

ESSEX BUS NEWS

April 1999

The monthly magazine of the ESSEX BUS ENTHUSIASTS GROUP

(Formerly the Eastern National Enthusiasts Group)

420



EASTERN NATIONAL VOLVO/DUPLE 1601 D497NYS AT BRAINTREE
AFTER WORKING THE WEDS./SATS ONLY SERVICE 314 FROM
GREAT DUNMOW TO BRAINTREE P FORD.

MANAGING EDITOR:

Peter Snell

Please send your news reports to:

SUB EDITORS:

Southend Transport:

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

Thamesway:

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

Essex Buses & S Essex small ops:

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

County Bus:

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

North Essex major ops:

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

North Essex small ops:

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

TOURS ORGANISER:

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

PHOTO ORDERS:

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

MEMBERSHIP:

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

ESSEX BUS NEWS

420

EDITORIAL

420 FOCUS OF THE MONTH

Leyland Lynx 1420 F420MJN is one of thirty purchased by Eastern National in 1988, these were fitted with Cummins engines. 1420 is now in the Thamesway fleet and is based at Hadleigh Depot, in fact all Thamesway Lynx's are garaged there.

ROCHFORD MEETINGS FREIGHT HOUSE 8PM.

Tuesday May 11th Slide Show by Martin Weyell

Recent Visits

Group Trip to Lincolnshire June 26th.

You are advised that if you intend going on this trip, you should get your booking ASAP, the coach is half filled already so do not be disappointed.

BUSES ON TV

Sue Burden writes to say, that on BBC2 recently they had a feature called "Braking Point" about transport problems in East Anglia, such as too many cars and inadequate public transport. Between each of the small items they had views of a Paramount coach and a Colchester Atlantean!, this was a long bodied 59, no longer with Colchester, shown carrying the sticker "100 years of public transport in Colchester" which gives you some idea how old the clip was.

Much travelled Thamesway Mercedes 341 H351 LJN that went to Eastern Counties, later went on hire to Western National 9807, is now back in East Anglia with Eastern Counties subsidiary Flying Banana at Great Yarmouth.

Problems with Thamesway Volvo 606 on the LTSR/Thamesway Arterial Express resulted in Darts 703 947 and a Canvey Clipper substituting recently.

Late Arriva Colchester news

Atlanteans 5310 (80) and 5312 (82) have gone to Arriva The Shires at Garston, and are to be converted to staff meal buses, lower deck for non smokers and upper deck for smokers, two more are expected to follow.

Contributions for this EBN received with thanks from Essex Buses, Arriva The Shires, Arriva Southend, Essex County Council, LOTS, PSV Circle, F Moncke C Sigston P Ford F Monk, R Dennis Sue Burden. Arriva EH & E.

Contributions for May EBN should be with Sub Editors by 6th May and Man Editor by 8th May.

DISPOSALS March 1999

2252 C230 HCV Stripped for spares; remains sold for scrap.

REPAINTS March 1999

1432

611 to all-over advert for Victoria Coach Station.

Starting shortly all repaints will be in darker chrome yellow above the waistline with the current purple below. Eastern National will be similar but with green below the waistline and Eastern Counties will have red lower panels. This will make it easier to transfer vehicles between First Group companies without too much time needed in the paint shop.

NEWS

Mercedes H347, 349, 351, 307 and 343 LJN are now with Flying Banana and carry fleet numbers B861-B865 respectively. H361 LJN is Eastern Counties number 871.

Commencing on March 16th passengers travelling on Thamesway and Eastern National routes to Lakeside will be able to buy a "Shopaholic" ticket. Priced at £4 return, tickets will be valid on Ensign Bus route 324 to Bluewater shopping complex at Dartford.

Combined bus and train tickets have been introduced in Billericay from March 29th. Teresa Gorman MP was seen launching the new innovation on Anglia News when she presented a giant ticket to Thamesway and Great Eastern staff from the platform of a Premier 100 bus.

