



PENSIONERS' EDITION



THE BIG BUS SHAKE-UP

The biggest reorganisation of London's bus network in 16 years has been completed.

Bus occupancy dropped 12 per cent between 2014 and 2018 following upgrades to the Victoria, Northern and Jubilee lines, Thameslink and London Overground services. Yet in areas beyond the Zone 2/3 boundary, demand for bus services was growing during the same period.

Following public consultation, changes have been made to 30 routes, including shortening eight,

extending three, re-routing 13 and increasing frequency on four.

Two routes – the 48 and RVI – were withdrawn altogether and, in outer London, seven new ones were agreed. The programme was rolled out in central London in two phases in June and October last year. Six of the new outer London services were introduced between June and December, with the final one coming later in 2020.

Director of Public Transport Service Planning **Geoff Hobbs** (left)

explained: "We wanted to make better use of our resources. For example, on Kingsway in central London, there were 101 buses each hour. You don't need that many every hour.

"It made sense to redistribute services and put more buses in outer London instead, to encourage people out of their cars."

THE SEVEN NEW ROUTES ARE:

- 218 Hammersmith to North Acton
- 278 Ruislip to Heathrow
- 301 Bexleyheath to Abbey Wood
- 306 Acton to Sands End
- 335 Kidbrooke to North Greenwich
- 497 Harold Wood to Harold Hill
- X140 Harrow to Heathrow

FRIENDS REUNITED

A chance meeting between two colleagues at Acton Depot reignited a friendship which started in 1963.

Signalling Engineer Team Leader **Robert 'Bob' Lopez** thought he recognised the work-related road risk officer at the gate. He was delighted to discover it was **Mehmet Saldiray**, with whom he attended primary school in Wood Green 56 years ago. Bob said: "He hasn't changed a bit.

He's gone grey and my hair's gone speckled, but we more or less look the same."

After school, both men went to work in transport, got married and had families, so they have lots in common.



STRONG FOUNDATION

Innovative engineering work has ensured a 180-year-old viaduct will stand the test of time.

Engineers carried out vital waterproofing work to stabilise the brick arches carrying the Docklands Light Railway (DLR) at Limehouse by injecting resin gel from underneath. This approach allowed trains to continue running, and kept disruption, noise and costs to a minimum.

"If the work hadn't been done, a speed restriction

would have been needed, and then the structure could not take the same capacity of trains," said DLR Head of Engineering **Sam Twum-Barima**. "Given how important this route is, it would absolutely condemn our whole train availability and service."



REFUGE FOR REMEMBRANCE

A Japanese memorial garden at Arnos Grove depot has provided a space to pause, reflect and honour some of our former colleagues.

Maintained by a team of volunteers, the garden honours 10 colleagues who died in service or who had long associations with Cockfosters or Arnos Grove. It has a white stone rockery, water feature and bamboo plants.

“It’s a source of pride for the depot,” said Train Operator and head gardener **Stuart Bell**. “It’s important to remember colleagues, otherwise they’re forgotten forever.”

Following the death of a colleague, the family is invited to a service at the depot, before a plaque is dedicated.

Trains Manager **Patrick Wegner** said: “The memorial garden gives a focal point for relations



to gather – a space for healing and comfort. The family are welcomed into the place where their loved ones would have spent their working hours, sometimes for decades.”

The garden also features

a 7/7 memorial. Stuart was caught up in the 2005 terror attacks, and unveiling this memorial – a 20ft piece of track with seven roses – a decade later was particularly poignant for him.

NEXT STOP... LUNCH

The London Transport Museum in Covent Garden has a tasty new attraction: a retro-style café bar.

Canteen has been decked out with reclaimed LU fixtures and fittings, including tiles from Sloane Square, luggage racks from 1960s A-stock trains, benches from Gloucester Road and Wembley Park stations, and lights from Embankment.

The café, which is run

by high-street chain Benugo, takes its name from the static and mobile canteens used by LT workers in the 1940s and '50s.

It offers an all-day menu of British classics, and cocktails inspired by iconic moments in the history of the city’s transport network, including the Elizabeth line and Routemaster.

Canteen is open 09:30 to 19:30 Wednesday to Saturday, and 09:30 to 18:30 Sunday to Tuesday.



STEP-FREE CHALLENGE

The accessibility of Tube stations was put to the test in the first step-free challenge.

