

Essex Bus News

**No. 593
September
2013**



Essex Bus Enthusiasts Group
www.essexbus.org.uk



Front Cover: With most grateful thanks to Fred Lawrance, who kindly alerted **John Lidstone** that he was going his way in the Colne Estuary Preserved Buses ex-Eastern National/Heddingham Bristol LH6L/ECW CR 1103 (UVX 7S). John was able to capture some views where Tilling green and cream was no stranger, in Thames Drive, Leigh-on-Sea. However, having been new in 1977, this was the first ever visit by an EN LH to this bus route and area, although one did make a visit back 20 years or so to Southend on a PSV Circle 'Tour from Colchester' - John drove it to visit Southend Transport garage from Central Bus Station.

Left: **David Harman** reports on the Group tour on 25 May inside, as a taster, this **Mulleys** - Reliance/Harrington Cavalier RGV111 looks rather sorry for itself in row two of the "withdrawn but still more-or-less complete" section at Ixworth.

Below: NIBS Scania/East Lancs 404 (YN04YJU) at North Weald Airfield on Thursday 29 August, having completed a private hire. **Chris Stewart.**



Essex Bus News; September 2013

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Welcome to rejoined member -
Steve Carr of Canvey Island (998).

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Your reports and observations

Members reports, quality photos, prints,
slides or JPGs to about 5"x4" size and
300dpi resolution and original articles are
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The Editors exercise the normal discretion
to publish contributions in full, in part or not
at all and cannot guarantee publication in
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Every effort is made to ensure accuracy but
the Group cannot accept responsibility for
any errors published.

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

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY by Owen Woodliffe.

SOUTH ESSEX MEETINGS.

Meetings resume in September at Wickford Cricket Club, off Swan Lane, Wickford, five minutes walk from Wickford Railway Station and five minutes drive from A130 and A127. In Wickford Town Centre, turn right into Swan Lane (pub on corner) and in 100 yards turn right, signed Wickford Tennis Club. This is an unmade road so beware of potholes. Doors open at 1930 for informal chat with main show from 2000 to 2145/2200. A cash bar is available. Members and guests welcome - £1.50 donation towards cost of room, please.

Monday 30 September. "If I could turn back time..." If you could have just one day out enjoying the bus industry of old where would you go? Richard Delahoy takes us to Southend in Summer 1949 and shows us what you would have seen then.

Monday 28 October. Home Counties revisited – 2012. Owen Woodliffe.

Monday November 25. Tba.

Wednesday 18 December. Twenty Years Ago, Richard Delahoy plus social.

NORTH ESSEX MEETINGS by Dave Arnold.

Venue: 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. Doors open at 1915 for an informal chat, with the main talk or show from 1945 to 2145. £1.50 donation towards room hire, please. Slides/digital photos are preferred, but prints can also be shown. Members and guests welcome.

Friday 13 September. Nigel Turner.

Friday 11 October. Alan Osborne.

Friday 8 November. Steve Maskell.

Friday 13 December. Gary Sharpe.



***A Blast
from the
Past!***

Ex Eastern
National
1103 UVX
7S Bristol LH
ECW seen
with
Hedingham
during 1993.

**Paul
Harvey**

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY by Owen Woodliffe, cont.

EVENTS

Sunday 8 September. Transport Museum, Great Yeldham. Open Day 1000 to 1600. Free Bus Service from Braintree via Halstead and local rides. www.yeldhamtransportmuseum.co.uk

Saturday 5 October. Theydon Bois Transport Bazaar, Theydon Bois Village Hall.

Sunday 13 October. Castlepoint Transport Museum, Canvey Island. Open Day.
The Group Stall will be at this event.

Saturday 10 November. "Winter Warmer" at Ipswich Transport Museum.

NOTICE A visit is planned to the Eden Commercial Vehicle Rally at Kirkby Stephen and Brough, Cumbria at Easter 2014, departing Friday and returning Monday, with ex Crosville RE, UFM 53F. If interested, contact Paul Ashman, in evenings on 01708 374280 or 079316 28426. Due to popularity of this event, accomodation has to be booked early. For information for 3 nights B&B, contact Owen Woodliffe on 020 8529 4454 as soon as possible.

Paul also plans to visit the Llandudno Festival of Transport during Spring Bank Holiday. Contact him, as above.

Information is published in good faith and members are strongly advised to check details with the organisers, as the Group can accept no liability if events are cancelled or altered



David Harman Amber KU02 YBA on 261 at Blackmore Bus Terminal on 23 July 2013.

Amber also have similar KM51 BFY. Both new to Scarlet Band, West Cornforth, Co.Durham.

Correction Corner.

Paul Harvey points out that in his picture of the EN open top buses parked in Walton, shown in EBN592p4, the KSW vehicle should be WNO 479 fleetnumber 2383 and not as shown. EBN593p3

Query Corner by Alan Osborne.

My query in EBN592 (August 2013) has certainly attracted considerable interest. A number of members* have been in contact with myself and/or the Editor and all agree the building is 3 Baddow Road, Chelmsford and not Maldon. What is even more surprising is that this appears to be a listed building and it still exists!

This was a leasehold property inherited on Eastern National's inauguration on 1 January 1930. It was a waiting room and enquiry office. However, it was not listed in the ENOC timetable until about July 1933 (see illustrated example from 1 July 1934. On each side of the building were stairs down to subterranean toilets below, ladies to the left, gentlemen to the right. The Essex Chronicle carried out a survey of public toilets in Chelmsford and these were voted the worst!

The office continued to be listed in the ENOC timetable until 19 January 1939, thence being replaced as a Parcels Office in July 1940 by the Ritz shop at Baddow Road corner. In later years, it served as a Pickfords Travel Agent. The building in the background is the rear of the Regent Theatre, later Cinema and now a bar/nightclub called Chicago Rick Caf. The Regent Theatre in its time attracted large crowds, see timetable announcement dated 5 November 1932.



David Whiteside wanted to take a full-frontal picture to match the one in EBN592 but the delivery truck on the left pinched his photo-spot! Nevertheless, this picture, taken on 21 August clearly shows the features mentioned in Alan's article.

The fares illustrated on the office posters show a good correspondence with those in the 1930 timetable which nicely dates the picture; these are Colchester (3/3 return, 1930 3/6), and Harwich (5/6 return, 1930 5/6), also Southend available by 3 routes, viz. 6 via Woodham Ferrers, 11 via Rettendon and 12 via Billericay for 3/3 return (1930 3/6).

Several members have pointed out that Google's Streetview gives an excellent view of our building. It can be seen at:

https://maps.google.co.uk/maps?q=Pinchos+Restaurant&ie=UTF-8&ei=hKkbUsTdBuic0QWK_YEg&ved=0CAoQ_AUoAg

Thanks to Keith Woods, David Whiteside, Andy Rook, David Harman, Norman Ecclestone, Keith Shayshutt, Keith Byatt, Richard Delahoy and several non-members for their contributions.

Do you have any interesting queries for this column?

Editor's note 1: At least one member is carrying out further research into 3 Baddow Road and its history so expect to read more about it in due course.

To & From the Theatre:

SPECIAL LATE SERVICES are operated on Certain Routes direct from the REGENT THEATRE, CHELMSFORD, at the close of the Second Performance, as under:

Service No.		
1.	As far as Great Baddow	Nightly*
2.	" Oxney Green	W.S.O.
4.	" Galleywood	S.O.
5.	" Witham	W.S.O.
14a.	" Browning's Avenue	Nightly
50.	" Terling	S.O.
52.	" Pleshey	S.O.

S.O.—Saturday Nights only.

W.S.O.—Wednesday and Saturday Nights only.

*—Departs Omnibus Station 10.30 p.m. and awaits conclusion of performance at Regent Theatre.

