

ESSEX BUS NEWS

October 2001

Issue 450

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



THE MONTHLY MAGAZINE OF THE ESSEX BUS ENTHUSIASTS GROUP

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Essex Bus News 450th issue Special

Essex Bus News

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

Membership and Subscription Information

A one-year membership includes 12 consecutive issues of Essex Bus News Magazine and runs from either January or July. Current rates are £13.50 First class £12.50 Second class postage. Membership applications and any enquiries about your membership should be addressed to Derek Stebbing.

Timetable Subscription Service

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

Photo Sales

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

Members Adverts and Appeals

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

Your Reports and Observations

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

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

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

Contributions and Closing Dates

Thank you to the dozens of contributors for their valuable news and information for this month's magazine without their help there would be much less to read.

Don't forget you can email your news to essexbusnews@hotmail.com or write to the relevant sub editor.

**Contributions for the next issue of Essex Bus News to Sub-editors by 6th November and to the Managing editor by 10th November.
The November magazine is due for posting on Wednesday 21st Nov.**

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

Welcome Aboard!

What's Inside This Month?

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Phoenix Student Travel	Page 20	Nostalgic Photos and much more.	

November Group Meeting

'Buses 20 years ago' Richard Delahoy looks back to events in the bus & Coach world in 1981/82 with help of an extensive slide collection from the period.

Tuesday 11th November Pullman Suite, Freight House, Rochford
Doors open at 19.30 for a 20.00 start.

New Grey Green Book

'The Grey Green Story From Ewer to Arriva' By Owen Woodruffe

Just published, this book tells the interesting story of the famous bus and coach operator in words and pictures.

Price £9.95 + £1 Postage & Packing and available now from
Peter Snell 6 Mandeville Way Benfleet SS7 4LH

Please make cheques/Postal Orders payable to Essex Bus Enthusiasts Group and allow 14 days for delivery.

Front cover photo Leyland National VIB 8319 Former London Transport LS130 was aquired by Imperial of Rainham from Connex Bus. It is hoped to reunite this 1978 bus with it's original registration THX 130S. Chris Stewarts photo shows it in fine condition at Shenfield School on 18th September.

Buses in the News

First out of Green Line

The Southend to London Green Line coach service has been thrown into turmoil after First Thamesway announced it would be withdrawing its interest in the venture because it was losing too much money.

This leaves Arriva Southend as the sole operator and a reduced timetable will operate from Monday 29th October.

First Thamesway said their decision to pull out was taken because not enough people were using the coach service that it has operated jointly with Arriva for the last three years. A spokesperson commented that losses are still at an unsustainable rate and with no prospect that this position will improve in the foreseeable future; they had therefore reluctantly decided to withdraw.

Intense

The Green line 721 currently runs every half hour between Southend and London Victoria, also linking Basildon, Pitsea and Lakeside with extra rush hour journeys. Arriva and First Thamesway each run 50% of the service using 16 coaches and its introduction in October 1998 followed an intense period of competition between the operators each vying for a share of the lucrative London commuter market. It is expected that Arriva will now use 10 vehicles with some 10 year old coach seated Olympians as a top up.

Over the years many commentators have stressed that it is very difficult to make a respectable financial return on a coach service that only carries large numbers of customers during the rush hours and with the world economy looking shaky after recent events, the 721 could be facing a difficult future.

First Drops Local Names

First Groups is likely to confirm that it's new policy will be to drop the local Company names on vehicles and branding. A new brand standard is currently being designed which will see the lose of well known names including Eastern National ,Thamesway and Eastern Counties.

The company is set to make it's plans public on 6th November and it's understood that the brand name will simply be First . Evidence of the new look has already been noted in York where the new Metro scheme has been introduced with new vehicles which are the first ones to have the new branding .

In recent years the individual company names have become less prominent on vehicles and the move towards eliminating them has been rumoured for some time. More information next month.

Essex Buses Ltd

First Eastern National

Allocations

Period End 30.9.01. 104 Reserve-AC; 112 AC-AB; 716 CF-T'way (BN); 916 CR-CN; 2602/3 AB(Shuttle)-D/L(D); 2605 AB-AB(Shuttle); 2609 AB-D/L(D); 2610 CF-D/L(D); 2617 CF-AB(Shuttle); 2618/9 CF-D/L(D); 2622-24 CN-D/L(D); 2675 AC-AB; 2676/8 CR-CF; 2922/26 ACQD-CR; 3103 D/L(D)-Reserve; 3230 CR-D/L(D); 4010 DT-CF; 5001 Phoenix-CF

360 has gone from Stansted Airport, where it was used as a driver shuttle. Does anyone know where it is?

Colchester Loans

A number of problems with Clacton based Olympians during the week commencing 23.9.01. saw Colchester vehicles 3093, 3101 and 4307 on loan to the coastal depot.

Service Changes

- 17A Clacton – Point Clear Withdrawn with effect from 3.9.01.
67/A West Mersea – Colchester Revised timetable with journeys to Thomas Lord Audley school withdrawn from 3.9.01.

