

TLB708

The London Bus

Number 708
August 2023



London Omnibus Traction Society
www.lots.org.uk



Wrightbus Electroliners are now working Metroliner's route 204 – with the 297 and 83 to follow quite soon. On 25th July WDE 2778 is passing Barham Park, Wembley.
(Haydn Davies)

All buses have a routine refurbishment. Metroliner's batch of ng DEL 2244-2265 are going through the process and has already done DEL 2252, seen here in Hammersmith.
(Haydn Davies)



Front cover: Superloop is the new word for a limited-stop route and 607 was changed to SL8. VMH 2561 at Ealing Common shows the branding which is extended to bus-stop shelters. (Richard Godfrey)



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



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

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

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

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: Lombard Business Park, 8 Lombard Road, Wimbledon, London SW19 3TZ, address mark envelope for 'LBM Editor'

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

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

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

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Closing date for TLB709 is Weds 6th Sept for posting on Tues 19th September.
Booked later closing dates are Wednesdays, 06Sep, 04Oct, 01Nov, 29Nov2023.

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LOTS Meetings

We now meet at The Gallery at 77 Cowcross Street, Farringdon. It is 3-mins walk from Farringdon Station (Met/H&C/Circle lines, Thameslink plus Elizabeth line). We shall start and end earlier than at Conway Hall as the venue is locked at 9pm. Doors open at 6pm for a 6.30pm start. Variable as necessary but time is allowed for Q&As and the Sales Stand. Booked dates are Mondays with speakers on 25Sept, 20Nov. The 25Sept meeting is a presentation - 'London Country 1974 to 1979' by Jeff Tucker.

Exit from Farringdon Station (Met side) Turn east (left) and go up Cowcross Street until you reach the Leon restaurant. Opposite, go through the gated archway, cross the cobbled courtyard to the far right corner and go down the stairs to the basement meeting room known as 'The Gallery'.

Coming Events (LSS= LOTS Sales Stand should attend).

Sat. 19 August: The annual pilgrimage with Routemasters to Imber near Warminster, Wiltshire.

Sun. 3 Sept: 'Buses' magazine's Festival at Sywell Aerodrome, Northants.

Sat. 9 Sept: Oxford Open Doors; Oxford Museum buses in service in City Centre.

Sat 16 Sept: London Bus Museum's Running Day on London route 38 (Victoria & Clapton).

Thur/Fri 21.22 Sept: LT Museum at Acton Depot (LSS)

Sat. 23 Sept: Go-Ahead open day at Orpington Garage (LSS)

Sun.24 Sept: Amberley Museum (West Sussex) Autumn Bus Show.

Sun. 1 October: A&D MBS's Running Day from Chesham Broadway.

Payments for membership and orders to Postal Sales

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

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

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A new Sales List was included with TLB705 and this is also on our website. Orders from the Sales List or a letter is perfectly acceptable. In all cases above, if you send a cheque, please don't staple cheques to the form – they really won't get lost by us but might be when the banks try to process them electronically!

LOTS Postal Sales

The Newest Items:

LOTS Fleetbook 2023 £8.00

LOTS SUP 24J Service Vehicles - current fleet April 2023 £5.00

LOTS LBM London Bus Magazine No.204 Summer 2023 £6.00. Principal articles are :

Thamesmead half a century on (Malc McDonald) and Roving round the airfields (Graham Burnell).

****NEW****

LOTS LBM – London Bus Magazine No.203 Spring 2023 £6.00. Principal articles are :

LT service vehicles in the 21st Century (Tom Young); Fifty years of LBM: A personal perspective (Tony Wilson); Modern destination blinds by McKenna Brothers (Bob Williamson)

LOTS London Bus Review 2021 (£14.50) A4 glossy, 80 pages, 127 colour pictures with extensive captions. This is the ORIGINAL annual Review made with about 50 years' experience.

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

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

2023 Stagecoach Fleet Book by Andrew Woolhouse Woolybus £19.50

Garage History File – Romford 144 pages, including 30 photos. It details all vehicle movements at NS in its 70 years of operation, by Andrew Woolhouse Woolybus £18.00

Trolleybuses in West Central London published by Adam Gordon £34.50. This edition covers the routes that emanated from Moorgate, Tottenham Court Road and Holborn Circus; 192 pages with 430 photos in B & W and 21 in colour, plus a wiring map.

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

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

SEC Fleet List 2023 £8.00

Sussex Independents 2023 £6.50

Southdown Fleet & Routes 1969 £8.00

From S.E.C.: Southdown Fleet History Part 34 1969 £7.00 and Southdown Fleet History Part 35 1969 £7.00. (Both books cover the assumption by Southdown of the Brighton Hove & District Fleet on 1 January 1969).

From Capital Transport:

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

A London Busman's Career – 1946-1972 by Laurie Akehurst £19.95

Tube Trivia –new 2023 edition by Andrew Emmerson £4.95

Design on the Elizabeth Line £19.95; edited by James Whiting.

From Pen & Sword: Last Years of the RM by Matthew Wharmby £25.00

GENERAL AND INDUSTRY NEWS

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

National news, TfL and Politics

After a quiet month for political events in June, July turned out to be very eventful and the implications for Londoners could be significant. **Three By-Elections** were held on 20th July, all in Conservative constituencies following the resignation of sitting MPs. Each had a different result. Liberal Democrats won in Somerset, Labour won in North Yorkshire and the Conservatives held on to the west London constituency of Uxbridge & South Ruislip. The Tory victory in Uxbridge & South Ruislip was unexpected and was widely attributed to opposition to the extension of the Ultra-Low Emission Zone. On 28 July the High Court ruled that London Mayor Sadiq Khan's plan to extend the ULEZ to the whole of London is lawful after an appeal (see TLB 707). The Mayor welcomed the decision saying it means "we can proceed with cleaning up the air in London". Drivers of non-compliant vehicles in the expanded ULEZ will have to pay £12.50 per day from 29th August.

The Uxbridge by-election and ULEZ decision sparked a major political debate over 'green issues'. Prime Minister Rishi Sunak declared he was 'on the side of the motorist' and ordered a review of Low Traffic Neighbourhood (LTN) schemes which restrict cars in certain residential areas, (many of which have been funded by the Government through local authorities). Labour appears to be divided on the issue with leader Kier Starmer at odds with the London Mayor over ULEZ policy, because it will disproportionately hit those on low incomes who cannot afford to replace their vehicles.

All this comes as it was reported that global temperatures reached an all-time record in July with daytime temperatures in some countries exceeding 50C. Forest fires became a serious issue in parts of southern Europe and on the Greek holiday island of Rhodes, visitors had to be evacuated. The United Nations Secretary General warned that 'the era of Global Boiling has arrived' and said that immediate action was needed to avoid the very worst effects of climate change. That did not feel so relevant here as most of the UK experienced lower than average temperatures with frequent showers during July.

The Superloop express network has been hailed as one measure which will improve public transport within the expanded ULEZ in outer London. The first such route began on 15th July when the existing 607 was renumbered SL8 and rebranded. Peak hour only route X68 became Superloop route SL6 on 29 July. This will be followed by the X26 on 19th August which will double in frequency to every 15 minutes as the SL7 and the X140 which becomes SL9 a week later on 26 August. Consultations have opened on brand new routes SL2 between Walthamstow Central and North Greenwich, SL3 between Thamesmead and Bromley and SL4 between Bromley and Croydon. TfL is very clearly keen to press ahead with the new network.

Another contentious political issue is the **proposed withdrawal of One Day Travelcards** from January 2024. The Mayor says he is forced to do this to comply with the current funding agreement with the Government, following the pandemic. According to an update on the TfL website on 21 July, The Mayor made it clear his decision is reversible and he is open to further discussions with the Department for Transport, the Rail Delivery Group and train operating companies. One Day travelcards are only available as paper tickets and are mostly purchased at rail stations outside Greater London. Without the Travelcard option, passengers would have to use Oyster or Contactless Pay-as-you-go when travelling on TfL services, although weekly and longer period Travelcards would remain.

TfL and Tram Operations Limited, a subsidiary of First, have been fined £14 million for safety failings leading up to the **Croydon tram crash**. Both TfL and Tram Operations Limited pleaded guilty to health and safety offences. A court at the Old Bailey was told there had been no risk assessment for the possibility of a derailment before the crash which happened in November 2016 at Sandilands, with the loss of seven lives.

----- *General & Industry News* -----

The National Rail **ticket office closures** consultation which was due to close on 26 July has been extended to 1 September. Over 170,000 objections had been received by Transport Focus and London Travelwatch by the initial deadline. Train operators have earmarked some of the busiest ticket offices for closure including my own local station, Brighton, the fourth busiest station outside London. Ticket office staff have been widely credited for being able to help passengers find the best fare amongst a bewildering range of options. Objectors have noted that if cost savings are to be achieved, staff numbers will have to reduce, so the claim staff will remain available elsewhere on the station is hard to justify. Disability groups have been particularly vocal in their opposition, pointing out that it will be more difficult to find staff to assist them.

Corporate and company news

Mobico Group which owns **National Express Group** announced a half year group loss after tax of £39.4 million despite huge growth on the National Express coach network where revenue increased significantly. Mobico lost two of its UK based senior managers after the results were announced. UK and Germany CEO Tom Stables and National Express West Midlands Managing Director David Bradford, who had both been at National Express for 13 years, decided to leave.

At Go Ahead, Southdown PSV which was acquired earlier this year will be fully absorbed into Metrobus from 2 September. Metrobus will operate all former Southdown services and vehicles will gradually be repainted into Metrobus colours.

Other General News

There will be no Coach and Bus Show at the NEC show this year. It was due to be held on 8-9 November but it seems there was insufficient interest from manufacturers to exhibit their new vehicles. A 'bigger and better' show is promised by the organisers for 2024.

Industrial action continues on the National Rail network with ASLEF imposing overtime bans between 31 July and 12 August with a one day break on Sunday 6th. Services operated by sixteen train companies will be affected.

An LNER Azuma made a successful trial run into Liverpool Street Station during the early hours of 14 July to test the practicality of diverting LNER services there during periods of planned disruption. The train was a bi-mode unit which operated in diesel mode between Finsbury Park and Liverpool Street.

The first of 94 **new trains for the Piccadilly line** has been revealed in Germany where they are being tested. The trains have nine, shorter walk-through coaches, but the overall length is similar to existing 1973 stock. They will feature air cooling and are designed to increase capacity by around 10%. Later trains will be built in the UK at a new factory in Goole, Yorkshire which is due to be completed next year. It is hoped similar trains will replace 1972 tube stock on the Bakerloo line which are the oldest trains on the Underground.

Heyfordian Travel of Bicester ceased trading unexpectedly on 1 August after 76 years. The company had a licence for 70 vehicles from five operating centres and was well respected in the coach industry.

Transport for Greater Manchester aims to improve bus patronage by 30% by 2030 through a strategy of more affordable fares, a more 'user friendly' network and improved bus priority measures. Real time information displays which are virtually non-existent, at least in central Manchester, will be installed at 300 stops.

Lord Peter Hendy of Richmond Hill has agreed to serve a further two years as Chair of Network Rail until July 2025.

GREATER LONDON AREA - Route Developments

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

LONDON BUSES - TENDERED ROUTES UPDATE

Routes 20, 58, 97, 113/N113, 143, 215, 253/N253, 254, 277/N277, 393 and 464 from tranches 864, 866, 867, 869, 873, 880 and 881 awarded, starting on 24th February 2024 (277/N277), 2nd March 2024 (58,97, 215), 23rd March 2024 (20, 393), 30th March 2024 (113/N113), 18th May 2024 (464), 1st June 2024 (253/N253, 254) and 22nd June 2024 (143).

Routes 215, 253/N253 and 254 are for 5 years;
Routes 20, 97, 393 and 464 are for 6 years;
Routes 58, 113/N113, 143, 277/N277 are for 7 years.

- 20 Retained by Stagecoach East London using existing hybrid double-deck vehicles (pvr 10).
- 58 Retained by Stagecoach (Lea Interchange) using new electric double-deck vehicles (pvr 15).
- 97 Retained by Stagecoach (though reassigned from East London to Lea Interchange) using hybrid double-deck vehicles (pvr 21 to 20).
- 113/N113 Retained by Metroline Travel using new electric double-deck vehicles (pvr 23 to 21).
- 143 Retained by Metroline Travel using new electric single-deck vehicles (pvr 14).
- 215 Retained by Stagecoach East London, using existing NRM Routemaster vehicles (pvr 5).
- 253/N253 Retained by Arriva London North using existing NRM Routemaster vehicles (pvr 19).
- 254 Retained by Arriva London North using existing NRM Routemaster vehicles (pvr 23).
- 277/N277 Retained by Stagecoach East London using new electric double-deck vehicles (pvr 16 to 15).
- 393 Retained by Metroline Travel using existing diesel single-deck vehicles (pvr 14).
- 464 Retained by Abellio using existing diesel single-deck vehicles (pvr 3).

The rest of the 2023/24 tendering programme is now as follows:

Tranche No. and start dates	Routes out on offer (with current operators)	2-year extensions granted
#862C (02/24)	242/N242 (Arriva LN)	--
#864A (2/24)	283 (London United)	--
#865 (3/24)	379 (GA London General)	--
#865A (2-3/24)	W12, W13 (S'ch ex HCT Group), W14 (S'ch ex T.Transit).....	--

The contracts for routes 28/N28, 328 and 481 will now terminate early and have been added to the 2024/25 tendering programme. New routes SL1, SL2, SL3 and SL5 have been added to the programme, although we have no dates yet. X68 and X239 adopt their new numbers. New route 618 has also been added (though not sure what this is!) Finally, tranches 892 and 898 have been split.

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

Tranche No. and start dates	Routes out on offer (with current operators)	2-year extensions granted
#871A (3-5/24)	SL2 (Walthamstow – North Woolwich)	--
#871B (3-5/24)	SL3 (Thamesmead - Bromley)	--
#871C (3-5/24)	SL5 (Bromley – Croydon)	--
#872 (04/24)	S3 (London United)	--

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

#872A (04/24)	306 (Metroline Travel)	--
#873 (04/24)	689 (Arriva LS)	--
#873A (03/24)	SL7 (ex X26) (Go-Ahead Metrobus)	--
#874 (06/24)	E3 (London United)	--
#875 (04/24)	U1, U2, U3, U4 (Metroline West)	--
#876 (04/24)	236 (S'ch ex T.Transit), 394 (S'ch ex HCT Group)	--
#877 (04/24)	110 (London United)	--
#877A (04/24)	481 (London United)	--
#878 (4-5/24)	206 (Metroline West), 272, 440 (London United)	--
#879 (01/25)	129 (GA London Central), SL4 (ex X239, New route for Silvertown Tunnel)	--
#879A (04/24)	P4 (S'ch Selkent)	--
#881 (06/24)	260, 302 (Metroline Travel).....	--
#882 (6-7/24)	681 (London United), R68, R70 (Abellio).....	--
#883 (06/24)	211, C1 (London United)	--
#883A (06/24)	28/N28, 328 (London Transit)	--
#884 (06/24)	406, 465 (London United)	--
#885 (7-9/24)	210, 382, C11, W7, W8 (Metroline Travel)	--
#886 (7-8/24)	17 (Metroline Travel), 243/= (Arriva LN)	--
#887 (08/24)	Tranche cancelled.....	533
#888 (08/24)	5/N15, 15, 115 (GA Blue Triangle), 66 (Arriva LN)	--
#889 (7-10/24)	50, 255 (Arriva LS), 201 (Abellio), 280 (GA London General)	--
#890 (08/24)	194, 250/=, 289, 410 (Arriva LS), 663 (GA Metrobus) ..	--
#890A (09/24)	618 (new route)	--
#891 (8-10/24)	130 (Abellio), 314, 661 (S'ch Selkent), 320 (GA Metrobus)	--
#891A (9/24)	W12, W13 (S'ch ex HCT Group), W14 (S'ch ex T.Transit).....	--
#892 (9/24)	90 (Metroline Travel), 222/= , H13 (Metroline West), 395 (London Sovereign)	--
#892A (9/24)	640 (Sullivan)	--
#893 (9-11/24)	131 (GA London General), 411 (London United), 627 (Arriva LS)	--
#894 (9-12/24)	4, 6/=, 98/N98, (Metroline Travel), 341/= (Arriva LN)	--
#895 (9-10/24)	669, 672 (S'ch Selkent)	--
#896 (10-11/24)	103, 150, 175, 370 (Arriva LN), 257 (S'ch East London)	--
#897 (10-12/24)	22/N22, 88/=, 170, (GA London General), 33/N33, 419 (London United)	--
#898A (11/24)	34/= (Arriva LN), SL1 (N. Finchley – Walthamstow) ..	--
#898B (11/24)	192 (Arriva LN)	--
#899 (11-12/24)	18/N18, 94/=, 266/N266 (London United) 218 (London Transit)	--
#900 (11-12/24)	45 (Abellio), 176/=, 188/=, 360 (GA London Central) 355 (GA Metrobus)	--
#901 (12/24-2/25)	258 (London United), 278 (Abellio)	--
#902 (1-3/25)	212, 357, 444 (GA London General), 323, 497 (S'ch East London)	--
#903 (1-2/25)	121, 141, 329 (Arriva LN), 153 (GA London General) ..	--
#904 (1-3/25)	29/N29, 41/=, W4, W6 (Arriva LN) 299 (Sullivan), 657 (GA London General)	--

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

#905 (1-2/25)	99, 269, 401, (Arriva LN), 233, (GA Metrobus) 422, B14 (S'ch Selkent), B16 (GA London Central) --
#905A (3/25)	R1, R2, R3, R4, R6, R8, R11 (GA Metrobus) --
#906 (2-3/25)	36/=, 172, 343/N343 (GA London Central), 109/N109 (Abellio), 118 (GA London General) --
#907 (2-3/25)	423, H22, H37, H98 (London United), H28 (Abellio) --
#908 (3/25)	282 (Metroline West), 482 (Abellio) --
#909 (3/25)	161, 181, 284 (S'ch Selkent), 225 (GA London Central), C10 (Abellio) --
#910 (3/25)	126, 138 (GA Metrobus) --
#911 (3/25)	169, 247, 287 (S'ch East London) --
#912 (3/25)	68/N68 (Abellio) 468 (Arriva LS), SL6 (ex X68GA London Central) --

SUPERLOOP ROUTE NUMBERS

As noted in TLB707, and under service proposals in TLB704, the superloop numbering scheme was announced on 14th July, prior to the official 'launch' of route SL8, renumbered from route 607. As noted elsewhere in this issue, Metroline vehicles were adorned and started displaying SL8 on the blinds, before the official launch. SL route number tiles appeared on the bus stops served by the 607/SL8 route with a red background started to appear. In Kingsway and Aldwych the SL6 bus stops have full-width SUPERLOOP tiles without specific reference to the SL6. Further details are also in tenders, route news and service proposals later in this section.

