

ESSEX BUS NEWS

The Monthly Magazine Of The ESSEX BUS ENTHUSIASTS GROUP

OCTOBER 1990

(Formerly the EASTERN NATIONAL ENTHUSIASTS GROUP)

ISSUE No. 318



Thamesways first new vehicles are a batch of four Leyland Olympians. 1003 (H 103 K VX) is seen with 1001 at Basildon on 6.10.90.

Derek Stebbing

ROCHFORD MEETING

The November meeting takes place on 13.11.90. and will feature Mark Howarth of Southend Transport, who will be giving a talk on the current and future plans of ST. Please come along to what should be an interesting evening and why not bring someone along with you? All are very welcome.

Freight House is situated adjacent to Rochford Station. As an extra incentive bar facilities are available.

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EVENTS DIARY

- 27.10.90. LOTS Annual Transport Spectacular. Horticultural Hall, Westminster. Commences 11am. Free buses from Victoria.
7.11.90 Chartered Institute Of Transport. Can the small survive? Bill Nelson of NIBS. Commencing at 1900 at the County Hotel, Chelmsford.

Our apologies to any member who travelled to Harrow Weald for the open day. This event was cancelled as a result of the depot losing most of its LRT tendered work.

PRESERVED VEHICLES FUTURE TOURS

I am pleased to be able to inform the membership that I have received a letter from Ted Miles owner of 1640 and that he is willing to make either of his vehicles available for future tours. This is most welcome and plans are being made for what is hoped will be an interesting day out next year.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

With regard to the letter from Mr Huggins last month I am able to add some details regarding vehicles 2831, 2832 and 2819.

The first two vehicles were indeed fitted with loading devices. These were known as Loadmeters, and were activated by a passenger sitting on a seat. Each seat cushion had within the covering an electronic contact and these were wired to the meter which, on these two vehicles was fitted on the lower deck just beneath the stairs. The recording device was not unlike a tachograph in the sense that there was a trace which moved from 0-70, depending upon how many seats were occupied. Each roll of paper lasted about five days and had to be analysed by hand, from predetermined vehicle workings.

The equipment was a limited success, but a major problem was that the wires from the seats were sometimes disconnected, either by passengers in the seat behind unwittingly pulling them out with their feet, and occasionally by staff deliberately pulling the wires out.

In addition to the FLFs, two MWs, I think 1358 and 1362, were similarly equipped.

Turning to 2819, the protuberances on this vehicle were also connected with loading surveys, it being planned to fit time lapse cameras, one on the top deck and one on the lower, so that passengers could be counted. To the best of my knowledge, this system was never implemented.

David Whiteside

THAMESWAY NEWS ITEMS

Would members please note that following the recent split from Eastern National and the need to obtain news from Basildon, that Paul Harvey has agreed to take on the role of sub editor for Thamesway. Items for inclusion on Thamesway should be sent to Paul at 19 Watkins, Shoeburyness, SS3 9NX.

EASTERN NATIONAL

Acquired Vehicles

Further details of the acquired Ford Transits are now available

Fleet Number	Chassis Number	Body Number	New
0700	BDVYET72454	CBS26	3/85
0701	BDVYES72456	CBS35	5/85
0702	BDVYES72461	CBS29	5/85
0703	BDVYES72462	CBS32	5/85
0704	BDVYES72464	CBS27	5/85
0705	BDVYES72465	CBS28	3/85
0706	BDVYES72466	CBS30	3/85
0707	BDVYFB93341	CBS149	1/86
0708	BDVYFR96755	CBS157	1/86
0709	BDVYFA03952	S4768-975-85	2/86
0710	BDVYFA03953	S4769-975-85	3/86
0711	BDVYFA03956	S4772-975-85	3/86
0712	BDVYFA03957	S4773-975-85	1/86
0713	BDVYFA03958	S4774-975-85	3/86
0714	BDVYFA03961	S4777-975-85	1/86
0715	BDVYFA03963	S4779-975-85	1/86
0716	BDVYFG04487	S4780-975-85	3/86
0717	BDVYFG04490	S4783-975-85	3/86
0718	BDVYFG04491	S4784-975-85	3/86
0719	BDVYFG04521	S4814-975-85	?

To clarify and correct last months magazine 0700-08 have Carlyle conversions with Dormobile bodyshells. 0709-19 have Dormobile conversions. 0700-06 were new to Bristol O.C. Ltd., and were transferred to Badgerline Ltd. on 28/11/85.

