Newsletter 27 Winter 2015/2016

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

BABUS - Serving Bus Users In Bedfordshire since 2005



Grant Palmer's Bedford Borough Council liveried Enviro200 bus YX 11 HPU for Services 25/26, since replaced with a newer version of the same type. **Suzy Scott**



The Newsletter of the Bedford Area Bus Users Society (BABUS) is produced by here to there

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On a personal level...

Can I just take a few more lines for some thanks! Several committee members past and present, and a couple of other members, sent us wedding cards, for our wedding back in July. In addition to me, the Bedford area was represented by Colin Franklin, our vice-chair, and about 55 other attended. We were touched especially to receive cards from some of you who regularly read the Newsletter, but never actually personally knows us – yet! So, to everyone – thank you – it meant more to us than you may ever imagine. I trust this mention (and photo) will hopefully suffice for a thank you note, as a few of you didn't include any contact details.



Suzy Scott & Caroline Mathieson xxxx

Welcome to the BABUS Newsletter 27

If you have any further questions, you want to send a contribution for the newsletter, or you spot something you think is wrong, please feel free to drop us a line! For the best results, please contact one of the below, depending on the nature of your query or comment.

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Our website can be found at <u>www.babus.org.uk</u> and our Bulletin Board can be found at <u>www.babus.org.uk/bb</u> or via the links on the BABUS homepage.

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To phone us, simply call **0871 218 then spell out BBUS on your phone. (i.e. 0871 218 2287).** When you get through, leave us a landline number where we can call you back. If you prefer to fax, then send it to **0871 218 3293** Calls to these numbers are charged at 10p a minute Service Charge, plus your Network Charge as set by your telephone provider. These voicemails and faxes go through to Suzy by email, and will be forwarded as the situation requires. BABUS does not generate any income from the use of 0871 numbers.

Disclaimer: The views and opinions in this Newsletter are those of the individual writing them, not necessarily BABUS unless stated otherwise. The writer's thoughts are those of the person, and not any other company or group they represent.

Next Newsletter (28) Deadline Date for News and Contributions is Monday 15th February 2016.

Summary Report of Bedford Borough Council Liaison Meeting, held on September 22nd 2015 By Frances Horwood

Snagging at the Bus Station was on the agenda. Work to be completed included removing the sealant from the flooring, cleaning it and then resealing erecting replace railings the to temporary barriers; a gate at Bay L self-closing; open but easv of the X5 islands and resurfacing improved lighting this in area: permanent signage ("Where to catch your bus" - with the departure point for Service 81 shown as Bay L); more brightly-lit displays at bus bays and the installation of an ANPR camera at the **BABUS** entrance. suggested provision of litter bins at the stops used by Grant Palmer and Uno services and also a sign in the Travel and Tourism stating Centre, that more tourist information could be obtained at the Higgins Museum.

The information displayed when a bus is late was discussed as it was not always sometimes and shown as late disappeared from the screen if it was overdue. This was to be rectified by Stagecoach staff make training to changes to the displays in these circumstances.

The Council was in the process of producing a new bus map and a new timetable book would also be issued since recent timetable changes had rendered the current one out of date.

Parking by hackney carriages private hire vehicles at bus stops outside Bedford Railway Station had been a problem for a long time. Access to the bus stops is blocked at times, inconveniencing bus drivers and people board buses. It waiting to was necessary liaise with the train to operating company this. over Accordingly, the BABUS representative at the Bedford Stations Travel Plan meeting would raise it there.

Other matters included the possibility of a new IT system at the Council and all operator smartcards.

BABUS is due to meet with Bedford Borough Council again in January 2016. Do let us know if there is anything you'd like us to raise on your behalf.

Summary Report of the Central Bedfordshire Liaison Meetings of August 27th and November 19th By Frances Horwood

Among the items discussed were the forthcoming bridge closure in Biggleswade (from December 2015 until April 2015), Sunday bus services and the availability of bus information. Work in preparation for the bridge closure would include alterations to pavements and road markings, to enable buses to get through; parking arrangements would also be altered. There would be one diversionary route into and out of the town and this has been tried out with a Stagecoach bus.

The consultation on bus services, mentioned at previous meetings, was to take place between February and May would **BABUS** 2015. have opportunity to contribute to this. The consultation documents would be available in libraries and online and there would be press coverage. Much of the November meeting was concerned with what the consultation would cover.

The Council had produced a new bus map and copies were available at the November meeting. Printed timetables are no longer produced by the Council but these are available on the Council's website and printed versions produced by bus operators. There would be some changes to Stagecoach routes 81, 73 and 42 from January and also to the No. 83 in Sandy, operated by Herbert's Travel. (ED: As I was going to press on Tuesday 15th December 2015, the plan for the 83 was to be confirmed, along with 185 and 187 also in the near future. See the Service Changes article in this Newsletter for other changes).

Between the August and the November meetings, a Real Time Information screen was installed at the Flitwick Post Office stop (towards Bedford).

BABUS is due to meet with Central Bedfordshire Council again in February 2016. Do let us know if there is anything you'd like us to raise on your behalf.

Summary Report of Grant Palmer Liaison Meetings of August 20th and November 12th By Frances Horwood

At the August meeting, arrangements during roadworks in Ampthill, Harlington and Wilden were discussed. The company's controllers are able to see what is happening in real time.

The company had purchased a brandnew vehicle, which was mainly used for Service 25. It has leather seats and seat belts. They had also recruited drivers. There had been a campaign to improve punctuality, which had met with success.

From October, there were changes to Service 44. This now serves Maulden, connecting it with Bedford, and has been extended to Flitwick. The company had put up timetable information in Maulden and there were also new flags. The company was pleased with the usage of the service in Maulden.

Bedford, Delays in caused congestion, were a problem for bus operators as well as bus users. There would be some changes to Route 42 in January, for this reason. Route 20 would start from Bedford Railway Station, passengers boarded, where most instead of the Bus Station, to avoid congestion in Midland Road. Conversely, it was not possible to divert Route 25 via the Railway Station, owing to the congestion.

From January, as well as the changes to Routes 42 and 20, mentioned above,

there would be some improvements to Route 27. Details of timetable changes are normally available on the company's website two or three weeks before they are implemented.

Regarding Routes 25 and 26, most buses on these routes provide a through service, with no need to change in Harrold, even though the route numbers remain the same.

The company had introduced change vouchers, to be issued when a passenger wished to pay with a £10 or £20 note and the driver didn't have sufficient change. A piece of very good news was that fares for some short journeys within towns, now costing £1.40, £1.60 or £1.80, were to be reduced to 99p.

BABUS is due to meet with Grant Palmer again in January 2016. Do let us know if there is anything you'd like us to raise on your behalf.

