

TLB717

The London Bus

Number 717
May 2024



London Omnibus Traction Society
www.lots.org.uk

Route 97 was re-allocated to Lea Interchange garage on 30th March as part of a new TfL contract, displacing Scania OmniCitys in favour of Wrightbus Streetdecks. Stagecoach London 18916 runs along Hoe Street, Walthamstow.
(Richard Godfrey)



Routes 262 and 473 passed to Go Ahead London on 30th March. Pending delivery of new Ee class E400City electrics, a mix of WVN and WVLs are being used. WVN13 departs from Gallions Reach on route 262.
(Richard Godfrey)



Go Ahead London have wrapped Ee 244 and 245 into this blue based scheme to promote recruitment of women bus drivers. Based at Bexleyheath, they work alongside the EP class on route 132. Ee244 heads along Rochester Way, Eltham.
(Richard Godfrey)



Front cover: Transport UK commenced operation of Route 306 on 13th April using Wrightbus Electroliners featuring the 'Vision-Zero' redesigned lower front panel (see TLB716, p37). 3050 pauses at its first stop in Uxbridge Road, Acton Vale. (Terry Wong Min)



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



ISSN 0263-3329

Managing Editor: Thomas Young, e-mail lotstlbeditor@gmail.com, or by post to the Lombard address.

Our principal services are centred on the **LOTS general office** at the Lombard Business Park, 8 Lombard Road, Wimbledon, London SW19 3TZ. If you need to contact us, we visit the office regularly to deal with Membership and Subscriptions (incl. changes of address), TLB/LBM Distribution and general admin. If using the post to Lombard please mark the envelope “Membership” or “Distribution” or as appropriate. The e-mail lotsmemsec@gmail.com can be used for quick enquiries and follow-ups, including for address changes, non-arrival of TLB/LBM and blank or missing pages.

For enquiries about, or, orders to **Postal Sales**, please E-mail lotspostalsales@gmail.com.

Membership and Subscription Information: LOTS MEM/TLB/LBM rates (at 2nd class postage) include any twelve consecutive issues of TLB, and/or any four consecutive issues of LBM. Subscriptions may commence in any month of the year. Subscription rates from 01Dec2022:

UK rate: £36 MEM+TLB; £56 MEM+TLB+LBM; £29 LBM only.

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

Reports for TLB should first go to individual section sub-editors or via my e-mail and it will be passed to the appropriate person. The TLB Editors should be addressed direct by e-mail or post - Please do NOT use Lombard for TLB items. If it is for the LBM Editor, e-mail to lbm.editor@yahoo.co.uk or write via the Lombard address, marking envelope for which service or who it is that you want.

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

The Editors reserve the right to defer items to achieve page layouts or target dates, or to allow time for confirmation where appropriate. Every effort is made to ensure factual accuracy but the Editors and the Society cannot accept responsibility for errors of fact subsequently discovered.

TLB is compiled by the Editors and published by LOTS for the information and personal use of the members of LOTS, in return for payment of the membership subscription. It is copyright to LOTS, and the current issue of TLB is for private circulation to LOTS members only. Where relevant to their coverage, items may be repeated as agreed in fellow publications. Otherwise, it is not permissible to copy information from TLB or any LOTS publications for any further use or sale, including via the Internet, without having first received prior permission from the Society via the Managing Editor.

Other specialist services: Please include a stamped self-addressed envelope if you want a reply.

London Bus Magazine: e-mail to lbm.editor@yahoo.co.uk or write via: Lombard Business Park, 8 Lombard Road, Wimbledon, London SW19 3TZ, address mark envelope for “LBM Editor”

TLB Backnumbers from Charlie Turton, 21 Coleridge Walk, Langney, Eastbourne, BN23 7QJ.

LOTS Members’ Information Service: Andrew Robertson, Curry Farm, Halstead Lane, Knockholt, Sevenoaks, TN14 7EP. Or e-mail to lots.info@btinternet.com

LOTS Ombudsman: (complaints and problems about LOTS services): David Kemp, 10 Weare Gifford, Shoeburyness, Essex SS3 8AB or e-mail davidkemp3077@gmail.com (In letters to Info Service and Ombudsman, **please add s.a.e.**).

Printed by Ludo Press, 18 Wimbledon Stadium Business Centre, Riverside Road, London SW17 0BA

This issue was finalised on 1st-4th May and is due for posting on Tues 14th May.

Closing date for TLB718 is Weds 5th June and due for posting on Tues 18th June.

Booked later closing dates are Wednesdays 3rd July, 7th August and 4th September 2024.

Editorial

LOTS is celebrating its **60th anniversary** this summer, the first edition of what became TLB having been published in July 1964. Since then, over 1,250 titles have been produced, including 717 monthly TLBs, 207 quarterly LBMs and numerous other SUPs, Fleetbooks, Reviews etc. A new development is an **on-line catalogue/archive** listing all known publications. This gives full details including a cover shot (for most) and shows which items are still available to buy from postal sales. The majority of older titles are naturally long out of stock, so it has been decided to make these available to view on-line and/or download. There is no charge for this, and it is open to all, not just LOTS members. At present, almost 500 issues of TLB are available along with almost 100 SUPs and the first 5 Reviews (1973-1977). More titles will be added over the coming months. To view the archive, go to **www.ltsv.com/lots**, or look for the links on the LOTS website.

From past publications to present ones. The new Fleetbook 2024 and SUP39D were launched last month but I have had comments that some **postal orders** took up to 3 weeks to arrive. Orders are processed (by volunteers) once or twice a week, and most of the time they are turned around very quickly. However, the fact that we aimed to have the new titles ready for a couple of recent events had an un-anticipated consequence, in that those same volunteers were instead needed to help with manning the sales stand. There have also been issues beyond our control, such as with the Royal Mail. For the record, our aim is to always deliver items within 28 days of orders being placed. *More on page 46!*

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 17th June (AGM, *changed from 24th June*), 30th September, 18th November. The September meeting will feature “London Country under deregulation” by Jeff Tucker.

Annual General Meeting: The AGM will take place on Monday 17th June at 6pm at the address shown above. Officer’s Reports will be available from early June and can be obtained by e-mailing lotschairman@yahoo.co.uk or by sending an SAE to the Lombard Road address shown on the previous page. Any nominations for Committee Members should be sent to the LOTS Secretary by 7th June.

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

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. (LSS)

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.

Payments for membership and orders to Postal Sales

You can pay through the banking system if you wish. Our account number is 11725054, sort code 16-32-45. Please just add your name to the paying-in slip and then send us an e-mail to lotsmemsec@gmail.com (for membership) or lotspostalsales@gmail.com (for postal sales) with your name, address and membership number (if known) to tell us what you have subscribed to. Occasionally we receive payments without any idea as to what they were for.

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

If you use the post, please address your orders to LOTS Postal Sales (or LOTS Membership) 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, but please allow up to 28 days for receipt of your order.

A full Sales List is with this TLB and is also on our website. Orders from the Sales List or a letter are perfectly acceptable.

LOTS Postal Sales

An updated Sales List is included with this TLB. Please note that **SUP45A** has now **sold out**.

The newest LOTS items:

- **London Bus and Tram Fleetbook 2024** (£8.50).
- **SUP-39D TfL’s Bus Operators - Fleet Allocations and PVRs** (£5.50). Correct to 6th March 2024.
- **London Bus Magazine No.207 Spring 2024** (£6.00)
- **London Bus Review 2022** (£17.00)

New and recent titles from other publishers:

- ****NEW****: **Routemaster Handbook 2024 edition** by Andrew Morgan. A well-illustrated guide to the many Routemaster buses still extant around the world. 160 pages. Capital Transport. £19.95
 - ****NEW****: **Southdown Fleet History - Part 37: 1970 - Daimlers Return**. 68 pages detailing fleet changes in 1970. Southdown Enthusiasts Club. £7.50
 - ****NEW****: **Buses in the Border towns of London Country - North of the Thames 1969-2019** by Malcolm Batten. A companion to the ‘South of the Thames’ volume published recently. 160 pages. Pen & Sword Books. £28.00
 - ****NEW****: **London Trams and Trolleybuses** by Michael H C Baker and Russell Fell. 159 photos and extended captions on 112 pages. Top Deck Publishing. £13.95
 - 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
 - **Bill and Jim** by Hugh Taylor. About a Wood Green trolleybus crew who allowed a 16 year old schoolboy into their working environment for 8 months in 1961. Adam Gordon Books. £35.00
 - **Garage History File - Barking** by Andrew Woolhouse. Includes a history of all vehicles to operate from Barking Garage since 1948. Woolybus. £19.50.
 - **London Memories** compiled by Russell Fell with images by David G Savage. Contains about 90 photos of buses and trolleybuses from the 1960-1963 period. Transport Treasury Publishing. £12.50
 - **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
-

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** were held on 2nd May. Labour candidate and current Mayor Sadiq Khan won a third term easily with an increased majority and 43.8% of the vote. The Conservative candidate, Susan Hall won 32.7% of the vote. On the London Assembly, Labour remains the largest single party but failed to increase the number of seats it holds, winning 11 out of 25. The Conservatives won 8 seats, losing one to Reform UK. The biggest surprise nationally was Labour winning the West Midlands Mayoralty by just 1,500 votes. Conservatives had been confident that their candidate Andy Street, who had been Mayor for seven years, would win again. There were no elections in **Scotland**, but First Minister Humza Yousaf was forced to resign after his Government lost the support of the Green party, which held the balance of power. He is succeeded by John Swinney, previously Deputy First Minister, as no other candidates stood for election to the role.

London Mayor Sadiq Khan had announced plans for **Superloop 2** if he wins a third term, which would double the number of Superloop routes from ten to twenty, including the Bakerloop service announced last month. Initial plans for proposed routes, subject to consultation are:

- Harrow to Barnet via Edgware
- Barnet to Stratford via Enfield and Chingford
- Leytonstone to 'South Havering', via Gants Hill and Romford
- North Greenwich to Thamesmead via Woolwich
- Bakerloop line - Elephant & Castle to Lewisham via Old Kent Road and New Cross
- Streatham to Eltham via Tulse Hill and Lee
- Richmond to Wimbledon via Roehampton
- Ealing Broadway to Kingston via Great West Road and Richmond.
- Hounslow to Hammersmith via Great West Road
- Hendon to Ealing Broadway via Brent Cross and Hanger Lane

The re-elected London Mayor has pledged to set up a new London Bus Company to bring the Capital's bus routes back into public ownership 'for the first time in 30 years'. London's 675 bus routes were all transferred to private operators by 1994. However, this omits the short lived East Thames Buses operation, wholly owned by TfL between 1999 and 2009, which took over services from Harris Bus, adding routes 42 & 185 from London Easylink in 2002. The Mayor says that once contracts on routes come to an end they would be reviewed to decide whether to bring them under the new public operator. East Thames Buses did not perform well, partly because it was constrained by long standing TfL working practices.

The Labour Party has announced plans to improve bus services outside London if it wins the forthcoming General Election. They involve the introduction of more franchised networks, claiming this would save 1,300 bus routes and generate 250 million more passenger journeys per year compared to 'today's failed system'. Labour says 1.5 billion fewer bus journeys were made in 2019 compared with 1985, the last year before deregulation.

A fresh round of **rail strikes** was announced by ASLEF to take place between 7th and 9th May with different train companies affected each day. There will also be an overtime ban between 6th and 11th May which will result in reduced services during that week. National Express coaches responded by planning to provide 7,500 extra seats on rail strike days to cater for higher demand.

Corporate and company news

Go Ahead owned Metrobus continues to experience hydrogen supply problems at Crawley. The company has 20 Wrightbus GB Kite Hydroliner buses that were launched almost a year ago but so far, no more than ten have been in service at any one time. A further 34 are in build with some funding from Surrey County Council. Another deal with West Sussex County Council, Kent County Council and Gatwick Airport would see 43 more buses including 11 double-deckers with match funding from the Zebra 2 scheme as recorded last month. If the latest order proceeds (which is uncertain) it would give Metrobus a grand total of 97 hydrogen buses.

The Metrobus issue is caused by its inability to receive sufficient quantities of hydrogen. The ultimate plan is to use green hydrogen and infrastructure is in place at Crawley garage to receive it. However, planning consent is needed and that process required Crawley Borough Council to seek advice from the Government's Health and Safety Executive. It took two years for the H&SE to decide that 'the risks to the surrounding population arising from proposed operations are sufficiently high to advise against the granting of Hazardous substances Consent on grounds of Safety'. A school nearby was one of the reasons given for refusal. This made it very difficult for the Council to grant planning consent. Hydrogen power is preferred to battery electric due to the much increased range available. Metrobus routes tend to be long and some serving Gatwick Airport run 24 hours. It remains to be seen what happens next given that Metrobus is committed to hydrogen. Unfortunately, Metrobus is a small player; it would no doubt help if TfL was keen to expand hydrogen operations, but that looks unlikely at present.

Mobico, which owns **National Express**, has reported revenue growth during the year 2023 but recorded a 36% drop in profitability. However pre-tax losses of £98 million compare with £228 million in 2022. Its share price fell by 11% when the results were announced. The UK bus division reported 18% revenue growth and a rebound in passenger numbers as it recovered from strikes.

Other General News

Surrey County Council has announced its intention to expand its Surrey Connect DRT service from September. Having spent £1.2 million on the scheme in 2023-24 it has budgeted to quadruple that amount in 2024-25 now that it has grown from its Mole Valley roots into Cranleigh, Farnham, Longcross, Tandridge and West Guildford. The September expansion, which could include parts of Elmbridge, Reigate & Banstead and Spelthorne, would take annual costs to £8 million and increase the fleet from 12 minibuses to 28. The Council has said it will keep DRT away from areas where there is already an "excellent" local bus service such as Central Guildford, Epsom and Redhill.

I'm grateful to John Bull for alerting me to the position regarding **new trams for Tramlink**. In January TfL issued a formal tender notice to procure 24 new trams. These would directly replace the 24 Bombardier CR4000s dating from 1998/99, apart from 2551 which was withdrawn following the Sandilands incident. There are options to purchase up to a further 16 trams. These could replace the Stadler trams dating from 2012 or could be used to increase capacity. The new trams are expected to be delivered in 2028 when most of the existing fleet would be approaching thirty years old.

While some Central London bus routes are often crowded with visitors, the situation in **Barcelona** has become so critical that one bus route has been deleted from the official maps, including Google and Apple maps. The 116 route has become so popular with visitors to Gaudi's Park Guell that residents in the La Salut neighbourhood have often been unable to board. The attraction is the second most visited attraction in the city after the Sagrada Familia basilica. Not much likelihood of any routes being removed from a TfL bus map as there isn't one! Thanks to Andrew Robertson for forwarding that story from The Guardian.

GREATER LONDON AREA - Route Developments

Section Editor: Stephen Floyd, 4 Turnpike Gardens, Bedford, MK42 0AJ or by e-mail to stevefloyd1959@gmail.com This section covers local TfL bus services within the Greater London County boundary. Fuller detail of any commercial or county services 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 33/N33, 65/N65, 71, 99, 141, 269, 341/=, 371, 401, 697, H22, H37, SL3 and W4 from tranches 884A, 893A, 894, 897, 903, 904, 905 and 907 awarded, starting on 6th July (65/N65, 71, 371 - *see also service changes later*), 7th September (697), 12th October (341/=), 9th November (33/N33), 11th January 2025 (141), 18th January 2025 (99, 269, 401, SL3), 1st February 2025 (W4) and 1st March 2025 (H22, H37).

- 33/N33 Retained by London United using new electric single-deck vehicles (pvr 22 to 18).
- 65/N65 Retained by London United using existing electric double-deck vehicles (pvr 30 to TBC).
Some journeys on N65 will continue to be operated by hybrid double-deck vehicles.
- 71 Retained by London United using existing hybrid double-deck vehicles (pvr 12 to 13).
- 99 Awarded to Go-Ahead London Central using new electric double-deck vehicles. Currently operated by Arriva London North from Dartford (DT) garage (pvr 14).
- 141 Retained by Arriva London North using new electric double-deck vehicles (pvr 28).
- 269 Awarded to Go-Ahead London Central using new electric double-deck vehicles. Currently operated by Arriva London North from Dartford (DT) garage (pvr 13).
- 341/= Retained by Arriva London North using new electric double-deck vehicles (pvr 19).
- 371 Retained by London United using existing electric single-deck vehicles (pvr 13 to 14). 2 workings will continue with double-deck vehicles.
- 401 Awarded to Go-Ahead London Central using new electric double-deck vehicles. Currently operated by Arriva London North from Dartford (DT) garage (pvr 8).
- 697 Awarded to Metroline West using existing fleet diesel double-deck vehicles. Currently operated by London United from Hounslow (AV) garage. (pvr 3).
- H22 Retained by London United using existing diesel single-deck vehicles (pvr 12).
- H37 Retained by London United using existing diesel single-deck vehicles (pvr 13).
- SL3 Retained by Stagecoach Selkent using new electric double-deck vehicles (pvr 15).
- W4 Retained by Arriva London North using existing diesel single-deck vehicles (pvr 14).

