

ESSEX BUS NEWS

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There is no mistaking the origin of Southend Transports latest acquisitions. The two Olympians carry Northern Counties bodies with Nottingham's distinctive style. One of the pair ST 398 is seen in CBS on 13.8.89, its third day in use. The body style does not allow passing point blinds to be fitted.

(R Delahoy)

Details of the October Rochford meeting can be found on the rear page.

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REPORT ON THE FLF TOUR

On Sunday August 13th former Eastern National Bristol FLF 2946 (AVX975G) driven by its owner Paul Harrison departed from Southend Central to relive the days of a proper service 251. The first photo stop being made at the former Seaway terminus. It was then time to sit back and enjoy the LX engine and enjoy the tales of journeys made in years gone by. Cameras were back in evidence in Brentwood to snap a London Buses Metrorider and an EN Leopard. A number of passengers were picked up in Brentwood with yet more joining in Romford where a Blue Triangle Merlin was the subject of attention. It was then onto Wood Green where a tour of housing estates took place in a vain attempt to turn round. A photo stop was then made near the site of the former EN depot which is now occupied by a car sales room and an access road. It was then time to visit Ponders End depot a first visit for a number of group members who were surprised by the size and quality of it. A lunch stop was then made at Walthamstow Central where a number of swap offers were made by EN staff, all of which were turned down by Paul who does not wish to become the proud owner of a Leyland National. A late change of plan was then made and we headed for Canvey where a number of vehicles were made available for photographic purposes and a short ride on WNO 478. 2946 then returned the party to Southend at the end of a most enjoyable day. Many thanks to Paul for making 2946 available and to members at Canvey for showing us the variety of vehicles kept at the museum.

Highlights of the day were Frank Spence in shorts and quote of the day came from Richard Huggins who as we passed Palmers Green garage said "is Palmers Green garage near here ?".

BRISTOL FLF TOUR SUNDAY OCTOBER 15TH

This time using RWC 607 which has been restored to its original condition including coach seats and is being made available by group member Ted Miles. Full details have yet to be confirmed although a trip along the X10 route from Southend to London will be included. Departure from Southend will be about 0930. To book a seat please contact Ian Ransom and include an SAE for full details. Would those who had booked for this tour which was planned for Sept. 30th please contact me if they still wish to come.

NEW BOOKS

The following are now available from Andy Meadows, please make cheques payable to the Cliff Agency :-

Just The Ticket by David Thonton and looks at early bus operations in NE Essex £4.95
 Buses Yearbook £7.50
 Welsh Bus Handbook published by Capital Transport £6.95
 RT Jubilee an LT Museum publication £4.95

All prices include Post and Packing. These publications and others are available at group meetings or from the sales stand at Castle Point on October 8th or from the annual LOTS sale at Westminster on October 28th.

EASTERN NATIONAL LIMITEDVehicle allocations

9/89 1500 CR-DT, 1737 HH-D/L (D), 1738 HH-D/L (D), 1756 POOL-HH, 1762 CN-CR,
 1800 POOL-VW, 1840 BD-HH, 3048 CN-D/L (D), 3050 CN-DT, 3107 WW-POOL, 3109 WW-CN,
 3118 WW-POOL, 3500 SD-POOL, 3501 HH-POOL

Vehicle repaints

w.e. 29.7.89. 3123 at HH
 w.e. 5.8.89. 1830 at CN (overall advert for Autotrader)
 w.e. 2.9.89. 4500 at EN

Unusual Workings

26.6.89. CR4503 on service 11 duplicates (A Chelmsford OAP day). Then being used for the 1950 to Grays and back. This being very unusual as CF deckers normally only operate as far as Basildon.
 8.8.89. CR 1760 On various CN duties.

Loans from CF to BS continue with 1899 there in late August.

General

Colchester Borough Council is to spend £20,000 on a study to provide ideas for an improved Bus Station. The scheme would involve demolition of the multi-storey car park and rebuilding it together with new shops and offices. The scheme includes the police station which has now closed and the EN depot which would have to be moved. The old police station is valued at £1m but the front is a listed building, which could cause planning problems. The EN depot occupies a similar area and not being listed is worth more than the police station. The total cost of the redevelopment is in the region of £15m.

The rail strikes during the early part of summer proved good news for EN who were flooded with requests to provide vehicles. In addition to providing journeys from most parts of the county, nine vehicles were provided to work between the special car park at White City and Marble Arch. The vehicles were provided for the first three strikes in July in response to the peak demand on those days. Eastern Nationals stand at the Essex Show this year included 1918 and 2384. This years Chelmsford Spectacular was once again served by a shuttle from Chelmsford Bus Station operated by EN. A variety of vehicles were in use including Leyland Lynx and all types of Olympian. Coaches were provided for some of the acts.

Disposals Initial

1807 (TJN 506R) Remains sold for scrap to an unknown dealer, 2/89.
 3037 (PWC 512M) United Reformed Church, Witham, 6/89.
 3040 (PWC 515M) Thundesley Tyres (for preservation), Canvey Island, 6/89.

Disposals Subsequent

1131 (C131 HJN) Allocated to Middlesborough by United and awarded the trophy as the best modern vehicle in this years Tyne Tees rally.
 1132 (C132 HJN) Allocated to Peterlee by United.
 1133 (C133 HJN) Allocated to Durham by United.

Clacton On Sea... The Saga Continues....

