

ESSEX BUS NEWS

The monthly magazine of the

ESSEX BUS ENTHUSIASTS GROUP

JULY 1987

(Formerly the **EASTERN NATIONAL ENTHUSIASTS GROUP**)

ISSUE 1280



Now in service with Citybus Ltd., Belfast, is former Eastern National Bristol RELL6G 1547 (SVW 275K). Just visible on its right is similar vehicle 1545 (SVW 273K). They are now numbered 713 & 712 in the Citybus fleet.

(D.A. Stabbing collection)

ROCHFORD MEETING

There will be no meeting in August, and full details of the September 8th meeting will be given next month.

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IMPORTANT NOTICE

Would all members please note that myself and Richard Delahoy have both moved and can you please send notes to the following addresses:-

Ian Ransom, 102 Bradford Street, Chelmsford CM7 6AU.

Richard Delahoy, 272 Shoebury Road, Southend-on-Sea SS1 3TT.

A few corrections to last months edition:-

Cover I have been informed that 44 operated the 13:10 from Ipswich with 43 operating the remainder of the service - could someone please confirm this information?

Page 2 MHK 614J should of course read MHK 914J.

Page 5 Re 18/5 should read BD 0204.

VISIT TO CLACTON SATURDAY 29th AUGUST

Bookings for this trip are low at present and if you wish to come along please write as soon as possible to Derek Stebbing at 18 Lynmouth Avenue, Chelmsford CM2 0TP. (Full details last month.)

* * * NEW BOOK * * *

THE BRISTOL RE -

A Family Profile.

USE YOUR CARD

Written by Simon Butler and published by Trevellan Books, this lavishly illustrated case-bound volume details the history and development of the Bristol RE. Included in the book is a road test carried out on a new Eastern National coach and a section dealing with REs in the ENOC/Tillings fleets.

Price £8.95 + £1.00 p&p and available from:- Andy Meadows
52 Ferndale Road
Rayleigh SS6 9NW.

EASTERN NATIONAL LIMITEDALLOCATIONS & TRANSFERS

6/87 0201 CN-BD; 0604 BD-BD(P); 0754 CF-BD(P); 0755/6 SW-BD(P);
1120 BS-BE; 1122 BE-BD; 1302 CR-D/L(D); 1303 CN-D/L(D);
1700 BD-D/L(D); 1702 SD-D/L(D); 1705 CR-D/L(D); 1723 SD-Pool;
1750 CF-DT; 1761 BS-CR; 1862 SE-CF; 1865 BE-BD; 1866 DT-SE;
1876 BD-BE; 3018 MN(P)-Pool; 3021 Pool-D/L(D); 3023 SD-D/L(D);
3084 SD-CN; 3201 CN-SD.

Of the above 1723 and 3018 are in use as driver training vehicles from the Driving School, New Writtle Street.

It is reported that 1128, 1133 & 1304 have moved from SD to HH but these have not appeared in the official Company list.

VEHICLE ON LOAN

The MCW Hiliner Demonstrator, ABM 399A, returned to MCW during June.

VEHICLE REPAINTS

w/e 6.6.87 1051 at ENE; 3092 at ENE

w/e 13.6.87 1752 at ENE.

w/e 20.6.87 1113 at ENE; 1115 at CR; 3034 at ENE (overall advert for

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Essex Radio)

w/e 27.6.87 1053 at ENE; 1738 at HH; 1770 at ENE; 1919 at ENE

w/e 4.7.87 1721 at HH.

Long awaited news on 3120 is that it was repainted at BN during w/e 27.12.86 and 3201 was repainted at CN during w/e 28.3.87.

HH 1900 is reported as remaining in old livery but with yellow doors. BS 1503, the last short Leyland National in red livery, has been seen in green/yellow - full details next month.

Finally, could you please let me know of any buses in new livery that we have not published details of, so as to allow me to find information from EN.

DRIVER TRAINING BUSES

Bristol VR 9000 (formerly 3000) is currently being painted into a new driver training livery at Maldon although no details are yet available. Further to the note on 3018 above it has been on loan to Bender of Basildon, who are currently training drivers for EN.

GENERAL

Competition on the Chelmsford - Maldon service ceased in mid-June when Gullen Coaches service 88 was withdrawn for financial reasons.

It is reported in "Bus Business" that Eastern National are interested in bidding for Voyage National, the Lille, France, based continental coaching arm of NBC which operates a small fleet of coaches.

Press reports state that minibus services will be introduced in Witham and Braintree, although the latter town will have to wait until the completion of its by-pass in 1990 and Witham will not receive them in the foreseeable future. Rail user groups in both towns have called on other operators to provide a service if EN won't.

The Sunday service from Bishops Stortford to Clacton and Walton is running again this year using BS 4510 with route EXC displayed. Can someone supply more details?

Leyland Olympian 4006 remains at Bristol Engineering for repairs to its upper deck.

Open-top service 100 is operating to a slightly revised route in Holland to that used last year with Kings Avenue no longer served and buses running via Third Avenue instead. In St.Osyth both the 100 & 200 run to the Shangri-la-Camp via the Main Rd. before doubling back via the camp grounds. The gates to the camp allow only inches on each side, however the high driving standards at Clacton have meant both gate posts were still intact on 3/7!

