

ESSEX BUS NEWS

MARCH 1992

The monthly magazine of the ESSEX BUS ENTHUSIASTS GROUP

(Formerly the Eastern National Enthusiasts Group)

335



In March 1962 Eastern National acquired Bristol LS6G 023 (OBD 901) from United Counties, in the same month the Eastern National Enthusiasts Group was formed. This magazine commemorates our 30th anniversary.

(A. G. Osborne collection)

EDITOR:

Ian Ransom, 102 Bradford Street, Chelmsford, CM2 0XU

SUB EDITORS:

Southend Transport:

Edward Cecil, 59 Abbs Cross Lane, Hornchurch, RM12 4XW

Thamesway:

Paul Harvey, 19 Watkins Way, Shoeburyness, SS3 9NX

South Essex Independents:

Mark Lloyd, 4 New Cottages, Wakes Colne, Colchester, CO6 2BY

Other independents:

Dave Arnold, 21 Cedar Chase, Heybridge, Maldon, CM9 7NR

PUBLICATIONS:

Andy Meadows, 10 Harvard Court, Boston Avenue, Rayleigh, SS6 9ST

PHOTO ORDERS:

Peter Snell, 6 Mandeville Way, Thundersley, SS7 4LB

MEMBERSHIP:

Bob Palmer, 67 Perkins Road, Ilford, IG2 7NQ



Seen at the Euston Square terminal in London on express service 'B' to Halstead is 320 (PTW 102) a Bristol L6B with E.C.W. FC31F bodywork dating from 1950.

(A.G. Osborne collection)



Braintree Bus Park is the location of this view of one of the more venerable members of the fleet. Leyland TD4 1107 (ENO 936) was new in 1937 as 3658 with an E.C.O.C. L24/24R body. After being rebuilt by Beadle, rebodied by E.C.W. and re-engined by Gardner it survived until 1963.

(E.B.E.G.)

ESSEX BUS ENTHUSIASTS GROUP- 30th BIRTHDAY

The Eastern National Enthusiasts Group was formed in March 1962, initially as a division of the M&D and East Kent Bus Club, becoming a separate Society on 1st January, 1964. To commemorate our formation 30 years ago, a special supplement to this issue of the magazine has been prepared, to depict the Eastern National bus scene in words and pictures as it was in about March 1962; the committee hope that you will find it of interest.

No new vehicles were added in March 1962, however, two acquired vehicles did arrive, 023/4 (CBD 901/2) one of which graces our front cover this month in special celebration. However, some notable vehicle did arrive in early 1962, February witnessed the delivery of 1608-10 (184-6 XNO) the first Bristol FLF coaches, whilst in April Bristol MW6G coaches 557-60, the first to carry the new Essex C. C. registration series 00 9543-6 were taken into stock.

On the operational side, the underpass at South Benfleet was opened, and for the first time services on Canvey Island were linked to the rest of the system. Over Easter 1962 the express services were numbered into the 'X' series, thus the 'D' became X10, the forerunner of the 400. In May 1962 an Eastern National double decker ran along Tottenham High Road, it was not, however, an early version of the LRT route 359, instead it carried the Tottenham Hotspur football team, winners of the FA Cup. Now turn to the centre pages to see the 1962 scene in pictures.

TEXT by Alan Osborne Photographs from A Osborne and P Snell.

PHOTOGRAPH OFFICERS REPORT

If you refer to EBN 333 page 5, there is a blank space - well that is where this report should have been. Apologies for the delay.

Well 1991 has again been a steady year, although renewed interest in old prints has been encouraging- the list of pre 1954 numbering proved popular, I hope to update this shortly as a few more negatives have been unearthed. Colour prints of Eastern National have also been selling well, but one questions what to print when you look at Thamesway. A new list of Southend Transport prints is available on receipt of a SAE.

Peter Snell

GROUP NEWS

The Rochford Meetings for 1992/93 will be reduced to be held every other month. This is due to reduced attendances and as a result these meetings are running at a loss.

Peter Snell would like to hear from any member who has any pre 1954 allocation lists for Eastern National. In addition any memories of the 'old' Eastern National or any old negatives, so others can share in these memories would be most welcome.

GROUP COACH TOUR TO AVON SATURDAY 27th JUNE 1992

Arrangements are now well advanced for a Group coach tour to Bath, Bristol and Weston-super-Mare on 27.6.1992.

Our coach will be a high specification vehicle of Harris Coaches. Subject to final confirmation, we shall be visiting the depots of Badgerline Ltd. at Bath and Weston-super-Mare, Crown Coaches in Bristol, a City Line depot in Bristol and the depot of Bakers Coaches Ltd. in Weston-super-Mare.

