--
#807 (8-9/22)	A10 (Metroline West)	90

----- Greater London Route Devts -----		
#808 (9/22)	605, 628/688, 653/683 (Sullivan)	--
#809 (9-10/22)	Tranche cancelled	131, 222/=, 411
#810 (9-10/22)	149/=, 349 (Arriva LN)	4, 210, 341/=
#810A (9/22)	168 (Metroline Travel)	--
#811 (9-11/22)	248 (S'ch East London), 339 (Tower Transit)	103, 150, 175, 257, 370
#812 (10/22)	226, 632 (Metroline West)	--
#813 (10/22)	11/N11 (GA London General)	22/N22
#814 (10/22)	220/= (London United), 295/= (Metroline West), 297/= (Metroline Travel)	--
#815 (10/22)	353, 359 (GA Metrobus)	--
#816 (10-11/22)	78 (Arriva LN), 621(S'ch Selkent)	45, 176/=, 188/=
#817 (12/22-1/23)	190 (Metroline Travel), 635 (London United)	33/N33, 419
#818 (10-11/22)	92 (Metroline West)	6/=, 18/N18, 98/N98
#819 (11-12/22)	80, 93/=, 151, 154/=, 163, 164/= (GA London General) 470 (London United)	--
#819A (12/22)	439, S2 (New Routes Croydon/Sutton consultations).	455 (due to be w'dn!)
#820 (12/22-2/23)	155/N155 (GA London General), 159/= (Abellio).....	88/=, 118, 170, 355, 360
#821 (12/22-1/23)	142/642 (London Sovereign), 307/= (Metroline Travel)	141, 258, 329
#822 (1/23)	B13 (Arriva LN)	99, 269, 401, 422, B14, B16
#823 (1/23)	47/= (S'ch Selkent)	36/=, 343/=
#824 (2/23)	W5 (HCT Group)	153, 299, W4, W6
#825 (2/23)	91/=, 263 (Metroline Travel)	41/=, 121
#826 (3/23)	H32/=, H91 (London United)	423, H22, H28, H37/=, H98
#827 (3/23)	187, 487 (Metroline West), N97 (Tower Transit)	--
#828 (3/23)	Tranche cancelled	138,161,172,181,225,233,284
#829 (3/23)	Tranche cancelled	169, 247, 287

ROUTE AND SERVICE CHANGES

Miscellaneous general items

Hammersmith Bridge re-opened to cyclists and pedestrians from 17th July, and also to river traffic after engineers from Mott MacDonald completed their checks on the structure after it closed suddenly on the 13th August 2020 when further cracks were discovered. The plans for a ferry crossing remain in place as does reconstruction in some form although finding the money (up to £161 million) is some way off. It closed to cars and buses on 10th April 2019.

Further to my comment in TLB682 about the Northern Line, it was announced on 12th July that the City branch will close from Moorgate to Kennington for 17 weeks from 15 January until mid-May 2022. The service will be reduced on the remaining section of the City branch so trains can reverse at Moorgate. Route 733 will be introduced from Finsbury Square to the Oval, although details will be confirmed nearer the time. This was awarded to Tower Transit (*see tender news above.*) There will also be some weekend closures as well prior to this. In addition, the Battersea extension of the Northern Line is due to open this "Autumn" with a 10-minute service, increasing next year.

From now on I shall refer to London United's Hounslow Heath garage as code "WK", which is the official TfL code; until recently the buses always had "HH" codes painted on their sides and has been traditionally reported this way in SUP39 and the fleetbooks. This is to note for those that keep records, the garage itself remains in the same location, of course!

Saturday 12th June: As in TLB683.

Saturday 19th June: As in TLB683.

Saturday 26th June: As in TLB683.

----- Greater London Route Devts -----

Monday 28th June 2021: As in TLB683, although a correction is that routes **295/= and C3** depart direct from Clapham Junction Station via Grant Road and Plough Lane.

Saturday 3rd July: As in TLB683.

All information is repeated in full from this point:

Saturday 10th July 2021: Routes 19 and N19 restored to pre-Covid schedules.

- 166 (*Arriva London South-TC*) (West Croydon & Epsom) Additional shuttle service introduced, Sats and Suns only, until 'late-August' between Purley and Banstead. As in previous years, these are to act as duplicates for the main 166 to cater for visitors to the Mayfield Lavender Farm situated at the junction of Croydon Lane and Carshalton Road. (Note these journeys are coded '166X' in the on-line schedules.)
- 231 (*Metroline Travel-PB*) (Turnpike Lane Station & Enfield Chase Station) Revised timetable daily with changes to early morning journeys. Actually it reverts to the timetable in place prior to 18th January 2021.
- 377 (*Arriva London North-E*) (Ponders End Station & Oakwood Station, Mo-Sa) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.

PVR Changes 10th July 2021:

Arriva London North: 377 no change to PVRs;
Arriva London South: 166(X) to -/1/1 #TC139 Sa, #TC135 Su;
Metroline Travel: 231, 302 no change to PVRs.

Friday 16th July 2021:

27/N27 (*Abellio-QB*) (Hammersmith & Chalk Farm) Further to the note in TLB682/3, both routes will now terminate and start from Chalk Farm, Harwood Street, turning and standing out of service. A new (temporary) stand has been located in Ferdinand Street, buses departing out of service via Ferdinand Road, Prince of Wales Road and Chalk Farm Road.

Saturday 17th July 2021:

- Includes re-allocations from Go-Ahead Blue Triangle from River Road to Henley Road, Routes 101 and 104 are confirmed as not transferring. Route 5 gains an early/late allocation from North Woolwich (DS) garage crosslinked from N15.
- 5 (*Go-Ahead Blue Triangle-RR/DS*) (Romford Market & Canning Town, Bus Station) North Woolwich (DS) allocation added to daily early/late journeys, cross-linked from route N15.
- 15/ (*Go-Ahead Blue Triangle-RR*) (Trafalgar Square & Blackwall Station) and
- N15 (*Go-Ahead Blue Triangle-RR*) (Oxford Circus & Romford Station) Re-allocated from River Road, Barking (RR) garage to Henley Road, North Woolwich (DS) garage.
- 69/= (*Go-Ahead Docklands-DS*) (Walthamstow Central Station & Canning Town, Bus Station) To avoid having two different 'Go-Ahead' companies in the same garage, this route is novated from *Go-Ahead Docklands* to *Go-Ahead Blue Triangle*.
- 86/ (*Stagecoach East London-NS/WH*) (Stratford Bus Station & Romford Station) and
- N86 (*Stagecoach East London-NS*) (Stratford Bus Station & Harold Hill, Dagnam Park Square) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 115 (*Go-Ahead Blue Triangle-RR*) (Aldgate Station & East Ham, Central Park) Re-allocated from River Road, Barking (RR) garage to Henley Road, North Woolwich (DS) garage.
- 276 (*Go-Ahead Docklands-SI*) (Newham Hospital & Stoke Newington Common) Revised daily timetables for reliability.
- 649 (*Go-Ahead Blue Triangle-RR*) (Romford, North Street Garage and County Park, Campion School, SDO) and
- 650 (*Go-Ahead Blue Triangle-RR*) (Romford, North Street Garage and Emerson Park School, SDO) and
- 651 (*Go-Ahead Blue Triangle-RR*) (Romford Station & North Romford, Chase Cross SDO) Re-allocated from River Road, Barking (RR) garage to Henley Road, North Woolwich (DS) garage.
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----- Greater London Route Devts -----

PVR Changes 17th July 2021:

Go-Ahead Blue Triangle: 5: No change to RR PVRs, early/late journeys cross-linked from N15 as #DS401+; 15 to 18/21/18 #DS341+;
N15 to 20 every night #DS401+ (also works 5/15 journeys early /late);
115 to 18/17/14 #DS371+; 276 to 17/16/12 #SI101+; 649/650/651 to 10 #DS641+;
Stagecoach East London: 86 to 30(+1/256)/31(+1/294)/20 #NS371; 294 to 12/11*/6 (*86), no change to 86 WH, N86 PVRs.

Saturday 24th July 2021: Temporary widened schedules for routes 6/=, 52/=, 187 and 302 for roadworks at Kensal Rise, until 14th August.

- 53 (Stagecoach Selkent-PD) (County Hall & Plumstead Station) and
N53 (Stagecoach Selkent-PD) (Whitehall & Plumstead Station) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 55 (Stagecoach East London-T) (Oxford Circus & Walthamstow Central Station) Mon-Fri daytime frequency reduced from x6 to x6-7mins.
- 56 (Stagecoach East London-T) (Whipps Cross & St.Bart's Hospital) Mon-Sat daytime frequency reduced from x6-7 to x8mins.
- 393 (Metroline Travel-HT) (Chalk Farm & Clapton Pond) Chalk Farm stand at former Morrisons site moved to a new stand in the former access road to the store. This is by local arrangement, the formal move is scheduled for 31st July.
- 606 (Queensbury Station & Barnet Lane, Totteridge Academy) LBSL (QX) contract awarded to Sullivan Buses using existing diesel double-decks from South Mimms (SM) garage, effectively from the start of term in September. Previously operated by Metroline Travel using a mix of TE-, TEH-class AD E40D/H Enviro400D/H, VW-class Volvo B9TL Wrightbus diesel or VMH-class Volvo B5LH MCV hybrid double-decks from Edgware (EW) garage.
- 648 (Go-Ahead Blue Triangle-RR) (Romford Market & Cranham, Moor Lane, SDO) Route withdrawn after 23rd July– (see also route 646 for 4th Sep, below.)
- N55 (Stagecoach East London-T) (Oxford Circus & Woodford Wells, Horse & Well) Weekend frequency reduced from x20 to x30 minutes.

PVR Changes 24th July 2021:

Go-Ahead Blue Triangle: 648 withdrawn;
Metroline Travel: 6/=, 52/=, 187, 302, 393 no change to PVRs, 606 withdrawn;
Stagecoach East London: 55 to 34/28/21 #T101+; 56 to 19/18/18 #T51+;
N55 to 5 Su-Th; 7 Fr-Sa Night #T141+;
Stagecoach Selkent: 53/N53 no change to PVRs;
Sullivan Buses: 606 to 2/-/- #SM78/79.

Monday 26th July 2021:

Start of school holiday schedules on some routes, but all “V” routes will also have been withdrawn by this date. Also:

- U3 (Metroline West-UX) (Uxbridge Station & Heathrow Airport Central) Reverted back to DE-class AD20D Enviro200 single-decks, after a period of mainly double-deck operations, although double-decks are often to be seen and indeed scheduled for some school journeys.

Saturday 31st July 2021:

- 112 (Metroline Travel-W) (Ealing Broadway Station & North Finchley) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing DEL-class AD E20D Enviro200 diesel single-decks.
- 177 (Stagecoach Selkent-PD) (Peckham Bus Station & Thamesmead Town Centre) Introduction of widened schedule due to gas main replacement at Wickham Lane/ Plumstead High Street junction.

No change to PVRs on the above.

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

----- *Greater London Route Devts* -----

Saturday 7th August 2021:

108/= (*Go-Ahead London Central-MG/NX*) (Stratford International & Lewisham, Town Centre) The late-evening double-deck journeys between Lewisham, Town Centre and North Greenwich, Bus Station are re-instated having been suspended due to Covid closing events at the O2 Arena. (Note that these journeys are coded '108D' in the on-line schedules.)

PVR Changes 7th August 2021:

Go Ahead London Central: 108(D): +3/321 every night; 321 add *108(D) every night.

Saturday 14th August 2021: Temporary widened schedules for route 31 for roadworks at Chalk Farm.

137 (*Arriva London South-N/BN*) (Marble Arch & Streatham Hill, Telford Avenue) Allocations revised to move more buses from Brixton (BN) garage to Norwood (N) garage for electrification works at Brixton Hill out-station.

C10 (*Abellio-WL*) (Canada Water Station & Victoria Station) Terminal working at Victoria revised to set down passengers in Terminus Place and stand in Vauxhall Bridge Road, departing via Neathouse Place, Wilton Road and Victoria Street. Pre-Covid-19 schedules restored.

PVR Changes 14th August 2021:

Abellio: no change to PVRs.

Arriva London South: 137 to 9/9/6 #BN171+; 20/18/16 #N301+.

Thursday 19th August to Sunday 22nd August 2021:

From 19:00 on Thursday to 15:00 on Sunday, the Aldwych one-way system is completely closed for conversion to two-way working, which will include the junctions at Kingsway, Strand and Waterloo Bridge although Strand underpass will remain open.

Routes **1 and 172** are curtailed at Waterloo Station.

Routes **6/=, 9, 87, N9, N44, N87 and N155** are curtailed at Trafalgar Square.

Routes **15 and N15** are curtailed at Ludgate Circus.

Routes **11, N11, N21, N26, N550 and N551** are diverted eastbound after Trafalgar Square via Charing Cross Road, New Oxford Street, Bloomsbury Way, High Holborn and Farringdon Street, and westbound via Farringdon Street, Charterhouse Street, High Holborn, St. Giles High Street and Charing Cross Road.

Routes **26, 76/= and 341/=** divert in both directions via Blackfriars Bridge and Stamford Street.

Routes **59, 68, 168, 188/= and X68** northbound divert via Strand, Charing Cross Road, New Oxford Street and Bloomsbury Way to Holborn, and southbound via High Holborn, Farringdon Street, Blackfriars Bridge and Stamford Street.

Routes **91, N91** follow the 11 diversions as above to and from Bloomsbury Way,

Routes **139/-, 176/=** northbound stay on line of route but southbound after Trafalgar Square via Whitehall, Westminster Bridge and York Road. The northbound **243/=** after Waterloo Bridge via Strand and as per the 11 above to Holborn. The southbound **243/=** follows 11 from Holborn to Trafalgar Square then Whitehall, Westminster Bridge and York Road.

Route **521** is OK northbound as it uses the Kingsway underpass but southbound after Holborn follows the 243/= southbound route via Trafalgar Square as above to Waterloo.

Routes **N1, N68 and N171** are diverted to Tottenham Court Road via Charing Cross Road, returning via High Holborn.

When the roads re-open, the south side of Aldwych will be permanently closed to be pedestrianised as a new public space and the western and eastern arms will become two-way. Therefore, all southbound routes from Kingsway: **1, 59, 68, 91, 168, 188/=, 243/=, 521, N1, N68, N91, N171 and X68** will be diverted via Aldwych western arm; with westbound routes from Fleet Street: **11, 15, 26, 76/=, 341/=, N11, N15, N21, N26, N89, N199, N550 and N551** diverted via eastern and western arms of Aldwych. New stands for terminating routes **6/=, 9, 87, 172, N9, N44, N87 and N155** will be established in Melbourne Place, departing via the eastern and western arms of Aldwych.

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Saturday 21st August 2021:

- 64/= (*Arriva London South*-TH) (Thornton Heath Pond & New Addington, Vulcan Way) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 146 (*Stagecoach Selkent*-TB) (Bromley North Station & Downe, St. Mary's Church) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing AD E20D Enviro200 diesel single-decks.
- 158/= (*Arriva London North*-EC) (Stratford, Bus Station & Chingford Mount, Prince Albert) Revised duty schedules with running number change.
- 190 (*Metroline Travel*-AH) (West Brompton, Empress State Building & Richmond, Bus Station) Revised Mon-Fri timetable for reliability.
- 234 (*Metroline Travel*-PB) (Highgate Wood, Sussex Gardens & Barnet, The Spires) Revised Mon-Fri timetable for running times.
- 336 (*Stagecoach Selkent*-TB) (Catford, Thomas Lane & Locksbottom, Pallant Way) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing AD E20D Enviro200 diesel single-decks.
- 344/= (*Abellio*-QB) (Liverpool Street Station, Bishopsgate & Clapham Junction, St. John's Hill) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing AD40H Enviro400H hybrid double-decks.
- 417 (*Arriva London South*-N) (Clapham Common, Old Town & Crystal Palace) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.

Saturday 28th August 2021:

As mentioned in TLB683, several routes are subject to frequency reductions; these are just the ones that have been confirmed at time of going to press. It is also confirmed that route **113** will terminate at Marble Arch and route **159/=** will be curtailed at Oxford Circus, thus removing two routes from Oxford Street; these were part of the Oxford Street Transformation Project from 2018, so have technically been consulted on.

Routes 35, 63 and 343 will have pre-covid schedules restored. Routes 129, 180, 286 and 386 gain widened timetables for cycle works in the Greenwich area.

