

ESSEX BUS NEWS

DECEMBER 1992

The monthly magazine of the ESSEX BUS ENTHUSIASTS GROUP

(Formerly the Eastern National Enthusiasts Group)

344



One of the Duple bodied Leyland Tigers acquired to operate City Saver Services between Southend and London, is seen at its home depot in Basilton.

(D Stebbing)

BEST WISHES FOR CHRISTMAS AND THE NEW YEAR.

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EASTERN NATIONAL

Allocation Changes

Tha changes given in EBN 342 as planned for 11/92 have taken place. No further changes have occurred since then.

Unusual Workings

CF 4013 was in use from Bishops Stortford on 20.11. being noted on service 133.

A return to days gone by on 26.11. and. 27.11. saw Bristol VRs covering one duty on services 44A/B in place of the now normal Nationals.

General

Further to the CBT notes in EBN 343, the West Mersea diversion was reinstated after about a week. Transit 0710 was noted in CR depot on 20.11. showing 7, and is assumed to have been used on the replacement shuttle.

The Evening Gazette reports that the new style blinds are being fitted to 30 vehicles at a cost of £2000. If they are a success it has been suggested that vehicles at other depots will be treated.

COLCHESTER BOROUGH TRANSPORT

Vehicles

Optare Vecta demonstrator J367 BNW was on loan between the 10th and 13th of November. It seats 41 passengers and is in LBL red livery. It was numbered D34 by CBT and operated in service being noted on 2 and 9A and may have been used on other routes.

Services

A Saturday service will be operated until early evening on 28.12.92. the Bank Holiday in lieu of Boxing Day.

No services will operate on 25/26 December or January 1st. Services will finish early on 24/31 December.

HEDINGHAM

- 17A From 7.12.92. withdrawn on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday.
94 Further to EBN 342, the Tuesday service previously operated by EN, became a ECC tendered service from 3.11.92.
131 A new service operating on Tuesday and Friday from 15.12.92. between Jaywick and Clacton has been registered.

COUNTY BUS

Vehicles

Dennis Dart J316 XVX is now an overall advert for Gasoline Alley Jean Store, Lakeside.

Services

654 A new service on schooldays commences on 4.1.93. and operates between Hoddesdon and Loughton via Broxbourne, Upshire, Waltham Abbey and Epping Forest.

General

A Government inspector has granted permission for a new bus depot on the Magnet Estate in West Thurrock. He awarded partial costs against Thurrock Council for turning down planning for the new depot.

OTHER OPERATORS REST OF ESSEX

BEESTONS Have introduced a Long Melford to Colchester service, with four journeys on Monday to Saturday from an unknown date. This may well be part of the current bus war in Sudbury with Chambers.

CUNNINGHAM Service 369 will be withdrawn from 31.12.92.

DISTRICT BUS Service 110 will be withdrawn from 30.12.92. From 30.11.92. the Saturday service on route 223 once again became an ECC contract.

ESPAN UK Further to EBN 343 services depart from Tarpots at 0940 or Hadleigh at 1130, 1430 or 1950 to Lakeside via Canvey. Return journeys from Lakeside are at 1300, 1615, 1830 and 0010. Service E2 departs Canvey King Canute at 2130 on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, returning from Aviation Way at 0205. One vehicle is owned KBD 58N a Plaxton/Ford, operated from Morbeck Farm on the A127 at Wickford.

FREEMANS The item in EBN 342 relating to an am journey refers to service 16A. From 4.11.92. service 128 was rerouted to serve Balls Green.

HARRIS Eastbourne 30 (MNO 64P) which is an ex CBT vehicle is currently on loan. Coach 9242 FH now carries Euroline names on its all white livery.

MYALL Revised timetable introduced on service 43 from 9.11.92.

RAYLEIGH ROADWAYS A new vehicle is K710 RNR a ?/Caetano which is thought to have replaced F372 MUT.

ROUTEMASTERS Service H29 was withdrawn between Harlow and St Margrets from 4.12.92.

SM TRAVEL A new service numbered 390 between Nazeing and Tylers Cross was introduced on 14.12.92. with two round trips on Monday to Friday. A further new service is G34 operating between Harlow and Welwyn Garden City, with one journey each way from an unknown date.

