

Celebrating our champions



EMPLOYEES across the Group who have gone the extra mile for excellence have been honoured in the 2013 Stagecoach Champions Awards.

This year's accolades were presented at the Group's recent management conference, recognising outstanding employees in the categories of Health, Safety, Customer Service, Environment, Innovation and Community.

Eighteen honours were up for grabs – gold, silver and bronze awards in each category – and more than 160 nominations were received.

The judging panel – consisting of Non-executive Director Helen Mahy, Stagecoach co-founder and Non-executive Director Ann Gloag, and Director of Corporate Communications Steven Stewart – had a tough challenge to select the winners.

Helen Mahy said: "The standard of nominations this year was extremely high and we are delighted to award our champions who are an inspiration to us all and thoroughly deserve their awards."

"Thanks to everyone who took the time to vote for a colleague. Again this year's awards outlined the quality of our workforce."

Turn to page 3 to find out who won this year's awards...

Double award success

STAGECOACH co-founder and Group Chairman Sir Brian Souter was recognised as the company collected two top honours at the 2013 Scottish Business Awards.



Chief Executive Martin Griffiths (centre) receives the Green Business of the Year award.

Sir Brian was presented with the Outstanding Contribution Award while Stagecoach Group was named winner of the Green Business of the Year Award. Former US President Bill Clinton was keynote speaker at the Edinburgh ceremony.

Speaking about the transport business he has helped shape for over 30 years, Sir Brian said: "I'm very fortunate to work in an industry that I care about and enjoy being part of."

"Transport affects the lives of millions of people every day. For more than three decades, Stagecoach has transformed public transport through new ideas and continued investment."

"This has been achieved thanks to the vital



Sir Brian Souter (centre) receives the Outstanding Contribution award.

contribution of many talented people across our group. This honour largely goes to them too, and I'd like to pay tribute to my team at Stagecoach Group, led by Martin Griffiths, and at Souter Investments, led by Andy Macfie."

Delighted by the Green Business Awards, Group Chief Executive Martin Griffiths added: "It's great to be recognised for our efforts to make transport greener and more sustainable."

"Providing greener, smarter travel is at the heart of what we do, which makes this award even more special for everyone within the Group."

Busway gets royal seal of approval

HER Majesty The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh chose to travel in style during a recent visit to Cambridge as they took a trip on the Guided Busway.

The royals were in Cambridge to open the new Birth Centre at The Rosie Hospital, boarding the bus to take them from Cambridge Station to the Addenbrooke's campus.

Stagecoach was delighted to welcome them on board.



The Queen enjoyed a tour of Cambridge's Guided Busway.

Important pension changes

▶ **THE UK Government has introduced automatic enrolment legislation which may affect you.**

This means that employees aged between 22 and State Pension Age, who do not already belong to a pension scheme, must be automatically enrolled and pay contributions along with their employer.

Stagecoach has decided to adopt automatic enrolment across all UK and London Bus businesses from a common automatic enrolment date on or around 1 November 2013.

More information about automatic enrolment and the contributions to be paid will be sent to employees affected between the end of August

2013 and the end of October 2013, depending on their individual circumstances. Membership of a pension scheme is not compulsory and employees may choose to opt out once they have been automatically enrolled. These choices will be explained when further information is sent out.

Stagecoach South Western Trains met its automatic enrolment duties on 1 May 2013 and East Midlands Trains will comply with automatic enrolment in a similar way on 1 October 2013. The earliest automatic enrolment date for light rail employees at Stagecoach Supertram is 1 April 2014 and these employees will receive separate information nearer that time.

OVERHEARD

Overheard in New York

▶ **Person 1:** "Hello. Where is the subway?"

Person 2: "What subway?"

Person 1: "Any subway?"

Person 2: "Well, where are you going?"

Person 1: "The subway."

Can you beat that? Send your weird and wonderful overheard comments to

lindsay.reid@stagecoachgroup.com



In the zone

▶ **STAGECOACH in Cumbria has shown its commitment to the continued success of Carlisle Youth Zone by presenting organisers with a £10,000 cheque.**

The donation is part of a £30,000 agreement over the past three years and ensures young people in Carlisle continue to have a recreational facility in the city.



