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Essex Bus Enthusiasts Group - Directory

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TIMETABLE SUBSCRIPTIONS

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 to the relevant Sub-Editor.

Photos (prints, slides or digital images - in JPG format) are also 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.

PUBLICATION SALES

All orders for publications should be sent to:
Owen Woodliffe
196 Sinclair Road Chingford
London E4 8PT

Owen also stocks a wide range of colour photos - send SAE with requirements.

B/W PHOTO LIST SALES

All orders for photos from lists enclosed with EBN should be sent to:

Lyn Watson
c/o Barrons Chartered Accountants,
Monometer House, Rectory Grove,
Leigh-on-Sea, Essex, SS9 2HN

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Problems with your subscription, missing, defective or damaged EBN, or need back numbers? Contact the **Membership Officer:**

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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*

Autumn 2005 season:

- ▶ **Tuesday 8 November** - slide show, 'Southend Trolleybuses', by *Martin Eady*.
NB: this meeting is in the Committee Room upstairs, *not* the Pullman Suite.
- ▶ **Tuesday 13 December** - *Richard Delahoy* presents the results of the ENOC 75th Anniversary Photo Competition, followed by his annual Christmas slide show, '20 years ago'.

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. We can now show prints, slides or digital photos. *Dave Arnold*

Autumn 2005/Winter 2005-2006 programme:

- ▶ **Friday 11 November** - A follow-on from the May meeting with a selection of black & white photographs - 'London Traffic Area Coach Operators - a perspective - The first 20 years - 1946 - 1966'. by *Fred Lawrence*, formerly of Dagenham.
- ▶ **Friday 9 December** - *Dave Arnold*: 'Around the UK in 2005' and 'Rail Replacement'.
- ▶ **2006 - Friday 13 January** - *John Podgorski*: 'Across the Pond' pictures from the USA, Norway and Switzerland.
- ▶ Other 2006 dates are: **Fridays February 10, March 10, April 7, May 12, June 9, September 8, October 13, November 10, December 8.**

IPSWICH & DISTRICT HISTORICAL TRANSPORT SOCIETY

Group members are cordially invited to the I&DHTS meetings, held on the second Tuesday of each month (Sept-Jun inclusive) at **The Ascension Hall, Larchcroft Road, Ipswich**. Doors open at **19.00** for **19.30** start. £1 charge includes refreshments. The venue is three minutes walk from Congreve Road/Fircroft Road roundabout (Ipswich Buses service 10 from Tower Ramparts). There is ample car parking available.

- ▶ **2006 - Tuesday 10 January** - *Geoff Dodson*: 'My Life on the Buses'.

LOTS AUTUMN TRANSPORT SPECTACULAR

- ▶ **Saturday 29 October** - **NOTE: NEW VENUE:** Harrow Leisure Centre, Christchurch Avenue, Wealdstone. Open 10.30 to 3.30. Admission £2. The Group Sales Stall will be at this event with a new and extensive selection of photos, plus books, ECC timetables etc. Nearest station: Harrow & Wealdstone on the Euston main line. Buses 140, 182, 186, 258, 340 stop outside the Station and in Wealdstone High Street and the H9/H10 routes stop near the Station and at the Leisure Centre itself. Free bus service provided by Blue Triangle, about every 15/20 mins from about 10 a.m. from Colindale (Northern Line) via Queensbury (Jubilee Line) stations.

Cover: Another month, another new OmniDekka. Route 93-branded **Network Colchester** 340 (AY55 DKA) in Colchester Bus Station on 9 September. *Roger Tuke*

From the Editor ...

After last month's bumper issue, a small one for October. A number of items are held over and will appear in November. Enclosed in this EBN is Black & White Photo List Two - Eastern National LD/LDL/FS types. Orders should be posted to arrive no later than 7 November.