FLEET ALLOCATION 30.9.01

BRAINTREE (BE) 346 944/45 2628/30/56/63/64/80 2803/04/08/11/12/16-18/21,2826/27 3219 5000
CHELMSFORD (CF) 430/31/33 729-33/39-44 1401-03/07/08/13-16/25-29 1516-20, 2621/27/31-46/67/68/70-74/76-78 2806/09/10/23/24 2901-11 3083 4007/10/12/24/25 5001-04/06/11
CLACTON (CN) 916 1510-13 2625/26/47-54/65/83 2802/09/10 4015-19
COLCHESTER (CR) 621-24/26 650-54 907-12 1501-09 2679 2801/29/30 2921-24/26 3072/78/79/92/93 3101 4014 4301-05/07/09/15
HARWICH (DT) 2655/66/69/81/82 4008/09/13 4308/10/11/14
AIRPORT BUSES 100/01/12/17 432/34/35 601 917/43 2607/75 2802/13-15/22/25/28
AIRPORT COACHES 102/03/04/07/11 397/398
RESERVE 2383 3103
DISPOSAL 313 2253 2602/03/08/09/10/18-20/22-24/29 3071/76/77/84/94 3110 3222/28/30 4028
SHUTTLE (AB) 2605/17
DRIVER TRAINER 1924 9020 9021 9023 9026

Reserve and disposal vehicles are normally kept at Clacton or Stansted.

	CF	BE	MN	CR	CN	DT	TOTAL
TRAFFIC REQUIREMENT							
MINIBUS	27	6	1	1	11	4	50
MIDIBUS	24	12	0	17	3	0	56
SD	10	0	7	11	4	0	32
DD	8	1	1	14	4	6	34
ENG SPARES							
MINIBUS	3	1	0	0	1	1	6
MIDIBUS	3	2	0	2	1	0	8
SD	3	0	0	3	0	0	6
DD	2	0	0	1	1	1	5
TOTAL ALLOCATION							
MINIBUS	30	7	1	1	12	5	56
MIDIBUS	27	14	0	19	4	0	64
SD	13	0	7	14	4	0	38
DD	10	1	1	15	5	7	39
TOTALS	80	22	9	49	25	12	197

OUTSTATION REQUIREMENTS

MALDON 1 minibus, 7 single deck, 1 double decker

The Maldon allocation is taken from Chelmsford. The single deckers are normally a mix of Lance and Lynx.

Latest Repaint

7/01 1510 in Barbie 2 livery

Disposals

110 (PUU 970) A1 Van & Truck, ?, for conversion to mobile home
 384 (H395 OHK) Hardwick, Carlton, (for scrap), by 09/01.
 901 (ULS 101X) Hardwick, Carlton, (for scrap), by 09/01.
 1850 (YEV 308S) Bill Armquest (for preservation), 05/01.
 1916 (JHJ 142V) Hardwick, Carlton, (for scrap), by 09/01.
 2604 (H604 OVW) Hardwick, Carlton, (for scrap), by 09/01.
 2611 (J611 UTW) Held for First Group cascade programme, 9/01.
 2612 (J612 UTW) Held for First Group cascade programme, 9/01.
 3106 (UAR 596W) Hardwick, Carlton, (for scrap), by 05/01.
 4029 (FUM 497Y) Hardwick, Carlton, (for scrap), by 09/01.

Both 2611/2 have been repainted into 'Barbie 2' livery prior to departure.

First Thamesway

Thamesway Out of London

As revealed on page 4 this month First Thamesway is pulling out of the Green Line Service from Southend to London and a long history of coach operations into and out of Victoria Coach Station by Eastern National and its predecessors/successors will come to an end.

By 1933 Westcliff's twice daily Southend to Aldwych service had been extended to Victoria, laying down the foundations for EN's post-War service D and later the X10 with its much-loved FLF coaches. When this was replaced by the VR (and RELH) operated Limited Stop 400 in 1971, Victoria continued as the terminal for a while until replaced by King's Cross. July 1992 saw Thamesway introduce the S1-3 group of 'City Saver' services from Southend to Hyde Park Corner in competition with Southend Transport's X1 group, but by 1999 the economics of competition prompted the introduction of Green Line services 721-3 run jointly with Arriva Southend. True integrated operation was always denied to the travelling public by the effects of the Competition Act, different fare structures being the latest manifestation of this. Less than 18 months after withdrawal of the 2A and 251, First Essex Buses' last regular services into Central London will cease after 27 October.

FLEET CHANGES

Allocations

35 BN - Reserve (at Stansted); **381 BN** - D/L(D); **716 FEN(CF)** - BN

Disposals

9/01 **804, 9016** to Hardwick, Carlton for scrap

360 (latterly with First Airport Buses) has recently been numbered **9034** and has been observed at FEN Chelmsford – possibly as a driver shuttle.

One-time Thamesway Leyland National **1913** (JHJ139V) was noted recently operating for Hulleys of Baslow (no 19) in a very smart dark blue and light cream livery.

Refurbishments/Repaints

1405/21/4 are all now refurbished and in 'Barbie 2' livery

Out & About

9028 and **9030** appeared as part of a First Group publicity display at Barleylands Steam & Country Fair over the weekend of 8/9 September, and were also both at Showbus along with **1405**.

New DDA Blinds

A number of vehicles have revised blind displays, presumably in connection with the Disability Discrimination Act requirements for simplified lower-case lettering; **3109** and **3112** have additional destinations including 'Brentwood County High School' and 'Fyfield Queens Head' (for the 860 and 864 services).

Rail Replacements

Wickford to Shenfield rail replacement work commencing 30.9.01 saw FEN's **4018**, a Stephenson's Olympian coach and a Metrobus at work on the first weekend, but on 7.10.01 **3083**, **3109** and **4026** were noted (together with a First Thamesway controller).

