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Essex Bus Enthusiasts Group

serving Essex since 1964

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Essex Bus Enthusiasts Group - Directory

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Data Protection Act: Members' details are held on computer for the purpose of administration. If you object to your information being held in this way, please contact the Membership Secretary.

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Missing, defective or damaged EBN?

Write to the Membership Secretary for a replacement.

If you have difficulty contacting the Membership Secretary for any reason, the Group's Secretary, Alan Osborne can help:

7 Farley Drive, Seven Kings,
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TIMETABLE SUBSCRIPTIONS

Join this scheme to receive Essex County Council timetable books and updates. Please contact Derek Stebbing for information or visit www.essexbus.org.uk

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All orders for publications should be sent to:

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London E4 8PT

Owen also stocks a wide range of colour photos - send SAE with your requirements.

B/W PHOTO SALES

All orders for photos from lists enclosed with EBN should be sent to:

Lyn Watson
c/o Barrons Chartered Accountants,
Monometer House, Rectory Grove, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex, SS9 2HN

Prints of specific EN (and predecessor) vehicles can also be supplied: email with requirements: lynw@barrons-bds.com

YOUR REPORTS AND OBSERVATIONS

Members reports are always welcome. Please send them to the relevant Sub-Editor.

Photos (prints, slides or digital images - in JPG format) are also welcome - please send to David Harman.

The Editors exercise the normal discretion to publish contributions in full, in part, or not at all and cannot guarantee publication in any particular month.

Views expressed in EBN do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Group.

Every effort is made to ensure accuracy but the Group cannot accept responsibility for any errors published.

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Dates for your diary

■ EBN PRESS DATES

<i>For inclusion in EBN dated:</i>	<i>reports should reach Editors by:</i>	<i>planned despatch date:</i>
August	2 August	11 August
September	6 September	15 September
October	4 October	13 October

Please note that the **planned** despatch date may change for all sorts of reasons. The **actual** despatch day is posted to the website as soon as it is known. Please allow reasonable time for postal delays (at least seven working days) before claiming non-receipt. Replacements can **only** be obtained from the Membership Secretary (address opposite). None of the Editors hold spares, so there is no point in contacting them. They cannot help!

■ ROCHFORD MEETINGS

Meetings now take place in the **Committee Room** (upstairs), **Freight House, Bradley Way, Rochford** (the old railway goods shed, adjacent to Rochford station). There is a large free car park and *one Great Eastern* trains & *Arriva Southend* services 7/8 stop nearby. Doors open at 1915 for an informal chat, with the main talk or show from 2000 to 2145. Drinks are normally available. All members and guests are very welcome. £1 donation towards room hire please. *Richard Delahoy*

Summer season:

- ▶ **Tuesday 11 July** - informal social evening - bring along your photos and models to display and be ready for a gossip!

The **Autumn season** programme has now been finalised:

- ▶ **Tuesday September 12** - Members Photos - facilities for slides and digital images.
- ▶ **Tuesday October 10** - "*Piers of the Realm*" by *Dave Carson*, a talk/slide show about pier railways with particular emphasis on Southend.
- ▶ **Tuesday November 14** - "*EN's yellow & green years*" - a slide show by *Chris Stewart* with emphasis on the early post-privatisation livery.
- ▶ **Tuesday December 12** - 20 years ago slide show by *Richard Delahoy*.

■ COLCHESTER MEETINGS

Venue: Downstairs room at the **Friends Meeting House, Church Street, Colchester**, just south of "Jumbo" (the water tower) and behind the Mercury Theatre. Town centre bus stops and parking are nearby. **20.00 to 22.00** (doors open at **19.30**). Refreshments available. All members and guests are very welcome. £1 donation towards room hire please. We can now show prints, slides or digital photos. *Dave Arnold*

Autumn programme:

- ▶ **Friday 8 September** - *Graham Belfall*: 'Picture show on Wales'
- ▶ **Friday 13 October** - *Keith Woods*: 'East Anglian Buses ~ a Personal View'
- ▶ **Friday 10 November** - *Fred Lawrence*: 'On the Company's Expenses' !
- ▶ **Friday 9 December** - *Michael Yelton*, *practising lawyer* (author of "*Trams, Trolleybuses and Buses and the Law*") and *bus enthusiast* - topic to be advised.

■ 2006 TOUR PROGRAMME

- ▶ **Saturday 2 September** - **Essex area tour** - details to be finalised. *Dave Arnold*

Cover: **Regal Busways Dart 601 (YN04 PZY)** on route 1 at Benfleet Station on 28 June. The destination 'Chelmsford' would not have been seen at this location before this year.

Richard Delahoy

■ **RALLIES, OPEN DAYS ETC.**

- ▶ **Sunday 30 July: "2006 Adur & Worthing Bus Gathering":** Adur Recreation Ground, on A259, adjacent to Norfolk Bridge, Shoreham, West Sussex.
www.worthingbusrally.co.uk

■ **BLUE TRIANGLE ESSEX SUNDAY ROUTES**

- ▶ **Sundays 16 July, 6 and 27 August, 17 September.** See EBN504 for details.

Superb! RT3435 and RT3062 simmer at Braintree on 18 June. *Chris Stewart*



From the Editor ...

Members whose subscriptions expire in June will have received renewal forms recently. Please return these with your payment to the Membership Secretary as soon as you can, to ensure your EBN continues to arrive on time. Late renewals cause the Membership Secretary extra work as details will have been deleted from the computer system, and will have to be re-input. This in turn, means your EBN will be delayed. So, **PLEASE** renew promptly!

We still have a few copies of "A History of Preserved Leyland Bus Registration LEV 917" reviewed in EBN505. Copies are available in return for a *donation* towards the continued preservation of LEV 917. If you would like a copy, please send a donation (a minimum of £10 is suggested, but greater sums are of course, very welcome), plus £2 postage and packing (in a board-backed envelope), payable to "Essex Bus Enthusiasts Group", to:

EBN Editor, 24 Frankfield Rise, Tunbridge Wells, TN2 5LF

David Harman

The Evening Talisman ~ 6th June 2006



23 members and friends gathered by Colchester North Station on a bright but rather chilly evening to join this tour to Talisman Coach Lines Great Bromley premises and the Harwich area. Whilst waiting our transport which materialised in the form of J543 CEV, one of Talisman's 3-axle former Hong Kong Leyland Olympians, we were able to appreciate several examples of the Hedingham and First fleets on local Colchester services.

After suitable photography, J534 CEV in the capable hands of Dave transported us to Great Bromley to view the Talisman fleet. All the double-decker fleet bar one (which are seen on our return) were present and this comprises Alexander Royale bodied Olympians M85/7 MYM, former Hong Kong Olympians J534/605 CEV, Routemaster JJD 535D in London red livery and former Colchester Borough Transport Leyland Atlanteans RVW 90W, YNO 77/8S and JHK 495N, the latter three all open-top. Examples of the company's Setra coach fleet were also present.

JHK 495N now resplendent again in the old Borough Transport livery (it was used the previous month to tour the promotion winning Colchester United football team round the town) was to be the onward transport Harwich and back. A fine run along the A120 to Harwich with a diversion via Parkeston ensued and we stopped by First's Harwich depot for photographs. This depot replaced the old Dovercourt one in 1967 and our onward route took us past this, now the town library, and shortly after passed premises where RMC4 (SLT 59) is now kept. At Ramsey we were able to glimpse a former Southern National RE kept at farm premises and another diversion brought us to Wrabness Station (has an open-top vehicle visited here before?), and we proceeded round the local lanes with fine views of the Stour estuary before heading for Bradfield and back to the A120 to Great Bromley. Those remaining on the top deck were fully able to appreciate the bracing nature of the evening.

We transferred to closed-top Atlantean RVW 90W for the return run to Colchester Station where arrival was at 2201.

Our thanks go to Terry and Paul of Talisman Coach Lines for a splendid evening and the Harwich area tour that certainly visited parts that others miss out.

Richard Huggins / photo: Dave Arnold

The 3 Counties Tour ~ 24th June 2006

For the group's second tour of the month transport was supplied by Genial Travel in the form of DAF Van Hool H140 AFV. Pickups were completed on time and we headed up the M11 for a break at Birchanger Services where the quality of the tea does not improve with age. Our onward route took us past Whippet's depot at Fenstanton and a good selection of double-deckers were visible, and past St Ives where it was possible to commence the days alternative occupation of spotting former railway stations. Past Warboys and another old station, we joined the A141 road, which, since improvements bypasses Chatteris, using the track bed of the former Somersham - March railway, and provided an easy route to Embling's premises at Guyhirn, our first visit.

Emblings fleet includes 14 Bristol VRT's and most were present together with former Colchester Leyland Atlantean NNO 66P, an Alexander-bodied example EJ1 131W. Also seen were Leyland National KHT 125P and examples of the varied coach fleet. Former Eastern National vehicles present were XIL 8034, formerly A695 OHJ (1126), Leyland Tiger and XNV 882S (3209), Bristol VRT, which was also operated by Ford's of Althorne. The premises also houses the fleet of Judd's of Manea, and of interest was their TJT 193X, a Leyland Olympian with Marshall body, which was new to Bournemouth.

After an interesting hour, we headed onto the much improved A47 road which now bypasses everywhere including Wisbech, en route to King's Lynn and Norfolk Green's premises on the Hardwick Industrial Estate. As expected, despite a large fleet (46 vehicles), only a handful were present on depot although not without interest. Recent acquisition K578 NHC, a Dennis Dart in Stagecoach livery together with J526 GCD in Norfolk Green's colours were duly photographed with several of the fleet of Mercedes and Optare minibuses. Optare Delta J315 BVO, once of Trent Barton was also noted.

