

TLB716

# The London Bus

Number 716  
April 2024



London Omnibus Traction Society  
[www.lots.org.uk](http://www.lots.org.uk)

As part of the heritage bus running day held at Barking Garage on 23rd March, the Newman Family provided MCW Metrobus 192. Recalling the days of Ensignbus operation on route 145, it passes through Dagenham Village.  
(Steve Maskell)



Not often seen pre-war RT113 also appeared at the Barking Garage heritage running day. It ran several trips on route 62 between Barking and Chadwell Heath. Parsloes Park provides the backdrop for it, running along Gale Street, Becontree.  
(Ian Jordan)



Repainted into 'General' livery for the third time in its career, RM1933 now with the London Bus Co., provides the monthly Sunday shuttle between Abbey Wood and Crossness Pumping Station, here in Carlyle Road, Thamesmead.  
(Richard Godfrey)



**Front cover:** To celebrate the 100th anniversary of Barking Garage, Stagecoach East London have repainted E400MMC 12400 into this commemorative livery. Seen here on route 145 in Church Elm Lane, Dagenham. (Terry Wong Min)



**THE LONDON BUS**  
**The monthly newsletter of the**  
**London Omnibus Traction Society**  
**website at [www.lots.org.uk](http://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](mailto:lotsmemsec@gmail.com) can be used for quick enquiries and follow-ups, including for address changes, non-arrival of TLB/LBM and blank or missing pages.

For enquiries about, or, orders to **Postal Sales**, please E-mail [lotspostalsales@gmail.com](mailto:lotspostalsales@gmail.com).

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

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This issue was finalised on 3rd-6th April and is due for posting on Tues 16th April.

Closing date for TLB717 is Weds 1st May and due for posting on Tues 14th May.

Booked later closing dates are Wednesdays 5th June, 3rd July and 7th August 2024.

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## Editorial

You may have noticed that this TLB has reverted to the **photo layout** used up until 2021 (i.e. with 3 photos on each inside cover). This is not a permanent change, but it suited the number of photos planned for this issue.

Talking of **photos**, there are two **comments/complaints** that I have heard quite a lot over the past few months. The first is that TLB only ever features photos from a select band of photographers. The second is that some people who have submitted photos in the past never even got an acknowledgement, let alone an explanation for why their photos were not used. Taking the first point, it is true that Dave had a preferred pool of photographers, but that is partly because he had very particular views about the quality of the photographs used in TLB. The difference between a good photo and a great photo are often not that huge, but they include factors such as background and foreground “clutter”, shadows and reflections on the subject as well as the obvious points of focus, lighting, composition etc. Taking great photos requires local knowledge, technical skill, patience and some luck. Dave’s regulars all seemed to have these attributes, with the added advantage that they could usually be called upon to go out and get photos of particular wanted subjects “on demand”. Going forward, we wish to maintain similarly high expectations for quality, but we are also trying to expand the number of photographers used. So, I would invite photographers to submit samples of their work for evaluation, but I would ask that you bear in mind the quality expectations and accept that only a small proportion of photos received are likely to be used. Topical or news-worthy photos can be sent to the TLB Photographic Editor (Russell Young) at dca529x@hotmail.com, while historical or more general photos can go to the LBM Editor (Andrew Jeffreys) at lbm.editor@yahoo.co.uk. Russell and Andrew do work together so, for example, a photo that could not be used in TLB will be sent on for consideration for LBM.

On the second point, ideally we would all respond to every e-mail that we receive. However, this is not always possible, particularly during the busy weeks in which TLB and/or LBM are being put together. Some of us do receive large numbers of e-mails, and of course all LOTS work is done in our “spare” time.

Another change from this issue concerns **bus transfers** with the major operators. The style of presentation used for these over the last few years has sometimes been a bit hard to decipher. To try and address this, I have reverted to showing transfers in a columnar layout, similar to how they were shown in TLB prior to the London Buses privatisations in the mid-1990s. This takes up a little more space but I hope you will agree that the clarity has been improved.

Finally, on the back page you will find a new piece which I have called “**Looking Back**”, this being a reminder of some of the news stories from a selected issue of TLB from the past. I intend this to be an occasionally regular (or regularly occasional!) feature that will appear when there is a bit of space to fill.

## 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.

Dates in 2024 are Mondays 13th May, 17th June (AGM, *changed from 24th June*), 30th Sep, 18th November. The 13th May meeting will be a presentation by Ian Ross of the Crich Tramway Museum. 30th Sep will be “London Country under deregulation” by Jeff Tucker.

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

Sun 21st April: LT Country Bus Running Day, East Grinstead. Free rides from the High Street 10:00-16:30, souvenir timetable booklet £10 on the day.

Sat 4th May: NLETE Theydon Bois Transport Bazaar at Theydon Bois Village Hall, Coppice Row CM16 7ER. 11:00-15:00, up to 30 stalls, £3 entry.

Sun 12th May: HCVS London to Brighton run. Now starting at Brooklands Museum and running via Cobham, Leatherhead, Dorking, Reigate, Redhill, Horley and Cuckfield. Departures from 07:30.

Sat/Sun 18/19th May: Faversham Festival of Transport. Commercial vehicle display and free vintage bus rides on the Saturday, car show on the Sunday.

Sun 19th May: Chiltern Hills Rally, Weedon Park, near Aylesbury. Classic car show.

Sun 2nd June: Running day centred on High Wycombe (Amersham & District Motorbus Society).

Sun 9th June: Running day on route 406 (Kingston to Epsom, Tadworth and Redhill). Free rides on vintage buses 09:00-17:00.

Sun 23rd June: Summer Festival, London Bus Museum, Brooklands. Free bus 462 from Weybridge Station and High Street. Entry £23.30 on the day.

Sat/Sun 20th/21st July: RM70, celebrating 70 years since the first Routemaster bus appeared. A free event, held on the site of the former Chiswick bus works, with around 80 Routemasters planned to be on display. 10:00-18:00 both days at the eastern car park of Chiswick Business Park, 566 Chiswick High Road, London W4 5AN. Access from Chiswick High Road (Gunnersbury Station) or Bollo Lane (South Acton Station).

Sun 21st July: Alton Bus Rally and Running Day. 10:00-16:00. Up to 100 buses at Alton College (Old Odiham Road) plus network of free rides. Free entry.

Sun 28th July: Running day centred on Windsor and Slough (Amersham & District Motorbus Society).

Sat 31st August: NLETE Enfield Transport Bazaar at St. Stephens Church Hall, Village Road, Enfield EN1 2EU. 11:00-14:30, up to 30 stalls. £3 entry.

Sun 1st September: Epping and Ongar Railway - Autumn Bus Event.

Sat 14th September: Running day on route 61 (Bromley to Orpington and Chislehurst). Free rides on vintage buses 10:00-17:00.

Sun 20th October: TransportFest, London Bus Museum at Brooklands.

## **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](mailto:lotsmemsec@gmail.com) (for membership) or [lotspostalsales@gmail.com](mailto:lotspostalsales@gmail.com) (for postal sales) with your name, address and membership number (if known) to tell us what you have subscribed to. Occasionally we receive payments without any idea as to what they were for.

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

If you use the post, please address your orders to LOTS Postal Sales (or LOTS Membership) at Lombard Business Park, 8 Lombard Road, Wimbledon, London SW19 3TZ. Make sure that the ‘Postal Sales’ or ‘Membership’ name is included prominently, so we can give the best attention. Postal Sales orders will be dealt with as soon as possible, subject to ‘staff’ availability - especially in these current times - but, please still allow the usual 28 days for receipt of your order.

A full Sales List was in TLB711 and is also on our website. Orders from the Sales List or a letter are 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!

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## LOTS Postal Sales

### The newest LOTS items:

- **\*\*NEW\*\***: **London Bus and Tram Fleetbook 2024** (£8.50). The usual 128 pages packed with information and updated to 6th March 2024.
- **\*\*NEW\*\***: **SUP-39D TfL's Bus Operators - Fleet Allocations and PVRs** (£5.50). Also updated to 6th March 2024, this lists the fleets of all TfL bus operators (in fleetnumber order), followed by a list of all TfL routes showing the garages, types and PVRs.
- **London Bus Magazine No.207 Spring 2024** (£6.00). Includes a photographic record of 50 years of Showbus by Tony Wilson, a history of Green Line route 727 by Richard Moseling and anecdotes from a London Transport staff canteen by Jeff Morss.
- **London Bus Review 2022** (£17.00) A4 glossy, 80 pages, 135 colour pictures with extensive captions. This is the ORIGINAL annual Review made with about 50 years' experience.
- **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. Correct to September 2023.
- **SUP-24J Service Vehicles - current fleet April 2023** (£5.00)

### From other publishers:

- **\*\*NEW\*\***: Bus maps from Mike Harris: **Greater London Bus Map No. 41** - 13/04/2024, £2.00. Also **Greater London Night Bus Map 10th edition**- 13/04/2024, £4.00
  - **\*\*NEW\*\***: **Bill and Jim** by Hugh Taylor. This book is about a Wood Green trolleybus depot crew who allowed a 16 year old schoolboy into their working environment for 8 months of 1961. It covers routes 625,627,629 and 641 and, following their conversion, includes photos of the replacement bus routes. 361 B&W photos & 8 pages of colour. 208 pages. Adam Gordon Books. £35.00
  - **\*\*NEW\*\***: **Garage History File - Barking** by Andrew Woolhouse. Includes a history of all vehicles to operate from Barking Garage since 1948. Woolybus. £19.50. (Produced in conjunction with last month's Barking Garage Open Day).
  - **\*\*NEW\*\***: **London Memories** compiled by Russell Fell with images by David G Savage. Contains about 90 photos of buses and trolleybuses covering the period between 1960 and 1963. Transport Treasury Publishing. £12.50
  - **\*\*Due soon\*\***: **London's Classic Red Buses, a black & white album** by Mick Webber. Mainly covering the RT and early RM years. 120 pages. Capital Transport. £25.00
  - **\*\*Due soon\*\***: **Tiles of the Unexpected Underground** by Douglas Rose. New expanded edition detailing the tiles and tiling patterns used on the London Underground. 224 pages. Capital Transport. £40.00
  - **The London Mini & Midi Bus Types** by David Beddall. Looks at the various types that have operated on Greater London area routes from the 1950s to the 1990s. 100 colour and 100 B&W photos. 224 pages. Pen & Sword Books. £35.00
  - **Buses in the Border towns of London Country - South of the Thames 1969-2019** by Malcolm Batten. Covers areas from Slough to Gravesend. 144 pages. Pen & Sword Books. £25.00. *A follow-up covering North of the Thames is expected in April.*
  - **London's Post-War Smaller Classes** (STD, TD, G436, RLH, RFW, GS, RW, XA, XF, RC) entering service between 1946 and 1965, by Ken Blacker. Includes over 200 photos. Capital Transport. £35.00
  - **A London Country Busman, 1975-1990** by Matthew Keyte. Detailing a career from bus conductor to management. 144 pages. Capital Transport. £30.00.
  - **Tracks of London's Trams 1949-1952** by R J Harley. Tells what it was like to work and ride on the trams in their final years. 80 B&W photos and 25 colour photos. Heathfield Publishing. £25.00
  - **Bluebird Reborn: The History and Restoration of LCC No. 1**. Edited by Lynn Wagstaff. The book tells the story of LCC No. 1, built in 1929 and recently restored at the National Tramway Museum. LRTA. £35.00
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## 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 **London Mayoral elections** are being held on 2nd May. Recent opinion polls suggest the current Labour candidate and Mayor, Sadiq Khan will win a third term easily. The Conservative candidate, Susan Hall has (so far) failed to make a significant impression in the campaign. There will also be elections to the London Assembly and in various Councils outside the capital. Labour is the largest party on the London Assembly at present, but with 11 seats (out of 25) it does not have an overall majority. A notable absentee from the Assembly elections is Liberal Democrat Caroline Pidgeon, current Chair of the London Assembly Transport Committee, who has decided to step down. This time the London elections will all be run under the ‘first past the post’ system, there will be no second preferences. Another change is that voters will need to provide photo ID.

If he is re-elected, Mayor Sadiq Khan has promised to introduce a new ‘**Bakerloop Express**’ bus service between Elephant & Castle and Lewisham. It would follow the line of the proposed Bakerloo line extension with stops at Burgess Park, Old Kent Road and New Cross Gate providing faster links for many and serving some of the most deprived neighbourhoods in England. Bakerloop buses would be branded with a brown Bakerloo line colour scheme as a visible reminder it is an alternative to the Bakerloo line extension. The Underground line extension, which is now expected to cost between £5 and 8 billion has been put on hold but the alignment has been safeguarded so any new developments must not obstruct it.

The latest **TfL financial results** presented to the TfL Board in March show that overall, system usage is up 7% year on year which is slightly above the budgeted 6% increase. However, most of the increase is attributed to Underground usage. The increase in bus use was slightly below predicted levels, due to lower demand from passengers with concessionary tickets. Overall TfL passenger journeys are now at 90% of pre-pandemic levels and predicted to continue to increase. As a result, TfL says it is on track to deliver an operating surplus in 2023/24. Note that this does not include capital expenditure or renewals which still depend on Government grants. In December 2023 the Department for Transport confirmed a capital settlement of £250 million for 2024/25.

TfL has published a new **Green Infrastructure and Biodiversity plan**. This follows on from TfL’s 2021 Corporate Environment Plan which sets out how TfL capture targets, legal requirements and policy commitments.

**Lambeth Council** has suspended the Streatham Wells Low traffic neighbourhood scheme following gridlock in Streatham High Road. Local and national media reports suggested southbound buses were taking two hours to travel three miles during the afternoon peak. The aim of the scheme was to reduce traffic levels on Valley Road and other local roads that were used as rat runs. It did seem to achieve that, but only at the expense of creating even more congestion on Streatham High Road, which has always been a bottleneck at busy times. It will be interesting to see whether a modified version is developed.

### Corporate and company news

**Metroline is a surprise winner in third tranche of bus franchising in Greater Manchester.** Through its owner ComfortDelGro, Metroline has been awarded four of the five large local service contracts in the third and final tranche of franchising in Greater Manchester. The fifth contract covering Stockport was awarded to Stagecoach which retains its garage in the town. Metroline will take over depots at Hyde Road, Ashton Under Lyne, Sharston and Wythenshawe. Its new five year contracts which

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will start in January 2025 are reported to be worth £422 million, covering 232 services which will require 422 buses and 1,350 drivers. All buses within Greater Manchester will then be part of the franchised Bee Network.

**Go Ahead London** is running two blue buses on route 132 from Bexleyheath garage to promote Go Ahead group's campaign to encourage more women into the industry. Go Ahead aims to recruit 1,500 women drivers across the UK and Ireland to address the imbalance.

## Other General News

The Department for Transport (DfT) announced funding of £143 million for 955 new zero emission vehicles in 25 local authority areas outside London. This forms part 2 of the **Zero Emission Bus Regional Areas (ZEBRA)** programme. £40 million of this will enable the introduction of zero emission buses in many rural areas for the first time. In the South East area the awards are:

- Brighton & Hove City Council - £2.9 million for 16 buses for B&H route 7
- Essex County Council - £4.8 million for 55 buses for First routes around Basildon
- Isle of Wight - £4.5 million for 22 buses for Southern Vectis routes 1, 5 & 9
- Surrey County Council - £3.2 million for 19 buses
- West Sussex County Council - £10 million for 43 buses for Metrobus (conditional)
- Reading Borough Council - £4.7 million for 24 buses for Reading Buses routes 17 & 21

The conditional award to West Sussex County Council is for 43 hydrogen buses for Metrobus for various routes based at Crawley. This award follows a joint bid from Surrey CC, West Sussex CC, Kent CC and London Gatwick. All other awards are understood to be for battery electric vehicles.

News from manufacturers, Belgian builder **Van Hool** has been in severe financial difficulties and was planning to transfer all coach production to its plant in North Macedonia but this did not meet with the approval of shareholders. **Volvo** has announced its intention to move away from manufacturing complete vehicles, using third party partners for bodybuilding. This follows the closure of its plant in Poland. Volvo already uses Egyptian bodybuilder MCV in the UK and it is likely to expand this arrangement to coaches. **ADLs** new in house Enviro 400EV and Enviro100EV models have achieved new efficiency figures at the Millbrook test track where operators were invited to try demonstration vehicles. Orders for the new model have been made by Stagecoach and Transdev Blazefield. Newport Transport has received the first **Yutong** D11DD 70 seat double deck battery electric buses and E9L 9-metre single deckers which have been lengthened at the front to provide a full width front door with wheelchair access.

The **Tilbury Ferry** which has linked Tilbury and Gravesend for more than 300 years ceased on 30th March. The ferry service, operated by Jetstream had been supported by Thurrock Council and Kent County Council. Thurrock Council said it could no longer provide support after 31st March even though KCC had agreed to continue its contribution. It now appears that Thurrock Council would be able to provide support until 2025 but no operator has come forward to run the service, so it had to be suspended. An oddity that remains is that while Tilbury Riverside railway station (next to the ferry terminal) closed in 1992, the replacement bus service to Tilbury Town station still runs, every half hour. Around 100,000 passengers a year used the ferry service and the only alternative is a roughly two hour trip via the Dartford Crossing.

We welcome new editions of the only **Greater London Bus Maps by Mike Harris**, correct to 13th April. These superb maps show day routes and night routes in the style used in the 1970s. They remain the only comprehensive London bus maps available and are therefore excellent value. The day map costs £2 each and Night bus map costs £4 and includes a donation to the Royal Voluntary Society. It is sad to reflect that TfL still fails to publish an all London bus map while producing several on-line versions of the Tube Map.

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Two sad deaths to report this month. Firstly, **John Reed**, an extremely knowledgeable enthusiast and former editor of London Bus Magazine. John worked mostly for London Transport in its Public Relations and Press offices and he was co-author of the official 1983 London Transport Golden Jubilee book. We also lost **Peter Nichols** who was a LOTS officer in the 1960s and 70s.

Not strictly a bus item but no doubt of interest to many is the announcement that the landmark **Post Office Tower** (now called the BT Tower) near Warren Street Station, which opened in 1966, is to become a hotel. When new it was the tallest building in London and had a public viewing gallery as well as a revolving restaurant. Terminating buses on routes 134 & 253 showed 'WARREN STREET STATION Post Office Tower' on destination blinds and some Routemasters carried roof adverts around this time but the idea didn't catch on.

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## GREATER LONDON AREA - Route Developments

**Section Editor:** Stephen Floyd, 4 Turnpike Gardens, Bedford, MK42 0AJ or by e-mail to [stevefloyd1959@gmail.com](mailto:stevefloyd1959@gmail.com) This section covers local TfL bus services within the Greater London County boundary. Fuller detail of any commercial or county services 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 4, 6/=, 22/N22, 88/=, 98/N98, 117, 150, 175, 176/=, 188/=, 281/=, 355, 360, 419, 681, R1, R2, R3, R4, R8 and R11 from tranches 875, 884A, 893A, 894, 895, 896, 897, 900 and 905A awarded, starting on 29th June (406/418), 6th July (281/=, 681), 7th September (117), 28th September (4), 12th October (150, 175), 19th October (22/N22), 28th October (U1, U2, U3), 9th November (176/=, 188/=, 419), 7th December (6/=, 88/=, 98/N98, 355, 360) and 29th March 2025 (R1, R2, R3, R4, R8 and R11).

