TLB692

The London Bus

Number 692
April 2022



London Omnibus Traction Society
www.lots.org.uk



PVR reductions on the 19/38/149 allowed the conversion to LT of routes 259 and N279, introducing the type to Edmonton Garage, where LT 564-582 now reside. LT 572 is passing Spurs stadium in Tottenham High Road. *(Haydn Davies)*

Just about the rarest sub-type in London is the Wrightbus SRM. RATP has six and they have all been away to have opening windows added. Mainly used on school route 698, they do wander, as did VHR 45206 to route 79 at Alperton Sainsbury's on 26th February. *(Haydn Davies)*



Front cover: On Friday 18th March four 'Routemaster Specials' marked Comic Relief's 'Red Nose Day' with fares donated to the cause. RML 880 ran on route 281 Hounslow to Tolworth but here it is in Hampton Road Fulwell on a short working. *(Haydn Davies)*

THE LONDON BUS
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London Omnibus Traction Society
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Our principal services are centred on the **LOTS general office** now at G16 Lombard Business Park. 8 Lombard Road, Wimbledon, London SW19 3TZ. **If you need to contact us,** we visit the office regularly to deal with Membership and Subscriptions (incl. changes of address), TLB/LBM Distribution and general admin. If using the post to Lombard please mark the envelope "Membership" or "Distribution" or as appropriate. The **E-mail lotsmemsec@gmail.com** can be used for quick enquiries and follow-ups, including for address changes, non-arrival of TLB/LBM and blank or missing pages.

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

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UK rate: £30 MEM+TLB; £47 MEM+TLB+LBM; £24 LBM only.
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Reports for TLB should first go to individual section sub-editors (each section is headed by the contact details) or via my e-mail and it will be passed to the appropriate person. The TLB Editors should be addressed direct by e-mail or post - Please do NOT use Lombard for TLB items as it will miss the deadline. If it is specifically for the LBM Editor, e-mail to lbm.editor@yahoo.co.uk or write via the Lombard address, marking envelope for which service or who it is that you want.

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

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

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Other specialist services: Please include a stamped self-addressed envelope if you want a reply.
London Bus Magazine: e-mail to lbm.editor@yahoo.co.uk or write via G16 Lombard Business Park. 8 Lombard Road, Wimbledon, London SW19 3TZ, address, mark envelope for 'LBM Editor'
TLB Backnumbers from Charlie Turton, 21 Coleridge Walk, Langney, Eastbourne, BN23 7QJ.
LOTS Members' Information Service: Suspended until further notice.
LOTS Ombudsman: (complaints and problems about LOTS services): David Kemp, 10 Weare Gifford, Shoeburyness, Essex SS3 8AB) (In letters to Info Service and Ombudsman, **please add s.a.e.).**

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Closing date for TLB693 is Weds 4th May and due for posting on Tues 17 May.
Booked later closing dates are Wednesdays 08June, 06July, 03Aug, 07Sep, 05Oct, 02Nov, 30Nov 2022.

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Editorial and Society Matters

It is my sad duty to record that our friend and colleague Les Stitson died on 24th March. He was 75 and had been suffering from severe respiratory problems in recent times. He had been involved in many Society matters other than being a long-standing Committee Member. He ran our Members' Information Service since 1976 and in 2021 he had eventually completed the long-running 'TLB Extra' series with the 1956 edition. Until the last couple of years he was to be found on our Sales Stand at our London Meetings and at rallies and events. He had compiled our annual Fleetbooks from 1992 right up to 2022. His records and knowledge on bus routes and vehicles was second-to-none and much of that was shared with the Omnibus Society's LHRG (London Historical Research Group). He was always my 'go to' man whenever I needed to find out something from the past.

Talking of "I don't know but I know a man who does", he was always a willing advisor on the very many occasions when I was stuck with an "IT Issue" and led me through all sorts of problems with computers – ever since we first embarked on that subject many years ago. When he was admitted to hospital in late February, Les had completed about 95% of the 2022 Fleetbook, so there was just the general tidying up and doing things like a final vehicle update, sort out the layouts and headings. Thus S/V sub-Editor Thomas Young and myself finished it off. When I phoned him in his hospital bed when I had sent it off to print on time, he was relieved that it had been done and added that he was looking forward to getting home "to finish off cataloguing his photos!!" . Sadly, that was not to be.

The Society sent condolences to his wife Linda, son Peter and daughter Christine.

Payments for Membership and orders to Postal Sales

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

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

If you use the post, please address your orders to LOTS Postal Sales (or LOTS Membership), Unit G16 Lombard Business Park. 8 Lombard Road, Wimbledon, London SW19 3TZ. Make sure that the 'Postal Sales' or 'Membership' name is included prominently, so we can give the best attention. Postal Sales orders will be dealt with as soon as possible, subject to 'staff' availability - especially in these current times - but, please still allow the usual 28 days for receipt of your order.

The most recent Sales List was included with TLB687 but in any case the Sales List on our website can be used. Orders from the Sales List or a letter is perfectly acceptable. In all cases above, if you send us a cheque, please don't staple cheques to the form – they really won't get lost by us but might be when the banks try to process them electronically!

LOTS Meetings

LOTS Meetings are at Conway Hall, Holborn at 7.30pm (hall open from 6.30). We are in the Great Hall unless otherwise stated. Conway Hall authorities currently request that visitors are encouraged to wear face masks and that those feeling that they have Covid symptoms are asked not to attend.

We regret that once again the speaker at our next meeting on Monday 23rd May is changed. The speaker will now be Simon Reed, Head of Technology and Data at Surface Transport TfL. He will talk of 20 years of (iBus) passenger information.

Further booked meetings are 27 June (AGM in the smaller Brockway Room), then 26 September and 28 November in the Great Hall.

Coming Events

All events are subject to any Covid-19 restrictions at the time. Events that seem likely to go ahead are below, although you should check before travelling. (LSS= LOTS Sales Stand should attend).

Sat 23 April NLETE Transport Bazaar at Enfield. Note that it returns to St Stephen's Church Hall, Village Road, Enfield (ex route 329). 11:00-14:30, £3 entry (acc. children free).
Sun 24 April: East Grinstead, Country Buses Running Day.
Sun 08 May: HCVS London to Brighton run.
Sat 14 May NLETE Transport Bazaar at Theydon Bois Village Hall (close to station), 11:00-15:30, £3 entry (acc. children free) Then. Sat 01 Oct
Sat 14 May: Faversham, Kent, vintage bus running day.
Sat 15 May: Whittlesey, Cambs. Fenland bus display and running day.
Sun 15 May: A&DMBS Running Day based on High Wycombe Bus Station.
Sun 22 May: Didcot, transport rally at the Railway Centre plus a Bus Running Day based on Didcot Parkway Station.
Sat 11 June: Open Day at Go-Ahead Stockwell (SW) Garage to celebrate 70 years of operation – it opened on 2nd April 1952.
Sun 12 June: Heritage operation on route 81 (Hounslow to Slough, journeys to Windsor). It will include participation by more modern preserved buses outside the LEZ.
https://www.londonbusmuseum.com/route-81-running-day/
Sun 19 June: A&DMBS Elstree & Borehamwood Running Day based on Allum Manor, Elstree.
Sun 26 June: London Bus Museum Brooklands – 'On the Buses' Summer Gathering.
Sun 26 June: Open day at Reading Buses depot in Great Knollys Street.
Sat 02 July: 50th Anniversary of the Leyland National's 'birth' in 1972, at Gaydon, Warwickshire.
Sat/Su 09/10July: Thames Valley Traction Centenary Event: possible running day at Maidenhead.
Sun 10 July: BBPG running day Godstone to East Grinstead.
Sun 17 July: Alton, Hampshire, a major bus display and running day. (LSS)

Some later dates: Sun 31 July Worthing. Sun 07 Aug Gosport, Sun 07Aug Change of venue for 'Buses' Festival, now at Sywell Aerodrome, near Northampton. Sat 20 Aug Imberbus, Sat/Sun/Mon 27/28/29 August: 60th Anniversary event commemorating the ending of London trolleybuses, at the Trolleybus Museum at Sandtoft, Lincs. Free bus from Doncaster Interchange to the museum on 29 August. 04 Sep North Weald EOR, Sun 18 Sept: 'Fly-by' road run between Uxbridge (Brunel University) and Wheatley via the A40 and High Wycombe. Sun 25 Sept: The 50th and last Showbus Rally at Herts show-ground at Redbourn. Sat 01 Oct London route 37 heritage buses, Sun 02 Oct A&DMBS Running Day at Chesham Broadway, Sun 23 Oct LBM Brooklands.

LOTS Postal Sales

The new Sales List that was distributed with November TLB687 featured several new and 'coming soon' titles and it should be noted that the pricing structure for binders has changed.

The LOTS 2022 Fleetbook is 128 pages and illustrated. **(£7.50) **NEW**.**

LBM 199 Spring 2022 (£5.00) **NEW** Main features are 'Addlestone Garage operations in the 1950s' (an insight into the very complicated scheduling and route patterns of Country Area buses); 'Archway's last Routemasters' and 'The Yorkie Buses' (a photo-piece on ex-Londoners in York by Tony Wilson).
LBM 198 Winter 2021 (£5.00) Main features are 'Streatham's buses in the Sixties' by Ian King; 'Volvo double-deckers in London' by Malc McDonald; 'Trolleybus route 667 bank holiday workings' by Hugh Taylor. 120 pictures in this issue.
Mike Harris' Greater London Bus Map No.39 2nd April 2022 **(£2.00) **NEW****
Mike Harris' Greater London Night Bus Map 2nd April 2022 **(£4.00) **NEW****

Around Waltham Forest by Bus, Tram & Train – Historical local scenes over 200 years by Roger Torode. Published by LHRG. **£15.00.** 120 pages (It's described as the transport story of Waltham Forest).

Due in April: T**he London Q Type** by Ken Blacker **£25.00.** 128 pages. (Capital Transport).

Steering London Through – London's Road Services in the Second World War. By Tony Beard and Mick Webber. Capital Transport £40.00. Largely a chronological story of the period, focussing on the behind-the-scenes planning by LT, both before the war (starting in 1937) and during it. **(*NEW*)**

London Trolleybus Depots Part Three. By Hugh Taylor, published by Adam Gordon, £44.00. Covers Stonebridge Park, Colindale, Finchley and Wood Green, including separate maps of the overhead layout of the four depots. **(**NEW**)**

Mr. Gibson's Ticket Machine - The Complete Story 1944-1993. By Anthony Cross, (£16.95) by Capital Transport. **(**NEW**)**

London's Buses 1979-1994 - The Capital's Bus Network in Transition. By Andrew Bartlett, £30.00.

The London Volvo B7TL - by Matthew Wharmby (Pen & Sword), £35.00.

London's Historical Railway Terminal Stations - An Illustrated History. By Geoff Swaine, (Pen & Sword) £30.00.

GENERAL and INDUSTRY NEWS

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

TfL, politics and the Pandemic

The war in Ukraine has continued to dominate the national headlines leading to sanctions against Russia by the UK Government and many western countries. The main effect both here and in Europe has been an increase in fuel prices to reach record levels. TV news reports from Ukraine have often shown buses, trolleybuses and trams either continuing to provide services or damaged following attacks. State railways have largely carried on running, helping huge numbers of people to flee their homes to travel to safer areas of the country or to the border. TfL and many UK bus companies are giving free travel to people with Ukrainian passports who can show a recent travel ticket. Ensignbus directors Ross Newman and Steve Newman arranged and completed the delivery of medical supplies to south-eastern Poland from where it was shipped to Ukraine.

----- *General & Industry news* ----------

The increase in fuel prices led to **Chancellor Rishi Sunak** announcing a 5p per litre cut in fuel duty in his Spring Statement on 23 March, to 'help motorists', although a week later it was widely reported that petrol pump prices were often not reflecting the full reduction. Clearly this does not help bus users although most bus companies hedge their prices in advance so they will not feel the impact yet. Several other European countries also reduced fuel taxes, while in Germany the federal Government is introducing a 90-day ticket for just 9 Euros per month, valid on all public transport to encourage people to switch to more sustainable modes.

TfL's Bus Action Plan was published on 11 March. It joins similar action plans produced by TfL for cycling, freight, walking and 'Vision Zero'. Bus Action Plan 'sets out TfL's priorities for faster journeys, an improved customer experience and the decarbonising of the network'. It would be easy to be cynical about this 94-page plan given recent and future reductions in bus services and members will be aware of similar plans which did not result in significant improvements. Older readers will recall the 1966 re-shaping plan which took just 18 pages to outline the most radical transformation of London's buses. That had some commendable objectives but was probably too radical for its time and as we all know, many early schemes did not go smoothly.

In 2022 we are basically being promised more of what we have now, but better, with a target of a zero emission fully electric bus fleet by 2030, subject to Government funding. There should be more bus priority measures resulting in journey time savings and buses with facilities like USB charge points that have been common elsewhere for several years.

Bus Action Plan promises faster journeys, 10% quicker than in 2015 and 25km of new bus lanes by 2025. There is welcome talk of more limited stop services quoting the success of the X140 and X68 - which has a non-stop section so is not strictly limited stop. Curiously, the two long standing limited stop routes 607 & X26 don't get mentioned in the text! TfL has traditionally been very reluctant to introduce limited stop services, usually on the grounds that increasing frequencies on existing routes reduces waiting times for everyone and attracts more passengers. Yet watching buses load at Westfield in Shepherd's Bush, many passengers will let a 207 go when a 607 is due on the Countdown display and I regularly see similar behaviour at stops on my local Brighton & Hove routes 12 & 12X. The recognition that passengers want faster journey times and limited stop services is most welcome.

The last boom period for buses in London was between 1999 and 2014 when bus usage increased each year, the congestion charge helped to reduce journey times in Central London and Oyster cards speeded up boarding times. Better control technology and fewer staff shortages meant buses became very reliable, young adults started using buses by choice and London's buses were even described as 'cool'. It is therefore rather tragic to observe the decline since 2014 with the growth of white vans and Ubers creating increased congestion while cycling improvements and badly designed road schemes took priority away from bus lanes. This led to slower buses, noticeably fewer passengers and inevitable cuts to services, even before the pandemic struck. If Bus Action Plan does what it says, and TfL is bold enough to take difficult decisions in favour of buses we should see growth return.

Some small items of TfL related news: The Evening Standard reports that **London Underground tube drivers** are in line for an 8.4% pay award from April bringing their annual pay to around £64,000. This almost matches the inflation rate which is expected to reach 9% this year, the highest rate for 30 years. **Uber** has been given new licence to operate private hire vehicles in London for two and a half years. It plans to offer an entirely electric car fleet by 2025. The number of **cycle hires** through the Santander scheme reached 750,000 in February which is a new high. Over **one third of London Underground stations are now step-free** following the installation of new lifts at Harrow-on-the-Hill station. New lifts are currently being installed at Bank, Moorgate and Paddington (Bakerloo line).

Corporate and company news

The Stagecoach Group withdrew its support for a merger with National Express after it received another takeover bid, from DWS Infrastructure, a German asset management company. DWS has received support from Stagecoach co-founder Anne Gloag who has a 10.5% holding in the company. Stagecoach has until 21 May to decide whether to accept the DWS offer. Rival bidder National Express hit back, claiming the DWS offer materially undervalues the Stagecoach business.

Stagecoach has set out its vision for achieving a zero-emission bus fleet by 2035. Its report quotes findings from non-bus users who say they would start to use services if electric buses were introduced in their local area, so long as fares and frequency remain the same. The group wants to work with local authorities and national Government to explore new funding models to enable this to happen.

National Express is planning a 'summer of celebration' to mark the 50th Anniversary of white National Express coaches. Events will be held around the country and a commemorative book will be published.

Govia Thameslink Railway (GTR) which operates Thameslink, Great Northern, Southern and Gatwick Express train services has been awarded a new rail contract to replace its franchise agreement which expired at the end of March. The contract does not include South Eastern which was stripped from GTR following misreporting of finances last year.

