

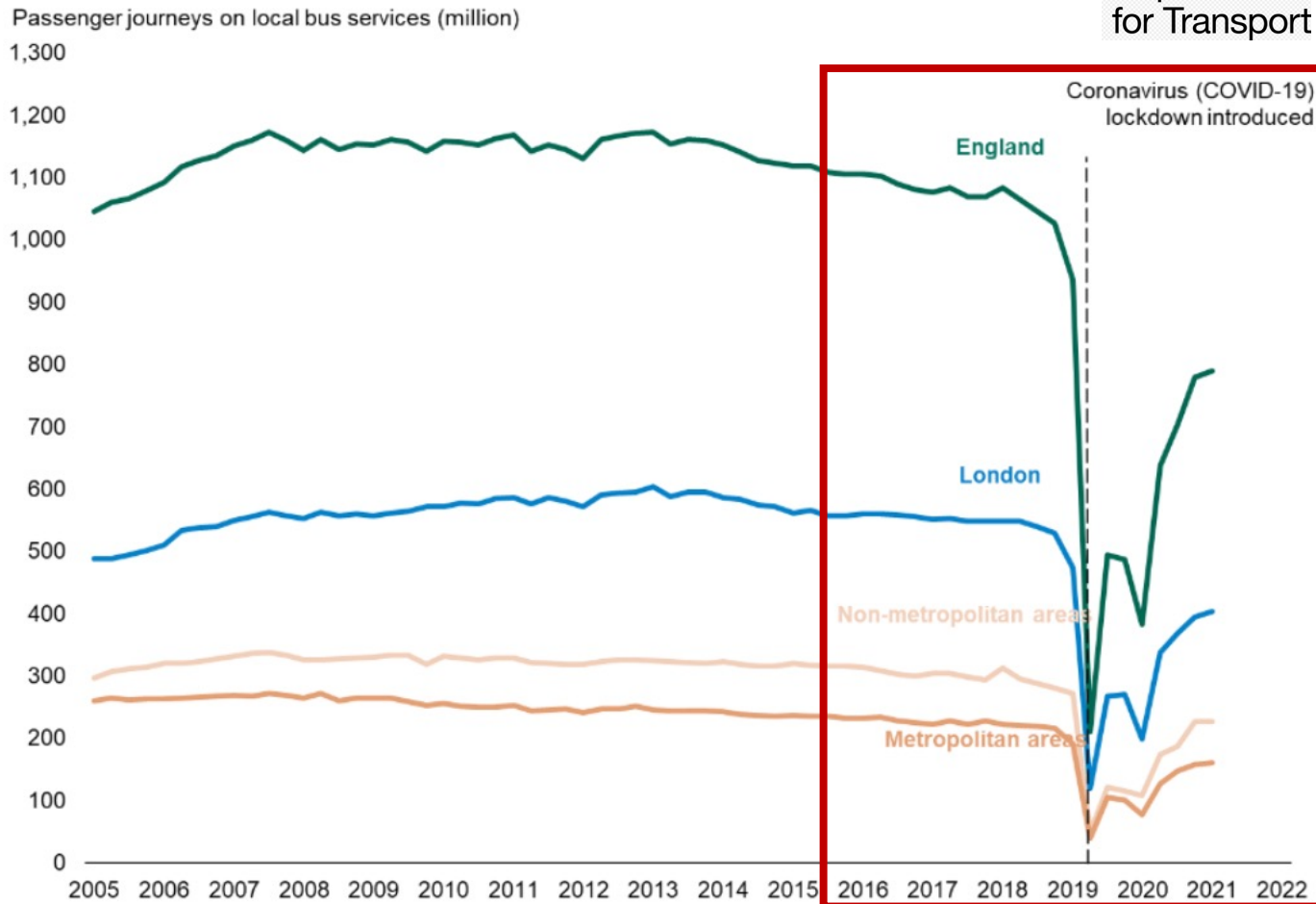
Somerset | Working Together
Bus Partnership | for Better Buses



BEWARE

**CRISIS
A-HEAD**

Chart 2: Local bus passenger journeys (seasonally adjusted) by metropolitan area status: England, quarterly from January to March 2005 to January to March 2022 - BUS0106a





Department
for Transport

BUS NUMBERS STILL DOWN


W/c October 24th

Bus passenger numbers
outside of London
75% of Pre Covid Levels

... current bus passenger journeys 29% lower in non-metropolitan areas,

BUS OPERATING COSTS SOARING





2019

Opportunity to earn around **£24k** a year

Himilo are working in partnership with First West of England to run several two-week FREE training programmes for candidates interested in working at First West of England throughout 2019. **Guaranteed interviews upon completion**. Many vacancies available.




