

# Trident

the monthly magazine of the

# GB Bus Group

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**GBBG**

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The closing date for the May magazine will be April 25th
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# Editorial

Well a bit more of a settled month, this time, I think the larger size pictures in the gallery are much better and I am going to leave them how they are. Geoff Moseley has excelled himself with news from his end of the country this month, but warns he will be away next time and so will not be as much. At least it will give me a chance to catch up with other areas. Rod Whitaker visited the Cheltenham Festival on March 18<sup>th</sup> and has sent a log in so look out for it in Out and about, I am sure it will tempt you into a visit next year. Also in out and about s Arthur and Debbie's report on our 3<sup>rd</sup> trip.

This years Arriva Yorkshire Tour, you will have read about it last year, will take place on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> May The cost will be £7 which includes souvenir programme. The trip commences at Dewsbury Bus Station at 10am takes in all five of the Arriva Yorkshire depots, Heckmondwike, Dewsbury, Belle Isle, Castleford and Selby, before returning to Dewsbury Bus Station around 1730. Proceeds to The Sick Children's Trust. Bookings can be made from 1st April on [www.arrivatour.co.uk](http://www.arrivatour.co.uk) or call Tony Salmon on 01924 511458.

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Membership gives you:

- A high quality monthly magazine 'Trident' - covering all aspects of buses in the UK past and present: fleet news, preservation, non-psv. (the photos can be viewed in colour through the Members Area on the website). Joint membership also entitles you to the ICRS magazine, 'Tracks'
- An informative website, with access to previous editions of the magazine.
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NB. Please note that from 1<sup>st</sup> May the annual rate will increase to £15.00 and the Joint rate to £27.00 (saving £4.00 with ICRS). If you are due to renew beyond this date why not renew early to save.

From 17<sup>th</sup> February the 20% discount offered by HB Publications on their books has been withdrawn but you can still obtain the discount by contacting HBP direct, though this is not as a GBBG member.

A very warm welcome to the following new members: Chris Abbott (Derby), Ian Attenborough (Hinckley), Paul Draper (Exeter), Andrew McPartlin (Northampton), Les Mitchell (Bishops Cleeve), Martin Phillips (Exeter), Fred Rugg (Tiverton), Neil Smith (Ipswich), Clive Tustin (Birmingham), Gerald Uzzell (Manchester)

On membership cards generally, please remember on renewal, your new card(s) will be sent out with the next issue of Trident. Now this may mean that you might wait up to five weeks if you've just missed the end of month cut off when Trevor sends cards out for distribution. So there is no need to send a separate sae for card.

# News from the Industry

**Deutsche Bahn** the German transport group, with interests through out Europe have announced that they have made an unsolicited bid for the Arriva Group, this follows the ending of talks between Arriva and the French group Keolis over a possible merger between the two.

**Edwards of Llantwit Fardre** is to return to local bus work for the first time in more than 40 years. Two

services are to commence in April route 100 linking Pontypridd with Beddau and the 400 from Cardiff to Beddau.

**Go Ahead** announced on 9<sup>th</sup> March that it had purchased Konectbus, based in East Dereham in Norfolk, the operation which was set up by Steve Challis and Julian Patterson, back in 1999 had built up a reputation for its smart modern fleet of 39 blue and yellow vehicles, the latest being four ADL Enviro 400 for newly won Park & Ride service. Despite the takeover day to day operations will remain unchanged.

**Sadiq Khan** The Minister for Transport has announced that £89 million is to be made available for the new Luton Guided Busway, which will be built on a 7.2 mile stretch between Luton and Houghton Regis. Construction is due to commence this coming December with completion scheduled for April 2012. Given the continuing delays to the Cambridge Busway, which still shows no sign of opening, it will be interesting to see if this actually happens.

**Western Greyhound** will be holding its annual running day using heritage vehicles on Saturday 26th June 2010. There will be some heritage running on the previous day and it is likely that operation will take place on some of the new routes that have been taken on since last year, such as 501 Penzance to Lands End and 550 Truro to St Mawes on the Roseland peninsular. The following day, Sunday 27th sees the annual Cornwall Coastal run which starts and finishes in Summercourt. The company has also introduced three additional return journeys on the 524 St Austell to Fowey route replacing journeys withdrawn by First Devon and Cornwall.

**Ulsterbus** has signed a contract with Wrightbus for the delivery of 48 12m Solar Rural single decks on Scania K230 Chassis. The order follows delivery of 61 Volvo / Wright Eclipse.

**Webberbus** based in Somerset has ordered eight Optare Versa 1100s for use on the newly won Taunton Flyer Park & Ride service which it will commence operation on during October this year. The contract will cover two Park & Ride sites at Silk Mill where there are 600 spaces and Taunton Gateway with capacity for 1000 cars.

**North West England** is set for £2.1m share of £15m to kick start bus services. Eight areas in the North West of England are set to receive a share of £15m for bus services announced by Transport Minister Sadiq Khan

The Kickstart programme offers financial backing for Passenger Transport Authorities to help launch new or improved services, with the focus on getting more people travelling on buses as well as improving accessibility.

Residents in Stockport, Oldham, Bolton, Salford, Tameside, Wigan, Manchester, Rochdale, Morecambe and Lancaster are all set to benefit from a £2.1million aggregate share of this second round of Kickstart grants.

Sadiq Khan said: "Local bus services are the backbone of our transport system and can provide a vital lifeline for communities. We have already strengthened powers for local authorities to improve bus services and regularly invest in local transport schemes which help make bus travel an attractive alternative to the car – cutting congestion and bringing benefits for the environment. "But some bus services which could provide an important transport link might not always be commercially attractive from the outset. That is why we launched the Kickstart scheme and why I am delighted to announce funding for Greater Manchester and Lancashire in this latest round of grants. This will help fund new and improved bus routes, ensuring local people get the services they need." Kickstart is targeted at schemes which have the potential to become successful but which initially might be more marginal in commercial terms and require some financial help to start them off. Projects which aim to increase bus patronage – leading to a reduction in congestion and benefits to the environment – as well as to improve accessibility and social inclusion were selected for Kickstart funding. This round of grants also focused on schemes which make use of the new bus powers in the Local Transport Act 2008. Good practice on the use of these new powers will then be shared with other local authorities and operators.

The funding announced today for the North West is:

To Greater Manchester PTA:

- £151,905 for enhanced Service 76 from Oldham to Manchester via Failsworth;
- £171,128 for enhanced Services 322/327 between Stockport and Haughton Green, and Stockport and Denton;
- £340,131 for enhanced Services 664/674 circulars in Wigan;
- £230,000 for enhancement of Service 199 between Stockport and Manchester Airport;
- £382,076 for MediaCityUK Bus/Rail Station Link;
- £401,300 for Rochdale - Oldham- Ashton - Stockport Orbital;
- £117,457 for Sunday daytime frequencies into regional centre from Bolton and Whitefield;

And to Lancashire PTA:

- £359,793 for Bay Link: X12 Morecambe to Lancaster.

# Fleet News

## Arriva

**Cymru:** YJ 55 BJK, one of the Optare Tempo's acquired from First Cymru back in December has now been transferred to Richard Bros, Cardigan. From Arriva North West has come 806 (S876 SNB) a Dennis Dart SLF / Plaxton Pointer B28F.

**London:** Well not all the Enviro 200Darts mentioned last month managed to get registered by the end of February so the 59 plates noted in last months magazine have been voided for what are below. ENL52-54 were used for training during February and were able to keep their booked registrations

ENL49	LJ10 CSF	ENL53	LJ59 LVM	ENL56	LJ10 CSX	ENL59	LJ10 CTE
ENL50	LJ10 CSO	ENL54	LJ59 LVN	ENL57	LJ10 CSY	ENL60	LJ10 CTF
ENL51	LJ10 CSU	ENL55	LJ10 CSV	ENL58	LJ10 CSZ	ENL61	LJ10 CTK
ENL52	LJ59 LVL						

The last pair of the Wightbus Integral double decks for route 59 did not arrive in time to take their book 59 registrations and have been given 10 plates DW296 (LJ10 CUH) and DW297 (LJ10 CUK)

Movements this time comprise DLA2-7 TH - Nu: DLA22, 34 TH - CNT: DLA228 N - AR via TH: DLA371, 375 BN - TH: DLA372 N - TH: DLA373 N - TH via BN: DLA376-380, 383, 384, 385 N - TH: DLA386 CT - TH: T53 TCu - TC:

**Manchester:** The schools depot at Ince will close at the end of April, with the Wigan depot on Meverley St will follow later in the year with the allocation due to move in to the Volvo dealership of Thomas Hardie at Bryn. A site that was originally built for the Shearings fleet several years ago now. Volvo B6s 40231 and 40232 have been sold to PVS (Barnsley) and have been scrapped

**North East:** More of the Temsa Avenue B47F single decks have been delivered to Redcar 4709 (YJ10 DHC), 4710 (YJ10 DHE), 4711 (YJ10 DHD), 4713 (YJ10 DHG), 4714 (YJ10 DHK), 4715 (YJ10 DHL), 4718 (YJ10 DFU), 4719 (YJ10 DFV) and 4720 (YJ10 DFX). Also are more SB200 / Wright Pulsar 2s 1435 (NK10 CEO), 1436 (NK10 CEU), 1437 (NK10 CEV), 1438 (NK10 CEX), 1439 (NK10 CEY), 1440 (NK10 CFA), 1441 (NK10 CFD), 1442 (NK10 CFE) and 1443 (NK10 CFF). These will be split between Redcar and Stockton. The depot swap between Arriva and Go Ahead took place on March 27<sup>th</sup>, as I went to press I was still awaiting full details as several buses are also being swapped between the fleets.

**The Shires:** The allocation at Stevenage has been formally split at Babbage Rd are 2489, 2493, 2494, 3281, 3282, 3293, 3407-3412, 3550-3566, 3806-3808, 4361-4363, 4367, 4368 whilst at Norton Green are the following 3085, 3086, 3219, 3227, 3300-3304, 3306-3314, 3322, 3323, 3386, 3457-3459, 3491, 3493, 3494, 3498, 3809, 3810, 3868-3872, 4065-4069, 4516-4620, 4625

## First Group

**Cymru:** Further acquisitions to record are 23204 (YN04 YHZ) Scania K114EB / Irizar Century C44FT in National Express livery, which has come from First Coaches and 41340/41/46 T340/41 ALR and V346 DLH Dennis Dart SLF Marshall B25F, from First London.

**Edinburgh:** Arthur advises of a couple of allocations 34148 now Larbert, 34152 at Musselborough and 41342 now Livingston.

**London:** Hot on the heels of VN37827-37842, the next batch VN37843-37864 for route 259 are in the course of delivery to Northumberland Park garage, from Wrights. They are transiting via Hayes for pre delivery checks and ibus fitment.

VN37843	BV10 WWA	VN37849	BV10 WWG	VN37855	BV10 WWN	VN37860	BV10 WWB
VN37844	BV10 WWT	VN37850	BV10 WWH	VN37856	BV10 WWO	VN37861	BV10 WWU
VN37845	BV10 WWC	VN37851	BV10 WWJ	VN37857	BV10 WWP	VN37862	BV10 WWX
VN37846	BV10 WWD	VN37852	BV10 WWK	VN37858	BV10 WWR	VN37863	BV10 WWY
VN37847	BV10 WWE	VN37853	BV10 WWL	VN37859	BV10 WWS	VN37864	BV10 WWZ
VN37848	BV10 WWF	VN37854	BV10 WWM				

Note the registrations of 37844 and 37860 are out of sync, but are as noted.

