

ESSEX BUS NEWS

SEPTEMBER 1995

The monthly magazine of the ESSEX BUS ENTHUSIASTS GROUP

(Formerly the Eastern National Enthusiasts Group)

377



EASTERN NATIONAL 677 L21 AHA was originally to be 652 but was sent to Frontline of Tamworth. Now that Frontline a former Badgerline subsidiary has been sold to British Bus, the Mercedes has returned to Eastern National.

D. Stebbing

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Rochford Meetings Freight House 8.00 p.m.

October 10th - Open Slide Evening members bringing a selection of their own.

November 8th - Programme to be announced.

December 12th - Programme to be announced.

The September meeting was well attended and our guest speaker - David Tomlin of District Bus fame gave the members an insight of his days running his own bus company. Many thanks to David for an enjoyable evening.

Members should note that Ian Ransom has now settled in his new "nest" and informs me that his telephone number has not changed - 01245 266713 - address on cover.

Members who have a particular interest in the original Eastern National i.e. 1929 to 1954 are requested to contact Peter Snell with the view of forming a separate section within the group specialising in this era.

Roads and Road Transport History Conference

The Road and Road Transport History Conference was established in 1992 by professor John Hibbs OBE to support historical research and the preservation of archive material.

Membership of the conference is open to individuals who will receive news letters and be able to attend the biennial symposium. Details from Hon. Secretary, Gordon Knowels, 7 Squirrels Green, Great Bookham, Leatherhead, Surrey, KT23 3LE.

Acknowledgements

Thamesway. Eastern National. W M County B & C. ECC. C. Sigston. Southend Transport. P. Harvey. N. Turner. D. Coulson. P. Sparkes. R. Dennis. G. Toon. M. Weyell.

Which other operator has a N reg? CBT 55 - JHK495N !!!

Another poser:

Most operators have electronic ticketing, Cedrics have now cast Setrights aside.

One company however is still using a system that can't breakdown.----- A TICKET RACK. (Osbornes)

Perhaps someone

would like to volunteer to compile a list of ticketing systems in use.

Incorporating the EASTERN NATIONAL ENTHUSIASTS GROUP formed in 1962

THAMESWAY

VEHICLES

New

601-619 N601-619 APU Volvo B10M, Plaxton Premiere C53F

601-610 were delivered during August and 601-3 took part in a launch ceremony outside Bsaildon's Towngate Theatre on 11th August. 610 appeared at the Southend open top rally on 3rd September..

The coaches feature fully automatic transmission, 53 reclining seats fitted with lap seat belts and the livery features blue signwriting. When delivery is completed, it is anticipated that existing coaches 511, 521 and 522 will remain.

601 (L601 MWC) has been renumbered 1601.

The last new coach to be allocated to Basildon was twenty years ago, National Travel GJD 197N!

Allocations

July

207 D/L(D)-Pool, 9013 DTV-D/L(D), 9014 DTV-D/L(D), 9015 DTV-D/L(D), 9717 D/L(D)-DTV.

August

207 pool-D/L(D), 241 Pool-BD, 261 BD-Pool, 9002 DTV-D/L(D).

September

501 BN-D/L(D), 502 BN-D/L(D), 503 BN-D/L(D), 504 BN-D/L(D), 505 BN-D/L(D), 506 BN-D/L(D), 507 BN-D/L(D), 512 bn-D/L(D), 513 BN-D/L(D), 601 New-BN, 602 New-BN, 603 New-BN, 604 New-BN, 605 New-BN, 606 New-BN, 607 New-BN, 608 New-BN, 609 NEW-BN, 610 New-BN, 2202 BN-D/L(D).

Dennis Dart 938 (M938 TEV) spent one week on hire to Eastern National at Chelmsford from 21st August.

Eastern National 1112 (HHJ 373Y) Leyland Tiger/Alexander is on long term loan (as are 1114/5).

Mercedes 205 B42 AAF has been converted to a van and numbered 9305 and is being used by the publicity department.

Disposals - initial

501	D588 MVR	8.95	Returned to dealer leased from
502	D590 MVR		"
503	D592 MVR		"
504	D596 MVR		"
505	D597 MVR		"
506	D598 MVR		"
507	D601 MVR		"

Disposal - Subsequent

711 B444 WTC Henley, Abertillery ex Morgan, Nantyglo.

District Bus

The District Bus fleet has now been numbered;-

21	E962 SVP	30	D873 LWR
22	E509 TOV	31	D220 SKD
23	E108 SOG	32	E905 EPD
24	E892 SOE	33	D504 FAE
26	F995 XOV	34	D505 FAE
27	F996 XOV	35	D506 FAE
28	G148 GOL *	36	D507 FAE
29	G145 GOL	37	D511 FAE

* correction

261 remains on loan. The District Bus operation does not need this many vehicles!

Metroriders 807/11/35/39 (E807 BTN etc) are owned by London and Country.

Hadleigh drivers are at present covering District Bus work and Ford Transit 9717 (C511 BFB) is being used for driver transfer work.

OPERATIONS

- 256 Thamesway are now operating this ECC Tuesday, Friday and Saturday instead of District Bus.
269 Slightly revised timetable from 5th September.
S1-4 Revised timetable from 11th September.
S5 New Monday to Friday peak hour service from Canvey to London commenced 11th September.
S12 New service from Woodford Green to Basildon via Lakeside one journey in each direction Monday to Friday.