Stagecoach Managing Director Nigel Winter presents a cheque to Youth Zone Commercial Manager Clare Muir.

Put on your dancing shoes

▶ **DRIVER Stuart Russel has raised more than £13,000 for the Mary Anne Evans Hospice in Nuneaton.**

Sponsored by Stagecoach Midlands, Stuart took part in a 'Strictly Learn to Dance' fundraiser where he and a group of 24 novice dancers performed at a charity event to raise the cash.

Midlands Managing Director Steve Burd said: "We are delighted to have supported Stuart and Lisa in their fundraising efforts for this incredibly worthwhile local charity."



Stuart Russell and dancing partner Lisa Standen.

The good old days

▶ **A TRANSPORT rally celebrating the buses of the past and present was recently hosted by Stagecoach South's Winchester Depot and the Hampshire Bus and Coach Preservation Group.**

Public were invited to see behind the scenes of the current company before stepping back in time with the Stagecoach Heritage Fleet, which includes the very first Dennis Trident, and vehicles from the National Bus Company.

Andrew Dyer, Managing Director of Stagecoach South, said: "This was a great opportunity for people to experience four decades of bus travel while also finding out how we run services throughout the city today."

Take up the Challenge

▶ **TRANSAID, a charity strongly supported by Stagecoach, has invited staff to take part in its fundraising challenge events later this year.**

Activities include a London to Amsterdam cycle and a bike and white water rafting challenge in Uganda.

Transaid is an international development charity which aims to improve the quality of life of those in the developing world by making transport more available and affordable.

More details are available at www.transaid.org.

Keep on running

▶ **Chorley Driver Tracy Clugston recently competed in the 10k Race for Life at Moor Park in Preston.**

Tracy raised £1,500 for Cancer Research and would like to thank everyone who supported her.



Tracy with her medal.

On your bike

▶ **STAGECOACH London Controller Darren Armstrong is embarking on a 400-mile bike ride from Paris to London in aid of kids cancer charity Clic Sargent.**

Darren, who is a keen cyclist and commutes over 100 miles each week to West Ham Garage, has also raised money through two other charity events.

You can sponsor Darren by visiting www.justgiving.com/Darren-Armstrong1974.



Darren Armstrong is to cycle 400 miles for Clic Sargent.

You are the Champions

Stagecoach has celebrated its fourth annual Champions Awards, with a total of 18 awards being handed out at the Group's recent management conference. Group Chairman Sir Brian Souter and Non-executive Director Helen Mahy presented the awards at the special event held in Venice.



Gold Champions

Safety Champion

Gold Award – Ian Astle, Fleet Engineer, Etches Park Depot, East Midlands Train. Awarded for instrumental work in the design of a brake controller, improving reliability and safety.



Environment Champion

Gold Award – Cem Davis, Shift Station Manager, London Waterloo, South West Trains-Network Rail Alliance. Awarded for his performance in managing cleaning and waste removal at Waterloo.



Health Champion

Gold Award – Paul Ward, Bus Driver, Chorley, Stagecoach UK Bus. Received recognition for introducing a local corporate gym membership and healthy option meal plan.



Innovation Champion

Gold Award – Alan Walker, Electrician, Bromley, Stagecoach UK Bus. Awarded for the design and build of new equipment, including an 'air leak sniffer' and an on-board battery status monitor. (Alan was unable to attend the presentation ceremony).

Community Champion

Gold Award – Coach USA North East division, New York Sightseeing, megabus.com and Coach Canada. Praised for their response to Hurricane Sandy.



Customer Service Champion

Gold Award – Owen McGuire, Bus Driver, Newcastle, Stagecoach UK Bus. Acknowledged for his commendable tact and patience and receiving positive feedback from customers.



Other winners

Safety Champion:

- **Silver award:** Nigel Carlisle, Station Route Manager, Lincoln, East Midlands Trains
Nigel spearheaded the programme to ensure all East Midlands Trains stations have a winter weather plan.
- **Bronze award:** Michael Shanks, Driver, Dunfermline, Stagecoach UK Bus and Robin Goodfellow driver, Dunfermline, Stagecoach UK Bus
Awarded for bravely stopping a youth from boarding a school bus in Fife with a knife.