SUBSEQUENT DISPOSALS

THAMESWAY

<u>FLEET No.</u>	<u>REG No.</u>	<u>DETAILS.</u>	<u>DATE.</u>
1840	WJN560S	Powells Bus Co Ltd, Wickersley. FLEET No 34 [Not Sold, EBN 404/6] Still in use as a store shed.	3/99
1919	JHJ145V	Powells Bus Co Ltd, Wickersley. FLEET No 27 out of use with accident damage still taxed until 3/99	
3065	UVX 2S	PVS (dlr for scrap), Carlton. ex Provincial. FLEET No 508	by 12/98
3085	STW 29W	New York Apple Tours Munden (dlr), Bristol ex Bristol Omnibus Co Ltd Fleet No 5557	12/98
3088	STW 32W	New York Apple Tours Munden (dlr), Bristol ex Bristol Omnibus Co Ltd Fleet No 5559	12/98
3089	STW 33W	Durbin, Bristol ex Bristol Omnibus Co Ltd Fleet No 5560	
3117	XHK222X	Peters (t/a Abus), Bristol ex Bristol Omnibus Co Ltd Fleet No 5563	by 2/99
3119	XHK224X	Durbin, Bristol ex Bristol Omnibus Co Ltd Fleet No 5564	

NEW VEHICLES

650-654 T650-4 SSF Scania L94 Wright B43F

All are in First Group livery.

Chassis numbers for 651-4 are 4L4X20001834518/4496/4335/4346.

Body numbers for 651-4 are FLO A 687/5/3/4.

650 has yet to be delivered, details will be published when known.

These vehicles are for Service 65 at Colchester, the Dennis Darts currently operating this service, will be transferred within the First Group.

ACQUIRED VEHICLES

The former Capital Leyland Nationals, have been numbered 1941 - NLP 391V, 1942 - KRS 534V and 1943 - KRS 538V.

REALLOCATIONS

Period End 28.3.99. 732/33 Reserve-CF; 1850 D/L(D)-CF; 1899 CF-D/L(D);
2820 DT-BE; 2826 BE-CF; 3079 CF-CR; 3110 Reserve-CF;
3219 Reserve-DT; 3220/28 Reserve-CR

The re-allocation of VR's to Colchester, is to provide extra vehicles, following commencement of operation on service 93. This route is normally Volvo Olympian operated.

UNUSUAL WORKINGS

24.3.99. CF 1601 on service 314
25.3.99 CF 716 on service 351

Further to previous comments, Leyland National 2 KRS 538V operated a school service from Chelmsford on 8.2.99.

REPAINTS

3/99 345 352

GENERAL

With effect from mid-April, all vehicles repainted in the standard livery, will receive a revised livery. This will be EN yellow (mid chrome) upper half and green lower half. Thamesway vehicles will be in mid chrome and claret lower half (or however you describe the current colour), while Eastern Counties will be in mid chrome and red lower half. This is to make repaints of vehicles easier on transfer between fleets.

SERVICES

2C Revised route and timetable introduced on Sundays from 2.4.99.
8C Revised route and timetable introduced on Sundays from 2.4.99.

71C Operation of Sunday service passed to EN from Harris on 2.4.99.

PUBLICITY

Timetable leaflets for services 308/9 dated 19.2.99; Diamond Service dated 15.3.99; 93 dated 22.3.99.

The timetable leaflet for service 350/1 dated 8.2.99 was re-issued, due to times at Writtle Road, being omitted from inbound journeys on the previous edition.

SERVICE VEHICLES

A further driver training vehicle has been acquired:-

9411 FTO 549V Bedford YMT Plaxton

In use as a driver shuttle at Maldon depot, is Ford Sierra Estate E453 DPU.

INITIAL DISPOSALS

1132 (131 ASV) Stephensons, Rochford (dealer), 3/99.

1133 (6220 WY) Stephensons, Rochford (dealer), 3/99.

3234 (NUM 339V) Hardwick, Carlton, (for scrap), 3/99.

OTHER OPERATORS - REST OF ESSEX

ASSOCIATED COACHWAYS HARLOW Recent acquisitions are KSU 469 (BNK 856X) a Volvo/Jonckhree, E242 CGA a DAF/Duple, MJ1 4988 (F709 COA) a Volvo/Plaxton 4000 and D541 FAE an ex Eastern Counties Mercedes.

BARKERBUS ROYDON Mercedes/Reeve Burgess RJI 4577 (A70 NPP) has been sold to Lewis, Harlow.

CHELMSFORD TAXIBUS Ford Transit K45 DFA is still owned.

CHILTERN TRAVEL DEBDEN PIW 4616 (DFD 953B, YEB 103T) a DAF/Plaxton has been acquired.

DRAWDIVE WICKFORD College day services 1/A/B between Wickford and Grays were revised from 12.4.99. These services are no longer numbered.

FARGO RAYNE LDAF400/Jubilee L634 ANX has been sold to Bass (t/a Richmon), Stapleford.

GRAHAMS KELVEDON New here is T361 JWA a Scania/Irizar. Earlier sister S351 SET is now named Miss Grace.

