



The first Southend Transport bus into the new corporate Arriva livery was 281, seen here on layover at the Shoebury Asda terminus of the 2A on January 21st. The company name remains "Southend Transport Ltd" but the new fleetname reads "ARRIVA serving Southend" (and Castle Point, Rochford and Basildon districts!). With the large influx of new buses over the past year or so, it is ironic that the oldest (and least impressive) buses in the ST fleet will be the first into the new livery!

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ESSEX BUS NEWS 406

EDITORIAL

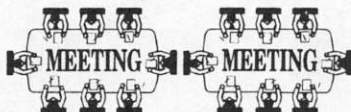
406 FOCUS OF THE MONTH

MJ 406 was Eastern National 3332, one of four AEC Renown six wheelers fitted with Short 66 seat bodies, mainly based at Chelmsford they were regulars on the Maldon service, delivered in 1932, 3334 was scrapped in 1949.

Arriva Southend, the new livery is causing quite a stir in the local press, keep the old livery is the call by Southenders.

IN THIS ISSUE

Another interesting article by Ian Taylor. Eastern National receive first Volvo Northern Counties from Calderline.



FREIGHT HOUSE 8pm

March 10th Group AGM followed by slide show by Alan Osborne entitled Islands 97 including Channel Islands, Eire Isle of Man, and in 98 Cyprus.

April 14th Members slide evening

May date and venue to be announced.

June date to be announced. Visit to Harrisbus at West Thurrock and Belvedere

Thanks to Bernie Waters, General Manager of Harrisbus for his very interesting and informative talk at Rochford on Tuesday 10th February.

LATE NEWS

New Darts arrive for Essex Buses in First Group livery, registered K DJN

Service revisions in Chelmsford and Braintree due in March, more next month.

WANTED

Details of PSV and Airside buses etc. operating at Stansted Airport. details to P Snell

WANTED

Eastern National/Thamesway/Essex C C timetable booklets, leaflets, handbills etc issued 1989 to present date. Also timetables for independent operators, any date/area. Contact Ian Taylor, 39 Hollingdean Road, Brighton BN2 4AA.

TOURS

The tour that was being planned for March 21st has been cancelled. This was to be on Eastern Nationals last Leyland National, but they have been reprieved.

Saturday 13th June Suffolk and Norfolk, more details later.

NEW PUBLICATION

THE E N O C LANCET. The story of EN Dennis Lancets. illustrated £1-50 inc P&P from Peter Snell

Contributions received with thanks from Essex Buses [Eastern National and Thamesway] Harrisbus, Southend Transport. County Bus and Coach. PSV Circle. First Bus Enthusiasts Group. C Sigston. I Taylor. R Dennis. G Toon.

Contributions for EBN 407 should be with Sub Editors by March 4th and Man. Editor 13th.

FIRST GROUP NEWS

The bid for Bristol Airport is reported to have been succesful, although no details were to hand at the time of going to press.

A survey dated August 1997, shows First Bus (as it was then named) to have the highest turnover of bus operators in the UK at 21.60%, Stagecoach 16%, Cowie (now Arriva) 14.8%, Go Ahead 6.4%, National Express 5.9% and MTL 3.3% made up the other large operators.

FirstGroup have announced that subject to certain assurances, they would be prepared to invest in major infrastructure improvements.

Eastern National

VEHICLES ON ORDER

Five Dennis Dart SLF/Plaxton are due to enter service in early March.

ACQUIRED VEHICLES

4304 L304 PWR Volvo Olympian YN2RV18Z4 N. Counties H47/29F

Ex Calderline, Halifax (5304), 1/98.

In addition 386, 387 and 1896 have been transferred in from Thamesway.

ALLOCATIONS

1/98 386/7 Tway-BE; 1851 CF-D/D(D); 1896 Tway-CF; 1899 CR-CF;
2661/2 BE-Tway; 4304 Acqd-CR.

Leyland Tiger/Alexander 1112 spent a short time in use at Chelmsford during January, prior to the arrival of 1899. It has now returned to Thamesways disposal pool.

Mercedes 424 has now returned to the UK and was seen heading West on the A14, near Rugby by your sub editor in late January. As a result 2669 continues to be on loan at Chelmsford, with Mercedes M382 KVR still on loan at Harwich.