Publicity

Timetable leaflets issued and dated 9.5.95

- Buses to & from Canvey (3/27/28)
- Buses to & from Eastwood Tesco (15/16/250)
- Buses serving Southend Hospital (20/25)
- Buses serving Southchurch (24/29)
- Service 2

Services 152-5 dated 5.6.94

Bristol VR Enthusiasts Society

1 Austen Grove, Basingstoke, Hampshire, RG22 6BH.

The Bristol VR Enthusiasts society was set up to provide information about all aspects of the Bristol VR and their operators. The Society publishes The VR Times every two months detailing VR fleets, recent vehicle movements and unusual working and events.

The society runs a sales stand and runs trips to various rallies and running days and is aiming to preserve at least one example of a Bristol VR. Annual subscription rates are £7.50 for adults, £5 for U16/UB40/OAP's and £10 for families.

Saturday 28th October:

This date will see the commencement of revised LT contracts for Mobility Bus routes in the London Boroughs of Barking, Havering and Redbridge, awarded to *Thamesway* in place of *Stagecoach East London*, and to use wheelchair-accessible Dennis Darts in place of the present Leyland Nationals.

- 935 (Tues) Re-routed and re-numbered 950. Route number 935 ceased.
949 (Thurs)(Barkingside & South Woodford) Withdrawn.
950 (Weds)(Little Heath & Romford) Withdrawn.
950 (Tues): Route number re-used for former and re-routed 935: Becontree Heath, via Green Lane, Bennetts Castle Lane, Becontree Avenue, Longbridge Road, Barking town centre, London Road to Barking Tesco.
951 (Sats)(Upminster & Romford) To operate Fridays instead of Saturdays. Withdrawn in Hornchurch from Station Lane, Suttons Lane and St.Georges Hospital. Rerouted in Hornchurch via North Street and Billet Lane to serve Sainsbury's.
952 (Tues)(Harold Hill & South Hornchurch Tesco) Rerouted in Hornchurch via Billet Lane instead of North Street to serve Sainsbury's. Between Hornchurch High Street and Airfield Way(Tesco), withdrawn from Station Lane and Suttons Lane, and rerouted instead via Abbs Cross Lane, Elm Park Avenue, The Broadway, Coronation Drive, South End Road, Airfield Way.
953 (Weds & Sats)(Harold Hill & Thames View). At present buses terminate at Faringdon Avenue, Harold Hill on Wednesdays and Harold Wood Station on Saturdays. In order to remove such confusion, all journeys will terminate at Dagnam Park Square, Harold Hill. Withdrawn from Faringdon Avenue, Gooshays Drive, Petersfield Avenue, Station Road, Church Road and Harold Court Road. In Romford rerouted via Waterloo Road and the grounds of Oldchurch Hospital. Also to double-run along London Road, Barking to serve the Tesco's Superstore.
954 (Thurs)(Rainham & Ilford) Withdrawn between Dagenham East Station & Rainham, and rerouted via Ballards Road, New Road to Dagenham,Asda.
955 (Weds & Sats)(Ilford & Romford via Hainault & Collier Row) To operate additionally on Mondays. Re-routed to become a full circular route with three journeys in each direction, by extending it from Romford back to Ilford via King George's Hospital. From Romford Station on via Oldchurch Road, Waterloo Road, London Road, Chadwell Heath High Road, Chadwell Heath Lane, Little Heath, King George's Hospital, Barley Lane, Seven Kings, to Ilford Town Centre. There will be two further changes to routings: At Gants Hill to run southbound via Clarence Avenue & Beehive Lane, northbound via Cranbrook Road. In Hainault rerouted via The Lowe & Brocket Way instead of Manford Way(eastern arm).
956 (Tues)(Thames View & Becontree Heath via Dagenham). To operate Mondays instead of on Tuesdays. Withdrawn between the junction of Porters Avenue/ Wood Lane and Becontree Heath, and withdrawn via Dagenham Church Elm and Dagenham East. Rerouted via Parsloes Avenue, Heathway to Dagenham Asda. Also to double-run in Barking along London Road to serve the Tesco's Superstore.
957 (Thurs)(Claybury & Ilford) Withdrawn, and mostly covered by revisions to 958. The section via Aldborough Road not replaced as the Disability Advice Centre has re-located to the "Shopmobility" office in The Exchange,Ilford.
958 (Thurs)(Barkingside & Ilford via South Woodford) Revised to a circular operation, with three journeys in each direction. To operate from Ilford town centre via Seven Kings, Barley Lane, King George's Hospital, Little Heath, Eastern Avenue, Newbury Park Sainsbury's (double-run via George Avenue), Horns Lane, Tanners Lane, Barkingside, then as existing 958 via Tomswood Hill (spur into Claybury Hospital withdrawn), Woodford Bridge (diverted via Cross Road to serve Perry Lodge). Woodford Green, South Woodford, Whipps Cross, Wanstead, then between Wanstead & Ilford withdrawn from The Drive and rerouted back to Ilford via Cambridge Park, Blake Hall Road, Aldersbrook Road, Harpenden Road, Margeretting Road, Northumberland Avenue, Arran Drive, Empress Avenue, Aldersbrook Road, Rabbits Road, Romford Road, Ilford Hill.
959 (Tues)(Thames View & Newbury Park) To operate on Mondays instead of on Tuesdays. Withdrawn between Newbury Park and Aldborough Road North, and rerouted via George Avenue to terminate at Newbury Park Sainsbury's. Also to double-run in Barking via London Road to serve the Tesco's Superstore.
960 (Weds)(Upminster & Romford) Withdrawn.
961 (Fris)(Circular Romford- Harold Hill- Hornchurch- Dagenham- Romford). Introduced additionally on Tuesdays. Anti-clockwise in Harold Hill rerouted after Gubbins Lane via Gooshays Drive, North Hill Drive, Whitchurch Road, Dagnam Park Drive, Petersfield Avenue, Gooshays Drive, Hildene Avenue then as before. Clockwise buses operate in the reverse direction. Thus the bit of Gooshays Drive by the Swimming Pool is served twice. Withdrawn between Hornchurch town centre and Rush Green via South Hornchurch and Dagenham, and rerouted via Station Lane, Suttons Avenue, Abbs Cross Lane, Elm Park Avenue, double-run via Elm Park Broadway, Elm Park Avenue, Upper Rainham Road, Roneo Corner, Rush Green Road, Dagenham Road, Oldchurch Road and back to Romford.
962 (Tues)(Rainham & Romford) Withdrawn.

