# Essex Bus News

No. 651; July 2018




Essex Bus Enthusiasts Group £4

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Upper picture A poignant day on 20 June allowing a sincere farewell to First Hadleigh's longstanding and much respected Operations Manager, Andy Spicer who sadly passed away on. xxxx . An impressive 'guard of honour' of colleagues, past and present, traffic and operations, stood in tribute to Andy as his family cortege allowed him a farewell visit to call, pause at, and passed by the depot that 'was his', for the final time. **John G. Lidstone.**

Lower picture Some have suggested heritage livery 33191 could carry Andy Spicer's name in remembrance of him. James Johnson (who used to program all Hadleigh LED displays, still assists with these, and who used to drive 33191) prepared a special display on the bus so it could be set to add great poignancy to the passing cortege. Andy was very proud of this bus being allocated to his Depot, which is still held in great affection by ordinary members of the public.
**John G. Lidstone.**

## Front Cover Picture.

Not an Essex bus and not an Essex man leaning on the front but, it is based in Essex and there is an Essex enthusiast at the wheel. We celebrate the 90th birthday of a remarkable bus preservationist on the 7th of this month. Tony Melia has devoted his life to Crossley buses; here we see ex-Northampton Crossley V V 9146 at its isolated base in the north of the county with EBEG member Gary Sharpe getting ready for a drive around the beautiful countryside.
**Maurice Austin.**

# Essex Bus News 651 July 2018

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Using the order form available on-line at:
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## Welcome to New Members

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Tony Higgs** | Harlow | 1132 |
| **Paul Naylor** | London | 1133 |

**Essex Bus News** is the "house magazine" of the **Essex Bus Enthusiasts Group.**

| | |
|---|---|
| Chair | Ian Ransom. |
| Secretary | Alan Osborne. |
| Treasurer & Membership | Richard Delahoy. |
| Tours Organiser | Wayne Bell. |

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

### Subscriptions
A calendar year subscription is £21. New members may join from any month, but subscriptions will always run to December, from whichever month the member chooses.
Those joining from February to December inclusive will pay a pro-rata subscription calculated at £1.80 per month. For example, a member joining in March would pay 10 x £1.80, i.e. £18.00. Contact Richard Delahoy, address below.

### Membership Secretary & Data Protection
A statement of our compliance with the GDPR is available on our website or by post. For any membership or data protection issues, please contact:

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### Reports and observations
Members reports, quality photos, prints, slides or JPGs to about 5"x4" size and 300dpi resolution and original articles are always welcome.
The Editors exercise the normal discretion to publish contributions in full, in part or not at all and cannot guarantee publication in any particular month.
Every effort is made to ensure accuracy but the Group cannot accept responsibility for any errors published.

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

**MID-ESSEX MEETINGS by Maurice Austin.**
Quaker Meeting House, corner of Parkway and Rainsford Road, Chelmsford, less than 10 minutes walk from the Bus and Rail stations; continue along Duke Street past Civic Centre and cross to far side of Parkway. Small car park on site, other public ones nearby.
Tea and coffee making facilities. Members and guests welcome. £2.00 donation towards cost of room hire, please.
Doors open at 1915 for an informal chat and often impromptu slide show, with the main talk or show from **1945** to 2145.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Thursday 26 July** | **Robert Appleton** | Greater Manchester before & After Deregulation. |
| **Thursday 27 September** | **David Moth** | Former NBC companies in the 1990s. |
| **Thursday 25 October** | **Martin Weyell** | slides from John Boylett collection, part 2. |
| **Thursday 22 November** | **Alan Osborne** | 30 Years AGO & KSW – Poles Apart. |
| **Thursday 13 December** | **Richard Delahoy** | 20 years ago. |

**NORTH ESSEX MEETINGS by Dave Arnold.**
Downstairs room at the Friends Meeting House, Church Street, Colchester, just south of "Jumbo" (the water tower) and behind the Mercury Theatre. Town centre bus stops and parking are nearby. Doors open at 1915 for informal chat, and often an impromptu slide show, with the main talk or show from **1945** to 2145. **£3.00** donation towards room hire, please.
Slides/digital photos are preferred, but prints can also be shown. Members and guests welcome.

**Friday 10 August, Gary Sharpe**
**Also Fridays 14 September, 12 October, 9 November (Steve Marskell), 14 December (Gary Sharpe)**.

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# A Blast From The Past. **Paul Harvey.**




Southend Transport JTD 389P Daimler Fleetline Northern Counties 389 seen during the summer of 1978 at Shoebury Common on summer only service 66 which was jointly operated by Eastern National & Southend Transport. **Paul Harvey.**

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

## EVENTS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Sunday 15 July** | Alton Bus Rally & Running Day. Anstey Park GU34 2NB | www.altonbusrally.org.uk |
| **Sunday 22 July** | Essex BusRally. Barleylands, Billericay. | www.essexbusrally.com. |
| | NB. The Basildon Rally on 24 June was cancelled – this event, now combined with 'The Londoner in the Country', replaces it. *** **Group Stall at this event.** *** | |
| **Sunday 5 August** | Gloucestershire Vintage Extravaganza South Cenery Airfield. | |
| | OB Rally Coach from Cambridge Area | contact John Wakefield 01223 833115 |
| **Sunday 5 August** | Provincial Bus rally Gosport | www.provincialsociety.org |
| **Sunday 5 August** | Ipswich Transport Museum Commercial Vehicle Day. | www.ipswichtransportmuseum.co.uk |
| **Sunday 19 August** | Buses 2018 Festival. Motor Museum Gaydon. | www.busesfestival.com |
| **Sunday 19 August** | East Anglian Transport Musem. 999 Emergency Services Day. | www.eatransportmuseum.co.uk |
| **Sunday 26 August** | Bus & Commercial Vehicle Rally. Colne Valley Railway, Castle Hedingham | |

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




Picture

Dans Luxury Travel have moved from two bases in London to Essex at Pear Tree Farm, Holyfield north of Waltham Abbey. Excursions and Tours are still run under the West's name and a Yutong waits for its feeder coach at Snaresbrook Station.

**Owen Woodliffe.**

# Rush (half) hour at Westcliff

**Richard Delahoy.**

The size and scale of school bus movements across Essex is not always fully appreciated. As well as the "traditional" school contract model where the County Council has to meet its obligation to provide free home to school transport for pupils needing to travel over a specified distance to their nearest catchment school, there is a very significant private, commercial provision to the selective and faith schools. There are grammar schools in Chelmsford, Colchester and Southend, and Catholic schools in all three towns as well. Pupils attending selective and faith schools are not entitled to free transport, because parents have chosen to send their children to those schools in preference to the catchment school. This has created a market for bus and coach companies to provide services commercially, building on the pioneering work started by Phoenix Student Travel in the 1990s. Sadly Phoenix overstretched themselves and went bust in October 2003.

Today services are provided by many operators and range from regular all-day local services that pass the schools, through registered local services, "closed door" services and privately chartered coaches. The distances covered are huge, with some local services having to be registered in two sections to keep within the 50km Domestic Hours limits. For example, Stephensons' bus from the Dengie peninsular to Southend, the 593/503, has a route length of 62 km (almost 39 miles) and an end to end journey time of 1 hour 52 minutes. Some of the private coach runs are just as long but we can't always work out where they terminate – somewhere in East London. It's a similar case with those who travel to the Southend schools by train, in that they come from as far away as West Ham.

I recently spent half an hour logging the afternoon departures from Westcliff High Schools, where lay-bys on either side of Kenilworth Gardens serve Westcliff High School for Boys, Westcliff High School for Girls and St Thomas More School. Some buses/coaches start and end there but others continue to/from Southend High School for Boys in Prittlewell Chase, and a few go right across town to Southend High School for Girls in Southchurch; some of Stephensons routes also serve St Bernard's Convent school elsewhere in Westcliff. Thankfully this enables departures to be staggered, because the lay-by capacity of about 14 buses is far less than the number of departures!

Here's a list of activity in that frantic half-hour on Thursday 7 June, from 1538 to 1607, with 34 departures (with 2 more possibly missing). I've split the report by service types, with apologies for some gaps in the info, the private coach routes are difficult to find out about.




Calm before the storm: all is quiet immediately before school's out, three deckers of SBC Leisure await the home bound pupils. Front of the line is ex Network Colchester Scania N230/East Lancs decker YN09 OBY. **Richard Delahoy.**

**All-day local service buses**

| Route | Operator | Time*/Destination | From | Vehicle/type |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 21 | First | 1539, Canvey Newlands | Southend | 33090, Trident |
| 29 | Arriva | 1542, Belgrave Road | Southend | DAF Lowlander 6260 |
| 29 | Arriva | 1545, Southend Travel Centre (schooldays extra journey) | Starts here | Versa 4235 |
| 29 | Arriva | 1550, Southend Travel Centre | Belgrave Rd | DAF Lowlander 6259 |
| 21 | First | 1606, Canvey Newlands | Southend | 33190, Trident |

* Times quoted are actual, not scheduled. I should also have seen the First 21 towards Southend at 1546 but it didn't appear, and only 2 x 21 went towards Canvey where 3 were expected.




