

ESSEX BUS NEWS

November 2001

Issue 451

**Your Ticket For All
The Latest Bus News In Essex**



THE MONTHLY MAGAZINE OF THE ESSEX BUS ENTHUSIASTS GROUP

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Essex Bus News

We welcome your suggestions and contributions. Please enclose an s.a.e. If you would like a reply. Our contact addresses are listed on the front cover.

Membership and Subscription Information

A one-year membership includes 12 consecutive issues of Essex Bus News Magazine and runs from either January or July. Current rates are £15.00 First class & £14.00 Second class postage. Membership applications and any enquiries about your membership should be addressed to Derek Stebbing.

Under the terms of the 1998 Data Protection Act, we need to inform you that Members Names & Addresses, Subscription renewal dates & relevant Postal rates are held on a computer Database for the purpose of administering member services. If you object to your information being held in the way, please write to the Membership Secretary.

Timetable Subscription Service

Members of the scheme receive the Essex county council timetable books and monthly updates plus copies of Thurrock councils timetable book. Please contact Derek Stebbing for information on joining the service.

Photo Sales

A very large selection of photos is available for you to purchase and we have photos of most operators and vehicles in Essex both past and present. Please write to Peter Snell if you have a particular interest.

Members Adverts and Appeals

As a free service we will publish members for sales, wants and appeals for information. Publication is subject to space and restricted to bus and transport related items. Please send your advert to the Managing Editor. Members responding to adverts should deal direct with the advertiser, as the group is not involved with any of them.

Your Reports and Observations

We aim to provide comprehensive coverage of bus services in Essex and members Reports, Photos and original articles are welcome. Please send them direct to the relevant Sub-Editor or e-mail them to essexbusnews@hotmail.com

Any views expressed in articles are those of the articles author alone and they do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Essex Bus Enthusiasts Group.

We reserve the right to defer items to allow time for confirmation or achieve page layouts. Every effort is made to ensure accuracy but the group cannot accept responsibility for any error of fact subsequently discovered.

Contributions and Closing Dates

Thank you to the dozens of contributors for their valuable news and information for this month's issue. There would much less to read without them.

**Contributions for the next issue of Essex Bus News to Sub-editors by 2nd December and to the Managing editor by 5th December.
The December magazine is due for posting on Tuesday 18th Dec.**

Essex Bus News is designed by Sean Menzies & printed by Kithead Ltd, De Salis Drive, Hampton Lovett, Droitwich, Worcs WR9 0QE

Welcome Aboard!

What's Inside This Month?

Unbeatable Value -Another 28 Page Issue -

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Your Essex Bus News

Essex Bus Enthusiasts group is reluctantly having to increase the price of its annual Subscription to £15 First Class & £14 Second Class for January 2002 renewals. However, with a 28 page magazine this month with our coverage of the Essex bus scene now better than ever, PLUS 4 Pages of photos, we believe that a subscription still represents outstanding value and works out at less than £1.30 each month, delivered to your door.

New Era, Better Coverage

Starting next Month, the First Eastern National and First Thamesway pages will be combined under a new title of First in Essex following the company's decision to drop local names. First Thamesway Sub Editor Chris Stewart will look after the new look pages, whilst Ian Ransom will work to expand our unique coverage of the area's Smaller operators.

In response to your requests, there'll be a full allocation list each month plus full details of the traffic requirements from each Garage, Colourbus and Mega Rear advert info and much more- It'll be the ultimate reference!

All in all, it's an exciting period and we hope you will continue to send in your news, photos and features to help us continue to improve your magazine.

EMAIL REPORT LINE essexbusnews@hotmail.com

Front Cover Photo **First Thamesway 609 N609 APU Volvo B10M/Plaxton**
New in 1995, Steven Rowe's photo shows the Coach resting between journeys on Green Line Service 721 at Southend Central Bus Station. Since the withdrawal of Thamesway's involvement in Green Line in October, this vehicle has past to First in Norfolk & Suffolk and is now at Lowestoft.

Buses in the News

First Rebranded

As revealed in last month's Essex Bus News, First Group has rebranded it's UK Bus operations as First.

First believes this move - focussing on a unified national brand - will bring greater benefits to both customers and employees. The aim of the company is to Transform Travel and become the number one public transport provider - known for providing transport services which are safe, reliable, high quality, accessible and personal.

A list of geographic names has been given to each operating unit, and which will normally only be used for internal purposes.

YOUR AT A GLANCE GUIDE TO THE NEW NAMES

Current Company Name	New Name – First in
First Aberdeen	Aberdeen
First Badgerline	Bath, Gloucs, Somerset, Wiltshire
First Beeline	Berkshire
First Bradford	Bradford
First Calderline	Halifax
First Cityline	Bristol
First Crosville	South Cheshire
First Cymru	Cymru
First Eastern Counties	Norfolk & Suffolk
First Eastern National	North Essex
First Edinburgh	Edinburgh
First Glasgow	Glasgow
First Huddersfield	Huddersfield
First Leeds	Leeds
First Leicester	Leicester
First London	London
First Mainline	South Yorkshire
First Manchester	Greater Manchester
First Midland Red	Herefordshire & the West Midlands
First Northampton	Northampton
First PMT	North Staffordshire & South Cheshire
First Provincial	Hampshire
First Southampton	Hampshire
First Southern National	Somerset & Dorset
First Thamesway	South Essex
First Western National	Cornwall & Devon
First York	York

First Interims

The introduction of a national brand name coincided with the announcement of flat interim profits. The results met City expectations and First said it had made a "satisfactory" start to the second half. The company reported underlying pre-tax profit edged up 1 per cent to pounds 55.5m, for the six months to 30 September. The company warned that it would face a 19 per cent hike in insurance costs next year. Total passenger volumes on UK Bus services have increased by 1.4% in the period with notable increases in areas where the Overground/Metro concept of high frequency urban routes has been rolled out.

Thurrock Passengers Anger

Arriva's services in Thurrock came under fire from passengers at a recent transport forum held in South Ockendon.

Managers from the company were quizzed on a number of issues including delays; failing to keep to timetables; unexpected changes to timetables; failing to halt at bus stops; the failure to consult with passengers and even the fact that their service had worsened over the 18 months since the first transport forum meeting.

The Arriva officials admitted their failings and said that attempts to increase the number of drivers with an eight per cent pay rise had failed to attract enough staff to ensure an efficient service. In an effort improve reliability, they had taken on three "supervisors", effectively old-style inspectors to check that buses were sticking to timetables and not cutting out parts of their routes.

Essex Bus Enthusiasts Group December Meeting

Tuesday 11th December 19.30pm

Pullman Suite Freight House Rochford

'Buses in the Winter'

Open Slide Show

**Bring your Slides of Buses with a Christmas or
Winter Theme for a Special Festive Meeting.**

The Rochford Freight House is adjacent to the Southend bound Platform of First Great Eastern. There's also plenty of space for parking and Arriva Buses 7/8 stop close by.

First In Essex First Eastern National

New to the Fleet

975/6 N975/6 EHJ Dennis Dart

Plaxton

B40F

These were ex First Capital in 10/01, but were new to First Thamesway in 1996. The entire batch of 973-986 are expected to return to First in North/South Essex, during the next few weeks.

Latest Allocations

Period End 26.10.01. 117 AB-D/L(D); 346 BE-D/L(D); 601AB-Disp; 602/8/11 Tway-AB; 912 CR-CN; 975/6 Acqd-CR; 2383 now "heritage" ex reserve;
2605 Res-AB(shuttle); 2619 D/L(D)-Paint/refurb spare; 2622 D/L(D)-sold;
2625 CN-AB; 2626 CN-BE; 2801 CR-CN; 3103 Res-AB/refurb spare
AB = Airport Buses

Another Olympian Refurbished

Leyland Olympian/ECW 4013 (C413 HJN) has been refurbished with new flooring, seating moquette and repaint into 'Barbie 2' livery. It is the first double decker in the Essex Buses fleet, in these colours. Both 4007 and 4008 were refurbished last year. It is reported that 4014 is next in line for this treatment.

