

Essex Bus News

No. 672; April 2020



Essex Bus Enthusiasts Group

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Thank You KEYWORKERS



above
Spotted on a bus shelter in Shoebury on 6 April was this child's drawing. A reflection on the current extraordinary times.
Photo by **Richard Delahoy** (on his permitted daily exercise walk, with full social distancing precautions).

Below
The 14.15 Monday to Friday service 9 from Brentwood Station was the only journey that did not complete the whole route to Basildon. It terminated at Laindon. From 30 March this was due to be cutback further to Billericay Railway Station, but this was superseded by the emergency timetables which started that week. 47656 is seen in Brentwood High Street on the last week to Laindon, 26 March 2020.

Adam Kelleher.



Front Cover Picture

37985, BJ11XGY, with branding removed operating service 20 in Rayleigh on 19 March. "I couldn't get an offside shot due to passing traffic, so I crossed the road for a quick nearside before it left!"
Ian Dann.

April 2020

Editor & Sub-Editors

Magazine Editor

Maurice Austin
Tindal Lodge
11 Valletta Close
CHELMSFORD CM1 2PT maurice.austin@phonecoop.coop

First in Essex & Trustybus

Adam Kelleher
74 Park Road
BRENTWOOD CM14 4TU
adamxxxx4@yahoo.co.uk

Ensignbus/Hedingham/Chambers

Mark Lloyd
448 Ipswich Road
COLCHESTER CO4 4EY
Lloydhousehold448@gmail.com

Arriva, Colchester, Harlow & Southend

Peter Mansbridge petemans_1@hotmail.com

Stephensons of Essex

Richard Delahoy, details opposite.

Panther Travel, & Publicity

Ian Ransom ianandsallyr@googlemail.com

Smaller Operators

Roger A Smith
3 Station Mews, Station Road
WITHAM CM8 2FP

Service Changes

Paul Harvey
3 Orangewood Close, Gonerby Hill Foot
GRANTHAM NG31 8QW
pw.harvey@ntlworld.com

Distribution Officer; missing/defective EBN's Publication Sales; orders for publications meetings, events and tours listing.

Owen Woodliffe,
196 Sinclair Road, CHINGFORD E4 8PT
pat_woodliffe@hotmail.com *note underscore between pat & w*
Owen also stocks a wide range of colour photos;
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Essex Bus News

is the "house magazine" of the...

Essex Bus Enthusiasts Group

Chair. **See note p32 this issue.** Ian Ransom
Secretary Alan Osborne
Treasurer & Membership ... Richard Delahoy
Tours Organiser Wayne Bell
*Views expressed in EBN do not necessarily reflect the opinions
of the Essex Bus Enthusiasts Group.*

Welcome to new members

Ray Clark ...	Burnham on Crouch -	1154
Ian Pritchard	Leicester-	1155
Keith Ward ...	Ilford-	1156

A calendar year subscription is £22. New members may join from any month, but subscriptions will always run to December, from whichever month the member chooses. Those joining from February to December inclusive will pay a pro-rata subscription calculated at £2.00 per month. For example, a member joining in March would pay 10 x £2.00, i.e. £20.00. Contact Richard Delahoy, address below.

As noted in column 1 of each issue, Owen Woodliffe deals with any problems with EBN distribution and he holds our stock of spare copies. In the case of problems therefore, please contact Owen direct at the address on column 1. Richard Delahoy is the Membership Secretary and deals with payment and renewal queries but DOES NOT have stocks of the magazine.

Membership Secretary & Data Protection

A statement of our compliance with the GDPR is available on our website or by post. For any membership or data protection issues, please contact:
Richard Delahoy, 272 Shoebury Road,
SOUTHEND-ON-SEA SS1 3TT
richard.delahoy@blueyonder.co.uk

Reports and observations

Members reports, quality photos, prints, slides or JPGs to about 5"x4" size and 300dpi resolution and original articles are always welcome to the Editor or the relevant Sub Editor.

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.**

Every effort is made to ensure accuracy, but the Group cannot accept responsibility for any errors published.

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EBN672p1

The Running Card (Dates For Your Diary) compiled by Owen Woodliffe.

MID-ESSEX MEETINGS by Maurice Austin.

Quaker Meeting House, corner of Parkway and Rainsford Road, Chelmsford, less than 10 minutes walk from the Bus and Rail stations; continue along Duke Street past Civic Centre and cross to far side of Parkway.

Small car park on site **but now only accessible via Parkway and Cedar Road West**, other public car parks nearby. Tea and coffee making facilities. Members and guests welcome. £2.00 donation towards cost of room hire, please.

***** All our meetings are now CANCELLED until at very least June 2020 *****

The AGM and Lodge's "centenary talk" will be rescheduled.

Scheduled dates for 2020, 25 June (possibly), 23 July (Paul Bateson), 24 September, 22 October (Alan Osborne), 26 November (Martin Weyell), 10 December (Richard Delahoy). **But do assume these are likely also to be cancelled so check our website.**

NORTH ESSEX MEETINGS by Dave Arnold.

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. Doors open at 1915 for informal chat, and often an impromptu slide show, with the main talk or show from 1945 to 2145. **£3.00** donation towards room hire, please.

Slides/digital photos are preferred, but prints can also be shown. Members and guests welcome.

No meetings in April and May Scheduled dates for 2020: 12 June, 10 July, 14 August, 11 September, 9 October, 13 November, 11 December. **But do assume these are likely also to be cancelled so check our website.**

A Blast From The Past

Paul Harvey.



Eastern National GVN 979H Bristol RELH ECW 1609 at Colchester Bus Station for service 71 to Coggeshall during 1979. The vehicle was based at Colchester depot and in the Dual Purpose livery.

Paul Harvey.

EBN672p2

The Running Card (Dates For Your Diary), continued, by Owen Woodliffe.

EVENTS

Due to the current Covid-19 situation, most events have either been or are likely to be cancelled so no events are shown.

It is known that the Essex Bus and Londoner event at Barleylands in July has been cancelled.

Information is published in good faith and members are strongly advised to check details with the organisers, as the Group can accept no liability if events are cancelled or or altered.

FYS 672 for EBN672 and a message from Canada.

I have been thinking of you as I read in EBN about your transfers between CF and Barts. I do hope that your road back to full service continues. I am quite sure that you now have to be extremely careful because of the current worldwide situation and certainly how it is affecting the UK. Here in Canada we are suffering from the virus and this huge country is gradually closing down. I have had to cancel a trip within the Province to Windsor next week because of travel advisories. I am now becoming concerned that my trip to the UK and my appearance at the July meeting in Chelmsford is threatened but that decision will be made in June depending on just what develops.

In the meantime, I have just received EBN671 – well done, another excellent issue. I knew that if I searched my files, I would find an interesting picture for publishing in EBN672. This is FYS 672, one of the Worldmasters purchased by SCT in 1966. Be warned, I also have FYS 677, 678 and even 686 for future EBNs!

The picture attached is of SCT 214 (FYS 672) a Leyland Worldmaster ex-Glasgow Corporation Transport and pictured on 22 February 1969 at Eastwood, Belgrave Road whilst operating on route 23.

Paul A. Bateson.



Route 85, Colchester to Stoke-by-Nayland.

Robin Jenkinson.

The photo of Eastern National 1485 in EBN669 bought back memories. This is one of the many of my negatives that passed to club archives when I sold 15,000 of them to raise money to restore my ½ decker coach JVB 908. This could be a rare view in that the vehicle was on route 85, Colchester to Stoke-by-Nayland and I photographed it laying over at Stoke-by-Nayland. This was a joint route with Norfolks of Nayland, one of my signwriting customers and for whom I did some part-time driving.

The history of this route is interesting. Norfolks started it before the First World War with horse-drawn vehicles but in 1920, "National", later to become Eastern National, went on it with motor buses. After a period of competition, they agreed joint operation and, at one stage, the two companies took their turn to operate on alternate weeks. However, by the 1970s, Eastern National were losing money on it and asked the county council for a subsidy. The council would not agree to this because Norfolks were operating it without a subsidy and, as a result, after running on the route for 56 years, EN abandoned it and left Norfolks to operate all journeys.

In 1991 Norfolks sold out to Hedingham but by the time I regularly travelled from Colchester to Bury St. Edmunds by bus (3 or 4 years ago), it was Chambers 84 route that took me along the old Norfolks route to Stoke-by-Nayland, on its way to Sudbury.

On 13 July 1978, I was driving this route for Norfolks and photographed the bus that I was driving at Nayland. This is 64 RTO, an ex-Nottingham Daimler Fleetline with Northern Counties body.



Picture 64 RTO as described above by Robin.

Robin Jenkinson.

Coronavirus: Chelmsford park-and-ride to be temporary mortuary.

Just as this EBN was being prepared for print, the BBC announced that the Chelmsford City Park & Ride site at Chelmer Valley would be used as a temporary mortuary. The site was chosen because its location in Little Waltham is near main roads and can be secured.

The End of Essex Coast Express.

Keith Ward.



national express

will suspend coach services from midnight on Sunday 5 April 2020 after government measures to stop the spread of the coronavirus hit demand from travellers.

Like other transport operators, the company has already reduced services and experienced a fall in passenger numbers as people heed government advice to make essential journeys only.

Upper picture Last month Owen Woodliffe recorded the planned end of the National Express operation from London to Clacton. The final day was intended to be Sunday 29 March but in the face of a near total collapse in traffic as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic, National Express introduced emergency timetables across their whole network from Tuesday 24 March, with just a few routes left nationwide. As a result, the 484 to Clacton ran for the last time on Monday 23 March. Latterly it had only comprised a single trip each way, with the coach "sleeping out" overnight in Clacton. Recently it had been operated by National Express owned Clarkes of London using a coach in their standard green livery.

Keith Ward was on hand to capture the last ever London bound journey, with Mercedes Tourismo BF67 WJY heading for "London via Colchester" on the A12 at Redbridge dead on time at 10.20. Also see the request for information on p26 this issue.



Lower picture National Express livery adorns Galloway of Mendlesham Scania K410EB6 with Caetano Levante bodywork 107 BF68 LCM on route 250 to Heathrow airport via Stansted Airport passes Colchester Station, 04 July 2019.

