

ESSEX BUS NEWS

SEPTEMBER 1993

The monthly magazine of the ESSEX BUS ENTHUSIASTS GROUP

(Formerly the Eastern National Enthusiasts Group)

353



Harris Bus recently acquired Volvo Ailsa/Northern Counties WRJ447X at Eastbourne on a free bus service in conjunction with the 90th anniversary of Eastbourne Buses 18-7-93

F Lawrence.



MANAGING EDITOR:

Please send your news reports to:

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EN & South Essex smaller ops:

North Essex smaller ops:

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GROUP MEETINGS

Tuesday 12th October Guest Speaker Mr T Smallwood Badgerline Holdings.
Meeting commences at 8pm at Room 2 Basildon Centre. All members are requested to make a special effort to attend this event.
Future dates for meetings at Freight House at Rochford are as follows.
Tues 9th Nov Members slide evening.
Tues 14th Dec Richard Delahoy, Confessions of a Bus Driver.

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### Information Required

A photograph, taken by ECW, of Eastern National Bristol LD 1850 F. The photo clearly shows the vehicle to have five seats over each wheelarch. This information has not been previously published and I would like to know if any member can say whether the vehicle operated in this form, when was it converted back to the normal layout and why was the vehicle so fitted?  
Please send information to Andy Meadows.

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GROUP TOUR

Sunday 3rd OCTOBER. Tour by Routemaster to Grey Green, Capital Citybus and County Bus. The visit to Thamesway at Ponders End has been cancelled.
Seats still available, bookings to Andy Meadows.

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Thamesway notes continued from page 15

### Unusual Workings

4-8-93 BD 3113 on service 351  
9-8-93 BN 1422 on Citysaver service S4  
17-8-93 BN 1412 & 1424 on Citysaver service S2

### Unfair Trading Charges Dismissed

Thamesway has been cleared by the Office of Fair Trading of any predatory or anti-competitive conduct in its price cutting war with Southend Transport. The report has cleared Thamesway of charges that it operated fares at uneconomic levels in its battle with Council owned Southend Transport which has since been sold to Midlands based British Bus.

Reports for the October EBN should be with the sub editors by October 1st.

Until the Thamesway sub editor position has been finalised, all reports should be sent to Peter Snell.

Incorporating the EASTERN NATIONAL ENTHUSIASTS GROUP formed in 1962

# **EASTERN NATIONAL**



## Vehicles on Loan

Leyland Olympian coach 4510 was noted in Chelmsford on 11.7.93. with an 'On hire to Lodge' sticker in the windscreen.

## Unusual Workings

09.6.93. BS 4016 on service 53. (CR operated).  
28.6.93. CF 3077 on service 53. This replaced CR 4503 which had failed in Chelmsford but was back in service by late pm  
30.6.93. CF 3077 on service 53 from early morning. Is therefore thought to have been in use on 29th as well.  
30.6.93. CR 3091 on service 119 (normally National)  
24.8.93. CF 3077 on service 59 (normally BS Tiger/National)

Further appearances of CF vehicles on loan to CR for the 53 include:-

30.7.93. 4013      31.7.93. 1121      10.8.93. 3077  
17.8.93. 1833

In addition 1924 (Essex County Cricket Club advert) was noted on the 53 on 26.8.93. but this may have been in connection with the Essex v Middlesex game at Castle Park, Colchester. If anyone knows why Essex CCC have been so poor this season please let me know!

1834 (pool) has been operating from Colchester during July. Mercedes 206 was noted in the EN driver training yard in new livery on 16.8.93.

Bristol KSWs 2383/4 and VR 3500 attended the Derby at Epsom back in the summer.

Although not an unusual working as such 1120 was the normal vehicle on service X1 from Harwich to Southend (see EBN 351).

## General

Leyland Tiger 1119 now carries side external advertisements. This is thought to be a first on this type of vehicle.

Not previously recorded is that all vehicles at Chelmsford were fitted with dayglo blinds during June and early July, with the exception of the Ford Transits which were fitted with yellow on black examples.

The closure of Ingatestone Market Place during late July and early August for roadworks, resulted in services being diverted via Fryerning Lane, Pemberton Avenue and The Furlongs. The turn from High Street into Fryerning Lane is very tight and hence double deck vehicles were used on the majority of Monday to Saturday journeys on services 350/1.

