

PRESS RELEASE

Arriva Southern Counties

1st February 2016

SOUTHERN COUNTIES DRIVERS CELEBRATE AS BUS CHAMPION SHORTLIST IS ANNOUNCED

Arriva has unveiled its regional shortlists for its nationwide Bus Champions award, as voted for by the people who know best – the customers.

As part of its national recognition scheme, Arriva received more than 300 nominations from bus users wanting to say ‘thank you’ to those drivers who consistently go above and beyond to deliver great service.

Now, four drivers from across Arriva’s Southern Counties region who made the coveted shortlist, will face the public vote once again, as passengers are invited to choose who makes the national final this April.

Simon Baxter, Regional Marketing Director from Arriva, said: “We’re big believers that through great endeavour you can achieve great reward – whether you’re a supreme athlete, a corporate high-flyer, or a bus driver on the road. We all have greatness within us and that is exactly what we want to showcase with this award.

“Our drivers are the heartbeat of our business – and they really do care about the customers they serve and communities they are part of. We are incredibly proud of how our shortlisted drivers have consistently gone that extra mile to ensure excellence on board their buses. We would urge anyone wanting to show their support, and take them all the way to the final, to go online now and share their thanks for being a true bus champion, through and through.”

The Southern Counties shortlist is:

- John Featherstone, Gillingham depot
- Steve Davis, Southend depot



- Alena Hanmore, Gillingham depot
- Laura Smith, Maidstone depot

Commendations for the final four included exemplary customer service and cheery dispositions, as well as charitable work and giving their own time up for the good of their passengers.

The 'Bus Champion – Driver of the Year' title forms part of Arriva's annual 'Made A Difference' (M.A.D) Awards campaign, a national recognition programme which looks at all elements of the bus company, including; engineering, depot management and back office functions.

The top regional drivers voted for by customers, will be celebrated during a glittering ceremony on 21st April, where the overall national Bus Champion will be announced.

To see the regional shortlists, or to vote for your favourites, visit the website at arrivabus.co.uk/champions. Alternatively, you can vote by email on buschampions@arriva.co.uk

Ends.

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For media enquiries outside of office hours, Arriva can be contacted via its 24-hour media pager service on 0762 392 0615.

Notes to Editors

Arriva UK Bus is part of Arriva plc, one of the largest passenger transport providers in Europe, employing some 54,500 people and delivering more than 2.2 billion passenger journeys across 14 European countries every year. It currently operates a fleet of some 5,900 vehicles in the UK alone, providing services in the North East, North West and South East of England, Yorkshire, the Midlands and Wales.





In addition to the Arriva-branded networks, it also operates locally branded bus services including HinckleyBus, Yorkshire Tiger, Network Colchester and Green Line, which provides regular coach services between central London and the Home Counties.

In 2010, Arriva was acquired by Deutsche Bahn, and is now responsible for the growth and development of all Deutsche Bahn's regional passenger transport outside of Germany.