UNUSUAL WORKINGS

26.11.97 CF 1833 on service 33 (normally Tiger/Lynx)
27.12.97 CF 1128 on service 33 (a Paramount 3500)
2.2.98. CN 2650 on service 75 (normally Dart)

PUBLICITY

Revised ChelmerCard leaflet dated 15.9.97.

Chelmsford Fastcard leaflet dated 14.9.97.

Bishops Stortford Rail and Bus Link dated 2.6.97.

Clacton on Sea Area Bus Map dated Summer 1997.

Chelmsford Area Map dated Autumn 1997.

Timetable leaflets for services 21/A dated 3.11.97; 41/51 dated 3.11.97; 45A (Sundays) dated 30.3.97; 47 dated 1.6.97; 58/A dated 3.11.97; 59 dated 3.11.97; 301 dated 3.11.97; 308/9 dated 1.4.97; 333/9 dated 3.11.97; 350/1/2 dated 4.8.97; Summary of services between Chelmsford and witham dated 1.4.97.

A number of the above items are old, but have not been previously covered. If anyone in the could provide items from outside the Chelmsford area on a regular basis, it would be appreciated.

REPAINTS

1/98 386 387 1413 1416 1426 4012

INITIAL DISPOSALS

2243 (C697 ECV) Stephensons, Rochford, (dealer), 1/98.

In addition 2661/2 have been transferred to Thamesway.

HARRIS BUS

NEW VEHICLES

R375-80 DJM Optare Excel	VN 9195-VN 9200	Optare	B35F	1/98
R360 DJN	Volvo Olympian	E Lancs.	H51/28D	1/98

The Excels are for service 132.

The Olympian is the first of the batch for service 180.

HEDINGHAM

ALLOCATIONS

10/97 140 BM; 169 HR; 226/43/51 TY; 276 KN

11/97 105/12 HR; 169/277 CN; 276 TY

HR is a new outstation at Harwich, does anyone know it's location?

GENERAL

Bristol VR L260 (BHU 368S) is now in Hedingham liver, ex Kill Your Speed livery.

INITIAL DISPOSAL

175 (A331 VHB) Grahams, Kelvedon, 11/97.

OTHER OPERATORS - REST OF ESSEX

ABA DOVERCOURT Freight Rover/Dormobile D741 PTU has been acquired.

AMBER BASILDON Have moved to a depot on Rawreth Industrial estate. It is reported that the business of Wilkinson, Ramsden Heath has been bought.

APT RAYLEIGH DAF/Van Hool 827 APT has been sold to Stott, Huddersfield and in exchange has come B592 XWW a Tiger/Plaxton. The registration 827 APT is to return here. Bedford YMT/Duple TGS 924W has also been acquired. VW Transporter K2 APT has been re-registered and sold, this plate is now on a Ford Escort Van.

ASHES EUROTRAVEL CRESSING Ford Transit K204 DPU is here and appears to be under conversion to a minibus.

BRENTWOOD COACHES Volvo/Plaxton HIL 8334 (A705 XMH) has been sold.

BUZZ HARLOW Mercedes/Reeve Burgess F74 SMC has been sold.

C&M LAINDON New is R376 CTW a Ford Transit.

CEDRIC WIVENHOE ACM 708X is a second Olympian/ECW.

CHELMSFORD CAB Ford Transit N978 EHJ has been acquired for the Stansted Airport Cars fleet. New Transits for the Chelmsford fleet are R269-71 EVW.

COACHSTOP SOUTHEND Dennis Javelin/Marco Polo N743 NAY has gone to Reliance, Bowers Gifford. H302 FSK a Dennis Javelin/Plaxton ex Reliance is here.

DMA BRENTWOOD Recently acquired is Mercedes minibus E168 FLK.

FARGO RAYNE F589 HUS a Talbot Freeway has been acquired for use on the CountyCar service.

FLAGFINDERS BRAINTREE Neoplan R267 THL and Setra D703 NUH are recent additions.

GLEW COLCHESTER EHJ 52P a Bedford/Plaxton has been stripped for spares and sold.

GOLDEN BOY ROYDON Mercedes/Plaxton L732 FRX has been acquired.