- 4 Retained by Metroline Travel using new electric double-deck vehicles (pvr 17).
  - 6/= Retained by Metroline Travel using existing hybrid double-deck vehicles (pvr 18).
  - 22/N22 Retained by Go-Ahead London General using new electric double-deck vehicles (pvr 17 to 18).
  - 88/= Retained by Go-Ahead London General using new electric double-deck vehicles (pvr 22).
  - 98/N98 Retained by Metroline Travel using new electric double-deck vehicles; although N98 will continue with existing hybrid double-deck vehicles. (pvr 22).
  - 117 Retained by London United using existing diesel single-deck vehicles (pvr 10).
  - 150 Retained by Arriva London North using existing hybrid double-deck vehicles (pvr 15).
  - 175 Retained by Arriva London North using existing hybrid double-deck vehicles (pvr 14).
  - 176/= Retained by Go-Ahead London Central using existing LT new Routemaster vehicles (pvr 22).
  - 188/= Retained by Go-Ahead London Central using new electric double-deck vehicles (pvr 21 to 22).
  - 281/= Retained by London United using existing electric double-deck vehicles (pvr 21).  
(Note some journeys continue to be operated with hybrid double-deck vehicles for charging reasons and crosslinks from 681.)
  - 355 Retained by Go-Ahead using new electric single-deck vehicles; although originally awarded to Go-Ahead Metrobus, was novated to Go-Ahead London Central last September and now to be allocated to Go-Ahead London General. (pvr 12 to 13).
  - 360 Retained by Go-Ahead London Central using new electric single-deck vehicles (pvr 11).
  - 406/418 Retained by London United using existing hybrid double-deck vehicles (pvr 15 to 14).
  - 419 Retained by London United using existing diesel single-deck vehicles (pvr 13 to 12).
  - 681 Retained by London United using existing hybrid double-deck vehicles (pvr 2 to 3).
  - R1 Retained by Go-Ahead Metrobus using new electric single-deck vehicles (pvr 6).
  - R2 Retained by Go-Ahead Metrobus using new electric single-deck vehicles (pvr 3 to 4).
  - R3 Retained by Go-Ahead Metrobus using new electric single-deck vehicles (pvr 6).
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- R4 Retained by Go-Ahead Metrobus using new electric single-deck vehicles (pvr 6).  
R8 Retained by Go-Ahead Metrobus using new electric single-deck vehicles (pvr 1 to 2).  
R11 Retained by Go-Ahead Metrobus using new electric single-deck vehicles (pvr 9 to 10).  
U1/U2 Retained by Metroline West using new electric single-deck vehicles (pvr 17 to TBC).  
U3 Retained by Metroline West using new electric double-deck vehicles (pvr 11 to TBC).

Routes 6/=, 117, 150, 175, 281/=, 406/418, 419, 681 are for 3 years;

Route 176/= is for 5 years;

Routes 4, 22/N22, 88/=, 98/N98, 188/=, 355, 360, R1, R2, R3, R4, R8, R11, U1, U2 and U3 are for 7 years.

As mentioned last month, the award of U1, U2, U3 had been extended by six months, pending the outcome of consultation, hence the final PVR is to be confirmed.

Some further additional information from last month. The option of awarding new 5-year contracts with the potential of a 2-year extension did indeed cease from the start of the 2022-23 tendering programme (from Tranche #782) though obviously a number of routes awarded prior to this retain the option of being offered a 2-year extension. These are offered by TfL on ‘good performance’ although the operator is not obliged to accept the offer, nor will TfL offer them if performance has not met the targets set in each contract. All “QC” contracts are incentivised against various performance targets, which will vary from route to route, and bonuses can be earned if the performance on each route exceeds the targets set.

Therefore, the headings under Forthcoming Service Changes will be revised to reflect this (*see later*).

Some further changes to the tendering programme. The current contracts for routes 273, 298, 617, 629 and W9 will terminate early and have been re-allocated to Tranches #902A (273), #903A (298, W9) and #912A (617, 629).

The 2024/25 tendering programme is now as follows:-

| Tranche No.<br>and start dates | Routes out on offer (with current operators)                  | 2-year extensions<br>previously granted |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| #879B (02/25)                  | Silvertown cycle bus (New Route) .....                        | --                                      |
| #884A (06/24)                  | 65/N65, 71, 371, K5 (London United) .....                     | --                                      |
| #887 (08/24)                   | Tranche cancelled .....                                       | 533                                     |
| #893A (09-11/24)               | 49, 697 (London United), 398, H9/H10 (London Sovereign) ..... | --                                      |
| #893B (09-11/24)               | 290 (London United) .....                                     | --                                      |
| #894 (10/24)                   | 341/= (Arriva LN) .....                                       | --                                      |
| #894A (09-11/24)               | 148/= (London United) .....                                   | --                                      |
| #895 (09-10/24)                | 669, 672 (S'ch Selkent) .....                                 | --                                      |
| #895A (10/24)                  | 160/660, 180 (S'ch Selkent) .....                             | --                                      |
| #897 (11-12/24)                | 170 (GA London General), 33/N33 (London United) .....         | --                                      |
| #899 (11-12/24)                | 18/N18, 94/=, 266/N266 (Lon United), 218 (Lon Transit) ...    | --                                      |
| #899A (11/24)                  | 414 (London Transit) .....                                    | --                                      |
| #900A (11/24)                  | 45 (Transport UK) .....                                       | --                                      |
| #901 (12/24-02/25)             | 258 (London United), 278 (Transport UK) .....                 | --                                      |
| #901A (01/25)                  | 655 (London United) .....                                     | --                                      |
| #902 (01-03/25)                | 444 (GA London General) .....                                 | 212, 357, 497                           |
| #902A (01/25)                  | 273 (S'ch Selkent) .....                                      | --                                      |
| #903 (01-02/25)                | 121, 141, 329 (Arriva LN), 153 (GA London General) .....      | --                                      |
| #903A (02/25)                  | 298, W9 (Sullivan) .....                                      | --                                      |

| Tranche No.<br>and start dates | Routes out on offer (with current operators)                                                                | 2-year extensions<br>previously granted |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| #904 (01-03/25)                | 41/=, W4, W6 (Arriva LN), 657 (GA London General) .....                                                     | 29/N29                                  |
| #904A (02/25)                  | 299/389/399 (Sullivan) .....                                                                                | --                                      |
| #905 (01-02/25)                | 99, 269, 401 (Arriva LN), 233 (GA Metrobus), 422,<br>B14, SL3 (S'ch Selkent), B16 (GA London Central) ..... | --                                      |
| #905A (03/25)                  | R6 (GA Metrobus) .....                                                                                      | --                                      |
| #906A (02/25)                  | 118 (GA London General) .....                                                                               | --                                      |
| #907 (02-03/25)                | 423, H22, H37, H98 (London United), H28 (Transport UK) .....                                                | --                                      |
| #908 (03/25)                   | 282 (Metroline West), 482 (Transport UK) .....                                                              | --                                      |
| #909 (03/25)                   | 161, 181, 284 (S'ch Selkent), 225 (GA London Central),<br>C10 (Transport UK) .....                          | --                                      |
| #910 (03/25)                   | 138 (GA Metrobus) .....                                                                                     | 126                                     |
| #911 (03/25)                   | 169, 247, 287 (S'ch East London) .....                                                                      | --                                      |
| #912 (03/25)                   | 68/N68 (Transport UK), 468 (Arriva LS),<br>SL6 (ex X68) (GA London Central) .....                           | --                                      |
| #912A (03/25)                  | 617, 629 (Sullivan) .....                                                                                   | --                                      |

The first part of the 2025/26 tendering programme with dates up to August 2025 is now as follows:-

| Tranche No.<br>and start dates | Routes out on offer (with current operators)                                          | 2-year extensions<br>previously granted |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| #913 (04/25)                   | 263/N263 (Metroline Travel) .....                                                     | --                                      |
| #914 (4-5/25)                  | 424, 485, G1, (G-A London General), P5 (Transport UK) ...                             | --                                      |
| #915 (04/25)                   | SL5 (Arriva LS), SL7 (G-A Metrobus) .....                                             | --                                      |
| #916 (04/25)                   | 31/N31, 95 (Metroline West) 427 (Transport UK) .....                                  | --                                      |
| #917 (4-5/25)                  | 171/N171 (GA London Central), 196 (Transport UK) .....                                | 127                                     |
| #918 (05/25)                   | 25/N25, 241, 330, 474/= (S'ch East London) .....                                      | --                                      |
| #919 (05/25)                   | 37/=, 337 (G-A London General), 270 (Transport UK),<br>386 (G-A London Central) ..... | --                                      |
| #920 (05/25)                   | 44/N44, 77, 87/N87, 219 (G-A London General) .....                                    | --                                      |
| #921 (5-6/25)                  | 67, 106 (G-A London General),<br>231, 491 (Metroline Travel), 327 (Sullivan) .....    | --                                      |
| #922 (06/25)                   | 268, H2, H3/631 (Metroline Travel) .....                                              | --                                      |
| #923 (06/25)                   | 30, 46, 274 (Metroline Travel) .....                                                  | --                                      |
| #924 (6-7/25)                  | 230 (G-A London General),<br>425, 498, 499 (S'ch East London) .....                   | --                                      |
| #925 (06/25)                   | 105/=, K1, K2, K3 (London United), 285/= (Transport UK) .                             | --                                      |
| #926 (6-7/25)                  | 326 (London Sovereign), 331 (Metroline West),<br>460 (Metroline Travel) .....         | --                                      |
| #927 (7-8/25)                  | N5 (London Sovereign), N20 (Metroline Travel)<br>N550, N551 (S'ch East London) .....  | --                                      |
| #928 (08/25)                   | 166 (Arriva LS), 293 (London United), R9 (G-A Metrobus) .                             | --                                      |
| #929 (08/25)                   | 73/N73 (Arriva LN), 139/=, 390/= (Metroline Travel) .....                             | --                                      |
| #930 (8-9/25)                  | 60, 312, 405, 412/685, 466 (Arriva LS), 434 (G-A Metrobus) ..                         | --                                      |

## ROUTE AND SERVICE CHANGES

Saturday 27th January 2024: Additionally:

258 (*London Sovereign-RP*) (Watford Junction & South Harrow Station) Terminal at Watford Junction moved from Woodford Road to Bus Station.

Saturday 10th February 2024: As in TLB715.

Saturday 17th February 2024: As in TLB715.

Fridays 23rd February 2024 from 22:00 to Monday 26th February 2024 until 05:00: As in TLB715.

Saturday 24th February 2024: As in TLB715. Additionally:

86 (*Stagecoach East London-NS*) (Stratford, Bus Station & Romford Station) 6 vehicles are out-stationed every night at Lea Interchange (LI) garage to ease capacity at Romford (NS) garage after installation of charging infrastructure. (*See also vehicle news and clarifies and updates previous notes in TLB714/715*).

Saturday 2nd March 2024: As in TLB715.

Sunday 3rd March 2024: As in TLB715.

Saturday 9th March 2024:

56 (*Stagecoach East London-T*) (Whipps Cross & St. Bartholomew's Hospital) Revised daily schedules for running time.

167 (*Stagecoach East London-BK*) (Ilford High Road & Loughton Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing AD20D Enviro 200 diesel single deck vehicles.

346 (*Stagecoach East London-RM*) (Upminster Park Estate, Waycross Road & Upminster Station, Mon-Sat) extended from Upminster Station via Hall Lane, Shepherd's Hill, Heath Road to Harold Wood Station then absorbing route 497 via the existing route to terminate at Dagnam Park, Dagnam Park Square. The revised service will run every x20 mins, daily, thus introducing a Sunday service.

379 (Chingford Station & Yardley Lane Estate, Boardman Avenue) LBSL (QC) contract awarded to Stagecoach East London from Walthamstow Avenue (AW) garage, using new MetroCity EV electric single-deck vehicles in due course. Previously operated by *Go-Ahead London General* from Northumberland Park (NP) garage using WS-class Wrightbus StreetLite diesel single-deck vehicles.

497 (*Stagecoach East London-NS*) (Harold Hill, Dagnam Park Square & Harold Wood Station, Mon-Sat) Route WITHDRAWN and absorbed by route 346.

PVR changes from 9th March 2024: (*Note these and following dates also update SUP39D*).

Go-Ahead London General: 379 withdrawn;

Stagecoach East London: 56 to 19/19/18 #T51+, 167 to 7/7/6 #BK151+; 346 to 6/6/6 #RM451+, 379 to 2/2/2 #AW1+, 497 withdrawn.

Saturday 16th March 2024:

140 (*Metroline Travel-HD*) (Hayes, Asda & Harrow Weald Garage) Revised daily timetables for running time.

182 (*Metroline Travel-HD*) (Harrow Weald, Oxhey Lane & Brent Cross Shopping Centre) Revised daily timetables for running time.

R68 (*Transport UK-TF*) (Hampton Court & Kew, Retail Park) Route restored to normal terminals having been truncated to Twickenham since 9th September 2023 for roadworks at Richmond Manor Circus. (*see TLB709/710*).

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Saturday 16th March 2024 (continued):

R70 (*Transport UK-TF*) (Nurserylands & Manor Circus, Homebase) Route restored to Manor Circus instead of replacing route R68 to Kew, Retail Park since 9th September 2023 for roadworks at Richmond Manor Circus (*see TLB709/710*). In actual fact, the roadworks were extended until 8th April at least.

PVR changes from 16th March 2024:

Metroline Travel: 140 to 21/20/13 #HD1+, no change to 182 PVRs;

Transport UK: R68 to 10/10/9 #TF31+, R70 to 11/11/7 #TF41+.

Saturday 23rd March 2024:

20 (*Stagecoach East London-AW*) (Walthamstow Central Station & Debden Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing AD E40H Enviro 400H City hybrid double-deck vehicles.

76/= (*Waterloo, Bayliss Road & Tottenham Hale Station*) LBSL (QC) contract awarded to Arriva London North from the re-opened Stamford Hill (SF) garage, using LT-class new Routemaster vehicles. Previously operated by *Go-Ahead London General* from Northumberland Park (NP) garage using LT-class new Routemaster vehicles.

186 (*Metroline Travel-HD*) (Northwick Park Hospital, Social Club & Brent Cross Shopping Centre) Revised daily timetables for running time.

259 (*Arriva London North-EC*) (King's Cross, Grays Inn Road & Edmonton Green Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing LT-class new Routemaster vehicles.

362 (*Stagecoach East London-BK*) (Grange Hill Station & Goodmayes, King George Hospital) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing AD E20D Enviro200D MMC diesel single-deck vehicles.

393 (*Metroline Travel-HT*) (Chalk Farm, Roundhouse & Clapton, Lea Bridge Roundabout) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing DEM-class AD E20D Enviro200D MMC diesel single-deck vehicles.

462 (*Stagecoach East London-BK*) (Limes Farm Estate & Ilford High Road) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing AD E20D Enviro200D MMC diesel single-deck vehicles.

H98 (*London United-AV*) (Hayes End, Kingsway & Hounslow, Bus Station) Revised Monday to Friday timetable for reliability.

PVR changes from 23rd March 2024:

Arriva London North: 76 to 20/18/14 #SF1+, ^=76,

=76 to 2+ MoNt-SaNt #SF31+ (+ 2 ex 76 daytime service). On SuNt is 1+ (+3 ex 76 daytime service),

No change to 259 PVRs;

Go-Ahead London General: 76/= withdrawn,

London United: No change to H98 PVRs;

Metroline Travel: No change to 186, 393 PVRs;

Stagecoach East London: 462 to 8\*/8\*/6 #BK401 (\*362 Mo-Sa), no change to 20, 362 PVRs.

Easter Holiday 29th March to 1st April 2024: A Saturday service operated on Good Friday 29th March and a Sunday Service on Easter Monday 1st April, with normal service on Easter Saturday and Sunday.

Good Friday 29th March to Wednesday 24th April 2024: Major engineering works for Tramlink so no services between East Croydon and Beckenham Junction / Elmers End / New Addington. Wimbledon services are terminating at Wellesley Road, reversing via the crossover at Dingwall Road and recommencing in George Street. Replacement buses will operate. On previous weekends, during March, no Trams operated between East Croydon and New Addington although passengers were advised to use normal bus services instead.

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Saturday 30th March 2024:

- 2 (*Arriva London South-N*) (Marylebone Station & Norwood Garage) and  
N2 (*Arriva London South-N*) (Marylebone Station & Crystal Palace) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing HV-class Volvo B5LH Wrightbus Gemini 3 hybrid double-deck vehicles.
- 19 (*Arriva London North-AR*) (Battersea Bridge, South Side & Finsbury Park Station) and  
N19 (*Arriva London North-AR*) (Clapham Junction & Finsbury Park Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing LT-class new Routemaster vehicles.
- 65 (*London United-FW*) (Ealing Broadway Station & Kingston, Brook Street) Revised daily timetables, services restored to every x6 mins Mon-Sat daytimes and x10 mins Sunday and evenings after widening, and additional running time.
- 97 (*Stagecoach East London-WH*) (Stratford City, Bus Station & Chingford Station) Re-allocated to Lea Interchange (LI) garage, using existing Wrightbus StreetDeck HEV96 hybrid double-deck vehicles.
- 113 (*Metroline Travel-EW*) (Marble Arch & Edgware Station) and  
N113 (*Metroline Travel-EW*) (Trafalgar Square & Edgware Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using new WDE-class Wrightbus StreetDeck Electroliner electric double-deck vehicles.
- 249 (*Arriva London South-N*) (Anerley Station & Clapham Common Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing HV-class Volvo B5LH Wrightbus Gemini 3 hybrid double-deck vehicles.
- 262 (Stratford, Bus Station & Gallions Reach, Shopping Park) LBSL (QC) contract awarded to Go-Ahead Blue Triangle from Henley Road (DS) garage, using new Ee-class BYD D8UR Enviro400EV-City electric double-deck vehicles in due course. Previously operated by *Stagecoach Lea Interchange* from Lea Interchange (LI) garage using Wrightbus Streetdeck hybrid double-deck vehicles.
- 317 (*Metroline Travel-PB*) (Enfield Town, Little Park Gardens & Waltham Cross, Bus Station) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 366 Re-allocation deferred until 27th April. (*see later*).
- 372 (*Stagecoach East London-RM*) (Hornchurch, Town Centre & Lakeside, Bus Station) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 376 Re-allocation deferred until 27th April. (*see later*).
- 396 (*Go-Ahead Blue Triangle-RR*) (Ilford Broadway, Sainsbury's & Goodmayes, King George Hospital) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using new SEe BYD D9UR Enviro200EV electric single-deck vehicles in due course.
- 473 (Stratford, Bus Station & North Woolwich, Free Ferry) LBSL (QC) contract awarded to Go-Ahead Blue Triangle from Henley Road (DS) garage, using new Ee-class BYD D8UR Enviro400EV-City electric double-deck vehicles in due course. Previously operated by *Stagecoach Lea Interchange* from Lea Interchange (LI) garage using Wrightbus Streetdeck hybrid double-deck vehicles.
- 493 (*Go-Ahead London General-AL*) (Richmond, Bus Station & Tooting, St. George's Hospital) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.

PVR changes from 30th March 2024:

Arriva London North: No change to 19/N19 PVRs;

Arriva London South: 249 to 14/14/13 #N201+, no change to 2/N2 PVRs;

Go-Ahead Blue Triangle: 262 to 10/10/8 #DS101+, 473 to 9/9/6 #DS121+, no change to 396 PVRs;

Go-Ahead London General: No change to 493 PVRs;

London United: 65 to 30/29/20 #FW51+ ^N65;

Metroline Travel: No change to 113/N113, 317 PVRs;

Stagecoach East London: No change to 372 PVRs, 262, 473 withdrawn.

Stagecoach Lea Interchange: 97 to 20/20/16 #LI151+.

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

**Saturday 6th April 2024:**

- 273 (*Stagecoach Selkent-TL*) (Lewisham, Tesco & Petts Wood Station) Re-routed in both directions via the full length of Exford Road in Lee, the current loop via Winn Road, Jevington Way and Senlac Road will no longer be served. This is due to ongoing issues with parked vehicles. It was intended to re-route as part of the consultation (*see TLB714*).
- 384 (*Metroline Travel-PB*) (Cockfosters Station & Edgware Station) Revised daily schedules for running time.
- S3 (Malden Manor Station & Belmont Station, Mon-Sat except evenings) LBSL (QC) contract awarded to Transport UK from Beddington (BC) garage, using existing diesel single-deck vehicles initially until new electric single-deck vehicles are delivered. Previously operated by *London United* from Tolworth (TV) garage using DE-class E20D Enviro 200 diesel single-deck vehicles.

