

Trident

the monthly magazine of the

GB Bus Group

website: gb-bg.co.uk



GBBG

Volume 5
No 8 August 2010

Chairman: **Trevor Roots** - chairman@gb-bg.co.uk (01466 760724)
Mill of Botary, Cairnie, Huntly, Aberdeenshire AB54 4UD

Secretary: **Mark Richards** - secretary@gb-bg.co.uk (01908 520028)
7 Parkside, Furzton, Milton Keynes, Bucks. MK4 1BX

Treasurer: **Frank Gold** - treasurer@gb-bg.co.uk

Membership Secretary: **Trevor Roots** - membership@gb-bg.co.uk details as above

Editorial Manager: **Gerald Nicholls** - editor@gb-bg.co.uk (01524 846476)
19 Aldrens Lane, Lancaster LA1 2DT

Website Manager: **Mark Richards** - website.manager@gb-bg.co.uk details as above

Magazine Distribution: **Eddie & Hazel Roberts** – trident.distribution@gb-bg.co.uk
37 Abbey Place, Crewe, Cheshire CW1 4JR (01270 216212)

Visits Co-ordinators: **Anthony Walton** - no email (0121 601 1351)
126 Whiteford Road, Smethwick B67 7PG

Ken Pitt - visits@gb-bg.co.uk (01527 591195)
52 Loxley Close, Church Hill South, Redditch B98 9JG

Editorial Team:

Sightings: **Arthur & Debbie Shelton** - sightings@gb-bg.co.uk
111 Rodney Close, Birmingham B16 8DP (0121 454 3147)

Non PSV: **Tony Allen** - nonpsv@gb-bg.co.uk

Fleet Listings: **Ken Pitt** - kenneth.pitt06@btinternet.com details as above

Area Representatives:

Scotland: **Arthur Morse** - no email (01506 438988)
66 Ryebank, Ladywell, Livingston, West Lothian EH54 6HA

Northeast & Yorkshire: **Gary Hunter** - northeast.rep@gb-bg.co.uk

Wales: **Geoff Moseley** - wales.rep@gb-bg.co.uk (01452 381 107)
11 Hartley Gardens, Gloucester, Gloucestershire GL4 4PJ

Southern England & Southwest: **Geoff Moseley** - southwest.rep@gb-bg.co.uk details as above

Northwest & London: **Gerald Nicholls** - details as above

Trident is compiled monthly by the Editorial team and is published for the personal use of GB Bus Group members or individuals. Information contained in this magazine is not to be used for commercial purposes or gain outside the GB Bus Group. We are happy to share our information with other societies and organisations, but ask that our Group's name be acknowledged as the source where appropriate. It may be necessary for the editorial manager to condense or defer articles submitted for publication, in order to give a balanced content

Disclaimer: Views expressed in this magazine are those of the contributors and might not be supported by the Editor or Officials of GB Bus Group.

The closing date for the September magazine will be August 28th

£1.25 post free

Printed by Ords Group, Progress House, Usworth Road Industrial Estate, Hartlepool TS25 1PD

Group News

Membership Rates: Annual: £15.00 Joint: (with ICRS saving £4.00): £27.00

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. (photos can be viewed in colour through the website Members Area).
- An informative website, with access to previous editions of the magazine.
- A 10% discount on Ian Allan publications and first time magazine subscriptions on production of your membership card (not additional to discount for IA Subs Club members).
- Access to organized trips.
- A 20% discount on all book titles that are to be published by GBBG (first ones due September)

Joint membership also entitles you to the ICRS magazine **Tracks** & access to **icrs.org.uk**

Payment:

If paying by cheque / postal order, please make payable to GBBG for all types of Membership. Please note we cannot accept credit card payments over the telephone, however you can still pay online by credit card through our website PayPal facility. In a few clicks you can be signed up for another year, or take advantage of the joint membership with Inter City Railway Society, saving £4 on the normal combined annual membership subscription rate.

GBBG Website:

To access the members area of our website you need to email your chosen username and password to Mark Richards, website.manager@gb-bg.co.uk Each can be a maximum of ten characters with no spaces though you can use hyphens or full stops (each counts as a character). Please include your ICRS membership number, especially if you are a new member. Confirmation will follow asap by email that your chosen username and password have been set up.

Membership Renewal & Membership Cards:

Renewal forms are sent out in month prior to end of membership and it would be appreciated if renewal is prompt so saving the time and cost of sending reminders. Please remember on renewal, your new card (cards for joint members) will be sent out with the next issue of Trident so please check in envelope. Note you might wait up to 5 weeks if you renew in first days of the month when cards are sent out for distribution with Trident. If you renew before FINAL REMINDER, your existing card will always be valid until the new one arrives. So there is no need to send a separate sae for card.

A very warm welcome to the following new members this month: Graham Lavers (Swindon), Paul Dilworth (Bushey), Felix Omerod (London), Malcolm Wallace (Totnes), Mary Clayton (Newark)

News from the industry

First Group are splitting its Potteries division, with Birkenhead, Chester and Wrexham depots transferring to control of Manchester, with the remaining portion no under the control of Arriva Midlands **Stagecoach** has taken the opportunity reorganising its operations in the Midlands and east of England following retirement of Tony Cox, the Managing Director of Stagecoach East, on August 1st. Based on the former United Counties area, it is effectively being split in two with Bedford depot joining operations at Cambridge, Fenstanton and Peterborough to form a new Stagecoach East division, whilst the depots at Corby, Kettering and Northampton, will merge with those depots, currently making up the Stagecoach Warwickshire division, Nuneaton, Rugby, Leamington and Stratford. The newly enlarged area will be known as Stagecoach Midlands

The Kings Cross [KX] Garage of Metroline closed after operation on 2nd July as the site is needed for the King's Cross redevelopment. A replacement site nearby will open from start of service on 3rd July further north along York Way, although this site will only be able to operate single decks. The new garage will also be known as King's Cross, but with garage code [KC]. As a result of single deck only operation, double deck route 390 will transfer to Holloway [HT] and single deck route 214 currently at Holloway, will transfer to the new [KC] garage.

On June 6th, 13th, 20th & 27th DB Regio Tyne & Wear Metro operated a replacement bus service 900

from Heworth to South Hylton, due to Network Rail's possession of the section between Pelaw and South Hylton, which also affected Northern Rail. Go North East operated the service on behalf of Metro and it was the first time ever that a service has run from Heworth to South Hylton as one service. In days of old under Nexus, when the Metro was suspended from Pelaw to South Hylton the buses ran two services - 901 from Heworth to Sunderland and 902 from Sunderland to South Hylton. The buses were a credit to Go North East, as this is probably the first time that a service has been run entirely with double deckers and more to the point that they were all low floor. The buses all had their destination blinds programmed to show: "METRO Replacement 900" with either, "Heworth", "Sunderland PLI" or "South Hylton" on the second line for the ultimate destination. On the LED blinds, the "METRO Replacement" scrolled. In addition, all buses carried a diagram number in the front window, with the diagrams running in sequence from 901-923 most of the day, (901-912 early) and (912-923 late) - 912 being a middle duty, plus a linear in the front nearside window showing all the stations served. Buses connected in both directions with the truncated "Airport" trains at Heworth and provided a through service to all stations, where previously passengers needed to hang around at Sunderland waiting for yet another connection from bus to bus.

First west Yorkshire: are making more service cuts around Leeds, following the loss of around 17 buses worth of work on tendered services to Centrebus, it has taken the opportunity to look at whether several commercial services are worth carrying on with. Two major cuts involve the 757 to Leeds Bradford Airport, which it has been operating against Centrebus, and the X64 to York which it began operating against Yorkshire Coastliner using leather seated Volvo B7RLEs, citing lack of passengers after Coastliner fought back, introducing a 15 minute service

Stagecoach confirmed on July 16th that it has negotiated a satisfactory resolution of the future of its Preston Bus business.

Stagecoach disagreed with the ruling and in December 2009 appealed the Commission's decision to the Competition Appeal Tribunal ("CAT"). The CAT ruled in May 2010 that a number of the Commission's findings were not supported by the evidence in the case.

Following the CAT announcement, Stagecoach has been in discussions with the Competition Commission to reach a resolution of the matter and has agreed that a slightly reduced divestment package will now be offered for sale.

The Competition Commission has also published a statement on its website acknowledging the CAT's judgment that a number of conclusions that the CC reached in its decision were not supported by the evidence.

Fleet News

Arriva

Cymru: Transferred from Arriva North West are 808/09 S 878/879 SNB Dennis Dart SLF Plaxton Mini Pointer B28F. 2871 YJ 55 BJB, one of the ex First Cymru Optare Tempo's has suffered extensive fire damage in late June. It is not known whether the vehicle will be scrapped or whether it will be repaired. Vehicles withdrawn include Dennis Dart's 1300/23/25/26/28/33/40-43, P3SLT, P823/25/26/28 RWY, and M160-63 SKR. Meanwhile, similar vehicles, 1126 N678 GUM and 1288 M30 OGY have gone to PVS, Carlton (dealer), while MB 0814D 393 W193 CDN has gone to Banga, Wolverhampton.

Excel (Stansted): Re-instated has been Scania N113DRB / East Lancs 262 (M162 GRY)

London: The first of the next batch of 40 10.4m Wrightbus DB300 Gemini 2 DL integral double decks have been arriving in London, initially to store at Tottenham garage. They are to be used on route 149 when it converts from Bendi bus operation at the end of October

DW298	LJ10 VCE	DW302	LJ10 CVK	DW305	LJ10 CVN	DW308	LJ10 CUO
DW299	LJ10 CVF	DW303	LJ10 CVL	DW306	LJ10 CVO	DW309	LJ10 CUU
DW300	LJ10 CVG	DW304	LJ10 CVM	DW307	LJ10 CVP	DW310	LJ10 CUV
DW301	LJ10 CVH						

Deliveries have been slow with Wrightbus on holidays, but there is no particular rush. Speaking of Holidays, with ADL now back after summer break deliveries are once again flowing with the first of the next batch of Enviro 400s filtering South T118 (LJ10 HVO) and T119 (LJ10 HVP) both currently in store at Lea Valley

A further re-registration is T7 T CLT reverting to LJ08 CVY. Just a single move to note DWL20 TH - EC:

The Shires: Dennis Darts 3360, 3367-3369 have all be sold to Sovereign Recovery. A handful of allocation changes 2177 HH - w: 2179 w - HH: 2461 WB - HH: 2462, 2490 WE - HH: 3371, 3372 HA - HAU: 3453 WB - w: 3833 HA - WE: 3842, 3844 HA - WEw:

Southern Counties

(Guildford & West Surrey): A new contract has been gained, serving the Royal Surrey County Hospital commencing on August 1st. Because of the nature of the route, it is only suitable for minibus operation and so three Mercedes-Benz Varios, have been sourced from elsewhere in the Arriva empire, 1110 (X653 WTN), an Alexander ALX100 body, from North East, 1111 (R798 DUB) a Plaxton Beaver, also from North East, and 1119 (R119 TKO) also a Plaxton Beaver coming from Medway Towns.

First Group

Aberdeen: Another coach on loan is Volvo B9R / Plaxton FJ59 CBU

Berkshire: Just a couple to note Dennis Dart SLFs DMS41257 and DMP42643 moving from Bracknell to Slough

London: An unexpected arrival in mid July from Wrightbus was a single Volvo B9TL for Alperon Garage. This vehicle has some added components and is for evaluation. VN37943 (BK10 MFZ) The fleet number is after the batch designated for route 18.

Northampton: Now here, although out based at Luton, transferred from Somerset & Avon are Volvo B7LAs 10180 (T3 FCC) 10181 (T4 FCC) and 10182 (T5 FCC), they are operating in the purple ftr livery. Alexander bodied Volvo Citybus 38097 (J297 GNV) has suffered engine failure and is now in reserve, its place being taken by sister 38098 (J298 GNV).

Somerset & Avon: The swaps between Glasgow and here have finally been completed, to recap Glasgow to Muller Rd, 44905-44913, Muller Rd to Bath 42938, 42939, 42962-42968, Bath to Glasgow 66735-66737, 66946-66949, 66951 and 66952. The Enviro 200s weren't long at Muller Road however with the depot finally closing on July 25th. Routes 4/5, 48/49, 70 and 73 are now run from Lawrence Hill with routes 8/9, 24/25, operating from Hengrove. The 36 and 54 previously operated by Lawrence Hill have been moved to Hengrove.