We now proceeded to King's Lynn bus station passing the First Eastern Counties depot as we did so, for a lunch break. Here, it was immediately obvious why so few Norfolk Green vehicles were on depot: they were out revenue-earning in the town. A break of an hour or so enabled a full assessment of Norfolk Green and First vehicles, with examples from Cavalier of Long Sutton and Freestones working in. Just prior to our departure, a First Dennis Dart managed to achieve a closer than intended contact with a Norfolk Green vehicle, the damage being fully recorded by a number of photographers!

Our journey west to Fowler's at Holbeach Drove took us along the A17, again much improved in recent years and partly utilizing the former trackbed of the former Midland & Great North Joint Railway closed in 1959. A Duple Donington-bodied coach vehicle was noted in a yard near Terrington St Clement, and we crossed the River Nene at Sutton Bridge over the former road/rail bridge now in the third county of the tour title, Lincolnshire. At Long Sutton, the depot of Cavalier was visible and shortly after, the still extant station buildings of Gedney could be seen. Entering Holbeach, we passed the former Lincolnshire depot now used as factory shop that shortly after, the old station site with the principal buildings and goods shed still standing.

Fowler's premises at Holbeach Grove comprise several agricultural-type buildings and house a fascinating collection of preserved and operational vehicles. Since the group's last visit here in 1999, the entire Scania double-deck fleet has been replaced by Volvo's acquired from Derby or Arriva / Grey-Green, and particular interest was shown in BAR 103X, formerly of Hedingham, and still in their livery. This year, unlike 1999, we were able to access the shed containing most of the preserved vehicles. This was a real bonus and former Southend CJN 441C and open-top VPA 152S, formerly of London Country in Fowler's livery were among those present. Former Ipswich No.72 was parked



Cambridgeshire ~ Emblings: two former Eastern National vehicles:

above: XNV 882S an ex-Milton Keynes Citybus VR (3209)

below: XIL 8034 (formerly A695 OHJ) Leyland Tiger/Alexander TE (1126)

Dave Arnold





Norfolk ~ Norfolk Green: J526 GCD, ex-Stagecoach South Dart / Alexander Dash.

Lincolnshire ~ Fowlers: F138 PHM former Grey-Green Volvo Citybus / Alexander RV.

Dave Arnold





Lincolnshire ~ Fowlers: BAR103X ex-Hedingham Bedford/Plaxton Bustler, still looking very smart in Hedingham colours. Dave Arnold

outside, awaiting possible restoration.

After a most interesting hour, our onward journey towards Crowlands took us past yet another closed railway station at Portland on the former March – Spalding line, and from Eye Green towards Peterborough. we utilised yet another section of road built on the course of the M&GN Joint Railway. Arrival at Peterborough for a tea break was around 17.00 hours, and enabled viewing of vehicles of Alex Head, Delaine, Cavalier, Stagecoach and Peterborough City Council in either the

bus station or the parking area just to the north.

Return from Peterborough was via the A1 and A14 roads to the M11 and another leg-stretch at Birchanger, with return drops made on schedule.

Another enjoyable day and our thanks go to all the operators visited for their hospitality and to Trevor and Dave, our drivers for the day.

Richard Huggins

The Third Hedingham Shed Bash (EBN506)



Several members claim they couldn't see a likeness between Tollesbury depot sweeper S480 DCD and Noo-Noo from Teletubbies.

Here they both are.
... I rest my case.

DRH

'Kickstart' route 1



above: Dart 601 (YN04 PZY) crosses the Crouch at Battlesbridge on a perfect Summer day. In the background is the old mill, now converted to an antiques and crafts emporium.

below: Dart 611 (X211 ONH) in more mundane surroundings in Chelmsford.

David Harman



Two awards were made in March to the county under the Government's 'Kickstart' initiative to boost local bus usage. The larger of the two, for £548,691 was to be used to fund a new Canvey - Chelmsford link.

The service, numbered 1 (with variations 1a and 1b), runs hourly, cross-country via South Benfleet, Battlesbridge, Rettendon, Howe Green and Sandon, with some timings (1a) serving Writtle Agricultural College. Operation by **Regal Busways Ltd.** began on 2 May 2006. The timetable has been designed to connect with trains at Benfleet and Chelmsford as well as the X30 to Stansted Airport at Chelmsford. The service aims to improve access (especially for Canvey and Benfleet residents) to education and employment opportunities in Chelmsford and provides a north-south link where there is currently no rail service. New, high quality, branded vehicles will be introduced on the new service from late 2006.

Initially, Regal have been using any of the following:

601	YN04 PZY	Dennis Dart SLF	Plaxton B29F	2004
602	YN04 PZZ	Dennis Dart SLF	Plaxton B29F	2004
611	X211 ONH	Dennis Dart SLF	Plaxton B29F	2001 ex-Central Parking, Heathrow
?	W772 URP	Dennis Dart SLF	Plaxton B29F	2001 ex-Norbus, Kirkby
701	AE55 EHM	Dennis Dart SLF	MCV B37F	2005

601/2 are branded for the 14/15/15A; 611 is in the silver livery of its former owners.

The much-travelled ADL Enviro 300 demonstrator SN54 HXG, in pink/blue/silver livery was on the route in early July; another demonstrator (make unknown) is due soon.

www.regalbusways.com/

David Harman

with thanks to Kate Trindle, Essex County Council

Essex Service Changes

<i>Operator</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Route</i>	<i>Days of operation</i>	<i>Terminals and notes</i>
Arriva Southend				
	16 Jul 06	9	Daily	Shoeburyness, East Beach - Rayleigh Rail Station Minor revision to timetable M-S and revised timetable Sundays.
	17 Jul 06	6A	M-F	Belfairs, Woodcutters - Leigh Rail Station Minor timetable alteration - 1745 ex Leigh Station now operates 3 minutes earlier throughout at 17:42
	17 Jul 06	13	M-S	Southend Bus Station - Temple Sutton Minor timetable revision.
Arriva East Herts & Essex				
	29 Jul 06	59	M-S	Chelmsford, Coval Lane - Harlow Bus Station Revised Saturday timetable.
	30 Jul 06	253	M-S	Waltham Cross Bus Station - Hammond Street, Smiths Lane: New daytime service operating every fifteen minutes; replacing that section of service 251.
		251	Daily	Upshire, Princefield Road - Waltham Cross Bus Station Revised to operate between the above terminals. The former section Waltham Cross to Hammond Street now operated by new service number 253.

First

5 Jun 06	2C	Su	Highwood, Tesco Store - General Hospital, main entrance. Service no longer serves the Bus station but stops at the new bus stop (Stop F) in Queens Street.
26 Jun 06	7	M-S	Walton, The Naze - Clacton, Jackson Road
10 Jul 06	22	Daily	Summer timetable introduced - revised running times.
	550	M-F	Canvey, Leigh Beck - Lakeside Bus Station
			Revised route in Orsett to better serve the hospital.
	551	M-S	Basildon Bus Station - Brentwood Rail Station
			Certain peak time 551 journeys (M-F) re-numbered 550 to operate via Great Burstead.
			Basildon Bus Station - Brentwood Rail Station
			Revised M-F timetable following the introduction of service 550.

Gemini Travel

29 Apr 06	745	W,Th,F,Sa	East Bergholt, Four Sisters - Brantham Hill
			Service withdrawn.
	746	W,Th,F,Sa	Holbrook, Compasses - Mistley, Rigby Avenue
			Service withdrawn.

Hedingham Omnibuses

14 Jun 06	X16	W	Wakes Colne, Station Road - Bury St Edmunds, Bus Station: Revised to operate to and from Wakes Colne, instead of Chappel, Post Office and Bury St Edmunds Bus Station, effectively running 10 minutes earlier on both outward and inward journeys.
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Network Colchester

5 Jun 06	2	M-F	Horkesley Heath, Malvern Way - Severalls Park, The Crescent: Service no longer serves the Bus station but stops at the new bus stop (Stop F) in Queens Street.
	2B	M-S	Boxted - Highwoods, Tesco Store
			Service no longer serves the Bus station but stops at the new bus stop (Stop F) in Queens Street.

Regal Busways

12 Jun 06	211	M-S	Breach Barns, Mobile Home Park - Waltham Cross Bus Station: Revised timetable with an earlier start time (M-F).
	212	M-S	Breach Barns, Mobile Home Park - Waltham Cross Bus Station: Revised timetable.
	213	M-S	Epping, St Margarets Hospital - Waltham Cross Bus Station: Revised timetable
17 Jun 06	506	S	Harlow Bus Station - Waltham Cross Bus Station
			Revised departure times for this Saturdays only service.

Trustline

5 Jun 06	C2	M-S	Cheshunt, Brookfield centre Retail Park - Waltham Cross Bus Station: Revised terminal - now Waltham Cross. Positioning journey to and from Hunsdon, Acorn Street.
	C3	M-S	Harlow Bus Station - Waltham Cross, Holbrook Estate (Long Croft Drive) Revised terminal - now Waltham Cross.

David Tomlin

Essex Bus Publicity News

Hedingham Omnibuses have a 24 page stapled A5 booklet dated 3rd April 2006 entitled Colchester Town Services Urban Bus Guide.