HALSTEAD TRAVEL Freight Rover E816 UKW has been acquired from Ruffle, Castle Hedingham. Ford Transit B59 VMJ has been sold for scrap.

HARRIS COACHES Long departed THK 602E was seen in Wimbledon recently, in use as a stock car transporter.

IPSWICH BUSES Service 750 from Holbrook to Colchester on Tuesday and Thursday, or Dedham Heath to Colchester on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, part replaced the original 750 withdrawn by Carter's.

JACKSONS BICKNACRE Mercedes/Reeve Burgess C245 OFE has been sold.

LODGE HIGH EASTER Former Crusader Coaches, Clacton G103 CJN a Van Hool T815 has been acquired.

LONG LOUGHTON Ford Transit S590 AEV is in use here.

MILESTONE CANVEY P261 CCH a LDV Convoy has been acquired.

MINIBUS HIRE COOPERSALE COMMON Ford Transit B9 SAR, is with this new operator.

NCS NEWPORT A further Renault Traffic is K551 JWC, while a Ford Transit J954 LLU has also been acquired.

NEED A BUS BOWERS GIFFORD LDAF 400 G998 BJN has been sold. It was seen in Grays on a restricted (but faded) disc, with no legal lettering.

PARKESTON PRIVATE HIRE The real LNM 901P a Bedford YRT/Duple has been sold for scrap. The real CDT 322T a Bedford YMT/Duple (these two has swapped registrations) and TUB 1M a Leopard/Plaxton have also gone.

PDQ COLCHESTER A recent addition is H708 BRG a Toyota Caetano.

RUFFLE CASTLE HEDINGHAM The base used for large vehicles in Station Road, is no longer in use. Does anyone know, where these vehicles now are?

STANS GT TOTHAM Dennis javelin/Berkhof N912 DWJ has been acquired. It is named Miss Judy. Mercedes/Reeve Burgess D31 CFL is now Miss Jan. Volvo/Van Hool MSU 923 (A128 NAR) has been sold.

STORT VALLEY STANSTED Vehicles sold to Plaxton (dealer), Anston are Volvo B10M/Plaxton OWV 819 (E307 OMG), L937/8 NWW.

SUPREME SOUTHEND A further Metrobus has been acquired, it is ANA 154Y. A newer addition is Scania/Trizar T376 JWA. A further new vehicle, but on a smaller scale is T455 JHK a non PSV Ford Transit. Further to previous magazines, it can be confirmed that both ANA153Y and ANA 163Y (both Metrobuses) are here.

TOWN AND COUNTRY CORRINGHAM Former London General Metrobus BYX 174V has been acquired. It is to be joined by BYX 144V and a third one, shortly. A timetable leaflet for service 400 (Gravesend to Lakeside) has been issued.

TURNERS WICKHAM ST PAUL Leyland Royal Tiger Doyen B132 AKH has been re-registered VJI 9418.

WALDEN TRAVEL SAFFRON WALDEN Service 134 a schooldays only service from Swards End to Saffron Walden, commenced on 13.4.99.

WEBB HIGHWOOD Bedford YLQ/Duple 986 PVW (AUJ 730T) has been re-registered HVX 792T.

ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

Summer Sunday services 601,603,605,606,631,632 and 633 will commence from 30.5.99. It is hoped to have details next month.

ESSEX ODDS AND ENDS

Former Eastern National Tiger/Plaxton B697 WAR is now with Amountplan, E6. It is parked at Debden lorry park and is still in Eastern National livery.

Nissan Ebro F221 RAR was offered for sale at Chelmsford Auctions on 15.2.99. It was previously with Salvation Army, Lodge Lane, Grays. It is thought it may belong to a member, rather than the Army.

The Van Hool Astromega with Peniel Church, Pilgrims Hatch has been re-registered B6PPC (ex MSU 586Y, LXR 958, MSU 586Y)

Thurrock Council have M94 UOO an ex Essex County Council, Ford Transit.

Ex Essex County Council, Ford Transit D740 PEV, is now with Whalebone Public House as a courtesy bus.

Bristol LHS/Plaxton TIW 2107 (GNM 232N) was at Marsh House Farm, Fambridge on 9.3.99. Its use is unknown.

Mazda E2200 J478 YTW has been seen in Pitsea, running on a National disc, owner unknown.

Mercedes minibus C486 BHY has been seen in Leigh-on-Sea, with School bus signs. IT is thought to be with Airport Express, Southend.

Bedford/Plaxton WPA 7M is parked at Debden lorry park. It is unlicensed at present.

