

TLB710

The London Bus

Number 710
October 2023



London Omnibus Traction Society
www.lots.org.uk



Arriva route 340 was lost to RATP and Palmers Green had its small SW class of early StreetDecks depleted. RATP use a variety of types and ADH 45286 is at Harrow Weald. *(Haydn Davies)*

Four (of the ten) Arriva SWs moved to help out at Croydon. Invariably they are on route 312 and SW 2 traverses Lower Addiscombe Road displaying novel 'blind substitutes'. *(Richard Godfrey)*



Front cover: London United bought 206 'Polish' Scania's and the last one was restored from withdrawal and is back in service. SP 40206 is on the H98 at Hounslow West on 7 September. *(Haydn Davies)*



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



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Our principal services are centred on the **LOTS general office** at 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.

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

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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.

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

Closing date for TLB711 is Weds 1st November and due for posting on Tues 14th November.

Booked later closing dates are Wednesdays 29Nov 2023 (for 712), 06Jan 2024 (for 713).

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LOTS Meetings

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

The Mon20Nov meeting is a presentation by Austin Blackburn of Go Coachhire. (LSS)
Later dates in 2024 are Mondays 19Feb, 13May, June (AGM date tba), 30Sep, 18Nov.

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

Sun.22 October; London Bus Museum Brooklands 'Transportfest'. (LSS).

Sat. 4 November: Aldenham Transport Spectacular, Allum Hall, Allum Lane, Elstree. (10mins walk from Elstree and Borehamwood Station. Open 1000-1600, admission £4. (LSS)

Sun. 5 November: Running Day based on routes from the former Chalk Farm Garage with mostly RT/RM heritage vehicles on part routes; 24,29,31,68 and 139. Details, 0795 652 8474.

Sat, 18 November: NLETE Enfield Transport Bazaar, St Stephen's Church Hall, Village Road, EN1 2EY. Open 11.00-14.30. Admission £3 (acc. children free).

Sun. 19 November: Running Day based on routes from the former Finchley Garage with RT/RM types on parts of routes 13,125,134,221,263. Details from 0795 652 8474.

Looking ahead: London Bus Museum's major events at Brooklands in 2024 are 14April, 23June, 20Oct.

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 full Sales List is 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 LOTS items:

SUP-45A London Bus Garages, allocations and routes (£5.50). This lists all garages (irrespective of operator) from A to X. Each has a based fleetlist and a list of routes, types allocated and basic M-F PVR figures. This first edition is dated September, ie to match info in TLB709.

LOTS LBM London Bus Magazine No.205 Autumn 2023 £6.00. Principal articles are: Part 2 of Malc McDonald's history of bus services in Thamesmead, and a review of Sunday-only bus services in the 1960s and 1970s by a new (to LBM) author named Martin Reynolds but being published under his long-established nom de plume of "Watton".

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 £6.00. Principal articles are : Thamesmead half a century on (Malc McDonald) and Roving round the airfields (Graham Burnell).

LOTS LBM – London Bus Magazine No.203 Spring 2023 £6.00. 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.

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

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

2023 Stagecoach Fleet Book by 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.

****NEW**** London's Advert Buses by Matthew Wharmby. £16.99 published by Key Publishing. 230 colour photos - soft back.

****NEW**** from the Southdown Enthusiasts' Club;

SEC Fleet List 2023 £8.00.

Sussex Independents 2023 £6.50

Southdown Fleet & Routes 1969 £8.00

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).

Southdown Fleet History Part 36: 1969 (thirty dual-purpose Leopards and the first rear-engine double-deckers) £7.00 (SEC)

****NEW****A London Country Busman, 1975-1990 by Matthew Keyte £30.00 (Capital Transport)

****NEW**** Town & City Buses by Stewart J. Brown and Kevin McCormack. £35.00 , 160 pages, with over 200 colour photos from around the UK from the 1960s to 1985.

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

GENERAL and INDUSTRY NEWS

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

National news, TfL and Politics

The HS2 high speed rail scheme has dominated the news headlines with speculation the Government plans to drop the Birmingham to Manchester section. Prime Minister Rishi Sunak finally confirmed cancellation of that line in his speech to the Conservative Party Conference on 4 October. He pledged that every penny saved would be reinvested in transport, with £36 billion for the north and midlands and ‘across the country’. HS2 will be completed to Euston however, ending speculation it could be cut back to Old Oak Common, but the Prime Minister said the Euston project would be run by a new management team and ‘rescoped’ with fewer platforms. There will be a new rail link between Birmingham and the existing West Coast main line near Lichfield (which was already planned to be used before Phase 2 was completed). This will enable trains from London to Manchester, Liverpool and Scotland to use HS2 tracks from Euston, cutting the journey time to Manchester to 1 hour 40 minutes, 27 minutes quicker than now. The decision to cancel the HS2 line north of Birmingham was strongly criticised by Andy Burnham, Labour Mayor for Greater Manchester who said the north had been betrayed while Andy Street, Conservative Mayor of the West Midlands said he was ‘very disappointed’.

Amongst the other pledges made in the Prime Minister’s conference speech were an extension of the £2 maximum bus fare outside London until ‘the end of 2024’. This had been due to increase to £2.50 from 1 November. Buses are described as ‘our most used and most loved form of public transport’ in a government document detailing the funding plans. Several road improvement schemes were announced together with a new station in Bradford, expansion of the West Midlands Metro and a tram for Leeds although it is unclear whether these are completely new announcements. There will also be a staggering £8 billion (yes, billion) available to fix potholes on roads around the country!

Further national rail strikes took place on 30 September and 4 October following action by RMT and ASLEF members, with restricted services throughout that week. The dates were clearly chosen to have maximum impact on Conservative Party members attending their conference in Manchester. Fortunately, two strikes on the London Underground planned for 4 and 6 October were called off following significant progress in talks between the RMT and London Underground at ACAS.

The Government has announced new measures aimed at helping the motorist which include allowing them to use bus lanes at times when buses aren’t running (likely to be mostly at night when motorists wouldn’t benefit from using them anyway!). Other measures include more money for pothole repairs, new guidance to prevent blanket 20mph schemes and measures to make parking easier including a new national parking app ending the need to use multiple apps. The other political parties have kept quiet on these plans, but they have been attacked by Bus Users UK whose Chief Executive Claire Walters said “it was astonishing the Government should be considering such a regressive move given the growing and urgent need for more sustainable transport”.

Corporate and company news

Claire Miles has been appointed New Chief Executive Officer at **Stagecoach group**. She previously held several senior roles at Centrica, Yell, Homecare and Hive and is a visiting professor at Aston University.

----- *General and Industry News* -----

Rotala may go into public ownership, owned by three of its directors who have indicated a wish to purchase the businesses entire share capital. According to a report in Route One magazine the company has been listed on the Alternative Investments Market since 2005. Since then Rotala has expanded with the purchase of Claribel Coaches, Midland Classic, Johnsons Coaches and First's operations in Bolton, but its operations in Greater Manchester have been reduced following the introduction of franchising.

Flixbus has announced increased profits for the first half of 2023 which represents 54% growth year on year. The company says it has been the most successful half year in its history. Flixbus now operates in 41 countries, launching recently in Finland, Greece and in Brazil.

Other General News

The first major franchised bus network outside London was launched on 24 September when bus services in Bolton and Wigan became the responsibility of Transport for Greater Manchester. Most services in these areas are now run under contract by Go Ahead owned Go North West with Rotala responsible for some of the smaller routes. There was extensive media coverage on the launch date which was generally very positive towards buses. Liverpool could follow Greater Manchester in future years after a consultation carried out by Liverpool City Region Combined Authority showed that around 70% of responses were in favour of franchising. Liverpool City Council has confirmed that some of the 24 bus lanes in the city removed in 2014 by the then Mayor, will be reinstated to encourage more bus use.

There will be no more exhibitions by Coach & Bus UK. Their event due to be held on 8 & 9 November this year has been cancelled. The other exhibitor EuroBus Expo which alternates with Coach and Bus UK every two years will return in 2024. It will be held at the NEC in Birmingham between 12-14 November. After that there will be one event held every two years.

News from Scotland - Scottish independent operator **McGills** is pulling out of West Lothian. McGills only took over from First Scotland last year and had revived the Eastern Scottish brand with a new livery. The company cited competition from Lothian Buses subsidiary Lothian Country and worsening traffic conditions. Meanwhile **Lothian Buses** has ordered a large batch of electric buses for the Scottish capital. 50 Volvo BZL battery electric double deckers are on order for delivery in 2024. Scottish rail passengers now benefit from off peak fares all day on **Scotrail services**. Examples of reduced single fares include Glasgow to Edinburgh, down from £28.90 to £14.90 and Perth to Dundee down from £14.40 to £9.90. This is a trial for six months.

Wrightbus is to supply four StreetDeck Hydroliners for services to the Sizewell C Nuclear Power Station in Suffolk. This 'may' lead to up to 150 more for use on services for construction staff.

Class 150 diesel units are being tested on the **Marston Vale line** between Bedford and Bletchley to replace the Viva Rail Class 230 former D stock units. A replacement bus service has been in operation since last December and is expected to continue until at least November.

West Midlands Metro finally arrived at Wolverhampton Station on 21 September after four years of delays. The line now has two terminals in Wolverhampton but for the time being all trams will run to the station while works take place on the original tracks to St Georges. Also in the Midlands, **First has begun a direct 'Aircoach' service** from Leicester to Birmingham Airport with a daytime journey time of around 70 minutes. The service is operated with 16 seat Mercedes minibuses. Single tickets cost £9 in advance or £16 to the driver. The new service competes with National Express which already runs coaches between Leicester and Birmingham Airport.

Transport for the West Midlands has reallocated around £40 million of its Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) settlement to protecting the regions services until 2025. Without this funding around one third of services were under threat of frequency reductions or withdrawal. When BSIP was launched it specifically precluded funding for existing services, but the Department for Transport has recently relaxed this restriction.

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 110, 129, 236, 242/N242, 272, 283, 440, P4 and SL4 from tranches 862C, 864A, 876, 877, 878, 879, 879A, 881 and 886 awarded, starting on 24th February 2024 (242/N242, 283), 27th April 2024 (110, 236, 394, P4), 25th May 2024 (272, 440), 22nd June 2024 (260,302) 17th August 2024 (243/=) and a date TBA in 2025 (129, SL4).

Routes 129 and SL4 are for 7 years; Routes 110, 236, 272, 394, 440 and P4 are for 6 years; Routes 242/N242, 243/= are for 7 years, whilst routes 260, 302 are (unusually) for 3 years and 283 for 2 years.

- 110 Retained by London United using existing diesel single-deck vehicles (pvr 14 to TBC).
- 129 Awarded to Go-Ahead Blue Triangle using new electric double-deck vehicles. Note this is the extension of existing Go-Ahead London Central route currently Lewisham to North Greenwich and extended via the new Silvertown Tunnel via London City Airport to Great Eastern Quay. (pvr 7 to 22).
- 236 Retained by Stagecoach Lea Interchange using existing diesel single-deck vehicles (pvr 14).
- 242/N242 Awarded to Stagecoach East London using new electric double-deck vehicles. Currently operated by Arriva London North from Clapton (CT) garage (pvr 14).
- 243/= Retained by Arriva London North using new electric double-deck vehicles (pvr 27).
- 260 Retained by Metroline Travel using existing hybrid double-deck vehicles (pvr 17).
- 272 Retained by London United using existing diesel single-deck vehicles (pvr 8 to 9).
- 283 Retained by London United using existing diesel single-deck vehicles (pvr 10).
- 302 Retained by Metroline Travel using existing hybrid double-deck vehicles (pvr 16).
- 394 Retained by Stagecoach East London using existing diesel single-deck vehicles (pvr 10).
- 440 Retained by London United using existing diesel single-deck vehicles (pvr 11 to 12).
- P4 Awarded to Go-Ahead London Central using existing diesel single-deck vehicles. Currently operated by Stagecoach Selkent from Catford (TL) garage. (pvr 13).
- SL4 Awarded to Go-Ahead Blue Triangle using new electric double-deck vehicles. This is the new route from Canary Wharf to Grove Park via the new Silvertown Tunnel previously referred to as X239. (pvr18).

The tendering programme has been revised. The current contracts for routes 65/N65, 71, 281/=, 371, 418, 639/670, E1 and K5 will be terminated early and have been added to the 2024/25 tendering programme. Jointly-worked routes 406 and 418 will be retendered together as a combined contract. Route SL3 in tranche 871B will be on short-term contract so it can be reviewed alongside the contract for route 269, so has been added again to Tranche 905. The same seems to apply to route SL7 as this is also Tranche 915. Route 45 has been separated out into new tranche 900A.

