

Issue 521
September 2007

ESSEX BUS NEWS



Essex Bus Enthusiasts Group

serving Essex since 1964

www.essexbus.org.uk

Essex Bus Enthusiasts Group

SUBSCRIPTIONS

A 12 month subscriptions is £18.50 by First Class post, renewable in January or July.

Data Protection Act: Members' details are held on computer for the purpose of administration. If you object to your information being held in this way, please write to the Membership Secretary.

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Replacements for missing or defective EBNs are available from the Membership Secretary.

TIMETABLE SUBSCRIPTIONS

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

PUBLICATION SALES

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

B/W PHOTO SALES

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

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

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

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YOUR REPORTS AND OBSERVATIONS

Members reports, quality photos (prints or slides) and original articles are always welcome. Please send them direct to the relevant Sub-Editor.

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

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

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

ESSEX BUS NEWS

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Dates for your diary

■ **EBN PRESS DATES**

For inclusion in EBN dated

October
November
December

reports should reach Editors by

3 October
7 November
5 December

planned despatch date

12 October
16 November
14 December

Please note that the planned despatch date may change for all sorts of reasons. The actual despatch day is posted to the website as soon as it is known. Please allow reasonable time for postal delays (at least seven working days) before claiming non-receipt. Replacements can only be obtained from the Membership Secretary (address opposite).

■ **ROCHFORD MEETINGS**

Meetings take place in the **Committee Room** (upstairs), **Freight House, Bradley Way, Rochford** (the old railway goods shed, adjacent to Rochford station). There is a large free car park and one Great Eastern trains & Arriva Southend services 7/8 stop nearby. Doors open at 1915 for an informal chat, with the main talk or show from 2000 to 2145. Drinks are normally available. All members and guests are very welcome. £1 donation towards room hire please. Prints, slides and digital photographs can all be shown. *Richard Delahoy*

- ▶ **Tuesday October 9 - '30 Years of the Southend Bus Rally'** - slide show by *Richard Delahoy*
- ▶ **Tuesday November 13 - 'from PS1 to ftr via 60009'** - North Yorkshire, 2007, by *Richard Delahoy*
- ▶ **Tuesday December 11 - '20 Years ago'** - slide show by *Richard Delahoy*

■ **COLCHESTER MEETINGS**

Meetings take place in the downstairs room at the Friends Meeting House, Church Street, Colchester, just south of "Jumbo" (the water tower) and behind the Mercury Theatre. Town centre bus stops and parking are nearby. 20.00 to 22.00 (doors open at 19.30). All members and guests are very welcome. £1 donation towards room hire please. Slides or digital photos are preferable, but prints can also be shown. *Dave Arnold*

- ▶ **Friday 12 October** - slide show by *Fred Lawrence* - 'On the company's expenses - 2!'
- ▶ **Friday 9 November** - *Keith Woods* - 'East Anglian Buses - a Personal View part 2'
- ▶ **Friday 14 December** - slide show by *Fred Lawrence* - 'Coach operators of East Anglia - 1950s and 1960s'.

■ **RALLIES, OPEN DAYS ETC**

- ▶ **Saturday 16 September:** **EFE Showbus Rally**, Duxford Airfield, Cambridgeshire. www.showbus.co.uk/index.html
- ▶ **Sunday 4 October:** **Castle Point Transport Museum Open Day**, Point Road, Canvey Island. #
- ▶ **Saturday 24 November:** **LOTS Autumn Transport Spectacular**, Harrow Leisure Centre. www.lots.org.uk/ #

Owen and the Group Sales Stall plan to be at these events.

cover: **Stephensons Fleetline Running Day:** 1st September: former Southend Transport MRJ 233W at Shoebury East Beach with driver attired in period uniform. *courtesy Richard Delahoy*

Saturday September 29th - Genial Travel Trip to ALWAYS A TRAM IN SIGHT at The Crich Tramway Museum.
To book, phone Genial on 01206 571513

For Sale:

Collection of Bus Transport Books for sale. For list please e-mail paulh3uk@yahoo.co.uk quoting reference "Bus Books" as the subject. *Paul Harvey*

PLEASE NOTE ...

Arriva Southern Counties have introduced a new policy regarding photography on their premises (Southend, Grays and the Kent depots): **No-one** is permitted to take photographs without prior, written permission from a Director.

We have a good relationship with ASC, whose senior staff kindly supply EBN with official information on a regular basis. Members are particularly requested not to upset this by contravening the Company's policy.

John Rugg's Day Out ~ 7th July 2007

This was re-run of his trip on Saturday 1st April 2006. Higher passenger numbers might suggest increasing concessionary travel by passholders.

<u>Dep.</u>	<u>Operator</u>	<u>Route</u>	<u>Journey</u>	<u>Bus</u>	<u>Passengers</u>
07.36	First	551	Laindon to Brentwood (now re-routed through Great Burstead and Outwood Common. Also departed 13 minutes late and reached Brentwood 8 minutes late at 08.36 - cause for major concern!)	46169	12
08.38	Arriva	501	Brentwood - Harlow	3341	28
10.05	Arriva	333	Harlow - Bishops Stortford	2377	17
*11.10	Stansted Transit	VL5	Bishops Stortford - Saffron Walden	P685 RWV	17
13.00	Four Counties	313	Saffron Walden - Gt.Dunmow (same vehicle and same number of passengers as last time)	C10 WTL	5
*14.17	Stansted Transit	133	Gt.Dunmow - Braintree (same vehicle as last time)	KV03 2GP	17
*15.15	Stansted Transit	89	Braintree - Halstead	V682 FPO	10
*15.50	Hedingham	88	Halstead - Colchester	L355	10
17.00	First	75	Colchester - Maldon	67009	53
18.04	First	31X	Maldon - Chelmsford (arrived 8 minutes early at 18.27)	65682	14
18.30	First	100	Chelmsford - Basildon	65672	20
19.30	Blue Triangle	8B	Basildon - Laindon (change of operator since last time)	DP202	16
Total number of passengers carried (last time total was 187)					219

* no ticket issued.

