

Trident

the monthly magazine of the

GB Bus Group

website: gb-bg.co.uk



Volume 6
No1 January 2011

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

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

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

Membership Secretary: **Mark Richards** - membership@gb-bq.co.uk details as above

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

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

Magazine Distribution: **Eddie & Hazel Roberts** – trident.distribution@gb-bq.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-bq.co.uk (01527 591195)
52 Loxley Close, Church Hill South, Redditch B98 9JG

Editorial Team:

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

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

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

Area Representatives:

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

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

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

Southern England & Southwest: **Geoff Moseley** - southwest.rep@gb-bq.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 February magazine will be January 29th

£1.25 post free

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

Group News

Notice of 2010 AGM

The GB Bus Group 2010 AGM will be held in the Bettmann Room at the Coventry Transport Museum, Millenium Place, Hales Street, Coventry, CV1 1JD from 11.00 to 13.00. on Saturday 12th February 2011. All fully paid up current members of the Group are welcome to attend the AGM although please note that places at our venue are limited so if you wish to attend please notify the Secretary, Mark Richards, as soon as possible, but no later than 31 January. Apologies should also be sent to the Secretary by this date. Contact details are shown on page 2.

STAGECOACH 2011 EDITION

Have you purchased YOUR book yet?

Our first publication has proved very popular. Members who have purchased it have been high with their praise on its contents and we have received favourable comment from Bus Fayre magazine. We would hate to know that you missed out on having a record of the entire bus fleet at your side. Take another look at what we told you in the November magazine and place your order, either via the GB-BG website or the form sent out with the Oct Trident.

Membership Matters by Trevor Roots:

As stated in the last issue I have now stepped down from the role as Membership Secretary, so please contact Mark Richards for all membership matters. I will be passing on anything though that continues to come my way by post, email or telephone, so don't worry. Members should continue to receive a seamless service. The reason for the change is that I am saying goodbye to the last 5 years of a bachelor life and plenty of time for the club. It will also entail a move back to the sunny south, just north of Eastbourne to set up a new joint home...hopefully once I get through my last Scottish winter and can make repairs to sell up.

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 published by GBBG

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 GBBG 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.

New Members: A very warm welcome to the group to the following new members: Lyndon Copley (Derby), Davis Dawes (Reading), Diana Jackson (Solihull), Dorian Parkin (Neath), John Singleton (Blackpool), Martin Townsend (Banbury), David Turner (Birmingham)

News from the industry

Arriva Yorkshire have announced that twelve jobs will be lost at its Selby depot following North Yorkshire County Councils decision to cease funding £60,000 to Selby town services on evenings, Sundays and Bank Holidays.

Trent Barton is to serve the first "Pocket Park & Ride site in the country, with its "Cotgrave Connection service. Based at the Cotgrave Welfare Club the 33 space car park, which can be used between 0700 and 1900, has been upgraded and CCTV has been installed with the help of Nottinghamshire County Council. If the scheme is successful it is hoped to be followed by other pub and community car parks across the area.

Go Ahead Group Chief Executive Kieth Ludeman is to retire on July 4th. He is succeeded by David Brown, who is currently managing Director with TfLs surface transport. Mr Brown is no stranger to Go Ahead, being operations, then managing director with Go Ahead London a few years previously

First Group is to introduce the Iconic Greyhound brand on its overnight London – Glasgow service. Three coaches will commence on the route, with "Hello Dolly", "Long Tall Sally" and "Suzy Baby" will debut on January 10th. The southbound service will leave Glasgow's Buchanan Bus Station at 10pm each night calling at Hamilton 30 minutes later with a 7am arrival in London Victoria. The northbound leaves Victoria at 10pm with a 6.30am arrival in Glasgow. This replaces the current "Nightflyer service currently operated by First Glasgow

Veolia Cymru has had its operators licence reduced to 277 vehicles, down from 396. In addition, Welsh Traffic Commissioner Nick Jones, has banned the company from registering any new local services for three months. This follows a two day public enquiry over failure to operate registered services and problems with maintenance.

TfI has put into service, the first two of its new Hydrogen fuel cell single deck buses onto route RV1, operated by First London, linking Covent Garden with Tower Hill via the South Bank. The buses are based on a VDL SB200 chassis with Wrightbus Pulsar bodywork along with a Ballard fuel cell stack. The business end is supplied by ISE, with roof mounted tanks to store the Hydrogen. Unlike the previous Mercedes-Benz Citaro buses that were trialled on the route between 2003 and 2007 these new buses feature regenerative braking and super capacitors for energy storage. The programme has cost £18 million, which still puts it beyond the reach of a stand alone commercial viability. The buses will operate from Firsts Lea Interchange depot, using a dedicated facility

Showbus will this year take place on Sunday September 18th, remaining at the Imperial War Museum at Duxford in Cambridgeshire, it remains the largest gathering of buses in the country with around 500 expected again this year.

First Group has launched a mobile engineering bus, the unique East Lancs Vyking bodied Volvo B7 that was previously in use with First London has been transformed in to a state of the art facility, for training engineers, complete with computers, teaching aids and bus components that are fitted up to an on bus generator.

Arriva Midlands made a surprise purchase on December 6th when it bought Wardle Transport, based in Stoke on Trent, for an undisclosed sum. The deal involves the entire fleet of twelve double, 19 single deckers six coaches and 27 minibuses. It is the latter that Arriva seem most interested in, or rather the services that they operate, such as NHS and Special needs transport, an area in which it sees opportunities. Arriva do not envisage making any changes and it will operate as a stand alone operation retaining its name and attractive red and white livery.

Fleet News

Arriva

Classic Coaches: The operating licence held has been transferred to The TGM Group . Four Volvo B9R / Caetano Levante coaches FJ60 HYH, FJ60 HYK, FJ60 HYL and FJ60 HYM have been placed into service on December 1st on newly taken over National Express routes 380 Newcastle - Banger and the 381, being taken over from Go Northern. However the 380 Newcastle - Liverpool service, extended to Pwllheli, during the summer, has been retained by Go Northern.

London: We now have the remaining registrations for the Volvo B5LH / Wrightbus Gemini 2 Hybrids HV13 (LJ60 AXF): HV14 (LJ60 AXG): HV17 (LJ60 AWH): HV19 (LJ60 AWN): HV20 (LJ60 AWO): HV21 (LJ60 AWP): HV22 (LJ60 AWR): HV23 (LJ60 AWU): HV24 (LJ60 AWV), HV25 (LJ60 JGY): HV26 (LJ60 JGZ): HV22 spent Christmas sitting at Heysham docks awaiting delivery down to London.

LOTS advise that a total of 58 articulated Mercedes-Benz Citaros are destined for Malta, now that Arriva has been confirmed as operator of the Islands bus network from July 3rd. The buses, expected to be MA99-MA157 excluding fire damaged MA122, which is likely to be scrapped, will receive extensive refurbishment, including the fitting of full air conditioning and engine upgrades to Euro 5 standards of emissions. Several are expected to be used on airport services and will gain additional luggage racks.

As these head off to various places to have the work carried out older ones head back into service at EC 15, 16, 17, 22 and 30 being noted in December

Just a handful of reallocations to note ADL973 AE-EC: DLA63 Thu-TH: DLA64 Nu-TH: PDL32, 33, 35, 38 DX-AE: PDL98 EC-CN: VLW119, 121, 123 AE-E: VLW132 AR-AE:

North East: Dennis Dart / Plaxton Pointer 1696 (M186 YKA) is now operating from Jesmond garage. 2633 (P633 FHN) has been sold to Wigleys. 3112 (H112 GEV) has been scrapped

Scotland: New at Inchinnan are ex North West Volvo B10B / Wright Endurance single decks N608 CKA, N609 CKA, N615 CKA and N622 CKA. They are to replacing more withdrawn Scania of which L25 LSX, M109 RMS and M114 RMS have been the latest.

Southern Counties

(Kent Thameside): New into service at Dartford is 103m VDL Bus SB180 / MCV Evolution bodied single deck 3980 (YJ60 GGC). This is the bus exhibited at the Bus Expo in Birmingham and is to the full 2.55m width. Northfleet has been using Volvo B7RLE / Wrightbus demonstrator BG59 FWP during December. It had recently been with The Shires at Stevenage.

(Kent & Sussex): Olympian 5913 has been transferred in to Maidstone, from Guildford

The Shires: Moving back into the main fleet, after being with MK Metro are Dennis Dart SLFs 3172 (P672 OPP) to WE; 3174 (P674 OPP) to SV; 3178 (P178 SRO) and 3180 (P180 SRO) both to WB. Removed for scrap have been Mercedes-Benz 709Ds 2131 and 2134 along with Scania / East Lancs 3145. Up at Milton Keynes Olympian 5103 has been withdrawn.

First Group

Eastern Counties: A couple of transfers are 43451 now at Ipswich with 43434 back at Great Yarmouth

Glasgow: Entering service on January first were ten ADL Enviro 300 single decks. They are fitted with leather seating, air conditioning and have on board Wi-Fi. They will run on a new service linking Glasgow City Centre with the airport and carry a special livery.

67701	SN60 EAA	67704	SN60 EAF	67707	SN60 EAM	67709	SN60 EAP
67702	SN60 EAC	67705	SN60 EAG	67708	SN60 EAO	67710	SN60 EAW
67703	SN60 EAE	67706	SN60 EAJ				

Greyhound: As noted in news the overnight London Glasgow service is being turned over to Greyhound operation from January 10th 23207 (WM04 PHK) "Hello Dolly" is one of three Volvo B12B / Plaxton Panther coaches which along with 23205 and 23206 will be used on the service.

London: The first two 11.9m Hydrogen Fuel Cell Hybrid VDL SB200 / Wrightbus Pulsar single decks have arrived at Lea Interchange for use on route R1 WSH62991 (LK60 HPE) and WSH62992 (LK60 HPF).

Plenty of alterations this month EA11000, 11084 WJ - HS: EA11001-11032, 11066-11069 WJ - w: VNZ32328-32347 ON - G: TN32329 DMw - DM: TN32955 G - DMw: TN32956, 32987, 32989, 32993 G - NPw: TN33052 NP - G: TN33053, 33054 NP - NPw: TN33062 LI - G: TN32066, 33068 NP - G: TN33069 LI - G: 33070 NP - G: TNL33079 DM - DMw: TNL33084 LI - DM: TNL33092 DM - LI: TNL33098 NP - UX: TNL33099 DM - DMw: TN33126-33128 NP - G: TN33199 X - LI: TN33230 G - DMw: DML41259 G - WJ: DM41273, 41280 LI - LIw: DML41319 G - ON: DML41368 G - ON: DML41420 WJt - ONt: DML41424 HSu - ONt: DMC41520, 41521 UX - LI: DML41772 DM - WJ: DML44129-44143 G - HS:

Midlands

(Leicester): Volvo B7TL / Wrightbus Gemini 32634 (KP54 LAO) has returned to service.

(Northampton): Two more Optare Solos are transferring to Wyvern 53050 (VX03 YKD) and 53059 (VX53 OEN).

Somerset & Avon: Just a couple of alterations to note 37318 HE-LH: 40542 BH-w: 40517 w-BH: 40533 TN-BH: 46241, 46253 BH-w: 51746 TN-w: 52532 WM-T:

South Yorkshire: Former London 34092 (T893 KLF) has been placed into reserve after sustaining accident damage.

Go Ahead Group

Bluestar: Transferred from Go North East are Y291/92 HUA and NK 04 FOV/FPA DAF SB120 Wright Cadet B39F.

Brighton & Hove: Dennis Dart SLF / Plaxton Pointers 203 (N203 NNJ), 205/ (N205 NNJ), 211 (N211 NNJ) and 215 (N215 NNJ) have been placed into reserve along with City Sightseeing Scania N113DRB / East Lancs 781 (R781 HCD).

London: More ADL Enviro 400 double decks have been arriving during December, this time allocated to Merton garage (AL) for the new contract on route 118 commencing on February 5th.

E138	SN60 BZK	E142	SN60 BZP	E145	SN60 BZT	E148	SN60 BZW
E139	SN60 BZL	E143	SN60 BZR	E146	SN60 BZU	E149	SN60 BZX
E140	SN60 BZM	E144	SN60 BZS	E147	SN60 BZV	E150	SN60 BZY
E141	SN60 BZO						

Meanwhile down In the south east corner of the operating territory 30 10.2m ADL Enviro 200 Dart 4s were delivered, during December for new contracts commencing in January the batch is split between Belverdere garage (BV) for route 244 and Bexleyheath for routes B11 and B16. Initial allocations should be SE55-SE68 at BV with SE69-SE84 at BX, however the poor weather in December meant several were pressed into service as they were delivered, not necessarily at the intended garage.