Vehicles parked at Pooles Lane, Highwood at present are PPG 7R a Bedford/Plaxton, OMJ 792M a Ford/Duple and a Mercedes/Jonckhree (thought to be NIB 1967), owners are not known.

Vehicles in use for driver training are B164 WYV a ?/Wadham Stringer with Britannic PCV Training of Shoeburyness and THE 713S a ?/Duple with Stevand Training Services of Battlesbridge.

William de Ferrers School have R971 XRT a LDV Convoy.

Vehicles at National Car Auctions Frating on 3.2.99. were H745 TWB an Iveco/Reeve Burgess; K624/5 WOV Talbot Freeways ex London Borough of Bromley; E466 HDX an ex Suffolk CC, Freight Rover 400; E316 HLN a Renault/Reeve Burgess ex London Borough of Islington and Ford Transit N163 HHY.

Vehicles noted at Chelmsford Auction on 29.3.99. were E247 CNM an ex Herts County Council, Ford Transit; N162 OYE an LDV 400 ex Royal Mail and E613 LHX an ex Police Freight Rover 300. Here on 22.2.99 was G541 OKO an Iveco Daily ex Basildon Council.

EYE 334V a MCW Metrobus in overall advert for Pepsi, was noted at the Maldon Safeway store on a promotional tour on 25.3.99.



DENNIS DART MARSHALL DEMONSTRATOR S979JLM SEEN ON
HIRE TO THAMESWAY AT BRENTWOOD STATION 25/2/99
D HARMAN

EASTERN NATIONAL FLEET FOCUS No 1 [EBN 415/7 update]:-

<u>FLEET No.</u>	<u>REG No.</u>	<u>DETAILS.</u>	<u>DATE.</u>
1926	MHJ722V	Eastern National. Frontline Buses, Dordon, Tamworth. FLEET No 1926 Re-numbered 268 Stevensons, Uttoxeter. FLEET No 268 Re-numbered 822 Crosville Wales Ltd. FLEET No SNL722 Arriva Cymru. FLEET No SNL 722 Sold.	NEW 3/80 6/94 10/95 2/96 6/96 4/97 4/98 1/99
1931	MHJ727V	Eastern National. Frontline Buses, Dordon, Tamworth. FLEET No 1931 Re-numbered 270 Stevensons, Uttoxeter. FLEET No 270 Re-numbered 827 Crosville Wales Ltd. FLEET No SNL727 Arriva Cymru. FLEET No SNL 727 Belle Vue Heavy Commericals, Manchester (dlr) Highland Country Buses Ltd. FLEET No 2727	NEW 6/80 7/93 10/95 2/96 6/96 4/97 4/98 12/98 12/98

EASTERN NATIONAL FLEET FOCUS No 2 [EBN 417/7 update]:-

<u>FLEET No.</u>	<u>REG No.</u>	<u>DETAILS.</u>	<u>DATE.</u>
4500	B688BPU	Eastern National. Thamesway. FLEET No 4500 Metrobus, Orpington. Fitted with standard ECW bus front end. WHM Ltd (t/a Brentwood Coaches) FLEET No 12 re-reg LIL7230 Motts Coaches, (Aylesbury) Ltd t/a Motts Travel.	New 2/85 7/90 5/91 by 10/92 8/95 10/95 10/98

EASTERN NATIONAL FLEET FOCUS No 3 [EBN 419/17 update]:-

<u>FLEET No.</u>	<u>REG No.</u>	<u>DETAILS.</u>	<u>DATE.</u>
1118	HHJ379Y	Eastern National. Thamesway. FLEET No 1118 AE & FR Brewer Ltd, Caerau. FLEET No 379 AE & FR Brewer Ltd, Maesteg. FLEET No 379 AE & FR Brewer Ltd, Port Talbot. FLEET No 183 South Wales Transport Co Ltd. FLEET No 183 First Mainline. FLEET No 79 & re-seated to B63F	New 4/83 7/90 2/91 5/91 4/93 4/98 10/98

