

# GB Bus Group

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## *The Trident*



Tony Allen visited this years Cobham Rally, blessed by sunshine this year. One of the vehicles working the 477 shuttle was brand new Travel London Enviro 400 9433 not yet in service.

**Volume 4**  
**No 5 May 2009**

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## Noticeboard

### Editors Bit

First off, I must apologise for some very avoidable errors that crept into the magazine last month, the most glaring of which was putting First Bristol and Somerset & Avon under the Arriva heading, with Arriva North West missing altogether, far too much of a rush putting it together I'm afraid. I do hope it did not spoil the reading for you. I'm back to my usual more lengthy process of putting it together this month so ensuring that it doesn't happen again.

### Group News

We are pleased to announce our first tour, which will take place on Saturday June 6<sup>th</sup>. The "Warwickshire Wanderer" will depart Coventry Railway Station at 10.00am and will visit the Stagecoach depots at Nuneaton, Rugby, Leamington and Stratford prior to returning to Coventry for around 1730. It is also hoped to visit the NXWM depot at Coventry, but permission is still awaited, A refreshment stop will be taken in Rugby. The vehicle will be provided by Stagecoach's

Stratford depot and It is hoped to be able to use the Routemaster, this is of course subject to it being available.

The cost will be £15.00 and you will need to bring along a HV Vest to comply with Health and Safety regulations at each depot. We will have some available on the day if you forget

If you wish to come along, then please send a cheque or Postal Order made payable to the GB Bus Group for £15.00 to Trip Co-ordinator, 52 Loxley Close, Redditch, Worcestershire, B98 9JG

## Magazine

We have once again a large amount of information for you and so another 28 pages packed full, in fact that much I've had to hold some over. The closing date for the June magazine will be May 29<sup>th</sup>.

## Contributions

Thanks go to contributors Steve White, Dave Stewart, Ensignbus, Stuart Marin, John Nobbin, Malcolm Hicks, Robert Taylor, Tony Hunter, Mike Pinder, Steve Jenner, Alan Spencer, Ian Gray, Tony Allen, Arthur Morse, Shaun Dobson, Andrew Churchill, John Martindale, Stephen Clegg, Chas Ackroyd, Barry Harper, Alan Hayward, Clive Smithson, John Nobbin, Matthew Barker at the Derby Bus Depot, John Donner Geoff Moseley, Dennis Coles, Geoff Siddons, Ian Hamilton, Alan Spencer, Michael Spriggs, Stephen Skuce, Ian Swales, Thanh Nguyen, Nigel Diplock, Stephen Evans, Mark Fitz, The East Sussex Transport Society, The Ipswich Transport Society, LEYTR, Ensignbus, LOTS and the PSV Circle. Apologies if I have missed any one.

## Membership Matters

Membership of the GB Bus Group is £13.00 per year.

This gives a monthly magazine and 20% discount on all HB Publications Bus Books. Please make cheques and Postal Orders to GB Bus Group.

A warm welcome to the following new members: Shaun Dobson (Manchester), D. Kershaw (Manchester), D. Line (Surrey), Anthony Woodcock (Nottingham), Robert Deloyde (Birmingham), J. S. Parker (Swansea) John Singleton (Blackpool)

## GB-BG PUBLICATIONS

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## News from the Industry

**This Years** Brighton Coach Rally took place again in mid April, but was somewhat quieter than it has been in previous years, with a reduced number of coaches entered and lower trade support, but it still produced its usual array smartly turned out coaches, with Parry International winning coach of the year with one of his Van Hool T917s. Coach driver of the year went to Darren Brown, form Crawley Luxury Coaches

**Reading Buses** have re-launched its out of town services under the Vitality name simplifying route numbers, enhancing frequencies and reducing fares. 16 vehicles have gained a new silver and orange livery with Vitality branding.

**Tyrer Bus** have sold their Bolton operations to Gary Hawthorne, the depots manager. The operation will operate under the Maytree Travel banner. Some legal complications are holding up the transfer which should be complete in the very near future.

**East Yorkshire Motor Services** have purchased the Hull based operations of Veolia Transport. Nine vehicles and associated staff are involved in the deal whilst the depot premises at Wiltshire Rd will continue to be rented for the foreseeable future. Originally Alpha Bus and Coach, the operation was bought by Dun Line in February 2006 before being taken over by Veolia two months later.

**First in Glasgow** have submitted plans to the city Council for a brand new £25 million development of a new depot and head office. The proposed site will be situated by the new M74 extension and will house 450 buses along with offices to house 1100 staff.

**Plaxton** have announced that its first two axle Elite will go to Jones of Login, based on a Volvo B9R chassis, built to an overall length of 12.6m the coach will seat 49 people. Jones will use these as the flagship for its dedicated holiday programme.

**Arriva Manchester** has invested £1.5 million in a fleet of 11 new VDL Bus / Wright single decks for the 19 service linking Altrincham with Manchester Airport.

**Padarn Bus** of North Wales finally completed the purchase of KMP Llanberis on April 6<sup>th</sup>. The deal includes the depot, 28 vehicles, approximately 50 staff and the remaining services. There is going to be no changes initially other than KMP vehicles gaining Padarn livery.

**Optare** have announced that it is now unlikely that it will be moving its Blackburn operation, from its present Whitebirk factory to a proposed new site on the Walker Business Park. It has also announced that its factory at Hellaby near Rotherham will remain open a while longer to enable it to complete an order for Esteem single Decks for Go Ahead London, as well as several Solos.

**March 30<sup>th</sup>** saw A2Z Travel of Walsall cease operations after failing in its bid to have the Traffic Commissioner's decision to revoke the operators license. Choice Travel have taken over several vehicles, details in the Fleet news section.

## London Tender News

Starting in September

*83 (Ealing Hospital - Alperton - Golders Green)*

Retained by First London with 28 new double deckers frequency increased to every 10 minutes

*114 (Ruislip - Harrow - Burnt Oak - Mill Hill)*

Retained by London Sovereign with 17 existing double decks, Sunday and Evening increased to every 12 minutes

*183 (Pinner - North Harrow - Golders Green)*

Retained by London Sovereign with 18 new double decks frequency increased to every 10mins

*324 (New route Stanmore - Kingsbury - Brent Cross)*

Awarded to London Sovereign (Edgware garage with 6 new double deckers

*340 (Edgware - Stanmore - Harrow Weald - Harrow)*

Retained by Arriva The Shires with 9 existing double deckers

*395 (New route Westway Cross Retail Park - Northolt - South Harrow - Harrow)*

Awarded to Metroline with 4 new Enviro 200 single decks every 20 minutes Mon-Sat

*398 (Ruislip - Eastcote - Northolt - Westway Cross)*

Retained by London Sovereign with 3 existing double deckers.

## West Midlands Service changes

The following will from May31st unless noted otherwise

- Service 9 - Choice Travel will operate service 9, Lodge Farm - Walsall taking over from Arriva since 29th March 2009.
- Service 10 - NXWM service 10 is withdrawn.
- Service 17 - Central Connect will operate 17, Birmingham - Marston Green, every 15mins.
- Service 24 - NXWM service is withdrawn.
- Service 33 - NXWM will have additional early journeys added M-F replacing service 91
- Service 86 - Diamond will now operate under contract to Centro previously commercial
- Service 91 - NXWM service is withdrawn
- Service 99 - is basically service 139 renumbered. will now use the Five Ways underpass going to and from City.
- Service 111 - will only operate peak hours. Off peak renumbered to 111A
- Service 111A - new NXWM will operate off-peak Monday - Saturday via Wilton Market.
- Service 142 - New Diamond service 142 will operate Halesowen - Stourbridge via Hasbury. Service will run every 30 mins, M-S covers withdrawn NXWM 242 route, but not via Pedmore.
- Service 196 - NXWM service is withdrawn from 24th May 2009
- Service 242/242A - will only operate between Dudley and Halesowen.
- Service 244 - NXWM service is extended from Halesowen to Hayley Green.
- Service 332 - NXWM service is withdrawn.
- Service 350/1 - will have its off-peak frequency reduced from 30 mins to every hour.
- Service 406H - NXWM will now operate very 10 mins peak, in line with off-peak timings.
- Service 626 - NXWM service is withdrawn.
- Service 636 - NXWM will only operate between Halesowen and University of Birmingham.
- Service 689 - NXWM service is withdrawn.
- Service 934 - NXWM Premier service is cut to run between Birmingham and Pheasey and will run only during Monday - Friday peaks.
- Service 934A – Premier service is a variant of service 934 and will operate via Asda, Q Queslett. Service will run Monday - Friday off peak and all day Saturday.
- Service 934B will operate via Collingwood Drive to Pheasey in the evenings and Sundays

## Fleet News

### Arriva

**Burton (Haverhill):** Acquired from Arriva Southend have been two Leyland Olympian / Alexander F639 LMJ and F640 LMJ.

**Cymru:** Now once again split from the North West with a head office at Llandudno Junction.

New at Bangor are no less than 15 Optare Solo M950SL B32F.

681	CX09 BFM	685	CX09 BFU	689	CX09 BGE	693	CX09 BGU
682	CX09 BFN	686	CX09 BFV	690	CX09 BGF	694	CX09 BGV
683	CX09 BFO	687	CX09 BFY	691	CX09 BGK	695	CX09 BGW
684	CX09 BFP	688	CX09 BFZ	692	CX09 BGO		

These have replaced the following M-B Varios 396, 397, 398 Dennis Darts 1331 1333 and Marshall bodied Dart SLFs, 7560, 7564, 7623 and 7629 all moved into storage

A further pair of new Solos, at Rhyl, are 696 (CX09 BGZ) and 697 (CX09 BHA)

**Colchester:** Two Dennis Darts have been scrapped, due to accident damage M526 MPM and M723 CGO

**Derby:** Following the loss of school contracts Olympians 4610, 4611, 4626, 4627, 4629 4630, 4631, 4648, 4665 and 4666 have been withdrawn and sold to Ensign (dealer) Other Olympians sold to Ensign have been 4642 and 4643 the latter now with Heddingham. Two ex Ludlows Scania

Omnicitys have been purchased from Ensignbus 3578 (YN55 RCF) and 3579 (YN05 HGC). A swap of buses see Darts 2011 and 2092 move to Derby from Burton with 2216 and 4666 moving in the opposite direction. 3604 and 3605 are now in reserve

**East Scotland:** DAF SB3000 coach 4057 (M947 LYR), latterly with The Shires has been noted at Johnstone depot.

**Excel:** As well as taking over the Manchester to Liverpool airport service, several more airport related routes are due to commence, from May 1<sup>st</sup> Grays, Basildon and Brentwood to Stansted operating every two hours 24 hours a day, from May 22<sup>nd</sup> Medway Towns to Gatwick as well as a 2 hourly Ipswich - Stansted service. The routes will operate under the Air Direct banner and are due to be operated by ex TGM Volvos that had been used on the National Express services out of Portsmouth.

**London:** After a Fairly lengthy period of trials by Volvo engineers, the six 10.4m Volvo B5L/Wright Gemini Hybrid buses should now have entered service on the 141 from Wood Green depot HV1 (LJ09 KRU), HV2 (LJ09 KOE), HV3 (LJ09 KOH), HV4 (LJ09 KOU), HV5 (LJ09 KOV) and HV6 (LJ09 KOW). They are being run alongside five Wrightbus Integral Gemini 2 Hybrids HW1 (LJ09 KRG), HW2 (LJ58AVG), HW3 (LJ58AVK), HW4 (LJ09 KRK) and HW5 (LJ09 KRN).

The DDL Class of Dennis Dart, used on route 255 at Thornton Heath, DDL1-9 were withdrawn during March and were moved to store at Beddington Lane. Their place being taken by Wright Cadets DWL1-9 which were replaced on route 166 by new Enviro 200s last month. PDL43 has moved AR-EC which in turn will release another Dart to Ash Grove as an extra bus is required on route 393. A further Bendy bus has crept into service at Lea Valley MA163 (LX03 HCG).

**Midlands:** Fleet changes of late have been, using these depot codes BN (Burton): BR (Bridgnorth): CK (Cannock): OS (Oswestry): SD (Stafford): SY (Shrewsbury): TH (Thurmaston): WL (Wellington): WN (Wigston): 1147 SD - w: 1155, 1158, 1166, 1168 sold: 1177 BN - SD: 1377, 1379, 2002 OS - w: 2003, 2009 sold: 2010 SY - w: 2025, 2028 BR - SY: 2092 BN - Derby: 2109, 2111, 2116 CK - w: 2124 BN - w: 2193 WN - w: 2339, 2341 SY - BR: 3084, 3088, 3089 sold: 3309 WL - w: 3740 TH-WL: 3741 TH-CK: 4163, 4166, 4169, 4178, 4324, 4326, 4626, 4627, 4629, 4642, 4643 sold: 6004 SY-BR: 6009 BR-SY: 9509 sold:

Three Optare Versas have arrived at Burton 2985 (YJ09 LBK), 2986 (YJ09 LBL) and 2987 (YJ09 LBN). Also new, at Thurmaston are two Optare Solos YJ09 MJE and YJ09 MJF.