SE55	YX60 DXT	SE63	YX60 FSU	SE71	YX60 FBZ	SE78	YX60 FCL
SE56	YX60 FSN	SE64	YX60 EPP	SE72	YX60 FCA	SE79	YX60 FCM
SE57	YX60 DXU	SE65	YX60 EPU	SE73	YX60 FCC	SE80	YX60 FCO
SE58	YX60 FSO	SE66	YX60 EOP	SE74	YX60 FCD	SE81	YX60 FCP
SE59	YX60 FSP	SE67	YX60 FCZ	SE75	YX60 FCE	SE82	YX60 FCU
SE60	YX60 FSS	SE68	YX60 FDA	SE76	YX60 FCF	SE83	YX60 FCV
SE61	YX60 DXW	SE69	YX60 FBU	SE77	YX60 FCG	SE84	YX60 FCY
SE62	YX60 EPO	SE70	YX60 FBY				

Along with all these ADL deliveries a further batch of Volvo B9TL / Wrightbus Gemini 2 double decks are in the course of delivery to Bexleyheath, for routes 229 and 422, the following noted as we went to press out of the full batch of WVL350 to WVL 385, on delivery through my local ports of Heysham and Fleetwood.

WVL350	LX60 DVY	WVL353	LX60 DWC	WVL356	LX60 DWF	WVL358	LX60 DWJ
WVL351	LX60 DVZ	WVL354	LX60 DWD	WVL357	LX60 DWG	WVL359	LX60 DWK
WVL352	LX60 DWA	WVL355	LX60 DWE				

The company has announced that its Mandela Way garage will close in May 2011. The company has lost quite a lot of work during recent months which has led to the decision being taken. Route 1 / N1 will transfer to New Cross, from where route 453 will operate from if it is successfully retained when the tender comes for renewal. It is planned that route 171 will move to Camberwell garage. More Dennis Darts passing through Plymouth for refurbishment recently have been DP196, 200, 202, 204 and 205.

Allocation changes of late LDP53, 74 NX - Q: LDP195 SW - AL: LDP237 AL - SW: PVL12, 15, 18, 22, 23 SW - NX: PVL83 NX - BX: PVL169 Q - SW: PVL317 NX - Q:

Damory Coaches: Volvo B10M-62 / Plaxton Excalibur 5038 (MIL 9575) has transferred to Southern Vectis and carries the Go South Coast coach livery with Moss Motors branding.

Marchwood Motors: Now here, from the Isle of Wight is Bova Futura 541 (225 ASV)

North East: Four National Express coaches have been re-registered 7086 (JCN 822) to NA52 RNE, 7087 (FCU 190) to NA52 RMZ, 7088 (524 FUP) to NJ53 AAF and 7089 (574 CPT) to NJ53 AAE. They await transfer to Go South Coast. Dennis Dart SPD 8159 is temporarily back in service at Hexham, 8160 at Winlaton and 8162 at Gateshead. Former Northumbria coaches Dennis MPDs 609 (W769 URP), 610 (KV51 KZL) and 611 (KV51 KZK) have been returned to lessor. Another Go Ahead London Mercedes-Benz has been on trial MAL98 (BD57 WDC)

Plymouth Citybus: More former Blue Triangle Dennis Dart SLFs passing through on refurbishment in early December have been DP196, DP197, DP201 and DP204.

Southern Vectis: With thanks to Ian Rivett a catch up of recent happenings on the Isle of Wight. Ryde depot was closed operationally after service back on September 4th. The body and paint shop, remained in use for a while afterwards, until facilities at Newport were upgraded. A new outstation at Whitcombe Rd in Mountoy has been opened to house the private hire fleet. Moss Motors liveried Mercedes-Benz 711D 201 (VJI 3968) has been re-registered back to N411 WJL, with Toyota Coaster 203 (USV115) now back as L396 YAM. Fountain Coaches liveried Volvo B10M / Plaxton Premiere 588 (YSU 875) has been re-registered to R94 LHO and re-seated to C54F. From Plymouth Citybus comes a Volvo B10M-62 /

Plaxton Premiere C53F 515 (M304 KOD). It was fleet number 304 down at Plymouth. Ex Go Ahead London Volvo Olympian / Palatine 2 4887 (R387 LGH) arrived in mid November

Wilts & Dorset: Transferred into Salisbury, from Southern Vectis have been three Transbus Mini Pointer Darts 314 (HW54 BUV), 319 (SN03 LDJ) and 320 (SN03 LDK) Going in the opposite direction have been Optare Solo M850s 2631 (S631 JRU) and 2632 (S632 JRU).

National Express Group

Dundee: A new non-PSV crew bus at Travel Dundee is 7423 (ST60 DJZ) a Ford Transit

West Midlands: 290 reinstated to PB: 516 SF to WA: 517 SF to WA: 548, 558 WA - withdrawn: 584 CV to SF: 610 reinstated to WA: 634 SF to WB: 657 WA - withdrawn: 680 SF to WB: 1404 SF to WN: 1506 YW - withdrawn: 1509 reinstated to YW: 1651 WN to BY: 1665 BY to SF

Stagecoach

Highlands: Leaving the fleet and heading to Merseyside have been Dennis Dart SLF / Alexander ALX200 single decks 33414 (R614 GFS), 33472 (S472 JSE) and 33473 (S473 JSE). A further Dart into reserve at Inverness (IS) is 32934. Finally Toyota Coaster / Caetano Optimo 59661 has been scrapped

Bluebird: Volvo B10M 20948 has been placed into reserve with accident damage, its place at Aberdeen (AB) being taken by similar 20860. Optare Solo 47281 has moved from Stonehaven, outstation (AB) up to Peterhead, outstation (BU), with 47427 moving in the opposite direction. Aberdeen training bus 52224 has been withdrawn. A few long withdrawn Leyland Olympians appear to be still extant, I did not note them in our recent fleet book, with 13512 at Banchory, 13513, 13514, 13518 at Buckie and 13648 at Insh. Likewise quite few Mercedes-Benz 709D mini buses have reappeared on the disposal list at Banchory 40041, 40042, 40043, 40046, 40048, 40050, 40134-40136, 40138, 40157, 40158, 40165, 40166, 40171, 40229, with 40045 at Peterhead and 40168 at Elgin. Please remember if you plan to visit looking for them only do so if you have sought permission beforehand, as these depots are working garages and private property.

East Scotland: The new Enviro 400s 19641-19656 duly entered service on Monday December 20th, 19641-19653 at Arbroath (AH) and 19654-19656 at Dundee (DE). All carry "Tayway 73" branding bar the first three. Displaced Volvo B7TLs 16921-16923 and 16933-16936 will move across to Glenrothes, 16934 has headed down to Smiles at Newcastle for the fitment of a new Cummins engine. In addition 16932 will move from Arbroath to Dundee, which will result in Arbroath retaining 16924-16929, whilst Dundee will have 16930-1692.

Olympians due for withdrawal are 16198, 16244, 16245, 16248, 16404, 16405, 16610, 16883 and 16884. Whilst others due to transfer from Strathtay to Perth (P) are 16718, 16724, 16881 and 16882. 16812 and 16813 are due to transfer within Strathtay from Arbroath/Dundee to Blairgowrie (BL).

Volvo B10BLE 21128 will move from Blairgowrie (BL) to Dundee (DE), although the remaining B10Bs (21124-8) are not expected to stay around for too much longer.

Volvo Olympian 16405 (M305 DGP) has been withdrawn at Arbroath, its place temporarily taken by 16244 (L244 SDY). MAN 22922 is currently in reserve, with Volvo B10B 21021 taking its place at Dundee for a short while

Volvo B10M coach 52309 (N620 USS) has moved from Dundee (res) to Cowdenbeath (C), and is currently being prepared for use as the Citylink spare. As sister coach 52308 (GSU 341) is currently long term sick, 52228 (M528RSO) has been back in the fleet during the autumn, although is due for withdrawal again once 52309 is ready.

The first of the MANs fitted with the new Cummins engine 22266 (V266ESX) has entered service from St. Andrews (S), where it has replaced 22268, which is likely to be the final MAN to get the Smiles/Cummins treatment.

Volvo Olympian 16419 is temporarily back in service at Glenrothes (G)

West Scotland: Two of the Neoplan double deck coaches have gained cherished registrations 50126 now TSU 368 from SV54 ELC and 50133 (CN05 APV) now YSV 735, off driver trainer 52026 which has reverted to M203 XBW. TSU 638 had been on former Hong Kong Leyland Olympian 13624 which has reverted to H987 RKG.

Latest reallocations have been 13644 AY - res: 20323 d/l - scrap: 20509 GW - res: 20516 res - GW: 20584 res - d/l: 20586 DS - res: 31377 sold: 34143 CK - res: 35238 AS - CK: 40632 AS - res: 47388 res - AS: 52287 AN - res: 52349 res - SR: 52416 SR - res:

North East: The four Designline HEV single decks that had been back in service at Walkergate (WE)

61002, 61003, 61006 and 61010 are back into the reserve fleet, their place being taken by Volvo B10Ms 20273, 20291, 20296 and 20838. Dennis Dart SLF 33490 (R470 MVN) has been transferred to Merseyside, from South Shields, with 3482 (R462 SEF) heading that way from reserve. Volvo Olympians 16706, 16708, 16709 and 16711 have migrated across the North Pennines to North West. At Stockton (SC)16731 is now in reserve, its place taken by Volvo B10M 20123

North West: A flurry of activity this month, first the arrival of a pair of ADL Enviro 200 single decks 36184 (PX60 DWP) and 36185 (PX60 DWP) into Preston in mid December, although they will be out stationed at Fleetwood for use on the "Wyre Villager" services. Vehicles sold recently have been Leyland Olympian 14265 to Wigleys, who have also taken Volvo B10M 20761. Similar 20435 has been sold to Ensign Bus (dealer). The four ex North East Olympians 16706, 16708, 1679 and 16711 have all entered service at Preston. Leyland Olympians moving from reserve to the disposal list have been 14195, 14197, 14206, 14207, 14209, 14244, 14249 and 14255. 14247 is now in reserve at Carlisle. Other alterations consist 17019 res - CY: 20130 res - dis: 20132 KL - dis: 20195 res - dis: 20463 res - dis: 20474 KL - res: 20790 res - dis: 20895 CE - res: 20921, 20931 res - dis: 21005 ME - res: 33162 CE - res: 33170 KL - res: 52291 KLt - dis:

Preston Bus: Another Solo into reserve is 47758 (PE51 YHN)

Merseyside: As mentioned last time more Dennis dart SLFs have been arriving on Merseyside, from Highlands 33472 (S472 JSE) and 33473 (S473 JSE) and from the North East 33482 (R462 SEF) and 33490 (R470 MVN)

Manchester: All the ex Kenya Bus Dennis Dragon / Duple Metsec double deckers 15180-15199 have now been sold to Ensign Bus (dealer). Many Volvo Olympians have now moved into reserve, as the repaint programme on the Dennis Tridents, into "magicbus" livery continues 16505, 16507, 16511, 16744, 16746, 16751, 16759, 16760, 16770, 16774-16776, 16789-16791, 16794 and 16796 now parked up all from Hyde Rd (HE) except 16770, from Princess Rd (PS). Dennis Tridents now in "magicbus" colours at Hyde Rd (HE) are 17622, 17623, 17626-17629, 17631-17633, 17638, 17671, 17698 and 17699 with Princess Rd (PS) gaining 17644. Quite a few ordinary allocation changes to get through as well:- 19019 HE - AZ: 19054, 19056 PS - AZ: 19059 AZ - PS: 19061-19063 19069 PS - AZ: 19085 AZ - HE: 19088, 19089 HE - AZ: 19100, 19113-19115 AZ - PS: 19117, 19118 AZ - HE: 19120 AZ - PS: 22125 res - PS: 22138, 22157 res - HE: 22158 PS - HE: 22168, 22182, 22183, 22185 res - ST: 33085 sold: 33084, 33086, 33091, 33092, 33093 ST - res: 53011 res - PS: 53028 (YS02 YXR), 53029 (YS02 YXT) S/C Yorkshire - PS:

Yorkshire: More new buses this time two batches of ADL Enviro 200s, the first seven are at Barnsley
36177 YN60 FKM 36179 YN60 FKP 36181 YN60 FKS 36183 YN60 FKU
36178 YN60 FKO 36180 YN60 FKR 36182 YN60 FKT

These will be replacing Volvo B6s 31031, 31386, 31492, 31901, 31932, 31933 and 31934, which are continuing in service until after Christmas.

