

FAREWELL



THE LAST VEHICLE TO LEAVE THE ARRIVA GARAGE AT SOUTHEND WAS 230 [5330] XTE230V ON ROUTE A NEW HOME IN SHORT ST. THIS BUS HAS BEEN A SOURCE OF SPARES HENCE IT HAD TO GO ON SUSPENDED TOW.

Richard Delahoy.

MANAGING EDITOR:

Please send your news reports to:

Southend Transport:

Thamesway:

Essex Buses & S Essex small ops:

County Bus:

North Essex major ops:

North Essex small ops:

TOURS ORGANISER:

PHOTO ORDERS:

MEMBERSHIP:

Peter Snell

SUB EDITORS:

Steve Thompson, 49 Meadow View Walk, Canvey Island, SS8 9SA

John Weeks, 34 Elliot Close, South Woodham Ferrers, CM3 5YN

Ian Ransom, 34 Donald Way, Chelmsford, CM2 9JE

Ian Burton, 46 Stoneleigh Drive, Hoddesdon, EN11 9LN

Paul Sparks, 87 Thorpe Road, Great Clacton, CO15 4NT

Dave Arnold, 21 Cedar Chase, Heybridge, Maldon, CM9 4NR

Dave Arnold, 21 Cedar Chase, Heybridge, Maldon, CM9 4NR

Peter Snell, 6 Mandeville Way, Benfleet, SS7 4LH

Derek Stebbing, 18 Lynmouth Avenue, Chelmsford, CM2 0TP

ESSEX BUS NEWS

432

EDITORIAL

432 FOCUS OF THE MONTH

432KTU Volvo B58-61 Plaxton C48FT, originally registered HPH716V operated by Barker Bus of Roydon purchased from Hiltons Newton-le-Willows in July 1991

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

APRIL 27th	Barking Rally Town Hall Barking
MAY 6th	Last Day of service 251 more Details inside.
JUNE 4TH	Southend Rally Southchurch park
JUNE 24th	Group Tour Southampton
JUNE 25th	North Weald
JULY 2nd	Arriva Southend farewell to the Fleetline [see EBN431]
JULY 30th	Group Tour Sandtoft

ROCHFORD MEETINGS

MAY 9th	Visit to Stephenson's Depot at Rochford, meet <u>outside</u> the gates at 7.15pm for 7.30pm. Their depot is South St. behind the Fire Station.
JUNE 20TH	By kind invitation of The Omnibus Society, visit to Ipswich Buses, more details next month.
JULY	No Meeting
AUGUST	No Meeting

IN THIS ISSUE

First of four part review by Alan Osborne on Essex County Council Timetables.
Village Link Profile.

GROUP TOURS

With this edition of EBN are the booking forms for the Tours operating this year, please book early

GENERAL

Former Thamesway services find another operator, with Clintona now operating the 71/72 routes from Epping to Warley with effect from April 1st 2000.

Contributions for this edition of Essex Bus News received with thanks from First Essex Buses, Arriva The Shires and Essex, Arriva Colchester, Heddingham Omnibuses, Dave Reynolds, Colin Sigston, Sue Burdon, Chris Stewart, Sean Menzies, Phil Ford, Alan Osborne, Richard Delahoy,.

Contributions for the May edition of EBN should be with Sub-Editors by 4th May and Man/Editor by 8th May.

FIRST GROUP NEWS

The Class 321 multiple units operated by First Great Eastern are being refurbished. This includes repainting (at present vinyl's are applied over the former Network South East livery), new seating with some in airline layout, new lighting, revised door controls, new toilets and new flooring.

EASTERN NATIONAL

ACQUIRED VEHICLES

1518	K738 JAH	Dennis Lance	N Counties	B49F
1519	K739 JAH	Dennis Lance	N Counties	B49F

These were ex First Eastern Counties in 12/99 and 02/00.

Chassis numbers for the batch are 11SDA3101/125-128 and 130 in order. Body numbers are 4332-4336.

ALLOCATIONS

By 31.3.00. 104 DrT-ST; 108 ST-D/L(D); 382 CN-Spare; 383-86 CN-D/L(D);
1518 Res-CF; 1519 Acqd-CF; 1916 Res-D/L(D); 2602/3/8 CF-CN;
2673/4 CR-CF; 2802 CF-ST; 2829/30 CN-CR; 3228 CR-CN; 4019 CR-CN
9018 DrT-D/L(D)

382 is spare for a repaint programme which is about to commence.

UNUSUAL WORKINGS

5.2.00 CF 1413 on Diamond service (normally Dart SLF)
8.2.00. CR 654 on service 71 (branded for service 65)
10.2.00. CF 1518 on service 350 (it is normally on the 31) - but failed at Brentwood
14.2.00. CF 2816 on service 42 (normally Dart SLF)
17.2.00. CF 2642 on daytime service 350 (normally big bus)
8.3.00 CF 2677 on service 350 (as above)
9.3.00 Thamesway 1431 on service 350!!

The above workings on service 350 were on the 0710 journey ex Chelmsford. This is one of the last vehicles out on Monday to Friday and can therefore be almost anything.

GENERAL

Bristol VR 3112 (XHK 217X), made the headlines on 28th February when it was involved in an accident in Billericay while operating a schools service from Chelmsford to Southend. Some children suffered minor injuries and were taken to hospital in Basildon and Chelmsford. The car and bus driver were also taken to hospital with minor injuries.

