

ESSEX BUS NEWS

January 1997

The monthly magazine of the ESSEX BUS ENTHUSIASTS GROUP

(Formerly the Eastern National Enthusiasts Group)

393



On the through service from Basildon to Shoeburyness is Southend Transport 256 A110 FDL
The coach seated Leyland Olympian acquired from Southern Vectis.

P. SNELL

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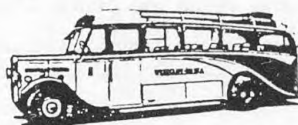
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ESSEX BUS

ENTHUSIASTS GROUP

EDITORIAL



ROCHFORD MEETINGS FREIGHT HOUSE 8pm

February 11th Video evening.

March 11th Group AGM and slide show by Alan Osborne.

NOTE, the above dates are correction to EBN392

April 8th Programme to be announced.

Congratulations to Thamesway driver Dennis Watson on receiving the MBE in the New Year's Honours List. Dennis, from New Road Hadleigh, has been with Eastern National/Thamesway for 43 years as conductor and driver and has never had an accident.

PUBLICATIONS

The Tale of the Wandering JEV's.

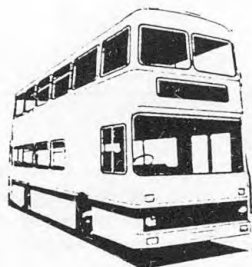
The story of EN Bristol 3820-3844 JEV411-435.

ILLUSTRATED. Only £1.50 inc. p&p from Peter Snell.

Buses of Essex Fleetbook - Lists all PSV's plus operators in the county. Available from; PSV Circle, 59 Palmer Avenue, Cheam, SM3 8EF - £4.50 plus 50p p&p.

Contributions received with thanks from Essex Buses (Eastern National and Thamesway), Essex County Council, C.Sigston, D.Collison, G.Toon, R.Dennis, LOTS.

Contributions for February EBN should be with sub-editors by 6th February and Managing Editor by 13th February.



Eastern National

ALLOCATIONS

12/96 3500/1 POOL-D/L(D)

These vehicles were destroyed following an arson attack at the former Walton depot in December. The only other vehicle present AJN 825 was also damaged but is expected to be repaired.

According to radio reports, open top services will still operate in Clacton this summer. So it will be interesting to see what vehicles are used.

SERVICES

71C The 2003 from Chelmsford was revised to operate via Tollgate from 13.1.97.

HEDINGHAM

VEHICLE NEWS

Five further Bristol VR's have been acquired, this time from Stagecoach Viscount (first three) or Stagecoach Cambus (the other two), they are:-
PWY 39/46W, SUB 791W, **STW 30W** and RAH 260W.

STW 30W was new to Eastern National, went to Thamesway and returns to Essex via Scotland and Cambridge!

Fleetnumbers have not yet been allocated and all are to be overhauled and repainted before they enter service.

L247 (CPT 731S) has entered service after overhaul and seat fitting and is H43/31F.

L248-52 have retained Wycome Bus livery with minor adjustments.

Unique Bedford/Marshall Camair L81 (YNO 481L) has been withdrawn after 23 years of service. It is now at Sudbury depot and the company are keen to see it go into preservation.

L86 (KHJ 786P) has moved to Clacton for further spares removal.

SERVICES

90 Minor timetable revision from 13.1.97.

172 From 15.1.97. revised to operate to start from Messing at 1025.

GENERAL

The new depot in Clacton at the junction of Stephenson Road and Paxton Road is now open. The depot/office in the far right hand corner of Brunel Road has closed, as has Walton outstation. The site on the left hand side of Brunel Road is still in use for maintenance.