**MK Metro:** New vehicles are five 8.9m Enviro 200s, 0351 (MX09 HJN), 0352 (MX09 HHL), 0353 (MX09 HHM), 0354 (MX09 HHN) and 0355 (MX09 HHO). They are for use on new Milton Keynes Council route 300 between the Railway Station and Magna Park.

Dennis Dart 3513 (M10 CLA) has been sold to Ensignbus

**North East:** Below is what should be the complete batch of new VDL Bus SB200 /Wright Pulsar 2 that have been delivered of late 1404-1407 at Ashington, 1408-1414 at Blyth with the others at Bishop Auckland. The registrations for 1419 and 1420 are not confirmed.

1404	NK09 BPF	1410	NK09 BPZ	1416	NK09 EJE	1422	NK09 EJX
1405	NK09 BPO	1411	NK09 BRF	1417	NK09 EJF	1423	NK09 EJY
1406	NK09 BPU	1412	NK09 BRV	1418	NK09 EJG	1424	NK09 EJZ
1407	NK09 BPV	1413	NK09 BRX	1419	<i>NK09 EJJ</i>	1425	NK09 EKA
1408	NK09 BPX	1414	NK09 BPZ	1420	<i>NK09 EJL</i>	1426	NK09 EKB
1409	NK09 BPY	1415	NK09 EJD	1421	NK09 EJV	1427	NK09 EKC

DAF SB220GS / Plaxton 4069 (S711KFT) has returned to Durham, with Optare Prisma 3005 (M305SAJ) taking up position at Redcar. In service at Darlington are 7365-7 (R625/39/41MNU), ex Arriva Midlands. These work service X66.

Plaxton Centro's 02/03 (YJ58FFB/G) are now at Jesmond and see use on new service 43A, after briefly working for Ashington. Optare Delta 4097 (G258UVK) has replaced sister 4011 (K411BHN) at Bishop Auckland. Scania N113 / East Lancs 7381/2 (N381/2OTY) are now parked up at Ashington with sisters 7383/5 (N383/5OTY) on loan to Peterlee after a brief stay at Jesmond, 7384 (N384OTY) is now in service with Ashington depot ex Jesmond.

Scania L113 / East Lancs 274/81/9 (P274VRG, N281/9NCN) are now in red Northumbria Express livery for the X30, while Jesmond now have the services of MPD 1762 (NK05GVZ), and moving to Stockton is Scania 290 (N290NCN) ex Ashington. Durham use Scania deckers on their 726/754

between school duties. Arriva NW Leyland Olympian / Northern Counties H112GEVH101/6/8GEV are in store at Ashington depot. Dennis Dart SLF / Plaxton 1613/39 (S613/39KHN) are back at Peterlee after a short stay at Redcar to allow Scania Omnicity 4652 (NK05GXL) to go to Stockton for Easter Moors bus duties. Dennis Dar SLF / Plaxton 1649/51 (R424/6COO) have been displaced to Redcar with more expected to follow. Redcar MPD 1725 (V725DNL) has suffered significant accident damage and is expected to be written off. All of the Enviro 400's now carry branding for the Coastliner services 306/308 and the majority of Alnwick big bus fleet now have Coast & Castles branding.

**North West:** as noted in the news new VDL BS200/ Wright Pulsars at Wythenshawe are

2930	MX09 EKK	2933	MX09 EKN	2936	MX09 EKR	2939	MX09 EKW
2931	MX09 EKL	2934	MX09 EKO	2937	MX09 EKT	2940	MX09 EKY
2932	MX09 EKM	2935	MX09 EKP	2938	MX09 ???		

Lots of withdrawn buses to note:- 651-656, 1157, 1159-1163, 1165-1168, 1174, 1176-1180, 1189, 1201, 1204, 1205, 1209, 1236, 1238, 1276, 1277, 1285, 1290, 1293, 1295, 1298, 1299, 1338, 2333, 3101, 3104, 3106, 31083114 and 3213-3215. Now at St Helens are Dart SLF / Marshall 7643, 7650, 7661 and 7669, whilst into Skem have been 2005, 2016, 2019, 2023, 3283-3288, 7621 and 7632.

**Southern Counties:** The ibus fitment was completed fairly quickly and all the hired in Go Ahead London tridents were returned on March 11<sup>th</sup>. Dennis Darts 3276-3281 have moved to Southend with 3089 now with Kent & Sussex at Tunbridge Wells

**The Shires:** The last of the Van Hools 4387 noted last month is registered YJ09 CXL and carries full easybus colours. Movements comprise 4359, 4364, 4365, 4369 Luton - Hemel: 3444 Garston - Luton and 3449 Hemel - Luton. Vehicles withdrawn have been 2131, 2190, 2240, 3120, 3124, 3138 and 3346. Whilst sold out of the fleet over the last few weeks have been 3129, 3316, 3321, 3329, 3362, 3363, 4030, 4032, 4057 and 4063. This see the end of the last DAF SB3000 coaches and the sole DAF / Optare Delta left in the fleet.

## First Group

**East Scotland:** New buses to record, at Larbert are VolvoB7RLE/ Wright Eclipse Urban.

69402	SN09 EZW	69405	SN09 FBA	69407	SN09 FBC	69409	SN09 FBE
69403	SN09 EZX	69406	SN09 FBB	69408	SN09 FBD	69410	SN09 FBF
69404	SN09 FAU						

They can be found on "Larbert Circle" routes 9, 10, 11 and 12. 36029 is now back at Livingston

**Essex:** Dennis Dart /Plaxton Pointer 46148 (N948 CPU) has been loaned to Norfolk, with Volvo B10M /Plaxton Premiere 20122 (P732 NVG)

**Glasgow:** The full batch of 16 ADL Dart 4 / Enviro 200s is as follows, they can be found working routes 225 and 226 around Hamilton.

44905	YX09 AFN	44909	YX09 AFY	44913	YX09 AGV	44917	YX09 AHD
44906	YX09 AFO	44910	YX09 AFZ	44914	YX09 ???	44918	YX09 ???
44907	YX09 AFU	44911	YX09 AGO	44915	YX09 AHA	44919	YX09 AHF
44908	YX09 AFV	44912	YX09 AGU	44916	YX09 AHC	44920	YX09 AHG

**Leicester:** The following were withdrawn at the beginning of May 60945, 60948, 60958, 60984 and 60985

**London:** The latest batch of 25 10.2m ADL Enviro200s at Willesden Junction garage for routes 187 and 487 are now in service. It should be noted that there is no DML44094

DML44083	YX09 AEA	DML44092	YX09 AEL	DML44101	YX09 AEW
DML44084	YX09 AEB	DML44093	YX09 AEM	DML44102	YX09 AEY
DML44085	YX09 AEC	DML44095	YX09 AEN	DML44103	YX09 AEZ
DML44086	YX09 AED	DML44096	YX09 AEO	DML44104	YX09 AFA
DML44087	YX09 AEE	DML44097	YX09 AEP	DML44105	YX09 AFE
DML44088	YX09 AEF	DML44098	YX09 AET	DML44106	YX09 AFF
DML44089	YX09 AEG	DML44099	YX09 AEU	DML44107	YX09 AFJ

DML44090 YX09 AEJ DML44100 YX09 AEV DML44108 YX09 AFK  
DML44091 YX09 AEK

More early Dennis Tridents have been moved to store at Hayes from Northumberland Park TN32816, 32868, 32869, 32871, 33114, 33116-33118 and 33122. Other movements have been TNL32906, TN32964-32966, 33040, 33239, 33242, 33244 H - NP: TN33049 DM - NP: TN33240 X - NP: DM41264, 41266, 41269, 41286, 41287 DM - G: DML41256 ON - G: DM41438 WJ - DM: DMC41492, 41494-41500, 41502 DM - G: DM41686 DM - Hsu OOS53701-53706 H - NP: DML41236, 41237, 41242, 41243, 41245 and 41246 moved to the disposal pool for onward transfer.

**Manchester:** The last batch of Volvo B9TL/ Wright Eclipse Gemini is now in service at Oldham,

37469	MX09 GXY	37547	MX09 GYK	37552	MX09 GYB	37557	MX09 HUO
37470	MX09 GXZ	37548	MX09 GYC	37553	MX09 GYF	37558	MX09 HUU
37471	MX09 GYG	37549	MX09 GYA	37554	MX09 GYH	37559	MX09 HUP
37545	MX09 GYE	37550	MX09 GYD	37555	MX09 LMK	37560	MX09 LMF
37546	MX09 GYJ	37551	MX09 HUK	37556	MX09 LML	37561	MX09 LMJ

A round of service revisions in April has seen the following changes to the fleet, with many reductions rendering buses surplus to requirements, The Volvo B10LA bendy buses 10000-10014 and Volvo B10Bs 60310, 60314, 60318, 60323, 60325-60328, 60330-60334, 60339 and 60341 Mercedes O.405s 60423, 60427-60429, 61247 and 61251. Transfers are 37305, 66889 BN-WN: 60342, 60344 IE-BN: 68220, 68221, 68222 New-IE: 66880, 66905 OM-BY:

Fifteen Volvo B7RLEs are reportedly being transferred from Oldham to Wigan, so far we have 66882, 66885, 66887 and 66888.

**Midland Red:** A handful of movements 52503 and 52503 have been withdrawn from Kidderminster, whilst 42405 has moved there from Worcester

**Norfolk & Suffolk:** Leyland Olympian withdrawn of late consist of 30235 (J155 YRM), 34904 (H104 KVX), 34825 (F105 AVG), 34337 (H137 FLX), 34873 (F173 LBL), 34928 (G128 YEY), 34950 (G50 XLO), 34952 (G52 XLO) and 34973 (J623 BVG). The first ex London Dennis Tridents have started to filter in 32884 (T884 KLF), 32886 (V886 HYBY) and 32887 (V887 HBY) being the first

**South Yorkshire:** Due any time now at Doncaster are 5 Volvo B7RLE / Wright Eclipse; 69461 (YN09 HFH), 69462 (YN09 HFJ), 69463 (YN09 HFK), 69464 (YN09 HFL) and 69465 (YN09 HFM). All are for use on the Park and Ride service 683.

**West Yorkshire:** In my haste to get last months magazine out a couple of errors crept in here also, 37676 is YJ09 FVG, the second reg noted for it whilst 69310 is registered YJ09 FWE and not FEW. More Volvo B7RLEs noted at Leeds have been 69314 (YJ9FWK), 69316 (YJ09 FWL), 69317 (YJ09 FWM), 69320 (YJ09 FWP), 69322 (YJ09 FWS), 69326 (YJ09 FWW), 69327 (YJ09 FWX), 69412 (YJ09 FWZ), 69413 (YJ09 FXA), 69415 (YJ09 FXC), 69417 (YJ09 FXF), 69419 (YJ09 FXG) and 69420 (YJ09 FXH).

Service reductions in Halifax see Volvo / Wright 32509-32513 transfer across to Huddersfield. However four Dennis Darts are moving in 40869, 40871, 40873 and 40875.

## Go Ahead Group

**London:** Southdown PSV (dealer) has taken all the withdrawn Marshall bodied Darts DML1-6, 8, 10-12, 14, 15, 17-20 and DMS6-9. If you want one give Steve Swain a ring, not bad value at around £20,000 each. A handful of transfers EVL3, 4, 6, 15 A - AF: LDP14 BX - Ac, LDP64 BX - SI

**North East:** The following Mini Pointer Darts now wear the full East Durham livery and are based at Deptford for contracted services in Peterlee local services: 488, 489, 491-499. The company is also looking to open an outstation in Peterlee, where the East Durham and X9 brands will be based.

Other Mini Pointers to move are 486, 487, 573 and 574 to Winlaton from Deptford to work services X23/5/74/74A. White spare 519 also operated on loan to Winlaton for a short period. Super Pointer Dart 8208 has moved from Ashington to Deptford for use on the 88 & 89. Dennis Dart SLF Marshall 582 has been reinstated to Deptford still in full Cream livery.

The full Coaster to Angel and Angel to Coaster swap has now finished, with all Coasters' branded. The move consists of: 5262-5272 moving from Chester-Le-St to Percy Main with 3803, 3804, 3860-3865, 3868, 3870-3872 heading in the opposite direction, with the latter all pink aside from 3868 and 3870 which are white.

All of the Coaster Omnics are now branded, however the Pink Tridents are not at the time of publishing, with new buses due in July for this service it is unknown if they are going to brand these or not.

As well as this Omnics 5273/4 (NK56KKJ/L) have been repainted Red and moved from Chester-Le-Street to Stanley depot. It is not clear for what purpose at this stage. In turn this has released 4911/12 to Percy Main, it is not clear if these are permanent transfers or if they were just for initial cover while the Tridents were being painted.

