

ESSEX BUS NEWS

The monthly magazine of the

ESSEX BUS ENTHUSIASTS GROUP

AUGUST 1987

(Formerly the **EASTERN NATIONAL ENTHUSIASTS GROUP**) **ISSUE No. 281**



L137, one of Heddingham's new Plaxton Derwent bodied Bedford VMP's, is seen on service 90 in Witham. This vehicle is now usually to be found on the 52 group in Chelmsford.

ROCHFORD MEETING

This will be held at Freight House, Rochford (which is adjacent to the railway station) on 8th September at 20:00. This month's topic was not known at the time of writing.

CHELMSFORD MEETING

This will be held at 19:30 on 22nd Sept-62 Plantation Road, Boreham, and will provide an opportunity for general discussion. Bus connections depart Chelmsford at 19:00 (service 353), returning by service 53 at 22:00.

All members and friends will be most welcome at both venues.

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IDIOT OF THE MONTH

Is the lady at the Post Office who told me my postcode was CM7 6AU - this is in fact in Braintree. The correct code is CM2 0XU.

A few errors were printed last month:

Page 2 BD 0204 should read BD 0240.

1115 was repainted at CN not CR.

3084 and not 3034 is in Essex Radio livery.

Page 5 23.6.87 should read BD 0240.

I am informed by G.Toon regarding the CBT Ipswich service, that 44 was the first bus to Ipswich as he was on it. 43 worked on the 74A before operating the 12:10 ex-Colchester.

NEW BOOK

* Major Bus Operators of the South East *

Published by Capital Transport in their usual style, detailing 15 fleets in the S.E.

Available from Andy Meadows, 52 Ferdale Road, Rayleigh SS6 9NW @ £4.95 plus 50p P&P.

EASTERN NATIONAL LIMITEDALLOCATIONS & TRANSFERS

7/87 0200 BD-DT; 0600 PD-D/L(D); 0601 DT-D/L(D); 0604 BD(F)-D/L(D); 0754/5/6 BD(P)-Pool; 1711/2/5 BN-Pool; 1723 Pool-D/L(D); 1731 HH-D/L(D); 1761 CR-HH; 1862 CF-SE; 1865 BD-CR; 1866 SE-SD; 1868 SD-CF; 1876 BE-BD; 1892 CR-BE; 3084 CN-SD-CF; 3091 CF-SD; 3201 SD-CN.

0754 was in use at Clacton between 17th and 24th July when 0755 replaced it. Of the above 1711 is being used for driver training, 1712 is being used from SD and 1715 from BS.

Further to last month's notes 1702 was still being used at CF despite being officially withdrawn, and it can be confirmed that 1128, 1133 and 1304 moved to HH during 6/87.

ON HIRE

D163 WTV, a Kettlewells of Retford Scania K92 with East Lance B51F bodywork was inspected at New Writtle Street on 22/7/87. It was not used in passenger service.

VEHICLE REPAINTS

w/e 11/7 1058 at ENE; 1123 at CN; 1758 at ENE; 1765 at HH; 1775 at ENE.

w/e 18/7 1503 at ENE; 1840 at ENE; 1890 at ENE.

w/e 25/7 1052 at ENE; 3061 at CN.

w/e 1/8 None.

w/e 8/8 1839 at ENE; 1879 at ENE.

Bedford midibus 1050, the last of the batch in old livery, is currently at ENE for repaint.

3114 has had its unibus advert for N&P windows painted out in yellow during July.

DRIVER TRAINING BUSES

Bristol VR 9004 was withdrawn during July whilst 9000 has now appeared in a new style driver training livery after repaint at Maldon. This is mainly green but with 3 broad diagonal yellow stripes. 9001-4 were still carrying fleetnumber plate 3001-4 in mid-July although 3000 has been renumbered, in silver transfer only, to 9000.

Leyland Olympian 4006 returned from Bristol on 20th July following repairs to its upper deck. It had been ready the previous week but whilst being driven across Bristol it hit a branch of a tree and needed some more repairs!

Full depth blinds are starting to appear on buses at Basildon and Braintree and it is hoped to publish details of these and other depots in the future.

In response to Coastal Red's St.Osyth circular EN are offering a 55p return fare, the same as a single. The withdrawal of services to Tudor Estate leaving the residents with an hourly Coastal Red instead of a 10 minute EN is causing some passengers to see red.

It is interesting that National Express route 084 continues to use Clacton Bus Station despite being operated by CharterCoach, Coastal Red's parent company.

Further details of the Bps.Stortford to Walton service is that it started during May, with the journey commencing from Sawbridgeworth at 08:45 and running via Thorley, Bps.Stortford, Dunmow, Braintree to Clacton and Walton, returning at 17:30.

For some time now a duplicate has been provided on route 712. This was normally BS 1127 however since it has now been repainted BS 1113 is now used and runs just in front of the Olympian Coach on the service. A Leyland National is now a common sight on the 333 despite there being enough Tigers on paper to cover the whole service.

Bristol VRT's 3205-17 have been fitted with anti-assault screens similar to those fitted to London Buses vehicles and are used on the 307 with the 30xx/31xx buses on the 359; however some switching does occur.

As members are no doubt aware vehicles at BE, BS, BN & SE are starting to appear with black bumpers, whilst Leyland National 2's at MN are having their's painted white!

Operation of commuter route 193 passed from EN to Grey-Green from the morning of 14th July.

Finally it is reported that another Austin FX4 Taxi has been acquired for staff transfer duties, I hope to have details next month.

LRT TRAVELCARDS

From Sunday 16th August LRT Travelcards and Capitalcards will no longer be valid on ECC contracted services in the Waltham Cross and Loughton areas unless the service is jointly tendered with LRT (20, 167 & 206 but not 201 etc.).