Allocation changes as a result are 32287-32290, 32292, 34183, 37630 MR-LH: 37621-37630 LH-HE: 37631, 37632 MR-HE: 37757-37769 MR-LH: 37771, 37772 MR-LH-HE: 42702, 42703, 42705, 42720-42722, 42723, 42949-42961 MR-HE: 42962 MR-BH: 4905-44913 HE: 46647 LH-HE: 46650-46658 MR-HE: 46903 MR-res: 49604 MR-w: 46905 TN-BR: 46908 MR-res: 60598 BR-w: 69449-69460 MR-LH:

Bath has assumed control of the Wells outstation, from Weston and as such the following buses are now on Baths allocation 46231, 46238, 46239, 46241, 46252, 46253, 66100, 66106-66108, 66160, 66206, 66207, 69435-69448:

South Yorkshire: Doncaster based, ex London Trident 32275 has been re-registered from LT52 WXE to KDZ 5104

West Yorkshire: A new Volvo B5L Wrightbus Gemini 2 Hybrid (BK10MGV) went on trial in Leeds for First West Yorkshire on Wednesday 23rd June - 22 are on order. The livery certainly caught a few people out...!! I understand that currently only 6 drivers are trained to operate this vehicle and it is restricted to operate on the 35/45/71 routes along the Scott Hall Road corridor in Leeds which are interworked. These routes run along one of the guideways so guidewheels have been fitted. The 45 is a somewhat unusual route to choose considering it is currently scheduled single deck and terminates in a small village with overhanging branches.

Wyvern: A pair of Optare Solos have been transferred from Bradford, for service at Worcester 50281 (W312 DWX) and 50282 (W313 DWX). Dennis Lance 67220 (L220 AAB) has been sold to PVS (Barnsley) for scrap. Dennis Dart 42406 (P406 MLA) has moved from Worcester to Kidderminster with similar 40269 (N637 CDB) moving in the opposite direction. Whilst on the subject of Kidderminster 42180 (R610 YCR) has been placed into reserve with a failed engine its place taken by 46931 (N831 FW).

Go Ahead Group

Brighton & Hove: Omnidekka 662, 663 and 664 have now been repainted all staying in Metro 25 livery, but with new rear adverts and the side destination vinyl's now do not include County Hospital (661 earlier last month also had this done). In early July Dart 212 was in the paint shop followed the next week by Omnidekka 665, both staying in standard livery. Bendy bus 104 has now received its Metro 25 vinyl's, it is not expected to operate in service until the start of the new University term. Tridents 824 and 826 have now had front electronic destinations fitted in place of the roller blinds.

London: PVL39, 44-46, 48-40, 53, 55, 260 and 267 have all been moved from Belvedere to an as yet unknown location. Other transfers this time DRM2516 BXc-PLc: DP208 BE-NX: LDP47 BX-AL: LDP104, 105 Q-NX: LDP108 BX-NX: PVL40, 51 Qt-w: PVL170 MW-Q: PVL221-225 NX-Qc: WVL78 BEu-AL: WVL80, 84, 85 MW-AL: WVL89, 90 BEu-AL: WVL93 MW-AL: WVL94 BEu-AL: WVL95 MW-AL: WVL103 BEu-AL:

North East: The first Versas from Quaylink are in build NK10 GNY and NK10 GNZ being two noted Transferred from Oxford have been these Wright bodied Volvo B10BLEs 5151 (T801 CBW), 5152 (T802 CBW), 5153 (T803 CBW), 5154 (T804 CBW), 5155 (T805 CBW), 5156 (T807 CBW), 5157 (T807 CBW), 5158 (T808 CBW), 5159 (T809 CBW) AN D5160 (T810 CBW). 5155 and 5158 are in service at Winlaton and have been painted yellow for the Blaydon Racers route. More transfers are 534 Washington to Winlaton, for route 74: 490 Saltmeadows to Stanley, 486, 487, 518 Peterlee to Stanley: 620-622, 624 Stanley to Peterlee. Volvo B7RLEs 4978 and 4979 are currently at Hexham whilst former Arriva Volvo B10BLEs are refurbished. Two of the ex Metrobus Olympians 3988 and 3991 are now in service at Stanley.

Nine Caetano bodied Denis Dart SLFs 9152 (HV52 WTG), 9153 (KU02 YBF), 9154 (), 9155 (HV52 WTA), 9156 (KM51 BFY), 9157 (KM51 BFV), 9159 (KU02 YBA), 9160 (HV52 WTA), 9161 (HV52 WTK) have been hired in for use on the newly won Quaylink services. They will remain on the service until Optare Versas arrive for the route, late in the year.

Plymouth Citybus: Arriving from Oxford have been Wright Crusader bodied Dennis Dart SLF R401FFC, 215 (R402 FFC) and 216 (R408 FFC). Volvo B6 / Plaxton Pointers 51 (P51 HOD), 52 P52 HOD and 53 (P53 OD) have been withdrawn, along with M-B 709Ds 276 (N276 PDV), 277 N277 PDV, 278 (N278 PDV), 279 (N279 PDV) and 281 (N281 PDV), Dennis Dart 114 (L114 HOD) and finally Volvo Citybus 188 (F605 GVO)

Wilts & Dorset: The following vehicles have now been transferred to the reserve fleet: 2543 (N543 UFX) Optare Metrorider; 2606-08/13/18/21-23/26/27/29/30, (R606-08/13/18/21/22) NFX and S623/26/27/29/30 JRU Optare Solo's, and 3111 (L711 ALJ) a DAF DB250 Optare Spectra. Optare Spectra's 3101/04/18/23/26 (K101/04 VLJ, L118/21/23/26 ELJ) have gone to Thandi Coaches, Smethwick.

National Express Group

Dundee: Moving down to West Midlands have Volvo B10Ls 7115, 7123, 7125, 7127 and 7129

The Kings Ferry: Courtesy of Ken Pitt with thanks to Sarah at Kings Ferry the details of the new Mercedes-Benz / Caetano C53F coaches, a full current fleet list will be posted on the website

6.10 (FJ10 EZG)	6.13 (FJ10 EZL)	6.16 (FJ10 EZO)
6.11 (FJ10 EZH)	6.14 (FJ10 EZM)	6.17 (FJ10 EZP)
6.12 (FJ10 EZK)	6.15 (FJ10 EZN)	6.18 (FJ10 EZR)

Operations: C088 and C092 have moved from CY to SR

West Midlands: With my usual thanks to Tony Hunter we have the latest fleet changes 229 WA - res: 289 reinstated to PB: 524, 530 AG - res: 580 WA - res: 584 CV - res: 641, 656 WA - res: 1352 res to Dundee: 1353 PB - res: 1366 res to Dundee: 1415, 1511, 1513 WA - res: 1766, 1767, 1768, 1773, 1775, 1777, 1780, 1786 AG - WA: 2835 AG - w: 3232 PB - res:

Stagecoach

Bluebird: This month's movements comprise the following 16200 Highland - res: 22706 res - AB: 27602 Highlands - MY: 32208 MY - dis: 32368 AB - dis: 33263 MY - dis: 33906 AB - res: 40135 dis - AB: 40752, 42222 AB - dis: 47156, 47157 res - AB: 50129 res - ABjv: 50135 ABjv - res: 50140 res - S/C Western: 52227 AB - Highland: 52235 MY - res: 52236 AB - res: 52237 MY - res: 52240 res - AB: 52294 IS - AB: A lot of school services have been retendered in north east Scotland and Bluebird has lost a substantial amount of work so it remains to be seen how many of the older buses leave the fleet, but the end looks to be nigh for the former Hong Kong Olympian fleet which have migrated to Buckie for store, now the summer holidays are here.

Cambridgeshire: A few buses have been taken off the disposal list and placed into the reserve feet 16010-16014, 16021, 16175, 33604, 33802 and 33806. Volvo B10M 20513 has been returned from Norfolk Green and is now for disposal.

East Kent & Hastings: A quiet month this time with just 16366 and 16367 moving to Eastbourne out of reserve.

East Midlands: Around 100 buses have moved location over the last few weeks, 15972 SK - dis: 16047, 16048 res - HL: 16088, 16093, 16094, 16096, 16105 HL - SK: 16151, 16168, 16169 HL - LI: 16346 LI - res: 16394 res - SP: 16431 LI - res: 16436, 16437 GY - dis: 16456, 16457 SK - LI: 16467, 16469 LI - SP: 16472-16474, 16476, 16478 res - dis: 16481, 16482 LI - res: 16485 GY - SP: 16486, 16488 SK - SP: 16582 res - GH: 16710 GY - dis: 16732 SP - res: 16735 LI - res: 16808 res - LI: 16817 SP - res: 16819, 16823 SP - dis: 16824 SP - res: 16825 SP - dis: 16826 res - dis: 16867 SK - res: 16906, 16909, 16910, 16917, 16919 LI - GY: 17675 res - SK; 17677, 17678 GY - res: 19072-19075 GY - LI: 20283 WP - res: 20286 LI - res: 20493 SP - dis: 20557, 20558 WP - res: 20664 LI - res: 20803 LI - res: 20804 GY - res: 20808 GY - SP: 21214, 26121, 26122 res - SK: 33203-33206 LI - res: 33209 LI - Wales: 33210 LI - res: 33211 LI - Wales: 33212 LI - res: 33213 res - GH: 33214, 33215 res - LI: 33251 SP - res: 33252 GH - LI: 34001 res - HL: 34002, 34003 res - WP: 34006-34009 res - HL: 34182, 34183 MD - res: 34187, 34189 LI - GY: 34191 LI - GH: 34462, 34463 MD - LI: 34570-34573 LI - MD:

East Scotland: Leyland Titan 11093 (NIB 5233) has been reactivated at St Andrews for the summer season, Volvo Olympian 16429 is back in reserve after Enviro 400 19549 was repaired. 16401 has been moved to Dundee, from Rennie's where it replaces fire damaged 21049 with similar 16402 moving to the disposal list. Former A1 service Dennis Tridents 18014, 18015 and 18016 are now at Dumfermline. Volvo B7R / Plaxton Profile 53275 is now at Rennie's after being upseated to 70. Volvo B10Ms 20916 and 20927 are in reserve having been transferred from Manchester. Another bus suffering the ravages of a fire has been Dennis Dart SPD 33267 being replaced at Dundee by reserve fleet Volvo B10M 20316.

Highland: Now at Inverness are former A1 service Dennis Tridents, 18007-18013, also transferring from Western has been Volvo B10M 20591 now at Thurso. From Manchester Volvo B10M 20946 is now in service on Skye. Other movements 16200 IS-AB: 27602 IS-MY: 33414 IS-res: 33472 IS-res: 34195 IS-S/C Wales: 52391 IS-OY: 59173 IS-res:

42046 the only Mercedes-Benz Vario on Orkney was moved back to the mainland on July 17th after its MOT expired. Chris Platt tells me also that Enviro 400 19371 is on Orkney for a couple of week late July / early August

Manchester: Arriving from North West at Chorley has been Mini Pointer Dart 33174, being used at Ashton, as back up to its Solo and also on staff shuttle duties, replacing Volvo B10M 20938.

During the summer University vacations, these Magic Bus painted buses have been moved to a site on Trafford Park for storage, From PS Dennis Dragons 15180, 15184, 15185, 15188-15195 and Volvo Olympians 16103, 16510, 16757, 16762, 16763, 16772, 16773, from ST 16770, 16774-16776, 16778, 16780 and from HE 16507. 16511, 16755, 16765, 16766, 16781, 16790-16792

Merseyside: Dennis Dart SLF 33138 has been sold as has Volvo B10M 20320, with 20913 and 20931 another pair transferring to North West, being repainted at Carlisle during July

North East: A few more movements to note, than of late 20116 WE - res: 20123 d/l - SCr: 20124, 20125 SS - SCr: 20126 SS - res: 20135 SS - SCr: 20550 d/l - res: 20840 SS - res: 20841 res - dis: 21002 SS - res: 21137 res - SS: 21142, 21147, 21148 SC - SS: 22063, 22064 d/l - SC: 22068 d/l - WE: 22453 d/l - SU: 22456 d/l - SC: 22486 d/l - SU: 32633 SU - res: 32651 sold for scrap: 32782, 32788 SU - res: 33101 SS - res:

North West: The first four, of eight Scania N230UD / ADL Enviro 400 H47/29Fs arrived at Lancaster in early July 15679 (PX10 ETL), 15680 (PX10 ETO), 15681 (PX10 ETR) and 15682 (PX10 ETR). A further four examples are due in September and they can be found on the 40 / 41 services linking Morecambe with Preston. Three of the S registered Dennis Tridents along with one of the ex Manchester 18 xxx series have been released following their arrival.

Volvo B10M 20762 (K762 DAO) has been donated as a road safety bus with similar 20735 being towed away to Wigleys of Barnsley for scrap. With the ending of the school term, several buses were moved from Kendal for store at Morecambe; Leyland Olympians 14199, 14248, 14252 and 14256 along with "School Runner" Volvo B10Ms 20710, 20711 and 20712, these join already store vehicles 14193, 14201, 20127, 20301, 20305 and 20802. "Info bus" 40269 has also left for scrap being replaced by 40033 (N133 YRM), arriving on July 8th after conversion. Volvo B10M 20301 was collected from Morecambe by Fleetlink on July 22nd.