Alan Moore.

EBN672p5

Route 87.

Owen Woodliffe.

Route 87 between Harlow and Epping via Sumner and Katherines Estates, Kingsmoor, Jack's Hatch and Epping Upland has had a relatively short life of some three and a half years but so far has had quite an eventful history. It commenced on 1 September 2016 by Swallow Coach Co also trading as EOS Buses (their traffic manager was Chris Hunn formerly of defunct TWH) with a very optimistic 20-minute frequency and operated by a number of Caetano bodied Darts acquired the previous month from Metroline. Some were painted into fleet colours of orange and black and for a few months had lazy stick-on blind showing Harlow and Epping in bold and the intermediate points in lower case.

The two estates of Sumners and Katherines on the west of Harlow are self contained either side of the Water Lane roundabout so serving both these involved a in a figure of 8 to arrive back there some 10 minutes later (Network Harlow did split their route 1 to serve each individually for a short time).

After just three months the frequency was reduced to every 60 minutes with a 30-minute local service to Katherines as route 287 and the Sunday extension to Waltham Cross withdrawn. This was the start of a number of changes in quick succession as 287 lasted only until March 2017 when Swallow transferred the bus operation to an associated company, Vigar Travel. In July an Enviro 200 MMC demonstrator (YX17 NXA) was used on the service despite rumours that the service would only operate at peak times.

However, the revision in September did provide for Sumners and Katherines to be served only at peak times but off peak it was routed to double run to Water Lane roundabout. This was neither close to either Estates, nor did it achieve any thing other than make through passengers from Harlow irritated at being taking in the opposite direction for no apparent reason. An effort was made to rectify this by another revision in December when Harlow was served first and then went to terminate at Sumners. Probably in an effort to reduce costs, two 16-seat Mercedes Sprinters BG63 VUV/W were acquired in November 2017, although these were nondescript in white without fleetname which looked similar to the Essex CC welfare fleet and did not last very long with EOS, both having gone by March the following year.



Picture Arriva Volvo B7/Wright Eclipse passes St Johns Church, Epping on their short-lived extension of route 9 from Potter Street via Thornwood whilst EOS Mercedes Sprinter BG63 VUV is Harlow bound on their route 87 via Epping Upland.

Owen Woodliffe.

EBN672p6

A significant and surprising change occurred on 3 April 2018. EOS was operating the Debden local 542/A under contract to ECC and extended the 87 from Epping via Theydon Bois to join up the routes and then further extend to the recently opened Epping Forest Shopping Centre at Langston Road. A basic hourly service Mon to Friday was supplemented by four early journeys between Sumners and Katherines and Epping Station only with nine evening journeys doing the whole route. The Saturday service omitted the Estates and Water Lane roundabout was served on inbound journeys only by request. However, EOS gave notice to terminate their commercial services from 31 August 2018 with Arriva replacing these but the whole operation was in such dire financial straights that they brought the date forward to 31 July and Arriva agreed to take these over on this date. A 'Farewell to EOS' tour using RM 371 hired from Ensign was organised for their routes S1, 87, 86 and 66 in that order on what was planned to be their last day.



Left picture For what was supposed to be the last day of EOS operations, RM371 was hired for a journey on each of their routes and it is in Langston Road, Debden at Epping Forest Shopping Centre on 31 July 2018.
 Right picture Forced by the Traffic Commissioner's Office to continue operating, EOS could only muster a token service on 1 August and the 542 was resurrected for the Essex CC subsidised Debden local section.
Owen Woodliffe.
Owen Woodliffe.

However, due to the fiasco of the Traffic Commissioner's Office refusing to accept Arriva's revised registration as it was outside the prescribed timescale, EOS was forced to operate a skeleton service due to lack of drivers, on 1 and 2 August. The 87 terminated at Epping and the Debden local reverted back to being 542 until common sense prevailed and Arriva was allowed to commence a full service on 66, 86 and 87 on 3 August.

Initially Arriva operated the routes as acquired but a revised timetable was introduced on 28 July 2019 by which time it was an hourly service still with the Debden local section being supported by ECC. Sumners and Katherines journeys were reduced to just 3 early morning and 5 evening with the double run to Water Lane roundabout retained. Optare Solos have been the usual fare but on occasions a Mercedes Sprinter has appeared, doubtless as a last resort.

In February 2020 Arriva notified withdrawal of the 87 on 29 March, however on 3 March applied for a continuation licence which states Essex County Council support so perhaps the whole route is to be subsidised. But in these uncertain times whatever the future holds is anyone's guess.



Picture left
 Arriva were allowed to take over on 3 August and what was to become a common sight of a Solo on the route is at Loughton Station in the early morning sunshine.
Owen Woodliffe.

Service Revisions

by Paul Harvey.

(acknowledgements to LOTS, Essex, Hertfordshire & Suffolk County Councils, Omnibus Society (Eastern Branch), & Richard Delahoy).

Highlights/lowlights of the period

This month's report has two sections, one being the normal bus changes plus a special report of current service situation re the Virus situation. Paul Harvey compiled the virus section although Richard Delahoy provided some information to clarify a very confusing situation.

Essex County Council Sunday contract services pruned but some improvements as well!

X30 improved night and day service – for a short while!

New 720 coach service Stansted to Liverpool Street

11 February 2020

Braintree Community Transport introduced further two DAR services

HES High Elms to Braintree Newland Drive &

HHS Robinsbridge Road Coggeshall to Braintree Town Hall for shopping.

28 March 2020

73/A Tilbury to Lakeside (D)

Revision to timetable.

99 Tilbury Town to Tilbury Ferry Circular (M-S)

Revision to route and timetable.

Ensignbus



One of Ensign's more obscure routes is the short 99 shuttle from Tilbury Town Asda and rail station to the ferry terminal, where 714, YN62 AOH (an E200 new to Littles of Ilkeston, Derbyshire) was photographed on 7 December, 2019.

Richard Delahoy.

EBN672p8

29 March 2020

Harlow Town Services 1, 2/3, 4, 6, 8 & 10 (D)

Sunday contract services reduced to operate every two hours during the day only and some late Mon to Fri contract journeys withdrawn.

1 Shoeburyness to Rayleigh (D)

Arriva Kent Thameside

Arriva Kent Thameside

Sunday contract journeys between Hadleigh & Rayleigh will be provide on a commercial basis.

1A Greenstead to Colchester Ambrose Avenue (D)

First Essex

A revised timetable will be introduced on this contract service with earlier finish on Sunday.

2A Highwoods to Horkesley Heath (D)

First Essex

A revised timetable will be introduced on this contract service.

4A Southend to Shoeburyness (Sun)

Arriva Kent Thameside

Contract service will operate every two hours.

5/A/B Pitsea to Langdon Hills/Grays (D)

First Essex

Minor change to the early morning service 5B journeys towards Grays to improve reliability.

7/8 Landwick/Shoeburyness to Rayleigh (D)

Arriva Kent Thameside

Revised timetable on Mon to Sat evenings service only operating between Shoeburyness & Hockley. On Sundays revised timetable with each service operating every two hours between Rochford & Rayleigh. A half hourly service will continue to be provided between Shoeburyness & Rochford.

8/A Pitsea to Laindon (D)

First Essex

The daily evening contract timetable will be revised.

9 Basildon to Brentwood (M-S)

First Essex

Minor timetable revisions to Mon to Fri timetable to improve reliability.

9 Harlow to Potter Street (M-S)

Arriva Kent Thameside

Service extended beyond Potter Street to serve London Road & Science Park. Service extended Mon to Fri peak hours from bus station to Harlow Town Station.

10 Church Langley to Hertford (M-S)

Arriva Kent Thameside

Revised timetable to improve reliability. Reduced frequency between Harlow & Church Langley operating every 20 mins. Sunday contract timetable reduced to operate every two hours.

21/B Southend to Canvey Newlands (D)

First Essex

A revised timetable for contract service 21B on Mon to Fri evenings. Minor timetable revisions to the Mon to Fri morning peak timetable to improve reliability.

21 Black Notley to Bocking (Sun)

Go-Ahead Konectbus (Hedingham)

New Sunday contract service replacing NIBS.

25 Southend to Basildon (D)

First Essex

Minor timetable revisions to the Mon to Fri morning and afternoon peak timetable to improve reliability and two journeys revised on Saturdays. The Sunday evening contract service will finish earlier.

26 Hadleigh to Southchurch (M-S)

First Essex

Minor timetable revisions. The terminal point at Southchurch is moved to Whittingham Avenue instead of Newington Avenue.

27 Southend to Canvey Leigh Beck (D)

First Essex

Revisions to timetable on Mon to Fri morning peak hour to improve reliability.

27X Canvey to Benfleet Station (M-F)

First Essex

Minor timetable revisions to morning timetable to improve reliability.

31/X Chelmsford to Burnham on Crouch (M-S)

First Essex

Introduction of new Sunday service 31D & 31X operating every two hours. Service 31D will operate the same route as 31C plus serving Milton Road Maldon & Baddow Road, Chelmsford. Two daytime journeys on Saturdays will operate as 31C.

36/A/B Broomfield Hospital/Chelmsford to South Woodham Ferrers (D)

First Essex

Revised Sunday timetable to operate only between Chelmsford & South Woodham, extension to Broomfield Hospital withdrawn. Certain journeys extended from South Woodham to Marsh Farm as 94C.

37 Warley/Brentwood to Bishop Hall (D)

First Essex

Contract Sunday service operate to a revised timetable every two hours. Sunday service will follow the full route in Bishop Hall, as M to Sat.

42/A/B Galleywood to Broomfield Hospital/Stansted Airport/Braintree (D)

First Essex

Sunday service extended two hourly from Stansted Airport to Bishop Stortford via Dunmow Road. Revised Sunday timetable with service 42B extended to/from Halstead. Minor timetable revisions to Mon to Fri morning peak service to improve reliability.

45/A/C Moulsham Lodge to Writtle (D)

First Essex

The daily evening contract service will operate to a revised timetable.

47 Oaklands Park to Broomfield Hospital (M-S)

First Essex

Minor timetable revisions to the Mon to Sat timetable to improve reliability.

Service Revisions; continued

by Paul Harvey.