Details of the 2025-26 tendering programme have been announced and will be in a later TLB. The list is on the TfL website but may be subject to changes and any 2-year extensions anyway.

The full list of routine tender tranches was in TLBs708/9 but the next few likely for awards soon are

#871A (3-5/24)	SL2 (Walthamstow – North Woolwich)	--
#871B (3-5/24)	SL3 (Thamesmead - Bromley)	--
#871C (3-5/24)	SL5 (Bromley – Croydon)	--
#873 (04/24)	689 (Arriva LS)	--
#873A (03/24)	SL7 (ex X26) (Go-Ahead Metrobus)	--
#874 (06/24)	E3 (London United)	--

ROUTE AND SERVICE CHANGES

Saturday 5th August 2023: As in TLB709.

Saturday 12th August 2023: As in TLB709.

Saturday 19th August 2023: As in TLB709.

Saturday 26th August 2023: As in TLB709, EXCEPT, the re-allocation of route 395 was deferred by the company at the last minute, although WTT schedules were issued on the TfL website and the new allocation was shown at our press date. They have now reverted back to the previous schedules at Harrow on the TfL website. This means that SUP45A currently shows the route 395 at Park Royal (RP) garage, although it is still planned to move there at a future date.

It was also pointed out by member Martin that the WTT on the TfL website for route 366 shows it re-allocated to Silvertown (SI) garage from 29th July, but it does remain at North Woolwich (DS) garage and never moved! This wasn't the only technical error on TfL downloads that occurred that date (see TLB708), but always happy to set the record straight.

Sunday 27th August and BH Monday 28th August 2023: As in TLB709, with routes 406/418, 411 and 465 gaining PVR changes as follows:-

London United: 406/418 to 15/13/8 #TV301+ (406); #311+ (418) with joint working;

411 to 5/5/3 #TV51+, 465 to 7/6/4 #TV11+.

Still no correction to the uploaded 683 timetable for Friday, although these should still be running to the previous pattern with a later finish on Winter Fridays.

Saturday 2nd September 2023: As in TLB709.

Saturday 9th September 2023:

- 83 (*Metroline Travel-PV*) (Golders Green Station & Alperton Sainsbury's) and
- N83 (*Metroline Travel-PV*) (Golders Green Station & Ealing Hospital) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using new WDE-class Wrightbus StreetDeck Electroliner electric double-decks in due course.
- 218 (*London Transit-X*) (North Acton Station & Hammersmith, Bus Station) Revised to pick up and set down in the Upper Bus Station.
- 390/= (*Metroline Travel-HT*) (Victoria Station & Archway Station) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 483 (*Metroline Travel-PV*) (Harrow, Bus Station & Windmill Park) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing VWH-class Volvo B5LH Wrightbus Gemini 3 hybrid double-deck vehicles.
- 686 (*Go-Ahead Blue Triangle-RR*) (Romford, St. Edward's School & Harold Hill, Dagnam Park Square SDO) Revised timetable on Monday PM.
- N266 (*London United-RP*) (Brent Cross, Shopping Centre & Hammersmith, Bus Station) Revised to pick up and set down in the Upper Bus Station.
- R68 (*Abellio-TF*) (Hampton Court Station & Kew, Retail Park) Curtailed daily at Twickenham Station until Spring/Summer 2024 due to roadworks at Richmond, Manor Circus.
- R70 (*Abellio-TF*) (Nurserylands & Richmond, Manor Circus Homebase) Extended daily from Manor Circus via route R68 to Kew, Retail Park until Spring/Summer 2024 for roadworks at Manor Circus. These changes are to 'protect' the lower frequency R68 and replace it with the higher frequency R70 for more effective control.

PVR Changes from 9th September 2023:

Abellio: R68 to 6/6/6 #TF31+ R70 to 15/13/9 #TF41+;

Go-Ahead Blue Triangle: No change to 686 PVRs;

London Transit: No change to 218 PVRs;

London United: No change to N266 PVRs;

Metroline Travel: No change to 83/N83, 390/= and 483 PVRs.

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

- Saturday 16th September 2023: Widened timetables on routes 105 for HS2 works on Greenford Road.
- 199 (Stagecoach Selkent-TL) (Bellingham, Catford Garage & Canada Water Station) and
N199 (Stagecoach Selkent-TL) (Trafalgar Square & St. Mary Cray Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using new electric double-deck vehicles in due course, although the N199 may still use hybrid double-deck vehicles for charging reasons.
- 276 (Newham Hospital & Stoke Newington Common) LBSL QC contract awarded to Stagecoach East London using new electric single-deck vehicles in due course, from Lea Interchange (LI) Garage. Previously operated by *Go-Ahead Docklands* from Silvertown (SI) Garage.
- 356 (Stagecoach Selkent-KB) (Shirley, Monks Orchard & Sydenham Hill) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 376 (Go-Ahead Docklands-SI) (Beckton, Bus Station & East Ham, Newham Town Hall) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract but intended to be operated from River Road (RR) garage in due course so novated to Go-Ahead Blue Triangle. Initially using existing SE-class E20D Enviro200 diesel single-deck vehicles, a mix of existing and new SEe-class BYD D9UR Enviro200EV electric single-deck vehicles will be introduced when the route is re-allocated.
- D3 (Bethnal Green, Bonner Road & Leamouth, Orchard Place) LBSL QC contract awarded to Go-Ahead Blue Triangle from North Woolwich (DS) garage using new SEe-class BYD D9UR Enviro200EV electric single-deck vehicles in due course. Previously operated by *Stagecoach East London* from West Ham (WH) garage.
- D6 (Stagecoach East London-HK) (Cambridge Heath, Ash Grove Garage & Crossharbour, ASDA) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- D8 (Stagecoach East London-LI) (Stratford, Bus Station & Crossharbour, ASDA) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.

PVR Changes from 16th September 2023:

Go-Ahead Blue Triangle: D3 to 9/8/6 #SI1+; (see above!)

Go-Ahead Docklands: 376 to 10/10/4 #SI131+, 276 withdrawn.

Stagecoach East London: 276 to 17/16/14 #LI301+, no change to D6, D8 PVRs, D3, 376 withdrawn;

Stagecoach Selkent: 199 to 12/12/12 #TL261+ N199 to 7 SuThN/8 FrSaN #TL121 (SuThN),

otherwise #TL261+ from daytime 199, no change to 356 PVRs.

Saturday 23rd September 2023:

275 (Stagecoach East London-T) (St. James Street Station & Barkingside, Tescos) Widened timetables daily to allow for the diversion to avoid the bridge in Broadmead Road. (See diversions, TLB708) The diversion, which also affects route 675, has been extended until further notice.

PVR Change from 23rd September 2023:

Stagecoach East London: 275 to 13/12/9 #T201+.

Saturday 30th September 2023:

Widened timetable Daily on route 110 for Manor Circus road works. (see also diversions, later).

1 (Go-Ahead London Central-MG) (Canada Water Station & Tottenham Court Road Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract and rerouted from Holborn replacing route 168 via Russell Square, Eversholt Street, Camden High Street (return Bayham Street), Chalk Farm Road, Haverstock Hill, Rosslyn Hill, Pond Street to terminate at Hampstead Heath, South End Green. Using existing MHV- or WHV-class Volvo B5LH MCV Evoseti or Wrightbus Gemini hybrid double-deck vehicles and re-allocated from Morden Wharf (MG) to Camberwell (Q) garage. Frequency increased from x10 to x8-9mins Mon-Sat daytimes, no change to Sunday and evening frequency.

N1 (Go-Ahead London Central-MG/PM) (Tottenham Court Road Station & Thamesmead, Boiler House) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing MHV- or WHV-class Volvo B5LH MCV Evoseti or Wrightbus Gemini hybrid double-deck vehicles and re-allocated from Morden Wharf (MG) and Peckham (PM) garages to Camberwell (Q) garage.

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

Saturday 30th September, continued:

- 42 (Go-Ahead London Central-Q) (Liverpool Street Station, Bishopsgate & East Dulwich, Sainsbury's) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing EH, MHV and WHV-class hybrid double-deck vehicles.
- 51 (Go-Ahead London Central-BX) (Woolwich, High Street & Orpington Station) New daily timetables for running time.
- 59 (Arriva London South-BN) (St.Bartholomew's Hospital & Streatham Hill, Telford Avenue) extra M-F AM journeys introduced.
- 108/= (Go-Ahead London Central-MG) (Stratford International & Lewisham, Town Centre) The evening double-deck service between Lewisham & North Greenwich Station to be contractually linked (as 108D) with route 185 so re-allocated to Camberwell (Q) garage. Otherwise, the day and nighttime route have their LBSL (QC) renewed to run for 7 years, as part of the contractual alteration following the withdrawal of route 521 and re-assignment of that contract (*see also tenders TLB704*).
- 132 (Go-Ahead London Central-BX) (North Greenwich Station & Bexleyheath, Shopping Centre) New daily timetables for running time.
- 164 (Go-Ahead London General-AL) (Wimbledon Station & Sutton Station) Proposed extension to Belmont Station deferred for the time being.
- 165 (Stagecoach East London-RM) (Romford, The Brewery & Rainham, Abbey Wood Lane) BSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 168 (Metroline Travel-HT) (Hampstead Heath, South End Green & Old Kent Road, Tesco) Route WITHDRAWN. (*see also 1, 188/=*).
- 179 (Stagecoach East London-BK) (Ilford, Hainault Street & Chingford Station) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 185 (Go-Ahead London Central-Q) (Victoria Station & Lewisham, Town Centre) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using new Ee-class BYD D8UR Enviro400EV electric double-decks in due course. Mon-Sat daytime frequency reduced from x8 to x8-9mins. Note this contract is operationally linked to the late evening double-deck journeys on route 108.
- 188/= (Go-Ahead London Central-Q) (North Greenwich Station & Russell Square) Withdrawn from Russell Square and rerouted instead at Holborn to Tottenham Court Road Station replacing the withdrawn part of route 1. Re-allocated from Camberwell (Q) to Morden Wharf (MG) garage.
- 193 (Stagecoach East London-NS) (Romford, Queen's Hospital & County Park Estate, Essex Gardens) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 252 (Stagecoach East London-RM) (Hornchurch, Town Centre & Colliers Row, Clockhouse Lane) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 298 (Sullivans-SM) (Arnos Grove Station & Potters Bar Station) and ..
- 299 (Sullivans-SM) (Muswell Hill Broadway & Cockfosters Station) New daily timetables for running time.
- 346 (Upminster Station & Upminster Park Estate, Waycross Road, Mon-Sat) LBSL QC contract awarded to Stagecoach East London from Rainham (RM) Garage, using existing diesel single-deck vehicles. Previously operated by *Go-Ahead Blue Triangle* from River Road (RR) garage using SE-class AD20D Enviro200 diesel single-deck vehicles.
- 355 (Go-Ahead Metrobus-C) (Mitcham, Cricketers & Brixton Station) Re-allocated from Croydon (C) garage to Camberwell (Q) garage, thus novated from Go-Ahead Metrobus to Go-Ahead London Central.
- 404 (Cane Hill, Crawford Crescent & Caterham-on-the-Hill, Westway Common) LBSL QC contract awarded to Abellio from Beddington (BC) garage using existing diesel single-deck vehicles. Previously operated by *London United* from Tolworth (TV) garage using SDE-class AD20D Enviro200 diesel single-deck vehicles.
- 450 (Lower Sydenham, Sainsbury's & West Croydon, Bus Station) LBSL QC contract awarded to Go-Ahead Metrobus from Croydon (C) garage using new SEe-class BYD D9UR Enviro200EV electric single-deck vehicles. Previously operated by *Arriva London South* from Norwood (N) garage with SLS-class Wrightbus StreetLites. Mon-Sat daytime frequency reduced from x8 to x10 mins.

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

Saturday 30th September, continued:

- 485 (*Go-Ahead London General-AL*) (Wandsworth, High Street & Hammersmith Bridge, South Side) Seasonal withdrawal of last round trip via Wetlands Centre.
- C3 (Clapham Junction, Falcon Road & Earl's Court, Tesco) LBSL QC contract awarded to Abellio using new electric double-deck vehicles from Battersea (QB) Garage. Previously operated by *London Transit* from Westbourne Park (X) garage using OME-class Optare MetroDecker Electric double-deck vehicles.

