



**COLCHESTER BOROUGH TRANSPORT HAVE ACQUIRED A FLEET OF 'GREENAWAY NATIONALS'. 351 NIW6511, THE FIRST TO ENTER SERVICE IS SEEN LEAVING COLCHESTER BUS STATION.**

**R. TUKE**

**MANAGING EDITOR:**

Please send your news reports to:

Southend Transport:

Thamesway:

Essex Buses & S Essex small ops:

County Bus:

North Essex major ops:

North Essex small ops:

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### Rochford Meetings - Freight House 8pm

December 10th - Slide Show by Richard Delahoy

1997 programme to be announced next month.

The Group wish to congratulate Andy Meadows on winning first prize in a photographic competition held by the Disabled Photographers Society.

Well done Andy!!! (And it was not a bus he photographed)

### Publication

The Tale of the Wandering JEV's, the story of Bristol K5G 3820-3844 JEV411 - 425  
ILLUSTRATED - £1.50 inc p.p from Peter Snell.

### In this issue

Thamesway Brentwood depot closed down  
Harris Bus get more buses and further vehicles in new livery  
Heddingham - more Bristol VR's  
AND MUCH MORE

### SMALL OPERATOR FLEET LISTS

Are you interested in that small operator, just around the corner? Or perhaps you see one vehicle from an operator and think - I wonder what else he's got? Well help is now at hand send an sae and details of what you want to Ian Ransom, and he can provide an up to date fleetlist.

### ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

Recent timetables include the three area timetables eg Central & North, South, West and North West all dated October/November. Essex Sunday Saver Winter 96/97 dated 29.9.96. If they are of interest why not take out a subscription? Full details available from Derek Stebbing at the address on the cover.

Incorporating the EASTERN NATIONAL ENTHUSIASTS GROUP formed in 1962

# Thamesway

## NEW VEHICLES

|     |          |                                               |       |
|-----|----------|-----------------------------------------------|-------|
| 401 | P401 HPU | Mercedes 711D 047556, Plaxton B23F 967MRV5889 | 10.96 |
| 402 | P402 HPU | Mercedes 711D 047757, Plaxton B23F 967MRV5890 | 10.96 |
| 403 | P403 HPU | Mercedes 711D 047767, Plaxton B23F 967MRV5891 | 10.96 |
| 404 | P404 HPU | Mercedes 711D 047778, Plaxton B23F 967MRV5892 | 10.96 |
| 405 | P405 HPU | Mercedes 711D 047778, Plaxton B23F 967MRV5893 | 10.96 |
| 406 | P406 HPU | Mercedes 711D 047797, Plaxton B23F 967MRV5894 | 10.96 |
| 407 | P407 HPU | Mercedes 711D 047828, Plaxton B23F 967MRV5895 | 10.96 |
| 408 | P408 HPU | Mercedes 711D 047817, Plaxton B23F 967MRV5896 | 10.96 |
| 409 | P409 HPU | Mercedes 711D 047993, Plaxton B23F 967MRV5897 | 10.96 |
| 410 | P410 HPU | Mercedes 711D 047851, Plaxton B23F 967MRV5898 | 10.96 |

The Mercedes 711D has a difference in the engine and 401-10 have Plaxton Beaver bodywork.

## ALLOCATION CHANGES 27.10

327 HH-BN, 329 HH-BN.

## REPAINTS

306, 383.

## WORKING

22.10.96 Eastern National 2820 working on Thamesway 100.

## BRENTWOOD

When Brentwood garage closed the forecourt area has been used as an outstation. This now has closed with vehicles working from Basildon. Thamesway hope to establish a new outstation in the Brentwood area in due course.  
BD allocation 200, 201, 203, 205, 206, 225, 226, 235, 353, 355, 357, 359.

## INITIAL DISPOSALS

|      |          |      |                  |
|------|----------|------|------------------|
| 240  | D240 PPU | 5.96 | Eastern Counties |
| 9717 | C511 BFB | 3.96 | B Heywood, -?-   |

## SERVICE REVISIONS

2 Sunday timetable revised from 6th October.  
269 The Mon-Fri 1610 from Brentwood to Grays will operate 5 mins later throughout leaving at 1615 from 4th November.

## PUBLICITY

33/A/C, 34/A/C dated 31.3.96  
39/43 dated 30.9.96  
32/A/B dated 5.8.96  
40 dated 30.9.96

## THAMESWAY. (SUBSEQUENT MOVEMENTS)

| <u>Fleet No.</u> | <u>Registration No.</u> | <u>Details</u>                                                                                                | <u>Date</u> |
|------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| 0024             | F892 XOE                | To Ely, Woodston ex London & Country,<br>Fleet No. FRS 24.                                                    | 04/96       |
| 0026             | F995 XOY                | To Hawksworth & Squire, Upton ex London<br>& Country Fleet No. IMB 26.                                        | 05/96       |
| 0029             | G145 GOL                | To Lutonian, Luton ex London & Country,<br>Fleet No. IMB 29.                                                  | 05/96       |
| 0705             | C483 BFB                | From Morgan, Nantyglo to North<br>Warwickshire, Birmingham.                                                   | 09/95       |
| 1837             | VAR 897S                | With Phoenix & Basterfield, Longridge; not used<br>so far since acquisition & still in acquired<br>condition. |             |
| 1857             | YEV 315S                | To A.E. & F.R. Brewer Limited from South<br>Wales Transport.                                                  | 06/96       |
| 1881             | BNO 671T                | to A.E. & F.R. Brewer Limited from South<br>Wales Transport.                                                  | 06/96       |
| 1888             | BNO 678T                | With Phoenix & Basterfield, Longridge, not used<br>so far since acquisition & still in acquired<br>condition. |             |
| 1900             | DAR 122T                | Withdrawn by MTL, (Manchester) Limited, their<br>Fleet No.6182 ex South Manchester, Hyde.                     | 07/96       |
| 1911             | DAR 133T                | To Powell, Wickersley from Cambus, their<br>Fleet No.913.                                                     | 07/96       |
| 3065             | UVX 2S                  | With the Provincial Bus Company Limited and<br>re-numbered no.506.                                            | 07/96       |
| 3108             | UAR 588W                | With A.E. & F.R. Brewer Limited and placed in<br>overall advertisement for Gorseinon College.                 | 09/96       |

## SOUTHEND TRANSPORT

### Vehicles:

LN 718 (GGE 161T) is reinstated for service.

