

ESSEX BUS NEWS

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Essex Bus Enthusiasts Group

serving Essex since 1964

www.essexbus.org.uk

Essex Bus Enthusiasts Group - Directory

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12 month subscriptions are £19.50 by First Class post, £18.50 by Second Class, renewable in January or July.

Data Protection Act: Members' names, addresses, subscription renewal dates and postal rates are held on computer for the purpose of administration. If you object to your information being held in this way, please write to the Membership Secretary.

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Missing, defective or damaged EBN?
Write to the Membership Secretary for a replacement.

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Join this scheme to receive Essex County Council timetable books and updates. Please contact Derek Stebbing for information or visit www.essexbus.org.uk

YOUR REPORTS AND OBSERVATIONS

Members reports are always welcome. Please send them to the relevant Sub-Editor.

Photos (prints, slides or digital images - in JPG format) are also welcome - please send to David Harman.

The Editors exercise the normal discretion to publish contributions in full, in part, or not at all and cannot guarantee publication in any particular month.

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

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

PUBLICATION SALES

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

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

B/W PHOTO SALES

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

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

Prints of specific EN (and predecessor) vehicles can also be supplied: email with requirements: lynw@barrons-bds.com

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Eastern National Enthusiasts Guild

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Dates for your diary

EBN PRESS DATES

For inclusion in EBN dated: reports should reach Editors by: planned despatch date:

April	5 April	14 April
May	3 May	12 May
June	10 June	16 June

Please note that the **planned** despatch date may change for all sorts of reasons. The **actual** 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 **only** be obtained from the Membership Secretary (address opposite). None of the Editors hold spares, so there is no point in contacting them. They cannot help!

ROCHFORD MEETINGS

Venue: **Pullman Suite, Freight House, Rochford**, (adjacent to Rochford station; Arriva 7/8 pass nearby). **19.30** onwards. Refreshments available. All members and guests are very welcome. £1 donation towards room hire please. *Richard Delahoy*

Spring/Summer 2006 season:

- ▶ **Tuesday 11 April** - "You tell us" - mystery slide show featuring historic shots from the Andy Meadows and Peter Snell collections - and if you like what you see, you can buy the slide at the meeting! In the Pullman Suite.
- ▶ **Tuesday 9 May** - illustrated talk, "Piers of the Realm" (with particular emphasis on Southend) by *Dave Carson*. In the Pullman Suite.
- ▶ **Tuesday 13 June** - Peter Carr will talk about his experiences working for Eastern National at Bishops Stortford in the 1970s. In the Committee Room.
- ▶ **Tuesday 11 July** - informal social evening - bring along your photos and models to display and be ready for a gossip!

Autumn season dates will be

September 12, October 10, November 7 and December 12, 2006.

COLCHESTER MEETINGS

Venue: Downstairs room at the **Friends Meeting House, Church Street, Colchester**, just south of "Jumbo" (the water tower) and behind the Mercury Theatre. Town centre bus stops and parking are nearby. **20.00 to 22.00** (doors open at **19.30**). Refreshments available. All members and guests are very welcome. £1 donation towards room hire please. We can now show prints, slides or digital photos. *Dave Arnold*

2006 programme:

- ▶ **Friday 7 April** - *Alan Osborne*: 'Up North'. N.B. date is the **second** Friday, not first, which is Good Friday.
- ▶ **Friday 12 May** - *Richard Delahoy*: '20 Years ago'.
- ▶ **Friday 9 June** - *Geoff Dodson*: 'A Lifetime on the Buses'.
- ▶ **Friday 8 September** - *Graham Belfall*: 'Picture show on Wales'
- ▶ **Friday 13 October** - *Keith Woods*: 'East Anglian Buses ~ a Personal View'
- ▶ **Friday 10 November** - *Fred Lawrence*: 'On the Companies Expenses' !
- ▶ **Friday 9 December** - *Michael Yelton*, practising lawyer (author of "Trams, Trolleybuses and Buses and the Law") and bus enthusiast - topic to be advised.

Cover: **Network Colchester** Vario 374 (R174 VBM) with County Council sponsorship vinyls (see p.21) lays over in soon-to-close Colchester Bus Station. *Roger Tuke*

2006 TOUR PROGRAMME

Dates and details are as follows. Make a note in your diary now!

- ▶ **Sunday 14 May** - By popular request, our third **Hedingham shed bash** - *see booking form in centre pages of this EBN or visit www.essexbus.org.uk*. Book early as places are limited !
- ▶ **Tuesday 6 June - The Evening Talisman** - meet at 1900hrs (for 1915hrs) at Colchester North Station (bus stop side), where a vehicle of interest from **Talisman Coachlines** will convey members and guests to the depot for an extended photographic session. A different vehicle will then be used for a mini-tour to Harwich. Finally, a third vehicle will return everyone to North Station. Atlanteans, 4 and 6-wheel Olympians, and a Routemaster will feature. Fare: £5 - pay on the day, but please phone Dave Arnold on 01621 857509 to book your seat.
- ▶ **Saturday 24 June - The 3 Counties Tour** - Departing from Redbridge in a luxury coach of **Genial Travel**, thence via normal pickup points to **Emblings** of Guyhirn (Cambridgeshire), **Norfolk Green** at Kings Lynn (Norfolk), lunch at Kings Lynn bus station, **Fowlers** of Holbeach Drove (Lincolnshire), and finally, a stop for afternoon tea at Peterborough bus station. Fare: £20. Booking form in April EBN.
- ▶ **Saturday 2 September - Essex area tour** - details to be finalised.

Dave Arnold

COLLECTORS FAIRS ETC.

- ▶ **Saturday 25 March ~ Transport Collectors Market - Church Hall, Wakefield Street, London WC1** (near to Kings X, Euston and Russell Square tube stations). 11.00 - 15.00. Admission £1.50. Owen Woodliffe will be attending this event with the Group stand and a large and varied stock of photos, books etc.

RALLIES, OPEN DAYS ETC.

- ▶ **Saturday 25 March ~ Ipswich Transport Museum ~ special event: "Transport in Miniature"**, ITM, Old Trolleybus Depot, Cobham Road, Ipswich. IB bus 6 from Tower Ramparts. www.ipswichtransportmuseum.co.uk
- ▶ **Sunday 2 April ~ Annual Open Day & Bus & Coach Gathering** - London Bus Preservation Trust, Cobham, Surrey: Wisley Airfield, off the A3 nr M25 junction 10. www.lbpt.org/index
- ▶ **Easter Sunday 16 April ~ Hackney Marshes Vintage Bus Event** - free vintage LT bus services. www.red-rf.com/Default.aspx?page=322
- ▶ **Easter Sunday/Monday 16-17 April ~ Medway Festival of Steam & Transport** at the Historic Dockyard, Chatham. www.chdt.org.uk/
- ▶ **Sunday 14 May - Arriva Southern Counties Bus Driver of the Year Local Finals and Fun Day**: Kent Showground, Detling, near Maidstone. Large number of attractions on site, including display of buses past and present. A bendy-bus from Arriva London will be giving rides and it is hoped that there will be a demonstration of righting an overturned double-deck bus. Anybody wishing to bring a preserved bus along, ideally representing the past fleets which now constitute Arriva Southern Counties (others are welcome too) should contact: Richard Lewis, Marketing Manager, Arriva Southern Counties, Invicta House, Armstrong Rd, Maidstone.
- ▶ **Saturday/Sunday 20-21 May ~ London's Transport Museum - Acton Depot Open Weekend**. "150 years of the London General Omnibus Company": 11:00 - 17:00. Opposite Acton Town tube station (District Line). Opposite Acton Town tube station (District Line). Adults £6.95; Concessions: £4.95. Book tickets on 020 7379 6344 or email to bookings@ltmuseum.co.uk. www.ltmuseum.co.uk

From the Editor ...