Routes 65/N65, 71, 371, 697, H22 and H37 are for 3 years; Route W4 is for 5 years;
Routes 33/N33, 99, 141, 269, 371/=, 401 and SL3 are for 7 years.

Some updates to the tendering programme: The current contract for route 125 will terminate early and be allocated to new Tranche #903B. Route 335 will terminate early and be allocated to Tranche #907A. Route 498 has been awarded a two-year extension and has been removed from Tranche #924. Route 533 is confirmed as having a two-year extension from 17th August and will tie-in with contract expiry of routes 209/378 in August 2026, all of which may depend on whether Hammersmith Bridge is repaired to take buses again!

The 2024/25 tendering programme is now as shown opposite.

Tranche No. and start dates	Routes out on offer (with current operators)	2-year extensions previously granted
#879B (02/25)	Silvertown cycle bus (New Route)	--
#884A (06/24)	K5 (London United)	--
#893A (09-11/24)	49, (London United), 398, H9/H10 (London Sovereign)	--
#893B (09-11/24)	290 (London United)	--
#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)	--
#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
#902A (01/25)	273 (S'ch Selkent)	--
#903 (01-02/25)	121, 329 (Arriva LN), 153 (GA London General)	--
#903A (02/25)	298, W9 (Sullivan)	--
#903B (01/25)	125 (London Sovereign)	--
#904 (01-03/25)	41/=, W6 (Arriva LN), 657 (GA London General)	29/N29
#904A (02/25)	299/389/399 (Sullivan)	--
#905 (01-02/25)	233 (GA Metrobus), 422, B14 (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, H98 (London United), H28 (Transport UK)	--
#907A (02/25)	335 (Arriva LN)	--
#908 (03/25)	282 (Metroline West), 482 (Transport UK)	--
#909 (03/25)	161, 181, 284 (S'ch Selkent), 225 (GA London Central), 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), 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 October 2025, is now as follows:-

Tranche No. and start dates	Routes out on offer (with current operators)	2-year extensions 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), 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), 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), 425, 499 (S'ch East London) ...	498
#925 (06/25)	105/=, K1, K2, K3 (London United), 285/= (Transport UK) .	--
#926 (6-7/25)	326 (London Sovereign), 331 (Metroline West), 460 (Metroline Travel)	--
#927 (7-8/25)	N5 (London Sovereign), N20 (Metroline Travel) 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)	--
#931 (8-10/25)	224 (London United), H12 (London Sovereign)	--
#932 (09/25)	D6, D8 (S'ch East London)	--
#933 (09/25)	202, 319 (Arriva LS)	--
#934 (09/25)	246, 356 (S'ch Selkent), 352, 354 (GA Metrobus)	--
#935 (9-10/25)	165, 179, 193, 252, 256, 365, 385 (S'ch East London), 347 (Arriva LN)	--

ROUTE AND SERVICE CHANGES

PVR notes: Readers may have noticed the new symbol ‘^’ introduced last month to update PVR notes. This is to show that day routes will have ‘crosslinks’ to and from their 24-hour route equivalents or N routes. Many operators also use the same running number sequences. Full notes and explanations are in the latest SUP39D, and all PVR changes from 9th March update this.

Saturday 9th March 2024: As in TLB716.

Saturday 16th March 2024: As in TLB716.

Saturday 23rd March 2024: As in TLB716.

Easter Holiday 29th March to 1st April 2024: As in TLB716.

Good Friday 29th March to Wednesday 24th April 2024: As in TLB716.

Saturday 30th March 2024: As in TLB716.

Saturday 6th April 2024:

- 273 (Stagecoach Selkent-TL) (Lewisham, Tesco & Petts Wood Station) The re-routing was deferred. *(The information was from London Buses, possibly in error, but it is still intended to re-route, subject to consultation or safety issues with parked vehicles.)*
- 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, initially using existing diesel single-deck vehicles 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.

PVR changes from 6th April 2024:

London United: S3 withdrawn;

Metroline Travel: 384 to 9/8/5 #PB151+;

Transport UK: S3 to 8/8/- #BC91+.

Saturday 13th April 2024:

Widened schedules on K1 and K2 for Tolworth and Kingston restored to normal.

- 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. Sunday daytime and 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.
- 649 (*Go-Ahead Blue Triangle-DS*) (Romford, North Street Garage & County Park, Campion School SDO) The late journey from Campion School is withdrawn.
- 651 (*Go-Ahead Blue Triangle-DS*) (Romford Station & North Romford, Chase Cross SDO) Afternoon journey revised to depart 5 minutes later at 15:00.
- 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. Revised timetable for reliability.
- E3 (*London United-V*) (Greenford Broadway & Chiswick, Edensor Road) Revised daily timetables for running time. (*New contract schedules introduced early - see 1st June later*).

PVR changes from 13th April 2024:

Arriva London South: 250 to 22+/-/13 #TH161+ (+1/689) ^N250, 689 to 1*+/-/- #TH689 (*250);

Go-Ahead Blue Triangle: 649 to 3*+/-/- #DS644+ (*2/650), (+1/650), (+1/651),

651 to 1*+/-/- #DS641 (*649), (+1/650);

London United: No change to E3 PVRs;

Metroline Travel: 306 withdrawn;

Transport UK: 306 to 10/10/7 #QB101+, no change to 195 PVRs.

Sunday 21st April 2024: (*apologies for missing this in the April TLB, so for the record...*)

The London Marathon was on this date so the usual extensive road closures and diversions for South-East, East and Central London until roads were progressively re-opened from late afternoon.

Saturday 27th April 2024:

Widened schedules for route 44, 77, 88/= for Chelsea Flower Show. Also, route H25 started serving Feltham Station on Hounslow Road, after previously passing the existing stops served by 285/= and 490. Thanks to member Colin for this.

- 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, initially using existing DEL-class AD E20D Enviro200 diesel single-deck and a VMH-class Volvo B5LH MCV Evoseti hybrid double-deck vehicle 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 TLB715 and the 'Forthcoming changes' section of SUP39D, which both showed the route 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. Converted to a mix of existing SE-class AD E20D Enviro200 diesel and new SEe-class BYD D9UR Enviro200EV electric single-deck vehicles. (*Updating TLB715 and SUP39D, both of which showed the route as being re-allocated to River Road (RR) garage.*)
-

Saturday 27th April 2024 continued

- 394 (*Stagecoach East London-HK*) (Homerton Hospital & Islington, Tolpuddle Street) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing AD E20D Enviro200 diesel single-deck vehicles.
- 482 (*Transport UK-DH*) (Southall, Town Hall & Heathrow Terminal 5) Re-allocated from Hayes (DH) to Southall (GW) garage.
- D3 (*Go-Ahead Docklands-SI*) (Bethnal Green, Bonner Road & Leamouth, Orchard Place) Revised daily timetables for reliability.
- P4 (Brixton Station & Lewisham, Town Centre) LBSL (QC) contract awarded to Go-Ahead London Central from New Cross (NX) garage, using existing fleet SE-class AD E20D Enviro200 diesel single-deck vehicles. Previously operated by *Stagecoach Selkent* from Catford (TL) garage using AD E20D Enviro200(MMC) diesel single-deck vehicles.

PVR changes from 27th April 2024, also to note:-

Further to the restoration of routes 1 and 253 to normal working following the Eversholt Street closure, (*see diversions, later*) these also had normal PVRs restored, thus updating SUP39D:

Arrival London North: 253 to 20/19/15 #CT51+ ^N253;

Go-Ahead Blue Triangle: 366 to 18/18/12 #RR251+, 376 to 10/10/4 #DS21+;

Go-Ahead Docklands: 376 to Blue Triangle, D3 to 9/9/7 #SI1+;

Go-Ahead London Central: 1 to 23/22/15 #Q41+ ^N1, P4 to 13/13/12 #NX31+;

London United: No change to 110 PVRs;

Metroline West: No change to 206 PVRs;

Stagecoach East London: No change to 394 PVRs;

Stagecoach Lea Interchange: 236 to 14/14/12 #LI521+;

Stagecoach Selkent: P4 withdrawn;

Transport UK: 482 to 8/9/6 #GW341+.

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

Saturday 4th May 2024:

Widening withdrawn from routes 14/=, 22, 23/=, 74, 452 for Hyde Park Corner works, and for route 226. Widened timetables for 483 for Uxbridge Road roadworks.

- 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 fleet 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.
- 135 (*Stagecoach Lea Interchange-LI*) (Old Street Station & Crossharbour, ASDA) Revised daily timetables for reliability.
- 148/= (*London United-S*) (Camberwell Green & White City, Bus Station) Revised daily and nightly timetables for reliability.

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

Saturday 11th May 2024:

Widened timetables for routes 16, 98, 120, 206, 316, 328, 427 and 632 for roadworks in Kilburn High Road and Southall, with routes 110, 419 and E9 restored to normal.

Saturday 11th May 2024 continued

- 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 fleet 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.
- 485 (*Go-Ahead London General-AL*) (Wandsworth, High Street & Hammersmith Bridge, South Side) Summer service with later evening journeys via Barnes, Wetlands Centre introduced.

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:

Widening withdrawn from routes 6/=, 52 and 390/= for Hyde Park Corner works.

- 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 fleet 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.

Saturday 8th June 2024:

- 639 (Roehampton, Danebury Avenue & St. John Bosco College via Southfields SDO) and
- 670 (Roehampton, Danebury Avenue & St. John Bosco College via West Hill SDO) LBSL (QX) contract awarded to Transport UK from Battersea (QB) garage (639) or Fulwell (TF) garage (670) using existing fleet AD40H Enviro400H hybrid double-deck vehicles. Currently operated by *London United* from Tolworth (TV) garage using VH-class Volvo B5LH Wrightbus Gemini 3 hybrid double-deck vehicles.
-

Saturday 22nd June 2024:

- 120 (*Metroline Travel-SG*) (Hounslow, Bus Station & Northolt Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing VWH-class Volvo B5LH Wrightbus Gemini 3 hybrid double-deck vehicles. Daily early morning frequency increased from x30 to x20 mins and daily late evening frequency increased from x15 to x12 mins.
- 143 (*Metroline Travel-W*) (Archway Station & Brent Cross Shopping Centre) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using new Wright GB Kite Electroliner electric single-deck vehicles in due course.
- 260 (*Metroline Travel-AC*) (White City, Bus Station & Golders Green Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing VWH-class Volvo B5LH Wrightbus Gemini 3 hybrid double-deck vehicles.
- 302 (*Metroline Travel-AC*) (Mill Hill Broadway Station & Kensal Rise Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing VWH-class Volvo B5LH Wrightbus Gemini 3 hybrid double-deck vehicles. Daily early morning frequency increased with earlier start times.
- R68 (*Transport UK-TF*) (Hampton Court Station & Kew, Retail Park) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing AD20D Enviro200 (MMC) diesel single-deck vehicles.
- R70 (*Transport UK-TF*) (Manor Circus, Homebase & Nurserylands) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using new Wright GB Kite Electroliner electric single-deck vehicles, some of which have already entered service.

Saturday 29th June 2024:

- 77 (*Go-Ahead London General-SW*) (Tooting Station & Waterloo, Concert Hall Approach) Re-routed at County Hall via Station Approach Road to terminate at Waterloo Station, departing via Cab Road and York Road. This is the final part of the Central London review, details of which were published in TLB700 (*Dec 2022*).
- 211 (Hammersmith, Bus Station & Waterloo Station) LBSL (QC) contract awarded to Transport UK from Battersea (QB) garage using existing LT-class new Routemaster vehicles. Currently operated by *London United* from Stamford Brook (V) garage using LT-class new Routemaster vehicles. Withdrawn between Sloane Square and Waterloo and re-routed via Lower Sloane Street, Chelsea Bridge, Queenstown Road, Battersea Park Road to terminate at Battersea Power Station (LUL). This is the final part of the Central London review (see also route 77 above)
- 328 (*Metroline Travel-W*) (Golders Green Station & Chelsea, World's End) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing VWH-class Volvo B5LH Wrightbus Gemini 3 hybrid double-deck vehicles.
- 406 (*London United-TV*) (Kingston, Cromwell Road Bus Station & Epsom, Town Centre, via Ewell, SDO jnys extended to Epsom General Hospital) and
- 418 (*London United-TV*) (Kingston, Cromwell Road Bus Station & Epsom, Town Centre, via West Ewell) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing VH-class Volvo B5LH Wrightbus Gemini 3 hybrid double-deck vehicles.
- 465 (Kingston, Cromwell Road Bus Station & Dorking, Townfield Court) LBSL (QC) contract awarded to Transport UK from Fulwell (TF) garage using existing fleet AD20 Enviro200 (MMC) diesel single-deck vehicles. Currently operated by *London United* from Tolworth (TV) garage using DLE-class AD E20D Enviro200 (MMC) diesel single-deck vehicles.
- C1 (*London United-S*) (Victoria Station & White City, Bus Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing BE-class BYD D8UR Enviro200EV electric single-deck vehicles.

Saturday 6th July 2024:

- 65 (*London United-FW*) (Ealing Broadway Station & Kingston, Brook Street) and
 - N65 (*London United-FW*) (Ealing Broadway Station & Chessington, World of Adventures) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing BCE-class BYD D8UR Enviro400EV electric double-deck vehicles. As noted in Tender news, the PVR is still to be confirmed, suggesting a frequency change. Further details when known.
-

Saturday 6th July 2024 continued

- 71 (*London United-FW*) (Kingston, Cromwell Road Bus Station & Chessington, World of Adventures) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing VH-class Volvo B5LH Wrightbus Gemini 3 hybrid double-deck vehicles.
- 281/= (*London United-FW*) (Hounslow, Bus Station & Tolworth, Ewell Road) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing BCE-class BYD D8UR Enviro400EV electric double-deck vehicles.
- 371 (*London United-FW*) (Manor Circus, Sainsbury's & Kingston, Kingston Hall Road) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing BE-class BYD D8UR Enviro200EV electric single-deck vehicles. 2 journeys on Mon-Fri peaks continue with double-deck vehicles, these may be a mix of ADE-class AD40D Enviro400D diesel or VH-class Volvo B5LH Wrightbus Gemini 3 hybrid double-deck vehicles for charging reasons.
- 681 (*London United-FW*) (Hounslow, Bus Station & Tolworth, Ewell Road) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing VH-class Volvo B5LH Wrightbus Gemini 3 hybrid double-deck vehicles.

SERVICE PROPOSALS

No new announcements this month.

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.

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!

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, using 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.

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).

<u>17th Aug 24:</u>	CE2 on 533 (G-A London General), CR7 on 243/=* (Arriva LN), W7* (Metroline Travel).
<u>24th Aug 24:</u>	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).
<u>31st Aug 24:</u>	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).
<u>7th Sep 24:</u>	CR3 on 117 (London United), 395 (London Sovereign), 697 (London United to Metroline West), 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).
<u>14th Sep 24:</u>	CR3 on 222/= (Metroline West).
<u>21st Sep 24:</u>	CR7 on 210* (Metroline Travel).
<u>28th Sep 24:</u>	CR6 on 411 (London United), CR7 on 4* (Metroline Travel), 131* (G-A London General).
<u>5th Oct 24:</u>	CR3 on 201 (Transport UK), 661 (S'ch Selkent).
<u>12th Oct 24:</u>	CR3 on 150, 175 (Arriva LN), CR6 on 103 (Arriva LN), CR7 on 257* (S'ch East London), 341/=* (Arriva LN).
<u>19th Oct 24:</u>	CR7 on 22/N22* (G-A London General).
<u>26th Oct 24:</u>	CR7 on U1*, U2*, U3* U4* (Metroline West).
<u>2nd Nov 24:</u>	CR6 on 370 (Arriva LN), 627 (Arriva LS).
<u>9th Nov 24:</u>	CR3 on 192 (Arriva LN), 419 (London United), CR5 on 176/= (G-A London Central), CR7 on 33/N33* (London United), 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 141* (Arriva LN), 323 (S'ch East London).
<u>18th Jan 25:</u>	CR7 on 99*, 269*, 401* (Arriva LN to G-A London Central), SL3* (S'ch Selkent).
<u>1st Feb 25:</u>	CE2 on 109/N109 (Transport UK), CR5 on 343/N343 (G-A London Central), W4 (Arriva LN).
<u>8th Feb 25:</u>	CR5 on 36 (G-A London Central).
<u>1st Mar 25:</u>	CR3 on H22, H37 (London United).
<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

Go-Ahead London General have applied for new services as special event services connecting various hotels for the Champions League Finals for 31st May to 2nd June 2024 only. Various routes, given the numbers 855A/B/C and 856, connecting Park Plaza hotels at Riverside, Waterloo and Westminster, Art'Otel, Battersea, Leonardo Royal London, Sea Containers with Wembley Stadium at frequent intervals towards Wembley and return. However, there is no indication of vehicle types and is presumably intended for private groups.

