

ESSEX BUS NEWS

**No.575
March 2012**



ESSEX BUS ENTHUSIASTS GROUP
www.essexbus.org.uk



Fiat Ducato/Bluebird Orion demonstrator YX61 BFO on loan to **Regal**, seen in Basildon Bus Station on the Saturday ECC 1A contract (Basildon to Pitsea), on 25 February. It was between trips, hence the blank electronic destination display. *Colin Paynter*

Dart 456 (XS 2210) on 21 February, the first day of **Stephensons** operating the evening/morning commuter service on route 6A from/to Leigh Station. *John G Lidstone*



Essex Bus News

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Your reports and observations

Members reports, quality photos (prints, slides or JPGs) and original articles are always welcome.

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.

Views expressed in EBN do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Group.

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Dates for your diary

■ EBN PRESS DATES

<i>EBN dated</i>	<i>reports to Editors by</i>
April	March 31
May	May 5

Despatch day is posted to the website as soon as it is known. Please allow reasonable time for postal delays (at least seven working days) before claiming non-receipt. Replacements can be obtained from the Distribution Officer (see Group Directory).

■ SOUTH ESSEX MEETINGS

Venue: Wickford Cricket Club, off Swan Lane, Wickford - five minutes walk from Wickford Station and five minutes drive from the A130 and A127. Doors open at 1930 for an informal

Cover

Major news this month is that the **Go Ahead Group** has bought **Hedingham Omnibuses**. Typical of the modern, well-presented fleet is Dart SLF/Plaxton L312 (W312 CJN) seen on the forecourt of equally well-presented Tollesbury depot on 17 February this year.

Dave Arnold

chat, with the main talk or show from 2000 to 2145/2200; a cash bar is available. Members and guests welcome. £1.50 donation please towards the hire of the room.

- ▶ **Monday March 26** - 19.45 SHARP. Annual General Meeting. Followed by 'Out with the Old - In with the New' - contrasting experiences of end of Blackpool trams and the new Cambridge Guided Busway by Richard Delahoy.

Meetings in April and May will be at Freight House (Committee Rooms) adjacent to Rochford Station.

- ▶ **Monday April 30** - Scotland 25 years ago. Slides by Richard Delahoy from a two-week tour in 1986.
- ▶ **Monday May 28** - speaker tba

Meetings in June and July will be outside visits - details to be announced.

Meetings return to the usual Wickford venue for September 17, October 29, November 26, December 18.

■ NORTH ESSEX MEETINGS

Venue: downstairs room at the Friends Meeting House, Church Street, Colchester, just south of "Jumbo" (the water tower) and behind the Mercury Theatre. Town centre bus stops and parking are nearby. Doors open at 1915 for an informal chat, with the main talk or show from 1945 to 21.45. PLEASE NOTE NEW TIMES - NOW 15 MINUTES EARLIER £1.50 donation towards room hire, please. Slides/digital photos are preferred, but prints can also be shown. Members and guests welcome. *Dave Arnold.*

2012 programme ~ slide shows

- ▶ **Friday April 13** - Gary Sharpe
- ▶ **Friday May 11** - Richard Delahoy
- ▶ **Friday June 8** - Paul Smith
- ▶ **Friday July 13** - Steven Hughes
- ▶ Other dates: August 10, September 14, October 12, November 9, December 14.
Details to follow.

■ TOURS

- ▶ **Saturday May 26** The 'Interesting Independents' Group Tour.
Join us for a full day tour visiting operators with fascinating fleets of both modern and historical vehicles;- Dons of Dunmow, Myalls of Bassingbourne, Kenzies of Shepreth, Youngs of Haddenham and Dews of Somersham. Departure Colchester North Station 08.30 (return approx. 18.30) Dunmow High Street 09.30 (return approx. 17.30). To book, please send cheque/P.O. for £20, payable to E.B.E.G., together with a S.A.E. to Keith Woods, 34 Normandie Way, Bures, Suffolk CO8 5BE. Please state choice of pick up point.

■ EVENTS

- ▶ **Saturday March 31.** M&D and East Kent 60. Diamond Jubilee Event, Maidstone - Detling Showground. Admission £7.50; children under 12 free. Advance tickets £5 (plus £1.50 booking fee per transaction) until 23rd March through the Kent Showground: 01622 630975. www.arrivabus.co.uk/MDEK60/ www.facebook.com/MDEK60

The Group Sales Stall will be at this event

* Coach from Colchester North station at 08:00. Members and guests welcome; fare: £10 plus entry fee*

- ▶ **Sunday April 15.** North Norfolk Railway Train & Vintage Bus Day.
- ▶ **Saturday April 21.** Theydon Bois Transport Bazaar and Epping Forest Running Day

- ▶ **Sunday April 29.** London Bus Museum Spring Gathering. Return to Wisley this year.
* Coach from Colchester North Station at 08:00. Fare £12.50 plus entry fee *
- ▶ **Sunday April 29.** Commemorative run on former EN251 route from Southend (Seaway) to Wood Green. 20 buses expected - in aid of BosomPals breast cancer charity - donations are hoped for.
- ▶ **Sunday May 20.** Yeldham Transport Museum Open Day. Free transport from Braintree Station and Haverhill.
- ▶ **Sunday June 3.** Clacton Bus Rally. Clacton Factory Outlet. *The Group Sales Stall will be at this event.*
- ▶ **Sunday June 10** AEC Event and Pageant. Pump House, Markhouse Ave, Walthamstow.
- ▶ **Sunday July 1** North Weald Bus Rally.

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 altered.

Ian Ransom

Ian Ransom steps down this month from editing the Other Operators and Publicity sections and we record our thanks to him for a quarter-century of service. He now joins the Group 'reserve fleet' and we hope can be coaxed out in service as an occasional contributor in the future.

A volunteer or volunteers is/are requested to take over these roles if the sections are to continue. To apply or for further information, contact: **David Harman, 24 Frankfield Rise, Tunbridge Wells, TN2 5LF**, phone 01892 519550 or email essexbusnews@casuarina.org.uk

New member

A warm welcome to new member:

John Pope, Chelmsford - 1046

Richard Delahoy, Membership Secretary

Group Directory

SUBSCRIPTIONS

A calendar year subscription is **£20**, renewable in January.

New members may join from any month during the year, 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 **£1.70** per month. E.g., a member joining in March

would pay 10 x £1.70; i.e. **£17**.

Data Protection Act: Members' details are held on computer for the purpose of administration. If you object to your information being held in this way, please write to:

Richard Delahoy, 272 Shoebury Road
Southend-on-Sea SS1 3TT
richard@signal-training.com

MISSING / DEFECTIVE EBNs

For replacements, contact the Distribution Officer:

Owen Woodliffe, 196 Sinclair Road,
Chingford, London E4 8PT
pat_woodliffe@hotmail.com

TIMETABLE SUBSCRIPTIONS

Join this scheme to receive the Essex County Council timetable book and bus map. Send

your details and a cheque for £12 to

Richard Delahoy, 272 Shoebury Road,
Southend on Sea SS1 3TT.

Subscriptions can start with any issue of the book (usually three a year) and will be renewable annually at the same time as your Group membership subscription is due.

PUBLICATION SALES

Send orders for publications to:

Owen Woodliffe, 196 Sinclair Road,
Chingford, London E4 8PT

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

BLACK & WHITE PHOTO SALES

Lyn Watson

Willow Tree Cottage, 11 Roman Bank,
Gedney Dyke, Lincolnshire, PE12 0AR

Prints of specific EN (and predecessor) vehicles can be supplied; email with requirements:

lynw@barrons-bds.com

Open top buses to return to Southend in 2012

A new seafront open-top service, using the traditional 67 route number, has been registered to run from Leigh to Southend, starting on Monday April 2nd, by Linkfast Ltd (Smith & May). Benfleet-based S&M had

operated school contracts until losing all their work last summer and effectively closing down for a while, but they kept their operator's licence current and are clearly now back in business. As well as the open





toppers, they have acquired two coaches as reported in the Ensign dealer sales, Volvo B10M P156ASA and Volvo B12B FJ55XBD.

We don't yet have details of the full route or timetable for the 67 but can offer these brief glimpses of the first bus being prepared at Marden Commercial in Benfleet, courtesy of Peter Sedge. RJZ 4785 pictured is thought to be G551VBB re-registered and is a former Kentish Bus Leyland Olympian with Northern Counties body; the second bus for the service is expected to be ex Lothian Olympian/Alexander J847TSC. Both were previously used by TWH on their short-lived East London Tour and are part open top.