The fleets of Crown and Bakers both include a variety of interesting vehicles, including Bristol VRTs and a wide selection of coaches.

The Badgerline allocation at Bath includes four ex Thamesway VRs, whilst the allocation at Weston-super-Mare includes Volvo double deck and single deck buses.

In addition to the depot visits mentioned above, we are also planning a short tour of Bristol, hopefully on a vehicle of interest, and more details about this part of the tour will be published nearer the date of the tour.

Pick up points will be Lakeside, Rayleigh, Basildon, Shenfield, Brentwood, Romford, Newbury Park, Redbridge, and, for those members living in West London, Slough Bus Station. Our coach will return to Rayleigh by 2130.

The fare for this tour is likely to be twelve pounds, which represents excellent value for money. A reduced fare will be available for those joining at Slough.

We are anticipating a heavy demand for places on this tour. You can make a preliminary seat reservation now, by writing to Andy Meadows at the address on the cover, stating how many seats you wish to reserve. Your seats will then be guaranteed. Please remember to include a SAE, for confirmation of your reservation. There is no need to send money at this stage.

The normal booking form will be included with the April magazine. We look forward to seeing you on June 27th- in the meantime, keep that date free and reserve your seat(s) NOW!

EASTERN NATIONAL

Allocation Changes

2/92 2201 POOL-D/L(D)

Pool and Delicensed Vehicles

In late February Pool vehicles 1805 and 1824 were in use from Chelmsford and Colchester respectively. Bristol KSW 2383 has spent most of the winter season in use as a driver training vehicle from the New Writtle Street yard.

Disposal vehicles were located as follows 1308-10 1500-02 1741/50/54/66/68/82/90/92/93/1804/12/28/29 2201/3 3038/53/58 all at Clacton, with 1764 at Chelmsford and 3066 at Colchester.

Repaints

The following vehicles have been repainted :-

October 3079 at MN, 3095 at CN
November 1855 at CN, 1874 at MN, 1938 at CN
December 1114 at MN, 4011 at CN
January 1115 at MN, 1890 at CN, 1910 at CN
February 1862 at CN, 1892 at MN
March 0705 at MN

To correct EBN 330/3 4014 received only a partial repaint and retains the older style dp livery.

Unusual Workings

With 2202 now being the only disabled persons vehicle remaining in services loans to other depots are expected to increase. One such instance was on 19.2.92. when 1917 was on loan from Chelmsford performing on service 74, with 2202 at Chelmsford.

General

Plans for the redevelopment of Chelmsford Bus Station have been submitted to local town planners. The site will include an office block, an underground car park together with a two storey bus station. Passenger facilities will include a newsagents, cafe, toilets and a waiting room. Outline planning permission has been granted for the scheme. The existing maintenance facilities would be transferred to another site, the location of which has not yet been announced. Your editor is aware of a former Central works in the town, could this become the new CF?

The following Leyland Nationals are fitted with roof mounted orange flashing lights 1844, 1930/31/32. These are used at Stansted Airport when required.

Not previously recorded is that 4501/3/9 had hopper windows fitted to replace some lower deck windows during last summer.

Services

- 31 Slight timetable revisions introduced from 29.3.92.
- 37 From 17.2.92. the 0850 ex Braintree was revised to serve Beckers Green School with an additional journey from Beckers Green at 1525 on schooldays.
- 77/8 Minor timetable changes introduced from 16.3.92.
- 97A/B NEW SERVICES. Introduced from 29.3.92. serving Maldon and Heybridge with minibus operation.
- 104 From 29.3.92. the Monday to Saturday ECC journeys were revised to depart Colchester 2047 and 2257 and from Harwich at 1940 and 2150.
- 306 Revised from 1.3.92. and no longer serves Arkesden.

Clacton minibus services 2,8,9,10,12,13,14 and 15 were revised from 16.2.92.

Initial Disposals

4509 (B697 BPU) Northumbria MS, Newcastle, 1/92.

Subsequent Disposals

380 (VYO 767) Sold by Herbert, Shefford (for preservation) by 8/90.

0602 (C602 NPU) Barr, Cambuslang, 10/91, ex Crawford, Kirkintilloch

1001 (MAR 776P) M. Kavanagh (dealer), Tipperary, 1/82, re-registered 402 UHI; subsequently to Kennedy, Annascual, by 2/83 and then to Cournane, Cahirciveen, by 3/88, ex. Kennedy,

1004 (MAR 779P) Moran, Dingle, 1/82, re-registered 816 ZX; subsequently to Lyons, Milton Malbay, by 4/90. Thought to have passes initially via M. Kavanagh (dealer), Tipperary.