The plans to route services 13 and 14 via Kestral Way resulted in letters of protest a month before the service began. One person complained that it is unfair that services can be rerouted without anyone being able to complain.

The Town and Country Building Society is rethinking plans for a £3m expansion of their Jackson Road offices whilst Barclays claim that security is at risk because of the stops and the number of people in the street. The National Express stop has been moved to Skelmesdale Road, which being near the rail station has resulted in a long work for passengers. One councillor has suggested that Pier Avenue is restricted to buses and taxis a plan that was thrown out some time ago as car owners would not be able to park outside the shops.

The letters pages of local papers continue to produce gems such as "the streets are not for parking buses on", whilst another states that shops have people waiting outside for buses. This one seems strange as it must increase business for most of them.

Observation of the area tends to show that buses are not parked as is claimed in a number of letters the only exception being vehicles on the 74 and 119 which layover for about 10 minutes. Buses that are parked between duties do so only on the front of the old bus station which is company property anyway. The majority of complaints appear to come from people who have never been on a bus and seem to think that EN only operate for their own sake. This is perhaps strange bearing in mind the high usage in Clacton with a large number of retired folk and holiday makers in the town.

PUBLICITY

EN timetable leaflets for Coastline services 1/1A; 2; 8,8A,9,10,18,19; 8,8A,9,10,15,16; 13,14 dated 3.9.89. Services 3,4; 5,5A,5B both dated 4.9.89. Services 2/2A; 250 and 321,330 all dated 29.8.89. Services 33,70,X70,370 and 311 dated 27.8.89. Services 74 dated 3.9.89., 106/116 undated, 152/3/4/5 dated 17.9.89., 242 dated 18.9.89. 353/4/5/6 dated 8.8.89. and 29.8.89.

Leaflets for Buses serving Bishops Stortford, Harlow, Hatfield Heath and Broad Oakall dated 28.8.89.

Highwayman leaflets for excursions from Chelmsford late summer, The Welsh collection and Ipswich away games, Bus excursions from Chelmsford summer 1989 and real ale runabouts 1989. LRT leaflet for 193 dated 4.9.89.

SERVICE REVISIONS IN ESSEXSaffron Walden, Bishops Stortford

- 34 The 1806 and 2006 journeys were withdrawn after 29.9.89.
 49,58,59 Revised timetable introduced from 29.8.89.
 301 Revised timetable introduced from 29.8.89.
 309 Revised timetable introduced from 29.8.89.
 333 Revised timetable introduced from 29.8.89.

Witham, Braintree

- 70,370 Revised timetable introduced from 29.8.89.
 71 Withdrawn after operation on 26.8.89. and part replaced by service 370
 311 Saturday service revised from 2.9.89.
 321 ECC tender now commences with the 1915 ex Braintree. Remains EN operated.
 330 Revised Saturday service introduced from 2.9.89.
 353 Revised timetable introduced on 8.8.89. and further revised on 29.8.89.
 321 In addition to the above the timetable was also revised from 29.8.89.

Colchester

- 9 From 4.9.89. the 0821 ex Lexden operates five minutes earlier.
 53 From 29.8.89. the 0620 ex Colchester was revised to operate 10 minutes later.
 74 From 3.9.89. evening journeys passed to ECC tender remaining EN operated.

Clacton, Harwich

- 22A/B Revised timetable to be introduced from 2.10.89.
 1 The 1820 ex Clacton and 1848 return were withdrawn on Saturdays with effect from 9.9.89.
 2 Certain early morning and evening journeys withdrawn on Saturdays from 9.9.89.
 3,4 Some Saturday afternoon journeys were withdrawn from 9.9.89.
 5,5A Revised on Saturdays with two service 5 journeys extended to Clacton FC plus some services withdrawn from 9.9.89.
 14 Revised to serve Kestral Way from 4.9.89. Some Saturday services withdrawn from 9.9.89.
 9,10 Revised timetable from Walton only introduced from 4.9.89.
 18,19 Revised route and timetable introduced from 4.9.89.
 103,104 0847 ex Mistley to be retarded to 0854. 1620 ex Harwich renumbered 103 both with effect from 2.10.89.
 106,116 Revised timetable introduced from 4.9.89.
 120 Revised timetable to be introduced from 2.10.89.

Sunday services on Coastline routes will be operated under tender to ECC from 24.9.89.

Harlow

Extensive revisions have been made to the County services in Harlow from 29.7.89. full details next month.

Loughton, Epping

- 381 Revised route and timetable with some journeys extended to Harlow introduced on 11.8.89.

Chelmsford

- 11 From 4.9.89. the 0615 ex Southend and 0729 return were advanced by 10 mins.
 46 Passes from Webbs to EN with effect from 30.10.89.
 95,96 Owing to the loss of tender EN have registered these services commercially from 30.10.89.
 157 NEW SERVICE. Stock to Ingatestone operated by District Bus under contract to ECC. 0910 ex Stock returning at 1110 Fridays only.
 349 Passes from Golden Boy to EN with effect from 30.10.89.
 357 NEW SERVICE. Margaretting to Basildon operated by District Bus under contract to ECC. 0930 ex Margaretting returning at 1335 Fridays only.