Other General News

The Department for Transport (DfT) has announced almost £200 million worth of funding to enable the purchase of **new zero emission buses** through its ZEBRA scheme where local transport authorities were invited to bid for funds on behalf of operators. This money will facilitate the purchase of 943 zero emission buses in twelve areas in England. The largest award is in Greater Manchester where the DfT will provide £36 million for 170 battery electric buses to be delivered by early 2024. They will convert the entire Stagecoach fleet at Stockport Garage. The West Midlands is to receive 124 hydrogen buses, 100 double deckers and 24 articulated single deckers to be operated by National Express West Midlands. The artics are for the new 'Sprint' route between Walsall-Birmingham-Solihull. In our area Hertfordshire will receive £6 million towards a new fleet of 27 single-deckers at Stevenage which will be operated by Arriva. Oxfordshire County Council is awarded funding towards the cost of 159 battery electric buses, a mixture of single and double deck, which will be shared between the Oxford Bus Company and Stagecoach.

Plans to introduce **franchising in Greater Manchester** moved a step forward when bus operators Stagecoach and Rotala lost their legal appeal. The companies argued that the process followed by the Greater Manchester Combined Authority in assessing the impact of Covid on franchising plans 'did not meet legal requirements'. The first area-based franchises are now expected to be introduced in Bolton and Wigan in January 2023 with a £2 single fare cap. Transport for Greater Manchester has appointed former TfL Director Vernon Everitt as its new Commissioner. Meanwhile legislation to enable **bus franchising in Scotland** is to be introduced.

The £40 million new **Thameslink Station** is under construction at **Brent Cross West** which is due to open in December 2022. It will have four platforms with a connected bridge.

All **West Midlands Metro tram** services have been suspended again following the discovery of more cracks.

As I conclude writing this column I have received copies of the latest **Greater London Bus Maps** by Mike Harris, the first issues for three years due to the pandemic. There are two new maps, one for all buses and one for night buses with a frequency guide. They are of course a publicity item, but worth noting here as these superb publications are invaluable to many enthusiasts and a reminder of the sad state of affairs at TfL which still refuses to produce bus maps.

GREATER LONDON AREA - Route Developments

Section Editor: Stephen Floyd, 4 Turnpike Gardens, Bedford, MK42 0AJ, e-mail to stevefloyd1959@gmail.com This section covers local TfL bus services within the Greater London County boundary. Fuller detail of any commercial or county services that enter the Greater London County from outside will be in the Country Area Route Developments section that follows this section in TLB. Night services are indicated by e.g. =24 night only or 24/= day and night (24 hour) services.

LONDON BUSES - TENDERED ROUTES UPDATE

Starting from Tranche 782 and thus the start of the 2022-23 Tendering programme, contracts are now offered on the basis of 7-year fixed Quality Incentive Contracts, although shorter terms can be agreed between TfL and the operators. This is mainly to encourage the drive towards electrification. The 2-year route extensions listed below remain in place having been previously agreed, and future tendering programmes will reflect revised start dates. When 'existing fleet vehicles' are specified, this means compatible refurbished vehicles, not necessarily those in current use on the route. From 1st March 2021 all buses are to Euro-VI emissions standard.

After a gap of a few months, another bumper list to report.

Routes 80, 91/N91, 92, 93/=, 142/642, 149/=, 151, 154/=, 155/N155, 159/=, 163, 164, 186, 187, 190, 248, 297/=, 339, 383, 384, 470, 487, 621, 635, 638, 664, 684, N97 and W5 from Tranches 799, 799A, 806, 806A, 810, 811, 814, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 824, and 827 were awarded.

Start dates are on 23rd July 2022 (186), 27th August 2022 (684), 3rd September 2022 (638, 664), 24th September 2022 (248), 15th October 2022 (149/=, 621), 22nd October 2022 (383, 384), 29th October 2022 (339), 12th November 2022 (92), 3rd December (80, 93/=, 151, 154/=, 163, 164, 297/=, 470), 10th December 2022 (155/N155, 159/=, 190), 7th January 2023 (142/642), 14th January 2023 (635), 4th February 2023 (91/N91, W5) and 4th March 2023 (187, 487, N97).

Note also that routes 149/=, 159/=, 248, 621 and 638 are awarded on the basis of 5-year contracts, the rest are 7-year contracts. Also note that quite a few routes have 'TBA' against vehicle types; hopefully this will become clear in due course.

80 Retained by Go-Ahead London General using double-deck vehicles, details TBA (pvr 16 to15).
91 Awarded to Go-Ahead London General using existing hybrid double-deck vehicles. Currently operated by Metroline from Holloway (HT) garage (pvr 17 to 15).
92 Retained by Metroline West using existing hybrid double-deck vehicles (pvr 16).
93/= Retained by Go-Ahead London General using double-deck vehicles, details TBA (pvr 26).
142/642 Awarded to Metroline Travel using double-deck vehicles, details TBA. Currently operated by London Sovereign from Edgware (BT) garage (pvr 19).
149/= Retained by Arriva London North using existing NRM Routemasters (pvr 29).
151 Retained by Go-Ahead London General using double-deck vehicles, details TBA (pvr 14).
154/= Retained by Go-Ahead London General using double-deck vehicles, details TBA (pvr 17 to 16).
155/N155 Retained by Go-Ahead London General using existing hybrid double-deck vehicles (pvr 17).
159/=Retained by Abellio London using existing NRM Routemasters (pvr 25 to 20).
163 Retained by Go-Ahead London General using single-deck vehicles, and 1 double-deck details TBA (pvr 12).
164 Retained by Go-Ahead London General using single-deck vehicles details TBA (pvr TBA).
186 Retained by Metroline Travel using existing hybrid double-deck vehicles (pvr 16).
187 Retained by Metroline West using single-deck vehicles details TBA (pvr 13 to 10).
190 Retained by Metroline Travel using existing diesel single-deck vehicles (pvr 10).
248 Awarded to Arriva London North using existing NRM Routemasters. Currently operated by Stagecoach East London from Rainham (RM) garage (pvr 16 to 15).

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

297/= Retained by Metroline Travel using double-deck vehicles, details TBA (pvr 16).
339 Retained by Tower Transit using single-deck vehicles, details TBA (pvr 12 to 11).
383 Retained by Uno using existing diesel single-deck vehicles (pvr 4).
384 Retained by Metroline Travel using single-deck vehicles details TBA (pvr 8).
470 Awarded to Go-Ahead London General using existing diesel single-deck vehicles Currently operated by London United from Tolworth (TV) garage (pvr TBA).
487 Retained by Metroline West using single-deck vehicles details TBA (pvr 11).
621 Retained by Stagecoach Selkent using existing diesel double-deck vehicle (pvr 1).
635 Awarded to Metroline Travel using existing hybrid double-deck vehicles. Currently operated by London United from Hounslow Heath (WK) garage (pvr 3).
638 Retained by Stagecoach Selkent using existing diesel double-deck vehicles (pvr 5).
664 Awarded to Go-Ahead Metrobus using existing hybrid double-deck vehicles. Currently operated by Stagecoach Selkent from Bromley (TB) garage (pvr 2).
684 Awarded to Stagecoach Selkent using existing hybrid double-deck vehicles. Currently operated by Go-Ahead Metrobus from Orpington (MB) garage (pvr 2).
N97 Awarded to Go-Ahead London General using existing hybrid double-deck vehicles Currently operated by London Transit from Westbourne Park (X) garage (pvr 5 from daytime routes).
W5 Retained by HCT Group using single-deck vehicles details TBA (pvr 7).

The rest of the Tendering Programme for 2022/23 is updated below:

Tranche No. and start dates	Routes out on offer (with current operators)	2-year extensions granted
#808 (9/22)	605, 628/688, 653/683 (Sullivan)	--
#810 (9-10/22)	349 (Arriva LN)	4, 210, 341/=
#812 (10/22)	632 (Metroline West)	--
#813 (10/22)	11/N11 (GA London General)	22/=
#815 (10/22)	353, 359 (GA Metrobus)	--
#816 (10-11/22)	78 (Arriva LN)	45, 176/=, 188/=
#819A (12/22)	439, S2 (New Routes Croydon/Sutton consultations).	455 (due to be w'dn!)
#821 (12/22-1/23)	307/= (Metroline Travel)	141, 258, 329
#822 (1/23)	B13 (Arriva LN)	99, 269, 401, 422, B14, B16
#823 (1/23)	47/= (S'ch Selkent)	36/=, 343/=
#825 (2/23)	263 (Metroline Travel)	41/=, 121
#826 (3/23)	H32/=, H91 (London United)	423, H22, H28, H37/=, H98
#828 (3/23)	Tranche cancelled	138, 161, 172, 181, 225, 233, 284
#829 (3/23)	Tranche cancelled	169, 247, 287

The first part of the 2023/24 Programme is listed below, including the insertion of route 168 into Tranche 845 but see service proposals later for an update.
Note that no 2-year extensions have been included in this first batch, although this may change.
The rest of the programme, up to tranche 871 can be found on the TfL website, although we'll only include the ones below which will be offered to operators in the next few months or so:-

Tranche No. and start dates	Routes out on offer (with current operators)	2-year extensions granted
#830 (4/23)	35/=, 40 (GA London Central), 345/=(Abellio)	--
#831 (4-5/23)	62, 145/=, 294, 366, (S'ch East London), 147 (GA Blue Triangle), 368 (Arriva LN)	--
#832 (5/23)	E2, E8 (Metroline Travel) E5, E7(Abellio)	--
#833 (6/23)	129 (GA London Central)	--

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

#834 (7/23)	143D/643 (Metroline Travel), 377 (Arriva LN)	--
#835 (7/23)	26/N26 (HCT Group) 86/N86 (S'ch East London)	--
#836 (7/23)	57/=, 213/= (GA London General), 85/=, 216, 265, K4 (London United)	--
#837 (7-9/23)	53/N53, (S'ch Selkent), 137/N137, 417 (Arriva LS) ..	--
#838 (8-9/23)	64/=, 612, 685 (Arriva LS)	--
#839 (9/23)	72/N72, 203 (London United)	--
#840 (9/23)	626 (Sullivan Buses), 634 (Metroline Travel)	--
#841 (9/23)	H11, H14, H17, H18/H19 (London Sovereign)	--
#842 (9/23)	83/N83, 114/=, 483 (Metroline West), 251, 288, 303 (London Sovereign), 340 (Arriva LN) ..	--
#843 (9/23)	276, 376, D7 (GA Docklands), 346 (GA Blue Triangle) D3 (S'ch East London)	--
#844 (9-10/23)	21/N21, 108/=, 185, 321/= (GA London Central), 199/N199 (S'ch Selkent)	--
#845 (9-10/23)	1/N1, 42, P12 (GA London Central), 168 (Metroline Travel), 381/N381 (Abellio)	--

(Also see Service Proposals later for changes to 1/N1 and168.)

ROUTE AND SERVICE CHANGES

Saturday 22nd January 2022: Correcting TLB690, the Arriva London North "VN29" extra journeys on Fr-Sa Nights continue to operate and were not withdrawn after all.

Saturday 5th February 2022: As in TLB691.

Saturday 12th February 2022: As in TLB691.

Saturday 19th February 2022: As in TLB691, additionally, revised timetable on Go-Ahead Blue Triangle route 650.

Saturday 26th February 2022: As in TLB691.

Saturday 5th March 2022:

Metroline's route 16 temporary reduced service returned to normal.

Additional supplementary services on Stagecoach routes 161, 474 and N8 to cover engineering works on the DLR and Central line during this weekend.

31, 58. 90, 97, 101, 215, 238/=, 308, 309, 325, 415, 455, 689, W11, W12, W15, W16 as in TLB691.

N5 *(London Sovereign*-SO) (Trafalgar Square & Edgware Station) Re-allocated back to Edgware (BT) garage. This was a temporary move to assist with electrification works.

N20 *(Metroline Travel*-HT) (Trafalgar Square & Barnet Hospital) the 'temporary extension' from Barnet Church to Barnet Hospital which has been running since the first lockdown from 1st /2nd April 2020, is now permanent. According to TfL these had been non-stop from Barnet Church, but now serve all stops.

PVR changes from 5th March:

Abellio: 415 no change to PVRs;

Arriva London North: 325 no change to PVRs;

Go-Ahead Blue Triangle: 101 to 12/12/11 #RR51+ (Su change applied from 6.11.21);

Go-Ahead London General: W15 to 21/19/14 #NP631+; Go-Ahead Metrobus: 455 no change to PVRs;

HCT Group: 309, W11, W12, W16, no change to PVRs;

London Sovereign: N5 no change to PVRs, and to #BT41+;

Metroline Travel: 31 no change to PVRs and to #WJ1+; also novated to Metroline West, 90 to 16/15/9 #AH151+; PA garage closed, no change to N20 PVRs;

Stagecoach East London: 97, 215, 238/= no change to PVRs;

Tower Transit: 308 to 13/13/7 #LI601+, (Extra PVR on Fri withdrawn), W15 withdrawn; 58 no change to PVRs.

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

Sunday 6th March 2022: (Additional):

246 *(Stagecoach Selkent*-TB) (Bromley North Station & Westerham) This was the first day of the seasonal Su/PH extension to Chartwell. This runs until Sunday 30th October 2022. There is no change to PVRs.

Saturday 12th March 2022:

Further to 12th February notes in TLB691 about Westway special schedules, from 12th March normal Saturday schedules on 92, 297 and Sat and Sun schedules on 112 were reinstated. However, temporary schedules began on Sat and Sun 46 and 390 and on Suns on 295.

167, 379, 677, W13 as in TLB691. Additionally and updating:-

549 (South Woodford Station & Loughton Station, Mon-Sat except evenings) LBSL (QC) contract awarded to *Sullivan Buses* using existing AE-class AD20D Enviro 200 diesel single-deck vehicle from South Mimms (SM) garage. Previously operated by *Stagecoach East London* from West Ham (WH) garage. Frequency reduced from x70 to x90 mins.

667 (Ilford High Road & Chigwell, West Hatch School SDO) LBSL (QX) contract awarded to *Stagecoach East London* using existing AD E40D AD Enviro400 diesel double-deck vehicles from Barking (BK) garage and also West Ham (WH) garage, updating TLB691. Previously operated by *Go-Ahead Blue Triangle* from River Road (RR) garage.

PVR changes from 12th March:

Go-Ahead Blue Triangle: 677 to 1/-/- #RR701+, 667 withdrawn;
Go-Ahead London General: 379 to 2/2/1 #NP1+ (correcting SUP39B);
HCT Group: W13 no change to PVRs;
Stagecoach East London: 62 to 17*/16/9 (*667) #BK51+;
667 to +(+1 ex 62)/-/- as #BK67 (am), #BK52 (pm) + 2/-/- #WH407/408(pm only),
549, 677 withdrawn, no change to 167 PVRs;
Sullivan Buses: 549 to 1/1/- #SM549.

Saturday 19th March 2022:

26 *(HCT Group*-HK) (Waterloo Station & Hackney Wick) Revised M-F schedules for running time, restoring service prior to 1st August 2020. (This change, and that on the D6, is to restore the increased PVR on 26 and decrease on D6, deferred from 1st January 2022 and now brought forward from 2nd April 2022).

684 *(Go-Ahead Metrobus*-MB) (Orpington Station & Biggin Hill, Charles Darwin School, SDO) Duplicate journey (see TLB690) now formally scheduled to run at 07:35 from Orpington and 15:20 from Biggin Hill.

689 *(Arriva London South*-TH) (The Glade, Glade Gardens & West Croydon, Bus Station SDO) Afternoon journey retimed to run 7 minutes earlier at 15:20. (deferred from 5th March).