The 75th Anniversary Running Day Photo Competition produced the disappointing result of just ONE set of entries (from EBN First Editor, *Chris Stewart*). His winning entries will be published in December EBN, and presented by Richard Delahoy at the December Rochford meeting. A pity that more members did not take part, given the worthwhile prizes and the distinguished panel of judges. There certainly seems to have been no shortage of members who travelled on and photographed the VR and Dart on the four Saturdays.

David Harman

75 Years

of service in Essex
1930 - 2005



with EASTERN NATIONAL & 

Significant landmarks down the years

75 YEARS of SERVICE in ESSEX 1930-2005

*with Eastern National
& First*

Compiled by **Geoff Dodson**
and published by **First** to
celebrate 75 years of serving the
people of Essex. 64 pages;
numerous photographs. See
Chris Stewart's review on page
28 of EBN497 for full details.

Courtesy of First Essex, the
Group is able to offer this book
direct to members:

£7.00 post-free

Send orders with remittance of £7 per copy (Cheques payable to **C. STEWART**) to:

C. Stewart Esq
10 Crossways
Shenfield, Brentwood,
CM15 8QX

Please allow TWO weeks for delivery.

Essex Service Changes

<i>Operator</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Route</i>	<i>Days of operation</i>	<i>Terminals and Notes</i>
Arriva London	10 Sep 05	711	M-F	Old Harlow, Post Office - London, Victoria (Buckingham Palace Road). Service withdrawn
Arriva Southend	10 Oct 05	377	M-S	Tilbury, Civic Centre - Lakeside Bus Station. Minor alteration to late afternoon journeys to improve reliability.
	6 Nov 05	1	Daily	Shoeburyness, Blackgate Road - Rayleigh Rail Station. Minor timetable changes.
	6 Nov 05	4	M-S	Southend Bus Station - Landwick. Revised timetable. The occasional journeys operating beyond Landwick to Foulness have now been withdrawn (and are being considered for tender).
	6 Nov 05	4A	Daily	Southend Bus Station - Great Wakering Church. The section of the route between Great Wakering and Shoeburyness has been withdrawn with the exception of the solitary evening journey (in each direction) operated under contract to ECC.
	6 Nov 05	6A	M-F(peaks)	Belfairs, Woodcutters - Leigh Rail Station. Timetable revision and service withdrawn from Eastwood, Kent Elms Corner.
	6 Nov 05	9	Daily	Shoeburyness, East Beach - Rayleigh Rail Station. Minor timetable changes.
	6 Nov 05	14	M-S	Westcliff High Schools - Shoeburyness, East Beech. Service withdrawn (although being considered for tender operation).
De Vere Travel	7 Oct 05	327	F	Twinstead, Church - Halstead, Buller Road Car Park. Change of operator
	7 Oct 05	329	F	Cross End, la Motte Hall - Halstead, Buller Road Car Park. Change of operator.
Excel	5 Sep 05	311	SDO	Hatfield Broad Oak - Stansted Mountfitchet School. Revised timetable
	7 Sep 05	316	SDO	Molehill Green - Mountfitchet School. Revised route and timetable. No longer serving Broxted.
	19 Sep 05	556	SDO	Thaxted, Watling Street - Gt Dunmow, Helena Romanes School. Minor route revision.
	19 Sep 05	557	SDO	Boyden End, Goldens Farm Lane - Gt Dunmow, Helena Romanes School. Minor route revision.
First	28 Aug 05	31	Daily	Chelmsford, Coval Lane - Burnham on Crouch, Clock Tower. Sunday service taken over from Arriva, under contract to ECC. (Sunday service (Chelmsford - Maylandsea only).
	5 Sep 05	20	M-S	Harwich Bus Station - Parkeston, Harwich International Station. Additional journey from Harwich to Parkeston at 19:05 (M-S).