The first of the second batch are arriving at Rawmarsh 36186 (YN60 FKV), 36187 (YN60 FKW) and 36188 (YN60 FKX). Volvo Olympians 16454 (P154 KWJ) and 16487 (N137 AET) have been transferred down to Midlands, as have former National Express coaches 52526 (Y966 PHL), 52567 (Y967 PHL) and 52677 (FN04 JZR) re-registered from 1901 HE. Chesterfields training bus 52147 (PS 2743) has been re-registered back to K577 DFS and is for disposal.

East Midlands: Arriving from Manchester have been Volvo B10M / Plaxton Premiere 52446 (R456 FCE) and Volvo B10M / Jonckheere Mistrals 52621 (S901 CCD) and 52622 (S902 CCD) all three destined for the rail replacement fleet. Two more Optare Solos moving over to Blackburn, for fuel gas conversion work are Scunthorpe based 47275 (FX04 WFV) and 47276 (WX04 WFW). Moving to Scunthorpe whilst they are away are Dennis Dart SLF 33251 (R501 JFE), from reserve and Solo 47162 (FX03 FA) from Hull. Volvo Olympians 16486 (N136AET) and 16867 (N417 JBV) are now for disposal from reserve with 16431 (N331 HGK), from reserve to service at Hull.

Midlands: Plenty to get through again this time around Routemaster 12565 (JJD 565D) is now in the preserved fleet. Leyland Olympians 14025, 14026, 14028, 14029 and 14032 have been sold to Ensignbus (dealer) with Mike Nash taking 14043. 14494 is now for disposal from Kettering leaving just 14034 at Rugby operational. One more sale Volvo B6LE 31324 has been sold to Fleet Link. From S/C come Volvo Olympians 16454 (P154 KWJ) to Kettering (KT) and 16487 (N137 AET) at Leamington (LN). Dennis Trident 17054 is in reserve, after sustaining accident damage. Optare Solos 47026 (YG52 DHM) and 47420 (YG52 DFY) have been returned to Warwickshire County Council. Other movements now 20220 res - SF: 20224, 20809 res - LN: 31363, 31364 RY - dis: 33323, 33324 NO - res: 33354 LN - dis: 33453, 33819, 33820 NO - res: 34625, 34642 res - LN: 35174 NN - NO: 52526 (Y966 PHL), 52567 (Y967 PHL) and 52677 (FN04 JZR) have arrived from Yorkshire, for Megabus work out of Rugby. In turn these have allowed on loan 52617 and 52618 to return to South.

Oxfordshire: Following tender losses Optare Solos, based at Witney 47455-47459 are now surplus to requirements 47455 is now at Oxford where it replaces 47363, which has migrated across to Wales

along with the others of the batch.

West: Dennis Trident 18178 was destroyed by fire at Shrivenham, whilst working a 66 journey on Thursday November 25th, not much remained other than off side panels. Dennis Dart 33915 is backing service, from reserve as a temporary replacement.

Wales: The Enviro 300 noted as loaned to Aberdare (AE), last month is 27700 (CN60 CVU). Dennis Dart / ALX200s 33610, 33620 and 33622 are now for disposal, from Caerphilly (CP), replaced by more newer Pointer bodied examples 35197 and 35208. Another Optare Vecta, sold to Wigleys for scrap is 39823 (N812 XJH). Volvo B10M / Jonckheere 52654 has moved onto Cwmbran (CN) from Islwyn (IB). Optare Solo 47531 is currently away having an engine upgrade, as part of a trial, if it goes well others will follow.

London: Recent changes to note 17283, 17284, 17286 res - TB: 17338 TB - res: 17342, 17343, 17345 TB - NS: 17492 res - scrapped: 34161 res - dis: 34303-34305 NS - RM:

East Kent & Hastings: ADL Enviro 300 27572, is currently away at Dennis, for repairs, following a bump, its place at Eastbourne being taken by Dennis Dart SLF 33035 from reserve fleet. Meanwhile over at Ashford Leyland Olympian 14810 has been out of action of late, Dennis Trident 18165 being used as substitute.

South: A very quiet month with just four more Dennis Darts SLFs transferring up to Merseyside 33029, 33030, 33036 and 33039. The two Volvo B10M coaches, loaned to Midlands, for Megabus duties 52617 (NFX 667) and 52618 (411 DCD) have also returned.

South West: Leyland Olympian 14986 has been sold to Hardwick: Already withdrawn Optare Solos 47579, 47580, 47581 and 47583 have been returned to Dawson Rentals. Allocation changes have been 14988 dis - BS: 20198 res - dis: 31710 res - EX: 32430, 32432 res - dis: 32447 res - TQ: 32619 TQ - dis: 47600 WN - EX:

Transdev

Harrogate & District A recent arrival is of Volvo B7TL / Wright Gemini 401 (YJ04 LYG), previously running with Coastliner. Also now here is 1054 (Y164 HRN), transferred from Lancashire United

Keighley & District: Now here, from Lancashire United are 1076 (Y176 HRN), 1077 (Y177 HRN), 1078 (Y178 HRN) and 1079 (Y179 HRN)

London United: Withdrawn at Hounslow Heath garage (HH) in November were DP53-55, 61, 81 and 83 Recent transfers have been DP85, 86 AV - TV: DP87 TVu - TV: 88, 90, 94, 96, 97 AV - TV: DP98 TVu - TV: DP99 HH - AV: DPS588 SO - AV: DPS657, 665, 667 HH - AV: DPS701 NCu - NC: DPS714-718 NC - HH: DPS719-726 NC - AV: MV7 Vt - Vw: VA60-66, 68, 71, 72 S - HHw: VA73, 78, 80 AV - HHw: VA81-84 S - HHw: VA87-89 AV - HHw:

Independent Operators

Scotland

Arthurs Coaches (Coatbridge): A new arrival here is Optare Solo T460 BCN, coming from Silverline, Merthyr Tydfil, whose livery it still retains. A Mercedes-Benz Vario / Plaxton Beaver 2 has also been note of late is YN54 DDF, latterly with A & M of Harbury.

City Sprinter: New here is and ex Gibson Direct Optare Solo SF54 HWG. It can be found on the 38 linking the City Centre with Eastwood Toll.

C & M (Port Glasgow): Noted here in early December is another Mercedes-Benz Vario / ALX100 minibus S986 JGA

H Crawford (Neilston): Coming from Irvings (Carlisle) is Bova Futura JH54 BUS

Gibson Direct: Recent arrival has been a Volvo B10M / Jonckheere Deauville coach N132 PFB, acquired from Blythswood Motors. It is plain white. Another arrival is Volvo B10M / Van Hool PIL 7652

Lothian Buses: The first of five new Volvo B7RLE / Wrightbus Eclipse Urban single decks has been delivered for route 49 "The Queen of Scots" They are the first brand new buses to be delivered in the new madder and white colours and include the blue top colour of the route. 171 (SN60 EOD)

Parks of Hamilton: No less than ten 10.6m Volvo B9R / Plaxton Elite coaches have been delivered, for use on National Express work HSK 642, HSK 643, HSK 644, HSK645, HSK646, KSK950, KSK951, KSK952, KSK953 and KSK 986. I will let you know what registrations the incumbent holders of these

registrations now carry when they come to light. A further order of 15m Plaxton Panthers are due on Volvo B13R chassis.

Scottish Travel: Two more Dublinbus Olympians have been purchased 99-D-493 and 99-D-505. Both will be converted into open top configuration for use on Glasgow tours, introduced during the summer, which operate in competition with the CitySightseeing franchisee West Coast Motors.

Stepend: More second hand arrivals are three former Transdev London United Plaxton Pointer Dennis Dart SLFs X604 OKH, X608 OKH and X609 OKH. They remain red and are still dual doored.

Whitelaws: I think we are still missing a registration for one of the new MCV Evolutions it being SF60 FPT

WJC Buses: The latest arrival is of Volvo B10M-53 / Van Hool Astrobel CH47/35CT double deck coach RJ15716. It has been bought from A A Mason, but was new many years ago to Bakers of Weston Super Mare, who bought it for their London Bristol Express service. The wee man also informs us that he is about to acquire a pair of ex McKindless Plaxton Pointer bodied Dennis Dart SLFs Y356 YCS and Y386 YCS. The pair were originally with AerDart in Dublin. They are for a short term contract until July.

North East & Yorkshire

East Yorkshire Motor Services: Optare Prisma 282 (R282 EKH) has been scrapped, as has Volvo B7TL 675 (YY52 LCP). Repaints this month have been 334, 496, 682 and 710

Green Mountain Travel (Dinnington): A pair of Mercedes-Benz Sprinter minibuses are new here BF60 OEX being one

Lees (Durham): A recent arrival has been Volvo B12B / Berkhof Axial FJ08 BYB, with FJ04 SOL being sold in part exchange

National Holidays: More Setra S415GT-HD coaches are due for the new season fleet numbers 41-55, they will displace x Wallace Arnold Volvo B12M / Plaxton Paragons and some Volvo B12m / Jonckheere Mistrals.

Premier Travel (Wallsend): New is a sixteen seat VW Crafter minibus, complete with a most appropriate registration TO60 OON

Stephensons (Easingwold): Two ADL Enviro 300 single decks have been acquired, for new service 41 SN55 DUV and SN55 DUY. I have the pair lastly with Reynolds of Watford. Also entering service before too long is Volvo B10L / Alexander Ultra R984 SSA. Originally with Dublin Bus but more recently McColls of Dumbarton.

Weardale Motor Services: A former Go Ahead London Dennis Dart / Plaxton President double deck has been acquired X6 WMS, I do not have its previous identity as yet. A Optare Solo Slimline has also been noted recently V6 WMS

York Pullman: All white Volvo B12M PN05 ANU is now in use here, it was with Bradshaw. Also new is a MAN 14.240 / ADL Enviro 200 YX10 ECA. It is all white but carries branding for the Unibus 44 service.

North West England

Archway Travel (Poulton): Second hand purchases, improve the age profile of the fleet have been added, two Leyland Olympian / Northern Counties Palatine bodied double deck s K667 UNH and K669 UNH, the former re-registered to MHZ 6765 and two Volvo Olympian / Northern Counties Palatine 2 H47/30Fs L557 YCU now registered as BRZ5933 and L561 YCU now RJZ2265. A former Shearings Volvo B10M / Van Hool Alizee is in use M33 KVV.

Bluebird (Middleton): Noted here in late November, has been Optare Solo MV07 DWM, it is running in all white, and had recently been on loan to Stotts (Oldham)

Blueworks Taxis (Backbarrow): An increase in bus work, has lead to a few recent arrivals GNZ 8153 (ex P386 FEA) a Mercedes-Benz 709D / Alexander Sprint B25F, H375 ONK a Mercedes-Benz 79D / Reeves Burgess C26F, L826 NYG Dennis Lance / Alexander B47F, from JP Travel (Middleton) and X213 ONH a Dennis Dart SLF / Plaxton Pointer B31F, from Flights Hallmark

Bus Vannin: No less than 12 of the new Wrightbus Streelite Midibus have been ordered with the first being delivered, via Heysham in early December, KMN 702G, KMN 704G, KMN 705G and KMN 707G being the first members of the batch, passing through Heysham on delivery in early December.

Clarksons (Barrow): A few coaches have been re-registered Dennis Javelin / Berkhof FNT 595 is now SUI 6772, originally T444 GSM. FNT 595 is now on Dennis Javelin / Caetano ex V444 SMC. Dennis Javelin / Marcopolo 572 GYA is now SUI 6773, with MAN 13.220 / Marcopolo Y273 BCV now carrying 572 GYA. MAN 11.220 / Berkhof S706 NRN is now UCE 836.

Go Goodwins (Eccles): A final ex Nottingham Optare Excel has arrived FD51 EYX. The first three have been re-registered thus Y547 LRB is now R77 WES; Y548 LRB, now YSV 552 with Y957 DRR now 330 GGX.