In and Out by—

EASTERN NATIONAL

THE EASTERN NATIONAL OMNIBUS Co., Ltd., AND ITS ASSOCIATED COMPANIES

are operating passenger services in each of the following districts, and copies of the Local Time Tables covering the services in these districts will be gladly sent on application being made to the Local Superintendent at any of the addresses given below:

Aylesbury, Bicester Road Garage	...	Aylesbury 115
Barnstable, The Strand	...	Barnstable 116
Bedford, St. John's Street	...	Bedford 117
Bideford, The Quay	...	Bideford 118
Bishops Cleeve, South Street	...	Bishops Cleeve 119
Bovey Tracey, G.W.R. Station	...	Bovey Tracey 120
Bridgewater, Cornhill	...	Bridgewater 121
Bridport, South Street	...	Bridport 122
Bude, The Strand Garage	...	Bude 123
Callington, Valentine Road	...	Callington 124
Cambridge, Commercial Square	...	Cambridge 125
Chard, 13A, V.2A	...	Chard 126
Chelmsford, Chelmsford Stn., Duke St. and Baddow Rd. Office	...	Chelmsford 904 & 905
Clacton-on-Sea, Pier Avenue	...	Clacton 127
Colchester, Queen Street, and St. John's Street	...	Colchester 128
Greatport & Harwich, Kingsway	...	Greatport & Harwich 129
Falmouth, Killigrew Street	...	Falmouth 130
Fryars, Arment Street	...	Fryars 131
Halstead, Rosemary Lane	...	Halstead 132
Harlow, Clodley Lane	...	Harlow 133
Hitchin, J. Bancroft	...	Hitchin 134
Huntingdon, Stakesley Road	...	Huntingdon 135
Hircombe, The Regent Hotel, High Street	...	Hircombe 136
Kingsbridge, Island House	...	Kingsbridge 137
Liskeard, Jay Tree Hill	...	Liskeard 138
Luton, Castle Street and Park Square	...	Luton 139
Lynton, The Coach Office	...	Lynton 140
Minehead, 2, The Avenue	...	Minehead 141
Newquay, 5 and 30, East Street	...	Newquay 142
Penance, Fromcombe and Wherrytown	...	Penance 143
Plymouth, 18 and 19, Whimble Street, Leira Bridge Road	...	Plymouth 144
Portland, Victoria Square	...	Portland 145
St. Austell, G.W.R. Station	...	St. Austell 146
St. Ives, Station Hill	...	St. Ives 147
Southend, 49, London Road	...	Southend 148
Stony Stratford, Wolverton Road	...	Stony Stratford 149
Stroud, St. George Street	...	Stroud 150
Taunton, The Market House, The Parade	...	Taunton 151
Tavistock, Town Hall Chambers	...	Tavistock 152
Terpoint, Elliott Square	...	Terpoint 153
Totnes, The Plains	...	Totnes 154
Trowbridge, Market Place	...	Trowbridge 155
Truro, Public Rooms	...	Truro 156
Wilton-on-Naze, Foundry Garage	...	Wilton-on-Naze 157
Weymouth, 1/4, The Kloak, Edward Street	...	Weymouth 158
Yeovil, Backford Works	...	Yeovil 159
London / London Coastal Coaches Ltd., Victoria Coach Stn., S.W.1. Hounds 0292	...	London 160
Head Office:—NEW WRITTE STREET, CHELMSFORD.	...	Head Office 161
Telephone—Chelmsford 1831 (2 Lines). Telegrams—Nalcarom, Chelmsford.	...	Telephone 162

Ed 2: A few nights ago, Angela and I left the Civic Theatre at about 2200 hours, a 42 pulled into the Bus Station and departed with no theatre patrons and just two other passengers. How times change!

Ed 3: Just note those fantastic telephone numbers! Chelmsford 904 & 905 for Duke Street and Baddow Road, and also Halstead 47, Walton-on-Naze 69, Clacton 102 and, further afield, how about Truro 6 and, even better, Lynton2!

Lyn Watson; J TU593T for EBN593.

Caption by Richard Delahoy.



EBEG collection

593 featured as the registration of Southend Transport bus 712 with a most un-Essex like mark, J TU593T. New in 1979, this Leyland National was acquired by Southend Transport early in 1991 from Crosville Wales, as part of the build up of the Southend fleet in the Southend "bus war" with Thamesway. A large number of second-hand Nationals were bought at that time, eventually totalling more than 30, all 10.3m examples, but only 3 were to the B series specification as seen here, with no roof pod.

J TU593T escaped from Southend in summer 1993, going on loan to London & Country, who later acquired it. After the bus war ended, and Southend Transport had been acquired by British Bus, the LN fleet was rapidly reduced, although longer examples did appear later from fellow British Bus subsidiary Colchester Transport. The final LN in the Southend fleet was the rebuilt/re-engined 745 (PJI 3745, ex GGE170T), withdrawn in autumn 1998.

Publicity News by Ian Ransom.

Available at Southend Travel Centre on 16 August were booklets for **Arriva Southend** services 1; 4/A; 5; 7/8; 9 and 29 all dated 5th May 2013.

First Essex (new front design booklets) for 100/200/201; Braintree Area; Brentwood Area and Harwich Area all dated 1.9.13.

Essex County Council leaflet for 312/313 dated 1.9.13.

Go Ahead London leaflet for 575 dated 2.9.13 **SM Coaches** A4 leaflet for 524 dated 1.3.12.

Epping Ongar Railway for 396 - 2013 Heritage Travel.

EBN593p6

Doug Brown, Badge no. N36705, recollects.

During the recent heat-wave, I was riding an 81 bus with Paul Ashman when he said to me "this awful heat makes me feel ill". I told him that when I was a bus driver I was in a small cab with a hot noisy stinking diesel engine alongside of me and wore a thick serge uniform; that was really hot! However, what I did not tell him was I could open the front windscreen fully, but this did have its disadvantages! Flies, wasps and bees used to get in the cab. One day on the 251 between Gants Hill and Newbury Park, a double wingspan tiger-moth dragonfly got in. At that time, I had more hair than Harry Styles and I was afraid it would get caught up in my locks and sting me! I knocked the bus out of gear, put on the handbrake and bailed out! The bus came to a standstill about 40 ft. down the road. My conductor came round and shouted, "Have you gone blooming mad?" I said, there is a dragonfly in the cab and I am not getting back in. I went into the bottom deck and looked through the glass screen to see where it had got to; it was sitting on the steering wheel. A lady passenger said, "They don't sting". I replied, "Madam, I am not prepared to put your theory to the test. Eventually, my conductor used his newspaper to get rid of the dragonfly. After this incident, I only ever opened the windscreen far enough to prop it open with a matchbox!



1484 (latterly 2453)
- 36 ENO a 1955
Bristol LD6B on
Eastern Avenue
Gants Hill heading
for Wood Green on
the 251 with some
nice period Ford and
Commer vans. It was
taken a while into its
life as the 3 piece
destination has been
replaced with the
Tilling "T" style
destination without
intermediate displays,
but before the 1964
re-numbering.
Lyn Watson.



Former Stagecoach
Dart/Alexander 781
(LX51 FGD) pulls
away from the
one-time Eastern
National 251 stop in
Brentwood High
Street on 3rd
September, working
the anti-clockwise
Hutton circular 82 (via
Hutton
Drive, Wash Road
and Long Ridings, the
81 running clockwise
over the
same route).
Chris Stewart.

EBN593p7

Service Changes by Paul Harvey.

Carters Coaches

2 Sept 13	92	M-F	Ipswich to East Bergholt: revised route in Ipswich with minor timetable change to an afternoon journey.
	93/95/96	M-S	Ipswich to Colchester: revised route in Ipswich with minor timetable changes to afternoon journeys.

Colchester Voluntary Services

1 Sept 13	SB36	TF	Althorne to Maldon: new service.
	SB37	ThO	Tolleshunt Knights to Tiptree: new service.

Ensign Bus

24 June 13	22	M-S	Grays to Aveley: changes to evening journeys on Saturday.
	44	M-S	Lakeside to Grays: additional evening journeys introduced.
	66	M-S	Lakeside to Chadwell: additional evening journeys Mon to Fri.
	88	M-S	Grays to Lakeside: additional evening journeys Mon to Fri.

First Essex

1 Sept 13	1	M-S	Greenstead to Ambrose Avenue: revised routing to match daytime commercial service to serve Forest Road and St Andrews Avenue instead of East Gates. Renumbered 1A (updated information).
2 Sept 13	9	M-F	Great Notley to Great Saling: 0639 journey from Great Saling to Braintree to operate 5 mins earlier.
29 Sept 13	61	D	Colchester to Wivenhoe: service will only operate between Colchester and the University only with revised timetable. New late night 61C circular introduced on Fri & Sat nights.
	62/A	D	Colchester to Wivenhoe: revised t'table increased frequency.
	65	D	Tollgate to Highwoods: Sunday daytime frequency increased to every 15 mins.
	67	M-S	Colchester to West Mersea: revised route to serve Berechurch Hall Road with increased frequency on Saturdays to every half hour.
	68	D	Monkwick to Colchester: service withdrawn.
6 Oct 13	21/A	D	Black Notley to Bocking: revised timetable with improved frequency during the day.
	31/X	D	Chelmsford to Burnham: minor timetable changes.
	42/A	D	Galleywood to Broomfield Hospital/Stansted Airport: revised timetable with improved frequency.
	45	D	Moulsham Lodge to Writtle: minor timetable changes.
	125	M-S	Braintree to Springfield: service withdrawn.
	H1/2	M-S	Chelmsford to Broomfield Hospital: minor timetable changes.
20 Oct 13	888	D	Luton Parkway to Luton Airport: new service.