Vehicle Workings

27.8.01	BN4026 on c2c rail (strike) replacements from Southend Central, on hire to Stephenson's
28.8.01	HH931 on Canvey Clipper
4.9.01	HH323 on evening 752 short workings (usually Lynx)
	HH941 on 24C
14.9.01	HH701 on 752 – first reported sighting of 'Barbie 2' liveried bus in Brentwood
21.9.01	BN715 running dead into London to take up 723
	BN809 on 752
2.10.01	Phoenix 5005 on service 37 in Grays
	BN811 on 269

Service Changes

27th October

37 Grays –Stifford Clays Withdrawn and replaced by extension of 101

720/721/722 Southend/Canvey - London First Thamesway operations withdrawn

28th October

5 Basildon -Pitsea Extended to/from Pitsea, Tesco with effect from 28.10.01

25A/Bshotgate/Runwell – Basildon –Langdon Hills Revised timetable from

29.10.01 with additional journeys on service 25B

101Billericay –Stanford le Hope Extended beyond Stanford le Hope to start/finish at Grays, replacing ser 37

FLEET ALLOCATION 30.9.01

Basildon (BN)	372/4-6/9-80, 602/3/5/7-11, 711-6/34-8, 805/9/11, 852-5, 913-5/8-22/4-34/59-72, 1430/2/3, 2657/60/1, 3109/12, 4026/30, 5005
Hadleigh (HH)	314-21/3-7, 701-10/8-21, 808, 935-42/6-58, 987, 1400/4-6/9-12, 1417-24/31, 3069, 3113, 4003-5/27
Romford (RD)	401-10, 806/7/10, 2658/9/62
Reserve	355 (BN), 368 (RD/BN)
D/L (D)	310/57/64, 3226, 4031, 9017
Driver Training	625, 9411 (usually at BN)

Eastern National Enthusiasts Guild Special

Westcliff on Sea Motor Services

To celebrate the 450th edition of Essex Bus News, we're delighted to bring you a special 8 page supplement dedicated to Westcliff on Sea Motor Services.

Established on 23rd April 1914 with a head office at Pier Hill in Southend, Westcliff soon became one of the best known names in Essex until being taken over by Eastern National in May 1952 – Fifty years ago next year.

In this supplement we hope to give a taste of Westcliffs services, Alan Osborne has researched a comprehensive article looking at the numerous Timetable books issued, Peter Snell tells the story of AJN 825, one of the few surviving buses plus there's two pages of Photos and some vintage Timetables.

For a more detailed history of the company, take a look at 'The Eastern National Story Vol 2' by Crawley, Macgregor & Simpson. The book is out of print but second hand copies can easily be found at rallies or bookshops.

We hope you enjoy this nostalgic trip down memory lane and continue subscribing to Essex Bus News as we approach our 40th Birthday in less than two years time.

Westcliff AJN 825

AJN 825 was part of a batch of thirteen prewar Bristol K5G with Eastern Coachworks L53R bodies.

JN9540-9544

AHJ401-403

AJN823-825

BHJ532-533

AJN225 which is at present awaiting a repaint and hopefully will be seen again at Rallies. It is at present parked at Thamesway, Basildon depot, an appeal to raise money is at present active at shows and rallies

AJN 825 was delivered to Westcliff in 1939, the AJNs were unique in that they roll back canvas roofs, these were panelled over around 1950. During the Second World War 825 was loaned to Bisol Omnibus from January 1941 to November 1944 and received Bristol fleetnumber 3718. On return to Westcliff it appeared on all Westcliffs main routes in and out of Southend.

It was acquired by Eastern National with the Westcliff services and was numbered 1269. withdrawn in 1960 it was sent to the British Transport Commission Museum at Clapham and later transferred to Eastern National for continued preservation.

Essex Bus News 450th Issue Special

Westcliff on Sea Motor Services Timetable History 1923 – 1952

Following the publication of the Eastern National timetable list in an earlier issue of EBN, I have been requested to compile a list of Westcliff-on-Sea Motor Services timetables. This list has been compiled from my own personal timetable collection and also from the personal collections of Peter Clark, John Taylor and Derek Giles. Timetables contained in the Omnibus Society Library and Monk Collection have also been included, both kindly checked by Derek Giles. Although the final list is still known to be deficient in some of the earlier issues, it should nevertheless serve as a useful compilation of timetable types and publication frequencies.

Printers of the timetables were :

2/23 – 2/24	J. A. Godfrey & Sons Ltd., Southend
8/24 – 5/25	British Publishing Co. Ltd., Gloucester
8/26 – 7/33	Index Publishers Ltd., Dunstable
8/33 – 10/41	Washburn & Sons Ltd., Southend-on-Sea
8/42 – 6/52	H. Clark & Co. Ltd., London E.C.2

All timetables published between 1923 and 1935 featured an advertisement on the lower half of the front cover.

SERIES A (small size – 110 mm x 138 mm)

Plain red cover, black printing

2/23, 8/23, 10/23, 2/24

SERIES B (small size)

White cover with small W.M.S. name and "Timetable" in red, featuring monochrome photograph of double deck vehicle.

8/24, 5/25, 8/26, 1/27, 7/27

SERIES C (small size)

White cover, with small W.M.S. name and "Timetable" in red, featuring monochrome photograph of single deck vehicle

9/27

SERIES D (small size)

White cover, with larger style W.M.S. and "Timetable" in red covering top half of cover.

7/28, 6/29, 7/29, 11/29, 4/30, 5/30, 8/30, 9/30, 10/30

SERIES E (small size)

White cover, with W.M.S. in black, and drawing of saloon vehicle in red.

4/31, 6/31, 7/31, 9/31, 4/32, 5/32, 6/32, 7/32, 9/32, 10/32, 2/33, 3/33, 4/33, 5/33, 6/33, 7/33

SERIES F (small size)

Buff cover, with W.M.S. name and vehicle drawing in black

8/33, 9/33

SERIES G (small size)

Design as per Series E, but grey cover with W.M.S. name and vehicle drawing in red.