Picture Four Stephensons deckers and two Crest coaches are lined up on the north side of the road, alongside St Thomas More school playing fields. Most services depart from the other side of the road. All four deckers are Scania /ADL low-height deckers based at Rochford depot. **Richard Delahoy.**

Article continued next page>>>>>

# Last Month's article on WNO 480 (EBN 659p31)

describing its history since being withdrawn by First was unfortunately an early draft which contained some errors.

**The correct version is:-**

Eastern National/First Essex until 10/98
Ken Larking, Leigh on Sea (1998 to 2005)
Town & Country, Grays (2005-06)
Ken Larking, Leigh on Sea (2006 to 2010)
Talisman Coachlines (2010 to 2016)
Xelabus, Eastleigh, 2016
Crosville Motor Services, Weston Super Mare, 2016
English Riviera Sightseeing Tours, Torquay (very briefly), 2018
And now Quantock Heritage, Wiveliscombe.

## Registered local public services, one trip each way

| Route | Operator | Time/Destination | From | Vehicle/type |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 560 | Stephensons | 1545, Southchurch | Starts here | Scania/E400 602 |
| 814 | Stephensons | 1545, Bournes Green | Starts here | Scania/E400 605 |
| 815 | Stephensons | 1545, Hockley | Starts here | Scania/E400 609 |
| 816 | Stephensons | 1545, Golden Cross via Rayleigh | Starts here | Scania/E400 608 |
| 514 | Stephensons | 1548, Witham | SHS-B | Scania/EL 636 |
| 513 | Stephensons | 1605, Chelmsford | SHS-G | Scania/EL 512 |
| 503 | Stephensons | 1605, Althorne | SHS-G | Scania/EL 502 |
| 504 | Stephensons | 1605, Wickham Bishops | SHS-G | Scania/EL 503 |
| 512 | First | 1552, Chelmsford | SHS-B | 41542, Dart |
| 825 | First | 1553, Basildon | Starts here | 69915, Volvo hybrid |
| 827 | First | 1555, Canvey | Starts here | 33095, Trident |
| 511 | First | 1553, Billericay | SHS-B | 47653, Streetlite |
| 822 | First | 1555, Canvey | SHS-B | 44081, E200 |
| 502 | First | 1558, Shenfield | SHS-B | 33546, E400 |
| 51 | NIBS | 1602, Chafford Hundred | SHS-B | Scania DD LX08ECT |

Starting points: SHS-B = Southend High School for Boys; SHS-G = Southend High School for Girls, buses also serve SHS-B.

## Registered school services

| Route | Operator | Time/Destination | From | Vehicle/type |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | SBC Leisure | 1545, Chelmsford | Starts here | YN08OBY, Scania/EL DD |
| ? | SBC Leisure | 1545, ? | Starts here | PL51KZC, Volvo B7TL/EL DD |
| D | SBC Leisure | 1545, Brentwood | Starts here | YN08OBZ, Scania/EL DD |
| ? | SBC Leisure | 1545, ? | SHS-B | K13SBC<br>Van Hool coach |

SBC's routes include B, Great Notley, C, Billericay and E, Ingatestone but I could not identify which was which. All routes are advertised as serving SHS-B but in practice 3 start at Westcliff and the other acts as a feeder into them before continuing on. Their website advertises 5 routes, and 5 are registered but only 4 were noted.

## Private coach runs/contracts

| Route | Operator | Time/ Destination | From | Vehicle/type |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Crest, Rochford | 1545, ? | Starts here | BX06UMB, MB Touro |
| 2 | Crest, Rochford | 1545, ? | Starts here | BF60OFV, MB Tourismo |
| 3 | Crest, Rochford | 1545, ? | Starts here | BX06UMD, MB Touro |
| 4? | Crest, Rochford | 1545, ? | Starts here | BX06UMH, MB Touro |
| 5? | Crest, Rochford | 1545, ? | Starts here | BU13ZUA, MB Tourismo |
| Crest advertise routes from Ilford, Seven Kings, Goodmayes, Chadwell Heath, Romford and Gidea Park. Their office address is in Rochford but their operating centre is in Romford. | | | | |
| | Phillips, South Woodham | 1545, Chelmsford | Starts here | YN66VYM, Irizar i6 |
| | Advance Mini Buses, Southend | 1553, ? | ?? | FN04BSY, Irizar |
| | Maymist, Barking | 1557, ? | SHS-G | KP51UEV, Volvo B10M |
| | Maymist, Barking | 1557, ? | SHS-G | FJ11GNN, Volvo B9R |
| | OBJ Travels, Barking | 1558, ? | SHS-B? | FH05URP, Volvo B12B |

A similarly frantic pattern of activity can be found at the Norman Way terminus off Lexden Road in Colchester, we hope to feature that in a future EBN.







Picture above

NIBS Scania N230 decker LX08 ECT has started from Southend Boys and just picked up at Westcliff for its 90 minute journey to Chafford Hundred. It appears the driver's forgotten to change the destination display or perhaps there isn't one for the return trip? It was new to Docklands Buses.

**Richard Delahoy.**

Picture left

The venue!

**Richard Delahoy.**

# Service Revisions **by Paul Harvey.**

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

**Highlights/Lowlights of the Period:**

**First – minor changes to timetables but some expansion to Brightlingsea.**
**Clacton – More details of First & Hedingham "exchange" of routes and a win for Panther.**
**Surprising decision on the 59 from Audley End.**

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### 26 March 18

X10 Basildon to Stansted Airport (D) First Essex –
service re-routed to avoid the railway bridge at Chelmsford Station the same as X30 routing.

### 21 May 18

A7 London Victoria to Stansted Airport (D) National Express – additional stops introduced at Whitechapel, Mile End & Bow.
A8 London Liverpool Street to Stansted Airport (D) National Express – service to start/finish at Farringdon and additional stop introduced at Bethnal Green.

### 4 June 18

The Stratford stop on National Express services 010, 090, 481, 484, 490, 491, 497 & 498 inbound towards London moved from Broadway to Stratford City, Mountfitchet Road.

### 2 July 18

410 Harlow to Waltham Cross (M-S) TrustyBus – timetable adjustments to improve reliability.

### 22 July 18

20 Southend to Hullbridge (D) First Essex – the Mon to Fri 1823 Rayleigh Station to Hullbridge withdrawn during school holidays. The 1846 from Hullbridge to start at Rayleigh Station at 1859 during school holidays.
21/A/B Southend to Canvey (D) First Essex 1730 Canvey Newlands to Hadleigh withdrawn Mon to Fri.
25 Southend to Basildon (D) First Essex – the Mon to Fri 0745 Rawreth to Rayleigh Stn & 0837 Rayleigh Station to Southend withdrawn for the school holiday period.
26 Hadleigh to Southend (M-S) First Essex – the 0848 Southend to Hadleigh withdrawn during school holidays Mon to Fri. On Saturdays the 1715 Hadleigh to Southend journey withdrawn.
381 North Weald to Epping Station Circular (Sat) London Vintage Bus Hire –
revision to timetable introduction of additional journeys for summer on Friday & Sunday.




New in 2001, still in service in 2018, 17 years old: 65677 (SN51 UYL) Scania L94UB/Wright Solar allocated to Colchester, in Long Road, Lawford, on 5 July, working 0715 Colchester - Harwich service 104.
**Robert Appleton.**

EBN651p8

**23 July 18.**

| | |
|---|---|
| COG1 | Coggeshall Town Service (M-F) Coggeshall Community Bus – 0900 & 1720 journeys depart 5 minutes later. |
| D4 | Bradwell to Burnham (M-S) Essex & Suffolk Dart CIC/Arrow Taxi's – revision to timetable and route to operate via holiday park and new housing development in Bradwell for the summer period. |