The proposed route numbers start in the north and proceed clockwise as follows:-

SL1	North Finchley & Walthamstow Central;
SL2	Walthamstow Central & North Woolwich (Originally finishing at Royal Docks);
SL3	Thamesmead & Bromley (Originally starting from Bexleyheath);
SL4	Canary Wharf & Grove Park (New Silvertown tunnel service originally announced as X239);
SL5	Bromley & Croydon;
SL6	Croydon & Russell Square (peaks only, X68);
SL7	Croydon & Heathrow Airport (X26);
SL8	Uxbridge & White City (607);
SL9	Heathrow Airport & Harrow (X140);
SL10	Harrow & North Finchley.

ROUTE AND SERVICE CHANGES

Saturday 3rd June 2023: As in TLB707.

Saturday 10th June 2023: As in TLB707.

Saturday 24th June 2023: As in TLB707.

Saturday 1st July 2023: As in TLB707.

Saturday 8th July 2023:

Widened timetables for route H91 for roadworks at Chiswick Roundabout.

377 (Arriva London North-E) (Ponders End Garage & Oakwood Station, Mo-Sa) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using new EMN-class Switch MetroCity MC870EV electric single-deck vehicles in due course. No change to PVRs.

Friday 14th July 2023: From this date and ongoing through the weekend to at least Tuesday 18th July: Owing to a 'shortage of trams', Tramlink suspended the Elmers End service until Friday 21st July and ran a reduced service on the rest of the lines. Extra buses were provided at peak times on routes 64, 289 and 466 from Ensign until Tuesday 18th July.

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

Saturday 15th July 2023: The widened timetables for route 422 were re-instated for road works continuing at Greenwich.

- 86 (Stagecoach East London-NS) (Stratford, Bus Station & Romford Station) and
N86 (Stagecoach East London-NS) (Stratford, Bus Station & Harold Hill, Dagnam Park Square) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using new electric double-deck vehicles in due course.
166 (Arriva London South-TC) (West Croydon & Epsom) Additional shuttle service introduced, Sats and Suns only, until Sun 27th August between Purley and Banstead. As in previous years, these are to act as duplicates for the main 166 to cater for visitors to the Mayfield Lavender Farm situated at the junction of Croydon Lane and Carshalton Road.
607 (Metroline West-G) (White City, Bus Station & Uxbridge Station, Express) Route **renumbered SL8**. London Buses state that “SL8” would be the first route to join the Superloop network of express bus routes to improve connections and journey times.” (For details of the proposed network, see earlier and service proposals later).

PVR Changes from 15th July 2023:

Arriva London South: 166 additional +1 seasonal PVR #TC139 Sa, #TC135 Su;

Metroline West: SL8 to 20/19/15 #G1+, 607 withdrawn (actually no change to PVRs).

Stagecoach East London: No change to 86/N86 PVRs.

Monday 17th July 2023: The “all change at Bank” scheme is finally introduced after many months and kept on as “long-term temporary diversions” since 2020. Buses currently on diversion (25/N25) return to normal routing. Buses will no longer serve Threadneedle Street and the following routes are now permanently re-routed as detailed below. Having said that there were some reported “engineering difficulties” and some diversions may remain until 28th July.

- 8 (Stagecoach East London-BW) (Tottenham Court Road & Bow Church) and
N8 (Oxford Circus & Hainault, The Lowe) Rerouted in both directions from Bishopsgate via Cornhill to and from Bank.
26 (Stagecoach East London-HK) (Victoria Station & Hackney Wick, Eastway) and
N26 (Victoria Station & Chingford Station) Rerouted in both directions from Bishopsgate via Cornhill to and from Bank and then Poultry and Queen Street to and from Queen Victoria Street.
133 (Arriva London South-BN) (Holborn Station & Streatham Station) Rerouted southbound via Little Britain, Montague Street, Rotunda Roundabout, Aldersgate Street, St Martin's Le Grand, Cheapside, Poultry, Bank, Lombard Street and King William Street. No change to routing towards Holborn.
N21 (Go-Ahead London Central-NX) (Trafalgar Square & Bexleyheath, Shopping Centre) Rerouted in both directions from Bank via Poultry and Queen Street to Queen Victoria Street.
N242 (Arriva London North-CT) (Tottenham Court Road Station & Homerton Hospital) Rerouted in both directions from Bishopsgate via Cornhill to and from Bank.
N550 (Stagecoach East London-HK) (Trafalgar Square & Canning Town Station) Rerouted in both directions to and from Bank via Poultry and Queen Street to Queen Victoria Street.
N551 (Stagecoach East London-HK) (Trafalgar Square & Gallions Reach, Shopping Park) Rerouted in both directions to and from Bishopsgate via Cornhill to and from Bank and then Poultry and Queen Street to and from Queen Victoria Street.

No changes to PVRs to any of the above.

Saturday 22nd July 2023:

There was some more long-term engineering work, closing some lines from Euston to Watford Junction, affecting London Overground and the Bakerloo line, which were variously suspended from Euston to Watford Junction or Bakerloo northbound from Queen's Park or Stonebridge Park. Routes 718, 719, 720 returned and ran until Thursday 17th August, albeit with some variations each week. As a reminder, route 718 is Queen's Park & Harrow & Wealdstone, 719 is Queen's Park & Wembley Park and 720 is Harrow Bus Station & Watford Junction.

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

Saturday 22nd July, continued:

Widened timetables for routes 14/=, 22, 37, 39, 74, 93/=, 170, 337, 424, 430 and 493 for Wandsworth Bridge closure until 29th September. Note a couple of routes added and expected to include routes 49 and 85/=. Route 434 is widened to every x40 mins because of works at Purley.

23/= (*London Transit-X*) (Westbourne Park Station & Aldwych) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing OME-class Optare MetroDecker MD1050EV electric double-deck vehicles.

28 (*London Transit-X*) (Kensal Rise Station & Wandsworth, Southside Shopping Centre) Temporarily curtailed at the north side of Wandsworth Bridge, diverting via Townmead Road to stand in Imperial Road at Chelsea Harbour, departing via Imperial Lane, Harwood Terrace and Bagley's Lane to New Kings Road.

N28 (*London Transit-X*) (Camden Town, Bayham Street and Wandsworth, Southside Shopping Centre) Temporarily diverted in both directions via King's Road, (southbound via Beaufort Street, northbound via Cheyne Walk, Cremorne Road, Ashburnham Road), Battersea Bridge, Battersea Bridge Road, following the 728 routing to Wandsworth. However, for the first week, the service was curtailed at Clapham Junction.

53 (*Stagecoach Selkent-PD*) (County Hall & Plumstead Station) and

N53 (*Stagecoach Selkent-PD*) (Whitehall & Plumstead Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing hybrid AD40H AD Enviro400H double-deck vehicles.

295/= (*London Transit-X*) (Ladbroke Grove, Sainsbury's & Clapham Junction, Falcon Road) Temporarily curtailed at the north side of Wandsworth Bridge, diverting via Townmead Road to via Watermeadow Way, William Morris Way to stand in Townmead Road, departing via Townmead Way and Wandsworth Bridge Road.

728 (*Abellio-QB*) In practice, this actually began on Monday 24th July. (Fulham Broadway & Wandsworth, Southside Shopping Centre) Temporary route introduced via Harwood Road, King's Road, (southbound via Beaufort Street, northbound via Cheyne Walk, Cremorne Road, Ashburnham Road), Battersea Bridge, Battersea Bridge Road, Falcon Road, Clapham Junction, then via 295 and C3 serving St. John's Hill, Plough Road, York Road and thanas per routes 28 and 44 to Wandsworth Town Centre. Daily every x20 mins.

C3 (*London Transit-X*) (Earl's Court, Tesco & Clapham Junction, Falcon Road) Temporarily curtailed at Sands End via Waterside Way to William Morris Way, departing via Townmead Road.

PVR Changes from 22nd July 2023:

Abellio: 728 to 6/6/6/ #QB81+;

London Transit: No change to 23/N23, 28/N28, C3 PVRs (note, the curtailments are operated by local arrangement);

Stagecoach Selkent: 53/N53 No change to PVRs. (These changed on 24th June 2023).

Saturday 29th July 2023: Widened timetables for routes 49, 211 and 414 for the duration of Wandsworth Bridge closure.

171 (*Go-Ahead London Central-NX*) (Elephant & Castle & Bellingham, Catford Bus Garage) Revised stand working at Catford bus garage, as buses will no longer be permitted or be able to turn on the garage forecourt, so amended to run out of service via the Downham Way turning point in Old Bromley Road to stand on Bromley Road outside Catford bus garage. The timetable is slightly widened to accommodate the extra running time.

349 (*Arriva London North-EC*) (Stamford Hill, Rookwood Road & Ponders End Garage) Re-allocated from Edmonton (EC) garage to Enfield (E) garage.

486 (*Go-Ahead London Central-BX*) (North Greenwich Station & Bexleyheath, Shopping Centre). Further to the note last month, the night service is restored on every night, first night starting on Friday 28th July.

663 (*Go-Ahead Metrobus-C*) (Purley, Pampisford Road & Thornton Heath Station SDO) PM trip Retimed to 15:20 to better suit finishing times (effective from start of Autumn Term).

W6 (*Arriva London North-E*) (Southgate Station & Edmonton Green) Re-allocated from Enfield (E) garage to Wood Green (WN) garage.

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

Saturday 29th July, continued

X68 (*Go-Ahead London Central-Q*) (West Croydon, Bus Station & Russell Square M-F peak hours Express) Route **renumbered SL6**. No change to frequency, but crosslinks to and from other routes withdrawn. Buses are scheduled to layover at Waterloo (RA) garage between the peaks.

PVR Changes from 29th July 2023:

Arriva London North : 349 to 13/14/11 #E21+, W6 to 9/8/5 #WN251+;

Go-Ahead London Central : SL6 to 10/-/- #Q681+, 188 to 30/21/17 #Q41+ (though no #Q70), crosslinks withdrawn. (Also note, only school holiday schedules uploaded).

=486 to 3 nightly, #BX121+, X68 withdrawn, no change to 171 PVRs;

Go-Ahead Metrobus : No change to 663.

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

Saturday 5th August 2023:

Widened timetables for route 125 for Winchmore Hill roadworks until 2nd September.

A Tramlink replacement service was operated by Abellio between Waddon Marsh & Wimbledon for trackwork at Mitcham Junction until Sunday 13th August 2023.

Saturday 12th August 2023:

S1 (*Go-Ahead Metrobus-C*) (Lavender Fields & Banstead, Marks & Spencer) re-allocated from Croydon (C) garage to Goat Road (GM) garage, thus novated from Go-Ahead Metrobus to Go-Ahead London General.

Saturday 19th August 2023:

164 (*Go-Ahead London General-AL*) (Wimbledon Station & Sutton Station) This is now deferred until 30th September, hopefully to be confirmed next month. This was planned to be extended daily from Sutton to Belmont Station via routes 80, 280 via Brighton Road, then re-routed to terminate at Royal Marsden Hospital at a later date once new facilities have been completed.

137 (*Arriva London South-N/BN*) (Marble Arch & Streatham Hill, Telford Avenue) Revision to the proportions of buses from Brixton (BN) and Norwood (N) garages.

417 (*Arriva London South-N*) (Clapham Common, Old Town & Crystal Palace) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using new electric ES-class Wrightbus StreetDeck Electroliner double-deck vehicles in due course.

X26 (*Go-Ahead Metrobus-C*) (West Croydon, Bus Station & Heathrow Airport Central, express) Route **renumbered SL7**. Daily daytime frequency increased from x30 to x15 mins. During peak hours when running time is increased, some extra journeys will start from New Malden or Wallington.

Saturday 26th August 2023: (or first equivalent school day on school routes)

64/= (*Arriva London South-TH*) (Thornton Heath Pond & New Addington, Vulcan Way) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using new electric ES-class Wrightbus StreetDeck Electroliner double-deck vehicles in due course.

79 (*London Sovereign-BT*) (Edgware Station & Alperton, Sainsbury's) Re-routed at Alperton, Ealing Road via Mount Pleasant, Beresford Avenue, North Circular Road slip road to Stonebridge Park Station. (*see also service proposals, later*).

83 (*Metroline Travel-PV*) (Golders Green Station & Alperton Station) extended from Alperton Station via Ealing Road and Glacier Way to Alperton, Sainsbury's. (*see proposals, later*).

123 (*Arriva London North-AR*) (Ilford High Road & Wood Green Station) The previous weekend night service restored to run every night, first night starting on Friday 25th August.

141 (*Arriva London North-AD*) (Palmers Green, North Circular Road & London Bridge Station) Evening frequencies increased from every x12 to x10 mins and Sunday early mornings from x15 to x12 mins.

123 (*Arriva London North-AR*) (Ilford High Road & Wood Green Station) The previous weekend night service restored to run every night, first night starting on Friday 25th August.

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

Saturday 26th August 2023, Continued.

- 141 (*Arriva London North-AD*) (Palmers Green, North Circular Road & London Bridge Station) Evening frequencies increased from every x12 to x10 mins and Sunday early mornings from x15 to x12 mins.
- 148/= (*London United-S*) (Camberwell Green & White City, Bus Station) Revised daily timetables for running time.
- 158 (*Arriva London North-EC*) (Stratford Bus Station & Chingford Mount, Prince Albert) The previous weekend night service restored to run every night, starting on Friday 25th August.
- 395 (*London Sovereign-SO*) (Harrow, Bus Station & Westway Cross Retail Park) Re-allocated from Harrow (SO) garage to Park Royal (RP) garage thus novated from London Sovereign to London United.
- 605 (*Sullivan Buses-SM*) (Burnt Oak Station & Totteridge & Whetstone Station SDO) Renewal of LBSL (QX) contract using existing double-deck vehicles.
- 612 (*Arriva London South-TC*) (Selsdon, Farley Road & Wallington County Grammar School SDO) Renewal of LBSL (QX) contract using new electric ES-class Wrightbus StreetDeck Electroliner double-deck vehicles in due course.
- 628 (Kingsbury JFS & Southgate Station, SDO PM journey only via Deansbrook Road) and
- 653 (Kingsbury JFS & Muswell Hill Broadway, SDO) and
- 683 (Kingsbury JFS & Friern Barnet, Town Hall, SDO) and
- 688 (Kingsbury JFS & Southgate Station, SDO) LBSL (QX) contracts awarded to Uno using existing diesel double-deck vehicles from Hatfield (HF) garage. Currently operated by Sullivan Buses from South Mimms (SM) garage using a mix of E-class AD40D Enviro400D or DS-class Scania N230UD Omnicity diesel double-deck vehicles.
- X140 (*London Sovereign-SO*) (Heathrow Airport Central & Harrow, Bus Station, Express) Route **renumbered SL9**. Cross-linking removed from route 698 to become a stand-alone route. (*see also 698 under 2nd September, later*)

Sunday 27th August / BH Monday 28th August 2023:

The Notting Hill Carnival returns so roads will be closed in Ladbroke Grove and Notting Hill areas, with routes diverted as necessary. Route 52 is usually split into 2 sections as before, route 316 should be double-decked and route 36X should re-appear and routes 18, 23, 70, 94, 148 and 328 expected to have some enhancements and to maintain reliability.