12/33, 2/34, 3/34, 5/34, 6/34, 7/34, 8/34, 9/34, 10/34, 11/34, 12/34, 1/35, 3/35, 4/35, 6/35, 7/35, 8/35, 10/35, 11/35, 1/36

SERIES H (small size)

Cream cover with W.M.S. in crimson. Features red line drawing of Southend pier and Westcliff saloon. No advertisement on cover.

12/2/36, 4/36, 8/36, 9/36, 3/37, 1/7/37, 6/10/37

SERIES J (small size)

Similar to Series H, but printing now in red with drawing of Westcliff saloon replaced by photograph of A.E.C. Ranger.

1/6/38

SERIES K (small size)

Cream cover, with W.M.S. in red and drawings of saloon, coach and double decker proceeding along a road. Small drawing of Southend pier at base.

5/10/38, 24/5/39, 27/9/39, 30/10/40, 1/10/41

SERIES L (large size - 185 mm x 125 mm)

Tilling style timetable featuring W.M.S. in red, route map of operating area extending over both covers, and drawings of coach, saloon and double deckers at base. Staff books have plain buff covers with black printing.

19/8/42 (a), 16/11/42, 2/2/44, 1/6/44, 27/12/44, 2/5/45, 14/11/45, 13/3/46, 24/7/46, 26/3/47, 1/3/48, 21/7/48, 1/6/49, 24/5/50, 6/6/51

SERIES M (large size)

Plain red cover containing black W.M.S. and "Timetables" on folder paper montage. Staff books have plain buff covers with black printing.

1/6/52 (b)

NOTES	a	:	Only known in staff book format.
	b	:	Contains un-numbered services previously operated by the City Coach Company

Compiled by Alan Osborne with grateful assistance from Peter Clark, Derek Giles, John Taylor and the Omnibus Society.



The first of our Westcliff photos shows Bristol K5G with standard ECW Lowbridge bodywork C/JN 326 is standing at Grays War Memorial in 1952 on Service 2 to Southend and is one of three Bristols operated by London Transport before being delivered to Westcliff (Alan B Cross)



Westcliffs sole Bristol L saloon A/JN 826 is seen here at Broadway Market, Southend departing for Eastwoodbury (near the Airport) on Service 9 (PJS Collection)



This ex Benfleet & District Damlier FOP 417 is seen here on Canvey island.
(J F Highham Collection)



Our last photo is of JN 4745 AEC Regent/ECW .It was one of two Regents to be rebodied having previously had a Weymann body. The vehicle is standing at the Route 5 stop at Victoria Circus bound for Shoeburyness (W J Haynes)

Service No. 71 & "G" (cont).—EASTWOOD (Jones Corner) & LEIGH-ON-SEA.

DAILY.

	B	W	B	W	B	W	B	W	B	W	B	W	B	W	B	W	B	W	B
	N	N	N	N	N	am	N	am	am	am	am	am	am	am	am	am	am	am	pm
EASTWOOD, Jones' Corner ... dep.	6 45	7 57	25 7 45	8 58	25 8 45	9 59	25 9 45	10 5	1025	1045	11 5	1125	1145	12 5					
Kent Elm Corner	6 49	7 97	29 7 49	8 98	29 8 49	9 99	29 9 49	10 9	1029	1049	11 9	1129	1149	12 9					
Coombes Corner	6 50	7 107	30 7 50	8 108	30 8 50	9 109	30 9 50	1010	1030	1050	1110	1130	1150	1210					
Woodcutters' Arms Hotel ...	6 52	7 127	32 7 52	8 128	32 8 52	9 129	32 9 52	1012	1032	1052	1112	1132	1152	1212					
Westleigh Schools	6 56	7 167	36 7 56	8 168	36 8 56	9 169	36 9 56	1016	1036	1056	1116	1136	1156	1216					
Leigh Church	6 59	7 197	39 7 59	8 198	39 8 59	9 199	39 9 59	1019	1039	1059	1119	1139	1159	1219					
LEIGH-ON-SEA L.M.S. Station arr.	7 37	23 7 43	38 23 8 43	9 39	23 9 43	10 3	1023	1043	11 3	1123	1143	12 3	122 3						
	W	B	W	B	W	B	W	B	W	B	W	B	W	B	W	B	W	B	W
	pm	pm	pm	pm	pm	pm	pm	pm	pm	pm	pm	pm	pm	pm	pm	pm	pm	pm	pm
EASTWOOD, Jones' Corner ... dep.	1225	1245	1 51	25 1 45	2 52	25 2 45	3 53	25 3 45	4 54	25 4 45	5 55	25 5 45	6 56	25 6 45	7 57	25 7 45	8 58	25 8 45	9 59
Kent Elm Corner	1229	1249	1 91	29 1 49	2 92	29 2 49	3 93	29 3 49	4 94	29 4 49	5 95	29 5 49	6 96	29 6 49	7 97	29 7 49	8 98	29 8 49	9 99
Coombes Corner	1230	1250	1 101	30 1 50	2 102	30 2 50	3 103	30 3 50	4 104	30 4 50	5 105	30 5 50	6 106	30 6 50	7 107	30 7 50	8 108	30 8 50	9 109
Woodcutters' Arms Hotel ...	1232	1252	1 121	32 1 52	2 122	32 2 52	3 123	32 3 52	4 124	32 4 52	5 125	32 5 52	6 126	32 6 52	7 127	32 7 52	8 128	32 8 52	9 129
Westleigh Schools	1236	1256	1 161	36 1 56	2 162	36 2 56	3 163	36 3 56	4 164	36 4 56	5 165	36 5 56	6 166	36 6 56	7 167	36 7 56	8 168	36 8 56	9 169
Leigh Church	1239	1259	1 191	39 1 59	2 192	39 2 59	3 193	39 3 59	4 194	39 4 59	5 195	39 5 59	6 196	39 6 59	7 197	39 7 59	8 198	39 8 59	9 199
LEIGH-ON-SEA L.M.S. Station arr.	1243	1 31	23 1 43	2 32	23 2 43	3 23	23 3 43	4 24	23 4 43	5 25	23 5 43	6 26	23 6 43	7 27	23 7 43	8 28	23 8 43	9 29	23 9 43
	B	W	B	W	B	W	B	W	B	W	B	W	B	W	B	W	B	W	B
	pm	pm	pm	pm	pm	pm	pm	pm	pm	pm	pm	pm	pm	pm	pm	pm	pm	pm	pm
EASTWOOD, Jones' Corner ... dep.	6 56	25 6 45	7 57	25 7 45	8 58	25 8 45	9 59	25 9 45	10 5	1025	10 45	1045	11 5	1025	10 45	1045	11 5	1025	10 45
Kent Elm Corner	6 96	29 6 49	7 97	29 7 49	8 98	29 8 49	9 99	29 9 49	10 9	1029	10 99	1049	11 9	1029	10 99	1049	11 9	1029	10 99
Coombes Corner	6 106	30 6 50	7 107	30 7 50	8 108	30 8 50	9 109	30 9 50	1010	1030	10 50	1050	11 10	1030	10 50	1050	11 10	1030	10 50
Woodcutters' Arms Hotel ...	6 126	32 6 52	7 127	32 7 52	8 128	32 8 52	9 129	32 9 52	1012	1032	10 52	1052	11 12	1032	10 52	1052	11 12	1032	10 52
Westleigh Schools	6 166	36 6 56	7 167	36 7 56	8 168	36 8 56	9 169	36 9 56	1016	1036	10 56	1056	11 16	1036	10 56	1056	11 16	1036	10 56
Leigh Church	6 196	39 6 59	7 197	39 7 59	8 198	39 8 59	9 199	39 9 59	1019	1039	10 59	1059	11 19	1039	10 59	1059	11 19	1039	10 59
LEIGH-ON-SEA L.M.S. Station arr.	6 236	43 6 37	7 237	43 6 38	8 238	43 6 39	9 239	43 6 40	10 3	1023	1043	11 3	1123	1143	12 3	122 3			