Essex Buses 

Eastern National 

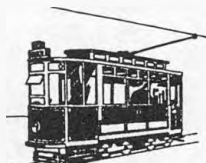
Thamesway 

First  Eastern National

First  Thamesway

**SUBSEQUENT
DISPOSALS**

FLEET No.	REG No.	DETAILS.	DATE.
307	H307LJN	Halesworth Transit Ltd (t/a Flying Banana). B864	
334	H343LJN	Halesworth Transit Ltd (t/a Flying Banana). B865	
338	H347LJN	Halesworth Transit Ltd (t/a Flying Banana). B861	
340	H349LJN	Halesworth Transit Ltd (t/a Flying Banana). B862	
341	H351LJN	Halesworth Transit Ltd (t/a Flying Banana). B863	
349	H359LJN	First Eastern Counties Buses Ltd. 872	
350	H361LJN	First Eastern Counties Buses Ltd. 871	
361	H372OHK	First Pioneer Bus Ltd. 1841	2/99
362	H373OHK	First Pioneer Bus Ltd. 1843	2/99
363	H374OHK	First Pioneer Bus Ltd. 1842	2/99
365	H376OHK	First Eastern Counties Buses Ltd. 874	
1128	B696WAR	Expertpoint(t/a Newmark), Stratford, Warwickshire. ex Stephenson, Rochford.	10/98
1129	B697WAR	Amountplan, E6. Roffey (t/a Inland), Flimwell. ex Stephenson, Rochford.	by 3/99 by 12/98
1833	VAR899S	Simister (Preservation), Chelmsford.	
1862	YEV320S	Patterson (Preservation), Kings Lynn. ex First Eastern Counties Buses Ltd.	12/98
2231	C486BHY	- ? - - ? - seen at Leigh on Sea 26-3-99.	by 3/99



5th Annual Bus & Vintage Vehicle Rally
Saturday 12 June 1999

NORTH ESSEX BUS SCENE

Hedingham Omnibuses

Fleet Additions, (With effect from 1st April 1999)

<u>Fleet No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
L298	N667 THO Volvo B10M - Plaxton Premier C53F ex Excelsior.
L299	P395 AAA Volvo B10M - Plaxton Premier C53F ex Excelsior.

General

L288	RUA 461W Bristol VRT/SL3/6LXB ECW has been rebuilt and MOT'd and is now based at Hedingham as a spare vehicle.
L294	NUM 341V Bristol VRT/SL3/6LXB ECW has now been painted into fleet livery and is currently being MOT'd.

Withdrawn

L276	LUA 289V Leyland Leopard PSU3F/4R - Plaxton Supreme IV C53F.
------	--

A recent addition to the fleet is L295, Registration No. N664 THO, (ex XEL 158), Volvo B10M-62, Plaxton Premiere ex Excelsior. This vehicle is based at Clacton.

First Eastern National

Seen in the yard at Clacton depot at the end of March, presumably awaiting disposal were the following vehicles:-

<u>Fleet No.</u>	<u>Registration No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
2232	C489 BHY	Mercedes 608D - Reeves Burgess.
3229	PWY 44W	Bristol VRT ECW.
1830	VNO 732S	Leyland National.
1896	DAR 118T	Leyland National.
9014	CTN 635V	Leyland Leopard driver training vehicle.

The three ex-Capital Citybus Leyland Nationals Fleet No.'s 1941/1942/1943, Registration numbers NLP 391V/KRS 534V/KRS 538V respectively were also in the yard in Clacton and believed to be en route to First Eastern Counties. Also seen was ex First Eastern Counties Volvo Plaxton Paramount, Registration No. 4750 WY, Fleet No. 035. It is thought that this vehicle will pass to driver training duties.

Clacton depot will hopefully be operating their "open top" summer service again this year from the end of May using a Leyland National. It is assumed this will be either Fleet No. 1921, Registration No. JHJ 147V, (last year's allocated vehicle), or Fleet No. 1899, Registration No. DAR 121T. The more likely choice at the moment is Fleet No. 1899 as this is the vehicle with the engine!

Crusader, Clacton

Some vehicle registration number changes are as follows:-

Original Registration No.

E105 GOO

E106 GOO

E107 GOO

E108 GOO

New Registration No.

UDX 105

ODU 106

LSU 113

114 RVX

The changing of certain registration numbers will facilitate numbering when the seven new Setra 315 GT HD's arrive during April. An initial batch of three is expected to be followed by the remaining four. Once these have arrived it is hoped to publish a new Crusader fleet list. All vehicles now wear the "new" Crusader livery.

I would like to thank Dave Arnold and Mr. D.R. MacGregor MBE B.Sc.(Econ.) MCTT of Heddingham Omnibuses and Roger Staines of Staines Crusader Coaches for supplying information for this column.

PRESERVATION TOPICS

It is now some time since anything appeared in Essex Bus News about preservation of buses in Essex. You will have seen in the disposal lists that certain vehicles have apparently changed hands within the Castle Point Museum on Canvey Island, hopefully this will be a good thing to get the vehicles on the road again, although Bristol FLFs have passed to dealers EOO590 and RWC608.