SERVICES

152 Revised timetable from 17.8.87. To run ¼-hourly Grays-Basildon but only hourly continuation to Chelmsford.

154 Most journeys to terminate at Basildon Hospital from 17.8.87.

155 Revised timetable, all trips serving Billericay Stn. from 17.8.87

158 Withdrawn after operation on 24.7.87.

228, 229 & 230 All withdrawn after operation on 24.7.87.

235/6 Extended from Basildon to Pitsea Broadway and revised timetable introduced from 27.7.87.

238 NEW SERVICE. Billericay Mayflower School to Gt.Burstead Kennel Lane. Mon-Sat from 27.7.87.

330 Off peak service increased to 20 minute (from 30 min) from 4.8.87.

337 Revised timetable introduced from 24.8.87.

339 Withdrawn after operation on 21.8.87.

353 Revised early morning/evening timetable from 24.8.87.

With the opening of the Writtle By-pass, service 451 has been rerouted from Chequers Road to the Bus Link and along the by-pass to Widford and then along the old A12 to Margaretting. This leaves Lodge Road and Margaretting Road unserved. The 7 minute running time from "The Chequers" to Margaretting remains unchanged.

A Mon-Fri service from 27th July until 4th Sept has been introduced from South Woodham Town Centre direct to Chelmsford Leisure Centre Car Park, Victoria Road. It is operated by Chelmsford depot and leaves

South Woodham at 13:30 and returns from Chelmsford at 16:35. No service number is displayed but a "SOUTH WOODHAM SWIM BUS" sticker is displayed. Return fares only are issued @ £1.00 Adult/£0.50 Children.

UNUSUAL WORKINGS

- 4/7 CN 3031 on private hire to Cromer.
- 8/7 WW 3115 noted running empty in Romford.
- 11/7 BE 3048 noted in Rawreth; CN 3022 on 87A, CN 1751 on 4 (Clacton).
- 12/7 CN 3031 on 100.
- 13/7 BD 1903 on 251.
- 14/7 HH 1900 on 250.
- 17/7 1700 D/L(D) noted at Woodford Green; and very unusual PD 1051 on service 307.
- 18/7 WW 1791 noted at Clacton depot and it remained there until 24/7.
- 20/7 BE 4017 on private hire in Clacton; SW 1931 on 119.
- 22/7 BE 1929 on X70.
- 23/7 BE 4016 on 712, and again on 24/7.
- 25/7 CF 3057 on 353; BN 4508 on private hire in Maldon.
- 26/7 CF 1651 replaced a failed BE 1812 on 452; BE 4016 on Bishops Stortford-Walton service; CN 3201 on 300.
- 30/7 CR 1123 on 53 (07:45 ex-Chelmsford normally a CR Leyland National)
- 4/8 BD 0237 on driver training in Chelmsford.
- 6/8 CN 3025 on 119.

One loan of note took place on 11/7 when SE 4013 operated Clacton circulars whilst 3500 went to Southend.

The rail replacement service between Pitsea and Upminster has been operated by SD, HH, BN, WW, BS, BE, SE, CF, CR & DT as well as London Buses using North Street (NS), Romford, Titans; Colchester BT; Harris; Nelsons and Castle Point Bus Co.

DISPOSALS

Eastern National Limited - Initial disposals

- 702 (LWN 702L) Sold to Kirby Bros., Rochford for scrap 5/87.
- 706 (LWN 706L) Sold to Banyard, Latchingdon for scrap 7/87.

Eastern National Omnibus Company - Subsequent disposals

- 330 (7016 HK) Was acquired by Costain Mining, Fife (N-PSV) from Rennie, Dunfirmline (addl.to mag.277).
- 420 (GVW 928H) Still in use as mobile caravan, noted at Page Bank, Co.Durham 7/87. Now C16F+sleeping accomodation in blue/white livery
- 1402 (VHK 175L) Still with Shaftsbury Soc., Dovercourt (N-PSV) ,7/87. Report of sale in mag.277 was an error.
- 1403 (VHK 176L) Still with Clacton Simming Club (N-PSV), 8/87.
- 1405 (VHK 178L) St.Josephs Church, Penketh (N-PSV), 5/87, ex-St.James Church Gt.Sankey (N-PSV).
- 1608 (GVW 978H) Dealer, Bromyard, 5/87, ex-Mount Pleasant Tornadoes Jazz Band (N-PSV), Cwmbran.
- 2384 (LWC 660C) Returned to Stagecoach, Perth ex-Magicbus, 4/87.
- 2901 (WVX 528F) As 2834 above, but in 1/87.
- 2905 (WVX 532F) As 2834.
- 2920 (AEV 814F) McFadzean and Howard, Bedford (N-PSV), 7/87, ex-North (dealer), Sherburn-in-Elmet. Being used as Sunday Mirror Fun Bus during this summer (what summer?) and was in Clacton on 2/8/87. Passed to North from Waddingtons, Leeds (N-PSV), by 7/87.
- 2943 (AVW 403F) Was acquired by Bus Fare (N-PSV), Cranleigh, by 2/85. (Addl.to NS 267).
- 3047 (OCS 576H) Passed from South Midland to dealer, Middlewich, 9/87, before passing to Jones, Minera. (addl.to mag.275).
- 9435 (PWC 342K) } Breaker, Carlton, 2/87, ex-Cleverly, Cwmbran.
- 9436 (PWC 343K) }

1954-64 numbering scheme

440 (610 JPU) Withdrawn by Thomas, Upper Llandwrog, 4/77, and passed to a Barnsley dealer c.10/78. (correction to NS 254).

Citybus, Belfast - update

1533 (MHK 915J) Entered service 6/87 from Falls Park depot.
 1534 (MHK 916J) Still out of service in 7/87, following an engine fire.
 1542 (SVW 275K) Entered service 7/87 from Falls Park.
 1542 (RPU 882K) Delicensed in 7/87, probably for school holidays.
 1553 (WNO 542L) } Details as 1533 above.
 1554 (WNO 543L) }

In future details of these buses will appear in the usual subsequent disposals section.