Clacton Area manager, Michael Holden, 'fixed it' when Jimmy Saville couldn't and arranged for a 12 year old boy to drive a double decker around Clacton Airfield. In response to Coastal Red's fares EN have introduced a maximum fare of 30p between Clacton & Holland and Clacton & Jaywick. St.Osyth is now 60p single/£1.00 return Farecards have also been introduced (weekly) @ £2.75 for Jaywick, Rush Green, Bockings Elm, Gt.Clacton, Buresville and Holland or £4.00 to include St.Osyth, Point Clear, Little Clacton and Gt.Holland as well. A Walton card @ £2.75 covers Frinton, Kirby Cross and The Naze.

Coastline minis 0214-6, 0218/9 now carry adverts for Coronation Garage instead of their slogans.

The London Road diversion in Chelmsford had ended by 4/7.

SERVICES

- 2 22:15 Southend - Basildon withdrawn after 27.6.87.
- 4 Revised timetable from 28.6.87.
- 4B Withdrawn after 27.6.87.
- 5/5A NEW SERVICE. Clacton to Bockings Elm (Flatford Drive or Camelia Crescent). Mon-Sat from 5.7.87.
- 7 group (Colchester). Certain school trips withdrawn after 24.7.87
- 7A Extended to Hullbridge, Anchor and revised timetable from 29.6.87
- 11/11A All journeys to operate as 11A and revised timetable from 29.6.87
- 11/12 (Clacton). Withdrawn after 3.7.87.
- 16 Withdrawn after 26.6.87.
- 20/20A Revised route and timetable with all services running as 20 introduced from 28.6.87.
- 22/22A Extended to Harwich Quay and revised timetable from 5.7.87
- 29B Extended to Eastwood, Belgrave Rd and revised timetable from 29.6.87.
- 31 21:35 ex-Chelmsford reduced running time. 22:20 ex-Maldon
- 31X advanced to 22:10 and reduced running time. 23:05 (31X) ex-Chelmsford advanced to 22:45 in an attempt to combat hooliganism. From Friday 17.7.87.
- 42 06:16 ex-Chelmsford and 06:35 return operate 6 mins earlier from 29.6.87
- 49 06:35 ex-Bps. Stortford via normal route from 15.6.87.
- 61A Withdrawn apart from 17:05 Access House - Southend after 26.6.87
- 64 Increased service Mon-Sat but withdrawn Sundays from 28.6.87.
- 79 EN journeys withdrawn after 25.7.87.
- 82, 88/88A Revised timetables from 27.7.87.
- 91/92 Revised route direct via Springfield Road in Chelmsford and revised timetable from 13.7.87
- 95/96/96A Minor timetable changes from 13.7.87
- 119 Extra trips Clacton-Lt.Clacton from 26.7.87
- 124 Withdrawn after operation on 30.6.87.
- 153 Hourly service introduced Mon-Sat to replace part of 402 from 29.6.87
- 157 Withdrawn after operation on 24.6.87
- 232 Withdrawn after operation on 27.6.87. Replaced by part of 250.
- 233 Extended from Wickford to Shotgate, Hodgsons Way and revised timetable from 29.6.87.
- 234 Revised timetable from 28.6.87.
- 237 Revised timetable from 29.6.87.
- 250 NEW SERVICE. Southend Central to Basildon Bus Stn. via Rayleigh and Wickford. Hourly Mon-Sat from 29.6.87.
- 251 Extended from Walthamstow Central to Oxford Circus and revised timetable introduced from 28.6.87.
- 257 Withdrawn after 23.6.87
- 300 NEW SERVICE. Ward Crescent to Margaret Dane School, Bishops Stortford from 18.5.87. One return trip schooldays only.
- 350 Revised timetable on early morning Brentwood - Romford services
- 351 introduced from 29.6.87.
- 353 Certain journeys to operate via Jeffreys Road. Stubbs Lane short workings extended to Jeffreys Road from 13.7.87.
- 400 Revised timetable from 29.6.87.
- 402.406 Withdrawn after 27.6.87.
- 405 Withdrawn after 26.6.87.
- 549 Withdrawn after 26.6.87.
- X51 Withdrawn after 27.6.87 and replaced by 251.
- X71 NEW SERVICE to start late July-Bps. Stortford to Stansted Airport on Mondays to Saturdays.

UNUSUAL WORKINGS

8.6.87 HH 3085 on Private Hire in Rayleigh.
 14.6.87 SD 1304 and BE 4511 on Private Hire to Windsor.
 16.6.87 CF 3111 on service 7A.
 23.6.87 BD 0204 noted in Colchester.
 27.6.87 BN 3117 on 232; BE 4512 on Private Hire to Gt.Yarmouth.
 2.7.87 CN 1130 on Private Hire in Braintree; MN 3040 on Asda service in Rayleigh.
 2.7.87 SE 1861 on 152. (CF duty.)
 3.7.87 CN 3022 on 200.
 8.7.87 CF 3077 & 3083 on Private Hire to Lowestoft.
 10.7.87 CF 3054 & 3077 on Private Hire to East Mersea.
 14.7.87 CF 4005 on Private Hire to Paglesham.

Vehicle loans between BE & SE as well as BE & BS are very common and it is not intended to report them as unusual.

DISPOSALSEastern National Omnibus Company Limited - Subsequent disposals.

1652 (KCG 609L) Noted still largely intact with one of the Carlton, Yorkshire breakers 6/87.
 2015 (20 PVX) Still with the London Bus Co., Burbank, California 12/86.

