

ESSEX BUS NEWS

NOVEMBER 1992

The monthly magazine of the ESSEX BUS ENTHUSIASTS GROUP

(Formerly the Eastern National Enthusiasts Group)

343



The only Alexander bodied Dart in Essex is this example with Heddingham L198 (K198 EVW). It is usually found on service 90, where it was seen on a wet September day.

(D Arnold)

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES FOR 1993

Trying to guess costs of running the magazine this time next year (the date of preparing this note being 1/10/92) is at best difficult. Our valued friends at Kithead Ltd. (the magazine printers and dispatchers) will have raised their prices from January 1993, hopefully, by only 4-5% but the Post Office have in fact delayed an increase in postal rates that should have occurred in Autumn 1992 to a date, as yet unspecified, in the future, due we suspect to massive profits being made.

Hoping that these increases are in the latter half of 1993 it has been decided to raise subscriptions for 1993 to £9 (first class) and £8.30 (second class), increases of only 30-35p on 1992. These new rates will not cover all the Group's costs during 1993 but hopefully we can operate a couple of successful coach tours and with a lower inflation rate use the interest earned on the Group's N.S.B. Investment account to subsidise everybody's subscriptions.

The committee hopes all members will renew for 1993 and help support our efforts. A renewal form is enclosed with this magazine for all members who have a subscription year which runs from January to December. If there is no form enclosed then you do not have to renew yet!

VACANCY FOR MANAGING EDITOR

As at 8.11.92. no applications had been received for this position, which was advertised in last month's magazine. If you are willing to take on the role, please write to :- Alan Osborne, 7 Farley Drive, Seven Kings, Ilford, IG3 8LT.

VACANCY FOR SOUTHEAST TRANSPORT SUB EDITOR

It is as a result of personal circumstances that Edward Cecil has had to resign as Sub Editor Southeast Transport.

Applications are therefore invited for this position, which requires about 2 hours work and a phone call to ST each month. Applications should be sent to Alan Osborne at the above address. If you should wish to apply for both positions, please feel free to do so.

SPECIAL BUS SERVICES IN ESSEX

If members are aware of any bus services available to the public that are not published in the County timetables, could they please provide the editor with details.

The following free services are operated to ASDA Chelmer Village by Eastern National:-

- 1 Silver End (Old EN depot) 0930 via Witham, Hatfield Peverel and Boreham. Returns 1140. Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.
- 2 Braintree (High St.) 1006 via Great Leighs, Little Waltham and Springfield. Returns 1215. Thursdays.
- 3 Galleywood (West Lawn) 0917 via Great Baddow. Returns 1120. Wednesday and Friday.

- 4 Writtle (Lodge Road) 1035 via Westlands Estate. Returns 1235. Wednesday and Friday.
- 5 Ingatestone (The Leas) 0949 via Margaretting and Moulsham Lodge. Returns 1200. Thursdays Only.
- 6 Chignall Estate (Trent Road) 0910 via North Avenue and Springfield. Returns 1105. Fridays Only.

EASTERN NATIONAL

Unusual Workings

24.9.92. CF 4510 on service 36 (see below)
 9.10.92. MN 1874 on service 119 (normally Lynx operated)

Leyland Olympian 4510 was noted on the hard shoulder of the M11 on 21.9.92. having failed on a London bound commuter service. It is presumed to have been on a trial run on 24.9.92. having been repaired.

Chelmsford allocated vehicles continue to cover for breakdowns of Colchester based vehicles on services 53. Olympian 4011 on 5.9.92. and 4013 on 4.10.92. noted among others.

Pool 1824 remains at Colchester depot and has been fitted with new blinds (see General notes).

General

Vehicles at Colchester depot are being fitted with fluorescent yellow/green on black background destination blinds, which I am told look very effective.

Olympian 4512 has had old style roller blinds fitted behind its original glass display.

Services

83 From 6.11.92. revised to start from Crepping Hall at 0920, with the 1230 ex Colchester continuing on request. 1305 ex Wakes Colne operates 5 minutes later.

309 Revised route and timetable introduced from 2.11.92.

The reference to service 49 in EBN 342 relates to the Bishops Stortford- Harlow service, not the Chelmsford Town service.