0715 is registered C443 BHY.

0707/08 have Dormobile body numbers S4425-924-85 (0707) and S4476-924-85 (0708).

0701-06 were part of a diverted Eastern Counties order.

Vehicle News

Further secondhand vehicles from the Badgerline group were expected as we went to press. This time the vehicles are coming from South Wales in the shape of KEP 829X a Leyland National 2 that was loaned to EN in October 1988 with its DIPTAC features, and four Bristol VRs. The National will become 1940 and will be allocated to Bishops Stortford, the VRs are expected to be allocated to Chelmsford. Five P registration Leyland Nationals will pass to SWT in exchange.

Further to 317/14 the vehicle damaged by vandals at Braintree was 1929.

Reallocations

9/90 1921 SW-MN; 3070 SW-MN

This was as a result of the closure of South Woodham outstation

after service on 1.9.90. Service 36 is now operated by Chelmsford and Maldon vehicles. To clarify the situation at South Woodham when it was open, it was an outstation of Maldon for maintenance purposes although both vehicles were fueled and cleaned at Chelmsford between duties on the 36.

0211 was in use for driver training during September.

1750 a pool vehicle was in use at Braintree towards the end of September.

Repaints

1860 ex Trimoco and 4003 ex Colchester Fuel Injectors are now back in fleet livery. 1865 and 1933 have been repainted in fleet livery at Sangsters. Fleetnames on repainted saloons are being positioned further forward than before and are now positioned above the doors on the nearside and the drivers window on the offside.

Unusual Workings

26.8.90. CF 1856 on service 53A (Lynx being normal on Sundays)

24.9.90. CF 4512 on service 41A

28.9.90. DT 1754 on service 53

Service Vehicles

A Ford Fiesta Van previously unreported is G443 AGV.

General

Road works led to the closure of Railway Street, Braintree during September. It is assumed that services ran via East Street and Manor Street, could someone please confirm?

THAMESWAY

New vehicles

1001-4 H101-4 K VX Leyland Olympian Leyland H??/??F

These vehicles arrived in full Thamesway livery at Basildon on 26.9.90. They are for LRT service at Ponders End and are fitted with rear route blinds. Further details next month. These vehicles will release four KOO ---V VRs to Eastern National.

Vehicles on order

Six Mercedes minibuses are on order for service 362. (See service changes).

Repaints

September 1990 1879, 1903, 3101, 3113, 4009.

w.e. 6.10.90. 3110 & 4010.

All are in new fleet livery.

All repaints were carried out by Tom Sangster except 3101 which was completed at Clarks of Wickford.

The new livery is Crimson and Yellow. This has been applied to double deckers with Crimson at the base of the vehicle to beneath the lower deck windows, the upper part being yellow with a Crimson line between lower and upper deck. The fleetname is positioned over the drivers window and passenger entrance which is linked into the Crimson line. The fleetname is also positioned on the back panel between upper and lower deck windows. Single deck vehicles are painted Crimson to the top of the wheelarch and partly up the front of the vehicle, the remainder being yellow. A Crimson line is placed above the windows on the side panels, with fleetnames again over the drivers window and passengers door which is linked to the line. The fleetname is also positioned on the front and in the rear window. Passenger entrance doors are painted yellow. There is a slight variation in livery on different makes of vehicle.

Transit 0755 which is often used as a ferry bus at Walthamstow has been painted. Still retaining EN style livery it is Grey & Yellow on the left hand side, Crimson and Yellow on the right hand side, while the rear emergency door and roof remain green.

Vehicle Loans

4504 is on loan to Badgerline for service trials and was observed by one member on Park & Ride services in Bath.

1740 is currently on loan from Eastern National to cover the repaint programme.

Unusual Workings

25.8.90. PD 3080 on service 400 (presumed covering a breakdown)

24.9.90. BD 0235 on services 350/1

VRs and 4000-2 have become a regular feature on the 251 in recent weeks as vehicles are repainted into Thamesway livery.

Minibuses on the Sunday 251 have become a common sight recently. One departure was noted leaving Romford with only two passengers. This shows the decline in a service that in City days was known to have up to ten buses on some journeys.

General

To amplify the notes in 316/6 the Citybus fleetname had been dropped from vehicles repainted in the last two years. There are some vehicles with both Citybus and Thamesway fleetnames.