PVR Changes from 30th September 2023:

Abellio: C3 to 9/9/6 #QB251+, 404 to 3/3/3 #BC451+,
Arriva London South: 59 to 22/19/12 #BN91+, 450 withdrawn;
Go-Ahead Blue Triangle: 346 withdrawn.
Go-Ahead London Central: 1 to 23/22/16 #Q41+ N1 to 6 every night #Q271+,
51 to 19/19/13 #BX21+,
108 to 17/16/10 #MG161+ and 2/-/- #NX251+, 108D to +/+ (+3/185) #Q121+,
132 to 16/16/12 #BX81+, 185 to 23*/23*/17* #Q121+ (*108D),
188 to 21/21/17 #MG101+, =188 to 4 SuThN/5 FrSaN #MG301+,
321 to 17/16/14 #NX221+ (crosslinks to 108D withdrawn),
355 to 12/13/9 #Q181+, no change to 42 PVRs;
Go-Ahead London General: No change to 485 PVRs;
Go-Ahead Metrobus: 450 to 15/15/10 #C101+, 355 to London Central;
London Transit: C3 withdrawn.
London United: 404 withdrawn.
Metroline Travel: 168 withdrawn.
Stagecoach East London: 346 to 3/3/- #RM451+, no change to 165, 179, 193, 252 PVRs,
Sullivans: No change to 298, 299 PVRs.

Saturdays 30th September/7th October and Sundays 1st/8th October 2023:

The southbound bore of Blackwall Tunnel was closed so route 108/= was split to run in two portions for each weekend, (as noted before: Lewisham to North Greenwich & Stratford International to Canning Town), although from midnight on the Sunday until 05:00 on Monday morning, buses returned to through routing via the northbound bore but was diverted via Tower Bridge southbound until the southbound bore re-opened.

Monday 2nd October 2023:

Wandsworth Bridge re-opened from 04:00 therefore routes 28/N28, 295, C3 restored to normal routes with temporary route 728 withdrawn after operation on Sunday.

621 (*Stagecoach Selkent -TL*) (Avery Hill, Stationers' Crown Woods Academy & Lewisham, Town Centre, SDO) PM journey revised to depart at 15:15 MTuThF, 14:15 Wed.

624 (*Go-Ahead London Central-BX*) (Avery Hill, Stationers' Crown Woods Academy & Grove Park Station, SDO) PM journey revised to depart at 15:25 MTuThF, 14:25 Wed.

No Change to PVRs.

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

Saturday 7th October 2023:

21 (*Go-Ahead London Central-NX*) (Holloway, Nag's Head & Lewisham, Lewisham Centre) and
N21 (*Go-Ahead London Central-NX*) (Trafalgar Square & Bexleyheath, Shopping Centre) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing LT-class NRM new Routemasters on route 21, with existing EH-class AD40H Enviro400H hybrid double-deck vehicles on route N21.

32 (*Metroline Travel-W*) (Kilburn Park Station & Edgware Station) and
N32 (*Metroline Travel-W*) (Victoria Station & Edgware Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing LT-class NRM new Routemasters.

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Saturday 7th October, continued:

- 107 (*Metroline Travel-PB*) (New Barnet Station & Edgware Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing VMH and VWH-class Volvo B5LH hybrid double-deck vehicles. Early morning and late evening frequency increased from x30 to x15 mins, and Sunday daytime from x20 to x15 mins.
- 165 (*Stagecoach East London-RM*) (Romford, The Brewery & Rainham, Abbey Wood Lane) Revised weekend timetables for reliability.
- 189/= (*Metroline Travel-W*) (Marble Arch & Brent Cross, Shopping Centre) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing LT-class NRM new Routemasters.
- 195 (*Abellio-GW*) (Charville Lane Estate & Brentford, County Court) New daily timetables for running time.
- 252 (*Stagecoach East London-RM*) (Hornchurch, Town Centre & Colliers Row, Clockhouse Lane) Revised weekend timetables for reliability.
- 316 (*Metroline West-WJ*) (Cricklewood Garage & White City, Bus Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using VMSL-class Volvo BZL/MCV electric single-decks in due course.
- 632 (*Metroline Travel-W*) (Kilburn Park Station & Grahame Park, Corner Mead, SDO) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing LT-class NRM new Routemasters.
- P12 (*Go-Ahead London Central-PM*) (Surrey Quays Shopping Centre & Brockley Rise, Chandos) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using new SSee-class BYD D9UR Enviro200EV electric single-deck vehicles in due course. Mon-Sat daytime frequency reduced from x12 to x15 mins, Sundays and evenings from x15 to x20 mins.

Saturday 14th October 2023: Still no definitive date for the opening of Brent Cross West Station, but in any case, none of the routes consulted for alteration to serve it had been announced at time of going to press. Widened timetable daily on route 419 for Manor Circus road works.

Widened timetables for routes 90 and 140 for HS2 works at Northolt, route 297 for HS2 works at Perivale and for route 220 for road works at Old Oak Lane. Normal timetables restored for routes affected by the Wandsworth Bridge closure.

- 206 (*Metroline West-WJ*) (Kilburn Park Station & Wembley Park, The Paddocks) One working on Mon-to-Fri converted to VMH operation to cover school loadings.
- 223 (Harrow, Bus Station & Wembley Central, Montrose Crescent) LBSL QC contract awarded to Metroline West from Willesden Junction (WJ) garage using existing DEL-class AD E20D Enviro200 diesel single-deck vehicles. Previously operated by *London Sovereign* from Harrow (SO) garage using DLE-class AD20D Enviro200 diesel single-deck vehicles.
- 224 (*London United-RP*) (St. Raphael's Pitfield Way & Alperton, Sainsbury's) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 279 (*Arriva London North-E*) (Manor House Station & Waltham Cross, Bus Station) and
- N279 (*Arriva London North-EC*) (Trafalgar Square & Waltham Cross, Bus Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using new ES-class Wrightbus StreetDeck Electroliner electric double-deck vehicles in due course on route 279. Note correction to garage allocation for the N279 which continues with existing LT-class NRM new Routemasters.
- W3 (*Arriva London North-WN*) (Finsbury Park Station & Northumberland Park Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing HV-class Volvo B5LH Wrightbus Gemini 3 hybrid double-deck vehicles and T-class Enviro400s. The Saturday daytime frequency reduced from every x6 to 6-7mins.

Sunday 29th October 2023:

- 246 (*Stagecoach Selkent-TB*) (Bromley North Station & Westerham) Last day of seasonal Su/PH extension to Chartwell.

Saturday 4th November 2023:

- 221 (*Arriva London North-WN*) (Edgware Station & Turnpike Lane Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing HV-class Volvo B5LH/Wrightbus hybrid double-deck vehicles.

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Saturday 11th November 2023:

- 38 (Arriva London North-CT) (Victoria Station & Clapton Pond) and
 N38 (Arriva London North-CT) (Victoria Station & Walthamstow Central Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing LT-class NRM new Routemasters. Weekend service on the N38 revised to run every x30mins Walthamstow & Piccadilly Circus, every x30 mins Walthamstow & Victoria Station.
 363 (Crystal Palace & Elephant & Castle, London Road) LBSL (QC) contract awarded to Abellio from Walworth (WL) garage using a mix of new electric and hybrid double-deck vehicles, types to be confirmed. Currently operated by *Go-Ahead London Central* from Peckham (PM) garage using EH-class AD E40H Enviro400H hybrid double-deck vehicles.

Saturday 18th November 2023:

- 14/= (Go-Ahead London General-AF) (Putney Heath, Green Man & Russell Square) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using a mix of existing EH-, WHV- and MHV-class hybrid double-deck AD E40H Enviro400H, Volvo B5LH Wrightbus Gemini 3, or MCV EvoSeti vehicles. Night service increased at weekends from x20 mins to every x15 mins.
 39 (Go-Ahead London General-GM) (Clapham Junction, Falcon Road & Putney Bridge Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract, using new SEe-class electric vehicles in due course.
 74 (Go-Ahead London General-AF) (Baker Street Station & Putney, High Street) and
 N74 (Go-Ahead London General-AF) (Baker Street Station & Roehampton, Danebury Avenue) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using a mix of existing EH-, WHV- and MHV-class hybrid double-deck AD E40H Enviro400H, Volvo B5LH/ Wrightbus or MCV EvoSeti vehicles.
 77 (Go-Ahead London General-SW) (Tooting Station & Waterloo) Re-routed at County Hall to terminate at Waterloo Station via Station Approach (Taxi Road), instead of Concert Hall Approach.
 211 (London United-V) (Hammersmith, Bus Station & Waterloo Station) Withdrawn between Sloane Square and Waterloo and re-routed at Sloane Square via Lower Sloane Street, Chelsea Bridge, Queenstown Road and Battersea Park Road to terminate at Battersea Power Station (LUL station). The changes to routes 77 and 211 were part of the Central London changes originally proposed to start on 29th April 2023 but deferred until now.
 430 (Go-Ahead London General-AF) (South Kensington, Natural History Museum & Roehampton, Danebury Avenue) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using a mix of existing EH-, WHV- and MHV-class hybrid double-deck AD E40H Enviro400H, Volvo B5LH Wrightbus Gemini 3, or MCV EvoSeti vehicles.
 436 (Go-Ahead London Central-NX) (Lewisham, Lewisham Centre & Battersea Power Station) and
 N136 (Go-Ahead London Central-NX) (Oxford Circus & Chislehurst, War Memorial) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using a mix of existing EH-class hybrid double-deck AD E40H Enviro400H vehicles.
 H20 (Abellio-TF) (Hounslow Civic Street & Twickenham, Tesco) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing diesel single-deck vehicles.
 H25 (Abellio-TF) (Hatton Cross & Hanworth, Butts Farm) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
 U7 (Abellio-DH) (Uxbridge Station & Hayes, Sainsbury's) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing diesel single-deck vehicles.

Saturday 25th November 2023:

Note: it is likely that other re-allocation moves may be made at London Sovereign, to be confirmed next month. (See also service proposals, later).

- 44 (Go-Ahead London General-AL) (Tooting Station & Victoria Station) Re-allocated to Stockwell (SW) garage.
 183 (London Sovereign-SO) (Pinner, Love Lane & Golders Green Station) Frequency reduced Mon-Sat daytimes from x7½ to x10 mins and Sundays and evenings from x8 to x12mins.

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Saturday 25th November, continued:

- 223 (*Metroline West-WJ*) (Wembley Central, Montrose Crescent & Harrow, Bus Station) Extended Daily via H14 via Harrow View, terminating at “Eastman Village” (Newman Avenue), then out of service to turn at Oxhey Lane.
- 698 (*London Sovereign-BT*) (West Drayton, Station Road & Ickenham, Douay Martyrs School, SDO) Re-allocated to Hounslow (AV) garage, thus novated to London United.
- H14 (*London Sovereign-SO*) (Northwick Park Hospital & Hatch End, St. Thomas Drive) Re-allocated from Harrow (SO) to Edgware (BT) garage, but remaining allocated at Canons Park (CP) outstation.
- SL10 NEW ROUTE (*London Sovereign-SO*) (Harrow, Bus Station & North Finchley, Bus Station, Express) via route 183 from Harrow to Hendon, Church Lane, then via Finchley Lane, Hendon Lane, Ballards Lane to North Finchley, Bus Station. To be operated by BCE-class BYD D8UR Enviro 400EV electric double-deck vehicles, Mon-Sat daytimes every x12mins and Sundays and evenings every x15mins. Note this is a variation to the 183 contract.
- W19 (*Stagecoach East London-AW*) (Ilford High Road & Walthamstow, Argall Avenue Industrial Estate) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing diesel single-deck vehicles.