Fares in Chelmsford were revised in March. The scheme called CZ4 splits the town into four zones. Fares rise from 45p single 80p return for travel in one zone up to £1.40 single or £2.50 return for travel across all four. Until 29th April the maximum fare is £1.50. This revision sees most fares **reduced**, lets hope it leads to increased use of public transport in the town.

REPAIRS

2/00 1518 1519

3/00 2826 (Meadows Shopping Centre, Chelmsford advert) 397 (Airport livery)

Not a repaint as such but Olympian 4007 has had it's Chelmsford 800 changed to Chelmsford Celebrates 2000.

The advert on 2826 is based on a red and yellow background.

397 is in two shades of red for Airport Coaches.

At least 1517 and 1520 have route branding for service 31/X.

SERVICES

31/B/X Minor timetable revisions from 6.3.00.

45A Further to EBN 430, service 45A was renumbered 45 on Monday to Saturday.

66/A/B Revised from 6.3.00. service 66 operates West Bergholt to Rowhedge, 66A from North Station to Old Heath. Service 66B was withdrawn.

70/A Minor timetable revisions from 6.3.00.

71 The 0708 Witham to Colchester has been withdrawn

74/B Minor timetable revisions from 6.3.00.

82/A Commercial services withdrawn. Replaced by Arriva Colchester for Essex CC.

83 Commercial services withdrawn. ECC may offer a replacement.

87A 1750 ex Colchester withdrawn.. Replaced by Arriva Colchester for Essex CC.

88/A/C Revised timetable introduced from 6.3.00. with a 0747 88B journey from little Tey.

93 Revised timetable introduced from 6.3.00.

301 From 6.3.00. this service operates under contract to ECC by First Airport Buses.

308/9 Revised route and timetable introduced from 6.3.00.

316 Withdrawn after 31.3 and replaced by Village Link service 16, operated by Hedingham.

333 Minor timetable revisions from 6.3.00.

352 From 6.3.00 the 1547 Chelmsford to Braintree (schooldays) was withdrawn.

Diamond Minor timetable revisions from 6.3.00.

Previously overlooked was that operation of service 38 (Linton to London) had been with Airport Coaches from the takeover of that company by the First Group. This will now pass to Associated Coachways (t/a Biss). Registered by them from 10.3.00, but Airport have de-registered from 23.3.00, does anyone know what happened?

PUBLICITY

Recent issues are timetable leaflets for services 41/51 dated 21.2.00; 45 dated 20.2.00; 54/A dated 21.2.00 and 56/A dated 20.2.00.

INITIAL DISPOSALS

861 (JDZ 2390) First Eastern Counties, Norwich, 2/00.

862 (JDZ 2392) First Eastern Counties, Norwich, 2/00.

863 (JDZ 2396) First Eastern Counties, Norwich, 2/00.

865 (JDZ 2399) First Eastern Counties, Norwich, 2/00.

867 (KDZ 5102) First Eastern Counties, Norwich, 2/00.

4021 (C421 HJN) Hardwick (dealer), Carlton, for scrap, 2/00.

This completes the disposal of the former First Centrewest Dennis Dart/Wright without them being used.

DISPOSALS March 2000

377 H388 OHK to First Eastern Counties
1886 BNO 676T to Hardwick (dealer,) Carlton

REPAINT March 2000

2662 to BT advert livery.

ALLOCATION CHANGES March 2000

309 HH-Disposal, 342 HH-Paint Spare, 358 Eastern National-BN

ODD WORKINGS

9-3-2000 Lynx 1431 on Eastern National 350
20-3-2000 Dart 711 on Green Line 721
23-3-2000 Lynx 1432 on Canvey Clipper

SERVICE CHANGES

100 Lakeside-Chelmsford. Minor revision to early morning timetable from 3-4-00
251 Basildon-Walthamstow. Revised timetable from 20-3-00
301 South Woodford-Ongar. Re-routed in Woodford from 26-2-00
861 Revised from 20-3-00

PUBLICITY

Timetable leaflets for routes 3, 15, 22, 24, 27, 29B and 63 dated 6-3-00
Timetable leaflet for routes 251 and 2A dated 20-3-00
Green Line Lakeside & London leaflet dated March 2000

NEWS

358 has been returned from Eastern National at Clacton and is being used at BN still carrying Eastern National fleet names.

Lynxes have become regular visitors to Brentwood on service 80, while the double decker used on 81/82 is nearly always an Olympian that has been used on the 251 during the day.

2662 is now in BT advert livery for use on BT sponsored routes 77/77A. There are now two vehicles in advertising livery the other one being Volvo 611 in Victoria Coach Station colours.

TOWN AND COUNTRY

Acquired vehicle
J586CUB Optare Metrorider DP25F

village link profile

In order that members out of the County can have full insight into the Village Link services we thought it appropriate to give an update.

