

TLB718

The London Bus

Number 718
June 2024



London Omnibus Traction Society
www.lots.org.uk

The batch of Stagecoach
East London Volvo
BZL/MCV single decks
(66026-44) based at Lea
Interchange started work
on route 276 at the end of
April. 66044 pauses in
Rectory Road, Stoke
Newington.
(Terry Wong Min)



Go Ahead London's
Northumberland Park
garage now has an
allocation of MCV EvoSetis
for use on route 476.
MHV62 (displaying the
new Go Ahead London
fleetname) crosses Stoke
Newington Common.
(Martin Ruthe)



Six Transport UK Switch
Mobility Metrocity EVs are
currently running from
Twickenham depot on
route H20. These have
released E200MMCs for
the take up of route S3.
1020 waits time in Heath
Road, Hounslow.
(Terry O'Neill)



Front cover: Carousel Buses route 102 has been re-branded as a 'Flightline' service, and now uses E400MMCs acquired from the Oxford Bus Co. 609 (the first to be repainted) departs from Heathrow Airport Central bus station.
(Terry O'Neill)



THE LONDON BUS
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London Omnibus Traction Society
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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.

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

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This issue was finalised on 5th-9th June and is due for posting on Tues 18th June.

Closing date for TLB719 is Weds 3rd July and due for posting on Tues 16th July.

Booked later closing dates are Wednesdays 7th August, 4th September and 2nd October 2024.

Editorial

To update on the hospitalisation of both Dave Stewart and Julian Bowden-Green earlier this year, news from the **ex-Editors' Club** is mixed. Julian has thankfully made an almost complete recovery and indeed has resumed some of his invaluable behind-the-scenes work for LOTS. Dave did initially show signs of improvement but there have been some complications and he is currently in a residential care home. Our thoughts and best wishes go out to Dave and his family, and we hope to have better news to report soon.

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 30th September and 18th November. The September meeting will feature "London Country under deregulation" by Jeff Tucker.

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

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.

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A full Sales List was included in last month's TLB and is also on our website. Orders from the Sales List or a letter are perfectly acceptable.

LOTS Postal Sales

The newest LOTS items:

- ****NEW**:** **London Bus Magazine No.208 Summer 2024** (£6.00). Features include the centenary of route 80 at Sutton garage by Malc McDonald, and finding Routemasters in the Canadian Maritimes by Nigel Eadon-Clarke.
- **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 Review 2022** (£17.00)

New and recent titles from other publishers:

- **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
- **Southdown Fleet History - Part 37: 1970 - Daimlers Return**. 68 pages detailing fleet changes in 1970. Southdown Enthusiasts Club. £7.50
- 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

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 big political news is that Prime Minister Rishi Sunak has called a **General Election, to be held on Thursday 4th July**. This is several months earlier than expected. Campaigning began immediately and we are now into several weeks of promises and arguments on all sides. Opinion polls give the Labour party a clear lead but they will have to overturn an 80 seat Conservative majority to win outright. At the time of writing, transport has not featured prominently although Labour has previously promised to bring all National Rail operations into public ownership as current franchises expire and to extend bus service franchising outside London. No significant changes have been proposed by the main parties for TfL. The outcome of the election will be recorded in TLB 719.

BYD has launched a new battery electric double decker aimed at the London market. The BD11 is built to TfL's latest specification with additional safety features and the first examples were unveiled at an event at the London Bus Museum on 21st May. The biggest selling point will be the price which is believed to be around 25% cheaper than similar electric buses on the UK market. The BD11 also features new 'blade' batteries. BYD claims these save 8% in weight and will give a much longer range of up to 400 miles, although this has yet to be tested in the UK. A single deck model will follow along with more double and single deck versions aimed at the provincial market by 2025 so it will be interesting to see how existing bus manufacturers respond to this challenge. It has been suggested (but not confirmed) that Go Ahead will take the first 100 for London.

There has been speculation in the media and on-line that the BD11 is set to replace the new Routemaster by 2030, which is when the Mayor, Sadiq Khan, aims to have a fully zero emission bus fleet. However, the 1,000 strong TfL owned LT class of new Routemasters were built between 2012 and 2016 and double deckers in London rarely continue in service after about 15 years, so it would not be unusual for them to all be replaced by 2030. The possibility of the LT class having their lives extended by converting them to all-electric buses seems unlikely.

Road casualty data for 2023 published by TfL shows the number of people killed on London's roads fell by 6% from 102 to 95 compared with 2022. This is the lowest figure recorded outside the pandemic affected years. The Mayor's vision is to eliminate deaths and serious injuries from London's streets by 2041. In 2023 there were 252 people injured in collisions with TfL buses and six people killed which represents a 43% reduction in bus related fatalities since 2014. Cars continue to be the main vehicle type involved in collisions. 68% of fatalities on London's roads involved a car in 2023.

A TfL report into controversial **floating bus stops** where cycle lanes pass behind the shelter and waiting area has concluded that the risk of pedestrian injury is 'very low'. The report was commissioned by the Mayor's office following a petition by the National Federation of the Blind and supported by 270 organisations which called for the design to be banned. Statistics showed that there were only four pedestrian casualties at 164 locations over a three year period (*but of course this does not include unreported collisions between cyclists and pedestrians –sub Ed*).

The three month TfL **Friday fares trial** ended on 31st May. Since 8th March off-peak tube and rail fares have applied all day on Fridays. TfL has not revealed the impact of the trial on passenger numbers. **The Elizabeth line** celebrated its second anniversary in May. Between June 2022 and October 2023 usage increased by 40% making it the fastest growing and most successful railway in the UK. The busiest stations are Tottenham Court Road and Liverpool Street.

Corporate and company news

The sale of Arriva to I Squared Capital has been completed. The deal was first announced in October 2023 (TLB 711 refers). I Squared Capital is a 'global infrastructure investment manager', headquartered in Miami which has \$38 Billion in global assets across 80 companies. Arriva CEO Mike Cooper said the deal would "create new opportunities for Arriva's passengers, colleagues and transport authorities". The Arriva brand will remain.

Arriva has announced it is closing its Aylesbury and High Wycombe garages from 27th July. **Go Ahead** company Carousel Buses, a subsidiary of the Oxford Bus Company based in High Wycombe, will take over many existing services in the High Wycombe area. In addition, The Oxford Bus company will launch a new 280 service between Oxford, Headington, Wheatley and Thame from 1st July running every 30 minutes. Stagecoach South closed the former LCBS garage in Guildford on 26th May after 92 years, with buses now based at Peasmarsh. Double deckers will be maintained at Aldershot due to height restrictions at Peasmarsh. The Guildford site has been offered for sale.

Go Ahead has acquired four regional coach companies, all based in West Yorkshire and the north east. The companies are Proctors Coaches in North Yorkshire, Compass Royston in Teesside, Esk Valley in North and East Yorkshire and Fourway coaches in West Yorkshire. They will come under the East Yorkshire Buses management team.

Other General News

Following **Vectare's takeover of Central Connect** in September 2023, the company is to unify operations under the Central Connect name. 'Central Connect Essex and Hertfordshire' will cover those two counties with 'Central Connect East of England' serving Cambridgeshire, Rutland, Norfolk and Peterborough while 'Central Connect East Midlands' will cover Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, Lincolnshire and Leicestershire.

55 Broadway, the Grade 1 Listed former headquarters of London Transport/TfL dating from 1929, is no longer owned by TfL. A sale had been on the cards for several years with talk of it becoming a hotel but it never seemed to happen. I found this out myself recently when I was passing and called into

reception to ask if I could use the ground floor toilets, showing my retired TfL staff pass. The receptionist kindly allowed my request (which was a relief!) while pointing out that the property was now owned by a private company. There was little evidence of any work taking place. A Google search revealed that Westminster City Council granted planning consent for the latest hotel plans in October 2023.

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 41/N41, 121, 153, 160/660, 161, 170, 180, 181, 278, 290, 299/389/399, 329, 423, 444, 482, 669, 672, H28, K5 and W6 from tranches 884A, 893B, 895, 895A, 897, 901, 902, 903, 904, 904A, 905, 907, 908 and 909 awarded, starting on 6th July (K5 - *see also service changes later*), 7th September (672), 21st September (160/660), 5th October (180, 290, 669), 7th December (170, 278), 11th January 2025 (329), 1st February 2025 (41/N41, 121, 153, 299/389/399, W6), 22nd February 2025 (H28), 1st March 2025 (423), 8th March 2025 (444), 15th March 2025 (161, 181), 22nd March 2025 (482) and 29th March 2025 (B14).

- 41/N41 Retained by Arriva London North using new electric double-deck vehicles (pvr 19).
- 121 Retained by Arriva London North using existing diesel double-deck vehicles (pvr 21 to 22).
- 153 Awarded to Metroline Travel using new electric single-deck vehicles. Currently operated by Go-Ahead London General from Waterloo (RA) garage. (pvr 11 to 9).
- 160/660 Retained by Stagecoach Selkent using existing electric double-deck vehicles (pvr 13 to 14).
- 161 Retained by Stagecoach Selkent using existing hybrid double-deck vehicles (pvr 16).
- 170 Retained by Go-Ahead London General using existing diesel single-deck vehicles (pvr 16 to 18).
- 180 Retained by Stagecoach Selkent using existing electric and hybrid double-deck vehicles (pvr 17).
- 181 Retained by Stagecoach Selkent using existing diesel single-deck vehicles (pvr13).
- 278 Retained by Transport UK using existing hybrid double-deck vehicles (pvr 12).
- 290 Retained by London United using existing electric and diesel single-deck vehicles (pvr 7).
- 299/389/399 Awarded to Go-Ahead London General using new electric single-deck vehicles. Currently operated by Sullivans from South Mimms (SM) garage. (pvr 8).
- 329 Retained by Arriva London North using existing hybrid double-deck vehicles (pvr 15 to 14).
- 423 Retained by London United using existing hybrid double-deck vehicles (pvr 7).
- 444 Retained by Go-Ahead London General using new electric single-deck vehicles (pvr 12).
- 482 Retained by Transport UK using existing hybrid double-deck vehicles (pvr 8).
- 669 Retained by Stagecoach Selkent using existing diesel double-deck vehicles (pvr 2).
- 672 Retained by Stagecoach Selkent using existing diesel double-deck vehicles (pvr 4).
- B14 Retained by Stagecoach Selkent using new electric single-deck vehicles (pvr 6 to7).
- H28 Retained by Transport UK using existing diesel single-deck vehicles (pvr 11).
- K5 Retained by London United using existing diesel single-deck vehicles (pvr 6).
- W6 Retained by Arriva London North using existing diesel single deck vehicles (pvr 9).

Routes 121, 160/660, 180, 181, 278, 290, 423, 482, 669, 672, H28, K5 and W6 are for 3 years;
Route 329 is for 5 years; Routes 161 and 170 are for 6 years;
Routes 41/N41, 153, 299/389/399, 444 and B14 are for 7 years.

Some updates to the tendering programme: The current contracts for routes 55/N55, 56, 304, 308, 397, 415, 432, 488, 677, U5 and W16 will terminate early and be allocated to new Tranches #908C, 909A, 911A, 913A and 921A. A new Route 310 has been added to the tendering Programme as Tranche #896A. As before, I shall await a new consultation to report on details when these are published. Route 969 will be moved to a separate tranche #941A. Tranches for the 2025/26 programme will be updated next month.

The 2024/25 tendering programme, as amended, is now as follows:

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)	--
#893A (09-11/24)	49, (London United), 398, H9/H10 (London Sovereign)	--
#894A (09-11/24)	148/= (London United)	--
#896A (TBA)	310 (New Route)	--
#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)	--
#901A (01/25)	655 (London United)	--
#902A (01/25)	273 (S'ch Selkent)	--
#903A (02/25)	298, W9 (Sullivan)	--
#903B (01/25)	125 (London Sovereign)	--
#904 (02-03/25)	657 (GA London General)	29/N29
#905 (01-02/25)	233 (GA Metrobus), 422 (S'ch Selkent), B16 (GA London Central)	--
#905A (03/25)	R6 (GA Metrobus)	--
#906A (02/25)	118 (GA London General)	--
#907 (02-03/25)	H98 (London United).....	--
#907A (02/25)	335 (Arriva LN)	--
#908 (03/25)	282 (Metroline West)	--
#908A (02/25)	55/N55, 56 (S'ch East London)	--
#908B (02-03/25)	308, 488 (S'ch Lea Interchange), 397, W16 (S'ch East London)	--
#908C (03/25)	677 (G-A Blue Triangle)	--
#909 (03/25)	284 (S'ch Selkent), 225 (GA London Central), C10 (Transport UK)	--
#909A (03/25)	415 (Transport UK)	--
#910 (03/25)	138 (GA Metrobus)	126
#911 (03/25)	169, 247, 287 (S'ch East London)	--
#911A (03/25)	U5 (Transport UK)	--
#912 (03/25)	68/N68 (Transport UK), 468 (Arriva LS), SL6 (ex X68) (GA London Central)	--
#912A (03/25)	617, 629 (Sullivan)	--

ROUTE AND SERVICE CHANGES

Saturday 6th April 2024: As in TLB717.

Saturday 13th April 2024: As in TLB717, with a slight correction to route 306: the Sunday frequency increase from x20 to x15mins only applied from midday, it remained as x20 before then. Thanks to member Adam for pointing this out.

Sunday 21st April 2024: As in TLB717.

Saturday 27th April 2024: As in TLB717, with route 206 deferred to 11th May, also corrections and updates to PVRs:

Transport UK: 482 was duly transferred to Southall (GW) garage from 27th April, although crosslinks to 278 and U5 were withdrawn earlier on 27th January. Also, the PVRs of U5 and 278 are amended (*and also correct the position from 27th Jan as stated in TLB 714 and SUP39D*) and should be as follows:-

278 12*/10/7 #GW271+ (*U5)

U5 11+/11/7 #GW251+ (+3/278). The cross links are actually numbered #GW262/263/264 in the U5 sequence, operated by hybrid vehicles. These become DH272/279/282 in the AM peak on the 278 and form DH276/282 in the PM peak on the 278.

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. Previously 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, the daytime frequency restored to x10mins Mon-Sat Daytimes, x12mins Suns and evenings.

PVR Changes from 4th May 2024:

London Transit: 28/N28 withdrawn;

London United: No change to 148/= PVRs.

Metroline Travel: 31 to 15/15/15 #HT251+;

Metroline West: 28 to 19/19/15 #WJ1+, N28 to 5 every night #WJ31+; 31 to Metroline Travel;

Stagecoach Lea Interchange: No change to 135 PVRs.

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.

206 (*Metroline West*-WJ) (Kilburn Park Station & Wembley Park, The Paddocks) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing DEL-class AD E20D Enviro200 diesel single-deck and a VMH-class Volvo B5LH MCV Evoseti hybrid double-deck vehicle initially until new electric single-deck and double-deck vehicles are delivered in due course. Revised daily running time, although currently with widened timetables as noted above. (*Deferred from 27th April*).

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. Previously operated by *London United* from Fulwell (FW) garage using VH-class Volvo B5LH Wrightbus Gemini 3 hybrid double-deck vehicles. Note that the SDO journeys to and from Turing House School continue to be operated by Transport UK using Wrightbus StreetDeck Electroliner electric double-deck vehicles from Fulwell (TF) garage.

Saturday 11th May 2024 continued

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

PVR changes from 11th May 2024:

Go-Ahead London General: No change to 485 PVRs;

London United: 481 withdrawn;

Metroline Travel: 206 to 12/13/7 #WJ401+, 328 to 19/19/17 #W351+, 481 to 6/6/3 #AH101+;

Transport UK: No change to 481 (SDO) PVRs.

