

ESSEX BUS NEWS

AUGUST 1991

The monthly magazine of the ESSEX BUS ENTHUSIASTS GROUP

(Formerly the Eastern National Enthusiasts Group)

328



"Doddy" and Eileen Went stand by their three buses in the Mill Road, Boxted yard after the last journey had been operated on 20.7.1991.

(G Toon)

EDITOR:

Ian Ransom, 102 Bradford Street, Chelmsford, CM2 0XU

SUB EDITORS:

Southend Transport:

Edward Cecil, 59 Abbs Cross Lane, Hornchurch, RM12 4XW

Thamesway:

Paul Harvey, 19 Watkins Way, Shoeburyness, SS3 9NX

South Essex independents:

Mark Lloyd, 4 New Cottages, Wakes Colne, Colchester, CO6 2BY

Other independents:

Dave Arnold, 21 Cedar Chase, Heybridge, Maldon, CM9 7NR

PUBLICATIONS:

Andy Meadows, 10 Harvard Court, Boston Avenue, Rayleigh, SS6 9ST

PHOTO ORDERS:

Peter Snell, 6 Mandeville Way, Thundersley, SS7 4LB

MEMBERSHIP:

Bob Palmer, 67 Perkins Road, Barkingside, IG2 7NQ

SOLENTSIDE TOUR 15th SEPTEMBER 1991

There are still some seats available on this tour, booking forms were circulated with last months magazine. Please support Group coach tours and please book seats as early as possible.

NENE VALLEY TOUR SUNDAY 6th OCTOBER 1991

By kind permission of Ted Miles this tour will use his preserved AEC Regal AHC 411 and will visit The Nene Valley Railway for its Steam Enthusiasts Weekend and the Peterborough depot of Viscount. Detailed timings are not yet available but departure from Canvey will be about 0830 with pick ups at Tarpots(0850),Basildon (0915) and Shenfield (0945).

We will return from Peterborough at about 1710 setting down at Shenfield (1930) then Basildon etc.

There will be no charge for the AEC Regal but tickets will of course need to be purchased on the NVR.

Bookings are limited to the first 20 applicants who should write enclosing an SAE for confirmation to the magazine editor. If connecting by rail please indicate so as we can allow for delays due to engineering work etc.

REVISED FRONT COVER AND LOGO

Many thanks to all those members who submitted revised front covers and ideas for logos.

The cover used last month was without doubt of better quality with the bottom section a vast improvement.

On the subject of logos a number of members suggested the use of the Essex Coat of Arms and the County Council have given the go ahead for this.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

1.9.91. Folkestone.East Kent 75th anniversary rally.

8.9.91. Norwich. British Bus Day.

Mid Hants Railway Bus Bonanza.

15.9.91. Ipswich Transport Museum Open Day.

22.9.91. Lowestoft. East Anglia Transport Museum Open Day.

28.9.91. Castle Point Museum Open Day.

29.9.91. Woburn Abbey. Showbus.

SALES NEWS

The following publications are still available from Peter Snell:-

Westcliff On Sea In Focus Volume 2 £4.75 including post.

Simpsons of Leaden Roding £2.15 including post.

Both publicatins include many never previously published photos of vehicles, while the Simpsons book gives a very good history of one of the many smaller operators taken over by Eastern National.

LONDON, TILBURY AND SOUTHBEND RAILWAY SOCIETY

Group member Charles Phillips has recently formed this society the basic aims of which are:-

1. To promote the study of all aspects of the history of the LTS and its associated predecessors and successors.
2. To construct historical models of LTS equipment etc.
3. To publish a magazine at least twice a year about the LTS.
4. To hold regular meetings.
5. To undertake study tours of the LTS and its jointly owned lines.

The subscription for one years membership is 2.50 and further details can be obtained from Charles Phillips, 52 Brookmans Road, Stock, Ingatestone, Essex, CM4 9DB.

EASTERN NATIONAL

New Vehicles

In response to a members query 500-7 had automatic gearboxes the new batch are manual, hence the new range of fleetnumbers. Details are now available for the first 17 Mercedes minibuses of the new batches and are in order:-

Chassis 140140/386/044/746/143461/141060/140415/143121/140820/
144040/420/025/392/141090/069/146020/145334.

Body No 18530-46

All of the new minibuses are fitted with DIPTAC features such as green handrails, palm push bells and sharks teeth markings on entrance steps.

Vehicle On Loan

Badgerline Volvo 2501 is thought to have returned to its home area during late June. It is hoped to be able to confirm dates next month.