Summary report of Stagecoach East Liaison Meeting of September 21st 2015

By Frances Horwood

There was still ongoing work at the Bus Station. Work was about to begin on the flooring: the sealant would be removed, the flooring cleaned and new sealant applied. This would take place during the evenings, with one section at a time being completed. The temporary barriers were beginning to be replaced with permanent ones; temporary ones had been used first of all in order to

ascertain where permanent ones should be sited.

representatives BABUS were disappointed that the Society had not been consulted prior to changes to Bedford town services being made and were concerned that, as a result of frequencies having been reduced, some buses were now very full, with standing room only at some stops. We were told that usage of these routes did not maintaining the previous iustify frequency but that the decision by Stagecoach to reduce the frequency was not taken lightly.

The bridge closure to take place at Biggleswade, between December 2015 and March 2016, was on the agenda. The diversionary route had already been tried out with a Stagecoach bus. Major disruption would be inevitable, adding to journey times. There had been delays to the X5, occasioned by roadworks in Oxford; since options for diversions were limited, such delays were unavoidable.

Breakdowns of buses had decreased slightly, with over 99% of mileage being completed (taking into account all causes, not only breakdowns), even though some vehicles at Bedford had previously been in service at other depots. Mention was made of a couple of bus stops where information was incomplete and suggestions were made regarding retailers who might be able to stock timetable leaflets.

BABUS is due to meet with Stagecoach East again in mid-December.

New online Timetable Library – and new printed books to follow By Suzy Scott

The BABUS online timetable library is back open, but there is a twist! We now have the page back via our website at www.babus.org.uk and look for the link marked Timetable Library. The link will take you to, at the time of going to press, a special page. For now, there is draft timetable book, for free download, along with links to the rail timetables and maps. The file covers the entire former county of Bedfordshire -Borough, Bedford that's Central Bedfordshire, and Luton. The file has a list of services and checklist-style timetable issue dates. For now, this is only a free PDF download version. But...

...After about Spring/early 2016, this will be sold as a printed book, with regular updates, in a loose leaf ring binder. There will be a variety of ticketing information, a comprehensive Index to Places Served, and a lot of additional information. The timetables will still be free to download, but also sold to those who want to buy one. This will be done via Suzy's business, Here To There Publishing Ltd, and not BABUS itself.

I would welcome your thoughts on the contents, errors, and so forth. I do hope it will prove useful.

Service change catch up, and looking ahead to January 2016

By Suzy Scott

Stagecoach in Bedford

From the bank holiday weekend (30th August/1st September 2015), there were cuts by Stagecoach Bedford.

<u>Service 2 (Bedford Town Centre – Ampthill Road – Elstow, Park & Ride)</u> Daytime timetable is reduced from every 12 minutes, to every 15 minutes, Monday to Saturday.

<u>Service 3 (Bedford Town Centre – Barford Avenue – Fenlake)</u> Daytime timetable is reduced from every 20 minutes, to every 30 minutes, Monday to Saturday.

<u>Service 4 (Bedford Town Centre – Castle Road – Goldington Green, Tesco)</u> Daytime timetable is reduced from every 20 minutes, to every 30 minutes, Monday to Saturday.

<u>Service 6 (Bedford Town Centre – Gainsborough Rise - Brickhill)</u>
Daytime service largely unchanged, but one new journey introduced. This runs on Schooldays only, from Woodlands Turn at 15.40 to Bedford Bus Station at 15.58.

<u>Service 7 (Bedford Town Centre – Putnoe – Woodside)</u> Daytime timetable is reduced from every 20 minutes, to every 30 minutes, Monday to Saturday.

<u>Service 8 (Bedford Town Centre – Queens Park – Great Denham)</u>
Daytime timetable is reduced from every 20 minutes, to every 30 minutes, Monday to Saturday.

<u>Service 10 (Bedford Town Centre – Putnoe – Goldington Green, Tesco)</u> Daytime timetable is reduced from every 20 minutes, to every 30 minutes, Monday to Saturday.

These disappointing change did reduce the services in operation. Further (but smaller!) changes will be happening in January, for which further details can be found elsewhere in this Newsletter.

Uno

One tiny change with a positive benefit now, and Uno has registered a new 803 from Service **Bedford** Moulton College. The service starts from Bedford Bus Station, Stop P, at 07.09, via the Rail Station R2 at 07.11, Bromham Swan at 07.21, Bromham Caravan Park 07.24, Turvey The Laws 07.31, Lavendon, War Memorial at 07.35, Olney Bull at 07.43, then through Northampton, to arrive at Moulton College Campus at 08.50. The return bus from the Campus is at 16.45, via Northampton Abington Square at 17.09, and back via outward route to Bedford Bus Station at 18.30. This runs on college days only.

Interestingly (for those who follow things) this is operated from the Northampton operation, which is a 50/50 with Uno and Northampton Uni. The C-series services into Bedford are operated by Uno commercially, but in partnership with Cranfield Uni. Needless to say, these are operated in partnership with Moulton College.

Grant Palmer

In the insert to the Newsletter 26A, mention was made of changes to

Service 44 (Bedford – Flitwick) to run via Maulden from 12th October 2015. (Not Clophill as I stated on the timetable insert that we added to the last Newsletter, which it already served). In other changes...

Service 20 (Woodlands Park – Bedford Stations) The journeys which formerly served Bedford Bus Station will no longer do so, from 4th January 2016, to improve reliability. As a result the 20 at 18.08 from Bedford Bus Station to Woodlands Park will now commence from Bedford Rail Station at 18.12.

Service 25 (Bedford Town Centre – Harrold for Rushden) From Monday 4th January 2016, the 17.15 from Bedford to Harrold (Monday to Saturday) now only runs on Saturdays, no longer on Monday to Friday. The return bus from Harrold to Bedford at 17.50 will continue to run Monday to Saturday, however. Times for Saturdays now separate from weekdays, so a few minutes change during what would be the weekday peak period.

Service 27 (Bedford Town Centre -Willington -Great **Barford** Renhold - Wilden - Bedford) An improved timetable is to be introduced on this service, from date to be confirmed. (ED: At the time of going to press on Tuesday 15th December 2015, we didn't know anything other than the proposed date, early January. which in was Suggest asking your driver for further information, and keep an eye out for BABUS Newsletter 28?)

Service 42 (Dunstable/Toddington – **Bedford)** will change on Monday 3rd January 2016. There will be minor timetable changes to increase punctuality. An additional journey from Flitwick to Bedford at 07.35, additional journey from Bedford to Flitwick at 16.05

Service 68 (Bedford – Kempston – Stewartby) Very minor changes to the Monday – Friday timetable were registered from Monday 21st September 2015.

Herbert's Travel

Herbert's Travel Service 80 (Biggleswade Local Service) From Sunday 13th December 2015, this service has minor changes to timetable, bus will now additionally serve London Road Retail Park. At the current time, owing to access and safety issues the Service 80 cannot serve stops at Baden Powell Way and Venus Way until further notice. Buses will terminate at Chambers Way adjacent to Sorrel Way until Venus Way is passable for buses which is hoped to be by the end of December 2015.