Members who renewed in December will have been advised that they could, if they wished, have EBN sent to them via email in addition to receiving a printed copy. Please note that this is incorrect - there are **NO** plans to offer such a service.

EBN 502 correction - page 14: Stephenson's Dart EU05CZA has been on the 14 since the first day - November 7. It had also worked the 60 as a one-off on the Saturday before the 14 contract started. SK02XGP and the other 03-registered Darts do sometimes cover for CZA, when the latter is undergoing servicing etc.

No Small Operator or Publicity News this month, as work commitments unfortunately prevent Ian Ransom from preparing a draft. There should be a double instalment next month.

David Harman

Southend Area Bus User Group

The **Southend Area Bus User Group** (SABUG) represents passengers using bus and coach services in the Southend, Rochford and Castle Point area. It was formed in April 2001 as the successor to the Southend Transport Bus User Group, set up over 10 years ago.

SABUG representatives regularly meet with the local bus operators and both Essex County Council and Southend Borough Council. They also attend transport related meetings, especially those concerning implementation of Southend's Local Transport Plan (LTP). The eight-strong Committee meet every two months to discuss local bus issues and draw up future plans.

EBEG member **Steven Rowe** is Chairman and temporary Secretary but due to work commitments requiring a move out of the area, he is having to stand down with effect from 17 February. SABUG now urgently needs a new Chairman, Secretary and lead Arriva representative.

Perhaps there is a EBEG member in the Southend area with a good knowledge of local bus issues, an understanding of the workings of the bus industry, the underlying legislation etc.? If so, this might be a rewarding opportunity to put your expertise to good use in liaising between users and providers of public transport.

If you would like further details, contact Steven on steve_bus@dsl.pipex.com or come along to the SABUG AGM and Public Meeting on **29 April 2006, 10.00 - 12.30** at

**SAVS (Southend Association of Voluntary Services),
29-31 Alexandra Street, Southend**

For further information about SABUG, visit:

www.stevenr.dsl.pipex.com



Colchester Bus Station

Colchester's bus station, which opened on Sunday 26 February 1961, is due to close later this year, although part of the site will remain as an temporary bus station, pending the construction of a new facility in the Vineyard Gate development. *Chris Stewart* took some photographs in January.

above: The **First** parking area, with a selection of Dart, Lance and Scania rear-ends.

below: A Cheetah on the X22 Coachlink stands in front of the café and toilet block.





above: **Chambers** is, we think, the only operator to survive, out of all those using the bus station when it opened in 1961. Eastern National, Eastern Counties, Moores, Osbornes, Norfolks, Blackwells, Wents, Hooks, Digbys, Bests (stage), Grey-Green, Premier Travel, Empires' Best and Suttons (express) have all been and gone. An ex-Harris Bus East Lancs-bodied Olympian S855 DGX models the present dull red Chambers colour scheme and a rather unlovely tree-guard.

below: The now closed café, with First, Hedingham and Chambers buses in the background. A plaque inside commemorates the opening in 1961.





The bus station in the early 1960's: above: ECX 420 of Vines Luxury Coaches with Osborne's Bridgemaster 2211 MK. The former was ex-Huddersfield Corporation 200, an AEC Regent III with N.C.B. body, bought in 1964 and sold in 1965. Livery was maroon and cream with a grey roof. Vines ran daily to Gt.Bromley, the route having been taken over from J D Best & Son (Catt & Swinn) in 1964. Photographer unknown

below: Eastern National ex-Moore Bros Guy Arab 2006 (LPU 611) waits time on the 73 (Tolleshunt Knights) outside the gents, in almost the same spot as the Cheetah on page 6. A KSW and Norfolk's ex-St Helens Corporation RT are in the background.

Arnold Richardson / Photobus



Essex Service Changes

<i>Operator</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Route</i>	<i>Days of operation</i>	<i>Terminals and Notes</i>
Arriva London North				
	16 Jan 06	397	M-S	South Chingford, Sainsburys - Debden Broadway, Torrington Drive. Additional SDO journeys were introduced.
Arriva East Herts & Essex				
	3 Jan 06	10	M-S	Harlow Town Station - Church Langley (circular) Increased to half hourly and will operate until late evening.
	10 Jan 06	46	M-S	Ongar, Two Brewers - Chelmsford, Vicarage Road The start date for the extension of the service to Oaklands Park was 10th January 2006.
	11 Feb 06	5	M-S	Pinnacles, Flex Meadows - Potter Street (circular) Service withdrawn and incorporated within service 6.
	13 Feb 06	1	M-S	Harlow Town Station - Katherineines (circular) Increased to half hourly and will operate until late evening.
		2	M-S	Harlow Town Station - Staple Tye (circular) Revised evening timetable with additional late evening journeys.
		3	M-S	Harlow Town Station - Staple Tye (circular) Revised evening timetable with additional late evening journeys.
		4	M-S	Harlow Town Station - Latton Bush (circular) Revised timetable and the evening service increased to half hourly.
		6	M-S	Harlow Princes Alexandra Hospital - Latton Bush (circular) Revised timetable incorporating part of service 5.
		8	M-S	Harlow Bus Station - Old Harlow (circular) Additional journey at 23:50 Harlow Bus Station to Momples Road.
	26 Mar 06	700	M-S	Stansted Airport Coach Station - Stevenage Bus Station Service withdrawn.
Clintona Minicoaches				
	4 Mar 06	71/72	M-S	Warley, Eagle Way - Stondon Massey, Soames Mead Service extended on Saturdays from Brentwood Station to and from Uplands Road (Woodman Road).
Ensign Bus				
	16 Jan 06	64	M-S	Grays Bus Station - Lakeside Bus Station Revised timetable
	8 Apr 06	X80	Daily	Gravesend, McKenzie Way East - Tilbury, Asda Store Minor revision to the timetable. The 2200 ex Bluewater and 2045 Lakeside-Bluewater withdrawn. There are other minor timetable alterations.
First				
	24 Feb 06	69	M-F	Southend Bus Station - Temple Farm Service withdrawn