To summarise the days for the revised routes: Mons(955,956,959), Tues(950,952,961), Weds(953,955), Thurs(954,958), Fris(951,961), Sats(953,955).

FLEET

Vehicles on Hire

2959 D595 NDA Metroliner MCW 70
from WM Travel 26.7.95 for Sampson Coaches Summer Specials (See below)

Allocation Changes for 1 August 1995

MB 47 Delicensed Harlow to Store (Miller Street, Birmingham)
MB 50 Delicensed Harlow to Store (Miller Street, Birmingham)
2959 WMT to Sampson Coaches

Allocation Changes for 2 September 1995

MB 43*	Harlow to Grays	SN 319	Harlow to Delicensed
MB 49	Delicensed to Ware	TL 29	Harlow to Scrap
MB 745	Harlow to Ware	1603	Ware to WMT (ex-hire)
MB 748	Harlow to Ware	1758	Ware to WMT (ex-hire)
MB 749	Harlow to Ware	1830	Ware to WMT (ex-hire)
MB 754	New to Ware	2781	Ware to WMT (ex-hire)
SN 312	Harlow to Delicensed		

* renumbered from MB 743

SERVICES

7 August	856	Revised ECC Monday-Friday timetable
21 August	381	New ECC contract. Monday-Friday. Harlow-Coopersale (ex Bernards Coaches).
2 September	18	Haverhill-Sturmer section withdrawn. This service now operates between Saffron Walden and Haverhill, with one school journey each way continuing to Newport Free Grammar School.
	341	New commercial service Monday-Saturday. Hertford Bus Station, Hatfield, St Albans. It will operate approximately every two hours and will interwork with route 641, Hertford-Hatfield, operated by Universitybus of Hatfield, thus providing an hourly service between Hertford and Hatfield. Service 341 was formerly operated by Reg's Coaches of Hertford on contract to Hertfordshire County Council.
	653	ECC school contract withdrawn.
4 September	20	New HCC contract, Monday-Saturday. Bishops Stortford-Furneux Pelham. This service used to be operated by Biss Brothers.

- 711 Operation transferred to Sampson Coaches using Bova coaches. This service remains Green Line.
- 5 September 19 New HCC contract, Tuesdays and Thursdays. Bishops Stortford-Farnham. This is another service that used to be operated by Biss Brothers.
- 7 September 4 New HCC contract. Thursdays & Saturdays. Bishops Stortford-Perry Green (South End). Again this service used to be operated by Biss Brothers.
- 9 September 5 New HCC contract. Saturdays only. Harlow-Perry Green (South End). One return journey.
- 354 Revised HCC contract.
- 370/1/3 Rerouted via Fenner Road and Burghley Road between Pilgrims Lane and Lakeside.
- 378 Rerouted via Fenner Road between Safeway Store and Lakeside. Loop working in Lakeside is discontinued from this date - buses terminate at Tesco and operate via shopping centre in both directions. Revised timetable.
- 18 September 341 HCC contract journey added.
- 30 October 308/380 Revised HCC contract.
- 331/398 Revised timetable. 398 commercial journeys withdrawn. The HCC contract journeys for these services have been retained.
- 386 Revised timetable. Turnford commercial journeys withdrawn. HCC contract journeys retained.

PUBLICITY

A new edition of the Harlow Town Services timetable booklet dated 5 August. New timetable leaflets for routes 261, 341, 500/1/2, 503 and 506.

SAMPSON COACHES

Throughout the month of August, Sampson Coaches operated its regular Summer Specials, this year using WMT vehicle 2959 (details in the Vehicles on Hire section) on most of the services.

The services were as follows:

- | | | |
|-----|----------|--|
| 920 | Clacton | Operating Tuesdays 1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd August |
| 930 | Southend | Operating every Wednesday throughout August (Hertford - Waltham Cross pick-up) |

931	Southend	Operating every Thursday throughout August (Harlow - Waltham Abbey pick-up)
940	Chessington World of Adventures	Operating Fridays 4th and 18th August
941	Thorpe Park	Operating Fridays 11th and 25th August
950	Summer Nights - Chessington	Operating Saturday evenings 12th and 16th August
960	Milton Keynes Shopper	Operating Saturday 5th and 19th August
970	Southend	Operating Sundays 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th August



New Volvo/Plaxton Citysaver 610 N610APU and Training Bus XYK 76IT are seen here at the Southend Open Top Rally on the 3rd September.