D6 *(HCT Group*-HK) (Cambridge Heath, Ash Grove Garage & Crossharbour, ASDA) Revised M-F schedules for running time, restoring service prior to 1st August 2020. (Deferred from 1st January 2022 and now brought forward from 2nd April 2022).

U5 *(Abellio*-GW) (Uxbridge, York Road & Hayes, Clarendon Road) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using new electric double-deck vehicles, in due course.

N26 *(HCT Group*-HK) (Trafalgar Square & Chingford Station) Revised timetable for running time.

PVR changes from 19th March:

Abellio: U5 to 11/9/6 #GW501+;
Arriva London South: 689 no change to PVRs;
Go-Ahead Metrobus: 684 to 2/-/- #MB1+;
HCT Group: 26 to 21/19/10 #HK231+, D6 to 14/13/10 #HK1+, N26 no change to PVRs, night service uses running numbers from daytime 26, except SuN/Mo, uses #HK261-265 + #HK233 from daytime 26.

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

Saturday 26th March 2022:

Additional supplementary journeys on routes 14 and 22 over this weekend, daytimes between Hyde Park Corner and Putney Bridge to cover for engineering work on the District line.

17 (*Metroline Travel*-HT) (Archway & London Bridge Station) Revised Mon-Fri schedule.

41 *(Arriva London North*-AR) (Archway Station & Tottenham Hale Station) Revised Mon-Fri timetable, removing one AM peak journey from Tottenham Hale Station. The outstationing of buses at Edmonton (EC) garage on Mon-Fri also officially ceased on this date, but by local arrangement had ceased in practice from 29th January.

76/= *(Go-Ahead London General*-NP) (Waterloo, Bayliss Road & Tottenham Hale Station) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.

121 *(Arriva London North*-E*)* (Turnpike Lane Station & Enfield Island Village) Revised Mon-Fri timetable, with minor peak revisions.

212 *(Go-Ahead London General*-NP) (St James Street Station & Chingford Station) re-routed westbound at Chingford Hatch to operate via New Road instead of serving a bus stop in Hatch Lane (slip-road).

259 *(Arriva London North*-EC) (King's Cross, Grays Inn Road & Edmonton Green Station) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.

319/= *(Arriva London South*-BN) (Sloane Square & Streatham Hill, Telford Avenue) Frequency restored to Pre-Covid levels.

329 *(Arriva London North*-AD) (Turnpike Lane Station & Enfield, Little Park Gardens) Revised Mon-Fri timetable, removing additional peak journeys.

357 *(Go-Ahead London General*-NP) (Chingford Hatch & Whipps Cross, extended on Suns to Whipps Cross Hospital). Re-routed westbound at Chingford Hatch to operate via New Road instead of serving a bus stop in Hatch Lane (slip-road).

362 *(Stagecoach East London*-BK) (Grange Hill Station & Goodmayes, King George Hospital) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.

393 *(Metroline Travel*-HT) (Chalk Farm, Morrisons & Clapton Pond) Re-routed at Kentish Town eastbound direct on Prince of Wales Road instead of Castlehaven Road and Castle Road.

427 *(Abellio*-GW) (Acton, Old Town Hall & Uxbridge, York Road) Revised daily timetables for running time.

462 *(Stagecoach East London*-BK) (Limes Farm Estate & Ilford, High Road) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.

657 *(Go-Ahead London General*-NP) (Crooked Billet, Sainsbury's & Woodford Wells, Bancroft's School SDO) Re-routed westbound at Chingford Hatch to operate via New Road instead of serving a bus stop in Hatch Lane (slip-road).

N41 *(Arriva London North*-AR) (Trafalgar Square & Tottenham Hale Station) Revised nightly timetable for running time.

PVR changes from 26th March:

Abellio: 427 no change to PVRs;
Arriva London North: 329 to 15/15/14 #AD181+, 41/N41, 121, 259, no change to PVRs;
Arriva London South: 319 to 19/18/13 #BN51+;
Go-Ahead London General: no change to 76, 212, 357, 657 PVRs;
Metroline Travel: 17 to 16/13/8 #HT141+, no change to 393 PVRs;
Stagecoach East London: no change to 362, 462 PVRs.

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

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

Saturday 2nd April 2022:

The new Abellio garage at Hayes, Dawley Road (DH) garage opens on this date. Routes 350, 482, U7 and U9 move from Southall (GW) garage, keeping the PVR and running number sequences. Routes 278 and U5 do not move until 21st May.

Temporary roadworks schedules introduced on Mon-Fri on Metroline West route 95.

2 *(Arriva London South*-N) (Marylebone Station & Norwood Garage) and

N2 *(Arriva London South*-N) (Marylebone Station & Crystal Palace) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.

5 *(Go-Ahead Blue Triangle*-RR) (Romford Market & Canning Town, Bus Station) Commencement of phased partial conversion to LT-class NRM Routemasters, using surplus vehicles from routes 12 and 15. *(see also vehicle news).*

12 *(Go-Ahead London Central*-Q) (Dulwich Library & Oxford Circus) Mon-Sat daytime frequency reduced from x7½ to x12mins, Sunday daytimes from x8-9 to x12mins, and evenings from x10 to x12mins. Surplus LT-class vehicles are expected to part-convert route 5.

13/= *(London Transit*-X) (Victoria Station & North Finchley) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing VMH-class Volvo B5LH MCV EvoSeti hybrid double-deck vehicles.

19 *(Arriva London North*-AR) (Battersea Bridge, South Side & Finsbury Park Station) and

N19 *(Arriva London North*-AR) (Clapham Junction, St. John's Hill & Finsbury Park Station) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.

113 *(Metroline Travel*-EW) (Edgware Station & Marble Arch) and

N113 *(Metroline Travel*-EW) (Edgware Station & Trafalgar Square) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.

171 *(Go-Ahead London Central*-NX) (Elephant & Castle & Bellingham, Catford Garage) Mon-Sat daytime frequency reduced from x8-9 to x12mins.

194 *(Arriva London South*-TC) (Lower Sydenham, Sainsbury's & West Croydon, Bus Station) Revised Daily timetables for running time.

249 *(Arriva London South*-N) (Clapham Common Station & Anerley Station) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.

289 *(Arriva London South*-TH) (Purley Station & Elmers End Station) Revised Daily timetables for running time.

432 (Brixton Station & Anerley Station) LBSL (QC) contract awarded to *Arriva London South* using existing HV-class Volvo B5LH Wrightbus Eclipse Gemini 2 hybrid double-deck vehicles from Norwood (N) garage. Previously operated by *Go-Ahead London General* from Stockwell (SW) garage.

617 *(Sullivan Buses*-SM) (Turnpike Lane Station & Turkey Street, St.Ignatius College SDO) Renewal of LBSL (QX) contract using existing E-class AD E40D/ Enviro400 diesel double-deck vehicles.

629 *(Sullivan Buses*-SM) (Wood Green Station & Turkey Street, St.Ignatius College SDO) Renewal of LBSL (QX) contract using existing E-class AD E40D/ Enviro400 diesel double-deck vehicles.

678 (Beckton, Bus Station & Upton Lane, St. George's Road, AM jnys to Stratford Bus Station SDO) LBSL (QX) contract awarded to *Tower Transit* using existing MV-class Volvo B5LH MCV EvoSeti hybrid double-deck vehicles from Lea Interchange (LI) garage. Currently operated by *Stagecoach East London* from West Ham (WH) garage.

R1 *(Go-Ahead Metrobus*-MB) (Green Street Green, High Street & St. Paul's Cray, Grovelands)

R2 *(Go-Ahead Metrobus*-MB) (Orpington, Gravel Pit Way & Biggin Hill Valley, Medley Road, Mon-Sat)

R3 *(Go-Ahead Metrobus*-MB) (Princess Royal University Hospital & Orpington Station)

R4 *(Go-Ahead Metrobus*-MB) (Princess Royal University Hospital & Pauls Cray Hill)

R6 *(Go-Ahead Metrobus*-MB) (Orpington Station & St. Mary Cray Station)

R8 *(Go-Ahead Metrobus*-MB) (Orpington Station & Biggin Hill Post Office, Mon-Sat)

R11 *(Go-Ahead Metrobus*-MB) (Green Street Green, High Street & Sidcup, Queen Mary's Hospital) LBSL (QC) contracts on all seven routes extended for 2 years.

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

PVR changes from 2nd April:
Arriva London South: 432 to 12/11/7 #N281+, 194, 289 no change to PVRs;
Go-Ahead London Central: 12 to 15/15/14 #Q211+, 171 to 15/15/14 #NX51+;
Go-Ahead London General: 432 withdrawn;
Stagecoach East London: 678 withdrawn; 86 to 30(+1/256)/31(+1/294)/20 #NS371+, also 4/-/- #WH401+. 678 cross-link off. 330 to 8/9/6 #WH701+ 678 cross-link off.
Tower Transit: 678 to 4/-/- #LI1+.

Any further PVR changes will be in TLB693.

Saturday 9th April 2022:
202 *(Arriva London South*-N) (Crystal Palace & Blackheath, Royal Standard) Introduction of 1 minute widening daily daytimes, to mitigate for water main replacement in Westhorne Avenue/ South Circular Road.
S3 *(London United*-TV) (Malden Manor Station & Belmont Station, Mon-Sat except evenings) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
N5 *(London Sovereign*-BT) (Trafalgar Square & Edgware Station) Revised Nightly timetable for running time.

Easter Holiday 15th to 18th April 2022: A Saturday service will operate on Good Friday 15th April and a Sunday Service on Easter Monday 18th April, with normal service on Easter Saturday and Sunday.

Saturday 16th April 2022: Widened timetables introduced on Metroline 113, 186, 292, 384 for roadworks on Edgware Way bridge at Apex Corner.

Route 384 also allocated an additional PVR for Mo-Fr peak hours.
110 *(London United*-AV) (Hounslow, Bus Station & Hammersmith, Bus Station) Revised Daily timetables for running time.
183 *(London Sovereign*-SO) (Pinner, Love Lane & Golders Green Station) Revised timetable Mo-Fr SDO, with withdrawal of PM journey from Kingsbury JFS to Golders Green Station
195 *(Abellio*-GW) (Charville Lane Estate & Brentford, County Court) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
X26 *(Go-Ahead Metrobus*-C) (West Croydon, Bus Station & Heathrow Airport Central, express) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.

Saturday 23rd April 2022:
=57 *(Go-Ahead London General*-AL) (Kingston, Fairfield Bus Station & Clapham Park, Atkins Road) Minor timing alterations, SuN/ThM, for better connections with N65.
78 *(Arriva London North*-AE) (Shoreditch High Street & Nunhead, St. Mary's Road) Revised running time introduced during Covid-19 made permanent.

Saturday 30th April 2022:
=105 *(London United*-AV) (Heathrow Airport Central & Greenford Station) Night allocation re-allocated from Hounslow (AV) garage to Hounslow Heath (WK) garage, thus joining the daytime allocation there.
110 *(London United*-AV) (Hounslow, Bus Station & Hammersmith, Bus Station) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
111/= (Kingston, Cromwell Road Bus Station & Heathrow Airport Central) LBSL (QC) contract awarded to *Abellio* using new Wrightbus Electroliner electric double-deck vehicles from Fulwell (TF) garage in due course. Currently operated by *London United* from Hounslow (AV) garage, using LT-class NRM Routemasters; these will transfer to Abellio initially.

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

Saturday 30th April 2022, continued:

204 *(Metroline Travel*-EW) (Sudbury Town Station & Edgware Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using new electric double-deck vehicles, in due course. Revised Daily timetable.

206 *(Metroline West*-WJ) (Kilburn Park Station & Wembley Park, The Paddocks) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.

236 *(Tower Transit*-LI) (Finsbury Park Station, Bus Station & Hackney Wick, Eastway) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.

322 (Crystal Palace & Clapham Common, Old Town) LBSL (QC) contract awarded to *Abellio* using new electric single-deck vehicles from Battersea (QB) garage in due course. Currently operated by *Go-Ahead London General* from Stockwell (SW) garage.

350 *(Abellio*-GW) (Heathrow Terminal 5 & Hayes, Asda) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing diesel single-deckers.

394 *(HCT Group*-HK) (Homerton Hospital & Islington, Tolpuddle Street) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.

635 *(London United*-WK) (Hounslow, Bus Station & Sunbury, St.Paul's School, SDO) Re-allocated to Hounslow (AV) garage.

P4 *(Stagecoach Selkent*-TL) (Brixton Station & Lewisham, Town Centre) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.

H13 (*Metroline West*-UX) (Ruislip Lido & St Vincent's Nursing Home) Revised running time Daily.

U1 *(Metroline West*-UX) (Ruislip Station & West Drayton Station) and

U2 *(Metroline West*-UX) (Uxbridge Station & Brunel University) and

U3 *(Metroline West*-UX) (Uxbridge Station & Heathrow Airport Central) and

U4 *(Metroline West*-UX) (Uxbridge Station & Hayes, Prologis Park) LBSL (QC) contracts extended for 2 years on all four.

U10 *(Metroline West*-UX) (Uxbridge Station & Ruislip, Heathfield Rise, Mo-Sa, except late evenings) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing diesel single-deck vehicles. Revised timetable with frequency standardised at x90min.

X26 *(Go-Ahead Metrobus*-C) (West Croydon, Bus Station & Heathrow Airport Central, express) Revised Mo-Fr timetables for running time.

Provisionally for mid-May at the earliest but possibly or probably deferred further

Route changes below are in relation to the introduction of the Elizabeth line. At time of going to press we have not been advised when the public railway service will start, nor a confirmed date of the bus changes. These were first highlighted in TLB635 (July 2017), although some of the western proposals and new route 301 were introduced earlier. The consultations for routes 101/241 also appeared in TLB686 (Oct 2021). Please check the LOTS or TfL websites for the latest news; hopefully the dates will be confirmed in the May TLB, which is due for posting on 17th May, so possibly after these proposals might have started. So, I've listed the changes for the benefit of photographers, etc. who wish to record the current routes.

South-East London changes:

129 *(Go-Ahead London Central*-MG) (North Greenwich Station & Greenwich, Cutty Sark) Extended from Greenwich via Greenwich High Road, South Street and Lewisham Road to Lewisham, Lewisham Centre, replacing route 180 over this section. M-F peak frequency reduced from x8 to x12mins.

180 *(Stagecoach Selkent*-PD) (Lewisham, Lewisham Centre & Belvedere Industrial Area) Withdrawn from Lewisham to Woolwich Road/A102 junction and revised to start at North Greenwich, via route 129 via West Parkside, Peartree Way, Horn Lane. Also rerouted at Belvedere direct via Church Manorway, (so withdrawn from the terminal loop via Manorway North and Fishers Way) and extended to Erith Quarry via Lower Road, West Street, Erith Town Centre, Fraser Road, turning at the roundabout with Loampit Road to stand.

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

469 *(Go-Ahead London Central*-MG) (Woolwich Common, Queen Elizabeth Hospital & Erith, Cross Street) Re-routed between Abbey Wood and Belvedere Stations via Picardy Road, Woolwich Road and New Road instead of Abbey Road.

472 *(Stagecoach Selkent*-PD) (North Greenwich Station & Thamesmead, Town Centre) Re-routed in Thamesmead to run via the Crossway loop via Harrow Manorway to Abbey Wood Station, no longer serving Bentham Road and also rerouted at Plumstead via Western Way instead of Nathan Way (these sections now covered by route 301). Mon-Fri daytime frequency reduced from x6 to x8mins, Saturday daytime frequency from x7½ to x8mins and Sunday and evenings from x10 to x12mins. The Mon-Fri AM peak 'bifurcation' short working extra journeys from Charlton Station to North Greenwich Station are also withdrawn.

B11 *(Go-Ahead London Central*-BX) (Bexleyheath Garage & Thamesmead, Town Centre) Route withdrawn from Thamesmead Town Centre & Thamesmead, Carlisle Road/Boiler House. Mon-Sat daytime frequency reduced from x15 to x20mins.