Saturday 2nd December 2023:

- 51 (*Go-Ahead London Central-BX*) (Woolwich, High Street & Orpington Station) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 61 (*Stagecoach Selkent-TB*) (Bromley North Station & Chislehurst, Gordon Arms) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 78 (Shoreditch High Street & Nunhead, St. Mary’s Road), LBSL (QC) contract awarded to Go-Ahead London Central using existing EH-class hybrid double-deck vehicles from Peckham (PM) garage. Currently operated by *Arriva London North* from Ash Grove (AE) garage using HV-class Volvo B5LH Wrightbus Gemini 3 hybrid double-deck vehicles.
- 152 (*Go-Ahead London General-AL*) (Pollards Hill, Westmoreland Way & New Malden, Fountain) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using new SEe-class BYD D8UR Enviro200EV electric single-decks in due course.
- 157 (Crystal Palace & Morden Station) LBSL (QC) contract awarded to Go-Ahead London General using new Ee-class electric BYD D8UR AD Enviro 400EV City double-deck vehicles from existing EH-class hybrid double-deck vehicles from Merton (AL) garage. Currently operated by *Arriva London South* from Thornton Heath (TH) garage, using T-class AD40D Enviro400 diesel double-deck vehicles, although using buses based at Norwood (N) garage, Mon-Sat.
- 261 (*Stagecoach Selkent-TB*) Lewisham, Town Centre & Princess Royal University Hospital) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 321/= (*Go-Ahead London Central-NX*) (New Cross Gate, Sainsbury’s & Foots Cray, Tesco) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using new Ee-class electric BYD D8UR AD Enviro 400EV City double-deck vehicles in due course.
- 381 (*Abellio-WL*) (County Hall & Peckham, Bus Station) and
- N381 (*Abellio-WL*) (Whitehall & Peckham, Bus Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using new electric double-deck vehicles in due course, type to be confirmed.
- 452 (*London Transit-X*) (Vauxhall Station & Kensal Rise Station) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- D7 (Mile End Station & Poplar, All Saints) LBSL (QC) contract awarded to Stagecoach East London using new electric double-deck vehicles from Ash Grove (HK) garage in due course. Currently operated by *Go-Ahead Docklands* from Silvertown (SI) garage using WVL-class B9TL Wrightbus Eclipse Gemini 2 diesel double-deck vehicles. Mon-Sat daytime frequencies reduced from x10 to x12 mins, Sundays and evenings from x12 to x15mins.

SERVICE PROPOSALS

Further to the consultation for routes **E1 and 618** which was issued on our closing date last month, some further detail. New route **618** is to be introduced for the benefit of Bolder Academy and Nishkam Schools and will be operated with double-deck vehicles. The AM journey operates via route H20 from Ivybridge, Tesco's, then Bridge Road, London Road to Syon Lane, then via route H28 to Osterley, Tesco's, with the PM jny from Osterley to Ivybridge. No mention of any frequency is made for the extension of route E1. The consultation closed on 18th October.

A new consultation was issued on 20th September with a closing date of 1st November for routes in Orpington, affecting the original "Roundabout" routes which started in 1986 and have expanded since then. The routes affected include the withdrawal of routes **R2 and R6** and their replacement by changes to **R1, R3 and B14**. Route **R1** is re-routed at Orpington High Street and absorbs route **R2** from there to Biggin Hill Valley. Route R1 keeps its existing frequency so improves the current R2 frequency of every x30 mins, Mon-Sat except evenings to x20 mins Mon-Sat daytime and x30mins Sundays and evenings. The short section of the terminal working of route **R2** via Gravel Pit Way at Orpington is withdrawn. The section of route R1 from Orpington Station to Green Street Green via Chelsfield is taken over by an extension of route **R3**, which is also re-routed in Petts Wood 'to simplify the bus route and remove potential confusion for passengers.' From Princess Royal University Hospital, route **R3** would continue along Towncourt Lane onto Queensway to serve Petts Wood Station, instead of turning left onto Shepperton Road. Then via Queensway, Franks Wood Avenue via the Faringdon Avenue and Whitebeam Avenue loop then Chesham Avenue, Shepperton Road, Towncourt Lane, Tudor Way normal line of route. Buses towards Princess Royal University Hospital will be routed via Tudor Way, Shepperton Road, Chesham Avenue via the Faringdon Avenue and Whitebeam Avenue loop, returning via Franks Wood Avenue and Queensway, before returning via Towncourt Lane and Crofton Lane. TfL propose that the bus stops will be relocated to Queensway and to Towncourt Lane on either side of the loop working. No change to the frequency is proposed. Finally, it is proposed to withdraw route **R6** and replace it by rerouting **B14** between Orpington and St. Mary Cray Station via Burfield Drive, Wotton Green and Sandfield Road to replace it on this section. (Note: the consultation and Google maps refer to part of this as 'Wotten Green', but the A to Z atlas, road sign and bus stop spell this as 'Wotton Green', before you write in!).

This matches the frequency Mon-Sat, with the x30min Sunday daytime service on B14 being an improvement on the R6 x60min service on this day, although the B14 does not run Sunday evenings, although the R6 does, the consultation is strangely quiet on this aspect!

Meanwhile, some consultations have concluded, all with positive responses. Superloop **SL10** (was X183) from Harrow to North Finchley had 1283 responses, an 80% positive result, although route 183 gets a frequency reduction to compensate. The only change to the original proposal is that it will be rerouted via routes 125, 143 and 326 via Hendon Lane. The space at Harrow Bus Station will be eased by the extension of route **223** from the same date. The consultation for this, for it to be extended to Harrow View, had 355 responses, of which 150 were positive, but TfL has taken note of the suggestion to extend the route from there to Harrow, Oxhey Lane, rather than establishing a new stand at Harrow View. However, this will require a further consultation, which has not been issued just yet, but for now the route will terminate at Harrow View then turn out of service at Oxhey Lane. These routes are planned to start on 25th November 2023. (*see earlier*).

Finally, Superloop **SL1** (was X34) from North Finchley to Walthamstow Central received 773 responses with a 79% positive result. The changes here include additional stops at Crooked Billet and no proposed reduction to the evening service for route 34. No planned date for this yet.

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

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

TLB686 p12: 410 stop changes in Norwood;

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

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

TLB704 p15: 315 extension to Springfields Hospital.

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

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TLB705 p14: 419 fixed stops in Barnes.
TLB705 p14: Catford Town Centre proposals.
TLB707 p13: W12, W13, W14, 549 Walthamstow and Wanstead changes.
TLB707 p13: 336 Downham routeing and stop changes.
TLB708 p16: Oxford Street.
TLB708 p16: Silvertown Tunnel Cyclists service.
TLB708 p16: Superloop SL2, (W'stow to N. Woolwich) SL3 (Thamesmead to Bromley) and
TLB708 p17: SL5 (Bromley to Croydon).
TLB708 p17: 281 Tolworth rerouting.
TLB708 p17: 309 Poplar rerouting.
TLB709 p15: E1 extension to Osterley, new route 618 (*also noted above*).

FORTHCOMING CHANGES IN BRIEF

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

Notes: CE+2 = Contract extended by 2 years. CR5 = Contract awarded or renewed for 5 years, with a potential +2 year extension. CR2 = Contract awarded or renewed for 2 years,
CR3 = Contract awarded or renewed for 3 years, CR4 = Contract awarded or renewed for 4 years,
CR6 = Contract awarded or renewed for 6 years, CR7 = Contract awarded or renewed for 7 years.
The * suffix = award specified new buses; the # suffix = award specified part new bus allocation. Not all award dates will be necessarily the same date that new buses are introduced.

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).

3rd Feb 24: CE+2 on 43/=, 134/= (Metroline Travel).

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

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

24th Feb 24: CR7* on 242/N242 (Arriva LN to S'ch East London), CR7 on 277/N277* (S'ch East London), CR2 on 283 (London United)

2nd Mar 24: CR5 on 215 (S'ch East London), CR6 on 97 (S'ch Lea Interchange),
CR7 on 58* (S'ch Lea Interchange), CR7 on 101* (G-A Blue Triangle),
CR6 on 238/=, 309 (S'ch East London), CR7 on 325* (G-A Blue Triangle to Arriva LN),
NC7 on 439* (G-A Metrobus), S2* (G-A London General), W11* (S'ch East London),
CE+2 on 123/=, 158/= (Arriva LN), CE+2 on 275 (S'ch East London).

9th Mar 24: CR6 on 167 (S'ch East London), CR7* on 379 (G-A L.General to S'ch East London)

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

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

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

Later dates were in TLB709.

OTHER SPECIAL and MISCELLANEOUS non-TfL OPERATIONS IN LONDON

Golden Tours, TopView Sightseeing and Manchester Bus Tours (t/a Transpora Group) have all applied for Christmas Lights Tours, generally starting in Late November and throughout December. Speaking of Manchester Bus Tours, I understand that some buses are being parked at Wandsworth Bus Garage, sharing the facilities with **RATP Tootbus**, instead of the base at The Causeway.

DIVERSIONS, DEVIATIONS AND DISRUPTIONS

Central: Another update to the previous month's report, the works at Clerkenwell are extended to 20th October; the south and westbound diversions remain although the eastbound diversion had ceased by late September.

South-East: An update, the diversion for route **P4** at Honor Oak to avoid a left turn into Brockley Road has been extended to 31st December.

South: Following the tragic stabbing of a schoolgirl on 27th September outside the Whitgift Centre in Wellesley Road, Croydon, the road was closed northbound for two days for police investigation. Routes **50, 75, 109/N109 and N250** were curtailed at West Croydon, routes **154, 166 and 403** curtailed at Fairfield Halls, with routes **119/=, 197, 312, 433, and 466** diverting via Barclay Road, Fairfield Road. Routes **194 and 367** curtailed at East Croydon. Routes **60, 64/=, 407, 455 and 468**, diverted northbound via East Croydon, Cherry Orchard Road to Lower Addiscombe Road, turning at the roundabout at Morland Road before returning via Lower Addiscombe Road, St. James's Road and Wellesley Road (southbound) to West Croydon Station, with routes **198 and 410** following the above diversion on westbound journeys. Routes **405 and 412** departed via Fairfield Halls Roundabout, Croydon Flyover, and Edridge Road. Route **SL7** was initially curtailed then served East Croydon, diverting via Cherry Orchard Road as above. Route **60** also later diverted via Old Town. The driver of the bus involved in the incident, on route 60's DW310, was praised by the media for assisting with first aid along with another passenger, the bus being subsequently sealed by the police for forensic purposes for a few days.

From 20th to 26th September, owing to waterworks in Bishopsford Road, St.Helier, route **280 and N44** were diverted in both direction via Middleton Road, St.Helier Avenue and Morden Hall Road. Thanks to Julian our membership secretary for the report.

South-West: From 22nd September to 15th December, owing to the ongoing road works at Manor Circus, Richmond, route **110** is diverted southbound via route 65 from Kew Gardens Road, Kew Road to the Quadrant.

West: From 12th September to 3rd November, owing to a collapsed sewer in Barlby Road, North Kensington, routes **70 and 316** are diverted in both directions via St Mark's Road (70), Cambridge Gardens and Ladbrooke Grove.

North-West: An update, the curtailment of route 452 from Kensal Rise to Ladbrooke Grove Sainsbury's was extended to 31st January 2024.

East: From 4th September to 17th November, owing to bridge works in Silvertown Way, route **330** is diverted in both directions via Canning Town Bus Station, East India Dock Road, Leamouth Road and Lower Lea Crossing.



On 23 September an open day at Orpington Garage showed plenty of Metrobus buses (and liveries). Several ran local bus rides, like Lynx 101 linking the garage with Bromley. (Richard Godfrey)

Volvo B8RLE 6019 was treated to a Metrobus 'heritage' 1983 livery. On the 25th it was back in service from Crawley Garage and caught on Balcombe Road, Horley. (Richard Godfrey)





Now for something different! What was billed as 'The Indian Routemaster' was a feature of Mumbai (Bombay). However their last day in service was 15 September. Advert buses too! *(Dale Tringham)*

The legendary crowding as well as the open rear platform is well illustrated here. Just like rush-hour on the 11s to Victoria in the 70s! *(Dale Tringham)*





On 24 September a running day was held in NW Kent with little notice. RMC 1486 on the 423 at Leyton Cross recalls the 1970s out of London Country's Swanley Garage. *(Richard Godfrey)*

The latest firm to try its luck in the London open-top sightseeing market is Top View. Here we see Scania OmniCity No.421, once SP 70 at London United, at Marble Arch. *(Russell Young)*





On 16 September LBM's latest Running Day on route 38 featured lots of RT- and RM-family buses. RTL 554 provides its Leyland engine sound on the Balls Pond Road. *(Haydn Davies)*

The RTL was joined by a rare Leyland engined Routemaster RM 1397, pictured later in the day well down the 38 route at The Angel Islington. *(Haydn Davies)*



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

Monday 4th September:

SB07 (*EFCT*) (The Elms & Loughton, Mon) Altered from 'normal' to a DRT service (as DART-10)..

SB09 (*EFCT*) (Abridge & Epping (Mon) or Loughton (Wed) Projected back from Abridge to start at Stapleford Abbotts.