SERVICES

1	Saffron Walden to Takeley	school days only	EN
2	Clacton to Mistley	mon - sats	EN
3/4	Clacton to Harwich Bus Station	mon - sats	EN
5	Bishops Stortford to Saffron Walden	mon -sats	EN
7	Bentfield Green to Bishops Stortford	mon -sats	EN
14/15	Chelmsford Bus Station to Wickford	mon - sats	Chariots
19	Fryerning to Romford	weds and sats	Thamesway
20	Ingatstone to Epping	mon	Thamesway
21	Pilgrims Hatch to Chelmsford	tues and fri	Thamesway
22	Fryerning to Brentwood to Brentwood	tues and fri	Thamesway
Dengie A	Latchingdon Circular	mon - sats	Arriva
Dengie B	Bradwell to Burnham	mon - sats	Arriva
Dengie C	Latchingdon to South Woodham	Ferrers mon-sats	Arriva
Dengie D	Latchingdon to Broomfield Hospital	mon - sats	Arriva

VEHICLES USED

Services 1 5 7

Eastern National 430-435 V430-435GTW Mercedes 0814 Marshall B23F
from Chelmsford and Stansted depots

Services 2 3 4

Eastern National 2683 P689HND . 2681/2 P681/2HPU Mercedes 709 Plaxton B23F
from Clacton and Harwich depots

SERVICES 14/15

Chariots S642/3MGA Mercedse 0814 Alexander DP23F
J431PPF Iveco used as a spare

SERVICES 19 20 21 22.

Thamesway from 2657-9 M657-9VJN Mercedes 709 Plaxton B23F
from Romford depot.

SERVICES DENGIE HUNDRED A B C D

Arriva Southend 0329/31-4 V729/31-4JOO Renault M8
from Southend.

If any members can expand on this list could you please let the Editor know, ta

ARRIVA THE SHIRES AND ESSEX

FLEET

Vehicles In / Transfers

2072	K578 YOJ	Mercedes Benz 709D, Dormobile B29F
2309/10	G924/5 WGS	Mercedes Benz 709D, Reeve Burgess B23F
2381	R951 VPU	Mercedes Benz 810D, Plaxton B27F
MD601/10	J601/10 WHJ	Mercedes Benz 811D, Plaxton B28F
	BYX 230V	MCW Metrobus H43/28F
	BYX 290V	MCW Metrobus H43/28F

Liveries

Feb 00: 2381 (R951 VPU) to County Bus green & cream livery
3371 (K321 CVX), 4339 (K124 TCP) to Arriva corporate livery
MD601/10 (J601/10 WHJ) to Arriva outer London livery

Mar 00: 2374 (R944 VPU), 3372 (K322 CVX) to Arriva corporate livery
2374 has small side fleetnames, suggesting that brandings will be added at the sides.
Dennis Darts 3357-9 at Harlow now have revised 510 brandings on their sides which are larger and more detailed. These vehicles have also received the new Arriva fleetname of "serving The Shires & Essex", as on 3370-2.

Corrections to the livery list in EBN 431

2189, 2349, 3360 and 3439 are in Arriva corporate livery and not green & cream
2311 is still in green & cream and not Arriva corporate livery
3338 is in Arriva corporate livery and not 'other' livery
Delete vehicles 2322-5, 5382

General

2072 and 2309, both recently transferred to Harlow still have Arriva Southend fleetnames.
Dennis Darts 3230/1 and Volvo B6BLE 3252/4-7 have not been given fleetnames yet.
4336 (J926 CYL) appears to have been transferred from Ware to Harlow.
The 19 Dennis Dart SLF / Alexander vehicles are due in April and have been allocated fleet numbers 5461-9/71-9/81 with registrations W461-6/567/468/9/71-9/81 XKX. Pending their delivery, Mercedes Benz 811D's from Arriva London North (MD class, see 601/10 above) are being used on route W13. Other vehicles expected are MD 604/5/7/8/11/12. On 31st March Dennis Dart SLF W936 JNF and MPD V943 DNB were seen at Leytonstone, both in allover white with no fleetnames or identification of operator.
Route 397 uses the Dennis Dart's previously used on routes 531/2.
W14 uses 2313-8 and 2072, 2309/10.
As of 7th March, Olympian 5383 was in the workshops at Luton still in Lea Valley red & cream livery.

Allocation Changes to February 2000

2072	K578 YOJ	Arriva Southend to Harlow
2309	G924 WGS	Arriva Southend to Harlow
2310	G925 WGS	Arriva Southend to Grays
2381	R951 VPU	Arriva London North to Harlow
MD601/10	J601/10 WHJ	Arriva London North to Harlow
5257	KYV 771X	Arriva London North to Ware

Allocation Changes to March 2000

2285	G85 SKR	Harlow to Withdrawn
------	---------	---------------------

SERVICES

28 February	322	ECC contract. Schooldays service withdrawn between Old Harlow Post Office and Magdalen Laver.
11 March	W13	LTB 7 year contract. Woodford Wells - Leytonstone Station. 6 midi-buses based at Debden. Currently First Capital.
31 March	71/72	Epping - Standon Massey - Warley. ECC contract. Service withdrawn.
14 April	504	Saffron Walden-Harlow.School & college days only.Service withdrawn

Harlow Area

15 April	802/803	Harlow - Staple Tye. Services renumbered 2 and 3. Both services to follow the daytime routes with no peak hour variation. Service to Harlow Mill Station withdrawn. Millwards will no longer be served.
15 April	804	Harlow - Latton Bush. Service renumbered 4. Revised timetable.
15 April	5	Little Parndon - Harlow - Potter St (circular). ECC contract. Evening journeys 859 to Little Parndon withdrawn and replaced by service 5 ECC contract journeys.
15 April	10	Harlow - Church Langley (circular). ECC contract journeys introduced to Church Langley.
15 April	391	ECC contract between Churchgate Street and Sumners and Katherines via Bus Station, replacing services 851 and 859.
15 April	510	Harlow - Stansted Airport. ECC contract. Evening journeys re-routed via Maddox Road, Minchen Road and Momples Road as day time services.
15 April	851/853	Sumners - Katherines - Harlow & Harlow - Passmorecs - Staple Tye. ECC contract journeys withdrawn.
15 April	854/859	Harlow - Latton Bush & Little Parndon - Old Harlow. Replaced by services on day routes 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 510 and new route 391.
17 April	1	New Monday-Saturday service between Millwards, Staple Tye and Harlow Bus Station. Extended to Town Station Monday-Friday peaks. 8 seater vehicles to be used.