Hertfordshire County Council have a Summer 2006 Network Map which includes many services which cross into Essex

National Express Airport has a revised set of slimlines for the new season, decked out in red, white and blue. Each dated 6 March 2006 to 4 March 2007.

Those seen so far are for 707/787/230, 717/727/797, 717/787/797, 727/797/737, 747/025, 767, 777.

Crown Coaches have an A4 timetable leaflet single folded to A5 for their services around Basildon. It is undated but refers to the 23rd March 2006 timetable change.

Gatwick Flyer have issued two leaflets for Summer 2006 both valid until 30th September. There is the usual one for services from South Essex plus a new one for services recently introduced from Chingford, Loughton and Woodford to Gatwick Airport.

Suffolk CC have issued Edition 18 of their set of seven area timetable books dated 28th May 2006 some of which include services which cross the border into Essex. There is also a new county wide public transport map which is entirely undated but correct to 28th May 2006. Hertfordshire CC have issued a Summer 2006 edition of their map which also includes many cross border services.

First leaflet for Park and Ride – Please give us your comments (undated)

Timetable leaflet for service X22 (Colchester to Stansted) dated 25.9.05.

Timetable leaflet for service X30 (Southend to Stansted) dated 26.12.05.

Leaflet for Jacksons Day Excursions from July – December 2006

*With thanks to Ian Taylor and David Harman for all the input to this months column.
Ian Ransom*

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Park & Ride ~ Colchester

Proposals by the County Council for a park & Ride at Colchester went on display to the public in June. The £6m scheme encompasses a state of the art P&R facility at Eight Ash Green, near to the Halstead Road/A12 interchange, providing 660 car parking spaces, (with potential for 1000), modern-liveried dedicated buses, bus lane enhancements on the Avenue of Remembrance on the approach to Colne Bank roundabout, bus priority provision in the town centre, and real-time information at bus stops and at the terminus.

The planning application was submitted on 7 July. The site could be open by 2008-9.

David Harman

Thanks to Kate Trindle, Essex County Council



above: 10am on Monday 3rd July. Southend's new 'Travel Centre' opened. Cheetah 56006 (EY54 BRF) loads with the very first departure from the new Travel Centre. *Peter Mansbridge*

below: The standard allocation for First's X30, Southend to Stansted Airport, remains the Plaxton Cheetah coaches. Optare Solo buses used to make frequent appearances substituting, but the use of Dennis Darts was much rarer. However, a local agreement now reached with the local TGWU and First sees 43729/30/31 used as Cheetah substitutes; in extreme cases Scania's will be used should none of the SLF Darts be available (has anyone photographed one on the X30?). Representing the new arrangements, on Saturday June 17th, 43731 (S731TWC) was caught emerging from the Deeping underpass in Southend. *Richard Delahoy*



■ FIRST ESSEX

New vehicles

Four of the five new leather-seated Scania Omnicities for the Chelmsford P&R have been reported as follows:

YN06TDO/U/V/X - chassis nos 1854076/7, 1854138/9

Two of the five arrived at Westway depot on 7th July. Fleet numbers were not available at the time of writing.

Allocation changes

Period 3: 29 May to 2 July 2006 - none

Repaints:

Period 2: 65688, 34311, 46156, 65672

Period 3: 53112, 46181, 34011, 31377, 34288

Disposals:

Period 2: 46119, 46125/6 to Erith Commercials for component recovery (axles and engine) and scrap. 62524 to Erith for scrap.

Other Vehicle News

Dart HH46135 has been on loan to CF since about 10th June.

VEHICLE WORKINGS

Dart 47252 worked emergency rail replacement duties from St Neots on 27th June, following major disruption caused by a major fire in a building close to Kings Cross station. A green 'Eastern National' bus therefore operated in the one time Midland Area 54 years after the transfer of those operations to United Counties!

Unusual sightings:

- June 1st Olympian CR34056 on 64.
- 2nd 67-branded CR67002 on 65; CN67010 on 18.
- 5th Olympians CR34011/56 on 65.
- 6th CR34310 on 64; 66-branded CR43740 on 61; DT46802 on 103/4; CR46829 on DT20 (loan); 67-branded CR67003 on 65; CR67006 on 64.
- 9th CR34315 on 64; 66-branded CR43742 on 64A; CR67007 on 65.
- 10th CR46830 on 64A.
- 11th CR46830 on CN74.
- 12th CR34309 on 64; Route 66 CR43741 on 61.
- 13th CR34304 on 66A, 61-branded CR43715 on 66; 64-branded CR62407 on 65; 65-branded CR65686 on CN75; 67-branded CR67001 on 66A; CR67005 on 65.
- 14th 66-branded CR43740 on 61. BE46143 on 31X (15.24 from Burnham)
- 15th CR46829 on 64A; 64-branded CR65652 on 70 (Coggeshall p.m.).
- 16th Lance CR67004 on 61.
- 18th Olympian CR34056 on 1.
- 19th CR34304 on 103, CR47105 on 70, 65-branded CR62409 on 70X; CR65679 on X22; 67-branded CR67001 on 70 and CR67007 on 65.
- 20th CR46830 on 67/A, CR62406 on 66A, CR67004 on 65.
- 21st BE46827 on 351, CF43731 on 352, CF47220 on 42.

- 22nd 78-branded CR34018 on 70X, CF43730 on 42, CR47102 on 352.
- 23th Scania CR62408 on X22.
- 24th CR46829 on 65.
- 26th CR34307 on DT103(loan); CR67004 on 65.
- 27th CR34308/15 on 66A; DT46802 on CR105; CR46829 on 65; 65-branded CR65690 on 88; CR67004 on 65. 42-branded CF42922 on 35 (15.55 ex CF and 17.15 ex SD). HH43721 on daytime 20.
- 29th CR34307 on 64; CR62408 on X22; Route 67 CR67003 on 71; CR67006 on 65. CF43730 on 352.
- 30th CR34304 on DT103 (loan); CR67005 on 107.

- July 1st Olympians BN30558 & BN31373 on 22, HH31376 on 20 (rare for a Saturday). 27-branded Dart HH43717 on 20.
- 3rd HH31376 on 27 (the second bus from the new Southend Bus Station – the first being Cheetah CF56006 on the 10.00 X30).
- 5th HH46135 on 351, CR43739 on evening 61.
- 6th CR67004 on evening 64A.
- 7th ECW Olympian CF34815 on daytime 31s (starting with 09.35 CF-MN and instead of Scania), Olympian CR34314 very unusually on 07.50 service 74 from Clacton (usually Lance or Dart).

OTHER NEWS

ECW Olympians – Lynx & LN survivors

Olympian CF34818 has gained the engine from scrapped 34698.

Former Lynx 1401 (E401HWC) passed from First Bristol to Munden (dealer) in June, while 1409 (F409LTW) is confirmed as being with Bellamy Holidays of Nottingham as a school bus.

Leyland National DAR123T (one time 1901, now Volvo-powered) has re-entered service with Classic Coaches of Annfield Plain.

ALLOCATION LIST as at 2 July 2006 (fleet total 360)

Basildon (74):	30558/9, 31198, 31373-5, 41637/40/2/4/5/7/50/1/3, 43712-4/32-8, 46134/45/67-74/7/83/4/5/7, 46804/25, 51801/4/5/7-9, 52580/1/4/5, 61054/7, 62526-32, 65665-77
Braintree (15):	46116/43/4, 46808/11-3/6/7/21-4/6/7
Chelmsford (83):	34807/15/6/8, 42482-9, 42918-23, 43729-31, 46186, 47219-21/3-9/52, 53112-37, 56004-9, 60102-4, 65727-30/3, 65680-4, 68532/4/5/51/2
Clacton (23):	34311/4, 46120/4/30-3, 46176/8, 46801/5/6/9/10/9/20/8, 67009-13
Colchester (66):	20102/10, 30560, 34011-4/8/56, 34301-5/7-10/5, 43715/6, 43739-44, 46829/30, 47101-6, 56001-3, 62406-10, 65650-4, 65678/9/85-92, 67001-8
Hadleigh (65):	31376/7, 31456/62, 40777-9, 41005-17, 42852-5/7, 43717-21, 46108-11/3/28/35-42/6-58/79-82, 46803/14/5/8
Harwich (12):	34280/2/4-6/8/90, 43800, 46802, 51803, 53138/9
Driving school (8):	46127, 51780, 67036-40, 90244
Ancillary vehicles (4):	46118, 90236/7/41
Reserve/spare (10):	38790, 46107/22/9/75, 51475, 52582/3, 90230/1

Sources: Own observations, with many thanks to First Essex and to A Bird, T Clark, J Clayton, D Edwards, M Farmer, I Hardie, A Kelleher, J Podgorski, J Salmon, C Sigston, 'Solo', A Toms, G Toon, R Webb, R Whitley, J Wilson, Essex Bus and South West y-groups, Real Bus News, LOTS, PSV Circle, Terminus.

Chris Stewart



A final look at Braintree Garage

above: rear view of the frontage on 15 May.

below: Most of the demolition work was done by excavator, but here, two men are at work on the rear walls with sledgehammers; 11 May.