EASTERN NATIONAL,
(SUBSEQUENT MOVEMENTS)

<u>Fleet No.</u>	<u>Registration No.</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Date</u>
0713	C438 BHY	To Derbyshire, (Mercury), Woodchurch from Jones, Bontnewydd.	03/96
1125	RHK 133	Gone from Hanson, Yaddlethorpe.	12/72
1130	SHK 517	Gone from Hanson, Yaddlethorpe.	12/72
1202	VNO 870	Tigue, Kirton in Lindsey ex Shepardson, Barton-on-Humber North, Sherburn.	02/70
1210	BNO 696T	To Brice, Four Marks ex Eastern National.	11/83
1301	XHK 214X (later 502 GMB)	To Clayton, Pudsey ex Hunter, Moortown & re-registered BUA 935X; Beeston Hadleigh.	04/96
1308	ANA 92Y	To Little Red Bus, Smetwick ex Western National, Fleet No.3592.	09/96
1309	ANA 93Y	To Little Red Bus, Smetwick ex Western National, Fleet No.3593.	09/96
1310	ANA 94Y	To Little Red Bus, Smetwick ex Western National, Fleet No.3594.	09/96
1414	2739 VX	To PVS Carlton, ex Hanson, Yaddlethorpe.	09/83
1527	LPU 452J	To Busways ex Buckinghamshire NEBB Annfield Plain; Whiting Ferrybridge.	03/94
1657	KCG 617L	Withdrawn by Williams, Deiniolen.	06/96
1732	HWC 83N	At Liyell, Willenhall; derelict.	08/96
1749	JNO 198N (later ACH 32A)	Cave, Shirley ex Alexcars, Cirencester.	07/96
1774	MAR 796P	To Lowes, Spondon from Rhonnda Buses Ltd., Fleet No.660 ex Trent.	04/96
1855	YEV 313S	To Yeates, Loughborough ex Volvo, Warwick.	08/96
1932	MHJ 728V	To Rider York, ex Yorkshire Rider as Fleet No.1369.	06/96
2203	C203 HJN	To Eastern Counties as Fleet No.763.	09/96
2251	C990 GCV	To Eastern Counties as Fleet No.761.	09/96
2256	ONO 59	Reported with LVVS, Lincoln.	04/96

The following vehicles were noted at Nationwide Seat Belts, Maldon in late December:-

A696 YOX (20 KB 48) Tiger/Marshall Southern National 2214
 4384 LJ (A580 KVV) Tiger/Plaxton Southern National 11
 YSF 85S Leopard/Alexander Southern National 3554
 GYE 449W MCW Metrobus Metroliner M449
 GYE 429W MCW Metrobus Metroliner M429
 P447 KYC a Mercedes minibus also of Southern National

Thamesway

Not much to report this month however Essex Buses oldest Leyland National 1803 TJN 602R is being repainted into the latest Thamesway Livery.

Former Thamesway Olympians 4001-2 XHK 236/7X are often seen in Colchester with Eastern Counties together with Leyland Tiger/Alexander HHJ 372Y, formerly Eastern National 1111.

ROUTE DIVERSION IN BENFLEET

A route diversion on services 27 & 27A due to the closure of Kents Hill Rd. (South) by roadworks resulted in vehicles being routed via Tarpots Corner.

THAMESWAY **(SUBSEQUENT MOVEMENTS)**

<u>Fleet No.</u>	<u>Registration No.</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Date</u>
0022	E509 TOV	To Hawksworth & Squire, (Coachmasters), Upton.	05/96
0026	F995 XOY	To Hawksworth & Squire, Upton ex Ramm, Sudden.	05/96
0027	F996 XOY	To Jones JS, Llanrwst, ex Ramm Sudden.	03/96
0505	D597 MVR	To Eaglen, Morton &.....	05/96
		re-registered D121 ODO.	06/96
0506	D598 MVR	To Turner, Maidstone.	10/95
0513	B337 BGL	To Wilkinson, Basildon from Western National, Fleet No.2222 and re-registered IAZ 6393.	02/96
0514	E675 UNE	To Dudley, Radford ex Kirby, Anston.	06/96
0515	E677 UNE	To Simonds, Batesdale.	05/96
0711	B444 WTC	To Simonds, Batesdale.	09/96
1712	XEU 860T	To McKay, Goldington ex Morgan, Nantyglo.	05/96
		To Pride of the Road, Huddersfield ex MTL, Manchester.	09/95
1817	VNO 740S	To Yeates, Loughborough ex Bristol Bus & Coach, Bristol.	08/96
1840	WJN 560S	To Powell, Wickersley.	10/96
1848	YEV 306S	To Cartmell, (Border), Burnley from Sovereign Bus & Coach, their Fleet No.606.	07/96
1849	YEV 307S	To Yeates, Loughborough ex Bristol Bus & Coach, Bristol.	08/96
1857	YEV 315S	To Brewers ex South Wales Transport.	06/96
1878	BNO 668T	To Birmingham Omnibus, Tiverdale ex Fleetmaster, Horsham.	05/96
1881	BNO 671T	To Brewers ex South Wales Transport.....	06/96
		and disposed of by Brewers.	07/96
1908	DAR 130T	To Powell, Wickersley.	10/96
1911	DAR 133T	To Powell, Wickersley ex Hardwick, Carlton.	08/96
3086	STW 30W	Withdrawn by Cambus Ltd.	11/96