Volvo B10M 7078/7080/7081 are now based at Gateshead depot and run on new service X9 between Newcastle & Middlesbrough, along with service X10 this gives a new 30min frequency on the corridor. They have all been painted into a livery very similar to the X10 brand. 7081 was used for a short period by Ashington with a Bargain Express logo at the front. Volvo B10M 7062/75/6 (GSK962, YSU875/6) have been reinstated to the Driver Training fleet at Gateshead. It is possible to show where some recently sold buses have ended up, Dennis Dart SLF / Marshall 575-7/9 (T101-3/5KGP) have gone to Southdown PSV (576 then to York Pullman) and Optare Spectra 3843 (K311FYG) to Mass Transit (via sale to Ensign).

**Oxford Bus Company:** Crew Ferry Ford Transit minibuses have been re-registered 955 (EO07 FFA) to V14 OXF; 956 (EO07 FDF) to V15 OXF; 957 (EO07 KXU) to V16 OXF and 958 (EO07 FCY) to V17 OXF. Only four Volvo B10B / Plaxton Verde remained operational into April 640-643 (P640-643 FFC) usually to be found on routes 8 and 9. Dennis Trident 104 (T104 DBW) is now in two tone red livery.

**Southern Vectis:** After a spot of confusion over their registrations as some gained 09 plates rather than 58 these are the latest Scania Omni City double deckers on the Island

1142	HW09 BBU	1145	HW09 BBZ	1148	HW09 BCK	1151	HW09 BCV
1143	HW09 BBV	1146	HW09 BCE	1149	HW09 BCO	1152	HW09 BAA
1144	HW09 BBX	1147	HW09 BCF	1150	HW09 BCU		

**Wilts & Dorset:** I now have the registrations for the latest batch of Scania N230UD OmniCity double decks H47/30F that entered service at Salisbury during March

1133	HF09 BJJ	1136	HF09 BJU	1138	HF09 BJX	1140	HF09 BJZ
1134	HF09 BJK	1137	HF09 BJV	1139	HF09 HJY	1141	HF09 BKA
1135	HF09 BJO						

## National Express Group

**Travel Dundee:** Transferred up from West Midlands recently have been 279 (S279 AOX), 321 (YT 51 EBC), 322 (YT 51 EBD) and 3236 (S236 EWU). Whilst moving into reserve are Optare Excels 7204 (R402 HWU) and 7205 (R408 HWU)

**Travel London:** All the new ADL Enviro 400s ordered for routes 35 and 40 have now been delivered. Unusually for London the buses are actually ready for the new contracts to commence.

They are split between Walworth 9428 - 9445, for the 40 and 9446 - 9466 at Battersea for the 35.

9428	LJ09 CAA	9438	LJ09 CBX	9448	LJ09 CCX	9458	LJ09 CDX
9429	LJ09 CAE	9439	LJ09 CBY	9449	LJ09 CCY	9459	LJ09 CDY
9430	LJ09 CAO	9440	LJ09 CCA	9450	LJ09 CCZ	9460	LJ09 CDZ
9431	LJ09 CAU	9441	LJ09 CCD	9451	LJ09 CDE	9461	LJ09 CEA
9432	LJ09 CAV	9442	LJ09 CCE	9452	LJ09 CDF	9462	LJ09 CEF
9433	LJ09 CAX	9443	LJ09 CCF	9453	LJ09 CDK	9463	LJ09 CEK
9434	LJ09 CBF	9444	LJ09 CCK	9454	LJ09 CDN	9464	LJ09 CEN
9435	LJ09 CBO	9445	LJ09 CCN	9455	LJ09 CDO	9465	LJ09 CEO
9436	LJ09 CBU	9446	LJ09 CCO	9456	LJ09 CDU	9466	LJ09 CEU
9437	LJ09 CBV	9447	LJ09 CCU	9457	LJ09 CDV		

**Travel West Midlands:** The latest batch of Scania K230UB Omnicitys B43F have just started to be delivered into West Bromwich 1878 (BX09 OZE), 1879 (BX09 OZF), 1880 (BX09 OZG), 1881 (BX09 OZH) and 1882 (BX09 OZJ). Walsall garage are also receiving members of the batch 1883 (BX09 OZK), 1884 (BX09 OZL), 1885 (BX09 OZM), 1886 (BX09 OZN) and 1887 (BX09 OZO).

Movements this time around 305 PB - WA: 321, 322 CV - withdrawn: 1216, 1236, 1312 WA - withdrawn: 1360, 1361 PE - WN: 1467 PB - AG: 1520 WB - LH: 1525, 1537 WB - PE: 1540, 1541 CV - LH: 1553, 1554, 1561 CV - LH: 1592 WB - LH: 1599 CV - LH: 1600, 1601, 1607 CV - LH: 1908 new to PE: 2561 YW - withdrawn: 2577 LH-withdrawn: 2674, 2741, 2756 AG - withdrawn: 2788, 2851, 2866 YW - withdrawn: 2805, 2807, 2883 LH - withdrawn: 22812, 2813 AG - withdrawn: 2893 LH - withdrawn: 2976, 2978, 2994, 3018 WN - withdrawn: 3054, 3236 CV - withdrawn: 3102 WA - withdrawn: 4028 BC - withdrawn: 4033 BC - AG: 4035 BC - withdrawn: 7202 reinstated to WN: 9249 Trainer withdrawn:

Over at Miller Street, Stored vehicles reported are Metrobuses 3086, 3051 are still there 2658 has joined them, plus 2815/43/78/94 and 3041/56. The scrap line up still has 3015 with 2670, 3037 and 3067 plus 2596 with trainer 9107. Four Plaxton President B7TL's also remain, their future uncertain

## Rotala Group

**Central Connect:** A large number of second hand vehicles are in the process of entering service; Optare Solos KS03 EXG, EXL, EXK, EXN and EXP along with Dennis Darts R125, 130, 132, 134, 135, 138, 139, 149, 150 RLY; R155, 165, 166 RLA, S792 RRL; T419 MNH; V382, 383, 384 SVV; X372 CUY; Y37 SVV; KP51 SXW; KW02CVV, CXG; KS03EXG, EXL, EXM, EXN, EXP:

**Wessex Connect:** Moved down here has been Dennis Trident 1509 (PO51 UMX)

## Stagecoach

A general note regarding movements, is that some take time to complete during the period under review and may not occur for two or three weeks afterwards, sometimes longer.

**Cambridgeshire & The Fens:** The new buses that had been ordered for use on the new Guided Busway, and put into store several months ago have now arrived and of course have now been re-registered with 09 plates. The ten Scania / ADL Enviro

15456	AE09 GYC	15459	AE09 GYG	15462	AE09 GYK	15464	AE09 GYO
15457	AE09 GYD	15460	AE09 GYH	15363	AE09 GYN	15465	AE09 GYP
15458	AE09 GYF	15461	AE09 GYJ				

Along with these ten Volvo B7RLE / Wright Eclipse

21221	AE09 GYR	21224	AE09 GYU	21227	AE09 GYX	21229	AE09 GYZ
21222	AE09 GYS	21225	AE09 GYV	21228	AE09 GYY	21230	AE09 GZA
21223	AE09 GYT	21226	AE09 GYW				

They have entered service from Huntingdon depot on routes 15, 45 and 55

Two more Volvo Olympians heading North to Fife have been 16009 on April 1<sup>st</sup> with 16446 moving on the 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**East:** The last four MAN / Enviro 300s have now arrived at Northampton 22840 (KX09BHH), 22841 (KX09 BHK), 22842 (KX09 BHL) and 22843 (KX09BHN). The majority carry prominent Route 1 branding.

Other movements over the last two periods to catch up on have been 14047 res-dis: 14061 sold to Radio Corby: 14069 KT - res: 14709, 14710 res - dis: 15446-15449, 15455 into service at KT: 18106-18108, 18110, 18111 KT - BD: 32006 res - BD, 32007 sold to Wigan Buses: 32542, 32582 res - BD: 40308 res - dis: 40311, 40323 sold to RM Buses: 40349 BD - res: 52301, 52382, 52387, 52439, 52444, 52447, 52450-52452, 52493, 52494 BD - Plaxtons: 52485 res-BD: 52644 on loan to Scotland: 53614 BD - accident repair:

**East Kent & Hastings:** Newly delivered are no less than 32 Scania UD230 / ADL Enviro 400s H45/28F spread between 15475-15489 at Thanet, where they go into service 8/8A linking Canterbury with Cliftonville, which is being rebranded as the "breeze". 15490-15504 are split

between Folkestone and Hastings form where they will service the long coastal 711 route between Hastings and Dover, which is being rebranded as the Wave and being renumbered to 100/101/102 The final two are allocated to Folkestone for route 1.

15475	GN09 AZP	15483	GN09 BAA	15491	GN09 BBO	15499	GN09 BCO
15476	GN09 AZR	15484	GN09 BAO	15492	GN09 BBU	15500	GN09 BCU
15477	GN09 AZT	15485	GN09 BAU	15493	GN09 BBV	15501	GN09 BCV
15478	GN09 AZU	15486	GN09 BAV	15494	GN09 BBX	15502	GN09 BCX
15479	GN09 AZV	15487	GN09 BBE	15495	GN09 BBZ	15503	GN09 BCY
15480	GN09 AZW	15488	GN09 BBF	15496	GN09 BCE	15504	GN09 BCZ
15481	GN09 AZX	15489	GN09 BBJ	15497	GN09 BCF	15505	GN09 BDE
15482	GN09 AZZ	15490	GN09 BBK	15498	GN09 BCK	15506	GN09 BDF

Following, with the shut down of the Cavendish operation the large number of Dennis Darts SLFs that were operated are now in the reserve fleet pending onward re allocation:- 33362, 33363, 33365-33386: Other movements over the last few weeks have been 13972, 13973, 14828, 14518, 14519, 14729, EB - res: 14976 HY - res: 20608 AD - res: 26076 EB - res: 32222, 32223 TH - DO: 32515 HY - res: 32601 AD - res: 33357-33361, 34031, 34035 res - HY: 34064-34066 res - TH: The eleven remaining M-B Varios are now for disposal.

Scania 15367 (K867 LMK) has been sold to Nu Venture. Dennis Dart 32546 (J546 GCD) has also been sold.

**East Midlands:** Another new batch of vehicles to enter service shortly, at Gainsborough for use on Inter Connect service 100 linking Scunthorpe with Gainsborough and Lincoln, are Scania / ADL Enviro 400s painted in a new livery of Gold and Purple version of the standard livery.

15507	FX09 CZW	15509	FX09 CZZ	15510	FX09 DAA	15511	FX09 DAO
15508	FX09 CZY						

**East Scotland:**

**(Fife):** Volvo Olympian 16288, 16306, 1607 and 16324 have moved up from South, to replace older vehicles of the type. Further examples are expected in the very near future.

Courtesy of Dougie King we have the registrations of the new MA18.240 / Enviro 300s that are just in the process of delivery to Cowdenbeath delivery if expected to be complete by the end of May.

22872	SP09 DPF	22877	SP09 DPV	22882	SP09 DRV	22887	SP09 DOH
22873	SP09 DPK	22878	SP09 DPX	22883	SP09 SRX	22888	SP09 DOJ
22874	SP09 DPN	22879	SP09 DPY	22884	SP09 DRZ	22889	SP09 DOU
22875	SP09DPO	22880	SP09 DPZ	22885	SP09 DSE	22890	SP09 DPE
22876	SP09 DPU	22881	SP09 DRO	22886	SP09 DSO		

Service revisions took place on April 27<sup>th</sup> resulting in quite a large amount of vehicle movements:- 16009 to A: 16446 to C: 16887, 16888, 16889 G - A: 16404, 16410, 16412 A - Rennie: 20196 C - A: 20304 S - A: 20307 res - A: 20316 C - G: 20325 C - D: 22277 G - A: 31494, 31495 A - D: 31496, 31498 A - G: 32213 res - C: 32304 S - res: 33435, 33436 G - D: 34729 D - C: 42357 res - S: 47228, 47229 D - A: 47232, 47233, 47235 D - C: 52288 S - D:

**(Rennies):** with the three Olympians coming from Aberhill (above) 14703, 14705, 15706 will be withdrawn

**Manchester:** Period 12 movements are thus:- 15343, 15344, 15345 HE - res: 15347 HE - dis: 15351 HE - res: 15362 HE - dis: 16774, 16775, 16780, 16789 PS - res: 16790-16792, 16794, 16795 PS - HE: 17626 AZ - HE: 19001 ST - AZ: 19482-19487 new at HE: 19488 new at ST: 19489-19497 new to PS: 20978 HE - CS: 22141, 22144-22146 HE - CS: 32354, 32360 CS - dis: 40434, 42016, dis - S/C Devon: 42017 CS - S/C Devon: 42018 dis - S/C Devon: 42546 CS - S/C Devon: 42551 CS - ancillary: 42552 CS - S/C Devon: 42573 dis - S/C Devon:

Some 22 Volvo B10Ms are due to be transferred up to Highland Northern Counties Paladin-bodied 20878, 20882, 20893 (P878 MNE etc), Alexander PS's 20906, 20947-20949, 20951, 20953, 20954, 20962 (R906 XVM etc) and Plaxton Paladins 20985-20993, 20995, 20996 (R985 etc). 20878/93, 20985-93/5/6 were in Magic Bus livery and have been rendered surplus after operation of Magicbus on the 192 was withdrawn.