Service Changes

Excel			
1-Sep-07	322	SDO	Old Harlow, Post Office - Saffron Walden, High Street Minor timetable amendment
	446	W	Berden, Green - Saffron Walden, High Street Minor timetable revision
First			
26-Aug-07	33	Daily	Chelmsford Rail Station - Bishops Stortford Interchange Minor revision to early morning and late night journeys
2-Sep-07	45	Daily	Moulsham Lodge Estate, Heath Drive - Oxney Green, Lodge Road. Service withdrawn
	X40	M-S	Chelmsford, Railway Station - Stansted Airport Service withdrawn
Regal Busways			
23-Jul-07	1B	M-F	Oxney Green, Oxney Road - Canvey, Leigh Beck New service. Single journey in the one direction diverts to serve East Hanningfield (replacing service 1 journey)
4-Sep-07	565	M-S	Brentwood Rail Station - Bulphan, Church (circular) Minor timetable revision
Stansted Transit			
30-Jul-07	9	M-F	Braintree Bus Park - Great Bardfield, Alienor Avenue Revised departure time with the 06:47 from Great Bardfield now departing at 06:42 and operating 5 minutes earlier throughout
Stephensons of Essex			
3-Sep-07	60	M-S	Southend Cenrtal Bus Station - Canewden, Loftman's Corner. Minor timetable amendment
	280	T (SDO)	Burnham-on-Crouch, Clock Tower - Maldon, Tesco Service withdrawn
	288	M-S	Maldon, Tesco Store - Maldon, Blackwater Leisure Centre Minor timetable amendment
	D1	M-S	Maldon, Tesco - Bradwell, East End (Bate Dudley Drive) Minor timetable amendment
	D3	M-F	Maldon, Tesco - Southminster Station Minor timetable amendment
	D4	M-S	Burnham on Crouch, Clock Tower - Bradwell Waterside, Parker Court. Minor timetable amendment
Viceroy of Essex			
3-Sep-07	445	SDO	Barley Church - Saffron Walden, High Street Minor timetable amendment

David Tomlin

Publicity News

Recent items of publicity are

Arriva A5 size timetables for Harlow services 4/10 dated Spring 2007.

BAA have issued new maps for Stansted Airport dated January 2007 for Express Coach Services, Local Bus Routes and Rail options.

Ensign issued a slimline timetable for services 44/66/73/83/X80 dated 28.4.07

Chris Stewart's
BANK HOLIDAY
PHOTO-DIARY

A fine line-up of NIBS
 Scania at Brentwood
 Station, with **BIL 4710**
 in pole position.



Scania **BIL 4718** in New
 Street, Chelmsford,
 where the old
 Hoffmann's Works
 ("CHELMSFORD via
 Works") stood.



Newly "**BILled**" ex-
 Metrobus Trident
BIL 4419 at Shenfield
 Station.



Gatwick Flyer timetables dated May to September 2007 for services from North London and South Essex to Gatwick and Stansted Airports.

Thurrock Council have issued a Public Transport Map dated May 2007, and a slimline leaflet for service 99 (Tilbury Town to Landing Stage) with rail and ferry connections dated 21st May 2007

Jacksons, Bicknacre have issued a folded A4 leaflet for Day Excursions from Sept 07 to April 08.

The following items were available from Walton on the Naze Tourist Information Centre in mid July. **Harwich Harbour Ferry** 2007 timetable leaflet jointly produced by Suffolk and Essex CCs. **First** 75 (14.1.07), X22 (29.4.07), A5 single sided leaflet dated 10.4.07 giving details of new bus stops in Clacton Town Centre. **Essex CC** Timetable leaflets for: Villagelink 2,3,4 (January 2007), 105/107/109 (29.8.06) and 605/606

Ian Ransom, with thanks to LOTS and Ian Taylor

Rail Replacement

August Bank Holiday weekend (and the following two) saw major rail replacements for Network Rail, at various times covering Romford-Chelmsford, Brentwood-Billericay, Billericay-Laindon and Billericay-Chelmsford. A selection of vehicles noted include:

Beeston, Hadleigh: BIG9871, M129BNO

Blue Triangle, Rainham: TL910/4/23, TPL924/5, P196RYO

Chambers, Bures: Olympians N531LHG, P901RYO, S848DGX

Decker Bus, South Mimms: Leyland Lion/East Lancs F390GVO

Dew, Somersham, Cambs: Scania/Irizar 34DEW, Volvo B10M DEW130Y, Volvo D10M/Alexander F50ACL

Dudleys, Inkberrow, Worcs (two unidentified coaches)

Ensign: Metrobuses E747SKR, F767EKM, F292NHJ, Olympians P426/9UUG

Excel, Stansted: ON/ECW B204DTU, C122CHM, D126FYM; Scania/EL F712LFG, G725/7/8RYJ

First Essex: Bristol VR 38790, Olympians 31456, 34014, 34815

First London: Dennis Trident/Plaxton 33029/30/6, 33041-5, 33085/6, 33091/2/4

Fourways, Chelmsford: Dominator J267SPR, Olympians H691/9PTW, G937FVX

Hardy Miles, Southend: Metrobus BIG8748

Network Colchester: H48MJN, T405SMV, V337DBD

NIBS, Wickford: Tridents BIL4419/4539, Scania G601/3/5/7KTX, H229/37/41LOM, BIL4710, EU05ECV

Olympian, Harlow: EAZ2580/8

Peter Godward, South Woodham Ferrers: ON/Optare E914/7DRD

Southern Holidays, Bourne, Lincs: Scania/Irizar YN07LJL

Stagecoach (?): Volvo B10M-62/Plaxton Premiere 52396 (P281XYS)

Supreme, Southend: Metrobuses C352BUV, C361BUV

Three Star Coaches, Luton: Dennis Javelin/Berkhof N859XMO

Chris Stewart, with thanks to Jeff Clayton, Gareth Perkins, Kevin Smith and Sue & Iain Stewart.

Chris Stewart's
**BANK HOLIDAY
 PHOTO-DIARY**

Network Colchester
 Trident 107 (V337 DBD)
 at Shenfield Station,
 with a **First London**
 Trident (First f
 CapitalConnect on
 blinds) in hot pursuit.



Peter Godward
 Coaches former
 Reading Olympian
E914 DRD pulls away
 from Shenfield Station.



Ensign Bus Co.
 Metrobus 157 (E747
 SKR) at Chelmsford.



■ FIRST ESSEX

Acquired Vehicle

The new Yellow School Bus for Chelmsford is numbered 68555 (MX55 NWF) but further details are awaited.

Vehicles on loan

Correction: The tri-axle Scania on loan are 20201-3 (T701-3JLD) and not 20202-4 as given in EBN520. Their chassis numbers are:

YV3R2A210XA007257 (20201), YV3R2A212XA007258 (20202) and YV3R2A218XA007295 (20203). Body numbers are as given.