A summary of Bristol REs sold to Citybus, Belfast now follows:-

1524 (KVX 570J) Sold 2/85. No.790. Licenced 8/86 and put in reserve. Entered service 4/87 from Falls Park Garage.
 1528 (LVX 116J) Sold 2/85. No.788. Passed to Ulsterbus 6/85; no.788 retained. Entered service 6/85 from Londonderry on City services. Hijacked and destroyed by fire in Londonderry 2/86. Remains sold to Corry, Campsie 5/86 for scrap.
 1530 (MHK 912J) Sold 2/85. No.791. Licenced 4/87 and entered service from Falls Park.
 1532 (MHK 914J) Sold 2/85. No. 789. Passed to Ulsterbus 6/85; no.789 retained. Entered service from Londonderry on City services 6/85.
 1533 (MHK 915J) Sold 2/85. No. 792.
 1534 (MHK 916J) Sold 2/85. No. 793. Licenced 2/87 and placed in reserve. Entered service 4/87 from Falls Park. Out of service 6/87 due to an engine fire but is being repaired.
 1536 (OHK 226K) Sold 2/87. No. 704. Licenced 4/87 and entered service from Falls Park.
 1539 (PEV 501K) Sold 4/86. No. 707. Licenced 4/87 and entered service from Falls Park.
 1540 (PEV 502K) Details as for 1536 but number is 709.
 1541 (PEV 503K) Details as for 1536 but number is 710.
 1542 (RPU 882K) Details as for 1539 but number is 711.
 1544 (RPU 884K) Sold 2/85. No. 794. Licenced 4/87 and entered service from Falls Park. Hijacked and destroyed by fire in Belfast 5/87. Remains sold to G.O'Neill, Belfast for scrap.
 1545 (SVW 273K) Details as for 1536 but number is 712.
 1547 (SVW 275K) Sold 2/86. No. 713. Last reported in store at Short Strand, 4/86.
 1549 (WNO 538L) Sold 4/86. No. 714. Licenced 11.5.87 and entered service from Falls Park. Hijacked and destroyed by fire in Crumlin Road, Belfast 13.5.87. Remains sold to G.O'Neill, 6/87 for scrap.
 1550 (WNO 539L) Details as 1532. No. 795. Passed to Ulsterbus 8/85.
 1551 (WNO 540L) Details as 1550. No. 796. Hijacked and destroyed by fire in Londonderry, 8/86.

1552 (WNO 541L) Sold 4/86. No. 715. Licenced 6/87 and entered service from Falls Park.
 1553 (WNO 542L) Details as for 1547 but number is 717.
 1554 (WNO 543L) Sold 4/86. No. 718. Last reported in store at Short Strand. 4/86.

PUBLICITY

Timetable Leaflets for the following services have been issued:-

49/58/59; 301; 309; 333; X41 all dated 15.6.87.
 4; 11A; 29B; 251; 400 all dated 28.6.87.
 Buses to Hullbridge; Buses to Southend East both dated 28.6.87.
 100/200 valid 11.5.87 - 12.9.87.
 Buses between Clacton and Bockings Elm dated 6.7.87.
 LRT leaflet for 193 dated 22.6.87.

Leaflet giving basic details of service revisions ^{for Southend} dated 28.6.87 and a similar one for Basildon also dated 28.6.87.

In addition Network SouthEast have produced a leaflet showing times of rail replacement buses owing to engineering work at West Horndon during July and August.

COLCHESTER BOROUGH TRANSPORT

VEHICLES

Withdrawn:-

REs 24 (SWC 24K) and 28 (SWC 28K) were withdrawn on 30.6.87. 24 was in regular use until this date, and was sold to G&G Coaches, leaving Magdalen Street on 1.7.87. 28 had not been used since early March 1987 and is still at Magdalen Street, cannibalised.

General:-

RE 22 has been off the road for some time. Atlantean 52 was damaged in an accident at the beginning of June 1987, but is back in use now. Atlanteans 82 and 87 were back in use by 6.6.87 & 15.6.87 respectively, but 68 is still out of use following an accident in late March 1987.

Allocations:-

The two Lynxes (31 & 32) are now used mostly on services 3 and 31 on Mon-Fri but are still usually on the 2/2A on Saturdays. Following the arrival of the two Tigers (103 & 104) and the withdrawal of REs 24 & 28, the Leopard coaches (101 & 102) are now to be used on bus work Mon-Fri, when REs are not available, mostly on services 2/2A/2B and "timeboard" workings (odd journeys not part of a regular headway service). New service X4 is operated mostly by REs, but Atlanteans are also used. Service 8 now often has an Olympian on Mon-Fri. Services 1/1A, 5A & 7 usually have an Olympian each, although the one on 5A is switched to 4/4A for the evening peak.

SERVICES

Extra trips on the 4A on Saturdays have been introduced to meet the competition from Eastern Counties. CBT now operate 10 min headway. Perhaps more outstanding is the introduction of Services X21 to Great Yarmouth on Tuesdays, X23 to Brighton on Wednesdays and the X22 to Southend on Thursdays, all between 28.7.87 & 3.9.87. A copy of the timetable is included elsewhere in this month's magazine.

Fares from the town centre to Harwich Road on services 1/1A, 9/9A & 31 were not raised in the general review on 18.5.87, but were so on 22.6.87.

Eastern Counties town service, 199, commenced on 4.7.87. The Sat. only service runs ¼-hourly from 09:11 to 16:41 from the Bus Stn. to St. Michaels Estate via CBT service 4A routing.