- 2 (*Arriva London South*-N) (Marylebone Station & Norwood Garage) Mon-Sat daytime frequency reduced from x7½ to x8-9mins.
- 7 (*Metroline Travel*-PV) (Oxford Circus & East Acton, Brunel Road) Mon-Sat daytime frequency reduced from x8 to x12 mins.
- 9 (*London United*-V) (Hammersmith Bus Station & Aldwych) Mon-Sat daytime frequency reduced from x7½ to x10mins, and Sunday and evenings reduced from x10 to x12mins.
- 16 (*Metroline Travel*-W) (Victoria Station & Cricklewood Garage) Mon-Sat daytime frequency reduced from x7½ to x10mins, and Sunday and evenings reduced from x10 to x12mins.
- 27 (*Abellio*-QB) (Hammersmith & Chalk Farm) Mon-Sat daytime frequency reduced from x8 to x10mins.
- 30 (*Metroline Travel*-KC) (Hackney Wick, Chapman Road & Marble Arch) Mon-Fri peak hour frequency reduced from x8-9 to x10mins.
- 43/= (*Metroline Travel*-HT) (Friern Barnet, Library & London Bridge Station) Mon-Sat daytime frequency reduced from x6-7 to x8mins.
- 111/= (*London United*-AV) (Kingston, Cromwell Road Bus Station & Heathrow Airport Central) Commencement of conversion to LT-class NRM New Routemaster operation, although it might take a few weeks to complete, the SP-class released are expected to be used to displace VH-class vehicles from Fulwell (FW) garage to assist with the take-over of routes 49 and X140. (*see vehicle news*).
- 113 (*Metroline Travel*-EW) (Edgware Station & Oxford Circus) Re-routed from Oxford Street, Selfridges to terminate at Marble Arch, thus withdrawn from Oxford Street. Mon-Sat daytime frequency reduced from x7½ to x8-9mins.
- 148/= (*London United*-S) (Camberwell Green & White City) New contract introduced early. Mon-Sat daytime frequency reduced from x7½ to x10mins, and Sunday and evenings reduced from x10 to x12mins, and nightly from x20 to x30 mins. It should be restored to White City at all times.
- 153 (*Go-Ahead London General*-NP) (Finsbury Park Station & Liverpool Street Station) Re-allocated from Northumberland Park (NP) garage to Waterloo (RA) garage.

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Saturday 28th August, continued:

- 159/= (*Abellio-QB*) (Streatham Station & Marble Arch) Route withdrawn between Marble Arch and Oxford Circus.
- 185 (*Go-Ahead London Central-Q*) (Victoria Station & Lewisham, Town Centre) Revised on departure from Victoria, Wilton Road stand via Victoria Street, Buckingham Palace Road and Terminus Place to Vauxhall Bridge Road.
- 186 (*Metroline Travel-HD*) (Northwick Park Hospital & Brent Cross, Shopping Centre) Revised daily timetable for running time.
- 324 (*Metroline Travel-W*) (Brent Cross, Tesco & Stanmore Station) Extended daily from Stanmore Station to Centennial Business Park via London Road, Brockley Hill and Centennial Avenue.
- 377 (*Arriva London North-E*) (Oakwood Station & Ponders End Garage, M-S) PM SDO journey at 15:25 withdrawn.
- 487 (*Metroline West-ON*) (South Harrow Station & Harlesden, Willesden Junction) Re-allocated from Alperton (ON) garage to Willesden Junction (WJ) garage.
- 507 (*Go-Ahead London General-RA/Q*) (Waterloo Station & Victoria Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing SEe-class BYD D9UR/AD Enviro200EV electric single-decks. Mon-Fri peak frequency reduced from x3-4 to x7½mins, Mon-Fri daytime from x6 to x7½mins, Saturday, Sunday & evenings unchanged at x12mins. Waterloo (RA) garage will be opened at weekends, so Camberwell (Q) allocation withdrawn.
- 521 (*Go-Ahead London General-RA*) (London Bridge Station & Waterloo Station, Mo-Fr) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing SEe-class BYD D9UR/AD Enviro200EV electric single-decks. Mon-Fri peak frequency reduced from x2-3 to x5mins but daytime remains x10mins.
- N2 (*Arriva London South-N*) (Marylebone Station & Crystal Palace) Weekend frequency restored from x30 to x20mins.
- N9 (*London United-V*) (Aldwych & Heathrow, Terminal 5) Nightly frequency reduced from x20 to x30mins.

Bank Holiday Monday 30th August 2021:

Normal Sunday Service on all routes. As indicated above, no special services for Notting Hill, which is cancelled as a street event for the second year running.

Saturday 4th September 2021: (or first appropriate day for school routes).

Routes 23 and C3 revert to pre-Covid schedules.

- 49 (Clapham Junction, Northcote & White City, Bus Station) LBSL (QC) contract awarded to *London United* using new BCE-class BYD/E400EV electric double-decks from Shepherd's Bush (S) garage, in due course. Likely to be operated by VH-class Volvo B5LH/ Wrightbus hybrid double-decks, temporarily displaced from other routes. (*see vehicle news.*) Currently operated by *Abellio* using AD Enviro 400H hybrid double-decks from Battersea (QB) garage. These displaced will be used to complete conversion from diesel to hybrid buses on routes 156 and 345.
- 114/= (*Metroline West-UX*) (Mill Hill Broadway Station & Ruislip Station) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 117 (West Middlesex Hospital, Main Entrance & Staines, Bus Station) LBSL (QC) contract awarded to *London United* using existing MCM-class Mercedes Citaro diesel single-decks from Hounslow (AV) garage. Currently operated by *Metroline Travel* using DE-class AD E20D Enviro 200 and E200/MCV diesel single-decks from Brentford (AH) garage.
- 140/= (*Metroline Travel-HD*) (Heathrow Airport Central & Harrow Weald Garage) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing VWH-class Volvo B5LH Wrightbus hybrid double-decks.
- 182 (*Metroline Travel-HD*) (Harrow Weald, Oxhey Lane & Brent Cross, Shopping Centre) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing VW/VWH-class Volvo B5LH Wrightbus diesel/ hybrid double-decks.
- 183/= (*London Sovereign-SO*) (Pinner, Love Lane & Golders Green Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using new BCE-class BYD/E400EV electric double-decks in due course.
- 203 (*London United-AV*) (Hounslow, Bus Station & Staines, Bus Station) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.

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Saturday 4th September, continued:

- 204 (*Metroline West-ON*) (Sudbury Town Station & Edgware Station) Re-allocated from Alperton (ON) garage to Edgware (EW) garage. (Thus novated to Metroline Travel).
- 251 (*London Sovereign-BT*) (Arnos Grove Station & Edgware Station) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 253 (*Arriva London North-CT*) (Hackney Central Station & Euston Station) Mon-Sat daytime frequency reduced from x6-7 to x8mins, and Sunday and evenings reduced from x8 to x10mins.
- 254 (*Arriva London North-AE*) (Aldgate Station & Holloway, Nag's Head) Mon-Sat daytime frequency reduced from x6-7 to x8mins, and Sunday and evenings reduced from x8 to x10mins.
- 292 (*Metroline Travel-EW*) (Borehamwood, Rossington Avenue & Colindale, Asda) Re-allocated from Edgware (EW) garage to Harrow Weald (HD) garage.
- 340 (*Arriva London North-AD*) (Edgware Station & Harrow, Bus Station) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 398 (*London Sovereign-SO*) (Ruislip Station & Wood End, Lillian Board Way, M-S) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using new BME-class BYD/E2+00EV electric single-decks in due course.
- 467 (*London United-TV*) (Epsom, Town Centre & Hook, Kingston by-Pass; SDO jnys to/from Hinchley Wood School, also Epsom General Hospital) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing ADE-class AD E40D Enviro400D diesel double-decks.
- 608 (*Go-Ahead Blue Triangle-RR*) (Gallows Corner, Straight Road & Shenfield School, SDO) Renewal of LBSL (QX) contract using existing EH-class AD E40D Enviro400D or WHV-class Volvo B5LH/Wright hybrid double-decks.
- 643 (*Metroline Travel-W*) (East Finchley Cemetery & Brent Cross, Shopping Centre, SDO) Afternoon journey retimed.
- 646 (*Go-Ahead Blue Triangle-RR*) (Noak Hill, Tees Drive & Cranham, Moor Lane SDO) Renewal of LBSL (QX) contract using existing SE-class AD E20D Enviro200D diesel single-decks. Revised timetable to cater also for withdrawal of route 648.
- 652 (*Go-Ahead Blue Triangle-RR*) (Rainham, Abbey Wood Road & Upminster Station SDO) Renewal of LBSL (QX) contract using existing EH-class AD E40D Enviro400D or WHV-class Volvo B5LH/Wright hybrid double-decks.
- 656 (*Go-Ahead Blue Triangle-RR*) (Gallows Corner, Tesco & Emerson Park School SDO) Renewal of LBSL (QX) contract using existing EH-class AD E40D Enviro400D or WHV-class Volvo B5LH/Wright hybrid double-decks.
- 679 (*Go-Ahead Blue Triangle-RR*) (Goodmayes, Lord Napier & Woodford Wells, Bancroft's School SDO) Renewal of LBSL (QX) contract using existing EH-class AD E40D Enviro400D or WHV-class Volvo B5LH/Wright hybrid double-decks.
- 686 (*Go-Ahead Blue Triangle-RR*) (Romford, St. Edward's School & Harold Hill, Dagnam Park Square SDO) Renewal of LBSL (QX) contract using existing EH-class AD E40D Enviro400D or WHV-class Volvo B5LH/Wright hybrid double-decks.
- 690 (Norwood Garage & Earlsfield, Burntwood School SDO) LBSL (QX) contract awarded to *Go-Ahead London General* using existing EH-class AD E40D Enviro400D or WHV-class Volvo B5LH/Wright hybrid double-decks from Plough Lane (PL) garage. Currently operated by *Arriva London South* using T-class AD Enviro 400 diesel double-decks from Norwood (N) garage.
- 697 (*London United-WK*) (Hayes, Lansbury Drive & Ickenham, Douay Martyrs School SDO) Renewal of LBSL (QX) contract using existing ADE-class AD Enviro400 diesel double-decks.
- 698 (*London Sovereign-CP*) (West Drayton Station & Ickenham, Douay Martyrs School SDO) Renewal of LBSL (QX) contract using existing VHR-class Volvo B5LH Wrightbus SRM vehicles.
- H9/H10 (*London Sovereign-SO*) (Northwick Park circulars, *H9 via Kenton, Rayners Lane, H10 via Rayners Lane, Kenton*) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using new BME-class BYD/E200EV electric single-decks in due course.
- H11 (*London Sovereign-SO*) (Harrow, Bus Station & Mount Vernon Hospital) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years. Converted from DLE/DE mixed to all DE-class AD20D Enviro200 operation and temporarily re-allocated to Parr Road (CP) garage.

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Saturday 4th September, continued:

X140 (Heathrow Airport Central & Harrow, Bus Station) LBSL (QC) contract awarded to *London Sovereign* using new BCE-class BYD/ADE 400EV electric double-decks from Harrow (SO) garage, in due course. Likely to be operated by VH-class Volvo B5LH/Wrightbus hybrid double-decks, temporarily displaced from other routes. (*see vehicle news.*) Also, some off-peak journeys are planned to be operated by VHR-class Volvo B5LH Wrightbus SRM vehicles, cross-linked from route 698 for (eventual) charging spares. Currently operated by *Metroline Travel* using VWH-class B5LH Volvo/Wrightbus hybrid double-decks from Harrow Weald (HD) garage.

Saturday 11th September 2021:

Alperton (ON) garage closes after operation the previous night; as the new garage site will not be ready in nearby Athlon Road for approx. 12 months, remaining routes re-allocated to Perivale (PV) garage. (*see also general and vehicle news for details of the open day.*)

- 11 (*Go-Ahead London General-SW*) (Liverpool Street Station & Fulham Broadway) Mon-Sat daytime frequency reduced from x10 to x12mins.
- 29 (*Arriva London North-WN*) (Wood Green Station & Trafalgar Square) Mon-Fri peak frequency reduced from x4 to x5-6mins.
- 83 (*Metroline West-ON*) (Golders Green Station & Alperton Station) and
- N83 (*Metroline West-ON*) (Golders Green Station & Ealing Hospital) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years. Re-allocated from Alperton (ON) garage to Perivale (PV) garage, thus novated to *Metroline Travel*.
- 156 (*Abellio-QB*) (Wimbledon, Sir Cyril Black Way & Vauxhall Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using AD Enviro 400H hybrid double-decks from Battersea (QB) garage.
- 483 (*Metroline West-ON*) (Harrow Bus Station & Windmill Park, Three Bridges) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years. Re-allocated from Alperton (ON) garage to Perivale (PV) garage, thus novated to *Metroline Travel*.

Saturday 18th September 2021:

- 137 (*Arriva London South-N/BN*) (Marble Arch & Streatham Hill, Telford Avenue) and
- N137 (*Arriva London South-N*) (Oxford Circus & Crystal Palace) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 160 (Catford, Thomas Lane & Sidcup Station) and
- 660 (Bellingham, Catford Garage & Avery Hill, Stationers' Crown Woods Academy) LBSL (QC) contract awarded to *Stagecoach Selkent* using new BYD/E400EV electric double-decks from Catford (TL) garage, in due course. Currently operated by *Arriva London North* using T-class AD Trident Enviro400 diesel double-decks from Dartford (DT) garage.
- 199 (*Stagecoach Selkent-TL*) (Bellingham, Catford Garage & Canada Water Station) and
- N199 (*Stagecoach Selkent-TL*) (Trafalgar Square & St. Mary Cray Station) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 276 (*Go-Ahead Docklands-SI*) (Newham Hospital & Stoke Newington Common) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 376 (*Go-Ahead Docklands-SI*) (Beckton, Bus Station & East Ham, Town Hall Hall) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- D3 (*Stagecoach East London-WH*) (Bethnal Green, Bonnar Road & Leamouth, Orchard Place) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- D7 (*Go-Ahead Docklands-SI*) (Mile End Station & Poplar, All Saints) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- EL1 (*Go-Ahead Blue Triangle-RR*) (Ilford Hill & Barking Riverside) and
- EL3 (*Go-Ahead Blue Triangle-RR*) (Little Heath, Haw Bush & Barking Reach, Mallards Drive, SDO pm journeys to Barking Riverside) Owing to redevelopment work at Barking Riverside, these will be temporarily cutback to Fielders Crescent for up to 24 weeks.

----- Greater London Route Devts -----

Saturday 2nd October 2021:

- 1 (Go-Ahead London Central-MG) (Tottenham Court Road Station & Canada Water Station) and
 N1 (Go-Ahead London Central-MG/PM) (Tottenham Court Road Station & Thamesmead, Boiler House) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 42 (Go-Ahead London Central-Q) (Liverpool Street Station, Bishopsgate & East Dulwich, Sainsbury's) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 108/= (Go-Ahead London Central-MG/NX) (Stratford International & Lewisham, Town Centre) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 132/= (Go-Ahead London Central-BX) (North Greenwich Station & Bexleyheath, Shopping Centre) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using new Ee-class BYD/E400EV electric double-decks, in due course.
- 148/= (London United-S) (Camberwell Green & White City) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract, new timetable introduced on 28th August (*see above*).
- 180 (Lewisham, Lewisham Centre & Belvedere Industrial Area) LBSL (QC) contract awarded to *Stagecoach Selkent* using new BYD/E400EV electric double-decks and the balance with existing buses from Plumstead (PD) garage, in due course. Currently operated by *Go-Ahead London Central* from Morden Wharf (MG) garage. The tender award was based on a mix of electric and hybrid double-deck vehicles.
- 185 (Go-Ahead London Central-Q) (Victoria Station & Lewisham, Town Centre) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 290 (Staines, Bus Station & Twickenham Station) LBSL (QC) contract awarded to *London United* using new electric BME-class BYD/E200EV electric single-decks in due course. Currently operated by *Abellio* using AD E20D Enviro200 diesel single-decks from Fulwell (TF) garage.
- 346 (Go-Ahead Blue Triangle-RR) (Upminster Station & Upminster Park Estate, Waycross Road, Mo-Sa) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 450 (Arriva London South-N) (Lower Sydenham, Sainsbury's & West Croydon, Bus Station) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.

SERVICE PROPOSALS

A new consultation opened on 16th July and closes on 27th August for route **R7** in Chelsfield. The route terminates in a loop at Chelsfield village, and the proposal is to shorten the loop by turning directly into Church Road on departure. This will leave Bucks Cross Road, Maypole Road and Hewitts Farm Road and the southern section of Court Road unserved. Three bus stops would be withdrawn on the loop. TfL allege this is to "improve reliability", presumably for other sections of the route through Orpington and Chislehurst, although peak hour delays occur at the roundabout at Court Road which is a link road for the M25.

To follow up on the Oxford Circus scheme noted last month, routes **113 and 159/=** were not going to feature as they've been re-routed away from Oxford Street from 28th August as noted above. We await an introduction date for the "temporary traffic orders" in due course.