Unusual Workings

9.8.01. CF 739 on Diamond Service (route branded for 42)
22.10.01. CR 654 on service 78A (late evening journey – 654 route branded for 65)

A shortage of servicable double deckers at Clacton in early November, led to a spate of Darts in use on services normally worked by Olympians.

Single Track Answer

In July's Essex Bus News we asked "Are the Capital Volvo's the first EN vehicles with single track number blind's". Andrew Colebourne has written and says that the open top KSW's, the Bristol MWV coach conversions 1440-1453 and less extensively converted 1435-1439 were so fitted. The latter used one of the destination displays below the windscreen, fitted with a blind showing route numbers only.

Repaints

Olympian 4008 has had a partial rear end repaint and now includes a green (normally yellow) engine cover.

Colour Bus Contracts

CF4007 Chelmsford Council 31/12/01, BE 2826 Meadows Shopping Centre 15/3/02 . CN1511 Dream Radio 15/7/02

Mega Rears

CF2901 & CF2902 Countryside 31/12/01. The contracts for the Essex FM Mega Rears on CF4010 & DT4013 expired at the end of October.

Starting next month in our new look First in Essex page, we'll be printing the latest Mega Rear and Colour Bus info every month together with the complete Allocation and vehicle requirements. From Next issue you'll be in the know!

Service Changes

52B Chelmsford - Pleshey Revised to operate via Broomfield Road in Chelmsford from 5.11.01.

308/9 Stansted Airport -Bishops Park/St. Michaels Mead Revised route and timetable introduced from 8.10.01.

350/1 Chelmsford -Romford Owing to a weight restriction on Widford Railway Bridge, all journeys now operate via Westway and Writtle Road in Chelmsford. Introduced from 29.10.01.

761 Capel St Mary - Holton St Mary - Colchester Schooldays only, one journey each way. Introduced from 8.10.01 Normally worked by Mercedes minibus and is a result of overcrowding on service 751.

Diamond service Chelmsford -Southend Changes from 5.11.01 The 1840 ex Chelmsford extended to Rayleigh and the 1940 revised to depart at 1955 and extended to Rettendon School.

Service Vehicles Update

Further to last month's column, Mercedes minibus 360 (H371 OHK) has been renumbered 9034 and has been in use as a driver shuttle from Chelmsford, in connection with operation of service 73 in Brentwood.

Initial Disposals

To update the last issue, Mercedes minibuses 2611 and 2612 are reported to be with First Leeds, but this is subject to official confirmation.

And it's Goodbye From Me!

This is the final Eastern National column that I will prepare, with the loss of area names from the First Group fleets, it has been decided to incorporate all news in a First in Essex Column from next month.

It has been a pleasure recording the news since January 1987, when by coincidence the company was undergoing the change from Eastern National Omnibus Company Limited to Eastern National Limited, as part of the privatisation process.

I will still be involved with the other operators news and would like to thank all those who have provided input to the column and in particular to David Cornell at Essex Buses Head Office.

Best Wishes to Chris Stewart in the new role of First in Essex Editor. -Ian Ransom

First In Essex First Thamesway

Acquired Vehicles

973	N973EHJ	Dennis Dart/Plaxton B40F
986	N986EHJ	Dennis Dart/Plaxton both ex First Capital (originally Thamesway)
9002	E330WOK	Dodge GO13 724563/Wadham Stringer (1571) B38FA
9003	G707VHA	similar Dodge/Wadham Stringer
9035	J622UTW	Mercedes Benz MB709D ex First Eastern National 2622
	A743JRE	Leyland Olympian ex First Manchester

9002 was new to HM Forces as 93KF29 but was acquired from Flights, Birmingham

9003 arrived in the blue livery of Norfolk Training Services

9035 is in use as a shuttle bus at Hadleigh

Allocations (period ending 28 October)

35 BN-DVT; **355** Reserve-BN; **602** BN-Airport Buses (AB); **603** BN-Disp; **605** BN-Disp; **607** BN-Disp; **608** BN-AB; **609** BN-Disp; **610** BN-AB; **611** BN-Disp; **973** Acq-BN; **986** Acq-BN; **2603** AB-RD (shuttle); **9002** Acq-DVT; **9003** Acq-DVT; **9035** Acq-HH; **9411** DVT-D/L(D)

Disposals

10.01 **603/5/7/9/11** to First Eastern Counties, subsequently reported as follows:
05 (609) Lowestoft; 06 (611) Lowestoft; 07 (603) Norwich; 08 (605) Norwich; 09 (607) Norwich.

Former Thamesway MB 709D **K396GHJ** is reported still operating at Great Yarmouth in full Thamesway livery.

Refurbishments/Repaints

973, **986** both to 'Barbie 2' with white 'First' logos on front and without 'Thamesway' fleetnames.

9003 to 'Barbie 2' without fadeout vinyls.

Service Changes

3 December

951 New route, Mondays only: **Cranham, Cathedrals Estate** (off St Mary's Lane just east of the low bridge) **to Romford**.

955 Ilford- Romford- Hainault, various journeys, Mon/Tue/Wed/Fri/Sat Rerouted in the Manford Way area of Hainault to cover withdrawal of First Capital 511, though not serving Limes Farm.

956 Thames View Estate & Dagenham Asda, Mons Withdrawn.

This month's News

- Super 8-liveried Dart BN924 was involved in a serious accident at Durham Road, Laindon on the evening of 5.10.01 when hit by a car, the driver of which lost his life. The bus driver was unhurt but badly shaken, on his last day working for the company. There was extensive damage to the front offside corner of the Dart.
- First Thamesway's involvement with the 721 duly ended on 27.10.01, Volvo 610 (N610APU) being noted on the final departure at 17.00 from Southend. Subsequently there have been several sightings of the five transferred to First Eastern Counties, which include 611 still in Victoria Coach Station advertising livery
- Wickford to Shenfield rail replacements seen at work on 21.10.01 were 3083, 4004, 4012, 4024, 4026, 4030, 5001 and 5006.
- Volvo 35 is to become a permanent Driving Trainer at Basildon, but has recently been seen again on Brentwood local services and will also be used by Basildon Sports & Social Club whilst it is still licensed as a PCV. The last Bedford driving trainer has now been delicensed.
- Bristol K5G AJN825 left Basildon on 5.11.01 to be repainted, and is due to return in post-War Westcliff style (with red bonnet sides rather than silver).

FLEET ALLOCATION 28.10.01

Basildon (BN)	355/72/4-6/9-80, 711-6/34-8, 805/9/11, 852-5, 913-5/8-22/4-34/59-73/86, 1430/2/3, 2657/60/1, 3109/12, 4026/30, 5005
Hadleigh (HH)	314-21/3-7, 701-10/8-21, 808, 935-42/6-58, 987, 1400/4-6/9-12, 1417-24/31, 3069, 3113, 4003-5/27
Romford (RD)	401-10, 806/7/10, 2603/58/9/62
Reserve	368 (RD/BN)
Disposal	310/57/64/81, 603/5/7/9/11, 3226, 4031, 9017/31/2, 9411
Driver Training	35, 625, 9002/3 (usually at BN)
Ancillary vehicles	9001, 9028-30 (at BN)

	BN	RD	HH	TOTAL
TRAFFIC REQ				
Minibus	12	15	11	38
Midibus	44	0	35	79
SD	3	0	15	18
DD	4	0	5	9
ENG SPARES				
Minibus	1	2	3	6
Midibus	6	0	2	8
SD	0	0	2	2
DD	1	0	1	2
Total	71	17	74	162

NEXT MONTH – LOOK OUT FOR THE NEW LOOK FIRST IN ESSEX PAGES!