EXTRACT from First web-site 3 September 2013 ... to ensure that our businesses are responsive to the needs of customers and other local stakeholders, we are proposing to restructure our South East and Midlands Region. Our depots will be grouped into two smaller, stronger business units " Midlands business unit consisting of Leicester, Wyvern and Potteries and **East England** business unit consisting of Norfolk, Suffolk and **Essex**. Each business will be under the leadership of a local Managing Director rather than a centralised Regional Board. Consultations are under way with the very few staff affected. However, for the majority of employees, it will be business as usual with little or no change to job roles. EBN593p8

Fourways Coaches

1 Sept 13	475	Sch	High Ongar to Brentwood: new service
	476	Sch	Stanford Rivers to Brentwood: new service.

Go Ahead London General

1 Sept 13	575	M-F	Harlow to Romford: revised route in Harlow with revised Schoolday timetable. New Saturday and school holiday timetable introduced.
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Hedingham

1 Sept 13	557	Sch	East Mersea to Colchester Schools: new service.
	558	Sch	East Mersea to Colchester Schools: new service.
	741	Sch	Tolleshunt D'arcy to Thurstable School: new service.
	742	Sch	Tollesbury to Thurstable School: new service.
	745	Sch	Kelvedon to Thurstable School: new service.
	747	Sch	West Mersea to Thurstable School: new service.
	750	Sch	Tollesbury to Thurstable School: new service.



Hedingham L423, W506 WGH a VolvoB7TTL/Plaxton President in Osborne Street, Colchester on 29 July 29 setting out for Halstead on route 88. **Ken Coldwell.**

Service Changes by Paul Harvey, continued.

Maldon District Community Transport

1 Sept 13	SB41	TF	Althorne to Maldon: service withdrawn.
	SB43	ThO	Tolleshunt Knights to Tiptree: service withdrawn.

National Express

12 Aug 13	737	D	Oxford to Stansted Airport: revised timetable.
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New Horizon Travel

3 Sept 13	702	Sch	Frinton to Colchester Schools: service withdrawn.
30 Sept 13	119A	Sch	Point Clear to Brightlingsea: new service.
	178	Sch	Walton to Colchester: new service.



New Horizon Volvo B6BLE/Wright working former Cedric's service 78X following takeover of Cedric's by New Horizon. Taken by **Peter Mansbridge** at the end of August.

NIBS (Nelsons)

2 Sept 13	41	Sch	Brentwood to Shotgate: revised timetable.
	50	Sch	Ingatestone to Shotgate: revised route and timetable.

Regal Busways

10 Aug 13	1/1A	M-S	Canvey to Chelmsford: revised route and timetable, Battlesbridge and East Hanningfield no longer served.
	3/A-C	M-S	Southend to Chelmsford: revised timetable with introduction of 3D & 3E. Certain journeys extended to King Edward School.
	4/4X	M-F	Chelmsford to Basildon: service withdrawn.
12 Aug 13	B1	M-F	Bourne Green to Basildon: revision to timetable.
	B2	M-F	Sutton Cemetery to Basildon: revised route and timetable.
15 Aug 13	5	ThO	Basildon to Maldon: revised route and timetable with extension to Basildon withdrawn.
1 Sept 13	7/7A	M-S	Bishop Stortford to Stansted Airport: service withdrawn.

Stephensons of Essex

2 Sept 13	38	M-S
	702	Sch

Witham Town Service: further revisions to timetable to reinstate journeys and part of route that was to be withdrawn.
Frinton to Colchester Schools: new service.

Stagecoach Cambridge

1 Sept 13	7	M-S
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Saffron Walden to Cambridge: revised timetable.

TWH

2 Sept 13	348	M-F
	349	Sch

Ongar to Upminster Campion School: service renumbered 848.
Ingatstone to Upminster Campion School: service renumbered 849.

(acknowledgements to LOTS, Essex, Hertfordshire & Suffolk County Councils, Omnibus Society (Essex Branch), Richard Delahoy & Harlowide.



Beestons Scania/E Lancs MX04 MYY in Osborne Street Colchester on 29 July on service 247 to Dedham.
Ken Coldwell.

Group Tour to Norfolk Crusader – 25 May

Report by David Harman.

A good crowd of members and friends gathered bright and early at Colchester station where organizer, Keith Woods, had kindly arranged for “Tangmere” (subbing for “Oliver Cromwell” which was poorly) hauling a steam special to Kings Lynn to appear to keep us entertained whilst we waited for our coach. However, once Paul Smith and Talisman’s nicely-restored Volvo/Van Hool in the old Crusader Holidays rainbow livery arrived, any thoughts of jumping ship for a steam trip were quickly forgotten.

With Paul moving briskly through the gears, we were soon speeding north to our first port of call, Mulley’s depot at Ixworth, near Bury. Here we found a representative selection of the fleet “on shed”, including front-line coaches, some still in the livery of Ruffles of Sible Hedingham, service buses, and school deckers. The buses included a long Solo, branded for the Bury town routes, Scania/East Lincs saloons ex-Nottingham, an ex-Hong Kong, via Magicbus (Stagecoach Manchester) Olympian tri-axle and a former Rossendale Olympian/Alexander Royale. The modern Mulley operation has two features in common with the old Jack Mulley days – an orange-based livery and the practice of storing withdrawn stock in the undergrowth at the back. Here, explorers found Olympians ex-Dublin Bus (in Ipswich livery) and ex-Northern General (in Talisman livery), plus a real relic from the old Mulley days, RGV 111, a Reliance / Harrington, once semi-preserved, but which now, sadly, looks the worse for wear (see picture on the inner front cover). No Reos or Giffords however.



But, it was soon time to move on, further north to the Thetford industrial estate where Coach Services, once part of the Mulley empire, now has a state-of-the-art modern depot. As the name suggests, they have a large coach fleet - Volvos, DAFs and Scania's. The bus side has gradually expanded off the back of First retrenchment. Present for our inspection were an Enviro 200, a Scania/Wright, a ubiquitous Solo and two Tiger/Alexander Q's, ex-South Lincs Transport, but new for Trent's Transpeak route, and now allocated to school duties. There was also a Routemaster used for school prom and weddings etc and this has its own bespoke garage, the only member of the fleet to be kept under cover. Over the pits was an Omnicity and being prepared for service was an ex-London General Volvo B7/Plaxton, still in red. A new decker, which I think would be a first for this fleet, is understood to be on order.

Left: Coach Services – Routemaster JJD 401D snug as a bug in a rug in its “garage-made-for-one” at Thetford.

David Harman.

Ever onwards and our next call was the Konectbus depot at Dereham. Here the shingled (ex-Cromer beach?) yard we saw on the last visit, has been refurbished with plain old-fashioned concrete. A discreet "Part of the Go Ahead Group" sign adorns the engineering shed, where staff were enjoying a midday barbecue (Go Ahead likes to pamper its staff), with the depot cat in anticipatory attendance. A Tempo and an ex-London Citaro bendy-bus were the only vehicles present, and we boarded the latter for the short trip across the road to the new overflow depot. Here we found Tridents ex-Brighton & Hove, including one that had briefly been at Hedingham, VDL/Wrights bought new, the remaining bendies (two of the batch having now been sold), the other depot pet, a Leyland-National, plus an accident victim Excel. The hand of Ray Stenning could be detected on the rear of the bendies. These bear catchy puns like "Mercedes bends", "flexible friend" etc. which must lead to a great deal of chortling in and around Dereham.



Konectbus – VDL, Trident and bendy in the new yard at Dereham.

David Harman.

Back in the bendy, we were expertly whisked into downtown Dereham for the lunch break, where four participants could either witness the mid-day rush-hour (Konectbus Solo on the town service and a First Eastern Counties soon-to-be-replaced "White Elephant" B7/Gemini on the X1), or visit the station. Dereham is the terminus of the North Norfolk Railway and the station restaurant offers refreshments (which are highly recommended), and views of the platform where we were entertained by the arrival of 50019 "Ramillies", plus train.