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

TLB665 p10: 92 re-routed in Greenford.

TLB666 p10: 101/241/325/376 South Newham changes.

TLB666 p11: 233 conversion to fixed stops in Longlands Avenue, Sidcup.

TLB675 p13: 414 withdrawn north of Marble Arch.

TLB675 p13-14: Sutton/Croydon changes.

TLB683 p15-16: Oxford Circus junction closed to East-West Traffic, 633 extended to Pollards Hill.

TLB684 (as above): R7 in Chelsfield.

Other more minor examples involve road layout changes.

FORTHCOMING CHANGES IN BRIEF

This list includes tenders that have been decided and principal route changes already in past TLBs.

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

----- *Greater London Route Devts* -----

CR7 = Contract renewed for 7 years. All dates and all details are subject to alteration or deferment.
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.

9th Oct 21: CR on 332 (Metroline Travel), P13 (Abellio), CE+2 on 16/N16, 32, 107, 189/=, 316 (Metroline Travel), 21/N21, 321, P12 (G-A London Central), 381/N381 (Abellio).

16th Oct 21: CE+2 on 279/N279, W3/= (Arriva LN).

30th Oct 21: CR on 645 (Arriva LS).

6th Nov 21: CR on 313 (Arriva LN), CE+2 on 221 (Arriva LN).

13th Nov 21: CR on 63/N63 (G-A London Central to Abellio). CE+2 on 38/N38 (Arriva LN), 363 (G-A London Central).

20th Nov 21: CR on 414 (Abellio to Tower Transit), CE+2 on 14/=, 39, 74/N74, 430 (G-A London General), 436 (G-A London Central), H20, U7 (Abellio).

26th Nov 21: CE+2 on W19 (HCT Group).

4th Dec 21: CR on 413 (G-A Metrobus), 655 (G-A London General to London United), CE+2 on 152 (G-A London General), 157 (Arriva LS).

1st Jan 22: CR on 624/658, 625 (G-A London Central), CE+2 on U9 (Abellio).

8th Jan 22: CR on 235* (Metroline Travel to London United), CE+2 on 237 (Metroline Travel), H26 (Abellio).

15th Jan 22: CR on 273 (Stagecoach Selkent), New route 733 (Tower Transit).

22nd Jan 22: CR on 696 (L.United to L.Sovereign), CE+2 on 133/N133, 333 (Arriva LS), 360 (G-A London Central), 380 (Stagecoach Selkent), 388 (HCT Group).

29th Jan 22: CR on 125* (Metroline Travel to L.Sovereign), 234 (Metroline Travel), CE+2 on 9/N9 (London United), 59 (Arriva LS), 89/N89 (G-A London Central), 476 (G-A London General).

5th Feb 22: CR on 298, W9 (Sullivan).

19th Feb 22: CE+2 on EL1/=, EL2, EL3 (G-A Blue Triangle).

26th Feb 22: CR on 55/N55, 56 (Stagecoach East London), 335 (Arriva LN), 397 (HCT Group), 488 (Tower Transit), CE+2 on 242/N242 (Arriva LN), 277/N277 (Stagecoach East London), W14 (Tower Transit).

5th Mar 22: CR on 308 (Tower Transit), 415 (Abellio) W15 (Tower Transit to G-A London General), W16 (HCT Group),

CE+2 on 58 (Tower Transit), 97, 215, 238/= (Stagecoach East London), 101 (G-A Blue Triangle), 309 (HCT Group), 325 (Arriva LN), W11, W12 (HCT Group).

12th Mar 22: CR on 549 (Stagecoach East London to Sullivan Buses), 667 (G-A Blue Triangle to Stagecoach East London), 677 (Stagecoach East London to G-A Blue Triangle), CE+2 on 167 (Stagecoach East London), 379 (G-A London General), W13 (HCT Group).

19th Mar 22: CR on U5* (Abellio).

26th Mar 22: CE+2 on 76/= (G-A London General), 259 (Arriva LN), 362, 462 (Stagecoach East London).

2nd Apr 22: CR on 13/= (Tower Transit), 432 (G-A London General to Arriva LS), CR7 on 617,629 (Sullivan Buses), 678 (Stagecoach East London to Tower Transit), CE+2 on 2/N2, 19/N19, 249 (Arriva LS), 113/N113 (Metroline), R1/R11, R2, R3, R4, R6, R8 (G-A Metrobus).

9th Apr 22: CE+2 on S3 (London United).

16th Apr 22: CE+2 on 195 (Abellio), X26 (G-A Metrobus).

30th Apr 22: CR7 on 111/= (London United to Abellio), CR7 on 322*(G-A London General to Abellio), 350 (Abellio), CR7 on U10 (Metroline West), CE+2 on 110 (London United), 236 (Tower Transit), 394 (HCT Group), P4 (Stagecoach Selkent), U1, U2, U3, U4 (Metroline West).

21st May 22: CR7 on 135 (G-A Docklands to Tower Transit) 433* (Abellio), CE+2 on 464 (Abellio).

4th June 22: CR7 on 217 (Sullivan Buses), CE+2 on 253/N253, 254 (Arriva LN).

25th June 22: CR7 on 70 (London United).

28th May 22: CR7 on 177 (Stagecoach Selkent), CE+2 on E6 (Metroline West).

2nd July 22: CE+2 on C1 (London United).

23rd July 22: CE+2 on 280 (G-A London General).

30th July 22: CR7 on 613 (London United).

OTHER SPECIAL and MISCELLANEOUS non-TfL OPERATIONS IN LONDON

RAKAT (Richmond & Kingston Accessible Transport) & The Royal Parks should have restarted route RP1 serving Richmond Park, on Wednesdays only. Booked to begin on 7th July it did not run on any of the four Wednesdays in July. Presuming it begins soon it is due to run until 27th October. Four journeys are operated, departing from Danebury Avenue (The park side of the road barrier) at 09:40, 11:10, 13:10 and 14:40. The service remains free and is covered by 'private donations.'

London United's Bedfont Lakes service restarted on 19th July, with a limited service on BL1, increasing to a full service on BL1 and BL2 from 26th July. 6 DLEs 30020-25 are allocated for the service, though no word of a new livery yet. A new livery will be applied to the VHs used on Kingston University contracts, these having gained a 3-year extension until August 2024. They will also gain their new VHL class codes at the same time (*see TLB683 vehicle news*).

First Essex Buses is to operate from 23rd August a new service (AZ1) for Amazon from Woolwich Arsenal DLR via Plumstead, Abbey Wood, Belvedere, Erith, Slade Green to Dartford Amazon. **Ensignbus** are already running a Sunday morning service over this corridor. See the Kent section of Country Route Devts in this TLB.

DIVERSIONS, DEVIATIONS AND DISRUPTIONS

General: See also general news above about Aldwych closures. Flash flooding on Mon 12th July caused temporary disruptions to services, mainly in the west of London, with more storms on Sunday 25th July causing temporary disruptions in the North-East, East, South and South-East London.

Central: Eversholt Street works were extended again to 2nd August. Owing to a "burst sewer" in Holywell Lane, Shoreditch, routes **135, 205 and N205** have been diverted eastbound via Curtain Road, Old Street and Shoreditch High Street. This has been long-term since 12th May and was due to finish on 26th July. Thanks to member Joel who sent in the report. From 13th July to 2nd August, owing to a gas leak in Shaftesbury Avenue, routes **14/=, 19, 38, N19 and N38** were diverted in both directions via Charing Cross Road, St Martin's Place, Trafalgar Square, Cockspur Street, Waterloo Place and Regent Street (return Coventry Street and Haymarket). From 26th July to 20th August, owing to cosmetic works in Artillery Row, route **507** is diverted towards Waterloo via Vauxhall Bridge Road, John Islip Street, Bulinga Street, Herrick Street and Marsham Street, and towards Victoria via Marsham Street, Great Smith Street and Victoria Street.

South: Further to the reports in TLB679 and 682, over the weekend of 17th/18th July, another closure of Station Road, West Croydon took place, this time to remove scaffolding from the buildings alongside. Routes **60, 64/=, 109, 198, 250/=, 264/=, 289, 407, 410, 455 and N109** were diverted north or westbound via Wellesley Road and St James's Road, with route **157** diverted westbound via St James's Road and London Road. Finally, on Sunday 1st August, a parade in London Road caused the temporary diversion via the same routings. Thanks again to Peter for these reports. From 2nd to 13th August, owing to water works in Aberdeen Road, Croydon, route 403 is diverted northbound via South End, High Street and Fell Road. From 14th June to 28th January 2022, owing to flood prevention works in Grayshott Road, Battersea, route **G1** is diverted northbound via Tyneham Road and Sabine Road. From 26th July to 1st August, **G1** was also diverted from Nightingale Lane, owing to water works, diverting in both directions via Bolingbroke Grove and Broomwood Road, thus not serving Clapham South.

South-East: From 2nd to 9th August, owing to water works in Foxgrove Road, Beckenham, route **354** was diverted in both directions via Bromley Road, Beckenham Lane and Ravensbourne Avenue. From 4th to 9th August, owing to gas works in Knee Hill (north), Abbey Wood, route **244** was curtailed to Harrow Manor Way.

South-West: From 26th July to 23rd August owing to development works in Hospital Bridge Road, Whitton, route **481** is diverted in both directions via High Street and Percy Road. From 26th to 31st July owing to sewer works in Manor Road North, Hinchley Wood, route **K3** was diverted in both directions via Kingston By-Pass and Claygate Lane. Thanks to Stuart for the report.

----- *Greater London Route Devts* -----

West: From midday on 14th July until the afternoon of 26th July, owing to a collapsed drain in Hanwell (no doubt caused by the storms on Monday 12th July), routes **207, 427, 483, 607, N83 and N207** were diverted westbound via Boston Road and Lower Boston Road. Because of delays, some journeys on route 483 were curtailed at Ealing Hospital. From 27th July to 16th August, owing to sewer works in Drayton Bridge Road, West Ealing, route **E1** is diverted in both directions via Greenford Avenue, Church Road, Uxbridge Road and St Leonard's Road. Thanks to Peter for both of these reports. From 19th July to 8th August, owing to a collapsed sewer in Ferrymead Avenue, Greenford, route **E10** was diverted in both directions direct via Ruislip Road. From 25th July to 9th August, owing to works at Ealing Broadway station, route **65** was once again curtailed to Ealing Broadway High Street. Again, the N65 seems to be unchanged. From 26th July to 15th August, owing to gas works in Bollo Bridge Road, Acton, route **440** was diverted in both directions via High Street, Gunnersbury Lane and Bollo Lane.

North-West: From 19th July to 1st August, owing to water works in Friary Road, North Acton, route **260** was diverted northbound via Western Avenue and Leamington Park. From 15th July until 21st August, owing to cosmetic works in Fulton Road, route **206** is diverted in both directions via Empire Way, Engineers Way and (eastbound) Fifth Way. From 27th July to 5th October, owing to road works in Norwich Road, Northwood Hills, Route **H13** is diverted in both directions via Wiltshire Lane and Joel Street. In nearby Northwood, Maxwell Road is closed from 23rd July to 13th August and route **331** was diverted in both directions via Copse Wood Way, Rickmansworth Road and Green Lane to double run to Northwood Station. Thanks to John for this report.

North: From 19th July to 26th September, owing to water works in Adelaide Road, routes **31, N28 and N31** are diverted in both directions via College Crescent, Fitzjohn's Avenue, Heath Street, Hampstead High Street, Rosslyn Hill and Haverstock Hill. Route **C11** is diverted in both directions via College Crescent, Buckland Crescent, Belsize Park and Belsize Avenue. A fairly unusual one, this, from 23rd June to 28th September, but only on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, daytimes from 07:00 until 18:00, owing to crane operations in Brimsdown Avenue, Enfield, route **191** is rerouted via route 307 to terminate at Brimsdown Station via Green Street. Further to TLB683, member Joel travelled along St.Paul's Road, Highbury & Islington on 9th July and 17th July, with no evidence of the diversion. Were the works finished in-between these times, or cancelled? From 15th July to 20th September, North Finchley Bus Station is closed owing to a "safety issue". Routes **13/=, 112, 125, 221, 260 and N20** are revised to start and finish or circulate via Kingsway. From 26th July to 31st August, owing to gas works in Dollis Road, Mill Hill, route **382** is diverted in both directions from Holders Hill Circus via Bittacy Hill, Frith Lane, Lullington Garth, Argyle Road, Courthouse Road, Courthouse Gardens and Nether Street. From 26th July to 6th August, owing to telecommunications works in Palmer Place, Holloway, route **153** was diverted northbound via Liverpool Road and Holloway Road. From 2nd to 22nd August, owing to gas works in Albion Road, Stoke Newington, routes **73, 476 and N73** are diverted northbound via Green Lanes and Stoke Newington Church Street.

North-East: From 14th July until approx. 6th August, New North Road, Hainault is closed for traffic calming measures. Routes **150 and 247** are diverted on Mondays to Fridays between 0930 and 1530 in both directions via The Lowe, Manford Way, Manor Road and Fencepiece Road. Thanks to Graham for the report, with Brian adding that possible flooding after the 25th July storms under Hainault Station bridge could not have helped. From 4th to 16th August, owing to gas works in Latchett Road, Woodford, route **W14** was diverted southbound via Gordon Road, Maybank Road and Chigwell Road.

East: From 13:50 on 21st July, and lasting at least a couple of days, Canning Town Bus Station was completely closed owing to a "safety incident": apparently caused by glass roof panels falling down. Terminating routes from the east, **5, 69/=, 300 and 330** were terminating at Rathbone Place and **147 and 309** in Silvertown Way, with other routes **115, 247, 474/=, N15, N550 and N551** not calling there; though presumably some offside stands were still available at the bus station. Thanks for Chris for the report.

COUNTRY AREAS - ROUTE DEVELOPMENTS

Section editor: David Stewart, 5 Kathleen Avenue, Wembley, 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, and covers all local bus services of all operators running outside the Greater London County, but within the traditional LT/LCBS "London Country" area.

West and South ESSEX, including THURROCK

Monday 12th April: Further to TLB681 p15, we now know that EFCT' SB09 DID get withdrawn.

26th June, 4th July 23rd August: Z3/Z5 – See Kent notes below for Ensignbus in Kent.

Tuesday 7th September: 35 (*First Essex Buses*) New route, Tuesdays only: Debden Broadway via Epping, North Weald and Ongar to Chelmsford, Retail Market. This seems to work off the S33 school route from Ongar to Debden Park High School (see TLB673 p16).

HERTFORDSHIRE and southern BEDFORDSHIRE

Sunday 29th March 2020:

W1 (*Red Rose*) (Garston & Maple Cross via Watford, evgs & Suns) Sunday service reduced from hourly to every two hours. This was a 'virus cut' but seems to have become normal.

Sunday 18th July: (updated from TLB683)

748/758 (*Arriva tS*) (Hemel Hempstead & London Victoria) Revised timetable in peak periods plus the reinstatement (after suspension) of daytime off-peak and Saturday journeys.

768 Adding to the above, certain journeys no longer run to or from Hemel but instead now go to Leavesden Studios for the ever-popular 'Harry Potter' tours. These are numbered **768**, ex Victoria M-F 07:30 and 09:30, return at 13:00 and 15:40; On Sats it is 09:00 and 12:00 from Victoria, return 14:30 and 16:30. These compete with the established Golden Tours services but presumably are suitable for casual visitors at standard Green Line fares!?

Monday 19th July:

F77 (*Arriva the Shires*) (Luton & Milton Keynes, M-S) Between approx. 09:00 to 15:00 on Mon-Sat the service is rerouted to serve Tilsworth. The route reverts to its former route via the A5, Tilsworth and Stanbridge Road to Stanbridge, thus no longer running via the by-pass and Peddars Lane.

D1/32/34/35/35A (*Arriva the Shires*) (Leighton Buzzard town services) Revised timetables plus routing adjustments in the Town Centre. The 32 no longer runs to Tilsworth.

Note: All buses in Leighton Buzzard had been diverted away from the High Street along West Street (an 'inner relief road'). However, West Street has recently gained some bus stop shelters and raised boarding areas. This suggests that the 'temporary' inconvenient (to passengers) rerouteing away from the High Street may be made permanent !

Saturday 24th July:

42 (*Grant Palmer*) (Bedford & Dunstable, M-S) Timetable revision with later journeys on Saturdays. Also the solitary Saturday journey from Dunstable is curtailed back to start at Toddington.

44 (*Grant Palmer*) (Bedford & Flitwick, M-S) Later journeys on Saturdays (now comparable to M-F).

78/79 (*Grant Palmer*) (Luton & Shefford, M-S) Later journeys on Saturdays.

200 (*Grant Palmer*) (Flitwick & Biggleswade, M-S) Later journeys on Saturdays.