54/A/56/A/B Beaulieu Park to North Melbourne (D)	First Essex	
Revised Sunday contract timetable introduced. Additional service 54 journey introduced on schooldays from North Avenue to Chelmsford.		
57/A/B/C Beaulieu to Galleywood (D)	First Essex	
The daily evening contract service between Chelmsford & Galleywood will operate to a revised timetable. The late evening service between Chelmsford & Beaulieu has some minor timetable changes.		
59 Chelmsford to Harlow (M-S)	Arriva Kent Thameside	
New Sunday contract service introduced replacing	First Essex	
61 Highwoods to Wivenhoe (D)	First Essex	
A revised Sunday evening timetable will be introduced.		
64/A Greenstead to Shrub End/St Michaels (D)	First Essex	
The Mon to Sat evening contract service timetable will finish slightly earlier.		
66A Loughton to Waltham Cross (Sun)	Trustybus	
New Sunday contract service replacing Swallow Coaches.		
66/B West Bergholt to Rowhedge (D)	First Essex	
The Mon to Sat & Sunday contract timetables are revised. On Sundays, service will operate every 90 mins between Rowhedge & West Bergholt following the same route as Mon to Sat service. There are also revisions to the early morning Mon to Sat timetable.		
67/B/C Colchester Mason Road to West Mersea (D)	First Essex	
The Sunday contract service 67B will operate to a revised timetable. There are also revisions to the Mon to Sat timetable.		
68 Highwoods to West Mersea (M-S)	First Essex	
The Mon to Sat evening contract service is revised.		
70 Colchester to Chelmsford via Braintree (D)	First Essex	
A revised Sunday timetable introduced operating every two hours. The section to Mason Road Colchester withdrawn. Additional Mon to Fri journey introduced from Colchester to Chelmsford at 18.55.		
71 Chelmsford to Colchester (D)	First Essex	
Revised Mon to Sat evening contract timetable. The Sunday timetable is revised to operate every two hours with no evening service.		
75/A Colchester to Maldon (D)	First Essex	
The Sunday contract service will operate to a revised timetable with no evening service. The Mon to Sat service has a revised route between Maldon Leisure Centre & Morrisons. The Mon to Fri morning peak timetable has been revised to provide additional capacity towards Colchester.		
76 Colchester to Clacton (Sun)	First Essex	
Revised timetable introduced on this contract service.		
80A/C Brentwood to Hutton Circular (Sun)	First Essex	Revised contract timetable.
88/A/B Colchester to Halstead (D)	First Essex	
Revised Sunday contract timetable with earlier finish introduced.		
94/A/B Basildon to South Woodham (M-S)	First Essex	
Minor timetable revisions to the Mon to Fri peak timetable to improve train connections in South Woodham.		
94C South Woodham Circular Service (Sun)	First Essex	
Contract service will operate to a revised timetable operating every hour with some journeys to Marsh Farm. Additional journeys will operate as service 94D between Marsh Farm & South Woodham.		
97/98/99 Clacton to Walton (D)	Go-Ahead Konectbus (Hedingham)	
Additional contract journeys introduced replacing First Essex 7, 8 & 100.		
100 Chelmsford to Lakeside (D)	First Essex	
Revised timetable introduced to improve reliability.		
102/103/104 Colchester to Harwich (D)	First Essex	
Mon to Sat evening & Sunday contract timetables revised with earlier finishes.		
351 Chelmsford to Brentwood/Warley (D)	First Essex	
Revised Sunday contract timetable operating every two hours.		
352 Halstead to Chelmsford (M-S)	Go-Ahead Konectbus (Hedingham)	
Evening contract service introduced replacing	Stephensons of Essex	
418/B Harlow to Loughton (M-S)	Trustybus	
New Sunday contract service introduced replacing Arriva.		
420 Harlow to Ongar (D)	Trustybus	
Revision to timetable.		
X30 Stansted Airport & Southend (D)	First Essex	
Revised timetable with additional journeys on Mon to Fri. A revised overnight timetable every night.		

Top picture

The oldest Scania L94UB/Wright Solar allocated to the Colchester depot of First Essex Buses is 65679 (YR52 VEH). In Colchester Road, Lawford, on 11 March, working 13.30 Harwich - Colchester 103.

Robert Appleton.



Lower picture 32669 (SN55HDZ) in blue livery on 75 at Tiptree on 16 March.

Ian Dann.

EBN672p11

30 March 2020

87 Harlow to Epping Forest Shopping Centre (M-S)

Arriva Kent Thameside

New service.

525 Chelmsford New London Road to Colchester Norman Way (Sch)

First Essex

Minor timetable revisions to running times with change to terminal point for afternoon journey.

1 April 2020

720 Stansted Airport to London Liverpool Street Station (D)

Arriva Kent Thameside

New coach service operating via Stratford City. New introduction date 4 May 2020.

Tending Community Transport & Harwich Connexions Transport route areas revised on the Clacton DAR & Great Bromley/Clacton DAR.

12 April 2020

7 Saffron Walden to Cambridge (D)

Stagecoach Cambridge

Revision to timetable.

13 April 2020

410 Harlow to Waltham Cross (M-S)

Trustybus

Revision to route and timetable.

20 April 2020

737 Oxford to Stansted Airport (D)

National Express

Revision to timetable.

18 May 2020

481 Ipswich to London Victoria (D)

National Express

Minor timetable revisions.

COVID-19

Due to the Covid-19 (also known as Coronavirus) almost all school transport services are suspended and bus companies have introduced reduced timetables providing less journeys throughout the week due to low demand - check operator websites or social media accounts for latest details.

Ensignbus

21 March 2020 reduced timetables introduced on the following services: 22, 33(M-F), 44, 66(M-F), 73A, 88(M-F), 99(M-S), X80, Z1, Z2, Z4 & X1. 24, 25, 27, 32,66A, 73 & 83 services suspended.

24 March 2020 X1 suspended.

25 March 2020 additional journeys introduced on services 22 & 73A.

26 March 2020 additional journeys introduced on services 22 & 73A.

30 March 2020 Z1 departures from Aveley retimed.

Stephensons of Essex

24 or 28 March 2020 reduced/revised timetables introduced on some services: 9/A (Braintree), 12, 14, 16, 21, 24, 30, 38/A, 39, 60 (Canewdon), 90, 301 (from 27/3). Services 1, 6A, 17 61, 200/220 and almost all school services suspended.

30 March 2020 new ECC evening contract M-S on 7 (Southend-Hockley-Rayleigh) commenced.

6 April 2020 reduced/revised timetables on further services, 9 (Gt Holland), 105/7, 59/590.

Go-Ahead Konectbus Hedingham

23 March 2020 school holiday timetables introduced with some additional journeys.

28 March 2020 emergency timetables introduced on Clacton services 3, 4/A, 5A, 6/A/B, 74, 97/98/A, 134/135, 137 & X76.

Service 7 suspended, St Osyth's Beach served by service 6. No change to Sunday timetables.

30 March 2020 emergency timetables introduced on services 63, 82, 83, 88, 89, 91, 92, 95, D1 & D2.

COVID-19 special services, continued.

Go-Ahead Konectbus Chambers

23 March 2020 school holiday timetables introduced with some additional journeys.
28 March 2020 emergency timetables introduced on services 84/A, 236, 374, 753/754, & 784.
Normal timetables apply on services 89X, 375, 379, & 461.
Services 751, 752, 756, 757, 758, & SC707 suspended.

Arriva Kent Thameside

23 March 2020 emergency Mon to Fri timetables introduced on many Arriva services operating mainly every 30/40 mins.
29 March 2020 Normal Sunday services except Harlow & Southend where contract changes on some services have been introduced.
30 March 2020 new emergency timetables introduced in Harlow at less frequency mostly hourly.
buses Services 86, 508, 509, 900 (Freeport shuttle - ceased during w/c 23/3), Colchester Park & Ride and school suspended.

First Essex

23 March 2020 normal Mon to Fri services.
28 March 2020 normal Saturday service
29 March 2020 revised Sunday timetables introduced on all days, with additional journeys M-S.
Special timetables on certain services which don't operate on Sundays.
X10 & X30 operating every two hours.
Chelmsford Park & Ride services suspended.
5 April 2020 further reductions to certain services including X30 reduced 4-hourly.

NIBS

24 March 2020 emergency timetables introduced on services 1A, 11, 14, 21(Basildon), 21(Ongar), 21C, 31, 63, 81, 104, 256/7, 269, 374 and The First Data Shuttle. Services 31, 106 & 552 suspended.

Swallow Coach Company

Understood this company has ceased trading after 31 March 2020; services affected are 13, 61 & 133.

Trustybus

23 March 2020 service 410 12 return trips Harlow to Cheshunt & 410A 3 return trips Cheshunt to Holdbrook Estate.
28 March 2020 changes to services 351 4 return trips Mon to Fri, 418 6 return trips. 410 6 return trips Harlow to Cheshunt.
410A suspended. 418B one return trip plus one single journey from Loughton Harlow Mon to Sat.
420 9 return trips.
29 March 2020 changes to services 66A, 418B & 420 new contract services.
2 April 2020 410 suspended.

Panther Travel

23 March 2020 schoolday services still operating.

Arrow Taxis/DaRT

20 March 2020 All Arrow Essex DaRT services per normal timetables with some services having timing changes.
Service 99 will be prebooking only.
23 March 2020 DaRT 1, 2, 3 in North Essex & 99 are prebookings only.
31 March 2020 Stebbing & Bran End (connections to Stephensons 16) will become Dial a Ride and be prebookable.
Service 6 Hanningfields to Maldon is now prebookable.

National Express

23 March 2020 last day of normal coach timetables.
24 March 2020 special Christmas day timetables introduced.
5 April 2020 all coach services suspended from 23.59.



by Adam Kelleher.

New Vehicles

One feature of the new Scania N250UD / Alexander Dennis Enviro 400 MMCs not listed in EBN671 is that they all, of course, have free wi-fi. The last to enter service was 36837, which did so on the afternoon of 6 March. The batch continued to make appearances on school route 525 (e.g. 36841 on 12 March, 36839 on 17th) and also 620 plus peak hour Sandon Park & Ride extras.