Allocation Changes

7/91 601-9 NEW-CF; 1764 MN-D/L(D); 1790 DT-D/L(D); 1793 CR-D/L(D)
1842/50 CF-CR; 1851 CF-MN; 1855 CF-DT; 3052 CR-D/L(D).
8/91 500-7 CF-TWAY; 610-17 NEW-CF; 703 CF-POOL; 1501 CR- D/L(D);
1750/4 POOL-D/L(D); 1768 CN-D/L(D); 1834/41 CN-POOL.

Of the above 601/6 entered service on 28.7.91. while 610-17 were all available for service on 1.8.91. indeed your editor managed a journey on 612.

Withdrawn Vehicles

Vehicles currently D/L(D) were located as follows on 20.7.91.

CN 1502 1769 1782 1793 1816 3038 3052 3058 3063 9011
CF 1740

1764/90 were still in service on this date!

Of the above 1740,1782,1816,3059 and 3063 are being cannibalised.

Repaints

Olympian 4021 has been repainted into a revised dual purpose livery with the yellow now extending to just below the downstairs windows.

General

Eastern National sponsored this years Thorley Carnival held in Bishops Stortford on July 14th. A National 2 and a Little Green Bus were on display with an open topper giving local rides. It is unfortunate that the first publicity received on KSW tours from Clacton arrived to late for inclusion in last months magazine. Having commenced on 26.6.91. and operating Wednesdays only until 4.9.91. the tour commences from Highfields at 1345 and operates via Valley Farm and Jackson Roas 1400 before taking in the seafront, St. Osyth, Aingers Green, Gt. Bentley, Frating Green, Gt. Bromley, Ardleigh and Dedham (half hour break) then Lawford, Manningtree Station, Mistley, Bradfield, Horsley Green, Tendring, Walton (short break), Kirby Cross and Clacton arriving back at about 1715. All this for 4.50 adult, 3.50 OAP. A courier gives a running commentary. The depature bays at Braintree Bus Park were swapped around from 5.6.91.

On a BBC Essex phone in it emerged that no new full size buses will be required for at least a year, but when they are obtained nearside route numbers will be fitted.

The Evening Gazette has reported that new minibuses are to enter service at Braintree during October.

Unusual Workings

5.6.91. BE4013 on service 311 (normally National/VR).

Following maintenance at Chelmsford 1940 was in use on service 32 on at least 5,6,7th August.

Publicity

Timetable leaflets for services 31/31X dated 17.2.91. and reissued 29.7.91; 40/A dated 3.9.90. and reissued 29.7.91.; 44/47 dated 28.7.91; 106/126 dated 22.7.91. to 30.8.91.

Leaflet for service 30 advertising trial fare of 60p return.

Services

22 Revised timetable introduced from 2.9.91.

53 From 22.7.91. the 2055 ex Chelmsford was extended to and return from Witham (at 2125).

78/A Revised journeys to General Hospital introduced from

- 11.8.91(see EBN 327/3).
- 103/4 Minor timetable alterations introduced from 2.9.91.
- 120 From 2.9.91. a revised timetable will be introduced and the service will be renumbered 20.
- 320 Revised timetable introduced from 27.8.91. remains under contract to ECC.
- 321 From 21.7.91. all services operated under contract to ECC were retimed to leave Deanery Gardens 2 minutes earlier and serve the Bus Park.
- 348 From 19.8.91. the 1345 journey operates via Lower Sheering.

Services 20, 22A/B will be operated by minibuses.

Eastern National have won a number of tenders from Suffolk County Council which may result in a depot being opened in Suffolk!

Initial Disposal

- 1737 (GJN 997N) Remains cut up and sold for scrap, 8/91.

Subsequent Disposals

For the sake of brevity the symbol (T) will be used to signify an Eastern National subsequent disposal upon it becoming an initial disposal from Thamesway. This symbol will not be used for Thamesway subsequent disposals appearing under the Eastern National heading- see also notes in EBN 327.

