

TLB699

The London Bus

Number 699
November 2022



London Omnibus Traction Society
www.lots.org.uk



Safeguard has a new Volvo B8RLE/MCV EvoRA BV72 KOD. It is used on the company's town service in Guildford and in this view it traverses Cabell Road in Park Barn. *(Terry O'Neill)*

The star of London Bus Museum's 'Transportfest' on 23rd October was D 142, the newly-restored 1925 vintage Dennis 3-ton. It is now in this blue livery of its original owner London Public. *(David Heath)*



Front cover: Londoner Buses started its Routemaster stopping service A (Waterloo & Piccadilly Circus) on 15th October. On the first day RM 1941 prepares to cross Westminster Bridge. The route is short and the fare is high (£5). *(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** 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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UK rate: £36 MEM+TLB; £56 MEM+TLB+LBM; £29 LBM only.

Europe rate: £48, £68, £39 respectively. Rest of the World: £55, £75, £49 respectively.

Reports for TLB should first go to individual section sub-editors 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. If it is 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: Andrew Robertson, Curry Farm, Halstead Lane, Knockholt, Sevenoaks, TN14 7EP. Or e-mail to lots.info@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 s.a.e.**)

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Closing date for TLB700 is Weds 30th November and due for posting on Tues 13 December.

Booked later closing dates are Wednesdays 04Jan, 01Feb, 01Mar 2023.

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Society Matters

Please note on page 1 the new (increased) subscription rates from 1st December 2022. Like everything else, our costs have been rising in recent years and we can't continue to absorb the increases any more. Costs of international postage have risen terrifically.

Additionally, the price of an individual LBM will be increased to £6.00 from the December 2022 issue. The October TLB was compiled and printed on time but fell foul of more Royal Mail strikes. By looking at proposed dates for more strikes, the November TLB is likely to suffer again. Not a lot we can do, we just do our bits on time – so don't blame us.

LOTS Meetings

LOTS Meetings are at Conway Hall, Holborn at 7.30pm (hall open from 6.30). We are in the Great Hall unless otherwise stated. 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.

On Monday 28 November in the Great Hall, we will welcome Andy Corbett, Commercial Director of RATP-DEV. He had to cancel earlier dates.

Payments for Membership and orders to Postal Sales

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 (for membership) or lotspostalsales@gmail.com (for postal sales) 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.

For anyone wishing to pay for Membership and Sales at the same time, please use "Mem + Sales" as the reference on the bank payment in addition to your name / Membership Number. The 'lotsmemsec' email address can be used to query membership matters and to query non-arrival of TLB or LBM, missing or damaged pages. Queries about Postal Sales to the 'lotspostalsales' email above.

If you use the post, please address your orders to LOTS Postal Sales (or LOTS Membership), Unit G16 Lombard Business Park, 8 Lombard Road, Wimbledon, London SW19 3TZ. Make sure that the 'Postal Sales' or 'Membership' name is included prominently, so we can give the best attention. Postal Sales 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.

The most recent Sales List is included with this TLB but in any case the Sales List on our website can be used. Orders from the Sales List or a letter is perfectly acceptable. In all cases above, if you send a cheque, please don't staple cheques to the form – they really won't get lost by us but might be when the banks try to process them electronically!

LOTS Postal Sales

A full Sales List is in this TLB and on our website.

Please note that TLB Extras 1974 and 1976 are now sold out of print (thus 1965 to 1976 out of stock). Furthermore, 'RT Memories - Capital Service for 40 years' (Bowden Publishing) and 'The London Q' are now out of print and out of stock.

LOTS London Bus Review 2021 (£14.50) (**NEW**) A4 glossy, 80 pages, 127 colour pictures with extensive captions. This is the ORIGINAL annual Review made with about 50 years' experience.
London Bus Magazine No201 Autumn 2022 (£5.00) **NEW** Main features are 'Bus services on the Isle of Dogs Part 1' (Malc McDonald) and 'Fifty years of LBM Part 2 (by Editor).
SUP-39C TfL operators fleet allocations and PVRs, 21st May 2022 (£4.50). **recent**
The LOTS 2022 Fleetbook, 128 pages and illustrated. (£7.50) **recent**.

The three newest titles this month are all from Capital Transport:-

London's Pre-War Smaller Classes (C, STD, LTC, TF, CR) by Ken Blacker £30.00

An Alphabet for the Underground by M.A.C. Horne £19.95 and

The London Underground – A Diagrammatic History (10th Edition) by Doug Rose £9.95

And from other publishers:

Greater London Bus Map 18 December 1940 (second edition) £4.00 (Mike Harris)(NEW**)**

Greater London Bus Map 19 July 1964 (second edition) £4.00 (Mike Harris) (NEW**)**

London Transport Country Buses Part 2 North (£40.00) by Laurie Akehurst, 184 pages, Peter Mitchell's photos (1949 to 1975). published by Adam Gordon. **NEW**

The London Dennis Dart and Dart SLF (£35.00) A history by David Beddall, 208 pages published by Pen & Sword Books. **NEW**

London's First Motor Buses (£16.95) (Capital Transport) – an album compiled by Mick Webber, with articles from *Commercial Motor*, *The Daily Chronicle*, *Old Motor* and the *London Historical research Group of The Omnibus Society*. 80pp. **NEW**

SEC Fleet Book 2022 £8.00 Now includes the Metrobus, Crawley fleet as well. **NEW**

SEC Southdown Fleet History Part 32 1967 **NEW this month**

The London That Never Happened (A. Badsey-Ellis) **£19.95**; 96 pages of bold but unrealised proposals for London e.g. an airport at Kings Cross; monorails in central London and to Heathrow (Capital Transport). **recent**

British Trolleybus Systems – London and S. E. England (Peter Waller) **£30.00**; An historic overview. 136 pages with 250 colour and B & W photos. Pen & Sword Books: **NEW**

Twenty Turbulent Years – The transformation of Britain's bus industry 1980-2000

By Peter Rowlands and Stewart J. Brown, published by Fawndoon Books **£30.00**. 144 pages with almost 300 colour photos **NEW** *The Book looks at the effects of the key changes of that era – deregulation and privatisation – and illustrates the variety of vehicles and liveries in Britain's bus fleets. It also tells of the effects these changes had on British bus manufacturers*

Coming Events (LSS= LOTS Sales Stand should attend).

Sat 19 Nov NLETE Transport Bazaar at St Stephen's Church Hall, Village Road, Enfield (on route 329). 11:00-14:30, £3 entry (acc. children free).

Sun 20 Nov: A Running Day over former routes from Hendon (AE) Garage (closed June 1987). Timetables are on our website. Routes covered are 13 Swiss Cottage & Hendon (AE) Garage (site of); 32 Brent Green- AE- Edgware; 140 Brent Green- AE- Queensbury; 183 Golders Green & Kingsbury; N59 St John's Wood- AE and Hendon Central. Timetables are on our website.

Sat 03 Dec: The Ensignbus vintage bus running day is NOT cancelled and will go ahead now that the potential restrictions have largely been resolved. Timetables will be on both www.Ensignbus.com and on a flyer in this TLB. Routes X21, X54, X55, X81 (each x30mins) will be as last year.

As in previous years ENCTS concessionary passes and London Freedom Passes, Travelcards and Oyster Cards and similar cards are not accepted. An all-day ticket is £10 adult (£2 child).

Looking ahead to 2023: South East Bus Festival at Detling on Sat, 2 April. London Bus Museum has its Spring Gathering on Sun. 16 April. More Running Days are planned on route 175 (Sat. 25 March) and route 65 again (Sun. 11 June).

GENERAL and INDUSTRY NEWS

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

National news, TfL and Politics

The shenanigans at Westminster continued during October with **Liz Truss resigning as Prime Minister on 20 October**. She had sacked her Chancellor of the Exchequer, Kwasi Kwarteng the previous week. His 'mini budget' on 23 September led to turmoil on financial markets and increased mortgage rates. The replacement Chancellor is Jeremy Hunt who basically ripped up the 'mini budget'. Liz Truss became the person holding the shortest tenure as Prime Minister in recent years, lasting just 44 days. A new leadership contest between Conservative MPs followed. **Rishi Sunak** was elected Conservative Party leader and Prime Minister on 24 October after Boris Johnson and Penny Mordaunt dropped out. So, we now have our third Prime Minister this year. The Labour Party demanded a general election but with two years to run before this is required and the Government having a large majority, this looks very unlikely.

All change again in the Department for Transport. The latest Secretary of State for Transport is **Mark Harper**, MP for the Forest of Dean, who becomes the seventh person to hold this role since 2010. He replaces Anne-Marie Trevelyan who was only appointed a few weeks earlier by Liz Truss. **Huw Merriman** becomes Minister of State for Transport. The MP for Bexhill and Battle has been a member of the Transport Select Committee since 2015, becoming its Chair in 2020 and he has often spoken in Parliament on bus and rail issues. **Baroness Vere** has retained her brief covering buses and coaches and Hereford MP **Jesse Norman** joins her as a newly appointed transport minister.

At TfL, Andy Lord took over from Andy Byford as interim Commissioner on 25 October and Glynn Barton has been appointed Chief Operating Officer. He has been with TfL for over twenty years in a variety of roles, most recently being responsible for TfL's statutory duties as a highway authority. Rachel McLean has been appointed Chief Finance Officer, having previously held a similar role with the Crossrail project.

Record numbers of people are using smartphones to pay for tube travel, they now represent more than 25% of pay as you go journeys. This compares with 46% for contactless bank cards and 29% for an Oyster card. Passengers have been warned not to use a smartphone to touch in and a bank card or smart watch to tap out even if the card is registered to both devices, as the barriers will think that two incomplete journeys have been made. Kings Cross Underground station sells the most paper tickets, which includes around 1,000 Travelcards a day.

The RMT union called further **rail strikes** on the National Rail network on 5th, 7th & 9th November but then 'suspended' them; also on London Underground and London Overground on 10th November. With through services due to start on the **Elizabeth line** on 6th November, TfL had to announce that after just one day, services would revert to the previous pattern on 7th and 9th November and Elizabeth line passengers would have to change at Liverpool Street or Paddington.

Great British Railways (GBR) which was supposed to take over from Network Rail and would be responsible for awarding rail contracts from 2023, will be delayed after the Truss Government scrapped the Transport Bill. There is also renewed uncertainty over the scale of the HS2 project north of Birmingham.

Corporate and company news

National Express Group experienced a 33% growth in revenues in the three months to the end of September. It had benefitted from extra passengers as a result of rail strikes and from transporting Police to various locations after the Queen's death. The group says several of its inter-city corridors are now experiencing demand well in excess of 2019 levels. Bus operations in the West Midlands are benefitting from an £88 million Government grant which has been used to freeze fares on local bus services.

Other General News

Eurobus Expo was held on 1-3 November at the NEC in Birmingham. This was the first bus and coach exhibition for three years and marked a transition from diesel powered vehicles to full electric or hydrogen powered vehicles. Over 80 vehicles were on display, in various sizes from minibuses to full size double deckers.

The **Irizar 'ie Tram'** 12 metre long single decker for Go Ahead Metrobus was perhaps the star of the show highlighting not just its innovative design but opportunity charging. Twenty similar buses will run on route 358 from next year. Charging facilities are being provided at Crystal Palace and Orpington, which are claimed to take less than five minutes.

The other significant vehicle for London was on the **Equipmake Stand** which was occupied by New Routemaster LT 11 which has been converted from hybrid diesel to full battery electric operation. It had been off the road for two years prior to this display. Equipmake has recently been awarded a contract with First York to re-power 12 first generation electric Optare Versas which date from 2014. **GM Coachwork** displayed a repowered Optare Versa EVR and a Maxus eDelivery 9 minibus.

Alexander Dennis (ADL) launched its latest battery-electric double decker, the ADL Enviro 400EV which has had a redesign. ADL claims its new battery system will have an operational range of 260 miles on a single charge. Also on display was one of twenty hydrogen double deckers for Merseyside, which are ADL's first fuel cell vehicles. It is a very high spec bus in a bright yellow livery with new information displays, wooden effect floors, USB points etc. ADL announced two new models at the show which will be produced entirely by ADL with no BYD involvement and should be available from late 2023. They will include a restyled Enviro 400 EV and an 8.5 metre long Enviro 100 EV single decker.

On the **Yutong** stand, an E12 single deck bus was on display, capable of carrying up to 70 passengers. This bus was handed over to Carmarthenshire County Council during the show for use on the Traws Cymru network. **Yutong** also displayed a TCe battery electric coach which it claims has a range of 200 miles. **Mellor**, which is expanding its traditional minibus range to include larger vehicles, showed several variants of its new Sigma range of single deck buses in various lengths. **Switch Mobility** (formerly Optare) had two Metrocity single deckers, in 10.8 and 8.7 metre lengths. The latter length appears to be aimed at operators who previously bought the Optare Solo. A **Higer Steed** single deck midibus was also on display. **Wrightbus**, which pioneered hydrogen powered buses in the UK and has new double and single deck battery electric models, was notable by its absence from the show.

More Wrightbus electric buses for Northern Ireland. Translink has ordered a further 100 buses which will be Streetdeck Electroliner double deckers and GB Kite single deckers. 60 will be for Metro services in Belfast with the rest spread around the Country. This follows an earlier order for 100 zero emission buses from Wrightbus for Belfast which include 20 hydrogen fuel cell Hydroliners, and a separate order for 38 zero emission buses to convert the Foyle Metro network in Derry. In Scotland, **West Coast Motors** have ordered ten open top Streetdeck Electroliners from Wrightbus for its Glasgow sightseeing tours, with funding from the Scottish zero emission challenge fund.

The refurbished **Battersea Power Station** was opened to the public on 14 October. The main street, known as 'Electric Boulevard' is linked to the Underground station. The building is mostly occupied by an upmarket shopping centre with cafés and restaurants. There is a cinema and an all-day bar in one of the power stations original control rooms.