PAUL SPARKS CLACTON COLUMN

The main point of news this month comes with the fire at Walton Depot on Saturday 14th December 1996. This has resulted with the loss of the two open top VR's, Fleet No.'s 3500 & 3501, Registration No.'s WNO 546L & NPU 974M respectively. The remains of these vehicles were transported to Clacton Depot and it is hardly possible to recognize the fact that these were once two buses. The chassis of the two vehicles is all that is visible and the heat of the fire was so intense that these became welded together. Reassurances have been given that Clacton's summer services will continue this year, but whether or not this is using conventional vehicles or not remains to be seen.

Perhaps the saddest aspect of the fire at Walton is the damage that has been sustained by Thamesway's 1939 Bristol K5G ex Westcliff-on-Sea vehicle registration No. AJN 825. Although this vehicle was a distance away from the two VR's and subsequently not totally destroyed it has been very badly damaged. It is currently in the yard at Clacton with a sheet of blue tarpaulin wrapped around it. As to whether or not the Company is prepared to "foot the bill" to have the vehicle repaired remains a very dubious question, so the future of AJN 825 is precarious to say the very least!

The Bristol VR, Fleet No. 3224, Registration No. AYG 84S which was involved in an accident with a car on Mersea Island on 6th December last year appears to have sustained more damage than originally thought. It appears that the sub frame of the vehicle was dislodged in the collision and as a result it is quite likely that this results in its being withdrawn.

Hedingham Omnibus News

A Hedingham Dennis Dart operating service 600 from Walton to Colchester on Saturday 4th January unfortunately ran out of fuel in Clacton. This resulted in a replacement vehicle being called out and a maintenance fitter having to bleed the fuel system of the Dart before being able to replenish it with more diesel fuel. A delay of approximately one hour was suffered by passengers.

KSW News

There is not a lot to report on this front this month, only to confirm that the KSW did do its private hire from South Woodham Ferrers to Wembley on Thursday 12th December 1996. With the start of 1997 I hope that soon I will be able to state what events this vintage vehicle will be attending this year.



COLCHESTER BOROUGH TRANSPORT

Greenway 348 entered service on 12.12.96, and 352 went into the paint shop the same day. The re-paint of the Greenways into fleet livery was completed on 3.1.97.

LOTS reports that Atlanteans 66 and 70 (RFR 416P and RFR 421P), which were removed from Colchester on 5.11.96, went to Horsham Buses.

No services were operated on 25, 26.12.96 or 1.1.97. A Saturday service was operated on 27.12.96, except that ECC services 11 and 15 ran (with virtually no passengers).

ECC fares were increased on 6.1.97.

On 16.12.96 Greenways were used on the evening journeys on ECC-contract services 11 and 15, because all seven Olympians, along with Tiger 103 and Atlantean 90, were in use on a private hire in West Mersea. The same evening, Atlanteans 85 to 88 were used on a private hire from Braintree to the Hippodrome in Colchester; four Olympians were used for the return trip.

On 15.12.96 CBT operated two early journeys replacing trains between Colchester and Witham.