East London changes:

101 *(Go-Ahead Blue Triangle*-RR) (Wanstead Station & Gallions Reach, Shopping Park) Route withdrawn between Beckton, Bus Station and Gallions Reach, Shopping Park.

104 *(Go-Ahead Blue Triangle*-RR) (Stratford, Bus Station & Manor Park Station) Withdrawn between Lonsdale Avenue and Manor Park Station and re-routed to Beckton Bus Station (see also route 304). Mon-Sat frequency increased from x10 to x8mins, Sunday daytimes from x15 to x12mins and evenings from x20 to x12mins. Some hybrid double-deck vehicles will move in to share the allocation with this and route 304.

241 *(Stagecoach East London*-WH) (Stratford City, Bus Station & Canning Town, Hermit Road) Withdrawn from Custom House to Canning Town, Hermit Road and extended to Prince Regent Bus Station via Connaught Bridge and North Woolwich Road. It is the intention to extend to Royal Wharf once infrastructure and road layouts are resolved in due course. Sunday daytime and evening frequency increased from x20 to x15mins.

262 *(Tower Transit*-LI) (Stratford, Bus Station & East Beckton, Sainsbury's) Route withdrawn between Gallions Reach Shopping Park and East Beckton, Sainsbury's.

300 *(Go-Ahead Docklands*-SI) (East Ham, Wordsworth Avenue & Canning Town, Bus Station) Re-routed from Beckton Bus Station to run the full length of Tollgate Road, Prince Regent Lane Victoria Dock Road to serve Custom House, then via Freemasons Road, New Barn Lane to Barking Road.

304 NEW ROUTE (Manor Park & Custom House) via current route 104 via East Ham to Lonsdale Avenue, then via Boundary Lane, Glen Road, Prince Regent Lane to Custom House. Operated with a mix of diesel and hybrid double-deck vehicles from *Go-Ahead Blue Triangle* from River Road (RR) garage. Frequency to be x12mins Mon-Sat daytimes, x15mins, Sundays and evenings.

330 *(Stagecoach East London*-WH) (Wanstead Park Station & Canning Town, Bus Station) Extended from Canning Town to Connaught Bridge, Charles Street via Silvertown Way and North Woolwich Road, turning at the roundabout with Connaught Bridge/North Woolwich Road and replacing route 474 on this section.

376 *(Go-Ahead Docklands*-SI) (Beckton, Bus Station & East Ham, Newham Town Hall) Frequency increased from x15 to x12mins.

474/= *(Stagecoach East London*-WH) (Canning Town, Hermit Road & Manor Park Station) Re-routed between Canning Town & London City Airport via Keir Hardie Estate, Victoria Dock Road and Connaught Bridge.

Saturday 21st May 2022: (back to normal service changes)

Abellio routes 278 and U5 are expected to transfer from Southall (GW) garage to Hayes, Dawley Road (DH) garage on this date.

94 *(London United*-S) (Acton Green, Duke of Sussex & Piccadilly Circus). As part of the last stage of the Oxford Street project, the route will be withdrawn between Piccadilly Circus and Portman Square, standing at the southern end of Portman Street. The night service will continue to run to Piccadilly Circus and will be renumbered N94.

135 (Old Street Station & Crossharbour) LBSL (QC) contract awarded to *Tower Transit* using existing VH-class Volvo B5LH Wrightbus hybrid double-deck vehicles (displaced from route 733) from Lea Interchange (LI) garage. The 733 began on 15th January (TLB689 page 9) and should hopefully be withdrawn on or by this date. Currently operated by *Go-Ahead Docklands Buses* from Silvertown (SI) garage using EHV-class Volvo B5LH AD400H hybrid double-deck vehicles.

433 *(Abellio*-BC) (West Croydon, Bus Station & Addington Village, Interchange) Renewal of LBSL (QC) using new electric single-deck vehicles in due course.

464 *(Abellio*-BC) (Tatsfield, Ship & New Addington, Parkway) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.

Saturday 28th May 2022:

177 *(Stagecoach Selkent*-PD) (Peckham, Bus Station & Thamesmead, Town Centre) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing AD E40H AD Enviro400H hybrid double-deck vehicles.

E6 *(Metroline West*-G) (Greenford Station & Hayes, Bull's Bridge Tesco) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.

Thursday/Friday 2nd /3rd June 2022: HM The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Holiday. A Sunday service is planned to operate on both days, with a possibility that this might be changed to a Saturday service on one or both days, to be confirmed next month. Some Central London road closures are likely, though, with events at Buckingham Palace, Trooping the Colour and a thanksgiving service at St. Paul's Cathedral taking place throughout the extended weekend.

Saturday 4th June 2022:

217 *(Sullivan Buses*-SM) (Turnpike Lane Station & Waltham Cross, Bus Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing E-class AD E40D AD Enviro400 diesel double-deck vehicles.

253 *(Arriva London North*-CT) (Hackney Central Station & Euston Station) and

N253 *(Arriva London North*-CT) (Tottenham Court Road Station & Aldgate Station) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.

254 *(Arriva London North*-AE) (Aldgate Station & Holloway, Nag's Head) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.

SERVICE PROPOSALS

The consultation for routes 1, 168 and 188 were published on the same day as the 21/143/263/271/620 and are summarised below:-

The consultation for merging routes **1 and 168** received 343 responses. Out of 299 responses sharing views, 52% indicated a negative impact, mainly due to the cut in frequency, but also the loss of route 168 down Old Kent Road. There were 32% negative responses for the re-routing of route **188** from Russell Square, rerouting at Holborn to Tottenham Court Road to replace route 1 over this section. Nevertheless, TfL will proceed with the scheme, with Route **1** being re-routed from Canada Water to Hampstead Heath and route **168** being withdrawn. Route **N1** remains unchanged between Tottenham Court Road & Thamesmead. These changes will take place in "September 2023" so therefore forming part of a revised Tranche 845.

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

The consultation for routes **21, 143, 263 and 271** received 1,520 responses. The proposal to withdraw route 271 received 69% negative responses and the re-routeing of 21 received 60% negative responses, mainly citing loss of capacity, loss of access to hospitals and negative impact on schoolchildren, vulnerable and disabled passengers. Nevertheless, TfL are proceeding with the scheme but with several modifications. The proposals are now:-

21 Withdrawn between Baring Street and Newington Green and re-routed via 271 as far as Holloway, Nag's Head;
143 Remains on current routing via Highgate Village, so unchanged; therefore no need for a separate school route (was 620);
234 Extended from Highgate Wood to Archway Station via Archway Road, part replacing route 263;
263 Re-routed via Highgate Village instead of Archway Road.
271 Route withdrawn, though night route retained as **N271**, extended to North Finchley from Highgate Village via East Finchley.

Routes **76 and 141** will gain some extra AM peak southbound journeys as partial coverage for route 21. The changes are due to be introduced in "Early 2023" but may be subject to change.

The consultation for route **497** was also announced. Under the proposals it was to either be extended in service to Dagnam Park Square or withdrawn all together. There were 437 responses to the consultation, with 83% of those sharing views saying that extending the route would improve links for local amenities with 14% of objections citing the number of buses using the Dagnam Park Square stand. 73% of respondents stated opposition to the withdrawal of the route. TfL have decided that the route will be extended in service, but to reduce costs it will withdraw the service on Sundays (when only an hourly service operates). The changes will be introduced in "Summer 2022".

Finally, the re-routeing of routes 212, 357 and 657 to move bus stop HS away from New Road in Hatch Lane, Chingford, (see TLBs 686 & 690) was implemented from 26th March *(see above under route changes).*

A summary of the main proposals variously awaiting results and/or start dates, for example:
TLB684 p16: R7 in Chelsfield.
TLB686 p12: 410 stop changes.
TLB691 p12: 145 weekend night service withdrawn.
Other more minor examples involve road layout changes. One proposal, for Bishopsgate has been extended to 26 September 2022 as this now includes "Bus gates" between Middlesex Street and Liverpool Street, and between Threadneedle Street and Cornhill Street. Bus routes would be unaffected, but other traffic will be banned on Mon-Fri between 0700-1900.

FORTHCOMING CHANGES IN BRIEF

This list includes tenders that have been decided and principal route changes already in past TLBs and updated following this month's tender announcements.

25th June 22: CR7 on 70 (London United), 245 (Metroline Travel), CE+2 on 120, 245, 260, 302 (Metroline Travel), R68, R70 (Abellio).
2nd July 22: CE+2 on 465, C1 (London United).
16th July 22: CE+2 on 382 (Metroline Travel).
23rd July 22: CR7 on 186 (Metroline Travel), CE+2 on 17, C11+, W8 (Metroline), 280 (G-A London General).
30th July 22: CR7 on 613, 662, 665 (London United) 671 (London United to Abellio).
20th Aug 22: CE+2 on 243/= (Arriva LN), W7/= (Metroline).

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

27th Aug 22: CR7 on 116 (London United), 119/=# (G-A Metrobus), 198 (Arriva LS), 264/=* (Arriva LS to G-A Metrobus), A10 (Metroline West), 684 (G-A Metrobus to S'coach Selkent), CE+2 on 5, 15/N15, 115 (GA Blue Triangle/Docklands) 50, 194, 250/=, 255, 410 (Arriva LS), 130 (Abellio), 320 (G-A Metrobus).
3rd Sep 22: CR on 638 (Stagecoach Selkent), CR7 on 664 (S'coach Selkent to Metrobus), CE+2 on 66 (Arriva LN), 90 (Metroline Travel), 289 (Arriva LS), 314 (Stagecoach Selkent).
17th Sep 22: CE+2 on 222/= (Metroline West).
24th Sep 22: CR on 248 (Stagecoach East London to Arriva London North).
1st Oct 22: CE+2 on 131 (G-A London General), 411 (London United).
15th Oct 22: CR7 on 226* (Metroline West to London United), CR on 149/= (Arriva LN), 621 (Stagecoach Selkent), CE+2 on 103, 150, 175 (Arriva LN), 257 (Stagecoach East London).
22nd Oct 22: CR on 220/= (London United), CR7 on 383 (Uno).
29th Oct 22: CR7 on 295/=* (Metroline West to London United), CR7 on 339 (Tower Transit), CR7 on 384 (Metroline Travel).
5th Nov 22: CE+2 on 370 (Arriva London North).
12th Nov 22: CR7 on 92 (Metroline West), CE+2 on 18/N18, 33/N33, 419 (London United).
3rd Dec 22: CR7 on 80, 93/=, 151, 154/=, 163, 164 (G-A London General), 297 (Metroline), 470 (London United to G-A London General).
10th Dec 22: CR7 on 155/N155 (G-A London General), 190 (Metroline Travel), CR on 159/= (Abellio London), CE+2 on 6/=, 98/N98 (Metroline Travel), 88/=, 170, (G-A London General) 355 (G-A Metrobus), 360 (G-A London Central).
7th Jan 23: CR7 on 142/642 (London Sovereign to Metroline Travel).
14th Jan 23: CR7 on 635 (London United to Metroline Travel).
4th Feb 23: CR7 on 91/N91 (Metroline to G-A London General), W5 (HCT Group), CE+2 on 118, 153 (G-A London General), 299 (Sullivans), W4, W6 (Arriva LN).
4th Mar 23: CR7 on 187, 487 (Metroline West), N97 (London Transit to G-A London General).

OTHER SPECIAL and MISCELLANEOUS non-TfL OPERATIONS IN LONDON

Further to the report in TLB686 (Oct 2021), **HCT Group** had suspended route **812** operated on behalf of Islington Council since 20th March 2020. It now seems it might be re-introduced soon, as HCT Group are advertising for PCV drivers to operate it again. Thanks to member Peter for spotting this.

A new application from **AIRSYM coaches** for a permit to operate a service ('DIG1') early on Sat/Suns from Liverpool Street at 05:20 then via Bishopsgate, Wormwood Street London Wall, Moorgate, Old Street, then via Stoke Newington, Stamford Hill to call at Tottenham Hale, Cygnet Way (05:55) then via Watermead Way, Meridan Way to arrive at Enfield Stockingswater Lane, Amazon Distribution Centre at 06:10. Presumably for Amazon employees only, there is no return journey. The start date was given as 4th April, so the first day should be 9th April. As mentioned in Country Areas in TLB691, Amazon routes Z2 and Z4 operated by **Ensignbus** were re-registered under **First Essex** from 19th March, but they have also become closed contracts, i.e. only available to Amazon employees, thus affecting Z2 in the London area. (Ensignbus route Z1 between Lakeside and Tilbury remains as a scheduled service, for clarification.)

The free Richmond Park circular minibus service (RP1) resumes on Wednesdays only from 20th April to 26th October 2022. Journeys depart from the NE corner of the park at the Danebury Avenue gate at 09:40, 11:10, 13:10 and 14:40.



'Save the Bees!'. Go-Coach E400 No 9506 carries this Kent CC livery to promote the campaign. On 11th February on Trevithick Drive Dartford it was on route AZ, a route destined to be withdrawn after 2nd April. *(Richard Godfrey)*

Go-Coach trialled the Caetano e.City Gold demonstrator BV69 KTP for a few days when seen here at Westerham on 11th March. It is looked after by Abellio with 'dummy fleet number' 1500 but is rarely seen out on the road. *(Richard Godfrey)*





The last Optare Spectra to be built (in 2006) was YJ06 YPY on a DAF DB250LF chassis. It has spent its life with Z&S at Aylesbury and almost always on route 165 (its correct number!). This view was in May 2008 out in rural Buckinghamshire. *(Richard Godfrey)*

The cancelled order for Optare MetroDeckers by Reading has meant that two have come to Central Connect. CT21 GAL is one of the pair of these 11.1m vehicles. Here it is on a rail replacement at Newbury Park on 27th February. *(David Heath)*





Friday 18th March was the last day of Mullany on the '318 Flyer' in Watford. Dart SLF LX06 EZW in Aerodrome Way, Leavesden was once Go-Ahead London LDP 291. The blue-skirt livery dates from when Mullany's once had ex-Metroline Solos. *(Richard Godfrey)*

From 17th April Arriva is making savage cuts to services in the Watford area with routes 320 and 520 withdrawn. In happier times, E400MMC 6528 in full 'Sapphire' garb turns out of Market Street Watford en route to its home at Hemel Hempstead. *(Haydn Davies)*





More Tube strikes occurred on 1st and 3rd March and again seven routes were boosted by visiting buses. Southern Transit's two E400MMCs worked on the 205 and 'CM1' GB18 RML is at Liverpool Street Station on 3rd March. *Richard Godfrey)*

On the other side of the road in Bishopsgate to the above, one of Central Connect's three E20D(MMC)s on route 8 takes on a load of passengers under the watchful eyes of Dirty Dick's establishment! *(Richard Godfrey)*



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

DIVERSIONS, DEVIATIONS AND DISRUPTIONS

General: A fire at an electricity sub-station in Poplar in the afternoon of 29th March caused widespread disruption as the Blackwall, Rotherhithe and Limehouse tunnels all had to be closed and the DLR was suspended for a time.

Central: Once again, problems at Tottenham Court Road Station area, this time from a gas leak in St Giles High Street. From 28th February to 22nd March, route **14/=** was diverted westbound via Shaftesbury Avenue. Routes **1/N1, 8, N68, N171, N242** were curtailed to Holborn Station, route **176** was curtailed to Cambridge Circus and route **N253** sets down in New Oxford Street. The diversion for North End Market affecting routes **28/N28 and 306**, mentioned in TLB690 (Feb 22) has been extended to 7th October.

South-East: From 22nd March to 5th April, owing to a sinkhole in Westmoreland Road, Bromley, routes **138 and 162** were diverted in both directions via Hayes Lane, Tootswood Road and South Hill Road. Double deck routes **638 and N3** were diverted in both directions via Mead Way, Hayes Lane and Hayes Road. Thanks to member Bill for this report. From 28th March to 5th April, owing to road works in Frognal Place, at Queen Mary's Hospital, Sidcup, route **286** was revised to start and finish journeys in Chislehurst Road, departing via double run to Sidcup By-Pass, with route **B14** operating via Sidcup By-Pass and Chislehurst Road instead of Watery Lane towards Bexleyheath and direct via Chislehurst Road towards Orpington.