GOLDEN RIVIT CANVEY A new operator with Renault Traffic L639 RWC.

GOODWINS BRAINTREE Bedford/Duple TJI 2807 (D101 PBM) has been sold.

GRAHAMS KELVEDON LDV Convoy R441 PCK is now in service.

HAILSTONE BASILDON Mercedes/Frank Guy K697 FAU is a recent addition.

JWS STANFORD LE HOPE A second Transit here is SAZ 7360.

LEE ROY KELVEDON HATCH MIL 9747 a Volvo/LAG has been sold.

LODGE HIGH EASTER Bedford/Duple OAI 2853 has been sold.

M&E SHOEBOURNESS Recently acquired is 29 HLW (ADV 155Y) a MAN SR280.

MCFEETERS LAINDON Bristol VR BKE 839T was in use on service 1001 in early January, on loan from Stephenson's. The operation of this service appears to have ceased by late January.

MILESTONE CANVEY Dennis Javelin/Plaxton PJI 4655 (E508 JWP) has been acquired from Dons, Dunmow. Sadlers farm is no longer in use, with all vehicles being kept at Charfleets IE.

NICHOLSON AVELEY Have commenced operations, with the almost compulsory Transit D603 XPU.

PAGECOACH FOBBOING Freight Rover E547 WKN is here, but may only be in a dealer capacity.

PANDORA PITSEA Have restarted operating with SBZ 1582 a Mercedes/Devon Conversions.

RAYLEIGH ROADWAYS SHOTGATE Setra SiW 8306 has been acquired from Silver Knight, Shotgate.

S&M CORRINGHAM A further Fleetline has been acquired, KUC 969P.

STORT VALLEY The business of Travellers (Brelaton Ltd), Hounslow. is now under the control of Stort Valley.

SUPREME SOUTHEND The two Olympians are registered A319/20 GLV. MAN/Jonckhree H20 SUP has been sold. Fleetline SDA 620S is now being used for spares. Volvo/Caetano K708 RNR has been re-planted all white.

WHEELS TAXIS CANVEY Ford Galaxy P581 LVC and Freight Rover-E617 LHX, are being operated from the Castle Point Council depot.

WINDMILL COPFORD Acquired from South Wales Transport are Leyland Olympian/ECW B690/6 BPU, they are still in SWT livery and retain their names Dylan Thomas and Sir Harry Secombe. Van Hool coach 196 COY has been re-registered C426 VAY.

YELLOWLINE BRAINTREE A recent addition is Ford Transit L413 LMS.

ESSEX ODDS AND ENDS

Noted at Nationwide Seat Belts in Maldon recently were:-

FDC 418V Leopard/Plaxton of Southern National

E492 MEL Metrorider of Wilts and Dorset

RWC 41W a Leopard/Plaxton of Hedingham

D557 MVR of Shaw, Maxey

KIW 5940 (PNW 340W) of Taylor, Tintinhull.

RouteMaster CUV 226C was noted at Tony Le Voi Motors a Vauhall dealer at Lakeside on filming work on 22.1.98. This was new to Romford (RE) and later worked from Grays in LT days.

Hollywood Restaurant, Shipwrights Drive, Benfleet. APA 772A (new as NXP 820) had upper deck fire damage by 1.98. There was at one time a second RT here, does anyone know which one? There is a chassis here, which may come from that vehicle.

EASTERN NATIONAL
(SUBSEQUENT MOVEMENTS)

<u>FLEET No.</u>	<u>REG No.</u>	<u>DETAILS.</u>	<u>DATE.</u>
0603	C603NPU	Walsh, Halifax. TJ16 Re-reg B16 TGW	10/97
0754	D754RWC	To White (t/a Whiteways), Monmouth. ex Cleverly, New Inn.	10/97
1113	HHJ374Y	To PMT Ltd. STL197 ex Brewers. 181	11/97
1406	EUF828L [ex ARU99A VBY546L CSV253 XVW631L]	Appleford (t/a Timetrak), Shepperton. in use as a seat store.	8/97
1848	YEV306S	To Ripley, Carlton. (dlr) ex Cartmell (t/a Border Bus), Burnley. 306 To Westbrook (t/a Midwest), Salford.	9/97 11/97
2846	MXV883C	To Pollock & Thomas, Anchorage, Alaska. ex Eastern Counties. FLF423	POST 8/82