PUBLICITY

Wickford Bus Book - giving details of all EN services in the area dated 28/6/87.

Buses serving Stanstead Airport - details of services dated 27/7/87.

Go Places - publicity leaflet giving details of what EN has to offer.

Timetable leaflets for:-

22A/22B dated 6.7.87; 150/153 dated 28.6.87; 235/36/38 dated 27.7.87;
 330 dated 3.8.87; 353/355/356 dated 13.7.87.

EASTERN NATIONAL ENGINEERING

The following have passed through ENE during July:-

Heddingham Omnibuses L84, L103 and L118.

Tellyn, Witham A169 OHJ, SPP 609W, XGS 734S, DHV 479W, HGA 637T, A62 DJH and 669 OYA.

Osbourne, Tollesbury DPU 505T.

Nelson, Wickford TUO 260J, BIL 6538.

S+M Coaches TOE 438N.

Eastern National buses, of which there were many, are not listed here.

COMMUTER SERVICES

The following were observed outside Embankment Station on 31st July:-

16:20 Tye Green	BE 4512.	17:10 South Woodham	GG 813
16:35 Tiptree	GG 829.	17:10 Panfield	BE 1300
16:35 Fordham Heath	GG 842.	17:15 Silver End	GG 820
16:48 Corringham	BN 4500	17:18 Corringham	BN 1124
16:50 Earls Colne	GG 818	17:20 Colchester	#
16:50 Colchester	GG 838	17:30 Tiptree	GG 863
16:55 Maldon	GG 812	17:30 White Ct., Braintree	BE 1308
17:05 Little Waltham	CF 1112	17:40 Glemsford	GG 827
17:05 White Ct., Braintree	BE 1127		
17:09 Bishops Stortford	BS 4510	18:00 Tye Green	BE 4511

- GG 773 was noted at 17:20 but without any destination; as this is normally used on Kent services can anybody confirm if this vehicle was used?

Green Line services to Essex included the 16:49 Harlow - LRC 12; 16:59 Harlow - TD 40; 17:19 Harlow - LRC 13; 17:29 Harlow - TD 18 and 17:48 Corringham - TD 4.

The Eastern National duplicate for the 17:09 Bps.Stortford left at 17:01 with BS 1113.

EASTERN NATIONAL LTD. - FLEET ALLOCATION : AUGUST 1987

Basildon (BN) : 1124, 1655, 1704/13/4/6/7/32/6,
 1740-2/4/6/8/63/7/72/6/86/95,
 1808/18/20/2/30/43/4/7-9/52-4,
 1874/7-80/3/4/6/7/9/91/6/8,
 1904/6-9/18/9/22/34, 2200,
 3052/68, 3117/20, 4500/1/7-9
 Bishop's Stortford (BS) : 1111/3/9/26/7, 1500-3,
 1739/49/68/9/92, 1914/6, 4510
 Braintree (BE) : 0120, 1114/20/32, 1300/6/8/10,
 1658, 1718/26/45/82, 1812/28,
 1863/92, 1924/9/30/2, 3048/63/7,
 3128, 4016/7, 4511/2
 Brentwood (BD) : 0201/25-44, 0602/3, 1122,
 1719/22/54/60/85/96, 1839/40/5/6,
 1859/76/81, 1902/3/12/3/33,
 3092, 4012/8/9
 Chelmsford (CF) : 0750-3, 1112/21/9, 1305/9,
 1600-3, 1651/4/6/7, 1701/7/30/4,
 1752/62/71/4/5/8, 1804/5/11/9/24,
 1827/32/42/50/1/5/6/60/7/8/73/85/99,
 1905/17/39, 2201/3, 3033/5/54/7,
 3069/77/82-4/93, 3106/11/2, 4005/6
 Clacton (CN) : 0202-19, 1110/7/30, 1751/6,
 1834/72, 2202, 3022/5/30/1, 3201,
 3500/1
 Colchester (CR) : 0121, 1115/23, 1650, 1790/3,
 1816/65/88, 1910/1/25/35/6, 3029/32,
 3039/50/78/95, 3114/27, 3202/3,
 4003/4
 Great Dunmow (DW) : 1890
 Hadleigh (HH) : 1118/28/33, 1304, 1703/9/20/1/5/7/8,
 1733/5/7/8/43/53/7/8/61/5/70/7/81/4,
 1817/21/35/57/64/9/71/95/7, 1900/28,
 3085/97/9, 3103
 Harwich (DT) : 0200, 1307, 1750, 1901/20,
 3020/4/61, 4007/8
 Maldon (MN) : 1708/55/64, 1806/29/31/3/41/70,
 1921/3/6/7, 3038/40/9/51/79/94, 3200
 Ponders End (PD) : 1051/3-7, 3053/6/62/6/71/2/4-6/80/1,
 3205/7-17
 Silver End (SE) : 1301, 1653/9, 1747, 1813/61/2/75,
 3041/55/9, 4013-5
 South Woodham Ferrers (SW) : 1931, 3070
 Southend (SD) : 1116/25/31, 1724/9/66/73/87/8/98/9,
 1807/9/14/23/36-8/66/93/4, 1937/8,
 3028/34/6/7/58/60/4/5/73/86-91/8,
 3108/13/22/9, 3204/18, 4000-2/9-11,
 4020/1, 4502-6
 Walthamstow (WW) : 1779/80/9/91/7, 1800-3/10/25/6/58/82,
 1915, 3096, 3100-2/4/5/7/9/10/5/6/8,
 3119/21/3-6
 Walton-on-Naze (WN) : 0220-4
 Licensed Open-Top Vehicles : 2383 (CN), 2384 (BN)
 Licensed Pool Vehicles : 0754-6 (all BD), 1050/2/8 (all BD),
 1711 (CF - Driver Training),
 1712 (SD), 1715 (BS), 3018 (CF -
 Driver Training), 3206 (PD)
 Driver Training Vehicles : 9000-3 (all CF)
 Delicensed For Disposal : 0600 (PD), 0601/4 (both BD),
 1700 (BD), 1702 (CF), 1705 (HH),
 1723 (SE), 1731 (SD), 3021 (MN),
 3023 (SE), 9004/21 (both CF)

COLCHESTER BOROUGH TRANSPORTVEHICLES

Withdawn RE 28 was removed from Magdalen Street at the beginning of July. RE 19 failed on 28.7.87 and is likley to be withdrawn. RE 22 was back in service by 23.7.87 and Atlantean 68 returned to use on 4.8.87. Both Lynxes (31 & 32) have been off the road and 31 has been to Nottingham for attention, returning on 5.8.87.

