



GETTING BACK TO NORMAL

The upgraded Victoria bus station has fully reopened nine years after closing to facilitate the redevelopment of the surrounding area.

Buses are now stopping again at Terminus Place – the road linking buses with Victoria transport hub – following multiple closures of bus stops and diversions.

Throughout the redevelopment period, pedestrians and cyclists were funnelled through the bus station, increasing footfall through the hub.

As a result, colleagues had to

work tirelessly to keep buses moving through the station, prevent local roads from backing up and keep people passing through safely at all times.

After the bus station reopened, customers needed to be educated about the changes.

Service Delivery Manager in Bus Operations **Rossella Maimone** explains: "As people are not used to having buses coming from the terminus, we need to be on hand to help with these changes and keep everyone safe.

"We have marshals monitoring it, because people cross the road thinking there are still no buses."

ROBBIE FINDS HIS STATION IN LIFE

A customer service assistant (CSA) who has Asperger's syndrome is making great strides six months into his career with LU.

Vauxhall-based **Robbie Pearce** joined the business under the Steps into Work programme, an initiative to help people with learning disabilities gain employment at TfL.

Robbie has been praised for his scrupulous station security checks by Network Security Risk & Planning Manager **Gordon Barnes**, who admired his meticulous approach.

Gordon said: "There are police officers conducting defensive security searches that wouldn't be as good as him. He sees things that some colleagues don't spot and has made people think about what diversity can bring. His colleagues

think the world of him."

For Robbie, his job as a CSA is the perfect role as he is interested in all aspects of transport and knows the Tube map by heart.

Robbie said: "I'm very happy I took part in Steps into Work. I had three different placements and received a lot of support in applying for my current job."

Over-16s can apply for next year's programme by emailing stepsintowork@tfl.gov.uk or calling 020 3054 2718.



MAIDEN VOYAGE

The Northern line extension reached a milestone when an engineering train travelled the length of the new tunnels from Kennington to Battersea.

The journey marked the completion of the extension's tunnels and track. Work is now focusing on fitting out the new Nine Elms and Battersea stations, installing power and extending signalling.

Work is expected to finish in autumn 2021.



PLAYING FARE

A major crackdown on fare dodging and ticket fraud will halve financial losses caused by those activities within five years.

Under the Revenue Protection Programme, all transport modes and the police are working together as never before to tackle an issue which costs TfL more than £100 million each year.

The plan will prioritise ways of preventing fare evasion, while Data Scientists like **Ben Green** use computer analysis

to flag individuals with suspicious journey patterns.

“You might see someone’s behaviour doesn’t match the type of ticket they bought,” he said. “Then you can work out whether they’re doing something they shouldn’t be doing, intervene and break that pattern of behaviour.”

Ben’s team can also identify fare-evasion hotspots, with that information being used to deploy our team of 180 Revenue Protection



Inspectors to make sure all customers using the bus network have a valid ticket for their journey.

Much of their work involves the New Routemaster bus, which

has suffered problems due to its three entry doors.

As a result, a trial scheme will see certain routes operate a system of passenger entry via the front door only.

ROBOT REPAIRS

A n innovative robot is saving the business time and money by fixing leaky gas pipes below the ground without the need to dig up whole roads.

CISBOT eliminates leaks by using silicone to seal faulty joints and is able to fix up to 450m of mains from just one small excavation.

This, in turn, avoids the need for long-term road closures and diversions, as well as extensive road resurfacing.

Two of the devices were recently used to carry out a major Southern Gas Networks repair project in Battersea Rise, Wandsworth, where they fixed 1,400m of damaged pipe from the inside in just eight weeks.

“Using traditional methods of excavating the carriageway, the project would have taken up to a year to complete,” explained Works Assessment Manager **Lisa Hatt**.

“Working hours were extended to 07:00 to 19:00 because of the robotics. The reduction in noise pollution makes a big impact on how much work can be done in a day.”

The repairs will extend the life of the pipes for another 50 years.



WORKING OUT AT WORK

T rain Operators at High Barnet are improving their physical and mental health thanks to the installation of a new gym.

Workouts have proved popular before and after shifts since a set of unwanted exercise equipment was donated free of charge and installed in a disused room at the depot.

“I’m a lot livelier and more myself now that I’m going to the gym regularly,” said Train Operator **Tahera Hussein**.

“When you train, your body’s healthier and your mind’s fresher. You have a different outlook on life. It’s not just about looking good, it’s also brilliant for your mental health.”

She added: “I’m hoping we can bring in more equipment and expand the gym. And it would be amazing if we could roll out more across the network.”



MORE THAN JUST PIN MONEY

Fundraising colleagues have presented the Royal British Legion with a record-breaking donation from London Underground.

An incredible £50,438 was raised for the 2018 Poppy Appeal thanks to sales of specially designed enamel pin badges to current TfL staff.

Customer Service Manager **Jack Hawkins** was one of a group of volunteers who proudly handed a cheque to Ken Hill of the Legion's East Ham branch.

"I got involved with this project in 2016 and came up with the original roundel poppy design – it's evolved a bit since then," said Jack. "We've now raised more than £100,000 since Bakerloo line Train Operator Colin Pattenden first started

fundraising for the Legion in 2014."

