

TLB703

The London Bus

Number 703

March 2023



London Omnibus Traction Society
www.lots.org.uk



In Watford two W-routes gained old route numbers once used in the town and so on 28th December the W19 was changed to 346/a. Red Rose E20D YX12 BGK is on Northwick Road in South Oxhey. *(Richard Godfrey)*

From 12th February routes 474/475 in Kent were replaced by 'Connect 1'. The shortest Solo (7.8m) No.2801 with Go Coachhire is at Westwood on its way via the villages to Bluewater. *(Richard Godfrey)*



Front cover: Abellio's Wrightbus StreetDeck Electroliners are gradually converting route 111. In late February No.3004 arrives to set down at Cromwell Road Bus Station in Kingston. *(Terry O'Neill)*



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



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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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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 TLB704 is Weds 5th April and due for posting on Tues 18th April.

Booked later closing dates are Wednesdays 03May, 07June, 05July, 02Aug 2023.

Contents

Pages 2-3	Coming Events and Postal Sales
Pages 4-5	General & Industry News
Pages 6-15	Greater London Area - Route Developments
Pages 16-17	Country Area – Route Developments
Pages 17-18	Publicity news
Pages 19-26	Current vehicle news of all operators
Pages 27-31	Where are they now? Subsequent vehicle disposals
Page 32	Service Vehicles and Adverts

LOTS Meetings

We now meet at The Gallery at 77 Cowcross Street, Farringdon. It is already used by several other societies (including TLURS) so may be familiar to some of you. It is 3-mins walk from Farringdon Station (Met/H&C/Circle lines, Thameslink plus Elizabeth line). We shall start and end earlier than at Conway Hall as the venue is locked at 9pm. Doors open at 6pm for a 6.30pm start. Variable as necessary but time is allowed for Q&As and the Sales Stand. Booked dates are Mondays 15May (NOTE change of date), 26June, 25Sept, 20Nov. June is the AGM, the others we shall have guest speakers.

Exit from Farringdon station (Met. side), turn east and go up Cowcross Street until you reach the Leon restaurant. Opposite, go through the gated archway, up the passageway, cross the cobbled courtyard to the far right corner and go down the stairs to the basement meeting room known as 'The Gallery'. We would advise that you do not drive to the venue, parking space is rare and charges apply for 24 hours. There are several coffee shops nearby plus a Wetherspoons on Farringdon Road.

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

Sat. 25 March: Running Day on Romford area routes 174/175, organised by London Bus Museum.

Sat. 1 April: South East Bus Festival at Detling in Kent. **(LSS)**

Sun. 2 April: A&D MBS Running Day based at High Wycombe Bus Station.

Sun 16 April: London Bus Museum, Brooklands has its Spring Gathering. **(LSS)**

Sat.22 April: Open Day at Stagecoach Romford North Street Garage, proceeds to the MacMillan fundraising. (LSS)

Sun. 23 April: Running Day on route 32 (Guildford & Dorking).

B/HMon 8 May: Eastern National heritage running day, based on Museum of Power, Maldon, Essex.

Sun. 11 June: Running Day on routes 65/71, organised by London Bus Museum.

Sun. 18 June: 'Showbus Flyby' road-run between Brunel University Uxbridge via the A40 to High Wycombe and on to the RAF base at Walter's Ash, Naphill.

Sun.25 June: London Bus Museum Brooklands. major event 'On the Buses'.

Sun. 2 July: Eastbourne Running Day, based on Eastbourne Station.

Sun. 16 July: Alton Rally and Rnning Day (the biggest in the south). **(LSS)**

Sun. 30 July: Bus Rally on Worthing Sea Ffront (west end).

Sat. 19 August: The annual pilgrimage with Routemasters to Imber near Warminster, Wiltshire.

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.

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The most recent Sales List was included with TLB699 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

The Newest Items:

LBM 203, LOTS LONDON BUS MAGAZINE SPRING 2023 (£5.00) Principal articles are : LT service vehicles in the 21st Century (Tom Young); Fifty years of LBM: A personal perspective (Tony Wilson); Modern destination blinds by McKenna Brothers (Bob Williamson)

London Transport Central Area Termini by Mick Webber (Bowden Publishing) £30.00 - 128 pages and over 300.

Southdown Fleet History Part 33 1968 (SEC) £7.00 *The First Bristol Saloons*

London's Disused Railway Stations – Outer Souter East London by J. E. Connor (Capital) £30.00.

The most Recent Items:

LOTS London Bus Review 2021 (£14.50) 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) Main features are 'Bus services on the Isle of Dogs Part 1' (Malc McDonald) and 'Fifty years of LBM Part 2 (by Editor).

London Bus Magazine No202 Winter 2022 (£5.00) Main features are ' Part 2 of the Isle of Dogs service history' ;Malc McDonald, accompanied by a short Barry Turner piece on Collectables he has built up over the years. Also, some inroad into the accumulated Book Reviews!

These four are all ****RECENT**** from Capital Transport:-

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

An Alphabet for the Underground, The work of Edward Johnston by M.A.C.Horne £19.95

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

London Historical Research Group -The Omnibus Society

ST, DL & Acquired Vehicle Histories: Vol. 1 ST1-600 and Vol. 2 ST601-1140, DST, DL, TD, TC, MY
Compiled by Alan Bond and Les Stitson £15.00 each volume.

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**** **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**

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

International events have featured heavily over the past month, a large **Earthquake** hit Turkey and Syria on 6 February resulting in over 50,000 deaths and **the war in Ukraine** has entered its second year. **Nicola Sturgeon** resigned as First Minister of Scotland after eight years. A new Northern Ireland agreement, 'The Windsor Framework' has been agreed between Prime Minister Rishi Sunak and the EU. It aims to simplify trade arrangements between the UK mainland and **Northern Ireland** and replaces 'The Protocol', former Prime Minister Boris Johnson's 'oven ready Brexit deal' which has always been opposed by unionists in NI.

Strikes continue in various sectors with the RMT rail union calling for walk outs on 16th, 18th, 30th March and 1st April while ASLEF members on London Underground have called a strike on 15th March. However, **Abellio** has settled its long running dispute with London bus drivers by agreeing a substantial pay increase, worth up to 18%.

The Central London Congestion charge was 20 years old on 17 February. According to a TfL Press Release, it has limited traffic entering the zone by 18% during charging hours, reducing congestion by 30% and boosting central London bus travel by 33%. Attention is now more focused on reducing emissions. The **Ultra-Low Emission** zone was introduced in 2019 and expanded to inner London in 2021 which has resulted in harmful nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) levels reduced by 46% in central London zone and by 21% in inner London zone. A further extension to the Greater London boundary is planned for August this year. As reported in TLB 702, this extension is proving more controversial with several outer London Boroughs and Councils just outside the boundary threatening legal action to prevent the extension.

At a lively London Assembly meeting on 23 February, the Mayor and Labour members rejected calls by Conservative, Liberal Democrat and Green party members for £50 million of cash reserves to be used to improve bus services in outer London to help residents affected by the ULEZ extension. Opposition Members pointed out that when the congestion charge was introduced in 2003 it was accompanied by a big expansion of bus services in Central and Inner London. In the final vote following a seven-hour debate, there were 14 in favour of extra buses and 10 against, but 16 votes are required for a motion to be carried.

In the longer term, TfL is considering a **Pay As You Drive** policy to replace both the Congestion Charge and ULEZ schemes. TfL is bound by the Mayor's Transport Strategy which aims to ensure that by 2041, 80% of journeys are made either by walking, cycling or public transport.

The Mayor has asked NHS Hospitals and Doctors surgeries to offer later appointments to elderly people as an alternative to re-instating **free travel before 9am to holders of the 60+ Oyster or Freedom Pass**. Past research by Age UK London found that most journeys made by elderly people before 9am were not for leisure, 31% were for a health appointment, 28% for work and 8% for caring responsibilities. The decision to restrict the hours of these passes was part of the funding deal with Government agreed last year (TLB 697 refers).

The department for Transport (DfT) has announced additional funding worth £75 million for an **extension of the £2 single fare cap** for a further three months. This will now apply to most journeys in England outside London, until 30 June instead of 31 March. The DfT has also confirmed £80 million to support bus services in England. In a survey carried out by Transport Focus 7% of passengers said they had used buses more since the £2 fare cap was introduced in January and a third were thinking about using buses more but hadn't yet. It is hoped that the extended period will encourage more operators to join the fare cap scheme.

A new entrance to **Bank Underground station** opened on 27 February. Situated in Cannon Street, it is the largest and most spacious entrance to this busy station and marks completion of the last phase of a £700 million project to increase capacity which began in 2016. There are six new escalators providing more direct access to the Northern line and DLR platforms. The scheme includes a new interchange

----- *General & Industry news* -----
subway with moving walkways linking the Northern line and Central line which opened in October 2022 and a new southbound platform for Northern line trains which opened in May 2022.

Corporate and company news

Ensignbus has been acquired by First Group. The surprise deal was announced on 8 February and includes the local bus and contract operation along with the resale and refurbishment business, but not the heritage bus and coach fleet. The business was founded by Peter Newman in 1972 and has been family run ever since then.

Arriva to close Oswestry, Macclesfield and Winsford depots. The company says they have been loss making since the pandemic and the last day is likely to be 22 April. Winsford and Macclesfield are part of Arriva North West in Cheshire, while Oswestry in Shropshire comes under Arriva Midlands. Centrebus subsidiary C&G Bus quickly announced its intention to take over some of the Winsford based services in Crewe where the company already has a depot.

Abellio UK is to be renamed **Transport UK Group** following completion of its buyout from Nederlandse Spoorwegen, the Dutch State Railways (TLB 697 refers). In addition to its London bus operations, Transport UK Group also runs the East Midlands, West Midlands and Anglia rail franchises and the Merseyrail network in partnership with Serco.

Other General News

More Countdown signs are being installed at bus stops in London. A further 300 signs should be in place by the end of 2023, increasing the total number of displays by 12%. Priority is being given to outer London Boroughs. New digital colour displays will also be trialled along route 63, which can give additional information such as disruptions and diversions. There will also be trials of information displays attached to bus stop poles.

The first of a fleet of **54 New DLR trains** arrived at Beckton depot on 8 February. The five car B23 class trains which were built by CAF in Spain, feature walk through carriages and air conditioning. They carry a new turquoise livery matching the colour used on line diagrams. Unfortunately, the first unit was sprayed by graffiti vandals within a few days of its arrival.

The Luton DART people mover between the Airport terminal and Luton Airport Parkway Station was due to open on 10 March, initially for four hours each day. The 1.4-mile journey takes three minutes, and the one-way fare is £4.90 although concessionary bus pass holders will be able to travel free and Luton residents can apply in advance for half price travel. It replaces the existing bus link and will eventually run every 10 minutes 24/7.

Liverpool City Region is the latest area to propose bus franchising. If approved, the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority says the first franchised routes could be running in September 2026. The Greater Manchester franchising model would be adopted with routes tendered in five rounds covering St Helens, The Wirral, North Liverpool and Knowsley, South Liverpool, and Sefton.

Wrightbus has unveiled plans for a green hydrogen production facility at its Ballymena plant that could produce enough energy for over 300 buses a day in Northern Ireland.

GWR has agreed a deal to acquire assets from **Vivarail** which will allow battery powered former D stock trains to be trialled on the unelectrified West Ealing to Greenford branch line. The future of these units had been in doubt after Vivarail went into administration last December.

Anthony Smith, Chief Executive of Transport Focus, is stepping down after 24 years. Transport Focus represents bus and train users around the country and works with London Travelwatch. His successor has not been announced yet. **Ben Colson** is also stepping down, as Chair of Bus Users UK, a role he has held for five years.

An Eastern Coach Works museum is to be included as part of expansion plans at the East Anglia Transport Museum in Carlton Colville, Suffolk. The former ECW factory in Lowestoft is nearby where the manufacturer built buses for 67 years. Those for LT included most L class Leyland Olympians, all BL & BS class Bristol single deckers, the GS class Guy Special single deckers, and one Routemaster, RMC 4.

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 9/N9, 632 and U9 from tranches 847A, 855 and 857 awarded, starting on 7th October 2023 (632), 30th December 2023 (U9) and 27th January 2024 (9/N9).

Routes 9/N9 and 632 are for 5 years, U9 for 7 years.

9/N9 Awarded to Metroline Travel using existing New Routemasters. Currently operated by London United from Stamford Brook (V) garage (pvr 14).

632 Retained by Metroline Travel using existing New Routemasters (pvr 3).

U9 Retained by Abellio using existing diesel single-deck vehicles (pvr 3).

Further changes to the 2023/24 tendering programme are listed below, together with some changes to the 2024/25 tendering Programme which is now available on the TfL website. For space reasons, I don't propose to publish the whole of the 2024/25 list, just the ones that may be awarded in the next few months for now.