**Saturday 13th April 2024:**

- 195 (*Transport UK-GW*) (Charville Lane Estate & Brentford, County Court) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing diesel single-deck vehicles.
- 306 (Sands End, Sainsbury's & Acton Vale, Bromyard Avenue) LBSL (QC) contract awarded to Transport UK from Battersea (QB) garage, using new Wrightbus StreetDeck Electroliner electric double-deck vehicles in due course. Evening frequency increased from x20 to x15 mins. Previously operated by *Metroline Travel* from Holloway (HT) garage using VWH-class Volvo B5LH Wrightbus Gemini 3 hybrid double-deck vehicles.
- 689 (*Arriva London South-TH*) (West Croydon, Bus Station & The Glade, Glade Gardens, SDO) Renewal of LBSL (QX) contract using new ES-class Wrightbus StreetDeck Electroliner electric double-deck vehicle in due course, cross-linked from route 250.
- E3 (*London United-V*) (Greenford Broadway & Chiswick, Edensor Road) Revised daily timetables for running time. (*New contract schedules introduced early - see 1st June later*).

**Saturday 27th April 2024:**

- 110 (*London United-AV*) (Hounslow, Bus Station & Hammersmith, Bus Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing DLE-class AD E20D Enviro200 diesel single-deck vehicles.
- 206 (*Metroline West-WJ*) (Kilburn Park Station & Wembley Park, The Paddocks) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing DEL-class AD E20D Enviro200 diesel single-deck and a VMH-class Volvo B5LH MCV Evoseti hybrid double-deck vehicle initially until new electric single-deck and double-deck vehicles are delivered in due course. Revised daily running time.
- 236 (*Stagecoach Lea Interchange-LI*) (Finsbury Park Station & Hackney Wick, Eastway) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing Wrightbus StreetLite diesel single-deck vehicles.
- 366 (*Go-Ahead Blue Triangle-DS*) (Beckton, Bus Station & Redbridge, Roding Lane South) Re-allocated to River Road (RR) garage. (*Updating previous information in TLB715 and SUP39D where shown, as being allocated to Docklands (SI) garage.*)
- 376 (*Go-Ahead Docklands-SI*) (Beckton, Bus Station & East Ham, Newham Town Hall) Re-allocated to Henley Road (DS) garage and thus novated to Go-Ahead Blue Triangle. To be converted to a mix of existing and new SEe-class BYD D9UR Enviro200EV electric single-deck vehicles. (*Updating previous information in TLB715 and SUP39D as being allocated to River Road (RR) garage.*)
- 394 (*Stagecoach East London-HK*) (Homerton Hospital & Islington, Tolpuddle Street) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing AD E20D Enviro200 diesel single-deck vehicles.
- P4 (Brixton Station & Lewisham, Town Centre) LBSL (QC) contract awarded to Go-Ahead London Central from New Cross (NX) garage, using existing SE-class diesel single-deck vehicles. Currently operated by *Stagecoach Selkent* from Catford (TL) garage using AD E20D Enviro200 diesel single-deck vehicles.

Saturday 4th May 2024:

- 28 (Kensal Rise Station & Wandsworth, Southside Shopping Centre) and  
N28 (Camden Town, Bayham Street & Wandsworth, Southside Shopping Centre) LBSL (QC) contract awarded to Metroline West from Willesden Junction (WJ) garage, using existing VW-class Volvo B9TL Wrightbus Gemini2 diesel double-deck vehicles. Currently operated by *London Transit* from Westbourne Park (X) garage using OME-class Optare Metrodecker MD1050EV electric double-deck vehicles.
- 31 (*Metroline West*-WJ) (Camden Town, Bayham Street & White City, Bus Station) Re-allocated from Willesden Junction (WJ) garage to Holloway (HT) garage, thus novated to Metroline Travel.

May Day and Spring Bank Holiday 6th and 27th May 2024: Normal Sunday services.

Saturday 11th May 2024:

- 481 (Kingston, Cromwell Road Bus Station & West Middlesex Hospital, Mental Health Unit) LBSL (QC) contract awarded to Metroline Travel from Brentford (AH) garage, using existing VWH-class Volvo B5LH Wrightbus Gemini2 hybrid double-deck vehicles. Currently operated by *London United* from Fulwell (FW) garage using VH-class Volvo B5LH Wrightbus Gemini 3 hybrid double-deck vehicles. Note that the SDO journeys to and from Turing House School continue to be operated by Transport UK using Wrightbus StreetDeck Electroliner electric double-deck vehicles from Fulwell (TF) garage.

Saturday 18th May 2024:

- 464 (*Transport UK*-BC) (Tatsfield, Ship & New Addington, Parkway) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing AD E20D Enviro200 diesel single-deck vehicles.

Saturday 25th May 2024:

- 272 (*London United*-V) (Chiswick, Grove Park Hotel & Shepherd's Bush Green) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing DLE-class AD E20D Enviro200 diesel single-deck vehicles.
- 440 (*London United*-RP) (Turnham Green Church & Wembley Trading Estate, First Way) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing DLE-class or DME-class AD E20D Enviro200 diesel single-deck vehicles.
- E1 (Greenford Broadway & Ealing Broadway Station) LBSL (QC) contract awarded to Metroline West from Greenford (G) garage using existing VW-class Volvo B9TL Wrightbus Gemini2 diesel double-deck vehicles. Currently operated by *London United* from Hounslow (AV) garage using ADH-class AD E40H Enviro400H hybrid double-deck vehicles. Early morning and evening frequencies increased from x15 to x12 mins.
- E6 (Greenford Station & Hayes, Bull's Bridge Tesco) LBSL (QC) contract awarded to Transport UK from Hayes (DH) garage using new GB-Kite Electroliner electric single-deck vehicles in due course. Currently operated by *Metroline West* from Greenford (G) garage using DE-class AD E20D Enviro200 diesel single-deck vehicles.
- E11 (*Transport UK*-GW) (Ealing Common, Warwick Dene & Greenford Broadway) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing AD E20D Enviro200 diesel single-deck vehicles.

Saturday 1st June 2024:

- 253 (*Arriva London North*-CT) (Hackney Central Station & Euston Station) and  
N253 (*Arriva London North*-CT) (Tottenham Court Road Station & Aldgate Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing LT-class new Routemaster vehicles.
- 254 (*Arriva London North*-SF) (Aldgate Station & Holloway, Nag's Head) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing LT-class new Routemaster vehicles.
- E3 (*London United*-V) (Greenford Broadway & Chiswick, Edensor Road) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing ADH-class AD E40H Enviro400H hybrid double-deck vehicles.
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## SERVICE PROPOSALS

The results of the consultation for routes **R1, R2, R3, R6 and B14** were announced (*see also tender results*). There were 445 responses to the consultation. For the proposal to re-route **R3** in the Petts Wood area, there were 280 responses, with 35% stating “negative impact” and 31% with no impact, with safety concerns owing to congestion and poor visibility with the location of the proposed bus stops. The proposal to withdraw route **R2** and replace it with a re-routed **R1** to Biggin Hill and with **R3** replacing existing route **R1** from Orpington to Green Street Green, there were 293 responses. Of these, the two most frequent options selected were ‘Negative impact’ with 39 per cent and a joint selection of ‘Positive impact’ and ‘No impact’ both with 22 per cent. TfL have decided that “following careful consideration of the consultation responses and a further review of what was proposed and the costs involved, we have decided not to proceed with changes to routes R1, R2 and R3 as these no longer represent value for money.” For the final proposal to replace route **R6** via St. Mary Cray with a re-routed **B14**, there were 282 responses. Of these, the two most frequent options selected were ‘No impact’ with 33% and ‘Negative impact’ with 28% per cent while 9% of respondents were concerned a change to the route would increase journey times. TfL state “we have not yet reached a decision as to how we may proceed with changes to routes R6 and B14 which remain subject to the receipt of bus operator costs. A decision is expected later in 2024.”

The results of the consultation for routes **91/N91, 123 and 232** in Harringey Heartlands were announced. There were 488 responses, with general support for the proposals for removing the awkward terminal manoeuvre for route **91** at Crouch End and for connecting new developments, though with some concern this may exacerbate existing reliability problems. There was also concern for severing the connection for route **123** between Westbury Avenue and Wood Green High Road. TfL say they will consider options for increasing the Sunday and evening frequencies on routes **123 and 232**. Otherwise the scheme will proceed unchanged from the original proposals, with an introduction in Autumn 2024.

The result of the consultation for route **281** extension from Tolworth Broadway to Tolworth, Signal Park was announced. There were 147 responses, with general support to serve new development and for better connections with Tolworth Station, although there was some concern for the loss of two stops on Ewell Road on the current departure loop. This will also proceed from the original proposals, with an introduction in Autumn 2024.

Finally, although not a TfL consultation, a plan from LB Lambeth and Network Rail for improvements to Waterloo Station. This envisages turning the existing “Cab Road”, into a pedestrianised northern concourse. The plans envisage displacing route **11** and taxis to a new bus/taxi station, currently at the existing small car park area situated at Station Approach Road / Spur Road. Again, it is not clear whether buses would then depart via Bayliss Road and Waterloo Road, which they would have to, as whilst the approach road to the existing stand is OK for double-decks, this is not the case for the other direction! Currently route **211** also serves this route although waiting for confirmation whether route **77** will take over this routeing, or indeed, whether other routes terminating in the area will be re-directed to this new site. We shall see!

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

TLB686 p12: 410 stop changes in Norwood;

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

TLB705 p14: 419 fixed stops in Barnes.

TLB708 p16: Oxford Street.

TLB708 p16: Silvertown Tunnel Cyclist’s service.

TLB708 p17: 309 Poplar rerouting.

TLB709 p15: E1 extension to Osterley, new route 618.

TLB711 p12: 178, 335, B16 in Kidbrooke.

TLB712 p14: U1, U2, U3 and E7 in Hillingdon.

TLB712 p14: 394 in King’s Cross, Canal Reach.

TLB714 p18: 273 Lee area Hail & Ride and re-routeing.

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TLB714 p19: N518 extension of N18 short workings to Ruislip

TLB714 p19: 188/= rerouting via Tunnel Avenue, North Greenwich.

## 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. Contracts are now 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!

As noted in the Tender section earlier, Contracts are no longer offered on the basis of a 2-year extension after 5 years, although several routes still remain that will still be offered this for the time being, so the need to revise the notes as follows:-

CE2 = Existing Contract extended by 2 years;

CR2 = Contract awarded or renewed for 2 years; CR3 = Contract awarded or renewed for 3 years;

CR4 = Contract awarded or renewed for 4 years; CR5 = Contract awarded or renewed for 5 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. All new buses must now be Zero Emission - electric or hydrogen.

TBA 2024: 77, 211 as part of the Central London review.

8th June 24: CR3 on 639/670 (London United to Transport UK).

22nd Jun 24: CR3 on 260, 302 (Metroline Travel), R68 (Transport UK),  
CR6 on 120 (Metroline Travel), CR7 on 143\* (Metroline Travel), R70\* (Transport UK).

29th Jun 24: CR3 on 328 (Metroline Travel), 406/418 (London United),  
CR5 on 211 (London United to Transport UK),  
CR6 on 465 (London United to Transport UK), CR7 on C1 (London United).

6th July 24: CR3 on 281/=, 681 (London United).

13th July 24: CR7 on 382\* (Metroline Travel).

20th July 24: CR5 on 17 (Metroline Travel),  
CR7 on 280\* (G-A London General), C11\*, W8\* (Metroline Travel).

17th Aug 24: CR7 on 243/=\* (Arriva LN), W7\* (Metroline Travel).

24th Aug 24: CR5 on 5/N15, 15 (G-A Blue Triangle),  
CR6 on 115, (G-A Blue Triangle), 130 (Transport UK), 410 (Arriva LS),  
CR7 on 50\*, 194\*, 250/N250\*, 255\* (Arriva LS), 320\* (G-A Metrobus).

31st Aug 24: CR3 on 618 (new route to Transport UK), 640 (Sullivan to Metroline Travel),  
CR6 on 66 (Arriva LN),  
CR7 on 90\* (Metroline Travel), 289\*, 663\* (Arriva LS), 314\* (S'ch Selkent).

7th Sep 24: CR3 on 117 (London United), 395 (London Sovereign), H13 (Metroline West),  
CR7 on W12\*(S'ch East London), W13\*(S'ch East London to S'ch Lea Interchange),  
W14\* (S'ch Lea Interchange), 549 (Sullivans - route withdrawn).

14th Sep 24: CR3 on 222/= (Metroline West).

21st Sep 24: CR7 on 210\* (Metroline Travel).

28th Sep 24: CR6 on 411 (London United), CR7 on 4\* (Metroline Travel), 131\* (G-A London General).

5th Oct 24: CR3 on 201 (Transport UK), 661 (S'ch Selkent).

12th Oct 24: CR3 on 150, 175 (Arriva LN), CR6 on 103 (Arriva LN),  
CR7 on 257\* (S'ch East London). (*Apologies, route missed off in TLB715!*)

19th Oct 24: CR7 on 22/N22\* (G-A London General).

26th Oct 24: CR7 on U1\*, U2\*, U3\* U4\* (Metroline West).

2nd Nov 24: CR6 on 370 (Arriva LN), 627 (Arriva LS).

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|                     |                                                                                                                                                   |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <u>9th Nov 24:</u>  | CR3 on 192 (Arriva LN), 419 (London United), CR5 on 176/= (G-A London Central), CR7 on 34*, SL1* (Arriva LN), CR7 on 188/=* (G-A London Central). |
| <u>7th Dec 24:</u>  | CR3 on 6/= (Metroline Travel), CR7 on 88/=*, 355* (G-A London General), 98/N98* (Metroline Travel), 360* (G-A London Central).                    |
| <u>11th Jan 25:</u> | CR7 on 323 (S'ch East London).                                                                                                                    |
| <u>1st Feb 25:</u>  | CE2 on 109/N109 (Transport UK), CR5 on 343/N343 (G-A London Central),                                                                             |
| <u>8th Feb 25:</u>  | CR5 on 36 (G-A London Central).                                                                                                                   |
| <u>15th Mar 25:</u> | CR7 on 172* (G-A London Central).                                                                                                                 |
| <u>29th Mar 25:</u> | CR7 on R1*, R2*, R3*, R4*, R8*, R11* (G-A Metrobus).                                                                                              |
| <u>TBA in 2025:</u> | CR7 on 129*, CR7 on SL4* (G-A Blue Triangle).                                                                                                     |

## **OTHER SPECIAL and MISCELLANEOUS non-TfL OPERATIONS IN LONDON**

Nothing new to report this month.

## **DIVERSIONS, DEVIATIONS AND DISRUPTIONS**

**Central:** The Charing Cross Road diversions completed early with routes restored to normal from 10th March. From 28th March to 2nd April, owing to works on Newgate Street, routes **8/N8, 133, N25 and N242** were diverted in both directions via New Change, Cannon Street, St Paul's Churchyard, Ludgate Hill, Farringdon Street and Charterhouse Street. Route **25** was curtailed at St. Paul's Station, routes **46 and 59** were curtailed at Smithfield and route **56** curtailed at Barbican. From 23rd March to 7th April, owing to road works in Minories, routes **42, 78, 100 and N551** were diverted south and eastbound via Aldgate, Fenchurch Street, Gracechurch Street, Eastcheap, Great Tower Street, Byward Street, Tower Hill and Minories to Goodman's Yard. Routes **15/N15** operated direct westbound via Fenchurch Street and Gracechurch Street.

**South-East:** From 31st March to 7th April, owing to a collapsed sewer in Bellegrove Road, Welling, routes **89/N89 and 486/=** were diverted eastbound via Welling Way, Rochester Way, Lingfield Crescent, Millbrook Avenue, Northumberland Avenue, Sutherland Avenue, Buckingham Avenue, The Green, Hook Lane and Westwood Lane. From 28th March to 14th April, owing to water works in Eltham Road, Kidbrooke, routes **122, 321/=, B16 and N21** are diverted eastbound via Sidcup Road and Westhorpe Avenue.

**South:** From 21st March to 12th April, owing to water works in Nursery Road, Thornton Heath, route **198** was curtailed at Thornton Heath Station. From 2nd to 14th April, owing to sewer works in Coulsdon Road/Fox Lane, Coulsdon Common, route **466** is operating a split service. 2 out of 3 are curtailed at Old Coulsdon, Tudor Rose, with the Caterham-On-The Hill section provided by 1 in 3 buses diverting in both directions via Brighton Road, Farthing Way, Brighton Road, London Road North, Shepherds Hill, Alderstead Lane, Dean Lane, Rook Lane, Chaldon Road and Westway Common. Route **404** is curtailed at Coulsdon Common, Lacey Drive and picks up again at Waddington Avenue/Homefield Road. Thanks to member Ian for this report, TfL supplying flyers to advise households in the area.

**South-West:** Although routes R68 and R70 were restored to normal from 16th March (*see route news earlier*), work at Richmond, Manor Circus was extended and route **110** remained on diversion with route **H37** curtailed at Richmond until 8th April. The closure of Cromwell Road Bus Station has been extended to 31st October. The gas leak in Hounslow Road, Hanworth (*see TLB715*) was fixed quicker than intended as the diversions had been lifted by early morning on 8th March. Thanks to member Ian for the update.

**West:** From 11th to 29th March, owing to a gas leak in Great West Road, route **65/N65** was diverted in both directions via Great West Road (including double run to Riverbank Way towards Ealing), Windmill Road and Little Ealing Lane.

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**North-West:** Route **395** diversion at Northolt was extended to 9th April.

**North:** From 14th March to 5th April, owing to water works on Torrington Park, North Finchley, route 383 was diverted in both directions via Friern Barnet Lane, Woodhouse Road, Kingsway/Ballards Lane (towards Finchley Memorial Hospital) and High Road to Woodside Park Road.

**East:** From 10th to 29th March, owing to a fire at Forest Gate police station, routes **25/N25, 86/N86 and 425** were diverted in both directions via Forest Drive, Aldersbrook Road, Centre Road and Woodgrange Road. Routes **58 and 330** were diverted in both directions via Upton Lane and Plashet Road. From 4th March to 30th September, owing to water main replacement, the bus only section of High Street North, Newham is closed. Routes **101, 147, 238/=, 300, 304, 325, 376 and 474/=** are diverted northbound via Ron Leighton Way.

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## **COUNTRY AREAS - Route Developments**

**Section Editor:** Phil Miller, 63 Oakleigh Drive, Croxley Green, Herts WD3 3EE or by email to [tlbcountryroutes@hotmail.com](mailto:tlbcountryroutes@hotmail.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. All reports will be very gratefully received.

### **West and South ESSEX, including THURROCK**

Nothing to report this month.

### **HERTFORDSHIRE and Southern BEDFORDSHIRE**

**Saturday 7th January (further to TLB 715)**

500/ X5 Operator correction, this should have read Arriva the Shires, not Arriva KT. The X5 is wholly operated by Aylesbury (AY).

### **Thursday 14th March**

- 502 (*Little Jim's, Northchurch & Hemel Hempstead via Bourne End, one M-S return daytime journey plus SDO Berkhamsted Ashlyns School & Dudswell*), and  
532 (*Little Jim's, Northchurch & Hemel Hempstead via Potten End, three M-S return daytime journeys*) Both routes "suspended until further notice".