	70X	M-F	Colchester Bus Station - Braintree, Fairfield Road Service withdrawn
25 Feb 06	26B	Su	Southend Bus Station - Canvey, Newlands. Minor timetable revision. The 08:57 Hadleigh to Southend withdrawn.
	56	Daily	North Melbourne Shopping Centre - Beaulieu Park, Shardelow Avenue Revision to timetable. The 05:12 (M-F) and 07:06 (Sa) Chelmsford to Beaulieu, the 19:44 North Melbourne to Chelmsford (M-F) 07:34 and 07:54 North Melbourne to Beaulieu Park (Sa) , the 07:04 From Chelmsford to North Melbourne (Sa) and 06:58, 07:38 and 07:58 Beaulieu Park to North Melbourne (Sa) all withdrawn. New journeys on Saturdays: 06:56 Chelmsford to Beaulieu Park, 07:44 North Melbourne to Beaulieu Park
	41	Daily	Galleywood, Barnard Road (West Lawn) - Chignall Estate, Welland Avenue.Revision to timetable: The 19:40 (M-F) and 19:00 (Sa) Galleywood to Chelmsford; the 07:40 (Sa) Galleywood to Chignall Estate; the 05:45 (M-F) Chelmsford to Galleywood and the 18:30 (Sa) Chignall to Galleywood all withdrawn.
	45	Daily	Moulsham Lodge Estate, Heath Drive - Oxney Green, Lodge Road. Revision to timetable: The following journeys are all withdrawn: Monday to Friday - 18:42 and 19:49 from Moulsham Lodge to Chelmsford, 19:17 and 19:37 Moulsham Lodge to Oxney Green, 19:54 Oxney Green to Moulsham Lodge and 20:12 Oxney Green to Chelmsford
	51	Daily	Galleywood, Barnard Road (West Lawn) - Chignall Estate, Welland Avenue.Revision to timetable: The 19:25 (M-F) Galleywood to Chelmsford and 07:25 and 07:55 (Sa) Galleywood to Chignall Estate; the 06:15 (M-F) and 06:58 and 07:28 (Sa) Chelmsford to Galleywood all withdrawn. The 17:55 (Sa) from Chignall Estate now terminates at Duke Street.
27 Feb 06	1	M-S	Basildon Bus Station - Pitsea Broadway Revision to Saturday timetable. The 12:15 and 14:15 Pitsea to Basildon and 11:48, 13:48 and 14:48 Basildon to Pitsea all withdrawn.
	2	Daily	Southend Bus Station - Basildon Bus Station Minor timetable revision.
	5	Daily	Basildon Bus Station - Pitsea, Tesco Store Revision to early morning Saturday timetable and certain journeys throughout the day terminate at Pitsea Broadway not Tesco.
	8	M-S	Pitsea - Laindon (circular) Revision to early Saturday morning journeys.
	8A	M-S	Pitsea -Laindon (circular). Revision to early morning and late afternoon Saturday journeys.
	15	M-F	Southend Bus Station - Basildon Bus Station Minor timetable revision.
	16	M-F	Southend Bus Station - Canvey, Eastern Esplanade Minor change to timetable with the 17:35 from Southend now starting at Prittlewell (Tesco) at 17:52.

	20	Daily	Southend Bus Station - Hullbridge Anchor Minor timetable revision.
	20C	M-F	Southend Bus Station - Lower Hockley, Dome Saturday service to The Dome withdrawn.
27 Feb 06	25	M-S	Southend Bus Station - Basildon Hospital Additional journey Basildon to Rayleigh, High Street at 18:43 (M-F).
	25A	M-S	Shotgate, Post Office - Langdon Hills, Westley Road Minor timetable revision. The 18:20 (M-F) from Langdon Hills withdrawn between Basildon and Shotgate (covered by additional journey service 25 from Basildon).
	26	M-S	Bournes Green - Canvey, Newlands. Minor timetable revision. The 15:06 Bournes Green to Canvey now operates (M-F) not just SDO. Additional journey Bournes Green to Southend 08:35 (SDO).
	40	M-S	Chelmsford, Coval Lane - Readers Corner, Dorset Avenue. Revision to timetable. The 19:06(M-F) 18:33 and 19:03 (Sa) from Great Baddow; the 07:07 and 18:45 (M-F) the 07:42 and 18:42 (Sa) from Chelmsford all withdrawn.
	50	M-S	Chelmsford, Coval Lane - Great Baddow, Bae Systems Revision to timetable: The 07:27 (Sa) Chelmsford to Great Baddow withdrawn.
	54	M-S	North Melbourne Shopping Centre - Beaulieu Park, Beaulieu Boulevard Revision to the Saturday timetable: The 06:36 from Chelmsford and 07:03 and 07:23 from North Melbourne all to Beaulieu Park; the 06:59 from Chelmsford and the 07:11 and 07:41 from Beaulieu Park all to North Melbourne are withdrawn. New journeys at 07:13 from North Melbourne and 07:21 from Beaulieu Park.
	54A	M-F	Beaulieu Park, Clunford Place - North Melbourne (shops). Revision to timetable: The 05:32 From Beaulieu Park to Chelmsford withdrawn.
	61	M-S	Wivenhoe Rail Station - Mile End, Defoe Crescent Revision to early and late journeys. Monday to Friday 06:50 from Wivenhoe now at 07:00 with reduced running time. 18:30 terminates at North Station, 1850 and 19:10 from Wivenhoe now at 18:45 and 19:05 respectively. The 19:25 terminates in the Town Centre.
	64	Daily	Shrub End, Hazell Avenue - Greenstead, Library Revision to early and late journeys. Monday to Friday:- 06:21 Colchester to Greenstead, 1907 Layer de la Haye to Greenstead, 2000, 2100, 2200 Shrub End to Greenstead all withdrawn. The 07:19 from Shrub End now operates to the Bus Station only. Saturday:- 19:15 and 19:30 from Greenstead now terminate at the Bus Station. 20:30, 21:30 and 22:30 from Greenstead all withdrawn.
	64A	Daily	St Michaels, Peerswood Road - Greenstead, Library Revision to early and late journeys. Monday to Saturday - The 20:30, 21:35 and 22:35 Shrub End to Greenstead withdrawn. 06:50 from Greenstead now

		runs five minutes earlier at 06:45. The 20:00, 21:00, 22:05 and 23:05 from Greenstead all withdrawn and the 18:45 terminates in the Bus Station..
65	Daily	Stanway, Tollgate Medical Centre - Highwoods, Tesco Store. Service frequency Saturday morning thinned out and now generally every 15 minutes before 09:00 then every 12 minutes until 11:00 then back to its 10 minute frequency.
66	Daily	West Bergholt, Queens Head - Old Heath, Speedwell Road. Timetable changes to the early morning and late afternoon journeys (M-F). The Saturday service reduced from 3bph to 2bph. No change to Sunday service.
66A	M-S	Colchester Bus Station - Rowhedge, Heath Road Timetable changes to the early morning and late afternoon journeys (M-F). The Saturday service reduced from 3bph to 2bph.
67	M-S	Colchester High Street - West Mersea, High Street The 08:20 West Mersea to Colchester (M-F) now operates at 08:10 and the 18:30 (M-S) operates to a reduced running time. The 18:50 Colchester to Blackheath (M-S) withdrawn.
67A	M-S	Colchester General Hospital - West Mersea, High Street. The 07:00 (M-S) Colchester to West Mersea now operates at 07:10.
67C	M-S	Colchester North Station - West Mersea, High Street The 06:40 West Mersea to Colchester (M-F) now at 06:35.
67D	M-S	Colchester Bus Station - West Mersea, High Street The 06:40 (M-F) Colchester to West Mersea now at 06:45
70	Daily	Colchester Bus Station - Braintree, Fairfield Avenue Minor timetable change. The 06:45 (M-S) Colchester to Braintree now operates at 06:50 with minor reduction in running time. The 07:42 (M-F) Braintree to Colchester withdrawn (still operates on Saturday but with a minor reduction in running time). The 18:02 Braintree to Colchester (Sa) operates to a reduced running time and the 23:00 (M-S) no longer calls in at Tollgate Sainsbury store.
73	M-S	Warley, Eagle Way - Bishops Hall Estate, Danes Way Revised timetable.
73A	M-F	Warley, Eagle Way - Bishops Hall Estate, Danes Way. Revised to operate Monday to Friday only.
74	Daily	Colchester North Station - Clacton, Jackson Road Revision to running times to the following journeys:- 17:40 (M-F) 18:40 (M-S) Colchester to Clacton and 17:35 (M-S) Clacton to Colchester.
78A	Daily	Colchester General Hospital - Brightlingsea, Victoria Place. Minor timetable revision with the 05:55 from Brightlingsea now operating at 06:00 (M-F) with revised running times.
78	Daily	Colchester High Street - Brightlingsea, Regent Road Revision to early and late journeys. On Monday to Saturday ex Brightlingsea the 18:55, 20:05 and 22:05

