

### A HERO'S WELCOME

**T**eams from around the business worked together to transport our Olympic and Paralympic athletes around London for the Team GB victory celebrations following last summer's Games.

They were transported on 16 double-decker and five single-decker accessible buses.

There were just 16 working days between the first planning meetings and the event for 310 athletes, who stopped at London Euston, Trafalgar Square and Buckingham Palace.



### IT'S ELECTRIC

**T**he first new all-electric buses have arrived and will run on all 51 buses on routes 507 and 521 to Waterloo.

Combined with 22 electric buses already operating in outer London,

their introduction will take the Capital's electric fleet to 73 – the largest fleet of its kind in Europe.

The move to all-electric buses is part of the Mayor's commitment to improve air quality in London and will reduce nitrogen oxide and carbon dioxide emissions on the routes by 40 per cent.



### WRAP UP!

**V**olunteers collected unwanted coats and blankets from commuters for the sixth annual Wrap Up London campaign.

More than 15,000 coats were collected, and will now be donated to 200 charities for the homeless, elderly and refugees, among many other vulnerable groups.

# PENSIONERS FORUM UPDATE

## At a meeting of the Forum in September, an update was provided on the financial environment and challenges that TfL face.

The Management representatives provided details of the outcome of a review by TfL of all aspects of its expenditure and resources, and the changes that are being made to put TfL on a solid and sustainable financial footing. The review took into account:

- The phasing out of the operating grant to TfL from the Department for Transport
- Financial provisions for meeting the Mayor's manifesto were being looked at by TfL to see how they could be achieved

On specific issues the Pensioners' Representatives were advised that:

- A decision had been taken to no longer provide calendars, which includes the festive greeting from the Commissioner
- There is only a very small number of Pensioner Liaison Representatives, covering fewer than 15 per cent of the current UK pensioner population of the TfL Pension Fund. In view of this, the viability of the scheme continuing in its present form needed to be considered.

The Pensioners' Representatives were invited to consider the situation and respond to the Management Representatives with their observations and suggestions.

Subsequently, the Pensioners' Representatives, having given consideration to the issues involved in consultation with other Pensioners' Representatives from the LT Pensioners' Association and with Pensioner Liaison Representatives, submitted a formal response to the TfL Representatives of the Forum.

The response acknowledged that some aspects of expenditure were currently not as effective as they could be and welcomed an opportunity to work with TfL to make improvements.

However, TfL advised the Pensioners' Forum at the November meeting that careful consideration had been given to the submission, but it had been concluded that the continuation of these activities was no longer cost effective and in the current financial environment all activities under the Pensioner Liaison Scheme would cease from 1 April 2017.

Birthday hampers will also no longer be provided, effective from the same date. An assurance has been given by TfL to the pensioner representatives that careful consideration was given to the submission made by them, but it was concluded

that the continuation of the activities concerned was no longer cost effective in the current financial environment.

**Statement from Linda Arwood**  
Leading Spokesman Pensioners' Forum  
Chairman, LT Pensioners' Association

**“With the exception of the cancellation of the annual calendar, the Pensioners' Representatives were advised in advance of the other proposed budget cuts affecting pensioners.**

“We were given the opportunity to produce a formal response to TfL regarding these cuts. In our response, we accepted that there were efficiencies which could be made in some areas and put forward a number of proposals, in particular as an alternative to closure of the Pensioner Liaison Scheme. However, our proposals were not accepted.

“In view of the pending closure of the Pensioner Liaison Scheme, I wish to place on record the Pensioners' Representatives' appreciation of the time, comradeship and assistance the Pensioner Liaison Representatives, past and present, have given to their colleagues over the years since the start of the Scheme.”

## otm ONLINE

You can access **otm pensioners'** issue online on the TfL Pension Fund website at [http://www.tfl.gov.uk/microsites/pensions/on\\_the\\_move.asp](http://www.tfl.gov.uk/microsites/pensions/on_the_move.asp). You can also opt out of receiving a paper version, saving money on printing and distribution costs, by contacting the Pension Fund Office on 020 7918 3733.