THAMESWAY
(SUBSEQUENT MOVEMENTS)

<u>FLEET No.</u>	<u>REG No.</u>	<u>DETAILS.</u>	<u>DATE.</u>
0721	C440BHY	Lewis (t/a Lyndale Travel), Merthyr Tydfil. ex Lewis, Cwmaman.	5/97
4502	B690BPU	To Windmill Coaches, Copford, Colchester. (still carries the name "DYLAN THOMAS") ex South Wales Transport. 908	1/97
4508	B696BPU	To Windmill Coaches, Copford, Colchester. (still carries the name "SIR HARRY SECOMBE") ex South Wales Transport. 909	1/97

ESSEX BUSES
(SUBSEQUENT MOVEMENTS)

<u>FLEET No.</u>	<u>REG No.</u>	<u>DETAILS.</u>	<u>DATE.</u>
1914	JHJ140V	To Ludlows, Halesowen. Re-reg VIB9485	7/97
2236	C496BHY	ex Fleetmaster, Horsham. (dlr) To Linkstart, Craven Arms. ex Stephenson, Rochford. (dlr)	7/97 9/97

Thamesway

ALLOCATIONS

235 Pool-D/L. 253 PD D/L(D). 259 PD-D/L. 260D/L-PD 307 Pool-HH
386BN-ENOC. 387BN-ENOC. 413 Pool-PD. 905 PD-HH. 1868 HH-D/L(D)
2661 ENOC-BN. 2662 ENOC-BN.
1868 sustained accident damage in Basildon and has been
temporarily replaced by 905.
Unusual workings, 1/11 917 on D8, 1/11 253 on 193, 26/11 301 on
191, 8/1904 on W9. 10/1 904/8 on W13. 26/1 413 on 379.

SERVICE CHANGES

27 From 23rd February this service will be rerouted and retimed to serve the new store at Northwick Corner Cavvey.
30 This service between Pitsea and Southfields will be withdrawn from 28th February.
31 This service to operate to a revised timetable between Basildon Hospital and Felmores from 28th February.
36 This service between Basildon Hospital and Felmores will be withdrawn on 28th February.
37/a These services will operate to a revised route and timetable between Pitsea and Grays from 28th February.
151 From 28th February this service will operate to a revised route with some journeys renumbered 150 between Basildon and Romford.
W17 New LTB contract operated by a minibus and sponsored by the LB of Waltham Forest. Monday-Saturday in Walthamstow.

ARRIVA COUNTY BUS AND COACH

FLEET

Correction to EBN 402 West's vehicle F711 CWJ was never delivered to County Bus.

Allocation Changes to 31st December 1997

DP 1/2	N551/2 LUA	re-numbered DPL 551/2
DP 3	P753 RWU	re-numbered to DI 753
DI 4	P754 RWU	re-numbered to DI 754
MR 712	F712 CWJ	Dismantled for spares at Harlow (1/98)
VPL 1/2	C874/6 CYX	re-numbered to VPL 3/4
TDL 53/63/5	C253/63/5 SPC	Correction to EBN 405 Harlow to Withdrawn
TP 61/70/1/2/5	B261 KPF/OIB 3520-3	Correction to EBN 405 Harlow to Withdrawn

MEDIA MONITOR

December 8th: A reader complains of late running buses from Wivenhoe claiming 8 out of 10 are late and the refusal of a driver to convey passengers to the destination, preferring to turn short to make up time.

December 9th: A 57 coach belonging to Tony Glew Private Hire is stolen from Mersea Road Colchester and causes havoc in neighbouring streets.

December 12th: More complaints about poor bus services, this time regarding the practise of cutting buses from Rowhedge rather than the more logical step of cutting those short journeys that terminate at Old Heath.

December 24th: Confusion over EN ten journey tickets valid for ten day. Chelmsford say 25th, 26th December and 1st January don't count while Colchester say they do!

December 27th: Great Eastern Railway plan more trains from London to Colchester on weekday evenings and three per hour on Sundays. Rolling stock is to be refurbished and closer links with bus companies are planned.