South: From 3rd to 20th March, owing to a burst water main in Yorkshire Road, routes **152 and 255** were unable to serve the Westmoreland Way loop on departure from Pollards Hill so operated via Recreation Way instead. From 14th March to 10th April, owing to road works in Queens Road, Broad Green, West Croydon, route **450** was diverted via Bensham Lane, London Road, St James's Road and Windmill Road, southbound until 28th March then northbound for the last fortnight. From 14th March until 2nd May, owing to telecommunication works in Atlantic Road, Brixton, route **322** is diverted southbound via Brixton Road, Effra Road and Saltoun Road. From 21st March to 13th May, owing to telecommunications works in Radbourne Road, Streatham Hill, route **255** is diverted westbound via Thornton Road, King's Avenue and Atkins Road to Weir Road.

South-West: Updating the closure of Staines Railway Bridge in TLB691, Routes **117 & 290** terminate at bus stop U, Staines Police Station, on Kingston Road and pick up from bus stop M, on Kingston Road. Routes **203 & 216** terminate at bus stop L, Kingston Road, on London Road and pick up from a temporary bus stop located on London Road between the junctions of Kingston Road and Fairfield Avenue. Country routes 8/8A, 400, 438, 442, 570/1/2 would also have been affected but have not been reported.

West: From 21st March to 8th April, owing to road works in Shepherd's Bush Interchange, routes **31, 49, 207, 228, 237, 260, 316, 607 and C1** were diverted on departure via Ariel Way (west), Wood Lane and Uxbridge Road.

North: From 25th March to 15th April, owing to water works in Hanley Road, Crouch Hill, route **210** was diverted towards Finsbury Park via Hazellville Road, Hornsey Rise, Crouch End Hill, The Broadway, Tottenham Lane (double run to YMCA), The Broadway, Crouch Hill and Stroud Green Road.

North-East: From 15th March to 22nd April, owing to water works in Cross Road, Woodford Bridge, route **W14** is revised to start and finish journeys in Roding Lane North. From 28th March to 27th May, owing to water works on Fairlop Road, Leytonstone, routes **W15, W16 and W19** are diverted in both directions via Hainault Road and Bulwer Road.

East: From 28th March to 15th May, owing to building works in Rainham Broadway, route **372** is diverted in both directions via New Road and Upminster Road South (also Viking Way towards Lakeside). A shuttle bus will run between Wennington and Rainham Station, although this is not operated by Stagecoach East London. Route **103** is also curtailed at Rainham, Tesco. From 28th March to 16th April, owing to utility works in Twelvetrees Crescent underpass, Bromley-by-Bow, route **323** was diverted eastbound via Devas Street, Blackwall Tunnel Northern Approach (double run to Bow Interchange) and Twelvetrees Crescent.

COUNTRY AREAS - Route Developments

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

West and South ESSEX, including THURROCK

68 *(Ensignbus)* The Southend Pier to Leigh-on-Sea open-top service is being resumed this year. The booked days are: April 2 to 18 (inc), 23,24,30; May 1/2, 7/8, 14/15, 21/22 then May 28 to 5 June (inc); June 11/12, 18/19, 25/26; July 2/3, 9/10 July, then Daily July 16 to Sept 4.

Tuesday 19th April:

13 *(Vectare)* (Waltham Cross & Epping, St Margaret's Hospital, Mon-Sat) "Enhanced timetable" with early morning and early evening journeys extended to North Weald (as 13C).

14 *(Vectare)* (Waltham Cross & Upshire Shops, Mon-Sat) Additional M-F journeys but withdrawn altogether on Sat. 14B and 14C numbers no longer used.

19/19C *(Vectare)* (Epping & Ongar, certain jnys) Withdrawn.

22 *(Vectare)* (Waltham Cross & Shernbroke Estate, Mon-Sat) The current daytime Mon-Fri journeys withdrawn but introduced in M-F peaks. Saturday daytime service enhanced to hourly. The 22C number no longer used.

HERTFORDSHIRE and southern BEDFORDSHIRE

Monday 21st March:

318 (Abbots Langley & Watford General Hospital, M-F) Following Mullany's withdrawal after operation on Friday 18th March, from Monday 21st the route was taken on by Harlequin Travel (UK) Ltd of High Wycombe. The timetable remains the same except in the evenings and at lunch-time. Whereas the local Mullany's could easily change over drivers, the new operator has to suspend service (12:43 to 13:31) for driver's rest, thus no service Town Centre & General Hospital at that time. The sequence both starts at Abbots Langley (07:00) and ends there (18:05).

Monday 28th March: (additional to TLB691)

C/CX *(Grant Palmer)* (Luton & Dunstable) Revised timetable, including additional early morning journeys on the CX.

Hi (Yes it is a small letter i !)*(Grant Palmer)* New Daily route: Luton Interchange via Busway, Dunstable Town Centre, then Busway (calling at Portland Rise), Houghton Regis High Street, Bedford Road, Thorn Road, then through a newly-developed housing development at Bidwell to Thorn Turn (junction of A5/A505). Mon-Sat hourly, Suns two-hourly.

36A/36C *(Grant Palmer)* (Leighton Buzzard town service) The 36A remains suspended, the clockwise 36C continues to have a Saturday timetable on M-F and it no longer serves Kinch Crescent.

Monday 4th April:

Changes to stopping places in Leighton Buzzard with buses allowed back to the High Street instead of the ring road (West Street). That is except while the Tues & Sats street market is on in the High Street.

Sunday 17th April: (additional to TLB691)

321 and 500 *(AtS)* As in TLB691 and below (500).

A and Z *(AtS)* interworked (Luton- Busway- Dunstable- Houghton Regis- Busway- Luton) The main Mon-Sat frequency increased from the temporary x12min back to x10min. At Houghton Regis a double-run added up Sundon Road to the Roundabout to serve new housing.

D1 *(AtS)* (Leighton Buzzard local) Revised timetable for train connections.

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

Sunday 8th May:

34 *(Centrebus)* (Dunstable & St Albans, M-S) Withdrawn.

366 (*Centrebus)* (Luton & WG City/ South Hatfield, M-S) Re-timed for reliability.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE and east BERKSHIRE (incl. borders of eastern OXFORDSHIRE

Sunday 20th February: (additional to TLB691):

Re TLB691 and the restorations by Thames Valley Buses at Bracknell, in the event the N1 night service did not resume although the other routes did.

Sunday 27th February: Timing changes on Oxford Bus Company's "Airline" service Oxford & Heathrow and Gatwick, calling at Wycombe Coachway just off the M40.

Sunday 27th March:

X74 (*First Berkshire)* (Slough & High Wycombe, Daily) On Saturdays reduced from x30 to 60min.

Monday 28th March:

16 *(Red Rose)* (Aylesbury & Marsh Gibbon, M-S) The temporary routeing at Waddesdon/ Quainton in TLB 691 p16 now permanent. The early, pm peak and early evening short jnys withdrawn.

17 *(Red Rose)* (Aylesbury & Bicester, M-S) Reduced from hourly to 'irregular'. Many journeys extended in Bicester to Langford Village and Launton, thus the short 27 number ceased.

Sunday 17th April:

1/1A (*AtS and Carousel)*(High Wycombe & Chesham, then Pond Park (*Arriva*) or Hemel Hempstead *(Carousel)* No change Mon-Fri each x30 (so x15 as far as Chesham). Saturdays reduced from x30 to x60min in each leg, thus combined x30 to Chesham. Arriva peak journeys via Stanley Hill in Amersham now numbered 1S.

8 *(Carousel)* (High Wycombe Bus & Rail Stations to Coachway) Revised timetable, mainly for better train connections. (The X8 variant remains suspended).

9 (or 9A evenings, 9C Sundays) *(AtS)* (Aylesbury & Stoke Mandeville Hospital, Daily) No frequency changes(!) but curtailed in peak hours, evenings and Sundays at the Hospital back to the Main Gate from the Ambulance Station. It only goes to Ambulance Station Mon-Sat 9am to 3pm.

27 *(Carousel*) (Plomer Hill & Robinson Road via Wycombe, M-F) Revised times for reliability.

30 (*AtS)* (High Wycombe & Downley, Daily) Mon-Sat reduced from x20 to x30min with the last evening journey withdrawn; Sundays remain x60min.

31 *(AtS*) (High Wycombe & Penn, Daily) Reduced Mon-Fri offpeak and Sats from x30 to x60min (still x30 M-F peaks). Mon-Sat evening service withdrawn. Sundays stays x60min.

32 (or 32A evgs & Sats) (*AtS*) (Booker & Micklefield, Daily) Reduced Mon-Fri offpeak and Sats from x15 to x20min (still x15 M-F peaks). Last evening journey withdrawn from the Micklefield end.

33 *(AtS*) (Totteridge & Castlefield, Daily) Revised times for reliability. No change to basic frequencies (MF x15, Sat x20, Sun x30). Last evening journey withdrawn from Totteridge end.

35 *(Carousel)* (High Wycombe & Flackwell Heath, M-S) Withdrawn (see 37B below).

36 (and 36B,36S) (*Carousel*) (High Wycombe & Bourne End, M-S) Revised timings for reliability but no change to frequencies.

37 (or 37A evgs & Suns) (*AtS)* (High Wycombe & Maidenhead) M-S remains x60 to Maidenhead, no change on Suns, still HW to Bourne End hourly as 37A. A new 37B variant, Mon-Sat hourly to replace Carousel 35: High Wycombe & Bourne End via Kingsmead Road (not London Road).

39 (and 39A) *Carousel)* (High Wycombe & Totteridge, M-S) Revised for reliability but still hourly.

41 *(AtS)* (High Wycombe & Great Missenden, M-S) Revised timings. The odd journeys that run via Amersham Hill in Wycombe rather than Arnison Avenue remain as 41 (not 41A).

150 *(AtS)* (Aylesbury & Milton Keynes, Daily) Revised Mon-Sat timetable but still hourly. Withdrawn on Sundays. Diverted in MK via the Coffee Hall local centre but curtailed back from MK Rail Station to the MK Central Shopping Centre.

194 (*Thames Valley)* (Bracknell & Camberley, Daily) Minor timetable changes.

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

Sunday 17th April, continued:

280 (incl. 8A) *(AtS)* (Aylesbury & Oxford, Daily) TImetable changes Daily. Withdrawn (except for one school-time peak journey) via the Thame Park loop (covered by Redline 120). Thus the X8 is withdrawn except for one M-F am peak AYL to OX (no return). Frequency altered to be Mon-Sat Aylesbury to Thame (from x20 down to x30min) but between Thame and Oxford from x20 up to x15min. Sunday still hourly AYL-OX.

300 *(AtS)* (Aylesbury & High Wycombe, Daily) Revised timetable but running just ahead of Redline 130. However, it is still x15min on Mon-Fri but increased from x30 to x15 on Sats, still hourly on Suns. Additional SDO journeys both from Wycombe to Aylesbury (Oxford Road) and from Aylesbury to Wycombe (Marlow Hill).

500 *(AtS)* (Aylesbury & Watford, M-S) Mon-Fri reduced from x20 to x30min but still x30 on Sats. A new Sunday hourly service added between Hemel Hempstead & Watford.

800/850 *(AtS)* (High Wycombe & Reading, Daily) Mon-Fri reduced from x20 to x30min, still x30 on Sats and x60 on Suns.

X20 *(Redline)* (Aylesbury & Oxford, Daily) Certain journeys on Schooldays rerouted in Wheatley via London Road instead of Church Road. One extra morning peak journey runs from Oxford to Thame as X20, then as 120 to Aylesbury and on to Tring Road Tesco; also a return p.m. journey.

SURREY and northern parts of WEST SUSSEX

Monday 28th February:

62 *(Compass Bus)* (Crawley Asda & Haywards Heath, M-F) Minor timing changes.

261 *(Compass Bus)* (East Grinstead & Uckfield, M-F) Minor timing changes.

Monday 7th March:

68 (*Sussex Coaches*) (Horsham & Wickhurst Green, M-S) Revised timetable.

17 and N8 *(Sussex Coaches)* (Horsham & Brighton, 17 Suns and N8 Fri & Sat nights) Withdrawn.

Monday 4th April:

637 *(Reptons)* (Byfleet & Chertsey, Salesian School, SDO) Timetable revision.

Saturday 9th April:

2, 3, 4, 5, 20 *(Metrobus)* (Crawley locals) and 200 (Horsham & Gatwick) Minor timing changes, basically to revert to 'normal' after the thinning-out of service due to driver shortages.

460 *(Metrobus)* (Crawley & Epsom) Two additional Mon-Fri journeys divert via Walton Oaks.

North and west KENT

Sunday 3rd April: (update to TLB691):

401 *(Ham, Flimwell)* Ham's have taken over the Sunday service from Arriva K&S, although it will only run between Westerham and Tonbridge (not on to Tunbridge Wells) every two hours (minus a relief gap at lunch-time).

433, 489 (*Arriva KT)* Sunday services retained by Arriva on re-tender.

Sunday 17th April: (update to TLB691):

477 (*Arriva KT)* (Bluewater & Orpington, M-S) Withdrawn between Bluewater and Dartford, Home Gardens. Mon-Sat x40min frequency from 18Apr21 retained. The Mon-Sat evening service withdrawn after approx. 19:00. The Sunday service (only Bluewater & Swanley) will be withdrawn with no replacement.

Tuesday 19th April:

Go-Coachhire school bus S11 withdrawn but there are changes to S4 and S13 to cover: The S4 to run from Wrotham via Borough Green, Ightham, Shipbourne and then on line of route. The S13 starts at Wilmington Stores via Farningham, then double-run to West Kingsdown, back to Farningham and line of route.

PUBLICITY NEWS

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

The much anticipated thirty ninth edition of **"The Greater London Bus Map"** has now been published, reflecting the greater stability in the network than has been experienced in the last couple of years. Correct to 2 April 2022, the map is well worth the wait. It shows the complete bus network in and around London, including school routes and night buses, along with an enlarged map of the Central London area showing selected places of interest. It includes a comprehensive route list giving details of all London Bus routes, including days of operation and operator. Still priced at just £2, of which at least 20p is donated to the British Heart Foundation, it offers an excellent overview of the capital's network. Complementing the map is the latest edition of **"The Greater London Night Bus Map"** priced at £4 which is valid from the same date. This outlines all twenty-four hour routes and the dedicated 'N' prefixed routes, but does not include those which only run on Friday and Saturday nights. This reflects the continued suspension of these routes whilst the Night Tube remains largely paused. Both maps can be purchased via LOTS Postal Sales, at the LOTS sales stand, at the LT Museum in Covent Garden or direct from shop.busmap.co.uk or a cheque made payable to 'Mike Harris' at 27 Albany Road, Wickford, SS12 9BP.

A new edition of **"The London Map"** has recently appeared, although is likely to have been printed at the turn of 2019 / 2020. At first glance it is identical to the previous edition reviewed in TLB659, including the use of the 12/2018 London Underground map extract. The key change is the 'Bus Route map', correct to 30 November 2019, the spider diagram losing routes 10, C2 and RV1 in favour of the rerouted routes 23 and 88. As usual, the selection of routes shown is somewhat random. When closed the rear cover omits the closed Visitor Centre at Paddington from the list and has a slightly different list of services that the remaining centres offer. Whilst previous editions of this map were sold for £1, this current edition has been freely available alongside Tube maps at Victoria's Visitor Centre.