Oxfordshire: The first of the new Volvo B9R /Plaxton Elites, for use on National Express service arrived on July 17th 53701 (OU10 GYH), The others, 53702 (OU10 GYJ), 53703 (OU10 GYK), 53704 (OU10 GYN) and 53705 (OU10 GYO) are due in the following couple of weeks.

South: The flagship 700 Coastliner service linking Brighton and Southsea, was increased in frequency during June and for this increase no less than 22 ADL Enviro 300s single decks with DP42F seating have been acquired.

27642	GX10 HBU	27648	GX10 KZA	27654	GX10 KZG	27659	GX10 KZM
27643	GX10 HBY	27649	GX10 KZB	27655	GX10 KZH	27660	GX10 KZN
27644	GX10 HBZ	27650	GX10 KZC	27656	GX10 KZJ	27661	GX10 KZO

27645	GX10 HCA	27651	GX10 KZD	27657	GX10 KZK	27662	GX10 KZP
27646	GX10 HCC	27652	GX10 KZE	27658	GX10 KZL	27663	GX10 KZR
27647	GX10 KYZ	27653	GX10 KZF				

27642-27644 being at Portsmouth and 27644-27648 are at Chichester. Notification of the allocation of the others was awaited as we went to press

Three more re-registrations this time around 13652 back to H462 EJR from 421 DCD which is now on 33061 ex X961 VAP; 32454 back to N454 PAP, from XSU 682 which is now on 33026, ex W426 NFG; 33002 is back as R702 DNJ, from 402 DCD, which is now on 33056 ex X956 VAP.

Disposals have been Volvo B10M 20632 (L632 TY) now with Mortons Travel of Tadley, 20635 (L635 TDY sold to Richardson Travel (Midhurst) and Plaxton Interurban 52260 (M160 CCD) to Ensignbus. Volvo Olympian 16503 (R503 UWL) was moved across to East Kent on June 5th. Transfers to note have been 15601 PM - CR: 16525 res - PM: 16745 AR - dis: 16747 WI - res: 27512-27515 res - WI: 34018, 34020 res - dis: 34515-34517 WG - CR: 40954 res - dis (parts):

South West: With the latest Scania / ADL Enviro 400s in service at Exmouth, the double decks they replaced, ex London Tridents have cascaded down the fleet: 15326 TQ - dis: 16058 TQ - res: 16062, 16069 BS - TQ: 16137 EX - TQ: 17002-17004 EM - res: 17005-17008 EM - EX: 17010, 17011 EM - BS: 17038 EM - res: 18079, 19105 EX - res: 20630 WN - dis: 20928 S/C Yorkshire - WN: 32429 TQ - dis: 33801 EX - TQ: 47082 WN - EX: 52029 trg - dis:

Wales: Usual array of movements to note 33209, 33211 S/C East Midlands – res: 33285 res - MR: 33287 d/l - BR, 33288 res - PT: 33563 paint - IB: 34195 S/C Highlands - res: 47197 MR - AE: 47343 PT - AE: 47383 CN - AE: 47385 BR - AE: 47630 res - CN: 47717 IB - AE: 52679 IB - S/C Highlands:

Warwickshire: Nine Scania N230UD / ADL Enviro 400 double decks are being delivered into Stratford at the moment. 15670 is route branded for the 28

15670	KX10 KSY	15673	KX10 KTC	15675	KX10 KTE	15677	KX10 KTG
15671	KX10 KSZ	15674	KX10 KTD	15676	KX10 KTF	15678	KX10 KTI
15672	KX10 KTA						

West Scotland: Latest bits and pieces are plentiful this time around Leyland Titans 10473, 10843 and 11032 have been scrapped, with 10252, 10752 and 10843 now de-licensed, leaving non in the operational following the departure for preservation of Stranraers sole example 10762 ; ECW bodied Leyland Olympian 14392 has been scrapped With the end of the school year the last Volvo Citybus in the fleet 15249 has been withdrawn and is now parked out of use at Ayr.

Volvo B10Ms 20514 20517, 20518 and 20519 moved from Ayr to the reserve fleet, then forward onto Glasgow to replace M registered examples 20586-20588 and 20590. 20591 the latter having been transferred north to the Highlands. 22258, 22603-22605 are now allocated to Ayr, which allowed the movement of the B10Ms noted above. MAN / Enviro 300s 22857-22859 have moved from Ayr to Kilmarnock allowing Volvo B6BLEs 31373, 31385 and 31386 to be withdrawn, the latter pair appearing with Yorkshire, at Barnsley. Optare Solo 47388 is in reserve from Cumnock. Volvo B7Rs 53240, 53208 and 53210 have been at Glasgow on joint venture services for a few weeks now being sent down from the Highland, their use should end though now that the operation of the G9 and G10 services have passed to Parks, Highland have received 52510, 52602 and 52603 place. Other moves taken place :- 16068, 16074 AS - CK: 16859 K - res, 16865 CK - res: 16866 K - res: 18000 K - res: 18001 K - DS: 18002 K - res: 18003, 18004 K - AS: 18007-18013 to Highlands: 18014-18016 to Fife: 18017-18020 to West: 20119 res - SR: 20506 SR - res: 20548, 20556 res - SR: 20567 SR - res: 20589 SR - res: 31378 res - dis: 34146 AY - res: 40635 SR - dis: 47388 res - GW: 50140 Bluebird - AY:

Currently at Kilmarnock is an all white Volvo B7RLE / Wright Eclipse Urban 2 80013 (BK10 MGE).

Yorkshire: A pair of Alexander ALX200 bodied Volvo B6BLE shave been transferred form West Scotland into Barnsley. Volvo B10M 20271 (M711 KRH) has been sold to PVS for scrap whilst 20928 has been transferred South to Devon. Another Volvo B10M 20542 (P542 EA) has moved down to East Kent. Internal transfers have been 16500 RW - res: 16868, 16869 BN - res: 16876 RW - res: 16878 BN - res: 16879 RW - res: 16397, 16398 RW - BN: 20677 SH - EC: 20892 SH - dis: 20930, 20942 SH - EC: 22535, 22629 SH - BN: 22801, 22811, 22812 BN - SH

Transdev

Harrogate & District): Running on the flagship 36 route at the end of July has been ADL Enviro 400H demonstrator SN59 AWW

Keighley & District: The programme of repaints into the new green and blue Transdev Keighley is progressing at a rate of two buses per week, to cover Volvo B6BLE / Wright Renown 205 (T125 OAH)

complete with Spot on livery is in use here. It has to be said in my opinion the Keighley & District livery was the worst to adorn the former Blazefield fleet and the new colours certainly hit the mark.

London United: Transfers this time to note we have DP585 FW - FWu: DPS688 HHu - S: SP5-12 HH - AV: SP13-15 S - AV: SP40 AV - S: SP133-135 HH - S: SP136 V - S: TA201, 202 AV - TV: TA213 FW - TV VA78 HHw - AV: VA80 S - AV, 87-89, 98 HHw - AV: VP112-119 AV - HHw:

Yellow Buses: Tony has noted more of the Optare Tempos in service 104 (YJ10 MDN), 106 (YJ10 MDU) and 107 (YJ10 MDV)

Independent Operators

Scotland

AAA Coaches (Kirknewton): From the Pegasus (Perth) operation comes YN05 HUZ a Plaxton bodied Iveco Eurorider.

Aberfoyle: The coach company has begun its first local bus service, using newly acquired ADL Enviro 200 MX10 DXW on the AC01 linking Aberfoyle with Glasgow. This being distinct from the commuter services it runs

Ayrways: Operation of the Girvan area Ring and Ride service has been taken over from Western with Optare Solo SF03 ZKU arriving from Western with the contract

Bennett's (Kilwinning): Operation of route 29 Irvine – Montgomerie Park was taken on from late July, using an ex Travel Dundee Optare Excel RUI 9481. This is the first service work run in over twenty years

Blue Bus (Shotts): Two additions noted by Arthur during July have been Mercedes-Benz Varios S791 LGA with Beaver 2 body and Marshll bodied S612 BGD

City Circle (Edinburgh): Another new vehicle to note is YJ10 DJY a VDL SB4000 / Van Hool Alizee T9

Dodds (Troon): A second Volvo 9700 Prestige to record is SF10 DJJ. Jonckheere Mistral bodied Volvos YXD 507 and YWE 840 have left the fleet to Volvos., possibly in part exchange for the two 9700s

Hardies (Port Glasgow): New here is Mercedes-Benz Touro C49FT BU53 AXJ, new to Flights

Henderson Travel: Another New Optare Solo is an M950 model 310 (YJ10 MGX). The two Dennis Javelin / Wadham Stringer "Black Bear" school buses J222 BER and J999 BER have been sold to Watermill Coaches

Houstons (Lockerbie): New here in SWest Trans colours is a BMC850 single deck BX10 DHG, for use on council tendered services

Hunters (Alloa): Former McKindless Enviro 200 SN57 SXJ is now in use here.

E & M Horsborough: Six Optare Solo SRs have been delivered MH04 EMH, MH05 EMH, MH06 EMH MH07 EMH, MH08 EMH, MH09 EMH. Another is said to be in operation, but has as yet not been seen.

JP Minicoaches (Forfar): Optare Excel RUI 9481 has been sold to Bennett's of Kilwinning

Marbill Coach Services: A pair of Leyland Tiger / Plaxtn Derwent single decks F35 RWK and F336 RWK have been sold to Whitelaws

Parks (Hamilton): New for use on new "Citylink Gold" services G9 and G10 linking Glasgow with Inverness and Aberdeen, are a batch of 5 12.6m Volvo B12B(T) / Plaxton Elites HSK641, HSK 647, HSK648, HSK649 and HSK650

Prentice Westwood: New here is Optare Solo S286 NBB

Stuarts (Carlisle): Now here is Bluebird Tucana YX59 DZC, which is for use on a Mybus contract taken over from Shuttlebuses

Tramontana (Motherwell): A new arrival here is Volv B10M / Jonckheere Mistral T717 OUS

Whitelaws (Stonehouse): MAN /Plaxton demonstrator MX10 DDN has been in use here during July, having completed its stint with Stagecoach in Glasgow

North East & Yorkshire

Bibby's (Ingleton): A recent acquisition has been Mercedes-Benz / Plaxton Cheetah C33F YN07 DUA named "Dales Venturer". It was previously with Fourways (Leeds)

Centrebus

(Huddersfield Bus Co): Dennis Dart / East Lancs Spryte 509 (P131 PPV) has been transferred to Grantham, along with Dennis Dart SLF / Plaxton Pointer 510 (R141 RLY). One of the recently acquired ex ELBG Dennis Dart SLFs 572 (LX51 FGZ) was noted in use here mid July

(White Rose Bus Co): With most of the former ELBG Dennis Dart SLFs now in service here is what we have noted so far: 363 (Y352 FJN), 364 (Y261 FJN), 553 (Y301 FJN), 554 (Y302 FJN), 556 (Y297 FJN), 557 (Y298 FJN), 565 (Y264 FJN), 568 (Y257 FJN), 569 (Y258 FJN), 570 (Y259 FJN), 571 (LX51 FGP), 573 (LX51 FHD), 574 (LX51 FPJ), 575 (LX51 FHC), 576 (Y276 FJN). I think there are just a couple outstanding to note

Two Dennis Dart SLFs are also now at Leeds 520 (P152 SMW) and 521 (P157 SMW)

East Yorkshire: Volvo D10M / Alexander RV 892 (F609 GVO) has been re-registered as 152 FRH

Harrogate Coach Travel: On loan at the moment is Optare Solo with MAN engine YJ10 MBF,

Lees (Durham): Noted passing me early in July was Volvo B10M / Jonckheere Deauville M13 CJT in a silver livery. The registration and colour suggesting that it has come from Turners of Bristol.

Powells (Rotherham): Another ex Stagecoach Volvo B10m / Alexander PS has arrived N317 VMS, which joins N320 VMS already in the fleet.

Procters (Bedale): Another brand new coach to note is on of those very boxy looking MAN / FAST Starter YN10 FNV

SB Coaches (Bishop Auckland): The company has taken delivery of the first 10.3m Optare Solo SR to be operated in the UK, It seats 30 and is fitted with a MAN engine

T.J. Walsh (Halifax): A fleet upgrade has commenced here with a pair of Plaxton Primo minibuses arriving at the end of July MX10 DXF and MX10 DXG, reports say at least five more may be acquired

Weardale: A new arrival is of former Go Ahead London Dennis Trident / Plaxton President PN03 UMF.

Veolia (Yorkshire): Several MAN /MCV Evolution single decks are now in service at Rotherham 5701 (AE57 CAN), 5702 (AE57 CNC), 5703 (AE57 CNF) and 5704 (AE57 CNJ). Having been moved here from Nottingham, following the arrival of new buses there. 5705 (AE57 CNK) is also now here another MCV but on a Dennis Dart SLF chassis.

