

## NEWS &gt; COACHES



**“We had clients we worked with directly – they included Madonna, Michael Jackson, Guns N’ Roses and New Kids on the Block.”**

Paul Catterall **Operator Profile p22**

## BRIEFLY

In last week’s article regarding CHAS/CoachMarque *CBW* mistakenly said Humberside County Council made the decision. It was actually Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council. *CBW* apologises for any confusion caused.

The DfT has approved plans to start development work on six road schemes which will take place over the next three years. The schemes will be ready for the early stages of the next spending review period (2015-18), if given final ministerial approval. They are: M4 J3-12 managed motorway scheme, Thames Valley; M25 J30/A13 congestion relief scheme, Thurrock; A19/A1058 Coast Road Junction improvement, North Tyneside; A21 Tonbridge – Pembury widening, Kent; A63 Castle Street improvements, Hull; and A160/A180 improvements, Immingham. The £34m dual carriageway project to the south east of Corby and the £109m Kingskerswell Bypass in Devon have also been given final approval. These are due to be operational by January 2014 and December 2015 respectively.

Work to resurface the A66 alongside Bassenthwaite Lake in Cumbria began May 14. The £36,000 scheme to seal cracks in the surface and repair potholes is due to be completed by May 27. The work, at Beck Wythop, takes place around the clock, affecting both single and dual carriageway sections of the route, with traffic being managed by temporary lights. A 50mph limit is in place along the dual carriageway with a 40mph restriction in place along the single carriageway section.

The last phase of a scheme to refurbish the A27 Southerham Railway Bridge near Lewes in East Sussex started on May 16. The improvements are essential to prolong the life of the bridge, located between Ashcombe and Southerham roundabouts and carries the A27 over the East Coastway railway line. The work is due to be complete by June 1. It involves narrow lanes and a variety of traffic management systems being in place.

# Chalkwell Coach Hire embraces Envirox

## Chalkwell agrees to a full commercial trial of the fuel-saving additive Envirox

Chalkwell Coach Hire & Tours (Chalkwell) has decided to carry out a full commercial trial on Energenics’ fuel saving additive Envirox across the whole of its fleet of 61 coaches and buses, beginning in June this year. An additive dosing unit will be installed at the company’s main depot in Murston near Sittingbourne, Kent, and the bulk diesel fuel storage tank will be treated with Envirox for an initial nine-month period.

Envirox is based on a well-known oxidation catalyst widely

used in catalytic converters. The material has been re-engineered using nanotechnology to allow it to be delivered as a diesel fuel treatment. This ensures a cleaner burn within the combustion chamber, resulting in improved fuel efficiency and lower emissions. It also facilitates the removal of carbon deposits from the engine and diesel particulate filters (DPFs). Stagecoach UK Bus has used Envirox nationally since 2005, followed more recently by East Yorkshire Motor Services (EYMS) and others.

Clive Eglinton, Managing Director of Chalkwell told *CBW*: “As well as the potential financial

benefits we see this as a means of improving our environmental performance. We are targeting an average fuel saving of 4% which is equivalent to 58 tonnes of CO2 on an annualised basis. 28 vehicles in our fleet already have diesel particulate filters fitted, but we expect to remove a further 27 kg of particulate emissions per year from the rest of the fleet through the use of Envirox.

“We read about EYMS and Stagecoach using the products and they are sufficiently hard-nosed for us to know Envirox is serious and effective.”

Mr Eglinton continued: “Energenics has been very helpful and Envirox wasn’t a hard sell. They gave in-depth information about the product and helped with the installation – it wasn’t just a salesman showing up at the door with a box of stuff and leaving it with us.”

Mike Atfield, Chief Executive Officer of Energenics Europe, said: “We are delighted to welcome Chalkwell as a new customer. This promises to be a valuable opportunity to validate Envirox performance in a mixed coaching and bus operation. The fuel savings from the vehicles fitted with DPFs will be of particular interest for the future as it appears that particulate filter technology will be factory fitted in all Euro 6 buses and coaches.”



A Scania Irizar coach in Chalkwell’s attractive livery

## Centaur’s high profile sporting date at Royal Palace

Kent-based Centaur Coaches is set to carry VIPs, athletes and officials during certain high profile sporting events occurring in London over the summer. As part of the operator’s detailed preparations for the events, four of its luxury vehicles took part in a ‘dry run’ into a famous Royal house.

Centaur’s Chief Executive Matthew Sims said: “We are delighted to be among a select few coach operators to win contracts

awarded by the London Organising Committee for the events. We’ve been in business for 37 years and this is a wonderful moment for everyone associated with the company.”

Established in 1975, the firm operates more than 100 minibuses and coaches in the UK and abroad and provides transport for a number of London boroughs, local authorities, universities, colleges and schools. It also provides private

and contract hire services as well as executive and corporate hire.

As reported in *CBW1020*, the company recently launched a successful daily commuter service from West Kent to the capital. Centaur Coaches have more than 70 pick-up points around Tunbridge Wells and Tonbridge. Commuters can save as much as £2,104 a year travelling with Centaur instead of by train to Canary Wharf and up to £1,480 a year to London Bridge.

**i** For further details visit [www.commutetolondon.com](http://www.commutetolondon.com) or call 020 8300 3001.