Saturday 18th May 2024:

30 (*Metroline Travel-HT*) (Hackney Wick, Chapman Road & Marble Arch) Revised Sunday timetable.

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

PVR changes from 18th May 2024: None

Saturday 18th May from 24:00 to Monday 20th May 2024 until 05:00

Also repeated at the same times over the following weekends: 1st to 3rd June, 8th to 10th June and 29th June to 1st July.

The southbound bore of Blackwall Tunnel is closed and as in the past, a split service will operate on route 108: Canning Town & Stratford International and North Greenwich & Lewisham although early Monday service maintain the through service with the southbound service diverted via Tower Bridge. As before, bus users can use the Jubilee Line from North Greenwich to Canning Town at no extra charge.

Saturday 25th May 2024:

Widening withdrawn from routes 6/=, 52 and 390/= for Hyde Park Corner works, route 13/= for Baker Street works, though widening introduced for route 40 for Farringdon works, routes 57/=, 213/= for Kingston Hill, routes 195, 482, E5, H32 for South Road, Southall works, routes 201, 270 for Mitcham Town Centre and route 226 in Park Royal HS2 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.

350 (*Transport UK-DH*) (Heathrow Terminal 5 & Hayes, ASDA) Revised daily timetable with last journey 5 minutes later to better connect with Elizabeth Line.

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. Previously 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. Previously 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.

PVR changes from 25th May 2024:

London United: 272 to 9/8/7 #V271+, 440 to 11/11/7 #RP401+, E1 withdrawn;

Metroline West: E1 to 7/7/6 #G201+, E6 withdrawn;

Transport UK: E6 to 11/11/9 #DH161+, no change to 350, E11 PVRs.

Saturday 1st June 2024: Widened timetable for route 26 for Farringdon works and route 32 for Kilburn High Road works.

- 110 (*London United-AV*) (Hounslow, Bus Station & Hammersmith, Bus Station) Mon-Sat daytime frequency reduced from x15 to x20 mins.
- 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. Sunday daytime service increased from x10 to x8 mins.
- 254 (*Arriva London North-SF*) (Aldgate Station & Holloway, Nag's Head) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing LT-class new Routemaster vehicles. Sunday daytime service increased from x10 to x8 mins.
- E3 (*London United-V*) (Greenford Broadway & Chiswick, Edensor Road) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing ADH-class AD E40H Enviro400H and VH-class Volvo B5LH Wrightbus Gemini 3 hybrid double-deck vehicles.

PVR changes from 1st June 2024:

Arriva London North: 253 to 19/18/18 #CT51+, (^N253), 254 to 23/21/21 #SF101+,

No change to N253 PVRs;

London United: 110 to 11/11/10 #AV801+, no change to E3 PVRs.

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

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. Previously 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:

Widening or adjusted schedules for routes 111/=: 216, 411 for Hampton Court Flower Show for one week only.

Saturday 29th June 2024 continued

- 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-decks.
- 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.
- 440 (*London United-RP*) (Turnham Green Church & Wembley Trading Estate, First Way) Re-allocated to Turnham Green (V) garage.
- 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. Mon-Sat daytime frequency reduced from x6 to x7mins.
- 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.
- 166 (*Arriva London South-TC*) (West Croydon & Epsom) Seasonal additional shuttle service introduced, Sats and Suns only, until Sun 25th August between Purley and Banstead. As in previous years, these are to act as duplicates for the main 166 to cater for visitors to the Mayfield Lavender Farm situated at the junction of Croydon Lane and Carshalton Road.
- 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 & Teddington School SDO - *correcting last month!*) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing VH-class Volvo B5LH Wrightbus Gemini 3 hybrid double-deck vehicles.
- K5 (*London United-TV*) (Ham, Duke Avenue & Morden Station, M-S except eves.) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing SDE-class ADE20D Enviro200D diesel single-deck vehicles.
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Saturday 13th July 2024:

382 (*Metroline Travel*-PB) (Southgate Station & Millbrook Park) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using new VMSS-class Volvo BZL/MCV electric single-deck vehicles in due course.

Saturday 20th July 2024:

17 (*Metroline Travel*-HT) (Archway Station & London Bridge Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using a mix of existing LT-class NRM new Routemaster hybrid and BDE-class BYD D8UR E400EV- City electric double-deck vehicles. Sunday daytime frequency increased from x15 to x12mins.

280 (*Go-Ahead London General*-GM) (Belmont Station & Tooting, St. George's Hospital) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using new electric double-deck vehicles in due course, at which point it is intended to re-allocate to a garage with electric facilities, later this year.

C11 (*Metroline Travel*-W) (Archway Station & Brent Cross Shopping Centre) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using new GB Kite Electroliner electric single-deck vehicles in due course.

W8 (*Metroline Travel*-PB) (Lee Valley Shopping Centre & Chase Farm Hospital) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using new BDE-class BYD D8UR E400EV- City electric double-deck vehicles in due course.

SERVICE PROPOSALS

The consultation for the re-routeing for route **309** was published. (*see TLB708*). This was to simplify and re-route in the Poplar area via Abbott Road in both directions, instead of via Ettrick Street, Aberfeldy Street and Blair Street. There were 192 responses to the consultation. 30% were in favour, but 61% were opposed, indeed local residents also sent in a petition in opposition to the proposals. Nevertheless, the re-routing will proceed, as TfL believe it will provide a more direct routeing, although will try and site a new bus stop on Abbott Road.

Further to the consultation about routes in Orpington, (*see TLBs 710 and 716*) a decision was made to withdraw route **R6** in the St. Mary Cray area and replace it with a re-routed **B14** as originally proposed. As noted in Tender News, route B14 has been awarded and all revised routes will start next March.

The consultation for the re-routeing for routes **178, 335 and B16** in Kidbrooke was published. This was to re-route services to serve Kidbrooke Station. There were 244 responses to the consultation, with TfL stating "We received a wide range of feedback regarding the proposals, both positive and negative, though with no figures to support these although supportive comments to serve Kidbrooke Station, but also negative ones about congestion, pollution and some with losing accessibility to some stops." Nevertheless, TfL will proceed with the scheme as originally planned.

A new consultation was issued on 28th May with a closing date of 8th July for route **241**. This seeks to extend the route from its current terminal at Stratford International to Here East. This would be via Montfichet Road, Pool Street, Carpenters Road, then a loop via the "Sweetwater" Development Area, via Sweetwater Place, Bassett Lane, Marshgate Lane, then via Waterden Road to terminate at Here East in Lesney Avenue. The Sunday daytime frequency is also proposed to increase from x15 to x12 mins.

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.

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

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

TLB712 p14: 394 extension to 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.

17th Aug 24: CE2 on 533 (G-A London General), CR7 on 243/=* (Arriva LN), W7* (Metroline Travel).

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

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

7th Sep 24: CR3 on 117 (London United), 395 (London Sovereign), 672 (S'ch Selkent), 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).

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

21st Sep 24: CR3 on 160/660 (S'ch Selkent), CR7 on 210* (Metroline Travel).

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

5th Oct 24: CR3 on 201 (Transport UK), 290 (London United), 180, 661, 669 (S'ch Selkent).

12th Oct 24: CR3 on 150, 175 (Arriva LN), CR6 on 103 (Arriva LN),
CR7 on 257* (S'ch East London), 341/=* (Arriva LN).

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

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

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

9th Nov 24: 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).

7th Dec 24: CR3 on 6/= (Metroline Travel), 278 (Transport UK),
CR6 on 170 (G-A London General),
CR7 on 88/=*, 355*, (G-A London General),
98/N98* (Metroline Travel), 360* (G-A London Central).

11th Jan 25: CR7 on 141* (Arriva LN), 323 (S'ch East London), CR5 on 329 (Arriva LN).

<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), CR3 on 121, W6 (Arriva LN), CR5 on 343/N343 (G-A London Central), W4 (Arriva LN), CR7 on 41/N41* (Arriva LN), 153* (GA London General to Metroline Travel). 299/389/399* (Sullivans to GA London General).
<u>8th Feb 25:</u>	CR5 on 36 (G-A London Central).
<u>22nd Feb 25:</u>	CR3 on H28 (TransportUK)
<u>1st Mar 25:</u>	CE2 on 357 (G-A London General), CR3 on H22, H37 (London United).
<u>8th Mar 25:</u>	CE2 on 212 (G-A London General), CR7 on 444* (G-A London General).
<u>15th Mar 25:</u>	CR3 on 181 (S'ch Selkent), CR6 on 161 (S'ch Selkent), CR7 on 172* (G-A London Central).
<u>22nd Mar 25:</u>	CR3 on 482 (Transport UK).
<u>29th Mar 25:</u>	CR7 on R1*, R2*, R3*, R4*, R8*, R11* (G-A Metrobus), B14* (S'ch Selkent).
<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 Commercial will not be running any “Great Day out” specials this year. Previously numbered in the 77x series, these were perhaps the last vestiges of the excursion type specials that were once common from LCBS in the 1980s and inspired similar operations by various London Bus companies. There was also no service on the 811 (Chelsea Flower Show) this year.

Edward Thomas, current operator of Surrey CC school contract service 868, have applied to extend the AM journey to start at Worcester Park, Grafton Road/Cromwell Road, starting at 07:15, then via The Avenue/Royal Avenue, Cleveland Road to turn at Worcester Park, The Avenue to pick up time the current start time at 07:35. The PM journey continues to terminate at Worcester Park, The Avenue. This is planned to start on 10th June.

London United will re-allocate the Kingston University contract from Hounslow Heath (WK) garage to Tolworth (TV) garage from 29th June.

DIVERSIONS, DEVIATIONS AND DISRUPTIONS

Central: Farringdon Street is closed northbound from 27th May to 29th September for gas main replacement. Routes **17, 40, 63/N63 and 341/=** are diverted northbound from Ludgate Circus via Fleet Street, Fetter Lane and New Fetter Lane, then Charterhouse Street (40,63/N63 and 341) to Farringdon Road. Route **25** is amended to set down at St Paul's Station and stand out of service at St. Bartholomew's Hospital. Route **17** was later amended to operate from Holborn Circus via Snow Hill and Farringdon Street because of turning difficulties. From 13th May to 26th July, owing to pedestrian works in Edgware Road, Paddington, route **16** is diverted towards Paddington via Clifton Gardens, Warwick Avenue and Harrow Road. From 20th May to 10th June, owing to sewer works in Westbourne Grove, route **23/=** was diverted northbound via Pembridge Villas, Pembridge Road, Kensington Park Road and Elgin Crescent. From 13th May to 24th June, owing to cosmetic works in Concert Hall Approach, Waterloo, route **77** is revised to start and finish journeys in York Road, arriving via York Road (including double run to Waterloo Road). Finally, routes **27/N27 and 46** have been curtailed away from Chalk Farm, Morrisons during reconstruction, although flats above the new store are still being built, so it has been suggested that the routes may be curtailed for a further 2 years! We shall, of course wait and see if the store re-opens and routes restored before then. Route **394** was also restored to normal routeing from 3rd June after long-term diversion in Homerton which started in 2023.

South-East: Further to the report last month for diversions in Mottingham, these were restored to normal by 7th May, though the diversion for Bellegrove Road Welling, (*see TLB 716*) happened again, this time from 7th May to 4th June. This affected eastbound journeys on routes **89/N89 and 486/=**, but also route **B15** which I forgot last time! Thanks to member Graham for the report. From 25th to 28th May, owing to manhole works in Dartmouth Road, Forest Hill routes **122, 176/= and 197** were diverted

northbound via Kirkdale, Sydenham Hill, with route 122 continuing via London Road, Lordship Lane, Friern Road, Etherow Street, Barry Road, Lordship Lane and London Road to return to Forest Hill. From 20th May to 5th July, owing to bridge works in Millennium Way, North Greenwich, routes **108/= and 188/=** are diverted towards North Greenwich via John Harrison Way, West Parkside and Edmund Halley Way. From 3rd June to 30th August, due to urban realm works at Foxgrove Road, Beckenham, route **354** is diverted in both directions via The Avenue and Westgate Road. From 3rd to 16th June, owing to sewer works in Orpington High Street, routes **51, 61, 208, 353, B14, R1, R3, R4, R6, R11, N199 and Arriva 477** were diverted northbound via Homefield Rise, Gravel Pit Way, Spur Road, Court Road and High Street to Chislehurst Road, and southbound from High Street via Chislehurst Road, Goodmead Road, Perry Hall Road, High Street, Court Road, Spur Road, Gravel Pit Way and Homefield Rise.

South: No sooner as we had gone to press, the London Road, Mitcham diversion was amended, more likely for routes **264/=, 270 and 355** to serve Mitcham (rather than concern over the level crossing!) Therefore these are now additionally diverted via London Road, St.Marks Road, circumnavigating the roundabout at the multi-storey car park, returning via St.Marks Road and London Road, to join the diversion for other routes via Commonsides and Mitcham Eastfields. (*see TLB 717*).

From 12th to 16th May, owing to a fuel spillage, Caterham By-Pass from Wapses Lodge Roundabout to the M25 at Godstone. BBC reported that bus routes **407, 434 and 439 and Metrobus 400** were “diverted or curtailed”, though Metrobus 409 south of Caterham Valley was not mentioned, although their website reported a diversion via Redhill. Thanks to member Ian for the report. From 20th May to 2nd June, owing to gas works in Melfort Road, Thornton Heath, route **50** was diverted in both directions via Brigstock Road and London Road. From 28th May to 21st June, owing to sewer works in Station Road West Croydon, route **75** was diverted on departure via Poplar Walk, St Michael's Road and West Croydon Bus Station to Station Road, with routes **60, 64/=, 109/N109, 198, 250/N250** continuing northbound via Station Road (east), Wellesley Road and St James's Road. Route **289** operated direct via Wellesley Road and St. James's Road, not serving West Croydon. Routes **157, 264/=, 407 and 410** also diverted westbound via St. James's Road and London Road. From 20th May to 3rd June, owing to a gas leak in Church Lane, Furzedown near Tooting, route **G1** was diverted westbound via Rectory Lane, Southcroft Road and Mitcham Road. From 24th April to 16th June, owing to gas works in Erksine Road, Sutton, route **S1** was diverted in both directions via Thicket Road, Lower Road, Westmead Road, Colston Avenue, West Street and Wrythe Lane. From 20th May to 31st May at least, North Street, Leatherhead was closed so routes **465, Reptons 478 and Falcon 479** could not serve Leatherhead Town Centre and were diverted in both directions from the gyratory at Leatherhead Station and Waterway to Guildford Road. Thanks to member Martin for some of these reports.

South-West: From 22nd to 28th May, owing to a water leak in Milbourne Lane, Claygate, route **K3** was diverted in both directions via Esher High Street, Portsmouth Road, Kingston By-Pass, Manor Road South and Oaken Lane

West: From 13th May to 7th June, owing to railway works in Lynwood Road, Hanger Hill, route **226** was diverted southbound via Hanger Lane, Hillcrest Road, West Road and Montpelier Road. On 30th-31st May, route **427** was curtailed at Uxbridge, Hillingdon Road (complete with blinds showing Uxbridge, St. Andrew's Church). This would appear to be owing to water works in Belmont Road, although other routes seemingly not affected. Thanks to member Chris for the report.

North-West: Once again, the route **395** diversion at Northolt was extended to 14th June. From 24th May to 5th June, owing to road works on Mollison Way, Queensbury, routes **114, 606 and Uno 614, 644** were diverted in both directions via Turner Road, Camrose Avenue and Burnt Oak Broadway. From 3rd to 9th June, owing to road works in Bridge Street, Pinner, route **183** is withdrawn from the usual terminal at Love Lane and Pinner Library (stop A) arriving via Cecil Park (non-bus road) and Marsh Road. Thanks to member Haydn for the report.

