

GREEN LINE SPECIAL



ARRIVA SOUTHEND, 4314 B84SWX LEYLAND TIGER/PLAXTON
PREPARING TO LEAVE LONDON ON THE FINAL X10 JOURNEY
ON 8TH OCTOBER. S COATES.

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ESSEX BUS NEWS

427

EDITORIAL

427 FOCUS OF THE MONTH

MNV427V a Leyland PSUE/4R Duple C53F was number 14 in the Osbornes Tollesbury fleet, 427 was one of three similar vehicles in the fleet MNV427/9/0V.

Farewell to Colchester Atlanteans, by kind invitation of The PSV Circle on Dec 5th a tour with one of the remaining vehicles will take place, see page for details.

ROCHFORD MEETINGS FREIGHT HOUSE 8pm

Dec 14th Slide Show by Richard Delahoy. 20 years ago.
2000 meetings. Dates to be announced.

NEWS BRIEFS

The former unique Hedingham Bedford YRT Marshall L81 YNO481L, was damaged by fire recently at the depot of Patridge in Suffolk.
Cedrics of Wivenhoe Bristol VR HWJ933W has received aoa for Sloppy Joes?

A former Budget Bus Leyland National MBZ7142 is still in service with Road Car Lincoln, formerly registered MEL553P.

Unusual for Essex is Leyland National B type EPD540V with Carter at Colchester.

S&M (Linkfast) at Benfleet acquire another ex London DMS OJD136R from County Hopper at Obstock.

Essex Buses surviving Leyland Nationals YEV308S, DAR121T, JHJ142V, JHJ150V of Eastern National and TJN502R of Thamesway all remain in service.

Any member who should be Panama City early next year, should lookout for Bristol VRTs in service, one which should be ex Thamesway..

Contributions for this edition received with thanks from,
S Menzies, C Stewart. Buses. Essex C.C. Essex Buses, PSV Circle.
C Sigston F Moncke. Arriva Southend, B&C Preservation Monthly.
Sue Burdon, I Taylor, S Coates, I Taylor and Mr D MacGregor
Hedingham Omnibuses

Contribution for December EBN should be Sub Editors by 3rd December and Managing Editor by 7th December, please note earlier dates due Christmas postal rush.

ARRIVA SOUTHEND

THE LAST EVER SERVICE X10.

Friday the 8th October 1999 saw the last ever operation of service X10 between Southend and London Victoria. At 17:45, 4314 alias B84 SWX was the last vehicle to operate a service X10 between London Victoria and Southend Central Bus Station. The new revised X10 now called service 722 now operates via a different route, now serving Pitsea and the Uplands Estate adding extra journey times to the service, to which is causing a lot of complaints from the commuters who used to use the X10.

REVITALISING AN OLD SERVICE NUMBER I

Back in 1946 the Green Line network reformed its routes and withdrew the letters used for the routes it operated and introduced numbers from 700. They started from Gravesend and increase there number as they went round London in a clockwise direction. This saw the introduction of service 720 from Bishops Stortford to London Aldgate begin on 6th February 1946. A month later on the 6th March 1946 saw the introduction of services 721 from Brentwood to London Aldgate and also service 723 which operated from Tilbury to London Aldgate via Grays.

Almost a month later service 722 from Corbets Tey or Hornchurch Stn operated to London Aldgate. There had been various changes to all four routes, all being given different variations including extensions to the original route such service 720 which in 1952 started to serve the new town of Harlow.

Routes started to be withdrawn in 1962 when service 722 was cut back to Corbets Tey, but then in 1963 was extended to operated via Dartford only to be withdrawn over that section the following year, then in August 1968 service 722 was withdrawn all together. Service 723 was withdrawn between Tilbury and Grays in May 1973 where as route 720 was futher extended to serve Stanstead Airport, but four years later on in April 1977

saw the withdrawal of this service. In July 1977 saw the withdrawal of service 721. Then in January 1978 saw the reintroduction of service 722 but this time operating between Hitchin and London Victoria via Welwyn-Garden-City.

So with the current changes to the Southend to London operations of Arriva Southend and First Thamesway it seems that route 723 reserves its old route of all those years ago, along with the new 720 to 722 routes also in use.

To summarise up on the new services that were introduced on Sunday 10th October 1999 to replace the old 'X' and 'S' services are ;

720 : Canvey Village (King Canute) to London Victoria Rail Stn via Homesteads, Grays, Purfleet, Dagenham.

721 : Southend Central Bus Stn to London Victoria Green Line Coach Station via Hadleigh, Pitsea, Basildon, Homesteads, Grays, Lakeside.

722 : Southend Central Bus Stn to London Victoria Green Line Coach Station via Hadleigh, Pitsea, Purfleet, Dagenham (Warner Village).

723 : Southend Central Bus Stn to London Victoria Rail Stn via Hadleigh, Homesteads, Grays, Purfleet, Dagenham.

The new 722 route will use the new A13 Dagenham by-pass when it is fully opened hence why it only serves Warner Village at Dagenham. All of the new routes operated the same route at present from Purfleet Uplands Estate.

The present allocation of vehicles, Monday to Friday by both companies is 8 vehicles each making a total of 16 a day.

However Arriva Southend are still the only operator to run from Southend to London Victoria on a Sunday using a total of 3 coaches.

Written by Simon Coates.