August / September 2023:

At some time during these months, it is proposed that Kingston, Cromwell Road Bus Station is to be closed for long-term refurbishment (in other words demolition and replacement) and one lane will be closed at times to through services. Terminating buses are expected to be dispersed to stand at Sainsbury's Sury Street, although details to be confirmed when known.

Saturday 2nd September 2023: (or first equivalent school day on school routes)

- 72 (*London United-S*) (East Acton, Brunel Road & Hammersmith Bridge, North Side) and
- N72 (*London United-S*) (East Acton, Brunel Road & Roehampton, Bessborough Road) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing BE-class electric single-deck vehicles.
- 114 (*Metroline West-UX*) (Mill Hill Broadway Station & Ruislip Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing VWH-class Volvo B5LH Wrightbus Gemini 3 hybrid double-deck vehicles.
- 203 (*London United-AV*) (Hounslow, Bus Station & Staines, Bus Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing VH-class Volvo B5LH Wrightbus Gemini 3 or ADH-class AD40 E40H Enviro 400H hybrid double-deck vehicles, type to be confirmed. Thus converted formally from MCL-class Mercedes Citaro diesel single-deck vehicles.
- 251 (Arnos Grove Station & Edgware Station) LBSL QC contract awarded to Metroline Travel using new VMSL-class Volvo BZL/MCV electric single-decks in due course. Currently operated by London Sovereign from Edgware (BT) garage. Schedules were revised on 24th June. (*as noted earlier*).

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

Saturday 2nd September, continued:

- 288 (*London Sovereign-BT*) (Queensbury, Morrisons & Broadfields Estate) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing DE-class diesel single-deck vehicles.
- 293 (*London United-TV*) (Morden Station & Epsom General Hospital) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 303 (*London Sovereign-BT*) (Edgware Station & Kingsbury Circle) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing DLE-class diesel single-deck vehicles.
- 313 (*Arriva London North-E*) (Chingford Station & Potters Bar Station, extended SDO to Dame Alice Owen's School) Minor change to timetable with PM journey from Dame Alice Owen's School curtailed at Ponders End.
- 340 (Edgware Station & Harrow, Bus Station) LBSL QC contract awarded to London Sovereign using existing VH-class Volvo B5LH Wrightbus Gemini 3 hybrid double-deck vehicles from Edgware (BT) garage. Currently operated by Arriva London North from Palmers Green (AD) garage.
- 349 (*Arriva London North-E*) (Stamford Hill, Rookwood Road & Ponders End Garage) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing LT-class NRM-new Routemasters.
- 434 (*Go-Ahead Metrobus-C*) (Whyteleafe South, Wapses Lodge Roundabout & Rickman Hill) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 626 (Finchley Central Station & Dame Alice Owen's School SDO) LBSL (QX) contract awarded to Metroline Travel using existing hybrid double-deck vehicles from Potters Bar (PB) garage. Type to be confirmed. Rerouted to serve Potters Bar Station in both directions. In the afternoon, therefore diverted from Sawyers Lane via Baker Street, Darkes Lane, Potters Bar Station, Mutton Lane and Barnet Road. Currently operated by Sullivan Buses from South Mimms (SM) garage using a mix of E-class AD40D Enviro400D or DS-class Scania N230UD Omnicity diesel double-deck vehicles.
- 634 (*Metroline Travel-PB*) (Barnet, Arkley Hotel & Muswell Hill Broadway, SDO) Renewal of LBSL (QX) contract using existing hybrid double-deck vehicles, type to be confirmed.
- 685 (*Arriva London South-TC*) (Hamsey Green, Warlingham School & Selsdon, Farley Road SDO, PM journey only) Renewal of LBSL (QX) contract using existing T-class diesel double-deck vehicles.
- 696 (*London United-AV*) (Hayes, Bourne Avenue & Bishop Ramsey School, SDO) Revised timetable.
- 697 (*London United-AV*) (Hayes, Lansbury Drive & Ickenham, Douay Martyrs School, SDO) Revised timetable.
- 698 (*London Sovereign-SO*) (West Drayton School & Ickenham, Douay Martyrs School, SDO) Re-allocated from Harrow (SO) garage to Edgware (BT) garage. Revised timetable.
- H11 (*London Sovereign-SO*) (Harrow, Bus Station & Mount Vernon Hospital) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing DLE-class diesel single-deck vehicles.
- H14 (*London Sovereign-SO*) (Hatch End & Northwick Park Hospital) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing VH-class Volvo B5LH Wrightbus Gemini 3 hybrid double-deck vehicles. Note the frequency was reduced from 24th June, so contract timetable introduced early.
- H17 (Harrow, Bus Station & Wembley Central, Montrose Crescent) LBSL QC contract awarded to Metroline Travel (but novated to Metroline West) using existing DEL-class diesel single-deck vehicles from Willesden Junction (WJ) Garage. Currently operated by London United from Park Royal (RP) garage.
- H18 (*London Sovereign-SO*) (Harrow, Bus Station circular via Headstone Lane & Belmont) and
- H19 (*London Sovereign-SO*) (Harrow, Bus Station circular via Belmont & Headstone Lane) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing DLE-class diesel single-deck vehicles.
- N550 (*Stagecoach East London-HK*) (Trafalgar Square & Canning Town Station) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- N551 (*Stagecoach East London-HK*) (Trafalgar Square & Gallions Reach, Shopping Park) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.

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

Saturday 9th September 2023:

- 83 (*Metroline Travel-PV*) (Golders Green Station & Alperton Station) and
 N83 (*Metroline Travel-PV*) (Golders Green Station & Ealing Hospital) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using new WDE-class Wrightbus StreetDeck Electroliner electric double-decks.
 390/= (*Metroline Travel-HT*) (Victoria Station & Archway Station) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
 483 (*Metroline Travel-PV*) (Harrow, Bus Station & Windmill Park, Three Bridges) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing VWH-class Volvo B5LH Wrightbus Gemini 3 hybrid double-deck vehicles.

Saturday 16th September 2023:

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

Saturday 30th September 2023: (Apologies, route 185/108D was missed out of the tender proposals).

- 1 (*Go-Ahead London Central-MG*) (Canada Water Station & Tottenham Court Road Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract and rerouted from Holborn replacing route 168 via Russell Square, Eversholt Street, Camden High Street (return Bayham Street), Chalk Farm Road, Haverstock Hill, Rosslyn Hill, Pond Street to terminate at Hampstead Heath, South End Green. Using existing MHV- or WHV-class Volvo B5LH MCV EvoSeti or Wrightbus Gemini hybrid double-deck vehicles and re-allocated from Morden Wharf (MG) to Camberwell (Q) garage. Frequency increased from x10 to x8-9mins Mon-Sat daytimes, no change to Sunday and evening frequency
 N1 (*Go-Ahead London Central-MG/PM*) (Tottenham Court Road Station & Thamesmead, Boiler House) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing MHV- or WHV-class Volvo B5LH MCV EvoSeti or Wrightbus Gemini hybrid double-deck vehicles and re-allocated from Morden Wharf (MG) and Peckham (PM) garages to Camberwell (Q) garage.
 42 (*Go-Ahead London Central-Q*) (Liverpool Street Station, Bishopsgate & East Dulwich, Sainsbury's) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing MHV-class Volvo B5LH MCV EvoSeti hybrid double-deck vehicles.
 108/= (*Go-Ahead London Central-MG*) (Stratford International & Lewisham, Town Centre) The evening double-deck service between Lewisham & North Greenwich Station to be contractually linked (as 108D) with route 185 so re-allocated to Camberwell (Q) garage.

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

Saturday 30th September, continued

- 164 (Go-Ahead London General-AL) (Wimbledon Station & Sutton Station) Extended daily from Sutton to Belmont Station via routes 80, 280 via Brighton Road. Note that the route will be re-routed to terminate at Royal Marsden Hospital at a later date once new facilities have been completed. Deferred from 19th August.
- 168 (Metroline Travel-HT) (Hampstead heath, South End Green & Old Kent Road, Tesco) Route WITHDRAWN. (see also 1, 188/=).
- 185 (Go-Ahead London Central-Q) (Victoria Station & Lewisham, Town Centre) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using new Ee-class BYD D8UR Enviro400EV electric double-decks in due course.
- Note this contract is operationally linked to the late evening double-deck journeys on route 108.
- 188/= (Go-Ahead London Central-Q) (North Greenwich Station & Russell Square) Rerouted at Holborn to Tottenham Court Road Station via route 1. Re-allocated from Camberwell (Q) to Morden Wharf (MG) garage.
- 252 (Stagecoach East London-RM) (Hornchurch, Town Centre & Colliers Row, Clockhouse Lane) LBSL (QC) contract extended for 2 years.
- 346 (Upminster Station & Upminster Park Estate, Waycross Road) LBSL QC contract awarded to Stagecoach East London from Rainham (RM) Garage, using existing diesel single-deck vehicles. Currently operated by Go-Ahead Blue Triangle from River Road (RR) garage.
- 355 (Go-Ahead Metrobus-C) (Mitcham, Cricketers & Brixton Station) Re-allocated from Croydon (C) garage to Camberwell (Q) garage, thus novated from Go-Ahead Metrobus to Go-Ahead London Central.
- 404 (Cane Hill, Crawford Crescent & Caterham-on-the-Hill, Westway Common) LBSL QC contract awarded to Abellio from Beddington (BC) garage using existing diesel single-deck vehicles. Currently operated by London United from Tolworth (TV) garage.
- 450 (Lower Sydenham, Sainsbury's & West Croydon, Bus Station) LBSL QC contract awarded to Go-Ahead Metrobus from Croydon (C) garage using new SEe-class BYD D9UR Enviro200EV electric single-deck vehicles in due course. Currently operated by Arriva London South from Norwood (N) garage.
- C3 (Clapham Junction, Falcon Road & Earl's Court, Tesco) LBSL QC contract awarded to Abellio using new electric double-deck vehicles from Battersea (QB) Garage, in due course. Currently operated by London Transit from Westbourne Park (X) garage.

Saturday 7th October 2023:

- 21 (Go-Ahead London Central-NX) (Holloway, Nag's Head & Lewisham, Lewisham Centre) and
- N21 (Go-Ahead London Central-NX) (Trafalgar Square & Bexleyheath, Shopping Centre) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing NRM new Routemasters on route 21, with existing hybrid double-deck vehicles on route N21.
- 32 (Metroline Travel-W) (Kilburn Park Station & Edgware Station) and
- N32 (Metroline Travel-W) (Victoria Station & Edgware Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing NRM new Routemasters.
- 107 (Metroline Travel-PB) (New Barnet Station & Edgware Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing VWH-class Volvo B5LH Wrightbus Gemini hybrid double-deck vehicles.
- 189/= (Metroline Travel-W) (Marble Arch & Brent Cross, Shopping Centre) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing NRM new Routemasters.
- 316 (Metroline West-WJ) (Cricklewood Garage & White City, Bus Station) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using VMSL-class Volvo BZL/MCV electric single-decks in due course.
- 632 (Metroline Travel-W) (Kilburn Park Station & Grahame Park, Corner Mead SDO) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using existing NRM new Routemasters.
- P12 (Go-Ahead London Central-PM) (Surrey Quays Shopping Centre & Brockley Rise, Chandos) Renewal of LBSL (QC) contract using new SEe-class electric single-deck vehicles in due course.

SERVICE PROPOSALS

A new proposal has been made by the City of Westminster for public realm improvements along **Oxford Street**. This time the scheme is basically widening pavements and narrowing the carriageway, whilst still maintaining the buses, taxis and cycles restriction from 07:00 to 19:00 and extending the restriction to Sundays. Goods vehicles would only be permitted from 07:00 to 11:00 each day. The main feature would be to make Oxford Circus a restricted junction so only North-South and East-West moves can be made, with the pavements widened considerably at this location. Routes **94/=, 139/= and N113** westbound would be re-routed from Regent Street northbound, then via Margaret Street, John Princes Street to Oxford Street, southbound from Oxford Street via Holles Street, Heneritta Place, John Princes Street Great Castle Street to Regent Street. Routes **159/=, N15 and N136** terminating at Oxford Circus from the south will be revised to stand at a new location on Margaret Street, west of Regent Street and depart via John Princes Street and Great Castle Street, whilst routes **12/=, N3 and N109** will follow the same route, standing to the north side of John Princes Street. Routes **22/N22** will be curtailed at a new stand at Hanover Street, departing via St. George Street. Routes **55/N55 and N8** will be curtailed to terminate from Oxford Street via Portland Street to stand in Margaret Street, departing via Regent Street, Great Castle Street and Portland Street. Routes **73/N73 and N25** follow the same route to a new stand on Great Castle Street. Routes **7/N7 and N137** will be revised to terminate at John Princes Street via Holles Street and Henrietta Place. Finally, it is proposed to ‘consolidate’ and relocate bus stops along Oxford Street, including a new location closer to Bond Street Station. The changes do not affect routes **88/=, 98/N98, 390/= or 453/=**. The consultation closes on 31st August. Further information at <https://oxfordstreetprogramme.co.uk>. A previous attempt to re-vitalise the area by pedestrianising Oxford Circus did not materialise. (See TLB683 – July 2021).

A new consultation was issued on 17th July with a closing date of 10th September for a **shuttle bus for cyclists for Silvertown Tunnel** when it opens in 2025. The terminal points can only be ascertained from the map but appears to start from Southern Way, Greenwich Millennium Village, adjacent to Cycleway C14 and Royal Victoria, DLR Station. Two types of “computer-generated” buses are shown, one with cycle fittings in the lower part of the bus (to me, looks suspiciously like a former ‘Red Arrow’ SEe vehicle – which would be ideal), or a smaller minibus towing a cycle trailer. The consultation adds that cycles could also be taken on the IFS Cloud Car (although no comparison of price is made!) or even a new cross-river ferry in the future. No mention is made of any frequency or fares are made for the new shuttle. Older readers will recall the 5 TT class vehicles that operated briefly for the opening of the Dartford Tunnel in 1964, which were not very successful and could not be considered now as they were not very accessible! The last few years has seen Mayoral commitments to provide for cycle routes and to encourage cycling in recent times and this may well be an answer to the environmental critics of the Silvertown scheme by providing more capacity for vehicular traffic.

New consultations on 21st July with a closing date of 4th September were issued for **Superloop routes SL2, SL3 and SL5**. These have been added to the Tenders programme with a tentative start date of ‘Spring 2024’. (see earlier). Route **SL2** would start at Walthamstow Central Station via existing route 123 via Hoe Street, Forest Road North Circular and Woodford Avenue, Gants Hill, Cranbrook Road, Ilford, then via existing route 169 to Ilford Lane, Barking, then the North Circular, Royal Docks Road, Gallions Reach, Manor Way to North Woolwich. The proposed frequency would be x12mins Mon-Sat daytime, x15mins evenings and Sunday. No other changes are planned for the 123 or other routes but will be kept under review. Route **SL3** would start at Thamesmead Town Centre then via Carlisle Road direct to Abbey Wood then via route 301 via New Road, Long Lane then via routes 422 and B11 via Pickford Lane, Bexleyheath Station and Shopping Centre, then via route 269 via Townley Road, via B14 via Penhill Road, via route 229 via Hurst Road to Sidcup, then via route 269 via Chislehurst to Bromley North. The proposed frequency would be x12mins Mon-Sat daytime, x15mins evenings and Sunday. Again, no other changes are planned to other routes, the 301 and 269 being specifically mentioned.