A survey by Sun Life Insurance has placed the Coastliner 840 service operated by Transdev as **the most scenic bus route in the UK**. The service runs from Leeds to York and then over the moors to Scarborough or Pickering and Whitby. In second place was Brighton & Hove's Coaster route 12 from Brighton to Eastbourne.

The RouteONE awards on 2nd November at Birmingham that recognises operator excellence featured several operators in our area who were successful. Small/medium bus operator of the year (up to 150 buses) was Uno Buses. Large bus operator of the year (over 150 buses) was Brighton & Hove and Metrobus. The special award to the individual who had made a significant contribution to the industry went to Peter Newman, Chairman of Ensignbus.

GREATER LONDON AREA - Route Developments

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

LONDON BUSES - TENDERED ROUTES UPDATE

Routes 21/N21, 26/N26, 53/N53, 57/=, 85/=, 185/108D, 199/N199, 203, 216, 346, 404, 450, 626, 634, 643, E2 and E8 from tranches 832, 834, 835, 836, 837, 839, 840, 843, 844 and 846 were awarded, starting on 27th May 2023 (E2, E8) 24th June 2023, (26/N26), 1st July 2023 (57/=, 85/=, 216, 643), 22nd July 2023 (53/N53), 2nd September 2023 (203, 626, 634), 16th September 2023 (199/N199), 30th September 2023 (185/108D, 346, 404, 450) and 7th October (21/N21).

All routes have been awarded on the basis of 7-year contracts, apart from 21/N21 with a 5-year contract and all from the 2023/24 tendering programme.

- 21/N21 Retained by Go-Ahead London Central, using existing NRM Routemasters (pvr 21 to 24).
- 26/N26 Retained by Stagecoach East London using existing hybrid double-deck vehicles (pvr 21 to TBA).
- 53/N53 Retained by Stagecoach Selkent using existing hybrid double-deck vehicles (pvr 29 to TBA).
- 57/= Retained by Go-Ahead London General using a mix of new electric and existing hybrid double-deck vehicles (pvr 24 to 19).
- 85/= Retained by London United using existing hybrid double-deck vehicles (pvr 15 to 12).
- 185/108D Retained by Go-Ahead London Central using new electric double-deck vehicles (pvr 25 to 23). By the way, the 108D is the late evening route to Lewisham after events at the O2.
- 199/N199 Retained by Stagecoach Selkent using new electric double-deck vehicles (pvr 12).
- 203 Retained by London United using existing hybrid double-deck vehicles (pvr 7). Currently a single-deck operation.
- 216 Retained by London United using existing diesel single-deck vehicles (pvr 10).
- 346 Awarded to Stagecoach East London using existing diesel single-deck vehicles. Currently operated by Go-Ahead Blue Triangle from Barking (RR) garage (pvr 3).
- 404 Awarded to Abellio using existing diesel single-deck vehicles. Currently operated by London United from Tolworth (TV) garage (pvr 3).
- 450 Awarded to Go-Ahead Metrobus using new electric single-deck vehicles. Currently operated by Arriva London South from Norwood (N) garage (pvr 19 to 15).
- 626 Awarded to Metroline Travel using existing hybrid double-deck vehicles. Currently operated by Sullivans from South Mimms (SM) garage (pvr 4).
- 634 Retained by Metroline Travel using existing hybrid double-deck vehicle (pvr 1).
- 643 Awarded to Uno using existing hybrid double-deck vehicles. Currently operated by Metroline from Cricklewood (W) garage (pvr 2).
- E2 Retained by Metroline Travel using new electric double-deck vehicles (pvr 16 to 15).
- E8 Retained by Metroline Travel using new electric double-deck vehicles (pvr 15).

Note that the award of electric vehicles to routes E2 and E8 will be exchanged with existing hybrid double-decks from routes 245 and 263 until at least 2025 for operational reasons.

Route N199 will be partially operated by hybrid vehicles for charging reasons.

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

The rest of the 2022/23 tendering programme remains as below, with negotiations still being concluded by TfL and for some short-term extensions for some of these:

Tranche No. and start dates	Routes out on offer (with current operators)	2-year extensions granted
#808 (12/22)	605, 628/688, 653/683 (Sullivan)	--
#810 (9-10/22)	349 (Arriva LN)	--
#813 (10/22)	11/N11 (GA London General)	--
#816 (10-11/22)	78 (Arriva LN)	--
#825 (2/23)	263 (Metroline Travel)	41/=, 121
#828 (3/23)	Tranche cancelled	138, 161, 172, 181, 225, 233, 284
#829 (3/23)	Tranche cancelled	169, 247, 287

The rest of the 2023/24 tendering programme is now as follows:

Tranche No. and start dates	Routes out on offer (with current operators)	2-year extensions granted
#833 (6/23)	129 (GA London Central)	--
#835 (7/23)	86/N86 (S'ch East London)	--
#837 (9/23)	417 (Arriva LS)	--
#839C (9/23)	72/N72 (London United)	--
#841 (9/23)	H11, H14, H17, H18/H19 (London Sovereign)	--
#842 (9/23)	83/N83, 114/=, 483 (Metroline West), 251, 288, 303 (London Sovereign), 340 (Arriva LN)	--
#843 (9/23)	276, 376 (GA Docklands), D3 (S'ch East London)	--
#843C (9/23)	D7 (GA Docklands)	--
#844A (9-10/23)	108/=, 321/= (GA London Central)	--
#845 (9-10/23)	1/N1, 42, P12 (GA London Central)	--
#845A (9-10/23)	381/N381 (Abellio)	--
#847 (10/23)	107, 316 (Metroline Travel)	--
#847A (10/23)	32, 189/=, 632 (Metroline Travel)	--
#847C (10/23)	16/N16 (Metroline Travel)	--
#848 (10/23)	223 (London United)	--
#849 (10-11/23)	38/N38, 221, 279/N279, W3/= (Arriva LN)	--
#850 (11/23)	363, 436/N136 (GA London Central)	--
#851 (11/23)	39, 430 (GA London General)	--
#851C (11/23)	14/=, 74/N74 (GA London General)	--
#852 (11/23)	H20, U7 (Abellio)	--
#853 (11/23)	W19 (S'ch East London ex HCT Group)	--
#854 (12/23)	152, (GA London Central), 157 (Arriva LS)	--
#855 (12/23-01/24)	237 (Metroline Travel), H26, U9 (Abellio)	--
#856 (01/24)	388 (S'ch East London ex HCT Group), 476 (GA London General)	--
#857 (01/24)	9/N9 (London United)	--
#858 (01/24)	228 (London United) 603 (Sullivan)	--
#859 (1-2/24)	122, 380 (S'ch Selkent)	--
#860 (1-2/24)	3/N3, 59 (Abellio), 133/N133, 137/N137, 333 (Arriva LS)	--
#861 (01/24)	89/N89, 486 (GA London Central), 96, 472/=, 601, 602 (S'ch Selkent), 428, B15 (Arriva LN)	--
#862 (02/24)	43/=, 134/= (Metroline Travel)	--
#862C (02/24)	242/N242 (Arriva LN)	--
#863 (02/24)	EL1/=, EL2, EL3 (GA Blue Triangle)	--
#863A (2-3/24)	439, S2 (New Routes Croydon/Sutton consultations). 455 (due to be w'dn!)	--

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

#864 (2-3/24)	101 (GA Blue Triangle), 167, 238, 277/N277, 362, 462 (S'ch East London), 325 (Arriva LN)	--
#865 (2-3/24)	309, W11, W12, W13 (S'ch ex HCT Group), 379 (GA London General), W14 (S'ch ex T.Transit)...	--
#866 (03/24)	20 (S'ch ex HCT Group), 58 (S'ch ex T.Transit), 97, 215, 275 (S'ch East London), 23, 158 (Arriva LN)	--
#867 (03/24)	19/N19, 259, (Arriva LN), 76/= (GA London General) 393 (Metroline Travel)	--
#868 (03/24)	R1, R2, R3, R4, R6, R8, R11 (GA Metrobus)	--
#869 (03/24)	113/N113, 317 (Metroline Travel)	--
#870 (03/24)	2/N2, 249 (Arriva LS), 493 (GA London General)	--
#871 (03/24)	262, 473 (S'ch ex T.Transit), 372 (S'ch East London) 396 (GA Blue Triangle)	--

ROUTE AND SERVICE CHANGES

Wednesday 7th September 2022: As in TLB698

Saturday 10th September 2022: As in TLB698

Wednesday Night 14th to Monday Morning 19th September (additional): As in TLB698.

Saturday 17th September 2022: As in TLB698.

Bank Holiday Monday 19th September 2022: As in TLB698.

Wednesday 21st September 2022: As in TLB698.

Saturday 24th September 2022: As in TLB698.

Saturday 1st October 2022: As in TLB698.

Sunday 2nd October 2022: As in TLB698.

Saturday 8th October 2022:

94/= (*London United-S*) (Acton Green & Piccadilly Circus) Mon-Sat daytime frequency reduced from x6 to x7½mins with additional AM peak journeys withdrawn. The previous proposal to cut the route back to Portman Square appears to have been cancelled. (*see TLB 692/693*).

632 (*Metroline Travel-W*) (Grahame Park, Corner Mead & Kilburn Park Station SDO) PM journeys retimed to operate at 15:17, 15:21 and 15:25 on Mon and 15:22, 15:26 and 15:30 Tue-Fri.

PVR Changes from 8th October 2022:

London United: 94 to 20/21/14 #S351+ , no change to =94 PVRs.

Metroline Travel: 632 no change to PVRs.

Saturday 15th October 2022:

103 (*Arriva London North-GY*) (Rainham Station & North Romford, Chase Cross) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.

149/= (*Arriva London North-AR*) (London Bridge Station & Edmonton Green Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing NRM-New Routemaster double-deck vehicles.

150 (*Arriva London North-DX*) (Becontree Heath, Leisure Centre & Chigwell Row, Gravel Lane) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.

175 (*Arriva London North-DX*) (North Romford, Hillrise Estate & Dagenham, New Road) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.

184 (*Go-Ahead London General-NP*) (Turnpike Lane Station & Barnet, Chesterfield Road) Mon-Sat daytime frequency reduced from x8-9 mins to x10mins. (*not London Central as in TLB697/8!*)

218 (*London Transit-X*) (Hammersmith, Bus Station & North Acton Station) Re-allocation deferred until 29th October – see below.

226 (Golders Green Station & Ealing Broadway Station) LBSL (QC) contract awarded to London United from Metroline West from this date. However, this has been deferred to 7th January 2023.

228 (*London Transit-X*) (Maida Hill, The Chippenham & Central Middlesex Hospital) Re-allocation deferred until 29th October – see below.

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

Saturday 15th October, continued:

- 257 (*Stagecoach East London-T*) (Stratford, Bus Station & Walthamstow Central Station) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 341/= (*Arriva London North-AR*) (Angel Road, Tesco & Waterloo Station) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 533 (Hammersmith, Bus Station & Barnes, circular) LBSL (QC) contract awarded to Go-Ahead London General using existing SE-class AD E20D Enviro200 single-deck vehicles from Putney (AF) garage. Previously operated by *Metroline Travel* from Brentford (AH) garage using DEL-class AD E20D Enviro 200 single-deck vehicles.
- 621 (*Stagecoach Selkent-TL*) (Lewisham, Town Centre & Avery Hill, Stationers' Crown Woods Academy, SDO) Renewal of LBSL (QX) contract using existing AD E40D Enviro 400 diesel double-deck vehicles.

PVR Changes from 15th October 2022:

Arriva London North: no change to 103, 149/=, 150, 175, 341/= PVRs;

Go-Ahead London General: 184 to 17/16/15 #NP31+,#NP47 is the LT working, 533 to 5/5/5 #AF311+;

Metroline Travel: 533 withdrawn.

Metroline West: no change to 226.

Stagecoach East London: No change to 257 PVRs;

Stagecoach Selkent: No change to 621 PVRs.

Saturday 22nd October 2022:

22 (*Go-Ahead London General-AF*) (Putney Common & Oxford Circus) and

N22 (*Go-Ahead London General-AF*) (Fulwell, Stanley Road & Oxford Circus) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.

134/= (*Metroline Travel-PB*) (Warren Street, University College Hospital & North Finchley) Mon-Fri peak frequency reduced from x6-7 to x8mins.

220/= (*London United-RP*) (Harlesden, Willesden Junction & Wandsworth, Southside Shopping Centre) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing ADE-class AD E40D Enviro400 diesel d/ds.

317 (*Metroline Travel-PB*) (Enfield Town, Little Park Gardens & Waltham Cross, Bus Station) Partial conversion to OME-class Optare MetroDecker MD1050EV electric double-deck vehicles, surplus from route 134. The 22nd was the official date but in practice it got going from 29th.

353 (*Go-Ahead Metrobus-MB*) (Forestdale, Courtwood Lane & Ramsden Estate, Rye Crescent) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing E/EN diesel and EH class AD Enviro 400H hybrid d/ds but with new Ee-class BYD Enviro400EV-City electric double-deck vehicles in due course.

359 (*Go-Ahead Metrobus-C*) (Purley, Downlands Precinct & Addington Village, Interchange) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing SE-class AD E20D Enviro200 diesel single-decks. Additionally, daily frequency reduced from x30 to x45mins, and will be converted to existing SEe-class BYD D8UR Enviro200EV electric single-deck vehicles in due course.

383 (*UNO-HF*) (Barnet, The Spires & Finchley Memorial Hospital, Mon-Sat except evenings) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing AD E20D Enviro200 diesel single-deck vehicles. Revised timetable for running time. (*see also service proposals*).

384 (*Metroline Travel-PB*) (Cockfosters Station & Edgware Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing DEM-class AD E20D Enviro200 diesel single-decks, although due to be converted to Volvo BZL electric single-decks in due course.