### Withdrawn:

LN 717 (GGE 158T)

### Disposals:

LN 4709 (JBO 345N) LN 725 (GGE 172T)  
Have been towed away from London Road Depot.

### Subsequent Disposals:

RM 121 (CUV 256C) For Farm Transport, Underriver, Kent.  
(Ex Brakell, Dealer.)

FL 207 (JTD 387P) To Appleby, Scarborough.  
(Ex NPT, Bilsthorpe.)

Now converted to Open Top.

LN 782 (GPD 295N) To Powell, Wickersley.

(Ex Citibus, Chaderton.)

Repaints:

ON 905 (F575 SMG) into full fleet livery.

Note from Sub Editor.

Has any member got a colour photo, of ex S.T Bristol VR 308 (SNN 159R), in service with S.T, that I could possibly purchase, or get a copy of. I would be most grateful.

Many Thanks.

**HARRIS BUS** New vehicles to report are Optare Excel Low Floor P320/21 KAR, they are B29F, plus six tip up seats. A number of demonstrators have also been here. they are Dennis Dart SLF/UVG P844 KOT, here for a few days in mid October. Optare Excel N330 EUG, here from mid October and Mercedes 0405 N272 DWY here from late October, the latter two still here in early November. Leyland Atlantean TYJ 15S has returned to Brighton Buses off loan. On loan between 26.9.96 and 26.10.96 was Leopard/Duple JKW 219W from Wealden (dealer). Ex Walkers F924 ABV was re-licensed and used for a few days in late October. Both DAK/Ikarus vehicles J51/2 GCX are in the new livery and carry Thurrock link lettering. Sherpa M52 WEV has returned to the bus fleet from the coach company. In reply to a query the bus and coach fleets have a separate licence and hence are split in the magazine, as they are in effect separate companies. A large number of service revisions took place from 28.10.96, they are as follows. The former Walkers services 152 and 153 were withdrawn and replaced by new services 386/7 (Basildon to Chadwell St Mary/Rainham). Service 372 withdrawn, replaced by parts of services 380/84/85. Service 375 withdrawn (Thameside journey remains) and replaced by service 387. Service 380 revised to operate between Orsett Hospital and Tilbury Ferry and part replaced by service 386. Service 382 is withdrawn on Sundays as the Tilbury Ferry no longer operates that day. Service 383 revised to operate between Lakeside and Chadwell St Mary, using new Optare Excel low floor buses. The schools journey on service 383 has been renumbered 382. Service 384/5 are new routes between Tilbury and Lakeside via Grays, operating Monday to Saturday. Service 500 has been renumbered 381. From 21.10.96 new service L1 was introduced between Orpington and Lakeside, while service L2 to Swanley had a revised timetable from the same date. The revised services in Thurrock are marketed as ThurrockLink and a number of new initiatives including day rover tickets are available. Drivers are being issued with new uniforms. In addition a full four page spread advert appeared in the Thurrock Gazette, featuring a photo of Bernie Waters in front of Excel P443 SWX, which is not thought to be here now. New timetable leaflets for services 380/83/84/85, 386/87 and the Lakeside Link services from Kent are now available.

**HARRIS COACHES** L645 AYS was returned off loan in mid October. The registration 9242 FH last carried on a Scania/Plaxton double deck, is now on a more humble LDV 400 van, used by the company.

HARRIS BUS COMPANY LIMITED - OCTOBER 1996

BLIND TYPE A - IKARUS (Not \*), MCW, MERCEDES, DOUBLE DECK (TOP BLIND ONLY) & DAF Double deck (side blind)

|                              |                                      |                              |                           |                                     |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| WELCOME ABOARD!              | BELHUS                               | GATWICK &<br>HEATHROW        | ROMFORD                   | HIGHLANDS <i>Woodlands<br/>Park</i> |
| DUPLICATE                    | BEXLEYHEATH                          |                              | SAFEWAY FREE BUS          | EASTWOOD RISE                       |
| EXCURSION                    | LAKESIDE <i>via Grays</i>            | GRAYS                        | SOUTH OCKENDON            | <i>Oakwood</i>                      |
| PARK & RIDE                  | CHADWELL ST MARY<br><i>via Grays</i> | GRAVESEND                    | SOUTHEND                  | LAKESIDE <i>Bus Station</i>         |
| PRIVATE HIRE                 | CHADWELL ST. MARY                    | *HEATHROW AIRPORT            | ST. CLERES SCHOOL         | NOT IN SERVICE                      |
| RAIL REPLACEMENT             | CHAFFORD HUNDRED                     | *LAKESIDE <i>Bus Station</i> | STANFORD LE HOPE          | *DUPLICATE                          |
| SPECIAL SERVICE              | CHELMSFORD <i>Bus<br/>Station</i>    | *NOT IN SERVICE              | STANSTED AIRPORT          | *SPECIAL SERVICE                    |
| SCHOOL CONTRACT              | CHELMER VILLAGE                      | *LONDON                      | STIFFORD CLAYS            | *SCHOOL CONTRACT                    |
| WORKS CONTRACT               | CORRINGHAM                           | *MOULSHAM LODGE              | SWANLEY                   | *WORKS CONTRACT                     |
| NOT IN SERVICE               | COACH PARK SERVICE                   | *MELBOURNE FARM              | LAKESIDE <i>via Grays</i> | *PRIVATE HIRE                       |
| LAKESIDE <i>Bus Station</i>  | CONSORT TRAVEL                       | ORPINGTON                    | TILBURY <i>via Grays</i>  | *RAIL REPLACEMENT                   |
| ASDA FREE BUS                | DARTFORD                             | ORSETT HOSPITAL              | TILBURY                   | *WELCOME ABOARD!                    |
| AVELEY                       | GATWICK AIRPORT                      | PITSEA                       | TILBURY FERRY             |                                     |
| BASILDON                     |                                      | PURFLEET                     | WELLING                   |                                     |
| BASILDON <i>via Lakeside</i> |                                      | QUEENS PARK                  | WILLIAM EDWARD<br>SCHOOL  |                                     |
|                              |                                      | RAINHAM <i>via Lakeside</i>  |                           |                                     |

## NEW VEHICLES

The item regarding the new Dennis Lance vehicles, in the Paul Sparks Clacton column last month, included a number of errors and did not come from an official company source. Please ignore the delivery dates and allocations, which are incorrect. My apologies to the company and members, for any problems this may have caused.