Services 5 and 8 were interrupted at North Station on 27 and 28.12.96, while the railway bridge was being replaced. Buses from the town, including those on service 2/2A/2B, stood in Westway. Passengers made their way over a specially-built footbridge at North Station. Tigers 103 and 104 ran between the station forecourt and Highwoods and Horkesley. CBT operated Atlanteans on a railway replacement service between the south side of the station and Colchester Town Station, and Olympians between the station and Ipswich (with some journeys via Manningtree). Because of this extra work, on 28.12.96 four Southend Transport drivers helped out: one on service 1/1A/1B/1C, one on the Highwoods shuttle, one on the Horkesley shuttle, and one on the Colchester Town railway replacement.

CBT also operated railway replacement services on 29.12.96. Olympians 41 and 43 ran between Ipswich and Colchester, Midibus 123 ran between Ipswich and Manningtree, and Olympian 46 ran between North Station and Colchester Town Station.

Finally, 103, 104 and Greenway 349 ran between Mark's Tey and Sudbury on 2.1.97.

FOR SALE: Southend Corporation fare posters

A few old SCT faretable posters have recently come to light. All cover motorbus routes only (there were separate issues for trolleybuses) and are in excellent condition, except for minor tears on the edges. Three different dates are available:

Undated (but must be between 1/10/47 and 6/12/49), 16.5"x21", covering routes from Southend to: Shoebury Common, Plough, Sutton Cemetery and Cuckoo Corner, plus the Leigh to Thorpe Bay routes. [3 copies only available]

July 1951, 15"x20": routes 28a/b, 51/2, 51a, 52a, 63 and 63a/b. This is the companion issue to the trolleybus farechart sold by ST at rallies over the past couple of years. [1 only left]

October 1952 - with typed addition to June 1953, 17"x20": routes 5a, 25a/b, 61a/c, 61b, 62, 64 (newly introduced from 21/6/53), Hamstel Rd & Bryant Ave and Chalkwell Schools & Cuckoo Corner.

Price: £1 each, plus 50p post/packing (in a stout card tube) for any quantity.
Orders to: Richard Delahoy, 272 Shoebury Road, Southend on Sea, SS1 3TT.

Southend Transport

Services:

Christmas 1996 and New Year 1997 services.

CHRISTMAS EVE, TUESDAY, 24 DECEMBER 1996 **LAST BUSES FROM SOUTHEND**

<u>SERVICE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>TO</u>
1	1820	RAYLEIGH STATION
2	1735	BASILDON HOSPITAL
2	1725	EAST BEACH
2C	1755	LANDWICK via GT WAKERING
5A	1742	EAST BEACH
5A	1815	HIGHLANDS (Thames Dr)
6	1715	LANDWICK via LT WAKERING
7	1820	EAST BEACH
7	1729	RAYLEIGH STATION
7	1759	ASHINGDON SCHOOLS
7C	1714	CANEWDON
8	1749	RAYLEIGH STATION
9	1759	RAYLEIGH STATION
9	1757	EAST BEACH
28	1820	BELGRAVE ROAD
29A	1800	EAST BEACH
62	1745	BELFAIRS (Woodcutters)

N.B. Last 23A from LEIGH STATION at 1759
Last 23A from EASTWOOD at 1820

LAST BUSES TO SOUTHEND

<u>SERVICE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>FROM</u>
1	1856	RAYLEIGH STATION
1	1823	EAST BEACH
2	1734	EAST BEACH
2	1848	BASILDON HOSPITAL
2C	1820	LANDWICK
5A	1844	HIGHLANDS (Thames Dr)
5A	1842	EAST BEACH
7	1850	RENOWN
7	1838	ASHINGDON SCHOOLS
7	1851	RAYLEIGH STATION
7C	1800	CANEWDON
8	1811	RAYLEIGH STATION
9	1912	RAYLEIGH STATION
29	1845	BELGRAVE ROAD
29A	1833	EAST BEACH
62	1746	BELFAIRS (Woodcutters)