Basildon, Billericay

- 2,2A The 2041 ex Basildon was withdrawn after 26.8.89. From the 25.9.89. the 1803 ex Basildon terminates at Hadleigh and the 1915 ex Southend is withdrawn
- 7 Revised route and timetable introduced by NIBS from 11.9.89.
- 12 As per service 7 but from 5.9.89.
- 151 On Sundays from 6.8.89. the following were withdrawn 1831 and 2139 ex Basildon and the 1930 and 2230 ex Canvey. In addition the 2031 ex Basildon commences from the Bus Station at 2039. Mondays to Saturdays from 29.8.89. the 0810 ex Pitsea was revised to depart from Vange Barge at 0813 on schooldays only, the 2239 ex Basildon terminates at Sth. Benfleet at 2306 and the 2330 ex Canvey is withdrawn.
- 152 The 0709 ex Basildon was advaced by 10 minutes and the 0733 ex Stanford withdrawn from 18.9.89.
- 154 The 0749 ex Basildon was revised to commence from Stanford at 0728 from 18.9.89
- 231 From 5.9.89. the 1600 ex Ramsden was revised to operate 15 mins. later.
- 242 From 18.9.89. was revised to depart Basildon 0654, 0715 and 0749. Return journeys remain unchanged.
- 255 Passes from NIBS to EN with effect from 30.10.89.
- 505 From 18.9.89. the 0752 ex Southfields was revised to commence at the Bus station at 0815.
- 521 Additional journey on schooldays at 0740 ex Burnt Mills and 1530 Laindon school to Laindon Station introduced from 18.9.89.
- 523 From 6.8.89. the 1438 schooldays only ex Burnt Mills was amended to terminate at Laindon Centre at 1516, whilst on Saturdays 0706 to Great Berry was withdrawn From 18.9.89. the 0740 ex Burnt Mills was amended to run schooldays excepted and the 1640 ex Great Berry was revised to start from the Bus station.
- 526 Service withdrawn after 15.9.89. and replaced by 521 journeys above.
- 549 Passes from Priory to EN from 30.10.89.
- W101/2 Withdrawn without being operated. (Further to last month).

Grays

- 302 Withdrawn with effect from 19.8.89.
- 303 Harris have applied to operate this service between Chadwell St Mary and Romford via County Bus 373 to Grays thence via 370. The service would run Mondays to Saturdays every 75 minutes.

Southend

- 20 Has been revised on schooldays the 0855 ex Hullbridge now operating 10 mins. earlier. Also the 1355 ex Shoebury is rerouted to serve Rawreth Lane and Park School arriving Hullbridge 5 minutes later.
- 250 The 2202 ex Southend was withdrawn after 26.8.89.

LRT Services

- 193 EN have won the contract to operate this service for another two years.

COLCHESTER BOROUGH TRANSPORT

Atlantean 59 was withdrawn on 30.6.89. and left for a Scottish operator a few days later. Similar vehicles 56 and 58 were expected to be withdrawn on 31.8.89. The former GMPTE Atlantean broke down on 25.7.89. and as a result was withdrawn a few days later, this was the oldest bus in the fleet.

On the plus side, three new Lynxes have been ordered for autumn delivery. Olympian 43 which had suffered accident damage returned from repair at ENE on 28.7.89. and is back in service. However, 45 has gone to Leylands at Bristol for work to be carried out at the end of August. 42 has been repainted.

All the Lynxes were back by 3.8.89. but Ipswich Buses 103 and 116 were still in use at the end of August, normally on services 9/9A. CBT Metrorider is still in use in Ipswich and is expected to remain there for some time.

Fares on ECC contract services in the area were brought into line with CBT fares on 24.7.89.

Service 6A to Rowhedge has been rerouted since 31.7.89. because of the closure of Rowhedge Road for roadworks. It is being temporarily diverted via Fingringhoe Road and Rectory Road to terminate at Shipyard Corner. Previously unreported is that

services to West Mersea ran via Blue Row during the June/ July period as a result of road works. Various other diversions are expected during the year as Eastern Gas are currently undertaking a major task in the provision of gas to the Island. Lynx 33 made a rare appearance on services 1/1A on 16.8.89. whilst the open top 55 was in use on services 2 and 15 on 21.8.89. as a problem between Colchester and Clacton on the rail line was taking up every available bus. Rail replacement work continues and on Summer Bank Holiday Sunday a decker was noted at Hythe whilst on 20.8.89. Lynx 37 was operating on the Sudbury branch. If all this continues BR will end up giving the CBT fleet TOPS numbers. For the first time a timetable leaflet has been published for ECC services 10,11,13, 14,14A,15,16,75,77 and 83. New leaflets dated 4.9.89. are available for services 1/1A, 2/2A/2B and 9/9A. The actual changes are minor. Atlanteans 61,63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 71, 72, 74, 77, 80, 83, 85, 86, 87, and 89 have advertisements for Great Yarmouth Pleasure Beach around the front blind box, obliterating the fleet number in some cases.

From 14.8.89. the prices of Colchester Travelcards were increased to :-

	one week	one month	three months
inner area	£4.75	£19.00	£52.00
whole borough	£9.25	£37.00	£100.00

Travel cards are now valid on ALL services operated under contract to Essex County Council by the four Participants (CBT, EN, HO and Eastern Counties).

Lledo produced models of a 1932 AEC regal in Colchester Corporation livery are available from CBT offices priced at £2.45 each.

An advertisement appeared in Bus Business during August for a Leisure Tours Controller In the job description it states " The company has increased its market penetration in the private hire business, day excursion and contract work..... and now seeks to expand profitably all these areas in addition to entering the holiday tours business"

Other operators - Rest of Essex

CHAMBERS Another Olympian is now in service G760 VRT and is currently running in dealer white.

