

ESSEX BUS NEWS

JUNE 1996

The monthly magazine of the ESSEX BUS ENTHUSIASTS GROUP

(Formerly the Eastern National Enthusiasts Group)

386



NELSONS OF WICKFORD HAVE ACQUIRED THIS NEOPLAN SALOON TO REPLACE BRISTOL RFs ON NIBS ROUTE 21. F616CWJ IS SEEN HERE AT THE NORTH BENFLEET TERMINUS.

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Please send your news reports to:

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Thamesway:

Essex Buses & S Essex small ops:
County Bus:

North Essex major ops:
North Essex small ops:

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY.

JUNE 30th:North Weald Rally.

JULY 20th:Group Trip to Cambridgeshire,book now only a few seats left.

OCTOBER 12th:Group trip to Meadowhall Sheffield, a mecca for the bus enthusiasts sample the Sheffield tram system,bring your wife,girlfriend, in fact bring the family,let them visit the shops,have a good day out. More details later. Fare £13.

THAMESWAY fleetname.

With the appearance of the latest Thamesway fleetname incorporating the First Bus logo,this will be the fourth style to appear on the fleet.... not bad in six years.

"TOWN HOPPER"

A new free serviceoperated by Thamesway on behalf of Southend Council was launched on June 10th. The service will operate on a circuit between Marine Parade, Seaway Car Park,Central Bus Station and Clifftown Road. Operating monday to friday during June,July and August from 10am to 4pm. (Evening Echo)

Contributions for this EBN received from.

Essex Buses Ltd. Eastern National & Thamesway. Southend Transport,County Bus.

G Toon. C Sigston Essea C.C.B White.

PHOTOGRAPH COMPETITION

I hope you are getting those shutters going,

Contributions for the July EBN Should be with the sub Editors by 4th July and the Managing Editor by10th July.

REPAIRS

5/96 2625 2626

PUBLICITY

Timetable books for North Essex dated 26.5.96. and Mid Essex and Herts. District dated 2.6.96. both priced 25p.

Timetable leaflets for services 66/A/B/68 dated 10.3.96, 64; 70/A; 77/78/78A; 82/82A/83; 87/A; 88/A/C dated 11.3.96; 34 dated 15.4.96, 35 dated 28.4.96, 23, 38/39 dated 29.4.96, 75/A/119/129 undated.

Revised Going Somewhere? Go By Bus booklet undated.

Leaflet for Fly the bus to Stansted, giving brief details for services 33/X. Includes a couple of photographs of 1003, but the seats are missing!

SERVICES

3 Revised timetable introduced (Bradwell to Maldon service) from 3.6.96.

31 Revised timetable introduced from 3.6.96.

73 Revised timetable introduced from 3.6.96.

99 Clacton, Jackson Road to Highfield Holiday Park. Monday to Saturday from 28.7.96.

108 This service, together with the 109 and 126 variations will have a revised summer service introduced between 28.7.96 and 7.9.96.

Further to EBN 384, the tender for operation of Chelmsford Town services on Monday to Saturday evenings was won by Eastern National.

Following spending cuts by Suffolk County Council, a number of changes were made to evening services in Ipswich. The information I have, but not yet confirmed is that EN no longer provide any services in the area.

Eastern National. (Subsequent Movements).

<u>Fleet No.</u>	<u>Registration No.</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Date</u>
0753	D753 RWC	To Cleverly, New Inn ex Anslow, Pontypool.	02/96
1058	TJN 981W	To Awaydays, Ipswich ex Wright, Ipswich.	12/95
1123	A692 OHJ	To deCourcey, Coventry from Western National.	07/95
1714	WNO 563L	Scrapped on site by Williams, Crosskeys.	03/96
1812	VNO 735S	To Mainline ex Sheffield United.	11/94
1925	MHJ 721V	To Williams, Crosskeys.	08/95
1926	MHJ 722V	To Stevensons as Fleet No.268, ex Frontline.	02/96
1929	MHJ 723V	To Stevensons as Fleet No.269, ex Frontline.	02/96
1930	MHJ 726V	Withdrawn by Quickstep Travel Limited, (their Fleet No.1368).	02/96
1931	MHJ 727V	To Stevensons as Fleet No.270, ex Frontline.	02/96
1933	MHJ 729V	To Williams, Crosskeys.	11/95
1937	STW 18W	To Stevensons as Fleet No.271, ex Frontline.	02/96
1939	STW 20W	To Stevensons as Fleet No.272, ex Fontline.	02/96