ARRIVA COLCHESTER

FLEET

Disposals

5320 RVW90W Boons Boreham 14/3/00
5319 RVW89W Left depot destination unknown 17/3/00

5317 MEV81V Arriva The Shires Garston cannabised for spares.

FARES

FROM 17th April 2000 a new 3 zone structure of 1 stage 50p, 2 stages 75p, and 3 or more f1.00 was due to be implemented. However, this may be revised, despite notices appearing in the local press.

Dave Reynolds, our Colchester correspondent is researching the Colchester Tramway story and would be pleased to receive any information, anecdotes, reminiscences, etc., from any reader.

Dave's address is 19 Beche Rd Colchester CO2 7LS.

FIRST THAMESWAY

6th May 2000

LAST DAY OF SERVICE 251

CUT BACK OF SERVICE 551 TO ROMFORD

Thamesway have arranged for two Olympians to operate on the timetables below, with these changes it will mean routes into the London area no longer exist, apart from Green Line.

1st vehicle

551 0734 Brentwood Vicarage Close - Basildon Bus Station.

251 0825 Basildon Bus Station - Walthamstow 09 56.

1005 Walthamstow - Basildon Bus Station 1137

1225 Basildon Bus Station - Walthamstow 1356

1405 Walthamstow - Basildon Bus Station 1537

551 1725 Basildon Bus Station - Walthamstow 1915

1922 Walthamstow - Basildon Bus Station 2030

LAST JOURNEY.

2nd Vehicle

251 0735 Basildon Bus Station - Walthamstow 0855

0905 Walthamstow - Basildon Bus Station 1032

1125 Basildon Bus Station - Walthamstow 1256

1305 Walthamstow - Basildon Bus Station 1437

1535 Basildon Bus Station - Walthamstow 1700

1708 Walthamstow - Basildon Bus Station 1827

The Group wish to thank Mr C McCormick Traffic Manager at Basildon for arranging this to operate with double deckers on the last day of a famous old route number.

NORTH ESSEX BUS SCENE

Hedingham Omnibus

Service Revisions

95/95A	Revised timetable from 19/01/00.
90	Revised timetable from 03/04/00. 17.05 ex Witham & 17.45 ex Maldon withdrawn.
80/84	Revised timetable from 01/05/00.
95/95A	Revised timetable from 03/04/00.
50	Revised timetable from 03/04/00. 17.45 ex Colchester extended to Birch.
89/89A/B	Revised timetable from 08/04/00.
16	New Service, (Village Link), Finchingfield to Chelmsford via Stebbing & Felsted.
169	New Service. Sudbury to Bury St. Edmunds, Schooldays from 02/05/00.
??	New Service. Little Tey to Colchester Sheepen Road via Marks Tey, Schooldays from 02/05/00.
651	New Service. Little Tey to Maldon via Tiptree, Schooldays from 02/05/00.
703	New Service. Sudbury to Glemsford via Long Melford, Schooldays from 02/05/00.
706	New Service. Sudbury to Lavenham via Gt. Waldingfield, Schooldays from 02/05/00.
719	New Service. Little Tey to Parsons Heath via Colchester, Schooldays from 02/05/00.
83	Colne Engaine to Colchester from 09/03/00. Under contract to Essex County Council on Monday to Friday. Was Eastern National commercial.
2	New Service. Sible Hedingham to Haverhill, Schooldays only from 02/05/00.
301	Revised route & timetable from 04/03/00.

Vehicles Out

<u>Fleet No.</u>	<u>Registration No.</u>	<u>Details</u>
L138	B273 AMG	Leyland Tiger Plaxton Paramount 3200 ex Goldenport, London 1987.
L205	E668 UNE	Leyland Tiger Plaxton Paramount 3200 III ex Shearings 1994.
L280	JIL 5623	Leyland Tiger Plaxton Paramount 3200 ex Osbourne's 1997.

All the above mentioned disposals were to WHM Little Waltham trading as Brentwood Coaches.

Vehicle In

L311 W311 CJN Volvo B10M Plaxton Paragon C53F.

As reported last month the above mentioned addition is scheduled to attend the Brighton Coach Rally on 15th & 16th April.

I would like to thank Mr. D.R. MacGregor MBE B.Sc.(Econ) MCTT of Hedingham Omnibuses and Ian Ransom for supplying information for this column.

Paul Sparks,
April 2000.

ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

PUBLICITY

Not previously mentioned is that issue 2 of the Village Link newspaper was published in late Autumn.

OTHER OPERATORS - REST OF ESSEX

ACE OF CLUBS BENFLEET J872 LJU a DAF 400 has been acquired for spares.

ADVANCE MINIBUSES HOCKLEY Recent additions are Ford Transit N798 KKK and LDV Convoy P296 KAV. They have replaced Ford Transit D435 VHJ and Mercedes F904 YSX, which have been sold.

AIRPORT EXPRESS SOUTHEND Fiat minibus G540 CVW has been sold.