A myriad of movements around the fleet this time around, the allocation letters used from the Lea

Interchange Garage has been changed to LI to fall in line with other organizations, VNL32249, 32250 to Cascade pool: TNL32890 HS - UX: TNL32929, TN32964, TN33072-33074, TN33191 NP - DM: TN33197, 33198 X - DM: TN33229 DM - G: TN33231 NP - G: TN33232 NP - DM: VNL32249-32276 X - Xw: VNL32313-32327 NP - DM: DM41272 DM - NP: DML41421 UX - HSs: DML41323, 41425 LI - Hsu: DML41429 WJ - LI: DML41430 DM - LI: DMC41494, 41495, 41499 LI - UX: VNL32313-32327 are currently being used on rail replacement service linking Stratford and Hampstead Heath running until the end of May.

**Northampton:** Volvo Citybuses 38083 (F83 XBD) and 38098 (J298 GNV) have both been withdrawn.

**Potteries:** Arriving from West Yorkshire have been Scania L94UB / Wright Floline 60064 (T822 SFS), 60065 (T823 SFS) and d60066 (T824 SFS). Several vehicles sold to PVS for scrap have been Dennis Darts 40100, 40115, 40116, 40120, 40123 and 40126 along with Mercedes-Benz Varios 50023, 50033, 50035 and 50058. Similar 50038, 50049, 50057, 50059 and 50060 are no longer on the current fleet list.

**South Yorkshire:** PVS (Carlton) has taken Volvo B6Les 40483 and 40490 along with Volvo B10Ms 60503, 60542, 60545 and 60546 for scrap

**West Yorkshire:** PVS has been busy with buses from here as well taking Volvo Citybuses 30350, 30359 and 30365, Dennis Darts 40634, 40635, Dennis Lances 60953, 60955 and 60967 and Mercedes-Benz Mini 50268

**Wyvern:** Transferred from Bristol, for operation on a private school contract, have been Scania Coaches 23305 (YN54 NXX) and 23306 (YN54 NXY). Dennis Dart 47005 (N305 XAB) is in service at Hereford, whilst sister 47007 (N307 XAB) takes its place in the reserve fleet. Volvo Olympian 34289 (P189 TGD) has been withdrawn with a failed engine.

## Go Ahead Group

**Blue Star:** 626 (K126 BUD) and 627 (K127 BUD) Volvo B10B / Northern Counties have gone for scrap.

**Brighton & Hove:** Volvo B10BLE Wright Renown's 220 (R220 HCD) and 222 R322 HCD have been transferred to Oxford Bus.

**Hants & Dorset:** From Southern Vectis has come 712 TIL 6712 (ex F712 SDL) and 723 TIL 6723 (ex G723 XDL) Leyland bodied Olympians

**London:** Plenty of movements around the fleet this time as PVLs are readied for being returned to the lessor:- LDP47 SW - BV: LDP206 A - AF: NV170, 171 ALc - PLc: PVL32 SW - BX: PVL52, 54 BX - BXu: PVL59 NX - AL: PVL63 AL - NX: PVL72 PM - BX: PVL79 AL - SW: PVL90, 91 BVu - BX: PVL102 ALu - AL: PVL134 PM - AL: PVL169 PM - SW: PVL172-177, 208, 210-215 BVu - BX: PVL216 BVu - NXc: PVL257, 261, 271 BX - MWw: PVL262 NXc - NXw: PVL273 NX - PM: VP18, 19 store - MA: WV124 Q - SW: WV152 SW - Q: LDP77 and 79 have been sold to Ensigbus.

**Marchwood Motorways:** Acquired from Solent Blue Line in December was 408 HF05 GGO a Volvo B7TL /East Lancs CO49/29F, and 2634 (T634 AJT) an Optare Solo; while in February, 455 (HW07 CXV) and 456 (HW07 CXW) Mercedes-Benz Citaro's arrived from Southern Vectis.

**North East:** Unsure if I have noted that two Volvo / Wright Eclipse Urban are running here 9162 (YJ59 AZN) and 9163 (BG59 FYB)

**Plymouth Citybus:** No less than 12 Optare Solo's from Go North East have been acquired. They are VU52 UEE, VU52 UEF, NM02 DNU, MX53 FEF, MX03 YDD, GP02 DPV, NK54 DEU, NK54 DFA, NK54 DFC, NK54 NFD, VU02 TTK and VU52 UES. They are to replace M/Benz 709D's.

**Solent Blue Line:** From Marchwood has come 779 (T749 JPO) a Dennis Trident SFD East Lancs H46/27F.

**Southern Vectis:** Numerous acquisitions to record this month. In December 401-404 HF54 KXT/KXU/KXV/KXW Volvo B7TL East Lancs CO49/29F arrived from Wilts & Dorset and in February, 024 EA05 KZC Ford Transit came from Docklands Minibuses, 025 EU54 MEV Iveco 35S13 came from Meteor Parking, 205 F783 AFX (ex F910 UPR) Dennis Javelin Plaxton C33F came from Hants & Dorset, 291 P191 PBP Iveco 59.12 Mellor B27F came from Tourist, 2545 N545 UFX and 6225 N225 VRC Optare Metrorider B31F arrived from Tourist and finally, P125 RWR and P887 PWW DAF SB3000 Ikarus arrived from Marchwood. 024 and 025 will be used for crew ferry vehicles, the Volvo B7TL's are on loan.

**Wilts & Dorset:** Acquired from Meteor Parking are Optare Solo's YJ06 FYB-FYE and now numbered 2705-2708 respectively, from Southern Vectis have come 306/307 HW54 BUA/BUE Dennis Dart SLF Alexander B27F and from Go North East are 2696-2701 NK54 DEU/DFA/DFC/DFD, GP02 DPV, VU02 TTK, VU02 UES and MX03 YDD Optare Solo's.

# National Express Group

**West Midlands:** New at Yardley Wood are these new Scania K230UB B43F single decks

1909	BX59 NSU	1914	BX59 NTC	1919	BX59 NTJ	1924	BX10 ABF
1910	BX59 NSV	1915	BX59 NTD	1920	BX59 NTK	1925	BX10 ABK
1911	BX59 NSY	1916	BX59 NTE	1921	BX59 NTL	1926	BX10 ABN
1912	BX59 NSZ	1917	BX59 NTF	1922	BX59 NTM	1927	BX10 ABO
1913	BX59 NTA	1918	BX59 NTG	1923	BX59 NTN	1928	BX10 ABU

With these similar vehicles currently in the course of delivery to Acocks Green garage

1929	BX10 ABV	1935	BX10 ACV	1940	BX10 ADV	1945	
1930	BX10 ABZ	1936	BX10 ACY	1941	BX10 ADZ	1946	
1931	BX10 ACF	1937	BX10 ACZ	1942	BX10 AEA	1947	BX10 AEF
1932	BX10 ACJ	1938	BX10 ADO	1943	BX10 AEB	1948	
1933	BX10 ACO	1939	BX10 ADU	1944	BX10 AEC	1949	BX10 AEJ
1934	BX10 ACU						

Just a few movements this time: 533 WB - res: 554, 601 PE - res: 633 res - WB: 680 WB - res: 1351 PB - res: 1358 sold: 1373 PB - res: 1449 PE - PB: 2654 PB - w: 2769 AG - w: 3032 PB - w: 4393 YW - BC

## Stagecoach

**Cambridgeshire:** Just the one to record this time, Volvo Olympian 16113 (R113 XNO) is now at Ely from Fenstanton. Expect a massive amount of swapping around during the next few weeks as a large fleet of ADL Enviro 400s are delivered to lot Cambridge and Peterborough.

**East:** New arrivals have been three Scania N230UD / ADL Enviro 400s 15606 (KX59 BBN), 15607 (KX59 BBO) and 15608 (KX59 BCY). They are due in service at Kettering for the X4 service, eventually cascading other vehicles down the fleet to remove Leyland Olympian's at the bottom of the food chain. Already 14055 and 14062 have been sold to Whippets of Swavesey with 14033 and 14063 now on the disposal list. Dennis Darts 34097 and 34098 have moved from Northampton to Bedford with older Dart 32140 now for disposal. RM Buses (dealer) have taken Dennis Dart 32582 (J702 YRM) and Mercedes Minibus 40349 M349 DRP).

**East Kent & Hastings:** Now in service at Herne Bay are the final Scania N230UD/ ADL Enviro400 double decks, 15559 (GN59 EXK), 15560 (GN59 EXL), 15561 (GN59 EXM) and 15562 (GN59 EXO). Scania 15330 (J<sup>m</sup>30 XKY) is now back in reserve after being replaced by Volvo Olympian 16377 from Herne Bay. Similar 15338 (J138 HMT) is now on the disposal list. Volvo Olympian 16378 has moved int reserve. Dennis Dart SLFs 33374 (T342 PNV) and 33377 (T58 HNH) have been allocated to Hastings, where they will replace a pair of B10Ms

**East Midlands:** The new Enviro 300s entered service in Hull on March 27<sup>th</sup> on routes 1 and 2. Other movements this time 16465 HLr - HL: 16474 SPr - HLr: 20286 WPr - LI: 23953 LI -res: 33849 SPr - MD: 34461 res - LI: 34465 LI - Llr:

### East Scotland

**(Fife):** Buses sold recently have been Leyland Olympian's 14415 and 14498 to Dunsmore for scrap, along with Scania 15305 and 15308, with 14720 and 14725 now with dealer Minerva of Glasgow, who have also taken Dennis Dart 32211 and B10M coaches 52012, 52017 and 52018. Ensignbus have Dennis Darts 32206, 32207 and 32213. Fleet movements last month were 16420 S - res: 16422 S - A: 16429 S - res: 17060 res - S: 20316, 20318 res - A: 20338 A - S: 22268 res - S: 22276, 22277 A - G: 22712 res - Strathtay:

**(Strathtay & Perth):** Sold for scrap have been Mercedes Minibuses 40176, 41189, 41951 and 42236 along with B10M coaches 52054 and 52187

**Manchester:** This moths alterations consist 16124, 16183, 16188 PS - dis: 16772 res - PS: 18288 HE - PS: 19226 ST - PS: 22160 res - AZ: 22181 PS - res: Operating at Ashton during late March has been Stagecoach North West Solo 47148. This has been needed for route 390 whilst the regular bus 47559 is prepared for its MOT. With Mercedes 40660 being off the road and no spare Solo at Stockport another source had to be found.

**Merseyside:** Following the delivery of the final Enviro 300s A large number of Volvo B10M's that had made up the reserve fleet are now for disposal 20317, 30320, 20801, 20802, 20858, 20859, 20901-20903, 20905, 20910, 20913, 20921, 20931, 20934 and 20945. These have been joined by Volvo

Olympians 16411 and 16441. Dennis Dart SLFs 33140, 33141 and 33142 are now in reserve and are reported to be heading north to Bluebird. Mercedes 709D 40401 was collected by Fleetlink, from Morecambe, where a number of Merseyside vehicles are stored on March 26<sup>th</sup>.