B—Operated by Borough Services, Ltd.

W—Operated by Westcliff Motor Services Ltd.

n—Not Sundays.

sc—Saturdays only.

x—Will operate from Westleigh Schools to Leigh Station only if required.

sx—Saturdays excepted

Note.—This Service connects at Leigh (Elm Hotel) with Borough Service No. 70—Southend, Pitsea, Stanford-le-Hope and Grays; Westcliff Services 2 & 2b—Southend-Grays; Service 3—Southend-Benfleet; Service 1—Southend-Rayleigh; Service 2a—Southend-Romford, via Laindon & Upminster, and at Eastwood (Kent Elms Corner) with Services operated by The Eastern National Omnibus Co., Ltd. to Battlesbridge, Maldon, Chelmsford, Colchester and Clacton-on-Sea.

For Fare Table see Page 106.

The Leigh to Eastwood service is shown, worked jointly between Borough Services and Westcliff. Although control of Borough was gained by Eastern National in 1933, it continued as a separate concern until 1947. Their small garage was at 49, London Road, Southend whilst the larger premises of Westcliff occupied numbers 17/21, which later became SD. Incidentally, the Southend Corporation Transport garage was at 87, London Road.

From 6th. October, 1937 timetable

For Fare Table see Page 106.

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Essex Bus News 450th issue Special

B—Operated by Borough Services, Ltd.
W—Operated by Westcliff Motor Services, Ltd.

n—Not Sundays.
so—Saturdays only.

G. HARVEY, Wholesale Shell Fish Merchant, & Cockle Shell Grit Merchant,

Telegrams :—Cockles, Leigh-on-Sea 13 Westleigh Avenue, Leigh-on-Sea. 'Phone :— 76586 Leigh.

COCKLES & WINKLES A SPECIALITY. Cockleshell Grit for Poultry—all Grades. Prepared Cockle Shell for Builders for Dashing.

Westcliff Motors. Pullman Saloon Service between SOUTHEND-ON-SEA & LONDON (Wood Green)

No. 1.	A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	P.M.
SOUTHEND (VO)	630	7 30	8 30	9 30	1030	1130	1230	
Eastwood	645	7 45	8 45	9 45	1045	1145	1245	
Rayleigh	655	7 55	8 55	9 55	1055	1155	1255	
Wickford	710	8 10	9 10	1010	1110	1210	1 10	
Billericay	730	8 30	9 30	1030	1130	1230	1 30	
Brentwood	755	8 55	9 55	1055	1155	1255	1 55	
Romford	815	9 15	1015	1115	1215	1 15	2 15	
Ilford	835	9 35	1035	1135	1235	1 35	2 35	
Woodford	840	9 40	1040	1140	1240	1 40	2 40	
Walthamstow	850	9 50	1050	1150	1250	1 50	2 50	
Tottenham	9 0	10 0	11 0	12 0	1 0	2 0	3 0	
London (W.G.)	910	1010	1110	1210	1 10	2 10	3 10	

Not Sundays.

No. 2.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
SOUTHEND (VO)	130	230	330	430	530	630	7 30	8 30
Eastwood	145	245	345	445	545	645	7 45	8 45
Rayleigh	155	255	355	455	555	655	7 55	8 55
Wickford	210	310	410	510	610	710	8 10	9 10
Billericay	230	330	430	530	630	730	8 30	9 30
Brentwood	255	355	455	555	655	755	8 55	9 55
Romford	315	415	515	615	715	815	9 15	1015
Ilford	335	435	535	635	735	835	9 35	1035
Woodford	340	440	540	640	740	840	9 40	1040
Walthamstow	350	450	550	650	750	850	9 50	1050
Tottenham	4 0	5 0	6 0	7 0	8 0	9 0	10 0	11 0
London (W.G.)	410	510	610	710	810	910	1010	1110

Fares:—Single 3/-. Return 4/6.