Subsequent Disposals

454	(RPU 869M)	Northern, Anston, by 7/92, ex. Vale, Cheetham.
1052	(TJN 975W)	Is numbered 1687 with Servisair (additional to EBN 338).
1058	(TJN 981W)	Ellis, Kelvedon, (t/a Grahams Coaches), 9/92, ex. Hedingham Omnibuses, Sible Hedingham.
1300	(XHK 213X)	Hazell, Northlew, by 7/92, ex. Colbourne & Pulham, Newton Abbott. Rebuilt by Wacton (dealer), Browyard, using rear of RDE 772S.
1500	(PJT 255R)	Numbered B708 by Brewer, Maesteg (now of Port Talbot).
1501	(PJT 256R)	As 1500, numbered B709.

1707 (WNO 556L) Re-seated to B50F by Ludlow, Halesowen, -/92.
 1715 (WNO 564L) West Midlands Travel, 1764, 3/92, ex. Tame Valley, Birmingham. Stored at Selly Oak.
 1733 (HWC 84N) Sold by Thamesway by 8/92.
 1743 (HAR 489N) As 1733.
 1778 (PEV 690R) As 1500 but numbered B718.
 1779 (PEV 691R) Wigley (dealer), Carlton, by 7/92. (T)
 1783 (PEV 695R) Quickstep, Hunslet, 69, 7/92, ex. Wilts & Dorset, 3761.
 1788 (PEV 700R) Withdrawn by Thamesway, 7/92.
 1794 (PEV 706R) As 1783, numbered 70, ex 3762.
 1801 (TJN 500R) As 1788.
 1803 (TJN 502R) As 1788.
 1827 (VNO 729S) As 1500 but numbered B717.
 1877 (BNO 667T) As 1779.
 2202 (WNO 559L) Is N-PSV with London Borough of Wandsworth (additional to EBN 338).
 2717 (97 TVX) Went to North (dealer), Sherburn in 8/91 (correction to EBN 333).
 2722 (802 WVW) Sold by Sanderson, Long Sutton, by 6/92.
 2780 (993 KOO) Now reported as still with Double Two Shirts, Wakefield, 8/82. (see also EBN 333 and earlier issues).
 3053 (LJN 648P) Brewer, Port Talbot, U648, 8/92, ex United Welsh, U648.
 3058 (LJN 653P) Is N-PSV with Kilo Health Club, Clacton, (additional to EBN 338).
 3097 (UAR 587W) As 3053, fleetnumber U587. (T)
 3098 (UAR 588W) As 3053, fleetnumber U588. (T)
 3099 (UAR 589W) Re-painted into Western National livery and allocated to Plymouth. (T)
 3100 (UAR 590W) Western National Ltd., Truro, 1248, 8/92. (T)
 3101 (UAR 591W) Now used as a Driver Training Vehicle by Thamesway, assumed to be N-PSV.
 3105 (UAR 595W) As 3100, fleetnumber 1239. (T)
 3107 (UAR 597W) As 3099. (T)
 3108 (UAR 598W) As 3053, fleetnumber U598. (T)
 3115 (XHK 220X) Withdrawn by Thamesway, 7/92.
 3117 (XHK 222X) Allocated to Marlborough Street, Bristol, by Badgerline, 7/92. (T)
 3118 (XHK 223X) As 3100, fleetnumber 1249. (T)
 3125 (XHK 230X) As 3115. (T)
 3129 (XHK 234X) As 3053, fleetnumber U543. (T)
 3205 (OBD 841P) Numbered 1247 by Western National Ltd., Truro, but believed to be for spares only. (T)
 3213 (CBD 901T) Went to North (dealer), Sherburn in 8/91 (correction to EBN 333). (T)
 3216 (FRP 907T) Western National Ltd., Truro, by 6/92. (T)
 4004 (B699 BPU) Thamesway, Basildon, 4004, 5/92.

Thamesway Ltd

New Vehicles

The new mercedes were delivered during the middle of October and entered service shortly afterwards. Fleetnumbers etc. confirmed as printed last month.

Aquired Vehicles

A further 4 Leyland Tigers with Duple Caribbean bodywork are due shortly for Citysaver services. Further details next month.