Environment Champion:

- **Silver award:** Michael Corcoran, Fixed Assets and Facilities Manager, Shared Service Centre, Stockport
Michael has taken the lead in seeking to reduce the footprint of both the company's car and non-commercial bus fleet.
- **Bronze award:** Matt Stennings, Bus Driver, Manchester, Stagecoach UK Bus
Recognised for rolling out the GreenRoad eco-driving system at Stagecoach's Sharston depot in Manchester.

Health Champion:

- **Silver award:** Phil Kettle, Garage Supervisor, Romford, Stagecoach UK Bus
Phil has lost 14 stone in weight since November 2011 and encourages others to adopt a healthier lifestyle.
- **Bronze award:** Elaine Gale, PA, Gillmoss, Stagecoach UK Bus
Elaine works in partnership with local community health organisations, promotes healthy social activities and arranges annual Wellbeing Days.

Innovation Champion:

- **Silver award:** Nick Allen, Enterprise Architect, Stagecoach Group
Nick led a team to re-develop the retail system for the megabus.com business in the UK and North America.
- **Bronze award:** Alan Woods, Garage Manager, Bow, Stagecoach UK Bus
Awarded for developing a tool to identify drivers who may be more likely to have driving standards issues.

Community Champion:

- **Silver award:** Lyn Morrow, Maintenance Administrator, Peterborough, Coach Canada
Lyn has raised \$110,000 for charity in the past decade.
- **Bronze award:** Stewart Legg, Support Clerk, Portsmouth and Southsea, South West Trains
Stewart works with a school in Portsmouth, both as a mentor and assisting the PE department.

Customer Service Champion:

- **Silver award:** Maria Atfield, Meet and Greet passenger assistance, London, The South West Trains – Network Rail Alliance
Maria has worked at Waterloo for a number of years and has received numerous letters of praise from customers.
- **Bronze award:** Steve Wilkinson, Train Driver, Norwich, East Midlands Trains
Awarded for putting his passengers first and going beyond what was expected of him during two incidents.

A big breakfast

▶ THE South West Trains–Network Rail Alliance employees, based at Friars Bridge Court, raised £295 by baking an array of tasty breakfast treats in aid of The Big Breakfast.

The nationwide event raises funds for The Railway Children, which looks after homeless young people living by railways worldwide.

Sharon joins the Alliance

▶ THE South West Trains–Network Rail Alliance has appointed Sharon Vye Parminter as its new Safety and Assurance Director.



Sharon Vye Parminter.

Sharon has 19 years' experience, which includes delivering a safe railway for passengers on various routes across the country.

"I am thrilled to join the The South West Trains–Network Rail Alliance and welcome the challenge to make an already excellent safety record even better," said Sharon.

Green challenge

▶ DIRECTORS from East Midlands Trains recently joined the company's station management team for a gardening challenge in a bid to improve Cromford station for customers.

Their tasks for the day included cutting back overgrown shrubs and removing weeds and brambles, which were replaced with attractive plants, bulbs and wildflower seeds.

HR Director Clare Burles said: "We know how important it is that we offer our customers the best possible environment in which to catch their train. We therefore threw down the gauntlet to our stations team to see who had the greenest fingers and who could make the best improvements to Cromford station."



The Cromford gardening challenge team.

All go for Nottingham

▶ EAST Midlands Trains has started work on a £100m project to completely renew the railway around Nottingham.

Network Rail is re-laying more than a mile of track and a series of junctions, constructing a new platform, closing three signal boxes and two level crossings, and erecting more than 140 new signals.

The work will bring a faster and more reliable railway infrastructure to complement the Nottingham Hub project. This will deliver bigger and better station facilities at

Nottingham Railway Station, and will open in early 2014.

David Horne, Managing Director of East Midlands Trains, said: "This is a very exciting and significant scheme for Nottingham and one that will create a better, more reliable railway for passengers.

"Our priority in creating the timetables has been to run as many trains as we can, whilst offering a comprehensive and efficient bus operation on those routes where we are unable to offer a train service."

Station adoption

▶ NATIONAL Volunteer Week saw East Midlands Trains thank the 105 station adopters across the network who help to make train stations more attractive to customers.