The Borough Council has registered the name "Colchester Buses Limited" to protect against anyone else doing so.

SOUTHEND TRANSPORT LIMITED

These notes are correct to July 12.

Vehicles

ACQUIRED:

Contrary to our expectations last month, two more DMS's have been acquired, including MLH 476L. Details are:

305	MLH 371L	Daimler	CRG6	MCW	H44/28D
311	MLH 476L	"	CRL6	"	"

305 was ex City of Oxford 998; originally LT DMS 1371; 311 was ex Ensign Bus C209; originally LT DMS 1476. Both were acquired in June 1987 and are in fleet colours. 311 has number and destination blinds as per 312 (see last month's magazine); 305 had its blind boxes removed whilst at Oxford, and has now been fitted by STL with a central single track number blind with a short destination blind (of the size used in the Q and W registered Fleetlines) below. Neither bus has a rear number box. 305 had been bought by CoMS as long ago as 1979, and has been replaced in their fleet by the Olympian demonstrator which had operated in Singapore. It is ironic to note that Oxford operate 3 ex Southend Fleetlines (368/78/80) of similar age to 305!!

WITHDRAWN:

Following on from last month's report, Fleetline 348 (WJN 348J) was sold 6/87 by Wealden Omnibuses to a school at Golders Green.

MODIFIED:

255, the second of the Berkhof rebodied Leopards is shortly to be re-registered - using a mark previously carried by a LT Routemaster!! It was to have been 705 DYE, but that mark has now been sold elsewhere. We await details of the exact registration to be used.

ON HIRE:

From Venturer Travel:

The West Midlands Fleetline, ROK 453M, was returned to its owner (for hire to Wealden Omnibuses) on 16/6 and was replaced the same day by a Wealden owned vehicle, on hire to Venturer (operating in NBC poppy red livery):-

RFN 972G Daimler CRG6LX Park Royal H39/33F, originally East Kent.

From Stephenson's Coaches, Southend:

An ex Wallace Arnold Leopard/Plaxton C53F, TUB 1M, has recently been acquired by Stephenson's; it has been painted by STL in Stephenson's livery, and will be operated by Stephenson's on X1 on hire to STL.

From Bender School of Motoring, Laindon:

OCD 763G, Bristol VRTSL6G, ECW H-/-F, originally Southdown, continues to be based at the STL garage and is used by a Bender instructor to train STL drivers. STL continue to undertake their own training work as well, using 386/7. The use of a manual gearbox PD3 (see last month's notes) to train STL drivers was short lived, but various other Bender trainers are sometimes parked in the Southend garage for meal breaks.

From Ensign Bus, Purfleet:

Open top DMS TGI 813M was returned to Ensign by 13/6; it was not used in service.

Services

As anticipated last month, a considerable number of revisions took place on Sunday June 14 (or the following day, as appropriate):

1 Reduced frequency evenings/Sundays - partly compensated for by the increased service on 3A.

3 Existing Sunday & Boxing Day service (Southend - Canvey) transferred to the 3A (qv). New service introduced: Benfleet Station to Canvey Lakeside (Knightswick Centre) via Canvey Village, M-F peaks only; coach operation mornings, double deck bus evenings. This service operated free for the first week as a promotional offer.

3A Rerouted via London Rd & Kents Hill Rd (not Essex Way - still served by X3) and via Link Road (not Canvey Village); extended early Sunday mornings and on Boxing Day to Leigh Beck via Mitchells Ave. Day time service retimed, retaining half hourly headway; hourly evening and Sunday service introduced. Crew operation retained M-S daytime.

4A Last journey daily ex Southend diverted to double run from the White Horse via Newington Avenue in place of the last 64, and minor timetable adjustments.

8 Rerouted twice in Hawwell/Hockley: from Golden Cross via Ashington Road, Lascelles Gardens, Harewood Ave to Rectory Road (see General comments below); and in Hockley via Great Eastern Road, Station Road and Spa Road (to serve the station). One morning journey extended schooldays to Bournes Green.

9B Withdrawn, replaced by 69 (qv).

14 Extended at both ends, to run Central Bus Stn to Rayleigh Station via the A127/Rayleigh Weir. Additional journeys introduced.

23 Some early morning and evening journeys withdrawn (see under Other Operators for County tendered replacement service).

23A Some early/late journeys withdrawn or curtailed to Kent Elms Cnr

64 Timetable curtailed (but see below); 1 journey included in 4A.

69 NEW SERVICE, replacing 9B: Southend Central Bus Stn - Sutton Purdeys Way via Victoria Ave, Cuckoo Corner, Access House, Eastern Ave & Sutton Road (am trip diverts off via Stock Road industrial estate). One journey each way, M-F peaks; double deck bus operation.

795 Rerouted via South Stifford & West Thurrock, not North Stifford.

Minor timetable alterations also affected 7, 7B, 9A, 12, 29, 63, 65, X1, X3, X10, X11, X21, X30, X31, X41.

A further series of revisions then took place from Sunday June 28:

1 Minor timetable revisions.

4B NEW SERVICE, replacing deregistered EN service: Southend Central Bus Stn - Little Wakering, via Barling; two-hourly M-S (not evenings); mixed coach/double deck bus operation.

16 NEW SERVICE, replacing deregistered EN service: Eastwood Kent Elms Cnr - Chalkwell Station, M-F peaks only; D/D bus operated.

