

ESSEX BUS NEWS

Issue 493
May 2005



Essex Bus Enthusiasts Group

serving Essex since 1964

www.essexbus.org.uk

Essex Bus Enthusiasts Group - Directory

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Join this scheme to receive Essex County Council timetable books and updates. Please contact Derek Stebbing for information or visit

www.essexbus.org.uk

YOUR REPORTS AND OBSERVATIONS

Members reports are always welcome. Please send them direct to the relevant Sub-Editor.

Photos (prints, slides or digital images - in JPG format) are also always welcome - please send to David Harman.

The Editors exercise the normal discretion to publish contributions in full, in part, or not at all and cannot guarantee publication in any particular month.

Views expressed in EBN do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Group.

Every effort is made to ensure accuracy but the Group cannot accept responsibility for any errors published.

PHOTOS/PUBLICATIONS

- Please note: all orders for Publications/ photos should be sent to the Chairman, Alan Osborne, 7, Farley Drive, Seven Kings, ILFORD, Essex. IG3 8LT

ESSEX BUS NEWS

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Eastern National Enthusiasts Guild

David Harman - as above

Problems with your subscription, missing, defective or damaged EBN, or need back numbers? Contact the **Membership Officer**, Derek Stebbing, as shown under 'Subscriptions'.

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Chris Stewart

Dates for your diary

ROCHFORD MEETINGS

Venue: **Pullman Suite, Freight House, Rochford**, (adjacent to Rochford station). **19.30** onwards. Refreshments available. All members and guests are very welcome. £1 donation towards room hire please. *Richard Delahoy*

Summer Special:

- ▶ **Tuesday July 12:** open evening, meet for a gossip etc. A small screen slide show will be running continuously, looking at events in 2005. NB: this meeting will be held in the upstairs Committee Room, **not** the Pullman Suite.

Autumn season:

- ▶ Meetings will be held on **Tuesdays September 13, October 11, November 8 and December 13** - further details to be announced later, but in the meanwhile, mark these in your diaries now!

COLCHESTER MEETINGS

Venue: Downstairs room at the **Friends Meeting House, Church Street, Colchester**, just south of "Jumbo" (the water tower) and behind the Mercury Theatre. Town centre bus stops and parking are nearby. **20.00 to 22.00** (doors open at **19.30**). All members and guests are very welcome. £1 donation towards room hire please. *Dave Arnold*

Summer 2005 programme:

- ▶ **Friday 13 May** - A selection of black and white photographs - London Traffic Area Coach Operators - a perspective - The first 20 years - 1946-1966 by Fred Lawrance, previously of Dagenham.
- ▶ **Friday 10 June** - Slide show "Glasgow then and now - a comparison" by Steven Hughes

RALLIES, OPEN DAYS

- ▶ **Sunday 5 June ~ 31st Annual Southend Bus & Transport Show:** Southchurch Park East, Lifstan Way, Southend. *EBEG stall is planned to attend.*
- ▶ **Saturday 25 June ~ Open Day at Stagecoach London's E15 Garage:** 11am - 5pm, Waterden Road, E15. Shuttle bus to/from Stratford Station and also to/from Holloway Garage where Metroline are also holding an Open Day.
- ▶▶▶ **The North Weald Bus Rally on Sunday 26 June** is understood to have been **CANCELLED**, as there have been problems in reaching agreement between the organisers and the site's owners.

From the Editor ...

EBN 492 ~ April was not a good month: Firstly, the printer was sent two files - the original and a later, revised one. A mix-up resulted in ... the original file being used. Pages 16 (First) and 17 (Arriva) were transposed; page 26 repeated part of the text (on Southend CT timetables) from page 19 of March's EBN.

Mix-up no.2 was more serious and concerned the mailing list used to create the envelope addresses. This led to only about 60% of members being sent April EBN. Rectifying this took some time.

We are sorry for this. All members should now have their copy of April EBN. If, by

chance, you haven't, please contact the Membership Secretary: Derek Stebbing, 'Conifers', Thorpe Road, Weeley, Clacton, C016 9JJ (derekstebbing@hotmail.com)

To make amends, EBN has **four extra pages** this month, which enables us to include a historical feature on Primrose Coaches originally contributed by Peter Snell, now with additional material from Alan Osborne.

WHERE'S MY MAG?

What to do if your mag doesn't turn up ...

Members' contributions should normally* reach the relevant Editor by the **first Wednesday** of the month. The printers normally* despatch EBN on the **second Friday** of the month. (* dates will vary because of Bank Holidays etc.). The **despatch date** is posted on the Group's website: www.essexbus.org.uk as soon as it is advised by the printers. Details of known delays are also posted on the website. Check there first.

Allow about two weeks from despatch date for possible postal delays before contacting the **Membership Secretary** (address above) for a replacement. Please note: Derek Stebbing is the **ONLY** person who holds spare copies. **NONE** of the Editors have any, so please do not write to us - we can't help you!

Finally, as members will appreciate, EBN is entirely dependent (as are all Group activities) on volunteers and the use of their spare time. Personal and professional commitments compete for that time, and sometimes have to take priority. As with the subject we are all interested in, a 100% perfect service is the target.. Unfortunately, sometimes, for a host of reasons, this cannot always be achieved.†

David Harman

† further volunteers to help us get closer to that target are always welcome.

SALES ITEMS

The following items have been kindly donated to the Group from the estate of our late member Eric Thompson. We are most grateful for this bequest which will provide useful revenue for the Group funds.

► **ENEG/EBEG/EBN (1964 - 2004)**

A complete set of 40 years of the Eastern National Enthusiasts Group newsletter (from number 1, January 1964) through the Essex Bus Enthusiasts Group newsletter and magazine and then Essex Bus News to 2004. These are available for sale by auction as a **COMPLETE LOT**, they will not be split up. Excess unwanted copies can be dealt with by arrangement. They are housed in two boxes. Reserve price : £20.

► **BUSES ILLUSTRATED/BUSES magazines**

A collection of Buses Illustrated and Buses magazines from 1960 onwards. There is almost a complete run from 1970. These are available for sale by auction in **YEARLY LOTS**. Reserve price £5 per year. Also available are certain copies of **BUSES EXTRA**.

Interested members should send their bids to the address below, where queries can also be answered. Carriage will be **EXTRA** at cost, or buyer can collect. **In view of the delays with April EBN, the closing date will now be 31 MAY 2005.** Address for bids and enquiries :

Alan Osborne, 7, Farley Drive, Seven Kings, ILFORD, Essex IG3 8LT
020 8590 2021 dimequin@bushinternet.com

The Maldon Blockade



above: **NIBS Scania P655 VWX** heads for Chelmsford on the 31D; Sandon; 20 April.

below: **Clinton Mercedes M889 ECD** on hire to NIBS, leaving Chelmsford for South Woodham Ferrers on the 36D; 30 April.

both: Chris Stewart

Essex Service Changes

Arriva Southend

1-Apr-05	4	Weekdays	Southend Bus Station - Landwick
	4A	Daily	Southend Bus station - Shoeburyness, East Beach
	14	Weekdays	Westcliff High Schools - Shoeburyness, East Beech
			REVISED TIMETABLES
3-Apr-05	1	Daily	Shoeburyness, Blackgate Road - Rayleigh Rail Station
			REVISED TIMETABLE on Sundays with additional evening journeys.
3-Apr-05	5A	Sundays	Southend Bus Station - Rayleigh Rail Station
			SERVICE WITHDRAWN

Carters Coach Services

11-Apr-05	750	TTH	Colchester Bus Station - Capel St Mary, White Horse
			REVISED ROUTE and TIMETABLE with service operating direct between Capel St Mary and Dedham Heath, Crossroads following the same route and times as the Ipswich Bus timetable for MWF.

First

4-Apr-05	61	M-S	Wivenhoe, Park Hotel - Mile End, Defoe Crescent
			ROUTE CHANGE with the service no longer operating via North Station in the Wivenhoe to Mile End direction.
4-Apr-05	77	M-S	Colchester Bus Station - Wivenhoe Rail Station
	78	Daily	Colchester General Hosp - Brightlingsea, Regent Road.
	78A	Daily	Colchester General Hosp - Brightlingsea, Victoria Place
			ROUTE CHANGE: 77/8/A no longer operating via North Stn in the Brightlingsea to Colchester direction.
25-Apr-05	101	M-S	Wickford Rail Station - Basildon Hospital
			REVISED ROUTE and timetable with the service being extended to and from Basildon Hospital.

Heddingham Omnibuses

11-Apr-05	14	Fridays	Chelmsford, Retail Market - Tiptree, Thurstable Sch.
			TEMPORARY DIVERSION because of the long term roadworks on the A414 at Danbury buses on this service will operate via Ulting, Hatfield Peverel and A12 to and from Chelmsford.
18-Apr-05	80	M-F	Fordham, Memorial - Boxted, Homedale Corner
			TIMETABLE CHANGE

NIBS

1-Sep-04	67	Schooldays	Ostend, The George - Ingatestone, Anglo European School.
			TEMPORARY DIVERSION of the route due to the long term roadworks on the A414 at Danbury. Buses will use Well Lane and Woodhill Road to Sandon and then join A130 to the A12 and then normal line of route.