			now operate at 18:50, 20:02 and 22:02 respectively. Monday to Friday ex Colchester 06:00, 06:30, 07:00 and 07:30 now operate at 06:10, 06:35, 07:05 and 07:35 respectively and on Saturdays the 06:40 and 07:10 from Colchester operate at 06:45 and 07:15 respectively with changes to all off-peak running times.
	101	M-S	Ramsden Heath - Basildon Hospital. Withdrawn between Wickford and Ramsden Heath with minor timetable alterations.
	821	SDO	Thundersley, Woodmans Arms - Southchurch, White Horse. Revised to operate to and from Thundersley, Woodmans Arms.
	825	SDO	Basildon Bus Station - St Thomas More School Revised to depart 5 minutes later in the afternoon at 15:37.
31 Mar 06	P & R	M-S	Sandon, Maldon Road Park & Ride - Chelmsford Town Centre. New ten minute service.
Heddingham Omnibuses			
6 Mar 06	3	M-S	Colchester, High Street - The Hythe, Tesco Store Timetable revision - the 16:35 Colchester to Hythe and the 16:06 and 17:00 from Hythe all withdrawn. In addition journeys from Hythe allocated additional running time in Colchester Town Centre.
	15	M-F	Lexden, Straight Road (Oaklands Avenue) - Colchester North Station. Revised timetable to afford better train connections.
	89	M-S	Braintree, Coggeshall Road (Opp Sainsburys) - Haverhill Bus Station. Revised timetable - the 06:28 (M-F) Great Yeldham to Braintree withdrawn.
	131	M-S	Jaywick, Millers Barn Road - Clacton (circular) Increased to a regular half hourly service between 09:00 and 15:00 (M-F) with revised timings.
13 Mar 06	16	M-S	Chelmsford, Retail Market - Wethersfield, Green Revision to timetable: 09:15 from Wethersfield now calls in at Great Bardfield, Alienor Avenue and the 12:00 runs five minutes earlier at 11:55. The 10:30 from Chelmsford departs at 10:35 and the 13:15 operates at 13:20 and serves Great Bardfield Alienor Avenue.
3 Apr 06	6	M-F	Tyehurst, Wilmington Road - Colchester (circular) New Service via Magdalen Wood, St Johns Estate shops, Ipswich Road and Bus Station every 30 minutes between 09:00 and 14:30.
	50	M-F	Colchester Bus Station - Malting Green, Hawfinch Road. Minor revision to the timetable. The 17:45 from Colchester re-numbered 50A and extended to Tollesbury, The Square.
	50A	M-F	Colchester Bus Station - Tollesbury, The Square New journey at 17:45 (replacing service 50 journey) from Colchester to Tollesbury, The Square via Maypole Green, Kingsford, Laver de la Haye, Laver Bretton, Gt Wigborough.
	50B	M-F	Colchester Bus Station - Malting Green, Hawfinch Road. New journey at 16:30 (replacing service 90 journey) from Colchester to Tollesbury, The Square via

			Shrub End, Kingsford, Layer de la Haye, Layer Bretton, Gt Wigborough.
	91	M-S	Witham, Safeway Store - Tollesbury, The Square Minor revision to the timetable. The 17:05 (M-F) from Tiptree, Factory Corner to Witham now starts from Tiptree, Industrial Estate at 17:03
	92	M-F	Colchester Bus Station - Tollesbury, The Square. Minor revision to the timetable. The 16:30 from Colchester re-numbered 50B and serves Shrub End.
	95	M-S	Tollesbury, The Square - Maldon, Blackwater Leisure Centre. Minor revision to the timetable. The 07:50 (M-F) from Tollesbury departs at 07:45.
	132	Daily	Clacton Railway Station - Brook Retail Park. Minor revision to the timetable. The 20:30 (M-S) withdrawn.
National Express			
6 Mar 06	305	Daily	Liverpool Coach Station, Norton Street - Southend, Central Bus Station. Revised timetable - the 07:30 (M-F) from Liverpool now operates at 07:15 with increased running time on this and the 07:45 (Sa) journey.
Stansted Transit			
10 Jan 06	73A	M-S	Maldon, Cherry Gardens - Chelmsford, Coval Lane The additional journeys operated from 3rd January 2006 now under contract to ECC.
Stephensons of Essex			
23 Jan 06	800	CDO	Southend Central Bus Station - Thurrock College Afternoon timetable revised.
Viceroy of Essex			
12 Dec 05	590	M-F	Saffron Walden, Elizabeth Way - Audley End Rail Station. Journeys to Audley End Station were changed to run ten minutes to connect with revised train times.

Chelmsford Park & Ride

As noted above, the registration for the Chelmsford Park & Ride service (from Sandon, just off the A12/A414 junction) has now been submitted for a March 31 start (a Friday). This is presumed to be contingent on everything being finished by then.

The service is listed as a 10 min frequency, M-S. It is understood that P&R tickets will also be accepted on the 31/36 to return to the car park from Chelmsford (but not in the opposite direction as through buses won't go into the site and would be stopping on the opposite side of the road to the car park).

No advance publicity about the service has been seen, apart from a brochure issued c.2004 by Essex County Council. This is available on their website under 'Transportation & Road Planning' (www.essexcc.gov.uk) - a large (10MB) document showing plans of the site and road layouts, with artist's impressions of the terminal building etc. There are also brief details of the two other proposed Park & Ride sites at Broomfield/Widford, and at Writtle/Roxwell.

David Harman (with acknowledgements to Richard Delahoy)

■ FIRST ESSEX

New/transferred vehicles

Five Scania's have arrived on loan from First PMT at Newcastle-under-Lyme. These will cover 65680-4 being repainted black and gold for the introduction of the Chelmsford Park & Ride scheme, pending the delayed arrival of new vehicles for this and the return of 65680-4 to normal livery. 65680-4 are already fitted with telematic equipment which will be needed on P&R services, hence the three way swap.

