

Essex Bus News

**No. 629
September
2016**



Essex Bus Enthusiasts Group
www.essexbus.org.uk

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Spot the Difference!

As reported by Richard Delahoy in his Stephensons of Essex report on EBN629p18, 5 new Enviro200s were delivered on 23 August to Rochford and were photographed just after arrival!

With thanks to Bill Hiron and Terry Bennett of Stephensons.

Top picture:
Fleet no. 481, EU66 AVG
sporting its Blackwater link
for route 90, Witham to Maldon.



Centre picture:
Sister vehicle 477, EU66 AVB in
the "three rivers" livery for
routes 38 and 38A, Halstead,
Braintree to Witham.

Lower picture:
Line of 9 Arriva The Shires E400
MMCs very tidily at Southend on
18 August, see Peter
Mansbridge's notes on
EBN629p28.
John G. Lidstone.



Front Cover Picture.

Flagfinders of Braintree recently acquired Scania Omnidekka YN56 FDX (former Go Ahead Metrobus 942), seen here turning out of their Coggeshall Road base on 5 September 2016.

Russell Young.

EBN629ic

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Black & White Photo Sales

Robin Jenkinson, 23 Wheatfields, Rickinghall, DISS, IP22 1EN,
Using the order form available on-line at:
<http://www.signal-training.com/ebeg/Photo%20order%20form%20form.pdf>.

Subscriptions

Held for yet another year

A calendar year subscription is £21. New members may join from any month, but subscriptions will always run to December, from whichever month the member chooses.

Those joining from February to December inclusive will pay a pro-rata subscription calculated at £1.80 per month. For example, a member joining in March would pay 10 x £1.80, i.e. £18.00.

Contact Richard Delahoy, address below.

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 write to:

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Reports and observations

Members reports, quality photos, prints, slides or JPGs to about 5"x4" size and 300dpi resolution and original articles are always welcome.

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.

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

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

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The Running Card (Dates For Your Diary) compiled by Owen Woodliffe.

MID-ESSEX MEETINGS by Maurice Austin.

Quaker Meeting House, corner of Parkway and Rainsford Road, Chelmsford, less than 10 minutes walk from the Bus and Rail stations; continue along Duke Street past Civic Centre and cross to far side of Parkway. There is a small car park on site, other public ones nearby.

Tea and coffee making facilities. For those who need other refreshment, there are plenty of excellent pubs and eating establishments nearby. Members and guests welcome. £2.00 donation towards cost of room hire, please.

Doors open at 1915 for an informal chat and often impromptu slide show, with the main talk or show from 1945 to 2145.

Thursday 22 September

Richard Delahoy. 2016 current scene and historic - another Great British Bus Ride

(London to Birmingham), Manchester and Leigh Busway.

Heritage in Nottingham plus Warminster, Winchester and Alton Running Days

Suzy Scott & Caroline Mathieson, publishers of "Here to There" timetables and other bus information.

David Whiteside, "1986 and All That".

tba plus Christmas special.

Thursday 27 October

Thursday 24 November

Thursday 15 December

NORTH ESSEX MEETINGS by Dave Arnold.

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. Doors open at 1915 for informal chat, and often an impromptu slide show, with the main talk or show from 1945 to 2145.

£2.00 donation towards room hire, please. Slides/digital photos are preferred, but prints can also be shown. Members and guests welcome.

Sunday 25 September

Trip to Showbus — see Events listing.

Friday 14 October

Alan Osborne, Buses of Yesteryear Plus.

Friday 11 November

Steve Maskell.

Friday 9 December

Gary Sharpe.

A Blast From The Past!

By Paul Harvey.



Eastern National 1300 Leyland Leopard Duple XHK 213X seen at Norwich Bus Station during 1981 on Highwayman Service 804. This vehicle was in the National Coach livery.

Paul Harvey.

EBN629p2

The Running Card (Dates For Your Diary), cont. by Owen Woodliffe.

EVENTS

Sat/Sun 24/25 Sept
Sunday 25 September

Trolleybus Weekend East Anglian Transport Museum, Carlton Colville. www.eatransportmuseum.co.uk
Showbus at Donington Park. Talisman will be attending this event. Starting from Colchester North Station at 0630 and Dunmow at 0710. Cost, inclusive of entry is £30, payable on coach. To book, call **01621 857509**.

Saturday 1 October
Saturday 1 October
Sunday 2 October
Saturday 8 October
Sunday 9 October

Classic Vehicles Day, Ipswich Transport Museum. www.ipswichtransportmuseum.co.uk
Potters Bar Garage Open Day. www.metroline.co.uk
Amersham & Chesham Running Day. www.amershammotorbussociety.co.uk
Theydon Bois Transport Bazaar and Bus Display, Village Hall, Theydon Bois
Castle Point Museum Open Day. Group stall at this event.

Sunday 23 October
Saturday 29 October
Saturday 3 December

London Bus Museum Transportfest Brooklands. www.londonbusmuseum.com
East Anglian Transport Museum Halloween Event. www.eatransportmuseum.co.uk
Ensign Running Day.

Information is published in good faith and members are strongly advised to check details with the organisers, as the Group can accept no liability if events are cancelled or altered.

A New And Ideal Spotting Venue!



This photo was taken through the open window of the village deli in Little Waltham. A large cup of coffee and a sandwich and the buses slowly pass you avoiding the parked cars in The Street. First Essex Volvo B7TL Eclipse Gemini CR32641 on the 1050 hours service 70 on Friday 26 August. **John Salmon.**

EBN629p3

My Rarest Photograph?

Robin Jenkinson.

I recently bought an ENOC fleet list on EBay and, browsing through it, I spotted the following words – “KEV 423 never ran for Eastern National”. KEV was a Bedford OWB bus, which, along with MVX 596, was run by Mawdsley and Brown on their Colchester to Rowhedge service.

In September 1960 I was in the RAF in Norfolk, and after hitch-hiking as far as Colchester, I was waiting to catch a Corporation bus when KEV drew up at the bus stop and, to my amazement, I saw that it had an Eastern National legal name and address transfer applied just behind the front nearside wheel.

Incidentally, it was painted PINK! I could not get a photograph of it there due to so many people in the way so I jumped on it and rode to Rowhedge where I was able to get both nearside and offside photographs. Unfortunately, it carried neither a fleet number nor a fleet number plate so the name and address plate was the only evidence of its new operators.



picture above Eastern National KEV 423 on service at Rowhedge, photographed after riding on it in September 1960. **Robin A. Jenkinson.** I think I know how the incorrect report came about. I was on an enthusiast trip when I overheard a fellow enthusiast ask an Eastern National official how long they ran the two ex M and B vehicles and he was given the reply “We never ran them; Eastern National was never so hard up for vehicles that we had to use a couple of old pink painted Bedfords!” Well, I am afraid he was wrong!

I realise this all happened long before many of our members were born but I wonder if anyone photographed MVX running for ENOC or whether the photo I took is extremely rare.

Incidentally, Mawdsley and Brown did not go into the Colchester Bus Station. Their terminus was The Plough Hotel, which, I believe, was pulled down to build the Mersea Road roundabouts.

The negatives of KEV are now part of the EBEG archives available to any member who wants to buy a copy, see details of page1 of every EBN.

Picture opposite

The same bus at the same spot but note the newly applied Legal Lettering transfer just behind the front wheel. **Robin A. Jenkinson.**

EBN629p4



Publicity News **Ian Ransom.**

With thanks to **Owen Woodliffe** for details of Harlow publicity on display at Harlow Bus Station on 25 August (incorporated into Ian's list).

First Essex

leaflets for 45; 70/352; Brentwood Area all dated 24.7.16;
 Clacton area booklet dated 29.6.16;
 X10/X30 joint booklet dated July 2016
 leaflet for travel to "Colchester Zoo with First Essex", giving basic times and fare details

ECC

leaflets for 4/11 (Harlow local Sunday service) dated 5.6.16;
 10 (Harlow Sunday service) dated 5.6.16;
 47 (Broomfield Hospital - Chelmsford) dated 24.7.16;
 80/A/81/A dated 11.4.16; 347 dated 11.4.16;
 380/1/2/3/4 dated 11.7.16; 505 dated 26.5.16;
 391 (Bumbles Green – Harlow) dated 9.5.16
 418/A/B/419/420 (Harlow-Epping/Ongar) dated 11.5.16
 505 (Harlow-Chingford) dated 26.5.16
 SB01 (Roydon – Hoddeson) dated 11.4.16; SB02 dated 11.4.16;
 SB03 (Nazing – Epping) dated 11.4.16

National Express

leaflets for 349/350 (Liverpool-Manchester-Nottingham-Stansted) dated 1/16;
 727 (Norwich-Cambridge-Stansted-Heathrow-Gatwick-Brighton)

Arriva

Harlow Area Booklet dated 7.8.16

Epping Ongar Railway (including bus services 339 and 381) for 2016

Go Ahead

London 2016 leaflet for 575.