Veolia (North East): Volvo B12M / Plaxton Paragon KU02 YUF has been noted running on National Express services.

York Pullman: Another customer for former Ulsterbus vehicles with two Alexander Q bodied Leyland Tigers PXI 1319, 276 (SXI 2639) and 277 (TXI1356) being noted recently. Also now here is an ex Stagecoach North West Northern Counties bodied Olympian F297 DRJ coming from Mike Nash (dealer)

North West England

A2B: MAN / Caetano A2 BXO has been re-registered back to L23 CAY and sold with Mercedes-Benz Vario / Plaxton Cheetah XX02 BOY now registered as A2 BXO.

Aintree Coachline: Sold to the Stafford Bus Centre have been Dennis Dart J155 EDM, Dennis Dart SLFs R445 LGH, R446 LGH and Bluebird Q N734 EOT. Another Dennis Dart J54 EDM has been sold to PVS for scrap. New is a further Optare Versa 1040 YJ10 EYZ, which like the others of the mark is in Cheshire Vilager colours. Former Stagecoach Volvo B10M / Alexander PS L306 PSC is now L2 SLT with Volvo / Plaxton Premiere M917 WJK now re-registered to L1 SLT

Airport Parking (Sharston): A new arrival has been Optare Solo SR YJ10 MGO. A Versa was also noted at Crossgates, but may be allocated to another area as the company operates at several airports.

Avon (Prenton): Scania N113CRB / Alexander Strider L108 VDM has been sold to Centrebus subsidiary Bowers Coaches, with ex Stagecoach B6 L273 LHH sold for scrap

Blackpool Transport: With the service changes being implemented at the end of July Optare Deltas 104-109, 112-114 have been withdrawn. The first pair of the ex Anglian Volvo B7RLEs arrive at Rigby Road depot at the end of July AU06 BPF and AU06 BPK

Cass (Wirral): Newly arrived Scania / Irizar YN55 PXT is now registered as C4 SSU, which was latterly on Volvo B10N / Van Hool which reverted back to L910 NWW and has been sold

Coachmasters (Rochdale): Brand new is an ADL Enviro 200 MX10 KNR.

JP Travel (Middleton): More arrivals of late consist of Volvo B6LE / Wright 180 (T626 VOA), coming from Warwickshire University and a Dennis Trident / Plaxton President new to of Petes Travel in the West Midlands, being 521 (PT51 JPT) re-registered from PO51 WNH. Similar is 522 (PO51 UGF) this one, being Blue Triangles TPL928. Another new ADL Enviro 200 is 351 (VT10 JPT) which was due on the road on July 26th

Kirkby Lonsdale Coach Hire (Carnforth): Operation of the evening service 42 Lancaster – Blackpool was taken on from the end of June and are worked by two Optare Solos, YK04 KWG, which spends the day working the 564 in Cumbria, before heading South, with the second duty normally in the hands of YC05 WCO, which can be found on the Carnforth Connect during the day. It will be interesting to see if these cope with capacity during the Illuminations later in the year.

Reays (Wigton): Yet another new vehicle is a Mercedes-Benz / Plaxton Cheetah YN10 FZE

Tyrer Bus (Nelson): The company has won the West Yorkshire Metro tender for operation of the

Hebden Bridge minibus network A-E, along with the Todmorden minibus network T1-9, Five minibuses are required each day for the services, which will commence on October 31st. Whether this will have any effect on the First garage in Todmorden remains to be seen

Central England

Bowens: Ten Scania Omniexpress coaches are in the course of delivery YP10 VZB being the first noted in all over silver with no titles

Bowers Chapel en le Frith: Transferred from Centrebus at Hinckley has been Mercedes-Benz Vario 436 (R154 UAL)

Central Connect: Two more "Signature" routes have been commenced 82 between Solihull and Coventry and the S4 Solihull - Cheswick Green. Brand new Mercedes-Benz Citaro rigid single decks have been added to work the services, running in the silver and black Signature livery BV10 ZJU being the first noted

Diamond Bus: Dennis Darts 456 (PJ02 RGX), 457 (PJ02 RGY) and 458 (PJ02 RHA) are being moved to Yourbus at Hucknall.

Hamilton's Coaches (Northampton): Former Fir Coaches WV52 KTK Volvo B12M / Plaxton Paragon is now in use here

Hansons: Ton Brant fills us in with a couple of fleet changes J120 HGF has been withdrawn for scrap, donating its engine to N672 CLV.

Heartlands Bus (Tamworth): A recent arrival here is an ex Trent Barton "Villager" Dennis Dart R927 RAU. A batch of five former Ulsterbus Wright bodied Leyland Tigers have arrived 127 (WXI 4408), 128 (WXI 4409), 129 (WXI 4413), 130 (WXI 4414) and 131 (WXI 4425)

Johnsons (Henley in Arden): Into service during July has been YJ09 EZR and electric powered Optare Solo, used on the 222 Park & Ride service in Stratford Upon Avon. It was undergoing a weeks trial to assess data during in service running. If successful then new Solo EVs will be purchased from the contract. A new Optare Tempo is YJ10 MHA

Midland Classic: Purchased at the recent auction of Trent Barton buses has been former Kinch Dennis Dart 897

Nottingham City Transport: Alan Spencer notes that dual door ADL Enviro 400 Hybrid demonstrator SN59 AWW in a green and white livery was in use on July 12th, should have only stayed a week, but was still in use on the 19th. Scania Omnidieka 729 (YN53 CEU) has been repainted into a modified Go2 Turquoise livery

Premiere (Nottingham): Another new bus is an ADL Enviro200 Dart 4 MX10 DXU

RH Transport: Two ex Stagecoach East Midlands Alexander RH bodied Volvo Olympians no where are 809 (L604 NOS) and 810 (L651 MYG)

TM Travel: An Optare Solo have been acquired, latterly with Dochertys Midland YN04 XZC. It will see use on the Doncaster Royal Infirmary – Racecourse Park & Ride contract, recently won from Veolia, where it will join [1166] MX03 YDF painted up for the service. Also noted at the Halfway depot in late July was another Solo YJ56 WVN, in all white, it was previously with the Local Link bus arm of Peterborough Council

Trent Barton: The five new Scania / Irizar coaches for the "Red Arrow" service have now been delivered 72 (FJ10 OXM), 73 (FJ10 OXN), 74 (FJ10 OXP), 75 (FJ10 OXR) and 75 (FJ10 OXS). The frequency between Derby and Nottingham was increased to every 10 minutes from July 26th. Dennis Dart 901 has been sold to Silcox Motors (Pembroke Dock). Optare Solos 416 and 417 are now based at Sutton

Veolia (Midlands): New arrivals are two 74 seat Volvo B9TL / Wright Gemini double decks BK10 MFU and BK10 MFV, for the Hopper service linking Nottingham University with the city and Sutton. Also appearing on this service and in the blue and white livery has been Volvo B7RLE / Plaxton Centro BK10 MFY. An ADL Enviro 300 has also arrived SN10 CDF complete with a rear bike rack and also probably for University based services. A driver tells Alan that there are five altogether, of which SN10 CDK is another noted so far.

Yourbus (Nottingham): Normally based at Tuxford Dennis Trident 2502 (X606 EGK) has been used on Nottingham services in mid July, may have been here for maintenance and pressed into use.

Wales

Alpine (Llandudno): Vehicles acquired in June include M50 MCT (ex FE52 HFP) Iveco CC80E Indicar C29F which has come from McEwan, Mansfield; PN03 OVP Dennis R410 SFD Plaxton C53F which has

come from Alfa, Euxton and SN53 RXC Scania K114IB Irizar C49FT which has come from Blue Iris, Nailsea.

Apollo (Ely Bridge): Volvo B12B / Caetano C49FT, FJ05 HYP was acquired from Stewart, Grazeley Green.

Berwyn (Trefor): S755 XYA Volvo B10M-62 Van Hool which was acquired from NCB Motors in March has been re-registered to S20 CBC.

Cardiff Bus: On loan for route trials from Arriva London has been BX55 FWV an articulated MB Citaro.

Celtic Travel (Llanidloes): Acquired from First Devon & Cornwall in June was WV52 HVF Volvo B12M Plaxton C49FT. This vehicle was originally registered WV52 HVE.

Citysightseeing (Cardiff): Acquired in April from Citysightseeing, Bath was EU04 CZS a Volvo B7L Ayats. Also acquired in April from the same source was P718 PWC (ex 97 D 337) Volvo Olympian Alexander PO47/27D. Vehicles out and now with Ensign, Purfleet are WLT 752 (ex 90 D 1004) L/Olympian Alexander; F815 YLV and F31/52 XOF Metrobus MCW, and M646 RCP DAF DB250 Northern Counties.

Clarke's (Tredegar): Currently on loan to Chapman, Tonyrefail is K90 EBL Dennis Lance / Wadham Stringer.

Creigiau Travel: Acquired in June from Laser, Tonypandy was KNZ 1315 (ex G732 YAC) Volvo B10M-60 / Plaxton Paramount.

Cresta (Bridgend): BF52 KJX MB413CDi Crest was sold to A2B, Wirral back in February.

Davies (Cross Hands): Sold in February was F790 UJS a Dennis Javelin Duple.

Diamond (Morriston): Volvo B12B / Jonckheere FJ04 ERX is now with Torquay Travel, while WA54 ECZ a Bova FHD has arrived from Sixty Sixty, Merthyr Tydfil.

EST/GM (Cowbridge/Cefn Cribwr): Several vehicles are now off the road and are waiting disposal. Those noted are, VIL 7453 (ex K152 LGO) and J654 XHL, both Dennis Dart Plaxton Pointer's, and L812 NNW and L 817 NWY Dennis Lance Alexander.

Edwards (Llantwit Fardre): Two acquisitions in June were N586 CKA and 588 CKA Volvo B10B-58 / Wrightbus B49F which have come from Arriva Merseyside. Meanwhile, YN08 DNV a Volvo B12B / Plaxton has received full National Express livery.

Ferrsi (Nantgaw): A newish VW Crafter seen at Watford Gap service is YN57 EZ, was with JA Travel (Notts) until fairly recently.

GHA (Ruabon): On loan from Optare, Leeds is YJ10 MBF an Optare Solo Optare B33F. Leyland Olympian / Northern Counties H767 EKJ entered service in June in GHA livery, while R627 SJM Optare Metrorider entered service in Vale Travel livery, also in June.

Gary's (Tredegar): Volvo B10M / Duple A5 GJL has been re-registered E442 MOU, while T549 EUB a Volvo B10M-62 Plaxton now carries registration A5 GJL.

Glamorgan Bus & Coach (Cwmbach): A few acquisitions to record are P235 EJW a MB811D / Marshall B31F which has come from Pickford, Chippenham, P701 LCF a MB 0810D / Plaxton B31F, from M Travel Old Trafford, and T419 AGP a Dennis Dart SLF Marshall B28F which has come from Go Ahead London.

Globe (Cwmaman): New here is GL10 BES a Volvo 9700 Volvo C57F which arrived in June.

Goodsir (Holyhead): NK07 YFV a Volvo B12M Jonckheere reported in the June issue as coming from First Aberdeen, actually came from Parks, Hamilton.

Hayward (Carmarthen): Vehicles acquired in June were NIW 4407 (ex A440 DTO) a Leyland Tiger Plaxton Paramount from Don's Cross Hands, and D97 BNV Volvo B10M-61 Jonckheere C51FT from Atherton, Middleton St George. NIW 4407 did not stop long, it is now with Ammanford Coach Hire, Capel Hendre.

Jo Travel (Ponciau): Acquired back in April was K487 BCY a DAF SB3000 Caetano Algarve C49FT, and in May, Y144 HWE, a MAN 18.350 Neoplan C49FT was acquired from Filer, Ilfracombe.

James/Atlas (Pontcynon): In June, W628 FUM a Volvo B10M-62 Plaxton C48FT was acquired from Hodgson, Barnard Castle. Vehicles out include two Optare Metroriders, L482 GTX and R89 BDW, both to Caradon Riviera Tours, Upton Cross.

Jervis (Port Talbot): Not recorded here before is the acquisition of T543 EUB Volvo B10M-62 / Plaxton Premiere which came from Edwards, Tiers Cross back in August of last year. A little more up to date is the acquisition of T649 JWB a Volvo B7R Plaxton C53F from East Yorkshire which arrived in June.

John's Travel (Merthyr Tydfil): From Norfolk Green, Kings Lynn has come X151 NGK a M-B 0.814D / Plaxton Beaver B31F.

Jones (Flint): The acquisition of Y918 XEC a Volvo B10M-62 Plaxton reported in last month's issue should be deleted, information was incorrect.

Laser (Tonypandy): CHZ 9050 a Bova FHD 12.290 arrive in May from Malvernian, Malvern. Two further acquisitions to note are M11 CJT and M12 CJT (ex M984/985 HHS) Volvo B10M-62 Jonckheere which have come from Turners, Bristol.