To celebrate the International Day of Persons with Disabilities, chair of disability charity Transport for All **Alan Benson** and CEO of advocacy group DMD Pathfinders **Jon Hastie** visited every step-free station to see how long it took them to travel across the network.

They travelled on different routes across the city, finishing in Uxbridge, with station teams on hand to help the pair, providing manual boarding ramps and support in lifts where necessary.

It took Jon and Alan 21 hours and 23 minutes to complete the challenge.



A WHOLE NEW BALLGAME

A friendly football match between London Underground FC and commuters brought new meaning to the term “customer relations”.

The Commuter Cup is a new annual event organised by Customer Service Assistant **Otis Forde** as a way for colleagues to engage with the public.

Otis, who formed LUFC so talented players from the LU League can compete at a higher level, recruited players for the commuters’ team by taking the trophy on a tour of stations.

After players on both sides spoke about their jobs and transport journeys, the commuters won a friendly but competitive game 3-1.



LISTEN UP

A new electric bus fleet has hit the road, and while they may look like other electric buses, they sound very different.

An innovative new bus alert is being trialled ahead of artificial sounds becoming a regulatory requirement on all quiet-running vehicles in 2021.

The specially developed Urban Bus Sound (UBS), which is played through speakers at the front of the vehicle, aims to make sure all road users are aware of electric and hybrid buses when they are

moving at slow speeds.

Without this sound, these vehicles are almost silent, which could pose a safety risk, particularly for people who are blind or partially sighted.

Bus Safety Development Manager **Kerri Cheek** said: “When you walk down a London street there are so many different sounds demanding your attention. This was an opportunity to work within the London soundscape, and enhance it.”

Developed with input from Guide Dogs for the Blind, Age UK and other accessibility and travel groups, the UBS conveys layers of detail. Stakeholders didn’t just want to know a bus was nearby, they also wanted aural information about speed, direction, acceleration and deceleration.

The first bus fitted with UBS went into service on the I00 route in January on a six-month trial. Further bus routes will be added as they roll into service, with the possibility of retrofitting London’s low-emission fleet.

IN BRIEF:

ROUTE-SIDE ROOTS

A programme to plant 1,000 trees on London’s road network is under way, improving air quality and encouraging biodiversity across the Capital. Planting of the first 700 trees, a mixture of species including lime, Turkish hazel, maple, rowan and cherry, started before Christmas, with the second phase starting in the spring.

TACKLING FARE DODGERS

Efforts to crack down on fare evasion on the Underground network continue, with thousands of prosecutions made last year.

In 2019, there were 4,204 prosecutions, 95 per cent of which were successful, while 20,570 penalty fares were issued – an average of 1,700 per month.

Increased initiatives for the coming year include the recruitment of 60 new revenue control officers.

NEW LEASE OF LIFE

A number of Jubilee line trains have been repaired and returned to service after cracks were found during an inspection in October.

Following the discovery of a fault on one of the trains, a further assessment identified 10 other affected units which needed to be removed from service.

The entire fleet is now running as normal following urgent repairs at Stratford Market depot. Head of Fleet **Lee Richards** said: “The team worked safely but tirelessly. I can’t commend them highly enough.”



otm

FONDLY REMEMBERED



John William Brewster, 90, died after a short illness on 22 August 2019. After starting on the trolleybuses at Hendon garage 60 years ago, he worked on the 77 out of Stockwell and spent 27 years on the Northern line, ending as chief booking office clerk at Camden Town. In retirement, he served as treasurer of the London Transport Retired Staff Association.



Harry Carnaby, 95, passed away on 7 January 2020 after a short illness. Much loved by family, friends and colleagues, he started as a tram conductor in 1948, progressing to trolleybus and Routemaster driver on the 19 out of Holloway garage, before retiring in 1989 after 41 years' service.



Anthony Evans succumbed to vascular dementia on 30 December 2019. Tony worked as Central line relief station personnel for 26 years, based at Gants Hill. Named the line's Best Employee in 1962, he also received the NUR silver medal.

Peter Ford, 64, died on 27 December 2019 after courageously fighting illness. He was manager of Tooting Bec station for many years before



retiring eight years ago and moving to Glencoe, Scotland.