#### **North East**

**(Busways)** Changes this month has seen Dennis Darts 32791, 32792 and 32793 being sold to Ensignbus, whilst sold for scrap have been Volvo B10M 20262, Dennis Dart 32728 and Mercedes 709D 40491. 16705 WE - d/l: 16711 res - WE: 20551 SS - d/l: 33490, 34611 res - SS: 35190 SS - d/l

**(Transit):** Only two to report 20120 into reserve at Stockton with 20841 in reserve at Hartleool

**North West:** The new summer timetable in the Lakes commenced at the end of March bringing out of hibernation the Open Top fleet. New, to operate the Honister Pass services are a pair of Slimline Optare Solos 47721 (PX10 CKU) and 47722 (PX10 CKV). The usual array of movements to note 14210 BA - res: 16184 (P484 HBA), 16185 (P485 HBA) S/C Manchester - CEr, 16185 since moving to Kendal: 16353 PR - CEr: 16647, 16654, 16874 LL - LLr: 18138 res - BA: 18155 Cyr - PR: 20436 CE - LLr: 20735 LL - LLr: 20779 CE - LL: 32923 res - CE: 40026 BA - LLr: 40028 LL - BA: 42090, 42090 CEr - CE: 42531, 42533 CE - dis: 42534, 42565, 42566 LL - LLr: 42577 CEr - CE: 42670, 42672 CE - CEr: 47007 LL - LLr: 47008 CYr - KL: 52635 LLr - LL:

**Oxfordshire:** Volvo B6BLE 31361 is back in service at Banbury out of the small reserve fleet with 31320 moving from Banbury across to Oxford

**Preston Bus:** Back at Deepdale are Dennis Tridents 18582 and 18583 along with Optare Solo 47767 and Scania Esteem's 28510-28521

**South:** Vehicles sold have been 13634, 13640 and 52169 have gone to Ensignbus with Trevor Wrigley (Barnsley) taking 20617, 32577 and 40726. Confirming the allocations for the new Scania's 15588-15596 at WG: 15597-15600 at CR and 15601-15605 at PM: Recent movements consist of 14818 CR - dis: 16277 PM - CR: 16278 PM - res: 16366 res - dis: 16367 AT - dis: 16373. 16374 AT - dis: 16379 WI - dis: 16380 PM - dis: 16504 AR - AT: 16626 AT - dis: 16745 PM - res: 16748, 16756 PM - AT: 17672 CR - PM: 18510-514, 18519-521, 18523, 524, 526 all awaiting repaint and reallocation: 18512 CR - AR: 18515 PM - AR: 18518, 18522, 18525, 18527 WG - WI: 20607, 20631, 20632 res - dis: 32452 CR - res: 32457 res - CR: 33376, 33382 res - PM: 34015 PM - AR: 34020 PM - res:

**South West:** A vast amount of changes to record this time around. Firstly departures have been to Chepstow Classic Bus Leyland Olympian 14987 and Dennis Darts 32056, 32079, 32084, 32099, 32434 and 32599. Fleetlink have taken Mercedes minis 40456 and 41954. LDV Convoy 49614 (BU03 ZYN) has moved up to Stagecoach Merseyside. Now onto movements around the fleet:- 14717 EM - dis: 15349 EX - EM: 17005, 17009 EM - res (in reality these have been under repair at Plymouth Citybus recently): 17038, 17050 EX - EM: 20480 dis - EX: 25259 BS - res: 31706-31708 res - EX: 32429 TQ - res: 32435, 32438, 32439, 32442 TQ - dis: 32443, 32449 TQ - res: 33160, 33823, 33824 EX - TQ: 34067, 34073, 34092 S/C South - TQ: 34408, 34409 TQ - EX: 40429 TQ - dis: 40979, 41992 WN - dis: 42018, 42108 res - dis: 47582 WN - res: 47584 WN - BS: 49755 dis - WN

**Wales (incl Islwyn Borough Transport):** Former IBT Volvo B10M 52537 (E788 MDE) has been sold to Newtons Travel, probably only for spares as it was suffering from corrosion. Fleet movements have been 20359 AE - dis: 20388, 20391 res - AE: 20392 BR - paint: 33274 res - CN: 33287 BW - dis: 33290 d/l - BW:

**Warwickshire:** New arrivals from Manchester have been Volvo Olympians 16768 (S768 SVU) and 16782 (S782 RVU) both at Leamington. Leyland Olympian 14027 is now for disposal. Volvo Olympian 16580 is in service at Stratford where Trident 17054 is held in reserve. Volvo B10Ms 20213 and 20214 have been put into service at Rugby along with B6BLE 32315. Similar 31363 and 31364 have been moved to the reserve fleet.

**West:** Only note this month is that Volvo B10 20812 (N812 DNE) has been sold to Trevor Wrigley (Barnsley).

**West Scotland:** Latest movements over the last few weeks have been:- 10976 sold for scrap: 13644 d/l - AY: 20191 SR - scrapped: 20503 res - DS: 20591 DS - SR: 31378 CK - res: 34142, 34146 res - AY: 40055 AN - scrapped: 40062 K - res: 40098 AS - AN: 40985 K - res: 47357, 47358 AY - res: 50126 res - AY: 51096 AY - CK: 52263 GW - scrapped: 52350 AS - GW: 54069, 54071 S/C Bluebird - GWjv:

## **Transdev**

**Keighley & District:** Volvo B<sup>A</sup> / Alexander Dash 679 (M259 KWK) is on loan from Burnley & Pendle after Dennis Dart MPD 651 (V651 HEC) was returned to Lancashire United

**London United:** A large amount of buses have been returned to their lessors this month TA271, 275, 278, 287-290 and 292, this means that all of the batch TA251-280 along with TA287-292 have now left the fleet. These Dennis Darts have also left the fleet SDP503-539, 551-553, 556 and 557.

New Scania N230UD / Omnicity double decks have been arriving to Hounslow Heath for use on route 111

SP165	YT10 UWA	SP172	YT10 XBV	SP179	YT10 XCC	SP185	YT10 XCJ
SP166	YT10 UWB	SP173	YT10 XBW	SP180	YT10 XCD	SP186	YT10 XCK
SP167	YT10 UWD	SP174	YT10 XBX	SP181	YT10 XCE	SP187	YT10 XCL
SP168	YT10 UWF	SP175	YT10 XBY	SP182	YT10 XCF	SP188	YT10 XCM
SP169	YT10 UWG	SP176	YT10 XBZ	SP183	YT10 XCG	SP189	YT10 XCN
SP170	YT10 UWH	SP177	YT10 XCA	SP184	YT10 XCH	SP190	YT10 XCO
SP171	YT10 XBU	SP178	YT10 XCB				

A few buses swapping garages DP86 HH - AV: DP87, 97 AV - HH: DP99 V - HH: VA88 S - AV: VA102 AV - AVw: VP107 BT - BTw: VP112 BT - AV: DPS67 H - SO: SP38, 40 S - AV: SP133 HH - S: TA232, 248 FW - TV: VA85, 86 S - AV: VA297-299 S - Sw

**Lancashire United:** Volvo B6 / Alexander Dash 107 (M718 BCS) has been reinstated to service.

**Yellow Buses:** On loan from National Express are FJ 06 URG and FN 06 FLH, Volvo B12B Caetano Levante's to operate additional Southampton-London services in direct competition with First Greyhound.

## Independent Operators

### Scotland

**Ayrways:** New here, ex Gibson Direct is Optare Solo M850 SF54 ORL

**Canavan (Cumbernauld):** A new arrival here is T272 RMY, a Marshall bodied Denis Dart SLF, recently operating with Go North East.

**City Sprinter:** Recent arrivals have been for Mercedes-Benz / Plaxton Beaver 2s R49 SCH, R276 RAU, T298 LCH and T299 LCH

**Coackley (Motherwell):** Latest additions to the fleet comes from the usual latest source of buses Arriva, this time being a pair of Scania / Alexander Striders M106 RMS and M107 RMS. Also from Arriva wets Scotland are Dennis Dart / Plaxton Pointer K538 ORH and K540 ORH. Also here from Arriva is Volvo B6 / Plaxton Pointer L231 TKA

**Davies (Plean):** Brand new here is an ADL Enviro200 SN10 CAE

**Houston (Lockerbie):** You may remember me mentioning that the company was due to take over some routes from Stagecoach and that additional vehicles would probably be required, well three Optare Solo M850s have been acquired from Gibson Direct SF54 ORA, SF54 ORN and SF54 ORP

**Lothian Buses: Dennis Tridents 511 and 512 have been converted to part open top configuration for use on the "Edinburgh Tour"**

**Puma:** In service is Volvo B10M / Alexander PS L304 PSC

**Waverley Travel:** A second ADL Enviro200Dart has been delivered YX10 BHE, where it is used on a shuttle service fro the Royal Bank of Scotland, operating in all over white.

**Wilson (Gourock):** Here form F Stott & Son Milnsbridge is Volvo B10M . Plaxton Paragon A6 ESS

**Wilsons (Rhu):** Two new Opatre Solos are YJ10 EXU and YJ10 EXX have just entered service, running as yet in all over white. These have replaced two older models YJ06 FZL and YJ06 FZM

### North East & Yorkshire

**Acklams:** New into the fleet is Optare Solo YX10 AAU

**B L Travel (Pontefract):** Currently in use is an Optare Tempo demonstrator YJ59 NNZ.

**Buckley (Doncaster):** New is Neoplan Tourliner MX59 BLN.

**Clarkson (South Elmsall):** Neoplan Euroliner PJZ2182 was noted in late March in Lancaster, this being the former YR52 ZKL

**CT Plus (Hull):** Apologies but I appear to have missed the rest of the Hull Park and Ride fleet off last month so here they are BC054 (FJ59 UYK), BC055 (FJ59 UYL), BC057 (FJ59 UYF) and BC058 (FJ59 UFE).

**East Yorkshire:** The company advises of these allocation changes of late :- 20 d/l - Hull Coaching: 47

d/l - Sold : 73 d/l - Hull Coaching : 248 d/l - Sold: 249 Pocklington - Training fleet : 253 Pocklington - Elloughton : 254 Hull - Elloughton : 267, 270 Scarborough - d/l: 282 Hornsea - Pocklington: 283 Hornsea - Scarborough: 297 Hull - Sold: 300 Hornsea - Scarborough: 311 Hull - Pocklington: 315, 316, 317 Hull - Hornsea: 416 Hull - d/l: 494 Hull - Elloughton: 554 Hull - d/l: 560 Beverley - d/l: 561 Hull - Beverley: 707, 728 Elloughton - Hull : In addition 253 is now registered A16 EYC with 254 now being A17 EYC

**Halifax Bus Company:** Two recent arrivals are a pair of Enterprise Bus / Plaxton Primo B28F midi buses MX59 AUY and MX59 AVZ

**Halifax Joint Committee:** Two recent arrival from Ensignbus have been Leyland Olympian / Alexander RH 69 (H793 PVW) and Dennis Dart SLF / Plaxton Pointer 509 (P509 RYM). MCW Metrobuses 10 (C424 BUV) and 30 (KYV 730X) have been withdrawn. Dennis Darts G503 VYE and J602 KCU hav both been sold to PVS for scrap

**Ladyline (Rawmarsh):** New here from Daish Coaches (Isle of Wight) is Volvo B10M / Jonckherre C53F M322 KRY

**Lyles' (Batley):** Bova Futura W602 GUG has been re registered as 571 XKN. The previous holder of this registration MAN is now V570 EVU an dhas been sold.