North: From 7th May to 14th June, owing to gas works in West Green Road, Seven Sisters, route **41/N41** was diverted westbound via High Road, Philip Lane and Spur Road, and eastbound via Spur Road, Philip Lane, Town Hall Approach Road and High Road. From 20th to 26th May, owing to road

works on Buller Road and Redvers Road, (the Wood Green terminal working), routes **67 and 230** were curtailed at Turnpike Lane at West Green Road/Green Lanes with **123**= curtailed to Turnpike Lane Bus Station.

North-East: From 5th May to 21st May, owing to a sewer collapse and then remedial work for manhole repairs from 28th May to 1st June, in Victoria Road, Buckhurst Hill, route **167** was diverted in both directions direct between Loughton Way and Roding Lane, with route **549** diverted in both directions direct via Palmerston Road. From 28th to 31st May, owing to sewer works in Fulbourne Road, Highams Park, routes **212 and W16** were diverted in both directions via Wadham Road, Hale End Road and Forest Road.

East: The “RideLondon” Cycle event on 26th May caused extensive road closures in East, North East and Central London with many routes subject to curtailments, diversions until roads progressively re-opened. From 26th May to 2nd June, owing to electrical works on Clay Tye Road, Ockendon, route **347** was diverted in both directions via Ockendon Road and Corbets Tey Road. From 27th May to 14th July, owing to gas works in Victoria Road, Romford, routes **370, 649 and 650** are diverted southbound via South Street, Thurloe Gardens and Mercury Gardens (double run to roundabout).

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

- 16 (*Central Connect*). New route, renumbered ex 22. Three M-F return journeys (one morning, one afternoon and one evening), and hourly Sats (except late evgs). Waltham Cross Bus Stn, Eleanor Cross Rd, Waltham Abbey centre, Honey Lane, Shernbrook Rd (anti-clockwise loop) and return.
- 16C (*Central Connect*). New route. Sundays except late evenings, x60. Waltham Cross Bus Stn & Loughton Stn via current 66A. There are two changes, however; first there is a new timetable including an earlier and a later journey; and second, the loop at Upshire is now served clockwise by buses towards Loughton (buses towards Waltham Cross still go anti-clockwise).
- 22 (*Vectare, Waltham Cross & Waltham Abbey (Shernbrook Rd), M-F three return jnys & Sats except late evgs*) Renumbered 16.
- 22A (*Vectare, Waltham Abbey, Highbridge St & Waltham Cross, one Sat late pm jny*) Withdrawn.
- 66A (*Central Connect, Waltham Cross & Loughton Suns except evgs*) Withdrawn (renumbered 16C).
- 724 (*Arriva KT, Harlow & Heathrow Airport Central, 24/7*) See Herts section.

You’ll note the switch to Central Connect operation in the shift from the 22/A to the 16. In fact, Vectare are adopting the Central Connect brand for all their operations. It’s not yet clear if this is just a superficial branding change or whether route registration changes will take place - more details once known. On top of all that, the Vectare / Central Connect changes in the Harlow, Epping and Ongar areas which were briefly mentioned in TLB 717 are deferred until Sunday 28th July. Full details next time.

HERTFORDSHIRE and Southern BEDFORDSHIRE

Sunday 14th April (additional to TLB 716)

- 301 (*Arriva KT, St Albans & Stevenage Lister Hosp, daily*) Withdrawn Mon-Sat daytimes between Stevenage Bus Stn and Lister Hospital. No change M-F peaks, daily evenings or Sundays.
-

Sunday 2nd June

Carousel 1/A/B/S (see Bucks section in TLB 717) and Vectare/ Central Connect 16/C, 22/A, 66A (see Essex section above). 84 & 306 (Sullivan), 301, 328, 721, 725, SB1, SB7 (Arriva KT) all as TLB 717. Additions/ amendments;

- 1/4 (*Arriva the Shires, Luton Interchange & Farley Hill, daily exc. late evgs*) Introduced late evgs, x15 on M-S (i.e. x30 on each route) and x30 Suns (x60 each route). Increased early a.m. also.
 - 9A/B/C/D (*Stagecoach, Bedford & Stevenage, M-S exc. evgs*) Minor timetable changes.
 - 12 (*Arriva the Shires, Luton (Church Street) & Stopsley, Daily exc. Sun evgs*) Earlier morning journeys introduced, M-S late evening service extended from circa 2200 to 2300 hrs, x30, and introduced on Sunday evenings, x20 until circa 2100 then x30.
 - 13/14 (*Arriva the Shires, Luton (Church Street) & St Anne's/ Round Green, M-S offpeak*) Minor timetable changes.
 - 40/A (*Centrebus, Dunstable Asda & Kensworth, Mon-Sat exc. evgs*) Withdrawn.
 - 40 (*South Beds Dial-a-Ride*). New route. Mon-Sat except evgs, Dunstable Asda & Whipsnade. Essentially a figure-of-eight, as the Centrebus 40 was, but different routeings at each end. So, Dunstable Asda via College Drive, White Lion Retail Park and Luton Rd but then via Ridgeway Ave, Wilbury Drive, Poynters Rd, Katherine Drive, Woodford Rd (covering bits of 40/ 232) and back to Asda; then a very long one-way loop via West St, Dunstable Downs, Whipsnade Zoo, Studham (Church Rd, Valley Rd, Common Rd, Clements End Rd), Holywell, Kensworth, Markyate Packhorse, London Rd, Lowther Rd, Oldhill, London Rd and back to Dunstable Asda. The section of Centrebus's 40 via Langdale Estate is not replaced. Five round trips M-F, three on Sats, down from ten and nine respectively.
 - 43 (*South Beds Dial-a-Ride, Dunstable & Studham, M-F two return journeys*) Withdrawn.
 - 97 (*Arriva KT, Hitchin & Stotfold, daily exc. evgs*) M-F early journeys towards Hitchin retimed earlier for train connections. An extra eastbound journey added M-F early evenings.
 - 100 (*Arriva KT, Stevenage & Luton Interchange via airport, daily exc. evgs*) As in TLB 717. Also, withdrawn on Sundays (see 101).
 - 101 (*Arriva KT, Stevenage & Luton Interchange, daily*) As in TLB 717. The double-run to Lilley is confirmed as withdrawn, apart from certain peak hour journeys which are now numbered 102. Further to the M-S frequency increases previously noted, increased Sundays from x120 to x60.
 - 102 (*Arriva KT*). New route. Mon-Fri peaks, three a.m. eastbound journeys and three westbound p.m. journeys. Stevenage Bus Stn & Luton Interchange via the new 101 but also including the double-run (as currently done by the 101) to serve Lilley.
 - 231 (*South Beds Dial-a-Ride*) New route. Pepperstock, Slip End, Caddington then Dunstable Rd and London Rd to Dunstable Asda. Two M-F daytime journeys only, replacing most of the 232.
 - 232 (*South Beds Dial-a-Ride, Pepperstock & Dunstable Asda, M-F daytimes*) Withdrawn.
 - 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. Extended M-F peaks and M-S early evenings to Watford Gen. Hospital (car park).
 - 328 (*Red Rose*) New route. Mount Vernon Hospital & Abbots Langley mostly via current Arriva 328. However, at the Abbots Langley end, runs in a long one-way loop via Arriva's 328 Langley La, Tibbs Hill Rd, High Street, Hazelwood Lane then The Highway and South Way back to Langley Lane/ Aerodrome Way and return. The loop via Broomfield Rise thus abandoned. Additionally, in Leavesden between Aerodrome Way and Leggatts Way runs via Courtlands Drive bridge and North Orbital Rd instead of Ashfields, Leavesden Green roundabout and the bus-only lane. Frequencies retained as x60 daily (no evening service), with short journeys providing an x30 headway on Mon-Sat between Mount Vernon and Watford Town Centre (or Watford Junction in M-F peaks). Service will start slightly later and finish slightly earlier each day.
 - 331 (*Arriva KT, Hertford Bus Stn & Buntingford, M-S exc. Evgs*) An extra journey added at 1951 from Buntingford to Hertford via the Hare Street routeing.
-

Sunday 2nd June continued

- 331 (*A2B Travel Group*) New service, Hertford Bus Stn & Buntingford, Sundays except evenings via Arriva's Mon-Sat 331. Runs x120, all journeys going via the Hare Street routeing apart from the first northbound and last southbound journeys which, like Arriva's parallel M-S journeys, run direct via the A10 not only between Buntingford and Puckeridge, but also between Ware (Wodson Park) and Standon (Kents Lane).
- 502 (*Red Rose*) New route. See Bucks section.
- 724 (*Arriva KT, Harlow & Heathrow Airport, 24/7*) Further to TLB 717, there's only one additional am peak journey between Hertford and Harlow.

Changes also on several other routes in Luton/ Dunstable which are out-of-area, i.e. Arriva the Shires routes 23, 24/25/6, 27, 28/B, 29, 31, 32, 802, A, Z and F70/F77 and South Beds Dial-a-Ride 47 and 74.

Saturday 30th June

- RA3 (*First Beeline, Watford Junction & Heathrow Airport express, daily*) Timetable changes.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE, SLOUGH AND WINDSOR

Sunday 19th May

Changes in High Wycombe. Arriva routes 2, 4, 5, 6, 7/A, 10, 11, 12, 13, 800, 850, X7, X8, X9, X90 and Carousel routes 4, 8, 28/A, X8 all as in TLB 717. Also, more details about SDO routes have emerged;

- 5A (*Arriva the Shires, High Wycombe & Bourne End Stn, SDO*) Minor timetable changes.
- 6 (*AtS, High Wycombe & Bourne End, daily exc M-S late evgs and Sun evgs*) Further to TLB 717, the SDO journeys that run via Bourne End Academy are renumbered 6A.
- 6A (*AtS, Penn & Bourne End SDO; return pm jny continues to Tylers Green*) Renumbered 6B.
- 6A (*AtS*) New number for SDO journeys currently on route 6 that run via Bourne End Academy.
- 6B (*AtS*) New number for SDO journeys currently running as 6A between Penn/ Tylers Green and Bourne End Academy.
- 7A (*AtS*). New SDO route as described in TLB 717. Clarifying the query in TLB 717, this is additional to the current (and indeed continuing) 5A (qv).

Sunday 2nd June

Carousel; routes 1/A/B/S, 41/S, 101, 102, 103, 104, 106, 107, 180, 275, 577, X103 all as in TLB 717. A footnote to the withdrawal of the out-of-area 275 between High Wycombe and Chinnor is that Red Rose will be running a partial replacement numbered 331.

- 502 (*Red Rose*) New route, Sundays except evenings. Four return journeys. Aylesbury Bus Stn via Wendover Road, Weston Turville, Worlds End Lane, Wendover, Halton Camp, Upper Icknield Way, Tring Hill, Tring, Brook Street, Tring Wharf then a one-way loop via Bulbourne, Ivinghoe, Marsworth, Tringford and return. Replaces (and indeed improves upon) Vale Travel's three-journey Sunday service on route 50 withdrawn the previous week, though the last journey which had run direct from Tringford back to Aylesbury hasn't survived. Interesting that this Sunday operation didn't retain the number 50, given that there is an (almost) parallel Mon-Sat service between Aylesbury and Halton Camp also numbered 50 and also operated by Red Rose!

Monday 3rd June

- 10 (*Red Rose, Aylesbury & Hawkslade, Sats & Suns except evgs*) Introduced Mon-Sat evgs, x30. Note that route 9 provides the main M-F except evgs service over the whole route.

Sunday 28th July

As has been widely reported, Arriva the Shires are proposing that their Aylesbury and High Wycombe depots will close after service on Saturday 27th July, with the withdrawal of all services operating from those garages except for the X5 (Aylesbury & Hemel Hempstead) which would transfer to Arriva KT's garage at Hemel. Equally widely reported has been the rapid response from other operators, most notably

Carousel, who say they will replace the vast majority of Arriva's High Wycombe operations. Redline have announced that they will introduce a new service between High Wycombe and Aylesbury, and that they will alter their X20 between Aylesbury and Oxford. The changes will be very extensive, so details will be given in TLB 719 once the situation is clearer.

SURREY and northern parts of WEST SUSSEX

Friday 29th March

RHS Wisley Shuttle Bus (*Non-stop service to/ from Woking Station*) Operation transferred from Woking Bustler to Stagecoach.

Saturday 11th May

Metrobus; 400, 420, 430, 435, 460, 480 all as in TLB 717. Additionally;

- 51 (*Metrobus, Horsham Town Service; The Common & North Heath, M-S offpeaks*) Withdrawn between Horsham Town Centre and North Heath (replaced by 71).
- 71 (*Metrobus*) New route. Mon-Sat except evgs, x60. Horsham Bus Stn & Mowbray (Bohunt School) via Horsham Stn, Hurst Rd, North Parade, Wimbleshurst Rd, North Heath Lane, Coltsfoot Drive, Jackdaw La, Rusper Rd (return via Giblets Way and Wimbleshurst Rd), and Bailey Rd.
- 84 (*Metrobus, Crawley & East Grinstead, M-S except evgs*) Minor timetable changes.
- 273 (*Metrobus, Crawley & Brighton, M-S exc. Evgs*). Altered to no longer serve the Black Swan stop in Pease Pottage. Most journeys revised to no longer serve Hickstead or Bolney, being rerouted direct non-stop via the A23 instead. Pyecombe Garage now only served northbound. Altered to limited stops only between Patcham and Brighton. Frequency increased to x60 Mon-Sat. Introduced Sundays x90. No service at all to Hickstead or Bolney on this day.
- 398 (*Metrobus, Southwater & Crawley, St Wilfrid's School, SDO*) Rerouted via Somerset Rd and Calvert Link to also serve the Kilnwood area.

Thursday 16th May

- 637 (*Reptons, Byfleet & Salesian School, SDO*) Timetable changes to cope with the ongoing roadworks at the M25/ A3 junction.

Sunday 26th May

The RHS Wisley Shuttle Bus timetable amended for the M25/A3 roadworks. An intermediate stop added at Ripley Post Office; pick-up only towards Wisley, set-down only towards Woking.

Monday 27th May

The former Arriva and ex-LCBS garage at Guildford was closed by Stagecoach South after operations on Sunday 26th May. All workings transferred to their existing base at Guildford Peasmarsh.

Monday 10th June

- 456 (*Falcon, Staines & Woking, M-S exc. evgs*) Frequency increased from x60 to x30. In M-F peaks the headway will be approximately x40, with an earlier start M-F and a later finish (into early evening) M-S and timed to provide an x15 headway with route 436 between Woking and West Byfleet, and similar with the 446 between Chertsey and Staines. No change Suns by White Bus.

Sunday 30th June

- RA2 (*First Beeline, Heathrow Central & Guildford, daily*) Revised timetable.

Monday 29th July

- 446 (*White Bus, Kingfield Green & Staines, daily exc. late evgs, ext M-F plus Sat early am & evgs to Ashford Hosp and further M-F to Hatton Cross*) Extended to run through to Hatton Cross at all times. Introduced late evenings and earlier in the mornings between Chertsey and Hatton Cross. Other timetable changes including earlier M-F journeys between Ottershaw and Woking Stn.