SERVICES

The extra Saturday journeys beteen the Town Centre and St.Michaels on service 4A started on 18.7.87, using the two Lynxes and an Atlantean Two REs are used on service 2/2A instead of the Lynxes and a Leopard replaces an RE on the 74A. A Saturday only return fare of 70p adult, 35p child and OAP, is available on the 4A, these being the first Inner Area returns since the early 1950's. A timetable leaflet dated 18.7.87 has been issued for services 4/4A.

The summer express services were inurgurated on 28.7.87 by Tiger 103 on service X21 to Gt.Yarmouth. 104 has also been used on these services. Since the beginning of July, Atlantean 87 has been used on a contract carrying American students between Greenstead and Colchester Institute, from 07:30 to 23:30 each day. It has special signs pasted on the front, sides and back. Concerts in Coggeshall took 87 some way from normal on Sundays.

UNUSUAL WORKINGS

Leopard 101 was used on service 25 on 1.8.87 and, in the absence of the Lynxes (see above), RE 21 and, more remarkably, open-top Atlantean 48, were on the 4A on the same day. This may have been some sort of celebration as it failed to rain all day! Atlantean 53 was in use on the 9/9A on 3.8.87.

Vehicles have appeared on Cedric Coaches school contracts between Wivenhoe and Brightlingsea, an Atlantean and an RE being noted on 21.7.87. Were they on loan or sub-contracted by Cedrics?

With regard to last month's notes on X4, Atlanteans appear on "time-board" workings during peak periods and REs at other times.

Lastly one very unusual working was RE 23 on the 16:45 ex-West Bergholt service 7A on 3.8.87.

* * * * *

REPORT ON CAMBUS TOUR, 26th JULY 1987

London Buses Leyland Titan T3 headed up the M11 with its load of 29 passengers. The first stop was at Harlow Town Station where the tendered town services were the centre of attraction, the highlight being Golden Boy's former London Country RP40. Next stop was the new Cambus garage at Cowley Road, Cambridge where several interesting vehicles were moved for photography, including Bristol RE saloons and DPs together with former Greater Manchester Leyland Atlanteans and Nationals. A short stop at the rebuilt Drummer Street Bus Station witnessed a Maidstone Boro'line coach on layover. Then on the road again to Peterborough Bus Station to view the 16:05 interchange which included a mixture of minibuses and Bristol VRTs. Also present was UEB 782K - a Duple bodied Bedford operated by Morley of Whittlesey - some things never change! At the Lincoln Road garage more vehicles to photograph included an ex-West Yorkshire PTE Leyland Olympian and, the pride of the fleet, a Bristol FLF open-topper named "City of Peterborough". Finally the party were treated to a snort tour of the city in Bristol FS BNC 886B. Then it was home again, at an exhilarating 43mph. A very interesting day, but why were you not there?

SOUTHEND TRANSPORT LIMITED

These notes are correct to August 9.

Vehicles**NEW & ON ORDER:**

401 - 403 ----- Volkswagen LT55 Optare City Pacer 250-2 B25F

The three City Pacers were duly delivered on July 24 and are in a blue and white livery. They have not yet been registered and are not expected to enter service until early in September. Their provisional fleet numbers are the first in the 4xx series for Southend buses, previously reserved for other Council vehicles. It was not possible to use the numbers 101-3 as originally suggested, since those numbers are the call signs for certain senior officials' radio sets. It is understood that a further 3 City Pacers are on order.

ACQUIRED:

BCS 959C Daimler CRG6LX Alexander H44/31F Acquired 7/87 from
Venturer Travel (acting in a dealer capacity), ex Eagle Coaches of
Tonbridge; new to Western SMT as their R1976. For spares only.

83 ---?!-- O. Drum Spl. Southend Transport Ltd OB7?? - see
under 'General' below for more information.

MODIFIED:

255 The plan to obtain an ex Routemaster registration for the second Berkhof rebodied Leopard was not pursued, and instead it has re-entered PSV service with the chassis' original registration of CHA 443K. See also under 'On Hire' below.

Following on from the notes in issue 279/9, the livery of the final Cardiff Olympian, 369, has now been checked, and consists of part of the London skyline, interrupted by large Culturebus lettering.

ON HIRE:**From Venturer Travel:**

LMA 59P (359) was last used by STL on 3/7 and is now back with its owner. RFN 972G continues in service with STL, mainly on 1 & 3A.

To/From Plymouth CityBus:

B175 VDV Volvo B10MD East Lancs A5101 CH43/31F. Numbered 175 in the Plymouth fleet, this Volvo Citybus was hired to STL from 20/7 in exchange for Astromega 257 which Plymouth have used for a private hire to Spain (hence needing a 4m high coach). Southend destination and intermediate blinds were fitted to 175, which was generally used crew operated on 1 & 3A; it also operated occasional journeys on 4B and X1 and was expected to be returned to its owners on 10/8.

To Trident Motor Services, Chatham:

Berkhof rebody 255 has been on loan to Trident since its relicencing and has not yet operated for Southend in its new guise. Prior to the hire of 255, 247 was loaned to Trident. The Sub-Editor would appreciate advice of the exact dates of these hires, and of 255's relicencing.