AMBER RAYLEIGH Bedford YMT/Plaxton HNJ 973V has been acquired from Kingsmaster Coach Services, Benfleet

ASSOCIATED COACHWAYS HARLOW Mercedes Vario/Plaxton V351 EKY with Biss fleetnames is a new addition.

AVIAN STANFORD-LE-HOPE Have surrendered their operators licence. Two vehicles were owned, YOI 5475 (WJM 812T) a Leopard/Plaxton and VBC 985X a Ford R1114/Duple.

BLUE TRIANGLE RCL 2260 was in use on service 265 between 14th and 18th February. The Friday of that week being significant as it marked the 80th anniversary of the first motorbus service in Brentwood. Service 265 serves Great Warley and Herongate, which were served by 2 of the first 3 National services. **Please help:-** If you managed to get a photograph or a ticket, can you please contact Chris Stewart via Peter Snell, Thank You.

BRENTWOOD COACHES Bristol VR/ECW CJH 121V is now in a green/cream livery and is thought to have been sold to County Coaches.

BUZZ HARLOW New service B14 between Latton Bush and Templefields started on 9.3.00. Service B4 the Staple Tye Circular was withdrawn with effect from 1.4.00.

CHARIOTS STANFORD-LE-HOPE Have acquired ex Northampton Bristol VR/East Lancs ABD 75X. This vehicle spent a short time with Eastern National last year. Also acquired are Dennis Javelin/caetano N585/588 GBW.

COACH STOP SOUTHEND Following a change of owner, this firm now operates as Crusader Coach Stop.

COLCHESTER COACHES CLACTON(!) Leyland Tiger/Berkhof C130 PPE has been sold.

CUNNINGHAM CORRINGHAM A recent addition is V323 EAK a Scania L124IB/Irizar. Similar N844 DKU and R447 YDT have been sold.

ESSEX EXPRESS The London Commuter services operated by Fargo and Windmill had revised timetables on Braintree (196) from 25.2.00. and Witham (191/192) from 28.1.00. Sudbury and North Essex area services 197/198/199 were revised from 25.2.00.

FARGO RAYNE Vehicles sold are G228 PGU a Fiat Ducato and S268 RBC a LDV Convoy.

FERRERS COACHES SOUTH WOODHAM Have surrendered their operators licence. Vehicles owned were, D741 TPP a Freight Rover, F357 MUT a Dennis Javelin/Plaxton and G856 VAY a Dennis Javelin/Duple. These may have passed to the associated Phillips Coaches business.

FLAGFINDERS BRAINTREE New are Renault masters V240/I JKE, for use on the shuttle service between Braintree and the Freeport shopping complex. Also acquired is P365 NOM a LDV Convoy.

FORDS ALTHORNE Malbus service 1 was withdrawn from 18.3.00. A services from South Woodham to Maldon Blackwater Leisure Centre on Tuesdays only from 8.3.00 to 23.5.00 except on 18.4.00 and 25.4.00. and from 25.7.00. to 22.8.00. has been registered. Also registered is a service from South Woodham to Chelmsford Riverside Leisure Centre on Wednesdays 19.4.00, 26.4.00 Friday 28.4.00 and on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 24.7.00. to 25.8.00.

GLEW COLCHESTER Following a hearing at the Traffic Commissioner, the number of licences held was reduced from 5 to 2. It is not known what vehicles have departed as a result of this decision. Freight Rover 400 E389 BMX has been acquired from Knights, Gt Braxted.

GOLDEN BOY ROYDON Volvo/Plaxton H819 AHS has been sold.

GOLDLINE TRAVEL ROCHFORD Vehicles previously with S&P (Lapage) have passed here. They are HOI 7624 (JWV 157Y) a Tiger/Berkhof, USV 807 (CDG 210Y) a Tiger/Plaxton and E132 YUD a DAF/Plaxton. Acquired more recently is NIL 1353 a Volvo B58/Plaxton, for which no further details are known.

HAILSTONE BASILDON Mercedes minicoach NMJ 982H (D922 MVU) has been sold. It has been replaced by LDV Convoy R763 AOE.

INGATESTONE COACHES RIW 5767 (CRW 512T) a Bedford YMT/Plaxton has been sold.

LC COACH TRAVEL ROCHFORD Have ceased operating, Bedford YMT/Plaxton JKV 423V was owned.

LODGE HIGH EASTER Scania/Berkhof K442 BMO (A17 HLC, K442 BMO) has been sold. Service 33 between Good Easter and Chelmsford had a revised timetable from 17.3.00.

MIKES COACHES CRAYS HILL OSE 739W a Volvo B58/Plaxton has been sold.

NCS NEWPORT Yet another Renault Traffic is M761 AVW

SM TRAVEL HARLOW A revised route and timetable was introduced on service T15 from 20.3.00.

STALLION COACHES CHELMSFORD Bedford YLQ/Plaxton APL 777T has been sold to Jackson's Bicknacre as a non-PSV. It is to be converted to a car transporter.

STEPHENSON ROCHFORD Volvo B10M/Plaxton H640 UWR has been seen here in use.

SWT SOUTH WOODHAM FERRERS Citroen Relay M482 EAC is here, but is a non-PSV.

TRAVELRICH CLACTON A further addition is A3 ALP (684 ALP) a Neoplan coach.

WARD ARLESFORD Freight Rover D893 NHE has been sold.

HARRIS BUS

LONDON SERVICES

Following a period of driver shortages and uncertainty to its future, the problems caused by mounting losses have been resolved.