Lloyd's (Machynlleth): One correction to make is that K773 DAO a Volvo B10M-55 Alexander has not gone but is still owned. June saw the arrival of LC10 WYN and LC10 DAN Dennis Javelin SFD / Plaxton C70F. L707 LKY a MB 711D Plaxton Beaver and T692 LNV a MB 0814D Plaxton were both sold in June, the latter is now with Nefyn Coaches.

Mainline (Gilfach Goch): From Weaver, Newbury has come YN56 EZW a Scania K114EB / Berkhof C57FT, while PSC 57Y Leyland Tiger Duple and A80 SSP Volvo B55 East Lancs have both gone, probably for scrap.

Meirion Motors (Aberystwyth): Currently on loan from Moseley, Wellington is YD02 RCO a DAF SB4000 / Van Hool C48FT.

Mid Wales (Penrhyncoch): Two new Dennis Javelin SFD / Plaxton's are on order, one being YN10 HJO which duly arrived on the first of July. The second vehicle will now not be delivered until September and so more than likely will carry a '60' registration. M6 HWD (ex M335 KRY) Volvo B10M Jonckheere which was on loan, has now returned to BASE, Holmeswood.

Midway Motors (Crymmych): Acquired from Redwing, Herne Hill in June was BX 54EDP a Setra S315GTHD C49FT.

New Adventure (Gabalfa): Acquisitions to note are V2 EFA a MB 0814D RH C24F, from Hunter, Tantobie; VX04 ULT a Dennis Dart SLF Alexander B29F from Sargeants, Kington and BX55 FYE a MB 616CDi Koch B25F from Compass Royston, Stockton-on-Tees. Dennis Dart SLF V161 EFS is now in service and wears green Asda Rider livery.

Owen's (Four Crosses): Now with Evobus, Coventry is MAN 24.400 Noge FN02 HGP.

Pat's (Southsea): N106 LCK a Dennis Dart SFD East Lancs B28F has arrived from Rossendale.

St Davids Travel / CATS (Bedwas): Vehicles currently on loan from NextBus, Chippenham are R117 TKO a MB 0810D Plaxton B7F, T95 GGO a MB 0814D Plaxton B25F and W806 PKS a MB 0814D Plaxton B27F. Vehicles out include the following, L337 FWO a MB 709D Alexander which was sold back in October of last year, along with N377 PNY a MB 709D Alexander; L400 KAT (ex L707 PHE) a Volvo B10M Van Hool, N801 CKP a Iveco 49.10 Bds, N318 NCN Iveco 45.10 LCB, V229 DLB a Iveco 35.10 Eurm, V416 ECY a LDV Cy all sold in June.

Silcox (Pembroke Dock): News here is that after many years of operating secondhand Bristol ECW's, this operator is again due to operate two more. The company has been appointed to manage the operation of two C39F MW6G's, namely ex Royal Blue liveried Southern National 617 DDV and ex Eastern National 573 UVX. Both vehicles are to operate for Bluestone, a holiday park within the Pembrokeshire National Park. Acquired in June were XIL 9100 (ex N133 RAP) MB 811D UVG DP33F which has come from Chalkwell, Sittingbourne, and T430 KAG a Dennis Dat SLF Plaxton Pointer B34D which has come from Transdev London. Now in David Urquhart livery is T142 RDE a Dennis Javelin SCC.

Sixty Sixty (Merthyr Tydfil): From Diamond, Morrision via Moseley, Wellington has come WA54 ECZ a Bova FHD. Another acquisition is L316 HPP a Volvo B6-50 Northern Counties B40F which has arrived from Girlings, Plymouth A further Scania has been acquired from Moseley, Wellington, but current identity is unknown. EOS E180Z LJI 6060 has been re-registered to P868 PWW and has gone to Moseley, Wellington.

Tanat Valley (Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant): Leyland Lynx G291 EOG left the fleet in April.

Town Lynx (Holywell): Acquired from Dublin Bus in March was 98 D 20442 a Volvo Olympian Alexander.

Veolia Transport Cymru: Vehicles acquired from Veolia England are YJ 56 WVS-VV Optare Tempo's and now carry branding for service 600 Aberdare-Pontypridd-Cardiff.

Voel (Dyserth): New here from Volvo at Loughborgh is an ex Parks Volvo B12M / Jonckheere SHV HSK 641 now SF08 VTK

VR Travel (Merthyr Tydfil): Acquired from East Yorkshire Motor Services in May were 101 (M415 RRN, 102 M424 and 103 M427 RRN Volvo B10M-55 / Alexander PS B48F. These are to be employed on a town service in Merthyr Tydfil linking the railway station, which is believed to be starting in September. Vehicles out include WIL 8301 (ex G378 NHL) Volvo B10M Van Hool, J396 UBM (ex J7 KFC) a M/Benz 0303, M741 HTN Volvo B10M Plaxton and M38 LHP also a Volvo B10M Plaxton.

Walton (Cardiff Bay): Acquired from Walton, Freckleton in June was FJ58 AHZ Toyota Ceatano Optimo C21F.

Watts (Bonvilston): New in June was WA10 CGE a Van Hool TD927 Van Hool C87FT. On loan from Moseley, Wellington is YJF 505 (ex G811 LVV) EOS E180Z EOS C53FT, while WA 04 EWM a Bova FHD which was also on loan from Moseley, has now returned to Moseley at Wellington. Further vehicles noted going to Moseley are D5 CPW (ex V821 VTX) a Scania K124 Berkhof and R20 CPW (ex R927 PTF) a Volvo B12(T) Berkhof.

Williams (Brecon): Sold to Moseley, Wellington in June was YX07 AYC a MB 0815 Fer.

Eastern Counties

Godward (South Woodham Ferrers): As promised the two regular coaches on the 570 Whitehaven service have been Scania / Irizar YN08 MOA and Caetano Levante FJ08 KMX.

Norfolk Green: Optare Specta 3 (YG02 FWE) has returned from repaint and entered service at the end of July. Mercedes-Benz Varios 406 (V993 DNB), 409 (T619 VEW) and 415 (S154 NNH) were withdrawn during the last week in July, 409 being the first new bus purchased by Norfolk Green. The hired in Stagecoach Volvo B10Ms 701, 702, 703 and 705 were returned to Stagecoach at the end of July.

Stephensons (Rochford): A newly purchased ex Dublinbus Olympian noted at the recent North Weald rally is N881 FKK ex 96-D-292

London / Greater London

BM Coaches: Another Mercedes-Benz 515CDi noted by Tony has been YN59 CXR

City Circle: Noted by Tony of late has been DAF SB4000 / Van Hool Alizee YJ09 CVG. This was new to Ashton of St Helens.

Chalfont Coaches: Another Volvo B12B(T) / Van Hool coach is WA10 ENK this one in Chalfont livery.

Comet Coach Hire: Better known as CCH newly noted on a VW Crafter is A6 CCH one of many operated on air crew shuttle duties.

CT Plus: Three brand new VW/ Bluebird Tucana minibuses have been delivered during July BT1 (YX10 AYD, BT2 (Y10 AYP) and BT3 (YX10 FFW). They replace three Optare Aleros on route 812

East London Bus Group: Quite a few changes to get through this month, Sold to Ensignbus (dealer) have been Dennis Tridents 17108, 17116, 17117, 17124, 1713117135, 17137, 17139, 17142, 17191 and 17542 and Dennis Darts 34254, 34276, 34320 with Southdown PSV taking 17118 and 17132. 17365 has been scrapped. 17099-17101 Ut - RMs: 17102, 17103 NSt - RMs: 17105, 17106 BKt - RMs: 17109 WHt - RMs: 17129 res - BW: 17133 BW - dis: 17359-17361 dis - BK: 17362 dis - NS: 17363 dis - BK: 17364 dis - NSr: 17366 dis - BW: 17367 res - BW: 17368 BK - dis: 17395 WHt - Tt: 17432, 17433 WHt - RMs: 17434 T - PD: 17466, 17486 res - T; 17480 res - PD: 17530, 17579 res - WH: 17853 PD - T: 17932 BW - WH: 18463, 18464 res - TL: 18500 res - WH: 26003 BKt - RMt: 34271, 34273 dis - WH: 34312, 34317 dis - TB:

Impact (Perivale): Noted running around of late has been X511 PLD a small Mercedes

Metroline: The next batch of ADL Enviro 200 Dart 4s were due into service on July 24th on route C11 at Perivale garage (PV)

DE1130	LK10 BYW	DE1136	LK10 BZC	DE1142	LK10 BZJ	DE1147	LK10 BZP
DE1131	LK10 BYX	DE1137	LK10 BZD	DE1143	LK10 BZL	DE1148	LK10 BZR
DE1132	LK10 BYY	DE1138	LK10 BZE	DE1144	LK10 BZM	DE1149	LK10 BZS
DE1133	LK10 BYZ	DE1139	LK10 BZF	DE1145	LK10 BZN	DE1150	LK10 BZT
DE1134	LK10 BZA	DE1140	LK10 BZG	DE1146	LK10 BZO	DE1151	LK10 BZU
DE1135	LK10 BZB	DE1141	LK10 BZH				

P F Coaches (Earlsfield): A new Mercedes-Benz Tourismo noted by Tony has been BK10 FTO

Roadrunner (Harlow): Now here, from Countywide in Hants is East Lancs bodied MAN 14.20 RX53 LFH

Southern England

Avensis (Romsey): Scania K124IB Irizar Y84 HHE has been re-registered FIG 5684.

Countryliner (Guildford): Recently acquired from Transdev London are S302 MKH and S303 MKH Dennis Dart SLF Plaxton Pointer B36F and are due to operate in the Sussex area.

Crosskeys (Folkestone): New in April was YJ10 DKY a Van Hool T915 Van Hool C51FT.

The following vehicles were transferred from Johnson, Folkestone in March: MJG 416R Bedford YMT Plaxton C49F, UPB 331S Leyland National B41F, D 222 LWY Volvo B10M-61 Plaxton C53F, G788/93/94 URY Bova FHD12.290 Bova C51FT, H601 UWR Volvo B10M-60 Plaxton C51FT, N195 DYB Bova FHD12.340 Bova C49FT, N118 RJF Volvo B10M-62 Jonckheere C51FT, P233 AAP Volvo B6LE Wrightbus B28F, P58 NLU MB 412D Acl M16, P2/3 RDJ Bova FHD12.340 Bova C49FT, Q255 GRW Leyland National B47D, S747 XYA Bova FHD12.340 Bova C49FT, WJ 51 BOU Bova FHD12.340 Bova C49FT, GK 53 ETZ TransBus Javelin TransBus C70F, GN 55 MHO AD Javelin Plaxton Profile

C70F, BU 06 CUJ Setra S415GTHD C49FT, GN 57 DAO AD Javelin Plaxton Profile C55F, GN 57 DAU AD Dart AD B38F, GN 57 DBO AD Dart AD B29F, BF 59 NHG Setra S415GTHD C49FT

DJ Coaches (Gravesend): Parnham, Ludgershall has taken BU04 FAF and BX55 FVE MB 1836RL MB C49FT.

Dolphin (Wimborne): Tony has noted N555 HAN a Bova Futra running of late, may be the former P688 UAG.

Emsworth & District (Southbourne): Acquired from London Borough of Redbridge in April was RDL 686X a Leyland Olympian ECW CH44/30F, originally with Southern Vectis. In June, J605 XHL a Dennis Dart 9SDL Plaxton Pointer B34F was acquired from Barham, Parkeston.

Farleigh Coaches (Hoo): Acquired from Dublin Bus back in April was R167 LHK (ex 98 D 20410) V/Olympian Alexander H47/27D which has now been re-registered LEZ 9480.

Grosvenor: New here is a Volvo B12B(T) / Van Hool GR56 NOR coming from Kavanagh (Eire) where it was 07-KK-1719

Hardings (Betchworth): Acquired from Parks, Hamilton back in January was CU08 CHY (ex HSK 648) A Volvo B12M Jonckheere C53F.

Heyfordian: Currently on loan to cover more tender gains are all white Optare Solos V114 DCF and YJ59 GGO along with a brand new one in full fleet livery YJ10 MBO

Kent Coach Travel (Sheerness): Vehicles acquired in May were BIG 2116 (ex W16 APT) and BIG 2117 (ex W17 APT) Volvo B10M-62 Van Hool C46FT from Westbus, and L580 TGH (ex L116 OWF) Volvo B10M-46 Van Hool C46FT from Endeavour, Aston. In May, T109 JBA a Volvo B10M-62 Van Hool C53F was acquired from Pegasus Travel, Perth.

Kent County Council (Aylesford): Two vehicles to note here are YR02 ZKY and YR02 ZKZ Dennis R SFD Plaxton Profile C70F which have been acquired from Flights Hallmark.

Laguna (Bournemouth): New in March was YR10 BAA a Scania K340IB / Lahden C59FT.