PAUL SPARKS CLACTON COLUMN

Mercedes 709D, Registration No. L655 MEV, Fleet No. 2655 is now in all over advertisement livery for Westwood & Clark the Ford Dealers in Clacton. It also has the FirstBus logo on the bonnet. This vehicle had, of course, previously worn the all over advertisement livery for Carlton of Clacton, the Vauxhall Dealer.

Walton depot officially closed on 25th May 1996. All vehicles stationed there were transferred to Clacton depot.

Currently in the paint shop at Clacton is Bristol VR, Fleet No.3222, Registration No. BEP 963V. This vehicle is also being re-floored.

In the workshop at Clacton is Bristol VR Fleet No.3071, Registration No. KOO 789V currently undergoing its MOT. Sister VR Fleet No. 3076, Registration No. KOO 794V has been sent away to be completely reburnished.

Currently in the yard at Clacton is ex Thamesway Bristol VR Fleet No.3101, Registration No. UAR 591W. I believe this VR was being used by Thamesway as a driver training vehicle and had a Fleet No. of 9401. I understand it is to be utilized by Eastern National after having been repainted, re-floored and work carried out on its chassis.

The two Thamesway Leyland Nationals at Clacton, WJN 559S, Fleet No. 1839 and BNO 684T, Fleet No. 1894 are gradually being dismantled for spares and are now looking extremely close to total extinction!

Thamesway



Allocations - 26 May 1996

208 BD-D/L(D), 228 BD-D/L(D), 232 BD-D/L(D), 242 BN-D/L(D), 339 HH-BN,
340 HH-BN, 341 HH-BN, 342 HH-BN, 343 HH-BN, 344 HH-BN, 345 HH-BN,
346 HH-BN, 347 HH-BN, 349 HH-BN, 349 HH-BN, 350 HH-BN, 351 HH-BN,
352 HH-BN, 973 NEW-PD, 974 NEW-PD, 975 NEW-PD, 976 NEW-PD, 976
NEW-PD, 977 NEW-PD, 978 NEW-PD, 979 NEE-PD, 980 NEW-PD, 981 NEW-PD,
982 NEW-PD, 983 NEW-PD, 984 NEW-PD, 985 NEW-PD, 986 NEW-PD,
987 NEW-PD.

Trainer 9401 has been deleted from the allocation list.

Repaints

1409 is in the new livery.

939 is in Colour Bus livery for the Army Careers service (expires 4.97) and has been used by the Army in Southend for such purposes.

Model

EFE have produced a second model in Thamesway livery. Plaxton Pointer bodied Dennis Dart 934 (M934 TEV) is modelled (EFE models now have registration numbers. 934 is of course the 2000th Dennis Dart and 1000th Plaxton Pointer body. Blinds for route 151 are carried. Over the years, the EFE product has gradually improved and this latest product is no exception. A minor criticism is that the model has the badger logo and the First Bus logo (which is too big), buses only carried both for a short while. Model manufacturers tend to model older vehicles - it is pleasing to see EFE buck the trend by creating a most worthwhile product.

Services

The proposed Southend area alterations took place on 18th May and the following information is taken from the new timetables. My apologies for any duplication.

