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Brighton & Hove
external brand for our city

Go-Ahead
Ireland

GoSouthWest

GoEastAnglia

METROBUS

GoNorthEast

GoNorthWest

Go-Ahead
Singapore

GoSouthCoast

oxford
bus company

Go
Ahead-London

Go-Ahead
BAHN & BUS

EastYorkshire

GTR

GoAhead
NORDIC

Rebecca on ice

One of our colleagues, Rebecca Mueller is an ice-skating star! The Junior Business Lawyer for Go-Ahead Germany is a Synchronised Skater for the United Angels in Stuttgart. The team came 12th in the World Synchronised Skating Championships 2023 which took place in April in the USA. They competed against teams from 18 nations, and this is the first World Championships they have entered as a team.

Rebecca has been a Figure Skater since she was four years old. Rebecca said: "I continued to improve because I always wanted to enter the competitions – it was my goal to compete".

Rebecca is one of the longest running Go-Ahead Germany colleagues. When she started only 25 people worked in the Stuttgart office.

"I was planning to become part of the Synchronized Skating Team in Stuttgart and at the time I was in the sales

department with Go-Ahead Germany. I had completed my studies when our Berlin office and legal department was relocated to Stuttgart. They asked me if I wanted to take the Junior Business Lawyer role in Stuttgart, and it just all fell into place for me. I got to keep my job with Go-Ahead, and I was able to train and develop my skills as a synchronised skater with my team."

The United Angels have more competitions to come in the upcoming season.

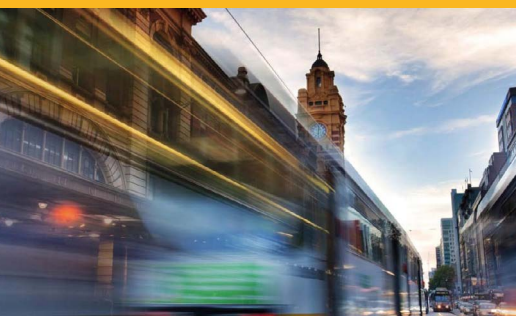
Rebecca said: "The sport is demanding; I train three to four times a week. So, it's nice for the team to be rewarded at competitions and I love the support I receive from colleagues – it makes it all worthwhile".

Rebecca is the second skater in line

Go-Ahead shortlisted to operate Yarra Trams

A Go-Ahead consortium – Go-Ahead, Kinetic, GLOBALVIA and ACCIONA Australia is among three participants who have successfully qualified to bid for the right to operate and maintain the iconic Yarra Trams franchise in Melbourne, Victoria.

The opportunity represents the largest light rail contract globally. The tram network spans 25 routes, with 250 kilometres of double track, more than 500 trams and over 1600 stops. The network services over 200 million passenger trips per year.



Welcome

from Christian Schreyer



Dear colleagues,

A little over a year ago, the leadership team here at Go-Ahead set out a new strategy, called The Next Billion Journeys.

It plotted a path forward for our company – towards a zero-emission, high technology future for public transport. And it set out an ambitious agenda to grow Go-Ahead – both in Britain and in carefully chosen countries overseas.

That ambition is turning into reality. In the last year, we've bought three additional local bus companies: Dartline in Exeter, Southdown in Sussex and, just a few weeks ago, we bought Pulham & Sons, which runs buses in Gloucestershire, Oxfordshire and across the Cotswolds and which will become part of the Oxford Bus Company.

We secured the future of our rail company, GTR, through a National Rail Contract – and we've also been doing well in striking agreements to operate additional transport services.

We've just struck a deal to run the Kent Fastrack network – a bus rapid transit system in the Dartford, Ebbsfleet and Gravesham area – which will be operated by Go-Ahead London. And in Manchester, we're just weeks away from starting new bus franchises in Bolton and Wigan.

These are all terrific steps forward which open up opportunities for our people across the group, and which bring new colleagues, and new expertise, into Go-Ahead.