5 Sep 05	103	M-S	Harwich Bus Station - Colchester Bus Station Revised timetable
6 Sep 05	618	SDO	Blackmore, The Green - Ingatestone, Anglo European School. One journey in each direction.
25 Sep 05	7	M-S	Walton, The Naze - Clacton, Jackson Road Service reverts to winter timetable.
25 Sep 05	8	M-S	Walton, The Naze - Clacton, Jackson Road Service reverts to winter timetable.
25 Sep 05	8A	M-S	Walton, The Naze - Clacton, Jackson Road Service reverts to winter timetable.
25 Sep 05	X22	Daily	Stansted Airport - University of Essex. Section of route via Braintree Freeport on Saturdays and Sundays will be withdrawn.
14 Nov 05	5	Daily	Basildon Bus Station - Pitsea, Tesco Store. Minor timetable revision.
14 Nov 05	12	M-S	Basildon Bus Station - Thundersley (circular) Revised to operate between Basildon and Pitsea with just one peak time journey morning and afternoon serving Thundersley.
14 Nov 05	35	M-S	Southend Bus Station - Chelmsford, Coval Lane. Route name changed from Diamond Service and will now display service number 35. Minor timetable revision.
14 Nov 05	69	M-F	Southend Bus Station - Temple Farm Minor timetable revision.
First Capital East Ltd			
15 Oct 05	150	Daily	Chigwell Row, Maypole - Ilford, Hainault Road. Change of operator from <i>East Thames Buses</i> and operated under contract to <i>Transport for London</i> .

Hedingham regained service 4, Little Baddow - Maldon (Tesco store) from NIBS on 1 September. Plaxton-bodied Volvo B6, L283 (L202 HYE) is seen at Little Baddow on the first day.

Chris Stewart



H C Chambers

30 Aug 05 753 M-S

30 Aug 05 84 M-S

Colchester Bus Station - Bury St Edmunds Bus Station
Minor timetable changes
Colchester Bus Station - Sudbury Bus Station. The 1645
Colchester to Sudbury has been withdrawn and the
0720 Sudbury to Colchester no longer serves the
General Hospital.

Heddingham Omnibuses

30 Aug 05 345 W

1 Sep 05 5 Th

2 Sep 05 8 F

2 Sep 05 89B F

Fuller Street - Braintree. Revised timetable.
Sudbury Bus Station - Sible Heddingham, The Swan
Revised timetable.
Haverhill Bus Station - Toppesfield, Pump
Revised timetable.
Halstead, High Street - Haverhill Bus Station
Service re-instated.

Imperial Bus

5 Sep 05 320 M-F

Tilbury, Asda - Lakeside Bus Station (circular)
Revised timetable.

National Express

22 Aug 05 A6 Daily

22 Aug 05 A7 Daily

31 Oct 05 757 Daily

Stansted Airport Coach Station - London, Victoria
Coach Station. Minor timetable revisions.
Stansted Airport Coach Station - London, Victoria
Coach Station. Minor timetable revisions.
Stansted Airport Coach Station - Oxford Bus Station
Revised timetable, route and stopping places.

Network Colchester

30 Aug 05 730 M-S

30 Aug 05 731 M-S

Mistley, Harwich Road - Bildeston, Bildeston Market
Place (Clock Tower). Service operated under contract
to SCC

Mistley, Harwich Road - Bildeston, Bildeston Market
Service operated under contract to SCC and
additionally serves Whatfield, Elmsett and Aldham.

Richmonds Coaches

5 Sep 05 43 M-S

9 Sep 05 334 F

Chrishall Garage - Royston, Roysia School
Revised timetable.
Standon, Standon Hill (Vintage House Hotel) -
Cambridge, Drummer Street Bus Station
Revised timetable.

Stansted Transit

26 Oct 05 1 M-F

Great Dunmow, High Street - Bishops Stortford
Interchange. Revised timetable

Stephensons of Essex

1 Sep 05 800 College Days Southend Central Bus Station - Thurrock College
On Fridays the afternoon journey will operate 30
minutes earlier.