Richmonds Coaches

25-Apr-05	43	M-S	Chrishall Garage - Royston, Roysia School
			REVISED TIMETABLE
28-Apr-05	26	Th	Royston Bus Station - Bishops Stortford Interchange
			REVISED ROUTE/TIMETABLE with section of the route between Hare Street and The Hormeads withdrawn.
29-Apr-05	334	F	Standon, Standon Hill (Vintage House Hotel) - Cambridge, Drummer Street Bus Station
			REVISED TIMETABLE

David Tomlin

Axed Southend tendered routes



Southend Council withdrew financial support for all bus services after Thursday 31 March, (Sunday routes, after 28 March). *Steven Rowe* provides last-day (31 March) pictures of two now-defunct workings: *above: Arriva 2188 (R188 DNM)* on the very last 29 (23.10), at Southend Bus Station. *below: First 46109 (K909 CVW)* complete with 'Last Bus' banners, on the 23 in Eastwood Road.

Essex Publicity News

This month we look at a few of the websites available for operators in the county.

www.firstgroup.com

The opening page allows easy navigation, to a drop-down list of places served. I selected Essex and found a well-laid out page, with a number of options. The maps only gives Overground maps for Chelmsford, Basildon and Southend. The timetable feature is easy to use, with a route, place or full list of timetables available. A brief play found that the search option by place worked very well, and is useful for those that know their destination, but not the route number. The fares/tickets gives an overview as to the various types of tickets available, including local area daily, weekly, monthly etc. The recruitment page, reflects the continued shortage of drivers, but with no other vacancies!

The screenshot shows the First Essex website interface. On the left is a navigation menu with links like 'First Home', 'UK Bus Home', 'Regional Home', 'Maps / Routes', 'Timetables', 'Fares / Tickets', 'Recruitment', 'News & Initiatives', 'Green Travel', 'Coachlink', 'Fastcards', and 'Contact Us'. The main content area is titled 'Traveller Information' and 'UK Bus'. It features a search bar with 'To search Essex' and 'To search another area' options. Below the search bar is a map of Essex with the instruction 'Click the map to zoom in.' Underneath the map is a table of bus routes and their destinations.

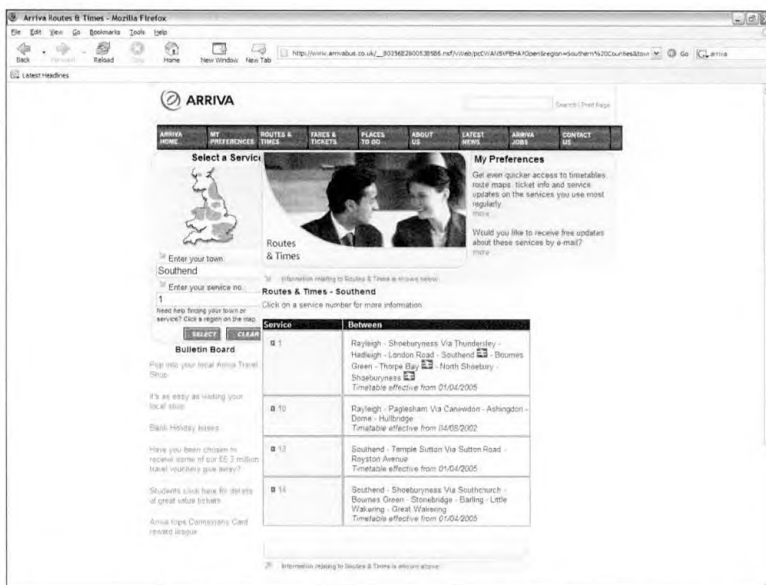
Click the key below to find times for your route.	
Other services	Other services
40/50	31/31X/36
41/51	33
42	39
43	71/72/72A/73
45	100
47	351
48	352
54/54A/56/56A	Diamond
Terminus	Hall & Ride

Colchester Overground was launched on April 11, but no web map yet; this is the Chelmsford page.

Marks are lost for the Fastcard page (mention is made of a link, but it's not there), holiday services (still shows Easter, but neither of the May Bank Holidays) and for no mention of the closure of the A414 at Danbury, on any page (despite news, service changes and route diversion pages being available)

www.arriva.co.uk

For some reason, you are asked to select a country, which then takes you to www.arrivabus.co.uk which took sometime to download, despite my high-speed broadband connection. (This may be a one off and not the fault of Arriva). You are then prompted to enter the name of the town, rather than choosing from a dropdown list.



Got there eventually - Southend service 1 (plus 10, 13, 14)

This then displays a list of timetables, but it was at this stage, that the average member of the public would probably have given up. The 'enter your town' feature, could not find Rayleigh, Hadleigh or Shoeburyness and suggested using the interactive map. Clicking on Essex, I couldn't locate Southend, but clicking on Kent, located it! (I know it's part of Southern Counties, but this is just plain daft). The timetable list only features commercial services, so no mention of the Sunday 31.

The fares and tickets feature is good and also gives a well-defined summary of availability.

The Bank Holiday services note was also up to date.

Most of the links were national, rather than local and it couldn't find any places of interest in Southend.

The comment of the home page, that if you're not sure of which Arriva service you require to get from A to B, then visit the Traveline website, just about sums it up.

Ian Ransom

I struggle with the Arriva site too. The 'select country' is because Arriva also run buses in Denmark, Italy etc. But, many other websites automatically identify which country you're in and route you to the appropriate page.

The Javascript program that drives the service look-up is quirky if you use the Firefox browser. A minor point: searching for Southend service 1, eventually brings up service 1 and all the other services beginning with 1 - 10, 13 and 14 - flaky programming here. On the plus side, you *can* store your five favourite (!) services, and receive e-mail updates on these.

I agree with Ian, I wonder just how many people would actually use the Arriva website (or, for that matter, First's) on a regular basis for checking bus times or planning journeys.

David Harman

First Essex

New & Cascaded Vehicles

To amplify the information in EBN491, Solo demonstrator YJ54BTE worked Harwich town services 20 and 22 from 9th to 16th February, being handed back after use that day. It carries a blue and silver livery; the Bright-Tech destination displays were re-programmed with Harwich destinations for the duration of its stay, and for administrative purposes it took the Sema number of withdrawn ancillary fleet vehicle 90246. At the time of writing, however, there was no confirmation of any such Solos being on order.

Allocation changes

period 28 Mar to 24 Apr 2005

FGC=First Group cascade, i.e. transfer to/from another *First* fleet
(A)=acquired; Anc=Ancillary fleet; RES=spare/reserve (licensed);
D/L(RES)=spare/reserve (delicensed); D/L(D)=delicensed for disposal;
DS=Driving School

20069 DS-sold; 34810 CR-FGC; 43739 RES-CR; 43740 RES-CR; 43741 RES-CR;
43742 RES-CR; 43743 RES-CR; 43744 RES-CR; 46179 CR-HH; 46180 CR-HH;
46181 CR-HH; 46182 CR-HH; 46811 BE-CF; 46813 CF-BE; 46817 CF-BE; 46822 CF-BE;
46823 BE-CF; 46828 BE-CF; 51476 BE-RES; 51779 BN-RES; 51806 HH-D/L(RES);
51808 HH-BE; 51809 HH-RES; 62511 DS-D/L(D); 62521 HH-RES; 62522 HH-RES;
62523 D/L(D)-sold; 62524 HH-DS; 62529 D/L(D)-sold

51476 has been in use at BE, and 51779 at BN. During the school holidays in April, vehicles 34816/7, 43729 and 46817 were on temporary loan to BN from CF. 62521/2 have been in use from BN, pending entry into service of 61054/7.

Disposals:

- 3.05 62523 62529 to Hardwick (dealer), Carlton for scrap
20069 *confirmation to follow*
- 4.05 34810 to First Hampshire & Dorset (at Weymouth) - *note 34814 shown in EBN492 should also read First Hampshire & Dorset not First Somerset & Avon*

Repaints:

- 4.05 67001 67002 67003 all to First standard livery
20110 to First coach livery (ex Green Line)

VEHICLE WORKINGS

Rail replacements (Sundays & Bank Hol Mons, Shenfield-Chelmsford-Witham):

Amongst the regular vehicles from First, Fourways and Chambers, Hadleigh's elderly but smart Olympian 34698 (B698BPU) was used on 24th April, while buses from NIBS and Talisman also assisted on Monday 2nd May.

Unusual sightings:

Use of Volvo B10Ms 20102/10 on the X22 are no longer recorded as these vehicles are kept as spares for that purpose

April: 11th CR34307 on 64A, CF46811 on 54



*Chris
Stewart's
First
photo diary*

above: **62522** (F422 MJN), is temporarily at Basildon until cascaded Scania's are ready. Here it is in very spruce condition in Long Ridings Avenue, Hutton on 29 April.

below: **42921** (EU05 AUN) in Overground 42 branding (red) in Chelmsford; 20 April.