January 1st: Sir Maurice Holmes has died aged 86. He joined Hicks Brothers in 1931 becoming general manager four years later. After war service he practised law until 1955 when he joined the Tilling Group. HE later became chairman of the London Transport Board. (99)

January 9th: A comment that people will not use buses as they are too expensive shows that the general awareness of just how to use a bus leaves a lot to be desired. The journey for two cost 65p each way, £2.60 in total while the cost to park a car was just £1.50. Purchase of a return would have brought the cost down to £1.90, leaving 40p for the petrol, insurance etc etc. Arriva Colchester raised more than £2320 from their annual Christmas fancy dress collection for the children's ward at Colchester Hospital.

January 16: A drop in use will mean the Colchester park and ride scheme will lose around £10,000 this year.

January 19th: Essex County Council hopes to spend an additional £1.7m in a campaign to reduce car use in the county. It plans more school buses, park and ride schemes, evening and Sunday services in urban areas and more daytime services in rural towns and villages.

January 29th: Essex County Council have commissioned a £60,000 study into improved rail links at Shenfield for journeys from Southend to East Anglia and an Essex Express busline.

Original reports appeared in Colchester Evening Gazette and Essex County Standard

TIMETABLES FOR INDEPENDENT BUS OPERATORS IN ESSEX

BY IAN TAYLOR

In 1983 I assisted in the preparation of a Group publication entitled "Independent Stage Carriage Operators of Essex" and in addition to fleet lists and a brief route history for each company there was also a section advising whether an official timetable was available from the operator. At this time, despite the fact that Essex County Council had been producing its comprehensive county-wide books for six years, the vast majority of independents still provided their own timetables to advertise their services.

The receipt of a list of the wonderful array of independent timetables available via the Group's Timetable Reproduction Service made me wonder whether many of the smaller operators in Essex still issued their own publicity nowadays. In December 1997, in order to satisfy my curiosity, I sent a SAE to those companies whose services appeared in the Essex CC timetable books, who in a pre-deregulation era could have been termed "independent".

The results of my survey are as follows which I hope will be of interest to members who collect such material. Out of the 40 operators, replies were received from 32. The vast majority of the timetables received were merely photocopies of type-written sheets but nevertheless I think one should still take the trouble to collect them - they may well become rare and historic documents in twenty to thirty years time!

Of course there is no guarantee that an operator will send you his timetable, even if you enclose an SAE, so I would be interested to hear from anyone who has secured official timetables for operators who chose not to reply to me.

Alpine Taxis - A yellow Essex CC leaflet dated 5.8.96 entitled "Paglesham TaxiBus" was received.

Amos - Nothing received this time, although a type-written A4 sheet was traditionally issued in the 70s/80s.

Associated Coachways - No Reply.

Avro - No Reply.

Beestons - A4 type-written sheets for all services dated as follows: Sudbury to Haverhill (7.7.97); Great Cornard (18.9.95); Sudbury to Halstead (13.1.97).

Bernards - Letter dated 9.1.98 advised that commuter service 175 no longer operates (despite being shown on page 187 of the January 1998 West & North West Essex timetable book).

Biss - A blue Essex CC leaflet dated 18.2.97 was received detailing service 317. Details of Colchester to Stansted Airport Rail-Air Service is included in Anglia Railways free timetable booklet. A folded "slim-line" leaflet is also available from stations detailing just the Rail-Air service.

Blue Triangle - A5 type-written sheet available for route 265 dated 20.2.95.

Bordacoach - A computer printed A4 sheet was received (undated) showing service 9 (now ceased for the winter) and a "Service 130" between South Ockendon and Grays (Palmers College) operating Mon-Fri College Days only - not shown in Essex CC timetable - therefore possibly a contract only.

Buzz Co-Operative - 8 page booklet in house colours of yellow and black dated 2.1.97 detailing all services.

Cambridge Coach Services - Blue and silver leaflets available for coach routes serving Essex and neighbouring counties. Widely available from Travel Centres etc in Essex.

Capital Citybus - Folded A4 leaflet provided for 348/349/648 (Red print on yellow dated 28.7.97) and 323/4 (blue print on yellow dated 28.7.97). Standard LRT leaflet for route 165 (28.9.96) also received.