Route **SL5** would start at Bromley North to Croydon and follows a different path to the erstwhile 725/726 Green Line routes. From Bromley North via route 162 via Bromley High Street, Westmoreland Way and Hayes Lane to the roundabout known locally as “Chinese Garage” then via route 358 via South Eden Park Road, via route 356 via Monks Orchard Road to West Wickham then via route 119 via Wickham Road and Addiscombe Road, East Croydon to Croydon, Fairfield Halls. Once again, a frequency of x12mins Mon-Sat daytime, x15mins evenings and Sunday is proposed. No changes are proposed to route 119 or other routes. On all of these, the type of bus is not specified and to be confirmed, although the SL5 does add: “we are aware of restrictions on the route of the SL5 which may mean we would have to run single decker buses in order to run the express service we are proposing.”, presumably the tree-lined Monks Orchard Road. Further to the proposal for route **34** mentioned in TLB706, member Mark points out that the 34 is already running every x12 mins Sunday and evenings, the proposal to reduce this should be to every x15 mins.

Two more consultations were issued on 31st July with a closing date of 10th September. Route **281** is proposed to be re-routed from its current terminal loop at Tolworth (via the Broadway and Ewell Road) via Tolworth Roundabout, A3 slip road then via Toby Way and Lansdowne Close to a new development called Signal Park, adjacent to Tolworth Station. This would give a common pick-up point at Kingston Road and Tolworth Broadway with other routes towards Kingston but would mean that the existing stops in Ewell Road and Warren Drive North would no longer be served. Route **309** is proposed to be diverted in Poplar, direct via Abbott Road. This is to provide a more direct routeing and to serve new development at Poplar Riverside, although Ettrick Street, Aberfeldy Street and Blair Street would no longer be served. The evening service is also proposed to be increased from x20 to x15 mins.

Finally, the consultations for routes **79/83** were announced, along with **Brent Cross West Station** proposals. Indeed the 79/83 changes are already planned to start on 26th August (*see earlier*). 256 responses were received with 79% in favour of the proposal. For the **Brent Cross West** proposals, a similar number of responses were received, (258) with 59% in favour. There was some concern expressed related to bus routes **C11 and 189** and the potential relocation of existing bus stops on Claremont Road. TfL stated “It is intended that bus service changes will be made as and when they are needed, in line with the pace of redevelopment in the Brent Cross Town area. This may start with a change to route **189** to enable the route to serve Brent Cross West rail station once it is open.” The Network Rail timetable includes the new station stop at Brent Cross West from Saturday 14th October, but this is of course subject to confirmation nearer the time.

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

- TLB675 p13-14: Croydon / Sutton changes; also updated TLB706 p13 and TLB707 p13.
- TLB686 p12: 410 stop changes in Norwood;
- TLB703 p13: 344 diversion away from Southwark Bridge s/b to operate via London Bridge.
- TLB704 p14-15 : Upminster (346/347 withdrawal and replaced by 497).
- TLB704 p15: 315 extension to Springfields Hospital.
- TLB704 p15: Wembley Park (92, 206, 440).
- TLB705 p14: 419 fixed stops in Barnes.
- TLB705 p14: Catford Town Centre proposals.
- TLB705 p14: 223 extension to Eastman Village.
- TLB705 p15: X183 new “Superloop” route from Harrow to North Finchley.
- TLB706 p13: X34 new “Superloop” route from North Finchley to Walthamstow Central.
- TLB707 p13: W12, W13, W14, 549 Walthamstow and Wanstead changes.
- TLB707 p13: 336 Downham routeing and stop changes.

FORTHCOMING CHANGES IN BRIEF

This list includes tenders that have been decided and principal route changes already in past TLBs. All dates and all details are subject to alteration or deferment.

Notes: CE+2 = Contract extended by 2 years. CR5 = Contract awarded or renewed for 5 years, with a potential +2 year extension. CR2 = Contract awarded for 2 years, CR4 = Contract awarded for 4 years, CR6 = Contract renewed for 6 years, CR7 = Contract renewed for 7 years.

The * suffix = award specified new buses; the # suffix = award specified part new bus allocation. Not all award dates will be necessarily the same date that new buses are introduced.

TBA: routes 77 and 211 as part of the Central London Changes.

14th Oct 23: CR7 on 223 (London Sovereign to Metroline Travel), CR7 on 279/N279* (Arriva LN), W3 (Arriva LN).

4th Nov 23: CR7 on 221 (Arriva LN).

11th Nov 23: CR5 on 38/N38 (Arriva LN), CR7 on 363# (G-A London Central to Abellio).

18th Nov 23: CR7 on 14/=, 39*, 74/N74, 430 (G-A London General), CR7 on 436/N136 (G-A London Central), CR7 on H20, U7 (Abellio).

25th Nov 23: CR7 on W19 (S'ch East London).

2nd Dec 23: CR7 on 78 (Arriva LN to GA London Central), CR7 on 152* (G-A London General), CR7 on 157* (Arriva LS to G-A London General), CR7 on 321/=* (G-A London Central), CR7 on 381/N381* (Abellio), CR7 on D7* (G-A Docklands to S'ch East London), CE+2 on 51 (G-A London Central).

30th Dec 23: CR7 on U9 (Abellio).

6th Jan 24: CR6 on 237 (Metroline), CR6 on H26 (Abellio).

13th Jan 24: CR6 on 603 (Sullivans to Metroline Travel).

20th Jan 24: CR7 on 133/N133* (Arriva LS to Abellio), CR5 on 137/N137 (Arriva LS), CR7 on 228* (London United to Metroline West), CR7 on 333* (Arriva LS to GA London General), CR6 on 380 (S'ch Selkent), CR6 on 388 (S'ch East London).

27th Jan 24: CR5 on 9/N9 (London United to Metroline Travel), CR5 on 59 (Arriva LS), CR6 on 89/N89 (G-A London Central), CR6 on 601 (S'ch Selkent to G-A London Central), CE+2 on 96, 472/= (S'ch Selkent), CE+2 on 428, B15 (Arriva LN), CE+2 on 486 (GA London Central).

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

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

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

24th Feb 24: CR7 on 277/N277* (S'ch East London).

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

9th Mar 24: CR6 on 167 (S'ch East London).

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

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

13th Apr 24: CR6 on 195 (Abellio).

18th May 24: CR6 on 464 (Abellio).

25th May 24: CR7 on E6* (Metroline West to Abellio), CR6 on E11 (Abellio).

1st Jun 24: CR5 on 253/N253, 254 (Arriva LN).

22nd Jun 24: CR6 on 120 (Metroline Travel), CR7 on 143* (Metroline Travel).

DIVERSIONS, DEVIATIONS AND DISRUPTIONS

Central: From 24th July to 27th August, owing to gas works in Newgate Street, St Paul's, routes **8/N8, 25/N25, 56, 133 and N242** were diverted westbound via New Change, Cannon Street, St Paul's Churchyard, Ludgate Hill, Farringdon Street and Charterhouse Street. Also because of these and for gas works in Clerkenwell Road, until 19th August, routes **243/= and 55/N55** are diverted southbound and westbound via Goswell Road, Aldersgate Street, St Martin's-le-Grand, Cheapside, New Change, Cannon Street, St Paul's Churchyard, Ludgate Hill, Farringdon Street, and Farringdon Road.

From 24th to 31st July, owing to road works in Princes Street, Bank, routes **21, 43/=, 141** were diverted northbound via Gracechurch Street, Bishopsgate, Wormwood Street and London Wall. From 24th July to 13th August, owing to telecommunication works in Eversholt Street at Mornington Crescent, routes **N5 and N20** operate direct via Eversholt Street. From 24th July to 12th August, owing to cycling works in York Way, King's Cross, route **390/=** was diverted northbound via Wharfedale Road, Caledonian Road and Market Road, whilst routes **63/N63** were revised to start journeys from Pentonville Road. From 24th July to 14th August, owing to sewer works in Pelham Street, South Kensington, route **360** was diverted southbound via Onslow Square, Fulham Road and Sloane Avenue

South-East: From 19th to 25th July owing to a burst water main in Main Road, Biggin Hill, between Aperfield Road and St. Winifred's Road, route **246** was curtailed at Biggin Hill, Lebanon Gardens. So, there was no service from Biggin Hill to Westerham or Chartwell! From 17th July to 13th August, owing to electrical works in Lower Road, Erith routes **180, 229, 469, 602, 669** were diverted towards westbound via Bronze Age Way (180 also via Lower Road), and eastbound via Bronze Age Way and Walnut Tree Road. From 17th July until at least January 2025, owing to construction work for Silvertown Tunnel, Tunnel Avenue at Blackwall Lane, North Greenwich is closed. Route **108/=** is diverted northbound from Blackwall Lane via the slip road and A102.

From 24th July to 24th September, owing to water main replacement in Parish Lane, Penge East, routes **75 and 194** are diverted in both directions via Penge High Street, Crystal Palace Park Road, Lawrie Park Road, Westwood Hill and Sydenham Road. From 24th July to 14th August, owing to sewer works in Vincent Road, Woolwich, routes **51, 53/N53, 291 and 386** were diverted eastbound via Woolwich New Road, Plumstead Road and Burrage Road, with route **161** diverted westbound via Thomas Street, Wellington Street and John Wilson Street. From 24th July to 7th August, owing to gas works in Towncourt Lane, Petts Wood, routes **208 and N199** were diverted in in both directions via Crofton Road, Farnborough Common, Hastings Road and Bromley Common, not serving Petts Wood. Route **R3** was also diverted in both directions via Ryecroft Road, Tudor Way, St John's Road and Crofton Lane. From 24th July to 3rd September, owing to gas works in Hayes Lane, Hayes, routes **119/= and 146** are diverted in both directions via Mead Way and Pickhurst Lane.

From 24th July to 7th August, owing to electrical works in Tom Cribb Road, Thamesmead West, route **244** was diverted westbound via Western Way, not serving Thamesmead West, with route **380** diverted westbound, from Miles Drive via Merbury Road, Battery Road and Western Way. From 24th July to 15th September, owing to road works in Royal Road, Albany Park, route **B14** is diverted in both directions via Bexley Lane, Longmead Drive and Kimberley Drive to double run via the Maylands Drive roundabout. Thanks to member Iain for this report. A further diversion for route **B14** further north at Sidcup, from 24th July to 6th August, owing to water works in St John's Road (Sidcup) and was diverted in both directions via Granville Road and Highview Road. From 24th July to 28th August, owing to gas works in Elsa Road, Bexleyheath, route **B15** is diverted in both directions via Welling High Street, Park View Road, Crook Log and Brampton Road. From 24th July to 3rd September, owing to sewer works in Lingfield Crescent, Falconwood, route **B16** is diverted westbound via Northumberland Avenue, Westwood Lane, Bellegrove Road and Welling Way. From 24th July to 14th August owing to gas works in Mayplace Road East, Crayford, route 492 was diverted in both directions via Perry Street and Mayplace Road East.

South: Further to the report last month about Station Road, West Croydon, member Peter adds that bus routes were again diverted via St James Road and London Road during the weekends of 8/9, 15/16 and 22/23 July. Also, further to the report last month about route **455**, member Martin kindly corrects me by saying they turned at Coulsdon (which is what I meant to say – not Old Coulsdon!) via Coulsdon By-Pass and Brighton Road. The official diversion for route **434** is confirmed as diverted towards Whyteleafe via Brighton Road, Old Lodge Lane, Burcott Road and High Drive, and towards Coulsdon via Higher Drive, Bencome Road, Old Lodge Lane, Brighton Road, circumnavigating Purley Cross serving Tesco.

South-West: From 17th to 29th July, owing to road works in Staines Road West, Ashford, route **216** was diverted westbound via Cadbury Road and Chertsey Road.

West: From 17th July until 2nd December 2023, owing to work to repairs on the A4/M4 flyovers between Boston Manor Road and Clayponds Avenue, the junction across northbound via the Windmill Road will be closed. Route **E2** is diverted northbound via Great West Road, A4 slip roads at Riverbank Way to return via Great West Road and Windmill Road, southbound via Great West Road to circumnavigate roundabout at Ealing Road, Great West Road to Boston Manor Road. From 10th July to 20th August, owing to water works in Larden Road, Acton Vale, route **272** is diverted in both directions via Bath Road, Stamford Brook Road, Goldhawk Road and Askew Road. From 29th July to 18th August, owing to bridge works in Moorhall Road, Denham, route **331** was diverted in both directions via Harvil Road, Swakeleys Road and Western Avenue.

North-West: From 7th July to 10th August, owing to a collapsed sewer in Coronation Road, Acton, route **187** was diverted eastbound via Park Royal Road not serving Asda. Route **224** was diverted eastbound direct from Abbey Road to Central Middlesex Hospital and westbound direct from Acton Lane to Central Middlesex Hospital, not serving Asda. Route **226** was diverted westbound via Abbey Road, Whitby Avenue and Rainsford Road to Lakeside Drive. Further to the report about Harrow Wealdstone following an urban realm scheme in the High Street, routes **140, 182, 186, 258, 640 N18 and N140** had been diverted southbound since January 2022 (*see TLB690*). This had been extended continuously until 27th May 2023 when they should have re-routed by turning right into Canning Road. According to member Robert, there has been a problem with this, so buses remain on diversion.

North: From 24th July to 14th August, owing to water works on Creighton Avenue, Muswell Hill, route **234** was diverted northbound direct via Colney Hatch Lane.

North-East: From 13th July to 1st September, owing to bridge works in Broadmead Road, Woodford, routes **275 and 675** are diverted in both directions via Woodford High Road, Waterworks Corner, Southend Road, Charlie Brown's Roundabout, Chigwell Road, Broadmead Road and St Barnabas Road. From 24th to 30th July, owing to gas works in Eastern Avenue, Wanstead, routes **66, 145 and N8** were diverted westbound via Eastern Avenue, Green Man roundabout and Cambridge Park to Wanstead High Street. From 24th July to 6th August owing to water works in Palmerston Road, Walthamstow, route **W15** was diverted southbound via Forest Road, Blackhorse Road and Mission Grove. From 24th to 31st July owing to road works in Lee Valley Campsite, route **215** was curtailed at Yardley Lane.

East: From 24th July to 8th September, owing to road works in St Clement's Avenue, King's Park/Harold Wood, route **497** is diverted eastbound via Whitelands Way, Bryant Avenue, Southend Arterial Road, Squirrels Heath Road, Gubbins Lane and Station Road, and westbound via Gubbins Lane, Colchester Road and Whitelands Way. From 24th July to 4th September, owing to water works in Barking Road, Plaistow, routes **104 and 376** are diverted in both directions via Boundary Road (104), New City Road and Barking Road.



The BBPG is doing a grand job in saving buses of the 1990s. Their running day was on 16th July Godstone & East Grinstead along the A22 (hence route 22). Former Arriva DLA 23 is at Blindley Heath. (David Heath)

On 15th July route 292 saw RT 2177 recalling that 50 years ago the 292 was Edgware's last crew operated route. However instead of RT 2177, we chose a picture of RT 885 from its last weeks in 1973. (Tony Wilson)





Now we recall LBM's running day on 11th June on routes 65 and 71. Plenty of the RT/RM family, including this view of RM 5 and RM 1962 together alongside the site of the old Leatherhead Garage. *(Richard Godfrey)*

A surprise performer was this Leyland PD2 from King Alfred at Winchester. POU 494 is at Haven Green at Ealing Broadway showing nice specially made blinds for the occasion. *(Haydn Davies)*





A few single deckers were in use, including 273 AUF, a Leyland Leopard/ Marshall in Church Lane, Copt Gilders. It was new to Southdown but later with East Kent in whose livery it is preserved. *(Richard Godfrey)*

Former LCBS Leyland National SNB 449 is seen in Bridge Road, Chessington on part of the freehold section of route 71. New in February 1979, it was secured for preservation in February 2002. *(Richard Godfrey)*





LCBS bought a few 7ft 6in wide Bristol LHSs as the BN class as well as many more of the larger BL class. On 21st May this preserved BN 45 took part in the running day based at Harlow Bus Garage. *(Stuart Hicks)*

At the Beaconsfield running day on 23rd July, this privately preserved 1956 Bristol LS recreated route 711, upon which in 1953 a different LS was evaluated by London Transport. *(Haydn Davies)*



COUNTRY AREAS - Route Developments

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

West and South ESSEX, including THURROCK

Sunday 3rd September:

- 8. 10 (*Arriva KT*) (Harlow town services) Timetable change.
- 21 (*NIBS*) (Brentwood & Ongar, M-S) Timetable change.
- 59 (*Arriva KT*) (Harlow & Chelmsford) Timetable change.
- 81 (*NIBS*) (Brentwood & Hutton (town service) (M-S) Timetable change.
- 308/309 (*Arriva KT*) (Thorley Park & Stansted Airport, Daily) Timetable change for reliability.
- 508/509/510 (*Arriva KT*) Harlow & Stansted Airport, Daily) Timetable change for reliability.
- 724 (*Arriva KT*) (Harlow & Heathrow, Daily) Additional Sunday journeys every two hours between Watford Junction and Heathrow Central.