DIVERSIONS, DEVIATIONS AND DISRUPTIONS

Central: The Eversholt Street diversions were extended to 30th April, although “normal” PVRs on routes 1 and 253 had already been restored a few days earlier on 27th April. From 8th April to 31st May, owing to road works in Stanhope Gardens, South Kensington, route **49** is diverted southbound via Cromwell Road and Queensberry Place.

South-East: From 2nd April to 18th November, owing to road and construction works in Tudway Road, Kidbrooke routes **178, 335 and B16** are diverted from Ryan Close via Ottley Drive to Tudway Road. From 2nd to 14th April, owing to gas works in Wickham Way, Park Langley, routes **162, 352, 358 and SL5** were diverted in both directions via Brabourne Rise, Hayes Lane (352), Scotts Lane, Oakwood Avenue and Overbury Avenue. Route **N3** diverted in both directions via Shortlands Road and Bromley Road. From 25th April to 9th May, owing to a water leak followed by gas repairs in Court Road, Mottingham, routes **126, 161 and 624** were diverted in both directions via Eltham Hill, Westhorpe Avenue and Sidcup Road. Route **124** was also diverted in both directions from Kingsground via Middle Park Avenue (north arm), Westhorpe Avenue and Sidcup Road. Thanks to member Graham for the report. From 4th to 30th April, owing to cosmetic works in Loop Road, Chislehurst, routes **61, 160 and 162** were diverted southbound via Heathfield Lane. Route **R7** was diverted towards Chelsfield via Heathfield Lane, Centre Common Road and Bromley Road. From 22nd April to 20th May, owing to cosmetic works in Farnaby Road, Ravensbourne, route **354** is diverted in both directions via Ravensbourne Avenue and Beckenham Lane. After several appearances under diversions last year, from 2nd April to 10th May, this time owing to gas works in Cudham Lane North, routes **R5 and R10** were once again unable to serve the area and were once again diverted via Pratt's Bottom. Route **464** was restored to Tatsfield from 30th April so the supplementary minibus service operated by Go-Coach ceased. (*see TLB 714.*)

South: From 22nd April to 14th July, London Road, Mitcham is closed at the junction of Bond Road for gas main replacement. Routes **127, 152, 201, 264/=, 270, 280, 355, S1 and N44** are diverted northbound via Raleigh Gardens (127, 201, 280, S1, N44), Upper Green Way, Upper Green East, Commonsides East, Cedars Avenue, Tamworth Lane, Eastfield Road and Locks Lane. Thanks to member Robert who wondered if the level crossing at Mitcham Eastfields will cope! Further to the note about the **466** diversion in TLB716, the works extended to 19th April. There is a possibility that the works may resume in the summer holidays so that SDO journeys on routes **60 and 466** to Oasis Academy, Coulsdon are not disrupted. Thanks to members Ian and Martin for the update. From 21st April to 10th May, owing to a water leak, followed by footpath resurfacing in Poplar Walk, West Croydon, routes **64/=, 109/N109, 198, 250/N250 and 289** were diverted southbound via St James's Road, Hogarth Crescent, Whitehorse Road, St James's Road, Newgate and Wellesley Road. Thanks to members Peter and Martin for the updates. From 29th March to 20th April, owing to gas works in College Road, Epsom, route **166** was diverted in both directions via Church Street, Downs Road and Grandstand Road. Thanks to member Martin for the update.

South-West: From 15th to 29th April, owing to road works in Bell Road, Hounslow, routes **81, 120, 203, 222/=, H32, H98 and N9** were diverted westbound via Grove Road, Staines Road and Hospital Road, (120 also via Bath Road). Routes **E8, H20 and H22** were curtailed at Grove Road.

West: From 20th April to 2nd May, owing to telecommunications works on Stockley Road and Lavender Rise, Stockley Estate, route **U5** was diverted in both directions via Station Road, Sipson Road, Cherry Lane and Stockley Road. Thanks to member Chris for this report, who adds route **U3** was also diverted overnight on 29th April northbound from Yiewsley via 222 to Cowley, Station Road then via route U5. From 22nd April to 6th May, owing to cosmetic works in Spencer Road, Chiswick, route **272** was diverted northbound from Bolton Road via Cavendish Road, Hartington Road and Grove Park Road.

North-West: Further to TLB716, the route **395** diversion at Northolt was extended once more to 31st May.

North: From 8th April to 6th September, owing to water main replacement works in Inverforth Road, New Southgate, route **382** is diverted in both directions via Friern Barnet Road and Bowes Road.

From 22nd April to 3rd May, owing to telecommunications works in Albion Road, Stoke Newington, routes **73/N73** were diverted in both directions via Stoke Newington Church Street (west) and Green Lanes.

North-East: On 30th April there was a tragic fatal stabbing in Hainault with New North Road and the station closed until late evening on 1st May for forensic investigation, with 2 buses stopped in the police cordon. Routes **150, 247 and N8** were diverted in both directions via Fencepiece Road, Manor Road and Manford Way.

East: Further to TLB716 about the fire at Forest Gate Police Station, the building remained unsafe, so the diversion was extended to 19th April. Thanks to my contact David who appreciated 35 buses per hour for the duration!

COUNTRY AREAS - Route Developments

Section Editor: Phil Miller, 63 Oakleigh Drive, Croxley Green, Herts WD3 3EE or by email to 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

Sunday 2nd June

Vectare changes in Essex. Further details on all these next time as full info is not yet available. 22/A renumbered 16/A (no other changes); 66A (Suns) renumbered 16C and rerouted in Upshire (NB this might start 1st June but the other Sunday changes all seem to be from 8th!); 18 extended from St Margarets Hosp to Epping Stn/ Suns to Loughton replacing withdrawn 418B; 420/A Harlow & Ongar replaced by new 20/21/22/22B; new 28 Harlow town circular.

Also on this date, changes on Arriva KT 724- see Herts section.

HERTFORDSHIRE and Southern BEDFORDSHIRE

Sunday 14th April

20, 302, 320, 322, 328, B3 all as in TLB715 and TLB716.

361 (*Red Eagle, St Albans & Well End, M-S exc. late evgs; also M-F pks to New Greens & Garston*). Further to TLB716, in Bricket Wood now runs both ways via West Riding, South Riding, Oak Ave, Hunters Ride ex the terminal loop via West Riding, Mount Pleasant Lane, Hunters Ride, Oak Ave, South Riding.

Tuesday 7th May

50 (*Red Rose, Aylesbury & Halton Camp, M-S exc. evgs*) See Bucks section.

Monday 27th May

50 (*Vale Travel, Aylesbury & Ivinghoe, Sunday daytimes*) See Bucks section.

Sunday 2nd June

Changes to Carousel 1/A/B/S - see Bucks section, and Vectare 16/A/C, 22/A, 66A - see Essex section. NB new timetables are generally not yet available so some details will have to wait for TLB718.

84 (*Sullivan, St Albans & Potters Bar, daily; school journeys to/ from St Albans Girls School or New Greens Townsend School*) Timetable changes for punctuality of school journeys.

97 (*Arriva KT, Hitchin & Stotfold, daily exc. evgs*) Increased frequency M-F am peaks, and an extra journey added early evenings (whether daily is unclear) from Hitchin to Stotfold.

Sunday 2nd June continued

- 100 (*Arriva KT, Stevenage & Luton Interchange via airport, daily exc. evgs*) Recast in Luton to run from Stopsley roundabout via Hitchin Road direct to Luton Interchange, then a long one-way loop via Crawley Green Road and existing route Wigmore Lane, Eaton Green Road, Frank Lester Way, Percival Way, double-run via Airport Approach Road to Luton Airport Bus Station, Airport Way, Kimpton Rd and Luton busway back to the Interchange and return to Stevenage via Hitchin Rd. The short double-run on M-S via Butterfield Business Park just north of Stopsley, currently on the 101 route, is taken over by the 100. Existing awkward x40 headway (x20 on combined stretches with 101) increased to x30 (x15 with the 101/ new 102) although details will have to wait until TLB718.
- 101 (*Arriva KT, Stevenage & Luton Interchange, daily*) Rerouted via Little Wymondley by-pass instead of serving the village via Stevenage Rd. Butterfield Business Park double-run withdrawn (see 100). The double-run to Lilley may also be withdrawn (not yet clear). Like the 100, the M-S except evgs frequency increased from x40 to x30; also increased evenings from x120 to x60.
- 102 (*Arriva KT*). New route, a variation of the 100/ 101 group. Mon-Sat peaks, Stevenage Bus Stn & Luton Interchange presumably via the 101 routeing, “serving Lilley” which implies the 101 will no longer do so, but we will see!
- 301 (*Arriva KT, Stevenage & St Albans, daily*) Minor timetable changes for punctuality.
- 306 (*Sullivan, Watford & Borehamwood Tesco, daily exc. Sun evgs*) Minor timetable changes M-F. Frequency increased on Sundays from x120 to x60.
- 321 (*Arriva the Shires, Luton & Watford, extended exc. M-F peaks, Sat early am and M-S evenings to Watford Gen. Hospital (car park), daily*) Revised timetable for punctuality. “Most” journeys to serve Watford Gen. Hospital- confirmation of details in TLB718.
- 328 (*Arriva KT, Mount Vernon Hosp & Abbots Langley, M-S exc. evgs*) Withdrawn.
- 721 (*Arriva the Shires, Luton & Hemel Hempstead, M-F exc. evgs*) Revised timetable for punctuality.
- 724 (*Arriva KT, Harlow & Heathrow Airport, 24/7*) Additional M-F morning journeys between Harlow and Hertford. Additional stop added in Watford on Rickmansworth Rd at Shepherds Rd (belated replacement for changes to 336 in November 2023).
- 725 (*Arriva KT, Stevenage Lister Hosp & Rickmansworth, M-S except late evgs*) Timetable changes for reliability during M-F peaks. Additional stops added in Watford on Rickmansworth Rd at Shepherds Rd (as above re 724) and at Chelwood Ave in Birchfield (Hatfield), the latter requiring a double-run from the A1/ A1001 roundabout onto Birchwood Ave.
- SB1 (*Arriva KT, Stevenage Bus Stn & Chells Manor, daily; extended exc. evgs to Poplars; M-F peak journeys extended to Gunnels Wood Rd south*). The peak hour Gunnels Wood Rd journeys withdrawn, terminating at/ starting from Bus Stn instead as per main service. These morning journeys currently omit the Bus Station.
- SB7 (*Arriva KT, Stevenage Bus Stn & Great Ashby, daily*) Minor timetable changes on Sundays.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE, SLOUGH AND WINDSOR

Slightly out of area, so just to note briefly that from Monday 22nd April Red Rose commenced a new 121 between Thame & Haddenham, Mon-Sat except evenings, running x60.

Sunday 28th April

- 7 (*First Beeline, Britwell (Kennedy Park) & Heathrow Airport T5, daily, one night journey extends to/ from Heathrow Central*) The existing clockwise terminal loop in Britwell abandoned, with inbound buses to run as per outbound buses, i.e. from Long Readings Lane via Monksfield Way, Doddsfield Rd and Wentworth Ave instead of via Long Furling Drive. Revised timetable for punctuality. Evening frequencies reduced from roughly x30 to x60, and service now pauses between approx. 2300 hrs and 0300 hrs when previously it ran hourly at that time.
- A4 (*First Beeline, Cippenham & Heathrow Central, 24/7*) Revised timetable for punctuality. All buses now run through, whereas previously some evening and night journeys did not.
-

Tuesday 7th May

50 (*Red Rose, Aylesbury & RAF Halton, M-S exc. Evgs*). Minor timetable reductions M-F in the late pm peak. No change to Vale Travel's Sunday service, but see 27th May.

Also from this date, changes to routes and times of the M-S offpeak Risborough Area Community Bus.

Sunday 19th May

Arriva and Carousel changes in High Wycombe.

- 2 (*Arriva the Shires, High Wycombe & Booker Asda, daily exc. Sun evgs*) Frequency reduced M-F daytimes from x15 to x20, and Saturday daytimes from x20 to x30. No change evenings/ Suns.
 - 4 (*AtS, High Wycombe & Lane End, M-S exc. evgs*) Withdrawn. Partly replaced by new Carousel 4 but no replacement along Lane End Rd which is left without a bus service.
 - 4 (*Carousel Buses*) New route. Mon-Sat except evenings, x30, from High Wycombe Bus Stn via current route X8 Marlow Hill to Coachway Park & Ride, double-run back along Marlow Hill to Marlow Rd then current route 8 through Cressex (Desborough Ave, Lancaster Rd, Coronation Rd), Asda, Holmers Farm Way and current 28/A Cressex Rd, Clay La, Marlow Rd to Lane End terminating in a one-way loop via Simmons Way, Widdenton View, Archers Way, Park La, The Row and High St back to Marlow Rd. Also runs early M-F early evgs HW Bus Stn & Coachway. Worth noting that this route 4 bears no real resemblance to the withdrawn Arriva 4 other than connecting Lane End to High Wycombe; and that the 8/X8 had mostly been x20.
 - 5 (*AtS, High Wycombe & Bourne End, daily exc. evgs*) Withdrawn. Partly replaced daily (not just M-S) by route 7, indeed the 7 finishes slightly later in the evenings.
 - 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 an 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. Introduced on Sundays except evgs, x60, between High Wycombe and Bourne End Station only (thus partly replacing the 5 daily rather than just M-S as originally stated).
 - 7A (*AtS*) New route, SDO, High Wycombe Bus Stn via current 7 London Rd, Loudwater, Station Rd, Bourne Academy to Bourne End Stn. This way am, return pm. (NB might end up as 5A! Confirmation in TLB718).
 - 8 (*Carousel, High Wycome & Coachway via Cressex, M-S mornings southbound/ afternoons & early evgs northbound*) Withdrawn (replaced by new route 4).
 - 10 (*AtS, High Wycombe & Downley, M-S except late evgs and Suns except evgs*) Mon-Sat daytime frequency reduced from x20 to x30. No change to the hourly evening service.
 - 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, and Saturday daytimes from x20 to x30. The evening journeys via St Hugh's Ave and Hicks Farm Rise rerouted southbound via Micklefield Road (no change northbound).
 - 13 (*AtS, High Wycombe & Totteridge, daily except Sun evgs*) Minor timetable changes.
 - 28/A (*Carousel, Cadmore End & High Wycombe, M-F 3 rtn jnys*) Withdrawn. Replaced by new Carousel route 4 between High Wycombe and Lane End, but Cadmore End, Studley Green and Wheeler End are left unserved.
 - 800/850 (*AtS, High Wycombe & Reading, daily exc. Sun evgs*) Minor timetable changes.
 - X7 (*AtS, Aylesbury & Oxford, daily*) Minor timetable changes.
 - X8 (*AtS, Thame & Oxford, M-S exc evgs*) Withdrawn.
 - X8 (*Carousel, High Wycome & Coachway, M-S mornings northbound/ afternoons & early evgs southbound*) Withdrawn (replaced by new route 4).
-

Sunday 19th May continued

- X9 (*AtS, High Wycombe & Aylesbury via Naphill, daily exc. Sun evgs*) Frequency reduced M-S daytimes from x20 to x30 though with a long (roughly 90-min) gap in the late am peak service.
- X90 (*AtS, High Wycome & Aylesbury via Bradenham, M-F a.m. peaks, plus some M-S northbound evening journeys and one M-F northbound afternoon journey*) Southbound am peak service reduced from four through journeys plus a short from Princes Risborough to three through journeys only. The afternoon journey withdrawn (i.e. subsumed into the X9 timetable), and evenings reduced from three journeys to two. See also sister route X9.

Monday 27th May

- 50 (*Vale Travel, Aylesbury & Marsworth, three Sunday daytime journeys*) Withdrawn. No change to Red Rose's M-S service.