1216 (BNO 702T) On loan to Maidstone & District from New Enterprise, 15, from 10/91. Returned by 2/92.

1302 (LLT 343V) Hicks & Shaw, Heathfield, 8/91, ex Unique, Brighton, 6/91, originally ex. Sunbury Coaches, Sunbury. However other reports quote the chassis number of 1304 (LLT 345V), comments please.

1305 (LLT 346V) Hicks & Shaw, Heathfield, 8/91, ex Sunbury Coaches, Sunbury.

1403 (1251 EV) Now reported as passing to J. Newton, Spennymoor, ex. Aycliffe & District Bus Preservation Society, by 4/83. (see also EBN 333).

1600 (B457 WHJ) Passed to London Borough of Havering by 5/91 (additional to EBN 330).

1602 (B459 WHJ) Marksman, Gatwick, 11/91, ex. Swallow, Rainham.

1703 (WNO 552L) Rotherham & District, Rotherham, 2/91, ex. East Midland Motor Services, Chesterfield, 531, subsequently, re-acquired by East Midland, 531, 3/91.

1712 (WNO 561L) Brown, Blackburn, 11/91, ex. Magicbus (Scotland), 221, withdrawn 10/91.

1713 (WNO 562L) Numbered 26 by Yorkshire Terrier, additional to EBN 314.

1718 (NEV 675M) As 1713 but numbered 28.

1719 (NEV 676M) Withdrawn after accident damage, by Yorkshire Terrier, 7, 11/91.

1720 (NEV 680M) As 1713 but numbered 27.

1723 (NEV 680M) Numbered 11 by Pride of the Road, Royston, 12/91.

1734 (HWC 85N) As 1703, fleetnumber 535.

1746 (JNO 195N) As 1713 but numbered 25.

1755 (LJN 663P) Re-painted in Soverign livery, by 1/92, initially allocated to Stevenage, transferred to St. Albans, 1/92. (T)

1818 (VNO 741S) Still in Eastern National livery, initially allocated to Stevenage, subsequently on loan to

Welwyn-Hatfield Line during 2/92. (T)
1838 (WJN 558S) Re-painted in Sovereign livery, 1/92, allocated to North Myrms. (T)
1848 (YEV 306S) Re-painted into overall advert advertising livery for Pilling Volvo by Sovereign, 2/92, initially allocated to Stevenage, transferred to North Myrms, 12/91. (T)
2823 (JHK 455C) Weston Transport Training Services, Weston Super Mare, by 4/91, ex Somerset Training Services Ltd., Bridgwater.
2861 (RHK 346D) Vehicle is still with McGurk, Worthing, appears to spend lengthy periods of time parked in London. (Clarification to EBN 314,317 & 326).
2882 (UEV 220E) Last reported as with Skey, Mere (N-PSV), 3/86. Now given as unknown operator, Sturminster Newton (mobile railway exhibition). Clarification appreciated.
2930 (AVW 399F) Now given as withdrawn by Horsell Graphics (N-PSV), Morley, by 5/90. Previously reported (EBN 286) as in use by Hamlyn Books as demonstration vehicle, 7/87, clarification appreciated.
3041 (PWC 516M) Noted on forecourt of former LCSW garage at Godstone, 11/91.
3056 (LJN 651P) As 3041.
3057 (LJN 652P) As 3041.
3080 (STW 24W) Numbered 747 by Cambus (additional to EBN 334).
9020 (LFS 299F) Wacton (dealer), Bromyard, 11/90, scrapped, 6/91. Reported as previously with unknown operator, Oxford. Last given (EBN 302) as withdrawn by Top Deck Travel Ltd., London, SW5 by 5/88.

SOUTHEND TRANSPORT

Vehicles

Further to EBN 334, a further three Bristol VRs with ECW Bodywork have been acquired. Fleetnumbers are 301-5 and the vehicles are:-
301 YNW 401S 302 YUM 515S 303 YUM 516S 304 DWY 146T
305 DGR 477S

301-4 are all ex West Riding, while 305 is ex Devon General. YNW 401S was first noted in service on 31.1.92. and it initially ran in full West Riding livery (without fleetnames) and retained its former fleetnumber of 854. Within a few days it received a blue/white front, with ST fleetnames. It ran in this form still as 854 until late February, when it was taken out of service for repaint.

YUM 515S entered service in the last week of February in full ST livery as 302; it has been retrimmed with new orange moquette which is to become standard for the opo bus fleet.

All the VRs are VRT/SL3/6LXB and seat H43/31F.