First Thamesway In Southend

Monday to Saturday (off peak)

The location of Hadleigh garage and the remoteness of some routes dictates a need for buses to pass this changeover point at least one every four and a half hours, resulting in a very complex series of car workings.

2/20/21/22/25/27 This group of routes requires about 35 buses off peak but the pattern changes during morning and evening peak hours because of extras for school and peak hour only services like the 15 and 16. Interworking takes place at Basildon and Southend on the 22 & 25, Canvey for the 21 & 22 and 20/21/22 at Southend.

Route 3 is largely self-contained requiring 6 buses and this route is scheduled to move to easy access buses in the Winter.

Canvey Clipper requires 5 Low floor Darts on Mon – Sat.

24 & 29 9 Minibuses jointly work the 24 and 29 with a few journeys operated by conventional size buses at rush hours.

Sunday Services

First Thamesway provides quite a comprehensive daytime service in Southend on Sundays requiring 18 buses and to allow for all buses to pass Hadleigh Garage, a similar procedure to Weekdays is implemented.
In simple terms the routes are split into 4 groups –

2/64/65 3 buses (Inc 1 from BN - this bus starts with the 0900 Service 2 from Basildon with its final trip being the 1745 Service 2 for Southend) This group of routes Interworks at Southend.

3/20 4 Buses (the XX 38 Southend Arrival on the 20 then works the XX 45 Departure on the 3, the XX 57 Arrival on the 3 works the XX 05 journey on the 20)

11A/21/22/25 7 buses interworking at Sutton Cemetery and Southend

20/27 4 buses (The XX 22 Southend Arrival on the 27 then operates the XX 35 Service 20 and XX 08 Southend Arrival on the 20 then undertakes a journey to Canvey at XX 20)

Hopefully this gives a reasonable idea of how services are resourced. Obviously there are exceptions to the patterns shown and any updates or further details are of course welcome.

ARRIVA Southend

Into The Fleet

2186/7 R186/7 DNM Mercedes Vario 0810D/ Plaxton Beaver2 from Harlow

Out of The Fleet

2131/3 N911/3 ETM Mercedes 709D/Plaxton Transferred To Luton

4332/3 H567 MPD & H845 AHS Volvo B10M

Green Line Update

The two B10M coaches were withdrawn as a result of the reduction in the Green Line service 721. From 29th October, a much-reduced Mon-Fri service was introduced requiring 7 coaches and no longer serving Basildon.

On Saturdays 8 coaches are required and the journeys previously operated by Arriva remain as before (with very minor changes) but obviously minus the former Thamesway workings. Sundays are also unchanged - Arriva ran alone on Sundays anyway. The Saturday/Sunday service continues to serve Basildon but is likely to be revised from mid January.

The service has recently suffered delays owing to long-term work to demolish Movers Land flyover at Barking and replace it with an underpass.

383 Changes

The two buses nominally dedicated to working on Arriva East Herts & Essex Route 383 at Grays on Mondays to Fridays are being changed from 5402/3 (H262/3 GEV) to older Alexander Olympians 5394/6 (F574/6 SMG).

Darts on the way

4 P Reg Darts are expected from Grays in December, once Grays gets its 14 new DAF/Wright Cadets for TfL routes 256 and 346. These Darts are likely to replace minibuses on Route 29 (Southend - Eastwood, Belgrave Road).

ARRIVA Colchester

Latest Vehicle News

- 30/10/01 - Dennis Dart **3091(H922 LOX)** was sent back to Harlow, lots of problems with it. It was replaced by **3092 (H923 LOX)**.
- **5259 (B289 WUL)** MCW Metrobus has been transferred to Harlow.
- 31/10/01 - **4312 (B100 XTW)** Leyland Tiger TRCCTL11/3RP coach passed it's MOT and is back in business.
- It is understood that more Darts are expected shortly. More information and an updated fleet list as soon as we have it.

ARRIVA East Herts & Essex

Into The Fleet

From Arriva the Shires 2117/8 10/01
2117 N187 EMJ MB 709D 669003-2N-032766 Pn 957.6MHV4243 B27F
 8/95
2118 N188 EMJ MB 709D 669003-2N-032899 Pn 957.6MHV4245 B27F
 8/95
 From Arriva the Shires 2119/20 11/01
2119 N189 EMJ MB 709D 669003-2N-034220 Pn 957.6MHV4246 B27F
 8/95
2120 N190 EMJ MB 709D 669003-2N-034251 Pn 957.6MHV4247 B27F
 8/95
 From Arriva Colchester 3091 11/01
3091 H922 LOX Ds Dt 9SDL3004/306 Carlyle C27.005 B40F 2/91
 From Arriva Colchester 5259 10/01
5259 B289 WUL MCW DR101/17 MCW H43/28F 4/85
 Note 2333/6-8 returned from Arriva London North in 10/01;

Allocation Changes

9/01: **5363 WE**
 10/01: **2333/6-8/53 w. 5259/363 HA; 5378 w.**
 11/01: **2333/6, 3091 HA**

Out of The Fleet

2186/7 (R186/7 DNM): Arriva Southend 2186/7 10/01
3091 (H922 LOX): Arriva Colchester 3091 10/01 - Since returned to Harlow
3092 (H923 LOX): Arriva Colchester 3092 11/01
GYE 529W, : gone 10/01
Correction EBN449 p10 Vehicles out - delete **5363 (BYX 233V)** - remains in stock

Liveries

9/01: Arriva corporate - 5363 (BYX 233V)
 10/01: In Arriva corporate - 2117/8 (N187/8 EMJ), 2336 (L722 OVX), 5259 (B289 WUL)
 10/01: In County Bus - 2337 (L717 OVX)
 11/01: In Arriva corporate - 2119/20 (N189/90 EMJ)

Dart Explanation

- Dart 3091 was sent to Colchester to replace Metrobus 5259. However attention was required on the vehicle and is been exchanged for similar 3092. The transfer is understood to be temporary.

Page 13
Ivecos Out

- With the influx of **MB 709Ds** from other depots within Arriva the Shires empire, all remaining Ft/lo 59-12s are expected to be withdrawn from operational service by the end of November 2001.
- 10/01: 2090/6 (M150/6 RBH), 2233 (M583 SSX), 2333/7/8 (L723/17/18 OVX), 2358 (M738 AOO) were parked at Arriva the Shires' Stevenage (BD) depot awaiting disposal. However 2333, together with 2336 were returned to service 1/11/01.

Metrobuses Latest

- The **Metrobus** situation has become acute with several of Ware's required pvr of 10 being off the road for various mechanical defects. Their duties are being undertaken by Dennis Dart SLFs released from service 331 whose duties are being undertaken by standard Darts 3355/65/85. Metrobus 5259 was understood to have been received for spares recovery but was resurrected to replace Olympian 5378, that is to be disposed of for scrap.
11/01: Metrobuses KYV 642X & 5269 (B169 WUL) were being stripped for spares at Hoddesdon

Harlow Deckers

- Harlow's D/D fleet now consists of Ld Olympians 5375 (MUH 285X), 5379 (TPD 109X) and Metrobuses 5259 (B289 WUL), 5363 (BYX 233V)
- As at 1/11/01 Harlow/Debden's PVR was 3 D/D, 28 Mini & 47 S/D

Service Vehicle For Scrap

- Vauxhall Astra Van 1165 (P731 KNV) has been transferred from Grays to Ware/Hoddesdon for breaking

See Page 16 for this month's service changes

BUSMARKS – The Best Websites around–

www.firstcapital.org.uk

The unofficial First London site has full timetables for all services operated by Dagenham, Northumberland Park and Hackney Garages
PLUS There's the latest travel news, Plenty of Photo's and some unique Downloads.