- 1113 (HHJ 374Y) Brewer, Maesteg, by 5/91, ex Brewer, Caerau.
- 1118 (HHJ 379Y) As per 1113
- 1122 (A691 OHJ) As per 1113
- 1206 (BNO 692T) Mansfield Rugby Club (N-PSV), Mansfield, 2/91, ex. Rainworth Travel, 72.
- 1302 (LLT 343V) Unique, Brighton, by 6/91, ex. Sunbury Coaches, Sunbury.
- 1542 (SVW 275K) Withdrawn (last licensed) by Citybus, Belfast, 713, 2/90; to Beattie (breaker), Hillsborough, 11/90.
- 1553 (WNO 542L) As per 1542 but last licensed 9/89, and numbered 717.
- 1725 (NEV 682M) Paterson, Bannockburn, by 4/91 (T).
- 1747 (JNO 196N) Wigley (dealer), Carlton, by 6/91 (T).
- 1760 (MAR 782P) As per 1113.
- 1761 (MAR 783P) As per 1747.
- 1762 (MAR 784P) As per 1747.
- 1774 (MAR 796P) As per 1113.
- 1775 (MAR 797P) As per 1113.
- 3047 (OCS 576H) Being used for spares at Gwernymynedd yard, by Eagles & Mold, by 3/91.
- 3080 (STW 24W) Green, Kirkintilloch, 5/91 (T).
- 3209 (XNV 882S) Noted in Fords, Althorne yard, 7/91.
- 3212 (YVV 896S) As per 3080.
- 3213 (CBD 901T) As per 1747.
- 3214 (FRP 905T) As per 3080.

EASTERN NATIONAL FLEET ALLOCATION 1.8.1991

Bishops Stortford (BS)	0707-09/11/12/15/19 1111/27 1741/78/92 1843/44/1930-32/40 4510
Braintree (BE)	0120 0706/10/13/14/16-18 1120/25 1309/10 1812/13/28/61/62/72/1909/10/14/16/23/24 3072/76/84/3128 4016/17/20/21
Chelmsford (CF)	601-17 0700-2 0750-4 1112/19/21/28-30 1308 1401/02/13-15/26-29 1804/05/11/19 1824/27/32/56/60/67/70/73/90/99/1901/17 2201/03 3070/77/83/92/93/3106/11/12 4005/13 4511/12
Clacton (CN)	0200/02-19 1110/17 1831/1927/37-39 2202 3109 3220-22
Colchester (CR)	1842/50/65/1925/26/29/33/35/36 3064/66/68/71/78/91/95/3103/14/27 3204/18 4004/14/15/18 4501/03/09 1408
Gt. Dunmow (DW)	1123 1500 1766/1855/85 3219 4007/8/19
Harwich (DT)	1114/15 1403/07/16/25 1806/29/33/51
Maldon (MN)	1863/74/92/1921 3053/54/60/69/79/94
Walton-on-Naze (WN)	0220-24
Pool Vehicles	0703-5 1834/41 2383/84 3500/1
Delicensed Disposal	1501/2 1740/50/54/64/68/69/82/90/93 1816 3038/52/58/59/63 9011

0121,1737,1751,1928,3062 no longer appear on the official company allocation list and may have been sold.

EASTERN NATIONAL FLEET SUMMARY 1.8.1991

	BE	BS	CF	CN	CR	DT	DW	MN	WN	POOL	DIS	TOT
PEUGOT	1											1
MERCEDES			17	19					5			41
TRANSIT	7	7	8							3		25
RE			1									1
TIGER (CO)			3									3
LEOPARD	2		1									3
TIGER (DP)	2	2	3	2		1		2				12
LYNX			9				1	4				14
NATIONAL	12	9	17	6	9	4		8		2	13	80
VRT	4		8	4	12	1		6		2	5	42
ON (CO)		1	2		3							6
ON (DP)	4		1		3	3						11
ON (BUS)			1		1							2
KSW										2		2
TOTALS	32	19	71	31	28	9	1	20	5	9	18	243

Thamesway Ltd

These notes are correct to August 6th

Aquired Vehicles

388 - 395 H388-395 MAR Mercedes Benz 709D Reeve Burgess B23F

These vehicles are in the process of being aquired from Eastern National, numbered 500-07 and operated from Chelmsford Depot. They are intended for London Transport 193 Romford to County Park.

Allocations

July 7th 1738 BN-D/L(D) 1744 Pool-D/L(D) 1748 Pool-D/L(D) 1753 HH-D/L(D)
1755 BN-D/L(D) 1756 Pool-D/L(D) 1757 Pool-D/L(D) 1763 BN-D/L(D) 1765 HH-
D/L(D) 1767 BN-D/L(D) 1770 HH-D/L(D) 1771 HH-Pool 1772 BN-Pool 1773 BN-
D/L(D) 1776 BN-Pool 1777 HH-Pool 1780 BN-Pool 1784 HH-D/L(D) 1785 BN-D/L(D)
1786 BN-D/L(D) 1788 HH-Pool 1791 BD-Pool 1795 BN-D/L(D) 1798 SD-D/L(D) 1799
BN-D/L(D) 1802 WW-D/L(D) 1808 BN-SD 1809 SD-D/L(D) 1814 BN-HH 1818 BN-HH
1820 BN-HH 1822 BN-HH 1823 BN-WW 1836 BN-BD 1838 BN-SD 1847 BN-BD 1848 BN-
BD 1849 BN-HH 1852 BN-HH 1875 BN-HH 4003 EN-Pool 4006 EN- Pool 4018 BD-EN
4019 BD-EN

The above information corrects last months late news regarding allocations.