Herbert's Travel Service 95
(Letchworth - Biggleswade) From 2nd November 2015, the service is reduced to operate on Tuesdays and Fridays Only.

Ivel Sprinter <u>Ivel Sprinter Service 2 (Tempsford</u> <u>Cambridge) and Service 3</u> (Blunham – Cambridge)

From Monday 6th January 2016, these routes will no longer serve Drummer Street Bus Station , calling at Downing

Street next to the John Lewis store instead.

Ivel Sprinter Service 6 (new journey Potton to Bedford) Since 2nd June 2015, Ivel Sprinter has been running a new service, in addition to the timetables Service 6. The new bus will run on the third Monday of each month, from Potton at 09.00 to Bedford Town Centre, with a return about 14.00. As with all Ivel Sprinter Services, booking by telephone (01462 701323) is strongly recommended.

Beyond Beds Hertfordshire service changes — including those crossing into Beds By Suzy Scott

Several mentions were made in recent BABUS newsletters over planned changes to subsidised local services. Not all the changes were as a direct result of the subsidy cuts. This article is my own opinion and fact only, not the views of BABUS, or anyone else I happen to have worked for before or since.

Cuts – first – let's get the C word out the way (and it's not the one we usually take as a swear word here in H2T Towers... "consultant"!) What was the impact? Did we get Armageddon? Well... not exactly. Many areas are worse hit than us in WGC – for example, no Sunday buses at all in Baldock. The initial plan was with cut everything, evening and Sundays, with a tiny bit of respite for services to NHS premises.

Evening buses here in Welwyn Garden City are changed, not changed, and unaffected. Uno Service 601 to St Albans appears to be funded by some ring-fenced (LSTF?) monies. other Service 301 (Hemel – WGC – Stevenage - Uno evenings, Arriva rest of time) was commercially by reaistered Service 602 (WGC/Hatfield - St Albans -Watford - Uno, university evenings only into WGC) no longer serves Welwyn with the hourly link Garden City, provide removed. These were to additional capacity and services to the University of Hertfordshire (formerly Student Union) but I recall trebling the passenger count when we both got on for a short run back to town from the doctors! GreenLine (Harlow - Heathrow Airport) unaffected - has been commercial for years, and was given much more robust timetable earlier this year.

As for Sunday services in town, and to and from South Hatfield, via different routes. The 404 runs via Woodhall Parade and the QEII Hospital, so was not proposed for withdrawal. The 405 via Handside runs Lane and Stanborough Park, and was proposed for withdrawal - on Sundays but not Bank Holidays. It was mentioned in the consultation, although I don't recall anyone mentioning it. Well, come the cancellations of all the other routes, nothing was submitted to the Traffic Commissioner. The regular driver knew nothing. By the time we got information out of Hertfordshire County Council... it had been decided to maintain the service in it's current format. You see, the 405 used the same bus as the 404,

with the drivers changing at the Hatfield end... so no real saving would be made to the council. To add to the confusion, yes, there's a passenger who travels on both. No idea what would have happened - presumably both journeys would be lost. Proof that "highlighter pen cut logic" doesn't always make any savings! The Sunday service on the 242 Waltham WGC to Cross form miraculously was saved... again because it served the QEII Hospital. As to whether the whole route was saved, and not just the former 302 part (WGC-Potters Bar) was saved at a time of a cut, remains a mystery. Especially when the NHS facility in St Albans was not deemed worthy of such a saving!

During the day, the rural area around Welwyn north Station and Tewin lost it's main service, except for a commercial school run which recently got a bigger bus following passengers increasing! A last minute change was made, following community feedback, which maintained shoppers links - if you can remember which day the bus was, as the 200-series didn't get a printed timetable!

There were changes to commercial routes, with the daytime Centrebus Service 366 shorts from WGC to South Hatfield withdrawn, although these were commercial, it was done around a peak contract for the 315 (which has since been expanded to a Saturday service – the wonderful curse of Section 106 funding!). At the same time, Sullivan Buses reduced their similar 330, which continues to St Albans. The latter was nothing to do with the cuts directly, but situations in the operator's control

(staff) and outwith (the number of kids on the school journeys on which the service was based). Bizarrely, both hourly services still leave WGC five minutes apart... and then nothing for 55 minutes...!

Fares on Hertfordshire County Council supported services were to be increased, largely, from the same weekend. So, we boarded the 405 (the saved one) on the Sunday morning, I swiped my ENCTS pass (yes I have one the DVLA think I could as ppppp...... At the wheel!), and asked for our usual destination for Caroline, who pays cash. It had been £1.70. The new fare? £1.60. "Eh?" We double-checked the stage hadn't changed - but the fare went down, when the others were to go up. I did put in a Freedom of Information request to HCC, which asked for the fare tables for all the subsidised routes. The fare, we later found, was meant to stay the same!

Cut a long story short, has the plot been lost? The response from passengers and ratepayers - was not to make the Welwyn Hatfield LibDems cuts. circulated a newsletter that said the money needed had already been saved elsewhere. Commercial journeys have been losing passengers since Herts discontinued their excellent series of bus timetable books. Was that where the rot started? First of the cuts was that, then schools, and evenings/Sundays now, plus some varied deep rural services. OK, so it maybe gives me a business opportunity to do a book, but I'd prefer if there was no need for what I do! But,

enough about me – one industry senior manager – and probably many more – suspect this is just the beginning of the cuts, not the end.

Hopefully the implementation might be better thought out, for everyone's benefit. Cuts need to be made – maybe so, but the way the evening and Sunday logic was applied in "highlighter pen" style cuts have just confused people, and the lack of a printed list of changes didn't help. So while there was a printed list for the services that would be cut, why no funds for printing a list of services that were saved, or operating commercially? Surrey County Council (making cuts at the same time) managed to.

Okay, so actual change details... for those cross-border, and for those I think you might find useful for connections...

Arriva Services 97, 97A, 98 (Hitchin – Letchworth – Stotfold/Baldock)
Service 98 is reduced from every 30 minutes, to every 60 minutes. So, with that in mind, the 30 minute service on the 97 is tweaked to run every 20-40 minutes, thus providing three buses an hour (evenly spaced) from Letchworth to Hitchin. Sunday services on both routes withdrawn, leaving Stotfold busless – but a Bank Holiday service remains.

Arriva/Uno Services 100, 101, 102 (Stevenage – Hitchin – Luton) The evening services by Uno, which continued in service via the A1 to Hatfield, are now run commercially by Arriva. These will now follow terminate at Stevenage Bus Station, but see 636 and 797. Arriva are retaining some more of the Sunday services commercially.

Arriva/Uno Service 300, 301 (Lister Hospital/Stevenage — Hemel Hempstead) The evening services by Uno, are now run commercially by Arriva. Arriva are retaining some more of the Sunday services commercially.

Cozy Travel Service 391
(Stotfold/Baldock – Stevenage)
Service now operated by Arriva The Shires, and extended to Aston. The single journey from Stotfold, High Street at Elizabeth House, to Stevenage, now leaves at 09.30, with the return from Stevenage Bus Station at 13.45 and Lister Hospital at 13.54.