1 Sep 05 801 College Days Hockley Spa - Thurrock College. On Fridays the
afternoon journey will operate 30 minutes earlier.

5 Sep 05 504 SDO Southend High School for Girls - Wickham Bishops,
Snows Corner. Minor changes to timetable

Trustline

27 Aug 05 19 Th

30 Sep 05 H2O FS

Farnham Green - Bishops Stortford Interchange
Service withdrawn
Saffron Walden, High Street - Bishops Stortford
Evening (except bank holidays) night club service.

David Tomlin

Essex Publicity News

Many thanks to *Ian Taylor* for providing news of the following items of publicity. Sadly, once again work commitments have meant that your sub-editor has been unable to provide a fuller column.

Harwich Harbour Foot Ferry and **Brightlingsea to Point Clear Ferry** both have 2005 leaflets similar to last years.

"One" railway issued a twice folded slimline dated 1.7.05 to 30.9.05 for the Dedham Vale Hopper service 745.

Tesco issued a single folded slimline on glossy paper for the **Clacton Brook Retail Park** store bus service operated by **Heddingham** which started on 27.6.05.

Stephensons issued a twice folded slimline for **London Link Express** services X1/X10 dated 5.9.05.

Heddingham issued the usual double sided A4 sheet on yellow paper detailing days out from the Clacton area in 2005 which included a timetable for route 602.

Imperial Bus Co. 320 double sided A5 5.9.05.

Thurrock Council leaflets 374 (3.9.05) 380 (1.9.05) 389 (5.9.05).

A4 timetable sheet for **Chambers of Bures**, usual format, dated 28th August 2005.

Finally, new editions of the **Essex County Council** timetable books for *West & North West Essex* and *Central Essex* (4 Sept), and *South Essex* (25 Sept) have been published. The W&NW Essex cover theme is 'Mummy's little pilot' (boy on bus with model aeroplane); Central and South Essex books repeat the existing themes: 'All partied out' and 'Would like to meet'.

Illustrated here is a further *Passport to Travel*, for Colchester, issued in August 2005 (see EBN 495). The new edition of the Sunday Travel Guide dated 2.10.05 has been delayed.

Ian Ransom



FIRST ESSEX

New/Cascaded Vehicles

Scanias 65629 and 65630 arrived at Clacton during September and are undergoing preparation for use at Basildon.

To correct EBN497, the BMC school buses entered service on Tuesday 6th September.

A Plaxton Primo demonstrator was expected to work Harwich town services during the week commencing 10th October. This distinctive 28-seat midibus is Plaxton's new low floor offering for lightly loaded or physically restricted services; it is based on a 7.9m long Hungarian built EBL chassis with familiar Cummins engine. Photographs can be seen on www.plaxtonlimited.com.

Allocation changes

Period 6: 22 Aug to 25 Sep 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

46116 RES-BE; 46120 RES-CN; 46828 CN-CF; 51802 BN-D/L(D); 51809 RES-BN;
52580 RES-BN; 52585 RES-BN; 62506 D/L(D)-sold; 68532 RES-CF; 68534 RES-CF;
68535 RES-CF; 68551 RES-CF; 68552 RES-CF

The last remaining Thamesway 'sash' liveried bus, Dart 46118, has been in use from BN (often at Brentwood). 52580/5 have entered service on ECC contracted 389 (Basildon-Aveley).

Repaints:

by members' observation: 34301 46155 46158 46175 46176 46801 46806 52580 52585

VEHICLE WORKINGS

23017 (04-D-72883, YN54APU), one of the Scania/Irizar coaches used for a short while on the X30 and subsequently transferred to Ireland, was in use on service 350 on 4th October.

The 351 and 551 are to be curtailed at Brentwood from 24th December, with the exception of the Sunday ECC supported service on the 351 which will continue to run through to Romford. Reports suggest that there will be a replacement TfL tendered service 498. Low floor and engine emission requirements by TfL have brought matters to a head, with insufficient revenue for *First Essex* to justify new vehicles.