- 3 Operates to/from Canvey Leigh Beck Mon-Sat daytime and daily evenings
Certain evening journeys terminate at Canvey Haystack.
- 3B Operates Mon-Sat peak hours and Sunday daytime and operates via New Thundersley. Most journeys operate to/from Canvey Leigh Beck with some journeys to/from Newlands or Eastern Esplanade. Certain journeys extended from Southend to Bournes Green with most Sunday journeys terminating at Canvey Haystack.
- 3C Operates to/from Canvey Newlands via Essex Way all day. No service evenings or Sunday.
- 16 Terminus in Rayleigh is the Railway Station. One Mon-Fri peak hour journey extended to/from Canvey Eastern Esplanade via Kents Hill Road. Operates Mon-Sat only.
- 20/A Certain journeys extended from Southend to Eastern Esplanade House Mon-Fri peaks. Sunday daytime timetable extended to half hourly.
- 20C Southend-Lower Hockley Dome operates Mon-Fri peaks with one Saturday journey and some short workings between the Dome and Rayleigh Station.
- 21 Operates via Prittlewell Chase, Leigh Elms and Church, Hadleigh Road. New Thundersley, Benfleet, and Winter Gardens to Canvey Leigh Beck. Half hourly service Mon-Sat daytime.
- 21A As 21 but serves Leigh Station instead of Hadleigh Road Mon-Fri peaks.
- 21B As 21 but via London Road instead of New Thundersley and terminates at Canvey Newlands. Operates Mon-Sat evenings and Sunday Certain evening journeys extended to/from Westcliff Cliffs Pavillion.
- 21C Bournes Green-Temple Sutton-Prittlewell-Carlton Avenue then via 21 to Canvey Leigh Beck. Operates Mon-Fri peaks only.
- 21D One journey operates from Canvey Leigh Beck to Thames Drive as 21A to Leigh Station to Bournes Green as 21C.
- 24 From Rawreth via Rayleigh, Daws Heath, Hadleigh, Thames Drive, Leigh Station and Church, Chalkwell, Westcliff, Southend, Central Avenue, Archer Avenue to Southchurch Newington Avenue Mon-Fri.
- 24A As 24 serving Woodlands Park instead of Hadleigh Mon-Sat.
- 24B Hadleigh Garage, Woodlands Park, Thames Drive, Marine Parade, Leigh Church, Grand Parade then as 24 to Southchurch Mon-Sat.
- 24C Rawreth, Rayleigh, Daws Heath, Woodlands Park then as 24 to Southchurch Mon-Fri peaks and all day Saturday.
- 26 Rayleigh Station, Thundersley, Kents Hill Road, Benfleet, Canvey Village, Syderveldt Road to Canvey Eastern Esplanade Mon-Sat.
- 27 To operate to/from Canvey Eastern Esplanade Mon-Sat daytime.
- 27A Operates to/from Canvey Leigh Beck Mon-Sat evenings and Sunday.
- 29B Southend-White Horse, Hamstel Road-Southchurch Newington Avenue Mon-Sat.
- 63 Extended to/from Temple Sutton Garon Park (Southend Tennis and Leisure Centre) Mon-Sat. Sunday Service stays with Southend Transport.

LTB Contracts

W12 Mon-Sat evening and Sunday service to be introduced from 22nd June.
391 Saturday service resumed on 4th May while Sunday service resumes on 16th June. The withdrawal of weekend service was due to engineering work on the railway. The continued operation of this service depends on funding from Prism - owners of LTS Rail.

Publicity

The following were issued on 18th May.
Leaflets for 2, 3/3B, 3C/28, 15/16/26, 20/20A/20C, 21/21A/21B/21Dc/21D, 24/24A/24B/24C, 27/27A, 29B/63, 250. Canvey-South Benfleet Summary and Thundersley/Benfleet-Benfleet Station summary. Map and service Guide listing all Southend Transport and Thamesway services in Southend and published by both operators..

Ticketing

Three new tickets are now available.
the Hopper Plus ticket covers s4 service in Southend, Rochford and Castle Point and services 2,15, 151,250 and City Saver services to/from Basildon.
£11 week or £38 month.

Concessionary pass holders now qualify for a discount on Thamesway's Rover tickets.