Routes W12, W13 and W14 are moved from Tranche 865 to new Tranche 865A, Tranche 868 is cancelled and moved to the 2024/25 programme as Tranche 905A, route X26 is moved from Tranche 873 to new tranche 873A and route P4 is moved from Tranche 879 to new Tranche 879A. Route 129 in Tranche 833 has been extended to Tranche 879 to start at the same time as the new route X239 via the new Silvertown Tunnel.

The 2022/23 tendering programme is now just route 11/N11 which has been extended to 4/23:-

Tranche No. and start dates	Routes out on offer (with current operators)	2-year extensions granted
#813 (4/23)	11/N11 (GA London General)	--

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)	Tranche cancelled.....	--
#837A (7/23)	23/N23 (London Transit)	--
#838A (9/23)	605, 628/688, 653/683 (Sullivan)	--
#839C (9/23)	72/N72 (London United)	--
#840A (9/23)	349 (Arriva LN)	--
#843C (9/23)	D7 (GA Docklands)	--
#844A (10/23)	321/= (GA London Central)	--
#844B (9/23)	108/= (GA London Central)	--
#845A (10/23)	381/N381 (Abellio)	--
#846A (9/23)	C3 (London Transit)	--
#847A (10/23)	32/N32, 189/= (Metroline Travel)	--
#849 (10/23)	279/N279, (Arriva LN)	--
#851 (11/23)	39 (GA London General)	--
#851C (11/23)	14/=, 74/N74 (GA London General)	--
#854A (12/23)	78 (Arriva LN)	--
#855 (12/23-01/24)	237 (Metroline Travel), H26 (Abellio)	--

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

#856 (01/24)	388 (S'ch East London ex HCT Group), 476 (GA London General)	--
#858 (01/24)	603 (Sullivan)	--
#859 (1-2/24)	380 (S'ch Selkent)	122
#860 (1-2/24)	59 (Abellio), 133/N133, 137/N137, 333 (Arriva LS)	3/N3
#861 (01/24)	89/N89, (GA London Central), 601, 602 (S'ch Selkent)	96, 428, 472/=, 486/=, B15
#862 (02/24)	Tranche cancelled.....	43/=, 134/=
#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!)
#864 (2-3/24)	101 (GA Blue Triangle), 167, 238, 277/N277, 362, 462 (S'ch East London), 325 (Arriva LN)	--
#865 (3/24)	309, W11 (S'ch ex HCT Group), 379 (GA London General)	--
#865A (2-3/24)	W12, W13 (S'ch ex HCT Group), W14 (S'ch ex T.Transit).....	--
#866 (03/24)	20 (S'ch ex HCT Group), 58 (S'ch ex T.Transit), 97, 215 (S'ch East London)	123/=, 158/=, 275
#867 (03/24)	19/N19, 259, (Arriva LN), 76/= (GA London General) 393 (Metroline Travel)	--
#868 (03/24)	Tranche cancelled.....	--
#869 (03/24)	113/N113 (Metroline Travel)	317
#870 (03/24)	2/N2, 249 (Arriva LS)	493
#871 (03/24)	262, 473 (S'ch ex T.Transit), 396 (GA Blue Triangle)	372

The first part of the 2024/25 tendering programme is now as follows:

Tranche No. and start dates	Routes out on offer (with current operators)	2-year extensions granted
#872 (04/24)	S3 (London United)	--
#873 (4-5/24)	464 (Abellio), 689 (Arriva LS)	--
#873A (03/24)	X26 (Go-Ahead Metrobus)	--
#874 (4-6/24)	195, E11 (Abellio), E3 (London United), E6 (Metroline West)	--
#875 (04/24)	U1, U2, U3, U4 (Metroline West)	--
#876 (04/24)	236 (S, ch ex T.Transit), 394 (S'ch ex HCT Group)	--
#877 (4-6/24)	110 (London United), 120 (Metroline Travel)	--
#878 (4-5/24)	206 (Metroline West), 272, 440 (London United)	--
#879 (01/25)	129 (GA London Central), X239 (New route for Silvertown Tunnel)	--
#879A (04/24)	P4 (S'ch Selkent)	--
#880 (06/24)	253/N253, 254 (Arriva LN)	--
#881 (06/24)	143, 260, 302 (Metroline Travel).....	--
#882 (6-7/24)	681 (London United), R68, R70 (Abellio).....	--
#883 (06/24)	211, C1 (London United)	--
#884 (06/24)	406, 465 (London United)	--
#885 (7-9/24)	210, 382, C11, W7, W8 (Metroline Travel)	--
#886 (7-8/24)	17 (Metroline Travel), 243/= (Arriva LN)	--
#887 (08/24)	Tranche cancelled.....	533
#888 (08/24)	5/N15, 115 (GA Docklands), 15 (GA Blue Triangle), 66 (Arriva LN)	--
#889 (7-10/24)	50, 255 (Arriva LS) , 201 (Abellio), 280 (GA London General)	--

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

ROUTE AND SERVICE CHANGES

Saturday 7th January 2023: As in TLB702.

Saturday 14th January 2023: As in TLB702.

Saturday 21st January 2023: As in TLB702.

Saturday 28th January 2023: As in TLB702, with updated PVRs:-

PVR Changes from 28th January 2023:

Additional PVR changes from Stagecoach East London, where crosslinks were isolated from route 86 in preparation for electric operation later in the year.

86 to 30/29/22 #NS371+, (all crosslinks off), 256 no change to RM allocation, which changed from 7/1;

NS to 1*/-/- #NS256 (*498), (operated by local arrangement as #NS391 until 18/2);

294 to 12/11/6 #NS471 (Sa crosslink to 86 withdrawn), 498 to 5+/6/3 #NS251+ (+1/256).

Saturday 4th February 2023: As noted last month, what would have been the last day of the Highgate Village stand on Friday 3rd was thwarted around midday when roadworks were set up on the road opposite the site; it then spread to the stand itself. Thus the 271 was curtailed back to Archway Station.

- 21 (*Go-Ahead London Central-NX*) (Lewisham, Lewisham Centre & Newington Green) Withdrawn between Baring Street and Newington Green and re-routed via New North Road, Canonbury Road, Highbury Corner and Holloway Road to terminate at Holloway, Nag's Head.
- 41 (*Arriva London North-AR*) (Archway Station & Tottenham Hale Station) and
- N41 (*Arriva London North-AR*) (Trafalgar Square & Tottenham Hale Station) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 76 (*Go-Ahead London General-SW/NP*) (Waterloo, Bayliss Road & Tottenham Hale Station) Stockwell (SW) allocation re-allocated back to Northumberland Park (NP) garage, with additional Mo-Fr AM peak journeys added.
- 91 (Trafalgar Square & Crouch End Broadway) and
- N91 (Trafalgar Square & Cockfosters Station) LBSL QC contract awarded to Go-Ahead London General using existing hybrid double-deck vehicles from Stockwell (SW) garage. Previously operated by *Metroline Travel* from Holloway (HT) garage using VWH- and VMH-class Volvo B5LH Wrightbus Gemini 3 or MCV EvoSeti hybrid double-deck vehicles.
- 107 (*Metroline Travel-EW*) (New Barnet Station & Edgware Station) Re-allocated from Edgware (EW) to Potters Bar (PB) garage.
- 118 (*Go-Ahead London General-SW*) (Morden & Brixton) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 121 (*Arriva London North-E*) (Turnpike Lane Station & Enfield Island Village) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 129 (*Go-Ahead London Central-MG*) (North Greenwich & Lewisham, Lewisham Centre) temporarily re-allocated to New Cross (NX) garage, for some building work at Morden Wharf (MG) garage. Widened schedules daily for roadworks on Blackwall Lane.
- 141 (*Arriva London North-AD*) (Palmer's Green, North Circular Road & London Bridge Station) Additional Mon-Fri AM peak hour journeys added. One additional bus will be allocated to Wood Green (WN) garage although operated by Palmer's Green drivers.
- 143 (*Metroline Travel-W/HT*) (Archway Station & Brent Cross, Shopping Centre) Revised timetable, although the double-deck working (tendered as '143D') is withdrawn, as is the HT allocation.
- 153 (*Go-Ahead London General-RA*) (Finsbury Park Station & Liverpool Street Station) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 234 (*Metroline Travel-PB*) (Barnet, The Spires & Highgate Wood, Sussex Gardens). Extended via Archway Road to terminate at Archway Station. Re-allocated from Potters Bar (PB) to Holloway (HT) garage.
- 258 (*London United-RP*) (Watford Junction & South Harrow Station) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 263 (*Metroline Travel-PB*) (Highbury Barn & Barnet Hospital) Rerouted between Archway and Highgate Wood, via Highgate Hill, North Road, and North Hill.

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

Saturday 4th February continued:

- 271 (*Metroline Travel-HT*) (Moorgate, Finsbury Square & Highgate Village, South Grove). Route WITHDRAWN and partially replaced by extension of route 21 and re-routing of route 263.
- N271 (*Metroline Travel-HT*) NEW Night Route from Moorgate, Finsbury Square via existing 271 to Highgate High Street and extended via North Road, North Hill, Great North Road, East Finchley, North Finchley High Road to terminate at North Finchley.
- 299 (*Sullivans-SM*) (Muswell Hill Broadway & Cockfosters Station) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 343 (*Go-Ahead London Central-NX*) (Aldgate Station & New Cross, Jerningham Road) and
N343 (*Go-Ahead London Central-NX*) (Trafalgar Square & New Cross, Jerningham Road) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- E2 (*Metroline Travel-AH*) (Greenford Broadway & Brentford, Commerce Road) Revised timetable for running time and Mon-Sat daytime frequency reduced from x7½ to x8 mins.
- W4 (*Arriva London North-WN*) (Ferry Lane Estate & Oakthorpe Park, Ostcliffe Way) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- W5 (*Stagecoach East London-HK*) (Harringay, Sainsbury's & Archway Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using new electric single-decks expected later in 2023, when it is to be re-allocated to Walthamstow (AW) garage. Current buses are ex-HCT 7.8m Solos.
- W6 (*Arriva London North-E*) (Southgate Station & Edmonton Green Station) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.

PVR Changes from 4th February 2023:

Arriva London North: 141 to 28/24/15 #AD271+ (#AD297 is parked at WN, staffed by AD drivers), no change to 41, 121, W4, W6 PVRs;
Go-Ahead London Central: 21 to 24/23/16 #NX191+, 129 to 7/7/5 #NX141+, no change to 343 PVRs;
Go-Ahead London General: 76 to 21/18/13 #NP101 (SW withdrawn), 91 to 15/15/14 #SW401+, N91 to 6 Su-Th/7 Fr-Sa Nights #SW591+, no change to =76, 118, 153 PVRs;
London United: No change to 258 PVRs;
Metroline Travel: 107 to 11/9/8 #PB201+, 143 to 14/13/10 #W1+ (HT allocation as 143D withdrawn), 234 to 12/12/8 #HT21+, 263 to 19*/19/18 (*634) #PB21+, 634 to +/-/- (+1/263) #PB39, E2 to 15/13/10 #AH51+, N20 to 5 Su-Th/6 Fr-Sa #HT821+ (crosslink to N91 withdrawn), N271 to 3 every night #HT871+, 91/N91, 271 withdrawn;
Stagecoach East London: W5 to 7/7/5 #HK101+;
Sullivans: No change to 299 PVRs.

Saturday 11th February 2023:

- 36/= (*Go-Ahead London Central-NX/PM*) (New Cross Garage & Queens Park Station) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 57/= (*Go-Ahead London General-AL*) (Kingston, Fairfield Bus Station & Clapham Park, Atkins Road) Early introduction of frequency changes under the new contract starting later this year, due to be converted to Ee-class electric double-decks in due course. Mon-Sat daytime frequency reduced from x10 to x12 mins.

PVR Changes from 11th February 2023:

Go-Ahead London Central: No change to 36/= PVRs;
Go-Ahead London General: 57 to 19/19/18 #AL1+, no change to =57 PVRs.

Saturday 11th February to Sunday 19th February 2023:

A repeat of special services 718, 719 and 720 as noted in TLB700/701. There was also a Tram replacement service between Wimbledon & Therapia Lane during this half-term.

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

Saturday 18th February 2023:

Widened timetables introduced for roadworks on routes 18, (Euston Road), 95, 218, 260 and 487 (Sa/Su only on this route) for works on the A40 at Gypsy Corner and route E8 for roadworks at Brentford.

94/= (*London United-S*) (Acton Green, Duke of Sussex & Piccadilly Circus) Mon-Sat daytime frequency reduced from x7½ to x8-9 mins.