Up at Ashton the remaining stored blue Scania's have all now left although 14239 and 14240 and

quite a few of the R-YWC Darts are still there. 15381 has now arrived there for use along with 15382. No sign of 15332 so suspect that has departed too.

**North East:**

**(Busways)** The next batch of MAN 14.220 / Enviro200s have now entered service

39715	NK58 AHA	39719	NK09 EBU	39723	NK09 EPP	39727	NK09 EGV
39716	NK58 EBZ	39720	NK09 EBV	39724	NK09 NGU	39728	NK09 EGZ
39717	NK58 AHD	39721	NK09 EPV	39725	NK09 EGX	39729	NK09 EHB
39718	NK09 EBX	39722	NK09 EPU	39726	NK09 EGY		

39715-39723 at Slatyford with 39724-39729 at Sunderland, with more to arrive there. The arrival of these has led to a large number of Volvo B10Ms moving to the disposal pool ex Slatyford 20117, 20247, 20248, 20250-20252 and 20270. Ex Sunderland are 20714-20716, 20723, 20725 and 20726. A few re allocations 20298 SL - SC: 21552, 21155 SL - res: 32117 SL - res: 32725, 32727 SL - dis: 32726 scrapped:

**(Transit)** Just a couple of Volvo B10M moves 20106, 20115 SC - res: 20267 res - SC:

**North West.** Plenty of movements to record this month so here goes, quite a lot confirming some of last months news 11091 res (KL) - dis (ME):13296 res (LL) - PR: 13297 res - CE: 14557 PB - PR: 16335, 16339 PR - BA (res): 16351 CE - PR: 18582, 18583 PB - PR: 20309, 20725 res (ME) - PR 30767 CY - dis: 20775, 20784 dis - sold to Wrigleys: 28512-28521 PB - PR: 29212, 29218 PB - res (LL): 29228 PB - PR: 32919 res - dis: 33169 PR - LL: 34079 PR - res (ME): 40016 res (LL) - dis: 40029 dis - sold to Fleetlink: 40394 LL - dis: 42092 CY - res (CY): 47003, 47004 PR - res (ME): 47009 CY - res (CY): 47016, 47017 PR - res (ME): 47471-47473, 47475-47477 PR - res (PR): 47484, 47485 PR - CY: 47759, 47762, 47763, 47765, 47767, 47796, 47797 PB - PR: 52414 res - PR:

Optare Solos 47471-47473 and 47475 saw temporary storage at Walton Le Dale P & R site in Preston during late March and into early April, before moving to Manchester in early April.

Departures we have 30454, 30940 to Wrigleys, whilst Fleetlink (dealer) have taken Darts 32919, 32920 and 32924 along with M-B 709s 40012, 40443, 40452, 40455 and 40647.

**Oxfordshire:** Now that the new MANs are in service more changes have taken place to the fleet, The final Volvo B10M service buses left 20004, 20005, 20006 and 20012 have departed to Stagecoach South, with MAN/Alexander 22920 and 22921 moving to Northampton for use there on service 8. Internal changes see Dennis Dart SLFs 34467-34470 move from Oxford to Banbury depot for use on route 59 between the two. M-B Vario 42383 has been moved to make up one half of the reserve fleet along with Volvo B6LE 31331, also from Banbury

**South:** No new deliveries this month, but plenty of movements to record 14953 res - dis: 14954 BE - CR: 14970 WI - AR: 14972 AR - WI: 14975 CR - dis: 16282 WG - BE: 16289 res - dis: 16291 AR - WI: 16320 PM - dis: 16322 WI - dis: 15404, 16748 res - AR: 16752 res - CR: 16756 res - PM: 20189 CR - WG: 32325 WI - res: 32626 WG - WI: 40904 dis - res: 40945 res - dis:

**South West:**

**(Devon):** Movements last period consist of 14986, 14988 BS-res: 16016 BS-WN: 18078, 18079 PN-EX: 32411 EX-dis: 32448, 32991, 32993 PN-dis: 34010, 34033 S/C South-res: 34012, 34030, 34032, 34034 S/C South-EX: 40245 sold: 40506 scrapped: 60002 EX-WN:

**(Somerset):** The odd move to note 47600 CD-HN: 49613, 49615 res-WN: 59613 HN-CD: The buses that arrived from Manchester last month are in reserve pending allocation.

**Wales:** New at Brynmawr for use on the X4 service to Cardiff, replacing Volvo /Plaxton Interurbans are new MAN 14.240 / ADL Enviro 300 B42Fs

22779	CN09AAE	22783	CN09AAO	22787	CN09AAY	22791	CN09ABO
22780	CN09AAF	22784	CN09AAU	22788	CN09AAZ	22792	CN09ABU
22781	CN09AAJ	22785	CN09AAV	22789	CN09ABF	22793	CN09ABV
22782	CN09AAK	22786	CN09AAX	22790	CN09ABK		

Following the arrival of these, the Plaxton Interurban's, they are replacing are being sold to Ensignbus, so far we have 52267, 52273, 52274, 52275, 52276, 52277 and 52278. 34038 and 34055 are now both back at Porth after work.

**Warwickshire:** Five new Optare Versas have been delivered to Leamington depot, owned by Warwickshire County Council, they will be used on tendered route 68 linking Cubbington with

Leamington and Hatton Park. 25237 (YJ09 EZL), 25238 (YJ09 EZO), 25239 (YJ09 EZM), 25240 (YJ09EZN) and 25241 (YJ09 EZP).

**West:** New vehicles at Gloucester comprise eight MAN 14.240 / ADL Enviro 300s B42F

22844 VX09 BCV 22846 VX09 BCZ 22848 VX09 BDF 22849 VX09 BDO  
22845 VX09 BCY 22847 VX09 BDE

**West Scotland:** Latest happenings are new arrivals Volvo B7 / Plaxton Profile, for operation on the X74 between the two, 53322 (SF09 ACV) at Glasgow with 53323 (SF09 ACX), 53324 (SF09 ACY) and 53325 (SF09 ACZ) at Dumfries. Leyland Olympian 13619 has finally been towed away, after languishing at Kilmarnock for over a year. 13644 res - AY: 14647 AS - res: 14659 K - res: 16726 res - K: 16727 res - AS: 52456 DS - AS:

More new vehicles arriving at have been further MAN / Enviro 300s

22850	SF09 ADV	22856	SF09 AEE	22862	SF09 AEN	22867	SF09 AEV
22851	SF09 ADX	22857	SF09 AEG	22863	SF09 AEO	22868	SF09 AEW
22852	SF09 ADZ	22858	SF09 AEJ	22864	SF09 AEP	22869	SF09 AEX
22853	SF09 AEA	22859	SF09 AEK	22865	SF09 AET	22870	SF09 AEY
22854	SF09 AEB	22860	SF09 AEL	22866	SF09 AEU	22871	SF09 AEZ
22855	SF09 AED	22861	SF09 AEM				

22850-22859 are at Ayr with 22860-22871 at Kilmarnock for service 4 22863-22871 carry high back seating and have seat belts fitted.

A fire broke out at the Glasgow depot on April 12<sup>th</sup> destroying two Volvo B10M /Platxon Interurbans 52290 and 52421, which were towed away for scrap a few days later. Volvo Citybuses 15284 and 15285 have been sold to McColls Coaches.

Just as we went to press two Optare Versas were delivered to Dumfries, for operation on twn service 5 25235 (SF09 AFA) and 25236 (SF09 AFE).

## Transdev

**Keighley & District:** Anothre ex Burnley & Pendle Volvo B10BLE noted here is 1051 (Y151 HRN)

**London United:** Arriving at Fulwell in early April have been the ADL Enviro 200 Hybrids, that will see use on route 371, HDE1 (SN09 CHC), HDE3 (SN09 CHF), HDE4 (SN09 CHG) and HDE5 (SN09 CHH). HDE2 has yet to be delivered and details are still awaited.

Noted in store at the former Wiltax depot at Byfleet during April have been the following Dennis Darts, DPS562, 563, 564, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572 and 573

**Northern Blue:** 142 (F42YHB) has been sold for scrap following damage sustained in February. Noted operating during April has been former Blackburn Transport 202 (T127OAH)

## Independents

### Central England

**Black & White (Scunthorpe):** Acquired has been KSU 369 a Setra S315HD C48Ft bought from MG Coaches, Grimsby

**Mark Bland:** Vehicles sold recently have been FIL3451 (F803 TMD) a Volvo B10M / Van Hool to Vale, Great Kingshill and NIL7252 (A19HWD) a Leyland Tiger / Duple 320 to Head, Luton,

**Busking (North Frodingham):** Acquired from Webster, (North Frodingham) have been Mercedes-Benz 0.810D / Plaxton Beaver L900BUS (S537 LGA), M800BUS (R107 TKO) and P700BUS (P992 AFV) a Dennis Dart East Lancs

**Brylaine Travel (Boston):** Acquired from Arriva Merseyside has been K132TCP a DAF SB220/Irarkus B48F

**Cropley Brothers (Fosdyke):** A pair of Volvo B12M / Sunsundegui have been bought from Clyde Coast; FN04JZK and FN04JZM

Re-registered prior to being sold to Volvo have been VSK207 to P51 JJU and 610LYB to P386JJU.

**Dent & Horstwood (North Kelsey):** From Moffat and Williamson (Fife) come two MAN / Optares B40F L106 YGD and L670 PWT

**Doyles Mini Coaches (Alfreton):** Alan Spencer has noted two recently acquired buses, Dennis Darts W793 VMV and W794 VMV, both carry green livery and can usually be found on Nottingham - Alfreton route 33.

**Fisher (East Keal):** Recently purchased has been E592 UHS a Volvo B10M-61 / Plaxton C57F, coming from Poinmost, Plymouth

**Hodson (Navenby):** VDL SB300 /Van Hool C53F YJ07 JEO has been sold to Ashton, St Helens

**Isle Coaches (Owston Ferry):** Acquired has been L31 HHN a Volvo B10B Plaxton B52F from Stagecoach Yorkshire, along with S160 JUA DAF / Optare Delta B49F from Southdown PSV the latter believed to acquired in exchange for P653 VWX Scania / East Lancs, which was withdrawn at the same time

**Nottingham City Transport:** Dennis Trident 407 (T407 BNN), is being used in a crime prevention promotion and carries suitable all over advertising

**P.C. Coaches (Lincoln):** Scania N112DRB East Lancs has been sold to Courtesy Coaches of Chadderton, whilst acquired has been P101 HNC a Scania N113DRB / East Lancs H45/31F from Bagust (West Kingsdown)

**Powells (Rotherham):** A new addition is former Lothian Olympian, F354WSC. Its arrival has led to the departure of C359BUV, which is now in the Barnsley scrap yards.

**Skills (Nottingham):** Originally destined for Western Greyhound, where may other can be found, Three Nottingham City Transport Volvo Olympians 451, 456 and 457 have arrived here with 457 being in subsidiary fleet Motorvation yellow livery, the other two may also gain this livery.

**TM Travel:** Currently being used here is all white ADL Enviro 300 KW02 DRO. I assume it is on loan pending purchase of others, It had latterly been with Perrymans of Berwick. A pair of former Dublin Bus Olympians have arrived R973 KAR and R974 KAR being ex 98-D-20396 and 98-D-20412, both carry a slightly modified Double Deck livery.

**Trent Barton:** New arrivals are Volvo B7RLE / Wright Eclipse, at Derby for the Mickleover

728	FJ09 BXG	730	FJ09 BXK	732	FJ09 BXM	734	FJ09 BXO
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729	FJ09 BXH	731	FJ09 BXL	733	FJ09 BXN	735	FJ09 BXP
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Whilst at Langley Mill for route 15, 736-740 are branded for the service with 741 being plain.

736	FJ09 BXA	738	FJ09 BXC	740	FJ09 BXE	741	FJ09 BXF
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737	FJ09 BXB	739	FJ09 BXD
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### Eastern Counties

**Beeston (Hadleigh):** MAN / Wright Meridian demonstrator SF 08OFY in white livery has been in use on route 247. Back on loan from Scania once again has been Scania Omnibus YN56 EZX. An unidentified ex Metroliner Dart arrived in March for use on services 11/12/13

**Belle Coaches (Lowerstoft):** Scania K113CRB/Berkoff LIL9715 has reverted back to its original registration of P126GHE, no doubt in readiness to leave the fleet following the arrival of the new Setra noted last month BC09 BEL

**Carter (Colchester):** A recent acquisition has been Mini Pointer Dart Y962 KRX

**Coach Services (Thetford)** A MAN / Auwarter C49FT Y142 HWE has been transferred from the associated fleet of Euroview

**Dews (Somersham):** Brand new is a Mercedes Tourismo BU51 DEW, whilst also recently arrived is former Derby Corporation Volvo Citybus E153 BTO

**Eurosun (Lowerstoft):** A vehicle in contract livery for Travelstyle is MAN/Marcopolo WJI 6895

**Fowler (Holbeach Drove):** Sold has been Leyland Tiger / Plaxton C53F XJI9426 to Hun, Stapleford Abbots

**Perry (Woolpit):** R696 FGV Toyota Coaster/Caetano Optimo C26F has been sold to Norfolk operator Smith of Blofield

**Simonds (Diss)** A new arrival is Volvo B12B / Jonckherre C57FT FJ06 BSO, which up to now has spent its life with Lochs and Glens

A clear out of long stored vehicles at Diss has seen DAF LAZ6577, Volvo B10M 98TNO, Ford R1114 WDX663X and Dennis Dart T459HNH – all with Plaxton coachwork all depart whilst still for sale are Volvo B7R/Plaxton 4512UR and Volvo B10M/Plaxtons 538ELX, VRY841, TCF496 and 7236PW.