## ALLOCATIONS

**10/96** 2215 BE-D/L(D); 2666 CR-BE

## UNUSUAL WORKINGS

**2.11.96.** CR2811 on service 70A (normally Mercedes)

Mercedes 228 is currently at the driver trainer yard in New Writtle Street, Chelmsford. Leyland National 1870 despite being a pool vehicle, has been in use from Chelmsford for most of 1996. It came as cover for the duplicate bus on service 36, but read on. The 0752 service 36 from South Woodham to Chelmsford, provides a memory of years gone by in that a duplicate vehicle is provided during the school term. This can produce anything that Chelmsford has spare. Leyland Tiger/Duple, Tiger/Plaxton 3200 and 3500, Lynx, National, Dart, VRT and Olympian have all been noted in the past two months.

## REPAIRS

**10/96** 3101

**11/96** 1401

3101 has become the second VR to be re-furbished by Marshalls at Cambridge.

## SERVICES

**33/X** Additional journeys on Monday to Friday from 28.10.96. 2050 ex Bishops Stortford (33X) and 2200 ex Chelmsford (33).

**46** Slight timetable revision to connect with Townlink 246 from 28.10.96.

**133** From 23.9.96, the 1720 ex Braintree on Monday to Friday was revised to start from Braintree College at 1730. From 28.10.96, all evening journeys, were revised to operate via Stansted Airport.

**279** New service on schooldays from Maldon to Chelmsford via Gt Totham from 4.11.96.

**333** Minor revisions to evening journeys from 18.11.96.

## GENERAL

Dennis Dart SLF/Plaxton P439 NEX was in Chelmsford on 23rd October. This is part of a batch being delivered to Eastern Counties, and was lettered First Bus Demonstration vehicle. The purpose of its visit was to seek public comments regarding the type of seating fitted, a number of different types and moquettes being fitted.

## PUBLICITY

Recent items are Student Bus Travel Pack for Essex University a ring binder, including timetables, maps and ticket details.

Leaflet titled Thats The Ticket, which gives details of tickets currently available, including local Ranger tickets, Seasons, Returns etc.

Braintree area bus map, of the coloured line for routes variety, and a blow up of the town centre, showing all stops and services.

Timetable leaflets for services 20/A dated 30.9.96; 20/A revised and dated 4.11.96; 21/23 dated 4.8.96; 37 dated 4.8.96; 63/A dated 30.9.96; 64/A dated 30.9.96; 75/A/B/119/129 dated 30.9.96; 103/4 dated 30.9.96; 132/133 dated 5.8.96.

It would be of great help, if members could send any items of publicity, from outside of the Chelmsford area, to the sub-editor.

## HEDINGHAM

### ACQUIRED VEHICLES

|      |          |             |     |           |
|------|----------|-------------|-----|-----------|
| L247 | CPT 731S | Bristol VRT | ECW | H??/??F   |
| L248 | HJB 455W | Bristol VRT | ECW | H43/31F   |
| L249 | HJB 456W | Bristol VRT | ECW | H43/31F   |
| L250 | HJB 458W | Bristol VRT | ECW | H43/31F   |
| L251 | MRJ 8W   | Bristol VRT | ECW | DPH41/29F |
| L252 | MRJ 9W   | Bristol VRT | ECW | DPH41/29F |

L247 was acquired from Grahams, Kelvedon without seats. L248-52 are ex Wycombe Bus.

### ALLOCATIONS

135 HD-SY; 211/2 KN-HD

### SERVICES

**14** Revised timetable introduced from 4.11.96.

**59** Slight timetable revisions introduced from 2.11.96.

**75** Renumbered 175 and revised timetable introduced from 28.10.96.

**89/A/B** Slight timetable revisions from 25.11.96

**176** Extended to Colchester Town Centre and General Hospital from 21.10.96.

## EASTERN NATIONAL FLEET ALLOCATION OCTOBER 1996

|                   |                                                                                                                                                                          |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| BISHOPS STORTFORD | 3 MB608, 2 MB709 & 7 Short Dart from CF.                                                                                                                                 |
| BRAINTREE         | 2212/42/44 2601/21/25-30/57-66                                                                                                                                           |
| CHELMSFORD        | 1001-07 1128-31 1401-03/07/08/13-16/25292202/04/05/43/46/47<br>2752 2602-20/22-24/31-46/77 2807/08/12-16/23-30 3069/71/77/79<br>3083/84/92/94 3106/10/12 4013/14 4510/11 |
| CLACTON           | 1863 1924 2217/29-33/35-37/40/48 2647-55 2810/17/19/21/22<br>3219-22                                                                                                     |
| COLCHESTER        | 1850/51/61/62/65/67/72/74/85/90/99 1916/21 2667-76/78/79<br>2801-06/09/11/18/20 3093 3103/27 3224-34 4010/12/15-18/21<br>4501/03/12                                      |
| DUNMOW            | 1 single deck from CF. (normally Long Dart)                                                                                                                              |
| HARWICH           | 1832 2656/80-82 3072/76/78 3109 4007/08/19                                                                                                                               |
| MALDON            | 6 Long Dart, 2 Lynx plus 1 VR from CF.                                                                                                                                   |
| POOL VEHICLES     | 228 1833/70 2210 2383/84 3101 3500/01                                                                                                                                    |
| D/L DISPOSAL      | 1839/94 2206/15 3223                                                                                                                                                     |
| TRAINING          | 9013/14                                                                                                                                                                  |

The outstation allocations are the normal vehicle type, but can vary from time to time.