Acquired Vehicles

37007 WX55 VHR YV3S2G6286A109282 J183 H45/29F 12/05 First Bristol
Volvo B7TL / Wrightbus Eclipse Gemini. Acquired from First West of England. Delivered to Quayside on 5 March. In Urban 2 livery with a burgundy front. It was route branded for service 17 in Bristol, branding has been removed but ghosting remains. It entered service on route 175 followed by 61 on 11 March.

42955 WX06 OMM SFD3CACR46GW88776 6210/7 B37F 07/06 First Bristol
Alexander Dennis Dart. Arrived at Colchester from Lowestoft on 26 February and was in service on route 64A on 28th. (It is possible that this is a long-term loan rather than an acquisition, but it is shown as acquired for now.)

32673 and 37054 have still not entered service.

Allocation Changes

BN-Basildon; CF-Chelmsford; CR-Colchester; HH-Hadleigh; DS-Driving School; FG-First Group cascade (to / from another First company); oos-out of service.

Period 12 2019/20 (23 February - 28 March)

30894 HH-Disposal, 30954 CR (oos)-Disposal, 32484 CF (oos)-CR (oos), 32628 CF-CR (oos),
33095 HH-BN-BN (oos), 33184 CR (oos)-Disposal, 33188 BN-BN (oos), 33192 BN-Disposal, 33196 CR-CR (oos), 36837 CF (oos)-CF,
36839 CF (oos)-CF, 37007 FG-CR, 37133 CR (oos)-CR, 37140 CR (oos)-CR, 37985 CF-HH, 37986 CF-HH, 41522 BN-Disposal, 41524 BN-Disposal,
41541 BN-Disposal, 42489 HH (oos)-Disposal, 42955 FG-CR, 42968 CF-CR, 43845 CF-BN, 44659 CF-CF (oos), 62410 CR-CR (oos),
65682 CR (oos)-Disposal, 66823 BN-CF (oos), 66861 BN (oos)-CF (oos), 69907 BN (oos)-BN

The disposal of X registered 30894 means that there are no longer any pre-September 2001 registration system vehicles owned. 32484 was seen on the Colchester scrap line on 29 February, VOR with various issues including a broken windscreen. 32628 moved from Chelmsford to Colchester on 29 February. 33095 was on route 21 at Hadleigh on 29 February then on 5A at Basildon on 2 March. Its last day was 18 March, also on 5A. 41522, 41524 & 41541 were the last of the Caetano bodied Darts. 44659 is out of service with an Ad Blue issue. 66823 was seen parked at Westway on 26 February and the next day 66861 was seen in the workshop there with various panels missing.

Disposals

To Alpha Recovery for scrap: 33184 & 65682 (both 29 February), 30954 (7 March).

To Ensignbus, probably for component recovery and then on for scrap: 42489 (February), 30894 (10 March), 33192 & 41524 (both 20 March).

To private preservation: 41522 & 41541 (March). Both still parked at Basildon awaiting collection.

Further to EBNs 670 & 671, Ensignbus have also sold 65689, as well as 65688, to Hadlow Rural Community School, Kent.

32064, 42483 & 42486, former First Essex vehicles which moved to First Eastern Counties last Autumn, also went to Ensignbus in February and March (it is not known if 32064 worked for FEC again after returning from its brief spell at Colchester) as did 30900 & 30901, which left Essex for FEC seven years ago.

Repaints

67168, seen on 31X on 23 March, and 67170, seen on 36 on 25 March, from X30 silver & green livery to Urban livery.

Service Changes 29 March 2020

Revised services were due to be introduced on some routes from 29 March. Some of these went ahead, but others were superseded by emergency timetables brought in due to the coronavirus pandemic (see below).

The 29 March changes resulted in First Essex finally completely withdrawing from Walton and Frinton with ECC evening and Sunday services 7 & 8 and 100 from Clacton to Walton passing to Hedingham, incorporated into their existing 97/98 routes and new 97A/98A/99 variations. However, Clacton is still served, by Monday-Saturday evening 74B and Sunday 76 from Colchester.

The 29 March changes also saw the 42A extended from Stansted Airport to Bishop's Stortford on Sundays, with some ECC financial assistance, marking the return to Hertfordshire for First Essex for what is thought to be the first time since school route 302, Saffron Walden to Bishops Stortford, was withdrawn at the end of the summer term in July 2014.



Picture The emergency timetables from 29 March resulted in all of Hadleigh's mid-length Enviro 200s transferring to Chelmsford. 44003 is seen on its first day in service from Chelmsford on route 37 at Brentwood Station, 30 March 2020. **Adam Kelleher.**

Special thanks this month to all staff at First Essex who have kept buses running during these difficult times including those who have provided information for Essex Bus News at a time when observations are obviously reduced.

Sources own observations, and with thanks to M Allen, R Appleton, S Austin, S Barham, D Bell, W Bell, T Clark, J Collins, D Edwards, N Field, R Hannah, D Johns, G Norris, P Paske, J Podgorski, S Quay, J Salmon, C Stewart, R West, Facebook, Bus Lists on the Web, Flickr, Essex Buses Google group, and Terminus.

Area News and Workings up to and including 28 March 2020 - Colchester.

(All vehicles listed below allocated to CR except where stated)

- Double deckers seen on routes 103/104 during March: 37037 (2nd, plus 1 April), 37034 (6th), 32477 (10th), 37042 (24th). Only three Scania L94UB / Wrightbus Solars remained in service at the start of March, 62407, 62410 & 65679, the latter still in Barbie livery. Some sightings during March: 62407 on 75 (3rd), 65 (4th, 20th & 26th), 103/4 (6th, 9th, 16th, 18th, 19th & 25th), 64A (24th); 62410 on 64 (2nd), 103/4 (3rd, 5th & 7th), 8 (7th evening); 65679 on 70 (5th & 23rd), 71 (9th & 17th), 175 (10th), 103/4 (11th, 18th, 19th & 25th), 61 (12th & 27th), 64A (13th), 65 (24th). 62410 was taken out of service after use on 7 March due to the expiration of its MOT.
- 6 March 33088 on 67/C
- 8 Sunday. A snapshot of some observations in Colchester. 37036 on 75, 37053 & 63330 on 62A, 42955 failed at Osborne Street, Colchester and assisted by fitter and van (back in service the next day on 64A), 63332 & 66828 on 64A, 63335 on 102, 66800 on 2A, 66804 & 66810 on 1A, CF66814 on 71C, 67640, 67752 & 67756 on 65, 67805 on 64.
- 10 33080 on 67/C am, 33088 on 65, 42955 on 103
- 11 33087 on 67/C am, 33178 on 174
- 12 33087 on 74B, an unusual Trident outing to Clacton
- 13 42968 on 64A, its first day of service at Colchester after transfer from Chelmsford
- 16 Midland Bluebird liveried 32669 on 70 (and again on 18th, 19th & 20th)
- 21 67741 on driver shuttles
- 22 A snapshot of vehicles seen in Colchester on the last Sunday before the service reductions: 32478, 37015 & 67742 on 61, 32485 on 62, 32641 on 70, one of the last First Essex buses to serve Braintree Bus Park in its current form, 37036 on 75, 37669 on 61 or 62, 42955, 63334 & 66810 on 64A, 42968 on 62B, CF43846 & CF66812 on 71C, 62407 on 2A, 63330, 63340, 67737 & 67779 on 65, 66801 & 66828 on 1A, 67741 on 66
- 23 32087 on 65
- 24 67738 on 70



Not quite the bus referred to above but its "sister", First Essex 32640, KP54 AZB, at Braintree Bus Park, Braintree on 5 March 2020; 2005 Volvo B7TL/Wright Gemini H74F ex-First Leicester.

Robert Downton.

EBN672p16

Area News and Workings

Chelmsford

(All vehicles listed below allocated to CF)

First Eastern Counties Excel liveried Enviro 400 33824 was at Westway on 25 March but had gone the next day.

42945 has a plaque in the driver's cab: "Western National Preservation Group 22nd Bus & Vehicle Rally Sunday

22nd July 2007 sponsored by First Devon & Cornwall".

Ford Focus EU14 YVO was in use as a driver shuttle at Chelmsford whilst SN17 NYB was off road.

7 March X30 liveried 67169 unusual on 57

14 42931 on 71, 42932 on 70

17 44662 on 37

20 Route 37 branded 44540 on 71

23 43846 on 71A

25 36842 on 70, the first report of one of the new Scania's on a route other than the X30, school services or Park & Ride.

27 67165 on X30



As Frankie & I are now in isolation in Little Waltham our only exercise is a solitary walk round Little and Great Waltham. I did take the opportunity to take some photos. First Essex Volvo B7TL CR37037 XJ06 XLC on 70. **John Salmon.**

Chelmsford Loans

Four of Chelmsford's B7RLEs were out on loan to other depots during February & March. 66795 was at Basildon on 24 February on route 100, then over the next month operated on at least 5, 8/A and 25. Its last day at Basildon was on 28 March on 8, the next day it was back at Chelmsford on 36. 66796 was also at Basildon on 24 February, on route 25 in the afternoon, then operated on at least 5/A/B, 8/A, 25 again and 100. It worked on 8 on the morning of 12 March before returning to Chelmsford and operating the 71 in the afternoon. 66815 was at Basildon on 27 February, on route 8A, then worked on at least 5, 8/A and 100, before returning to Chelmsford on 11 March, on route 36. Like 66796, 66817 worked on the 25 on the afternoon of 24 February and was on 5 & 16 the next day, but on 26th it moved on to Colchester, on route 64A. It also worked on 61, 65, 174 and 64A again, before returning to Chelmsford on 3 March, on route 42B that day.