Heron Travel (Kendal): This marks the return to coach operations by Paul Peruzza, whom many will remember ran Princess Coaches for quite a while, before selling. It operated RKZ 8285 an Unvi C29F bodied Mercedes-Benz O.815D

Happy AIs: I appear to have neglected to put the list of the ex Dublin Bus Olympians in last months magazine so here we are:

L85 VDM	RA189	T452 KDM	RV516	T488 KDM	RV483
L116 VDM	RA186	T453 KDM	RV512	V211 JMB	RV614
L139 VDM	RA191	T465 KDM	RV513	V303 JMB	RV616
L931 UTU	RA188	T472 KDM	RV476	V304 JMB	RV576
L937 UTU	RA187	T475 KDM	RV477	V305 JMB	RV577
L944 UTU	RA182	T476 KDM	RV481	V306 JMB	RV619
L956 UTU	RA185	T478 KDM	RV484	V307 JMB	RV615
L969 UTU	RA183	T479 KDM	RV482	V311 JMB	RV612
P501 UFM	RA318	T482 KDM	RV485	V312 JMB	RV579

Three more were undergoing work before entering the fleet and still carried 95-D-610, 95-D-613, 99-D-545. Two further ex Irish Olympians are T192 KDM, T241 KDM ex Kenneally (Waterford)

Irvings (Carlisle): Volvo B12B / Van Hool SF06 LKC is now registered V30 BUS.

JP Travel (Middleton): Another couple of ex Go Ahead London Volvo B7TL / Plaxton President is now in service, complete with a single door conversion 531 (PL51 LDY) the former PVL257 and 532 (PJ02 RBX) ex PVL279

Manchester Airport: Several demonstrators have been trialled recently ADL Enviro 200 YX59 BXW, ADL Enviro 300 SN09 CGX, Mercedes-Benz Citaro BF60 OEV and a Wright Streetlite MX60 GXB.

Redline (Penwortham): H661 GPF has been sold. Ex Parks Volvo B12M SF08 VUW has been re-registered as 11 PSV.

Shearings Holidays: The new seasons order call for more Setra S416GT-HD coaches 301-310 in Grand Tourer as C48FT with 311-330 making up the rest in normal livery and C52FT. They will probably replace Volvo B12M / Van Hool Alizee 409-422 as well as the original Grand Tourer coaches 540-550 and 593-595.

Strawberry (St Helens): Three ex Bluebird, Middleton Dennis Dart SLFs 22 (ME52 BLU), 23 (MG53 BLU) and 24 (MH53 BLU) have been added to the fleet. The remaining former Bus Eireann MPDs to note are 14 (EK51 XXC) ex 02-D-18253, 15 (EK51 XXD) ex 02-D-18257, 17 (EK51 XXF) ex 02-D-18254 and 18 (EK51 XXG) ex 02-D-18262, making a total of eight.

Travellers Choice: Another new coach, being delivered on Christmas Eve is Volvo B9R / Jonckheere SHV C53FT FJ60 EJU. The coach was displayed at the Bus Expo in Birmingham and carries a silver colour. Volvo / Jonckheere Mistral 7606 went to Volvo in part exchange. A Volvo B9R / Caetano Levante is due before too long for National Express work.

Tyrer Bus (Nelson): A new vehicle is MX60 DXF an ADL Enviro 200 Dart 4 B34F complete with seat belts. A double deck has also been purchased V102 LGC a Volvo B7TL / Alexander ALX 400, previously with Go Ahead London as its AVL2

Waltons (Freckleton): a demonstrator on loan during December has been SN60 GBF, an Unvi Riada bodied Mercedes-Benz O.816.

Walton Swift Travel (Preston): Scania / Irizar YP52 CTY has been re-registered as AIG 9355

Wright Bros (Nenthead): A recent arrival, from New Bharat (Southall) is of Volvo B10M / Van Hool Alizee C57F BC05 NBC. It takes the place of Volvo M10M/ Plaxton Premiere F446 WFX which has been sold to Irvings (Carlisle). Mercedes-Benz Vario / Plaxton VU06 KEK is now registered CIW 290

Central England

Glovers (Ashbourne): Two Plaxton Primos have entered service YN55 KMV, now registered as AIG 4698, and YN55 YSC. Neither are strangers to the area having previously been with TM Travel

Harpurs Coaches: Two ex Dublin Volvo B6LEs have been purchased, from Ensign Bus, V735 PHJ ex 99-D-60008 and V736 PHJ ex 99-D-60001, they join V728 PHJ, already here.

Heartlands Travel: F34 ENF noted last month has been scrapped as have M301 BYG and M302 YBG. Leaving the fleet has been N634 XBU.

Lawman (Kettering): Noted by Tony recently has been a re-registered Bova LL05 RSL, along with a Volvo B9R JL09 RL

Grant Palmer (Dunstable): A pair of Mercedes-Benz 709D / Alexander Sprints have been bought from

Fleetlink NW (Dealer) N117 YHH and N126 YRM, both being ex Stagecoach north West buses. Also seeing use here of late has been Optare Solo M710SE demonstrator YJ60 KFP

Premiere (Nottingham): Route Red 4 is being withdrawn from the end of January. New vehicles to arrive in December are 4 Scania / Wrightbus single decks 3346 (Y46 HHE) and 3347 (Y47 HHE) are two with 2 X registered examples due. Brand new is Scania / Irizar YT60 OTE), with another two expected shortly. Two Optare Solos have been on loan 2217 (KX54 NLC) and 2218 (KX54 NLD)

Silverline (Solihull): A pair of 10.8m B37F ADL Enviro 200 single decks have been acquired SN60 EDL and SN60 EDO. They both carry a blue livery for a new service starting in January between Solihull and the Blyth Valley Business Park.

Veolia Transport: operations of National Express workings of the East Midlands division based in Nottingham, were due to pass of Dunn Motor Group parent of Your Bus, on January 9th. The following vehicles are currently in use on the various workings and should be the ones passing across; fleet numbers are the Veolia ones

Volvo B12B / Caetano Levante C49FTL 0622 (FN06 FLB): 0623 (FN06 FLE): 0624 (FN06 FLF): 0625 (FN06 FLG): 0626 (FN06 FKZ): 5615 (FJ56 PCF): 5616 (FJ56 FBU): 5618 (FJ56 PBX): 5619 (FJ56 PBZ): 5620 (FJ56 PBZ): Volvo B12B / Plaxton Panther C49FT 5401 (FJ54 ZDD): 5402 (FJ54 ZDE): 5405 (FJ54 ZDH): 5514 (FJ55 XBC): 5515 (FJ55 XBD) and a single MAN R33 / Plaxton Panther C49FTL 0706 (WX07 OVJ)

Wellglade Group Transferred to the Midland General fleet have been four more Dennis Dart SLFs 2004 (P911 CTO), 2005 (R918 RAU), 2006 (R921 RAU) and 2007 (R932 RAU).

Wales

A&B (Caerau): Currently for sale in the trade press is P634 KTF Volvo B10M Berkhof.

Alpine (Llandudno): Now arrived is AP 60 ALP the new Volvo B9R Plaxton Panther C53F. This was the vehicle shown at the NEC recently and carries the latest styling of the Plaxton Panther coachwork.

Brown (Builth Wells): Two Optare Metrorider's have arrived here. They are L482 GTX (ex L104 GBO) which has come from Caradon Riveria Tours, Darleyford, and W425 CWX which has come from Henderson, Hamilton.

Bysiau Cwm Taf (Whitland): Mercedes-Benz Atego Unvi SK 07 FSN (ex UGE 471) now carries registration XAE 695.

C&R (Aberbeeg): Acquisitions here include V464 YVL Mercedes-Benz 0814D Plaxton Beaver B33F which has come from Veolia, Dunn-Line, and S604 VAY MAN 24.400 Noge C47FT from Bowen, Tamworth.

Caelloi (Pwllheli): Currently for sale is CX 05 ARZ Volvo B12M Van Hool.

Capitol (Pontypool): Acquired from Tees Valley, Marske-by-the-Sea in September was X182 BNH Mercedes-Benz 0814D Plaxton.

Castell Coaches (Caerphilly): For sale are L396 ORS (ex WFO 311, RIB 8035, 3692 NT, L947 NWW) Volvo B10M Jonckheere and P572 BAY Dennis Javelin Marcopolo.

Chapmans (Tonyrefail): Mercedes 0303 Plaxton H5 UNF (ex H14 KFC) has been re-registered H171 NRU.

Chepstow Classic: Acquired from Clarkes, Tredegar is N472 KHU, a Dennis Javelin Plaxton Premiere.

Clarke's (Tredegar): Mercedes-Benz 811D Plaxton L195 OVO and Mercedes-Benz 709D Mellor M794 MTH have both gone to Davies Scrap Metals, Tredegar.

Davies (Cross Hands): New in November was DC 60 WAL Mercedes-Benz 0816D Plaxton Cheetah C33F.

EST Group (Cowbridge): October saw the arrival of ex Arriva North West M518 KPA Dennis Lance Wright Crusader B40F, while November brought N245/249 CKA Dennis Dart 9.8SDL East Lancs B40F, both from the same source. Also in November P680 RWU Dennis Dart SLF Plaxton Pointer B35F arrived from Ace, Aintree.

Edwards (Llantwit Fardre): Two Ford Transit's have been acquired. They are DG03 CCU from Pontyclun Van Hire, and DG03 CCV from Arrow Hire, Cardiff. Meanwhile, Volvo B55 Northern Counties A429 VNY and Bedford YNV Caetano C27 JKG have both been scrapped on site.

European Heritage (Abertillery): Acquired from New Adventure, Gabalfa in October was T200 OCL Setra S315GTHD.

Ferris (Nantgarw): Two VDL Bova Synergy vehicles are reported to be on order for next year. New here in November was PK 60 WVA MAN P22 Neoplan Tourliner C61FT. Also new was WA 60 DZH possibly one of the new Synergy vehicles, more details to come as and when.

Goodsir (Holyhead): New in October was YJ 60 KEK Optare Solo Optare B27F, while acquired from Lewis-y-Amlwch was an Optare Solo, Y37 HBT. Vehicles gone include, YJ 05 WCK an Optare Solo

which went to Optare, Crossgates in August, and YJ 55 BLZ a similar vehicle which also went to Optare, Crossgates but is now with Stott, Milnsbridge.

Hayward (Carmarthen): Acquired from Acorn, Fishguard in November were MAZ 6436 (ex 84 DL 7, A745 JAY) DAF SB2305 Plaxton and B16 JCT (ex B4 FEN, F877 CFL) Bova FHD. Also acquired in November was E561 RRL Volvo B10M Plaxton which came from Barney's, Pembroke. The two vehicles from Acorn, quickly moved to M&R Commercials, Swansea for scrap, while B279 KPF Leyland Tiger Plaxton has gone to Bayliss, Ogmere Vale for scrap.

Henley's (Abertillery): On order for delivery in February, and thus carrying the new 11 plate is a Mercedes-Benz Vario Plaxton Cheetah.

Laser (Tonypanyd): Acquired from Classic Coaches, Runcorn in November were KSV 924 (ex P98 VGD, NGH 456) Volvo B10M-62 Jonckheere C51FT, and 775 UXA (ex F902 YNV, HIL 3529, 6247 MT) Volvo B10M-60 Jonckheere C53F. Meanwhile, OIJ 883 (ex L749 YGE, TSJ 61S, 94 KK 2462) Volvo B10M Jonckheere has gone to PTS, Pontyberem.

Let's Go (Fforestfach): Currently for sale in the trade press are HIG 6245 (ex R133 KWS, R 30 ARJ) Dennis Javelin Neoplan, HIG 6240 (ex R611 GRL, R10 PWD, TIL 1258, R7 LON) a further Dennis Javelin Neoplan and N10 LON Dennis Javelin Berkhof.

Lew Jones (Llanwrst): Vehicles acquired in November include, PIJ 667 (ex N388 DRW, FTG 9) Volvo B10M-62 Plaxton Excalibur C49FT, from Stainton, Kendal; RIL 9731 (ex K710 RNR) Dennis Javelin Caetano Algarve C53F, from Go Stretch, Caldicot; TJI 4147 (ex N956 CVP) Dennis Javelin WS Vanguard C35F, TJI 2255 (ex J972 OGV, 5611 PP, J815 KHD) DAF SB3000 Van Hool C53F, both from Teejay, Carnoustie, and YN 03 ZWL Optare Alero Optare B16C which has come from Crown Radio Taxis, Worcester.