Monday 2nd September (LDOs for school routes will be end of school terms in July)

- 525 (*Carlone, Albury & Cranleigh, Thurs daytime 1 rtn jny*) Withdrawn.
533 (*Carlone, Ewhurst & Ranmore, Tues daytimes 2 rtn jnys*) Withdrawn.
545 (*Carlone, Guildford & Walliswood, Weds daytimes, 1 rtn jny*) Withdrawn.
555 (*Diamond SE, Whiteley Village & Heathrow Central, daily exc. late evgs*) Operation transferred to White Bus under Surrey CC contract.
599 (*Carlone, Sutton Abinger & Cranleigh Thu & Fri daytimes 1 rtn jny, ext Fri to Guildford*) Withdrawn.
661 (*Cardinal Buses, Hampton Court & Hinchley Wood School, SDO*) Operation transferred to Reptons under Surrey CC contract.
862 (*Edward Thomas & Son, Oxshott Heath & Ashtead (St Andrew's School), SDO*) Operation transferred to Cardinal Buses under Surrey CC contract.
881 (*Cardinal Buses, Thames Ditton & Three Rivers Academy, SDO*) Minor timetable change (p.m.)

The withdrawal of the 525, 533, 545 and 599 is covered by the existing Surrey Connect DRT service (Cranleigh zone), which, it's worth noting, started serving certain stops on these routes from 8th April.

North and West KENT Some catching up to do for this area!

Tuesday 2nd January

Following the end of roadworks on the A21, changes to several Go-Coach services;

- 5 (*Sevenoaks & Tonbridge, Mon-Sat daytimes*) Normal timetable restored.
429 (*West Kingsdown & Swanley, Mon-Sat exc. evgs, extended until approx. 1500 to Dartford*) Minor timetable changes.
S5 (*Hildenborough & Greatness, Trinity School, SDO*). Normal timetable restored. Additionally, morning journey withdrawn between Weald Forge and Hildenborough.
S5W (*Weald & Hildenborough, SDO*) This temporary service withdrawn (replaced by TW3)
T3 (*Knockholt & Tonbridge, Weald of Kent School, SDO*) Normal timetable restored (first day 3rd Jan)
TW3 (*Swanley & Tunbridge Wells schools, SDO*) Rerouted to also serve Weald village.

Monday 29th January

- 4 (*1st Bus Stop, Dartford & New Ash Green, SDO*) Afternoon journey retimed and altered to start from Wilmington Schools, except on Wednesday.

Sunday 7th April (further to TLB 715)

- 228 (*Redroute Buses, Tonbridge & Bluewater, Tuesday term-times only*) Withdrawn. LDO Tues 26th March. This infrequent service worked off the SDO 223 which was lost to Brian Jones Coaches.
306 (*Redroute Buses, Gravesend Stn & Sevenoaks, SDO, and Mon-Sat evenings Borough Green & Bluewater*) SDO journeys withdrawn between Vigo and Sevenoaks and reduced to one journey in each peak in each direction. The evening service withdrawn altogether, without replacement.
308 (*Redroute Buses, Gravesend & Sevenoaks, Mon-Sat except evgs*) Withdrawn Sats between Vigo and Gravesend.

Monday 15th April

- VIGO1 (*1st Bus Stop, Vigo & Gravesend, SDO*) Rerouted via Old Road West and Pelham Rd to serve Mayfield Grammar School, partly compensating for the loss of the 305 (ref TLB 715).

Monday 6th May

- G1 (*Brian Jones, Gravesend, Milton Rd & Longfield Academy, SDO*) Completely recast to cover parts of withdrawn S1. In brief, now a remarkably circuitous routeing from Denton (Milton Ale Shades) via Milton, Gravesend, Darnley Rd, Old Rd West, Wrotham Rd, Cross Rd West,
-

Singlewell Rd, Singlewell, Istead Rise (fine so far) then an enormous near-loop, journey time approx. 1 hour (!) via Coldharbour Rd, Springhead, Ebbsfleet, Southfleet Rd, Swanscombe Stn, London Rd, Greenhithe, Gore Rd, Lane End and Green Street Green to Longfield Academy.

S1 (*Brian Jones, Gravesend Station & Longfield Academy, SDO*) Withdrawn.

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).

Leisure travellers are targeted with **“Make it a DLR Day”**, a twelve page A5 book featuring the title on a roundel in front of a DLR train crossing the water at Canary Wharf. Dated July 2023 it has generic information about using the system plus details of attractions close to twelve stations, although one of these is North Greenwich which is only served by the Jubilee line! Previously unreported is a November 2022 edition of **“A guide to using Docklands Light Railway.”** The multifold slimline does exactly what the title suggests and includes an extract of the ‘Tube map’ bounded by North Acton, Tufnell Park, Upminster Bridge and Cutty Sark.

Brixton station is the setting for **“This is how you get places”**, the latest project from the ‘Art on the Underground’. The multifold slimline opens out to give details and transcripts of audio pieces created ‘in response to Brixton and the murals, past and present, in the tube station’. The works have been produced by students at the Royal College of Art’s Writing MA, with the college logo appearing on the front cover. Readers wishing to listen to the pieces can scan a QR code in the leaflet.

Ensignbus have reintroduced their summer open top service linking Southend with Leigh on Sea and introduced a new route 99 to Shoeburyness. Full details can be found in **“Fun for all the family on Seaside Service 68”**, a multifold slimline.

Whilst other large groups have often quietly phased out printed timetables Go Ahead continues to publish an extensive range. Carousel’s **“High Wycombe local service guide”** has a new edition valid ‘from 19th May to 31st August 2024’, the twelve page slimline book providing timetables for routes 4, 27, 38, 39 and 39A plus a town network map also showing ‘the One’ and ‘Chiltern hundreds’ groups of services. The expiry date is included in recognition of plans to renumber route 4 to 34 from September. Further changes from 2nd June saw three new slimline items published. A last bus at 22:30 and Sunday frequency of up to every thirty minutes are promoted on the cover of **“the one”**, another twelve page book containing timetables for routes 1, 1A, 1B and 1S plus a map showing the routes taken by this group of services which link the town with Amersham, Chesham and Hemel Hempstead. Passengers between High Wycombe and Amersham can also use **“41”** which is a multifold slimline with full timetable. The same format is used for **“275”** to provide a timetable for the core weekday service between Oxford and Chinnor plus peak hour positioning journeys serving High Wycombe. This is valid from 2nd June until 31st August and includes a simple map accompanied by narrative suggesting a day out on the Chinnor and Princes Risborough Railway or connecting in Oxford to enjoy the delights of Abingdon and Didcot. Changes to the ‘Chiltern hundreds’ network also took place from 2nd June although the publicity for this had not arrived from the printers at the time of writing. When Carousel take over many of the services withdrawn by Arriva next month their need for staff increases, with **“Get in the driver’s seat”** aiming to address this. The multifold slimline promotes a recruitment day held on 2nd June and includes details of a payment of up to £4000 for existing PCV drivers and wages of £33000-£42000 per annum for anyone joining.

Fellow Go Ahead company Metrobus is another to value printed publicity, with two correspondents reporting plentiful supplies during recent visits to the operator's travel office in Crawley. All are A6 size with a coloured fronts featuring a cartoon bus – either single deck or double deck. To promote travel across the wider network each of the leaflets includes the 'Metrobus area bus routes' map which also shows relevant services run by Brighton & Hove. The Fastway logo is carried on the blue cover of **"20"** valid from 24th February. The twenty-page book features the cartoon single deck bus and has timetable and map for the service which runs twenty four hours a day.

The remaining leaflets cover changes to routes from 11th May. An orange front and single deck bus is on the cover of **"51"**, a multifold leaflet providing a timetable and map for this Horsham town service. An olive-green cover with full timetable and route map can be found in **"71"**, also in multifold format. The same level of information is also in **"84"**, a multifold with light brown cover. The first to feature the double decker bus is **"271, 272"**, a sixteen-page book giving timetables and route maps for these two important routes linking Crawley, Haywards Heath, Burgess Hill and Brighton. A quicker route between Crawley and Brighton is provided by **"273"**, the blue multifold carries three circles promoting enhanced frequencies and journey times. As well as the usual timetable and maps, narrative explains the major improvements accompanied by the company logo and those for West Sussex County Council and Brighton & Hove City Council. An improved evening service is highlighted in a yellow circle on the blue cover of multifold **"400."** An improved evening service also features on the red cover of **"420, 460"**, a twenty-page book which also includes details of school day route 820. Also published as a twenty page book is **"430, 435"** which sees the single deck bus return to the purple cover. A yellow circle directs passengers in Whitebushes to use service 460 following the withdrawal of these two routes from the area. The message about an improved evening service is repeated on the red cover of **"460"**, a twenty page book featuring the double decker cartoon bus. Inside the timetable and maps include details of routes 420, 460, 480 and 820.

Reading Buses flagship **"Windsor Express"** has been updated to reflect changes from 23rd March.

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:

Attending the High Wycombe running day on 2nd June were GS13, RF280, RM848, RMC1513, RML2440, RT604, RT3491, SNB312, SNB448, SNB449, LDP285 (GAL) plus ex-Arriva G281 UMJ, N168 PUT, P288 FPK and R301 CMV.

A new all-electric BYD BD11 double-deck bus in TfL specification was unveiled on 21st May at the London Bus Museum (Brooklands). It is 10.9m long with a battery range of 400 miles and capacity of 90 passengers. This bus has the new Lithium Iron Phosphate 'blade' batteries, which are claimed to be thinner and safer, where charging can be achieved within 2 hours. It is anticipated to be in use for trials with London operators, including Go Ahead London in the coming months with potential orders to follow.

ARRIVA LONDON**ARRIVA LONDON NORTH** - AD, AR, CT, DT, DX, E, EC, GY, SF and WN.**ARRIVA LONDON SOUTH** - BN, N, TC and TH.

From mid-May, route 307 (E) is now increasingly operated by Electroliner EVs (ES1-16), following success in upgrading garage charging capabilities and the installation of additional chargers, enabling more buses to be charged at one time. 12th May was the first Sunday where Electroliner EVs were in use on route 307, which for many months has only seen DWs in operation on a Sunday. The next batch of Electroliner EVs due are for Enfield garage and route 279/N279 (ES51-84).

Route 417 (BN) is allocated Electroliner EVs, however very occasionally LT buses are used. Three were noted in service on 22nd April (LT738, LT968 and LT977).

Some of the former E400s used on route W3 (WN) have moved to Clapton (CT) for potential further use on Rail Replacement work and 'Special projects'. Following the loss of route 242 to Stagecoach London (HK) on 24th February, Clapton now has the room to accommodate these extra buses.

LT237, which had been VOR since 25th May 2023, was back in service on 22nd May.

Recent repaint/refurbs noted include LT237, LT340, LT343, LT344, LT498, LT538 and LT540.

Transfers:**December 2023**

T134 TH/THu

March 2024

T207 WN/WNw

T210 WN/WNw

T221 WN/WNw

April 2024

HA17 DX/N

T204 WNw/CTu

T205 WNw/CTu

T207 WNw/CTu

T208 WNw/CTu

T210 WNw/CTu

T211 WN/CTu

T212 WNw/CTu

T213 WN/CTu

T215 WN/ECw

T219 WNw/CTu

T221 WNw/CTu

T224 WN/CTu

May 2024

EMC14 TCu/TCw

HV76 ADu/AD

HV322 BN/WN

HV323 BN/WN

LT237 u/SF

SLS26 THu/CNw

SLS27 CNu/CNw

SLS28 CNu/CNw

SLS29 CNu/CNw

SLS30 CNu/CNw

SW1 ADu/ADw

SW6 TCu/TCw

SW9 TCu/ECw

T38 DTu/DTw

T134 THu/ECw

T262 WNw/ECw

June 2024

LT179 CT/E

LT203 SF/CT

LT324 SF/CT

LT345 CT/SF

LT350 CT/SF

Livery changes:

HV343 to advert for Holy Ghost & Fire

LT489 from advert for Taylor Swift back to Red

LT524 from advert for BBC to advert for Euros 2024

LT537 from advert for Sol De Janeiro back to Red

LT584 to advert for Brewdog

LT586 to advert for Cos

LT734 from advert for L'Oreal Bright Reveal to advert for Polo Ralph Lauren

LT735 and LT825 from adverts for Nike - Feel The Unreal back to Red

LT827 to advert for Cos

LT833 to advert for Pantene

Disposals:

DW191, EN5/12/13/18/20/21, ENX19, T7, T38, T134, T158, T186, T227, T238, T262 and T293 have all left the fleet for scrap (June).

ENS15-27 left the fleet (June).

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).

ARRIVA'S COUNTRY BUSES continued

Part 1: North West Kent (NF garage, Arriva Kent Thameside licence).

Dart SLF 1563 (RX07 KPJ) has been reinstated and was back in service from 17th May. This bus had been out of service since use on 4th March and was stored at Gillingham. Two 8.8m Dart SLFs transferred from area 2 (SV) into NF in late May, in exchange for two 10.8m E200s.

Transfers: 1563 NFw/NFu/NF. 1610/13 Area 2 (SV)/ NF.

Into the fleet:

1610/13 (GN04 UDB/G) Transbus Dart SLF - Transbus Pointer 8.8m B29F (in use from 29th May)

Out of the fleet: 4041/43 (GN09 AWP/U) to Area 2 (4041 to HH. 4043 to SV).

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

The repaint programme of the 8 x SB200/Wrightbus Pulsars at HA into 'Greenline 724' green/white/purple livery has been curtailed, with just 4 completed some time ago (3771/2, 3797/98). The others usually allocated to the route (3770/73/74/99) will now not be done.

Further to TLB717, pg.25; E40D MMC 6502 (SN66 WHV) is now known to be at WE on loan.

VDL 3812 (YJ58 FFA) is still in plain white (see below).

Into the fleet:

2953 (YJ61 MHV) Optare Versa V1110 B37F (in use from 9th May)

3741 (YJ57 AZU) VDL SB200 - Wright Commander 11.9m (in use from 28th May)

3812 (YJ58 FFA) VDL SB200 - Plaxton Centro B45F (in use from 23rd May)

3816 (MX61 AWC) VDL SB220 - Wright Pulsar 11.9m B44F (in use from 8th May)

4041 (GN09 AWP) AD E200Dart - AD Enviro200 10.8m B38F (in use from 27th May)

4043 (GN09 AWU) AD E200Dart - AD Enviro200 10.8m B38F (in use from 29th May)

4218 (KX61 LFS) Optare Versa V1110 B37F (on loan from 30th April to 9th May inclusive) See below

Transfers:

2953 Area 3 (WB)/HH **loan**. 3741, 3812, 3816 Area 3 (AY)/HH.

4041 Area 1 (NF)/HH. 4043 Area 1 (NF)/SV. 4218 Arriva Kent & Surrey (TW)/WE **loan**/Arriva Kent & Surrey (TW).

Out of the fleet:

1610/13 (GN04 UDB/G), 3985 (GN07 DLK) to Area 1 (NF).

3767/68 (LT63 UNL/M) to Area 3 (LD) and renumbered to **3945/46**.

4218 (KX61 LFS) returned off loan back to Arriva Kent (TW).

Disposals:

Further detail to TLB717, pg.25 - 2482 (YJ07 VRF), 4187 (KX62 JKN) and T484 (CX06 BHU) to Shelton Motors for scrap (April).

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

On 14th May it was announced that Aylesbury (AY) and High Wycombe (WB) garages are proposed to close for good this Summer, with both earmarked for 27th July as the last day of operation. AY has a current PVR (peak vehicle requirement) of 19 and WB has a PVR of 28. Route X5 (Aylesbury to Hemel Hempstead) would move from AY to Hemel Hempstead (HH) garage with all other routes at AY and WB being discontinued.