- 13th CF53112 on X30, CR67001/6/8 all on X22
- 14th CR67001 on 65, CR67005 on X22
- 15th CR34011 on 71, CF34808 on 72, CR43740 on 67A, CR46182 on 61, CR46829 on 70 (08.00 ex CR, usually double decker), CR47106 on 64A, CF47224 on X30, CR67001 on X22
- 18th CF34808 on 72, CR43715 on 66, CR46119 on 75 (15.00 ex CR, usually a Lance or d/d), CR62408 on 71, CR67001 on 64A, CR67007 on X22
- 19th CF34818 on 72, CR46182 on 61, BN51802 on 80 (usually Dart), CR67003 on 61, CR67007 on X22 (and 20th)
- 20th BN34812 on 551, BN(CF)34817 on 351, CF46813 on 41, CF47223 on 36X
- 21st CR47101 on 64A, CR67004 on 65
- 22nd CR34303 on 64A, CR46809 on 75, CR46829 on 61, CR47101 on 77, CR47105 on 71
- 23rd CN51889 on 8 (usually Dart), CR67002 on X22 (and 24th)
- 24th CR65679 on X22
- 25th CR34303/5 on 66/66A, CR47101 on 61, CR47103 on 64, CR47106 on 64A, CR56002 on 88B (17.50 ex CR), CR65679 on 71
- 26th CR34301 on 64A, CR34308 on 61, BN43713 on 860/80/82, BN46134 on 351, CR47101 on 105, CR47106 on 64A
- 27th CR34014 on 193, CR47102 on 64, CR47106 on 64A, (BN)62521 on 351
- 28th CR67005 on X22, CR67008 on 61
- 29th CR20110 on 88, CR34018 on 88B, CF43731 on 352, CR43744 on 67C, BN46127 on 100, CF46811 on 54, CF46823 on 36X, CR46829 on 64A, CR47101 on 78, CR47104 on 65, CR47105 on 61, CF47106 on 61, CF47219 on 72, CF53112 on X30, CR67007 on X22
- 30th CR47104 on 64A

- May:
- 1st CR65679 on X22
 - 4th BN31198 on 551, CF47219 on training in Laindon
 - 5th CF43732 on 42, CF43733 on 48, BN46118 (in Thamesway pink sash livery) on 351, BN46804 on 551, BE46816 on training, CF47228 on 72, CR67007 on X22, BN67039/40 on 100

Big Cat Diary

Lynx 62521/2 were transferred from HH after use on Friday 23rd April, bringing to an end an association with this type dating back to August 1988, when 1400 (E400HWC) was the first to be allocated to Hadleigh. The 30 Leyland Lynx were Eastern National's first post-privatisation order for new vehicles. With schools returning during the week commencing 26th April, one or other of the remaining pair was to be seen on Doddinghurst-Brentwood County High School service 860 and Hutton locals 81/82, certainly up to the time of writing (6th May). Meanwhile the two sets of Brentwood diversions finished on or about 11th April, the 81/82 reverting to its normal route. The use of 62521 on the 351 on 27th April is thought to have marked the first appearance of a Lynx on this service since the end of January 2004, when 1414/5 (as they then were) moved from CF to BN, leaving 'North Essex' depots devoid of the type.

The allocations of the remaining Lynx are as follows (old fleetnumbers in brackets):

62506	(1406)	D/L(D)	62524	(1424)	Driving Trainer (BN)
62511	(1411)	D/L(D)	90242	(1413)	D/L(D)
62520	(1420)	Driving Trainer (BN)	90244	(1427)	Driving Trainer (CF)
62521	(1421)	Reserve (BN)	90245	(1428)	Driving Trainer (CF)
62522	(1422)	Reserve (BN)			

Colchester Overground

An 'Overground' network was launched in Colchester on 11th April, covering routes 61 (orange), 64/64A (blue), 65 (red), 66/66A (green) and 77/78 (purple). The former service 42 Alexander-bodied Darts did not enter service on the 66/66A until 21st April, 43739/41/2 being noted that day. One had been noted in use prior to that on other routes. 'Overground' branding is carried at CR by 34011/3/4/8, 43715/6, 43739-44, 62406/7/9/10, 65650-4 and 65678/86-92; it is to be added shortly (using turquoise) for the 67/67A on newly repainted 67001-3 (67002 incidentally being the first vehicle to be repainted from 'Barbie 2' into the new standard livery).

Other news

First Eastern Counties green Norwich P&R-liveried Scania 65552 (R552CNG) was noted at CR on 25th April, en route to Harris for repaint into standard livery.

Depot News

BE: two corrections to EBN492, namely that the Olympians new to Braintree were 4016/7 (C416/7HJN, now 34816/7) and this was in 1986, not 1984. 4018/9 (C418/9HJN) started life at Brentwood (BD), after 4018 had been lent to Southdown for evaluation.

First Essex report EBN493

Sources: Own observations, plus many thanks to *First Essex* and to A Bird, J Clayton, M Farmer, N Field, I Hardie, A Kelleher, P Mansbridge, J Podgorski, J Salmon, C Sigston, S Simister, D Smith, A Spindler, D Stewart, N Turner, R Webb, W White, R Whitley, *Essex Bus and South West y-groups*, *Real Bus News* group, LOTS, PSV Circle, *Terminus*.

Chris Stewart



Driving Trainer Lynx 90245 (F428 MJN) in Colchester bus station; 22 April. Roger Tuke



over ground 65

A drawback of route branding is the dilemma you (as depot supervisor) face when no branded bus is available. Do you cancel the journey ...? ... or send out a non-branded bus ...? ... or even, horror of horrors, send out a bus with the *wrong* branding?

Decisions! Decisions!

The least of the three evils applied on 22 April, when Colchester *Overground 65* was being worked by non-branded former Cambus Olympian 34301 (L301 PWR) and former Grampian Dart 47105 (N205 VSA).

both Roger Tuke



ARRIVA EAST HERTS & ESSEX LIMITED

Vehicles out

2125 (N195 NMJ): gone from storage at Stevenage depot of *Arriva the Shires* 4/05
2139 (N369 JGS): *Arriva the Shires* (Hitchin) 4/05
5836 (WLT 916 ex C816 BYY): *Arriva the Shires* (Aylesbury) 4/05

ARRIVA SOUTHEND LIMITED

Vehicles in

5829 Leyland Olympian/Alexander (E229 CFC) (It remains to be seen whether 5829 retains that number or is renumbered 5883 in sequence with the other two ex-Oxford E-CFC's already at Southend)

Vehicles out

Dennis Trident/Alexander 5451 (W451 XKX) to *Arriva the Shires* at Garston for preparation for entry to service at Ware. Just one Trident remains at Southend - 5443, which is due to depart on 10 May. It is expected to be replaced by 5092 (F642 LMJ)

Other News

Sutton Road in Southend reopened from 18 April, with service 60 resuming its normal route.

Unusual working

April 11th: 2193 on routes 7 and 8.

Fleet renumberings

Arriva Southern Counties renumbered most vehicles from 29th April, to eliminate the E-prefixes, the former London & Country class codes (DSL, etc), and any clashes of number. Everything is now in the "Maidstone & District" scheme, including all vehicles at Southend and those on hire to Burton's at Colchester. Below are the details:

Grays

DSL47 to **3047**
E3388/89/90, E3400-03, E3421/23-29/31 lose E prefix
E4500-13 to **3500-13**
E5388 to **5388**
YFB160 to **F160**

Southend

E2188/91/92/93 to **1188/91/92/93**
DS 007/8/9 and DS 024 to **3007/8/9, 3124**
E3218/20-26 to **3318/20-26**
E3379/84/87/91-97 lose E prefix
E5273/4/6/7/8, E5286/7/8 lose E prefix
E5387/92-96/99, E5402-05 lose E prefix
E5443/51 E prefix

907/8 to **5807/8**
YFB580 to **F580**
YDT47 to **T047**
YDT603/5 to **T603/5**

Colchester (hired to Tellings-Golden Miller for Burton's)

516 to **3607**
613/4/7 to **7613/4/7**
E2174 to **1174**
E2243 to **1143**
DS 004,006,015,020 to **3004/06/15/17**
DS 021,023 to **3121/23**
E3241 to **3141**
E3246 to **3346**
E3341/2/3 to **3341/2/3**
E3346 to **3348** and E3347 to **3347**
E3406 to **3406**
E4335/39 to **3535/39**
E5389/97/98, E5407/8/9 lose E prefix

Above is the full total of 29 Arriva-owned vehicles current at Colchester.

These are the paper renumberings, which may take some time to filter down to actually appearing on the vehicles. Reports, please of vehicles bearing the new numbers!

Grays fleetlist corrections

Dave Stewart has provided some corrections to the fleetlist for Grays operations which appeared in EBN492.

Add Dart SLF **3424** (P424 HVX) to the fleetlist - This is the vehicle which caught fire but it was not very badly damaged (in spite of appearances) and will be repaired. It remains on the current fleet allocation at Grays.

4510 The registration is KC51 NFO - this was changed to this mark three years ago!!

4511-13 are shorter 9.4m DAF SB120s with a seating capacity of B27D for route 346.

Disposals

(EBN492/23) Former Southend Tiger/Duple 521 (B100 XTW) was transferred to **Arriva Colchester** in December 1999. It passed to **Stephensons** in June 2002. It was sold to **First Wyvern** (as First Midland Red confusingly prefers to be known) in late 2003 as a driver trainer. However, it was on service use, as observed by *Dave Arnold* when he took the photograph in 2004. *Roger Tuke*

With thanks this month to *Dave Stewart* and *Paul Brain*

Vehicles in

DAF SB220/Ikarus J56 GCX returned to Colchester on 7/4/05, but has not seen any use.

Vehicles Out

Scania coaches K113/Van Hool M52/3 VWW went to Arriva the Shires 'on paper' in 2/05, but did not physically move until 4/05 and 3/05 respectively.

Changes to services and vehicle workings

Major service revisions from 25th April saw changes to service 2, 5 and 8/8A. (see EBN492/8).