**29 July 18**

| | |
|---|---|
| 2 | Clacton to Mistley (M-S) First Essex – contract service withdrawn and sub contracted to Panther Travel. |
| 3 | Clacton to Harwich (D) First Essex – service withdrawn. |
| 3 | Clacton to Harwich (D) Go Ahead Hedingham – new service replacing First Essex. |
| 4/4A | Jaywick Sands to Burrsville/Bocking Elm (D) First Essex – service withdrawn. |
| 4/4A | Jaywick Sands to Burrsville/Bocking Elm (D) Go Ahead Hedingham – new service replacing First Essex including contract service 10A. |
| 5/5A | Clacton to Flatford Drive (M-S) First Essex – service withdrawn. |
| 6 | Clacton to Point Clear (D) First Essex – service withdrawn. |
| 6/6A/6B | Clacton to Point Clear (D) Go Ahead Hedingham – new services replacing First Essex and evening contract services 17 & 18. |
| 7/8 | Clacton to Walton (D) First Essex – weekday daytime service withdrawn, no change to weekday evening or Sunday timetable. |
| 10A | Jaywick to Telford Road (M-S) First Essex – Mon to Sat evening contract service withdrawn and replaced by Go Ahead Hedingham service 4. |
| 51/A | Great Baddow to Channels (D) First Essex – revision to timetable and route to operate via Great Baddow, Galleywood Road and extended to Vineyards. |
| 54/56 | Beaulieu Park to North Melbourne (D) First Essex – revision to route in Chignal Estate and revised timetable to improve reliability. |
| 62/A/B | Colchester to Brightlingsea (D) First Essex – weekday service 62A extended from Wivenhoe to Brightlingsea as service 62 providing a 15 minute service to Brightlingsea. No change to Sunday timetable. |
| 74/A/B | Clacton to Colchester (D) First Essex – daytime service 74 withdrawn and replaced by new service 98, contract services 74A & 74B weekday evenings & Sundays no change. |
| 76/76A | Clacton to Colchester (D) First Essex – service 76A withdrawn and replaced by new services 97/97A, no change to Sunday service 76. |
| 97/97A/98 | Colchester to Walton via Clacton (M-S) First Essex – new services providing a 20 minute service. Service 97 to operate via Weeley, Clacton & Kirkby Cross, Service 97A via University, A133, Clacton & Kirkby Cross & 98 via University, Wivenhoe, St Osyth, Clacton & Kirkby le Soken. Services 97/A to operate via Wellesley Road to serve Clacton Railway Station. |
| 99 | Clacton to Holland (Sun) First Essex – new service. |
| 102/3/4 | Colchester to Harwich (D) First Essex – revised Mon to Sat timetable to improve reliability. |
| 120/1/2 | Colchester to Weston Homes Community Stadium (FBM) First Essex – these football special services withdrawn due to expiry of contract. |
| 352 | Halstead to Chelmsford (D) First Essex – weekday evening contract service withdrawn, now operates Sunday only between Broomfield Hospital & Halstead. |




Picture

And another new in 2001, still in service in 2018, 17 years old

65675 (SN51 UYJ) Scania L94UB/Wright Solar allocated to Clacton, in Jackson Road, Clacton, on 6 July, about to depart on 1025 service 74 to Colchester.
**Robert Appleton.**

# Service Revisions concluded. Paul Harvey.

**30 July 18**

| | |
|---|---|
| P&R | Colchester Park & Ride (M-S) Arriva Kent Thameside – revised timetable with earlier & later journeys introduced. |
| 2 | Clacton to Mistley (M-S) Panther Travel – new service subcontracted by First Essex. |
| 5/5A | Clacton to Flatford Drive (M-S) Go Ahead Hedingham – new service replacing First Essex. |
| 8 | Clacton to Holland (M-S) Go Ahead Hedingham – new service providing one evening journey. |
| 352 | Chelmsford to Halstead (M-S) Go Ahead Hedingham – new evening contract service. |

**10 September 18**

| | |
|---|---|
| 090 | London to Southend (D) National Express – revised timetable with stops at Ilford & Romford withdrawn. |

# Austerity, Mobility and Buses in Essex; Passenger Survey.

Rachael Perkins was the student who came to the EBEG meeting in Chelmsford when Glen Shuttleworth addresses us. She has asked us to help with a survey she is carrying out as part of her degree thesis. Rachael will be at our July meeting. Please do help if you have internet access. She writes …

My name is Rachel Perkins and I am a third year undergraduate, studying Geography at the University of Cambridge but have been based in Essex all my life. As part of my final year, I am required to undertake a research project on a Geographical topic. I have chosen to look at the impact and perceptions of the bus network, rural and urban, across Essex. By participating in this survey, you consent to sharing your responses on the topic. The data collected will be used for dissertation purposes only and will be anonymised and stored in a password protected file which only I can access. After the project has been handed in, all data will be destroyed.

Have an opinion on buses in Essex? Whether you're a frequent user or have never stepped on a bus before, your comments will be of much use for my research. It should take less than 10 minutes to complete! The survey is at www.busesinessex.wordpress.com.

To complete the survey, please go to www.busesinessex.wordpress.com. If you have any further questions about the survey or are interested in the project, please feel free to contact me at busesinessexproject2018@gmail.com or via www.busesinessex.wordpress.com

# Former First Essex Park & Ride in "Donny".

Former Chelmsford P & R in Doncaster (Cleveland Street) 11/7/18. **Mark Doggett.**



# Essex County Council Ongoing Bus Service Consultations

## Ongoing consultations

No current consultations

## Recent closed consultations

Consultation Service 10 Wickford – Basildon and Services 13,13a and 14 Chelmsford -Wickford
Operated by First Essex Buses Closed: 08 May 2018

Commercial First Essex Bus 15 service was withdrawn, this left Church End Lane and parts of Alderney Gardens Wickford without a service. It is proposed that service 10 will operate around Church End Lane instead of Guernsey Gardens. It is also proposed for services 13/13a/14 to operate in both directions along Alderney Gardens instead of Swan Lane. Wantz Corner will no longer be served.

OUTCOME **Currently being assessed.**

Consultation **Service 59/60 Audley End Station - Haverhill**
Operated by Stephenson's of Essex Closed 25 April 2018

Essex County Council has received a request to amend the journey times Mon - Fri to coincide with train arrivals from London. ECC propose that the 1127, 1227, 1327,1427 and 1533 bus departures from Audley End are adjusted to 1135, 1235, 1335, 1435 and 1541

OUTCOME **Following consideration of the consultation, the decision has been made <u>not</u> to make changes to the service at this stage.**

Consultation **Service 441 Currently Old Harlow Post Office – Saffron Walden HS (Monday – Friday, schooldays only)**
Operated by Stephenson's of Essex Closed 28 March 2018

As the ECC funded section of the route is not well used, it is proposed that the section will be removed & the commercial 441 service will revert back to previous timetable (i.e. Takeley to Saffron Walden High School)

OUTCOME **The ECC funded section of the route (Old Harlow - Little Hallingbury) will be withdrawn from 31 July 2018.**

Consultation **Service 41 Evening Services (Chelmsford – Galleywood)**
Operated by First Essex Buses Closed 28 February 2018

First Essex Buses are making changes to their day time commercial Service 41 and ECC would like to mirror these changes on our evening journeys (renumbered service 57) . It is proposed thatthe service will no longer serve the whole of Baddow Road. Instead it will travel down Meadgate Avenue, Longmead Avenue and re-join the current route at Vineyards in Gt Baddow.

OUTCOME **Currently being assessed.**




<<< Picture
In contrast to its sister-bus seen on EBN651p10, here we see First Essex BJ11 ECE Volvo B7 Wrightbus Eclipse Urban 69516 at Pitsea Broadway while operating service 22 from Canvey to Basildon. The bus is in a special livery using the old Chelmsford Park & Ride livery of black to promote services 22 & 28 From Canvey & Southend to Basildon.
**Paul Harvey.**
EBN651p11

# L651 MEV on service 651 for EBN651!



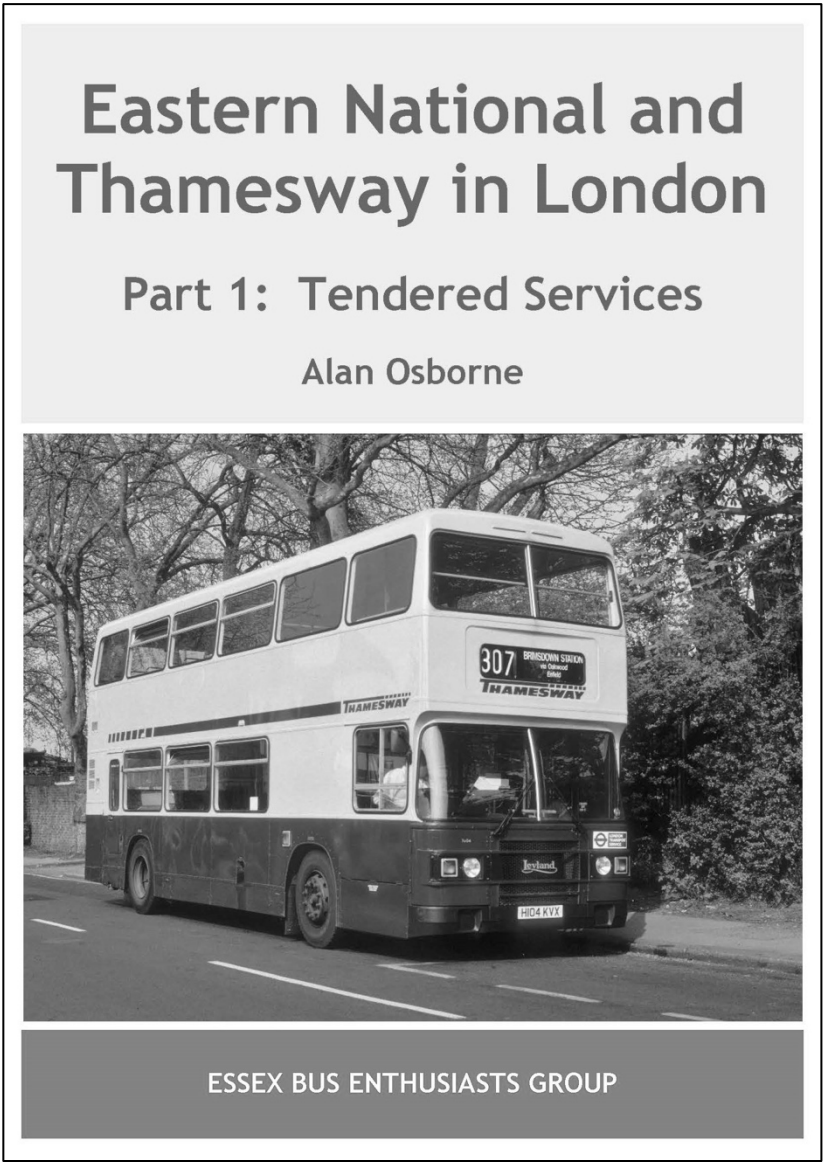

Allocated to Clacton depot, nearly new Eastern National 651 (L651 MEV) Mercedes 709D/Plaxton Beaver at Ipswich Old Cattle Market bus station on 29 August 1993 on layover whist working service 651 Ipswich - Framlingham - Walberswick, part of the Suffolk Summer Sunday services that year sponsored by Suffolk County Council. So a triple 651! **Robert Appleton.**