Graphics on the first bus advertise an hourly service on Saturdays, Sundays, Public Holidays and during school holidays, with a day rover priced at a very reasonable £4. The rear of the bus advertises a website www.smithandmay.co.uk but it was not live

when this piece was written four weeks before the service was due to start.

Open toppers have not run in public service on Southend seafront since 2004 when Stephensons withdrew their version of the 67, which had latterly been branded as part of the City Sightseeing franchise.

We will cover the start of the service in a forthcoming EBN.

Seen alongside the Olympian in the very cramped surroundings of Marden's yard is a preservation project they have recently taken on, former London Transport RT2976, NLE744. That particular RT had been at Banhams Zoo for some years and was latterly in store near Attleborough until recently.

Richard Delahoy with thanks to Peter Sedge (who supplied the pictures) and Ross Newman

Service changes

Acme Transport Services

1 Apr 12	11	Sch	Chrishall to Saffron Walden: new service operating to a new timetable on schooldays only.
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Arriva London

12 Mar 12	667	Sch	Ilford to West Hatch School: service withdrawn.
24 Mar 12	20	D	Debden to Walthamstow: service withdrawn.
	462	D	Hainault to Ilford: service withdrawn.

Arriva Southend

3 Mar 12	370	D	Lakeside to Romford: revised timetable with extra running time.
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Carters Coaches

20 Feb 12	93	M-S	Colchester to Ipswich: revised timetable.
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Centrebus

1 Apr 12	351	M-S	Bishop Stortford to Hertford: revised route and timetable with some journeys extended to Stansted Airport Mondays to Fridays.
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First Essex

5 Mar 12	13	M-F	Walton to Kirkby Cross: service withdrawn.
	30	M-S	Beckers Green to Marks Farm: certain Monday to Friday early morning and evening journeys withdrawn.
	68	D	Tollgate to Monkwick: revised timetable with service finishing earlier on Sundays and Mondays to Fridays. Service starts later and finishes earlier on Saturday.

First London

12 Mar 12	667	Sch	Ilford to West Hatch School: new schoolday service.
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Go Ahead Group (Blue Triangle)

24 Mar 12	20	D	Debden to Walthamstow: new service with new timetable.
	462	D	Hainault to Ilford: new service new timetable.

Go Whippet

10 Apr 12	E	TThFS	Cambridge to Clacton: new service until December.
	F	F	Cambridge to Southend: new service until 28 September.

Linkfast (Smith & May) 2 Apr 12	67	D	Southend to Leigh Station: new summer service until 30th September along Southend Seafront every Saturday and Sunday plus school holidays.
Logic Bus 26 Mar 12	L3	M-S	Harlow to Hammond Street: new half hourly service.
National Express 26 Mar 12	727 797	D D	Norwich to Brighton: revised timetable. Cambridge to Brighton: revised timetable.
New Horizon Travel 5 Mar 12 5 Apr 12	13 13	M-F M-F	Walton to Kirkby Cross: new service. Walton to Kirkby Cross: revised timetable with introduction of Saturday service.
Regal Busways 2 Apr 12	213	M-S	Waltham Cross to Epping: 214 journeys withdrawn with minor timetable revisions to service 213.
	565	M-S	Grays to Brentwood: revised route and timetable with section Grays to Bulphan withdrawn.
3 Apr 12	47/146/7	M-S	Harlow to Ongar/Toot Hill: revised timetable with 1700 from Harlow withdrawn.
Roadrunner 24 Mar 12	7/A	M-S	Bishop Stortford to Stansted Airport: service withdrawn.
Stephensons of Essex 6 Feb 12	5	M-F	Lexden to Colchester Hospital: service withdrawn.
TGM Group (Network Harlow) 24 Mar 12	7/A	M-S	Bishop Stortford to Stansted Airport: new service.
Viceroy of Essex 1 Apr 12	11	M-S	Chrishall to Saffron Walden: service withdrawn.
Wyvern Community Transport 20 Jul 12	174	TS	Rochford to Southend: to operate Mondays to Saturdays during school summer holidays.

Paul Harvey
(acknowledgements to LOTS, Essex & Hertfordshire County Council,
Richard Delahoy, Harlowride & First)

Publicity News

A new item is a colour slimline A4 timetable and map issued by **Thurrock Council** for Goride's 374, and dated 3rd January 2012. *Ian Ransom and David Harman*

First

■ FIRST ESSEX BUSES LTD

Acquired Vehicles

- 41524 LK03UFB Transbus Dart SLF SFD2BACR32GW17079 Caetano B33F SCC4429/03
new 8/03
- 41527 LK53FDD Transbus Dart SLF SFD2BACR33GW17157 Caetano B33F SCC4432/03
new 9/03
- 41543 LK53FEH Transbus Dart SLF SFD2BACR33GW17187 Caetano B33F SCC4448/03
new 10/03

Ex *First Capital East Ltd*, originally B29D. 41541 is also thought to be due.

Allocation changes

February 2012 (*22nd January)

These are, and always have been, taken from the Company's allocation sheet although these have been in several different formats over the last few months, hence changes in terminology. For operational reasons there may sometimes be discrepancies with the actual situation on the ground.

**FG=to/from another First Group company (change of legal ownership); RES=reserve;
Sh=shuttle bus (non PCV)**

The following traditional depot codes are used in EBN, although they no longer appear on the company's listings: BN-Basildon; BE-Braintree; CF-Chelmsford; CN-Clacton; CR-Colchester; DT-Harwich; HH-Hadleigh

34303 sold; 34355 sold; 34333 FG-CN*; 34610 RES-CN; 41642 sold; 42436 sold; 42441 sold;
65527 CR-RES

Disposals (February 2012):

to Erith Commercials (for scrap): 41642, 42441 (14th), 34303 (15th), 34355 (16th), 42436 (17th)

Other changes

32860, 65030/1 have all over rear adverts for London Southend Airport

44518 (not 44519) has rear advert for Essex Police

43451 now has LED destination display

Area News - workings and sightings

Rail Replacements

19th Feb: HH33001 and CF53139 on Greater Anglia Billericay-Rayleigh

Clacton (CN) & Harwich (DT)

February

1st DT44517 on 104

11th 34333 still in use on 5, 16 and 13.35 CN-CR 74 (MOT expiry 15th)

13th CR34056 on 103 (09.05 ex DT)
16th 34610 on 16
17th 34610 on 76, DT42937 on 104
21st DT42937 on 103 (and 23rd)
23rd 67003 on 76

Colchester (CR)

On 4th & 5th February, heavy snow caused some service disruption. A reduced timetable was seen running in Colchester on 5th but with return to normal on 6th.

February

1st CR32477 on 88 (Gt Yeldham pm), CR65552 on 62, CR65681 on 75
2nd CR32476 on 63; 61-62 CR32482 on 68; CR65652 on 62; BE66169 on 131
3rd CR32476 on 65; BE43360 on 131
4th CR34018 on 65
7th CR34304 on 64A; CF34310 light on Lexden Rd Colchester, heading out of town at 1245
8th CR34304 on 64
11th CR65678 on 62A
13th 34610 on CR65 and 66A, CR34018 on 88
15th CR34013 on 61
17th CR34307 on 61
18th CR34304 on 64A
20th CR32480 on 1, CR34013 on 64, CR34014 on 61 & 62A and CR34304 on 64
21st CR32476 on 88, CR32478 on 68 & 75, CF65626 on 71A
22nd CR32475 on 75, CR34305 on 65
23rd CR32478 on 88, CR34056 on 66
24th CR32478 on 63

Chelmsford (CF) and Braintree (BE)

February

1st BE30901 on 132
3rd CF42936 on 71, CF65029 on 31 (and 10th)
4th BE66169 on 21, BE66816 on 132
10th CF42923 on 71, BE43360 on 131
13th CF34284 on H3
16th CF34310 on H3 (19.20 to New Dukes Way)
17th CF34286 and CF34310 on 42
18th 46158 on 42
22nd CF53135 on 42A
23rd BE66798 & BE66816 on 42
24th CF34284 on 525 (pm), CF34286 on 71 / A
25th CF34286 on 71 / 71A
29th 68000 and 46183 on driver shuttle

March

2nd CF34310 on H3 (17.15 CD-Chelmer Village)
9th CF34310 on 42, CF40736 on 42A and CF53113 on 31

Basildon (BN) & Hadleigh (HH)

During the afternoon of 30th January, Long Road on Canvey Island was closed by an

accident and services 1A/B, 3, 16, 21/B, 22/A, 26/A/B/C and 27 were all affected. On the same day route 100 was affected by an accident in Stock Road, Galleywood.