A. Meadows

COLCHESTER BOROUGH TRANSPORT

The last day of operation of service 3 was 1.9.95. Services 11 and 15 became ECC contracts from 4.9.95. School contract service 14A restarted on 5.9.95, but with a different timetable.

The company operated railway replacement services, including the last journeys to Clacton and Walton, on 10 and 11.8.95.

On the engineering side, the major news item this month is that someone started several fires on the upper deck of Atlantean 79 while it was on service 1C on 9.8.95. No one was injured in the incident at the Commons in Prettygate, but the roof (and a nearby lamp-post) melted in the intense heat. The bus is now at Magdalen Street, but is beyond repair and will be cannibalised and scrapped. A replacement bus arrived from London & Country on 30.8.95. It is their AN 353, RCN96N, an Atlantean AN68/1R with Park Royal H43/30F body, which was new to Northern General in 1974 and passed to L&C in 1986. It has been given fleet number 62 but remains in L&C livery.

National 12 has had a partial repaint but retains the overall advertisement for Foulkes electrical store. Southend's Tiger coach 558 was repainted into Green Line livery at Magdalen Street between 1 and 10.8.95.

Southend's Tiger 546 and CBT's National 19 were both returned home off loan on 10.8.95.

Open-top Atlantean 55 won second prize in Colchester carnival on 29.7.95. A few days later it was taken to Dunton Green after the last sightseeing tour on 5.8.95 and returned in time for the first tour on 7.8.95. The tours continued until 2.9.95.

80 went to S&M Coaches at Hadleigh for engine repairs on 17.8.95. 89 went to Ipswich Buses for attention on 1.9.95, returning on 5.9.95.

A ticket promotion for Burger King started on 31.7.95 and was changed on 14.8.95. From 4.9.95 it was the turn of McDonalds, with three versions, one connected with the Golf Club.

EASTERN NATIONAL

NEW VEHICLES

823	N823 APU Dennis Dart 9.8SDL 3054/2587	Plaxton 9510HXXN 3963
824	N824 APU Dennis Dart 9.8SDL 3054/2591	Plaxton 9510HXXN 3964
825	N825 APU Dennis Dart 9.8SDL 3054/2592	Plaxton 9510HXXN 3965
826	N826 APU Dennis Dart 9.8SDL 3054/2590	Plaxton 9510HXXN 3966
827	N827 APU Dennis Dart 9.8SDL 3054/2594	Plaxton 9510HXXN 3967
828	N828 APU Dennis Dart 9.8SDL 3054/2593	Plaxton 9510HXXN 3968
829	N829 APU Dennis Dart 9.8SDL 3054/2601	Plaxton 9510HXXN 3969
830	N830 APU Dennis Dart 9.8SDL 3054/2610	Plaxton 9510HXXN 3970

ACQUIRED VEHICLE

677	L21 AHA Mercedes 709D 011418	Plaxton 93.7MHV1534
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This vehicle was to have been delivered as Eastern National 652 as part of the 1993 order. It was diverted to Frontline and has now passed to EN, following the transfer of Frontline to British Bus.

ALLOCATIONS

7/95	210/12 D/L(D)-CR
8/95	245 CF-POOL; 249 POOL-D/L(D); 677 ACQD-CF; 823-30 NEW-CF; 1112 CN-D/L(D); 1120 CF-D/L(D); 1125 DT-D/L(D); 1833/65 CF-POOL; 1861/62/85 CF-CR; 1924 CF-CN; 1925 CR-D/L(D); 1933 CR-POOL; 1940 CF-D/L(D); 3078 CR-DT
9/95	1121 CF-D/L(D); 1131 CR-CF; 1865 POOL-CR

REPAINTS

7/95	3227
8/95	3106
9/95	3112

All have been re-painted in new livery. 3227 was the last ex Yorkshire Rider vehicle to be treated.

GENERAL

Dennis Dart 830 (N830 APU) attended the Bristol rally on 20th August. The long journey was worthwhile as it won the best vehicle in its class award. Also present was KSW 2383, which took about nine and a half hours to make the journey. Sister 2384 suffered a blown engine while working Suffolk CC service 651 on 23rd July, it is now without an engine, and its future may now be in some doubt.

SERVICES

- 17A Re-numbered 418 from the start of the new school term.
- 17B Re-numbered 417 from the start of the new school term.
- 31 Slight timetable alteration on Saturdays from 9.9.95.
- 32 Revised timetable introduced from 4.9.95.
- 33X Sunday service withdrawn with effect from 3.9.95.
- 40 Revised Saturday service introduced from 9.9.95.
- 41 Revised timetable introduced from 4.9.95.
- 45A Saffron Walden schools service passed to Townlink from new school term.
- 45A/C Revised timetable and route introduced from 4.9.95.
- 47 Revised timetable introduced from 4.9.95.
- 48 As service 41.
- 50 As service 40.
- 51 As service 41.
- 84 The 1745 Colchester to Sudbury, is now being operated by EN.
- 100 Withdrawn after operation on 9.9.95.
- 101 As service 100.
- 103 New service under contract to ECC on Sundays between Harwich and Manningtree, to replace lost rail journeys. Introduced from 30.7.95.
- 137 As service 103, but operates Clacton to Wivenhoe.
- 319 Revised route and timetable introduced from start of school term.
- 331 The Saturday service will be operated under tender to ECC from 9.9.95.
- 350/1 Revised timetable and slight route revision in Chelmsford from 4.9.95.