Vehicles on Loan

Western National E209-11 BOD which have been on loan at BN have been returned to Plymouth.

Allocations

November 92 235 BD-HH 710 HH-D/L (D)

Temporary Allocations

The temporary movement of Mercedes to cover late arrivals of the new Mercedes has now cease and all vehicles have returned to their home depots including 1889.

Repaints

Noted repainted in fleet livery are 252, 1417 and 1836.

General

Transit 721 has now entered service at HH, since being aquired has been used at BN and BD for route tuition purposes. During October Transit 707 has been noted at Chingford and Romford. Prittlewell Depot has finally been sold to a Training Association based at Shoburyness. Work has commence on knocking down the wash area. Thamesway have gained the Mecca Bingo contract from Southend to the site at the old Greyhound stadium.

Noted in BN depot on 13th October was Bristol VR 3216 still in withdrawn condition.

Usually Workings

8-10-92 BN 513 noted on Citysaver services in National Express livery.
23-10-92 BN 513 noted on Citysaver services in National Express Livery.
2-11-92 PD 249 noted on services C1-C4
3-11-92 BD 389 noted on services A1 and C1-C3
3-11-92 HH 1418 noted on Citysaver service S3

SOUTHEND TRANSPORT

Vehicles

The newly acquired Olympians (as mentioned last month) have been numbered as follows:-

281	(MUH 281X)	Leyland Olympian	ONLXB/1R	ECW	LH77F
282	(MUH 285X)	"	"	"	"
283	(MUH 283X)	"	"	"	"
284	(MUH 286X)	"	"	"	"

282/3 are in service, 281/4 are expected to enter service shortly (as at 4th Nov.). 283 was noted working the last 404 journey on 19/10.

The rebuilt Leyland National (GGE 170T) is expected to enter service soon, equiped with a DAF engine. It has received fleetnumber 745 and has been registered PJI 3745. It has also received a slightly revised livery featuring more blue on the back and more white on the sides.

Bristol VR 308 (SNN 159R) was withdrawn in mid October and is expected to be sold in the near future.

General

We would like to congratulate former Commercial & Traffic Director Mark Howarth on having been made a fellow of the Chartered Institute of Transport.

COLCHESTER BOROUGH TRANSPORT

Services

2A/B 0903 and 0913 ex Highwoods revised to operate 5 minutes earlier to Osborne Street (Mon-Fri) from 12.10.92.
3 0841 ex Bromley Road runs 5 minutes earlier from 19.10.92.
5A Slight timing change to 0810 ex Tollgate (via Fiveways) from 7.10.92.
14A 0824 ex Highwoods operates 5 minutes earlier from 19.10.92.

CBT are operating the rail replacement service between Colchester and Clacton/Walton on Sundays from 4.19.02. to 13.12.92. using 6 deckers. On 8.11.92. a rail replacement was also operated between Colchester and Ipswich/Harwich using 15 deckers, 2 Lynx and an Ipswich minibus (which is needed because Manningtree level crossing is closed).

The West Mersea diversion was back to normal from 31.10.92. for at least a week.

Unusual Workings

Leyland Tiger 103 was noted on service 4 on 15.10. covering a late running service and on service 12 on 16.10.

Publicity

CBT Bus Map including basic service details. Leaflet giving service revisions noted above.

HEDINGHAM

Vehicles

Two further Bristol VRs have been acquired, this time from Oxford they are L197/9 (GGM 108W, HJB 464W) both carry ECW H43/34F bodywork.

Bedford YMQs departing are L142-5 (FCY 290-3W) sold to Whippet, Fenstanton and L157 (TJN 981W) sold to neighbour Ellis of Kelvedon.

News of former fleet member L176 (C586 HJN) is that it is now in the fleet of Frodingham Coaches, North Frodingham.

Services

- 17/A Additional journey 0850 Saffron Walden to Great Bardfield on Saturdays only from 7.11.92.
59 Additional journey 1115 Saffron Walden to Haverhill on Monday to Friday from 9.11.92.
90/A Revised timetable introduced from 28.11.92.