452 (*London Transit-X*) (Vauxhall Station & Kensal Rise Station) Mon-Sat daytime frequency reduced from x10 to x12 mins. Note the temporary curtailment to Ladbroke Grove, Sainsburys remains until further notice.

PVR Changes from 18th February 2023:

London Transit: 414 to 15+/15/13 #X601 (+1/ex 452, as #X613), 452 to 16*/15/14 #X201+ (*414);

London United: 94 to 17/17/14 #S351+, no change to =94 PVRs.

Monday 20th February 2023: Following road layout changes at Victoria, routes **11/N11, 211/= and N44** returned to operate via Victoria Station, Terminus Place after an enforced absence for several years. A short contra-flow bus lane was established from the junction of Wilton Road to Bressenden Place eastbound, so these routes, along with **24/= and N136** northbound were rerouted direct from Wilton Road or Terminus Place to Victoria Street. Route **507** towards Waterloo will be re-routed this way later but is currently on diversion.

Saturday 25th February 2023:

233 (*Go-Ahead Metrobus-MB*) (Eltham Station & Swanley, Beechenlea Lane) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.

H28 (*Abellio-GW*) (Hayes, Bull's Bridge Tesco & Osterley, Tesco) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.

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

Saturday 4th March 2023:

Widened timetables introduced on routes 31 and 332 for road works in Kilburn High Road

187 (*Metroline West-WJ*) (Central Middlesex Hospital & Finchley Road, Sainsbury's) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using new Volvo BZL MCV 10.2m electric single-decks in due course.

423 (*London United-WK*) (Heathrow Terminal 5 & Hounslow, Bus Station) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.

427 (*Abellio-GW*) (Uxbridge, York Road & Acton, High Street) Route withdrawn between Southall Broadway and Acton but revised to terminate at Southall, Merrick Road via South Road.

487 (*Metroline West-WJ*) (South Harrow Station & Harlesden, Willesden Junction). Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using new Volvo BZL MCV 10.2m electric single-deck vehicles in due course.

H22 (*London United-AV*) (Hounslow, Bell Corner & West Middlesex Hospital) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.

H32 (Hounslow, Bus Station & Southall, Town Hall) LBSL QC contract awarded to Abellio using LT-class NRM New Routemasters from Southall (GW) garage. Mon-Sat daytime frequency reduced from x10 to x12 mins. Previously operated by *London United* from Hounslow (AV) garage mainly using SP-class Scania N230UD OmniCity double-deck vehicles.

H37 (*London United-AV*) (Hounslow, Blenheim Centre & Richmond, Manor Circus) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.

H91 (Hounslow West Station & Hammersmith, Bus Station) LBSL QC contract awarded to Metroline Travel using LT-class NRM New Routemasters from Brentford (AH) garage. Previously operated by *London United* from Hounslow Heath (WK) garage using VH-class hybrid double-deck vehicles.

H98 (*London United-AV*) (Hounslow, Bus Station & Hayes End, Kingsway) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.

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

Saturday 4th March, continued:

N97 (Trafalgar Square & Hammersmith, Bus Station) LBSL QC contract awarded to Go-Ahead London General using existing hybrid double-deck vehicles from Putney (AF) garage. Previously operated by *London Transit* from Westbourne Park (X) garage using a mix of ADH-class or VMH-class E40H Enviro400H or MCV EvoSeti hybrid double-deck vehicles.

Sunday 5th March 2023:

246 (*Stagecoach Selkent-TB*) (Bromley North Station & Westerham) This is the first day of the seasonal Sun/PHol extension to Chartwell. This runs until Sunday 29th October 2023. There is no change to PVRs.

Saturday 11th March 2023:

Widened timetables introduced for routes 56, 106, 308 and 488 for Lea Bridge Roundabout cycle works, expected to last until October. Also for 237 at Brentford.

64/= (*Arriva London South-TH*) (Thornton Heath Pond & New Addington, Vulcan Way) Mon-Sat daytime frequency reduced from x7½ to x10mins.

Saturday 18th March 2023:

Widened timetables introduced for Euston Road roadworks on routes 30, 73 and 390.

138 (*Go-Ahead Metrobus-MB*) (Bromley North Station & Coney Hall, Princes Way) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.

161 (*Stagecoach Selkent-PD*) (North Greenwich Station & Chislehurst, War Memorial) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.

172 (*Go-Ahead London Central-NX*) (Aldwych & Brockley Rise, Chandos) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.

181 (*Stagecoach Selkent-KB*) (Lewisham, Town Centre & Grove Park Station) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.

225 (*Go-Ahead London Central-MG*) (Hither Green Station & Canada Water Station) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.

284 (*Stagecoach Selkent-KB*) (Lewisham, Town Centre & Grove Park Cemetery) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.

N15 (*Go-Ahead Docklands-DS/RR*) (Oxford Circus & Romford Market) Additional supplementary service, Fr-Sa nights only, increasing frequency in first hour from Oxford Circus, returning from Romford from 03:00. These extras are operated by Camberwell (Q) garage, so making this route jointly operated by Docklands and London Central.

Saturday 25th March 2023: Go-Ahead London General's Plough Lane (PL) garage closes, so several allocation changes and a new site established at Mitcham, Goat Road adjacent to the Willow Lane industrial estate and close to Carshalton Road. The garage code to be allocated by TfL is expected to be 'GM' but to be confirmed next month.

39 (*Go-Ahead London General-PL*) (Clapham Junction, Falcon Road & Putney Bridge Station) Re-allocated to Putney (AF) garage.

152 (*Go-Ahead London General-AL*) (Pollards Hill, Westmorland Way & New Malden, Fountain) Revised daily timetable.

169 (*Stagecoach East London-BK*) (Barking, London Road & Clayhall, The Glade) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.

247 (*Stagecoach East London-NS*) (Barkingside Station & Romford Station) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.

280 (*Go-Ahead London General-AL*) (Belmont Station & Tooting, St.George's Hospital) Re-allocated from Merton (AL) to Mitcham garage.

287 (*Stagecoach East London-RM*) (Rainham, Abbey Wood Lane & Barking Station) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.

424 (*Go-Ahead London General-AF*) (Putney Heath, Green Man & Fulham, Football Club, M-Sa except evenings) Re-allocated to Stockwell (SW) garage.

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

Saturday 25th March, continued:

- 470 (*Go-Ahead London General-AL*) (Colliers Wood Station & Epsom, Town Centre) Re-allocated from Merton (AL) to Mitcham garage.
- 485 (*Go-Ahead London General-PL*) (Wandsworth, High Street & Hammersmith Bridge, South Side) Re-routed in both directions to serve Wandsworth Riverside Quarter development which had been consulted in 2018 and planned for introduction for some while. To and from Putney Bridge Road, and in both directions, operates in a loop via Point Pleasant, Osiers Road, Enterprise Way, Osiers Road and Point Pleasant. A Sunday and evening service also introduced running every x30 mins. Re-allocated to Merton (AL) garage.
- 493 (*Go-Ahead London General-PL*) (Richmond, Bus Station & Tooting, St.George's Hospital) Re-allocated to Merton (AL) garage.
- 690 (*Go-Ahead London General-PL*) (Norwood Garage & Earlsfield, Burntwood School, SDO) Re-allocated to Stockwell (SW) garage.

Saturday 1st April 2023:

- 68 (*Abellio-WL*) (Euston Station & West Norwood, High Street) and
- N68 (*Abellio-WL*) (Tottenham Court Road Station & Old Coulsdon, Tudor Rose) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 468 (*Arriva London South-N*) (Elephant & Castle & South Croydon, Swan & Sugar Loaf) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.

Easter Holiday 7th to 10th April 2023: A Saturday service will operate on Good Friday 18th April and a Sunday Service on Easter Monday 10th April, with normal service on Easter Sat and Sunday.

Saturday 8th April 2023:

- 389 (*Sullivan-SM*) (Barnet, The Spires & Barnet, Western Way, Mo-Sa Shopping hours) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 399 (*Sullivan-SM*) (Barnet, The Spires & Hadley Wood, circular, Mo-Sa Shopping hours) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.

Saturday 29th April 2023:

- 31 (*Metroline West-WJ*) (Camden Town, Bayham Street & White City, Bus Station) and
- N31 (*Metroline Travel-PV*) (Camden Town, Bayham Street & Clapham Junction, St John's Hill) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 35/= (*Go-Ahead London Central-Q*) (Shoreditch, High Street & Clapham Junction) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing mix of EH-class E40H Enviro400H, MHV-class Volvo B5LH MCV Evoseti and WHV-class Volvo B5LH Wrightbus Gemini 3 hybrid double-deck vehicles. Mon-Fri daytime frequency reduced from x7½ to x8 mins, Sunday and evening frequency increased from x15 to x12 mins.
- 40 (*Go-Ahead London Central-Q*) (Dulwich, Library & Clerkenwell Green) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract, using new Ee-class electric double-decks in due course.
- 62 (*Stagecoach East London-BK*) (Barking, Gascoigne Estate & Marks Gate, Billet Road) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing AD E40D Enviro400 diesel double-deck vehicles.
- 95 (*Metroline West-G*) (Southall, Town Hall & Shepherd's Bush Green) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 129 (*Go-Ahead London Central-NX*) (North Greenwich & Lewisham. Lewisham Centre) re-allocated back to Morden Wharf (MG) garage.
- 145 (*Stagecoach East London-BK*) (Leytonstone, Bus Station & Dagenham, ASDA) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using a mix of existing AD E40D and E40H Enviro400 hybrid and diesel double-deck vehicles. Note that the weekend night service was withdrawn under consultation.
- 294 (*Stagecoach East London-NS*) (Havering Park, Firbank Road & Noak Hill, Tees Drive) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing AD E40D Enviro400 diesel double-deck vehicles.
- 345/= (*Abellio-QB*) (Peckham, Bus Station & South Kensington, Cromwell Road) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing AD E40H Enviro400H hybrid double-deck vehicles.

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

Saturday 29th April, continued:

- 366 (Beckton, Bus Station & Redbridge, Roding Lane South) LBSL QC contract awarded to Go-Ahead Blue Triangle using new SEe electric single-deck vehicles from River Road (RR) garage in due course. Currently operated by *Stagecoach East London* from Barking (BK) garage using AD E20D Enviro200 diesel single-deck vehicles.
- 368 (Harts Lane Estate & Chadwell Heath, Wangey Road) LBSL QC contract awarded to Go-Ahead Blue Triangle using existing hybrid double-deck vehicles from River Road (RR) garage. Actual types to be allocated to be confirmed in due course as some will be required to cover for electric bus deliveries. Currently operated by *Arriva London North* from Barking (DX) garage using a mix of T-class AD E40D Enviro400 and DW-class DB300 Wrightbus Gemini 2 diesel double-deck vehicles.

Saturday 6th May 2023: Details of any changes to services for the Coronation of King Charles III will hopefully be confirmed in next month's TLB. Sunday services will operate on the Early May Bank Holiday on Monday 1st May and the additional Bank Holiday for the Coronation on Monday 8th May, as well as the late Spring Bank Holiday on Monday 29th May.

SERVICE PROPOSALS

A new consultation opened on 27th February This involves re-opening Arthur Street, just to the north of London Bridge, but to pedestrians and cyclists. Arthur Street was closed in 2015 for the Bank Station upgrade project and since then route **344** has been diverted via London Bridge northbound whilst still serving Southwark Bridge southbound to avoid the closed road. TfL are proposing to permanently re-route 344 via London Bridge in both directions, leaving Southwark Bridge unserved by buses once again. This consultation closes on 12th April.

Still awaiting a decision are the 410 stop changes. (*see TLB686 p12*).

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.

6th May 23: CR7 on 147 (G-A Blue Triangle), CE+2 on 147 (G-A Blue Triangle), 196 (Abellio), 241, 330, 474/= (S'ch East London).

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).

15th July 23: CR7 on 86/N86* (S'ch East London). 22nd July 23: CR7 on 53/N53 (S'ch Selkent).

19th Aug 23: CR7 on 417* (Arriva LS).

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, H11, 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), 276* (G-A Docklands to S'ch East London), 376 (G-A Docklands to Blue Triangle), D3* (S'ch East London to G-A Blue Triangle).

30th Sep 23: CR7 on 1/N1, 42 (G-A London Central), 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), CR7 on 107 (Metroline Travel), 316* (Metroline West), P12* (G-A London Central), CR on 632 (Metroline Travel).

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

14th Oct 23: CR7 on 223 (London Sovereign to Metroline Travel), W3 (Arriva LN).

4th Nov 23: CR7 on 221 (Arriva LN).

11th Nov 23: CR on 38/N38 (Arriva LN) CR7 on 363# (G-A London Central to Abellio).

18th Nov 23: CR7 on 430 (G-A London General), CR7 on 436/N136 (G-A London Central), H20, U7 (Abellio).