## Services

22A/B Additional morning journeys on Monday to Friday from 6.9.93  
88 The 0706 ex Wakes Colne passed to Freemans from 2.8.93. a

- further minor adjustment was made on 6.9.93.
- 103 Operation of 0815 ex Ramsey passes to Hedingham from 6.9.93. Further slight changes will be made from the same date.
- 133 The 0656 ex Coggeshall passed to Freemans from 2.8.93. a minor timetable change was made from 13.9.93.
- 177 Passed to Hedingham, under tender to ECC from 5.8.93.

Certain services on the 74 and 77 group were revised to serve Greenstead Estate from 26.9.93.

Winter timetables will be re-introduced on services 1/A/B, 2, 12, 13 and 14 in Clacton from 12.9.93.

The Nightrider services operated around the Ipswich area for Suffolk County Council have been revised, Your sub-editor will attempt to secure details for next month.

Commuter service 194 between Braintree and London was revised from 1.6.93.

### Harwich Sunday Market

My apologies for taking so long to include this but lack of space has been a problem.

A Sunday Market commenced at the Parkeston Roundabout on the A120 on Sunday 25.4.93. to which Eastern National provide a free service.

No less than eight double deckers are required for the service, with two each from Harwich and Colchester and four from Clacton depot.

The services are as follows:-

Service 1 Walton Bus Stn 0905 and hourly to 1205 via Frinton, Kirby Cross, Gt Oakley and Dovercourt to Parkeston.

Service 2 Jaywick Sheldrake 0845 and hourly to 1145 via Clacton, Weeley, Tendring and Wix to Parkeston.

Service 3 Stanway Tollgate 0850 and hourly to 1150 via Lexden, Colchester, Greenstead and Elmstead Market to Parkeston.

Service 4 Ipswich Castlehill 0840 and hourly to 1140 via Capel St Mary, East Bergholt, Manningtree, Mistley and Wrabness to Parkeston.

All services depart from Parkeston at 1150 and hourly to 1450.

A senior driver acts as regulator at Parkeston, where a bus lane is in operation, a first for this part of the county.

### Initial Disposals

1931 (MHJ 727V) Frontline Buses, Tamworth, by 8/93.

1937 (STW 18W) As for 1931.

Frontline Buses is a new Badgerline subsidiary operating in Tamworth in competition with Midland Red North, a British Bus subsidiary (who also own Southend Transport).

It is understood that 1929 (MHJ 725V) is due to join its sisters in Tamworth.

The diverted Mercedes that was due to go to Clacton has also gone to Frontline as L21 AHA. This vehicle is in Frontline livery.

## Southend Transport



### Vehicles;

RM 109/111/113/115/117 & 119  
(183 CLT, ALM 101B, ALD 871B, WLT 378, 682 DYE & LDS 280A) are all withdrawn.  
They join sister vehicles 101, 114 & 120 in store at Croydon.

VR 306 (CBV 17S) has passed to North Western, Bootle. 9/93.  
VR 351 (YBF 686S) has passed to London & Country, Riegate. 9/93.  
VR 353 (GTX 740W) as 351. (Repainted at Tickfield Works)  
FL 914 (JTD 390P) has passed to Crosville Wales, 7/93.  
FL 915 (JTD 395P) as 914.  
LN 705/714 & 721 (XEH 254M, NPK 241R, GGE 165T) are withdrawn.  
LN 712 (JTD 593T) has been with London & Country at Leatherhead during July.  
LN 781/782/783/784/785/786 & 787.  
(XPD 231N, GPD 295N, HPF 309N, HPF 327N, HPF 316N, LPB 185P & LPB 201P)  
are all withdrawn and passed to Citybus, Chaderton. (Owned by the  
Lynton Group).

### Subsequent Disposals.

FL 207 (JTD 387P) N.P.T, Bilsthorpe 8/92 ex Wigley (dlr)  
onto Appleby, Humberside. 3/93.

LD 330 (BHO 440V) to Evag Cannon Bus&Coach, Bolton. ex Brighton Boro.,  
TR 531 (BHK 209X) withdrawn by Bell, Spennymoor by 4/93.  
TR 532 (BHK 210X) as 531. by 3/93.  
VH 603 (JEV 244Y) withdrawn by K.Line E10. 7/92.  
VH 606 (C257 FHJ) withdrawn by Transcity, Sidcup.

VR (VHB 679S) not operated. To Fleet, New Eastwick by 10/92.  
LN (LPB 217P) not operated, to Associated Coachways, Harlow by 10/92.  
RM (LDS 284A) not operated, to Hardwick, Carlton 2/92.

LD 209 (GJN 509D) has passed to new owners (myself included.),  
for continued preservation, and has moved from Canvey (museum) to a  
new home in Southend.