To Metrobus, Orpington:

The other Berkhof rebody, 254, continues on loan to Metrobus; this is a long term hire.

Finally, it should be noted that a considerable number of coaches are hired without drivers, usually at weekends, to other operators in south east Essex, and to Grey Green. We do not intend to record all such hires in the magazine.

Services

24 Withdrawn after operation on Thursday July 23, thus ending STL's 6 month experiment in operating commercially an evening and Sunday service; it has now reverted to a County Council contract (to the same timetable as the STL operation) operated by EN, who already provide the day time M-S service.

251 This schooldays only contract service last operated on 24/7 with the start of the school holidays; it will not be resumed in September as it is now covered by a commercial journey on EN 250, calling at all stops (the contract had been required to duplicate a limited stop X51).

X2 From 14/6 the stop at Chatham Bus Station was deleted.

X10/11 From 3/8 the 0725 ex Southend and 1600, 1630 & 1700 ex Green Park were withdrawn.

X23 Withdrawn after operation on 31/7.

X30/31 From 3/8 the 0650 ex Canvey X30 and the 0713 ex Pitsea X31 were amalgamated into one journey, X31 at 0650 ex Canvey.

General

Route diversions: a number of diversions/disruptions have affected STL (and relevant EN) services recently, including:

18/7 - as a result of Canvey carnival and subsequently as a result of a fatal accident on the A13 between West Leigh Schools and Thames Drive (certain EN services were diverted via Belfairs, A127 & Rayleigh Weir!); 27/7-17/8 - London bound coaches diverted between Wennington & Rainham; 1/8 - because of the raft race off Southend seafront; 8/8 - as a result of Rochford carnival; and finally Southend carnival on 15/8 and the torchlight procession a week later will also result in various diversions.

281/10

Work undertaken at the STL works for other operators recently has included the repaint of ex Southend 348 (WJN 348J) for Wealden Omnibuses and a contract to repair and partially repaint ex West Midlands Fleetlines on behalf of Ensign Bus. Twenty vehicles will be done in all, including EOF 249L, EOF 251L, EOF 277L, EOF 296L, EOF 297L and GOG 576N. A minibus of Stephensons Coaches is currently being repainted - full details next month.

On the subject of Stephensons, the minibus which they operated on 23/23A for STL on 4/7 (see 280/10) was Ford A type NVD 429P, B25F. Can anyone identify the bodywork on this vehicle?

Still on the subject of minibuses, adverts have recently appeared in local papers for drivers for STL's Optare City Pacers.

Most fares of £1-40 and over on London X services were increased from 1/8; the City Rover was also increased by 20p to £4-80.

Have you worked out our 'August Fool' item in 'Acquired Vehicles' yet? 83 *does* exist, but is unlikely to enter public service! It was actually the Southend Transport entry into the annual charity raft race which took place on 1/8. Fashioned out of a number of oil drums, it was finished in coach livery complete with destination gear (showing 'Southend Pier' of course) and 'no change' signs. It is now withdrawn at the garage and is being cannibalised for spares!

On Saturdays service X3 is now largely operated by double deck buses rather than single deck coaches. Coaches are still used M-F as X3 interworks with X30/31.

Finally, an appeal. The Sub-Editor has a large collection of Southend timetables but needs to fill some gaps to help with his research. I am interested in buying (or borrowing for copying) any issue *prior* to 1955 and also any issues dated between (*but not including*) 15/6/58 and 19/9/61. All expenses will gladly be paid - please write to the address below.

Unusual Workings

16/7 393 noted at Rayleigh on an Asda working: as STL do not have any Asda contracts, it is assumed that this was a replacement for a failed EN Maldon vehicle on the Rochford - Woodham Ferrers route; clarification would be appreciated.

8/8 205 on seafront route 67.

9/8 213 also on the 67.

Publicity News

Two yellow duplicated slips were issued dated 24/7, covering 1) withdrawal of 24 & X23; and ii) revisions to X10/11/30/31.

News about Southend Transport should be sent directly to the Sub Editor, Richard Delahoy at 272 Shoebury Road, Southend, SS1 3TT.

JACKSONS, Bicknacre: a Ford Transit, EGS 250Y has been noted on the 10/12, with the usual vehicle for those routes, C678 KFW, on the 6.

T V TAXIS, Southend: yet another high roof VW LT31 noted is B374 JJH. Their route to Newington Avenue, which duplicates EN and STL's 64 services, continues to attract attention. The TVT 'Shuttle' appears to provide a spasmodic unregistered Sunday service, while EN continue to run duplicates as chasers when vehicles and crews are available - eg on 1/8 1731 (minus depot plates and with blank destination blind) was operating numerous extras on 64.

NON PSV's in South Essex: we hope to publish shortly a list of ex PSV's now used for other purposes and based in south Essex. The Sub-Editor would appreciate details of the following to complete the notes:

Lesney, Rochford: list of all FLF's and of the (Dodge?) single deckers (including body manufacturer).

Bender School of Motoring, Laindon: details of all vehicles except the FLF and the VR.

Proof & Experimental Establishment, Foulness: details of the Bedford single deckers used on works services and to be seen in Shoebury.

Playbuses - details of any, including daytime and evening locations, appreciated.

* * * * *

BRAINTREE depot destination blind - March 1987.

