

TLB706

The London Bus

Number 706

June 2023



London Omnibus Traction Society
www.lots.org.uk



The message on the nearside of the Coronation buses was different to that on the offside. Go-Ahead LT 511 on route 87 at Parliament Square shows that is 'Happy & Glorious'. (Richard Godfrey)

There were two red Coronation buses but also one pink, one 'cyan' and one blue. The latter is Stagecoach 84148 (minus a visible fleet number!) in this view traversing Eltham High Street on route 160. (Richard Godfrey)



Front cover: The Coronation of King Charles III on 6th May was marked by some buses having suitable decoration: 'God Save The King' is on the offside. Metroline LT 190 is seen near Marble Arch on route 390. (Haydn Davies)



THE LONDON BUS
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London Omnibus Traction Society
website at www.lots.org.uk



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

Our principal services are centred on the **LOTS general office** at the 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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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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London Bus Magazine: e-mail to lbm.editor@yahoo.co.uk or write via: 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) (With letters **please add s.a.e.**).

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Closing date for TLB707 is Weds 5th July and due for posting on Tues 18th July.

Booked later closing tes are Wednesdays 02Aug, 06Sep, 04Oct. 01Nov, 29Nov 2023

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LOTS Meetings

We now meet at The Gallery at 77 Cowcross Street, Farringdon. It is 3-mins walk from Farringdon Station (Met/H&C/Circle lines, Thameslink plus Elizabeth line). 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 26June (AGM), and with speakers on 25Sept, 20Nov.

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).

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

Sun.25 June: Reading Buses open day at Great Knollys Street depot in Reading,

Sat. 1 July: The Big Lemon's electric bus run: London, Southbank to Brighton sea front.

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

Sun. 16 July: Alton Rally. THE ALTON EVENT HAS BEEN CANCELLED

Sun,16 July: Bus Rally at the Royal Victoria Country Park, Netley, south Hampshire. A new event, at the same site as housed the popular rallies in the 1980s/90s.

Sun.23 July: A&D MBS's Beaconsfield Running Day.

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

Sun. 6 August: Gosport Bus Rally, at Stokes Bay.

Sun, 13 August: A&D MBS's Oxted Running Day

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

Sun. 3 Sept: 'Buses' magazine's Festival at Sywell Aerodrome, Northants.

Sat. 9 Sept: Oxford Open Doors; Oxford Museum buses in service in City Centre.

Sat 16 Sept: London Bus Museum's Running Day on London route 38 (Victoria & Clapton).

Thur/Fri 21.22 Sept: LT Museum Store at Acton (LSS)

Sat. 23 Sept: Go-Ahead open day at Orpington Garage (LSS)

Sun.24 Sept: Amberley Museum (West Sussex) Autumn Bus Show.

Sun. 1 October: A&D MBS's Running Day from Chesham Broadway.

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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A new Sales List was included with this TLB705 and this is also on our website. 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:

LOTS Fleetbook 2023 £8.00

LOTS SUP 24J Service Vehicles - current fleet April 2023 £5.00

LOTS LBM London Bus Magazine No.204 Summer 2023 £5.00. Principal articles are :

Thamesmead half a century on (Malc McDonald) and Roving round the airfields (Graham Burnell). ****NEW****

LOTS LBM – London Bus Magazine No.203 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)

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.

New maps from Mike Harris: Greater London Bus Map No. 40 - 29/4/2023 £2.00

and Greater London Night Bus Map - 29/4/2023 £4.00

2023 Stagecoach Fleet Book Andrew Woolhouse Woolybus £19.50

Garage History File – Romford 144 pages, including 30 photos. It details all vehicle movements at NS in its 70 years of operation, by Andrew Woolhouse Woolybus £18.00

Trolleybuses in West Central London published by Adam Gordon £34.50. *This edition covers the routes that emanated from Moorgate, Tottenham Court Road and Holborn Circus; 192 pages with 430 photos in B & W and 21 in colour, plus a wiring map.*

From Capital Transport:

A London Busman's Career – 1946-1972 by Laurie Akehurst £19.95

Tube Trivia –new 2023 edition by Andrew Emmerson £4.95

Design on the Elizabeth Line £19.95; edited by James Whiting.

From Pen & Sword: Last Years of the RM by Matthew Wharmby £25.00

From S.E.C.: Southdown Fleet History Part 34 1969 £7.00 and Southdown Fleet History Part 35 1969 £7.00. (Both books cover the assumption by Southdown of the Brighton Hove & District Fleet on 1 January 1969).

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

National political news continues to be dominated by the forthcoming Covid Inquiry and disputes about the sources of evidence to be supplied. It appears the Inquiry will continue taking evidence until at least 2026 so it will be a while before we all know the outcome.

TfL's financial position continues to improve. According to the latest TfL Board papers, at the end of the 2022/23 financial year the number of journeys had increased by 31% overall usage and income increased by 34% over the year. Overall system usage had reached 85% of pre pandemic levels with slight variations between modes which was broadly in line with expectations. The underlying operating deficit reduced from £1,204 million in 2021/22 to £299 million in 2022/23 and TfL is on track to deliver an operating surplus in 2023/24 as all Government base funding will be for capital investment.

Andy Lord has been confirmed as the new Transport Commissioner for London. He has been covering the role since the departure of Andy Byford last year. Andy Lord joined TfL in 2019 as Managing Director London Underground and became Chief Operating Officer for all TfL operations in 2022. He had previously worked in the aviation sector, including 26 years at British Airways.

The Department for Transport has announced that the maximum £2 single fare outside London has been extended again; it will now continue through the summer from June until October after which the fare will increase to £2.50 for a further year to October 2024. By then a General Election is likely to have either taken place or been called! In addition to the fares cap, worth £200 million, the DfT has announced a further £300 million to support bus services outside London until 2025. This will be split between local authorities and transport operators with £140 million available to operators to protect essential services. Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) funds can now be used to 'prop up existing services'. This reverses a previous ruling, although changes must be approved by the DfT. Martin Dean, Managing Director of Go Ahead's regional bus business responded by welcoming the money but pointing out that £500 million over two years sounded a lot but was 'barely enough to build a mile of HS2'.

Opposition to ULEZ in outer London continues. The High Court has rejected some of the grounds for a judicial review put forward by the Boroughs of Bexley, Bromley, Hillingdon and Harrow and Surrey County Council, but allowed other claims including an inadequate scrappage scheme. London Mayor Sadiq Khan has remained defiant, estimating that only one in ten vehicles in outer London would be non-compliant but this figure is disputed. The High Court hearing is scheduled for 4 July.

Industrial action by transport workers continues. While no further rail strikes have been announced at the time of writing, Arriva London bus drivers are set to strike for four days on 20-21 June and 27-28 June. If it proceeds, the action will affect services from Ash Grove, Barking, Clapton, Edmonton, Palmers Green, Tottenham and Wood Green garages. Drivers have been offered a 7% pay increase which has been rejected. Airport security staff at Heathrow have announced an escalation of their strike action with walkouts due to take place most weekends from mid-June until the end of August.

Corporate and company news

The National Express Group is changing its name to Mobico Group. However this will not affect the Company's customer facing brands so the National Express identity will remain for UK coach operations. A new logo has been announced but it is not clear if this will be used on vehicles.

Other General News

Ambulances, police and fire vehicles can now use bus lanes in London, even when not dealing with an emergency. This follows a successful trial with Guy's and St Thomas' Foundation Trust along 25km of bus lanes in Southwark, Lambeth, Wandsworth and Lewisham. There were fewer missed appointments and no negative impact on bus journey times. The trial benefitted patients who are unable to use public transport to attend appointments, reducing journey times and delays.

Edinburgh Trams were extended from St Andrew's Square in the City Centre to Leith and Newhaven from 7 June. Trams now run through from Edinburgh Airport to Newhaven every 7 minutes for most of the day. Extensive changes were made to Lothian Buses routes at the end of May which reduced the number of bus services paralleling the tram line along Leith Walk.

At Stagecoach, UK Managing Director Carla Stockton-Jones is to leave her post in August. No replacement has been announced. Mark Reddy has been appointed Managing Director Stagecoach South from 4 July having previously worked for First Group. Stagecoach South East has announced the closure of its Folkestone Garage in Cheriton from September. Services based there will transfer to Dover or Ashford.

Little Gem, the Manchester based independent, was shut down at short notice in April. It was owned by Go Goodwins Coaches and ran a mixture of contracted services for Transport for Greater Manchester plus a couple of routes in Cheshire linking Stockport with Macclesfield. Those survive with Go Goodwins running them on its own licence, but TfGM had the task of finding other operators to cover former Little Gem services in Greater Manchester.

The **Trans Pennine Express** rail franchise was taken into public ownership from 28 May joining LNER, Northern and South Eastern. This followed several months when large numbers of trains were cancelled under First Group ownership.

Big Bus Tours, the biggest operator of city based sightseeing tours, trading in London, Paris, New York, San Francisco and Dubai, is considering a sale in a deal that could be worth £600m. The company, which is owned by Exponent Private Equity is considered to be highly profitable and has hired Bank of America to advise on a sale.

The Campaign for Better Transport is 50 years old this year. Originally known as Transport 2000, it was set up to protect rail services from cutbacks but has since expanded to promote all public transport modes.

In Greater Manchester, the first of a batch of 50 BYD ADL Enviro 400s have been delivered to TfGM in the new yellow Bee Network livery for franchised services in the Bolton and Wigan areas which begin in September. A further 50 similar buses are due next spring. Rotala has reluctantly sold its depot in Bolton to TfGM, having bought the modern facility from First in 2019 when it took over local services.

Pulham's Coaches has been acquired by the Go Ahead Group. The family-run company based in Gloucestershire was established in 1880 and has a fleet of 90 buses and coaches. Go Ahead intends to run Pulham's as a standalone business as part of its Oxford division.

First Group reported a strong financial performance in 2022/23 with passenger journeys up 20% in its bus division. During the year First acquired Ensignbus and a 'Metrobus' service in Bristol but disposed of First Scotland East and recently lost the Trans Pennine Express rail franchise.

Former Prime Minister Boris Johnson unexpectedly resigned as an MP on 9 June, forcing a By-Election in his Uxbridge and South Ruislip constituency.

Finally a correction, in TLB 705 I reported that control of Windsor & Maidenhead Council had been won by Labour in the May Council elections; it was of course a victory for the Liberal Democrats over the Conservatives.

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 2/N2, 14/=, 19/N19, 39, 59, 74/N74, 76/=, 133/N133, 137/N137, 249, 259, 279/N279, 309, 325, 333, EL1/=, EL2, EL3, S2 and W11 from tranches 849, 851, 851C, 860, 863, 863A, 864, 865, 867 and 870 awarded, starting on
14th October 2023 (279/N279),
18th November 2023 (14/=, 39, 74/N74)
20th January 2024 (133/N133, 137/N137, 333),
27th January 2024 (59), 17th February 2024 (EL1/=, EL2, EL3),
2nd March 2024 (309, 325, S2, W11),
23rd March 2024 (76/=, 259),
30th March 2024 (2/N2, 19/N19, 249).

Routes 19/N19, 59, 76/=, 137/N137, 259, EL1/=, EL2 and EL3 are for 5 years.

Routes 2/N2, 249 and 309 are for 6 years.

Routes 14/=, 39, 74/N74 133/N133, 279/N279, 325, 333 S2 and W11 are for 7 years.

2/N2 Retained by Arriva London South using existing hybrid double-deck vehicles (pvr 20).

14/= Retained by Go-Ahead London General using existing hybrid double-deck vehicles (pvr 21).

19/N19 Retained by Arriva London North using existing New Routemasters (pvr 21).

39 retained by Go-Ahead London General using new electric single-deck vehicles (pvr 14).

59 Retained by Arriva London South using existing New Routemasters (pvr 20).

74/N74 Retained by Go-Ahead London General using existing hybrid double-deck vehicles (pvr 18).

76/= Awarded to Arriva London North using existing New Routemasters. Currently operated by Go-Ahead London General from Northumberland Park (NP) garage (pvr 21 to 20).

133/N133 Awarded to Abellio using new electric double-deck vehicles. Currently operated by Arriva London South from Brixton (BN) garage (pvr 25 to 24).

137/N137 Retained by Arriva London South using existing New Routemasters (pvr 29 to 28).

249 Retained by Arriva London South using existing hybrid double-deck vehicles (pvr 14).

259 Retained by Arriva London North using existing New Routemasters (pvr 16).

279/N279 Retained by Arriva London North using new electric double-deck vehicles (pvr 29 to 30).

309 Retained by Stagecoach East London using existing diesel single-deck vehicles (pvr 8).

325 Awarded to Go-Ahead Blue Triangle using new electric single-deck vehicles. Currently operated by Arriva London North from Barking (DX) garage (pvr 12).

333 Awarded to Go-Ahead London General using new electric double-deck vehicles. Currently operated by Arriva London South from Brixton (BN) garage (pvr 16 to 15).

S2 New Route (Belmont, HMP Downview & St.Helier) awarded to Go-Ahead London General using new electric single-deck vehicles (pvr 8).

EL1/= Retained by Go-Ahead Blue Triangle using existing New Routemasters (pvr 19 to 18).

EL2 Retained by Go-Ahead Blue Triangle using existing New Routemasters (pvr 15 to 14).

EL3 Retained by Go-Ahead Blue Triangle using existing New Routemasters (pvr 14).

W11 Retained by Stagecoach East London using new electric single-deck vehicles (pvr 9).