Landtourer Coaches (Brighton Hill): Scania K114EB / Van Hool HX54 UOE (originally 05 D 7789) has been re-registered ONZ 1127.

Morton (Chineham): New in May was WA10 CFN a Bova FHD 13.??? Bova C63FT.

Poynter (Wye): From Foster, Piltown has come YIL 9665 (ex L343 RWF) a Bova FHD12.340 Bova C49FT.

Rambler (Hastings): Volvo 32 H533 WGH has gone to Clark, Catford.

Regent (Whitstable): Iveco FG03 JCJ has been sold to Watkin of Cefn Coch

Reliance (Graveend): A Mercedes-Benz Tourismo slipping under the radar is BJ59 OJD

Safeguard (Guildford): Volvo B10M-60 Plaxton 277 FCG (ex G518 EFX) has been re-registered G520 EFX, while YN 04 WTM Volvo B12M Plaxton now carries registration 277 FCG.

Seaview (Parkestone): New vehicles to record are four Neoplan N440XSHD's, three are to C49FT layout, and the other being to C53F, and they are MX10 DFD, MX10DFE, MX10 DFF and MX10DFG respectively. The following vehicles appear to have been part-exchanged for the new Neoplan's, HF05 JRO, HF05 JRJ, HF05 JRV MAN 18.400 Noge and HF 06 ETE Irisbus 397E Beulas and are now with dealer MAN at Trafford Park.

Thomas (West Ewell): Noted in service here is M722 KPD Volvo B10M-60 Plaxton C51FT, any reports as to where this vehicle came from would be grateful. Also here are ex National Holidays Y751 HWT and Y753 HWT Volvo B10M-62 Plaxton C48FT.

Vision Travel (Cosham): Scania K124EB Irizar YN 04 GFE now carries registration 9508 VT. A Ford Transit not noted before is EX53 UOC

Weavaway (Newbury): Volvo B9TL East Lancs Nordic OU05 AWJ was sold to Tyrer, Adlington back in June. Just to update you on the liveries carried by various vehicles here is a breakdown:

Countywide: YN10 ACU, YN10 ACV, KX08 OMB-OMD, 327 RFC, MAC 96P, W90 OOW, CW54 TOP, RA56 GYT, NBZ 70, X70 OXF, X90 OXF

Weavaway: YN10 ADU, YN10 ADV, SF10 EBF, V11 OOL, W30 OOW, W40 OOW, W50 OOW, W60 OOW W70 OOW, OU05 AVB, OU05 AVD, OU05 AVY, BKZ 70

Newbury & District: C1-8 OXF

Abingdon Coaches: KX08 OME, KX08 OMF

Haywards: KX08 OMG, NE06 LAN, NE07 LAN

Rockbird : R9 BRD

Whites (Culham): New in May was YN10 FZP a AD Javelin SFD Plaxton Profile C53F.

South West England

A2B Newquay Travel (Newquay): Acquired, is an ex Dublin Bus Volvo Olympian / Alexander S231 YOO (ex 98 D 20427).

AB Coaches (Paignton): Acquired from Saffords, Little Gransden in April was P229 AUT a Volvo B10M-62 Plaxton C49F.

Applegates (Newport): Acquired from Go Ahead Brighton & Hove are P875 VFG and P876 VFG Scania N113DRB / East Lancs Cityzen H47/31F.

Bath Bus (Bath): New for Citysightseeing are PN10 FNR and PN10FNS Volvo B9TL / Optare Olympus O51/31F. Ex Dublin Bus P718 SWC (ex 97-D-377) a Volvo Olympian / Alexander O47/31F was acquired in April.

Bugler (Bath): Now in service here are M531 WHF and M533 WHF Volvo B10B-58 / Wrightbus B49F from Arriva Merseyside and N131 VAO Volvo B10M-62 Plaxton C46FT from Stagecoach United Counties. All three have been re-registered to BIG 9864/9869/2698 respectively. The vehicles carrying these registrations have now reverted to their original plates, thus BIG 9864 Dennis Dart 9.8SDL UVG now carries N420 FOW, BIG 9869 Dennis Dart 8.5SDL RB carries H130 THE and BIG 2698 MB 614D FGy now carries V948 EWA, and has been exported to Tanzania.

Crudge Coaches (Dunkeswell): From Spearing, Willand has come R922 ULA a Volvo B10M-62 Berkhof C49FT, while Y162 EAY a Volvo B10M-62 Plaxton C53F has come from Stott, Milnsbridge.

Dartline (Clyst St Mary): Acquired in June from Morton, Chineham was YJ08 DZZ a Temsa Opalin

Dawlish Coaches (Dawlish): New here in May was WA10 EMV a Bova FHD127.365 Bova C55F.

Dial-a-Bus (Paignton): A further Optare Solo is YN53 ELU which came from RDH Services, Plympton. To confuse matters, the two other Solo's are in First 'Barbie' livery as they operate on First Devon & Cornwall contracted services.

Down (Mary Tavy): R2 WCT (ex R921 ULA) a Volvo B10M-62 Berkhof C49FT was acquired from Hookways, Meeth in May.

Faresaver (Chippenham): Acquired from the defunct Pegasus Travel in Perth is YN56 SGV a DAF SB120 Plaxton Centro B40F. Back in April, two Dennis Dart SLF's arrived from London General in the shape of Y835 TGH and Y838 TGH.

Grey Cars (Heathfield): Volvo B10M-62 Plaxton N220 HWX has been re-registered MIL 2066.

Hatts (Foxham): Acquired from Parks, Hamilton back in February and March respectively were SF06 WDU (ex KSK 976) and SF06 WDK (ex KSK 979) Volvo B12M / Plaxton C53FL.

Hookways (Meeth): From Stagecoach North West via Ensign (dealer) has come P113 DCW a Volvo B10M-62 Plaxton C51F, while from Down, Mary Tavy has come HTT 225Y (ex DDD 311Y) a Volvo B10M-61 Duple C53F.

KB Coaches (Eastington): Acquired back in March was FB06 ORY (ex 06 LH 3886) a Volvo B12B Sideral which was new to Halfpenny, Blackrock.

North Somerset Coaches (Weston-Super-Mare): DAF DB250 / Optare Spectra L131 ELJ acquired from Wilts & Dorset recently has been re-registered 564 KHT. Acquired at the beginning of July from Chepstow Classic is K91 BNY a Dennis Dart SLF / Plaxton Pointer B35F still carrying Stagecoach livery with route branding for "Dart Valley Link".

Pewsey Vale (Pewsey): Recently acquired from Barnes, Swindon is TIB 9471 (ex R995 PBL) a Volvo B10M-62 Berkhof C49FT.

Roselyn Coaches (Par): Acquired from Richmond, Barley in May was T711 VJN (ex 424 KPP) a Volvo B10M-55 Van Hool C53F, and now re-registered 701 UDE. Volvo B10M-46 Plaxton which carried this registration was registered C361 HGF in April and now gone to Vale, Henstridge.

Rover European (Horsley): New in June was TR10 AND a Bova FHD127.365 Bova C55F.

Seaward (Dalwood): April saw the arrival of WA10 DGP a MB 0.510 MB C36F.

Spearings (Willand): Acquired from Crudge Coaches, Dunkeswell in May was IUI 4166 (ex R762 OVN) a Volvo B10M-62 Plaxton C57F. AHZ 1259 (ex F967 HGE) a Volvo B10M-60 Plaxton has reverted to its original registration and has now left the fleet. Volvo B10M-62 Plaxton R763 OVN now carries registration AHZ 1259.

Tally Ho! (Kingsbridge): New in April was Optare Solo YJ10 EYY for The Coleridge Community Bus service. Although it was supplied by Devon County Council, it operates on Tally Ho discs. A further acquisition to record is P613 AJL a MB 0814D Autobus C29F.

Webberbus (Bridgwater): The two so far un-reported Optare Solos are YJ10 EYU and YJ10EYV.

Western Greyhound (Summercourt): From Stuarts, Carluke have come MX55 BYG and MX55 WCT Optare Solo Optare B28F.

New Deliveries

Applebys
Peter Carol

YR10 BBX
FJ10 DRZ

Scania Omniexpress
Volvo 9700

J Fishwick & Sons
 Harry Shaw
 Rabbits Trail Burners
 Simmonds (Diss)
 Timberbush Tours
 Kearneys (Clare)

YJ10 DKF
 YJ10 YJZ
 RE10 PFJ
 MX10 DDZ
 FY10 AVV
 10-C-4332

Van Hool
 VDL Bus FHD / Bova Futura
 Mecdes-Benz 516CDi
 Volvo B12M /Plaxton
 Mercedes-Benz 515CDI
 BMC Karisma

Alexander Dennis Ltd (Falkirk)

June 1st

Metroline	<i>Enviro 200</i>	LK10 BYP (DE1124), LK10 BYR (DE1125), LK10 BYS (DE1126) LK10 BYU (DE1128), LK10 BZY [A401/3]
Go Ahead Oxford	<i>Enviro 400</i>	AF10 OXF, RF10 OXF
Stagecoach South	<i>Enviro 300</i>	GX10 HBY (27643), GX10 HBZ (27644),

June 8th

Metroline	<i>Enviro 200</i>	LK10 BYV (DE1129), LK10 BYW (DE1130), LK10 BYX (DE1131)
Go Ahead Oxford	<i>Enviro 400</i>	FF10 OXF, WF10 OXF
Stagecoach Oxford	<i>Enviro 400H</i>	OU10 GGE (12002), OU10 GGO (12006)
Stagecoach South	<i>Enviro 300</i>	GX10 KYZ (27647), GX10 KZA (27648), GX10 KZB (27649)
Stagecoach Warwick'	<i>Enviro 400</i>	KX10 KSY (15670)

June 15th

Metroline	<i>Enviro 200</i>	LK10 BZC (DE1136), LK10 BZD (DE1137), LK10 BZG (DE1138)
Stagecoach South	<i>Enviro 300</i>	GX10 KZG (27654)
Stagecoach Oxford	<i>Enviro 400H</i>	OU10 GGP (12007)
???	<i>Enviro 200</i>	[9228/4]

June 22nd

Stagecoach Lancaster	<i>Enviro 400</i>	PX10 ETR (15681)
Stagecoach Oxford	<i>Enviro 400H</i>	OU10 GGF (12003), OU10 GGJ (12004), OU10 GGK (12005), OU10 GGV (12008), OU10 GGX (12009), OU10 GGZ (12011)
Stagecoach South	<i>Enviro 300</i>	GX10 KZH (27655), GX10 KZJ (27656), GX10 KZK (27657)
Metroline	<i>Enviro 400</i>	LK10 BZV (TE1073)
	<i>Enviro 200</i>	LK10 BZM (DE1144), LK10 BZO (DE1145)
West Coast Motors	<i>Enviro 200</i>	V100 WCM
???	<i>Enviro 200</i>	MX10 DXD [9228/5]

June 29th

Stagecoach Oxford	<i>Enviro 400H</i>	OU10 GGA (12001), OU10 GHA (12012), OU10 GHB (12013) OU10 GHG (12016), OU10 GHH (12017)
Stagecoach South	<i>Enviro 300</i>	GX10 KXO (27661), GX10 KZP (27662)
Arriva London	<i>Enviro 400</i>	LJ10 HVP (T119), LJ10 HVR (T120)
Metroline	<i>Enviro 200</i>	LK10 BZS (TE1149), LK10 BZT (DE1150), LK10 BZU (DE1151)

July 27th

Arriva London	<i>Enviro 400</i>	LJ10 HVE (T125), LJ10 HVH (T128), LJ10 HVP (T136)
Stagecoach Oxford	<i>Enviro 400H</i>	OU10 GFJ (12020), OU10 GFK (12021)
Stagecoach Western	<i>Enviro 200</i>	SF10 BZM, SF10 BZO

Around the Dealers

Ensignbus

Vehicles In

From Arriva Southern Counties: Olympian H262GEV Lance M764JPA.

From Stagecoach East Kent: Olympians J642CEV J811NKK H801 / 4 / 5 / 6 / 8BKK.
 From Stagecoach South: Volvo B10M M160CCD.
 From East London Bus Group: Darts Y254 / 276FJN LX51FHC.
 From Transdev London: Tridents LG02FDO / P / V / X Volvo B7TL's: LN51AZA/B.
 From Flagfinders Coaches: Super Metrobus F84UJN.
 From Imperial Coaches, Slough: S464UTV
 From Carters Coaches: Volvo B10M K723DAO.
 From A2B Travel Newquay: Olympian H754PVW.
 From Irvines Coaches: Mercedes / Cheetah ST02GDE.