PVR Changes from 22nd October 2022:

Go-Ahead London General: No change to 22/N22 PVRs;

Go-Ahead Metrobus: 353 to 8*/8/6 (*654) #MB31+, 359 to 2/2/2 #C341+;

London United: 220 to 24/21/15 #RP151, =220 to 3 every night, using daytime running numbers from 220 Except Sa/Su nights as #RP181+;

Metroline Travel: 134 to 19/19/19 #PB61+ no change to =134, 317, 384;

UNO: no change to 383 PVRs.

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

Saturday 29th October 2022:

- 111 (*Abellio-TF*) (Kingston, Cromwell Road Bus Station & Heathrow Airport Central) two additional SDO trips added between Kingston & Whitton, Turing House School. These replace the temporary journeys on route 481 introduced from 3rd September (see TLB697-Sep 22) albeit by a different routing.
- 218 (*London Transit-X*) (Hammersmith, Bus Station & North Acton Station) Re-allocated from Westbourne Park (X) garage to Stamford Brook (V) garage, thus novated from London Transit to London United, deferred from 15th October. See vehicle news for type changes to DE/DLE.
- 228 (*London Transit-X*) (Maida Hill, The Chippenham & Central Middlesex Hospital) Re-allocated from Westbourne Park (X) garage to Park Royal (RP) garage, thus novated from London Transit to London United, deferred from 15th October. Temporarily converted to DE/DLE-class AD E20D Enviro200 diesel single-deck vehicles. (*see also vehicle news*).
- 295/= (Ladbroke Grove, Sainsbury's & Clapham Junction, Falcon Road) LBSL (QC) contract awarded to London United but in practice novated to London Transit, in due course using new BCE-class BYD D8UR AD Enviro 400EV electric double-deck vehicles from Westbourne Park (X) garage. To begin with, covered presently by VH-class Volvo B5LH Wrightbus Gemini 3 hybrid double-deck vehicles initially, plus a few VMHs, rather than OME-class vehicles which have been re-deployed to route 28 instead. Previously operated by *Metroline West* from Willesden Junction (WJ) garage using VWH-class Volvo B5LH Wrightbus Gemini 3 hybrid double-deck vehicles.
- 339 (*Stagecoach Lea Interchange-LI*) (Leytonstone Station & Shadwell Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing AD E20D Enviro200 diesel single-deck vehicles.
- 481 (*London United-FW*) (Kingston, Cromwell Road Bus Station & West Middlesex Hospital) The temporary SDO journeys to and from Turing House School are replaced by journeys on route 111 as noted above.

PVR Changes from 29th October 2022:

London Transit: 295/= to 19/19/13 #X251, =295 to 4 every night using daytime running numbers, 218, 228 to London United;
London United: 218 to 9/9/8 #V401+, 228 to 9/8/5 #RP551+;
Metroline West: 295/= withdrawn;
Stagecoach Lea Interchange: 339 to 11/11/8 #LI621+.

Sunday 30th October 2022:

- 246 (*Stagecoach Selkent-TB*) (Bromley North Station & Westerham) Last day of the seasonal Su/PH extension to Chartwell.
There is no change to PVRs.

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

Saturday 5th November 2022:

- 349 (*Arriva London North-E*) Garage allocation change (together with its LTs) from Enfield (E) to Edmonton (EC) Garage.
- 370 (*Arriva London North-GY*) (Romford, Mercury Gardens & Lakeside, Bus Station) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.

PVR Changes from 5th November 2022:

Arriva London North: 349 to 13/14/11 #EC131+, 370 no change to PVRs.

Saturday 12th November 2022:

- 18 (*London United-RP*) (Sudbury and Harrow Road Station & Euston Station) and N18 (*London United-RP*) (Harrow Weald Garage & Trafalgar Square) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
-

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

Saturday 12th November, continued:

- 3 (*London United-FW*) (Fulwell, Stanley Road & Hammersmith Bridge, South Side) and
N33 (*London United-FW*) (Fulwell, Stanley Road & Hammersmith, Bus Station) LBSL (QC) contract
extended for 2 years.
- 45 (*Abellio-WL*) (Clapham Park, Atkins Road & Elephant & Castle) LBSL (QC) contract extended for
2 years.
- 92 (*Metroline West-G*) (Ealing Hospital & St.Raphael's North, Drury Way) Renewal of LBSL (QC)
contract using existing VWH-class Volvo B5LH Wrightbus Gemini hybrid double-deck vehicles,
displaced from route 295. These are now starting to replace the current TE-class Enviro400s. As
noted previously, formally re-routed in both directions in Greenford via Berkeley Avenue and
Greenford Road.
- 176/= (*Go-Ahead London Central-Q*) (Tottenham Court Road Station & Penge, Pawleyne Arms) LBSL
(QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 188/= (*Go-Ahead London Central-Q*) (Russell Square & North Greenwich Station) LBSL (QC) contract
extended for 2 years.
- 419 (*London United-AV*) (Roehampton, Bessborough Road & Richmond, Bus Station) LBSL (QC)
contract extended for 2 years.

Saturday 19th November 2022:

- 76/= (*Go-Ahead London General-NP*) (Waterloo, Bayliss Road & Tottenham Hale Station) Partially re-
allocated to Stockwell (SW) garage.
- 444 (*Go-Ahead London General-NP*) (Turnpike Lane Station & Chingford Station) Revised daily
timetable for running time.

Saturday 3rd December 2022:

- 80 (*Go-Ahead London General-A*) (Hackbridge, Reynolds Close & Belmont, High Down &
Downview) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using new Ee-class electric double-deck vehicles in
due course, although some diesel double-deck vehicles will form part of the mix for charging
purposes.
- 93/= (*Go-Ahead London General-A/SW*) (North Cheam, Priory Road & Putney Bridge Station)
Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using new Ee-class electric double-deck vehicles in due course.
- 151 (*Go-Ahead London General-A*) (Wallington, Shotfield & Worcester Park Station) Renewal of
LBSL (QC) contract using new Ee-class electric double-deck vehicles in due course.
- 154/= (*Go-Ahead London General-A*) (West Croydon, Bus Station & Morden Station) Renewal of
LBSL (QC) contract using new Ee-class electric double-deck vehicles in due course.
- 163 (*Go-Ahead London General-AL*) (Morden Station & Wimbledon Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC)
contract using new SEe-class electric single-deck vehicles in due course. One peak hour working
would continue to be operated by a WHV-class Volvo B5LH Wrightbus Gemini 3 hybrid double-
deck vehicle
- 164 (*Go-Ahead London General-AL*) (Sutton Station & Wimbledon Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC)
contract using new SEe-class electric single-deck vehicles in due course.
- 297/= (*Metroline Travel-PV*) (Willesden Garage & Ealing Broadway Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC)
contract using WDE-class Wrightbus StreetDeck Electroliner new electric double-deck buses in
due course. Currently using existing VW-class Volvo B9TL Wrightbus Gemini 2 diesel double-
deck vehicles.
- 411 (*London United-WK*) (West Molesey, Central Avenue & Kingston, Cromwell Road Bus Station)
Re-allocated from Hounslow Heath (WK) to Tolworth (TV) garage.
- 470 (Colliers Wood Station & Epsom, Town Centre M-Sa, except evenings) LBSL (QC) contract
awarded to Go-Ahead London General using existing SE-class AD E20D Enviro200 diesel single-
deck vehicles from Merton (AL) garage. Currently operated by London United from Tolworth
(TV) garage using DDE- and SDE- class AD E20D Enviro200 diesel single-decks.

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

Saturday 10th December 2022:

- 6/= (*Metroline Travel-AC*) (Aldwych & Willesden Garage) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 88/= (*Go-Ahead London General-SW*) (Parliament Hill Fields & Clapham Common, Old Town) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 98 (*Metroline Travel-AC*) (Holborn, Red Lion Square & Willesden Garage) and
- N98 (*Metroline Travel-AC*) (Holborn, Red Lion Square & Stanmore Station) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 155 (*Go-Ahead London General-SW*) (Tooting, St. George's Hospital & Elephant & Castle) and
- N155 (*Go-Ahead London General-SW*) (Aldwych & Morden Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing WHV-class Volvo B5LH Wrightbus Gemini 3 hybrid double-deckers.
- 159/= (*Abellio-QB*) (Oxford Circus & Streatham Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing LT-class NRM new Routemaster hybrid double-deck vehicles.
- 170 (*Go-Ahead London General-SW*) (Victoria Station & Roehampton, Danebury Avenue) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 190 (*Metroline Travel-AH*) (West Brompton, Empress State Building & Richmond, Bus Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing DEL-class AD20D diesel single-deck vehicles.
- 307 (Brimsdown Station & Barnet Hospital) LBSL (QC) contract awarded to Arriva London North using new ES-class Wrightbus Streetdeck Electroliner double-deck vehicles from Enfield (E) garage, in due course, covered initially by DW-class Wrightbus DB300 Gemini 2 diesel double-deck vehicles. Currently operated by *Metroline Travel* from Potters Bar (PB) garage using TE-class AD Enviro400 or VW -class Volvo B9TL Wrightbus Gemini 2 diesel double-deck vehicles.
- 355 (*Go-Ahead Metrobus-C*) (Mitcham, Cricketers & Brixton) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 360 (*Go-Ahead London Central-Q*) (Royal Albert Hall, Prince Consort Road & Elephant & Castle) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.

CHRISTMAS and NEW YEAR BUSES IN LONDON

Full details in the December TLB, but the pattern is expected to be similar to previous years, i.e. No service Christmas Day, Sunday Service on Boxing Day and Bank Holiday Tuesday and Saturday-type day services on Christmas Eve and Wed-Fri between Christmas and New Year, with no Night Services on 24th/25th and 25th/26th December. It is not known at this stage whether there will be an enhanced service for New Year's Eve.

SERVICE PROPOSALS

The consultation for route **383** (see June 2022 TLB694 p15) was published on 4th October, which was to confirm the extension from Woodside Park Station to Finchley Memorial Hospital, permanently introduced from the contract change on 22nd October. Of the 109 respondents, only one objection was made, the rest all positive. The consultation also received some suggestions to extend the service northwards to Barnet and Potters Bar, replacing the lost link on route **84** but to no avail.

Silvertown Tunnel has commenced construction from a launch chamber at North Greenwich and documents that have been on-line as part of the consultation have promised new bus links from the south, linking Lewisham, Grove Park/Blackheath and Eltham/Kidbrooke via the new tunnels (built to double deck height with bus lanes) to the north and east to Poplar, Canning Town and Silvertown/Barking Riverside. At a recent meeting with Greenwich councillors, it was revealed that the bus links might be scaled down from a previous promise of a minimum of 20 buses per hour. No doubt the effects of the pandemic and TfL's funding problems cannot have helped; however, the meeting was told that a new consultation would be launched on 16th November or about the time this TLB reaches you, so full updated details next month, hopefully. However, information so far is that route **108/=** will be unchanged, route **129** will be extended from North Greenwich via the new tunnel to Silvertown, London City Airport and Barking Riverside. A new route **X239** will run from Grove Park, via 261 to Lee, 202 to Blackheath then non-stop from Blackheath, Sun-in-the Sands via the A102M and the new tunnel to Leamouth to terminate at Canary Wharf. There do not appear to be any links from Eltham/ Kidbrooke to Canning Town after all or any other changes proposed. The tunnel is not expected to be open until 2025.

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. CR2 = Contract awarded for 2 years. 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.

7th Jan 23: CR7 on 142/642 (London Sovereign to Metroline Travel).

CR7 on 226 (Metroline West to London United, a change deferred from 15th October 2022).

14th Jan 23: CR7 on 635 (London United to Metroline Travel). CE+2 on 141, 329 (Arriva LN).

21st Jan 23: CR7 on 47/= (S'ch Selkent), B13* (Arriva LN to G-A London Central)

CE+2 on 99, 269, 401 (Arriva LN), 422, B14 (S'ch Selkent), B16 (G-A London Central)

4th Feb 23: CR7 on 91/N91 (Metroline to G-A London General), W5 (S'ch East London ex HCT),

CE+2 on 118, 153 (G-A London General), 258 (London Sovereign), 299 (Sullivans),

343/N343 (G-A London Central), W4, W6 (Arriva LN).

11th Feb 23: CE+2 on 36/N36 (G-A London Central)

25th Feb 23: CE+2 on H28 (Abellio).

4th Mar 23: CR7 on 187, 487 (Metroline West), N97 (London Transit to G-A London General),

CR on H32/= (London United to Abellio), H91 (London United to Metroline), CE+2 on 423, H22, H37/=, H98 (London United).

26th Apr 23: CR7 on 35/N35, 40* (G-A London Central), CR7 on 62, 145, 294 (S'ch East London),

CR7 on 345/= (Abellio), CR7 on 366* (S'ch East London to G-A Blue Triangle),

CR7 on 368 (Arriva LN to G-A Blue Triangle).

6th May 23: CR7 on 147 (G-A Blue Triangle).

27th May 23: CR7 on E5*, E7* (Abellio), CR7 on E2*, E8* (Metroline Travel).

24th June 23: CR7 on 26/N26 (S'ch East London)

1st July 23: CR7 on 57/=#, 213/=*(G-A London General), 265* (London United to G-A London General), CR7 on 85/=, 216, K4 (London United), 643 (Metroline to Uno).

8th July 23: CR7 on 377* (Arriva LN).

22nd July 23: CR7 on 53/N53 (S'ch Selkent).

26th Aug 23: CR7 on 64/=*, 612* (Arriva LS).

2nd Sep 23: CR7 on 114 (Metroline West), CR7 on 251* (London Sovereign to Metroline Travel),

CR7 on 216 (London United), CR7 on 288, 303, H1, H14, H18/H19 (London Sovereign),

CR7 on 340 (Arriva LN to London Sovereign), CR7 on H17 (London United to Metroline Travel),

CR7 on 626 (Sullivans to Metroline Travel), CR7 on 634 (Metroline Travel), CR2 on 685 (Arriva LS).