61A NEW SERVICE, replacing deregistered EN journeys: Southend Central Bus Stn - Prittlewell Access House, via Bournemouth Park Road; one return journey midday M-F (morning & evening trips are already provided by new STL 69); D/D bus operation.

64 Sunday service increased to half hourly from 1000 to 2230, replacing withdrawn EN service.

A further revision, from Saturday July 11, is that X1, X2, X3, X10 & X11 now call at Victoria Bus Station (which remains open at present, despite closure of the garage; it is thought to be under Sainsbury's management now). The services listed have also had their fares reduced from the same date to the normal bus scale within the Southend area.

General

From June 14 most bus fares in the 65p - 105p range were increased by 5p. At the same time however a maximum fare of 50p was introduced for all services on Canvey and from Canvey to Benfleet Station. In addition, as noted above, the new service 3 operated free for its first week. Other fare news is that the City Rover day ticket was increased by 40p to £4-60 but its validity was extended to include Culturebus 614 and X2; the Day Rover and Sea Rover ticket prices are unchanged.

The diversions of route 8 from June 14 met with a very hostile reaction from local residents. In Lascelles Gardens and Harewood Avenue a major protest was organised after bus stops appeared in these roads. When

the service started on the Sunday morning both roads were blocked by parked cars and despite a heavy police presence the new routing was suspended by mid morning. As an example of the problems, the 0818 ex Rayleigh did not clear Lascelles Gardens until 1130, 2 1/2 hours late! The new routeing was resumed the next day, but protests each night that week caused serious disruptions. The newly re-elected local MP, Dr. Michael Clark, has taken the residents side, conveniently ignoring the fact that it is his party's legislation which allows bus operators to run when and where they like, and provides no avenue to residents to object in advance to any service! In Great Eastern Road, residents' protests were more peaceful, with a petition being organised on the Sunday morning when your sub-editor went out to photograph the service. The problems of the 8 have featured prominently in the local press.

Most press comment has taken the residents side and has included complaints about the Shoebury East Beach terminus (used by EN 3 and STL 4A & 67) and about the diversion of the 3A away from Canvey Village - which all goes to prove that you cannot please all of the people all of the time! A feature article which appeared in the *Yellow Advertiser* of July 3 gave a more balanced picture and included an interview with STL's Operations Director, Derek Giles. Out of town members interested in a copy of that article should send an SAE to the Sub-Editor.

The 8, along with the 1, 7 and EN services 11A, 20A, 251 & X51, was also disrupted on June 14 by the closure of the whole of Rayleigh Town Centre for a cycle race. The 1 was diverted via Love Lane to reach the station; the 7/8 had to perform a large arc around the town, via Victoria Rd, Helena Rd, Louise Rd, Bull Lane, Parklands Ave, Queens Rd, Daws Heath Rd, Castle Rd & Love Lane to the station. EN services also followed the relevant parts of this diversion. Thus Love Lane, a 15' wide quiet residential road, had a service of 7 buses an hour *each way*!

Staff shortages are continuing to affect STL and there is considerable use of part time drivers, especially at weekends and evenings. (Incidentally, any member with a clean PSV licence of at least double deck automatic class who is interested in part time work should contact STL at Southend 355711). Due to the lack of drivers, on Saturday July 4 the late afternoon and evening service on 23/23A was sub contracted to Stephensons Coaches, who used their P registered Ford minibus, normally employed on the South Woodham County contract services.

From time to time we carry details of certain private hires undertaken by STL; these notes are *not* intended to be comprehensive but merely to highlight certain interesting workings out of Southend's extensive private hire operations. One such working was on June 21 when 330 operated the 1310 Wickford-Southminster & return for BR, replacing a failed EMU; since electrification of the Southminster line, bus replacement work has been much reduced. A short notice job occurred on July 11 after London Buses T1130 (WDA 5T) demolished a large part of its top deck trying to get under the 13' 3" high Pier Bridge (as was widely reported in the press & TV); 203 was used to take certain passengers back to South London. Later the same day another LBL Titan and a preserved RT very narrowly avoided also hitting this bridge!

Finally on the subject of private hires, STL 330 failed in Dartford on 10/7 and was replaced by Kentish Bus 221 (SPK 204M, Reliance/Plaxton).

The Limehouse diversion (see last month) was cleared by 7/6 after a bailey bridge was erected over Limehouse Cut.

Preserved Southend PD3, 335, was successfully road tested on July 12.

STL recently examined a Tiger/Plaxton coach, A672 OKX, owned by Yeates (dealer) but decided not to acquire it.

Publicity News

A new free timetable book was published dated 14/6/87. It covers all STL's commercial services, including the X23 (East Becton - Green Park) which was omitted from the first deregulation edition. The timetable includes an excellent map which, in the sub-editor's opinion, puts almost every other operator in the UK to shame. Please note that the Group does not keep stocks of this timetable. Out of town members wanting a copy should send a stamped addressed envelope of at least 7"x5" to the Sub-Editor. The June 28 revisions were all detailed in a 4 page yellow leaflet in the current STL corporate style, which features a sketch of a Leopard/Duple of the 205-8 batch on the cover.

A new faretable was also published on June 14; separate public copies are no longer printed, but staff copies are sold to the public at 40p.

OTHER OPERATORS - Southend area

KIRBYS, RAYLEIGH; the T & S Rayleigh - Romford Stadium service was withdrawn after 6/6; see also under Southend Radio Cars below.