### Repaints.

FL 225 & 227 (XTE 225V /XTE 227V) into latest livery.  
225 painted VR/ON style. (red band at lower saloon level).

## Services.

Revised Services commencing 29 Aug.93.

- 3 Withdrawn.
- 3A,3C Minor timetable adjustments.
- 5 Revised to operate from Central Bus Station to Thames Drive, daytimes, and Southend to Canvey Leigh Beck evenings and Sundays, (re\_routed via Kents Hill Road instead of New Thundersley.)
- 5A New Service: Bournes Green-Leigh Bdy-Kents Hill Rd-Benfleet.  
(Mon-Fri peak times.)
- 6 Withdrawn between Newington Avenue & Central Bus Station.
- 6A Withdrawn.
- 6B Withdrawn between Newington Avenue & Central Bus Station..
- 9 Extended to Hullbridge throughout the day  
Will operate 5 mins earlier between Hullbridge & Southend.
- 20 Withdrawn.
- 23 Withdrawn between Highlands(Woodlands Park) & Leigh Station.
- 50 Withdrawn.

## Unusual Workings;

RM 112 (CUV 124C) on last day of service 50 (28/8/93).

## General;

British Bus plc, have appointed Martins Bus & Coach Sales of Middlewich, as sole dealer for receiving all of the company,s surplus and scrap vehicles. British Bus aim to replace 10% of their 2,500 fleet each year. Martins are expecting a small number of withdrawn S.T vehicles.

The 7 all day London coaches have moved from Aldgate to Walworth (ex L,T depot).

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## ESSEX OPERATOR FLEET LIST.

### Carter Colchester.

### ESSEXBUS

|         |                 |               |      |                          |
|---------|-----------------|---------------|------|--------------------------|
| EKJ441K | Leyland Leopard | Marshall R45F | 3441 | wdn 7/93 after accident. |
| NNO 61P | Leyland AN68    | E C W H74F    | 61   |                          |
| UNW928R | Bristol VRT     | E C W H74F    | 839  |                          |
| XPW877X | Leyland Leopard | E C W C47F    | 877  |                          |
| SVW274K | Bristol RELL    | E C W B53F    | 1546 |                          |

### Liveries.

- 441 red cream
- 61 red cream
- 928 dk green cream
- 877 red cream black
- 274 Tilling green cream

## **COUNTY BUS & COACH COMPANY LIMITED**

### FLEET

#### New Vehicles

MD 613/4 L613 LVX Mercedes Benz B11D Dormobile B31F new 9/93

The chassis numbers for MB 711/2 are: ZCFC 5980002072113/ 69581

#### Aquired Vehicle

The chassis number for TPL 518 (EBN 352) is: TR 00261

#### Vehicle Reseated

TDL 60 from C53F to C49F, 8/93 (now completes the programme for the 724 branded TDL's)

#### Withdrawn Vehicles

LN 604 PNW 604W transferred to Citibus, Chadderton, 9/93

SN 319 UPB 319S transferred to Citibus, Chadderton, 9/93

#### Repaints

8/93 BP 507 from Davian to new Sampson livery (completes programme)  
LR 11/23 repaint  
SN 251 from CB livery to colorbus for Manuka Office Equipment  
TDL 65 from old Green Line to new Green Line livery (TP 70 still outstanding)  
TL 33 from old Green Line livery to colorbus for Laser Motor Co.

#### Allocation Changes for 1 September 1993

LN 604 Harlow to Citibus

MD 613 New to Harlow

MD 614 New to Harlow

STL 10 Hoddesdon to Delicensed

TDB 62 Delicensed to Harlow



## Ancillary Vehicles

L866 LOD Mercedes Benz 814D Box Van with curtain sides, crane and tail lift.  
New 9/93. Allocated to Harlow Engineers

## SERVICES

25 September 310/311 Minor timetable revisions incorporating adjusted running time and diversion northbound to serve new Sainsbury store at Carterhatch.

26 September 316 Revised timetable incorporating additional journeys within Hertfordshire restoring full hourly frequency and diversion to serve new Sainsbury store at Carterhatch and also converted from double deck to Dennis Dart operation.

## GENERAL



### Grays Depot

The new depot at Grays becomes operational on 18 September.