As an ex-serviceman, Jack said he was proud to be associated with the project, which is organised by a team of nine. A further 180 people sell and distribute the pins, which have become very popular among colleagues. Nine new designs have been created for the 2019 appeal.



IN BRIEF:

DARK SECRETS

A new exhibition coming to the London Transport Museum on October 11 will reveal some of the secrets of the Capital's disused Underground stations.

Hidden London brings together rarely seen archive material to explain why lost quirks of the network such as ghost stations exist.

Visitors can learn incredible stories about Britain's wartime past – such as the Plessey aircraft factory which employed 2,000 people in two Central line tunnels – while finding out about up-to-the-minute innovations like subterranean salad farming, until January 2021.

SHIFTING GEAR

Rebranding London's network of dedicated cycle paths is expected to boost the number of people who ride push bikes in the Capital.

Routes previously advertised as Cycle Superhighways, Quietways and Mini Hollands under the title Central London Cycling Grid will now be known simply as Cycleways.

The name change is the result of customer research which revealed many people were confused by the variety of terms.

OUT AND PROUD

Colleagues became London Underground's faces of Pride when they featured in an eye-catching poster campaign.

Striking images of members of the LGBT+ community and straight allies went on display throughout July to celebrate Pride 2019 and demonstrate that, behind the uniforms, TfL's people are the same as other Londoners.

Customer Service Assistant **Charlie Pina-Eccles** took part because he wanted to show the diversity of the workforce in "a brilliant company".

"People are bigoted everywhere and we need to send a message to visitors and tourists," he said.



STEAMING INTO THE HISTORY BOOKS

Colleagues were joined by rail enthusiasts of all ages to watch as a steam train chuffed on to the network.

The Victorian loco made three journeys between Ealing Broadway and High Street Kensington as part of the District 150 celebrations.

It was a poignant moment as the journeys marked the final steam train trip into central London on our network, due to the installation of new signalling equipment for the Four Lines Modernisation project.

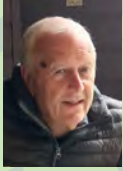
Passengers boarding the train at Ealing Broadway were entertained by actors in costume harking back

to 1868 when the District line first opened, as well as a brass band. Onlookers gathered along the route to catch a glimpse of the special journeys.

Customer Service Assistant **Saqib Rafiq** said: "As a member of the Special Requirements Team, I spent the weekend making announcements on the platform and had a lot of fun working with the team. We also made sure the platform was safe for photographers and young train enthusiasts, while letting them take in the sights and sounds of the train."

otm

FONDLY REMEMBERED



Peter Amos, 73, died on 3 August 2019. His 31 years took him to the East London Line, Embankment Group and Liverpool Street. He

was a health and safety and learner rep for TSSA, and a member of the Pensioners' Forum and Pension Consultative Council. He also enjoyed watching football and was an amateur referee.



Terence John Bull, 79, passed away on 13 October 2018. 'Tel' worked at Bow Garage from 31 August 1968 until retirement after 21

years. He enjoyed daytrips, meeting friends and going to discos at Fairlop. He is missed by family and friends.



William (Bill) Collinson, 82, passed away peacefully on 14 May 2019. He was based at London Transport's (LT) West

Ruislip Depot for 21 years as a painter and is sadly missed.



Richard (Dick) Embelin, 92, passed away on 27 February 2019. Initially trained as a schedule compiler in the bus schedules office from

August 1948, his career with LT spanned nearly 43 years. He is survived by his wife, daughter and two grandchildren.



Michael (Mick) King, 73, passed away on 14 March 2019 after a short illness. He was a London bus driver for 47 years.

On retirement, he moved to Lincolnshire where he lived with his wife, alpacas and chickens.

David Livermore, 80, died on 3 December 2018. He retired in 2003 after 39 years' service as a bus driver based at Hornchurch, Seven Kings and Romford garages. He was also a rep for the Transport Friendly Society and Chairman of the Transport Benevolent Fund. A well-liked and respected man, he will be remembered by many.



Jon Smith, 71, died peacefully at home with his wife Karen and sister Sue by his side, on 2 May 2019. He started his

career in 1963 as an apprentice bus mechanic at Chiswick Works. As well as working for London Buses, he served as Assistant District Engineering Manager and Engineering Director at Metroline. He was an amazing husband and brother who loved life.



George Edward Warwick, 93, sadly passed away on 30 March 2019 at Lister Hospital, Stevenage. He was a loving and

devoted husband to Margaret, father, grandfather and great-grandfather. A proud veteran of the Royal Marines, he worked for London Transport for almost 40 years in a variety of posts, including Station Master at Loughton. George's daughter would be pleased to hear from any friends, via the editor.

WAS VIC THE LAST TRAM MAN?

Vic Peters, who has died at the age of 93, served London Transport in a number of roles throughout his 41-year career.

Starting as a trolleybus conductor at Hanwell, he moved to New Cross to work on the trams a short while later.

He became a tram driver there and was on duty on Saturday 5 July 1952 - the last day trams operated in London until the current network opened in 2000.