Vehicle Disposals

Bristol VR's 3080/86, 3212/4 have been aquired by Green of Kirkintilloch, while 3081 is now with Nelsons of Wickford. Noted withdrawn at BD recently was 1784 and 3211, while at BN were 1745/57/77/85/91/95/99.

Repaints

Noted repainted in new livery is 1852, 1875 and 1918(ex overall advert for Victoria Circus Shopping centre)

Service Revisions

31/A/32/A Due to the closure of Laindon Station Bridge for the 18 week period from Monday 29th July to Monday 2nd December the route will be diverted locally in the Laindon/Great Berry area, with a slightly revised timetable for the duration of the bridge closure.

It has been announced that London Transport tendered routes 20(Walthamstow to Debden), 167(Ilford to Debden), 235(Leytonstone to Woodford Wells) and 275(Walthamstow to Barkingside/Claybury Broadway) have been awarded to Grey Green while routes W13(Leytonstone to Woodford Wells) and W14(Leytonstone to Claybury Hospital) have been gained by Ensign Citybus. These routes are currently operated by Thamesway from WW depot.

It is understood that Thamesway have gained two minibus routes from London Forest Travel, W11(Walthamstow to North Walthamstow) and W12(Walthamstow to

Wanstead). Further details when available.

The Company have announced that Southend depot will close after service on Saturday 7th September, most vehicles will be transferred to Hadleigh depot. Full details of service revisions and vehicle movements next month.

Publicity

11 dated 8-7-91

20/A/B dated 8-7-91

Details of increased frequency on 250 dated 8-7-91

31/A/32/A dated 29-7-91 until 2-12-91

General

London Forest Travel have been on strike since Thursday 11th July which resulted in Thamesway operating extra's on route 251 over the Walthamstow Central to Ilford Gants Hill section using Leyland Nationals, VR's and Olympians (including 1755/63/67/71/76/80, 3122, 4003/6) on a 15 minute interval to partly compensate for the absence of London Forests 123 (Wood Green to Ilford) service. Commencing Tuesday 23rd July London Transport organised an emergency contract on the 123, jointly operated by Grey Green and London Buses. London Forest Travel crews returned to normal working from Monday 29th July.

All Mercedes minibuses at BN, HH and SD now carry the large Thamesway logo on the side, also noted BD 303 and 306. Also noted with large Thamesway logo are Olympians 4009/10 at SD and 4000/1 at HH.

Usually Workings

9-7-91 HH4000 on Service 3

10-7-91 BD1912 on service 251

SD4002 on service 250

Leyland Nationals have also been noted on Basildon Town Services instead of Minibuses.

FLEET ALLOCATION AT 7th JULY 1991

Basildon	357-387, 718-722, 1404/5/6/10-12/22-24, 1789/97, 1853/54/66/77-79/80/83/84/86-89/91/93/96/98, 1904/08/22, 2200
Brentwood	201/225-44, 301-06, 1836/39/45-48/59/76/81, 1900/02/03/12/13/19, 3085, 4012
Ponders End	245-52/57, 3087-90/97-99, 3100-02/04/08/13/17/20/22/29, 3205/16, 1001-04
Walthamstow	253-56/58-60, 800-04, 1779/96, 1801/03/10/23/25/26/82/94, 1905/11/20, 3096, 3105/07/10/15/16/18/19/21/23-26
Hadleigh	345-356, 701-10, 1400/09/17-21, 1781, 1814/17/18/20-22/35/40/49/52/57/64/69/71/75/95/97, 4000/01
Southend	307-344, 711-17/55/56, 1787, 1808/30/37/38/68, 1906/07/15/18, 4002/09-11
Pool Vehicles	1771/72/76/77/80/88/91, 4003/06
Training Vehicles	9005/13-15

SOUTHEND TRANSPORT NEWS

ROUTEMASTER OPERATION IN KINGSTON Saturday 7th Sept.

ST will be operating a RM on L.B.L. route 111 (Kingston-Heathrow Airport) on the 7th of September. A number of other ex-LT RMs will feature and proceeds from this day will be given to charity. Perhaps a 'clued up' member will advise me if the 111 was ever RM operated, letters please.