### Lynton Travel Group

The business of Brain Ward Promotions t/a Airport Coaches (Stansted) was acquired on 26 July. A new wholly owned subsidiary - Airport Coaches Limited - has been formed to take over the business which will trade as a separate entity. Activities are all airport related and the operating base is Stansted Airport. The fleet acquired is as follows:-

|                                                             |                |                     |                            |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|---------------------|----------------------------|
| UCY 629                                                     | Neoplan N122/3 | Neoplan CH71CT      | 1982 (originally NES 482Y) |
| C393 UPC                                                    | LAG Panoramic  | LAG C53FT           | 1986                       |
| D526/7 MJO                                                  | Dodge S56      | Reeve Burgees DP18F | 1986                       |
| H370 GRY                                                    | Toyota HDB30R  | Caetano             | 1991                       |
| + 2 NPSV Ford Transit minibuses and a Volvo 740 Estate car. |                |                     |                            |



## Citibus

As well as the 3 Leyland National 2's which were transferred from County Bus the following ex Southend Transport 10.3 metre Leyland Nationals are due to enter the fleet in 9/93:-

|                |        |      |              |             |
|----------------|--------|------|--------------|-------------|
| XEH 254M       | B41F   | 1973 | LPB 185/201P | DP 39F 1976 |
| GPD 295N       | B41F   | 1974 | GGE 165T     | B41F 1978   |
| HPF 309/16/27N | DP 39F | 1975 |              |             |

## HEDINGHAM

### Vehicles

L148 (WPH 135Y) has had its ECW body replaced by an East Lancs B55F body and was first noted thus in 8/93.  
Further to EBN 351, L202 is BRC 836T a further ex Trent Bristol VR Yet another Bristol VR is AUD 461R which is numbered L204, it was ex Fen Travel, being new to City of Oxford.  
Former Heddingham L77 (VWC 477L) which had been with the Stronghold Tug-of-War club, has passed to Convoy Commercial, Rawreth for scrap.

### Services

- 2 Revised timetable introduced from 2.8.93.
- 14 Revised timetable introduced from 2.8.93.
- 17 The Saffron Walden - Gt. Bardfield service was withdrawn after 31.7.93.
- 18 Passed from Millerbus to Heddingham from 2.8.93. The commercial journeys were withdrawn.
- 19 With reference to ECC timetable, service retained by Heddingham.
- 59 The joint service operated with Viceroy was revised from 2.8.93.
- 85 Passed to Carters from 4.8.93.
- 86 As for service 85.
- 89 Minor timetable revisions from 2.8.93. with a further small revision from 6.9.93.
- 313 Passed to Heddingham from Millerbus with effect from 2.8.93.
- 324 Additional services introduced on Thursdays from 5.8.93. The schooldays journeys passed to Freemans from the start of the new term.
- 600 NEW SERVICE. Holland-on-Sea to Colchester, Tollgate via Clacton, St. Osyth and Thorrington. One journey each way on Thursdays only from 3.9.93.

A special service was operated between Braintree Station and the Colne Valley Railway on Sunday 19th September.

## COLCHESTER BOROUGH TRANSPORT

### Services

Not previously recorded is that service 1A was extended in the evenings from Elm Crescent to The Centurion on Greenstead Estate, from 21.6.93.

From the same date the 2145 from Head Street on service 6 was revised to start from Osborne Street at 2142.

A twisted rail on 7th June resulted in a rail replacement service between Witham and Braintree, with Olympians 43 and 44 being noted.

## Vehicles

Recent repaints include 41, 42 and 45.

41 carries a rear end advert for Castleward Motors Peugeot dealer  
45 carries a rear end advert for a Nissan dealer (which one?)  
42 now has a maroon front bumper.

Overall adverts are carried by the following Lynxes:-

28 Colchester Mortgage Centre  
29 Foulkes (Electrical Supplies)  
31 Wests Garden Centre  
32 Keith Cresswell

It is reported that coaches 105-9 will depart from the fleet at the end of the summer season.

## OTHER OPERATORS - REST OF ESSEX

AIRPORT EXPRESS SOUTHEND Joins the local band of minibus operators with K2 KMK (the owners initials) an all Ford Transit.  
APT RAYLEIGH Bedford/Plaxton APT 416B acquired no doubt for its registration has seen it pass to A800 SKK a Volvo/Berkhof. The Bedford has now been registered DHJ 255B (on the front, still APT 416B on the rear!). Also acquired is LHG 445T an ex Ribble VR joining a number of its fellows in the Southend area. A further acquired double decker but with added comfort and speed is NJI 8869 a Scania/Jonckhree ex Mercers, this was new as E216 GNV.

ASSOCIATED COACHWAYS HARLOW Services 47/A/B passed to County Bus from 3.8.93. and were renumbered 47/146/147.

BARKER ROYDON Acquired is Optare CityPacer D371 JUM ex Beestons. Bova PWP 667Y has been re-registered SIB 3277, the plate carried by the former SIB 3277 is not known.