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

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
#862 (02/24)	Tranche cancelled.....	43/=, 134/=
#862C (02/24)	242/N242 (Arriva LN)	--
#863A (2-3/24)	439 (New Route: Croydon/Sutton area)	455 (due to be w'dn!)
#864 (2-3/24)	101 (GA Blue Triangle), 167, 238, 277/N277, 362, 462 (S'ch East London)	--
#864A (2/24)	283 (London United)	--
#865 (3/24)	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)	393 (Metroline Travel)	--
#868 (03/24)	Tranche cancelled.....	--
#869 (03/24)	113/N113 (Metroline Travel)	317
#871 (03/24)	262, 473 (S'ch ex T.Transit), 396 (GA Blue Triangle)	372

The complete 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)	--
#872A (04/24)	306 (Metroline Travel)	--
#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, 15, 115 (GA Blue Triangle), 66 (Arriva LN)	--
#889 (7-10/24)	50, 255 (Arriva LS), 201 (Abellio), 280 (GA London General)	--
#890 (08/24)	194, 250/=, 289, 410 (Arriva LS), 663 (GA Metrobus) --	
#891 (8-10/24)	130 (Abellio), 314, 661 (S'ch Selkent), 320 (GA Metrobus)	--
#891A (9/24)	W12, W13 (S'ch ex HCT Group), W14 (S'ch ex T.Transit).....	--

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

#892 (9/24)	90 (Metroline Travel), 222/= , H13 (Metroline West), 395 (London Sovereign), 640 (Sullivan)	--
#893 (9-11/24)	131 (GA London General), 411 (London United), 627 (Arriva LS)	--
#894 (9-12/24)	4, 6/=, 98/N98, (Metroline Travel), 341/= (Arriva LN)	--
#895 (9-10/24)	669, 672 (S'ch Selkent)	--
#896 (10-11/24)	103, 150, 175, 370 (Arriva LN), 257 (S'ch East London)	--
#897 (10-12/24)	22/N22, 88/=, 170, (GA London General), 33/N33, 419 (London United)	--
#898 (11/24)	34/=, 192 (Arriva LN)	--
#899 (11-12/24)	18/N18, 94/=, 266/N266 (London United) 218 (London Transit)	--
#900 (11-12/24)	45 (Abellio), 176/=, 188/=, 360 (GA London Central) 355 (GA Metrobus)	--
#901 (12/24-2/25)	258 (London United), 278 (Abellio)	--
#902 (1-3/25)	212, 357, 444 (GA London General), 323, 497 (S'ch East London)	--
#903 (1-2/25)	121, 141, 329 (Arriva LN), 153 (GA London General)	--
#904 (1-3/25)	29/N29, 41/=, W4, W6 (Arriva LN) 299 (Sullivan), 657 (GA London General)	--
#905 (1-2/25)	99, 269, 401, (Arriva LN), 233, (GA Metrobus) 422, B14 (S'ch Selkent), B16 (GA London Central)	--
#905A (3/25)	R1, R2, R3, R4, R6, R8, R11 (GA Metrobus)	--
#906 (2-3/25)	36/=, 172, 343/N343 (GA London Central), 109/N109 (Abellio), 118 (GA London General)	--
#907 (2-3/25)	423, H22, H37, H98 (London United), H28 (Abellio)	--
#908 (3/25)	282 (Metroline West), 482 (Abellio)	--
#909 (3/25)	161, 181, 284 (S'ch Selkent), 225 (GA London Central), C10 (Abellio)	--
#910 (3/25)	126, 138 (GA Metrobus)	--
#911 (3/25)	169, 247, 287 (S'ch East London)	--
#912 (3/25)	68/N68 (Abellio) 468 (Arriva LS), X68 (GA London Central)	--

ROUTE AND SERVICE CHANGES

Saturday 8th April 2023: As in TLB705.

Monday 17th April 2023: As in TLB705.

Saturday 22nd April 2023: As in TLB705.

Sunday 23rd April 2023: As in TLB705.

Saturday 29th April 2023: As in TLB705, with an additional frequency change on route 26. The widened timetables on routes 108/=, 129 and 188/= continued until 13th May.

26 (Stagecoach East London-HK) (Hackney Wick, Eastway & Waterloo Station) Withdrawn between Aldwych and Waterloo but rerouted at Aldwych via the Strand, Trafalgar Square, Whitehall, Parliament Square, Victoria Street to Victoria Station, replacing route 11 over this section. Mon-Sat daytime frequency reduced from x7½min to x10 mins.

Bank Holiday Mondays 1st, 8th and 29th May 2023: As in TLB705.

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

Saturday 6th May 2023: As in TLB 705, with amendment and additional curtailment notes:-

First an amendment, Metrolineran the 16 extras from Paddington to Cricklewood, not Abellio.

As noted, roads were closed in Central London including Trafalgar Square, Whitehall and Westminster. These were closed along with Millbank, Victoria Street, Charing Cross Road and the Strand. They were closed from 18:45 on Friday 5th May until approx. 22:00 on Saturday 6th May. The closures then extended from 05:00 on Saturday to include Westminster Bridge, Victoria Embankment, and Piccadilly, with further closures across Hyde Park Corner from 09:00 to 15:00. Buses were therefore curtailed from the south-west at Hyde Park Corner, then further curtailed at Sloane Square or Royal Albert Hall, from the north-west at Marble Arch, Tottenham Court Road, or Oxford Circus, from the east at Aldwych, Holborn or Russell Square and from the south or south-east at Victoria, County Hall or Waterloo.

Route **24** was diverted via Hyde Park Corner, but during the coronation was curtailed at Tottenham Court Road station with no service to Pimlico. Also, during the coronation times Route **88** was split into two sections: Parliament Hill Fields to Oxford Circus and Vauxhall to Clapham Common. Routes **148 and C10** were diverted via Vauxhall and Lambeth Bridge Road, whilst routes **11 and 414** were suspended. Night routes were only affected on Friday night / Saturday morning with routes curtailed at the curtailment points noted above.

Saturday 6th May:

- 111 (*Abellio-TF*) (Kingston, Cromwell Road Bus Station & Heathrow Airport Central) Revised Mon-Sat schedules.
- 147 (*Go-Ahead Blue Triangle-RR*) (Ilford High Road & Canning Town, Bus Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing hybrid double-deck vehicles. Actual types to be confirmed in due course as some will be required to cover for electric bus deliveries. Currently operated during May at least by E-class AD E40D Enviro 400 diesel double-deck vehicles.
- 196 (*Abellio-WL*) (Elephant & Castle & Norwood Junction, Grosvenor Road) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 241 (*Stagecoach East London-WH*) (Stratford City, Bus Station & Royal Wharf) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 330 (*Stagecoach East London-WH*) (Wanstead Park Station & Silvertown) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 474/= (*Stagecoach East London-WH*) (Canning Town, Hermit Road & Manor Park Station) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 485 (*Go-Ahead London General-AL*) (Wandsworth High Street & Hammersmith Bridge, South Side) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.

PVR Changes from 6th May 2023:

Abellio: 111 to 27*/27/23 (*481D) #TF101+;
Go-Ahead Blue Triangle: No change to 147 PVRs;
Go-Ahead London General: No change to 485 PVRs;
Stagecoach East London: No change to 241, 330, 474 PVRs.

Saturday 13th May 2023: Additionally, route E2 gained widened schedules for works along the A4.

D3 (*Stagecoach East London-WH*) (Bethnal Green, Bonner Road & Leamouth, Orchard Place) Mon-Sat daytime frequency reduced from x12 to x15 mins.

PVR Changes from 13th May 2023: Stagecoach East London: D3 to 9/9/9 #WH801+.

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

Saturday 20th May 2023: Additionally, route 390 reverted to normal schedules. The re-allocation of routes 30 and 274 was later confirmed to occur now on 10th June, see later.

- 83 (*Metroline Travel-PV*) (Golders Green Station & Alperton Station) Revised daily schedules, these are the contract schedules introduced early.
- 406 (*London United-TV*) (Kingston, Cromwell Road Bus Stn & Epsom Town Centre via Ewell) and
- 418 (*London United-TV*) (Kingston, Cromwell Road Bus Stn & Epsom Town Centre via West Ewell). Revised timetables daily on both routes to improve interworking.
- 483 (*Metroline Travel-PV*) (Harrow, Bus Station & Windmill Park, Three Bridges) Revised Mon-Sat schedules, Sunday frequency reduced from x10 to x12 mins. These are the contract schedules introduced early.

PVR Changes from 20th May 2023:

London United: No change to 406 PVRs, but still fully interworked with 418, so shown in full as:-

406 to 7*/6*/4* (*418) #TV301+, 418 to 7*/6*/4* (*406) #TV311+;
Metroline Travel: 83 to 21/21/17 #PV201+, 483 to 20/20/16 #PV51+.

Saturday 27th May 2023:

Widened timetables introduced for Kew Bridge roadworks for route 65. Additionally routes 27, 73, 91 and 259 reverted to normal schedules.

- 95 (*Metroline Travel-G*) (Shepherd's Bush Green & Southall, Town Hall) Withdrawn from the Dormers Wells area, but rerouted direct from Somerset Road to Lady Margaret Road.
- E2 (*Metroline Travel-AH*) (Greenford Broadway & Brentford, Commerce Road) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing VW-class Volvo B9TL Wrightbus Gemini 2 diesel double-deck vehicles. Note that the route was awarded with new electric double-deck vehicles, but for operational reasons, these will operate on routes 245 and 263 in due course, until at least 2025.
- E5 (*Abellio-GW*) (Perivale, Tesco & Havelock Estate, Toplocks) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using new Switch MetroCityEV 8.7m electric single-deck vehicles in due course.
- E7 (*Abellio-GW*) (Ealing Broadway Station & Ruislip Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using new Wrightbus GBKite Electroliner electric single-decks in due course.
- E8 (*Metroline Travel-AH*) (Ealing Broadway Station & Hounslow, Bell Corner) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing VW-class Volvo B9TL Wrightbus Gemini 2 diesel double-deck vehicles. Note that the route was awarded with new electric double-deck vehicles, but for operational reasons, these will operate on routes 245 and 263 in due course, until at least 2025.

PVR Changes from 27th May 2023: Abellio: E5 and E7 No change to PVRs;

Metroline: 95, E2, E8 No change to PVRs, although 95 is using G151+.

Sunday 28th May 2023:

The 'Ride London' cycle race took place on this day, affecting many routes in East and Central London with extensive road closures affecting many bus routes which were diverted or curtailed from early morning until mid-evening. Special schedules operated on routes **25, 167, 257, 425, 474 and D8**.

Saturday 3rd June 2023:

- 386 (*Go-Ahead London Central-MG*) (Woolwich High Street & Blackheath Village, Royal Parade) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
 - 456 (*Go-Ahead London General-NP*) (North Middlesex Hospital & Crews Hill, Golf Ride) Revised Daily timetables for reliability.
 - 491 (*Metroline Travel-PB*) (Waltham Cross, Bus Station & North Middlesex Hospital) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
 - W15 (*Go-Ahead London General-NP*) (Cogan Avenue Estate & Hackney, Town Hall) Revised Daily timetables for reliability.
-

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

Saturday 10th June 2023:

- 30 (*Metroline Travel-KC*) (Hackney Wick, Chapman Road & Marble Arch) Re-allocated to Holloway (HT) garage, with King's Cross (KC) garage "mothballed".
- 231 (*Metroline Travel-PB*) (Turnpike Lane Station & Enfield Chase Station) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 268 (*Metroline Travel-W*) (Golders Green Station & Finchley Road, Sainsbury's) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 274 (*Metroline Travel-KC*) (Islington, Angel & Lancaster Gate) Re-allocated to Holloway (HT) garage, with King's Cross (KC) garage "mothballed".
- 327 (*Sullivan-SM*) (Waltham Cross Bus Station & Elsing Estate, circular, M-S) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 631 (*Metroline Travel-W*) (Golders Green Station & Henrietta Barnett School, SDO) and
- H2 (*Metroline Travel-W*) (Golders Green Station & Hampstead Garden Suburb, circular) and
- H3 (*Metroline Travel-W*) (Golders Green Station & The Bishops Avenue, circular Mo-Sa) LBSL (QC) combined contract extended for 2 years.

Saturday 24th June 2023:

- 26 (*Stagecoach East London-HK*) (Hackney Wick, Eastway & Victoria Station) and
- N26 (*Stagecoach East London-HK*) (Chingford Station & Victoria Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing AD E40H Enviro400H double-deck vehicles.
- 30 (*Metroline Travel-HT*) (Hackney Wick, Chapman Road & Marble Arch) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 46 (*Metroline Travel-HT*) (Paddington Station & St.Bartholomew's Hospital) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 251 (*London Sovereign-BT*) (Arnos Grove Station & Edgware Station) Revised daily schedules, actually the contract schedules introduced early, even though the route is due to be taken over by Metroline Travel on 2nd September 2023. AM peak frequency reduced from x7½ to x8-9mins, PM peak reduced from x10 to x12 mins.
- 274 (*Metroline Travel-HT*) (Islington, Angel & Lancaster Gate) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- H14 (*London Sovereign-SO*) (Hatch End & Northwick Park Hospital) Revised daily schedules, the contract schedules being introduced early. Peak frequency reduced from x8-9 to x10 mins.
- N15 (*Go-Ahead Blue Triangle-DS/RR/Q*) (Oxford Circus & Romford Market) Fr-Sa Night service increased to run every x8mins throughout. No change to weekday service, but the temporary Camberwell (Q) garage allocation withdrawn.