Service Changes by Paul Harvey.

Acme Bus Co

1 Sept 16	1	Sch	Takeley to Saffron Walden: service withdrawn.
	11	Sch	Chrishall to Saffron Walden: service withdrawn.

First Essex

28 Aug 16	5	D	Basildon to Pitsea: minor timetable revision to early evening journey Mon to Fri and improved Sunday service with a number of earlier journeys added.
	8/A	D	Pitsea to Laindon: Sunday service improved with a number of earlier journeys added.
	15/A	M-S	Runwell/Wickford to Langdon Hills: two Saturday morning journeys from Wickford at 0723 & 0753 are retired.
	20	D	Southend to Hullbridge: minor timetable changes to early morning and early evening timetable on Mon to Fri.



picture: First Essex 20 on 20 August (& perhaps other days?*) due to road works in Downhall Rd. They are going along the London Road to Carpenters Arms Roundabout, up the dual carriageway to Bedlows Cnr & then along Rawreth Lane to the Hambro Hill roundabout.

Philip Mansbridge.

* The First Essex website said
"We have been advised that Down Hall Road in Rayleigh will be closed between 0930 and 1530 on Monday 15th, Tuesday 16th and Wednesday 17th August 2016 for resurfacing works. As a result, service 20 will not be able to serve Down Hall Road and will instead be diverted in both directions via London Road (A129) to the Carpenters Arms roundabout, then north up the A1245 to Bedloes Corner and then via Rawreth Lane to regain line of route at the junction of Hullbridge Road." Does anyone know the full dates of this lengthy diversion? – Ed.

Changes, continued.	21	D	Southend to Canvey: minor timetable changes on Mon to Fri the 0724 from Canvey to depart 0729 and 1540 from Southend is extended from Hadleigh to Canvey.
	21X	M-F	Benfleet to Canvey: revised timetable.
	22	D	Canvey to Basildon: minor timetable changes to early morning and early evening timetable on Mon to Fri.
	25/A	D	Southend to Basildon: minor timetable revisions to three morning journeys from Basildon at 0719, 0734 & 0739 which will depart three minutes earlier Mon to Fri.

25/A cont	MF	Additional journey introduced Mon to Fri at 2022 from Southend. Temple Sutton to Canvey: minor timetable revisions to early morning and early evening timetable on Mon to Fri.
27	D	
27X	M-F	Benfleet to Canvey: revised timetable. Southend to Basildon: minor timetable revisions to early morning and early evening timetable on Mon to Fri.
28	D	
37	D	Bishop Hall to Warley: late evening contract service withdrawn. Galleywood to Broomfield Hospital/Stansted Airport: Mon to Fri early morning timetable will be revised to improve reliability.
42/A	D	
61/A	D	Highwoods to Wivenhoe: Sunday service is renumbered as 61 and extended to/from Wivenhoe. Colchester to Wivenhoe: the weekday mid evening timetable is revised to improve reliability.
62/A	D	
64/A/B	D	Shrub End/St Michaels to Greenstead: the weekday mid & late evening timetable revised to improve reliability. The Sunday service 64B revised to operate via the standard route as 64 or 64A. Highwoods to Stanway Tollgate: the Mon to Fri evening peak and weekdays late evening timetable revised to improve reliability.
65	D	



picture above: First Essex Buses service 2 Harwich – Parkeston Circular operated for the last time on Saturday 27 August when Clacton’s 42486 (SN03 WMX) Transbus Dart SLF/Pointer worked the service, seen here leaving Harwich Station Approach on 0900 Harwich – Parkeston Circular service 2 on the last day.

Robert Appleton.

Service Changes, cont.	67/A	D	Colchester to West Mersea: revised timetable with improved frequency operating every 20 mins. One journey per hour will operate as 67D offering shorter journey time. Colchester terminal will be High Street. Service 67E from East Mersea withdrawn and replaced as 67C from West Mersea. Highwoods to West Mersea: the Mon to Sat evening timetable revised to divert via Lethe Grove. Additional journey introduced at 1534 from West Mersea Mon to Fri.
	68	M-S	

Service Changes, continued by Paul Harvey.

First Essex, cont.

25 Sept 16	75	D	University of Essex to Maldon: the 1710 from the University to Maldon will operate at 1705 and 1835 from Maldon to Colchester will operate at 1832 on Mon to Fri.
	88/A	D	Colchester to Halstead: terminal in Colchester will be the High Street.
	P&R	M-S	Sandon P&R to Chelmsford: service withdrawn.
	P&R	M-S	Chelmer Valley P&R to Chelmsford: service withdrawn.
	P&R	M-S	Chelmer Valley P&R to Sandon P&R: new cross City service with improved Mon to Fri peak frequency between Sandon & City Centre.
	3/4	D	Harwich to Clacton: revised route and timetable.
	16	M-S	Clacton Circular: summer service withdrawn.
	17/18	D	Clacton to Point Clear: introduction of winter timetable & routing.
	19	M-S	Clacton to St Osyth Beach: summer service withdrawn.
	75B	Sun	Colchester to Colchester Zoo: summer service withdrawn.
	76	D	Clacton to Colchester: revision to timetable.



picture above: This unseasonal shot is your Editor's rebellion against the current hot and dry weather here in Essex! **John Salmon** was interested in the article by Alan Tebbit in EBN628 about the problems caused to bus services by the rebuilding of Little Waltham bridge. Here we see the bridge in use by First Essex 66799 on 6 January 2010. Incidentally, the pub Alan referred to as the "One Bell", properly called "The Bell" is now closed and replaced by two domestic houses. The nick-name "One Bell" was presumably to differentiate from "The Six Bells" in nearby Great Waltham.

Galleon Travel (Trustybus)

5 Sept 16	418-420	D	Harlow to Epping/Ongar/Loughton: revision to timetable.
12 Sept 16	418-420	D	Harlow to Epping/Ongar/Loughton: revision to timetable with withdrawal of 418A (updated information).

Service Changes by Paul Harvey, cont.

Go Ahead (Hedingham)

4 Sept 16	87/C	D	Brightlingsea to Colchester: revised timetable with reduced frequency.
	118	Sch	Great Yeldham to Newport: school service withdrawn.
9 Oct 16	95/A	M-F	Tollesbury to Maldon: revision to timetable.

Keveny's Travel (Rayleigh Roadways)

1 Aug 16	QM0050A/B	Sch	Billericay to St Peters Sch Billericay: school services withdrawn.
3 Sept 16	WM0061	Sch	Wickford to St Peters Sch Billericay: new school contract service.

Regal Busways

25 Aug 16	505	Sch	Beeleigh Link to Chelmsford Hylands Sch: school service withdrawn.
29 Aug 16	506	Sch	Kelvedon Hatch to Chelmsford Hylands Sch: school service withdrawn.
2 Sept 16	509	Sch	Silver End to Witham Sch: new school service.
3 Oct 16	52/A/B	M-S	Chelmsford to Pleshey: revision to timetable.



Regal KP02 PJH - awaiting to operate 52 from Pleshey at the end of June. Laying over in the lay-by near Ash Tree Corner, Little Waltham.
John Salmon.

Group Photo Service Richard Delahoy.

A reminder that prints from the Group's collection of black and white negatives are still available to order from Robin Jenkinson (address on page 1), two new lists recently added are

- 27: Eastern National Miscellany (including ex-Westcliff & City) and
- 28: Moores of Kelvedon.

All current lists are available at <http://www.signal-training.com/ebeg/Photos.htm> along with prices and details of how to order.