**Tendring Community Transport:** Acquired is a Volkswagen Crafter/Stanford GN57 NTD, for use on Dial a Ride operations

**Kimes (Folkingham):** A brand new vehicle is VDL Bus / Wright Eclipse S9 (AN09 BUS). It carries branding for the company's route 9 (Stamford – Peterborough)

**Norfolk Green:** Dennis Dart 235 has been withdrawn being used for parts, and with 241 also now withdrawn and away to the scrap yard, only three Alexander Dash bodied Darts remain in service, 208 (J508GCD), 230 (J530JCD) and 278 (K578HNC), none are expected to see the year out.

No less than six Slimline Optare Solos have been delivered for the "Coasthopper" operation 311 (YJ09 LBA), 312 (YJ09 EZU), 313 (YJ09 LBE), 314 (YJ09 LBF), 315 (YJ09 LBG) and 316 (YJ09 EZZ). As there was a mix up with paper work at Optare some booked registrations were not used which were 311 (EZT), 313 (EZV) and 314 (EZW).

### London / Greater London

**Big Bus Company:** Details for the ten new Volvo B9TL / Optare Visionaire are, as follows, with DA211-213 being PO51/31F and the rest being O51/31F.

DA211	PN09 ENY	DA214	PN09EOC	DA217	PN09 EOF	DA219	PN09 EOJ
DA212	PN09 EOA	DA215	PN09 EOD	DA218	PN09 EOH	DA220	PN09 EOK
DA213	PN09 EOB	DA216	PN09 EOE				

**Countryliner (Guildford):** Newly delivered is Enviro 200 Dart B37F DE44 (MX09 HFJ) It can normally be found on route 479 plying between Guildford and Epsom

**Dial a Ride:** The last of the 58 registered Bluebirds are now to hand with D7061-D7065 based at Palmers Green and D7066-7068 at Mandela Way

D7061	YX58 EHR	D7063	YX58GSY	D7065	YX58 GTF	D7067	YX58 GTY
D7062	YX58 GSO	D7064	YX58GSZ	D7066	YX58 GTU	D7068	YX58 GTZ

Following on, and very grateful thanks to Ian Rivett and the team, the first of the 09 registered ones

D7069	YX09 ETA	D7073	YX09 ESY	D7076	YX09 ETL	D7079	YX09 ETU
D7070	YX09 ETD	D7074	YX09 ETJ	D7077	YX09 ETO	D7080	YX09 ETV
D7071	YX09 ETE	D7075	YX09 ETK	D7078	YX09 ETR		

**East London Bus Group:** Delivered into Rainham depot in early April were seven ADL Dart 4 10.8m / Enviro200. They are for use on route 372

36038	LX09 ACU	36040	LX09 ACY	36042	LX09 ADO	36044	LX09 ADV
36039	LX09 ACV	36041	LX09 ACZ	36043	LX09 ADU		

The large batch of Scania OmniCity double deck H41/28D due at Plumstead for routes 51, 96 and 177 are well on course of delivery with the following having arrived by the end of April

15040	LX09 AAO	15050	LX09 ABV	15060	LX09 AEE	15069	LX09 AEP
15041	LX09 AAU	15051	LX09 ABZ	15061	LX09 AEF	15070	LX09 AET
15042	LX09 AAV	15052	LX09 ACF	15062	LX09 AEG	15071	LX09 AEU
15043	LX09 AAY	15053	LX09 ACJ	15063	LX09 AEJ	15072	LX09 AEV
15044	LX09 AAZ	15054	LX09 ACO	15064	LX09 AEK	15073	LX09 AEW
15045	LX09 ABF	15055	LX09 ADZ	15065	LX09 AEL	15074	LX09 AEY
15046	LX09 ABK	15056	LX09 AEA	15066	LX09 AEM	15075	LX09 AEZ
15047	LX09 ABN	15057	LX09 AEB	15067	LX09 AEN	15076	LX09 AFA
15048	LX09 ABO	15058	LX09 AEC	15068	LX09 AEO	15077	LX09 AFE
15049	LX09 ABU	15059	LX09 AED				

Quite a lot of movements to record this time; 17297 WH - T: 17733, 17747 PD - TL: 17740-17746, 17748, 17749 PD - WH: 17766, 17772 WH - T: 17777 PD - T: 34117 RMu - WH: 34173, 34196, 34199 PD - RM: 34176, 34179, 34200, 34201 PD - RMu: 34178, 34181, 34190 U - WH: 34202, 34254-34257 BK - RM: 34327 RMu - Uu: 34378 PD - TL:

**Ensignbus:** Fire victim Spectra 104 has been sold to MASS (Sheffield). RMC1485 has been repainted red and moved into the heritage fleet, original registration 485CLT re-instated.

**Epsom Coaches:** Newly delivered for the Quality Line operation are eight Optare Solo M880 for TfL route 496.

OP23 YJ09 MHK OP25 YJ09 MHM OP27 YJ09 MHO OP29 YJ09 MHV  
OP24 YJ09 MHL OP26 YJ09 MHN OP28 YJ09 MHU OP30 YJ09 MHX

### North East & Yorkshire

**Bibbys of Ingleton:** A recent arrival is YN56 NDC a M-B O.184 / KVC C24F, coming from Reays of Wigton where it carried registration 487 FHW

**Dreadnaught (Alnwick):** have sold Leyland Leopard / Duple TBR527V to a private owner in Wales.

**East Yorkshire:** a few transfers to note 45 d/I - sold: 361/362/363 d/I - Scarborough: 364 Hull - Scarborough: 365/366 d/I - Scarborough: 462/468 Hull - Whittles: 589 Hull - Pockington: 600 Pockington - Hull: 462/8 have received Whittles livery prior to their transfer. Also repainted we have Coach 46 from Nat Ex livery to EYMS coaching; Whilst 343 now has an overall orange livery and lettering for the upgraded Humber Fastcat 350 service.

Re-registered has been 72 YX57 BWJ to A9 EYC

**Ellie Rose (Hull):** A recent arrival has been C673 GET a Leyland Olympian/ECW H45/32F

**Pennine (Skipton):** A further Dennis Dart acquisition has been D15 (R717 YWC)

**Rollinson Safeway (Armley):** Noted with this operator have been BMC225s YJ57 NHH, YJ57 NHK and YJ57 VXP

**Scarlet Band:** A Leyland Tiger / Duple 321 J25 UNY has been noted here of late

**Skelton Coaches (Charltons):** Recent additions to stock are Volvo B10M / Plaxton C877CYK, Leyland Tiger / Plaxton LUI8310 ex Emma's, Dolgellau (via a salvage company), Leyland Tiger / Plaxton A709GAL ex Glovers, Ashbourne and now painted black and Leyland Tiger / Duple SLZ3648.

**Tees Valley (Eaglescliffe):** have acquired Volvo B10B / Wright L509TKA from Arriva Merseyside. Leyland Olympian / ECW B252BHN has been sold into preservation. Another Volvo Citybus / East Lancs to stock, this one being H655GPF.

### North West

**Bakerbus:** A new arrival is ADL Enviro 200 226 (KX09 CHZ), purchased for use on route 391 between Stockport and Middlewood for which it carries route branding.

**Blackpool Transport:** The remains of withdrawn Atlanteans 352 and 360 have been sold to Inglemere Metals. Just as I was putting the magazine to bed, the first of the next batch of Solos turned up at Rigby Road depot 240 (YJ09 OTE), 241 (YJ09 OTF), 242 (YJ09 OTG), 243 (YJ09 OTH) and 244 (YJ09 OTK) with 245 and 246 still awaited, all are in Line two green and yellow colours and should replace Metrordiers 501-507.

**Bluebird (Middleton):** Optrae Vecta 270BLU has regained its original registration M805 VRA, with Dennis Dart 22 (MX56 HYS) now carrying 270 BLU. Recent arrivals are four former Thamesdown Dennis Dart /Plaxton Pointers P151SMW, P153 SMW, P154 SMW and P158 SMW initially running in Thamesdown colours.

**Bu Val Buses (Littleborough):** Currently being borrowed from Blue Bus is M-B Vario / Plaxton Beaver 2 T982 OGA.

**Bowers (Chapel-en-le-Frith):** Took over operation of Cheshire County Council service 19 linking Macclesfield with Prestbury, at the begging of April. Former Arriva North West Mini Pointer Dart SN03 DZY has been acquired fro the service which carries "Connect 19" branding.

**Checkmate:** A new addition to the small fleet is Optare Solo YG52 DHK

**Click Services:** The operation was closed down on Tuesday April 28<sup>th</sup> after the operators Licence was revoked.

**Cumfy Bus:** Several all white Solos are in use from the new Poulton Le Fylde depot, on the newly won Fylde Villager services, MX06BTE, MX56 NLD, MX07 JNV, MX57 CCJ and MX08DJF being noted.

**Dobsons (Northwich):** A new arrival is former Trent M-B Vario R284 LNO, coming from Ashalls

**Finglands (Manchester):** A new arrival from parent East Yorkshire is Volvo B7TL / Plaxton president 1801 (YX51 AYH), this has led to Volvo Olympian / Alexander Royale 1740 (N740VBA) to be withdrawn

**Fishwicks (Leyland):** Two new VDL Bus SB200 / Wright Pulsars into service have been 2 (YJ09 CVF) and 3 (YJ09 CWF)

**Helms of Eastham:** New for this Aintree Coachline subsidiary are two Optare Versa V1040 B34Fs 101 (MX09 ANF) and 102 (MX09 ANR), they are for use of Cheshire CC routes 41/41A Chester – Whitchurch. A further pair are due as you read this

**Holmeswood:** More second hand Plaxton Primos have arrived MX55 WDS and YX07 GVD along with a new one PN09 CXJ. They can be seen on route 112 operating between Preston and Croston.

**Hulleys of Baslow:** A new arrival is MAN engined Optare Solo 9 (MX09 AOF)

**Jim Stones (Leigh)** New arrivals during April, see no less than four Enviro200 Darts enter service B1 BUS, B1 JYM, BU52 LEE and J5 BUS all B29F as is the norm for this company. Two buses up for sale following the new arrivals are two Mini Pointer Darts B1 BUS now registered to MP03 DTZ and B1 JYM now MB04 BKZ.

**J.P Travel:** a couple of recent arrivals have been Dennis Dart /Plaxton Pointers L86 VDM L141VDM, latterly with Helms of Eastham, whose red and cream livery they entered service, and an East Lancs bodied Scania from Arriva Midlands M171 GRY

**Princess (Kendal):** Arriving on April 7<sup>th</sup> was Optare Solo M880SL B27F MX09 HJD. It will replace Iveco V589 GGS, on the Windermere Town Service, which has already been placed for sale on E Bay.

**Selwyns (Runcorn):** DAF /Van Hool Alizee 62 (Y469 HUA) has been re registered as 352 STG

**Shearings:** The first of the forthcoming batch of Setra S416GT-HD coaches has finally come to light 118 (BN09 FXH). A new “Home Connect” has also been seen M057 (MF09 ZMO)

**South Lancs Travel:** Ready for leaving the fleet, being up for sale, are Dennis Dart SLF / Plaxton Pointers T84 JBA, T85 JBA and T86 JBA.

**Speedwellbus (Hyde):** Currently seeing use is Optare Excel N608 JLY

**Stotts (Oldham):** Another Optare Solo has been added to the fleet MX07 NTG, formerly with the defunct Vale of Manchester

### Scotland

**Blythswood(Renfrew):** Noted during April have been VIL 7179 in *white livery*, Mercedes BX05UVV, Mercedes 814 / Plaxton R156 UAL - *Arriva Midlands*, Mercedes 711 L65 ORB - Owen, *Denbygh in Blue & Cream livery*, Neoplan S14 BFC, Mercedes 814 S751 LGA - *New Dart* Volvo B10M Plaxton M351 MRU - *Smith, Amble* and Mercedes 711 / Plaxton N925 EWA - *Ballantyne*

**Docherty's Midland Coaches:** Three new arrivals to record, firstly an Optare M950 B33F SP09 CWK, not LWK as noted last month off a list I had from Optares. Coach wise new is Bova AS09 JDS and a Scania /Irizar BS09 JDS. Leaving the fleet are W77 JDS and Y77 JDS. Volvo B10M P511UUG has been re-registered as N77 JDS, with M-B Sprinter SK02 VNX now W77 JDS and M-B 410D W491 HOB now W7 JDS.