Service 2 is now Severalls Park-Horkesley Heath via Mile End Rd.

Service 8/A are now Monkwick-Highwoods via General Hospital. The only variation between 8/A now is around Monkwick Estate. Both 2 and 8 retain their daytime M-Sat 15 min frequency. Note the ECC contracted M-Sat evening journeys of 2 and 8 retain their old routings.

The M-Sat peak-only **8B** (Monkwick-Boxted) is now **2B**.

Route 5 is now ASDA-Prettygate and has been cut from every 10 mins M-Sat daytime to hourly M-F only.

Route 8 is now mainly operated with Darts and B6s made surplus to requirements by the cut in the PVR of the 5. The 5 now needs only one bus, usually a Vario off-peak and a double-decker in peaks. Route 2 continues to be worked by Lynxes but now Darts, B6's and even route 1-branded Dart SLFs appear. The route 1 SLFs also often appear on the 8 daytimes. Double-deckers are now limited to schools and peaks. A double-decker usually works the 2B.

The new Dart SLFs fairly often stray from their assigned 1 route. They have been sighted on the 2, 5 and 8 during daytimes. On Mon-Sat evenings, the SLFs now normally work the Essex CC journeys on 1,2 and 8, which had previously been Vario or step-entrance Dart or B6 operated.

Fares on commercial services (and the evening ECC supported journeys on 1, 2 and 8) were revised from April 25. Network day and period tickets were unchanged, as was the one stage 60p single; other fares rose by 10p or 20p and the transfer ticket increased to £1.60. Peak returns and peak child singles were also revised.

A new version of the Network Colchester timetable book was issued for the April 25 revisions. Members who would like a copy should send an SAE to

Richard Delahoy,

PO Box 5657, Southend on Sea, SS1 3WT

Changes to Branding

Dart/East Lancs 309-11 have lost their green route 5 branding in favour of blue branding for the 8. Route colour codes are now as follows:

Route 1 – pink	Route 5 – brown
Route 2 – green	Route 8 – blue

Unusual Workings

April 6th: Dart SLF 359 on 87 (0801 ex Dedham working)
Vario (R174 VBM) on 5.

19th: Dart/East Lancs 309 (5 branded at that point) on 8.

309-11 retained 5 branding while on the 8s and 2s for the first week after the service changes.

Other News

Stored Dart/East Lancs 313 and Lynx 342 are back in service.

DAF SB 220/Ikarus J56 GCX has not moved since its return, but is being inspected.

Withdrawn Burton's ex-M.O.D. Tiger/Derwents G234/5 BRT are stored at Colchester, while ex-Trent Volvo D10M/Alexander G620 OTV has been 'resident' since 2/05 for repairs and was noted on test twice in 4/05.

From 3rd – 6th April, Mersea Road in Colchester was closed northbound between Napier Road and St Botholph's Circus for retaining wall maintenance. Northbound routes 8, 8A were diverted via Napier Road, Circular Road North, Circular Road West, Butt Road and Southway.

Thanks this month to *John Podgorski* for much of the above news.

Essex Small Operator News

1 TO 1 MINICOACHES, Basildon Recent additions not previously recorded are Ford Transits M394 UKO and R510 GNV, the latter with a Mellor conversion. N594 TAY an Iveco/Indcar minicoach is also here, this was formerly with Palmers, Laindon.

24x7, Elsenham For the record, the remainder of the fleet at Excels takeover was A32 UGA a Bova Futura, B920 CSU a DAF SB2300/Irizar, similar but Plaxton bodied C66 SUT and G963 WNR a short Dennis Javelin/Duple. These were awaiting sale in March.

ABBA CARS, Rayleigh Toyota Hiace N536 PHX has been acquired.

ACORN OAKS, Stanford-le-Hope Citroen Relay FG51 EBA has been acquired.

ADVANCE MINIBUSES, Hockley Ford Transit/Devon Conversions H235 BTC and LDV Convoy P296 KAV, have been sold. Toyota Hiace H952 PPU has been re-registered, but its new plate is

unknown.

AH MINIBUSES, Clacton LDV 400 M365 UDX has been sold.

AJS MINIBUS HIRE, Harlow A recent report suggests that all PSV's have gone. Those recorded by your sub-editor here, are G596 RNC a Mazda E2200, V928 GCB a Mercedes Benz Vito, X734 AVU a Mercedes Benz 413Cdi, EO51 TFV a Hyundai Traject and EY03 VGZ a Ford Transit Tureno.

A&M COACHES, Thundersley Vehicles sold recently are Iveco/Dormobile E337 DRO, Iveco/Robin Hood E450 TYG and M757 BEW a LDV 400.

AMBER, Rayleigh HIL 8917 (A203 OCV) a Leyland Tiger/Plaxton has been transferred to Basildon Travel. It has been replaced by identical SIB 9492 (A149 EPA), last recorded with Kingstons, Rettendon.

This company and Basildon Travel, are now in common ownership, with a

number of Basildon Travel vehicles, now appearing in Amber livery.

ANITA'S, Stansted Bova Futura RY05 ERN arrived here in March.

APT, Rayleigh Bristol LHS/Plaxton GGC 223X, Volvo B10M/Duple E743 JAY Ford Transit's M618 YEH, W629 LNT Scania/Berkhof N681 AHL, Volvo B12/Van Hool N317 BYA, and Scania/Irizar P984 LKL, T40 APT, T50 APT have been sold. Acquired is Leyland Tiger/Plaxton B405 CMC, Mercedes Benz 609D/Concept L694 JEC and YN51 MHE a Scania/Van Hool.

AUTOHIRE, Stansted Acquired is M642 UCT a Mercedes 811D/Autobus.

B&C MINIBUSES, Loughton Ford Transit J919 UWO has gone to Fowler, Loughton.

BARKER, Roydon BLZ 6983 (new as E80 AMW) a Volvo B10M/Ikarus is a recent arrival. Vehicles sold are D505 LWR an Iveco/Robin Hood and F70 SMC a Mercedes Benz L307D/Robin Hood

BARRYS BUSES, East Tilbury Recent arrivals from Sault and Roff, London are S508/9 OFT both are LDV Convoy/Crest. L329 BKM a LDAF 400 has been sold.

BRANDON, Blackmore End Vehicles returned off-loan to Fargo, Rayne are Leyland Leopard KBH 860V and Bova Futura E663 JNR. There is a link between these two firms and vehicles may be in common ownership.

BROOMSTICKS COACHES, Finchingfield acquired from Brandons Coaches, Blackmore End are Freight Rover Sherpa D855 OJA and F116 TWP. Toyota/Caetano J250 MFP has also arrived, from Richardson, Hartlepool.

BROWN, Basildon Sales from this fleet are GOG 95W an MCW Metrobus and B913 NBF a Leyland Olympian/ECW.

BROWN, Harlow Ford Transit T689 JLH has been sold.

BOBS MINIBUS, Little Oakley A clear out of old stock, has seen the departure of Iveco/Elme E40 XGE Ford Transit M455 MNE, Mercedes Benz Sprinter N303 XRC, Nissan Serena W869 CJO and Peugeot Boxer SH03 JHY.

C&M, Laindon Vehicles gone from here are D891 ARE a Mercedes Benz L608D/PMT, Ford Transits D827 LVS, K257 BEP and S563 SHK

CAROUSEL, Theydon Bois Ford Transits EG03 SFU and EY03 VNP, appear to have been sold.

CATTON, Harlow Ford Transits sold and not previously reported are E208 WKN, G916 SKO, G812 TKR and K340 DWC. Sister N4 CDC is now back to it's original N660 DAR.

CEDRIC, Wivenhoe Recent additions are B748 GCN a Leyland Olympian/ECW and Toyota/Caetano P960 DNR.

CEEFA COACHES, Basildon Setra S250 P649 MKO has been sold. Acquired vehicles are Bova Futura FHD12-340 N74 WSB and N121 YLS, from Shamrock, Newport.

CHARIOTS, Stanford-le-Hope A rare addition is ACE Puma/Van Hool VIB 9303 (B628 MSF), more common additions are L846 THY a LDV 400, M274 BLE an Iveco/Mellor and N156 UMO, a Renault Master. Vehicles sold are C31 SNH a Mercedes Benz L608D/Frank Guy, Toyota Hiace D408 XEV, Ford Transit/Steedrive E837 LRE, Renault Master's F476 RUW and L493 VBF, DAF 400/Concept G947 AAY, Talbot Express L821 LHJ and Ford Transit L830 MJN.

CLARKE, Basildon Renault minibus J306 GRV has been sold.

COLCHESTER COACHES, Clacton Leyland Olympian/ECW ACM 712X arrived here from Mulleys, but suffered a serious mechanical failure and has been returned, at the time of publishing these notes.

COUNTY COACHES, Brentwood News of this operator, is that Bristol VR/ECW BHJ 370S (VPF 281S) and CJH 121V have been sold, the latter to Flagfinders, Braintree. Similar 5189 RU has been re-registered KKK 887V. F879 RFP a Dennis Javelin/Duple has been acquired and re-registered 5189 RU. 2629 RU is an acquired Volvo B10M, which was new as E749 JAY.

DMA, Brentwood D804 WNO a Mercedes Benz L608D/Reeve Burgess, Ford

Transits F770 CKM, F661 RVX, Talbot Express F313 YOL has been sold.