Sue Burden



■ ARRIVA EAST HERTS & ESSEX LIMITED

New vehicles

3901	BU 06 HSD	Mercedes-Benz	0530	62804023110372	MB	B??F	7/06
3902	BU 06 HSE	Mercedes-Benz	0530	62804023110373	MB	B??F	7/06
3903	BU 06 HSF	Mercedes-Benz	0530	62804023110374	MB	B??F	7/06
3904	BU 06 HSG	Mercedes-Benz	0530	62804023110375	MB	B??F	7/06
3905	BU 06 HSJ	Mercedes-Benz	0530	62804023110376	MB	B??F	7/06
3906	BU 06 HSK	Mercedes-Benz	0530	62804023110377	MB	B??F	7/06
3907	BU 06 HSL	Mercedes-Benz	0530	62804023110378	MB	B??F	7/06
3908	BU 06 HSN	Mercedes-Benz	0530	62804023110379	MB	B??F	7/06
3909	BU 06 HSO	Mercedes-Benz	0530	62804023110380	MB	B??F	7/06

updated information

443	YS 02 UBX	Optare Alero	SAB21000000000266	Optare	C14F	6/02
444	YS 02 UBY	Optare Alero	SAB21000000000267	Optare	C14F	6/02
2463	KE 55 KPJ	Optare M950	SAB190000000002086	Optare	B33F	12/05
2464	KE 55 KPG	Optare M950	SAB190000000002087	Optare	B33F	12/05

Vehicles in

From Arriva The Shires 3129 6/06

3129	M729 OMJ	Volvo B6-50	005700	Northern Counties	4859	B40F	9/94
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Allocations

6/06: 3129: HA

7/06: 3901-9: HA

Vehicles out

2124 (N194 EMJ): Baker, Weston Super Mare 71 by 5/06

2375 (R945 VPU): Arriva The Shires 2375 6/06

3445 (R205 VPU): Arriva the Shires (Aylesbury) 7/06

5842 (D146 FYM): Arriva Durham County 7224 4/06

5845 (D231 FYM): Arriva Durham County 7225 4/06

5846 (D240 FYM): Arriva Durham County 7226 5/06

5850 (C 59 CHM): Arriva Northumbria 7227 5/06

Subsequent histories

2128 (N908 ETM): Arriva the Shires 2128 3/06 ex MK Metro 2128

2316 (J936 WHJ): gone from Bond, Stamford Bridge, East Yorkshire by 2/05

2317 (J937 WHJ): United Vans, Temple Cloud (dealer) 2/06 for scrap ex Pickford, Chippenhams

3328 (G621 YMG ex A10 BUS, G259 EHD), 3354 (J404 XVX): gone for scrap from Arriva the Shires) 3328/54 6/06

3355 (K405 FHJ): Liyell, Wednesfield, West Midlands 114 10/05 ex Arriva the Shires 3355; D & G, Adderley Green, Staffordshire 114 4/06

5355 (GBU 5V): Greenhill, Westcliff-on-Sea 2/06 ex SBC Engineering, Leigh-on-Sea (dealer)

General

The Mercedes Citaros for service 724 are in the course of delivery. Indeed one of the DAF SB220s they are to replace has already been transferred to the parent company at Aylesbury.

Mark Garrett

■ ARRIVA SOUTHEND LIMITED.

Vehicles in

6226/8/30 (DLAs 259/261/263) DAF DB250/ALX400 have entered service at Grays. They have come from the stock of 'DLAs' in store at Southend.

The new Cadets for service 498, (see EBN506 for full details of these new vehicles), were delivered to Arriva Kent Thameside at Dartford the week beginning the 12th June. 3971/2 were delivered on Monday 12th whilst 3973 followed on Wednesday 14th. They were then prepared for service, (radios/ticket machines fitted and anti-etching film applied), before entering service from Grays on 26th June.

Vehicles Out

5393 (F573 SMG) Leyland Olympian/ Alexander (Southend United all-over ad) has been withdrawn following engine failure on its way to Pickering for repaint into fleet livery.

6220-3 (S265-8 JUA) DAF DB250/ALX400 to Arriva North West.

Internal Transfers

Dennis Dart/Plaxton Pointer SLF 3431 (P431 HVX) is currently on loan to Southend from Grays. It was seen working service 9 in Southend on 3rd July.

Vehicle Workings

Service 498 is to be worked by two DAF DB250s and one Cadet each day until the end of the school term. Originally two Cadets and one DAF DB250 were to work the service but severe overloading problems experienced at school finishing times on the first few days after the Cadets entered service has meant this has had to change.

Wednesday 28th June saw the 5 morning journeys on service 6A from Belfairs Woodcutters to Leigh Station operated by 'Village Link' Mercedes Sprinter 1752 (DE52 OKW). The first three journeys arrived with a standing load. The vehicle then went on to operate the 0914 Leigh Rectory Grove to Southend journey on service 5.

Repaints/Branding

Cadet 3504 has been repainted into allover red in preparation for start of the new TfL contract for routes 256/346 (see EBN506). It awaits a retrim. The rest of the batch will follow.

Grays based Dart SLFs 3204, 3389, 3425 and 3426 have received branding for routes 377/383. This has coincided with the issuing of new publicity promoting the two routes as 'Thurrock Locals - going your way - with a combined frequency of every 15 mins between Lakeside and Chadwell St. Mary'.

*Peter Mansbridge with thanks to Matthew Arnold, Richard Delahoy,
Richard Lewis and Les Thorington*

NETWORK COLCHESTER

Renumbering ~ June 2006

The entire fleet has been renumbered. Below is a fleet list showing the old and new numbers. This will be needed to understand this months Network Colchester report as the new fleet numbers have been used throughout.

<i>new</i>	<i>old</i>	<i>reg. no.</i>	<i>type</i>	<i>new</i>	<i>old</i>	<i>reg. no.</i>	<i>type</i>
101	340	AY55 DKA	Scania / East Lancs	524	364	SN54 HXC	Dart SLF / Plaxton
102	-	tba	Scania / East Lancs*	525	365	SN54 HXD	Dart SLF / Plaxton
213	333	G613 BPH	B10M / East Lancs	526	366	SN54 HXE	Dart SLF / Plaxton
214	334	G614 BPH	B10M / East Lancs	527	367	SN54 HXF	Dart SLF / Plaxton
215	335	G615 BPH	B10M / East Lancs	530	-	LK55 KZZ	Dart SLF / Plaxton
217	337	G617 BPH	B10M / East Lancs	708	378	S108 HGX	Vario / Plaxton
246	346	F246 MTW	Olympian / ECW	723	373	R763 DUB	Vario / Plaxton
247	347	H47 MJN	Olympian / ECW	724	374	R174 VBM	Vario / Plaxton
248	348	H48 MJN	Olympian / ECW	800	310	N540 TPF	Dart / East Lancs
249	349	H49 MJN	Olympian / ECW	801	311	N541 TPF	Dart / East Lancs
300	-	W427 CWX	Optare Solo M850	802	302	M722 CGO	Dart / Plaxton
510	354	Y40 TGM	Dart SLF / Caetano	803	303	M723 CGO	Dart / Plaxton
511	355	Y50 TGM	Dart SLF / Caetano	806	309	M526 MPM	Dart / East Lancs
512	106	R60 BCL	Dart SLF / Caetano	902	382	W902 UJM	Volvo SLF/Alex †
513	107	R70 BCL	Dart SLF / Caetano	905	385	W905 UJM	Volvo SLF/Alex †
514	108	R80 BCL	Dart SLF / Caetano	906	386	W906 UJM	Volvo SLF/Alex
515	109	R90 BCL	Dart SLF / Caetano	907	387	W907 UJM	Volvo SLF/Alex
517	351	HX51 LSN	Dart SLF / Caetano	994	-	X194 FOR	Dart SLF / Caetano
520	360	SN54 HWY	Dart SLF / Plaxton	996	-	X196 FOR	Dart SLF / Caetano
521	361	SN54 HWZ	Dart SLF / Plaxton	998	-	X198 FOR	Dart SLF / Caetano
522	362	SN54 HXA	Dart SLF / Plaxton	* on order			
523	363	SN54 HXB	Dart SLF / Plaxton	† now transferred to Burton main fleet			

Vehicles in

from Burton Coaches main fleet:

- 994 (X194 FOR) Dennis Dart SLF SFD476BR1YGW35095 SCC 4154/2000 B42F
new 9/2000 to Amos, Daventry
- 996 (X196 FOR) Dennis Dart SLF SFD476BR1YGW35112 SCC 4156/2000 B42F
new 9/2000 to Amos, Daventry. This bus entered service during the afternoon of 22nd June.

Below are full details of the acquired vehicles listed in EBN506.

- 300 (W427 CWX) Optare Solo M850 VN6397 Optare 6397 B30F
new 4/2000 to Tellings Golden-Miller
- 517 (HX51 LSN) Dennis Dart SLF SFD322BR1XGW13814 SCC 4093/2000 B40F
new 9/2001 to Classic, Annfield Plain
- 998 (X198 FOR) Dennis Dart SLF SFD476BR1YGW35134 SCC 4158/2000 B42F
new 9/2000 to Amos, Daventry. This vehicle entered service on 26th June.

Vehicles Out

902/905 Volvo B10BLE/Alexander to Burton's.
It appears that all the B10BLEs will eventually go to Burton's in exchange for Dart SLFs. The B10BLEs are more suited to Burton's longer rural routes, being dual-purpose seated.



above: Dart/Caetano 517 (HX51 LSN) in Classic Buses yellow/blue livery departs from the bus station for Monkwick.

below: Volvo Citybus/East Lincs 334 (G614 BPH) in Ipswich.

Kevin Smith



Vehicle Workings

Since the departure of DAFs 358/9, Brightlingsea school contracts 807 and 812 are now worked by any available large saloon.