**Perry's (Malton):** Correcting last months entry Eavesway tell me that YJ05 PVY is still in their fleet so what was the coach that was noted here. A definite new arrival is M-B O.816 / Plaxton Cheetah YN10 ACX

**Phoenix (Blyth):** new here is Optare Solo M880 MX07 EXU.

**Sheffield Community Transport:** Currently being evaluated is ADL Enviro 200 MX09 HHO

**Stringers (Pontefract):** New here is Dennis Dart MPD MB04 DYF. This has until been recently been with Jim Stones as is BUS 1S. Also noted operating in Castleford in mid March were Dennis Mini Pointer Darts W467 UAG and W474 UAG both previously with East Yorkshire.

**Tees Valley (Eaglescliffe):** New here is Volvo B10M / Caetano Engima FN02 RXA

**Weardale (Stanhope):** New is a Volvo B12B(T) / Jonckherre GO59 WMS

## ***North West England***

**Ashalls (Manchester):** A recent purchase, from Kettlewells is Scania K113 / Van Hool P6 KET which, like other coaches in the fleet has been up seated to a C70F

**Bu-Val Buses (Smithybridge):** New here from Poppleton (Pontefract) is Dennis Dart SLF / Caetano EU06 KDK

**Charlton (Ormskirk):** New here is DAF DE3300 / Van Hool M36 WCW

**Cosgroves (Preton):** A recent new addition is BF59 NHU

**Manchester Airport:** Two Optare Solos have been acquired, from Q-Park at Glasgow one being KX04 HRJ. Whilst brand new are three VDL Bus SB200 / Wright Pulsar 2s YJ10 DJU, YJ10 DJV and YJ10 DJX.

**Reays (Wigton):** A pair of Enterprise Bus / Plaxton Primo midi buses are now in regular use on service 75 from Carlisle PX10 ABZ and PX10 ACF both carry route branding for the service along with "CityHopper" titles

**Redline (Preston):** A couple of recent arrivals seeing use on Preston Carlisle rail replacement work during March have been Volvo B10M / Plaxton R405 FWT and Scania / Van Hool P96 GHE. They have both come from Red Lion of and may only be in use here for a short while and passing through in a dealer capacity

**Rossendale Transport:** Renumbered have been 156 (PJ53 UHV) to 206 and 157 (BX03 BXU) to 207. Similar 150-155 will gained new numbers 200-205 during repaint into the new livery

**Jim Stones (Leigh):** Until the new ADL Enviro200, on order arrives, similar MX09 HJN is on loan from ADL

**Alan Stephenson (Cowan Bridge):** Here from the defunct Princess of Kendal is Mercedes-Benz SN06 AAX.

**Warrington Coachways:** Two more Enterprise Bus / Plaxton Primos have been added to the fleet BU08 ACY and BU08 ADX acquired from Blythswood, who only recently took them from Ensignbus. Optare Solo T294 BNN went north in part exchange.

Further new additions are a pair of Volvo B7R / Plaxton Profile YN59 GPE and YN59GPF. These have been joined in March by Bova Magiq YJ10 JYX

## ***Central England***

**Birmingham International:** The coaching arm of Claribels has taken delivery of a 100 seater Volvo B9TL / Optare Olympus PN10 FOA. The vehicle looks absolutely stunning in its silver and black colours, though its large tree defender on the front does not enhance its looks.

**Claribels (Birmingham):** New is a DF SB200 / Wright Pulsar 2 B44F YJ10 DHX.

**G & J Holmes (Clay Cross):** Brand new is Volvo B7R / Plaxton Profile YN10 AAU.

**Happy Days (Woodseaves):** A pair of Volvo B10M / Van Hool Alizee T9s have been acquired T9 HDC ex Y301 KBN and T10 HDC ex Y303 KBN, both being former Shearings coaches.

**Johnsons (Henley In Arden)** Due any time now is a VDL Bova Futura YJ10 JYD

**Midland Rider:** The company was purchased by Midland , ex Choice Travel) at the end of March

The fleet at acquisition is as follows: 2153 (P153 SMW) - Dennis Dart SLF/Plaxton Pointer; 5694 (R694 WAW), 5695 (R695 WAW) - Dennis Dart SLF/East Lancs Spryte; 7349 (JDZ 2349), 7617 (CAZ 6617), 7619 (CAZ 6619), 7641 (CAZ 6641), 7805 (KDZ 5805), 7860 (K860 PCN) - Dennis Dart/Wright Handybus; 9250 (K250 CBA) - DAF SB220/Ikarus Citibus; 9377 (J377 AWT) - Leyland Lynx 2; 9450 (N450 DWJ), 9451 (N451 DWJ) - Volvo B6BLE/Wright Crusader and 9738 (G738 RTY) - DAF SB220/Optare Delta

**Parry's (Cheslyn Hay):** Two, out of an expected five Van Hools T917s are YJ10 JYN and YJ10 JYO.

**P C Coaches (Lincoln):** a new arrival here is Scania K114 / Irizar Intercentury C57F YN51 MFZ

**Second City Travel (Erdington):** The company now have five Optare Metrorider's in operation, the latest being CEO 952, an MR17 B29F version, originally registered as N808 BKN. The CEO 952 registration originally adorned a Barrow Corporation Park Royal bodied Leyland Titan, before being placed on a Leyland Leopard coach, before the company was taken over back in 1989.

**Silverdale (Nottingham):** New arrival re two Caetano Levante coaches in National Express livery FJ10 EZT and FJ10 EZU

## Wales

**Acorn (Fishguard):** Several vehicles have been noted for sale in the trade press, WIL 7214 (ex M830 RCP) DAF SB Van Hool, BU04 EYW M/Benz Touro and FJ05 HYT Volvo B12B Caetano.

**Alpine (Llandudno):** WTU 499W Bristol VRT ECW has now been sold for scrap..

**Blue Bird (Neath):** Acquired from Holgate, Chinley in January was R139 TWF M/Benz 0810D / Frank Guy B18FL while YJ55 KZU a Temsa Safari Temsa C53F came from Richmond, Barley. Bova P719 JYA is for sale and DAF SB Plaxton has now left the fleet.

**Brent Thomas (Tonypanyd):** On order for April delivery is a Volvo B12BT Jonckheere.

**Bysiau Cwm Taf (Whitland):** D607 MVR Volvo B10M Van Hool, originally new to Smiths Shearings, has gone to Plaxton, Anston.

**Caerphilly Contract Services:** M20 CJT and M40 CJT Dennis Javelin Wadham Stringer B70F have come from Turner, Bristol. Vehicles sold in January were CCZ 3187 (ex G179 RBD) Volvo B10M Jonckheere, TIL 5703 (ex G825 YJF) Volvo B10M Van Hool, and G42 RGG (ex G79 RGG) Volvo B10M Plaxton Paramount. All have been sold to Crown Radio Taxis, Worcester. Noted for sale on ebay in February were N730 EOT and N178 OUT Bluebird Q's.

**Celtic Travel (Llanidloes):** Acquired back in October from Skills, Nottingham was M631 VRB a Dennis Javelin Wadham Stringer C40F, which has now been re-registered to L66 CEL.

**Cenarth Coaches (Cenarth):** Acquired from Stagecoach in December was UIJ 412 (ex L153 BFV) a Dennis Javelin Plaxton C47F. In February came YN 08 FEK M/Benz 0816D Indcar C33F from Blue Line, Maghull. Vehicles re-registered include N9 BSL Dennis Javelin Plaxton to SUI 3305, N832 MAM Dennis Javelin Plaxton to SUI 3306, R3 HWD Dennis Javelin Caetano to R91 WFV, and S75 UEC Iveco 391.12.35 Beulas to SUI 3304.

**Chepstow Classic Buses:** FRA 527V a Leyland National has gone to Flashman, Gunnislake for scrap. Acquired from Drake, Blaina in February was N192 EMJ a M/Benz 709D Plaxton Beaver.

**Clarkes (Tredegar):** Acquired from WOW Travel, Blaina in February was KUI 1745 (ex M748 CLW) a Ford Transit DC, from First Cymru has come N472 KHU and N319 NHY Dennis Javelin Plaxton C49FT. Clynnog & Trefor

HSK 647 a Volvo B12M Jonckheere C53F has arrived from Parks of Hamilton. It is more than likely that the vehicle will be re-registered, with the current registration passing back to Parks.

**Country Bus (Undy):** N996 KUS a M/Benz 709D UVG B29F has been acquired from Doyle, Ripley.

**Cymru Coaches (Skewen):** Vehicles acquired back in December were W244 RRB a Setra S315GTHD which came from Skills, Nottingham and W662 SJF an Iveco 391E.12.35 Beulas C49FT which came from Fulcher, Stockport.

**Daves (Lampeter):** Moseley (dealer), Wellington took F806 TMD, a Volvo B10M Van Hool in January.

**Diamond (Morrison):** Dartline, Clyst St Mary now have WA05 DEU and WA05 DFC Bova FHD12.340  
**EST (Cowbridge):** M82 WBW and N419 MBW Dennis Dart 9.8SDL Plaxton have arrived from Stagecoach.

**Edwards (Llantwit Fardre):** A further vehicle has been re-registered. Van Hool T917 YJ08 NTT is now BU55 WRU.

**Express Motor (Penygroes):** Dennis Falcon East Lancs TWJ 340Y and B2 OVA (ex L766 YTN) Bova FHD12.340 have now left the fleet.

**First Call (Merthyr Tydfil):** This is the new name for Silverline. Several acquisitions to note are OWO 102X (ex VWX 363X) and NMV 384Y, both Volvo B10M Plaxton, ex White Lion, Tredegar; R701 TRV a Dennis Javelin UVG B70F which has come from Bagust, West Kingsdown; HNZ 2854 (ex M236 HNS) a Dennis Javelin Plaxton C51F, ex Sunbeam Coaches, Hevingham. Several vehicles have now left the fleet: LUI 1512 (ex J391 GKH) Dennis Dart Plaxton Pointer, YIL 8783 (ex C723 JYC) Bova FHD, C8 OVA (ex E672 JNR) Bova FHD, J549 GCD Dennis Dart Alexander, K867 LGN Dennis Dart Plaxton Pointer, N335 AHE Ford Transit, P10 ASM Marshall Minibus, R926 ENY Ford Transit, V100 CBC Dennis Dart SLF Plaxton Pointer, W213 AEV, W692 LBJ and X109 URM all Ford Transits

**GHA (Ruabon):** Two Leyland Olympian Alexander H45/32F have arrived from Stagecoach, L602/603 NOS. R632 RSE a Volvo B10M-62 Plaxton C51F has also come from Stagecoach, along with R175 VLA a Dennis Dart SLF Plaxton B35F. From Menzies, Heathrow has come YN03 UWL Scania CN94UB OmniCity B42F.

**Glamorgan Bus (Cwmbach):** M705 JDG a M/Benz 709D Alexander has come from Edwadts, Llantwit Fardre and T414 AGP a Dennis Dart SLF Marshall B28F has come from Go Ahead London.