Carters - No Reply. (Services 750/758 withdrawn 23.12.97).

Cedric - Folded A4 leaflet received for route 78X dated 31.10.94 (black and red print) with curious drawing of a half cab double decker with an off-side entrance on front!

Chambers - A4 size leaflet (red print) for services 171,181,753 dated 1.4.96.

Clinton - 8 page booklet dated 7.4.97 available for service 2000 (routes 1 and 2). Printed in pale yellow and blue; produced jointly by Essex CC and Epping Forest DC.

Coggeshall Community Bus - Undated A4 sheet produced. No operator name, address or telephone number included!

Crown Coaches - No Reply.

Fargo - 16 page booklet (mauve print) produced by Essex CC entitled "Revisions to Braintree District Country Car" dated 8.11.94. Contains times and line diagrams of all services in the Braintree/Halstead/Sudbury/Witham areas.

Fords - Type-written A4 size sheet issued for services 1,2,3 (undated) and for Malbus Service 1 (also undated).

Grahams - No Reply.

Halls - Computer printed timetable for service 48 produced on an undated slip.

Harris - Attractive multi-coloured leaflets produced by Best Impressions for routes 380/83/84/85 (28.10.96); 386/87 (28.10.96) and L1-L4 (21.10.96). Sunday service 140 included on Essex CC leaflet dated 25.5.97 which also details Nelsons 40. LRT leaflets for 108 (19.4.97), 128,129,150 (19.7.97) also received.

Heddingham - 24 page "District Bus Guide" dated 2.1.95 issued with A4 size sheets showing revisions to services 80,84,89/A/B. Separate leaflets issued for introduction of Colchester Town Service 49 (23.9.96) and for 600/601/605 (undated).

Jacksons - A5 size computer printed sheet received for route 237 undated.

Lodge - No printed timetable issued but an informative letter describing the service was received.

David John McFeeter - No Reply.

Mikes Coaches - No printed timetable issued but an informative letter describing the service was received.

Myall - No printed timetable issued. Operator sent Hertfordshire CC Eastern area timetable book and Cambridgeshire CC South West and South area books free of charge.

Nelsons - A5 size sheet (undated) issued for service 21. Essex CC leaflets produced for 222 (5.8.96), 271/272/273 (3.8.94) and 40 (25.5.97).

Peter Godward - A copy of a letter to parents dated 2.1.98 was received which advised of times and fares per term for pupils travelling to Billerica School. A4 size with tear off reply slip on bottom.

Royal Mail - Leaflet jointly produced for Saffron Walden Postbus service by Essex CC/Royal Mail dated 31.5.95. There is also a small booklet published by Royal Mail available from Customer Care covering all Postbus services in the Anglia Division.

Rules - A4 size sheet (undated) available for routes 705,751.

SM Travel - No Reply.

Stephensons - A4 photocopied sheet issued for 22/222-225 dated 3.9.96.

Stort Valley Coaches - Green and black leaflet printed by John Masters Ltd available for London Commuter Coach Services from Elsenham/Bishops Stortford dated 30.8.96.

Thames Weald - Although this Kent based operator has produced timetable booklets since operation begun in the 1960s they are rather difficult to obtain as the proprietor rarely responds to requests from enthusiasts. Many of the timetables contain fascinating and informative newsletters entitled "Thames Weald Traveller" describing forthcoming changes to the services and short articles written by the proprietor. However all operations are due to cease on 31.3.98 and the final timetable issue consists of a single A4 sheet dated 10.7.97. Includes hand-drawn route map and times for services from Sevenoaks to West Kingsdown, Gravesend, Romford, Southend, Maidstone and Folkestone. I have a large collection of Thames Weald material (about 95% of everything which has been issued since 1961) and anyone who is particularly interested in this operator is welcome to contact me for further information.

Viceroy - Folded A4 pale green timetable leaflet dated 1.9.97 detailing services 34 (Saturday service discontinued from January 1998), 11,29,59,62,313. A photograph of three Viceroy coaches appears on page 1.

Wayland - This operator only serves Essex on Summer Sundays although a number of services are provided year round in Suffolk, mostly on contract to the County Council. Printed timetables are not produced by Waylands - Suffolk CC leaflets are used to answer postal enquiries.