COUNTY BUS

Vehicles

As noted last month, the bus services of Golden Boy were acquired from 3.10.92. together with the following vehicles:-

LDB 201	MPG 151P	Leyland	PSU3C/4R	Duple	B53F
LP 549	PPM 889R	"	PSU3E/4R	Plaxton	C49F
LP 555	WJM 814T	"	"	"	C46F
LP 556	WJM 816T	"	"	"	C49F
BDB 480	FCY 280W	Bedford	YRQ	Duple	B45F
BDB 483	FCY 283W	"	"	"	B45F
BDB 495	FCY 295W	"	"	"	B43F
BDB 497	FCY 297W	"	"	"	B43F
SW 472	F172 SMT	Leyland	LBM6T/2RA	W. String.	B39F
SW 473	F173 SMT	"	"	"	B39F

The Bedfords are allocated to Harlow, the Leopards are at Hoddesdon, while the Swifts are unallocated.

A number of vehicle transfers have occurred since the last allocation published in EBN 335 they are:-

Grays: add DW 316/7 DP 318-23 MB 45/6/50 delete SN 201/86/96 MB 927-32

Harlow: add SN 212/5/49/86/309 MB 706/815/16/931/32/37/38 delete AN110 TDB 62 SN 203/6/65/7 MB 45/6/50/56/813/17

DW316/7 are used on service 383, while DP318-23 are Plaxton

bodied Darts for LRT service 256.

The Atlanteans at Grays are receiving a refurbishment, which includes new moquette, Diptac features and a re-paint.

CAPITAL CITYBUS

Operation of LT service 296 commenced in October. As a result of Olypians not having been delivered in time for the start of this service, a number of West Midlands Metrobuses have been on loan including 2053, 2059, 2062, 2281 and 2419.

OTHER OPERATORS

APT A recent acquisition is JGV 321V a Bedford/Plaxton (ex Ford, Althorne). A Volvo/Plaxton PJI 2417 has also been noted, this is thought to be the former SFH 694W. Dennis/Caetano G854 VAY has been sold to Fords, Althorne.

BJS TRAVEL Are now operating Iveco/Caetano C84 NNV.

BOONS Noted at the depot on 24.10.92. was Setra E29 SBO in all white livery. It is thought to be a dealer hire.

BORDABUS Revised timetable introduced on service 89 from 12.11.92. operating between Chigwell Row and Chigwell only.

BRANDONS A recent acquisition is Bova Futura F573 WHD.

CARTERS The VR mentioned in EBN 342, is UNW 928R in a Cream and Green livery with Essexbus under the front windscreen. It carries fleetnumber 839.

CHARTERCOACH A new addition to the fleet is Volvo B10M/ Plaxton Paramount III K457 PNR.

COACHSTOP Have received a new Van Hool EOS 100 which carries a suitable registraion K100 EOS!

DISTRICT BUS A new service numbered 110 between Shotgate and Pitsea, operating Wednesdays only commenced on 11.11.92. Service 223 was revised from 2.11.92. with services now being operated commercially. A further new service operating Schooldays only is 112 between Mountnessing Road and Mayflower School Billericay.

ESPAN UK Thought to be a new operator with two services E1 from Hadleigh to Lakeside with four journeys each way Monday to Saturday and E2 Canvey to Eastwood Aviation Way with one journey each way on Saturday nights.

FORDS C995 ERO has been re-painted white with orange and red stripes.

GALLANTS Commenced a Saturdays only service from Stanford le Hope to Basildon via Corringham numbered 49/A on 9.11.92.

GODWARD Have a re-registered Bova/Duple Calypso HIL 8131.

GRAHAMS Recent additions are F651 OHD a DAF/Duple 320 and TJN 981W a Bedford YMQ-S/ Wadham Stringer.

GREENHAM Ford/Duple DWP 4S was noted in Chelmsford in late October with Greenham Coachlines, Harvey Road, Basildon legal lettering but no PSV disc. This may well be another PSV trainer with an unknown owner as it has also been noted with L plates. See also item below on S&P, it may well be that Greenham/S&P/Lapage and Trans European are all the same company.

GREY GREEN Revised timetable introduced on LT services 20 and 167 from 21.11.92.