25th Nov 23: CR7 on W19 (S'ch East London).

2nd Dec 23: CR7 on 152* (G-A London General), CR7 on 157* (Arriva LN to G-A London General).

30th Dec 23: CR7 on U9 (Abellio).

20th Jan 24: CR7 on 228* (London United to Metroline West).

27th Jan 24: CR on 9/N9 (London United to Metroline Travel).

OTHER SPECIAL and MISCELLANEOUS non-TfL OPERATIONS IN LONDON

AirSym have applied to take over the “London in One Day” and “Jack the Ripper with Fish & Chips taster” London tours, previously operated by **Redwing**.

Hallmarks, t/a Diamond South-East took over routes **BL1 and BL2** on the Bedfont Lakes contracts from 13th February, running to similar timetables as before, Mon-Fri only, and previously operated by **London United**. From 19 December 2022 Diamond began a night service **H30** between Hatton Cross and Heathrow Central via T4 and T5. Operation 03:15 to 05:00 Daily.

DIVERSIONS, DEVIATIONS AND DISRUPTIONS

Central: From 6th to 19th February, owing to water works in Giltspur Street, Smithfield, routes **46 and 55** were unable to access St.Bart’s Hospital. Route 46 was curtailed at Holborn Circus and route 55 at St.Pauls. Thanks to Graham for the report. From 6th to 13th February, owing to cosmetic works in Cornhill, route **25/N25** was diverted westbound via Fenchurch Street, Gracechurch Street, King William Street and Lombard Street. Further to the diversion to route **507** in Horseferry Road mentioned last month, this has now been revised to operate in both directions. From 10th February to 26th March, route **507** is diverted towards Waterloo via Vauxhall Bridge Road, John Islip Street, Bulinga Street and Marsham Street and towards Victoria via Marsham Street, Great Smith Street and Victoria Street. From 13th February to 12th June, owing to road works at Bank Junction, routes **8/N8, 11/N11, 25/N25, 26/N26, N242 and N551** are diverted eastbound via New Change, Cheapside, Newgate Street (11/N11,26/N26, N551), King Edward Street, Little Britain, Montague Street, London Wall and Wormwood Street, Bishopsgate (25/N25). In the westbound direction, routes **11/N11 and 26/N26** are diverted via Poultry, Cheapside and New Change. with routes **N21 and N550** diverted westbound via Fenchurch Street, Gracechurch Street and Cannon Street. This is all part of the City of London’s “All change at Bank” scheme which have had various road works since Covid and is intended to become permanent in due course. From 15th February to 5th March, owing to telecommunications works in Westbourne Grove, routes **7/N7, 23/= and 27/N27** diverted in both directions via Pembridge Villas, Pembridge Road, Notting Hill Gate, Bayswater Road and Queensway (return Inverness Terrace). Route **70** was diverted southbound via Chepstow Place, Dawson Place, Prince's Square and Porchester Gardens, and northbound via Moscow Road, Pembridge Square and Chepstow Place. From 27th February to 5th March, owing to water works in New Oxford Street, routes **19/N19, 38/N38, 55/N55, N8, N25, N41, N98 and N207** were diverted westbound via Drake Street, Procter Street, High Holborn then Shaftesbury Avenue (19/N19, 38/N38, N41) or St Giles High Street and Earnshaw Street (55/N55, N8, N25, N98, N207).

South-East: From 1st February to 5th March, owing to cycling works in Lower Road, Surrey Quays, routes **1, 199/N199, 225 and 381/N381** were diverted towards Canada Water via Lower Road to double run via Rotherhithe roundabout. From 10th February to 5th March, owing to a collapsed sewer in Watling Street, Dartford, routes **96 and 428** were diverted in both directions via Princes Road and Park Road. From 12th February to 23rd February, owing to gas works in Kidbrooke Park Road, routes **178 and 335** temporarily diverted southbound via Rochester Way, Westhorne Avenue, Eltham Road and Kidbrooke Park Road to Cambert Way. From 13th to 18th February, owing to water works in Luxted Road, Biggin Hill, route **R8** was diverted in both directions via Main Road, Leaves Green Road, Downe Road, New Road Hill, Rookery Road and Downe High Street to War Memorial.

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

From 13th February to 24th February, owing to water works in Lower Road, Belvedere, routes **229, 602 and 669** were diverted westbound via Picardy Manorway, Bronze Age Way, Bexley Road, Fraser Road, Erith Road, Woolwich Road, Heron Hill and St Augustine's Road. Route **469** followed the above diversion to Woolwich Road, with routes **401 and 601** diverting southbound via Picardy Manorway, Yarnton Way, Harrow Manorway, Knee Hill, Abbey Road, Gilbert Road, Picardy Street and Picardy Road. From 27th February to 17th March, owing to utility works in Millennium Way, North Greenwich, routes **108/= and 188/=** were diverted southbound via John Harrison Way, West Parkside and Edmund Halley Way. Finally, member Steve sent photographic evidence of route **119 (and 146)** diverting via Pickhurst Lane instead of Hayes Lane between Bromley and Hayes on at least 18th February, but unfortunately there was no evidence from CentreComm reports or temporary works that may have caused this!

South: Further to the roadworks in Croydon, mentioned last month, the second phase runs until 3rd March Routes **60, 119/=, 166, 312, 407, 433, 455, 466, 468, 645, and N68** are diverted northbound via Fell Road, Croydon Flyover and Park Lane, and temporarily diverted southbound via Park Lane (double run to Croydon Flyover) and Katharine Street. Routes **109/N109, 405, 412, 433 and N250** start from Park Lane and finish in Katharine Street, arriving via Park Lane (double run to Croydon Flyover) and Katharine Street. From 11th to 18th February, owing to road works in Cherry Orchard Road, Croydon, routes **197, 312, 367 and 410** were diverted in both directions via Wellesley Road, Newgate (towards Croydon), St James's Road and Lower Addiscombe Road. From 24th February to 15th March, owing to gas works in Binfield Road, Stockwell, routes **196 and P5** were diverted northbound via Clapham Road, South Lambeth Road and Lansdowne Way, with route **50** diverting via Union Road, Wandsworth Road, Lansdowne Way, South Lambeth Road and Clapham Road to stand. From 16th January to 10th February, and also from 27th February to 24th March, owing to road works in Atlantic Road, Brixton, route **322** was diverted northbound via Dulwich Road, Brixton Water Lane, Effra Road, St Matthew's Road, Brixton Hill and Brixton Road, and southbound via Brixton Road, Effra Road, Morval Road, Dalberg Road and Dulwich Road. From 27th February to 24th March, owing to cycling works in Ampere Way, Beddington, route **455** was diverted southbound via Beddington Farm Road.

South-West: From 31st January to 21st February, owing to a collapsed sewer in Hall Road, Whitton, route **H22** was diverted northbound via Whitton Dene, Mogden Lane, Twickenham Road and Worton Road.

West: Further to the security issues at Chiswick Business Park, mentioned in TLB701 and affecting routes **70 and 440**, these were extended to 30th April. From 12th to 18th February, owing to sewer works in Uxbridge Road, West Ealing, routes **E7 and E11** were northbound via St Leonard's Road, Gordon Road and The Avenue. From the afternoon of 16th February to early morning of 22nd February, owing to emergency road works at Wise Lane/Mill Road, West Drayton, route **U3** was diverted in both directions via Harmondsworth Road so Wise Lane Estate could not be served. Thanks to Chris for the report. From 27th February to 27th March owing to pavement works in Vine Street, Uxbridge, routes **427, U1, U4, U4, U7 and N207** are diverted towards Uxbridge Station via Hillingdon Road.

North: From 6th February to 4th August, owing to heating works in Plevna Road, Edmonton, route **192** is diverted southbound via The Green, Hertford Road, Monmouth Road and St Martin's Road. From 13th to 19th February, owing to a water works in Tufnell Park Road, route **4** was diverted southbound via Brecknock Road, Hilldrop Road, Camden Road and Parkhurst Road. From 13th to 27th February, owing to bridge works in Baynes Street, Camden, route **274** was diverted westbound via St Pancras Way, Georgiana Street and Royal College Street.

East: From 25th January to 12th February, owing to a water leak in Church Road, Little Ilford, route **147** was diverted southbound via Romford Road and High Street North. Thanks to Joel for the report. From 10th to 24th February, owing to water works in King Edwards Road, Barking, route **62** was diverted on departure from Gascoigne Estate via Alfred's way (slip road), Movers Lane and Ripple Road. From 11th to 18th February, owing to works on Marsh Wall, Millwall, route **135** was diverted to Crossharbour direct via East Ferry Road, with route **D6** operating via Manchester Road and East Ferry Road.

COUNTRY AREAS - Route Developments

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West and South ESSEX, including THURROCK

Friday 10th March:

On 8th February First Group agreed to purchase the Ensignbus local bus operations in Thurrock plus its rail replacement and contract operations. The deal includes the vehicle dealership but not the heritage bus collection. The actual date of transfer was 10th March.

Local routes are 22, 32, 33, 44, 66, 73/a, 77/a, 83, 99, X80, Z1.

HERTFORDSHIRE and southern BEDFORDSHIRE

Sunday 19th February (additional to TLB702):

- 357 (*Red Rose*) (Harpenden & Borehamwood) Mon-Sat from 2-hourly reverted to hourly.
390 (*Arriva KT*) (Stevenage & Hertford and Ware, M-S) Transferred from *Arriva KT* to *Centrebus*.
856 (*Arriva KT*) (Six Hills Way & John Henry Newman School, SDO) Minor timetable change.
SB1, 2, 3, 4/40, 5/50, 7, 8, 9 (*Arriva KT*) (Stevenage town services) General timetable changes with frequency reductions to better match driver availability. Basic daytime frequencies are:
SB1, SB2 and SB3 M-F x15 to x20, evgs x30 to x40, Sun x30 to x60.
SB4 and SB5 M-F x15 to x20, evgs and Suns still x60.
SB7 M-S stays x30, evgs to x60, Suns x30 to x60.
SB8 /SB9 M-S x30, evgs & Suns stays x60.

The Sunday service on SB8 to run Bus Station & Bragbury End only and the SB9 to run Bus Station & Symonds Green only. The Sunday SB1 is extended from Chells Manor to Poplars to cover that withdrawn section of SB9.

SB10 (Stevenage Bus Stn & Bedwell and Pin Green, Sats) Already joint Arriva KT and Centrebus but now the Arriva journeys transferred to Centrebus.

Saturday 25th March:

- 951 (*Sullivan Buses*) (Watford & Thorpe Park, Sats, Suns and public holidays) The school half-term and summer holiday services are not renewed this year.

Sunday 26th March:

- 310 (*Arriva KT*) (Hertford & Waltham Cross, Daily) Revised timetable for reliability.
324 (*Arriva KT*) (Ware & W.G. City, M-S) Minor timetable changes.
395 (*Arriva KT*) (Hertford, Sele Farm & Ware, Fanham Common, Daily) Minor timetable changes.

Monday 27th March:

A change to the Bishop's Stortford Community Transport service. The Saturday only "Shopper Hopper" in withdrawn but the current Mon-Fri "Circular Shuttle" will also run on Saturdays.

Diversions:

Route 53 (Landmark) is no longer using Letchworth Station (forecourt) Stop D but stops H (Morrisons) and B instead. D is often blocked by other vehicles.

The main road between Hertford and Ware was closed from 13th to 18th (at least) Feb. Arriva's diversion was from the Fairfax Road stop via B1502 Stanstead Road to Amwell Roundabout, with 331 and 395 continuing via the A1170 to Viaduct Road (Ware) but the 310 and 724 came nowhere near Ware for at least 6 days! Some other buses were noted as doing their own bespoke diversions!

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

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

Monday 20th February:

71, 73 (*Red Rose*) Chesham area services have a temporary timetable until 20th March due to a closure of Botley Road in Chesham.

Sunday 2nd April:

3, 4, 7 (*First Berkshire*) Timetable changes, details to come.

12 (*Thames Valley Buses*) Slough Bus Station via Elliman Avenue, Manor Park, Trading Estate (Liverpool Road), Britwell, Burnham to Priory Estate, Mon-Sat. A new Sunday hourly service added over the above routes, then via Motorways to Heathrow Terminal 5.

SURREY and northern parts of WEST SUSSEX

Wednesday 1st February: A typo under Southdown- route 419 should read 410.