Thames Clippers partnership with Uber has produced **"Visitors guide Discover a new London"**, a four-page slimline valid from June 2021. It has a very simple map of the river, accompanied by average journey times between five different pairs of piers. The rear cover has a range of ticket prices. Ironically, for a company priding itself on being a tech based 'disrupter', it is one of the few operators in London to produce full printed timetables; the January 2022 edition of **"Uber Boat by thames clippers Timetable"** is in the same format as the June 2021 edition reviewed in TLB686.

The London Bus Company's RT3871, fully blinded for a trip to Wanstead Station on route 101 appears on the front of **"101 Wanstead – North Woolwich Saturday 26th March 2022 10.00-17.00"** from the London Bus Museum. The single side A5 flyer is overlaid with text giving an overview of this excellent running day. Three major events at the museum's Brooklands site are outlined in **"Events 2022"**, a double sided slimline featuring an RT loading passengers at the entry to the museum.

Intalink have published **"Important notice for passengers. Service 84 operator and timetable changes"**, an A4 sheet outlining Sullivan Buses' takeover of the route between St Albans and Potters Bar from 2 April. Passengers on the unserved section onto New Barnet are advised to use TfL bus services 298 and 307. Unfortunately, it overlooks the direct rail link between Potters Bar and New Barnet. One standard Intalink slimline is **"44 45 Bus Times"** valid from 3 January 2022, it has a full timetable and route map with all bus stops shown, both marked and unmarked stops.

Harlequin Travel, who are part of Chiltern Automotive, took over Mullany's route 318 at very short notice from 21 March. A hastily prepared A4 sheet, lacking headings, company name, and date shows the timetable, which is essentially that operated by Mullany's except for a short working to facilitate the driver's lunch break, indicated by the relevant times being obscured with a purple block.

Previously unreported is Falcon Buses' **"guide to our buses around Epsom & Leatherhead"**, a red slimline book valid from 2 January 2021. It is in the same format as the later edition valid from 6 April 2021, reviewed in TLB681.

Southdown's excellent **"Bus Times"** book has an updated edition valid from 4 October 2021. The cover of the twenty page A5 book features Enviro 400 MMC YN18SCZ. All services, even school day only routes, continue to have full timetables, accompanied by details of changes, fares and a selection of maps for Oxted & Caterham, East Grinstead and a full network map.

CURRENT VEHICLE NEWS

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

General news:

On Friday 18th March there were several Routemaster operations in London with fares donated to the **Comic Relief 'Red Nose Day'** charity. RM 597 (not 357 as was advertised) on route 65 (Kew Gardens & Kingston); RM 1005 on route 189 (Brent Cross & Marble Arch); RATP RML 880 on 281 (Hounslow & Tolworth) and Arriva RM 5 on 137 (Brixton Garage & Marble Arch). On Saturday 19th Metroline RML 903 was on route 43 (Muswell Hill Broadway & Islington Angel). A fair sum was raised, totalling £1991.79p.

The **route 101 Running Day** on Saturday 26th March featured about three dozen extra buses: London Bus Company (RT 714, 1658, 1790, 1798, 2150, 3062, 3871, 3933, 4188, 4424, 4772 and DM 1052); LBM Brooklands (G 351, RT 4779, RMC 1461, RML 2760); LT Museum (DMS 1); Ensignbus (RT 1431); Go-Ahead (RML 2305); Timebus (RML 2310); Privately-owned (RT 786, 2177, RTW 467, RM 848, 1397, 1804, 1993, RML 898. 2579, 2699, M 394, T 961 and Dart 34359).

Additionally, RT 3316 and RTL 1427 were 'fly-by' entrants not carrying passengers. Of the RTs, 714, 4188, 4424, 4772 were the 'Canadian' buses, 4188 believed to be its first rime back in service (the others were at the Barking event on 30 March 2019.

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

Plenty of new buses due this year, although none are here yet. First in should be the MetroCitys 1001-11 for route 322, followed by the twelve E400EVs 3430-41 for route U5 in late May. The thirty Electroliners (3001-30) for route 111 are not due until later in the year so to begin with, the existing LTs (ex RATP) will be used. The nine Caetanos for route 433 (1535-43) are due in September.

The new garage at Dawley Road Hayes (code DH) opened on 2nd April although only four routes (350, 482, U7, U9) moved in from Southall (GW) at that stage. The other two routes from GW- 278 and U5 – are now due to move on 21st May. This is probably to allow for delivery of the new electric buses for the U5 (see note above).

The demonstrator Caetano e.City Gold BV69 KTP (dubbed as No.1500) that has been looked after by Abellio (although not used by them) has been at Go-Coach in mid-March.

Recent repaints include 8827.

Long-term sick LT 149 since 8th December 2019 was back in use on 18th March 2022.

The last three E400EVs for route 63 at WL entered service on 29ih March. The overnight parking of Walworth-based LTs for route 3 at Battersea (QB) is due to end by 9th April.

On Arriva strike days 28th/29th March several extras were noted: for example old E400s 9401/06 on the 109, LT 31 on the 196.

Restored to stock from leasing company:
8845 (YX16 NZT) AD E20D – AD Enviro200 (MMC) 10.9m B31D -2016.
9519 was returned to Abellio from Go Coachhire (March).

Transfers:
(October 2021): 8577-82 TF/TFw.
(January): 8520 GW/GWw.
(March): LT 149 TFu/TF. 2404 BC/QB. 2423 WL/BC. 2448 QB/BC. 3422/25/29 u/ WL.
8845 --/TF. 8860 BCu/TF. 9401, 9404, 9500 BC/QB. 9519 --/??.
(2nd April): 2013-21, 8162-65, 8567-69, 8786-88, 8893-98 GW/DH.

Livery changes:
LT 167 from advert for New Balance to one for M&S.
LT 633 to advert for Hilfiger.

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

ABELLIO LONDON, Continued:

Disposals:
8516/19/20/22 and 8578-82 have gone, presumably off lease (February).
9421 (LJ07 OPG) to Bryan's of Enfield (March).

Subsequent disposals:
E200 8523 has reverted from reg. WH04 BUS to YX59 BYR and was noted in March in Crawley, although the owner or operator is not known.
E200 8582 (YX61 GBO) now at BM Coaches, Heston, Middlesex.
E200s 8508/09/11/12/13/15 (LJ08 CZR/S/U/V/X/Z) sold by Z&S, Aylesbury, probably all to Bus&Coach Repair, Peterborough.
Correcting TLB690 p21, 9429 (not 9421), 9441 (LJ09 CAE, CCD) to Coastliner, Blackpool.

ARRIVA LONDON (part of Deutsche Bahn)
ARRIVA LONDON NORTH - AD, AE, AR, CT, DT, DX, E, EC, GY and WN.
ARRIVA LONDON SOUTH - BN, N, TC and TH.

During March, assorted HVs have been moving gradually into Norwood so that HV 132-144 inc were ready for the take-up of route 432 from Go-Ahead on 2nd April.

Beddington Farm (CN) is now used as a Training base for Arriva London. Around seven Ts from the Norwood allocation seem to be based there regularly and there are yellow line markings on the ground for seven buses. Several (or all?) carry slogans applied to the upper deck sides 'Join the Arriva Family-arrivabusjobs.co.uk'. Lower down, in yellow and partly across the windows is 'Join Our Driver Team Now'. This seems to have been set up on Sunday 20th March.

Recent refurbs/ repaints include DW 305, 317, 523, 524, 526; HV 55, 92, 93, 132, 133, 139, 140, 141, 142, 149, 179, 180: T 321, 329 and ENL 111.

There was a strike on 28th and 29th March at Norwood (N), South Croydon (TC) and Thornton Heath (TH) Garages. A check in LVF on 28th and again on 29th showed just 4xENL/ENS on the 255 (normal pvr 10), 5xHV on the 249 (normal 15), 3xT on the 289 (normal 15) but 7xDW on the 412 (as per the normal 7 !).

Transfers:
(March): DW 322 AR/TC.
DW 272/4 TC/ECu. DW 273 WNu/ECu. DW 275/6/7/9, 281/2/3/4/5/8/9, 290/2/3/4/6/7 WN/ECu.
HV 55 DTu/TC. HV 134, 137, 141, 142 BN/N. HV 135, 138, 144 AD/N. HV 136 TC/N.
HV 139, 140, 143 GYu/N. HV 211, 212 EC/WN. HV 269 AR/AD.
T 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10 TH/AEw. T 39 TH/DT. T 90 N/Nw.
T 60-65, 70 and 199 TC/TCw. T 227 E/N.

Changes of registration
Another aberration – this time in TLB691: EA 5 LG71 DJX to 185 CLT.
(I inadvertently took the reg of HT 4 rather than EA 5 but I cannot explain why!)

Livery changes:
HV 239, HV 240, HV 350 and HV 366 to advert for Let's do London.
LT 331 from advert for Korea back to red.
LT 492 and LT 965 to adverts for Sonic 2.
LT 494 and LT 969 to advert for Michael Kors.
LT 521 and LT 955 to advert for Hilfiger.

Disposals:
ENL 25 to Arriva Southern Counties (as fleet no. T 25), nominally at Northfleet (February).
T 83 (TLB690 p21) as above, the nominal base is Northfleet (January).
T 84-97 and T 110-117 to Ensign Bus, Purfleet (March). (off lease at Arriva)

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

ARRIVA LONDON, Continued;

Additionally, buses still in stock at Arriva London but due to go soon. Don't write these out just yet, as it is best to wait awhile until we are sure that they have actually gone..

T 1-6, 9, 10 going to Arriva 'regional' T 60-65, 70, 199 going to Arriva 'regional' for training use. 'Regional is simply any Arriva operation outside London.

DW 272-297 are also earmarked to go off lease. As at late March, none were left in service and they should by now be at ECu awaiting disposal.

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

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

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

Acquired from Arriva London:

(January) T 83 (stays as T 83) ((LJ59 AAE) AD Trident – AD Enviro400 10.1m H41/21D – 2009.

(February) ENL 25 (renumbered T 25) (LJ58 AVB) AD E200Dart– AD Enviro200 10.2m B29D– 2009.

Acquired (March): from Arriva K&S:

4128, 4129 (SN67 WUU, WUV) AD E20D – AD Enviro200(MMC) B45F – 2017.

These are for Fastrack work.

Transfers:

(February): 1631 NF/NFw. (March): 4128, 4129 --/NF.

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

The outcome of the ZEBRA (Zero Emission Bus Regional Areas) is now known and in our area the successful place will be Arriva at Stevenage. About £6 million Government funding will help to provide 27 electric single-deck buses at Stevenage.

Demolition of Garston (GR) Garage is now complete with (at 20th March) just a heap of bricks left. The Stevenage (Norton Green Road) Garage has gone and is now a building site.

Transfers:

(February): 4188 WE/WEw.

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

More repaints to light blue livery: 3509, 3965.

A real oddity was on 15th March with M-B Tourismo coach 7211 on Luton town route 25.

Transfers:

(February): 2878 still LDw (although officially an ASC vehicle). 3836 LD/LDw. 6047 AY/AYw.

(March): 3917 WB/AY(loan)/WB.

Disposals:

Solo 0441 to Hardwick's, Barnsley (February).

Scania 3606 sold to --??-- (March) **CHK**

Solos 2480, 2492; SB120s 2740, 2748; Citaro 3039; Scanias 3601/03/04/05/07/09/10/11/13/18; SB200 3700; Dart SLFs 3836/37/38; Volvo B7TL 4026; DB250s 4713/14; 6043/44//47/49 all to Shelton Motors, Ramsey, Cambs for scrap (February).

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

A2B TRAVEL GROUP, Melbourn, Cambridgeshire

The usual all-green livery has been modified to green and white with a red stripe. So far the last three E200(MMC)s acquired, YX18 KZE, SK68 LZP and YX68 UJT, have been treated to this scheme.
Acquired (March): YX18 KZE AD E20D – AD Enviro200 (MMC) 9.0m B30F – 2018.

CARDINAL BUSES, New Haw, Surrey

Disposal: Dart SLF GX53 MWU sold to Fairmanns Travel, Farnborough, Hampshire.

CENTAUR, Crayford

Correcting TLB691 p21, the Volvo B7TL was LX53 AZV (not AZJ).

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

The five Tempos (1501-05, YJ11 EHG/H/O/S/W) have been advertised for sale, with EHH the only one seen in March in the area. With only five regular Scania d/ds noted lately on routes 420/420A, the frequent use of single-decks has been causing loading problems in the peaks. Thus far, no evidence of the new fleet numbers being applied to the vehicles.

Due to interminable delays the second MetroDecker has now been cancelled and its planned use (mostly contract and private hire) has been covered by the purchase of a brace of coaches.

Acquired (March) via Ensign Bus, reecently Pilkington Bus, originally Davies, Bettws Gwerfil Goch.
BA52 GHA Dennis Dart SLF – TransBus Pointer 9.0m B28F – 2002.

CHILTERN AUTOMOTIVE, Cryers Hill, Bucks

Solo MX58 AAJ was used to commence Harlequin Travel's operation on route 318 in Watford on 21st March and it has continued to perform thereon. The other Solo YJ09 OTV has therefore worked the Hatfield/ Welwyn shoppers' bus routes. Having said that, the 'shoppers' bus on Wednesday 30th March (thus routes 230 and 312) was LX06 DZY, a Volvo B7TL/ Gemini double-deck! The pair have also been used at times on route 318 in Watford.
Note that Chiltern Automotive and Harlequin Travel operate from the same yard at Cryers Hill.

Acquired from Imperial Coaches, Slough an formerly Go-Ahead London WVL 238, 239 :
LX06 DZW, DZY Volvo B7TL - Wrightbus Eclipse Gemini 10.1m H41/21D - 2006.
(DZW was recorded in TLB689 p25 and p34, and it had reg. A10 VXH when at Imperial).

CRAWLEY LUXURY COACHES, Crawley

Further to notes in TLB691, both Citaros BU06 HSL and BX56 VTW are confirmed as here.

Acquired (by February), formerly with APCOA on airport shuttle work.
BP08 WNG and WNL Mercedes-Benz Citaro B24D (upseated from B20D) – 2008.

ENSIGNBUS, Purfleet

Volvo B9TL/ Gemini 130 (LX15 GPY) has been treated to an all-over gold livery to commemorate the operator's Golden Jubilee, 50 years 1972-2022.

FALCON COACHES, Byfleet

E20Ds YX67 VGJ and VGK have gained route 456 branding.
In January, two Ford Transit Crew Vans EK71UCA & UCD were noted, of which UCA spent most of the rest of January as a crew rest van at Woking. They may have now departed in February as the usual rest vehicle at Woking had reverted to a service van or mini coach.

Disposals: Further to the sale of KX58 GSZ (TLB689 p25), it went to Globe, Barnsley. KX10 DVM (TLB690 p23) also went to Globe.

GO-AHEAD LONDON

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

Electric power remains elusive at Bexleyheath Garage with still much to do. However, planning permission has now been granted for Orpington Station yard and Go-Ahead's Orpington Garage so there may be some progress soon for route 358. Electric buses will not be ordered just yet though.

LTs are due to be gathered up from PVR reductions to convert two-thirds of route 5 (RR) to the type. They are already used on the 5 in very early mornings as at that time there are scheduled tie-ups with route N15. Route 15 had a PVR reduction on 15th January and route 12 on 2nd April, allowing LT 406-427 to be nominally allocated to route 5, then still alongside eleven EHs.

Recent refurbs/ repaints include SEe 64, SE 260.

EH 133 was on route 115 at Canning Town at 18:00 on 11th March when it suffered a fire.

SOE 2 had been off since 15th September 2021 and was back in use on 8th March. SEe 49 has been repaired from its collision on 10th August 2021 (although not yet the other one SEe 36).

The Wrightbus Electroliner EL 1 (see TLB691 p19) has been examined at Go-Ahead Croydon Garage during March. The Equipmake/ Beulas demonstrator is due to operate from Merton Garage.

WVL 293, off since 18th December 2021, was back in use on 15th March. Meanwhile, the BCI tri-axle bus TA 1 has not been used since 15th July 2021, although it remains in Camberwell (Q) Garage.