One of the best sites around, it should set the standard for all bus websites.



First Thamesway 3069 Bristol VRT/ECW Sunday 16th September was a real treat for Bristol VR fans when Hadleigh Garage used this VR on Underground replacement work between Paddington and Kings Cross. Chris Stewart caught up with 3069 at the end of its Journey at Kings Cross with a First London Metrobus behind.



Leyland Tiger/Alexander TE HHJ 373Y Andrew Colebourne's Photo depicts former Eastern National 1112, now numbered 2224 at work with First Western National in Westgate Street, Launceston on Service 76 to Plymouth on 11th July 2001.



Former Southend Transport 342 YVW 359S Leyland Leopard PSU3E/4R/Duple Dominant 2. Now working with Wiltax of Shankin, Isle of Wight, this coach was purchased by Southend Transport in 1984 from Heeps Tours of Leeds. New in 1978, it was once registered as 406 AOT. (Dave Arnold)



The Coach used on the very first Essex Bus Enthusiasts Group Tour in 1961. Read all about this Coach and the tour on Page 27.

ARRIVA East Herts & Essex

Service Changes

Monday 24th September

211,212,213 Waltham Cross locals, M-S Minor timing adjustments.

Saturday 29th September

324 Bluewater & Hornchurch, Daily Withdrawn between Abbs Cross and Hornchurch, and rerouted via Roneo Corner to Romford. The route in Romford is via Roneo Corner, South Street, Oldchurch Road, Waterloo Road, to St Edwards Way (turning at the North Street roundabout). It is unable to terminate at Romford Brewery Bus station as building work has still to be completed.

348 Lakeside & Romford, M-S Withdrawn between Upminster Station and Romford. Extended M-S (including evenings) from Lakeside via Arterial Road, Elizabeth Road, Hogg Lane, Grays, Little Thurrock, Tilbury Asda to Tilbury Civic Square.

370 Romford & Grays, Daily, to Tilbury, M-S) Withdrawn between Grays and Tilbury (see 348). Between Lakeside and Grays, the route (on Mon-Sat, incl. evenings) is now via Galleon Road, Mayflower Road, Lancaster Road, Warren Lane, Clockhouse Lane, Chafford Hundred Medical Centre, Drake Road and Hogg Lane. On Sundays it omits this new section and instead runs via Arterial Road, Elizabeth Road and Hogg Lane.

373 Romford & Grays, Daily Rerouted between Arterial Road and Grays via Lodge Lane and Hathaway Road instead of via Hogg Lane.

Monday 22nd October

C1 Cuffley & Cheshunt Station, M-F peaks, with odd jnys to Turnford. Additional Mon-Fri off-peak and Saturday service added, hourly from Cuffley Station via Goffs Oak, Newgate Street Road, Hammond Street, Brookfield Lane, Brookfield Centre, Whitefields Road, Church Lane to Cheshunt Station. The existing M-F peak service continues to run via Rosedale and Churchgate (rather than Brookfield) between Hammond Street and Cheshunt, although it now runs via Goffs Lane rather than Rosedale Way (south). The two garage journeys to and from Ware withdrawn.

C2 Holdbrook Estate & Cuffley via Bury Green, M-F Journeys via Church Lane withdrawn, and also withdrawn between Rosedale and Cuffley. Revised M-F timetable and Saturday service added. To run instead from Holdbrook Estate, via Waltham Cross, Cheshunt Pond, College Road, Bury Green, Barrow Lane, Dark Lane, to Rosedale, then extended via Brookfield Lane to Brookfield Centre.

C3 New route, Mon-Sat offpeak: Holdbrook Estate, via Waltham Cross, Cheshunt Pond, Cheshunt Wash, Turnford Bull's Head to Brookfield Centre.

Thank you to LOTS for much of the service change information. See their website at lots.org.uk for how to join and receive their monthly magazine 'The London Bus'

Phoenix Student Travel

Service Changes

Service 559 Purfleet - Southend; Schooldays. Ensign Bus Co
From 26 November, the service will start from Tilbury.

Service 560 Purfleet - Southend; Schooldays. Ensign Bus Co
From 26 November, the service will start from Langdon Hills.

Vehicle News

Into The Fleet

6012 B204DTU Leyland Olympian/ECW DPH42/27F ex Arriva Midlands North via Ensign (q) in 9.01 and based at Maldon. This bus is not expected to be painted and is likely to be returned to Ensign in due course.

The Leyland Tiger Coach E275 KEF has been given fleet number **5008**.

Repaints

5008 (E275KEF) and 6003/6/7 (C64/92/77CHM) are now painted blue (10.01).

Hedingham & District

Vehicle News

L321 G995VWV is now B51F

L251 MRJ8W was repainted at Hedingham 9.01 and has been resealed to H43/31F

L296 M441CVG was repainted at Tollesbury 10.01

L135 KGS489Y has been repainted by an outside firm (9.01).

L211 M212WHJ has been repainted at Tollesbury. (10.01)

New Paragons

Two new Volvo B10M automatic/Plaxton Paragon C53F are in build for entry to service on 1.1.02. Registration and Chassis Body numbers will be given shortly.

SEE THE BACK PAGE

GREAT IDEAS FOR CHRISTMAS GIFTS

Other Essex Operators

ADVANCE HOCKLEY N387VPB MB 312D/MB-Stanford Coachworks is in by 9.01 (possibly a recent conversion from a van)

ALPINE TAXIS ROCHFORD X563EAW Ford Transit /Central Conversions is in by 9.01 on a taxi plate

AMBER RAYLEIGH Previously reported SAZ 2350 is a Bedford YNT/Plaxton Supreme V, but no further details are known.

ANITAS SAWBRIDGEWORTH This operator has now moved to Essex, with the operating centre being located at Stonehall Business Park, Matching Green.

APT RAYLEIGH Leyland Tiger/Plaxton UJI 2339 (new as C202 PPE) has been acquired from Arriva, Cymru. Plaxton bodied DAF, HIL 7591 (D270 XRG) has passed to Amber, Rayleigh. Bova Futura A20 APT (new as L76 RAK) has also been sold. This operator is using Riverside Garden Centre, Hullbridge Road, Rayleigh as an additional operating centre.

BARKER ROYDON Bova Europa SIB 3277 (PWP 667Y) was sold to a Kent based operator last year. Also sold is Duple 425 CIB 347 (new as D108 XSS)

BJS GT WAKERING BJS327Y is now on a Toyota/Caetano (this is thought to be the former F697PAY which Snow has had a long time).

BOON BOREHAM The MCW Metrobus is now in use here, with former London Northern B146 WUL. It replaces former Colchester Atlantean/ECW YNO 78S which has gone to Ensigns.

BRENTWOOD COACHES Volvo/Jonckhree HIL 8221 (new as G654 ONH) has been sold.

BRIANS MAYLANDSEA MAN/Berkhof J20 GSM has been acquired. Also acquired from Stans, Gt Totham is Bedford YMT/Plaxton PBC 648W

CARTERS IPSWICH A long term supporter of Bristol/ECW combinations is using Bristol VR/ECW PWY37W still in Cambus livery. More bizarre is HNP 165S the same combination but converted to single deck! Both appear in Colchester from time to time.

CEDRIC WIVENHOE Volvo/Jonckhree L5 GAR has been acquired, it has been reregistered L565 TUP.