With effect from Saturday 25th March operation of services 108,128,128,132150,180 and 661 passed to London Transport Buses, who have a licence in the name of London Buses t/a East Thames Buses. Operation of services 108,128,129 and 150 is from Ash Grove, while the remainder operate from the former Harris base in Belvedere. All the DAF and Leyland Olympians together with the Optare Excels has passed to LTB.

The balance of vehicles in the bus fleet (two DAF/Ikarus and two Mercedes minibuses) will be sold by the receiver.

ESSEX SERVICES

Services 40A (Chafford Hundred to Grays) on Monday to Friday and 140 (Basildon to Chelmsford) on Sundays passed to Town & Country from 12.3.00.

The Tilbury Town to Tilbury Riverside shuttle for LTS Rail has also passed to Town & Country, the starting date is unknown.

This therefore is the end of Harris Bus, although the coach company continues to trade and operate from the existing depot in West Thurrock.

ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL TIMETABLES

Part 1 - 1977 to 1985

A review by Alan Osborne

Traditionally Eastern National published a single timetable book covering all Essex area services that the Company operated, the last such issue being dated 27 May 1973 until further notice. Thereafter, three separate booklets were published each covering a part of the operating area (Central, North East & South West), the first editions appearing from 16 April 1974; the last such issues (Dyson Bros., Peterborough) were as follows :

Central	30 January 1977 (revised to 4 September 1977)
North East	26 June 1977
South West	30 January 1977 (revised to 5 September 1977)

Timetables covering the Southend & District Joint Services (SDJS) were published (Index Publishers, Dunstable) by Southend Transport, the last issue being dated July 1977.

Timetables were subsequently issued by Essex County Council, Planning Department. Over the years the timetables have gone through several formats and have covered a number of different geographical areas. The purpose of this collection of articles is to provide a definitive list of all the issues published, they have been divided into different series to assist identification. The series letters used have no other significance.

SERIES A

The first edition appeared in June 1977 covering the Bishops Stortford, Saffron Walden, Royston & Haverhill area, it was published jointly by the County Councils of Essex, Hertfordshire and Suffolk. It was printed locally by the Minerva Press of Hutton.

In all SEVEN area timetable booklets were produced. The area numbers were initially only shown in code on the rear cover below the diagrammatic map. For example, the 9/77 Colchester booklet carried the code 210877, indicating timetable area 2, issued 10/8/77 (actual cover date, 9/77). The numbers were referred to in the timetables from January 1979 when they were included on the Order Form for postal delivery which was introduced from this date, located towards the rear of each issue. Area 1 was jointly published with the other County Councils (see above), whilst areas 2 - 7 were solely Essex C.C. publications.

Areas 1 - 6 were of size 3.9" x 8.15" (100 mm x 207 mm) whilst the Southend booklet (area 7) was of the same size as previous SDJS issues, viz 4.15" x 6" (106 mm x 151 mm). All issues featured a standard cover design depicting a Duple bodied Ford saloon. This was registered BYX212P, with 'Bishops Stortford' as the destination on the 6/77 issue, on all subsequent booklets the vehicle was unregistered with a blank destination blind.

Apart from the very first issue, all later Essex and Southend timetables were printed by G.W.Belton Ltd., Gainsborough. (indicated on timetables from 1/78)

SUMMARY OF TIMETABLE AREAS

In the list below the area number is shown followed by the title shown on the cover. The colour of the timetable is also given (colour of printing/colour of cover).

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 | Bishops Stortford, Saffron Walden, Royston, Haverhill (a)
(black/fawn later pale blue/yellow) |
| 2 | Colchester, Clacton, Harwich (b)
(dark blue/yellow) |

- | | |
|---|---|
| 3 | Braintree, Dunmow, Witham, Halstead (b)
(orange/yellow) |
| 4 | Chelmsford, Maldon (b)
(green/yellow) |
| 5 | Epping, Harlow, Waltham Abbey, Loughton (b)
(purple/yellow) |
| 6 | Brentwood, Basildon, Thurrock (b)
(brown/yellow) |
| 7 | Southend, Castle Point, Rochford (b)
(black/pale green later black/yellow) |
- (a) - published jointly by Essex, Hertfordshire & Suffolk C.C.'s
(b) - published by Essex C.C.

SERIES B

From September 1980 the number of timetable areas was reduced from SEVEN to SIX. An Essex county map was included on page 1 of each timetable booklet showing the area boundaries.

Changes effected were :

Suffolk C.C. involvement with area 1 ceased.
Harlow area transferred from area 5 to area 1.
Waltham Abbey and Loughton names deleted from area 5.
Brentwood, Basildon & Thurrock areas transferred from area 6 to area 5.
Area 7 re-numbered area 6.

REVISED SUMMARY OF TIMETABLE AREAS

- | | |
|-------|---|
| 1 | Bishops Stortford, Saffron Walden, Royston, Haverhill, Harlow (c)
(pale blue/yellow) |
| 2/3/4 | Same as Series A |
| 5 | Epping, Brentwood, Basildon, Thurrock (b)
(brown/yellow) |
| 6 | Southend, Castle Point, Rochford (b)
(black/orange) |
- (c) - published jointly by Essex & Hertfordshire C.C.'s

SERIES C

From July 1981 the six areas were revised again. The changes effected were :

Epping transferred from area 5 to area 1
Loughton name introduced into area 1. Hertfordshire C.C. involvement ceased since Royston area no longer covered.
Brentwood transferred from area 5 to area 4.
South Woodham Ferrers name introduced into area 4.