Green Line

October 1999

721

Southend
Leigh
Hadleigh
Basildon

up to every **30** mins



Services provided by
ARRIVA Southend and
First Thamesway

welcome...

to the new Green Line service
provided by ARRIVA Southend
and First Thamesway.

we now offer...

- Full interchangeability of tickets
from both operators
- 30 minute off-peak frequency
- Single telephone information
line 0208 668 7261

great for central London

Green Line goes from your area
direct to the City and West End.

Off-peak return only £4.50!

great for Lakeside

Swift link up to every 30 minutes.

Off-peak return only £2.50!

information...

0208 668 7261

GREEN LINE



721, 722 723

Corringham, Tilbury,
Grays, Belhus,
Rainham, London

from 29 June 1985

PAGE 6

New daily service to Tilbury
and faster journeys to London!



Service 722 is jointly operated with Eastern National

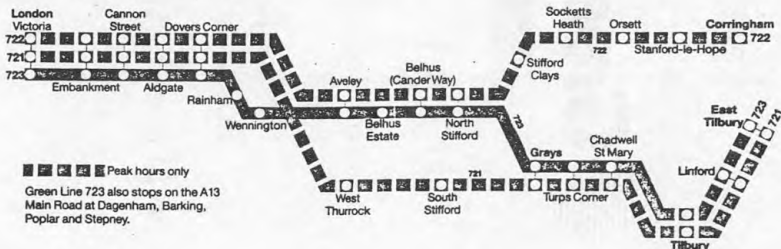
From Saturday 29th June there are extensive alterations to coach services 721, 722, 723 which includes the following new features:

- ★ Regular daily links from Tilbury and Chadwell St Mary to London.
- ★ New commuter links to London from East Tilbury, Linford and West Thurrock.
- ★ Faster journey times between Thurrock area and London.
- ★ Route redirection of Green Line 723 via Hogg Lane in Grays (instead of Hathaway Road)

Your new look services

Fast Commuter Service **721** now runs from East Tilbury, Linford, Tilbury, Chadwell St Mary and West Thurrock to London with two coaches in the morning peak and one returning home in the evening. A second evening coach for commuters living in Linford and East Tilbury has also been provided by extending a journey on Green Line 723. And don't worry if you live in Stifford Clays as your commuter link to London has been transferred to service **722** which has three coaches each way between Corringham, Stanford-le-Hope and London. Please note that services 721 and 722 no longer run beyond Victoria to Marble Arch due to poor usage.

Green Line **723** has been altered to run between Tilbury and London serving Chadwell St Mary, Grays, Hogg Lane, Belhus, Aveley, Wennington, Rainham, Dagenham (Chequers), Barking (Volunteer), Poplar, Stepney, Aldgate and Victoria. Coaches now run hourly Mondays to Saturdays with extras at peak times, and every two hours during evenings and Sundays.



Direct to Victoria

These services run direct to Victoria, a major hub of London's transport system. Within easy reach of the Green Line terminus is Victoria Coach Station, from where National Express and other services depart for most parts of Britain – and many continental destinations too. Through-booking from Green line to National Express is an easy and economical way to travel – ask at your local National Express booking office. Victoria is also an ideal centre for sightseeing in London (the Round London Sightseeing tour starts nearby in Wilton Road) and for shopping sprees in the West End.

A night on the town

Night time London is alive with entertainments of every type, and what better way to get to the heart of London than by Green Line 723. The late night departure at 2316 is of particular benefit to cinema and theatre goers.

Best for air travellers

Victoria is also the starting point for the fast "Flightline" coaches to the airports of Heathrow, Gatwick and Luton or for direct service to Gatwick from Stanford-le-Hope, Sockets Heath and Grays travel by coach 795. Please see separate leaflets or telephone 01-668 7261 for details.

FAREWELL TOUR OF COLCHESTER BOROUGH TRANSPORT LEYLAND ATLANTEANS

By kind invitation of The PSV Circle at Colchester, a Farewell Tour of the Colchester Area with remaining Atlanteans has been arranged for Sunday 5th December. These are still in original Colchester livery and the last of 30 Leyland Atlanteans AN68 ECW operated.

Tour to give ample opportunity to photograph the vehicle at various terminals, not now served by Arriva Colchester Ltd., routes.

It is hoped to change vehicles mid-way through the tour; full details available on request from Geoff Mills (01206) 766886 at 4 James Carte Rd, Westlands, Colchester CO3 5XA.

Depart Arriva Colchester depot 09-30

Depart Colchester Bus Stn 09-45

Depart Colchester North Stn 10-10 train ex Liverpool St 09-00

West Bergholt Chapel Rd/Lexden Rd

Severalls Hosp, Turning Circle

Mill Rd " "

Ipswich Rd " "

Parsons Heath Welshwood Park

Wivenhoe Rail Stn and Cedrics Depot

Hythe Quay

Barnhall Estate

Old Heath

Rowhedge

Fingringhoe Whalebone

West Mersea Mica Centre

Gurdon Rd

St Johns Green

Circular Rd

Shrub End Turning Circle

Westlands Estate Turning Circle

North Stn

Bus Station

Arrive Depot

Participants should contact Geoff Mills ASAP if they intend to make this Farewell tour

PRESERVATION TOPICS

The november issue of Bus and Coach Preservation Monthly has an intereting article on the rebuilding of Colchester Borough Transport Daimler CVD6/Roberts no 4 OHK432, well worth read.

Veteran Westcliff Bristol K5G AJN 825 which has been at Chelmsford Depot for a considerable time has at last received some attention , let us hope "the old lady" will back on the road again shortly.