EBN672p17

Area News and Workings **Basildon & Hadleigh**

(All vehicles listed below allocated to BN except where stated)

11 Feb	(omitted from EBN671) HH69516 on 100, then 25 the next day before returning to HH
2 March	44909 on 94
3	41522 on 5A on its last day in service
4	33077 on 25
6	67160 on 100, 69908 on X10
9	66846 on 100
13	43845 on 5, its first day of service at Basildon after transfer from Chelmsford
14	47656 on 100
15	69905 & 69906 on 25

Coronavirus Lockdown - Changes since 29 March 2020

Service Changes from 29 March 2020

As noted above, some service changes were planned for 29 March. Some of these went ahead, others were superseded by emergency timetables that were introduced from that date due to the massive drop in passenger numbers during March and due to the country being placed in lockdown. Further reductions were implemented the following Sunday, 5 April. The new timetables from 5 April are on the First Essex website. The emergency timetables resulted in severe cuts to services. To illustrate, a few examples of reductions on basic Monday to Friday daytime services: X10 & X30 from hourly to two hourly each, then from 5 April to four hourly on X30 but X10 staying as two hourly; 100 from every 15 minutes to every half hour, then to hourly from 5 April; 71 from half hourly to hourly; 9 from every half hour to every 75 minutes (with peak hour route 9A withdrawn); 351 from half hourly to hourly then to two hourly from 5 April. The Chelmsford (and Arriva's Colchester) Park & Ride was suspended after 28 March. The reductions led to many vehicles being stored. Many staff, including fitters, garage staff and drivers, were furloughed from 29 March, some for 12 weeks, some drivers working two weeks followed by three weeks furlough, in rotation. Minibuses and cars used for driver shuttles were replaced by full sized vehicles to allow drivers to social distance. Seats near the driver were taped off out of use. A statement issued by First Essex read: "In the light of the ongoing coronavirus outbreak, First Essex is committed to continuing services wherever possible allowing those who need to make essential journeys, like health service and emergency workers, to continue to do so, as well as ensuring that links to key locations such as hospitals are prioritised. However, due to very few people now travelling on buses and in line with the strict social distancing measures announced by the UK government, from this coming Sunday 29 March 2020, First Essex will generally run to a Sunday level of service on Monday to Saturdays with some additional journeys added at peak times. A limited service will also be provided on routes that would not otherwise run on a Sunday. On Sundays, a normal Sunday service will run with the exception of the X10 and X30 which will both run every two hours [as above, X30 later amended to every four hours]. Steve Wickers, Managing Director of First Essex said: 'The Government has increased its measures and advised against any non-essential travel and contact as it works towards reducing the rising number of coronavirus cases being identified. The number of people travelling on our services over the last few days has inevitably reduced significantly to the point where some of our buses are not carrying a single person, making this an unprecedented situation that we need to react to. To help ensure our services can continue to fulfil the most important needs for our customers during this difficult time, we are reducing our services in Essex, whilst ensuring there are sufficient journeys running to meet the needs of people who are key workers and those needing to visit pharmacies, food shops and other emergency facilities. It is important to emphasise that this is a fast-moving and unprecedented challenge for all of us and we will endeavour to keep everyone informed of any further changes to our bus network. Our drivers, engineers and support staff are doing a great job in keeping our buses running through this challenging time for which I am proud.'"

Fleet Changes from 29 March 2020

Allocation Changes Period 1 2020/21 (29 March - 25 April)

Changes over weekend of 28-29 March

44001 HH-CF, 44002 HH-CF, 44003 HH-CF, 44004 HH-CF, 44005 HH-CF, 44006 HH-CF, 44080 HH-CF, 44081 HH-CF, 44598 BN-CF, 44599 BN-CF, 47528 HH-BN, 47529 HH-BN, 47530 HH-BN, 69515 HH-BN, 69516 HH-BN, 69517 HH-BN, 69518 HH-BN, 69519 HH-BN, 69520 HH-BN

Many other vehicles were taken out of service and stored. Although not a complete list, the following is what is known, together with some observations. Due to the number of changes to services, understandably these haven't been updated online yet (as at 9 April) and so Bustimes is not providing information, although for some reason, route 25 is (the only service) still showing on Bustimes.

Colchester

Taken out of service all remaining Trident / Presidents; all Volvo B7TL / ALX400s; all Volvo B7TL / Wrightbus in the 32xxx series; 37015/16/17/20/27/36/53 Volvo B7TL / Wrightbus in the 37xxx series (plus 37010 & 37054 already out of service and 37009 away at Wrightbus for repair); both Darts; all Volvo B7RLE / Wrightbus; both ex Potteries original style Enviro 300s.

Remaining in use Volvo B7TL / Wrightbus 37007/34/35/37/42/62; all Volvo B9TL / Wrightbus; all StreetLites; all E30D / Enviro 300s and, surprisingly, both remaining Scania L94UB / Wrightbus, although 65679 has only been used on driver shuttles.

Noted at Quayside on Sunday 29 March were three lines of buses parked up nose to tail in the yard with a further four lines parked at right angles to them in addition to the scrap line at the rear.

With the further reductions from 5 April it is possible more vehicles have since been taken out of service.

Some observations (all April unless stated): 37007 on 104 (1st), 65 (3rd); 37042 on 104 (3rd); 37133 on 61 (4th); 37134 on 75 (31 March), 61 (1st); 37136 on 70 (30 March & 1st); 37138 on 61 (30 March & 1st); 37139 on 61 (30 March); 37140 on 61 (29 March), 88 (2nd); 62407 on 64A (29 March); 63336 on 65 (29 March); 63337 on 1A (30 March); 63338 on 65 (29 March); 63342 on 75 (29 March); 65679 on driver shuttles (1st & 3rd); 67737 on 67 (4th), 62 (7th); 67739 on 65 (2nd); 67741 on 65 (29 March); 67742 on 65 (29 March); 67750 on 1A (29 March), 64 (2nd); 67755 on 71 (3rd), 102 (5th); 67756 on 64A (3rd), 88A (5th); 67779 on 102 (29 March), 1A (1st).



First Essex 67904, SN13CHY, at Bus Park Braintree 5 March 2020, 2013 ADL Dart E35H/ADL Enviro 200 B41F.

Robert Downton.

Eds note As reported in EBN671, Braintree Bus Park has been closed for “refurbishment” and buses have been dispersed to road-side stops around the town. Inevitably, several of our members have kindly produced articles and picture cameos of the last days of operations. Most of these have been held over because of coronavirus pressures and will appear in the near future. Thanks for your efforts and your patience.

Chelmsford

Eight Enviro 200s transferred from Hadleigh and two from Basildon.

Some observations of these (all April unless stated): 44001 on 45 (1st); 44002 on 45A (2nd); 44003 on 37 & 351 (30 March, these two routes are currently interworked again), 565 (2nd), 45 (7th); 44004 on 45 (30 March), 45C (1st), 37 (2nd); 44005 on 45 (31 March), 32 & 31X (3rd), 36 (4th), 42B (5th); 44006 on 45 (31 March); 44080 on 45 (30 March & 6th); 44081 on 45A (31 March); 44599 on 45A (6th). Native Enviro 200 sightings: 44540 on 37 (6th); 44543 on 351 (30 March); 44544 on 565 (30 March), 71 (31 March); 44550 on 565 (30 March), 73 (1st).

It is assumed that the mini Enviro 200s are out of service, but 44900 was on driver shuttles on 4 April.

Most, if not all, double deckers are thought to have been taken out of service (route 70 appears to be all single deck operated), except three of the seven new Scania remained in service on the X30 from 29 March, this number may have been reduced since 5 April.

No Darts remain in service, 42900 is known to have gone to Hadleigh and 43846 has joined 43845 at Basildon, all in storage. The Park & Ride Enviro 200 MMCs have also gone to Hadleigh for storage. No reports of any of the ex-X30 Enviro 200 MMCs or the four shorter versions being in use, although the former may be used on the X30 if a double decker is not available.

The four Enviro 350Hs are also out of service. Most Volvo B7RLE / Wrightbus are out of use, but the following four have been seen (all newer 58 reg examples): 69421 on 70 (31 March); 69430 on 31 (2nd); 69431 on 70 (2nd); 69434 on 42B (5th).

The paint shop at Westway is closed.



First Essex Volvo B7RLE CF66830 MX05 CFJ on 42A on 25 March 2020.

John Salmon.

EBN672p20

Basildon

Two Enviro 200s have gone to Chelmsford but the six 11-reg Wrightbus Eclipse Urban 2 bodied Volvo B7RLEs have arrived from Hadleigh. Of these, according to Bustimes, 69515/16/18/19 have operated on route 25. 69516 was also seen on 100, on 31 March.

Three StreetLites have also transferred in from Hadleigh. Of these, according to Bustimes, 47529/30 have also operated on route 25 and 47528 was seen on route 9 on 30 March. Native 47652-58 have all also been reported on 25, with 47653/54 seen on 9 on 2 April and 47656 on 6th. The Volvo 7900 Hybrids remain in service, with 69901/04/05/06/08/09/11/19 reported on 25. Enviro MMC 67161 on 25 on 9 April.

The two remaining serviceable Trident / Presidents are assumed out of use, but some Enviro 400s continued in service, with Bustimes reporting 33544/59/70/73/74 on route 25, although none on the route since 4 April. Dart 43845 is stored. Enviro 44910 is in store at Hadleigh, so it is assumed that the other two mini Enviro 200s are also out of use.

Hadleigh

Three StreetLites and the six 11 reg Wrightbus Eclipse Urban 2 bodied Volvo B7RLEs have transferred to Basildon. All Tridents, both President and ALX400 bodied, are out of use.

Double deckers remaining in use are the Volvo B9TL / Wrightbus Eclipse Gemini 2s 36216-20 and 37985/96, although these are reportedly restricted to routes 21 and 26. With all Darts taken out of service at other depots, the oldest surviving Dart, 42487, was a surprise on route 28 on 1 April.

Picture

The emergency timetables from 29 March resulted in three StreetLites, 47528-30 being transferred from Hadleigh to Basildon. 47528 is seen on its first day in service from Basildon on route 9 at Brentwood Station, with NIBS 452 behind, 30 March 2020.

Adam Kelleher.





Arriva Southend / Harlow / Colchester.

Peter Mansbridge with thanks to John Card, Richard Delahoy Matthew Evans, Richard Lewis, Keith Sadler and LOTS.

Coronavirus impact.