The rail replacement work between Shenfield and Wickford has produced the usual range of *First Essex* vehicles, together with VR 38790 (3072) on 11th September and some assistance from NIBS on the first Sunday. Vehicles noted on 2nd October included Scania BN65666 (spare, Shenfield), Lance CN67013 (spare, Wickford), Dart 46824, Olympian 34815 (with BE driver) and 34813/6, 34013/4, 34302-4/6-10.

Unusual sightings:

September 7th CF34819 on 509 short duplicate

8th Lance BN60102 on Brentwood 80 (usually Dart), Olympian CF34815 on 33 (1825 ex Chelmsford).

9th Scania CR62408 on 70

- 11th Olympian CR34308 on 67B (usually Dart), CR34309 on 1 (usually Dart).
Dart CF42485 (352 branded) on 71C.
- 12th Scania CR62408 on 71 (1135 ex CR), CR65679 on 88 (1645 ex CR), CR65686
on 75 (23.00 CR-MN). Lance CR67003 on 88B (1615 ex CR).
- 14th CR34310 on CN75 (0858 MN-CR) and CN76 (10.10 CR-CN).
Mercedes 51889 working for CN on Wednesdays only 86 (Aingers Green)
Olympian/ECW 34809 on 352 (usually SLF Dart).
- 15th Lance CR67004 on 65 instead of Scania, CR67679 on 70 (0742 BE-CR).
CR65685 (65 branded) on 70 (07.39 Coggeshall-CR).
CR47102 on 82A (usually Lance).
BE46821 on 618 (can be Dart or Olympian, often 34809).
CF34815 on Diamond (1740 ex Chelmsford and 1900 ex SD)
- 16th Lance CR67003 on X22.
- 21st Dart CR47103 on 67 (day; usually Lance).
Dart/Alexander CF47221 on 31 (usually Scania).
Olympian CR34011 (77/78 branded) on Boys High School contract.
Solo CF53131 (54/56 branded) on 73.
Scania CR65679 on X22 (a.m.) and 71 (p.m.).
- 22nd Dart SLF BN43734 (5 branded) on 565.
Scania CR65888 on 70 (0905 ex CR)
- 23rd Dart CN46802 on CR66A, BE46143 on 352, green CF47252 on Braintree 30.
- 24th Scania CR62408 on 66A.
- 26th Dart CN46178 on 75(0800 CR-MN & 1000 rtn), 76(0700CN-CR & 1100 rtn,
and rest of diagram) - usually Lance or Olympian.
- 27th CN46176 on same 75/76 diagram as above.
- 28th CN46175 on same 75/76 diagram as above.
Scania CR62408 on 70.
Scania BN65674 on evening 81.

- October 3rd Lance CR67008 on 61 (usually Dart)
- 4th Olympian CR34308 and Scania CR65651 on 66A, Lance CR67007 on X22
CR34309/15 both on 64/64A, CR34310 on 61 (usually Dart)

Sources: Own observations, with many thanks to *First Essex* and to A Bird, D Edwards, M Farmer, P Mansbridge, I Hardie, A Kelleher, J Podgorski, C Sigston, D Stewart, R Webb, R Whitley, Essex CC website, *Essex Bus and South West y-groups*, *Real Bus News* group, LOTS, PSV Circle, *Terminus*.
Chris Stewart





Chris Stewart's
First
photo diary

6 September: First day of term at Anglo European School, Ingatestone and of new relief 618 (Ingatestone - Brentwood - Blackmore). Olympian 34809. It was also first day of term for the BMCs. *Below: 68551 in Ingatestone on the 619 to Debden. Opposite: 68552 on the 620 to Epping.*



■ ARRIVA EAST HERTS & ESSEX LIMITED

New vehicles

3603	KE 55 FBY	Scania L94UB	YS2L4X20001851978	Wright B44F	9/05
3604	KE 55 FBX	Scania L94UB	YS2L4X20001851921	Wright B44F	9/05