9th Sep 23: CR7 on 83/N83*, 483 (Metroline Travel).

16th Sep 23: CR7 on 199/N199* (S'ch Selkent).

30th Sep 23: CR7 on 346 (G-A Blue Triangle to S'ch East London), CR7 on 404 (London United to Abellio), CR7 on 450* (Arriva LS to G-A Metrobus).

7th Oct 23: CR on 21/N21 (G-A London Central).

OTHER SPECIAL and MISCELLANEOUS non-TfL OPERATIONS IN LONDON

Airport Bus Express Ltd has applied to run an overnight service every night except Christmas Day, from Stansted Airport to King's Cross St. Pancras (Midland Road) leaving Stansted at 24:00, and every 30 mins until 02:00, departing King's Cross at 02:10 and every 30 mins to 04:10. The service also calls intermediately at Tottenham Hale Bus Station. It is proposed to start on 14th November.

Regarding the **Big Bus Sightseeing** application for the "Cursed Child Panorama" tour, member Jeremy informs me that the play has been running at the Palace Theatre since 2016, although the service has only just been applied for as stated and only due to run on Wed, Fri, Sat and Sun. The times are 17:00 WFSa and 16:00 Sun from Shaftsbury Avenue, stop P, so whether it is just an advertising tour or part of the interval attraction remains to be seen. This consultation had closed on 23rd September, so not certain if it started on 14th October; this information is for any photographers or theatre patrons who might be planning on seeing the show!

DIVERSIONS, DEVIATIONS AND DISRUPTIONS

General: Updating the Covid measures introduced in Croydon, Park Street/Katharine Street and Wandsworth, Old York Road, these have been extended until the end of December 2022, although it is not known at this stage whether the routes affected will return to their previous routings.

Central: From 20th October to 8th November, owing to railway works in Euston Square, routes **59 and 68** are diverted on departure from Euston Station via Grafton Place, Churchway and Euston Road. From 17th October to 17th December, owing to gas works in Artillery Row, route **507** is diverted westbound via Rochester Row, Vauxhall Bridge Road, Neathouse Place and Wilton Road. From 31st October to 4th November, owing to utility works in Leadenhall Street, routes **25/N25 and N550** were diverted in both directions via Fenchurch Street, Gracechurch Street, King William Street.

South-East: The water works in Baring Road, Lee, affecting route **261** as reported last month, have been extended to 22nd December. From 21st to 28th October, owing to water works in Bexley High Street, routes **132, 229, 669 and N21** were diverted in both directions via Thanet Road, with 229, 669 and 132 towards North Greenwich also via Parkhill Road.

South: From 24th to 28th October, owing to cosmetic works in Sandy Lane South, Roundshaw, routes **154 and 455** were diverted eastbound direct via Stafford Road. Also, from 24th to 28th October, owing to sewer works in Garth Road, North Cheam, route **293** was diverted in both directions via London Road, Stonecot Hill and Tudor Drive.

West: The trial of the Uxbridge Bus Station stopping arrangements (noted in TLB 697) has been extended to 30th November. The latest information about ongoing problems at West Drayton Station Forecourt, which remains closed to buses, is that the closure has been extended to at least 31st January 2023. Member Chris reports that final repairs and other “urban realm enhancements” may need to be agreed between Hillingdon Council, TfL and Network Rail so may be delayed until ‘Spring 2023’. From 24th to 28th October, owing to water works on Framfield Road, Castle Bar Park, route **E11** was diverted in both directions via Greenford Avenue and Drayton Bridge Road. Following the fire at Slough Bus Station, overnight on 29th October, route **81** is curtailed at Queensmere, with other services terminating here or in Wellington Street, until further notice.

North-West: Following the re-instatement of the bus stand at Kensal Rise, congestion resulted (!) so from 12th October until at least 1st February 2023, route **452** is curtailed at Ladbroke Grove, Sainsbury’s but then runs out of service to stand in Westbourne Park garage. The gas works in Deansbrook Road, Mill Hill, affecting routes **302, 628 and 642** as reported last month, were extended to 2nd November. From 24th October to 6th November, owing to water works in Belsize Road, routes **31/N31 and N28** were diverted eastbound via Kilburn High Road, Quex Road, West End Lane, Broadhurst Gardens, Canfield Gardens and Finchley Road, and westbound via Finchley Road, Goldhurst Terrace, Broadhurst Gardens, Canfield Gardens, Cleve Road, West End Lane and Abbey Road. From 26th to 28th October and from 31st October to 2nd November, owing to barrier repairs in Engineers Way, Wembley, routes **92, 206 and 440** were diverted in both directions via Fifth Way, (92, 206), Fulton Road and Empire Way.

North: From 24th to 28th October, owing to water works in Turkey Street, route **327** was diverted via Winnington Road, Longfield Avenue and Hertford Road.

North-East: From 13th October to 10th November, owing to gas works in Southwold Road, Clapton, route **393** was diverted in both directions direct via Upper Clapton Road between Southwold Road and Warwick Road.

East: From 31st October to 4th November, owing to manhole repairs in Montfichet Road, Stratford City routes **97 and 388** were diverted on departure from Stratford City Bus Station via Montfichet Road (north) and International Way (east) as stated and only due to run on Wed, Fri, Sat and Sun.

COUNTRY AREAS - Route Developments

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

West and South ESSEX, including THURROCK

Sunday 30th October:

- 37 and 351 (*First Essex*) Timetable changes as in TLB698.
- 100 (*First Essex*) (Basildon & Lakeside, Daily) Timetable changes.
- 200 (*First Essex*) (Basildon & Grays, M-S) Timetable changes.

Monday 21st November:

- 13/a/b/c (*Vectare*)(Waltham Cross & North Weald) Minor M-F peak timing changes; Additional 13B journey on Sats.
- 14/b (*Vectare*) (Waltham Cross & Upshire Shops) Saturday jnys added.
- 22/a (*Vectare*) (Waltham Cross & Shernbroke Road) Minor M-F peak timing changes; Additional journeys on Sats.
- 418 (*Central Connect*) (Loughton & Epping, St Margaret's Hospital, M-S) Last day of Central Connect is Saturday 19th with Vectare taking over on Monday 21st; Vectare continues beyond the Hospital to North Weald, The Talbot. Same frequency but revised timings.
- 505 (*Central Connect*) (Harlow & Waltham Abbey, Sats) Last day of Central Connect is Saturday 19th with Vectare taking over on Saturday 26th. Same frequency but revised timings.

HERTFORDSHIRE and southern BEDFORDSHIRE

Sunday 23rd October:

- 51 (Chipperfield & Hemel Hempstead via Flaunden, Tues & Thurs) and
 - H19 (Kings Langley Station & Hemel Hempstead via Abbots Langley and Kings Langley High Street, Tues & Thurs) and
 - R9 (Chipperfield & North Watford Superstores via Kings Langley and Abbots Langley, Mon/Wed/Fri) and
 - R16 (South Oxhey and Carpenders Park & North Watford Superstores, Mon & Fri) and
 - R17 (South Oxhey and Carpenders Park & Hatch End, Arts Centre for Morrisons, Weds)
- All the above are shoppers' buses with one round trip on each operating day. HertsCC contract transferred from UNO (last day Friday 21st) to Red Eagle (from Monday 24th). No change to times.

Monday 31st October:

- 26 (*Centrebus*) New route Mon-Sat every two hours: Royston Bus Station to Cambridge, Drummer Street. This replaces most of withdrawn Stagecoach East 915, although the section in Royston between the Gateway Tesco and Bus Station via Burns Road is not replaced.
 - 36C (*Grant Palmer* to *Centrebus*): Mon-Sat Leighton Buzzard town service: Circular from Town Centre via Chelsea Green, Knaves Hill and Billington Park.
 - 72/73 (*Grant Palmer*) New services: Bedford & Sandy hourly M-S, then alternately as 72 to Pottun or 73 to Biggleswade. This replaces withdrawn services by Stagecoach East.
 - 188/189/190 (*Herberts*) (Biggleswade & Sandy, M-S) Timetable changes.
 - 610 (*Uno*) (Luton & Cockfosters) Minor timing changes and one round trip on the 611 route variant was withdrawn.
 - 614/644 (*Uno*) (Hatfield & Queensbury) Minor timing changes and one additional am.peak 644 journey.
 - 811 (Hatfield, Oxlease & Harpenden, Katherine Warring School, SDO) After just one month (see TLB698), reverted from *Red Eagle* back to *Britannia*.
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----- *Country route devts* -----

Monday 14th November:

757 (*AtS*) (Luton & London, Daily) The main hourly service between Luton Town and Airport & London is retained, but now with additional hourly journeys just between the Airport & London, thus making that section x30min.

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

Sunday 23rd October:

7 (*First Berkshire*) (Britwell & Heathrow T5, Daily) Revised timetable but with fewer journeys early and late. However, the main x30 service Daily (hourly late evenings) is retained.

8/8A (*First Berkshire*) (Slough & Heathrow T5 via Staines, Daily) The 8A variation that ran between Egham and Staines Bridge via The Causeway is rerouted (thus as plain 8) via Pooley Green and Thorpe Road, thus restoring the x30min frequency on that section.

12/13 (*First Berkshire*) (Slough & Burnham, M-S) Revised timetable, now to x45min M-F offpeak and Sats combined frequency but with extra Mon-Fri peak journeys.

Sunday 30th October:

2 (*Redline*) (Aylesbury & Quarrendon, Daily) Revised timetable and frequency reduction on M-F to x25mins.

12 (*Redline*) (Buckingham Park & Berryfields, SDO) Additional afternoon journey so now the format of the two pm journeys will be the same as the morning pair.

36, 36B & 36S (*AtS*) (High Wycombe & Bourne End) Revised timings on the 36B & 36S for reliability and an extra pm journey on the 36S. No change to other 35, 36 & 37 journeys.

60/60A (*Red Rose*) (Aylesbury & Buckingham, Daily) The am SDO journey from Aylesbury that goes via Royal Latin School in Buckingham will now terminate there. The pm return journey starts from there and becomes SDO.

X60 (*AtS*) (Aylesbury & Buckingham, M-S) 15:05 ex Aylesbury M-F to run 5 min later throughout.

280/X8 (*AtS*) (Aylesbury & Oxford via Thames) Minor timetable changes, mainly in M-F peaks and with a few more X8 journeys.

Sunday 30th October:

The following are changes to *Thames Valley* services in the Maidenhead and Windsor area.

2 (Slough & Dedworth via Windsor, M-S) Rerouted between Slough and Windsor via Datchet, restoring a regular service to this village. Also rerouted in Dedworth via Foster Avenue and Wolf Lane to replace rerouted 16.

3 (Maidenhead & Farmers Way, Daily) Rerouted outwards from Maidenhead to Bath Road via St Mark's Hospital (returns via the previous inward route - Altwood Road and Boyn Hill Road).

7 (Maidenhead & Woodlands Park, Daily) Rerouted in Woodlands Park to serve also Bissley Drive and Lowbrook Drive.

8 (Boulters Lock & Halifax Road via Maidenhead and St Mark's Hospital, M-S) Withdrawn between Maidenhead town centre and Halifax Road (see 9).

9 (Maidenhead, one way circular via Cranbrook Drive, Halifax Road and St Mark's Hospital, Daily) Rerouted from Halifax Road to St Mark's Hospital via Farm Way from St Mark's Hospital via Belmont Road (as on Sun).

10A (Slough & Datchet, Churchmead School, SDO). Withdrawn, covered by rerouted 2.

15 (Slough & Maidenhead via Eton and Eton Wick, M-S). Withdrawn between Eton Wick and Maidenhead.

16/16A (Windsor & Maidenhead, St Mark's Hospital, Daily) Withdrawn in Maidenhead between the town centre and St Mark's Hospital (see 3, 9); the SDO Newlands School journeys continue. Whole service rerouted via Fifield (the 16A route, which number is no longer used). Also withdrawn in Dedworth via Foster Avenue and Wolf Lane (see 2) and no longer double-runs to Holyport, Stroud Farm Estate (see 53), giving a more direct service between Windsor and Maidenhead.



The annual A&D MBS Running Day was duly held on 2nd October and Chesham was the focal point. RF 146, not seen out for some years, departs Chesham Broadway on the former route 394 across the Chilterns to Tring. (*Haydn Davies*)

At last year's Ensignbus Running Day this 1938 vintage Bedford WTB, new to the local firm Underwood of Orsett, ran on the X54. Will it run again on this year's event on 3rd December? Go there to find out! (*Richard Godfrey*)





Route extensions in London are very rare. On 24th September route 241 was projected to the new development at Royal Wharf in West Silvertown. E40D 'smart hybrid' 11032 is in Plaistow Road en-route to the new destination. (Haydn Davies)

On 15th October route 533 – the link from Hammersmith to Barnes while the bridge remains shut – was transferred from Metroliner to Go-Ahead. SE 296 (one of the batch 293-303 now on 209/378 and 533) is in Lonsdale Road, Barnes. (Haydn Davies)





Finally on 27th October route 125 gained its first electric buses after a long wait for the power supply to be connected. Recalling the old order is VH 45132, here on Russell Lane between Osidge and Whetstone. *(Terry Wong Min)*

With 37 Optare MetroDecker-EVs at Westbourne Park and with a PVR of 25 on routes 23 and C3, the surplus recently began to work on route 28. OME 46023 is seen crossing Westbourne Grove from Chepstow Road to Pembroke Villas. *(Jimmy Sheng)*





Go-Ahead's Commercial unit ran the usual services at the Farnborough Air Show on 18-22 July. Volvo B7RLE VWL 51 in 'Commercial livery' drives past a line of 'commercial' double-deckers awaiting passengers. *(Derek Everson)*

Titan T 567 belongs to the London Transport Museum at Acton and is marked up for the one-time London Northern company. It is rare out on the road but on 23rd October it visited the London Bus Museum at Brooklands. *(David Heath)*



----- *Country Route Devts* -----

BUCKS & BERKS,

Sunday 30th October, continued:

- 53 (Bracknell & Wexham Park Hospital via Maidenhead, M-S) Rerouted M-F off-peak and Sat at Holyport to serve Stroud Farm Estate, replacing routes 16/16A.
- 234 (Maidenhead, circular via Paley Street, Waltham St Lawrence and Hare Hatch, M-S, 235 in reverse) The M-F peak journeys (234 morning, 235 afternoon) which operated via Woodlands Park are both rerouted as normal 234 journeys. The 235 number now consists of just the last M-F journey from Maidenhead, terminating at Hare Hatch.
- 238 (Maidenhead & Cookham Dean Tue/Thur) Minor timing changes.
- 239 (Maidenhead & Henley, (Mon/Wed/Fri/Sa) Minor timing changes.