From Monday 23 March, emergency timetables were implemented at all 3 Essex depots, typically reducing services to half-hourly or every 40 minutes. From the following Monday (30th), many services at **Harlow** were further reduced to hourly and the 59 (to Chelmsford) to two-hourly. At **Colchester**, the 133 (Braintree-Stansted) was reduced to two-hourly from the 30th, the Braintree Freeport shuttle (service 900) ceased during the w/c 23 March, and the Colchester Park & Ride ceased after Saturday 28 March. At **Southend**, the 30/40 minute headways continued into the second week of lockdown.

On Sundays at **Southend**, on 29 March services 1, 7/8, 9 generally ran every 30 minutes (6 & 29 hourly, 4A two-hourly) but from the following Sunday, 4 April the 1, 7/8 & 9 were reduced to hourly (so 7 and 8 each run every 2-hours, to give a combined hourly service on the common sections; 4A, 6 & 29 remaining as per the previous Sunday).

As a result, many buses have been put into store.

At **Southend**, the pvr reduced to 22 and 25 buses were put initially in store, comprising: 3816-9/22/5 (Volvo B7RLE), 3935/7/60 (DAF SB120), 3777, 3963-5 (VDL SB200), 4182, 4235 (Versa) and 6458, 6508-15 & 6529 (AD Enviro 400) Subsequently Enviro 400 6501-7 were also stored. **UPDATE: VDLs 3761 & 3779 were also in store.**

At **Colchester** the pvr has been reduced to 11 and 20 buses have been stored comprising: 1558/9, 1562-5, 3413/5-21 (Darts) 4071-5 (AD Enviro 200) & 4459 (VDL DB300). **UPDATE: Streetlite 4323 was also in store.**

At **Harlow** the pvr has been reduced to 20 with 25 buses stored comprising: 1454, 1507 (Solos), 3815/20/26, 3857-9, 3889 (Volvo B7RLE), 3891-7 (Citaro), 4077/9/80/2/6 (AD Enviro 200) & 4184, 4230/1/7 (Versa).

Other News

An operating centre is being established at **Stansted Airport** for a new Green Line coach service from the airport to Stratford and London Liverpool Street. Due to start on 1 April, the service was still listed on the Green Line website on 6 April but the start has been deferred, given the almost total collapse in airline traffic as a result of the pandemic.

The new base is at: Roman Lane, Stansted Airport, Stansted Mountfitchet CM24 1RY. Confusingly, the O Licence authorisation there is only for 8 vehicles, not the 16 coaches obtained for the service, although it could be argued that with a 24-hour operation, they will never all be there at once! Initially it was understood that the coaches were to be based at Harlow and as a result, route 724 was to be transferred to Ware but that is not now happening and they will run from Stansted instead. LOTS report the vehicles as Mercedes-Benz Tourismo C55F, 7200-15, BV20 HRA/C/D/E/F/G/I/J/K/L/M/N/O/P/R/U/W). Many, if not all, had been delivered to EvoBus at Coventry for commissioning and presumably are still there at present.

VDL SB120 / Wright 3513 (DK55 FYV) has been withdrawn at **Harlow** having sustained accident damage on 31 January.

Volvo B7RLE / Wright 3858 (KE54 LPF) (in new lighter blue livery) transferred from Stevenage to **Harlow** by 9 March, when reported working service 1 in Harlow. This vehicle was new to Harlow in 2004 for service 510 (Harlow – Stansted Airport).

Optare Versa 4184 (YJ58 VCC) (in new lighter blue livery) transferred from Maidstone to **Harlow** by 19 March, when reported working service 10 at Harlow. Like Versa 4182 at **Southend** (EBN670), 4184 was new to Norfolk Green, passing to Stagecoach East with the takeover of Norfolk Green by Stagecoach, and then acquired by Arriva via Ensign's dealership in 2019.

As recorded above, both 3858 and 4184 have been put into store as a result of reduced pvr associated with coronavirus.

Short term loans to **Harlow** during March comprised Solo 2486 from Ware reported working service 2 on 7 March; Versa 4243 also from Ware reported working service 1 on 13 March and VDL SB200 / Wright 3751 from Stevenage reported working route 9 on 14 March.

Southend has been involved in further rail replacement work, with 2 E400s in use on March 8, 15, 22 & 29 on Southend Victoria to Newbury Park.

“Rochford Square” is not a destination routinely seen on Arriva Southend buses but occasionally features on short turns at times of disruption. However, with the reduction in Essex CC support for Sunday services, it has become a regular feature on Sundays from 29 March as half the service on 7/8 now turn short there - or at least, they did on the 29th. From the following Sunday, due to the pandemic cuts, these short workings have been temporarily withdrawn, although a few later evening trips turn at Rochford. In practice, the destination is actually Roche Avenue in Rochford, two stops on from the Square.

On his once-daily permitted exercise walk and observing full social distancing precautions, **Richard Delahoy** took this shot of empty Versa 4246 on 29 March 29, turning out of Caulfield Road in Shoebury. The electronic destination display is very faint in the strong sunlight, unfortunately. Use of the long Versas on 7/8 is very unusual, it is thought that they are banned by local instruction due to the tight U-turn required at Southend Hospital.



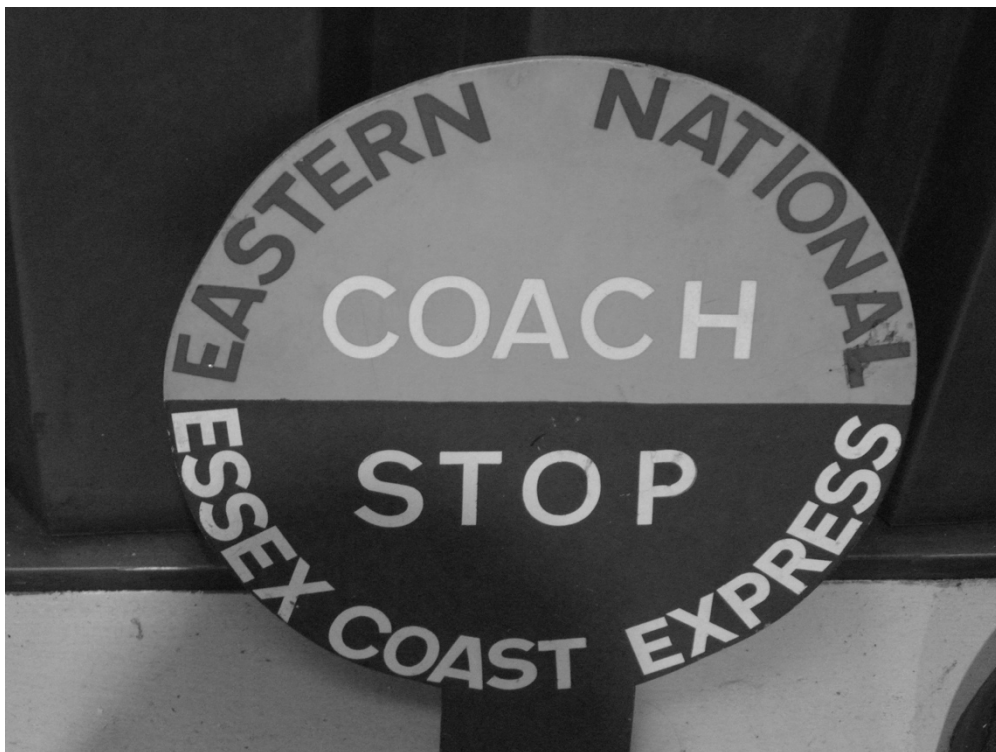
Arriva operate Hertfordshire CC contract service 311 from Harlow Garage, which commenced on 5 January. This is a circular route from Bishops Stortford Riverside. to Stortford Fields upon which Enviro 200 YX61 FZN (4008) recently transferred from Hemel Hempstead and in new livery seems to be a regular performer.

Owen Woodliffe.
EBN672p23

Request from Owen Woodliffe.

I wonder whether any of our members can throw any light on this artefact in the Lodge's transport museum?

This sign is displayed along with a vast collection of transport memorabilia in the extension of Lodge's Museum at High Easter. Andrew Lodge cannot remember from where it was acquired. A reasonable guess is that it was displayed somewhere between Colchester and Harwich from October 1967 when the Essex Coast Express pool was formed to sometime after 1974 when the Traffic Signs and General Directions Regulations standardised the now familiar bus stop sign. Purchase of R W Hooks' stage carriage licences between Colchester and Harwich by Grey-Green enabled their Service 2 to be recast in the ECX Pool as Service 80 via Elmstead, the Bromleys, Wix, Great Oakley and Dovercourt and was mainly operated by Eastern National, with a connection to London bound services at Colchester.



Owen Woodliffe.

The sign has a yellow top half and maroon lower half with white lettering except that Eastern National is in green.

Does anyone have any recollection as to the original location of this sign?

Swallow Buses by Adam Kelleher

With thanks to Chris Stewart.

Swallow Coach Company, which started operations in 1947, had been the parent company of the former EOS, and had taken over ECC contract services 13 (Epping-Waltham Cross), 61 (Brentwood-Blackmore) and 133 (Debden-Ongar) when EOS closed down, using ex-EOS buses, itself went into administration on Tuesday 31 March. The decision to cease trading on this date was due to the effects of the coronavirus epidemic and renewal of insurances due on 1 April. Although 31 March was the last official date of operation, it is not known if they operated on that day, for example, the 11.30 61 from Brentwood High Street was not seen.

Latterly, dual door Dart 742 (KP02 PWV) and Enviro 200 EOS 711 had been seen on route 61. A hand-written note on the bus shelter at the Wilson's Corner bus stop in Brentwood High Street states that "Essex County Council are trying to get another bus company to do the route".

Also see note on EBN672p31.

Trustybus.

Redevelopment of the former Goods Yard site has closed Bishops Stortford Interchange and bus stops are relocated around the town centre. However, Trustybus still use the former layover area for this purpose and Solo AE06 TWN, which has previously done stints at Cambridge and Bedford with Stagecoach is seen there on 7 March.

Owen Woodliffe.





Mark Lloyd with thanks to Ross Newman.