65727	YN05HCO	Scania L94UB	YS2N4X20001850788	Wright Solar B43F
65728	YN05HCP	Scania L94UB	YS2N4X20001850728	Wright Solar B43F
65729	YN05HCU	Scania L94UB	YS2N4X20001850784	Wright Solar B43F
65730	YN05HCV	Scania L94UB	YS2N4X20001850779	Wright Solar B43F
65733	YN05HCZ	Scania L94UB	YS2N4X20001850843	Wright Solar B43F

65727 was reported as having arrived on 18th February and the other four on 3rd March. 65733 had only been in Chelmsford for 1hr 45mins before being pressed into service on route 619, replacing BMC 68551 which had suffered a maliciously broken window. 65727 was first seen in service on the 31X on 20th February.

Allocation changes

Period 11: 22 Jan to 20 Feb 2006

FGC=First Group cascade, i.e. transfer to/from another First fleet

(A)=acquired; Anc=Ancillary fleet; RES=spare/retained (licensed); D/L(RES)=spare/reserve (delicensed); D/L(D)=delicensed for disposal; DS=Driving School

34809 D/L(D)-FGC; 34812 D/L(D)-FGC; 34813 D/L(D)-FGC

Repaints: Period 11 - 47106, 65665, 67013, 65672, 47105.

65684 was expected back in early March from a Scania dealership in Wigan, where the P&R repaints are taking place.

47219/23 are reported with new LED electronic blinds front and rear.

Disposals: 34809/12/3 have all now gone to First Devon & Cornwall for use at Torpoint, replacing the last Bristol VRs in the Plymouth area.

It can be confirmed that 62511 was sold to Hardwick, Carlton for scrap.

VEHICLE WORKINGS

Member Robert Appleton once again visited North Essex on 3rd March. He found Dart MPD 43800 (S979 JLM) over the pit in Harwich depot, Dart/Plaxton 46802 on the 20A/20B and Merc 51780 on the 22A/22B. Olympian 34014 (P554 EFL) was on loan from CR to DT, and was noted working 09.30 CR-DT 104, 10.50 DT-CR 104, 12.05 CR-DT 103, 13.20 DT-CR 103 and 14.45 CR-DT 104. At Colchester, Dart 47105 (N205 VSA) was noted on service 65, 15.15 Highwoods - Tollgate. Both Volvo coaches 20102/10 (N602/10 APU) were on the X22 together; 20102 arrived at 15.05, departing 15.20 whilst 20110 arrived at 16.05 and departed at 16.20.

Unusual sightings:

January: 26th CR34302 on 65, CR46104 on 65
28th Olympian CF34807 on 72

	30th	CR34014 (78 branded) on 67E, CR34301 on 64, CR46829 on 66.
	31st	CR34014 (78 branded) on 68, CR34304 on X22.
February:	1st	CR62408 on 71
	3rd	CR47102 on 65
	4th	BN52584 on 565 (usually Dart)
	7th	BN30558 on 101 (17.54 Billericay-Ramsden Heath), CF34818 on 42 (starting 10.25) and CF34815 on 36 (13.25 ex Chelmsford). Solo CF53137 on X30 (13.40 ex Chelmsford).
	8th	CR34012 on 64, CR34309 on 65
	9th	CR34309 on 65, Solo CF53136 on 351
	13th	CR47104 on 71C, BN52581 on 551 (and subsequently), BN61054 on 100
	14th	Olympians CR30560 & CR34301 and Scania CR65692 all believed on X22
	16th	CF60103 on 36 (07.40 at SWF)
	16th	CR34301 on 65
	19th	Dart BN46134 on 100, Solo CF53112 on X30
	21st	Solo CF53136 on X30
	21st	CR47106 on 65.
	22nd	CR34305 on 64, CR47102 on 65.
	23rd	CR34014 on DT103, CR46829 on 64, CR47106 on 65.
	24th	CR43741 on X22
	25th	CR34308 on 65. BN31373 on 551, BE46811 on 351.
	26th	Solo CF53135 on X30
	27th	CR67008 on 64. CF42487 on 35, BE46144 on 54/56, HH31377 on 27 and CF53114 on X30.
	28th	CR34011 (77/78 branded) on 88, DT34286 on Colchester/East Mersea 67E (may be on loan).
	28th	Varios BN52585 on 551 (and subsequently), BN52584 on 73 (first time seen)
March	1st	Scania BN65673 on 551, BN46804 on 73 (usually now 709 or Vario)
	3rd	CF34815 on 351 (11.51 ex Romford)

OTHER NEWS

More Park & Ride

The Chelmsford Park & Ride will operate on a 10 minute frequency from 07.00 to 18.50 Mondays-Saturdays. From Sandon the stopping points will be Parkway (Mildmay Car Park), Victoria Road South (Royal Sun Alliance building), Duke Street (Careers Office), New London Road (Reed) and Parkway (Amlin House). The second P&R site at Widford is now at Town Planning stage. (see also page 13).

Former EN VRs in East Anglia and the South West:

Series 2 VR 3037 (PWC512M) passed from 'Common Ground' Outreach Project at Saffron Walden to WFL Commercials, Lolworth, Cambs in August 2005 following a serious MOT failure. It was apparently sold on to another Charity in the Grantham area for spares and has probably now been scrapped. This bus was withdrawn by EN in November 1988, passing to the United Reform Church at Witham with whom it was a familiar sight for many years before it moved to Saffron Walden.

Sister bus 3040 (PWC515M) remains in the ownership of an Essex preservationist.

First Devon & Cornwall 38785 (KOO785V, ex 3067) finally left St Austell behind a Hardwicks recovery lorry on 22nd February, bound for the scrapyard.

Sources: Own observations, with many thanks to First Essex and to A Bird, S Coates, T Clark, J Collins, D Edwards, M Farmer, I Hardie, A Kelleher, C Paynter, J Podgorski, S Simister, C Sigston, D Stebbing, A Timms, R Webb, R Whitley, Essex Bus and South West y-groups, Real Bus News, LOTS, PSV Circle, Terminus.

Chris Stewart

■ ARRIVA EAST HERTS & ESSEX LIMITED

Corrections ~ EBN502

2463/4 are registered KE 55 KPJ/KPG

Allocations

1/06: 5847 – w

Vehicles out

2121 (N191 EMJ): Arriva the Shires (Watford as ancillary vehicle) 2121 1/06

3817 (H367 XGC): D&G, Adderley Green, Stoke 79 12/05

5837 (D187 FYM): Arriva the Shires (Watford) 5837 2/06

5843 (D242 FYM): Arriva Fox County, Leicester 4572 1/06

■ ARRIVA SOUTHEND LIMITED

Internal Transfers

3325 SD – GY

3403 GY – SD

These transfers are to give Grays another ramp-fitted bus as a backup for TfL work.

3268 has been a loan at Grays from Dartford.

Disposals

Accident damaged 3405 and M615 have been moved to Southend from Grays for storage.

3405 was subsequently sold to Erith Commercial (dealer).

The remains of fire damaged 3424 at Grays have been sold to Ensign.

Former Southend based Lynx trainer T047 has been sold to Sunfun.

Expected changes

There is due to be a general fleet reshuffle as a result of the introduction of the "Fastrack" scheme in the Gravesend/Dartford area at the end of March.