Correction to EBN426 the ex Moores Guy that went America was 372WPU.

ARRIVA EAST HERTS AND ESSEX.

FLEET

Vehicles In / Transfers

5253	B283 WUL	MCW Metrobus H43/28F from Arriva London North (09/99)
3256/7	V256/7 HBH	Volvo B6LE / Wright Crusader B40F (10/99)
5251	KYV 681X	MCW Metrobus H43/28F from Arriva London North (10/99)

Liveries

August 99: 5255 (B155 WUL) to Arriva 'Outer London' livery
Sept 99: 3376 (M266 VPU) to Arriva corporate livery with branding for routes
500/2 (Romford-Harlow)
3388-90 (P258-60 FPK) to Arriva corporate livery with branding for routes
370/3 (Romford-Grays)
5253 (B283 WUL) to Arriva 'Outer London' livery
Oct 99: 2380 (R950 VPU) and 3255-7 (V255-7 HBH) to Arriva corporate livery

General

As of 12/10 vehicles 3255-7 were not in service - awaiting paperwork from DVLC.
Before arrival 5251 (KYV 681X) and 5253 (B283 WUL) were converted to single doorway.

Unusual Workings

The new Volvo B6LE / Wright Crusader vehicles continue to be seen operating various Harlow Town services.

Corrections

Corrections to EBN 426, the Volvo B6LE / Wright Crusader seating is B40F and vehicle 3255 was delivered 10/99.

Allocation Changes to September 1999

4318	C255 SPC	Ware to Withdrawn
5253/5	B283/155 WUL	Arriva London North to Ware
5354/9	GBU 4/9V	Ware to Withdrawn
5362	BYX 232V	Grays to Arriva the Shires
5380	TPD 110X	Ware to Stored

Allocation Changes to October 1999

1108	J976 AKY	Harlow to Sold (Denty) for scrap
1156	D576 NDA	Withdrawn to Sold (Harwick, Carlton) for scrap
2278	G78 SKR	Harlow to Sold (Southend United Football Club)
3255-7	V255-7 HBH	New to Harlow
4300	WPH 130Y	Withdrawn to Sold (Ripley, Carlton)
4338	J928 CYL	destroyed by fire during 05/98 has been disposed of

ALLOCATION CHANGES

September 1999

342 Reserve – HH 354 RD – Disposal 809, 913 RD – BN 3226 Reserve – BN

October 1999

612, 614, 615 BN – Reserve 613 BN - Disposal

REPAINT

601, 605 to new coach livery for joint services 721 etc.

ODD WORKING

29-9-99 969 on route 551 ("Premier 100" livery)

SERVICE CHANGES

- 1A Withdrawn from November 15th
- 35 Withdrawn from November 1st.
- 111 Basildon Bus Stn. to Fairmead. Mon, Wed, Thurs only from August 16th
- 374 Lakeside to Bulphan. Single Mon – Fri journey passes to Clintona from August 2nd
- 399 Lakeside to West Horndon. Withdrawn after April 3rd. Part replaced by Arriva EH&E service 374
- 500 Timetable revisions from September 6th
- 860 Schools service Kelvedon Hatch to Brentwood County High School started on September 6th
- 863 Revised route and timetable from September 6th
- 864 School service from Doddington to Brentwood County High School withdrawn.
- 867 Revised timetable from September 6th

Changes to Mobility Bus Services Week Commencing October 4th (Courtesy of LOTS)

- 951 Upminster & Romford, Mon withdrawn
- 952 Harold Hill & Rainham, Tues. Re-routed via Upper Brentwood Road, Station Road and Balgores Lane in Gidea Park, but withdrawn from Main Road. Introduced also on Thursdays.
- 953 Harold Hill & Thames View Estate, Weds & Sat. Re-routed at Becontree Heath from Oxlow Lane via Heathway and Wood Lane instead of Rainham Road North.
- 954 Rainham & Ilford, Thurs withdrawn.
- 955 Ilford-Romford-Hainault & Ilford, Mon. Wed. Sat. Additional journeys on Tues and Fri.
- 956 Thames View Estate & Dagenham, Asda, Mon. The morning bus from Thames View withdrawn (see 959). Plans to re-route in Mayesbrook Park not taken up.
- 957 Hainault, The Lowe & Lakeside, Fri withdrawn.
- 958 Barkingside, Fullwell Cross-Goodmayes-Ilford-South Woodford-Barkingside, Tesco's, Thurs. Revised to operate two return journeys between Barkingside Tesco's and Ilford via Woodford Green, South Woodford, Wanstead and Manor Park. Withdrawn along the routing via Seven Kings, Goodmayes and Newbury Park. Circular operation ceased.
- 959 Thames View & Barkingside Tesco Mon. Also introduced on Thursdays. Additional morning journey introduced (see 956).
- 960 North Romford-Hornchurch-Harold Hill-North Romford, Tues & Fri. Withdrawn on Tuesdays and sections between Romford and Harold Hill via Mawney Road and Collier Row and also along Gooshays Drive and Squirrels Heath Road withdrawn. Revised to operate on Fridays only, from Harold Hill, Dagenham Park Drive via Hilldene Avenue, Straight Road, Faringdon Avenue, Petersfield Avenue, Harold Court Road, Church Road, Harold Wood Station, Gubbins Lane, Colchester Road, Gallows Corner and Upper Brentwood Road to Gidea Park, then a loop working via Hornchurch and Elm Park to Romford.