Thomas J Hogan, 92, passed away on 25 August 2019. Tom began a 36-year career when he joined the London Transport Executive in 1954. He was a guard and driver on the Piccadilly and Victoria lines, and was once awarded £5 after rescuing a woman who laid in front of his train. Tom is survived by Vicky, his wife of 69 years, daughter Marianne and son John.



Denis Robert Keirle, 91, passed away on 9 January 2020. He joined the London Passenger Transport Board (LPTB) in 1942 as a messenger, before stints at Acton Works and Ruislip Depot. In 1972, he joined the First Aid Organisation in the Medical department, becoming LT First Aid Organiser, Superintendent of LT Corps St John Ambulance Brigade and member of the LT St John Ambulance Association. He retired in 1992 and was awarded the BEM.



William Magrath, 100, passed away peacefully on 28 October 2019 after a short illness. The D-Day veteran joined LT after the war, initially as a driver on the 12 bus and,

at retirement, was an inspector at Victoria garage. Bill enjoyed retirement in Dorset. He is sadly missed by his son Neil, daughter-in-law Barbara, and grandson William.



Colin Pearson, 78, passed away peacefully at home on 27 September 2019. He worked at various LU locations over more than 30 years, including Acton, Golders Green and Canary Wharf, and was responsible for developing the "Silent Whistler Tester" for Tube Lines. He will be missed by wife Eva, daughter Jade, and all who knew him.

John Robson, 72, died on 26 January 2020. John was a train operator for 28 years. A former Trustee of the Pension Fund, he was proud to say he never missed a meeting. He was involved in the Trains Functional Council and served on the Pension Consultative Council and Pensioners' Forum. He was a representative of the ASLEF Union.



Alan Triggs, 75, passed away on 19 January 2019 after a short battle with Alzheimer's. He was a train operator for LU for nearly 40 years, latterly on the District and Circle lines. He leaves behind Jean, his wife of 53 years, and two daughters.

PENSIONERS' FORUM SUMMARY

MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 12 FEBRUARY 2020

Representatives were informed that the Pension Fund's relocation from 55 Broadway to Buckingham Palace Road had been completed successfully.

Ideas to improve access to staff travel information

were discussed. These will be refined further and proposals made to TfL.

With the UK leaving the European Union on 31 January, implications for Pension Fund members were discussed. At this stage, there are

no changes to existing regulations or procedures.

The Government is now in a transition period where the future relationship with EU countries will be developed.

January's *OTM Pensioners' Edition* was discussed, and future articles proposed. If readers have an interest

they would like covered, please contact the editor.

The number of readers receiving the online version has gone up slightly, from 467 to 469. Signing up will benefit the environment, cut costs and help ensure the magazine's future viability. To register, visit pensionerssubscriptions.co.uk

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YET MORE ANSWERS TO 'ANY ANSWERS?'

Dear **otm**,

May I put a definitive end to the Holmes Cup Honours Board 'dispute'?

In the mid-1950s I was branch secretary of a thriving First Aid group of more than 100 members at 55 Broadway and had the privilege of leading our team in several major competitions.

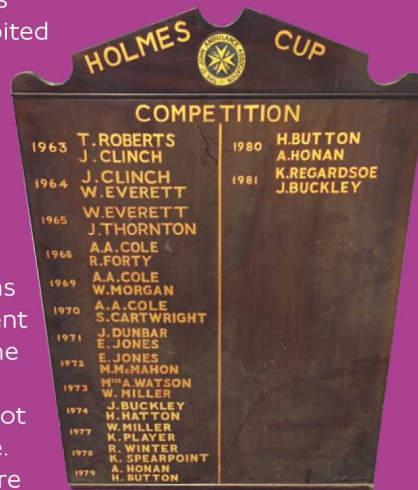
Most garages, depots, offices and works had dedicated First Aid branches, many with teams competing annually for a range of LT trophies.

But the clue is in the board's heading: the very distinctive St John's Ambulance insignia!
John Dean

Dear **otm**,

It is definitely the First Aid competition results, as a number of names of LT Corps members, including AA Cole and J Dunbar, are on the exhibit. Similar plaques and shields were exhibited on the walls in the former ambulance hall at Baker Street, the earliest being 1911. They were all dismantled and taken to the museum at Acton, where there was supposedly a permanent display dedicated to the St John Ambulance LT Corps. However, I do not know if this took place.
In the beginning, there

were various First Aid branches. When they were all formed into the LT Corps, I do not know, but the LT Corps ceased approximately 22 years ago.
John Quigley



ANNUAL PAYSPLIPS

 Your annual pension payslip will be issued on or around the pay date due on 14 April 2020 and will include your P60 for the 2019/2020 tax year.