Monday 26th July (until Saturday 14th August):

89 (*Centrebus*) (Hitchin & Henlow Camp, M-S) Not for the first time, the road between Holwell and Pirton is closed for road works. The 89 has to omit Holwell and run direct Hitchin to Pirton.

89A (*Central Connect*) Special shuttle Hitchin to Holwell via the A507.

----- *Country Route Devts, Herts & Beds* -----

Monday 26th July to Wednesday 18th August:

I don't list all the many diversions except where they are very extensive or notable. In the latter category the closure of Leverstock Green Way is a very critical section of road with no handy diversion route. These are what we believe were the diversion routes (as they had been used before).

Arriva 300 and 302 diverted between the A4147 near Verulamium and the A414/A4147 roundabout at Hemel Hempstead via King Harry Lane, Watford Road, M25 Jct 21A to M1 Jct 8 then A414.

Arriva 320 diverted between Garston, Three Horseshoes and the A414/A4147 roundabout at Hemel Hempstead via A405, M1 Jct 6 to Jct 8 then A414.

Red Rose H10 omits the Woolmer Drive and Chartridge Way loop.

Sunday 15th August:

Stevenage town 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,40,50, also 55, 97/98, 100/101, 301, 856 (*Arriva KT* routes at Stevenage garage) Essentially the current 'covid-19' timetables will be made permanent. However that doesn't apply to all and frequency changes apply to these routes:

1 – M-F offpeak and Sats x20 up to x15; **6** M-F and Sat reduced x20 to x30; **55** M-F & Sat x30, Sun x120; **97/98** reduced all round, M-F from an uneven frequency to x60 M-F (slightly better M-F peaks) and Sat on each route, x2hrs on Suns.

Sunday 29th August:

66, 251, 310, 331, 395, 401, 403 (*Arriva KT*) These are all the routes worked by Ware Garage. The current 'covid-19' timetables will be made permanent.

Hemel 2, 3 and 4, Watford 8 and 10, 300, 302, 320, 500 (now part worked by HH) and 520 (*Arriva KT*) These are all the routes worked by Hemel Hempstead Garage. Revised timetables throughout "to improve punctuality" although some frequencies were increased.

2 – M-F x20 up to x15, Sat x30 to x20, Sun x60 to x30; **3 and 4** (joint) and Sat still x30, Sun from x120 to 60. **10** M-F x15, Sat x20, Sun from x60 to x45; **500** now M-F x15 peak/ x20 offpeak, Sat x20.

Sunday 29th August:

19 (*Centrebus*) (Luton & Stopsley, M-F) M-F off-peak reduced from x15 to x30min.

40/40A (*Centrebus*) (Dunstable & Kensworth, M-S) Last M-F jny delayed from 17:50 to 18:10.

231 (*Centrebus*) (Dunstable & Luton via Caddington, M-S) Timing changes M-F pm peak.

E (*Centrebus*) (Luton & Toddington, M-S) Saturday service withdrawn.

L (*Centrebus*) (Luton & Lewsey Farm, M-S) Saturday service withdrawn.

846/847 (*Centrebus*) (Markyate-846 or Flamstead-847 & Roundwood Park School) Duplicate jnys w'dn.

856 (*Arriva KT*) (Stevenage, John Henry School & Six Hills Way, SDO) Reverts to a public service; it had been 'closed for students' during the pandemic.

S4/S5 (*Redline*) (St Albans & Cottonmill, Daily) Full Daily restoration to pre-Covid timetable.

These below are nominally from Sunday 29th but Monday 30th is a public holiday so the first day of the new arrangements would be Tuesday 31st (or for most schooldays on 1st or 2nd September!).

9A/9B (*Stagecoach East*) (Hitchin & Bedford, M-S) Revised timetable with later evening journeys. Two SDO journeys will run as 9C via Arlesey and Samuel Whitbread Academy.

72/73 (*Stagecoach East*) Parts of the 188/190 between Biggleswade and Sandy are already covered by the existing 73 but a new 72 is being added to increase the coverage via Potton. The combined 72/73 will work Bedford – Sandy- Potton(72) or Beeston (73)- Biggleswade.

74 (*Grant Palmer*) (Hitchin & Bedford, M-S) One additional M-F journey.

85/85A (*Centrebus*) (Biggleswade town service, M-S) Withdrawn after 28th, no replacements yet known although I understand that Central Beds Council is preparing some replacements for this service and perhaps part of 188/190 as well.

188/190 (*Centrebus*) (Hitchin & Sandy via Biggleswade and Potton, M-S) Withdrawn after 28th. Parts from Biggleswade northward will have a limited coverage by Stagecoach 72/73 while the Hitchin to Biggleswade section has no direct replacement although Grant Palmer 74 covers part of it.

----- *Country Route Devts, Herts & Beds* -----

Wednesday 1st September:

- 304 (*Centrebus*) (Hitchin & St Albans, M-S) The 14:40 from St Albans retimed one hour later, now starting at Nicholas Breakspear School at 15:22 SDO or St Peter's Street at 15:40 NSD.
- 306 (*Sullivan Buses*) (Borehamwood & Watford, Daily) Reverted to pre-virus situation.
- 308 and C1 (*Central Connect*) Minor timing changes in M-F am peak.
- 383/384 (*Central Connect*) The 383 jny at 14:30 from Stevenage to Hertford back-projected to start at John Henry Newman School on School Fridays only (due to an early finish on that day).

Changes to school buses at Sullivan Buses, nominally from 1st Sept but start on first variable schoolday.

- 303 Altered to be Hatfield Station, South Hatfield then line of route to Nicholas Breakspear School.
- 330 New route: Hatfield Station via North Hatfield, Business Park to Nicholas Breakspear School.
- 331 Revised times.
- 355 Diverted at Potters Bar Stn to serve High Street, Brookmans Park, Welham Green & Colney Heath.
- 356 New route: Potters Bar Station to Nicholas Breakspear School via the pre-Sept 355.
- 358 Revised times.
- 398 The SDO jny at 15:55 from Watford will start instead from Queens School at 16:40 (change to after school club times). One additional SDO am jny from Potters Bar Tesco to Chancellors School.
- 832 Revised times.
- 833 The SDO pm jny from St Michael's School will divert via Stephenson Way (instead of via Aldenham Road) to serve Water Lane & Watford High Street then line of route at Bushey Arches. The PM M-Th jny from Queen's School also runs on Fris.

Sunday 26th September:

Hertfordshire CC tenders with new contracts; also many of these are substantive contracts following the short-term ones that began last April (entries in TLB679 and 680 refer) when Centrebus surrendered several routes.

- 44/45 (Luton & Stevenage via Kimpton, M-S) Retained by Centrebus.
- 88 (Luton & Hitchin via Breachwood Green, M-S) From Centrebus to Red Eagle.
- 90/91 (Letchworth & Royston via Ashwell, M-S) From A2B back to Richmond's.
- 308/380 (Hertford & Cuffley, M-S, 380 only Mon/Wed/Fri) and from Central Connect to Arriva KT.
- 333 (Hertford Town Service, Pinehurst to Bengoe, Daily) from Central Connect to Vectare. This now includes both the Mon-Sat and the Sunday contract and includes the Sunday H4 (see below).
- 378/379 (Hertford & Stevenage M-S, 378 only Mon/Wed/Fri) and from Central Connect to Arriva KT.
- 395 (Fanham Common & Sele Farm, Daily) The Sunday service from Arriva KT to Vectare.
- B3 (Borehamwood, Organ Hall Farm & Well End, M-S) From Sullivan Buses to Reg's Coaches.
- C1 (Rosedale & Cuffley, M-F peaks) from Central Connect to Arriva KT. Note that the C1, 308/380 and 378/379 are linked for operation by one bus.
- H4 (Hertford & Horns Mill, Cecil Road) Sunday service from Central Connect to Vectare. No change to H1/H2/H3 or Mon-Sat H4, they continue with Central Connect (not part of tender exercise).
- M2, M3, M4, M5 (Ware local services, M-S) from Central Connect to Arriva KT.
- SB10 (Stevenage & Bedwell circular, M-S) Retained by A2B. Certain journeys on Sats continue to be operated by Centrebus, using layover time in Stevenage of the 44/45.
- W1 (Maple Cross & Garston, Suns) Retained by Red Rose Travel. No changes to the separate solitary M-S evening journey (19:15) by Red Rose from Watford Market Street to Maple Cross nor to the Red Eagle W1/W2 services which are all existing separate contracts.
- W18 (Ascot Road Morrisons & North Bushey via Watford, M-S) Retained by Red Rose Travel. (Just a note here, TLB680 p19 refers: The Red Rose Ascot Road Morrisons & Carpenders Park/South Oxhey service now runs as W19 both ways round the South Oxhey loop. The separation from W18 probably occurred from 12th April 2021 (TLB680 p19 refers).

Additionally from 26th September, Universitybus will make timing changes on all routes.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE and east BERKSHIRE (incl. borders of eastern OXFORDSHIRE)

Saturday 28th May:

700 Reintroduction of summer shuttle Windsor Town Centre & Legoland. Operation weekends only to begin with but enhancement to Daily from Saturday 24th July, ending on 31st August. The latter enhancement has been operated with double-decks.

Saturday 17th July to 4th September only: (confirming TLB683 tentative entry):

X16 (*Arriva the Shires*) New service of four journeys each way on Saturdays only until 4th September between Aylesbury and Bicester Village via the A41 Waddesdon, Kingswood and Bicester southern by-pass.

Wednesday 21st July: Last day of the S8 school jny (*Arriva tS*) (TLB682 p17); no return in next term.

Monday 26th July to Tuesday 31st August:

701 (*TV Buses/Reading Transport*) Re-introduction of the 701 Victoria to Windsor and Legoland but omitting Langley and Slough. Two Daily morning journeys from London, two back early evening.

Monday 26th July:

34 (*Carousel Buses*) New route, M-F peaks only: Abbey Barn Park, via Abbey Barn Road, London Road, Bowerdean Road, Totteridge Road to High Wycombe Rail Station.

Sunday 29th August (or first appropriate weekday):

34 (*Carousel Buses*) From Monday 30th (or later if the access road between Heath End Road and Abbey Barn Lane is delayed), route 34 to be extended from Abbey Barn Park to Wycombe Coachway via Heath End Road and Daws Hill Lane. Also at the other end extended from High Wycombe Railway Station to Eden Bus Station becoming an all day Mon-Fri hourly operation.

39 (*Carousel Buses*) (High Wycombe & Totteridge, M-S) Revised timetable on M-F. On Sats a more regular hourly service but slightly fewer journeys.

39A (*Carousel Buses*) (High Wycombe & William Ramsay School, SDO) Minor timing change.,

101/102 (*Carousel Buses*) (High Wycombe & Uxbridge, 101 M-S, 102 Daily) Timetable changes but no frequency changes. The 102 now diverts at Beaconsfield to also serve Wilton Park.

103 (*Carousel Buses*) (High Wycombe & Watford, M-S) Timetable changes but no frequency changes. The X103 jnys - just two am jnys that omit Chorleywood Station- replaced by normal 103s.

104 (*Carousel Buses*) (High Wycombe & Uxbridge via Chalfont St Giles and St Peter, M-S) Timetable changes but no frequency changes.

105 (*Carousel Buses*) (Chesham & Uxbridge, M-S) Timetable changes but no frequency changes.

106/107 (*Carousel Buses*) New routes, combined hourly on M-S): Chalfont Common via Chalfont St Peter, Gerrards Cross, then they split, alternately as 106 via B416 Windsor Road, Stoke Poges Village, Hollybush Hill, Wexham Street to Wexham Park Hospital, then Wexham Road, loop of Knolton Way and The Frithe, Wexham Road to Slough Station, or as 107 via Fulmer, Hollybush Hill, Stoke Poges Village, Crays Park Road to Wexham Park Hospital then as 106 to Slough.

337 (*Carousel Buses*) (Old Amersham & Slough, M-S – See TLB674 p17 for this complex routing) Withdrawn and part replaced by new 106/107.

Note that Redline M-S route 335 Amersham Hospital to Slough via Chalfont Common, Chalfont St Peter, Gerrards Cross, Stoke Poges, Wexham Street, Wexham Park Hospital, then George Green, Upton Lea and Wexham Road is retained although most of it seems to be covered by 106/107.

Tuesday 31st August:

17 (*Red Rose*) (Aylesbury & Bicester, M-S) Rerouted between the A41 (near Blackthorn) and Bicester to run via Launton. The service to Bicester Village is now a 'through' extension from Bicester Town Centre as route 27. This latter is a new Oxfordshire CC contract town service from the Town Centre and Bicester Village to the Langfords Estate.

Thursday 2nd September:

2, 4/4A, 6/6A, 11, 12/12A, 14 (all Aylesbury locals) (*Redline*) Timing changes registered. There may be minor route adjustments but no info yet as we closed for press.

X20 (*Redline*) New route, Mon-Sat hourly: Aylesbury, direct on A418 to Thame then A418 and A40 to Thornhill Park-and-Ride, Headington and Oxford City Centre at Westgate Shopping Centre. Note that this service omits Haddenham and Wheatley.

120 (*Redline*) (Aylesbury & Thame, M-S) Revised timetable but remains hourly and with two M-F offpeak journeys withdrawn. In Haddenham it double-runs to Church End.

130 (*Redline*) (Aylesbury & High Wycombe, M-S) Increased on M-F to x15min (x20 in pm peak). Still x30min on Sats but an hourly Sunday service added.

S130 (*Redline*) New SDO route: High Wycombe via Bradenham, Bledlow Ridge, Summerleys Road, Prices Risborough, Butlers Cross, Stoke Mandeville to Aylesbury and Oxford Road Schools.

667 (*Redline*) (Bledlow Ridge to Aylesbury, SDO) Withdrawn, replaced by S130 (see above).

WP1 (*Redline*) (Slough & Wexham Park Hospital, Daily) Revised timetable but only for running time. It remains M-F x15min, Sat & Sun x30min.

Friday 3rd September:

50/55 (*Red Rose*) (Aylesbury & RAF Halton (50 M-S) or Chesham (55 only M-F) No change to the 50 variant nor on Sats or Suns. The 55 increased to hourly M-F as far as Amersham Station. The projection to Chesham Broadway is only one journey in each M-F peak. The 55 is now rerouted between Aylesbury and Weston Turville via Stoke Mandeville Hospital and Station Road.

60 (*Red Rose*) (Aylesbury & Buckingham, Daily) Increased on Mon-Sat from 4 or 5 jnys each way to hourly. On Sundays it remains four journeys each way. One SDO am journey from Aylesbury diverts in Winslow via Little Horwood Road and Magpie Way as well as diverting in Buckingham via the Royal Latin School. One pm SDO journey does the reverse.

100 (*Red Rose*) (Aylesbury & Milton Keynes via Wing, M-S) Minor timing change in the pm period.

101 (*Red Rose*) (Aylesbury & Leighton Buzzard via Wing, M-S) Service now M-F hourly, Sats x90mins. On both 100 and 101 M-F journeys at school times divert in Aylesbury via Tring Road Tesco. (Not for Tesco as such but it is close to main schools!).

178 (*Red Eagle*) New public SDO route: Great Missenden (Nags Head Lane) via Little Kingshill, Great Kingshill, Prestwood, Great Missenden (town), Hyde Heath, Chesham Bois to Chesham Grammar School.

180 (*Red Rose*) New public SDO route: Great Missenden (Nags Head Lane) via Little Kingshill, Great Kingshill, Prestwood, Great Missenden (town), South Heath, Hyde Heath, Amersham to Little Chalfont, Dr Challoners School.

181 (*Red Rose*) New public SDO route: Chartridge via Chartridge Lane to Chesham, then a loop via Great Hivings and Codmore Cross, then Chesham Bois (Copperkins Lane) to Little Chalfont, Dr Challoners School.

Monday 6th September:

10 (*Red Rose*) (Aylesbury & Hawkslade Farm (Daily) Extended on Mon-Sat from Hawkslade to Stoke Mandeville Hospital, Ambulance Station stop. Frequency now M-F x15, Sat x20, Sun x30.

SURREY and northern parts of WEST SUSSEX:

Saturday 14th August:

34/35, 53/63, 91 (*Arriva K&S* Guildford area) Timetable changes on Saturdays only when the 34/35 and 91 are increased from x60 to x30min. The 53 is still basically hourly but with some extra journeys.

Saturday 28th August:

E9, E10 (*Metrobus*) (Epsom locals) Evening and Sunday services added.

20, 93, 100, 281, 400, 420, 430/435, 460/480 (*Metrobus*) Revised timetables, detail to come.

Tuesday 31st August: (or first appropriate schoolday, mostly 1st Sept)

8 (*First Berkshire*) (Slough & Heathrow T5 via Staines, Daily) New early morning journeys added between Staines and T5 – but operated by *Diamond Bus*.