Allocation changes

Period 5: 30 July to 26 August 2007

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

(A)=acquired, including vehicles on loan; Anc=Ancillary fleet; (S)=spare/retained (licensed);

D/L(S)=spare/retained (delicensed); D/L(D)=delicensed for disposal;

DS=Driving School; PS=Paint Spare

20201-CF; 20202-CF; 20203-CF; 30559 BN-First London; 67036 DS-BN;

67039 DS-FGC (Bradford)

Apologies for further gremlins in EBN520 which resulted in 46829/30 being shown as 46289/30, and 67037/9 as 67067/9. None of the observed allocation changes given in EBN520 are shown on the latest official allocation list.

Repaints (Period 5):

Details to follow next month.

47101/2 now have allover rear adverts for Bryant Homes

53117 has new LED displays

Other vehicle news:

Vehicle Workings

Chelmsford & Braintree

Other *First London* double deckers reported on the World Scout Jamboree shuttles were 33094 (28th July), 33029 (30th July) and 33085 (3rd August).

August

- 3rd CF34815 on 42 (19.35 at Broomfield Hospital)
- 11th DT51780 moved to BE on loan for 352 roadworks shuttles
- 13th CF65681 on 42 (and a 42-branded Dart on the 36)
- 14th CF34818 on 36 (13.20 at South Woodham), BE46827 on 47, CF60103 on 42
- 15th CF34815 on 72 (and again 16th/17th), CF47228 on 352
- 16th CF43730 on 72A, CF60104 on X40
- 17th CF47228 on 42
- 18th CF31198 & CF56007 on 48, CF47220 & CF60104 on 352
- 20th CF34815 on 42, CF60103 on 352
- 21st CF34815 on 351, CF34818 on evening peak 48, CF31198 on 31 & 36
- 22nd CF31198 on 351 (13.05 CD-BD and 17.05 CD-Brook Street)

**X30 TRI-AXLES
IN SERVICE**

20202 at Rayleigh
Peter Mansbridge

... and at Chelmsford
Kevin Smith

20203 at Southend
Ian Banks



BYE-BYE BROOK STREET

National Omnibus & Transport Co, Eastern National, Thamesway and First Essex buses have been running up and down Brook Street hill between Brentwood and Harold Wood since 1920. Latterly this has been limited to one Chelmsford-bound morning journey and an early evening arrival departure during the week, as well as the Sunday service to Romford which finished on Sunday 19th August.

The last First Essex bus to Brook Street was 34815 on 24th August 2007.

Chris Stewart



Following withdrawal of the Brentwood-Romford section of the Sunday ECC contracted 351, Sunday 26th August saw the introduction of a two-hourly Brentwood Station-Bishop's Hall Estate (Clarence Road) 73 using Solos from Chelmsford depot.

53136 is seen here in Elizabeth Road with blinds now programmed for the route.

Interestingly the 73 was expected to get Solos some years ago in a partnership scheme with Brentwood Council which never materialised. Normal weekday journeys are now Mercedes Varios or (much less frequently) Darts. *Chris Stewart*

- 24th CF34815 on 351 (13.05 and 17.05 ex CD, the latter being the last journey to/from Brook Street), CF42919 (42-branded) and BE46811 on 352
- 25th CF34818 on Braintree local 30, CF42489 and CF46116 on 352, CF43730 on 72. For the record, CF53114 worked the first day of the revised ECC contracted 351 Chelmsford-Brentwood and 73 Brentwood locals.
- 28th DT51780 on 37, BE46821/2 both on 352
- 31st DT51780 on 30 (and 1st Sept), BE46826 on 352

September

- 1st CF34818 on X40, BE46821 on 31X
- 2nd CF53119 on 351/73
- 5th CF31198 on 351, BE46826 on 352

Colchester, Clacton & Harwich

CN (reserve) 46803 does not have a large enough fuel tank for Harwich work so has been working from Clacton, with CN46829 at DT.

August

- 1st DT53138 on 104 (16.30 ex CR)
- 16th CR67009 on X22
- 17th CR67004 on X22
- 25th CR67007/10 on 64A
- 27th CR43742 on 70
- 28th CR65686 on 88B, CR67005 on X22
- 31st CR43740 on 70, CR34301 on X22

Basildon/Hadleigh

August

- 17th HH46147 on 25
- 22nd 5-branded BN43737 on 551
- 23rd BN61054 on 100

September

- 1st BN46168 on 100
- 5th BN41647 on 100, 34011/2 on 502 (believed transferred from CR with 30558 moving the other way)

V2007

As in previous years, the 'V Festival' shuttle buses to and from Chelmsford's Hylands Park involved a mass of double deckers and a few single deckers, building up from lunchtime on Friday 17th August and winding down until about midday on Monday 20th August. Most were provided by First Group, both Essex and London, with support from Fourways, Stephenson's and NIBS. The highlight for many enthusiasts was the use in service of Heritage Bristol VR 38790 (KOO790V) on Saturday, Sunday and Monday morning. ECW Olympian 34815 also saw use at least on the Sunday. Most *First London* vehicles appeared to work out and back from Dagenham, with many *First Essex* buses from other depots stabling at Westway.

Vehicle seen include:

<i>First Essex</i>	Olympians 30559 31198 31374 31375 31376 31456 34011 34014 34282 34285 34304 34305 34309 34314 34315 34815 Lance 60103 Scania 61054
<i>First London</i>	Tridents 33029 33030 33032 33041 33043 33044 33045 33048 33080 33086 33088 33091 33094 33095 Olympians 34216 34330
<i>Fourways</i>	H259MFX J267SPR H691PTW H699PTW G937FVX G981FVX
<i>Stephenson's</i>	807 808
<i>NIBS</i>	G607KTX EU05ECV

Other News - *Where are they now?*

Bristol LD5G 2484 (297JHK), the 1000th Lodekka built and operated by Eastern Counties for a while as their LKD219, has been for sale on eBay in the USA following a considerable amount of restoration (albeit sadly not to Tilling green). Apart from an offside door it remains in fairly original condition.

It sold for US\$13,000 (about £6,400)



Sources: Own observations, with many thanks to *First Essex* and to A Bird, T Clark, D Edwards, M Farmer, I Hardie, J Podgorski, D Pretty, J Salmon, C Sigston, S Simister, K Smith, 'Solo', A Spindler, D Stewart, R Webb, R Whitley, the *Essex Bus*, *South West* and *British Buses in North America* y-groups, *Real Bus News*, LOTS, PSV Circle, *Terminus*.

Reports relating to First Group may be sent by text on 07973 509459, by fax on 01277 216745, by e-mail or by conventional post. Many thanks to all who do so

Chris Stewart



Essex BusT News

This "super-rear" advertisement for TV series *Totally Jodie Marsh* really belongs on page 3 but there wasn't room.