February

- 10th BN41542 on 256, BN34011 on 8A, BN34012 on 25 (12.15 ex SD), BN34315 on 200 (13.37 ex BN)
- 11th BN41762 on 5
- 15th BN34012 on evening 551 short workings to Hutton Village (double deck very unusual)
- 28th BN41524 on 551
- 29th BN41527 in yard, BN41543 on 3

March

- 1st BN46440 on 100
- 6th BN41543 on 73

Fleet allocation as at February 2012

- Basildon: 31456/62, 34011/2, 34301/14/5, 41235/8-41, 41523/5/42/4, 41640/50/1, 42443, 42551, 43442/5/8, 43736/8, 43800/45-8, 46440, 60766/7, 60809-11/63-5, 65627-32/65-71/90-2, 66800/1/3-6/13/9-27
- Braintree: 30888, 30900-3, 40733, 42482-9, 43360, 43436/51/84, 53701, 66169/77/9, 66798, 66807/9/10/6/28
- Chelmsford: 20463, 20801-5, 34284/6, 34310, 40736-8, 42918-23/7-36, 43356-9, 53112-7/25-39, 65028-32, 65626, 66794/5/7/9, 66802/8/11/2/4/5/7/8/29/30/7, 68521/32/4/5/51/2/5, 69434, 69512-20
- Clacton: 32850/2/4-6, 41644/7, 43678/9, 43739-42/4, 43801/2, 57001/2, 67241
- Colchester: 32475-8/80-5, 34013/4/8/56, 34304/5/7/8, 60206, 60756-8, 61054/7, 62406-10, 65521-3/5/6/34/7-9/51-3/76, 65650-4/76-89
- Hadleigh: 32857/9/60/2-4/77/81-7/94, 32905, 33001/2, 40777/8, 41005-17, 41730/2/5-7/41/61/2, 42439/40/5, 42852/5/7, 43712-21/9-35
- Harwich: 32801/4/9/10/8/47/9, 42937, 44516-9, 67003

Private Hire: 20500/1

- Reserve/Surplus: 34282, 34309, 34333, 67004/5/8/9 (all stored at CN); 34613, 60102-4, 67001/2/6/7/10-3 (all stored at BE); 34610 (in use at CN), 41645 (out of use at BN), 41653 (BN), 43743 (CN but out of use with faulty engine), 46158 (in use at CF), 65524 (at CN for spares only), 65527 (CR vehicle, under repair following vandalism), 66796 (CF vehicle, under repair after fire damage)
- Ancillary: 68000 (at BE), staff shuttles 46177 (CF), 46183 (BE) and 46827 (BN)
- Training: 60117, 60304/5 (CF), 60319 (BN), 60321 (stored at CN)

Sources: Own observations, with many thanks to *First Essex* and to S Austin, A Bird, N Clark, T Clark, D Edwards, M Farmer, F406LTW, J Podgorski, D Pretty, I Ransom, J Salmon, 'Solo', A Spindler, R West, the *Essex, East Anglia* and *British Buses in North America* yahoo! groups, *Essex Buses* Google group, www.bustlistsontheweb.co.uk, *Real Bus News*, LOTS, PSV Circle and 'Terminus'.

Reports relating to First Group may be sent by text on 07973 509459, by e-mail to shenfield252@gmail.com or by conventional post. Many thanks to all who do so.
Chris Stewart

Arriva

■ ARRIVA SOUTHEND LTD

Grays-allocated DAF SB120/Wright Cadet 3500-8 are earmarked for Southend. The conversion to single door and the refurbishment process will begin shortly. These will displace a similar number of Darts dating from 1996 from Southend.

Olympians 5934/5 are due to be withdrawn by the summer and this will eliminate double deckers in the Southend fleet.

Peter Mansbridge with thanks to Richard Delahoy

TGM Group

■ NETWORK HARLOW

Leyland Olympians/ Alexander 239/40 (F639/40 LMJ) and Dart SLF/Plaxton 556 (KP54 BYZ) have transferred from TGM Stansted.

Volvo B6/Wright 3257 has received the two tone blue Network Harlow livery.

Peter Mansbridge with thanks to John Podgorski, HarlowRide

Heddingham

General

The Go-Ahead Group announced on 5th March 2012 that they had acquired Heddingham Omnibuses.

A press release stated "Founded in 1960, the company is based in Colchester and operates 86 buses in North Essex and Suffolk. The business has five depots at Clacton, Heddingham, Kelvedon, Sudbury and Tollesbury. It principally operates a mix of school and local bus contracts and commercial routes".

David Brown, Group Chief Executive said: "I am delighted that we have acquired Heddingham Omnibuses. Go-Ahead is committed to operating high quality bus businesses in areas of growth, so this acquisition fits extremely well with that approach. "The MacGregor family and their staff have done an excellent job building Heddingham into what it is today. We look forward to working with them and to continuing to deliver an excellent service to our customers."

The existing management team led by Managing Director Robert MacGregor will continue to run the business. The company name and brand will remain in place. Operationally - nothing has changed at the moment.

Go Ahead apart from operating three major rail franchises (Southern, South Eastern and London Midland) operate according to their website in excess of 3,900 buses, majority in the UK although they do have a Yellow School Bus operation in North America, a 50:50 joint venture with Cook of Illinois.



Former Arriva Southend Dart 3403 (R313 NGM) is now with Arriva Kent & Sussex at Tunbridge Wells. Seen at the Old West Station, on one of its regular routes - the 229 to Crowborough. *David Harman*

Network Colchester's spare fleet liveried Scania Omnicity's now regularly work services other than the *Airport by Bus 133*. 2801 in Mill Road, Colchester on 17 January.

Russell Young



In the UK, Hedingham joins the Go Ahead ranks of individual company identities within an umbrella corporate organisation including Go Ahead London, Go North East, Go South Coast (Southern Vectis, Wilts & Dorset, Damory Coaches), Metrobus, Brighton & Hove, Plymouth City, Oxford Bus Co, Carousel, Thames Travel and Konectbus. Konectbus was taken over in March 2010 and was a similar independent operation which now has a significantly modern fleet and has 47 vehicles in the Dereham/Norwich Area.

Hedingham gives Go Ahead a welcome foothold into Essex and Suffolk.

Go Ahead also own the coach builder and refurbishment company Hants & Dorset Trim.

Allocations

L312 (W312 CJN) has moved from CN to TY as a replacement for L370 (EU58JCJ).