**Hayward (Carmarthen):** Quite a bit of information this month. M734 BSJ Volvo B6 Alexander was acquired from Rhodri Evans Ffoshelig, Carmarthen in December, whilst the following vehicles have now gone to M&R Commercials, Swansea for scrap: JIL 2769 (ex E735 XSM) Volvo B10M Van Hool; LIL 7814 (ex FAD 573Y) DAF Plaxton; TIB 8571 (ex D97 BNV) Volvo B10M Jonckheere; TND 431X Volvo B10M Plaxton; B422 UFK Volvo B10M Caetano; G997 OKK Volvo B10M Caetano; G849 VAY Dennis Javelin Duple, and M734 BSJ Volvo B6 Alexander.

**Jones (Flint):** Vehicles noted for sale in the trade press include F725 MCA (ex F624 OHD), 770 HDM (ex N985 FWT) and RDM 378 (ex T159 AUA), DAF Van Hool's and Volvo B12B Plaxton YN 08 NXJ.

**Jones (Login):** The new Volvo B9R Plaxton Elite C49F is registered CU10 ABN. R160 LDE Volvo B10M-62 Plaxton went to Lewis, Whitland back in November, while YDE 679 (ex R162 LDE) Dennis Javelin Plaxton and 834 TDE (ex R161 LDE) a Volvo B10M Plaxton have been offered for sale according to the trade press. One re-registration to note is 526 FDE (ex N389 KDE) Dennis Javelin Plaxton.

**Ken Hopkins (Tonna):** New here is KH10 KMH M/Benz 0816D / Plaxton Cheetah C33F. Meanwhile, M99 KMH M/Benz 0814D Plaxton has left the fleet.

**Lewis (Whitland):** Acquired back in October from Evans, Steynton was NXI 813 a Volvo B10M Plaxton, and from Jones, Login in November came R160 LDE a Volvo B10M Plaxton.

**Llew Jones (Llanwrst):** Acquired from SMG, Birmingham in December was P983 LKL Scania K113CRB Irizar C49FT. M/Benz 709D UVG N160 MTG has gone to Used Coach Sales, Warrington.

**M&H (Trefnant):** From CT Plus, Wakefield has come X167 NWR Optare Solo B15F.

**Malpas (Newport):** N372 JGS M/Benz 709D Plaxton Beaver has arrived from Drake, Blaina

**Mid Wales (Pentthyncoch):** The third ADL Enviro 200 is YX59 BZN. Due for delivery in March, so should have been delivered by the time you read this are two Dennis Javelin Plaxton Profile C70F.

**Morris Travel (Carmarthen):** Two more Optare Solo's arrived in January, YJ59 NPX and YJ59 NPY. Also new here are three Autosan Eagle / Asn S70F, DX59 FHE, FHF and FHG. The following vehicles have now been re-registered: YHA 116 Volvo B10M Plaxton to N940 RBC and CUT 33T Volvo B10M Plaxton to P343 VWR, both subsequently been sold to Blue Ribbon Coach Sales, Shrewsbury. A further vehicle, N764 AHP Volvo B10M Plaxton has also gone to Blue Ribbon Coach Sales.

**New Adventure (Gabalpa):** Vehicles noted for sale are H7 KFJ Iveco 391.12.35 Plaxton and T200 OCL Setra S315GTHD. There is a question over the correct registration of the Scania K340EB that arrived in December. Some sources have it as YT 59 NZC and others have it as YT 59 NZD, this therefore needs to be checked please. Two further acquisitions to note are T108 KGP a Dennis Dart SLF Marshall which came from Go Ahead Northern, and X77 CCH Ayats Bravo CH57/16DT which has arrived from

**Malvernian (Malvern):** Acquired from Lothian Buses are V152/58/61/63 EFS Dennis Dart SLF Plaxton Pointer B42F.

**Peake's (Pontypool):** From Doigs, Glasgow has come YN55 PVX a Scania K114EB Irizar PB C49FT. The following vehicles have been noted for sale in the trade press: J333 PKE (ex T118 UCH), J444 PKE (ex T215 UCH) and J555 PKE (ex T463 UCH), all Volvo B10M Plaxton. Also noted for sale are M402/404 MPN Dennis Lance Optare.

**Rhodri Evans Ffoshelig (Carmarthen):** M736 BSJ Volvo B6 Alexander has gone to Hayward, Carmarthen and YSU 366 (ex T255 GON) a Setra S315GTHD has also gone, but am unable to determine to whom at the present stage.

**Richard Bro's (Cardigan):** Acquired from Arriva Cymru is YJ55 BJK an Optare Tempo. This vehicle was one or three acquired by Arriva from First Cymru in December.

**Ridgway (Port Talbot):** Recently acquired from Wardle, Stoke-on-Trent is WEZ 2624 (ex K485 UAG) a DAF DB250 Optare Spectra which was originally with East Yorkshire.

**St Davids (Taff Wells):** W181 DNO, W223 DNO, W227 DNO and W233 DNO Dennis Dart Plaxton Pointer are all now with Central Connect, Birmingham. W227 DNO is at least with Flights, Crawley.

**South Wales Transport (Neath):** Several acquisitions to record this month are R916 SJH an Optare Excel Optare which arrived from Reading Buses, and S926/930 LBL Optare Excel Optare, from Zaman, Aylesbury.

**Tanat Valley (Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant):** Acquired in January was R109 DNV M/Benz 0810D Plaxton Beaver B27F which came from Arriva The Shires. Also acquired and possibly for spare is M420 UNW Volvo B10B Alexander Strider.

**Thomas (Rhondda):**

Y129 TBF a M/Benz 0814D Plaxton Beaver B31F has arrived from UNO, Hatfield.

**Voel (Dyserth):** Acquired from Parks of Hamilton are HSK 641 and HSK 651 Volvo B12M Jonckheere, the registrations will almost certainly be returned to Parks. Vehicles sold are X664 VWT Volvo B12M Plaxton and M3 OVC Scania K113 Van Hool.

**Veolia Transport Cymru:** More vehicles have been transferred in from Dunn Line: R116 TKO M/Benz 0814D Plaxton Beaver B29F, W383 PRC Volvo B10M-62 Plaxton Excalibur C49FT, and YJ 03 GXW Volvo B12M Van Hool C49FT. R116 TKO arrived in Dunn-Line livery, W383 PRC is in Veolia coach livery and YJ 03 GXW is in plain white. From Veolia Bebb, Birmingham has come YN 55 PXW Scania K114EB Irizar PB C49FT in National Express livery.

**VR Travel (Merthyr Tydfil):** From Laser, Tonypandy has come P803 GBA a Volvo B10M Van Hool.

**Ward (Undy):** Acquired from Drake is N377 JGS a M/Benz 709D Plaxton Beaver

**William (Bala):** The trade press reports that KCA 181Y a Volvo B10M Duple is for sale.

**Windy Corner (Pencader):** From Stagecoach has come M107 CCD a Dennis Javelin Plaxton Premiere.

## *Eastern Counties*

**Dews (Somersham):** Another new coach is R111 DEW a Mercedes-Benz Turismo. An increase in school contract commitments has led to further arrivals from Ensignbus is ex Stagecoach Rennies Volvo Olympian L965 MSC which still retains its dual door layout. Adding to its stock of ex City of Oxford Volvo B10B / Plaxton Verde P634 FFC and P641 FFC join the fold.

## *London / Greater London*

**Abellio:** Ten 10.1m Plaxton Pointer bodied Dennis Dart SLF B27Ds have been acquired from Dawson Rentals 8478 (KP02 PWV), 8479 (KP02 PVE) 8480 (KP02 PUK), 8481 (KP02 PVU), 8482 (KM02 HGF), 8483 (KP02 PUJ), 8484 (KM02 HGE), 8485 (KU52 YKO), 8486 (KU52 YKR) and 8487 (KU52 YKS). These were latterly with Metroline and are allocated to TF for use on route 235 replacing Caetano bodied examples. Four similar Darts have also been taken on lease for approximately eight weeks, KP02 PUF, KP02 PVK, KP02 PVN and KP02 PWN. These are being used on a temporary route 545, operating between Brixton and Camberwell via Coldharbour Lane, whilst Gas Works are being carried out at Loughborough Junction causing routes 35, 45 and 345 to be diverted away from the area.

**Anderson (Bermondsey):** A pair of Mercedes-Benz O.816 / Plaxton Cheetah's are YN10 ABU and YN10 ACJ

**East London Bus Group:** All the Scania should be 15xxx not 16xxx as I had managed to type for wome of those noted last month, they just do not like my fingers these buses.

Plenty to note this month 17142 Tr - sold: 17189, 17250 sold: 17271-27275, 17296, 17359-17362, 17365 BK - dis: 17363, 17364, 17366, 17367 BK - BKr: 17394 BK - NS: 17410-17413 dis - RM: 17421-17424 Tr - RM: 17427, 17431 T - PD: 17594, 17595, 17597-17602, 17610, 17611, 17731-17733 rtn to lessor: 17851, 17852 PD - T: 34256-34261, 34264, U - dis: 34293 Ur - BK: 34294 Ur - NS: 34295, 34296Ur - U: 34297-34299 U - dis: 34300-34302, 34314, 34316, 34321 U - dis:

**Metroline:** Some of the new Gemini 2s are still to make it into service with a few still sitting at Perivale.

Transfers this time to record are DLD108 W-PB: DLD182 W-PA: DLF99 PA-NWw: TPL237, 238 loan-PV: TP359, 382 AH-NWw: TP388 HT-NWw: TP417 PV-AH: The following Dennis Dart shave all been returned to Dawson Rentals DLF34, 38-40, 86, 88, 89, DP1018, 1020, 1025, 1026, 1028, 1030, 1036, 1041, 1046-1048

**Menzies:** A new fleet of Scania K230 OmniCity single decks are now in service at Heathrow

S1	YR10 AZA	S7	YR10 AZJ	S13	YR10 AZU	S19	YR10 BFL
S2	YR10 AZB	S8	YR10 AZL	S14	YR10 AZV	S20	YR10 BFM
S3	YR10 AZC	S9	YR10 AZO	S15	YR10 AZW	S21	YR10 BFN
S4	YR10 AZD	S10	YR10 AZP	S16	YR10 AZX	S22	YR10 BFO
S5	YR10 AZE	S11	YR10 AZP	S17	YR10 AZZ	S23	YR10 BFP
S6	YR10 AZG	S12	YR10 AZT	S18	YR10 BFK	S24	YR10 BFU

## Southern England

**Black Velvet (Eastleigh):** Acquired from Scarlet Band, West Cornforth are YJ55 YGN and NX55 FFO Optare Solo's.

**Brijan Tours (Curdrige):** One of the recent Leyland Olympian's C92 CHM has now been re-registered to SUI 2104.

**Chalkwell (Sittingbourne):** A further ex Dublin Bus has arrived. It is N727 JNO (ex 96 D 300) a Volvo Olympian Alexander and was acquired through Ensign, Purfleet.

**Clegg & Brooking (Middle Wallop):** A recent acquisition is OU55 GUJ Irisbus 397E.12.35 Plaxton C53F which came from Pearce, Berinsfield.

**Coliseum (West End):** New vehicles to note here are Neoplan N2216SHD's MFX 778, MIB 651 and WCR 833 which arrived in January.

**Compass (Worthing):** Several acquisitions to note are K17 CCL (ex K479 VVR) Volvo B10M-60 Van Hool C51FT, from Robinson, Sandown; N369 GPU Scania K113CRB Van Hool C49FT, from Barfoot, Bitterne; Y858 LRX (ex 01 D 72093) scANIA I94ib Irizar C53F from Brent Community Transport and YX06 AXN a M/Benz 0814D Acl C28F which has come from Timberbush Tours, Edinburgh.

