

# Fleet Digest

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*Seasons Greetings  
from*

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— MEDIA — **T**



## On the Cover



The first signs of 'The Beast from the East' hit Peterborough as snowfall surrounds Stagecoach East Enviro 400MMC 10872.

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## Stagecoach Cumbria & North Lancashire

Repainted into the Stagecoach 'Local' livery is Scania/Enviro 400 15821 with Gold-spec Scania/Enviro 400 15920 from West Cumbria next in line for 'Local' colours.

## Stagecoach East Midlands

Latest repaints here into Stagecoach 'Local' livery are Enviro 400 19148 at Lincoln and Enviro 300 27195 at Scunthorpe.

# Thank you

This is the last edition of Fleet Digest and we hope that you have enjoyed both our Fleet Ramblings posts and also in recent months Fleet Digest.

We have enjoyed your company.

Even though Fleet Ramblings and Fleet Digest have now finished please don't forget that all of the fleet information you have enjoyed over the last six years can still be enjoyed thanks to Sam and his team at Fleet Report. We are sure that Fleet Report will become the 'go to' site for updated information.

We intend to pass on any information we receive to enable Fleet Report to become the 'must go to site' for news snippets.

If you haven't yet visited Fleet Report, which Sam Boothby set up a few months ago and provides a similar mix of information to that which had been provided by SKM, then now is the time to have a look. Just go to [www.fleetreport.co.uk](http://www.fleetreport.co.uk)

Don't forget that if your specialist interest is in the Oxford and Chilterns area then Malcolm Crowe's excellent Bus Page is well worth a visit each week. Check it out at [www.oxford-chiltern-bus-page.co.uk](http://www.oxford-chiltern-bus-page.co.uk)

Thank you for your support and a special thanks to all the contributors who have provided information. If any of you want to continue to send information vis SKM, I am more than happy to process it and pass it on to either Sam or Malcolm (or both). But there is more....

Having listened to all your comments and also having appreciated your thanks and kind words we have decided that we will post a selection of the most interesting fleet information that we come across onto our Twitter feed at @skmpub

Enjoy this bumper, and final, issue of Fleet Digest. We have included a few more historic features which we know have been enjoyed.



@skmpub



Stagecoach East operates ten former Stagecoach London Scania OmniDekkas from its Cambridge depot. 15075 (LX09AEZ) also have the recently introduced new style of destination display. These ten vehicles are frequently used on Cambridge Citi 1 service. © Harrison Dethridge

## Stagecoach East

Ten of the eleven Enviro 200s that had been on loan to **Stagecoach London** had returned here by 23rd December 2020 with 36012/41-44 and 36060-64 all being parked at Bedford depot. This left just 36065 on loan.

The Volvo B9R on loan here from **Stagecoach South East**, 53704, has formally been transferred and will head to Scotland when its loan period here finishes. Enviro 400 19704 has transferred from Peterborough to Bedford in exchange for former Norfolk Green example 10055.

## Stagecoach Midlands

Enviro 400s LK08DXU and LK08DXV, received here on loan from **Ensign Bus** shortly before Christmas have been given temporary fleet numbers 80074 and 80075. They have replaced similar SNI3CHH and SNI3CHK, which were also carrying fleet



The second vehicle in the Stagecoach East fleet to receive the new 'Local' livery is Enviro 200 37232. © Brandon Fitzgibbon

numbers 80074/75 and which have been returned to **Ensign Bus**.

## Stagecoach Oxfordshire

Following the placing of London along with swathes of the South East and Eastern England into the Government's Covid Tier 4, the company announced on 22nd December 2020 that it would be temporarily suspending its Oxford Tube service after operation on 24th December 2020.



Now on loan with Stagecoach Midlands from Ensign Bus is Enviro 400 LK08DXU, which has been given temporary fleet number 80074.

© Martyn Sacalof

## Stagecoach South Wales

A recent recipient of Stagecoach 'Local' livery here is Optare Solo SR 47950.

## Stagecoach South East

The company has confirmed that four of the Volvo B9R/elite coaches here, 53702/04/05/16, are being transferred to Scotland. We await confirmation on where they will be allocated. 53702/16 moved north before Christmas 2020 whilst 53704 remains on loan to **Stagecoach East** at Bedford and will transfer north at the end of the loan period. The transfers will leave just three examples of the type here - 53703/06/08.