# Publicity News

**Ian Ransom.**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Chambers** | timetable leaflet for 84 dated 29.5.18 | 751/2 dated 29.5.18 |
| | 753/4 dated 29.5.18 | 756 dated 29.5.18 |
| **Ensign** | timetable booklets for Brentwood area and Thurrock area, both dated 29.5.18 | |
| **EOS Buses** | timetable leaflets for 13 dated 6.5.18 | 86 dated 4.6.18 |
| | 87 dated 2.4.18 | S1 undated |
| **First Essex** | Brentwood area timetable booklet | dated 8.5.18 |
| **Hedingham** | timetable leaflets for 1 dated 26.5.18 to 29.9.18 | |
| | 63 dated 19.2.18 | 87 dated 1.7.18 |
| | 89/X dated 2.7.18 | D1/D2 dated 3.4.18 |
| | X76 dated 2.7.18 | |
| **Ipswich Buses** | timetable leaflet for 92; 93/A/C/94/A/C/X93 (undated but included 5/18 changes) | |
| **National Express** | timetable leaflets for 350; 481; 484 and 777 all dated 21.5.18 | |
| **Stagecoach** | timetable leaflet for 7 (Saffron Walden – Cambridge) dated 15.4.18 | |
| **Stephensons** | timetable leaflet for 71/C/72 dated 30.4.18 | |
| **Trustybus** | timetable leaflet for 420 dated 30.3.18 | |

# Our latest book launched!




## Eastern National and Thamesway in London: Volume 1, Tendered Services.

Now available is **Alan Osborne's** book telling the story of how Eastern National and later Thamesway came to operate London Transport bus routes from 1985 to 2004, under the London route tendering system, in the days when contractors ran buses in their own liveries.

Every route is listed and illustrated in this 64 page A4-size book. With 6 pages of introductory text, 4 pages of tables and then 52 pages of photos, 2 to a page, all the many livery variations are illustrated. In all the book contains 107 pictures in full colour plus examples of publicity.

Card covers, glossy paper inside.

**Only £12.99 plus £2 p&p.**

A must for anyone interested in this turbulent period in the bus industry's history!

To order send your details and payment of £14.99 to include postage, to our Sales Officer Owen Woodliffe, details on page 1. You can also pay by PayPal direct to the Group (admin@signal-training.com) or by direct bank transfer to 09-06-66, 42118196 – with both these methods, please e-mail your address separately to Richard Delahoy, richard.delahoy@blueyonder.co.uk. EBN651p13

First

**by Adam Kelleher.**

**Allocation Changes** BE-Braintree (outstation of Chelmsford), BN-Basildon; CF-Chelmsford; CN-Clacton; CR-Colchester; HH-Hadleigh

**Period 3 2018/19 (27 May - 30 June)**

33080 CR (out of service)-CR, 37017 CR-CR (out of service), 53112 BE (out of service)-Disposal, 53113 CF (out of service)-Disposal, 53114 BE (out of service)-Disposal, 53115 CF (out of service)-Disposal, 53116 BE (out of service)-Disposal, 53117 CF (out of service)-Disposal, 53121 CF (out of service)-Disposal, 53123 CF (out of service)-Disposal, 53126 BE (out of service)-Disposal, 53127 CF (out of service)-Disposal, 53128 BE (out of service)-Disposal, 53129 BE (out of service)-Disposal, 53131 BE (out of service)-Disposal, 53132 CF (out of service)-Disposal, 53133 CN (out of service)-Disposal, 53134 CF (out of service)-Disposal, 53136 CF (out of service)-Disposal, 53137 BE (out of service)-Disposal, 62195 CF (out of service)-Disposal, 62197 CF (out of service)-Disposal, 62407 CN (out of service)-CN, 65666 CN (out of service)-Disposal, 65667 CN (out of service)-Disposal, 65668 CN (out of service)-Disposal, 65669 CN (out of service)-Disposal, 65674 CN (out of service)-Disposal, 65676 CN (out of service)-Disposal, 65681 CR (out of service)-CR, 65748 CR (out of service)-CN (out of service).

Further to EBN649, 33080 has been repaired and was first seen back in service on route 65 on 4 June; 62407 has been repaired and repainted and was seen back in service on routes 7/8 on 3 July; 65681 has been repaired and was seen back in service on route 71 on 28-30 June.

37017 is parked in Colchester's yard being cannibalised alongside 65680, 65683 & 66809 which are having more and more bits removed, but 65748 had moved from there to Clacton and in early July was having a new rear axle fitted in preparation for a return to Scotland.

## Disposals

53112 & 53126 had gone from Braintree compound by 13th May 2018, awaiting details of who to. The other six were still there on 27th but 53128, 53129 & 53137 were removed by Alpha Recovery by 31st. 53114, 53116 & 53131 followed (also to Alpha) in mid-June.

53113, 53115, 53117, 53121, 53123, 53127, 53132, 53134 & 53136 had all been removed from Westway by 16 June, 53117-53136 all to Alpha, 53113 & 53115 awaiting confirmation. 53133 also went to Alpha in mid-June, from Clacton.

62195, 62197, 65666, 65668, 65669, 65674 & 65676 to Alpha Recovery in June.

65667 was donated to the Yeldham Transport Heritage Group for preservation in June.




Picture 65681 has recently returned to service following repairs for internal arson damage. Seen here in Chelmsford Bus Station on 13 July 2018 on route 70 with its route number on a piece of paper in the windscreen. **Adam Kelleher.** EBN651p14

**Repaints** When Clacton depot closes the paint shop will transfer to Chelmsford.
CF42936 to Urban livery, first seen 6 June.
CF42933 to Urban livery, seen on route 71 on 13 June.
Both with small "First Essex" with f symbol above the driver's cab and the doors, main "Essex" fleet names on lower panels both sides and depot stickers both sides. These two complete the repainting out of Barbie of the Chelmsford allocation and also of Pointer bodied Darts.
CR62407, seen on routes 7/8 on 4 July, with small "First Essex" with f symbol above the driver's cab and the doors, main "Essex" fleet names on cove panels both sides and depot stickers both sides. Prior to repaint, it had already been in Urban livery, following repaint after a previous RTC, and had main 'Colchester" fleet names on cove panels both sides.
69911 to new Route 100 livery, first seen 21 June. 69902 to new Route 100 livery, first seen 3 July.

**Adverts** CR33184 has lost its super rear ad for Co-Op Funeral Care (by 14 June). CF32651 has had its super rear ad for East of England Co-Op replaced by one for CT-1 (by 28 June). CF32654 has a new super rear ad for Hyde Hall Gardens, first seen on 1 July. Buses are receiving stickers in the front nearside window advising of Contactless Payments, some are also receiving adverts for these on lower nearside panels around the rear wheel arch.




Upper picture
A close up of the Contactless Payments advertising around the rear wheel arch of 66815 in Chelmsford Bus Station on 29 June 2018.
**Adam Kelleher.**




Lower picture
47652 on route 9 in Brentwood High Street on 13 July 2018 shows the new Contactless Payments advertising by the doors and around the rear wheel arch.
**Adam Kelleher.**

## Other Vehicle News and Workings **Clacton** (All vehicles listed below allocated to CN.)

It has been reported that Essex County Council refused to re-tender route 2, Clacton to Mistley, and advised First Essex to either operate it from Colchester depot or sub-contract it. First decided to do the latter, and from 30 July it passes to Panther until the end of the contract in August 2020.