In addition Winter services were re-introduced on Clacton town services from 10.9.95. However services 3,4,15 and 16 were withdrawn after 8.9.95. Revisions were also made to Suffolk CC evening services in the Ipswich area from 29.8.95 and it is hoped to provide further details next month.

PUBLICITY

Timetable leaflets for 75/A dated 10.4.95; 108/127 dated 21.5.95; services 1/A/B dated 3.7.95; Colchester town services 2 & 8 dated 7.8.95; 79/A,81 dated 9.8.95. Bus excursions from Chelmsford dated 25.7.95. to 7.9.95. Family CoastCard undated. Chelmsford Day and Evening Ranger. Leaflet for revisions to EN timetable booklets up to 8.8.95. North Essex timetable book dated 10.9.95.

INITIAL DISPOSALS

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| 208 (C208 HJN) | Western National, Truro, 9/95 |
| 220 (C220 HJN) | As 208 |
| 1841 (WJN 561S) | Hardwick (breaker), Carlton, for scrap, 8/95. |
| 1843 (WJN 563S) | Broken for spares and remains to local dealer, 8/95. |
| 1925 (MHJ 721V) | Lister (dealer), Bolton, 7/95. |
| 3070 (KOO 788V) | As 1841 |

HEDINGHAM

SERVICES

- 7 Withdrawn with effect from 4.9.95.
- 17 Passed to CBT from start of the new school term.
- 18A Re-numbered 118 from the start of the new school term
- 23 Revised timetable introduced from 20.9.95.
- 59 Joint timetable with Stort Valley revised on 4.9.95. again on 6.9.95. and yet again on 25.9.95.
- 70 The 0658 ex Coggeshall has been withdrawn.
- 84 Slight timetable changes introduced from 4.9.95.
- 89 Slight timetable revisions from 6.9.95.
- 96 Re-numbered 31 from 4.9.95.
- 247 Operation of this service passed to Beestons from the start of the new term.
- 331 Revised timetable introduced on Monday to Friday from 6.9.95. Saturday service will be operated by EN under tender to ECC from 9.9.95.

VEHICLES

Vehicles withdrawn during August were Leopards L106/7 (LGV 34, DSU 105), Seddon L182 (BBJ 568S) and Fleetline L213 (THM 630M). The two Neoplane acquired from Partridge were withdrawn some time ago L227/8 (JSK 951, PIJ 601). L106/7 were sold to Claireaux, Hadleigh (dealer). L227 has also been sold. Further repaints into Heddingham livery are L180 (UBJ 847R) ex Norfolks and L240 (XPW 877X) ex Carters.

GENERAL

One of the largest private hires in the companies history took 15 coaches to Salisbury Plain as part of an army exercise in June.

Olympian L160 normally on service 88 was loaned to Sudbury for a private hire in late June. While there it also appeared on a contract for RAF Wattisham.

The Saturday journeys on service 82 (Colchester to Fordham) are now worked by the bus off the Walton service 600A.

OTHER OPERATORS - REST OF ESSEX

ACE OF CLUBS BENFLEET For those who wish to travel in an ex Police Sherpa minibus, the school contract from Basildon to Brentwood has been registered as a stage service!

AMBER BUS & COACH RAYLEIGH Freight Rover minibuses D208 NON and E94 OUH have been sold to Stephenson's (assumed as dealer stock).

APT RAYLEIGH Have sold Bova APT 416B (acquired as PMS 1M).

ASSOCIATED COACHWAYS HARLOW Service 871 has had slight timetable revisions from the start of the new school term.

BERNARDS HARLOW Have acquired Mercedes minicoach G455 SGB from SM Travel, Harlow.

BLUTE BRAINTREE Further to recent notes, it can be confirmed that Freight Rover AFX 228A is with this operator. It is almost certain that this is D241 NUR re-registered.

BRAINTREE YELLOWLINE Joins the ranks of taxi firms operating PSV Ford Transits. J978 AKY now being so licensed.

BRANDON BLACKMORE END Setra D782 YEV (ex APT 42S, D868 FSX) has again been re-registered and is now 841 BMB. Fleetlines THM 707M and GHV 13N are de-licensed. Acquired is MAN/Caetano G153 XJF new to Limebourne.

BUDGET BUSWAY COLCHESTER Previous identities of MBZ 7140-7146 were RYG 764R, NEL 129P, MEL 552P, NTC 615M, NTC 611M. ULO 385R was previously RIB 8431 and SGR 103R.

CARTERS Additional service 78 introduced on Sundays, at 0915 from Brightlingsea.

CATTON HARLOW Added to the fleet is A25 NHK a Bedford CF.

CEDRIC WIVENHOE Have acquired two further Bristol VRs, HWJ 933/4V ex Lincolnshire. A new service numbered 84X has been introduced on schooldays between Walton and Colchester.

CHELMSFORD CAB Two further Omni have arrived H744/5 LHN.

CUNNINGHAM CORRINGHAM The service to Debden was withdrawn after 15.9.95. Service 369 was withdrawn after 15.9.95.

EASTERN COUNTIES Revised timetables were introduced on the Ipswich-Colchester services from 4.9.95.

ESSEX THAMESIDE CANVEY Further to EBN375, B951 HBB is an unusual Fiat/Caetano seating 53.

EUROPA WICKFORD Have ceased operations. Bedford VAS PKU 622R has been sold to Venturer, Rochford.

FARGO RAYNE Services 320 and 324 are now being operated commercially.