Sunday 2nd June

- 1 (*Carousel, High Wycombe & Hemel Hempstead, Mon-Sat exc. Evgs & one early am Sun jny*) Introduced on Sundays except evgs, thus increasing the joint frequency with 1A on common stretch from x60 to x30. Replaces 1A on Suns between Chesham and Hemel Hempstead.
- 1A (*Carousel, High Wycombe & Chesham (Pond Park), daily exc. Sun evgs; ext Sun daytimes to Hemel Hempstead*) An extra late evening journey added Mon-Sat between High Wycombe and Holmer Green. Withdrawn on Sundays between Chesham (Pond Park) and Hemel Hempstead.
- 1B (*Carousel, High Wycombe & Chesham (Pond Park) via Winchmore Hill, M-S exc evgs*) Minor timetable changes.
- 1S (*Carousel, High Wycombe & Chesham (Pond Park), SDO*) Minor timetable changes. The pm westbound journey withdrawn (will run as a 1B instead- as it already does in school holidays).
- 41 (*Carousel, High Wycombe & Amersham, Mon-Sat exc evgs*) Revised timetable.
- 41S (*Carousel*) New route. SDO, one northbound am jny, return pm. High Wycombe Bus Stn via 41 to Hazlemere then Holmer End, Little Kingshill, Great Kingshill then via 41 to Great Missenden, then South Heath, Hyde Heath to Amersham Stn, then continuing to/ starting from Little Chalfont (Dr Challoner's School) as a 106, via White Lion Road.
- 101 (*Carousel, High Wycombe & Beaconsfield Stn, daily exc. evgs, extended M-S to Uxbridge*) Withdrawn. Replaced by increased 102.
- 102 (*Carousel, High Wycombe & Heathrow Central, daily*) Increased from x60 to x30 daily except evenings, thus absorbing existing 101 journeys. Rebranded as Flightline 102.
- 103 (*Carousel, High Wycombe & Windsor, M-S exc. late evgs*) Later evening journeys added M-S.
- 104 (*Carousel, High Wycombe & Uxbridge, M-S exc. late evgs*) Minor timetable changes.
- 106 (*Carousel, Chesham Bdy & Slough Bus Stn, M-S exc.evgs*) Minor timetable changes.
- 107 (*Carousel, Amersham Stn & Slough Bus Stn, M-S exc.evgs*) Minor timetable changes.
- 180 (*Carousel, Little Kingshill & Dr Challoners School, SDO*) Withdrawn. Mostly replaced by 41S.
- 577 (*Carousel, Hazlemere & Beaconsfield Waitrose, M-F peaks & early evenings; sch jnys ext to Beaconsfield High School*) Minor timetable changes.
- X103 (*Carousel*) New route. Sundays except evgs. High Wycombe Bus Stn & Slough (Wellington St) via M-S route 103 except runs directly in Beaconsfield via London Rd instead of via Maxwell Rd and Wilton Park.

For completeness, Carousel's out-of-area 275 (High Wycombe & Oxford) is withdrawn between Chinnor and High Wycombe except for the first westbound and last eastbound journey of the day; these are the ones that go via Stokenchurch instead of Chinnor.

SURREY and northern parts of WEST SUSSEX

Monday 29th April

461 (*Falcon, Kingston & Addlestone Tesco*) Frequency increased M-S except evgs from x30 to x20 (no change evgs or Suns, still x60).

Saturday 4th May

442, X442 as in TLB716. The extra weekend journeys plug some hour-long gaps in the previous timetable, so that a x30 service is maintained throughout the day.

Saturday 11th May

400 (*Metrobus, Caterham & East Grinstead Stone Quarry Estate, daily exc. evgs*) Introduced M-S early-mid evgs, x60. Frequency increased on Sundays from x120 to x60.

420 (*Metrobus, Sutton & Redhill daily exc. Evgs; extended M-S daytimes, early Sat am and Sundays to Whitebushes, further early Sat am and Sundays to Gatwick Airport South Terminal, and further Sundays to Crawley Bus Stn*). Minor timetable changes, including better interlinking with 400 on Sundays.

430, 435 (*Metrobus, Merstham & Reigate daily, extended evgs & Suns to Whitebushes*) Withdrawn M-S evenings between Reigate and Whitebushes (still to Whitebushes on Sundays).

460 (*Metrobus, Epsom Clock Tower & Crawley, daily except evgs*) Introduced M-S evgs, x60, replacing 480 at these times and also the Reigate - Whitebushes link on 430/ 435 albeit via a different route. Minor timetable changes at other times with better interlinking with 400 on Suns.

480 (*Metrobus, Epsom Clock Tower & Preston Headley Drive, daily except early mornings and Sunday evenings*) M-S evening service withdrawn (replaced by 460).

North and West KENT

Nothing to report this month.

PUBLICITY NEWS

Section Editor: Andrew Webb, 11 Tentelow Lane, Southall, Middlesex, UB2 4LQ or by e-mail to andrew_d_webb@hotmail.com (note the two underscores).

Docklands Light Railway's "**Saturday 13 and Sunday 14 April 2024 DLR planned closure**" covered extensive engineering work which suspended train services on the lines linking Bank and Tower Hill with Canning Town and Lewisham as well as the service to Stratford via Pudding Mill Lane. The landscape format A5 sheet has a network map on the front with the closed lines shown in red, accompanied by a red cross through the closed stations. On the reverse are three line diagrams for each of the replacement bus services.

The opportunity to ride on heritage buses between Kingston and Redhill is promoted on "**Route 406 heritage day Sunday 9 June**", a single sided A5 flyer from the London Bus Museum. Illustrated with a suitable blinded drawing of RM2, it has a simple line diagram and brief narrative alongside. A drawing featuring RF600 and RMC1510 can be found on "**Summer Festival**", another single sided A5 sheet advertising the event at the Brooklands Museum two weeks later on 23rd June. A flash in the top left corner reads 'remembering the Windrush Generation' which will be one of the themes of this event.

The Routemaster Association have published "**RM70**" to advertise the two-day event at the former Chiswick Works on 20th/21st July. The double sided A5 sheet includes a photo of pioneer RM1.

“**ZOO**” from Centrebus, provides details of a new service between Luton, Dunstable and Whipsnade Zoo from 30th March 2024. The four-page slimline has an orange cover with animal images around a large white ‘ZOO’ and a timetable inside showing departure times from Luton Interchange, Skimpot Tesco, Dunstable West Street, Dunstable Chiltern Discovery Centre and Whipsnade Zoo.

Grant Palmer’s “**bus times; Flitwick, Ampthill, Stewartby, Wixams**” is a sixteen page A5 book valid from 24th February 2024. The Red cover features a photo of the river at Bedford. Mostly peripheral to LOTS area but does include a timetable for route 42 which has two journeys into Dunstable plus a route list for Flittabus and a detailed street map of the Ampthill Flitwick urban area.

Red Eagle have printed copies of “**361**” from the company website for distribution on board buses. Plying the route between Well End and ‘St Albanss’ (sic). The undated item is a single sided A4 landscape sheet.

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. 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:

London buses noted at the **South East Bus Festival** at Kent County Showground near Detling on 6th April were BL81, DLP104 (ALN), DMS550, DT16, DW49 (ALN), GS15, LDP20 (GAL), LR81, RF28, RF48, RM8, RM1397, RM1933, RMC1497, RMC1500 (confusingly registered 486 CLT!), RML880, RML2699, RML2751, RT113, RT593, RT1702, RT4139, RTW185, SM88, SNB449, T1064, TA648 (ML), TE847 (ML), TE985 (ML), TE987 (ML), TPL264 (ML), VLA70 (ALN), VPL630 (ML), 34221 (SLN), 34358 (SLN) and London & Country 610 (G610 BPH).

Letters in brackets are for post-LT/LCBS companies and are the same as used in the ‘Where are they now’ section of TLB. There were other buses present that were either ex-London or from other operators in the LOTS area, but I don’t have space to show them all. A full list is on the event’s website, while a search on the internet will also find collections of photos showing everything that attended.

Attending the **Hertford running day** the next day (7th April) were GS13, GS17, RF13, RF136, RF539, RF673, RMC1453, RML2456, RT2083, SM88, SNB312, SNB448, SNB449 and STL2692.

The **East Grinstead running day** on 21st April was notable for the appearance of RM1009 after about 40 years out of the limelight. Other London vehicles present were GS62, LDP20 (GAL), MB90, PDL145 (ALN), RF28, RF271, RF368, RF395, RF633, RF679, RM1397, RMC1500 (486 CLT), RT604, RT1702, RT3148, T23, T747 (as T1983), T1064 and V1. Thanks to Stuart and Peter for these reports.

Susan Hall, the Conservative candidate for London Mayor, used preserved RM357 during her campaign including for a tour of various south-east London polling stations on election day (2nd May).

The distribution of the TfL-owned ‘New Bus for London’ fleet between the operators as at 1st May was:

Arriva London	324	Metroline	128	Stagecoach London	89
Go Ahead London	258	RATP	40	Transport UK	160

Total: 999 (998 LT and one ST) buses. Note: LT174 was written off in December 2022.

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.

Some of the StreetLites at TH are being stood down, thus far SLS26-30 with other '17' registration number ones to follow. The PVR on route 410 is 17 and with a pool of 30 StreetLites, there are surplus ones in stock. The route was upgraded to a full complement of StreetLites, replacing the part allocation of E200s (ENSs), when route 450 was lost to Go Ahead London (C) on 30th September 2023.

Brixton (BN) has a pool of 23 Electroliner EVs, 12 of which are needed for the allocation on route 417 with the others usually being deployed on route 50 and occasionally on route 137, N137 and 319. ES38-50 are the batch formally allocated to route 417 and BN. ES17-37 are partly stored or in use at BN but earmarked for route 64 at Thornton Heath (TH) when electrification work is complete.

At Enfield (E), route 307 is still operated with only about 60% of its Electroliner EVs (ES1-16) on a daily basis, supported by DWs and the Sunday allocation is purely DWs. The garage electrification upgrade to cater for more buses being charged overnight is still ongoing (see also TLB714, pg.35).

The batch of Volvo B5LHs (HV233-48) formerly used on route 242 are now all at Wood Green (WN) for deployment on route W3 to replace the majority of E400s from the batch T204-26 as part of its tender re-award. More B5LHs should follow to replace the rest of the E400s on route W3. E400s T260-276 (minus T262 which is withdrawn) at WN are allocated to route 329.

LT178 had its nearside back wheel stuck in a large pothole on Front Lane, Upminster whilst on route 248 on 5th April and had to be towed out. The bus was back in service by 8th April.

Within the fleet there are currently 60 withdrawn buses, consisting of 5 x DWs, 6 x ENs, 13 x ENSs, 1 x ENX, 13 x HVs and 22 x Ts. Additionally, the 14 x EMCs are stood down, along with 5 x StreetLites (SLS class), 5 x StreetDecks (SW class) and 5 x Ts (ex WN W3 buses).

Recent repaint/refurbs noted include HV379, LT334, LT336, LT337, LT341, LT342, LT517, LT522, LT525, LT536, LT539 and LT541.

Delete refurb/repaint of LT349 (TLB716, pg.26) - not done yet.

Transfers:

November 2023

HV76 AD/ADu

LT476 CT/CTu

December 2023

HV80 AD/ADu

HV112 WN/WNu

February 2024

SLS26 TH/THu

SLS28 TH/CNu

SLS30 TH/CNu

March 2024

SLS29 TH/CNu

April 2024

DW190 E/ECw

DW501 EC/GY

HA34 Nu/N

SLS27 TH/CNu

T99 Nu/Nw

T136 THw/TH

Livery changes:

HV208 from advert for £1.75 Hopper back to Red

HV245 from advert for Pink Lemonade back to Red

LT191 and LT981 from adverts for Peroni 2 back to Red

LT198 to advert for BBC

LT437 from advert for Moon Boots (Yellow) back to Red

LT438 from advert for L'Oreal Panorama Mascara back to Red

LT474 to advert for Innocent Fruit Juice (Apples & Limes)

LT489 to advert for Taylor Swift

LT524 from advert for L'Oreal Panorama Mascara to one for BBC

LT530 from advert for Cos back to Red

LT538 from advert for Bob Marley back to Red

LT602 from advert for Sol De Janeiro back to Red

LT735 and LT825 to adverts for Nike - Feel The Unreal

LT954 to advert for Jacamo

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).

Further to TLB715, pg.26; Mercedes-Benz Sprinter 1106 (RJ19 HXD) is now known to be a permanent member of the fleet and has been included in Fleetbook 2024.

Back into fleet (Update to TLB714, pg.36):

T27 (LJ58 AVD) - AD Enviro200 10.2m. Training bus already in blue/purple livery. It is now established that this was only on loan to Southend (SE) and it remains officially allocated to NF. However, it does seem to work (or be loaned) across a wide area as required; recent sightings include the Buckingham/Aylesbury area and Hemel Hempstead.

Transfers: T27 SEt (loan) /NFt

Disposal:

T484 (CX06 BHU) left the fleet in April. This bus was intended for training duties, but never materialised and it has been withdrawn for many months.

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

Into the fleet:

6502 (SN66 WHV) AD E40D - Enviro400 (MMC) 10.5m H43/30F. In use from 25th April and already in light blue livery.

Delete from Fleetbook 2024: 2448 (YJ05 JXV) passed to A Hardwick for scrap in February 2023.

Transfers: 6502 Southend (SE)/WE.

Disposals: 2482 (YJ07 VRF) and 4187 (KX62 JKN) left the fleet in April.

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

StreetLite 2323 and Volvo B7RLE 3954 have been repainted into the light blue livery. StreetLites 3652 and 3659 have received dark blue livery promoting the 'Connect Herts' bus network, namely for route 721 (Luton to Hemel Hempstead). Route 721 is interworked with route 321, so branded buses will be seen on both routes. Others in the batch are expected to follow.

A batch of Volvo B9TLs from Arriva Midlands (including 4103 below) are earmarked for Luton (LD) and intended to replace the Volvo B7TLs (6403/39/47-49) and potentially Trident 5425 as well. These double-deckers are usually assigned to local school routes, namely route 800, 801, 817, 829 and 838, although they do appear on route 24 and 27 at times.

Into the fleet:

3505 (YN08 HZS) Scania K230UB OmniLink 11.7m B45F. On loan from Arriva Midlands. Already in light blue livery and in use from 25th March.

4103 (YJ08 EEW) Volvo B9TL/ Optare Olympus H51/30F. From Arriva Midlands. Already in light blue livery.

Transfers:

1020 LDs/LD. 3505 Arriva Midlands (Derby)/ LD (loan). 4103 Arriva Midlands/LD. 6447 LD/LDw.

Disposals: 3953 (KX12 GZP) and 4749 (FJ06 ZSU) left the fleet in April.

A2B TRAVEL GROUP, Royston

Scania OmniCity YN54 AHD (see below) has been re-registered to **AB52 AZB**.

Volvo B7TL BX55 XNY is currently on loan to Collins Coaches, Milton for use on School routes.

Into the fleet:

YN54 AHD/E Scania N94UD OmniCity B42F. Previously with Mulleys Coaches, Bury St Edmunds.
DG63 LFY Mercedes-Benz 513CDi Sprinter. B16F. Previously with East Riding Council, Beverley.

BEAR BUSES, Shepperton

Transbus Trident LT02 ZBZ was stood down in January 2023 and left the fleet in March 2023.

CARLONE BUSES, Chertsey

Recap on personalised registration numbers in the fleet:

YEZ 442 (ex WN69 FKL)	CL12 BUS (ex RK68 GWJ)	GO70 LHR (ex RO23 ZBJ)
CL04 BUS (ex GU13 GAO)	CL19 BUS (ex RY19 OUE)	CA21 ONE (ex RX71 TMZ)
CL08 BUS (ex BX63 BFF)	CL69 BUS (ex RX69 OVS)	CA71 ONE (ex WN71 NDG)
CL10 BUS (ex RV71 XMJ)		

Into the fleet:

RX24 TGY Mercedes-Benz 517CDi Sprinter/ EVM Cityline B16F.

Disposal:

CL02 BUS (formerly EU17 LXY) has left the fleet.

CAROUSEL BUSES, High Wycombe

Scania OmniDekka 241 (YN55 FFD) and Mercedes-Benz Citaros 879/880 (BT09 GOK/GOP) have been withdrawn.

Scania N94UD/OmniDekka 248 (YN55 NFG) was on loan here from Thames Travel from 17th to 30th April.

Further to TLB715, pg.27; E20Ds 520/521 (YY66 PDV/Z) have at long last arrived and have been upgraded to euro 6 emissions standards. They are intended for use on route 581/583, replacing loaned E20Ds 511/512 (YX69 NVE/F).

E40D 609 (PS64 OXF) has been repainted into two-tone green livery and branded for 'Flightline 102' (High Wycombe - Heathrow Airport). This is the first of an expected four ex Oxford Bus Company E40D MMCs, with 608 (RW64 OXF) next in line to be repainted.

Mercedes-Benz Citaros 889/891 (BF62 JZJ/P) have received new route 'one' branding, with 890/892/893 expected to follow.

Into the fleet (April):

514 (YX70 OLO) AD E20D - AD Enviro200 (MMC) 9.0m B30F. Still in black livery (although now unbranded) from its previous allocation with Oxford Bus Company on the 'Bicester Village' shuttle service to/from Bicester North Station. NB: This service now has a brand-new 'electric' GB Kite single decker 491 (BJ73 WXD) assigned, in black livery and branded.

520/521 (YY66 PDV/Z) AD E20 - Enviro200 8.9m B29F. Both in red.

894 (BF62 JZM) Mercedes-Benz Citaro B40F. From Stewarts Coaches, Woodley, Reading.

Disposals:

511/512 (YX69 NVE/F) to Oxford Bus Company for re-deployment back onto route ST2.

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

To recap on buses within the fleet in the latest two tone blue livery:

316 (YX16 OBO), although still with Vectare fleetnames,

322-326 (YX73 OVM/N/O/P, YX22 OJJ), awaiting fleetnames,

342 (SF66 ARW) and 346 (SW16 BUS) with 'Central Connect' fleetnames.

CENTRAL CONNECT continued

E20Ds 331-335 have been stood down in February and earmarked for disposal.