Solo 300 (W427 CWX) normally works rural routes 83, 87, 247. This has enabled the Route 8 East Lincs Darts to stick (mainly) to their intended work .

The following services are now scheduled as 100% low floor: 1/E, 83, 87, 247; Sat ECC contracts 50, 92, Sun/PHol Suffolk CC contracts.

Meanwhile, route 2 is now 90% low floor (one double decker appearing on schooldays) and route 8 is 50% low floor, with step-entrance vehicles still appearing daily.

However, the evening Essex County Council 2E and 8E are supposed to be 100% low floor.

On 27th June , Volvo B10M 217 had an upper deck nearside window pushed out at Abberton, with an 11 year old boy falling out of the bus (luckily he wasn't seriously hurt). The bus was operating the afternoon 632 (Thomas Lord Audley School-Mersea Island) at the time. The remaining passengers were taken forward on Dart SLF/Caetano 517 which had just come off Brightlingsea schools 807. This led to the unusual sight of a Network Colchester SLF at Mersea.

Unusual sightings.

June 1st 515 (2 branded) on 8.
6th 802 on 8E; 300 on 1E.
12th 803 (8 branded) on 2.
13th 512 on 5; 724 on 8A.
14th 517 on 87.
16th 526 (1 branded) on 87.
19th 806 (8 branded) on 2.
20th 511 (8 branded) on 2.
22nd 520 on 5.
26th 803 (8 branded) on 2; 300 on 8A.
27th 724 on 2B / 8.
30th 515 (2 branded) on 8.

Repaints

A significant repaint into fleet livery this month has been that of Vario 723, the last remaining vehicle in Arriva livery.

530 has been painted into fleet livery ex Classic Bus livery.

Coaches

All coach activities ceased at the end of May. Work has passed to other local operators.

Essex County Council Tenders

Essex County Council tender awards which are effective from 28th August 2006 see Network Colchester gaining more work than it loses.

Gains are:

88 (Colchester-Halstead); Eves/Suns from *First*.
105/7 (Colchester-Walton); M-Sat - from *First*.
175 (Colchester-Fingringhoe); M-Sat - from *Hedingham*
(*First* retains their share of 175).
275 (Rowhedge-Thomas Lord Audley School); schooldays - from *Hedingham*.

Losses are:

87 (Colchester-Dedham); M-Sat - to *Beestons*.
247 (Colchester-East Bergholt); M-Sat - to *Beestons*.

Peter Mansbridge with thanks to Richard Delahoy, David Harman and John Podgorski

■ DEALER STOCK MOVEMENTS

VEHICLES IN

	<i>from</i>
Arriva North West	Olympian G521 WJE, Dominators G802 THA H805/6 AHA
Reading Buses	Deltas G501/3/5/6/8/10 XBL
Stagecoach East	Olympians F620/1/2/4 MSL G640 EVV C631 LFT C179 ECK C962 XVC.
Transdev Bournemouth	Dominators H251/6/9/63 JTT, J266SPR.

VEHICLES OUT

	<i>to</i>
Hong Kong Olympian GE5021	now M129 BNO with Beestons , Hadleigh, Suffolk.
L218	Blackpool Transport for Blackpool Tour, converted to part open top.
Dennis Lance L405 BFX	Carters Coaches , Ipswich, Suffolk.
M351 M748	City Sightseeing , Porto, Portugal.
M353	City Sightseeing , San Francisco, USA.
Olympian A141 MRN	Country Hopper , Ibstock, Leics
M1275	Dunn-Line , Nottingham.
M1076 M409 M1193	Ideas in Motion , Dublin.
Deltas G741/3/6 RTY	McKindless , Wishaw, Lanarks.
Volvo B6 L453 YAC	Regal , Edgware.
Volvo Olympian P479 MBY	Scotguide , Glasgow , converted to half open top.
Olympians E911/2 DRD	Whippet Coaches , Fenstanton.

■ ENSIGNBUS, Purfleet

Acquired vehicles

from Stagecoach North East

611 G611 CEF Leyland Lynx LX2R11C15Z4R LX1413	Leyland	B49F	11/1989
620 G620 CEF Leyland Lynx LX2R11C15Z4R LX1422	Leyland	B49F	11/1989

from Go Ahead North East 4738/40

638 G738 RTY DAF SB220LC550 321865	Optare 5024	B49F	8/1989
640 G740 RTY DAF SB220LC550 321719	Optare 5040	B49F	8/1989

Two ex-Reading DAF/Optare Deltas are also due to enter the operational fleet.

Loaned vehicles

W141 WGT Dennis Dart SLF SFD212AR1YGW14700	Plaxton 0010.1HJB2593	B31D
6/2000. This is one of a batch new to Mitcham Belle, which passed to Centra, then Travel London (DP41) and have now been returned to Dawson Rentals. Red livery; blue skirts.		
P746 HND Dennis Dart SLF SFD322BR1TGW10424	Plaxton 9610.6HLZ5341	B39F
2/1997. This is/was Blue Triangle DP206, but was new to Dunstan (Bluebird), Middleton, Manchester. It is in all white livery (as operated by BT).		

These are on loan to cover a temporary shortage of vehicles.

Service developments

As recorded in EBN506, various changes took place from 1 July. The X80 was revised to run



Ensignbus changes from 1 July: three views at Lakeside by Kevin Smith

above: Delta 638 on the X80

below: Dart 703, now rebranded for the 77/83 on the 77.

opposite: Lynx 611 on the 77.



Bluewater - Chafford Hundred - Grays (SSuPH) - Chadwell St Mary and Tilbury (SuPH). There are additional early morning and evening timings on the 64, and two new Monday-Saturday commercial routes were introduced: 77 Tilbury - Lakeside and 83 Chadwell St Mary - Lakeside. These combine to give a 15 minute headway between Lakeside and Whitehall Lane.

The X80 Darts have been transferred to work the 77 and 83, being replaced by Deltas. The latter are also available for rail replacement work, as are the two Lynx. Most buses have received branding vinyls for the X80 and 77/83 as appropriate. Timetables available at: www.ticketslondon-online.biz/combo_site/index.htm

Current Purfleet-based fleet (excluding City Sightseeing) is:

126	P426	UUG	Olympian/Alexander Royale	194	P494	MBY	Olympian/Alexander RH
127	P427	UUG	Olympian/Alexander Royale	611	G611	CEF	Leyland Lynx
128	P428	UUG	Olympian/Alexander Royale	620	G620	CEF	Leyland Lynx
129	P429	UUG	Olympian/Alexander Royale	638	G738	RTY	DAF Optare Delta
149	E749	SKR	Metrobus Mk2 /MCW	640	G740	RTY	DAF Optare Delta
152	E752	SKR	Metrobus Mk2 /MCW	700	V800	CBC	Dart/Plaxton Pointer
157	E747	SKR	Metrobus Mk2 /MCW	701	P81	MOR	Dart/UVG Urbanstar
161	F761	EKM	Metrobus Mk2 /MCW	702	P82	MOR	Dart/UVG Urbanstar
162	F762	EKM	Metrobus Mk2 /MCW	703	P503	MOT	Dart/UVG Urbanstar
167	F767	EKM	Metrobus Mk2 /MCW	704	P504	MOT	Dart/UVG Urbanstar
173	F773	EKM	Metrobus Mk2 /MCW	705	P505	MOT	Dart/UVG Urbanstar
175	F775	EKM	Metrobus Mk2 /MCW	710	P910	MOR	Dart/UVG Urbanstar
186	P486	MBY	Olympian/Alexander RH	711	P201	OLX	Dart/Plaxton Pointer
189	P489	MBY	Olympian/Alexander RH	712	P202	OLX	Dart/Plaxton Pointer
192	F292	NHJ	Metrobus Mk2/MCW	782	R182	VLA	Dart/Plaxton Pointer
193	P493	MBY	Olympian/Alexander RH				

David Harman
with thanks to Ross Newman of Ensignbus



Hedingham

New vehicles

L??? ???? ??? ADL Dart SFD3CACR46GW88819 ADL 6216/1 B37F
L??? ???? ??? ADL Dart SFD3CACR46GW88820 ADL 6216/2 B37F

These will be L348/9, but are yet to be registered and numbered. They are in livery but await signwriting, being presently stored at Hedingham. Two further Darts are due in August.

These are the first new buses for Hedingham to be fitted with Hanover Displays electronic blinds. The only other bus fitted with electronic blinds is the ex-demonstrator Volvo B10B/Alexander, L301.

Fleet List / Allocations (EBN506)

Lynx L200 is now at Sudbury.

Corrections: Sudbury have Tiger coach L122 and Tiger bus L148 (not vice-versa). Hedingham-based L301 is of course a B7RLE, not B10RLE.

Service news

Tenders lost with effect from 28 August 2006, are:

59 (Sat journeys only),
95 (Sat journeys only),
175, 275.

Tenders gained from the same date are:

9 (Braintree - Gt Bardfield) (Sats),
17, 18,
78 (SuPH, evenings),
85, 86, 88B,
417 and 418.

Further details next month.

