

Book a small piece of history

A NEW book has been launched which tells the story of London's newest transport icon.

Entitled 'London's New Routemaster', it tracks the progress from the initial bus competition – when the public were asked for suggestions and ideas – through to professional designs and the unveiling of the bus.

Published by Merrell in association

with TfL, the book includes contributions from experts in design and manufacturing, explaining the concept behind the rear sweeping staircase, the bench seats, the choice of flooring and seat covers and the design of the famous open platform.

The bus, currently operating on seven full routes throughout the capital, was designed by Thomas Heatherwick, the man responsible for the Olympic cauldron at the London 2012 Games.

The New Routemaster is the greenest diesel-electric double-deck hybrid bus in the world. In tests a prototype was

found to emit a quarter of the NOx (oxides of nitrogen) and PM (particulate matter) of an average hybrid bus and 20 per cent less CO₂. When all 600 are in service in 2016 they will reduce CO₂ emissions in the capital by around 20,600 tonnes a year.

The glossy, 160-page hard-backed book is released as the capital celebrates the 'Year of the Bus' which marks the essential role that buses play in London.

Competition

TfL has five copies of the fully illustrated book to give away.

For your chance to win, answer this question: **Who designed the New Routemaster?**

Send your answer to metrocompetitions@tfl.gov.uk, with 'New Routemaster' in the subject heading, by midnight.

For terms and conditions, visit tfl.gov.uk/terms. Winners will be selected at random from correct entries.



Tube improvements – post weekend update



Around 350 metres of track was replaced at Temple as part of Tube improvements to increase reliability on the District and Circle lines.

London Underground also took advantage of the temporary closure to carry out station improvements at Embankment, Victoria and Sloane Square.

On the Metropolitan line, 300 metres of drainage work was carried out at Amersham and points

were renewed at Rickmansworth.

On the Northern line, the weekend closure of the Edgware branch enabled the new signalling systems – part of the line's upgrade – to be tested. The tests were a success and the line reopened early.

■ For details about how closures may affect your journey this weekend, please see Friday's MetroTravel page

Find out about our continuous Tube improvements. Visit tfl.gov.uk

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London Travelwatch
London's transport watchdog
call 020 3176 2999, or visit
www.londontravelwatch.org.uk

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