21 (*NIBS*) (Brentwood & Ongar, M-S) Timetable change with a thinning out of journeys.

81 (*NIBS*) (Brentwood & Hutton, M-S) Timetable change with a thinning out of journeys.

HERTFORDSHIRE and southern BEDFORDSHIRE

Monday 4th September:

37 (*Centrebus*) (Luton & Langdale Estate via Dallow Road, M-F) The Dunstable area is no longer served, the 37 is now just M-F Galaxy Centre & Lewsey Park, Swimming Pool).

40/40A (*Centrebus*) (Dunstable & Kensworth) Minor timing adjustments.

E (*Centrebus*) (Luton, Galaxy Centre & Toddington, M-S) Diverted north of Houghton Regis via Linnere and Chalton. Timetable change, reduced from x60 to 90mins.

G (*Centrebus*) (Luton, Galaxy & Dunstable, Langdale Estate. M-S) Withdrawn after Sat.2nd. Langdale loses yia G and 37 and just the Red Eagle 34 and infrequent 40A are left.

Sunday 29th October:

SB8 (*Arriva KT*)(Stevenage Bus Stn & Symonds Green, M-S; Also until 28th projected M-S evenings Bus Stn & Bragbury End. No change to Sunday SB9 Bus Stn & Symonds Green.

SB18 (*Arriva KT*) New route, Mon-Sat hourly: Stevenage Bus Stn & Bragbury End. This service also replaces the SB8 journeys to Bragbury End (see above).

306 (*Sullivans*)(Borehamwood & Watford, Daily) Revised |Mon-Sat timetables to aid connections.

398 (*Sullivan*) (Borehamwood & Potters Bar, M-F) Timetable changes.

907 (*Centrebus*) (Stevenage & Cheshunt, Daily). No change to main Centrebus service. However, an additional M-F early morning journey from Hertford to Stevenage will be operated by *Arriva KT*.

908 (*Arriva KT*) New route, Mon-Sat hourly: Stevenage Bus Stn via Knebworth, Old Welwyn, then presumed via A1M or B197 to Valley Road into Welwyn Garden City Bus Station. This route restores buses to Valley Road since the main service on 366 was withdrawn after 15th April. This route is funded by the Government's BSIP (Bus Service Improvement Plan) grant.

W22 (*Red Eagle*) (South Oxhey & Bushey, Grange Academy, SDO) Withdrawn.

Sunday 19th November: Major changes to Arriva KT routes mainly at Watford and Hemel, more details in TLB711+712 once timetables are seen.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE and EAST BERKSHIRE (incl. eastern borders of Oxfordshire

Further to TLB709 p22 in the High Wycombe changes, Re the new Arriva 6 was the Carousel 36, although the new 5/6/7 group are all Arriva.

Re Route 7 from 16 October, Cookham Bridge will shut for all motor traffic for 20 weeks for bridge repairs. The 7 will be diverted between Bourne End and Furze Platt non-stop via the A4155, A404 Marlow by-pass and A308, then normal route to Maidenhead. It will not be able to serve Cookham and Cookham Rise.

SURREY and northern parts of WEST SUSSEX

Monday 2nd October: 446 (*White Bus*) change in TLB709 is not going ahead on that date.

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)

Correction to TLB709 and several earlier issues. The e mail address for this column is Andrew_d_webb@hotmail.com

Proposals for new routes in the high profile Superloop network have generated a series of double sided A5 cards in landscape format. The front of each has a section of speech bubble emerging from the Superloop logo above a QR code linking to an online survey. On the reverse is the network diagram first seen on ‘Superloop London’s Express Bus Service’ leaflet reviewed in TLB708, accompanied by a larger scale diagram of the route under consultation. Using the proposed route’s initial identity (it will now be SL1) is **“Your Superloop. Your say. We are holding a six-week consultation on proposals for the new X34 bus service”**, the consultation closing on 21 July. The larger scale route diagram on the reverse adds the stop at New Southgate which is not shown on the network diagram. Monday 4 September is the response deadline on **“Your Superloop. Your say. We are holding a six-week consultation on proposals for the new SL2 bus service”** as well as **“Your Superloop. Your say. We are holding a six-week consultation on proposals for the new SL3 bus service.”** The stop at Shirley is included in the route diagram on **“Your Superloop. Your say. We are holding a six-week consultation on proposals for the new SL5 bus service”** which also closed on 4 September.

May 2023 editions of **“Colour large print Tube map”** and **“Step-free Tube guide”** (in Tube map size format) have finally appeared. Both have the usual yellow cover utilised on the Access Guides.

No fewer than six organisations have logos on **“Elizabeth line survey”**, a double sided landscape format leaflet measuring 210mm by 120 mm. A QR code with prominent roundel in the middle, plus a website address links to a survey for passengers to complete about the journey they have just completed. This is to understand how and when people are using the line and is all explained in extensive narrative on both sides. The logos are for the Elizabeth line, TfL and Department for Transport who have jointly commissioned the research. This is being carried out by Arup and Tracsis who have added their logos. The final logo is for the Market Research Society who have set up the code of practice covering this (and other) surveys. This was being given out at selected stations in late September.

Latest entrant to the competitive sightseeing market is Topview who advertise their tours in **“Enjoy Topview Unlimited Hop-on Hop-off Tours”**, a multifold slimline with a cover featuring a well loaded Scania set against a montage of the capital’s sights and a smiling guide. When opened fully it shows a map of the main bus route with stops plus the route of the included Thames cruise along with starting points of three walking tours. In common with other operators different ticketing options are outlined without mentioning the actual prices.

Golden Tours have published an August 2023 edition of **“Hop-on Hop-off Open Top Tours”** in the usual extra long multifold slimline format.

Competitor Stagecoach’s **“City Sightseeing London”** is the usual multifold slimline dated Summer 2023, continuing to be illustrated with open top Ayats and Plaxton President buses, both types no longer operated on the services. The route map is accompanied by a QR code to get real time updates.

“See London By Night” is a multifold slimline in the same format as the last edition reviewed in TLB658. Once again undated, the only clue to its age is the discount code ‘SLBN2020’ offering ten pounds off The View from The Shard, suggesting it is at least three years old.

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

From September 2023 until January 2025 Stratford, Bethnal Green and Notting Hill Gate are exhibiting Barby Asante's "**Declaration of Independence**" which is explained in an Art on the Underground multifold slimline. Narrative, photos and textual extracts outline this multi-site project which 'reflects on how declarations, policies and legislations impact our everyday lives'.

This year's fourth series of specials with the London Transport Museum's 1938 stock saw it venture to Amersham on the Metropolitan line. Passengers received a new version of "**The 1938 Tube Stock**", a double sided A4 sheet. The front carries the usual potted history of the train, albeit in a smaller font. The reverse explains the history of the Metropolitan Railway's electric locos, in particular Sarah Siddons, and the aspirations to utilise the loco on future special trips.

Young visitors to the museum's Acton Depot between 22 and 25 September (2022) were kept entertained by "**Depot Open Days Depot Unlocked**" a double sided A4 sheet offering a wordsearch, Underground themed quiz, anagram challenge and 1938 stock maze. Visitors of any age can use "**Find Me Spotlighted collection stories**" which provides brief histories of sixteen objects across the four A4 pages. Donations towards reimaging the Depot can be made via the QR code on "**Help us to make the London Transport Museum Depot better than ever!**", a single sided slimline.

A period advert promoting Metrobus private hire services is on the base of both sides of "**357 361 402 471 R1 R6**", a double sided A4 timetable sheet showing the services operated during the Metrobus fortieth birthday open day at Green Street Green on 23 September.

Included for the sake of completeness, but unlikely to still be available in the station is "**Continuing your journey from Goodge Street**" dated January 2017. The four page A5 leaflet has the grey backed map on the front page.

Uno's "**Hertfordshire bus times**" is valid from 3 September. The seventy-six page slimline follows the usual format with an index and route list on the inside front flap and a fold out map of Hatfield routes. All services are included including the new X10 (essentially an express version of the 610 between Luton and the Forum in Hatfield). Other maps include the whole network and St. Albans.

Targeting the discretionary market is "**Days Out By Bus Bedfordshire 2023**" which is a slimline booklet carrying the logos of the three unitary authorities in the county: Bedford Borough Council, Central Bedfordshire and Luton Borough Council. It has a black cover illustrated with photos and carries the message "Funded by UK Government" which suggests this item is funded by BSIP. It contains entries for many attractions across Bedfordshire, giving brief details of bus services which serve them. Most of these places are beyond the LOTS area but they include Dunstable Downs, Stockwood Park Luton and Whipsnade Zoo. Each entry has a QR code for more details while the back cover offers QR codes for every bus operator in Bedfordshire.

"**Bus times, Luton, Dunstable, Weatherby, Houghton Regis, Shefford**" is a new A5 book from Grant Palmer, dated 6th August 2023. It has a mainly red cover and includes timetables and route maps for services 3, 35, 78/79, C, CX, Hi, and 42.

The hardy perennial slimline "**Arriva bus services to Cardinal Newman School**" has been updated from July 2023 with an Arriva blue cover. It includes times and a network route map for routes 800, 801, 810, 817, 823, 828, 829, 835 and 838.

Green is still the predominant colour on the cover of "**Windsor Express**" despite Reading Buses withdrawing from using the Green Line brand for routes linking London and Heathrow with Windsor and Bracknell. The forty-four page slimline book is valid from 29 May 2023 and includes a simple line diagram of both routes on the cover, accompanied by an illustration of the new buses used on 'the London line 702' and 'flightline 703.' Inside is a wealth of information for the travelling public including bus stop maps for London, Slough town centre, Slough & Langley, Bracknell town centre, Bracknell & North Ascot, Windsor and Legoland. The Slough town centre map shows the London bound stop in the town's bus station, along with an accompanying note about it not being

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

served for the combined timetable making it easy for passengers to plan journeys. This is followed by individual timetables showing both routes.

The River Thames is captured on the front of **“P1 W1”** from White Bus. The four page slimline is valid from 31 October 2022 and includes full timetables for both routes.

Safeguard has published four new multifold slimlines valid from 2 September. Each has a two tone red cover illustrated with a recently delivered MCV Evora Volvo. **“Service 3”** has a route map and three panels showing departures from key places along the route: Guildford Town Centre towards Bellfields Estate plus departures in the opposite direction from Juniper Close and Stoughton Road Shops. Two summary timetables can be found in **“service 4 service 5”** plus tables showing departures from Park Barn Community Centre towards the town centre and one for the opposite direction from the bus station. A combined map shows the complimentary circular routes followed by both services. The same routes are also covered in **“Royal Surrey Hospital Direct Connection”**, with two tables showing departures from the town bus and railway stations on route 5 and a further table showing return departures on route 4 from Royal Surrey Hospital. A small map covers just the section of route between the hospital and the town centre. Operated away from the company’s home in Guildford is **“service 81”** which links Woking Town Centre with Barnsbury Estate. A full route map is accompanied by two summary tables showing departures from Ash Road and Egley Road to the town centre, with a third panel catering for returning passengers.

Another item appealing to the discretionary market is **“Have some great days out in Sussex, Surrey & Kent”** from Metrobus, valid ‘from summer 2023’. The multifold green slimline has a map of the company’s key interurban routes stretching from the coast as far north as Sutton. This is annotated with a selection of visitor attractions which are highlighted in accompanying narrative. With the absorption of Southdown into the main Metrobus brand the former timetable book is replaced by a series of A6 leaflets in the current preferred style, each valid from 2 September. A navy cover is found on **“Route 236 including 646”** presented in a multifold format, as is **“Route 281”** (not a former Southdown route) which has a blue cover. The rest all have navy covers including **“Route 409”** which is arranged as a sixteen-page book, in the same style as **“Route 410 including 410A.”** The multifold format is used for **“Route 411”** whilst **“Routes 422, 424”** is another sixteen-page book. **“Route 485”** is a multifold with **“Routes 594, 595 including 695”** being a twelve-page book. Each issue includes its own individual route map and a full Metrobus network map updated to include the former Southdown routes.

CURRENT VEHICLE NEWS

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

General news:

The latest Running Day on London routes held by London Bus Museum was on 16th September on route 38 (Victoria & Clapton Pond). Twenty vehicles operated this time:
STL 2377; RT 1, 714, 1658, 1798, 3933, 4777, 4779; RTL 554; RTW 467
RM 1, 5, 848, 1005, 1397, 1400, 1527, 2208; RML 2579, 2760. (also RML 893 briefly in the morning).