Saturday 1st July 2023:

Also, widened schedules on routes 39, 93/= and 493 for Wimbledon Tennis until 16th July.

- 57/= (*Go-Ahead London General-AL*) (Kingston, Fairfield Bus Station & Clapham Park, Atkins Road) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using a mix of existing hybrid double-deck vehicles. Actual types to be allocated to be confirmed and with new Ee-class BYD D8UR Enviro400EV electric double-deck vehicles in due course.
- 85/= (*London United-FW*) (Kingston, Kingston Hall Road & Putney Bridge Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing VH-class Volvo B5LH Wrightbus Gemini hybrid double-deck vehicles. Re-allocated from Fulwell (FW) to Tolworth (TV).
- 213/= (*Go-Ahead London General-A*) (Kingston, Fairfield Bus Station & Sutton Garage) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using new Ee-class BYD D8UR Enviro400EV electric double-deck vehicles, In practice, these buses are already being used on the 213 rather than on the planned route 151.
- 216 (*London United-WK*) (Kingston, Cromwell Road Bus Station & Staines, Bus Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing DLE-class AD E20D Enviro200 diesel single-deck vehicles. Re-allocated from Hounslow Heath (WK) to Fulwell (FW).

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

Saturday 1st July, continued:

- 265 (Putney Bridge Station & Tolworth, Red Lion) LBSL QC contract awarded to Go-Ahead London General using new SEe-class electric single-deck vehicles from Putney (AF) garage. Currently operated by London United from Tolworth (TV) garage using DLE-class AD E20D Enviro200 diesel single-deck vehicles.
- 337 (*Go-Ahead London General-AF*) (Richmond, Bus Station & Clapham Junction, Northcote) Re-allocated from Putney (AF) garage to Stockwell (SW) garage.
- 643 (East Finchley Cemetery & Brent Cross Shopping Centre, SDO) LBSL (QX) contract awarded to Uno using existing hybrid double-deck vehicles from Hatfield (HF) garage. Currently operated by Metroliner Travel from Cricklewood (W) garage using a mix of TEH-class AD40H Enviro400H and VWH-class Volvo B5LH Wrightbus Gemini hybrid double-deck vehicles.
- K4 (*London United-TV*) (Kingston Hospital & Mansfield Park Estate, Mo-Sa) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing SDE-class AD E20D Enviro200 diesel single-deck vehicles.

Saturday 8th July 2023:

- 377 (*Arriva London North-E*) (Ponders End Garage & Oakwood Station, Mo-Sa) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using new EMN-class Switch MetroCity MC870EV electric single-deck vehicles in due course.

Saturday 15th July 2023:

- 86 (*Stagecoach East London-NS*) (Stratford, Bus Station & Romford Station) and
- N86 (*Stagecoach East London-NS*) (Stratford, Bus Station & Harold Hill, Dagnam Park Square) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using new electric double-deck vehicles in due course.
- 166 (*Arriva London South-TC*) (West Croydon & Epsom) Additional shuttle service introduced, Sats and Suns only, until Sun 27th August between Purley and Banstead. As in previous years, these are to act as duplicates for the main 166 to cater for visitors to the Mayfield Lavender Farm situated at the junction of Croydon Lane and Carshalton Road.

Saturday 22nd July 2023: Widened timetables for routes 22, 39, 93/=, 170, 337, 424, 430 and 493 for Wandsworth Bridge closure until 29th September. (*see also diversions section*).

- 23/= (*London Transit-X*) (Westbourne Park Station & Aldwych) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing OME-class Optare MetroDecker MD1050EV electric double-deck vehicles
- 53 (*Stagecoach Selkent-PD*) (County Hall & Plumstead Station) and
- N53 (*Stagecoach Selkent-PD*) (Whitehall & Plumstead Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing hybrid AD40H AD Enviro400H double-deck vehicles.

Saturday 29th July 2023:

- 171 (*Go-Ahead London Central-NX*) (Elephant & Castle & Bellingham, Catford Bus Garage) Revised stand working at Catford bus garage, as buses will no longer be permitted or be able to turn on the garage forecourt, so amended to run out of service via the Downham Way turning point in Old Bromley Road to stand on Bromley Road outside Catford bus garage.

Saturday 19th August 2023:

- 417 (*Arriva London South-N*) (Clapham Common, Old Town & Crystal Palace) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using new electric ES-class Wrightbus StreetDeck Electroliner double-deck vehicles in due course.
- X26 (*Go-Ahead Metrobus-C*) (West Croydon, Bus Station & Heathrow Airport Central, express) Daily daytime frequency increased from x30 to x15 mins.

SERVICE PROPOSALS

A new consultation was issued on 18th May with a closing date of 29th June for “Road safety improvements at East Sheen village, affecting highway changes with various junction changes along the A205 South Circular, albeit with no changes proposed to bus services.

Member Mike queried why the Croydon/Sutton proposals had not been announced, even though we’ve been listing route 455 was due “to be withdrawn” in the tender list. The original list of proposals were listed in TLB675 p13-14 (*November 2020*), and are added to the list below, having been left off after a period of time when no proposals were made. A look through the “haveyoursay” consultation hub on the TfL website revealed the following announcement buried in the ‘previous consultations’ section!

“We will continue with our original proposals for bus routes **S1, 164, 312, 405 and 645, 407, 434, and 455**; and the introduction of new three new bus routes, numbered **S2, 439 and 443**. We will not now proceed to change route **80**, although it will be converted to double-deck.” Otherwise:-

166 will be rerouted via Pampisford Road as proposed, but will then run via Warham Road, South End, Katherine Street and Wellesley Road to central Croydon, instead of via Park Lane. The revised route will operate between Epsom and Purley Hospital as it does now. In Purley, subject to feasibility work with the London Borough of Croydon, we are investigating routing the 166 via Christchurch Road to enable it to serve Purley town centre. If this is not possible, then the 166 will run via Banstead Road and Russell Hill Road as originally proposed.

413 will not now reroute and extend to Belmont Station as proposed, it will remain on its existing route.

470 will now operate between Morden Station and Sutton Station only. It will be rerouted in the Sutton Common area via Marlborough Road, Dibden Road and Stayton Road with no change to its frequency or its hours of operation.

S3 will only be changed in the Sutton Common area as proposed.

S4 will now operate between Waddon Marsh and Sutton town centre via route 455 and current route S4. Overton Grange will still be served by the S4.

This note goes on to say “Expected dates for the introduction of the route changes are to be confirmed and are subject to confirmation of future funding arrangements.” I will obviously report any changes in future TLBs, if they occur, or are subject to a new or re-issued consultation.

The next consultation for a “Superloop service” was issued on 9th June, closing on 21st July. This is for the X34, which will run from North Finchley Bus Station to Walthamstow Central Station, via route 221 to Friern Barnet and New Southgate, then via route 34, calling only at Arnos Grove, Palmers Green, Edmonton (Silver Street), Crooked Billet and Walthamstow, Bell Corner and Walthamstow Market. It is proposed to run every x12 mins Mon-Sat daytimes and x15 mins Sundays and evenings. Route 34 is reduced from x7½min to x10mins Mon-Sat daytimes and from x8 to x12mins Sundays and evenings.

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

TLB675 p13-14 : Croydon / Sutton changes;

TLB686 p12 : 410 stop changes in Norwood;

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

TLB704 p14-15 : Brent Cross West Proposals (102, 189, 210, 232, 266, 316, 326, C11).

TLB704 p14-15 : Alperton (79, 83), Upminster (346/347 withdrawal and replaced by 497).

TLB704 p15 : 315 extension to Springfields Hospital.

TLB704 p15 : Wembley Park (92, 206, 440).

TLB705 p14 : 419 fixed stops in Barnes.

TLB705 p14 : Catford Town Centre proposals.

TLB705 p14 : 223 extension to Eastman Village.

TLB705 p15 : X183 new “Superloop” route from Harrow to North Finchley.

Plus other “Superloop” proposals when published in future TLBs.

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

FORTHCOMING CHANGES IN BRIEF

This list includes tenders that have been decided and principal route changes already in past TLBs. With the variations in terms now being evident, I've now changed "CR" to CR5" so that future historians can keep track of potential future dates, although as previously stated, all dates and all details are subject to alteration or deferment.

Notes: CE+2 = Contract extended by 2 years. CR5 = Contract awarded or renewed for 5 years, with a potential +2 year extension. CR2 = Contract awarded for 2 years, CR4 = Contract awarded for 4 years, CR6 = Contract renewed for 6 years, CR7 = Contract renewed for 7 years.

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

TBA: routes 77 and 211 as part of the Central London Changes.

26th Aug 23: CR7 on 64/=*, 612* (Arriva LS), CR4 on 605 (Sullivans),

CR4 on 628/688, 653/683 (Sullivans to Uno).

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

CR7 on 72/N72, 203 (London United), CR7 on 288, 303, H11, H14, H18/H19 (London Sovereign),

CR7 on 340 (Arriva LN to London Sovereign), CR5 on 349 (Arriva London North),

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), CR7 on 276* (G-A Docklands to S'ch East London),

CR7 on 376 (G-A Docklands to Blue Triangle), CR7 on D3* (S'ch East London to G-A Blue Triangle).

30th Sep 23: CR7 on 1/N1, 42 (G-A London Central), CR7 on 346 (G-A Blue Triangle to S'ch East

London), CR7 on 404 (London United to Abellio), CR7 on 450* (Arriva LS to G-A Metrobus),

CR7 on C3* (London Transit to Abellio).

7th Oct 23: CR5 on 21/N21 (G-A London Central), CR5 on 32/N32, 189/=, 632 (Metroline Travel),

CR7 on 107 (Metroline Travel), 316* (Metroline West, P12* (G-A London Central).

14th Oct 23: CR7 on 223 (London Sovereign to Metroline Travel), CR7 on 279/N279* (Arriva LN),

W3 (Arriva LN).

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

11th Nov 23: CR5 on 38/N38 (Arriva LN), CR7 on 363# (G-A London Central to Abellio).

18th Nov 23: CR7 on 14/=, 39*, 74/N74, 430 (G-A London General), CR7 on 436/N136 (G-A London

Central), CR7 on H20, U7 (Abellio).

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

2nd Dec 23: CR7 on 78 (Arriva LN to GA London Central), CR7 on 152* (G-A London General), CR7

on 157* (Arriva LN to G-A London General), CR7 on 321/=* (G-A London Central), CR7 on

381/N381* (Abellio), CR7 on D7* (G-A Docklands to S'ch East London), CE+2 on 51 (G-A

London Central).

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

6th Jan 24: CR6 on 237 (Metroline), CR6 on H26 (Abellio).

13th Jan 24: CR6 on 603 (Sullivans to Metroline Travel)

20th Jan 24: CR7 on 133/N133* (Arriva LS to Abellio), CR5 on 137/N137 (Arriva LS), CR7 on 228*

(London United to Metroline West), CR7 on 333* (Arriva LS to GA London General), CR6 on

380 (S'ch Selkent), CR6 on 388 (S'ch East London)

27th Jan 24: CR5 on 9/N9 (London United to Metroline Travel), CR5 on 59 (Arriva LS), CR6 on

89/N89 (G-A London Central), CR6 on 601 (S'ch Selkent to G-A London Central), CE+2 on 96,

472/= (S'ch Selkent), CE+2 on 428, B15 (Arriva LN), CE+2 on 486 (GA London Central).

10th Feb 24: CE+2 on 3/N3 (Abellio), 122 (S'ch Selkent).

17th Feb 24: CR5 on EL1/=, EL2, EL3 (GA Blue Triangle)

2nd Mar 24: CR6 on 309 (S'ch East London), CR7 on 325* (G-A Blue Triangle to Arriva LN), S2*

(G-A London General), W11* (S'ch East London).

23rd Mar 24: CR5 on 76/= (G-A London General to Arriva LN), 259 (Arriva LN).

30th Mar 24: CR5 on 19/N19 (Arriva LN), 249 (Arriva LS), CR6 on 2/N2 (Arriva LN), CE+2 on 493.

DIVERSIONS, DEVIATIONS AND DISRUPTIONS

South-East: From 22nd May to 4th June, owing to a collapsed sewer in West Street, Erith, routes **180, 229, 469, 602 and 669** were diverted in both directions via Bronze Age Way, with route 180 gaining normal route via Lower Road towards Church Manor Way, and serving Walnut Tree Road to serve stops on the Erith one way system. From 31st May to 4th June, owing to water works in Baring Road, Grove Park, routes **126, 261 and 638** were diverted southbound via Downham Way, Bromley Road, Bromley Hill, London Road and Tweedy Road. Finally, from 27th May to 4th June, owing to electrical works in Cudham Lane South, routes **R5 and R10** were once again (!) diverted between Knockholt Pound and Green Street Green via Pratt's Bottom thus not serving Cudham.

South: From 11:00 29th April to 21:00 1st May, the railway bridge at Links Avenue, Morden was closed. Routes **163 and 293** were diverted in both directions via Tudor Drive, Epsom Road, London Road, Crown Road. Thanks to Steve for this report.