**Doigs (Glasgow):** New coaches here are Volvo B7Rs FN09 AOC, FN09 AOD and FN09 AOE.

**Harlequin:** a correction to last month is the Wright Solo should of course have read Solar

**Loch and Glens:** Five Volvo B12B /Van Hool Acrons have been delivered from Moseley SN09 AZP, SN09 AZR and SN09 AZU are three

**Lothian:** A further 75 Volvo /Wright double decks have been ordered. Two more new ones of the type noted at the end of April were 926 (SN09 CUV) and 927 (SN09 CTO) .

**MacEwans (Amsfield):** Bought from Ensignbus are two ex Stagecoach Wales BMC Falcons CN53GWO and CN53 GWP

**Malcolms (Lineswod):** Noted sitting in the yard have been W637 MXY Mercedes / Plaxton – *Beck, Newart Hill*, S370 PGB Mercedes / Marshall – *Sassarini* and M884SXC Dennis Dart / Plaxton – *Dixons, Paisley*

**McGills (Greenock):** Two ADL Enviro 200s to record are SN57 DXL and SN57 DXM. Also here are a pair of new ADL Enviro 300s 455 (SN09 CGY) and 456 (SN09CGZ)

**McKindless (Wishaw):** Optare Delta J319 BVO has been sent to Barnsley for scrap

**Morrow (Glasgow):** Noted here recently has been ex Trent M-B Vario R283 RAU

**Parks of Hamilton:** Older coaches sold to Volvo (dealer) have been Volvo B12M/Jonckherre SHV LSK499 now SF07LLT, LSK 506 now SF07 XNU, LSK 832 now SF07 XNX and 2HW now SF07 XOE. Also sold have been Iveco Beulas LSK510 now Y291 SCU and LSK513 now Y289 SCU

**Riddlers (Arbroath):** A couple of coaches re registered are M781 NBA to WEZ 3993 and R680 MWP now WEZ 3994.

**Scottish Travel:** Now in use is MAN 14.220 /MCV Evolution AE54 JPX.

**United (Paisley):** A pair of Dennis Darts have been noted lately 461 (HX51 LPV) and 463 (HX51 LPY) so it looks like a third is also here.

### **Southern England**

**Compass Travel (Worthing):** No less than five ADL Dart 4 / Enviro 200s have arrived; GX09 AGO, GX09 AGU, GX09 AGV, GX09 AGY and GX09 AGZ.

These have replaced GX0 2CGY along with Mercedes R81EDW and T75 JBO which have gone to Southdown PSV. Also acquired is Optare Solo MX54 KXR

From April 1<sup>st</sup> Compass took over the operation of Sussex Country Tours. The vehicles will be garaged at Durrington

**Rambler Coaches:** Acquired is YR52 MEU a Volvo B10M with Plaxton Paragon C49Ft and is being converted to C53F and re registered to GDY500X

Also acquired is a second Volvo SK07 FUW from Brown's of Broxburn, West Lothian - the vehicle is a B12B Van Hool executive, it will be re registered to LR07 RAM before going into service

The restoration of Bedford CMG30 is going well and is painted in a two tone green

**Z & S Travel (Aylesbury):** Former Reading Buses Optare Excels S298LBL and S930 LBL are now in service here. ADL Enviro200 is now in Bucks CC Rider services white and silver livery.

### **South West**

**ACL (Weston):** Acquired is L645OWY ex Keighley & District

**Bakers Dolphin:** Painted white of late and likely to be leaving the fleet soon have been Bova 12 (JNZ 2212) and LDVs 76 (T327JRH) and 77 (V646 DFA).BD08GLD caught fire whilst in Austria and is on its way back, YR58RUY Scania K340 EBA 3 Irizar C49FT on loan from Scania is being kept in the fleet presumably for cover

### **Wales**

**1<sup>st</sup> Choice (Llanelli):** Recently acquired Dennis Javelin, M110 PWN has now entered service, albeit still in First livery

**Acorn (Fishguard):** New in March was YJ09 EXV an Optare Solo. SJ03 ZES (ex 2 HAN) a Volvo B12M Jonckheere has now passed to Cresta, Bridgend

**Alpine (Llandudno):** More vehicles acquired in March from P&O Lloyd, Bagillt were: HNZ 3909 ex BPF 137Y, Leyland Olympian Roe ex P&O Lloyd, Bagillt (This corrects last months information regarding the actual date of acquisition, A148 FPG Leyland Olympian Roe, A683 MWX Leyland Olympian Olympian ECW. Also purchased has been G234 VWL Leyland Olympian Alexander, ex Arriva The Shires

The registration of A698 DD Leyland Olympian ECW, ex P&O Lloyd, Bagillt in last months newsletter should have read A698 DDL.

**Bluebird (Neath):** N230 HWX Volvo B10M-62 Plaxton went to Moseley, Wellington in March

**Brent Thomas (Tonypany):** The new Volvo B12BT Berkhof Axial that was reported on last month is registered FN 09APX

**Clynnog & Trefor:** New in March was FN 09AOG Volvo B12B Jonckheere C53F, whilst recently acquired has been SF 07XOE (ex 2 HW) a Volvo B12M Jonckheere C53FT came from Parks, Hamilton

**Cresta (Bridgend):** SJ 03ZES (ex 2 HAN) a Volvo B12M Jonckheere arrived from Acorn, Fishguard in January

**D Coaches (Morrison):** Bova FHD12.340s WA05 DEU and WA05 DFC went to Moseley, Wellington in March

**Ferris (Nantgarw):** Three new Bova FHD 127.365 duly arrived in March and are registered as

follows WA09 DZL, WA09 DZM and WA09 DZN

**GHA (Ruabon):** FJ06 BNX and FJ06 BNY Volvo B7R Plaxton C70F arrived in March from Woodstones, Kidderminster. Further acquisitions are M784 RVY and M272 SBT Bova FLC12.280. These arrived in March from Allander, Milngavie

Five new Volvo B7RLE / Wrightbus arrived in March, registrations to follow

**Hayward (Carmarthen):** GIL 3129 (ex F202 HSO) a Leyland Tiger Plaxton Paramount arrived from Crudge, Milton in March

**Lewis (Rhydlewis):** R925 LAA (ex A12 EXC) a Volvo B10M-62 Plaxton C53F arrived in February from Elcock Reisen, Telford. Also R6 PSW a Dennis Javelin Plaxton arrived in February, ex Paul Winson, Loughborough

**Lew Jones (Llanwrst):** YN06 FWD Irisbus EuroRider 397.12.43 Beulas C55FT came from Red Arrow, Huddersfield in February. YN06 JEU a MB 1018L UNVI Esker Cimo C33F came from Manor Travel, Driffield in March while MX07 JPF an Optare Solo M780SE Optare B26F came from Mistral, Knutsford in January.

The following vehicles have been noted for sale in March:

L804 YTL M/Benz 811D Plaxton (ex FP 5992, L804 YTL); N106 DWG M/Benz 814D Plaxton (ex LJI 3740, N106 DWG); N160 MTG M/Benz 711D UVG; P706 PWC M/Benz O810D Plaxton; R939 AMB M/Benz O814D Plaxton; S310 DLG M/Benz O814D Plaxton; SN05 LGU M/Benz O815D Esker; LJI 1697 DAF OVI (ex Y276 DCC) and finally LJI 7211 DAF OVI (ex Y277 DCC)

J3 ERN Duple 425 went to Clowes, Buxton in February

**P&O Lloyd (Bagillt):** R175 GGR (ex R8 CLA) Volvo B10M-62 Plaxton C49FT came from Attain, Birmingham in March. A148 FPG and HNZ 3909 Leyland Olympian ROE are both now with Alpine, Llandudno, A683 MWX Leyland Olympian ECW is also with Alpine, Llandudno

**Meirion Motors (Aberystwyth):** AF09 MMF a Setra S416GT-HD Setra C53FT was new in March and EH06 MML Setra S416 was sold in January in part exchange for the new Setra, being noted at Evobus, Coventry in March.

**Richards (Cardigan):** The new VDL SB4000 Van Hool mentioned last month has materialised as YJ09 CXR. Also new are three Optare Solo M710SE Optare B23F: YJ09 EXW, YJ09 EXX and YJ09 EXZ

**Ridgway (Port Talbot):** S49 RGA MAN 11.220 Marshall B40F came from MacEwan, Amisfield in February

**Tanat Valley (Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant):** J653 UHN and J658 UHN Leyland Lynx Leyland B49F arrived in February from Routemaster Bus, Wem

**Thomas (Llangadog):** Not reported before is the arrival in December of last year of YN03 NJX M/Benz O814D Transbus C33F from Johnson Bros, Hodthorpe

**Thomas (Rhondda):** WA09 AZF Bova FHD127.365 Bova C49FT was new in March. YC51 GZW and YC 51 GZX Optare Solo went to Blythswood, Glasgow in March

**Vale Travel:** Now here is former Arriva North West Mini Pointer Dart SN03 DZZ, used on Cheshire CC route 88, complete with appropriate branding.

### **The West Midlands**

**Banga Buses:** Another Mercedes minibus is N179 DWM

**Central Buses:** Noted at the end of April has been S529 KFL, a Marshall bodied Dennis Dart

**Choice:** Quite a lot of Marshall bodied Dennis Dart SLFs have been acquired from the erstwhile A2Z travel operation 3516 (S516 KFL), 3517 (S517 KFL), 3518 (S518 KFL), 3519 (S519 KFL), 3524 (S524 KFL), 3525 (S525 KFL), 3699 (R699 MEW), 3701 (R701 MEW), 3702 (R702 MEW), 3703 (R703 MEW), 3704 (R704 MEW), 3705 (R705 MEW), 3706 (R707 MEW), 3709 (R709 MEW), 3865 (R865MCE), 3867 (R867 MCE) and 3869 (R869 MCE). An Alexander ALX200 bodied Dart SLF also joins the fleet 3942 (P493 EMS).

**Coastal Liner:** Former Stagecoach Volv B10M / Plaxton C51F L157 JNH has been added to the fleet

**Green Bus of Great Wyrley:** The company has changed its trading name to Warstone Motors. A new arrival is former Arriva Midlands Mercedes M371 EFD, reregistered XIL 1447 and fully painted up with new style fleet names

**Grosvenor Coaches (Birmingham):** A further arrival for the bus fleet is Dennis Dart 9.8SDL / Alexander Dash B36F N611LGC to be found on Solihull locals.

**Hansons:** Three more Dennis Dart SLF / Plaxton Pointers have been added to the fleet SN51SZVM SN51 SZW and SN51 SZX, all latterly with London United.

**Heartlands Bus (Tamworth):** A very recent arrival is of Dennis Dart 9SDL / Plaxton Pointer DP35 NSU 512, originally K927 XRF with PMT but more recently with Deckerbus (Whittlesea). It carries the operators latest blue and white livery, with branding for the 381 Walsall - Lichfield service

## New Deliveries

Barnes (Swindon)	WA09 AZL	Bova C57F
P & J Ellis	FN09 APU	Volvo B7R /Sunsundeugi
Galloways	AY09 DHG	Van Hool
K & M Travel	YJ09 FHP	Bova
David Palmer (Normanton)	YJ09 CSX	Van Hool T.917 Astron
Reptons	REP 916	Van Hool T.916 Astron
Ross Travel (Featherstone)	FN09 AOR	Volvo 9700
Slacks (Matlock)	YJ09 FHT	M-B O.816 / Sitcar Beluga M29
Stokes (Carstairs)	SF09 FXP	Volvo B12 / Jonckherre SHV (David Urqhart livery)
TM Travel	YN09 AOS	Dennis Javelin / Plaxton Prima
Travelgreen (Doncaster)	FX09 YKF	M-B 515CDI / Optare Soroco M19
Whytes (Aberdeen)	SN09 AKX	Bova magiq

## Alexander Dennis (Falkirk)

### 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009

First Glasgow	<i>Enviro 500</i> SN09CBU, SN09CBV, SN09CBX and 38206-38209 <i>plus another vehicle with no registration number on.</i>
First London	<i>Enviro 400</i> SN09CDV (33576), SN09CDY (33578) and SN09CEY
Stagecoach East Kent	<i>Enviro 400</i> GN09BCZ

### 7<sup>th</sup> April 2009

First London	<i>Enviro 400</i> LJ09CEA (33580) LJ09AEF (33581) SN09CEJ (33582), SN09CEK (33583) ? (33577), SN09CDZ (33579), SN09CEX (?), SN09CFF (?), SN09CFK (?), FN09CEV (33585)
First Glasgow	<i>Enviro 500</i> 38210 32811
Stagecoach	<i>Enviro 300</i> SF09AET, SF09AEP <i>Enviro 300 not painted body numbers</i> 8307/52 -54
Stagecoach	<i>Enviro 300</i> SF09AEU, SF09AEO, SF09AEV <i>Enviro 300 Body numbers only</i> 8307/44 & 46, 8306/17 <i>Enviro 400</i> SN09CFA

### 14<sup>th</sup> April 2009

First London	<i>Enviro 400</i> (33585) SN09CEU, (No number) SN09CEK?
	<i>Enviro 500</i> SN09CCE (38212), 38213/4/5 (No registration)
Travel London	<i>Enviro 400</i> 9464
Stagecoach Manchester	<i>Enviro 400</i> MX09ATU <i>Enviro 300</i> Body numbers only 8308/1, 8307/31

### 15<sup>th</sup> April 2009

First London	<i>Enviro 400</i> SN09CEV (35586)
Stagecoach Manchester	<i>Enviro 400</i> MX09KSO (?)
Stagecoach West Scotland	<i>Enviro 300</i> SF09AEA

**22<sup>nd</sup> April 2009**

Stagecoach *Enviro 300* SF09AEJ, SF09AEG plus body numbers 8308/6/10/13/14

**29<sup>th</sup> April 2009**

Stagecoach Manchester *Enviro 400* MX09AUK

First London *Enviro 400* SN09CFP, SN09CEO (33584), SN09CEY (33588), SN09CEU (33585), SN09CFD (33590), SN09CFJ, SF09CFA (33589), SN09CFG SN09 CFL, SN09 CFM

*First Glasgow*

*Enviro 500* (fleet numbers 38216/219/221/222)

Body numbers only 8507/17 and 8507/20

*Enviro 300* Body numbers 8310/1

*Enviro 300* SF09DPN

<b>Around the Dealers</b>
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<b>Ensign</b>
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**Vehicles In**

From Dublin Bus: Olympians 97-D335/337/339/344/345/358/362/365  
98-D-20390/392/397/398/401/413/417/419.