## THAMESWAY FLEET ALLOCATION OCTOBER 1996

|              |                                                                                                          |
|--------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| BASILDON     | 209/11 327-29/31-52/54/56/58/60-93 601-19 851-54 918-38/59-72<br>1112/14/15 1601 1845/46 3113 4003-05/09 |
| BRENTWOOD    | 200/01/03/05/06/25/26/35 353/55/57/59                                                                    |
| HADLEIGH     | 307-26/30 701-11 939-58 1400/04-06/09-12/17-24 1803/30/68<br>1871/82/86/89/96 1907/18                    |
| PONDERS END  | 230/31/33/34/45-61 301-06/94-98 800-11 901-17/73-87                                                      |
| D/L DISPOSAL | 204                                                                                                      |
| TRAINING     | 9016/17 9717/19                                                                                          |



ONE OF TWO OPTARE EXCELS TO ENTER SERVICE WITH HARRIS BUS -  
P321 KAR IS AT LAKESIDE ON SERVICE 383.

P. SNELL

## *EASTERN NATIONAL, (SUBSEQUENT MOVEMENTS)*

| <u>Fleet No.</u>           | <u>Registration No.</u> | <u>Details</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                            | <u>Date</u>    |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| 0350                       | 573 UVX                 | To Hallett, Trowbridge from Shelvin & Milligan, Dorking.                                                                                                                                                                  | 02/95          |
| 0712                       | C437 BHY                | To Preece, New Tredegar from Viles, Brynna.                                                                                                                                                                               | 06/96          |
| 1301                       | XHK 214X                | To Beeston, Hadleigh from Clayton, Pudsey as BUA 935X also, ex 502 GMB.                                                                                                                                                   | 04/96          |
| 1403                       | 1251 EV                 | From Newton, Spennymoor presumed gone by....                                                                                                                                                                              | 01/94          |
| 1404                       | VHK 177L                | With Northern, Anston as Registration No.929 CVJ.                                                                                                                                                                         | 01/96          |
| 1710                       | WNO 559L                | With Serveverse, Mike Oak & reseated to B44F.                                                                                                                                                                             | 02/95          |
| 1714                       | WNO 563L                | Scrapped by Williams, Cross Keys ex Hastings & District Transport Ltd. Fleet No. 3.                                                                                                                                       | 03/96          |
| 1749                       | JNO 198N                | To Alexcars, Cirencester and re-registered as ACH 32A.                                                                                                                                                                    | 04/96          |
| 1774                       | MAR 796P                | From Trent Traction Company Limited to Looms, Spondon. (This vehicle was acquired for spares some time ago and was stripped for spares, the hulk then being disposed of as shown. It was never allocated a fleet number). | 05/96          |
| 1831                       | VNO 733S                | Disposed of by Classic, Annfield Plain as Fleet No.733.                                                                                                                                                                   | 07/96          |
| 2819                       | HEV 997B                | To John Forbes by....<br>ex London Double Decker Bus Co., Miami successor to A & M School Bus Service, Miami.                                                                                                             | 09/91          |
| 2821                       | JHK 453C                | Disposed of by Bistrobuss, Dublin as 717 KZL.                                                                                                                                                                             | 06/96          |
| 2827                       | JHK 462C                | A & M School Bus Service, Miami, withdrawn by....<br>used for spares and gone by....                                                                                                                                      | 06/84<br>08/95 |
| 2844*<br>(see note below). | MVX 881C                | To Sally, Ottawa from ?, Calgary.                                                                                                                                                                                         | 08/86          |
| 3053                       | LJN 648P                | With A.E. & F.R. Brewer Ltd.                                                                                                                                                                                              | 04/96          |

\* Sally, Ottawa. MVX 881C, (B1 FLF/ECW) is to be found on the east side of the Experimental Farm Agriculture Museum at Island Parkway. Earlier, in 7/91, it was at the National Aviation Museum in Rockliffe; throughout all this time it has traded as "The London Deli" fitted out as a snack bar, (lower saloon), and restaurant, (upstairs), painted maroon. MVX 881C was acquired with "The London Deli" name.

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR EBN RECEIVED WITH THANKS FROM Essex Buses (Eastern National & Thamesway), Southend Transport, County Bus & Coach, Essex County Council, PSV Circle, C.Sigston, M.Torrance, B.White, R.Dennis.

# COLCHESTER BOROUGH TRANSPORT

The National Greenways continued to enter service as follows. 354 came out of the paint shop on 16.10.96 and was on the road on 21.10.96. 350 was out of the paint shop on 30.10.96 and on the road on 4.11.96. 355 was still in the paint shop on 9.11.96, and 347, 348 and 352 were awaiting repaint. These vehicles are all B49+21F. Some have rear route number blinds, but they are often set to show "CBT".

Atlanteans 66 and 70 (RFR 416P and RFR 421P) were removed on 5.11.96 and taken to London & Country.

Olympian 46 entered service on 8.10.96 at full DiPTAC standard, and work started to bring 45 up to this standard on 28.10.96.

On 31.10.96 the Atlanteans started to have new Day-glo blinds fitted, including upper-case via points.

On 6.10.96 Olympians 47, 48 and 49 were used on a LUL replacement service for Capital CityBus, running between Leytonstone and Bethnal Green. 47 and 49 were used the same way on 13.10.96, as were 41, 43, 47, 48 and 49 on 27.10.96, and 46 and 48 on 3.11.96. On each occasion a CBT driver also drove a CCB bus. 49 was used as a spare vehicle at Shenfield for a railway service sub-contracted by Eastern National on 18.10.96. 25 was used in a similar way at Witham on the evening of 19.10.96. On 20.10.96 Eastern National called on CBT for help with a railway service between Colchester and Witham; the buses used were 41, 43, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 88 and 89. And on 21.10.96 Tiger 103 was used on an early morning railway replacement service between Sudbury and Mark's Tey.

On 11.10.96 CBT's former 107 was borrowed from Cranleigh for a private hire, returning on 13.10.96.