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

TLB703 (March 23) noted some orders but we now have fleet numbers and extra info: 13x Switch MetroCity-EV 8.7m for route E5 (to be Nos.1012-24), 12x GB Kite Electroliner 10.9m for route E7 (to be No.1701-12) and another.x12 of the same for route E6 (to be Nos. 1713-24).

More orders are for Wrightbus StreetDeck Electroliners: 10 x for route C3 (Nos. 3031-40) and 7 x for route 353 (Nos. 3041-47). The first few for the C3 have been delivered as the route was taken over from RATP on 30th September.

Recent repaints/ refurbishments reported include 2446, 2484, 2569, 2574, 2575, 2576, 8896.

E200 8585 suffered fire damage on 3rd July when on route H28 in Hounslow.

New deliveries (September)

3031-37 (LV73 FDK/L/M/N/O/P/U) Wrightbus StreetDeck Electroliner 10.6m H40/20D.

Late additional info: 3001-30 have ULW 13610kg. 1535-43 are B30D (not B30F)

Transfers (September):

1535/36/37 WL/BC. 1539 BC/WL. 3028/29/30 TF/QB. 3031-37 --/QB. 8210/13 QB/BC.
8214 TF/BC. 8585 GW/GWu. 8783 BC/BCu.

LT 631 TF/.QB. LT 632 TF/WL. LT 684, 686 TF/QB.

Livery changes:

LT26 from advert for Pepsi Max to one for Battersea C&D

LT34 to advert for Brewdog

LT168 from advert for Barbie to one for Super Mario (PeachBus)

LT613 to advert for Victoria Beckham Perfume

LT617 to advert for Fury v Ngannou

LT623 to advert for Rimowa

LT710 to advert to advert for ELF Cosmetics.

LT768 from advert for Pepsi Max to one for Kurt Geiger.

Disposals:

2567 Following engine fire damage on 1 Feb 2022, 2567 was sent to scrap (June 2022).

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

ARRIVA LONDON (part of Deutsche Bahn)

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

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

Yet more Wrightbus StreetDeck Electroliners on order, x33 for route 279 (to be ES 51-83).

Further to TLB709 page 27, the small SW class of early StreetDecks remained at two garages, four at Croydon and used on the 312 with six left at Palmers Green for route 329.

Recent refurb/ repaints include HV 207, 214, 217, 255. LT 475, 487, 493, 506, 567, 576, 584, 586, 587, 589, 591. Also HA 22 (the TH batch HA 19-31 all done).

Very rare for some years and yet in September there were three instances of Ts appearing on route 221, the most recent being T 224 on the 25th.

Transfers:

(Correction to TLB709 : T 43 TC/TH (not on to N). LT 323 transferred AR/CT in September (not August).

(September): LT185, 195, 199 E/AR. LT 218, 221 CT/E. LT 322, 326 AR/CT.

LT 513 AR/BN. T 7 TH/DT. T 43 N/TH. SLS 3, 5, 11, 17, 20 N/TH.

Livery changes

EA2 from advert for Evian back to Red

HV305 to advert for £1.75 Hopper Fare

LT197 to advert for Asahi

LT198 to advert for Brewdog

LT539 from advert for Pepsi Max to one for NAKD Bars

LT590 from advert for Barbie back to Red

LT729 to advert for Super Mario (YoshiBus)

LT734 from advert for Top Boy to one for ELF Cosmetics

LT737 to advert for Fury v Ngannou

LT740 to advert for COS

LT962 from advert for Foundation back to Red

LT963 from advert for Barbie / Popcorn to one for Kurt Geiger

LT982 to advert for NAKD Bars

Disposals: DW 410 to Shelton Motors, Ramsey (July).

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

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

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

Trainer T25 and T83 NFt to GLt. T27 from SEt to NFt. T199 NFt/SEt. T498 NFt/MDt.

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

Recent repaint\ to revised Arriva livery: 4276, 4287, 6490, 6492.

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

In TLB709, transfer of 3753 (SV/SVw should have been in Area 2.

E400s 5460-69 have lost their route 280 branding.

Transfers: 3016, 3017, 3580, 3741 WB/AY. 3914, 3920 AY/AYw. 5457/58/59/60 AY/WB.

Out of area: 3818, 4400, 4401 AY/MK.

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

A2B TRAVEL GROUP, Melbourn, Cambridgeshire

Into the fleet: PN09 EMX and PN09 ENL Scania N230UD Optare Olympus 10.8m H45/23D- 2009
Via Chalkwell Bus Sales, originally Metrobus 885 and 891. 'ENL has been re-registered to DD58 BUS.

BEAR BUSES, Shepperton

Into to the fleet (July): GX56 OGE AD E20D – AD Enviro200 10.8m B38F – 2006
(formerly with Stagecoach South.

BIG BUS COMPANY, Earlsfield

Equipmake is to retrofit ten Big Bus vehicles with electric equipment.

CARLONE BUSES, Lyne, Surrey

Into the fleet: SN64 CUJ Wrightbus StreetLite WF 8.8m B28F (originally GoAhead WS 38).
YX73 FFN Mercedes-Benz Sprinter 516CDi.

DIAMOND BUS SOUTH-EAST (Hallmark connections Ltd) Stanwell

(including Hotel Hoppa) part of Rotala plc

Out of area: 20153/156 and 30157/158 to Diamon Bus North West.

Into stock (September 2023):

20991 KE70 CDY Sprinter B16F.

21204 LM18 UWZ Sprimter Mellor B21F

FALCON COACHES, Byfleet

Into the fleet: YX58 DWV AD E200Dart – AD Enviro200 10.2m B29D – 2008
(originally Metroline DE 1617).

In TLB709, loaned YX12 DLE/F are not MMC but just standard E200 bodies.

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

Correction to TLB709: 23653 has reg Y24 TRU (not RHU).

Disposals: 44562/3/5/7 to Go North West (August).

GO-AHEAD LONDON

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

Correction to TLB709: Mention of EH 29 and Me buses was to route 57 (not 129!!).

Floods of SEe electric buses keep coming with the batches (220-232) for route 265 at Putney (AF) garage and (243-259) for route 450 at Croydon (C) garage all delivered by early September. Route 366 has diesel SE buses for the time being. Then (233-242) for route D3 at North Woolwich (DS) and (260-271) for route P12 at Peckham (PM). Not only that but route 376 at Silvertown (SI) is being converted from diesel to electric. Here it is mostly buses from existing stocks but there will be four new 10.9m top-up (SEe 272-275). Yet more with 15x 10,2m for route 152 (AL) (to be SEe.276-290).

On 15 September SE 53 (a 10.8m model) was on route S1 (should be 10.2m).

More swaps of WHVs and MHVs between MG and Q. MHVs (and EHs) ceased to be in the type mix on route 188 following its move to Morden Wharf (MG). However MHVs snow crop up on the 355, whilst SOEs no longer appear on the 355.

Recent repaints/ refurb reported: LT 55, 58, 66, 481, 484, 486, 501, 504, 509.

(Delete LT 551 in TLB709 – it's LT511); WHV 48, 81; WS 37.

EH 213-224 are branded for Superloop SL6 (ex the X68

WVL 334/5/6/8, 341-4, 484-495 have Superloop legends for the SL7 (ex the X26).

On 21st September WSD 21 suffered a fire while on route 44 at Victoria.

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

GO AHEAD LONDON, Continued:

Registration batches for more imminent arrivals:

First of all, (ref TLB707 p23) Ee 100 has a change of regn, from LG23 FJO to LG73 FVY.

Route 40: Change of regs for Ee 201-204 – LG73 FTJ/K/N/O.

Route 185: Ee218-242 - LG73 FPV/X/Y/Z FRC/D/F/J/K/L/N/O/P/R/U/V/X/Z FSA/C/D/E/F/J/K.

Route D3: SEe233-242 - LG73 FYW/X/Y/Z FZA/B/C/D/E/F.

Route P12: SEe260-271 - LG73 FZM/N/O/P/R/S/T/U/V/W/X/Y.

Route 376: SEe272-275 - LG73 FZH/J/K/L.

Debut of Ee buses on route 40 occurred on 25 September when a half-dozen took to the road.

The open day at Metrobus Orpington Garage on 23 September marked its 40th anniversary – the first bus out on service did so 24 September 1983. This was all long before Metrobus expanded to Crawley and the subsequent sale to Go-Ahead. Lots of free rides through the day as follows:

1- Lynx 101 (route 361); 2 - ex Arriva DLA 23 (route 402); 3 - ex Arriva ENL 1 (route 402);

4 - ex London General open top NV 171 (routes 357, 361 and 402);

5 - ex Selkent DT 29 (routes R1 & R6); 6 - ex First DML 41424 (routes R1 & R6);

7 - ex MB 622 (EL/Esteem) (route 357); 8 - ex Arriva Southern Counties Dart 1632 (route 357);

9 - ex London General M1440 (route 471); 10 - ex M&D Lynx E887 KYW (route 402);

11 = ex Arriva DLA 1 (route 402)

Routes operated were-

357 - Croydon/Forestdale - Orpington Garage; 361 - Bromley North - Green Street Green;

402 - Bromley North - Riverhead, Tesco/Sevenoaks; 471 - Orpington Garage - Orpington Station;

R1 - Bromley Common - Orpington Garage; R6 - Orpington Garage - Knockholt Pound via Halstead.

Displayed at the garage were: Ee 103, Ee 108, IE 2, SEe 245, WVL 204, WVL 284, E 81, E 258, EH 16 and WS 103 all from Go-Ahead London plus several Metrobus buses from early days to the present. These included Olympians UWW 13X, C395 DML, G806 TMX, Trident T414 SMY, Darts GN54 GPY, M721 CGO and Y379 HMY, AEC Reliance JTM 109V, Lynx K101 JMV and from the 'current fleet' 6019, 6055 and 6712. Also Cardinal Buses Dart SLF 212. Volvo B8RLE 6019 was in 'heritage' livery of yellow and blue to recall the livery 40 years ago. It has a slogan on rear cove panels: "40 years serving the local communities since 1983". JTM 109V was the first bus to operate with Metrobus in 1983.

New deliveries (a few August/ rest September):

Ee 187-204 (LB23 PFU/V/X/Y/Z, PGE/F/K/O/U/V/X/Y/Z, LG73 FTJ/K/L/N/O).

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

SEe 220-232 (LB23 PHN/O/U/V/X/Y/Z, PJJ/O/U/V/X/Y)

BYD D8UR – AD Enviro200-EV (MMC) 10.9m B29D.

SEe 233-242 - LG73 FYW/X/Y/Z FZA/B/C/D/E/F.

BYD D8UR – AD Enviro200-EV (MMC) 10.2m B25D.

SEe 243-259 (LG73FYC/D/E/F/H/J/K/L/M/N/O/P/R/S/T/U/V)

BYD D8UR – AD Enviro200-EV (MMC) 9.7m B24D.

SEe 272-275 (LG73 FZH/J/K/L)

BYD D8UR --AD Envi2o200-EV) MMC 10.9m B29D.

Transfers: Outstations: LZ=Leighton Buzzard, FK=Folkestone, NH=Newhaven, RG=Ringmer, KL=King's Lynn.

Correction to TLB709: IE 1, 3-10 are at NXu (not MBu); IE 2 is at MBu..

(July): WVL 355, 357 NX/NXu,

(September): Ee 172 - /Q. Ee 187/9, 191/2/3/4/5/6/9, 202/4 u/Q.

E 155 SWu/SW. EH 27 RRu/RR, EH 117 MB/Q.

LT 50, 51, 52, 53 SW/NP. LT 306, 307, 308, 309 SW/RR. LT 310 NX/RR.

LT 458, 512 NP/RR. LT 875 Q/RR. LT 877, 878 SW/RR. MHV 83, 84, 85 MG/Q.

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

GO AHEAD LONDON, Continued:

WHV 70 C/Q. WHV 111, 143-153, 155 MG/Q. WHV 173-182, 186, 188-196 Q/MG.

WVL 485 RR/C. WSD 21 AL/ALu(fire).

SE 124, 125 SI/SW. SE 128 SI/BX. SE 123/6/7, 130-137 SI/AF.

SE 129, 139, 140, 141 SI/MB. SE 132 SI/GM. SE 132 GM/AF.

SEe 200-209, 211 RR/DS. SEe 210, 212-222, 224-229 SIu/DS. SEe 223 NP/DS.