VEHICLES

Members may have read a report in 'Buses' (August) stating ST have purchased two further Tiger coaches from Yorkshire Voyager (fleet nos ST 559/60). 559 we know about, however the further coach 560(sic) has not been acquired and this report is speculation only. 559 (B85SWX) entered service on 12/7/91 after receiving a full repaint and being upseated to C57F replacing the lone DAF 581 withdrawn officially on 31/7/91 but not used since 12/7/91 (when 559 commenced service).

104 has received a full repaint and retrim; the livery features more blue than previously and large fleetnames (single-deck coach style). Other RMs will follow in the new style as repaint and retrims progress.

A Dennis Dart demonstrator (with Wadham Stringer B35F bodywork) will be on loan to ST from 12/8 to 20/8. Your sub-ed would like reports of workings, sightings etc. please.

SERVICES

A number of service changes are due to take place on 25/8/91. New timetables should be available soon.

- 3B New Service, as Thamesway 3, operating evenings & Suns only. Sunday & evening services recast to provide improved headways and virtually same service 7 nights per week.
- 9A Extended from Rayleigh Stn to Hullbridge during Mon-Fri peak hours and introduced on Sundays.
- 22 This service is also extended Rayleigh to Hullbridge Mon-Sats offering a 30 minute headway throughout.
- 23/A Withdrawn on Mon-Fri peaks Leigh Station-Highlands.
- 250 Extended from Basildon (Bus Stn) to Basildon Hospital & retimed to offer joint 15 min headway with service 2 between those points.
- X1 Extra journeys routed via Lakeside plus a 2 hourly extension Mon-Sat to the Greenline Coach Stn, Ecclestone Bridge, Victoria. (now used in place of Semley Place).

In addition, there will be some slight timetable changes plus some early evening work will be converted from RM to OPO together with some work on the 3 and service 1 'shorts'. Further to the item last month, Service 10 commenced on 08/07 running from Paglesham (East End) to Rayleigh via Canewdon, Lower Hockley & Coventry Cnr. There is one complete round trip with a 'placing' short Ashingdon-Paglesham & return. A timetable leaflet details this Monday only service together with a timetable for the Tuesday only 66.

Notes accurate to 2/8/91.

Subsequent Disposals

- WJN 355J Still with Hams of Flimwell, 7/91, in old style white/yellow stripes & black roof livery.
WJN 365J Still with Hams of Flimwell, 7/91, in new style silver red and yellow stripes livery.

Further to the above notes on timetable revisions the following came to hand after Edward had completed his notes:-

- 1,2,3A,4B,5,13,64,65 revised timetables introduced.
4 revised timetable and extended to Hadleigh.
4A,7,7A,8,8A,29,63 minor timetable changes introduced.

COLCHESTER BOROUGH TRANSPORT

Vehicles

Atlantean 87 has been repainted. Open top 55 now carries side advertisements for CBTs guided tour of "Comuladunum Britains oldest recorded town".

Services

From 2.9.91. revisions are to be made to most services as follows:-

- 1/A Revised Timetable.
1B Peak hour service introduced between the Town Centre and Longridge Park to replace service 39.
2/A/B 0839 and 1830 ex Highwoods withdrawn.
3 Withdrawn between Old Heath and Town Centre. The Town Centre to Longridge Park section is rerouted via Harwich Road, Bromley Road, Longridge Park and Avon Road to terminate at Greenstead roundabout and is renumbered 3A. Some peak hour journeys will operate to Longridge Park via Cowdray Avenue and Avon Way as service 3.
4/A Revised timetable together with revised route in Shrub End
5/A Tollgate journeys reduced to hourly, revised peak services
6/A Revised timetable with some journeys numbered 6B operating via Middlewick and Barnhall to replace service 3 journeys.
7group Minor timetable revisions.
8/A/B Revised early mornings on Monday to Fridays.
9/A Revised timetable with 9A introduced off peak via service 9 to town centre then service 39 to Home Farm and then service 21 to Tollgate.
21,39 Both services will be withdrawn.

Further to EBN 327 the National Express relief on service 084 duplicates the 0820 ex Walton from either Clacton or Colchester and returns on the 1400 ex Victoria on Saturdays plus other days as required.

General

Nine jobs will be lost as the result of economies, three of which

will be compulsory. The Company Chairman quotes the increase in out of town shopping, traffic congestion and the reduction in consumer spending for the need to make cuts.