Lloyds (Machynlleth): New here in November was LC 60 WYN ADL Enviro200 AD B37F. Acquisitions include S550 BNV and T586 SKG Mercedes-Benz 0814D Plaxton Beaver B31F. S550 BNV has come from Excel, Essex and the latter vehicle from Stagecoach.

Llynfi (Maestag): Volvo B10M Plaxton RIL 3744 (ex 95 D 41599) has gone to Rhodri Evans Ffoshelig, Carmarthen.

Mainline (Gilfach Goch): Acquired from Wright Bros, Nenthead is D748 VSA Volvo B10M-56 Plaxton C53F.

New Adventure (Gabalfa): Recent acquisitions include WSU 557 (ex R3 PCL) Dennis Javelin Berkhof Axial C51FT which has come from Stokes, Carstairs; XIL 5260 (ex G644 BPH) Volvo B10M-50 Northern Counties H45/39F from Kent Coach Travel, Sheerness, and AE 07 DZD and AE 07 DZF MAN A66 MCV Evolution B35F which have arrived from Countryliner, Guildford. Currently for sale are H4 KFJ (ex FJ 03 ZZN) Irisbus 391E.12.35 Beulas and V152 EFS Dennis Dart SLF Plaxton Pointer.

Owens (Four Crosses): Not reported before is the arrival of a new Mercedes-Benz Turismo C50FT, registered FG 10 WEN. This vehicle was new here in May. Acquired from Galloway, Mendlesham in November was AY 06 FSG Irisbus 397E.12.43 Beulas Cygnus C53FT.

Padarnbus (Llanberis): Three new Wrightbus StreetLite's took to the road at the end of November after the fitting of new ticket machines.

Pat's (Southsea): From Leon's, Stafford has come BT 06 LCT Scania K114EB Berkhof Axial C49FT. Meanwhile, WJI 6745 (ex N4 HCT) Scania K113 Van Hool and G728 JJC Volvo B10M-60 Plaxton have gone to Used Coach Sales, Warrington.

Peake's (Pontnewynydd): J555 PKE Volvo B10M Plaxton has been re-registered to T463 UCH and has gone to New Bharat, Southall, while Dennis Lance N402 MPN now carries registration J555 PKE.

Rhodri Evans Ffoshelig (Carmarthen): Acquired back in August from Richmond, Barley was EJ 52 UYS (ex 649 ETF) Volvo B10M-62 Van Hool C49FT. This has now been re-registered DSU 772. Acquired from Llynfi, Maesteg in October was N711 AHP (ex 95 D 41599) Volvo B10M-62 Plaxton. Vehicles re-registered include DSU 772 Volvo B10M-60 Jonckheere to M326 KRY and WD 03 WVV Volvo B7R Jonckheere to B6 PRE. M326 KRY has now gone to Davies, Cross Hands.

Richard Bros (Cardigan): YJ 60 GFK VDL SB4000 Van Hool C51FT was new in October, while N205 LCK Optare Excel was acquired from Cumfybus, Churchtown for spares.

St David's Travel (Taff Wells): R117 TKO, T95 CGO and W806 PKS Mercedes-Benz 0814D Plaxton Beaver's have all passed to NextBus, Chippenham.

Silcox (Pembroke Dock): Acquired from Tilley, Wainhouse Corner in October was P771 BJJ Dennis Javelin Caetano Porto S70F. 185 K651 TDE Mercedes-Benz 811D Cys, 233 D264 ROH Leyland Tiger Plaxton, 143 NDE 86R Leyland Leopard Duple and 234 VAW 527 Leyland Tiger Duple have all been scrapped on site. 185 T141 RDE Dennis Javelin Caetano has gone to Moseley, Wellington.

Silver Star (Caernarfon): Neoplan N316SHD, N3 EDW (CX03 DYP) has been sold. The remaining service vehicles have been passed on to Stafford Bus Centre. They are: Dennis Dart Wright Crusader, P20 BLU. Dennis Dart Plaxton Pointer SLF, T375 JJC. Mercedes-Benz Vario Plaxton Beaver 2, P559 PNE and P537 PNE. Optare Metrorider R809 TKO.

The following have been retained: Plaxton / Reeve Burgess Dennis Dart J198 PEY and Mercedes-Benz Vario / Plaxton Beaver 2, N1 EDW (V258 DCC).

Summerdale (Letterston): BC 04 NBC Volvo B12M Van Hool has been re-registered to JIL 7591.

Tanat Valley (Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant): 241 A41 XHE Leyland Tiger Alexander has gone to Hardwick, Carlton for scrap.

DJ Thomas (Neath): 52 P802 GBA Volvo B10M Van Hool and 53 T134 SGA Mercedes-Benz 614F Crest have both been advertised for sale in the trade press.

Thomas (Rhondda): Various vehicles have been scrapped or are due to be scrapped by Christmas. They are Leyland Titan's MIL 8326 (ex KYV 396X), MIL 8328 (ex KYV 479X), GYE 261W, NUW 583Y, NUW 640Y, OHV 766Y, OHV 798Y, A892 SYE, A943 SYE; Leyland Olympian's A946 SAE, B556 ATX, B967 WRN, D259 FYM, D706 YHK (ex VLT 20, D260 FYM), E156 OMD; Dennis Dominator C721 NCD and Dennis Javelin Duple G847 VAY.

Town & Country (Undy): Acquired from Norfolk Green, Kings Lynn in November was S313 DLG Mercedes-Benz 0814D Plaxton Beaver B31F.

Town Lynx (Holywell): Several vehicles were scrapped on site in November, Leyland Olympian C327 HWJ, Leyland Tiger Alexander E929 PBE, Dennis Dominator East Lancs F142 BKH and F150 BKH, Iveco Mellor K913 VDV, K925 VDV, L447 FFR, N190 GFR and N464 HRN.

Veolia Transport: Currently on loan/hire from Veolia England is NXL 12 YN 04 GPU Scania K114EB Irizar PB C49FT and is allocated to Trefforest. Several vehicles have now been withdrawn and include the following: T478 JLF LDV Cy, R751 XPO Dennis Dart SLF UVG B44F (Not used since return from Veolia England), 40257 YIL 3159, orig. X536 NWT) Optare Solo B27F, 40267 YIL 1663, orig. V235 LWU) Optare Solo B30F, 45007 R127 LNR Mercedes Vario Plaxton Beaver 2 DP27F, 45008 R803 YJC Mercedes Vario Plaxton Beaver 2 DP27F, 50225 R705 TRV Dennis Dart SLF UVG B44F, 55021 N771 WRC Volvo B10M-55 Alexander PS DP48F, 65007 D200 ELJ Volvo Citybus East Lancs CH43/33F, 70001 GIL 2987 (orig. J244 LFR) DAF MB230 Van Hool T8 C49FT, 70011 NIL 2542 (orig. E657 KCX) DAF SB3000 Van Hool T8, 70012 P897 FMO Dennis Javelin Berkhof Axial C53F, 72001 P724 BPR DAF SB3000 Ikarus C70F, 72005 P713 RWU DAF SB3000 Ikarus C69F, 72007 P715 RWU DAF SB3000 Ikarus C69F, 72022 R720 TRV Dennis Javelin 12SDA UVG S320 C67F, 74029 YN51 MGV Scania L94IB Irizar Century C49FT, 74032 TJI 1698 (orig. P85 KOH) Volvo B10M-62 Plaxton 320 C50F, 74048 AIG 5288 (orig. M23 JDW) Volvo B10M-62 Plaxton 320 C50F, 74056 ECZ 9139 (orig. T38 CNN) Volvo B10M-62 Plaxton Excalibur C49FT, 74078 P354 VWR Volvo B10M-62 Jonckheere Mistral C49FT.

The following vehicles are now with UK Bus Dismantlers, Bromyard: R116 TKO (Vario/Plaxton), 40257 (YIL 3159, originally X536 NWT Solo), 40267 (YIL 1663, Solo), 45018 (R268 XDA Vario/Alexander), 55004 (G434 FVX Lynx), 55005 (F237 CNY Lynx), 55006 (F283 AWW Lynx), 55007 (F294 AWW Lynx), 55011 (F281 HOD Leyland Tiger/Derwent), 55012 (K622 YVN Lynx), 55014 (J375 AWT Lynx), 55016 (G569 ESD Volvo/Plaxton Derwent), 70001 (GIL 2987 DAF/Van Hool), 72001 (P724 BPR DAF/Ikarus), 72005 (P713 RWU DAF/Ikarus), 72007 (P715 RWU DAF/Ikarus), 72011 (L38 DBC Javelin/Caetano Algarve), 72022 (R720 TRV Javelin/UVG), 74032 (TJI 1698 Volvo/Plaxton), 74048 (AIG 5288-Volvo/Plaxton), 74029 (YN 51 MGV Scania/Irizar) and 74078 (P354 VWR Volvo/Jonckheere).

Volvo B12M Sunsundegui 70033 FJ 03 AAY is now with Paul James (Veolia England), while 72017 N40 TGM Dennis Javelin Plaxton is now with Roadrunner, Harlow.

Voel (Dyserth): Running in early December here was Neoplan Tourliner demonstrator MJ60 KZD

Watkins (Abergavenny): Acquired back in August were CU 04 CNV LDV Cy LDV M16 from Day's, Swansea and T558 UHH Mercedes-Benz 0814D Acl C33F from Streamline, Malling.

Windy Corner (Pencader): Several re-registrations have recently taken place and they include R567 MTF Dennis Javelin Berkhof to IIG 1494; M107 CCD to IIG 1495, M291 FAE to IIG 1496, M8 BSL to IIG 1497 and P423 UDT to IIG 1498, all Dennis Javelin Plaxton.

Eastern Counties

Beeston (Hadleigh): Purchased from Parrings (Cheslyn Hay) has been a Van Hool Astron YJ08 NTL.

Carters: Unsure if I note the arrival of V Bus SB180 / MCV Evolution B29F 260 (AY60 BVD). Volvo Olympian 419 (P419 KSX) was sold to Ensignbus in part exchange for Dennis Trident / Alexander ALX400 402 (LG02 FEV). The Olympian is now with Marshall Coaches.

Constable Coaches: Scania Omnicity YN06 CJE and YN07 EXP have been sold back to Scania. 131 ASV has reverted to YN04 ANX, Scania / Wright Solar YN04 AAX now carries 131 ASV. Leyland Tiger FIL 8615 has been withdrawn, following the entry into service of Volvo B10B M561 WTJ. Volvo Olympian R345 LGH has been re-registered to WPX 448, the previous holder Dennis Dart SLF / Plaxton Pointer has reverted to X668 LLX and has been withdrawn.

Ipswich Buses: Two new Scania N230UD/ Optare Olympus double decks are 68 (YJ60 KGX) and 69 (YJ60 KGY). Dennis Trident / Alexander ALX400s 64 (LG02 FCX) 66 (LG02 FDF) and 67 (LG02 FDK) entered service in late November, joining 65 (LG02 FDC). Optare Solo M920s 237 (YG02 FVZ), 238 (YN03 NDK) and 239 (YN03 NDU) have all been withdrawn, and are being stripped of parts.

London / Greater London

B & M Coaches: The impressive new Van Hool T917 Astronef, exhibited at the Bus Expo in Birmingham is YJ60 GKK. The 61 seat coach, features a full glass roof

Centrebus: Arriving at Dunstable garage, from Yorkshire has been Plaxton Bodied Dennis Dart SLF R314 NGM.

Ensignbus: Unique Volvo B10L / Saffle 705 has been sold to Woottens Coaches, Bucks, its private plate is to be retained by Ensign. Dennis Tridents T75 KLD, T197 CLO and V310GLB are temporarily into fleet as 904, 905 and 906 due to large short term rail commitments. Unlikely to be used for more than 2 months, although plans have been known to change! They remain red and dual doored.

Impact (Perivale): Noted with this operator is Irisbus 50C15B MX10 ENP

Lodge (High Easter): Setra S416GT-HD BV10 ZJV has been re-registered as JW10 DGE. Dennis Javelin / Plaxtons F882 RFP and F883 RFP have been sold to Sinnott (Molehill Green)

London Borough Tower Hamlets: Tony has come across a couple of recent arrivals 19240 (WU10 KLO) and 19241 (WU10 KLP) both Mercedes-Benz 515CDi

Metroline: For those looking for the new deliveries at Cricklewood up to TE1089 were in service by the turn of the year, whilst the Hybrid examples have yet to enter service, and are in store at either North Wembley or Cricklewood.