DON, Great Dunmow Former Glasgow Leyland Atlantean/Alexander KSU 850P has been sold, while former Boons of Boreham, Leyland Atlantean/Alexander MVK 538R is being used for spares.

Dennis Javelin/Marco Polo M706 HBC and Toyota/Caetano M10 KFC have also been sold.

An unusual addition is Ayats AE04 FUV, acquired from Collier, Earith.

EXCEL, Stansted Volvo B10M/Plaxton J420 HDS has gone to a dealer in Manchester. Leyland Olympian DFW 42X and Volvo B10M NUI 4246 have passed to Fargo, Rayne.

FLAGFINDERS, Baintree A new and rare addition is YN05 ASZ an Iveco/Maxim minicoach.

FORD, Althorne Daimler CRG/Alexander PRG 134J, is reported as having been sold, along with Bristol VR/ECW AUD 460R and XNV 882S and Bedford YMT/Plaxton EYH 693V. These were the last VR's in service here, although the remains of SRP 816N are dumped at the rear of the depot.

FREEDOM 2 TRAVEL LTD A recent application for an operators licence, with Frank Harris as Transport Manager. Former Supreme HSK 860 a Mercedes 412D/Olympus is owned and the fleetname is reported to be Harris Coaches!

INTACAR, Basildon Ford Transit S752 UGV has been sold.

LEE ROY COACHES, Basildon The vast majority of this fleet, was lettered for Basildon Travel and has passed to Amber (see above). Vehicles that do not appear to have moved and have been sold are F136 KAO a Mercedes Benz 609D/Reeve Burgess, Toyota/Caetano L202/15 BPL, LDV 400's M417 BCD and M642 MBC and lastly Scania K113/Irizar R33 SBC.

The only vehicle currently recorded here, is recently acquired ex Clintona, Brentwood P676 LWA an LDV Convoy/Crystals.

MG TRAVEL, Kelvedon Recent additions are Ford Transit BX51 ZNM and VW

Caravelle EX52 EPP, the latter is non-PSV.
NELSONS, Wickford Have a new Scania/East Lincs lowheight decker on order for July/Aug 05 delivery - their first ever new double-decker. Bristol VR/ECW NDL652R will almost certainly be withdrawn at the end of summer term. It is currently in temporary storage at an offsite location), along with similar LFJ855W. NDL652R should go back on the road when the temporary hire of two Darts for Danbury diversion contracts 31D/36D finishes in early June. LFJ 855W is delicensed (reserve bus) but MOT'd until July 05, NDL 652R is licensed to end Apr 05 and recently MOT'd.

The two Darts on hire are S722 KNV, which has Marshall B43F bodywork and has legal lettering for Zak's of Birmingham (as well as Nelson's). It also appears on other routes. The other hired Dart is SN03 LGA, a Transbus MPD (B29F) in two tone blue and white. It tends to work the 221 as it seats less than the Mercedes minibuses!

At least one of the Scania/East Lincs appears on the 31D on Monday to Saturday

PEOPLE'S TRANSPORT, Benfleet Ford Transit EX53 KOV has been acquired.

PRODUCTION EUROPE, Frinton Iveco/Chassis Developments C344 JBH has been sold.

RED CAR & COACH, Pilgrims Hatch Bedford YMT/Plaxton LAZ 4524 (SNM 73R) has gone for scrap.

RP CONTRACT HIRE, Gt Yeldham Ford Transit L639 RWC has been sold.

RYDERS TRAVEL, Harlow K512 FVW a Ford Transit has been sold. LDV Convoy P970 ONC is also here, previously reported with CJ Travel, Harlow in error.

STANSTED AIRPORT CARZ, Stansted Another Ford Transit is EF03 NWP.

STEPHENSON, Rochford Leyland Olympian TSO 29X (TSO 31X) has been stripped for spares, with the remains going for scrap. Former Stagecoach South OFU 16X, is next in line for this treatment.

SUPREME Southend and Colchester
 HSK 860 a Mercedes Benz 412/Olympus
 , M257 TAK a Scania K113/Irizar and
 R290 THL a Neoplan have been sold.
 The remains of MCW Metrobus
 KJW 288W are reported as gone for
 scrap.

SWT, South Woodham Ferrers Vehicles
 sold recently are K193 TKO a Renault

Master and L991 RWC a Renault Trafic.
 Citroen Relay M482 EAC, has been re-
 registered A10 ONN.

YELLOWLINE, Braintree Ford Transit
 J803 CVF has been sold.

WRIGHT & MARSHALL, Maldon
 Further to our January notes, P976HTW
 operates on a taxi plate.

Ian Ransom

Ensignbus

Omnibus suppliers to the World

LATEST DEALER MOVEMENTS

VEHICLES IN from:

Arriva London:	DRL151/3, RML2685, M1303/1406
Arriva TOLST:	MB389, ML16/32
Go-Ahead London:	RM994.
Go-Ahead North East:	Olympian C660LJR.
Metroline:	M864/1042/1114
Metroline (Thorpes):	Metrobuses POG524Y, A700UOE, GOG208W Volvo B10 rebodies B864/70/1/2XYR
Stagecoach Manchester:	Darts J951/2MFT, J606KCU, K857/65KCN, K366/8/9RTY

VEHICLES OUT

	to:
RML2506:	DCA Ltd , Boston, Lincs.
RM428(Open top) :	De Zigeuner Tours , Liege, Belgium.
L229:	Double Deckers Ltd , Dubai, UAE.
B6 L409GPY:	Heyfordian Coaches , Bicester, Oxon.
RML2712:	La Jonque Ltd. , Paris, France. (to be used as a crepe bar next to the Seine)
RM787:	Mr Charles Oliver , Oxford.
ML16:	O'Neachtain Tours , Galway, Eire.
M753:	Reynolds Excavations , Reading.
RM478/753:	Quantock MS , Somerset.
L42:	Special Events Services , Banbury, Oxon.
MB389:	Martin Vazquez Automotives , Huelva, Spain.
ML32:	Scotguide Services , Glasgow (for City Sightseeing Tour)
Metrorider M504HNL:	Trustline , Stansted.
Olympians C652LFT G371YUR:	Wiltax Buses , Surrey.

ENSIGN OPERATING FLEET NEWS

The final two Darts, **715** and **720** have gone to Glenvale Transport. This leaves only Volvo Olympian **151** in the green/cream colours. This will be painted blue/silver fairly shortly. All the SLF Darts are now in service, making X80 100% SLF operated.

A large Rail Replacement service operated between Dartford and Gravesend on Monday 25 April, in itself nothing too unusual, but **RMA58** and **RCL2220** were used on short workings from Greenhithe to Dartford.

with thanks to Ross Newman of Ensignbus

**RECENT
RAIL
REPLACEMENT
SERVICES**

**NIBS Scania
G603 KTX** at
Burnham (driver:
C.Stewart Esq);
2 May.



**Talisman
Coachlines
Olympian
M85 MYM** in
light blue livery
at Witham; 2 May.



**First soon-to-be-
withdrawn
Olympian 34698
(B698 BPU)** at
Shenfield;
24 April.

all: Chris Stewart



Essex Publicity Review - 2004

Ian Taylor rounds up the range of publicity issued by smaller operators in Essex in 2004. Essex County Council treated their A5 size route leaflets to yet another new look around March 2004, with a new style orange and purple cover bearing a blurred image of a white Mercedes Vario. Some leaflets with the previous multicoloured cover were re-issued in the new format. As an example the 1-9-03 edition for services 268/269 was so treated with the inclusion of the Saturday service which previously only contained the Monday to Friday timetable.

BAA STANSTED

Two 12 page slimline booklets were issued during the year dated January 2004 and September 2004 entitled "Travel to & from London Stansted". On the 'by bus and coach' page inside was a spider map of the various National Express Airport and local bus services fanning out from Stansted.

BRIGHTLINGSEA

HARBOUR COMMISSIONERS

A twice folded timetable leaflet was issued for the Brightlingsea to Point Clear ferry service which has operated in one form or another since 1699. No mention of the service has ever appeared in Essex CC timetable books.

CITY SIGHTSEEING

A twice folded leaflet was issued for service 67 dated "2004" and was very similar to those of previous years.

CENTRA

Essex CC leaflets appeared for services 19, 47/146/147, 319, 347 and 502 all dated 8th April 2004.

CLINTONA

A Thurrock Council leaflet on green paper for the Monday to Friday service on route 389 dated 1st September 2003 came to light during the year. (A similar leaflet detailing the Saturday service, which dates back to

7th November 2000, remained valid).

COGGESHALL COMMUNITY BUS

An A5 leaflet was issued following services changes on 13th December 2004 in connection with revisions to the railway timetable.

DE VERE TRAVEL

A timetable leaflet was produced for service 331 dated 1st April 2004. Unusually there was some text inside to introduce the new service which is receiving financial support from the Countryside Agency and numerous parish councils. The service provides a rather belated replacement for the Amos of Belchamp St Paul service withdrawn at the end of 2002. The leaflet was produced by Essex CC.

ENSIGN BUS COMPANY

Twice folded leaflets, in green and cream, were issued for route X80 dated 17th January 2004, 1st May 2004 and 16th October 2004. A single slip, to a similar design, was provided for route X90 dated 17th January and 1st May 2004. Route X90 was withdrawn from 16th October 2004 however.