E20Ds 336-340 have been stood down in late January and are leaving the fleet (see disposals below).

Disposals:

StreetLite 48 (CC11 BUS) has left the fleet.

E20D 337 (YX72 ONB) to AirSym and has been repainted white.

E20D 340 (YX72 ONF) to Gateshead Central Taxis and has been repainted white.

CENTREBUS, Luton

Volvo B7RLE 624 (BK13 NZP) was last used on 8th December 2023 and is currently VOR.

E20D 586 (YY15 GDU) suffered frontal damage in a RTC on 8th April and will be VOR for some weeks.

Into the fleet:

493/495 (YX66 WGV/Y) AD E20D - Enviro200 10.8m B39F from Uno bus. Both repainted into latest fleet livery.

Loaned: 621 (BL13 SWX) Volvo B7RLE - Wrightbus Eclipse. In use from 2nd to 24th April but now returned to Centrebus (North), Leicester region.

CRUISERS, Redhill

E200 SK07 HMF is fleet number 94. Dart SLF GX54 AWH is fleet number 100.

E20D YX13 EHH (allocated fleet number 111) was on loan from 29th January to 26th February. This bus was originally fleet number 8121 with Abellio London and more recently with Vision Bus, Bolton.

DIAMOND BUS SOUTH-EAST (Hallmark Connections Ltd), Stanwell

(including Hotel Hoppa) part of Rotala plc

StreetLites previously used with Preston Bus and more recently with Diamond North West on the 'Bee Network' in Bolton are starting to transfer into Stanwell.

StreetLites 20180 and 20186 (see below) have been repainted into 'HotelHoppa' white and purple livery.

Into the fleet:

20178/80/84/86 (BD20 ODS, BX70 GGY/Z, GHA) Wrightbus StreetLite DF 9.7m B28F from Diamond North West.

Update to Fleetbook 2024: 20176-20190 are all B28F.

ENSIGNBUS, Purfleet

Adding to TLB716, pg.29; open top Enviro500 368 (68 EB) and Volvo B7TL/Ayats Bravo 369 (EU05 BZM) are now also in use on the seasonal Southend 'Seaside Service 68', joining 370/371.

Further to TLB715, pg.27; acquired Volvo B9TLs 364-367 are now known to have been prepared for use on a new Southend Pier to Shoeburyness Seaside Service 99, which starts on 4th May. These have been converted to open top and have been repainted into different ice cream themed colours (see below).

Volvo B9TLs 364-367 (MX58 DXS/T/V/Z) have been converted to open top, now O45/29F.

364 to red and cream (branded as the 'Strawberry Streamliner').

365 to green and cream (as the 'Mint Choc Cabriolet').

366 to light blue and cream (bubblegum).

367 to orange and cream (butterscotch).

Disposals:

339 (TSU 639) to Xquisite Productions, Redhill, Surrey (April 2024). This bus is expected to revert back to its original registration number of T678 KPU. (See also info in "Where are they now" under TA17078).

FALCON COACHES, Byfleet

Loaned E20D YX12 DLF was last used on 7th March and has been stood down.

Loaned Volvo B7RLE SK07 CFP was last used on 26th March and has been stood down (again).

Six brand new E20Ds (see below) have arrived for route 461. These are all in fleet livery with route branded and the batch launched into service on 29th April. As a result, E20Ds YX68 ULP/R and YX70 OKW have had their route 461 branding removed.

Recap on route branded buses in the fleet:

YX21 RPO, YX71 OGZ and YX71 OJH are route **436** branded,

SK24 XPC/D/E/F/G/H are route **461** branded,

SK21 FHX, YX72 OJZ and YX23 ORV are route **479** branded.

Into the fleet:

YX23 OSZ AD E20D - Enviro200 (MMC) 9.0m B30F. In use from 19th April.

SK24 XPC/D/E/F/G/H AD E20D - Enviro200 (MMC) 9.0m B30F.

Out of fleet:

Volvo B7RLE SK07 CFP and E20D YX12 DLF both left the fleet in April.

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

Into our area:

63300-2 (SN65 OLB/C/E) Wrightbus StreetLite DF 11.5m B41F.

66882 (MX55 HHR) Volvo B7RLE Wrightbus Eclipse Urban. In yellow/orange 'training bus' livery.

Out of our area:

66903 (MX55 FFP) Volvo B7RLE training bus to First Solent, Portsmouth by January 2024.

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.

Owing to planned engineering works on the Croydon Tram network from 29th March to 24th April, there were no trams between Croydon Town Centre and New Addington, Beckenham Junction and Elmers End. Go Ahead London provided a 'Rail Replacement' service T3 (Croydon Town Centre to New Addington) for the duration, using their 'Commercial' fleet, mainly E400s. The route appeared as TR3 on London Vehicle Finder.

BYD E200EV SEe260 transferred into Peckham (PM) in March for driver type training duties and entered service on route P12 on 8th April. As far as we know, it is currently being charged daily via a portable charger unit at PM and the garage is in the final stages of the National Grid connecting the electricity supply. In due course, the batch SEe260-71 are destined for route P12 to replace existing E20Ds.

The E400EVs ordered for route 57 are at long last starting to enter service at Merton (AL), with Ee206 being the first on 12th April. The batch Ee205-17 are intended for route 57 and Ee243-262 for route 157. Note that Ee179-186 have been working from AL on route 57 since last November but are destined for elsewhere, presumably Sutton (A) once the road changes at Worcester Park Station are completed to allow route 151 to be converted. The E200EVs ordered for route 152 (SEe276-290) started to enter service at Merton (AL) on 16th April, the first being SEe283 with the rest of the batch slowly following in mid/late April and into May.

The three 9.7m E200EVs (SEe329-331) ordered for route 439 (C) duly arrived in mid-April and are due to enter service very shortly. Since these are the same length and seating capacity as the ones already deployed on route 450 (SEe243-259), it is likely the batches will be mixed.

After a couple of delays to pre-planned garage transfers, route 366 and its E200EVs (SEe200-19) duly moved from Henley Road (DS) to River Road (RR) on 27th April. On the same day, route 376 moved from Silvertown (SI) to Henley Road (DS) and is now operated by a mix of new 10.9m E200EVs (SEe272-75) and E200s. Seven more E200EVs are due to transfer from NP into DS to replace the E200s

GO-AHEAD LONDON continued

and convert route 376 fully to E200EVs. As a result, route 444 (NP) will be operated by the 12m E200EVs and the remainder of the 12m E200EVs in storage (at NP) are earmarked to convert route 108 later in the year, thus replacing the 09-reg Mercedes-Benz Citaros. The timescale is subject to Morden Wharf (MG) having success with pending electrification works.

Route P4 (Brixton - Lewisham) was won from Stagecoach London (TL) on 27th April and is now operated by New Cross (NX) garage using E20Ds. The intended batch are the 10.8m 65-reg ones.

Recent repaint/refurbs noted include EH39, EH40, LT307, LT308, LT458, WHV86, WHV88, WHV91 and WHV99.

New deliveries (April):

SEe313-28 (LF24 ZGZ, ZHA/B/C/D/E/G/H/J/K/L/M/N/O/P/R) for route 39 (AF)

BYD D8UR – AD Enviro200EV (MMC) 10.9m B29D.

SEe329-331 (LF24 ZCU/V/X) for route 439 (C)

BYD D8UR – AD Enviro200EV (MMC) 9.7m B24D.

IE16-19 (not yet registered) Irizar Ie-tram 12.16m B35D.

New deliveries (May):

SEe332-335 (LF24 ZCY/Z, ZDA/C) for route 396 (RR)

BYD D8UR – AD Enviro200EV (MMC) 10.9m B29D.

Transfers:**Unknown date**

LT45 Qu/NXw

November 2023

SEe42 Q/Qu

March 2024

SE97 RR/SI

SEe260 Q/PMt

SEN31 SI/RR

April 2024

Ee205 SIu/AL

Ee206 SIu/AL

Ee207 SIu/AL

Ee208 SIu/AL

Ee209 --/SIu/AL

Ee210 --/SIu

Ee211 --/SIu/AL

Ee212 --/SIu

Ee213 --/SIu

Ee214 --/SIu

Ee243 RRu/MGu

Ee246 RRu/MGu

Ee248 RRu/MGu

Ee249 RRu/MGu

Ee250 RRu/MGu

Ee251 RRu/MGu

Ee252 RRu/MGu

Ee253 RRu/MGu

Ee255 RRu/MGu

Ee256 RRu/MGu

Ee260 RRu/MGu

Ee262 RRu/MGu

IE16 --/NXu

IE17 --/NXu

IE18 --/NXu

IE19 --/NXu

SE47 SI/DS

SE48 SI/DS

SE95 SI/DS

SE97 SI/DS

SE99 SI/DS

SE100 SI/NX

SE104 SI/DS

SE110 SI/DS

SE122 AL/NX

SE124 BX/NX

SE134 AF/NX

SE135 AF/NX

SE150 AL/NX

SE268 AF/RR

SE275 MG/NX

SE276 RR/NX

SE277 MG/NX

SE278 RR/NX

SE280 AL/NX

SE281 AL/NX

SE283 AL/NX

SE284 MG/NX

SE286 AL/NX

SEe200 DS/RR

SEe201 DS/RR

SEe202 DS/RR

SEe203 DS/RR

SEe204 DS/RR

SEe205 DS/RR

SEe206 DS/RR

SEe207 DS/RR

SEe208 DS/RR

SEe209 DS/RR

SEe210 DS/RR

SEe211 DS/RR

SEe212 DS/RR

SEe213 DS/RR

SEe214 DS/RR

SEe215 DS/RR

SEe216 DS/RR

SEe217 DS/RR

SEe218 DS/RR

SEe219 DS/RR

SEe260 PMt/PM

SEe272 DSu/DS

SEe273 SIu/DS

SEe274 SIu/DS

SEe275 SIu/DS

SEe276 GASu/AL

SEe282 GASu/AL

SEe283 GASu/AL

SEe284 GASu/AL

SEe285 GASu/AL

SEe287 GASu/AL

SEe289 GASu/AL

SEe290 GASu/AL

SEe298 --/SIu

SEe299 --/SIu

SEe300 --/SIu

SEe301 --/SIu

SEe302 --/SIu

SEe303 --/SIu

SEe329 --/Cu

SEe330 --/Cu

SEe331 --/Cu

SOE12 RRu/RRw

WS9 NP/SW

WS80 NPu/NP

WVN17 NP/DS

May 2024

SEe278 GASu/AL

SEe281 GASu/AL

SEe286 GASu/AL

Note: GAS = Go-Ahead Swindon

GO-AHEAD LONDON continued

Livery changes:

Ee5 from advert for Zero Emissions back to Red
LT847 from advert for Remy Martin to one for Nike - Feel The Unreal
LT854 from advert for Peroni 2 to one for Innocent Fruit Juice (Apples & Limes)
LT857 from advert for Cos to advert for Tropicana Orange
LT867 from advert for Vueling Airlines back to Red
LT874 to advert for BBC
LT886 to advert for Tropicana Orange

GO-COACH HIRE, Swanley

Optare Solo 3902 (YJ11 EKB) has been on loan to Hulleys of Baslow since January and Optare MetroCity 6201 (YJ18 DKX) since February. E400 9001 (SK07 DZA) has returned back from loan to Hulleys in April and E400 9011 (LK57 AXT) in February.

The route '464 Connector' shuttle service duly finished on 29th April as planned and loaned Fiat minibus BV15 BVV is stood down and returning to Kent County Council who own the bus (see TLB714, pg.42).

Optare Tempos 7801-3 (YJ11 EHN/R/X) have been advertised for sale in early May, although still in daily use on school routes.

GOLDEN TOURS, Alpertown

To recap, Volvo B9TLs 113/115 (BV13 ZDG, BF63 HDH) are still in use in York on the 'Hop On, Hop Off' sightseeing service and are not covered in Fleetbook 2024. Volvo B9TL/ Wrightbus Eclipse Gemini MX58 DXP (ex First Manchester 37403) is a new member there, converted to part open top and repainted into blue/white fleet livery.

Within the London fleet, Volvo B5TLs 131, 132 and 144 are branded and assigned to the Windsor 'Hop On, Hop Off' sightseeing service.

Into the fleet (re-joined from York operation):

112/116 (BV13 ZDF, BF63 HDJ) Volvo B9TL - MCV 10.3m PO45/28F. These are now minus their previous 'York' branding.

LANDMARK, Arlesey

Disposals:

Optare Solo YG52 DHL left the fleet some time ago. MoT expired in April 2021.
Dennis Tridents LR02 BBV and LX53 JZP left the fleet in February.

LITTLE JIM'S BUSES, Berkhamsted

Further to information in TLB716, pg.20; route 502/532 have been withdrawn and this operator has ceased running. The two Optare Solos MX53 FEF and YJ54 BTE are now for sale.

LONDON BUS COMPANY, Northfleet and Ongar

Adding to the list of Routemasters in the 'sales stock' (TLB716, pg.32) are RM268 (VLT 268), RM324 (WLT 324), RM646 (WLT 646), RM659 (KFF 239), RM1145 (LDS 402A), RM1968 (ALD 968B), RML2300 (CUV 300C), RML2312 (CUV 312C), RML2360 (CUV 360C) and RML2625 (NML 625E). Please note we do not list the 'sales stock' in Fleetbook and any subsequent disposals of these will be listed in 'Where are they now?' within TLB.

RM1933 (see below) has been repainted into the 1933-style General red, black, white and silver livery that it carried in 1983 (See TLB715, pg.38). This bus is confirmed as running a free shuttle service from Abbey Wood Station to Crossness Pumping Station Museum on their open days (See TLB716, pg.2).

Acquired (to add to Fleetbook):

RM1933 (ALD 933B) AEC Routemaster H36/28R in February 2022 (see TLB691, pg.32).
'RMF' (FPT 581C) AEC Routemaster H41/31F in November 2011.

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

Scania OmniDekka double-deckers 674/79/81 (YN07 UOG, YN57 FYB/L) arrived on loan from Brighton & Hove in mid-March, although as of 10th April, were no longer in use.

Of the batch below, Volvo B9TL 6912 has been repainted into Metrobus two tone blue livery thus far.

Into the fleet:

6907-12 (BJ63 UJG/P/R/S/T/U) Volvo B9TL/Gemini H43/28F from Brighton & Hove.

7545 (YU02 GHD) Scania N94UB East Lancs Myllenum (B32D). **Training bus** + red in colour.

7546 (YN05 HCA) Scania CN94UB OmniCity (B24D). **Training bus** + in white livery.

7952 (PL51 LDN) Volvo B7TL/ Plaxton President (H41/23D). **Training bus** + in white 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.

New vehicle orders are as follows:

34 x Wright GB Kite Electroliner 10.2m for route 143 and C11 (W).

10 x Volvo BZL - MCV 9.7m for route 382 (PB). Class type VMSS.

12 x Volvo BZL - MCV 10.8m for route 206 (WJ). Class type VMSL.

46 x BYD E400EV-City 10.9m for route 206 (1 bus for WJ), 210 (W), W7 (HT) and W8 (PB).

Class type BDE.

Route 384 (PB) had a 'schedule' change on 6th April, to facilitate charging of the Volvo BZL/MCV electric buses on layover periods at Edgware (EW) and help sustain the use of the VMSS buses on a full day's allocation. Thus far six of the batch are in use, with the other three due into PB soon.

Route 306 (HT) was lost to Transport UK (QB) on 13th April. The Volvo B5LHs (VWH2697-2707) formerly used on the route will be redeployed, with VWH2702-7 earmarked for route 481. Route 481 is won from RATP (FW) on 11th May and will be operated by Brentford (AH) garage.

Driver type training commenced in mid-April at HT on the Electroliner EVs (WDE2876/77), with the intention to roll out most of the stored WDEs onto route W7. This should release enough Volvo B9TLs (VWs) for transfer into Willesden Junction (WJ) for allocation onto route 28 on 4th May. WDE2871/77 were the first Electroliner EVs to enter service on route W7 on 25th April and others have since followed.

Volvo B5LHs are gradually transferring into Brentford (AH) to upgrade route 237 from VW to VWH operation as part of its tender re-award, with VWH2305-17 thus far deployed. This batch is in the process of being refurbished and repainted, with over 50% already done.

The unique 'short' 10.2m NBfL ST812 was back in use at HT from 22nd April. It had been VOR (off the road) since its rear accident damage on 26th December 2022, when Go Ahead London's WVN1 collided with it. LT101, VOR since 18th February 2022, also returned to service on 22nd April.

The next batch of Volvo BZL/MCV single decks (VMSL2878-2905) have been delivered with many stored at PA ahead of their eventual use on routes 228 and 316 from WJ.

The planned demonstrator Volvo BZL/ MCV 10.3m electric bus (allocated fleetnumber VDE2751 but later changed to VMD2751) in the end has not materialised here, and should be deleted from Fleetbook 2024, pg.6. It was intended for vehicle trials some time ago and although the bus was exhibited in May 2022, it never got registered.