Dart SLF 2211 has been withdrawn in April and the last Dart SLF at LD (1616) was withdrawn after use on 23rd May. The last Dennis Trident/ALX400 in the fleet (5425) was withdrawn on 8th May after a loyal 24 years in service. This bus was in pink livery promoting 'Love Luton'.

Further to TLB717, pg.25; Scania OmniLink 3505 (YN08 HZS) is now known to be at LD on loan.

ARRIVA'S COUNTRY BUSES continued

Further to TLB717, pg.25; 6 additional Volvo B9TLs (4107-10/13/14) have arrived at LD, joining 4103 to replace the Volvo B7TLs (6403/39/47-49) and Trident 5425. 4107/8/9/14 (see below) are already in light blue livery. 4110/13 are still in inter urban livery.

Mercedes-Benz Sprinter 1020 has been repainted into light blue livery, formerly in an allover advert promoting Hemel Hempstead's 'Storm' basketball club.

E40D 5461 has been repainted into light blue livery, the first of the AY 'Sapphire' liveried E40Ds to be done with 5462-69 to follow. All are destined for pastures new beyond 27th July.

Into the fleet (from Arriva Midlands):

4107-10/13/14 (YJ08 EEH/M/N/P/T/U) Volvo B9TL - Optare Olympus H51/30F.

4772 (YJ56 KFD) VDL DB250 - Wright Pulsar H41/26F (on loan, although not in use yet)

Into the fleet (from Area 2):

3945/46 (LT63 UNL/M) Volvo B7RLE - Wrightbus Eclipse Gemini Urban B45F (formerly 3767/68)

Transfers:

1616, 2211 LD/LDw. 2953 WB/Area 2 (HH) **loan**. 3580 WBU/WB. 3741, 3812, 3816 AY/Area 2 (HH).

4107-10/13/14 Arriva Midlands/LD. 4772 Arriva Midlands/AY **loan**. 5425, 6403, 6439 LD/LDw.

Out of the fleet:

3741 (YJ57 AZU), 3812 (YJ58 FFA), 3816 (MX61 AWC) to Area 2 (HH).

6149 (UUI 2907) returned to Arriva Kent & Surrey (Tunbridge Wells). Last used 4th March.

A2B TRAVEL GROUP, Royston

Scania N230UB/ Optare Olympus DD58 BUS has reverted back to registration number PN09 ENL.

Into the fleet:

YN54 AHA Scania N94UD OmniCity B42F. Previously with Mulleys Coaches, Bury St Edmunds.

YJ15 AOT Optare MetroCity MC1080 B40F. Previously with New Adventure Travel, Cardiff.

BEAR BUSES, Shepperton

Into the fleet:

YX09 AED AD E200Dart - AD Enviro200 10.2m B29D (formerly Metroline DE1653).

CAROUSEL BUSES, High Wycombe

Update to TLB716/717; Mercedes-Benz Citaros 893/4 are BF62 JZM/N (not JZN/M).

Further to info in TLB717, pg.26 - we now know that 7 x E40D MMCs are due in for 'Flightline route 102'. These will be from Oxford Bus, formerly used on the Brookes Bus contract, fleet numbers 608-614 (RW/PS/PK/LM/GA/JG/GH64 OXF). The batch will undergo internal refurbishment, repaint into the two-tone green livery with 'Flightline route 102' branding but will also feature free Wifi, USB charging points, next stop audio visual announcements and luggage racks.

The first of the batch - E40D MMC 609 (PS64 OXF) entered service on 'Flightline' route 102 on 2nd May with 608 (RW64 OXF) to follow imminently.

E20D 514 (YX70 OLO) is usually allocated to route 275 (High Wycombe to Oxford City Centre).

Mercedes-Benz 890 (BF62 JZL) has received route One branding.

Mercedes-Benz Citaros 892/3 (BF62 JZK/M) have been repainted red and received route One branding. To recap, 889-893 are red and are route One branded, with 894 to follow.

Correction to TLB717, pg.26; withdrawn Scania OmniDekka is 241 (YN56 FFD) – see below as well.

Into the fleet: 608 (RW64 OXF) AD E40D - AD Enviro400 (MMC) 10.9m H47/32F

Disposal: 241 (YN56 FFD) left the fleet by early June.

CENTRAL CONNECT, Harlow and Stansted

Mercedes-Benz Sprinters 208, 219 and E20D 317 having been ‘on loan’ from Vectare for many months are now assumed to be permanent members of the fleet.

Mercedes-Benz Sprinters 221/222 (RX23 TVE/F) have arrived from Vectare, currently ‘on loan’.
Into the fleet:

208 (RX23 TFK) Mercedes-Benz 516CDi Sprinter - EVM Cityline B16F (Further to TLB716, pg.28).

219 (RX23 TUY) Mercedes-Benz 516CDi Sprinter - EVM Cityline B16F (Further to TLB716, pg.28).

317 (YX16 OBS) E20D - AD Enviro200 (MMC) 9.0m B24F (Further to TLB713, pg.38)

320 (SN16 OVP) E20D - AD Enviro200 (MMC) 9.0m B29F

341 (SF66 ARV) E20D - AD Enviro200 (MMC) 10.9m B41F

Disposals:

E20Ds 331/332/334/336 (YX22 OKA/B/D, YX72 ONA) to Red Rose Travel, Aylesbury.

E20Ds 335 (YX22 OKE) and 339 (YX72 OND) have left the fleet off lease and been repainted white.

Further to TLB717, pg.27 - E20D 337 (YX72 ONB) is now with Transport UK (within their Rail Replacement division). Note: Not part of their London fleet.

CENTREBUS, Luton

On loan: 999 (YX21 RVJ) E20D - AD Enviro200 (MMC) 10.9m B41F. This bus is plain white and arrived in April and is usually allocated to route 26 (Cambridge to Royston).

Disposal: Optare Solo 237 (YJ07 VRV) left the fleet some time ago. Last used 24th November 2023.

CRUISERS, Redhill

Further to TLB717, pg.27 and pg.41; E20D YX13 EHH after a period of loan for a month from end of January to end of February is now a permanent member of the fleet. It re-entered service on its usual home - route 315 (Dormansland to Redhill and East Surrey Hospital) on 1st May.

Acquired: 111 (YX13 EHH) AD E20D - AD Enviro200 8.9m B25F.

ENSIGNBUS, Purfleet

On launch day (4th May) of the new Southend Pier to Shoeburyness Seaside Service 99, open top Volvo B9TLs 364/5 (MX58 DXT/V) were in use. Both carry route 99 branding. Further to TLB717, pg.27; 366 (MX58 DXV) is branded as ‘Bubblegum Beachcomber’ and 367 (MX58 DXZ) is branded as ‘Butterscotch Breezer’. Both carry route 99 branding and will be used when the service increases from hourly to every 30 minutes in the School holiday season.

Volvo B7TL/Ayats Bravo 370 (EU05 VBL) has had a repaint into a red/silver version of fleet livery, now minus route 68 branding.

FALCON COACHES, Byfleet

E20Ds YX72 OJW and YX23 OSZ are in white and not yet in fleet livery.

E20D YX12 DLE was stood down after use on 26th April (see below).

Into the fleet: SK24 CTX E20D - AD Enviro200 (MMC) 9.0m B30F.

Disposal: E20D YX12 DLE left the fleet (May).

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

StreetLite 47686 has been repainted into the orange front/ purple rear ‘Beeline’ livery. To recap; StreetLites 47686/87/89-91/93/95 are in this livery, with others in the batch to follow.

Into our area:

63308 (SN65 OLO) Wrightbus StreetLite DF 11.5m B41F. In use from 2nd May.

Disposal:

69927 (BV13 ZCU) left the fleet in May. The last of the batch of Volvo 7900Hs to be scrapped.

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.

E200EV SEe243 moved from Croydon (C) to Sutton (A) in early March, to support the new E200EVs (304-312) on route S2. This serves as a second spare to the PVR of 8, with a pool of 10 buses.

The E200EVs delivered for route 152 (SEe276-290) have now all entered service at Merton (AL), with the last one (SEe288) on 8th May. Consequently the E200Dart/ Optare Esteem single decks (SOE class) are earmarked to be stood down. The three E200EVs (SEe329-331) intended for route 439 (C) entered service on 14th May, although in practice these are in use alongside SEe244-59, which are the ones in theory allocated to route 450.

The first of the batch of E200EVs (SEe313-328) intended for route 39 (AF) has entered service, with SEe313 on route 265 on 17th May. In practice, the E200EVs (SEe220-231) already at AF for route 265 will be mixed with the newest ones intended for route 39, as both are the same length. SEe232, part of the route 265 batch, is still away for front end repairs after suffering fire damage within AF on 24th January. The E200EVs for route 39 will replace the StreetLites (WS67-78/87-90) which are currently used.

E400EVs started to be introduced onto route 157 (AL) from 20th May. The intended batch delivered for route 157 (Ee243-262) are still yet to transfer into AL with most in storage at MG/RR.

The four E200EVs (SEe332-35) for route 396 (RR) arrived in mid-May and are currently parked at RR awaiting introduction into service. The E200EVs (SEe291-303) ordered for route 325 (RR) are all delivered and have been stored at Silvertown (SI). Five of those (SEe299-303) have now been deployed on route 376 (DS) temporarily from 22nd May until the intended 10.9m E200EVs move across from NP, of which SEe118 and SEe141 have transferred thus far.

LT411, after being curtailed to 'Upton Park, Boleyn' on 18th May whilst on route 5, took a wrong turn off Barking Road and ended up in a RTC with a house on Claughton Road, East Ham. EH244 took a wrong turn by Eastbourne Terrace, Paddington, whilst on route 36 on 1st June and headed towards the low height taxi only entrance, resulting in front top deck damage.

The Optare MetroDeckers (Me1-17) are still VOR, following the engine fire of Me12 on 11th May, leading to continued single deck allocation on route 200 (AL).

The Volvo B5LHs/ Gemini 3s (WHV82-100) allocated to route 155 (SW) are in the process of being refurbished and repainted, with eight completed thus far (WHV83/85/86/88/91/92/95/99).

The Volvo B5LH/eVoSetis (MHV11-18/20, 53/54/56-62) allocated to routes 91 and 476 (NP) are in the process of being refurbished and repainted, with four completed thus far (MHV56/59/60/62). The refurbished/repainted MHVs are the only members of the NP garage fleet to receive garage codes. The batch replaced Volvo B9TLs (WVN2-17) as part of the tender re-award, however sole WVN23 is still in use at NP.

Route 486 (BX) saw its first visit by an MHV when MHV65 appeared on 1st May, followed later by frequent visits by the type. A rarity on route 262 (DS) on 28th May was MHV2.

Recent repaint/refurbs noted include EH41, EH42 and MHV90.

New deliveries (June):

Ee263-273 (LF24 ZNW/X/Y/Z, ZPB/C/D/E/G/H/J) for route 262 (DS).

BYD D8UR-DD - AD Enviro400EC-City 10.9m H42/23D

Transfers:

Unknown dates		February 2024		May 2024	
E101	SWu/SWc	SOE10	AL/ALu	Ee213	SIu/AL
E102	SWu/SWc			Ee214	SIu/AL
E104	SWu/SWc	March 2024		Ee215	--/SIu
EN3	NXc/LDc	SEe243	C/A	Ee216	--/SIu
EN15	NXc/LDc	SOE19	AL/ALu	Ee244	BX/MB/C
EN17	NXc/LDc			EH41	Q/PM
SOE8	RRu/RRw	April 2024		EH42	Q/PM
		SOE29	AL/ALu	LT411	RR/RRu
				MHV90	NX/SW

May 2024 continued		SEe277	GASu/AL	SEe320	--/SIu	WS79	NP/MB
SE47	DS/MB	SEe279	GASu/AL	SEe321	--/SIu		
SE48	DS/MB	SEe280	GASu/AL	SEe322	--/SIu/AF	June 2024	
SE95	DS/MB	SEe288	GASu/AL	SEe324	--/SIu/AF	Ee269	--/SIu
SE97	DS/SI	SEe299	SIu/DS	SEe325	--/SIu	EH244	NX/NXu
SE101	SI/MG	SEe300	SIu/DS	SEe326	--/SIu	SEe332	RRu/SIu
SE102	SI/SW	SEe301	SIu/DS	SEe327	--/SIu	SEe333	RRu/SIu
SE103	SI/RR	SEe302	SIu/DS	SEe328	--/SIu	SEe334	RRu/SIu
SE104	DS/SI	SEe303	SIu/DS	SEe329	Cu/C	SEe335	RRu/SIu
SE110	DS/SI	SEe313	--/SIu/AF	SEe330	Cu/C		
SE242	GM/MB	SEe314	--/SIu	SEe331	Cu/C	<i>Note: GAS = Go-Ahead Swindon</i>	
SEe118	NP/DS	SEe315	--/SIu	SEe332	--/RRu		
SEe141	NP/DS	SEe316	--/SIu	SEe333	--/RRu		
SEe263	Q/PM/Q	SEe317	--/SIu	SEe334	--/RRu		
SEe267	C/AF	SEe318	--/SIu	SEe335	--/RRu		
SEe268	C/AF	SEe319	--/SIu	WS4	NPU/MB		

Livery changes:

LT42 and LT505 to adverts for Jacamo

LT448 to advert for San Miguel

LT455 from advert for Mac Lipstick back to Red

LT501 to advert for Polo Ralph Lauren

LT508 and LT862 to adverts for Brewdog

LT847 from advert for Nike - Feel The Need to advert for Heineken

LT852 to advert for Euros 2024

LT855 from advert for L'Oreal Bright Reveal to advert for Jacamo

LT856 and LT889 to adverts for Cos

LT860 from advert for Mac Lipstick to advert for Taylor Swift then back to Red

LT865 from advert for Nike - Feel The Need to advert for Heineken

LT874 from advert for BBC to advert for San Miguel

LT886 from advert for Tropicana Orange back to Red

WHV127 and WHV129 to adverts for Northeastern Uni

GOLDEN TOURS, Alperton

A Routemaster bus (see below) is in the final stages of conversion by South East Coachworks, Faversham for use as an additional 'English Tea Bus'. The bus has been branded up, joining other 'Tea Buses' in the fleet - Dennis Trident 154 (V154 MEV) and E400s 301/2 (LK07 AYZ, AZA).

Equipmake has been awarded a further contract to repower a further 10x Volvo B5TL open toppers in the fleet (16 plate ones) to electric power. An initial deal was reached in February to repower a batch of Volvo open toppers and the first of these should be arriving back, fully converted in the coming months.

Acquired:

RML2454 (JJD 454D) AEC Routemaster - Park Royal H??/?R

145 (LJ51 DKK) DAF DB250LF- Plaxton President 10.6m PO47/23F (see also TLB717, pg.39).

LONDONER BUSES, Wandsworth

RML2480 (JJD 480D) entered service on Heritage route T15 on 3rd May (See TLB717, pg.38).

RM1357 (357 CLT) is still on loan, seen in use on Heritage route T15 on 9th and 23rd May.

RT8 (FXT 183) made a special appearance on Heritage route T15 on 18th May, as did open top RM644 (WLT 644) on 2nd June. RM644 is confirmed as on loan from Metroline from 21st May.

LONDON GANGSTER TOUR (Underworld Tours)

Further to TLB715, pg.31, we now know that Scania OmniCity YN56 FBX is still in the fleet. It has been repainted black and carries gold branding promoting 'Gangster Tours UK' as seen on 21st May in the Ongar, Essex area. This bus is awaiting a new MoT before use.