PUBLICITY

Brentwood and Shenfield one day fast card tickets. Joint publication with First Great Eastern, includes an area route map and guide. Published 10/99.

Timetable leaflet for services 73, 80, 81/82 and 83. Published 9/99.

Timetable leaflet for services 15, 15A/B/C, 16, 16A dated 8-2-99

Timetable leaflet for service 22 dated 30-5-99

Timetable leaflet for service 73 dated 6-9-99

Timetable leaflet for service 83 dated 6-9-99

Timetable leaflet for service 151 dated 8-2-99

Timetable leaflet for service 251 dated 22-2-99

NEWS

Funding has been agreed by Brentwood Borough Council, Essex County Council and First Thamesway for a Quality Bus Partnership in Brentwood. Total cost will be £1.4 million with £600,000 committed by Thamesway for six new low floor Dennis Darts. There will be improved stops and shelters, limited traffic management, real time passenger information plus evening and Sunday services on the corridor between Warley, Brentwood High Street and Bishops Hall Estate. The new services should start in April 2001.

From September 6th the following routes have been operating from Romford garage.

Brentwood town services 73, 80, 81, 82, 83.

Village Link services 19, 20, 21, 22.

LT service 193 in full. Basildon no longer run part of this service.

ECC contracts on services 200, 201, 500.

A school contract is also operated in the Brentwood area using a mini bus.

The Mon-Fri vehicle requirement is approximately 21 buses with 11 buses on Brentwood town services and contracts. During the off-peak buses on town services run dead to and from RD to facilitate drivers meal breaks. RD continue to operate one school day only journey on route 151. This is the 15.39 Brentwood – Gallows Corner. A mini bus is normally used from the town services allocation.

Further to the report in last months EBN regarding double deckers on Brentwood town services, a correspondent reports that this is the first time double deckers have been scheduled for town services 81/82 since 1986, although Basildon has been scheduling a double decker on service 80 in the evening peak since September 1998. The timetable changes on September 6th have led to double deck workings on 81/82. This is mainly in the evening peak after the bus has worked a school contract.

Reports last month of the demise of 3222 were premature. The report should have referred to 322, which had already been reported in the September EBN. Meanwhile 3222 lives on at Basildon.

Volvos 612 – 615 are currently spare vehicles for use while the remaining coaches are being repainted into the new Green Line livery. When the repaint programme is complete they will join the other withdrawn members of the batch at First Eastern Counties.

Double deckers have again been used extensively on 551 during the school half-term holiday.

ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

Publicity

Timetable leaflets for services 32 dated 1.11.99; 34/A dated 4.1.99; Dengie VillageLink dated 25.10.99.

Revised VillageLink timetables for services 2; 3/4; 5; 7; 14/15 all dated 25.10.99.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW No 6 THAMESWAY 301-350 MERCEDES 709D REEVE BURGESS B23F

301-306	f Capital 581-583
307	f Eastern Counties Flying Banana B864
308	f Eastern National 308
309-321	f Thamesway
322	Broken up by Thamesway
323-327	f Thamesway
328-333	f Eastern National 328-333
334	f Eastern Counties Flying Banana B865
335	f Eastern National 335
336-337	f Capital 936-937
338	f Eastern Counties Flying Banana B861
339	f Eastern Counties 800
340	f Eastern Counties Flying Banana B862
341	f Eastern Counties, f Western National 9807 on loan
	f Eastern Counties Flying Banana B863
342	f Thamesway
343	f Airport Coaches Stansted Airport
344	f Eastern Counties 877
345	f Thamesway
346	f Eastern National 346
347	f Eastern Counties 876
348	f Thamesway
349-350	f Eastern Counties 872-873



FIRST THAMESWAY VOLVO/PLAXTON ARE NOW APPEARING IN GREEN
 LINE LIVERY NOW THE LONDON SERVICES ARE JOINTLY
 OPERATED BY WITH ARRIVA SOUTHEND 605 IS AT SOUTHEAST
 P FORD

NEW VEHICLES

739-744 V739-44 GPU Dennis Dart SLF Alexander B??F

These vehicles are to be allocated to Chelmsford and route branded for Service 42 (Broomfield Hospital - Galleywood).

ACQUIRED VEHICLE

1517 K737 JAH Dennis Lance N Counties B49F

The entire batch of five are to be acquired from Eastern Counties (K736-40 JAH). They will be allocated to Maldon outstation.

ALLOCATIONS

10/99 1517 Acqd - Reserve

UNUSUAL WORKINGS

- 24.8.99 CR 2674 on service 93 (normally double deck)
- 21.9.99 CF 713 on service 59 (Diamond branded vehicle)
- 28.9.99. CN 2830 on service 64/A (CR operated route)
- 29.9.99. CR 4019 on service 93 (normally 43XX vehicle)
- 6.10.99. CF 2618 on service 350 (normally big bus in daytime)
- 16.10.99 BE 352 on service 352!! (normally Dart)

Vehicle shortages continue at Chelmsford, with Leyland Nationals continuing to appear on service 350/1 and Lynx on the Diamond service. The use of two Mercedes replacing one big vehicle has also occurred on a number of occasions!

Lances continue to cover as required on service 65 at Colchester.