### **Saturday 30th March**

ZOO (Centrebus) New route. Saturdays, Sundays and daily during school holidays from Easter until the end of the Summer holidays (i.e. 1st September). From Luton Interchange non-stop via the Busway to Skimpot Tesco, then all stops via Luton Road to Dunstable, West Street, Chiltern Gateway Centre for Dunstable Downs, to (surprise, surprise) Whipsnade Zoo. Frequency x90, daytimes only.

### **Sunday 31st March (LDO Thursday 28th March) (correcting TLB 715, not 16th April)**

29,30,31 (*Red Eagle, Hemel Hempstead & Berkhamsted via Studham (29), Great Gaddesden (30) or Nettleden (31), one return M-F daytime journey on each route*) Withdrawn without replacement other than the HertsLynx DRT service. Note that this was the original withdrawal date given by Herts CC's Intalink website on their forthcoming changes page. A notice stating that withdrawal would be deferred to April 16th was put up just before TLB 715 went to press - and indeed is still there - hence these routes' appearance under that date. However, since March 28th, not only have no buses been tracking on bustimes.org but also the specific Intalink page for these routes has been saying that there is no service operating, so it is assumed that March 28th was the LDO (last day of operation) after all.

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*Additional note: Together with the suspension of the 502/ 532, this means there are no scheduled bus services at all to any of the villages north of Hemel Hempstead for the first time since pre-LPTB days. Nettleden and the Gaddesdens, for example, have had a bus service since 1923 when National introduced services N19, and N17 which eventually became LT's Country routes 317 and 319 (later 317A).*

#### Sunday 7th April

46 (*Centrebus, Luton & Hemel Hempstead, Mon-Sat except evenings*) An early evening service added Mon-Sat.

#### Sunday 14th April

20, 302, 320, 322, 328 all as in TLB 715.

22/A (*Vectare Central Connect, Waltham Cross Bus Stn & Waltham Abbey Shernbrook Rd*) Renumbering to 16/A deferred to "June".

361 (*Red Eagle, St Albans & Bricket Wood, M-S daytimes; also M-F peak journeys to New Greens & Garston*). Service substantially enhanced. Firstly, extended from Bricket Wood via Station Road, Smug Oak Lane, double-run via Percy Drive and Redland Way to serve a new residential development named Hanstead Park, then Smug Oak Lane (eastern end), Watling Street, Radlett, Theobald Street, Organ Hall, Elstree & Borehamwood Stn, Shenley Road, Tesco, Studio Way, then a one-way loop anticlockwise via Rowley Lane, Alexandra Rd, Potters Lane, Denham Way back to Studio Way and return, thus replacing most of Sullivans B3. The M-F peak journeys that bifurcate to Garston/ extend to New Greens are retained. Secondly, expanded to operate roughly 0600-2030 Mon-Fri/ 0700-1930 Sats thus including a M-F peak hour service on the main route, not just the Garston/ New Greens journeys. Finally, the main service continues to run x60 but during M-F daytimes there are short journeys to provide a x30 headway between Well End and Hanstead Park; some of these late in the am peak and early/ late in the pm peak extend to St Albans St Peters St, and finally there is an extra pm peak short working in Borehamwood between the station and Well End. (Finally, an observation- I believe the service along Smug Oak Lane is a first, as is the link between Bricket Wood and nearby Radlett. I await corrections!!)

B3 (*Sullivan, Borehamwood local service- Organ Hall/ Well End/ Tennison Ave, M-S exc. evgs*) Withdrawn. Mostly replaced by 361, but whether you're better or worse off depends on where you are and when you want to travel. The offpeaks-only section along Furzehill Rd to the Melrose Ave/ Vale Ave/ Tennison Ave loop is unreplaced but Furzehill Rd is well served by Uno's 601. Organ Hall is better off during M-F daytimes but mostly worse off during peaks. Well End sees a halving of frequency on Sats and more M-F peak variability (from x40 to x30-60).

#### Tuesday 16th April

29,30,31 (*Red Eagle, Hemel Hempstead & Berkhamsted via Studham (29), Great Gaddesden (30) or Nettleden (31), one return M-F daytime journey on each route*) See 31st March above.

### **BUCKINGHAMSHIRE and EAST BERKSHIRE (incl. eastern borders of Oxfordshire)**

#### Saturday 16th March

7 (*Arriva the Shires, High Wycombe & Maidenhead, M-S exc. Evgs*) Reverts to serving Cookham following completion of bridge works. Normal timetable also resumed (until 19th May, q.v.).

#### Sunday 24th March

12 (*First Beeline M-S except evgs or Thames Valley one M-S evg jny & Sundays except evgs, Slough & Burnham, extended on Suns express via M4 to Heathrow Terminal 5*) The Sunday

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extension from Burnham (Priory Estate) to Heathrow is withdrawn; rerouted on this day via the long Mon-Sat one-way loop. However, the Sunday frequency is doubled to x30 and also retimed on this day to connect with the 703 in Slough (there are 7 minutes to make the connection).

Monday 25th March (further to TLB 715)

- 701 (*Reading Buses, Reading & Legoland/ Slough, daily early & late jnys only*) There are two extra morning journeys eastbound, and three extra evening journeys westbound.
- 702 (*Reading Buses, London Victoria & Legoland, daily*) Increased frequencies M-F peaks and Saturday evenings.
- 703 (*Thames Valley, Bracknell & Heathrow Terminal 5, 24/7*) Increased frequencies M-F peaks to x30. Most daily daytime journeys rerouted via North Ascot and Brookside to provide a x60 service on that stretch, meaning that the faster route via Mounts Hill, Windsor Rd, Winkfield Rd to serve Ascot High St is reduced to daily morning and evening journeys only. Most M-F daytime journeys (i.e. those that go via North Ascot and Brookside) rerouted to serve Heatherwood Hospital's main entrance, but there is one Ascot High St journey each way that is so diverted. Frequency increased between midnight and 3am between Heathrow and Slough to x60.

Sunday 19th May

Arrive the Shires are making a number of changes (reductions) in the High Wycombe area.

- 2 (*Arriva the Shires, High Wycombe & Booker Asda, daily except Sun evgs*) Frequency reduced Mon-Fri daytimes from x15 to x20 mins. No change evenings/Sats/Suns.
- 4 (*AtS, High Wycombe & Lane End, M-S exc. evgs*) Withdrawn. Lane End remains connected to High Wycombe by Carousel's 28 three times per day, M-F only, and via a different route; Bucks CC are looking into a possible replacement for the 4.
- 5 (*AtS, High Wycombe & Bourne End, daily exc. evgs*) Withdrawn. Partly replaced on Mon-Sat by route 7, indeed the 7 finishes slightly later in the evenings; no replacement on Sundays though.
- 6 (*AtS, High Wycombe & Bourne End, daily exc M-S late evgs and Sun evgs*) Minor timetable changes, mostly to coordinate better (i.e. to provide a x30 link to High Wycombe) with the revised 7 at Bourne End.
- 7 (*AtS, High Wycombe & Maidenhead, M-S exc. late evgs*) Rerouted via route 5 Kingsmead Road and Abbey Barn Road, ex London Road and Station Road. Station Rd is left unserved, although the only bus stop is near the Kingsmead Road junction. Carousel continue to cover the London Road with four buses per hour on the 101/102/103/104.
- 10 (*AtS, High Wycombe & Downley, M-S except late evgs and Suns except evgs*) Mon-Sat daytime frequency reduced from x20 to x30. Evgs and Suns already x30, no change.
- 11 (*AtS, High Wycombe & Penn, daily except late evgs*) Minor timetable changes.
- 12 (*AtS, High Wycombe & Micklefield, daily except Sun evgs*) Frequency reduced M-F daytimes from x15 to x20. The evening journeys via St Hugh's Avenue and Hicks Farm Rise rerouted southbound direct via Micklefield Road (no change northbound).
- 13 (*AtS, High Wycombe & Totteridge, daily except Sun evgs*) Minor timetable changes.

For completeness, Arriva the Shires are also making changes to some out-of-area routes. There are minor timetable changes on 800/ 850 (*High Wycombe & Reading*); the X8 (*Thame & Oxford*) is withdrawn, so Arriva leave themselves with just the half-hourly X7 on the Aylesbury to Oxford corridor; and finally the X9 (*High Wycombe & Aylesbury*) is reduced M-S daytimes from x20 to x30; unclear yet if sister route X90 survives.

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## **SURREY and northern parts of WEST SUSSEX**

### **Tuesday 2nd April**

- 50 As in TLB 715 (LDO of withdrawn journeys was Thu 28th March).
- 557 (*Falcon Buses, Sunbury (Tesco) & Addlestone (Tesco), M-S exc. Evgs*) Revised timetable for reliability. Rerouted M-F Offpeaks and all day Saturdays between St Peter's Hospital and Addlestone via Little Green Lane, Bittams Lane, Green Lane and Addlestone High Street. Mon-Fri peaks no change, still the longer way round via Guildford Rd, Ottershaw, Coombelands and Church Rd.

### **Saturday 4th May**

- 442 (*Carlone, Heathrow T5 & Staines daily, extended early mornings and evenings to Engelfield Green; one early jny to Heathrow Central; odd journeys via Short Lane and Hithermoor Rd in Stanwell*) Minor timetable changes daily, with extra journeys added Sat & Sun.
- X442 (*Carlone, Heathrow T5 & Staines daily*) Minor timetable changes daily, with extra journeys added Sat & Sun.

## **North and West KENT**

### **Tuesday 2nd April**

- C3 (*Go Coach*). New route. Mon-Sat daytimes, four return journeys. From Bluewater Bus Station via Kent Fastway, Darent Valley Hospital, Watling Street, Gore Rd, Green Street Green Rd, Watchgate (Lane End), Green Street Green (no, not that one, the other one), Longfield, Station Rd, Ash Road, Well Field, Woodland Ave, Church Rd (Cherry Trees), St John's Lane, Ash Road to New Ash Green, terminating in a one-way loop via North Ash Rd, Redhill Rd and Ash Rd. The first southbound and last northbound journeys run direct via Ash Rd, omitting the Cherry Trees area, and start from/ terminate at Lane End (Watchgate) instead of Bluewater.

### **Sunday 7th April** (LDOs Thurs 28th March, first days Monday 15th April)

223, 489, 695 all as in TLB 715.

### **Monday 15th April**

305 as in TLB 715.

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## **PUBLICITY NEWS**

**Section Editor:** Andrew Webb, 11 Tentelow Lane, Southall, Middlesex, UB2 4LQ or by e-mail to [andrew\\_d\\_webb@hotmail.com](mailto:andrew_d_webb@hotmail.com) (note the two underscores).

A brand new forty-first edition of “**The Greater London Bus Map**” is dated 13th April 2024 and is priced at £2 from [www.busmap.co.uk](http://www.busmap.co.uk). The map shows the complete bus network in and around London, including school routes and night buses, along with an enlarged map of the Central London area showing selected places of interest. It includes a comprehensive route list giving details of all London Bus routes, including days of operation and operator. Also released to complement The Greater London Bus Map is a 2024 update of “**The Greater London Night Bus Map**”, now in its tenth edition, showing all night bus and twenty four hour services, still only £4.

The online ‘Proposed changes to bus routes R1, R2, R3, R6 and B14 in Orpington Consultation Report March 2024’ refers to printed leaflets being distributed during the consultation period held between 20 September and 1 November 2023. Any further details would be most welcome.

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As summer approaches the open top tour operators update leaflets advertising their services. Big Bus have a new version of **“Hop-On Discover Hop-Off Explore”** valid from March 2024 which is in the same multifold slimline style as previous editions. Competitor **“City Sightseeing London”** have also kept the same format for their Spring/Summer 2024 edition. The extended multifold slimline format used by Golden Tours for **“Hop-on Hop-off Open Top Tours”** is continued for an issue ‘valid from April 2024’. As is now common in this price-sensitive market, each of these leaflets offer route maps and details of ticket deals without stating prices or timetables.

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Grant Palmer’s **“bus times Luton Dunstable Weatherby Houghton Regis Shefford”** is a twelve page A5 book valid from 6 August 2023. The red cover carries the ‘busway’ logo and a photo of a double decker on the guided section. Inside are timetables and maps for the company’s services serving these settlements.

**“Greenline 757 Timetable”** valid from 3 March 2024 is a multifold credit card sized timetable presented in the ‘GL’ style now used by Arriva for this longstanding brand. When opened one side has a complete timetable for the twenty four hour service, whilst the reverse has a route map which includes an enlarged extract covering Lords Cricket Ground to Victoria.

Valid from 2 April 2023 is **“Guildford local bus times”**, a twenty page slimline book covering Stagecoach services 1, N1, 2, 6, 7 and 9. As well as timetables for the routes highlighted on the cover the book has a colour coded ‘Guildford & Godalming bus network’ map which includes other longer distance routes and boundaries of ticket zones. An overview of these longer distance routes can be found in a table, as can details of a range of tickets.

Surrey County Council’s **“Blackwater Valley”** has a December 2023 update covering Aldershot, Camberley, Farnborough, Farnham and Yateley. The seventy page A5 book has a brown cover and provides timetables for all regular services across the area. It also includes details of demand responsive Surrey Connect and a table summarising school day only services. The rear cover unfolds to display three colour coded network maps for Camberley and Farnborough, Farnham and Aldershot. Black and white town centre bus stops maps for Camberley and Farnham are also included.

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## CURRENT VEHICLE NEWS

**Section Editor:** Chris Jennings, 30 Kingcup Avenue, Green Lane, Leverstock Green, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire HP2 4GF or by e-mail to [chris\\_routemaster@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:chris_routemaster@hotmail.co.uk). This section covers the current vehicle news (including initial disposals) of bus operators within the ‘TLB’ area, roughly comprising the old LT/LCBS areas.

### General news:

A running day centred on **Golders Green and Muswell Hill** took place on the rather wet 10th March, with buses working over (all or part of) routes 13, 43, 102, 210, 240 & 603. Taking part were LS 174 & 444, M 394 & 1014, RF 486, 636 & 673, RM 848 & 2208, RML 887, 900, 903 & 2660, RT 1702 & 4275, RTW75 and ex-Stagecoach 18453. Metroline VMSL2853 also ran on the 102.

15th March was **Comic Relief Red Nose Day**, and RM1400, RML880 & 2735 and RTW467 ran over route 65.

Stagecoach London held an open day at **Barking Garage** on 23rd March, to mark (nearly) the garage’s centenary. On display inside were current vehicles 10301, 12345, 12400 (in its new livery, see front cover photo), 66034 and trainer 19139, along with E400s 11589 from Stagecoach South and 11606 from Stagecoach East Kent. Older vehicles were DMS550, RF539, RML2440, RT1702, STL2377, T21, T22 and T747 (in its T1983 Golden Jubilee guise) plus ex-Stagecoach 18499, 19000, 34221, 34359, ex-

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Capital Citybus 250 (J135 PVC) and ex-Ipswich open-top Atlantean 9 (MRT 9P). The last had a red roundel on the front, approximating those displayed by similar Ipswich Atlanteans that were loaned to Boro'Line Maidstone in 1988-1992 for use on London routes 188, 422 and others.

In connection with the open day, a **running day** saw a wide variety of vintage (and not-so-vintage) buses providing an additional 10-minute frequency service over routes **62 and 145**. Vehicles noted were DMS1, G351, RM 5, 848, 1397 & 1527, RML2760, RT 1, 113, 624, 714, 1658, 1790, 1798, 2177, 3232, 3254, 3871, 3933, 4424 & 4779, RTL 554 & 1076, RTW 75 & 467 and T1064 plus ex-Ensignbus 192 and ex-Stagecoach 18214, 18268 (as Nu-Venture TAL268) and 18453.

Further afield, the **Cumbria Easter Rally** at Kirkby Stephen on 30th/31st March saw M781, RM835 and RT4548 take part in the road run.

Below is a table to show the **Superloop** network of routes, along with their allocated buses. The network interestingly has a variety of seven different bus types.

| No   | Route                                | Start Date    | Operator, garage and branded buses        |
|------|--------------------------------------|---------------|-------------------------------------------|
| SL1  | North Finchley - Walthamstow Central | 9th Dec 2023  | Arriva (AD) HA2-14                        |
| SL2  | Walthamstow Central - North Woolwich | 2nd Mar 2024  | Arriva (DX) HA36-53                       |
| SL3  | Thamesmead - Bromley North           | 24th Feb 2024 | Stagecoach (TB) LT120-130/132-135/239/240 |
| SL4  | Grove Park - Canary Wharf            | TBC 2025      | TBC                                       |
| SL5  | Bromley North - Croydon Town Centre  | 3rd Feb 2024  | Arriva (TC) ENX6-15/17/18                 |
| SL6  | West Croydon - Russell Square        | 31st Jul 2023 | Go-Ahead (Q) EH213-224                    |
| SL7  | West Croydon - Heathrow Airport      | 19th Aug 2023 | Go-Ahead (C) WVL334-344/454/484-495       |
| SL8  | Uxbridge - White City                | 16th Jul 2023 | Metroline (G) VMH2561-2572/2585-2596      |
| SL9  | Heathrow Airport - Harrow            | 26th Aug 2023 | RATP (SO) BCE47084-086/100-110            |
| SL10 | Harrow - North Finchley              | 25th Nov 2023 | RATP (SO) BCE47087-090/092/111-119        |

## **ARRIVA LONDON** (part of Deutsche Bahn)

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

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

HA37/38/40-44/46/47/49/51 have received Superloop SL2 branding, completing the batch (HA36-53).

The last of the 57-reg 8.9m E200s have now been withdrawn, with EN18 being last one of the batch to be used on route 318 on 26th February.

Brixton tram shed suffered an issue with charging their electric buses on the 7th and 8th March, leading to HVs, technically available from the loss of route 242, being drafted in to cover for a period of a few days until the issue was resolved.

A rare working was of DW270 on route 312 in the morning peak on 15th March. Following its initial northbound trip, when going south it got as far as Old Lodge Lane when it was then curtailed to avoid the low bridge at Reedham Station, returning safely back to Norwood Junction.

Route 76 was duly taken over from Go Ahead London (NP) on 24th March and is now operated by Stamford Hill (SF) garage with 22 LT buses which transferred with the route.

A pool of eight E40H-City double-deckers are now based at Norwood (N) garage for Rail Replacement work (see transfers below). Of these, HA17 is currently 'on loan' to DX for use on route Superloop SL2 and is not branded. Another (HA34) is currently off the road at N but will be in use soon. Five StreetDecks (SW3/5/7/8/10) are based at Palmers Green (AD) for Rail Replacement work as well.

**ARRIVA LONDON continued**

Arriva London has the contract to cover the ten day closure on the Northern Line from Edgware to Golders Green, from 2nd to 11th April, using a mix of double decks from AD, E, WN and others. The route shows on London Vehicle Finder as UL55 and operates from Canons Park (to connect to the Jubilee Line), then Edgware and all Northern Line Stations to Golders Green.

Recap on refurb/repainted batches of vehicles:

LT88-94, LT136-42, LT176/178 completed for route 248 (GY).

LT564-82 completed for route 259 (EC).

ENL111/12 completed for route 347, 375 (GY).

HA19-31 completed for route 198 (TH).

HV38-48, HV145-52 completed for route 301 and 335 (DT).

HV64-91, HV161-92, HV249-69, HV380-85 completed for route 34, 102, 141 (AD).

HV92-131 completed for route 29 (WN).

HV201-6 completed and used on route 158 and N279 (EC).

HV207-32 completed for route 221 (WN).

T301-31 completed for route 229 and 492 (DT).

Recent repaint/refurbs noted include LT328, LT329, LT344, LT347, LT349, LT353, LT496, LT520, LT529, LT533 and LT535.

**Into the fleet:**

LT299-305, 428-442 (LTZ 1299-305, 1428-42) from Go Ahead London (March).