+13%

2022

Bus Driver

FirstGroup Bristol

Apply directly on FirstGroup Careers

2 days ago Full-time

Trainee & Experienced Bus Drivers

Bristol, Hengrove

£27,000 per year

38 hours, FT & PT

2019

£1.30

2022

£1.90



+46%

With bus passenger numbers DOWN some 25+%

And operating costs ... UP by as much as 40+%

BUS COMPANIES ARE IN BUSINESS TO MAKE PROFITS

**HOW IS IT THAT BUSES ARE
STILL OPERATING ACROSS SOMERSET?**

Bus Recovery Grant

It builds on almost 2 years' worth of government support to keep England's bus network running. Funded from money originally allocated to improve our buses in 'BUS BACK BETTER'.... switched to maintaining our existing bus services. The latest funding package was announced in August and covers 6 months from October 2022.

**GRANT ONLY EXTENDS THROUGH TO
MARCH 2023**

**BUT
WHAT
WILL
HAPPEN
AFTER
MARCH
2023?**

**HOW WILL BUSES STILL OPERATE
ACROSS SOMERSET?**

SOMERSET ISN'T GOING TO HAVE MONEY TO FUND BUS SERVICES



“Inflation is eating away at our budgets and is already hitting us hard in demand driven care services and in construction projects.”

Councillor **Liz Leyshon**,
Somerset County Council Deputy Leader and Executive Lead



BEWARE

**CRISIS
AHEAD**

WHAT can
we do?

Bus Recovery Grant

HOUSE OF COMMONS



MARK HARPER

Transport Secretary



Secretary Under Secretary of State
Baroness Vere of Norbiton



Biography

Baroness Vere of Norbiton was appointed as a Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the Department for Transport on 23 April 2019, following her appointment as a Government Whip (Baroness in Waiting) from 2017 to 2019.

Bus Recovery Grant

Write to your MP



RATINGS: Clockwise from top left: Rebecca Pow, Jacob Rees-Mogg, James Heapey, John Penrose, David Warburton and Ian Liddell-Grainger

Use it

or

dreamstime.

Lose it!



CATCH THE
BUS
MONTH
GET ON BOARD
SEPTEMBER 2022

How much?!

Bus it! You know it makes sense.



Somerset Bus Partnership
Connecting communities and encouraging public transport.



SOMERSET



County Council

The best things in life are free!

Bus it! You know it makes sense.



Somerset Bus Partnership
Connecting communities and encouraging public transport.



WE

*need to do
what we can*

TO BOOST

PATRONAGE

On

OUR

Bus Routes

**PEOPLE NEED TO KNOW
THE TIMES OF THEIR BUSES**

Please update bus timetables!

Dear Editor

I, like many others, will be glad that the Frome/Bath busses are to keep running in the evenings and at weekends.

This morning, I waited

for a very long time, a Sunday.

Please may the timetable be updated, as the times listed in the shelter are not accurate. Rather a waste of time for some people, and

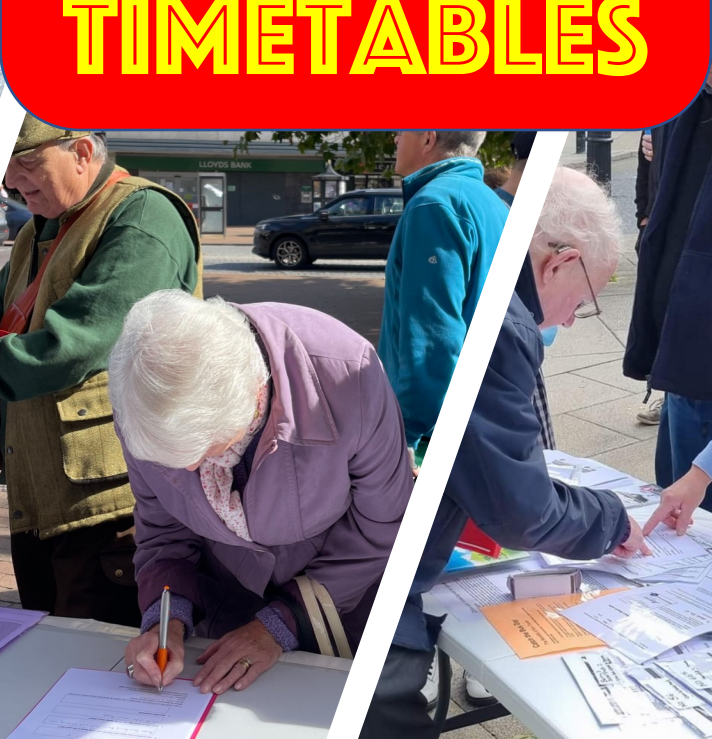
could be a long, cold wait on some days.