Ensignbus

Dealing Stock Movements – March 2020

Vehicles in

Abbey Travel	LI03 MHY	Volvo B7TL
Compass Bus	DK09 DZG	Volvo B7RLE
First Eastern Counties	MV02 VBZ	Volvo B7TL
	W774 DWX	Volvo B7TL
First Essex	SN53 KJY/LK03 UFB	Darts
	X749 VUA	B7TL
	LT52 XAC	Trident
Halton Transport	MX12 DZI/JXC-D/CFE/CFJ	E200s
Metroliner	LK58 KHP / LK08 NVJ	E400s
	BF10 LTE	Volvo B9TL
National Express	FJ12 FXD / FYR	Volvo B9Rs
Stagecoach East	AE55 DIV	Tridents
	AE06 GZR	
	AE06 GZV	
	AE06 GZW	
Whealers Travel	YY66 PFD	E200

Vehicles Out

Aintree Coaches	P056 JFF	Dart
	LK55 KJX	E400s
Belle-Vue, Manchester	LX09 AHE/O	Scania
	X09 FZT	
Bournemouth Transport	BX55 XNG	Volvo B7TL
Brighton and Hove	YY66 PFD	E200
Candy Coaches, Selborne, Hampshire	UK05 BCL	Volvo B12B
Dons Coaches, Dunmow, Essex	DK60 AHO	E200
First Scotland	LK08 HME/LK58 CNF	E400s
Grant Palmer, Dunstable, Beds	KX08 HME/ KX59 CYW	E200s
Select Bus Services, Swansea	FN57 EWW	E200
Simmonds Coaches, Diss, Norfolk	LK53 KVZ	Volvo B12B
Solus Coaches, Tamworth	FJ12 FXD/FYR.	Volvo B9Rs

Ensign Fleet – March 2020

E400s SN09 CDY / CEF / CEX / CFM / LK55 KJX were all put into fleet temporarily for the emergency Barking – Walthamstow GOBLIN service in January and February.

The whole operational and vintage fleet has been delicensed with the exception of :

23 x Volvo B9TLs.
6 x E200 MMCs.
12 x BCI 2 axles.

An emergency timetable for Thurrock services has been introduced and in addition Ensign are now operating 14 buses a day for Amazon; rail replacement for TFL and c2c is also continuing.



Picture
Ensignbus Enviro 200, 604, CN11 FBE, with First 44545, Enviro 200, at Rail Station, Brentwood 5 March 2019.

Robert Downton.

Temporary service changes

as a result of the pandemic and lockdown, many services were reduced or suspended. In brief:

Stephensons generally from Tuesday 24 March

Temporarily withdrawn 1 (Pitsea), Southend area routes 6A, 17, 61, Dengie shoppers 200/220, Breeze 2 at Bury St Edmunds. Saturday timetables operating on Monday to Friday: 14 (Foulness), 14/15 (Haverhill-Bury, with some extra trips), 16/A (Newmarket-Bury), 24, 60 (Canewdon), 90.

Special reduced timetables 21 (Braintree - hourly), 38/38A/39 - hourly (interworking at Witham), Breeze 1 (Bury - half-hourly). From Saturday 28 March there were further substantial reductions on certain services - 5/6, 9, 12, 14 (Foulness), 21 (Braintree), 24, 30, 38, 39, Breeze 1, in many cases reducing each to what a single bus/driver can cover. Suffolk 16 likewise followed from Saturday 4 April.

NIBS from about 24 March

Temporarily withdrawn 31, 106 & 552 (from 27/3)

Saturday timetables operating on Monday to Friday: 269 (from 27/3)

Special reduced timetables 21 (Ongar) & 81 (Hutton) - initially Saturday timetables, then reduced to 2 hourly from 27/3, 11 & 374 reduced frequency.

Services to schools despite the general shut down after Friday 20 March, all school routes ran on the morning of Monday 23 to establish what demand there was for children of key workers. The answer was almost none, the only operations continuing are thought to be the 419 to Saffron Walden & Newport, one bus to Great Baddow High and one to King Edmund, Rochford, but even those may have ceased by now.

On both Stephensons and NIBS, free travel for NHS workers was offered from 27 March.

Many vehicles have been placed in temporary store. At Stephensons this comprises:

Volvo coach: 200
Dart: 404
Enviro 200: 431-4, 442/5/8/9, 460-3, 465-7, 474-9
Scania N230: 501-3/5-12, 610
Scania N94: 631-49, 901-7.

At NIBS the position is (showing the complete fleet list, those stored are starred *):

NIBS fleet list - 30/03/20.

Optare Solo: 328, 330*
Streetlite: 341 342*
Enviro 200: 415, 417*, 418, 419, 443, 444, 447, 450, 451, 452, 470*
Dart SLF: 457, 458
Scania Olympus*: 504*, 513*, 514*, 515*, 516*
Scania Omnicity*: 521*, 522*, 523*, 524*, 525*, 526*, 527*, 528*
Scania Omnidekka*: 626*, 627*, 628*, 629*, 630*
Volvo B7, East Lancs*: 701*, 702*, 703*, 704*, 705*, 706*.

Total fleet - 41.

Stored due to Coronavirus (*) - **28**

Available for traffic - **13.**

Across both fleets, all double deckers are currently stored except for Stephensons N230 600-9 which were still licenced at the beginning of April in case they are required for rail replacement.

Mark Lloyd

With thanks to Jon Podgorski, Robert Appleton & Essex-buses yahoo group.

Vehicle Withdrawn

505 PL51 LGO Volvo B7TL East Lancs Myllemium Returned to Plymouth Citybus

505 had a new MOT and moved to Kelvedon from Sible Hedingham depot on 5 March. It had been long term withdrawn at Sible Hedingham depot. By 19 March it had returned to Plymouth, believed still in driver trainer guise to assist with driver training for the new Go-Ahead Cornwall routes.

Significant Allocation changes

505 HDu to KNU 5 March

505 KNU to Plymouth Citybus. Believed to be 13 March but certainly by 19 March

Fleet news

298 OU57 FHA appeared in service after return to Clacton depot in early March. Seen working the 11.50 departure on the 3 service to Harwich from Pier Avenue on Saturday 14 March. Pictured next page.

298 was never repainted from Carousel livery when transferred to Konect and the application of the front fleetname sees the bus in Hedingham livery. Same style and proportion as 266 OU57 FKB from the same source. Home grown 261 EY57 FZE has a dark bumper and full red dash in comparison.

460 YN05 HFF was wrapped in an all over advert for local radio station Dream 100. The base colour is bright blue with advertising for the station to the sides including the roof cant rail.

460 YN05 HFF Scania Omnicity with Dream 100 wrap advert on the 97 to Clacton but still showing Walton-on-the-Naze on the destination as taken by Robert Appleton at Kirby Cross on 23 March.

Sister vehicle 458 YN05 HFH has been repainted into full Hedingham livery, ready for service early April.

There was a report that 4 x ADL E400s were to be transferred from Konect to Hedingham but under the current climate this may be postponed. The use of double deckers has reduced dramatically, as the rider numbers under movement restrictions fall and the single deckers are used for better fuel economy.

Due to the reduction in timetable frequency due to Covid-19 restrictions a large part of the fleet has been parked up and SORNED as from 28 March. For service details see section below.

Chambers Sudbury

Operational 453-5, 801/3/9, 872/3/5/6/7

SORNED 805/6/7/8/11/12, 870/1/4

Spare 804

Hedingham

Sible Hedingham

Operational 259/263/287/291/615/616

Spare 288/457/470/514

Hedingham

Kelvedon

Operational 261/286/292/293, 800/2/10

Spare 813

Hedingham

Clacton

Operational 253-58/60/2/4/5/6/7/8, 456/58/60

Spare 285/298/910/911

SORNED 1-2, 510-3/7/20-28, 565/68-75/79-80/4, 815-20, 850-2

Service news

Coronavirus closed the schools on 20 March and Stanway School ceased lessons early – departing school at 13.30 so services were brought forward. As the next week progressed, due to staff shortages presumably through self-isolation and the need for child-care, services struggled to have full coverage with services missed on services 4, 4A and 137 during the early part of the week. Hedingham had changed to a school holiday timetable where applicable from Monday 23 March in response to the schools closing.

From 22 March concessionary bus passes were accepted for travel before 09.30. From 28 March all Clacton area services were placed on emergency timetables in response to the Covid-19 deepening crisis. Services 3, 4/4A, 5/5A, 6/6A/6B, 74, 97, 98/98A, 134, 135, 137 & X76 were all running a reduced timetable, with service 7 suspended.

The round of ECC tendered service changes saw Hedingham gain route 21 Bocking – Black Notley (Sun) from NIBS and also the 352 Halstead – Chelmsford (M-S eve) from Stephenson's. Service 21 commencing on 29 March and 352 on 30 March.

From 29 March the ex-First Essex 7, 8 and 100 Walton – Clacton journeys were operated under contract to ECC and these were renumbered. The 7 and 8 services are renumbered 97A or 98A and the ex-First 100 was replaced by Hedingham service 99 between Walton and Clacton (M-S eve) all running to the same times as before. There is an additional M-F Walton to Clacton service departing Walton at 22.30 finishing at Clacton at 23.02.

From 30 March services D1, D2, 15, 63, 84/84A, 88, 89, 91, 92, 95, 236, 374, 753, 754 & 784 were also running to an emergency timetable. Services 82, 83, 89X, 375, 379 and 461 were unchanged as were Sunday services from this point. Chambers school services 751/752/756/757/758 & SC707 were all suspended but coverage remained within the emergency timetables. Plans were however to reduce further weekend services including the Sunday services due to travel restrictions and safety to the driving team.

Route 88 has seen collaboration between Hedingham and First to run a combined timetable with reduced frequency, changing it back to how the timetable used to look before the Go-Ahead takeover.

Other News

Braintree Bus Station closed for regeneration after operation on 21 March. Bus stops are now distributed around three streets, Victoria Street, Manor Street or Fairfield Road according to journey direction. The site is planned to have a new hotel, new homes, increased parking and a bus interchange. Due to complete end of 2021. Hedingham services affected are 21, 89, 89X, 345 & 352. Braintree Council produced leaflets detailing the new stop positions and direction of travel.

Service	Destination	Stop	Destination	Stop
21 (Sun)	Bocking	Manor Street 2	Black Notley	Fairfield Road
89 & 89X (M-S)	Railway Station	Fairfield 4	Gt. Yeldham/Sudbury	Victoria Street 5
345	Fuller Street	Fairfield 3		
352 (M-S eve)	Chelmsford	Manor Street 1	Halstead	Victoria Street 5



The wanderer returns as described on previous page.!