Stephensons of Essex

1 Sept 16	51	Sch	Great Dunmow to Newport Schools: school service withdrawn.
	413	Sch	Great Dunmow to Saffron Walden: new school service replacing school journeys on 313/A (updated info).
	414	Sch	Great Dunmow to Saffron Walden: new school service renumbered from 94 (updated information).

Swallow Coaches/Vigar Travel (EOS)

1 Sept 16	87	D	Harlow to Epping/Waltham Cross: new service operating weekdays to Epping & Sundays to Waltham Cross (updated information).
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Viceroy Coaches

5 Sept 16	MM0049	Sch	Little Chesterford to Saffron Walden: revised route and timetable.
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(acknowledgements to LOTS, Essex, Hertfordshire & Suffolk County Councils, Omnibus Society (Essex Branch), HarlowBuses info & Richard Delahoy).

London Bus And Underground Timetables

Compiled by John Bull; published by London Historical Research Group, The Omnibus Society.

A review by John Salmon.

This is an expanded second edition of John Bull's original publication in 1998. This revised edition has been broadened to cover the entire London Transport (LPTB) area and brought up to date. It includes amendments and additional information on the earlier years.

The book contains a comprehensive list of London bus and underground timetable books plus local and county bus maps and guides in the Home Counties, including London transport 2000-2016, London Country 1970-1986 and also county and unitary councils. Additionally, timetable publications from major bus operators in Bedfordshire, East Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Essex, Hertfordshire, West Kent, Surrey and part of West Sussex are listed. London Underground Railways timetables since 1873 are also detailed.

The Essex section describes the Essex County Council timetable books with publication dates from 1997 to 2011. These include timetables for Basildon, Billericay, Bishops Stortford, Braintree, Brentwood, Chelmsford, Clacton, Colchester, Dunmow, Epping, Halstead, Harwich, Maldon, Witham and Waltham Abbey. Apart from the publication dates, details are included of the format of timetables and maps included in the areas being described. This comprehensive publication also includes details of Essex Sunday Saver timetables with publication dates and formats. Sunday Travel Guides from 1999 to 2007 are also listed in a further table.

Lists of Essex County Council area booklets from 1978 until 2009 are tabulated in considerable detail. Yet another table lists Essex County Council and Southend-on-Sea Borough Council maps and guides from 1997 until 2016.

Maps describing Essex Public Transport (March 1993 – Summer 2006) and Essex Bus and Train services (July 2006 – November 2011) are listed in a further complete table. Passport to Travel and Village Link publications are noted. An additional table lists Essex bus company maps (Eastern National, Thamesway, Southend Transport, County Bus and Coach Company and Arriva) from 1953 until 2003. Timetable books for Eastern National, Thamesway and First Essex from 1986 are comprehensively described.

Other information regarding the Essex area include London Country bus books 1952-1965, LCBS booklets for Grays and Romford area and Thurrock Council Bus and train timetables and maps.

Further subjects covered include London Hospital spider maps, Tramlink timetables, London Overground timetables, coach parking maps, walking maps and details of Thames boat services. This publication has a great number of very detailed tables of timetables and maps and 18 pages of photographs of very colourful timetable publications. This includes particularly interesting timetables for City Coach Company Ltd services from London to Southend-on-Sea.

This publication contains an enormous amount of information and is a useful text for those with a deep interest in this subject who wish to broaden their knowledge or carry out further research.

LONDON BUS AND UNDERGROUND TIMETABLES

A comprehensive list of London timetable books 1873-2016

Compiled by John Bull



London Historical Research Group
The Omnibus Society

V Festival August 2016 by Adam Kelleher.

Vehicles observed on the shuttle service between Coval Lane and Hylands Park were as follows. (Late evening services returned to the viaduct on Parkway.) These observations have come from a number of people but not every vehicle used was noted (there were few observations daytime Sunday and none at all on Monday morning).

Friday 19th	First Essex	33078, 33086	Fourways	...	1, 2, G937 VFX
Saturday 20th					
Daytime	First Essex	32476, 32652, 33088, 33376, 33383, 33385, 33548			
	Fourways	1, 2, E856 DPN, G937 VFX, G981 VFX, H699 PTW			
Post 2200 departures from Hylands Park					
	First Essex	32476, 32478, 32640, 32642, 32651, 32652, 33088, 33190, 33195, 33376, 33383, 33385, 33548	Fourways	...	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, H699 PTW
	NIBS	204, 304, 404	Panther Travel		BIG 7758, BIG 9210, BIG 9249
Sunday 21st					
Daytime	Fourways	E856 DPN, G937 VFX, G981 VFX, H699 PTW			
Post 2200 departures from Hylands Park					
	First Essex	32475, 32476, 32477, 32478, 32628, 32631, 32640, 32641, 32642, 32651, 32652, 33073, 33081, 33087, 33095, 33133, 33189, 33190, 33545, 33558, 33567			
	Fourways	1, 2, 3, 4	NIBS	...	204, 304, 404
	Panther Travel				BIG 7758, BIG 9210, BIG 9249
Monday 22nd		No observations			



First Essex 33383 and two of Fourways fleet outside the City Council offices in Coval Lane at 1330 on Saturday 20th

Adam Kelleher
EBN629p12



First Essex
33376
waiting
outside
Chelmsford
Bus Station
on
Saturday
20th
waiting to
take up
shuttle
service
round the
corner in
Coval Lane.
**Adam
Kelleher.**



Fourways
E856 DPN
in Coval
Lane on
Saturday
20th.

**Adam
Kelleher.**

Summary of First Essex vehicles seen Friday to Sunday

From BN: 33545, 33548, 33558, 33567 **(total 4)**

From CF: 32651, 32652 **(total 2)**

From CR: 32475, 32476, 32477, 32478, 32628, 32631, 32640, 32641, 32642, 33078, 33086, 33087, 33088, 33190, 33195 **(total 15)**

From HH: 33073, 33081, 33095, 33133, 33189, 33376, 33383, 33385 **(total 8)**

Overall total 29

With thanks to Maurice Austin, Dale Bell, John Salmon and especially Colin Sigston for the Saturday & Sunday evening reports.

New Vehicles

44659	YX66 WBD	Alexander Dennis E20D / Enviro 200 MMC
44660	YX66 WBE	Alexander Dennis E20D / Enviro 200 MMC
44661	YX66 WBF	Alexander Dennis E20D / Enviro 200 MMC
44662	YX66 WBG	Alexander Dennis E20D / Enviro 200 MMC

Urban livery, no fleet names, no front fleet numbers, Chelmsford depot stickers both sides. These vehicles are intended for routes 54 & 56 at Chelmsford but are being used temporarily on route X10 from Basildon until dedicated vehicles for this service are delivered. All four have received "X10 from Here to Air" branding on the last normal sized window on nearside only. First seen at Basildon depot on 27 August, 44659 & 44661 were in service on route X10 on 1 September (the first day of 66 registrations), all four were in service on X10 the next day.



brand new (but anonymous) E200MMC 44660 on route X10 in company with Plaxton coach 20804 on route X30, in Chelmsford Bus Station on 2 Sept 16. **Russell Young.**

Allocation Changes

BN-Basildon; CF-Chelmsford; CN-Clacton; CR-Colchester; HH-Hadleigh; CF(DS)-Driving School (based at Chelmsford); Sh-Driver Shuttle; BE(out of service)-withdrawn vehicles stored at Braintree; FEC-to / from First Eastern Counties*; FG-to / from another First Group company* (*both involving change of legal ownership)

Period 5 (24 July - 20 August)

41736 HH(out of service)-Disposal, 42485 CF-HH, 43483 CR(Sh)-Disposal, 60206 CR(out of service)-CN(out of service), 65566 CR(out of service)-Disposal, 65627 CR(out of service)-Disposal, 65631 CR(out of service)-Disposal, 65650 BE(out of service)-Disposal, 66177 CN(out of service)-Disposal

60206 was seen parked at the back of Clacton depot on 18 August. With the above disposals, this and 32856/64 are the only out of service vehicles still in stock (43360, 43480 & 53008 remain as driver shuttles with 62139/95/7 & 66179 as driver trainers).