Fleet List ~ 1 January 2012

<i>no.</i>	<i>depot</i>	<i>reg. no.</i>	<i>year</i>	<i>chassis</i>	<i>body</i>	<i>seats</i>
L84	HD	RGV 284N	1974	Leyland Leopard PSU3B/4R	Willowbrook	B55F
L148	TY	WPH 135Y	1982	Leyland Tiger TRCTL1112R	East Lanc EL2000 (1993)	B55F
L160	TY	H160 HJN	1990	Leyland Olympian ONCL10/1	Alexander RL	H47/32F
L198	KN	K198 EVW	1992	Dennis Dart 9.8SD3017	Alexander Dash	B43F
L207	CN	L207 RNO	1994	Volvo B6	Alexander Dash	B40F
L208	KN	L208 RNO	1994	Volvo B6	Alexander Dash	B40F
L210	TY	M210 VEV	1994	Dennis Dart 9.8SDL3017	Plaxton Pointer	B34F
L211	HD	M212 WHJ	1994	Dennis Lance SLF	Wright Pathfinder 320	B40F
L212	HD	M211 WHJ	1994	Dennis Lance SLF	Wright Pathfinder 320	B40F
L241	CN	N241 EWC	1996	Dennis Dart 9.8SDL3017	Plaxton Pointer	B35F
L243	SY	M262 KWK	1995	Volvo B6	Alexander Dash	B40F
L244	CN	M988 NAA	1995	Volvo B10M	Plaxton Premiere	C53F
L258	CN	M261 KWK	1995	Volvo B6	Plaxton Pointer	B40F
L281	KN	M107 UWY	1995	Volvo B10M	Plaxton Premiere	C53F
L282	CN	M571 XKY	1995	Volvo B10M	Plaxton Premiere	C53F
L285	CN	M517 NCG	1995	Volvo B10M	Plaxton Premiere	C53F
L286	CN	P530 CLJ	1996	Volvo B10M	Plaxton Premiere	C53F
L290	CN	S290 TVW	1998	Volvo B10M	Plaxton Premiere	C53F
L291	SY	S291 TVW	1998	Volvo B10M	Plaxton Premiere	C53F
L295	CN	N664 THO	1995	Volvo B10M	Plaxton Premiere	C53F
L296	CN	M441 CVG	1995	Volvo B6	Plaxton Pointer	B40F
L297	HD	M832 CVG	1995	Volvo B6	Plaxton Pointer	B40F
L298	SY	N667 THO	1995	Volvo B10M	Plaxton Premiere	C53F
L299	CN	P395 AAA	Volvo B10M	Plaxton Premiere	C53F	
L300	KN	S300 XHK	1999	Volvo Olympian	Alexander RL	H51/36F
L301	HD	S376 MVP	1998	Volvo B10BLE	Alexander AXL300	B44F
L309	CN	R453 FWT	1997	Volvo B10M	Plaxton Premiere	C53F
L312	CN	W312 CJN	2000	Dennis Dart SLF	Plaxton Pointer 2	B40F
L325	HD	EX02 RYR	2002	Dennis Dart MPD	Plaxton Pointer 2	B29F
L326	HD	EJ02 KYY	2002	Dennis Dart MPD	Plaxton Pointer 2	B29F
L328	HD	EU03 BZK	2003	Transbus Dart	Plaxton Pointer 2	B37F
L330	CN	EU53 MVZ	2003	Volvo B7TL	Transbus President	H47/28F
L333	CN	R259 LGH	1998	Volvo Olympian	Northern Counties	H47/32F
L334	KN	V250 BNV	1999	Dennis Dart MPD	Plaxton Pointer 2	B29F
L335	CN	PJ02 RHE	2002	Dennis Dart SLF	Plaxton Pointer 2	B37F
L336	CN	N540LHG	1996	Volvo Olympian	Northern Counties	H48/32F
L337	HD	R279 LGH	1998	Volvo Olympian	Northern Counties	H47/32F
L338	CN	EU05 AUT	2005	Alexander Dennis Dart	Transbus Pointer 2	B34F
L339	CN	EU05 AUR	2005	Alexander Dennis Dart	Transbus Pointer 2	B34F
L340	HD	EU05 CLJ	2005	Volvo B7RLE	Wrightbus Eclipse	B44F
L341	CN	R273 LGH	1998	Volvo Olympian	Northern Counties	H47/32F
L342	SY	L108 HHV	1994	Dennis Dart	Northern Counties	B34F
L343	TY	EU55 BWC	2005	Alexander Dennis Dart	Alexander Dennis	B37F
L344	TY	P104 OLX	1997	Dennis Dart SLF	Plaxton Pointer	B32F
L345	CN	N427 JBV	1995	Volvo Olympian	Northern Counties	H43/30F

<i>no.</i>	<i>depot</i>	<i>reg. no.</i>	<i>year</i>	<i>chassis</i>	<i>body</i>	<i>seats</i>
L346	CN	EU06 KCX	2006	Alexander Dennis Dart	Alexander Dennis	B29F
L347	CN	W649 FUM	2000	Volvo B10M	Plaxton Premier	C53F
L348	CN	EU56 FLR	2006	Alexander Dennis Dart	Alexander Dennis	B37F
L349	TY	EU56 FLP	2006	Alexander Dennis Dart	Alexander Dennis	B37F
L350	TY	EU56 FLN	2006	Alexander Dennis Dart	Alexander Dennis	B37F
L351	CN	EU56 FLM	2006	Alexander Dennis Dart	Alexander Dennis	B37F
L352	CN	P494 MBY	1996	Volvo Olympian	Alexander RH	H43/31F
L353	CN	P489 MBY	1996	Volvo Olympian	Alexander RH	H43/31F
L354	TY	M604 TTV	1995	Volvo B10B-58	Alexander Strider	B55F
L355	HD	EU07 GVV	2007	Alexander Dennis Trident 2	AD Enviro 400	H47/33F
L356	CN	EY57 FZE	2007	Alexander Dennis Dart	Alexander Dennis Enviro 200	B37F
L357	CN	J838 TSC	1991	Leyland Olympian	Alexander RH	H51/34F
L358	CN	M276 UKN	1995	Volvo Olympian	Alexander RH	H47/31F
L359	CN	M273 UKN	1995	Volvo Olympian	Alexander RH	H47/31F
L360	CN	M282 UKN	1995	Volvo Olympian	Alexander RH	H47/31F
L361	CN	M144 UKN	1995	Volvo Olympian	Alexander RH	H47/31F
L362	CN	M146 UKN	1995	Volvo Olympian	Alexander RH	H47/31F
L363	CN	M294 UKN	1995	Volvo Olympian	Alexander RH	H47/31F
L364	KN	K107 JWJ	1993	Volvo Olympian	Northern Counties	H47/29F
L365	KN	L109 LHL	1993	Volvo Olympian	Northern Counties	H47/29F
L366	SY	S127 RLE	1998	Volvo Olympian	Alexander RH	H45/29F
L367	KN	K357 DWJ	1993	Leyland Olympian	Northern Counties	H47/29F
L368	TY	K508 ESS	1993	Leyland Olympian	Alexander RL	DP43/27F
L369	TY	K518 ESS	1993	Leyland Olympian	Alexander RL	DP43/27F
L370	TY	EU58 JJC	2008	Alexander Dennis Dart	Alexander Dennis Enviro 200	B37F
L371	TY	K510 ESS	1993	Leyland Olympian	Alexander RL	DP43/27F
L372	KN	R626 MNU	1998	Volvo Olympian	Northern Counties	H47/29F
L373	KN	R629 MNU	1998	Volvo Olympian	Northern Counties	H47/29F
L374	HD	R647 MNU	1998	Volvo Olympian	Northern Counties	H47/29F
L375	KN	P605 CAY	1996	Volvo Olympian	Northern Counties	H47/29F
L376	TY	P602 CAY	1996	Volvo Olympian	Northern Counties	H47/29F
L377	TY	P606 CAY	1996	Volvo Olympian	Northern Counties	H47/29F
L378	SY	P608 CAY	1996	Volvo Olympian	Northern Counties	H47/29F
L379	KN	P612 CAY	1996	Volvo Olympian	Northern Counties	H47/29F
L380	SY	EU59 AFF	2009	Alexander Dennis Dart	Alexander Dennis Enviro 200	B29F
L381	CN	EU59 AFJ	2009	Alexander Dennis Dart	Alexander Dennis Enviro 200	B29F
L382	CN	EU59 AYM	2009	Alexander Dennis Dart	Alexander Dennis Enviro 200	B37F
L383	CN	EU59 AYP	2009	Alexander Dennis Dart	Alexander Dennis Enviro 200	B37F
L384	TY	R702 DNH	1997	Volvo Olympian	Alexander RL	H51/36F
L385	TY	EU10 AOX	2010	Alexander Dennis Dart	Alexander Dennis Enviro 200	B37F
L386	HD	SN10 CCV	2010	Alexander Dennis Trident 2	AD Enviro 400	H47/33F

Mark Lloyd with thanks to Mr D R MacGregor

Ensibus

■ DEALING STOCK MOVEMENTS

January 2012

Vehicles in

ADL	unregistered
Aintree Coaches	N619CKA
Bear Buses	P794SWC
Beestons Coaches	M516WHF
Centrebus	YJ03GXZ
Dublin Bus	08-D-69001

Dart SFD2GCDR33GW87292
 Volvo B12B Wright
 Olympian
 Volvo B10B Wright
 Volvo B12B Van Hool
 Wright (*Hybrid diesel/electric first in service
 Dec 2008 as WH1. Siemens lithium- ion
 batteries and Ford diesel engine*)