HERTFORDSHIRE and southern BEDFORDSHIRE

Friday 1st September: (Nominal programme date. School buses on appropriate dates. TfL school routes that enter Hertfordshire (eg 626, 692/699) are covered in the London Routes section.

- 84 (*Sullivan*) (Potters Bar & St Albans, Daily) Minor timing changes on M-F peaks.
- 306 (*Sullivan*) (Borehamwood & Watford, Daily) Timetable changes M-F.
- 306A (*Sullivan*) (Borehamwood & Garston, SDO) Minor timetable change.
- 347 (*Sullivan*) (Watford Town Hall & Queen's School, SDO) Minor route revision in Watford Centre.
- 354 (*Sullivan*) New SDO route: Borehamwood & St Albans, Nicholas Breakspear School.
- 356 (*Sullivan*) (Potters Bar Station & St Albans, Nicholas Breakspear School via South Mimms and London Colney, SDO). Extended back to start at Winchmore Hill via Enfield Town, Potters Bar, South Mimms and Colney Heath. Service to be controlled by TfL
- 358 (*Sullivan*) Borehamwood & St Albans, Nicholas Breakspear School via Shenley, SDO), Diverted to also serve London Colney. Revised routeing in Borehamwood.
- 832 (*Sullivan*) (South Oxhey & Garston, SDO) Timetable change. Revised routeing in South Oxhey.
- 833 (*Sullivan*) (Carpenders Park & Garston via Bushey, SDO) Timetable change. The afternoon journey revised to also serve Queen's School Bushey.

Sunday 3rd September:

- SB1, 2/3, 4/5 (*Arriva KT*) (Stevenage town) Minor timetable changes. SB4/5 no longer via Bedwell.
 - SB6, (*Arriva KT*) (Stevenage & Shephall circular) from Arriva KT to Central Cnnnect..
 - SB7 (*Arriva KT*) (Stevenage & Great Ashby) Timetable change. Rerouted via Bedwell.
 - SB8/9 (*Arriva KT*) Timetable change. Bragbury End will be served only on Saturday evenings.
 - SB11 (*Arriva KT*) (Stevenage Bus Station & Haycroft Road, M-F) From Arriva KT to Central Connect.
 - 55 (*Arriva KT*) (Stevenage & Letchworth) Minor timing change.
 - 97/97A (*Arriva KT*) (Hitchin & Stotfold, Daily) and
 - 98/98A (*Arriva KT*) (Hitchin & Baldock, Daily) Minor timing changes. The 97A and 98A numbers are discontinued. The A-suffix had denoted journeys via Purwell Lane but the huge majority of journeys go that way anyway, hence no real need to use the A.
 - 100/101 (*Arriva KT*) (Stevenage & Luton Interchange, Daily) Timetable change for reliability.
 - 308/309 (*Arriva KT*) (Thorley Park & Stansted Airport, Daily) Timetable change for reliability.
 - 400 (*Centrebus*) New route, Daily x30mins: Welwyn Garden City Bus Station & QEII Hospital via Broadwater Road and Chequersfield.
 - 508/509/510 (*Arriva KT*) Harlow & Stansted Airport, Daily) Timetable changes for reliability.
 - 907 (*Centrebus*) (Stevenage & Cheshunt, Daily) Revised timetable for reliability.
-

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

Monday 4th September:

- 18 (*Richmonds*) (Royston & Buntingford, M-S) Revised timetable at school times.
- 74 (*Grant Palmer*) (Hitchin & Bedford, M-S) Timetable change for reliability, notably in peaks.
- 338 (*Lucketts*) (Harperbury Park & Colney Fields via Radlett, M-S) One extra early am journey added.
- 392 (*Epping Forest Community Transport*) (Harlow & Hoddesdon, M-S) Revised timetable.
- W20/W21 (*Red Eagle*) (Brocklesbury Close & Oxhey Hall, M-S) Minor changes at school times.
- 610/612 (*Uno*) (Luton & Cockfosters) Timetable changes for reliability. The call at Luton Airport Parkway is withdrawn. 612 journeys to run only on Schooldays.
- 831 (*Richmonds*) New SDO route: Standon via Puckeridge to Buntingford.
- X10 (*Uno*) New route: Hatfield UH The Forum & Luton Interchange via Batford and Wheathampstead. Operation only Mon-Fri x20/x30 mins in term times.

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

Special note: Routes by Hallmark are normally operated by their Diamond Bus vehicles.

Monday 18th July:

- 7/7A/7B (*Red Rose*) (Aylesbury & Bedgrove, M-S) Timetable change with a return to a x40min frequency. Main service now all numbered 7, except for certain journeys on 7A in early mornings and the 7B to evenings.

Monday 31st July: 71, 73: Due to the closure of Botley Road, Chesham for gas works until 21st August, there is a special timetable on Red Rose 71 and 73.

Monday 14th August:

- 53 (*Thames Valley Buses*) (Bracknell & Wexham Park Hospital, M-S) Minor timing change.

Saturday 19th August:

- Go2Gate (*Thames Valley Buses*) New Daily route: Dedworth, Clewer and Windsor via A332/M4/M25 to Heathrow T5.

Saturday 26th August:

- 459 (*Hallmark*) New Daily night service: Iver Heath (Church Road at The Parkway) via Swallow Lane, Iver High Street, Thorney Lane, Richings Park, then Mill Road, Swan Road, Sipson Road, Cherry Lane, Stockley Road to Heathrow Central and T5.
- 710 (*Hallmark*), New Daily night service: From Chesham Broadway via Amersham, A404 Chorleywood, Rickmansworth then M25 to Heathrow T5 and Central.
- N40 (*National Express*) New Daily night route: Ealing Broadway via Hanwell, Southall Broadway, The Grapes, Coldharbour Lane, Hayes Town to Heathrow (Central, T5, T4, Hatton Cross).

Sunday 27th August:

- 5 (*Carousel*) (High Wycombe & Hazlemere, SDO) Revised timetable.
 - 8/8A (High Wycombe & Coachway via Cressex, M-S) From *Red Eagle* to *Carousel*.
 - 27 (*Carousel*) Wycombe, Olympic Way & Cotswold Way, M-F. Extended to Pheasant Way.
 - 28/28A (High Wycombe & Lane End via Cressex, M-F) From *Red Eagle* to *Carousel*.
 - 38 (High Wycombe & Deeds Grove, M-S) From *Red Eagle* to *Carousel*.
 - 39 (*Carousel*) (High Wycombe & Totteridge, M-S) Revised timetable. Certain journeys become 39A via Amersham Hill and Walton Drive to Hicks Farm Rise.
 - 41 (*Carousel*) (High Wycombe & Great Missenden, M-S) Extended via Old Amersham to Amersham Station.
 - 101 (*Carousel*) (High Wycombe & Uxbridge, Daily) Revised timetable.
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----- Country Route Devts -----

BUCKS & BEDS, Sunday 27th August, Continued:

- 102 (*Carousel*) (High Wycombe & Heathrow, Daily, Revised timetable. The 102 will operate over the 101 routeing in Beaconsfield but will no longer serve Wilton Park.
- 103 (*Carousel*) (High Wycombe & Slough, M-S) Extended from Slough to Windsor, Parish Church. Diverted after Maxwell Road via Eastern Relief Road and Wilton Park.
- 104 (*Carousel*) (High Wycombe & Uxbridge via Chalfonts, M-S) Revised timetable.
- 106/107 (*Carousel*) (Amersham & Slough, M-S) At Little Chalfont, diverted via Elizabeth Avenue and Chalfont & Latimer Station.
- 275 (High Wycombe & Oxford via Bledlow Ridge, M-F) From *Red Rose* to *Carousel*. One early journey to Oxford and one evening journey to Wycombe rerouted via A40 and Stokenchurch.
- 306 (High Wycombe & Totteridge, M-F) Withdrawn by *Red Eagle* but no-one has yet taken it on.
- 577 (*Carousel*) (Beaconsfield & Hazlemere, M-F) Revised timetable to suit train times.
- 581 (*Carousel*) (Uxbridge & Higher Denham, M-S) Revised timetable.
- 583 (Uxbridge & Slough via Hedgerley or Iver, M-S) From *Redline Buses* to *Carousel*.

Monday 28th August:

- N30 (*Hallmark*) New Daily night route: Acton, Steyne Road via Gunnersbury Lane, Popes Lane, Boston Manor Road and the A4 to Heathrow (Hatton Cross, T4, T5, Central)

Saturday 3rd September:

- 9 (*Arriva tS*) (Aylesbury & Stoke Mandeville Hospital). Withdrawn.
- 10 (*Red Rose*) Extended Mon-Fri to Stoke Mandeville Hospital via route 9 and on M-F renumbered 9. No change Sats & Suns which retain number 10.
- 77/149/177/194 (Chesham/ Amersham area) *Red Eagle*'s contract is ended but *Red Rose* 71 and 73 are being revised to cover in some way. Route change details to follow when known.
- 155/158/160 (Marlow area) *Red Eagle*'s contract is ended. Details to come when known.

SURREY and northern parts of WEST SUSSEX

Special note: Routes by Hallmark are normally operated by their Diamond Bus vehicles.

Monday 24th July: (including corrections to TLB707)

- 28 (*Falcon*) (Guildford & Woking via Knaphill, M-S) Most jnys now call at Woking Morrisons.
- 408 (*Falcon*) (Epsom & Cobham, M-F) Journeys that bifurcate at Leatherhead to Effingham are rerouted to Cobham instead, thus increasing this section to approx. hourly.
- 436 (*Falcon*) (Woking & Weybridge, M-S) Revised timetable throughout. Some journeys now divert via Brooklands Museum.
- 456 (*Falcon*) (Staines & Woking, M-S) Curtailed back from Morrisons to Woking Station.

There is a diversion for Southdown route **410** in the Oxted area. From 24th July to at least 4th September, owing to gas works at Wolf's Row at the junction with Wolf's Hill and New Road at Limpsfield Common, route 410 is curtailed to and from Redhill at Oxted Town Centre, and a free shuttle bus operates Mon-Fri off-peak from Godstone High Street/Green via Broadham Green, then in a loop via Pollards Oak Road, Chestnut Copse, Pollards Oak Road, Mill Road and Holland Road, returning via Broadham Green and Godstone.

Tuesday 1st August: Wisley Gardens Shuttle (by *Woking CT*) Increased from x60 to x30mins.

Sunday 13th August:

- 194 (*Thames Valley Buses*) (Bracknell & Camberley, Daily). Timetable change for reliability.
- 598 (*Thames Valley Buses*) (Little Sandhurst & The Meadows, Thur & Fri) Timetable change.
-

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

Sunday 21st August: (deferred from 24th July - TLB706 p17):

730/731 (*Reading Transport, Newbury & District*) New Daily route, operated as 731 Basingstoke to Frimley, then as 730 Frimley via Camberley and Bagshot to Heathrow T5 and Central.

Friday 25th August:

457 (*Runnymede Borough Council*) (St Peter's Hospital circular via & Addlestone and Row Town, Mon-Fri) Last day of operation. See 592/593 below for some coverage.

Saturday 26th August:

437 (Woking & Brooklands, M-S) Transferred from *White Bus Service* to *Falcon*.

458 (Kingston & Staines via Hersham, Walton and Laleham, Daily) Transferred from *Hallmark (Diamond Bus)* to *White Bus Service*.

461 (*Falcon*) (Kingston & St Peter's Hospital, Daily) Minor timetable changes at school times.

557 (Addlestone & Sunbury, M-S) Transferred from *Hallmark- Diamond Bus* to *Falcon*.

715 Guildford & Kingston, Daily) Transferred from *Stagecoach South* to *Falcon*.

Sunday 27th August:

8/8A (*First Berkshire*) (Slough via Windsor and Staines to Heathrow T5 and Central, Daily) the Sunday service 'improved'. Perhaps from hourly to x30mins? No info yet.

8B (*First Berkshire*) (Egham Station & Royal Holloway College, College days) Withdrawn.

Monday 28th August:

442/X442 (*Carlone*) (Englefield Green & Heathrow T5, Daily) Minor timetable adjustments.

592 (*Carlone*) (Woking Morrisons & Addlestone Tesco, Tue/Thur/Sat) and

593 (*Carlone*) (Staines & Woking Morrisons, Mon or Brooklands, Wed & Fri) Minor route changes to cover the loss of route 457 (see 25th August entry above). Detail to come.

Tuesday 29th August:

446 (*White Bus*) (Woking & Staines, Daily) The hourly Daily service continues, together with M-F short journeys Woking & Chertsey. These latter 'extras' extended to Staines, thus now x30min M-F or hourly Sat & Sun on that section. One hourly bus extended from Staines Bus Station via the A30 to Hatton Cross, this on Mon-Fri all day but only early and late on Sats and Suns.

Friday 1st September:

615 (Chipstead Valley & St Andrew's School, SDO) Transferred from *London General* to *Falcon*.

616 (Stanwell Moor & Sunbury St Paul's School, SDO) Transferred from *Hallmark (Diamond Bus)* to *Carlone*. No change to route or timetable.

619 (Lower Kingswood & St Andrew's School, SDO) From *London General* to *Metrobus*.

637 (*Repton*) (Byfleet & Chertsey, SDO) Minor timetable change at school times. The stops at Brooklands will no longer be served.

663 (Walton & Esher High School, SDO) Transferred from *Hallmark* to *Falcon*. Rerouted to also serve Field Common Estate.

668 (*London General*) (North Cheam & St Andrew's School, SDO) Timetable change.

669 (*London General*) (Walton-on-the-Hill & Dorking, Priory School, SDO) Timetable change.

678 (*Repton*) (Ripley & Howard of Effingham School, SDO) Minor timetable change at school times.

814 (Field Common & Esher High School, SDO). Transferred from *Hallmark* to *Falcon*. Withdrawn between Field Common Estate and West Molesey.

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

Saturday 2nd September:

- 4/5 (*Safeguard*) (Guildford & Park Barn Circular, Daily) Timetable change for reliability. Additional early morning and late evening journeys.
17 (*Stagecoach South*) (Guildford & Fairlands, M-S) Withdrawn (last day Fri.1st).
440 (*White Bus*) (Windsor & Staines, M-F) This was a 'live' positioning route. The registration was cancelled from 2nd September but may have ceased at an earlier date.
409, 410, 422, 424, 594, 595 Transferred from *Southdown PSV* to *Metrobus*.

Monday 4th September:

- 513 (*Repton*) (Downside & Kingston, M-F) Timetable change.
571/572 (*Repton*) (Grange Farm Mon/Wed/Fri or Sunbury Common Tue/Thur to Staines) Withdrawn from section at Anvil Road and Forge Lane in Lower Sunbury.
574 (*Repton*) (Ashford & Sunbury Tesco, Tue & Thur) Withdrawn from serving Watersplash Road
856 (*Cardinal Buses*)(Upper Halliford & Kingfield Green, SDO) Minor timing adjustments.

236, 324, 411, 485, 603, 609, 610, 646, 657, 658, 694, 695 Transferred from *Southdown PSV* to *Metrobus*. The 603, 610, 694 renumbered 611, 612, 410A respectively with *Metrobus*.
281, 624, 638, 643, 648 (*Metrobus*) Timetable change at Imberhorne School pm times. The 648 is rerouted via Crawley Down instead of via Snow Hill.

North and west KENT

Sunday 23rd July: 480/490 (Arriva KT) were split in Gravesend following the long-term closure of Galley Hill Road. Their eastern sections numbered 480A and 490A. In the western section, 480 continues to serve Swanscombe but the 490 runs direct from Ebbsfleet International to Bluewater. The early morning and late evening journeys that serve Bluewater between Dartford and Gravesend are numbered 470. Saturday daytime frequencies on 480/490 reduced to x30min on each route. Presumably Fastrack B and AZ may have changed but no information is available.

Monday 31st July: *Go-Coach* timetable changes on routes 1, 2, 6, 8, 429 with extra M-F journeys on 1 and 6 while the 6 will no longer double-run at Otford Sainsbury's.

Friday 1st September: *Go Coach:* new SDO routes D29, D30, S2 and revised TW4; changes to S1, S6, Withdrawn TW1, TW3.

Monday 4th September: *1st Bus Stop:* Route and times on SDO 4 and Meopham 1.