Ms Marsh can be found adorning the posteriors of **First** 31374/5 and 34815 at least.

Incidentally, there can't be many C-list celebrities with the registration of a mid-life Olympian tattooed on their midribs - she must be a closet bus fan.

*David Harman - pic by
Chris Stewart*

*(We KNOW - we should get
out more!)*



Rail Replacement: 9th September
 3072 and 43740 at Ingatestone. Other First vehicles in use were ECW Olympian 34818 along with 31198/374, 34011/2/56, 34286, 43740 and 65684. *Chris Stewart*



■ ARRIVA SOUTHEND LIMITED

Internal Transfers

Grays to Southend

The vehicles transferred from Grays to Southend for conversion of route 29 to low floor operation are as follows (note this list differs from the provisional list in EBN520)

- 3181 (P181 LKL) Dennis Dart SLF Plaxton B40F New 12/96 as Maidstone and District 3181
- 3388 (P258 FPK) Dennis Dart SLF Plaxton B39F New 04/97 as Southend Transport DSL58
- 3390 (P260 FPK) Dennis Dart SLF Plaxton B39F New 04/07 as Southend Transport DSL60
- 3421 (P421 HVX) Dennis Dart SLF Plaxton B43F New 11/96 as County Bus SLF421
- 3423 (P423 HVX) Dennis Dart SLF Plaxton B43F New 11/96 as County Bus SLF423
- 3431 (P431 HVX) Dennis Dart SLF Plaxton B43F New 11/96 as County Bus SLF431

At the time of writing (8th September) route 29 was still being operated by step-entrance Darts. At least 3423/31 had entered service by then (3423 was first seen in service on 5th September working service 9, whilst 3431 was first seen on the 8th September also on the 9).

Dominator Finale: 31st August:

5286 (K36 XNE) on what was thought to be the penultimate day of Dominator operation in Southend at Thorpe Bay Station on service 1. *Richard Delahoy*





2nd September:

The trio of Southend Dominators 5288/6/7 seen 'over the fence' at Tunbridge Wells depot. TW blinds and Wayfarers fitted.

David Harman

8th September:

As you were! 5286 back at work on the 1's in Southend after a week in Tunbridge Wells.

Peter Mansbridge





Arriva the Shires DAF SB3000/Plaxton 4049 loading in Southend Travel Centre on a summer special. 8th September. *Peter Mansbridge*

Vehicles In

To Grays from Arriva Southern Counties at Dartford

Vehicles listed below are unchanged from the provisional list in EBN520.

3218 (P218MKL) Dennis Dart SLF SFD322BR1VGW10807 Plaxton 9710.6HLZ6659 B40F

New 3/1997 as Maidstone & District 3218

3262/4-6/9-71 (R262/4-6/9-71 EKO) Dennis Dart SLF Plaxton 9710.7HLB8207/9-11/14-16.

B39F New 2/1998 as Kentish Bus 3262/4-6/9-71

Chassis numbers are as follows:

3262 – SFD322BR1VGW11970

3264 – SFD322BR1VGW11974

3265 – SFD322BR1VGW11975

3266 – SFD322BR1VGW11923

3269 – SFD322BR1VGW11914

3270 – SFD322BR1VGW11915

3271 – SFD322BR1VGW11916

These red Dart SLFs will be used to start the full TfL contract on route 370 in November pending delivery of Enviro 200s in March 2008.

Vehicles Out

Vario 1188 (R188 DNM) to Tunbridge Wells

Dart/East Lancs 3005/6 (L507/8 CPJ) to Tunbridge Wells

Dominator Update

Dominators 5286-8 (K36/7 XNE, K38 YVM) were withdrawn from service in Southend on 1st September and moved to Tunbridge Wells the following day. However, following early delivery of six Enviro 200s for service at Tunbridge Wells, 5286/8 returned to Southend on 5th September with 5287 following later in the week, not having been used at Tunbridge Wells. 5286 was back in service in Southend on route 1 on 8th September.

Peter Mansbridge with thanks to Matt Arnold (ASC), Richard Delahoy

TLC for VR's

The company has recently commenced a program of refurbishment of our remaining fleet of Bristol VR double deckers exclusively used on local school contracts.

As each vehicle becomes due for checking it is brought over to the main body and painting facilities at Sible Heddingham. It first receives an examination for corrosion of the body frame. Weak spots are usually to be found on the wood framing of the front destination box, above the drivers windscreen and the entire floor of the lower deck. All this requires quite a bit of carpentry. To assist we have a band saw, saw bench, and for metal work a plasma cutter and cross cut. Fortunately, there is a well known woodworking business in the area and we are able to access a supply of hardwood.

Once the timber frame over the rear wheel arch is replaced the entire wooden floor can then be put in place, new lino completes the work. This is extended to the entrance door where new 'sharks teeth' edging completes the work.

It is still possible to obtain supplies of the original upholstery and any torn seats can be sent away to a local firm. Our experience shows if you replace torn seats as quickly as possible, it reduces the incidence of vandalism. Likewise graffiti removal at depot level is vital as soon as it appears. The longer it is there the more graffiti there is.

At this point the vehicle is moved into the paint shop where a special sanding machine prepares the frame for painting. An undercoat and a top coat are applied and just after two weeks the finished vehicle is ready for another school year. The mechanical condition of the VR's is maintained at depot level where TLC (tender, loving care) keeps them roadworthy. Despite their advanced years their record for passing the annual MOT inspection is almost 100%.

Operational fleet ~ Bristol VR's ~ September 2007

L167	JWT	757V	Bristol	VRT/SL3/6LXB	ECW	H43/31F
L197	GGM	108W	Bristol	VRT/SL3/6LXB	ECW	H43/31F
L199	HJB	464W	Bristol	VRT/SL3/6LXB	ECW	H43/31F
L237	GGM	84W	Bristol	VRT/SL3/6LXB	ECW	H43/31F
L245	SGR	780V	Bristol	VRT/SL3/6LXB	ECW	H43/31F
L248	HJB	455W	Bristol	VRT/SL3/6LXB	ECW	H43/31F
L249	HJB	456W	Bristol	VRT/SL3/6LXB	ECW	H43/31F
L251	MRJ	8W	Bristol	VRT/SL3/6LXB	ECW	H43/31F
L253	PWY	39W	Bristol	VRT/SL3/6LXB	ECW	H43/31F
L254	RAH	260W	Bristol	VRT/SL3/6LXB	ECW	H43/31F
L255	STW	30W	Bristol	VRT/SL3/6LXB	ECW	H43/31F
L262	CJH	141V	Bristol	VRT/SL3/6LXB	ECW	H43/31F
L288	RUA	461W	Bristol	VRT/SL3/6LXB	ECW	H43/31F
L292	RAH	265W	Bristol	VRT/SL3/6LXB	ECW	H43/31F
L293	RAH	268W	Bristol	VRT/SL3/6LXB	ECW	H43/31F

D R MacGregor



Newly-refurbished L251 (MRJ 8W), which was new to Mayne's of Manchester.