London General	Y909TGH	Dart MPD
London United	V807KAG/T347 PRH	Dart Pointer SLF (Ex DP47)
Metroline	V126-30/1/2/3GBY	Dart Pointer SLF (Ex DLD126 etc)
Metroline	V749/51/53HBY	Trident President (Ex TP49 etc)
Nottingham City Trans	V423DRC	Trident East Lancs
	V427/8/31/4/5DRA W656SNN ex Nottingham 423, 427, 428, 431, 434, 435 & 656)	
Stagecoach Highlands	TRM144	Volvo B10M Van Hool (Ex 52049)
Stagecoach London	LX51FFO	Dart Alexander ALX200
	Y373FJN	(ex 34341/34333)
TWH	P851GND	Volvo B10M (Ex Stagecoach East 20851)
Veolia PLC	FJ04ESY	Volvo B12B
Veolia PLC	W20PJC	MAN 14.220 MCV
	AE54NUF/MM53BLU AE55EHO AE54AEB	Iveco Beulas
	MX56ABO/CN56FDP	Solo
	CN05ARO CN54HFC YN04LWU/YX03ZXA YJ06YRD/E/M/N	
	YJ56AUM YB06VOK/M	YN55KWL Iveco CC100E Indicar Maxim (ex 78003)
	AU07AFO CN07FSJ	Primo (ex 40206/40201)
	YN05WJF	Scania Irizar
	YN55NDL/O	(ex NXL18/NXL27/NXL28/ex Bebb)
	YN55PXM	

Vehicles out

A1 European, Nottingham	R385LHK R368LHK R382LHK R384LHK R383LHK ex 97-D-381, 98-D-20409, 97-D-367, 97-D-384, 97-D-20415, Dublin Olympians	
Bath Bus Company	AE60GRU	Volvo B9TL MCV (Displayed at Euro bus Expo 2010. Ex Wessex Direct Bristol, de-roofed 2011. Sold after conversion to open top)
Bear Buses, Feltham, Middx	V749HBY	Trident President ex TP49
Carters Coaches, Northants.	P794SWC	Olympian
Carvers Coaches, Ellesmere Port	J629CEV	Olympian Alexander
Centrebus	YN03ZXA	Solo
Crossgates Coaches, Wales	WX58PFC	Enviro 300 (ex Bodmans Wiltshire Bus)
Croydon Coaches	W389PRC	Volvo B10M-62 Excalibur
	W462BCW	Volvo B7TL President (ex VP115 London United, had run with Roadrunner, Harlow)
Edward Thomas, West Ewell	W743NAS	Volvo B10M-62 Paragon (ex Citylink 52523)
Evergreen Coaches, Smethwick	YN05WJF	Scania Irizar
	YN55NDL/O YN55PXM	
Faresaver, Chippenham	W20PJC/ AE55EHO	MAN 14.220 MCV
Hawkes Coaches, Derby	P851GND	Volvo B10M Alexander PS
Holmeswood Coaches, Lancs	YJ56AUM/YB06VOK	Solo
	YJ06YRM/N	
Horseless Carriage Co, N Yorks	YB06VOM	Solo
Landmark, Letchworth.	M682TDB	Dennis Dragon, Duple Metsec. (ex Stagecoach 15182)
Linkfast, Benfleet	P149ASA	Volvo B10M Premiere Interurban (ex Stagecoach 52349)
Logic Travel, Nazeing, Essex	V130 / 132GBY	Dart (Ex DLD130/132)
Mulleys, Bury St Edmunds	CN54HFC CN06BXJ CN56FDU	Solo
New Adventure, Cardiff	V751HBY	Trident President (Ex TP51)

NIBS, Wickford, Essex	YJ06YRD / YRE YN55KWL NK55KBU	Solo Indicar Dart Pointer SLF (<i>has been operated by Redby Buses</i>)
Norfolk Green, Kings Lynn OTT, Ramsgate	MX56ABO K102JWJ G515VBB	Solo Volvo Olympian NC (<i>ex Stagecoach 16472</i>) Leyland Olympian NC (<i>ex Imperial</i>)
Padarn Bus, Caernarfon	S115EGK	Dart SLF Plaxton (<i>ex London Central LDP115</i>)
Peakes Coaches, Pontypool	Y335/6/7 FJN	Dart SLF ALX200 (<i>ex Stagecoach East London 34335/6/7</i>)
Transdev Yellow Buses	GN07FDE	Enviro 200 (<i>ex Kings Ferry B3, previously wore overall livery for Chatham Dockside shuttle</i>).
Travelmasters, Sheerness Ultimate Coaches, Stockton Xelabus, Eastleigh, Hants	YJ03GXZ X47CNY T132/45 CLO	Volvo B12B Van Hool Volvo B10M Paragon (<i>originally Bebb</i>) Trident President (<i>ex TP32/45</i>)

Other movements

Volvo B12B FJ04ESY Iveco YN54AEB Bob Vale Coach Sales, Andover, Hants.
unregistered Dart SFD2GCDR33GW87292 now EU56XDG City Direct, Galway.
Volvo B10M P422UGW Jerry Nolan Coaches, Eire.
Merc 814 ALX100 T456HNH PH Bus Tour, Mariola, Poland.
Merc 814 Beaver 2 V394SVV Fejzi Kakaj, Bucharest, Romania.
Trident ALX400 V193MEV South East Coachworks, Faversham.
Trident ALX400 X382NNO Manchester Community Transport.

Correction for December 2011

Dublin Olympian 20409 did not go to Scotbus, it was in fact 97-D-382 now R374LHK that went.

February 2012

Vehicles in

Arriva TOLST	UAR250Y	Metrobus 3 axle ex EMB784
Carters Coaches	AY07CUA	Enviro 200 ex 207
Cumbrae Coaches	SN03OAH	Enviro 300 B47F ex Hunter, Sauchie
Dualway	E767JAR (87-D-39113) E772JAR	Metrobus 3 axle ex EMB 767 Metrobus 3 axle ex EMB 772
Go-Ahead NE	V187/90/5-6/8-9ERG	Dart Plaxton MPD ex 487/90/5-6/8-9
	S726KNV	Dart Plaxton SLF ex 8290
London General	Y805/82/4-5/8-9TGH	Dart Plaxton SLF ex LDP150/182/4-5/8-9
Roadrunner Coaches	RX53LNH / LFH WKZ2463	MAN 14220's EL Myllennium B37F DAF SB3000 Plaxton Premiere ex R200SPK
	S6APH W468BCW	Merc 814 Plaxton Cheetah C25F Volvo B7TL Plaxton President
Stagecoach E Midlands	P541ESA / P558ESA /	Volvo B10Ms Alexander PS ex 20541/58/803/4/8
	N803-4/8DNE P156ASA / 703DYE /	Volvo B10Ms Plaxton Premiere 52356/52392
Stagecoach London	LY02OAX	Trident Alexander 400 17548
Tates Travel	GHZ8754	Dennis Javelin Plaxton Premiere
Veolia (Astons/Crossgates)	W384PRC CN57EFH/EFJ/AU07AFV	Volvo B10M Plaxton Excalibur Primo

YN05ARX	Iveco Ex 78001
YX09HYW/HYY/HYZ/	Enviro 200 910/1/2/902/3-5/7
HZB/HZC/HZD/HZE/HZG	
YN55NMM	Neoplan N122/3L 79001 new to Shamrock
YJ06YRL	Solo 0619
FG03JDZ	Iveco Eurorider Beulas 74013
FJ55XBD	Volvo B12B Plaxton Panther 5515