SERVICES

- 7/8/9 Revised timetable introduced from 8.11.99.
- 20/A These services continue to operate, but now under contract to ECC.
- 22A/B These services continue to operate, but now under contract to ECC
- 70 Revised timetable introduced from 28.9.99.
- 489 Sunday service from Ipswich to Wetheringsett, withdrawn after 26.9.99

In response to a query, the following London schools service is operated by Eastern National. It requires two single deck buses. Normally, either the Volvo/Duple or Leyland Nationals are used.

- 646 **Noak Hill**, Hilldene Avenue *or* North Hill Drive, Harold Hill, Harold Wood, Emerson Park, Hornchurch, Upminster, **Cranham**

GENERAL

Services were disrupted by Industrial action, over a pay dispute on 23rd October and 5th November. Most vehicles were off the road, although Chelmsford depot had about 50% of its vehicles on the road. ECC tendered services were either operated or sub-contracted. Planning permission has been granted for the new Chelmsford depot in Westway, Chelmsford.

PUBLICITY

Timetable leaflets for services 22A/B dated July 99; 31/B/X dated 24.10.99; 59 dated 6.9.99; 64/A dated 22.3.99; 66A dated 5.7.99; 66/B dated 22.3.99; 71/B/C dated 13.9.99; 73 dated 13.9.99; 76/A dated 13.9.99; 79 dated 28.6.99; 83 dated 2.8.99; 87/A dated 13.9.99; 93 dated 5.7.99; 102/103/104 dated 9.11.98; 301 dated 6.9.98; 350/1 dated 12.6.99; Diamond service dated 6.9.99

Booklet - The complete students guide to Eastern National Bus Services to and from University of Essex
ChelmerCard leaflet dated 20.9.99.

INITIAL DISPOSAL

1770 (XNG 770S) Mr Cook , Suffolk, for preservation. 10/99

AIRPORT COACHES

General

The Biss name together with the vehicles listed last month has been sold to Associated Coachways. Therefore all vehicle remaining here are under the Airport Buses/Coaches name.

HARRIS BUS

Vehicles

NLG 926T (HIL 3932, BWE 197T) a Leyland Leopard/Duple, that had been used for driver training has been sold. It is thought to have gone to Thomas, West Ewell from whom it was acquired!

LDV 400 M52 WEV is now a non-PSV and is used as a driver shuttle between West Thurrock and Becontree Heath.

LDV 200 N316 VNT has been acquired from Harris Coaches and is used as a shuttle vehicle from Belvedere depot.

Vehicles continue to lose their various brandings, which because of working other routes had led to confusion for passengers.

Some double deckers have twin arrows each side of the blind box, pointing to the nearside.

Fleetnumbers were fitted to Excel, DAF deckers and Olympians during September. They match the registration except M649 RCP which is 310.

OTHER OPERATORS - REST OF ESSEX

AMBER RAYLEIGH Bristol VR/ECW SAO 411R has been acquired.

APT RAYLEIGH Bedford YMT/Plaxton JNJ 510V is being used for spares.

ARCHERS HADLEIGH Have surrendered their PSV operations. Last reported here were Ford Transit/Chassis Developments D451 OPP and Ford Transit/Adams E113 CEV.

ASSOCIATED COACHWAYS HARLOW Acquired from Stort Valley, Stansted is OIB 5640 (J716 CWT) a Volvo/Plaxton.

AUTOHIRE STANSTED Have surrendered their PSV operations. Vehicles here were Ford Transits B489 WKJ, C519 BYX, C751 DHX, D974 FYR and E757 JSC.

AUTORAD EXPRESS SOUTHEND This operator, who had one Ford Transit, has ceased operations.

AVRO CORRINGHAM Bristol VR/ECW PFA 50W has been acquired. As has ex Lincoln Bristol VR/East Lancs NFW 35V.

BLACKWELL ABBESS RODING Former Eastern National Ford Transit/Carlyle C600 NPU has been sold to Walsh, Halifax.

BLUE TRIANGLE RT 3871 operated service 265 on 15.10.99. It was also due to appear during the last week of October, but RCL 2260 was used instead. Service 204 had a revised timetable introduced from 6.10.99.

BOBBYS MINIBUSES STANFORD-LE-HOPE Is associated with Chariots, here ex Chariots are Toyota Hiace D408 XEV, DAF 400 G947 AAY, Talbot Express G163 TNM and Ford Transit E837 LRE. Acquired from Tom's minicoaches, Southend is D173 LNA a Freight Rover

BRANDON BLACKMORE END Bristol VR/Alexander OSR 194R, similar bodied Dennis Dominator FGE 439X AND Bova HIL 2325 (new as B555 KRY) are reported to have been withdrawn.

BRENTWOOD COACHES Leyland Tiger/Plaxton F145 SPV has been acquired from Heddingham.

BROOMSTICK COACHES FINCHINGFIELD Have acquired Freight Rover Sherpa/Crystals F116 TWP from Brandons, Blackmore End.

BUZZ HARLOW Further Mercedes/Reeve Burgess sold are F 72/73/76 SMC.

CHARIOTS STANFORD LE HOPE An addition here is Mercedes 709D J431 PPF ex Tillingbourne, Cranleigh. H170 DVM a Volvo/Van Hool has been sold. To correct previous EBN's DHE 674V a Ford/Plaxton is still here. A recent addition is HIL 2393 (VWX 357X) a Bova Europa.

CHELMSFORD TAXIBUS Ford Transit/Crystals G807 SKP is still here. A777 UYL a Leyland Cub/Wadham Stringer has been numbered 23.