Dennis Dart SLFs DLF64, 66, 67, 67, 72, 91, 101-103, 123 and 125 have been returned off lease to Dawson Rentals, as have Dennis Tridents TP366, 373 and 381. Dennis Trident / Alexander ALX400 double decks TA75, 97, 103, 108, 110 and 111 are the first of many that are being sold to Ensign Bus (dealer). Allocation changes during November have been DA150-152 AH - AHw: TA66, 80, 89, 103, 105, 107, 108, 112 W - NWw: TE982, 984, 987, 991 AH - W: TP381 PB - PBw: TP392-394 W - NWw: TP433 PB - PBu (after suffering an engine fire):

Seaward (Harlesden): Noted by Tony, in early December, has been Volvo B12B WSU 680, which we presume is the former FJ07 AAV which was with Stokes at Carstairs. Also being noted are a pair of VDL SB4000 / Marcopolo coaches FM56 UNV, ex 07-KK-1531 and FM56 OUH ex 07-KK-4701

SM Coaches (Harlow): Two Irisbus Agoraline B44F single decks have been purchased of late, from NORSE comes AU05 FKC, and from Mitchells (Plean) SN06 AFK

Southern England

Autocar (Five Oak Green): Former Stagecoach East M489 ASW Volvo B10M-55 Alexander DP48F has been in use here to alleviate peak overcrowding on service 288 since September. Also here is N471 TPR Dennis Dart East Lancs B40F from Transdev Yellow Buses, together with E207 GCG Volvo B10M-50 Alexander H47/33F from the same source.

Big Lemon (Brighton): Another acquisition to record here is N855 PDW M/Benz 711D LCB C28F.

Brijan Tours (Curdridge): More acquisitions from Stagecoach include N317/18 AMC and P628 PGP all Dennis Dart's Alexander B36F. N317 AMC is numbered 110.

Brookline (Ryarsch): Brand new is a Temsa Opalin C35F YJ60 GGA

Charlie Brown (Bournemouth): Tony has noted an LDV Convoy YX54 F with this newish operator.

Compass (Worthing): New here is YJ 60 KHG Optare Solo Optare B31F, while EK 51 XXH (ex 02 D 18253) Dennis Dart LF Alexander B29F was acquired from Bus Eireann via Ensign, Purfleet. M/Benz 0814D Plaxton V896 LOH and Optare Metrorider W426 CWX have both gone to Southdown PSV, Copthorne.

Countryliner (Guildford): A new AD Enviro200, MX 60 BXE has been noted in Uckfield.

Courtney (Bracknell): Volvo Olympian East Lancs S847/53 DGX are now with Carr, Maghull.

Eastonways (Ramsgate): Leyland Olympian E913 DRD has been withdrawn.

Edwards (Hailsham): Acquired from Dealtop, Clyst St Mary in November was WA 03 HRE Bova FHD12.340 Bova C49FT.

Go-Coachhire (Swanley): S295/96 JUP Dennis Dart SLF Plaxton Pointer B25D have been acquired from Metroline while P32 XUY Dennis Javelin UVG has gone to Group Travel, Bodmin.

Heyfordian: New here back in October was Volvo B12B(T) / 9700 Prestige FJ60 EKD. It carries Eurolines Plus livery for the operation of said service between London and Amsterdam, having taken over the running after On a Mission, the previous operator ceased trading.

Kent County Council (Aylesford): Another new bus this time a Wrightbus Streetlite midi bus MX60 BWO

Kent Coach Travel (Sheerness): August saw the arrival of Y989 TSD Volvo B10M-62 Van Hool C49FT from Simpson, Edinburgh.

Kent County Council (Aylesford): Further new vehicles in September were YX 60 BZT/BZU Volvo B7R Plaxton C70F. Acquired from Ulsterbus in July was ICZ 6698 Volvo B10M-62 Caetano C49FT. Also here is Optare Solo MX 08 DJF.

Kings Ferry (Gillingham): Scania K380EB Irizar PB VIP 1 GN 57 WVR is now registered V1 PKF, again

Morton (Chineham): On order for March/April delivery are two Bova Futura's to replace YJ 06 LFB and YJ 57 BTE. New into service in December was G637 BPH Volvo Citybus Northern Counties from Worth's Coaches.

Nordcat (Wimborne): North Dorset Community Accessible Transport are operating an ex TLC (Bradford) Optare Alero YN53 STX. It can be found plying its trade on various stage carriage services around its home town

Nu-Venture (Aylesford): From Centrebus is S528 KFL Dennis Dart SFL Marshall B27F, and for spares only, CUL 172V Leyland Titan Park Royal and B98 WUV Leyland Titan Leyland from Sullivan, South Mimms.

Rambler (Hastings): Volvo B10M-60 Plaxton 36 1924 RH (ex DDY 557, KDY 814, H631 UWR) has now been re-registered to H392 GBD and has been sold to Fowler, Holbeach Drove.

Reading & Wokingham (Wokingham): From Frank, Seaton Carew has come YN 03 AXB Neoplan N316SHD Neoplan C49FT.

Reading Buses: The six new ADL Enviro400H's entered service on Monday 13th December on Route 26 Reading Station-Calcot Sainsbury's. All vehicles have been branded for this route and carry a yellow and orange livery. This is the first of 20 such vehicles and Reading Buses have been granted aid under the Green Bus Fund for a further 10 which makes a total of 30 to be delivered by April 2012. The next route due to be converted will be Route 17 Wokingham Road-Tilehurst. Vehicles currently noted on loan to Weavaway for Reading Buses route Vitality 1 include 1001-03/29 YN 05 GXA/GXB/GXD and YN 06 NXY Scania L94UB Wright Solars. 1001/29 were returned on the 9th December in exchange for 1004/05 YN 05 GXC/GXE.

Renown (Bexhill-on-Sea): R403 XFL Dennis Dart SLF Marshall B39F was acquired from Fairway Commercials, Appleton in September. Meanwhile, Optare Solo 10 V649 EEF and Optare Metrorider 54 S794 XUG have gone to South West, Wincanton.

Thamesdown: Dennis Dart SLF Plaxton Pointer driver trainer 383 R189 NFE went on loan to Wilts & Dorset at the beginning of November. Ex Thamesdown Dennis Dart 162 S162 BMR has been sold by Ensign, Purfleet to Velvet, Eastleigh. An unusual vehicle at Barnfield Road Swindon is preserved Manchester Burlingham trolleybus 1344 ONE 744. This has arrived for a minor refurbishment and full repaint.

Velvet (Eastleigh): A pair of Dennis Dart SLFs, are currently on loan from Dawson Rentals KX05 KFC and KX05 KFF. The pair most recently operating with Anglian Bus

Weavaway (Newbury): Vehicles noted currently on loan from Reading Buses to operate the Vitality 1 include 1001-03/29 YN 05 GXA/GXB/GXD and YN 06 NXY Scania L94UB Wright Solars. However, 1001/29 have since returned to Reading in exchange for 1004/05 YN 05 GXC/GXE. Further to last months news regarding the acquisitions from Allan, Gorebridge, SN 09 LSF/LSJ have received Abingdon Coaches branding, while SN 09 LSE has received Countywide branding.

Wheelers Travel (North Baddesley): Acquired in November was BX 08 EZS BMC 850 BMC C35F from Countrywide, Gravesend. Vehicle re-registrations include Y662 NAY MAN 18.310 Marcopolo to A1 YET; KT 05 PYG (ex 05 D 55404) Scania K114IB Irizar to H5 WTL, AND KT 05 PYJ (ex 05 KK 2767) Scania K114IB Irizar to J3 WTL.

Woods (Bognor Regis): Acquired from Anderson, Bermondsey is YJ 06 GKZ Bova FHD12.340 Bova C49FT and has now been re-registered 274 FYP.

Xelabus (Colden Common): This is a new operator in Hampshire. Vehicle acquisitions include SIL 2172 (ex J426 HDS) Volvo B10M-60 Plaxton C53F, from Dayton, Brinithel; E324/27 MSG L/Olympian Alexander H51/30D from PB Bus Marketing, Eastleigh; F635 LMJ a similar vehicle from Bird, Burgess Hill; L118 YOD Dennis Dart 9.8SDL Plaxton Pointer B40F from Plymouth Citybus and 401 M321 YOT Dennis Dart 9SDL Plaxton Pointer B35F from PB Bus Marketing.

South West England

APL (Crudwell): New here in October was S17 CL (ex S603 WAY) MAN 24.400 Noge C49F.

Baker (Moreton in Marsh): Two new vehicles to record here are AB 60 MTB and EB 60 MTB Volvo B12M Plaxton C53F. Meanwhile, Dennis R Plaxton's AB 04 MTB and EB 54 MTB have gone to Moffat & Williamson.

Bevan (Lydney): Acquired from MacPherson back in April was N204 PUL Setra S250 Setra C53F.

Castleways (Winchcombe): From Tussauds, Alton has come MX 07 BBN Optare Solo Optare B31F.

Colefordian Willetts (Coalway): New here is SF 08 VVH (ex 3 HWS) Volvo B12M Jonckheere C49FT which was new to Park, Hamilton.

Country Bus (Heathfield): Acquired from Geoff Amos, Eydon for Marks & Spencer courtesy service in Torquay is TBZ 5793 (ex S530 KFL) Dennis Dart SLF Marshall B43F.

Daishs Coaches (Torquay): The company have acquired a block of 10 cherished plates and have reregistered their oldest coaches with them. Those noted are:

SUI 8190 ex W209 JBN Volvo B10M-62 Van Hool

SUI 8191 ex R903 YBA Volvo B10M Van Hool

SUI 8192 either R940 YNF or R951 YNF Volvo B10M-62 Jonckheere

SUI 8193 ex YN 03 WYG Volvo B12B Plaxton

SUI 8194 ex R257 DWL Volvo B10M-62 Plaxton

SUI 8195 either R940 YNF or R951 YNF Volvo B10M-62 Jonckheere

SUI 8196 ex YN 03 WXT Volvo B12B Plaxton

SUI 8197 ex GB 03 LLC Volvo B12B Caetano

SUI 8198 (on a Volvo new 6/02, presumably a recent acquisition)

SUI 8199 ex FB 53 FYX Volvo B12B Jonckheere

Eastville (Bristol): Bova FHD NUI 7693 (ex V541 DYA) has gone to Moseley, Wellington.

Eurotaxi (Siston Common): Acquired in October from Shearings was Y713 HWT Volvo B10M-62 Jonckheere C53F.

Faresaver (Chippenham): Acquired in September from Isle of Man Transport were DMN 26R and DMN 27R Dennis Dart SLF Marshall B36F, and now re-registered LVR 164 and NUH 527 respectively. Further re-registrations to note are HV 52 WTD and HV 52 WTF Dennis Dart SLF SCC which now carry PSV 444 and BU 51 TOY plates respectively.

Filers (Ilfracombe): A further acquisition from JP Travel, Middleton is SJ 53 AWX Dennis Dart SLF Plaxton Pointer.

Grindle (Cinderford): From Silver Star, Caernarfon has come N22 EDW (ex Y241 KJM) DAF SB3000 Van Hool C49FT.

Hatch Green (Hatch Green): New in November was YJ 60 LTV Optare Solo Optare B29F.

Marchants (Cheltenham): A further vehicle acquired from Wilts & Dorset is L130 ELJ DAF DB250 Optare Spectra H48/29F and yet more acquisitions include W133 TSX (ex B12 DPC, W493ASB) Volvo B10M-62 Plaxton C57F from Prentice, Haddington; FY 03 WZU M/Benz 413CDI Fer M16 from Foster, Winchcombe and YV 03 TZN Volvo B12M TransBus C57F from Stagecoach.

Mikes Travel (Thornbury): New here is P152 KSM M/Benz 0405 Optare B47F which came from East Yorkshire Motor Services back in March and still carries it's former livery.

North Somerset Coaches (Nailsea): Now in use here is an ex Stagecoach Wales Volvo B10M / Alexander PS M756 LAX

Rover European (Horsley): Acquired in September from Ellison, St Helens was BU 06 CTZ M/Benz 0510 M/Benz C24FT.