Back to the Konectbus depot in a Tempo, where we found the barbecue was over and all the pies had been eaten. Nobody was saying who ate them but it wasn't the cat! Then it was off on the "mystery" part of the tour which proved a mystery even for our driver as we took a wrong turn and had to reverse before heading down narrower and narrower Norfolk lanes, farm-tracks and finally into a farmyard. Here in front of one shed, some lads and lasses were working on a Corsa in preparation for the/

Group Tour to Norfolk Crusader – 25 May

Report by David Harman. Continued.

ancient Norfolk sport of banger-racing. We had not come to see them but the contents of two other sheds – which hold part of the Eastern Transport Collection. Many of the ETC fleet have an eastern counties (or Eastern Counties) connection, including an early curved-windscreen RE in NBC poppy red, KSW just repainted (by Simonds of Diss) in Tilling red, and awaiting fitting-out, MW coach-bus conversion in cream/maroon, ex-Ribble VR in post-privatisation colours, a Lowestoft Regent and a Gt Yarmouth VR. Also present was the "Suburban National" demonstrator and the star of the show – Robin Jenkinson's Leyland Royal Tiger Crellin Duplex half-decker. This really is strange! The entrance has several steps up to a central vestibule. You then turn left or right up further steps to the lower seats and then use single-foot-hole steps to reach the upper seats. To reach the front seats next to the driver, you then negotiate a steep set of steps down. "Easy access" it ain't! However, the driver does have it (relatively) easy; he reaches his seat via a door on the outside. A wonderful survivor, which is in very good shape and hopefully will be seen on the rally circuit in due course.

Back down the lanes and northwards to our final call – the modern depot of Simonds at Diss, where we were warmly welcomed by Mr Simonds. Simonds are a firm fan of the B10M/Van Hool plus cherished registration combo – and many examples were to be seen, all bearing subtly-different versions of the Countrybus "leaves" vinyls.



Simonds – Massed ranks of Volvo B10M/Van Hools at Diss.

David Harman.

On the service bus front, MAN/MCVs are now in favour, having usurped Darts and Enviro 300s, but the fleet also contains a solitary Volvo B10B/Alexander ALX and an Excel. There are also three Primos – a type which has enjoyed mixed fortunes elsewhere. As Mr Simonds said: "they needed a bit of maintenance". In the corner were some oddities – an ex-Nottingham Trident/East Lancs for school work, still in NCT green, the entire fleet of Jeff Morss of Wingfield (Fareline) - one B10M/Jonckheere Deauville, and two of Viv Carter's fleet – an ex-Counties VR, freshly outshopped to his spec in NBC poppy red and white, with grey wheels, but with gold fleetname, and also the 25th anniversary Primo, awaiting diagnosis of front suspension problems. (Simonds have become experts on the finer points of the Primo marque, probably out of necessity!).

Mr Simonds then produced the key to the "toy cupboard", a modern building containing various preservation projects – a John Deere tractor, a Ford Model A truck with wood-spoked wheels, and one of three ex-Wallace Arnold Commer Avenger III / Plaxton coaches (UUB 402-4). The fleet was once synonymous with the Avenger type and the three survivors are all undergoing restoration as a reminder of the era. A second example was in the well-equipped paintshop, already looking resplendent in red and cream. The black roof, once a well-known feature of the Simonds fleet, will be omitted on this one. The Avenger was economical, had a fair turn of speed and even an early form of power-steering. The characteristic "burble" of the two-stroke engine was not uncommon in independent fleets, and Eastern National, of course, inherited three from Moores of Kelvedon.

With that, it was homeward bound, and our noble steed made good time to return whence we came, but there was no Tangmere waiting for us at Colchester – it had gone home via the ECML to Kings Cross.

A good day was enjoyed by all, and the weather stayed bright if cool. Our thanks are due to all the operators for their hospitality, to Chris Stewart for his good offices with the ETC, to Paul Smith for his work behind the wheel, to Dave Arnold for navigation, fleetlists and surplus pie disposal services, and last but not least, to Keith Woods for all the organisation.



Beestons recently acquired ex Reays of Wigton MCV Evolution VDL SB180 YJ62 JXW. It has regularly appeared on their 247/247A Dedham - Colchester service and is pictured here crossing the A12 in Severalls Lane, Colchester on 21 Aug 13.

Russell Young.

EBN593p15

Acquired Vehicles

44596 EU60 LFS (J52083) ADL Dart E200 SFD3E15AGY11740 ADL A215/1 B35F 3.11
Connex Jersey 1178 From Ensign, Purfleet (dealer) August 2013 (prepared at Great
Yarmouth, in service at Clacton by 15 Aug).



John

Lidstone.

65586 V586 DVF Scania L94UB 1835592 Wright B375 B40Fnew 10.99 as First Eastern Counties 586
65587 V587 DVF Scania L94UB 1835503 Wright B376 B40Fnew 10.99 as First Eastern Counties 587
Both came from *Northampton Transport Ltd* - 65586 noted in CN on 23rd, 65587 on 'V' shuttle 18
Aug.

33424 (see EBN591) was first noted at Basildon on 23 Aug, although not yet in service.

Correction to EBN590: 43857 is EG52 FGE not FGF

44900 was new 1.4.08, has an unladen weight of 6974kg and seats B29F+17, B26F+17+1 or
B25F+22

Vehicles on Loan

Dagenham's TN33189/91 (LT52 WVE, XAC) worked on the 'V' shuttle on 16/18 Aug (see below), but
then moved to Braintree where both worked the 125 on 20 Aug and subsequently. 60317 (N522
WVR), a Volvo B10B/Wright Endurance driver trainer, was on loan from *First Potteries Ltd* to
Chelmsford between about May and July.

EBN593p16

Allocation Changes *These are, and always have been, taken from the Company's allocation sheet. For operational reasons there may sometimes be discrepancies with the actual situation on the ground.*

FEC=First Eastern Counties; FG=to/from another First Group company

(both involving change of legal ownership); RES=reserve; Sh=shuttle bus (non PCV)

The following traditional depot codes are used in EBN, although they no longer appear on the company's listings: BN-Basildon; BE-Braintree; CF-Chelmsford; CN-Clacton; CR-Colchester; DT-Harwich; HH-Hadleigh; DS-Driving School; (D)-Disposal

Period 5 (28 July to 24 August 2013) – please note 'Period 4' ended 27 July

30888 BE-FEC; 32852 CN-FG; 32854 CN-FG; 34308 CR-CN(store); 41006 HH-sold; 41010 HH-sold; 42922 CF-HH; 43449 CN-sold; 43451 BE-BE(store); 43739 CN-sold; 43740 CN-BE; 44596 Acq-CN; 60117 DS-sold; 60206 CN(store)-CR; 60756 RES-sold; 65539 CR-CN(store), 65554 CN-CR; 65586 FG-CN; 65587 FG-CN.

43451 has chassis corrosion and 43740 has replaced it at BE. Of note is the return to service on 27 August of 60206, which had been out of use since April 2012 awaiting a new engine.

Disposals (August 2013)

32852/4 to *First Midland Red Buses Ltd* on 18 (delivered to Hereford, seen awaiting rectification work but believed to be for additional schools duties from Worcester depot rather than Hereford)

30888 to *First Eastern Counties Ltd* (Lowestoft) on 21.

To Alpha Recovery for scrap: 41006/10 (both 14); 43449, 43739 (both 7); 60117 (12/7), 60756 (1/8)

An earlier disposal to Alpha not previously recorded was 42855 in December 2012

Other Vehicle News and Workings

53701, out of use since late 2012 awaiting a new gearbox, was noted back in service on 18 May. Lowestoft's MPD 43358 will not be joining 43357/9 back in Essex as it went to Alpha Recovery for scrap on 19 Aug. 69901/3/11 have recently had the vinyl over the rear window removed, allowing more light in.

'V' festival shuttle, Hylands Park to/from Chelmsford, 15-19 August

Friday 16

First Capital TN33189/91, *First Essex* 32481, 33178; *Fourways Coaches* G937/981 FVX, H691/9 PTW

Saturday 17

First Essex 30903, 32477/81/5, 32863/4, 33072/3/4/8/80, 33195, 66818

Fourways E852 DPN, G310 FWC, G937/981 FVX, H691/9 PTW

Tower Transit (ex *First London*) Trident/E400 DN33613/4/25/31/37 (SN11 BMV/Y/U, BOH, BPK) and Volvo B7/Wright VN36101/6/57 (BJ11 DSE, DTV, EAC) from Lea Interchange depot

Sunday 18

First Capital TN33189/91, *First Essex* 32481/2/4, 33072/3/4/6/7/8/86/8, 33184/6/8/92/5, 34014/8/56, 34305, 65587; *Fourways* E852/6 DPN, G937/981 FVX, H691 PTW

Olympians

As well as those seen on 'V' shuttle, CF34314 was noted on 351 (8 Aug), 42 (9) and 36 (13).