Volvo B10B/Wright Renown driver trainer 62195 (X689 ADK) in London Road, Leigh on 1 September. And how smart it looks for a 16-year old bus! **John G. Lidstone.**

Disposals August 2016

41736, 43483, 65627, 65631, 65650 to Alpha Recovery for scrap

65566 donated to Chelmsford Fire Brigade (seen at the back of Westway on 30 August awaiting collection)

66177 to Bristol Bus & Coach (seen in a Barnsley scrap yard on 24 August)

In EBN627 it was reported that 32809, 32810 and 32847 were sold to First West Yorkshire at Leeds. However, 32809 and 32847 were reported working on the Park & Ride between Southampton Parkway station and the Rose Bowl cricket ground for the One Day International on 24 August. 32810 has also been reported as being at Southampton, although there have been no sightings of this vehicle. It is therefore likely that the West Yorkshire report was incorrect, or else they had a very short stay there before moving on to First Hampshire & Dorset.

Repaints

Further to EBN628, CF68520 has had additional trim added by Mardens. The two black line mouldings on both sides have been removed and replaced with painted black lines. Within the black lines, towards the front, are large black "First f ESSEX" fleet names, with a large blue Colchester High School logo in the middle of the vehicle each side. Other lettering and fleet numbers are also black. The front route number has been masked off in black, with a small CHS logo on it (the destination blind remains in place). (See photo on inside front cover of EBN 628.)

One repaint from earlier in the year that wasn't reported at the time was CF32483, seen in Urban livery on 16 March (it was still in Barbie when seen on 20 January). Small "First Essex" names with f symbol above entrance door and driver's cab, depot stickers both sides and main "Essex" fleet names on lower panels both sides.

Information requested re. Tillings Transport.

Member Lyn Watson would be pleased to hear from any member who can assist with colour photographs and in particular, paint specifications for the grey and maroon livery used by Tillings Transport (not the earlier cream/black or the later ENOC cream/green). Please contact him at theoldsoak@googlemail.com.

Other Vehicle News and Workings

Please see separate article for details of buses used on the V Festival shuttle.

Colchester and Clacton

The fire brigade was called to an engine fire on CR33045 at North Station roundabout on 20 August. Like CR66809 last month, it is not known how badly damaged the vehicle was, although from photos it seems that the damage was again confined to the engine area and rear of the bus. Both vehicles were noted VOR at Colchester depot on 28 August. No double deckers were seen on routes 103/4 during August until 32628 on 19th, then 32476 & 33086 on 22nd and 32628 on 25th (all CR). Unusually, as many as four double deckers were on route 65 on 15 & 16 August, 32475, 32641, 33045 and 33196 on 15th and 32475, 32631, 32640 and 33186 on 16th (all CR). CN32087 was not noted in service very often during August, it was on summer route 16 on 17th & 22nd but on a lot of days Clacton's workings were all single deck. Clacton's other double decker, 32068, has still not been seen in service, it was noted parked at the rear of the depot on 18 August. The four 9.4m long Darts at Clacton continue to work services 10/11/12 and service 2 (Clacton-Mistley). One variation was on 19 August when 42556 spent most of the day on services 7/8. This vehicle was also seen on Sunday service 74A on 21st. The four Enviro 200s at Clacton work mainly on services 7/8, sightings on other services were: 44597 on Clacton-Mistley 2 (22 & 24 August); 44596 on 76 (24th); 44599 on 4 (27th). Although First Essex operation of school service 30A Harwich-Manningtree has now finished, Clacton Scania saloons continued to work on service 3 on Mondays to Fridays on these journeys: 0835, 1040, 1240 Harwich-Clacton and 0940, 1140, 1340 Clacton-Harwich, including 65675 (8 August), 65676 (17th), 65665 (20th), 65670 (22nd), 65669 (24th) and 65666 (26th). One exception was CN42937 on 12th. This duty continues with the 1605 Clacton-Parkeston 2A, thus on Friday 26 August 65666 worked the last service 2A journey operated by First Essex. The next day, CN42486 worked the last First Essex journeys on route 2. From 30 August, Hedingham took over routes 2/A working to a similar timetable.



On Friday 26 August, Clacton's 65666 (SN51 UXY) Scania L94UB/Wright Solar worked the last service 2A journey at 1605 Harwich – Parkeston, here we see 65666 moving off the closed Harwich depot forecourt to work this journey. **Robert Appleton.**

17 Aug	CR32641 on 64A	18	CR32631 on 1A, CR63343 on 75	19	CR33186 on 64A
22	CR33086 on 64A	23	CR63333 on 75	28	CR32631 on 75B
29	CR65683 on 75B, CR66801 amongst StreetLites on 1A (Bank Holiday)			2 Sep	CR33087 on 64, CR33190 on 64A
3	CR32640 on 65				

Chelmsford (including Braintree Outstation)

(All vehicles allocated to CF.) 53115 is another Solo to receive rear and side LED blinds (it already had an LED blind at the front). Buses seen on X30: 44541 (20 August), 65031 & 65032 (20th), 65031 again (24th), 66808 (30th), 69434 (2 September, this vehicle had again been on Park & Ride the day before)

5 Aug	42934 on 70	7	66817 at Braintree outstation	8	53129 on 71A
15	67902 on 72				
17	32482 on 352 (not running through to Halstead because of roadworks on A131),		68510 on driver training		
19	67902 on 70	22	65028 on 72	23	67901 on 71
25	67904 on Sandon Park & Ride				
26	69429 on Sandon Park & Ride				
27	44544 on 70	28	65030 & 66830 at Braintree outstation		
5 Sep	32480 on peak Park & Ride				



Oops! 53137 was the second bus to be painted in Urban livery in June 2012, but the paint job has not lasted well. Perhaps whoever applied the advert was distracted. Seen here in Chelmsford Bus Station on Saturday 20 August. When seen again on 5 September the advert was the right way up!

Adam Kelleher.

Basildon and Hadleigh

BN69913 was back in service on X10 by 20 August after its RTC on 7th (see EBN 628). Non hybrids on route 100 (all BN): 66823 & 66824 (10 August), 47654 (17th), 47657, 66822 & 66827 (20th), 47650, 66813 & 66821 (24th), 66819 (26th), 41542 & 47650 (1 September).
16 Aug BN69903 on X10 (and again on 20th)
17 HH33074 & HH47643 on 21X, HH33191 & HH33383 on 27X, BN47657 on 15

Other News

Former Thamesway and First Essex Volvo B10M / Plaxton Premiere 611 / 20111 (N611 APU) has been re-acquired by Panther Travel from Turners of Essex. (When previously with Panther it carried registration VLT 177.)

Sources: own observations, and with thanks to M Allen, R Appleton, S Barham, D Bell, W Bell, N Clark, T Clark, L Cornwell, J Cush, D Flatman, D Lund-Conlon, Adam Hughes, Alan Hughes, P Parker, J Podgorski, M Ruthe, J Salmon, K Smith, G Toon, D Warren, R West, First Essex, Mardens, Essex Buses Google group and Terminus.

New vehicles

The 5 Enviro 200s on order were delivered in late August and entered service at the beginning of September with 66-plate registrations. The batch is: 477 EU66 AVB, 478 EU66 AVC, 479 EU66 AVD, 480 EU66 AVF, 481 EU66 AVG

477 is branded Three Rivers for service 38/38A; 478-81 are branded Blackwater Link for service 90. They have high backed seats and 478-81 introduce a new company standard moquette of blue with a yellow/black pattern. On service 90 they replace the 10-plate batch, 431-4, which are due to transfer to Bury St Edmunds for the Breeze services there.



top picture: An impressive ADL Enviro line-up at Stephensons on 31 August - EIGHT, all bought new - 5x 66-plate E200s and 3 12/13/64 plate E400s all in line. **John G. Lidstone.**


Disposals

Olympians 724, 829-31, 862 (J624 GCR, N881/959/960 FKK, J562 HAT) have been sold to Square Peg Buses of Leeds and were collected by them in late August.

bottom picture: Stephensons 481, one of five 66 plate 'classic' design E200s (four for route 90, one for routes 38/38A) that entered service on 1 September. Seen here in Howbridge Road, Witham on 3 September.

Russell Young.

Southend Torchlight Carnival, text and pictures by Richard Delahoy.