Two Leyland Nationals have been acquired from County Bus, one has been repainted and retrimmed and will be in service when these notes are read as 720 LPB 206P a B41F vehicle. The other is LPB 201P a B39F with dp seating, this vehicle is now at Tickfield

Avenue and may be used for spares.

Iveco 412 has been sold to County Bus, Harlow.

RM 122 was taken out of service on 19.2.92. for repaint; it had retained red livery until then. It will retain its Leyland engine a rare specimen these days.

RM 123 (CUV 162C) entered service in full ST livery on 19.2.92; it has a number of DiPTAC features and these are to be applied to all vehicles in the ST fleet.

RM 114 was repainted during March and now means that all buses are now in the new livery.

Despite reports elsewhere, the official news from ST is that there are no plans to repaint Routemasters in special liveries.

DAF coach 581 has been placed back into store, although it did see use on 26.2. (see below).

Services

Service 795 between Southend and Brighton, will run as follows this year: Sat (0800 ex Southend, return 1700) between 18.4.92. and 24.10.92. and on Sundays (same times) between 24.5.92. and 30.8.92.

From 17.2.92. a temporary diversion affected routes 21 and 69 at certain times of the day. Westbound buses were diverted away from Signet House via Priory Crescent southside. The diversion had ended by 7.3.92.

To correct EBN 333, the Olympian used on Christmas Day on service X1 was 264 not 265.

General

A major rail replacement service was in operation from early morning on 26.2.92. for 22 hours after a train crash at Rayleigh. Other operators including Stephensons, Woods and Nelsons were noted.

Publicity

Leaflets for the following are now available Young Persons photocard, Commuting to London and service 795. Copies can be obtained from ST on receipt of a suitable SAE.

Southend Bus Rally

This years event will take place on 7th June and as usual ST will be providing a special service. A Routemaster will operate the 0730 X11 from Southend to Victoria returning as the 0935 service X2 from Victoria which will be extended to the rally site. A special service will operate between Southend Victoria, Central Bus Station and the rally using a selection of interesting vehicles. This year the outward service will operate via the sea front returning via Woodgrange Drive. The 1730 X2 from Southend to London will start from the rally site, but is not expected to be operated by a Routemaster.

The above timings are part of the revised summer service.

Thamesway Ltd

Allocations

Feb 2nd 1796 Pool-D/L(D) 3085/87 PD-D/L(D) 3088 PD-Pool 3090 PD-Pool
3096/99 Ww-D/L(D) 3100 PD-BD 3101 PD-WW 3104 PD-Pool 3107 Ww-D/L(D) 3108/13
PD-WW 3117 PD-D/L(D) 3120/22 PD-WW 3121/23 Ww-D/L(D) 3205 BD-D/L(D) 3216
PD-D/L(D) 4005 Pool-PD 4009/10 Pool-BD

The minibuses based at Ww will transfer to PD on March 7th.

Vehicles

Transits 721/22 have now been acquired by the company ex loan from Badgerline. Mercedes 249 doesnot now carry Woodford Hoppa vinyls. Running numbers are no longer displayed on LT bus routes operated by Thamesway. National 1898 has been noted with " Part of the Badgerline Group" logo on side of vehicle. BD and BN minibuses in the 201+ batch excluding those in Advert livery have gained large Thamesway logos onthe sides. Bristol VR 3120 still carries a rear end advert for Ecta Motors of Basildon and Southend. Withdrawn Bristol VRT 3087/96/99 3107/23 3206/16 noted parked at Ww during February

Disposals

Bristol VR 3121 has passed to Western National while Nationals 1771/73/77/98 1808/25 passed to PVS Carlton and not Wigley.

Repaints

Noted repainted in fleet livery are 800, 1880 and 1881(ex Yettons all over advert)

Service Revisions

Southend Revisions effective from 16th February while Basildon Revisions took effect from 17th February.

- 2 Minor timetable revisions.
- 3 Timetable revised with certain journeys to and from Southend Central Bus Station instead of Shoeburyness. Certain journeys to operate direct via London Road instead of via New Thundersley as 3A. More journeys on 3C via Essex Way to operate peak periods.
- 6 Minor timetable changes during the day, with revised times at rush hours. Reduce service on Saturdays.
- 11 Early morning timetable adjustment.
- 15 Revised timetable
- 20 Minor early timetable adjustment.
- 24/A Revised timetable with through journeys from Rayleigh Road to Southend introduced.
- 25/A Revised timetable with section of route between Southend and Southchurch withdrawn.
- 26/A Revised timetable with service extended from Rayleigh to Rawreth. Saturday morning and early afternoon service revised to give a