N.B. Last 23 from BELGRAVE ROAD at 1758

LAST JOURNEY TIMES

FROM SOUTHEND

1050 X1 to Heathrow
1150 X1 to Victoria
1515 X10 to Embankment
1550 X1 to Aldgate
1650 X1 to Lakeside

TO SOUTHEND

1530 X2 from Heathrow
1715 X3 & 1745 X11 from Victoria
1740 X10 & 1810 X11 from Embankment
1740 X10, 1755 X10, 1755 X3 & 1825 X11 from Aldgate
1833 X3 from Lakeside
1903 X3 from Basildon

WITHDRAWN JOURNEYS

0610 & 0640 X10 Southend to Victoria
1750 X1 Southend to Hyde Park
1850 X3 Southend to Victoria
2130 X2 Southend to Hyde Park
0925 X1 Hyde Park to Southend
1705, 1725 & 1800 X10 Embankment to Southend
1810 X3 Heathrow to Southend
1815 X2 Embankment to Southend
1955 & 2155 X2 Victoria to Southend
2100 & 2345 X2 Hyde Park to Southend

ADDITIONAL JOURNEYS

1315, 1415 & 1515 X10 Embankment to Southend

ALTERED JOURNEYS

1350 X1 Southend to Heathrow operates to Victoria only
1550 X1 Southend to Embankment operates to Aldgate only
1650 X1 Southend to Victoria operates to Thurrock Lakeside only
1715 & 1745 X3 Victoria to Southend operates to faster running time between Aldgate & Southend

CHRISTMAS DAY, WEDNESDAY, 25TH DECEMBER 1996 - only the following journeys will run:

0830 X2 Southend to Victoria

1100 X2 Victoria to Southend

On this day only, coach will stop on request at any recognised bus stop

BOXING DAY, THURSDAY, 26TH DECEMBER 1996 - Special Service Only. 08:30 to 18:30.

- 1 Shoebury(East Beach)-Gt Wakering-Southend-Hadleigh-Rayleigh Stn.
(Hourly Shoebury-Rayleigh & Hourly Southend-Hadleigh(Victoria Hse Corner.)
- 5A Southend(Bus Station)-London Rd.-Leigh Church-Highlands-Hadleigh(Vic Hse.)
(Hourly until 18:00)
- 7 Shoebury(East Beach)-Thorpe Bay-Southend-Rochford-Hockley(Spa.)
(Hourly until 18:30)
- 29 Southend(Bus Station)-Fairfax Dr.-Belfairs-Eastwood Road-Rayleigh Stn.
(Hourly until 17:42)
- X3 Southend-Pitsea-Basildon-Grays-Lakeside-Dagenham-Aldgate-London(Victoria)
(Depart Send: 08:50,10:50,1250 & 14:50(Aldgate Only.)
(Depart Lvic; 12:05,14:05,16:05 & 17:00(from Aldgate.)

FRIDAY, 27TH DECEMBER 1996 -

ONLY operating a Sunday service

SATURDAY, 28TH DECEMBER, SUNDAY, 29TH DECEMBER & MONDAY, 30TH DECEMBER

Normal services will apply

NEW YEAR'S EVE, TUESDAY, 31 DECEMBER 1996

LAST BUSES FROM SOUTHEND

SERVICE	TIME	TO
1	1950	RAYLEIGH STATION
2	1922	EAST BEACH
2B	1952	EAST BEACH
5A	2005	HADLEIGH
5A	2007	EAST BEACH
7	2009	EAST BEACH
7	1931	RAYLEIGH STATION
8	1905	RAYLEIGH STATION
9	1951	RAYLEIGH STATION
29	1950	BELGRAVE ROAD
62A	1940	BELFAIRS (Woodcutters)

LAST BUSES TO SOUTHEND

SERVICE	TIME	FROM
1	2035	RAYLEIGH STATION
1	2023	EAST BEACH
5A	2038	HADLEIGH
5A	2042	EAST BEACH
7	1951	RAYLEIGH STATION
8	2021	RAYLEIGH STATION
8	2036	EAST BEACH
9	2012	RAYLEIGH STATION
29	2042	RAYLEIGH STATION
62A	2006	BELFAIRS (Woodcutters)