For the benefit of local residents, Special Cheap 3/- Return Tickets will be issued on a buses up till 1 30 p.m.

Carpenter's Arms

'Phone :
62 Rayleigh.

**RAWRETH,
RAYLEIGH.**

Proprietress :
Mrs. Lco. Aylin.

Agent for Westcliff Motor Services, Ltd.

**When motoring to Newmarket or Galleywood Races, call for
First Class Accommodation, Teas, &c. Wines and
Spirits of the Best Quality. Mann's Famous Ales & Stout**

From October 1930 timetable

Illustrating the 'Pullman Saloon Service' (number 16) running through to London (Wood Green). This operation was later sold to the City Coach Company and it eventually became Eastern National service 251, which ceased only recently. Notice also the period advertisements showing the cockles and winkles for which Leigh-on-Sea was famous, and for the Carpenters Arms at Rawreth, which was a City timing point, just look at the old telephone number !

ARRIVA Southend

Green Line Changes

The Southend to London Green Line service as reported elsewhere in this month's magazine will only be operated by Arriva from Monday 29th October.

A revised Monday to Friday timetable resourced by 7 coaches will be introduced but the current Saturday & Sunday Arriva timetable will remain in force as it is necessary to give 6 weeks notice to the traffic commissioner for a variation to the registered service. Once this notice has been served the Saturday service will be restructured and Sunday service withdrawn and this is likely to happen sometime in November.

Service Update

Although expected to be transferred to Grays from 29/9, Thurrock route 383 is still being operated from Southend Garage.

On Sunday's the Thurrock contract for Service 100 Basildon -Lakeside is being operated by Grays but the service is registered to Arriva Southend.

Another Refurbishment

Olympian **5396 F576 SMG** (ex SUFC overall ad) has returned refurbished and back in fleet colours.

Unusual Workings

There's been plenty of strange workings since the timetable changes in late August and the most notable recently include sittings of Tridents on Service 18 to Foulness and Merc 2088 on Service 1 on 5th October.

ARRIVA Colchester

Into the Fleet

3241Volvo B6 M841 DDS /Alexander Dash arrived from Hemel Hempstead on the evening of Saturday 6 October. Something strange here as the official fleet list quotes B40F, in reality it is B37F. It as a second luggage pen fitted. It joins sister B6's 3245/6 which also have Alexander Dash bodies.

Mccabes Progress

As we reported last month, Arriva Colchester driver Sean McCabe took part in the 'Bus driver of the year' held in Blackpool over the weekend of the 8/9th September and we're pleased to say that he achieved 13th place in the very challenging contest which is quite an achievement.

ARRIVA East Herts & Essex

Vehicles in

From Arriva the Shires 2159 9/01

2159 N367 JGS MB 709D 669003-2N-042838 Pn 967.6MHV5363 B27F
7/96

From Arriva London North M529,642 by 9/01

GYE 529W MCW DR101/14 MB6053 MCW H43/28D 5/81

KYV 642X MCW DR101/14 MB6429 MCW H43/28D 10/81

The above were acquired for spares recovery only (529 - engine, 642 - gearbox).

Once these items have been removed at Hoddesdon, the vehicles will be despatched for scrap.

Allocations

9/01. **2159**. HA; **2358**. w (awaiting sale at Stevenage)

2333/8 have returned to Harlow from Arriva London North

Liveries

9/01: to corporate livery - **2122/59**, **5363** (before transfer to Colchester)

Current Fleet Allocations

Grays: 2128/30/34-7, 3349/50/54/73-75/87-90, 3400-14/21/23-29/31, 5080,
5373/84-87 + 1164/65

Harlow: 1257, 2091-94/97-99, 2116/22/24/25/58/59/86/87, 2226/30/31/39-
41/45/49/51-57/60-64,
(inc. Debden) 3091/92/96, 3230/31/50-57, 3328/29/52/53/56-64/66-69/71/72/76-78,
3446-49,
3461-69/71-79/81, 5376/78/79 + 1100/66/67/69/71

Ware & Hoddesdon: 2370/71/73-77, 3355/65/85/86, 3416-18/35/39-44, 5251-
53/55/57/60/63, 5348/67/70 + 1158/62/70

On loan to Arriva London North: 2333/36-38

Unservicable: 3348, 5375

Withdrawn: 2090/96, 2233, 5250/69

Harlow Bus Station Opens

The new bus station in Harlow town centre was officially opened last month. As part of the opening, the whole area was thoroughly cleaned and brought to an acceptable standard. In order to ensure that the new covered area is kept safe and clean, CCTV has been installed, and the doors will be kept locked between 7.30pm and 7am, and all day on Sundays. During these times, all buses will serve the stops in the open area outside Chicago's.

New Head Office

Arriva the Shires & Essex Head Office duly moved from Castle Street, Luton to 487, Dunstable Road, Luton LU4 8DS (01582 587000) in early September with the Luton & Dunstable allocations following over the week-end of 23/24 September.

Needless to say, the new depot is not yet complete and various maintenance functions are still being carried out at Castle Street. Dunstable depot has been cleared, the only remaining occupant being the long term unservicable Lynx 3348 (H258 GEV) which is incapable of moving under its own power.