Head of Stations for East Midlands Trains, Andy Moore, said: "We have more than 100 adopters across our network whose input is invaluable. We're proud to be associated with many award-winning adopter teams who make their stations so welcoming for rail customers."

It is hoped even more people will offer a small amount of their time to add to the company's efforts.



Station adopters at Kidsgrove show off their handywork.

Guiding the way



Managing Director Tim Shoveller (left) tries the new guided walkway.

▶ CLAPHAM Junction has become the first station in the UK to be equipped with a guided path for blind or partially sighted passengers.

Managing Director of the the South West Trains–Network Rail Alliance, Tim Shoveller, was blindfolded to try the new guided walkway with the assistance of a guide dog.

Tim said: "This is the first time a UK station has been equipped with a guided path and it will make a real difference to many of our passengers."

Fully trained for success

▶ NVQ qualifications have been awarded to 18 train drivers and guards by The South West Trains–Network Rail Alliance as part of its commitment to Investors in People.

The qualification has been developed as a result of a unique collaborative project by the Alliance, City and Guilds, and Bracknell & Wokingham College.



The newly qualified employees with Alliance managers and directors.

Catch the Bus Week

STAGECOACH joined forces with sustainable transport group Greener Journeys and other local bus providers to promote the benefits of bus use during the UK's first ever 'Catch the Bus Week'.

Throughout the week, Stagecoach – which offers the best value bus fares and has the highest customer satisfaction rate of any major UK Bus operator – highlighted the environmental and financial benefits of using the bus more often through a programme of promotional activities.

Robert Montgomery, Deputy Managing Director of Stagecoach UK Bus, said: "There are obvious environmental benefits of taking the bus instead of the car – but bus travel can also save people money and reduce the stress of driving and parking in busy towns and cities."

Transport Minister Norman Baker launched 'Catch the Bus Week' in London alongside Greener Journeys Chief Executive Claire Haigh.



The Stagecoach North East team promoting Catch the Bus Week.



Balloon artist Matt Austin boarded buses in South West during the week.



Employees out and about promoting bus travel in Cheltenham.

On the run for a good cause

JOHN Fletcher of Stagecoach East Midlands plans to raise funds for Cerebral Palsy Sport (CP Sport) by taking part in the Great North Run on 15 September.

John only took up running 18 months ago and was inspired to take on the challenge by one of his relatives who is a trainer with CP Sport.

Generous donation

FORMER employees' General Motor Carrying Company (GMCC) Social and Recreation Club has donated its remaining funds, totalling £7,700, to Kinross based hospice Rachel House – one of the establishments run by Children's Hospice Association Scotland (CHAS).

Charlie Mullen, Managing Director, Stagecoach East Scotland, said: "The generosity of the members of the club is unbelievable and it is wonderful to see such a large sum of money go to such an important cause."

Clean bill of health

TOMMY Pilkington, a Deputy Duty Manager at Stagecoach North East, has reported a clean bill of health for 35 years, having never taken a day off work due to illness.

"I just come into work and do my job no matter how I'm feeling," said Tommy who joined the Walkergate depot in 1978. "It's a pleasure coming in every day. I don't drink or smoke and I stay fit by playing golf so I suppose that helps me stay healthy. There's no big secret!"

Employee benefits

A NEW benefits programme has been launched for Stagecoach employees in its UK Bus division.

Employees are to benefit from thousands of retail discounts from high street stores as well as money-saving leisure deals and a 24/7 assistance programme.

Stagecoach UK Bus Managing Director Robert Montgomery said: "We are fortunate to have a committed and professional workforce. We hope this programme of benefits will be of use to them as well as demonstrating that we value their contribution in helping to deliver greener, smarter bus services to millions of people every day."

Louise goes moonwalking

LOUISE Foord, a Controller at Hastings depot, took part in the Moonwalk London raising £385 for a breast cancer charity which Stagecoach rounded up to £500.

Louise said: "Although it was very cold and windy it was a fantastic night and the atmosphere was amazing."



Louise and a fellow walker after completing the Moonwalk.

Famous five



The five lucky passengers who feature on Stagecoach buses.