L251 alongside ex-Eastern National L255 (STW 30W) at Hedingham. *D.R.MacGregor*





Former Lothian Buses Olympian J838 TSC is now **L357** in the fleet. Lothian livery (madder and white) is retained for the present, but with the lower panels repainted in Heddingham red. *Paul Clarke*

New vehicle

L356 reg. tba ADL Enviro 200 SFD321AR17GY10442 7209/8
Delivered 31 August 2007. Further details next month.

Acquired vehicles

from Lothian Buses 838, via Ensign (dealer)

L357 J838 TSC Leyland Olympian ON2R56C13Z4 ON20143 Alexander RH94/391/3
H51/30D new 8/1991.

from Dublin Bus RH199, via Southdown PSV (dealer)

L358 (95-D-199) Volvo Olympian YN2RC16Z4 25849 Alexander D10.04 H47/27D
new 3/1995. Awaits UK registration.

A further five ex-Dublin Olympians are expected from the same source.

Allocations

L357 - SY

L358 - SY

Vehicle disposals

L246 Bristol VRT 6LXB APT 813W scrapped July 2007.

L320 Volvo B6 TIL 6881 being broken for spares at Clacton; August 2007.

David Harman, with thanks to D R MacGregor, Dave Arnold, Paul Clarke

■ EXCEL PASSENGER LOGISTICS, Stansted

Excel subsidiary Stansted Bus Co Ltd. changed its name to Eastern National Omnibus Company Ltd on 22 May 2007 ! We await further developments ...

The new Ayats Bravo is MR07 FDS (Mr 07 Flight Delay Services) which has been at Stansted but will largely be based at Manchester. It is the first DDA-compliant Bravo decker in the country, Excel did a lot of the development work on it.

Scania N112/East Lancs G725/6/9 RYJ have been acquired from Coach Miles, Hemel Hempstead, all are expected to stay here, although one may go to Gatwick. They were sold to them by Stephensons last year, but Coach Miles have now given up schools work. Dennis Dart/ Alexander K96 AAX has been acquired from Stagecoach for spares.

Leyland Olympian/East Lancs KTL44Y has been sold to Talisman, Gt Bromley, after a short loan spell on loan. Sister KTL 43Y has been on loan to Coach Miles, Hemel Hempstead, but has returned to Excel and is currently for sale. Mercedes Benz 709D/ Alexander Belfast L315 LDU was sold in July to Neil Hales from Melbury Abbas - this leaves just one of the original batch of L reg 709s (L316 YDU) in service as a spare vehicle

Fleet list as at September 2007

<i>reg.no.</i>	<i>chassis</i>	<i>body</i>	<i>seats</i>	<i>first reg.</i>
K397 GHJ	Mercedes 709	Plaxton	B19F	23 Mar 93
K398 GHJ	Mercedes 709	Plaxton	B18F	22-Mar-93
L316 YDU	Mercedes 709	Alexander	B23F	10 Jun 94
N70 TGM	Mercedes 709	Plaxton	B23F	1 Jan 96
M453 VCW	Volvo B10M	Alexander	B48F	24 Feb 95
M232 TBV	Volvo B10M	Alexander	B48F	19 Jan 95
J226 HGY	Dennis Dart	Pointer	B35F	7 Jul 92
K708 KGU	Dennis Dart	Pointer	B35F	20Nov 92
L113 YVK	Dennis Dart	Northern Counties	B35F	Feb 94
BU51 REG	Dennis Dart	Pointer	B29F	1 Apr 02
EU56 FTO	ADL Dart	Pointer	B29F	Sep 06
EU56 GVG	ADL Dart	Pointer	B29F	1 Nov 06
AE56 MDV	MAN	MCV Evolution	B32F	12 Oct 06
AE56 MDY	MAN	MCV Evolution	B32F	12 Oct 06
AE56 MDX	MAN	MCV Evolution	B32F	12 Oct 06
KTL 43Y	Leyland Olympian	East Lancs	H85F	14 Dec 82
A890 PKR	Leyland Olympian	ECW	H69F	9 May 84
B204 DTU	Leyland Olympian	ECW	H69F	15 Jul 85
C122 CHM	Leyland Olympian	ECW	H72F	14 Jul 86
D126 FYM	Leyland Olympian	ECW	H72F	1 Oct 86
F712 LFG	Scania N113DR	East Lancs	H80F	Mar 89
G725 RYJ	Scania N113DR	East Lancs	H80F	1 Apr 90
G726 RYJ	Scania N113DR	East Lancs	H80F	1 Apr 90
G727 RYJ	Scania N113DR	East Lancs	H80F	1 Apr 90
G728 RYJ	Scania N113DR	East Lancs	H80F	1 Apr 90
G729 RYJ	Scania N113DR	East Lancs	H80F	1 Apr 90
R128 XWF	Dennis Javelin	Plaxton	C49F	25 Mar 98
R852 RDT	Scania K114	Irizar	C53F	21 May 98

RL04 EXL	Scania K114	Irizar	C53F	18 May 04
XL04 EXL	Scania K114	Irizar	C53F	18 May 04
YN53 GDV	Scania K114	Irizar	C49F	8 Jan 04

■ STEPHENSON of ESSEX, Rochford

Stephensons have purchased a low floor Trident which is currently being refurbished and converted to single door. It will enter service shortly from Maldon depot. Details are:

V415 KMY Dennis Trident SFD113BR1XGX20549 / East Lancs 30515 H45/24D
new 8/1999 to Metrobus, Orpington, 415

The three Lothian Olympians (L953/55/62 MSC) are now converted to single door and are in fleet livery – they should be in service for the new school term, which will certainly release one more former London Olympian for withdrawal. C64 CHM is now withdrawn and will make a one way trip to Barnsley in due course. C81 CHM is now regarded as a reserve bus, for eventual disposal, leaving five operational ex London Olympians out of the 11 originally operated.