**Transfers:****December 2023**

HV29 BN/BNw

**January 2024**

DW322 TC/ARw

DW432 DT/GYw

DW451 DTu/GYw

**February**

EN12 ARw/ECw

EN13 AR/ARw

EN18 AR/ARw

EN20 AR/ECw

EN21 ARw/ECw

HV5 DT/DTw

T158 TH/THw

T262 WN/WNw

**March**

ENL70 DX/TC

HA15 BN/N

HA16 BN/N

HA18 BN/N

HA32 BN/N

HA33 BN/N

HA34 BN/Nu

HA35 BN/N

HV1 BNw/ECw

HV6 BNw/ECw

HV7 BNw/ECw

HV8 BNw/ECw

HV9 BNw/ECw

HV19 BNw/ECw

HV21 BNw/ECw

HV22 BNw/ECw

HV24 BNw/ECw

HV26 BNw/ECw

HV29 BNw/ECw

HV31 BNw/ECw

HV171 ADu/AD

HV233 CTu/BN/WN

HV234 CTu/BN/WN

HV236 CTu/BN/WN

HV238 CTu/BN/WN

HV239 CTu/BN

HV240 CTu/BN

HV242 CTu/BN/WN

HV243 CTu/WN

HV245 CTu/BN/WN

HV246 CTu/WN

HV247 CTu/BN/WN

HV248 CTu/BN/WN

LT203 CT/SF

LT299 (GAL)/SF

LT300 (GAL)/SF

LT301 (GAL)/SF

LT302 (GAL)/SF

LT303 (GAL)/SF

LT304 (GAL)/SF

LT305 (GAL)/SF

LT324 CT/SF

LT345 SF/CT

LT349 u/SF

LT350 SF/CT

LT428 (GAL)/SF

LT429 (GAL)/SF

LT430 (GAL)/SF

LT431 (GAL)/SF

LT432 (GAL)/SF

LT433 (GAL)/SF

LT434 (GAL)/SF

LT435 (GAL)/SF

LT436 (GAL)/SF

LT437 (GAL)/SF

LT438 (GAL)/SF

LT439 (GAL)/SF

LT440 (GAL)/SF

LT441 (GAL)/SF

LT442 (GAL)/SF

LT827 CTu/CT

SLS15 Nu/TH

T7 DTw/GYw

T42 THw/GYw

T98 CNw/Nw

T100 CNw/Nw

T101 CNw/Nw

T102 CNw/Nw

T103 CNw/Nw

T104 CNw/Nw

T105 CNw/Nw

T106 CNw/Nw

T107 CNw/Nw

T108 THu/Nw

T136 TH/THw

T186 CNw/Nw

T204 WN/WNw

T205 WN/WNw

T208 WN/WNw

T212 WN/WNw

T219 WN/WNw

T222 WN/TC

T225 WN/TH

T226 WN/TH

T238 GYw/ECw

T241 Ew/GYw

**April**

HV239 BN/WN

HV240 BN/WN

HV241 CTu/WN

HV244 CTu/WN

SW7 ADu/AD

SW8 ADu/AD

## **ARRIVA LONDON continued**

### **Livery changes:**

EA11 from advert for Lenovo to advert for McCains  
HV103 from advert for £1.75 Hopper back to Red  
HV324 from advert for Pink Lemonade back to Red  
HV331 from advert for £1.75 Hopper back to Red  
HV350 from advert for Highland Spring back to Red  
LT191 from advert for M&S BraFit to one for Peroni 2 (Lager)  
LT325 from advert for M&S BraFit back to Red  
LT529 from advert for Peroni back to Red  
LT530 to advert for Cos  
LT594 from advert for Gucci Ancora back to Red  
LT602 to advert for Sol De Janeiro  
LT716 from advert for Gucci Ancora back to Red  
LT734 from advert for Elf Cosmetics to one for L'Oreal Bright Reveal  
LT964 from advert for Mentos back to Red  
LT965 from advert for EE Mobile back to Red  
LT981 to advert for Peroni 2 (Lager)

### **Disposal:**

T6 left the fleet some time ago. Last used in service on 21/2/2022.

## **ARRIVA'S 'COUNTRY BUSES'** (within Arriva Southern Counties and Arriva The Shires)

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 garage, Arriva Kent Thameside licence).

Transfers: 1563 NF/NFw (withdrawn after service on 4th March and then moved to Gillingham for storage).

Recap on buses in this area that are in the latest light blue livery: 1002, 1021, 4088-92 and withdrawn T484.

### **Part 2: Hertfordshire and West Essex** (HA, HH, SV and WE garages, all on AKT licence)

It is now known that the additional 'permanent' site on Babbage Road, Stevenage opened last August 2023, replacing the temporary site on Bessemer Drive, which had been used to park buses, following the closure of the Norton Green garage in August 2021. Between both the existing (ex-Sovereign) and new sites on Babbage Road, there is authorisation for 50 buses.

Recap on buses in this area that are in the latest light blue livery: 1004/07/10/11/12/13/19, 1519, 1662-65, 3550-54/56-60/62/65/72-75/77-79, 3751, 3767/68, 3770, 3773-75/77/80-85/88-96/99, 3813, 3875/76/78-80/82/84-89, 4008-10, 4076/78/81/83-87/95/96/101/113, 4183-85/87/89-94, 4213-17/27-32/36-39/42/43, 4274-77/85-87, 4320/21/37, 6485/87/90/91/95/97 and 6524.

3882 has been repainted into light blue livery.

### **Part 3: Bedfordshire and Buckinghamshire** (AY, LD and WB garages, on Arriva Shires licence)

Adding to TLB715, pg.26, it is now known that 6139/44 are on loan to WB and likely to return to Maidstone (Arriva Kent & Sussex) in due course.

Recap on buses in this area that are in the latest light blue livery: 1009, 2310/14-22/25-28, 2790, 2951-58, 2982, 3007-21/23-25, 3027/29-32, 3112-18/29-35, 3301/2, 3319, 3513-15, 3580, 3641, 3651-57/60, 3730/31/41, 3816, 3891/93/94/96/97, 3939-44, 3951-53/55-60/62-66, 3967-80, 5459/60 and T486.

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## **A2B TRAVEL GROUP, Royston**

Disposals: Scania OmniDekka UJ55 UNO has passed onto Birmingham Bus Works in November 2023. Fiat Ducato minibus YX61 BHE has left the fleet in November 2023.

## **BEAR BUSES, Shepperton**

Disposals: Dart SLF Y986 TGH and Volvo B7TL Y823 TGH both left the fleet by December 2023, Y986 TGH passing to Replacement Bus Service, Cardiff.

## **CAROUSEL BUSES, High Wycombe**

Further to TLB715, pg.27: Mercedes-Benz Citaro 870 (LF57 OXF) has returned to the fleet, after what we now know was a short loan to Thames Travel. Mercedes-Benz Citaros 889-893 are due to receive route one branding in due course.

Into the fleet:

892/3 (BF62 JZK/N) Mercedes-Benz Citaro B40F from Stewarts Coaches, Woodley, Reading.

Both are awaiting repaint into fleet livery before use.

Disposal: 869 (KF57 OXF) has left the fleet. This was the fire victim from 26/10/2023.

## **CENTAUR, Dartford**

To recap, Scania OmniCity LX59 CRK and StreetDeck SN69 ZWR are in white and allocated to the University of East London student/staff intercampus shuttle between Stratford and Docklands campus. Volvo B9TL BK15 AZP, StreetLite SK66 HRP and MetroDeckers CN21 FZA/B are in blue livery and allocated to the University of Greenwich student/staff intercampus shuttle between Avery Hill and Greenwich campuses. There is also a route to the University of Greenwich Medway campus at Chatham Dockside.

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

Further to TLB713, pg.27: More Mercedes-Benz Sprinters from Vectare have now arrived, these being 208/215/219 (RX23 TFK/TFJ/TUY). At this stage we list these as loans, pending further information. Mercedes-Benz 516CDi Sprinters 201 (RX20 RJV), 202 (WV20 VDG) and 204 (RX70 SKZ) have been in use here since November 2023 (201, 204) and December 2023 (202) and are assumed permanent members of the fleet.

E20D 316 (YX16 OBO) has been in use here since early January and is assumed a permanent member of the fleet.

E20D 1419 (L9 XEL) has been stood down, last used 15th June 2023.

Unfortunately, a few of the entries in Fleetbook 2024 came out overprinted during production. These should have shown 204 RX70 SKZ, 324 YX73 OVO and 333 YX22 OKC respectively, while the registration YP59 OEN after 348 SK73 COJ should be deleted. Apologies for these slip-ups.

Into the fleet:

344 (JW16 BUS) E20D - AD Enviro200 (MMC) 10.9m B41F. In use from 2nd April.

345 (WH66 BUS) E20D - AD Enviro200 (MMC) 10.9m B41F. In use from 25th March.

346 (SW16 BUS) E20D - AD Enviro200 (MMC) 10.9m B41F + repainted into two tone blue livery.

352 (YY73 RGX) E20D - AD Enviro200 (MMC) 9.0m B30F in plain white. In use from 1st March.

Out of the fleet:

E20D 355/6 (YY73 RHE/F) February. Both now part of the Vectare fleet outside our area.

Disposal: 912 (LJ58 AVE) has left the fleet in April. Last used in service 18th December 2023.

## **CENTREBUS, Luton**

Update to TLB705, E20Ds 595-599 are confirmed as all 10.9m long.

Further to TLB713, pg.27: E20Ds 595/596 display branding for route 390, not route 907 and

E20Ds 597-99 display branding for route 907. All five buses show signage above the windows to promote 'Stevenage to Hertford up to every 30 minutes with bus routes 390 and 907'.

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## **DIAMOND BUS SOUTH-EAST (Hallmark Connections Ltd), Stanwell** (including Hotel Hoppa) part of Rotala plc

Update to TLB713, pg.27: The 3 x Custom Denning electric single decks (39001-3) are reported as built and in the process of delivery (from Australia to the UK), before certification and are expected to be in service in 'mid-2024'.

## **ENSIGNBUS, Purfleet**

The seasonal Southend 'Seaside Service 68' commenced on 29th March and has so far been operated by the Volvo B7TL/Ayats Bravo open toppers (370/371).

Volvo B9TL 128 (LX15 GOP) has been stood down, last used on 8th March 2023 and is currently SORN.

For reference purposes, the operational fleet is assigned fleet numbers within the First Group national numbering system, although in practice they still retain their original EnsignBus fleet numbers (as per Fleetbook 2024).

The First Bus assigned fleet numbers are as follows:

120 (PO58 NRE) is 36099.

127-131 (LX15 GOK/P/U, GPY, GVE) are 36316-20.

132 (YX66 WLH) is 34432.

133-135/138/139 (BJ11 EAA, EBN, EAG, DTR, DVR) are 36154/65/58/22/31.

140/143/144/146-150 (LX17 DZA/D/E/G/H/J/K, GKL) are 39021/24-30.

160-181 (LX23 BJK, LX21 CHH/J/K/L/N/O/V) are 35707, 35951-57.

168-181 (LX71 AOB/C/D/E/G/H/J/K/L/M/N/O/P/R) are 35693-35706.

339 (TSU 639) is 32721.

364-367 (MX58 DXS/T/V/Z) are 37405/6/8/10.

369-371 (EU05 BZM, VBL/O) are 32698-700.

402-407 (LX66 GXD/E/F, LX19 EAW/G, LJ70 FNL) are 39041-43/51-52/61.

501-506 (EU62 BSV/Y, BTF, BYM/R, BVD) are 39262-67.

601 (E17 SGN) is 44945.

705-10 (YY18 THK/N/U/X/Z) are 44821-26.

EB2022 (YX61 FZT) is 44275.

EBS1972 (SK18 TKY) is 35322.

## **FALCON COACHES, Byfleet**

E20Ds YX12 DLD/E are still in use here (since September 2023) and assumed permanent members of the fleet and have been added to Fleetbook 2024.

Further to TLB713, pg.27, E20D YX12 DLF was last used on the 8th December, stood down and returned off loan, however on the 8th January 2024 it returned into the fleet and is still on loan.

Volvo B7RLE SK07 CFP has also returned to the fleet, although only on loan. This vehicle was last used on the 29th November 2023 and been re-used from the 29th February 2024. It's currently advertised for sale through Chartwell Bus Sales.

E20D YX18 KNN has had its route 436 branding removed.

E20D YX71 OJN has had its route 461 branding removed.

### In the fleet:

YX73 OTY - E20D - AD Enviro200 (MMC) 10.9m B40F + in fleet livery. Arrived in September 2023.

## **FIRST in BERKSHIRE (First Beeline Buses Ltd) (RG, SH garages)**

Further to TLB714, pg.39: Mercedes-Benz Tourismo coach 24212 (BF73 CCD) was last used on 3rd March and appears to have left the fleet now. It had been used for vehicle trials on Railair RA2 service.

## **1<sup>ST</sup> BUS STOP, Gravesend**

Update to TLB714, pg.39: Trident/ALX400 LX53 JZJ remains in stock, allocated fleet number 101, and did not leave the fleet. Likewise Trident/ALX400 LX53 JZO is also still in the fleet, although parked up and currently out of use.

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## 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.

Outstations: FK=Folkestone, KL=King's Lynn, LD=Lower Dicker, LZ=Leighton Buzzard.

MVB1 (LF73 DXZ) resumed intermittent public service on route 213 from 13th March, usually at peak times only. On 26th March, SEe226 was in service on route 39, with SEe228 in use on 28th March. Equally unusual on Good Friday (29th March) afternoon was LT875 on route 115. Just for the record, MHV56 was the first of its kind to work the double-deck school journey on route 184 on the afternoon of 6th March, a duty usually performed by an LT.

Route 76 was duly lost to Arriva London on 23rd March and 22 LTs transferred with the route. In the 10 days up to 23rd March, LTs were transferred from Q and NX into NP with the newer ones transferring the other way. This was in preparation for the correct age profile of LTs to transfer to Arriva London for the new 5-year contract. As a result, LTs from Northumberland Park (NP) only operate route 67 (Wood Green to Dalston Junction) and the school working on route 184 (Barnet, Chesterfield Road to Alexandra Park School).

The 2 two-tone blue 'advert' buses promoting 'gender equality across the bus industry' (Ee244/245) have transferred into BX in late March to work alongside the EPs on route 132. The first day in service for both was 28th March. These are the first '24' plate vehicles to enter into TfL service.

On 30th March, route 262 and 473 were duly taken over from Stagecoach London (LI) and are operated by Henley Road (DS) garage, using mainly WVLs/WVNs released from route 476 (NP). Route 476 is now operated mainly by MHVs as part of its tender renewal. Eleven BYD E400EVs (Ee263-273) are on order for route 262 and we are still awaiting details for the quantity and vehicle type ordered for route 473.

The Optare MetroDecker EVs (Me1-17) remain 'out of action' from when they were taken out of service on 12th January, following the engine fire on Me12 on 11th January. The batch, minus Me12, have been moved to Plough Lane (PL) garage for storage and are still in the process of receiving safety precaution measures, prior to re-entering service on route 200. This usually double-deck route is in the meantime still in the hands of E200s (SE/SOE), with the occasional double-deck working of an E400 or Volvo B9TL.

On 1st April the contract for providing Rail Replacement buses for scheduled engineering work on the Govia Thameslink Railway passed to Transport UK.

A further 5 of the Irizar i-Tram buses due for route 358 had turned up at New Cross by early April, but had not yet been registered. Due to continuing infrastructure issues, their introduction has been pushed back (again) from June to August.

To recap on training buses and their liveries: E79-86, EN4-9 are in red/blue training bus livery, while E87-92 and WVL307-12 are in red (note that some of these correct information given in earlier TLBs). MEC11/15-17/19/22-26/28/29/31/33/36/38/39/41 are in cream training bus livery, with a purple stripe below the windows.

Recap on refurb/repainted batches of vehicles:

EH21-30 and WHV60-67, 80 on various routes (RR).

LT172/3, LT186 and LT231-36 completed for route 67 (NP), supported by LT50-53.

WHV71-79 completed for route 80 (GM). Note - these work alongside E400EVs from Sutton (A).

WHV156/157 completed and intended for route 690 (SW).

WS49/50, WS61-64 completed for route 456 (NP).

Recent repaint/refurbs noted include LT309, LT311, LT392, LT393, LT394, LT399, LT409, LT416, LT427, LT452, LT453, LT459, LT478, LT512, MHV60, MHV63 and WHV92.

### New deliveries:

March 2024: Ee243-262 (LF24 ZGC/D/E/G/H/J/K/L/M/N/O/P/R/S/T/U/V/W/X/Y) BYD D8UR-DD - AD Enviro400EV-City 10.9m H42/23D

March 2024: IE11-15 (not yet registered) Irizar Ie-tram 12.16m B35D

April 2024: SEe291-303 (LF24 ZHT/U/V/W/X/Y/Z, ZJE/J/K/N/O/U) BYD D8UR - AD Enviro200EV (MMC) 10.9m B29D for route 325 (RR)

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**GO-AHEAD LONDON continued**Transfers:**March 2024**

|       |        |       |          |         |         |              |        |
|-------|--------|-------|----------|---------|---------|--------------|--------|
| E124  | AL/DS  | EH14  | NX/RR/DS | LT880   | NP/NX   | SE282        | AL/MB  |
| E172  | RR/DS  | EH88  | RR/Q     | LT881   | NP/NX   | SEN31        | RR/SI  |
| Ee173 | MGu/Q  | EH89  | RR/Q     | LT882   | NP/NX   | SOE34        | GM/AL  |
| Ee174 | MGu/Q  | EHV5  | SWu/NP   | LT883   | NP/NX   | WHV74        | GM/A   |
| Ee175 | MGu/Q  | IE11  | --/NXu   | LT884   | NP/NX   | WVL293       | NP/DS  |
| Ee176 | MGu/Q  | IE12  | --/NXu   | LT885   | NP/NX   | WVL294       | NP/DS  |
| Ee205 | Qu/Slu | IE13  | --/NXu   | LT886   | NP/Q    | WVN3         | NP/DS  |
| Ee206 | Qu/Slu | IE14  | --/NXu   | LT887   | NP/Q    | WVN4         | NP/DS  |
| Ee207 | --/Slu | IE15  | --/NXu   | LT888   | NP/Q    | WVN5         | NP/DS  |
| Ee208 | --/Slu | LT299 | NX/NP    | LT889   | NP/Q    | WVN7         | NP/DS  |
| Ee243 | --/RRu | LT300 | NX/NP    | LT890   | NP/Q    | WVN8         | NP/DS  |
| Ee244 | --/BX  | LT301 | NX/NP    | LT891   | NP/Q    | WVN9         | AL/DS  |
| Ee245 | --/BX  | LT302 | NX/NP    | LT892   | NP/Q    | WVN11        | NP/DS  |
| Ee246 | --/RRu | LT303 | NX/NP    | LT893   | NP/Q    | WVN12        | NP/DS  |
| Ee247 | --/RRu | LT304 | NX/NP    | LT894   | NP/Q    | WVN13        | NP/DS  |
| Ee248 | --/RRu | LT305 | NX/NP    | LT895   | NP/Q    | WVN14        | NP/DS  |
| Ee249 | --/RRu | LT428 | Q/NP     | LT896   | NP/Q    | WVN15        | NP/DS  |
| Ee250 | --/RRu | LT429 | Q/NP     | LT897   | NP/Q    | WVN16        | NP/DS  |
| Ee251 | --/RRu | LT430 | Q/NP     | LT898   | NP/Q    |              |        |
| Ee252 | --/RRu | LT431 | Q/NP     | LT899   | NP/Q    | <b>April</b> |        |
| Ee253 | --/RRu | LT432 | Q/NP     | LT900   | NP/Q    | Ee262        | --/RRu |
| Ee254 | --/RRu | LT434 | Q/NP     | Me1-11  | ALu/PLu | SEe291       | --/Slu |
| Ee255 | --/RRu | LT435 | Q/NP     | Me13-17 | ALu/PLu | SEe292       | --/Slu |
| Ee256 | --/RRu | LT436 | Q/NP     | MHV15   | Q/NP    | SEe293       | --/Slu |
| Ee257 | --/RRu | LT437 | Q/NP     | MHV16   | Q/NP    | SEe294       | --/Slu |
| Ee258 | --/RRu | LT438 | Q/NP     | SE124   | AL/BX   | SEe295       | --/Slu |
| Ee259 | --/RRu | LT440 | Q/NP     | SE131   | AF/RR   | SEe296       | --/Slu |
| Ee260 | --/RRu | LT441 | Q/NP     | SE271   | u/RR    | SEe297       | --/Slu |
| Ee261 | --/RRu | LT442 | Q/NP     | SE273   | AL/MB   | WVN6         | NP/DS  |
|       |        | LT879 | NP/NX    | SE274   | u/RR    |              |        |

Add to SUP39D: E89 Qt. (It was incorrectly omitted and is still a training bus in the fleet).