Southend now only has one Carnival procession, the annual Torchlight parade. This year it was on 20 August and featured two open toppers, plus the Southend "SOS" bus G649EKA (and the Basildon "SOS" bus was on static display as well). Carrying Southend's Mayor, Councillor Judith McMahon, in her ceremonial robes was former Eastern National KSW 2381, WNO482, from the Canvey Island Transport Museum, whilst Marden Signs of Benfleet provided former London Transport RM978, now LDS164A, fully wrapped in vinyl for South Essex College.



The KSW is firstly about to pass under the Pier Bridge and then actually under it, the new bridge no longer being a hazard to top deck passengers!

John G. Lidstone's photo of the South Essex College "ENROLFEST" bus is shown on the inner rear cover of this issue.

More on the Alton Rally.

Richard Delahoy, Dave Arnold

Further to Sue's article on Alton there was a 3rd local bus there, being ex Southend CJN 441C, pictured below by **Dave Arnold**.



Richard Delahoy reports that other Essex vehicles there were former Southend Transport PD3 341, now owned by Chris Pearce of Worthing but still in the livery of its previous owner, Fowlers Coaches. The former Wicks Seddon coach FLY 755J is part of the heritage fleet of Roger Burdett, a well-known Midlands preservationist. It is featured in the August issue of *Bus & Coach Preservation* and pictured below.

As Sue mentioned, it certainly flies along and was driven



Lower picture: taken on the Saturday *Classic Bus & Country Pub Running Day*, 16 July, rather than the Sunday of the Alton rally.

FLY 755L, the Seddon Pennine 4/Plaxton coach which is preserved in the livery of Watts of Leicester, its last owner at the Jolly Farmer at Blacknest, the same photogenic location as Chris Stewart's shot of OWC 722M in EBN628. A picture of XHK 221X is shown on the inner rear cover of this EBN. FLY had been new to Essex Motorways of Stratford. As Sue mentioned, it certainly flies along and was driven

with verve by its owner, the well-known Coventry preservationist Roger Burdett. The lower part of the front-mounted Perkins V8 engine is visible below the bumper/number plate. It has a curious gearbox gate layout, with R-2-5 at the top and 1-3-4 at the bottom, meaning that 3rd to 4th involves a U shaped movement.

Richard Delahoy.

EBN629p20

The 25th Clacton Air Show: **Dave Arnold.**

Talisman operated two Park & Ride services for the 25th Clacton Air Show,

** from Holland Haven to Anglefield Road using 3 vehicles JJD 535D, WNO 480 & J343 BSH

** from Clacton Factory outlet using 12 vehicles RVW 90W, H47 MJN, H48 MJN, OHV 747Y, A620 THV, N119 UHP, N120 UHP, VSU 803, SP07 CAV, YR10 BEO, YT13 HLA, EU08 NEU (Thursday 25 August) & YT10 WLH (Friday 26 August).

This is the closest you can get to a running day for all of the Talisman heritage fleet!



top picture:
WNO 480
loading on the
Seafront on
Thursday for a
return trip to
Holland Haven
and



Lower picture:
RVW 90W ready
to depart to
Clacton Factory
outlet.
Both pictures
by
Dave Arnold.



Ensignbus

Dealing Stock Movements

August 2016.

Mark Lloyd with thanks to Ross Newman.

Vehicles In

Abellio London LK09 OKA-H/K-V/OIZ Enviro 400's

Dawson Rentals KX07 KOH Enviro 200

GHA Coaches YN540 AU/W Scania's

YN07 LDV

AA05 GHA

YJ59 GHA/B/D/F/G Solo's

YJ15 AYE/F/G/H

FJ08 BYG / BYT Volvo B7R's

AA07 GHA Merc 814

DK09 DZE/FG Volvo B7RLE's

AA58 GHA

BA58 GHA

CA58 GHA

YY15 CNA/C/E Enviro 200's

CA05 GHA Dart

Go-Ahead East Anglia

YJ05 PXC /PXD DAF DB250's

Go-Ahead London

PO56 JFJ / JFK / JFN / JFU Darts

LG02 KHM/O/P/R/V/W/Y Volvo B7TL's

Go-Ahead North East

X923 WGR Volvo B10BLE

Metroline YX09 FMA/C/D/E/F/G/H/K/L Enviro 200's

FMO/P/FLN/FLC/FLF/FLH

FNJ/FKS/T/U/V

Stagecoach Manchester

V616/8/20/1 DJA Tridents

Stagecoach NE R834/6 OVN Olympians

Stagecoach South East P826 GMU Olympians

R745 DRJ

W629 RND Tridents

V164 DFT

Vehicles Out

A and P Travel, Barway, Cambs

R834/6 OVN Olympians

Aintree Coaches, Liverpool

YN53 RYM Scania

KX51 CTO Solo

Applegates, Lydney, Glocs LX53 JYL Trident

Atlantic Travel, Bolton LJ54 BBZ / BCE Volvo B7TL's

Avondale, Glasgow SN03 YBY Dart

Blue Bus, Lanark YJ15 AYF / AYG Solo's

Carters Travel, Kettering, Northants

KX07 KOH Enviro 200

Centrebuss LX04 FYY / FYZ Tridents

Cymru Coaches, Swansea LG02 KHO / KHR Volvo B7TLs

D and G Buses, Crewe YX09 FMA/E/F Enviro 200's

FMG/ L /M/ FMO

Faresaver Buses, Chippenham, Wilts

LJ54 BFM/N Volvo B7TL's

Galleon Travel, Roydon, Essex

X923 WGR Volvo B10BLE

Grayscroft Bus Services, Mablethorpe, Lincs

YN03 DFY Scania

Horsburgh, Livingston FJ08 BYG / BYT Volvo B7R's

Imperial Bus Co, Wisbech, Cambs

P826 GMU Olympian

Maghull Coaches, Liverpool LJ53 NHO

LJ05 GLF / BNF DAF DB250's

Marshall's Coaches, Sutton-on-Trent, Notts

YJ62 FCD Versa

EBN629 p22

Ensign Dealing Stock Movements

Vehicles Out, continued

Midland Classic, Burton upon Trent	BV55 UCU	Scania
Moxons Coaches, Worksop, Notts	V616 / 618 DJA	Tridents
Poynters Coaches, Wye, Kent	LX03 OSK	Trident
Red Eagle, Aylesbury	YX09 FMK	Enviro 200
Redfern Travel, Mansfield	S805/6 BWC	Tridents
	V164/70 DFT	
	W629 RND	
Selwyns Coaches, Runcorn	YJ05 PXD / PXC	DAF DB250's
Seaford and District	LF52 ZPH / ZPJ	Volvo B7TL's
	KX05 KFE	Darts
	PN06 UYL /UYO/UY5	
Simonds of Botesdale, Norfolk		
	BV55 UCY	Scania
Stotts Coaches, Huddersfield		
	X897 DPN	Dublin Volvo B7TL 00-D-70180
	X896 DPN	Dublin Volvo B7TL 00-D-70182
	X572 DSH	Dublin Volvo B7TL 00-D-70183
	X573 DSH	Dublin Volvo B7TL 00-D-70184
Swallow Coaches, Rainham, Essex		
	LK53 FDC/F/O/U	Darts
	LK03 NLF/NLE/NLT	
White Gate Travel, Northwich	KF52 TZN	Merc Vario

Other Movements

Merc 814	VX08 HZS	Dawson Rentals.
Dart	SN56 AYC	
		Johns School of Motoring, London, N18
Volvo B7TL	LG02 KHM	
		High Command Productions, Pinewood Studios, Slough
Dart	AE06 HCK	Hughes Driver Training, Leicester.
DAF	LJ03 MVW	MC Tractors for scrap.
Merc 814	AA07 GH	Drew Wilson Coach Sales, Carluke.

Ensignbus

Ensign Fleet – August 2016

Mark Lloyd with thanks to Ross Newman

Volvo B12M Caetano Enigma 604 originally FN04 FSE has been sold to Access Travel, Greenhithe, Kent. (Ex 864 DYE).

Volvo Olympian Alexander Royale 827 originally P427 UUG has been sold to Carters Travel, Kettering ,Northants. (Ex WLT 307).

It is not known at this point if cherished registrations have been retained.

Picture below:

Three blues together on the morning of 18 August – Ensign Trident 157 (WLT 307) bringing 'Routemasters' back to Southend with its mark from RM307, contrasting blue with E400 MMC 6492 and Network Colchester Volvo Olympian/NCME R614 MNU stored awaiting conversion to the new Southend SOS Bus to replace the Volvo Citybus.