Leyland Olympian F630 MSL has been returned to service after accident repairs
Leyland Olympian/ECW B752 GCS went to Barnsley for scrap in June

Ian Ransom, with thanks to Lyn Watson

Another view of heritage Fleetline **MRJ 233W**, in Chichester Road, Southend, destination:
SOUTHEND / CENTRAL BUS STN. *Richard Delahoy*





Stephensons Dart SLFs: 412 (SK02 XGP), sister to the Fossetts Park Clipper-branded example, in Bournemouth Park Road, and 416 (SN56 AYH) at the Southend Travel Centre.

Ian Banks



■ DEALER STOCK MOVEMENTS

Vehicles in

	<i>from</i>
A2Z Travel:	Olympian C611 LFT
Brighton and Hove:	Scania N759 OAP
East Yorkshire:	Olympians E848/9/50/3/4/5 DPN, N597 BRH Atlanteans VFT 189T AVK 177V
Hitmania:	RML2361/2570
Lothian Buses:	Olympians J836/7/8/9 TSC
Metroliner:	AV29/35
Stagecoach Devon:	Olympian A543 HAC Volvo B10M's F304/8 MYJ.
Stagecoach East Midlands:	Scania/Plaxton Verde (Road Car) J273/5/6/7/8/9/ 81/2/4/6 UWO, Olympians K360/1 DWJ, Metrobuses POG 514/80Y NOA 438X

Vehicles out

to

	RT3775:	Bluebell Railway, Sheffield Park, Kent.
	Olympians F510/1 NJE	
	and Darts R706/8 MEW:	Carousel Buses, High Wycombe
	Mercedes 709 N977 NAP:	Crown PSV, Benfleet, Essex
	Dublin Olympian 91-D-1073 now	H718 PVW with Billy Davies Coaches, Glasgow
	Dublin Olympians 92-D-150/2, 93-D-10173 (UK registrations TBA), 93-D-10169,	
	91-D-10120 and 92-D-143 now	L905 SNO, J828 CEV and J823 CEV with
		Dunn-Line (Veolia), Nottingham
	DAF M763 RCP:	Geldards Coaches, Leeds
	Dominator F76 TFU:	Golden Eagle Coaches, Glasgow
	Dublin Olympians 91-D-10106/8 now	J830/29 CEV with Halifax Joint Committee
	Olympian J838 TSC:	Heddingham Omnibuses, Essex
	Mercedes 709 N353 AVV,	
	Olympians R919 WOE S135 RLH:	Herberts Coaches, Shefford, Beds.
	Scania N759 OAP:	Hunters Coaches, Leeds
	Olympian G516 VBB:	Liverpool City Coaches
	Olympians E501 LFL E159 OMD	C611 LFT and Metrobus NOA 438X:
		McKindless, Wishaw
	Olympian L971 MSC:	Peoples Bus, Liverpool
	L152:	S & M, Benfleet, Essex.
	Metrobus B58 WUL:	Scenic Suncoisers, Scarborough
	Olympians E848/9/50/3/4/5 DPN:	Shamrock Coaches, Bournemouth.
	Dublin Olympian 91-D-10125:	Philip McGuire, Dublin for preservation.
	Dart R177 VLA, M1103 and B6 L243 CCK:	PVS for scrap.
	RML2570:	South East Coachworks, Kent.

RML2744: Auto-Paaske, Copenhagen, Denmark.

■ ENSIGNBUS, Purfleet

Delta 606 has been sold to Alder Valley Travel.

Enviro 200 demonstrator SN56AXJ was on loan until 5th September, and an Optare Versa is also due. An order for new buses for the local bus network is imminent.

David Harman, with thanks to Ross Newman, Ensignbus

Vehicle News

Trident 156 appeared at Magdalen Street depot on 7th August. It entered service by the end of the month.

Olympian 349 has had its dot matrix destination display replaced by roller blinds.
Tridents 155/6 have had their roller blinds replaced by LED displays upon arrival at Colchester.

Dart SLF's 108/9 have had their route 2 branding removed.

Vehicle Workings

It is reported that Solo 307 has made regular appearances on service 5 (General Hospital – Poets Corner) during August. Previously, 'any bus available' was used on the 5.

Rail Replacement

Sunday 26th August saw Olympians 346, 347, Tridents 155 and 157 and Omnidekka 102 used on rail replacement between Romford and Chelmsford.

Peter Mansbridge, with thanks to John Podgorski and Essex Bus y-group.

Former Metrobus Trident 155 (T405 SMV), with LED destination display. *Kevin Smith*





Stansted Transit

New vehicles: Volvo B7/Plaxton KX07 HDH, and Enviro 200 Darts KX57 FMC/D/E. KX57 FMD was snapped at Maldon on the 73A (*Dave Arnold*).

Acquired is Dennis Dart SLF/Plaxton YT51 EAK, formerly Travel London DP9.

MCW Metrobus BOK 5V and Leyland National 2 UPT 684V have been withdrawn.

Withdrawn vehicles sold are Leyland Nationals KOM 792P, THX 152S, BYW 405V, National 2 UPT 670V, MCW Metrobus GOG 214W and B251 WUL, Dennis Dart/Plaxton J368 GKH, K715 KGU, and Optare Metroriders M810 WWR and M975 WWR.

Ian Ransom, with thanks to Dave Arnold

Regal Busways

An unusual working on the ECC 75 (Maldon-Colchester) on 25th July was Dart SLF/MCV AE 55 EHM, instead of the usual Solo.

Ian Ransom



Crown Coaches
took over the 35
(Southend -
Chelmsford) from
Stansted Transit on
3rd September.



top:
Former Stagecoach
Mercedes 709/
Alexander N977 NAP,
in adapted Stagecoach
colours, and *The
Village Highwayman*
names applied. Seen
at the top of Crown
Hill, Rayleigh, just
outside Ye Olde
Crown. There is at
least one other
Mercedes mini in this
scheme - M340 LHP

Peter Mansbridge



centre and bottom:
Former Stratford Blue
Dart/ Wadham
Stringer H908 DTP, in
Ensign colours, is on
loan from S&M of
Benfleet ...

Waiting at Southend ...
Richard Delahoy

... and leaving
Chelmsford

Kevin Smith

Small Operator News

A number of reports of vehicles from **Olympian/SM Travel**, Harlow, being sold at auction have been received. As most of these are still operating with Olympian/ SM after auction, I will not be showing these as sold, until the situation is clearer.

A&J MINIBUS, Rochford Ford Transit Y649 CNG has been withdrawn

AJS MINIBUS, Harlow The report some time ago of Ford Transit EY54 VYM as being here, was in error.