Livery changes:

LT58 from advert for NatWest back to Red

LT60 from advert for Gucci Ancora back to Red

LT438 to advert for L'Oreal Panorama Mascara

LT455 to advert for Mac Lipstick

LT854 from advert for Bob Marley 'Could You' to one for Peroni 2 (Lager)

LT855 to advert for L'Oreal Bright Reveal

LT857 from advert for Moon Boots (Purple) to one for Cos

LT860 from advert for Gucci Ancora to one for Mac Lipstick

LT865 from advert for L'Oreal Panorama Mascara to one for Nike - Feel The Need

LT874 from advert for NatWest back to Red

WHV82 from advert for £5.25 All Day back to Red

WHV84 from advert for Fenty Beauty back to Red

Disposals:

LT299-305, 428-442 to Arriva London (March).

## **GO-COACH HIRE, Swanley**

Further to information in TLB714, pg.42: Fiat Ducato minibus 1501 (GN15 BVV) is now known to be a loan vehicle, provided by Kent County Council for use on the '464 Connector' service until 29th April. Disposal: E400 9506 (SN59 AVT) left the fleet in March 2023.

## **LONDON BUS COMPANY, Northfleet and Ongar**

The following Routemasters are in the sales stock and were not included in Fleetbook 2024 - RM1124 (124 CLT), RM1971 (ALD 971B), RML2359 (CUV 359C) and RML2526 (JJD 526D). RT961 (KGU 235), RT2129 (KGK 938), RT3062 (KXW 171) and RT4188 (LYF 247) are currently not active in the fleet and are also not included in Fleetbook 2024, although still owned by Roger Wright.

Re-add to Fleetbook 2024: RT4424 (NXP 778) AEC Regent III – Weymann H30/26R

Disposal: RT4548 (OLD 768) to Messrs G Conn & M Gurr, Blackpool, Lancs (March).

## **LONDON DIAL-A-RIDE**

To update TLB707, Volkswagen T5 minibuses 8073/79, 8134/70/84 are confirmed as still in the fleet and are now known to have been at the VW dealership (Bedfont) for routine maintenance only.

## **LONDONER BUSES, Wandsworth** (Part of Transpora group)

RCL2226 (CUV 226C) was on loan on 9th/10th March and seen in service on Heritage route T15. RT624 (JXC 432) and 'green' RT3232 (KYY 961) made guest appearances on route T15 on 24th March.

## **LONDON GANGSTER TOUR (Underworld Tours)**

Dennis Trident X336 NNO left the fleet in November 2023 (See TLB715, pg.41). Open-top Trident LY02 OBK (the sole vehicle in the fleet) is repainted black and liveried as "The Naughty Bus".

## **METROBUS, Crawley and Copthorne** (part of B&H Buses within the Go-Ahead Group)

Of the GB Hydroliner FCEVs 6051-70, although all have entered into service, it is now known that, owing to a limited supply of hydrogen and a delay in the garage 'liquid hydrogen refuelling infrastructure' being signed off by the Health & Safety Executive, only 7 to 8 vehicles of the batch are in use daily. Volvo B7RLE 6020 has been repainted into Metrobus two tone blue livery.

## **METROLINE** (within the Comfort DelGro group of Singapore) including

**METROLINE TRAVEL** - AC, AH, EW, HD, HT, PA, PB, PV, SG and W

**METROLINE WEST** - G, HZ, UX and WJ.

Further to TLB713, pg.32, we now know that the 23 Wrightbus StreetDeck Electroliners on order for route 113/N113 (EW) will be fleet numbered WDE2906-28.

Kings Cross (KC) garage is confirmed as vacated and no longer in use, following the transfer of route 30 and 274 into Holloway (HT) garage on the 10th June 2023.

MetroCity EV OEM2750 (YJ71 GPX) had been 'off the road' from 12th January and re-entered service on 27th March, back on its local Potters Bar route PB1. As a consequence, Optare Solo OS68 or one of the shorter 8.9m E200s (DES796/798) had been standing in on the 1 bus PVR route. Route 305 (Potters Bar to Sandridge), also a 1 bus PVR, is also covered by either the Solo or a short E200. The 10.8m E200s (DEL848/854) are usually allocated to route 242 (Potters Bar to Waltham Cross).

VMSL2849 entered into service on route 251 on the 13th March, the last of the batch (VMSL2843-56) to do so, meaning the route is now fully equipped with electric buses. The loaned DELs have now all moved out of EW, mostly transferred into WJ with a handful transferred back to UX.

The first of the 10.3m Volvo BZL/MCV single decks, VMS2816 entered service on route 487 on 25th March, with the batch (VMS2809-33) to be rolled out onto routes 187 and 487 in due course.

Route 31 is due to transfer with its VMHs from Willesden Junction (WJ) to Holloway (HT) on 4th May. On the same day, route 28 is won from RATP (X) and will be operated by WJ using VWs. Three of the type have already been transferred in for driver type training. For the same purpose, two WDEs from store at PA have gone to HT ahead of some of the type being allocated to route W7 in order to release VWs for the 28.

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## **METROLINE continued**

Recap on refurb/repainted batches of vehicles:

LT102-17 completed for route H91 (AH).

VWH2016-39 and VWH2088-92 for route 328 (W).

VWH2040-42, VWH2113-21 used primarily on route 260 (AC).

VWH2043-61, VWH2141/44, VWH2187-2231 completed for route 140, 182 and 186 (HD).

DEL2062-71 completed for route 112 (W).

TEH2072-87 used primarily on route 139 (W).

VWH2093-99, VWH2122-32 for route 92 (G).

VWH2100-110/112, VWH2142/43, VWH2285-2304 used primarily on route 245 and 483 (PV).

VWH2133-35 completed and intended for route 635 (SG).

VWH2137-40 completed and intended for route 626 (PB).

DEL2145-54 completed for route 331 (UX).

DEL2155-66 currently in use at WJ (on route 223, 228, 316 and H17).

VWH2167-86 completed for route 114 (UX).

VWH2232-43 completed for route 107 (PB).

DEL2244-61 completed.

Recent repaint/ refurb are LT460, LT544, LT545, LT554, LT556, LT559, LT563, VWH2333, VWH2335, VWH2340, VWH2344, VWH2356, VWH2357 and VWH2362.

Transfers: (h suffix = Hertfordshire Commercial Fleet).

### **March 2024**

DE1165 PB/W  
TE1423 EWu/PAu  
DEL2247 EW/UX  
DEL2256 EW/UX  
DEL2257 EW/UX  
DEL2258 EW/UX

VWH2305 UX/AH  
VWH2306 UX/AH  
VWH2307 UX/AH  
VWH2308 UX/AH  
VMH2453 HT/PV  
VMH2454 HT/PV  
WDE2800 PAu/EW

WDE2802 PAu/EW  
WDE2804 PAu/EW  
VMS2816 PAu/WJ  
VMSL2849 PAu/EW  
VMSL2853 PAu/EW

### **April**

VW1036 AH/WJt  
VW1037 AH/WJt  
VW1039 AH/WJt  
WDE2876 PAu/HTt  
WDE2877 PAu/HTt

TEH1217-20/22-24/27 u/HZu (known location now established, exact date unknown).

### Livery changes:

VWH2304 from advert for Pink Lucozade back to Red

BDE2640 to advert for McCains

WDE2799 from advert for Zero Emissions 1000th back to Red

LT757 to advert for L'Oreal Bright Reveal

LT758 to advert for Peroni 2 (Lager)

LT791 from advert for Gucci Ancora back to Red

LT800 to advert for Nike - Feel The Need

LT802 to advert for Cos

LT810 to advert for Sol De Janeiro

## **MULLANY'S BUSES, St Albans**

DAF DB250/ Wright Pulsar Gemini LJ05 BHY is currently in use here and being used on School bus workings. It is in plain white livery and understood to be a loan (See TLB715, pg.39).

Volvo B9TLs HP07/08 BUS are still in Warner Brothers 'Harry Potter' livery (as their personalised registration numbers suggest) and serve as spares for the E400EVs (E030-33), although in practice they are usually on school bus workings and some local private hire work.

Disposal: Dennis Trident KU02 YBH left the fleet in January 2023.

## **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

The full batch of E200EVs (BE37085-101) for route 226 (Golders Green to Ealing Broadway) have at long last transferred into BT and now operate the route. The route was taken over from Metroline (WJ) on the 7th January 2023 and had initially been worked by E200s.

Six 9.75m E20Ds (DDE class) have transferred from Edgware (BT) into Harrow (SO) to replace E200s (DE20180-83/85/86) on route 395, as part of its tender renewal.

The ‘Atkins’ staff shuttle service in Epsom is now known to have been taken over by Cobra Corporate Services. This service was exclusively allocated Optare Solo OS20224 (YJ66 ARO) and had been worked by Tolworth (TV) garage.

The E200EVs (BE37005-40) allocated to route 70 and C1 at Shepherds Bush (S) are starting to be refurbished and repainted, with BE37024/38 completed so far. Odd workings on route 70 of late, include DLE30137 on 20th March, DLE30133 on 21st to 23rd March and DLE30131 on 25th March.

Recent repaint/ refurb include DLE30142, DLE30225, DLE30253, DLE30254, DLE30256, DLE30265, BE37024, BE37038, VH45134, VH45135, VH45136, VH45145, VH45148, VH45149 and VMH45351.

### Transfers:

#### **March 2024**

|         |        |          |        |          |        |              |        |
|---------|--------|----------|--------|----------|--------|--------------|--------|
| LT72    | Su/S   | DE20185  | SO/NCu | DLE30026 | TVu/TV | BE37098      | S/BT   |
| LT462   | V/S    | DE20188  | BT/NCu | DLE30292 | RP/SO  | ADH45021     | Vu/V   |
| LT664   | Vu/V   | DE20189  | BT/NCu | DLE30311 | SO/RP  | VH45189      | V/FW   |
| DE20055 | AV/NCu | DDE20287 | BT/SO  | BE37087  | S/BT   | VH45191      | WK/TV  |
| DE20174 | TV/NCu | DDE20288 | BT/SO  | BE37091  | S/BT   | ADH45258     | BTu/BT |
| DE20181 | SO/NCu | DDE20289 | BT/SO  | BE37093  | S/BT   |              |        |
| DE20182 | SO/NCu | DDE20290 | BT/SO  | BE37094  | S/BT   | <b>April</b> |        |
| DE20183 | SO/NCu | DDE20291 | BT/SO  | BE37095  | S/BT   | ADE40408     | RPu/RP |
|         |        | DDE20293 | BT/SO  | BE37096  | S/BT   | VH45190      | X/FW   |

### Livery changes:

OME46037 from advert for Chiquita Bananas back to Red

BCE47016 from advert for Chiquita Bananas back to Red

BCE47019 from advert for Bruichladdich to one for Love Philippines

BCE47027 to advert for McCains

BCE47091 from advert for Ovo Energy back to Red

LT75 from advert for M&S BraFit back to Red

LT85 from advert for Gucci Ancora to one for Mac Lipstick

LT664 from advert for TU Clothing back to Red (had been VOR 13/09/22 - 23/03/24)

## **READING TRANSPORT and THAMES VALLEY BUSES**

E20D 668 (YX17 NXA) is confirmed as B30F and not B31F.

E40Ds 731-37 are now confirmed as H47/28F.

## **RED EAGLE BUSES, Dinton near Aylesbury**

E200s LK08 FNF and YX61 GBF have been repainted into fleet livery.

## **SAFEGUARD, Guildford**

Optare Excel YJ03 UMM was withdrawn in January.

Disposal: YJ03 UMM departed the fleet on 7th March.

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**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.

Streetlite 39139 (SM68 ERZ) has been stood down, last used on 22nd February. This bus was the sole 9.7m version in the fleet, and arrived in 2018 as a top up vehicle for route 339. Now the route is operated by MetroCity EVs (67001-12), this vehicle is surplus to requirements.

On 9th March route 379 was won from Go Ahead London (NP) and is now operated by Walthamstow Avenue (AW) using 8.9m E20Ds borrowed from Catford (TL), which in turn is utilising four MetroCity EVs (45003/5/6/7 from the batch earmarked for route W5) on route 124. Once electrification work is complete at AW, routes 379, W5 and W11 will be converted to MetroCity EV operation.

On 9th March route 497 (NS) was withdrawn, replaced in part by the extension of route 346 (RM), which is worked mainly by E20Ds 37579-83 now joined by 37540/41 (formerly on route 497).

SL3 has in recent days seen appearances by non 'Superloop'-liveried buses including E400s and the newer MMC variants on most days from early March, sometimes in multiples. For example - 12362 and 12363 were both active on the route on 13th March with 11073 and 11074 at work together the following day.

Another new stranger was 11030 on route 388 on 19th March, whilst that same bus became an unusual visitor on route 26 the next day. More strays have followed on both routes since.

E40H MMC 12400 (YX16 OHS) has been repainted into 1933-style red, white, black with silver livery and been named 'East London Ambassador' to 'celebrate 100 years of Barking Bus Garage' and was debuted at the Barking Garage Open Day on 23rd March. It was displayed next to E40H 12345 (SN64 OGU) which was repainted in 2021 in a special livery of cream, red and black and named 'Selkent Ambassador' to celebrate '40 years of Plumstead Garage'.

E400 19805 was taken off service towards the end of March and is expected to be converted to part open top for City Sightseeing work.

Route 262 and 473 (LI) were lost to Go Ahead London on 30th March. Route 97 transferred from WH to LI on the same day, utilising the available StreetDecks (18901-21) to replace the OmniCitys. A handful of OmniCitys have transferred into LI for continued use on route 97 as a temporary measure, while a couple of those that remained at WH have been used on the 241 and 330.

The Electroliners (82015-48) ordered for route 86/N86 are slowly transferring from storage at Lea Interchange (LI) into North Street (NS) and at present 11 are there, of which 10 (82021/22/23/25-27/31/45/47/48) have so far been used in service on route 86 and 82020 remains in use as for driver 'type training' duties. The whole batch are expected to enter in service by the Summer and replace E400s. Six of the vehicles are out-stationed every night at Lea Interchange (LI) garage to ease capacity at Romford (NS) garage after installation of charging infrastructure. Note these are not allocated and change on a daily basis.

Recap on refurb/repainted batches of vehicles:

13138-56 completed for route 308 and 678 (LI).

36609-21 completed for route 146 and 336 (TB).

36622-31 completed for route 273 (TL).

37579-83 completed for route 346 (RM).

37584, 37721/22/24-37 completed for route W19 (AW). 37723 not done and based at HK.

Recent repaint/refurbs noted LT243, 10338, 10341, 12397, 13068, 13073, 13077 and 13123. 36395 and 37515 have had red repaints.

New deliveries (commencing April):

82049-64 (LV24 EUW/X/Y/Z, EVB/C/D/F/G/H/J/K/L/M/N/P) for route 242 (HK)

Wrightbus StreetDeck Electroliner 10.6m H40/20D.

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**STAGECOACH LONDON continued**Transfers:

|                      |         |       |         |       |         |              |        |       |        |
|----------------------|---------|-------|---------|-------|---------|--------------|--------|-------|--------|
| <b>February 2024</b> |         | 36362 | RMt/WHt | 37540 | NS/RM   | 67020        | --/HKu | 15106 | WH/LI  |
| 10126                | NS/WHw  | 36529 | TL/AW   | 37541 | NS/RM   | 67021        | --/HKu | 19854 | BK/LI  |
| 39139                | LI/LIu  | 36539 | AWu/AW  | 45002 | TLu/AWu | 82025        | LIu/NS | 67022 | --/HKu |
|                      |         | 36540 | TL/AW   | 45006 | TLu/TL  | 82026        | LIu/NS | 82023 | LIu/NS |
| <b>March</b>         |         | 36556 | RMt/WHt | 66028 | --/HKu  | 82027        | LIu/NS | 82031 | LIu/NS |
| 10116                | WH/LI   | 36557 | RMt/WHt | 66030 | --/HKu  | 82045        | LIu/NS | 82051 | --/LIu |
| 11026                | WH/HK   | 36559 | RMt/WHt | 66031 | --/HKu  | 82047        | LIu/NS | 82052 | --/LIu |
| 11030                | WH/HK   | 36561 | RMt/WHt | 66035 | --/HKu  | 82048        | LIu/NS | 82054 | --/LIu |
| 19805                | NS/WHu  | 36562 | RMt/WHt | 66037 | --/HKu  |              |        | 82055 | --/LIu |
| 19872                | BK/NS   | 36565 | RMt/WHt | 66040 | --/HKu  | <b>April</b> |        | 82056 | --/LIu |
| 36263                | RMt/WHt | 36566 | RMt/WHt | 66041 | --/HKu  | 10196        | WH/BK  |       |        |
| 36344                | TL/WHw  | 36567 | RMt/WHt | 66043 | --/HKu  | 15044        | WH/LI  |       |        |
| 36355                | LIu/LI  | 36671 | TL/KB   | 67018 | --/HKu  | 15046        | WH/LI  |       |        |

Livery changes:

12400 to special livery as East London Ambassador  
 36282 and 36369 to purple 'training bus' livery  
 LT247 and LT382 from adverts for Gucci Ancora back to Red  
 LT248 from advert for Bob Marley 'Don't Worry' back to Red  
 LT251 to advert for Vueling Airlines (this replaces LT255 accident victim)  
 LT255 from advert for Vueling Airlines back to Red (assuming wrap removal during repairs)  
 LT268 from advert for Moon Boots (Pink) back to Red  
 LT272 from advert for M&S BraFit back to Red  
 LT365 to advert for Cos  
 LT384 from advert for Natwest to one for Nike - Feel The Unreal  
 LT387 to advert for Mac Lipstick  
 LT389 to advert for L'Oréal Bright Reveal

Disposals:

15042, 15110 have passed to Ripley, Barnsley (March).  
 15045, 15047 and 36348 sold to North West Bus Sales (March).  
 19131, 19132 and 19134 sold to City Sightseeing, Dublin (March).  
 36363 to Stagecoach North East (March).

**STAR TRAVEL, Aylesbury**

Optare Solo MX06 ABO was advertised for sale on ebay in late March.

**SULLIVAN BUSES, South Mimms**

TfL School route 603 was lost to Metroline (HT) on 15th January. Hertfordshire local Borehamwood town route B3 is finishing on 13th April. This will be mostly replaced by an extension of route 361 (Red Eagle) from 15th April. School route 640 will pass to Metroline (HD) in early September, when the Autumn school term begins. On 7th September, TfL route 549 will be withdrawn and replaced by an extension to existing route W14, which will run from Loughton Station to Whipps Cross and be operated by Stagecoach London (LI).

Transfers:

E78 SM/SMu (September 2023). E43 SMu/SM (March).

**TOOTBUS, Wandsworth**Into the fleet:

YR10 FFW and YR10 FGE Scania OmniCity in January 2024 (See also TLB715, pg.40).  
 Both have been converted to part open top and received the Union flag fleet livery, now PO41/22D.