SURREY and northern parts of WEST SUSSEX

Friday 2nd September:

- 440 (*White Bus*) (TLB697 p18 refers) Start date postponed to 31st October.

Monday 10th October:

- 619 (*Cardinal Buses*) (Lower Kingswood & Leatherhead, St Andrew's and Therfield Schools, SDO) Withdrawn from Shelveys Way at Tadworth due to low trees hindering double-deck buses.

Sunday 23rd October:

- 8/8A (*First Berkshire*) (Slough & Heathrow T5 via Staines, Daily) See Berks notes above.
- 442 (*Carlone*) (Staines & Heathrow T5 via Stanwell Moor, Daily) Revised timetable but certain journeys extended from Staines via Pooley Green, Egham, Royal Holloway College to Englefield Green, the Holly Tree. These consist of 6 early am jnys from EG and 4 late evening jnys back.

Monday 31st October:

- 305 (*Bear Buses*) (Staines & Poyle, M-S) Minor timetable changes.
- 440 (*White Bus*) New route, Windsor, Theatre Royal & Staines, Bus Station via Hospital, Old Windsor, Englefield Green, Egham and The Causeway. Mon-Fri daytime offpeak only.

Saturday 5th November:

- The Woking Community Transport begins a shuttle service from Woking Station to Wisley Gardens, operating hourly on Sats & Suns only.

Thursday 24th November:

- 272 (*Metrobus*) (Crawley & Brighton via Haywards Heath) Minor timetable change.

North and west KENT

Friday 2nd September (see TLB697 p19)

- Go-Coach has registered 'new' school bus routes T3, TW1, TW4.

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)

Canada Water has “**Tube strike Alternative bus services**” a single sided foolscap sheet with the station name printed in white on a blue header band. Beneath is a map showing stops in the adjacent bus station accompanied by a list of which stop to use for thirteen destinations accessible by using just one bus. It is to date the only station to have this style of handout reported and would appear, given its unusual size, to be a notice intended to be displayed in bus stop cases but has been printed in bulk and subsequently handed out.

The return of Routemasters doing the job they were designed for to the capital’s streets is heralded in “**Ride a classic London Bus!**” from Londoner Buses. The red multifold slimline advertises Route A linking Waterloo with Piccadilly Circus, then featuring a Routemaster against a silhouette of Nelson’s Column, Big Ben and The London Eye. The fully opened leaflet has one side devoted to a route map annotated with the fourteen stops and six key sights. Beneath the map is a potted history of each sight - Piccadilly Circus, Trafalgar Square, Downing Street, Big Ben, Westminster Bridge and The London Eye. The remainder of the leaflet has narrative about fares and timings. This includes a table showing first and last times from each stop with a vague ‘Then every 15 to 20 mins until’ in between. Although undated the service started daily operation with effect from 15 October.

A photoshopped Ayats Bravo features on the cover of “**City Sightseeing London**” a multifold slimline valid from October 2022. A full route map, including the recently introduced Green Shuttle Service, dominates when fully opened accompanied by photos of key sights and information about ticketing. One of the photos features an anonymous Arriva TOLST DLP, recalling the days when the City Sightseeing franchise in the capital was in their remit.

A QR Code on “**Big Bus Tour**” allows customers to purchase tickets for the company’s open top tours. It is an undated slimline.

Continuing to use the extra long slimline format is “**Hop-on Hop-off Open Top Tours London**” from Golden Tours. Dated July 2022 to March 2023 it is in the same format as previous editions, the most recent being reviewed in TLB695. Times, fares and booking information for the frequent shuttle between Victoria and Leavesden Studios complex can be found in “**The Making of Harry Potter**” a black slimline leaflet dated 2022 and illustrated with images of the studio. Customers already holding tickets for the studio tour can travel on the shuttle for £40 return.

“**It’s your route to independence**” is a four page A5 leaflet for Hertfordshire’s Dial-a-Ride scheme. Using a black and green colour scheme it outlines the service, illustrated with images of the vehicles used. The logos of Intalink, Herts Lynx and the county council feature on the front. Whilst Dial-a-Ride is restricted to passengers aged over seventy five, the regular Herts Lynx service is open to all. Attempting to gain new ridership is “**Transporting you into the Summer**”, a double sided A5 sheet highlighting leisure facilities and attractions within the service’s catchment area. It highlights a range of fares discounts which were offered between 18 July and 31 August. Two versions of “**Intalink Bus Passenger Charter**” outline what the local authority and operators will do to provide good services, accompanied by a reminder of how passengers should behave. Both single sided A5 sheets carry identical text, one is printed in green and black on a yellow background, whilst the other has yellow and white text on a green background.

Delivered as part of a targeted maildrop is “**Hop on to High Wycombe every 20 minutes with services 35/36/37**”, a multifold A5 from Arriva. It offers brief details of the revised services from 30 October including a map, but unfortunately no timetable is included. To tempt potential customers there are two free vouchers, exchangeable for an Adult and a Family “Day Saver” ticket in the High Wycombe Plus Zone, and redeemable (only) on services 800/850/X80/35/36/36B/36S/37/37A. Thank you to the member who reported this, albeit somewhat surprised to have received this through his letterbox in Maidenhead where the frequency is a more modest bus every sixty minutes.

Liveries for First Essex, Essex Airlink and Railair are among those featured in “**Creating Desire Fab 5 a new collection**” from Best Impressions. The multifold A6 promotes the company’s work in using outstanding design to promote public transport and ‘creating desire’ for potential passengers.

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:

On the running day on route 37 on 1st October, RT 714 also ran, albeit only later in the day.

EuroBusExpo2022 was held at the NEC on 1/2/3 November. Of London interest was IE 1, the first of the fleet of 20 Irizar i-E Trams B35D, which are due for Go-Ahead route 358. LT 11 was exhibited by Equipmake, who have had it for two years experimenting on the feasibility of re-powering diesel or hybrid buses to all battery-electric. It has been fitted with a strengthened front axle due to extra weight.

Not directly London, but Switch (Optare) showed an 8.7m MetroCityEV (like those already on route 322) and a what- might- happen, while ADL showed a new E400 FCEV, a hydrogen fuel-cell version.

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

After a very long wait, E400EV 3430 finally entered service on 25th October.

E400H 2579 has moved to Fulwell and has become the regular on school route 671.

The ‘U5’ batch at DH have been gaining the familiar ‘I am an ELECTRIC bus’ notice on the sides.

More repaints include 2447, 2479, LT 35, LT 176.

Transfers: (October): 2579 DH/TF. 3430 u/ DH. 8204, 8207 QB/BC.

Livery changes:

LT 20 to advert for Gant.

LT 163 from advert for Valentino to one for Stuart Weitzman.

LT 612 from advert for Cos back to red.

LT 692 from advert for Kurt Geiger back to red.

LT 704 from advert for Tu Clorthing back to red.

3401 to Poppy livery (for use on route 63).

Subsequent disposals:

9411 (LJ56 VTN) is now with BM Coaches, Cranford, Middleswx.

9433, 9434, 9436, 9442 from First Scotland East to McGill’s.

9470 (LJ09 OKC) is now with City Direct, Galway, Ireland.

9480 (LJ09 OKO) In TLB698 I omitted its new owner:- it was NuVenture, Aylesford, Kent..

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 refurb/ repaints include DW 542, 546; LT 204, 205, 208; HV 38, 106, 112, 127, 128, 146, 164, 165; L 326.

In mid-October Electroliner demonstrator LY71 GJE was being trialled in south London; on the same day Go-Ahead also looked at it again.

A rarity for these days was T 303 (DT) on the 335 on 10th October. On the 11th HA 19 was on route 64 with HA 30 following on the 12th. HT 3 was on roue 249 on 19th October.

Transfers:

(October): DW501 TC/E. DW 510, 511 DT/E. DW 513, 514 DX/E.

LT 183, 192 E/AE. LT 191, 193, 194, 197 E/EC. LT 200 AR/GY.

LT 224 CT/GY. LT 744 BN/CT. LT 964 GYu/N.

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

ARRIVA LONDON, Continued:

Livery changes:

HV 39, HV 147 from advert for Elizabeth line back to red.

HV 98, HV 332, HV 403 from adverts for Qatar 2022 back to red.

HV 337 from advert for Verkada back to red.

LT 323 to advert for Gant.

LT 341 from advert for Kraken to one for Call of Duty.

LT 534 from advert for Qatar 2022 back to red.

LT 726 from advert for World Cup 2022 back to red.

LT 733 from advert for Kurt Geiger back to red.

LT 958 to advert for M&S.

LT 964 to advert for Call of Duty.

LT 966 to advert for Stuart Weitzmann.

LT 968 from advert for Valentino back to red.

LT 972 from advert for Cos back to red.

LT 981 from advert for Kraken back to red.

Disposals:

ENL 103, 107, 109, 110 to Ensign Bus, Purfleet (October).

DW 408, 412, 416 to Arriva Southern Counties (A-K&S) at Tunbridge Wells (October). Note that although October was the official date of operation change, 412 actually went to TW in August.

Ref. TLB698 p18, ENS 10 was returned to Arriva Merseyside and went back into service there.

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

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

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

In mid-October the eCitaro electric demonstrator MB21 BUS was in use on the Fastrack-A and -B.

Into this area 1634 (GN06 EEF) AD Dart SLF – AD Mini Pointer B29F (October).

Out of area: 4036 NF/ Area 2. 4037 NF/ Essex (CO). 6204 NF/Kent (TW).

Transfers (October): 1634 Kent(MD)/NF. 3983/3985 NF/NFw.

3983 was on loan to Kent (TW) by mid-October, in exchange for 1659. It is not known whether this continues. Also, 'Arriva Click' AC012 has been on loan at NF from Watford, at least from late July to early August, then again in late October – possibly continuously, though not reported.

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

Repaints to lighter blue: 4189, 4192. E400 6524, having lost its Jubilee wrap, has also lost its Sapphire livery to the new lighter blue. 4101 has acquired branding for 508/509/510 (by 25th Sept).

(October): Into this area from Area 1: 4036 (GN09 AWG) E200Dart – Enviro200 10.8m B38F.

Into this area from A-K&S at TW: 1519 (YJ58 CCF) Optare Solo M890SL B26F – 2008.

Into this area from AKT at Southend: 3759 (YJ08 DZK) VDL SB200 – Wright Pulsar B44F – 2008.

Transfers: 1454 HA/HAu. 1519 TW/HA. 2495 HH/HHu. 3556 SVu/AV, 3754 HHu/HHw. 3759 SE/HA. 3884 SV/SVu. 4036 NF/HH. 4187 WE/WEu (fire). 4215 HA/WE, Also AC012 has been on loan to Area 1 (NF).

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

Repaints to the lighter blue: 2318, 2322, 2325, 3020.

Transfers: 3602, 3617, 3619 LD/LDu. 3641 AYu/AY. 5427 LD/LDu

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

A2B TRAVEL GROUP, Melbourn, Cambridgeshire

Ex-UNO Scania UJ55 UNO is on loan to Whippet, Swavesey. E200 KX09 GJJ and Fiat Ducato YX60 CLO have been withdrawn but are still in stock.

Disposals: VW T5 AB51 AZB, Volvo B7TL LT52 WWP all sold to --?--.

E200 MX12 DXB sold to Langston & Tasker, Bucks where it has been re-registered L24 LNT.

E200Dart LJ56 VSY gone to scrap.

BEAR BUSES, Shepperton

Acquired (October) from Ensign Bus, formerly First Essex and First London TNL 33133:

LT02 ZBZ TransBus Trident – TransBus President 10.5m H42/23D – 2002.

Acquired (October) from Ensign Bus, formerly Metroline DE 959:

LK58 CTV AD E200Dart – AD Enviro200 10.2m B29D – 2008.

CARLONE BUSES, Lyne, Surrey

Another new Sprinter has arrived – RX22 SFZ.

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

Acquired buses L8 XEL, L9 XEL, MX12 DZE now numbered 1418/19/20 resp.

CENTREBUS, Luton

Into our area: From --? --, now at Luton:

550 (FE12 LKL), 551 (FL13 ACO), 552 (FL13 AAX). AD E20D/ Enviro200 (detail unknown).

These look like they have been re-regd (to the above marks) from an unknown origin.

ENSIGNBUS, Purfleet

Disposals (October):

Volvo B9TLs 136, 137 (BJ11 DVV, DVW) to First South Yorkshire.

BCI 151 (LX67 DDU) to Aintree Coachlines, Merseyside.

FALCON COACHES, Byfleet

Correcting TLB697, E20Ds YX22 UJP, UJR, ULP actually are YX68 UJP etc.

E20D SK21 FHX is on loan here.

GO-AHEAD LONDON

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

In mid-October the blue-liveried Electroliner demonstrator LY71 GJE was being trialled in south London; on the am day, Arriva London South also tried it out. Meanwhile, the earlier demo bus ‘EL 1’ (LY71 GHZ) had been at Croydon Garage since last April (TLB693 p28 refers) and used on route 119. However, on 12th October it moved to Camberwell (Q) Garage, albeit not used there.