Further to the recent notes on running numbers at Walthamstow the am journey on service 203 is covered by WW29, whilst the pm journey is covered by WW22.

AJN 825 remains at Basildon and continues to attend a number of rallies. August Bank Holiday saw a visit to the National Tramway Museum at Crich where it was displayed in the mockup street to complement the passing trams.

The wavy line to denote the River Thames that appeared under the fleetname (see 316/5) appears to have been dropped.

Southend Transport

These notes are correct to October 2.

Vehicles

NEW: It is worth recording that the registrations of ST's 4 Olympians - H262-65 GEV - are almost in series with County Bus's Lynxes for LRT route 66, these being H251-58 GEV. I wonder who has 259-261?

ACQUIRED:

Long Routemaster 121 (CUV 256C) will most likely enter service about the end of October; initially it is unlikely to be re-seated, since to re-position the seat top mountings involves removing the exterior panels!

259	B183 BLG	Leyland Olympian ONLXB/1R	ECW	H45/32F
260	B184 BLG	" " "	"	"

These two low height Olympians are ex Crosville Wales DOG 183/4, and were delivered on October 2 (ex Wrexham depot). In effect, they are replacements for the ex 398/9 (the full height ON's sold last month); they re-introduce Gardner engines and ECW bodies into the fleet. It is thought that they will not enter service until November, after repaint and modifications to the destination gear.

553	A141 EPA	Leyland Tiger TRCTL11/3R	Plaxton	C51F
555	A144 EPA	" " "	"	C57F

Two further 12m Tigers have been acquired, ex London & Country TPL 41 and Kentish Bus 102 respectively; on delivery, 553 was in Green Line livery and 555 in the erstwhile London Express scheme. They are expected to enter service as soon as repainted. This brings the fleet of Plaxton Paramount bodied Tigers, all ex LC companies, to 8.

---	GRY 54D	Leyland PD3A/1	Metro Cammell	H41/32R
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Bought to augment the driver training fleet to 2 manual gearbox deckers is this former Leicester PD3 (of a type familiar in the area, as S&M had a large fleet until recently). It was delivered to Southend on 24/9 in all over cream with a brown roof and red band, and has come from an unidentified firm in South Wales. It has not yet been allocated a fleet number. To answer a member's query, the present PD3, 334, does meet the new specification for driver trainers (ie it is long enough and can reach 50 mph).

---	LDS 280A	AEC Routemaster	PRV	H36/28R
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A second ex Clydeside RM is the former RM104 (originally registered VLT 104); like ST's own 102, it has a body with non opening top deck front windows. A third, as yet unidentified RM has also been purchased, again via Lister (dealer). As with the former RM 830 (which has now been partially cannibalised) reported last month, they are for spares or resale only.

MODIFIED/RENUMBERED:

Further changes to the fleet of formerly 'temporary' LN's are:
715 (LPB 185P) has been renumbered 712 and repainted into fleet livery
716 (LPB 218P) will be renumbered 713 and also repainted - when
completed, the LN fleet will then comprise 14 buses 701-14 (resp-
ectively TPD 194/5M, UPE 204M, GPD 295N, HPF 309N, TPL 292/3S, XPD
231N, HPF 327N, JBO 352N, HPF 316N, LPB 185, 218P, NPK 241R). The
last noted is still being prepared for service as we went to press.
One further change to record is that most LN's are being or have been
retrimmed with ST's attractive red moquette, in place of PVC or the
(now) very faded blue moquette used on the suburban coach LN's.

DELICENCED/REINSTATED:

Open toppers 904/5 were delicenced after 30/9, for the winter. In
exchange, closed top Fleetline 216 (JTD 396P) was reinstated on 1/10.

WITHDRAWN/INITIAL DISPOSALS:

511	XGS 770X	Withdrawn 9/90	) Disposals required,
545	XGS 769X	Withdrawn 9/90	) please

The departure of 511 and last month's withdrawal of 533 sadden the
sub-editor - they were my favourite coaches! There is now only one
Leopard left - 521, and this is expected to go in the near future. It
will be strange to think of the ST fleet without any Leopards - the
first two joined the SCT fleet in 1961 (206/7) and at one time
(including hires) they were the most numerous type, outnumbering even
the Fleetlines.