	STANSTEAD AIRPORT/ BISHOPS STORTFORD Braintree Dunmow	BOCKING (Downery Gdns) Goldingham Drive Town Centre	DUNMOW Stebbing
EXCURSION	BRAINTREE Lenden Stanway Marks Tey Coggeshall	BLACK NOTLEY (Hospital) Town Centre Goldingham Drive	LEADEN RADING High Rading
HIGHWAYMAN	BRAINTREE Takeley Dunmow Felsted Rayne	BUS PARK - MARLBOROUGH ROAD Circular	STEBBING-GREEN Stebbing
LONDON COMMUTER SERVICE	BISHOPS STORTFORD Rayne Felsted Dunmow Takeley	BRAINTREE Witham	CHELMSFORD Felsted Broomfield
BRAINTREE COMMUTER SERVICE	DUNMOW Takeley	CHELMSFORD Witham	STEBBING- Gt Waltham Howe Street Felsted
EMERGENCY RAIL SERVICE On Hire To British Rail	FELSTED (Workhouse Green) Gt & Lt Dunmow	COLCHESTER Witham Kelvedon Stanway	COLCHESTER Silver End Kelvedon Stanway
PRIVATE HIRE To Hire this bus tel. Braintree 21415	DUNMOW Rayne Felsted Lt Dunmow	BRAINTREE	BRAINTREE Silver End Cressing Tye Green
ASDA Limited Stop Shoppers Service	BRAINTREE Gosfield Bocking	WITHAM	ONGAR Braintree Broomfield Chelmsford Blackmore
SORRY Not In Service	HALSTEAD Broomfield Gt Leighs Braintree Gosfield	SILVER END	HALSTEAD Chelmsford Broomfield Braintree
STANSTEAD AIRPORT Stanway Coggeshall Braintree Dunmow	CHELMSFORD Gosfield Braintree Gt Leighs Broomfield	CRRESSING Tye Green	SCHOOLS SERVICE
COLCHESTER Dunmow Braintree Coggeshall Stanway	BRAINTREE Broomfield Lt Waltham Gt Leighs	DUNMOW High Rading	

OTHER OPERATORS - Rest of Essex

Essex County Council have announced that the Sunday Saver scheme will continue beyond September. They have also issued timetable leaflets for service 91/92 dated 13.7.87 and "Changes to Buses in Waltham Abbey and Loughton" dated 16.8.87.

BARNES COACHES, Clacton will cease operation on September 30th. The Sunday service to Tendring Hospital will cease after August 23rd.

CARTERS COACHES have started a Mistley to Clacton service on Tuesdays only as a replacement for the EN 124. First day of operation was 7/7.

COASTAL RED have started another new Clacton service, 70A, from Jaywick, Sheldrake PH and back via Clacton and Gt.Clacton from 6.8.87.

HARRIS BUS operation of ECC tendered services 157, 257 & 405 commenced in w/c 30th June. (Previously operated by EN, the route numbers may well change).

INCENTIVE TRAVEL have opened a depot at the former Kennings Garage in London Road, Marks Tey and would appear to be acquiring their own vehicles. Operation of Incentive's excursions have been provided by other operators vehicles in Incentive livery in the past.

NELSONS introduced a town service in Wickford between Shotgate and Downham from 29.6.87. In addition the ECC tendered journeys on routes 222, 226 & 549 passed to Nelsons from EN on the same date.

ONGAR COACHES service 208 now runs Weds & Fris only whilst the 14:00 ex-Chigwell is withdrawn with effect from 1.7.87. Service 209 now runs from Abridge to Stapleford Abbots via Loughton on Weds & Fris only, also from 1.7.87.

WILLIAMS TRAVEL's Corringham - London commuter service was withdrawn after 17.7.87.

A non-Essex operator worth a mention is Maidstone Boro'line who are operating a daily Canterbury - Cambridge service via Bps.Stortford and Stanstead Airport between May 22nd & October 10th.

A clarification of the situation in Harlow (June & July issues) has been received from Mr.David Stewart, the editor of the London Omnibus Traction Society's "The London Bus", and we are most grateful to him:-

"Concerning Harlow area services subject to ECC tendering - perhaps the confusion has arisen over 'effective dates' that are published in Notices & Proceedings' which are not always (indeed rarely) accurate as operators tend to be too optimistic in advance!

The Sunday T1-5 services worked by Sampsons were re-tendered by ECC and from Sunday 3rd May were worked by other operators, not 17th or 24th as you have published. I was prompted by LCNE a couple of days earlier that they had heard that a change was imminent, and I personally visited Harlow on Bank Holiday Monday 4th May (when of course a Sunday service operated) and photographed all the various vehicles that day, and was told by the driver of Associated Coachways T1 'that they had started yesterday'. Associated took both the T1 & T5, each requiring one bus, but were in fact unable to work both, having to commit their scarce resources to private hire work, and therefore the T5 was sub-contracted to Anita's Coaches. A further complication has been reported that Grahams of Kelvedon were working the T5. In fact this was a Grahams Coach in Grahams livery and fleetname, but actually with Anita's!! Routes T2/3/4 - which are operated as an interworked cycle with 2 buses as in London Country days - passed to Golden Boy Coaches, and on occasions their ex-London Country RP 40 (which was once even a Harlow vehicle) has been used.

Mr. Stewart's letter continues...

The contracts were only a temporary measure as from Sunday 2nd August the Sunday services changed yet again, with LCNE regaining the T2/3/4 and the T1/5 passing to Davian Coaches. I believe that from 25th October they may change yet again.

Also in Harlow you may be interested to note that the LCNE 555 Station Shuttle Service which began on 26th January will cease after operation on 28th August.

From 3rd August West's Coaches take over the EN 252/3/4 minibus services in the Waltham Abbey area, and further changes from 16th August concern the Loughton area:

Sampsons 250 withdrawn Loughton Stn-South Woodford (replaced by Cullinans 249). Service 251 is retained as before together with 250 daily between Loughton & Waltham Cross.

West's new 204 Mon-Sat Loughton Stn-Debden Stn via Debden Estate replaces part of the frequency on EN's LRT contracted route 20.

Cullinans new 249 Mon-Sat Loughton Stn-South Woodford Stn via Buckhurst Hill. The previous schoolday 204 seems to have disappeared, but Cullinan's other schoolday routes, 202/3, continue."