SUPREME A new Iveco minicoach is K2 SUP.

VICEROY A revised timetable will be introduced on service 14 from 7.12.92 with additional journeys operated under contract to ECC.

WESTS A revised timetable is to be introduced on services 531/2 from 4.1.93.

Thamesway Ltd

Aquired Vehicles

It is understood that a number of Leyland Tiger coaches are due for Citysaver services. At the time of writing no further details were available.

Vehicles on Loan

1602/21/23/24 F602/21/23/24 RTC Leyland Lynx B49F

On loan from Bristol Cityline at Hadleigh depot for operation on certain routes to cope with the extra demand for Christmas. 1602/24 arrived on 26-11-92 and entered service on 27-11-92 while 1621/23 arrived on 27-11-92.

The Western National Ivecos which were on loan at Basildon were returned to Badgerline at Bath and not Plymouth as recorded last month.

Temporary Allocations

To cover extra demand on Citysaver services Lynx 1400 was loaned to BN between 16-11-92 and 20-11-92 and Lynx 1419 was also loaned to BN on the 21st and 22nd November while Eastern National Lynx 1413 was on loan to HH from Chelmsford for a short period.

Repaints

Citysaver Coach 513 repainted in Citysaver livery ex National Express livery.

Service Revisions

307 Converted on Sundays from Olympian to Dennis Dart operation as from 1st November.

General

BD Bristol VRs 3110/13 are still regularly used on School Contracts, while 3101 is in use by the Driving School and 3216 is D/L(D) still at BN depot. BD Mercedes in 301 batch now appear more frequently on Brentwood town services. Citysaver Coaches 508-13 have Thamesway Legal Name and Address so therefore have been aquired and are not on loan from either Brewers/United Welsh or Western National. Thamesway have gained Basildon Park and Ride contract, to be operated by BN and HH. Noted in use on Saturday 28th November were HH Leyland Nationals 1857 and 1871.

Fares and Tickets

As from November 15th Southend Shoparound was introduced, details are as follows:-

- 1) 80p Dayrider (Rover) after 9am Mon-Fri and all day Saturday and Sunday

2) £1-20 Dayrider before 9am Mon-Fri

Children half price and valid for unlimited travel for a day in Southend, Castle Point and Rochford areas. Also Return Fare for the price of a single.

3) Citysaver £2-25 return Southend to Lakeside valid after 8-25 from Southend and return by 3-50 from Lakeside Mon-Fri, valid all day Saturday.

4) £1 (50p children) return Southend to Basildon after 9am Mon-Fri and all Day Saturday and Sunday.

This offer replaces the Fares Bonanza introduced in June.

Also being introduced early January is a Citysaver Premium Annual Season Ticket for £730.

Publicity

Customers Suggestions and Complaints Policy undated.

Citysaver Good News - More Coaches and Annual Season Ticket undated

Southend Shoparound dated 15-11-92

Fair Trading Probe

Rival Southend Transport have complained to the Office of Fair Trading about Thamesways Citysaver service and the special fare offer on Southend routes. The Office of Fair Trading has agreed to investigate under the Competition Act. The inquiry likely to last around six months could be passed to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission for a final decision.



Acquired Vehicles - ex Southampton City, 291-8, 10/92

191-8	C291-8 PTP	Ds Dom DDA1023	East Lancs	H45/31F
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Although new 12/88, they entered service 1/89, replacing Southampton's last RM's. They are in the new yellow with two red bands livery, with the addition of a black skirt. They are allocated to NP depot.

Vehicles On Hire - from Ipswich Borough Transport

104	YDX104Y	Ds Fn HC SDA408	East Lancs	B44D	new 3/83
107/8/12	C107 SDX etc	Ds Fn HC SDA416	NCME	B49D	new 3/86

Three of these four have been on loan at any one time since early 9/92 to cover for the unreliability of the ex-Kettlewell Scanias. They remain on loan in mid-11/92 and are named 'Griffon', 'Kestrel', 'Kite' and 'Sea Eagle'.