WITHDRAWN SERVICES

1850 X2 Southend to Victoria
2130 X2 Southend to Hyde Park
1705 X10 Embankment to Southend
1955 & 2155 X2 Victoria to Southend
2100 & 2345 X2 Hyde Park to Southend

ADDITIONAL JOURNEY

1515 X10 Embankment to Southend

ALTERED JOURNEYS

1810 X3 Heathrow to Southend will terminate at Southend Queensway
1650 X1 & 1750 X1 from Southend operates to Aldgate only

NEW YEAR'S DAY, WEDNESDAY, 1ST JANUARY 1997

Sunday service will operate

Repaints:

FL 240 (MRJ 240W) into latest livery.

Other News:

The TOPSS videos and screens have been turned off, and are slowly being removed.

M E D I A M O N I T O R

November 29th: Dedham Parish Council hear that the adjustment to EN timings mean that people arrive in Colchester before 9am but are concerned that the afternoon journey is not accepting passengers and is returning to Colchester empty. Carters have put up timetables at two points in Langham.

December 9th: The accident at West Mersea the previous Friday is covered. A car driver died and the bus driver and 13 children were injured when the car went out on control on a right hand bend then spun through 90 degrees into the front of the bus side on. The schoolchildren it is alleged are now too scared to travel by bus again. Surprisingly no "children in bus death horror" headlines appeared in the national media.

December 16th: Damage estimated at £100,000 was caused the previous day when fire gutted the EN garage at Walton. Two open top buses were destroyed and a 1930's bus was nearly written off. About Anglia covered the story concentrating on the damage to the Westcliff On Sea Bristol K5G which Robin Orbell said was his greatest concern when told of the fire.

The Headmaster of Thomas Lord Audley dispels fears over school bus safety when it emerges that a few days after the previous accident a fight between two boys smashed a bus window has sparked concern amongst parents. "In normal circumstances nobody would have batted an eyelid....we need to keep things in proportion".

December 20th. An early morning signal fault at Wrabness delayed commuters by 30 minutes when buses had to run between Harwich and Manningtree.

December 24th: The East Anglian Daily Times reports that 11 children and a driver had been taken to hospital after two coaches they had been travelling on shunted into each other on the Army & Navy Roundabout in Chelmsford. True to form four other recent incidents are dragged out again.

December 27th: A Colchester bus driver with a 16 years unblemished record has been fined £100 with £40 costs after admitting he failed to take all reasonable precautions to ensure the safety of his passengers. An 81 year old woman had fallen and cut her leg when the bus jerked forward as she tried to board. A charge of careless driving was withdrawn.

December 30th: Residents fume over exhaust from buses. Residents of nearby almshouses are complaining that four or five CBT double deckers start their engines at 6am every morning and leave them running before setting off. For the company Michael Cross said "Short of us picking ourselves up and moving somewhere else, or them moving, there is not too much we can do". Nobody thinks to mention the fact that motor buses have used the premises since April 1928!!

A New Years Eve dance at Severalls Park will be linked with the town centre by a half hourly bus service between 2000 and 0330 running via Ipswich Road, St Johns, High Woods and North Station.

January 1st: The Colchester Cycling Campaign complains that out of town shops and industrial sites encourage use of the car as they are far from frequent public transport. They also propose that many of the towns roads are improved for cyclists and public transport with all other through traffic bared with "video gates" to prevent unauthorised movements.

January 3rd: Dedham Parish Council learn that EN are unlikely to change bus times again. It would take too long for the afternoon bus to return to the bus station if it made stops on the return route. They are to write to the company pointing out that tourists will have to leave rather early in the afternoon to return to Colchester.

A customer congratulates Hedingham on their Service 49, courteous drivers, comfortable buses with brilliant access for mums with toddlers and the elderly.

January 6th: Anglia Railways are to introduce a Colchester to Stansted Airport coach link.