G. W. OSBORNE & SONS of Tollesbury

FLEET LIST as at July 1987

2	KUC 228P	Daimler CRL6	Park Royal	H44/33F
3	KUC 219P	Daimler CRL6	Park Royal	H44/33F
4	GSL 897N	Daimler CRG6	Alexander	H49/37F
5	PHK 620V	Volvo B58-56	Caetano	C53F
6	JJU 442V	Volvo B58-56	Plaxton	C53F
7	JJU 443V	Volvo B58-56	Plaxton	C53F
8	GVS 948Y	Leyland TRCTL11/2R	Plaxton	C53F
9	CPU 125X	Leyland TRCTL11/2R	Plaxton	C53F
10	JVW 160Y	Leyland TRCTL11/3R	Berkhof	C53F
11	OSR 191R	Bristol VRT/LL3/6LXB	Alexander	H49/34D
12	GSL 902N	Daimler CRG6	Alexander	H49/34D
14	LJT 939P	Bristol LH6L	ECW	B45F
15	EVY 696L	Daimler CRG6	Roe	H44/34F
16	HJT 34N	Bristol LH6L	ECW	B45F
17	XGS 767X	Leyland TRCTL11/3R	Plaxton	C57F
18	GSL 901N	Daimler CRG6	Alexander	H49/34D
19	UWX 368L	Bristol RELL6G	ECW	B53F
20	MWW 759K	Bristol RELL6G	ECW	B53F
26	GSL 900N	Daimler CRG6	Alexander	H49/34D
27	GSL 899N	Daimler CRG6	Alexander	H49/34D
31	LWC 445V	Bedford YMT	Plaxton	C53F
32	B444 BAR	Leyland TRTCL11/3R	LAG	C53F
35	D614 SJX	DAF MB230DKFL	Duple	C51Ft
36	D615 SJX	DAF MB230DKFL	Duple	C51Ft
40	RWC 40W	Leyland PSU3E/4R	Plaxton	C49F
41	RWC 41W	Leyland PSU3E/4R	Plaxton	C49F
45	KBC 2V	Volvo B58-61	Plaxton	C57F
53	FNM 860Y	Leyland TRTCL11/3R	Plaxton	C57F
54	LUA 289Y	Leyland PSU3F/4R	Plaxton	C53F
55	DCK 968Y	Leyland TRCTL11/3R	Duple	C50F
59	RTW 148R	Bedford YMT	Duple	C53F
60	EWV 213T	Leyland PSU3E/4R	Plaxton	C53F
65	WPU 125S	Bedford YLQ	Plaxton	C45F
66	WPU 124S	Bedford YMT	Plaxton	C45F
67	DPU 505T	Bedford YMT	Plaxton	C37F

Due in August is a seconhand Royal Tiger Doyen for use as Colchester United FC team coach.

MALDON & SOUTH WOODHAM FERRERS depots destination blinds - July 1987

Black Blank	MALDON Hatfield Peveral Heybridge	ALTHORNE	COLCHESTER Heybridge Tiptree
On Private Hire To Hire This Bus Ring Maldon 54731	CHELMSFORD Heybridge Hatfield Peveral	BURNHAM Mayland Southminster	MALDON Tiptree Heybridge
SCHOOLS SERVICE	HEYBRIDGE BASIN Hatfield Peveral Heybridge	MALDON (Cherry Gardens) Southminster Mayland	PITSEA (Broadway) Purleigh South Woodham
EMERGENCY RAIL SERVICE On Hire to British Rail	LITTLE BADDOW Woodham Walter	BURNHAM Maylandsea Southminster	MALDON South Woodham Purleigh
SORRY Not in Service	MALDON Woodham Walter	MALDON (Cherry Gardens) Southminster Maylandsea	BASILDON Purleigh South Woodham
STH WOODHAM FERRERS Gt Baddow Danbury	LITTLE BADDOW Maldon Woodham Walter	MAYLANDSEA	MAYLANDSEA Gt Baddow Danbury Maldon
CHELMSFORD Danbury Gt Baddow	ALTHORNE Woodham Walter Maldon	BRADWELL (Power Station) Mayland Steeple	CHELMSFORD Maldon Danbury Gt Baddow
MALDON Gt Baddow Danbury	STH WOODHAM FERRERS Purleigh Cold Norton	MALDON Steeple Mayland	WITHAM Wickham Bishops
CHELMSFORD Danbury Baddow By Pass	MALDON Cold Norton Purleigh	BRADWELL (Power Station) Burnham Southminster	MALDON (Midguard Way) Wickham Bishops
MALDON Baddow By Pass Danbury	STH WOODHAM FERRERS Cock Clarks Cold Norton	MALDON Southminster Burnham	DORSET ROAD Town Centre
CHELMSFORD Lt Baddow Danbury Sandon	MALDON Cold Norton Cock Clarks	BRADWELL (Kings Head) Burnham Southminster	HEYBRIDGE (Wood Road) Maldon Town Centre
MALDON Sandon Danbury Lt Baddow	BURNHAM Althorne Southminster	CLACTON Tiptree Colchester	POETS ESTATE (Milton Road) Town Centre
CHELMSFORD Danbury Sandon	MALDON (Cherry Gardens) Southminster Althorne	MALDON Colchester Tiptree	HEYBRIDGE Maldon Town Centre
LITTLE BADDOW Sandon Danbury	LATCHINGDON Southminster Althorne	MALDON (Shalespear Drive) Tiptree Heybridge	White Blank

As the magazine can only be produced in groups of four pages, and there is still some spare space, WALTHAMSTOW depot blind (July 1986) is also included this month:-