EXCEL COACHES

This operator issued a twice folded leaflet dated 6th December 2004 following revisions to route 333. An Essex CC leaflet was produced for route 18 dated 5th April 2004.

GATWICK FLYER

Two very standard items of publicity from this operator. The summer timetable leaflet was dated 1st May 2004 to 31st October 2004, whilst the winter one was dated 1st November 2004 to 30th April 2005. Both had royal blue print on white paper.

HARWICH HARBOUR FOOT FERRY

A folded leaflet, very similar to the previous year, was produced in 2004 for the Harwich to Felixstowe/Shotley ferry service.

HEDINGHAM

A double sided A4 sheet, black print on

yellow paper, was issued for 'Days Out 2004' from the Clacton area. A timetable for the 602 service was also included. Essex CC issued a leaflet for routes 88/A/B/C dated 19th August 2004 and for service 91 dated 6th September 2004. A map/timetable leaflet was produced by Essex CC for First Harwich Town Bus Services 20/20A/22A/22B dated October 2004. Hedingham service 129 was mentioned hence its inclusion here.

IMPERIAL BUS COMPANY

A double sided A5 leaflet with black print on green paper, dated 7th August 2004, gave details of "Improved Route 320". Essex CC leaflets were produced for service 46 dated 25th October 2004 and for services 214/215/219/220 dated 31st August 2004.

LODGE

Following revisions to services 17/18 an Essex CC leaflet was issued dated 5th April 2004.

NETWORK COLCHESTER

A 20 page full colour timetable booklet with route map in the centre fold was produced for commercially operated town services 1,2,5,8/A,9 following revisions on 8th November 2004. Services operated on behalf of Essex and Suffolk County Councils were not included. This was the first timetable produced by Network Colchester, Arriva leaflets dated 7th June 2004 (Issue 3) remained in force during the period 31st August 2004 to 7th November 2004. There were four leaflets for routes 1/1A/3/4/15, 2/2A/9/11, 5, 8/8A/8B/9.

NETWORK WITHAM

A revised timetable for services X38/38/39 was dated 1st March 2004- It had orange print throughout on thin white card.

OLYMPIAN COACHES

Two white A5 leaflets were issued early in the year. The first, dated, 20th February

network Witham

ROUTES X38/38/39

X38 Allectus Way – Braintree Town Centre

38 Allectus Way – Redwood Close

39 Powers Hall End – Witham Town Centre

Revised Services

Commencing Monday 1st March 2004

01279 681 682



Lakeside & Basildon Shoppers bus

From

Southend Airport
Eastwoodbury
Eastwood
Rayleigh
Nevendon

Basildon (Whitmore Way, town centre & Nether Mayne)

Best value fares!

Mondays to Fridays

Starts April 19, 2004

2004, was for revised R2 and R3 Harlow Town Services, whilst on the back cover was a timetable for the 600 Lakeside Express service. The second leaflet was for the London Commuter Services (601-605,620,630) dated 1st March 2004.

REGAL BUSWAYS

This operator produced two double sided A5 photocopied leaflets in 2004. One was for the 4th September 2004 revision to service 506 whilst the second was undated for the new X14 to Lakeside which started on 12th September 2004. The latter included positioning journeys on route 214 to/from Ongar. Essex CC leaflets were produced for services 14/15/15A dated 28th June 2004, for the Sunday service on routes 200/201/203 dated 3rd October 2004, for service 213 dated 31st August 2004 and for services 47/146/147 dated 28th September 2004.

STEPHENSONS

A revised twice folded leaflet was produced for London Link Express services

X1/X2/X10 dated 16th February 2004. It was laid out mostly in two tones of green with black and yellow text. A double sided slip measuring 100mm x 210mm was issued for service X21 dated 19th April 2004. Paper of various colours was used depending on availability. I have copies on both white and yellow with black print throughout. An Essex CC leaflet was issued for Witham Town Services 38/39 dated 19th April 2004.

TOWN & COUNTRY TRAVEL

Thurrock Council issued single fold A5 leaflets dated 6th September 2004 for route 98 on yellow paper and 374 on blue paper. Missing from last year's review were similar leaflets for route 40A on salmon paper dated 1st September 2003 and the Sunday service on route 100 also dated 1st September 2003 but on white paper.

TRUSTLINE

Essex CC leaflets were produced for service 10 dated 26th April 2004 and 31st August 2004 also for the 47/146/147 group dated 1st November 2004.

By bus in Essex on Sunday for £2.50

From Sunday 29th May 2005, Essex County Council is **reducing** the cost of the **Sunday Saver** ticket to **£2.50**. The ticket provides unlimited travel throughout Essex by bus on most Sunday services. This new rates are:

£2.50	Adult
£1.25	Concession
£5.00	Family of four, 1 adult + 3 children, or 2 adults + 2 children

The Sunday Saver is valid on almost all services in Essex, the only exception being what are described as "Premium" bus or coach services - those run under contract to other local transport authorities. Thus, *Network Colchester* routes 90/3/6 etc are excluded as these are Suffolk CC contracts.

The **Sunday Rover** ticket continues to be available for journeys beyond Essex - on county-supported services in Essex, Suffolk, Cambridgeshire, Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire, plus Colchester - Harwich, Clacton - Walton, Wickford - Southminster* and Marks Tey - Sudbury* *one Great Eastern* rail services.

Prices: **£6.00** - Adult, **£4.00** - Child, **£3.00** - Concession, **£12.00** - Family

David Harman; with thanks to Richard Delahoy, Ian Ransom, Essex County Council

* for some odd reason, the Family Sunday Rover is NOT valid on *one Great Eastern* branch lines, but the Adult, Child and Concession versions ARE.

Preservation Notebook



LINCOLN in ESSEX

This month: a bus that *ran* in Essex, even if it didn't *originate* here: UVL 873M. This was a Bristol RELL6L/ Alexander Y B48F, new in 1974 to City of Lincoln as their no.73. The picture shows it with Webb's of Galleywood on the tendered Fyfield service (46), approaching Chelmsford railway station bridge.

Its subsequent history is believed to be as follows:

- ?/1983 withdrawn by Lincoln
- ?/1983 to P. Bird, High Laver "Ongar Motors"; retained Lincoln livery (pea green/ivory)
- 3/1988 to Webb, Galleywood; maroon/white livery (similar to Lothian Regional Transport colours). However, *Colin Sigston* recorded it with Webb in 10/1987.
- 10/1988 to Craig Tilsely of ?; fitted with Leyland 0.600 engine (in place of ?); used to transport football team; then to yard as engine store.
- ? to Lincolnshire Vintage Vehicle Society for preservation.

Jon Bigwood of the LVVS, who is involved with UVL's restoration, would like to fill in the gaps. What was it used on while with Ongar Motors? Any photos? Can anyone clarify the dates? Any other information? Please respond to: kk69521@yahoo.co.uk or the editors.

acknowledgements to Chris Stewart

When a Primrose bloomed in Duke Street

Daily Needs.

Ring up 289

FOR YOUR

TAXI

OR PRIVATE

MOTOR



Lion & Lamb Hotel,
CHELMSFORD.

R. ROSE, Proprietor

above: handbill, 1918

right: Summer 1939 timetable in the heyday of the service / AGO

below: May 1939 timetable showing service running to Charing Cross with booking agents along route. / AGO

PRIMROSE COACHES. SUMMER TIME TABLE, 1939

Friday before Whit-Saturday to September 30th inclusive.

UP	Sat.	Sun.	Daily		Sat.	Sun.	Daily		Sat.	Sun.	Daily		Sat.	Sun.	Daily	
	only.	only.	Daily	Daily	only.	only.	Daily	Daily	only.	only.	Daily	Daily	only.	only.	Daily	Daily
Chelmsford																
Rose Bros. Office	6.30	7.50	9.30	10.11	30.12	30.12	3.15	3.15	4.15	5.15	6.15	7.15	8.15	9.15	10.15	11.15
Margaretting	6.41	7.41	9.41	10.11	41.12	41.12	4.26	4.26	5.26	6.26	7.26	8.26	9.26	10.26	11.26	12.26
Ingatstone	6.48	7.48	9.48	10.11	48.12	48.12	4.33	4.33	5.33	6.33	7.33	8.33	9.33	10.33	11.33	12.33
Mountnessing	6.52	7.52	9.52	10.11	52.12	52.12	4.37	4.37	5.37	6.37	7.37	8.37	9.37	10.37	11.37	12.37
Brentwood	7.0	8.0	10.0	11.0	0.12	0.12	4.45	4.45	5.45	6.45	7.45	8.45	9.45	10.45	11.45	12.45
Romford Mkt. Pl.	7.15	8.15	10.15	11.0	15.12	15.12	4.50	4.50	5.50	6.50	7.50	8.50	9.50	10.50	11.50	12.50
Eastern Av. Ilford	7.28	8.28	10.28	11.0	28.12	28.12	4.53	4.53	5.53	6.53	7.53	8.53	9.53	10.53	11.53	12.53
Gates' Cnr Wdford	7.34	8.34	10.34	11.0	34.12	34.12	4.54	4.54	5.54	6.54	7.54	8.54	9.54	10.54	11.54	12.54
Walthamstow Bell.	7.40	8.40	10.40	11.0	40.12	40.12	4.55	4.55	5.55	6.55	7.55	8.55	9.55	10.55	11.55	12.55
Broad Lane, Totm	7.49	8.49	10.49	11.0	49.12	49.12	4.56	4.56	5.56	6.56	7.56	8.56	9.56	10.56	11.56	12.56
Finsbury Park	7.58	8.58	10.58	11.0	58.12	58.12	4.58	4.58	5.58	6.58	7.58	8.58	9.58	10.58	11.58	12.58
(Astoria Cinema)	8.0	9.0	11.0	12.0	0.12	0.12	5.0	5.0	6.0	7.0	8.0	9.0	10.0	11.0	12.0	1.0
King's Cross	8.10	9.10	11.10	12.0	1.0	1.0	2.0	2.0	3.0	4.0	5.0	6.0	7.0	8.0	9.0	10.0