South-West: From 24th July and for 10 weeks until 29th September, Wandsworth Bridge will be closed to all traffic, except pedestrians and cyclists, for major works on the structure. Routes **28/N28, 295 and C10** will be curtailed at the north; likely to be at Fulham, Sands End, but to be confirmed. Undoubtedly this will put pressure on Putney Bridge, already carrying extra traffic diverted from Hammersmith Bridge long term, and several other routes in the immediate area will be subject to delays with some being widened for the duration. From 22nd May to 9th June, owing to cosmetic works in Central Avenue, Whitton, route **H20** was diverted in both directions via Hall Road, Whitton Dene and Whitton Road. From 30th May to 4th June, owing to water works in Grove Road, Hounslow, routes **81, 203, 222, H32, H98 and N9** were diverted eastbound via Bath Road, Lampton Road, Spring Grove Road and Kingsley Road; routes **116, 117, 235, 237, 423** were diverted via Wellington Road South and Hanworth Road, route **120** via Balfour Road, Alexandra Road, Prince Regent Road, Cecil Road and Kingsley Road. Routes **E8 and H22** were curtailed back from Bell Corner in Hounslow to Hounslow Bus Station. Then the following week, until 9th June, routes **116, 117, 235, 237, 423 and 635** were diverted westbound via Bell Road, Bath Road and Steve Biko Way.

North-West: From 18th May to 3rd June, owing to sewer works in Hillgrove Road, Swiss Cottage, routes **31/N31 and N28** were diverted eastbound via Abbey Road, West End Lane, Broadhurst Gardens, Canfield Gardens and Finchley Road. From 13th to 19th May, there was a major water main burst at Harrow Road, Sudbury, between Greenford Road and Watford Road, with several shops and houses flooded. Route **92** was diverted in both directions via Sudbury Court Drive and Watford Road. Thanks to Haydn for this report. From 30th May to 5th June owing to railway works in Lynwood Road, Hanger Hill (presumably for HS2?), route **226** was diverted southbound via Hanger Lane, Hillcrest Road, West Road and Montpelier Road.

North: From 10th to 20th May, owing to water and electrical works on Parkway, Camden Town, routes **88/= and 274** were diverted south and westbound via Bayham Street, Crowndale Road, Mornington Crescent, Harrington Square, Hampstead Road and Euston Road, with 274 continuing via Great Portland Street (east and west arms), Albany Street and Parkway. Then from 22nd to 27th May, route **88/=** was further affected in the same area by railway works in Delancy Road, diverting southbound via Gloucester Avenue, St Mark's Square and Prince Albert Road. Remaining in the same area, and from 30th May until 31st January 2024, owing to sewer works in Gloucester Avenue, route **274** is diverted eastbound via St Mark's Square, Prince Albert Road and Parkway.

East: From 21st May to 4th June, owing to faulty speed tables in Ron Leighton Way, East Ham, routes **101, 147, 238, 300, 304, 325 and 474/=** were diverted southbound via Plashet Grove, Green Street and Barking Road. Route **376** was curtailed at Plashet Grove.

OTHER SPECIAL and MISCELLANEOUS non-TfL OPERATIONS IN LONDON

Maple Parking of Crawley have applied for a new permit serving Maple Parking Park & Ride site, situated in Bath Road, to operate a regular daily service every 15-20 minutes to and from Heathrow Airport, Terminal 5. This is planned to start on 1st August using single-deck vehicles.

See Country section that follows for Reading Transport 730.

COUNTRY AREAS - Route Developments

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

West and South ESSEX, including THURROCK

No changes to report in this area.

HERTFORDSHIRE and southern BEDFORDSHIRE

Monday 27th March:

888 (*London General*) The Luton Airport Parkway Station to Airport shuttle withdrawn (last day 26th). A full service on the 'Luton DART' people-mover was introduced on the 27th.

Monday 17th April (TLB705 p19 refers)

366 (*Centrebus*) Having been told that the full service had been reinstated, I am now told that it wasn't. All that remains are a handful of school-time M-F (both SDO and NSD) journeys.

Monday 22nd May

314/315 (*Centrebus*) (314 Hitchin & Welwyn Garden City. M-S and 315 Kimpton & Welwyn Garden City, M-F) Restructured with the 315 projected from Kimpton via Whitwell, St Paul's Walden to Hitchin. That leaves the direct route via B656 and Langley to the 314 variant. More journeys (on both routes) diverted via The Frythe in Old Welwyn. Revised M-S timetable.

335/336 (*Arriva KT*) (Watford & Amersham, M-S) In Rickmansworth between A412 and the Station rerouted via the High Street instead of direct on Park Road. Revised timetable.

821 (*Arriva KT*) (Watford & Maple Cross, SDO) Revised timetable but curtailed at Rickmansworth, The Reach Free School at Mill End, Long Lane (last stop), thus no longer in service on to Maple Cross itself (although the bus may still go on to turn round).

Sunday 25th June:

755/757 (*AtS*) (Luton & London) Revised timetable with additional journeys.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE and EAST BERKSHIRE (incl. eastern borders of Oxfordshire

Tuesday 2nd May: 16 (*Red Rose*) Another revised timetable.

Monday 22nd May:

320 (*Redline Buses*) (Chinnor & Princes Risborough Station, M-F) Adjustments to the timetable for rail connections in afternoon and evening.

335/336 (*Arriva KT*) See Herts notes above.

K1 (*Z&S Transport*) (Aylesbury Rail Station & Kingsbrook and Armstrong Fields, M-S) Adjustments to timetable for rail connections and schools in afternoon and evening. The hail-and-ride section altered to fixed stops.

Sunday 28th May:

50 (Aylesbury & RAF Halton, Daily) No change to M-S service by Red Rose. Sunday service from *Redline Buses* to *Vale Travel*.

60 (Aylesbury & Buckingham via Winslow, Daily) No change to M-S service by Red Rose. Sunday service from *Redline Buses* to *Vale Travel*.

Airline (*Oxford Bus*) Oxford & Heathrow and Gatwick) Increased frequency from x30 to x20mins between Oxford and Heathrow but hourly on to Gatwick.

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

BUCKS and BERKS, Continued:

Monday 29th May

702 (*Reading Buses*) (Victoria & Windsor) Summer timetable introduced with a later journey (daily) from Legoland to London. Except for one Sat and Sun only non-stop journey from Reading to Slough, all (instead of some) Reading positioning journeys operate via Bracknell. (For some time a late evening journey from London has operated non-stop from Windsor to Reading and this continues.) (No change to the 703).

Tuesday 30th May:

7/7A/7B (*Red Rose*) (Aylesbury & Bedgrove) M-S frequency increased to a combined x30min. Most journeys run as 7A via Tring Road (but omitting Narbeth Drive) to Bedgrove, returning to Broughton Estate or 7B out via Broughton to Bedgrove and back via Tring Road (also omitting Narbeth Drive.)

Sunday 25th June:

- 4/4A (*Redline Buses*) Aylesbury & Berryfields, Daily) Timetable revised to be x18min (M-F and Sat), x35min (Sun). Withdrawn from serving Aylesbury Vale Rail Station.
- 12 (*Redline Buses*) Aylesbury & Berryfields via Buckingham Park, SDO) Minor timetable adjustments.
- 130 (*Redline Buses*) (Aylesbury & High Wycombe, Daily) Revised timetable, no change to frequencies M-F x15min, Sat x20min, Sun x60min.
- S130 (*Redline Buses*) High Wycombe & Aylesbury Schools, SDO) Minor timetable adjustments.

SURREY and northern parts of WEST SUSSEX

Saturday 3rd June:

- 1, 2, 3, 4,5 (*Metrobus*) (Crawley town services) Increased M-S daytime on: 1 (x20min), 2 (x13-15min), 3 (Ix20min), 4/5 (x15min) No changes evenings and Sundays.
- 270 (*Metrobus*) (East Grinstead & Brighton, Daily) Extra M-S evening jnys; one extra early Sat jny.
- 272 (*Metrobus*) (Crawley & Brighton, M-S) Extra Sat. morning jnys.
- 291 (*Metrobus*) (Crawley & Tunbridge Wells, Daily) Extra M-S evening jnys.

Monday 24th July:

Reading Transport has applied for a new permit for new route 730, to start on 24th July, using single-deck vehicles. This is from Frimley High Street to Heathrow Airport, Terminal 5, via Camberley Station and Bagshot Green operating daily, with the first journey at 03:15, also extending to Heathrow Central Bus Station, departing from there at 04:20. An hourly service is offered off-peak, although widened to 80-90 minutes in the morning peak.

North and west KENT

GoCoach school route S36 last ran on Friday 26 May. From Monday 5 June timetable changes to S8, S32, S34. School routes TW1, TW3, TW4 (*GoCoach*) have been de-registered from 21st July.

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)

'COME OUT COME OUT' printed backwards is Sharan Hayes' artwork on the cover of the May 2023 **"Tube map"**, celebrating the history of LGBTQ+ activism through UK newspaper archives. The words are formed of newspaper montages and printed on a pink background. The cover roundel is the heart shaped version for the one hundred and sixtieth anniversary of the network, first seen on the station histories reviewed in TLB702. Internally the most significant change is the removal of the Ikea logos from Ampere Way, Hammersmith, Neasden and North Greenwich following the end of the sponsorship deal with the furniture retailer. The advert on the rear panel is replaced with one for the TfL Go app. Bank is removed from the 'Check before you travel' section after the opening of step free access, but Kentish Town joins the section as it closes from 26 June until summer 2024.

May 22 marked the start of the full planned service on the Elizabeth line, details of which are outlined in **"Heathrow Airport travel advice"**, a multifold slimline with the Elizabeth line roundel and outline of a plane on the cover. When opened it has a map of the entire line with an enlargement showing the Elizabeth line, Heathrow Express and Piccadilly line at Heathrow. Four narrative boxes deal with services from 'Reading and Maidenhead', 'Paddington', 'Shenfield' and 'Abbey Wood'. Heathrow Airport bound passengers from the west are told to change at Hayes and Harlington with no indication of frequency. Paddington passengers get six trains per hour, whilst Shenfield is served every thirty minutes and Abbey Wood every fifteen minutes. A prominent purple box highlights that all services call at Whitechapel, presumably in an attempt to establish this as the key interchange between the two eastern branches. The remainder of the leaflet includes information on fares, short platforms and accessibility.

Catford is the latest traffic gyratory in London to face remodelling, with **"Your Catford. Your say."** briefly providing details of how to comment on the proposals. The green and white A5 sheet includes the title in a speech bubble, illustrated with a drawing featuring a cyclist, double decker bus, pedestrian and (scratching!) cat. Beneath this is a QR code, website address, e mail address and phone number inviting comments by 5 June. A series of public events about the proposals provided more details via several printed items including **"Catford Town Centre Proposed changes to the South Circular Road"**, a seven page A4 document with a range of narrative and photographs. Catering for those with limited literacy is **"Possible changes to Catford Town Centre The South Circular Road"** a fifty one page A4 publication in the 'easy read' series. Made in April 2023 it uses simplified language and extensive photos to aid understanding. Four A3 maps titled **"Changes around Catford Town Centre"** show different parts of the area, annotated with the proposed changes. They are labelled A to D. Bus passengers are specifically targeted with **"Summary of possible changes to bus routes Catford Town Centre"** a double sided A4 sheet summarising the changes to stopping arrangements for each of the eighteen routes passing through the area.

Footways' **"The network of interesting and quiet streets for walking Central London"** has released a third edition dated May 2023. Unlike the two previous editions (most recently reviewed in TLB695) this has a lighter blue cover with new illustration. When opened fully the main map is unaltered and continues to show walking routes across central London. The reverse has been substantially altered with the 'Quick Connections' map and routes between key termini and sights removed in favour of a new map and set of walks. The map is larger and covers an area bounded by Paddington, King's Cross, Liverpool Street and Vauxhall. National Rail stations plus thirty two places of interest appear on the map, some of which are illustrated with sketches and are joined by a series of curved orange lines. Alongside the lines are the minutes taken to walk between two adjacent attractions, although not the actual route. Each of the attractions is briefly described on the key with a grid reference locating it on the main map. Three themed walks; 'London Squares', 'Nature in the City' and 'Kings & Queens'

----- *Publicity News* -----

are outlined along with a QR code providing a link to an online guide. Now only sponsored by Network Rail, one panel headed 'Arriving in London by Train?' pairs six termini with six key attractions and gives walking times between the two.

'Toxic air pollution is a matter of life and death' is the stark warning from Sadiq Khan in the opening message of "**The Ultra Low Emission Zone is expanding to help clear London's air**", a sixteen page A5 book. The cover has a roundel superimposed with pictures, with a ULEZ sign prominent. After the Mayor's introduction there is extensive narrative outlining the zone, those affected, discounts and exemption, payment options, scrappage scheme, public transport and cycling options. There is a double page map of the capital showing all thirty two boroughs plus the Congestion Charge zone, current ULEZ / LEZ zone and expanded zone from 29 August. The print code on the reverse is 'ULEZ Door to Door May 2023. Version 1.0', suggesting this may appear on doormats across the capital.

Up to ten thousand pounds available on "**Walking and Cycling Grants London**", a single sided A5 sheet carrying the logos of the Mayor, TfL and London Marathon Foundation. Beneath a photo of seven happy female cyclists is brief narrative and a QR code for further information. Applications 'open in July', presumably this year as the item was available at the recent 'Ride London' festival.

Inviting views between 15 May and 11 June is "**Have your say on C43: Hyde Park to Marylebone Cycleway**", a double sided A5 from City of Westminster. The council logo, along with one for 'Fairer Westminster' feature on the front alongside an artists' impression of an active travel street. The reverse has narrative bullet pointing the highlights, a QR code and details of a drop in which took place on 23 May at Victory Services Club.