Uno Service 636 (London Colney, Colney Fields Shopping Park — Hatfield — Luton) Section to CF removed and replaced by Service 602. Luton section maintained, timetable tidied up to an hourly service. One extra evening journey has been added in term times from Hatfield to Luton, but can be used by anyone — including anyone wanting to connect with the 81 to/from Bedford, for example.

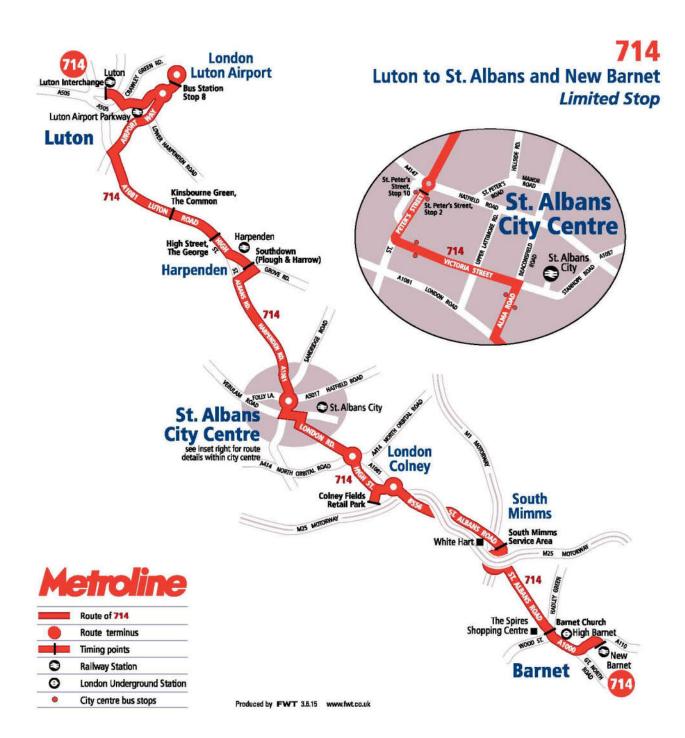
Centrebus Service 700 (Stevenage – Hitchin – Buntingford – Stansted Airport) Service withdrawn, but a replacement 386 (thus merged with the stopping service) continues to Bishop's Stortford, by Richmond's Coaches. No early morning evening or Sunday services at all.

Uno Service 797/635 (Baldock - Hitchin - Stevenage - Hatfield - London Victoria) Service now runs as 797 throughout, hourly between Hitchin Station and London, Baker Street Station. This still offers connections at Hitchin for services from Beds. Buses will now leave Hitchin Station on the hour, St Marys Square Stop M at 03 past the hour, Monday to Friday. Last bus back from London, Baker Street Station, is at 20.15, Monday to Friday.

But... It's not all Doom and Gloom! By Suzy Scott

Okay, the last article may have appeared a little despondent, but we have one new one to report. From Saturday 30th June 2015, Metroline introduced a new Service 714, from New Barnet Station to Luton. This gains a mention here, as some of you may find it useful for connections to and from other bus services in Luton, at Luton Airport, or onto Thameslink. The service is limited stop, and a route map can be found on the next page.

The timetable runs from very early morning, until late night, seven days a week. The bus runs right into Luton Airport Bus Station, which will save changing to a shuttle bus. Intalink Explorer and Metroline Rover tickets (£6.40) are valid throughout all day, as are concession passes (valid after 09.30 residents, non-Herts for for journeys from Luton or London). For details, visit more www.metroline.co.uk or call 01707 347700 for a printed timetable.



Stagecoach Bedford changes in January 2016 By Suzy Scott

Stagecoach are making more changes to their network, from Monday 3rd January 2016. The changes will be made for a variety of reasons. Those for Routes 3/4/7/10 will provide a 15 minute service between Putnoe, Poplar Avenue and Bedford town centre on Routes 7 and 10.

<u>Service 3 (Town Centre – Barford Avenue – Fenlake)</u> All journeys in both directions will operate 10 minutes earlier than the current journeys.

Service 4 (Town Centre — Wendover Drive — Goldington Green, Tesco Store) All journeys before 2000 hours towards Goldington will operate 11 minutes later. All journeys after 2000 hours remain unchanged. All journeys towards Bedford town Centre remain unchanged.

Service 6 (Town Centre – Brickhill, Tyne Crescent) The journey that departs opposite Woodland's turn on schooldays at 1540 will now depart at 1535 and operate 5 minute earlier throughout.

<u>Service 7 (Town Centre – Woodside)</u> All journey before 2030 in both directions will operate 10 minutes later. All journeys after 2030 hours remain unchanged.

<u>Service 10 (Town Centre – Putnoe – Goldington Green, Tesco Store)</u>
All journeys towards Bedford Town Centre will operates 11 minutes earlier.

All Journeys towards Goldington remain unchanged.

Service 40 (Bedford Town Centre - Newport Pagnell – Milton Keynes)
Change to timetable affecting all journeys from Milton Keynes towards Bedford Monday to Saturday. Journeys will depart 5 minutes later and operate 5 minutes later throughout.

Service 41 (Bedford Town Centre Olney - Northampton) Change to timetable affecting all journeys after the 0815 (Bedford towards Northampton) and the 0830 (Northampton towards Bedford) Monday to Saturday service. Journeys will depart 5 minutes later and operate 5 minutes later throughout.

Service 42 (Bedford Town Centre – Ampthill – Flitwick) Change to timetable affecting the 0720 departure from Bedford bus station towards Flitwick and the 0754 departure from Flitwick towards Bedford Monday to Friday only. Both journeys will depart 20 minutes earlier and operate 20 minutes earlier throughout.

<u>Service 53 (Bedford Town Centre – Cranfield – Milton Keynes Hospital)</u>
Change to the route in Milton Keynes Hospital. This does not affect the timetable or stops for this service.

Service 73 (Bedford Town Centre – Sandy – Biggleswade) Change to timetable. On Monday to Friday, the 0615 & 0645 departures from Bedford to Biggleswade will depart at 0600 and 0630 and will operate 15 minutes earlier throughout. The 0715, 0745 and 0815 departures from Biggleswade towards

Bedford will depart Biggleswade at 0700, 0730 & 0800 and operate 15 minutes earlier throughout. There are also slight amendments to times on the 1645 and 1720 departures from Biggleswade towards Bedford Monday to Saturday.

<u>Service 81 (Bedford Town Centre – Clophill – Luton)</u> Change to the Sunday timetable affecting all journeys.

Service X5 (Oxford – Bedford – Cambridge) Coaches will now serve Buckingham Tesco's in both directions. There is also a change to the Saturday timetable affecting the 0650, 0720 and 0750 departures from Bedford towards Oxford. These will depart 10 minutes later and operate 10 minutes later throughout.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all members, friends and contacts

The BABUS Committee

Serving Bedfordshire for the last ten years

Biggleswade Stratton Bridge closure

Information taken from the Central Bedfordshire Council website

The bridge will be closed for replacement, from Sunday 13th December 2015, to April 2016.