The Beulas bodied Equipmake Jewel-E double-deck demonstrator was mentioned in TLB692 p28 as “due” for Merton. However, it never did come and still hasn’t (thus far). Additionally it was NOT exhibited at the NEC Show as might have been expected.

What will come in due course are the Irizar i-e Trams (TLB695 p24 refers) and the first – fleet number IE 1 (layout B35D) was exhibited at the Show at the NEC on 1/2/3 November. They will run on route 358 from Orpington (MB) Garage. The first few may get here during December. As to the electric infrastructure, that is lagging well behind – what’s new? Work has started at Crystal Palace Bus Station but instalment of the pantograph is delayed. As to the Bus Station at Orpington Rail Station where the other pantograph is to be positioned, no work has even started.

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

GO-AHEAD LONDON, Continued:

From early October, newly-delivered Ee 70 had been at Croydon Garage for type-training, although soon swapped with Ee 71. The batch Ee 70-93 is due here for routes 119 and 264. Mind you, the power supply is still not achieved, with end of November the latest estimate! In the meantime the rest of the batch (except Ee 93 at BYD Iver) are stored at Camberwell.

The 'route 353' batch of nine Ee buses is delayed as the large batch of 69 Ee vehicles for routes 80/93/151/154 routes at Sutton Garage are to take precedence, those routes nominally taking up their renewed contracts on 3rd December. The 353s would then follow on afterwards, so unlikely to be here much before next April at least.

In TLB698 in the collision report for Ee 56 on 22nd September, the other bus was LT 369 (not 367).

Ee 17 was unusual on route 476 on 11th October.

Recently reported repaint/ refurb include LT 43, 62, 119.

Confirmation that E 258 also has the charcoal skirt 'Commercial' livery, thus completing the Peckham batch E 255-9. In late October E 129 was noted on the Roehampton University service.

New deliveries: (October)

Ee 70-93 (LG72 DNO/U/V/X/Y, DOA/H/J/U, DPE/F/K/N/O/U/V/X/Y/Z, DRO/V/X/Z, DSE).

BYD D8UR-DD – AD Enviro400EV-City 10.9m H43/23D.

Transfers: Outstations at LS=Luton, FK=Folkestone, NH=Newhaven (now RG Ringmer), KL King's Lynn; PU=Pulborough.

(October): E 129 MG/PLc. Ee 70 -/Ct/Qu. Ee 71 --/Ct. Ee 72-92 --/Qu. (November): Ee 93 ---?

Livery changes:

LT 42 to advert for Levi's.

LT 189 to advert for Levi's.

LT 274 to advert for Battersea Power Station.

LT 284 to advert for Kurt Geiger.

LT 287 from advert for Kurt Geiger to one for Converse.

LT 425 from advert for DKNY back to red.

LT 432 from advert for Cos back to red.

LT 438 from advert for LOTR Ring of Power to one for Stuart Weitzman.

LT 456 to advert for Levi's.

LT 457 from advert for La-eeb back to red.

LT 481 to advert for Gant.

LT 504 from advert for Cos to one for Converse.

LT 506 from advert for LOTR Ring of Power to one for Moncler.

LT 846 from advert for Valentino back to red.

LT 873 from advert for M&S to one for Call of Duty.

LT875 to advert for Gant.

WHV 82 from advert for Let's do London back to red.

WHV124 from advert for Switzerland to one for Naturium.

Disposals:

DOE 16 and E 13 to Ensign Bus, Purfleet (October).

WVL 278, 279, 280, 297, 298 to Go North East (Nos. 6206/7/8, 6220/21)

WVL 300, 302, 304, 305, 306 to Go North East (Nos. 6222/24, 6201/2/3)

WVN 19, 25 to Go North East (Nos 6198 and 6197)

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

The information office at Sevenoaks Bus Station ceased to be staffed after 14th October.

Solos 5009, 5012 and Versas 6001, 6002 are withdrawn and should be sold soon.

Disposals: Solos 5001/02 (YJ59 GGF, GGK) to Faresaver, Chippenham, Wiltshire. (5001's recent reg, VLT 71 would be withheld by Go Coach.

Solo 5011 and Versas 6005/6/7 have gone from the fleet to --?--.

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

KEANE TRAVEL, Grays

Acquired (August 2022): from Lodge's Coaches, High Easter, Essex; once 9025 at Abellio.

KIG 1261 (ex BX55 XLW) Volvo B7TL – Wrightbus Gemini 10.6m H45/24D – 2005.

Disposal: (August 2022): Volvo B7TL YJ52 HEA sold to --?--.

LONDON DIAL-A-RIDE

D7002 (YX8 FKE) noted in October at Harold Wood, converted to a camper van.

We had recorded the existence of D7199 as a barber's shop in Woolwich Town Centre. However by early August it had been joined by Optare Solo MX04 VLR (once Stagecoach 47153); both are in use.

LONDONER BUSES (MANCHESTER BUS TOURS)

The service duly began 'on schedule' on Saturday 15th October using the 'core' fleet of RM 871, RML 887 and RM 1941. Route A was OK to begin with but the inevitable weekend demos around Westminster caused route B to be operated instead. The B runs from Waterloo via London Eye then Waterloo Bridge, Aldwych, Fleet Street to St Paul's. How would any passengers wanting (or waiting along) the route stops know which of A and B is running?'

As the expected transfers from the North-West hadn't happened by the start date. Go-Coach loaned RML 2699 as a 'standby spare'; in the event it wasn't needed and returned home by the 18th. However, RM 1583 did get from Blackpool to London, while RML 2681 remains at Blackpool and RML 2290 has ended up in South Wales.

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

Tram 2531 has lost its 'Taylor Rose' all-over advert.

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

Acquired: (from dealer Mistral): 6705 (YY15 NHX) AD E20D = AD Enviro200 8.9m B29F – 2015.

Disposals: StreetLite 6109 to GoAhead Ireland, Dublin (September)

Registration change: 6784 from 192-D-19499 to GX69 EAA.

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

METROLINE WEST – G, HZ, UX and WJ garages.

(within the ComfortDelgro group of Singapore)

A new single-deck order, indeed a new type, has been announced for recent TfL tender awards. There are 47 Volvo BZLs with MCV bodies and in three different lengths. 24 x 10.2m for routes 187 and 487; 9 x 9.6m for route 384; 14 x 10.8m for route 251.

Recent refurb/ repaints include VWH 2072, 2141, 2211; TEH 2073, 2083; DEL 2149.

LT 190, the silver bus at HT, is due for a refurb shortly and will lose the silver livery.

Surplus OMEs at PB, after a PVR reduction on route 134 from 22nd October, are now used on route 317. This is nothing new but now seems to have been more frequent and thus formalised.

TEH 2076, accident from 14th January, was back in use on 14th October.

LT 11, off service since 12th June 2020 and sent to Equipmake in Norfolk for experiments in converting an LT to battery electric. It was back at Holloway by 27th October, prior to being exhibited at the Euro Bus Expo at the NEC on 1/2/3 November. It is due to be trialled soon on route 390. Its overall weight increase has meant that it has been fitted with a strengthened front axle. Its ULW has increased from 12460kg to 13780kg and its max gross weight of 18000kg has been authorised to 19200kg.

The use of VMH 2580 on route 483 on 7th October was an interesting new departure for Perivale (PV) and the first time that the type had served the route since the extra peak hour journeys by Greenford (G) were operated during the early days of the Covid lockdown in 2020. Two days later, the same bus became the first of its type on route 7, whilst VMHs now make fairly regular visits to the 245. At Edgware, once rare VMHs on route 204 have become less so with several during October. The erstwhile solitary VWH at Greenford is now joined by sisters displaced from the 295 from WJ Garage.

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

METROLINE, Continued:

RML 903 ran on 12th October on route 43 between Muswell Hill and Islington with fares donated to the Poppy Appeal.

Transfers: (h suffix = Hertfordshire Commercial Fleet).

(October): LT 11 Equipmake/HT. LT 809 W/HT. VW 1189 PV/PB. VW 1829/31/32/36/41 PAu/HZu. TEH 2076 Wu/W. VWH 2123/4/5/6, 2132 WJ/G.

DEL 2259/60/61/62/64 AH/HZu. DEL 2263/65 AH/HZu/UX.

(November): TE 1983-91, 1999, 2000 G/PAw. VWH 2122/27-31/36-40/42/43 WJ/G.

Livery changes:

LT 649 from advert for Tu Clothing to one for M&S.

LT 653 to advert for Call of Duty.

LT 749 from advert for Kraken to one for Gant.

LT 751 from advert for World Cup 2022 to one for Converse.

LT 756 from advert for LOTR Rings of Power to one for Stuart Weitzmann.

LT 763 from advert for M&S to one for Kurt Geiger.

VMH 2593 to advert for MetaGedu.

BDE 2620 from advert for San Pellegino back to red.

OME 2678 from advert for San Pellegrino back to red.

WHD 2711 to Poppy Appeal livery (for use on routes 7 and 245).

MULLANY'S BUSES, Watford

Disposals:

Volvo B7TL LF52 ZTJ to Nu-Venture, Aylesford, Kent (by September).

E400 HP05 BUS to Ensign Bus (October).

Grant PALMER, Flitwick, Beds

Further to TLB698 and YT61 GOU and GPX, the bodywork is OmniDekka (not Olympus).

RATP-DEV TRANSIT LONDON including

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

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

LONDON TRANSIT – X garage.

Edgware (BT) Garage finally gained its electric power supply on Thursday 27th October and seven BCEs went into service on route 125. This enabled some of the VHs on route 125 to be re-deployed so as to assist in the take-up (from Metroline) of route 295 two days later on Saturday 29th. The 125 finally got its BCEs, most of which had been in operation since delivery at Harrow and Fulwell. Harrow's rightful batch of BCEs had been in store, mostly at X, so they finally got to Harrow! It may seem odd that identical buses get swapped around but, to comply with leasing arrangements for specific routes, the relevant buses need to be in the 'right place'. Mind you, it didn't all happen by the 29th and the BCE switches remained ongoing. Route 295 itself is due eventually to 'go electric' with BCE 47157-177 (on order), so the saga is not yet over.

In the event, the planned transfers out of X of routes 218 and 228 on 15th October failed to happen. Instead, it was the 29th when most of their buses were dispersed. The DEs went with the 218 to V where its DEs were joined by a few DLEs. Route 228 – which roams a complicated route around west London - picked up assorted DE and DLE buses and moved to RP. There were 14 WLSs – that is, the somewhat unloved StreetLites – and some are due to go off lease while others will be treated to some 'mechanical attention'.

Several BEs drifted over from Fulwell to Shepherd's Bush and as a result, route 72 now has about half its allocation operated with the electric BEs. Meanwhile, many of those BEs at FW continue to operate on route 33 while they are still waiting for the electricity supply at Hounslow Heath.

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

RATP-DEV, Continued:

Three BCEs have transferred from S to X and they have been used on route 295.

Recent repaints/ refurbishes include LT 122, ADE 40308/310, VH 45126/127.

On 14th October on route 94 at Acton Green, BCE 47003 suffered altercations with several cars.

Now a great rarity, VHR 45206 was on route 79 on Sunday 30th October.

RML 880 is to work on route 281 on Friday 11th^h November in aid of the Poppy Appeal.

Transfers:

Correction to SUP-39C: BE 37050 has always been at FW (not yet WK).

(October): DE 20049 X/RP. DE 20094/095, 20149-153, 155, 156 X/V.

DE 20115 S/RP. DE 20116/117/118 FW/RP. DE 20119 FW/TV. DE 20158 BT/RP.

DE 20171/172/173/178 S/RP. DE 20179 TV/V.

WLS 30027-040 X/Xu. DLE 30329 WK/RP.

BE 37075/078 Xu/FW. BE 37064/065/067/068/069 FW/S. BE 37081 Xu/S.

ADE 40308 TV/AV. ADE 40310 Xu/AV.

VH 45081-085 BT/X. VH 45122/123 TV/X. VH 45130/132/135 BT/X.

VH 45135 BT/X. VH 45138 SO/BT/X. VH 45139/140/141 FW/X.

BCE 47003 S/Su. BCE 47084/086/089 S/X.

BCE 47126/127 NCu/SO. BCE 47128/130/131/133/134/135/136/137 Xu/SO.

BCE 47138/139/140/141/142/144/145/147/149/150/151 SO/BT.

Livery changes:

LT 76 from advert for Cos to one for M&S.

LT 84 to advert for Boss.

LT 673 from advert for World Cup 2022 to one for Levi's.

BCE 47009 to advert for San Pellegrino and then back to red.

BCE 47016 from advert for World Cup 2022 to one for Codorniu. Unusually for these days – on non-LTs – this bus has the advert wrap all around its front,

BCE 47022 to Poppy Appeal livery (for use on routes 49, 94 and 148).

Disposals:

SP 40080/112/123 to Ensign Bus (October).

SP 40165/167/168 to Whippet Coaches, Swavesey, Cambridgeshire (October).

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

At 2am on Saturday 29th October, there was a fire at Slough Bus Station and one bus was destroyed. Thames Valley outstation two or three buses at the Bus Station each night and the vehicles affected were part of this arrangements. Given the time of day (night), 'luckily' few people were on the premises and there were no casualties. The bus written off was E20D 667 (YX17 NNM) while E20D 671 suffered some damage.

Volvo B7RLEs 451 and 454 have been stood down.

RED EAGLE BUSES, Dinton near Aylesbury

E20D LJ09 KPZ has gained an all-over blue livery for the Bucks University contract service; it has replaced YX65 RGV on that duty.

E20Ds YX12 AJY and YX12 AMK (se TLB698) are now single-doored as B ** F, (detail awaited).

SAFEGUARD, Guildford

New deliveries (October):

BV72 KOD and LF72 DUV Volvo B8RLE – MCV EvoRa B38F.