I am hoping that this will be forwarded to those responsible as soon as possible.

Sarah Linnell



**BUS STALLS:
GIVE OUT
TIMETABLES**



**Now,
EVERY
MONTH
IN SOMERSET
NEEDS TO BE
"CATCH
THE
BUS
MONTH"**



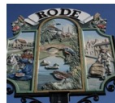
EASY TO USE, CUSTOMISED LOCAL BUS TIMETABLES. DOOR DROPPED TO EVERY HOME.

BUS TIMES FROM SEPTEMBER 2019



RODE VILLAGE BUS TIMETABLE

- TROWBRIDGE/MELKSHAM/
CHIPPENHAM
- FROME
- BATH



BUSES FROM RODE

Rode departure times are from Rode Memorial Hall.

TO FROME Faresaver: X34 times in black, **X67 in bold black italics.**
Monday to Friday First: **D2A in bold red & D2 times in bold orange.**
07:26 08:37 10:00 11:00 12:00 13:00 **13:55** 14:00
15:20 **16:10** 16:26 **17:03** 17:48 **18:03** **23:36**

TO FROME Faresaver: X34 times in black.
Saturday only First: **D2A in bold red & D2 times in bold orange.**
07:45 09:02 10:02 11:02 12:02 13:02 14:02 15:02
16:37 **16:45** 17:37 **18:00** **23:36**

TO BATH Faresaver: **X67 in bold black italics.**
Monday to Friday First: **D2A in bold red.**
06:24 07:38 08:35 09:29 09:37 11:59 (18:13)

TO BATH First: **D2A in bold red.**
Saturday only
07:29 08:32 09:30 18:26

TO TROWBRIDGE/CHIPPENHAM
Monday to Friday Faresaver: X34 times in black.
07:13 08:03 10:12 11:12 12:12 13:12 14:57 17:42
(17:42 only goes as far as Melksham)

TO TROWBRIDGE/CHIPPENHAM
Saturday only Faresaver: X34 times in black.
07:34 08:34 09:49 10:49 11:49 12:49 13:49 14:49
15:49 17:19

TIMES ARE OPERATIONAL FROM SEPTEMBER 2019 (n.b. Rode has NO Sunday Buses.)

Please Keep
And Pin To
Your Wall

BUSES TO RODE

Frome departure times are from Frome's Market Place.

Bath departure times are from the Bus Station (**D2**) and Dorchester Street (**X67**).
Trowbridge departure times (X34) are from Trowbridge Town Hall in Market Street.

FROM FROME Faresaver: X34 times in black, **X67 in bold black italics.**
Monday to Friday First: **D2A in bold red.**
06:02 07:00 **07:12** 07:50 **08:10 09:12 09:08** 10:00
11:00 **11:38** 12:00 13:00 14:45 17:30 **17:50**

FROM FROME Faresaver: X34 times in black.
Saturday only First: **D2A in bold red.**
07:09 07:20 **08:11** 08:20 **09:08** 09:35 10:35 11:35
12:35 13:35 14:35 15:35 17:06 **18:04**

FROM BATH Faresaver: **X67 in bold black italics.**
Monday to Friday First: **D2A in bold red & D2 times in bold orange.**
13:30 15:45 16:30 17:30 23:10

FROM BATH First: **D2A in bold red & D2 times in bold orange.**
Saturday only
16:15 17:30 23:10

FROM TROWBRIDGE Faresaver: X34 times in black.
Monday to Friday Frome Bus 67/234 time in blue.
07:12 08:20 09:47 10:47 11:47 12:47 13:47 15:06
16:11 17:33 **18:00** 08:00 67/234 bus is operated by Frome Bus and goes via Rode High Street by request only.