HEDINGHAMS

Vehicles

The following were acquired from Norfolks, Nayland

L179	DAU 379C	AEC Renown	Weymann	O40/30F
L180	301 XRA	AEC Reliance	Plaxton	C55F
L181	229 LRB	AEC Reliance	Plaxton	C53F
L182	759 KFC	Seddon Pennine	Plaxton	C57F
L183	CFM 345S	Leyland National		B49F
L184	CFM 347S	Leyland National		B49F
L185	LMA 413T	Leyland National		B49F
L186	CBV 305S	Leyland Atlantean	E Lancs	H50/36F
L187	CBV 306S	Leyland Atlantean	E Lancs	H50/36F
L188	CBV 307S	Leyland Atlantean	E Lancs	H50/36F
L189	CBV 308S	Leyland Atlantean	E Lancs	H50/36F
L190	CBV 309S	Leyland Atlantean	E Lancs	H50/36F
L191	EGV 391Y	Bova Europa		C53F
L192	A709 KRT	Van Hool T815		C49FT

General

Following the retirement of "Doddy" Went and his wife Eileen having reached the ages of 70 and 67, the business of Wents Coaches was acquired.

Operation of the service on 22nd July was in the hands of L184 but L178 has been used since then. The timetable remains unchanged at present but a major revision and improvement to the Nayland service is expected to bring changes to the Boxted route. The three buses were soon removed from the yard and will be used for spares. Details of the vehicles are given in a special article in this month's EBN.

Planning consent for the Tendring depot has been refused, but an appeal has been lodged.

OTHER OPERATORS

BRANDONS Bova Futura 6330 FH has been reregistered HIL 2946.

COOKS COACHES Have acquired D622 SJX a DAF/Duple ex Upson.

DISTRICT BUS Following Thamesways Basildon revisions a new service 112 was introduced on schooldays only from Laindon Centre at 0820 to Laindon School returning at 1525.

FARGOS Have acquired A340 YDT a Volvo/Jonckhree.

FREEMANS Some astrologers said the 6th of June would be an unlucky day, it was for this operator whose EPC 895V was in collision with a lorry near Blackmore End!

HARRIS BUS Leyland Atlantean GHC 521N is currently out of service. A number of disposals are reported with the remains of VVV 64S the ex Northampton VR having been sold for scrap and Bova

GCP 311X and DAFs NEV 773/4V having been sold via ADT Auctions, Manchester in July. Volvo D301 PEV and MCWs E305/6 EVW have been repainted into a new Blue and White livery in recent months with 301 having some DIPTAC features.

PBD 43R now has Lakeside Coach Link lettering and a further 3 vehicles are to be treated.

Service 17 will be revised from 3.9.91. with all journeys running 10 minutes later.

HARRIS COACH C91 LVX is now registered 6330 FH.

LONDON BUSES Stamford Brook have commenced a service to Stansted Airport from Chiswick via East London. Operation is in the hands of coach seated Olympians L312-4 (G312-4 UYK). Departure from Stansted is M/F 0810,0910,1230,1350,1640,1850,1945,2145.

Sat 0830,0955,1040,1315,1445,1715,1830,2100.

Sun 0950,1230,1450,1655,1850,2010.

MILLERS Revised timetable introduced on service 18 from 27.8.91.

NELSONS Former Southern Vectis VR SDL 652R is now yellow. Service 22 was withdrawn with effect from 19.8.91. Service 122 was revised from 12.8.91. Further to the ECC July timetable service 511 is operated by Nelsons.

RAYLEIGH ROADWAYS Have acquired A351 NPU a Volvo/Van Hool ex Boons, Boreham.

RIDGEONS Further to EBN 325 the Scania has Unicar bodywork and is the only one in the country.

SOUTHEND RADIO CARS After 30.8.91 service 15 will be withdrawn.

TOWNLYNX From 3.9.91. the 1509 ex Southchurch will be revised to operate on schooldays only.

WINDMILL COPFORD Three Bovas not previously mentioned are G421/2 WFP and H340 EUT.

ENOC 2954

ALBION AND EASTERN NATIONAL

The Albion bus chassis, built in Scotland never had a strong presence in the Eastern National fleet, in fact none were ever purchased new, but a mixed collection was acquired from operators taken over.

The first Albion was taken over by the National Omnibus Company from Ideal Omnibuses of Luton, these were two PM28 chassis registered NM 9744 and TM 712 and fitted with Strachan and Brown bodies and allocated fleetnumbers 2920/21.

In 1933 a solitary PM28 came from the Chiltern Bus Service of Tring this being 3467 GD 8694 with Pickering bodywork, this was a former demonstrator with Albion Motors. The next acquisitions came in 1936 when the Union Jack Omnibus of Luton handed over four including a solitary double decker 3693 GG 9600 a Venturer with Brush H51R, 3689 was a PK115 Stachan coach ANM 532 and 3690/1 were PV70, Cowieson bodied saloons GG 5821 & MJ4350, incidently 3690/3 were also former demonstrators.