Stratton Bridge (High Street Bridge) that carries the main road across the railway will be closed for replacement between 13 December 2015 and April 2016, as the existing structure is now unsafe. There will be no vehicle or pedestrian access across the bridge during this time and all traffic will be diverted via other routes. Changes have been made junctions, traffic lights carriageways in order to accommodate buses on diversion. It is hoped that the diversionary routes used should allow for bus services to operate as normally as possible and no bus stops be missed out. All buses will still serve the bus station as usual although those that serve the east of the town may experience some delay.

There may be delays to bus services especially those that enter the town centre from the east side of town and would normally use the Stratton Bridge to access the town centre area as they will be having to divert to access the town centre. Other services may be affected due to increased traffic flows at junctions caused by other traffic having been diverted. It is hoped that these delays will be minimal although could increase at rush hours. As much traffic as possible will be encouraged to use the A1 Bypass and new Eastern Relief Road.

Biggleswade Bus Station will remain in use as normal during the closure period.

If you wish to know about a particular bus service and how the closure will affect it, this is a list of all public services currently serving Biggleswade town centre:

Stagecoach Service 73 (Biggleswade, Sandy, Bedford) - This service will be diverting via the given diversionary routes into and out of the town centre and may experience delays although all regular bus stops will be served.

Stagecoach Service 74 (Biggleswade, Northill, Cardington, Bedford) - This service should not be affected except on journeys to and from Holme Court Avenue which will follow the given diversionary route - all regular bus stops should be served.

Herbert's Service 80 (Bus Station, Rail Station, Mead End / London Road, Chambers Way, Kings Reach Estate) - This service will be diverting via the given diversionary routes into and out of the town centre and may experience delays although all regular bus stops will be served.

Herbert's Service 95 (Biggleswade, Langford, Shefford, Letchworth) -This service should not be directly affected and only operates off peak.

Herbert's Service 185 (Bus Station, Mead End, Holme Court Avenue, London Road) - This service will be diverting via the given diversionary routes into and out of the town centre

and may experience delays although all regular bus stops will be served. It only operates off-peak so hopefully will not experience much delay.

Herbert's Service 187 (Bus Station, Stratton Way, Winston Crescent, New Town) - This service will be diverting via the given diversionary routes into and out of the town centre and may experience delays although all regular bus stops will be served. It only operates off-peak so hopefully will not experience much delay.

Centrebus Service 188 (Hitchin, Henlow, Langford, Biggleswade, Dunton, Eyeworth, Wrestlingworth, Potton, Sandy, Blunham) - This service will be diverting via the given diversionary routes into and out of the town centre and may experience delays although all regular bus stops will be served.

Centrebus Service 190 (Hitchin, Henlow, Langford, Biggleswade, Sutton, Potton, Gamlingay, Sandy) - This service will be diverting via the given diversionary routes into and out of the town centre and may experience delays although all regular bus stops will be served.

Grant **Palmer** Service 197 (Biggleswade, Langford, Henlow, Shefford, Clophill, Ampthill, Flitwick, **Toddington,** Milton Keynes) - Tuesday service will be diverting via the given diversionary routes into and out of the town centre and may experience delays although all regular bus stops will be served. It only operates off-peak so hopefully will not experience much delay. Saturday service should not be affected.

Grant Palmer Service 200 (Biggleswade, Broom, Southill, Stanford, Clifton, Shefford, Clophill, Ampthill, Flitwick) - This service should not be affected.

Ivel Sprinter Services - Various Ivel Sprinter community transport routes will have to follow the advertised diversions but due to the flexibility of these timetables there should not be any particular delays. These services only operate off peak so this should also

Council Contracted School Buses -School CBC Mainstream **Transport** Department have been consulted directly regarding any impact on school bus contract routes to Stratton Upper School and Holmemead Academy. Any parent or student who is unsure if their contracted school bus service will be affected should contact CBC Mainstream Transport directly.

The diversionary route for buses is as shown on the map on the back cover, and should allow for all services to serve their regular stops to the east of the town.

If anyone has any questions or comments regarding the bridge replacement scheme please call 0300 300 8000 or email: strattonst@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

<u>Uno show how not to do it – while</u> <u>news site sells it like a pro!</u> <u>By Suzy Scott</u>



Uno launched Bus Company an investigation after a bus driver caused a disturbance during a remembrance service. On Remembrance Sunday, a crowd of around 600 people flocked to Cranfield to pay their respects to fallen soldiers with a parade, a service and a silence two-minute by the war memorial. Just as the Last Post began to play before the 11am silence, the C11 Uno bus to Milton Keynes Station turned up to the junction between High Street and Cross Street. The crowd were driver apparently outraged as the honked his horn repeatedly, and kept his engine going. Eventually, following the two-minute of silence, the driver got fed up of waiting and turned down an alternate road, closely passing a number of people paying their respects.

This is the second time the company have made the national press this year, following a vehicle overturning on the Herts-London border. However, did the web editor of the Bedfordshire News website get the best say? At the end of the news story, added amongst other links was; "If you're looking for new employment opportunities, why not visit our jobs page?..."

Getting to know the Bedford Borough Local Transport Plan 2011 - 2021 (LTP3) By Andrew Spearman

ED: I remember attending a meeting for this, in my BABUS capacity, in February 2010. You can find my notes from the day still on the Bulletin Board at http://babus.org.uk/bb/index.php?topic=67

Each Local Transport Authority in England is required to produce, publish and adopt a Local Transport Plan. This is a provision of the Transport Act 2000, one of the few useful achievements of [Deputy Prime Minister John] Prescott, while he was Secretary of State for Transport.

Although the Plan is non-statutory, it results from local consultation and discussion by councillors. It sets out policy guidance on traffic and transport and is taken into consideration in landuse planning decisions and inquiries. Most important of all, it should set targets for change that are regularly monitored and it acts as a basis for the allocation of block grant from central government to each Local Transport Authority.

Cambridgeshire, Buckinghamshire, Northamptonshire and Hertfordshire will each have them, as will Milton Keynes and the two other unitary authorities in the former Bedfordshire. In fact, the last-mentioned will have produced at least one version before the County Council was vindictively abolished.

I have recently investigated the Bedford Borough LTP documents. It is a relatively low-key package (and in my view a rather theoretical and watery affair) but it is a start and is important as a point of reference which BABUS members ought to be aware of.

Unfortunately it is only available on-line through the Council's website. At my age, scrutiny of its 100 plus pages on screen would be tedious and frustrating. Upon enquiry, a paper copy was produced for me and I was taken through it by the Senior Network Policy Officer in the Transport Planning section at Borough Hall. He was very helpful.