New routes 97/A & 98 commence on 30 July and the main daytime service will provide three journeys an hour between Colchester and Clacton, an increase from the current two. These replace routes 74 & 76A on Monday to Saturday daytimes and are extended to Walton-on-Naze replacing routes 7 & 8 (also during M-S daytimes). However, over the Clacton to Walton section, the service is reduced from four buses an hour to three (with the current route 8 variation reduced from half hourly to hourly). The 97 & 97A each operate hourly and follow the existing 7 routing between Walton and Clacton and then the 97A follows most of the existing 76A route to Colchester (by-passing most of Great Clacton, Little Clacton and Weeley) with the 97 following part of the Sunday (and pre-19 February 2018) 76 route to Colchester (serving Great Clacton, Little Clacton and Weeley, but unlike the 76 & 76A, by-passing most of the University of Essex). (One minor variation to both services is that between Clacton and Colchester they take a different route to get to Knox Road in Clacton, now serving Clacton railway station.) The 98 also operates every hour, following the existing service 8 between Walton and Clacton then the existing 74 to Colchester. Existing ECC contract evening and Sunday services on routes 7/8 (both), 74A (all day Sundays), 74B (Monday to Saturday evenings) and 76 (all day Sundays) will continue with existing numbers and routes. There is also no change to the one journey each way evening service 100, Clacton to Walton (on Sunday evenings there is only one journey in total, from Clacton and only as far as Thorpe-le-Soken). At present, on Sundays there is interworking of most Clacton services, but when other local routes are withdrawn after 28 July, the two buses on routes 7 & 8 faced a potential 50-minute wait between journeys at Clacton. To utilise these spare resources, a new Sunday hourly route 99 between Clacton Pier Avenue and Holland on Sea, a 10-minute journey, basically shorts of the 7 & 8, is introduced from 29th. (The route number is logical being in between new Monday to Saturday 97/A & 98 and existing 100, but perhaps at first it seems not so logical for Sundays, as buses from Clacton to Holland will be consecutively numbered 7, 99, 8, 99. However, there is a Stephenson's route 9 that operates on Mondays to Fridays between Great Holland and Walton and so to avoid potential confusion the number 9 hasn't been used.) It had been thought that with the Clacton to Colchester service transferring to Colchester depot that this may have seen a re-introduction of double deckers on the routes, however the extension to Walton precludes this because of a low bridge on Holland Road at Kirby Cross (although the possibility of double deckers remains on the evening and Sunday services which are not extended to Walton). Incidentally, the route clearance of c12 feet for the bridge is lower than it used to be, as in Eastern National days Bristol FLFs worked on the Clacton to Walton service.

The last two SN51 reg Scanias in service at Clacton continued to operate during June and early July, sightings have been 65671 on 7/8 on 6 June, 3 on 22nd, 6 on 28th and 65675 on 3 on 7 June, 7/8 on 16th & 22nd and 74 on 6 July. However, by 11 July, 65671 was parked at the back of the depot out of service. The four Scanias with routes 74/76 branding continue to also work on other routes, but on 6 July all four were on other routes, 65688 was on 3, 65690 & 65692 were on 6 and 65691 was on 7/8.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 10 June | Sunday, 42561 unusual on 6 and 7/8 | 13 | 43845 on 74 |
| 17 | 42928 on 76 (again on 24th) and on 74 on 27th | | |
| 25 | 42937 on 74 | 28 | 42918 on 74B |




42928 (SN05 EAG) Alexander Dennis Dart SLF Pointer in Station Road, Clacton on 24 February, working new service 4A Bockings Elm Circular to Jaywick. Services 10/11/12 to Jaywick were replaced by new services 4/4A from 18 February.

**Robert Appleton.**

## Other Vehicle News and Workings
### Colchester
(All vehicles listed below allocated to CR.)

Further to EBN650, 32068 is back in service, seen on route 17 on 6 July. From 30 July, Monday to Saturday service 62A from Colchester railway station to Wivenhoe railway station is withdrawn, replaced by more journeys on the main 62 service through to Brightlingsea. The 62A remains as the main service on Sundays. (The 62B variant, to Wivenhoe Co-Op, Monday to Sunday evenings, continues.)

Colchester United football shuttles 120, 121 & 122, which have been in operation since the new Community Stadium opened 10 years ago, were withdrawn by the club at the end of last season. Double deckers seen operating on routes 103/4 during June: 32087 (28th), 32475 (21st), 32476 (14th & 21st), 32480 (6th), 32481 (4th & 27th), 32631 (8th), 32642 (27th), 33044 (21st & 22nd), 33078 (4th & 13th), 33086 (11th & 12th), 33195 (11th), 37009 (15th & 18th), 37015 (22nd), plus in early July: 32477 (3rd), 32478 (3rd & 5th), 32481 (2nd), 33087 (2nd).

All three Colchester allocated SN51 reg Scanias were still in service during June, some sightings: 65672 on 1A on Sunday 1 July, 65673 on 75 on 18 June, 65677 on 1A on 14 June, on 102 on 24th, on 104 on 27th and 3 & 5 July, on 71 on 13 July.

| | |
|---|---|
| 3 June | 65685 on 102 |
| 7 | 63337 on 71 |
| 13 | 32475 on 174 |
| 18 | 33087 on 70 (Presidents, which used to provide the bulk of the service, are rare these days) |
| 21 | 33078 on 102 |
| 30 | Route 62/A/B branded 37133 on 102 |
| 2 July | 65681 on 70 (and again on 13th) |
| 5 | 63332 on 71X |
| 6 | 63335 on 71 |




The number of buses remaining in Barbie livery is now less than 20, so opportunities to photograph them alongside vehicles in Urban livery on the same route are becoming increasingly rare. 65677 is behind 66794 on route 71 in Chelmsford Bus Station on 13 July 2018. 65677 is also one of the few original SN51 registered Solar bodied Scanias still in service.

**Adam Kelleher.**

## Other Vehicle News & Workings - Chelmsford (including Braintree Outstation)

(All vehicles listed below allocated to CF except where stated.)

From 30 July, following the closure of Braintree outstation after service on 28th, Monday to Saturday ECC evening journeys on route 352 pass to Hedingham. First Essex retains the Sunday service.

53139 was parked out of use in Westway in early July following an RTC.

| | |
|---|---|
| 4 June | 43848 on 71 (and again on 13th) |
| 7 | Trainer 62139 on driver shuttles in Brentwood |
| 8 | 53138 on 351 all day. Trainer 62191 on driver shuttles in Brentwood, but in afternoon broke down outside Shenfield School, 41512 sent out to replace it and to operate route 565, but also broke down 100 yards further up the road in Oliver Road lay by. |
| 13 | 68508 on driver shuttles in Brentwood |
| 18 | 41494 on 70, 41512 on 71 |
| 21 | 44659 very unusual Enviro 200 MMC on 71 |
| 22 | 41493 on 73 |
| 24 | 32482, 32483, 32484, 32652 & 69433 at Braintree outstation |
| 28 | 44900 on 71 |
| 30 | HH33383 and CR37140 on Coval Lane to Hylands Park shuttle service for Fling festival |
| 3 July | 43847 on 71 |
| 8 | 42936 on 57A |
| 13 | 32485 on Anglo-European school route 620, 41512 on 14, 41513 on 37 & 565, 41514 on 73, 43847 on 351 |




66811 in Chelmsford Bus Station on 13 July 2018 shows the new Contactless Payments advertising by the doors and around the rear wheel arch. **Adam Kelleher.**

## Basildon & Hadleigh

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

To clarify the note in EBN 650 about HH44002 having main "Essex" fleet names added to its cove panels, this vehicle has also got main "Essex" fleet names on its lower panels, as is normal for Enviro 200s, but these have been covered up by adverts.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 7 June | 69914 on X10 | 9 | 66822 on 100 |
| 13 | 66821 on 100 (and again on 13 July) | 21 | 47651, 47652 & 47654 all on 100 |
| 30 | 41525 and 41543 on 100 | | |




Picture First Essex LR02LYX Transbus Trident President 33178 seen at Pitsea Broadway on local service 8A which operates to Laindon via Pitsea. **Paul Harvey.**

## Service Vehicles

Further to EBN637, Renault Trafic minibuses 90637 (NX16 VCT) and 90638 (NX16 VGD), used on driver shuttles between Colchester's Haven Road depot and the town centre, which were delivered in March 2017, did not last long and had left the fleet by August. Various different vehicles replaced them, including other Trafics, a Ford Transit MM66 LSU and a Vauxhall Movano NX16 VEB. Since summer 2017, two Vauxhall Movano high top 9 seaters in all over white have been in use. They are FA17 EVN and FM17 YNS, allocated fleet numbers (on paper only) 90671 & 90666 respectively. Similar FP18 LCY, also in all white and first seen on 19 June 2018, is now in use as a driver shuttle at Chelmsford, this has replaced on loan Ford Transit NA64 CDV.

In the fleet since approximately August 2017 is a Nissan high top panel van SW17 HPE. This is the Roadside Publicity Van based at Chelmsford.

Ford Fiesta van EX55 ZHA is allocated fleet number 90590 and has been seen at both Hadleigh and Colchester, first noted in February 2017. BN17 YUR is a Ford Transit Custom Hi Cube van at Hadleigh.

Further to EBN638, as well as Ford Transit Engineering van SN17 NXZ, Chelmsford also has similar SN17 NWR. Most, if not all, of the service vans are leased from Lex Autolease.

**Sources** own observations, and with thanks to M Allen, R Appleton, S Barham, D Bell, W Bell, C Brown, T Clark, L Cornwell, D Edwards, D Flatman, I Hardie, D Latus, D Lund-Conlon, J Podgorski, I Ransom, J Salmon, C Stewart, R West, C Young, First Essex, Essex Buses Google group and Terminus.