REVISED SUMMARY OF TIMETABLE AREAS

- | | |
|-----|---|
| 1 | Bishops Stortford, Saffron Walden, Haverhill, Harlow, Epping,
Loughton (b) [pale blue] |
| 2/3 | Same as Series B |
| 4 | Brentwood, Chelmsford, South Woodham Ferrers, Maldon |
| 5 | Basildon, Thurrock |
| 6 | Same as Series B [black/pale blue, then black/yellow] |

The timetable area numbers were introduced on to the timetable covers (contained within a small square box) from December 1981 (but was omitted from area 4 issue of 2/82).

The Southend area timetable size was standardised with the other areas from the April 1983 issue.

The initial jointly published area 1 (6/77) was priced at 10p as was the second edition of 10/78. E.C.C. timetables from 9/77 were priced at 15p. All timetables (areas 1 - 7) were increased to 20p from 9/79, to 25p from 4/81 and to 30p from 3/82. However, the area 6 timetable published 6/81 remained at 25p. Further price increases were to 35p from 6/83 and finally to 40p from 6/85.

The last issues in this style appeared in September 1985. In 1986 a completely new series of timetables was introduced to meet the new conditions brought about by the Transport Act of 1985. These were published in ELEVEN areas, the first of which appeared in April 1986. A review of these timetables will appear in Part 2.

LIST OF ALL TIMETABLES ISSUED

Area Numbers						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
SERIES A						
6/77	9/77	11/77				
10/78	7/78		1/78 9/78	3/78	5/78 11/78	
	11/79	1/79	7/79	3/79	9/79 10/79	1/79
4/80		2/80				3/80
SERIES B						
10/80	9/80		9/80	12/80		
	1/81	2/81	4/81		6/81	
SERIES C						
12/81	7/81			8/81		
9/82	3/82 6/82	2/82	2/82		6/81*	
10/83	6/83	5/83	1/83 11/83	1/83	4/83	
5/84	5/84	11/84	11/84	9/84		
9/85	6/85		6/85	9/85	1/85	

* - 6/81 with summer 1982 supplement

(?) - it is not certain whether this issue ever appeared, any information would be appreciated.

EXPENSIVE MORNING - 8 March 2000

Ash Wednesday 1920 (18 February that year) saw the first public motor bus services in Brentwood, 'National' running to Ongar, Great Warley *Thatcher's Arms* and Herongate *Boar's Head*. Oddly two out of the three currently have direct links. Ash Wednesday 2000 was an appropriate day for a short round trip (dep. 0847, rtn. 1125):

501 Brentwood Station - Ongar	Arriva Lynx 3343 (H253GEV)	£3.45 rtn
511 Ongar - Great Warley	Arriva Olympian 5372 (TPD102X)	
	add Brentwood - Gt Warley	£0.85
265 Great Warley - Herongate	Blue Triangle Metrobus WYW28T	£1.40 sle
151 Herongate - Brentwood	F-Thamesway Dart 934 (M934TEV)	£1.45 sle
	total	£7.15

Worth it for the historical value, although the suspension on the Lynx left something to be desired!

CHEAP DAY OUT - 24 March 2000 - but not for the feint-hearted!

Impending withdrawal of service 251 and 551 to Walthamstow, coupled with a cancellation in the diary at work, led me to buy a £5.50 Day Ranger ticket which I used as follows:

551 08.18 Shenfield - Gallows Corner	Dart 931 (M931TEV)
251 08.58 Gallows Corner - Walthamstow	Olympian 4026 (FUM485Y)
251 10.10 Walthamstow - Basildon	4026
100 11.55 Basildon - Billericay	Dart 937 (M937TEV)
551 12.32 Billericay - Walthamstow	VRT 3109 (UAR599W)
551 14.40 Walthamstow - Brentwood (<i>failed with water leak, Brook Street</i>)	
151 Brook Street - Brentwood High Street	Dart 936 (M936TEV)
351 16.30 Brentwood - Shenfield (Grn Dragon)	f-EN Lynx 1429 (F429MJN)
82 17.26 Shenfield Station - Hutton - Shenfield	4026 (same driver as 251 earlier)

Needless to say the original plan didn't look like this! - and 3109 misbehaving cost a connection into the 16.35 ser 82 at Brentwood, but the 17.26 is part of the same working. 3109 later recovered from its problem.

Chris Stewart

BRENTWOOD 80

Group member Fred Mannings tells Chris Stewart of his CITY days.

We found your article on Brentwood 80 very interesting, it was good to read about the City services to Brentwood and beyond.

We lived in Crays Hill in the 1940's and 50's and can remember the fares we paid, 2d single to South Green to take the accumalator to Harry Outen for recharging, 3d to Wickford or Billericay, 1/8d return to Romford Market----you could still see live animals in pens!, 1/11d return to Southend. In the mid 40s I worked at Ilford and I could vary the ways I went to work. All the way by City to Newbury Park and then on the 691 or 693 trolleybus: City to Brentwood and Green Line to Ilford: City to Shenfield then steam train to Ilford at a fare of 1/2½d workman return. Happy Days!. I left Ilford before the electric trains commenced.