Service Vehicles

1139 (D413 UTO), a Vauxhall Astra van, previously at Grays was sold 9/01

Service Changes

Sunday 9th September

Service 100/101 Basildon – Lakeside, Sundays Only Thurrock CC Contract All journeys now operate as 100 every 2 hours. Service 101 Withdrawn.

Although registered to both East Herts & Essex & Arriva Southend, we understand that the route is still operated by Grays Garage requiring 2 buses

Monday 10th September

Service 331 Hertford – Royston Minor timing adjustments and in Barley rerouted away from High St to serve Church End and Picknag Road. The M-F PM Peak journeys that deviated via Ware Stn. Road, rerouted direct via Amwell End, in line with the main service.

Service 831 Puckeridge – Ware M-F Peaks, Withdrawn

Monday 24 September

Service 211/2 Breach Barns - Waltham Cross; Mondays to Saturdays

Service 213 Epping - Waltham Cross; Mondays to Saturdays. Minor revision to the Monday to Friday timetables from 24 September.

Saturday 29th September

Service 324 Bluewater – Hornchurch Withdrawn between Abbs Cross and Hornchurch and rerouted via Roneo Corner to Romford Market.

Service 348 Lakeside – Romford Withdrawn Between Upminster Station and Romford and extended from Lakeside via Route 370 to Grays and Tilbury Civic Sq.

Service 370 Romford – Tilbury Rerouted between Lakeside and Grays via Chafford Hundred and Withdrawn between Grays and Tilbury.

Service 373 Romford – Grays Rerouted Between Lakeside and Grays via Hathaway Road, replacing part of 370

Sunday 30th September

Service 310/310A Enfield – Hertford Minor timing changes

Service 311 Enfield – Hertford (Eves and Sun) On Sundays withdrawn in Hertford from the Pinehurst diversion and also between Bus Stn and Sele Farm Est.

Service 395 Fanham Common – Sele Farm Est New Herts CC Contract added and deviating to serve Pinehurst.

Phoenix Student Travel

Phoenix Services

Service 610 : Purfleet - Anglo European School (Ensign Bus Co)

This service now starts from Brentwood as it runs from Maldon rather than Purfleet garage as originally intended.

Vehicle News

Into The Fleet

6012 B204 DTU - Leyland Olympian/ECW DPH42/27F, ex Arriva Midlands North (orig Crosville), via Ensign. Based at Maldon. [

E275 KEF Leyland Tiger/Plaxton C53F, ex Stephenson's of Essex, also at Maldon.

They have been running in as acquired liveries in the short term.

Olympians Given Fleet Numbers

The batch of Leyland Olympians/ ECW now have fleet numbers allocated as follows
6000 C807BYY, 6001 C811BYY, 6002 C62CHM, 6003 C64CHM, 6004 C82CHM, 6005 C86CHM, 6006 C92CHM, 6007 C77CHM, 6008 C94CHM, 6009 C109CHM, 6010 C110CHM, 6011 C106CHM all ex SELKENT.

6004/8/10/11 are in Phoenix blue livery - all the others are in various shades of red and bare aluminium whilst they await their turn in the paint shop.

In the event, only 2 Olympians are running from Purfleet (routes 559/560), the other 10 ex Selkent examples being at Maldon. Lynx 5009/10/12 are also running from MN. I'm afraid I don't know which Essex Buses depots the others (5000-6/11) are based at. 5004 is currently off the road awaiting a new engine.

Metrobuses Help Out

Ensign 138 A638BCN, 146 A146AMO and 192 F292NHJ were at Maldon on loan 11.9.01 and 192 has been seen there again 30.9.01 - these appear to be short term loans to cover for maintenance.

Ensign 192 (F292NHJ), 152 (E752SKR) - were working from MN depot on 4/10, on the 503/4. The two PT operated routes, 559/560, were also Metros.

Ensign will continue to provide its own Metrobuses on short term loan to supplement PST's Olympians whilst the PST vehicles complete their repaints and one door conversions, and generally to replace defective buses. Remember anyway that the MN and PT operations are running on Ensign's O licence at present. Phoenix is unlikely to have its own O licence until the end of the year.

Got Any Phoenix News? Let us Know essexbusnews@hotmail.com

Other Essex Operators

BARRYS BUSES GRAYS The operating centre is now Princess Margaret Road, East Tilbury (adjacent to the level crossing/station). L329BKM Leyland DAF 400 is in by 8.01

BERNARDS COACHES HARLOW London commuter service 175 shown in the West & North West Essex timetable was withdrawn some time ago.

BLUE TRIANGLE Service 204 (Debden-Loughton) had a revised timetable introduced on schooldays from 17.9.01.

BONNER ONGAR N433WKL Ford Transit is in by 8.01 and has obviously replaced 0F938BKU Ford Transit/Dormobile

BUZZ HARLOW Further to EBN 449, although registered from 11.6.01, the revised timetable commenced from 18.6.01.

CHARIOTS STANFORD-LE-HOPE G620YUT (ex A10SOL) Totota/Caetano is in by 8.01 with 'Bobby's Mini Buses' lettering. F476RUW Renault Master (ex Ambulance) had a PSV disc 8.01

CLINTONA BRENTWOOD The network of services operated in Harlow on behalf of Essex County Council on Sundays was revised from 2.9.01 and is now as follows :-

4 Little Parndon – Harlow Town Station via Latton (replaces 854)

10 Harlow Town Station Circular via Church Langley (replaces 852)

11 Little Parndon – Harlow Town Station via Sumners (replaces 853)

12 Old Harlow Circular via Harlow Town (replaces 851)

CN ENTERPRISES ABRIDGE This operator is now using Patch Park, Abridge as the operating centre.