Colchester sightings have included 34013 (61 on 16), 34014 (64 on 9, 61/62 on 15 and 20), 34056 (65 on 29 July), 34304 (62 on 22), 34305 (62 on 27) and 34308 (61A on 28 July, 61 on 9 Aug but now stored at CN).

Dagenham (DM)

Pilgrim's Hatch-Lakeside route 265 was scheduled for double deckers Mon-Sat but normally operated by Caetano Darts on Saturdays because of parking and tree issues in Pilgrim's Hatch. On the last Saturday that *First* operated the route (10 Aug), it was worked by ALX400 Trident TNA33379 (which also appeared on the last day of all, Friday 16, with TNA33381 on the short journeys from Lakeside to West Horndon). *Amber Coaches* of Rayleigh took over operation of the route the next day, mostly using two ex London 'deckers.

EBN593p17

Basildon (HH), Hadleigh (HH)

August

2nd BN42922 newly transferred from CF on 21
3rd BN66169 on 200
9th BN66827 on 100
11th Trident BN32887 on Sunday 251 (with unknown new-liveried double decker noted on 1 Sept)
13th BN41640 in service in Basildon (possibly on 5), BN60809 on 25, BN60863 on 551 (18.55 from Warley), BN65556 on 15
16th BN60767 on 200, HH33383 noted back in service (see EBN591)
17th BN41640 on 9 (paper in windscreen suggesting it doesn't have '9' on its one track number blind)
20th BN66823 on daytime 9
31st BN65626 on 9

Clacton (CN) and Harwich (DT)

August

22nd DT44517 on 104, DT44519 on 103, CN44598 on 76
27th DT32801 on 4, DT32804 & CN65527 on 74, DT32818 parked at back of CN, CN43742 on 5B then evening 76, CN43679 on 19 (last week of this summer service), DT44518 on 104, CN61057 on 76



Chelmsford (CF) and Braintree (BE)

Step Dart 46158 remains in varied use, working the 42 to Warner's Farm on 3 Aug, the 51 on 13, 71/71A on 15, the 351/73 on 14 & 16, H3 on 16 and being used as CF's Driver Shuttle on 17. It then moved on loan to BE, working 132 on 20 Aug and again on 2 Sept, as well as the 70/70X on 24 Aug.

July

23rd BE30902 on 70 (back in use – also seen 2 Aug); 25th BE43448 on 70

29th CF69434 parked up showing 55, BE43448 on 70 again

August

5th BE42483 on 70;

7th BE42485 on 70X

12th BE43485 on 70;

13th CF44549 on 36

16th CF43483 and CF66828 on evening 70s, CF53116 on 36 & 31C, CF53138 on 73/351 then evening 42

17th BE42483 on 70, CF53112 on 73 (scrolling large "Brentwood Station" but no via points programmed).

20th CF44900 on 36, CF53130 on 42, BE30902, 43448, 53701 and 66828 all on 70 (and possibly CF42932)

21st CF44900 on 73/351 (also seen at Brentwood station on 16)

24th BE40008 on 125 (and 31)

31st BE66828 on 125, BE43740 (ex CN) on 132

Colchester (CR)

6th CR65652/83 on 75;

13th CR65652 on 71

20th CR65554 (ex CN) on 63;

31st CR66978 on 71

Sources: Own observations, with many thanks to *First Essex* and to M Austin, S Austin, A Bird, N Clark, T Clark, D Edwards, A Hughes, J Long, D Lund-Conlon, M McKinnon, P Munford, J Podgorski, D Pretty, I Ransom, J Salmon, K Smith, SoloOptare, A Timms, R West, the *Essex yahoo!* group, *Essex Buses* Google group, www.bustlistsontheweb.co.uk, *Real Bus News*, *LOTS*, *PSV Circle* and *'Terminus'*.

Reports relating to *First Group* may be sent by text on 07973 509459, by e-mail to shenfield252@gmail.com or by conventional post. Many thanks to all those who do so.



33047 in New London Road, Chelmsford on 2 Sept. Alleged new regular "dup" on the 1710 to Sandon P&R operated off the Pm 512 trip. SDO.

Stop press! Note the destination!!

Russell Young.

EBN593p19

A new arrival is 3530 (LF02 PNK) DAF SB120 / Wright entering service on route 9 on 28 August. This was originally Arriva London DWL34 and has latterly been used as trainer by Arriva London. Streetlite 4224 worked Fridays only service 18 (Leigh – Tesco – Hawkwell) on 5 July.
with thanks to David Flatman, Essex Buses Yahoo Group.

TGM Essex; Network Colchester by Peter Mansbridge.

Ex TGM Gatwick Dart SLF W227 DNO entered service around about 10 August. It retains blue and white 'Hotel by Bus' colours but with the branding removed. It also retains its luggage racks, which reduces the seating capacity to 21.

Volvo B10BLEs / Alexander 401 (W906 UJM) and 406 (W904 UJM) have left for Arriva Southern Counties.

A noteworthy withdrawal is the last step entrance bus with Network Colchester, 385 (H804 RWJ) Scania N113 / Northern Counties.

Ex Arriva Southend Dart SLFs 3390/1 (P260/1 FPK) were withdrawn at the end of August.

with thanks to Richard Delahoy, John Podgorski, Keith Sadler, Essex Buses Yahoo Group.



Network Colchester 414 climbing North Hill at the end of August.

Peter Mansbridge.
EBN593p20

Amber Coaches by Adam Kelleher.

Acquired Vehicles

KU02 YBE Dennis Dart SLF / Caetano, B31D, new to Mitcham Belle April 2002, fleet number 067. Converted to single door, but unlike 1 and 2 has not been fitted with all round LED blinds and retains scrolls. Repainted in fleet livery.

KX08 HMD Alexander Dennis Enviro 200, B29F, new to Courtney, Bracknell, March 2008. In all-over white with silver wheels but no fleet names. 1 and 2 (see EBN 592) are B33F (ex B31D).

Volvo B7TLs Y172 / 202 NLK (see EBN 592) have Plaxton President bodies. Both have been converted to single door and been repainted in fleet livery. They have retained scroll blinds, with a large route number in the front number / via aperture. Commendably, Y202 has had rear scroll blinds fitted, which have been correctly set with the appropriate route number.

New Routes

Amber duly took over operation of Route 265, Pilgrim's Hatch / Brentwood to Lakeside from First Capital on 17 August. Y202 NLK operated the route on the first day and has been seen many times on the service during the rest of August. On 19 August, the first day of Amber operation when two vehicles were required (the second bus operates the Monday - Friday only short workings between Lakeside and West Horndon), the short workings were operated by Dart 1. From 2 September, Amber commenced operation of Essex County Council route 269 and associated schooldays only 268 replacing Travel With Hunny. Ex Metrolink Volvo B7TL Plaxton President Y172 NLK operated the 269 on the first day (the first recorded sighting of this bus in service) with Y202 also seen on the route later the same day.

Route 261 Observations

The 261 has been often worked by 2 during August, with occasional sightings of 1 on the route. Acquired KU02 YBE was seen on it on 13 August but this was the only reported sighting of this vehicle during the month. On 19 August, Y202 NLK was used on the 261 in the morning and moved on to the 265 later in the day. On 2 September, newly acquired KX08 HMD was on the 261 during the day (LED screen not in use, number and destinations in windscreen) with 2 on the route in the evening.

with thanks to Brian Kelleher, Kevin Smith and Caroline Wilson.



Everyone is sending me pictures of Amber buses but this one was first out of the hat!

Amber KU02 YBA on 261 at Blackmore Bus Terminal; 23 July 2013.

Amber also have similar KM51 BFY. Both new to Scarlet Band, West Cornforth, Co.Durham. David Harman.

Regal Busways by Adam Kelleher.

Acquired Vehicles

More information on the ex Metroline Dennis Trident / Plaxton Presidents (see EBN 592):

1402 T122 KLD ex Metroline TP22

1403 T137CLO ex Metroline TP33

1404 V764 HBY ex Metroline TP64

These have been converted to single door and the skirt panels have been repainted in Regal red.