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

STAGECOACH LONDON (part of Stagecoach Holdings) incorporating:
EAST LONDON - BK, BW, CS, NS, RM, T and WH (now plus AW and HK);
SELKENT - KB, PD, TB and TL; **LEA INTERCHANGE BUS CO** – LI.

One of Tower Transit's driver trainers, 44701 (now 39122) has been repainted to all-purple.

Recent refurb/ repaints include LT 262, 362, 364, 365, 373, 383, 389; 10166, 10170, 12355, 12364, 13131, 19725, 19730, 19741, 19807, 36621, 37729 (ex HCT 1229), 37760 (ex HCT 1260).

The occasional single-decker still appears on route 20 now and then, with two E20Ds 37724 and 37733 on 11th October.

Transfers:

(September): LT 255 BW/T.

(October): LT 243 BW/T. 10115 PD/HK. 10196 PD/WH. 12308 BW/PD.
15036 RM/PD. 36325 TB/HK.

Livery changes: Recent repaint/ refurb reported include 37743 (ex HCT 1243).

In TLB698, delete LT 254 as a Moncler advert, It is actually LT 264.

LT 265 from advert for La'eeb to one for Converse.

LT 268 to advert Call of Duty.

LT 271 from advert for World Cup 2022 to one for Levi's.

LT 364 from advert for Thomas Pink to one for Stuart Weitzman.

LT 379 from advert for LOTR Rings of Power to one for Moncler.

14105 to Poppy Appeal livery (for use on route 174).

18905 from advert for La-eeb to one for MetaGedu.

19139 (trainer) to a cross between 'national corporate', training and Pride (see picture in this TLB). It was repainted by Stagecoach East Kent at Ashford (Kent).

HCT renumbering: HCT 2600 was renumbered to 10206 but then changed to 12500.

UNIVERSITYBUS (t/a uno), Hatfield and Northampton

E40D at Northampton is now branded for 'Violet 19', replacing 'Foxglove 18'.

The severe driver shortage has led Bryan's Coaches to cover a couple of 614 journeys in M-F peaks, with Tates Coaches doing the same on the 610.

Uno is no longer quite so good at keeping branded buses on correct routes e.g. dragonflies 362 on 644 and 363 on 614 on 9th Sept.

The electric eCitaro MB21 BUS was examined here during September.

New deliveries (September): 263/4/5 SK72 CWE/F/G - seat totals are H51/35F.

VALE TRAVEL, Aylesbury

Acquired: YX12 AED AD E20D- AD Enviro200 10.2m B29D ex DML 44315 (First and Tower Trt).

YX12 AKV AD E20D- AD Enviro200 10.8m B31D ex DMV 44252 (First and Tower Transit).

Both were upseated and single doored before they arrived here but no-one has checked these nor those in TLB698.

WESTBUS (within the ComfortDelgro group of Singapore)

On 15th October, Enviro400(MMC) SK70 BUH became the latest bus (of several) to hit the low railway bridge at Norbiton Station while on a rail replacement service. It was not de-roofed as such but sustained damage to its roof and nearside.

Changes of registration:

M-B Turismo coaches 160-163 from BG15 UCO/P/S/V to WIB 255, 300, 322, 335 resp.

Disposal: 149 (BN12 CNZ) sold to A&U Transport, London E18.

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

Section Editor: Andrew Morgan, Easton House, Easton Lane, Bozeat, Northamptonshire NN29 7NN.

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 871 (WLT 871, ex NRH 803A), 1941 although recorded in TLB691 as sold from Transport for London / London Bus Services to Blackpool based Coastliner Buses, they were transferred to the new Londoner Buses operation (by September) and entered service from 15th October. They did not operate in Blackpool whilst officially away from London. RM1941 has been seen over the Summer at various events including at the Fulwell open day in July.

RM 1583 was transferred to the Londoner Buses fleet (October) and entered service on 21st October; it had latterly been part of the Blackpool based Coastliner Buses (part of the Transpora Group).

RM 1776 from Henry Coopers Coaches to Brigit's Afternoon Tea Tour, London (June). It was then converted for its new role by South East Coachworks, including the fitment of platform doors, and entered service from 26th October on the new Paddington Afternoon Tea Bus Tour which operates two services a day on Wednesdays to Sundays.

RML 887 (202 UXJ) has been latterly part of the Coastliner Buses fleet based in Blackpool, and previously part of Catch22Bus fleet; it was transferred to the new Londoner Buses operation (by September) and entered service from 15th October.

RML 2545 noted in use on the Pokémon art tour in October; it remains part of The Bus Business fleet.

RML 2710, further to TLB647, this RML has not been exported and was for sale in the UK at the time of writing early in November.

RML 2750 from RML2750 Group to Brigit's Afternoon Tea Tour, London (September) for future use.

Olympians:

L 105 (C105 CHM, ex MAN 44U) was sold from Barkers Motors (May) but no details for a new owner have been located – does anyone know where it is now ?

NV 15 (N415 JBV) (ex GAL) was sold from Barway Services (by June).

NV 117 (R917 RYO) (ex GAL) was sold from Tiger European (by August).

NV 124 (P924 RYO) (ex GAL) from Finch Coaches to Used Coach Sales, Warrington, Cheshire (October). NV 141 is the last Olympian remaining with this operator.

NV 142 (R342 LGH) (ex GAL) was sold from RedRoutemaster (January 2021).

VA 59 (R159 VPU) (ex SLN) was latterly on loan to Northern Star and has returned to Hilton, Newton-le-Willows, Merseyside.

Titans:

T 23 (WYV 23T) was placed on 5-year long-term loan from LBM to BBPG from October 2020.

T 49 (TXI 3757, ex WYV 49T) from an unknown farm in Edgehead to Used Coach Sales, Warrington, Cheshire (by May 2019), and then to Chez Berg'Hair, Montesquiou, France (October 2020) for use as a static rural hair salon. It had previously been with Bridge of Youth Christian Fellowship.

T 62 (WYV 62T) from Nu-Venture to Aylesford Metal Company, New Hythe, Kent (October 2013).

T 95 (CUL 95V) from The Oakloft, where it had been converted into living accommodation, to Used Coach Sales, Warrington, Cheshire (August 2016), then sold to unknown owner in Sheffield, South Yorkshire (by May 2017), then to Howard Homeless Project, Maidenhead, Berks. (by October 2019), before returning to Used Coach Sales (by May 2021), where last reported as unsold in May 2022.

T 139 (CUL 139V) was exported from Woods Village Shop (as Woodsy's Cider Bus) to France (by December 2017) and was advertised for sale (August 2021) after an abandoned bar conversion project in Toulouse.

T 252 (GYE 252W) from the late John Delaney to a private member at the Beith Museum (July 2021).

T 306 (KYN 306X) from the late John Delaney to BBPG (by March 2021).

T 341 (KYV 341X) latterly with Mr N Moore, was exported to France in (June 2021).

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

- T 372 (KYV 372X) latterly 'The Prince of Wheels', it has also been noted at Hampars, Bluntisham, Huntingdon, Cambs.; it is probably still with the same owner.
- T 499 (KYV 499X) confirmed with Mr & Mrs M Bradley, Palgrave, Suffolk as the “solar Decker” as a static glamping powered by solar panels.
- T 521 (KYV 521X) was scrapped by John Delaney (January 2013).
- T 612 (NUW 612Y) was sold from Richard de Clare Community Academy (by February 2022, possibly earlier as the last confirmed sighting was September 2018).
- T 654 (NUW 654Y) had been assumed as scrapped after use at Monogram farm near Dundee and had gone (by March 2005) but was stored in Strathtay garage at Seagate bus station, however it was gone after the building was demolished in November 2019 – it was last confirmed as still in existence in August 2014 but has it now been scrapped ?
- T 671 (NUW 671Y) from West Kent Buses to D Chabaud, Lavoux, France (July 2014); noted January 2015 at Vienne Department of Nouvelle Aquitanem France. Then noted in Ducos, Martinique (French Republic) by December 2017, opening as a Caribbean restaurant in October 2019.
- T 859 (A859 SUL) was last recorded as passing to Routemaster Buses and was then noted at the Crewe Heritage Centre. It is believed to have been owned by Mr G Meadows, Crewe, Cheshire and then passed to PVS, Barnsley (August).
- T 908 (A908 SYE) from London Bus Company to Ottery St. Mary Primary school, Ottery St Mary, Devon (January 2015) where it is used as the school library.
- T 1020 (A620 THV) from Mr C Thorn to Carl Ireland (dlr) (September 2020) and then exported to J-D Besin (dlr) in the south of France (September 2020) and then to a French town near the Swiss border where it was to be used as a static cafe.
- T 1101 (B101 WUV) passed from the late John Delaney to BBPG (March 2021).

Miscellaneous low-floor double deck types:

- DLA 343 (LJ03 MDV) (ex ALN) from First Scotland East to Base Coach Sales (dlr), Leyland, Lancs. (September) where it had latterly been fleet number 35020.
- DLA 359 (LJ03 MKD) (ex ALN) was sold for scrap from Bullocks (by August).
- DLA 379 (JRZ 3265, ex LJ03 MTV) (ex ALN) regained its original registration (date unknown) and passed to Brian Jones Coaches, Gravesend, Kent (September).
- DLA 388 (JRZ 8515, LJ03 MYZ) (ex ALN) regained its original registration (date unknown) and passed to Shires Passenger Transport, Rushden, Northants (September).
- DW 22 (LJ53 BFV, ex 822 DYE) (ex ALN) was sold from MD Bus & Coach (August).
- DW 28 (LJ53 BGO) (ex ALN) from Adlington Travel to Dales Travel (dlr), Sandycroft, Flintshire, and then passed to Poynters Coaches, Northampton, Northants (all in August) where it has been re-registered to N26 POY.
- DW 114, 116, 117 (LJ05 NHW, BHY, BHZ) (ex ALN) from First Scotland East to Base Coach Sales (dlr), Leyland (September) where they had latterly been fleet numbers 35021, 35022 and 35023.
- T 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92 (LJ59 LZG, LZH, LZK, LZL, LZM, LZN), 93 (LJ59 LZO, ex 593 CLT) (ex ALN) from Ensign Bus, Purfleet to First Somerset (October). They have been numbered 34466 – 34472 in order in the First numbering system.
- VLA 92 (LJ54 BDX) (ex ALN) further to TLB697, this VLA is confirmed to Whippet Coaches, Swavesey, Cambs.
- VLA 114 (LJ05 BKD) (ex ALN) returned from loan to First South West to Base (June).
- VLA 151 (LJ55 BUE) (ex ALN) was sold for scrap from Arriva North East (by October).
- VLA 159 (LJ55 BSX) (ex ALN) from Stotts to Tetley Coaches, Leeds, West Yorkshire (September).
- VLA 168, 173, 174, 178 (LJ55 BVW, BVE, BVF, BVL) (ex ALN) from Ensign Bus, Purfleet to MC Tractors / Shelton Motors, Ramsey, Cambs. (August 2021).
- VLW 27 (LJ51 DHF, ex VLT 27) (ex ALN) from Arriva Kent & Surrey to MC Tractors / Shelton Motors, Ramsey, Cambs. (June).
- VLW 71 (LF52 UTH, ex H16 KFJ) (ex ALN) further to TLB679, this VLW was acquired by Mikro Coaches, Crewe, Cheshire for spares.
- VLW 184 (LJ03 MME), 196 (LJ53 BEY) (ex ALN) from B & H, Birkby to Base Coach Sales (dlr), Leyland, Lancs. (September).
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----- *Where are they now?* -----

TN 33186 (LT52 WVB), 33385 (LK53 EZE) (ex FLN) from First Essex to Ensign Bus, Purfleet (October). TN 33385 then subsequently passed to MC Tractors / Shelton Motors, Ramsey, Cambs. (October).

TN 33377 (LK53 EYW, ex XFF 283), 33378 (LK53 EYX, ex UHW 661), 33381 (LK53 EYA, ex OIG 1791) (ex FLN) further to TLB695, 696, 697, these TNs are confirmed as passing Wigley, Barnsley.

TNL 33133 (LT02 ZBZ) (ex FLN) from Ensign Bus, Purfleet to Bear Buses, Feltham, Middlesex (October).

VN 36136, 36137 (BJ11 DVV, DVW) (ex FLN) from Ensign Bus, Purfleet to First South Yorkshire (October). These two VNs had latterly been part of the Ensignbus operational fleet as fleet numbers 136 and 137, and have regained their First fleet numbers.

VN 36145 (BJ11 EBG) (ex FLN) from Ensign Bus, Purfleet to First South Yorkshire (October), and has regained its First fleet number.

VN 37784 (LK59 CXA) (ex FLN) from Ensign Bus, Purfleet to First West Yorkshire (October), and has regained its First fleet number. It is the first of ten VNs being prepared for First West Yorkshire. It had previously been on loan from Ensign to CT Plus, but the reports of it passing to Faresaver are incorrect and should be ignored.

VN 37899 (BF60 UUH) (ex FLN) was noted in use with Loch Lomond Bus Services based in Greenock in June. It remains part of McGill and is fleet number 2853.

VNL 32103 (MIG 4760, ex LT02 ZCN), 32104 (MIG 6096, ex LT02 ZCO) (ex FLN) were repainted by First South West in yellow Sunseeker livery.

VNL 32269 (LT52 WWP) (ex FLN) was sold by A2B Travel (October).

VNL 32302, 32305 (LK03 NHB, NHE) (ex FLN) were sold from First Glasgow (by July).

AVL 28 (V128 LGC, ex T400 TMG) (ex GAL) updating TLB698, this AVL is now with a private owner in Yorkshire for non psv use.

AVL 34 (V134 LGC) (ex GAL) has not been reported since 2013, but it passed to Arrowbrook, Croughton, Cheshire, and has now passed to MH Travel North Wales, Wrexham, Clwyd (October) and remains in Arrowbrook livery.