South West (Wincanton): From Renown have come S794 XUG Optare Metrorider Optare B23F and V649 EEF Optare Solo Optare B31F.

Turner (Bristol): Not reported in 'Trident' is the arrival back in May of SO10 CJT Scania K124IB Irizar C49FT, while acquisitions include 110 LHW (ex 05 CN 476) Scania K94IB Irizar PB C49FT from Aherne, Tallaght, YN 55 PYY (ex NDZ 70) Scania K94IB Irizar C70F from Weaver, Newbury and now registered 3138 DP, and YN 56 NTK and YN 56 NTL Scania K310IB Irizar C53F from Swans, Chadderton and now registered CT 56 CJT and JT 56 CJT respectively.

Webberbus (Bridgwater): The eight new Optare Versa's for the Taunton Park & Ride are all now in service and the complete list is YJ 60 LTA/LTE/LTF/LTK/LTN/LTO/LTT/LTU.

Wessex Connect: Two further Dennis Trident Alexander ALX400's have been noted operating service U6 in Bristol. They are LG02 FDP and LG02 FDX. These plus the other two, LG 02 FDO and LG 02 FDP were originally Transdev London United

In order to bring you up to date with the various acquisitions over the last few months here is a list: KN 52 NDO and KN 52 NEJ Dennis Trident Alexander H43/20D were acquired from Metroline in September.

Also in September, seven Dennis Dart SLF's Plaxton Pointer B26F were acquired from Transdev Lancashire United in Blackburn. They are 1652-54/56-58/60 V652-654/56-58/60 HEC. 1652 carries The Eighties livery for South Gloucestershire Council Link service, while the others carry, or should carry the blue Royal Bath livery. All are allocated to Keynsham. In July, no less than six M/Benz 411CDI were acquired from Hatt's, Foxham and they were 3005-07 BW 03 ZVA/ZVB/ZVC and 3500-02 BU 53 AWR/AWP/AXB respectively. Also in July, 4510 KP 54 BYW Dennis Dart SLF Plaxton Pointer B29F came from Central Connect in Birmingham. This is to operate the 660 service in and the Nailsea area which Wessex Connect took over from North Somerset Coaches.

New Deliveries

Atlas (Harrow)	YN60 BYT	Volvo B12B / Plaxton C57F
Coach Options (Castleton)	BF60 OGC	Mercedes-Benz Tourismo
Griffin Executive	YJ60 GGK	Temsa Safari HD
John Hoban (Workington)	YN60 BZW	Mercedes-Benz O.816 / Plaxton Cheetah C33F
Jacobs Coaches (Lee on Solent)	HY60 XND	Ford Transit M16
Polley (Isleworth)	LX60 ATZ	Mercedes-Benz 515CDi

Ensignbus happenings

Vehicles In

From Stagecoach Bluebird: Merc 709 N367 AVV , Olympian C170 HBA N716 LTN. Dart R718 YWC
 From Stagecoach West Scotland: B10M'S M869 ASW M789 PRS M790 PRS
 From Stagecoach East Scotland K573 LTS K576 LTS.
 From Stagecoach Manchester: Olympians F239 CHH F240 CHH Dragons M682 / 84 / 89 / 94TDB.
 From Stagecoach Yorkshire: B10M L344 KCK.
 From Stagecoach E Midlands: Olympian M225 SVN.
 From Stagecoach Midlands: Olympian F628 MSL.
 From Lothian Buses: Olympians E303 / 4 / 5 / 6 MSG.
 From Dublin Bus: Volvo B7LA's 00-D-65004 / 7 / 12 / 16.
 From Metroline: Tridents T75KLD / T197 CLO V303 / 08 / 10 / 11 GLB.
 From Hardy Miles Coaches: Metrobuses BIG8744 / 5 / 8 / 9 / 50 / 1 / 4 RML2466 RML2564 Scania K113CRB BIG8744 Volvo D10M BIG 8746. Merc 709 BIG 8753.
 From Cass Coaches: Volvo D10M CAS 623A.
 From Carters Coaches: Olympian P419 KSX.
 From Flagfinders Coaches: Scania E706 EFG.
 From Veolia Wales: Javelin N40 TGM.

Vehicles out

RM758: Nightserve GT LTD, London SW18
 Bristol VR JRU 851W: Mr C Sargent, Kibworth, for preservation.
 Metrobus F52 XOF, City Sightseeing 352: Ocean Flyer, Cyprus.
 Metrobus BIG 8744: SBC Leisure, Southend.
 Metrobus BIG 8748: Sakean Koop Elk, Spain.
 Metrobus BIG 8749: Carters Coaches, Great Addington.
 Spectras L122 / 30ELJ: Marchants Coaches, Cheltenham.
 Olympian C168 HBA: Cass Coaches, Liverpool.
 Olympians F201 FHH, F202FHH: WJC Buses, Glasgow.
 Olympian : F628 MSL: Hunters Coaches, Daventry.
 Olympian G37 OCK: London Bus Ltd, Bristol.
 Olympian J114 KCW: West End Travel, Melton Mowbray.
 Olympian J852 CEV: Decker Bus, Whittlesey, Cambs.
 Olympian M226 SVN: Carters Coaches, Ipswich.
 Olympian P419 KSX: Marshalls Coaces, Sutton-on-Trent.
 Dragon M694 TDB: Rodgers Coaches, Kettering.
 Dart S162 BMR: Velvet, Eastleigh.
 Dart R873 MCE: Geoff Ripley, Barnsley for scrap.

Dart R718 YWC: Carters Coaches, Ipswich for semi preservation as this was the last step entrance Dart built for the UK.

Scania E706 EFG: Sheldon Brothers, Manchester.

Volvo D10M BIG 8746: OTT , Ramsgate.

Volvo D10M CAS 623A: A and P Brown, Ely, Cambs.

Volvo D10M H659 GPF: Direct Location Services, Chertsey.

Darts 00-D-84187 / 89232 now W947/8ETW with Pennine, Skipton.

DAF SB120's 00-D-96293/4: Tates Travel, Barnsley.

Volvo B10Ms M789 PRS L344KCK K573/6LTS: Nile Transport, Harare, Zimbabwe.

Volvo B10M M869 ASW: Fowlers Coaches, Holbeach Drove.

Volvo B10M V457 JTO: SJ Coaches, Hornchurch.

Scania K113CRB BIG 8775: Peoples Bus, Liverpool.

Javelin N40 TGM: Roadrunner Coaches, Harlow.

Merc 709 N367 AVV LUI1748 BIG8753: Trimmer Travel, Romford.

Mercedes 814s R104TKO R130LNR R123TKO R811 6YJC T159PNY: Avondale, Glasgow.

Merc 814 R249 XDA: M Toni Nursery School, Tanzania.

Tridents V108/3 MEV: Jonhsnons Coaches, Hodthorpe

Trident V124 MEV: New Horizon, Frating, Essex.

Trident V137 MEV: Aintree Coaches.

Trident V311 GLB: Souls Coaches, Olney.

Out & About

04th December 2010

By Mel Murphy

Herne Bay Rail Station

Kent Top Travel

SF07 KCC YX09 FNG KNL

Canterbury, Kent

Kent Top Travel

PO58 KPP PO58 KPU

PO58 KR D

Stagecoach

15491 15502 15503 15504

15539 15540 15541 15542

15545 15546 15547 15548

15552 15557 15558 15559

15561 15562 16270 33360

34031 34090

Canterbury Coach Park, Kent

A.L.S Travel

BU05 EGZ

AP Travel

PT07 APT

Carmel, Exeter

FJ06 BNZ

David Urquart

AT02 LCT

Elcock Reisen

YN57 BVT

Hookways

PIL 6581

Pewsey Vale Coaches

T999 PVC

Protours

FD54 DHK

Skills

SIL 7029

South Mimms Travel

YD02 PXC

Veolia

BX55 FYV

Woods

WDZ 595

Faversham Rail Station, Kent

Arriva

3201

Rochester, Kent

Arriva

3038 3178 3230 3234

3243 3825 4045 6418

6419 6420 6424 6425

6430 6432 6437 6441

6442 6443 7635 7636

Go Coach

S519 KFL

Nu-Venture

RIB 7002 (700) P281 FPK

SN53 LWO

Strood Cabs

PN05 PZX (LDV Convoy,

minibus)

Acorn Wharf Coach Park,

Rochester, Kent

(for The Dickensian Christmas

Festival)

Angela Coaches

MIB 651

Avensis

FIG 5684 YR02 ZYN

Cozys

V50 BGS

Edwards

CN04 XCC BX05 UVU

Empress

W616 FUM

Epson Coaches

BX56 VTZ

Go-Ahead

PVL - 252

Golden Boy

GB10 BOY XO10 BOY

Jay & Kay Coach Tours

JK03 JNK

Johnsons

YN08 JAO

Jones Holidays

AP05 ALP

Mayday Travel

BN08 OOV

New Adventure

T200 OCL

Ogdens

UKZ 5457

Roadmark Travel

BK08 NAU

Swallow

FN52 MZF SN54 FHU

MX05 OFP

Unknown

(b = blue, w – white)

BU51 ZAK (b) YN03 AWZ (w)

YN03 AXP (w)

Chatham Dockyard,

Rochester, Kent

(for The Dickensian Christmas

Festival)

Amber Coaches

YO52 CJF

Bakers Dolphin

UKZ 2932

Barns

MIB 6310

Britannia Coaches

N787 SJU R263 THL
Carol Peter
BX55 FYT
Carriageways
YJ08 NTA
Ceefa Coaches
C3 CFA C3 EFA
Centaur
HK51 RDX (minibus)
Chamers
OU04 KMX
Cooks of Southend
P932 KYC YJ04 GYX
County Coaches
2899 RU
Dons of Dunmow
YR02UOG
East London Travel
OJN 944
Ebdons
IIW 628
Group Travel
FJ56 KUC
Heritage
KV 4644
Impact
FN03 DXF MX10 DDU
Karden Travel
BIG 6144
Kings Ferry Shuttle
GN07 FDE
Kirbys
K9 BYS K19 BYS
Lucketts
YN05 HFL
Lynns Travel
T740 JHE LT05 LYN
YX55 DCE
Masons
FH04 ETE
Motts
ET10 MTT
Nashs
N8 SHS
Overland Travel
L250 JBV
Paul S Winson
TT06 PSW
Regs
P260 YGG
Reliance
YN08 DDL
Reynolds Diplomat
RG51 FMV
SBC Leisure
K13 SBC S11 SFC (Southend
Football Club)
Skinners
798 SKN
Talisman
MY53 TRA BJ08 KNM
Unknown
(un – unmarked)
C253 HJX (un) FJ06 BRV (un)
West's Coaches
A10 BUS A16 BUS
R100 BUS YN07 KGZ
Woods

436 FYM 6844 WF
Worthing Coaches
T3 HLC YR02 ZZA
Yorks
XEA 745

05th December 2010

By Mel Murphy

Herne Bay Rail Station, Kent

Stagecoach
15541 15544 15547 15552
15557 15558 15559 15560
15561 16296 18171 33359

Rochester, Kent

Arriva
1611 1615 3825 6415 6418
6420 6421 6422 6428 6432
6433 6435 6437 6443
Nu-Venture
SN53 LWO SN53 LWP
Unknown
P679 DCK YJ56 PLU (white,
minibus)

**Acorn Wharf Coach Park,
Rochester, Kent**

(for The Dickensian Christmas
Festival)
Alpine
AP60 ALP
Angela Coaches
MIB 651
Banstead
AH07 BAN
Britannia Coaches
N787 SJU
Ceefa Coaches
C3 EFA
Coach Holidays.com
FJ54 ZCO
Elcock Reisen
YN57 BVT
Empress of London
MUI 9693
Epsom Coaches
BU06 CSO
Go-Ahead
PVL - 252
Golden Boy
OO10 BOY
Lodges
AL08 DGE
Mayday Travel
BN08 OOU
Myalls
G842 VAY
NCB Motors of Wem
D5 NCB
Richmonds
438 XYA
RW Chenery
T777 RWC
Saffords
RIL 1020
Saint Margarets Travel

BX04 NBY YX54 BJO
Sea View Coaches
MX10 DDF
Stans Coaches
VMH 561
Tates
EIB 502 T888 TES
Two Rivers Travel
Y14 HMC
Woods
WDZ 595