# Arriva Southend / Harlow / Colchester.

**Peter Mansbridge** with thanks to John Card, Richard Delahoy, John Podgorski and Owen Woodliffe.

Volvo B7RLE / Wright 3815 (GN07 AVB) was transferred from **Southend to Harlow** in May so should be deleted from the Southend allocation list shown last month, making the total number of buses at **Southend** 59 rather than 60 as reported last month.

**Harlow** allocated Volvo B7RLE / Wright 3883 (KX11 PVE) was working from Hemel Hempstead in June. It is not known if this is a loan or a transfer.

**Management changes** Glen Shuttleworth has left Arriva and has been replaced as Area Managing Director by Gavin Hunter. Glen in turn has moved on to Go-Ahead as District Manager South covering all the Essex/Suffolk depots.

**A summary of the current fleet and route allocations at Colchester**; with thanks to Keith Sadler and John Podgorski:

Dart MPD: 1558/9/62-5 (6)
DAF SB120: 3520/1/7-9/34 (6)
Enviro E200: 4011/2/5-8 (6)
Dart standard (B37F): 3413/5-21 (8)
Volvo B7RLE: 3817-9/25/6 (5)
Enviro E20D: 4071-5 (5) – Park & Ride livery.
= total fleet 36 (all single deck).

**Operations** the pvr (peak vehicle requirement) is **31** (1 less on non-schooldays), comprising:

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Service 1 | ... | 7 (usually standard Darts or E200) | Service 2 | --- | 5 (MPD Darts or SB120) |
| Services 4/11 | | 2 (Darts of either length) | Service 8 | ... | 9 (SB120, MPD Darts, B7RLE) |
| Service 77 | --- | 1 (E200 or Dart) | Service 133 | | 2 (B7RLE) |
| P&R | | 4 (E20D) | Freeport service 900 | | 1 (E200) |

Vehicle allocations can be a bit fluid, the above represents the typical pattern. Note that the Park & Ride E20Ds can only be used on P&R, not other services, due to the dedicated livery of this batch.




Arriva 4017 (GN58 BUA) an Alexander Dennis Enviro 200 at East Bay, Colchester on 26 June, on service 2 to Horkesley Heath.
**Ken Coldwell.**

# A Quarter Century Without Southend Transport!

**Richard Delahoy** reminds us that 24 June marked the 25th anniversary of the end of municipal bus operation in Southend. On 24/6/93, Southend Transport was sold by the Council to the British Bus Group, following very serious losses that the company had suffered during the so-called "bus war" with Thamesway. British Bus later became Arriva.

The ST fleet at the date of the takeover stood at 129 PSVs:

20 x Routemaster
31 x Fleetline
2 x Fleetline open-top
13 x Olympian
17 x Bristol VR
29 x Leyland National
17 x Tiger coaches.

These numbers were reduced substantially soon after takeover as the unsustainable competitive services were scaled back, the fleet dropping to **77 buses and 17 coaches in January 1994**.

The Southend Transport name remained in use until 1998 when the company was renamed Arriva Southend Ltd, the final bus in ST blue, red & white livery being repainted in January 2001.




A reminder of Southend Transport before its sale to the British Bus Group in June 1993. A couple of weeks before the sale, **Richard Delahoy** photographed open-top Fleetline 915 (JTD395P) on a special one-day only service on 6 June to the Southend bus rally in Southchurch Park. 915 became one of the first buses withdrawn and sold under the new owners, transferring within the group to Crosville Wales in July 1993. The bus still survives and has returned to Essex, based at the Canvey Island Transport Museum but not currently on the road.

**Richard Delahoy.**

Acquired for use on Brentwood commuter service 71C is a Mercedes-Benz Sprinter minibus, RE66 VPD with an EVM conversion, B16F + wheelchair. It was new in October 2016 and has come from the Rural Development Trust, Lanark. Fleet number is expected to be 301, to be confirmed.

Also acquired but only for spares component recovery is YN06 JXS, a Scania N94UB/East Lancs B29D new to Metrobus, supplied by Ensign Bus.




Picture Seen with its previous owner is Stephensons' new Sprinter, RE66 VPD, in an all over white livery. A green skirt may be applied before it enters service in Essex. **Stephensons of Essex.**



Stephensons of Essex EU09 NYO, ADL Enviro 200 421 at Pitsea Broadway operating on Monday to Friday service 1 between Basildon and Pitsea Tesco.

**Paul Harvey.**




Top picture Tuesdays sees twice the number of Stephensons departures to other days, owing to Eastwood shoppers-service 23. With thanks to driver Chris Staley, who kindly paused for traffic clog to pass so I could capture two buses together; the interesting comparison of Stephensons very tidy Scania N230UD/Alexander Dennis Enviro400 601 (EU12 HXW) fresh from MOT on 17 and 609 (CY12 EMS), the first acquired Enviro400 in the Stephensons fleet, ex-Express Motors of Penygroes N280UD/E400 609 (CY12 EMS) on shoppers service 23, which now runs on Tuesdays only during school terms. Happily, both picked up a few passengers here for their journeys before departing. Both buses are at Rectory Grove. **John G. Lidstone.**




Lower picture Stephensons Coaches 462 (YX11CTO) at ADL Service Centre Harlow Essex 12/2/16, Suffolk Rider Branding, 2011 Dennis Dart/ADL Enviro 200 B39F. **Robert Downton**

# hedingham and chambers

**by Mark Lloyd** With thanks to Essex-buses yahoo group, John Podgorski and Hedingham website.

## Vehicles Acquired

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 520 | LX05 EZC | Volvo B7TL | Wright Gemini Eclipse | H41/23D | Ex Go Ahead London WVL206 |
| 521 | LX05 EZD | Volvo B7TL | Wright Gemini Eclipse | H41/23D | Ex Go Ahead London WVL207 |
| 522 | LX05 EZE | Volvo B7TL | Wright Gemini Eclipse | H41/23D | Ex Go Ahead London WVL208 |
| 523 | LX05 EZF | Volvo B7TL | Wright Gemini Eclipse | H41/23D | Ex Go Ahead London WVL209 |
| 524 | LX05 EZG | Volvo B7TL | Wright Gemini Eclipse | H41/23D | Ex Go Ahead London WVL210 |
| 525 | LX05 EZH | Volvo B7TL | Wright Gemini Eclipse | H41/23D | Ex Go Ahead London WVL211 |
| 526 | LX06 EAJ | Volvo B7TL | Wright Gemini Eclipse | H41/23D | Ex Go Ahead London WVL246 |
| 527 | LX06 EAK | Volvo B7TL | Wright Gemini Eclipse | H41/23D | Ex Go Ahead London WVL247 |
| 528 | LX06 EAM | Volvo B7TL | Wright Gemini Eclipse | H41/23D | Ex Go Ahead London WVL248 |
| 910 | SF04 SKD | Optare | Solo M850 | B27F | Ex Stagecoach 47063 |
| 911 | SF04 SKE | Optare | Solo M850 | B27F | Ex Stagecoach 47064 |

910/1 were with Stagecoach Yorkshire at Chesterfield. Two of five originally with Western new 06/2004.

Arrived w/c 11 June with EZD, EZG and EZH the first to arrive. EZD developed a fault en route from London and was diverted to Kelvedon for remedial work before joining the others at Clacton. EZD is undergoing single door conversion at Clacton workshop.

## Vehicles Withdrawn

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 714 | T814 RFG | Dennis Trident | East Lancs | CN depot |
| 723 | W823 NNJ | Dennis Trident | East Lancs | HD depot |

## Allocations

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 255 | EU05 AUT | CN to KN | 8 June |
| 255 | EU05 AUT | KN to CN | 20 June |
| 809 | YN55 PZM | SY to KN | 20 June |
| 807 | YN55 PZJ | KN to SY | 21 June |
| 251 | PJ02 RHE | KN to HD | 25 June |
| 814 | YN55 PZV | KN to CN | 29 June |
| 816 | YN55 PZX | CN to KN | 29 June |

## Fleet News

During the first week of June 701 T801 RFG was loaned to Sudbury depot to cover school services. In reverse, 801 YN55 PRC was loaned to Hedingham depot. 805 YN55 PZG and 807 YN55 PZJ were loaned to Kelvedon for service work at this time too. (807 as 805 had failed in service on 5 June).

511 LB02 YWY suffered offside rear accident damage on 13 June but was seen working the 89 service repaired on 2 July. Volvo B10Ms 9/10 S290/1 TVW are still both hard at work from the Sudbury depot on schools services.

It is thought the Scania Omnidekkas were renumbered due to a number clash elsewhere in Go Ahead.

## Services

School service HY2 was withdrawn on 25 May. On 4 June services 89X and ST1 passed from Chambers operation to Kelvedon depot. ST2 passed from Clacton operation to Chambers. However, by 11 June service ST2 had passed to Kelvedon operation. HY1 was amended to include those served by HY2 and HY4 was revised with part of the old HY1 included. The Stour Valley Academy Clare contracts passed to Hedingham depot duty. After a week of operation by 11 June HY2 had been reinstated due to capacity issues.