AMAYESING MINIBUSES, Grays Ford Transit EJ07 DWK is new, replacing similar P499 NWC

AMBER Rayleigh Leyland Tiger/Plaxton XIL 7857 (new as FWH 40Y) has been acquired from Rosevidney Travel, Penzance. Bova Futura YO52 CJF has been acquired from Nova Tours, Chesterfield. Bristol VR/ECW MFA 719V has been sold, IAZ 9564 (G416 WPA) a Volvo B10M/Berkhof has been sold to STB Coaches, Chadwell St Mary and Bova Futura P912 GTT has gone to Moseley (dealer), South Elmsall. Volvo B10M/Jonckheere FDZ 792 (new as A590 XRP) has been withdrawn.

ANITA, Stansted DAF SB4000/Van Hool YJ04 HHY has gone to Selwyns, Runcorn

APT COACHES, Rayleigh The report of Scania K114/Irizar P144 GHE as being here is incorrect and should be deleted. Reported as here is Scania K113/Irizar P103 GHE, from Barrys, Weymouth. Volvo B10M/Caetano APT 42S has been re-registered to it's original N790 SJU and has been sold. Also re-registered is M321 VET a Scania K113/Van Hool to APT 42S and Scania K113/Irizar P103 GHE to 827 APT

ARROW, Maldon Ford Transit V783 DWH is now a PSV

AVRO, Orsett MCW Metrobus KYX 805X is reported as still being here and not sold, as previously advised.

BASILDON TRAVEL, Rayleigh Leyland Tiger/Plaxton HIL 8917 (A203 OCW) has been sold for export

BJS TRAVEL, Gt Wakering N727 SMX a Scania K113/Irizar has been acquired from Dalybus, Standish.

BRENTWOOD COACHES, Hutton An unusual addition for this normally Volvo fleet is P300 PLE a MAN 18.310/Caetano. It has been re-registered XCF 447. Volvo

B10M/ Plaxton HWY 701 has been re-registered back to E303 OMG and sold to Hopleys Coaches, Mount Hawke.

BROWRING, Westcliff Acquired from a private owner is V734 JOO a Renault Master.

CBBB TOURING, Grays This new operator has 2191 RO (new as A156 XSF) a Volvo B10M/Van Hool from Arena Niteliners, Somersham

CEDRIC, Wivenhoe Acquired from Eavesway, Ashton-in-Maakefield is DAF SB4000/Van Hool YD02 RCO. Setra S250 W8 CED, is thought to have gone to Evobus (dealer) in exchange for Mercedes Benz BW04 ZGU

CHARIOTS, Stanford-le-Hope Mercedes Benz 609D/PMT F100 UEH has gone to a private owner.

CHELMSFORD TAXIBUS An unusual addition is Autosan coach BX56 XAD. More new Ford Transits are EK07 UFH/UZB/VUT/VUX and EX07 RSZ. Fleetnumbers of new Transits are EK07 UZB (37), EX07 RSZ (45), EK07 VUX (51) and EX07 RPO (43), EX07 EEW (56), EX07 RNY (59). Sold are Fiat Ducato EU03 DVC and EU03 EFT to 786 Travel, Woodley with Ford Transit EY54 NXM going to a private owner. Ford Transits without names and discs are EA54 HXY, EY54 NXD/NXT/NXW/NXZ. Fiat Ducato EU03 EPX has been renumbered from 27 to 25

CLINTONA Brentwood Mercedes Benz 814D/Autobus N420 WJL has gone to Taylor (dealer), Isleham. Acquired from St Margrets Minibuses, Ware is AK52 LYU a Mercedes Benz 814D/Eurocoach

CM3 CARS, South Woodham Ferrers Ford Transit EJ03 FKB has been acquired. It appears to have replaced similar T411 RFL, which has lost lettering and operators disc

COLT MINIBUS, Rayleigh This new operator has Renault Master EF04 RXV

COUNTY COACHES, Brentwood Mercedes Benz 614D/Onyx 5919 RU (R734 EGD) is named Sussex.

CREST, Rochford Acquired from Kiwi Executive Travel, Swanley is X188 SKE s Mercedes Benz 413CDI

CROWN, Thundersley It appears that this fleet may be in the same ownership as Supreme, as vehicles are being swapped between fleets. The registered address for

Crown has moved and is now at the Supreme depot. Vehicles still appear to be kept at the Crown, Thundersley depot.

CRUSADER, Clacton Setra S315GT V106 OJN was sold at auction in August.

DEVERE TRAVEL, Sible Hedingham
Acquired from a private owner is DX05 GDY a Renault Master

DON, Gt Dunmow Dennis Javelin/Marco Polo M707 HBC has been resealed to C69F.

ENIGMA, Colchester Acquired from Saffords Coaches, Sandy is TJI 4038 (F44 GTO) a Volvo B10M/Plaxton

FARGO, Rayne Ford Transit HJ55 MSX has been acquired from a private owner. Scania N113/N Counties G38 HKY has been withdrawn.

FERRIER, Highwood The operators licence has been revoked and Volvo B10M/ Ikarus IUI 2733 (F635 FDH), IUI 2734 (F881 VSJ) and Iveco/Beulas P120 KNO have been sold.

FLAGFINDERS, Braintree Dennis Javelin/UVG R718 TRV has been acquired from Neals, Usleham. Dennis Javelin/Neoplan N571 AWJ has been sold to Michaels Travel, Mitcheldean.

FLORIDA, Halstead Toyota/Caetano K647 PGJ (new as K212 SFP) has been acquired from Shaw, Maxey. Also acquired is Volvo

B10M/Caetano J663 CDT (92-MN-112) from Cuttings Coaches, Bury St Edmunds

GARDNER, Boreham Acquired from McColls of Dunoon is Iveco 391/Beulas T287 CGU. Mercedes Benz L508/Robin Hood DPO 567W has been sold.

GO2MINIBUSES, South Ockendon New is Iveco minibus MX56 FXH

GRAHAMS, Kelvedon New is Mercedes Benz 0814D/Eurocoach AE07 NZB

HARDY MILES, Rochford Further to reports elsewhere, MCW Metrobus B80 WUL is being stripped for spares and is not being preserved.

HAWAII FIVE O, Colchester Ford Transit V668 JAR has gone to a private owner.

KEANE, Canvey Island Fiat Ducato W368 MHT has been acquired from a private owner.

KINGS, Stanway Setra demonstrator BX07 NLR has been here for a few days (seen 13.7.07). We understand that it was with Galloway, Mendlesham, Suffolk prior to coming here.