Thamesway, (Disposals, Initial)

<u>Fleet No.</u>	<u>Registration No.</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Date</u>
0021	E962 SVP	To Ramm, Sudden.	02/96
0022	E509 TOV	To Ramm, Sudden.	02/96
0023	E105 SOG	To Ramm, Sudden.	02/96
0024	F892 XOE	To Ramm, Sudden.	02/96
0026	F995 XOY	To Ramm, Sudden.	02/96
0027	F996 XOY	To Ramm, Sudden.	02/96
0028	G148 GOL	To Lutonian, Luton.	01/96
0030	D873 LWR	To Ramm, Sudden.	02/96
0032	E905 EPD	To Ramm, Sudden.	02/96
0202	C696 ECV	To Morgan, Nantyglo.	12/95
0207	C699 ECV	To Morgan, Nantyglo.	12/95
0511	ATH 110T	(previously 278 TNY, ATH 58T, 999 BCY, AEP 253T, originally AFH 192T).	
		To O'Brien, Canvey.	02/96
0521	F613 XWY	To Eastern Counties as their Fleet No.26.	01/96
0522	F614 XWY	To Eastern Counties as their Fleet No.27.	01/96
0705	C483 BFB	To Morgan, Nantyglo.	12/95
1869	YEV 327S	To Hardwick, Carlton.	02/96
1876	BNO 666T	To Hardwick, Carlton.	02/96
1891	BNO 681T	To Hardwick, Carlton.	02/96
1903	DAR 125T	To Hardwick, Carlton.	02/96
1906	DAR 128T	To Hardwick, Carlton.	02/96
1919	JHJ 145V	To Hardwick, Carlton.	02/96
4000	XHK 235X	To Eastern Counties.	03/96

Thamesway,
(Subsequent Movements).

<u>Fleet No.</u>	<u>Registration No.</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Date</u>
0028	G148 GOL	From Strathclyde Buses Ltd., their Fleet No.M311; withdrawn by Thamesway 11/95;	
		Lutonian Luton.	01/96
0032	E905 EPD	To Hawksworth & Squires, Upton.	03/96
0202	C695 ECV	To Morgan, Nantyglo from Western National, their Fleet No.80.	12/95
0207	C699 ECV	To Morgan, Nantyglo from Western National, their Fleet No.84.	12/95
0512	B336 BGL	To Wilkinson, Basildon from Godward, South Woodham, (ex Thamesway & Western National, 02/96).	03/96
0513	B337 BGL	To Godward, South Woodham from Western National.	02/96
0719	C457 BHY	Burnt out at Heaton, Leigh.	03/96
0720	C451 BHY	To Fox, Blackwood from Morgan, Nantyglo ex Thamesway 12/95.	02/96
1721	NEV 678M	To Kettlewell, Retford from Constable, Long Melford.	09/95
1838	WJN 558S	Withdrawn & sold by Sovereign Bus & Coach Company Limited.	02/96
1898	DAR 120T	To Trent Motor Traction Company Ltd. as their Fleet No.568.	03/96
1906	DAR 128T	To Powell, Wickersly.	03/96
1913	JHJ 139V	To Trent Motor Traction Company Ltd. as their Fleet No.569.	03/96
1920	JHJ 146V	To Trent Motor Traction Company Ltd. as their Fleet No.570.	03/96
2202	FDZ 984 (originally OHM 831Y)	To Godward, South Woodham from Western National.	02/96
4504	A13 ALS (originally B692 BPU)	Withdrawn by Cullinan, Birkenhead following fire damage.	03/96
4506	B694 BPU	From Liverbus Ltd. to Merseyside as their Fleet No.0194.	12/95

HEDINGHAM

VEHICLES

The following have been acquired:-

L242	J734 CWT	Volvo B10M	Plaxton	C50F
L243	M262 KWK	Volvo B6	Alexander	B40F
L244	M988 NAA	Volvo B10M	Plaxton	C53F (new as A14 XEL)
L???	SGR 780V	Bristol VR	ECW	H43/31F
L???	APT 813W	Bristol VR	ECW	H43/31F

EX6566

In addition former Great Yarmouth PD2/Leyland[↑] is now PSV certified, after being owned for 10 years. Now there's a Group tour for next year!