The TOPSS videos were all turned off on 14.10.96 and are being removed. A new McDonalds ticket roll was introduced on the same date.



## COUNTY BUS & COACH

### FLEET

SLF Dennis Darts started to work on routes 370 and 373 Grays to Romford services at the beginning of November. In the last week of October, one of the new Dennis Darts was seen operating the 323 and also the Sunday ECC contract service from Aveley to Basildon (352/3). They are registered P... HVX. P419/20/21/23 HVX have been seen on these services but no vehicle type code letters or fleet numbers seem to have been applied. These vehicles carry the new livery similar to Lea Valley (see last month's EBN). 'Thame' in red, and 'side' in green in an italic style, the same as 'Valley'. The same logo has now been applied to an E-registration minibus at Grays. This new logo has also been applied to Dennis Dart DW317.

During late October, before the new vehicles came into service, AN's and M's were still in use on routes 370/373. M175/782 have been seen, but neither carry Thameside logos, but do have County Bus legal lettering in the usual Leaside position. During the beginning of November Leaside Metrobus M474 was operating on route 373. It has legal lettering for its owner, not County Bus.

### Vehicles on Hire

On the 28th October Grey Green Dennis Dart 950 (M950 LYR) was running on the 510 service from Lakeside to Marks Gate - on hire to County Bus. It is not known if this was a one-off or if it will remain on hire until all the new Dennis Darts are in service.

Thanks to Grays member Bill White for this information

## OTHER OPERATORS - REST OF ESSEX

**ACE OF CLUBS BENFLEET** Renault Master F804 KKP and similar G34 UKP are recent additions. Freight Rover C427 DYX has been sold.

**A&D MINIS BENFLEET** This operator, formerly based in Pitsea now has G782 MAK a Renault T35, operating from Church Road.

**ADTAX SAFFRON WALDEN** Vehicles here and not previously recorded are Ford Transit/Dormobile C515 BFB and M646 BEW a LDV 200.

**AIRPORT EXPRESS SOUTHEND** A recent addition is non PSV Bedford midi G595 XVX.

**APT RAYLEIGH** Recent additions are NSU 514 a Volvo/Van Hool and YFC 736 a DAF/Van Hool. Vehicles sold are DAF/Duple A16 APT, re-registered F571 UVW before sale, KBC 6V a Bedford/Duple and E874 DTT a Setra S215 re-registered from YSU 923 on arrival, UJY 85 a Bova Futura and ADX 49S a Bedford/Willowbrook.

**ARROW MALDON** This previously taxi only operator, has registered a Maldon town service numbered 1, on Monday to Saturday from 30.9.96. Part hail and ride, part dial and ride.

**BEAMISH STANFORD LE HOPE** Are operating Ford Transit N767 DKR.

**BOBS MINICOACHES WICKFORD** A recent addition is F561 YHA a Ford Transit/Dormobile Premier.

**BOON BOREHAM** Setra N653 OFW has been re-registered N5 HGB, in memory of Hector Boon.

**BORDACOACH WICKFORD** AEC Reliance/Duple MED 406P has been sold.

**BRENTWOOD COACHES** Bristol VR UNW 928R has been acquired from Carters, but has not been used.

**BRIANS STEEPLE** A recent addition is TIW 1742 a Freight Rover 400. Bedford YMP/Plaxton D764 TDV has been re-registered TIW 1743.

**C&M LAINDON** Toyota Hiace D865 PTW and Ford Transit G77 XLX have been sold.

**CAMBRIDGE COACH SERVICES** Service 38 had a revised route and timetable introduced from 27.10.96. and no longer serves Bishops Stortford. Service 76 was revised from the same date and now operates via Witham and no longer serves Coggeshall.

**CARTERS** Not previously mentioned is that service 123 was revised from 4.9.96. with some additional journeys numbered 122 introduced.

**CLINTONA BRENTWOOD** A further Iveco minicoach is N157 CMM. Also new is P586 HME a Iveco/Mellor.

**COACHSTOP SOUTHEND** K100 EOS a EOS coach and K55 TOP a Dennis Javelin/Plaxton have been sold. Further new vehicles are P970 HWF a Dennis Javelin/Neoplan, which joins identical P969 HWF and Bova Futura P466 JWB.

**COUNTY COACHES BRENTWOOD** Volvo/Plaxton 2899 RU (FUA 392Y) has passed to Webb, Highwood. Its place has been taken by A320 FHN a LAG.

**CROWN BENFLEET** A further minibus has been acquired. Optare City Pacer D345 JUM ex BJS, Gt Wakering.

**CUNNINGHAM CORRINGHAM** Scania/Van Hool K200 CCC has been sold.

**CUTTS NAZEING** Talbot Express H521 ENK is no longer owned.

**DRIVERS HOME & ABROAD CORRINGHAM** Ford/Duple VBC 985X now carries a disc, for this company, but retains Clearway School of Motoring lettering.

**EAGLE LINE BULPHAN** Further minibuses here are Ford Transit A887 WML, Talbot Express E438 PMD and F931 XUK and LDV Sherpa K554 CEG.

**FLAGFINDERS BRAINTREE** MAN/Caetano JIL 3125 (H397 CJF) has been sold.

**FLORIDA HALSTEAD** In addition to DAF/Berkhof B680 BTW and Bedford YNT/Plaxton A445 HNE a number of non PSV Ford Transits are operated, including J983 AKY.

**FORD ALTHORNE** Volvo/Van Hool A128 NAR has been sold to Stans Gt. Totham.

**GODWARD RAMSDEN HEATH** Volvo/Duple FHS 768X is a recent addition here. Ford/Plaxton KBD 58N has been sold. VHJ 264L a Ford/PLaxton is also on the premises, ex Pandora, Corringham, but may belong to Wilkinson.

**GOING PLACES CRAYS HILL** LDAF 400 G267 VJR, has been acquired. It replaces similar E216 WKW, which is thought to have passed to Brians, Steeple as TIW 1742.

**GOLDEN BOY** Have sold Tiger/Plaxton YOI 7725 (NDW 138X). A recent addition is Volvo/Van Hool YXI 3049 (F731 ENE) ex Shearings.