Whippet - This Cambridgeshire based operator only serves Essex during the Summer months although "Slim-line" blue and white timetable leaflets are produced for all year round Whippet services in Cambridge/St Ives/Huntingdon areas, including route 4 to London (Kings Cross).

ARRIVA COLCHESTER COLCHESTER BOROUGH TRANSPORT

Atlantean, 67 (TPU 67R), has been sold to Beestons and was removed from Magdalen Street on 2.2.98.

The Mercedes minibus, 123 (H123 WFM), came out of the paint shop on 15.1.98, in Arriva livery.

The next two ex-LT MCW Metrobuses are expected to be M301 and M299. They will have two blinds: one showing the service number and passing points, the other showing the destination.

Railway replacement services were operated as follows.

Between Harwich Town and Colchester on 6.1.98 (69, 75 and 88).

Between Harwich Town and Manningtree on 7.1.98 (48, 76 and 90), and 8.1.98 (45 and 88).

Between Harwich International and Colchester on 7.1.98 (100).

Between Mark's Tey and Sudbury on 12.1.98 (100 and 103), on 26.1.98 (104, 350, 463 and 55), and on stand-by on 27.1.98 (354, 355, 103 and 104).

ENSIGN BUS = COACH SALES

SANOS YUGOSLAVIA

In the mid 80s Ensign then at Purfleet were the importers of a Mercedes lookalike coach from the Sanos Company in Yugoslavia and listed below is the original owners.

F751SPU	18887	Chartercoach Harwich.
F41 NDV	18888	Arkle Travel Devon
F752SPU	19483	Chartercoach Harwich
G385XPU	19486	H T Travel.
G817YPU	19485	Angel Motors Edmonton
G868WJN	19484	Hamilton Services Uxbridge
G344BTW	19487	Conistone Coach Hire Bromley
F755SPU	19488	C=M Travel Liverpool
F758SPU	19489	C=G Coach Services Chatteris
F100THK	19490	Ford Motor Company
F200THK	19491	Ford Motor Compan
G100JNV	19492	United Counties O.C.
09LK2566	20229	Connway Chauffeur Drive Eire
G133APU	20230	Angel Motors Edmonton
G969ONO	20346	Hams Coaches Flimwell
90LK2567	20347	Conways Chauffeur Drive Eire
G895VNA	20734	Shearings
G894VNA	20735	Shearings
G968CNO	20736	Chartercoach Harwich
G070CNO	20738	Chartercoach Harwich

Does any member know the whereabouts of any of these coaches now
F752SPU is currently with Associated Coachways Harlow.

Civil war in Yugoslavia closed the door on the supply of budget priced new coaches, but David Bennett of Hamiltons of Uxbridge was undeterred. Against all odds he flew out to Skopje at the height of the conflict and returned with four new vehicles. Hamiltons operated about eight of these coaches in total.

Seaton Tramway **Bus & Vintage Vehicle Rally** **Saturday 13 June 1998**

Join us for the above event, now in its fourth year and attracting more vehicles and visitors with each passing year. All types of bus and vintage vehicle are welcome, as well as traders and stallholders. The programme of events is outlined below. We look forward to hearing from you, and hope to be able to welcome you to Devon in June.

For more details, contact Mark Horner at Seaton Tramway, Harbour Road, SEATON EX12 2NQ. Tel (01297) 20375, fax (01297) 625626, email seatrams@aol.com.

Note; this is a new date, changed from that as previously advised.

SUNDAY ROVER TRIP (EBN404)

A postscript

John Rugg writes to say

Since writing out the itinerary I have discovered that the Eastern Counties vehicle on service 156 was in fact, 413 which had been acquired from Greater Manchester Nth. in October 1997 and is a Volvo B6 with an Alexander 36 seat body not a Plaxton one as I had originally thought. This means that each of the seven vehicles had a different chassis and body apart from the two Optare vehicles, and even there is a marked difference between a Metorider and an Excel, thus showing what an interesting variety of vehicles still exist on a Sunday.

An alternative at Ipswich would have been to travel to Felixstowe Dock and back on service 76/75 rather than use Superoute 88, which would have been a heavily laden Bristol VR with an ECW body, another vehicle variation.