FLAGFINDERS BRAINTREE Bristol VR MFN 44R has arrived from Brentwood Coaches (WHM).

FREEMANS COACHES Bristol LH CSU 979 (PTT 102R) is still at the former depot, but has been re-registered YGR 172R.

GLEW COLCHESTER Have acquired EHJ 52P (463 VVT, NGO 663P) a Bedford YLQ/Plaxton.

GOLDEN BOY ROYDON Acquired from Shearings is BAZ 8576 (G876 VNA) a Volvo/Van Hool.

GRAHAMS KELVEDON To correct previous notes G885 GNA should read G885 VNA. A further addition is G805 RNC a Scania/Plaxton. Leyland Tiger PJI 2457 and DAF F651 OHD have been sold.

HALSTEAD TRAVEL YSV 617 a Bedford YMT/Plaxton has been acquired.

HARRIS BUS Atlantean OYJ 68R was on loan for a short period in early July. Sisters OYJ 69/71R were returned at the end of July, and at the time of writing no vehicles were on loan. Bristol VR VVV 65S was withdrawn on 13.7.95. and taken to Tunnel Truck Hire for component recovery. Atlanteans STK 122/3T are also there being used for spares. Services 17 and 399 were withdrawn after 2.9.95. Service 375 was revised from 4.9.95. to operate between Purfleet and Grays only. Service 500 has been reduced to one journey each way on schooldays from 25.9.95. between Tilbury and Stanford-le-Hope. Minor timetable changes to some Brentwood Easybus services were made from 9.8.95.

HARRIS COACHES Scania 9242 FH (C400 JOO) has been sold to a dealer, but remained with Harris on loan until mid September.

INGATESTONE COACHES A Bedford/Plaxton RIW 5767 of which no further details are known has been acquired.

LODGE HIGH EASTER Bova B62 DMB has been acquired and re-registered MBZ 7136. Also acquired is MAN/Reeve Burgess C130 GHS.

NELSONS New service 46 introduced on Schooldays between Shotgate and Ingatestone. Operation of the South Woodham town service was taken over from County Bus with effect from 7.8.95. on a commercial basis. Service 2 had a revised route introduced from 7.9.95.

PARTRIDGE As most members will be aware this operator was taken over by Heddingham, not very long ago. A new operator has now appeared in Hadleigh, trading as C J Partridge & Son, the trading name of the old HAC Claireaux company. One can only imagine the thoughts of Heddingham, who are no doubt less than happy.

PRESIDENTIAL SHOE BURYNESS Sold some while ago, but only recently reported was PJI 5280 a Ford/Van Hool.

PRIORY STANFORD LE HOPE A new Scania K113/Irizar has arrived, M323 VET. Acquired from Fargo, Rayne are Mercedes/Jonckhree 248 CNP (DVV 531X) and RIB 8030 (new as FOO 650Y).

RIDGEON ORSETT Scania NIW 3926 (E238 AVX) has been sold.

ROYLES HAWKWELL Have acquired DAF/Plaxton OXI 2381 (B567 AHD).

RUFFLE CASTLE HEDDINGHAM Have acquired A911 LUD a Ford R1015/Reeve Burgess from Farnham Hire Services. Also acquired are C330 PEW a Tiger/Plaxton and Swift/Elme F577 WCK.

SM TRAVEL HARLOW Acquired from APT is Bristol VR NCD 563M, which was operating in Cedrics colours, when last seen by your sub-ed.

STAINES CRUSADER CLACTON Vehicles re-registered are D228 HMT to 114 GVX and E105 GOO to UDX 105.

STEPHENSONS Further to last month the VR converted to open top is OTO 151R. Dennis Dominator SMW 56Y was noted on service 224 on 5.9.95. and is assumed to have been acquired.

STORT VALLEY Service 122 formerly operated by Viceroy had a revised timetable introduced from 5.9.95. Service 313 had a minor timetable change from 19.7.95.

TIGERWAYS HARLOW Acquired recently are DWP 3S an AEC Reliance/Plaxton and Fiat minibus E581 TYG.

TRAVELUX STANFORD LE HOPE AEC Reliance/Plaxton UAT 275R has been acquired and re-registered IIV 3131.

TRAVELRICH COPFORD Neoplan USV 330 (F622 CWJ) has been re-registered USV 847.

WHM (BRENTWOOD COACHES) Leyland Tiger LIL 2354 (B872 UST) has been sold.

COLCHESTER BUS STATION

From 3rd September many services depart from different stands. This is due to the fact that the independent operators were finding difficulty in turning out of the new layover area onto their stands. Further changes would seem likely to correct anomalies and difficulties. The bay allocated to services exiting the town along Mersea Road has a curve at the rear and when occupied buses to other stands in that lane have difficulty in getting past. For some strange reason service 66C departs from this stand although the other services running along Old Heath Road, 66/A/B, have not changed stands.



NEW

300 (M647 RCP) at last entered passenger service on a regular basis on Sat August 26th on the 511 and then the 165- it has now settled down to life on the 248.

ACQUIRED

833 C903 LEW is another Ford Transit for staff transport: it was new as Cambus 2003- further details later on- first noted Tues 12 Sept.

ON LOAN

M918 MRW is a Volvo B6LE- Wright B36F low floor demonstrator that arrived at DM on Sat Aug 12th, not entering service until the following Saturday on the 348 - it was still at DM on Monday Sept 11th. It and 300 were demonstrated to interested parties in Romford town center on Friday 18th August. Livery is silver grey with a red band with black edging along the line of the floor level. Pictograms of seated passenger are positioned underneath some of the windows.