On the weekend 26/27 March there were five extra buses on as 14U Hyde Park Corner & Fulham Town Hall and as 22U with five extras between Hyde Park Corner & Putney Bridge.

On 28/29th March when Arriva garages (TC, TH, N) were on strike, Go-Ahead ran extra buses on routes 118, 119, 155, 432, X26 and X68. The X68 had six LTs and on the 29th, MHV 21 (PM) was noted at West Croydon on route X26 with a card in the windscreen and 'special service' on the blind. It only ran as far as Sutton and did not appear on LVF. On 29th MHV 24 on the 432, EH 13 on the 118.

New deliveries: Although other similar buses lately have been B28D, a visual check shows that the new SEe 156-167 are B29D and have ULW 12543kg.

Transfers: Outstations at LS=Luton, FK=Folkestone, NH=Newhaven, KL=King's Lynn).
(January): WVL 422 SIu/RR. (February): SEN 35 AL/PL.
(March): EH 12 NXw/RR. EH 13 NXw/NX. EH 61 PM/Q/PM. EH 133 RR/RRu (fire).
WVL 293 NXu/NX.
SE 268 AL/C. SEN 35 PL/AL. SEN 37 AL/PL. SEe 49 RAu/Q. SOE 2 ALw/AL.
(April): SEN 37 PL/AL (again).

Livery changes:
LT 293 to advert for DKNY.
LT 308 to advert for Michael Kors.
LT 425 to advert for DKNY.
LT 446 from advert for Dying Light 2 back to red.
LT 484 to advert for Sonic 2.
LT 506 from advert for GoPuff to one for M&S.
VC 11, 12 to the cream and burgundy 'commercial' livery. (to check 10 and 13 please).
WHV 82, 84, 167 and 196 to adverts for Let's do London.

Detail changes:
SEe 30-35 all from B21D to B33D (and repainted) and similar confirmation of SEe 41-51.

Disposals:
970/1/2/3 (TLB687 p26 and TLB690 p25) all went to Chartwell Bus Sales for re-sale.
DOE 8 to Ensign Bus but has gone on for scrap, following its fire on 8th October 2021.
E 52; SOE 5, WHV 7 and 8 to Ensign Bus, Purfleet (March). (WHV 8 since gone for scrap).

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

The loss of route AZ after operation on Saturday 2nd April results in the grey-liveried E400s being offered for sale. These are 9505/07-12. Sister bus 9506 is retained as it is in a yellow livery to publicise Kent CC's 'Plan Bee' project. 9513/14/15/18/20 are in yellow & purple fleet livery. Others have been sold (see below) and the intention of acquiring 9521/22 has been cancelled.

GoCoach covered the AZ until about 10am on Sunday 3rd and they put RML 2699 and LCBS livery E400 9001 out in service; Arriva's modified routes thus started a bit late.

E200s 8343/4/6/7 have been repainted while 8345 is in The Queen's Platinum Jubilee livery of purple front end and off-white (grey) rear end.

The Caetano e.City Gold BV69 KTP demonstrator has been used here between 7th to 15th March. It is in London red as befitting its status of being looked after by Abellio London with a 'dummy' fleet number 1500. Not only that but in late March a second Wrightbus Electroliner dual-door double-deck was on trial here; it is all-blue and registered LY71 GJE.

It is reported that during the Tube strikes in London on 1at and 3rd March some Go-Coach single-decks were used on route 108.

Disposals (March):
B7TL 8302 to Shelton Motors, Ramsey for scrap. B7TL 8304 to a music group (detail please!).
E400s 9516/17 sold to RGI, Warwickshire (then on to Sullivan). 9519 returned to Abellio.

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

Volvo B7RLE 6018 has been repainted from Fastway livery to blue and yellow.

Scania d/d 6938 that had been de-roofed on 27th April 2021 has been kept, but is said to be retained to act as a tree-lopper. There haven't been many of those in recent times since the 1970s!

The first two single decks of the first 20-bus order for Fastway services are due in June but the rest will arrive in the autumn. It is now confirmed that order for another 34 Wrightbus hydrogen buses for use in east Surrey will be a mixture of single and double deckers.

METROLINE TRAVEL – AC, AH, EW, HD, HT, KC, PA, PB, PV, SG and W garages, also METROLINE WEST – G, HZ, UX and WJ garages.

(within the ComfortDelgro group of Singapore)

After just over one month, the first WHDs returned to service on 10th March, these being 2714 and 2720. By the end of March, nine had returned although LVF shows that they don't seem too popular with typically just a couple out in service. The last Metroline bus on 84 was TE 889 on 1st April.

LT 10, off since 29th December, was back in use on 17th March. OME 2668, off since 28th November, was back in use on 11th March. Other early LTs 8, 9, 11 and 18 remain long-term out of service. Still plenty of withdrawn or stored buses but HZ (u) has been joined by PA (u), signalling the use of this now non-operational garage.

Recent refurbs/ repaints include LT 10, 16, 98, 100; VWH 2022, 2031, 2093, 2144.

It was not long after VMHs moved into Brentford (AH) with route 90 that one found its way on loan to Lampton (SG) when, on 9th March, 2580 re-acquainted itself with route 120, demonstrating how the fluidity of loans between Brentford (AH) and sub-shed Lampton (SG) increased greatly during recent weeks. Some of Brentford's newly acquired VMHs were soon equipped with new blind sets allowing VMH 2574 to venture out onto route 237 on 17th March and VMH 2583 to run on the E2 on 21st March, with two sister vehicles (2533 and 2584) on the E2 the following day. Yet further EvoSeti adventures came on 24th March with VMH 2585 on route E8. Less exciting, but still quite a rarity was VWH 2707 on the E8 on 21st March. On 26th March, route 306 hosted its first two EvoSetis – VMHs 2533 & 2580, whilst the last Brentford based route to welcome one was when VMH 2586 appeared on the 190 on Sunday 27th March – game set and match, unless a VMH gets to SG for the 81, that is!.

In similar fashion on 9th March, since Willesden Junction absorbed VMHs along with route 31, VMH 2547 wandered off to explore the 295, setting a continuing trend for subsequent days, when this class could be said to have become part of the type mix.

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

METROLINE, Continued:

Transfers; (h suffix = Hertfordshire Commercial Fleet).
(February): Re TLB691, LT 101 did not go to HZu but remained at HTu.
(March): LT 10 HZu/W LT 103, 108 HT/HZu.
VW 1273, 1277, 1279, 1280, 1283 HD/PV. VW 1817, 1819, 1831, 1841 PV/PAu.
VWH 2043, 2044 PV/PAu. VWH 2046, 2049, 2051, 2053 HZu/HD.
VWH 2060 AC/HD. VWH 2240 AH/PV. OME 2668 PBu/PB.
DE 864 HZw/W. DE 870 W/PAw. DE 1002 AH/HZw..

Livery changes:
BDE (not BCE as in TLB691) 2627 back to red.
BDE 2632 to advert for OVO Energy.
LT 12 from advert for Capital One back to red.
LT 552 and LT 751 to adverts for Fenty Beauty.
LT 645 to advert for M&S.
LT 745 from advert for Dying Light 2 back to red.
LT 755 to advert for Sonic 2.
VWH 2366 to advert for Ami.
VWH 2014, 2098, 2125, 2269, 2296, 2354, 2416 and 2430 to adverts for Let's do London.

Correction to Fleetbooks 2012 to 2022 (!!) TEH 1217-42 are of course E40H, not E40D.
Disposal: TE 933 donated to a charity in Kilburn in the LB of Brent: 'Advice for Renters'.

RATP-DEV TRANSIT LONDON including
LONDON UNITED - AV, FW, RP, S, TV, V and WK (ex HH) garages and
LONDON SOVEREIGN – BT, CP and SO garages. (c suffix= commercial) and
LONDON TRANSIT – X garage.

Recent repaints noted include LT 87, SDE 20278, 20285; VMH 45344.

On 10th March BCE 47108 (SO) was the first of its class to appear on the H14, with others following since, whilst 47090 on 14th March was the first electric to appear on the 698. .

An oddity on 23rd March on route 303 was ADE 40436; as far as I can see, this is the first double-deck by RATP, although when Arriva the Shires had the route they were a daily occurrence. And then on 31st March VHR 45204 worked on the 303.

The last recorded SP at Harrow on route 183 seems to be SP 40087 on 16th February, while the last to be on the H14 was 40082 on 5th February.

The SP class continues to decline and by late March only around 30 were still in service. Fulwell has a few for routes 71 and 681, with the odd wanderers to the 65, 85 and 281. The others are at Hounslow (111, H32, H98) and Hounslow Heath (116, 423, 696, 697).

Since newly back at Westbourne Park (X), route 28 has seen a deviation from its VHs, with the odd VMH and ADH now appearing thereon.

The continuing lack of electric power at WK Garage means that just two electrics (BE 37043 and 37063) are based for route 235, using a portable charging unit. In turn, lots of WK's BEs are based over at Fulwell and about eight or ten are used temporarily on route 33.

On 22nd March ADH 45031 (AV) caught fire at 12:20 while on route H98 at the A4/A30 junction (Henly's Corner) at Hounslow West.

A slight amendment to new orders (also updating the Fleetbook) is that the order for E200EVs for route 226 is now for 17 (rather than 16), thus BE 37085-101.

A group of LTs (69-77) have been stood down and several (at least 70, 71, 74, 76,77) were noted at H&D Eastleigh on 29th March. After attention there, further attention is due at Twickenham (NC) and LT 70 will get vinyls there for the Platinum Jubilee. Although LT 70 had been a V bus it is returning to S for route 148. A second 'platinum' bus will be BCE 47137 and this will also be allocated to S for route 148.

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

RATP-DEV TRANSIT LONDON, Continued:

New deliveries:
BCE 47100-110 have ULW 13345kg. BCE 47111-156 have ULW 13341kg.
BCE 47138-156 have been delivered, 47111-137 delivery is commencing.

Transfers:
(October 2021): LT 94 AVu/AV (since an incident 31/8/21)..
(February): SP 40056/076, 40102/105/108/109/110/126 FW/NCw. SP 40083/084 SO/NCw.
(Correction to TLB691 p27): BCE 47138 remains in store (at Xu). The mis-report is because 47149 is actually in service (but not on LVF) and is tracking with 47138's ID.
(March): LT 126 AV/V. LT 127 S/V.
DE 20034 BT/S. DE 20093, 20123, 20176 FW/BT. DE 20110/111 FW/AV. DE 20177 V/S.
BE 37043/063 u/WK. SP 40058/060/095/119 FW/Xw. ADH 45031 AV/AVu(fire).
VH 45119 V/X. VH 45135 SO/BT. VH 45145/146/147 BT/WK.
VH 45164/167/168 BT/FW. VHR 45203 u/BT. BCE 47030, 47041, 47051 SO/FW.
BCE 47035 S/FW. BCE 47111/112/113 --/SO. BCE 47156 u/FW.

Livery changes:
LT 664 from advert fir GoPuff to one for Zapp.
OME 46035 to advert for OVO Energy.
BCE 47003 to advert for Ami.
BCE 47007 and 47025 to adverts for OVO Energy.

Disposals:

RED EAGLE BUSES, Dinton near Aylesbury

More to the new livery are LJ08 CZY, MX10 KNR and LX11 AVW. Dart FJ06 URR is withdrawn.

STAGECOACH LONDON (part of Stagecoach Holdings) incorporating:

EAST LONDON - BK, BW, NS, RM, T and WH; and **SELKENT** - KB, PD, TB and TL.
Recent refurb/ repaints reported include 12269, 12278, 12289, 12293, 12299, 12328, 19717, 19739, 36630, 37536.
Scania 15002 had an accident on 22nd February. E20D 37512 that had had an altercation with a tree in the storm on 18th February was back in service on 1st March.

On 26/27March five extra buses on the 25 (25U) Stratford & Ilford. Unusually, on the Saturday 26th LT243 ran as BW35 fully blinded.

Transfers:
(January): 15114 PD/WHu. (February): 15002 RM/RMu. 15116 PD/WHu.
(March): 11038 PD/WH. 36374 TB/TL. 37512 KBu/KB.

Livery changes:
LT 240 to advert for Sonic 2.
LT 241 to advert for Hilfiger.
LT 359 to advert for Michael Kors.
LT 367 from advert for GoPuff to one fof M&S.
LT 369 to advert for DKNY.
LT 390 to advert for Hilfiger.

Detail change:
15027 is the first Scania to be converted to part open-top and re-liveried for City Sightseeing London

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

STAGECOACH SOUTH, Guildford

The company has applied to take the former Arriva garage at Guildford, Leas Road for 30 vehicles.

STAR TRAVEL, Aylesbury

Disposal: MB.0814D P212 LEY gone for scrap (March).

SULLIVAN BUSES, South Mimms

More red repaints are AE 18 and AE 27. In addition to the acquired E400s (see below), existing fleet E400s E 58, 59 are being repainted green.

The company took over the one-bus TfL route 549 from 12th March, needing one AE-class Enviro200; however on 19th March a double-deck, E 57 appeared! E400 E 50 that was in an altercation with a tree on Boxing Day 2021, was back in use on 4th March.

The take-up of route 84 (St Albans & Potters Bar) duly took place on 2nd April except that delays at the painters (see below) thwarted an attempt to get five newly green-painted buses on the road in the first days. Fortunately it was the Easter school holiday so the 'school bus fleet' was raided and red WVL 1, 2, 3, 4, DEL 1 and ELV 1 were fitted out to cover for a few weeks.

Acquired (March) from Go Coachhire, Kent, and once Abellio London (same fleet numbers):
E 35, 36 (SN59 AWG, AWH) ex 9516, 9517 (in red) and E 37 (SN59 AVR) ex 9505 (AZ grey livery)
AD Trident – AD Enviro400 10.1m H41/24D – 2009.
These three are being repainted green at Payne's, Aylesford, Kent.

Disposals: ELV 2 (PN02 XCR) went to Action Cars (July 2021).

TOWER TRANSIT - LI Garage

As a result of the loss of route W15 from 5th March, 24 DMLs were decommissioned awaiting a decision as to their future.
Recent refurb/ repaints are MV 38236, DMV 45104/105.

Transfers:
(March): DMLs 44171-178 and 44279-292 LI/LIu (**to Ensign**CHK**)

Livery change:
WH 31119 to advert for Let's do London.

Disposals:
DMLs 44171-178 and 44279-292 off lease to ??? (April)..

UNIVERSITYBUS (t/a uno), Hatfield and Northampton

Of the five former 'Violet19' buses (258-262), at least 260, 261 and 262 have so far gained route 601 'The Alban Way' branding. Volvo B7RLE 366 has a legend above its side windows 'Connecting Hertfordshire for the last 30 years'. Scania d/ds 203/4/5 and 207 were withdrawn in mid-March.

WHITE BUS SERVICES, Winkfield and Horsell

New delivery: YX71 OJU AD E20D – AD Enviro200(MMC) 9.0m B30F.

The "Where are they now" column (or: Subsequent vehicle disposals)

Section Editor: Andrew Morgan, Easton House, Easton Lane, Bozeat, Northamptonshire NN29 7NN. Note – email address andrew@morgan1368.co.uk Note that the former London company names are listed in code to allow more space for narrative detail. ALN=Arriva London, FLN= First London, GAL= Go-Ahead Group London, LU= London United, ML= Metroline, SLN= Stagecoach London.

Olympians:

L 105 (C105 CHM) has passed to Barkers Motors, Llan-y-Pwll, Clwyd (February) and is for sale on eBay; it was last reported with Mr Eley in West Lothian.
NV 157 (R557 LGH) (ex GAL) from Hawkes Coaches to PVS, Barnsley (September) for scrap.
NV 166 (R366 LGH) (ex GAL) from Mr D Pandya to Ripley, Barnsley (December) for scrap.
VA 54 (R154 VPU) (ex SLN) from McNairn to JMB Travel, Newmains, North Lanarkshire (April 2021) for spares.
VA 75 (R175 VPU) (ex SLN) was sold from Eurotaxis (June).
VN 151 (R151 HHK) (ex SLN) from Towlers Coaches to Wigley, Barnsley (December).
VN 166 (R166 HHK) (ex SLN) was sold from Eurotaxis (June).