DOWN	Sat.	Sun.	Daily		Sat.	Sun.	Daily		Sat.	Sun.	Daily		Sat.	Sun.	Daily	
	only.	only.	Daily	Daily	only.	only.	Daily	Daily	only.	only.	Daily	Daily	only.	only.	Daily	Daily
King's Cross	8.40	9.40	11.40	12.0	1.40	1.40	4.30	4.30	5.30	6.30	7.30	8.30	9.30	10.30	11.30	12.30
Finsbury Park	8.52	9.52	11.52	12.0	2.2	2.2	4.37	4.37	5.37	6.37	7.37	8.37	9.37	10.37	11.37	12.37
Broad Lane, Totm	9.10	1.10	1.1	1.1	3.1	3.1	4.40	4.40	5.40	6.40	7.40	8.40	9.40	10.40	11.40	12.40
Walthamstow Bell.	9.16	1.16	1.16	1.16	3.16	3.16	4.45	4.45	5.45	6.45	7.45	8.45	9.45	10.45	11.45	12.45
Gates' Cnr Wdford	9.21	1.21	1.21	1.21	3.21	3.21	4.46	4.46	5.46	6.46	7.46	8.46	9.46	10.46	11.46	12.46
Eastern Av. Ilford	9.28	1.28	1.28	1.28	3.28	3.28	4.48	4.48	5.48	6.48	7.48	8.48	9.48	10.48	11.48	12.48
Romford Mkt. Pl.	9.35	1.35	1.35	1.35	3.35	3.35	4.50	4.50	5.50	6.50	7.50	8.50	9.50	10.50	11.50	12.50
Brentwood	9.40	1.40	1.40	1.40	3.40	3.40	4.53	4.53	5.53	6.53	7.53	8.53	9.53	10.53	11.53	12.53
Mountnessing	9.48	1.48	1.48	1.48	3.48	3.48	4.54	4.54	5.54	6.54	7.54	8.54	9.54	10.54	11.54	12.54
Ingatstone	9.52	1.52	1.52	1.52	3.52	3.52	4.55	4.55	5.55	6.55	7.55	8.55	9.55	10.55	11.55	12.55
Margaretting	9.56	1.56	1.56	1.56	3.56	3.56	4.56	4.56	5.56	6.56	7.56	8.56	9.56	10.56	11.56	12.56
Chelmsford	10.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	4.0	4.0	5.0	5.0	6.0	7.0	8.0	9.0	10.0	11.0	12.0	1.0

HOLIDAY TIME TABLE. On the Saturday prior to Whit and August Bank Holiday Monday additional services will leave Chelmsford at 8.30 a.m., 5.15 p.m. and 7.15 p.m. and from King's Cross at 10.40 a.m., 7.25 p.m. and 9.25 p.m.

On Whit and August Bank Holiday Mondays Sunday service will be operated.

On the Tuesday following WHIT MONDAY ONLY ordinary Saturday service will be operated.

PRIMROSE COACHES.

DAILY SERVICE (SUNDAYS UNINCLUDED)

Between
Chelmsford and Ingatstone - Romford
Woodford - Finsbury Park - Charing X (Underground)

Inquiry Office: Telephone 289
ROSE BROS., 66a, Duke Street, Chelmsford.
London Terminal Agent: MacShane's Motors Ltd., 55 Woburn Place,
Russell Sq., W.C.1. Phone Museum 0042

Booking Agents: Central London Coaching Station, Crescent Place,
Cartwright Gardens, W.C.1. Phone Museum 8331-8330
Oxford Circus Booking Office, 288 Regent Street Phone: Langham 1864
Messrs. Thomas Transport Co., 12 Villiers Street, Strand, London.

Messrs. Page, 15 Blackstock Road, Finsbury Park. Phone Temple Bar 4526
Messrs. Henry Coaches, 1 Broad Lane, Tottenham. Phone Tottenham 4412
Tates Booking Office, Bell Corner, Walthamstow. Phone Walthamstow 0056
"KandysCafe," 9 Electric Parade, Sth. Woodford, E.18. Phone Wanstead 0843
Messrs. Martin, Eastern Avenue, Ilford.
Messrs. Whitehead, Newbury Park.
Weedens Travel Bureau, 83 Camden Road, London.
London Travel Bureau, 409 Holloway Road, London.

Seats can be booked at any of the above Agents,
or at your Local Agent.

On 13th June 1958 Eastern National acquired Primrose Coaches of Chelmsford.

Primrose Coaches was the fleetname adopted by Rose Brothers when they started excursions and tours from the former Lion and Lamb yard in Duke Street. This had been used by Mr R Rose's taxicab and car hire service from around 1918. Charabancs had been added from 1926.

About 1929, an express coach service was started to London, the terminal being initially Charing Cross (Embankment). From 1st October 1933, most

timings were moved to the Kings Cross Coach Station, following restrictions imposed by the authorities on the use of the Embankment due to congestion. However, evening/weekend timings still used the Embankment, these finally moving to Kings Cross in October 1938. The route went through Brentwood, Romford, Gants Hill, Walthamstow and Tottenham and proved very popular. By 1939, it was running hourly, with duplication commonplace. The Chelmsford pickup point was at 66A Duke Street where a booking office/waiting room was located.

In addition to the London service, Primrose held licences for a service to Galleywood Racecourse (race days only) and to Steeple Stone, the latter being summer only. Tours and excursions

Steeple Stone timetable - 1946 / AGO

No.6 - MTW 755, Daimler CVD6 / Thurgood C35F, at Kings Cross Coach Station.

Photographer unknown



STEEPLE STONE

1946

The prettiest and quietest seaside spot in Essex—miles of beach—free unrestricted sun and sunbathing.

Period of Operation—
1st Sunday in May to last Sunday in September.

TIME TABLE

Daily (Sundays included)

		am	pm	pm
Chelmsford (Rose Bros. Office) dep.	...	10 20	2 40	6 5
Great Baddow, Blue Lion ..	...	10 25	2 46	6 11
Danbury, Griffin ..	...	10 38	2 58	6 23
Russell Green ..	...	10 43	3 3	6 28
Purleigh, Queen's Head ..	...	10 50	3 10	6 35
Purleigh, Round Bush ..	...	10 57	3 17	6 42
Latchingdon, Post Office ..	...	11 2	3 22	6 47
Mayland, Post Office ..	...	11 10	3 30	6 55
Steeple Village, Star ..	...	11 16	3 36	7 1
The Stone ..	MTT	11 25	3 45	7 10
The Stone ..	dep.	11 25	4 00	7 10
Steeple Village, Star ..	...	11 34	4 09	7 19
Mayland, Post Office ..	...	11 40	5 5	7 25
Latchingdon, Post Office ..	...	11 48	5 13	7 33
Purleigh, Round Bush ..	...	11 53	5 18	7 38
Purleigh, Queen's Head ..	...	12 0	5 25	7 45
Russell Green ..	...	12 7	5 32	7 52
Danbury, Griffin ..	...	12 12	5 37	7 57
Great Baddow, Blue Lion ..	...	12 24	5 49	8 9
Chelmsford Rose's Office arr.	...	12 30	5 55	8 15

RETURN FARES

Chelmsford (Rose Bros. Office)	Dep. 1/-
— Blue Lion, Great Baddow	Children's Push Chairs, 6d.
— Blue Cottage, Sandon Road	
— Danbury, Bell	
— Danbury, Griffin	
— Russell Green	
1/1 11d 0d 7d 5d 4d White Hart, Hazeleigh	
1/2 1/- 10d 8d 6d 5d 3d Queen's Head, Purleigh	
1/5 1/8 1/1 13d 9d 5d 6d 3d Round Bush, Purleigh	
1/7 1/5 1/3 1/1 13d 10d 8d 5d 3d Mundon Road Corner	
1/8 1/6 1/4 1/2 1/- 11d 9d 6d 3d Latchingdon Post Office	
1/10 1/9 1/7 1/5 1/3 1/1 1/- 9d 6d 3d 4d Brook Hall Farm	
1/11 1/10 1/7 1/5 1/3 1/2 11d 10d 7d 1/- Mayland Post Office	
2/5 3/11 1/10 1/7 1/5 1/3 1/2 11d 10d 1/- 8d 6d Steeple Star	
2/6 2/5 2/3 2/1 2/- 1/11 1/9 1/6 1/3 1/2 1/- 10d 8d 5d Steeple Stone, Wick Farm	

CHILDREN'S FARES—Children under 6 years of age carried free.

Fares for Children above 3 years and under 14 years shall be half of the fares shown to the nearest penny above.

A charge will be made for Doors at the rate of 1/- per journey.

A charge will be made for CHILDREN'S PUSH CHAIRS at the rate of 6d. per journey.