The weekend of 22 and 23 April saw RM5 operating a shuttle service for visitors to the Kempton Steam Museum. On 22 April "**Kempton Steam Museum Shuttle Service Feltham Service Timetable**" provided times whilst on St George's Day passengers consulted "**Kempton Steam Museum Shuttle Service Twickenham Service Timetable.**" Both A6 double sided leaflets featured a painting of a Routemaster (registered 'KSM1') outside the iconic building. The reverse featured the day's timetable, laid out to show the vehicle's duty across the day and a simple circular route diagram. No date is carried, meaning that the leaflets could reappear if the same service was to operate in the future.

Intalink have adopted a brand new image for "**907 Bus times**", using a black cover for the slimline leaflet valid from 16 April 2023, although the rear print date is May 2023. The cover includes the message 'Funded by UK Government' at the top plus the new 'Herts Connect' logo alongside the well-known Intalink logo at the base. In between is a vertical line diagram of the route with Stevenage printed in pink and Hertford in green whilst other places are white. Inside the leaflet looks much the same as regular Intalink leaflets except that the route is highlighted in black rather than grey on the route map. The timetable includes both 907 and 390 journeys. Brief narrative about the route along with contact details are on the rear. This new look and the Connect Herts logo are to be confined to publications for BSIP funded routes. Also released is "**New Evening Service on the HertsLynx! Operating from 8pm - 11.30pm every Friday & Saturday***". The asterisk refers to a footnote: '* evening services will not operate on bank holidays'. It is a mainly black single sided A5 flyer with a colourful drawing of a Herts Lynx minibus outside a restaurant and adjacent cinema. There is a green corner strap: "Now operating" plus logos for HM Government, Intalink and Hertfordshire County Council.

----- *Publicity News* -----

Reviving a brand last used in 2001 is “**First beeline bus guide**” valid from 2 April 2023. The thirty-two-page slimline book is presented in the same orange and purple colour scheme being progressively applied to buses. The front cover unfolds to show a colour coded network map, whilst Slough town centre has a bus stop map on another page. Full timetables are provided for all routes, including the Sunday service on route 12 which is operated by Thames Valley (as is the last round trip on other days).

Valid from the same date is Thames Valley “**your buses for Slough & Windsor**”, a thirty two page slimline book with fold out rear cover offering a colour coded network map. The cover features a view of Slough’s main shopping street.

Carlone’s “**442**” features a Mercedes minibus on the cover of the multifold slimline valid from 4 February 2023. It offers a full timetable which includes the two daily limited stop journeys on route X442 and the one early morning journey which continues to Heathrow Central. A comprehensive route map shows the core route in dark purple whilst the early morning and late evening journeys between Staines and Englefield Green are shown in a lighter shade. The same shade, but with hatching is used to show the special journeys which divert via Long lane in Stanwell, Hithermoor Road in Stanwell Moor and the isolated journey to Heathrow Central. Also shown is the Underground and Elizabeth Line, with a note stating ‘Terminal transfer by train, Underground or H30 bus is free.’.

Metrobus have updated seven leaflets from 3 June, each in A6 format and presented in the company’s latest style. A cartoon single decker can be found on the light green cover of “**Route 1**”, a multifold offering full timetable, route map and Metrobus network map, accompanied by adverts for the app and contactless payment. The same cartoon features on the navy blue cover of “**Route 2**” which also includes timetable, maps and a couple of generic adverts extolling the virtues of travelling by bus. Light purple is the colour for the cover of “**Route 3**”, with the same adverts filling space below some of the timetables. Presented as an A6 book is “**Routes 4, 5**” with a blue cover featuring the cartoon single decker. As well as the network map there is a combined map showing both routes. A colour photo of a steam loco advertises the Bluebell Railway, one of the attractions that passengers on “**Route 270**” can visit. It is a multifold with a blue cover featuring the cartoon single decker. The cartoon double decker appears on the green cover of “**Route 272**”, a multifold leaflet. The same cover and format is also used on “**Route 291**” which completes the batch. Thank you to two local members for reporting these so quickly.

The statue of Major General Wolfe in his birthplace of Westerham features on the cover of Go Coach’s “**Sevenoaks District Bus Routes**” valid from September 2022. The twenty page slimline book includes routes E1, 1, 2, 5, 6, 8, 429 and ‘go2’ services. Each fixed route has a full timetable and route map, whilst ‘go2’ has instructions on how to book a journey. The withdrawal of route E1 necessitated the release of a February 2023 edition of “**Sevenoaks District Bus Routes**” with the same cover illustration and layout. Valid from 13 February 2023 is “**Connect 1**”, a multifold slimline for the route linking Longfield and Darenth. A view of the Bluewater shopping centre is on the cover whilst inside is a full timetable and route map.

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:

Adding to the diamond stickers, those for hydrogen buses are sky-blue.

The Harlow Running Day on 21st May featured mostly the usual suspects but a ‘first’ was newly restored GS 12, joining the familiar GS 15 plus CRL 4 making a rare appearance.

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

Recent repaints/ refurbishes include 2470, 2476, 8216 and LT 22, 152.

An improvement in power supply has allowed more Electroliners to be able to be used on route 111.

The first of the ‘route 433’ batch of Caetanos (1543) finally entered service on 3rd May.

Transfers

(Correction to TLB704): 3023 was QBu/DH (not to TF)

(December 2022): 2578 WL/WLu. (February 2023): 3026 QBu/DH.

(May): 2530 QB/GW, 2575 GW/QB. 3019/20/21 DH/TF. 9525/26 GW/DH.

LT 986 TF/QB.

Livery changes:

LT20 to advert for Full Monty

LT26 to advert for Tinder

LT155 from advert for Aperol Spritz to one for NAKD Blueberry Bar

LT166 from advert for Intimmimi to one for Courvoisier

LT168 from advert for Star Wars Jedi to one for Which

LT623 from advert for ITVX back to red

LT768 to advert for Which

Subsequent disposals:

Volvo B7TL 9032 (BX55 XME) is now with D&E, Inverness.

ARRIVA LONDON (part of Deutsche Bahn)

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

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

Recent refurbishes/ repaints include DW 322; HA 20, 23, 28, 38; HV 99, 145, 185, 186, 209, 249, 252, 269; LT 224, 226, 318, 319, 464; 466; T 317, 328.

LT 2 has also had a repaint – but back in green with gold London Transport fleet names.

EMC 1, having been off for a few months, was back in service in late May – still with its ‘green leaves’ livery.

It is not often that HTs wander to route 194, but HT 26 did so on 2nd June.

More booked regs: ES 38-50: LV23 ZCA/E/F/J/K/L/N/O/T/U/X/Y/Z.

Transfers:

(December 2022): LT 177 GY/GYu.

(May): DW 406, 409, 410 ARu/GYu. HV 56 TC/BN. LT 226 E/EC.

T 168 TH/TC. EN 5, 9 AR/ECu. EN 16, 17 ECu/GYu. ENX 19 TH/THw.

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

ARRIVA LONDON, CONTiNUED:

Livery changes:

EA2 to advert for Evian
HV294 to advert for Lets Do London 3
HV337 from advert for Lets Do London 2 back to Red
LT323 from advert for Levis 501's to one for Full Monty
LT538 from advert for H&M Move to one for John Lewis
LT539 to advert for Courvoisier
LT590 from advert for Star Wars Jedi to one for Which
LT596 to advert for NAKD Blueberry Bar
LT842 from advert for Star Wars Jedi to one for Aperol Spritz
LT964 to advert for Courvoisier
LT972 to advert for Beavertown Brewery

Disposals:

DW 326/7/8/9 and DW 401/2/3/4/5 to North West Bus Sales, Bolton.

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)

Disposals:

1007 (BF67 WGA) transferred out of area to Southend.
1618 to Shelton Motors, Ramsey. 6201 to Hardwicks (April 2023). 6202 out of area to TW (Feb 2023).

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

Correction to Fleetbook 2023: 3871 (MX12 KXN) is actually numbered 3781.

Repaints to the lighter blue: 4275, 4286, 6485. Another to the '724' livery: 3772.

One odd working: E400 6526 on Hemel town route 4 on 2nd June.

Transfers out of area: 2488 (YJ57 EJK) out of area to MK. 3741 from WE was in the act of returning to Arriva Midlands but was diverted to Wycombe.

Transfer in (from Midlands): 1004 (BF67 WGU) M-B Sprinter. To Ware as a staff ferry bus.

Transfers (May): 1004 Mids/WE. 1015 HH/HA. 2488 HH/MK. 3741 WE/WB. 4045 HH/HHw.

Disposals: (May): 1454, 3555, 3561, 3564, 3757, 3776, 3873, 3883, 3884, 4042 to Hardwicks.

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

Repaints To lighter blue: 2982

Addition to Fleetbook: 3919 (KX12 GZW) Volvo B7RLE- Wright B45F.

Transfer from Area 2 to 3: 3741 (YJ57 AZU) SB200/Wrightbus.

Transfers (May): 1009 LD/LDw. 1020 LD(loan)/LD (permanent), 3741 WE(2)/WB. 3835 LD/LDw.

Disposals (May): 3608, 3916, 3918, 3924, 4721, 4748 to Shelton Motors, Ramsey.

Other disposals (dates unknown but delete from Fleetbook): 3042, 3617, 3619, 3922, 3926.

CARDINAL BUSES, New Haw, Surrey

Disposal: E400 TE 889 (LK08 NVD) sold (May 2023).

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

CAROUSEL, High Wycombe

Citaros 859, 869 and 870 have come back to Carousel from Thames Travel. 223 still on loan at Oxford. Sprinter 971 has gone to Oxford Bus and used on Blenheim Palace shuttle (see TLB701).

New deliveries, for the forthcoming High Wycombe ‘pick-me-up’ service and are in a dark blue livery. 981-988 (RX23 TYH/K/O/P/S/U/F/G) M-B Sprinter B14F.

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

Solo 1089 already withdrawn but more have joined it : Solo 1001 (SGZ 2221), VW 1002 (YX10 AYP) and E200 1411 (LK08 DWA).

CENTREBUS, Luton

563 repainted to the latest livery.

New deliveries (May): 597/8/9 (YX23 ORW/Y/Z) AD E20D = AD Enviro200(MMC) 10.9m B38F. These are branded for new route 907.

Disposals: E20D 554 (MX12 DZG) out of area to Grantham. Solo 308 (YX12 NAA) to scrap in March.

DIAMOND BUS SOUTH-EAST (Hallmark connections Ltd) Stanwell

(including Hotel Hoppa) part of Rotala plc

StreetLites 20168/69 have been repainted to promote the launch of ‘Bloom Heathrow’, the business park that was formerly known as Bedfont Lakes. 20168 is in ‘peach’ and 20169 is blue. Three electric buses are due soon for this service.

ENSIGNBUS, Purfleet

Acquired: formerly Kowloon Motor Bus, Hong Kong: 160 (LX23 BJK) Wrightbus StreetDeck H41/25F. This was acquired several years ago and transferred from sales stock in 2022. Now converted to single door and repainted. (It was the first repaint since First acquired Ensignbus.) It was first licensed from 1/3/23. It is understood that this was built to KMB specification but has lower seating to suit UK regulations. It has not yet entered service.

Note a correction for TLB703 page 21, 367 does not exist, and 368 has been retained by the Newman’s, although it is now on loan to First.

Also, add EB2022 (YX61 FZT) (an E20D) that was not included in the list in TLB703.

127 has been returned from Transpora and back in service.

140 was repainted 6/23 blue / silver but without “Top Independent Operator” wording.

NV 171 – see above.

369 (EU05BZM) and 370 (EU05VBL) were used for the West Ham FC (2022/23 UEFA European Conference league winners) open top bus parade on the 8th June. And were fully wrapped in blue and claret.

Former London General NV 171 (R371 LGH) was loaned from the BBPG to Ensignbus at the beginning of June to assist with Derby Day private hires.

Disposal: BCI 150 to Aintree Coachline, Merseyside (March).

----- *Current Vehicle News* -----

FALCON COACHES, Byfleet

E200 YX70 OKW is another with route 461 branding. Incidentally this bus was inadvertently omitted from the 2023 Fleetbook. It is an E20D/ Enviro200(MMC) 9.0m B30F.

Correction to TLB705: The latest with 461 branding is YX68 (not 58) ULR.

Acquired (May): YY69 TMZ AD E20D – AD Enviro200(MMC) 9.0m B30F - 2020.

Disposal: E200D SN15 LRL to Red Eagle, Aylesbury (May).

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

34383/385 to the orange and purple livery with Beeline branding.

34375/77/78/79/80/82 to route 7 Beeline branding.

69386/87/88/89/90 to Beeline branding.

69926/33 are more to be stood down (just 69920/28/31 of the batch left in use).

E20Ds 44560-7/9 have also been stood down prior to disposal.

Disposals: 69923/929/934 to Ensign Bus (May).

1ST BUS STOP, Gravesend

Disposals (adding to TLB705):

YX58 DUH was re-regd to AVZ 5053 and went to White-Hyde, Uckfield. East Sussex.

AVZ 5054 (ex LK08 FLV) also went to White-Hyde.

GO-AHEAD LONDON

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

The two Irizars that had been used by NX on route 108, EI 1 and 2, were last used in June 2022 (1) and on 24 January 2023 (2). They have since gone to scrap. Two SEe electrics are due for the 108 and these would run on the two former Irizar scheduled workings.

The new electric Ee buses at Sutton continue to arrive and are converting routes 80, 93 and 154, although not the 151, which has a restriction at Worcester Park Station. This has resulted in the Ee buses being used on route 213 instead. Ee's daily use on routes 80 and 93 commenced on 24th April and on the 154 and 213 from the following day. The influx of Ee meant that DOEs have begun to depart.