8 (*Carlone*) (Guildford & The Mount, Tue-Fri) Monday service added (thus from 6th Sept).

33, 39A, 39B, 39C, 81 (*Stagecoach South*) (Woking area) All with timetable revisions for running time.

194 (*Thames Valley Buses*)(Bracknell & Camberley) Certain journeys projected beyond Camberley to Farnborough for the colleges.

455 (*Carlone*) New route, Mon-Fri: Addlestone via New Haw, Woodham Lane, Woking Station, Horsell, Goldsworth Park, Knaphill then A322 to Worplesdon Village and Merrist Wood College.

458 (*Diamond Bus*) (Staines & Kingston via Walton, Daily) Additional Mon-Sat evening journeys.

545 (*Carlone*) (Walliswood & Guildford via Holmbury St Mary, Weds) The return journey retimed.

599 (*Carlone*) (Holmbury & Cranleigh, Thurs & Fris), on to Guildford on Fris). The return journey on Fridays retimed. Back-extended in Holmbury St Mary to start pick-ups at Hoe Lane at Sutton.

615 (*Cardinal*) New SDO service: Chipstead Valley via Banstead to St Andrew's School, Leatherhead.

621 (*Falcon Coaches*) (Oxshott via Cobham, Downside to Howard of Effingham School, SDO) Afternoon journey retimed from 15:10 to 15:40.

623 (*Buses4U*) (Ashted, Greville Park Road (10:30) to Epsom Clock Tower, Fridays) Return journey retimed from 13:40 to 14:50.

661 (*Cardinal*) (Hampton Court & Hinchley Wood School, SDO) Revised timings.

678 (*Reptons Coaches*) (Ripley via Ockham, West and East Horsley to Howard of Effingham School, SDO) Afternoon journey retimed from 15:10 to 15:40.

697 (*Carlone*) (Onslow Village & St Joseph's School on Aldershot Road via Park Barn, SDO) Curtailed back from Onslow Village to start at the Park Barn loop. Extended beyond St Joseph's via Aldershot Road and Coombe Lane to Merrist Wood College.

715 (*Stagecoach South*) (Guildford & Kingston, Daily) Additional Mon-Sat evening journeys.

856 (*Cardinal*) (Upper Halliford & Woking 6th Form College, SDO) Revised timings.

881 (*Cardinal*) (Thames Ditton & Three Rivers Academy, SDO) Revised timings.

X30/X94 (*White Bus*) (Ascot, Heatherwood Hospital & Frimley Park Hospital, M-F) The X94 via Bracknell continues but some journeys will operate via Bagshot and Camberley as X30.

Monday 6th September:

3S (*Safeguard*) (Guildford & Bellfields, M-S) The 'S' suffix will be dropped. The 'live positioning' jnys from and to Jacobs Well will no longer be in service.

4/5 (*Safeguard*) (Guildford & Park Barn circulars, Daily) Revised timetable with additional journeys and with Sunday evening journeys restored (having been suspended during pandemic).

North and west KENT:

General Note: The Z3, Z5 and AZ1 are for Amazon workers and recruits but the Go-Coach AZ will be a public service as well as the regular link to Amazon Dartford.

Sunday 27th June to Saturday 28th August:

Z5 (*Ensignbus*) Daily operation for Amazon staff recruits. Operation non-stop between Dartford Station (interchange point from AZ1 and Z3) via Burnham Road, A206, M25, A23, A1099 to Tilbury Amazon. This is so that recruits for the new Amazon Dartford on the site of the former Littlebrook Power Station can be trained at Tilbury. Additional journeys start on 1st August. This service is unregistered and will run daily until Saturday 28th August.

Sunday 4th July to Sunday 22nd August:

Z3 (*Ensignbus*) One early journey on Sundays only at 06:10 from Woolwich Arsenal via Abbey Wood and Erith to Dartford Station. (see AZ1 below for full routeing). On arrival at Dartford there is a connection to the Z5; also the Z3 bus will go forward as far as Gravesend if there are night-shift workers arriving from Tilbury needing onward transport.

Monday 23rd August

AZ (*Go Coachhire*) New double-deck route operating 24 hours a day on KentCC contract:
From Dartford, Home Gardens out to the north of the Station then via William Munday Way, Burroughs Drive, non-stop via Arriva's Fastrack A via Trevithick Drive and Joyce Green Lane to the Busway, then to Rennie Drive at the Amazon Distribution Centre on the site of the former Littlebrook Power Station. Then on via Fastrack A to Greenhithe Station, then via Fastrack B through Ingress Park (although deviated via London Road during the night) to Ebbsfleet Football Ground, then via Thames Way (stop near Ebbsfleet International Station) and non-stop via Fastrack B to Gravesend Bus Hub (a new name for Garrick Street 'Bus Station').

AZ1 (*First Essex Buses*) New service on contract to Amazon with Daily operation:
Woolwich Arsenal Station, via Plumstead High Street, McLeod Road, Abbey Wood, Abbey Road, Belvedere, Lower Road, Erith High Street, Manor Road, Slade Green Road, Hazel Road, Slade Green Station (down side), Bridge Road, Whitehall Lane (Slade Green Station, the up side!), Howbury Lane, Thames Road, Bob Dunn Way (A206) direct to Amazon at Littlebrook.

Four journeys each way Daily, ex Woolwich at 06:30, 08:00, 18:00 and 19:00, from Amazon at 06:15, 07:15, 18:45 and 20:15. (See also Z5 below).

Tuesday 31st August

1 (*Go Coachhire*) (Sevenoaks & Westerham, M-S) Increased M-S from 4 to 7 jnys.

6 (*Go Coachhire*) (Sevenoaks & Ksmsing, M-S) Increased M-S from 3 to 5 jnys.
(The 2 and 5 remain on reduced schedules and the 8 (Town Circular) retains 7 jnys while the 3 and 4 remain totally suspended).

429 (*Go Coachhire*) (West Kingsdown & Dartford, M-S) Revised timetable.

PUBLICITY NEWS

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

‘Freedom Day’ on 19 July has not seen significant numbers of new publicity items appearing across the LOTS area. Tube station racks mostly remain empty, with even the ‘Tube map’ missing at many stations. The Visitor Centre at Victoria has now reopened Wednesday to Saturday between 09:30 and 16:45, whilst that at Piccadilly Circus has the same hours between Thursday and Saturday. TfL’s ‘Welcome back. Tube it. Bus it. Train it’ commercial has aired regularly on prime-time TV, but has yet to be supported with printed publicity which returning passengers might use to navigate the system. Intending passengers are presumably expected to use TfL’s website, which notably is not mentioned in the TV advert! Outside of London, with the exception of Luton, Arriva have closed all travel offices and no longer issue any paper timetables. Metrobus, reflecting the approach of many operators, are “waiting for stability” before issuing any printed publicity. This includes the excellent ‘Bus times’ for all the services in and around Brighton & Hove.

Following last month’s trilogy, Scotbus .com have published “**LTG Update London Travel Guide**” outlining all amendments between 15 May and 30 June 2021. The forty-four page A4 book is in the same format as previous editions and includes a selection of historic photos marking the twenty first anniversary of londonbusroutes.net from where many of the timetables are sourced. The front cover features First London DML 362 in the red and white Croydon Tramlink livery. The book covers the reopening of the Waterloo and City Line, for which the full working timetable is included.

Two new slimlines from Hertfordshire County Council are both in the standard Intalink format. “**C1 Bus Times**” is valid from 12 April and has a full timetable for the route linking Cheshunt with Cuffley. The route map shows each stop served, with a second map showing bus stops at Cuffley Railway Station. A star burst highlighting ‘Journeys on 724 between Ware & Welwyn Garden City’ appears on the cover of “**324,724 Bus Times**” valid from 30 May. It also contains a detailed route map, accompanied by a bus stop map of Welwyn Garden City Bus Station.

Thames Valley’s route 700 Windsor to Legoland shuttle is running on a daily basis from 24 July to 31 August, prompting an updated version of “**your buses for Legoland.**” The cover has been amended from the previous edition reviewed in TLB683 with some Lego accompanied by the Optare Solo now appearing in a lime green livery, (although there are no lime green liveried Solos in the fleet). Intending passengers leaving Legoland at the end of the day will probably not welcome the limited capacity a Solo offers!

CURRENT VEHICLE NEWS

This section covers the current vehicle news (including initial disposals) pertaining to bus operators within the “TLB” area, roughly comprising the old LT/LCBS areas. All current vehicle reports to David Stewart at 5 Kathleen Avenue, Wembley, HA0 4JH (e-mail to davestewart297@gmail.com)

General news:

The 50th anniversary of the first ‘Superbus’ service in Stevenage occurred on 31st July. It was 31st July 1971 when yellow and blue buses took over route 809 to Chells. A small display took place close to the Bus Station featuring preserved AN 264 and SM 88. None of the original Superbus vehicles has survived but the AN (a Stevenage based bus when new) carried the later Stevenagebus logos that perpetuated the yellow and blue colours, albeit on the normal green of LCBS.

Talking of green buses, LBC’s RCL 2260 and RT 3232 were at the old (closed) Bus Station in Hemel Hempstead on 28th July for a filming job.

ABELLIO LONDON (BC,QB,WL), **ABELLIO WEST LONDON** (GW,TF,WS garages)

Later this year the Hayes (WS) Garage, which is in an inconvenient location at North Hyde Gardens, is to close, in favour of replacement premises in Dawley Road on the west side of Hayes.

A new order placed is for 12 x BYD/ADL E400EVs for route U5 (contract date 19 March 2022).

Surplus LTs from frequency reductions on routes 27 and 159 (five from each) are due to transfer to RATP late in August for their route 111. By late July, both routes 350 and U7 had reverted to single-deck operation with just the isolated double-deck appearances.

E400 9411 had an incident early on 31st December 2020 but was finally back in use on 10th July.

Further repaints include 8215.

Transfers:

(December 2020): 9411 WS/WSu.

(March): 8121 GW/GWw. 8325 WL/WLu.

(June): In TLB683, 9504/7-11 should be 9505/07-11 QB/QBu..

9419 GW/WS. 9428 GW/BC. 9441 WS/QB. 9454/55, 9465/66 QB/QBw. 9456-64 GW/GWw.

(July): 2456 WS/QB. 8201/2/3/4 GW/BC. 8809 WL/TF. 8863 TF/GW.

9406 WS/BC/QB. 9411 WSu/GW. 9421, 9424, 9442 WS/QB. 9504 QBu/QB.

Livery changes:

LT 155 from advert for Taylor’s Latte hack to red.

LT 625 from advert for Sanex back to red.

Disposals: (June)

E200s 8118-21 to Chartwell Bus Sales, then on to North West Bus Sales who sold them to Vision Bus, Blackrod, Bolton, Greater Manchester.

Some subsequent disposals:

8037 (BU05 HFX) is now with Redline, Aylesbury.

A2B TRAVEL GROUP, Melbourn, Cambridgeshire

A Sprinter demonstrator H11 EVM was loaned in June for trials. One new Sprinter has been ordered.

Acquired (July) from Whippet Coaches, Swavesey, Cambridgeshire:

AB53 AZB (formerly GX57 AUT) AD E200Dart – AD Enviro200 8.9m B29F – 2007.

Acquired (July) from Felix Coaches, Long Melford, Suffolk:

AB54 AZB (formerly MX05 FOJ) M-B Sprinter 616CDi – Mellor B18F – 2005.

----- *Current vehicle news* -----

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.

Recent repaints/ refurbishes include DW 312, 467, 566, 567, 577, 579, 580; ENX 27.

EMC 6 (TC) has gained digital destination displays.

The odd LT continues to be loaned from AR to Enfield, although LT 578 and LT 593 are back at AR.

Transfers: (July): ENX 25 Eu/DT.

Livery changes:

DW 571 from advert for J I-Move back to red.

HV 230, HV 301 and HV 343 to adverts for Cannaray.

LT 4 from advert for Taylor's Latte to one for Vodafone.

LT 472 to advert for Vodafone.

LT 477 from advert for Ocado back to red.

LT 967 to advert for Vodafone.

LT 601 from advert for Sanex back to red.

LT 975 to advert for Bananas.

Disposals:

Ref. TLB680 p25, PDL 143 went to BBPG but was later returned; subsequently it was sold to Ensign Bus and re-sold (See Where are they now? section in this TLB. Meanwhile, PDL 145 was sold to Bromley Bus Preservation Group (assumed April/May).

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 and West Surrey (GF, A-K&S licence and NF, AKT licence)

6151 transferred out of area: NF/TW. 6202 and 6204 into use at NF.

Part 2: Hertfordshire and West Essex (HA, HH, SV, WA and WE garages (all A-KT licence).

Further to TLB683, Stevenage (Norton Green Road) Garage is due to close after service on Saturday 14th August. From Sunday 15th buses from NGR will move to run from the adjacent Babbage Road and Bessemer Drive sites. Building work will take place at Babbage Road until Spring 2022 and BR and BD sites will operate in tandem. Ultimately engineering will be settled at rebuilt premises at Babbage Road.

Recent repaints to the new lighter blue livery include 3772, 4231, 4239.

HH continues to use Sprinters from the Watford 'Click' operation on driver change duties between the garage and Riverside.

Outward loan: 3786 (SV) loaned to Part 3 at AY.

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

AY Garage has been running Solos on the 500: 2401, 2451 and 2479 all on 9th July, 2452 on 17th but on 21st 2401, 2452, 2495 and 2498 were joined by Sprinter 1002. E400 5460 also ran on that day.

Recent repaints to the new lighter blue livery include 3953.

DB250 6042 (AY) was involved in a three-vehicle crash on 20th July when on route 300 near Hughendon Manor. It is suggested that it is likely to be a write-off.

Inward loan: (late July): 3786 from Stevenage (part 2), on loan at AY. Nar loan:

----- *Current vehicle news* -----

BEAR BUSES, Shepperton

Volvo B7TL X444 EGK and Dart SLF Y986 TGH have been withdrawn.

BIG BUS COMPANY, Earlsfield

DA 225 and DA 227 are now allover adverts for Guess, the clothing brand.

CAROUSEL BUSES, High Wycombe

So far Sprinters 977 and 978 have gained the all-over red. None of the ex B&H Scania's had got to Carousel by early August although 243/4/5 are expected to do so soon.

Two more blue ex-Konectbus Citaros have turned up- albeit unused at early August. These are 426 (HF55 JZD) and 429 (HF55 JZJ), I shall leave it to TLB685 to formally acquire them and confirm any Carousel fleet numbers or repaints. These should replace the last of the MAN E200s 421/3/4.

CENTRAL CONNECT (Galleon Travel 2009 Ltd), Roydon Essex

Acquired (July) via Ensign Bus, formerly Stagecoach Midlands 47508:
KX57 KGA Optare Solo M880 B27F – 2007.

CENTREBUS, Luton and Stevenage

Solo 378 has been withdrawn.

Acquired (July): from Roberts, Hugglescote, Leicestershire:
(fleet nos?) BU16 UWN Volvo B8RLE – MCV Evolution B40F – 2016.

COBRA Corporate Services, Isleworth

Further to the note in TLB683 about the NHS buses at Epsom the buses remain owned by Cobra – who is therefore the operator. SFS (Specialist Fleet Services) of Epsom supply drivers. During July a couple of Cobra E200s (SN67 XBD and XBH) in Sky TV livery have been used on the NHS H1; Sky are a client of Cobra for staff transport.

DIAMOND BUS SOUTH-EAST (ex HALLMARK CONNECTIONS), Stanwell

(including Hotel Hoppa) part of Rotala plc
E200 28344 has received a revised Hotel Hoppa purple & white livery.

Correction: B9TL 40626 is H45/29F and always has been (and not H41/25F).
Disposal: B9TL 40626 returned to Diamond Midlands (Redditch) at the end of July.

ENSIGNBUS, Purfleet

AD E40D/E400MMC 132 (YX66 WLH) went on loan to First Eastern Counties for 3 months from July.

Acquired (July) from Alexander Dennis:
368 (68 EB) TransBus Enviro500 O53/29F – 2001.
(Chassis no. SFD135GR41GTD1360, body no. 0157/1).

This was the pre-production development Enviro500 in 2001 when ADL was TransBus and was built as a normal covered top and dual door H53/25D. It was recently converted to full open-top and to single door (thus upseated) and gained a special registration. Its first service was on Monday 26th July on Southend sea-front service 68. It has re-trimmed seats from TN 33081 (and probably a few others).

FALCON COACHES, Byfleet

Disposals:
E200s KX58 GTF and KX09 CHZ passed to Select Bus Services, Penkridge, Staffs (by June).
Solo YJ15 ARF to TLC Travel, Bradford (by June).