INCENTIVE One of the first operators in the area to enter the continental day trip market has ceased trading. The business has passed to Kirbys of Rayleigh.

ENOC 2954

This column makes a welcome return this month and takes a look at preservation of pre 1954 Eastern National vehicles that still exist although some may not be capable of being moved.

Probably the oldest vehicle as far as records show is 354Z BTW 482 a 1935 Dennis Lancet, last reported with Hollis Queensferry can someone please confirm if this is still correct?

Other vehicles with brief details are

3614	CTW210	Dennis Ace	1936	Poor condition at Castle Point Museum
3709	FEV178	Leylad TD5	1937	Undergoing restoration with Luton & District
3885	JVW430	Bristol K5G	1944	Preserved by ENPG, prototype ECW body.
4027	ONO 48	Bristol L5G	1949	Preserved by ENPG
4038	ONO 59	Bristol K5G	1949	Owned by Lincoln Vintage Vehicle Society
4107	PTW110	Bristol L6B	1950	A non runner with ENPG but could run again
4187	VNO857	Bristol KSW5G	1953	As per 4038
4189	VNO859	" "	1953	1407 preservation group Braintree
4208	VXV 19	Bristol LD	1953	Also at Canvey, ENs first Lodekka.
4215	WNO480	Bristol KSW5G	1953	Still with Eastern National

If you are aware of a vehicle that may not have been included please contact Peter Snell, but remember WNO 478 and WNO 479 were new to Westcliff not passing legally to EN until 1955.

SOUTHEND TRANSPORT LIMITED

These notes are correct to September 7.

Vehicles

ACQUIRED:

710	JBO 352N	Leyland National	10351/1R	B44F
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Ex Cardiff City 212, this LN was acquired during August. Fleet number 710 had been allocated to an Midland Red North LN, LPB 179P, but it has now been decided to cannibalise it for spares, the bus having not entered service with ST. The 'new' 710 is currently at the works awaiting painting. Unlike 701-9, it is a fully automatic but it is understood that it will be altered to semi auto and resealed to B41F.

Meanwhile, the two Olympians entered service on 11/8 (398) and 25/8 (399) respectively. As illustrated on the front cover, they are not able to be fitted with passing point blinds, neither do they have rear route number boxes. At 15' they are possibly the highest double deckers ever to operate for SCT/ST; therefore, in addition to the usual highbridge restrictions, they are barred from the railway bridges in Chalkwell Avenue and Thorpe Hall Avenue (so no appearances on the 24).

MODIFIED: the latest Fleetline repaint is 222.

DELICENCED: 902 (WJN 372J) delicenced from 1/9 for the winter.

WITHDRAWN:

213	JTD 393P	on 4/8	214	JTD 394P	on 4/8
402	E402 BHK	on 31/8	404	E404 BHK	on 31/8
405	E405 BHK	on 31/8	406	E406 BHK	on 31/8

Thus ends the brief careers of the Optare City Pacers with ST.

INITIAL DISPOSALS:

213 JTD 393P) Along with 209/17 (JTD 389/97P) they have passed to
214 JTD 394P) Ensign Bus Services for use on LRT services (not
just those passing under Cranham bridge). They are
numbered 589/93/4/7 in the Ensign fleet and are running in ST livery
(589/97 in old blue/cream; 593/4 in new blue/white) with Ensign names.
589/94/7 have been fitted with 'RCL' type destination boxes.

402 E402 BHK) Derby City Transport; 402 and already withdrawn 403
404 E404 BHK) (which had been back in Southend since 22/6 although
405 E405 BHK) owned by Carlyle Vehicles) were delivered on 2/9, &
406 E406 BHK) the others were to follow later. They will be used
Derby and will join the former Leicester City Trippet fleet City Pacers.

522 XWX 161S To Baker. Enstone by 12/88

SUBSEQUENT DISPOSALS:

302	NLJ 829G	S&M Hadleigh (not operated) to Spence (Dealer), Thorpe Bay & then to A Hardwick, Carlton (dlr) for scrap, 2/89
304	TXG 820M	Black Horse, Gravesend to Ensign Bus Services, c.4/89 in ST livery as EBS 240; previously Ensign 251 prior to its sale to Black Horse.

350 WJN 350J) Hardwick, Carlton (dealer) to Arena Travel, Merseyside
 357 WJN 357J) c.5/89
 366 WJN 366J Aspden, Blackburn to Wooley, Llanedwen, Wales by 10/88
 403 E403 BHK See above, under initial disposals

SERVICE VEHICLES:

Purchased for spares is PPF 543R, a Dennis breakdown lorry, originally with Rochford District Council and later S&M, Hadleigh; acquired from Spence (dlr) in May, it has also been used as a shunter at the works.

Services

- 9A Increased M-F peak hour frequency from 9/10.
- 11 The Sunday am Essex CC contract journeys will continue through the winter - they were due to cease after 22/10.
- 13 The positioning journeys for X30/31 (0445 & 0535 Garage to Canvey) will be withdrawn after 6/10.
- 23) The M-S evening contract journeys will be withdrawn after 28/10 as
 23A) the contracts are passing to EN on renewal.
- X30) The Canvey to London express services will be withdrawn after 6/10
 X31) Additional X1/11 journeys will provide a partial replacement.
 Thus ends 5 years of service from Canvey -X31 commenced on June 18 1984 with 4 journeys each way. Maximum frequency was reached in April 1985, with 9 journeys M-F and 1 on Saturdays.

