

# PRESS RELEASE

## Arriva The Shires

1<sup>st</sup> February 2016

### SHIRES 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 Shires 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.

Cora Robinson, 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 Shires shortlist is:

- Ian Evans, Aylesbury depot
- Matt Morgan, Milton Keynes depot



- Nigel Bates, Leighton Buzzard Outstation
- Marek Tuma, Milton Keynes 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 21<sup>st</sup> 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](http://arrivabus.co.uk/champions). Alternatively, you can vote by email on [buschampions@arriva.co.uk](mailto: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.