Sunday 2nd April:

A re-arrangement of Guildford town services (*Stagecoach South*):

- 1/N1 just Town & University Campuses serving Royal Surrey County Hospital, Manor Park and Surrey Sports Park in a one-way anti-clockwise loop.
- 2 just Town & Stoughton serving Worplesdon Road, Cumberland Avenue, Grange Road and Manor Road in a one-way clockwise loop.
- 6 still Town & Merrow Park as now but operationally removed from 34/35 inter-working so as to improve reliability.
- 7 a new route for the Town & Bushy Hill section of former route 1.
- 9 a new route for an hourly Mon-Fri service between the University's Stag Hill Campus, Park Barn and Stoughton to replace sections of route 1 and 2.

North and west KENT

Monday 3rd April:

306/308 (*Redroute*) (Sevenoaks & Gravesend, M-S) Saturday service withdrawn between Sevenoaks and Vigo, Erskine Road. After the 222 lost its Saturday service (TLB702 p17, this leaves the large village of Borough Green bus-less on Saturdays.

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)

November 2022 editions of “**Colour large print Tube map**” and the pocket size “**Step-free Tube guide**” have been published. Both use the long-established yellow covers used on TfL's range of accessibility guides.

The standard DLR format is used on “**Saturday 25 and Sunday 26 February 2023 DLR planned closure No service Prince Regent to Beckton.**” The reverse has a line diagram of the replacement bus service and the stops it served at each station.

A black exclamation mark inside a triangle is on the yellow cover of “**Staying Safe on London Overground**”, a multifold slimline with extensive narrative about how to avoid some of the common causes of accidents across the network. These include minding the gap, property dropped onto tracks, train doors and alcohol.

Brixton station is hosting Shanti Panchal's “**Endurance**” between November 2022 and November 2023 as part of the ‘Art on the Underground’ programme. The double sided slimline features an extract of the work on the front with the reverse having text explaining the work is ‘a community portrait that observes our continued resilience and interdependency.’

----- *Publicity news* -----

Seemingly hidden for over six months is **“Summer Art Map”**, a twenty eight page slimline book which includes ‘Art on the Underground’ as one of seven organisations with a logo on the green cover. It offers a guide to a range of art installations and street performances across the West End, including Underground stations. Whilst no print date is carried the dates of the various events, for example a Platinum Jubilee Corgi Trail, suggest the events took place in 2022. The centre unfolds to show an artistic map of the installations, the aforementioned corgis and Underground stations.

Revised fares prompted the publication of a new edition of **“Ride a classic London Bus!”** from Londoner Buses. The new fares are the only difference to the previous edition reviewed in TLB699.

A first appearance in this column for the ‘Levelling Up’ logo which appears on **“We are Romford Road Active Travel”**, a four page A5 leaflet from Newham Council. It outlines proposals to improve the area between Stratford and Little Ilford for pedestrians, cyclists and public transport users. Undated, it includes reference to Levelling Up funding being awarded in October 2021.

Two new editions of Thames Clippers’ **“Visitors guide Discover a new London”** have reached publicity racks around the capital. One is valid from April 2022 whilst the other is valid from November 2022 and are broadly similar to the last reported edition of this four-page slimline reviewed in TLB692. The main difference being some amendments to photos along the route diagram.

A fine nocturnal shot of Ensignbus’ 50th Anniversary bus adorns the front of Issue No 39 of **“Thurrock Area Bus Times”** which is valid from 3 January. It is in the usual thirty six page A5 format with the regular mix of timetables and route maps. With the impending sale of the company to First Group it is hoped that this excellent book will continue to be published.

Corporate rebranding has prompted the reprinting of Carousel’s **“One”** valid from 4 September 2022. Whilst the times are unchanged from the previous edition reviewed in TLB698, the cover of the twelve page slimline book now features a different Citro on the cover. Inside there is an enlarged map of routes 1, 1A and 1B which includes the company’s three fare zones and a more detailed exert showing the roads served in Chesham.

Metrobus have begun to publish a series of A6 route leaflets with the route number and a cartoon bus prominent on a colour cover. Exact print dates are not carried, there simply being an ‘effective from...’ date which reflects when the timetable started. Only eight have been reported to date, but it is believed there are thirty one in the series, so further reports most welcome. Valid from 15 October 2022 is **“Route 4/5”**, whilst effective from 4 January 2022 with a grey cover is **“Route 22”**, a multifold with full timetable, route map and ‘Metrobus area bus routes including Brighton & Hove Buses connections’ map. This latter map covers an area bounded by Sutton, Guildford, Worthing, Eastbourne, and Tunbridge Wells and also appears in the other leaflets. Brown is the colour chosen for the cover of multifold **“Route 51”** which is valid from 27 August 2022. **“Route 200”** includes the ‘Gatwick Direct’ branding on the navy cover of **“Route 200”** a twenty page book dated 9 April 2022. **“Route 270”** is valid from 27 August 2022, whilst oldest of the collection are **“Route 271/273”** and **“Route 272”** both valid from 28 August 2021 and featuring a cartoon double decker bus on the cover. Finally, **“Route 400”** which carries 29 August 2021 on the light blue cover of the multifold. Thank you to the Southdown Enthusiasts Club for reporting these.

Reading Buses’ Thames Valley operation have published two slimline books valid from 30th October 2022. With twenty four pages is **“Your buses for Maidenhead”**, whilst **“Your buses in Slough & Windsor”** has twenty eight pages. A Boxing Day timetable for route 702 between Slough and Central Reading is included in **“Christmas & New Year buses 2022-23”** which covers Reading Buses services between 24 December 2022 and 3 January 2023 in a forty four page slimline book. A note on the 702 timetable refers passengers to the company website for connections onto route 703, some of which are shown as being guaranteed.

CURRENT VEHICLE NEWS

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

General news:

The “shorter” E400EV has now been registered LD72 XZS (adjacent to Go-Ahead’s Ee 101+) BYD D8UR0DD – AD E400EV 10.3m H38/20D.

The Epping Ongar Railway event on 18/19 February saw a big turnout from the London Bus Company’s stock. Rides were on re-created routes. See the LBC entry in this section for fuller detail.

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

New vehicle orders are for 13 Switch MetroCityEV 8.7m for route E5 plus 12 Wrightbus GBKite electroliner (single-deck) for route E7.

A few more Electroliners have topped up route U5 - to release E400EVs for route 68 – but finally on 15th February two of the breed went to start the conversion of route 111, more following gradually.

E400EVs 3401/2/3 have been treated to large branding in blue and green for route 63. Needless to say, a wrong allocation was on 25th February when 3403 was on route 68.

Recent repaints reported: LT 143/4/5/7.

Transfers:

(February): 3002/04/05/06/07/08/10/11/12/13/14/15/16/17/18 QBu/TF.

3020/21/22/24/27/28/29/30 QBu/DH, 3432/33/34/35/36/37 DH/WL.

LT 693, 694 WL/TF.

(March): LT 143/4/5/7/ 8, 150, 152, 161, 162, 170 QB/TF.

Livery changes:

LT 155 to advert for Cos.

LT 603 from advert for Battersea Power Station back to red.

LT 705 from advert for Hogwarts to one for Cos

LT 707 from advert for March Jacobs (late report) back to red.

LT 776 from advert for JD Sports back to red.

Subsequent disposals:

Typo in TLB702: 9401 reg LJ56 VSZ.

9793 (KU02 USJ) from Travel Express to PVS, Barnsley for scrap.

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.

Although 16 x Wrightbus StreetDeck Electroliners (to be ES 1-16) are still awaited for route 307 at Enfield, another 35 (to be ES 17-51) are now on order for London South routes 64 (TH), 417 (N) and 612 (TC). Additionally, 4 x MetroCity EV 8.7m (to be EMN 1-4) for route 377 at Enfield.

Recent refurb/ repaints include LT 1, 3, 6, 90, 138, 178; HV 185, 194, 195, 198. 200; T 331.

In TLB702, delete LT 111 (incorrect entry).

On 5th February ENX 19 was on route 289 and was in a traffic accident.

Transfers (February)

LT 200, 225, 227 GY/EC. LT 224, 226 GY/E. T 10 AEu/GYw. T 27, 36, 39, 41 ECt/ECw.

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

ARRIVA LONDON, Continued:

Livery changes:

HV 325 from advert for Cleaner Air back to red.
LT 216 from advert for British Airways back to red.
LT 222 to advert for Boss.
LT 464 and LT 498 from adverts for JD Sports back to red.
LT 600 from advert for H&M Move back to red.
LT 734 to advert for Under Armour.
LT 744 from advert for Hayu back to red.
LT 955 from advert for Michael Kors back to red.
LT 958 from advert for M&S back to red.
LT 962 from advert for J-P Gaultier to one for Under Armour.
LT 964 from advert for Call of Duty back to red.
LT 966 from advert for Stuart Weitzman back to red.
LT 967 from advert for Uniqlo back to red.
LT 969 from advert for Battersea Power Station back to red.
LT 981 to advert for Cos.

Disposals:

DW 318 has been written off after its accident (February).
DW 411 Long-time withdrawn at Enfield Garage: Gone to scrap (January).
T27 to Arriva the Shires at Luton.
T 203 to Durham, presumably in the care of the local Arriva depot.

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)

Transfers: 6155 NF/NFw. 6202 N/NFu.

Disposals: 6155 to Hardwicks, Barnsley.

T 65 from NFt to Arriva Yorkshire.

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

Recent repaints to new lighter blue: 3741, 4185, 4242.

Transfers: 3555, 3564, 3576, 3751, 3762, 3877, 3884 SV/SVu.. 3752 HH/HA. 3753 HH/SV.

3883 HA/HAu. 4067 HH/HHw. 4276 SV/SVu. Off loan 3038, 3921 WE(loan)/WBw.

Disposals: 1612, 2462, 3563, 3569, 3759, 3996, 4067, 4181, T536 to Hardwicks, Barnsley.

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

Into this area from Arriva K&S Maidstone:

6439, 6447/48/49 (GN04 UFH, UFT/U/V) Volvo B7TL- TransBus 10.7m H45/27F – 2004.

And from Arriva London: T 27.

Transfers: 2210 LD.LDw. 3038 WE(loan)/WBw. 3608 LD/LDu. 3921 WE(loan)/WBw.

3923 WB/WBu. 4721 LD/LDw. 4748 WB/WBu.

5423/29 LD/LDw. 6439/47/48/49 MD/LD. T27 London/LDt.

Disposals: 2210, 3038, 3043, 3506, 3917, 3921, 3925, 4759, 5423, 5429 to Hardwicks, Barnsley.

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

A2B TRAVEL GROUP, Melbourn, Cambridgeshire

Additional to TLB702: RJ72 HYG is seated B31F.

CAROUSEL, High Wycombe

In late February, E400 223 (MF10 OXF) was still on loan here from Oxford Bus. The loaned Sprinter 956 (RE66 VOB) returned to Oxford on 28Feb; it had been on loan since during January, mostly to cover accident repairs within the fleet.

Correcting TLB701, 938 and 940 (but not 939) returned from Thames Travel. 938, 940 and 941 were intended for use on route 41 (gained from Arriva) but low trees caused concern and route 41 (and its interworked 39) went over to single-decks after a few days.

Acquired (February) from East Yorkshire: No.287

461 (YX11 HNT) AD E20D – AD Enviro200 10.8m B39F – 2011.

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

The new garage at Riverway, Harlow was put into use on 1st February, replacing Roydon.

Correction to TLB702: Ref. was to 1601-14 (not 1610-14).

Disposals: 1002 to 1013 inc. all to Shelton Motors, Ramsey, Cambs.

CENTREBUS, Luton

Disposal: Solo 327 (YJ16 DRV) Transferred out of area to Leicester.

ENSIGNBUS, Purfleet

On 8th February First Group agreed to purchase the Ensignbus local bus and contract operations. The deal includes the vehicle dealership but not the heritage bus collection. The actual change of ownership was from Friday 10th March. Presumably it will be absorbed into First Essex Buses.

Buses in use on the local bus network in Thurrock plus the private hire and commercial will pass to First, as will the dealership activities. The 'local bus and part private hire' fleet is 120. 127-135, 138-141, 143-144, 146-150, 161-181, 331, 367-371, 402-407, 501-506, 601, 705-710. Additionally First Essex will have 14 'heritage' buses on long-term loan from the Newman family to provide such a fleet for private hires; RT 1499, 4421; RTL 453; RM 25, 54, 371; RMC 1485; RCL 2226; RML 882, 2405, 2588, 2734; RF 319 and Bristol MW 7017 HK.

Disposals (February):

RMC 1513 to London Bus Company. BCI 141 to Aintree Coachlines, Merseyside.

FALCON COACHES, Byfleet

New delivery: SK22 BVN AD E20D – AD Enviro200MMC 10.8m B41F 2022.

Disposals: E20Ds YX 18 KUD, YX18 KYE to Lloyds, Machynlleth.

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

The legal lettering on buses has changed from the Southampton address to reflect the current head office of First Hampshire & Dorset (the parent to Berkshire) at Gosport Road, Hoeford, Fareham Hampshire.