BJS GT WAKERING Have acquired former Hedingham Bova HSV 673 which was new to National Travel London as SMY 623X.

BLUE DIAMOND HARLOW The operating centre is now at Horseshoe Farm, Latton.

BLUE TRIANGLE Commenced operation of service 203 ex Thamesway and 204 ex Wests from 7.9.93.

BONNER ONGAR Acquired is GBZ 3421 a Toyota Caetano minicoach. Also here is MUW 90X a Leyland Cub/Wadham Stringer B21FL, new to Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea.

BOON BOREHAM Another Setra is J78 VTX a S215HD model, operating in allover white at present.

BRANDON BLACKMORE END Acquired and thought to be for spares only is MLK 664L a former London Daimler Fleetline.

BUCKDEN MINICOACHES BENFLEET All Ford Transit G861 APU has been acquired.

BULVAN GRAYS This weeks operating centre is at Ridgeons premises in Orsett, this is the fourth base used in about five months. The vehicle owned has also changed a number of times and MNM 40V was replaced by D618 SJX a DAF/Duple in June. This in turn was replaced by C445 LGN a Bedford/Duple in July and this is now being prepared for painting.

HUZZ HARLOW A further coach is FIL 7253 a Tiger/Paramount 3500 ex Ambassador Travel. It was new as C913 BNG.

CAMBUS Services 22, 31, 112, X12 were all revised from 6.9.93.

CARTER COLCHESTER A very interesting addition is ex Essex County Council Bristol RE SVW 274K which was new to Eastern National. Operation of service 53A is normally in the hands of XPW 877X a Leopard/ECW however it failed in Chelmsford on 27.6.93. and was replaced by VR UNW 928R. The following week it failed yet again in Chelmsford and was replaced by Ipswich Buses TBB 283S a Bedford/Plaxton.

Ex M&D Leopard EKJ 441K has been withdrawn following accident damage.

Service 75 was revised to depart from Colchester at 1615 from 6.9.93. with the 82A revised to depart at 1610 from the same day.

CEDRIC WIVENHOE Volvo/Jonckhree KIW 4390 has been sold. Joining the fleet is Volvo/Van Hool 1 KOV ex Shaw Coventry which has been re-registered LIW 9272.

The London Commuter service ceased from 4.6.93.

CLINTONA BRENTWOOD Will commence operation of the following Easybus services from 20.9.93. :-

- E10 Broomfield Hospital to North Springfield Mon,Thur only.
- E11 Broomfield Hospital to Galleywood Tue,Fri only.
- E12 Broomfield Hospital to Great Baddow Wed,Sat only.
- E13 North Springfield to Great Baddow Tue,Fri only.
- E14 Oxney Green to Boreham Wed and Sat only.
- E15 North Springfield to Ingatestone Mon,Tue,Thur,Fri.

A new Talbot Freeway (L471 LOA I think) was noted in Chelmsford on 30.8.93. in Easybus livery and may well be for the above services.

COUNTY COACHES BRENTWOOD Bedford YNT/Plaxton MPY 884W has been acquired from Lowther, Wallsend. Acquired from York Pullman is D130 HML a Bedford YNV/Plaxton, a similar vehicle thought to be this one has now been re-registered 5919 RU which was on a Bedford mini. Bedford YNT/Plaxton 9424 RU (new as D370 KDB) has been exported to Malta. Also sold are UJN 604Y (ex 5189 RU, UTK 525 and BLJ 700Y) and UJN 603Y (ex 3169 RU, 454 EAN and BLJ 701Y) both are DAF/Plaxton.

EARL HARLOW Are operating Mercedes 407D E963 XYA.

EASTERN COUNTIES Revised timetables were introduced on services 92-94/96 from 6.9.93.

FARGO RAYNE The 0640 ex Braintree and 0742 ex Bishops Stortford were withdrawn on Saturdays after 31.7.93.

FARNHAM HIRE FARNHAM Have sold minibuses A464 JFF and J350 MNX.

FORD ALTHORNE Bedford YNT/Plaxton A123 MAC has been sold.

FREEMANS The 1810 ex Braintree and 1910 ex Witham on service 37 were withdrawn after 31.7.93.

FUNSTON CHRISHALL Have acquired ex Reading E209 EPB a Duple 425 integral.

GEMINI HARLOW Sanos Integtal G133 APU and Bedford/Plaxton HPG 315N have been acquired. The operating centre is at Byream Engineering, River Way, Harlow.

GOODWINS RAYNE Rare in this part of the world Seddon Pennine/Plaxton RWC 994K has been withdrawn and sold for Non PSV use.