Vehicles out

Aintree Coaches, Merseyside	X93 CHJ P678NOJ	Volvo B6LE was 00-D-70035 Volvo B6LE Alexander 200 ex Stagecoach Yorkshire 31358
Astons Coaches, Worcester	V166 / 167MEV	Tridents Alexander 400 ex Selkent 17166/7
Bear Buses, Feltham, Middx	S116EGK	Dart Ex LDP116
Centrebus	CN05ARO	Solo Ex Veolia 40253
Coastal & Country Coaches, Whitby	X596EGK	Volvo B7TL converted to part open top
GHA Coaches, Wrexham	YJ06YRL	Solo Ex Veolia 0619
Golden Tours, London	X327 / 381NNO	Trident Alex 400 ex E London 17327/300
Holloway Coaches, Scunthorpe	N619CKA	Volvo B10B Wright ex Aintree C
Holmeswood Coaches, Lancs	CN57EFH/EFJ	Primos ex Veolia 40203/4
	AU07AFV	Primo ex Veolia 40200
Linkfast, Benfleet, Essex	P156ASA	Volvo B10M Plaxton Premiere
	FJ55XBD	Volvo B12B Plaxton Panther ex Veolia 5515
Marchants Coaches, Cheltenham	YN55NMM	Neoplan N122/3L ex Veolia 79001
Millenium Coaches, Dagenham	W384PRC	Volvo B10M-62 Plaxton Excalibur
NippyBus, Martock, Somerset	P201RWR	DAF SB3000 Plax Prem ex The Shires 4064
OTS, Falmouth, Cornwall	SN03OAH	Enviro 300 ex Cumbræ Coaches
OTT, Ramsgate	T122KLD	Trident ex TP22
Peakes Coaches, Pontypool	CN07FSO	Solo ex Veolia 40264
Regal Busways, Chelmsford	X387NNO	Trident Alex 400 ex Selkent 17320
RH Transport, Witney, Ox	M949LYR	DAF SB3000 Van Hool ex The Shires 4061
	J350/351/352BSH	Olympian Alexander ex OA350-2
	S371ONL S726KNV	Darts Plaxton SLF
Rotala	YX09HYW/HYY-Z/	Enviro 200's ex Veolia 910/1/2/902/3-5/7 HZB-E/G
Roadrunner Coaches, Harlow	V749ECU/ V729DNL	Darts Plaxton MPD ex Arriva NE 1749/1729
	V195/6/89 ERG	Darts Plaxton MPD ex Go NE 0495/6/89
	Y907/971TGH	ex LDP 170/1
	S117EGK	ex LDP 117
Scotbus, Inverness	R387LHK	Dublin Olympian 97-D-385
Scotbus, Inverness	S992YOO	Dublin Olympian 98-D-20389
Shelton Motors, Ramsey, Cambs	J403LKO	Optare Delta SB220 ex Stagecoach East Kent via Stagecoach London 26003, converted into training bus c/w tables, power sockets, for the training of drivers on TfL iBus equipment.

	N413/8/9/21WVR	Merc 814's ex Stagecoach 41413/8/9/21
	N908ETM	Merc 814 ex Arriva The Shires 2128
	P541ESA / P558ESA	/ Volvo B10M's PS ex Stagecoach 20541/58
Smiths Coaches, Patna,	N803-4/8 DNE	/803-4/8
	M696TDB	Dragon ex Stagecoach 15196 Scotland
Sullivan Buses, South Mimms	N420JBV	Olympian NC ex Stagecoach 16869
Target Travel, Plymouth	PJ02PZZ	Trident President
	FG03JDZ	Iveco Eurorider Beulas ex Veolia 74013
Tates Travel, Barnsley	Y373FJN LX51FFO	Darts SLF Alex 200 ex Stagecoach 34333/341
Travel and Transport, Newry, N Ireland	AE54NUF	MAN ex Veolia
VR Travel, Merthyr Tydfil	M548SPY	Volvo B10M NC ex Stagecoach Newcastle
Yellow Buses, Bournemouth	V428DRA	Trident EL ex Nottingham 428
	AY07CUA	Enviro 200 ex Carters 207

Other movements

Dublin Olympian CFZ6549 Volvo B7TL W473BCW: Dualway Coaches, Rathcoole, Eire.

Merc 814 Y131TBF: Mr Tanner Husnu, Mersin, Turkey.

Trident V753HBY : The Mayors office for Policing Crime, Earls Court.

■ ENSIGNBUS CO. LTD.

General

Conversion to the Ticketer ticketing system from Wayfarer TGX150 equipment has started.

Mark Lloyd with thanks to Ross Newman

Olympian / Roadrunner

Acquired are DCZ 7109 (S103 KJF) an Iveco 391E/Beulas from LA Travel, Kirkintilloch and FN53 CWW an Irisbus 65C15 from an unknown source. Vehicles sold are Iveco 65C15/Unvi EU07 XGM and Dennis Dart/Plaxton M223 AKB, the latter for scrap. Volvo B7TL/Plaxton W462 BCW has passed to Ensign and thence to Croydon Coaches.

Ian Ransom with thanks to LOTS

Regal Busways

During half term week, route 7 was mainly worked by double deckers; Olympian B203 DTU (1203) on 13/14/16 Feb and G34 OCK (1204) on 15th. Due to low trees, these could not do the double-run to Coopersale, or work between Chelmsford Market and Bus Station (re-routed via Parkway).

Leyland-National BYW 365V (101) has been used extensively, being noted on route 5 on 16th and route 7 on 21 and 24 Feb and also reported on route 3. Essex Pullman YJ56 WVY (PO3) was used on former Imperial route 261 on 20 Feb and Volvo/Plaxton Explorer coach 7345 FM appeared on route 658 on 23 Feb.

Ex Imperial Darts S520 KFL (607) and S526 KFL (609), together with J105 DUV (505) are

out of use, whilst K414 FHJ (508) is being used for spares. 505 was the last step entrance ex London Dart in use here. Dart L140 VRH is also out of use; it retains Stagecoach livery and although allocated 516 on paper, it never appears to have been carried by the vehicle

Three East London Bus Group/Stagecoach Dennis Trident/Alexander are being obtained, the first two being X312 NNO (1302) and X387 NNO (1303). They are in the new style low floor livery,

Additional parking has been obtained at Broomfield, being used mostly by coaches.

Ian Ransom

Stephensons of Essex

Renumbered

871 (G371 YUR) Olympian has been renumbered to 771 to keep it in sequence with the other low-height deckers; it is now the last bus remaining in Burtons colours;

Repainted

401 (N541TPF) Dart has been repainted into fleet colours, ex Burtons livery;

Allocations

1511 (D511 PPU) Olympian coach, originally Eastern National, is officially allocated to Haverhill as the spare seat-belted double decker and will hence see occasional use. It remains in the beige livery of its previous owner.

Withdrawn

875 (H155 PVW) Olympian/Alexander was sold in January to Victoria Coaches, Newhaven; 730 (F630 MSL) Olympian/Alexander was withdrawn in February.

Richard Delahoy

Community Bus Operators

Go-Ride CIC, Thurrock: a fourth Dart is KN52 NFP ex-Abello Surrey 8076; details as per the other three. The four Darts are being branded for the 374 in a red, yellow, green and black scheme. *David Harman with thanks to LOTS*

Other Operators

ACCESS ANYONE, Southend on Sea

Renault Trafic RY02 WUJ has been sold.

AC ROSS, Braintree Ford Transit VE05 YEY has been sold.

ADVANCE MINIBUSES, Southend on Sea Acquired is Ford Transit EN10 MXB.

AIS LUXURY CARS, Runwell Acquired some time ago, but only just reported is L702 CNR a Toyota HZB50R/Caetano, it has been re-registered A15 PTY.

APT COACHES, Rayleigh Scania K114/Irizar YN04 GGG has been sold to Scania (dealer), Worksop.

ARCHER MUNRO, Birchanger Mercedes Benz 811D/Autobus M642 UCT has been exported.

ASTROCABZ, Maylandsea Ford Transit CP54 DYX has been sold.

BARKER BUS, Roydon Acquisitions not previously reported are Mercedes-Benz 811D/Optare TIB 4901 (F670 SBY) from Dolphin, Norwich; UIL 2724 (H203 DVM) a Van Hool T815 from Quantock, Bishops Lydeard; G22 VMW a Leyland Swift/Wadham Stringer ex London Borough of Lewisham; N983 BHE a Dennis Dart/

Wadham Stringer ex Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council and X956 BNE a LDV Convey from M&K Travel, Lidget Green. Former Northampton Volvo B10M/Duple G112 ENV has been re-registered JIL 3125.

BLUE DIAMOND, Harlow Mercedes-Benz 316CDI DE04 UEX has been sold to Wheal Briton Travel, Blackwater.

BRENTWOOD COACHES, Brentwood Setra LUI 7650, has been numbered 8.

BROWRING, Westcliff LDV Convey R643 AEG has been sold.

CEDRIC, Ardleigh Fleetnumbers not previously reported are Volvo Coaches K908 RGE (15), SE51 DZA (17) and DAF DB250/Optare M133 HPR, M137/41/45 KRU (21-24). Leyland Olympian/ECW K360 DWJ (10) has been sold for scrap.

CHARIOTS, Corringham Scania K112/Jonckheere TIB 8567 (C409 LRP) has been sold

CHELMSFORD TAXIBUS Acquired from sister company Excellent Connections, Manchester are Vauxhall Vivano EY07 ZYR/ZZA/ZYN/ZYG (numbered 105-7/9).

DONS, Gt Dunmow Leyland Atlantean/East Lancs DHG 211W has been sold.