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)

Route SL8, a straight renumbering of the 607, started plying the road between Uxbridge and White City from 22 July heralding the start of the Mayor's planned network of orbital routes. A diagram of the proposed full network can be found in "**Superloop London's Express Bus Service**", a four page A5 leaflet utilising the same colour scheme as that applied to selected buses used on the route. The diagram occupies the centre spread, laid out using different colours for each route and showing the key towns and hospitals served. The rear cover has a small Superloop logo marooned in the middle, arguably a missed opportunity to promote frequency and hours of operation. Whilst the very generic nature means it can easily be used for subsequent launches, it could lead passengers to believe the entire network is now operating.

On 9 July the preserved 1938 stock ventured on to the Piccadilly line for the third time in 2023. Operating three round trips between Acton Town and Oakwood; passengers received **“90 years of the Piccadilly line northern extension”**, a double sided A4 sheet narrating the story of the planning, construction and opening of the line between Finsbury Park and Cockfosters. The reverse has the familiar history of the train, laid out in the same style as that reviewed in TLB707.

A direct mailing campaign has been used to deliver **“Stevenage to Hertford just got easier”** to addresses within a wide catchment of new Connect Herts route 907 and established route 390. The front of the double sided A5 flyer uses the same black colour scheme as seen on the timetable reviewed in TLB706. A line diagram draws the outline of a clock tower and podium, on top of which stands the Hertfordshire stag. The back has narrative on a white background which congratulates the reader on receiving free travel and gives instructions on how to use two free tickets on either route and provide feedback via a QR code. Each ticket is a black credit card sized item titled **“Single Journey Connect Herts”** with ‘Funded by UK Government’ prominent on the reverse. They are valid from 29 May until 20 August.

Hertfordshire County Council have published Spring Summer 2023 editions of their three maps. **“South & West Hertfordshire”** features St. Peter’s Church at Tewin on the cover, whilst Lavender Cadwell farm at Hitchin is illustrated on the front of **“North & East Hertfordshire”**. The illustration on **“South and East Hertfordshire”** is of a Muntjac Deer at Hitch Wood. The layout and format of these three guides is identical to previous issues. Whilst the publication date on the back of each guide is June 2023, both ‘South & West Hertfordshire’ and ‘South & East Hertfordshire’ include the new RA3 service from Watford to Heathrow which did not start until 23 July.

Centrebus has published **“bus guide Luton and Bedfordshire area”** a multifold slimline valid from 19 June with light brown cover featuring drawings of two Enviro buses and two young people. When unfolded one side features timetables for routes 10, 17/17A, 37, 40/40A, 44/45, 230 and 366, while on the reverse provides times for routes B E and G, a map of the company’s network across Luton and Dunstable plus stop plans for Luton town centre and the station interchange.

Alterations from 23 July are covered in a trio of slimline publications from Carousel. **“High Wycombe local service guide”** is a multifold slimline featuring Streetlite 407 on the cover. It provides full timetables for routes 8, 27 and 39 accompanied by a map which also shows routes 1, 1A, 1B, 41, 101, 102, 103 and 104. Eagle eyed viewers will notice that the previous edition reviewed in TLB702 also included route 41. This service is now covered in **“41”** a multifold slimline offering full timetable and map of the route, with a different picture of Streetlite 407 on the cover. Hinting at the possibility of changes in the new academic year is **“Chiltern Hundreds”** valid from 23 July to 26 August, featuring former London General MEC47 on the cover of the twenty eight page slimline book. Minor changes to running times are incorporated into timetables for routes 101 / 102, 103, 104 and 106 / 107, plus a composite timetable showing all journeys between High Wycombe and Beaconsfield on the first four routes. Passengers also benefit from town centre bus stop maps for High Wycombe, Beaconsfield, Amersham, Slough, Gerrards Cross and Uxbridge plus a ‘Team Heathrow’ map for the airport’s Central Bus Station and transfers to other terminals. Also catering for airport passengers is an updated edition of **“the airline from/to Oxford Heathrow & Gatwick”** valid from 28 May.

CURRENT VEHICLE NEWS

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

General news:

The BBPG's running day between Godstone and East Grinstead on 16th July fielded these buses: Ex-Abellio 9410. Ex-Arriva T1, DLA 1, DLA 23 (repainted to red with large Leaside Travel fleet names between decks), Ex-Arriva DLA 147 and ENL 1. Ex-Metroliner TPL 264, VPL 630, TA 648, TE 847. Ex Stagecoach 34359, 34366, 19000 (Spirit of London). Ex-First TN 33197 (LT52 XAH). Ex Go Ahead E 61 (BBPG's most recent acquisition), Ex-Metrobus 101 (Lynx), 622, 806 (Olympian) Y379 HWY, N232 TPK, YN07 JXY; Roundabout DT 29. LT M 6. W&D Excel 3610. Citaro BX54 EBD (white with orange/brown bands at skirt level).

The first Beaconsfield running day was held on 23rd July. Among the ‘usuals’ such as RML 2440, RML 2456, SNB 448, SNB 449, RF 600 and GS 13, ENL 1, Trident LT52 XAH, Dart P288 FPK (with Aldershot & District fleetnames) and Z&S' last Leyland Olympian J788 CEV. Additionally M 598 was a static exhibit. A surprise was green Bristol LS TUO 497 (Southern National 1781) complete with yellow Green Line route 711 blinds to recall the trial on that route by LT in 1953/4 with LS PHW 918 (Bristol 2878).

On 15th July privately owned RT 2177 was used on route 292. The occasion was 50 years from July 1973 when the 292 was the last crew operation at Edgware Garage.

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

Recent repaints/ refurbs include LT 157; 2449/51/63/72/74/77/79/80/82/83.

Route 728, covering for the closure of Wandsworth Bridge, has been worked by batch 2416-2422 although on 29th July MMC 2571 was used. The last Electroliner left to work the U5 finally moved to TF for route 111 on 16th July.

2454, off since 20th November 2022, was back in use on 11th June. 2578, off since 29th December 2022, was back in use on 14th July.

Transfers

(September 2022): LT 625 QB/TF. (November 2022): 2454 QB/QBu.

(February 2023): 3001 TFu/TF. (March 2023): LT 153 TF/GW. (June): 2454 QBu/QB.

(July): LT625, 626, 630, 636 TF/QB. LT 629, 638 TF/GW. LT 685 TF/QB.

1538 --/BC. 2578 WLu/WL. 3025 DH/TF. (Electroliners 3001-30 now all at TF). 3435 WL/DH.

Livery changes:

3416 to advert for Zero Emissions

LT20 from advert for Full Monty to one for Naked Drinks

LT26 from advert for Tinder to one for Pepsi Max

LT697 from advert for Star Wars Jedi back to Red

LT702 to advert for Paramount+ SOL

LT768 from advert for Which to one for Pepsi Max

LT783 from advert for Final Fantasy XVII to one for Mutant Mayhem

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.

Recent refurbs/ repaints include HA25, 30; HV 148, 224, 229, 253, 260, 264; LT 328, 470, 474, 477, 492, 504, 513, 516, 572, 574, 579, 581, 583, 592, 598, 599. Also EMC 1 (1-9 now all done).

LT 201, an accident victim on 5th April, was back in use on 12th July.

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

ARRIVA LONDON, Continued

The LTs EC to E were for the transfer of route 349 and the ENSs E to WN were with route W6.

Many TH buses are now being stored overnight at Beddington Farm (CN). This is because the parking area at the rear of TH is being fitted with charging points (for the 64). The buses at CN are a mix of types and routes. I don't know when this arrangement commenced, I imagine it was sometime earlier in July. They are still being run in to TH every evening for fuelling etc, then moved on to CN.

Transfers:

TLB707: Delete move of ES 13 in June, it was correctly shown as July.

(March): LT 188 EC/AR. (April): LT 201 AR/ARu.

(May): LT 193 EC/ECu.

(July): DW 191 E/GYw. DW 503, 505, 507 DT/AR. DW 506, 557, 559, 571 E/EC.

ES 12, 14 Eu/E. LT 180, 187, 191, 192, 194, 198, 199 EC/E. LT 201 ARu/AR.

T 238 E/GYw. T 241 E/Ew. T 289 N/GYw. ENS 29-39 E/WN.

(August): DW 505 AR/WN. T 68 TC/TH.

Note: the batch LT 179-202 has been moved several times; at the end of July 179, 180. 182-187, 191-199 are at E; 181, 188, 200/1/2 are at AR while none are left at EC.

Livery changes:

EA3 to advert for Ovo Energy

HV245 to advert for Pink Lucozade

HV294 from advert for Let's Do London back to Red

HV315 to advert for Purple Lucozade

HV324 to advert for Pink Lucozade

HV350 to advert for Highland Spring

LT474 to advert for Paramount+ SOL

LT539 from advert for Courvoisier to one for Pepsi Max

LT733 to advert for Pepsi Max

LT972 from advert for Beavertown Brewery back to red

Disposals:

DW 406, 407, 409; T 37, 41; EN 9, 16, 17, 19, 22 plus remains of ENL 18 to Shelton Motors, Ramsey, Cambs. (July).

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

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

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

Dart SLF 1623 has lost its special livery for Trooli.

Into this area (NF) from Maidstone: 4055/57 GN09 AXH/K) AD E200Dart- AD E200 B38F- 2009.

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

Transfers: 2482 HA/WE. 2484 WE/ ?? (probably HA). 3877 SV/SVu.

3741 and 3813 were briefly on loan at WE in between allocations to Area 3 (see below)

6495 is now in the newer livery.

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

Transfers: 3086 LD/LDw. 3641 AY/AYu. 3923 WB/WBw. 5445 LD/LDw.

3741 Midlands/ WE loan/ WB. 3813 AY/WEu (area 2).

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

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

StreetLite 1202 (CC11 BUS) is back here from Yorkshire Buses (TLB706 p22).

CENTREBUS, Luton

Scania Omnilinks 726 (H2 UHL), 727 (H3 UHL), 728 (YN54 AHG) are on loan at Luton from elsewhere in the empire.

COMPASS TRAVEL, Worthing

New deliveries (June): YX23 OUM/N/O/P AD E20D – AD Enviro200(MMC) 10.9m B40F.

These are branded for “Surrey Hills Xplorer”(that is route 32 (Guildford & Redhill)).

DIAMOND BUS SOUTH-EAST (Hallmark connections Ltd) Stanwell

(including Hotel Hoppa) part of Rotala plc

Disposals: StreetLites 20150/51/52 (SK18 TLJ/N/O) and 20154/55 (SK18 TKF/J) to Diamond Bus North West, Bolton (by June).

ENSIGNBUS, Purfleet

RML 2396 (JJD 396D) acquired for the heritage fleet (June 2023).

There is a revised livery at First Ensignbus, a paler Ensignbus blue and revised pale grey contrast colour. The first such double-deck repaint is BCI 147. There are changes to positioning of fleet numbers.

FALCON COACHES, Byfleet

New to the fleet: YX23 ORV AD E20D - Enviro200 (MMC) 10.9m B41F. It is branded for route 479.

Another six E20D/ E200(MMC)s are on order for route 715 from late August.

YX67 WGJ, WGK – lost route 456 branding.

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

Into this fleet recently:

23651 (XFF 283 ex BK15 AHX) and 23652 (481 FPO ex BK15 AHY)

Scania K340 – Caetano Levante C48FL. (in blue/grey railair livery.

49900 (YJ72 EVV) Switch MC180EV MetroCity B** (this was probably only a trial loan).

59200 (SJ71 HRM) Fiat Ducato – B15F This is used on contract work at Didcot..

Another to purple/ orange – 34386.

Disposals: Volvos 69921/930/932/993 to Ensign Bus (June).

1ST BUS STOP, Gravesend

Acquired (June 2023) via Ensign Bus, formerly Metroline TE 985, 988, 989, 990

LK59 DZJ, DZN, DZO, DZP AD Trident – AD Enviro400 10.1m H41/24D – 2009.

Volvo B7TL BU02 TOP has reverted back to it's original registration LJ53 BDX (TLB707, pg.32)

Volvo B7TL LJ04 YWZ has been re-registered to BU51 TOP (TLB707, pg.32)

Trident B21 USS has reverted back to LX53 JZN

Trident LX04 FYP has been registered to B21 USS (TLB707, pg.34)

Trident MT04 BUS has reverted back to LX04 FYH

Trident MT51 BUS has reverted back to LX04 FYW

Trident MT04 BUS has reverted back to LX04 FYH

Trident MT51 BUS has reverted back to LX04 FYW

Most of these were also included in TLB707 Where are they now? column.

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

GO-AHEAD LONDON

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

Recent repaints/ refurb reported: EH 23, 25, 29, 30; LT 48, 273, 301, 302, 429, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 442, 443, 444, 449, 451, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457.

Ee 18, an accident victim on 25th January 2022, was finally back in use on 20th July.

The company's contribution to *Superloop* has been this:

29July X68 to SL6. PVR to 10(+2 spare) EH 213-224 branded, and Crosslink with 188 is removed.

19Aug X26 to SL7. Up to x15mins. PVR to 20(+4 spare) WVL334-344 (with others due soon). The X26 branding is now off the relevant WVLs.

The vehicles concerned have been treated to Superloop branding and are not operated on anything other than their respective routes. Thus the cross-linking with buses on routes X68/188 had to be terminated. The generous spare vehicle cover is to ensure that all journeys are by branded buses!

Since the Luton Garage closed, another outstation opened, It is at 'Next to Unit 28', Pages Industrial Park, Eden Way, Leighton Buzzard (code LZ). Just a few refugees from Luton have been noted here.

The unique BCI tri-axle TA 1 last ran on 23rd January 2023. Peckham's two Volvo B5LHs VHP 1 and 2 have also been withdrawn after use in June 2022. E 61, which was Sutton's solitary diesel E400, last ran on route 80 on the night of 3rd/4th June.

Transfers: Outstations: LZ=L.Buzzard, FK=Folkestone, NH=Newhaven, RG=Ringmer, KL=K.Lynn. (December 2022): OM 4 Cu/C. WHV 174 Q/Qu.

(January 2023): TA 1 RR/RRu. SE 122 SW/AL. (February 2023): EHV 3 RRu/SW.

(March 2023): LT 953 RRu/RR. E 151 MB/MBu. E 202 RR/RRu. WHV 4 RR/MG.

(April 2023): LT 877 NX/Q. SEN 35 AL/DS. SE 90 NPc/ Cc. SE 91 MBc/Cc.

(May): SEN 37 DS/DSu. SE 276 AL/DS (then DS/ AF as in TLB707). SE 277 DS/DSu.

(June): E 61 A/Aw. LDP 35, VC 7, 8, 9 LSc/LZc. LUT 5 LSc/?? (seen at Swindon?)

VC 10, 11, 12, 13 (at KLc Auguat). VWL 51-54 to LZc (from their various bases). SE 26 Slc/ Cc.

(July):. E 110-114 AL/RR. E125, 126 SW/RR. E 179 RR/NX.

Ee 18 NPu/NP. Ee 137 Qu/A. EH 15 RR/C.

LT 307, 308, 309 Q/SW. LT 876, 878 NX/SW. LT 877 Q/SW.

WHV 4 MG/RR. WHV 6 AF/RR. WHV 63 RR/DS. WHV 66, 67, 68, 69 RR/A. WHV 101 RR/DS.

WHV 106 A/RR/DS. WHV 113, 114 SI/RR. WHV 167 C/AL. WHV 174 Qu/Q.

SE 86 NPc/LZc. SE 278, 282 DS/AF. SE 285, 286 DS/AL.

Livery changes:

Ee5 to advert for Zero Emissions

EP13 to advert for Zero Emissions

LT42 to advert for Foundation

LT67 from advert for Final Fantasy back to red

LT309 from advert for Which back to red

LT430 to advert for Mutant Mayhem

LT435 from advert for Couviosier back to Red

LT485 to advert for Pepsi Max

LT506 from advert for Tinder to one for Mutant Mayhem

LT511 from advert for Coronation Red back to Red

LT869 to advert for Paramount+ SOL

LT872 from advert for Full Monty to one for Naked Drinks

Me11 to advert for Zero Emissions

WHV79 to advert for Highland Spring

WHV125 to advert for American Tourister

WHV132 to advert for American Tourister

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

GO-AHEAD LONDON, Continued

Disposals:

DOE 1, 5, 7, 12, 22 to Go-Ahead Group, region(s) not known (July).

DOE 4, 10, 17, 18, 19 and 20 to Go North East (July), (Delete DOE 20 to South Coast in TLB706).

DOE 15 and SOE 38 to Go South Coast (July).