GREENHAM BASILDON The one remaining vehicle now operates from

the rear of a church near the Jolly Friar in Whitmore Way, Basildon.

HARRIS BUS Two recent additions to the fleet are WRJ 447/8X both are Volvo Ailsa/Northern Counties ex Lancaster City. 448 was out of service following an accident be early September. Bristol VR NFB 112R has been withdrawn. Only one re-registration to report and that is of E96 EVW to 5970 FH. New schools service 391 between Chadwell St Mary and Stifford Clays and 392 between Little Thurrock and Stifford Clays were introduced from 7.9.93.

IPSWICH BUSES Service 639 (see EBN 351) withdrawn after 2.9.93.

KINGS STANWAY Setra A70 FPH has been sold.

ALEC LEONARD COACHES BASILDON Have acquired UHJ 621V ex Godward South Woodham.

LODGE HIGH EASTER A recent addition is E432 KRT a Van Hool T815. Volvo/Van Hool A568 GBA passed to Woods, Thornwood, with whom it was re-registered RIB 2574.

MARINO ROYDON Have D555 HNW a Fiat/Robin Hood with coach seating.

M&E SHOEBOURNESS Bedford YMT/Plaxton SNM 73R has passed to Ronda Coaches, Rochford.

AA MOORE SAFFRON WALDEN Tiger/Plaxton E118 KJV was owned for a short spell before it passed to County Bus, Harlow. Bedford YNT B500 YUR has also been sold.

C.G. MYALL BASSINGBOURN A new service numbered 10 between Chishall and Bishops Stortford via Elmdon, Clavering and Manuden was introduced on Saturdays from 11.9.93. with one afternoon journey each way. A revised timetable was introduced on service 26 from 11.9.93. and on service 43 from 8.9.93.

NEED A BUS PITSEA Bedford VAS/Duple PFJ 351M was acquired in late 1992.

NELSONS WICKFORD School services 41-45 were revised from 7.9.93. a new service numbered 48 between Hockley and Brentwood via Rayleigh, Wickford and Shenfield was introduced on schooldays only from the same date.

OCTOPUS TRAVEL CHELMSFORD Based at a house in Wood Street the following are operated UGG 925W a Mercedes minibus and E23 FLD a Sherpa. Parked near here in early August was FMY 285V a FIAT minicoach ex Brenton, Blackheath in whose livery it is still painted. It is assumed to have been acquired.

OSBORNES TOLLESBURY The 2145 ex Colchester was revised to operate as a service 1 from 7.8.93.

PORTER GT TOTHAM A number of changes have occurred in recent months OIA 2853 a Bedford/Duple passed to Brians Car Hire, Maylandsea with PJI 2457 a Tiger/Plaxton going to Grahams, Kelvedon. From Grahams came HBH 419Y a Mercedes minibus and MFK 768V a Volvo/Duple, the latter has been resold to Osbornes, Tollesbury from whom DPU 505T was taken in part exchange although this is expected to be re-sold. Finally, Fl48 NVE a Bova Futura ex Embling has been acquired and is in service.

PRIORY LAINDON Van Hool T815 6853 TU reported by the PSV Circle as acquired in 3/92 was noted in June on the premises of Snow with accident damage. An additional operating centre has been opened and is at the rear of the One Tree Hill garage near Basildon. A recent fleet addition is 4543 VC a Bova Futura.

RELIANCE BENFLEET Have acquired another Dennis Javelin E751 HJF

with Duple bodywork.

ROADRUNNER MINIBUS CANVEY Operates a number of minibuses including F809 DKO a Ford Transit ex Macstrax, Gt Stambridge.

RUFFLE CASTLE HEDINGHAM Ex Wiffen Toyota Caetano F863 TNH has been acquired.

S&M BENFLEET Have acquired PUF 140M ex Peter Godward Coaches.

S&P COACHES ROCHFORD Two recent additions are YWW 360S a Leopard/Duple and SGS 499W a Tiger/plaxton.

SANDGROVE HADLEIGH Yet another Southend area minibus operator with F614 VOA.

SOUTHERN STAR HARLOW Have sold Neoplan/Plaxton C753 CWX. The operating centre is now the same as Gemini (see above).

STEPHENSONS ROCHFORD Bristol VR TNJ 995S was in use on service 11A on 13.6.93. in open top form.

SUPREME SOUTHEND LAG coaches G439/41/42 NNV have been re-registered HSK 857/59/60.

TIGERWAYS HARLOW Leopard/Duple MGS 247P has rejoined the fleet after a short spell with Regis, Harlow.