General

The open toppers continued to see considerable use during August, eg 903 was seen on the 29 on 16/8, in addition to the usual forays on the London Road crew routes. Both appeared in Southend Carnival on 12/8, while the following Saturday's torchlight procession saw 903 in use by a religious group, while sister 902 was used on the same night by the Borough Council for the ceremonial switch on of Southend's illuminations by Frank Bruno. Both were in use again on the seafront on Bank Holiday Monday 28th, running a free service from Southend Victoria Station to the Pier on behalf of Network SouthEast, in connection with the centenary of the GE line reaching Southend. 902 was also used to assist a charity fund raising event in aid of diabetes on the 20th, being replaced during the day by Leopard 511. Open topper 903 will remain licenced for the present, but 902 was taken off on 1/9.

And now, the Scholars Networkcard - no, ST are not accepting BR tickets! Scholars Networkcard is a new system wide scholars pass introduced from 4/9 which largely replaces the old point to point passes. It is available to children up to age 16 and offers unlimited travel on all ST commercial services east of Vange on Mondays to Fridays in school terms for journeys starting before 2130. It is only sold for complete terms.

Other ticket news is that the ST/EN/BR joint Travelcard is to be extended to include Essex CC and Southend Borough contracted services from mid September. This will mean acceptance on the buses of District Bus (24 & 116) and Clintona (21A & 23) for the first time; Stephensons and Lynxline already honour Travelcards on their commercial services 60/60A although not yet members of the scheme, and they will now accept Travelcards on tendered routes 6, 10 & 12.

A number of London Buses vehicles have passed through the works in recent months, including LS358 (BYW 358V), LS 487 (GUW 487W) and T1016 (A616 THV). Outside painting work is also being undertaken for a number of operators.

Publicity News:

Leaflet/application form for the Scholars Networkcard. New leaflets dated from 8/10 are due for 3A/5/13, 7/8 group, 9A and 29. Also published with an effective date of 8/10 is a new X1 group leaflet (issue 34), which introduces a new brand name - London Coachlink.

OTHER OPERATORS - South East Essex

Lynxline Ltd, South Woodham: Essex CC Sunday contract 10/12 (Southend - Wallasea/Paglesham) is to be withdrawn after 22/10 without replacement. Commercial Sunday 60A's will also cease after that date.

Miles HGV Training School, Rochford: this HGV training school took VWC 477L on long term loan from Greenham Coaches, Basildon in August, in order to commence PSV tuition. It is a Bedford YRQ/Marshall B45F, ex Heddingham Omnibuses and latterly used by Eagle Coaches on the Basildon routes sold to EN in August.

Stephensons, Southend: recent fleet changes have seen the sale of MAN LFJ 377W (to Venturer Coachways, Rayleigh) and Ford A series NVD 429P (to Midland Red North as a trainer for the new Derby operation). Acquired are: LIB 4324, a 1982 Van Hool Acron (MAN units) C49Ft ex G&G, Wickford; LMA 59P, Leopard PSU3E/4R, Plaxton C53F ex Venturer Coachways, Rayleigh; and NCD 556M, Bristol VRTSL6LX, ECW H43/31F ex Ensign Bus Sales - originally Southdown 556 and latterly Ribble 2044. The first decker in the fleet, it is currently in base white pending an overall advert being applied and is used on the commercial 60/60A and schools contracts.

The current fleet comprises:

LIB 4324	Van Hool Acron, C49Ft - executive coach
TUB 1M, LMA 59P	Leyland PSU3E/4R, Plaxton C53F
LHT 166L	Bristol REL6L, ECW B50F
RBW 84M	Bristol RELH6L, ECW DP49F (on hire from Lynxline)
NCD 556M	Bristol VRTSL6LX, ECW H43/31F
XVA 923T	Ford A, Moseley Faro B25F
CCN 911D	Leyland PSU3/2R, Marshall B53F - spare bus, and available for sale for preservation as a good example of the standard BET group mid '60's saloon (contact the sub editor on 0702 588590 if interested). It is still tested as a PSV.

Buses 84, 166 & 923 are overall adverts with 556 to follow suit.

Bus operations consist of commercial services 22C (Rayleigh schools), 60/60A (Hullbridge/Rayleigh/Eastwood - Southchurch) and ECC contracts 6 (Southend - Eastwood, Suns), 37 (South Woodham, M-S), 636 (Chelmsford - South Woodham, Suns, until October 22) and a new contract gain from the end of October (ex Nelsons), 224 - Wickford to Chelmsford (T/F/S).

Southend Radio Cars: are understood to have regained the M-S Southend/Rochford - Wallasea/Paglesham Essex CC contract on renewal at the end of October from Macstrax, who won it from SRC a year ago. It is thought that certain journeys will be commercial rather than tendered.

S & M Coaches (Linkfast), Hadleigh: recent acquisitions are:

YTX 322H, Leopard/Plaxton C41F+tables, originally Black & White but latterly with the TGWU at Cannock; UFC 420K, a further City of Oxford Fleetline/NCME; MRR 803/11K, Reliance/Plaxton bus ex LCSW (orig. Barton) - all of these came via Spence (dlr), plus OJD 17R, Bristol LHS6L, ECW B26F, ex Mobil Oil (originally LT BS 17). Withdrawn are NLJ 829G (RELL ex ST, orig Hants & Dorset) - see disposal under ST heading, and GRY 48D (PD3 ex Leicester) - to Spence (dlr) and then Midland Red North as a driver trainer.