Where are they now I ask? 3614 the Dennis Ace, once resident at Canvey was apparently taken "up north" some time ago. Does anybody know where this vehicle is now? If you do please let us know, or if you know the address where it is so we can write and endeavour to get any information.

Another former resident was 2226 the AEC Y type which I believe went to South London again any information would be welcome.

And lastly this month 4081 Bristol LL5G this was last seen at the old Eastern National works where was being restored by Van Crown Engineering which closed down, where is this bus now.

Turning now from Eastern National, another interesting vehicle that resides in the Southend area is a rare Atkinson/Plaxton coach owned by Kirby's Coaches of Rayleigh JHL670, this has been in a garage on the Rayleigh to Hockley road for a good many years. What a waste**.

Future editions will highlight more about Eastern National, Westcliff, Southend Transport, County Bus (London Country North East), Colchester Borough Transport or any other preserved Essex vehicle, so if you have records of these please send them to me.

pjs

ARRIVA EAST HERTS AND ESSEX

FLEET

Vehicles In

	A988 SYF	MCW Metrobus H43/28F from Arriva London North (02/99)
2063	H35 DGD	Mercedes Benz 811D, B33F (03/99)

Allocation Changes to February 1999

2333/6	L723 PHK /L722 OVX	Ware to Harlow
--------	--------------------	----------------

Allocation Changes to March 1999

2063	H35 DGD	Arriva the Shires to Harlow
2298	G918 UPP	Ware to Harlow
2310	G925 WGS	Harlow to Arriva Southend
5374	TPD 104X	Ware to Harlow
2303-7	F713-5/8/9 CWJ	Delicensed to Arriva The Shires (correction to EBN 418) (2307 sold for scrap from Arriva The Shires to Hardwick, Carlton)

Liveries

Feb 99: 5362/8 (BYX 232/08V) to Arriva corporate (outer London) livery.

Fleet Numbering

During 01/99 ancillary (crew transport) vehicles D571/6 NDA were renumbered 1157/6

General

BYX 240V and A988 SYF were converted to single doorway specification at the Enfield Repair Centre of Arriva London North.

Corrections to EBN 417:

MBT 801-4 are L801-4 KNO (not L801-4 FNO)

MB 940-50/2 were MBV 940-50/2 (now 2370-80/2)

SCANIA COACH SALES

The following were at Lodges, High Easter premises on 29.3.99:-

K816 HUM ex Chambers, Bures Volvo/Van Hool
A new unregistered Scania/Van Hool
G32 HKY a Scania/Plaxton ex Grahams, Kelvedon.
D336 MHB a DAF/Caetano ex Barfoot, Southampton
N898 KFA a Dennis Javelin/Plaxton ex Happydays, Staffs.
K500 GSM a Scania/Plaxton ex Fargo, Rayne
K5 SUP a MAN/Jonckhree ex Supreme, Southend
J34 UDU a Scania/Plaxton with Scania legal lettering.

TIMETABLES ISSUED BY INDEPENDENT BUS OPERATORS IN ESSEX DURING 1998

This list updates my original article published in EBN406 and includes all known publicity issued by independent bus operators in Essex during 1998. Where route changes have been identified in EBN or in the introduction pages to new Essex CC timetables, I have sent SAEs to the operators concerned requesting copies of updated publicity. Most of the items reviewed should still be available, so members wishing to expand their collection of such material might like to follow my example. There is no guarantee that this is a fully comprehensive list however and I would be interested to receive a photocopy of any additional items which were issued in 1998 but which are not mentioned here. This time no replies were received from Harris Bus or Halstead Travel who introduced their new 88H service during the year. Despite a note in the yellow pages of the revised Essex CC timetable dated 6.9.98 which suggested that further details were available direct from SM Travel about revisions to their services, my enquiry also went unanswered.

Beestons

An A4 size timetable sheet was issued 3.8.98 for routes 320/321 (re-numbered from 150/151). Other A4 sheets were issued during the year for Sudbury to Haverhill and Sudbury to Ipswich services, wholly in Suffolk.

Biss

Leaflets for the Colchester to Stansted Airport Raillink were issued by Anglia Railways dated 24th May to 26th September and 27th September to 27th May 1999 and were available from main railway stations. An attractive leaflet issued by Biss dated 24.10.98 gave times and a detailed faretable for service 38 Linton to London. The cover shows a Biss coach super-imposed against a background of famous London landmarks and buildings.

Blue Triangle

A revised timetable for service 265 was issued dated 7.9.98. Appearance was identical to previous editions.