----- *Current vehicle news* -----

GO-AHEAD LONDON

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

The transfer of routes 15/N15, 115 and 649/650/651 from RR to DS on 17th July resulted in several oddities. On 26th July the EL1/2/3 routes, hitherto always LT-operated, suddenly hosted E 127, 135, 166, 191 and WHV 61, 65, 66, 69. Apparently due to flooding at River Road Garage there were a lot of LTs off the road and the practice of E/WHV workings continued on the next days too, including some on the 15 and 115. In practice, the transfer of vehicles from RR to DS was fluid (!) so I have regarded the three batches involved as a ‘pool’.

Odd workings: On both 8th and 19th July SEe 94 (10.2m) was on route 456, thus showing that the usual route 456 buses (8.9m WSS) can indeed be covered by longer buses. Through July it became common for an SEe to appear on route 232. In the south, Es often appear on the 126 but EH 311 was a bit different on 23rd July. On 20th July Ee 67 was the first of type to appear on route 115 now that route has transferred from RR to DS Garage.

Recent repaints/ refurbishes include SE 250, One that does need a repaint is SE 75, never refurbished when the rest of its batch were done. Instead, it has had the charcoal skirt overpainted in red and with part of the yellow stripe still visible.

Further to Wimbledon Tennis service in TLB683, the AELTC shuttle seemed to be still running on 23rd July when E 9 was observed!

LT 284, off since 6th October 2020, was back in use on 28th July.

New deliveries:

Correcting TLB682, Me 3-6 have regs YJ21 EYC/D/F/G. (Sorry, I was one out in the sequence).

(July): Me 8-15 (YJ21 EYK/L/M/O/P/R/S/T) Optare MetroDecker MD1050EV H41/22D. ULW for the batch is 11220kg. (*Just two to come now- Ed.*)

Transfers: Outstations at CY=Crawley, LS=Luton, FK=Folkestone, NH=Newhaven, KL=King’s Lynn). (March): E 69 RR/RRu.

(July): Me 8, 9, 11, 12 --/Qu/AL. Me 10, 13, 14, 15 --/Qu.

SE 272 A/AL. SE 273 PL/AL. SOE 30 ALu/AL. LT 284 NXu/NX.

(August): Me 10, 13, 14, 15 Qu/AL.

(17th July, move of routes 15/N15, 115 and 649/650/651 from RR to DS Garage):

This was not straightforward as the ‘dedicated’ batches never moved en-bloc. Some of those that moved on the first day were soon back at RR and vice versa. Thus I haven’t changed the formal allocation at this stage. So:

LT 391-416 and 452-453 – 28 buses but the 15/N15 has PVR of 18, so that total on any one day ran on the 15 with spares being on the EL1/2/3 from RR.

E 131-161 – 31 buses but the 115 also has PVR of 18 so that total came from the pool, most others being on the 5 out of RR.

WHV 60-69 – 10 buses for 649/650/651. These did work those routes regularly but a few ran on other RR routes (e.g. the 135).

Livery changes:

LT 234 to advert for Vodafone.

LT 421 from advert for Rythym of Korea back to red.

LT 431 from Sanex back to red.

LT 450 to advert for Vodafone.

Disposals: WVL 83 to Go North East, Gateshead (No.6900) (July).

MetroDecker EV ‘demonstrator’ YJ19 HVC adopted fleet number 9051 at Go North East.

GO COACHHIRE, Otford and Swanley, Kent (incl. 'The Bus Doctor')

The former Abellio E400s 9505/07-11 reported in TLB683 are for use on a new service to the new Amazon Distribution Centre on the site of the Littlebrook Power Station near Dartford. They are presently being refurbished and repainted, 9507 being the first to be completed. The service (AZ) is detailed in Country Route Devts in this TLB and will be allowed to use the Fastrack busways over Arriva's A and B routeings, albeit only using certain stops.

On 22nd April green E400 9001 was taken to Bluewater from where it took interested parties around roads planned for route AZ to check clearance issues. On 8th July MetroCity 6201 did timing runs and on 10th July E400 9007 went to Ingress Park to check on tree clearances.

The preserved Volvo Olympian 8601 (S869 HCG) and green 9001 attended the LBM event at Brooklands on 27th June. In late June RML 2699 had a fresh coat of London red paint with 'route 10' embellishments. Originally delivered in gold and purple for the 10th anniversary of the company in 2018, MetroCity 6201 was repainted to standard livery later in July.

Ex-PVL 8308 has joined 8303/05/09/11 in the withdrawn fleet, all remain stored on site. Volvo coach 4901 (UK04 BCL) and M-B 515 BF10 VBY are also withdrawn for eventual disposal.

Renault Master 601 (LX19 CXN) may get renumbered 801 if two more seats can be fitted within.

It may not be understood by some that the first two digits (of four) or first one (of three) digits in the fleet numbering indicates to the driver the maximum legal passenger load (seated plus standing) that can legally be carried within the weight. Thus the 'PVLs' 8301-11 are 61+22 or 66+17 for dual or single door versions respectively. Irrespective of seat layout, 83 is the max total of bodies!

GOLDEN TOURS, Alperton

Still nothing like normal service levels on London sightseeing services. From Saturday 17th July there was a slight upcount and the run-out in London consisted of 8 open-tops on the tour, up to 5 for Harry Potter trips (up from 2 or 3), 1 tea-bus on Fri/Sat/Sun and 4 coaches. There are also open-top tour buses at Windsor (x2), York (x3) and Bournemouth (x4). In 2019 when life was normal it would have been more than double those figures. Similar levels of run-out apply to all the sightseeing operators.

B9 TL/MCV 120 (BU14 EHP) is a fifth bus at Bournemouth (TLB682 p25 refers).

104/5/6/7 and 114, already at Ensign Bus, were sold on to Atlantic Travel, Bolton (July).

KEANE TRAVEL, Grays

Correction: Volvo B9TL SN57 DFK is H45/30F (not H49/32F).

METROBUS, Crawley (within the Go-Ahead Group) (CY depot)

Scania 6513 went to Go North East as reported but has now been sold for preservation.

Scania OmniTowns 6622 and 6623 returned on 1st July from Brighton & Hove. They had been used on rail replacements at B&H and should continue that role now from Crawley,

----- *Current vehicle news* -----

METROLINE TRAVEL – AC, AH, EW, HD, HT, KC, PA, PB, PV, SG and W garages, also
METROLINE WEST – G, HZ, ON, UX and WJ garages.
(within the ComfortDelgro group of Singapore)

A date has now been set for the closure of the present Alperton (ON) Garage on the night of 10th September after 82 years. It was opened in June 1939 just before the start of WW2 and when STLs and STs were the main types there. The current routes are to move out gradually, the 487 to WJ from 28th August, the 204 returns to EW from 4th September and the 83/N83/483 go to PV on the night of 10/11th September. Each route takes with it its present type allocation, DE, TE and VW respectively.

There will be an open day on Saturday 11th September for a last look at the interiors, there will be the usual vehicle displays, some local special bus services and sales stands. As is usual at Metroline open days, entry is by programme at a modest cost with proceeds to charity. The replacement premises at nearby Athlon Road will be progressed and it is expected to be ready in late summer 2022.

During the last week of July a start was made in standing down the loaned Tower Transit VWHs and this set off a raft of VWH transfers (see below). However, caution remains at PV with most that went out being covered by others coming in. Until mid-July rarely more than six WHDs (out of 20) were in service at PV on any given day but that improved by early August so TT should get all its buses back during the month.

The Optare Solo electric demonstrator at Potters Bar listed in TLB683 (as OSE 2750) never did get used and has returned to Optare. The fabled electric MetroCity for route PB1 is now forecast to arrive at PB in September but with Optare's usual delivery record, that remains to be seen !!

On Sundays 18th and 25th July Uxbridge's route U1 was all double-deck due to a shut-down on the Metropolitan line. Staying at UX, during the last week of July route U3 was converted back to single-deck operation, hence some of the DE transfers below.

Late in July (at least 21st to 28th) the Caetano H2.City Gold hydrogen fuel cell demonstrator AD45LZ visited Metroline and was seen out and about in west London several times.

In June 2021, LT 11 was located at Besthorpe, near Attleborough, Norfolk. It has been off service since 12 June 2020 (don't know why!). LT 284, off since 24th May 2020, was back in use on 28th July.

Recent repaints/ refurbishes include TE 1985 (last of the batch 1981-2000); VWH 2005, 2009, 2012, 2014, 2017.

Transfers: (h suffix = Hertfordshire Commercial Fleet).

(January 2021): DM970 AH/AHu. (May): TE 1574 UX/UXu.

(July): LT 104 HTu/HT. LT 662 W/HT.

DE 868, 869 WJ/AH. DE 875, 876 UX/AH. DE 1012, 1013, 1014 AH/UX.

DE 1152 WJ/UX. DE 1154, 1155 AH/UX. DE 1168 W/PB. DE 1329 WJ/UX.

DE 1583, 1585, 1614 PB/UX. DE 1619 PB/W.

TE 1422 G/UX. TE 1574 UXu/UX/W. TE 1575 UX/W. TE 1576-1581 UX/HZw. TE 1742 PB/UX.

VW 1197 HD/PB. VW 1829 EW/ON. VW 1831 PB/ON. VW 1837 PB/PA.

VWH 2060/61 UX/PB. VWH 2111, 2112 UX/PV. VWH 2266, 2269 PB/PV. VWH 2267, 2268 PA/PV.

VWH 2277 UX/PV. VWH 2285/86/87/89/90, 2302/03 PV/W. VWH 2295 PV/PA.

VWH 2728/33/35/37/39/45/46 W/PAu. (August): VWH 2288/94/96 PV/W.

Livery changes:

LT 12 from advert for Nordic Spirit back to red.

LT 763 from advert for Taylor's Latte back to red.

VWH 2093 to advert for Kenya.

VWH 2121 and VWH 2292 to advert for Cannaray.

Disposals: OSE 2750 (OP02 ARE) Solo – returned to Optare on 5th August without having been used.

Grant PALMER, Flitwick, Beds

Change of registration: Scania 152 from BU52 WAY back to YN03 WRG.

Correction: Volvo B9TL 709 (BU52 WAY ex SN57 GMU) is H45/30F (not H49/32F).

RATP-DEV LONDON including
LONDON UNITED - AV, FW, JE, RP, S, TV, V and WK (ex HH) garages and
LONDON SOVEREIGN – BT, CP and SO garages. (c suffix= commercial).

One change that has taken a few decades to manifest itself is the adoption at Hounslow Heath Garage of the WK garage code. TfL/ London Buses have always used WK which was inherited from when Westlink (remember them?) worked from there. However, the garage has always persisted in painting HH codes on the buses. However, in July some buses transferred in adopted WK codes. So from now on we shall adopt the formal code WK on the presumption that it will increase.

Epsom (EB) Garage has now been cleared of the remaining vehicles and was formally closed down by mid-July. OS 20224 continues on the Atkins staff contract but now from TV, OM 20239 never went to Go-Ahead as it is a non-standard vehicle – e.g. a different engine to the others in the batch – and will be disposed of in due course. The MCM-class Citaros moved to store at WK until required in September at Hounslow (AV) for route 117

From 28th August there are due to be frequency reductions on several central London routes. From those routes currently using LTs (RATP routes 9 and 148, Abellio routes 27 and 159 plus a small reduction already made on Stagecoach route 55), the plan is to gather them at RATP to convert route 111 from Hounslow (AV) to LT operation. There should be 15 from RATP, 10 from Abellio and 3 from Stagecoach. The 111 is PVR 25 +3 spares =28. The 28 SPs from the 111 would replace VHs and/or ADHs elsewhere, in turn to get suitable vehicles at Harrow and Shepherd's Bush to operate routes X140 and 49 until it is practical to actually run the electric BCEs thereon. In any case, the electric power at Fulwell will not be ready until October/ November and at Harrow not until the end of September. Although Shepherd's Bush will be ready, charger units are being installed at Stamford Brook as a kind of 'overflow'. The 49 will still have to use VHs until road layout problems on the route are resolved to allow the longer BCEs to pass; they have a wider turning circle.

Meanwhile, BCEs have begun to arrive and they are going into store for the time being. The batches nominally for routes 281 (FW) and 49 (S) are coming concurrently – see tables below.

The Bedfont Lakes contracts started again from 26th July using DLE 30020-25 all of which have been released from the end of school V-routes on 23rd. Route H11 (SO) is gradually losing its DLEs for DEs; this is because the H11 is due to transfer from SO to Canons Park outstation (CP). However, CP holds just the shorter DEs and there is a desire to avoid DLEs getting onto the 251 and 326 by mistake as they would be too long.

The three LTs (69, 70 and 147) at Fulwell were in use on V- school services to the end of term on 23rd July but then moved out. They had been usually on the V293, V613 and V671 but had been used occasionally at non-school times on route 71 although that practice died down after the end of June.

Recent repaints/ refurbishes include ADH 45026, 45034.

New deliveries (June-47030, July-47031-35):

BCE 47030-035 (LE21 FRU/V/X/Z, FSA/C)

BYD D8UR-DD – AD Enviro400EV-City 10.9m H42/23D. ULW 13345kg.

From this batch, both the upper and lower deck seat totals are one less than was the norm, so from H43/24D to H42/23D, In both cases the rearmost bench seat of 5 is reduced to 4 by inserting a 'hump with an arm-rest' in the centre.

Some booked registrations :-

The first batch of 22 are nominally the order for the route 281 conversion at Fulwell:

BCE 47030-051 LE21 FRU/V/X/Z, FSA/C/D/F/G/J/K/L/N/O/P/U/V/X/Z, FTA/C/D.

The second batch of 16 is nominally for route 49 at Shepherd's Bush:

BCE 47084-099 LE21 FTF/J/K/N/O/P/T/U/V/X/Z, FUA/B and LG21 JNZ, FOA, FOH.

The booked allocation may not be the actual, dependent on electric installations. Dependent on when they can be formally registered some may change to 71-marks before going into service.

----- *Current vehicle news* -----

RATP-DEV LONDON, Continued:

Transfers: (CP- Canons Park, Parr Road, e = Epsom commercial, c = other commercial).

(April); DDE 20287/88/89 EB/TV.

(July): LT 69, 70 FW/V. LT 147 FW/AVt. DE 20022 AV/TV (then to Go-Ahead as in TLB683).

DE 20049 AV/SO. DE 20093 TV/SO DE 20094 AV/SO. DE 20095 TV/RP. DE 20121 EB/FW.

OS 20224 EBe/TVc. OM 20239 EB/ wdn (at WK?)

DLE 30005 FW/AV. DLE 30013/015/016 SO/FW. DLE 30020/021/024 FW/WKc.

DLE 30022/025 AV/WKc. DLE 30023 SO/RP/WKc. MCM 30084-92 EB/WKu.

DLE 30328 RP/AV. SP 40071/072 CP/FW. SP 40077 AV/SO. SP 40078 AV/CP/SO.

SP 40079/080 CP/SO. SP 40081 FW/AV. SP 40191/192/193 FW/AV.

ADE 40308/309/310 WK/TV. ADE 40460/461 BT/RP. ADE 40482 AV/WK.

BCE 47030-035 stored variously at BYD Iver, FW, SO, WK (at least) and maybe V will follow.

(August): More BCEs began to arrive in early August –including 47036/38/39/44 while 47037 and 47084/85 were due in the first week of the month. I will detail in TLB685.

Livery changes:

BCE 47013 from advert for Courtney Black back to red.

Disposals:

DE 20003/04/05, 20007/08/09, 20060 to Mr S.Boxall (July).

ADH 45038 had an accident on 13th August 2018 and was written off by the company not long afterwards. In July 2021 its remains were listed in an auction!

Re TLB683 p34, OS 20225/226 went via Chartwell (not Chalkwell !!).

READING TRANSPORT and THAMES VALLEY BUSES (incl. Green line)

126 is another in the new two-tone grey. 659 and 660 are more in the purple version for routes 16/16A. E400s 1204/5/6 in Newbury & District livery have been in use on Green line services lately while E400s 795/6/7 seem to have transferred to the main Reading fleet.

RED EAGLE BUSES, Dinton near Aylesbury

E200 YX60 BZO has been repainted to the new livery although it retains its former Metroline number DE 1896 on the rear.

Acquired (July), via leasing company and formerly Stagecoach London 36266.

LX11 AVW AD E200Dart – AD Enviro200 10.2m B29D – 2011.

REDLINE BUSES, Aylesbury

Acquired (July) via -?--, originally Abellio 8037:

BU05 HFX AD Dart SLF – AD Pointer 8.8m B23F – 2005 (this may have been upseated).

RED ROSE TRAVEL, Dinton near Aylesbury

CX65 BUF has been repainted to Red Rose livery from Ensignbus blue and silver.