CEEFA COACHES BASILDON Former Cunningham, Corringham Setra 572 XAE (KEU 572X) has been acquired.

CHAMBERS SOUTH BENFLEET EU51RXR Ford Transit is in by 10.01 It replaces similar R897 XBJ.

CHELMSFORD CAB A further Omni sold is H744 LHN. Offered for sale at Chelmsford Auctions were similar G622 EDC, H228 BKM, H994 DKL and J998 MKL

CLINTONA BRENTWOOD A recent addition is Mercedes Vario/Plaxton T451 HNH. N837 LGA Mercedes Benz 709D/Wadham Stringer is in by 8.01. From 5.11.01. the 0708 ex Stondon and 1810 ex Warley on service 72 were diverted to operate via Coxtie Green

CM3 CARS Commenced operation of service CM3 Express between South Woodham Ferrers and Maldon via Bicknacre on Mondays to Fridays from 30th July 2001.

CN ENTERPRISES LOUGHTON RJ1 2720 (A463 HJF) a DAF/Plaxton is reported as having been acquired last year.

COLCHESTER COACHES CLACTON Leyland Atlantean/Roe KPJ 268W has been sold for scrap.

COOK ROCHFORD DAF/Plaxton 799 XWC (D622 SJX) was sold earlier this year. It has been replaced by Bova Futura L343 RWF.

COUNTY COACHES BRENTWOOD Bedford YNT/Plaxton 1023 RU was re-registered D71 HRU, earlier this year and has since been sold. Bristol VR 2899 RU has reverted to its original CJH 121V. Scania/Irizar T745 JHE is now registered 2786 RU, this was previously on a Bristol VR/ECW (MEL 561P), which is assumed to have gone.

CROWN BENFLEET Iveco/Carlyle minibus G403 DPD was acquired earlier this year.

CUTTS NAZEING This operator ceased earlier this year.

DENGIE TAXIS LATCHINGDON X196NJJN LDV Convoy is in by 9.01 (on PSV disc)

EXCELLENT CONNECTIONS STANSTED Are operating Ford Transit X369 THK. It replaced similar R455 HVW. Late news is that X369 THK has been replaced by similar GJ 51 LGX.

FARGO RAYNE Scania/Van Hool L399 LHE has been sold, as has LDV Convoy S435 RBC. Former Eastern National Leyland Olympian/ECW B689 BPU has been acquired from Stephenson's, Rochford. Former Arriva Southend Fleetlines Q475MEV (ex GHJ377L) & Q554MEV (ex GHJ376L) have also been acquired.

FLORIDA HALSTEAD DAF/Berkhof B680 BTW has been sold.

FOURWAYS HIGHWOOD Have acquired Bristol VR/ECW UNW 928R and GGM 106W from County Coaches, Brentwood. MCW Metroliner C979 HOX is for sale, but for spares only.

FORD ALTHORNE Departures from the fleet are PKE 809M a Bristol VR/ECW and TGR 66R a Bedford YRQ/Plaxton.

GARDNER HIGHWOOD This expanding fleet has added, LDZ 9430 (new as FRP 831X) a DAF/Van Hool.

GENIAL STANWAY H140AFV DAF/Van Hool C53F is in 9.01 ex Ribblesdale, Gt. Harwood. OIL2479 (ex F855XJX, VTY226, F855XJX) Volvo/Plaxton has gone to Lodges, High Easter

GLEW COLCHESTER VAZ8024 (ex A717GJA) Leyland Royal Tiger Doyen is in by 9.01 via Stephenson (dealer), Rochford

GOLDEN BOY ROYDON Mercedes Vario/Plaxton W574 JVV was acquired earlier this year. Dennis Javelin/Plaxton N942 EWG and Mercedes minicoach M635 UCT are no longer here. N99BOY Volvo/Van Hool is believed to be either N69WEW or N71WEW reregistered (the other being N66BOY).

GREYHOUND COACHES BRENTWOOD The Bristol MW/ECW here is FHW154D - it is taxed as an historical vehicle.

HAILSTONE BASILDON Mercedes 711D minicoach P614 RGB is a recent arrival.

HARRIS COACHES WEST THURROCK A further DAF/Ikarus here is P872 PWW.

HARWICH TAXIS Joins the list of taxi operators with PSV's. Here are Ford Transit C5 SHH and DAF 400 J428 UOC.

HOWARD HALSTEAD Mercedes minicoach E807 OEE is in stock here, but has not been reported before.

IMPERIAL RAINHAM Service 46 (Chelmsford to Ongar) had some journeys revised to serve St Michaels Drive, Roxwell from 5.11.01. This operator has been withdrawn from the Transport for London operators list. Service 549 between Loughton and South Woodford is now being operated by Arriva London.

INGATESTONE COACHES Have sold TJI 6277 (new as PEB 1R) a Bedford YMT/Duple.

JACKSONS BICKNACRE Mercedes minibus F303 RMH has gone to Rhonda, Southend.

JWS HORNDON ON THE HILL Ford Transit F561 YHA has joined the fleet from Bobs, Wickford. Mercedes /Marshall N254 DUR is being used on service 374. Service 374 had a Sunday service introduced from 25.11.01. operating between East Tilbury and Lakeside via Chadwell St Mary and Stifford Clays.

KB WICKFORD Have acquired MAN 280 KIB 289 (JAM 922W) from Presidential Coachways, Shoeburyness.

KIRBY RAYLEIGH WYV596 is now on a Setra S215HD (assumed to be recently acquired G393CLH (3262MW, G719XLO)

The previous WYV596 (ex FUA406Y) a Setra S215H must have been reregistered and sold - probably to Evobus (dealer), Coventry (this name is on the number plates of the new WYV596).

KV MINIBUS LITTLE OAKLEY R9BRT Renault Master is in by 8.01 (probably in 6.01 ex Frating auction). This operator is keeping this vehicle in the car park of Frating auction.

LINKFAST BENFLEET Talbot Pullman H711 FWD has been sold to Club M, Walton on Naze.

MIKES CRAYS HILL Former Southend Transport Tiger/Plaxton A124 EPA went to Dawes, Bassingbourn some while ago.

NATIONAL EXPRESS Winter schedules on all services came into operation on 26.9.01.

NCS NEWPORT Further additions to this fleet are N470 JRK a LDV 200 and LNV Convoy T993 RJE. Yet another Renault Traffic is M76 AJN

NELSONS SHOTGATE From 19.11.01. the 1535 ex Shenfield School on service 46 was withdrawn. A revised timetable was introduced on service 37 (South Woodham Ferrers town service) from 21.8.01.

OLYMPIAN COACHES LATTON Leyland National Greenway NIW 4810 (AYR 329T) is reported to be here.

PHILLIPS SOUTH WOODHAM FERRERS MAN SR280 YFJ 694X (new as KMR 4X) was acquired from the now defunct Wilkins, Takeley.

RAYLEIGH ROADWAYS Setra SIW 8306 (new as PKW 322X) has been sold.

ROYDON COACH TRAVEL A recent addition is F886 NAR a Mercedes 609D/AVB.

RUFFLE CASTLE HEDINGHAM Leyland Tiger/Plaxton DNK 576Y has been sold, as has L326 BKM a LDV 400.

SJH SHOTGATE Volvo B58/Plaxton LFX 654 (TGD 975R), was sold some time ago.

SM TRAVEL HARLOW A further ex Arriva EH&E vehicle here is Iveco/Dormobile K708 WNO.

SOUTHEND RADIO CARS A further non-PSV Ford Transit here is E959 UOK.