David Harman
with thanks to Dave Arnold



We record **National Express** route changes in *Essex Service Changes*, but several members have asked for further information of their operations within Essex. Current diagrams and operators appear to be:

National Express

- 305 Liverpool - Southend-on-Sea: *First (Centrewest London Buses, Trafford Park, Manchester depot).*
- 350 Liverpool - Clacton. (plus shorts Liverpool <> Cambridge/Mansfield: *Stagecoach East Midlands (Mansfield depot) except 0815 ex Clacton, 0715/0745 ex Liverpool and 1845 ex Sheffield: First (Centrewest London Buses, Trafford Park, Manchester depot).*

- 481 London - Chelmsford - Ipswich - Felixstowe (plus shorts London <> Ipswich): *Galloway European*.
- 484 London - Colchester - St. Osyth - Clacton - Frinton - Walton (plus shorts London <> Clacton): *Galloway European*.

National Express Airport

- 717 Gatwick - Stansted - Cambridge: *National Express Operations*.
- 727 (Brighton) - Gatwick - Heathrow - Stansted - Norwich (most to/from Gatwick): *National Express Operations*.
- 737 Oxford - Luton - Stansted: *National Express Operations*.
- 767 Stansted - Luton - Leicester - Nottingham: *Dunn-Line (Holdings)*, Nottingham.
- 777 Stansted - Luton - Birmingham: *Birmingham Coach Company*.
- 797 Brighton - Gatwick - Heathrow - Stansted - Cambridge: *National Express Operations*.
- A4 London - Stansted Airport: *National Express Operations*.
- A6 Stansted - West Hampstead - Marylebone - London: *National Express Operations*.
- A7 Stansted - Stratford - Liverpool Street - London: *National Express Operations*.

Thanks to Richard Delahoy for getting up early on a Saturday to take the photograph here. Perhaps members would like to provide more photographs, updates, vehicle news ...

David Harman
acknowledgements to Graham Lord and National Express y-group

First Coaches Ltd. 20463 (X193 HFB) in Chichester Road, Southend, on the 08:45 to Liverpool, 1 July (journey time: 10 hours 35 mins). The First Essex Hadleigh driver takes the coach as far as Bedford (arr. 12:45) , returning at 15:30 with the 09:00 ex-Liverpool.

Richard Delahoy



Essex Small Operator News

AAT, Colchester A second minibus is Ford Transit NA52 XOF. The depot/office is at the Cowdray Centre

A&D, Mini Coaches, Benfleet Former Chelmsford Taxibus Ford Transit ET53 VHY has been acquired.

A&M, COACHES Thundersley Toyota/Caetano JUI 9570 is here and has been for some time.

ANITA'S, Stansted New is VDL Bova Futura RY06 FRN

A.P.T. TRAVEL, Rayleigh 549 KYA (ex N254 HWX) a Toyota/Caetano is in (by 6.06) ex Princess (Barfoot), West End, Hants. and reregistered to N254 HWX (6.06). Seen 13.6.06 as 549 KYA and 28.6.06 as N254 HWX.

R877 SDT Scania/Irizar in yard 13.6.06 unmarked; possibly dealer stock. Last with Coopers Tourmaster, Northumberland but new as "Cat's Whiskers / Rajah" with Hope, Leigh-on-Sea.

H937 VUG (ex A1 YET, H937 VUG) Van Hool T815 appears in this operator's advert for sale.

DMJ 374T Bedford YMT/Duple Dominant is at the depot. (11.4.06) - possibly dealer stock - it is lettered "A.M.G. Coaches" on the rear illuminated panel.

USU 487 (ex C313 UPC) Setra S215H is in (by 4.06) ex Andrews, Trudoxhill, Somerset - it is lettered for A.P.T. so is presumed in use.

H921 OBE (ex) Scania/Berkhof is here at 11.4.06 and is probably in use.

B19 EOS is an EOS in the yard (11.4.06) in green livery with "Roadliner" fleetname. (This is believed to be Roadliner of Poole, Dorset - that operator's like for B19 - registrations seems to indicate that - but there is no vehicle currently listed with that registration. It could be E5 ELF, ex J718 OHG etc., with yet another registration?)

Vehicles of this operator are often seen in the yard of Cook at Purdeys Industrial Estate.

AMBER/BASILDON TRAVEL, Rayleigh Leyland Tiger/Plaxton OIB 3513 (ex A454

HPY) is with one of these companies (by 6.06) (*In addition to OIB 3514 already reported*).

ANITAS, Stansted Airport RY06 ERN a Bova Futura is in (by 5.06)

ARROW, Maldon Ford Transit ML05 KSY has been acquired from Nakitas, Wickford.

ASTROCABZ, Maylandsea Ford Transit S870 TAH was seen 1.06 with no markings, and 4.06 lettered for Astro Cabz. (ex Brians, Maylandsea) NX05 RKA Ford Transit is in by 5.06

BARRYS BUSES, East Tilbury Cannibalised here is LDV 400 J497 YTW.

BJS, Gt.Wakering Vehicles of this operator are often seen in the yard of Cook at Purdeys Industrial Estate.

BRADAMOUR TOURS, Rochford R824 CCR LDV Convoy (low roof) seen 4.06 - no PSV disc.

BRENTWOOD COACHES Further to EBN 505, BC06 BWC has a Caetano body. It appeared at this year's Brighton rally.

CEDRIC, Wivenhoe Former Metrobus Leyland Olympian/Leyland K814-16 HMV have fleet nos. 24-26. Olympian/Northern Counties G756 UYT is fleet no 23. Olympian B748 GCN is renumbered 9 (ex 28). Olympians G756 UYT, H552 GKX and K816 HMV are now in fleet livery, having initially been run "as acquired".

Bova Futura N972 EUG is reregistered OUI 8418. Olympians sold are ACM 710X to Flagfinders, ARP 614X, A243 GHN to Total Travel, Leicester; while ACM 705X is up for sale. Olympian/ECW coach B162 AKH is being cannibalised. Cannibalised Olympian MUH 284X has gone for scrap

CHELMSFORD TAXIBUS, Chelmsford EN55 WYO Ford Transit is no. 31 - seen 4.06 but assumed in by 2.06

CLINTONA, Brentwood YX54 GYZ Mercedes Benz Vario/? in (by 6.06). BX06 XZA LDV Convoy/LDV-? (conversion - not sure whose) in (by 6.06).

CM3 CARS, South Woodham Ferrers W979 PBR Ford Transit operates on a taxi plate (by 5.06). T411RFL Ford Transit operates on a PSV disc (by 6.06).

COUNTY COACHES Brentwood

Registration 2899 RU is on a Volvo/Caetano (by 5.06) and named "Hertfordshire". 5189 RU (ex F879 RFP) Dennis Javelin/Duple is named "Rutland" (by 6.06).

Bristol VR KKK 887V was back in use on schools work in mid June.

DELUX TRAVEL, Westcliff-on-Sea This operator's vehicle (Toyota/Caetano L46 DBC) has been seen in the yard of Cook at Purdeys Industrial Estate.

DENGIE TAXIS, Maylandsea T229 PNA an LDV Convoy seen 5.06 with 'Prompt Cars' names (had disc). Uncertain if this is a new trading name for this operator or a different operator.

YX53 FWY LDV Convoy (no disc) and YR02 WLC VW Transporter (with lift) have 'Prompt Cars' names (seen 5.06)

DE VERE TRAVEL, Sible Hedingham Iveco 45/Mellor P282 NNB is used on ex Hedingham Essex CC routes 327/9/31 in the Halstead and Sudbury areas

DON'S, Dunmow HX54 UGN a ?/Neoplan is in (by 4.06). Also here is former Hong Kong Leyland Olympian/Alexander J645 CEV (FC 8014)

EXCEL, Stansted New is Ayatt Bravo tri-axle WX06 OSW, which is probably the largest coach in Essex! Three single deck MCV Evolutions are on order delivery August/September which will replace 709s.

FARGO, Rayne C46 KBE Leyland Olympian/East Lincs is in (by 5.06) ex Lincolnshire 1646 (as well as C47 KBE already reported)

FARNHAM HIRE, Farnham M2 SOB Toyota/Caetano has gone to Emblings/Judds, Guyhirn, Cambs. (by 6.06).

FLAGFINDERS, Braintree Olympian SPY 209X is now in fleet livery, ex East Yorkshire.

GBN ASSOCIATES,, Pitsea. Another Ford Transit on hire from Robertson Van Hire, Colchester is W61 XJX. Ford Transit W486 ROT, W634 XOE have been returned to Robertson off hire. Ford Transit R157 AWB (which had replaced W486 ROT here) has been sold via Robertson Van Hire, Colchester and the latest addition is 'stretched' Ford Transit W771 BDN.

GLEW, Colchester F781 GNA Leyland Tiger/Plaxton is in (by 5.06) ex Hedingham L201 via Ensign (dealer). Toyota/Caetano L480 NUD is named "Charlie Boy".

GODWARD, South Woodham Ferrers Leyland Tiger/Plaxton E118 KFV (ex 530 MUY, E118 KFV) is in (by 6.06) ex Arriva London North TPL518 via Ensign (dealer)

HAILSTONE, Basildon M203 VWF Mercedes Benz 814D/Plaxton is in (by 5.06) ex C & M, Laindon. AE51 AOF Mercedes Benz/Euro is in (by 6.06) ex Shreeve (Belle), Lowestoft, Suffolk. It is named "Thunder".

HARDY MILES, Southend-on-Sea There is obviously now a connection between Hardy Miles and Praisecover. They both quote the same address now at 259 Hamstel Road; the office at 319 Sutton Road is now closed (although the yard at the rear of that address is still in use); they share the yard at Purdey's Industrial Estate; MCW Metrobus C336 BUV was seen 11.4.06 with 'Hardy Miles' names, but with Praisecover disc and legal lettering. Volvo B10M/Alexander F254 OFP, is also in a similar condition.