Miscellaneous low-floor double deck types:

DLP 50 (LJ51 DJU) (ex ALN) was exported from Used Coach Sales to unknown owner, Koo Wee Rup, Australia (by February 2022).
DLP 82 (LJ51 ORG) (ex ALN) sold from Arriva North West (October).
DLP 101 (LF52 URG) (ex ALN) sold from Arriva North West to Ripley, Barnsley (October) for scrap.
DW 22 (LJ53 BFV, ex 822 DYE) (ex ALN) from Fairbrothers Coaches to associate company MD Bus & Coach (dlr), St Helens, Merseyside (March 2019) and was then loaned to Warrington's Own Buses in November 2021.
DW 116, 117 (LJ05 BHY, BHZ) (ex ALN) returned to Base after loan to First Scotland East.
VLA 39, 53 (LJ53 BCF, BBN) (ex ALN) loaned from Base to First South West in December 2021.
VLA 87 (LJ54 BDE) (ex ALN) was sold by Faresaver (by July 2021).
VLA 170, 176 (LJ55 BVY, BVH) (ex ALN) further to TLB689 and 691, these are both owned by Replacement Bus Hire, Erith, Kent.
VLW 7 (UUI 2944, ex LF51 DFL) (ex ALN) from Arriva Southern Counties to MC Tractors, Ramsey, Cambs. (November).
VLW 9 (UUI 2913, ex LF51 DFO), 10 (UUI 2910, ex LF51 DFP), 11, (UUI 2945, ex LF51 DFU), 13 (UUI 2951, LF51 DFX), 14 (UUI 2950, ex LF51 DFY) (ex ALN) from Arriva the Shires to MC Tractors, Ramsey, Cambs. (November) for scrap.
VLW 101 (LG52 DDF, ex BU51 TOY) (ex ALN) from Bishops Taxis to Eagle Coaches, Castle Acre, Norfolk (November 2020), and was re-registered to M20 ENH in July 2021.
VLW 128 (LF52 UPC) (ex ALN) was sold from Waggon Wheels Dining Bus in June 2019 and was then acquired by Christ Church School, Hastings, East Sussex (November).

TN 33055, 33060 (LN51 GKO, GJV), 33248 (LT52 WVA) (ex FLN) were sold from First Eastern Counties (in January, except 33248 which was November).
TN 33120 (LT02 WWC) (ex FLN) From First Glasgow to Ripley, Barnsley (December).
TN 33158 (LR02 LXT), 33177 (LR02 LYN) (ex FLN) further to TLB689, these are confirmed as passing to Wigley, Barnsley (December and November respectively).
TN 33370 (LK53 EYM) (ex FLN) from First Glasgow to Ripley, Barnsley (November).
TN 33376 (LK53 EYV) (ex FLN) from First Essex to Ensign Bus, and then passed to MC Tractors / Shelton Motors, Ramsey, Cambs. (all in March).
VN 37776, 37782 (LK59 CWR, CWY) (ex FLN) from Ensign Bus to Faresaver, Chippenham, Wilts. (March).
VN 37789, 37795, 37798 (LK59 CXF, CXN, FCO) (ex FLN) from Ensign Bus to First South West (March); converted to part open top and repainted into Atlantic Coaster two-tone blue livery.
VN 37894 (BF60 UUC) (ex FLN) from Lothian Buses to Xplore Dundee (March).

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

VNL 32204 (LT52 WTK) (ex FLN) from First Eastern Counties to Hardwick, Barnsley (January).
VNL 32269 (LT52 WWP) (ex FLN) from Ensign Bus to Decker Bus, Southampton, Hants. (March).
VNW 32428 (LK04 HYH) (ex FLN) from South East Bus Supplies to BBPG (by March). This VNW has replaced VNW 32395 which was sold in 2019.
VNW 32353, 32354, 32358 (LK53 LZR, LZT, LZX) (ex FLN) from First Bristol to Wigley, Barnsley (October).
VNW 32356, 32357 (LK53 LZV, LZW) (ex FLN) sold from First Bristol (October and November).

DOE 8 (LX58 CWW) (ex GAL) from Ensign Bus to MC Tractors / Shelton Motors, Ramsey, Cambs. (March).
EVL 24 (PN02 XCH) (ex GAL) from Roselyn Coaches to Bus & Coach Repairs (dlr), Yaxley, Cambs. (November) for scrap.
MHV 32 (BV66 VKX), 34 (BG66 MKA), 36 (BG66 MKD), 38 (BG66 MJE), 44 (BG66 MJV), 46 (BV66 VHU) (ex GAL) are further examples that have arrived with Go Ahead North West and after single-doored and repaint they have been numbered 3060, 3069, 3062, 3052, 3057 and 3066 respectively. MHV 32, 34 were further examples that arrived in February and MHV 36, 38, 44, 46 arrived in March.
PDL 29 (PN03 ULL) (ex GAL) was sold from Axe Valley Mini Travel (July 2019).
PDL 41 (SGZ 3536, ex PN03 UMA) (ex GAL) from South Staffs Coach Hire to Harpur's Coaches, Derby. (April 2021).
PVL 54 (W454 WGH) (ex GAL) was sold from Go Coachhire (by March).
PVL 89 (W489 WGH) (ex GAL) from Go East Anglia to MC Tractors, Ramsey, Cambs. (November).
PVL 139 (W539 WGH) (ex GAL) was sold from Oxford Bus Company to PVS, Barnsley (December).
PVL 170 (X707 EGK) (ex GAL) from DN Street Project to PVS, Barnsley (October).
PVL 217 (Y817 TGH) (ex GAL) from Go Coachhire to Shelton Motors, Ramsey, Cambs. (March) for scrap.
PVL 225 (Y825 TGH) (ex GAL) from Go Coachhire to Ukukhapha Events Ltd., Meldreth, Cambs. (March) for conversion for export to Africa in 2023.
PVL 294 (PJ02 RDZ) (ex GAL) was re-registered by RedRoutemaster to B7 PVL in March.
PVL 412, 413, 414 (LX54 GZD, GZE, GZF) (ex GAL) from Go South West to Ensign Bus (March). PVL 412 subsequently passed to MC Tractors / Shelton Motors, Ramsey, Cambs. (also March).
VWL 6 (XIL 8931, ex LB02 YXD) (ex GAL) further to TLB691, it has re-gained its original registration, probably at the time of sale.
VWL 32 (BX04 AZW) (ex GAL) further to TLB691, it is confirmed that it passed from Stephensons to Axe Valley Mini Travel via Chartwell Bus Sales, Horsham, West Sussex.
VWL 41 (BX04 BBJ) (ex GAL) further to TLB691, it is confirmed that it passed from Stephensons to AC Williams via Chartwell Bus Sales, Horsham, West Sussex.
WHV 8 (LJ61 GXF) (ex GAL) from Ensign Bus to MC Tractors / Shelton Motors, Ramsey, Cambs. (March).
WVL 14 (LG02 KHM) (ex GAL) was sold for scrap by London Bus Group (November).
WVL 15 (LG02 KHO, ex OO 7056) (ex GAL) re-gained its original registration in July and was sold from Eurotaxis to Kilvingtons, Pudsey, West Yorkshire (November).
WVL 239 (LX06 DZY, ex A14 VXH) (ex GAL) re-gained its original registration in October and was sold from Imperial Coaches to Chiltern Automotive, Cryers Hills, Bucks. (by March).
970, 971, 972, 973 (YT59 DYS, DYU, DYV, DYW) (ex GAL) from Chartwell Bus Sales, Horsham, West Sussex to Compass Travel, Worthing, West Sussex (March).

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

SLE 58 (YN55 NLJ) (ex LU) from Vita Student to Chartwell Bus Sales, Horsham, West Sussex, and then to "Raise it Up" (all in March) as a promotional vehicle.

SP 3, 5 (YN56 FCD, FCF), 19 (YN08 DHD) (ex LU) have been re-registered by Connexions Buses to M500 JJR, L600 CXB, 5209 UA respectively.

SP 31 (YN08 DHX) (ex LU) has been re-registered to SCZ 3351 by Ipswich Buses.

VA 83 (V206 OOE) (ex LU) further to TLB685 page 31, is now confirmed as sold to BBPG (July).

VE 2, 7 (PG04 WGP, WGY) (ex LU) from Vision / UK Coachways to Warrington's Own Buses, Warrington, Cheshire (March) where they are to be numbered 318 and 319.

VP 105 (W448 BCW) (ex LU) was sold from Fowlers Coaches (October).

DT 1 (KN52 NCD) (ex ML) was last recorded in late 2019 on loan to First West of England from Dawsongroup; in January 2020 it returned to JH Coaches, Birtley, Tyne & Wear.

OME 2652 (YJ19 HVC) (ex ML) was working with Lothian Buses in February and used on route 23 (Trinity to Greenbank).

TA 78 (T78 KLD) (ex ML) from Paul Sapphire's Morris Dancers to PVS, Barnsley (by December).

TAL 118 (X341 HLL) (ex ML) was sold from New Punjab Coaches (by September).

TAL 134 (X334 HLL) (ex ML) was sold for scrap from New Punjab Coaches (February 2021).

TP 313 (LT02 ZZU) (ex ML) from Dawsongroup to Gem Travel, Rampton, Notts. (September 2018).

TP 369 (LR52 KWL) (ex ML) from Big Green Bus to Star Cabs, Haverhill, Suffolk (November 2020).

TPL 245, 257 (LN51 KXZ, KYR) (ex ML) were sold from Rubicon Classic (September).

TPL 279 (LR02 BBO) (ex ML) was sold from Z&S Transport (November).

VPL 158 (X658 LLX) (ex ML) from Archway to Maxilead Metals, Tyldesley, Greater Manchester (February).

VPL 171, 201 (Y171, 201 NLK) (ex ML) returned from Used Coach Sales to Ventura (dlr), Milton Keynes, Bucks. (by June 2019 and by March 2019) and then were sold to unknown owner (June 2019 and March 2019 respectively).

VW 1755, 1761, 1768, 1774, 1777 (LK59 CWR, CWY, CXF, CXN, FCO) (ex ML) – see the corresponding entry for VN 37776, 37782, 37789, 37795, 37798 (ex FLN) above.

TA 17092 (T692 KPU, ex 222TWX) (ex SLN) from Cedar Coaches to Herberts Travel, Blunham, Beds. (by September 2015), and was sold for scrap in August 2021.

TA 17113 (V113 MEV) (ex SLN) was sold from Chiltern Travel (November) for scrap.

TA 17217 (V217 MEV) (ex SLN) has been cannibalised by Stagecoach Cumbria and the plans to transfer it to Stagecoach East Midlands were abandoned.

TA 17340 (X395 NNO) (ex SLN) was sold from Isle Coaches (August 2020).

TA 17406 (Y517 NHK) (ex SLN) from South London Preservation Group to Butterfly Meadow, Herne Bay, Kent (July) for use as a static showroom.

TA 17607 (LV52 HHS), 17832, 17883, 17886 (LX03 BYG, NGZ, OPU) (ex SLN) were all sold from Green Bus (by March).

TA 17889 (LX03 OPY) (ex SLN) has been sold from Nu-Venture (November); this was the one in Chatham & District livery.

TA 17918 (NIB 4968, ex LX03 OSP) (ex SLN) sold for scrap from Collins Coaches (September 2019).

15138 (BB58 BUS, ex LX59 CNC) (ex SLN) has been reported as sold from Border Bus (by March).

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

Low-floor single deck types:

DWL 13 (LJ51 DDX), 39 (LF02 PNV) (ex ALN) from Arriva Southern Counties to MC Tractors, Ramsey, Cambs. (by December 2021 and by June 2020 respectively).

ENL 45 (LJ09 KPK) (ex ALN) was re-registered by Stantons of Stoke to 4051 VT in September.

ENL 90 (GN08 CHH) (ex ALN) from Ensign Bus to South East Coachworks, Faversham, Kent (March).

DML 41423 (LN51 DXG) (ex FLN) was sold from Sullivan Buses (by February 2022).

DML 44193 (YX11 CNY) (ex FLN) from A2B travel, to Whippet Coaches, Swavesey, Cambs. (August) and has been numbered WS346 in this fleet.

LDP 283 (LX06 FAM) (ex GAL) was sold from Avondale Coaches (December 2020) for scrap.

LDP 285 (LX06 FAU) (ex GAL) from Nu-Venture to BBPG (August).

LDP 290 (LX06 EZV) (ex GAL) from Vision / UK Coachways to PVS, Barnsley (March).

SOE 1 (LX09 AYF) (ex GAL) from Ensign Bus to HGV Training, London NW5 (March).

DPS 539 (Y539 XAG) (ex LU) was sold for scrap from Little's Travel (November 2018).

DES 797 (CSK 282, ex L07 BEJ) (ex ML) was sold from NIBS Buses (by March).

SLD 34245 (Y348 FJN) (ex SLN) was sold for scrap from Nottingham Minibuses (October).

SLD 34329 (Y329 FJN) (ex SLN) from Bryans Coaches to Redroute Buses, Northfleet, Kent (By November 2019) and then to BBPG (March).

SERVICE VEHICLES

Section Editor: Thomas Young: e-mail to tom@ltsv.com or by post via 'The SUPs Editor (LTSV)' at our Lombard address (see page 1). The LTSV web site at www.ltsv.com has an on-line database of service vehicles, with pictures, plus the facility to record your own sightings and comments. A hash sign (#) after the livery of a vehicle indicates that it carries no company lettering or logos.

LUL/LBSL/TfL Fleet; Newly reported vehicles

None reported (but see below)

Additional information and updates

A partial report is of a Ford Transit van in Trams white/blue/green livery and carrying fleetnumber 9107F. Further details are awaited.

Lorry RV12 OFK, car WX10 JUW, facilities vans 7674F and 7675F and van 8958VW are all out of use (SORN) at Acton Works.

Bus Company Fleets; Newly reported vehicles

None reported

Additional information

Go-Ahead London service vehicles seen with new fleetnumbers are RX71 SYU (now FV65) and RX71 SZP (FV76 on labels).

Vehicles withdrawn are Arriva London WN17 UEF/UGH and HV21 YOC, Arriva SC V060 (BT12 AYE) and RATP-Dev MV70016 (RJ11 ZWW).

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

This TLB closed on 1-3 April and due for posting on 12 April. Closing date for TLB693 is Weds 04 May and due for posting on Tues 17 May. Reports to the Editors by post or e-mail to davestewart297@gmail.com or to heads of sections for contact points. Next closing dates are Weds 04May, 08June, 06July, 03Aug, 07Sept, 05Oct, 02Nov, 30Nov. These dates are for us editors to have sufficient time to process, although info over the next four days can invariably be slotted in as time and space allows. Those of you who report regularly should 'bookmark' these dates.



The latest conversion to electric – this time coupled with a change of operator from Tower Transit – saw route W15 gain Go-Ahead E200EVs. SEe 160 traverses Fairlop Road, Leytonstone on 7th March. *(Haydn Davies)*

Frequent closures of the Brighton Main-Line takes 70-odd buses to cover on each day. Go-Ahead's commercial fleet usually feature and five of Peckham's E400s have joined that fleet. E 255 is coming into Brighton on the London Road on 25th February. *(Terry Wong Min)*



Rear cover: The first bus in our area to gain the 'Platinum Jubilee' livery was First Berkshire's StreetLite 63313. On 2nd March it is seen leaving Slough Bus Station on the X74. I hope to feature 'TfL' Jubilee liveries in May TLB. *(Richard Godfrey)*



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