John G. Lidstone.



Ensignbus
omnibus supplies to the world

Mark Lloyd with thanks to Essex-Buses yahoo group.

Allocations

291 EU06 KCX Loan from HD to CN on 3 and 10 August (291 although a HD bus appears on CN duty regularly)

Withdrawals

86 M294 UKN KN to Alpha 96 R552 LGH KN to Alpha, scrap both on 3 September
728 W828 NNJ To Anglian and then disposal by May 16. (Not reported here to date).

723/726 W823/26 NNJ VOR at CN joining 714 T814 RFG.



Picture:

Another step entry double-decker still going strong is Hedingham 75 (S300 XHK) Volvo Olympian/Alexander H51/36F, bought new by Hedingham in 1999. On 27 July, 75 was in Osborne Street, Colchester working service 92 Tollesbury – Colchester.

Further to EBN627p25 this service now operates to a revised timetable from 25 July with journeys supported by Essex County Council. The new timetable on the Hedingham website also states "Please note that some buses have a step entrance".

Robert Appleton.

Services

Hedingham took over service 2, the Harwich Town Service from First Buses on the 30 August. It is a one bus duty starting at 0905 running continuously until 1357 with two afternoon sessions, split on a weekday but continuous on a Saturday. The route follows Harwich, Dovercourt to Parkeston International Station and then return.

Service 87 Colchester – Brightlingsea dropped back to a 30 minutes frequency rather than 20 minutes but has had route enhancements at each end, the Colchester end extending to North Station and Asda.

Previous Hedingham Vehicles

Four ex Hedingham vehicles have been purchased by Hollies Caravan Park at Kessingland. The three deckers, thought to be 81, 82 and 85 are to be converted into static "Glambuses" and the single decker 481 R216 HCD is stated as being converted into a cafe. They were said to be there by 16 June and are currently being worked on. They feature from the air, in the park's recent video release on Facebook.

With thanks to Dave Arnold, Essex-buses yahoo group & John Podgorski.

EOS London.com

(Vigar Travel Ltd, a subsidiary of Swallow Coaches, Rainham, Essex) by Adam Kelleher

With thanks to Ross Newman, Bus Lists on the Web and Flickr

Acquired Vehicles

LK03 NLE, Transbus Dennis Dart / Caetano, B29D, new to First London (DHL 503) 3/03
LK03 NLF, Transbus Dennis Dart / Caetano, B29D, new to First London (DHL 504) 4/03
LK03 NLT, Transbus Dennis Dart / Caetano, B29D, new to First London (DHL 509) 4/03
LK53 FDC, Transbus Dennis Dart / Caetano, B29D, new to First London (DMC 41526) 9/03
LK53 FDF, Transbus Dennis Dart / Caetano, B29D, new to First London (DMC 41529) 9/03
LK53 FDO, Transbus Dennis Dart / Caetano, B29D, new to First London (DMC 41534) 9/03
LK53 FDU, Transbus Dennis Dart / Caetano, B29D, new to First London (DMC 41536) 10/03

From Ensignbus, August 2016, ex Metroline. They join similar LK03 NLL (755) and LK53 FDE (756) acquired in December 2015 (see EBN621). LK03 NLE/F/T had been renumbered DMC 41503/4/9 in First's Sema scheme. When with Metroline, fleet numbers, in registration order, were DC 1540/1/6/9/5/1/6/8. (They had moved from First to Metroline when the latter took over Uxbridge garage, vehicles and services from the former in 2013.) Dual doors have been retained. LK53 FDC has been repainted into fleet livery and numbered 760. It has had a destination blind stuck on the front blind box: "Harlow & Epping" (in capitals) with "Sumners", "Katherines" and "Staples Tye" in smaller lower case underneath and "87" on the nearside (seen in Harlow on 2 September).

Trustybus (Galleon Travel 2009, Roydon, Essex bus operations) by Adam Kelleher

With thanks to John Card, Richard Delahoy, Ian Ransom, Ross Newman, Nigel Utting, LOTS, Bus Lists on the Web and Flickr

Acquired Vehicles

X923 WGR, Volvo B10BLE / Wright, B44F, new to Go Gateshead (4923) 10/00
From Go Ahead North East August 2016, via Ensign. All red livery with Go Ahead fleet names removed, dot matrix (flip dot) blinds. This vehicle is possibly a replacement for WNZ 1864 (see below).
W129 XRO, Volvo B10BLE / Wright, B47F, new to Sovereign (129) 4/00
August 2016, formerly Arriva the Shires 3302.
YN53 RXW, Scania N94UB / Scania, B37D, new to Metrobus (527) 11/03
From Go Ahead London, via Ensign, August 2016 (B32D with no tip ups).
W129 XRO and YN53 RXW have been acquired for spare parts only. The front end of RXW has been used to repair accident damaged sister YN53 RXF (see EBN624).

Re-Registrations

The former Go Ahead North East Volvo B10BLEs have been re-registered as follows:

W905 RBB to WNZ 1094 (22 July / 26 July); W906 RBB to WNZ 1102 (16 July / 10 August); W908 RBB to WNZ 1127 (this vehicle has not yet been noted in service with either reg); W491 SCU to WNZ 1480 (25 July / 3 August); X913 WGR to WNZ 1490 (23 July / 5 August); X914 WGR to WNZ 1589 (13 July / 3 August); X924 WGR to WNZ 1864 (20 July / 5 August). (Dates are the last reported sightings with old registration / first report with new.) X923 WGR had not been re-registered when seen on 5 September.

Withdrawn from Service

Trident / Presidents TP425/428/431/461/462/463/464, Enviro 200 / East Lancs Esteem PE56 UFH/J/K and Enviro 200 SK07 HLR have all been withdrawn from service. TP425 was last reported in service in February, TP428 before February, TP431 June, TP461 July, TP462 February, TP463 June, TP464 before February, PE56 UFH May, UFJ June, UFK March, SK07 HLR March (all dates 2016).

Other Vehicle News

WNZ 1864 (ex W924 WGR) collided with a tree near North Weald Airfield whilst working on route 420 between Ongar and Harlow on the morning of 8 August. Six passengers, plus the driver, were on the bus, three people received minor injuries. It is not yet known if the vehicle is repairable; the acquisition of X923 WGR, see above, may be to replace it.

The former Metrobus Scania (YN53 RX- batch) are being retro-fitted with the Green Urban system to bring them up to Euro VI standard. This is in partnership with Broxbourne Council (from a Government Grant) and they will be used on routes 392 and 410 which serve the council's area.



One time Eastern National VR KOO 792V (3074) is seen in the Somerset village of Priddy on 10 July 2001.

Allan MacFarlane.

The Editorial plan was to present you with a review by Chris Stewart of a new bus book "Abus – the first 25 years" by Allan MacFarlane, but we have run out of space! For those who cannot wait until EBN630, the book is priced at £12.00 (incl. P&P) and can be obtained from the author at A R MacFarlane at 18 Downs Cote View, Westbury-on-Trym, Bristol BS9 3TU.

Tebitt's Titivations!

Alan Tebbit, BEM

Morning Thighs!

Another in an occasional series of a former busman's recollections.

In my early driving days, we had a duty at CF that involved a dead run out to Radley Green, between Writtle and Ongar, and working the 0645 service 32 back to Chelmsford via New Street factories. This was always operated with an LD5G decker. For those unfamiliar with LDs, they were open rear platform and, in the lower saloon, a rearward facing bench seat ran along the front bulkhead, then several pairs of forward facing seats.

Two regular passengers got on at Radley Green, a gentleman who went upstairs to smoke and an attractive young lady who sat in the first forward facing seat behind the driver. As soon as the conductor had taken her fare and disappeared upstairs, she would take a pair of stockings out of her bag and proceed to put them on. The blackout blinds were never down on this trip so, with the aid of reflections in the windscreen and a properly adjusted driving mirror, we were treated to the sight of shapely thighs and a glimpse of some intimate clothing.

A few years later, I was waiting for my daughter to come out of primary school and fell into conversation with one of the mums. She told me that her parents owned the pub at Radley Green so I recounted my memories of the 0645 bus. Her face turned from peach to beetroot and I realised I was speaking to the owner of the stockings. I apologised, firstly for my acts of voyeurism, but also for not recognising her. I pointed out that I had never once looked at her face!