## CONTACT DETAILS FOR PENSIONER ENQUIRIES

**TfL PENSION FUND**  
4th Floor,  
Wing over Station,  
55 Broadway,  
London SW1H 0BD  
helpdesk@  
tflpensionfund.co.uk  
020 7918 3733

**STAFF TRAVEL**  
Transport for London,  
Floor 1,  
14 Pier Walk,  
North Greenwich,  
London SE10 0ES  
0800 015 5073

**PENSIONER LIAISON**  
Transport for London  
4th Floor,  
Wing over Station,  
55 Broadway,  
London SW1H 0BD  
0800 015 5074  
pls@tflpensionfund.  
co.uk

**HOSPITAL SATURDAY**  
FUND  
020 7928 6662

**TRANSPORT**  
**BENEVOLENT FUND**  
0300 333 2000

**TRANSPORT FRIENDLY**  
**SOCIETY**  
020 7833 2616

**TAX QUERIES – HMRC**  
0300 200 3300  
(quote ref 083/LT7 and  
your NI number)

You can log on to  
the TfL Pension Fund  
website at  
[www.tflpensionfund.  
co.uk](http://www.tflpensionfund.co.uk)

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# KEEPING IN TOUCH

**If you want to stay in touch or have someone represent your interests, there are several pensioner groups for former colleagues:**

- The London Transport Pensioners' Association (LTPA) protects and promotes the interests of pensioners. LTPA members also attend the Pensioners' Forum. Free membership is available by contacting Nick Dawkins on 01323 472254 or nicholas.dawkins@virgin.net
- The LT Retired Staff Association (LTRSA) membership is drawn mainly from operational grades. There are monthly meetings at Walthamstow and Barking, days out, and a Christmas dinner for members. Life Membership costs £5. Contact Rena Craig on 01789 205739.
- The LT Superannuitants' Association (LTSA) has a welfare officer to help members who fall ill and can advise on pension issues. Members meet monthly and publish a newsletter four times a year. The LTSA also has an annual 7-day outing to Eastbourne, which runs from 26 March in 2017. Life membership is £5. Contact John Robson on 0208 808 1511 or john@brucecastle.co.uk
- The Fifty-Five Society is for former senior LT managers and will be holding reunion lunches on 24 April, 21 June, 21 September and 24 November. Membership is by invitation and a life membership

fee applies. Contact John Self on 01420 520132 or john.selfobe@btopenworld.com

- The Aldenham Works Association has a reunion each year around October. Contact Fred Pearson on 0208 428 2309 or 07906 901416.
- The Association of Retired London Underground Operating Managers is for pensioners with a rail operating admin or managerial background and, in 2017, will hold reunion lunches on 2 May and 5 December. Contact Sue Gilbert on 07753 879197 or susan.gilbertextfl@gmail.com
- Bus Operating Department managers and admin staff will meet for lunch on 26 April and 18 October 2017. Contact Stuart Smith on 01843 868199 or stuart4830@aol.com
- The Railway Mechanical Engineers Association is for retired salaried staff with a rolling stock background. They hold meetings every fourth Wednesday of the month, and also have an annual reunion dinner and Christmas lunch. Contact Bob Jones on 01689 837525 or r.e.c.jones@btinternet.com

Railway Employees & Public Transport Association (REPTA) is a transport benefits organisation. Membership is available to all active and retired rail and transport industry staff and their immediate family. Go to [www.repta.co.uk](http://www.repta.co.uk) for more details, or call 01623 646789

People wanting to be more involved in representing the interests of Pensioners may wish to consider standing for election for the Pensioners' Consultative Council, which discusses issues relating to the operation of the TfL Pension

Fund (but not individual entitlements). The PCC constitution is on the Fund's website at [www.tflpensionfund.co.uk](http://www.tflpensionfund.co.uk) or you can contact PCC Secretary Julian Collins at [juliancollins@tflpensionfund.co.uk](mailto:juliancollins@tflpensionfund.co.uk) or on 020 7918 3879.