FORD, Althorne Acquired from the defunct Yellow Star, Haverhill fleet is YN07 LHE a Scania K340/Berkhof.

KNIGHTS COACHES, Witham Ford Transit NL07 ZFR has been acquired.

LONDON HERITAGE TRAVEL, Grays AEC Routemaster/Park Royal JJD 588D has been converted to open top.

MALCOLMS BLUE BUS, Clacton-on-Sea The PSV Circle reports that Dennis Dart/Plaxton R707 YWC, was acquired by this operator, rather than New Horizon, as reported in January. Prior to this, a vehicle had been on hire from Hedingham's Clacton depot.

MATTHEWS COACHES, Rayleigh Setra S215HD B434 RLO has been returned to use.

NCS, Widdington Acquired from a private owner is PO53 WVC a Renault Trafic (non-PSV here).

P&M COACHES, Crays Hill Vehicles here, not previously reported are AIG 2564 (L372 JBD), K622 UFR both Mercedes Benz

709D/Alexander Belfast ex Herberts Travel, Shefford; M860 TYC a Volvo B10M/Van Hool from an unknown source, and W538 CDN a Mercedes-Benz 614D/Crest ex Caldew, Dalston, Cumbria.

PANTHER TRAVEL, White Roding

Acquired from Skyways, Four Lane Ends West Yorkshire is former Eastern National B694 BPU, a Leyland Olympian/ECW coach.

RICHARDS COACHES, Chelmsford Setra S250 P214 RUU has been sold.

RUFFLE, Sible Hedingham Dennis Javelin/Neoplan M917 OVR has been sold to Manor Training, Benfleet (non PSV)

SILVERLINE, Abridge Acquired from Healey, West Kensington is FY03 WZS a Mercedes-Benz Sprinter/Ferqui, it has been re-registered 755 UKM.

SMITH & MAY, Thundersley Formerly known as Linkfast/S&M Travel, this operator is up and running again. In addition to Mercedes-Benz C12 LCB, previously mentioned, former Yorkshire Traction Volvo B10M/Plaxton L125 NAO has been acquired.

THORNS OF RAYLEIGH Acquired from Cara Coach, Upton Cross is LUI 9954 (new to MoD as 37 KC 39) a Leyland Tiger/Wadham Stringer.

TURNERS OF ESSEX, Little Maplestead Dennis Condor/Duple Metsec G303 FWC (Hong Kong EN1721) has been sold to Tony Glew, Little Tey.

VICEROY OF ESSEX, Saffron Walden Acquired from BM Coaches, Hayes is W367 EOL a Mercedes-Benz 0404/Hispano, it has been re-registered RUI 6757. Mercedes Benz 0814D/Plaxton P260 RUM has been sold to Stafford Bus Centre (dealer), Coles Heath.

As this is my last column, I would like to extend special thanks to those who have provided news over the past few years. In particular Dave Arnold, Colin Sigston, Alan Timms, Owen Woodliffe, John Podkorski, Steve Curl, Chris Stewart, Peter Mobbs (Kings Coaches), Steve Carr (Regal), Paul Smith (Talisman), Lyn Watson and Richard Delahoy (Stephensons) and to those who I may have forgotten (please accept my apologies, my memory is not as good as it used to be)
Ian Ransom

Spotlight on ...



**... Wicks Coaches
of Braintree**



In 1957 Mr Percy Wicks, a motor trader, was approached by a Braintree schoolteacher who was organising one of the first school trips to France, but he needed help finding a vehicle.

Mr Wicks obtained a Harrington-bodied Commer coach which has been recorded as being craned onto a ferry at

Dover - no 'roll-on, roll-off' then!

This prompted Mr Wicks to branch out into coach operation having seen an opening in the school trips market. Soon a second coach was purchased, VMK 673, again a Commer but this time with Thurgood bodywork.

Two further Commer vehicles were acquired in September 1965 from Eastern National. These were Avenger III/Duple 576 FVW and 577 FVW, ex EN 101/2 and new to Moores of Kelvedon.

These joined other interesting vehicles in the Wicks fleet including ex-Aldershot & District Dennis Lance LOU 53, ex-Hants & Dorset Bristol K6A HLJ 33 and ex-Birch Bros. Leyland PD1 HLY 488, amongst other gems.

above: The current double-deck vehicle in the fleet is DAF Optare Spectra **K125 PGO** which came from Go North East in 2007 but which started life with London Central.
inset: The original Commer / Harrington. *Keith Woods*



Two Bristol Lodekkas joined the fleet in 1976: **OWX 175** ex-West Yorkshire, and **RTT 996**, new as Southern National 1877, and they are seen together. RTT 996 has survived and is now in preservation with an owner in Maidenhead. *Nigel Turner Collection*

RBD 114M was a Bedford YRT with Willowbrook B53F bodywork which came from Field of Paulton in 1990, but was new to United Counties. *Keith Woods*





Two Dennis Javelins with contrasting styles of bodywork are seen here. **PIB 2344** has a Neoplan body whilst **R719 TRV** has a much more restrained UVG coach body.

Keith Woods

SIB 8345 is a Neoplan N116 which came from the Derbyshire firm of Johnsons of Hodthorpe in 2008. *Keith Woods*



In May 2006, the business of Goodwin of Black Notley was absorbed. The last remaining Goodwin vehicle, Leyland Tiger A147 RMJ has just been sold, and in January was awaiting collection by its new owner from Chester.

Today, Mr. AJ Wicks continues in business but DAF and Dennis vehicles have replaced any Commers!

Keith Woods

Fleet list : January 2012

MIG 1770	(H238 AFV)	DAF / Van Hool C49Ft	(withdrawn)
PIB 2344	(DUI 672)	Dennis Javelin / Neoplan C49Ft	
SIB 8345	(J3 JBT)	Neoplan N116 C49Ft	
A147 RMJ		Leyland Tiger / Van Hool C51F	(sold; awaiting collection)
K125 PGO		DAF DB/ Optare Spectra H44/27F	
R729 TRV		Dennis Javelin / UVG C53F	
R123 XWF		Dennis Javelin / Plaxton C53F	
S760 DOX		Toyota / Caetano C21F	(withdrawn)

Van Hool visits Van Hool



Don's of Dunmow Van Hool Alicron T917 DH08 DON was used to take a group of operators and suppliers from the Confederation of Passenger Transport London and the south east area to visit Van Hool in Belgium (and DKV in Holland). Operators from Essex included Don's, Panther Travel, Talisman, Grahams, Flagfinders and Fourways. DH08 DON is seen (below) outside the Van Hool factory in Lier, Belgium. *Paul Smith*

M&D and EK60 and ENEG50

Many of our members will be aware of the special celebratory 'M&D and EK 60' event on Saturday 31 March to mark that Clubs Diamond Jubilee in 2012. However, far fewer will be aware of the close connection between this Society and our Kentish neighbours across the Thames. Now is an appropriate time to tell this story.

I first met Don Vincent, the Founder of the M&D and EK Bus Club in Canterbury Bus Station on a sunny day in the summer of 1960. We chatted, whilst serenaded by the melodious tones of the magnificent 'JG' Leyland TD4s and TD5s of East Kent. A little while later I joined the Club. After an exchange of letters, Don invited me to become the Ilford Area Representative, the appointment being shown in their June 1961 news sheet. The eagle-eyed amongst you will notice that my Seven Kings address was then shown as 7, Cambridge Drive. Because of constant misdirected mail deliveries, the name of our road was later changed (by an Act of Parliament :) to Farley Drive.

Why an Ilford Group you might ask.

Historically, North Woolwich on our side of the Thames was originally part of Kent. Moreover, M&D express service E14 from Leysdown on the Isle of Sheppey set down in south London as far as Blackheath and then traversed the Blackwall Tunnel to then serve Poplar (Aberfeldy Street), Stratford (Manbey Park Road) and terminated at Leyton (Winwoods Coach Station, Lea Bridge Road). The sight of a 'KKK' green and cream Harrington bodied A.E.C. Regal CO coach by the side of Maryland Station bound for Leysdown is a lasting memory for me.

The M&D Club news sheet also featured the coaches of A. Timpson & Sons, a BET-owned company based at Rushey Green, Catford. Timpsons also had a garage in Crayford, Kent. Perhaps less well known was that they had a garage in East Ham in High Street South. This was later demolished and a Fire Station erected on the site.

M&D AND EAST KENT BUS CLUB + + + MONTHLY NEWS-SHEET NO.107 1 JUNE 1961

News and events concerning the East Kent Road Car Company Ltd.,
and the Maidstone & District Motor Services Ltd.