From Arriva Midlands: Olympians R642/3MNU Scania 113 M169GRY.

From Arriva the Shires: Darts K448XPA M10CLA Olympian WLT918 Delta K760JVX.

From Stagecoach Bluebird: Olympians G807/18GSX.

From Stagecoach SE: Darts N412/3/4MBW.

From Stagecoach Wales: BMC Falcons CN53GWO/P CN04RFL/XCL/XCK  
Volvo B10M's M750/1/2/5/6/67LAX M913/4/5/7/8WJK PSU788  
Darts N51/2KBW N612LGC.

From Stagecoach West: Olympians G102/5AAD Volvo B10M L157JNH.

From Ipswich Buses: Excels P191/2SGV R197DDX

From Lothian Buses: RML2266/2343

From Rotala Group: Scania Omnicities YN05HGC YN55RCF.

From Uni-Link: Darts HX51LPJ/K/L/O/U/V/Y/Z.

From Decker Bus: Metrobuses GYE534W BYX274V C365BUV B153WUL B821AOP.

**Vehicles Out**

Routemaster NMY646E: Timebus, South Mimms.

Metrobuses WYW88T KYV799X WYW51T BYX219V EYE325V GYE392W: All to City  
Sightseeing Washington DC as full open tops.

Metrobus BYX157V: Danny Chabaud, Romagne, France.

Metrobus EWF452V: Big Blue Bus Co, Coggleshall, Essex.

Metrobus POG582Y: 24/7 Location Facilities, West Drayton, Middx.

Metrobuses C365BUV BYX274V B821AOP GYE534W: On-A-Mission Coaches, Letchworth.  
M1019: Erith Commercials for scrap.

Scania's F112HNC G115SBA: Decker Bus, Peterborough.

Scania M951DRG: Harrogate Coach Travel.

Olympians B898UAS A978OST WLT918 (Plate to be retained by Ensign) On-A-Mission

Olympians G804SMV H807XMY: Johnsons Coaches, Hodthorpe.

Olympian G234VWL: Alpine Coaches, Llandudno.

Olympian R643MNU: Heddingham Omnibuses, Essex.

Dublin Olympians 98-D-20396/20412 now R973 and R974KAR respectively with TM Travel,  
Sheffield.

Dublin Olympian 98-D-20426 now S191YOO with Aintree Coachlines, Merseyside.

Delta K760JVX: Direct Location Services, Chertsey, Surrey.  
 Dart K448XPA: Swallow Coaches, Rainham, Essex.  
 Dart M93WBW: Regal Busways, Chelmsford.  
 Dart N52KBW: ACL Travel, Hewish, Somerset.  
 Darts R125/130/132/134/135/138/139/149/150RLY R155/165/166RLA Rotala Group, Birmingham.  
 Darts R164/174VLA: City Direct, Galway, Eire.  
 Volvo B10B's M104/5UKX: Stephenson's Coaches, Easingwold.  
 Volvo B10M's M915/918WJK: Perry's Coaches, Blackwood, Gwent.  
 Volvo B10M M917WJK: Aintree Coachlines, Merseyside.  
 Tridents V906/7FEC: Atbus, Ashford, Middx.  
 Dart MPD X668LLX: Beestons Coaches, Hadleigh, Suffolk.  
 Trident PO51UMX: Rotala Group  
 Tridents EY03FNK/L: Sullivan Bus, South Mimms.  
 Scania Omnicities YN55RCF YN05HGC: Arriva Midlands.

## Preservation News

### Forthcoming Events

#### MAY

<b>Manchester Museum of Transport:</b>	16/17 <sup>th</sup> - Celebration of Bolton's Buses
<b>Ipswich Transport Museum</b>	16 <sup>th</sup> - Ipswich Transport & Model Festival
<b>Theydon Bois</b>	17 <sup>th</sup> - Transport Bazaar and bus rides 1100-1530
<b>Bristol</b>	17 <sup>th</sup> - Harbourside Bus Rally
<b>Lathalmond (Fife)</b>	17 <sup>th</sup> - Scottish Vintage Bus Museum Running Day
<b>British Commercial Vehicle Museum</b>	17 <sup>th</sup> - Leyland Spring Transport Show
<b>Stagecoach Lancaster</b>	23 <sup>rd</sup> - Morecambe Depot Open Day (come and say hello)
<b>Newark (Notts)</b>	23 <sup>rd</sup> /24 <sup>th</sup> - AEC Society Great North Road Run.
<b>Sandtoft Trolleybus Museum</b>	23 <sup>rd</sup> - 25 <sup>th</sup> - 40 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary
<b>Crich Tramway Museum</b>	23 <sup>rd</sup> - 25 <sup>th</sup> - 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary
<b>Exeter Racecourse</b>	24 <sup>th</sup> - 90 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Devon General
<b>Wythall</b>	25 <sup>th</sup> - Birmingham Operating Day
<b>Buckinghamshire Railway Centre</b>	25 <sup>th</sup> - Quainton Road Bus and Transport Rally
<b>Lewes</b>	31 <sup>st</sup> - East Sussex Bus Rally and Running Day
<b>London Bus preservation Trust</b>	31 <sup>st</sup> - Cobham Museum Running Day

### Cobham 2009

The London Bus Preservation Trust is based at the Cobham Bus Museum, Redhill Rd, Cobham, Surrey. Every year, it launches the heritage bus rally season with its Spring Gathering at the nearby Wisley Airfield. This year's event took place on Sunday 5 April, with the (generally) clear blue skies most welcome after snow had marred the previous year's event.

Long since closed as an active airfield, Wisley is located immediately to the west of junction 10 of the M25 - from which the event was well signposted and the traffic flow smooth. In common with everything to do with the day, parking was extremely well organised - and very close to the action. The event ran from 10.00 to 17.00 with admission of £10 giving access to both museum and airfield, free bus travel between the two, and a superbly illustrated souvenir programme.

As the name of the Trust implies, the Gathering is slanted towards the historic London bus. This year the main focus was on the 1950s, the heyday of the RTs and RFs. But also on show were representative London buses right up to the present day - with a goodly selection of other buses and coaches too.

I reckon about 250 vehicles were present in total, split between the two sites. Of these about 80 could be classed as fully active, if you do not count such as the numerous semi-operative Routemasters and the like owned by such as the big London operators. A log of these is included at the end of this piece. Noteworthy amongst them are the numerous 'older' buses that I presume make their living on rail replacement and such like in the south, as well as the many recent deliveries.

Making use of the virtually unlimited space available, buses were lined up along the old runway, grouped loosely by type, age and area of operation. Careful thought had been given to the needs of photographers so that the sum was not a problem and a full shot possible of each vehicle - none of your front ends only here, as are inexplicably all that seem to be on offer at some rallies. The acres of space too meant the unwelcome human subject matter that can be such a bind when taking your pictures was much less of a factor.

On show too were vintage London taxis, heritage commercials and emergency vehicles. Numerous sales stalls operated at both sites, 'event' style catering was excellent, and so too toilet facilities.

Excellent photographic access was also available to the parking area for the many shuttle buses. These operated the frequent service the three miles or so to and from the museum and between the two sites and Weybridge station (from which buses ran every 7 to 10 minutes from 09.52 to 17.10).

Details for the museum exhibits can be found on <http://www.lbpt.org/trust.html> - the Trust's website. These date from horse buses of the mid 19th century and include some fascinating service vehicles like a unique garage sweeper and articulated canteen. As only to be expected though, sheer numbers present around the sales stalls could make viewing a bit difficult on the day, and pictures more so.

A special event this year was the re-launch of RT1, the very first of the nearly 7000 iconic RTs, 70 years after its first appearance. Wearing the plate SLT56 - carried subsequently by RM1 - this superbly restored bus has even survived export to the USA and potential scrapping. David Allan, chairman of the similarly iconic Ian Allan publishers, marked the occasion by kick-starting an appeal fund to support the vehicle. Contact the Trust if you are interested.

For me, who spent so many years back on forth on the London bus, this was a day of sweet and sour nostalgia. Countless journeys in all moods, and weathers to and from work (and/or the pub). Struggling on and off with my kids when tiny all those years back. For those who do not have the same relationship with these lovely red buses, now is the time to start to build one. If you don't like the red bus, then there is such a lot else here for you too. What a wonderful, wonderful day this was for a bus enthusiast. Go to Cobham 2010. You could surely get no better value anywhere for your tenner.

## Out and About

This month Paul Hind has taken the time to send in his logs from the Isle of Wight during March, just to see the myriad of tour coaches you can get aside from the Islands own Southern Vectis Fleet, and as summer progresses so will the numbers visiting

### **02<sup>nd</sup> March**

#### **Shanklin**

Daish's Coaches  
R903 YBA, YN03 WYG

Daish's Coaches  
B10 SEM, WA04 ZNR,  
WJ55 TVP

YN07 LGV

#### **Lake**

Majestic (Dawlish Coaches)  
GIG 7078

### **05<sup>th</sup> March**

#### **Shanklin**

### **07<sup>th</sup> March**

#### **Brading**

D & P Coaches

#### **Ryde**

Seaview Services  
ODL 678

**Sandown**

JNZ 5042

**Shanklin**

PUI 3787

**08<sup>th</sup> March 2009****Shanklin**

Barkers Dolphin

EIG 4335, EIG 4337

**09<sup>th</sup> March 2009****Shanklin**

Daish's Coaches

R940 YNF, R951 YNF

**10<sup>th</sup> March 2009****Newport**

Coach Holiday.com (Chiltern)

Y714 HWT

Coach Holiday.com (Minsterly)

YN06 NZW

Coach Holiday.com (Ridgeway, Wantage)

UKZ 6768

David Urquart

YD02 P XK

Dovers

KJZ 8510

Eagre Coaches, Gainsborough

YN08 MPX

Eclipse, Cambridge

BX06 ULT

Edwards, Pontypridd

BX08 NMU

Harris, Bromsgrove

28 JGH

Kardan Travel

BIG 6144

Leones, Stafford

AT57 LCT, BT57 LCT

Majestic (Bluebird)

R45 GNW

Robinsons

NB03 BUZ, FN04 JZW

Souls, Tamworth

W604 GUG, YJ58 FJE

Wombwell

FJ08 BRV

**Shanklin**

Jones

BX06 UNJ

Shearings (Euro Tourer)

MX04 AEJ (608)

Skills

SIL 6435

**11<sup>th</sup> March 2009****Shanklin**

ALS

Y94 HTX

Shire Travel International,

Cannock

BU53 AXD

**12<sup>th</sup> March 2009****Ryde**

Buckleys, Doncaster

YN53 EXC, YN53 EXL

**Shanklin**

National Holidays

YC02 CFU, YC02 DJE

**13<sup>th</sup> March 2009****Shanklin**

Daish's Coaches

FB53 FYX

Peterborough Travel Consultancy

BX54 EBZ

**14<sup>th</sup> March 2009****Brading**

Vintage Tours (J D Woodham)

JT 8077

**Ryde**

D Urquart (ALS Travel)

LEZ 5647

**Shanklin**

Daish's Coaches

T260 EGD

Terry Bushell, Burton on Trent

A13 TBT

Truemans

HW58 HYR

**15<sup>th</sup> March 2009****Sandown**

Barry Raybold

L60 BJR

Coach Trippers

DIG 7369

Solus, Tamworth

YK56 FGC, YK56 FGD

Wight Rollers

IJ 9512

**Shanklin**

D Urquart (West End Travel)