STAGECOACH CAMBUS From 12.11.01. service 102 (Saffron Walden to Cambridge) will be withdrawn and replaced by a new service, numbered 32.

STANS GT TOTHAM XRT 947X (ex WOI3004) Leyland B21/Alexander Belfast B51F is in 8.01 ex Ipswich 153. EBM 460T Bedford/Plaxton Supreme is in 9.01.

STEPHENSON ROCHFORD Have sold Volvo/Ikarus E964 EHK. Added to the operational fleet is D523 DWP (ex 3698 E) Scania/Plaxton 4000. Former Southend Fleetline MRJ 233W is reported in use on schools work.

Can You Help Fill In The Gaps?
Email Report Line essexbusnews@hotmail.com

STORT VALLEY STANSTED A large number of vehicles were returned to dealers earlier this year, they include Volvo's P77 HMC; Dennis Javelins P22/33/44/55/66/77/88/99/ 222/333/444/666/777 TCC P423/4 JDT; Mercedes mini's P215-7 OLC and LDV Convoys R41-3 BYG. A fleet addition is Volvo/Plaxton P186 NAK, this is in Airlinks livery for use on the Birmingham service. Also in Airlinks livery is R129 XWF a Dennis Javelin/Plaxton. Service 301A from Start Hill to Saffron Walden via Stansted Airport was registered to start from 15.10.01. operating Monday to Friday, except school holidays.

SUPREME SOUTHEND Acquired is Scania/Irizar R874 SDT. A further ex Travel West Midlands metrobus is LOA 337X, while Ford Transit S825 ONK is here for non-PSV work. The registration HSK860 is on a Mercedes Benz minibus by 10.01(sorry no further details of this or the previous holder of this number)

TEE JAYS WIVENHOE Have acquired F704 a Freight Rover from Knights, Gt Braxted. Also acquired is DAF/Jonckhree NIJ 2636 (B502 CBD)

TOMS SOUTHEND K779EVW Ford Transit was in by 9.01 (ex Essex County Council). The o/c is 11 Eastwoodbury Lane, Southend. Also on the drive was R14HTS Mercedes Benz 108D which we assume belongs to this fleet

TREKKERS HARLOW Duple 425 C300 BYO is now registered WAZ 3828.

TURNERS WICKHAM ST PAUL Leyland Royal Tiger Doyen RJ1 9418 (new as B109 UAG) has been sold.

VICEROY SAFFRON WALDEN Schooldays only journeys on service 313 between Thaxted and Saffron Walden were introduced on 27.9.01.

WALDEN CABS SAFFRON WALDEN M646 BEW a LDV 200 has been acquired from Axtax, Saffron Walden.

WARD ARLESFORD Bristol VR/ECW DWU 297T has been sold for scrap. Scania/Van Hool M222 DDY is to be kept and is now registered JIL 7651.

ESSEX - Non-PSV Operators

Danbury Scout Group

P346PEW LDV Convoy/LDV (low) is with this group (by 9.01)

3rd Ongar Scout Group

J561LKR Fd Tt (l.w.b.)/Fd-Car Chair is with this group (by 9.01)

Southend Borough Council

The following were at the Avro Training Centre off Eastwoodbury Lane (9.01)

K873GOO Fd Tt/Do B..L (no. 203)

P960HTW ?/Bds B..L

T315JLH lo/lo M..L (no. 216)

V124DLH lo/lo

Y694FNO lo/lo M..L

Y722FNO lo/lo M..L (no. 220)

Y216NPU lo/lo M..L (no. 221)

Woodlands School, Chelmsford

S307POV LDV Convoy/LDV (low) is in by 9.01

Audrey Appleton Trust Y146RAR Fd Tt (s.w.b.)/Fd-Advanced is in by 10.01 (probably from new. Their previous vehicle, H983DUD, passed through Chelmsford auction in 9.01)

Essex Dealer Report

The latest vehicle movements at Purfleet dealer Ensignbus

Vehicles in

From Arriva London M468 (BF 03/09) M708,M725 (WN 04/09) M541(BF 04/09) M680 M809 (BF 05/09) M711,M720,M789 (WN 12/09)
 M's 266,491,585,619,621,622,625,628,635,645,703,796,939,1109,1173,1255 and 1279. All from WN/AD and EM.
 From Metroline M1430 (PB 05/09) M's 58,1071,1082,1149,1168.
 From White Rose M88 (02/09)
 From Arriva Midlands North Metrobus TOJ592S and Olympian B204DTU.
 From Liverpool and District Atlantean SDC146H.
 From Arriva TOLST T69,T83,T100,RM753.

Vehicles out

T434,T18,T816,T828 Shamrock,Wales.
 T448 Leroy,Cambs.
 Olympians C266XEF,B245NVN,B253PHN Heyfordian,OX.
 M541Alec Head,Peterbrough.
 VR WJM822T Weavaway Travel,Newbury.
 Olympian CMN45CForestgate Coaches,Croydon.
 Olympians MAN80N,MAN82H Confidence,Leicester.
 M809,M708,M468 Metropolitan Omnibus.
 Olympian MAN54N Sanders,Holt.
 M88 S and M ,Benfleet.
 Metrobus TOJ592S Karl Griffin,Dartford.
 M1334 Longs Coaches,S. Wales.
 T1042 T1043 Glenvale,Liverpool.
 M868 Hertfordshire Council as a internet training bus.
 M703 West Kent Bus and Coach.
 M1113,M1119 Longs Coaches,South Wales.
 M594 PVS,Barnsley.
 T6 Mark Cole,Hornchurch (preservation)
 L111 American Industries (for con. to mobile dishwasher exhibition unit!)
 MK2 Metro's E751SKR,E753SKR Galway Council,Eire.
 Olympian C265XEF Heyfordian,Ox.
 MK2 Metro F181YDA Geldards Coaches,Leeds.
 London Pride 202/3 (VVN202/3Y) Arriva TOLST.
 Dodge A18WST Field Systems Design (to paint Dartford Tunnel)
 Hong Kong Metro ML55/MB9025 Top Line Travel,York.
 M622 and 635 Norfolk Green.
 M491,635 Johns School of Motoring

Disposals and subsequent history of London based vehicles are covered in more detail by London Omnibus Traction Society (LOTS) See their web page www.lots.org.uk for details on joining the group. For more about Ensign check www.ensignbus.com

Where Are They Now ?

Continuing our regular look at the latest locations of former
Eastern National , Thamesway & Essex Buses