HAWAII FIVE O, Colchester. This operator now has a restricted PSV disc. It is carried by Ford Transit S804 TNA (EBN 505 refers). Further non-PSV licensed Ford Transit are P724 KNB, V668 JAR, W208 VNO, EU 51 PXE, EU 02 OXM and NK53 EZB. Withdrawn Ford Transit P163 KOM has an Axcon body conversion, this is stored at the Commerce Way depot.

IDF TRAVEL, Colchester This operator has moved to Colchester from Long Melford. Based at Evergreen Garage, Stanway).

JACKSON, Bicknacre DAF/Van Hool MJI 5031 (ex K96 GEV) has been refurbished internally and is now C49FT (ex C48FT) by 4.06

AE06 JNF Mercedes Benz O814D/Euro Coach Builders C33F is new, registered 20.4.06. It will be fleet no. 3 (not yet on vehicle)

Mercedes Benz 609D/Autobus L738 NWU went to Taylor (dealer), Isleham in exchange (4.06).

KELLY'S Harlow Setra S215 UIL 4721 has been on loan to Dan's, South Woodford in 5/06.



above: Cedrics ex-Metrobus Olympian K816 HMV leaves Colchester for Brightlingsea.
 below: Flagfinders now operate Solo MX04 VLP on their Braintree Freeport service.

Kevin Smith



KINGS Stanway YJ05 PZB DAF
SB4000/Van Hool C49F was on loan
from Arriva (dealer) from (by) 12.5.06 to
12.6.06

LCB TRAVEL Harlow Former Chelmsford
Taxibus, Ford Transit ET53 VJA has been
acquired.

ALEC LEONARD Shotgate Volvo
B10M/Plaxton JBW 68Y (ex 6957 MT,
RDW 27Y) has been reported in use ex
Brown, Basildon, (by 6.06), so must have
had missing parts replaced.

LODGE COACHES High Easter AL06 DGE
a Setra is in (by 5.06). M412 MPD (ex
WET 476, M412 MPD) Setra S210H has
been reregistered 743 RUR (by 5.06).
This vehicle is C30FT

LONDON HOPPA, Stansted The depot is
now at the ex Olympian site at Stansted
Business Park, ex the nearby Airways
House car park.

MALCOLM'S BUS SERVICE Clacton RMA
NMY 654E is ex International, Thornton
Heath

MARKS TEY TRAVEL, Marks Tey This
operator ceased about four years ago, but
Ford Transit E870 JJR was still extant,
though derelict, in a garden at Marks Tey
in 5/06.

N.C.S. Saffron Walden T334 VJN LDV
Convoy (low roof) on taxi plate (in by
5.06). Renault Trafic J708 BJN is now with
the Apple Tree Nursery, Braintree.

NELSON'S Wickford Spares only Scania
N113/Alexander H210 LOM has gone for
scrap

NEW HORIZONS Alresford New is YX06
FHB, a Mercedes Benz Sprinter/Concept
M16L

OLYMPIAN Harlow Scania K93/Plaxton
Premiere AHZ 7344 is now in the new
metallic blue livery. This and Volvo
B10M/Paramount MIL 1853 (A338 HNR)
are the last two ex Stort Valley vehicles
remaining. The ex Stort Valley premises at
Great Dunmow were demolished in 3/06.

Ex Scenic Travel Mercedes O404/
Hispano S139 RWA has gone from
storage here

O'TOOLE Navestockside Acquired is Volvo
B10M/Van Hool M640 KVV.

P&R TRAVEL Harlow Ford Transit R102
TDD has been acquired from Meteor,
Stansted.

P&M Shotgate Bedford YNT/Plaxton TEC

956Y is thought to have been cut up at the
Birkett Hall Stables yard at Woodham
Ferrers (by 5.06)

PHILLIPS South Woodham Ferrers YD02
PXL Bova Futura is in (by 6.06) ex
Cochrane, Peterlee, Durham.

We have not seen Volvo B58/Plaxton BHJ
369S for some time - possibly it has gone.

PRASECOVER Southend Ford Transit
M494RKL had a PSV disc when seen 4.06

PRESIDENTIAL Shoeburyness The
operating centre. is now at 20 Vanguard
Way, Shoeburyness, SS3 9QY (the
premises of Oppenheimer) by 4.06

RAYLEIGH ROADWAYS Shotgate BU02
KUO MAN/Noge is in (by 6.06) ex Star,
Oset, W.Yorks.

SAMUELS Westcliff N478 YNB LDV 400
is in (by 4.06)

SBC ENGINEERING Southend SN04 CPE
Scania/East Lancs is in and converted to
part open top - It is yellow and lettered
"London's Big Yellow Bus" for London
Sightseeing work (by 4.06). It was new
as Lothian 999 (with roof). The tour on
which it operated ceased in early May, so
it's future is unclear.

Scania L94/Van Hool R862 SDT is in a
special livery for "Manga County Hall
Bus Tours" (by 12.05) and appears to be
static in Cook's yard at Purdeys Industrial
Estate.

This operator is using another yard at 9
Stock Road.

SIMON'S BUS Wickford V876 NDS LDV
Convoy (high roof) is in (by 6.06)

SJH Crays Hill Volvo B10M/Plaxton H829
AHS has the name "Matthew" (by 6.06).

SOUTHERN STAR Harlow DAF
SB2305/Caetano J40 PSW has had a name
change to "Miss Jessica" (by 4.06)

STAN'S Gt.Totham K101 OCT Dennis
Javelin/Plaxton is in (by 6.06) but is being
advertised for sale.

STANSTED TRANSIT EU06 KOW ADL
Dart B29F reg. 9.5.06.

EU06 KOX and EU06 KPA are similar.

**STANWAY TRAVEL SERVICES, Layer-de-
la-Haye.** Ford Transit W476 YHK has
gone to Five 4 One Cars, Colchester.

STB COACHES, Chadwell St Mary Former
Heddingham Bedford YMT/Plaxton BHK
710X has been acquired from Travelux,
Stanford-le-Hope.

STEPHENSON'S, Rochford Former

Southend Fleetline MRJ 233W acquired from from Fargos, has been repainted in Southend Corporation colours, and will be in service as a spare vehicle !! A new Dart is also on order for entry into service around September, at which stage one of the older Darts will be withdrawn, possibly for transfer to Excel

S.W.T., South Woodham Ferrers EX06 FZR Ford Transit Tourneo in by 5.06 An LDV has registration X5 KPP - this is thought to be Y641 KNC reregistered (by 5.06).

TALISMAN, Gt.Bromley V35 HAX Setra S315GT-HD C44Ft is in (30.6.06) ex Kings Ferry via Scania (dealer).

JHK 495N Leyland Atlantean/ECW open topper has been purchased (by 4.06) ex Arriva The Shires 5301 (purchased from Blythswood (dealer), Glasgow, but new as Colchester 55. It has been repainted into Colchester B.T. livery.

Ex New World First Bus tri axle Olympians J534, 605 CEV are now in KMB style yellow/blue/red, ex China Light & Power blue/white

THORN OF RAYLEIGH DAF MB230/Plaxton A12 APT (ex E339 EVH) has an overall livery for "Petit Samurai / London County Hall - Home of Manga Studios" (by 6.06)

WIL 3624 (ex C144 SPB) Leyland Tiger/Berkhof is in (by 4.06) ex Taylor, Barrow-upon-Soar, Leicestershire.

TL MINIBUSES, Shoeburyness SD52 YRS Ford Transit is in (by 8.05) - has this operator's disc and legal lettering (Lane, Shoeburyness). Fleetname is "TL. Mini Buses" and also has 'Associated' name

TN TRAVEL, Colchester Ford Transit P843NWC formerly of Stanway Travel, seen at Usher's address (4.06) - not sure if visiting, borrowed, bought etc. Despite reports elsewhere, LDV Convoy R71 BYS was never on loan from Usher t/a IDF, Long Melford. It was merely parked at TN's operating centre until IDF found its own base in the Colchester area.

TOMS, Southend-on-Sea Ford Transit/Dormobile G720 WDU seen 16.6.06 unmarked - and is now with Access Anyone, Leigh-on-Sea.

TOWN CARS, Colchester This is linked to pcv licensed Town Cars (Clacton) and AAT of Colchester, but currently only has phv licensed minibuses.

These are Ford Transit/Bernard Mansell X681 PJW; ex Shearings Ford Tourneo DS 02 VMO; Ford Tourneo AY 02 YVX; Mazda 2200 P98 EVO; LDV Convoy W498 UCF, LDV Convoy Y469 HPL.

Operating Centre is at Cowdray Centre, as per AAT.

TURNERS, Wickham St Paul Scania/Irizar YP02 AAO has gone to Scania (dealer) (by 6.06)

WESTBROOK TRAVEL SERVICES, Shoeburyness W986 XOG Ford Transit is in (by 4.06)

Further to the Excel and Stephenson fleetlists in EBN 505, all former London Olympians are H72F, our apologies for the error

From *Bus & Coach Professional*:

EVOBUS WILL deliver its first Euro 4 vehicles to the UK in November with confirmation of an order for 10 Citaros by National Car Parks and a Setra Comfort Class S415 GTHD for Essex-based **Lodge Coaches**. The Lodges order is a 49-seat Comfort Class with 422bhp 12-litre engine and adaptive cruise control. It will be one of the show vehicles at on the EvoBus stand at EuroBus Expo in November.