The overall intention of this LTP (and indeed, of central government if you can believe it) is to reduce car dependency, air and noise pollution and to encourage environmentally sustainable forms of travel, particularly in urban areas where there are, or should be, a variety of local travel choices available.

The introductory sections of the LTP set out transport challenges and strategies and later propose policy guidance under several headings. So let me cut to our core interest and quote one or two key areas, or "visions" as they are termed.

Paragraph 4.6.2:

Vision: To provide and promote the use of passenger transport services across the Borough which are accessible, efficient affordable and for users providing a real travel choice to destinations. To the ensure that passenger transport network comprehensive and meets users needs through providing innovative solutions. To seek a sustainable long term future for services and promote use through easy to understand information and joined-up transport services.

Extract from paragraph 4.6.6:

The strategy will improve accessibility by maximising the coverage of the network to ensure that as many local communities as possible are served by frequent public transport at the times that are needed.

Extract from paragraphs 5.3.3 and 5.3.4:

Working in partnership will be an important mechanism for pooling of resources and efforts in order to achieve value for money.

The LTP is a live document with a wide range of stakeholders and interested parties. Its relevance in 2021 is as important to us as is its relevance at the time of writing, and as such, it has to be flexible adaptable policy and document which capable of is priorities responding to local and circumstances.

Paragraph 5.4 discusses performance management to allow measurement of the effectiveness of the LTP. Among the key Performance Indicators are K4, use of public transport bus services and K5 Rail passengers. Interestingly, the Supporting Performance **Indicators** include S19 Urban area households within 400m of a 15 minute frequency public transport bus service and S20 households Rural area within 13

minutes walking distance of an hourly public transport bus service.

Paragraph 5.5.1:

We will continue to compete at national levels for key project funding and maximise external funding opportunities to implement highways and transport schemes.....

Later in the document there are sections on Active Travel Strategy, Freight Strategy (nothing on rail), Network Management, Road Safety and Asset Management.

There ought to be (but are not) specific performance targets about general traffic reduction and increased bus passenger use. Therefore, there is no available measure for stakeholders such as ourselves to assess how well or badly the Borough is performing.

Nevertheless this LTP forms a material tool by which we can scrutinise and challenge the Local Transport Authority. For instance, if the Council appears passively to acquiesce to bus cuts by the service providers, an argument can be made that this is counter-productive to the aims of the LTP.

There are some final points for me to make, as a newcomer to this area. I am disturbed that, in the case of Bedford at least, so few of you in BABUS seem to be aware of LTP's and the role they have. The fault lies with the local authority. It is a public document and ought to be widely available in book form, in the central library, for instance.

Putting official documents on-line only, as background papers to be found after much searching and clicking, is not good enough. It is a cop-out.

Local Transport Plans that are confined (in the case of Bedfordshire and possibly Milton Keynes) to a single unitary authority area are much less effective, and carry less political weight than a jointly adopted LTP. Since Bucks is a continuing shire county it may well be that there is some form of joint approach and cooperation with MK. In my time here, I sense little cooperation the districts of former across Bedfordshire County.

Better still might be a sub-regional grouping to produce a Joint Local Transport Plan. Again, being new here, I am confused as to what that sub-region should be. But that is another story — maybe for another time. Meanwhile, I would commend as many of you as possible to go through your LTP. For many of us, it is this Bedford plan.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all members, friends and contacts

The BABUS Committee

Stagecoach bus passengers to benefit from transformational new website From the Stagecoach press office

- New, fully mobile site, designed to meet customer needs
- Improved journey planner allows passengers to search for journeys and buy tickets online
- New fare calculator, personalised timetables and 'search for your nearest bus stop' option
- Improved accessibility for users with visual impairment

Millions of Stagecoach bus passengers are set to benefit from easier journeys the launches company transformational new responsive website that will let customers check live running times for their services and travel straight from their buy smartphone.

As part of a new online platform, operator has biggest bus Britain's launched the UK's first nationwide online bus planning service to help its 2million daily customers access journey and ticketing information more easily for Stagecoach services across the country. The new website is designed to make it as simple as possible for passengers to plan and book their Stagecoach bus travel across the UK. The site is also accessible from mobile devices, allowing customers to call up journey information and buy tickets while on the move.

The website is part of a three-year, £11million digital investment strategy which includes investment by

Stagecoach in redeveloping its UK Bus online platform, delivering real-time information and improving payment options.

In 2016, the transport group will also introduce a mobile app for customers as part of its strategy.

Developed by independent creative agency Rufus Leonard, the new Stagecoach UK Bus website has the technology to allow customers to track and plan their bus journeys across the UK using real time information.

Located at the web address stagecoachbus.com, the site is fully mobile and has already undergone rigorous testing by customers.

The stagecoachbus.com site is fully accessible and meets WCAG (Web Content Accessibility Guidelines), complying with WCAG (A) as a minimum and WCAG (AA) wherever possible. It's possible to change text size and colour, as well as background colours, by altering the preferences or options in the user's browser ensuring accessibility for users with poor sight and those who are colour blind.

Key features of the new website include:

- A clearer, more user-friendly journey planner allowing customers to plan journeys across a number of Stagecoach bus companies
- An online fare calculator
- Mobile friendly so customers can view the site on smart phones and tablets

- Simple online booking system
- Tool to allow customers to search and find their nearest bus stop, placing options on an interactive map
- Tool to download personalised timetables

Stagecoach UK Bus Managing Director Robert Montgomery said: "Our customers want seamless journeys from planning their trip and buying real-time travel tickets, to getting information and catching the bus. That's what we are aiming to deliver and we believe this new website will help make life easier for all of our passengers, no matter how often or how little they use the bus. We'll also continue to embrace further developments in technology to ensure we can deliver even better bus services for our customers in the future."

Customers who want to offer their feedback can complete a feedback form on the site available on the homepage.

As well as investing in a new online platform, Stagecoach offers smart ticketing at all of its businesses across the UK and is working with other operators, and local transport authorities, on the delivery of multi-operator smart ticketing in all of England's city regions by the end of this year.

Stagecoach has three times been independently found to offer the best value bus fares in Britain.

Christmas & New Year Buses for 2015 & 2016

Information compiled in good faith by Suzy Scott, using information from Stagecoach, Grant Palmer, and Central Bedfordshire Council.