Overseas, too, things are looking up. In Sweden, our fantastic Flexbuss business has secured a raft of new tenders from local authorities. Down in Australia, the team is preparing operation of our buses in Sydney. And we've also been shortlisted together with our shareholders Kinetic and Globalvia to operate Melbourne's Yarra Trams network – which is the biggest light rail contract in the world.

Transport is at a tipping point as advanced countries leave the pandemic behind and focus on a

zero emission future. Over the years to come, more and more people are going to switch from cars to buses, trains, trams, bikes and active travel. We're in an industry that, in the long term, is only going in one direction – and that's to get bigger, and to carry more people.

I've always been an enthusiast for public transport. The advances we've seen in the last few months have made me more optimistic than ever. It's a good time to be on board.

Thank you all, as ever, for delivering outstanding public transport up and down the UK, and beyond.

Best regards

Christian Schreyer,
Group Chief Executive

CEO, Christian Schreyer participated in a panel at UITP's Global Public Transport Summit in Barcelona. The focus for the panel was how public transport can become an attractive employer. Christian shared insights in to what Go-Ahead is doing to attract the next generation of talent and the steps being taken to build a more inclusive workforce.

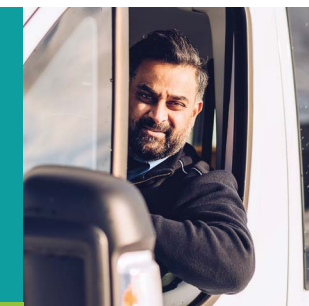


Falmer next stop Europe!

To celebrate Brighton & Hove Albion making it into Europe for the first time ever in the club's history, GTR took over the Falmer Station signage just in time for Albion's last home game of the season on 24th May.

The Southern station that sits 200m from Brighton's Amex Stadium, was transformed from 'Falmer' to 'Falmer – next stop, Europe!' giving home fans a reason to celebrate early on their journey to the game.

Flexbuss wins tender in Jönköping



In Sweden, Flexbuss has been successful in the latest tender in the county of Jönköping – winning 53 vehicles, compared to the 39 Flexbuss currently run. These awards will increase Flexbuss's revenue by between 10% and 20%, with a four-year contract beginning in September 2024 serving the cities of Eksjö, Gnosjö, Smålandsstenar, Eksjö and Gränna.

"Flexbuss has great experience in the care segment and we are proud of JLT's continued trust in our services. Together with our drivers, we will continue to work to deliver service and quality with focus on customer experience", says Martin Jacobson CEO Flexbuss.

Britain's biggest recruitment campaign for bus drivers kicks off

The Go-Ahead Group has kicked off Britain's biggest recruitment campaign for bus drivers in preparation for the launch of Greater Manchester's Bee Network public transport service.

Go North West, the group's Manchester bus company, plans to hire up to 300 bus drivers on apprenticeship or

trainee contracts for a newly created Elite Bus Driver Academy in Bolton.

The drivers will operate yellow Bee Network buses in Bolton and Wigan from September – the first two areas to be franchised under Transport for Greater Manchester's new vision for local buses.



Go-Ahead expands into the Cotswolds

The Go-Ahead Group has bought Pulham & Sons (Coaches) Limited, a long established family run bus and coach operator in the Cotswolds.

Pulhams, which has a fleet of 90 buses and coaches and employs 126 people, is a well-known and respected local business serving communities in Gloucestershire, Oxfordshire and Warwickshire. It will become part of Go-Ahead's Oxford Bus Company division – which presently comprises Thames Travel, Carousel Buses and City Sightseeing Oxford as well as the eponymous Oxford Bus Company.



Go-Ahead London host a women's recruitment day

Go-Ahead London held a recruitment day at our award-winning Camberwell Academy. The event was designed to highlight the job options available to women as we are committed to improving gender balance. As a result, potential new applicants heard from a number of inspirational females, including Caroline Welch, our Apprenticeship Manager.