Metroline has been successful in gaining four franchises to operate buses on the 'Bee Network' in Greater Manchester, commencing on 5th January 2025. The operation will comprise of 232 services, 420 buses and over 1350 employees. It is understood that some of the London fleet will in due course be cascaded into Manchester, including VWH2010/11.

Recent repaint/ refurb are LT101, LT543, LT548, LT562, VWH2310, VWH2315, VWH2317, VWH2337 and VWH2373.

Delete refurb/repaint of LT551 (TLB710, pg.26) - not done yet.

METROLINE continued

New deliveries (April):

VMSL2878-2905 (LJ24 ZLE, ZLK, ZKZ, ZNB, ZLZ, ZNA, ZMV, ZLY, ZLN, ZLO, ZLU, ZMU, ZLV, ZLX, ZNC, ZMO, ZKY, ZMX, ZMY, ZMZ, ZNE, ZNN, ZNF, ZNG, ZNH, ZNK, ZNL, ZNM)

Volvo BZL - MCV 10.8m B29D for routes 228 and 316 (WJ).

Transfers: (h suffix = Hertfordshire Commercial Fleet).

Unknown dates	January 2024	VWH2309 HT/AH	VMSL2885 --/PAu
TEH1217 HZu/HZw	VW1186 HT/PAu	VWH2310 HT/AH	VMSL2886 --/PAu
TEH1218 HZu/HZw		VWH2311 HT/AH	VMSL2887 --/PAu
TEH1219 HZu/HZw	April 2024	VMH2451 PV/PB	VMSL2888 --/PAu
TEH1220 HZu/HZw	LT101 HTu/W	VMH2452 PV/PB	VMSL2890 --/PAu
TEH1221 u/HZw	ST812 HTu/HT	VMH2453 PV/PB	VMSL2891 --/PAu
TEH1222 HZu/HZw	VW1036 WJt/AH	VMSS2841 PAu/PB	VMSL2894 --/PAu
TEH1223 HZu/HZw	VW1037 WJt/AH	WDE2868 PAu/HT	VMSL2897 --/PAu
TEH1224 HZu/HZw	VW1039 WJt/AH	WDE2869 PB/HT	VMSL2898 --/PAu
TEH1225 HZu/HZw	VW1043 AH/PV	WDE2870 PAu/HT	VMSL2900 --/PAu
TEH1226 u/HZw	VW1044 AH/PV	WDE2871 PAu/HT	VMSL2901 --/PAu
TEH1227 HZu/HZw	VW1045 AH/PV	WDE2874 PAu/HTu	VMSL2902 --/PAu
	DE1327 PB/HT	WDE2875 PAu/HT	VMSL2903 --/PAu
November 2023	VWH1415 ACu/AC	WDE2877 HTt/HT	VMSL2904 --/PAu
VW1175 PV/PAu	VW1824 AH/PAu	VMSL2878 --/PAu	VMSL2905 --/PAu
	VW1827 AH/PAu	VMSL2879 --/PAu	
December 2023	VWH2010 PB/PBu	VMSL2880 --/PAu	May 2024
LT546 W/Wu	VWH2011 PB/PBu	VMSL2882 --/PAu	WDE2867 PAu/HT
	VWH2061 HT/AC	VMSL2883 --/PAu	

Livery changes:

LT13 from advert for Sonic Superstars back to Red
 LT548 from advert for Comfort back to Red
 LT758 from advert for Peroni 2 back to Red
 LT764 to advert for Taylor Swift
 LT765 to advert for Innocent Fruit Juice (Strawberries)
 LT789 from advert for Vueling Airlines back to Red
 LT790 from advert for Gucci Ancora to one for Nike - Feel The Unreal
 LT794 to advert for Tropicana Orange
 LT809 from advert for L'Oreal Panorama Mascara back to Red
 LT810 from advert for Sol De Janeiro back to Red
 OME2674 from advert for Zero Emissions back to Red
 VWH2340 and VWH2392 from adverts for £1.75 Hopper back to Red

GRANT PALMER, Flitwick

Volvo B7TL 706 (BU54 WAY) has been stood down. Last used in service on 12th December 2023.

Disposals:

Dart SLF 204 (KX51 UDE) has left the fleet. Last used on 11th July 2023 and MoT expired 15th September 2023.
 Dart SLF 206 (SN06 JPX) to Hardwick, Barnsley, South Yorkshire for scrap (October 2023).

RATP-DEV TRANSIT LONDON including
LONDON UNITED - AV, FW, RP, S, TV, V and WK (ex HH)
LONDON SOVEREIGN - BT, CP and SO.

Route 33/N33 (FW) have been retained with new electric single decks, which will be the first new vehicles for this fleet since early 2023.

Route S3 was lost to Transport UK (BC) on 6th April. Consequently six 8.9m E20Ds (SDE20241-46) have been stood down and these are parked up at NC, along with redundant ex Atkins staff shuttle bus Optare Solo OS20224.

Route 28/N28 (X) is lost to Metroline (WJ) on 4th May. The Optare MetroDeckers (OME46001-37) are expected to remain at X and be allocated to route 23 (as now) but also potentially onto route 452. The occasional MetroDecker does appear on route 452 on a daily basis at present.

Route 481 (FW) is lost to Metroline (AH) on 11th May and route E1 (AV) to Metroline (G) on 25th May. Route E3 is retained on a new three year contract from 1st June, where the older E400Hs (ADH45005-22) will be replaced with newer existing hybrids in the fleet, which will likely work alongside the 2013 E40Hs (ADH45023-25/36/37/49-51) already on route E3. School route 639 and 670 (TV) are lost to Transport UK on 10th June. The loss of route 481, 639 and 670 will free up Volvo B5LHs to be redeployed elsewhere.

April brought several E400EVs rogue visitors to route 340, starting with BCE47139 and BCE47150 on the 2nd, with others (BCE47144/145) following on 15th, 16th and later dates. More common on the 340 since late March have been the small batch of VHRs, now that they are equipped with appropriate blinds.

VH45082 suffered severe frontal damage in a RTC whilst on route 79 on the evening of 23rd April. The bus driver involved required hospital treatment.

Recent repaint/ refurb include DLE30219, DLE30220, DLE30223, DLE30258, DLE30261, VH45147, VH45150, VH45153 and VMH45329.

Note: VH45145-52 are refurbished/repainted, completing the batch intended for route 423 (WK).

Transfers:

December 2023		March 2024		DE20053	S/NCw	DDE20292	BT/SO
VH45192	BTu/NCu	DE20093	BT/NCw	OS20224	TVc/NCw	DLE30061	FW/RP
February 2024		DE20180	SO/SOu	SDE20241	TV/NCu	DLE30291	AV/RP
		DE20186	SO/SOu	SDE20242	TV/NCu	DLE30293	WK/AV
DE20052	S/NCw	April 2024		SDE20243	TV/NCu	DLE30340	V/S
DE20175	AV/AVu			SDE20244	TV/NCu	ADH45004	Vw/NCw
				SDE20245	TV/NCu	ADH45016	V/BT
		DE20020	S/NCw	SDE20246	TV/NCu	VH45082	BT/BTu
		DE20021	S/NCw				

Livery changes:

OME46008 to advert for McCains
 BCE47120 from advert for Ovo Energy back to Red
 LT85 from advert for Mac Lipstick to one for Taylor Swift
 LT678 from advert for Mentos back to Red

Disposal:

SP40205 to Tootbus, Wandsworth (April 2024).

READING TRANSPORT and THAMES VALLEY BUSES

To recap on buses in the fleet in the latest Thames Valley livery:

Solos 126, 129, 130, 192 are in Thames Valley livery with purple adornment for **Maidenhead** routes.
 Solo 191, E40Hs 234/5, E20Ds 663-665, 675, 687, E40Ds 731 and 1209 are in two-tone black and grey 'generic' Thames Valley livery.
 E20Ds 659/660 are in Thames Valley livery with purple adornment and branded for route **16**.
 E20Ds 662 and 670 are in Thames Valley livery with yellow adornment for **Bracknell** routes.

READING TRANSPORT and THAMES VALLEY continued

E20D 674 is in Thames Valley livery with orange adornment for **Wokingham** routes.

E20Ds 676-678 are in Thames Valley livery with green adornment and branded for route **5**.

E20Ds 681-683, E40Ds 796/797 are in Thames Valley livery with burgundy and branded for route **194**.

E20Ds 684-686 are in two tone blue livery and branded for route **171 and 172**.

Volvo B7RLE 455 (BG14 OPB) has been repainted white and is due to leave the fleet soon.

Into the fleet:

667 (YX67 UXP) AD E20D - AD Enviro200 10.8m B39F. Currently in white.

Disposals:

E40Hs 234/5 (SN63 VTY/Z) to Howards Travel/Omega Busways, Warrington (March). Both buses are now advertised for sale on ebay by their current operator.

RED EAGLE BUSES, Dinton near Aylesbury

E200s YX58 DWV and YY67 HBK have been repainted into fleet livery.

Disposals:

Dart SLFs FP04 CFE, KN04 XCU and KX05 KFF have left the fleet.

RED ROSE TRAVEL, Dinton near Aylesbury

A Mercedes-Benz Sprinter (see below) has been sourced to operate newly won route 121 (Thame to Haddenham), which commenced on 22nd April and runs hourly, 6 days a week.

Scania N94UB/East Lancs Esteem E12 RRT has reverted back to its original registration number of **YN06 JXW** and was withdrawn some time ago (see also re-use of registration below).

Into the fleet:

RX16 XFA Mercedes-Benz Sprinter 516CDi / EVM. Formerly with Princes Risborough Community Transport. This bus has been re-registered to **E12 RRT** and repainted into fleet livery.

Disposals:

Volvo B7TL W495 WGH, Scania N94UB/East Lancs YN06 JXW and E200 YX10 BGV have left the fleet.

RICHMOND's, Royston,

Optare Solo SR YJ65 EVD was last used on 28th February and is currently for sale.

Mercedes-Benz Sprinter/ Mellor Strata LV73 ZPF is now confirmed as B26F.

Into the fleet:

BV24 LNX Volvo B8RLE MCV eVoRa. B38F and in fleet livery.

SAFEGUARD, Guildford

E20D YX18 KOD has been repainted into fleet livery.

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.

Electroliners continue to transfer into Romford (NS) garage for deployment on route 86, however thus far only a handful are in use on a daily basis.

The three Scania OmiCity deckers (15044/46/106) that transferred from WH to LI with route 97 on 30th March were stood down after service on 9th April. Three Scania OmniCity double-deckers (15001/107/109) remain in service on TfL routes at WH, usually allocated to route 241 and there are also four (15076/86/112/120) still in service at PD, normally on route 96.

STAGECOACH LONDON continued

Only two of the unique batch of dual door Optare Solos (47992/95) are still in use at HK, allocated to route 309. These work alongside E20Ds (37554-60), although the route is due to gain newer E20D MMCs cascaded from route W11 once that route's MetroCity EVs (67013-22) enter service (currently held up by delays to electrification works at AW).

The 'City' E40Ds are now commonplace on most days on route 242, whilst conversely one or two of the MMCs brought in for route 242 tend to appear fairly regularly on route 26, and less commonly on route 388. Since about the start of the year, the 'City' variant has formed a small yet unofficial part of the type mix on route D7 on most days.

The batch of Volvo BZL/MCV single decks (66026-44) started to be introduced into service on route 276 (LI) on 27th April, after success at Lea Interchange with expanded electrification works. In the first few days, some of the Volvo BZL/MCVs were showing on London Vehicle Finder as being from the batch of MetroCity EVs (67013-22) for route W11. This was incorrect and 67013-22 remain at HKu.

Route P4 was lost to Go Ahead London (NX) on 27th April and the batch of E200s previously allocated will be stood down, with some to join the training department (see below). Later in the year, further E200s will be stood down when the 19 x Volvo BZL/MCV single decks arrive for route 314 (TB).

The three MetroCity EVs (45009-11) ordered for route 379 (AW) have arrived, however garage infrastructure and electrification works are still ongoing, meaning that the batch are in storage at HK for now. Driver type training commenced in May using MetroCity 45002 (AW). The vehicle is currently being charged by a portable charger.

Vehicles currently long term VOR after RTC damage and awaiting repairs include LT255, 10152, 11021 and 12337.

E400s 19804 and 19805 are currently being converted to part open top for use on Central London CitySightseeing work. E200s 36339/340/342/343 are earmarked for conversion into training buses.

Recent repaint/refurbs noted 10345, 12398, 13071, 13075, 13076, 13078, 13079, 13130, 13133 and 13134.

New deliveries (April):

45009-11 (YJ24 BKD/E/F) Switch MetroCity MC870EV 8.7m B20F for route 379 (AW).

Transfers:

December 2023	15079 WH/WHw	19804 NS/WHu	66027 HKu/LI	82024 LIu/NS
12337 PD/PDu	15097 WH/WHw	36291 LIu/LIw	66028 HKu/LI	82028 LIu/NS
	15098 WH/WHw	36293 LIu/LIw	66029 --/LI	82033 LIu/NS
January 2024	15099 WH/WHw	36294 LIu/LIw	66030 HKu/LI	82035 LIu/NS
36286 LI/LIw	15100 WH/WHw	36296 AWu/AWw	66031 HKu/LI	82042 LIu/NS
	15101 WH/WHw	36340 TL/TB	66032 LIu/LI	82049 --/HKu
February 2024	15102 WH/WHw	36370 TL/KB	66033 --/LIu	82050 --/HKu
10152 NS/NSu	15103 WH/WHw	36375 TL/KB	66034 LIu/LI	82051 LIu/HKu
36287 LI/LIw	15104 WH/WHw	36396 AW/TL	66035 HKu/LI	82052 LIu/HKu
36341 TL/PD	15108 WH/WHw	36397 AW/TL	66036 HKu/LI	82054 LIu/HKu
	15118 WH/WHw	36651 TLu/PD	66037 HKu/LI	82055 LIu/HKu
March 2024	36339 TL/PD	37559 LI/HK	66039 --/LI	82056 LIu/HKu
15036 WH/WHw		45009 --/HKu	66040 HKu/LI	
15038 WH/WHw	April 2024	45010 --/HKu	66042 --/LIu/LI	May 2024
15039 WH/WHw	15044 LI/WHw	45011 --/HKu	66043 HKu/LI	45002 AWu/AWt
15040 WH/WHw	15046 LI/WHw	47996 HKu/HKw	66044 HKu/LI	
15041 WH/WHw	15106 LI/WHw	47998 HKw/LIw	67022 --/HKu	
15043 WH/WHw	19798 WH/LI	66026 LIu/LI	82019 LIu/NS	

Livery changes:

LT251 from advert for Vueling Airlines back to Red

LT253 from advert for Nat West back to Red

STAGECOACH LONDON continued

LT256 and LT374 to adverts for BBC

LT265 to advert for Nike - Feel The Unreal

LT270 to advert for Innocent Fruit Juice (Apples & Limes)

LT359 from advert for Moon Boot (Red) back to Red

LT363 to advert for Innocent Fruit Juice (Strawberry)

LT377 from advert for L'Oreal Panorama Mascara to one for Tropicana Orange

Disposals:

15046, 15098 and 15118 to Ensign Bus Company (April).

15079, 15100, 15101, 15103 and 15108 to Stagecoach South East (April).

39139 has been returned to its lease company (April).

STAGECOACH SOUTH, Guildford

The BYD E200EVs (74001-9, formerly fleet numbered 29101-9) are in the process of being repainted into the latest fleet livery, complete with 'Guildford electrics' signage replacing the previous 'glide park & ride' branding, with 74003/4 (LJ68 CZC/D) done thus far. The rear of the repainted buses displays a Park & Ride route network diagram showing route 100 (Onslow), 200 (Artington) and 300 (Morrow), which all serve Guildford Town Centre.

SULLIVAN BUSES, South Mimms

Transfers: WVL9 SM/SMu (October 2023) SL94 SM/SMu (January).

TOOTBUS, Wandsworth

Into the fleet:

YT09 BNE (ex RATP SP40049), YT10 XCD/G/M/N (ex RATP SP40180/183/188/189), YR10 FFY/Z, FGA/D/G/J/K/N (ex RATP SP40193-195/197/200-202/204) in January 2024.

YR10 FGO (ex RATP SP40205) in April 2024.

These ex-RATP Scania OmniCitys have been converted to part open-top. Some may end up with Tootbus operations elsewhere in the UK. Only YT10 XCM has been reported in service in London so far, repainted into Union Flag livery along with YR10 FFW/FGE (see TLB716 p.36).

TOP VIEW SIGHTSEEING, Wimbledon

Further to TLB713, pg.37; E40D 402 (SN12 EHD) entered service in February and Scania OmniCity 423 (YT10 XBV) in March. E40D 407 (SN12 EHR), Scania OmniCitys 416 (YR59 FZF) and 420 (YT10 XBY) still remain 'out of use'.