SEs 243-259. --/C. WS 101 MB/Q.

WS 15 ALu/AL. WS 91-99 C/Q. WS 100, 101, 102, 103 MB/Q,

(October): Ee 188, 190/3/6/7/8, 200/2/3 --/Q.

SE 167-193 There are frequent swaps between AL and GM, we won't show those.

SOE are also swapping but not so often. Two recent are SOE 30 AL/GM, SOE 32 GM/AL.I

Livery changes:

LT445 from advert for Pepsi Max back to Red

LT451 to advert for Rimowa

LT455 to advert for Super Mario (LuigiBus)

LT503 to advert for Brewdog

LT506 from advert for Mutant Mayhem back to Red

LT508 to advert for Kurt Geiger

LT848 to advert for Super Mario (MarioBus)

LT857 from advert for Top Boy to one for ELF Cosmetics

LT862 from advert for Fires of Rubicon to one for Brewdog

LT869 to advert for Fury v Ngannou

LT872 to advert for Asahi

LT874 to advert for Asahi

WHV84 to advert for Fenty Beauty

WHV124 from advert for Yeat back to Red

WHV125 from advert for American Tourister back to Red

WHV132 from advert for American Tiurister back to Red

WHV192 to advert for Altery X

Disposals:

E 151, 171; EN 14 to G0-Ahead North West (Ausust),

WVL 355, 357 to Go Ahead North West (September).

LANES COACHES, Dunstable

Correction to TLB709: The withdrawn vehicle was YX02 LFR (not LX02 LFR).

LONDONER BUSES (MANCHESTER BUS TOURS)

It is likely that RM 1650 will appear here soon. It is in a silver livery and has its old number SRM 3.

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

Volvo B8RLE 6019 has been repainted to the 'original' yellow and blue livery to commemorate the 40th Anniversary of the company. It appeared at the Orpington Garage open day on 23 September. A full report is in the Go-Ahead London section in this TLB.

Disposal: Volvo B7RLE 6004 to Brighton & Hove Buses (as No.152) and in the teal+aqua livery.

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

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

METROLINE WEST – G, HZ, UX and WJ.

(within the Comfort DelGro of Singapore).

Recent repaint/ refurb include VW 1180, VWH 2046, 2050, 2054, 2056, 2175, 2180, 2182, 2197, 2225, 2285, 2290, 2297; DEL 2154; DEM 1345. LT 551, 561, 651. In TLB709. 2238/39/41 and 2288 are VWHs (not DELs)!

VMH 2561-72, 2585-96 are branded for Superloop SL9 (ex 607).

In a slight change of plan to release suitable buses for route 223 from 14 October, some VMHs will still go to HT but the released VWHs will go to UX to double-deck part of routes A10 and U1. DELs so available will be for WJ route 223.

Last of the batch 2857-77 to be delivered was 2876 by 25 August.

New vehicles:

VMS 2820, 2832, 2834 (LF73 DVZ,DWP, DWU) Volvo BZL – MCV 10.2m B**.

VMSS 2842 (LF73 DWV) Volvo BZL – MCV 9.6m B** .

Only sketchy info for now, also note that it doesn't quite match the split of batches in TLB707 p25.

Transfers; (h suffix = Hertfordshire Commercial Fleet).

(January 2023): DE 862 Wu/HZw.

(July 2023) TE 1097 EW/PAw.

(August 2023) The last of the batch WDE 2857-77 duly arrived by 25 August.

(September 2023): TEH 1219 W/Wu, TEH 1225 W/HZu. TEH 1242 W/G.

VW 1825 G/PB. VW 1837 HD/PAu. VW1840 PV/PAu.

VMH 2435/36 PAu/HT. VMH 2453 PV/G/WJ. WDE 2798 --/EW.

DEs 793 PB/PBw. .DE 1631 AH/WJ.

Livery changes:

BDE2632 from advert for Who Gives A Crap back to Red

BDE2637 from advert for Evian back to Red

LT584 to advert for NAKD Bar

LT644 from advert for Money In The Bank to one for Asahi

LT658 from advert for Naked Drinks to one for Asahi

LT752 to advert for Brewdog

LT759 to advert for Super Mario (ToadBus)

LT762 to advert for ELF Cosmetics

LT807 to advert for Fury v Ngannou

LT811 to advert for Rimowa

VWH2403 to advert for Fury v Ngannou

Disposals:

MM 816 to Ensign Bus (by September) for parts recovery prior to scrapping.

DE 1602 gone from fleet, presumed scrapped (by August).

TE 937 gone from fleet, unknown destination (April 2023).

TE 1074/75/78, VW 1822/31/32/33, DE 863, 1584/85 to North West Bus Sales (September).

VW 1818/21/28/39, DE 862, 1616, 1642 to Geoff Ripley, Barnsley (September).

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.

Recent repaints/ refurbishes include LT 125.

BCE 47084-6, 47100-110 have Superloop legends for route SL9 (ex X140).

Route 395 was due to move to RP but after all it didn't and stayed at SO. However, it is likely to go to RP in due course. The last VHs to work at Stamford Brook (V) did so on route E3 on 6th September, However on 2nd October one came back when 45190 arrived from X.

SP 40051 and 40206 remained the last of their class in service as at the beginning of October.

Transfers:

TLB704 update: VH 45182 WK/V (not WK/TV) – but see below.

TLB709 updates: DE 20180/1/2/3/5/6 stayed at SO (not to RP).

VH 45155 was transferred from RP (not FW) to AV. VH 45158 stayed at FW (not to AV).

VH 45180 stayed at TV (not V and not to RP)

(August) SP 40200 AV/AVw.

(September): DLE 30230 RP/BT. DLE 30243/249 AV/WK. DLE 30260/61/62 WK/AV.

DLE 30268/69/71/73/74 RP/BT.

BE 37085 BTu/BT. BE 37086, 37097 Xu/BT. ADE 40414 NCu/AV.

VH 45084 X/BT. VH 45182 V/TV. VH 45183 X/BT. VH 45190 X/V. VH 45191 RP/V.

VH 45192 RP/BT.

Livery changes:

BCE47013 from advert for Bananas Mosaic to one for Ovo Energy

LT75 from advert for Money In The Bank to one for Rimowa

LT84 from advert for Expo 2030 Korea back to Red

LT85 to advert for NAKD Bar

LT680 from advert for Courvoisier to one for Brewdog

RED EAGLE BUSES, Dinton near Aylesbury

Into the fleet: YY67 HBK AD E20D – AD Enviro200 8.9m B28F - 2018

(Most recently known with Manchester Community Transport).

REDLINE BUSES, Aylesbury

From green route 4 livery to fleet livery: MX63 XAR and XAS.

RED ROSE TRAVEL, Dinton near Aylesbury

Correction in TLB709: JW65 GSW (not HW65 BUS) did go to Select Bus Services. Penkridge.

REDROUTE BUSES, Gravesend

After all, Trident SN51 SYG is still in this fleet.

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

STAGECOACH LONDON (part of Stagecoach Holdings) incorporating:

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

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

Recent vehicle orders include 19 x Volvo BZL/MCV-EV single-decks for route 276 (fleet nos. 66026-044) and 40 x Volvo BZL/MCV double-decks for routes D7, 277 and 58 (to be 68031-70).

Wrightbus StreetDeck Electroliner buses were starting to arrive in early September. Initially, a batch of 48, of which 82001-014 are for Catford route 199 (pvr 12) and 82015-048 for Romford route 86 (pvr 30). Booked registrations are thus: 82001-014 (LV73 FDX/Y/Z, FEF/G/H/J/K/M/O/P/T/U/X; 82015-48 LV73 FFA/B/C/D/E/G/H/J/K/L/M/N/O/P/R/S/T/U/W/X/Y/Z, FGA/C/D/E/F/G/J/K/M/N/O/P.

Initially they are being delivered to LI while electric infrastructure at both TL and NS is installed. Catford soon gained two (82006/08) to start type- training so that route 199 should start to see them around mid-October.

On 22 September Scania 15042 on route 97 was rammed by a heavy truck but it was repaired quickly.

Recent refurb/ repaints reported: LT 253, 264, 269; 11037, 12150, 36665, 37552, 37579, 37581, 37734.

New deliveries (September):

82006/7/8 (LV73 FEH/J/K) Wrightbus StreetDeck Electroliner 10.6m H40/20D.

Transfers

(August): 36284/85 LIu/LI. 36286 PD/LI. 36287 BKu/LI. 36289 RM/LI. 36290 NSu/LI. 36349/50 AW/LI. 36351/353-361/367 WH/LI.

(September): 12396 PDu/PD. 15005 LIw/WHw. 15033 and 15037 back from Stagecoach SE to WHt.

36669 RM/BK. 37552 BK/BKu. 37555 LIu/HK. 37579/580/582 RMu/RM. 37581 LI/RM.

37584 LIu/AW. 47993/994 HK/LIw. 82006/008 --/TLu. 82007 --/LIu. (See notes above)

Correction to Fleetbook: Restore 36665 (SN17 MMU). LVF shows it at TL until 19 April 2022, then out of use (shown at Leyton but not in use) until allocated to RM on 6 September 2023 and it is still there having just been repainted.

Livery changes

11342 to advert for Fenty Beauty

LT243 from advert for Paramount+ SOL to one for Rimowa

LT246 from advert for Pepsi Max back to Red

LT258 from advert for Fires of Rubicon back to Red

LT265 to advert for Kurt Geiger

LT272 to advert for Kurt Geiger

LT360 to advert for NAKD Bar

LT373 to advert for Brewdog

LT380 from advert for Pepsi Max back to Red

LT381 to advert for Fury v Ngannou

Disposals:

12372, 15005, plus fire victim 37530 sold in September.

15105 (see TLB709 p34) Noted at Ensignbus in September.

UNIVERSITYBUS (t/a uno), Hatfield and Northampton

A new order is for five Volvo (presume B8L) /MCV tri-axle buses for delivery in March 2024 for use on route X10 (Luton & Hatfield, The Forum that runs only on M-F x30mins in university term times.

WESTBUS (within the ComfortDelgro group of Singapore)

Into the fleet: 199 (LJ22 FGX) Volvo 9900 C57F (ex 221-G-2376 (Ireland))

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 467 (WLT 467, ex XVS 851) further to TLB707, it has been noted that this RM was sold in early October; again, can anyone confirm any new details ?

RM 548 (SVS 618, ex WLT 548) has been seen in a black and white livery in September; it was promoting the launch of Glossier at Sephora. It was noted being promoted by The Bus Business so it may have acquired from Xquisite; confirmation is required.

RM 1650 (650 DYE) from Elite Occasions Car Hire to be jointly owned by London Bus 4 Hire, Usk, Monmouthshire and Londoner Buses, Wandsworth (October). After preparation for service, it is due to enter service in London in November, and will retain its silver livery and fleet no. SRM 3.

RML 2658 (SMK 658F) from Mr P Hobbs to Ensign Bus, Purfleet, Essex (August).

RML 2666 (SMK 666F) was recently sold from one unknown owner to another unknown owner in Essex (circa August) and then was auctioned by Historics Auctioneers which took place at Bicester Heritage on the 23rd September, but was not sold.

Miscellaneous low-floor double deck types:

DLA 173 (MIG 9504, ex W373 VGJ), 235 (MIG 9501, ex X435 FGP), 238 (S15 KFR, ex MIG 9502, X438 FGP), 246 (MIG 9502, ex X111 HOW, X446 FGP), 371 (MIG 9503, ex LJ03 MVC) (ex ALN) have all re-gained their original registrations upon withdrawal by Presidential Travel in September.

DLA 353 (LJ03 MLF) (ex ALN) has been recorded as passing from Holmeswood to Presidential Travel, Bootle, Merseyside (September). It was last reported with Bryans Coaches in Stirlingshire.

DLA 357, 362 (LJ03 MKA, MKG) (ex ALN) were sold from Bullocks (September 2022).

DLA 376 (LJ03 MTF, ex JRZ 3263), 382 (LJ03 MUA, ex JRZ 3268), 385 (LJ03 MY) (ex ALN) from Tyrers Coaches to Kevin Wallop, Warrington, Cheshire (September).

DLA 381 (LJ03 MTZ, ex JRZ 3267) (ex ALN) from Tyrers Coaches to James Bevan Coaches, Lydney, Glos. (September).

DW 59 (LJ04 LFE) (ex ALN) passed from Hunters Coaches to Ripley (dlr), Barnsley. (April).