White Black	WALTHAMSTOW CENTRAL via Claybury Hospital Highams Park Woodford	EMERGENCY RAIL SERVICE On hire to British Rail	LOUGHTON STATION via Debden Chigwell
HORNCHURCH MACTON LANE via Romford Station Hornchurch, White Hart	CLAYBURY BROADWAY via Highams Park Woodford Claybury Hosp Barkingside	PRIVATE HIRE	BUCKHURST HILL STATION via Chigwell
ROMFORD MARKET via Hornchurch, White Hart Romford Station	SORRY Not in Service	EXCURSION	WALTHAMSTOW CENTRAL via South Woodford Leytonstone
SORRY Not In Service	GOODMAYES Lord Napier via Waterworks Corner Gants Hill Ilford	WOODFORD BRIDGE White Hart	CHIGWELL STATION via Leytonstone South Woodford
ENFIELD via Southgate Highlands Hospital	CHINGFORD STATION via Waterworks Corner Woodford Wells	CLAYBURY HOSPITAL via Highams Park Woodford	CLAYBURY HOSPITAL via Leytonstone South Woodford
MUSWELL HILL Broadway via Highlands Hospital Southgate	WOODFORD WELLS via South Woodford Waterworks Corner	WALTHAMSTOW CENTRAL via Loughton Woodford Green Whipps Cross Leyton	LEYTONSTONE STATION via South Woodford
SOUTHGATE STATION via Highlands Hospital Winchmore Hill Green	CHINGFORD STATION via Woodford wells	DEBDEN STATION via Leyton Whipps Cross Abchurch Green Loughton	SORRY Not In Service
BARKINGSIDE Cottenham High Sch via Highams Park Woodford Claybury Hospital	WOODFORD GREEN Castle via Woodford Wells	WOODFORD GREEN Castle	CONTRACT
BARKINGSIDE Fullwell Cross via Highams Park Woodford Claybury Hospital	SCHOOLS SERVICE	ILFORD STATION via Loughton Chigwell	White Black

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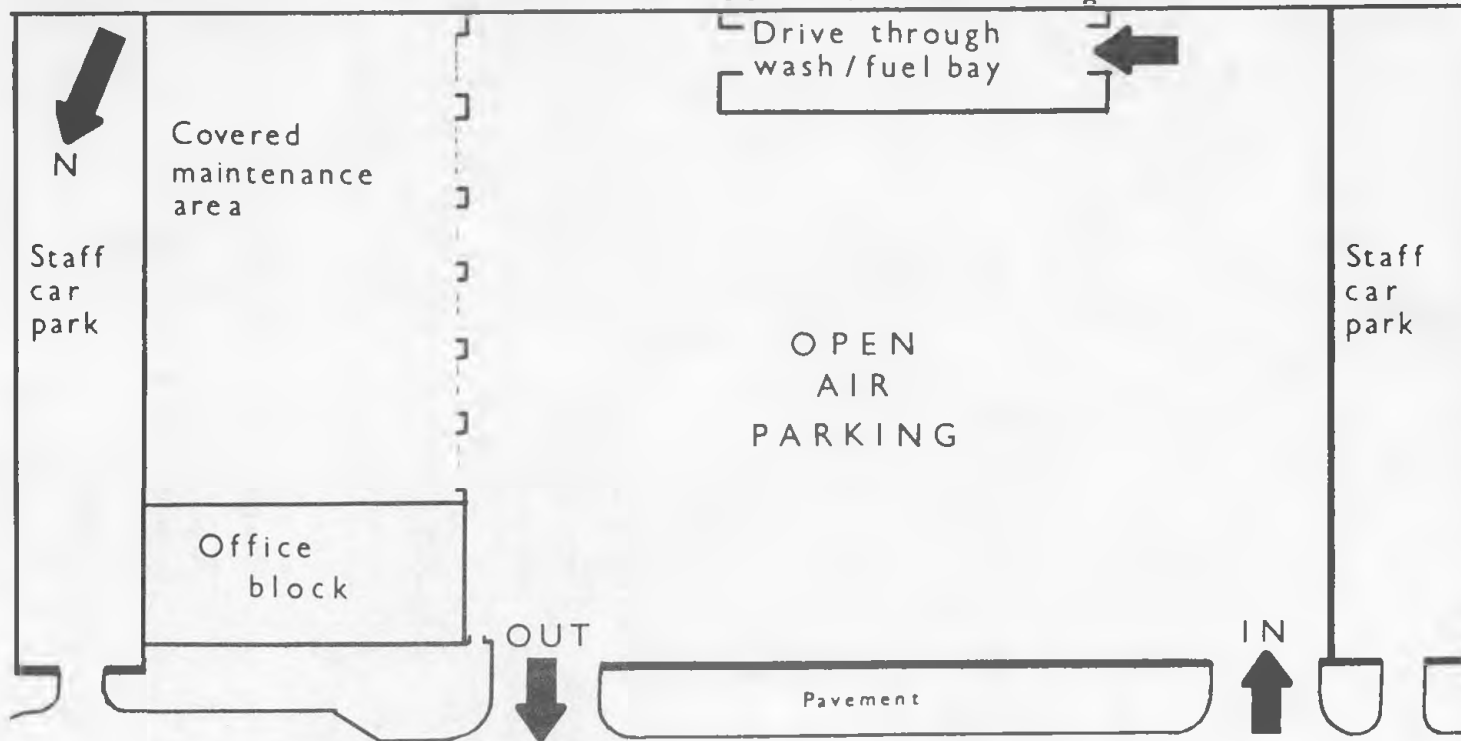
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M. BULLOCK (M574); I. HARDIE (M597); J. SIMPKIN (M623); A. WAY (M628); THE
OMNIBUS SOCIETY; GREY-GREEN ENTHUSIASTS CLUB and THE PSV CIRCLE.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NEXT MAGAZINE
TO REACH THE EDITOR OR SUB-EDITORS
BY SEPTEMBER 4th

SOUTHEAST depot

EASTERN NATIONAL

Roots Hall football ground



Fairfax Drive

NOT TO SCALE