Caroline's journey brings alive the opportunities open to women at Go-Ahead London. Caroline originally joined us in 2006 as a driver at Camberwell Garage and within a couple of years was a Driving Instructor, one of just three females at the time in a group of around 50 training professionals.



Go-Ahead wins Kent Fastrack contract

Go-Ahead has won a 15-year contract to operate Kent Fastrack, a rapid transit network operating in the Dartford, Bluewater and Ebbsfleet areas of North Kent.

The network will be operated by Go-Ahead London following a competitive tender process. Nearly 100 new colleagues will be added to the group as a result of this win, and we'll be hiring some additional apprentices as part of the contract.

Go-Ahead will replace diesel buses operated by the incumbent, Arriva, with zero-emission Irizar tram-style buses – offering eye-catching, modern, comfortable transport for passengers.

GTR trials app to improve assistance for blind and partially sighted passengers

In a first for the UK's railways, to further improve accessibility on the region's rail network, Govia Thameslink Railway (GTR) is trialling an app at Brighton station that connects blind and partially sighted people to a remote advisor who then uses the passenger's smartphone camera to guide them quickly around railway stations, to a member of staff.

Passengers at Brighton, Stevenage, London Blackfriars and East Croydon can ask an advisor speaking on their phone to help them with anything from checking the departure board and locating a platform, to finding a member of staff, ticket machine or toilet.



Go-Ahead Singapore awarded Certificate of Commendation (COVID-19)

Go-Ahead Singapore received a commendation at the National Awards (COVID-19) Investiture ceremony hosted by President Halimah Yacob and attended by Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong.

Along with the other three Public Transport Operators in Singapore, Go-Ahead Singapore was awarded a President's Certificate of Commendation (COVID-19) for Land Transport Support throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

Andy Thompson, Go-Ahead Singapore, Managing Director said: "Our certificate is now on display in the canteen at Loyang bus depot. I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you for your part in helping Go-Ahead Singapore to remain strong throughout this challenging period and to continue to serve the commuters of Singapore so effectively."



The Haaland Party in Norway

Norwegian professional footballer, Erling Braut Haaland, who plays for the Premiere League Champions Manchester City, has his street art featured directly opposite our Go-Ahead Nordic Bryne station.

The community celebrated Haaland's achievements at his hometown Bryne, which is a stone's throw away from Go-Ahead Nordic's train station and located opposite the famous Haaland street art by Pøbel. Around 3000 people watching the match were at the street party.



Andrei's charity cycle in memory of Jim Collins

Group Engineering Graduate, Andrei Stylianou is taking part in the London to Brighton 55 mile cycle this September in memory of Jim Collins.

Very sadly, our colleague Jim Collins, who was Go-Ahead's Group Chief Engineer, passed away on October 27th, having battled with ill health for some time.

Andrei said: "I am raising money for the Brain Tumour Charity, a charity among the ones chosen by his family. Jim was responsible for bringing me into Go-Ahead as an engineering graduate but unfortunately, I never got to meet him in person due to his ongoing health problems. Although

I never got the chance to know Jim very well, I saw the impact his passing had across our team and the company which gave me a sense of the person he was, a well-respected and amicable individual. The mark Jim left behind inspired me to take part in this event to raise money for a charity fighting to prevent brain tumours from being life threatening."

Please support Andrei and to make a donation to The Brain Tumour Charity.



Donate here 



Carousel Buses invests in boosting PickMeUp fleet in High Wycombe

Carousel Buses welcomed government officials at its High Wycombe depot to share the success of PickMeUp.

Officers from the Department for Transport's Rural Environment and Rural Mobility Funds visited the depot and met with members of the PickMeUp team and officials from Buckinghamshire Council to learn more about the demand-responsive transport network.

It came as Carousel Buses announced an investment of £825,000 to enhance the service.