## PENSION INCREASE

**T**he full pension increase from 1 April 2017 is 2 per cent. This is based on the rise in the Retail Price Index over 12 months to September 2016.

Depending on the period of membership, your pension may comprise of various components. Some won't be increased by the Fund at the above rate but may be increased by the State. If you have been receiving your pension for less than a year, you may receive a pro rata increase.



## ARRIVA TAKES ON OVERGROUND

**L**ondon Overground's story started a new chapter when Arriva Rail London took over its operation in November.

Arriva has taken on the daily services previously operated by London Overground Rail Operations Ltd (LOROL), who have been with us since 2007.

Arriva's contract will run for at least seven years, during which there will be a fleet of new trains entering service and extra trains on the North London Line.

## SHENFIELD TO BRENTWOOD SHUTS

**N**o TfL Rail trains will run between Brentwood and Shenfield for five months in 2017 as the final stage of Crossrail is completed.

Network Rail engineers will close the lines between Brentwood and Shenfield from 24 December 2016 until late May 2017. A bus replacement service will operate frequently between the two stations.

## RETIRED PTAC REISSUE

**Y**ou should have received your new Privilege Ticket Authority Card (PTAC), as your previous PTAC has now expired. If you've not received it, please contact Staff Travel on 0800 015 5073 or email [stafftravelservices@tfl.gov.uk](mailto:stafftravelservices@tfl.gov.uk)

# WE WILL REMEMBER THEM



**R**emembrance Sunday saw thousands of people line the street at the Cenotaph in Whitehall to reflect on the sacrifices of those who lost their lives in war.

On 11 November at 11am, our colleagues also observed

a two-minute silence on the Underground and encouraged customers to do the same.

Earlier this year, we signed the Armed Forces Covenant, reinforcing our commitment to providing employment opportunities for ex-servicemen and women in TfL.

## DID YOU KNOW?

Many people know that London Underground stations doubled up as deep-level bomb shelters during the Blitz, but we also helped Britain's war effort in many other ways.

- The two-mile tunnel between Leytonstone and Newbury Park was converted into a secret artillery factory, and the tunnels surrounding Earl's Court and Gants Hill were used to manufacture aircraft components.

- The government moved several administrative offices into sub-surface Tube stations, and tunnels at Goad Street station once formed part of General Eisenhower's command centre.

- The now disused tunnels between Holborn and Aldwych were used to store many priceless artefacts from the Victoria & Albert Museum and the British Museum, including the Parthenon Sculptures.



## RIDING LONDON

**S**taff from across the network rallied together to raise money for charity after a well-known colleague was diagnosed with a brain tumour.

Former Ealing Common Depot Manager Steve Lloyd sadly passed away last year. He'd spent more than 20 years working for London Underground.

Colleagues have since raised more than £28,000 for the Brain Tumour Research Fund in his honour.

The fundraising started last summer when Depot Team Leader Dean Brown organised a collection with help from depot staff at Ealing Common, Neasden and Hammersmith.

Dean said: "When Steve told us he was retiring, I was shocked. At the time, Steve wasn't just our boss; he was someone with a rare skill of being a good manager and still being one of the guys.

"We decided to do something for charity, and 25 of us planned to cycle the length of the District line last year. This led to this year's One London Charity Cycle."

One year on from the first ride, 12 teams of riders covered every station on our network.

"It was an amazing experience; riding, raising awareness for the charity and seeing the effort of everyone involved working together for a great cause," added Dean.

## LGBT HISTORY MONTH

**As 2017 marks the 50th anniversary of the decriminalisation of homosexuality, we will be running a panel event with representatives from Lloyds Bank, TfL and Visa.**

The decriminalisation and criminalisation will be discussed from the perspective of police officers, lawyers, HM forces and pensioners.