FROM TROWBRIDGE Faresaver: X34 times in black.,
Saturday only
07:32 08:48 09:48 10:48 11:48 12:48 13:48 14:48
16:23 17:23

Times of bus services operated by Faresaver are in **black**, First's in **red and orange**.



SOCIAL MEDIA

facebook

**YOUR OWN
FACEBOOK PAGE**

**bususers
group**



CATCH THE
BUS MONTH
GET ON BOARD
SEPTEMBER 2022

How much?!

Bus it!

You know it
makes sense.



**Frome And Villages Bus User
Group - Favbug**

@Favbug · Community



Yeovil Bus Users group

Public group · 679 members

Make use of the bus

IN MY VIEW

By **MARCUS FYSH**,
MP for Yeovil



IT was a pleasure to meet with the Somerset Development Manager for the Federation of Small Businesses, Ruth Lambert, at the end of last week. As we look to promote sustainable growth in the economy it was a great time to hear more about some of the ambitions and concerns of our small businesses, of which the FSB represents around 350 in Yeovil and South Somerset alone.

As well as issues about the cost of energy and some materials, we discussed some things that I think the Government should consider, such as how to encourage early payments to suppliers by larger companies, enforcing the right to repair and stopping companies such as Apple frustrating it, and looking to raise the VAT registration threshold which has been the same for some years now. Many thanks to Ruth for her time.

On a related note, I am in regular contact with the Somerset Bus Partnership who are campaigning to get more people using local bus routes again as numbers are still down as compared to before the Covid pandemic. The Government has stepped in with a bus recovery grant but routes need to be sustainable. Whether it's to not worry about parking, to help the environment or to help make sure our buses are well used and popular again, do think about getting back on board next time you are making a trip.

Rishi Sunak is the new Prime Minister. I had supported Penny

Mordaunt as more of a fresh start candidate and one able to unify the Party which is needed for effective government. She got within a couple of MP endorsements of making the 100 threshold to be taken to a vote of Members. I understand that no-one wanted a lengthy leadership challenge but would have liked to see some more opportunities to look at the candidates and their policies. Hopefully a better process can be agreed on for the future.

I want Rishi to succeed and do well and I hope that most of us do, as his success is very much linked to ours as a country. The challenge for him I think will be to show that he can take bold decisions to reduce the tax burden in a sustainable way and make the UK internationally competitive. We have to move on from the high taxing big spending government of the pandemic. Thank you very much to everyone who got in touch over the last few weeks with their views and preferences about leaders and the other big issues facing us at the moment.

Now that Parliament is fully restored to normal business after the pandemic there are lots of opportunities to visit and see the amazing buildings and enjoy the history of the place whatever your political views. Schools can get in touch with the brilliant education team who may even be able to help with the cost of a trip to London. There are also guided tours and a limited number of tickets available to Prime Minister's Questions. These are popular and there may be a bit of a wait but do get in touch if you are interested.

To contact me about any of the above or to see if I can help with a local issue please do email marcus.fysh.mp@parliament.uk or call 01935314321

BUSES NEED..



***So 'Get on Board'.. and help protect
the future of our Bus Network.***



Yeovil Bus Users Group.



LOCAL MEDIA

- ❖ **LOCAL PRESS**
- ❖ **LOCAL RADIO**
- ❖ **PARISH MAGAZINES**
- ❖ **COUNCIL NEWSLETTERS
& WEBSITES**

FREE EVERY MONTH for people and businesses in Wells and district

wellsvoice

November 2022 Issue 65 www.wellsvoice.co.uk

Join us for a vibrant Italian Christmas

RUGANTINO restaurant

2 courses £28
3 courses £35

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20 SADDLER ST. WELLS. BA5 2SE

Music night raises £2k for skatepark project

A SPECIAL concert at Cedars Hall in October with Jack Bessant, one of the founding members of rock band Reef, has raised thousands of pounds for Wells Skatepark.