With thanks to Michael Allen, Wayne Bell, John Card, Terry Clark, Dominic Lund-Conlon and John Podgorski

Vehicle News

X reg Dart 611 has had work to bring it up to PSVAR standard and was on route 75 on 24 August (it had also been seen in Chelmsford earlier that day blinded for route 31A). 601, which had been the last vehicle still in service in original livery, has recently been repainted at Mardens. Panther Travel MPD BIG 9856 has been on loan; it was on the Braintree Freeport shuttle on 4 September.

Workings and Observations

Greater Anglia Rail Replacement Colchester to Chelmsford: 702, YJ03 PKK, MX10 DFK (24 July); MX10 DFK also on 25th & 26th

Solos 206 on 1 (8 August); 208 on 11A (24 July); 210 unusual on 565 (23 August)

Darts 602 on 11 (20 July); 611 on 0060 (4 & 11 July); 614 on 31A (10 August); 615 on 88 (7 August); 616 on 3 (9 July); 618 on 3B (20 July), unusual on 565 (20 August); 619 on 70 (18 July), 75 (2 August)

Enviro 200s 650 on 70 (1 August), 31A (8 August); 651 on standby for Witham to Braintree Emergency Rail Replacement, in the event not used (9 July), on 52 (18 & 20 July, 8 & 24 August), 70 (2 & 18 August), 213 (12 August), 75 (17 August), 3 (20 August); 652 on 31A (4 August), 381 (5 & 6 August), 70 (24 August)

MANs 801 on 70 & 71C (3 July), 0060 (4 July), 71C (18, 24 & 31 July), 3B (8 August), 3 (20 August); 802 unusual on 565 (19 July), 71C (24 July), 3 (12 August)

Tempo P 03 on 71C (3 & 31 July, 2 August), 0060 (13 July), 391 (3 August), 3 (8 August)

Tridents 1304 on 7 (1 September)



Confused of Pitsea!

A slightly "off the wall" shot of one of the eastbound stops Jonathan noted in Pitsea Broadway on 17 August, with a bit of added nostalgia and history!

The Arriva reference itself will be obsolete by the time you read this after they have pulled out of the area following the withdrawal of route 5 from 4 September!

Jonathan had just alighted from 33507 helping out on single-deck route 8, whose rear can also be seen in the shot!

Jonathan Cush.

Peter Mansbridge with thanks to John Card, Richard Delahoy, David Harman, Richard Lewis, John Podgorski and Keith Sadler.

<u>Fleet No.</u>	<u>Reg. No.</u>	<u>Chassis No.</u>	<u>Body</u>
6499	SN66 WHS	SFDB32BR2GGX19126	G422/1
6500	SN66 WHT	SFDB32BR2GGX19127	G422/2
6501	SN66 WHU	SFDB32BR2GGX19128	G422/3
6502	SN66 WHV	SFDB32BR2GGX19129	G422/4
6503	SN66 WHW	SFDB32BR2GGX19130	G422/5
6504	SN66 WHX	SFDB32BR2GGX19131	G422/6
6505	SN66 WHZ	SFDB32BR2GGX19132	G422/7
6506	SN66 WJA	SFDB32BR2GGX19133	G422/8
6507	SN66 WJC	SFDB32BR2GGX19184	G422/9
6508	SN66 WJD	SFDB32BR2GGX19185	G422/10
6509	SN66 WJE	SFDB32BR2GGX19236	G422/11
6510	SN66 WJF	SFDB32BR2GGX19237	G422/12
6511	SN66 WJG	SFDB32BR2GGX19238	G422/13
6512	SN66 WJJ	SFDB32BR2GGX19239	G422/14
6513	SN66 WJK	SFDB32BR2GGX19240	G422/15
6514	SN66 WJL	SFDB32BR2GGX19241	G422/16
6515	SN66 WJM	SFDB32BR2GGX19242	G422/17
6516	SN66 WJO	SFDB32BR2GGX19243	G422/18

<<<< Left:

Courtesy of Richard Lewis of Arriva Southern Counties, details are shown of the 18 new Alexander Dennis Enviro 400 MMC due imminently at Southend. 6499 – 6502 arrived on 5 September, with delivery of the batch due to continue throughout September.

Southend depot has been used to store both withdrawn buses and new vehicles awaiting entry to service, as illustrated last month. In mid-August there was a mass clear out of withdrawn stock and the following buses, ex Southend and Colchester, were removed from Short Street on a one-way trip to Hardwicks' scrapyard in Barnsley:

3191 (P191 LKL) 3277/80/89 (T277/80/9 JKM) 3322/4 (T822/4 NMI)
 3406-10 (HX51 LSN/LRJ/LRK/LRL/LRN) plus one other unidentified one, presumably 3411 (LRO)
 3830/1 (W901/7 UJM) 3912-5 (T912-5 KKM).

Streelitres 4261/2 (GN64 DXR/S) had their service one branding removed in mid-August and are expected to be transferred away (along with the other Streelite, 4224, GN62 HMY) when the Enviro 400s enter service.

"Max" Volvo 3824 (GN07 AVM) operated the final service 5 to/from Basildon on the evening of Saturday 3 September.

Arriva Kent & Surrey, former Arriva Southend Tridents 5435/41 (W435/41 XKX) have been withdrawn and sold to Hardwick, Carlton, South Yorkshire. Former Arriva Southend Tridents 5438/9 (W438/9 XKX) are withdrawn at Maidstone.

At **Colchester**, a flurry of repaints as seen TGM livery eliminated with the exception of Dart SLF 3314 (S312 JUA), which is not due to receive Arriva colours. Volvo B7RLE/Wright 3818/9 and 3825 retain SX Connect livery. SX Connect Volvo B7RLE/Wright 3826 (GN07 AVP) went to Maidstone on 1 September for repaint into Arriva colours and retrim. Repaints into Arriva colours during August comprise Dart SLFs 1562 (RX07 KPG), 1564/5 (HX04 HUH/K), 3416/9 (SN54 HXC/F), Scania N94 /East Lancs Omnidekka 5372 (AY55 DKA) and Volvo B7TL/ Wright 6132 (LJ03 MHV)

Former **Harlow** allocated Dart SLFs 3293 (Y293 TKJ), 3327 (X519 GGO) and 3335 (W471 XKX) saw use at Colchester at the end of August but had moved onto Maidstone by 6 September.

Former Network Colchester Tridents 5442 (T405 SMV) and 5444/5 (W395/6 RBB) have been withdrawn by Arriva Kent & Surrey.

Volvo B7RLE/ Wright 3875-82 displaced from Ware service 310 by new Enviro 400 MMCs, have entered service from **Harlow**, joining older Volvos on the 508/9/10 group. The vehicles comprise 3875 (KX11 PVN), 3876 (KX11 PUK), 3877 (KX11 PUJ), 3878 (KX11 PVL), 3880 (KX11 PVA), 3881 (KX11 PZY), 3882 (KX11 PVD). They entered service from Harlow retaining route 310 (Hertford – Waltham Cross) branding.

3894 (BU06 HSG) is the third **Harlow** based Citaro to receive Arriva colours in lieu of Green Line livery.



The first 4 Arriva Kent Thameside (Southend) Enviro400 MMCs arrived on 5 September seen here an hour after arrival. Unlike the Ware examples, they are Falkirk built (not Scarborough) and also have the plain dark blue 'plastic' seats. They are: 6501 - unregistered (SN66 WHU confirmed), 6499 - SN66 WHS, 6500 - unregistered (SN66 WHT confirmed), 6502 - SN66 WHV. **John G. Lidstone.**



The Ware Enviros left Short Street en-masse on 21 August, suitably blinded. So our tongue in cheek speculation last month of a huge fleet of all the Ware and Southend fleets did not materialise! The Marketing people have been very creative, notice the side advert. **John G. Lidstone.**

Smaller Operators

by Roger A. Smith, with thanks to the PSV Circle.