**GRAHAMS KELVEDON** Bristol VR CPT 731S has passed to Hedingham, without being used here.

**HALLS ELSENHAM** Revised timetable introduced on service 48 from 17.10.96.

**JONES HARLOW** Ford Transit/Dormobile D243 KKL has been sold.

**KIRBY RAYLEIGH** K13 BYS is a new Setra S250 with a cherished registration from new.

**KNIGHTS GT BRAXTED** Vehicles are now being kept at Noaks Cross Farm, Gt Braxted.

**LONDON CENTRAL** Once again service 702X will operate from Elephant & Castle to Lakeside on Saturdays and Sundays from 9.11.96 to 22.12.96.

**MAIDSTONE & DISTRICT** Have introduced a Saturdays only service from 30.11.96 until Christmas from Hawkhurst to Lakeside.

**MEARS THORNWOOD COMMON** A new operator with K470 PNR a Toyota Caetano.

**MILESTONE CANVEY** Not previously reported is that Bedford mini C47 LOO has been sold.

**NATIONAL EXPRESS** Winter schedules were reintroduced from 28.10.96.

**NEED A BUS BOWERS GIFFORD** Bedford VAS/Plaxton OTL 321V is a recent acquisition.

**NELSONS** The last of the RE's has gone, along with C566 NHJ (C808 CBU) a Dodge/N Counties.

**OSBORNES** The remains of a number of non runners have been sold. They are GSL 900N a Fleetline/Alexander, Volvo/Duple MFK 768V and Leopards NDF 909M and FGV 261L.

**P&M WOODHAM FERRERS** DAF/Plaxton WJU 6X has been sold.

**PAGECOACH FOBHING** Acquired is Renault minibus F405 KKM. Talbot Express F59 AJK is for sale. Ford Transit JTW 500Y has gone.

**PIONEER CLACTON** Is this months new operator, with one minibus! In this case F802 KKP a Renault T35D (at least it makes a change from the standard Ford Transit).

**RALPHS STANSTED** In reply to a query, the vehicles used on the long term car park shuttle are Optare Deltas H101-6 VUB and L672 PWT.

**RELIANCE BOWERS GIFFORD** Dennis Javelin/Duple E755 HJF has been sold.

**ROADRUNNER CANVEY** Ford Transit F809 DKO has been sold.

**RUFFLE CASTLE HEDINGHAM** A recent addition to the fleet is D847 OJA a Talbot Express/ Made to Measure. Departing from the fleet are Mercedes/Reeve Burgess E47 MMT and Bedford YNV/Plaxton D271 HFX.

**S&P COACHES ROCHFORD** Further to EBN 387, VEJ 561V has a Leyland Leopard chassis.

**SIMIEN RAYLEIGH** Have acquired JGV 321V a Bedford YMT/Plaxton, that has operated with a number of local concerns, most recently with Colchester Coaches. Also acquired are Bristol VR JHW 111P ex M&E Shoeburyness, Bova Europa XCP 144X ex Webster, Basildon, which was previously in this fleet last year and Leyland National YFB 971V ex MTL, Liverpool.

Service 1 was registered between Canvey and Benfleet from 7.11.96 to operate daily. Service 3B was withdrawn from the same date, having been introduced on 27.8.96. Service 2 has also been withdrawn, both were Canvey to Benfleet shuttles.

**STANS GT TOTHAM** Bova Future PJI 5644 has been sold. Acquired are D31 CFL a Mercedes/Reeve Burgess and LER 666P a Bedford YLQ/Duple. PJI 9139 (HBH 419Y) a Mercedes/Reeve Burgess has been sold to Brians, Steeple.

**STEPHENSONS** Slight timetable alterations were made to service 3B from 14.10.96. A schooldays only service numbered 12 between Gt Stambridge and Rochford was introduced from 2.9.96. Schooldays only service 223 between Rochford and Sandon School or Danbury via Rettendon commenced on the same date. Service 222 had slight timetable revisions also from 2.9.96.

**TOMS MINICOACHES SOUTHEND** Recent additions are Ford transit/Dormobile G720 WDU and Freifgt Rover D173 LNA.

**VICEROY SAFFRON WALDEN** Revised timetable introduced on services 34 and 59 from 7.10.96. Revised Saturday service introduced on route 313 from 12.10.96.

**WALKERS STANFORD LE HOPE** Ford Transit G724 RGA has remained, following the sale of bus operations to Harris, and is use with the taxi fleet.

**WATSON ENTERPRISES TILBURY** An addition here is LAG JAZ 4404, of which further details are unknown.

**WAYS BOREHAM** Mercedes/PMT G261 DRF has been re-registered WLT 378. RM 378, which was here has now been sold.

**WEBSTER BASILDON** Bova Europa 223 ASV has been sold.

**WHITE HORSE TRAVEL STANSTED** Scania/Jonckhree FIL 7617 (CJN 327X) has been sold. This was the only vehicle left and it is assumed that operations have ceased.

**WICKS BRAINTREE** An addition to the fleet is E822 WAH a Bedford YNV/Duple. It replaces LKJ 121P a Bedford/Caetano that has been sold.

**WIFFENS FINCHINGFIELD** DAF/Jonckhree A139 VYF and Sanos F653 OVW have been sold. Bedford YRT/Alexander GSX 118N, was the vehicle involved in the recent accident on the outskirts of Braintree. It will almost certainly be withdrawn

**WILKINS WHITE RODING** Current vehicles here are MVN 874P a Bedford YMT/Plaxton and Volvo B58/Plaxton BHJ 369S

**WILKINSON RAMSDEN HEATH** Bedford/Duple PLO 782R has been acquired It replaces Bedford/Plaxton RLT 963R which is being used for spares. Ford/Plaxton OHO 197T has been sold.

## **HISTORICAL NOTE**

Group member Bill White points out that the use of Windsor Avenue, Grays by new Harris service 387, is the first use of this road by a stage service since the pre-war days of Eastern National. The only service thought to have used it since then, being a works service to the Bata Factory at East Tilbury.