Vehicles in

from *Arriva the Shires* 2149/77/417, 3123/4, 5843 9/05

2149	N379 JGS	MB 709D	669003-2N-039756	Pn 967.6MHV5350	B27F	5/96
2177	R177 VBM	MB O814D	670373-2N-064928	Pn 977.8MWV7506	B27F	8/97
2417	N177 DWM	MB 811D	670303-2N-039026	Pn 968.5VML4944	B31F	7/96
3123	M723 OMJ	Vo B6-50	05684	NC 4853	B40F	9/94
3124	M724 OMJ	Vo B6-50	05684	NC 4853	B40F	9/94
5843	D242 FYM	Ld ONLXB/1RH	ON2609	ECW 26579	H42/26D	1/87

Allocations

9/05: 2149/77/377/417 HA; 3123/4/603/4 WE; 5838 u; 5843 WE

Vehicles out

3603/4 (KE 55 FBY/X): Arriva the Shires (Luton) 10/05

Subsequent histories

2099 (M159 RBH): SM Coaches, Harlow by 12/04 ex Olympian, Harlow)

5355 (GBU 5V): SBC Engineering, Leigh-on-Sea (dealer) 6/05 ex Hutchison, Thorpe Bay

General

On order for imminent delivery are seven Optare Solos to be numbered 2461-7 for Harlow (3) and Ware (4). Pending their arrival 2149/77 and 2417 (see above) have been obtained from *Arriva the Shires*.

3123/4/603/4 are for Welwyn Garden City local services. Late news is that two Optare Solos are working at Ware on Welwyn Garden City local services - 2461/2 (KE 55 FDG/F) and have replaced the two Scania mentioned above, which are intended for *Arriva the Shires* at Luton.

■ ARRIVA SOUTHEND LIMITED

Vehicles out

Mercedes-Benz Varios 1181-3 (R951/2 VPU and R942 VPU) have been transferred from store at Short Street to Arriva Midlands at Stafford, replacing manual-gearbox Varios there.

Trainer News

Volvo B6 3601 (L601 EKM) is to be transferred to the training fleet and is therefore expected to receive white/grey trainer livery.

Leyland Lynx Trainer T047 (F47 ENF) was used as a crew ferry in August.

Other News

Former North Western Dennis Dominator/ East Lancs G649 EKA is currently being garaged by Arriva Southend. The Dominator is equipped as a mobile drop-in centre for people in distress on the seafront on Friday and Saturday evenings.

From 7th November peak hour route 6A, the only remaining direct link between Eastwood/North Leigh and Leigh Station is to operate Belfairs Woodcutters – Leigh Station

as opposed to Eastwood Kent Elms – Leigh Station. It is hoped this will increase both reliability and profitability of the route , by avoiding traffic congestion at Kent Elms and by serving a larger area of North Leigh. A dedicated driver and bus (Vario 1188) is to be used to try and attract commuters to use the service.

Peter Mansbridge

The reinstated driving school at Southend is using T603/5 (L603/5 EKM), B6s from Arriva Southern Counties. Former Shearings T047 (F47 ENF) is seen heading out down Short Street. It's the last Lynx in Southend, and it's interesting that Southend has been training for a while now on a type it has never operated. The Lynxes have only been trainers.

T603 is seen on lunchbreak at Arriva Southend Short Street depot.

John G. Lidstone



Vehicles in ex-Metrobus, Crawley

302 (M722 CGO) Dennis Dart 9.8SDL3054/2255 Plaxton Pointer 9410HXN2970 B35F

This arrived during the week commencing 26th September. It was seen on the 8 on 29th September still in blue/yellow colours. It is believed to have come via Stephensons dealership.

Vehicles Out

Olympian 346 returned to Burtons on the 12th September having been at Magdalen Street since the beginning of June.