- shuttle service between Canvey and Benfleet only.
- 27/A Minor timetable changes between Shoeburyness and Hadleigh with a 20 minute frequency evened out between Hadleigh and Canvey.
- 28 Revised timetable
- 28A Minor timetable changes.
- 29A/B/C Day time frequency between Southend and Eastwood reduced to every 15 minutes but 10 minute frequency remains between Southend and Southchurch. 29D withdrawn.
- 30 Revised timetable to operate between Southfields (Fenton Way) and Pitsea every 12 minutes. Operates via Basildon Station peak periods only. Evening service withdrawn.
- 31 Revised timetable to operate between Langdon Hills and Pitsea every 30 minutes via Kenneth Road and Manor Avenue Pitsea.
- 32 Revised timetable to operate between Langdon Hills and Pitsea via Great Berry every 30 minutes. School journeys via Laindon School renumbered 32A (was 31A)
- 33/4 Now calls at Basildon Station Monday to Friday peak period only. Minor timetable revisions.
- 35 Extended from Grimston Road to Felmores Shopping Centre.
- 36 New service Laindon Willowfields to Felmores Shopping Centre
- 37 Revised timetable to operate Grays to Pitsea Tesco Store every 20 minutes both ways.
- 37A Now operates Between Basildon Hospital and Pitsea every 20 minutes. Rerouted via Sparrows Herne and Clayhill Road and no longer serves Kenneth Road Pitsea.
- 38 Withdrawn
- 151 Certain early and late journeys withdrawn
- 250 Revised timetable with evening service withdrawn.
- Brentwood Revisions effective from 23rd March
- 225 Service to operate to a revised timetable providing for the withdrawal of Monday to Friday service.
- A1-8/221
- 222/268 These services will operate to a revised timetable providing for the withdrawal of services A4/7/8 and 268. Service A8 will be replaced by new service 220.
- C1-4 These services will operate to a revised Monday to Friday timetable.
- 211/3 New ECC contract from Breach Barnes to Waltham Cross Weekdays commencing 30th March.

Thamesway have gained LT 214 Parliament Hill Fields to London Bridge commencing August 1992, which involves the purchase of 16 Dennis Darts to operate from premises in the Tufnel Park area.

LT W9 has also gained an hourly Sunday service in place of the isolated journeys from the 1st February.

Publicity

Southend area bus improvements dated 16-2-92 2/15/151 dated 16-2-92
 Basildon area bus improvements dated 17-2-92 33-35/250 dated 17-2-92
 Buses in and around Southend and Castlepoint dated 16-2-92
 Minibuse in and around Basildon dated 17-2-92 37/37A dated 17-2-92
 350/1 dated 19-1-92

General

PD depot is now sited in Morson Road renamed from Wharf Road. BD operates an ECC school contract to Campian School Hornchurch from Blackmore, Brentwood and Ingatestone using 3 big buses including BD Bristol VR. BN small Mercedes are now used on services 31/32/36 while the transits cover where necessary. HH transits are now used on services 6/24/24A/25/25A/26/29A-C. services 15 and 250 interwork at BN while services 6, 24/A, 25/A and 29A-C all interwork at Southend or Southchurch. Services 3/A/C now interwork with service 11 at Southend.

Usually Workings

7-2-92 HH 1817 noted on service 20 & 27

8-2-92 HH 1835 noted on service 27A

15-2-92 HH 1418 noted on service 27



Former Thamesway Leyland Tiger 1126 (A695 OHJ) passed to South Wales last year as its 171. It is seen here in Tenby in June 1991

(B Gilbert)

COLCHESTER BOROUGH TRANSPORT

CBT worked a rail replacement on the Braintree branch on 22 and 23.2.92. using Lynxes. As a result Leopards 101 and 102 were used on the 9A and the 6 group has 3 Atlanteans, in place of the usual 1AN and 2LX on 22.2.92.

A new fleetlist is available from the Director of Operations on receipt of an sae. Please mark both envelopes "fleet list". The latest list has Tigers 103 and 104 reinstated.

HEDINGHAM

Vehicles

To correct EBN 331 the ex Brighton & Hove National being used for spares is RUF 46R.

Services

80/84 Revised timetable introduced on 24.2.92.

With CBT having increased service 8 to run to Horkesly Heath every half an hour, the former Norfolks services have lost a number of passengers. Hedingham claim that two people have lost their jobs as a result and that the future of these services is in doubt. CBT claim that the action is a result of services being diverted to serve the General Hospital and that they wish to retain their share of the market. With Eastern National and Cedrics in competition on the other side of town, it appears to be the start of a battle for passengers in the town. As with other areas, one is left to wonder if the passenger gains anything at the end of the day.