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

Owing to planned engineering works on the Croydon Tram network from 29th March to 24th April, there were no trams between Croydon, Town Centre and New Addington, Beckenham Junction and Elmers End. Transport UK have been providing a Rail Replacement service T2 (Croydon Town Centre via Elmers End to Beckenham Junction) for the duration, using a mix of GB-Kite single decks (1701-4, 1710-12), Electroliner EVs, E40Ds, E40Hs and LTs. Please note that on London Vehicle Finder the route showed as TR2.

Route S3 (Belmont - Malden Manor) was won from RATP (TV) on 6th April and is now operated by Beddington (BC) using E20Ds released from other routes. Currently two MetroCity EVs (1017/1018) are on loan to BC and allocated to route 315. Seven MetroCity EVs are currently on loan to TF and allocated to route H20. Southall (GW) has three MetroCity EVs (1002/7/10), although in practice only one or two of these operates on route E5 daily.

Route 306 (Acton Vale - Sands End) was won from Metroline (HT) on 13th April and is now operated by Battersea (QB) garage using Electroliners (technically 3048-58, although in reality the Electroliner batches are mixed across routes 133, 306 and C3). The current batch of Electroliners arriving are in theory for route 133 (3059-85), which in turn will make available enough in-house LTs to stock route 211, when it is won on 29th June.

TRANSPORT UK continued

Electroliner 3103 arrived in April, initially delivered to TF and then spent a couple of days at QB before returning to TF. This bus is the ordered top-up vehicle for the +1 PVR on route 111 (TF) and has released 3031 via QB to WL. The intended batch of Electroliners (3031-37) are now at WL for allocation alongside E40Hs (2569-76) on route 363.

Route 482 and its allocated E40Hs (2013-21) transferred from Dawley Road (DH) into Southall (GW) on 27th April. This was to make room at DH for route E6 (Greenford - Bulls Bridge) which is won from Metroliner (G) on 25th May. GB Kites 1713-24 are on order for this route.

LT614 suffered an engine fire on 12th April whilst on route 27 on King Street, Hammersmith.

LT700 had been VOR since 28th December 2022 and is now back in service as of 23rd April.

It has been noted that around 20% of the fleet is still carrying Abellio London fleetnames. The re-branding exercise is ongoing and proving to be taking its time.

Recent reported repaints/ refurbishes include 8879, 8888 and LT171. Just to confirm, LT163 has also been refurbished/repainted some time ago.

New deliveries (April):

3059-85 (LV24 EVR/T/U/W/X, EWA/B/C/D/E/F/G/H/J/K/L/M/N/O/P/R/S/T/U/W/X/Y) for route 133 (QB).

3086-3099 (LV24 VNO/P/R/S/T/U/W/X/Y/Z, VOA/B/C/D) for route 381 (WL).

3103 (LV24 EUU) top-up vehicle for +1 PVR on route 111 (TF)

Wrightbus StreetDeck Electroliner 10.6m H40/20D. All to latest TfL 'Vision Zero' specification.

Transfers:

December 2023	1711	TF/BC	3037	QB/WL	3068	--/QB	3085	--/QBu
8342 WL/WLu	1712	TF/BC	3049	--/QB	3069	--/QB	3086	--/QBu
	2013	DH/GW	3051	--/QBu	3070	--/QB	3088	--/QBu
March 2024	2014	DH/GW	3052	--/QBu	3071	--/QB	3090	--/QBu
1540 WL/BC	2015	DH/GW	3056	QBu/QB	3072	--/QB	3094	--/QBu
	2016	DH/GW	3057	--/QB	3073	--/QB	3097	--/QBu
April 2024	2017	DH/GW	3058	QBu/QB	3074	--/QBu	3099	--/QBu
LT614 QB/QBu	2018	DH/GW	3059	--/QB	3075	--/QB	3103	--/TFu
LT700 WLu/WL	2019	DH/GW	3060	--/QB	3076	--/QBu		TFu/QB
1017 QB/BC	2020	DH/GW	3061	--/QB	3077	--/QBu		QB/TF
1018 QB/BC	2021	DH/GW	3062	--/QB		QBu/WLu	8147	GW/BC
1022 QBu/TF	3024	TFu/TF	3063	--/QB	3078	--/QBu	8155	TF/BC
1701 QB/BC	3031	TF/QB	3064	--/QB	3080	--/QBu	8156	TF/BC
1702 BCu/BC		QB/WL	3065	--/QB	3082	--/QBu	8157	TF/BC
1704 QB/BC	3035	QB/WL	3066	--/QBu	3083	--/QBu	8158	TF/BC
1710 TF/BC	3036	QB/WL	3067	--/QB	3084	--/QBu		

Livery changes:

3416 from advert for Zero Emissions back to Red

3417 to advert for McCains

LT163 from advert for Mac Lipstick to one for Tropicana Orange

LT168 from advert for Moon Boots (Red) back to Red

LT171 to advert for Innocent Fruit Juice (Strawberries)

LT622 to advert for BBC

LT633 from advert for Peroni 2 back to Red

LT684 from advert for Vueling Airlines to one for Taylor Swift

LT695 from advert for Bob Marley - One Love One Heart back to Red

LT707 from advert for Vueling Airlines back to Red

LT777 to advert for Jacamo

TRANSPORT UK continued

Disposals:

8327 left the fleet in January 2024. Last used on 29th April 2023.

8585 left the fleet in November 2023. Last used on 3rd July 2023.

UNIVERSITYBUS (t/a uno), Hatfield

After a long period off the road, Mercedes-Benz Citaro 304 (BX56 VSM) re-entered service on 8th April. This bus is in plain unbranded white from its time on the Cranfield services in Bedfordshire and it is currently for sale.

The first of an expected five brand new Volvo tri-axle double-decks has arrived (see below) for use on route X10 (Luton to Hatfield). These are likely to enter service in September, ready for the new University term.

Mercedes-Benz 517CDi Sprinters YE73 PYG, PZZ are allocated fleet numbers **38** and **39** respectively.

New delivery:

BV24 LUL Volvo B8L - MCV eVoSeti 12.0m H60/38F in fleet livery. Awaiting fleet number details.

Into the fleet:

1468 (LD72 XZS) BYD B8UR-DD - AD Enviro400EV-City 10.3m H38/20D (a former TfL demonstrator) has arrived for use on TfL School routes.

Transfers:

BYD1471 HF/HFu (December 2023). BYD1473, 1478 HF/HFu (January).

Disposals (all in April):

520/522 (YX65 RNO/V) sold to South Wales Transport.

523/525 (YX66 WGV/Y) sold to Centrebus, Luton.

524 (YX66 WGW) sold to Centrebus North, Grantham.

526 (YX66 WGZ) sold to Chaserider, Cannock.

WHITE BUS SERVICE, Winkfield

E20D 59 (SK24 XPL) is now in fleet livery, complete with the green rectangle adornment at the rear.

To recap: Solo 51 (YJ62 FML), E20Ds 54 (YY73 RFZ), 61 (YX73 PKN) and Volvo B8RLEs 76 (SJ16 CRX) and 85 (BV73 MKO) are still in all white and not in company livery as yet.

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 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:

RM1001 (1 CLT) from Mr J Pratt to Messrs J Patterson & A Warnes, Kings Lynn, Norfolk (January) where it joins RM765 (this updates TLB698 and 700).

RML2401 (JJD 401D) is now used by a new operator by the name of Norfolk Vintage Bus Hire which was launched on 17th April. RML2401 had previously been used by Coach Services until 2022.

RML2480 (JJD 480D) entered service with Londoner Buses on the T15 on 3rd May.

RML2527 (JJD 527D) from Timebus Travel to Brigit's Afternoon Tea Tours, London (April).

RML2711 (SMK 711F) has returned to London's South Bank in April for its eleventh season with Snog Bus.

Readers of this section may be interested to know that a new edition of the Routemaster Handbook has recently been launched. It is up to date to March 2024, includes 160 pages with over 150 colour photographs, and it details the 1,221 Routemasters that are believed to still be in existence around the world in some form or another.

Olympians:

NV97 (R397 LGH) (ex GAL) was re-registered in August to SRZ 7058 by New Age Metropolis.

NV172 (R372 LGH) (ex GAL) further to TLB715, it has now been exported to Nebraska, USA (by April).

Miscellaneous low-floor double deck types:

9055 (BX55 XNJ) (ex AB) from Saffords, Little Gransden, Cambs. to McColls, Dumbarton, Dunbartonshire (October).

9407 (LJ56 VTG) (ex AB) passed to Banana Bus, London NW11 (March 2019). It was collected in March and converted for use as a children's playbus.

9450 (LJ09 CCZ) (ex AB) from Green Bus to JH Coaches, Birtley, Tyne & Wear (August 2023).

9458, 9464 (LJ09 CDX, CEN) (ex AB) from Green Bus to Gwynfor Coaches, Llangefni, Gwynedd (November) with 9464 re-registered to A21 OEY in March.

9459, 9460 (LJ09 CDY, CDZ) (ex AB) from Green Bus to Little's Travel, Ilkeston, Derbys. (January).

9465 (LJ09 CEO) (ex AB) from Green Bus to Raccoon Franchising, Edenbridge, Kent (October) for use as a promotional vehicle.

DLP59 (LJ51 DKK) (ex ALN) was transferred from York Pullman to Golden Tours, London (May 2023); it carries fleet number 145 and was already in the blue / white livery for use on the Golden Tours operation in York, so like DLP61 (see TLB709) it may only be a loan.

DLP82 (LJ51 ORG) (ex ALN) updating previous reports, this DLP passed from A&A Coach Travel to 2-Way Coaches, Scunthorpe, Lincs. (January 2024) and it has not been subsequently scrapped as previously recorded.

DW14 (LJ03 MWC) (ex ALN) from Hunter Coaches to 2-Way Coaches, Scunthorpe, Lincs. (August 2022) for spares.

DW53 (CSZ 3894, ex LJ04 LDZ) (ex ALN) updating TLB713, this DW re-gained its original registration prior to its sale to Ripley for scrap.

DW272 (LJ59 LWV) (ex ALN) from Bus & Coach Centre (dlr), Forest Hill, Oxon to Bus Link, Burton-on-Trent, Staffs. (date not known), and then to White Bus, Windsor, Berks. via Chartwell Bus Sales, Horsham, West Sussex (April).

DW290 (LJ59 LVV) (ex ALN) from Bus & Coach Centre (dlr) to Bay Travel Coaches, Lochgelly, Fife (July 2023).

VLA94 (LJ54 BDZ) (ex ALN) has been repainted into an all-over yellow livery with Big Lemon.

VLW154 (LJ03 MDK) (ex ALN) from Garnetts Coaches to Vojo's Playbus, Hemel Hempstead, Herts. (August 2023) where it has been re-registered to VJ03 BUS.

VLE614, 616 (LJ07 XER, XET) (ex Arriva TOLST) from Bath Bus to Allens Tours, Belfast, Northern Ireland (by April).

TNL32924 (W924 VLN) (ex FLN) updating TLB646, this TNL was not scrapped as reported but was sold to The Bus Stop, Bankrugg Farm, Gifford, East Lothian in 2018 where it is one of several buses on site used as static glamping buses.

VN37794 (LK59 CXM) (ex FLN) correcting previous reports, this VN is registered M10 RYO with Mario Coaches, and not M23 RYO (which is carried by VN37774).

VN32105 (LT02 ZCU) (ex FLN) was sold from First Eastern Counties (February).

VNL32205, 32214 (LT52 WTL, WTX) (ex FLN) were sold from First Eastern Counties (February).

VNL32323 (LK03 NJV) (ex FLN) from Stanley Travel to Alpha Recovery (dlr), Cramlington, Northumberland (March) for scrap.

VNW32350, 32359 (LK53 LZN, MBF) (ex FLN) were sold from First South West (February).

VNW32362 (LK04 HYM) (ex FLN) the information in TLB713 has now been reported as incorrect and it was not sold for further use from Collier (dlr) and instead was sold for scrap in March 2023.

WNH39002, 39004 (LK58 ECW, ECY) (ex FLN) were sold from First York (March, January respectively).

DOE3, 22 (LX58 CWP, CXN) (ex GAL) from City of Oxford (latterly loaned from Go South Coast) to Go North East (February) and numbered 6974 and 6975 respectively.

DOE13, 15, 25 (LX58 CXC, CXE, CXR) (ex GAL) were returned from loan to City of Oxford to Go South Coast in April and are now allocated to Swindon.

DOE24 (LX58 CXP) (ex GAL) from Go South Coast to Go North East (January) where it has been repainted to fleet livery and numbered 6976.

DOE31 (LX58 CXY) (ex GAL) was repainted in April into blue livery for the Bluestar operation of Go South Coast. Unusually it still retains its London fleet number.

E61 (LX07 BYG) (ex GAL) from private owner to Nu-Venture, Aylesford, Kent (March) where it has been numbered DE461 and is operating in former London General livery. It has now been confirmed that this vehicle was not part of the BBPG.

PVL179 (OIG 1788, ex A10 EYD, ex X579 EGK) (ex GAL) from First South West to Ensign Bus (dlr), Purfleet, Essex (December). It has been reported that it was subsequently re-sold, but no information has been received.

PVL223 (Y823 TGH) (ex GAL) was sold by Bear Buses (by December).

PVL246 (Y746 TGH) (ex GAL) was noted in use in April with Morebus (Go South Coast) in the Poole area still in use as a tree lopper.

WVL109 (LX03 EDR) (ex GAL) has been reported as sold from Coach Leasing to Bass Bus UK, Southend, Essex (May 2023) and then re-registered in July 2023 to YUI 5391, September 2023 to GSZ 2359 and finally in October to AMZ 9275; it is understood that it is for use as a party bus - can anyone confirm ?

WVL224 (LX06 DZG, ex WSV 541, ex WSV 506) (ex GAL) from Maynes to Ripley, Barnsley, South Yorkshire (by October) for scrap.

WVL372 (LIG 9116, ex LX60 DXC) (ex GAL) from Oxford Bus Company to Go North East (January).

484 (YN53 RYW) (ex GAL) from Hornsby Coaches to Wigley, Barnsley, South Yorkshire (by April).

964 (YT59 DYH) (ex GAL) from Ensign Bus (dlr) to unknown owner for preservation (December).

ADH45039 (YX62 FNZ) (ex LU) is confirmed as passing to Ripley, Barnsley, South Yorkshire (by February) for scrap.

SO3 (YN07 LHT) (ex LU) was sold for scrap from Centrebus (March 2023).

SP40024 (WX 6025, ex YN08 DHK) (ex LU) has been named Jim McClean by Connexions Buses.

SP40049 (YT09 BNE), 40180, 40183, 40188, 40189 (YT10 XCD, XCG, XCM, XCN), 40191, 40193, 40194, 40195, 40197, 40198, 40200, 40201, 40202, 40204, 40205 (YR10 FFW, FFY, FFZ, FGA, FGD, FGE, FGG, FGJ, FGK, FGN, FGO) (ex LU). It has been confirmed that these SPs all passed from RATP to Tootbus, Wandsworth, London (all in January, except SP40205 which was in April)

and were not sold to Ensign Bus (dlr). This corrects previous information shown for SP40191, 40193, 40198 and 40200. These are all under preparation for their new use with some of the work being carried out by Ensign Bus (dlr) on behalf of Tootbus. SP40188 was noted in April in use with Tootbus, Wandsworth, London, and it has been converted to part open top.

TA321 (SN03 DZX) (ex LU) from Ripley to A1 Coaches/ Cambraco Travel, Skelmersdale, Lancashire (April 2023).

VLE10 (PG04 WHN) (ex LU) was sold from Go Gold (by January).

VLE38 (PO54 ACY) (ex LU) from Galloway Travel (part of the Stephenson's of Essex group of companies) to Borderbus, Beccles, Suffolk via Chartwell Bus Sales, Horsham, West Sussex (April).

TE1076 (LK60 AEX) (ex ML) is confirmed from Ripley to Kilvington's, Pudsey, West Yorkshire (January).

TE1087, 1092 (LX60 AFY, AGY) (ex ML) from Ensign Bus (dlr) to Uno, Hatfield, Herts. (February) and numbered 1487 and 1488.

TP413 (LK03 CFG) (ex ML) has been reported as sold from its owners within the BBPG (October); for conversion into a mobile home.

VPL135 (JJZ 4392, ex X635 LLX) (ex ML) from Archway Travel to DW Coaches, Clay Cross, Derbys. (November).

TA17013, 17015 (S813, 815 BWC) (ex SLN) have been re-registered by Stagecoach East Midlands to S94, 95 UBE in preparation for disposal.

TA17078 (TSU 639, ex T678 KPU) (ex SLN) from Ensignbus to Xquisite Productions, Redhill, Surrey (April), and was seen in April promoting Virgin Voyages with a mock-up of the upper deck of a cruise ship on the top of the bus. The registration TSU 639 is due to return to Ensignbus.

TA17897 (LX03 ORK) (ex SLN) from L&B Travel to Carter, Kelloe, County Durham (July 2022) for use as a static store shed on a farm.