As a result of this, ex-London Olympians 5386/7 are expected to be withdrawn* so photographers are advised to catch them while they can! Ironically, these two buses finally had bespoke destination blinds fitted in early January after over two years of making do with route 29 cutouts over their London blinds. For the record, it is believed that the new blinds have entries for service 1 (Southend – Rayleigh section only), 4/4A, 13 and 29. The limited entries on the new blinds are designed to prevent the buses being allocated to routes containing low bridges. ***stop press:** Olympian 5387 (D172 FYM) was withdrawn on 3 March. Replacement is Dart/East Lancs 3004 (L506 CPJ).

Dart 3412 (P332 HVX) is expected to be transferred out of Grays as part of this reshuffle.

Arriva serving Daws Heath!

As a result of cuts to First Essex service 24 in the peak hours, Essex County Council has stepped in to subsidise certain journeys. One journey on the 24 in the morning peak was awarded to Arriva Southend by Essex County Council from 27th February. This journey is the Monday to Friday 0721 Hadleigh Victoria House Corner – Rayleigh Station via Daws Heath. Daws Heath has not been served by 'blue' buses since the early 1990s when Arriva Southend's predecessor Southend Transport ran a service 1A from Southend during the 'bus war'. This journey is run by a double decker as the vehicle then runs the 401 school journey from Rayleigh Station.

*Peter Mansbridge with thanks to Matthew Arnold
(Essex Planning and Scheduling, Arriva Southern Counties)*

■ NETWORK COLCHESTER

Vehicles in *ex Classic, Annfield Plain*

TVE 804 MCW Metrobus MkII

from Burtons main fleet

106 R60 BCL Dennis Dart SLF SFD322BR1XGW14212 SCC 4103/2000 B40F

new 9/2001 as HX51 LRK

107 R70 BCL Dennis Dart SLF SFD322BR1XGW14245 SCC 4104/2000 B40F

new 9/2001 as HX51 LRL

108 R80 BCL Dennis Dart SLF SFD322BR1XGW14244 SCC 4105/2000 B40F

new 9/2001 as HX51 LRN

TVE 804 was new to Mainline, Sheffield. Can anyone say what the original registration was? R60/70/80 BCL were included in the fleet list in EBN501 but have not previously been listed under 'vehicles in'. 109 (R90 BCL) reported in EBN501 was originally registered HX51 LRO.

Vehicles out

Lynxes 351-3/6/7 (H251-3/6/7 GEV etc) - sold to Stephensons (in a dealer capacity).

351/3 were the last of the batch in service on 14th January. The last to depart from storage in the tram shed was 357, on tow on 26th January.

Vehicles on loan

January 2006 From Burton's: D10M/East Lancs (H683 GPF) and Vario 0814D (P701 LCF).

- ▼ Dart/Caetano 355 (Y50 TGM) at Gosfield Road, Monkwick on 11 February. This carries blue 8 branding. *Roger Tuke*





▲ Volvo B10M 335 (B615 BPH) at Magdalen Street depot yard on 11 February. *Roger Tuke*

Vehicle Workings

Double-deckers now appear daily on service 8/A. Dart SLFs and route 8 Darts appear regularly on 93 so are no longer "unusual".

Route 1 SLFs now often appear in the daytime on route 2. SLFs now often appear on 87 and 247, whilst the DAFs now often appear on route 5.

Likewise, saloons often appear on Brightlingsea schools.

Unusual Sightings

- Jan 4th 351 on 5.
- 12th 106 on 1.
- 13th 358 on 1.
- 14th 381 on 1; 354 on 1.
- 16th 311 (8 branded) on 1; 378 on 2.
- 18th 303 (8 branded) on 2.
- 19th 333 on 1.
- 20th 359 on 5 and 333 on 1.
- 23rd 354 on 1; 373 on 8.
- 26th 310 (8 branded) on 2; 358 on 5.
- 27th 354 on 1; 359 on 9.
- 31st 310 (8 branded) on 2.
- Feb 2nd 373 on 8.
- 3rd 311 on 2 (8 branded); 373 on 8A.
- 7th 358 on 8E.
- 9th 335 on 1; 359 on 5.
- 10th 354 (8 branded) on 2; 364 (1 branded) on 8.
- 16th 354 (8 branded) on 5.



Two views of vacated No.1 depot (the tramshed) at Magdalen Street, with tramlines still in evidence. February 2006. *Roger Tuke*



17th Metrobus TVE 804 on 5; 108 on 1; 387 on 8.
 21th 309 (8 branded) on 2B; 355 (8 branded) on 87.
 22nd 109 on 1.
 24th 378 on 8A, TVE 804 on 5.
 27th 804 on 5
 28th 362 (1 branded) on 8 and 804 on 5.

Liveries and branding

January 2006:

Vario 0814D 378 gained branding for "Suffolk County Council sponsored services".

SLFs 354/5 to Network Colchester TGM livery ex Burtons with blue branding for Routes 8/8A.

B10M 334 to TGM/NC livery ex Arriva.

B10BLE 385 received green branding for Route 2.

February 2006:

Vario 0814D 374 gained branding for "Essex & Suffolk CC sponsored services.

SLF 106 to TGM/NC livery ex Burton's.

The only vehicles left in Arriva colours at end of February 2006 were 358/9, 373, and Ford Transit Van (N611 SMR).

Other News

Dual door SLFs 354/5 are being run as single door buses.

Accident damaged SLF 365 has been repaired and is back in service, but now lacks a Network Colchester name on its front.

■ BURTON'S COLCHESTER COACHWAYS

Vehicles in *from Burtons main fleet*

T200 BCL Volvo B10M-62 50187 Plaxton Premiere 9912VUP0466 C51Ft new 3/1999

W900 BCL Volvo B10M ?? Plaxton Paragon ??

Vehicles out

T300 BCL Volvo B10M/Premiere to Burton's.

T600 BCL Volvo B10M/Premiere to Harris Coaches.

The coach allocation is very fluid. There are four coaches "officially" with Colchester Coachways: B10M/Premieres (R50 TGM), (T300 BCL); B10M/Van Hool (CSU 908/9). These have 'Colchester Coachways' branding.

Peter Mansbridge with thanks to John Podgorski

Heddingham

Acquired *from London Central NV27, via Ensign*

L??? N427 JBV Volvo Olympian YN2RV18Z4 26207 Northern Counties Palatine I C5140 H47/30F new 11/1995. Delivered as N423 JBV, corrected to N427 JBV, re-registered WLT 527, and back to N427 JBV. Not yet in service.

Disposals

Ex-Shearings Tiger/Plaxton Paramount **L201** (F781 GNA) , VRs **L294** (NUM 341V) and **L161** (SNJ 591R), all sold to Ensign, Purfleet.