E 1 (SN06 BNA) (ex GAL) from Ensign Bus, Purfleet to MC Tractors / Shelton Motors, Ramsey, Cambs. (October).

PDL 43 (PN03 UMC) (ex GAL) was sold from Nu Venture (July) for scrap.

PVL 74 (W474 WGH, ex VJI 3968) further to TLB697, this PVL is confirmed to City of Oxford in April for use as a driver trainer.

PVL 201 (X501 EGK) (ex GAL) from Go South West to Shears (dlr), Northam, Devon (July).

PVL 204 (X504 EGK) (ex GAL) from Go South West to Wigley, Barnsley (June) for scrap.

PVL 214 (Y814 TGH) (ex GAL) was previously recorded as passing to Roselyn Coaches in 2020 but this is now confirmed as incorrect and it passed from Go South West to Shears (dlr), Northam, Devon (July).

PVL 224 (Y824 TGH) (ex GAL) is confirmed with Southlands Consultancy, Southlands, West Sussex. It has been reported as loaned to Go East Anglia from July to replace PVL 250 that had been damaged. It was used on circular route 134 (Clacton Pier Avenue - Holland On Sea) and numbered 501 during its stay.

VP 6 (X157 FBB) (ex GAL) from Ridleys to North East Coachways, Peterlee, Co. Durham (June).

VWL 16 (LF52 TGN) (ex GAL) from York Pullman to DJ Thomas Coaches, Neath, West Glamorgan (June) where it is fleet number 122.

VWL 46 (YX54 FWM) (ex GAL) from Ensign Bus, Purfleet to MC Tractors / Shelton Motors, Ramsey, Cambs. (July).

WVL 47 (LF52 ZRG) (ex GAL) from Westward Travel to Wigley, Barnsley (by August 2021) for scrap.

WVL 321 (LX59 DBZ) (ex GAL) from Ensign Bus, Purfleet to First Eastern Counties (October). It is the second of the batch to be delivered and has become First fleet number 36288. WVL 314, which was delivered last month, has become First 36281

457 (YU52 XVR) (ex GAL) from Preston Bus to Wigley, Barnsley (October),

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

- SLE 37 (YN55 NKF) (ex LU) from Carrs Loch Lomond to Stuart Coaches, Carlisle, South Lanarkshire (June).
- SP 2 (YN56 FCC) (ex LU) is confirmed to Connexions Buses, Harrogate, North Yorkshire, and was re-registered to Y20 CXB in July.
- SP 74 (YT59 RXY) (ex LU) from Stephenson's of Essex to Chartwell Bus Sales, Horsham, West Sussex to Wagon Wheels On Location, Amersham, Bucks. (October) for use as a dining bus for film and television location work.
- SP 79 (YT59 RYD) (ex LU) from Ensign Bus, Purfleet to Bullocks Coaches, Manchester, Greater Manchester (October).
- SP 115 (YR59 FYW) (ex LU) updating TLB697, was repainted in October in blue, green and white livery for Coastliner Buses and in mid-October was being used on Metrolink replacement services based from Trafford Park. It is part of the Transpora Group and will no doubt be transferred in due course from Manchester City Tours.
- SP 163 (YP59 CEY) (ex LU) from Belle Vue to J & B Travel, Stanningley, West Yorkshire (August).
- SP 164 (YP59 OEZ) (ex LU) from Belle Vue to CTS, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire (August).
- SP 167 (YT10 UWD) (ex LU) was noted operating with Whippet Coaches, Swavesey, Cambs. at the end of October as fleet number WD450. (See Current vehicle news in this TLB), 165 and 168 are also at Whippet. The trio were acquired to cover emergency start of some school contracts.
- TA 257 (X666 EMH, ex LG02 FCJ) (ex LU) re-gained its original registrations with E & M Horsburgh in July.
- TLA 10, 14 (SN53 EUT, EUX) (ex LU) were sold for scrap from Skills Motor Coaches (February).
- TLA 26 (SN53 KJE) (ex LU) was sold from Shoreline Suncruisers (by October).
- VLE 2 (X777 EMH, ex PG04 WHD), 3 (770 EMH, ex PG04 WHE), 5 (790 EMH, ex PG04 WHH), 7 (780 EMH, ex PG04 WHK) (ex LU) all re-gained their original registrations with E & M Horsburgh in July.
- DT 1, 14 (KN52 NCD, NDX) (ex ML) from JH Coaches to E & M Horsburgh, Pumpherston, West Lothian (August).
- TA 76 (T76 KLD) (ex ML) not previously reported was that this TA passed from Drew Wilson (dlr) to Sidestrand Hill School, Cromer, Norfolk (February 2017) and it then subsequently passed to Wigley, Barnsley (by May) for scrap.
- TE 883 (LX08 DXV) (ex ML) further to TLB695, it has now left Stagecoach North East in July and is presumed to have returned to Ricardo.
- TE 886 (LK08 DXY) (ex ML) from Ensign Bus, Purfleet to Nu-Venture, Aylesford, Kent (October) and has been re-numbered as DE 486.
- TP 306 (LT02 ZZL) 354, 356 (LR52 KVV, K VX) (ex ML) from JH Coaches to E & M Horsburgh, Pumpherston, West Lothian (August).
- TP 390 (LR52 KXJ) (ex ML) from J H Coaches to Hulleys, Baslow, Derbys (October) where it has been numbered 22 in this fleet. It remains in Bradshaws Travel orange and black livery. Hulleys now have three former Metrolink double deckers which are used primarily on routes 170/X70 and 272.
- VPL 159 (X659 LLX, ex R18 PLK) (ex ML) from Pilkingtons / Boomerang to Wright Group, Freckleton, Lancs. (August).
- VPL 234 (Y234 NLK) (ex ML) from Andrews of Leicester to Crawthorne Travel, Anston, South Yorkshire (May).
- VW 1763 (LK59 CXA) (ex ML) - see corresponding entry for VN 37784 (ex FLN) above.
- TA 17173 (J800 SSB, ex V173 MEV) (ex SLN) regained its original registration with Shoreline Suncruisers in April and was sold (by October).
- TA 17382 (Y382 NHK) (ex SLN) had previously been reported as sold for scrap but was still on the premises of Stotts in September.
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----- *Where are they now?* -----
TA 17458 (530 MUY, ex Y458 NHK) (ex SLN) has been sold from Shoreline Suncruisers (by October); it is likely to have been re-registered back to its original registration prior to sale.
TAS 17529 (LX51 FON) (ex SLN) further to the report about TAS 17502, TAS 17529 with Stagecoach South East is also in Stagecoach 'local' livery although it is not known when it was repainted but it was before May this year. TAS 17502 is part open top whereas TAS 17529 is full open top.
TAS 17585 (LV52 HFT) (ex SLN) from Seven Sisters Bus & Coach to Six Counties Bus Preservation Group, Crumlin, Northern Ireland (July).
TA 17596 (M444 EMH, ex LV52 HHE), 17874 (Y666 EMH, ex LX03 NFY), 18242 (M500 EMH, ex LX04 FYJ), 18249 (MH04 EMH, ex LX04 FYS) (ex SLN) all re-gained their original registrations with E & M Horsburgh in July and were all sold by October.
TA 17929 (LX03 OTE) (ex SLN) from Ripley to Hardwick, Barnsley (by September) for scrap.
TA 18229 (LX04 FXU) (ex SLN) from Zordan Risk Associates (dlr) to Bus & Coach Repairs (dlr), Yaxley, Cambs. (May).
TA 18254 (LX04 FYY, ex W30 PJC) (ex SLN) from Centre Bus to Wigley, Barnsley (by September).
TA 18255 (W40 PJC, ex LX04 FYZ) (ex SLN) re-gained its original registration in July 2021 and was sold by October 2022.
15124 (LX09 FZW) (ex SLN) from Belle Vue to J & H, Birtley, Tyne & Wear (August).
VN 36136, 36137, 36145 (BJ11 DVV, DVW, EBG) (ex TT) – see corresponding entries for VN 36136, 36137, 36145 (ex FLN) above.

Low-floor single deck types:

ENS 10 (LJ07 EEB) (ex ALN) – updating TLB698, this one was not returned from Arriva Cymru to Arriva London for component recovery; instead this ENS returned to service at Bootle on 6th October.
DML 44076, 44078 (YX58 HVF, HVH) (ex FLN) further to TLB695, these were being used this Summer on the Exmoor Sunseeker service (Minehead, Lynmouth to Ilfracombe) and had the rear most side windows removed to provide an open-air section.
DML 44147 (VUI 8242, ex YX10 BFJ) (ex FLN) regained its original registration and passed from Taw & Torridge to Chartwell Bus Sales, Horsham, West Sussex to Weavaway Travel, Didcot, Oxon (October).
DML 44315 (YX12 AED), DMV 44252 (YX12 AKV) (ex FLN) from Yellow Buses via unknown dealer to Vale Travel, Aylesbury, Bucks. (October), and remain in yellow livery.
LDP 46 (R446 LGH) (ex GAL) was sold from Oakley Party Limos (December 2020) for scrap.
LDP 269 (LX05 EYW) (ex GAL) from Go South West to Wigley, Barnsley (July) for scrap.
WS 40 (SN64 CHO) (ex GAL) was sold from Vectare (by July)

DE 99 (V799 FKH) (ex LU) correcting TLB698, should have read DP 99.

DE 871 (LK58 CPX) (ex ML) from Ensign Bus, Purfleet to HGV Training Services, London W1 (October).
DE 952 (LK58 CSX, ex G2 PSV) (ex ML) from Thomas to Shears (dlr), Northam, Devon and then to Reading Buses, Reading, Berks. (by October) where it has been numbered 314 and is being used as a driver trainer still bearing its London red livery.
DE 959 (LK58 CTV) (ex ML) from Ensign Bus, Purfleet to Bear Buses, Feltham, Middlesex (October).
DM 963 (LK09 EKL) (ex ML) passed from Ripley to Go Goodwins Coaches, Eccles, Greater Manchester (by February) for spares.

25306 (LX58 CHL) (ex SLN) was sold from Go Coach (by October).

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 reported

Additional information and updates

One more missing fleetnumber has been reported. LR20 EXN (TLB693 refers) is 9025F. Ford Transit dropside truck 9110F was delivered last spring and was given Trams white/blue/green livery. It would appear that it was diverted to LUL before entering service, and had its livery amended to white/blue/red.

Allocations and transfers include 8263R LBD-HMD, 8322VW ?-SDD, 8360R GHO-EWT, 8414F HAD-BKO, 8470F ACN-NSD, 8561R NSD, 8685VW ACN, 8820R GHO, 8825R GHO-?, 8915F ACN-SDD, 8919F ACN-SDD, 8922F ACN-SDD, 9014VW NPD-SDD, 9019F NSD, 9035VW EWT, 9110F TK-?, 9112T BKR, 9129VW LBD-SDD and 9135F ERS.

Lots of vehicles seem to have been disposed of over the past few months, including 8105F, 8106F, 8155S, 8158N, 8170P, 8187V, 8221VW, 8223F, 8226F, 8228F, 8229F, 8233F, 8234F, 8235F, 8236F, 8237VW, 8240VW, 8241VW, 8273VW, 8294P, 8316F, 8317F, 8318F, 8333VW, 8334F, 8336F, 8341F, 8346F, 8352F, 8353F, 8355F, 8356F, 8377F, 8387R, 8425F, 8426F, 8427F, 8428F, 8435R, 8447F, 8452F, 8458F, 8480F, 8499R, 8505F, 8539F, 8570F, 8610R and 8617R. Coupled with the continuing lack of new deliveries, the size of the fleet is clearly reducing. It will be noted that smaller vehicle types have been hit hardest, including most of the Ford Fiesta cars and vans with LUL.

Various other vehicles are out of use (un-taxed) but remain in stock, including lorries 2591, RV12 OEY/OEZ/OFK, WU64 ATO and LO66 ZRD (all at Acton Works), car WX10 JUW and facilities van YT70 VHD.

Bus Company Fleets; Newly reported vehicles

-	EO22 KHT	Ford Transit Custom Minibus	Abellio	White #	DH
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Additional information

Arriva London FH65 CWM and WO16 PUA have been noted at WN recently so were evidently not withdrawn. DV68 WKA and YN68WKS have been withdrawn. Van AJ21 CPX was reported as being allocated to GY but may have since moved. Grays has newer AK22 LXS, while AJ21 CPX has been seen around Crystal Palace. Can anyone confirm where it is now based?

Arriva the Shires BF68 ZVP is an unmarked silver estate car, rather than a black hatchback. WP70 VPC is withdrawn (off-hire).

Although no further new Vauxhall vans have been reported with Stagecoach London, some of the vans transferred from Stagecoach South East a year ago are now returning home. Confirmed so far are 90760 (MW66XNV, ex-TB) and 92939 (MV18 HLX, ex-T).

Withdrawn are GoCoach 502 (LO59 KVD), RATP D75103 (MJ69 ZJV) and Uno LR08 VHW.

Correction: to TLB698 pictures: Route 336 - Herts CC (not Arriva) decided to number it thus.

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

This TLB closed on 3-5 November and due for posting on 15 November. Closing date for TLB700 is Weds 30 November and due for posting on Tues 13 December. 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 30Nov22, 04Jan, 01Feb, 01March 2023. 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.



On 6th October, Wrightbus' longer StreetDeck Electroliner LY51 GJE was being trialed by both Arriva and Go-Ahead. It was caught at George Street, Croydon on that day. *(Keith Grimes)*

Somewhat unexpected is the repaint of Stagecoach London's Enviro400 trainer No.19139. It was spotted at Stratford in this rather 'hybrid' livery, a kind of cross between training and 'national' colours. *(Derek Everson)*



Rear cover: When there are demos and marches at Westminster, Londoner Buses route A transforms itself to Route B (Waterloo & St Paul's) instead. Here RML887 passes St Clement Danes Church in the Strand. *(Richard Godfrey)*



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since 1964