1401 has not yet been seen. 1402 is H45/28F (ex H45/20D) and 1404 is H43/21F (ex H41/19D).

A correction to EBN 586: 613 is in a blue and light green Transdev livery, not yellow and light green.

This bus has all round dot matrix destination equipment.

Disposals

603, which was towed away for scrap (see EBN 590), was actually withdrawn following accident damage.

Other Vehicle News

It was reported in EBN 591 that "the three Lynxes have not been seen in service for at least two to three months, their tax has expired". This should have read "the two Lynxes", 103 and 105, which, as reported in EBN 592, have now been disposed of. (The other two Lynxes, 102 and 104 had both been disposed of circa April 2012.) 601 has had most of its seats replaced by ones from 1301. 701 was reported in EBN 590 to have been off road for several months but was being sent for repair. However it remains parked in the yard out of use.

Services

In addition to the changes to the 1 group of services and the withdrawal of the 4 from 10 August 2013 noted in EBN 582, there were also timetable changes to the 3 A/B/C from this date, including the introduction of 3D and 3E variants (the E schooldays only), and the 5 East Hanningfield to Maldon, with the extension to Basildon withdrawn. Also a revised route and timetable on service B2 from the 12th. The 12 month Essex County Council contract on 7 / 7A, Stansted Airport to Bishops Cleeve ended on 31 August. On the 29th, 601 and 615 were operating the route. The new operator from 2 September is Acme Transport.

Advertisement:



Following a year of phenomenal growth, Regal Busways are looking to recruit additional drivers for our Private Hire, Tour and Rail Replacement teams.

Private Hire and Tour drivers: if you have Private Hire and Tour experience we can offer pay rates up to £10 per hour working for some of the country's leading tour operators and our ever expanding private hire clients.

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For further information call Steve on 01245 249 001.

EBN593p22

Regal Busways, continued.

Workings and Observations

September

2nd 613 parked at Brentwood station

August

31st 514 parked at Braintree, 605 on 1, 607 on 9, 611 on 52

30th 515 parked at Brentwood Station

29th 605 on 3, PO2 on 1, 1206 parked at Stansted Airport

20th 205 on 31A, 210 on First Data contract, 604 on 3B, 607 on 565, 802 on Braintree Freeport shuttle (and again on 31st)

18th 702 on 71C, PO1 on 1A ("Regal Busways" as destination, number in windscreen)

17th 608 on 1

16th 202 on 1 (and again on 20th), 203 on 3, 209 on 565

13th 207 on 1, 210 on First Data contract, 607 on 3B, 611 on 565 (and again on 14th, 21st and 23rd)

12th 207 on 565

8th PO1 on First Data contract

with thanks to Terry Clark, Chris Hatley, Owen Woodliffe and LOTS.

Travel With Hunny by Adam Kelleher.

Acquired Vehicles

L392 LNA Dennis Dragon

Acquired from Ensign, ex Grey's Coaches. For the Debden school run which now has a higher pupil requirement.

X594 VAP Dennis Dart SLF / Plaxton Super Pointer B41F New to Sussex Coastline, 54, October 2000

Acquired from Ensign, ex Stagecoach 33954, in modified Stagecoach livery (orange over painted dark blue).

KS53 YTP, the 14 seat Ford Transit (see EBN 591), is now an 11 seater as three unsecure seats have been removed.

Services. Last day of operation of route 269 was on 31 August, following the end of the 12 month Essex County Council contract. (Associated schooldays only 268 had ended at the start of the summer holidays in July.) EU06 KDJ operated on the last day of the 269. Other observations on the route in August were KU52 RYM on 20th, President W556 RSG unusual on 21st and EU06 KDJ again on 23rd and 30th. Amber Coaches took over the route from 2 September. In response to the cessation of their operation of the 269, TWH have registered new routes 848/9. The former is a basically hourly Monday to Friday service from circa 0800 to 1600 between Brentwood and Upminster Station (but with a two hour gap for lunch break) with the first journey in the morning on schooldays starting at Ongar and finishing at Upminster Bridge Station (with the reverse for the last afternoon schooldays journey). There hasn't been a direct service between Brentwood and Upminster (and the C2C and District Lines) for a number of years so it is to be hoped that this new initiative will prove successful. The 849 is a schooldays only service from Ingatestone to Upminster Bridge (operating to a partially different routing between Brentwood and Upminster from the 848), one journey only from Ingatestone in the morning and one back in the afternoon. Although there are only a total of two journeys on the 849 the timings mean that an extra vehicle to that used on the 848 will be required. Newly acquired X594 VAP worked on the 848 on the first day, September 2nd (with blinds in the windscreen and front nearside window, LED not in use). Note that although route number 848 was shown on the bus and this is the number also shown on timetables at bus stops in Brentwood, it is believed that these routes were originally registered as 348/9 and Traveline has these route numbers.

with thanks to Peter Horrex.

EBN593p23

Hedingham

by Mark Lloyd.

Withdrawn Vehicles:-

L210, Mercedes ALX100 ex Chambers R112NTA & TY depot sweeper were collected 1/8/13.

Allocations July 13

L347

SY – CN

L356

SY – CN

Service Changes:-

At the start of September New Horizon Travel de-registered the Cedric's 78/X services and registered new 78/A services under their NHT name, running in-between the Hedingham services basically providing a service every 15 minutes from Brightlingsea – Colchester during the main part of weekdays. NHT depart Osborne St 43 or 13 past the hour, Hedingham 59 or 29 past the hour. Brightlingsea departures from NHT are 05 or 35 and Hedingham are 50 and 20 past the hour.

- 130 New service Jaywick – Brook Retail park circular. New M-F service replacing services 131 and 139 starting 2/9/13.
- 131 Jaywick – Clacton-on-Sea circular withdrawn 1/9/13
- 135 Gt Clacton – Bockings Elm circular, revised route and timetable from 2/9/13. Journeys from Tesco's will now operate via Morrisons and Thorpe Road to Gt Clacton every 45 minutes. The service will no longer serve North Road Robin Hood stops but these will be served every 30 minutes by the new service 130.
- 139 Brook Retail Park circular withdrawn and replaced by service 130 by 1/9/13.
- 557 East Mersea – Thomas Lord Audley School M-F starting 1/9/13
- 558 East Mersea – Thomas Lord Audley School M-F starting 1/9/13
- 559 West Mersea – Thomas Lord Audley School M-F starting 1/9/13
- 741 Tolleshunt D'Arcy – Thurstable School M-F starting 1/9/13
- 742 Tollesbury Square – Thurstable School M-F starting 1/9/13
- 745 Kelvedon – Thurstable School M-F starting 1/9/13
- 747 West Mersea – Thurstable School M-F starting 1/9/13
- 750 Tollesbury Square – Thurstable School M-F starting 1/9/13
- 754 Colchester – Sudbury – minor changes to 1505 journey from Sudbury.

General:-

Both Hedingham & Chambers fleets have had ticket machine upgrades, changing to the Vix Technologies ERGTP5700. It offers a combined paper ticket issuing and smart card/magnetic ticket reading console. The machine has a top mounted smart card reader but seemingly only prints a receipt for cash transactions.

LX09 EYT is a Renault Traffic minibus at HD. The Mercedes minibus RJ56 TYP which was at HD is now at CN. L409 R216HCD is soon to enter the paint shops to receive HO livery.



Hedingham ADL Enviro
200, Y663 NLO, L385 in
Station Road,
Brightlingsea on 2
September.
Ken Coldwell.

EBN593p24

Ensignbus;

Dealing Stock Movements. July 2013. By Mark Lloyd.