23 June service 63 was affected by the West Mersea carnival with the terminus in West Mersea being changed from the High Street Leisure Centre – journeys to Colchester started from Legionfields and those returning terminated at Willoughby Car Park.

From 1 July services X76, 87, 88, 89 and 130 have all had small amendments to them to cut out poorly performing duties and to reduce costs. X76 has had 4 services either curtailed or withdrawn in each direction. Service 87 has a new reduced Sunday timetable and has had 5 Colchester to Brightlingsea and 4 reverse weekday journeys withdrawn. Service 88 has had a few tweaks with the 1808 Halstead to Colchester service no longer operated and curtailments in service at the Great Yeldham end in the evenings. Service 89 has had the 1937 Braintree to Great Yeldham service withdrawn. All 130 journeys are now covered by X76 journeys instead with slight timing changes. Service 137 has been re-timed and now serves Asda but the Sunday timetable is unchanged.

ECC contracted evening M-S service 352 Halstead – Chelmsford begins on 30 July, Services 1, 3, 5, 5A, 6, 6A, 6B and 8 are on the Hedingham website in anticipation of the start at the end of July when First close their Clacton depot.

## Other News

Hedingham will operate the park & ride buses serving the Clacton Air Show this year on 23 and 24 August. Service A from Clacton Common Factory Outlet at £10/car runs from 9am to 6pm and service B which runs from Holland Haven at £7/car (max 5 people) and runs 9am to 10pm Thursday and 9am to 6pm Friday.

66 P602 CAY is a static library in a school in Sudbury. Meanwhile the static 582 X507 EGK which was loaned to Tendring Community College has returned to Clacton depot.




Picture Hedingham & District's Clacton depot currently have three buses in Anglianbus yellow/blue livery, here is 852 (A057 HCD) in Jackson Road, Clacton, on 6 July, working service X76 Colchester - Clacton - Jaywick. **Robert Appleton.**

Robert makes the point that the very bright sunshine at this time of year creates harsh shadows, and means that the electronic destination displays do not show up very brightly. He seems to have overcome this issue rather well but he is not the only photographer to have "suffered in the sun". Thanks to you all for your efforts. **Ed.**

**LODGE'S**

**Andrew Mead** with thanks to Andrew Lodge.

CJJ 95 is an Austin 12/4 with a Strachan taxi body. New 1/36 and spent the next ten years serving London after which it was exported to the USA by a former US serviceman who had been stationed in the south-east. It returned home to England in 1989. Acquired by Lodge Coaches 4/18 and is undergoing restoration for the heritage and wedding fleet.

YJ04 PFG was sold 2/17 and is now with an operator in Hertfordshire.




Lodge's AL17 DGE, a Mercedes-Benz Tourismo, waiting outside DB Rail Station in Oberlahnstein, Germany whilst on a short tour of boats and trains on 6 July. **Maurice Austin.**

# New Group Book.
# Eastern National and Thamesway in London: Volume 1, Tendered Services.

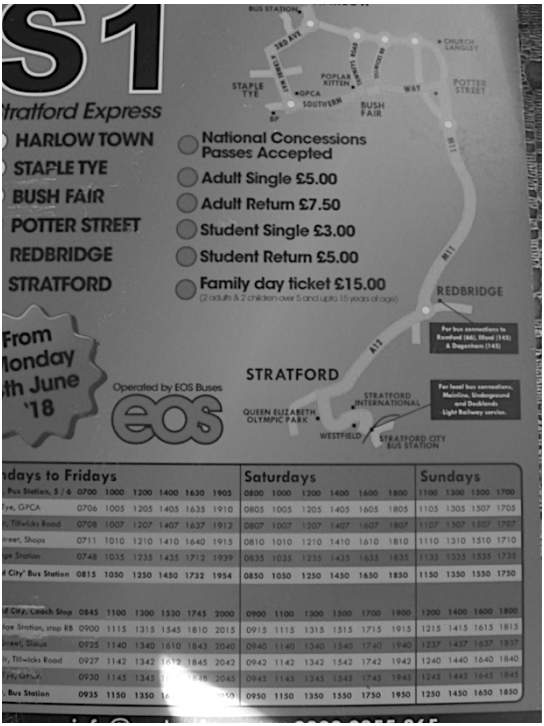
Treat yourself this summer to Alan Osborne's well researched book, described in detail on EBN651p13. Alan lives in Ilford and was thus well placed to closely observe all the "comings and goings" of this interesting operator during a fascinating period of bus history.

This locational advantage, together with Alan's keen eye for detail, careful record keeping and meticulous research have enabled him to produce that "holy grail" of transport literature, an attractive and accurate record at a modest price.

# EOS

<<< Top picture
EOS publicise their S1 service with this neat A4 card.
**Owen Woodliffe.**

Lower picture
MCV Dart LX07 BYT still all red with its former Docklands/Go-Ahead fleet number ED27 is suitably blinded for the new EOS S1 route from Harlow to Stratford. It is seen at the terminal opposite Stratford City Bus Station on 15 June.
**Owen Woodliffe.**








Ensignbus
omnibus suppliers to the world

**Mark Lloyd with thanks to Ross Newman.**

# Ensignbus

## Dealing Stock Movements June 2018.

### Vehicles in

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Emsworth and District | HW54 BUO/V | Darts |
| Go-Ahead London | LX03 EEJ | Volvo B7TL's |
| | LX06 DYS/T/W/Y | |
| | LX06 DZB/E/G-J/L/N | |
| | LX11 CVN/P/R/V/Z | |
| | LX11 CWL-P/T | |
| | YN07 EXF | Scania |
| | AE56 OUO | Dart |
| Metrobus | YN54 AJX | Scania's |
| | YN53 RZC/D/E/F/RYF/K | |
| Metroline | YX09 FKY/FLA/E/G/J/L | E200's |
| | YX09 AEV/Y/Z | |
| | YX09 AFA/F/K | |
| RATP London | SN51 SZC | Tridents |
| | LG02 FBB/C/E | |

### Vehicles Out

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Als Coaches, Birkenhead | LX06 DYU | Volvo B7TL |
| Bear Buses, Feltham, Middx | | |
| | YX09 AFF | E200 |
| Carters Coaches, Northampton | | |
| | V305 KGW | Trident |
| Deckerbus, Peterborough | AO02 RCU | Volvo B12M |
| Faresaver, Chippenham, Wilts. | | |
| | YJ13 HKX | Solo |
| Fargo Coaches, Bracknell | YN54 AJV | Scania |
| Galleon Travel, Roydon, Essex | | |
| | YN06 JXR | Scania's |
| | YM55 SWU | |
| | HW54 BUO | Dart |
| JD Travel, Oxford | LX03 EEB | Volvo B7TL |
| Meritrule, Kingswood, Surrey | | |
| | LX06 DYT | Volvo B7TL |
| | YX09 AFK | E200 |
| Red RM, Brentford | LX06 DZC | Volvo B7TL |
| Renown Coaches, Bexhill | YM55 SXF | Scania |
| Stephensons of Essex | YN06 JXS | Scania |
| Tyrers Coaches, Adlington, Lancs | | |
| | LX11 CVO/CWC-E/G/J/L | Volvo B9TL's |

### Other Movements

E200 LX07 BYM
**National Driving School, Croydon.**

DAF HF05 LYW
Dart EU53 PYH
Volvo B7TL LJ03MPX
**Hardwicks, Barnsley.**

Volvo LX03 EEH
**ImpactJungle LDA, Maia Castelo Da Maia, Portugal.**

Scania's YN53 RZC / RZE / RYA
**MyWork Bus , Peterborough.**

Volvo B7TL LX53 BEY
**Direct Construction Services, Brighton.**

Volvo B7TL LJ53BDE
**Mike Lawrenson, Preston.**

Olympian P757 SWC
**Talita de Souza Barbosa, Viana do Castelo, Portugal.**

Scania YV03 RBU
**Dearnsdale Fruit, Stafford.**

RML2710
**Mr Yalu Cleerence, Hounslow**
(to be exported to Sri Lanka**).**

Scania YN55NLJ
**Qualiti Conversions, Southampton.**

Volvo B7TL LX03 EEJ
**Commercial Church Of God, London N15.**

Volvo B7TL's LF52 ZRN / X171 FBB
Tridents LG02 FBB / FBE / SN51 SZC
Darts EU53 PXY / PYF
Scania YN06 JXT
**all to Shelton Motors for scrap.**

### Correction from last month

Travelmasters B9TL's purchased were LX60 DXD/E and not DXA/B as advised.



Ensignbus
omnibus suppliers to the world

# Ensignbus

## Ensign Fleet – June 2018

**Mark Lloyd with thanks to Ross Newman and John Podgorski.**

Trident 196 PX55 AHG East Lancs has been sold to Axe Valley Motors, Seaton, Devon.

196 was the last Trident in the fleet, now dominated by B7TLs.

Further of these models into the fleet are 102 LX53 BAA and 103 LX53 BBZ Volvo B7TL's with Wright Gemini bodywork.