The joint event with Lloyds Bank will take place on Thursday 23 February. Email [OUTbound@tfl.gov.uk](mailto:OUTbound@tfl.gov.uk) to be added to the closed and confidential mailing list for this and future events.



# SPECIAL PENSIONERS' HEARING AID!

**A new hearing aid offer has been introduced for Pensioners. The hearing aid is low cost, simple to operate and brings IMPROVED hearing to thousands!**

**THE EFFECT IS IMMEDIATE.  
NO FUSS, NO BOTHER**

The sound is crisp and clear and it is astonishing just how easily conversations, television or radio can be heard with such a small device!

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If you already wear a hearing aid, either 'over the ear' or 'right inside the ear', then you will be interested in this economical device.

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## BLOOMING MARVELLOUS

**T**he winners of this year's **Underground in Bloom** competition have been announced after a busy summer that saw more than 70 stations, depots and head office buildings growing gardens across our network.

There were 10 categories, and watering can-shaped trophies were presented to our green-fingered colleagues.

Loughton Train Crew Accommodation (TCA) picked up three honours – the best tubs awards, the John Knight hanging baskets award and the Dennis Sanger Chief Operating Officer award.

Loughton Train Operator Dave Mabbett said: "We definitely weren't expecting to win so many! It feels fantastic. We really stepped things up this year and put a lot more thought into the garden."



## 50 YEARS OF SERVICE

**T**here was celebration in the air for Signalling Infrastructure Manager for the Bakerloo & Victoria lines **Ron Skillet, who reached 50 years of service with LU.**

A gathering was held for him at Lambeth North, where he was presented with an award.

"The highlight of my career has been helping people who want to be helped, and seeing them progress in their careers," said Ron.



## AN HONOUR

**P**rogramme Manager **Chad Frankish** has received the **British Empire Medal (BEM)** for services to transport and the community in London after being recognised in the **Queen's Birthday Honours.**

Chad, who delivers Transformation and Systems projects that support our Road Modernisation Programme, was instrumental in emergency works to restore and strengthen the Hammersmith Flyover before the London 2012 Games.



## HEART ATTACK HERO

**C**entral line Train Operator **Frank Hoffman** has won **Frontline Employee of the Year at the National Transport awards after saving the lives of two customers who had heart attacks.**

On two separate occasions, Frank used CPR and defibrillator training he received as a Cub Scout leader to help customers who collapsed at Loughton and West Acton stations.

Both customers made a full recovery, and Frank was nominated for the National Transport award for going

'above and beyond the call of duty'.

"It was quite a surprise," said Frank. "I didn't expect to win because so many people were nominated, and from all kinds of transport operators, not just railways. I thought it was really nice to be recognised."

Frank is now encouraging more people to do first aid courses.

He said: "I think they're really important. Lots of people are scared to do CPR, but it's not hard if you've got the training. Give it a go and you could make a big difference."



# BRIDGE HOUSE, SOUTH DEVON

Set within 4 acres of beautiful gardens, at Bridge House nothing is too much trouble and we pride ourselves on providing a period of rest that is often needed for a gradual return to health and strength after illness or operation. We also provide much needed breaks for those in need of recuperation - including those having undergone hospital treatment, operations / trauma or bereavement and those such as full time carers simply needing to get away from the stresses and strains of everyday life. All our guests have peace of mind that a nurse is on the premises 24/7.

All rooms are furnished to a high standard with en suite facilities for your comfort. Food is freshly prepared and home cooked and there is a licensed bar located in the Main Lounge. Our weekly activity programmes and popular day trips mean you are free to do as little or as much as you like during your stay.