STAGECOACH North East surprised five competition winners by putting their pictures on buses as part of a competition which centred on how people make the most of their concessionary bus passes.

Poems, heartfelt tales and interesting anecdotes were submitted and five worthy winners were selected, each receiving a £100 shopping voucher.

Brian Sleightholme, Operations Manager at the South Shields Depot, Stagecoach North East, said: "We were overwhelmed at the response from the public, and the effort so many people put into their entries."

Meanwhile, two students from Newcastle University were also immortalised on buses after taking part in a photoshoot for Stagecoach North East on behalf of Tyne Tees Models.

Tram rails investment

➤ **SUPERTRAM network owner South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive (SYPTe) and system operator Stagecoach Supertram are funding a major programme of rail replacement works on the network.**

The engineering work will replace worn out sections of the tram track and is essential to protect the city's tram network for the future.

The first phase of replacement work is now under way. During the work – which is expected to take around 12 weeks – trams

will be replaced by a dedicated bus service to ensure minimal disruption for passengers.

Supertram Managing Director Margaret Kay said: "These are essential works for the Supertram network and for everyone who uses our trams. This project is vital in helping us to continue providing a high quality transport option for people across Sheffield. We are also pleased that the joint investment being undertaken now will benefit customers and the city of Sheffield many years after the end of our current contract to operate the system."

Phil of fun

➤ **PASSENGERS at Sheffield station recently had the chance to compete against famous darts legend, Phil "The Power" Taylor, while helping to raise funds for Sheffield Children's Hospital.**

The 16 times world darts champion, and current face of East Midlands Trains adverts promoting unbeatable fares to London, visited Sheffield to take on passengers in a 'Challenge Phil' style event.

Jason Cocker, Station Manager, said: "It's a great way to raise some valuable funds for the Sheffield Children's Hospital, a charity that we closely support."



Darts champion Phil 'The Power' Taylor.

Drive to succeed

➤ **LONDON bus driver Feisal Usso has added a Master's degree from Birkbeck, University of London, to his impressive CV.**



Stagecoach London driver Feisal Usso.

Feisal, who drives the 158 route from Chingford Mount to Stratford, graduated in April with a Merit for his postgraduate degree in Development Studies and Social Anthropology.

His love of learning is such that he is already thinking of possibly studying for a PhD or using his qualifications to enhance his career prospects. Before becoming a bus driver, Feisal, originally from Ethiopia, worked as a freelance interpreter for solicitors carrying out immigration work.

New open top tours



The open top tour bus on the Isle of Skye.

➤ **STAGECOACH Highlands has launched two new open top bus routes for the summer season, taking in two of the most popular Highland tourist destinations on the Isle of Skye in Lochaber.**

Steve Walker, Managing Director of Stagecoach Highlands, said: "The incredible scenery on the Isle of Skye and in Lochaber is outstanding, and what better way to enjoy it than from the top deck of an open top bus."

Funds raised for hospice

➤ **LONDON'S Lleyton garage has donated £500 to St Joseph's Hospice following its win in the most recent 'Big Switch-off' event.**



Kevin Hollingshead presents the cheque to Anita Brien from the hospice.

Big bus pull

➤ **A TEAM from Skegness depot took part in a challenge with local people to pull an open top bus the full length of the main street. They raised money to buy a specialised wheelchair for local resident Steven Huckle who has Muscular Dystrophy and Osteoporosis.**



The Skegness team raise money for local resident.

Picture of the Season

➤ **This edition's winning Picture of the Season was taken by Shayne Howarth, who works for Stagecoach Yorkshire at the Chesterfield depot. It shows an Optare Solo in Newton Heath.**

Congratulations to Shayne who will

shortly receive his prize of £50 of M&S vouchers.

If you think you have a picture that captures one of the four seasons, please send your image to Lindsay Reid, On Stage, Stagecoach Group, 10 Dunkeld Road, Perth, PH1 5TW, or email it to lindsay.reid@stagecoachgroup.com



Fifth annual Green Week is a big success

STAGECOACH recently held its fifth annual Group-wide Green Week which proved to be the biggest and busiest yet.

During the week-long programme of activities, the company encouraged employees and customers to continue driving forward the green agenda.