One of the tri-axle BCI Excellence LX66 batch was involved in a road traffic accident on the A120 just past Ardleigh Crown Interchange on Monday 3 July. The coach was taking Tottenham school children to Clacton when it struck a scaffolding lorry from behind. There were a few injuries but thankfully nothing major. The coach received major front nearside damage.

25/5/18 12 (Aveley "The Village" - Ockendon station) – withdrawn.

29/5/18 New route 32 (Aveley – Ockendon - Grays) started - M-F peaks only.
Increased frequency on routes X21 (Lakeside-Brentwood) and X81 (Lakeside-Hutton) started. Both M-F daytimes.




Picture An extremely rare working on route 81 on 13 June 2018 was dual doored 790. This bus has luggage racks down the offside interior as far as the wheelchair area, which is opposite the rear doors, and is usually used on Tilbury Ferry work, seen ere at Brentwood Station.

# Other Operators.

**Roger A. Smith.** With thanks to the PSV Circle.

**Bone (Tendring Travel), Thorpe-le-Soken**
Recently arrived here is SF57 DPX, a Volvo B12B with Plaxton C69FL body, previously with Western Buses, Scotland West.

**Dan's, Waltham Abbey**
YJ64 HDU, a Yutong C35F is here from Wheelers Travel, North Baddesley, Hampshire.

**Flagfinders, Braintree**
VDL C57FT, registration SO15 UBS arrived here in March, ex Austin, Earlston, Scotland South.

**Jackson, Bicknacre**
Marco Polo bodied C49FT DAF SB, registered PO53 OFA is no longer here, whilst YR16 BNZ, a Scania K360 184 with Higer C49FT. body arrived here in January, previously with Shaw, Coventry, West Midlands.

**Kings Coaches, Stanway** with thanks to **Peter Mobbs**
YJ13 GWC, a Temsa Safari HD 12.28m C53FT with DAF 365 bhp engine and ZF automatic gearbox, VIN no. NLTRJTA7R01010029 arrived here on 27 June on loan for one month from Arriva Bus & Coach, Cleckheaton. This vehicle is in all white livery.




Picture the anonymous but very smart coach described in the Kings report above. **Peter Mobbs.**

Thanks to **John Podgorski** for two corrections to EBN650.

**Kirbys** Re-registered Setra S250 (now with Kevendy's) R958 AEU should read R958 AEV.

**South East Coaches** Vo B9R/Plaxton RL 62 RSL came from Lawmans, and is currently in the fleet. (Rather than passing to Lawmans).

# Letters

**Robin Jenkinson from Rickinghall Superior, Diss** **Colchester Metrorider; A Confession!**

Thanks for publishing my Durham article in EBN650p5. Unfortunately, I made a mistake; sorry!
The Colchester Metrorider services ran a lot longer than ten months. They ran from October 1988 to February 1991, when they were sold to Strathclyde Buses. The ten months referred to the time that Metrorider no. 11 (F111 NPU) ran in blue CBT coach livery before it went to Strathclyde! A strange mistake, it's this old age thing!
Also, when MCW lent the Metrorider demonstrators to Colchester, Colchester only needed two at any time in addition to the two Northumbria vehicles, so the demonstrators were swapped around as needed by MCW. (But see Geoff Mills letter below - **Ed**).

**Eds note:** Thanks for the clarifications. But don't worry about the original sin; the only people who never make a mistake are those people who never do anything! Robin's letter was received first and has been abridged to reduce duplication with Geoff and Richard's letters/emails .

**Geoff Mills from Colchester** **Colchester Metrorider – a Clarification!**

Robin correctly gave me credit for the photo of E824 BTN but I did not provide the incorrect text about Colchesters five new Metroriders delivered in 1/88. MCW only provided one Metrorider demonstrator to cover the late delivery of the new ones, i.e. D26, E637 TOG, was loaned 10/88 to 11/88 and had previously been demonstrated one week in 7/88.
D20, E76 TDA, was only in CR for a week in 1/88. There was never three MCW demonstrators in CR, ever! I would be very surprised if MCW has three to send (as indicated by the Northumbria loan from MCW in 10/88).
The new ones, 11 – 15, F111 – 115 NPU were meant for service 3, Middlewick (Abbots Road), Old Heath, Barnhall Estate, Greenstead which required four buses, worked by 12 – 15 whilst 11 was in CBT Coachway livery for private hire, with dp seats but worked on 3 when any of 12 – 15 were unavailable.
All five were sold to Strathclyde (Glasgow) in 2/91 after a stay of two years, three months; not ten months as suggested by Robin.
I think this was the shortest lived new stock with CBT.
Full details are in my (co-authored) book "100 years of service to CR", published in 2004. Copies are still available at discounted prices! (Ask the Editor for Geoff's contact details if you want one).

Colchester BT did sell all five Metroriders to Strathclyde but no buses were swapped in return. There were no Lynx buses in the Glasgow fleet. No second-hand Lynx came to the Colchester BT fleet until 1/01 under Arriva management.
There was only ever one MCW Metrorider demonstrator in town at any one time, i.e. D20 or D26 were six months apart.
Incidentally, I have maintained records of the municipal fleet for some 65 years.

**Richard Delahoy from Thorpe Bay** **Colchester Metrorider – the EBEG version!**

Richard confirms the EBEG records show:

"In summary so far as the Metroriders are concerned, E76 TDA was demonstrated in January 1988, E637 TOG in July 1988 and then after orders were placed, Northumbria E824/6 BTN and demonstrator E637 TOG were loaned pending delivery of CBT's ones. They were at Colchester from 1/10/88 until 7 or 8/11/88."






London Bus Company RT 3933 (LLU 733) at Shenfield railway station on 30 June on service 339 to and from the Epping Ongar Railway. **Ken Coldwell.**

## From The Archives

**Richard Delahoy.**

A reminder that every Friday our Facebook page features a "From The Archives" photo and story. Recent examples have included EN Bristol RELH 1608 on National Express duties in 1975, London Country Ford Transit FT3 in Harlow on the first day of the experimental dial a ride service in Harlow in 1974 and four shots contributed by Alan Tebbit of classic buses in Harwich.

If you are on social media, why not like and follow our FB page and join in the conversation. And if you'd like to submit your own pics/stories for the feature, please get in touch with Richard Delahoy, details on page 1. **We'd welcome your contributions.**

## Go-Ahead Group notes; Southend operations

**Richard Delahoy.**

In addition to PVL224 reported last month, WVL83 (LF52 ZNR, Volvo B7TL/Wrights open top) has appeared on open top seafront service 68 and it is assumed this will be the second regular bus when the service steps up to half-hourly frequency from 21 July.

Updating last month's notes, London General are operating a seasonal summer excursion service to Southend this summer, but only on selected dates – the772 from Kingston will run on 26 July, 4 August, 15 August, 23 August, 1 September only. It is thought that the extension of the 575 Harlow - Romford service to Southend will not take place this summer.

## Target Dates for EBN652 (August 2018).

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| By | Saturday | 4 August 2018 | Reports to Sub-Editors. |
| By | Saturday | 11 August 2018 | Sub-Editor drafts to Editor. |
| By | Monday | 22 August 2018 | Dispatch by Printers. |

# Rayleigh Diversion, Sunday 10 June 2018.



top picture left side. First Essex 47654, Wrightbus StreetLite DF Mini Hybrid 10.8m, BN based, on the 25 from Basildon to Southend.



middle left side. Arriva Southend 4251, Optare Versa V1170 Hybrid from Southend depot, en-route from Rayleigh Station to Shoeburyness, Renown.



Lower left side. And the same vehicle holding up the traffic whilst it loads!

On Sunday 10 June 2018, services were on diversion due to Rayleigh's Trinity Fair. This meant the High Street was closed and Eastbound services used Eastwood Road calling at the Bus Stop outside the Wimpey Bar. Philip doesn't think this stop is now used regularly. 7 and 8's then went along Websters Way and then onto the Hockley Road. 9's and 25's carried straight on. Strangely, Philip didn't see any First Essex 20's here but they were running the usual way to Hullbridge.

All pictures this side by **Philip Mansbridge.**

# Summer Diversions.




top picture right side. the new rear advertisement for the Royal Horticultural Society Hyde Hall on First Essex Volvo B7TL/ALX400, CF32654, taken at Chelmsford Bus Station whilst it was operating the 70 service to Colchester on 2 July.
**John Salmon.**



lower picture right side
London Bus Company RTW 75 (KGT 575) and RT 1790 (KTT 628) at North Weald Station, Epping Ongar Railway on 30 June.
**Ken Coldwell.**




top
An interesting comparison of Stephensons 601 (EU12 HXW) on 17 and 609 (CY12 EMS) on 23. Happily, both picked up a few passengers here for their journeys before departing on 19 June.
**John G. Lidstone.**




Centre
CX14 EMS with Express Motors taken in Porthmadog on 30 September 2015. Now with Stephensons.
**Dave Arnold.**

Lower
Arriva 4017 (GN58 BUA) an Alexander Dennis Enviro 200 at East Bay, Colchester on June 26. It is on service 2 to Horkesley Heath.
**Ken Coldwell.**




# Essex Bus News

## July 2018

EBN651outerrearcover