Date unknown		April 2024		May 2024		VW1291	HT/WJ
TEH1231	u/HZw	VW1378	AH/SG	DE1116	G/UX	VW1292	HT/WJ
VW1823	PAu/PAw	VW1379	AH/SG	VW1247	PV/WJ	VW1293	HT/WJ
VW1825	PBu/PAw	VMS2811	WJt/PAu	VW1255	AH/WJ/G	VW1294	HT/WJ
VW1840	PAu/PAw	VMS2819	WJt/PAu	VW1266	HD/WJ	VW1295	HT/WJ
VW1841	HZu/HZw	VMS2829	WJt/PAu	VW1290	HT/WJ	VW1296	HT/WJ

May 2024 continued	VW1394	SG/WJ	VMH2553	WJ/HT	WDE2873	PAu/HT	
VW1297	HT/WJ	VW1395	SG/WJ	VMH2554	WJ/HT	WDE2874	HTu/HT
VW1298	HT/WJ	VW1396	SG/WJ	VMH2555	WJ/HT	WDE2876	HTt/HT
VW1299	HT/WJ	VW1397	AH/WJ	VMH2556	WJ/HT	VMSL2881	--/PAu
VW1300	HT/WJ	DEM1915	PB/HT	VMH2557	WJ/HT	VMSL2884	--/PAu
VW1301	HT/WJ	VWH2010	PBu/PB	VMH2558	WJ/HT	VMSL2889	--/PAu
VW1302	HT/G	VWH2011	PBu/PB	VMH2559	WJ/HT	VMSL2892	--/PAu
VW1303	HT/G	VMH2451	PB/PV	VMH2560	WJ/HT	VMSL2895	--/PAu
VW1304	HT/G	VMH2452	PB/PV	VWH2702	HT/AH	VMSL2896	--/PAu
VW1306	HT/G	VMH2453	PB/PV	VWH2703	HT/AH	VMSL2899	--/PAu
DEM1347	PB/HT	VMH2544	WJ/HT	VWH2704	HT/AH		
DEM1349	PB/HT	VMH2545	WJ/HT	VWH2705	HT/AH	June 2024	
VW1373	PV/G	VMH2546	WJ/HT	VWH2706	HT/AH	DE1120	G/UX
VW1374	PV/G	VMH2547	WJ/HT	VWH2707	HT/AH	DE1123	G/UX
VW1375	PV/G	VMH2548	WJ/HT	VMSS2836	PAu/PB	DE1129	G/UX
VW1376	HD/WJ	VMH2549	WJ/HT	VMSS2840	PAu/PB	DE1130	G/UX
VW1389	HD/WJ	VMH2550	WJ/HT	VMSS2842	PAu/PB	VW1305	HT/G
VW1390	PV/WJ	VMH2551	WJ/HT	WDE2866	PAu/HT	VMSL2893	--/PAu
VW1393	SG/WJ	VMH2552	WJ/HT	WDE2872	PAu/HT		

Livery changes:

LT757 from advert for L'Oreal Bright Reveal back to Red

LT762 to advert for San Miguel

LT765 from advert for Innocent Fruit Juice - Strawberry back to Red

LT792 to advert for Polo Ralph Lauren

LT800 from advert for Nike - Feel The Need to advert for Heineken

LT802 from advert for Cos back to Red

VWH2303 and VWH2373 to adverts for Holy Ghost & Fire

BDE2640 from advert for McCains back to Red

RATP-DEV TRANSIT LONDON including

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

LONDON SOVEREIGN - BT, CP and SO.

Route 28/N28 (X) was lost to Metroline (WJ) on 4th May, although the now spare Optare MetroDeckers (from the batch OME46001-37) at Westbourne Park (X) haven't as predicted moved onto route 452 and have instead made their home on route 23 with the occasional appearance on route 295.

Route 481 (FW) was lost to Metroline (AH) on 11th May and its previously allocated Volvo B5LHs (VH45156-60) have been redeployed onto route E3 (V) alongside E40Hs.

Route E1 (AV) was lost to Metroline (G) on 25th May and its E40Hs (ADH45027-30/32-34) will be reallocated elsewhere. Out of the batch, two have moved to BT and one to RP, with the rest of the batch remaining at AV, in part to replace the two OmniCitys (see below).

The last two Scania OmniCitys at AV were stood down in late May, with SP40206 being the last to be used on 27th May on its usual route H98. Coincidentally this was the last one delivered from the 206 examples in the fleet at one time.

With route 465 (TV) being lost to Transport UK on 29th June, the Kingston University services and their dedicated Volvo B5LHs (VHL45209-15) plus the spare E400 (ADE40304) are earmarked to move from WK to TV, likely to take place in time for the start of autumn University term in September.

The Volvo B5LH/eVoSeti batch (VMH45321-52) allocated to route 13/N13 (X) are now half way through their refurbishment/repaint programme. Completed thus far are VMH45328/29/31/33-36/39/40/42-48/51.

The Volvo B5LH/Gemini 3 batch (VH45153-55/64-67) allocated to route 203 (AV) are over half way through their refurbishment/repaint programme, with VH45153-55 and VH45164 completed thus far. Just VH45165-67 to follow.

RATP-DEV TRANSIT LONDON continued

E200 DE20020 has moved to Park Royal (RP) for use at Willesden Junction Station as a ‘staff meal bus’ for route 220 drivers.

On 16th May a very rare occurrence was VH45319 on route 290, although it was followed by VH45157 on 20th May and VH45135 on 21st.

Detail to add to SUP39D, pg.26; Optare Solo OS20224 is white (branded for Atkins staff shuttle) and should have a #. Note: This bus is withdrawn (see TLB717) and likely to depart the fleet in due course, following the loss of the contract (see TLB716, pg.34).

Recent repaint/ refurb include SDE20301, DLE30221, DLE30224, DLE30255, DLE30257, DLE30259, DLE30264, DLE30266, DLE30267, VH45164 and VMH45334.

To confirm E20D MMCs DLE30217-26 (FW) are all refurbished/repainted and intended for route 216. E40Hs ADH45023-51 are all refurbished/repainted (apart from ADH45031/38/39 which were scrapped after various incidents).

Transfers:

January 2024	April 2024	ADH45027 AV/BT	VH45188 X/V
DLE30329 RP/RPu	VH45184 WK/TV	ADH45028 AV/BT	
		ADH45029 AV/RP	June 2024
March 2024	May 2024	VH45156 FW/V	DDE20293 SO/BT/SO
ADH45019 RP/RPu	DE20020 NCw/RPs	VH45157 FW/V	VH45158 FW/V
	SP40051 AV/NCw	VH45159 FW/V	VH45199 BT/RP
	SP40206 AV/AVw	VH45160 FW/V	

Livery changes:

OME46008 from advert for McCains back to Red

BCE47008 from advert for Zadig & Voltaire back to Red

BCE47019 from advert for Love Philippines back to Red

BCE47027 from advert for McCains back to Red

READING TRANSPORT and THAMES VALLEY BUSES

‘Flightline 703’ liveried E40D MMCs 781/2 (SN66 WRC/D) have been VOR after use on 15th February for internal refurbishment. Both have now been done, with 782 back in use on 27th April and 781 from 20th May. To cover the shortfall, brand new E40D 741 (RG24 BUS) in Reading Buses two tone grey ‘generic’ livery has been in use, amongst some other E40Ds. We include 741 below as it is proving to be a regular ‘stand in’ bus on the Flightline 701/702 services.

Into the fleet: 741 (RG24 BUS) E40D - AD Enviro400-City 11.5m H47/29F.

Disposals: Volvo B7RLEs 453/455 (BD14 KXY, BG14 OPB) to Select Bus Services, Cannock (April).

RED EAGLE BUSES, Dinton near Aylesbury

The fleet is now all in the latest style metallic red and black livery with an eagle featured, apart from Dart SLF AA53 GHA and E200 YX08 MDZ, which are still in the previous maroon livery. E200 YX08 MDZ is currently on loan to Red Rose Travel (see below).

RED ROSE TRAVEL, Dinton near Aylesbury

Route 328 (Mount Vernon Hospital to Abbots Langley) was taken over on 2nd June, formerly operated by Arriva (HH). 4 x E20D MMCs have arrived (see below) for allocation on route 328.

E200s YX08 MDV and YX09 FMC have been re-registered to **E19 RRT** (in May) and **E20 RRT** (in April) respectively. These two, plus Optare Solo MX58 KYT, have been repainted into fleet livery. Additional detail to Fleetbook 2024, pg.95; MX58 KYR is M710SE and MX58 KYT M780SE.

Into the fleet:

KF52 NBN Transbus Dart SLF - Transbus Pointer 10.1m B33F from Redline Buses.

YX08 MDZ AD E200Dart - AD Enviro200 8.9m from Red Eagle (**on loan** as this stage).

YX22 OKA/B/D AD E20D - AD Enviro200 (MMC) 9.7m B34F from Central Connect.

YX72 ONA AD E20D - AD Enviro200 (MMC) 9.0m B30F from Central Connect.

REDLINE BUSES, Aylesbury

Disposal: KF52 NBN to Red Rose Travel (see above).

REDROUTE BUSES, Northfleet

LJ54 BFL has been withdrawn following an accident on 22nd May (see under VLA81 on pg.38).

Disposal: X178 CHJ left the fleet in December 2023 (This bus was withdrawn in October 2023).

STAGECOACH LONDON (part of Stagecoach Holdings) incorporating:

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

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

The full complement of Volvo BZL/MCV single decks (66026-44) entered service on route 276 (LI), replacing E20Ds. 66041 was the last to appear, on 8th May. 66038 and 66039 carry registration numbers LJ24 ZKR and LJ24 ZKP respectively, which is the opposite way round to expected.

All but one of the Electroliners (82015-48) delivered for route 86/N86 (NS) have now entered service, with just 82041 to follow. It is now known that the batch have been usually parked at LI overnight for charging purposes in March/April/early May, as NS was still undergoing electrification works. Buses were routinely swapped over to ensure the batch were evenly used. From week commencing 19th May, increasing numbers of Electroliners were in daily use on route 86, as NS was successfully connected to the National Grid and now has the charging capabilities to charge the batch. Stray workings so far are limited to a couple of appearances on an AM school journey on the 256 (82040 on 2nd May and 82029 on 3rd June), although LI has also sometimes borrowed a bus for its school route 678 (82045 on 5th June and 82043 on 6th).

Following the conversion of route 86 (NS) to Electroliners, the E40Ds previously used are starting to be redeployed, with members transferred into PD and WH to replace the Scania OmniCitys. At PD, the last OmniCitys in use were 15079/86/109 on route 96 on 31st May. At WH, the last OmniCity in use was 15107 on School route 667 on 24th May.

MetroCity EV 67019 has moved from HK to AW, one of the batch intended for route W11. Also at AW is 45002, one of the batch intended for route W5. Both are available for driver 'type training' duties, prior to the batches entering service. Additionally 67013-18/20-22 are now at AWu awaiting deployment onto route W11, expected to happen before the ones intended for route W5. Late news: Conversion of route W11 took place on 8th June.

MetroCity EV 45011 was first used in service on route 379 (AW) on 28th May, joined by 45010 on 29th May and 45009 on 30th May, completing the trio. This converts the route from the loaned E20Ds (36529/39/40) to electric bus operation.

LT131, part of the batch of LTs at Bromley (TB) for Superloop SL3, still hasn't entered service and is currently away at Wrights receiving attention. This bus was last used on 4th January when it was with RATP (V) on route 9. On a daily basis, a few E40Ds (usually from the batch 11070-4) and E40Hs (usually 12362/3) are used alongside LTs on Superloop SL3 to achieve the PVR.

The Volvo B5LHs (13121-37) allocated for route 135 (LI) are in the process of being refurbished and repainted, with eight completed (13122/23/30/31/33-36) thus far.

Brand new Electroliner 82053 was delivered by mistake to Stagecoach East Kent (Ashford garage) seen there on 4th and 9th May, instead of its intended 'home' Ash Grove (HK). It was moved to HK in mid-May and is currently in store, completing the batch 82049-64 which are intended for route 242 once electrification works is complete, which is notably some way off.

LT241 returned to service on 16th May at BW on route 8, after 14 months VOR.

Since its recent reallocation to Lea Interchange (LI), it was inevitable that native residents would soon venture onto route 97 and so, from 9th May, it became commonplace for a Volvo eVoSeti to appear. 13153 was in use on 9th May and others since.

All training buses in the fleet are now housed at West Ham (WH), as per transfers in TLB715/6.

E200s 36338/39/42 are currently undergoing conversion and will be part of the training bus fleet

Recent repaint/refurbs noted LT245, LT390, 12377 and 13136.

E20Ds 37516, 37521, 37524 and 37770 have had red repaints.

Update to Fleetbook 2024, pg.108: Volvo BZL/MCV 66038 is now known to be LJ24 ZKR (not ZKP) and 66039 is LJ24 ZKP (not ZKR).

STAGECOACH LONDON continuedTransfers:

Unknown dates	36372	TL/TLw	19814	NS/PD	82018	LIu/NS	67013	HKu/AWu
LT131 TBu/u	36374	TL/TLw	19816	NS/PD	82020	NSSt/NS	67014	HKu/AWu
	36396	TL/AWw	19820	NS/LI	82029	LIu/NS	67015	HKu/AWu
April 2024	66038	HKu/LI	19854	LI/WH	82030	LIu/NS	67016	HKu/AWu
36285 LI/WHu	82053	--/EKu	36286	LIw/HKw	82032	LIu/NS	67017	HKu/AWu
36289 LI/WHu			36287	LIw/HKw	82034	LIu/NS	67018	HKu/AWu
36311 TL/TLw	May 2024		36290	LI/AW	82036	LIu/NS	67019	AWu/AWt
36312 TL/TLw	LT241	BWu/BW	36341	PD/WHw	82037	LIu/NS	67020	HKu/AWu
36313 TL/TLw	10116	LI/WH	36345	LI/WHw	82038	LIu/NS	67021	HKu/AWu
36338 TL/WHu	15001	WH/WHw	36356	LI/HK	82039	LIu/NS	67022	HKu/AWu
36339 PD/WHu	15076	PD/PDw	36361	LI/WHw	82040	LIu/NS	82057	--/HKu
36342 TL/WHu	15086	PD/PDw	36371	TL/HK	82043	LIu/NS	82058	--/HKu
36343 TL/WHt	15107	WH/WHw	36373	TL/HK	82044	LIu/NS	82059	--/HKu
36349 LI/WHw	15109	WH/PD	36397	TL/AW	82046	LIu/NS	82060	--/HKu
36350 LI/LIw		PD/PDw	37754	AW/HK	82053	EKu/HKu	82061	--/HKu
36351 LI/LIw	15112	PD/PDw	45009	HKu/AW			82062	--/HKu
36352 LI/LIw	15120	PD/PDw	45010	HKu/AW	June 2024		82063	--/HKu
36353 LI/WHw	19770	NS/LI	45011	HKu/AW	11036	WH/HK	82064	--/HKu
36354 LI/WHw	19771	NS/LI	66033	LIu/LI	11037	WH/HK		
36355 LI/LIw	19800	PD/WH	66041	HKu/LI	19754	NS/BK		
36357 LI/WHw	19810	NS/PD	67019	HKu/AWu	19772	NS/WH		
36358 LI/WHw	19811	NS/PD	82015	LIu/NS	19829	NS/WH		
36360 LI/WHw	19812	NS/PD	82016	LIu/NS	19830	NS/WH		
36367 LI/WHw	19813	NS/PD	82017	LIu/NS	19832	NS/WH		

*Note: EK =
Stagecoach East
Kent (Ashford)*

Livery changes:

11352 and 11376 to adverts for Northeastern Uni
 LT241 to advert for San Miguel
 LT256 and LT374 from adverts for BBC back to Red
 LT260 to advert for Pantene
 LT265 from advert for Nike - Feel The Need to advert for Heineken
 LT270 from advert for Innocent Fruit Juice - Apples & Limes back to Red
 LT358 to advert for Cos
 LT365 from advert for Cos back to Red then to advert for Polo Ralph Lauren
 LT384 from advert for Nike - Feel The Unreal back to Red
 LT387 from advert for Mac Lipstick back to Red
 LT388 to advert for Brewdog
 LT389 from advert for L'Oreal Bright Reveal back to Red

Disposals:

15036/38-41/43/44/97, 15102/4/6 to Ensign Bus (May).
 15099 to Stagecoach South East for component recovery (May).
 36311-13 to Stagecoach South East for training fleet (May).
 47991/93/94/96/98 to Ripley, Barnsley for scrap (May).