Jack Bessant and The Cheddar Experiment Band, including Julian Bath (K-Passa), Damon Reece (Massive Attack, Spiritualised), Oli Lee, Blues legend Spex, Betsy Beard and Vince treated the audience to their mix of rock, country and chilled out surfy blues, with a mesmerising support from Betsy Beard. There was a good turnout with more than 200 tickets sold and £2,000 raised.

"We were really excited to see so much support for the project, the turnout was fantastic and the band made it a really special night," said Adrian Smith, a Wells Skatepark Community Group Trustee.

Young skaters were collecting change on the night and raised more than £90.

Continued on page 7



Characters brought to life as couple launch latest children's book in sweet shop – page 5

Cash help hope as carnival returns

Appeal for financial support ahead of eagerly-awaited Wells Carnival on November 18

Turn to page 3

Bloom winners receive awards

Praise for standard of entries in a challenging year as trophies and certificates are handed out

Turn to page 4



'Exceptional day' at food festival

Tenth anniversary event hailed as 'a really successful and celebratory' occasion

Turn to page 10

Loving memories

Tree of Light will be chance to reflect on lives of loved ones

Turn to page 12

WELLS BED SHOP

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- Wide range of beds, mattresses and bedroom furniture at unbeatable prices
- Free local delivery (up to 10 miles)
- Delivery times to suit within 1hr slot
- We can even take your old bed away



Showroom at 44 Westfield Road, Wells, open Mon-Fri 9am-5pm, Sat 9am-4pm

Thanks to local heroes!

MPs urged to back 5G safety inquiry

Lancelot

SomersetLive

FROME TIMES

THE TOWN'S OWN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER



Wells Voice

5 September · 🌐



Bus passengers and campaigners were out in force at a public rally at Wells Bus Station this morning organised by Wells Bus User Group. They were giving the thumbs up to buses at the start of Catch the Bus Month, an initiative that aims to encourage more people to catch buses. Group members will be back at the bus station on Wednesday and also have a stall at Wells Market to continue raising awareness about the threat to local bus services - with the 126 route already due to ... [See more](#)



Together

on-line

at Taunton Minster

United benefice of St Mary Magdalene

and

St John the Evangelist, Taunton

September 2022



The Link



The magazine for Rode, Tellisford, Woolverton and
Farleigh Hungerford, part of Hardington Vale



PARISH MAGAZINES

THE
ROUNDAABOUT
CHURCH AND COMMUNITY MAGAZINE

*"Season of white and mellow fruitfulness!
Close bosom-friend of the maturing sun,
Conspiring with him how to load and bless,
With fruit the vines that round the thatch-eaves run."
J. Keats*



Chilcompton Matters
September 2022
Autumn Magazine



The Union Jack was raised on the evening
of the 8th September and then lowered
to half-mast as a gesture of respect to
Queen Elizabeth II

How Does Your Garden Grow? Competition Worthy?

Volunteers Please – RPF and Church...

Let's Look After Rode's Phone Box

Return Dates For Clubs, Village Days and More!

CONTENT AND NEWS STORIES

CONTENT AND NEWS STORIES



Bus campaign moving in the right direction



CONTENT AND NEWS STORIES

...umming up support

...the situation. ...to see he was u...ncillors and pas...alike" said Linda. "We discus...

CONTENT AND NEWS STORIES


Catch
the
DASS
Day




CONTENT AND NEWS STORIES



**CHOOSE
TO BUS IT
SO YOU
ALWAYS
CAN**



**BUS IT
BECAUSE...**

- 1 You're helping save our planet
 - 2 You're ensuring a bus service for those dependent on it
 - 3 You're not getting stuck in rush hour gridlock
- 



❖ **COUNCIL NEWSLETTERS & WEBSITES**

- ✓ **BUS TIMES ON COUNCIL WEBSITE**
- ✓ **LOCAL EVENTS (HOW TO GET TO THERE BY BUS)**
- ✓ **PHOTO OF COUNCILLORS GOING BY BUS**



Councillor Bill Revans, Leader Of Somerset County Council

projectleaders



BUS CHAMPIONS

Bus Trip



COMING SOON

COMING SOON

Government to Cap Bus
Fares in England at £2 from
January 2023

COMING SOON

TAUNTON SPECIAL



All aboard for bargain bus fares – just £1 – in Somerset town

**BUS
CHAMPION**