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Stagecoach in Bedford / Northamptonshire Arrangements	Below
Uno Arrangements	Page 30

DATE

Stagecoach in Bedfordshire Includes Stagecoach in Northants Service 49/50 Bedford – Kettering

SERVICE ODERATION

	SERVICE OPERATION
23rd December 2015	Normal service
24th December 2015	Normal service with services finishing early. See below for specific details
25th December 2015	NO SERVICE
26th December 2015	NO SERVICE
27th December 2015	Sunday service
28th December 2015	Sunday service
29th December 2015	Saturday service
30th December 2015	Saturday service
31st December 2015	Saturday service, and services finish earlier than normal. See below for specific details
1st January 2016	NO SERVICE
2nd January 2016	Normal Saturday service
3rd January 2016	Normal Sunday service

Last Buses in Bedfordshire on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve

Route 1	20:00 Town Centre to Kempston	20:13 Kempston to Town Centre
Route 2	19:45 Town Centre to Elstow P&R	20:00 Elstow P&R to Town Centre
Route 4	20:00 Town Centre to Tesco	20:15 Tesco to Town Centre
Route 5	20:01 Town Centre to Elms Farm	20:30 Elms Farm to Town Centre
Route 6	19:41 Town Centre to Brickhill	20:11 Brickhill to Town Centre
Route 7	20:30 Town Centre to Woodside	20:50 Woodside to Town Centre
Route 8	20:17 Town Centre to Great Denham	20:34 Great Denham to Town Centre
Route 9	20:15 Town Centre to Shortstown	20:35 Shortstown to Town Centre
Route 72	19:35 Town Centre to Hitchin	20:40 Hitchin to Town Centre
Route 73	19:50 Bedford to Biggleswade	18:50 Biggleswade to Bedford
Route 81	19:30 Bedford to Luton	20:30 Luton to Bedford
Route 99 Christmas Eve	20:05 Luton Airport to Milton Keynes	20:10 Milton Keynes to Luton

Route 99 New Year's Eve 20:05 Luton Airport to Milton Keynes 19:55 Milton Keynes to Luton

X5 Timetable on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve – full timetable online or call the operator on 01234 220030, but in summary...

Last Buses	24 th December and	31 st January
Oxford to Cambridge Oxford to Bedford Bedford to Cambridge	16.30 19.30 18.56	
Cambridge to Oxford Cambridge to Milton Keynes Cambridge to Bedford Bedford to Milton Keynes Bedford to Oxford	15.40 17.40 20.30 19.00 17.00	

Arriva The Shires

Luton and Dunstable area

Christmas and New Year service summary 2015/16

Date	Busway Route A	Other Local Buses	Green Line
Sunday, 20 December 2015	Sunday service	Sunday service	Saturday-Sunday service
Monday, 21 December 2015	Monday to Friday service	Monday to Friday service	Monday to Friday service
Tuesday, 22 December 2015	Monday to Friday service	Monday to Friday service	Monday to Friday service
Wednesday, 23 December 2015	Monday to Friday service	Monday to Friday service	Monday to Friday service
Thursday, 24 December 2015	Mon-Fri service finishing around 10pm	Mon-Fri service finishing around 7pm	Mon-Fri service finishing around 10.30pm
Friday, 25 December 2015	No service	No service	No service
Saturday, 26 December 2015	Sunday service starting 8am	No service	Sat-Sun service starting 3am
Sunday, 27 December 2015	Sunday service	Sunday service	Saturday-Sunday service
Monday, 28 December 2015	Sunday service	Sunday service	Saturday-Sunday service
Tuesday, 29 December 2015	Saturday service	Saturday service	Saturday-Sunday service
Wednesday, 30 December 2015	Saturday service	Saturday service	Saturday-Sunday service
Thursday, 31 December 2015	Saturday service finishing around 10pm	Saturday service finishing around 7pm	Saturday-Sunday service
Friday, 1 January 2016	No service	No service	Saturday-Sunday service
Saturday, 2 January 2016	Saturday service	Saturday service	Saturday-Sunday service

Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve 2015 last buses on next page

Route	From	То	Christmas Eve	New Year's Eve
24H	Luton, Silver Street Dunstable, Winston Churchill	Dunstable, Winston Churchill Luton, Silver Street	•	No early finish No early finish
31	Luton, Church Street Dunstable, Winston Churchill	Dunstable, Winston Churchill Luton, Church Street	7.10pm 7.10pm	7.10pm 7.04pm
38	Dunstable, The Square Houghton Regis Academy	Houghton Regis Academy Dunstable, The Square	•	No early finish No early finish
38D	Dunstable, The Square Parkside, Dog & Duck	Parkside, Dog & Duck Dunstable, The Square	•	No early finish No early finish
61	Dunstable, Asda Aylesbury, Bus Station	Aylesbury, Bus Station Dunstable, Asda	TBC	TBC
70	Luton Station Luton Station Milton Keynes Central	Milton Keynes Central Leighton Buzzard Luton Station	3.50pm 5.50pm 6.05pm	3.45pm 6.45pm 6.05pm
A	Luton Airport Parkside, Dog & Duck	Parkside, Dog & Dog Luton Airport	10pm 10pm	10pm 10pm
F70	Luton Station Milton Keynes	Milton Keynes Luton Station	•	No early finish No early finish
Z	Luton, Church Street Parkside, Dog & Duck	Parkside, Dog & Duck Luton, Church Street	7.30pm 7pm	7.30pm 6.50pm

Luton Garage Boxing Day 2015 service details

Saturday-Sunday timetable

Route 757: First coach from Luton Station at 3.20am and Luton Airport at 3.35am

First coach from London, Victoria at 3am

Sunday timetable

Route A: First bus from Luton Airport at 8.05am and Luton Station at 8.17am

First bus from Dunstable Asda towards Luton at 8.02am

First bus from Parkside at 8.48am

Leighton Buzzard area

Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve 2015 last buses

Route	e From	То		Christmas Eve		New Year's Eve
D1	Leighton Buzzard Railway Station Sandhills	Sandhills Leighton Buzzard Railway Station		7.27pm 7.01pm		No early finish No early finish
32-35	Leighton Buzzard town services			No early finish		No early finish
61	Aylesbury Dunstable	Dunstable Aylesbury		7pm Aylesbury to Ivinghoe 7.40pm Ivinghoe to Aylesbury		7pm Aylesbury to Ivinghoe 7.40pm Ivinghoe to Aylesbury
150	Aylesbury Milton Keynes	Milton K Aylesbu	•	6.50pm Aylesbu Leighton Buzzar 6.20pm Milton K Railway Station Aylesbury	d eynes	No early finish No early finish
Fairfield and Stotfold areas Service changes						
Sunday, 20 December 2015 Monday, 21 December 2015 Tuesday, 22 December 2015 No			Normal s Normal s Normal s	service service		
Wednesday, 23 December 2015 Thursday, 24 December 2015		Normal service with early finish Service 6.55p opera 7.11p		operate	Hitchin to in full Arlesey to	
Friday, 25 December 2015 Saturday, 26 December 2015 Sunday, 27 December 2015 Monday, 28 December 2015 Tuesday, 29 December 2015 Wednesday, 30 December 2015 Thursday, 31 December 2015 Friday, 1 January 2016 Saturday, 2 January 2016		Saturday	ce service service service service service service service service			