Club developments:

Commencing 1st June 1961 Mr. R. Wickens (M.236) becomes Area Representative for the Folkestone and Dover areas. His address is: Mr. Wickens, "Glenside", School Road, Acrise, Folkestone, Kent.

From the same date Mr. A. G. Osborne (M.507) breaks new ground by becoming our first Area Representative in Essex. His address is: Mr. A. G. Osborne, 7, Cambridge Drive, Seven Kings, Essex and he will cover local club affairs in the Ilford area.

On 1st June 1961 a new club section was formed to deal with all official matters concerning the Bristol K5G Hybridge bus. This will be known as the Vehicle Restoration Section, and the special sub-committee in charge will consist of: B. Smith, L. N. Randall and D. A. Vincent.

Eastbourne Corporation notes:

Delivery of the 5 new Regents (See our January issue) has commenced. Number 56 (HJK156) arrived on 28.5.61 and numbers 57-60 are due this month. We hope to include full details in our next issue.

East Kent notes:

Delivery dates and initial allocations for WFN500-512 are included below. WFN513-18 will be in blue livery and dates of these will appear next month.
 WFN501 (C) 20.4.61 WFN507 (DO) 5.5.61
 WFN502 (D) 20.4.61 WFN508 (DO) 12.5.61
 WFN503 (D) 26.4.61 WFN509 (DO) 12.5.61
 WFN504 (DO) 27.4.61 WFN510 (DO) 18.5.61
 WFN505 (DO) 27.4.61 WFN511 (UA) 18.5.61
 WFN506 (DO) 5.5.61 WFN512 (UA) 19.5.61
 On delivery of WFN513-18 to Dover (DO) WFN504-6 will move to (FK), WFN507/8 (HB) WFN509/10 (TH) and WFN511/2 will be allocated to Thanet (TH) to complete the final allocation.

One of my first activities for the Ilford Group was to arrange a coach tour visiting Eastern National garages and also

Colchester Corporation which took place on 12 November 1961. The vehicle used was Burlingham bodied Leyland Royal Tiger 133



The first Essex coach tour organised by the Ilford Group used 133 (FJN 212), a Burlingham-bodied Leyland Royal Tiger, seen in Braintree Bus Park on Sunday 12 November 1961. Don Vincent

THE M & D AND EAST KENT BUS CLUB + + + MONTHLY NEWS-SHEET

VOLUME ELEVEN

Editor : D.A.Vincent, 30, Shirley Avenue, Bexley, Kent

NUMBER 116

MARCH 1962

Editorial:

Mr. R.W. Boorman (M157), 17 Briton Road Faversham, Kent, is to operate as a part of our M & D Records Section, a central register of Maidstone & District vehicle overhaul/repaint dates and garage allocations. Mr. Boorman would be pleased to hear from members in all parts of the company's territory who are interested in assisting with recording dates. Please write to the address shown.

An Eastern National Enthusiasts Group has been formed as from 1 March 1962. Organiser: A.G. Osborne, 7, Cambridge Drive, Seven Kings, Essex, assisted by T.H. Murphy of Ilford. For the present this will not be a separate club, but will enable Essex-area members (and other interested persons) to set up their own records, general activities, etc. Consultations with the Eastern National Omnibus Company Ltd., will open shortly.

Maidstone & District, Cont'd:

The unladen weight of Land Rover 896RKR is 1t 15c Qtr. It has 12 forward gears & 3 reverse. Since delivery to Gravesend it has been used several times for towing Leyland Atlantean buses, which apparently are well within its capabilities.

The final hearing of the recent Revision of Fares Application was held on 1 Feb 1962 and these were introduced on Sun. 11 Feb 1962. Basically it was only a very partial increase and constituted a slight reduction in mileage between Fare Stages. About 45% of existing fares remain unaltered.

Gravesend Service 56 is now P.A.Y.E. in the mornings (previously double-deck) and Service 116 is worked by PDRL's in the evenings. Service 27 may be extended to Thong Lane, at the terminus of Service 56. Further details to follow when known.

(FJN 212), most ably driven by ex-City Coach Company driver, Sid Lonton. As a preliminary to the tour, M&DEK publication P20 (List of Eastern National garages and code letters) was issued, price 2d (plus 2d postage, total less than 2p !) from Club Headquarters in Bexley.

It transpired that Don and myself both worked in fairly close proximity in London. He worked for Gestetner (manufacturers of printing equipment) at Kings Cross whilst I was in the Chemistry Department at Northampton College in nearby Finsbury (on trolleybus route 679). The opportunity for lunchtime meetings was taken following which the Ilford Group became the Eastern National Enthusiasts Group on 1 March 1962, which was formed into a separate society from 1 January 1964. Thence forward the two Societies went their

different ways, but still kept in close contact through an exchange of news sheets. This became more pertinent from 1964 with the formation of Dartford Tunnel Coachways with through express services introduced between Essex and Kent.

In later years, after Don Vincent had married and moved to Andover, Hampshire, Paul Hollingsbee took over the reigns and by 1972 had become Chairman and Treasurer with Nicholas King as Editor. By this time committee meetings were held on Sundays in Aylesford (Between Strood and Maidstone) which involved a long journey for me. Nowadays with Southeastern High Speed trains the journey from Stratford International to Strood takes just 26 minutes. How times have changed !

The links between our two Societies are still

<u>EASTERN NATIONAL ENTHUSIASTS GROUP</u>		
<u>General Circular E.C.4.</u>	<u>Coach Tour IT/14</u>	<u>March 1965</u>
<u>SOUTH ESSEX COACH TOUR - Sunday 4th April 1965.</u>		
A Coach Tour has been arranged for the above date by courtesy of the operators concerned. The Coach will visit Eastern National garages at BRENTWOOD, BASILDON, SOUTHEAD, FRITTEWELL, HADLEIGH AND CARVEY. Visits will also be made to SOUTHEAD CORPORATION and to ELM PARK COACHES, Romford, MIDAS MOTOR SERVICES, Brentwood, and AUDAWN COACHES, Corringham. The tour will also include a study of Elm Park Coaches stage carriage route in the ex. London Transport RFW 1 owned by the operator. The coach will pick up at KINGS CROSS (Pancras Road 9.00 am.) ILFORD (Clements Road Top, 9.30 am), ROMFORD (Elm Park Coach Station, North Street, 9.45 am). A lunch stop of about $\frac{1}{2}$ hour will be made in Southend and the coach will return to London by 8.30 pm.		
To: A.G. Osborne, 7 Cambridge Drive, Seven Kings, Ilford, Essex. Please reserve _____ seat(s) for me on the South Essex Coach Tour for which I enclose a Postal Order value £ s d. <u>FARES</u> Members.....11/6 Guests.....12/6 <u>NOTE</u> Please make Postal Orders payable to 'A.G. Osborne' and enclose stamped addressed envelope. NAME _____ E.N. GROUP MEMBERSHIP NUMBER _____ DATE _____ ADDRESS _____ PICK UP POINT _____ SIGNATURE _____		

ENEG tour form for South Essex Coach Tour, Sunday 4 April 1965. By this time, the first picking-up point was in central London. Note the members fare: 11/6d (57p), and the independent operators featured.

very strong and the EBEG wishes the M&D and East Club all the best for the future. Incidentally, since the name of the Eastern National Enthusiasts Group was first introduced in March 1962 (albeit in somewhat embryonic form) then we can

celebrate this Golden Jubilee this month, so its M&DEK60 and ENEG50.

Alan G Osborne



One of the more memorable vehicles used for a tour was this former Moore Bros. of Kelvedon Guy Arab IV with Northern Counties body. 1041 (2834 F) is seen in Clements Road, Ilford on Sunday 27 October 1963. Next pick up point: Tilbury Ferry. *Alan Osborne*

rear cover

Heddingham Olympian L378 (P608 CAY), freshly repainted outside Heddingham depot. *Dave Arnold*

The newest but one vehicle in the fleet: **Enviro 200 L385 (EU10 AOX)**, seen at Showbus in September 2011. *David Harman*



Regal contrasts

The Blackmore-Brentwood 261 now sees a variety of buses from the Regal fleet, one example being MPD Dart 602 which is seen passing through Doddinghurst on 10 March.

Chris Stewart

National 101 was used on the 3 all day on 9 March. *John G Lidstone*