This was once the HQ of 'Provincial'.

Into stock February and March:

34375/6/7/8/9 (SO68 HFV/W/X/Y/Z), 34380/1/2/3/4 (SO68 HGA/C/D/E/F),

34385/6/7 SK19 EMF/J/V.

AD E40D – AD Enviro400MMC 10.5m H45/29F. 2019.

Wrightbus StreetLite DF B37F ex First Solent (within H&D), Southampton:

47667 (SN15 ACO); 47688-695 (SL15 RWF/J/K/N/O/U/V/W).

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

1ST BUS STOP, Gravesend

Change of registration: LX06 EAO to MT06 BUS.

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.

Plough Lane (PL) Garage is to close at the end of service on Friday 24th March. From Saturday 25th Route 39 PL to AF, 424 AF to SW, 485 and 493 PL to AL, 690 PL to SW. Additionally routes 280 and 470 move from AL to a new outstation of AL) at Goat Road Mitcham.

Re the Irizar for route 358, by the end of February three had been delivered. Power supply and chargers at Orpington Garage are done. At Crystal Palace the pantograph is expected to be complete by early March although the pantograph at Orpington Station is still some weeks away.

All of the batch SEe 168-172 were in service on route B13 by 7th February. SEe 166/7 converted route 359 on 18th February.

Recent repaints/ refurb include EHV 4, 6, 10, 13, 15; LT 41, 172, 173, 186, 231, 232, 233, 234, 275, 295; WS 64 and E200 155.

More registrations are for Ee 129-144: LG23 FAA/F/J/K/M/O/U. FBA/B/C/D/E/F/J/K/L.

More new orders are for

56 x BYD/E400EV 10.8m for routes 40, 57, 185;

11 x BYD/E200EV 10.9m for route 376;

37 x BYD/E200EV 10.2m for routes 152, D3, P12;

17 x BYD/E200EV 9.6m for route 450.

New deliveries:

In TLB702, of course the entry should read Ee (not E) 70-93.

The move of SEe 166/7 was to convert route 359 as per its contract upgrade.

(February): Ee 101-111 (LD72 XZT/U/V/W/X/TY/Z, YAA), Ee 113-116 (LG23 FFV/W/X/Y) and Ee 145-147 (LD72 UHT/U/V).

Transfers: Outstations at LS=Luton, FK=Folkestone, NH=Newhaven, RG=Ringmer, KL King's Lynn.

(January): WVL 281 AL/BX.

(February): LT 456 NX/Q. LT LT 875/6/7/8 NP/NX.

E 247, 249, 251, 252, 253 PM/NX. EH 227, 231, 233, 236, 237 C/PM. EH 238 NX/PM.

WVL 277 AL/BX. WVL 289 BX/NX. WVL 350-357 MG/NX (temp.) SEe 166, 167 NP/C.

Livery changes:

E 87-92 should by now have been treated to red & blue trainer livery.

LT 42 from advert for Levi's back to red.

LT 47 from advert for Armani to one for Boss.

LT 310 from advert for British Airways to one for Under Armour.

LT 307 to advert for Cos.

LT 428 to advert for Michael Kors.

LT 441 to advert for Under Armour.

LT 444 from advert for H&M Move back to red.

LT 857 to advert from Gant to one for Marc Jacobs (not LT 875, incorrect report in TLB701!).

LT 862 from advert for Hogwarts back to red.

WHV 84 from advert for Vuse back to red.

WHV 192 from advert for Let's do London back to red.

WVL 454 and WVL 484 from advert for Elizabeth line back to red.

Disposals: MEC 13 and WVN 10 to Ensign Bus (February).

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

Disposals:

Solo 5012 to YMS Travel, Canterbury, Kent.

Versas 6001/2 went to scrap (November 2022).

E400s 9507/09/10 to First South West (Nos 32737/8/9). These are due to be converted to part open top.

E400 9520 to First South West.

KEANE TRAVEL, Grays

Acquired (February): BV55 UCX Scania N94UD OmniDekka – East Lancs H45/27D – 2015.

LITTLE JIM'S BUSES, Berkhamsted

Acquired from --?-- : MX58 AAJ Optare Solo M950 B33F - 2008 (January 2023).

Acquired from Star Travel, Aylesbury: BU54 RBT Solo M880 B29F (October 2022).

Disposals: Solos BU54 RBT, GX04 AWR, WJ56 WVH to scrap (by February 2023).

LONDON BUS COMPANY, Northfleet and Ongar

Recent additions to the heritage collection are

STL 2692 (HGC 225) AEC Regent II – Weymann H30/26R;

971J (ex STL 1470) (CXX 457) AEC Regent – Weymann O**/**F – 1936 (been at LBC for years!);

RMC 1513 (513 CLT) AEC Routemaster - Park Royal H32/25RD - 1962.

RM 1971 (ALD 971B) AEC Routemaster – Park Royal H36/28R – 1965.

On the grand running days on/19 February based on North Weald, buses from the 'home fleet' in use were RT 2150, RM 1993, RMC 1513, DM 1052, V 3, RF 136, RF 392, LS 174, LS 444, GLS 490 and SM 1. Visitors in use were LB Museum RMC 1461; Ensignbus RM 1543, T 986, Metrobus 292 and the preserved Sovereign Lynx 293. On static display were RT 1530, RT 1702, RM 1527, MBA 539, BL 88.

Routes on the 18th were between North Weald and Loughton (20B), Epping Station (339) plus three to Passingford Bridge via Ongar (175A), via Theydon Bois (250) and vis Toot Hill (581A).

On the 19th it was all change: 201 Loughton Stn to Ongar via Tylers Green, 396 Epping circular via Thornwood Common, Tyleres Green, North Weald; 500 North Weald circular via Epping, Ivychimneys, Epping, Thornwood Common; 581 North Weald circular via Ongar and Toot Hill.,

LONDON DIAL-A-RIDE

Rrf. TLB702 notes, D7184 and D7210 had moved on to ?? (by end of February).

LONDONER BUSES (MANCHESTER BUS TOURS)

RML 2290 was in use in mid February.

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

To new fleet livery: 6705.

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

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 order is for 21 x Wrightbus StreetDeck Electroliners for route 83 (PV). In the meantime, the 39 x Electroliners on order for routes 297 (PV) and 142 (EW) will be WDE 2770-2808, still outstanding.

The sole (thus far) Electroliner WDE 2769 entered service on route 134 (from PB) on 9th February.

For the record, VWH 2097 was the last bus on route 271 on the night of 3rd February; earlier on that day, the last scheduled double-deck on route 143 (the HT- based school bus) was VW 1302.

LT 11, the vehicle now battery-powered, entered service on route 390 (HT) on 9th February, although its actual use has been spasmodic.

The many TE transfers were mostly to do with Bakerloo line coverage but there was also the transfer of route 107 from EW to PB on 4th February (TLB702 p10). The sole VWH at Edgware (2243), almost always used on route 113, moved away after 3rd February. Many other VWHs left HT after the loss of routes 91 and 271. The considerable amount of transfers of late has created problems with blinds. Quite a few of PV's acquisitions are just displaying boards in the windscreen, paper notices in side blinds and with the normal blinds turned off.

The WHDs have been drifting back to service at PV during February, the first being on the 245 on 18th and on the 7 on 21st.

DEL 2612 was highly unusual on route 487 (usually all DE) on the 19th, whereas the once rare visits of VMHs onto the 204 ave developed into being part of the daily type mix.

Recent repaints / refurbishments noted include LT 102/4/5/7/9, 110/2/3/4/6/7; VWH 2102, 2134, 2205, 2213; DEL 2259.

Transfers: (h suffix = Hertfordshire Commercial Fleet).

(February): Correction to TLB702: Delete TE 1832 entry (wrong vehicle). It was VW 1832 HZu/PV (but transferred again, see below).

LT 102-117 moved gradually into Brentford (AH) in late February, in preparation of route H91 being taken over from Abellio on 4th March.

LT 102/4/5, 113/4 PAu/AH. LT 103/6/7/8/9, 111/5 HZu/AH. LT 117 HT/AH.
TE 936, 976, 978, 980 PB/WJ. TE 939, 940 PB/WJ/HZw. TE 977, 979, 984-990
EW/PB/HZw TE 981 EW/PB/PAu. TE 982 PBu/HZw. TE 1580/81 UX/WJ/UX.
VW 1189 PB/PV. VW 1266 PB/HD. VW 1286 PV/W. VW 1289 PV/W.
VW 1390/91 PB/W. VW 1397 PV/W, VW 1822/23 PV/PAu. VW 1831/32 PV/WJ/PAu.
VWH 2001-15 HT/PB. VWH 2093-99 HT/G. VWH 2133/4/5 SG/AH. VWH 2137/38/39/40 G/PB.
VWH 2142/43 G/PV. VWH 2232 HD/PB. VWH 2233/34/36/38/39 W/PB. VWH 2240 PV/PB.
VWH 2243 EW/PB. VWH 2285/86 HT/PV. VWH 2303/04 HT/PV. VMH 2449-57 HT/PV.
DE 863 HZu/HT. DE 1617, 1639 WJ/PAw. DE 1619 PB/HT. DE 1627, 1650 HTu/HT.
DE 1642, 1653, 1654 WJ/W. DEM 1337/8, 1340-146 PB/HT. DEM 1339 HTt/HT.

Livery changes:

LT 754 to advert for Marc Jacobs.

LT 749 and LT 764 from advert for Back Market back to red.

LT 809 from advert for M&S back to red.

VWH 2329 from advert for Ami back to red.

VWH 2390 from advert for Cleaner Air back to red.

VWH 2394 and VWH 2422 (late report) from advert for Let's do London back to red.

BDE 2629 from advert for Bananas back to red.

Disposals:

TE 977, 984/6/8/9, 990 to Ensign Bus (February).

DE 1583, 1617, 1629M 1633, 1637, 1639 to Dawsongroup (February).

MULLANY'S BUSES, Watford

Correction to TLB702:

KU02 YBH, HP07/08 BUS are still in stock.

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.

Recent repaints/ refurbishes include ADE 40309, 40455; ADH 45020; LT 129.

Delete LT 371, 380 entry in TLB702, they were correctly shown under Stagecoach.

On 18th February DE 20171 was in collision with several cars.

Transfers:

I am asked to clarify recent allocations for the following buses, starting at Summer 2022.

There seems to have been some confusion over 450** and 451** entries.

ADH 45049 RP 2022, RP/V Jan23. ADH 45050 RP 2022, RP/V Feb23.

ADH 45051 RP 2022, RP/V Jan23. All three still at V at 3/23.

VH 45149 BT 2022, BT/WK Nov22. VH 45150 BT 2022, BT/WK Nov22.

VH 45151 WK 2022. All three still at WK 3/23.

(Corrections): ADE 40425 and 40432 never left BT so not to NCu).

VH 45144 at S in July 2022 then S/V March 23. (December 2022): ADE 40482 TV/AV.

(January): MCM 30088 AV/NCu. BE 37088 Xu/BTt.

Corrections to TLB702: WLS 30027-30038-40, not 200* Xu/X.

BCE 47164 delete transfer FW/SO, it stayed at FW.

(February): BE 37096 Xu/S.

SP 40166/185/186/190 WKc/WKu (ex Bedfont Lakes contract).

ADE 40435 BT-NCu/AV.

BCE 47090/091 S/X. BCE 47157, 47168-172/174-177 Xu/X. BCE 47158/160/161/166 S/X.

BCE 47164 FW/X. BCE 47167 BT/X.

(March): SP 40043 FW/AV. VH 45111/112/123 X/RP. BCE 47162 SO/S

Livery changes:

LT 463 from advert for Uniqlo back to red.

LT 670 from advert for Armani back to red.

LT 673 from advert for Levi's back to red.

VH 45193 from advert for Callelujah back to red.

Disposals:

ADE 40446/ 450/ 451/ 460/ 463/ 464 to Ensign Bus (February).

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

Seven new Enviro400City 11.5m 76-seater buses have been ordered for Green Line routes 702/703.

E400s 1203 and 1204 that came from Newbury when route 703 had a frequency increase last year

remain in use in green and black livery, probably until the new buses arrive.

Into this area: Green and black E200 650 (YX63 ZVR) – E200 B39F to TVB from Newbury

Disposal: Volvo B7RLE 451 (BD14 KXU) to Select Bus Services, Penkridge, Staffs.

Volvo B7RLE 454 (BD14 KXZ) to Bentley, Buxton, Derbyshire. Re-registered to J88 BCL.

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

REDLINE BUSES, Aylesbury

Correction to TLB702: YX11 AEW should read YX12 AEW.

New in stock: YX12 AXU AD E20D – AD Enviro200 10.2m B33F – 2012.