FLEET ALLOCATION

Clacton	116/49/65/9/70/5 201/2/5/9/16/31/2/4
Hedingham	84/7/9/95/8 103/35-7/51/60/7/96 200/6/10
Kelvedon	114/25/39-41/6/7/56/8/9/61/2/8/78/94/8 207/8/11/2
Little Tey	94/6 100/11/2/22/4/38/52/3/93/5 222/33
Sudbury	88 113/5/33/48/50/63/83-90/99 204/20/1/4/5/9/30/7/9/40
Walton	81/5/6 105/21/6/64/6/97 203/14/5/26/35/6/41

In addition to the above depot's, vehicles are outstationed at Burnham and Harwich.

OTHER OPERATORS - REST OF ESSEX

AIRPORT COACHES STANSTED Have sold Neoplan UCY 629 and Tiger/Berkhof BAZ 8296

APT RAYLEIGH DAF/Plaxton double deck coach A10 APT, was burnt out in Germany during February. It has been replaced by Neoplan Skyliner G300 XAC. Further to EBN 384 UJY 85 has not been sold.

AVRO CORRINGHAM Have acquired WGE 37S a Bedford YMT/Plaxton.

BOON BOREHAM Setra H435 GVL has been seen here, thought to be a dealer loan

BORDABUS WICKFORD Recent addition B577 DRS suffered accident damage, when the handbrake was released by vandals.

BRANDON BLACKMORE END A recent addition is Bova Futura HIL 2921, a registration previously carried by a similar vehicle.

BROMLEY PRIVATE HIRE GT BROMLEY A recent addition is Ford Transit E64 HVX

BUZZ HARLOW Further to EBN 383, AUF 47K is a Leyland Leopard. Leyland Leopard KBH 861V is confirmed as acquired from Biss. A further new Mercedes/Plaxton is N907 GHJ.

CATTON HARLOW Have sold Ford Transit F639 DKA.

CEDRIC WIVENHOE Mercedes/Optare minibus F313 TLU has been sold.

CHELMSFORD CAB Have acquired two further Omni's, they are H210 BKM and H228 BKM

COOK SOUTHEND Bova/Duple A806 JAY has been re-registered YNJ 214.

ESSEX THAMESIDE CANVEY Have sold Ford Transit D419 VHJ.

FUNSTON CHRISHALL Have moved their office and depot to Royston, although a few vehicles are still kept at Chrishall.

GREY GREEN Revised routes in London for all Essex commuter services, were introduced from 3.6.96

HALLS ELSENHAM Have sold DAF/Jonckhree WRK 20X to Caster's Coaches, Abridge.

HARRIS BUS Ford Transit F849 LHS is out of use.

HERON PARK SOUTHEND This operator, who had two Bedford minis and a Transit has now ceased operating.

JACKSON BICKNACRE Mercedes minibus F76 NLH has been sold. Dennis/Plaxton F78 VVK has been re-registered MJJ 2550.

KNIGHTS GT BRAXTED Have acquired Bristol LHS/Plaxton GFM 663X ex Viceroy, Saffron Walden

LANE SHOEBOURNNESS Is a new operator, with the usual Ford Transit G583 UYL.

LODGE HIGH EASTER Have sold Van Hool T815 FSU 637. A Scania/Van Hool 160 EBK has been seen, which is assumed to be E663 YDT re-registered.

NELSON WICKFORD Have acquired Neoplan buses E101 VWA and F616 CWJ ex Sheffield Mainline. It is thought that the last RE has operated in service here.

RELIAANCE BENFLEET Have acquired a further Dennis Javelin/Plaxton K262 FUV.

SIMIEN RAYLEIGH Have re-introduced their service between Canvey Island and Benfleet from 19.4.96. A Bova Europa OJi 2830 (new as PNT 605X) has been acquired.

SM TRAVEL HARLOW Have sold Transit D343 WPE and Bristol VR RDC 102R.