### **EAST LONDON MUNICIPALITIES TOUR - Tour Report**

The party of 24 persons assembled at Newbury Park station on Sunday 20th October in readiness for this somewhat unique occasion. We were most pleased to be joined by Martin Ingle, the P.S.V. Circle London N-PSV operators sub editor and an expert on Council fleets, Martin kindly supplied fleet lists for everyone. Transport was provided by J161 JKM a Berkhof bodied Dennis Javelin from the Redbridge fleet, and it was a short trip to its home base. We were made most welcome and a good variety of vehicles was provided for photographs; the two Bristol VR's and a selection of coaches including a Caetano bodied Dennis, a very rare vehicle for a Council fleet. The party then moved on to the other Ley Street premises. For me this was a real step back in time, since I last visited this shed on 20 August 1959, the final day of trolleybus operation from Ilford(ID) depot. Vehicles presented here included a Dennis Dart and a new P-registered Mercedes midibus.

On the ride to Romford we travelled through Seven Kings to note a former Redbridge vehicle in the shape of LHK403Y a Wadham Stringer bodied Leyland Cub. We then passed the site of the former AP London Transport garage and also the local park where a Routemaster, used by Redbridge as a playbus, is sometimes parked. On approach to Romford the site of the former RE Green Line garage was seen before arrival at the Havering depot.

Unfortunately the weather began to close in, but there was time to position a selection of vehicles for photographs including B457WHJ a former Eastern National Metroliner, and J109WVW a Leyland Tiger previously with Colchester Borough. Also on view was RXI5540 from the Ulsterbus fleet. The most unusual offering was a Bedford VAS owned by ALFA Contract Hire of Hornchurch. A short trip was arranged in this vehicle around the yard so that all present could sample a ride in a body built by Harrups Horseboxes of Stafford ! A fitting end to a most unusual day.

Alan Osborne

## **PAUL SPARKS CLACTON COLUMN**

Currently at Clacton for a repaint is Leyland Lynx, Fleet No.1401, Registration Number E401 HWC. Once this repaint is completed this vehicle will become the first Eastern National Leyland Lynx to "sport" the FirstBus logo.

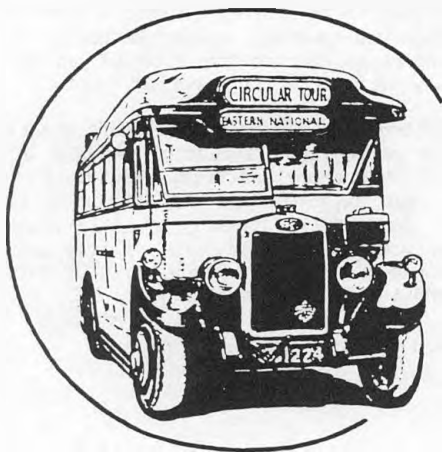
The Bristol VR refurbishment programme with Marshalls of Cambridge continues with Fleet No. 3101 recently returning. To clarify the situation reported in last month's issue of Essex Bus News Fleet No.3078, Registration No. STW 22W had it MOT Test in Chelmsford and only went to Marshalls on Monday 28th October.

## **HEDINGHAM OMNIBUS NEWS**

Hedingham have acquired a second site of the Gorse Lane Industrial Estate in Clacton. This is in Stephenson's Road. They still have the original site in Brunel Road, but I understand that this is to be used as a workshop area only. The new site in Stephenson's Road will be the main traffic and parking area for Hedingham vehicles. With the acquisition of the Stephenson's Road site it is, I believe, intended to have all vehicles moved from Walton to Clacton with the consequence that the Hedingham depot at Walton will eventually close.

## **KSW NEWS**

As promised in last month's issue of Essex Bus News I intend to report the exploits of the KSW Preservation Group's vehicle, Fleet No.2383, Registration Number WNO 479. On Saturday 26th October 1996 it was to be in Colchester Town Centre during the day giving rides for a nominal fee. This was in conjunction with the annual Colchester Model Railway exhibition. On Sunday I believe the Westcliff-on-Sea, Bristol Registration No. AJN 825 did the honours. The KSW continues to be in demand for private hire, so remember anyone out there interested in hiring this vehicle please let me know!



## TED MILES REFLECTS pt2

### MAKE UP POINTS: WHAT ARE THEY??

As a conductor the company required various statistics and information of each journey operated on your duty. I will explain some of what was required:-

Lets first of all deal with route 53, Tilbury Ferry - Chelmsford section.

On leaving Tilbury, in the start column for the start of the journey you would jot down;

- 1) Ticket Starting No.
- 2) (Pounds) Reading
- 3) (Shillings/Pence) Reading
- 4) Passenger: No's On Board

| START | 1    | 2    | 3   | 4    | 5   | 6    | 7    | 8    | 9 | 10 |
|-------|------|------|-----|------|-----|------|------|------|---|----|
| 666   | 692  | 714  | 719 | 741  | 766 | 801  | 808  | 821  |   |    |
| 116   | 129  | 140  | 141 | 144  | 152 | 163  | 164  | 167  |   |    |
| 16/6  | 4/10 | 17/4 | 3/7 | 18/8 | 3/9 | 14/4 | 19/3 | 14/2 |   |    |
| 14    | 27   | 22   | 12  | 11   | 16  | 37   | 42   | 53*  |   |    |

- Make Up Point (1) Grays Memorial  
(2) Orsett Hospital  
(3) Horndon - on - the - Hill  
(4) Laindon Hotel  
(5) Billericay - Sun Hotel  
(6) Stock War Memorial  
(7) Galleywood Eagle  
(8) Wood Street PO

So you can see as the journey proceeded the ticket total was greater from the last make up point and the £ total going up all the time, the pound/pence reading not meaning a lot really.

You will see an asterix by the passenger total of 53 at Wood Street Make Up Point. This signifies a 45 seated full seated load on the LS bus with 8 standing and passengers left behind.

When this happened there was a space on the other side of your waybill for the conductor to report how many passengers were left behind and where!