VEHICLES IN

Aintree Coaches	N421JBV	Olympian Northern Counties Palatine 1
Anglian Bus	YN03 WRP	Scania Omnicity ex 464
Arriva S Counties	P209LKJ	Dart SLF ex 3209
	M920 PKN	Olympian
	P609CAY	Olympian NC ex 5938
	P933 MKL	Olympian NC ex 5933
Brighton and Hove	W832/5/7-40NNJ	Trident E Lancs ex 832/5/7-40
Carters Coaches	P455DCW	Dart E Lancs ex 255
	LT02ZDG	Dart Marshall
	SN51SXU	Dart MPD ex 251
Chambers Coaches	P901RYO	Olympian NC
	R989KAR	Olympian Alexander
Countryliner	W921/37JNF	Dart MPD/ALX200 ex DP10 & DP9
	RL51CXB/C/D	Dart MPD ex DP1/2/3
	GX04AZA	Dart MPD ex DP32
	AE06VPY/Z	MAN ECV ex MRM1/2
	RX53LNH/LFH	MAN E Lancs
	MM53BLU	MAN E Lancs ex MEM11
	R627MNU	Olympian NC ex NV627
Kent CC	KX57AAO	Enviro 200's
	SF07KCC	
London United	SN51SXG/H/J	Dart MPD ex DPK613/4/5
Stagecoach Gloucester	W501VDD	Dart SLF ex 33501
	X502/3ADF	Ex 33502/3
Stagecoach NE	R640/32/37/8OVN	Olympian Alexander ex 16840/32/7/8
Stephensons Coaches	MK52XNN/R	DAF SB220's Ikarus Polaris
Transdev York	YX60DWW	Plaxton Primo 799
Whippet Coaches	K662 UNH	Olympian NC
	G339KKW	Alexander

VEHICLES OUT

Amber Coaches,Rayleigh,Essex	Y172/202NLK	Volvo B7TL ex Metroliner VPL172/202
ASD Coaches, Strood, Kent	YJ58PGY	Solo
Berwyn Coaches, Caernarfon	YJ56WUO	Solo ex Damory 3775
Brian Jones Coaches,Gravesend	R257LGH	Olympian NC ex Roadrunner
Buglers Coaches, Bristol	P209LKJ	Dart SLF ex Arriva SC 3209
CountryBus, Heathfield	YJ06FYU	Solo
Croydon Coaches	GN55FDM	Volvo B7R's Plaxton ex Kent Top travel
	YX60BZS	
	FN57EWV	Enviro 200 ex Bodman
	RL51CXB/C/D	Dart MPD ex Countryliner
	AE06VPY/Z	MAN ECV ex Countryliner
Edwards Coaches, Llantwit Fadre.	PJ02PZN/M	Trident Plaxton ex RH805/804
Farleigh Coaches, Chatham	GN55 FDO	Volvo B7R Plaxton ex Kent Top Travel

Ensignbus;

Dealing Stock Movements. July 2013, continued. By Mark Lloyd.

Vehicles out, continued

FirstGroup	PL05 UBS/R MX10DXU PT59JPT FN08 AZZ	Volvo B7RLE Wright ex Transdev 1852/1 Enviro 200 ex Premiere 3358 Enviro 300 ex JPT 453 Enviro 300 ex Premiere 3319
Galleon , Nazeing, Essex	X962VAP LT02ZDG/ZDP X502ADF	Dart SLF ex SC33062 Dart SLF Marshall Dart SLF ex Stagecoach 33503
Golden Eagle coaches, Salsburgh	R640/32/7/38OVN	Olympian Alexander ex SC 16840/32/7/8
Grant Palmer, Dunstable	YN56NNA YN03WRF/G	Scania Omnicities Ex Anglian 447/8
Imperial Coaches, Slough	X322/7/9/34 -7HLL X341-2HLL	Trident ALX400 ex Metroline Ex TAL123/7/9/34-7/41-2
New Adventure Travel, Cardiff	SN51SXH/J	Dart MPD ex London United DPK614/5
NippyBus, Martock	YJ56WUL	Solo
Renown Coaches, Bexhill	LR02 BBV/BCX Y438NHK	Trident ex Metroline TP281/90 Trident ALX400 ex Stagecoach 17438
Rotala Group	PO54NNM	Enviro 300'sMX55 NWL
Scarlet Band, County Durham	MX55WCZ YJ06YRD/E	Solo's
Whippet Coaches, Fenstanton, Cambs	Y173/174NLK	Volvo B7TL ex Metroline VPL173/4

Other Movements:

Volvo B10M's N206TDU / R340HFS / R331HFS : MC Tractors for scrap.
 Olympian N421JBV : Patrick Mouzon, Lyndhurst.
 Olympian R144EVX DAF SB220 W472MKU : Mike Lawrenson, Preston.
 Tridents T138 / 144CLO : Picture Vehicle Co, Pinewood.

Primo YX60DWW : Associated Coach Sales, Palmerston, New Zealand.

With thanks to Ross Newman.

Ensignbus Dealing Stock Movements. August 2013. By Mark Lloyd.

Vehicles in.

Anglian Bus	HIL7618 784EYB AU54EUA/ENY	Olympian 507 ex Dublin Javelin Caetano ex 111 Solo
Carters Coaches	BU08ACV	Primo ex 218
East Sussex CC	YX05CDV/X/U YJ05WCE/G	Solo Solo
Greys Coaches	L392LNA	Dragon
Kent Top Travel	YN05XZR/S/T/XZP GN55VMC/FDL YX60BZR YN57FMO BX06OAU YJ06LEU/LFA/LFX	Volvo B7R Plaxton BMC Probus DAF SB120 Wright
Leven Valley	T13/6GAJ	Enviro 200s ex 13/6

Metroline	Y146/63/77/85NLK Y188/95/9/201/36NLK X643/9LLX LX51XGC	Plaxton President ex VPL 196 etc
NCP	AE08KTJ	MAN MCV Evolution
PeoplesBus	N202LTN	Volvo B10M Alexander PS
Rotala	BU05HDV	MPD Plaxton
Stagecoach Devon	R902JDV	Olympian Alexander ex 16602
Stagecoach London	X342/67NNO Y445/7/524NHK LX51FNN/FLZ	Trident ALX 400 ex 17342/280 Ex 17445/7/50 Ex 17510/482
Stagecoach South	X953/4/7/8/63/7VAP	SLF Plaxton ex SC 33053/4/7/8/63/7
Stagecoach West	N403LDF	Volvo B10M Alexander PS ex SC 20683
Travelmasters	T664/85KPU	Trident ALX400
Wards Coaches	R557LGH M134HPR	Olympian N Counties Optare Spectra
Western Greyhound	R472RRA	Olympian E Lancs ex 472

Vehicles Out

A & P Travel, Ely	R160HHK N202LTN	Olympian NC ex SC16160 Volvo B10M Alexander PS
ACME Bus Co, Stansted	T664/85KPU	Trident ALX400 ex Travelmasters
Aintree C	X367NNO	Trident ALX400 ex SC 17230
Black Velvet, Eastleigh	R247KRG	Volvo B10BLE ALX200 ex SC 21147
Borderbus, Bungay	X641/7/62LLX	Volvo B7TL Plaxton President
Brylaine, Boston	MK52XNR/XNN	DAF Ikarus
Carters Coaches, Capel	LX51FJD	Trident ALX400 ex SC 17416
Cotswold Green, Nailsworth	R114XNO/R176HHK	Olympian NC ex SC 16114/16176
Croydon Coaches	GN55FDK KV03ZGN R627MNU	Volvo B7R Plaxton Enviro 300 Olympian NC ex Countryliner NV27
Dialabus	YJ06FZO/MX55WDK	Solo
Fishers Tours, Dundee	N66BUS	Volvo B10M Plaxton Premiere
Galleon Travel	W501VVD X503ADF LT02ZDE/G	SLF ex SC 33501 SLF ex SC 33503 SLF Marshall Capital
Gardbus, Hants	P455DCW	Dart E Lancs ex Carters 255
Golden Eagle C, Glasgow	R902JDV	Olympian Alexander ex St Devon 16602
Greys Coaches	R421XFC	Olympian Alexander ex SC 16521
Harrogate Coach Travel	AU54ENY	Solo ex Anglian Bus
Hawkes C, Derby	R557LGH	Olympian N Counties ex Wards
Herberts Coaches, Sheffield	SN51SXU W921JNF	Dart MPD Plaxton ex Carters 251 Dart MPD ex Countryliner DP10
Holmeswood C, Lancs	YJ05WCG/WCE	Solo ex E Sussex CC
Jans Coaches, Ely	R472RRA	Olympian E Lancs ex 472 W Greyhound
Lakeside C, Ellesmere	SN51SXG	MPD ex Transdev DPK613
New Adventure	SN51SXH/J	Dart MPD ex Transdev DPK641/615
New Horizon	Y658/9/68NLO Y152NLK	SLF Plaxton ex Metroline
Nextbus, Wilts	MM53BLU RX53LFH/LNH	MAN E Lancs ex Countryliner
Nippybus, Matlock	X645/6/58LLX	Volvo B7TL Plaxton President /continued next page.

Ensignbus; Dealing Stock Movements. August 2013, continued.

Vehicles out, continued.