A number of Summer Sunday/Bank Holiday services are to be operated in East Anglia from 17.5.92. to 20.9.92. these are:-

640 Hadleigh to Bressingham via Stowmarket, Bungay, Beccles and Gt. Yarmouth.

650 Cambridge to Southwold via Newmarket, Bury, Diss, Blythburgh and Southwold.

657 Lavenham to Braintree via Sudbury, The Hedinghams and Gosfield.

658 Bury to Clare via Newmarket and Cambridge.

OTHER OPERATORS

APT RAYLEIGH E741 JAY has been reregistered A12 APT, whilst E334 EVH is now A10 APT, E337 EVH is APT 42S and E539 KBD is now A20 APT.

BOON BOREHAM Ex LT DMS TGX 704M has been sold to S&M Coaches.

CAMBRIDGE COACH SERVICES Service 38 was revised from 23.2.92.

CAMBUS Slight revisions were made to service 22 from 1.2.92. and again from 30.3.92. Service X12 was withdrawn between Newport and Saffron Walden with effect from 1.2.92.

CARTERS Continuing problems with Dodge minibus C204 WGV, resulted in the hire of two similar vehicles from Ipswich BT.

E205/7 GPV were in use during w/e 25.1 and 1.2 respectively.

CEDRICS The service between Wivenhoe and Colchester was expanded from 2.3.92. with a Saturday service introduced and some journeys extended to and from Brightlingsea.

CHARTERCOACH To correct EBN 333 C749/51 KWE are Mercedes not Sanos coaches. Sanos F751 SPU has been reregistered HIL 5681.

CLINTONA Former Midland Fox Transit C478 TAY has passed to Vantage, Romford. Transit D943 MBM has been seen without fleetnames and legal lettering and may well have been sold.

COOKS WESTCLIFF Have acquired two DAF coaches D618 SJX with Duple bodywork and D622 SJX with Plaxton.

CUNNINGHAM Ford R1114/Duple TND 101X appears to have been sold.

DAVES COACH HIRE COLCHESTER Have acquired a Tiger/Duple ODM 534Y from Bostocks.

DISTRICT BUS The section of route between Sun Corner and Bluebell Wood on service 223 was withdrawn from 3.2.92. Service 506 was withdrawn from 28.3.92. being mainly replaced by service 241 operated by Harris under contract to ECC. All Basildon area services are to be revised from 30.3.92. at which time services 101 and 113 are to be withdrawn. Some vehicles have been renumbered, E962 SVP is now 21, E105 SOG is now 23, F995 XOY is now 26 and G145 GOL is now 29. D873 LWR a Sherpa has been acquired from Cunningham. Leyland National HPF 325N has been sold to Southend Transport.

GOLDEN BOY From 3.2.92. the 1658 ex Ongar on service 392 was diverted to serve Mark Hall School, Harlow.

HARRIS BUS Scania F312 PEV and F314 RHK together with Swift E309 HPU have been repainted blue and white. This leaves just MCW F310 OVW and Swift E308 HPU in blue and cream.

Following Thamesways withdrawal of evening town services in Basildon, replacement services are now being operated under tender to ECC. Services 241/4 follow the same route as the Sunday service operated by Nelsons and run hourly. Service 250 between Basildon and Shotgate has three journeys and follows the Thamesway/ST daytime route. Three vehicles are used 2 Metroriders and a Swift.

JACKSONS Leyland National HTA 842N has passed to Beestons, Hadleigh for spares. The Suffolk operator now has 5 ex Merseybus and two ex United examples, used in competition with Chambers and Hedingham on Sudbury town services.

LODGES Revisions to the Good Easter to Chelmsford service were introduced from 9.3.92.

LONDON NORTHERN The Sunday service on route 242 between Waltham Abbey and Waltham Cross was withdrawn from 2.2.92.

M&E SHOEBOURNE Are reported to have sold Bristol VR JHW 111P.

C G MYALL The 1235 ex Saffron Walden was extended to Royston and the 1335 ex Chrishall withdrawn from 3.3.92.

NELSONS The first Leyland National for the fleet, is GCL 341N ex Wests, Woodford Green, but new to Eastern Counties. Service 15 was withdrawn with effect from 17.2.92.

PARTRIDGE The 1645 service 247 ex Colchester is now being operated under contract to ECC.

PRIORY Two recent acquisitions are YUU 253T a ?/Van Hool named "Kelly" and since reregistered CXI 8635 and DHE 674V a Ford/Plaxton.