Falconrise (Roman Cars), Colchester

PB10 BUL, an Iriza bodied Scania K420Eb6, C53FT is here from Bullock, Cheadle, Greater Manchester. The PSV Circle reports ex-Kings Bova MHD, reg. KC08 ABC as now being the Colchester United team coach with a revised seating arrangement. However, your Sub-Editor and his "other half" travelled on this coach on the weekend of 3-4 September and it is still in Roman Coaches with a standard C53FT seating layout.

Greenfield, Great Baddow

Setra S415HD, BK08 XYG, C49FT is understood to have gone to County Connect, Wrotham, Kent.

Kirby's Coaches, Rayleigh

Mercedes-Benz (MB) Tourisimos C49FT, reg. BJ59 OJD and BJ59 OJF are here from Pullmanor, Herne Hill, London and have been re-registered as K90 BYS and K55 BYS.

Lodge, High Easter

Brand new here is MB Tourisimo, reg. AL16 DGE, C??F whilst YG52 CLY, a Wright bodied B39F DAF SB120 is here from Go South Coast, Dorset.

New Horizon, Frating

Berkhof bodied Scania K340EB4, C55FT, reg. YN06 CIV is a recent arrival from Falcon, Shepperton, Surrey whilst R20 CED (ex. R944 ULA) a Volvo B10M with Berkhof C49FT body is no longer here.

With reference to R20 CED above, Cedric of Frating was dissolved as a limited company in January with operations continuing under associated company New Horizon. So, presumably, this is a former Cedric vehicle.



Brentwood Coaches 7949 RU in the Little Waltham yard in June. **John Salmon.**

The Letters Page.

Alan Tebbit, BEM from Truro

The arrival of EBN628 rekindled some memories. Firstly the letter from Ray Boreham, who I worked with at head office in the 60s, along with those other stalwarts of the industry, Bob Beaumont, Tony Spindler (and his dad), and Terry and Jenny Smith. One of the features of Chelmsford carnival in the 50s/early 60s, was that after the fireworks display in Central Park, nearly all of CFs staff would head back into the depot, to ensure there were enough buses to get the spectators home, as most of the town and village folk, would be there.

On page 20 is a picture of MW 467(1309) leaving Duke Street for Harlow New Town. My Dad was on the four-man OMO rota at CF at that time, and the 46 was their main road. This would be the lunchtime departure from Chelmsford, as it is a BS vehicle and driver. CF and BS drivers only worked the full route in the mornings. The 1440 and 1805 journeys from Chelmsford involved a changeover at Matching Green. Initially the plan was for the drivers to change buses, but it proved difficult to return them to their home garages, the two journeys utilising different drivers and buses. Thus the passengers had to change instead! CF would use WILLINGALE, MATCHING GREEN, on the via blind, and I thought BS did also, the blind in the picture being more associated with service 47, Ongar to Harlow. Maybe it had worked an earlier 47, and the driver was too lazy to change it.

The real gem for me was the picture of RE 1409 (XOO 878 L) exiting Basildon bus station. This coach later had a tailift fitted through new side doors, and wheelchair anchorages in the saloon, and re-numbered 2203, to join the 3 Leyland Nationals in the disabled transport division. I was amongst the fortunate few to join the DABs, and spent many happy hours driving this particular vehicle all over the country. People who were normally confined to four walls were delighted at the freedom these buses provided. It was, of course, long in the tooth before being converted, and I remember a ministry vehicle examiner, in Clacton coach park, wanting to give me a PG9 stop notice, because the power steering pump had failed. A power steering pump? On an RE? That, and the fact that the door was not powered, completely flummoxed him!

Nigel Turner from Panfield

I was interested to see the comment on page 16 of EBN628 that Peter Carr had once "liberated" an "On hire to Hicks Bros" board from Bishops Stortford depot. As Hicks Bros remained a separate entity after selling out to BTC in 1950, it was necessary for any Eastern National vehicle running on a Hicks service to show an "on hire" notice in some way.

I believe that in the very early days, paper stickers were used but very soon all Eastern National vehicles allocated to Braintree (and Silver End) carried a painted notice on the drivers cab as can be seen on preserved VNO 859. However, I have wondered what happened if Bishops Stortford (or Chelmsford) ever had to duplicate a Hicks journey or provide breakdown cover. It would seem that Peter has the answer. If he still has the board then perhaps he could share a photo with us via EBN.

The front cover of EBN627 was of particular interest to me as it showed Bedford OB SEV 777 newly restored by Brentwood Coaches. Once upon a very long time ago, this was my school bus when operated by its original owner, Wiffens of Finchingfield. They kept it until 1980 when it passed to Swords of Walkern. I last saw it there in the mid 1980s while on a group tour. It then spent a couple of decades "up north" with William Hunter of Tarleton before reappearing in Essex.

Ray Boreham

Further to the letters in EBN628p31 referring to correspondence from Terry Challis (whom I remember from my ENOC days) and Robert Appleton regarding joint bus services operated by Eastern Counties and Eastern National with reference being made to services 123 and 207, there was a third, namely 212 Harwich to Ipswich. This timetable consisted of three journeys each way, which met en-route at Brantham, Suffolk where the crews changed over and returned to their "home" depot. So, every other day the depots had a "foreign" bus in their garage for the night. Eastern National certainly "drew the short straw with this agreement as they had to cross Manningtree railway crossing gates twice on each journey and on some occasions this caused considerable delay in the change over and late running of the service in both directions.

With regard to the "cheering tale" when service 123 operated into Clacton depot with an Eastern Counties crew, I was reliably informed by Clacton office staff at that time that the few Clacton road staff who just happened to be around when the EC vehicle arrived gave it a clap as it entered the bus station. This was in the 1960s but I am unable to be more precise.

Terry Challis of Blackpool

Thank you for EBN628. Thanks also to Robert Appleton for the information about ENOC 123 and ECOC 207.

My source for mentioning that the Clacton Crews cheered the ENOC Ipswich crew into Clacton Bus station when they worked through to Clacton for the first time was my late brother-in-law who was a driver at Clacton Garage at the time.

It's Nostalgia Time!

On Hire to Hicks and More Nostalgia!

Joint Services With Eastern Counties.

Corroboration!

Kings Oldest & Newest!



Kings Tours oldest (KC57ABC) and youngest (KC16ABC) VDL Futuras at Upton House in Warwickshire on a Chelmsford Branch National Trust trip. My wife and I sat on the back seats (reclining) of KC57ABC. Very comfortable! **John Salmon.**

Target Dates for EBN630 (October 2016).

By Saturday 1 October 2016
By Saturday 8 October 2016
By Monday 17 October 2016

Reports to Sub-Editors.
Sub-Editor drafts to Editor.
Dispatch by Printers.

Back Cover Photos.

Outer Top

After over 10 years in Lodge's fleet, MAN/Optare M73 WYG has been returned by preservationists to Black Prince, Morley livery. Looking very smart it was in service on home territory during Dewsbury Bus Museum Summer Spectacular on 13 August at The Mill Outlet, Batley.

Owen Woodliffe.

Outer Lower

One of the latest loan vehicles into Colchester is Alexander ALX200 Dart 3335 (former Arriva London ADL71) in from Tunbridge Wells. It retains its 'roadworks' fares promotion window ad. It is seen in Severalls Lane on route 8 on 26 August. Incidentally, Plaxton Dart 3293 is also currently on loan. The Colchester fleet is very nearly all repainted into Arriva corporate livery now, with, as at 26 Aug, Volvo 6132 just back, Dart 1564 away for paint, leaving only 1562 outstanding in TGM colours.

Russell Young.

What Can Be Done With A Second-Hand Bus?

Top picture:

Mardens' Routemaster RM978, now LDS 164A was promoting 'Enrollfest' at Victoria Circus on 25 August. It appeared at Grays the following day. The bus had also appeared at Southend Carnival on 20 August.

John G. Lidstone.



Centre picture:

As mentioned in EBN629p20 ex Eastern National 3116, XHK221X, of Abus of Bristol was another former Essex bus at the Alton Rally, at Alton Station.

Richard Delahoy.



Lower picture:

The latest acquisition for Panther is former First Essex Volvo B7TL/Alexander ALX400 30903, W758 DWX. With thanks to Mardens of Benfleet, I was first to capture this, as it left Mardens' workshops in some hurry today, 17 August.

It now has an LED front indicator display and has been fitted with semi-coach seats in its lower saloon.

John G. Lidstone.





www.essexbus.org.uk