When Simpson of Leaden Roding sold out to Eastern National in 1940 a Victor chassis 3871 DN 042 was to be the last Albion in pre nationalisation days and it was not until 1956 when Cambells of Pitsea were taken over that any further Albions arrived.

BOONS COACHES, BOREHAM FLEETLIST AS AT JUNE 1991

JSC 883E	Leyland Atlantean PDR1/1	Alexander
TGX 704M	Daimler Fleetline CRL6	Park Royal
SPW 92N	Leyland Atlantean AN68/2	Roe
NNO 66P	Leyland Atlantean AN68A/1	ECW
MVK 538R	Leyland Atlantean AN68A/2R	Alexander
GSU 379	Setra S215HR	Setra
TSU 611	Setra S215HD	Setra
D685 JVF	Van Hool T815	Van Hool
H825 RWJ	Scania 113	Van Hool

JSC new to Edinburgh Corporation as 883 then Lothian Region (5/75) acquired via Partridge, Hadleigh (dealer) 4/80.

TGX new to London Transport as DMS 704. Acquired via Ensigns (dealer) 11/80. Front door reduced to single width.

SPW ordered by Green Bus, Rugeley. This company was acquired by Midland Red (11/73), and SPW was delivered new to Pegg, Caston, Norfolk. To Boon 9/80.

NNO ex Colchester BT 3/91.

MVK new to Tyne & Wear 538 then to Colchester BT (9/83). Acquired by Boon 11/90.

* ROCHFORD MEETINGS *

The winter session of meetings at the Freight House commences on September 10th at 8pm as usual.

The following dates have also been booked:-

8th October
12th November
10th December
14th January

Further dates will be advised in the future.

The September meeting will be an open slide and photograph evening, when members are asked to bring their latest slides and photographs.

It is hoped to have a guest speaker for the October meeting, and for the November meeting Mr Geoff Dodson the Marketing Manager of Eastern National will be our guest speaker.

If you are able or have any ideas for future meetings please contact Peter Snell.

For members travelling by public transport the Freight House is adjacent to Rochford station and for members travelling by car there is a large car park.

THE VILLAGE BUSMAN

The true village busman is now almost an extinct species. In the 1920s and 1930s the bus service between the village and the nearest town was usually provided by a local man with one or two vehicles. Over the years some have ceased to trade or been taken over by larger operators while others have flourished and now run substantial fleets.

In 1927 Clifford Murrell Went started a bus operation between Boxted and Colchester. On his death the business passed to his wife, Lavinia Alice, who remarried to a Mr Bennett. Following her death the business was registered in the names of Leonard James Bennett, Claremont Clifford Went, son of the founder and known by one and all as "Doddy", and his wife Eileen; trading as Wents Coaches. Since March 1978 CC and E Went have been the sole owners.



Three Road Service Licences were held at one time covering stage services Langham (Wick Road) to Colchester and Boxted (Church Street or The Cross) to Colchester together with an excursion licence. The Boxted service was at various times registered to operate as Langham to Colchester via Boxted. In the 1950s the only day on which services were not operated was Christmas Day; Good Friday and Boxing Day saw a Sunday timetable while on Bank Holiday Mondays a Saturday service operated. Services ran throughout the day with the traditional last departure from town timed for the end of cinema performances around 10.30pm.

The excursions authorised in 1954 restricted operation to one excursion only to any one destination in any one week, except for Ipswich which could be operated twice in a week. They could only pick up at Boxted. Featured were day trips to Clacton 3/- (15p); Walton 3/-; Felixstowe 4/- (20p) and Southend 6/6 (32½p). An evening trip to the Ipswich Hippodrome or a half day to Ipswich Speedway (also picking up at Langham) was 2/6 (12½p). Colchester Football Ground was 1/6 (7½p) picking up at Mill Road and Langham Road.

A revised fare table applied for in January 1955 shows a 8d (3¾p) fare from Colchester to Boxted, (in 1991 the fare was 80p.) In the summer of that year excursions went further afield, Norwich Speedway, Regents Park Zoo and Ice Shows at Earls Court and Wembley, each at a fare of 7/6 (37½p). The Boxted services was extended beyond The Cross to Homedale Cottages. 1957 saw permission given to pick up in Langham and Gt Horksey on some excursions. At the end of the year Langham to Colchester direct service was operating TuWFSO. In 1960 excursion fares, static for at least six years, increased; most by 1/- (5p) and a trip to Woburn Abbey added to the licence, fare 10/6 (52½p)

By the 1970s the Langham service had ceased and the registration was for a Boxted to Colchester service running Weekdays except Christmas Day and Bank Holidays and the evening services had been withdrawn.