Withdrawn vehicles 211, 505, 523, 605, together with former crew bus
003, remain in store pending sale. In addition, open topper 901, RM
205 and the 3 LN's acquired for spares (LPB 179P - ex Midland Red
North 779, and ex London & Country SNB 140,181) remain at the ST works
and are all in a very advanced state of cannibalisation.

Services

A package of revisions is to be introduced from Sunday October 28: the
following is known now, and more details will be reported next month:

- 3 (Canvey circular - M-F peaks) Renumbered 3C.
- 12 To be diverted between Priory Park & Warners Bridge via Southend
General Hospital off peak; peak service continues via Cuckoo Cnr
as 12A. Two journeys extended from Canewdon to Paglesham. These
revisions effectively replace part of the taxi bus contract route
previously provided by Southend Radio Cars. The hospital diver-
sion resurrects the service once provided as 8A and later 65.
- 13 Diverted to terminate at Newlands, not Leigh Beck on Canvey. Most
journeys transferred to route 3A.
- 18 To become a fully commercial service again, ex part tendered.
- 63 Hourly evening service M-S reintroduced.

66 NEW SERVICE: Lower Hockley, Dome - Ashingdon - Hockley - Rochford - Southend; 1 jny Tuesdays only (1038 ex Dome; 1222 return). This commercial operation will make the tendered District Bus 116 redundant. As with the 12 diversion, this also revives part of the old 8A and of the subsequent 66 (which once ran Hullbridge to Wakering via Rochford).

X1 Off peak service M-S diverted via the Lakeside shopping complex, at West Thurrock.

General

Coaches on day time layover in London ceased to use the London Buses garage at Walworth after 21/9; from 24/9, six coaches are parked up instead in Aldgate bus station (ideal for photographers!). One coach not to be seen there for a while is Tiger 554, which is under repair after suffering severe rear end damage whilst parked on layover at Hyde Park Corner.

ST continue to undertake engineering work for various operators - for example, noted during September were: London Buses (Selkent) Metrorider MRL70 (E646 KYW); Channel Coachways CNP 83N (Bedford/Plaxton coach) and B232 XEU (double deck Metroliner); and two buses converted to mobile exhibition units - Bristol FLF (semi auto) TRB 585F and Bristol VRLH (ex Standerwick) LRN 55J.

Unusual workings: not so much unusual, but worth noting, is that dual purpose Olympian 265 operated the 0830 X1 on 24/9 and thus became the first ON to work through to Heathrow. As has been the custom with ST, the open top Fleetlines saw extensive use on normal services during September, after the 67 ceased, until delicensed at the end of the month - for example, both were on crew duties on 1 & 3A on Weds 26th.

OTHER OPERATORS - South East Essex

Channel Coachways, Southend: the Metroliner decker reported last month has been identified as B232 XEU - originally with Shamrock & Rambler, it was last owned by Adventour Coaches (G A Laing T/A) of Greenford, Middlesex (according to the legal lettering). As noted above, it is under repair by ST at present.

District Bus, Wickford: to correct the second entry in last month's magazine (page 14 - service news), the 223 remains a mainly tendered service with only a limited number of commercial journeys. To cope with the extra routes won (see last month), and in a change in fleet policy, two Iveco 49.10's with Carlyle Works B25F bodies are on order.

S & M Coaches, Hadleigh: the unidentified Fleetline reported last month has been traced as ex Merseyside (not Manchester) CKC 315L, with MCW body, latterly with Eagle (Tunbridge Wells Radio Taxis) and then Shearings.

COLCHESTER BOROUGH TRANSPORT



Expected during October are two Volvo B10M coaches to be numbered 107/8 (G107/8 JAR).

IBT Falcon 124 was returned to its home town around 15.9.90. CBTs 14 and 15 remain in Ipswich with IBTs 37 still in Colchester although 14 was used by CBT on 27.9.90.

Service changes on 29.10.90. will result in a reduction of three vehicles.

Wayfarer III ticket equipment was introduced on 15.10.90. replacing Almex machines.

To clarify last months notes IBT 40 was used on 30.8.90. and 1.9.90. whilst 37 was back in Ipswich. 124 covered for the loan of both Metroriders which only lasted a few days.

OTHER OPERATORS REST OF ESSEX

CARTERS The ex IBT minibus is Dodge/ N Counties B21F C204 WGV.

COUNTY Control of the company passed from AJS to a management team led by Bob Howells Chairman of County during late September. A number of Harlow minibuses are on loan to Grays to cover for those required for services 256 and 346. This has led to services 804,811 at Harlow being SNB operated. This will continue until the arrival of new minibuses for services 256 & 346. A fleet allocation will be published once this has occurred.