Eight new Mercedes minibuses with ultra-low emission Euro 6 engines have been delivered to expand the fleet, provide passengers with the latest technology, and prepare for plans to expand the operating zone.

Go North East's Charity Shop Takeover Success

Go North East is proud to celebrate its ongoing partnership with Veterans at Ease, a charity dedicated to providing mental health therapeutic support to veterans and their families. Go North East colleagues spent the day in the Veteran's at Ease charity shop in Byker, supporting the charity's mission of creating self-funding and self-sustainable solutions to help veterans overcome trauma and reintegrate into society.

Colleagues at Go North East will be hosting several more Charity Shop takeover days in the coming months.



Ministerial visit to our London Bus Driver Academy

The Shadow Apprenticeships Minister, Toby Perkins MP, visited our London bus driver academy to talk about skills, training and the apprenticeships levy – and to meet some of our apprentices.

The Go-Ahead Group is ranked as one of Britain's top 20 apprenticeship employers – we take on more than

1,100 apprentices annually to train as bus drivers, rail drivers and engineers at our transport companies across the UK – enabling people to learn while they earn.

Also visiting was Praful Nargund, a member of the Labour Party's Council of Skills Advisers.

Brighton & Hove Buses support for Carers Week

For Carers Week, we took our diversity bus along to the Old Steine, near Brighton Pavilion, where we joined forces with Carers Centre Brighton & Hove. Our team was delighted to speak to carers in the local community about the support available to them, which includes discounted travel on our services for Brighton & Hove Council Carers' Card holders.



Launch of Pride 2023 in Dublin

Go-Ahead Ireland had the privilege to attend the launch of the Dublin LGBTQ+ Pride Festival at City Hall, which marked its 40th anniversary and are proud to be Pride Partners this year.

Go-Ahead Ireland is committed to enhancing and expanding opportunities for all customers and colleagues. As an equal opportunities employer that is committed to the communities that we serve, Go-Ahead Ireland firmly believe in the equal treatment and utmost respect of all.



Get to know...

Mark Harrison

Group Commercial Marketing Manager

How did you get into transport?

I was working with South West Trains in their Marketing team, and after moving around a bit I found myself back in the transport industry with Go-Ahead! It's a great industry to be in!

What does your role with Go-Ahead entail?

I am the Group Marketing Manager, so my role is based at Head Office. I support the Customer & Commercial Director on all things customer-focused. It's a diverse role as one minute I can be supporting our marketing colleagues at the operating companies to deliver best-practice marketing campaigns and the next I am engaging in research to get valuable insight on our customers. I'm also the brand guardian of all things Go-Ahead, and it's been great to see the support everyone has given with the recent brand launch.

We've just recently had a brand relaunch, why is this important for Go-Ahead as a group?

I think it's been nearly a decade since Go-Ahead last revamped their brand. In that time, we've really changed as a transport company. I've seen us enter new territories, watched colleagues develop and deliver incredible innovations in the transport industry and continue to build our employer brand too. We need to showcase this throughout Go-Ahead. There was a lot of thought put into the brand refresh, to make sure we were not changing the essence of Go-Ahead but positioning us in way which really reflects what we stand for, and the progression we have made.

What do you enjoy most about your role?

I enjoy the variety, I can be helping someone at the group with a brand question, or working with one of our agencies on research and insights, or helping op cos deliver marketing campaigns.

What is your passion and what gets you out of bed?

Having two young children is probably what gets me out of bed most mornings... normally much earlier than I would like! I do enjoy spending time with my family, taking my eldest to his BMX lessons, or going out exploring the local parks with my youngest. Other than that, I'm quite keen on my sport – I love football, rugby and cricket!

What are your hobbies?

I enjoy indoor cycling on my turbo trainer (it's hard to get out cycling in the real world with a young family!). I think I've done about 2,500km since I got it a couple of years ago! I also enjoy 6-a-side football. Other than that, I enjoy spending time with my wife Urvashi and my energetic kids Lachlan and Tristan!