SOUTHDOWN PSV, Crawley Down

Correction to Fleetbook: Scania N230UDs 500/1/2 are H47/28F (not H47/21F).

503/4 are H47/29F as quoted.

STAGECOACH LONDON (part of Stagecoach Holdings) incorporating:
EAST LONDON - BK, BW, NS, RM, T and WH; and **SELKENT** - KB, PD, TB and TL.

A part open-top Volvo from Cambridge was taken on loan from 15th July to assist on the 'Grupo Julia' sightseeing tour in London. It is in the red City Sightseeing livery and is one of a batch of four at Cambridge – 13808-11 (BV18 YBA/B/C/D). By 26th July the 'Cambridge' branding was altered to 'London' which may indicate a very long loan.

Three of Leyton's LTs (461/2/3) came off service at the end of July with a small frequency reduction on route 55 and are due to transfer to RATP during August as part of the conversion to LT of their route 111.

Recent repaints/ refurbishes include LT 376, 12336, 19732, 19818, 36580.

E40H 12283 suffered fire damage on 14th July. The remaining loaned Solos left London after the end of extra school services in late July.

The annual motor-racing event at Silverstone was on 16/17/18 July. As usual a huge fleet of Stagecoach buses from far and wide were provided, including 36 from London.

Inward loan (July) from Stagecoach East:

13808 (BV18 YBA) Volvo B5TL – Wrightbus Gemini PO53/30F – 2018.

Transfers:

(June): Re TLB683 15031/032/035 stayed at TB (not u) and 15048 stayed at WH (not u).

(July): 10198 PD/RM. 12283 PD/PDu (fire damage). 13808 --/BW. LT 461/2/3 T/Tu.

Livery changes:

LT 253 from advert for Sanex back to red.

LT 266 to advert for Vodafone.

LT 377 to advert for Bananas.

LT 384 to advert for Vodafone.

Disposals:

E200s 36365, 36366 to Stagecoach South East (East Kent) (July).

Loaned Solos 48023/24/25/31 to Stagecoach Manchester (late July).

Loaned Solos 48032/33/34/35 to Stagecoach East (late July).

STEPHENSON'S OF ESSEX

Although this company has services into Brentwood on the very edge of our area, from 26th July it expanded into our area when it took over route 418 (Epping & Loughton) from Central Connect. Initially the vehicle in use is No.302 (KF19 LCV) a M-B Sprinter with Mellor Strata bodywork.

SULLIVAN BUSES, South Mimms

WVL 2, 3, 4, 8 and E 58, 59 have been 'demoted' from TfL work and will now only operate the Hertfordshire contracts. The E200Dart/ East Lancs buses DE 30 and 31 have been withdrawn. Three 'new' E200s are due soon and will be numbered AE 17, 18, 19.

Disposals:

ALX 6 (LY02 OAX) to Bryan's, Enfield (July).

ELV 2 (PN02 XCR) sold to Action Cars, a film production company (July). For now it will stay in Sullivan's yard.

TOOTBUS - THE ORIGINAL LONDON SIGHTSEEING TOUR, London and Windsor (part of RATP-DEV)

Further to the note in TLB683 p34, YXY 791 is now back in service. Volvo B9TL VXE722 (YJ11 TVC) has been converted into the 2nd 'London Bar Bus', joining VLE618 (LJ07 XEU). Both are in the style of the Union Jack livery but in black and white and with signage promoting the 'Bar Bus'.

Disposals: DLP 261 (LJ51 DKN) was an additional sale to Ensign in April 2021.
DLP 268 (LF52 URH) reported as sold (to?) in October 2020.

TOWER TRANSIT - LI and X Garages

The last two OEs with new style blinds are 34036 (McKenna) and 34037 (Hannover).

Correction: The reg. note in TLB683 omitted to say that OE 34016 has a YJ21 mark (in the midst of 70s) along with 34022-37. I correctly listed it, as YJ21 EVW, in TLB682 p30. It does mean that the correction to Fleetbook should have omitted 34016, Fleetbook is correct for that one.

New delivery (TLB683 p36 refers): In the end, OE 34034 settled with reg YJ21 EXW and the booked mark YJ21 EXS was voided. It had been delivered as YJ21 EXS but, bizarrely, was logged on to TfL Countdown as 34038 YJ21 EXW. There never was a real 34038 and the bus itself has always carried 34034. As it should have been EXS, new plates carrying EXS were fitted. It seems that some problem occurred when application was made to formally register to EXS. The solution was to have a new mark and EXW was applied. Thenceforth the bus carrying 34034 has reg EXW. End of story I hope!

Transfers

(June): Delete TLB683 entry of DNH 39114/16/22/23/29 stayed at X (not Xu).

(July): MV 38201/202 X/LI. WV 46213 LI/X.

(August): MV 38217 X/LI.

VECTARE, Rettendon, Essex

What is probably only a loan is Sprinter 991 (CN21 XJH).

TRAMLINK, Croydon (Tram Operations Ltd t/a London Trams)

On 24th July a Croydon tram was observed at the Ilford depot of TfL Rail, presumably having some attention at the Bombardier facility there. On the other hand, it “might” have been a new one; TfL had been intending to replace the first batch of Bombardier trams that are now 23 years old,

The "Where are they now" column (or: Subsequent vehicle disposals)

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Note – email address 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:

RM 2121 from the late Mr B Turner to Messrs G Conn & M Gurr, Glasgow (June).

RML 2312 from Mr C Pearce to London Bus Company, Northfleet, Kent (May) for sales stock.

RML 2362 after 18 years of use for spares for the Mac Tours / Lothian Buses / United Motor Coaches fleet, this RML was seen being towed away from Lothian premises in June and it has been assumed that it has now gone for scrap.

RML 2364 from Mr G Sorrell to Mr S Shaw, North Hykeham, Lincs. (July).

RML 2674 from A Route 2 Hire to Alphabus, Soulbury, Bucks. (June) when Alphabus acquired A Route 2 Hire. RM 1403 and RML 2271 remained with the previous owner of A Route 2 Hire, Mr D Cooper, Northampton, Northants.

Olympians:

AV 26 (S126 RLE, ex VIB 3903) (ex ML) was sold by Roselyn Coaches (April).

L 343 (J343 BSH) (ex ALN) seems to have left the Riviera Tours fleet during 2020 and is understood to have been exported; can anyone confirm the details ?

NV 69, 70 (R269, 270 LGH (ex GAL) were sold from Greys Coaches (April).

NV 156 (R556 LGH) (ex GAL) from Brian Jones Coaches to Ripley, Barnsley (November).

NV 175 (R375 LGH) (ex GAL) was de-roofed in Chester on the 7th July, so its future with Arrowbrook may now be in doubt.

VA 52 (R952 YOY) (ex LU) was sold from DBS Facilities (February).

VA 69 (R169 VPU, ex JNZ 2425) (ex SLN) was sold by Roselyn Coaches (April).

VA 78 (R178 VPU, ex C5 OXF, ex C17 TCL) (ex SLN) was sold from Masons Minibuses & Coach Hire (by April) for scrap.

VN 108 (R108 XNO) (ex SLN) was auctioned from Caerphilly Council in April after use as a tree lopper, but there are no reports of it subsequently being acquired.

Miscellaneous low-floor double deck types:

DLA 264 (Y319 GKR, ex N60 HAM, ex Y319 GKR, ex Y464 UGC) (ex ALN) from unknown owner, Bracknell to Walter Limousines, Forest Hill, Oxon (February) and re-registered to GCZ 773.

DLP 54, 58, 64 (LJ51 DJZ, DKF, DKV) (ex ALN) from Ensign Bus, Purfleet, Essex to Go North East (July).

DLP 61 (LJ51 DKN) (ex ALN) from OLST to Ensign Bus, Purfleet, Essex (April). In July it was loaned to First Eastern Counties for use at Great Yarmouth and has been working on the Clipper Cabriolet service with the London vinyls removed and "I'm helping out" adverts on the red livery on the sides. It retains the red, white and blue flag on the rear and has been numbered 35014.

DW 49 (LJ53 NGU) (ex ALN), completing the entry from TLB683, it passed to Wyvern Omnibus, Stourport-on-Severn, Worcestershire (May).

DW 89 (LG04 LGD) (ex ALN) from Kilvington to Central Coaches, Melton Mowbray, Leics (by July). This DW had previously been reported as fire damaged, so this acquisition and may only be for spares.

VLY 603 (LX05 KDZ) (ex ALN) from Ensign Bus, Purfleet, Essex to Discover Dorset, Bournemouth, Dorset (July).

- *Where are they now?* -----
- DN 33639, 33640, 33641 (SN11 BPU, BPV, BPX) (ex FLN) from Ensign Bus, Purfleet, Essex to Chalkwell Coach Hire, Sittingbourne, Kent (July)
- TN 33064 (LN51 GKY) (ex FLN) from Mr R Wright to Ensign Bus, Purfleet, Essex (June) and then to Shelton Motors, Ramsey, Cambs. (July). This TN was acquired for preservation but this was later abandoned and it returned to Ensign sales stock.
- TN 33236 (LT52 WWZ) (ex FLN) was returned from First South West to Shears (dlr) and then passed to Wigley, Barnsley (March) for scrap.
- TN 33242 (LT52 WYL) (ex FLN) has been sold from First South West (July).
- TNL 33001 (LN51 UZO) (ex FLN) from Shears (dlr) to Wigley, Barnsley (March).
- TNL 33088 (LN51 GMU) (ex FLN) from Ensign Bus, Purfleet, Essex to Shelton Motors, Ramsey, Cambs. (July).
- VNL 32259 (LT52 WWE) (ex FLN) has been re-registered by Seaford & District to SFW 688, and numbered 688 by July.
- VNW 32352 (LK53 LZP) (ex FLN) has been sold from First West of England (July).
- EVL 31 (PN02 XCR) (ex GAL) from Sullivan Buses to Action Cars (July).
- EVL 48 (PJ02 PZF) (ex GAL) was sold from Swallow Coach Company (December).
- PVL 39 (46 EYB, ex W439 WGH), 44 (665 EYL, ex W544 WGH), 48 (546 EYB, ex W448 WGH) (ex GAL) all re-gained their original registration with East Yorkshire in April.
- PVL 198 (T23 SOR, ex X598 EGK) (ex GAL) from Tresor-Paris to Jewish charity Chazak, Hendon, London NW4 (December 2018).
- PVL 374 (PJ53 NKL) (ex GAL) further to TLB678, this PVL is confirmed as passing to AC Williams, Ancaster, Lincs.
- WVL 125 (LX53 AZU, ex J12XEL) (ex GAL) further to TLB682, this WVL is confirmed with Harpur's Coaches, Derby, Derbys.
- WVL 159 (LX53 BAO) (ex GAL) from Henry Thomas to unknown owner, Stafford, Staffs. (August 2020).
- 437 (WIB 119, ex YV03 PZG), 445 (WIB 150, ex YV03 RAU) (ex GAL) were re-registered to their original plates and passed from Westbus to Greys, Witchford, Cambs. (all in June).
- SLE 52 (YN55 NKZ) (ex LU) from Bath Bus Company to Aldermaston Coach Lines, Reading, Berks. (by July) where it is being used from the 24th July to the 5th September on the new hourly service "Open Top 26" along Southsea seafront with TA 314 (see below). SLE 52 has been named Sunny.
- SP 135 (YT59 PBU) (ex LU) from Ensign Bus, Purfleet, Essex to XLP Ltd., London (July).
- TA 212 (SN51 SYR) (ex LU) from Ensign Bus, Purfleet, Essex to Shelton Motors, Ramsey, Cambs. (July).
- TA 249 (LG02 FBX) (ex LU) from Lynx Travel to THZ, Shoreditch, London (July 2018).
- TA 251 (LG02 FBZ) (ex LU) from Garelochhead Coaches to Drew Wilson (dlr), Carlisle, South Lanarkshire (March).
- TA 276 (K3 WSX, ex LG02 FDO) (ex LU) correcting TLB683, the registration should have read FDO (not FDX).
- TA 277 (R3 WSX, ex LG02 FDP) (ex LU) correcting TLB683, the registration should have read LG02 FDP (not LG20 FDP).
- TA 279 (T3 WSX, ex LG02 FDV) (ex LU) further to TLB683, it actually passed to Xelabus in May and, after repaint in June, is now numbered 525 in this fleet.
- TA 314 (SN03 DZM) (ex LU) from Bath Bus Company to Aldermaston Coach Lines, Reading, Berks. (by July) where it is being used on the new "Open Top 26" along Southsea seafront with SLE 52 (see above). TA 314 has been named Sandy.
- TA 339 (SN03 EBL) (ex LU) returned to Base in May from First Scotland East.
- VLE 14, 16 (PG04 WHT, WHV) (ex LU) from Ensign Bus, Purfleet, Essex to A2B Travel, Newquay, Cornwall (July).
-

----- *Where are they now?* -----

- TA 650 (LK05 GGV) (ex ML) from Aintree Coachline to PVS, Barnsley (by July).
- TE 736 (LK07 AZR) (ex ML) correcting TLB681, this TE has been re-registered to S500 YRK (not TRK) with Yorkshire Coastliner and is numbered 4005.
- TP 6 (SUI 7838, ex TIG 4457, ex T106 KLD) (ex ML) was re-registered yet again in January 2020 with Busin'n'Clubin now to RHZ 6053.
- VP 322 (LR52 BMO) (ex ML) from Dawsongroup to YMS Travel, Canterbury, Kent (April).
- VP 326 (LR52 BMZ) (ex ML) from Dawsongroup to JH Coaches, Birtley, Tyne & Wear (January) for spares.
- VP 344 (LR52 BOH) (ex ML) has also been used for spares with JH Coaches.
- VPL 586 (LK04 NMM) (ex ML) from Dawsongroup to Coastal Liner, Willenhall, West Midlands (August 2020).

VLY 603 (LX05 KDZ) (ex OLST) – see the corresponding entry for VLY 603 (ex ALN) above.

- TA 17012 (S812 BWC), 17495 (LX51 FMU, ex WIJ1545) (ex SLN) have been sold from Stagecoach North West (July). TA 17012 is the one in White Lady livery. TA 17489 (VLT 217, ex LX51 FMJ) remains in use and was seen on the 31st July on Seatoller service 78.
- TA 17130 (V130 MEV) (ex SLN) has been re-registered by Panther Travel to BIG 7596 in April.
- TA 17171 (V171 MEV) (ex SLN) was sold from Sleafordian (November) for scrap.
- TA 17548 (LY02 OAX) (ex SLN) from Sullivan Buses to Bryans Coaches, Enfield, Middlesex (July) for spares.
- TA 17871, 17916 (LX03 NFT, OSM) (ex SLN) were sold from Mayday Travel (by June).
- TA 17930 (LX03 OTF) (ex SLN) sold by Townlynx (by July) for conversion to a mobile home.
- TA 17969 (1983 NT, ex LX53 JZM) (ex SLN) re-gained its original registration in March and was sold from Jacobite to D&E Coaches, Inverness (April), and was then re-registered to S99 YST in April. It remains PO47/22D and is now used on City Sightseeing work in Inverness.
- TA 18270 (LX05 BWC) (ex SLN) updating previous information, the charity is ‘Shed-in-a-bus’ and it is currently being converted with a workshop upstairs and a café downstairs, to be used to help combat social isolation and loneliness, particularly in older men by visiting various communities.

DN 33639, 33640, 33641 (SN11 BPU, BPV, BPX) (ex TT) – see the corresponding entries for DN 33639, 33640, 33641 (ex FLN) above.

Low-floor single deck types:

- ENL30, 31, 32, 37 (LJ09 KPR, KPT, KTU, KRD) (ex ALN) have been re-registered by Panther Travel to DB09 PAN, AS09 PAN, AB09 PAN and VB09 PAN respectively.
- ENL 45 (LJ09 KPK) (ex ALN) from Ensign Bus, Purfleet, Essex to Stantons of Stoke, Stoke, Staffs. (July).
- ENL 88 (GN08 CHF) (ex ALN) was sold for scrap by Go Goodwins (July) after use for spares.
- PDL 137, 143 (SN06 BPE, BPY) (ex ALN) from Ensign Bus, Purfleet, Essex to Avondale, Clydebank, Glasgow (July). (See Arriva London entry in Current vehicle news in TLB).

DML 44029 (YX58 DWC) (ex FLN) from Avondale to Ensign Bus, Purfleet, Essex (July).
 DML 44138 (DB09 PAN, ex YX10 BDY) (ex FLN) has been further re-registered by Panther Travel to BB10 PAN by July.