Dave Arnold

■ DEALER STOCK MOVEMENTS

VEHICLES IN

from:

Arriva London RM25 RML888/892/895/897/2304.
L516/18/23/26/40/50/52/53/55.
F252/3/60YTJ
Arriva North West: Olympians N220 BAL, M23 UUA, N224 BAL, P225 FRB,
Metroriders L190 DDW, M623 PDP, M214 STO, M215 TNU,
N217 VVO, L209 ONU.
Tigers WJI 9072/74 F902 JBB
Javelin H163 DJU
Dominator H803 AHA
Arriva OLST MB495/553/748/1152.
ASD Coaches, Strood National FTN 708W.
Dublin Bus RH60-64, RH68-75, RH78-83, RH111-129, RH131-7.
London General RML2725.
McKindless, Wishaw Lances WIL 9209/10/12/13/14/19/21
New World, Hong Kong: Leyland Olympians:
FC7695/7233, GE5021 FR2618 FS6384/ 6392/5383/
5611/4861 (Fleet numbers 308/12/16/45/78/81/85/
86/87)

VEHICLES OUT

to:

Volvo B6 M845 EMW, RML897: Ace Travel, Liverpool
RML2534: Tony Adnan, Cambridge
RML2314/2332/2507/2578/2673: Ambassatours, Halifax, Canada
Olympian F252 YTJ: ASD Coaches, Strood, Kent
AV4: Chambers Coaches, Bures, Suffolk
Olympian EWW 543Y: C and N Travel, Leicester
Olympian UWW 16X: Didier Bretones, Gennevilliers, France
RH128/9/131/2/4/: Dualway, Dublin
AV16: Geldards Coaches, Leeds
Dublin Olympian 91-D-1065/1085: now H551 PVW, H550 PTW with Go-Ahead North East
NV27: Hedingham Omnibuses, Essex
RML2264: Diego Hialdo, Winchester, Hants
Metrorider L390 AVK: Jaycrest, Sittingbourne, Kent
RML2544: JD Kilby Co, Buntingford, Herts
DL14/16/78/79/83: McKindless, Wishaw
Regent V GJG 750D (RV1): Neil Morgan and Doug Jones, Brighton for
preservation
Mercedes 811 P347 HKU: National Stud, Newmarket
National FTN 708W: Red Route Buses, Northfleet, Kent
RML2416: Willy Robson, Berwick-upon-Tweed
RML2675: Carlos Rodriguez, Romford
DAF SB3000's: N551/2 LUA, P753/4 RWU, R162 GNW, T56 AUA, T110 AUA,
Metroriders N220 BAL, M23 UUA, N224 BAL, P225 FRB, L190 DDW, M623 PDP,
M214 STO, M215 TNU, N217 VVO, L209 ONU:
Shamrock Coaches Group, Pontypridd, South Wales
RML2533: Sildamin SA, Rotkrenz, Switzerland



Supplied by Ensign to Stansted Transit is ex-Metrolink P105 OLX, and still in their colours. Photographed at Heybridge on the 73A in February. *Dave Arnold*

Also ex-Metrolink is Dart SLF R182 VLA, now 782 in the Ensign operational fleet. Seen at Lakeside in February. *David Harman*



Tiger CPU 125X: **Southern Transit, Brighton**
 RML2535: **Talisman Coaches, Colchester**
 Hong Kong Volvo B10M's FC8623/FC9356 now J578/9CEV with
Trustline/Galleon Travel, Stansted
 Volvo B6's L410 GPY, L403/4 FVN, M427/32 RDC, L411 CPY
UK North, Manchester
 Bristol VR BCL 213T: **Village Coaches, Finton, East Sussex.**
 RML2325: **Timothy Wedderkop, Sidcup, Kent**
 RML2277: **George Weston, Chalfont St. Giles, Bucks**
 RML2280: **Wilfreda Coaches**
 RML2370: **Amanda Wood, Wood Green, London**

OPERATIONAL FLEET

■ ENSIGNBUS, Purfleet

AV5/9/13/14 have entered the fleet temporarily for additional rail replacement work.

With thanks to Ross Newman of Ensignbus

Sold for further service

Former Chambers of Bures Scania / East Lancs **W89 HRT**, now with **Harrogate Coach Travel**, and seen on a West Yorkshire enthusiasts group tour to East Anglia.

David Barnard, courtesy Chris Stewart



Preservation (or perhaps not) Notebook

Two photos by *Ian Banks* of a recently-discovered bus in Long Road, Canvey.

This was new in 1950 to Trent Motor Traction as 1201 (BRC 401). It is an AEC Regent III with Willowbrook body, being one of a batch of ten with 9.6 litre engines and, uniquely, synchromesh gearboxes of Crossley design. The chassis code was 9612X. Renumbered 701 in 1962, it was withdrawn two years later.

The present owner bought BRC 401 in 1964 for conversion to a caravan for a holiday tour of the Swiss Alps. This expedition was featured in *Autocar* magazine at the time (Can anyone say exactly in which issue?). He now intends to restore the bus, which seems a mite optimistic!

*David Harman
with acknowledgements
to Ian Banks*



Heritage, North of Potters Bar



The afternoon sun casts a shadow on the awesome Ribblehead Valley viaduct on the Settle - Carlisle line, as Burlingham-bodied AEC Regal JTB 749 (new to Florence Motors of Morecambe) pauses on its first ever return service journey to Hawes in April 2003.

I suppose 2005 could be dubbed 'Year of the Heritage Bus' as so many have appeared in service to mark the end of RM routes in London. Highlight of the year for me was the superb turnout of beauties as special on Ensignbus X80 route in December, especially a journey on Bristol K that brought back memories of travelling on what I still recall as 'a strange green different bus' in London when I was about 4 or 5 years old. For those now suffering from withdrawal symptoms, may I offer my experiences of Cumbria Classic Coaches' heritage service.

A week before Easter two years ago I stayed at Bowber Head, Raverstonedale where a B&B and caravan site is run by the Hamer family in addition to a heritage bus fleet. This week coincided with the recommencement of their Tuesday market day service to Kirkby Stephen and Hawes. The vehicle selected was JTB 749, an AEC Regal with Burlingham body in green/cream livery of former owners Florance Motors of Morecombe. Unfortunately, the usual route to Hawes over the Mallerstang on B6259 was

closed due to a collapsed culvert, so there was a long detour via Sedburgh. Hawes is in Wensleydale, which has now well known due to Wallace and Gromit, so the cheese factory is a popular tourist attraction. This gave Cumbria Classic an opportunity to utilise the vehicle during its three hour layover for a trip to the Ribblehead Viaduct on the famous Settle-Carlisle line. So leaving my better half to browse the numerous market stalls in Hawes, I rejoined 'Florence' for its first ever stage journey to Ribblehead. By strange chance, the other couple on board who came from Harrow knew a guy who lives in the next road in Chingford who shares an interest in steam trains. The 9.6 litre engine growled at the harsh terrain as we travelled through the rugged scenery to the spectacular viaduct where we also had time to visit the museum at the station.

The Hamer family are involved in the Eden Valley Classic Vehicle Rally held on Easter Sat and Sunday. Some 200 commercial vehicles of all descriptions converge on the rally sites at Kirkby Stephen and Brough that

are linked by a heritage bus service. Whilst most of the Cumbria Classic fleet is out, many visiting buses assist in moving the crowds for this popular event.

Last September I returned to Bowber Head and found that the single deck fleet are now housed in smart covered accommodation. Loadings have become so great on the Hawes service that Bristol Lodeekka 627 HFM that was previously on hire has been purchased and proved a real hit with tourists for its grandstand view. The locals usually sit below as daughter Alison gives a

commentary for visitors with tales of yesteryear. The route parallels the Settle-Carlisle line past Ais Gill Summit, scene of the dreadful LMS disaster caused by extra engines having to be used to haul the expresses to the top of the incline.

A trip on this route is recommended and you could have no better place to stay than at the friendly Hamer farmhouse. Their website is at www.cumbriaclassiccoaches.co.uk.