HARRIS A rail replacement service between Shenfield and Gidea Park was being operated on 20.9.92. The rail replacement service on Sundays between Shenfield and Southend on Sundays is also being operated. Vehicles are hired in from Metrobus Orpington, Avro & Elm Park Coaches and Bryans of Enfield to help operate these services. 9242 FH has been re-trimmed and painted white. Leyland Titan BUF 425C has seen use on Rail and Schools contracts and retains Applebys livery at present.

Service 300 will be withdrawn with effect from 27.11.92.

INGATESTONE COACHES Bedford/Duple SNM 84R has been re-registered NIW 1637. A further vehicle is NIW 1639 a ?/Plaxton Supreme, which is thought to have replaced BEG 438T.

NATIONAL EXPRESS Winter services were introduced on all routes from 1.11.92.

RIDGEON KIW 7812 has been re-painted into National Express Rapide livery.

S&P COACHES Ford/Duple LNT 671W last noted with March, Southend was noted in Southend on 20.11.92. with legal lettering for Trans European Coaches, Harvey Road, Basildon and with a PSV disc for S. F. Lapage t/a S&P Coaches.

STANS Have acquired Tiger/Paramount 3500 PIJ 2457.

STEPHENSONS Bristol VR JWW 225N was sold a couple of months ago to Brentwood coaches for scrap. This was the ASDA liveried bus. ASDA contracts are now performed by vehicles in fleet livery. The Sunday service on route 222 was revised from 15.11.92. with the 0738 ex Rochford, 0845 ex Brentwood, 2120 ex Southend and 2156 ex Wickford being withdrawn for the winter period.

SUPREME COACHES A new depot has opened on the Stock Road Industrial Estate, Southend. This replaces the depot at Leigh Elms and the Southend Transport garage parking area.

TEE-JAYS WIVENHOE Is operating 57 FGC a Volvo/Plaxton Viewmaster. WHM/Brentwood Coaches The following fleetlist has been sent from group member Colin Sigstons records:-

1	454 EAN	Volvo B10M	Plaxton P.	3500	(ex A998 RUB, YUU 556)
2	HIL 2391	"	"	"	(new as ?)
3	HIL 8334	"	"	"	(ex A705 XMH, 999 BWC)
4	XCF 447	"	"	3200	(ex D263 HFX)
6	HIL 2392	"	"	3500	(new as ?)
7	HIL 9271	"	"	"	(ex FUA 390Y, 999 BWC and UJN 215Y)
8	HIL 9275	"	"	3200	(ex A822 XMK, 801 BWC)
9	HIL 9272	Volvo	Plaxton		(ex TFP 3X)
10	HIL 8221	Volvo B58-56	Plaxton S.		(ex NMJ 282V, GMC 251V)
11	UXI 1443	Neoplan Skyliner			(ex ?)
15	MJI 2375	Bedford YMQ	Plaxton S.		(ex BCJ 900V)
18	HIL 9273	Volvo B58-56	Plaxton S.		(ex NMJ 280V, GMC 250V)
20	GGM 106W	Bristol VR	ECW		
21	CJH 121V	"	"	"	
22	VPF 281S	"	"	"	
23	KKK 887V	"	"	"	
24	VPF 282S	"	"	"	
25	GGM 104W	"	"	"	

The former No. 5 WXC 732 Volvo B10M/Plaxton has passed to Lee-

Roy, Kelvedon Hatch. No. 12 LAT 266 has not been seen for some time and may have been sold. Do members know if a third depot has been opened? Visits to Wash Road, Hutton and Little Waltham have failed to produce sightings of all the VRs.

NON PSVs IN ESSEX

AMRAF Training have TWB 38S a Bedford/Caetano ex Avon, Romford. It has a large Volvo sticker on the front! RTG 62R a Ford/Duple in now parked adjacent to the yard of Convoy Commercial (breaker) at Rawreth Industrial Estate. It has been reversed into UPP 473E a Ford/Plaxton.

Convoy Commercial, in addition to the vehicles mentioned above KVD 451P a Bedford VAS (?)/Duple is also present.

ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

The following Summer Sunday services will be operated in 1993:-

601 Colchester to Saffron Walden
605 Colchester to walton
606 Walton to Harwich
622 Harlow to Braintree
631 Saffron Walden to Burnham

A new heritage route will operate between Braintree and Halstead via The Heddingshams with service 612 from Romford to Colchester no longer operating.