M262 KWK is a Volvo B6 demo with normal height Alexander B40F body which was first noted at DM on Thursday 31st August. It carries fleet number 111 and the livery could perhaps be described as off white. It was still present on Tuesday Sept 12th.

PERSONEL

Norman Kemp, who was only appointed Managing Director in February left the company by mutual consent after the expiry of his six month contract, it was announced in late August.

LIVERY

repaints- 251, 257 to yellow - the only blue-silver bus left is 255

ROUTES

345 - renumbered 645 - 4th Sept 95

WITHDRAWN

797 (WYJ 165Y)- the 4/95 shunting smash mentioned in 5/95 has proved terminal as 797 is being very slowly used for spares, the engine being the first to go.

GENERAL

A start has been made on using dayglo route number blinds in the rear & side number boxes, 277 and 286 being noted, although there are no doubt others. Another massive railway job took place on Sat/Sun August 26/27 when the Northern line was out between Euston and Monument (sat) and Kennington (sun). On the Sat a number of unusual workings resulted in Romford including Ld National 749 as DM21 on the 749, plus one other- Another national plus the RM were on the 252, DAF 300 did the 511 followed by the 165 and Olympiad 161 and 166 were on the 248.

MEDIA MONITOR

August 7th: Bus users hit out at timetable changes planned by EN which would mean withdrawal of some evening services with no service to Jaywick or Point Clear and the Walton service reduced to two hourly. ECC said they would consider taking over the journeys but could not promise to cover them.

Note: ECC have subsequently let contracts to cover in full Jaywick and Point Clear evening services as well as those to Burrsville.

August 9th: A Tiptree man is looking for a home for his red London double-decker. Currently parked in a disused mushroom farm at Maylandsea the bus was bought from the Sidcup Garage for £800 in 1977.

August 10th: A front page picture of CBT Atlantean 79 (YNO79S), the upper deck engulfed in flames. The previous day a passenger told the driver he could smell burning who saw that the top deck was alight and evacuated the passengers. The bus was at Prettygate working to Ambrose Avenue on Service 1C according to the report. The possibility of arson was being investigated.

August 11th: On Monday EN bosses circulated a memo to the effect that change was not to be given for fares paid with fare tokens, although senior managers would not say how the directive was formulated. Tokens are only issued in 20p and 50p denominations so pensioners lost out. By Wednesday the memo had been clarified to advise those who were losing out that they would be able to claim a refund but then issuing of change was resumed following complaints from Age Concern.

August 17th: Jean Thornton said Budget Busway had debts of around £30,000. The company had ceased trading but was not in liquidation as this gave their creditors the best chance of being paid. Rebate cheques were expected and payment of drivers would be a priority. They had experienced difficulty in getting drivers as those with families and on income support were almost as well off on the dole. (BBC Essex)

August 18th: A feature covers a trip on the town tour operated by CBT open top Atlantean which has been operating since 1978. Two passengers on an Eastern National service 8A demanded cash from the driver. As he opened the doors to get out he was stabbed twice with a sharp instrument. No cash was lost and the youths ran off. The driver was not seriously hurt. The County Council has suggested to Rowhedge Parish Council that the bus turning circle in Rectory Road be used to pick up/set down passenger.

August 29th: Minibuses in Teheran are to have separate sections for men and women to avoid millions of "sins" being committed as they brush against each other either intentionally or by mistake.

August 31st: Colchester Councillors approved plans for a 169 space park and ride scheme on military land off Butt Road which should be operational by Christmas. Further sites proposed include 200 rising to 2000 spaces Boxted Straight Road; 300 rising to 1000 spaces Moler Works site/University with new rail station, 200 spaces Stanway/Eight Ash Green with new rail station or extend Marks Tey rail car park to 1000.

September 1st: A Brightlingsea resident is claiming the credit for the decision of ECC to start the first service 78 from Brightlingsea on Sundays instead of Wivenhoe. She had complained to EN both last year and this but it has emerged that the service was operated under contract by Carters. "The bus has been leaving at 9.15am the last few weeks"

Note: Carters operated the Brightlingsea/Wivenhoe section of the first commercially Autumn 1992 until Spring 1994. The latest revision is shown as 20.8.95.

September 7th: Tendring Council has agreed to a plan to extend Hedinghams workshop and parking area in Brunel Road, Clacton.

September 12th: A new Fridays only bus service is to run from Maldon to Colchester General Hospital via Tiptree and Feering. Service 175 will be operated by Hedingham.

Unless otherwise stated the above items have been extracted from the Colchester Evening Gazette or Essex County Standard.

Victoria Coaches
(Leigh-on-Sea) Ltd.



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LOOKING BACK

1935 Horn Coaches of Braintree became part of Eastern National from August 24th. A London express service was incorporated into an existing service while the three stage services from Braintree to Greenstead Green, Felsted Sugar Beet Factory and Great Bardfield were numbered 21, 21A, 21B. An application was also made for Rose Brothers of Chelmsford licences but was refused,

1955 Eastern National introduced a new system of route numbering. From August 14th Maldon services from 60 upwards had 30 added, from August 21st Basildon services used numbers preceding 251. From August 28th Bishops Stortford services used numbers in the 300 series not already allocated to former Hicks services as did Halstead/Braintree from September 11th. From September 18th Chelmsford service started at 30 while services 15-29 at Colchester had 70 added from October 2nd. Eastern National operated express services during the period August 23rd and September 3rd from Fingringhoe (TA Camp) to Colchester and Clacton.