E 61 to Bromley Bus Preservation Group (June).

E 175, EN 41, WVL 313, 350-354, SE 175, SEN 35, 36, 37 to Go North West, Manchester (July).

WVL 283, 285 to Go North East (June).

LONDON TRAMLINK, Croydon (Tram Operations Ltd t/a London Trams)

From 14 July a “shortage” of trams caused bus extras on route 64 (Abellio) and 466 (Ensignbus). Abellio used LTs and E400Hs.

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

METROLINE WEST – G, HZ, UX and WJ.

(within the ComfortDelgro group of Singapore)

Recent repaint/ refurb include LT 175; VWH 2055, 2091, 2092, 2103, 2115, 2123, 2130, 2131, 2182, 2219, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2286, 2292, 2300, 2301, 2303; DEL 2160, 2255, 2258. However, delete repaint of VWH 2194 (not yet done).

From 15th July route 607 (UX) was re-christened a ‘Superloop’ route (SL8). In the two weeks prior to that date, VMHs used regularly on the 607 gained ‘Superloop’ branding, with VMH 2561-72 and 2585-96 based at Greenford dealt with by late July.

The first WDE on route 204 (EW) was 2770 on 17th June and the last (2784) on 25th July, thus the full batch 2770-90 were in service. From 17th July, not surprisingly, the odd WDE has appeared on routes 142/642, thus enabling those routes to be all-electric. Staying at EW, BDEs started to appear on route 113 and we now await the odd WDE thereon.

WDE 2857-2877 are earmarked for route 83 and most arrived during July. Note that 2857 was noted on delivery (TLB707 p25) so, what happened to that?

In late July some TEs started moving into UX, where they are fully double-decking route U3. The U3 is due to donate DEL 2155-65 to WJ so that they can be used on route H17 when Metroline takes over that route from RATP on 2nd September.

Lonely BE 37088 resurfaced on the 226 for one day 19th July.

OME 2654 now has standard Smartblind equipment, having had its digital display removed.

On 12th July Solo OS 68 was unusual on Hertfordshire route 242.

LT 175 was back in use on 26th July, having been off since 9th March 2022.

New deliveries (July):

WDE 2858-60 (LV23 EZG, EZH, YZZ), 2861-77 (LV23 ZBC/D/E/F/G/J/L/N/O/P/R/T/U/W/X/Y/Z)

Wrightbus StreetDeck Electroliner 10.6m H40/20D.

Just 2857 (reg. not yet checked) and 2869/76/77 were outstanding at the end of July.

Transfers; (h suffix = Hertfordshire Commercial Fleet).

Ref TLB707: TEH 1449 Gu/G (June). TEH 1451 Gu/G (Sept 2022).

(September 2022): VWH 2226 HDu/HD. VWH 2352 UXu/UX.

(July 2023): LT 175 HTu/HT. TE 1077-82/84-87 EW/PAw..

TE 1088, 1100/01/02 EW/UX. VW 1817 EW/HD. VW1829, 1839 G/HZw. VWH 2343 AC/HD.

WDE 2772/80/81/86/88/89/90 PAu/EW. WDE 2858-77 --/PAu.

DE 1584 WJ/HZw. DE 1585 UX/HZw. DE 1642, 1653 PB/WJ/HZw. DEL 2245 UX/EWt.

(August): TE 1104 EW/UX.

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

METROLINE, Continued:

Livery changes:

BDE2621 to advert for Ovo Energy

LT190 from advert for Coronation Red back to Red

LT641 from advert for Beavertown Brewery to one for Pepsi Max

LT658 to advert for Naked Drinks

LT766 from advert for Full Monty back to Red

LT799 to advert for Paramount+ SOL

LT804 from advert for Cos back to Red

OME2674 to advert for Zero Emissions

VWH2304 to advert for Pink Lucozade

VWH2341 to advert for Fish Said Fred

VWH2366 to advert for Purple Lucozade

RATP-DEV TRANSIT LONDON including

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

LONDON SOVEREIGN – BT, CP and SO. (c suffix= commercial) and

LONDON TRANSIT – X garage.

Recent repaints/ refurbishes include ADH 45024, VH 45132, VMH 45331/333/346.

VHRs 45203 and 45204 were strangers indeed on route 303 on 12th July, while VHR 45208 worked the 288 on 20th July. During July several BE single-deck buses have been allocated on double-deck (BCE) route 295.

Transfers:

(June): BE 37085 Xu/BTu. **

(July): BE 37086/91/97 Xu/X. DE 20178 RP/X.

DLE 30131 TV/AV. DLE 30134/35/36/37/38/39/40/41 TV/RP.

ADE 40418/19/26 NCu/AV. VH 45106 X/RP. VH 45155 FW/RP.

(August): LT 122 V/S.

Livery changes:

BCE47013 from advert for Ovo Energy (wrap on for 9 days) to one for Chiquita Bananas Mosaic

BCE47031 to advert for Zero Emissions

BCE47066 to advert for Ovo Energy

OME46031 to advert for Zero Emissions

OME46037 from advert for Ovo Energy to one for Chiquita Bananas

RED EAGLE BUSES, Dinton near Aylesbury

SN15 LRL to new livery. FJ06URR has left the fleet. KX05 LFF is stood down.

REDLINE BUSES, Aylesbury

More repaints to new livery: YX12 AGY, YX12 AEW, YX12AXU, YX13 BNV, YX63 LJE. Just one of the ex-Yellow Buses vehicles remaining to gain Redline livery is YX12 AZN.

RED ROSE TRAVEL, Dinton near Aylesbury

These have left the fleet: BMC BX56 XAH, FJ55 HWD (ex E10 RRT), YM55 SXO (ex E14 RRT) and what's left of Fiat Ducato YX12 CGY.

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

SAFEGUARD, Guildford

Optare Excels X307/308 XBT have been withdrawn.

Disposals: Versa MX58 ABF and Tempo YJ06 FXM to Chartwell Bus Sales.

STAGECOACH LONDON (part of Stagecoach Holdings) incorporating:

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

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

On 29th July the new MetroCity batch 67001-011 began to enter service on route 339 from LI Garage. 67012 was finally delivered in late July and entered service on 4th August.

At the end of July, the batch for route W5 (45001-08) were still awaiting the electric infrastructure.

Corrections: 29201-29205 changed to 64201-205 although in late July they had not yet been altered.

Re the 339 vehicles in TLB707, the only one that arrived with a wrong fleet number was 31502.

LT 369 returned to service at Leyton on 7th July after being off since 22nd September 2022.

Of late, there has been a spate of double-deck visits to route 246 (TB).

Recent refurb/ repaints reported are 37534, 37579.

The bus shuttles for the British Grand Prix at Silverstone – in early July this year - were covered as usual by Stagecoach nationally. The London contingent were 10301/302/305/312/314/329/346, 11018/035/036/041/069/070/080, 11378/394/398. 19856/872/873.

New deliveries:

Batch 45001-008 seating is B20F (for route W5) and 67001-012 is B22D (for the 339).

Ref. TLB707 entry, only 67001-006 had actually arrived by mid-July, others later in the month.

67009-012 (YJ23 EWK/L/M/N) Switch MetroCity 9.6m B22D.

Transfers

(July 2022): 18912 LIu/LI.

(July 2023): 12354, 12396 PD/PDu. 19769 NS/BK. 36292 HKu/HK.

67001-008 LIu/LI. 67009-011 --/LI. 67012 --/LIu.

Livery changes

84148 from advert for Coronation Blue back to Red

LT239 from advert for Tinder to one for Naked Drinks

LT243 to advert for Paramount+ SOL

LT246 to advert for Pepsi Max

LT262 from advert for Loewe back to Red

LT360 to advert for Mutant Mayhem

LT361 from advert for Full Monty back to Red

LT380 to advert for Pepsi Max

Detail change:

19757/58/59/60 to PO41/24D.

TOOTBUS - THE ORIGINAL LONDON SIGHTSEEING TOUR, London and Windsor (part of RATP-DEV)

New into the fleet: AE60 GRU Volvo B9TL – MCV O39/31F (first noted in July).

TOP VIEW SIGHTSEEING, LONDON SW19

Topview Sightseeing :

DN 33756, 33758 (SN12 EHD, EHF) – part open top.

SP 40170 (YT10 UWH) – part open top.

Fleet numbers are now being noted, as follows: DN33775/TE2000 SN12EGZ (406);

DN33761/TE1986 SN12EHJ (409); DN33762/TE1987 SN12EHK (410).

WESTBUS (within the ComfortDelgro group of Singapore)

New in the fleet: 197 (SK23 CUJ) AD E400D – AD Enviro400(MMC) 11.5m H48/27F.

Sister E400s 191 and 192 are also H48/27F.

Change of registrations and disposals: Van Hool coaches 158 (WIB 150 to YJ14 BXF) and 159 (WIB 228 to YJ14r BXG. Both were then sold to Weavaway Travel, Newbury, Berkshire (by July).

Scania/ East Lancs 165 (WIB 117 to YV03 PZE) and then sold to Stanways Coaches, Rode Heath, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs. (by July).

Iveco Turas coach 184 (YN18 COJ) sold to O'Flaherty Coach Travel, Tralee, Co.Kerry,Ireland (by July).

WHITE BUS SERVICES, Winkfield and Horsell

Optare Tempos 66 (YJ07 EGD) and 67 (YJ57 EHV) and E20D 71 (YX18 KUC) have been withdrawn.

New in the fleet: 71 (LF23 DVW) - Volvo B8RLE - MCV EvoRa B38F. (note that the fleet number has been re-used, as is customary here).

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

Section Editor: Andrew Morgan, Easton House, Easton Lane, Bozeat, Northamptonshire NN29 7NN.

Note – email address andrew@morgan1368.co.uk Note that the former London company names are listed in code to allow more space for narrative detail. ALN=Arriva London, FLN= First London, GAL= Go-Ahead Group London, LU= London United, ML= Metroline, SLN= Stagecoach London.

Routemasters:

RCL 2240 (CUV 240C) Having been owned since 2001, it was last used by Charles Wells Brewery (latterly part of the Marston's Brewery) in 2019 and has been advertised for sale since 2020. It was sold in January and was noted recently repainted blue in June in the Huntingdon area. Does anyone know details of the new owner or use ?

RM 180 (XVS 830, ex VLT 180) did not pass from Peoplesbus to Stagecoach Merseyside & South Lancs. in July and is believed to have been retained by the owner of the company, Mr A Cawley.

RML 2344 (CUV 344C) correcting TLB707, this RML remains with its previous owners and has only been placed on long-term loan to London Bus 4 Hire.

RML 2396 (JJD 396D) from Messrs L Needs & H Barter to Ensign Bus, Purfleet (June) where it passed to the First Ensignbus operational fleet.

RML 2545 (JJD 545D) was noted at south London's Brockwell Park on 4th to 7th August where it was part of Pokémon Go Fest 2023. It carried the registration "PIKA 025" for the event and remains owned by Bus Business.

RML 2628 (NML 628E) commenced a promotion for Nike with their own girls' football tournament called Rebel Girls and it was seen at the Westfield shopping centre at White City from 20th July. This was apparently the second stop in the Be Rebel Roadshow, but no further details of the roadshow or tour are known. It is in an all-over blue livery with images of the football players on it, and remains owned by The Bus Business.

RML 2733 (SMK 733F) further to TLB701, this RML was located in southern Burgundy in France in April at Château de Sully in Sully. The details of the new owner and its new use are not known, but at this time it appeared to still be in the same condition that it was when it left the UK in late 2022.

RML 2737 (SMK 737F) from Mr & Mrs A Wells to Immersive Entertainments Ltd., London WC1 (August). It is planned that his RML is for use with Ghost Bus Tours and had been latterly used by Norfolk based operator Bus & Us until early 2020.

Olympian: NV 176 (LFZ 7980, ex R376 LGH) (ex GAL) further to TLB705, it was acquired by Used Coach Sales in February and has subsequently re-gained its original registration.

Miscellaneous low-floor double deck types:

DW 275, 283 (LJ59 LWY, LWL) (ex ALN) from Bus & Coach Centre (dlr) to Garnetts Coaches, Bishop Auckland, Co. Durham (July) and have been repainted to all over yellow fleet livery.

DW 326, 327, 328, 329 (LJ60 AXH, AXK, AXM, AXN), 401, 402, 403, 404, 405 (LJ11 AEO, AEP, AET, AEU, AEV) (ex ALN) from North West Bus Sales to Vision Bus, Bolton, Lancs. (May).

VLA 145, 148 (LJ55 BTU, BTY) (ex ALN) sold from Arriva North East to Wigley, Barnsley (May) for scrap.

VLW 91 (LF52 UPD) (ex ALN) from Mr D Collier (dealer), Earith, Cambs. to City Driver Training, Sheffield, South Yorkshire (March).

VLW 125 (LF52 UOY) (ex ALN) sold from Arriva North East to Wigley, Barnsley (May) for scrap.

TN 32877 (V877 HBY) (ex FLN) was sold from Brian Jones Coaches (June) for scrap.

TN 32905 (W905 VLN, ex CRZ 166) (ex FLN) from Ensign Bus, Purfleet to PVS, Barnsley (June).

TN 32961 (MIG 4761, ex 961 HLT) (ex FLN) returned from Cotswold Green to Ebley Coaches, Nailsworth, Glos. (April)

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

- TN 32963 (X963 HLT) (ex FLN) was sold from Delta Force Leisure (June 2018) for scrap.
- TN 33186 (LT52 WVB) (ex FLN) from Ensign Bus, Purfleet to MC Tractors / Shelton Motors, Ramsey, Cambs. (November).
- TNA 33384 (LK53 EZD) (ex FLN) from Ensign Bus, Purfleet to MC Tractors / Shelton Motors, Ramsey, Cambs. (November).
- TNL 32901 (W901 VLN, ex 809 DYE) (ex FLN) sold from Delta Force Leisure (June 2018) for scrap.
- DN 33579 (SN09 CDZ, ex N400 BUS), 33580 (SN09 CEA, ex N800 BUS), 33584 (SN09 CEO, ex X10 BUS), 33585 (SN09 CEU, ex W70 BUS), 33586 (SN09 CEV, ex X30 BUS), 33588 (SN09 CEY, ex N300 BUS), 33589 (SN09 CFA, ex N700 BUS), 33591 (SN09 CFE, ex N80 BUS), 33595 (SN09 CFK, ex L80 BUS), 33599 (SN09 CFP, ex N600 BUS), 33763 (SN12 EHP) (ex FLN) all regained their original registrations in July, then passed from Peoplesbus to Stagecoach Merseyside & South Lancs. (July) and have been re-numbered to 19902, 19903, 19904, 19913, 19906, 19910, 19907, 19908, 19901, 19909, 19912 respectively. (Note – the gap in the Stagecoach fleet numbers is due to 19905 being T 5 (WYV 5T).)
- VN 37894 (CTS 917, ex BF60 UUC), 37895 (OTS 271, ex BF60 UUE), 37896 (CKZ 35, ex BF60 UUI), 37897 (CXZ 888, ex BF60 UUG), 37899 (EUE 489, ex BF60 UUH) (ex FLN) were transferred in May to the Eastern Scottish subsidiary of McGills Buses for the 2023 season in Edinburgh of the Bright Bus Tours service, and retain fleet numbers 2904, 2905, 2908, 2906, 2907 respectively.
- VNL 32207 (MIG 9616, ex LT52 WTN) (ex FLN) further to TLB707, this VNL finally passed from First South West to First Hants & Dorset on the 14th June.
- VNW 32389 (KIB 260, ex LK04 HZX) (ex FLN) regained its original registration in March prior to sale from Watts, and then was re-registered to GO51 CON by Omega Busways in April.
- AVL 40 (V140 LGC) (ex GAL) from De Courcey Travel to South Staffs Coach Hire, Tamworth, Staffs. (January 2021) where it was re-registered to N555 KLB and named Allan Edward. It re-gained its original registration in December and was sold to PVS, Barnsley (by May).
- PVL 43 (W443 WGH) (ex GAL) from Drew Wilson (dlr) to G&H Film Services, Holywood, Co. Down, Northern Ireland (September 2020).
- PVL 124 (W524 WGH) (ex GAL) has been sold from DBS Facilities (by July).
- PVL 182 (OJZ 6889, ex GIG 9134, ex X582 EGK) (ex GAL) further to TLB707, this PVL is actually owned by associate company Hunter Coaches, Daventry, Northants. but has been operating with Poynter's Coaches.
- PVL 189 (X589 EGK, ex 100 BGO) (ex GAL) was re-registered again to T40 NRW in March.
- PVL 198 (T23 SOR, ex X598 EGK) (ex GAL) was sold from Chazak (by June 2021).
- PVL 216, 227 (Y816, 827 TGH) (ex GAL) have been repainted from maroon and cream to dark blue and white for the 2023 season working on the Round Robin service from Totnes to Paignton as part of the Dartmouth Steam Railway & Riverboat Company bus fleet. The service was previously called by the name Riverlink.
- PVL 280 (PJ02 RBY) (ex GAL) further to TLB706, this PVL was still with Go East Anglia at Hedingham in mid-July and had not been sold as reported.
- PVL 286 (PJ02 RCX) (ex GAL) has been sold for scrap from RedRoutemaster (October 2022).
- PVL 408 (LX54 GYY) (ex GAL) further to TLB701 and 707, it is now understood that this PVL remains with DM Motor Services; it was only loaned to A&A Coach Travel and Yorkshire Bus.
- VWL 7 (LB02 YXE) (ex GAL) from Go East Anglia to MC Tractors / Shelton Motors, Ramsey, Cambs. (April).
- WVL 178 (Y50 SYM, ex LX05 EYO) (ex GAL) correcting TLB670, this WVL was not sold in 2020, remained with AirSym and re-gained its original registration in April 2022.