The current fleet comprises:

GRY 49D Leyland PD3A/MCW, ex Leicester
WJN 368J Fleetline/NCME, ex Southend
UFC 420/2/3/7K Fleetline/NCME, ex Oxford
MRR 803-6/11K Reliance/Plaxton bus, ex Barton & LC-SW
OJD 17R Bristol LHS/ECW, ex LT
and Leopard coaches YTX 322H & LUA 288V (Plaxton) and AYF 864T (Duple).
Owned but withdrawn are ST Fleetline GHJ 382L and Reliance MRR 807K.
One interesting service vehicle is a Land Rover registered XVX 26 -
previously carried by ENOC Lodekka 2401, the former Chelmsford playbus.

Supreme Coaches, Hadleigh: sold is B549 CHJ, the short Ford R1115 coach, to Harrison, Dunhampton, 5/89.

T V Taxis, Southend: further retrenchment seems to be the order of the day, with all M-Th evening and Sunday services being withdrawn from about 7/9. Also withdrawn completely at the same time are the 8S (CBS-Shoebury - only recent started, and a very spasmodic operation) and 9S (CBS-Nobles Green). One new operation is 29A, CBS-Fairfax Drive-Albany Corner, M-S hourly from 15/9. With Fairfax Drive already well served by EN 29B, ST 29 and Stephensons 60, it is unlikely that TVT will be able to establish much of a foothold. Meanwhile, the two new minibuses (see last month) have not been seen in service for well over a month (would you drive one for £1-75 an hour?) and one (F34 TJN) has been on loan, minus fleetnames, to Coachstop, Leigh, for private hire ork.

Dealers: Spence (Thorpe Bay) has continued to be active - see above for details of PPF 543R, YTX 322H, UFC 420K, MRR 803/11K, GRY 48D, NVD 429P and NLJ 829G. Other, non local, activity has seen the following pass through Spence's hands: Leopard/Plaxton coaches, ex Midland Red North - to J MacEwan, Dumfries (SND 301X), J Doherty & Son, Auchterader (SLJ 386/7X), Stuarts Bus & Coach Co, Hyde (SND 298X and Leopard/ECW YEL 95Y); plus 604 JPU (Bristol SC, originally ENOC), acquired from Vagg of Knockin Heath and sold on to Express Motors of Caernarfon, and finally, SNM 73R (YMT/Duple), acquired from Cook, Westcliff and sold to M&E, Shoebury.

AND FINALLY

. . . Southend's 13' 3" high (or should it be low?) Pier Bridge claimed its latest scalp, that of London Buses M1379 (VLT 88), at the end of August. It was towed to ST's works pending collection by LBL. It had been full of children, and the accident attracted press & TV coverage. A further disaster had only been averted earlier in August when off-duty ST driver Colin Ritchie pulled up another operator's bus about to make a kamikaze run at this ultra low bridge. Speaking as a fully qualified PSV driver, I find it utterly incomprehensible that any driver could fail to spot such an obvious obstruction. It certainly should be grounds for revocation of the driver's PSV licence and is probably a sackable offence in most companies as well!

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MONDAYS-
SATURDAYS

ZONE 4/5

Mondays to Fridays

County Park Estate (Essex Gardens)	0640	0652	0704	0716	0728	0740	0802	0815	0827	0840	0852	0904	0916	0929	0941	0953	1005
Hornchurch Station (Essex Gardens)	0647	0659	0711	0723	0735	0747	0800	0812	0825	0837	0850	0902	0914	0926	0938	0950	1002
Hornchurch Station (Harrow Lodge)	0651	0703	0715	0727	0739	0751	0804	0816	0829	0841	0854	0906	0918	0930	0942	0954	1006
Hornchurch Station (Harrow Lodge)	0655	0707	0719	0731	0743	0755	0808	0820	0833	0845	0857	0909	0921	0933	0945	0957	1009
Romford Station	0707	0719	0731	0743	0755	0807	0819	0831	0844	0856	0908	0920	0932	0944	0956	1008	1020
Romford Market	0705	0717	0729	0741	0753	0805	0817	0829	0842	0854	0906	0918	0930	0942	0954	1006	1018
County Park Estate (Essex Gardens)	1017	1029	1041	1053	1105	1117	1129	1141	1153	1205	1217	1229	1241	1253	1305	1317	1329
Hornchurch Station (Essex Gardens)	1024	1036	1048	1060	1072	1084	1096	1108	1120	1132	1144	1156	1208	1220	1232	1244	1256
Hornchurch Station (Harrow Lodge)	1028	1040	1052	1104	1116	1128	1140	1152	1204	1216	1228	1240	1252	1304	1316	1328	1340
Hornchurch Station (Harrow Lodge)	1032	1044	1056	1108	1120	1132	1144	1156	1208	1220	1232	1244	1256	1308	1320	1332	1344
Romford Station	1040	1052	1104	1116	1128	1140	1152	1204	1216	1228	1240	1252	1304	1316	1328	1340	1352
Romford Market	1041	1053	1105	1117	1129	1141	1153	1205	1217	1229	1241	1253	1305	1317	1329	1341	1353
County Park Estate (Essex Gardens)	1747	1759	1811	1823	1835	1847	1859	1911	1923	1935	1947	1959	2011	2023	2035	2047	2059
Hornchurch Station (Essex Gardens)	1754	1806	1818	1830	1842	1854	1906	1918	1930	1942	1954	2006	2018	2030	2042	2054	2106
Hornchurch Station (Harrow Lodge)	1758	1810	1822	1834	1846	1858	1910	1922	1934	1946	1958	2010	2022	2034	2046	2058	2110
Hornchurch Station (Harrow Lodge)	1752	1804	1816	1828	1840	1852	1904	1916	1928	1940	1952	2004	2016	2028	2040	2052	2104
Romford Station	1801	1813	1825	1837	1849	1901	1913	1925	1937	1949	2001	2013	2025	2037	2049	2101	2113
Romford Market	1809	1821	1833	1845	1857	1909	1921	1933	1945	1957	2009	2021	2033	2045	2057	2109	2121