CHELMSFORD TRAVEL Preserved Leyland Tiger TS7 with Windover bodywork JA 5515 has been sold to Midland, Auchterarder. Also sold for preservation are XUP 692 a Plaxton bodied Albion, NV 30 but re-registered ABD 812A a Maudsley/Thurgood rebodied and Albion Victor/Heaver RSJ 747 (1529). KBJ 831 a Thurgood bodied Victor has been used for spares. It should be pointed out that the preserved vehicles here are owned by a company director, not the bus and coach firm.

CLASSIC MINIBUSES CORRINGHAM Have surrendered their PSV operations. Vehicles here were Ford Transit F206 NER and Bedford midi F715 PHJ.

CLINTONA BRENTWOOD T821 TTW is a new Iveco/Marshall minibus.

CM3 SOUTH WOODHAM FERRERS This recently started operator has Omnibus K54/56 GSH and LDV Convoy R447 SLY. They are based in the station car park.

COACHSTOP SOUTHEND Dennis Javelin/Neoplan P969 HWF has been sold.

COLCHESTER COACHES Have registered a Clacton to Harwich service and a Clacton to Walton service from 25.11.99. The former operates Monday to Saturday, the latter Tuesdays and Fridays.

COUNTY COACHES BRENTWOOD Bedford YMT/Plaxton NIW 1639 (BJU 13T) has been sold. An addition is 2851 RU (previous detail unknown) a Volvo B10M/Plaxton Paramount 3500, named Lincolnshire. Also here is Bedford YMT/Plaxton BBM 56A (KBH 852V) ex Brentwood Coaches.

CRUSADER CLACTON Further new Setra coaches are S315GT's T111/20 LTW. Vehicles sold are P120 KNO, P625 SNO (LSU 113) and P626 SNO (114 RVX) all are Iveco/Beulas.

ENSIGN PURFLEET Revised timetables were introduced on services 324,325 and 348 from 16.10.99. LDS 732W a Leyland National 2 and RLN 233W a Leyland-DAB/Roe articulated bus are in use on the Lakeside coach park shuttle. Former West Midlands Metrobuses GOG 261W and GOG 269W are in fleet livery. The former is numbered 161. Similar ex Metroline BYX 142V and EYE 344V are in service, still in Metroline colours. Ex London Olympians C57/105 CHM are in use, also still in red.

ESSEX THAMESIDE THUNDERSLEY Former Thamesway Tiger/Duple IAZ 6393 (B337 BGL) is now withdrawn and was at Chariots depot in October.

FORD ALTHORNE Recently withdrawn EHJ 147P a Bedford YRT/Plaxton, TDT 32S a Bedford YMT/Duple and similar CKX 392T have all been sold.

FOURWAYS HIGHWOOD Ford R1114/Plaxton XJX 795V has been sold.

GODWARD RAMSDEN HEATH The depot here has been completely vacated. Press adverts give Shot Farm, Shotgate as the new address.

GOLDEN BOY ROYDON Dennis Javelin/Plaxton N942 EWG has been acquired.

GRACELANDS CARE GROUP HADLEIGH Have surrendered their PSV operations. The only vehicle here was Transit R348 GVX

HUNTER SOUTH OCKENDON This operator has his only vehicle Ford Transit G808 FTW for sale.

L&C ROCHFORD This new operator has VEJ 561V a Leopard/Duple ex S&P, Rochford and JKV 423V a Bedford YMT/Plaxton ex Cooks, Southend.

LODGE HIGH EASTER New here is T20 OGE a Scania/Van Hool. A Scania/Van Hool has been re-registered E442 JAR, this is presumed to be either 160 EBK or 436 VVT.

M&E ROCHFORD Vehicles acquired are MBTB 674T a Ford/Plaxton ex Cooks, Southend and GTX 750W a Bristol VR/ECW from Stephenson's in a dealer capacity. The operating centre has moved to Purdys Industrial Estate, Rochford from Shoburyness.

NCS NEWPORT Further Renault Traffic's here are J499 BAR and L174 RHJ.

NELSONS WICKFORD A further Bristol VR/ECW acquired from United Counties is LBD 923V.

OCTOPUS TRAVEL CHELMSFORD G170 XJF a Toyota/Caetano has been sold to a Highwood scrap dealer.

PAWAR CHIGWELL This operator ceased operations by June and NIA 9082 (DVV 543X) a Volvo B10M/Jonckhree was sold.

S&M NORTH BENFLEET Recent additions are Bristol VR/ECW OBR 775T, Leyland Fleetline/MCW OJD 136R, Leyland Atlantean/ECW SUP 271V and similar JYG 1P this is ex Amber, Rayleigh. Daimler Fleetline/Park Royal KUC 154P has not been sold., as previously reported. OJD 198R a Leyland Fleetline/MCW is now delicensed.

SJH CRAYS HILL Have acquired D170 MHS a Mercedes minibus

STAINES BRENTWOOD A further Iveco/Marshall is T822 TTW

SUPREME SOUTHEND Have recently opened a second depot in Stock Road, Southend. My non-local correspondent, thinks its the old BT depot. Former Colchester Leyland National 2 EON 826V is being used for spares.

TOWN & COUNTRY CORRINGHAM Further ex London vehicles are C 43/103 CHM both Leyland Olympian/ECW. Service 24 from Tilbury to Pitsea via Chadwell St Mary, Hornndon and Basildon has been registered from 12.10.99. The journeys operated on service 374 were withdrawn after 11.10.99.