TRAVELRICH COPFORD This Clacton based operator uses the Windmill depot for parking and has C26 OFL a Volvo/Van Hool ex Kenzie.

VANTAGE ROMFORD To correct EBN 351 service 523 had provided seven journeys on Monday to Friday and six on Saturdays.

VICEROY SAFFRON WALDEN Acquired are Scania/Duple G23 HKY ex Grangeburn, Motherwell and Tiger/Plaxton E693 UEX ex Rosemary Coaches. Service changes have seen the 11 and 29 pass from Millerbus to Viceroy from 3.8.93. A new service numbered 122 was introduced between Saffron Walden and Cambridge from 6.9.93. to part cover former Cambus service 22 which no longer serves the Essex town.

WAYS BOREHAM Have acquired Toyota Caetano G138 KKW ex Beestons.

WHENT MAYLAND Have sold SOO 375R a Bedford CFL.

WHM HUTTON Have sold Neoplan HWY 701, the registration passing to E303 OMG a Volvo/Plaxton. A recent addition is F321 SMD a Mercedes/Optare.

WILKINSON WICKFORD A further coach in Wilkinson livery is RLT 363R a Bedford/Plaxton. It is operating however on a P&M disc from their operating base near Woodham Ferrers.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO RECENT ISSUES HAVE BEEN RECEIVED FROM:-

J Bath, S Burden, R Delahoy, P King, M Lloyd, C Sigston, T Miles, A Spindler, D Stebbing, M Torrance, Eastern National, Essex County Council, LOTS, PSV Circle. County Bus & Coach, I Burton, R Dennis, Thamesway.

# THAMESWAY

This being my last report for Essex Bus News as Sub Editor Thamesway, its interesting to quickly recap the last few years. Thamesway was born from the spilt of Eastern National by the owners Badgerline Holdings. We have seen various intense service revisions, introduction of a new livery, Minibuses replacing big buses, the closure of Southend and Walthamstowe depots, low price fares especially in the Southend area, competition from Southend Transport and referral to the Office of Fair Trading. I am sure things won't stand still therefore keeping the new Sub Editor alert. I wish to thank the membership for their support especially Sean for Brentwood news and Martin for East London news. I wish the Essex Bus News all the best for the future and may it continue with the dedication from Committee Members and support from the membership. Here we go then for the last time:-

## Allocations

August 1889 BN-HH

Full details of vehicle movements next month. It is understood that a number of Ford Transits have been withdrawn and a couple of big buses transferred from BN to HH.

## General

To correct EBN 352 Mercedes 232 doesnot have LT service stickers or Radio pod but retains fare clipper stickers for Brentwood town services. Recently aquired Mercedes 202 has been noted on Brentwood town services while Mercedes 301 has a removable LT service for use as a spare for LT contract services. Transits based at BD (701/7/55/6) are used as staff shuttles for LT services.

## Repaints

Noted repainted in fleet livery are 246, 1405, 1406, 1410, 1421 (was Summer Fares Sale advert) 1424 and 1853.

According to my records the following are still outstanding:- 251/6/7/60 1412 and the driver training vehicles.

## Service Revisions

- 2 Minor timetable changes from Tuesday 31st August
- 3/A/C Revised timetable with more journeys via New Thundersley. Services 3 and 3A simplified commencing Saturday 28th August
- 6 Withdrawn
- 11 Minor timetable alteration from 28th August
- 15 Revised to operate via Long Riding and Luncies Road from 31st August
- 20/A Slightly revised timetable from 28th August. Certain journeys to operate via Southend High School for Girls.
- 20C New service Lower Hockley to Southend and Shoeburyness via 20A route providing more journeys along Carlton Avenue Westcliff during the peaks combined with 20 and 20A commencing 28th August.
- 24/A Combined daytime frequency between Leigh and Southend with services 25 and 25A from 28th August.
- 25/A Revised timetable and to operate to Southchurch Newington Avenue Instead of Temple Sutton Golden Goblet from 28th August