With retirement approaching the morning journey from Boxted was replaced by an ECC contract operated by CBT from 3 September 1988 while the late afternoon journey went the same way the following year. In the final years the service has consisted of four journeys (five on Fridays) Boxted Homedale Corner to Colchester returning three times Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays and four times on Tuesdays Wednesdays and Fridays. On Tuesdays and Fridays the service was extended to Boxted Church Street. A school service was also operated between the village and St Helena School in Colchester.

A fleet of three buses, two on the road driven by Doddy and his wife and one spare, was kept in a yard in Mill Road, Boxted.

Fleet at retirement:

BCF814L	Bedford YRT	Willowbrook	B51F	New 1973	ex Chambers 1983.
NCF784M	Bedford YRQ	Willowbrook	B49F	New 1973	ex Chambers 1980
SCF344N	Bedford YRQ	Willowbrook	B47F	New 1974	ex Chambers 1982

In the final few days of operation BCF814L had been on service but the final journey fell to SCF344N. The last departure was from Colchester Bus Station at 4.15pm on Saturday July 20th and after a pause for photographs the three enthusiasts, one local and a number of children who appeared to be unaware of the significance of the occasion accompanied Doddy on his last service run to Boxted. After more photos at the terminus the bus was returned to the yard where the fleet and their owners were photographed together for one last time.

On Sunday 21st July Doddy and Eileen made one final trip into Colchester via the familiar St Helena School route to the Sheepen Road Car Park where the business was formally handed over to Robert MacGregor of Heddingham and District Omnibuses.

Next day a different colour bus was to be seen in Boxted, not the red of Heddingham but the familiar green and cream of their recently acquired subsidiary, Norfolks of Nayland. They are no strangers to the road as some of their journeys from nearby villages were at one time routed via Boxted. The timetable remains unchanged for the moment.

GGT 2.8.91.

T & J SANGSTER

Commercial Vehicle Refinishers



Commercial vehicles, coaches, buses,
agricultural plant and machinery.

Complete and/or part body resprays – accident repairs and
refurbishments.



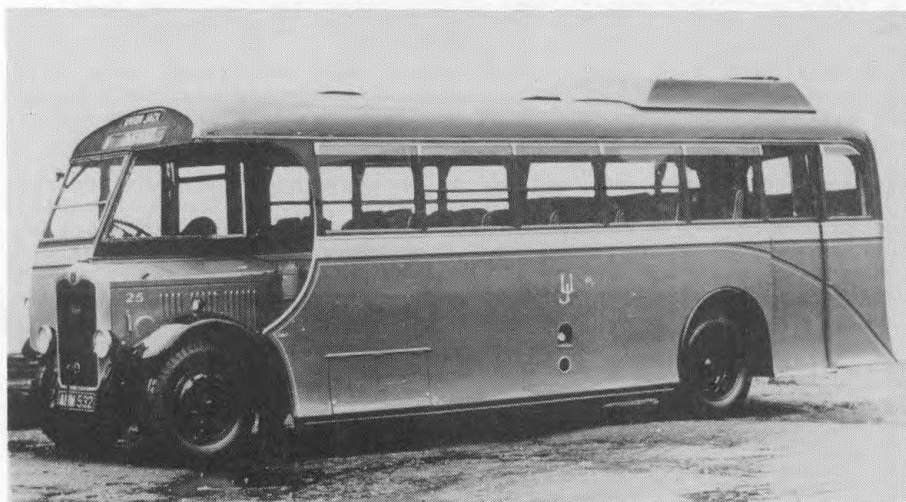
All enquiries welcome



Contact Tom Sangster

Unit 14 Mayfair Industrial Estate, Maldon Road, Latchingdon

Tel: (0621) 741464



One of the few Albions operated by Eastern National ANM 532. It is seen here in the livery of its previous owner Union Jack. CONTRIBUTIONS TO THIS MONTHS MAGAZINE WERE RECEIVED FROM:- M Allen, S Burden, R Delahoy, R Dennis, P Ford, P Hall, D Harman, A Osborne, C Sigston, J Simpkin, P Snell, D Stebbing, G Toon, M Torrance, C Weston, M Weyell, Eastern National, Essex County Council, Grey Green Entusiasts, LOTS, PSV Circle and Southend Transport. My apologies to K Mead, D Stebbing and J White who were omitted from the contributors last month.