While waiting at Newbury Park for the City, eyes peeled to see who the driver was, one chap in particular used to push the LT along the Arterial Rd to Romford, North Street. Some time later when double deckers were in charge, the drivers did a complete U turn at the Junction of Chapel Street and High Street great stuff! As you know all City buses both London and Southend bound use to traverse the High St and about turn at St Mary Magdalen Church as did the Eastern National locals to and from Chelmsford, Wickford and Pitsea.

It was good to see a photo of LT2 BYM919 in Part 2, this was the only LT with the distinct sounding exhaust note, as if some of the baffle plates had been bashed out. While waiting for a bus at the bottom of Crays hill, you could hear BYM coming from Barleylands. Don't forget hardly any other vehicles were on the roads at these times, we could even listen to the birds.

When City decided to cut out the High Street diversion at Billericay, shopkeepers organised a protest meeting in Archers Hall, it was well attended and a petition was signed, But City still went ahead and we had to walk along the High Street from Sun Corner and those using the Railway Station had an even longer walk.



THAMESWAY MERCEDES 2662 M662VJN IN ALLOVER ADVERT FOR
BRITISH TELECOM AT BRENTWOOD ON 21st MARCH
CHRIS STEWART

DMS FILE

NELSONS WICKFORD

History of ex London Transport DMS class operated.

885 TGX885M Daimler CRL Park Royal H44/33D
new 7/74 w/d 9/84.388
Ensign 9/82 Avro and Elm Park coaches [on loan since 8/83]
Nelsons Wickford 6/87 w/d 10/87 scrapped

892 TGX892M Daimler CRL Park Royal H44/24D
new 7/74 w/d 11/81
Ensign 5/82 Avro and Elm Park Coaches [on loan since 8/83]
Nelson Wickford 1/87 sold 7/99.

1705 SMU721M Daimler CRL MCW 44/27D
new 8/74 w/d 9/82
Ensign 3/83 Avro and Elm Park Coaches 10/83-6/86
Nelson Wickford 1/87 sold 7/99.

1721 SMU721M Daimler CRL MCW H44/27D
new 10/74 w/d 9/82
Ensign converted H45/32F 9/82
Harwich and Dovercourt Coaches on loan 11/82-1/83
Nelson Wickford no 35 9/84 sold 11/98.

1729 SMU729M Daimler CRL MCW H44/27D
new 10/74 w/d 10/81
Ensign 10/81 Runnymede Swimming Club Benfleet 11/81
Deep Purple Legionnaires Wickford 4/88-8/95
Nelson Wickford [for spares] 12/95 sold by 11/98 scrap

1797 GHM797N Daimler CRL MCW H44/27D
new 1/75 w/d 9/82
Ensign 10/82 Nelson Wickford no36 9/84. Wigley Carlton 5/99 PVS 7/99

1803 GHM803N Daimler CRL MCW H44/27D
new 1/75 w/d 9/82.
Ensign 1/83 Nelson Wickford no33 10/83 Wigley Carlton 11/98

1876 GHM876n Daimler CRL MCW H44/27d.
new 1/75 w/d 9/83
Alco Ruislip 6/85 Nelson Wickford for spares 7/85 sold for scrap 7/88.

EASTERN NATIONAL ENTHUSIASTS GUILD

THE ORIGINAL EASTERN NATIONAL

EASTERN NATIONAL WARTIME GAS PRODUCER TRAILERS

TRAILER NUMBER	IN	OUT
2	6/9/41	30/9/44
3	"	"
4	"	30/9/45
5	"	30/9/44
6	"	"
7	"	"
8	"	30/9/43
9	"	"
10	"	"
11	"	30/9/42
12	"	"
13	"	"
14	6/4/42	30/9/45
15	"	"
16	"	"
17	"	"
18	1/12/42	"
19	2/9/42	"
20	16/11/42	"
21	1/9/42	30/9/44
22	"	30/9/45
23	29/10/42	"
24	1/7/42	30/9/43
25	10/8/42	30/9/45
26	11/2/43	"
27	3/9/42	30/9/43
28	10/10/42	30/9/45
29	13/10/42	"
30	17/12/42	"
31	18/12/42	"
32	29/12/42	"
33	9/1/43	"
34	8/1/43	"
35	30/1/43	"
36	27/2/43	"
37	4/3/43	"
38	7/3/43	"
39	3/4/43	"
40	19/4/43	"
41	30/4/43	"
42	30/4/43	"
43	6/5/43	"
44	"	"
45	12/5/43	"
46	5/7/43	"
47	"	"
48	13/7/43	"

49	13/7/43	30/9/45
50	29/7/43	"
51	"	"
52	10/8/43	"
53	"	"
54	16/9/43	"
55	"	"
56	"	"
57	"	"
58	"	"
59	"	"
60	"	"
61	"	"

62 - 67 Listed but no details or value, presumably not delivered

RUNNING WITHOUT PETROL

A considerable number of 'Buses have been adapted by the Company to run on PRODUCER GAS

★ALREADY THE "EASTERN NATIONAL" AND THE COMPANIES ASSOCIATED WITH IT, HAVE RUN 2,500,000 MILES BY THIS MEANS, SAVING 415,000 GALLONS OF IMPORTED FUEL



ARRIVA SOUTHEND FLEET

The new double deckers are due in May, June, and July
No other additions to the fleet have reported

Due to an acute shortage of serviceable vehicles in recent weeks, it appears that vehicles were sent out in service as soon as available, evidently a lot of lost mileage occurred.
Unusual workings became normal with route branded vehicles seen everywhere.

PUBLICITY

A new Green Line leaflet and timetable dated March 2000.