Regal Busways	T137CLO	Trident Plaxton President ex Metroline TP37
Reptons, Guidford	KU52RXX	MPD ex Countryliner DP7
Rossendale Transport	LK51XGV/X/Y/T/HA	Volvo B7TL Plaxton President
SunFun, Earith	YN05XZP	Volvo B7R ex Kent Top Travel
	N403LDF	Volvo B10M Alexander PS ex SC 20683
Sussexbus, Burgess Hill	YJ06LFA/X/LEU	DAF SB120 Wright
TWH, Debden	L392LNA	Dragon ex Greys Coaches
	X954VAP	SLF Plaxton ex SC 33054
Wards Coaches	X651/56LLX	Volvo B7TL Plaxton President
Western Greyhound	Y437/524NHK	Trident ALX400
York Pullman	R989KAR	Olympian Alexander ex Chambers
	W116GWC	Volvo B7TL ex Dublin 00-D-40001
Z & S International, Aylesbury	KX57AAO	Enviro 200
	LR02BBO/BDO/BBZ	Tridents
	LR02BCF/BDF	

Other Movements.

X395NNO / V152MEV Trident & R115XNO Olympian – Manchester Community Transport
 E772JAR Hassle-free-tours, Christchurch, New Zealand.
 AE08KTJ Associated Coach Sales, New Zealand.
 T182CLO/V760HBY to Geoff Ripley for scrap
 G340KKW Mr M Pearce, Lowestoft.

Mark Lloyd, with thanks to Ross Newman.

Ensignbus Ensign fleet - August 2013 by Mark Lloyd.

Vehicles Acquired:

784 HV52WTJ Dennis Dart Caetano B??F
 Was originally Centra B—D but converted to B—F and recently with Countryliner as DC39.

General.

RML2734 has been taken into the heritage fleet.

With thanks to Ross Newman



The former West Thurrock Cement Factory now used by Ensign to store ex-London Tridents. With a few ex B&H just out of sight! 14 Aug.

Jim Swan.

Stephensons of Essex by Richard Delahoy.

Sold

807, P167BTV, is withdrawn and sold to Fourways Coaches, Highwood. It will however remain in Stephensons' livery and will be operated by Fourways on route 505 (Danbury to Colchester) under contract to Stephensons. It was the last bus in the fleet from the take over of the former Burtons Coaches operations.

Operations

Stephensons have taken back the operation of Colchester routes 701/3/4 which were previously sub-contracted to Network Colchester. An outstation is being established in Clacton to operate routes 702/3/4, all normally Olympians, with 701 to be operated from Witham depot.

New Essex CC contract routes 5/6 (Bishops Stortford-Stansted 5 and Stansted-Saffron Walden 6) and 312/3 (Gt Dunmow-Saffron Walden) taken up from 2 September are operated from Haverhill depot, normally using four Solos (5/6) and an MPD Dart (312/3).

At the time of writing, the fleet consists of 95 vehicles, 87 operational, 3 heritage and 5 stored. Fuller details can be found at <http://www.stephensonsofessex.com/pages/enthusiasts.php>.



Not quite a Stephensons bus but sort of similar colours! Former Southdown 426, reg. BUF426C heading up the Clacton Carnival in August. **Fred Lawrance.**

More on the Group Visit to Lodge Coaches,

30 July by Chris Stewart.



Chris Stewart's report in EBN593 concluded by saying "Thanking them (Lodge's) for their warm reception and hospitality, I was also able to confirm that £220 collected from the participants would, at their suggestion, be donated to the Essex Air Ambulance fund. Thanks are also due to Keith Woods for organising the trip and several members for collating a fleet list."

The "Foxy" picture on the back cover of EBN593 should have been accredited to **Chris Stewart** as are all the other Lodge pictures and the captions on this page. Incidentally, that bus is known as Katie, the description Foxy was used when she starred in a film and is still shown at the front of the bus.

Top: New to China Light & Power, Hong Kong (Citybus) in 1992, 102-seat Alexander-bodied Leyland Olympian J534 CEV was familiar locally with Talisman of Great Bromley before being acquired by Lodge's in 2009.

Middle: With 'toastrack' Bedford OB LTA 752 and Scania/Van Hool V40 DGE (ex CNZ 3832 and V2 CCH) in the background, one time Arriva Cymru Volvo Olympian R233 AEY takes centre stage as the evening sun goes down.

Bottom: Lodge's first heritage coach, 'Katie', was acquired by them as long ago as 1989 and restored to their livery, as was once carried by a very similar example in the fleet (PAJ 487). New in 1956 as a petrol-engined Bedford SBG to Chiltonia of Chilton Foliot, Berks, MJB 481 (which now has a diesel engine) passed within a year to West Wight Motor Co on the Isle of Wight but had been with Abbeyways if Halifax prior to coming to Lodge's.



More on Silver End **by Chris Stewart.**

A PSV Circle fleet history addendum gives the following additional information:

"Passenger Vehicle Sales (London) Ltd leased the whole site from 1967 onwards. After they vacated, Silver End passed to Tillings Travel (NBC) Ltd from 1st October 1973 together with Kelvedon depot. Silver End was transferred to EN from National Travel (South East) Ltd, successors to Tillings, and reopened on 12th October 1974."



The bus wash at Silver End, with RE 1542 (RPU 882K) and VR 3020 (OWC 293K) in the background (**Eastern National**, courtesy Geoff Dodson).

Editor's Note.

This issue catches up with all the routine reports; thanks to the sub-editors and correspondents whose hard work had been delayed. Part of the price of the catch-up has been the delay until next issue of the continuation of Alan Osborne's research article on Sixty Years in Basildon. It is ready and will be worth waiting for! There are still quite a few items for publication and this backlog will now be tackled. Many thanks, too, for all regular contributors who "pulled out all the stops" to get their contributions in nice and early so I can get this edition finished early so I can get away on holiday!

Smaller Operators, by Roger A Smith.

Ford, Althorne: Scania C53FT Omni Express, reg. YT13YTY is new here.

Dennis Trident/East Lancs H47/31F's W80BUS & W90BUS were previously W833NNJ & W836NNJ and have come from Brighton & Hove. A very rare Bedford YNT with Van Hool Alizee body (one of only four ever made), reg. TIL6709 (ex C658KVV) has passed to Bakewell Coaches, Derbyshire.

Klanner's, Colchester: Setra S315GT-HD, reg. LV51ZHL was previously with WHM, Hutton.

Lodge, High Easter: Recently acquired Setra S415GT-HD's C49FT, BN58AHZ & BN58AJU are from Pullimore, High Easter, Herne Hill, London SE.

Trimmer (Coach Trippers) Galleywood: Scania/Van Hool C48FT reg. A19LNR (ex WJ13945, K965EJJ, K1HDC), previously with Bourne and Cantrell, Basildon is now with this operator.

Target Dates for EBN594 (October 2013).

By	...	5 October	...	Reports to Sub-Editors.
By	...	12 October	...	Sub-Editor drafts to Editor.
By	...	16 October	...	Dispatch by Printers.

Back Cover photo by John Lidstone.

John Lidstone writes "Buses ceased to travel via the 'millionaires row' of Benfleet Road and down the long steep climb of Essex Way, with its fine estuary panorama, when First withdrew route 26 at the last service changes.

However, a Bike event at Hadleigh was served by immaculate First Hadleigh Trident / Alexander ALX400 33385 (LK53 EZE), the 2nd newest double-decker at Hadleigh depot and which was specially prepared with repainted wheels.

Special "Bicycle Event" "Event Shuttle" destinations were shown - unusually with 'Bicycle Event' in the front and rear numeral displays.

The 'pseudo Olympic' style event was even run by many folk in Olympics uniforms! These people were well pleased with the shuttle, and the refurbished double-decker presented extremely well, being immaculate."

I hope members and readers like this month's all-over pictures on the front and rear covers. I cannot guarantee a similar presentation for the future. It just happened that I received two stunning pictures in the portrait style and with enough definition and sufficient interest around the bus for me to add the normal EBEG words. John Lidstone has unwittingly set us all a challenge!



Above: No, not a scene from the latest Harry Potter film! It's long-serving First Hadleigh Dennis Dart/ East Lincs Spryte 41006 (R706 VLA) as it starts its lengthy trek north - sold only for scrap – to Alpha Recovery of Ashington on 15 August. Also see notes on page 28. **John Lidstone.**

Below: The second-hand E200 sourced from the Ensignbus dealership, now running at Chelmsford on city services alongside the batch of 13 reg. examples. Former Carters of Capel St Mary AY08 EKT, now numbered 44900 with First Essex, outside Chelmsford Station on 10 August 2013.

Russell Young.





www.essexbus.org