Further to 317/12 service 383 at Grays was converted back to SNB rather than the Hammond Street service which was only converted to minibus the week before. (See 316/13).

Due to the problem of obtaining certain registrations, the Olympians are H101-110,112-5 GEV.

CUNNINGHAM A new Leyland Swift/Elme is H650 VHG.

HARRIS Have acquired PNU 112R a Bristol VR with dual door ECW bodywork ex Bristol O.C. Coach 9170FH has been sold.

HEDINGHAM Yet more acquired Bristol VRT/SL3/6LXB with ECW bodies are L162 (MOD 596P) L163 (MGR 672P) L164 (SUP 685R) L165 (LRA 801P) L166 (MRB 802P). The first three are ex United, the others being ex Trent. L161 mentioned last month was ex Brighton & Hove all having come via Martins, Middlewich (dealer). All seat H43/31F except L162 H43/32F and L165/6 H43/34F.

SERVICE CHANGES IN ESSEX

Bishops Stortford

- 309 The evening service operated under tender to Herts CC will be withdrawn with effect from 28.10.90.
- 331/2 A revised timetable has been introduced by Essex CC owing to the closure of USAF Wethersfield.
- 337 Evening service introduced between Silver End and Witham. It is presumed that this replaces evening journeys on 353.
- 500 Certain journeys on Monday to Saturday evenings from Bishops Stortford operate under contract to ECC from 27.10.90.

Colchester

The following will be introduced by CBT on 29.10.90.

- 2 Rerouted between Myland Hospital and Highwoods. Evening service extended to Highwoods. Service 2B withdrawn.
 - 3 Extended from Middlewick to Old Heath every hour. Service 3A withdrawn.
 - 4/4A Revised evening peak timetable.
 - 5A Extended from Fiveway to Tollgate and revised to half hourly. Service 5B withdrawn.
 - 6/6A Revised timetable.
 - 7 Revised timetable on the 7 group services.
 - 8A Revised to operate hourly including evenings between Monkwick and Horksley Heath. Service 8 runs hourly between Monkwick and Severalls, evenings excepted.
 - 9 Revised route and timetable, with the 9A revised to peak hour only operation.
 - 21 NEW SERVICE. Operates every 45 minutes between 0930 and 1400 from Tollgate via New Farm Estate, Dugard Ave., Ambrose Ave., and 9A route to town centre. Runs Monday to Friday except Thursday when the bus is used on service 77.
 - 31 Service withdrawn.
 - 39 NEW SERVICE. Replaces 9A between Chaucer Way and town centre and service 31 between the town centre and Longridge Park.
 - 74A Slight timetable revisions.
- N&P dated 3.10.90. includes the cancellation of Ernest Johns taxibus from 15.10.90. Did this service ever operate?
- 105/7 Revised route between Tendring and Thorpe introduced on 29.10.90.

Harlow

- 310B Revised timetable introduced by London Buses from 22.9.90.
 - 711 Saturday service withdrawn after 27.10.90. (Green Line).
 - 724 Timetable revised by Green Line from 27.10.90. Sunday service passes to Green Rover under contract to Herts. CC.
 - B6 Revised timetable introduced by Buzz from 29.10.90.
- Essex County Council tendered routes in the town were revised by removing the T and adding 850 to the route number from 28.10.90.

Ongar

- 239 Extended in Ongar to serve the Shelley Estate by Townlink with effect from 27.10.90.

Chelmsford

- 48 Converted to minibus with a revised timetable from 12.11.90

Basildon

The following are all operated by Thamesway

- 2 The 2041 ex Basildon was withdrawn from 25.10.90.

- 15 Minor timetable revision from 22.10.90.
- 26/A Minor timetable revision from 22.10.90.
- 151 Minor timetable revisions from 21.10.90.
- 152-5 Revised timetable including extension to Lakeside and withdrawal of the 155 introduced from 22.10.90.
- 235/6 Revised timetable introduced from 22.10.90.
- 242 Revised timetable introduced from 22.10.90.
- 250 Minor revisions to Saturday services introduced 27.10.90.
- 400 London Express element withdrawn from 28.10.90. National Express tickets will not be valid from this date.
- 500 Withdrawn after 20.10.90.
- 501/11 These routes do not serve the grounds of Basildon Hospital. (Corrects 312/6 & 314/10).
- 505 Minor timetable revisions introduced from 22.10.90.