<u>FLEET NO.</u>	<u>REG No's.</u>	<u>DETAILS.</u>	<u>DATE.</u>	<u>EN.TW or EB.</u>
20	E131RNV [ex NTL655 WSV144 A13SMT E353KSF]	Vocking (t/a New Green Travel), St Albans.	06/00	EB
108	P751HTW	European Overland, - ? - .	10/00	EB
114	DSU733 [ex DSU470 PNK170R]	Board & Harmer (t/a H & B Coaches), Bolton. ex Hardwick, Carlton (dlr).	01/01	EB
211	C685ECV [ex C688ECV]	gone. ex Garrett, Tonbridge.	11/00	EB
245	F245MVW	First Pioneer Bus Ltd FLEET No 1852. ex First Manchester FLEET No 1852.	02/01	EB
0202	C202HJN	- ? - , - ? - (Transporter). ex Webber, Bodmin.	by 07/01	EN
0208	C208HJN	gone. ex First Western National FLEET No 6158.	by 11/00	EN
0219	C219HJN	gone. ex First Western National FLEET No 6169.	by 11/00	EN
0220	C220HJN	gone. ex First Western National FLEET No 6170.	by 11/00	EN
0221	C221HJN	Bailey (t/a DSP Travel), Blackburn. ex Henderson, Penygraig.	03/01	EN
0223	C223HJN	gone. ex First Western National FLEET No 6173.	by 11/00	EN
0224	C224HJN	gone. ex First Western National FLEET No 6174.	by 11/00	EN
229	D229PPU	Daughton, Lixnaw, EI. ex Hardwick, Carlton (dlr).	08/96	TW
232	D232PPU	Flynn, Killorglin, EI. ex Hardwick, Carlton (dlr).	08/96	TW
236	86-C-3755 [ex D236PPU]	O'Connor & Healy, Portlaoise. ex Hardwick, Carlton (dlr). to O'Brien, Killkenny. to Kavanagh B, Urlingford. to Barry, Cork.	by 07/98 by 08/00 08/00	TW
301	H301LPU	First Eastern Counties FLEET No 969. ex First Capital FLEET No 581.	03/01	EB
302	H302LPU	First Pioneer Bus Ltd FLEET No 1858. ex First Manchester FLEET No 1858. ex First Capital FLEET No 582.	03/01 11/00	EB
303	H303LPU	Erith Commericals, Crayford (dlr). ex First Eastern Counties. ex First Capital FLEET No 583.	06/01 03/01	EB
304	H304LPU	First Pioneer Bus Ltd FLEET No 1859. ex First Capital FLEET No 584.	10/00	EB
305	H305LPU	First Pioneer Bus Ltd FLEET No 1860. ex First Capital FLEET No 585 [corrects EBN446/17].	10/00	EB
308	H308LJN	First Eastern Counties FLEET No 844.		
309	H310LJN	Erith Commericals, Crayford (dlr). ex First Eastern Counties [for spares].	11/00	EB

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311	H312LJN	First Eastern Counties FLEET No 836.		
336	H345LJN	First Western National FLEET No 6670. ex Capital Citybus FLEET No 936 [Corrects EBN446/18].	03/00	EB
341	H351LJN	Erith Commercial, Crayford (dlr). ex First Eastern Counties FLEET No B863. ex Halesworth Transit FLEET No B863 [Corrects EBN446/18].	05/00 03/00	EB
343	H353LJN	Jordan, Coltishall (dlr). ex First Eastern Counties.	02/01	EB
345	H355LJN	Jordan, Coltishall (dlr). ex First Eastern Counties.	01/01	EB
348	H358LJN	First Eastern Counties FLEET No 838.		
350	573UVX	McLaughlin, Stevenage (preservation). ex Hallett, Trowbridge (preservation).	by 01/01	EN
353	H364LJN	First Eastern Counties FLEET No 839.		
371	H382OHK	First Eastern Counties FLEET No 837.		
377	H388OHK	Erith Commercial, Crayford (dlr). ex First Eastern Counties.	by 11/00	EB
383	H394OHK	Erith Commercial, Crayford (dlr). ex First Eastern Counties [for spares].	12/00	EB
388	H388MAR	First Manchester FLEET No 1862. ex First Capital FLEET No 588.	11/00	EB
389	H389MAR	First Eastern Counties FLEET No 968. ex First Capital FLEET No 599.	03/01	EB
390	H390MAR	Mainline Group Ltd FLEET No 150. ex First Capital North FLEET No 590.	12/00	EB
391	H391MAR	Erith Commercial, Crayford (dlr). ex First Eastern Counties. ex First Capital FLEET No 591.	06/01 03/01	EB
392	H392MAR	Centrewest FLEET No MB592. ex First Capital FLEET No 592.	01/01	EB
393	H393MAR	PVS, Carlton (dlr for scrap). ex First Capital FLEET No 593.	by 06/01	EB
394	H394MAR	First Eastern Counties FLEET No 903. ex First Capital FLEET No 594.	03/01	EB
395	H395MAR	First Eastern Counties FLEET No 904. ex First Capital FLEET No 595.	03/01	EB
396	K396GHJ	First Eastern Counties FLEET No 902. ex First Capital FLEET No 596.	03/01	EB
512	IAZ6394	gone.	02/01	TW
	[ex B336BGL]	ex Karim, Odsal.		
518	J46SNY	Plaxton, Anston (dlr). ex Watts, Old Tupton.	08/01	EB
0600	B10TJW	Halifax Bus, Halifax FLEET No TJ10. ex Walsh, Halifax.	06/01	EN
0603	B16TGW	Halifax Bus, Halifax FLEET No TJ16. ex Walsh, Halifax.	06/01	EN
0703	B469WTC	gone.	by 08/00	EN
0711	C436BHY	ex Ladbroke & Boor, Sutton Bridge. [Mobile Caravan] - ? - , - ? - . ex Cooper, Woolston.	by 04/01 by 04/01	EN
803	F803RHK	Mainline Group FLEET No 175. Essex Buses.	by 02/01 12/00	EB
804	F804RHK	ex First Capital FLEET No 603. Essex Buses [for spares] ex First Capital FLEET No 604.	12/00	EB

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1001	HDZ5488 [ex EWR651Y]	Mainline Group Ltd FLEET No 80. re-reg EWR651Y. to First Hampshire.	08/01 by 09/01	EB
1004	A660KUM	Mainline Group Ltd FLEET No 83. ex Northampton FLEET No 411.	06/00	EB
1113	HHJ374Y	PMT Ltd FLEET No 297. ex First Manchester FLEET No 7297. ex PMT Ltd FLEET No 7297. re-numbered 7297 from 297.	07/01 03/01 01/01	TW
1114	HHJ375Y	Southern National FLEET No <u>2230</u> [Corrects EBN443/15]. to First Southern National FLEET No 2230.	04/01	EB
1115	HHJ376Y	Southern National FLEET No <u>2231</u> [Corrects EBN443/15]. to Southern National FLEET No 2231.	04/01	EB
1117	83-G-1391 [ex HHJ378Y MJ12368 HHJ378Y]	<u>Healy</u> , Castlegar [Corrects EBN443/15].		
1120	HHJ381Y	Southern National FLEET No <u>2225</u> [Corrects EBN443/15]. to First Southern National FLEET No 2225.	04/01	EN
1121	HHJ382Y	Southern National FLEET No <u>2226</u> [Corrects EBN443/15]. to First Southern National FLEET No 2226.	04/01	EN
1122	A691OHJ	First Southern National FLEET No 2224.	04/01	TW
1123	A692OHJ [ex MJ12369 A692OHJ]	<u>Healy</u> , Castlegar [Corrects EBN443/16].		
1125	A694OHJ	First Southern National FLEET No 7026. ex Pearce, Darch & Willcox FLEET No 7026.	04/01	EN
1126	A695OHJ	First Southern National FLEET No 2223.	04/01	TW
1127	UFX940 [ex A696OHJ]	First Southern National FLEET No 2227.	04/01	EN
1128	B696WAR	Stephenson, Rochford (dlr). ex Expertpoint, Stratford, Warwickshire.	01/00	EB
1129	B697WAR	Moore (t/a Zoar), St Keverne. ex Danter, Llangeinor.	01/00	EB
1132	C132HJN	Bilham & Hayes (t/a CTS), Huntington, NY. ex Simpson & Bilham (t/a CTS), Copmanthorpe.	07/01	EN
1132	131ASV [ex G260RNS]	Beeston, Hadleigh, Suffok.	by 07/99	EB
1133	6220WY [ex F947WFA 1897RU F486LHO]	R & R (t/a Beeline), Warminster.	05/00	EB
1203	BNO689T	Brice, Four Marks. being used for spares.	by 05/01	EN
1210	BNO696T	Brice, Four Marks. being used for spares.	by 05/01	EN
1217	BNO703T	Holah, Goole. ex Collins, Cliffe. being used as a shed.	11/00 by 05/01	EN
1305	JIL7714 [ex LLT346V]	Screen Facilities, Stoke Prior [npsv]. re-reg LLT346V ex Wacton, Bromyard (dlr).	12/00 by 12/00	EN
1306	80-D-684 [ex LLT347V]	scrapped. by Malahide Coaches, Malahide.	08/91	EN
1340	2730VX	McKeever, Ely (preservation). ex Duce, Southampton (preservation).	by 01/01	EN
1348	208YVX	Bulmer, North Stainley (preservation). ex Batty, Lumby (npsv).	by 02/97	EN

Essex VR Watch

Chris Stewart & Martin Farmer continue to track down

this familiar Bristol bus

Essex Buses VR's

To correct last month's notes, the batch of VR's delivered in half green/half white for the 400 was 3067-76, and hence the survivors are not only HH3069 but also CR3072. New at the turn of 1979/80, they were all repainted in 'CITY 400' livery of white, green horizontal stripes and black in 1983/4 before gaining NBC green in 1985/6. With de-regulation colours applied in the meantime, they have both now carried five different liveries. Catch a rare photo of 3069 at Kings Cross on Page 14 this month.