DW 291 (LJ59 LVW) (ex ALN) further to TLB704, this DW is now reported as sold from Yorkshire Buses (May).

DW 292 (LJ59 LVX) (ex ALN) further to TLB709, it was acquired in July and this DW is for use on service 71 (Four Crosses to Marches School at Oswestry).

VLA 6 (LX03 MXW, ex YIL 6139) (ex ALN) from Redline to Wright Way to Travel, Leyland, Lancs. (August).

VLA 91 (LJ54 BDV) (ex ALN) from Phlee to Whippet Coaches, Swavesey, Cambs. (January).

VLW 64, 66 (LF02 PVL, PVO) (ex ALN) were sold from Together Travel (October 2022).

VLW 84 (LF52 USY) (ex ALN) was sold from Team Pennine (June).

VLW 106 (LJ03 MHV) (ex ALN) from Arriva Southern Counties to MC Tractors / Shelton Motors, Ramsey, Cambs. (May and collected in June).

VN 36139 (VSJ 558, ex MP11 GEM, ex BJ11 DVU) (ex FLN) has been re-registered to J31 KNS by Lianne Coaches and has been repainted to Jeakins Coach Travel livery.

VN 37866 (BF10 LTA), 37869 (BV10 WVS), 37876 (BK10 MFJ), 37887 (BV10 WVW) (ex FLN) from Metroline to Ripley, Barnsley (September); these were latterly Metroline VW 1818, 1821, 1828, 1839.

VN 37870 (BV10 WVT), 37879, 37880, 37881 (BF10 LSV, LSX, LSY) (ex FLN) from Metroline to North West Bus Sales, Bolton (September); latterly Metroline VW 1822, 1831, 1832, 1833.

VN 37902 (LXZ 5386, ex BF60 UUM) (ex FLN) from Lothian Country to Lothian Buses (February) and has been repainted into 'Fleet of the Future' livery.

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

PDL 47 (HIG 4522, ex PN03 UMG) (ex GAL) re-gained its original registration and was then sold from Orion to Poynters Coaches, Northampton, Northants. (all in May). It then was registered in June to N27 POY.

PVL 45 (W445 WGH) (ex GAL) updating TLB709, it is confirmed as passing to Brian Jones Coaches, Gravesend, Kent.

PVL 51 (W451 WGH), 181 (X581 EGK) (ex GAL) sold from Hamilton Coaches (April) for scrap.

PVL 190 (X509 EGK) (ex GAL) has been sold from Coach Services (December) for scrap.

PVL 250 (PL51 LDJ) (ex GAL) from Go East Anglia to MC Tractors / Shelton Motors, Ramsey, Cambs. (March) for scrap.

PVL 258 (PL51 LDZ), 266 (PN02 XBP) (ex GAL) passed from Fowlers Travel to Bus & Coach Repairs (dlr), Yaxley, Cambs. (March 2023 and August 2022 respectively) and since scrapped.

VP 8 (X159 FBB) (ex GAL) from Triangle Castles to Murray, Glenavy, Northern Ireland (June 2022).

VP 12 (X164 FBB) (ex GAL) further to TLB696, this VP was sold from Berry Coaches (by April 2022) for scrap.

VWL 44 (BX04 BKJ) (ex GAL) from York Pullman to Hartwood, Bicester, Oxon (December).

891 (PN09 ENL) (ex GAL) further to TLB709, this Scania has been reported as re-registered to DD58 BUS with A2B Travel; can anyone confirm ?

964 (YT59 DYH) (ex GAL) from Sullivan Buses to Ensign Bus, Purfleet, Essex (October).

SLE 9 (YN55 NHC) (ex LU) was de-roofed when it hit a low tree at Clavering on the 21st September whilst operating with Stephensons.

SLE 52 (YN55 NKZ) (ex LU) was re-registered to BUS 91R by Beeston's in May.

SP 59 (YT09 ZCJ), 115 (YR59 FYN) (ex LU) from Coastliner to Altonian Coaches, Eastleigh, Hants. (by June).

SP 75 (YT59 RXZ) (ex LU) this SP has also now entered service with Tootbus in London, first being seen in use at the beginning of September. No fleet number has been noted but it retains its roof and has not been converted to part or full open top.

TA 338 (SN03 EBK) (ex LU) further to TLB693, this TA is confirmed as passing to Loca Bus Bar, Oldham, Greater Manchester for use as a mobile bar.

VLE 9 (PG04 WHM) (ex LU) from Fourways Coaches to Wigley, Barnsley (December).

VP 108 (GIG 9134, ex W452 BCW), 111 (H2 YPB, ex W457 BCW) (ex LU) passed from York Pullman to Peter Hodgson Travel, Barnsley (May). VP 111 is confirmed as regaining its original registration prior to the sale.

VP 126 (W474 BCW) (ex LU) has been numbered NC5 with Premier.

SEL 745 (LK07 BAU) (ex ML) from Westbus to Splitz Facilities Ltd, Longcross, Surrey (September) for use as a film location dining bus.

SEL 749 (LK07 BBN) (ex ML) was sold from Wheelers Travel (by December).

SEL 806 LK57 KBJ) (ex ML) from Westbus to Manchester Bus Tours, Manchester (September).

TA 647 (LK05 GGO) (ex ML) was sold from Newport Transport (by May) for scrap.

TE 897 (LK08 NVN) (ex ML) from Eastern Scottish to Xplore Dundee (August).

TE 977, 979, 980, 981, 985 (LK59 DZA, DZC, DZD, DZE, DZJ) (ex ML)

TP 299, 311 (LT02 ZZD, ZZR), 352, 353 (LR52 KVT, KVU) (ex ML) are no longer operational with Central Taxis and are all assumed to have been sold (by August).

TPL 248 (LN51 KYC) (ex ML) was sold from Fourways Coaches (November).

VW 1818 (BF10 LTA), 1821, 1822 (BV10 WVS, WVT), 1828 (BK10 MFJ), 1831, 1832, 1833 (BF10 LSV, LSX, LSY), 1839 (BV10 WVW) (ex ML) – see corresponding entries for VN 37866, 37869, 37870, 37876, 37879, 37880, 37881, 37887 (ex FLN) above.

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

- TA 17098 (T698 KPU, ex 815 DYE) (ex SLN) was sold from Newnham Coaches (October 2020).
TA 17185 (V185 MEV) (ex SLN) was sold from AC Williams (by June).
TA 17240 (X368 NNO) (ex SLN) was returned to Stagecoach North East in August after loan to Stagecoach Yorkshire.
TA 17321 (G12 XEL, ex X388 NNO) (ex SLN) has reverted to its original registration and was sold from Xelabus (all in July).
TA 17823 (LX03 BXV) (ex SLN) from Aintree Coachline to PVS, Barnsley (April).
TA 17835 (LX03 BYL) (ex SLN) was sold from Yorkshire Buses (May).
TA 18242 (LX04 FYJ, ex M500 EMH) (ex SLN) confirming TLB699, this TA passed to Ripley, Barnsley for scrap.
TA 18263 (LX04 FZH) (ex SLN) from Nu-Venture to Ensign Bus, Purfleet, Essex, and then MC Tractors / Shelton Motors, Ramsey, Cambs. (all in August).
15119 (LX09 FZR) (ex SLN) from Altonian Coaches to fellow Transpora company Coastliner, Blackpool, Lancs. (September).
15142, 15143, 15144, 15145, 15152, 15161 (LX59 CNK, CNN, CNO, CNU, COU, CPZ), 15171, 15172, 15174 (LX10 AUE, AUF, AUJ) (ex SLN) from Sullivan Buses to Ensign Bus, Purfleet (October). At early October, all had arrived at Purfleet, except 15171 which was due to follow.
15146 (LX59 CNV) (ex SLN) from Tyrer Coaches to Bay Travel Coaches, Lochgelly, Fife (August), where it joins SP 138 - 140 (ex LU) (see TLB709).

Low-floor single deck types:

- DML 41477 (LT02 NUP) (ex FLN) further to TLB664, it is now confirmed as sold to Lazar Driving School, Enfield, Middlesex in November 2018.
DML 44002, 44005 (LK57 EJE, EJJ) (ex FLN) from First Essex to Ensign Bus, Purfleet, Essex, and then to PVS, Barnsley (all in August).
DML 44008, 44009 (LK08 FNG, FNH) (ex FLN) from Metroline to North West Bus Sales, Bolton, Lancs. (September); these were latterly Metroline DE 1584 and 1585.
DML 44026 (YX58 DVY) (ex FLN) has now left the Metroline fleet and is believed to have been scrapped; this was latterly DE 1602 in the Metroline fleet.
DML 44040, 44066 (YX58 DWU, FOT) (ex FLN) from Metroline to Ripley, Barnsley (September); these were latterly Metroline DE 1616 and 1642.

- SE 221, 222, 223, 224 (YX64 GXJ, G XK, YXH, TXJ) (ex GAL) correcting TLB709, these are YY64 xxx etc registrations (not YX64 xxx).
WS 38 (SN64 CUJ) (ex GAL) was latterly reported with Big Lemon and had arrived with Carlone Buses, Lyne, Surrey (September).

- DE 869 (LK08 DXC) (ex ML) from Hulleys to Ripley, Barnsley (by September).
DE 1584, 1585 (LK08 FNG, FNH), 1602, 1616, 1642 (YX58 DVY, DWU, FOT) (ex ML) – see corresponding entries for DML 44008, 44009, 44026, 44040, 44066 (ex FLN) above.
DES 795 (LK07 BDY) (ex ML) was sold from South West Coaches (May)
DM 964 (LK58 CRV) (ex ML) from Hulleys to Ripley, Barnsley (by September) for scrap.
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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).

LUL/LBSL/TfL Fleet; Newly reported vehicles

KY73 JXF Volvo FE 250 Dropside Lorry TfL White/Blue ACN

Additional information and updates

KY73 JXF is in the same TfL-branded livery as the four other lorries new this year. It has a tail-lift and a low-profile cab of the type sometimes fitted to dustcarts.

Vehicles withdrawn are minibus 8300VW and un-numbered facilities van YT70 VHD, while similar YT70 VHC is out of use.

Bus Company Fleets; Newly reported vehicles

-	WUI 2247	Vauxhall Astra Car	Abellio	Black #	TF
-	GU17 WFA	Vauxhall Astra Car	Abellio	Silver	TF
-	MJ22 WMC	Peugeot 508 Estate	Arriva London	Grey #	DT
-	BJ23 OCA	Seat Arona Car	Arriva London	White #	GY
-	AV18 ZTU	Ford Transit Connect Van	Metroline	Red	PA
-	MD23 RHZ	Renault Trafic Minibus	Metroline	Maroon#	AH
-	YF23 VBC	Nissan Juke Car	Stagecoach London	Silver #	RM

Additional information

Abellio van DV69 EOO has fleetnumber 6911. Car YE67 VPJ has moved from TF to BC.

Arriva London FD17 KKH is withdrawn.

Metroline AV18 ZTU has Falcon Coachworks lettering and was most likely new in 2018 with the other AV18 xxx registered vans. It was seen recently at the West Perivale base, probably on its way to disposal, together with AV18 ZUA and AX19 ZFF. Confirmed as withdrawn are AV67 EUK/EUM/HXD, AV18 ORO and AY18 NKE. Elderly VW van RCZ 7361 is still around, now at HZ and unmarked. AV20 BXX is now at W (ex HD), as are AV20 BXY/BZS.

RATP R70032 (MF20 RYU) and D75112 (MJ69 ZPO) have both moved from WK to TV, and LC18 GJO from FW to NC.

Stagecoach SB21 YVE, DN72 SJV/VTX, MD72 TVK and DL23 FKN are withdrawn (off-hire).

--- THE END ---

This TLB closed on 6-8 October and due for posting on 17 October. Closing date for TLB711 is Weds 1 November and due for posting on posting on Tues 14 November. 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 29Nov. 06Jan.



On 26 August several Surrey routes changed hands. The 715 to Kingston, Stagecoach South's toe-hold in Greater London, was lost to Falcon whose E200 runs through Cobham. (Terry O'Neill)

Local protest over the loss of a direct Potters Bar- Barnet link ended when from 3 September an 84B restored it. Central Connect supplies this E200 seen in Wood Street Barnet. (Richard Godfrey)



Rear cover: From 3 September Thurrock's three supported routes were suddenly withdrawn when council finance ceased. NIBS ran the 374 as shown by E200 452 at West Tilbury. (Richard Godfrey)



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