This year's event also incorporated World Environment Day on Wednesday 5 June – a widely celebrated global day for positive environmental action.

Events held during Green Week included:

- Green initiatives held in partnership with a number of local schools
- A series of green giveaway events and roadshows at bus and rail companies across the UK where employees handed out thousands of eco giveaways to passengers
- Competitions within the company's UK Bus and Coach Canada operations for customers to win free travel on their local services
- Employee energy awareness events at many of the Group's businesses
- Paper amnesty schemes at many companies to encourage recycling
- Stagecoach green teams getting involved in local environmental projects
- 'Leave your car at home' days held at depots and offices
- Staff green quiz competitions with top prizes for employees
- 'Wear something Green' on World Environment Day with proceeds going to local environmental projects
- Lunchtime walks and cycling into work events for employees

Stagecoach Group Chief Executive Martin Griffiths said: "We have been widely recognised for our efforts in becoming a greener business. But there's a lot more we still want to achieve. Green Week helps us to continue the momentum. We will also continue to work hard all year round to attract more people to public transport as well as taking further steps to become a more sustainable business ourselves."



Stagecoach Manchester's Bill Priday uses an Ultrasonic Air Tester to check for leaks in compressed air equipment at the company's depots.



A delighted customer enjoys a green giveaway in Hastings along with local employees.



The East Scotland green team taking part in a local beach clean.



East Scotland Marketing Assistant Maree Chisholm (right) with green competition winner Lorraine Gunn.



Stagecoach employees take part in a bus sweep in Canterbury.



The South East green team with winners of the company's Green Week design competition.



Stagecoach North East staff pay a visit to a local primary school with a bus in tow.



West Scotland green champion Jim McMenemy ran 13 miles to kick-start the week.



Alan Tucker from Cwmbran depot takes part in a green giveaway in the area.

More green buses on the way

A MULTI-MILLION POUND investment will procure dozens of hybrid, electric and biomethane gas

buses for Stagecoach operations in Manchester and Sunderland.

The £13.5 million investment is part-funded by grants totalling £2.3 million from the latest round of allocations from the Department for Transport's (DfT) Green Bus Fund.

A fleet of 38 ADL Enviro 400 hybrid electric

double-decker buses, costing £10.5 million, will go into service in Manchester by 2014.

Seventeen Scania/ADL Enviro 300 single-decker biomethane gas buses are to be introduced in Sunderland at a cost of £3 million.

Magic 25 million for megabus.com



Amanda Brown (left) was the 25 millionth passenger to travel with megabus.com US. She is pictured with the company's Managing Director Bryony Chamberlain.

MEGABUS.COM US has now carried more than 25 million passengers in North America since its launch in 2006.

Managing Director Bryony Chamberlain congratulated the company's 25 millionth customer, Amanda Brown, by presenting her with an iPad.

"Megabus.com is now the travel option of choice for more than 25 million people, and we're thrilled to serve them as our passengers," said Mike Alvich, megabus.com's Vice President of marketing and public relations. "Our customers continue to look for ways to stretch their hard-earned dollar and we look forward to providing them with a safe, convenient and affordable travel option."

About 1,216 miles separates megabus.com from being able to boast a coast-to-coast

service. Passengers heading west can hop a Megabus in New York and travel to Dallas via Pittsburgh, Detroit, Chicago and Memphis and those travelling east can board in Los Angeles and travel directly to Las Vegas.

Colm Lynch, Assistant Director of Megabus.com, explained that much of the company's growth has been made possible with the expansion of the Coach USA companies back into Texas, Atlanta and California. He added: "This gives us access to drivers, garages and local experience that helps develop services. Of course, there is the entire mountain-time region where we have very little presence so far, so the challenge in bridging the West Coast operations with the rest of the network remains wide open."

Shane delivers supplies

SHANE Simpson, IT Analyst for Coach USA, showed great community spirit travelling 200 miles to provide valuable aid to tornado stricken Moore in Oklahoma.

The IT Analyst, who is based in Dallas, used personal time off work to deliver much-needed supplies to the area which had been devastated by the tornado in May. Food, water, clothing and landscaping tools were among the essential aid items which had been collected through donations from organisations in the North Central Texas.