S & M COACHES (Castle Point Bus Co); a new County contract commencing 15/6 is for 3 M-S evening trips covering deregistered Southend Transport journeys on the 23 - ex Leigh Station at 1932/2032/2132 and returning from Belgrave Rd at 1948/2048/2148; Bristol RELH/Plaxton coach 157 EPX is the normal performer.

SIMIEN COACHES, Canvey; a confusing entry in *Notices & Proceedings* N. 1476 suggests that the peak hours service to Benfleet Station now terminates at Canvey High Street, not Leigh Beck; hours of operation have also been slightly altered. The coach on this service displays a slip board numbered 27S.

SOUTHEND RADIO CARS; has secured two further County contracts, from 5/5; both are T only, one journey each way: - Lower Hockley - Rochford and Great Wakering - Rochford. They replace previous County contracts with Kirbys (69) and Eastern National (66) respectively.

T V TAXIS, Southend; further vehicles noted are A578 XKW (VW LT28) and B917 FDP, a second high roof conversion LT31.

VENTURER TRAVEL; see under Southend Transport re ROK 453M/RFN 972G. LMA 59P continues on hire to STL when not required by Venturer. A more surprising acquisition, for possible driver training use, is: KLE 80N, a 1949 Leyland PD2/1, Leyland H30/26R, originally registered KMN 502 as Isle of Man RS 72. It was acquired as a result of an advert in the Metropolitan Police Gazette!

News about Southend Transport should be sent directly to the Sub Editor, Richard Delahoy at 272 Shoebury Road, Southend, SS1 3TT. - postal reports ONLY, please. (Please note the new address).

OTHER OPERATORS - Rest of Essex

Essex County Council service 694 (Sundays Colchester - Ipswich via Dedham) which was operated by Bantam Coaches, followed by Squirrells of Hitcham when Ipswich Buses took over Bantam, passed to Bickers of Coddendam in May; however, Eastern Counties took over the service on 7th June and are still operating it as at 5.7.87.

Essex County Council has produced a new edition of the Sunday Saver timetable booklet, valid until 27.9.87.

BISS BROTHERS, Bishops Stortford have taken over operation of the 4, 4A, 18, 19 & 20 from Crusader Coaches commencing 21.5.87 when revised timetables also came into effect. In addition an extra trip on PREMIER TRAVEL operated route 29 between Bps.Stortford and Anstey departing at 14:15 has been provided. All these are Herts CC contracts.

COASTAL RED, Gt.Oakley have opened a new depot on the Gorse Lane industrial site in Clacton.

The one acre depot in Telford Road includes 8,000 sq.ft. of workshop space and it has become the main Coastal Red/Chartercoach garage although Gt.Oakley remains open for Harwich area operations.

A new service 80 from Clacton to Clacton via Gt.Clacton and St.Osyth was introduced from 6.7.87 running hourly Mon-Sat. Other timetable amendments include service 10:- the 12:40 Harwich to Great Oakley terminates at the Transit Camp returning at 13:00, whilst the 13:13 from Gt.Oakley is withdrawn. Service 40 now has an extra trip at 07:00 from Clacton to Harwich Mon-Sat, whilst on service 50B the 12:45 and 16:15 from Clacton are withdrawn - all from 6.7.87.

EOF 275L which is signwritten for route 50 was noted in Colchester on service 10 on 24.6.87.

EASTERN COUNTIES used dual-purpose VR287 (VEX287X) on the Colchester town service, 199, on its first day, 4.7.87.

Leaflets have been produced for services 92 & 93 (Colchester - Ipswich via Capel St.Mary) dated 31.5.87; service 191 (Colchester - Ipswich via Brantham) and 199 (Colchester - St.Michaels Estate) both 4.7.87.

EAST MIDLANDS, Chesterfield. The two short journeys on Sunday service 260 which provided the crew change on the 270 were withdrawn along with the 270 on 17.5.87.

HARRIS BUS, Grays have introduced a revised timetable on the 265 from 15.6.87, with journeys from Bulphan now serving West Horndon. A service from Aveley to South Ockenden, numbered 17, has been started in connection with Aveley Market and runs Tues and Sats only.

LONDON COUNTRY North East have made alterations to Harlow town routes T5 and T11 from 27.6.87.

ROBINS COACHES, Brantham have withdrawn the Village Link service from East Bergholt to Mistley in early July.

SILVER BIRDS, Colchester have begun a service, Clacton to Heathrow, from 1.7.87 using Chartercoach double deckers with telephones, toilets and bar facilities. A timetable has also been produced.

With regard to last month's notes on Associated Coachways and Golden Boy, it is reported that operation of Harlow town services T1-T5 commenced on 24.5.87 and not the 17th as stated. It would also appear that the T5 is sub-contracted to Anita's Coaches.