7/12	MRT 7/12P	Ld An AN68/1R	Roe	H43/29D	new 1976
23	SDX23R	Ld An AN68/1R	Roe	H43/29D	new 2/77

These were hired from Ipswich Borough, 7/12, in late 9/92 to cover for buses used on the Angel tube station bus service, with 23 arriving on 16/10/92. They are named 'Dauntless', 'Gladys' and 'Phoenician'

2014/39/46BOK14V etc	MCW Mb DR102/18 MCW	H43/30F new 1979/80
2053/9/62 BOK 53V etc	MCW Mb DR102/18 MCW	H43/30F new 1979/80
2281/4 KJW281W etc	MCW Mb DR102/22 MCW	H43/30F new 1981
2419 LOA419X	MCW Mb DR102/22 MCW	H43/30F new 1982

These are on hire from West Midlands Travel to cover for the late delivery of the new Olympians. They are fitted with blinds from ex - Frontrunner AN's, allocated to DM depot, mostly used on the 248 and 252.

Vehicles on Order

The 7 Leyland Olympians are not now expected until late 11/92.

Vehicles Rebuilt

282/6/9/91 (F282 MHJ etc) to H46/31F (ex H46/27D)
297 (JWF497W) to H46/30F (ex H46/27D) - states 32 incorrectly on staircase bulkhead)

Repaints

261 (H261 K VX), 282/6/9/91 (F282 MHJ etc), 297 (JWF497W) - yellow
RM 429 (XMD81A) to yellow with a large dark red arrowhead 'C' towards the front on both offside and nearside, which stretches from the skirt right up to close to the bottom of the upper deck windows. The 'C' trails five thin dark red 'go faster' stripes towards the rear, one of which continues around the rear to join up with the stripe on the other side. The fleetname is in the mouth of another 'C', in a lighter red, between decks towards the rear.

General

NP depot's Metrobus 120 (JHE150W) was an unusual visitor to DM depots route 248 on 20/11/92. The Dennis Lance demonstrator, J215 OCW, in Merseybus livery was on hire on 16-8/9/92 and ran on the 246 and 348. Kentish Bus 440 (BPL483T), a Leyland National/East Lancs Greenway conversion, was inspected at DM on 28/9/92.

Services

The contract for the Sunday service on the following routes has been awarded to the Company by Herts. C.C., starting on Sunday 25/10/92 :

SBI	Stevenage - Chells or Chells Manor, every 30 minutes
SB7/8	Stevenage - Bragbury End, each every hour
SB9	Stevenage - Symonds Green, every 30 minutes
340	Hemel Hempstead - St. Albans - Welwyn Garden City, hourly.

SB1/7/8/9 were previously operated by Sovereign, 340 by Welwyn-Hatfield Line.

L.R.T. 246 - Starting 26/10/92, the Corbets Tey journeys were diverted to Cranham due problems with the turning circle : these were later resolved and from 9/11/92 the former route was resumed.

Running Numbers

D6 - DM 31+	257 - NP 101+
296 - DM 21+	251 - NP 178
	236 - NP 241+
	Mobility routes : NP 197 - 199

PRINTER FAILURE

As my printer has ceased to function the remainder of this months EBN is hand written.

ST SUB EDITOR

A number of applications have been received and an announcement of the new Sub editor will be made next month.

MANAGING EDITOR

This position has still to be filled. It is essential that someone comes forward to fill this vacancy. The majority of the magazine will be ready typed and only a small amount of effort in typing editorial and collecting will be required. I will continue until March 1993 ONLY! in a temporary position.



GRAHAMs, Kelvedon are operating this former Eastern National and Heddingham, Bedford YMQ-S. TJN 981W. (D Arnold)

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

If you were due to renew your membership, with receipt of your November magazine and have not yet done so, please do so as soon as possible. This will avoid any delay with your January magazine.

ROCHFORD MEETINGS

The next meeting at the Freight House will be held on February 9th 1993. This will be the Group AGM and will be followed by a Slide Show on Buses in East Germany.

The March meeting will be held on 9th March 1993 and it is hoped our guest speaker will be Trevor Smallwood, Chairman and MD of the Badgerline Group.

Many thanks to all members who have supported Rochford meetings this year - Peter Snell.

APLOGIES FOR THE HANDWRITTEN CONTENT THIS MONTH.