Vic became a bus driver, transferring to Edgware garage in 1953 where he worked until his retirement in 1990.

One of Vic's former Edgware colleagues, Hugh Taylor, is an author and preservationist. He would like to hear from readers who know of anyone still alive who worked on the first trams. Or was Vic the last connection to that service?

Please get in touch via the editor.





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PERFECT CONDUCT

A celebratory journey on a classic Routemaster brought dramatic memories flooding back for a former conductor.

Irene O'Sullivan, who worked on London's buses from 1941 to 1981, was treated to the special outing for her 100th birthday. The trip reminded her of some hair-raising experiences from her earliest years on route 15.

"One Sunday, on a late duty at London Bridge, a lot of incendiary bombs fell and one landed on the platform of the bus," she said. "I quickly kicked it off, but it burnt my

shoe. We still finished the route."

On another occasion, Irene narrowly avoided a VI 'doodlebug' blast near Trinity Church in Poplar.

"We felt a big explosion just behind us," she said. "A passenger we'd dropped off must've been killed because the church was destroyed."

She is now happily retired in Devon.

"I had the most fantastic day wearing my old badge and satchel," she said. "The ticket machine was heavier than I remembered. Carrying one up and down the stairs for years must be why I'm still so fit today."

ANY ANSWERS?

Do any OTM Pensioners' Edition readers recognise this honours board?

Found in one of the war bunkers behind Signal House at Acton depot, it records the winners of a trophy named The Holmes Cup between 1963 and 1981.

The nature of the activity itself is not known, although the cup was clearly awarded to pairs of competitors.

LUL CrossRail Asset Development Manager Steve Cates said: "It has a St John Ambulance Association mark on it. I've

tried their museum, but they know nothing about it."

If you can help, please contact the editor.



LETTERS



Dear **otm**,

As we both enjoy your regular magazine, I thought I'd send in a snapshot of my husband Stanley Williams and his colleagues taken in June 1960.

He worked for London Transport

for 36 years and was a cable lineman. He retired in 1996 and is still going strong at 87 years old.

Our son Jon Paul Williams also worked for LT and later LU and had a very successful career in the Middle East as head of safety.

Lena Williams

Dear **otm**,

I came across this photograph while reading the latest edition of OTM Pensioners and thought other readers might like to see it.

It was taken by me in around 1981 in Oxford Road, Putney. The Route 14 Routemaster buses from Putney Garage in Chelverton Road were

ranked up before departing for Hornsey Rise at their allotted times. A frequent service, back in the day!

The bus crews sometimes had time for breakfast or just a cuppa at the adjacent cafe. I also remember Bert, the Inspector at this location.

Peter Beckwith



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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KEEPING IN TOUCH

If you would like to stay in touch or have someone represent your interests, there are six pensioner groups for former colleagues.

The **London Transport Pensioners' Association (LTPA)** protects and promotes the interests of pensioners. Some of its members attend the TfL Pensioners' Forum, and membership is free. E-mail nicholas.dawkins2@gmail.com or call 01323 472254.

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. Life membership costs £5. Contact Rena Craig on 01789 205739.

The **LT Superannuitants' Association (LTSA)** meets monthly in central London, publishes a quarterly newsletter and holds an annual 7-day outing to Eastbourne (the next is from April 24 to May 1, 2020).

Committee members can advise on health, social and pensions matters. Life membership costs £10. E-mail valdexia68@gmail.com or call David Biggs on 01273 412011.

The **Fifty-Five Society** is for former senior LT managers and holds regular lunches in central London. Membership is by invitation and there is a life membership fee. E-mail john.selfobe@btopenworld.com or call 020 8943 3593.

The **Association of Retired London Underground Operating Managers** is for pensioners with a rail operating admin or managerial background and holds two reunion lunches in central London each year: the next is on December 3. Call 07753 879197 or e-mail susan.gilbertexTfl@gmail.com

Former Bus Operating Department managers and admin staff meet for lunch in London twice each year (the next being October 16). E-mail Stuart Smith on stuart4830@aol.com or call 01843 868199.

PENSIONERS' FORUM SUMMARY MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 4 SEPTEMBER 2019

Members noted the sad news that Peter Amos had died. Peter made a valuable contribution representing the interests of pensioners as a Forum member for six years.

No changes have been made to staff travel facilities over the last quarter. A full list of these, and privilege ticket travel restrictions,

are on the Pension Fund website.

July's *otm Pensioners' Edition* was discussed. Representatives welcomed efforts to make articles of interest to pensioners from all parts of the business, and an increase in lifestyle ads. Some future articles for inclusion were agreed.

The number of readers signed up for

the online version has increased from 375 to 447 since July. We want to encourage as many people as possible to do so, thus helping reduce the environmental impact of production and distribution, cutting costs and helping ensure the future viability of the magazine. Please visit **www.pensionerssubscriptions.co.uk**

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PENSION PAY DATES

- 30 September 2019
- 28 October 2019
- 25 November 2019
- 23 December 2019
- 20 January 2020
- 17 February 2020
- 16 March 2020
- 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

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