Other Vehicle News

DAF 359 returned to PCV service ex training by 1st September. L plate stencils are retained, as it is still used for tuition as required.

Burton's Dart SLF/Caetano R90 BCL was at the main depot in week commencing 4th September for maintenance only. It had gone by 9th September.

Vehicle Workings

High-floor Darts, B6s, Olympians and the new Omnidekka are usually used on the Mon -Sat daytime 93. Evenings and Sundays see the use of Dart SLFs.

Unusual Workings

Sept 1st 310 (8 branded) on 93

5th 309 (8 branded) on 5, 359 on 1



9th 317 on 2, 334 on 1, 309 (8 branded) on 247, 335 on 247, 351 on 93
 12th 317 on 2, 373 on 2/2E;
 13th 356 on 247, 309 (8 branded) on 87 and 5,348 on 2B (a.m.), 362 on 2 (day)
 15th 311 (8 branded) on 93
 16th 373 on 93E (usually Dart SLF)
 19th 360 on 5, Dart 311 (8 branded) on 93, 333 on 8A
 20th 359 on 5, 348 on 1
 24th 373 on 93E
 27th 360 on 8 (day)
 28th 347 on 5
 29th 310 (8 branded) on 93
 30th 360 on 5.

Tickets/publicity.

The 'Network Card' gives one month of unlimited travel on routes 1, 2, 5, 8/ A for £31.00 (adult), £25.00 (children/students). It is cheaper than the 'Borough Card', although the latter is also valid on First and Heddingham).

New style timetables for display at bus stops have appeared, produced by a Network Colchester driver on his home computer!

Peter Mansbridge with thanks to John Podgorski

Ensignbus

No dealer news this month, but a 'Situation Vacant' that may be of interest to members ...

A part of the Ensignbus operation which has recently grown considerably is the **Heritage Fleet**. Connected to this is the increasing use of these old vehicles on commercial work, mainly weddings, but also TV and promotional work. Due to the nature of the work, much of it is at weekends.

We are actively seeking some **part-time drivers** for the Heritage Fleet. Ideally drivers will be enthusiasts as well, for two main reasons:

1. The buses are old and need to be treated with a little TLC!
2. An enthusiast should love the job ... being paid to drive RT's, RM's, RLH's and RCL's!!
Someone who loves doing the job tends to do it well.

There is also the added bonus of being able to nose around PT at the beginning and end of the days work.

If this sounds like something you may like to do, please email me at:

sales@ensignbus.com

Ross Newman

Essex Small Operator News

Not much to report this month, due to the bumper edition last month

COLCHESTER COACHES, Clacton

Leyland Olympian SPY 209X, did not last long and has been sold to Flagfinders, Braintree. It is replaced by similar C669 GET. T858 JBC an Iveco Beulas has also been acquired

CRUSADER, Clacton Last months notes are not strictly correct, as a number of tri-axle vehicles have been here in the past, these include a Van Hool Astromega, a Scania/Irizar, an Ayats Bravo and even a Bedford VAL!

EXCEL, Stansted Airport Scania K114/Irizar YN53 GDV is still in stock. My apologies to the company, for the incorrect report last month.

Leyland Olympian/ECW C122 CHM, in now operational here, EBN 495 refers. Further additions via Stephensons stock are, D126 FYM (another London Olympian) and J226 HGY (Dart/Plaxton Pointer), together with N70 TGM (doesn't take a genius to work out where that came from), a Mercedes Benz 709/Plaxton Beaver

C286 BBP (Olympian ex Trimmer) suffered engine failure and is withdrawn. It is to make the one way trip to Barnsley.