24th April was the last day that Sutton's remaining VE operated in service while those at Merton last worked on 24th May. Withdrawal of E 187 and E 188 at Sutton is left with just one (E 61) of the type.

The SEe (175-199) buses at Merton for routes 163/164 were all in service by 4th June. Two days earlier SEe 197 was a first wanderer to route 219.

The Chelsea Flower Show in May attracted mostly Es, both closed and open top variants) although RML 2318 also made a few appearances.

EH 151, off since 28th October 2022, was back in use on 29th April.

Recent repaints/ refurbishes include EH 26, 28, 86; LT 294, 300, 305, 430, 441, 450; WHV 50.,

WVL 336 has gained branding for route X26. It has a red front and rear but amidships it is light blue and white with a banner: 'Fly from Croydon to Heathrow for £1.75'. Others of the X26 batch (334-344) soon began to follow. Indeed, so far 335, 338, 339, 340, 341 and 344 have been added.

New deliveries:

ULWs: SEe 173-199 12396kg. Ee 101-128 13594kg. Ee 145-162 13565kg. Ee 163-171 13480kg

Ee 101-171 BYD D8UR-DD- AD Enviro400EV-City 10.9m H42/23D Ee during March and April:

----- *Current Vehicle News* -----

GO AHEAD LONDON, Continued

:Transfers: Outstations at LS=Luton, FK=Folkestone, NH=Newhaven, RG=Ringmer, KL=King's Lynn.
Corrections to TLB705: Ref. to Ee 3-29 RA/RAu should be SEe 3-29:
(May): E 204/5/6 PM/NX. EH 116 MB/RR. EH 151 RRu/RR, EH 214 RR/Q.
SE 281, 287 AL/DS. SEN 37 AL/DS. WVL 292 NX/MG.
(June): WVL 292 MG/NX. WS 3, 4 NP/C. WS 9 MB/C. WS 136 NPu/NP.

Livery changes:

Ee35 to advert for Evian
LT42 from advert for Star Wars Jedi back to Red
LT67 from advert for Loewe to one for Final Fantasy XVI
LT309 to advert for Which
LT428 from advert for Michael Kors back to Red
LT435 to advert for Courvoisier
LT441 from advert for Under Armour back to Red
LT448 to advert for John Lewis
LT506 from advert for Intimissimi to one for Tinder
LT854 from advert for Loewe to one for Beavertown Brewery
LT857 from advert for Star Wars Jedi to one for NAKD Blueberry Bar
LT867 to advert for Which
LT872 from advert for Levis 501's to one for Full Monty
LT887 to advert for Aperol Spritz
LT895 from advert for Bless Hotels back to Red

Disposals:

(February): SOE 9 to Ensign Bus. TLB703 p31 shows its onward move.
(May): DOE 6, 9, 11, 13, 14, 20, 23, 24, 25, 32, 37, 45 and VE 2, 3 to Go South Coast. Some of these DOEs have been noted with Southern Vectis on the Isle of Wight but I am advised that this is likely to be temporary.
E 187, 188 and WVL 360-365 and WVL 440-445, 447 to Go North West.
WVLs to Go North East (GNE fleet nos in brackets): WVL 277 (6205), 281 (6209), 282 (6210), 284 (6212), 286 (6214), 287 (6215), 289 (6217), 290 (6218), 291 (6219), 301 (6223), 303 (6200).
EI 1, 2 returned to Irizar (by February 2023) and since scrapped.
SEN 32, 33 and SE 94,120 to Go North West.
SOE 36 to National Driving Centre.
SOE 7, 13, 22, 37, 39 to Ensign Bus.

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

E20D 8345 has had its Platinum Jubilee livery changed to one for the recent Coronation.
Disposal: Versa 5602 went to YMS Travel, Canterbury, Kent.

KEANE TRAVEL, Grays

BV55 UCX is also to H**/*F. and has been repainted to company livery.

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

By the end of May 6052/3/4/5/6 and 6062 of the hydrogen fuel-cell buses had entered service. The SEC reports that at the moment only a portable refuelling unit was available, thus restricting how many buses can be refuelled. A permanent refuelling station is being constructed.

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

Recent repaints / refurbishes noted include VWH 2008, 2053, 2100, 2106, 2107, 2121, 2142, 2143, 2177, 2194, 2207, 2209, 2220, 2294 plus DEL 2162, 2165, 2248.

On 18th May, VMH 2439 was on route 113 on the A41 in Hendon when it suffered frontal damage in an accident.

WDE 2770 and 2771 have been noted on trainer duties from Edgware during May.

A further 28 x Volvo BZL/MCV 10.8m buses have been ordered for routes 228 and 316.

24 x VMHs at Greenford are expected to be adorned with Superloop branding.

From 10th June the King's Cross (KC) Garage was closed and buses for routes 30 and 274 moved to its parent shed Holloway (HT).

New deliveries (May):

WDE 2788/92/93/95-2808 (LV23 DHY, DJF, DJJ, DJO/U/X/Y/Z, EBD/F/G/J/K/L/M/N/O).
Wrightbus StreetDeck Electroliner 10.6m H40/20D, ULW 13550kg.

The company confirms that BDE 2752-68 are H40/23D and ULW 13607kg.

Transfers: (h suffix = Hertfordshire Commercial Fleet).

(December 2022): VWH 2136 G/Gu.

(April): BDE 2752-68 u/EW.

(May): LT 790 W/AH(loan)/W. TE 992, 1089 W/HZw ,

VW 1183 EW/AH (delete ref. to G and W in TLB705). VW 1190 EW/PAu/PB.

VW 1390, 1391 W/PV. VW 1825, 1827 PV/G. VW 1829 PB/G. VW 1839 W/G.

VWH 2312/13/14/15/16/17 AC/PV. VMH 2439 EW/EWu. VMH 2452 PV/PB/EW.

VMH 2564, 2572 PV/G. VMH 2581 G/PV.

VHS 2748 WJu/PVu. VHS 2749 AHu/CELFu. WDE 2770, 2771 EWu/EWt. DE 850 PAu/WJt.

(10th June): HT buses outstationed at KC reverted to HT. Latterly these were from HT's batches VWH 2331-2342 and VMH 2460-2493.

Livery changes:

LT641 from advert for Star Wars Jedi to one for Beavertown Brewery

LT647 to advert for Tinder

LT662 to advert for Expo 2030 Korea

LT761 to advert for NAKD Blueberry Bar

LT766 from advert for John Lewis to one for Full Monty

LT804 had been reported as back to red, but it was still a Cos advert in early May.

LT806 from advert for Intermisimi back to Red

BDE2637 to advert for Evian

----- *Current Vehicles News* -----

RATP-DEV TRANSIT LONDON including

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

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

LONDON TRANSIT – X garage.

The first electric bus to enter service on route 226 was BE 37088 on 10th May while some of this batch has been allocated to S rather than BT. Thus far 37088 has been the only BE on the 226. BE 37043 and 37063 that have been at WK for route 235 have been joined by 37099 and 37101.

The odd VMH on the 487 noted in TLB705 has now been joined by a few more, with 2547 on 22nd May, 2551 on 23rd May and 2564 on 25th, although blinds were all blank with just a windscreen notice for a destination.

Recent repaints/ refurbishes include ADH 45024, VH 45132, VMH 45346.

New deliveries (March/April):

I don't seem to have recorded these in TLBs, although they are in Fleetbook, so here goes:

BE 37085-101 LG72 ECT/V/W/X/Y/Z. EDC/F/J/K/L/O/P/R/U/V/X)

BYD D8UR – AD Enviro200 (MMC) 10.9m B28D ULW 12329kg.

Transfers: (April): VH 45101/2/3/4/5 X/RP.

(May): DE 20061 WKc/WKu. DLE 30024 FW/WK. BE 37088 BTt/BT. BE 37099/101 Xu/WK.

SP 40047/49/51/55 AV/NCw SP 40176-179, 181, 182 FWu/NCw. SP 40180/83/88/89 FW/NCw, ADE 40416, 40417, 40428, 40434 Btu or NCu/AV.

BCE 47088/092 S/X. VH 45132 X/FW. (June): BE 37100 Xu/WK.

Livery changes:

LT71 from advert for TU Clothing to one for Beavertown Brewery

LT73 from advert for Jean Paul Gaultier to one for Expo 2030 Korea

LT84 to advert for World Expo Korea

LT677 from advert for Intermissimi to one for Aperol Spritz

LT680 to advert for Courvoisier

OME46002 from advert for Bananas back to Red

OME46035 from advert for Ovo Energy back to Red

VH45102 from advert for Verkada back to Red

Disposals:

ADE 40446/7/8, 40450/1/2/8/9 40460/1/2/3/4/7/8/9 (March) to Ensign Bus (some correct TLB703).

ADE 40449, 40453, 40465 and 40466 (April) to Ensign Bus

All 20 ADEs are due to go to McGills Buses group of companies, and confirmation of the dates leaving Purfleet / delivered to McGills will be included in the 'Where are they now?' section when known.

SP 40121 (February) and SP 40100 (March) to Ensign Bus.

SP 40041-048/052-055 and 40166, 176-179, 181/2/5/6, 190 to Ensign Bus (June).

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

New: 732 (GL23 LDN) AD E400EV – AD Enviro400CityEV 11.5m H76F.

This is the first of the seven on order to be noted - on route 702 on 8th June.

RED EAGLE BUSES, Dinton near Aylesbury

Acquired (May) from Falcon Coaches, Byfleet: SN15 LRL AD E20D – AD Enviro200 9.0m B30F - 2015. Y15 GDK is another into the new livery.

REDLINE BUSES, Aylesbury

Disposal: E400 LK55 KKH was sold (to --?--) in January 2023.

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

RED ROSE TRAVEL, Dinton near Aylesbury

Scania d/d E12 RRT has been stood down. BMC Falcon BX56 XAH (out of MoT September 2021) may well have been sold by now. E200 E4 RRT from 'Silver Rider' to company livery.

Acquired: Formerly Yellow Buses Bournemouth via Mistral (dealer). Others from this batch YX12A** are also with Red Rose and Redline in TLBs 701-705.

YX12 AEA AD E20D – AD Enviro200 10.2m B33F.

YX12 AEP AD E20D – AD Enviro200 10.8m B38F.

YX12 AKU AD E20D – AD Enviro200 10.8m B38F.

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.

New delivery (May): A MetroCity No.31502 arrived at LI in May. I presume that this the first for route 339, although fleet nos 67001-012 had been allocated to that batch; see TLB707 for the answer!

Corrections to TLB705: Delete ref, to 29101-9 and 29301-5 (Not London). In fact 29101-9 are for Stagecoach South at Guildford.

New 45001-008 are model MC870EV and are therefore 8.7m (not 8.8m).

Recent refurb/ repaints: 12133, 12138, 13131, 19728, 19745, 33629, 37505.

LT 422 seems to be a preferred performer for school buses with appearances during May on routes 608, 649, 650, 679 and 686.

Transfers:

(May): LT 257 T/BW.

10116 PD/WH. 12321 BWu/WHw. 12399 PD/BK. 12404 WH/BK. 13101/102 TL/PD.

19760/61/62 BK/WHo. 19872 LI/BK.

36280 BKu/TL. 36282 BKu/TB. 36283 LIu/ WH. 36286 BKu/PD. 36289 RMu/RM. 36290 BKu/NS.

36296 BKu/AW. 36298 WHu/WH. 36345 Tu/T. 36370 BKu/BK.

Note: 36280/82/86/89/90/92/96, 36345/370 are classed as 'Route Learning Buses'.

Note: 36295 recorded to Ensign (TLB704 p29) and on to Shelton Motors (TLB704 p34) ; presumably the move to Wigley (TLB705 p29) is incorrect.

Livery changes:

LT239 from advert for Star Wars Jedi to one for Tinder

LT257 to advert for NAKD Blueberry Bar

LT314 from advert for Cos back to Red

LT316 to advert for Abba Voyager - then to one for Final Fantasy XVI

LT361 from advert for John Lewis to one for Full Monty

LT387 to advert for Aperol Spritz

LT390 from advert for Intimissimi to one for Beavertown Brewery

18917 to advert for Let's Do London 3

84113 to advert for Evian

Detail change:

15015 to PO41/22D – and into City Sightseeing livery; thus allocation to CSo.

19757-762 in progress change to open top for City Sightseeing.

STAR TRAVEL, Aylesbury

Another to be stood down is SCZ 3843.

Acquired: MX08 DHL and MX08 DHV Optare Solo M710SE B23F.

Disposals: Solo YJ56 AOX left the fleet (August 2022).

Solo MX57 UPG to Peyton Travel, Bridgend, South Wales (January 2022).

SULLIVAN BUSES, South Mimms

ELV 6 has gone from the fleet.

TOP VIEW SIGHTSEEING, LONDON SW19

The operating base is at 43 Weir Road, Wimbledon, SW19.

Amendment to TLB704: Delete YT59 FYT – it is at Ipswich Buses (as recorded in TLB703 p29).

The company also has Scania YT10 XBY.

UNIVERSITYBUS (t/a uno), Hatfield and Northampton

In mid-May Volvo BZL BV72 KPG was on trial for two weeks; it was used on the Inter Campus Shuttle.

Acquired: 1476 (SN12 ARU) AD E40H- AD Enviro400 10.2m H37/24D. From Air-Sim, formerly Tower Transit DNH 39115.

Numbering: E40H SN65 ZGO is now No.1478. Presumably ZGP and ZGR may be 1479/80 ?

Disposal (May): Scania d/d 210 to Chiltern Automotive, High Wycombe.