Owen Woodliffe

Cumbria Classic Coaches - fleet

JTB 749	AEC Regal / Burlingham C33F	1948
CRN 80	Leyland Tiger / East Lancs B34F	1946
JPY 985	Commer Avenger / Plaxton C29F	1953
CMS 9	Commer Commando / ??	1949
MTJ 84	Guy Arab / Roe C31F	1951
CWG 286	Leyland Tiger / Alexander C35F	1949
627 HFM	Bristol Lodekka / ECW H60R	1959
647 BKL	Guy Warrior / Mulliner B49F	1957

Former Preston Corporation Leyland Tiger / East Lancs CRN 80 waits at Brough, during the Eden Classic Vehicle Rally in 2003. *Photos: Owen Woodliffe*



PCV HOLDER ?

⇒ Full and Part-Time Drivers required

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

Full and Part time drivers are needed for school services and weekend rail replacement, together with scheduled service work and private hires.

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

We offer attractive rates of pay, varied work, and a friendly working environment.



⇒ Full and Part-Time PCV Fitters

We also have vacancies for experienced fitters at our Maldon, Rochford and Stansted depots.



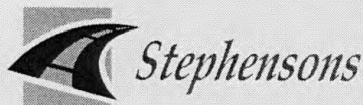
⇒ Rail Controllers/Customer Service Assistants

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

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

Stephensons: Bill Hiron 01702 541511

Excel: Graham Hayden 01279 681800



The 2006 **Hedingham** Shed Bash



Sunday 14 May **ONE DAY, FIVE DEPOTS, TEN POUNDS**

Tour by Hedingham luxury coach to Tollesbury, Kelvedon, Hedingham, Sudbury and Clacton depots, where a wide range of vehicles will be available for photography

PICK-UP POINTS

Redbridge Underground	0820
Gants Hill Underground	0825
Newbury Park Underground	0830
Gallows Corner, Colchester Road stop	0845
Brentwood High Street (opposite Argos)	0850
Shenfield Station	0855
Witham Station	0925

- ▶ Approximate return time: 1800 - 1900.
- ▶ Additional pick-up points on the line of route can be arranged.
- ▶ Please make sure you are at your stop **10 minutes** before departure time.
- ▶ It is recommended that you bring a packed lunch, as there will be **no** opportunities to purchase refreshments en route.

Booking Terms & Conditions:

1. **The tour is limited to 45 places.** Bookings are open to members of the Essex Bus Enthusiasts Group and guests, and are accepted on a 'first come, first served' basis.
2. Smoking is *not* permitted on the vehicle at any time. Food and drinks may be consumed on board but *please* place all litter in the receptacles provided.
3. Please wait until the organisers have confirmed that we may enter premises, and comply with any additional instructions given. Please *stay away* from all engineering areas, pits etc.
4. Refunds will be made only if cancellations are received 14 days before the tour date. A 25% handling charge will be deducted.

THE 2006 HEDINGHAM SHED BASH - 14 MAY - BOOKING FORM

To reserve seats on the tour, please complete this booking form and send to Dave Arnold. Additional copies may be found on our website:

www.essexbus.org.uk

Please reserve me seat(s) at **£10** per seat on **The 2006 Hedingham Shed Bash on Sunday 14 May 2006**. I agree to the booking terms and conditions, and enclose a cheque/postal order for £ (payable to **Essex Bus Enthusiasts Group**)

PICK-UP POINT [BLOCK CAPITALS]

Name [BLOCK CAPITALS]

Address [BLOCK CAPITALS]

.....

.....

Postcode

Contact telephone number

Signed

- Send completed form (or a photocopy), remittance **AND a stamped self-addressed envelope** (for confirmation of booking) to:

**Dave Arnold,
21 Cedar Close, Heybridge,
MALDON, CM9 4NR**

david@arnold3.fsnet.co.uk



SALES LIST ~ 2006

Eastern National AEC Regents and Renowns -By Alan Osborne and Peter Snell

Our latest Fact File, number 6, compiled by Alan Osborne and Peter Snell concentrates on a interesting collection of vehicles ranging over over 30 years. Although not devoted to an operator it is in the same format as previous volumes. It includes a brief history of the A.E.C. Regent, fleet list of new and acquired vehicles, rebodding and engine changes, allocations and disposals, 9 historic black & white photographs, and a Westcliff-on-Sea appendix

This fact file includes 9 historic black and white photos, 24 pages **£3.50**

Jennings of Ashen Fact File -By Alan Osborne

The long awaited story of this well respected rural bus operator serving Sudbury, Haverhill, Braintree and Halstead, taken over by Hedingham Omnibuses in 1984. This full history details the complete bus and coach fleet from 1924 and also includes comprehensive details of their London express service and the Kings Cross terminals that they used.

This fact file includes 9 historic black and white photos, 2 route maps and 6 illustrations of timetables and tickets. 28 pages **£3.50**

The Coastal Red Fact File-By Alan Osborne

The name of Coastal Red rekindles memories of their bus war with Eastern National in Clacton and Harwich following deregulation in 1986. This fact file covers the complete history of buses from Great Oakley garage, including Hooks Bros, the Essex Coastal Express combine and Charter Coach. Plus there's extensive coverage of the bus war as this small operator took on the big boys and was eventually run off the road.

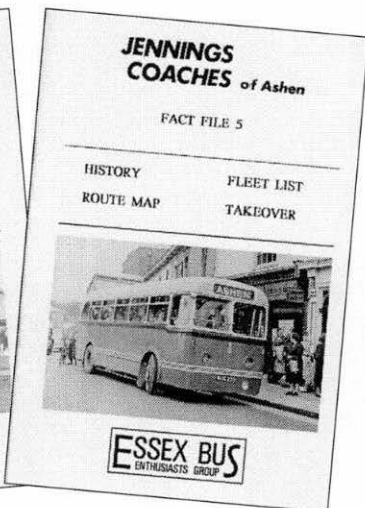
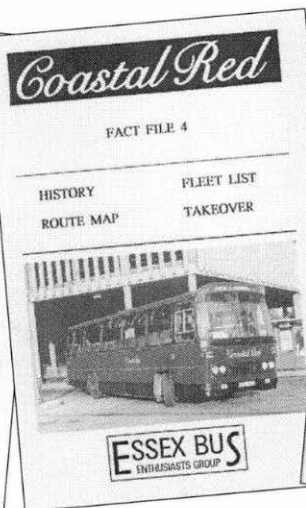
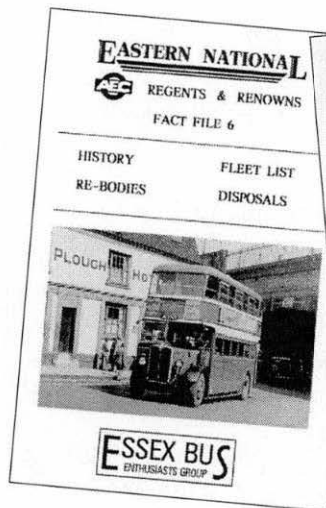
This essential book includes a complete fleet list and route listing, 9 historic black and white photos and 4 comprehensive route maps. 28 pages with red card covers and 9 black and white photos. **£3.50**

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