RAYS TRAVEL Is based in Basildon not Braintree as given in EBN 333.
 S&M COACHES Have acquired SEL 118R a Ford/Plaxton from Tilbury Coaches.
 STAINES CRUSADER Two LAG Panoramics D21/2 XPF were acquired during late 1991, but were soon sold.
 STANS COACHES Bova HAH 22Y has been reregistered OIJ 4240.
 STEPHENSONS Minor changes to the Asda free bus route from Wakering came into effect on 11.2.92. (The Wednesday service was withdrawn) with consequential changes to service 3B and 7B. Fares were revised from 12.1.92. in line with the recent increases from Thamesway and Southend Transport.
 Bristol VR JWW 225N is due to be withdrawn and exported to the USA in the near future. This vehicle has been replaced by a further VR WWY 120S ex Aintree Coaches but new to West Yorkshire.
 UPSON & HOPES A new LAG integral is J323 HBV.
 WALKERS Ford Transit F419 EVU has been sold.
 WEBBS HIGHWOOD Have acquired former Kemp, Clacton VPF 322S a Bedford YMT/Plaxton. Volvo/Jonckhree 278 EPX has been sold to Reynolds, Northwood Hills.
 WHM HUTTON Have acquired LUA 280V a Leopard/Plaxton numbered 11 and LAT 266 a DAF/Plaxton numbered 12.
 WINDMILL COPFORD Bedford YRQ XGV 685K is now being used as a driver trainer.

COUNTY BUS

Fleet Allocation 1/92

Grays AN190/4/9/244-52/54/56 SN201/13/86/96 MB47/48/115/154
 MB700/01/924-32
 Harlow AN110 LX251-8 TDB61-63 TDL65 LN604/6 SN203/06/21/27/32/51
 265-67/77/8/84/91/306/08/12/17/19/38/585/86 MB45/46/49-51
 MB56/57/352/806-11/13/14/17/18/20/918/19/33-36
 TL10/15/17/20/27/29-31/33 TP72 BTL 6

The Harlow allocation includes Wyatts Green, where the TDBs are normally seen and Debden which includes all of LX251-8 plus MB933 to 936 plus a few Leyland Nationals in its allocation.
 In addition vehicles operate from Edmonton (LRT routes) and from Hoddesdon with an associated outstation in Hertford.
 All vehicles are in cream and dark green with the exception of some coaches in Green Line livery and the following overall adverts:-

SN227 Ray Powell Garages	SN267 Abridge Garage
SN319 Cannon Cinemas	MB810 Town & Country
MB811 Lee Davis Solicitors	MB820 Connolly Associates
TL10 Harlow College	TL17 S.P.R. Hancock
MB918 Physical Potential	

With the exception of Green Line coaches vehicles at Grays carry Thameside and Harlow carry Townlink as fleetnames.
 Two new Dennis Darts with Wright bodywork entered service at Grays in late February. They are used on service 383 on Monday to

Saturday and on service 370 on Sundays.

Services

With effect from 1.1.92. the Sunday service on route 370 was extended to operate to Lakeside on Bank Holidays only. Minor timetable adjustments were made to Sunday services on routes 379/81/82 from 12.1.92. One journey on service 711 the 0701 ex Old Harlow and 1700 ex Victoria were extended to serve Thorley and Sawbridgeworth from 20.1.92. as part replacement of EN service 712. Minor timetable revisions were made to services 239,261,383,802-4 and 811 from 22.2.92.

CAPITAL CITYBUS

Although no longer based in Essex, a number of members have asked for details to be included in the magazine. These will be included when space permits.

New Vehicles

601-20 J601-20 HMF Mercedes Benz 811D Reeve Burgess B28F

These were new in 1/92. 615-7 are dedicated to service D4 and carry Leamouth Shuttle lettering.

Acquired

107 G107 FJW MCW Metrobus DR102/70 MCW H43/30F

New in 11/89 to West Midlands Travel as 3107. It passed to DAF/United Bus, without being used in service, for development work on the new Optare Spectra. It is licenced to Walthamstow Citybus but was first used from Dagenham.

On Hire

367/70/71 H985/8/9 FTT Mercedes Benz 811D Carlyle B29F
from Red Admiral, Portsmouth.
J480 XHL Mercedes Benz 709D Alexander B25F
from Mercedes Benz, Milton Keynes

New Routes- All LRT contracts

Starting Sat 1.2.92.

153 Finsbury Park Station- Smithfield Mon-Sat
298 Southgate Station- South Mimms Hospital Daily
299 Cockfosters Station- Muswell Hill Broadway Daily
W6 Lower Edmonton- Southgate Station Mon Sat

Starting Mon 3.2.92.