Mark Lloyd.

EBN672p29

Letters

Chris Stewart from Shenfield.

A Tribute to Bus Staff.

During all of the Coronavirus crisis rail replacement buses and coaches have continued to operate, and I think we should salute the drivers and controllers for what they are still doing (often carrying ones and twos). Of course, I'd also include regular bus and train crews in that as well.

Eds note:

And our thanks to engineers, operating and all other staff who are continuing to provide an essential service during this very difficult time.

I am certain that every reader of EBN and member of EBEG will wish to be associated with these sentiments, especially since we now read the very sad news that nine London Bus workers have died as a result of contracting Covid-19/coronavirus.

Terry Challis from Thornton Cleveleys

More on WNO 481.

Thank you for maintaining the publication of EBN over the past months.

I have noticed that Bristol KSW5G open-top WNO 481 (EN2385) has become something of a celebrity bus as it has appeared in BUSES and EBN over the last few months. I have always had a special interest in this bus as I lived in Hadleigh until 1957 and was particularly interested in the operations of Hadleigh Garage.

I also had a personal connection in that two of my older brothers were drivers at Hadleigh Garage in the 1950s and 1960s.

WNO 481 was the last KSW5G delivered to 'Westcliff' (as against ENOC) and was at Hadleigh Garage from new until converted to an open-topper. It was also the last KSW with staggered seating upstairs delivered to Westcliff. If my memory is correct, it spent most of its time at Hadleigh Garage on service 2A (Southend to Romford Market). Hadleigh Garage had turns on many of the South Essex routes including the Leigh Station routes, the 25 and 25A, and the 2 and 2B (Southend to Grays). My oldest brother, Ken, also told me that at times they had short workings on the 251!

In the late 1950s Hadleigh provided the full allocation for Service 3 which was the former Benfleet and District and Westcliff Southend to Benfleet service. This was probably the busiest service in the area apart from the 251. It required six buses with six-cylinder engines and they were usually the two KS6Bs (DJN 558 and 559), the sole KSW6B (DJN 560), LD6B (205 BPU which was new to Hadleigh) and two LD6Bs from the VXV batch (30 and 31) which were drafted in from Southend Garage.

Chris Stewart from Shenfield

Canvey Island and White Cuffs!

The sea wall along Canvey Island has a number of painted pictures, including the one pictured on the back page relating to the Canvey Island Transport Museum. Depicting the former CY depot, the LD on the right is more accurate than the left hand one which has obviously been copied from a Bristol Tramways/Omnibus example (with four-track number blind, unique to them amongst Tilling operators) and a random registration number. The driver, however, displays the white stripes on the cuffs referred to by Doug Brown [DB from BD] last month. P.S. Doug means single deck Ls not Ks!

Peter Mobbs from Stanway

Bus Magazines Need a Good Home.

I have 100s of Bus magazines that need a good home; they include Buses Illustrated, Buses, Bus & Coach Preservation, Buses Extra, Preserved Bus, Bus Focus, Classic Bus, Vintage Roadscene, Vintage Commercial Vehicle, Modern Tramway, Tramways & Urban Transit, Bus Times, Bus World, Bus Enthusiast, Modern Transport, Fare Stage and Bus Fayre, some dating from 1962.

Anyone interested can contact me by e.mail – petermobbs49@hotmail.com and I will send them a list.

The Editorial Team

Missing, damaged and defective magazines.

As noted on page 1 of each issue, **Owen Woodliffe** deals with any problems with EBN distribution and he holds our stock of spare copies. In the case of problems therefore, please contact Owen direct at the address on page 1. Richard Delahoy is the Membership Secretary and deals with payment and renewal queries but does **not** have stocks of the magazine. Thanks!

Unfortunately, the Ian Allan Bookshop in Waterloo has had to close "for the duration" of the Coronavirus closedown so those of you who buy their copy of EBN direct from them will be unable to do so for a while. Please do consider taking out a subscription via Richard Delahoy in the interim or buy individual copies from Owen Woodliffe.

But please do continue to support Ian Allan when things return to normal.

Other Operators.

Roger A. Smith.

With thanks to the PSV Circle.

Alder & Ward, Clacton-on-Sea

E343 TYD, a Reeves Burgess C25F bodied Mercedes Benz 609D is no longer here.

APT Coaches, Rayleigh

Volvo B7TLs, registrations LR52 BMY and LR52 BOU, with Plaxton H39/21D bodies are here, formerly with Metroline, London.

SBC Engineering, Leigh-on-Sea

Reported as brand new here in March is MC20 SBC, a Mercedes Benz Turismo C57F.

Scania K400EB6 with Irizar body has been re-registered from YP12 NRN to OJN 944.

Tendring Travel, Thorpe-le-Soken

Recently arrived here is KX58 BHZ, a Plaxton B45F bodied MAN14.240, previously with Briggs, Crymlyn Burrows, Wales.

Swallow Coach Company, Rainham (via Richard Delahoy and Robert Downton), from Swallow's web site

"It is with great sadness that I am to advise you that the Swallow Coach Company will be passed to administrators after the close of business on Tuesday 31 March 2020.

The last day of operation on our contracted services 13, 61 and 133 will be the same date. For updates on these routes please contact Essex County Council Passenger Transport Team. This decision was not taken lightly, however given the current situation with Coronavirus and the renewal of our insurances due on 1 April, we feel that the decision to cease trading has been made for us."

Their services were:

13	Epping - Waltham Cross, roughly every 90 minutes Monday to Saturday
61	Brentwood - Blackmore, hourly Monday to Saturday
133	Ongar - Debden, schooldays only



Swallow Coaches of Rainham, CC18 WEB Irizar i6, on private hire duty at Princes Esplanade, Walton-on-the-Naze, 3 December 2019.

Robert Appleton.

EBN672p31

Chairman Of The Essex Bus Enthusiasts Group.

Following our request for a new Chair for the Essex Bus Enthusiast Group to replace Ian Ransom, we have put this change “on ice” because of the Covid-19 restrictions. Apart from the severe limitations to bus operation, EBEG meetings and our other activities, Ian’s theatrical activities have also come to a near standstill. Ian has agreed to stay on as Chair until we are able to resume our normal activity and re-arrange the AGM.

But do not wait until the revised date is announced! Anyone interested in this relatively undemanding but extremely important role is invited to contact either Alan Osborne, Secretary, Essex Bus Enthusiasts Group, 7, Farley Drive, Seven Kings, ILFORD, Essex IG3 8LT, dimequin@bushinternet.com or chat informally to any of the committee (see page 1 of each EBN).



MGR 672P for EBN672

L163 leaving East Bergholt High School on 13.07 2000.

Robert Appleton.

Editorial Engineering Circular – brief return by popular request!!!

I am now back home full time although with several trips a week for blood tests in Broomfield for a while. I will still be “under” Bart’s and Broomfield Hospitals for up to five years but will discontinue these reports unless and until there is something worth advising!

Thanks all for your support. Much appreciated and very gratifying. I look forward to meeting up with many of you and to having loads of bus trips when circumstances permit!

Target Dates for EBN673 (May 2020).

Before ...	Saturday	2 May 2020	Reports to Sub-Editors.
Before ---	Friday	8 May 2020	Sub-Editor drafts to Editor.
On or before	Monday	18 May 2020	Dispatch by Printers.



Top picture
Hedingham 456 (AN61 BUS) Scania Omnibus, still in Anglianbus livery, in Kirby Cross on 23 March, working service 97 from Walton-on-the-Naze to Clacton. AN61 BUS has been a regular performer on services 97/98 between Clacton and Walton since Hedingham took over these services in January.

Robert Appleton.



Lower picture

HRP 671N for EBN671

This rather nice photo reached the Editor's inbox way after EBN671 was published – some form of blockage in the pipes?

However, it is too good not to use!

Bristol VRT/ECW/Gardner H43/31F awaits its next duty to Brightlingsea. It served with Eastern National from 10/76 until 7/90.

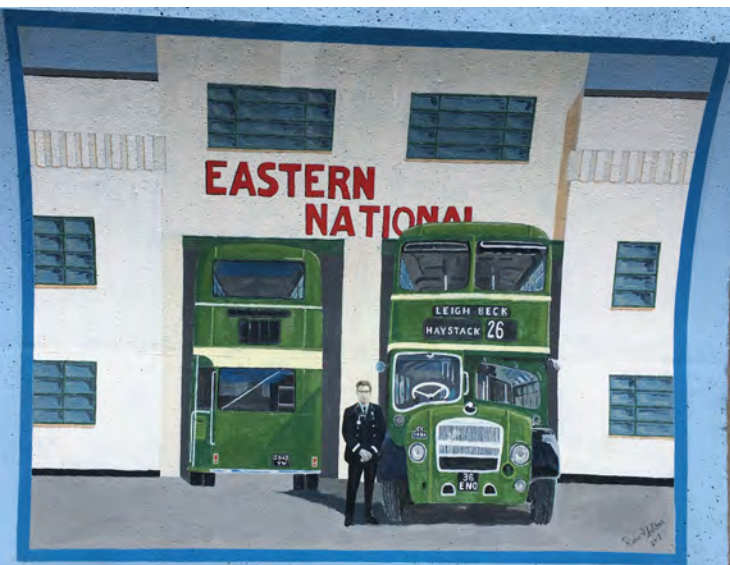
Robert Appleton.

EBN672 inner rear cover

Essex Bus News 672; April 2020.

www.essexbus.org.uk

fb.me/essexbus



Top picture

For caption, see The Letters page 30. The sea wall along Canvey Island has a number of painted pictures, including this one related to the Canvey Island Transport Museum.

Chris Stewart.

Centre picture

Young's Coaches of Cambridge Scania OmniLink K17 YCC on 14 March, seen in Crossways, Shenfield. This is ex-Brighton & Hove YN56 BCV.

Chris Stewart.

Lower picture

Peter Godward Coaches Irizar i6 AC19 PGC under the bridges at Shenfield on 15 March.

Chris Stewart.

EBN672 outer rear cover