VISITORS TO ESSEX

23.6.87 Maidstone & District Atlantean noted in Colchester.

28.6.87 ECOC 920 Ford Transit/Robin Hood noted in Clacton.

HEDINGHAM OMNIBUSESFLEET LIST as at June 1987

74	SVW 774K	Bedford YRQ	Willowbrook	DP45F
76	STW 771K	Bedford YRQ	Marshall	DP45F
77	VWC 477L	Bedford YRQ	Marshall	B45F
78	WTW 778L	Bedford YRQ	Willowbrook	B49F
79	YTW 779L	Bedford YRQ	Willowbrook	B49F
81	YNO 481L	Bedford VRT	Marshall	B53F
82	OOO 882M	Bedford YRQ	Willowbrook	B49F
83	PPU 783M	Bedford YRQ	Willowbrook	B47F
84	RGV 284N	Leyland PSU3B/4R	Willowbrook	B55F
85	GPV 685N	Bedford YRQ	Willowbrook	B47F
86	KHJ 786P	Bedford YRQ	Willowbrook	B47F
87	PHK 387R	Bedford YRQ	Duple	B47F
88	REV 188R	Bedford YLQ	Duple	B47F
89	CEV 89T	Bedford YLQ	Duple	B47F
94	GVW 894T	Bedford YMT	Plaxton	C53F
95	JAR 495V	Bedford YLQ	Duple	B47F
96	NFX 446P	Bedford YMT	Plaxton	C53F
97	MLK 415L	Daimler CRG6LXB	Park Royal	H41/27D
98	SPU 898W	Bedford YMQ	Plaxton	B47F
100	UNO 100W	Bedford YMT	Plaxton	C53F
101	KVX 878C	Bristol FLF6G	ECW	H38/32F
102	OPU 822D	Bristol FLF6G	ECW	H38/32F
103	BAR 103X	Leyland PSU3E/4R	Plaxton	B55F
104	LFS 292F	Bristol VRTLL6G	ECW	H39/31F
105	BEV 105X	Leyland PSU3E/4R	Plaxton	C53F
111	UVX 4S	Bristol LH6L	ECW	B43F
112	UVX 5S	Bristol LH6L	ECW	B43F
113	UVX 6S	Bristol LH6L	ECW	B43F
114	UVX 7S	Bristol LH6L	ECW	B43F
115	FEV 115Y	Leyland PSU3E/4F	Plaxton	C53F
116	HAR 116Y	Bedford YNT	Plaxton	C53F
117	DRB 309H	Bristol VRTSL6G	ECW	H39/31F
118	KHK 414J	Bristol REL6G	ECW	B53F
119	WHL 275J	Daimler CRG6LX	Alexander	H44/32F
120	WHL 279J	Daimler CRG6LX	Alexander	H44/32F
121	DBH 452X	Leyland PSU5C/4R	Plaxton	C57F
122	A122 PAR	Leyland TRCTL11/2R	Plaxton	C53F
124	B124 BOO	Leyland TRCTL11/2R	Plaxton	C53F
125	BNO 700T	Bedford YMT	Duple	C53F
126	BNO 703T	Bedford YMT	Duple	C53F
127	LHD 307K	Daimler CRG6LX	ECW	H43/31F
128	LHD 315K	Daimler CRG6LX	ECW	H43/31F
131	EVC 213T	Bedford YMT	Duple	C53F
133	BHK 710X	Bedford YMT	Plaxton	C53F
134	CAD 347V	Leyland PSU5C/4R	Plaxton	C57F
135	KGS 489Y	Leyland TRCTL11/3R	Plaxton	C50F
136	D136 XVW	Bedford YMP	Plaxton	B47F
137	D137 XVW	Bedford YMP	Plaxton	B47F
138	B273 AMG	Leyland TRCTL11/3R	Plaxton	C57F

COLCHESTER BOROUGH TRANSPORT

The following UNUSUAL WORKINGS should have been shown on page 280/7:-

12.6.87 55 on services 3/31.
 24.6.87 53 on service 1A
 30.6.87 41 on service 3/31
 7.7.87 101 on service 9 owing to ANs being on rail replacement service to Ipswich.

SUNDAY SAVER

The following tour by member J.Rugg demonstrates why so few Sunday services are operated commercially! Date 21.6.87.

TIME BOARDED	SERVICE NUMBER	BOARDED AT	ALIGHTED AT	VEHICLE NUMBER	PASSENGERS AT START
09:30	500	Romford	Harlow	LCNE SNB138	4
10:34	T4	Harlow	Harlow	GOLDEN BOY SFJ 117R	2
11:07	504	Harlow	Bps.Stortford	LCNE SNC168	8
11:40	607	Bps.Stortford	Halstead	EN 1127	5
13:43	188	Halsted	Colchester	COASTAL RED OEX 797W	5
15:05	694	Colchester	Ipswich	BICKERS SKN 491R	3
17:15	694	Ipswich	Dedham	as above	3
18:26	102	Dedham	Colchester	COASTAL RED JCL812V	14
19:00	119	Colchester	Maldon	EN 1921	8½
20:34	31	Maldon	Chelmsford	EN 1870	6
21:35	152	Chelmsford	Laindon	EN not noted	4

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M.WEYELL(M10); R.DELAHAY(M180); D.STEBBING(M183); P.HARVEY(M219);
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 J.RUGG(M443); G.TOON(M452); C.SIGSTON(M523); R.DENNIS(M535);
 F.SPENCE(M545); M.BULLOCK(M574); I.HARDIE(M597); J.SIMPKIN(M623);
 A.WAY(M628); THE OMNIBUS SOCIETY; GREY-GREEN ENTHUSIASTS CLUB and
 THE PSV CIRCLE.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NEXT MAGAZINE
 TO REACH THE EDITOR OR SUB-EDITORS
BY AUGUST 7th

LATE NEWS is that EN Leyland National 1702, officially D/L(D), was in use from CF on Service 40 on 17.7.87. This may be to temporarily replace 3035 which has a blown engine.