YX12 AZN AD E20D – Enviro200 10.8m B38F - 2012

RED ROSE TRAVEL, Dinton near Aylesbury

YX11 AEC repainted to fleet livery from white and E7 RRT repainted into fleet livery from red and silver "Silver Rider" branded livery.

Acquired (February): YX11 AEF, AEU AD Enviro200 10.2m B33F.

SOUTHDOWN PSV, Copthorne (part of B&H Buses within the Go-Ahead Group)

In early March, the fleet is to be renumbered into the B&H/Metrobus scheme, details next month.

Disposals: Dart SLFs 105 and 380 plus Volvo B7TLs 551/2/5 have all left the fleet. By January 2023, at least 552 and 555 went to ScrapCo, Paddock Wood, Kent.

556 (LK04 CUC) had been quoted as gone but in fact it is still in service in February 2023.

STAGECOACH LONDON (part of Stagecoach Holdings) incorporating:

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

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

Recent refurb/ repaints include 12402, 13153, 19750, 19751, 19829, 37725; LT 381, 382, 385.

Two vehicle orders remain outstanding.

12 x MetroCity 9.6m dual door, ordered by Tower Transit, for route 339 and

8 x MetroCity 8.8m single door, ordered by HCT Group, for route W5.

Transfers:

(February): 13081 PD/TL. 15009/010 LI/WHt.

36544 TB/WHu (accident). 36669 BK/RM. 37552 LI/BK. 37531 RMu/RM.

Livery changes:

LT 240 from advert for Marc Jacobs back to red.

LT 244 to advert for Marc Jacobs.

LT 246 from advert for Back Market back to red.

LT 249 to advert for Cos.

LT 265 to advert for Grand Palladium.

LT 312 (TLB702 entry) was TO advert for Boss (and NOT back to red).

LT 314 from advert for H&M Move and on to one for Cos.

LT 377 from advert for ITVX to one for Marc Jacobs

LT 382 from advert for British Airways back to red.

12320 from advert for Lenovo back to red.

Disposals

15023/027 to Stagecoach South East (February).

15034 (additional to TLB702) to Trevor Wigley, Barnsley (February).

12394 to Trevor Wigley, Barnsley (October). This had been damaged by fire 11th December 2020.

STAR TRAVEL, Aylesbury

Disposal: Solo RU54 RBT to Little Jim's Buses (October 2022).

VECTARE, Rettendon, Essex

Correction to TLB702: Ref to LJ16 should read SN16 OVP/OVR.

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 1214, 1783 from Routemaster 4 Hire to Countrywide Coaches, Princess Risborough, Bucks. (February). In parallel with this acquisition, Countrywide Coaches also acquired the trading name "Routemaster 4 Hire" at the beginning of the year. The previous company that used this trading name was based near Wrexham and after many years of successful operation the owner retired from bus work at the end of 2022.

RM 1971 and RMC 1513 from Ensign Bus to London Bus Company, Northfleet, Kent (February).

RML 901 was used on a one-day contract on the 19th January by supermarket Aldi at their Aylesbury store in a promotion to advertise their prices with a free bus service around the town via the competing supermarkets. For this one-day operation it carried a light blue and red livery with prominent signwriting; it remains owned by the London Bus Company.

RML 2261 from ThisBus.com to Messrs Madden & Dedicoat, t/a Routemaster2261.com, London W1 (January). This was the last vehicle from the former ThisBus.com fleet.

RML 2359, 2526 from Mr A Bailey to London Bus Company, Northfleet, Kent (February).

RML 2513 commenced operation in January, with its owners Messrs M & R Deeley, trading as The Bus Boys, South Moreton, Oxon. This RML had been acquired in 2008 in severely damaged condition after the infamous stunt by Jeremy Clarkson in the making of one of his DVDs; this resulted in the new owners acquiring the complete upper deck from RML 2630 from Wigley, fitting it to RML 2513, and rebuilding the bus back to roadworthy condition.

RML 2573 has been used in January and February as a health and well being bus visiting various towns in Kent on behalf of NHS Kent and Medway. It is in a white livery, with blue sign writing and a cerise relief band. It is believed that it is still owned by Create Productions.

RML 2676 from Silvano's to The Bus Boys, South Moreton, Oxon (December 2021) where it is continuing to be used as a mobile bar, and remains in grey livery. It joins RML 2513 (see above).

Olympians:

LN 30 (H130 FLX) (ex FLN) further to TLB681, it is confirmed that it was exported to France where it has been used as a burger bar since November.

NV 69 (R269 LGH) (ex GAL) further to TLB698, the conversion to a mobile home was not completed and it passed from unknown owner, Evesham, Worcs. to Xanadu Morris Troupe, Oldham, Greater Manchester (March 2022).

NV 129 (P929 RYO) (ex GAL) was sold from Green Bus (by February).

VN 340 (N340 HGK) (ex SLN) passed from unknown owner to Mr P Tierney, Little Ouse, Cambs. (by February 2019) for use as a store shed.

Miscellaneous low-floor double deck types:

DLA 264 (GCZ 773, ex N60 HAM, ex Y319 GKR, ex Y464 UGC) (ex ALN) re-gained the registration Y319 GKR and was sold from Walker Limousines (all in April).

DLA 347 (LJ03 MEU, ex J400 JBT) (ex ALN) returned from L&B to Base Sales (January), then went on short-term loan to Finch, Higher Ince, Lancs. (in January and February), and is now part of the operational fleet within the Holmeswood group.

DW 30 (LJ53 NHV) (ex ALN) correcting and updating TLB667, this DW was still in use in 2021 and then was sold from Sanders Coaches to MC Tractors / Shelton Motors, Ramsey, Cambs. (November 2021).

- *Where are they now* -----
- DW 47 (LJ53 NHP) (ex ALN) from Sanders Coaches to MC Tractors / Shelton Motors, Ramsey, Cambs. (November 2021).
- DW 95 (VLT 295 ex LJ54 BFU) (ex ALN) from South East Bus Supplies to Gardner, Tunbridge Wells, Kent (July) and then re-gained its original registration in August.
- DW 273, 276, 280, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288 (LJ59 LWW, LWZ, LWG, LWM, LWN, LWO, LWP) and 296 (LJ10 CUH) (ex ALN) the latest fleet numbers for these DWs with Xelabus are 810, 809, 806, 812, 811, 805, 808, 807, 813 respectively. They all passed to Xelabus from Bus & Coach Centre, Forest Hill. Additionally, DW 274 (LJ59 LWX) has been loaned to Xelabus to cover for repaints.
- VLW 23, 39 (LJ51 DGZ, DJD), 44 (LF02 PKV) (ex ALN) from Arriva North East to Alpha Recovery (November) for scrap.
- VLW 38 (LJ51 DHZ) (ex ALN) from Arriva North East to Alpha Recovery (Nov. 2021) for scrap.
- VLW 93 (LF52 UPG) (ex ALN) updating TLB700, this VLW passed from Ellie Rose Travel to Cambridge Coaches (dlr), Earith, Cambs. (September), and then to Xelabus. (November).
- VLW 95 (LF52 UPJ, ex WLT 895) (ex ALN) was sold from DW Coaches (October) for scrap.
- VLW 103 (LG52 DDK), 117 (LF52 UPN) (ex ALN) sold from Arriva North East (by January).
- VLW 184 (LJ03 MME), 196 (LJ53 BEY) (ex ALN) from Base Sales to Tyne Travel, Stanley, Tyne & Wear (January).
- DN 33756, 33758, 33761, 33762, 33764, 33766, 33769, 33774, 33775 (SN12 EHD, EHF, EHJ, EHK, EHR, EHT, EHW, EGY, EGZ) (ex FLN) from Ensign Bus to Top View Tours, London (February).
- DN 33757, 33765 (SN12 EHE, EHS) (ex FLN) see the entry in TLB701 for TE 1982, 1990 (ex ML).
- DN 33759, 33760 (SN12 EHG, EHH) (ex ML) from Ensign Bus to City Direct, Galway, Ireland (February).
- DN 33763 (SN12 EHP) (ex FLN) further to the entry in TLB702 for TE 1988 (ex ML), this is now recorded as sold from Ensign Bus to Peoplesbus, Liverpool, Merseyside (February). Hopefully confirmation will be received next month.
- DN 33770, 33771, 33772, 33773 (SN62 AAF, AAK, AAO, AAV) (ex FLN) see the entry in TLB702 for TE 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998 (ex ML). These were rebuilt and up seated to H41/31F prior to dispatch from Ensign Bus.
- TN 33379 (LK53 EYY) (ex FLN) updating TLB700, it is now reported that this TN was sold to the BBPG for preservation.
- TNL 33036 (LK51 UYE), 33085 (LN51 GMF) (ex FLN) were sold from First South West (January), with TNL 33036 confirmed as for scrap.
- VN 36145 (BJ11 EBG) (ex FLN) has been repainted by First South Yorkshire into Sheffield two-tone blue and cream livery.
- VN 36291 (BX12 CVO) (ex FLN) from Yellow Buses to Ensign Bus (August) and then to Moffat & Williamson, St. Fort, Fife (February).
- VN 37813 (LK59 FEH)(ex FLN) from Ensign Bus to MC Tractors/Shelton Motors,Ramsey (February).
- VN 37894 (CTS 917, ex BF60 UUC), 37895 (OTS 271, ex BF60 UUE) (ex FLN) have been re-numbered from 2850 and 2851 to 2904 and 2905, and then transferred to McGills Buses (October).
- VNL 32260 (LT52 WWF) (ex FLN) from First Essex to Ensign Bus and then to MC Tractors / Shelton Motors, Ramsey, Cambs. (February).
- VNL 32261 (LT52 WWG) (ex FLN) was sold from Sharpes Coaches (by July).
- VNW 32377, 32423 (LK04 HYM, JCZ) (ex FLN) from Ellie Rose to Cambridge Coaches, Earith, Cambs. (November).
- VNZ 32344 (LK53 LZE) (ex FLN) was sold from First Eastern Counties (February).
- AVL 27 (V463 UKE, ex D10 ASD, ex V127 LGC) (ex GAL) further to TLB701, this AVL was not sold by ASD Coaches and has subsequently been re-registered to V14 ASD in December.
- AVL 37 (V137 LGC, ex A17 HLC) (ex GAL) from Lucketts Travel to Bus & Coach Centre, Forest Hill, Oxon (October).
- AVL 42 (V142 LGC, ex A19 HLC) (ex GAL) from Lucketts Travel to Bus & Coach Centre, Forest Hill, Oxon and then to Ripley, Barnsley, South Yorkshire (all in February).
-

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

- DOE 16 (LX58 CXF) (ex GAL) from Ensign Bus to Shelton Motors, Ramsey, Cambs. (February).
E 13 (SN06 BNY) (ex GAL) from Ensign Bus to Shelton Motors, Ramsey, Cambs. (February).
EVL 6 (PL51 LGG) (ex GAL) has been sold by Sullivan Buses (February).
EVL 39 (PJ02 PYX) (ex GAL) was sold from Go East Anglia (November) for scrap.
EVL 40, 46 (PJ02 PYW, PZD) (ex GAL) from Go East Anglia to Alpha Recovery (September 2021) for scrap.
PVL 88, 126 (W488, 526 WGH) (ex GAL) have been sold from Go East Anglia (November 2021 and June 2022) for scrap.
PVL 183 (X583 EGK) ex GAL) from Mitchell Coaches to Myles Coaches, Plean, Stirlingshire (September).
PVL 185 (LIG 5164, ex X585 EGK) (ex GAL) re-gained its original registration with York Pullman in October, and then was sold to Herberts Travel, Bedford, Beds. (January).
PVL 319 (PJ52 LVW) (ex GAL) was sold from DW Coaches (September).
SO 4 (BV55 UCX) (ex GAL) from Weardale Motor Services to Chartwell Bus Sales, Horsham, West Sussex, and then to Keane Travel, Orsett; Essex (all in February). This vehicle is now single entrance (H78F) and has seat belts fitted,
VWL 7 (LB02 YXE) (ex GAL) was fire damaged with Go East Anglia (by January).
WVL 9 (LG02 KHF, ex MP02 GEM, ex K573 RRH) (ex GAL) sold from Howards (February) for scrap.
WVL 204 (J21 TSB, ex LX05 EZA) (ex GAL) further to TLB695, this WVL re-gained its original registration in July.
WVL 249 (LX06 EAO, ex A6 VXH) (ex GAL) was re-registered by 1st Bus Stop to MT06 BUS in December.
WVL 224 (WSV 506, ex LX06 DZG) (ex GAL) was re-registered to WSV 541 by Go Goodwins in July 2021.
WVN 10 (LK59 FEH) (ex GAL) – see the corresponding entry for VN 37813 (ex FLN) above.
873 (PN09 EKV), 895 (PO59 KFX) (ex GAL) have been sold from Belle Vue (February).
- SP 57, 58 (YT09 ZCE, ZCF), 83, 94, 104, 106 (YT59 RYJ, SFY, SFF, DXZ), 106 (YT59 DXZ), 109, 110, 113 (YR59 FYO, FYP, FYU) (ex LU) are confirmed as now part of the Stephenson's of Rochford fleet or under preparation for use. All have been converted to single door. So far, SP 58, 106, 110 and 113 have been repainted to green / white fleet livery, and SP 83 is in overall white livery. Currently temporary fleet numbers in the 5xx series are being used. Note – this confirms that SP 113 has not been sold and the report in TLB698 should be omitted.
SP 63 (YT09 ZCO), 80 (YT59 RYF), 121 (YR59 FZC) (ex LU) from Ensign Bus to Top View Tours, London (February).
SP 87 (YT59 RYO) (ex LU) has been converted to part open top with City Tours, Belfast.
SP 94, 104 (YT59 SFY, SFF) (ex LU) have now entered service with Stephenson's of Essex and are working from Frating in London red livery.
SP 108 (YT59 DYY), 132 (YT59 PCF) (ex LU) updating previous information, these SPs were only loaned from Stephenson's to Xelabus and were not sold.
SP 109 (YR59 FYO) (ex LU) has been loaned from Stephenson's to Borders Bus in February / March, but remains with Stephenson's (see above).
SP 112 (YT59 FYT) (ex LU) correcting TLB702, it passed from Ensign Bus to Ipswich Buses, Ipswich, Suffolk (January)