TRAVELUX STANFORD-LE-HOPE AEC Reliance/Plaxton RJI 5710 (OEB 693R) has been sold.

WAYS BOREHAM DAF 400/Concept L579 CND has been sold.

WEBB HIGHWOOD TIB 8571 a Volvo/Jonckhree has been acquired.

EASTERN NATIONAL IN PRESERVATION

A look through the recently published PSV Circle list of preserved vehicles shows that a considerable number of ex Eastern National buses survive in preservation. Whereas many of the vehicles are familiar, there are quite a few that are seldom if ever seen at rallies. Although some vehicles are kept locally, some are spread throughout the length and breadth of the country, and at least two are known to be abroad. Bristol SC 9579 F now registered ILI 98 is in Ireland and KSW WNO 481 is in the Canary Islands. The list is not complete as the number of new vehicles being acquired for preservation is constantly growing, however the following list gives the registration numbers of vehicles known to survive, although not necessarily in running order.

AJN 825	EJN 638	FEV 178	JVW 430	LEV 917	MOO 177	MPU 21
MPU 52	ONO 49	ONO 59	ONO 85	ONO 995	PTW 110	RWC 607
RWC 608	VNO 857	VNO 859	VNO 868	WNO 478	WNO 479	WNO 480
WNO 481	WNO 482	WNO 484	XVX 19	1252 EV	9579 F	7017 HK
2730 VX	859 ETW	604 JPU	609 JPU	236 LNO	217 MHK	284 NHK
573 UVX	373 WPU	208 YVX	JHK 455C	MVX 878C	NTW 942C	OWC 182D
AVX 975G	CPU 979G	FWC 439H	VHK 177L	WNO 537L	WNO 556L	PWC 515M
GJD 194N	GJD 196N	TJN 974W				

Besides 9579 F being re-registered ILI 98, Bristol RE coaches GJD 194N and 196N now carry registrations JEU 509N and MIB 4194 respectively.

The chassis of Dennis Lancet BTW 488 and Bristol FLF JWC 715 still survive and Dennis Ace CTW 710 is being used for spares.

ARRIVA SOUTHEND

FLEET

DISPOSALS

Leyland Fleetline	208 JTD388P	PVS Barnsley	10/99
Leyland Fleetline	216 JTD396P	PVS Barnsley	10/99

REPAINTS

Olympian 5388 to Arriva livery.

There are now more vehicles in Arriva livery than in the old Southend Transport red/white and blue.

Following last months news that Leyland Fleetline 5320 JTD392P is being preserved, news comes that Leyland Leopard 202 LBN202P is now owned by the Northampton 154 Group who intend to restore this coach and use it for rallies.

Green Line coaches continue to see service on Town routes

DENGIE VILLAGE LINK minibuses now carry fleetnumbers 0329/0331-0334.

NORTH ESSEX BUS SCENE

Heddingham Omnibuses

Disposals

L111 (UVX 4S)	Arnold, Heybridge, (for spares), 10/99.
L114 (UVX 7S)	Arnold, Heybridge, (for preservation), 07/99.
L230 (F145 SPV)	Sold to Brentwood Coaches by 09/99.
L271 (KBC 2V)	Day, Kilnhurst, South Yorkshire by 05/99.
L276 (LUA 289V)	Stripped for spares at Clacton. Remains sold by 08/99.

Allocations 09/99

CN	L94/105/112/121/125/147/152/158/160/162/164/169/170/178/201/202/203/209/212/236 L241/242/244/251/277/283/285/286/289/292/295/298/302/303
CR	L96/100/126/138/146/153/193/195/205/240/259/281/291
HD	L84/87/89/95/98/136/137/151/196/200/206/211/287/297/300/304
KN	L141/161/165/166/167/168/194/198/207/210/247/249/250/254/257/260/284
SY	L88/113/115/133/135/148/150/163/197/199/204/208/212/224/225/229/233/235/237/245 L246/248/290
TY	L103/122/124/139/243/252/253/255/256/258/261/262/268/269/270/275/280/282/293
CNw	L159
HDp	EX 6566
HDu	L288/294/305/306/307
KNw	L156

Correction

The official fleet list is wrong L306 is BBW 213Y.

Modified Vehicles

L306 is now H47/32F

Due to an error when first registered, L211/2 were given incorrect registrations. Hence L211 is now M212 WHJ and L212 is now M211 WHJ.

L289 is an overall advert for Clacton Common Shopping Village.

General

Heddingham have a website at www.heddingham.co.uk

Services

- 10 Gurdon Road to Colchester. Revised timetable with effect from 02/08/99. From 6th September the morning journey will be advanced 10 minutes to operate at 08.30.
- 14 Withdrawn with effect from 30/07/99.
- 19 Withdrawn with effect from 30/07/99.
- 49 Revised timetable from 04/10/99.
- 59/590 Revised timetable from 17/09/99. On service 59 Haverhill to Clavering it has been necessary to re-route this service to avoid Arkesden due to a weight restriction being placed on the bridge.
- 89/A/B Revised timetable introduced from 03/08/99.
- 134 NEW SERVICE. Holland Haven Circular. Monday to Fridays from 04/10/99. Revised timetable from 15/10/99.