The enforced closure of Dover Port and the Channel Tunnel just before Christmas 2020 caused severe disruption to bus services in the area. Stagecoach South East told us that all buses had left depots

as planned on 23rd December but there were significant delays to routes in Dover, Folkestone, Ashford and Manston. Large numbers of lorries had resulted in many roads being completely blocked whilst police were also dealing with unrest by drivers of lorries that had been prevented from making the crossing over several days.



Recently transferred from Stagecoach West Scotland to Stagecoach Cumbria & North Lancashire and placed in to the Reserve Fleet at Carlisle is Optare Solo 47615. © Lee Wardle

# Not in Service



**Visit any major bus depot today and it is likely to be a well laid out facility with hard- standing for vehicles. Not so in the past when outside areas were merely a mix of soil and maybe gravel compacted with years of oil and debris. Just the place to find vehicles that had been ‘dumped’ for disposal. Here is a selection of images of just those conditions.**

(Some of the original negatives and slides have not survived the last 45 years in good condition so do have blemishes and scratches)

Top: Having been towed in to Dudley garage and ‘dumped’ awaiting attention or withdrawal is BMMO S21 5870 (LHA870F) in company with former Kingston Upon Hull Leyland Atlantean 1143 (6343KH). © Steven Knight Media

Above: Awaiting disposal at Adderley Street parking area is former West Bromwich narrow-bodied Leyland Tiger Cub/Roe 250H (250NEA). © Steven Knight Media

Dirt, water and oil combine to give the parking area at the West Midlands PTE’s Harts Hill garage a firm, but extremely slippery, surface as a Midland Red D9 awaits disposal. The other buses were still operational, but parked up awaiting maintenance attention.

© Steven Knight Media





Above: This is one of our favourite scrap vehicle images with an advert is clearly not the case for Midland Red S17 5581 (AHA181B). South Wigston garage is the setting.  
© Steven Knight Media



Centre: Also going nowhere is this Midland Red D9. 4986 (2986HA) was pictured at the extreme rear of the parking area at Worcester garage. It was new in July 1962 and formally withdrawn in February 1976.  
© Steven Knight Media



Bottom: Also 'dumped' at Worcester garage is Midland Red 2146 (WUX656K), a Bedford YRQ with Duple Viceroy bodywork. It was new in December 1971 and passed to Midland Red with the takeover of G Cooper & Sons of Oakengates in October 1973. It was converted for driver only operation by Midland Red and was withdrawn in July 1977.  
© Steven Knight Media



Above: This was the scene at the rear of the West Midlands PTE's Harnall Lane garage in Coventry. Parked up amongst the former Coventry Transport CVGs are three former Birmingham City Transport Guy Arabs 2905 (JOJ905), 3068 (MOF68) and 2906 (JOJ906). © Steven Knight Media



Left: Lichfield garage was a prime location where Midland Red parked up withdrawn buses which were cannibalised for spares. This is S15 4639 (639AHA). © Steven Knight Media Collection



Above: Out of service at Nuneaton are Midland Red S18s 5258 and 5152, the former with collision damage) along with Daimler Fleetline 6275. © Steven Knight Media

Right: Back at Coventry's Harnall Lane garage and awaiting disposal after being on loan to Birmingham's Acocks Green garage is Daimler CVG 1250 (VWK250). © Steven Knight Media





Above: Withdrawn when pictured, both ex Kingston upon Hull Leyland Atlantean 1154 (2354AT) and former Birmingham Daimler Fleetline 3244 (244DOC) had been used in service in Coventry.  
© Steven Knight Media



Left Pictured inside Acocks Green garage in Birmingham, former Coventry Transport Daimler CVG 1237 (VWK237) has had its front roof dome removed, presumably for transplant onto another CVG.  
© Steven Knight Media



Left: Disposal awaits former West Bromwich Metro-Cammell bodied Daimler CVG 215H (UEA215H), pictured inside West Bromwich depot.  
© Steven Knight Media

Below: Keeping tabs on withdrawn vehicles at Adderley Street parking area in the late 1970s.  
© Steven Knight Media Collection



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*(RouteONE Awards 2017, Medium Bus Operator 2016 & 2017)*

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*(UK Bus Awards 2012, 2014, 2015 & 2016, Finalists 2013, 2016 & 2017)*




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**FLEET REPORT**

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**visit**

[www.fleetreport.co.uk](http://www.fleetreport.co.uk)

# Wheels Scrapbook



Our scrapbook contains a selection of images of Wheels vehicles from the early 1990s

All Images: © Steven Knight Media