VECTARE, Rettendon, Essex

On 23rd May E20D 320 (SN16 CVP) on route 505 near Waltham Abbey was involved in a traffic accident causing offside front damage.

Acquired: 213 (RX23 TKV) M-B Sprinter/ EVM

WHITE BUS SERVICES, Winkfield and Horsell

Citaro 55 (BN09 FWR) has been stood down but is still in stock.

Z & S BUSES, Aylesbury

Leyland Olympian J778 CEV has been stood down; this was the last step-entrance bus in the fleet. It was then adopted for preservation by The South Bucks Bus Group.

Reference to TLB691 p28 and the disposal of E20D LJ08 CZV to a dealer, it was recently acquired for spares by Nu-Venture, Aylesford, Kent.

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 191 (VLT 191, ex AST 416A) had its livery modified by Brigit's Afternoon Tea and joined RML 2546 to promote the King Charles III Coronation afternoon tea tour with purple adverts either side of the front blind box together with promotional panels below the lower deck side windows and lower deck window to the rear. However, the adverts of the two buses were to a different design. The tour ran from 24th April to 31st May.

RM 388 (EDS 300A, ex WLT 388) from Yorkshire Belles to Chartwell Bus Sales, Horsham, West Sussex, and then to Mr G Sibbons, Billericay, Essex (May) for preservation. This is the RM that was rebuilt with an open rear staircase in 1994 and operated around York for many years.

RM 1204 (204 CLT) has now been rebranded to celebrate Beano's 85th birthday as the Beano Bus for a new tour with Brigit's Afternoon Tea that commenced from 10th June, running on Wednesdays to Sundays, until the 10th September.

RMC 1488 (488 CLT, ex 659 AQF 91) was acquired by Lothian Buses from Mr M Thomas in France in September 2017 and has been undergoing bodywork restoration since this time. It has now passed to London Bus Company, Northfleet, Kent (May) for continued restoration.

RML 2286 (CUV 286C) from Stagecoach North West to Ensign Bus, and then to RML2286 Preservation Group (all in May).

RML 2711 (SMK 711F) returned to London's South Bank during May for another Summer to sell Snog yoghourt as usual.

Olympians:

NV 61 (R261 LGH) (ex GAL) was sold from Landmark Coaches (August 2017).

NV 85 (R285 LGH) (ex GAL) was sold from Littywood Farm (June 2018).

NV 171 (R371 LGH) (ex GAL) was loaned from BBPG to Ensignbus at the beginning of June to assist with Derby Day private hires.

VA 68 (R168 VPU) (ex SLN) was sold from E & M Horsburgh (January).

Miscellaneous low-floor double deck types:

DLA 230 (X502 GGO) (ex ALN) was damaged by vandals in October and is reported as sold for scrap from the Butterfly Project (January). Prior to being vandalised, it had been used as a static community hub rather than a shelter for the homeless.

DLA 377, 386 (LJ03 MTK, MYX) (ex ALN) were re-registered to JXZ 3909 and GSZ 1821 by Hunters Coaches in January.

DLP 103 (LF52 URJ) (ex ALN) from English Riviera Sightseeing Tours to unknown owner (September 2022) and has been recorded as in a black livery.

DW 64 (LJ04 LDE) (ex ALN) from Ensign Bus to MC Tractors / Shelton Motors, Ramsey, Cambs. (May 2016).

VLA 47 (LJ53 BAO) (ex ALN) was sold from Deckerbus to Carter's Coaches, Great Addington, Northants. (September 2019) and was then sold in March 2022 but was still noted in their yard in May 2023.

VLA 74, 77 (LJ54 BGO, BFA) (ex ALN) have been acquired by Souls Coaches, Olney, Bucks. when the Lankford Travel business was acquired in February.

----- *Where ere they now?* -----

DN 33768 (SN12 EHV) (ex FLN) from Ensign Bus to Top View Sightseeing, London (February). Note – there is still no news when this operation will commence but vehicles are being seen around London, including DN 33758 and 33775, that have been converted to part open top but still retain their centre doors.

DNH 39115, 39118 (SN12 ARU, ASO) (ex FLN) were sold from Tower Transit in April 2021 and were not seen until they were noted operating on a rail replacement service in March 2022 with AirSym, Heathrow, Middlesex. It is believed that these passed via dealer Bus & Coach Centre, Forest Hill, Oxon. DNH 39115 (SN12 ARU) (ex FLN) has subsequently passed from AirSym to Uno, Hatfield, Herts. (May) where it has been numbered 1476.

TNA 33374 (LK53 EYT) (ex FLN) is confirmed as sold to Roadshow Promotions, Preston, Lancs. (January 2022).

TNL 32905 (CRZ 166, ex W905 VLN) (ex FLN) re-gained its original registration with First Eastern Counties (March), and then passed to Ensign Bus (May).

VNL 32201 (LT52 WTF) (ex FLN) from First Eastern Counties to Ensign Bus, and subsequently passed to MC Tractors / Shelton Motors, Ramsey, Cambs. (all in May).

VNL 32202 (MIG 8433, ex LT52 WTG) (ex FLN) was repainted in early June in a striking yellow and orange livery for use on the Jurassic Coaster services with First Hants & Dorset this Summer.

AVL 24 (OIG 1794, ex V124 LGC) (ex GAL) from First South West to Wigley, Barnsley (March).

AVL 26 (V126 LGC) (ex GAL) was sold from Hunts (by December) for scrap.

E 2 (SN06 BNB) (ex GAL) from Ensign Bus to unknown owner, South Yorkshire (November 2021); this E400 has not been reported subsequently – can anyone confirm where it is now ?

EVL 22 (PN02 XCG) (ex GAL) from A2B Travel to Shears (dlr), Northam, Devon (January).

EVL 34 (PN02 XBX) (ex GAL) was sold for scrap from Roselyn Coaches (January 2022).

PVL 77 (W477 WGH) (ex GAL) from Ensign Bus to MC Tractors / Shelton Motors, Ramsey, Cambs. (September 2017).

PVL 125 (W425 WGH) (ex GAL) has been sold from Go East Anglia (March) for scrap.

PVL 280 (PJ02 RBY) (ex GAL) has been reported as sold from Go East Anglia (by May).

SOC 9 (LX08 ECY) (ex GAL) was sold from Mid Wales Travel to an unknown owner in Ireland (January).

WVL 32 (BX04 AZW) (ex GAL) was sold from Axe Valley Mini Travel / AXMT Buses (February) for scrap.

WVL 22 (LG02 KHX), 96 (LF52 ZNJ) (ex GAL) from Bandcruisers to Roadshow Promotions, Preston, Lancs. (July 2022).

WVL 25 (LG02 KJA) (ex GAL) was sold from Eydetic (January 2020).

WVL 75 (LF52 ZPE) (ex GAL) was sold from Axe Valley Mini Travel / AXMT Buses (March) and was seen at the bus rally at Buckinghamshire Railway Centre at Quanton on the 29th May in as-withdrawn London condition.

WVL 93 (LF52 ZNE) (ex GAL) updating TLB704 page 26, this WVL has been repainted in a light blue all over livery and numbered 502; it is to be used on the new Clacton Breeze service this Summer by Go East Anglia .

WVL 150 (LX53 BJO) (ex GAL) from Garnetts Coaches to Tomorrows Travel, Bournemouth, Dorset (May).

WVL 224 (WSV 541, ex WSV 506, LX06 DZG) (ex GAL) re-gained its original registration with Go Goodwins / Maynes Coaches in January.

WVL 371 (LX60 DXB) (ex GAL) further to TLB697, this open top WVL is again in use with First Hants & Dorset on the Southsea Coaster service 50 which runs from Portsmouth The Hard to Southsea South Parade Pier from 28th May to 30th September. For 2023, it is now in two-tone turquoise livery in similar colours to the First South West Atlantic Coaster livery (it was still London red in 2022 as used by London City Tours previously) and includes graphics of the Southsea pier on the sides and rear.

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

- ADE 40448, 40452, 40462, 40467, 40468 (YX62 BCK, BGE, BMV, BPO, BPU) (ex LU) from Ensign Bus to McGills Buses (May). All are in Eastern Scottish off white and green livery, except ADE 40462 which is in Midland Bluebird livery, and have been numbered 8962, 8974, 8972, 8963, and 8961 respectively. Updating previous TLBs, ADE 40450 has been numbered 8971, and ADE 40446 was confirmed as delivered in April.
- ADE 40458, 40459 (YX62 BJZ, BKF) (ex LU) from Ensign Bus to McGills Buses (June); these are numbered 8975 and 8964, and are in Xplore Dundee two-tone green livery and Eastern Scottish livery respectively.
- SLE 37 (YN55 NAF) (ex LU) was sold from Stuart Coaches (by August) without being used.
- SLE 54, 56, 62 (YN55 NLC, NLE, NLO) (ex LU) have been acquired by Souls Coaches, Olney, Bucks. when the Lankford Travel business was acquired in February. Note – SLE 54 is confirmed as passing to Lankford Travel from Ensign Bus (July 2019).
- SP 56, 60, 65 (YT09 ZCA, ZCK, BJV), 76, 83, 84, 85, 95, 98, 102, 105, 107, 108 (YT59 RYA, RYJ, RYK, RYM, SFZ, SGV, SHJ, DXY, DYX, DYY), 109, 117, 119, 125 (YR59 FYO, FYY, FZA, FZG), 126, 127, 132 (YT59 PBF, PBO, PCF) (ex LU) from Stephenson's to Go North West (May) for eventual use on the Manchester Bee network which is due to commence in September. All will be converted to single door and refurbished to TfGM specification, including repainting all over yellow prior to the new branding being applied. At the time of writing, thirteen SPs had been loaned to Go South Coast for the Summer for seasonal service uplifts in the Bournemouth and Poole areas; these are SP 60, 76 (1180), 83 (1181), 85, 95 (1183), 98 (1184), 102 (1185), 105, 109 (1186), 119 (1187), 125 (1188), 126 (1178), 132 (1179) and these have been given Go South Coast fleet numbers (as shown in brackets where known). The other seven SPs are still being prepared for Go North West, although they may go to Go South Coast. Note – SP 109 had seen use with NIBS Buses.
- SP 57 (YT09 ZCE), 104 (YT59 SFF) (ex LU) from Stephenson's to Chartwell Bus Sales, Horsham, West Sussex and then to Hornsby Travel, Scunthorpe, North Lincs. (all in May).
- SP 58 (YT09 ZCF), 94 (YT59 SFY), 106 (YT59 DXZ), 110, 113 (YR59 FYP, FYU) (ex LU) further to TLB703, these five SPs remain in service with Stephenson's of Rochford and carry fleet numbers 531, 535, 534, 532, 533 respectively.
- SP 99 (YT59 SGX) (ex LU) from Dawson's to Gwynfor Coaches, Llangefni, Anglesey (May) and entered service in an all-white livery.
- SP 114 (YR59 FYV) (ex LU) has been converted to part open top by Hants & Dorset, has been repainted on a two-tone blue livery, and numbered 399. It is due to be used by Cardiff Bus daily from 10th June to 3rd September, and also on the 9th, 10th, 17th and 23rd September on the Penarth Pier service from Cardiff City Centre via Cardiff Bay.
- DT 17 (KN52 NEF) (ex ML) from JH Coaches to E & M Horsburgh, Pumpherston, West Lothian (August).
- TE 668, 671 (LK55 KJZ, KKC) (ex ML) have been re-numbered by Adventure Travel from TE 820 and TE 821 to DT 903 and DT904 respectively in January. The DT fleet number designates these as driver trainers.
- TE 889 (LK08 NVD) (ex ML) was sold from Cardinal Buses (May).
- TE 1313 (LK12 AWC) (ex ML) from Ensign Bus to Chalkwell Coach Hire, Sittingbourne, Kent (February), and was re-registered to K23 CWL in April.
- TA 1993 (SN12 EHV) (ex ML) – see the corresponding entry for DN 33768 (ex FLN) above.
- TP 306, 308 (LT02 ZZL, ZZN), 354 (LR52 KVV) (ex ML) from JH Coaches to E & M Horsburgh, Pumpherston, West Lothian (August).
- TP 408, 410 (LK03 CEY, CFD) (ex ML) were sold for scrap after use for spare parts with Stagecoach Midlands (by October 2016).
- TP 415 (LK03 CFL) (ex ML) was sold for scrap after use for spare parts with Stagecoach East (by October 2016).
- TP 455 (LK03 GHZ) (ex ML) was sold for scrap after use for spare parts with Stagecoach East Midlands (by October 2016).
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----- *Where are they now?* -----

TAS 17239, 17240 (X239, 368 NNO) (ex SLN) have been repainted into Stagecoach local livery for continued use with Stagecoach North East.

TA 17595 (LV52 HHD, ex N700 BUS) (ex SLN) from Great British Roadways to Expresslines, Bedford, Beds. (December).

TA 17816, 17818 (LX03 BXL, BXN), 17972 (LX53 JZP) (ex SLN) have been named Berkeley Square, Parliament Square and Trafalgar Square by Landmark Coaches.

TA 17920 (M300 EMH, ex LX03 OSU) (ex SLN) re-gained its original registration in January with E & M Horsburgh.

TA 18228 (LX04 FXT, ex WLT 428) (ex SLN) from Target Travel to TJA Commercials (dlr), Cheltenham, Glos. (February), and then passed to Dhanjal Transport, Oxford, Oxon (March).

TA 18229 (LX04 FXU, ex WJY 759) (ex SLN) from Bus & Coach Repairs (dlr) to Roadshow Promotions, Preston, Lancs. (May 2022).