## TRANSPORT UK, formerly Abellio London (BC, DH, GW, QB, TF, WL)

From 1st March, the company's legal lettering and O Licences are registered to Transport UK London Bus Ltd (O Licence PK0003436) and Transport UK West London Bus Ltd (O Licence PK0001815), replacing the previous Abellio London and Abellio London West identities.

Eight Wright GB Kites (1705-12) have been in use at TF, allocated to route R70. This will in turn release some 10.5m E20D MMCs (8220-22 and others) for temporary allocation onto route E6, which is won from 25th May, until their ordered batch of GB Kites (1713-24) arrive.

LT171 re-entered service on 14th March, having been off the road since 10th May 2022.

MetroCity EV 1002 was the first to enter service on route E5 on 28th March. The batch intended for Southall (GW) and route E5 are 1012-24, which in due course will be the case. In an unexpected move, five MetroCity EVs were transferred into TF over the Easter weekend, for allocation to route H20 from 2nd April. This is to release sufficient 8.9m E20Ds to BC for the takeover of route S3.

From 1st April, Transport UK took over the contract to provide Rail Replacement buses for Govia Thameslink Railway (from Go Ahead London), usually on weekends and bank holidays when planned track, signal and engineering works take place.

Route 306 (Acton Vale to Sands End) is won from Metroliner on 13th April and will be operated by Electroliners (3048-58), which started to arrive in March. This batch has the revised front end, referred to by TfL as 'Vision-Zero', where the bodywork below the front windscreen protrudes. In the event of a pedestrian impact, they have less chance of making contact with the windscreen area.

Recap on refurb/repainted batches of vehicles:

LT143-53 completed for route H32 (GW).

2444-60/63/65-86 for route 156 and 345 (QB). 2461/62 are also done and based at GW.

2569-76 for route 363 (WL). Note: these will work alongside Electroliners 3031-7, once transferred.

8210-19 intended for route 367 (BC).

8893-98 for route 350 (DH).

Recent reported repaints/ refurbishes include 2526, 8867, 8878 and 8886.

### New deliveries (commenced March + into April):

3048-58 (LV24 EUF/H/J/K/L/M/N/O/P/R/T) for route 306 (QB)

Wrightbus StreetDeck Electroliner 10.6m H40/20D.

### Transfers:

| <b>March 2024</b> |        |      |        |      |       |              |        |      |        |
|-------------------|--------|------|--------|------|-------|--------------|--------|------|--------|
| LT171             | QBu/QB | 1023 | QBu/QB | 3048 | --/QB | 8222         | TF/GW  | 1024 | QBu/TF |
| 1002              | QB/GW  | 1705 | BC/TF  | 3050 | --/QB | <b>April</b> |        | 3056 | --/QBu |
| 1007              | QB/GW  | 1706 | QB/TF  | 3053 | --/QB | 1012         | GWu/QB | 3058 | --/QBu |
| 1010              | QB/GW  | 1708 | BC/TF  | 3054 | --/QB | 1019         | QB/TF  | 8146 | GW/BC  |
| 1013              | QBu/QB | 1709 | BC/TF  | 3055 | --/QB | 1020         | QB/TF  | 8159 | TF/BC  |
| 1021              | QBu/QB | 1711 | BC/TF  | 8220 | TF/GW | 1021         | QB/TF  |      |        |
|                   |        | 1712 | BC/TF  | 8221 | TF/GW | 1023         | QB/TF  |      |        |

### Livery changes:

2034 from advert for £1.75 Hopper back to Red

LT156 to advert for Sol De Janeiro

LT163 to advert for Mac Lipstick

LT620 to advert for Nike - Feel The Unreal

LT633 to advert for Peroni 2 (Lager)

LT692 to advert for Nike - Feel The Unreal

LT771 to advert for L'Oreal Bright Reveal

LT773 to advert for Cos

LT779 from advert for Gucci Ancora back to Red

LT786 from advert for Natwest back to Red

## **UNIVERSITYBUS (t/a uno), Hatfield**

Further to TLB715, pg.37: It is now known that the E20Ds (518-529) previously used on the Northampton routes are earmarked for disposal and will not replace older vehicles in the fleet. E20Ds 523-526 are now confirmed as B39F and not B37F (shown correctly in Fleetbook 2024, but updating previous editions).

### Disposals:

E20Ds 527/8 (YX67 UYA/B) have passed onto Chaserider, Cannock (March).

## **VALE TRAVEL, Aylesbury**

Dart M454 LLJ and E200 DK57 OPY are currently advertised for sale.

Disposal: Volvo Olympian R637 MNU has been sold locally in Bucks to a bus preservationist (March).

## **VECTARE, Rettendon, Essex**

E20D 316 (YX16 OBO) had been 'on loan' to Central Connect since early January and is now assumed to be a permanent member of their fleet.

E20D 320 (SN16 OVP) has been stood down. Last used on 5th September 2023.

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## **WHERE ARE THEY NOW? (Subsequent vehicle disposals)**

**Section Editor:** Andrew Morgan, Easton House, Easton Lane, Bozeat, Northamptonshire NN29 7NN or by e-mail to [andrew@morgan1368.co.uk](mailto:andrew@morgan1368.co.uk) Note that the former London company names are listed in code to allow more space for narrative detail. AB=Abellio/Transport UK, ALN=Arriva London, FLN= First London, GAL= Go-Ahead Group London, LU= London United, ML= Metroline, SLN= Stagecoach London.

### **Routemasters:**

RM1009 (9 CLT) from London Bus Company to Mr R Simons, East Grinstead, West Sussex (February), and is due to appear at the East Grinstead running day.

RML2759 (SMK 759F) further to TLB713, it has now been confirmed with Mr J Miller, Enfield, Middlesex. It remains with minor internal modifications from its days as a promotional vehicle, but its future is not known.

### **Olympians:**

NV52 (R252 LGH) (ex GAL) from Hawkes (dlr) to unknown owner, Spalding, Lincs. (July) for conversion to a static caravan.

VA51 (R151 VPU) (ex SLN) from North East Bus to Mr P Cowell, Prudhoe, Northumberland (May 2022) and stored after North East Bus ceased trading.

VA77 (R177 VPU) (ex SLN) updating TLB701, this VA passed from Eurotaxi to Old Tannery Café, Yeovil, Somerset (January 2022) for use as a static café rather than being sold for scrap.

VN155 (R155 HHK) (ex SLN) was sold from Wright Travel (August 2021) for scrap.

### **Miscellaneous low-floor double deck types:**

9488 (LJ09 OKX) (ex AB) from Green Bus, Birmingham to Stanley Travel, Stanley, Co. Durham (October) and re-registered to S2 STX in December.

DLA172 (W372 VGJ) (ex ALN) from North East Bus to Mr P Cowell, Prudhoe, Northumberland (May 2022) and stored after North East Bus ceased trading.

DLA327 (LG52 DBY) (ex ALN) further to TLB704, there were no further reports of this DLA with Shires, so it is assumed to be incorrect, but it is believed to still exist – can anyone confirm where ?

DLA347 (LJ03 MEU, ex J400 JBT) (ex ALN) was on loan to Shires, Rushden, Northants. in March 2023 and returned to BASE in April 2023.

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DLP54 (787 EYC, ex LJ51 DJZ), 58 (794 EYD, ex LJ51 DKF), 64 (897 EYX, ex LJ51 DKV) (ex ALN) have re-gained their original registrations in December with Go North East.

DW105 (LJ05 BJY) (ex ALN) from A&A Coach Travel to Rigby's, Blackburn. Lancs. (September).

DW126 (LJ05 BNK) (ex ALN) from Abbey Coaches to Rigby's, Blackburn. Lancs. (September).

DW133 (LJ05 GLV) (ex ALN) from Abbey Coaches to unknown dealer, Wigan, Lancs. (November) for scrap.

DW279 (LJ59 LWF) (ex ALN) from Bus & Coach Centre (dlr) to Garnetts Coaches, Bishop Auckland, Co. Durham (December).

T92 (LJ59 LZN) (ex ALN) from First Somerset to Wigley, Barnsley, South Yorkshire (February).

VLA92 (LJ54 BDX) (ex ALN) was sold for scrap (by February) following its fire damage with Whippet Coaches in September 2023.

DN33511, 33512, 33513 (LK08FMP, FMU, FMV) (ex FLN) further to TLB712, these are now confirmed as sold from Metroline to Warrington's Own Buses in August 2023.

VN32103 (MIG 4760, ex LT02 ZCN) (ex FLN) from First Hants & Dorset to Wigley, Barnsley, South Yorkshire (January).

VNL32200 (MIG 6219, ex LT52 WTE), 32207 (MIG 9616, ex LT52 WTN) (ex FLN) from First Hants & Dorset to Wigley, Barnsley, South Yorkshire (January).

VNL32303 (LK03 NHC) (ex FLN) updating TLB697, this VNL had been confirmed with A&A Coach Travel who were latterly at Tockwith, North Yorkshire and moved to Boroughbridge, North Yorkshire during August 2022 and then to Stourton, West Yorkshire in December.

AVL6 (M50 ENH, ex V106 LGC) (ex GAL) was sold from Eagle Coaches (by December) for scrap.

AVL18 (V118 LGC) (ex GAL) was sold from the Salvation Army (February 2023) and then again in October 2023. Can anyone confirm its current whereabouts ?

DOE3, 13, 15, 22, 25 (LX58 CWP, CXC, CXE, CXN, CXR) (ex GAL) were loaned from Go South Coast to City of Oxford in November and were still there in March.

DOE4, 10, 18 (LX58 CWR, CWZ, CXH) (ex GAL) have been re-numbered from 6968, 6969, 6971 to 930, 931, 932 by East Yorkshire.

DOE34 (LX58 CYC) (ex GAL) from Go South Coast to Go North East (January) where it has been numbered 6976.

EVL44 (PJ02 PZB) (ex GAL) from Mario Coach Travel to Davey Price, Wigan, Lancs. (February) for scrap.

PDL35, 36, 49 (PN03 ULU, ULV, UMJ) (ex GAL) from Preston Bus to Willenhall Commercial (dlr), Willenhall, West Midlands (by March).

PVL41 (A13 HLC, ex W441 WGH) (ex GAL) from Andrew's to Neal's Travel, Ely, Cambs. (September 2017) and it was re-registered to OIG 8938 in April 2018. It operated in a silver and black livery.

PVL280 (PJ02 RBY) (ex GAL) from Go East Anglia to MC Tractors / Shelton Motors, Ramsey, Cambs. (December).

PVL393 (LX54 HAU) (ex GAL) was sold from THZ (August).

WDL1 (LX58 CWG) (ex GAL) from Carousel Buses to Thames Travel, Didcot, Oxon (February).

WVL83 (RYV 77, ex LF52 ZNR) (ex GAL) has re-gained its original registration in December with Go North East and was sold in March.

WVL133 (LX53 AZF) (ex GAL) from JH Hughes to Garnetts Coaches, Bishop Auckland, Co. Durham (August 2019).

WVL197, 198 (LX05 EZO, EZP) (ex GAL) from Carousel Buses to Thames Travel, Didcot, Oxon (February).

936 (YN56 FDL) (ex GAL) from Lloyd to Beeston, Hadleigh, Suffolk (by March).

SO5 (YN07 LHV, ex GSO 84V) (ex LU) from West Coast Motors to Belfast City Sightseeing, Belfast, Northern Ireland (February).

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SP40043 (YT09 BMU) (ex LU) further to TLB714, this SP is now confirmed with Hargreaves, Hebden, North Yorkshire, where it joins WVL179 (ex GAL). SP40043 is in a silver livery with black window surrounds, whereas WVL179 is in a white and turquoise livery.

SP40056, 40060, 40065 (YT09 ZCA, ZCK, BJV), 40076, 40083, 40084, 40085, 40095, 40098, 40102, 40105, 40107, 40108 (YT59 RYA, RYJ, RYK, RYM, SFZ, SGV, SHJ, DXY, DYX, DYY), 40109, 40117, 40119, 40125 (YR59 FYO, FYY, FZA, FZG), 40126, 40127, 40132 (YT59 PBF, PBO, PCF) (ex LU) updating TLB712, these have now passed from Go North West to Stagecoach Manchester when the Queens Road depot was transferred on the 24th March and have been re-numbered from 3615, 3601, 3614, 3608, 3609, 3620, 3610, 3611, 3612, 3613, 3602, 3616, 3617, 3603, 3618, 3604, 3605, 3606, 3619, 3607 to 15382, 15383, 15381, 15394, 15395, 15396, 15397, 15398, 15399, 15400, 15388, 15389, 15390, 15384, 15385, 15386, 15387, 15391, 15392, 15393 respectively. All retain yellow Bee Network livery.

SP40191 (YR10 FFW) (ex LU) was noted in March with Tootbus, Wandsworth, London. It has been converted to part open top and is believed to have passed from Ensign Bus (dlr), Purfleet, Essex (January).

TE992 (LK59 DZT) (ex ML) was noted in use with Grey Line Motor Services in January; this may have just have been a loan from Howards (dlr) – can anyone confirm ?

VP345 (LR52 BOU) (ex ML) was sold from APT Coaches (December).

VPL139 (X639 LLX) (ex ML) after use for spares was sold from Hamilton Coaches (November) for scrap.

TA17153 (V153 MEV) (ex SLN) from Andrew's to CL Travel, Royston, Herts. (August 2020) and was then sold for scrap (August 2021).

TA17420 (LX51 FJK) (ex SLN) from Stotts to Moxon, Oldcotes, Notts. (March 2020).

TA17825 (LX03 BXY) (ex SLN) is confirmed as sold from A2B Travel (by March 2023) being scrapped in August.

TA17887 (LX03 OPV) (ex SLN) from Dilwyns Coaches to Carmel Travel, Caernarfon, Gwynedd (January) but was loaned back to Dilwyns Coaches in January until arrival of TA18261 (see below).

TA18261 (LX04 FZF) (ex SLN) from Nu-Venture to Bus & Coach Repairs (dlr), Yaxley, Cambs. (January). It then passed to Dilwyns Coaches, Bangor, Gwynedd (March).

TA18473 (WOI 3001, ex LX55 ERU) (ex SLN) was sold for scrap from Stagecoach East Midlands (March).

15148 (LX59 CNZ) (ex SLN) further to TLB711, it was acquired by De-Luxe Coach Services, Burton upon Trent, Staffs. (June) and re-registered to W222 UPD (August). It regained its original registration in November and then passed to Kilvington's of Leeds, West Yorkshire (November).

### **Low-floor single deck types:**

DML44007 (LK08 FNF) (ex FLN) from Dawsongroup to Red Eagle Buses, Dinton, Bucks. (January).

DML44009 (LK08 FNH) (ex FLN) from North West Bus Sales (dlr) to Central Travel, Dartnell, South Yorkshire (November).

DML44026, 44031, 44072 (YX58 DVY, DWE, HVB), 44087 (YX09 AEE) (ex FLN) updating previous TLBs, these were all confirmed as passing from Metroline to Dawsongroup in June 2023. DML44031, 44087 are confirmed as passing to BM Coaches, Hayes, Middlesex (July) and were re-registered to YUI 5579 and YUI 5577 in November. DML44026 was re-registered to YUI 5578 in September.

DML44041 (YX58 DWV) (ex FLN) from Falcon Coaches to Red Eagle Buses, Dinton, Bucks. (January).

DML44063 (YX58 FOM) (ex FLN) was re-registered to YUI 5580 by BM Coaches in November.

DML44148 (YX10 BFK), 44193 (YX11 CNY) (ex FLN) from Whippet Coaches to Birmingham Bus Works (dlr), Birmingham, West Midlands (November).

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LDP130 (Y803 TGH) (ex GAL) from Vale Travel to Mr E Bishop, Harpenden, Herts. (February) for preservation.

DP4 (S304 MKH) (ex LU) was last recorded with Plaxton (dlr) in October 2013 and it has now been reported as scrapped in December 2013.

OT30208 (YJ11 EHP) (ex LU) The inclusion of OT20308 in TLB715 should have read OT30208.

SD38 (PL05 PLN) (ex LU/Quality Line) from Peoplesbus to Southern Bus Preservation Group (March 2023) for preservation.

DE1602, 1607, 1648 (YX58 DVY, DWE, HVB), 1654 (YX09 AEE) (ex ML) - see corresponding entries for DML44026, 44031, 44072 and 44087 (ex FLN) above.

DLF100 (KU52 YKG) (ex ML) from St. Ives Bus Company to Mounts Bay Coaches, Penzance, Cornwall (September), and then to Shears (dlr), Northam, Devon (December).

36320 (LX58 CBY) (ex SLN) was repainted to cream livery in February with Moffatt & Williamson; it was originally loaned and then acquired in October 2021 and has operated in London red livery since then.

36324 (LX58 CCF) (ex SLN) from Stagecoach North Scotland to Stagecoach South West (January).

### **Miscellaneous single deck types:**

BL45 (OJD 45R) from Mr M Taylor to Barkers Motors (dlr), Wrexham, Clwyd (October 2022). It was for sale on eBay in January 2023, but there were no subsequent reports. It then passed to Messrs Newsome, Lee & Barnes, Aldeby, Norfolk (June 2023).

BL88 (OJD 93R, ex OJD 88R) was re-registered back to OJD 88R in January 2023.

BL91 (J 46655, ex OJD 91R) was repainted by Jersey Bus Tours from green/cream to red/cream in November 2022; it remains in operational service on the island and was used for the 2023 season.

BS4 (GHV 504N) from Mr T Adams to Mr C Stanley, Maidstone, Kent (August 2015).

BS5 (GHV 505N) from Mr R Duker to unknown owner (October 2021) and then to London Bus Company, Northfleet, Kent (January 2024).

LS130 (VIB 8319, ex THX 130S) from Messrs Wright & Cole to Mr A Lidgard, Basildon, Essex (March 2020) for spares and was then sold/cut up for scrap (July 2020).

LS174 (THX 174S) is part of the London Bus Company fleet and was at Brooklands 23rd June 2019 prior to restoration into Blue Triangle red and cream livery. After restoration it made its debut at RF70 event at Epping Ongar Railway on the 5th September 2021.

LS220 (THX 220S) was sold from Mr C Brown to Mike Nash, Ockley, Surrey (by December 2018), and then to Mr C Holland, Wirral, Merseyside (February 2020).

LS266 (THX 266S) from Ms T Smith and Mr S Lear to Mr R Campbell, Tyseley, Birmingham, West Midlands (October 2021) where it is to be restored to Chase livery.

LS317 (AYR 317T) from Coastal Liner to Mr M Murphy, Willenhall, West Midlands (December 2020).

LS434 (MMN 389R, ex BYW 434V) updating previous information, it passed to Mr L Cannan, Cronk-y-Voddy, Isle of Man (by January 2017); then re-registered to BMN 434V.

GLS438 (GUW 438W) updating TLB641, this GLS passed to St Margaret's Academy, Torquay, Devon in 2016 for use as additional teaching space. It was refurbished by Qualiti Conversions at Southampton prior to delivery to Devon. It was repainted into an all over purple livery and was still present in April 2023.

GLS487 (PMY 179W, ex GUW 487W) has been at Northampton & Lamport Railway at Pitsford, Northants. since at least January 2012 when noted as a store-shed, where it was still present in March 2024.

GLS499 (GUW 499W, ex WLT 599) is now reported as sold to unknown owner (by April 2009) and then passed to the Early Childhood Playbus, Briggington, nr. Leighton Buzzard, Beds. (by May 2023).

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## SERVICE VEHICLES

**Section Editor:** Thomas Young by e-mail to tom@ltsv.com or by post to Lombard address (see page 1) marked “TLB SVs”. The LTSV website at www.ltsv.com has an on-line database of service vehicles, with photos, plus the facility to record your own sightings and comments. A hash sign (#) after the livery of a vehicle below indicates that it has no markings.