- 26/A Certain journeys renumbered 26B to operate via Tarpots Corner, Wavertree Road, Uplands Road, Jotmans Lane and High Road Benfleet. Saturday service withdrawn from 28th August
- 27/A More journeys at peak times between Canvey and Benfleet Station with service 27A withdrawn between Thundersley and Rayleigh Station and extended to Canvey peak times Hadleigh Bus Depot off peak from 28th August. 27A diverted from Southend via Southchurch Road and Boulevard, Bournes Green and Shoeburyness Asda. Schoolday service 27B Withdrawn.
- 28 Withdrawn
- 28A Revised timetable from 28th August
- 29A/C Services withdrawn
- 29B Withdrawn between Southend and Eastwood Belfairs from 28th August
- 31 Slightly revised timetable from 31st August
- 32 Withdrawn
- 36 Slightly revised timetable from 31st August
- 40 Service extended from Basildon via Rail Station, Great Knightleys, Laindon Great Berry to Langdon Hills. Slightly revised timetable with increased service on Saturdays between Basildon and Noak Bridge from 31st August
- 41 New service hourly from Langdon Hills to Felmores via Great Berry, Great Knightleys, Basildon and Broadmayne commencing 31st August
- 42 Slightly revised timetable from 31st August
- 111 New ECC contract service between Basildon and The Bryn from 3rd August to operate Tuesdays, Fridays and Saturdays
- 250 To operate via Whitmore Way instead of Broadmayne from 31st August Evening contract service renumbered 232 from 13th September. Certain journeys to operate to and from Southend High School for Girls.
- 388/9 Since 12th July minor timetable revisions introduced.

Most services in the Southend area involve alterations to Saturday morning frequencies which mainly have been reduced.

New Square Deal fares are introduced in the Southend area from 28th August. Rover tickets are £1 after 9am Mon-Fri and all day Sats and Suns, before 9am Mon-Fri £1-40 children half price. Return fares before 9am Mon-Fri are 1½ times price of a single rounded up to nearest 5p while after 9am Mon-Fri and all day Sats and Suns returns are issued for the price of a single. Children ½ price rounded up to nearest 5p. Day Rover from Southend to Basildon on services 2, 15 and 250 still £2 all day every day.

#### Publicity

Bus times in Basildon dated 31-8-93  
 Bus times in Southend dated 28 and 31-8-93  
 11 dated 31-8-93  
 2, 251, 551 dated 31-8-93  
 ECC 241/4 dated 2-8-93  
 ECC 389 dated 12-7-93

#### Spotlight on Brentwood

BD will recommence the ECC schools contract to Campian School at Hornchurch from September using 3 buses a mix of Bristol VR's and Leyland Nationals.

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## On Order

Two Northern Counties Palatine II bodied Volvo Olympians are on order. To be numbered 167 and 168, they will have Volvo engines and 167 is due in September with 168 following later in the year. 167 will have a rear window in the lower deck, reinstated due to complaints by drivers.

Ten new 9m single deckers are to be ordered for use on NP based route 236. To be either Dennis Darts or Volvo B6, they will replace the Mercedes Benz midis used on the route currently : they are no longer large enough, such has been the growth in passengers since Citybus took over the route.

## Services

345 -taken over on 1st September- full route is 07.30, 07.42, 07.47 Goodmayes, Lord Napier to Chingford Stn, 15.33 Waterworks Cnr to Chingford, 08.30, 08.40 ,08.45 Chingford to Waterworks Corner, 15.55, 16.00 Woodford Wells to Goodmayes, 15.55 Chingford to Goodmayes.

257 frequency increase from 25th September to cover the withdrawal of Kentish Bus 108 between Wanstead and Stratford- three extra double deckers will need to be acquired.

D5 acquired on tender from London Buses- East London. Isle of Dogs Asda to Mile End Station via Marsh Wall and West Ferry- presently needs 5 buses- to be run with single deckers.

## General

A massive railway job took place over the August Bank Holiday weekend whilst re-signalling work took place in the Shenfield area. Four services were run , Romford to Ingatestone non-stop which was in the hands of Colchester Corporation using mainly Olympian and Atlanteans, Shenfield to Ingatestone with Colchester Corporation Lynx , Romford to Wickford non-stop and Gidea Park to Wickford all stations (which was extended to Southend on the Monday) run by Citybus, Southend Transport and Stevensons of Rochford.

The next day ,Tuesday 31st, saw a lineside fire knock out most signalling in the Romford area , and so Citybus ran a replacement bus service from Romford to Shenfield , using amongst other things the RM.

299 (JWF 499W) has had its front grill painted black,

Contrary to reports elsewhere, disability Leyland National 797 (WYJ 165S) has NOT been sold and is still in service.

## On Loan

THX 190S , a former London Buses B36D mk1 Leyland National, has been on loan from its owner Volvo Bus, for evaluation of its Volvo engine. Painted light blue, it features Diptac handrails, re-covered seats and new floor covering. It was used in service on the 348 for a short period and stayed at DM for two or three days.

Frontrunner Buses(South East) Ltd, the legal owner of the DM based fleet, has been re-named Capital Citybus Ltd.