Cambridge Coach Services

Timetable leaflets to a new design were issued 29.3.98 for services 71,74,75,76,78/79. The leaflets were re-issued following revisions to services in October as follows: 74 (25.10.98), 75,76,78/79 (18.10.98). Not in our area, but of passing interest all the same, is that service 71 (Cambridge to Bromsgrove) was withdrawn after operation on Sunday 20.12.98. The service dated from the days of Blazefield's link with Rover Coaches of Bromsgrove. A new service 77 was introduced on 19.12.98 linking Stevenage and Stansted Airport. A single sided A5 size sheet was issued printed in black and white. Supplies of new leaflets to the usual upmarket design were still awaited at the start of January 1999.

Capital Citybus/First Capital

A multi-coloured leaflet for 1998 Coastliner, Mysterytourer and Shoplinker services was issued in early Summer. It opened out to A3 size with diagrammatic route map showing all pick up points in North East London/Essex. A similar style leaflet was issued 10.10.98 with First Capital branding. It included a route map and full timetables for revised services 324,348,510.

Chambers of Bures

An A4 timetable sheet of the standard design with red print, was issued for services 753,171,181 dated 27.7.98. A list of "Chambers Coaches Excursions" 7.7.98 to 27.9.98 was included on the reverse. A second leaflet was issued dated 26.10.98 but although services 753,181,171 were unchanged the reverse gave full timetables for services 370 (Sudbury to Bury St Edmunds) and 377 (Hadleigh to Bury St Edmunds) wholly in Suffolk. Also on this side were advertisements for Coach Hire, Coach Excursions and the Essex Express Coach Service to London (see below).

Clintona

A5 size leaflets were issued by Essex CC for services revised during August. All were on blue paper except 211/12/13 which was on green. The leaflets were for services 1 (3.8.98), 210 (6.8.98), 211-13 (3.8.98), 214/15/19/20 (3.8.98), 217 (3.8.98), 394/96 (3.8.98).

Coggeshall Community Bus

A yellow A4 leaflet folded to A5 was issued dated 5.5.98. This time the operator's name and phone number appeared on the front page together with a photograph of the Ford Transit minibus used on the service. On the back page there was some background information about the service.

Crown Coaches

I was fortunate to secure timetables on two occasions from this operator during 1998. They consisted of A4 size sheets printed on one side only using a P.C. and laser printer. The following sheets were issued with text in a wide variety of colours: 103 (advertisement dated 30.3.98 introducing the service but no timetable was given), 103 (undated but gives full timetable), 102 (undated but 31.3.98), 104 (undated but 31.3.98), 105 (undated but 31.3.98), 110 (undated but 31.3.98), 102 (Revised timetable undated but 18.6.98) 104/105 (Revised timetable printed in black on light blue paper, double sided. Undated but 18.6.98).

Drawdive

A4 sheet issued for service 1. Undated but 5.10.98. No operator name, address or phone number given!

Essexpress

Undated pink A4 leaflet issued entitled "Going to London?" Includes times and fares for services 195/97/98/99. Operated by Chambers of Bures, Fargo or Windmill Coaches but no other operator details are given apart from Freephone number and the name Essex Express Ltd.

Harris

Essex CC issued a blue A5 size leaflet dated 24.5.98 detailing revised timetable for Sunday route 140. The leaflet also included NIBS service 40 (unchanged).

Hedingham Omnibuses

Two different issues of a "Tollesbury Bus Guide" came to light in 1998 dated 14.4.97 and 28.7.97. They gave full timetables for services 50,91,95/95A, 90. Each consisted of 8 pages and were printed on cream coloured paper with a photograph of L258 (M261 KWK) on route 3 to Witham on the cover. The only difference between the two issues was a revised Monday to Friday timetable for service 90 plus the deletion of the 1500 (ex Layer) and 1526 (ex Colchester) journeys on route 50.

Essex CC issued a pink A5 size leaflet for services 105/107/109 dated 5.1.98 whilst a black on white A4 sheet folded to A5 entitled "Shopper Trips 1998" also included timetables for routes 600 and 602 (from 6.7.98).

For the first time a calendar was issued for 1999 which included 26 photographs of Hedingham vehicles with many very detailed captions. The calendar was available at £5.50 inclusive of P&P.

Laceys

An A3 size sheet folded to "slimline" dimensions, printed in orange and black gave details of the 1998 programme of express coach services to holiday centres and coastal resorts. In addition to route 9 detailed in Essex CC timetable books there were details of services 1 (Thanet), 10 (Southampton & Bournemouth), 11 (Great Yarmouth & Hemsby) 12 (Brighton, Bognor Regis, Bracklesham) and 13 (Hastings & Eastbourne).