Low-floor single deck types:

8001 (LJ56 ONH) (ex AB) from Stott's, Oldham, Greater Manchester (November 2023) for scrap.

8002 (LJ56 ONK) (ex AB) was sold from Stott's. Oldham, Greater Manchester (by April).

8027 (BU05 HFB) (ex AB) from M Travel, Longsight, Greater Manchester to McIvor Aviation, Dungannon, Northern Ireland (August 2019).

8037 (BU05 HFX) (ex AB) from Redline, Aylesbury, Bucks. To Red Rose, Haddenham (December 2023).

8118, 8120 (YX13 EHE, EHG) (ex AB) have been re-registered by Ashcroft's Travel to HIG 4409, 4410. However 8120 suffered fire damage and it reverted back to its original registration (by April).

8121 (YX13 EHH) (ex AB) from Vision Bus to Cruisers, Redhill, Surrey (by April).

8481 (KP02 PVU) (ex AB) from preservationist Mr May, Birmingham, West Midlands to J&M Preservations, Ipswich, Suffolk (August 2023).

8556, 8564 (YX11 AEE, AEO) (ex AB) from Vision Bus to Carolean, Darlaston, West Midlands (February).

8563 (YX11 AEN) (ex AB) from Vision Bus to Hulleys, Baslow, Derbys. (December 2023) where it has been given fleet number 14 and is in blue/cream livery.

8578 (YX61 GAO) (ex AB) from Kev's Coaches, Lydiate Ash, West Midlands to South Staffs Coach Hire, Norton Canes, Staffs. (December 2023).

8579 (YX61 GAU) (ex AB) from Kev's Coaches, Lydiate Ash, West Midlands to Flexibus, Harbury, Warks. (December 2023).

ENL20 (LJ58 AVE) (ex ALN) was sold from Central Connect (April).

ENL31 (LJ09 KPT, ex AS09 PAN) (ex ALN) from Panther Travel to Carolean Coaches, Walsall, West Midlands via Chartwell Bus Sales, Horsham, West Sussex (April).

ENL37 (LJ09 KRD, ex VB09 PAN) (ex ALN) from Herberts Travel to Hulleys, Baslow, Derbys. (April). It has been given fleet number 20 and remains in Panther Travel blue and white livery.

DML44003, 44004 (LK57 EJF, EJG) (ex FLN) were sold from First Essex Buses (January, February respectively).

DML44063 (YUI5580, ex YX58 FOM), 44072 (YX58 HVB) (ex FLN) were transferred within the BBK group from BM Coaches to Solus Travel, Tamworth, Staffs. (January and August respectively) and DML44072 was then re-registered to YUI 5576.

DML44077, 44079 (YX58 HVG, HVJ) (ex FLN) were sold from First South West (February, March respectively).

DML44290 (YX61 FYN) (ex FLN) was sold from Vision Bus to PVS, Barnsley, South Yorkshire (August).

LDP186 (Y986 TGH) (ex GAL) from Bear Buses to Replacement Bus Service, Cardiff, South Glamorgan (by December).

LDP274 (SD06 SEA, ex LX06 EYU) (ex GAL) from Big Lemon to MC Tractors / Shelton Motors, Ramsey, Cambs. (by April).

DE20170 (YX11 GCZ) (ex LU) further to TLB715 page 33, this DE has passed to Horseferry Coaches, Fulham, London (February) and possibly was sold via Ensign Bus (dlr).

DPK625 (SN06 JPX) (ex LU) from Grant Palmer to Hardwick, Barnsley, South Yorkshire (October) for scrap.

OS20261 (YJ62 FXA) (ex LU) has not been reported since it was returned to Optare in 2018, but has now passed from Coachstyle, Chippenham, Wilts. to Lodge Coaches, High Easter, Essex via Chartwell Bus Sales, Horsham, West Sussex (April). It is now single door and has been with Coachstyle since at least April 2023.

SDE20202 (YX08 MDV) (ex LU) from Redline Buses to Red Rose Travel, Haddenham, Bucks. (December).

SLD34304 (LX51 FGF) (ex SLN) was sold from Apex Training (February 2019) for scrap.

SLD34330 (Y372 FJN) (ex SLN) was last recorded to unknown owner in January 2017 and was noted in April for sale on eBay at Mercury Classic Cars, Conyer, Kent.

SLD34362 (LV52 HKO) (ex SLN) was previously recorded with training company OTG and it passed to South London Dart Collection (April).

36335 (LX58 CDN) (ex SLN) from Wolverhampton College to South London Dart Collection (April).

36558, 36560, 36563 (LX13 CZA, CZC, CZF) (ex SLN) from Go North West to Go East Anglia (March).

WV46109 (SN64 CVO) (ex TT) was sold from D&G (by December).

SERVICE VEHICLES

Section Editor: Thomas Young by e-mail to tom@ltsv.com or by post to Lombard address (see page 3) 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

9216F	LD24 ORJ	Ford Transit Connect Crew Van	TfL	White	?
9252F	LJ24 YKD	Ford Transit Connect Van	TfL	White	?
9254F	LJ24 YKR	Ford Transit Connect Van	TfL	White	?
9255F	LJ24 YLB	Ford Transit Connect Van	TfL	White	?
9256F	LJ24 YKB	Ford Transit Connect Van	TfL	White	?
9257F	LJ24 YLN	Ford Transit Connect Van	TfL	White	?
9258F	LJ24 YJW	Ford Transit Connect Van	TfL	White	?
9259F	LJ24 YLG	Ford Transit Connect Van	TfL	White	?

Additional information and updates

Note the large gap in the numbers of the new vans, suggesting that many more have been ordered. The new TfL-branded vans listed here (and last month) are indeed mainly for LUL use. Replaced LUL-liveried vans have been noted coming through Acton Works for reallocation or disposal (including 8306VW, 8357R, 8358R, 8360R, 8364R, 8365R, 8367R, 8369R and 8372R).

Allocations and transfers include 2604 BTE-ACN, 2605 PSE-SDD (is Penton Street ERU still in use? We currently have just 2610 allocated there), 2609 BTE-ACN (suggesting that Battersea ERU depot is no longer in use), 8389R EWT-SDD, 8773F LBD-ACN, 9082VW MDS-ACNu, 9191F new-SDD, 9200/9203F new-ACF, and 9204/9205/9217F new-GHO.

Vehicles withdrawn include 8373R and 8729F.

Bus Company Fleets; Newly reported vehicles

-	FL73 VLY	Vauxhall Combo Van	Arriva London	White	DX
?	YJ66 FMY	Peugeot 308 Hatchback Car	Transport UK	Grey #	TF
?	NA17 UMS	Citroen DS4 Hatchback Car	Transport UK	Grey #	GW
?	OU17 XZD	Volkswagen Golf Car	Transport UK	Blue #	TF
?	RE67 CUH	Kia Pro Ceed 2 Hatchback Car	Transport UK	Red #	TF
?	BG18 FFR	Seat Leon Hatchback Car	Transport UK	Grey #	TF
?	MT68 FNA	Vauxhall Astra Hatchback Car	Transport UK	Grey #	TF
?	YO17 RUC	Seat Leon Hatchback Car	Transport UK	Black	GW

Additional information

Arriva Southern Counties van V060 (BT12 AYE) appears not to have been withdrawn in 2021! It was seen recently at Stevenage, complete with the latest Arriva logo. LD69 SKE is withdrawn.

Go-Ahead London RX71 SZR has moved from MG to RR. The accident victim from Croydon mentioned last month was RF19 UZN, the remains of which have since been sold at auction.

Transport UK car GU17 WFA was not withdrawn in October 2023 and is still at GW. 6859 (YF17 ZKL) appears to be based at DH rather than TF. WG67 EPU is now at BC (ex TF). Vehicles withdrawn are GY59 MXR (6751), YH60 VMZ (6773), EY61 UKJ (6767), GF61 PVL (6782), LR13 LUW (6810), MF13 PGO (6804), GD23 HJG, GJ23 ODN and GJ23 PXL

Other vehicles withdrawn include Arriva London WR15 VVF/VVO, DA19 GOJ, DG19 NUM (AD210), DK19 ZDH, LC22 OPP, Arriva the Shires RF19 GZM, RATP Dev MTR75203 (BP19 VJC), MTR75219 (WP19 XEH) and B77008 (OU19 EWO), Stagecoach London DN68 VPY, DU68 JTV, DV68 TTU/TTZ, SC21 VKN and AO71 FND and White Bus Service 92 (CK62 XNJ)

RAIL REPLACEMENTS

Section Editor: Stephen Floyd, 4 Turnpike Gardens, Bedford, MK42 0AJ or by e-mail to 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!

Bakerloo:

27-28/04/24: Paddington - Willesden Junction by Arriva using HV, LT, T and Queens Park - Harrow & Wealdstone by Metroline using TE, TEH, VMH, VW and VWH double-decks.

Central:

I understand that the special supplementary bus services ceased by 28th March.

Metropolitan/Jubilee:

13-14/04/24: Baker Street - Harrow-on-the-Hill/Stanmore by Metroline using double-decks.

Northern:

02-11/04/24: Canons Park / Edgware - Golders Green by Arriva using HV, SW, T double-decks, as also noted in TLB716, vehicle news, p.26, with some assistance from Metroline using VW and Sullivan using DS and E double-decks.

DLR:

13-14/04/24 & 04-06/05/24: Island Gardens - Westferry by Metroline, using double-decks.

Tramlink:

29/03 - 24/04/24: Further to the long-term closure east of East Croydon for track replacement work, confirmation that route T2 (shown as TR2 on LVF) serving Beckenham Junction/Elmers End was operated by Transport UK using E400, LTs and GB Kite Electroliners, with assistance from Ensign from Go Coach, with route T3 (shown as TR3 on LVF) serving New Addington was operated by Go-Ahead using E, EN, WHV and WVH double-decks. Both routes started from Wellesley Road.

London Overground:

14/04/24 & 05/05/24 late pm: Stratford - Camden Road / Richmond by Metroline using double-decks.

27-28/04/24: Harrow on the Hill - Watford Junction by Sullivans using AE double-decks.

C2C:

20-21/04/24: Upminster - Pitsea by Ensign and First Essex. Various types including ex-Arriva London T96.

Chiltern:

An update on the “Parliamentary” service that runs from West Ealing to Ruislip that runs as bus service on Wednesday only at 11:17. This was first mentioned in TLB701 (*Jan 2023*) being operated by Diamond South-East, starting on **11/01/2023** (though it should have also operated on 14 and 21/12/2022!) The vehicle on this first day was StreetLite DF BD20ODV.

From June 2023, possibly to coincide with the new BR timetable, the contract was taken over by Stagecoach Oxford, who happened to have an Oxford Tube coach spare in London at the right time. Whereas Diamond had picked up outside West Ealing station entrance in Manor Road and set down in West Ruislip station car park adjacent to the up platform, the Oxford Tube coach was apparently deemed too big for both locations, so it picked up at the bus stop on Argyle Road and set down on the main road opposite West Ruislip station. Then from 23rd October 2023, timetable changes on the Oxford Tube

meant that there was no longer a coach available to work the service, so the contract was taken over by Metroline, who continue to operate with a double-deck from Perivale (PV) garage. The service gets some publicity as being one of the rarest and infrequent services in London and is referred to as a “parliamentary service” to avoid the formal Transport Act procedure of dis-continuing the “through” service, although any users would still be able to use the regular Great Western service from West Ealing to Greenford and changing to the Central Line.

Great Northern:

21/04/24 early AM: Finsbury Park - Welwyn Garden City by Go-Ahead & Metroline using double-decks.

Southern:

28/04/24: Three Bridges - Pulborough by Airsym, BM Coaches, Brighton & Hove, Brighton Horizon Coaches and Metrobus.

South Western:

13/04/24: Barnes - Feltham (calling at all stations via Brentford) by Horseferry using ex-WVL & London Bus Group, Hayes using ex-VP double-decks.

Thanks to members Ian, Michael, Peter and Trevor for the above reports.

MEMBERS' ADVERTS AND APPEALS

Items for inclusion here should be e-mailed to 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

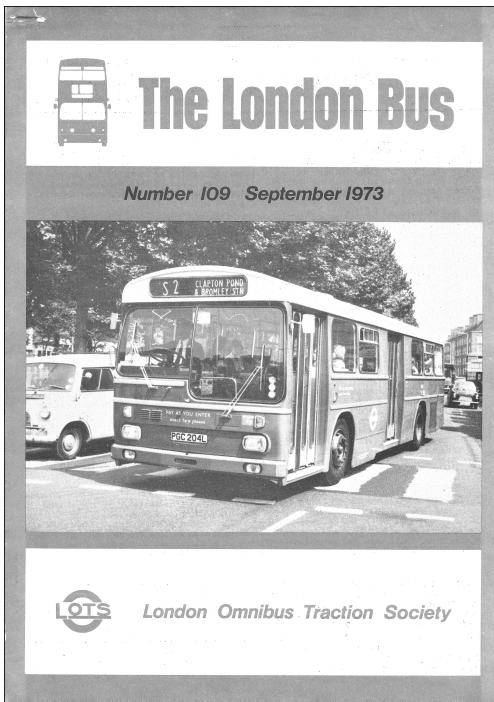
Wanted:

LOTS Member Myles Chantler is looking for the following Surrey County Council timetable booklets: East Surrey October 2003 & June 2005 and Guildford December 2021, and also for West Sussex County Council Mid Sussex June 1995 & November 1998 and finally Crawley November 2001. He can be contacted via email chantler.m@yahoo.com and is willing to cover all reasonable costs.

Vacancy:

Arriva London are looking to recruit a full-time Trainee Schedule Compiler at their Finsbury Park office. Some knowledge of bus operations in London would be desirable. For more details go to https://arriva.wd3.myworkdayjobs.com/en-US/Careers/details/Schedule-Compiler_JR027729-1 or look for the link in the Vacancies section of the News page on the LOTS website.

LOOKING BACK - News from Yesteryear



In 1973, London Transport was looking for new single-deck types and ordered six each of the MetroScania (MS-class) and Leyland National (LS-class) for trials on route S2 from Dalston (D) garage. On the cover of TLB109 was MS4 at Bow on 13th August, its first day in service. A couple of hours later this bus gained notoriety by crashing at (and into) Clapton Pond.

All-over adverts were in vogue at the time and photos inside TLB109 showed LCBS AN34 (Ty-Phoo tea) and RP87 (Airfix kits!).

Other deliveries to LT comprised the last of 20 FS-class minibuses and lots of DMS Fleetlines. The latter were sent to a wide variety of garages that already operated the type, as cover for delicensed buses.

The unique rear-engined Routemaster (FRM1) was overhauled and sent to Potters Bar for use on route 284.

Deliveries to London Country included the last of their initial order for 70 Leyland Nationals, although curiously three of the earlier arrivals were sold without ever having been used by LCBS. Also new were BL-class Bristol LHs and 2 un-numbered AEC Reliance coaches (later classified as P).

LT and British Leyland were considering a joint venture to build buses at Aldenham Works, including all of the 600 annually that LT wanted.

Free off-peak travel for OAPs in Greater London was introduced this month.

Alan Sales became the new Chairman of LOTS, taking over from Keith White.

*** *TLB109 and hundreds of other issues can be viewed on-line or downloaded for free from the new LOTS Publications Archive. Go to www.ltsv.com/lots or see page 4 for more details.* ***

A BIT MORE FROM THE EDITOR

This isn't intended to become a regular feature but, once again, I have ended up with a few inches spare, so I have added some text that got squeezed out of my editorial on page 4.

Future publications. There have been some discussions about potential changes to the format of our Fleetbook for next year, in particular to address the fact that the very small font sizes used are quite hard to read for some people. It is early days yet but, if you have any particular views or suggestions, I would be interested to hear from you.

Also, since SUP45A sold rather better than expected (it is now out of stock), there is a provisional plan to do an updated edition this September. This may establish a new annual cycle of a SUP39 in the spring and a SUP45 in the autumn, though nothing is set in stone yet.

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



The East Grinstead running day on 21st April saw gold liveried T747 (T1983) which is now in the care of the Bromley Bus Preservation Group, carrying passengers following eight years out of use. It is seen here in Dormansland on 'route 428'.
(Richard Godfrey)



Little Jim's longstanding operation serving Potten End was suspended on 14th March, being replaced in part by a HertsLynx DRT service. Optare Solo YJ54 BTE is seen here in Durrants Farm, Northchurch, driven by owner Jim Petty, as it more often than not, was.
(Richard Godfrey)



Stagecoach have acquired 17 ex RATP Scania OmniCitys from Go North West for their commitment to Tranche 2 of the Greater Manchester 'Bee Network'. 15395 (formerly SP40083) on route 41 in Crescent Road, Cheetham Hill.
(Russell Young)

Rear cover: Former Abellio London E400 9465 is now enjoying an easier life as a mobile promotions vehicle with Promohire of Edenbridge. Here it carries an allover advert for 'H Beauty' (Harrods) heading along the M25 at Leatherhead. (Terry O'Neill)



**Serving London's bus
enthusiasts since 1964**