1965 Because of a staff shortage at Eastern National certain journeys in the Chelmsford area were temporarily withdrawn from August 9th. Colchester Corporation increased fares on July 4th and at the end of the month changed the ticket system from Ultimate to TIM. Southend Corporation had Eastern National 1208/12 (WVX443/5), Bristol LS5Gs on hire and by painting out the last digit of the EN number they became 120 and 121! Sister vehicles 1204/5 (FJN162/3) were sold to Hedingham and District where they became L39/40 increasing that companies fleet to 14.

1975 Colchester Borough Transport Atlanteans 55-60(JHK495-500N) recently placed in service have flat windscreens and a heavy bulkhead pillar which causes a black spot in the drivers vision. A small window is being inserted in the pillar and future batches will have curved rather than flat windscreens as the latter design may not prove acceptable to the vehicle examiner. Southend Transport is to hire Leyland PD3's to London Transport from September 22nd for use at Croydon.

1985 Eastern National VR DT3058 was used on July 20th to operate a National Express 080 Harwich to London journey while Olympian BN4501 appeared on a London to Bournemouth/Poole journey on August. 3rd. CR3022 substituted for a failed Eastern Counties vehicle on September 2nd operating 1235 Service 92 and 1540 Service 93 from Ipswich. CBT operated a special 7E service on Saturday September 14th from North Station to East Mersea (Youth Camp) in connection with a pop music festival using ANs 68 and 81.

Note: CBT 55 is still with the company in open top form while a recent issue of Terminus reported that 60 is now A813 in the Stagecoach fleet following their acquisition of Scots operator A1 Service.

Southend Transport

Vehicles.

Volvo B10M /Plaxton Paramount 3500 mkIII.

566 (H566 MPD) The batch is now complete.

571 (NXI 9006) has been re-registered (F523 UVW)

Repaints.

TR 558 (B84 SWX) into Green Line livery.

Disposals.

TR 555 (A144 EPA) to an unknown operator in Horsham. (11/8/95).

The remains of LN 722 (GGE 166T) & 781 (XPD 231N) to

Ripley, Barnsley. (Dealer).

Subsequent Disposals.

VR 353 (GTX 740W) to Rennie, Dunfermline. (ex London & Country,
via Ripley,dealer. 7/95.)

PD 341 (CJN 441C) has been returned to P.C.V status, and used in
service, with Fowler's Travel, Linc's. (ex Lincoln City Transport.)

Services.

16 (Chalkwell Stn. - Eastwood,Kent elms.) Withdrawn from 3/9/95.

Unusual Workings.

9/8/95 ON 283 (MUH 283X) 18:30 X3 (Southend - Victoria)
21:40 X2 (Victoria - Southend)

Hire,s.

TR 546 (A246 SVW) returned to S.T on 10/8/95.

Colchester LN 19 (EON 829V) returning to C.B.T on the same day.

Other News.

There is to be a full service revision ,from the end of September.

Full details next month.

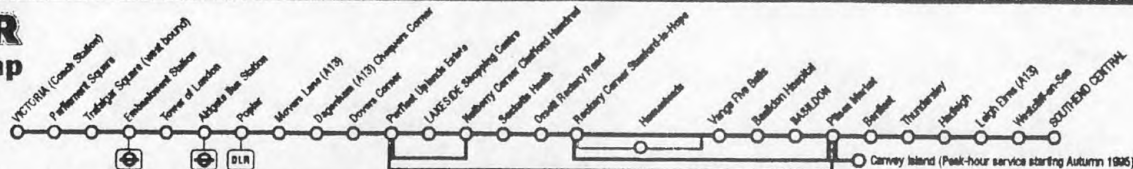
Volvo B10M.

565 (H845 AHS) 566 (H566 MPD) 567 (H567 MPD) 568 (H372 PHK) Paramount 3500.

569 (F425 UVW) 570 (F467 UVW) 571 (F523 UVW) 572 (F572 UPB) Paramount 3200.

CitySAVER Route Map

Key
 83 variation ————
 Main route ———— 94 variation ————
 52 variation ———— 95 variation ————



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 Barking, Ilford

Dagenham (A13) Chequers Corner
 Dagenham

Dovers Corner
 Rainham, Hornchurch and Upminster

Lakeside Shopping Centre
 Thurrock, Grays and Tilbury

Sockets Heath
 Grays, Stifford, Chadwell and Tilbury

Orsett Rectory Road
 Orsett Hospital

Penksey Corner, Stanford-le-Hope
 Corringham

Verge Five Bells
 Fobbing

Basildon
 Chelmsford, Billericay, Laindon and Wickford

Bentley
 South Benfleet, Canvey Island

Thundersley
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Hayleigh
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 Aquarian Travel, 1721 London Road, Leigh-on-Sea

LONDON
 Victoria Coach Station, Buckingham Palace Rd, London

SOUTHEND
 Rendalls, 67 Southchurch Road, Southend-on-Sea

MAYNARD STORES
 73 Fairfax Drive, Southend-on-Sea

THAMESWAY LIMITED
 Central Bus Station

TARPOTS
 Don Sandgrove Travel, 150 London Road, Tarpots, Benfleet

WESTCLIFF
 Case Olden Travel Ltd., 573 London Road Westcliff-on-Sea

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