D4 Mile End Station-Bow-Poplar-Leamouth Mon-Fri

W10 Enfield-Crews Hill Station Mon-Fri four rtn journeys only

General

RM 429 was an unusual visitor to Lakeside on service 565 on 22.2.92.

Leyland Atlanteans 464/8/9 (GDR 204/8/9N), are now in use as driver trainers and carry a green and grey livery.

NON PSVs

Former Essex Police C580 KNO is now being operated by Eastbourne Buses (No. 3).

Noted in the yard of Chelmsford Auctions during February was former Eastern Counties Sherpa/Dormobile C665 BEX.

ENOC 2954

EASTERN NATIONAL IN WARTIME 1939-45

During the early war years the Eastern National fleet suffered like many others from shortages of spares and supplies. With the flow of new vehicles, reduced to a minimum, after the completion of the JEV series of Bristol Ks, two further Bristols and a handful of Guys - 3875-84 (JTW 146-8/236-9) arrived in 1942/3.

With the relaxation of body building controls many of the older types were selected for refurbishing and rebodging, most of which were sent to Beadles and Eastern Coach Works, however, a few were sent to East Lancs and Duple.

Duple coachwork had until this time only appeared in single deck form and mainly on vehicles acquired from operators taken over in the 1930s. EN never favoured Duple and the only purchased new were Leyland TS1 3088/9 (EV 1224/1305) with C26D bodies.

Three chassis were prepared and sent to Duple. In 1941 AEC Regent 3079 (TM 8795) and Leyland TD2 3427 (AEV 797) became the first Eastern National double deckers to carry Duple bodies followed by Leyland PLSC3 2799 (TM 3883) which received a B32R body. The body on 3079 was later destroyed by enemy action, the chassis received an East Lancs body.

The next Duple deckers were 3872/3 (JPU 460/1) which arrived in 1942, although 3873 was destroyed in 1943.

The two remaining vehicles 3427/3872 were transferred to United Counties in 1952 and it was not until the takeover of the Westcliff fleet, with its ex Benfleet/Canvey Daimlers, that further Duple deckers appeared with the Eastern National fleetname.

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SOUTHEND TRANSPORT SUB EDITOR

With effect from the April magazine, Edward Cecil has agreed to return to his position of ST sub editor. Our thanks go to him and also to the members who indicated, that they were willing to fill the position if required.

I have been asked by Southend Transport to ensure that the only items of news that appear in the magazine is official news supplied by them. Reports that appear elsewhere that have not appeared in EBN should be regarded as rumour or speculation.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THIS MONTHS MAGAZINE WERE RECEIVED FROM:-

S Burden, R Delahoy, R Dennis, S Menzies, A Osborne, C Sigston, D Stebbing, D Tomlin (District Bus), G Toon, M Weyell, P Woolton, Badgerline Enthusiasts, Eastern National, Essex County Council, LOTS, PSV Circle and Southend Transport.

DEADLINE FOR THE APRIL MAGAZINE IS 3.4.92.



Bristol LD6B Lodekka 1500 (885 GVX) loads at Romford Market Place bound for Southend over the erstwhile 'City' service 251. It is allocated to Wood Green and advertises the Kursaal Amusement Park in Southend- how times have changed!

(P.J. Snell collection)



Clacton Bus Station is the scene for this view of 300 (MPU 34), a Bristol L5G with 31-seat E.C.W. dual purpose bodywork about to depart for Tendring Hospital. These vehicles were regular performers on the express services from London carrying loads of happy holidaymakers to the Butlins Camp.

(A.G. Osborne collection)



Depicted in the old Colchester Bus Park is 1237 (DEV 437) a Bristol GO5G of 1936 with an E.C.W. body fitted in 1949. Although this vehicle was still active in 1962, this view dates from pre-1958 since the yellow triangle allocation code for Colchester is carried.

(V.C. Jones)



The old ferry approach at Tilbury provides the backdrop for this view of Bristol LS5G 421 (437 FEV). The 53 through service to Clacton has a running time of 3 hours 52 minutes and in 1962 the fare was 6/1d (30p).

(P.J. Snell collection)



Seen at the Commercial Motor Show is 564 (OO 9550), a Bristol MW6G with new style E.C.W. coachwork. After Essex C.C. has exhausted their own traditional registration marks the new combinations of 'OO' and 'WC' were allocated before the use of suffix letters began in 1963.

(A.G. Osborne collection)



This view just typifies the Southend scene in the early nineteen sixties, with the conductress resting on the Bristol LD6B bonnet of 1448 (209 BPU) before another round trip on service 29. A Bristol K completes this classic scene outside Victoria station.

(R.F. Mack)