15053 (LX09 ACJ) (ex SLN) was re-registered by Souls Coaches to P5 OUL in October.

15078, 15085 (LX09 AFF, AFY) (ex SLN) are additional Scania's that have been repainted to ocean green livery with Stagecoach South East and are allocated to Herne Bay.

DNH 39115, 39118 (SN12 ARU, ASO) (ex TT) – see corresponding entries for DNH 39115, 39118 (ex FLN) above.

Low-floor single deck types:

DWL 87 (YE06 HPC) (ex ALN) from Ensign Bus to MC Tractors / Shelton Motors, Ramsey, Cambs. (September 2017).

ENL 34 (LJ09 KPX, ex T5 GEF), 40 (LJ09 KOX, ex 330 GGX), 41 (LJ09 KPA, ex TYA 218), 42 (LJ09 KPE, ex 772 URB), 43 (LJ09 KPF, ex T3 WES), 48 (LJ09 KPO, ex GUI 441) (ex ALN) from Go Goodwins / Little Gem to Diamond Bus (May) where they have been numbered 30701, 30707, 30700, 30709, 30708, 30702 respectively. Note that all re-gained their original registrations in February prior to the sale and that ENL 43 was the one that had been repainted into two-tone blue Diamond livery, and has been transferred to Tividale in the Diamond West Midlands fleet. At the beginning of June, ENL 42 re-entered service after repaint to as well.

ENL 37 (LJ09 KRD, ex J400 JBT, ex VB09 PAN) (ex ALN) from J&B Travel to Base Coach Sales, Leyland, Lancs. and then to Chartwell Bus Sales, Horsham, West Sussex (all in April) and then to Herberts Travel, Blunham, Beds. (May).

ENL 95 (GN58 LVB) (ex ALN) from Stantons to Chartwell Bus Sales, Horsham, West Sussex and then to London Hire, Erith, Kent (all in May).

DML 44148 – the entry in TLB705 should have read: DML 44147 (YX10 BFJ) (ex FLN) was re-registered by Weavaway Travel to W30 OOW in February.

DML 44189 (YX11 CNN) (ex FLN) is now being used for spares with East Yorkshire after an accident.

DML 44282, 44283 (YX61 FYE, FYF) (ex FLN) from Vision Bus to Chartwell Bus Sales, Horsham, West Sussex and then to Eminence Travel, Walsall, West Midlands (all in May). Further to previous TLBs, then confirms that DML 44283 did go to Vision Bus.

DML 44284, 44285 (YX61 FYG, FYH) (ex FLN) from Vision Bus to MD Bus & Coach, St. Helens, Lancs (May).

DML 44292 (YX61 FYP) (ex FLN) is confirmed as being used for spares by Vision Bus.

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

- DML 44314 (YX12 AEA) (ex FLN) from Mistral Bus & Coach Vehicle Sales to Red Rose Travel, Dinton, Bucks. (May).
- DMS 44426, 44428 (YX60 FUG, FUH) (ex FLN) from Alansway Coaches / Country Bus to Chartwell Bus Sales, Horsham, West Sussex and then to Thomas of Rhondda, Porth. Mid Glamorgan (all in May).
- DMV 44228, 44251 (YX12 AP, AKU) (ex FLN) from Mistral Bus & Coach Vehicle Sales to Red Rose Travel, Dinton, Bucks. (May).
- DMV 44273, 44274 (YX61 FZR, FZS) (ex FLN) from Go Ahead London to Go North West (May). These were latterly numbered SEN 32 and 33 with Go Ahead London.
- DP 194 (EU53 PXZ) (ex GAL) was sold for scrap from Mr Coffee Ltd. (April 2022).
- LDP 272 (LX05 EYA) (ex GAL) was sold for preservation from Target Travel (February).
- LDP 276 (LX06 EYW) (ex GAL) from Ensign Bus to MC Tractors / Shelton Motors, Ramsey, Cambs. (September 2018).
- LDP 281, 282 (LX06 FAJ, FAK) (ex GAL) were sold for scrap by Avondale (by April and by February respectively).
- SE 34 (SN57 DXA) (ex GAL) is now being used for spares by Stephensons of Rochford (by April).
- SEN 32, 33 (YX61 FZR, FZS) (ex GAL) – see the corresponding entries for DMV 44273, 44274 (ex FLN) above.
- SOC 9 (LX08 ECY) (ex GAL) – correcting the entry in TLB705, this is a double decker and it was included in the incorrect paragraph in error (although only one reader noticed !) and the entry has been repeated and updated this month in the correct section.
- SOE 37, 39 (LX09 EVF, EVH) (ex GAL) from Ensign Bus to JSM Driver Training, London N18 (May).
- WS 35, 36, 38 (SN64 CUC, CUG, CUJ) (ex GAL) these well-travelled vehicles are now with Big Lemon (by May) for use as part of their new operation in Bath and Bristol. WS 35 and 38 were last recorded with Littles Travel and WS 36 was with West Norfolk Community Trust.
- DP 503 (X603 OKH, ex P11 VPA) (ex LU) was sold from Victorious Pentecostal Assembly (by January).
- DPS 645 (LG02 FFO) (ex LU) was sold from Abacus Driver Training Services (January) for scrap.
- DES 792 (LK07 BDU) (ex ML) from UK Coachways / Vision Bus to an unidentified scrapyard, Staffordshire (May).
- DSD 214 (LR02 BEU) (ex ML) was sold from Omnibus Kitchen (September).
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SERVICE VEHICLES

Section Editor: Thomas Young: e-mail to tom@ltsv.com or by post via 'The SUPs Editor (LTSV)' at our Lombard address (see page 1).

Additional information and updates: Nothing to report!

Bus Company Fleets; Newly reported vehicles

-	BL22 NHV	Seat Ibiza Car	Arriva London	White #	GY
-	FD72 ZTZ	Vauxhall Combo Van	Arriva London	White	**
133	BG23 DDV	Seat Ibiza Car	Arriva London	White #	DX
216	BG23 FYB	Seat Ibiza Car	Arriva London	White #	DX
-	BG23 KYA	Seat Arona Car	Arriva London	White #	DT
-	BG23 KZC	Seat Ibiza Car	Arriva London	White #	DT
121	BG23 KZM	Seat Ibiza Car	Arriva London	White #	DX
-	BG23 TWW	Seat Ibiza Car	Arriva London	White #	DT
-	BJ23 HHW	Seat Ibiza Car	Arriva London	White #	GY
122	BJ23 LDO	Seat Ibiza Car	Arriva London	White #	DX
220	BJ23 RMY	Seat Arona Car	Arriva London	White #	DX
132	BJ23 RWO	Seat Ibiza Car	Arriva London	White #	DX
-	BJ23 RXG	Seat Arona Car	Arriva London	White #	DT
-	FL23 JCX	Vauxhall Combo Van	Arriva London	White	?
-	FL23 PTZ	Vauxhall Combo Van	Arriva London	White	BN
-	AV72 ZNN	Ford Transit Connect Van	Metroline	Red	HD

Additional information

Abellio Ford Transit van YT06 DDX (6741) is still in stock, unlicensed at TF. Other vehicles now at TF are EJ57 WVE (6742, ex GW), EK10 XLJ (6769, ex BC), MK12 LBY (6783, ex GW) and SH12 XBU (6797, ex BC), while UHZ 3496 is at DH.

Yet more new vehicles for Arriva London have been reported. Note that BL22 NHV is correct. ** FD72 ZTZ is allocated to the iBus office in Finsbury Park. WM16 CJX is now numbered AD203, while GL70 XOM at DX is 222. Also at DX, DV68 WKA (numbered 218) remains in use so was not withdrawn last year. Vehicles withdrawn are HK63 YZY, FL14 HAX, FJ64 WZD, FH65 CCO, HV65 OAY/OAZ, FL16 SNX, WM16 CNZ, WO16 PUA, FP67 OGC/OOE/OMT/OVW/PHK, FJ18 WWC and HS19 FDE. Arriva SC vehicles withdrawn are EY67 UUL and GF68 VZB.

Go-Ahead crew ferry minibuses reported as having gained blue bus driver recruitment advertising livery are RF19 UZL/UZR, RJ19 HSG/HSL, RX71 SYU/SYV/SYY/SZO. Changes of allocation are RX18 LLA RR-MG, RX18 LLD RR-SI, RX18 LLG RR-SI, RX18 LLK RR-SI, RX18 LLN MG-SI, RX18 LLP BX-MG, RJ19 HSG MG-RR, and WP21 YCV C-MB. Van EF67 UCZ has gained company lettering. Lorry chassis J263 FYA and van L206 HYK are reported to have been sold a few years ago. They had been kept at Stockwell for training use by engineering apprentices.

Of the four new Metroline vans in TLB704, AV72 ZNL is at EW and AV72 ZPB at AH. EW's AV67 EUM is at Perivale CELF with accident damage.

Stagecoach vehicles allocated national fleetnumbers are VU69 FYO (91937), MJ20 UVH (92899), KM21 OWB (91192), KR21 YRT (91191), DY22 LDF (91758), DY22 LFD (91759), DY72 XMA (91763) and DV72 OBK (91764). Hired DL19 UGC is withdrawn.

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

Bakerloo & Overground: 29/30 April Harrow & Wealdstone to Stonebridge Park by Metroliner.

Overground: 07 May Willesden Junction & Gunnersbury by Metroliner. 14 May (late pm) Stratford & Camden Road by Metroliner. 1 May (late pm) Gospel Oak & Seven Sisters by Metroliner. 4 June (late pm) Stratford Richmond by Sullivan Bus.

DLR: 29/30 April, 01 May: West Ferry & Island Gardens by Metroliner and Arriva London.

Thameslink 07 May (early) St Pancras & West Hampstead by Go-Ahead and Metroliner. 14 May (early am) St Pancras & Harpenden by Go Ahead and Metroliner. Thameslink/Great Northern 21 May (early am) Finsbury Park & Potters Bar/ Stevenage Go Ahead and Metroliner.

Great Northern: 23 April (late night/early am) King's Cross & Alexandra Palace New Barnet/ Gordon Hill & Stevenage by Go-Ahead and Metroliner. 29/30 May (overnight) Finsbury Park & Welwyn Garden City by Go Ahead and Metroliner. 11 June (early am) Finsbury Park & Alexandra Palace by Go Ahead and Metroliner.

Metropolitan: 20/21 May Harrow-on-the-Hill & Watford via Rickmansworth; also Rickmansworth & Amersham/ Chesham, both by Sullivan d/ds. Also a shuttle Northwood & Moor Park by Metroliner.

District: 3/4 June Hammersmith & Acton Town and to Richmond by Metroliner.

Piccadilly: 27/05/2023: PL-1: Acton Town – Heathrow (calling at all stations to Hatton Cross then Heathrow Central Bus Station with late night journeys extended to Heathrow Terminal 5) by Abellio London (LT, E400, E40H & E400EV) & PL-3: Hammersmith - Heathrow Central Bus Station (for Terminals 2 and 3) with coaches from Corbel of London, London Borough of Havering, Lewis of Greenwich & Westbus (*Services also operated on 28 & 29/05/2023 but not seen*)

Southern: 10/11 Dec London Bridge & Streatham by Go Ahead Es(Commercial), WHVs 18 Dec West Croydon & Sutton by Go Ahead Es(Commercial), WHVs, MHVs. 27 Dec-02 Jan East Croydon & Clapham Junction by Go-Ahead WHVs, MHVs, WSDs, Es&ENs(Commercial), WVLs, EL1.

28 Dec Clapham Junction & East Croydon all stations by Go Ahead London (E400s & B9TLs).

5 Feb East Croydon & Gatwick all day by Go Ahead, Metrobus Sussex, Brighton & Hove,

Wattway, Sutton, BM Coaches and Crawley Luxury. Purley & Tattenham Corner by StreetLites from Passenger Plus, while later in the day a Southdown single decker & a Metrobus single decker were in use. No replacement service operated to Caterham - passengers being directed to route 407 buses.

Note: More Southern and a big back-log of South Western to come when space is available.

Members' Appeals

Adverts are included as a service to members from the advertisers. LOTS is not involved in any of them, nor does it necessarily endorse them. Readers must deal with advertisers direct.

For disposal: I have a nearly full collection of TLBs and LBMs from the early Nineties available free to a good home. Collection would need to be from Rayleigh, Essex. If interested please contact Gary on 07941 531575.

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

This TLB closed on 7-9 June and due for posting on 20 June. Closing date for TLB707 is Weds 5 July and due for posting on posting on Tues 18 July, Contributions to Editors by post or e-mail to davestewart297@gmail.com or to heads of sections for contact points. Later closing dates are Weds 02 Aug, 06 Sep, 04 Oct, 01 Nov, 29 Nov.



Sutton Garage is getting a large fleet of new Ee class of electric BYD/E400EVs. Ee 112 is in Westmead Road, Sutton where electric buses (trolleybuses on route 654) had ran once before (until March 1959). *(Terry Wong Min)*

The 54 Olympus-bodied Tridents of the DOE class at Sutton are being replaced by the Ee buses, in favour of being moved to other Go-Ahead companies. This example is DOE 41 in Cheam Road, Sutton. *(Terry Wong Min)*



Rear cover: On 28th April, the last day of route 16 to Victoria was honoured by RML 903. Part of the route started in 1905 but the full Cricklewood to Victoria link dates from 19/3/1906 and was numbered to 16 on 2/11/1908. *(Haydn Davies)*



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