No.11 - AEV 288 - Commer NF6 / Petty C32F, at Romford Market Place in April 1950, with duplicate Bedford OB behind. Alan B Cross

No.17 - LHK 412 Leyland PS1 /Duple C33F, ex-City Coach Company LS1, at Kings Cross Coach Station. Photographer unknown



sions were also licenced from Chelmsford and Witham. The Galleywood service ceased when the racecourse closed down, thought to have been by 1939. The Steeple Stone and London services were suspended due to the War (post-1940), but were resumed in 1946.

The fleet, painted primrose and black, comprised a mixed bag of chassis types, mainly with Thurgood bodywork. A double-decker was added to the fleet in 1949, in an attempt to avoid duplication on the London run. This was no.13, (ONO289, a Daimler CVD6/Strachan L27/28R), but it proved unsuccessful, and in May 1950 was exchanged for LHK412, a Leyland PS1/1 / Duple C35F from the City Coach Company at Brentwood (LS1).

The British Railways Great Eastern line was electrified to Shenfield (1949), and later to Chelmsford (1956), and with the rapid increase in private motoring, passengers deserted the London service. It was finally withdrawn in 1958 as uneconomic. The remainder of the business (except the taxis) was then acquired by Eastern National. The

Taken with a Box Brownie!

EN 015 (SEV 814);
Leyland PSU1/15 with
Thurgood C41F, former-
ly Rose Bros. no.3, at
Gt. Yarmouth Beach
Coach Station.
Alan Osborne



SERVICE

93

MALDON — NORTH FAMBRIDGE — ALTHORNE — STEEPLE STONE

This Time Table commences 14th June

SERVICE

93

Light figures denote A.M. times

Dark figures denote P.M. times

Tuesdays, Fridays and Saturdays																Wednesdays																Thursdays																Sundays															
* * * *																* * *																* * *																* * *															
Maldon, Omnibus Station	dep.	9	0	1245	6	0	2	15	7	0	8	50	1235	6	0	1	45	5	45	Thro' Fare	1	45	5	45	7d.	10d.																																					
Mundon, White Horse		9	10	1255	6	10	2	25	7	10	9	0	1	10	6	10	1	55	5	55	10d.	1	10	5	55	11d.	11d.																																				
Latchingdon, Church		9	14	1	6	16	2	31	7	14	9	6	1	14	6	14	2	14	6	14	11d.	1	14	6	14	12d.	12d.																																				
Mayland Corner		9	23	1	6	23	2	38	7	23	9	13	1	18	6	23	2	18	6	23	12d.	1	18	6	23	13d.	13d.																																				
Steeple, Star		9	28	1	13	28	2	43	7	28	9	18	1	23	6	28	2	23	6	28	13d.	1	23	6	28	14d.	14d.																																				
Purleigh Wash												1246																																																			
North Fambridge, Kite Hill Corner												1259																																																			
Fambridge, Railway Station												1	15																																																		
Althorne, Three Horseshoes												1	18																																																		
Mayland, School												1	21																																																		
Steeple, Chapel												1	24																																																		
Steeple Stone	arr.	9	38	1	23	6	38	2	53	7	38	9	28	1	41	6	38	2	23	6	23	14d.	1	23	6	23	15d.	15d.																																			

* * * *																* * *																* * *																* * *															
Steeple Stone	dep.	9	45	1	45	6	45	3	0	7	45	9	35	1	45	6	45	2	30	6	30	Thro' Fare	2	30	6	30	16d.	16d.																																			
Steeple, Chapel												9	45	1	45	6	45																																														
Mayland, School												9	55	1	55	6	55																																														
Althorne, Three Horseshoes												10	1	1	58	7	0																																														
Fambridge, Railway Station												10	17	2	0	7	7																																														
North Fambridge, Kite Hill Corner												10	21	2	4	7	11																																														
Purleigh Wash												10	30	2	13	7	20																																														
Steeple, Star		9	55	1	55	6	55	3	10	7	55	1	55	2	40	7	25	2	40	6	40	22d.	2	40	6	40	23d.	23d.																																			
Mayland Corner		10	0	2	0	7	0	3	15	8	0	2	45	2	45	6	45	2	45	6	45	23d.	2	45	6	45	24d.	24d.																																			
Latchingdon, Church		10	7	2	7	7	7	3	22	8	7	2	52	2	52	6	52	2	52	6	52	24d.	2	52	6	52	25d.	25d.																																			
Mundon, White Horse		10	12	2	12	7	12	3	28	8	13	2	58	2	58	6	58	2	58	6	58	25d.	2	58	6	58	26d.	26d.																																			
Maldon, Omnibus Station	arr.	10	23	2	23	7	23	3	38	8	23	3	04	2	23	7	23	3	07	6	23	26d.	3	07	6	23	27d.	27d.																																			

*—Operates during August only.

TF—Tuesdays and Fridays only.

Principal Return Fares																	
Maldon—Althorne	...	...	...	1/1	Maldon—Mayland	...	...	...	2/1	Maldon—Steeple	...	...	...	2/3	Maldon—Steeple Stone	...	2/11

FOR OTHER SERVICES between Maldon and Latchingdon, see Services 19a, 91, 92; between Maldon and Steeple, see Service 92; between Maldon and Purleigh Wash, see Service 96

Eastern National summer 1959 timetable showing Steeple Stone journeys / AGO

summer service from Chelmsford to Steeple Stone was incorporated into service 93, with extra summer journeys running during August only, through passengers then needing to change at Maldon.

The only vehicle purchased by ENOC was a rare 1951 Thurgood C41F bodied Leyland Royal Tiger (PSU1/15), SEV814 which was numbered 015. It operated from Chelmsford depot and was even used on Sunday 21 October 1962 on an Essex group tour before being withdrawn the following year. Further details are available at EBN486/23.



*The late Peter Snell
with additional notes by Alan Osborne*

Rose Bros. (Chelmsford) Ltd. ~ fleet history

no.	reg.no.	chassis	body	seats	in	out
	PU 6472	Charron	?	?	3/25	12/34
	TW 3319	Lancia Z	?	?	5/26	?
1	TW 9982	Laffley	?	C20	6/27	?
2	VW 4810	Star VB3	?	C20	5/28	?
3	VW 9690	Star Flyer	Duple	C26C	4/29	11/37
4	VX 5070	Gilford 1680T	?	C30	4/30	8/36
5	VX 6236	Commer 6TK	?	C20	5/30	?
6	VX 7032	Commer 6TK	?	C20	7/30	1/35
7	VX 7616	Commer NF6	?	C28	9/30	10/39
8	EV 1785	A.J.S. Pilot	Petty	C26	6/31	?
9	EV 2459	A.J.S. Commodore	Petty	C30	7/31	12/31
10	EV 6111	Commer NF6	?	C32	5/32	5/32
11	AEV 288	Commer NF6	Petty	C32F	4/33	5/32
1	RV 851	A.J.S. Pilot	?	C??	?	11/36
2	WX 469	Gilford 166SD	?	C26	?	3/37
5	CNO 16	Leyland SKP	?	C26R	5/35	6/57
6	CNO 630	Bedford ZTLB	?	C20F	6/35	8/47
12	DTW 680	Leyland SKPZ2	?	C26F	6/36	6/54
1	EVX 412	Bedford WTB	Thurgood	C26F	5/37	3/48
2	GHK 732	Bedford WTB	Thurgood	C26F	6/38	6/54
3	KTW 855	Bedford OB	Thurgood	C29F	7/46	8/50
4	KVW 60	Bedford OB	Thurgood	C29F	7/46	9/50
7	LEV 350	Commer Q4 (P6)	Thurgood	C33F	10/46	9/56
8	MEV 408	Bedford OB	Thurgood	C29F	7/47	6/56
6	MTW 755	Daimler CVD6	Thurgood	C35F	12/47	5/57
1	MVW 387	Bedford OB	Duple	C29F	1/48	5/51
13	ONO 289	Daimler CVD6	Strachan	L27/28R	4/49	5/50
14	PHK 74	Commer Avenger I	Thurgood	C33F	11/49	6/51
15	PNO 750	Leyland CPO1	Thurgood	C33F	11/49	6/58
16	REV 329	Leyland CPO1	Thurgood	C33F	6/50	6/58
17	LHK 412	Leyland PS1/1	Duple	C33F	5/50	6/54
18	REV 330	Commer Avenger I	Thurgood	C33F	7/50	/55
3	SEV 814	Leyland PSU1/15	Thurgood	C41F	/51	6/58
1	UHK 906	T.S.M. L4MA8	Thurgood	FC33C	2/52	6/58
4	YPU 765	Bedford SBO	Thurgood	C33F	5/54	8/58
2	645 HEV	Bedford SBG	Thurgood	C41F	7/56	6/58



PCV HOLDER ?

Full and Part-Time Drivers Required

Stephensons of Essex and our associated company, Excel Passenger Logistics are expanding fast and we have vacancies for drivers at our Rochford, Maldon and Stansted depots.

Full and Part time drivers are needed for school services and weekend rail replacement, together with scheduled service work and private hires.

If you're over 25 and have held a PCV Licence for two years or more, we'd like to hear from you.

We offer attractive rates of pay, varied work, and a friendly working environment.

We also have vacancies for experienced

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at our Maldon and Rochford depots.

For more details contact:

Stephensons:	Bill Hiron	01702 541511
Excel:	Graham Hayden	01279 681800