Vehicles Out

Titans RMO72Y CUL162V WYV64T NHM465X: On-a-Mission, Letchworth.
 Metrobus GYE361W: City Sightseeing Washington DC.
 Metrobus F84UJN and Condor H529PVW: MASS, Sheffield.
 Volvo B10M K723DAO: Holloway Coaches, Scunthorpe.
 Scania RDZ1708 / 10 / 11 / 14 : Roadrunner Coaches, Harlow.
 Scania RUI2059 and Cheetah ST02GDE: Bob Vale Coach Sales.
 Volvo D10M C148NRR: T W Busby Farms, Haughton, Stafford.
 Olympian P416KSX: Alfresco Concepts, Peterborough.
 Olympians P263/5PSX: Flagfinders Coaches, Braintree.
 Dublin Olympian 97-D-379 now R252LHK with CoachChoice, Wolverhampton.
 Dublin Olympian 98-D-20432 now S907YOO with Redbridge Transport.
 Dublin Olympian 98-D-20427 now S231YOO with A2B, Newquay.
 Dart P613CMS: Heitage Steel Ltd, Dagenham.
 Darts Y257 / 9 / 97 / 98 / 301 / 302 / 352FJN LX51FGZ / P / FHC / FPJ: Centrebus Holdings.
 Volvo B6 99-D-60003 now V714PHJ and 99-D-60015 now V672PHJ with Tates Travel, Barnsley.
 Volvo B6 99-D-60013: Helms Coaches, Liverpool.
 Trident T664KPU: Travelmasters, Sheerness.
 Trident X607EGK: Yourbus, Nottingham.
 Primo BU08AEA : A F Irvine And Son, Newton Stewart , Dumfries.

Rally News

Harry Metcalf visited his local "Totally Transport" event that took place on the South Promenade in Blackpool on Sunday June 27th. A glorious day with high temperatures, unlike the torrential downpour and winds of last year

CWX 671	Keighley West Yorks K383	NTJ 943G	Battersby Silver Grey
FRJ 511	Salford 511	EWO 460K	Hill (Tredegar)
GEN 201	Bury 201	JHA 227L	BMMO 227
KGN 433	Metropolitan Police	BSG 537L	Scottish Omnibuses
KHA 301	BMMO 3301	PTF 727L	Ribble 381
NRN 586	Ribble 1686	GJW 43N	Midland Red 343
PLZ 5594	M-B Minibus	KPC 204P	Harding (Betchworth)
RCK 920	Ribble 1775	LTE 489P	Lancashire United 438
SIL 1531	Buckley (South Yorks)	JOV 738P	WMPTE 5748
TJI 8780	Southern Vectis 310	OJD 856R	London Transport LS56
TNA 496	Manchester 74	BCL 213T	Cambus 213
UWH 185	Bolton 185	CAS 519W	Highland Omnibus 125
487 GFR	J Abbott (Blackpool)	NEH 731W	Potteries 731
780 GHA	BMMO 4780	NKU 214X	SYPTTE 2214
5147 UA	Harrogate Coach Co	NOA 462X	WMPTE 2462
OWJ 353A	SYPTTE M3	SND 460X	GMPTE 8460
BND 874C	Manchester 74	ANA 622Y	GMPTE 8622
BUF 267C	Southdown 267	UHG 353Y	Blackpool 353
UTC 768D	Lancashire United 216	LEO 735Y	Blackpool 104
HFR 501E	Blackpool 501	A33 MRN	Preston 133
JTF 217F	Darwen 39	A511 HVT	Midland Red (North) 1511
SMK 734F	London Transport RML 2734	A658 OCX	Yorkshire Traction 658

A758 NNA	GMPTE 8758	G186 JHG	Stagecoach 14186
A763 NNA	GMPTE 8763	G293 KWY	Keighley & District 201
A910 SYE	London Transport T910	H466 GVM	GM Buses South
B75 URN	Fylde Borough 75	J14 JFS	J Fishwick & Sons 24
B364 URN	Blackpool 364	L668 MSF	Stagecoach Fife 668
B630 WNG	Blue Motors (Blackpool)	N589 GRN	Blackpool 589
B925 KWM	Mersey PTE 1070	T215 HCW	Blackpool 215

Forthcoming Events

September

1st - 5th	Great Dorset Steam Fair
2nd - 5th	Beamish, Great North Steam Fair
3rd - 5th	North Norfolk Railway Steam Gala (Free Vintage Bus Services)
4th	Chingford, London Bus Display
4th - 5th	Coventry Transport Museum, Festival of Motoring
5th	Bournemouth to Bath Road Run
5th	Dudley, Himley Hall Classis Car & Transport Show
5th	Leatherhead, LT Country Bus Rally
5th	Manchester Museum of Transport, Trans Lancs Historic Vehicle Rally
5th	Merthy Tydfil. Bus & Coach Wales 2010
5th	Norwich, Norfolk Gala Day at Norwich Showground
5th	Torbay Vintage Bus Running Day
11th	Bradford. Centenary Square. Keighley Bus Awayday
11th	Theydon Bois Transport Bazaar. Classic Bus Service
11th -12th	Aston Manor Transport Museum, Heritage Open Days
11th -12th	East Anglia Transport Museum, TrolleyBus Weekend
11th -12th	Manchester Museum of Transport, Heritage Open Days
11th -12th	Newton Le Willows, Truckfest
12th	Amberley Museum, Bus Show
12th	Bewdley Station (Severn Valley Railway) Classic Bus & Coach Day
12th	Keighley Bus Museum. Heritage Tours in Bradford & Keighley
12th	Leicester, Abbey Pumping Museum, Leicester Bus Running Day
12th	Liverpool, Merseyside Transport trust Running Day
12th	Toddington, G.W.Railway Transport Nostalgia Day
18th	Kingsbridge, 7ft 6inch Vintage Bus Running Day
18th -19th	Chatham Historic Dockyard, 1940's Weekend
18th -19th	North Norfolk Railway. 1940's Weekend
18th -19th	Sandtoft. TrolleyBus Weekend
19th	Aldwarke, South Yorkshire transport Museum Open Day
19th	Crich, Classic Ford Event
19th	Leyland, British Commercial Vehicle Museum Annual Autumn Show
19th	Marwell Wildlife Park, Nr Winchester, Classic Vehicle Show
19th	Meadowhall, Sheffield. Transport Rally (Buses to S.Yorks Trans:Mus:)
19th	St. Helens, Crosville Running Day at N.W.Mus: of Road Trans:
19th	Westpoint, Exeter. West Country Historic Bus & Transport Day
23rd -29th	Blackpool. 125years of Blackpool Trams
24th 25th	Acton. London Transport Museum Guided Tours.
25th -26th	Cranford (Nthants) Kettering Vintage Rally & Steam Fayre
26th	Duxford. EFE Showbus Rally

Photograph Notes

Front Cover: More investment in the Inter Connect services that link the main centres around Lincolnshire sees this new Scania / Enviro 400 15655 in Lincoln en route to Newark on the recently extended X3 (Gez)

Rear Cover (Top): As mentioned in Tonys back bit the MOD operate this Optare Sepctra double deck in a recruitment and exhibition role at various open days around the country (Debbie, Arthur & Aaron)

Rear Cover (Bottom): This is what can happen when arsonists attack a bus that happened to be parked on layover, It was a fairly new Optare Temo when it started life. (Matthew Vernalis)

Out & About

Travels with Tony

For the bus enthusiast, the city of Dublin is as close to paradise as you can get. Although reduced now in response to Ireland's economic woes, the state owned Dublin Bus (Bus Atha Cliath in Gaelic) still operate a huge and colourful fleet – www.irishbuses.com giving useful details. The sheer volume of operations in combination with diminutive and poorly placed fleet numbers and the relatively small lettering of Irish plates can pose difficulties for spotters and cause writer's cramp - until you realise that, for about 60%, fleet number and 'last three' of the plate are one and the same. As with any large tourist venue now, there are sightseeing services in good numbers too – run both by Dublin Bus and privately. Coach services are also prolific and varied. Inter-city routes are run mostly by the vast fleet of state owned Irish Bus (Bus Eireann) - see www.irishbuses.com again. Their activities are centred around the Busaras (Central Bus Station) in central Dublin's Shore Street. The first Group (curiously operating here as 'Last Passive') operate the 'Aircoach' service from Dublin and numerous other towns and cities to Dublin Airport (where they also work car park runs with a bilious green fleet). Private coach operators abound too, in commuter, inter-city and touring mode. Touring coaches from all parts of the UK are also a very common sight on the city's streets.

The Dublin Bus web site has a map which gives a good idea of where their fleet is to be seen, there is no one place where services terminate and there are buses all over the place. But the river end of O'Connell St – complete with seats – is particularly busy. So too the area just over the bridge adjacent to Trinity College. Coaches are all over the place but will be seen in very good numbers around the two spots I have given, as well as by the Busaras. The Dublin City Council website gives a list of approved parking places for those enthusiasts energetic enough to schlep around after these.

Activities at Dublin Airport are also intensive. A 5 euro single fare takes you there in 25 minutes on the Volvo B9/Gemini operated 'Airlink' services. All the usual airport related buses – hotel, car park and crew shuttles and the like – are supplemented by the many comings and goings of Dublin Bus and Bus Eireann (for whom this is a major centre). The other inter-city operators are here in good numbers too, including Ulsterbus. Touring coach activity is also hectic.

Away from the big city.....well, things are very different. All you have on the roads of the beautiful but often sparsely populated country areas are coaches, and not too many of them for the most part – local operators, touring, private inter-city, and Bus Eireann. Almost anywhere though, older Bus Eireann vehicles may be seen parked up between school runs, including a now sadly reducing but still prolific collection of Leyland Lynx sourced from the big city fleets of the UK. Local privately operated stage services, as we know them in the UK, are virtually non-existent anywhere but the biggest population centres.

On a recent tour of the west of Ireland then, I was happy to reach the coastal city of Galway – fifth largest in the Republic and the fastest growing. A historic and richly colourful place in an area of great natural beauty, it attracts tourists in large numbers. It is a place too where the bus enthusiast can get camera, pen and notebook going again after what is likely to have been a spell of relative inactivity.

The town's stage services are mostly in the hands of Bus Eireann with a fairly modern fleet. It does not take more than an hour or so for the repeats to get to you. But in this time, all in the central Eyre Square I had logged about 20 Eclipses on the customary Volvo B7RLE chassis (numbered between WVL156-192), half a dozen or so MB Citaros (MC13-20) and a handful of Darts. Also here is private stage service provider City Direct, represented by their red painted Optare Excels and Darts looking every bit like your London bus – as, indeed, the Darts were until fairly recently with Go-Ahead's Blue Triangle.

To keep you on your toes once you have dealt with the locals, Bus Eireann are engaged in intensive inter-city operation from all around the country by the corner of Eyre Square adjacent to the rail station. There are very frequent comings and goings here that justify your stopping by every 10 to 15 minutes. Just along Forster Street is the ultra modern coach station. This seemed pretty quiet during my visit. I do not know how true this is but, in casual conversation, a local told me the place had won design awards but was underutilised as drivers found it difficult to access.

One of the more noticeable features of bus operations on my trip was the real scarcity of the double deckers out in the country. In fact, Galway was where I logged the only three I saw. Open top Leyland

Olympian 91-D-1098 was formerly on Dublin sightseeing with Dualway of Rathcoole and now does the job in Galway with local operator Lally/Old Galway Tours. In competition was Healy, Galway's open top Olympian 85-G-2349 (formerly 7313/C616ANW of Arriva Northumberland). The only closed top seen – possibly on school work - was East Lancs Volvo B7TL 04-G-133, also with Healy.

Whilst numerous touring and local coaches turned up in Eyre Square, I decided to go looking for what else was about. As it was a fair bet these would be where the tourists went I decided a sightseeing bus was the way to find them. Two spots stood out. Just across the River Corrib and about a 500 yard walk from Eyre Square was the impressive and beautiful cathedral, well worth a visit in itself. Here the best part of 10 coaches came and went in a 20 minute period, and the parking was especially good for pictures.

The second was also a must see, - Salthill Promenade with its breathtaking views of the world famous Galway Bay. A bit out of town this, and I guess it must be about 2 miles long in all. But there is an all year-round nifty fifties diving platform if those eligible need refreshing after making the walk.

As a major and historic centre, Galway plays host to any number of major events. Prominent amongst these is the powerboat festival –said to attract hundreds of thousands of visitors, and coaches to match no doubt. So timing any visit to coincide with something like this could pay huge dividends. Researching parking facilities beforehand would be a smart move though. If you do go to Galway, hope you enjoy like I did. Slan agaibh (goodbye, go safely).
Tony

The unknown registration Y80 OVA from Nottingham noted last month is most likely G8 OVA a Bova Futura belonging to Hearsons based in the city.