Shane amid the devastation caused by the tornado.

Award-winning PR

PR firm Hanser and Associates has won three awards in the American Marketing Association-Iowa NOVA awards competition as a result of its work with megabus.com in the US.

The three awards recognised the launch of the Texas Triangle in the categories of integrated marketing campaign (media relations, social media, events and advertising), public relations and advertising.

Megabus Matt

BASEBALL fan Matthew Well found one way to get the best value during a recent whistle-stop challenge.

Matthew used megabus.com to travel to 25 major league parks in 25 days, earning him the name Megabus Matt.

Matt bought 22 megabus.com tickets for his trip at \$1 each, helping him to complete his entire trip for under \$700.

New stop for Minnesota

MEGABUS.COM US has added a new stop at St. Paul's Midway Shopping Centre in Minnesota, allowing passengers to take the coach on to Madison, Milwaukee and Chicago.

"Adding another arrival and departure location in this market gets us closer to Concordia University students and provides more options for our customers," said Mike Alvich, Vice President of Marketing and Public Relations for Megabus.

Steve steps in

COACH USA IT Manager Steve Cameron stepped in to help when a driver experienced a medical emergency.

Steve, who was on board testing wi-fi solutions at the time, called 911 and assisted with passengers injuries, keeping order and calm on the bus until the Safety Manager could attend.

Top commercial

A PROMOTIONAL advert created by Coach USA Wisconsin Coach Lines for its airport service has received 1st place recognition.

The advert was awarded Best TV commercial in a large media market by the Wisconsin Broadcasters Association.

Award for heroic Ray



Fire rescue hero Ray Wallace (left) receives his Service to the Community award from Operations Manager Geoff Reed.

HEROIC bus driver Ray Wallace, who saved a neighbour from a house fire, has been commended for his bravery by Stagecoach North East.

Ray, who was presented with a special Service to the Community Award, said: "I was just sitting at home watching TV when I spotted the fire across the street.

"I could see someone in the house and, when I reached it, I realised it was locked so I started banging on the door to get the owner's attention while my stepson phoned for the emergency services.

"We eventually got through the door and managed to help an elderly gentleman out. He was extremely dazed and confused."

Chad's a lifesaver

COACH USA bus driver Chad Spry has been credited with saving a teenager's life after a car crash.

Chad said: "I noticed two rows of carpet laying on the road and, as I got closer, I saw the car and I said 'oh my God, there's bodies there!'"

The quick-thinking coach driver was the first to call 911. He then parked his bus and worked with the operator to see if one of the victims was alive, opening his mouth so he could breathe.

"I opened it up and he kind of gasped and then I said 'he's breathing!'" said Chad.

Emergency Operator Krystynn Reinart added: "For Chad to have stopped and helped, that probably saved this guy's life."

Karate champion

WATERLOO train driver John Marchadier won a bronze medal at the Karate World Championships in Bucharest, Romania.

John, who trained five days a week prior to the competition, is also an international karate referee.

Trading places

YORKSHIRE bus drivers recently attended an event to help them better understand the barriers that blind and partially sighted customers face when travelling on buses.

The event was held by the Royal National Institute of Blind People (RNIB) and drivers took part in tasks such as trying to board a bus and paying for a ticket blindfolded.

Stagecoach Operations Director Sue Hayes said: "We are keen to gain a better understanding of the challenges that blind and partially sighted people face when using our buses, and make a positive difference to their public transport experience."

Loyal service

STAGECOACH South Wales held its Long Service Awards Dinner recently in Cwmbrân, celebrating the loyal service of a number of employees.



South Wales' long-serving staff.

A piece of cake

COLLEAGUES from Dover depot raised over £150 for Pilgrims Hospices by holding a cake sale during the charity's 'It's a Piece of Cake' fundraising week.



Dover depot employees (from left) Andrea Hayes, Sara Clements, Alan Wright, Brenda Law and Karen Freer tuck in for Pilgrims Hospices.

Off with his hair

A CHARITY chop saw a Supertram employee parting company with something he was rather attached to.

Bob Beechill cut off the pony tail he'd sported for 11 years to help raise money as part of a charity cycle challenge by colleagues Treana Hudson and Lindsay Horsfield.