**Days Coaches (Whitstable):** Acquired through Ensign, Purfleet is NIL 9875 (ex J814 HMC) a Scania N113RDB Alexander and came from Hookways, Meeth.

**Dorset Heritage (Holton Heath):** Acquired from East London are 150-153 LV 52 HHE/HHN/HHP/HHR Dennis Trident Alexander H45/23D.

**Eastonways (Ramsgate):** A new arrival is Plaxton rimo KX06 LYP coming from Countryliner.

**Emsworth & District (Southbourne):** SN55 FPL M/Benz 1523L Unvi C39FL has been acquired from Holmeswood.

**Luckett (Fareham):** Two new Scania K340EB Caetano Levante for National Express work have arrived and are registered FJ59 AOZ and FJ59 APF.

**Nu-Venture (Aylesford):** Returned off loan from First in Berkshire are LK 55 ABU/ABV/ABX BMC 1100FE's.

**Rambler (Hastings):** Acquired from Flight Delay, Manchester are YN51 WGY and YN51 WGZ Volvo B12B Plaxton, now no longer needed in the north that the X2 service no longer runs

**Southern Transit (Shoreham):** Ex Uno, Hatfield Volvo Olympian / Alexander's N430/31 FKK have been acquired. They were new to Dublin Bus as 96 D 277/76 respectively.

**Vision Travel (Cosham):** VIL 8330 (ex H699 DOD) a Neoplan N122/3 has been acquired from Plank, Chessington.

**Wheeler's Travel (North Baddesley):** New in January was WC 59 WTL MAN 18.550 Plaxton C49FT.

## South West England

**Andybus (Dauntsey):** AJ10 BUS AD Javelin Plaxton C57F duly entered service in March

**Blakes Coaches (East Anstey):** BC 10 DMB is a new MAN Beulas C49FT which arrived in March.

**Blue Iris (Nailsea):** Two Optare Solo's have been acquired from Central Buses, Birmingham. They are S291 NRB and S105 LBL.

**Carmel (Exeter):** Acquired in January from Heartlands, Tamworth was N473 KHU a Dennis Javelin / Plaxton C49FT.

**Dawlish Coaches (Dawlish):** YK04 FVV now carries 'Majestic Holidays' livery.

**Hatch Green Coaches (Hatch Beauchamp):** The third new Optare Solo here is YJ59 NNK and is for use on service 776 Shepton Mallet-Radstock-Midsomer Norton.

**Hookways (Meeth):** More information is now to hand re the acquisition of several vehicles from Stagecoach Bluebird and Stagecoach Highlands. Just to recap, J257 NNC and M688 KVV Volvo B10M Van Hool were acquired in February along with J64 ESO (ex J738CWT) a Volvo B10M-62 Plaxton Premiere, K65 BKG and L422 ORS (ex L591 RST) Volvo B10M-62 Plaxton Expressliner, M457 TSS (ex M488 WAS), N583 DAS (ex N139 YST), N153 XSA and P491 FAS Volvo B10M-62 Plaxton Premiere. L422 ORS is now painted in Hookways yellow livery. WA 04 YXW (ex 04 G 5404) Volvo B12B Jonckheere C53FT has arrived from Pewsey Vale Coaches, Pewsey. Meanwhile, FN 03 DXZ Volvo B12B Sideral has been re-registered to 2603 HP and SF 05 XZN Volvo B12B Jonckheere now carries registration 4415 HP.

**KTL Coaches (Wadebridge):** Volvo B10M-62 M93 HSU has been re-registered to M14 KTL.

**Kingdom (Tiverton):** KCZ 8550 Bova FHD12.340 now carries registration R629 VYB.

**Marchant (Cheltenham):** From Grayline, Bicester has come OV51 OOC Optare Solo B29F.

**Quantock Motor Services (Norton Fitzwarren):** This company now has two ex Delaine, Bourne Volvo B10M-55 East Lancs vehicles, namely P1 OTL and P2 OTL.

**Roselyn (Par):** M611 APN Volvo B10M-55 / Alexander DP48F has been acquired from Stagecoach Hampshire and M687 HPF Volvo Olympian / East Lancs H44/30F has arrived from Arriva Northumberland.

**Thamesdown:** The following Dennis Dart SLF's have now been sold to Ensign, Purfleet: 157/59-61, P157 SMW, P159-161 VHR. In January, YJ07 VRZ, a Optare Versa demonstrator was inspected. On order for delivery in September are eight Optare Versa's.

**TW Coaches (South Molton):** New in September was BF59 NHT Mercedes-Benz Tourino MB C36F.

**Western Greyhound (Summercourt):** The following Mercedes-Benz 709D's have now been withdrawn: R808/809 HWS, W29 WGL and W348 WCS. Meanwhile, M/Benz Citaro KT04 BUS has been re-registered to WK04 OKE.

## New Deliveries

### ADL (Falkirk)

March 2<sup>nd</sup>

Stagecoach Oxfordshire      *Enviro 400*      OU10 BGV [15617]

March 9<sup>th</sup>

Stagecoach East Midlands      *Enviro 300*      FX10 AEK [24198]

Stagecoach Cambridgeshire      *Enviro 400*      AE10 BXU [19605] AE10 BYB [19612]

Konectbus      *Enviro 400*      SF10 BYW SF10 CAV

*Enviro 200*      9228-7

*Enviro 300*      9307-2

March 16<sup>th</sup>

Stagecoach Cambridgeshire      *Enviro 400*      AE10 BXO [19601] AE10 BYD [19614] AE10 BYG [19616]

Stagecoach East Midlands      *Enviro 200*      FX10 AEV [36112] FX10 AEW [36115] FX10 AEY [36116]

FX10 AFA [36118]

Konectbus      *Enviro 400*      SF10 CBU

Hedingham Omnibus      *Enviro 200*      No registration or body number visible

March 23<sup>rd</sup>

Stagecoach Cambridgeshire      *Enviro 400*      AE10 BXW [19607] AE10 BYJ [19618]

Stagecoach East Midlands      *Enviro 200*      FX10 AEZ [36117] FX10 AFE [6119] FX10 AFJ [36121]

McGills      *Enviro 400*      SN59 AWW SN59AWX {demonstrators}

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Acklams

Barnes (Aldbourn)

Barnes (Aldbourn)

YX10 AAE

WA10 CFX

WA10 CFY

Plaxton Elite

Volvo B12B / Van Hool C61FT

Volvo B12B / Van Hool C49FT

Flight Delay Services	KX10 DVA	MCV Evolution
Golden Boy	VO10 BOY	Mercedes-Benz Tourino
Kings Tours (Colchester)	KC10 ABC	VDL Bova C49FT
Olympia (Wigan)	FJ10 DNN	Plaxton
St Andrews Executive	PN10 AGZ	Mercedes-Benz Atego / Beulas Stela C39F
Westbus	WA10 CFM	Van Hool Astrobel
Wheelers	CL10 WTL	Plaxton

## Around the Dealers

### *Ensignbus*

#### Vehicles In

From Lothian Buses Darts V152 / 156 / 157 / 158 / 161 / 163 / 164 EFS.  
 From Arriva NE: Scania's N386 / 388 / 389 / 390 / 391 / 393 OTY.  
 From Stagecoach Bluebird: Volvo B10M's J66JWC N153XSA N617USS P625NSE.  
 From Stagecoach E Mids: Olympians L604NOS L649 / 51MYG.  
 From Stagecoach Fife: Darts P606 / 607 / 613 CMS.  
 From Stagecoach South: Olympians H764KDY G283YRJ Volvo B10M L159JNH.  
 From London General: Darts R477/ 479 LGH.  
 From Dublin Bus: Volvo B6's 99-D-6002 / 6003.  
 From Blythswood Motors: Dart SN05HDD.

#### Vehicles Out

RM970: Daisy PLC, Nelson, Lancs.  
 Bristol VR PWY 39W: TWH, Romford.  
 Scania NIL9875: Days Coaches, Whitstable, Kent.  
 Metrobus B140WUL: Converted to open top and allocated to CS Washington.  
 Volvo D10M E152 DTO: On-a-Mission, Letchworth.  
 Olympian BBW 213Y: Country Hopper, Ibstock, Derbyshire.  
 Olympian H152 GGS: Brylaine Coaches, Boston, Lincs.  
 Olympians L673 / 678 HNV: Sleafordian Coaches, Sleaford, Lincs.  
 Olympians S848 / 855 / 856 DGX : Ace Travel, Liverpool for City Sightseeing Liverpool, part open top (848 and 856) and full open top (855)  
 Dublin Olympian 96-D-300 now N727 JNO with Chalkwell Coaches, Sittingbourne.  
 Dublin Olympian 97-D-336 now BFZ 7414 with City Sightseeing Belfast and converted to part open top.  
 Dublin Olympian 97-D-339 now BFZ 7415 with City Sightseeing Belfast and converted to part open top.  
 Volvo B10M's J257 NNC M688 KVV M457 TSS L422 ORS K65 BKG P491 FAS J64 ESO N583  
 DAS : Hookways Coaches, Exeter.  
 Volvo B10M L342 CCK: Big Lemon, Brighton.  
 Volvo B10M's M750 / 755 LAX M552 SPY L625 TDY K733 DAO and Olympian G903 SKP: Geoff Ripley, Barnsley.  
 Dart M10 CLA: Express Auctions, Rainham, Essex.  
 Dart N51 KBW: Blaby District Council, Leics.  
 Dart P509 RYM and Olympian H693 PVW: Halifax Joint Committee.  
 Darts P606 / 607 CMS: Chambers Coaches, Bures, Suffolk.  
 Dart P783 WCN: Rolling Solutions (Strawbery) , St Helens.  
 Dart W236 DNO: Freedom Travel, Ely, Cambs.  
 Dart V157 EFS and B10M K751 DAO: Constable Coaches, Hadleigh, Suffolk.  
 Darts V152 / 158 / 161 / 163 EFS: New Adventure Travel, South Wales.  
 Darts V562 JBH SN05 HDD: Rotala Group, Birmingham.  
 Trident PO51UMV: Blackpool Transport.  
 Plaxton Primo BU08 ACV: Carters Coaches, Ipswich.  
 Plaxton Primo BU08 ACZ: Blythswood Motors, Glasgow.

# Preservation News

## Vehicle News

**LFS 269F** Foundry Coach Hire has preserved this open top ECW bodied Bristol VR. It is in Alder Valley NBC White with red and blue "venetian Blind" stripes. It was originally new to Scottish Omnibuses as AA296 and ended up with Southdown when an exchange of buses took place between the National Bus Company and the Scottish Bus Group.

**N401 WVR** This Mercedes-Benz 811D / Alexander has been donated to the SELNEC Preservation Society, by Stagecoach South Wales. This bus as 40401 was the first of many of the type brought into the fleet of GM Buses.