STANS GT TOTHAM Further to EBN383, Bedford YMT OIA 419 has not been sold.

STEPHENSONS Slight revisions to service 3B and 222 were introduced from 22.5.96. The Southend open top service was re-introduced from 1.6.96. it operates at weekends only until 14.7.96 and from 14.9.96. to 22.9.96 and daily 20.7.96 to 13.9.96. between Central Bus Station and Leigh Rectory Grove.

SUPREME SOUTHEND New vehicles are N851/3/4 DKU all are Scania/Irizar.

TIGERWAYS HARLOW A recent addition is FUJ 904V a Bedford YMT/Duple. Bedford YMT/Plaxton DRT 681T has been sold.

WEBSTER BASILDON DAF/Plaxton B884 AJX has been acquired.

WHM CHELMSFORD Dennis/Park Royal CFN 121 has been sold for continued preservation. To clarify details on the acquired Olympians, they are currently registered LIL 7230 (new as B688 BPU) and 823 NMC.

Southend Transport

Vehicles:

Acquired... ON 903/904 (F573/574 SMG)

Leyland Olympian ONLXB/1R2 Alexander RL H47/32F

Both arrived at London Road Depot on 11/6/96. In L & C livery.

LN 745 (PJI 3745) has gone to Kent Coachworks, for front end accident damage repairs.

Withdrawn...

VR 302 (YUM 515S) 303 (YUM 516S) 382 (GTX 751W)

VR 401 (LHG 440T) 402 (LHG 441T) 403 (LHG 447T)

LN 709 (JBO 345N) 725 (GGE 172T)

(NOTE: VR 401 & 402 maybe reinstated as required, to cover bus shortage).

Services:

Route 9 operates via Burges Road, not via the seafront between Thorpe Bay Corner & Maplin Way.

Publicity:

New timetable leaflets for all new & revised services. (Red, white & blue glossy style)

New joint route map. (Colour coded for S.T and Thamesway services).

New Olympians:

Chassis & Body No.s

705	YV3YNF218TC026508	5266	707	YV3YNF219TC026512	5268
706	YV3YNF218TC026511	5267	709	YV3YNF219TC026520	5270

The cuts to the Suffolk County Council budget has resulted in a much reduced Sunday service. Bad news for passengers but good news for the enthusiast as with some interesting interworking of routes being introduced a new operator can be seen in the county with Waylands running into Colchester at 1251 on service 166 from Lowestoft. The vehicle leaves at 1352 on service 757 to Lavenham arriving back in Colchester at 1607 to work the 1706 service 166 to Lowestoft.

Eastern National:

86A 1415 Ipswich to Stowupland with loop to Cotton when music museum is open.

1516 Stowupland to Ipswich.

97/8 Three return journeys Shotley - Ipswich, with first and last from/to Manningtree.

118 Three return journeys Ipswich Wivesham

156 1005 Ipswich to Lavenham continues as 757 to Colchester

1905 Lavenham - Ipswich from Colchester at 1752 as 757

166/7 Three return trips Colchester - Lowestoft. "First and last bus" Melton - Ipswich

757 As 156 plus

1212 Colchester - Ickworth House via Bury St Edmunds, return at 1607

Hedingham

649 0903 Haverhill - Southwold - Lowestoft return at 1715

1305 Lowestoft - Southwold 1630 Southwold - Lowestoft

On weekday evenings Eastern National have two vehicles out.

1745 (NS) Colchester to Stoke by Nayland is extended to Hadleigh as a 84B.

Hadleigh dep 1853 (90) Ipswich arr 1917 dep 1942 (93) Colchester arr 2040 dep 2045

Ipswich arr 2140 dep 2210 (97A) Shotley arr 2258 dep (97A) Ipswich arr 2329.

The vehicle then leave as a 75B for Felixstowe and after a on a late night circular tour of the town arrives at Trimley St Martin 0019

Sudbury dep 1940 (90) Ipswich arr 2035 dep 2115 (90) circuit Sudbury/Melford/Waldringfield - Ipswich arr 2317 dep 2320 (90A) - Gt Wenham - double run East Bergholt - Hadleigh - Sudbury arr 0050

EASTERN NATIONAL
HIGHWAYMAN
The best way to travel cross country.