**Come along, relax and unwind. Call our booking line number below for further details and to check availability. We look forward to welcoming you.**



For further details and information please call our dedicated booking line  
email: [admin@rch.org.uk](mailto:admin@rch.org.uk) or visit our website [www.rch.org.uk](http://www.rch.org.uk)

# 01626 866850

## Could you be in line for timeshare compensation?

Due to a recent court ruling, many owners have successfully had their ownership contracts deemed null and void with resorts ordered to pay large amounts of compensation. Timeshare owners have been awarded compensation of the original **purchase price, legal costs, maintenance costs for the duration of the ownership** and awarded **double any monies that were paid within 90 days of the point of sale.**



### Were you mis-sold?

- Have your management fees increased over and above the rate of inflation?
- Were you told that your purchase was an investment and would increase in value?
- Was it explained that your family could become liable to take over the contract if something happened to you?
- Did you believe that your resort was exclusive to timeshare ownership?
- Were you made promises at the point of sale that failed to materialise?
- Were you a member of a timeshare exchange network and failed to get the exchanges you were promised?

**Find out if you have grounds to terminate your contract and if you qualify to make a claim.**

**We will only act if we are 100% confident of a successful outcome.**

**Call us today to speak with one of our friendly claims advisors and find out if you can register a claim!**

**Call 0800 046 5858 or visit [www.TimeshareCompensation.co.uk](http://www.TimeshareCompensation.co.uk)**



Timeshare Compensation offer advisory services including timeshare contract nullification, compensation evaluation, alternative leisure & lifestyle products as well as offering advice on your existing timeshare ownership.



**Thank you to everyone who has contacted us. We love your comments, memories and letters, but due to limited space we can only print a selection. Write to: otm pensioners' edition, AB, Unit B, 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](mailto:otm@abcomm.co.uk), putting 'pensioners' edition' in the subject header. Thanks – we look forward to hearing from you.**

**TIME TRAVEL**

In 1950, having just finished my basic training in the army as a National Serviceman, I was given a travel warrant and instructions to my destination, which was Goodge Street Underground station. It had an unfinished deep tunnel, which was then used as a military transit camp.

The tunnel consisted of sleeping quarters, a canteen, office and toilets and was used by servicemen who could

not complete their travel arrangements, so it was an overnight stay for many.

The following morning, I was given a travel warrant for Dover, where I joined a group of 20 others and took the ferry to Calais, and then a train to Paris. What a way to spend two years in the army.

**Ted Cordeaux**

**SEEKING SHELTER**

As a 20-year-old, I was in the ATS based in the artillery camp at Northside

Clapham Common. We had no shelter so when the raids became more frequent, the only place we had underground was the gun post area that was stacked from the floor to the ceiling with live ammunition.

Lads were to the right, girls to the left, and if there had been a direct hit we would have all gone up with a bang.

We all slept well and I am still here to tell the tale!

**Mrs J. Wakelin**



**otm**

**FONDLY REMEMBERED**

**Keith Goldsworthy**  
**21 September 2016, aged 58**

Keith joined London Transport aged 16, when he started as an Underground trainee at West Ruislip while still attending college. He went on to qualify as Relief Clerk and Relief Station Manager at White City Training Centre.



**Brian Wise**  
**1 October 2016, aged 92**

Brian was a senior manager in the Electrical Engineer department.

**Ken Page**  
**January 2016, aged 90**

Ken worked in Bus Engineering.



**Stephen Carter**  
**22 January 2016, aged 56**

Stephen worked in transport for most of his working life at Waterloo, Holborn and Canary

Wharf, working in Signals for TfL at the latter.

**Ronald Crockett**  
**28 August 2016, aged 89**

Ron worked at Wood Green bus garage as a fitter for 30 years before he retired.



**Peter Bantleman**  
**3 November 2016, aged 87**

Peter was Finance and Systems Manager for London Buses prior to retiring.



**Desmond Croome**  
**25 November 2016, aged 92**

Des had a long career in the Bus Traffic office. He was co-author of the book *Rails Through The Clay*, which is regarded by many as the definitive record of the history of London's Tube railways.