## Forthcoming Events

### MAY

1st	Theydon Bois, Essex, Bus Running Day & Transport Bazaar
1st-2nd	Eastbourne, E.Sussex, Magnificent Motors on the Seafont
1st-2nd	Taunton, Somerset, Quantock Motors Running & Depot Open Day
1st-2nd-3rd	Llandudno, Transport Festival at Bodafon Fields
1st-2nd-3rd	Rushden, Northamptonshire, Cavalcade of Transport & Country Fayre
1st-2nd-3rd	Sandtoft, (Nr Doncaster), Extravaganza Weekend
2nd	Abingdon Air & Country Show (Dalton Barracks, Oxfordshire)
2nd	Catton Hall, (Nr Lichfield), Staffordshire, Classic Car & Transport Show
2nd	Ipswich to Felixstowe Historic Vehicle Run, Ipswich Transport Museum
2nd	Gateshead Metrocentre Rally (N.E.Bus Pres.Trust.)
2nd	London to Brighton run. Historic Commercial Vehicle Society
2nd-3rd	Peterborough, Truckfest at the East of England Showground
2nd-3rd	Wythall, Holiday Operating Days at the Transport Museum
3rd	Bradford Industrial Museum, Heritage Bus Service
8th	Nailsea, Somerset, Vintage Buses Running Day
8th-9th	Crich Tramway Village, Models Weekend
9th	Aldwarke, Rotherham, South Yorkshire Transport Museum Open Day
9th	Barlaston, Stoke on Trent, Potteries Rally & Running Day at the Wedgewood Visitor Centre
9th	Basingstoke, Autojumble & Festival of Transport at War Memorial Park
9th	Horsham, Southdown Running Day
9th	Newport, I.O.W. Bus Museum Island Bus Running Day
9th	Sandwell, West Bromwich, Historic Vehicle Show
9th	Slough, (Brunel Bus Station) Running Day
9th	Stroud, Gloucestershire, Wheel Nuts 2010 at St. Roses School
15th	Manchester Museum of Transport, Photo Charter, (Ticket HoldersOnly)
15th-16th	Sandtoft, (Nr Doncaster), Trolleybus Weekend
15th-16th	Haworth, 1940's W/E, Free Vintage Bus Services (K.&W.V.Railway.)
16th	Aston Clinton (Aylesbury), Chilton Hills Vehicle Rally
16th	Ipswich Transport Museum, ADX 1 Day
16th	Bristol, Harbourside Rally & Running Day
16th	Lathalmond (Scotland), Vintage Bus Museum Running Day
16th	Leyland (Lancs) Spring Transport Show @ British Commercial Vehicle Museum
16th	Manchester Museum of Transport, 50yrs of Rear Engined Buses in Manchester
16th	Sevenoaks, Kent, LT Country Bus Rally
16th	Coalville (Leicestershire), Snibston Transport Festival
23rd	Arriva Charity Tour of Yorkshire Depots
23rd	Lewes, E.Sussex, Bus Rally at Malling Recreation Ground
23rd	Walthamstowe, London, 100 Yrs of the London B type Bus at Pump House Transport Museum
29th-30th	Newark Showground, AEC Society Road run and Rally Days

29th-30th-31st	Sandtoft (nr Doncaster), Trolleybus Bank Holiday Weekend
29th-30th-31st	Keighley Bus Museum, Embsay & Bolton Abbey Railway. A day out with Thomas Farnham (Surrey) Aldershot & Dist. Bus Running Day (Railway Station)
30th	Crich Tramway Village, Tram Enthusiast Event
30th	Long Hanborough, Oxford Bus Museum Teddy Bear Day.
30th	Wythall, Holiday Operating Day at the Transport Museum
30th-31st	Ragley Hall, Alcester, Warwickshire, Classic Car & Transport Show
31st	Crich Tramway Village, 150 years of Trams
31st	Two Museums Day, Aston Manor & Wythall (Free Buses In between & Other Runs)

## Out & About

02<sup>nd</sup> March 2010

By Rachel Chaplin

**Cambridge**

Stagecoach

15458 15460 16014 16018  
16589 17697 18060 18336  
18337 18341 18342 18344  
18347 18348 19300 19301  
19306 19307

**Madingley Road Park & Ride**

**Cambridge**

Catteralls

YN06 FUG (MAN)

Sanders Coaches

YJ07 JFV (Van Hool)

05<sup>th</sup> March 2010

By Dan Sheradon

**Stafford**

Arriva Midlands

2206 2311 2331 2332 2337  
2373 2732 3727 3728 3731  
3738

07<sup>th</sup> March 2010

By Michael Spriggs

**York**

**Union Terrace**

Coach Holidays.Com

FNZ 1012

DBC Travel Doncaster

BA02 EFA

Frampton's

F259 RJX

Moseley -in -the -South

WJ52 MSV

National Holidays

YC03 DFX YJ03 VNT

NH09 GRH

Parks of Hamilton

HSK 644

York Pullman (Open top tour)

792 UXA A613 THV

09<sup>th</sup> March 2010

By Dan Sheradon

Stockport Areas

**A6 Heaton Chappel - Stockport**

Stagecoach

17699 19015 19226 19285  
19288 19327 19338 19353  
19390 19466 19513 19622  
19632 19635 19640 22055  
22103

**Stockport Town Centre**

Stagecoach

19006 19084 19085 19179  
19249 19289 19343 19346  
19455 19478 19490 22096  
22151 22229 22233 22246  
22398 22399 28506 33092  
33099 36112

**M60 (15:30-15:36)**

Bullocks Coaches

YT09 ELL

Dewhirst Coaches

YJ05 PYV

Swans Travel

BJ08 KNH

York Pullman

CB08 YBP

11<sup>th</sup> March 2010

By Arthur Shelton

**Wolverhampton Bus Station**

(12:55 - 13:20)

Arriva Midlands North

2975 2979

Banga

K455 EDT K963 CNE

N175 DWM N179 DWM

Diamond (Rotala Group)

492

Midland (Choice)

2388 6002 JJZ 5368

Travel Express

H128 MOB H802OPT

J517 GCD

Travel West Midlands (National Express Group)

277 291 292 293 407 411 414

417 420 501 502 507 589 616

688 690 691 693 700 701 703

704 707 709

712 713 715 716 1324 1361

1363 1364 1367 1370 1380

1382 1383 1510 3237 4001

4005 4012 4015 4020 4022

4169 4310 4311 4314 4315

4323 4328 4537 4540 4544

4546 4547 4551 4552 4553

4554 4562 4566 4569 4570

4571 4573 4583 4585 4586

4593 4601 4602 4604 4608

4609 7202 7204 7205 7206

7208

18<sup>th</sup> March 2010

By Rod Whitaker

**Cheltenham**

Astons Worcester

SJ56 GBY FJ08 KMK

Bennetts Gloucester

BX54 EBF BX54 ECV

BX56 VTP

Castleways Winchcombe

BX02 CME BX54 ECN

First Coaches

23312 23314

Marchants Cheltenham

F312 JTY K361 DWJ N101 HGO OV51 OOC SA02 CCU	Avon Minibuses Bristol T10 ACL	D Coaches Morriston WA08 GPV
Pulhams Bourton-on-the-Water HDF 661 PDF 567 Y852 SDD YJ06 YST	Baileys Newbury YX05 AVL	Dons Coaches Great Dunmow YR02 UOG
Stagecoach Cheltenham & District 14263 14264 14958 14990 15521 15522 15523 15524 15528 15529 15532 18080 16126 16127 16128 16142 16205 16208 16448 17722 17728 17729 18082 18083 18084 18085 18127 18128 18314 18322 18376 18441 18442 34404 33503 33505 33506 33507 33929 33934 33939 33946 33954 33955 33956 33958 33961 33972 33973 33975 34837 34838 34841 47241 47242 47555	Bakers Dolphin Weston-super- Mare UKZ 5478	Dudleys Inkberrow FP51 EUJ
Stagecoach Manchester 19008 19058	Barnes Aldborough WJ52 MTO	Durham City Coaches Brandon YK04 FVZ
Stagecoach Oxford 15609 15610 15611 15613 15614 15615 15616 15617 15618 15619 15620	Berrys Taunton WA09 AYY	Eagle Bristol W210 CDN YG52 CKE
Stagecoach South 13629 16293 16367 16501 16745 18514 18524	Bevan Lydney R170 SUT DY52 DZE	Eagle Line Andoversford WA51 JYH
Stagecoach United Counties 18105 18407 18408	Bibbys Ingelton BIB 5428	Earnside Coaches Glenfarg B12 RGR T13 GDR
Swanbrook Cheltenham S196 SLL SK51 SBK YX05 DWA	Blue Iris Nailsea WX56 TNN WX57 LMU YN08 DGO	Ellison Ashton Keynes E3 ELL
<b><u>Race Course Cheltenham</u></b> A Line Bedworth L993 OGY	BM Coaches YJ08 DLD BK58 URZ	Empress London RIL 3698
A to B Travel Luton YX55 ADZ BX07 NLA	BMS Coaches Styratton Saint Margaret VX04 KTE	Epsom Coaches Epsom BU04 EXV
Alexcars Cirenster R851 SDT	Buzzlines Hythe DIG 4461	European Coaches Oldbury PSV 172
Alpine Llandudno AP04 ALP	BYB Travel Bradford-on-Avon S428 JUA	Excelsior Bournemouth YN57 OTZ
Anderson London YJ06 GKY	Centurion Travel Midsomer Travel R627 VNN	Expressway Rotherham FJ06 BRZ
Ardcavan 09 WX 1196 Astons Worcester GIG 3329 HIG 1522 W5 ENG FJ55 YCE FJ55 YCF	Chauffers Birmingham A2 FTG Y61 CJW YR52 VEW BU06 CUW BU06 CUY	Hallmark Birmingham HC 6422
Ausden Clarke Leicester FY52 GNP	Chenery Dickleburgh R128 NFE	Hardings Redditch HCR 601 FR02 HCR SR07 HCR XR08 HCR
	Clapton Holidays Radstock WA53 FDF	Harris Bromsgrove SWH 67 Haytons Manchester BD08 DZX
	Class Coaches Hayes YN09 EZB	Henshaws Moreton-in-the-Marsh GL06 HET
	Classic Coaches Annfield Plain YN07 LHG	Heyfordian Bicester WX06 SLV
	Company Coaches Knottingley BX53 NNM	Hills Wolverhampton BX07 NKM
	Coniston Coaches Stourport C21 BUS	Hodgson Barnard Castle N1 BUS
	Crawford Neilston HCC 440	Hodsons Clitheroe YR58 RVC
		Holmeswood Holmeswood PN06 TVK