Centrebus

Date	Service Level			
Thursday 24th December	Normal service with early finishes: B Last journey will be the 19:20 departure from Luton which will only operate as far as Dunstable at 20:00 & the 19:50 departure from Luton which will only operate as far as Dunstable at 20:01 10A Last journey will be the 19:10 departure from Luton. 17B Last journey will be the 18:40 departure from Luton 27 This service will not operate on days with early finishes. X31 Last journey will be the 19:33 departure from Luton.			
Friday 25th December	No service			
Saturday 26th December	A special service will operate on the Luton 10 providing a half-hourly service. No other service will operate.			
Sunday 27th December	Sunday service			
Monday 28th December	Sunday service			
Saturday service except:				
Tuesday 29th December	44/45, 308/380 and 378/379 which will operate a weekday service			
Wednesday	Saturday service except:			
30th December	44/45, 308/380 and 378/379 which will operate a weekday service			
	Saturday service except:			
Thursday 31st	44/45, 308/380 and 378/379 which will operate a weekday service			
December	There will be early finishes, to the same times as Christmas Eve.			
Friday 1st January	Sunday service			
	Normal service resumes Saturday 2nd January			

Grant Palmer Passenger Services

Thursday, 24 December 2015 Normal service except;

Services 20-29 – Saturday Service Service 37 – No Afternoon Service

Saturday, 25 December 2015 No Service

Sunday, 26 December 2015 No Service

Monday, 27 December 2015 No Service

Tuesday, 28 December 2015 No Service

Wednesday, 29 December 2015 Saturday Service, including on 49,

197, and 200.

Thursday, 30 December 2015 Saturday Service, including on 49,

197, and 200.

On this day, a normal service will also run

On Service 29 to St Neots.

Friday, 31 December 2015 Saturday Service, including on 49,

197, and 200.

Saturday, 1 January 2016 No Service

Sunday, 2 January 2016 No Service

Monday, 3 January 2016 A normal service resumes from today.

Herbert's Travel

Changes to the Herbert's bus services:

Date	80	95	185	187
Thursday, 24 December 2015	Normal service - Finish at 6pm	No service	Normal service	Normal service
Friday, 25 December 2015	No service	No service	No service	No service
Saturday, 26 December 2015	No service	No service	No service	No service
Sunday, 27 December 2015	No service	No service	No service	No service
Monday, 28 December 2015	No service	No service	No service	No service
Tuesday, 29 December 2015	Saturday service	No service	Normal service	Normal service
Wednesday, 30 December 2015	Saturday service	No service	Normal service	Normal service
Thursday, 31 December 2015	Saturday service - Finish at 6pm	No service	Normal service	Normal service
Friday, 1 January 2016	No service	No service	No service	No

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all members, friends and contacts

The BABUS Committee

Serving Bedfordshire for the last ten years

<u>Uno</u>

Service changes

Date

Wednesday, 23
December 2015

Normal Wednesday service

Thursday, 24 Thursday service with early finish. Last buses around 7.30pm.

December 2015 Saturday service on TFL Route 383

Friday, 25 December

2015

No service

Saturday, 26

December 2015

No service

Sunday, 27 December

2015

Normal Sunday service

Monday, 28

December 2015

Public Holiday service. Saturday service on TfL Route 383

Tuesday, 29 Saturday service on all routes except routes 201, 204, 206 &

December 2015 215

Wednesday, 30

December 2015 Saturday service on all routes except routes 205 & 312

Thursday, 31 Saturday service on all routes except routes except 203, 204,

December 2015 206 & 215. Early finish with last buses around 7.30pm

Friday, 1 January

2016

Public Holiday service on all routes

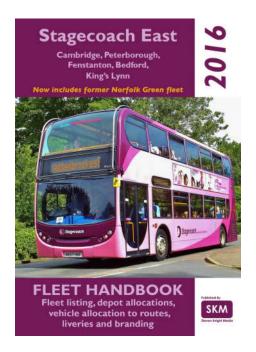
Saturday, 2 January Normal Saturday service

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all members, friends and contacts

The BABUS Committee

Serving Bedfordshire for the last ten years

ADVERTISMENT: New Stagecoach East Fleet Handbook



Stagecoach East Fleet Handbook 2016 (Third Edition – now incorporating Norfolk Green/Stagecoach in Norfolk) - £6.95 + £1.30 POSTAGE/PACKING

If you are interested in the vehicles of the Stagecoach fleet, then you might be interested in this book. Since the last edition of the Steven Knight Media Stagecoach East Fleet Handbook, there have been numerous fleet changes as the fleet is upgraded.

More significantly, in early 2015 the former Norfolk Green fleet based at King's Lynn was absorbed into Stagecoach East. This latest edition is fully expanded to include details of the vehicles operating from the former Norfolk Green depot at King's Lynn.

As usual, a complete fleet listing is accompanied by details of liveries and branding as well as the weekday allocation of vehicles to routes. This book has details of all buses operating from Stagecoach depots in Cambridgeshire, Bedfordshire and Norfolk.

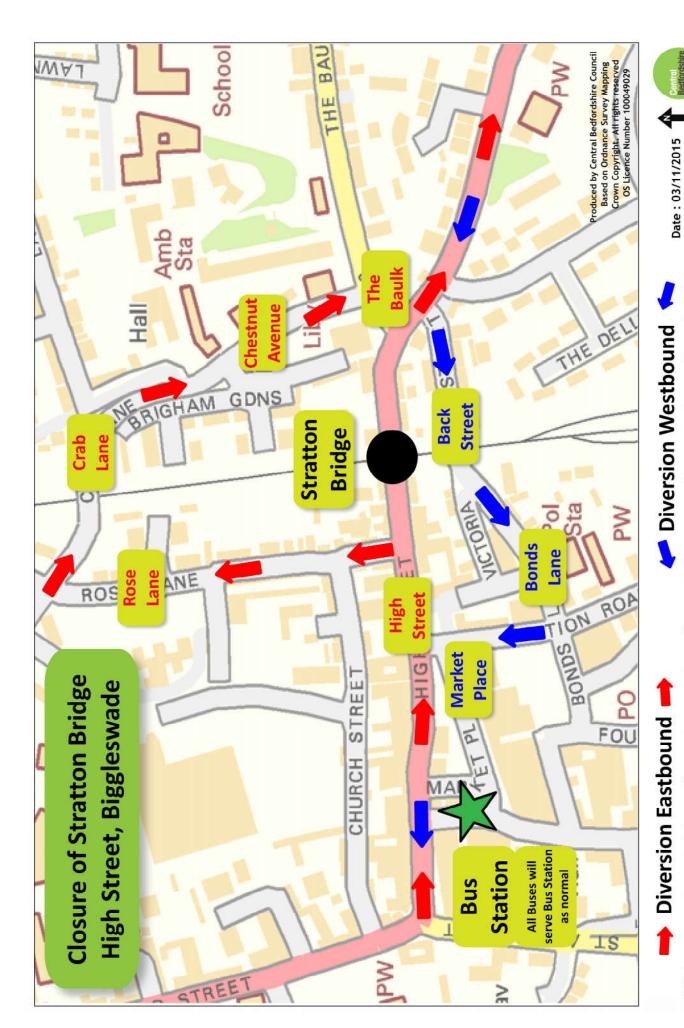
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