Summer Express X21

COLCHESTER-LOWESTOFT-GREAT YARMOUTH

Tuesdays, 28 July to 1 September 1987 Inc.

	a.m.
COLCHESTER, Osborne Street, C.B.T. Office	9.00
Colchester, Ipswich Road, Hoofers	9.07
Colchester, Ipswich Road, Opp. St. Johns Church	9.10
LOWESTOFT, Waveney Road, Bus Shelter	10.45
Pleasurewood Hills Theme Park, Bus Stop	10.52
GREAT YARMOUTH, Beach Coach Station	11.15
	p.m.
GREAT YARMOUTH, Beach Coach Station	5.00
Pleasurewood Hills Theme Park, Bus Stop	5.23
LOWESTOFT, Waveney Road, Bus Shelter	5.30
Colchester, Ipswich Road, St. Johns Church	7.05
Colchester, Ipswich Road, Opp. Hoofers	7.08
COLCHESTER, Osborne Street, C.B.T. Office	7.15

FARES: Singles and Day Returns

Adults	£4.50
Children and O.A.P.'s	£3.00
Family Fare	£10.00

Summer Express X23

COLCHESTER-BRIGHTON

Wednesdays, 29 July to 2 September 1987 Inc.

	a.m.
COLCHESTER, Osborne Street, C.B.T. Office	8.30
Lexden, London Road Car Park	8.37
Stanway, London Road, Opp. Lucy Lane South	8.40
Patcham, Black Lion	11.17
Preston Park, Preston Road, Preston Drive	11.20
BRIGHTON, Old Steine, Excursion Stop	11.30
	p.m.
BRIGHTON, Old Steine, Excursion Stop	5.00
Preston Park, Preston Road, Caffyns Garage	5.10
Patcham, opposite Black Lion	5.13
Stanway, London Road, Lucy Lane South	7.50
Lexden, London Road, Halstead Road Corner	7.52
COLCHESTER, Osborne Street, C.B.T. Office	8.00

A comfort stop will be made at Dartford Tunnel South

FARES: Singles and Day Returns

Adults	£6.00
Children and O.A.P.'s	£4.00
Family Fare	£13.00

Summer Express X22

COLCHESTER-RAYLEIGH-SOUTHEND

Thursdays, 30 July to 3 September 1987 Inc.

	a.m.
COLCHESTER, Osborne Street, C.B.T. Office	9.30
Lexden, London Road, Car Park	9.37
Stanway, London Road, Opp. Lucy Lane South	9.40
RAYLEIGH, High Street, Lloyds Bank	10.25
Hadleigh Church, Lloyds Bank	10.35
Leigh, London Road, Opposite The Elms	10.40
Chalkwell Park, London Road	10.45
SOUTHEND, Outside Central Bus Station	10.55
	p.m.
SOUTHEND, Outside Central Bus Station	5.30
Chalkwell Park, London Road, Coach Stop	5.40
Leigh, London Road, The Elms	5.45
Hadleigh Church, Coach Stop	5.50
RAYLEIGH, High Street, Outside Library	6.00
Stanway, London Road, Lucy Lane South	6.45
Lexden, London Road, Halstead Road Corner	6.48
COLCHESTER, Osborne Street, C.B.T. Office	6.55

FARES: Singles and Day Returns

Adults	£3.50
Children and O.A.P.'s	£2.25
Family Fare	£8.00

COLCHESTER BOROUGH
TRANSPORT LIMITED



SUMMER EXPRESS SERVICES



Days out
with CBT

28 July to
3 September 1987

SUMMER EXPRESS SERVICES

Colchester Borough Transport are introducing three new express coach services to the coast which provide days out from Colchester during the Summer Holidays for all the family.

On Tuesdays a coach will be run to the seaside resorts of Lowestoft and Great Yarmouth with a call also being made at the American Theme Park at Pleasurewood Hills. Great Yarmouth has three seaside piers and many seafront attractions.

A longer trip to Brighton on the south coast will be made on Wednesdays. See the two seaside piers, the Royal Pavilion and the famous "lanes", take a ride along the front on Volks Electric Railway or you can browse around the Western Road Shopping area.

Southend on Sea is the destination for the Thursday coach service where you can visit one of the longest piers in the world or ride on open-top buses along five miles of sea front. Alternatively, you can shop in Southend's traffic free High Street. The coach will also call at Rayleigh, Hadleigh, Leigh and Chalkwell - ideal if you wish to visit friends or relatives.

Single and Day-Return fares are available on all three services and you will find the Family Fare for groups of four people (which must include at least one child) good value for money.

There is no advance booking - just pay the driver as you board the coach.

CIRCULAR TOURS

Find out more about your home town by taking a trip on the Circular Tour of Colchester. Departures from Castle Park at 11.30 a.m. and 2.00 p.m. on Mondays to Fridays (27th July to 4th September 1987). An Open Top Bus is normally used.

Fares:	Adults	£1.30
	O.A.P.'s	£1.00
	Children	70p

VISIT IPSWICH

Why not take a trip to Ipswich on the new Service 25 - the scenic route via the Orwell Bridge. Departures at 9.10, 11.10 a.m., 12.10, 2.10 and 4.10 p.m. on Saturdays.

Return Fares:	Adults	£1.80
	Children & O.A.P.'s	90p
	Family Fare	£3.60

COLCHESTER BOROUGH
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Osborne Street,
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TELEPHONE COLCHESTER 712766