Jeffs Helmdon VVV 66S Y807 YBC	Phillips Bewdley YN07 DUU	Ulsterbus ROI 1129
Johnson Henley-in-Arden V505 PCX W484 HJW YJ03 GYB YJ03 GYD YJ03 GYE	Reays Wigton YJ08 NSO YJ09 FHY	Unicorn Travel Wrexham L92 EAK
Johnson Hodthorpe 77 RT	Reliance Gravesend BJ59 OJC	Webber Bus Bridgewater WJ52 MTE
K & B Travel WIL 2191	Rogers Martley YN06 CKP	Westway London 74 WT WA10 CFM
Kinch Minty FX03 GJY TK07 ADK	Roselyn Par 244 AJB	Wickson Brownhills WT05 MOM WT59 ECT
Kings Ferry Gillingham V1 PKF YT59 NZZ	SBC Leigh-on-Sea VAZ 1434	Wilfredas Beehive Adwick MX06 BNV
Lees Langley Park XSU 905	Seaview Coaches Poole BN58 BJU	Woods Leicester K11 GBY
Leons Stafford CT57 LCT CT08 LCT FT08 LCT	Seawards Axminster WA03 JXY	Woodstone Kidderminster FJ08 AYT
Logans YN08 NNC YN09 HRJ	Shaw Coventry 1 KOV	Worthing Coaches Worthing YR02 ZZB
Longmynd Travel Shrewsbury BX06 JCJ	Silverline Solihull YX54 BHA BU08 EJF BU08 EJG	Yeomans Hereford YT59 OZX
M & S Leominster FX58 ZNS	Sims Travel YJ07 DWX	York Pullman Rufforth CB08 YPB
Marchants Cheltenham JEY 124Y R431 HWT R432 HWT FJ54 ZCX GL05 MAR GL05 MCS	Smiths Tring DNZ 6884	27 <sup>th</sup> March 2010  By Arthur Shelton
Matthews Tours 09 KE 928	Stanley Coaches Stanley MU57 STX Supertravel Liverpool YX04 AWW	<b>Shrewsbury</b> Arriva Midlands North 2039 2239 2241 2248 2251 2274 2302 2303 2304 2305 2308 2309 2310 2345 2353 2359 2362 2368 2369 2370 2703 2704 2706 2708 2722 2723 2724 2725 2726 2737 2903 2977 2978 2980 2984 2990 2991 2997 3418 3426 3427 3501 3502 6001 6002 6003 6004 6005 6006 6009
Maypole Liverpool L649ADS	Swans Oldham BJ08 KNF BJ08 KNG	Boultons E749 NSE K265 FUV MX09 MKG
Mystic Isle Droitwich TTL 153	Thandi Birmingham Y752 HWT	Bryn Melyn MX58 AAU
Nashs Birmingham NUI 6164 N8 SHS YN08 DLZ	Total Travel Barrow-on-Soar M625 ORJ	Minsterley Motor YN08 NKH DX09 GYS
NPC Coaches Slough GK07 SSS	Travel Star Walsall S77 NLA T13 STE T14 STE W967 TRH YJ06 GKZ	Shearings BN09 FXG
Ogdens Saint Helens UKZ 5458	Travellers Carnforth PN07 LMM	Tanat Valley N814 WGR YJ56 ATX
P W Jones Burley Gate PJ03 JMJ	Turners Bristol DT04 CJT	Unknown KNT 780
Peter Carol Bristol ROI 1913 ROI 2929 ROI 8235 UKZ 2935	Turners Essex W269 MKY	
	Tyrers TYR 5R	

## *The Worcester Sorcerer*

The 3<sup>rd</sup> GBBG Group tour took place on March 6<sup>th</sup> 2010 and it rained for 10 minutes, at Birmingham than we had Sun and a bit of rain. It makes a change for the last two tours went it poured down most of the day.

We would like to thank Johnsons for making us all very welcome at the depot. With very special thanks to our driver for the day Tracy Coulson who was friendly & joined in with the fun on the bus. Thanks also go to Dudleys & Wythall Bus Museum, Travel West Midlands (National Express Group) and Ken Pitt for a great trip again.

We started at Smallbrook Queensway Birmingham making our way to Johnson of Henley. We went by Bristol Road than past Edgbaston Cricket club then towards the motorway using the back streets. We had 40 minutes at Johnson Depot. At the depot Peter Johnson & staff made us very welcome. We were standing waiting for X20 to come in to depot, good timing after missing it on the first trip at Stratford, for a driver to change over. Then Peter Johnson came up to us and asked if we was enjoying ourselves and told us that they were getting new vehicles at the end of the month.

We went to Dudleys Coaches / Inkberrow Coaches for a twenty minute visit allowing photographs, then on to Worcester for a dinner break for an hour or so and went up to the bus Station & Town Centre, 5 min walk.

We went around Redditch Bus Station Bus twice., it was fun watching the people's faces, than on to the Wythall Bus museum for 1 hour to take photos. The museum was split into three parts one was the works, yard around the back and the museum part.

We then went for the short hop to Travel West Midlands (National Express Group) Yardley Wood garage and were made welcome to go around the depot and take photos of the new single decks.

We ended up back in Birmingham around 5pm for some to be dropped of at the New Digbeth Coach Station, then to Smallbrook Queensway Birmingham.

Arthur & Debbie Shelton

## *Spotters Spot*

Having made the typically generous gesture of helping a lady to move home and (eventually) getting time off for good behaviour, I was able to do some spotting in the wholly unfamiliar (for me) town of Poole on the Dorset coast.

The centrally placed bus station is clearly the place to be here and some well-placed seating by the vehicle entrance overlooks all the comings and goings. This is a colourful mix, dominated almost totally by Wilts & Dorset with their fellow Go-Ahead constituent Hants & Dorset/Damory and the attractive Transdev Bournemouth's Yellow Buses.

Just beyond the vehicle entrance with the contents easily seen and photographed is a coach parking area used also by service buses whose drivers are on a break. National Express stop here and do not come into the bus station proper. So too the Wilts & Dorset U2 Bournemouth University service worked now by attractively schemed 59 plate E400s in the 15xx series, running every half hour in term time.

Several Go Ahead buses were parked up and great for pictures on the nearby road. Their depot is immediately adjacent, and a good view of the yard can be had by following the service road behind the shopping centre which is itself immediately behind the bus station. There is an even better view from the shopping centre multi-storey, with most of the contents identifiable. Amongst those to be seen during my visit were a couple of orange painted M-plated DAF

trainers, Dennis Lancet 9096/F40KRO now used as a learning centre, and Bristol VRT tree-lopper 9089/OEL232P.

Just a few of Shamrock/Dorset Heritage's veterans break the big company bus station monopoly, a trio of one-time Lothian Olympians visiting during my stay. The only other caller was First Hampshire & Dorset Gemini 37584/HX08DHG. This is one of a number spectacularly painted up with fossil images in the red, blue and pale yellow Jurassic Coastlinx X53 service. Four hours 32 minutes this for the four times daily run to Exeter, with additional part-route services to Weymouth.

Passing by the bus station entrance on the busy dual carriageway were several tourist coaches – many more in high summer, I guess. Also, if you like this sort of thing – and I do – Poole council's special needs service tri-axled Fiats with Rohill bodywork.

Go-Ahead in these parts like their special colours. Amongst those seen were Solo M960s 2691/BP09ONE and 2692/PB09ONE in the Poole town service 'Route 1' livery. The Optare/EL bodied Scania deckers on the Swanage run carry 'Purbeck Breezer 40' titles and colours. M850 Solo 5601/R601NFX is green and white for the free Asda shuttle. Eclipse 109/HF54HFY is currently a billboard for August's Bournemouth Air Festival. DAF deckers 3111/L711ALJ and 3112/L112ALJ were both seen with (different) older university schemes. Lots of numbers to be had too.

A great experience this. Recommended if you are in the area. Tony

## Tony's Back Bit

To begin this month, yet another Routemaster. This one is RM1593 (OYM877A), the one-time 593CLT. After ending its London career, it joined promotional firm Brandscape of Meriden in the West Midlands. Spotted in the romantic environs of a Tesco car park in south Birmingham, it was in an all-over black scheme for the [www.youngdriver.eu](http://www.youngdriver.eu) campaign. This organisation aims to give kids 'potentially life-saving driving experience' before they reach the legal licence age – although not in the bus, I trust! I believe Brandscape also have bigger sister RML2369 (JJD 369D) for you all to look out for.

Overtaken by me was former London Country Routemaster RCL2240 (CUV240C), now painted in the red and white St George's cross style used to promote the Bombardier bitter of Bedford's Charles Wells brewery, the self-styled 'Drink of England'. What was this doing way up north then, where the M6 turns to cobble? Maybe it had been delivering supplies to that notorious real ale devotee, our editor Gez. Having more than a liking for it myself, just typing out this paragraph has given me a taste of the stuff. If you too like a drink, please remember to enjoy this issue of 'The Trident' responsibly.

Another on the motorway – this time the M40 heading for London – has been former London and Merseyside Metrobus BYX229V – now 80-D-1528 of Ideas in Motion, Clontarf, Dublin. This was mostly green, with 'What a load of rubbish' titles. As no such description could ever be applied to any ex London bus, I guess this was to do with some recycling scheme.

According to the Ideas in Motion website, this 'mobile concept and production company' develops 'high impact mobile and static vehicles for the WOW factor'. Translated into English, I think this means they turn out some tasty schemes on buses to help to sell things – as the pictures on their site confirm. These suggest that their fleet also includes long-time Rossendale Leyland/East Lancs decker FTE631B. Can anyone with better eyes than mine read the Irish regs on the other pictures and give me a fleet list? Back in the West Midlands, Dennis Javelin P231PYB is reported with Aldridge, Walsall based Westgate Training. Formerly with the MoD and government contractor SERCO, this one has never been in PSV service as far as I am aware.

A while back I reported in the mag, a Club Class Bus sighting in London. On my way out for a dram in Edinburgh I was fortunate indeed to spot in time enough to avoid the gang of burly blokes dressed as female ballet dancers disgorging into a boozer from the same company's one-time Ribble Olympian JFR 6W. Their website has now acquired an entertaining video featuring some very happy young ladies and one-time Muster Phantom/Solent Blue Olympian A204 MEL. I have this one with Freebird of Bury

though, so presumably they operate it on behalf of Club Class Bus? Which other vehicles bear Club Class Bus titles and what vehicles (if any) do others operate on their behalf?

Down at Luton Airport, I have some notes on non-PSV minibuses operated airside here by aviation service company Aviance. Can anyone visiting the place – especially going airside for a flight – please have a look out for these and send me details.

Still at Luton Airport, more now from Peter Hulse. This time it is the car park buses operated by our old mates APCOA. As far as I can tell, their full fleet here is MCV Evolution bodied MAN 14.220s AE05EVC, AE06VPW, AE07DZK, AE08KTJ and AE09DHX/Y/Z.

To finish off, another MAN 14.220/MCV Evolution – this one a bit of an oddity. This is the seven seat dual entrance BBC Radio Merseyside mobile studio, MW03DUU. My report on this one is a bit old and I am not 100% whether it is still around. I do know though that various buses are in similar use with other radio stations. Anyone with info on the MW03DUU or similar with media stations in your area, please get in touch.  
Hope you enjoyed this month. Bye for now. Tony

My thanks this month are extended to Alan Spencer, Tony Kent, Andrew Churchill, Tony Hunter, Matthew Barker at the Derby Bus Depot, Ian Rivett, John Martindale, Johnsons of Henley, Arthur Moore, Nigel Diplock, Dougie King, Stuart Martin, LOTS, Chris Barker, Steve White, Ross Newman at Ensign, Malcolm Crowe, The Oxford & Chiltern Bus page. Along with the other groups with which we share information.

# The Gallery





Front Cover: Owned by the Bristol Road Group is this Bristol RELH4 / Eastern Coach Works DP49F single deck, preserved in its original National White when it was new to Eastern National as RLE349 back in December 1974 (Arthur & Debbie)

Inside Rear: Wilts & Dorset us a batch of Scania N230UD / ADL Enviro 400s on services to Bournemouth University, whose livery they are decked out in (Tony Allen)

Rear: The steed for the Worcester Sorcerer trip was this Feruqi bodied Mercedes-Benz O.816D along with its top driver Tracy Coulson for whom we give our thanks for a super day (Arthur & Debbie)

At Johnsons depot in Henley is one of the newer coaches a Y09 FLP Scania with irizar PB bodywork showing the smart yellow, blue and white livery off to very good effect (Arthur & Debbie)