SOUTHEND TRANSPORT DAY ROVER

The following day out was enjoyed by your editor on 21.10.92. and gives an example of a day out by bus. Rovers are also issued by CBT or EN/Thamesway Day Rangers are also available, which enables a day out at low cost and is much more fun at this time of the year than standing around a cold bus station.

LN 714	ser 50	Nobles Green Road to Prittlewell Bell
VR 351 0740	ser 14	Prittlewell Bell to Rayleigh Stn.
ON 256 0801	ser 1	Rayleigh Stn. to Southend Victoria
FL 208 0901	ser 7A	Victoria to Ashingdon Schools
LN 706 0942	ser 10	Ashingdon Schools to Paglesham
LN 706 1011	ser 10	Paglesham to Rayleigh High St.
FL 250 1108	ser 8	Rayleigh High St. to Warners Bridge
FL 233 1146	ser 9	Warners Bridge to Nobles Green Road
LN 782	ser 23A	Nobles Green Road to Leigh Church
LN 785 1234	ser 21	Rectory Grove to Southchurch
FL 230 1311	ser 7A	Southchurch to Shoebury Asda
LN 714 1324	ser 12	Shoebury Asda to Canewdon
LN 714 1423	ser 12	Canewdon to Southend Central
TR 557 1530	ser X1	Southend Central to Basildon Bus Stn.
FL 212 1633	ser 2	Basildon Bus Stn. to Basildon Hosp.
FL 212 1643	ser 2	Basildon Hosp. to Basildon Bus Stn.
ST 404 1658	ser 50	Basildon Bus Stn. to Nobles Green Rd.

PHOTOGRAPHIC SECTION

The following colour prints are now available from Peter Snell at 30p each plus postage.

Operator	Vehicle Type	Vehicles	Location/Notes
Badgerline	Bristol VR	FRP 906T	Bath
"	" "	KOO 792V	Bath
"	" "	STW 32W	Bristol *
"	" "	STW 29W	Bristol *
"	" "	STW 33W	Bristol *
Coombs	Bedford YMT	BNO 694T	Weston SM \$
Thamesway	Dennis Dart	K905 CVW	P.H.F.
"	" "	K916 CVW	P.H.F.
"	" "	K901 CVW	Kings Cross
"	" "	K913 CVW	" "
"	" "	K914 CVW	" "
"	" "	K907 CVW	" "
"	" "	K908 CVW	" "
"	" "	K901 CVW	" "
"	" "	K904 CVW	Moorgate
"	" "	K911 CVW	Moorgate
Nelsons	Bristol VRs	STW25W/NDL652R	Wickford
"	Bristol RELL	TUO 259J	Wickford
Harris Bus	Bristol VR	VVV 65S	Wickford (a)
ST	Bristol VR	LHG 440T	Southend

* EN livery \$ Ex Eastern National (a) Rail Replacement

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THIS MONTHS MAGAZINE WERE RECEIVED FROM:-

R Delahoy, R Dennis, D Longbottom, S Menzies, A Osborne, C Sigston, P Snell, G Toon, M Torrance, Badgerline Entusiasts Eastern National, Essex County Council, LOTS, PSV Circle, Southend Transport and Thamesway.

PROPOSED VISIT TO NORTHERN BUS ANSTON

As most members will be aware this Sheffield based operator uses a large number of REs on services in South Yorkshire. Included in this fleet are former EN 1404 (VHK 177L now 929 CVJ) and ex National Travel South East RPU 869M.

Your editor would be pleased to hear from anyone who may be interested in paying a visit to Sheffield by rail on a Saturday in early 1993 using Boots or group travel tickets in a bid to reduce the cost.

I have yet to contact the operator regarding a depot visit as it would be helpful to have an idea of numbers first.

If you are interested please write enclosing an sae to Ian Ransom at the address on the cover. Travel would be on the 0830 ex St Pancras due Sheffield 1048 returning from Sheffield on the 1723 due St Pancras at 1944.

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Thamesway Leyland Lynx 1421 (F421 MJN) carries an overall advert for their Fares Bonanza. In this view it arrives at Southend Central on service 3A from Canvey.

(P Snell)