Saturdays

County Park Estate (Essex Gardens)	0640	0705	0715	0725	0735	0745	0755	0805	0815	0825	0835	0845	0855	0905	0915	0925	0935
Hornchurch Station (Essex Gardens)	0646	0711	0721	0731	0741	0751	0801	0811	0821	0831	0841	0851	0901	0911	0921	0931	0941
Hornchurch Station (Harrow Lodge)	0650	0715	0725	0735	0745	0755	0805	0815	0825	0835	0845	0855	0905	0915	0925	0935	0945
Hornchurch Station (Harrow Lodge)	0654	0719	0729	0739	0749	0759	0809	0819	0829	0839	0849	0859	0909	0919	0929	0939	0949
Romford Station	0707	0732	0742	0752	0802	0812	0822	0832	0842	0852	0902	0912	0922	0932	0942	0952	1002
Romford Market	0704	0729	0739	0749	0759	0809	0819	0829	0839	0849	0859	0909	0919	0929	0939	0949	1000
County Park Estate (Essex Gardens)	1108	1120	1132	1144	1156	1208	1220	1232	1244	1256	1308	1320	1332	1344	1356	1408	1420
Hornchurch Station (Essex Gardens)	1114	1126	1138	1150	1202	1214	1226	1238	1250	1302	1314	1326	1338	1350	1402	1414	1426
Hornchurch Station (Harrow Lodge)	1118	1130	1142	1154	1206	1218	1230	1242	1254	1306	1318	1330	1342	1354	1406	1418	1430
Hornchurch Station (Harrow Lodge)	1122	1134	1146	1158	1210	1222	1234	1246	1258	1310	1322	1334	1346	1358	1410	1422	1434
Romford Station	1131	1143	1155	1207	1219	1231	1243	1255	1307	1319	1331	1343	1355	1407	1419	1431	1443
Romford Market	1127	1139	1151	1203	1215	1227	1239	1251	1303	1315	1327	1339	1351	1403	1415	1427	1439

Additional buses from Hornchurch Hacton Lane Estate

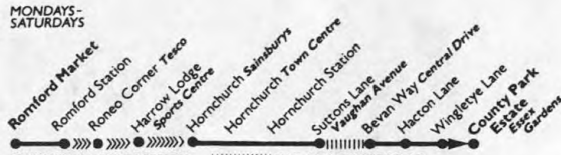
Hornchurch Hacton Lane Estate	0754	0831	0907	0953	1041	1129	1217	1305	1417	1505
Hornchurch Station	0758	0835	0911	0958	1046	1134	1222	1310	1422	1510
Hornchurch Station (Harrow Lodge)	0801	0838	0914	1001	1089	1177	1265	1353	1505	1593
Romford Station	0811	0850	0924	1010	1098	1186	1274	1362	1474	1562
Romford Market	0817	0854	0928	1014	1102	1190	1278	1366	1478	1566

Saturdays

Hornchurch Hacton Lane Estate	0756	0852	0953	1044	1132	1220	1308	1400	1500
Hornchurch Station	0800	0857	0958	1049	1137	1225	1313	1405	1513
Hornchurch Station (Harrow Lodge)	0803	0859	1000	1091	1179	1267	1355	1447	1555
Romford Station	0812	0909	1011	1103	1191	1279	1367	1459	1567
Romford Market	0815	0912	1015	1107	1195	1283	1371	1463	1571