- 135 NEW SERVICE. Great Clacton Circular. Monday to Fridays from 04/10/99. Revised timetable from 12/10/99.
312 Withdrawn with effect from 30/07/99.
327 Revised timetable with effect from 02/08/99.
329 Revised timetable with effect from 02/08/99.
344 Withdrawn with effect from 30/07/99.
603 This service given as route ? in EBN 422 was de-registered without being operated.
608 Revised timetable introduced from 23/07/99.
MB2 Revised timetable with effect from 02/08/99.
? Ingatestone to Bluewater, Tuesdays & Thursdays, schooldays only. Starts 02/11/99.

Repaints

- L162 Bristol VR, Registration No. MOD 569P.
L203 Bristol VR, Registration No. BRC 839T.

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

***Paul Sparks,
November 1999***

CHESHUNT SCHOOL BUS MEMORIES (BY IAN TAYLOR)

Despite living within sight of Cheshunt Secondary School, I was destined never to attend it as a pupil due to some strange anomaly with catchment areas; trudging instead to Turnford School, a mile or so away. Cheshunt School placed more emphasis on sport than my one did and played in the county league for football and Rugby; the majority of matches taking place on Saturday mornings.

As I never had any interest, or indeed ability, in sport my Saturday mornings were always free and living within earshot of the playing fields I would go into my garden and listen gleefully for the referee's whistle announcing that another home match was in progress. The significance of this was that the visiting team's school bus or coach would be parked somewhere close by and such was the fascinating array of vehicles owned by Hertfordshire schools in the late seventies that I could hardly wait to discover which old relic was lurking in either Roundmoor Drive or Windmill Lane.

In most cases the vehicles bore no indication of ownership but as my mother worked as a part time cleaner at the school, I would often ask her to find out details of the fixtures so that I could work out which school owned which bus. Due to Cheshunt's proximity to London a number of the vehicles were of LT origin and it seemed that in 1977 virtually every school in the area had invested in either a surplus RF or RT. Nearby Riversmead School bought RF330 (MLL 967) in the opening weeks of that year whilst Sheredes School in Hoddesdon purchased RF355 (MLL 992). Queen Eleanor School at Waltham Cross went one better and acquired RT4780 (OLD 567) via dealer Breakall of Cheam. The RT was a regular sight on the roads around Cheshunt until the school closed in about 1985.

Schools further afield owning RFs included Thomas Bourne C of E in Berkhamsted who bought RF344 (MLL 981) from Prairie Coaches (Chambers) of Uxbridge around September 1975 and Grange Park School in Watford who acquired RF406 (MXX 294) in Silver Jubilee Year, 1977. It was ironic that as RFs were dwindling in passenger service in North London, sightings of them in Cheshunt were dramatically increasing! In addition RFs 319,329,408 could often be seen in the area from 1976 onwards when they were purchased for use as staff buses by Gor-Ray, a clothing manufacturer on the Great Cambridge Road, near Carterhatch Lane.

In 1979 Bullsmoor School in Bullsmoor Lane, Enfield purchased former SMD79 (AML 79H) and it became a familiar sight parked outside the school in the 1980s.

School buses of non-London origin held just as much interest for me and in particular ex Lincolnshire Road Car 2339 (OFU 89) a 1956 Bristol LD6G/ECW H33/27RD sticks in my mind all these years later. Withdrawn by Lincolnshire around February 1975 it was still wearing it's former NBC leaf green livery with crudely removed fleet names when it

appeared in Windmill Lane one Saturday morning in the winter of 1979. Unfortunately on that occasion I was unable to establish ownership.

Around the same time Richard Hale School in Hertford was using former Northern General 4309 (HUP 952C) a Leyland Leopard with a Weymann DP49F body which it had acquired via Ensign in June 1979. Another school which provided me with plenty of interest was St George's in Harpenden who owned TWT 123 a Bristol MW5G/ECW B43F which had started life with West Yorkshire Road Car Company before passing to Lincolnshire as it's 2270 in 1972. This fine vehicle was replaced by equally interesting former Trent Motor Traction 104 (HRC 104C) a Leyland Tiger Cub with an Alexander C41F body.

In addition, my records show that the following coaches were also owned by various schools in Hertfordshire around 1978/9: 3560 PE a Bedford 24 seater, FNH 888E a Ford 45 seater and DJH 747G a Bedford 52 seater.

As for Turnford School, extensive fund raising throughout 1977 enabled us to buy elderly 210 JTB a Bedford SB which came from local coach operator Sampsons. The inclusion of the town of Dummer on it's destination blind would seem to indicate that it had worked for Porters of Dummer near Basingstoke at some stage in it's life. This coach lasted only a couple of years, being replaced in 1980 by RPV 129, another Bedford SB which also came via Sampsons. This vehicle had started life with Morleys Grey Coaches along with sister RPV 130.

Despite the abundance of retired PSVs there were still some schools which preferred to hire coaches for the transportation of their sports teams and my records show that Horseshoe Coaches of Enfield's famous COO 500, Smiths of Buntingford's LLH 7K and Golden Boy Coaches' former Cumberland Motor Services Bristol LD RAO 731 all had the dubious honour of transporting pupils to play Cheshunt School during the 1979 football season.

I was a little disappointed that Cheshunt School did not own a retired bus, preferring instead to use a Ford Transit/Deansgate minibus typical of the period; although the many and varied machines used by visiting schools more than made up for this deficiency. To bring the story up to date, sadly the school closed in 1992, around the time my parents moved to Suffolk. The building, dating from 1936, stood derelict until it was demolished in 1996 to allow for the construction of 800 homes on the huge former playing fields; thus bringing more families and parked cars to the area!