



**FREE TRAVEL
FOR MILITARY
PERSONNEL ON
REMEMBRANCE DAY**



Meet Colin, Bus Driver Army Reservist

Colin, who is 33, lives in Lochgelly with his wife and 18-month old son, Thomas. He started with Stagecoach East Scotland in October 2018 as a Shunter and is now a Bus Driver based at Dunfermline Depot. Here he tells us about his role with us and his passion of being an Army Reservist.

“ Before joining Stagecoach, I worked at Sky as a Customer Sales Advisor. I decided to change paths as I wanted a job where I would meet new people, and get out and about more. Stagecoach certainly did not disappoint. Within a year of joining, I have moved from a Shunter position to a qualified, full-time Bus Driver. This means I get to meet new people whilst also getting behind the wheel, which I love.

A typical day in my role starts by collecting my running board and bus board from the main office. Depending on my start time and location I also sometimes need to complete a first use check before departing. Once I have done my mirror and ERG ticket machine checks it is time to hit the road to pick our passengers up.

I would say my main responsibilities are first and foremost taking care of passengers whilst also offering my help whether that is advising on the cheapest ticket or assisting them on or off the bus. I take driving responsibly very seriously, which means as safe as possible to make the passenger's journey pleasant and comfortable.

In the future, I hope to progress to a Driving Training Instructor as I love teaching people. I am also currently a rock climbing instructor in my spare time whilst also being an Army Reservist, which shows my passion for helping people. Stagecoach is one of the best companies I have worked for in terms of support for Reservist duties and I would recommend them as a company to other reservists who are thinking about a career change.

Although being a Reservist can be difficult when working shifts, the company do allow us to take part in annual training courses, such as a 28-day and a 16-day annual camp as well as different events throughout the year. During these training camps, I undertake anything from live firing tests, casualty drills, driving, fitness and adventure training. Like anything in life, the more you put into it the more you get out.

Experiences that people normally have to pay for, such as, jumping out of a plane or canoeing down the Amazon River, is all covered in our training whilst also providing some amazing life long memories. One day I can be driving a bus and the next day, a tank. The skills I have gained through being an Army Reservist are life-changing and help greatly with confidence in my job. Driving large vehicles is now second nature to me. ”