The Colchester Evening Gazette reported on January 9th that the takeover of G W Osborne & Sons by Hedingham Omnibuses which was called off a year ago is now on again after a new deal had been worked out. Robert MacGregor said he could not confirm anything until both companies has signed on the dotted line on February 10th. Barry Osborne said "nothing signed, nothing sealed" and declined to comment further.

A faulty insulator on the down line shorted out the power at 1700 on January 9th. The problem was more complex than expected and was not resolved until late evening. Trains from London were diverted onto the up line. Buses were used in place of London bound trains running all stations Colchester - Shenfield, non-stop Colchester - Shenfield and Colchester North - Town - Hythe. CBT were running on the "main line" and unconfirmed reports indicate that Windmill Coaches were operating the Braintree branch.

OTHER OPERATORS - REST OF ESSEX

AJS HARLOW A recent addition is Mercedes 412D Sprinter P595 HHF.

APT RAYLEIGH Bedford/Plaxton JNJ 510V has been acquired from BJS, Gt Wakering

ASSOCIATED COACHWAYS HARLOW Sanos F752 SPU, carries this operators FAX number, but with Coaching Places fleetnames.

BARKERBUS ROYDON Recent additions are A253 TPO a double-deck Metroliner and thought to be either A119 KBA or A120 KBA re-registered. Also here is MIL 9757 (ex PBT 531P) ex Ongar Coaches a Bedford VAS/Plaxton and SIB 3276 (ex B224 QJU) a Bedford/Duple Laser. VW/Optare D371 JUM has been re-registered SJI 9335, which was previously carried by a Fiat/Caetano now re-registered and sold.. Also acquired is E705 GNH a Fiat/Caetano.

BEESTONS Minor revisions to services 150/1 were made on 13.1.97.

BLACKWELL ABBESS RODING Have acquired PNM 682W a Bedford/Duple.

BROWN HARLOW Have acquired Mercedes minibus XJN 205X from AJS Coaches, Harlow.

BUZZ HARLOW Leyland Leopard/Plaxton GWV 926V has been acquired. Services B1/6/11/31 were revised from 2.1.97

CD HIRE HARLOW Have acquired Fiat C301 WLR, operating on a taxi plate.

FARGO From 14.1.97. some Countrycar services in Halstead were revised to serve Balls Chase.

GOLDEN BOY ROYDON Mercedes/Reeve Burgess J760/1/3 ONK have been acquired from Javelin, Battersea. Volvo/Van Hool YXI 3057 (F735 ENE) has been acquired from Shearings. Leyland Tiger/Plaxton YOI 7725 (NDW 138X) has returned from Stuart Johnson (dealer). Leopard/Plaxton WJM 812T has been re-registered YOI 5475, the former YOI 5475 (ex WJM 810T) is to be scrapped.

HANN HARLOW D753 GBV a Renault minibus is a recent arrival.

HARRIS BUS The Volvo/Plaxton buses, D301-4 PEV have all been de-licensed, following the recent arrival of new stock. D304 PEV has been sold to a driver training concern in the Ipswich area. TYJ 15S was returned to Brighton just before Christmas. YDX 100Y a Dennis Falcon/E Lancs has been on loan since late December.

LEOS MINIBUSES HARLOW F31 HSS a VW/Devon Conversions is now here.

MCINTYRE HARLOW Rare Ebro minicoach C163 JTW is to be scrapped at Golden Roys premises.

PAGECOACH Talbot F59 AJK has been sold to Smith, Horndon on the Hill (who is this months new operator!)

SIMIEN RAYLEIGH Bova QJI 2830 was in the news, when it collided with the rear of a Reliance Coaches Dennis Javelin, just before Christmas at the Army & Navy roundabout in Chelmsford.

TIGERWAYS HARLOW Ex Lee-Roy, Bretwood HIL 8132 (NJF 671P) a Volvo/Plaxton has been acquired.

UNITED MINI COACHES LAINDON Have sold Ford Transit E562 HEV to Station Cars also of Laindon.

WIVENHOE CARS Ford Transit G488 VFE carries this and Airport Express fleetnames.