- *Where are they now?* -----
- WVL 270 (LX06 ECD) (ex GAL) further to TLB704, this WVL had still not entered service with Go South Coast at the beginning of August.
- WVL 370 (TIW 4227, ex LX60 DXA) (ex GAL) was transferred in May to the Eastern Scottish subsidiary of McGills Buses for the 2023 season in Edinburgh of the Bright Bus Tours service, and retains fleet number 2909.
- 432 (YV03 PZX) (ex GAL) from Ensign Bus, Purfleet to MC Tractors / Shelton Motors, Ramsey, Cambs. (July).
- 435 (WIB 117, ex YV03 PZE) (ex GAL) regained its original registration in July and then passed from Westbus to Stanways Coaches, Rode Heath, Staffs. (August).
- 447 (YV03 RBF) (ex GAL) from Ensign Bus, Purfleet to T W Busby & Son (Fruiterers), Stafford, Staffs. (June).
- ADE 40449, 40453, 40465, 40466, 40469 (YX62 BCV, BGF, BNV, BPF, BPZ) (ex LU) from Ensign Bus, Purfleet to McGills Buses (July). They have been numbered 8973, 8980, 8979, 8977, and 8965 respectively, although ADE 40465 was briefly numbered 8797 in error. All are in Xplore Dundee livery. This completes the batch of twenty that was acquired from Ensign Bus. Updating TLB707, ADE 40447 has been numbered 8978, and is in Xplore Dundee livery.
- SP 13 (YN56 FBX) (ex LU) appears to have left the London Gangster Tour fleet (by November 2022); can anyone confirm what happened to it ?
- SP 111 (YR59 FYS) (ex LU) further to TLB704, this SP is currently being converted by South East Coachworks for use as a mobile Social Supermarket by the Salvation Army from September.
- SP 123 (YR59 FZE) (ex LU) from Ensign Bus, Purfleet to Dawsongroup, Milton Keynes, Bucks., and then returned to Ensign Bus, Purfleet (all in June).
- SP 166, 176 (YT10 UWB, XBZ) (ex LU) from Ensign Bus, Purfleet to Ripley, Barnsley (June).
- SP 181, 190 (YT10 XCE, XCO) (ex LU) from Ensign Bus, Purfleet to Happy Al's, Birkenhead, Merseyside (July).
- TA 203 (X203 UMS) (ex LU) from Cotswold Green to Ebley Coaches, Nailsworth, Glos. (October 2022).
- TA 328 (SN03 EAM) (ex LU) from Loyalty Connections to W B Chambers, Langley, Kent (July), and is now used for farm pickers transport.
- TLA 24 (SN53 KHZ) (ex LU) from Aintree Coachlines to Ensign Bus, Purfleet (July).
- VA 97 (W132 EON) (ex LU) from Social Appreciation Ltd., to Confidence Buses, Leicester, Leics. (July 2015) for spares and was sold for scrap (March).
- TE 682 (LK55 KKR, ex MIG 9505) (ex ML) with the sale of Peoplesbus in July, can anyone confirm what happened to this TE ?
- TE 734 (LK07 AZO) (ex ML) was loaned from Transdev Rosso to Team Pennine from August 2021, returning by February 2022, and then passed to Transdev Burnley & Pendle (February) where it remains numbered 2816.
- TE 886 (LK08 DXY) (ex ML) has been repainted in June by Nu Venture to pseudo Maidstone Corporation livery of blue and cream (as carried previously by T 857 in 2004).
- TE 931 (V1 BUS, ex LK09 EKO) (ex ML) regained its original registration in July and passed from Peoplesbus to Stagecoach Merseyside & South Lancs. (July) and has been re-numbered to 19914.
- TE 940 (LK58 KHE), 976 (LK59 DYY) (ex ML) from Ensign Bus, Purfleet to Aintree Coachlines, Maghull, Merseyside (July).
- TE 988, 989, 990 (LK59 DZN, DZO, DZP) (ex ML) from Ensign Bus, Purfleet to 1st Bus Stop, Gravesend, Kent (all in June, except TE 988 which was July). Note – there are five more TEs to follow to this operator in due course.
- VP 320, 326, 344 (LR52 BLX, BMZ, BOJ) (ex ML) were all sold for scrap from JH Coaches (January).
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----- *Where are they now?* -----

- VP 527 (LK04 CTU) (ex ML) was sold for scrap from London Bus Group (February 2022).
VPL 135 (X635 LLX) (ex ML) was re-registered to JJZ 4392 by Archway Travel in June.
VPL 235 (Y235 NLK) (ex ML) was sold from Premier Minibus & Coach Hire (by April).
VPL 585 (PJZ 9450, ex LK04 NMJ), 594 (PJZ 9452, ex LK04 NNC) (ex ML) from Centrebus to Watson (dlr), Stafford, Staffs. (April).
- TA 17099 (ACZ 7489, ex VLT 14, ex V473 KJN) (ex SLN) was transferred from March to the Xplore Dundee subsidiary of McGills Buses for the 2023 season for the Discover Dundee sightseeing tour, and retains fleet number 9903.
- TA 17145, 17158, 17168 (V145 MEV etc.), 17187 (V362 OWC) (ex SLN) latterly with Coastliner in Blackpool are now numbered 2701 to 2704 with associate company Sightseeing Manchester.
- TAS 17240 (X368 NNO) (ex SLN) has been loaned from Stagecoach North East to Stagecoach Yorkshire for use on the Peak Sightseer (with TA 18467).
- TA 17243 (X243 NNO) (ex SLN) further to TLB702, this TA was sold by Brian Jones Coaches (March) for scrap.
- TAS 17274 (ACZ 7494, ex X274 NNO) (ex SLN) was transferred from March to the Xplore Dundee subsidiary of McGills Buses for the 2023 season for the Discover Dundee sightseeing tour, and retains fleet number 9905.
- TA 17410 (LX51 FHV) (ex SLN) was sold from XLP Youth in November 2019.
- TA 17592 (LV52 HHA, ex N900 BUS), 17599 (LV52 HHJ, ex X20 BUS), 17732 (LV52 HHZ, ex L90 BUS), 17733 (LV52 HJA, ex R90 BUS) (ex SLN) from Peoplesbus to Stagecoach Merseyside & South Lancs. (July) and have been re-numbered to 18537, 18538, 18536, 18539 respectively.
- TA 17839 (LX03 BYR) (ex SLN) further to TLB707, more information has come to light and this TA is confirmed as passing from Stagecoach Merseyside to Ripley, Barnsley (March 2018), and then passing to Hornsby Coaches, Scunthorpe, North Lincs. (June 2018) and it was then sold (February 2023) probably to Wigley, Barnsley.
- TA 17908 (LX03 OSB, ex V25 HOW) (ex SLN) was sold from Springfield Coaches / Howards Travel (March) for scrap.
- TA 18227 (LX04 FXS) (ex SLN) from NDR Services to YMS Travel, Aylesham, Kent (June). It left Ensignbus nearly six years ago and it still remains in Ensign blue and silver livery.

Low-floor single deck types:

- ENL 37 (LJ09 KRD, ex J400 JBT, ex VB09 PAN) (ex ALN) further to TLB706, this ENL re-gained its original registration in March.
- ENS 4, 10 (LJ07 EDP, EEB) (ex ALN) sold from Arriva North West to Hardwick, Barnsley (March).
- DMC 41508 (GO02 BCT, ex LK03 NLM), 41537 (GB03 BCT, ex LK53 FDV) (ex FLN) regained their original registrations upon withdrawal in February and were both scrapped (by April).
- OOS 53704 (HIG 8433, ex LX05 DXS) (ex FLN) from First South West to Ensign Bus, Purfleet, and then to PVS, Barnsley (all in July). Together with OOS 53701, this Solo had latterly been used in Cornwall and commonly on the Mousehole service. OOS 53701 was still in use at the beginning of August, but is the last one of this batch to survive.
- LDP 268 (LX05 EYV) (ex GAL) has been sold for preservation from Go South West (by July).
- LDP 293, 294 (LX06 EZJ, EZK) (ex GAL) have been sold for scrap from RedRoutemaster (October and December 2022 respectively).
- SE 75 (YX60 FCE) (ex GAL) has been re-numbered from 270 to 274 by Go East Anglia and continues in use as a driver training vehicle.
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SOE 28 (LX09 AZP) (ex GAL) is being used by Go East Anglia as a training vehicle and has been numbered 9273.

DE 20083 (SK07 DYO) (ex LU) was never reported after it went off lease in 2019 and is now thought to have passed to Ripley, Barnsley for scrap.

OT 30205 (YJ11 EHM) (ex LU) from Hastings Driver Training Centre to JJ Kavanagh, Urlingford, Ireland (July 2022) where it was registered 11 KK 3847.

36268, 36276 (LX11 AVZ, AWO) (ex SLN) from Peoplesbus to Stagecoach Merseyside & South Lincs (July) but have been given new Stagecoach fleet numbers (36589, 36590)

SERVICE VEHICLES

Section Editor: Thomas Young: e-mail to tom@ltsv.com or by post via 'The SUPs Editor (LTSV)' at our Lombard address (see page 1).

LUL/LBSL/TfL Fleet; Newly reported vehicles

-	KY23 LRZ	Volvo FMX 4-axle Flatbed Lorry	TfL	Wh/Blu	ACN
9168C	LC70 VLO	Citroen Relay Van	TfL	Black	ACN

Additional information and updates

A fourth new lorry has been delivered to Acton Works. KY23 LRZ is similar to KY23 LNO new a couple of months ago, but it has 4-axes and a larger crane behind the cab. The first new fleetnumber to be reported for a couple of years is 9168C, though it is hardly a standard vehicle. In all black with large well@tfl lettering (like that on white Fiat Ducato NX67 NLP reported last year), 9168C appears to have been acquired in May 2023, and is thus a very rare example of a second-hand addition.

Ford Transit van 8570F (LL17 TZK) has been noted still in LUL service so was evidently not withdrawn in 2022.

Allocations and transferred reported are 8415R ACN-SPD, 8472F DES-ACN, 8496R GH0-ACF, 8524F ?-SDD, 8573T ACN-SDD, 8706VW ?-ESC, 8779F ?-ACF, 8829R ?-GHO, 8909VW ?-SDD, 8920F ACN-SDD, 8960N ?-SPD, 9114R ?-SPD and 9165VW ?-GHO. Leaving the fleet are 8819R and 8875VW, both after accident damage.

Having reported the rescue of derelict ex-LT Leyland Titan breakdown tender 1278LD last September, another of the type re-surfaced at the Worthing Bus Rally at the end of July. 1279LD has been in the care of bus company Southern Transit and looked to be in good condition. To complete the trio of surviving Titans, does anyone know the whereabouts of 1416LD, last reported at the Pump House Museum in Walthamstow in 2015?

Bus Company Fleets; Newly reported vehicles

-	BF21 VPP	Peugeot 308 Estate	Arriva London	Grey #	DT
-	FD72 ZTP	Vauxhall Combo Van	Arriva London	White	EC
-	BG23 LCE	Seat Ibiza Car	Arriva London	White #	GY
-	BJ23 OEP	Seat Ibiza Car	Arriva London	White #	GY
-	BJ23 OEV	Seat Ibiza Car	Arriva London	White #	GY
-	BJ23 OTH	Seat Arona Car	Arriva London	White #	EC
-	FE23 ZZC	Vauxhall Combo Van	Arriva London	White	GY
-	AV23 LBN	Ford Tourneo Connect Minibus	Metroline	Red #	PB
-	AY23 KUB	Ford Puma Car	Metroline	Red #	?
-	AY23 KUC	Ford Puma Car	Metroline	Red #	PV

----- *Service Vehicles* -----

-	AY23 KUE	Ford Puma Car	Metroline	Red #	AH
-	AY23 KUG	Ford Puma Car	Metroline	Red #	PV
-	AY23 KVM	Ford Puma Car	Metroline	Red #	AH
-	AY23 KWM	Ford Puma Car	Metroline	Red #	PV
-	AY23 KWO	Ford Puma Car	Metroline	Red #	PB
-	GU21 JWZ	Toyota Aygo Car	RATP	White #	BT
-	DL23 FKN	Vauxhall Corsa Car	Stagecoach	White #	RM
-	YJ23 DCK	Nissan Juke Car	Stagecoach	Silver #	RM

Additional information

Abellio EO22 KHT has moved DH to GW, and DU66 VSV is at TF.

Arriva London DE69 CZX has moved from DX to DT, while HS19 FDE is still at DT (not withdrawn by April 2023). BG23 KZC quickly moved on from DT to EC. BD23 KRU at Norwood is numbered S11, with the old S11 (Vauxhall Corsa WP66 TDX) now withdrawn.

Arriva SC MD69 RNA (last reported at GF) is now at HH.

More Go-Ahead minibuses with recruitment advertising are RF19 UZM, RJ19 HSU, WO21 PFG/PFV, RX71 SYS/SYT and WV71 ZVS. Van EF19 HHG has transferred from PM to Q. Minibus LV59 EJA is withdrawn. It was noted at the Copthorne premises of Southdown PSV in early July, along with numerous Brighton & Hove service vehicles and also Go-Ahead London vans EO16 PKZ and EF19 HFP (from C and AL respectively). The minibus was later sold, but the presence of the newer vans is as yet unexplained.

Go Coach 503 (LL07 CXD) is withdrawn.

Metroline's new Ford Puma cars (mentioned in TLB705) appear to be for crew ferry use, so they are listed above. Allocations reported are AV18 ZUA at AH, LB69 ZDH at PV, LG69 XDR at WJ and AV72 UCO at PV.

The Toyota with RATP is believed to be covering for accident damaged Dacia D75121 (MJ69 ZBZ), although BT also now has D75115 (MJ69 YWA) from WK. Another transfer is D75110 (MJ69 ZKV) FW-AV.

Rapid departures from the Stagecoach fleet are SB22 GPK, DV72 TTY, MJ72 YGX, which were only reported last month.

White Bus 94 (RV55 HUH) is withdrawn.

Members' Appeals

Adverts are included as a service to members from the advertisers. LOTS is not involved in any of them, nor does it necessarily endorse them. Readers must deal with advertisers direct.

WANTED: Bus consultation leaflets for the Brent Cross, Alperton and Wembley areas. Willing to cover costs and time. Please contact Rob Waughman, thx401s@gmail.com

Correction to TLB707 rear cover caption: 2nd line to read "It fields new E20D, etc.

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

This TLB closed on 3-8 August and due for posting on 14 August. Closing date for TLB709 is Weds 6 September and due for posting on Tues 19 September. Contributions to Editors by post or e-mail to davestewart297@gmail.com or to heads of sections for contact points. Later closing dates are Weds 06Sep, 04Oct, 01Nov, 29Nov.



The new Volvo B8RLE with MCV EvoRa bodywork is catching on with smaller operators. Safeguard has taken some and BV23 NUP is at the Royal Surrey County Hospital in Guildford. *(Derek Everson)*

White Bus Service also has an EvoRa in the body of LF23 DVW. Here it is in Guildford Road, Chertsey on route 446 from Staines to Woking. Its blind box seems to have a problem! *(Terry O'Neill)*



Rear cover: Compass Travel's long 'Surrey Hills' route 32 (Guildford & Redhill) has been treated to four new branded E20Ds. YX23 OUP is pictured in Dorking on 21st July. *(David Heath)*



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