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

VA 84 (V207 OOE) (ex LU) correcting TLB678, this VA did not pass to Ensign Bus in January 2021 but did pass to South East Bus Supplies (dlr), Bromley, Kent (March 2022) for spares, and then to Oaklands Primary School, Biggin Hill, Kent (November 2022) where it has been named "The Big Red Bus" and was ready for use in February.

VA 300 (SK52 URW, ex A16 EYC) (ex LU) was sold from East Yorkshire Motor Services to Coach Leasing, Nuneaton, Warks. (October).

VA 311 (SK52 USL) (ex LU) passed from Acklams to charity Jacobs Well Appeal, Beverley, East Yorkshire (January 2022).

VLE 15 (PG04 WHU) (ex LU) is now in use with Stephenson's on school contracts and had been re-registered to EX04 VKD by January.

VLP 19 (RHZ 1414, ex PJ53 OOU) (ex LU) was sold from R&J Coaches (by October).

TE 887 (LX08 DXZ) (ex ML) from Ensign Bus to Axe Valley Mini Travel, Seaton, Devon (February).

TE 1981, 1983, 1986, 1987, 1989, 1991, 1994, 1999, 2000 (SN12 EHD, EHF, EHJ, EHK, EHR, EHT, EHW, EGY, EGZ) (ex ML) - see corresponding entry for DN 37756, 37758, 33761, 33762, 33764, 33766, 33769, 33774, 33775 (ex FLN) above.

TE 1984, 1985 (SN12 EHG, EHH) (ex ML) - see corresponding entry for DN 33759, 33760 (ex FLN) above.

TP 304 (LT02 ZZJ) (ex ML) from JH Coaches to Sweyne Coaches, Swinefleet, East Yorkshire (August).

TP 309 (LT02 ZZO), 349 (LR52 KVO) (ex ML) from JH Coaches to E & M Horsburgh, Pumpherston, West Lothian (August).

TP 388 (LR52 KXG) (ex ML) from Clydes Minibuses to Ripley, Barnsley, South Yorkshire (December).

VP 530, 566 (LK04 CTZ, ELC) (ex ML) further to TLB697, these VPs are confirmed as passing from Go Coach to Scrapco, Paddock Wood, Kent.

VP 532 (LK04 CUC) (ex ML) correcting TLB697, this VP remains with Southdown PSV and is still in use.

VPL 177, 195 (Y177, 144 NLK) (ex ML) from Langston & Tasker to Freeway, Pinxton, Cambs. (January and February respectively).

TAS 17502 (LX51 FNE) (ex SLN) has been re-registered to TSU641 by Stagecoach Merseyside & Lancs. in September.

TAS 17575 (LV52 HFH) (ex SLN) from Ensign Bus to Howard Snaith Coaches, Otterburn, Tyne & Wear (February).

TA 17804 (LX03 BWY) (ex SLN) from Hornsby Coaches to Wigley, Barnsley, South Yorkshire (February).

TA 18253 (LX04 FYW) (ex SLN) was re-registered by 1st Bus Stop to MT51 BUS in December.

15032, 15033 (LX58 GCK, CGO), 15073 (LX09 AFJ) (ex SLN) are now being used for spares by Stagecoach South East.

15074, 15087 (LX09 AEY, AGO) (ex SLN) have been repainted by Stagecoach South East into green "special services" livery for use mainly on Unibus services in Canterbury.

15162 (LX59 CRF) (ex SLN) from Adventure Travel to Connexions Buses, Tockwith, North Yorkshire (by February).

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

Low-floor single deck types:

ENL 30 (DB09 PAN, ex LJ09 KPR) (ex ALN) was loaned from Panther Travel to Q Park in January for use on Heathrow shuttle services.

ENL 32 (LJ09 KPU) (ex ALN) returned to Panther Travel in January after loan to Q Park for use on Heathrow shuttle services.

ENL 34 (T5 GEF, ex LK09 KPX), 41 (TYA 218, ex LJ09 KPA), 42 (772 URB, ex LJ09 KPE), 43 (T3 WES, ex LJ09 KPF), 48 (GUI 441, ex LJ09 KPO) (ex ALN) all re-gained their original registrations with Go Goodwins in January.

ENL 102 (LX11 AWM) (ex ALN) correcting TLB702, this ENL did not pass via Ensign Bus. Does anyone know if this was a direct sale from Arriva London or was another dealer involved ?

DML 44007 (LK08 FNF), 44041, 44053, 44057, 44061, 44063 (YX58 DWV, FPN, FPV, FOJ, FOM) (ex FLN) passed from Metroline to Dawsongroup, Milton Keynes, Bucks. (February).

DML 44140 (YX10 BEJ, ex T66 NND), 44141 YX10 BED, ex T77 NND), 44142 (YX10 BEU, ex T88 NND), 44143 (YX10 BEY, ex T99 NND) (ex FLN) further to TLB701, DML 44143 is now confirmed as exported to Cyprus and it is believed that all four were sold here.

DML 44281 (YX61 FYD) (ex FLN) was latterly recorded with dealer North West Bus Sales, but has now passed from Vision Bus, Blackrod, Bolton, Lancs. to Ben Shaw Driver Training, Burnley, Lancs. (February). The rest of the batch (DML 44274 to 44292) remain untraced; does anyone have any reports for these DMLs ?

DML 44316, 44317 (YX12 AEF, AEU) (ex FLN) from Yellow Buses, via unknown dealer to Red Rose Travel, Aylesbury, Bucks. (February).

DML 44322 (YX12 AXU) (ex FLN) from Yellow Buses, via unknown dealer to Redline Buses, Aylesbury, Bucks. (February).

DMV 44225 (YX12 AEW) (ex FLN) from Yellow Buses, via unknown dealer to Redline Buses, Aylesbury, Bucks. (January).

DMV 44233 (YX12 AZN) (ex FLN) from Yellow Buses, via unknown dealer to Red Rose Travel, Aylesbury, Bucks. (February).

MEC 13 (BD09 ZPT) (ex GAL) from Ensign Bus to MC Tractors / Shelton Motors, Ramsey, Cambs. (February).

SOE 9 (LX09 AYO) (ex GAL) from Ensign Bus to MC Tractors / Shelton Motors, Ramsey, Cambs. (February).

DPS 588 (SN51 TCJ) (ex LU) from Redline to ASM, Aylesbury, Bucks. (December) for scrap.

OT 2, 7, 10, 14 (YJ11 EHH, EHO, EHS, EHW) (ex LU) further to TLB695, it is understood that these were exported to Cyprus.

OV 6, 7 (YJ58 VBF, VBG) (ex LU) are confirmed as passing from Go Coach to Scrapco, Paddock Wood, Kent.

DE 1583 (LK08 FNF), 1617, 1629, 1633, 1637, 1639 (YX58 DWV, FPN, FPV, FOJ, FOM) (ex ML) - see corresponding entry for DML 44007 (LK08 FNF), 44041, 44053, 44057, 44061, 44063 (YX58 DWV, FPN, FPV, FOJ, FOM) (ex FLN) above.

DES 797 (LK07 BEJ) (ex ML) from Snowdonia Executive Travel / Cludiant Cymru to Eifon's, Gwalchmai (by January).

DLF 91 (KU52 YKV) (ex ML) from Newport Transport to Chartwell Bus Sales, Horsham, West Sussex, and then to Compass Travel, Worthing, West Sussex (all in February). This Dart is now single door and is B30F.

DLF 94 (KU52 YKA) (ex ML) was sold from Langston & Tasker (November).

DLM 160 (Y151 NLK) (ex ML) was sold from Herberts Coaches (August).

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).

LT/ LBSL/ TfL Fleet- Newly reported vehiclea: None.

Additional information and updates after dropside truck RE70 HYO has been confirmed as carrying number 9143VW. Ford Transit Custom van LS21 DLE is therefore almost certainly 9134F.

Lorries 2591, RV12 OEY/OEZ/OFK and WU64 ATO are all confirmed as disposed of. Tipper MV69 KVM has also gone, which suggests it was only ever on hire. A couple of brand-new Volvo lorries were noted at Acton Works recently (tipper KM72 XPP and curtain-sider KM72 XPV), but it is not yet known whether these are fleet additions or more hires.

Other vehicles withdrawn include 8540VW, 8553R, 8595N, 8606C and 8958VW (the last after accident damage). Of the vehicles listed last month, all are believed to have now left the fleet with the exception of 8719R (which is still at Acton). The others were 8134M, 8135M, 8136M, 8139M, 8140M, 8141M, 8142M, 8176M, 8177M, 8213VW, 8214VW, 8216VW, 8217VW, 8255M, 8256VW, 8257M, 8258VW, 8259F, 8260F, 8261F, 8267VW, 8269VW, 8290P, 8296P, 8298P, 8342F, 8350F and 8420T. 8294P does not appear to have been reinstated, and un-numbered car WX10 JUW has also gone. In the absence of any official information, withdrawals are hard to confirm, so sightings of vehicles with new users would be especially welcomed.

A new allocation code has been added for Fairlop Station (FLS), as a van is often kept there. Transfers noted are 8312R/8313R AGS-ACM, 8322VW SDD-ACB, 8557R FCS-ACB, 8784F ?-FLS, 8869T SDD-ACB, 8961R EWT-LBD and 8973T ?-ACB.

Bua Company Fleets; Newly reported vehicles

?	DY22 LBG	Vauxhall Vivaro-E Electric Van	Stagecoach London	Red #	T
?	DV72 OBK	Vauxhall Vivaro-E Electric Van	Stagecoach London	Red	BW

Additional information

Abellio's white minibuses EO22 KKU and EO22 KLF have moved from DH to GW, perhaps as part replacement for silver HY68 AYX/AZC/AZF/AZJ. The latter four have not been reported for some time and are presumed gone. Other transfers are EK10 XLJ TF-BC and HG12 WWC TF-GW.

Arriva London van AJ21 CPX is allocated to TC. Arriva the Shires WM68 XUJ is withdrawn.

Metroline minibuses DS68 SYF/TPY are presumed gone.

Adverts and Members' Appeals

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RM Drivers Wanted: Timebus would like to hear from members who'd like to drive Routemasters a few times a month on private hire, mostly in London. Working from South Mimms, mostly at weekends in Summer. More info/requirements are available on the recruitment page at timebus.co.uk

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

This TLB closed on 3-5 March and due for posting on 14 March. Closing date for TLB704 is Weds 5 April and due for posting on Tues 18 April. 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 03May, 07June, 05July, 02 August 23. These dates are for us editors to have sufficient time to process, although extras can be slotted in as time and space allows.



Most of the buses transferred from HCT Group to Stagecoach are now gaining new fleetnames, although in this case 37726 shows its fleet number on the windscreen. This example was on route W19 at Leytonstone Station. *(Derek Everson)*

This is the latest conversion to E200EV electrics. Go-Ahead took over route B13 on 21st January and SEe 171 is seen in its new home town of Bexleyheath. *(Laurie Rufus)*



Rear cover: On 4th February the fine RT 8 was loaned for the day from Ensignbus to Londoner Buses. Here it tuns from Bridge Street into Parliament Square. *(Richard Jones)*



Serving London's bus enthusiasts
since 1964