- DP 206 (EU04 BVD, ex 04 G 13034) (ex GAL) from Hattons to Seaford and District, Seaford, East Sussex (by July) and has been registered to SF04 SEA.
- ED 20 (LX07 BYL, ex HSK 177) (ex GAL) was sold from Swallow Coaches (by December).
- LDP 142 (Y842 TGH) (ex GAL) updating TLB678, this LDP is now confirmed with Mr D Pandya, Bridlington, North Yorkshire, for preservation.

----- *Where are they now?* -----

- DE 20002, 20003, 20004, 20005, 20007, 20008, 20009 (YX58 DVB, DVC, DVF, DVG, DVJ, DVK, DVL) (ex LU) from Mr S Boxall / South East Bus Supplies to Nu-Venture, Aylesford, Kent (July) where they are numbered 802 etc.
- DE 20060, 20062, 20063, 20064, 20065 (SK07 DXH, DXL, DXM, DXO, DXP) (ex LU) from Mr S Boxall / South East Bus Supplies to Nu-Venture, Aylesford, Kent (June) as Nos. 860 and 862-5. This updates TLB683 page 34 and TLB 682 page 28.
- 5DE 20085 (SK07 DYS) (ex LU) was with Ellis, Gateley, Greater Manchester (by April 2020) where it joined DE 20081, 20088, 20089 on the Manchester Airport Flight Shuttle Services, but was out of use from April 2020; it was still there, in the two-tone grey and yellow livery in April 2021, so the report of being with York Pullman in November 2019 may only have been a loan.
- DP 96 (V796 FKH) (ex LU) has been reported as on a campsite at Wem in Shropshire so the previous report of it being sold for scrap may not have been correct.
- DPS 723 (SN55 DVR) (ex LU) from NIBS Buses to Herberts Travel, Shefford, Beds. (by March) and was in their white and blue livery by June.
- OV 30073 (YJ60 KGF) (ex LU) from Ensign Bus, Purfleet, Essex to Shelton Motors, Ramsey, Cambs. (July).

- DE 859 (LK08 DWO) (ex ML) from Avondale to Ensign Bus, Purfleet, Essex (July).
- DLD 697 (LK55 KLM) (ex ML) from Nu-Venture to BBPG, Bromley, Kent (July).
- DLF 101 (KU52 YKH) (ex ML) further to TLB655, this DLF is confirmed to Ripley, Barnsley.
- DLF 103 (KU52 YKK) (ex ML) from Newport Travel to Ripley, Barnsley (by July).
- DP 1036 (KP02 PWU), 1039 (KU02 YUE) (ex ML) from Newport Travel to Ripley, Barnsley (by July).

- SLD 34362 (LV52 HKO) (ex SLN) further to TLB664 page 33, GTG are based at Willenhall, West Midlands.
- 36266 (LX11 AVW) (ex SLN) further to TLB682 page 29, this E200 arrived with Red Eagle Buses, Dinton, Bucks. (July).

Bendybus:

- MA 19 (BX04 MXT) (ex ALN) from North West Bus Sales to PVS, Barnsley (date unknown) for scrap.
- MA 30 (BX04 MYY) (ex ALN) was reported as sold from Business B/The Expeditional (March 2020) but was noted still present on social media in July 2021. Was it MA 36 (BX04 NDY) that was sold (and not MA 30) ?
- MAL 27 (BX02 YYP), 81 (BX54 UDL) (ex GAL) further to TLB678, these are confirmed as passing to Shears (dlr), Northam, Devon.
- MAL 96 (BD57 WCZ) (ex GAL) further to TLB678, it is confirmed as passing from Go East Anglia to JV Coaches, Stromness, Orkney (by June 2020), and was then prepared for operation of the cruise liner shuttle bus from Hatston to Kirkwall town centre from March 2021.
- 23053 (LX04 LBF) (ex SLN) from Beaverbus to unknown owner, London (December 2020) for use as a mobile nightclub.
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SERVICE VEHICLES

Section Editor: Thomas Young: e-mail to tom@ltsv.com or by post via 'The SUPs Editor (LTSV)' at our Lombard address (see page 1). The LTSV web site at www.ltsv.com has an on-line database of service vehicles, with pictures, plus the facility to record your own sightings and comments. A hash sign (#) after the livery of a vehicle indicates that it carries no company lettering or logos.

LUL/LBSL/TfL Fleet; Newly reported vehicles

None

Additional information and updates

8594R is confirmed as being in LUL white/blue/red.

Allocations and transfers include; 7674F ACN-SHS, 7675F ACN-SHS, 8348R NSD-UPD, 8362R GHO-ACF, 8363R GHO-ACF, 8365R GHO-ACF, 8376F ERS-?, 8379F BKO-ERS, 8448F ACN-LBD, 8451F ACN-SDD, 8505F -ACN, 8555R LBD-BGS, 8576R -ACN, 8599VW MA-ACN, 8629T ACN-ERS, 8644VW -PDD, 8645F PDD-?, 8649F PDD-?, 8653T ACN-?, 8656F -PDD, 8665R -HAD, 8671F -SDD, 8694VW FCS-SDD, 8696VW ACB-SDD, 8716R -SDD, 8773F -LBD, 8808F GHO-ERS, 8809F GHO-ERS, 8819R -GHO, 8853F -TFP, 8869T -SDD, 8921F RLS-ACN, 8955VW -SDD, 8961R LBD-EWT, 8992F LBD-ACN, 9027F -EWT, 9101N TLB-WWB, 9137F -ACN, 9138F -ACN, 9145VW -SDD plus un-numbered YT70 VHC -ACN and YT70 VHD -ACN-SHS. SHS is a resurrected code for South Harrow Station, last used as an Emergency Response Unit base in about 2000. Part of the car park has now been sectioned off and has been home to three of the four staff welfare facilities vans since mid-June.

No new disposals have been reported, but previously listed 7755F and 7867M appear to have finally left Acton Works.

Bus Company Fleets; Newly reported vehicles

?	DS68 KGA	Vauxhall Astra Car	Abellio	Grey	BC
6910	KV69 NNP	Peugeot Expert Van	Abellio	White	BC
-	FD17 KKH	Vauxhall Combo Van	Arriva London	White #	N
219	FJ17 WVY	Vauxhall Insignia Estate	Arriva London	Silver #	DX
-	CX70 LVF	Seat Leon Car	Arriva London	Red #	AD
-	SH70 SWW	Vauxhall Grandland Car	Arriva London	Black #	DT
-	AJ21 CPX	Ford Transit Custom Van	Arriva London	White	TC
-	GL21 KNC	Peugeot 5008 Car	Arriva London	Black #	DT
-	EU16 KWR	Ford Fiesta Van	Go-Ahead London	Red #	PL
-	GL68 LJC	VW Transporter Minibus	Go-Ahead London	Gold #	C
-	AV20 BXX	Ford Transit Connect Van	Metroline	Red	?
-	AY21 KKH	Ford Transit Custom Van	Metroline	Red	UX
-	FJ18 UPR	Mercedes Sprinter 15-seat Minibus	Stagecoach	White	RM
-	GL69 SFK	VW Transporter Minibus	Stagecoach	Silver #	RM

Additional information

Arriva London DV68 WKA is numbered 218. As with 219 above, the numbers are shown on papers in the windows. NV66 EHL, WV69 HSC and GJ70 UJU are withdrawn (off hire).

Go-Ahead London RX18 LLN is numbered FV16. All the FVxx numbers reported so far are on Silvertown minibuses, and they appear on labels in the side windows alongside larger 'local' FYxx numbers. FVxx numbers have most likely been allocated to all minibuses but those from other garages are showing no signs of displaying them. Of the various hired minibuses previously reported, the livery of GL68 HFG is more brown than grey. 'New' EU16 KWR is unmarked apart from yellow side stripes and rear chevrons. It may have transferred from another Go-Ahead company. The red livery of the Volvo tow truck (now registered AF04 TOW) was amended a while ago, losing most of its grey skirt and having the side stripes changed from blue to yellow.

Stagecoach 93641 (SA17 BSS) is withdrawn, as is Tower Transit BP15 XCZ.

Rail Replacements : info via Managing Editor to davestewart297@gmail.com

Please bear in mind that these are ‘filler material’ for TLB and do not necessarily cover every item of rail work. Most remain unknown, unreported or of no special interest. I can only record, and do so briefly, those that are observed and reported.

And now a plea: Some submissions are in such a format as I have to re-type a whole wedge of text, some of which I have to discard; some times it is difficult to interpret what is meant. Please can you prepare it in the simplified and abbreviated style that is in TLB, it can then be pasted in without a lot of extra work.

Overground: 10/11 April Lewisham & Orpington by Go-Ahead SEs. SOE, and Passenger Plus.
5/6,12/13June New Cross Gate & Dalston Kingsland by Abellio d/ds; also Clapham Junction & Canada Water by London United E400s. 17/18July Walthamstow Central & Barking by Arriva London HVs and HAs.

Central: 17/18April Stratford & Redbridge by Sullivan -Es,DSs,WVLs also Stratford & Loughton by Sullivans Es,DSs,WVLs; also Woodford & Ilford by Ipswich Buses Citaro, Arriva London North E200s and Trustybus Scania Omnicity; also Loughton & Epping by Sullivans Es Loughton & Theydon Bois by HCT E200s.

District: 29/30/31May Wimbledon & Earl’s Court by Arriva London and London United d/ds.
29/30/31May and 5/6, 12/13 June Liverpool Street & Barking by Sullivan d/ds
5/6, 12/13June Canning Town & Dagenham East by Abellio London d/ds.
26/27June Tower Hill & Barking by Sullivan d/ds, also Canning Town & Dagenham East by Abellio d/ds. 17/18July Tower Hill & Barking by Sullivan Es&DSs also Canning Town & Dagenham East by Abellio E400s<s; also Dagenham East & Upminster by Central Connect, Ensignbus, Arriva London and LB of Havering
31July/01Aug and 7/8Aug Wimbledon & Hammersmith by Metroline and Sullivan.

District and Piccadilly: 24/25July Hammersmith & Osterley by Abellio E400s and LTs. Also Hammersmith & LHR Terminal 5 non-stop with coaches from Weavaway and Westbus; also Hammersmith & LHR Terminals 2&3 non-stop with coaches from Clarkes, National Express, and Kings Ferry. Also Gunnersbury & Rayners Lane by Sullivans Es and DSs; also Gunnersbury & Terminal 2&3 by Abellio E400s and LTs.

Northern: 23May Colindale & Euston by Arriva London d/ds, also Finchley Central & King’s Cross by Abellio London d/ds 22/23May Morden & Stockwell by Abellio London d/ds.

Jubilee: 03/04July Finchley Road & Wembley Park by Metroline assisted by Westbus and Go-Ahead and with First Essex on standby.

Thameslink: 25July (am) St Pancras & Mill Hill Broadway by Go-Ahead and Metroline.

Bakerloo: 15Aug Queen’s Park & Harrow and Wealdstone by Metroline.

DLR: 17/18 July Canning Town & Tower Gateway by Metroline VMHs.

South Eastern: 10/11 April Lewisham & Orpington by Go-Ahead SEs. SOE, and Passenger Plus.
2May Orpington & Lewisham by Go-Ahead singledecks (SE/SOE) via Elmstead Woods, double-decks on direct journeys. A repeat on 05/06June but with Stagecoach added.
05June Lewisham & Dartford and New Cross & Dartford by Go-Ahead and Arriva d/ds;
12/13June Lewisham & Plumstead by Go-Ahead.
26/27June Lewisham & Orpington by Go-Ahead, 27June Lewisham & Dartford by Go-Ahead.
17/18July Lewisham & Orpington by Go-Ahead’s ‘Red Arrow’ SEe ‘s.
01Aug New Cross & Dartford via Bexleyheath by Go-Ahead d.ds.

----- Rail Replacements -----

Southern: 11 April West Croydon & New Cross Gate by Arriva and Go-Ahead.

18 April West Croydon & Balham via Crystal Palace by Go Ahead WHVs, Es(Commercial).

24/25 April Purley & East Grinstead avoiding Woldingham by Go Ahead d/ds plus a shuttle between Upper Warlingham & Woldingham by Go Ahead s/ds.

25 April Horsham & Three Bridges by Brighton & Hove and Go-Ahead London d/ds, also Horsham & Barnham by Brighton & Hove d/ds; also Horsham & Littlehampton by Metrobus E200s and a Brighton & Hove Volvo/Caetano coach.

All weekends in May and most (if not all) in June East Croydon & Clapham Junction by Go-Ahead.

16 May Billingshurst & Three Bridges by Metrobus E200s, Brighton & Hove and Go-Ahead

30 May Sutton & Dorking by Go-Ahead.

06 June and 13 June Purley & Horley by Go-Ahead London and Metrobus d/d/s

12/13 June London Bridge & Streatham by Go-Ahead d/ds.

01 July Horsham & Barnham by B&H and G-A London d/ds; also Horsham & Littlehampton by Go-A London and Metrobus; also Horsham & Three Bridges by GAhead London d/dd.

17 July Horsham & Epsom by Crawley Luxury, Metrobus & Passenger Plus; also Pulborough & Three Bridges by Regency Coaches, B&H and Go-Ahead London d/ds; also Horsham & Three Bridges by Go-Ahead London d/ds.

18 July Horsham & Barnham by Brighton Horizon and Stagecoach South; also Horsham & Littlehampton by Regency Coaches, Metrobus & Go Ahead London d/ds; also Horsham & Three Bridges by Metrobus, B&H, GA London d/ds and Southern Transit

18 July Purley & Tattenham Corner by Go-Ahead SOEs.

24/25 July West Croydon & Balham via Streatham Hill by Go-Ahead Es, ENs (Commercial) and EHs.

25 July West Croydon & Sutton/ Epsom Downs by Go-Ahead Es, ENs(Commercial), MHVs and WHVs.

31 July Horsham & Dorking by Crawley Luxury; also Pulborough & Three Bridges by Go-Ahead London d/ds, Southern Transit, Crawley Luxury, Regency Coaches, Southdown PSV and Seaford & District.

01 Aug Horsham & Barnham by Crawley Luxury, Passenger Plus & Southern Transit; also Horsham & Littlehampton by Crawley Luxury & Passenger Plus; also Horsham & Three Bridges by GoAhead London, Metrobus & Southdown PSV.

01 Aug Epsom Downs & Norwood Junction by Go-Ahead d/ds.

South Western:

06 March Barnes & Feltham /Twickenham via Brentford by Cardinal Buses (TA324 & TE722).

07 March same route by Horseferry Coaches, Fulham (LX05FCF – ex WVL166) & Westbus (SEL745)

21 March Clapham Junction & Surbiton (fast) by coaches from Isaac Coaches, Goldwings, Travellers Choice, Lewis Coaches. Clapham Junction & Surbiton (all stations) by Arriva London South HVs. Clapham Junction & Teddington/ Twickenham by Diamond, Candy Coaches, Cardinal Buses, Hallmark, Horseferry Coaches, Westway, NPC Coaches. Clapham Junction & Hampton Court by London United E200s. Clapham Junction & Chessington South by Bear Buses. Clapham Junction & Woking/ Weybridge by Falcon Coaches, Safeguard Coaches, Arriva Southern Counties, Stagecoach South.

More to follow when space allows. (The next dates were very extensive so can't fit in all of it).

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

This TLB closed on 6-8 August and due for posting on 17 August. Closing date for TLB685 is Weds 8 September and due for posting on Tues 21 September. Reports to the Editors by post or e-mail to davestewart297@gmail.com or to heads of sections for contact points. Next closing dates are Weds 08 Sep, 06 Oct, 03 Nov, 01 Dec 2021. These dates are for us editors to have sufficient time to process, although info over the next four days can invariably be slotted in as time and space allows. Those of you who report regularly should 'bookmark' these dates.



Various duplicate school buses continued to the end of the July term. This brand-new Travellers Choice Irizar i6 coach YT21 LFW is travelling through Hitchin on the S101 duplicating part of Arriva's 101. *(Ian Jordan)*



The 402 dates from 1924, then from Bromley to Sevenoaks, later extended to Tonbridge and to Tunbridge Wells. A Century later, Redwing Mercedes coach BN17 HZX approaches TW showing the famous route number that is still in use by Arriva, albeit in this case only a school duplicate. *(Richard Godfrey)*



A reminder of the past is this Arriva coach in Guildford Bus Station. It still displays the fleetname New Enterprise, the Arriva subsidiary that was wound up in December 2019. This Berkhof-bodied Scania K114 coach No.2879 is now used as a drivers' rest room. *(Derek Everson)*

Rear cover: Brighton Road Purley on 18th October 1994 was host to 600 RGJ, an Epsom Buses Plaxton bodied Bedford YMT. Then their route 498 ran from Croydon via Chipstead Valley to Epsom and its western hospitals. The 498 is now covered mostly by the 166 and Epsom Buses (latterly part of RATP) is no more. *(Richard Godfrey)*



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