### LUL/LBSL/TfL Fleet; Newly reported vehicles

|       |          |                               |     |       |   |
|-------|----------|-------------------------------|-----|-------|---|
| 9191F | LD24 OSJ | Ford Transit Connect Crew Van | TfL | White | ? |
|-------|----------|-------------------------------|-----|-------|---|

*Plus identical vehicles:*

|       |          |       |          |       |          |
|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|
| 9192F | LD24 OPK | 9202F | LD24 OSP | 9209F | LD24 OSU |
| 9194F | LD24 OSR | 9203F | LD24 OSA | 9210F | LD24 OPM |
| 9195F | LD24 OPZ | 9204F | LD24 ORP | 9213F | LD24 OSB |
| 9198F | LD24 ORA | 9205F | LD24 OTA | 9215F | LD24 OSL |
| 9200F | LD24 OSX | 9206F | LD24 ORC | 9217F | LD24 OSN |
| 9201F | LD24 OPP | 9208F | LD24 ORV | 9219F | LD24 OPS |

### Additional information and updates

The first bulk delivery of new vehicles in over 3 years took place just before Easter, with 19 new Fords noted in the lorry yard at Acton Works. All were Transit Connect crew vans in white (no skirts or stripes) with plain blue roundels and TfL lettering. This livery is the same as that carried by the lorries new last year and may well be a new generic livery. It certainly seems likely that these new vans will actually be allocated to LUL work. Reports would be welcomed.

### Bus Company Fleets; Newly reported vehicles

|    |          |                                  |                   |          |      |
|----|----------|----------------------------------|-------------------|----------|------|
| -  | AO23 OYN | Ford Puma Car                    | Arriva London     | Black #  | DX   |
| -  | CX23 VTF | Seat Arona Car                   | Arriva London     | Black #  | DT   |
| -  | WP69 DPV | Seat Ateca Car                   | Arriva Shires     | Grey #   | WB   |
| ?  | BG72 JNK | Ford Transit MWB Mid-Height Van  | Arriva Shires     | White    | WB   |
| -  | HG21 TXF | Nissan NV250 Van                 | Go-Ahead London   | White #  | SI   |
| -  | HG21 XST | Nissan NV250 Van                 | Go-Ahead London   | White #  | AL   |
| -  | HG21 XSX | Nissan NV250 Van                 | Go-Ahead London   | White #  | AL   |
| -  | HG21 XTT | Nissan NV250 Van                 | Go-Ahead London   | White #  | Q    |
| -  | MD69 OCS | Renault Grand Scenic Estate      | Metroline         | Maroon # | CELF |
| -  | RJ23 HKP | VW Caddy Maxi Life Estate        | Metroline         | Blue #   | PB   |
| -  | LA23 KLV | Citroen C3 Car                   | Stagecoach London | Grey #   | RM   |
| -  | LL23 AYP | Nissan Juke Car                  | Stagecoach London | Grey #   | RM   |
| ?  | DV73 FRX | Vauxhall Vivaro Electric Minibus | Stagecoach London | White    | RM   |
| ?  | DV73 FSC | Vauxhall Vivaro Electric Minibus | Stagecoach London | White    | RM   |
| 94 | RK58 UPD | Ford Fiesta Van                  | White Bus         | Blue     |      |

### Additional information

Arriva London DG69 AYN and CX70 LVF have transferred from AD to DX, with their fleetnumbers changing from AD202 and AD204 to 215 and 127 respectively.

More Go-Ahead London minibuses now in red/blue with driver recruiting adverts are RF19 UZS, WP21 YCZ and RX71 SZN. One of the Vito minibuses (identity unknown) was noted recently at C with severe accident damage and may well be written-off. Correcting TLB712, Ford Transit Custom van EA69 MWJ was not withdrawn, and it is now allocated to C.

Metroline AV20 AXG has transferred from PB to PV.

## RAIL REPLACEMENTS

**Section Editor:** Stephen Floyd, 4 Turnpike Gardens, Bedford, MK42 0AJ or by e-mail to [stevefloyd1959@gmail.com](mailto:stevefloyd1959@gmail.com) This occasional feature will list some of the operators and lines affected, in recent months, is not necessarily comprehensive and will only appear when page layouts and space permits!

### South Western Railway:

**13/01/24:** Hounslow – Virginia Water / Windsor & Eton Riverside (calling at all stations, some limited stop) by Morton (E400MMC).

**14/01/24:** Hounslow – Woking / Ascot / Windsor & Eton Riverside (calling at all stations, some limited stop) by Ada Luxury Coaches (mini coach); Cardinal (E400); Chiltern Automotive (Volvo B7TL/ALX400); City Circle (coaches); Mayfairs (mini coach) & Morton (E400MMC).

**20/01/24:** Clapham Junction-Barnes (calling at all stations) by Bear Buses (President); Cardinal (ALX400 & E400); London Bus Group (ex-First WN35001); Horseferry (WVL); & Master Coaches, Hounslow (Wright DB300).

**02-03/03/24:** Wimbledon lines closed all weekend the following bus services operated: (a) Clapham Junction – Chessington South (calling at all stations via Wimbledon); (b) Clapham Junction - Surbiton (calling at all stations via Kingston); (c) Clapham Junction - Surbiton (non-stop); (d) Clapham Junction - Hampton Court (calling at all stations via Surbiton except Berrylands); (e) Clapham Junction - Effingham Junction (calling at all stations via Surbiton except Berrylands); (f) Clapham Junction and Woking (some calling at Earlsfield, Wimbledon, Surbiton then all stations; some limited stop) observed on were: by BM (E200 & E200 MMC), Burrows, Blandford (Volvo B7RLE), Desi, Harrow (Coach), Falcon (E200 MMC), Five Star Cars (Birmingham) (Mini Coaches), Horseferry, Fulham (Coach), Imperial (E400 MMC), London Bus Group (VP), MPR, Park Royal (Coach), Sprinters (Mini Coach), Stagecoach South (E200 MMC), Stewarts, Woodley (Mercedes Citaro), & Westbus (Coach). Member Martin also observed ex Arriva DLA273 from Regional Transport, Shrewsbury. (*see photo in TLB715.*)

**24/03/24:** Hounslow – Woking / Ascot / Windsor & Eton Riverside (calling at all stations, some limited stop) by Diamond South East (Streetlite); First Berkshire (E400MMC) & Weaverway (Coach),

**29/03-01/04/24:** Hounslow – Virginia Water / Windsor & Eton Riverside (calling at all stations, some limited stop) various operators including: Aldermaston Coach Lines (E400MMC & Volvo/MCV), Attend IT (ALX400), Bear Bus (Dart & President), BM Coaches (E400MMC), Cardinal Buses (E400), Hounslow (coach), Jeakins (coach), London Bus Group (President), Master Coaches, Mortons (E400MMC), NPC (E400MMC), Reading Buses (E400MMC) & Westbus (E400MMC).

### Gatwick Express, Great Western, Southern & Thameslink:

**20-21/01/24:** The Brighton Main Line was closed between Purley and Gatwick Airport; seven rail replacement services operated: East Croydon – Redhill (calling at Purley then all stations); Redhill – Gatwick Airport (calling at all stations); Redhill – Tonbridge (calling at all stations); Gatwick Airport – East Grinstead (non-stop); Three Bridges – East Grinstead (non-stop); Guildford – Gatwick (calling at all stations to Redhill, some limited stop); plus Dorking – Horsham (calling at all stations: although the line was open, the normal train service was suspended to clear paths for diverted Gatwick to London trains.) Observed were Bayliss (E400MMC), Brighton & Hove (Volvo B9TL), Brighton Horizon (Scania sd & coaches), City Circle (Coaches), Crawley Luxury (Mercedes Citaro), Desi, Harrow (Coach), Go Ahead London (E400), Lewis, Greenwich (Coach), Metrobus (E200, Scania dd & Volvo B9TL), MPR, Park Royal (Coach), Seaford & District (President), Stagecoach South (E400 MMC), & Travelmasters (Coaches).

**11/02/24:** Horsham to Three Bridges – Brighton & Hove, Crawley Luxury, Metrobus and Stagecoach South.

**24-25/02/24:** two bus services operated: (a): Three Bridges - Brighton (calling at all stations) & (b): Three Bridges - Lewes (calling at Haywards Heath & Cooksbridge) by City Circle (Coaches), Crawley

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Luxury (Coaches & Merc Citaro), Go Ahead London (E & WHV), Redwings (Coaches), Stagecoach South (E400MMC) & Travelmasters (Coach & Volvo B9TL).

**10-11/03/24:** London Bridge - St.Pancras (overnight) by Go-Ahead & Metroline.

**10/03/24:** London Bridge – Streatham Common: Go-Ahead London (various d/d).

**17/03/24:** Horsham - Littlehampton by Stagecoach South and Horsham - Barnham by Metrobus and Woods Coaches.

**24/03/24:** West Croydon - Epsom Downs by Go-Ahead (WVN, SEN,WS).

#### Southeastern:

**29/03-01/04/24:** Lewisham – Sidcup (calling at all stations) by Abbey Travel (Volvo B9TL/Wright).

#### London Overground:

**7/01/24:** Gospel Oak - Seven Sisters.

**10/03/24** (late PM): Stratford/Camden Road/Richmond by Metroline.

**29/03 – 01/04/24:** New Cross Gate - Dalston Kingsland and Canada Water - Clapham Junction by Arriva London (HV, T, with LT on New Cross – Dalston),

**31/03 – 01/04/24:** Seven Sisters – Enfield Town / Cheshunt (calling at all stations) by Sullivan (E400).

#### Metropolitan:

**20-21/01/24 & 27-28/01/24:** Harrow-on-the-Hill - Uxbridge by Metroline.

#### Great Northern:

**28/01/24 & 04/02/24** (early AM): Finsbury Park – Potters Bar/Stevenage;

**10/03/24** (early AM): Finsbury Park – Hertford North/Gordon Hill/Welwyn Garden City by Go-Ahead & Metroline.

#### Central:

Owing to a high rate of motor failures on the trains, leading to gaps and overcrowding, since **05/02/24** on Mon-Fri, supplementary extra buses are being provided from Epping and Debden to Chingford in both peaks, provided by Ensign, First, Stagecoach and the London Borough of Havering. Additional buses are also being provided on routes 20 and on 150. (*see photo in TLB715.*)

#### Jubilee Line:

**03/02/24:** no service Green Park – Stratford, two bus services operated: JL3 North Greenwich – Canning Town (non-stop) by Ensignbus (E200MMC), First Essex (E200MMC & Streetlite), Havering (E200MMC) & Travelmasters (E200MMC); JL4 North Greenwich – Stratford (non-stop) by Clarkes (Coaches), Kings Ferry (Coaches), Lewis, Greenwich (Coaches) & Mayfairs (Coaches).

#### Elizabeth Line:

**03/02/24:** two bus services operated: C Stratford – Romford (all stations except Maryland) by Transport UK (LT, E400, E400MMC, E400EVCity, E200MMC & Wright Kite Electroliners); D Newbury Park - Shenfield (calling at all stations).

#### Piccadilly Line:

**09-10/02/24** (overnight): Hammersmith & Heathrow Terminal 5 and daytime **10-14/02/24:** Acton Town – Heathrow Central by Metroline with assistance from other companies.

**10 - 14/02/24:** two bus services operated: PL-1: Acton Town – Heathrow (calling at all stations to Hatton Cross then Heathrow Central Bus Station with late night journeys extended to Heathrow Terminal 5) & PL-3: Hammersmith - Heathrow Central Bus Station (for Terminals 2 and 3):

On 10/02/24: PL1 was by Arriva London (HV); Imperial (Volvo B5TL); Metroline (TE, VW & VWH) & Westbus (Coaches). PL3 was by Angel Executive Travel; Imperial; Lewis, Greenwich; NPC & Premium (all coaches).

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On 12/02/24: PL1 was by Arriva London (HA & HV); Go Ahead London (VC); Imperial (ADL E400MMC & Volvo B5TL); Metroline (TEH) & Westbus (Coach).

On 13/02/24: PL1 was by Imperial (Volvo B5TL) & Sullivan (ADL E400).

On 14/02/24: PL1 was by Arriva London (SW); Ensignbus (Volvo / Wright dd); Go Ahead London (VC); Imperial (ADL E400MMC & Volvo B5TL) & Westbus (Coach).

**24-25/02/24:** three bus services operated: PL-3: Hammersmith - Heathrow Central Bus Station (for Terminals 2 and 3); PL-4: Gunnersbury – Rayners Lane (calling at all stations) & PL-7: Gunnersbury – Heathrow Central Bus Station (for Terminals 2 and 3) (calling at Osterley then all stations to Hatton Cross then Heathrow Central Bus Station with late night journeys extended to Heathrow Terminal 5). PL3 was by Angel Executive Travel; NPC & Westbus (all coaches) & Horseferry (Volvo B7TL / Wright). PL4 was by Sullivan Buses. PL7 was by Metroline (TEH & VWH).

#### Bakerloo:

**17-18/02/24:** Harrow & Wealdstone – Queen’s Park by Metroline & Sullivan.

#### DLR:

**17-18/02/24:** Island Gardens – West Ferry by Arriva,

**29/03 – 01/04/24:** Canning Town - West Ferry by Go-Ahead (WHV, LT).

#### LNER/GTR:

**17-20/02/24:** There were no trains south of Peterborough/Royston to Potters Bar (unusually involving daytime Mon/Tue!) various coaches called at intermediate stations as well as connecting to the Midland Line at Bedford. The following operators were observed: 3 Star, Acme, ALM, Angies, Arriva, Barton Coach Company, Brighton Horizon, Central Connect, Centrebus, City Circle, Collins, COZY, Davian, Globus, Go-Ahead, Godward, Golden Boy, Greys, Handybus, JKT, Kellys, M&M, Marshalls, Reg’s, REL, Richard Taylor, Richmonds, Selwyns, South Mimms, Stagecoach, Suffolk Travel, Tates, Tyrers and Uno. I also observed BusKing with Transpora single and double-decks as standbys/crew rest at Bedford.

#### Tramlink:

**29/03 - 24/04/24:** Go-Ahead & Abellio D/D (with assistance from Go-Coach & Ensign).

Thanks to members Barry, Frank, Ian, Martin, Michael, Peter, Stuart and Trevor for the above reports.

#### London Northwestern:

(This one from me for interest and info, although outside our traditional area) The Marston Vale line was fully restored on **19/02/24** after 16 months, so regular rail replacements between Bedford and Bletchley by Tates and A&B Travel ceased after 17/02/24. A fare offer is in place for the following 3 months with a maximum single fare of £1 adults, 50p for children, between any station on the Marston Vale Line.

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## **MEMBERS’ ADVERTS AND APPEALS**

Items for inclusion here should be e-mailed to [lotstlbeditor@gmail.com](mailto:lotstlbeditor@gmail.com), or sent by post to the Lombard address (see page 3) marked “TLB Editor”. Adverts are included as a service to our members from the advertisers. LOTS is not involved in any of them, nor does it necessarily endorse them. Readers must deal with advertisers direct.

For sale: Buses Illustrated magazine collection, on behalf of Mrs L. Stitson.

Nos 1-34 (Nov 1949-Dec 1957 ); Published Quarterly. Only to be sold as a group in view of their rarity

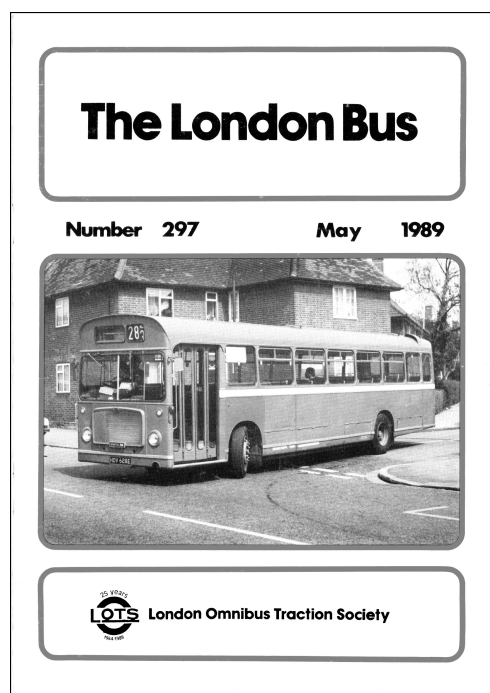
Nos 35-46 (Jan 1958-Dec 1958 ); First Monthly editions. All in excellent condition and also very rare.

Nos 47-441 (Jan 1959-Dec 1991); Only available for sale as complete year sets - not as individual items.

All enquiries / offers please via email only to the LOTS Secretary at [f.messenger941@btinternet.com](mailto:f.messenger941@btinternet.com)

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## LOOKING BACK - News from Yesteryear



On the cover of TLB297 (May 1989) was HDV 628E, an elderly ECW-bodied Bristol RE working on LT route 283. This ex-Western National bus was occasionally used by Scanbus as maintenance cover for their usual (yet rather unusual) Scania/Jonckheere buses. The Bristol was the oldest bus then in use on a London route (apart from Routemasters of course).

New route C4 was also illustrated, this using yellow London Buslines Mercedes minibuses between (indirectly) Putney Pier and Chelsea Harbour. The route only lasted until 2001, when it was replaced by new route 424.

Other news items reported included:

- The Autocheck bus ticketing trial in SE London ended.
  - Edgware's new bus station opened, and Clapton garage was re-opened by London Forest as a minibus base.
  - London Coaches started a commuter service from Gravesend and Northfleet, with 11 additional DAF/Van Hool coaches taken into stock.
- New buses into stock included a DA-class Optare Delta (one of two acquired for evaluation) and lots of Mercedes minibuses in classes MA (for Gold Arrow and U-Line routes) and SR (for Walthamstow).
  - Transfers included a chain that saw Titans go from Chalk Farm to Muswell Hill, Metrobuses from Muswell Hill to Potters Bar and Leyland Nationals from Potters Bar to Chalk Farm.
  - DMS double-deckers were being fitted with new Iveco engines.
  - London Country South West was being rebranded as London & Country, with a new livery.
  - Society news mentioned the fact that the LOTS Complaints Officer had had his complaints record book stolen!

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## A BIT MORE FROM THE EDITOR

The Looking Back feature above is intended to appear from time to time, and may be useful to fill the odd gap. It was originally going to be half a page or less but, once I had put all of this month's other pages through the "jiggler", I ended up with half a page blank. So, I added a few more snippets. I hope you will agree that a 48-page issue with a bit of bumf is better than a 44-page issue with some items squeezed or deferred.

STOP PRESS: Further to the plans for the "Bakerloop" route (see page 7), and the desire expressed by some local councils to be connected to the express bus network, additional proposals have been made for a "Romfloop" route between Romford and Aldgate, a "Victorilooop" from Brixton to Crystal Palace, a "Centralooop" from Epping to Ongar, a "Jubilooop" from Stratford to Stanmore via High Barnet and an "Elizalooop" from Abbey Wood to Ebbsfleet and Gravesend. These proposals were dated 1st April!

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

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Extensive service changes in the Sutton area from 2nd March brought about the introduction of new route 439 (Whyteleafe South – Waddon Marsh). Go Ahead SEe246 pauses at Purley Cross.  
(Richard Godfrey)



Falcon Coaches had a single deck MCV Volvo BZL demonstrator on loan for a week in mid-February. BV72 KPF on route 461 sets down passengers in Wood Street, Kingston.  
(Matthew Wharmby)



Two Brighton & Hove Scania Omnidekkas were transferred to Metrobus in mid-March. 681 on school service 617 crosses Epsom Downs at Tattenham Corner.  
(Terry O'Neill)

**Rear cover:** The Golders Green/Muswell Hill heritage running day on 10th March included amongst others, preserved RM2208 on route 43 and London Bus Co. LS174 on route 210. They met in a very wet Muswell Hill Broadway. (Matthew Wharmby)



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