J852 FTC and F71 SJX both 709Ds are withdrawn and scrapped

J420 HDS (Volvo/Plaxton Excalibur) is withdrawn and for sale

STEPHENSONS, Rochford Another Dart is K716 KGU (ex stock). Also acquired is Leyland Olympian F303 JTY originally with Northumbria, currently with 76 coach seats; it will be upseated in due course with bus seats

Olympian A115 UDM was acquired for spares and is donating its bus seats to either C174 ECK or C176 ECK (more Olympians) which are both now acquired ex stock. Both will be reseated as buses in due course

Open top VR UWV 618S is indeed sold to a baseball team in Lindenwold, New Jersey and sails from Bristol very shortly.

TALISMAN, Gt Bromley Leyland Atlantean/Park Royal XPG 182T has been sold for scrap. A recent addition is W2 SET a Setra S315GT from Dereham Coachways.

TOWN & COUNTRY, Purfleet 109 - Volvo B6/Plaxton is L103 GHN, not as quoted in EBN 490.

Ian Ransom

*Thanks to Lyn Watson (Excel/Stephensons),
Paul Smith (Talisman), Iain Stewart*

Arriva Maps

In recent years Arriva have produced a small number of maps, folded to A7 on an ad-hoc basis. Arriva Southern Counties issued:

Your handy guide to Arriva buses in Colchester from 28 October 2002

Your handy guide to Arriva buses between Southend, Thorpe Bay and Shoeburyness - undated but issued in 2002

Your handy guide to Arriva buses in and around Southend - no cover date, but AT 30.9-03 is shown inside

Arriva the Shires & Essex produced a set of maps in Summer 2003 entitled "Open your eyes to Arrives.". These bore no cover dates and included maps and frequency guides to town services together with a discount voucher, which in the case of Harlow was valid until 7.6.03. Other maps in this series covered Hemel Hempstead, High Wycombe, Luton & Dunstable and Stevenage.

Ian Taylor

EASTERN NATIONAL

Enthusiast's Guild

EASTERN NATIONAL

Your local bus and coach company

The Westcliff on Sea Motor Services Ltd
New Writtle Street
Chelmsford CM2 0SD
Tel: (0245) 236151

Although it has been reported previously, (EBN274-5), Westcliff-on-Sea Motor Services Ltd. did make a brief, if technical reappearance from 23 December 1986 until 9 February 1987 inclusive, following privatisation.

There was a legal problem in registering the new name, Eastern National Ltd. Although, it is fairly certain, no vehicles ever carried the name, some stationery did - see above.

Andy Rook

From the Archives



The Leyland "MPU"s were discussed in EBN 480. Twelve passed to United Counties with the Midland Area in May 1952. The twelve moved again, in 1959 to Cumberland Motor Services, being repainted red and fitted with "T" indicators by UCOC before the trek north. Here is CMS 207 (MPU 37) in the somewhat grim surroundings of Whitehaven depot.

Photographer unknown

Chris Stewart + camera @ Showbus 2005



Heddingham line-up: Leopard/Willowbrook L84 (RGV 284N), Volvo B7TL/Plaxton L330 (EU53 MVZ), Volvo B7RLE/Wright Eclipse Urban L340 (EU05 CLJ), Volvo Olympian L341, Volvo B10M-62/Plaxton Paragon L323 (EK51 JBE)

**Flagfinders of
Braintree:**
ex-Alder Valley
CJH 121V.
A VRT/SL3/6I ?
- no, it's just a
badge





MW contrasts: *left:* Eastern National 1404 (1252 EV) from Lathalmond.
right: Bristol Greyhound 2138 (BHU 92C) of Dr. Mike Walker of Wells. The latter was one of a batch of fourteen ordered by Eastern National in 1965, seven of which were diverted to Bristol.



Network Colchester's new Scania
 OmniDekka 340 (AY55 DKA)

PCV HOLDER ?

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

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

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Part-time vacancies exist at Excel for station-based staff on weekends and occasionally evenings, so even if you haven't got a PCV licence, you can still help ensure the smooth running of our rail replacement services.

For more details of any of the above vacancies, contact:

Stephensons: Bill Hiron 01702 541511

Excel: Graham Hayden 01279 681800



Stephensons