STAGECOACH SOUTH, Guildford

The former LT/LCBS garage at Leas Road, Guildford, in use from 2022 after Arriva closed down operations in December 2021, was vacated on 26th May, with operations moving back to Peasmarsh.

SULLIVAN BUSES, South Mimms

E400 E64 (LK58 KHM) suffered major front nearside damage in a RTC with a parked car by South Mimms Services on 23rd May and is now withdrawn.

SULLIVAN BUSES continued

Recap on liveried buses in the fleet:

E20Ds AE1-3/6-9, E40Ds E35-37/55/58/59 and Volvo B9TLs WVL3/4 are in London Country Bus Services (LCBS) dark green livery. Of which AE6 and AE8 carry route 306 branding. E35/36/59 and WVL4 carry route 84 branding.

E20Ds AE4/5, AE10 and AE28-30 are in blue 'Thorpe Park' livery.

Volvo B9TL WVL2 is in National Bus Country (NBC) light green livery.

Detail to add to SUP39D, pg.38; E58/59 as per above are in green livery and should have a g.

Transfers: SL96 SM/SMu (February) E64 SM/SMw (May)

SUSSEX COACHES, Billingshurst

A brand new Mercedes-Benz Citaro (see below) is now in use on route 68 (Horsham to Broadbridge Heath). In use from 21st May and in red with gold relief fleet livery, this bus is intended to replace Citaro-K BN17 JVC which is leaving the fleet. Citaro F10 BUS (ex BK10 MVM) still serves as the spare bus for route 68.

Into the fleet: BF24 AHE Mercedes-Benz Citaro-K 10.6m B??F

TOOTBUS, Wandsworth

Further to TLB714, pg.48, the first Volvo B9TL tri-axle in the fleet - VXE732 (YJ11 TVT) has been converted to electric and now carries 'electric bus, zero emissions' signage in a green circle on the sides to show its new credentials. This joins ULE100 (PO68 CAX) to be the 2nd member of the London fleet to be electric, with a further two Volvo B9TL tri-axes expected to be completed this year.

Further to TLB717, pg.36; Scania OmniCity YR10 FFY is confirmed as in the London fleet and been repainted into Union Flag livery and now PO41/22D.

Scania OmniCity open toppers YR10 FFW, YR10 FGE, YT10 XCM and YR10 FFY are fleet numbered 13, 15, 16 and 18 respectively.

Scania OmniCity YT09 ZCU and Volvo B9TL AE60 GRU are still in red livery with Tootbus branding.

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

Five '24' plate Electroliner EVs (3059-62/64) were loaned from QB to TF on 14th May, joined by 3063 on 15th May, 3065 on 20th May, 3094 on 24th and 3099 on 28th. This was to release some of the route 111 batch (3001-31) to undertake routine warranty work.

Electroliner EVs are starting to transfer into WL (via QB) for deployment to route 381 replacing E40Hs (2424-40/42/43) as part of its tender award. The intended batch are 3086-3102, however thus far 3077/83/84 have transferred into WL, all part of the batch intended for route 133 (QB). The first Electroliner in use on route 381 was 3084 on 13th May, while 3032 made a first stray visit to route 45 on 31st May.

E20D 8837 suffered a major engine fire on 18th May whilst on route 490 on Richmond Road, Twickenham and is deemed beyond economical repair and now withdrawn. On the same day, E20D 8143 collided with a bus stop shelter in South Road, Southall whilst on route E5, suffering nearside front damage.

Route E6 (Greenford - Bulls Bridge) was won on 25th May from Metroline (G) and is now operated by Dawley Road (DH). GB Kites 1713-24 started to arrive in mid-May with a full complement of the type in use from day one on route E6, helped by some of the earlier batch intended for route E7.

Southall (GW) is still not connected to the National Grid, although the electric charging points have been installed some time ago. GW has MetroCity EVs 1002/7/10, which are charged by a portable charger unit and usually only one of the trio is used on route E5 on a Monday to Friday basis. MetroCity EVs 1013-24 are intended for route E5 and GB Kites 1701-12 for route E7 at GW.

Recent reported repaints/ refurbishes include 8866, 8869, 8870, 8884 and 8891.

TRANSPORT UK continued

Update to Fleetbook 2024, pg.115:

Wright GB Kite Electroliners 1701-12 are **11.7m**, not 10.9m. These are confirmed as B30D. Interestingly, this batch are licenced to carry 36 standing passengers, compared to the shorter batch 1713-1724, which are licenced to carry 40 standing passengers, despite being longer, but due to being slightly heavier. (**1701-12**: ULW 13350KGS, **1713-24**: ULW 13310KGS).

New deliveries (1716-24 in May, 1713-15 in June):

1713-24 (LV24 EWZ, EXA/B/C/D/E/F/G/H/J/K/L) Wright GB Kite Electroliner 10.9m B30D for route E6 (DH). All to latest TfL 'Vision Zero' specification.

3100/1/2 (LV24 VOF/G/...) for route 381 (WL). Awaiting registration details for 3102.

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

Transfers:**April 2024**

1536	BC/WL	1720	--/DH	3077	WLu/WL	3099	QBu/TF
1710	BC/TF	1721	--/DH	3078	QBu/QB	3100	--/QBu/QB
1711	BC/TF	1722	--/DH	3079	--/QBu/QB	3101	--/QBu/QB
1712	BC/TF	1723	--/DH	3080	QBu/QB	3102	--/QBu
		1724	--/DHu	3081	--/QBu/QB	8143	GW/GWu

May 2024

1701	BC/DH	3051	QBu/QB	3082	QBu/QB	8342	WLu/WL
1702	BC/DH	3052	QBu/QB	3083	QBu/QB/WL	8837	TF/TFw
1703	BC/DH/TF	3059	QB/TF	3084	QBu/QB/WL	9522	QB/DH
1705	TF/DH	3060	QB/TF	3085	QBu/QB		
1711	TF/DH	3061	QB/TF	3087	--/QBu		
1712	TF/DH	3062	QB/TF	3089	--/QBu		
1716	--/DH	3063	QB/TF	3090	QBu/QB		
1717	--/DH	3064	QB/TF	3091	--/QBu		
1718	--/DH	3065	QB/TF	3093	--/QBu		
1719	--/DH	3066	QBu/QB	3094	QBu/TF		
		3074	QBu/QB	3095	--/QBu		
		3076	QBu/QB	3098	--/QBu		

June 2024

3086	QBu/QB
3088	QBu/QB
3089	QBu/QB
3091	QBu/QB

Livery changes:

2607, 2614, 2615 and 2617 to adverts for Suntory 196 Soda

LT163 from advert for Tropicana Orange back to Red

LT171 from advert for Innocent Fruit Juice - Strawberries back to Red

LT606 and LT621 from adverts for Samsung Galaxy S24 back to Red

LT617 to advert for Heineken

LT622 from advert for BBC to advert for Brewdog

LT684 from advert for Taylor Swift back to Red

LT692 from advert for Nike - Feel The Need back to Red

LT773 from advert for Cos to advert for San Miguel

UNIVERSITYBUS (t/a uno), Hatfield

Further to TLB714, pg.49; Mercedes-Benz Citaro 305 (BX56 VSN) was back in service on 5th April, after being VOR since August 2023. Mercedes-Benz Citaro 317 (BF59 NHZ) had been VOR after service on 17th January but returned to service on 24th May.

BYD1471 (LJ16 EZM) has been withdrawn, last used on 11th December 2023. This joins BYD1475, leaving just BYD1472 and BYD1474 still in use with BYD1473 stood down and likely to be withdrawn.

Transfer: BYD1471 HFu/HFw (May).

Disposal: 521 (YX65 RNU) to South Wales Transport (May).

VECTARE, Rettendon, Essex

On 28th May it was announced on the Vectare company website that the East Midlands and East of England operations will be rebranded under the 'Central Connect' name and that buses would receive the revised branding replacing the Vectare name. In due course the existing Central Connect operation based at Harlow and Stansted will be unified with the Vectare Rettendon operation under the 'Central Connect Essex & Hertfordshire' regional name.

Further to TLB713, pg.38; E20D 317 (YX16 OBS) had been on 'loan' to Central Connect and is now assumed to be a permanent member of their fleet.

Further to TLB716, pg.38; E20D 320 (SN16 OVP) has been repaired and returned to use (but see below).

Out of the fleet:

317 (YX16 OBS) to Central Connect (after a period of loan).

320 (SN16 OVP) to Central Connect (in use from 3rd June).

WESTBUS, Hayes

Scania Ayats Eclipse 198 (LJ19 CEL) is in plain white with Westbus signage.

WHITE BUS SERVICE, Winkfield

E20D 54 (YY73 RFZ) is now in fleet livery, complete with the green rectangle adornment at the rear. Optare Solo (YJ62 FML) has only been used twice this year thus far, 25th February and 8th April.

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:

RM644 (WLT 644) has been loaned from Metroline to Londoner Buses (from May onwards) for general use and has already seen use on route T15.

RM970 (862 UXC, ex WLT 970) from Used Car Sales to The Grid, Hampton Cove, Alabama, USA (February 2022) where it is in use as a coffee bar.

RM1403 (403 CLT) was wrapped in all over blue with Lidl branding and lettering for the Birmingham Pride celebration on the 25th May.

RM1643 (643 DYE) from Paul Whittle Car Sales to Carvery & Grill, Alfreton, Derbys. (May 2023); it is now being used as a bar bus and has joined RM1262 with this owner.

RML891 (HSL 660, ex WLT 891) was noted in an all-over yellow livery with black "Yellow Wonder wall" branding for German football club Borussia Dortmund on the 1st June; it remains owned by The Expeditional.

RML2454 (JJD 454D) from Mr S Rorke to Golden Tours, London SW1 (December). This RML was latterly used by various operators in Kent and had been a promotional vehicle for the World Travel Market event in 2022 and 2023. It is one of a number of RM/RMLs acquired by Golden Tours for future use and this one was seen in a pink based Afternoon English Tea Bus livery at the open day at South East Coachworks at Faversham on the 18th May.

RML2701 (SMK 701F) from Mr D Dawber to BAI Communications, London W2 (April 2023). This company is now trading as Boldyn Networks. The RML was noted undergoing conversion to a promotional vehicle at the open day at South East Coachworks at Faversham on the 18th May.

Olympians:

L520 (G520 VBB) (ex ALN) was latterly used by City Sightseeing in Norwich and passed to Ensign Bus (dlr), Purfleet, Essex (April).

VA39 (R939 YOY) (ex LU) was sold from Brighthouse Star Twirlers (by December).

Miscellaneous low-floor double deck types:

DW273 (LJ59 LWW) (ex ALN) was returned from Xelabus to Bus & Coach Centre (dlr), Forest Hill, Oxon and then passed to Bay Travel, Lochgelly, Fife (July 2023).

DW274 (LJ59 LWX) (ex ALN) from Bus & Coach Centre (dlr) to Roadhog Youth Bus Project, Boston, Lincs. (October 2023); after a six-month conversion into a mobile youth centre, it entered use in all-over purple on 11th May 2024.

DW286 (LJ59 LWO) (ex ALN) was returned from Xelabus to Bus & Coach Centre (dlr), Forest Hill, Oxon and then passed to Garnetts Coaches, Tindale Crescent, Co. Durham (August 2023).

DW295 (LJ59 LWA) (ex ALN) from Bus & Coach Centre (dlr) to Garnetts Coaches, Tindale Crescent, Co. Durham (June).

T203 (LJ61 CHG) (ex ALN) has been sold for scrap from Arriva North East (May) following accident damage.

VLA21 (S16 EBN, ex SFZ 767, ex LJ53 BFK), 29 (S9 EBN, ex SFZ 595, ex LJ53 BDO) (ex ALN) from Seven Sisters Bus & Coach to Brighton & Hove, Brighton, East Sussex (March) upon the acquisition of the Eastbourne Sightseeing tour where they have been re-numbered to 583 and 582 in this fleet. They retain their names Megan and Jessica.

VLA36 (AYZ 5067, ex LJ53 BBV) (ex ALN) from Cambridge Bus & Coach to Taylors Travel, Parkend, Glos. (January).

VLA38 (P9 YMS, ex LJ53 BBZ) (ex ALN) regained its original registration by YMS Travel in April. (See TA18227 (ex SLN) below)

VLA81 (LJ54 BFL) (ex ALN) was withdrawn by Redroute Buses following an accident at Meopham on 22nd May when a raised bucket on a tractor emerging from a side road impacted and destroyed most of its upper nearside windows.

VLA170 (LJ55 BVY) (ex ALN) was sold from Replacement Bus Hire (by March).

VLV601 (LX05 GDV), 604 (LX05 GEJ), 607 (S21 EBN, ex LX05 KNZ), 609 (S19 EBN, ex EU05 DVW), 610 (S20 EBN, ex EU05 DVX) (ex Arriva TOLST) from Seven Sisters Bus & Coach to Brighton & Hove, Brighton, East Sussex (March) upon the acquisition of the Eastbourne Sightseeing tour where they have been re-numbered to 584, 585, 590, 588 and 589 respectively. VLV607, 609, 610 are named Jack, Lily Rose, and Conor respectively. Note that VLV601 still carries its original registration and, although reported elsewhere, it has not been re-registered. VLV604 has yet to be used on the Eastbourne Sightseeing tour.

DN33514 (LK08 FMX) (ex FLN) from Ensign Bus (dlr) to Chalkwell Coaches, Sittingbourne, Kent (April). This DN was latterly TE1577 in the Metroline fleet.

DN33590, 33593 (SN09 CFD, CFG) (ex FLN) further to TLB715, these passed from Minibus Direct to Denwell Coaches, Royal Wootton Bassett, Wilts. (October), and then were sold again in February to Ensign Bus (dlr).

TNL33133 (LT02 ZBZ) (ex FLN) is now confirmed as being sold for scrap from Bear Buses in March 2023.

VN37874 (BK10 MFN) (ex FLN) from Ensign Bus (dlr) to Tomorrows Travel, Wimborne, Dorset (April).

VN37966 (A16 HLC, ex BN61 MXO), 37968 (A18 HLC, ex BN61 MXS) (ex FLN) have both re-gained their original registration with Luckett's in January.

VNW32403 (LK04 HXN) (ex FLN) was sold from Green Transport (October 2022) for scrap after use for seat belt testing; strictly speaking Green Transport only actually acquired the front half of the vehicle for spares as that is all that was used for these tests.

VNW32424 (LK04 HYB) (ex FLN) further to TLB667 and 668, this VNW has now been confirmed with Mobile Learning Improving Simulation Safety Activities (Melissa), NHS North East England. (See also E57 (LX07 BYH) (ex GAL) below.) VNW32424 was acquired in November 2018 and was launched in January 2019 in NHS blue and rainbow colours.

SN36042, 36063 (YR61 RSO, RVC) (ex FLN) were sold from Bayliss Executive Travel (January).