Grays

- 364 Service between Grays and Uplands Estate renumbered from 374. Operated by Vantage under contract to ECC from 29.10.90.
 - 372 Most journeys extended to Lakeside from Grays via Lodge Lane with effect from 1.1.90.
 - 373 Thameside extended some journeys to Grays Convent School from 29.9.90.
 - 375 Revised by Harris to serve Lakeside from 1.10.90.
 - 377 Revised timetable introduced by Thameside from 23.10.90.
 - 379 Further to 317/14 this service will continue to operate on Sundays and will be extended to Rainham. Operation passes from Harris to Thameside.
 - 383 Revised timetable introduced by Harris from 1.10.90.
 - 383 Revised route and timetable introduced by Thameside from 23.10.90.
 - 426 NEW SERVICE. Dartford to Lakeside operated by Kentish Bus. Commencing 23.10.90. Hourly between 0942 & 1342 ex Dartford returning 1010 to 1410.
 - 723 From 28.10.90. will be rerouted to serve Lakeside, Plaistow and Stratford. Further to 317/14 the Sunday service was withdrawn after 21.10.90. Replaced by service 379.
- From late October services to Lakeside will serve the new Bus Station situated in the complex in addition to Tesco's.

Commuter Services

- 192/3/4 Revised timetables introduced by EN from 15.10.90.

LRT routes

- 307 Monday to Friday daytime journeys extended to the Arkley Hotel with effect from 13.8.90.
- 362 NEW SERVICE. Chadwell Heath to Barkingside via current route 62 to Hainault then via Grange Hill. Operation will be by Thamesway using new minibuses and will commence during November.

National Express

Winter schedules will be introduced on all services from 28.10.90.

NON PSVS IN ESSEX

Former London Transport DMS1729 (SMU 729N) is with the Deep Purple Showband, Wickford.

PUBLICITY

The following have been published in recent months:-

Eastern National timetable leaflets for services 31/31X; 31A; 36; 40/40A; 44; 55/56/56A/56B/56C; 94; 95/96 dated 2 or 3.9.90.

Eastern National booklets Buses in Braintree dated 19.8.90. and Buses in Witham dated 20.8.90.

Essex County Council booklet for buses in Maldon and Dengie dated 2.9.90. and Buses in Saffron Walden dated 28.8.90.

Thamesway timetable leaflets for services 151 and 400 (date unknown); 225 dated 17.9.90.

Thamesway leaflet for Southend and District Bus Hopper and Dayrider.

LRT timetable for service 307 dated 20.8.90.

Colchester Borough Transport Autumn/Winter Excursions.

In reply to a query CBT timetable leaflets are available for 1/1A dated 4.9.89; 2/2A/2B dated 5.2.90; 3/3A/31 dated 19.3.90; 4/4A dated 5.6.89; 5/5A/5B dated 2.4.90; 6/6A dated 21.5.90; 7/7A/7C/7D/8/8A/8B dated 2.1.90; 9/9A dated 20.11.89; 74A dated 5.6.89 and CBT operated ECC routes dated June 1990.

Harris Bus timetable leaflet for all services dated 1.10.90.

Eastern National commuter coach leaflets for services 192 & 193; 194 both dated 15.10.90.

WHAT THE PAPERS SAY

The Colchester Park and Ride scheme has been carrying more passengers according to press reports. Operating 35 round trips two double deckers attracted 105 motorists on the first day but this dropped to less than 100. On 22.9.90. 213 were carried and Colchester Borough Council are hoping to increase usage with a fresh publicity campaign. The six month trial cost #6500 and will be reviewed in November.

The Evening Gazette has been calling for minibuses to be used on service 133 to solve the problem of larger buses causing hold ups in Coggeshall. The NE Essex manager of EN replied in a letter that the frequency of the service together with the loadings made this impossible. In any case the problem was not of bus size but the poor parking of cars. The magazine editor would add that having traveled from Braintree to Witham on service 356 by minibus a journey of 28 minutes, the thought of 53 minutes between Colchester and Braintree fills me with fright!

ON THE SCREEN

Former Eastern National Bristol K WNO 484 can be seen every week

at the start of Russ Abbots show on BBC1. This vehicle is still with fellow Badgerline company South Wales. With the appearance of an open top RM120 on 6.10.90. for a takeoff of Summer Holiday can we assume that Russ is a Bus Enthusiast?