His efforts raised a fantastic £250 and he also donated his hair to a cancer charity which makes real hair wigs for cancer patients.



Bob Beechill's ponytail was a real hair-raiser!

New appointments

STAGECOACH Midlands has announced the appointment of three new Operations Managers.

Peter Knight, who started in the Stagecoach Graduate Programme, has been promoted to Operations Manager at the Nuneaton depot following a successful two years as Assistant Operations Manager.

Stagecoach in Northampton has welcomed Tony Simmons as Operations Manager, who has been with the company for 14 years, having previously held the post at Lemington Spa and Stratford.

And Jayson Smith is the newly appointed Operations Manager for Lemington Spa and Stratford. He has been with Stagecoach for 12 years and is moving from his previous role as Operations Manager in Nuneaton.



One of the new Operations Managers, Tony Simmons.

Senga's new role

STAGECOACH Group's Coaches and Special Activities business has announced that Senga Crosby, previously Stagecoach UK Bus Marketing Coordinator, has been appointed Marketing Manager of Stagecoach Coaches and Special Activities.

Senga has taken on marketing responsibility for the company's megabus.com (UK and Europe) operations as well as the Scottish Citylink business which is a joint venture between Stagecoach and international transport group ComfortDelGro.

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If you have a story for On Stage, please contact Lindsay Reid as above.

The copy deadline for the next edition of On Stage will be Friday 16 August 2013.



New MDs announced

THE APPOINTMENT of two new Managing Directors at Stagecoach's UK Bus division has been confirmed.

Philip Norwell, currently Commercial Director, Stagecoach East, will take on the role of Managing Director, Stagecoach South East, from 1 September following the announcement that current South East Managing Director Paul Southgate is to retire on 1 October 2013. Philip began working

alongside Paul in the role of Managing Director (Designate) from 1 June 2013.

Michael Watson, currently Operations Director, Stagecoach North East, was appointed Managing Director, Stagecoach South West, with effect from 1 July 2013. As previously announced, current South West Managing Director Michelle Hargreaves took up the post of Managing Director, Stagecoach East Midlands, on 1 July 2013.

The quickfire round - Owen McGuire

- Who are you? Owen McGuire, Bus Driver at Stagecoach North East Walkergate depot.
- What do I like about my job? Meeting members of the public. I have made lots of new friends whilst in my job.
- What do you least like about your job? Time spent away from my family but that makes my time off work more special.
- Favourite TV Show? Mrs Brown's Boys.
- Biggest achievement? Winning my award (Stagecoach Customer Service Champion 2013). I have never won anything in my life, not even the egg and spoon race!

- Worst Job? I was meant to be a trainee gardener but spent the first 12 months as a litter picker and toilet cleaner.
- Most embarrassing moment? Whilst cleaning leaves out of the lake in the park I worked at, I slipped and fell in the lake.
- Dream Job? To be an MD for Stagecoach.
- Favourite animal? Horses.
- Most like to be stuck in a lift with? A lift repair man.



Long service

LOYAL service and commitment to passenger transport was recognised with awards marking 359 years of service at Stagecoach Cumbria and North Lancashire.

Ronald Skelton, from the Carlisle depot, is one of the longest serving members of staff achieving a commendable 48 years with Stagecoach.

Nigel Winter, Managing Director, said: "It is with great pride that I presented so many awards to so many dedicated staff."



Staff are awarded for their long service.

Jimmy bids farewell

MERSEYSIDE Driver James Dickinson, known as Jimmy, has retired 46 years after starting his career as a conductor in 1967.

Jimmy had a local presentation on his last active day in service as well as a special dinner which was well deserved following almost a half a century of tremendous service. He will be sorely missed by colleagues.



Jimmy's last day in the driving seat.

Celebrating 41 years' service

A CELEBRATION was held at Worthing bus depot for 64-year-old Tommy Tsoi marking an impressive 41 years of service.

Tommy, from Worthing, joined what was then Southdown Motor Services in 1972 as a Conductor and subsequently trained as a driver.

During his long career, Tommy has become a well-known friendly face on the buses to many of Worthing's passengers.

Worthing Conductor Tommy is recognised for his long service.