KNIGHTS, Gt Braxted Acquired is Ford Transit W827 WPU

LCB TRAVEL, Harlow Acquired from Brown, Harlow is Ford Transit EY54 VYM

LOGIC TRANSPORT, Nazeing Dennis Javelin/Berkhof P890 FMO has been

Carters held a Bristol RE Running Day on 25th August. Former Eastern National RE 1546 (SVW 274K) looks very spruce at Cattawade, en route for Ipswich. *Kevin Smith*



acquired from MNE Travel, Guisborough. Ford Transit DV56 LUF has been re-registered LT05 JOE.

M&E, Rochford Bova Futura LIL 3055 (new as G522 XHK) has been acquired from T&A, Ferndown

NAKITAS TAXIBUS, Wickford New is Ford Transit MV55 ZPF. Ford Transit SB03 WCT has gone to a private owner

NCS, Saffron Walden New sometime ago but only just reported are LDV Convoy EG02 MSV, EJ52 UBZ, EJ52 UDH and YX04 GFA. Sold to private owners are Renault Trafic K403 PLL and LDV Convoy S848 LER.

OLYMPIAN, Harlow Scania K113/Irizar KKZ 7562 (M230 RDO) has been acquired from Sunbury Coaches, Shepperton. Also acquired is F683 CYC a Dennis Javelin/Duple. Withdrawn vehicles sold are Mercedes Benz 709D/Dormobile G96 ERP and Iveco/Marshall L864 BEA, M152 RBH.

PB TRAVEL, Harlow Citroen C25D V924 FGC has been sold.

P&M, Wickford Acquired from Seaview Services, Sandown is M592 COR a Volvo B10M/Van Hool, while from Hellyers, Fareham is HF03HOF a Volvo B12B/Jonckheere. Unusual MBC 850 FN53 FRO has been sold.

PDQ, Colchester Ford Transit SJ07 WJE is new, and similar WG03 TXN is acquired from a private owner both are Non-PSV.

PETER GODWARD, Basildon Scania K124/Irizar V256 JTO has gone to Redwood Travel, Hemryock. Iveco/Beulas Y10 PGC has also been sold.

PRIOR, Radley Green In from APA Travel, London is MF52 HCC a Mercedes Benz 413CDI/Crest

RICHARDS EXECUTIVE, Chelmsford New is Scania K40/Irizar EU07 SKD

SALWA TRAVEL, Abridge This new operator has acquired from CN Enterprises, Abridge, TXI 8757 (new as MRP 837Y) a Volvo B10M/Jonckheere.

S&M, Thundersley Dennis Dart/Wadham Stringer H908 DTP has been acquired; it was with Guide Friday, Stratford-on-Avon and came via Ensign. It is understood that it has now been loaned to Crown, Thundersley.

SMITH, Harlow Mercedes Benz 609D/G&M TXI 9303 (H906 GGL) has been sold.

SM TRAVEL, Harlow Alexander Dart/Caetano EU06 KDJ/K have been sold. Acquired from an unknown source is Dennis Dart/Plaxton J313 WHJ. New are Iveco 65C15/Univ EO07 XGK/L/M

SOUTHEND RADIO CARS Acquired from

Phoenix Club, Canvey Island is Ford Transit/Dormobile K866 GOO, it has been re-registered XIL 3765 after arrival here. Also acquired from a private owner is Ford Transit DY54 CPE. Ford Transit E959 UOK has been sold.

STB COACHES, Grays Bova Europa KEG 689Y has been sold

SUPREME, Southend Acquired from Crown, Thundersley is G393 CLH a Setra S215HD. Acquired from Town and Country Coaches, Ippleden is JJI 5614 (H176 DVM) a Volvo B10M/Van Hool

SWIFT CARS, Boreham Acquired from a private owner is HN04 GWA a Renault Master. VW LT35 GX54 FTU has gone to a private owner

SWT TRAVEL, South Woodham Ferrers LDV Convoy P704 UFR has been withdrawn

TONY GLEW, Gt Tey Leyland Tiger/Plaxton LIW 1941 (A830 PPP) and JNM 749Y a Bedford YNT/Plaxton have been scrapped. Mercedes Benz 811D/Optare F321 SMD has been sold for export

TOWNCARS, Clacton Renault Master HX05 HDO has been acquired from a private owner. Mercedes Benz 609D M543 TET has been withdrawn. Ford Transit's S265 LGW and GK05 SOE have been sold.

TREKKERS, Magdalen Laver Duple 425 LIL 5072 (E205 EPB) has been acquired from Seymour, Magdalen Laver

TURNERS, Wickham St Paul Toyota/Caeatno VJI 9416 (G109 APC) has been sold; Freight Rover F531 BWF has gone for scrap.

VICEROY, Saffron Walden Mercedes 0404 W368 EOL has been acquired from Premiere Travel, Nottingham. LDV Convoy S828 LER has gone for scrap.

WALDEN TRAVEL, Saffron Walden Dennis Javelin/Plaxton P553 KSD has gone to Volvo (dealer), Loughborough. Mercedes Benz 0814D/Plaxton V399 SVV is named Lady Gowyn

WALKERS, Stanford-le-Hope New is Iveco/Stanford Conversions minibus EU54 LZA

YELO, Braintree Acquired from Excellent Connections, Manchester Airport are Ford Transits EJ03 WRL/P

YOUNGS TRAVEL, Shotgate Rare ACE/Van Hool D164 TCX has left the fleet and is thought to be with Thorn, Rayleigh

The yards used by a number of smaller operators at Parsonage Farm, Stansted were being cleared in May, details of new operating centres will be published when available.

Ian Ransom, with thanks to Dave Arnold, Colin Sigston and the PSVC

Preservation Notebook



2510

After several years' continuous work at Canvey by Craig Mara, prototype Eastern National LD6G 2510 (236LNO) of 1959 took to the road on 23 August for its MOT test. Alas, engine problems caused an impromptu halt at Stanford-le-Hope, en route to the test station. With help from Ian Mahoney, work is underway to rectify matters, in order to have another go in the near future.



As the pictures show, much has been completed in the restoration project, but there is much still to do. Among the jobs on the list are: restoring the rear blind boxes which vanished in the great rear-blind cull of years ago, replacing the front cowl, known not to be the original type, locating and fitting cowlings "whiskers" (the decorative alloy strips either side of the radiator filler cap), a distinctive feature when new, straightening up the fleet number plate

Chris Stewart

PCV HOLDER ?



> **FULL AND PART-TIME DRIVERS REQUIRED**

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

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

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

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

> **FULL AND PART-TIME PCV FITTERS**

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

> **RAIL CONTROLLERS / CUSTOMER SERVICE ASSISTANTS**

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

For more details of any of the above vacancies, contact

Stephensons:	Bill Hiron	01702 541511
Excel:	Graham Hayden	01279 681800