If you wish to receive this prior to this date, you should register on the Pensions Web Portal at <https://pensions.tfl.gov.uk>
You will then receive an email when the document is available to view in your account.

LETTERS

Dear **otm**,

I worked with LT at Leicester Square and, prior to that, at Telstar House and Bollo Lane, Acton.

I resigned in May 1985 to get married and emigrate to the United States. At that time, I was PA to the electrical engineer (lighting) David Bertram Mills and, prior to him, Henry Tomkins and John Blake.

I recently met up with an old LT friend in London who said David may have passed away as he hadn't been heard of for some time. I recall his wife's name was Mary and that they lived in Hounslow. David worked with LT for a long time and he was PA to the chief signal engineer at Bollo Lane when he was younger.

I hope readers may be able to shed some light as to whether David is still 'with us'.

Eileen Rowsey (née Murphy)

Dear **otm**,

I was a driver out of Sutton garage from 1971 to 1984, and I feel certain that the conductor on the righthand side of Theodore Jefferson's photo (Page 6, Issue 66) came out of Sutton too. I recognise his face, his stance and the way he wears his hat. Can anyone put a name to him for me, please?

John Killick

Dear **otm**,

I was employed by LT in 1971 as a bus driver at Palmers Green garage. In 1982 I became a bus inspector at the same garage, and left there to rejoin London Buses in 1998 as area traffic controller at Edgware bus station.

I have been retired for six years and would like to make contact with anyone I may have worked with, via the editor.

John Childs

Dear **otm**,

How sad I was to learn that Ted Milburn had passed away (Issue 66).

As a union representative for the Craft Alliance West Division, I got to know Ted very well. He was liked and respected throughout London Bus Engineering staff: honest, caring, understanding and a genuine person. I'm proud to have known him.

Ernie Symmons

Editor's note:

Readers signed up for the paperless version of *otm Pensioners' Edition* may wonder why they received a printed copy of January's magazine.

It was felt that the Pension Fund's change of address was such an important event, paper copies of the magazine would be appreciated by readers so they can keep the new contact details to hand.



Get in touch: Send your comments, memories and letters to: *otm Pensioners' Edition*, AB, Gemini House, 180-182 Bermondsey Street, London, SE1 3TQ (enclosing a stamped addressed envelope if you'd like photos returned) or email otm@abcomm.co.uk, putting 'Pensioners' Edition' in the subject header.

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FUN AND FUNDRAISING

The Transport and Friends for Life Association (TFFLA) allows staff members and retirees from all parts of TfL to socialise and have fun while raising money for good causes.

Currently boasting more than 400 members, the free-to-join club was founded in 2012 to provide an opportunity for informal networking.

“We felt it was a good way to unite all grades and give a thank-you to retired staff who have done so much to champion equality and create the advantages and good working conditions we have today,” said club co-founder **Sherelle Cadogan**, who works as a Northern line instructor/

operator based at Morden.

TFFLA events organised for this year include a Christmas party, a trip to Ascot races on 18 June, and a retiree luncheon at the King’s Head in Tooting Bec on 6 April. As well as a fun day out, these events present an opportunity to raise funds for charities including Great Ormond Street Hospital, Salvation Army and the Brixton Soup Kitchen.

“It’s lovely when people get together from different departments, age groups and cultures,” added Sherelle. “We would love to expand our membership.”

For more information, visit **www.tffla.org.uk**, email **info@tffla.org.uk** or call **07944 615396**.

NOTIFYING OF A CHANGE OF DETAILS

The Trustees of the pension fund have a duty to ensure their records are kept up to date. If you have a change of address, please notify the Pension Fund Office as soon as possible, either by telephone on **020 7126 4000**, email **helpdesk@tflpensions.co.uk** or via the Pensions Web Portal **https://pensions.tfl.gov.uk**

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PENSION PAY DATES

- 14 April 2020
- 11 May 2020
- 08 June 2020
- 06 July 2020
- 03 August 2020
- 01 September 2020
- 28 September 2020
- 26 October 2020
- 23 November 2020
- 21 December 2020
- 18 January 2021
- 15 February 2021
- 15 March 2021