FORDS FLEETLIST AS AT SEPTEMBER 1990

DGE 339C	Leyland PDR1/1	Alexander	H44/33F
JSC 857E	"	"	H43/31F
JSC 886E	"	"	H43/31F
GNO 32H	Ford R226	Plaxton	C53F
PRG 124J	Daimler CRG6LX	Alexander	H48/35F
PRG 127J	"	"	H48/35F
PRG 134J	"	"	H48/32D
WJN 356J	Daimler CRL6	N Counties	H49/31D
KMC 673P	Bedford YRQ	Plaxton	C45F
ONR 79R	"	"	C45F
WGR 66R	"	"	C45F
RYL 730R	Bedford YMT	Duple	C53F
AUD 460R	Bristol VR	ECW	H43/31F
TDI 32S	Bedford YMT	Duple	C53F
CKX 392T	"	"	C53F
JGV 321V	Bedford YMT	Plaxton	C53F
EYH 693V	"	"	C53F
CHK 312X	Bedford YNT	"	C53F
JEV 245Y	Van Hool TD824	Van Hool	CH57/27F
GEX 790Y	Bova EL26/581	Bova	C53F
A123 MAC	Bedford YNT	Plaxton	C53F
A128 NAR	Volvo B10M-61	Van Hool	C48FT
C658 KVV	Bedford YNT	"	C53F
C995 ERO	"	Plaxton	?
C141 KFL	DAF SB2300	Jonckheere	C53FT
D66 ONS	Bedford YNV	Duple	C57F
820 KPO	Bedford YRT	Plaxton	C53F

DGE 339C and GNO 32H are stored out of service.

LATE NEWS

The ex South Wales VRs are to be allocated to Clacton and Dovercourt depots, not Chelmsford.

KEP 829X had arrived in Essex by 8.10.90. and was noted undergoing mechanical attention at Maldon.

The four VRs that will pass from Thamesway to Eastern National as a result of the arrival of the four Olympians are (with expected allocations):- 3068 (CR), 3071 (CR), 3072 (MN) and 3076 (BE).

A new Park and Ride service between Wharf Road Car Park and Chelmsford Rail Station commenced on 1.10.90. The scheme operates on Monday to Friday between 0700 and 1000 in the morning and 1645 to 2000 in the evening at 15 minute intervals. The scheme is being sponsored by Chelmsford Borough Council with Eastern National providing a minibus to operate the service.

Service 225 between Brentwood and Lakeside is being operated by 1113 and 1122, both of which carry "Lakeside two two five" vinyls on their side windows.

EASTERN NATIONAL BRISTOL FLFs (PART 3)

Liveries

This section deals with standard buses and special liveries applied thereto, liveries of specific types (coaches, open topers and trainers) are dealt with under their respective headings.

All of Eastern Nationals Bristol FLF buses were delivered in the then standard Tilling green livery with either one or two cream waistbands lined out in black. In 1972 Eastern National, by then part of the National Bus Company (NBC) were obliged to adopt the new NBC corporate image livery of leaf green with a single white waistband, large white fleetnames and grey wheels. The first FLF to be outshopped in the new scheme was 2742 (EOO 584) in August 1972. Pending full repaint however, a temporary livery style was introduced in July 1972 in order to achieve an apparent transformation from old to new. The top cream waistband was painted Tilling green whilst the lower cream waistband was repainted white. Originally a small yellow fleetname was fitted on the front of the bus above the radiator grille and sometimes on the white waistband near the front. These transfers however were liable to abuse and it was not long before 'EASTER NATIONAL' or worse appeared on the front of buses! Consequently these transfers had been removed completely by October and the more readily available NBC fleetname transfers were applied. The last FLFs to receive full repaint into NBC livery were 2704 at CN, 2816 at Central Works and 2817 at Prittlewell in October 1974. The standard NBC fleetname featured large white block letters with a white 'double N' symbol facing the front of the bus. This was revised from April 1976 to incorporate the 'double N' symbol in red and blue in a white box. This replaced the white symbol on the sides of buses and also appeared on the radiator grille, the first FLF treated this way was 2718 (98 TVX).