12th June 2010	H101 VFV P178 FNF R841 DVF	5306 5313 5319 6623 6628
Rod Whitaker	Halton	7638 7657 7659 7671
	27	Cumfy Bus, Southport
Warrington	Hattons	H4 CFY V232 LWU
Arriva North West	MX02 MCV MW52 UCC	MX53 FDU YJ59 PKC
1049 2101 2212 2514 2552	MV54 AOD MX55 YBA	YJ59 PKF YJ59 PKK
2557 2599 7642	MX08 MGV	YJ59 PKN YJ59 PKO
Warrington Transport	HTL Buses	YJ59 PKU
4 9 12 13 14 18 22 23 24 28 29	YN04 HHU SN06 BMO	First Potteries
31 33 36 39 44 46 47 48 49 51	SN06 BMY	60071 60080 60172 60177
52 55 56 57 58 60 61 68 69 70	Selwyns	60184 60190 60211 61536
72 74 75 77 79 80 81 83 84 85	DE52 NWY DE52 NXU	65737
86 87 88 89 93 112 119	DE52 NXV DE52 NYW	Halton
Fairway Travel	Stagecoach	2 3 5 9 10 28 33 35 37 38 41
P181 FNF	21113 24177 24181 33133	45 50 51
Halton	33137 33140 34219 34797	HTL Buses
53		W341 VGX
Robinsons, Great Harwood	Liverpool	Maghull Coaches, Liverpool
MX59 KTU	Ace Travel	GEY 273 BYX 185V
Warrington Coachways	F815 YLV S848 DGX	K853 LMX
476 CEL HIG 7791 N417 CBU	Arriva North West	Peoples Bus
	1038 2002 2010 2011 2032	N600 BUS
St Helens	2062 2202 2203 2208 2229	Stagecoach Merseyside
Arriva North West	2260 2403 2407 2412 2436	15467 15473 15474 20209
1041 1043 1051 1054 1056	2443 2462 2523 2528 2575	21074 24126 24127 24128
1059 1060 2003 2004 2005	2586 2603 2667 2671 2672	24129 24130 24133 24152
2014 2015 2016 2018 2021	2673 2675 2688 2695 2701	24155 24157 24158 24160
2022 2023 2029 2127 2209	2720 2724 2901 2902 2903	24165 24166 24167 24168
2212 2213 2417 2490 2491	2916 2918 2921 2924 2925	24170 24171 24172 24173
2492 2493 2494 2495 2601	2928 2941 2954 2955 2957	24175 24176 24180 24181
2689 2691 2692 2995 2697	2960 2971 2973 2974 2975	24182 33135 33140 33145
2698 2699 2700 2701 2703	2976 2977 2978 2980 2981	33148 33179 34187 34475
2704 2708 2709 2711 2712	2984 2985 2986 2987 2988	34478 34481 34743 34789
2713 2715 2729 2965 2966	2990 2993 2994 3012 3014	34790 34793 34797 34799
2967 2966 2967 2968 2969	3016 3017 3019 3021 3029	34803 34804 34812 34813
2971 2973 2976 2977 2981	3031 3038 3040 3049 3050	34818
2986 2989 2990 2991 2992	3052 3053 3055 3056 3057	
2993 7544 7548 7567 7613	3059 3060 3283 4128 4400	25th June 2010
7642 7650 7656 7661	4401 4403 4404 4405 4407	By Alan Spencer
Cumfy Bus, Southport	4409 4410 4411 4414 4416	Nottingham University Open
YN03 UYF	4417 4418 4421 5301 5305	Day Shuttle Buses
Fairway Travel		Little's, Derby

LHZ 6352
Sharpes, Nottingham
G900 FON S5 YXS (?)
Silverdale, Nottingham
EIG 4331 M339 UKN

26th June 2010
By Alan Spencer
Nottingham
Silverdale
(s – silver, y – yellow sc – school
livery)
EIG 4331 (y, sc) FIG 7338 (s)
C310 NRC (y, sc) C311 NRC (y,
sc) G363 SRB (y, sc)
G366 SRB (y, sc) M343 UKN (y,
sc) R474 RRA (y, sc)

10th July 2010
By Arthur Shelton
Nottingham
(I got a Kangaroo ticket, it cost
£3.40 and valid on all buses,
tram & train)
Nottingham City Transport
120 122 126 127 135 136 137
138 139 140 201 202 203 204
205 206 208 217 219 235 239
240 251 252 254 257 263 268
304 310 314 317 318 320 325
409 411 418 426 427 428 430
499 501 508 509 528 532 537
651 652 654 656 659 668 671
672 683 684 685 686 688 689
693 697 712 714 717 719 723
737 742 746 756 757 758 761
775 776 778 779 984 985
Trent Barton
62 63 67 70 71 113 231 237 239
248 252 302 303 416 422
440 442 444 446 452 455 486
488 490 605 607 608 609 611
620 621 622 654 655 660 661
664 666 669 670 672 674 675
677 678 679 682 701 702 703
704 706 707 709 710 711 712
714 717 718 720 721 722 723
724 725 726 727 741 742 743
744 746 747 785 801 806
Your Bus
P611 CAY (2001) V156 EFS
(1102) LG02 FFE LG02 FFH
PJ02 RGX (1008) PJ02 RGY
(1009) KU52 RXW (1001) KU52
RYF (1002) KU52 RYK (1005)
KU52 RYM (1006)
KU52 RYN (1007)

Den Caney
DEN 83D
Doyles
P304 HDP Y812 KDP
Dunnline
FN06 FLG
East Yorkshire
YX07 HJG (65)
Howden Court Hotel
WA06 NBM
James Coopers & Sons
MUI 2445
Kettlewells
K600 KET
Littles
FH06 OPR
Marshalls
V270 DRC
National Express
GU52 WTF FJ54 ZDE
FJ07 DWG
Premier Travel
B15 PTL (2216) KV03 ZGL
(3307) SN56 AYB (3320)
YN07 LDY (3324) FN08 AYE
(2210) FN08 AZZ (3319)
FJ58 YSL MX10 DXU (3358)
Robin Hood
ECZ 9136 W494 HOB
Silverdale
FN07 AEA
Stagecoach East Midlands
FX09 DCE (22772)
Steve Akiens
TIB 8569

20th July 2010
By Arthur Shelton
Birmingham to Worcester
(brought a first wyvern ticket for
£5.50, valid from Birmingham,
local areas and then valid in
Redditch, Worcester, Hereford &
Kidderminster)
Bromsgrove
Clearways
PEZ 3058 S895 SNY
Diamond (Rotala Group)
502 524 826
Eurolines
MV53 CXE
First Wyvern
46932 67238 67248 67249
67652
Hansons
SN51 SZX

M.R.N
N922 NAP (in Stagecoach
livery) YY52 G GK

Worcester
First Wyvern
31553 33401 33402 33404
33405 38125 40805 40833
40838 42217 42219 42220
42351 42353 42354 42356
42401 42403 42404 42405
42455 42641 42892 42893
42401 42403 42404 42405
42455 42641 42892 42893
50281 50282 53043 53044
53045 53046 53047 53048
66975 66976 66978 66979
66980 66981 66982 66983
66984 66985 66986 66987
67214 67231 67240 67254
67255 67301 67314 67315
67318 67319 67321 67322
67323 67600 67646 67647
67648 67649 67653 67654
67655 67656 67657 67658
67659 67660 67661 67662
67663 67664 Asters
HIG 1522 W475 DAB
X399 WVO MX56 NLK
Commandery Coaches
YN04 GOA YX54 BHD
Crown Coaches
YN03 ZWL BP04 ZWK
YJ07 RBX
David Urquhart
BJ03 OUP
Diamond (Rotala Group)
219 430 526 527 528 538 542
860 AE10 CSU (601) AE10 CSZ
(602)
Dudleys Coaches
H18 FYS FJ08 FYS
LMS Travel
R847 WRM V659 HEC
YJ55 YHA MX58 ABO
MX58 ABU
Unknown
(all minibuses)
VIL 4714 K803 MGA Y645 TNS
VO51 AOZ AE56 HBJ VK08
NXL OV10 KHO
Worcester County Council (park
& ride)
VX04 JZT VX04 UMU
BK08 NAO BV08 ZWF
BV08 ZWJ BV08 ZWR
BV08 ZWT YJ08 PHN

Tony's Back Bit

Mike Lewis comes up trumps with information on the Forth Travel on last months back page along with a bit of my own digging the operator is S Brown of Edinburgh. He had a Van Hool bodied Volvo B12 tri axle registered KSU617 which became R261OFJ earlier this year. The current KSU617, ex Eavesway YD02 RHF. This is an EOS E180Z. Looks like the badge has been transferred with the plate.

Arthur, Debbie and Aaron were fortunate indeed to have been at the Cosford Air Show near Wolverhampton on 13 June. Here they spied DAF DB250/Optare Spectra decker WA03 WXZ - new to the Ministry of Defence in March 2003 and promoting armed forces careers. To answer a specific question I have been asked, out of respect for the security issues involved we do not normally report MoD vehicles. But this one is an exception as its colourful paint scheme and hi-viz branding confirm it is not the least sensitive as to its ownership. Plenty of pictures of it on the net too and indeed the back cover of this month's magazine.

Meteor Parking might be history at Heathrow now, following this year's shuttle bus contract changes. But they are alive and kicking still at Southampton's airport. Noted here recently has been Optare Excel W428CWX - now in its eleventh year of operation with the company which it joined as new. Working alongside are MAN/Evolutions AE57FBJ/K. Airside here are three of the German made Cobus high capacity vehicles to be seen in this mode at airports across the globe - unregistered and unidentified as usual. Some nice shots on the Cobus website though.

Meanwhile, nearby are this month's obligatory Routemasters. With Green of Southampton/Boogie Bus Tours is JJD543D/RM2543. New to LT in 1966 and later with Go-ahead in London, this is for hire now for weddings, conferences, etc. The Boogie Bus website illustrates the interesting contrast between the traditional downstairs of this vehicle and the luxurious pink leather, plasma TVs, etc, on the top deck.

Over in Southsea, Local Haunts have 793UXA/RM994 formerly WLT994 and VLT89. Previously in preservation and known now as 'Alf', this 48 year old veteran works on private hire and Portsmouth city tours, including the increasingly popular ghost tours. On the subject of ghost tours, a plug for the Allen family - junior being a guide for the Edinburgh ghost 'walking' tour. So, if you are in the city, go along and make us some cash. Free pint of Bellhaven at the end too!

Seen parked up on Galway's beautiful Salthill Promenade on the west coast of Ireland was Wadham Stringer bodied Renault 95-G-6563. This centre-door oddity was once K757PPO with the London Borough of Greenwich and belongs now to the local Advance School of Motoring. This operator had other smaller vehicles parked nearby so the promenade might be a handy place for learner bus drivers to develop their skills. One such vehicle might be dark blue MB709D 94-G-7538. This was totally unmarked though so its ownership was in doubt and, by the look of it, could be used as a canteen/caravan/operations support vehicle/storeroom or almost anything. I have not the foggiest about its antecedents either.

Still in Ireland, Dublin Airport has many bus gems and amongst these some non-PSV items. All Solos these and with their owners since new. M950 07-D-42899 is with Hertz car rentals and M950SLs 07-D-42895/7 are shuttles for Bewleys Hotel in nearby Swords.

At the opposite end of the 'airport' scale, the Booker Gliding Centre at their Marlow, Bucks field has had Bristol VR VVV951W for a number of years. This began life as '951' with United Counties 29 years ago, and has been with Arriva at Luton as '5051' before leaving PSV service in 1998. Should you catch sight of a bus whilst passing the field from the nearby M40, this one is in a nicely patriotic red/white/blue scheme.

I have reported previously full-size vehicles owned by the Vitalise charity that provides breaks for disabled people and their carers. A smaller addition for them is 16-seat MB 411CDI YK51NVX. This was formerly part of the large fleet at the London Borough of Redbridge.

Still with London boroughs, I was recently outside Newham town hall in East Ham - a good place for quite a few 'back roads' red single decker routes and the LB Newham's 'special needs' fleet. Whilst I did not see any of Newham's buses I had noted previously, I did see a large number of minis with paper in the windscreen to the effect that they were working on lease to the borough from Dawsonrentals. I am not wholly sure what is going on here or what has happened to the former fleet, although Bus and Coach Buyer reports that Dawson has recently supplied 63 vehicles to Newham, initially on a 5 month contract. To finish for August, a few Aleros I have spotted with the London Borough of Richmond. Not showing any highly visible signs of ownership, YN04YBD/E/F/G/H/J/K/L/M were identifiable to the council by their large fleet numbers 120-27/37 (respectively). Bye for now. Tony

My thanks this month are extended to Alan Spencer, Harry Metcalf, Tony Kent, David Blean, Andrew Churchill, Tony Hunter, Simon Wilson, Matthew Barker at the Derby Bus Depot, Stephen Evans, Ian Rivett, Steve White, Mark Watson, Brighton & Hove Bus Co, Go North East, Arthur Moore, Nigel Diplock, Stuart Martin, LOTS, The Ribble Enthusiasts Club, Chris Barker, Ross Newman at Ensign, Malcolm Crowe, The Oxford & Chiltern Bus page. Along with the other groups with which we share information.

The Gallery