County Bus

FLEET

Correction to EBN 385

The two Cowie Leaside Metrobuses on hire at Grays were M790 (KYV 790X) and M996 (A996 SYF). As of 20th May they had been replaced by 3 other Cowie Leaside Metrobuses. See below for more details.

Vehicles on Hire

M790 and M996 have gone back to Cowie Leaside and have been replaced by M170 (BYX 170V), M474 (GYE 474W) and M782 (KYV 782X). M509 and M746 remain at Ware on hire from Cowie Leaside.

Allocation Changes to 20 May 1996

AN 194	XPG 194T	Grays to Delicensed at Stamford Hill
AN 199	XPG 119T	Grays to Delicensed at Stamford Hill
TDL 54	C254 SPC	Ware to Harlow
LD 554	FYX 814W	Ware to Delicensed at Ware

Delicensed Vehicles

The following vehicles are currently delicensed:

SN 312	(UPB 312S) at Ware
LD 554	(FYX 814W) at Ware
AN 194	(XPG 194T) at Stamford Hill (Cowie Leaside)
LP 556	(WJM 816T) at Stamford Hill (Cowie Leaside)

Cannibalised Vehicles

The following vehicle is currently undergoing cannibalisation:

AN 199 (XPG 199T) at Grays.

EASTERN NATIONAL ENTHUSIASTS GUILD

THE ORIGINAL EASTERN NATIONAL

Leyland TD1 3015 UR6225 why was it different.

The only conclusion we have is that it was first allocated to a Hertfordshire garage Hitchin or Bishops Stortford who registered on delivery.

THE BRISTOL K5G ECW prewar.

Between 1937 and 1941, Eastern National purchased a total of fifty eight Bristol K5Gs fitted with standard Eastern Coachworks lowbridge bodies,

3728-3743 FPU508-523

3744-3755 GNO688-699

3807-3814 GTW888-895

3820-3844 JEV411-435

On the transfer of the Midland area to the United Counties Omnibus Company in 1952 only nine remained with Eastern National.

3739-3742 FPU519-522, 3747/3751 GNO691/695. 3812 GTW893.

The remaining two 3732/4 FPU 512/4 were at the Eastern Coach Works receiving new bodies and subsequently were never delivered back to Midland area, being replaced by bristol K5G 3733 FPU513 and Bristol L5G GPU416.

3739-3742 FPU519-522 were delivered new to the Eastern area and it is thought that the balance were all sent to the Midland area from new, although 3747 GNO691 and 3812 GTW 893 were Eastern area residents in 1949 followed later by 3751 GNO695.

MORE ABOUT THE K5Gs LATER.

BILL WHITE WRITES

My interest began whilst at Primary School in the last year or two of the war.

Living close to Southend Road/Bradwell Road which most local routes used, as well as busses from Southend, Chelmsford and beyond, could easily be spotted. The 10 (40) Chelmsford - Tilbury Ferry was seen later when it passed the Senior School (where I attended from 1944).

My first job from 1949 found me working not far from the EN Depot in Argent Street. In those days the outward journeys of the 51/53/40 travelled via the lower part of Bridge Road into Argent Street, where there was a bus stop outside the garage.

The route was then via what was then referred to as the Old High Street, a stop near the Parish Church, then along the High Street, over the railway crossing to the Memorial. So in those days I could see buses at times on all routes including the 31 to Tilbury via Little Thurrock which also touched on a part of Bridge Road.

When LT took over in 1951, the outward route for the 51/53/40 changed to the inward route via Clarence Road. Double deckers were used on the 37a/31 routes to Tilbury, the 35 to Shell Haven. Bata Works Services and School Contracts. Normally Grays vehicles were only used on local routes except in emergencies. However, in the summer local vehicles were used on the Holiday Express routes to the Clacton area and Lowestoft/Yarmouth.