NIBS

A timetable leaflet, A5 size, was re-issued during the year for route 37 (South Woodham Town Service) although it was merely the edition of 7.8.95 re-issued without change.

Stephensons

Although services were revised on 7.9.98 no new timetable sheet was prepared on this occasion, no doubt due to a severe reduction in the number of services provided. A reply was received however which consisted only of pages photocopied from Essex CC timetables with most journeys deleted in biro due to the majority of them having being withdrawn! For the record the timetables supplied were: 3B (14.10.96), 20X (4.9.97) and 22/222-225 (3.9.96).

Whippet Coaches

Although this operator only serves Clacton on Summer Sundays I have included it for the sake of completeness. A blue and white slimline leaflet was issued dated September 1998 for services 1,1A,2,3,5,7,8,12 in Cambridgeshire. A separate leaflet was issued for route 4 to London dated 1.4.98. No mention was made of the Clacton service on either leaflet however!

Members may also be interested to know that a timetable is available for the Harwich to Felixstowe/Harwich to Shotley Ferry. A 16 page booklet dated Summer 1998 included a map of Harwich and details of the Maritime Heritage Trail plus lots of advertisements for small businesses in Harwich and Felixstowe. No operator name or address is given only a mobile telephone number (0589 371138). Copies of the booklet are also available from Tourist Information Centres in Clacton and Walton on Naze.

ARRIVA SOUTHEND

FLEET NEWS

The Dennis Dominator seen in London Rd recently was sent in error, the vehicle concerned DD19 F631BKD Dennis Dominator DDA1026 East Lancs H43/25F from Arriva G & WS was found to be unsuitable for use in Southend, they are too high.

DISPOSALS.

1154 SUJ69R towed away for scrap 4/99
2359/60 N739/40AVW to Arriva East Herts and Essex 3/99.

REPAINTS

5399 F579SMG to Arriva livery.

OTHER NOTES

2310 G925WGS Mercedes/Plaxton is out of use due to failure, did this ever enter service. *yes - 2 residents*

Corrections to last month's EBN

Leyland National 712 should be JTU593T
GGE156T is fleet number 716
LPB218P is fleet number 713

The other missing fleet numbers are 382 GTX751W, 401 LHG440T, and CMJ443T was 321. sorry for these errors.

EASTERN NATIONAL

EASTERN NATIONAL

a NATIONAL bus company



EASTERN NATIONAL

EASTERN NATIONAL

SUBSEQUENT DISPOSALS

FLEET No.	REG No.	DETAILS.	DATE.
427	604 JPU	Thomas, Caernarfon. Destroyed by Fire.	9/98
0716	C444BHY	Eyon (t/a Paramount), Llanelli. ex Kingdon, Pencoed.	9/97
1790	PEV702R	Sold. ex K-Line, Leeds.	by 1/99
2379	WNO 475	Prins Classic Transport, Opijnen, Holland. ex Trump (Preservation), Knaphill.	by 11/98
2717	97 TVX	ITG (for spares), Anston, ex Youth for Christ, Driffield.	by 1/99

ARRIVA COLCHESTER

Metrobus BYX 283V came out of the paint shop on 5.3.1999 with fleet number 5364. It has been branded for service 8. BYX 263V went into the paint shop on 17.3.1999; it is expected to be numbered 5365. Atlanteans 5310 and 5312 (YNO 80S and 82S) were removed to Arriva the Shires, Watford on 19.3.1999 and 30.3.1999 respectively.

Volvo B10M 3318 (B858 XYR) has been branded for service 3.

On 9.3.1999 National Greenway 3307 (NIW 6507) was severely damaged in an accident at Birch while on a school contract; it is likely to be scrapped.

Olympians have been used on rail replacement work between Chalfont and Aylesbury: 5409 on 20.3.1999, 5407/9 on 21.3.1999 and 5397 on 28.3.1999. Tiger 4303 was used on 20.3.1999 between Mark's Tey and Sudbury.

From 22.3.1999 service 8A was extended between 9.00 and 15.00 Monday to Saturday from the town centre to General Hospital via North Station Forecourt and Asda. Service 3 was withdrawn between the town centre and General Hospital, diverted via Westlands, increased from every 75 minutes to every 60 minutes, and introduced on Saturday. The changes were in anticipation of new bus-and-taxi only lanes up North Hill and between the Essex Hall and Albert roundabouts.