DOE4, 10, 18 (LX58 CWR, CWZ, CXH) (ex GAL) updating previous TLBs, these are now numbered 997 to 999 (from 930 to 932).

DOE13, 25, 29 (LX58 CXC, CXR, CXV) (ex GAL) from Go South Coast to East Yorkshire Motor Services (April). DOE13 and 29 have become fleet numbers 995 and 996, and DOE25 is to be used for spares.

E18 (LX06 EZN) (ex GAL) from Plymouth Citybus to Wigley, Barnsley, South Yorkshire (February) followings its low bridge accident in September 2023.

E57 (LX07 BYH) (ex GAL) from Ensign Bus (dlr) to Mobile Learning Improving Simulation Safety Activities (Melissa), NHS North East England (by June 2023) where it joins VNW32424 (ex FLN) (see above) and is also in NHS blue and rainbow colours.

E177 (SN61 BHK) (ex GAL) is confirmed with Go North West and has been numbered 3114 in this fleet.

EVL42 (B12 CBY, ex PJ02 PYZ) (ex GAL) regained its original registration with Cranberry Coaches in March.

PDL27 (X6 WMS, ex PJ02 RHF) (ex GAL) was sold from Weardale Motor Services (by May).

PVL95 (W495 WGH) (ex GAL) has been sold from Red Rose Travel (by May).

PVL205 (HXZ 9744, ex X705 EGK) (ex GAL) from Orangery Tea Bus to unknown owner, Bullington, Lincs. (by February).

VWL28 (LF52 THX, ex L60 SBL) (ex GAL) from Gwynfor Coaches to Greenslades Tours, Exeter, Devon (September 2021), where it was re-registered to 5981 HP in February 2022, and then back to its original registration in November 2023. It was then sold to Burrows Coaches, Blandford Forum, Dorset (November 2023), and re-registered to L26 BUS in the same month.

WVL45 (LF52 ZRD) (ex GAL) from Garnetts Coaches to Bus & Coach Centre (dlr), Forest Hill, Oxon (November 2022) where it is being used for spares and still present in May 2024.

WVL78 (SFZ 919, ex LF52 ZPJ) (ex GAL) was sold from Seaford & District (October).

WVL216 (LX06 DYW) (ex GAL) was sold from Happy Al's (by December) for scrap.

WVL283 (LX59 CYZ) (ex GAL) has been re-registered by Go North East to CU 6860; it is now fleet numbered 6211.

WVL369 (MIG 7113, ex LX60 DWZ) (ex GAL) from Oxford Bus Company to Go North East (by May).

WVL371 (LX60 DXB) (ex GAL) was returned from First South West to First Hants & Dorset (May) for use back at Weymouth. It remains numbered as 36100.

WVL372 (LIG 9116, ex LX60 DXC) (ex GAL) is now numbered 6996 with Go North East and has been repainted into yellow, black and blue Toon Tour livery.

891 (DD58 BUS, ex PN09 ENL) (ex GAL) re-gained its original registration with A2B Travel in May.

SLE22 (XBZ 1674, ex YN55 NHU) (ex LU) has been named "RAF Skellingthorpe – Blackswan" by Grayscroft Coaches since at least August 2019.

SLE52 (BUS 91R, ex YN55 NKZ) (ex LU) has been sold from Beeston's to an unknown operator in Ireland (by May).

SP40028 (RJI 1654, ex YN08 DHP) (ex LU) has been named “RAF North Killingholme - Lambec” by Grayscroft Coaches since at least November 2020.

SP40193, 40202 (YR10 FFY, FGK) (ex LU) further to TLB717, SP40193 is confirmed with the London Tootbus fleet, and SP40202 is now confirmed with Tootbus at Bath.

TA265, 266 (LG02 FCY, FCZ) (ex LU) were sold from On Set Locations (November 2022).

TA276 (K3 WSX, ex LG02 FDO), 277 (R3 WSX, ex LG02 FDP) (ex LU) were sold from Xelabus (by December).

TA279 (T3 WSX, ex LG02 FDV) (ex LU) from Xelabus to Cambridge Bus & Coach, Fen Drayton, Cambs. (November), and then to Black Cat Travel, Harmston, Lincs. (February) where it has been re-registered to L666 BCT.

TA288 (LG02 FEO) (ex LU) was sold for scrap from Pilkington Bus (November).

TA326 (Y10 ASD, ex SN03 EAG), 337 (Y19 ASD, ex SN03 EBJ) (ex LU) re-gained their original registrations in March and then passed from ASD to YMS Travel, Aylesham, Kent (April), and were then re-registered to T10, T9 YMS respectively also in April.

VA301 (SK52 URX) (ex LU) was last recorded as sold from Bath Bus in November 2022, but it was not known where it went. It has now been reported as passing to Roadshow Promotions, Preston, Lancs. (January).

TAL121 (X337 HLL) (ex ML) was sold from Moving People (June 2022) for scrap.

TE899 (LK08 NVP) (ex ML) from Eastern Scottish (as part of the Brightbus fleet) to Xplore Dundee, Dundee (February).

TE904 (LK58 CNU) (ex ML) passed from Minibus Direct to Denwell Coaches, Royal Wootton Bassett, Wilts. (October); however, the company then ceased operations in February.

TE1079, 1085 (LK60 AFA, AFV) (ex ML) from Ensign Bus (dlr) to Raccoon Franchising, Edenbridge, Kent (April and May respectively). TE1079 was seen in an all-over white livery promoting Samsung at Kings Cross in mid-May.

TP353 (LR52 KVV) (ex ML) from Central Taxis to Alpha Recovery, Cramlington, Northumberland (by August).

TP359, 371, 394 (LR52 KWA, KWN, KXN) (ex ML) were all sold from Central Taxis (by January).

TP427, 443 (LK03 CGU, GHA) (ex ML) were sold from Liverpool City Sightseeing (October) for scrap.

TPL281 (LR02 BBV) (ex ML) was sold for scrap from Landmark Coaches (February).

VP324, 331 (LR52 BMV, BNF) (ex ML) are confirmed as sold from GSAL via Dawsongroup (dlr) to Mikro Coaches, Crewe, Cheshire (all in August).

VPL146 (X646 LLX) (ex ML) was sold from Archway Travel (May 2023) for scrap.

VPL159 (V18 AWG, ex R18 PLK, ex X659 LLX) (ex ML) re-gained its original registration with Wright Group in June 2023 prior to being sold for scrap.

VPL199 (Y199 NLK) (ex ML) was sold from Happy Al's (by December) for scrap.

VPL224 (LK51 XGU, ex Y14 ASD) (ex ML) updating previously reported information, it passed from Used Coach Sales to a private buyer (April 2023), and then to Ripley, Barnsley, South Yorkshire (by March) for scrap.

VP516 (LK04 CRU) (ex ML) was sold from Metrobus (May).

TA17013 (S95 UBE, ex S813 BWC), 17015 (S94 UBE, ex S815BWC), 17016 (DAZ 5455 ex S816 BWC) (ex SLN) from Stagecoach East Midlands to Ensign Bus (dlr), Purfleet, Essex (March). TA17016 re-gained its original registration in March prior to the sale.

TA17088 (T688 KPU) (ex SLN) from Garnett's Coaches to A Line Coaches, Pelaw, Tyne & Wear (April) and is now in their two-tone grey livery.

TA17179 (V179 MEV) (ex SLN) further to TLB702, it is now confirmed as passing to Bus & Coach Centre (dlr), Forest Hill, Oxon.

TA17204 (V204 MEV) (ex SLN) was sold for scrap from Diamond Leisure / City Tours, Belfast, Northern Ireland (by February).

TAS17258 (HXN 190, ex X258 NNO) (ex SLN) from Sussex Bus to Rodgers Coaches, Weldon, Northants. (November 2015). It then regained its original registration and passed to Boogie Bus, Bournemouth, Dorset (February 2023) where it is used as a mobile bar on the lower deck with an upper deck party stage and opening roof.

TA17307 (X307 NNO) (ex SLN) from Garratts Coaches to Bus & Coach Centre (dlr), Forest Hill, Oxon (October 2021) and was then sold for scrap (December 2023).

TAS17451, 17498, 17508 (LX51 FKR, FMZ, FNL) (ex SLN) were sold from Golden Coast Sports Villas (January 2022).

TA17972 (LX53 JZP) (ex SLN) was sold for scrap from Landmark Coaches (February).

TA18227 (LX04 FXS, ex WLT 307) (ex SLN) was re-registered to P9 YMS by YMS Travel in April (see VLA38 (ex ALN) above).

15011 (LX58 CEV) (ex SLN) from Altonian Buses to Coastliner Buses, Blackpool, Lancs. (May) having been transferred within the Transpora Group.

Low-floor single deck types:

EN3 (LJ57 USU) (ex ALN) from Central Connect to Panther Travel, Parkeston, Essex (by January).

ENL40 (LJ09 KOX, ex 330 GGX) (ex ALN) from Diamond West Midlands to Wigley, Barnsley, South Yorkshire (January).

DML44032, 44082 (YX58 DWF, HVM) (ex FLN) from Adventure Travel to Turner's of Bristol (dlr), Bristol, Avon and then passed to Birmingham Busworks (dlr), Birmingham, West Midlands (all in May) for re-sale.

DML44086 (YX09 AED) (ex FLN) from Ensign Bus (dlr) to Bear Buses, Feltham, Middlesex (June).

DML44163 (YX10 BGV) (ex FLN) has been sold from Red Rose Travel (by May).

DML44193 (YX11 CNY) (ex FLN) from Birmingham Busworks (dlr) to Chaserider, Cannock, Staffs. (April) where it remains in A2B Travel green livery but has now been given fleet number 581.

DML44290, 44292 (YX61 FYN, FYP) (ex FLN) correcting TLB717, it was DML44292 that passed to PVS in August 2023 (not DML44290).

DML44402 (YX09 FMC) (ex FLN) was re-registered by Red Rose Travel to E20 RRT in April.

SE12, 16 (LX07 BXV, BYA) (ex GAL) is confirmed as passing from Central Connect to Panther Travel, Parkeston, Essex (January).

SE33 (SN57 DWZ) (ex GAL) from Central Connect to Panther Travel, Parkeston, Essex (by January).

SOE25 (LX09 AZL) (ex GAL) from Central Connect to Panther Travel, Parkeston, Essex (January).

DE20065 (SK07 DXP) (ex LU) was sold for scrap from Nu-Venture (January).

SDE2 (YX08 MDV) (ex LU) was re-registered by Red Rose Travel to E19 RRT in May.

DEL851, 855, 856, 857 (LK08 DWD, DWJ, DWL, DWM) (ex ML) from Adventure Travel to Turner's of Bristol (dlr), Bristol, Avon and then passed to Birmingham Busworks (dlr), Birmingham, West Midlands (all in May) for re-sale.

DEL852 (LK08 DWE) (ex ML) was sold from Central Connect (by January).

DLF100 (KU52 YKG, ex K31 MBC) (ex ML) from Shears (dlr) to J & M Preservations, Ipswich, Suffolk (February).

DP1028 (KP02 PVO) (ex ML) was re-numbered from 1301 to 900 in November and remains with Central Connect.

36348 (LX59 ANU) (ex SLN) from North West Bus Sales to Ripley, Barnsley, South Yorkshire (May).

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

All vehicles below are Ford Transit Connect Crew Vans (CV) or Vans (V) in TfL white and not yet allocated.

9272F	LJ24 YKW	CV	9332F	LJ24 YJT	V	9346F	LF24 UJZ	CV
9287F	LF24 ULK	CV	9333F	LJ24 YJO	V	9376F	LJ24 YJY	V
9319F	LF24 ULW	CV	9335F	LJ24 YLS	V	9379F	LJ24 YKA	V
9323F	LF24 UKK	CV	9336F	LJ24 YKK	V			

Additional information and updates

Fleet numbers have surged ahead again. I just hope that the missing numbers are not all going to be on Transit Connects! Rarely seen LUL hybrid van 9134F (LS21 DLE) has transferred from its unknown allocation to Edgware Road Station (ERS), seemingly as a swap with similar 9135F (now at ?). ERU tender 2606 is now at Penton Street (PSE) with 2610. 9213F new-GHO, 9215F new-ACF.

Vehicles withdrawn include 8073F (missed this one from January 2023!), 8254VW, 8262F, 8266VW, 8306VW, 8357R, 8358R, 8359R, 8360R, 8363R, 8364R, 8365R, 8368R, 8371R, 8372R and 8450VW.

Bus Company Fleets; Newly reported vehicles

-	BV72 VGN	Seat Ibiza Hatchback Car	Arriva London	White #	DX
-	AV23 KNS	Skoda Fabia Hatchback Car	Arriva London	Blue #	DT
-	BJ23 OET	Seat Ibiza Hatchback Car	Arriva London	White #	DX
-	FP18 KZJ	Vauxhall Corsa Van	Falcon Buses	White #	BF
-	LL23 AYO	Nissan Juke SUV Car	Stagecoach London	Blue #	RM
?	DL73 EEV	Vauxhall Vivaro Electric Van	Stagecoach London	White	TL
?	YY16 WSX	Citroen C4 Picasso MPV Car	Transport UK	Blue	GW
?	MT17 UOC	Mazda 3 Hatchback Car	Transport UK	White	TF
?	EA67 LCY	Vauxhall Astra Hatchback Car	Transport UK	Black	TF
?	MT67 GVE	Renault Captur SUV Car	Transport UK	Silver	TF
?	VX67 VFK	Vauxhall Insignia Hatchback Car	Transport UK	Grey	TF
?	RA18 XPX	Ssangyong Tivoli SUV Car	Transport UK	Red	TF
?	LS69 MMF	Alfa Romeo Giulietta Hatchback Car	Transport UK	Grey	TF

Additional information

Go-Ahead London van EA69 MWJ at C now has lettering (livery White # to White)

Additional Metroline Ford Puma cars with driver recruitment advert ‘wraps’ are AY23 KUE in yellow and AY23 KWO in green (joining AY23 KVM in light blue). All are at Brentford (AH), AY23 KWO having transferred there from PB.

Transport UK vehicles withdrawn (some of which might have gone before the change of name from Abellio) are UHZ 3496, BP06 NDZ, LV60 MVD, EN61 GWP, DA12 FSE, NL62 VJG, EF13 WUP, GJ13 SRX, ML13 FNK, MV16 OUK, DU66 VSV, WG67 EPU and GD23 FVJ.

Other vehicles withdrawn include Arriva London WM16 CJX (AD203), RATP Dev FH21 BRZ (MTR75229), Stagecoach London MX68 ZMU (95252), Sullivans LP66 WVN (EC1) and Uno NA08 BWK.

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



Metroline assumed the operation of routes 28 and N28 on 4th May from RATP London Transit. An unusual aspect of this contract change is diesel power (VW) replacing electric (OME), as it's usually the other way around. Metroliner VW1295 turns out of Chepstow Road into Westbourne Grove.
(Haydn Davies)



Metrobus (Crawley) continue to receive loans from Brighton & Hove. One of the latest is Wright Gemini 6911, whose all over ad encourages intending passengers to travel from the Town Centre to Maidenbower for seaside attractions!
(Terry Wong Min)



Safeguard acquired E200 YX18 KOD in January, initially running in all white. It has recently been repainted into their smart fleet livery as seen here on route 81 on the Barnsbury Estate in Woking.
(Richard Godfrey)

Rear cover: Allover adverts continue to provide a valuable revenue stream for TfL. RATP London United BCE 47066 sports the second and current version of the OVO Energy 'wrap', as it approaches Ealing Broadway on route 65. (Martin Ruthe)



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