A total of seven Eastern National FLFs received special liveries for advertisers. The first contract involved two buses 2721 (802 WVW) and 2810 (FWC 428B) in March 1972. Both vehicles were repainted cream and had all of their lower deck seats removed. They were then bedecked with paper stickers for the 'Stork Challenge' and were used in filming a TV advertisement for Stork Margarine. Filming was done at Eversly Walk, East Barnet and the buses carried destination blinds showing 'Eversly Walk'. On completion of this work, the two buses were repainted in bus livery and had their seats replaced and returned to service the following month.

Five FLFs carried all over advertisement liveries in service. They were 2790, 2804 and 2837 in 1973, 2791 in 1974 and 2927 in 1978. Full details are:-

2837- LWC 663C 2.73-4.74 Southend District HCVA Home Heating Group, London Road, Westcliff. The basic colour scheme incorporated an orange skirt and radiator cowl, then yellow to above the lower deck windows with white above. Superimposed was a surrealistic country cottage and flowers. The bus was launched in

a blaze of publicity on 3.2.73. on the forecourt of Southend Central Station by actor Stephen Lewis (Inspector Blake from 'On The Buses'). The bus was allocated to HH depot and worked routes 2/2A (Southend-Basildon-Grays).

2804- BVX 680B 2.73-10.73 Bambergers (Eastern) Ltd. Home Improvements, London Road, Westcliff. Livery was white with a simulated red brick wall around the skirt with various aspects of home improvements depicted around the bus. Allocation again was HH but working routes 3/3A (Southend-Canvey).

2790- AVX 958B 3.73-6.74 Typhoo Tea. Livery was red with white and black signwriting incorporating a giant cup and saucer. This bus was painted at Prittlewell alongside London Country Atlantean AN34 by British Transport Advertising. This vehicle worked from SD on service 251 (Southend-London Wood Green). It was strongly rumoured at the time that the wrong bus had been painted! 2790 instead of 2890 (a semi that normally worked the 251). 2790 being a manual gearbox FLF was unusual on the 251 at that time.

2791- AVX 959B 3.74-8.75 National Coal Board 'come home to a real fire' campaign. Livery was orange with black lettering and various coloured shapes. Similar liveried vehicles were operated by various NBC subsidiaries at the time. Eastern Nationals NCB bus worked various routes from SD, CF, CR and CN depots.

2927- AVW 396F 7.78-12.80 Tesco Superstore, Pitsea. Livery was red with white signwriting. Allocated to HH for use on routes 2 (Southend-Basildon-Grays) and 151 (Canvey-Basildon-Romford) both of which passed the newly opened superstore.

TO BE CONTINUED...

THAMESWAY DAYRIDER

A one day rover type ticket is now available in the Southend area on all Thamesway services. Priced at £1.80 for adults and £1 for children, the ticket gives unlimited travel all day (after 0900 for children) in an area bordered by Rettendon, Rawreth, Tarpots Corner, Canvey Island and Shoeburyness. Tickets are issued by the driver on any bus.

Whilst on the subject of Thamesway tickets, tickets being issued are now carrying the Thamesway logo, my wife receiving her first one on 10.10.90. replacing Eastern National style tickets that were still being issued on a daily basis (she travels to work on a Thamesway operated 351) until this date.

PHOTO LIST

The first of a set of photo lists is now available from Peter Snell. It lists all the groups current black and white prints of Eastern National vehicles carrying pre 1954 fleetnumbers. It is available on receipt of an A4 size SAE.

7 & J. Sangster



COMMERCIAL VEHICLE REFINISHERS

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CORRECTIONS

316/17 1923 is in fleet livery (314/4 refers)
3113 had its Royals livery painted out by 14.7.90.
BN 3120 also has a rear end advert for ECTA.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE SEPTEMBER MAGAZINE WERE RECEIVED FROM:-

J Collins, R Dennis, P Harvey, R Huggins, J Lidstone, I Mayoh,
R Searle, C Sigston, F Spence, G Toon, L Watson, M Weyell,
B White, T Wiffen, I Wylie, Eastern National, Essex County
Council, Grey Green Enthusiasts Club, LOTS, PSV Circle and
Southend Transport.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE OCTOBER MAGAZINE WERE RECEIVED FROM :-

S Coates, R Dennis, P Halls, D Harrison, J Lidstone, B Lynch,
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District Bus, Eastern National, Essex County Council, Grey Green
Enthusiasts Club, LOTS, PSV Circle, Southend Transport, Thamesway
and Mrs S Ransom.

DEADLINE FOR NEXT MONTH 2.11.90.