Regarding the impossible connection at Colchester, the intended journey was planned to be the 16 35 service 88c to Halstead, probably a Leyland Olympian, and then the 17 32 service 353 back to Chelmsford arriving at 18 30(another Lynx)



Sir Maurice Holmes who has died aged 86, was Chairman of London Transport in an era dominated by union strife and financial difficulty.

Holmes was appointed to run London's Public transport network in 1965, after a career in the bus industry and at the Bar. The chairmanship was in many respects a thankless task.

Maurice Andrew Holmes, the son of a clergyman was born on the 2th July 1911, and educated at Felsted School in Essex. He began his working life with Hicks Brothers at Braintree, the family business of his wife to be, where he rose to General Manager in 1935. After war service he returned to Hicks and later became a member of the Public Transport Commission and also began studying for the Bar.

In 1955, Holmes accepted an invitation from the Road Transport Commission to become a director of the Tilling Group, he later became the Chairman.

An unassuming man, he lived in the same house at Felsted for more than 50 years and took a full part in village life. He was a long standing governor of Felsted School.

He married in 1935, Joyce Hicks, whom he had met at school. They had no children.

EASTERN NATIONAL

ENTHUSIASTS GUILD

DUPLE DECKERS WITH EASTERN NATIONAL

Duple double deckers have never featured very much in the Eastern National fleet, in fact a total of eleven have been operated over the years.

The first with body number 30581 was carried by 3079 TM8795 AEC Regent originally with a Short body which was redodied by Duple in 1941, only to be replaced in 1945 by an East Lancs. body, it is thought that the Duple had received war damage. The second Duple number 30580 was put on Leyland TD2 AEV797 again in 1941, this replaced an Eastern Counties L56R body.

In 1942, two Bristol K5Gs with UL55R bodies were delivered, 3872=3 JPU460=1, of which the latter had a very short life as it was destroyed in the Chelmsford garage bombing the following year, 3872 was later rebuilt and rebodied by ECW and subsequently was transferred to United Counties in 1952 as number 702.

The final Duple bodies operated by Eastern National originated from the Benfleet=Canvey fleets taken over in 1952 by Westcliff Motor Services, these were all Daimler CWA6x with H56R bodies.

x1195	FOP 340 CWG5	1199 FOP 429
1196	FOP 360	1200 FOP 431
1197	FOP 364	1204 FOP 452
1198	JVW 561	

The FOPs were new to Birmingham City Transport.

If any member has a photo of 3872 JPU460 with the original Duple please let me know.
P J SNELL.

ARRIVA SOUTHEND

Vehicles:

FL 212 (JTD 391P) has had a minor repaint on the lower deck body panels and new rear light clusters.

Subsequent Disposals:

VR 402 (LHG 441T) has passed to Greys of Ely.

Repaints:

ON 282 (MUH 285X) into Arriva corporate livery.

Other Notes:

5 withdrawn County Bus Leyland Tiger coaches are stored at London Road Depot.. TP 61(B261 KPF) Plaxton.

TP 70(OIB 3520) Plaxton.

TP 72(OIB 3522) Plaxton.

TDL 53(C253 SPC) Duple.

TDL 63(C263 SPC) Duple.

TP 70 & 72 previous reg, No,s B270/272 KPF.



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CONTACT;
TIM WILD (MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY)
27 DUKESHILL ROAD, BRACKNELL,
BERKSHIRE RG42 2DU.

TIMETABLE REPRODUCTION SERVICE

Would you like a copy of the timetable of the "Ortona" service that once served Thaxted ?

The Chairman has a very extensive collection of timetables. There is a complete set of post-war Eastern National and Westcliff-on-Sea. issues as well as a complete set of the Essex County Council publications since 1977. The pre-war selection of National and Eastern National is extensive but not quite complete.

Also included in the collection is an extensive array of independents timetables as well as local area guides. London Transport operations in Essex are well catered for as well as early L.N.E.R. and G.E.R. railway timetables and even some stagecoach guides.

Copies of the timetables can be produced by xerography for research purposes, souvenirs etc. Members interested in the service should contact the Chairman (S.A.E. please) for a copy of the Introductory Circular.

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