BV57 VHD

Edwards, Pontypridd

BX07 NMO

Gordons (W.G.S Gordon,

Rotherham

B17 WGS

Pikes

W613 FUM

**16<sup>th</sup> March 2009****Shanklin**

D Urquart

L5 DUR

Deans

EK51 KZA

**17<sup>th</sup> March 2009****Shanklin**

Seaview Services

PDL 298

Shearings

MV02 ULS (427)

Whittle

YX07 HKK (79)

**18<sup>th</sup> March 2009****Shanklin**

Daish's Coaches

M322 KRY

**19<sup>th</sup> March 2009****Shanklin**

Coach Holiday.com (Minsterly)

YN06 NZV

Hemmings, Bideford

K19 HEM

Parry's International

YJ08 NTO

Robinsons

NB03 BUZ, FN04 JZW (271)

Roseglen Hotel, Shanklin (M11 minibus)

HW02 EPA

Simpsons Travel, Aberdeen

SM08 SON

Unkown

T507 EUB

**20<sup>th</sup> March 2009****Fishbourne**

ALS Travel

XIB 1911

Nova Travel, Chesterfield

YJ07 DWD

Unmarked white? (Roggies,

Barnsley)

YN04 AYA

**R.H.S. Wisley**

City Circle

BN08 OOC

Swallow, Romford

YU04 AUL

Tellings Golden Miller

YN06 CJZ

**Shanklin**

Wight Rollers

FG03 KLL

**21<sup>st</sup> March 2009****Shanklin**

Colesium

MIB 651

**22<sup>nd</sup> March 2009****Shanklin**

Age Concern, Shanklin (minibus)

HW53 FPN

Anderson Travel

YJ05 FXD (B102)

Cymru

T717 DAX

Daish's Coaches

YN03 WXT

MHS Travel, Stourport-on-Severn

N100 MHS (149)

Ridgeways, Wantage

MJI 1679

Wonkey Eyed Bus Co, Ryde (M16 minibus)

T71 HAP

**23<sup>rd</sup> March 2009**

**Ryde**

Brookline  
MA07 KXU  
Dovers  
YN03 AUV  
Highcliffe Holidays  
X61 CNY  
Leo Leisure (minibus, LDV  
Convoy)

VE02 TXC

Moss Motor Tours (Southern  
Vectis)  
XDL 872 (235)

**24<sup>th</sup> March 2009**

**Shanklin**

Blakes, Tiverton, Devon  
WIB 925  
Cresta  
P31 TTX  
Diamond

WA54 ECV

Elkin Travel, Sutton Coldfield  
JUI 9568  
Hoopers, Morecombe  
V91 EAK  
Robinsons  
NE03 BUZ (273)  
Shearings  
GT02 WAP (445)  
Shearings (Euro Tourer)  
MX05 AJY (729)

**Depot Watch**

First Leeds Hunslet Park observed from public roads by Chas Ackroyd on March 22nd

10019 11031 10042 30787 30810 30812 30853 30766 30869 30918 30925 31673 31770 34234  
37122 37126 31129 31669 37671 37679 37680 40600 40609 40614 40617 40652 40659 53909  
60780 60781 61031 61033 61046 61108 66700 66702 66706 66708 66756 66995 69310 69311  
69312

York Pullman Depot visited by Michael Spriggs on April 6th

792 UXA AEZ 7248 MFF 578 MIW 5785 MIW 5788 MIW5791 MIW5792 NIB 5232 NJZ 9086 NJZ  
9182 OLZ 3934 PBZ 9155 WLZ 3488 PHL 454R BCL 213T KFM 192T SDW 98V BYX 143V KRU  
850W MTU 119Y EFD 923Y RCA 169Y A613 THV B13 KJT B18 KJT B19 KJT B81 WUV F255  
YTJ F817 URN G94 RGG H566 MPD H929 DRJ K1 YPB M209 VSX M221 VSX T101 KGP T102  
KGP T103 KGP W666 WMS YN51 MKZ PO56 JFV DB08 YPB EB58 YPB

York First Depot visited by Michael Spriggs on April 14<sup>th</sup>

60876 60877 60882 60897 60898 60899 60900 60902 60920 60921 60922 60926 60927 61363  
69000 69001 69003 69268 69269 69276 69278 69279 69363 69367 69369 69370 69372 69375  
69377, 69378,  
Driver Trainer Vehicle 61364

**Fleet Look**

**Damory Coaches**

My thanks are extended to Adrian Boyt who sent this in. Depots are located at Blandford Forum, Blandford Height Ind Est (BH) and Upper Shaftesbury Rd (SP) along with the Wilts and Dorset depot at Poole (PO)

526	L526 YDL	Volvo B10B	Alexander	B51F	SP
710	TIL 6710	Leyland Olympian	Leyland	CH41/29F	SP
714	TIL 6714	Leyland Olympian	Leyland	CH41/29F	BH
715	TIL 6715	Leyland Olympian	Leyland	CH41/29F	PO
716	TIL 6716	Leyland Olympian	Leyland	CH41/29F	PO
717	TIL 6717	Leyland Olympian	Leyland	CH41/29F	PO
718	TIL 6718	Leyland Olympian	Leyland	CH41/29F	PO
719	TIL 6719	Leyland Olympian	Leyland	CH41/29F	PO
720	TIL 6720	Leyland Olympian	Leyland	CH41/29F	PO
727	TIL 6727	Leyland Olympian	Leyland	CH41/29F	PO
2616	R616 NFX	Optare Solo	Optare	B30F	SP
2659	V659 DFX	Optare Solo	Optare	B30F	SP
3171	Y171 PEL	DAF DB250	Optare Spectra	H50/27F	BH

3177	HJ02 WDL	DAF DB250	Optare Spectra	H50/27F	SP
3184	HJ52 VGA	DAF DB250	Optare Spectra	H50/27F	SP
3185	HF03 AEG	DAF DB250	Optare Spectra	H50/27F	SP
5015	M577 RCP	DAF SB3000	Van Hool Alizee	C55F	BH
5018	M580 RCP	DAF SB3000	Van Hool Alizee	C55F	BH
5019	WIL2574	DAF DE40XSSB	Van Hool Alizee T9	C49FT	BH
5020	YJ03 PPV	DAF DE33WSSB	Van Hool Alizee T9	C51FT	BH
5026	LIL 2665	Volvo B10M-62	Plaxton Premiere 320	C53	BH
5032	XXI 8502	Volvo B10M-60	Plaxton Premiere 350	C53F	BH
5038	R401 DWL	Volvo B10M-62	Plaxton Excalibur	C53F	BH
5039	DEL 489	Volvo B10M-62	Plaxton Excalibur	C53F	BH
5040	R259 DWL	Volvo B10M-62	Plaxton Excalibur	C53F	BH
5044	M15 WAL	DAF SB220	Ikarus Citybus	B48F	SP
5046	N15 WAL	DAF SB220	Ikarus Citybus	B49F	SP
5047	N16 WAL	DAF SB220	Ikarus Citybus	B49F	SP
5058	L52 UNS	Volvo B10B	Northern Counties	B31F	SP
5059	L53 UNS	Volvo B10B	Northern Counties	B31F	SP
5081	YN05 AUC	Irisbus 397e.12.35	Beulas Stergo	C53F	BH
5082	YN05 AUK	Irisbus 397e.12.35	Beulas Stergo	C53F	BH
5090	N602 FJO	Volvo B10B	Plaxton Verde	B51F	PO
5091	N606 FJO	Volvo B10B	Plaxton Verde	B51F	SP
5092	N416 NRG	Volvo B10B	Plaxton Verde	B51F	SP
5124	P94 DOE	LDV Convoy	LDV	M16	BH
5128	Y319 YEL	LDV Convoy	LDV	M16	BH
5129	BJ03 FHZ	LDV Convoy	LDV	M16	BH
5130	WA03 CRV	LDV Convoy	LDV	M16	BH
5144	N544 UFX	Optare Metrorider	Optare	B31F	SP
5146	N226 VRC	Optare Metrorider	Optare	B31F	BH
5147	N546 UFX	Optare Metrorider	Optare	B31F	BH
5148	N547 UFX	Optare Metrorider	Optare	B31F	BH
5169	HX03 UBP	LDV Pilot	Lonsdale	M8	BH
5174	WA03 CRK	LDV Convoy	LDV	M16	BH
5401	HF08 TKY	Scania N270	East Lancs	CH51/35F	BH
5601	R601 NFX	Optare Solo M850	Optare	B30F	PO
5602	R602 NFX	Optare Solo M850	Optare	B30F	PO
5603	R617 NFX	Optare Solo M850	Optare	B30F	SP
6051	F783 AFX	Dennis Javelin	Plaxton Paramount	C33F	BH
4413	BFX 666T	Bristol VR	ECW	H43/31	##

## Heritage vehicle currently stored at Swanage

Also in reserve or awaiting disposal are Bova Futura 5028 (L211 CRU), 5029 (L212 CRU), 5030 (L213 CRU), Bristol VRs 4422 (ELJ214V), 5063 (URU 691S), 5066 (DDL 673S), 5073 (UDL 671S), 5076 (URU 690S), LDV 5170 (R37GDE) and DAF 3507 (L6507AJT).

### The non PSV bit

Info kindly sent in by reader John Nobbin on full size buses operated by Bedfordshire County Council got me finding out more about their fleet. You can see a picture selection by googling the council name and 'fotopic'. Amongst the shoals of minis they operate are:

N218HWX	Volvo B10M	Plaxton	S468JGB	Volvo B10M	Plaxton
N224HWX	Volvo B10M	Plaxton	YN55WSY	Volvo B7R	Plaxton Profile

N245HWX Volvo B10M Plaxton MUI4842 DAF SB250 Optare Spectra

Together with 20-30 seat Mercedes Benz that are too numerous to list here, in its attractive blue/green livery the London Borough of Greenwich has:

BU05 EEG	BMC 850RE	BMC	BU05 EEN	BMC 850RE	BMC
BU05 EEH	BMC 850RE	BMC	BX06 OBC	BMC 900	BMC
BU05 EEJ	BMC 850RE	BMC	BX06 OBD	BMC 900	BMC
BU05 EEM	BMC 850RE	BMC	BX56 XBK	BMC 900	BMC

Local authorities all over the UK operate these bigger buses. So, be like John Nobbin and send me the info from your area.

Now for something completely different, as they say. Operating in the capital to give tourists insights into the scarier aspects of town is the London Ghostbus, Routemaster JJD566D. I happened on this parked up in the yard of Wandsworth's Young's brewery, must be a message there somewhere (sure is time I reached for another bottle of "Kew brew" ed). Quite a sight. Jet black, windows draped with funeral curtains, and London Necrobus titles. I am told that, on the inside, the creepy crew and scary effects add to the experience.

Interestingly, in Dublin a few days later Dublin Bus Leyland Olympian RH31/90-D-1031 was seen advertising itself as the world's only ghostbus!! Get to see this via the terrific site [www.irishbuses.com](http://www.irishbuses.com). Ummm. Anyone know of yet more 'theme' buses out there?

Whilst on the subject of the life beyond, are their any more like the wonderfully enterprising Nuthall Methodist Church in Nottingham? As their illustrated website shows, these good people are actually in the coach hire business with suitably liveried Van Hool bodied DAF SB3000 SIL5864 (K512RJX/VIL9336).

I have managed to answer one of my own questions from the April mag! The second bright yellow promotional bus for Corona Beer alongside Metroliner BYX275V is open topped Routemaster CUV25OC - seen recently in North London.

Take a look at the Across Trust website for shots of their 'Jumbulance' ambulance coaches used on pilgrimages to Lourdes and European tours. Heading down the M6 have been seen Van Hool T915s A13NDL (J17NCR/S75MGN) and A19NDL (J18ACR), operated on their good work by Across Scotland from Kirkintilloch.

Now a query. Close by the Leeds - Hull railway in East Yorkshire between Gilberdyke and Broomfleet stations is a retired green and orange Mark 2 Metrobus in use as a store, messroom, or even house. I am told this once worked for Sureline Suncruisers of Scarborough. Does anyone have its i/d?

The spotting season is well and truly upon us now and with it the season too for morris dancers, twirlers, kazoo bands and similar such. Amongst the bus enthusiast's best friends these people as they all seem to chug around in some ancient decker. Reported stored in a yard on Webber Road, Kirkby in Merseyside is ex Greater Manchester PTE's Leyland Olympian B109SJA belonging now to the local Stardust Morris Dancers. There are scores of this sort of bus around, so get sending me the details (and the pictures, of course).

Noted in Glasgow during April has been RCL2233 a Routemaster in use as a as Mobile Art Gallery

Please remember, my address is on page 2 of the mag. Or by post to Gez if you are not on the net.

## The Gallery



Go Ahead London operate a service to the Rally this year using Routemaster RM9



London Transport operated well over 1000 MCW Metrobuses and here is M1000



The DM/DMS class was LT's first serious attempt at a Routemaster replacement



Representing the sizable Titan fleet operated is T1101 looking resplendent



A bus that never seems to age is the Leyland National of which Mark 1 LS24 representing



First sent Dennis Trident / Plaxton President TN33333, now repainted all over red.

### The Trident

**£1.25 Where Sold**