I am sorry to say that most conductors didn't do this part of their duties. I always did, and indeed to prove that my notes and comments were read at Chelmsford Head Office, I was commended by Charlie English, the Chief Schedules Officer at New Writtle Street, for my notes and observations and opinions more than once. He was a very shrewd man and I had the utmost respect for him, no fool, and I have seen him (heard him) really lay down the law to any Depot Union Schedules men who tried to bluff him or pull the wool over his eyes, he knew the company's routes inside out.

Make up points were all very well on a route such as the 53, plenty of time and distance between Make Up Points, but what about a 'town' route?

Lets go to the 244 from Pitsea to Laindon. The Make Up Points as follows;

- 1) Pitsea Broadway
- 2) Vange Barge
- 3) Long Riding (Staceys Corner)
- 4) Grimston Road
- 5) Whitmore Way (Church Road)
- 6) Basildon Town Centre

Now, supposing you left Pitsea Station with a standing load, no time to Make Up at Pitsea Broadway or The Barge or Staceys Corner, or often anywhere at all on this route at busy times!! So, what did we do?

As soon as you had time you would scribble down some figures in the columns. This was quite easy after a while as, once again, it was a disciplinary offence not to complete a Make Up Point en-route.

P.S Reference:- The Bristol Greyhound Map on the rear cover of Essex Bus News (July). We had a (O.T) Dutie (O.T standing for Overtime) for a short time at Basildon, where we travelled as a conductor (passenger) on the 3.08pm Basildon to Victoria to show the Bristol Greyhound driver the route to Southend as on this service X1 tickets were issued and accepted between the London and Southend section (lovely bit of overtime that was!).

X1 tickets could be used on X10, but X10 tickets couldn't be used on X1 between London and Southend, a cause of much confusion and argument.



### ***EASTERN NATIONAL ENTHUSIASTS GUILD***

***THE ORIGINAL EASTERN NATIONAL***

At the recent Canvey Open Day it was good to see Leyland PD1/ECW 3991 MPU52 was back at the Museum after a long spell in exile.

The Dennis Lancet chassis that has been presented to the Museum is 3549 BTW488. The caption stated that this had been rebuilt by Beadle, but in a photo that I was shown it appeared that it had an ECW body taken from a Leyland PLSC - this is still a matter of discussion.

Buses 500 - what more than former Eastern National 4206 WN0484 Bristol KSW5G which has now spent longer in service with South Wales Transport as their number 500 than with Eastern National.

You may remember that I wrote to the magazine earlier this year with a request for help with regards to tracing the history of Bedford OB NTW 706. The summer has passed, and no doubt many of you have seen at first hand the mechanical progress that has been made, by attendance at Southend, North Weald and Barleylands rallies. The response from the initial request and information gathered at the above rallies has been great. Within a few days of issuing the request we received an informative letter from the Bedford & Bristol Preservation Group and combining this with the letters of many kind individuals the following history has been pieced together:-

New 11/48      Supplied via Jessups Of Romford (144 London Road) to  
Dix Luxury Coaches of Wood Lane Dagenham.

Leased to London Transport and operated out of the  
Seven Kings and Hornchurch depots.

7/50      W.E Brumpton & Sons, Durham-On-Trent,  
Nottinghamshire.

Early 1970's Student group, Leicester.

Late 1974      Purchased in the form of a caravan by Mr D Warren,  
Bow, London, E3. Purchased with no interior, a  
replacement was purchased from Castle Point at  
Canvey Island. Interior now has two tables and  
seating capacity is reduced to C21F.

9/92      Mr M Smith (for continued preservation).

Late 1995      Mr J Tatam, (for continued preservation).

The mechanical restoration of the OB was a priority but now the 'underneath' has been completed thoughts now turn to the exterior. It would be fitting to revert the vehicle back to its original livery, that of Dix. However, despite constant searching at rally photograph stalls, no suitable material has arisen to ascertain the proportion, application and exact colours of the livery in question. Dix photographs exist, not surprisingly all black and white, and so far seem to consist of full fronted Bedfords. This is where my second appeal commences. Can anyone out there, who may have evidence of some nature or just a good memory, please clarify the Dix livery and the proportions as applied to the OB vehicles. Any information will be greatly appreciated! Please contact :-

Mark Lloyd. (Group member 710).  
4 New Cottages, Wakes Colne, Colchester, Essex, CO6 2BY.  
Tel 01787 223477

## The Leyland National 2 in Essex

The Leyland National 2's operated in recent years in Essex originated from various parts of England, Scotland & Wales.

Eastern National initially purchased MHJ 721V-32V and STW 18-20W fleetnumbers 1925-1939, these were later joined by 1940 KEP 829X from South Wales Transport. At the formation of Thamesway no LN2's were involved, however 1930 MHJ 726V was hired from Eastern National to Thamesway for a short period at the time of the split.

County Bus at Harlow acquired LN2's PNW 604/6W, PWY 585/6W, these were new to West Yorkshire.

When British Bus acquired Colchester Borough Transport their new fleet of Leyland Lynx's were soon replaced by eight original Midland Red vehicles (see below).

Capital Citybus at Dagenham use LN2's on routes to Lakeside, their fleet originated from Scotland, London & British Airports (see below). Nearby Blue Triangle at Rainham use exRibble VRN 818V and exSouth Yorkshire KWA 25N. Stephenson of Rochford in their capacity of dealer, purchased JTF 972W. During its stay at Rochford it was pressed into service including hiring to Capital Citybus.

Finally the latest operator in Southend Transport initially operated two exColchester LN2's 10/26 BVP 810V, EON 826V, the former was soon replaced by 9 EON 809V. Other Colchester vehicles have seen service at Southend at odd times. Finally Southend used Leyland demonstrator WRN 413V

### **COUNTY BUS**

KRS 534W  
KRS 538W  
KRS 539W  
GUW 454W  
B358 LOY  
B359 LOY  
NLP 389V  
NLP 391V

### **COLCHESTER**

9 EON 809V  
10 BVP 820V  
12 BVP 822V  
19 EON 829V  
21 EON 821V  
23 EON 823W  
25 EON 825V  
26 EON 826V

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR DECEMBER EBN to sub-editors by 4th December & Man. Editor by 7th December.