**Chatham Dockyard,
Rochester, Kent**

(for The Dickensian Christmas
Festival)
Avensis
FIG 5684
Britannia Coaches
N786 SJU R263 THL
Chambers
38 CRC BX55 FYH
Chariots
BIL 1878
Collingtree Coaches
P829 GBA
Cooks of Southend
R902 TCH R915 ULA
Y664 HWY YF02 XVV
County Coaches
2786 RU
David Urquhart
BJ03 OUP
Enfieldian
N234 HWX T104 JBA
Fizz Coach Tours
RUI 6607
Fords of Althorne
YN07 LKK
Hamiltons Coaches
W287 THL
Harry Shaw
KOV 2
Heritage
6300 RU
International Coach Lines
191 TPH
Jay & Kay Coach Tours
V385 NOA
Kirbys
K19 BYS K100 BYS
Kong
S901 GUB
Logic Travel
46 HLT
P & A Travel
FJ08 BYC
Peter Godward
YT60 OTC
R Pickering
L300 CLA
Reynolds
RG51 FMV
Richmonds
892 LTV
Roadways Travel
YJ07 DWU
SBC Leisure

K13 SBC
Simmonds
MM06 GSM
Sullivan Buses
PJ52 BYP (double-decker)
Swallow
FN52 MZF EW03 ??? (Lisa)
MX05 OFP

Talisman
EW03 NLY YT10 WLH
Three Star Coaches
YN07 OPM
Truemans
J16 TRU
Unknown

XIL 8148 (unmarked, ex Wilson
Coaches)
Waterside Tours
A5 HWC
Woottens Travel
YN60 FMW (white)
Yorks
UOL 387

Ride The Royal Mail Post Bus

You may remember a while ago Robin Farmer, used to provide us with details of the Royal Mail Post Bus network, on a regular basis. Well the network has reduced to such an extent that Robin now only issues an annual edition It is hoped to produce RMPB142 in September 2011. If you wish to receive a printed copy please send a cheque payable to Robin Farmer for £1.

Edited by Robin Farmer, 'Woodclyffe', Eight Bells Close, Buxted, East Sussex TN22 4JT
E-mail: rmpb@woodclyffe.fsnet.co.uk

SERVICES – SEPTEMBER 2010

HIGHLANDS

123	Drumbeg – Lochinver – Lairg	7751005
134	Talmine – Tongue – Lairg	8760024

ARGYLL & BUTE

195	Isle of Luing	8753001
196	Portnahaven – Port Ellen – Ardbeg	8753007

PERTH & KINROSS

223	Pitlochry – Rannoch Station	7751003
-----	-----------------------------	---------

WESTERN ISLES

234	Lochboisdale – Eriskay – Balivanich Airport	5753008
239	Lochmaddy – Grimsay – Lochmaddy	8753002
240	Bayhead via Sollas – Lochmaddy - Sidinish – Baleshare	5753009
241	Clachan – Sidinish – Tigharry – Lochmaddy Pier	5753013
242	Timsgarry – Brenish – Stornoway	8753005

NORTH YORKSHIRE

364	Northallerton – Leyburn – Hawes	8753003
367	Malton – Foxholes	8753004

LEICESTERSHIRE

373	Lutterworth – Peatling Parva	7751002
-----	------------------------------	---------

FLEET LIST – SEPTEMBER 2010

Livery details are shown where confirmed by definite sightings. Vehicles allocated to non-postbus duties, unless indicated otherwise should have had their postbus markings removed.

LDV Convoy low-roof 8-seat minibus with full height rear mail cage and unglazed rear doors

3751017 BK03 YOD Glasgow Cubie Street 372 npcv
3751040 ep BX04 PNL Burslem BU10 npcv
3751041 BX04 PNN The Hyde npcv

LDV Convoy low-roof 8-seat minibus with glazed rear doors

3752010 BX04 PKA Bolton BOL P6 npcv
3752012 BX04 PNV Coton House Management Centre npcv

LDV Convoy low-roof 8-seat minibus with full height rear mail cage and unglazed rear doors

5751001 BU05 JWX Manchester North East NEDO3 npcv
5751002 BU05 KKD Heathrow Airport npcv
5751004 BX06 MUV Motherwell 456 npcv

LDV Convoy high-roof 8-seat minibus
5753004 BU05 KFO Northampton NN240 npc

LDV Convoy high-roof 14-seat minibus
5753006 p BX55 RMY Port Ellen reserve (PT1)

LDV Convoy high-roof 8-seat minibus
5753007 BX06 MUE St Helens STH32 npc
5753008 g BX06 MUO Lochboisdale – Eriskay - Balivanich Airport

LDV Convoy high-roof 14-seat minibus
5753009 g BX06 MTY Bayhead – Sollas – Lochmaddy – Sidinish – Baleshare
5753010 p BX06 MTZ Lochmaddy reserve (R4)

LDV Convoy high-roof 8-seat minibus
5753012 p BX06 MUB Lairg reserve (R2)

LDV Convoy high-roof 14-seat minibus
5753013 g BX06 MUC Clachan – Sidinish – Tigharry – Lochmaddy Pier

Vauxhall Combo 4-seat postbus
5760032 EX06 YZN Horsham 500 npc 5760033 v EX06 ZGP Reigate RG12 npc
5760034 EX06 ZJV Carmarthen VSW CSV

Vauxhall Combo CDTi 4-seat postbus
6760006 w EA06 UYY Llandoverly LDY3 npc 6760008 EA06 UVR Dorking 817 npc

LDV Maxus low-roof 8-seat minibus
7751001 v BD57 BNN Keighley KG npc 7751005 p BX08 MZV Drumbeg - Lochinver - Lairg
7751002 ep BD57 BNO Lutterworth – Peatling Parva 7751006 BX08 MZW Edinburgh [EH7] npc
7751003 p BD57 HNW Pitlochry – Rannoch Station 7751007 BX08 MZY Stirling ST24 npc
7751004 s BD57 HNX Sunderland SU56 npc

LDV Maxus low-roof 8-seat minibus (cont)
7751008 BX08 NHJ Stirling ST 22 npc 7751010 BX08 NHL Lochboisdale reserve
7751009 p BX08 NHK Dundee West DW111 npc

Vauxhall Combo 1.3 CDTi 4-seat postbus
7760001 s WV08 WNF Haddington HD4 npc

Ford Ranger 2.5TDCi 4x4 4-seat postbus (double cab)
8110003 v LG09 RFJ Hebden Bridge HB1 npc 8110007 v LG09 PXX Blairgowrie P84 npc
8110004 v LG09 RJO Peterhead PD3 npc 8110008 v LG09 PYO Blairgowrie P82 npc
8110005 LG09 RFY Ballindalloch npc 8110009 ps LG09 RKN Aberfeldy PY4 npc
8110006 p LG09 PYZ Isle of Colonsay COLN1 npc

LDV Maxus 3.2/95 low-roof 8-seat postbus
8751001 ep BX08 KOU Burslem BU157 npsv 8751003 v BX58 OBD Redhill RH1 npc
8751002 p BX08 XYM Oban reserve OBR3

LDV Maxus lwb extra high roof 14-seat postbus
8753001 p BX08 OAO Isle of Luing LU1
8753002 g BX58 OBB Lochmaddy – Grimsay – Lochmaddy (Balivanich Airport service)
8753003 p BX58 UME Northallerton - Leyburn - Hawes NN36
8753004 p BX58 UMF Malton - Foxholes M15
8753005 g BX58 UMG Timsgarry – Brenish - Stornoway
8753006 g BX58 UMH Stornoway reserve (R1)
8753007 p BX58 UMJ Portnahaven - Port Ellen – Ardbeg PT2

Vauxhall Combo 1.3 CDTi 4-seat postbus
8760021 p WP08 HXA Aberfeldy PY6 npc 8760027 WV58 UPC Isle of Rousay npc
8760022 WM08 MXK Sunderland SU57 npc 8760028 WV58 UMS Isle of Bressay npc
8760023 WV58 TDO Morpeth MP4 npc 8760029 WR58 NBD Lochgilphead LG11 npc
8760024 p WV58 TPY Talmine – Tongue - Lairg 8760030 WR58 OCC Edinburgh R3 npc
8760025 s WV58 TGN Fraserburgh npc reserve 8760031 WR58 NYO Edinburgh reserve PBR npc
8760026 w WV58 UJG Llandoverly LDY6 npc 8760032 s WP58 UUF Inverness (IV01) npc

Codes

ep English postbus livery

p Scottish postbus livery – note 8753003/4 in Yorkshire carry Scottish livery

ps Scottish postbus livery with 'bus' deleted

s Scottish van livery

v English van livery

g Gaelic postbus livery

Scottish livery

w Welsh Van livery

wp partial welsh postbus livery

Tony's Back Bit

Another month, another Routemaster. But this time possibly the weirdest job for a bus in retirement I have yet encountered. Sad life I live, I know. But, surfing the net, I came across a website for Nottingham funeral director AW Lymm. This has a picture of RML2262/CUV262C actually in use as a hearse – mourners on the top deck, deceased on the lower. The vehicle was new to LT in 1965 and last served with London General at Putney in 2005, entering preservation before assuming its present role.

Moving on to something less ghoulish, reader Rod Whitaker has responded to my request for info on broadcasting station buses with a sighting of the BBC's KX55APY East Lancs Myllem bodied MAN 14.220 in Manchester's Eccles suburb. This started life with BBC Radio Cumbria and has also been with BBC Midlands in Birmingham before moving back north. It apparently has seats for 7 people along with all its media gear.

Seen lurking in a back street somewhere (sadly I have lost the bit of paper with this info on) has been Daimler Fleetline JGF294K, apparently now the property of the Jesus Army of Nether Heyford, Northants. Another ex LT vehicle (f/n DMS294), this has pursued a variety of non-PSV roles in retirement. Notably, it spent about 10 years in mobile food display for General Foods of Banbury before joining its current owners in a promotional role in 2006. We should be grateful to religious groups who, unwittingly I am sure, are the salvation of many a knackered old bus that would otherwise have gone off to make bean cans.

Yet another ex London bus, Marshall bodied MAN 11.220 N133XEG (once Metroline's MM266) is now earning a living with Brent Council. Painted garish yellow, this looks to have the thankless task of ferrying about schoolkids. Meanwhile, a further 'big' bus with a London Borough is rarity W992VGW with a Hi-Line chassis by defunct Strabane, Northern Ireland builder Cannon and a 46 seat body by Leicester Carriage Builders. This one has been over in the east at Redbridge since new in 2000.

Onetime Ministry of Defence Wadham Stringer bodied left hand drive Javelin L249NNM has been seen earning a living in media support with the Uxbridge based Dining Bus Services – who featured in my bit in the November 2009 mag. This one was 74KK89 when in the military and has also been L402NGS. Also reported with this company has been former military sister K449DUR (74KK32/K202DNH). This operator clearly has a liking for ex MoD buses and also has/had a number of 'civilianised' Leyland Tigers - seen knocking about just about anywhere, in common with all its fleet. Interestingly, the company advertises that its buses are driven by well mannered drivers. Is there any other kind?

A bit of an oddity is former Ulsterbus Wright bodied MB709D NXI6847. Now painted in an attractive black-based scheme and presumably used for carting about revellers, this is apparently the only bus in the fleet of 1st Limo Knights of Feltham, West London – who primarily do what it says on the tin and operate limos. This one has 16 perimeter arranged seats and features including Playstation 2, karaoke and flat screen TV.

A while ago I reported Trident 200XJJ with an East Lancs Lolyne body in use for Edinburgh's VisitScotland organisation and parked up at the Murrayfield sports ground. I now have a history for this one. New in 2000 as L1TSB, this registration suggesting its job then was promoting a bank. It gained its current i/d early in 2009.

That's it then for another month. Don't forget to send in your reports. Happy spotting. Tony

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

The Gallery



Front Cover: One of several ex London double deckers, now with JP Travel at Manchester 522 (RT51 JPT) about to pass Manchester Shudehill Interchange

Rear Cover (upper): You may recall Tony Allen mentioning the Fellrunner a couple of issues back and I was sure I had a picture of the original well here it is Ford Transit 3000 (C209 PAO) I am pretty certain it is pictures in Penrith, but was a while ago now.

Rear Cover (lower): Whilst on the subject of minibuses here is ground breaking Optare City Pacer design of which several operators amassed fleets, he is one of the demonstrators seen here with Lancaster City Transport.