No service on Sundays or Public Holidays

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MONDAYS-
SATURDAYS

ZONE 4/5

Mondays to Fridays

Romford Station	0711	0723	0735	0747	0759	0810	0822	0834	0846	0858	0911	0923	0935	0948	1000	1012	1024
Romford Station (Harrow Lodge)	0715	0727	0739	0751	0803	0814	0826	0838	0850	0902	0915	0927	0940	0952	1004	1016	1028
Hornchurch Station (Harrow Lodge)	0721	0733	0745	0757	0809	0821	0833	0845	0857	0909	0921	0933	0945	0957	1009	1021	1033
Hornchurch Station (Harrow Lodge)	0725	0737	0749	0761	0773	0785	0797	0809	0821	0833	0845	0857	0909	0921	0933	0945	0957
Romford Station	0737	0749	0761	0773	0785	0797	0809	0821	0833	0845	0857	0909	0921	0933	0945	0957	1009
Romford Market	0735	0747	0759	0811	0823	0835	0847	0859	0911	0923	0935	0947	0959	1011	1023	1035	1047
County Park Estate (Essex Gardens)	0747	0759	0811	0823	0835	0847	0859	0911	0923	0935	0947	0959	1011	1023	1035	1047	1059
Romford Station	1048	1060	1072	1084	1096	1108	1120	1132	1144	1156	1208	1220	1232	1244	1256	1308	1320
Romford Station (Harrow Lodge)	1052	1104	1116	1128	1140	1152	1204	1216	1228	1240	1252	1304	1316	1328	1340	1352	1404
Hornchurch Station (Harrow Lodge)	1056	1108	1120	1132	1144	1156	1208	1220	1232	1244	1256	1308	1320	1332	1344	1356	1408
Romford Station	1104	1116	1128	1140	1152	1204	1216	1228	1240	1252	1304	1316	1328	1340	1352	1404	1416
Romford Market	1106	1118	1130	1142	1154	1206	1218	1230	1242	1254	1306	1318	1330	1342	1354	1406	1418
County Park Estate (Essex Gardens)	1116	1128	1140	1152	1204	1216	1228	1240	1252	1304	1316	1328	1340	1352	1404	1416	1428
Romford Station	1713	1725	1737	1749	1761	1773	1785	1797	1809	1821	1833	1845	1857	1909	1921	1933	1945
Romford Station (Harrow Lodge)	1717	1729	1741	1753	1805	1817	1829	1841	1853	1905	1917	1929	1941	1953	2005	2017	2029
Hornchurch Station (Harrow Lodge)	1721	1733	1745	1757	1809	1821	1833	1845	1857	1909	1921	1933	1945	1957	2009	2021	2033
Hornchurch Station (Harrow Lodge)	1725	1737	1749	1761	1773	1785	1797	1809	1821	1833	1845	1857	1909	1921	1933	1945	1957
Romford Station	1737	1749	1761	1773	1785	1797	1809	1821	1833	1845	1857	1909	1921	1933	1945	1957	2009
Romford Market	1735	1747	1759	1811	1823	1835	1847	1859	1911	1923	1935	1947	1959	2011	2023	2035	2047
County Park Estate (Essex Gardens)	1805	1817	1829	1841	1853	1905	1917	1929	1941	1953	2005	2017	2029	2041	2053	2105	2117

Additional bus, Schoolbuses, Romford Roneo Corner (depart 0818) non-stop to Hornchurch (Limpington Road) station (arriving at 0826)

Saturdays

Romford Station	0710	0723	0735	0747	0759	0810	0822	0834	0846	0858	0900	0912	0924	0936	1000	1012	1024
Romford Station (Harrow Lodge)	0714	0726	0738	0750	0802	0814	0826	0838	0850	0902	0915	0927	0940	0952	1004	1016	1028
Hornchurch Station (Harrow Lodge)	0720	0732	0744	0756	0808	0820	0832	0844	0856	0908	0920	0932	0944	0956	1008	1020	1032
Hornchurch Station (Harrow Lodge)	0724	0736	0748	0760	0772	0784	0796	0808	0820	0832	0844	0856	0908	0920	0932	0944	0956
Romford Station	0736	0748	0760	0772	0784	0796	0808	0820	0832	0844	0856	0908	0920	0932	0944	0956	1008
Romford Market	0734	0746	0758	0810	0822	0834	0846	0858	0910	0922	0934	0946	0958	1010	1022	1034	1046
County Park Estate (Essex Gardens)	0746	0758	0810	0822	0834	0846	0858	0910	0922	0934	0946	0958	1010	1022	1034	1046	1058
Romford Station	1048	1060	1072	1084	1096	1108	1120	1132	1144	1156	1208	1220	1232	1244	1256	1308	1320
Romford Station (Harrow Lodge)	1052	1104	1116	1128	1140	1152	1204	1216	1228	1240	1252	1304	1316	1328	1340	1352	1404
Hornchurch Station (Harrow Lodge)	1056	1108	1120	1132	1144	1156	1208	1220	1232	1244	1256	1308	1320	1332	1344	1356	1408
Romford Station	1104	1116	1128	1140	1152	1204	1216	1228	1240	1252	1304	1316	1328	1340	1352	1404	1416
Romford Market	1102	1114	1126	1138	1150	1202	1214	1226	1238	1250	1302	1314	1326	1338	1350	1402	1414
County Park Estate (Essex Gardens)	1114	1126	1138	1150	1202	1214	1226	1238	1250	1302	1314	1326	1338	1350	1402	1414	1426



A picture bonus this month takes the form of the first Olympian for Chambers. It is seen here at Colchester prior to working to Bury St Edmunds on 24.8.89.

(D Arnold)

ROCHFORD MEETING

The next meeting at Freight House takes place on October 10th and takes the form of a Transport Video Evening. Members are invited to bring along VHS videos to this event. The meeting commences at 1945 and the Freight House is situated adjacent to Rochford Station.

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE OCTOBER MAGAZINE TO BE WITH THE NEWS SHEET EDITORS BY SEPTEMBER 29th.

Contributions to this months magazine were received from J Cooper, R Dennis, J Lidstone, I Mayoh, A Rook, J Simpkin, P Snell, F Spence, G Toon, L Watson, Eastern National, Grey Green Enthusiasts Club, PSV Circle, Southend Transport and member 549.

Q. What goes to Southend Pier but never leaves ?

A. A bus with an upper deck.