Where to Find Them

Courtesy of Dave Arnold, Colin Sigston, PSV Circle and Peter Snell, the following is believed to be a definitive list of VR's in the County (other than those owned by First) as at 21.10.01. Do let us know if you are aware of any errors or omissions; as always, please do not attempt to gain unauthorised access to any operators' premises in search of these or any other vehicles.

Abridge (Supreme), Southend

Amber, Rayleigh

Cedric, Wivenhoe

Chariots, Stanford-le-Hope

County, Brentwood

Flagfinders, Braintree

Ford, Althorne

P Harrison, Canvey

Hedingham

2/88/9,292-4, 302

Jackson, Bicknacre

Linkfast (Castlepoint), N Benfleet

M & E, Rochford

Merriday (Fourways), Chelmsford

Nelson (NIBS), Wickford

United Reformed Church, Witham

Roomes (Avro), Stanford-le-Hope

Salmon, Benfleet

Smith, Rayne

Stephenson's, Rochford

Stevens (Colchester Coaches)

Ward, Alresford

BTU375S, URF673S

MFA719V

BKE835T, FKM881V, HWJ933/4W, PWR446W

RDC113R

5189RU (KKK887V), CJH121V, GGM104W

NJT35P, FKM877V, GGM109W

SRP816N, AUD460R, RRP857R, XNV882S

CPU979G, XHK234X (both preserved)

L161/7/8/78/94/7/9, 202-4/35-7/45-55/7/60-

OSR192R

OBR775T, VCA458W

JOU796P, CJH123V, FKM875V, SNV934W

UNW928R, LBD923V, GGM106W

BIL4710 (STW25W), NDL652R, DNG232T,

FDV835V, LFJ855W, VEX295/304X

PWC512M (non-PCV)

ONH925V, PFA50W

PWC515M (preserved)

MFN45R, TPE155S, YBF682S

VHB677/8S, CJH119V

GHB85W

JWV264/5W

Let us know your VR news essexbusnews@hotmail.com

The Eastern National Enthusiasts Guild **-Celebrating the original Eastern National-**

40 Years of Essex Coach Tours

Alan Osborne remembers the first group tour

The photograph in the centre pages this month was taken on Sunday 12th, November 1961 in Braintree Bus Park. It shows Eastern National 133 (FJN 212) a Leyland Royal Tiger with Burlingham Seagull bodywork that was ordered by the City Coach Company of Brentwood, but delivered new to Westcliff-on-sea Motor Services after their takeover.

This was the vehicle hired by the present Chairman & Founder, Alan Osborne, for an enthusiast's tour of Essex bus garages. At the time, Alan was the Ilford Area Representative of the M&D and East Kent Bus Club and so most of the participants hailed from south of the Thames. Don Vincent, the Secretary of the M&D and EK Club, took the photo.

The coach started from Ilford (Clements Road) and then picked up the bulk of the passengers at Tilbury who had made the ferry crossing from Gravesend. The tour visited the Eastern National garages at Brentwood, Chelmsford, Braintree, Colchester and Maldon and also included a stop at the Colchester Corporation depot. The fare for this extravaganza was a whopping 15/- (75p)!

The Ilford group was re—cast as the Eastern National Enthusiasts Group in March 1962, which became a separate Society in January 1964. Since then coach tours have operated on a regular basis to destinations in Essex and beyond. It is somewhat ironic that the operations of East Kent are now controlled from the Stagecoach offices in Clements Road, Ilford where this first coach tour started. Look out for details of our tours for 2002 in Essex Bus News in the New Year.

City Coach Company LD1&2

Have you ever considered why the City Coach Company LD1 and LD2 Leyland PD1. Alexander H56R bodies were of the high bridge configuration, when all subsequent double deckers were of the lowbridge type?.

In 1946, bus chassis were still being allocated by the Ministry of War Transport and they had authorised Leyland Motors to build 250 bodies, the first fifty to be of the lowbridge type, however Leyland at this time were still involved in War Department work and subsequently the first fifty were sub contracted to W Alexander and Son.

Amongst these chassis were 46011 and 46012 allocated to City. Just as building was to commence using materials supplied by Leyland, the Ministry altered the specification to highbridge. At this time operators took what was allocated to them, hence City got two highbridge vehicles, these of course had restricted use on the City "main line" to Southend, not being able to work past Wickford.

Of the fifty chassis in this batch all but nine were delivered to Lancashire municipal operators. Does this answer your question?.

CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEAS

Grey Green -From Ewer To Arriva- By Owen Woodliffe

New for Christmas 2001, this excellent book tells the story of one of the most famous Coach & Bus operators in London and the South East. With over 200 photos and a history of the many routes operated, this book is an essential addition to everyone's bookshelf. 76 A4 Pages with over 200 B&W Photos and Colour covers. **Price £10.95**(Price includes. £1. for p&p)

The perfect Christmas present!

The Lion Roars No Longer – Eastern National Leyland Lions By P.Snell & A. Osborne

A new comprehensive history of the 73 Leyland lions operated by Eastern National from the late Twenties to the early Fifties. Read all about the allocations, loans to London Transport and much more. 16 pages Inc 9 rare photos and card covers **Price £2.00**

Eastern National Fleet Record- By Bob Palmer

The ultimate reference book for all EN fans! This invaluable guide lists in fleet number order all of the vehicles from renumbering in 1964 and all subsequent additions to the fleet up to the division of the company in 1990. 52 Page Inc.card covers. **Price £3.00**

Hicks Bros. Ltd - By Alan Osborne - A nostalgic look back at this fondly remembered north Essex operator. Featuring a short history, fleet list at takeover by Eastern National plus details of routes and tickets. 24 pages Inc 9 B&W photos. Card covers. **Price £1.50**

Westcliff on Sea Motor Services in Focus Vol2– By Peter Snell & Alan Osborne - A fine selection of archive photos of this much-missed Essex independent. With over 60 nostalgic shots of the 1920's and 30's this book is a treat for anyone who remembers buses the way they used to be. 36 pages with card covers. **Price £2 .00** (volume 1 is out of print)

The ENOC Lancet – By Peter Snell – An illustrated history of Eastern National's Dennis Lancets, introduced in the 1930's. 12 pages, 8 B&W photos and card covers. **Price £1.00**

Order Your Books For Christmas

**Please make your Cheque or Postal order payable to
Essex Bus Enthusiasts Group and Send your order to
Peter Snell, 6 Mandeville Way, Benfleet, Essex SS7 4LH.**

(All prices include postage and packing. Although we will send your order as quickly as we can, please allow 21 days for delivery.)