MISCELLANEOUS

CAV620V Volvo B58/Duple seen 4.06 in Godward's yard, and 6.06 in use in the Brentwood area. Had 'CD Travel' lettering but the 'CD' has now been removed.

NK02EZB Ford Transit seen 6.06 in Colchester area with restricted disc.

WIB 9498 (ex F679 BBD) LAG seen 4.06 in yard at Purdeys Industrial Estate used by M&E, Stevens and Bee-Line. Also seen same month on the road. (last recorded with Viceroy, Saffron Walden)

N572 PNH LDV 400 was at the Rawreth depot. of Amber/Basildon Travel on 11.4.06 - not sure of owner. (was new to Barnett, Kettering, Northants.)

EF03 NWN Ford Transit/Stanford conversions seen in Southend 11.4.06 with "Associated Star" stickers and a taxi plate. Formerly Excellent Connections, Manchester no. 28. Associated Star may be Praisecover or another operator in the Southend area.

There are two coaches in Outen's breakers yard at Purfleet. One is a Bedford YMT/ Supreme Mk IV ex Webberbus, Minehead, the other is a Duple Dominant II bodied Ford or Bedford, in dark blue.

ESSEX - Non-PSV Operators

Layer Marney Tours

AEC Routemaster/Park Royal JJD 398D (former RML 2398) is here.

Boswells School, Chelmsford

LX53 OKF LDV Convoy (high roof) seen 5.06

Chelmsford County High School for Girls

HJ05 VZK Peugeot Boxer seen 5.06

Great Baddow High School

EO52 HUH LDV Convoy (school bus version) seen 5.06

The Sandon School

CU06 CKG Ford Transit seen 5.06

Scenic Travel Hockley

R337 EFG Ford Transit/Ferqui was seen 11.4.06 with legal lettering "Scenic Travel Ltd, P.O.Box 2086, Hockley, SS4 4WW". It was parked close to the quoted address of "Freedom 2 Travel" in Rayleigh. It had no PSV disc. (This and similar R338 EFG were seen 9.05 in the yard of Crown, Benfleet. Both were new to Titan Tours, Redhill, Surrey.)

Stevand Training Services Battlesbridge

Two Leyland National Greenway rebuilds are in (by 4.06), ex East Yorkshire training vehicles:-

IIL 2157 (ex AYR 326T) was new to London Transport as LS 326 and passed through Lucketts of Watford and Scarborough & District before reaching East Yorkshire. As a training vehicle it received fleet no. 9910.

IIL 2159 (ex EAT 186T) was new to East Yorkshire (no. 186), but passed to Scarborough & District, and then back to East Yorkshire before becoming training vehicle no. 9906.

R.S.M. (driver training)

NIW 2309 (ex A5 UNX, NIW 2309, A574 AHB, JEP 597, A381 ROU) Leyland Tiger/Van Hool seen 2.06 - last recorded with New Century.

Sainsbury's

KOW 276Y Leyland Atlantean/East Lancs seen 2.06 lettered for the superstore with "Scan School". Obviously used for training purposes. Seen at the Springfield, Chelmsford store, but may not be based in Essex. Previously recorded with Blair (preservation), Eastleigh. New as Southampton 276, later First Hampshire 1276 and First Hampshire & Dorset 1276 / 38276.

Southend Estuary Scouts

V620JLG LDV Cy (low roof) in by 2.05, seen again 3.06

*Ian Ransom. Thanks to Dave Arnold,
Colin Sigston, John Podgorski, David Harman,
PSV Circle, Lyn Watson
(Excel/Stephenson's)*

BLUE TRIANGLE ESSEX SUNDAY ROUTES (overleaf)

Blue Triangle RCL2260 at Great Dunmow on 6 May. *Chris Stewart*

Blue Triangle RT3435 at Easton Lodge Halt. *Kevin Smith*

First London SRM3 at Braintree Bus Park. *Kevin Smith*



**Blue Triangle
Essex Sunday Routes**





PCV HOLDER ?

⇒ Full and Part-Time Drivers required

Stephensons of Essex and our associated company, Excel Passenger Logistics are expanding fast and we have vacancies for drivers at our Maldon, Rochford and Stansted depots.

Full and Part time drivers are needed for school services and weekend rail replacement, together with scheduled service work and private hires.

If you're over 25 and have held a PCV licence for two years or more, we'd like to hear from you.

We offer attractive rates of pay, varied work, and a friendly working environment.



⇒ Full and Part-Time PCV Fitters

We also have vacancies for experienced fitters at our Maldon, Rochford and Stansted depots.

⇒ Rail Controllers/Customer Service Assistants

Part-time vacancies exist at Excel for station-based staff on weekends and occasionally evenings, so even if you haven't got a PCV licence, you can still help ensure the smooth running of our rail replacement services.

For more details of any of the above vacancies, contact:

Stephensons: Bill Hiron 01702 541511

Excel: Graham Hayden 01279 681800



Stephensons

excel

EBEG

BLACK AND WHITE PHOTO LIST

NUMBER NINE - JULY 2006

REAR-ENGINEED DOUBLE-DECKERS

NEGATIVES COURTESY FRANK CHURCH AND OTHERS

Fleet Number	Reg	No of prints required	Fleet Number	Reg	No of prints required
EN VRs			EN VRs		
N3042	LFS 287F		N3059	LJN 654P	
N3043	LFS 292F		N3063	LJN 658P	
N3044	LFS 295F		ON3064	UVX 1S	
DP3000	CPU 979G		N3066	UVX 3S	
X103000	CPU 979G		4003068	KOO 786V	
BUS3001	CPU 980G		O3068	KOO 786V	
DP3002	CPU 981G		4003069	KOO 787V	
N3002	CPU 981G		4003071	KOO 789V	
BUS3003	CPU 982G		Venetian	KOO 790V	
DP3004	CPU 983G		Venetian	KOO 793V	
N3045	NAG 583G		O3078	STW 22W	
N3046	NAG 586G		O3082	STW 26W	
N3047	OCS 576H		N3084	STW 28W	
N4003005	SMS 31H		N3086	STW 30W	
N4003006	SMS 32H		O3096	UAR 596W	
N4013007	SMS 33H		O3111	XHK 216X	
N4003008	SMS 34H		N3121	XHK 226X	
N4003009	SMS 35H		N3129	XHK 234X	
N4003010	SMS 36H				
N4003012	SMS 38H		3208	RRP 859R	
N3013	SMS 39H		3209	XNV 882S	
N4003014	SMS 40H		3213	CBD 901T	
N4003016	SMS 42H		3214	FRP 905T	
N4003017	SMS 43H		3216	FRP 907T	
N4003018	SMS 44H		3217	LBD 922V	
N4003019	SMS 45H				
N3019	SMS 45H		EN		
T3021	OWC 294K		Olympians		
N3022	OWC 295K		4000	XHK 235X	
N3024	WNO 544L		R4000	XHK 235X	
N3025	WNO 545L		4512	D512 PPU	
N3026	WNO 546L				
N3074	NPU 974M				
N3028	NPU 975M				
N3029	NPU 976M				
N3030	NPU 977M				
N3039	PWC 514M				
N3040	PWC 515M				
NSJ3048	JNO 189N				
NO3050	JNO 191N				
P3053	LJN 648P				
N3054	LJN 649P				
Number of	Prints		Number of	Prints	

Fleet Number	Reg	No of prints required	Fleet Number	Reg	No of prints required
ST			ST		
Fleetlines			Astromega		
350	WJN 350J		244	JEV 244Y	
353	WJN 353J		245	JEV 245Y	
O356	WJN 356J				
357	WJN 357J		Colchester		
358	WJN 358J				
361	WJN 361J		Atlantean		
364	WJN 364J				
367	WJN 367J			YWC 648F	
368	WJN 368J			JNK 495N	
372	WJN 372J			NNO 65P	
				MVK 546R	
375	GHJ 375L			TPU 74R	
376	GHJ 376L			MEV 86V	
R380	GHJ 381L				
381	GHJ 382L		Olympian		
382	GHJ 383L			C41 HHJ	
384	GHJ 384L			C42 HHJ	
386	JTD 386P				
388	JTD 388P				
O388	JTD 388P				
O390	JTD 390P				
OR390	JTD 390P				
393	JTD 393P				
O393	JTD 393P				
394	JTD 394P				
O394	JTD 394P				
396	JTD 396P		Number of Prints		
			All photos printed Landscape postcard size. Original livery except where specified		
221	XTE 221V				
239	MRJ 239W				
242	MRJ 242W				
			DP Dual Purpose Livery N NBC Livery O Overall Ad P Privatisation Livery R Rear SJ Silver Jubilee T Tilling Livery X10/400 On service		
308	Q554 MEV				
DMS					
317	SMU 926N				
319	KUC 949P				
Olympians					
	B553 ATX				
Number of Prints					

Notes: If the printer determines that any negatives are substandard quality they will not be printed. Refunds will be made in postage stamps.

Order deadline: **7th AUGUST** delivery expected within 4 weeks.

Name [BLOCK CAPITALS]

Address [BLOCK CAPITALS]

.....

.....

Postcode

Contact Telephone Number

	<i>Total prints ordered</i>		<i>Value of order</i>
EBEG/OS membership number		@ 65p each =	£:.....
Non EBEG / OS member		@ 75p each =	£:.....

Post and Packing - £1.50 up to 20 shots, £2.50 for 21 shots or more.

Total P&P £:.....

Cheque attached £:.....

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