RJ12720 (ex A463HJF) DAF/Plaxton is in by 8.01 (was First Bristol 8205 but may have been elsewhere since)

COLCHESTER COACHES CLACTON FEN did not operate Service 1 between Clacton and St Oysth Beach this year. A limited service was provided by this operator from Whit weekend, and is assumed to have finished in late August/early September

MONDAYS - FRIDAYS

10.00 HUTLEYS, ST OSYTH BEACH	10.30 JACKSON ROAD, CLACTON
10.30 JACKSON ROAD, CLACTON	14.00 HUTLEYS, ST OSYTH BEACH

SATURDAYS

9.30 HUTLEYS, ST OSYTH BEACH	10.30 JACKSON ROAD, CLACTON
10.00 CLACTON TOWN CENTRE, via Railway Station	14.00 HUTLEYS, ST OSYTH BEACH

TUESDAYS AND FRIDAYS (MARKET DAYS)

11.15 HUTLEYS, ST OSYTH BEACH	16.30 JACKSON ROAD, CLACTON
11.45 JACKSON ROAD, via Clacton Market	16.35 CLACTON MARKET
17.05 HUTLEYS, ST OSYTH BEACH	

FOUR COUNTIES TRAVEL SAFFRON WALDEN A revised timetable was introduced on service 313 (Saffron Walden to Dunmow) during September (date not yet available).

GARDNERS WIDFORD The operating centre is "The Nest", Highwood Road, Edney Common.

HARDY MILES SOUTHEND G437VFE Ford Transit/Dormobile is in by 8.01 ex Advance Minibuses, Hockley.

H&E MINIBUSES WICKFORD P359KAV LDV Convoy and P374PNO Ford Transit are both here (by 8.01)

INGATESTONE COACHES Former Hedingham Bedford YNT/Plaxton BHK710X, has been acquired from Ensigns (dealer).

JWS TRAVEL WEST HORNDON Commenced operation of service 374 (West Horndon to Lakeside) from 3.9.01, replacing Arriva.

KINGSTONS THUNDERSLEY Further to the fleetlist in EBN 448, former London M272 and M440 are reported here by LOTS, can anyone please confirm or deny this?

NCS NEWPORT M76AJN Renault Traffic (on taxi plate) is in by 9.01

NELSONS WICKFORD An additional service has been introduced on service 224 on Tuesdays, Fridays and Saturdays. It operates from Wickford Broadway at 1136 via The Wick, before departing to Rayleigh at 1147. The 1519 from Shotgate on service 222, will be revised to operate on schooldays only from 29.10.01

OLYMPIAN NORTH WEALD FIL4907 (ex A613HGY) Leyland Tiger/Plaxton was at Frating Auction on 8.8.01

SM TRAVEL HARLOW Service SM20 (Sumners to St Marks School) was revised from 1.9.01 and now operates Monday to Saturday daytimes from the Bus Station to Sumners and Katherines. Service T15 (Harlow circular) had a revised route and timetable from the same date and no longer serves Church Langley. Metrobus JBO 75W has been sold for scrap, it has been replaced by similar KYV 677X. Leyland National 2 JNJ 194V has been sold. Acquired from Lutonian are Iveco/Marshall L863/4 BEA.

STEPHENSONS ROCHFORD Service 530 was introduced on schooldays only from 3.9.01. It operates from Canvey Somnes Avenue to St Thomas More School, with one journey each way. Former Southend Fleetline MRJ 233W has been acquired into dealer stock from Sidcup Coaches

STORT VALLEY STANSTED Not previously recorded here is that service 777 (Stansted to Birmingham) is being operated on behalf of Airlinks. It commenced on 2.4.01 and uses Volvo/Plaxtons Y823-5 HHE which are in Airlinks colours.

SUPREME SOUTHEND GHB 85W a Bristol VR/East Lancs has been sold to Colchester Coaches of Clacton!

TEE JAYS TRAVEL WIVENHOE Freight Rover Sherpa/Crystals F704 KMV has been acquired from Knights, Gt Braxted.

Hedingham & District

Vehicles

Acquired Lynx L322 is once again registered G222 DKA.

Service Changes

- 91 **Witham – Tollesbury** From 17.9.01 the 1820 ex Tollesbury and 1900 from Witham have been operated under contract to Essex CC.
- 324 **Colne Engaine – Braintree** Minor timetable changes from 4/9.

Essex VR Watch

**Chris Stewart & Martin Farmer continue to track down
this familiar Bristol bus**

Essex Buses

As predicted last month, the London Underground rail replacement contract from King's Cross to Paddington on 9 September saw Basildon's 3109 and 3112 in use, while on 16 September Hadleigh's 3069 and 3113 joined them, meaning all four First Thamesway VR's were to be seen amongst the assorted Metrobuses and Titans. An interesting point is that 3069 is the last remaining vehicle from the batch delivered in dual-purpose NBC livery for the 400, on which it regularly worked into King's Cross.

3077 and 3103 have returned to service, the former being at CF during September; VR's have once again appeared on the 36, 351 and 352 although 3077 moved to CN at the beginning of October. On 17 September CR3101 was on service 71 all day, normally an Olympian or Lance duty.

Recent observations (courtesy of Geoff Toon) would suggest continuing use of Colchester's VR's on the 77 and the following specific Monday to Friday duties (as well as the 64A on Saturdays):

67E	07.40 from East Mersea
69	08.12 from West Bergholt
70	08.02 from Marks Tey

Other VR operators

Members' reports on other operators' VR's will be greatly appreciated so that we can build up a picture for the whole County, as well as buses which used to work here. As well as Hedingham Omnibuses, VR's are still at work with many smaller operators.

Former EN Vehicles

STW32W (3088) and STW33W (3089) appeared, along with a large number of other VR's, at the International Air Tattoo at RAF Cottesmore in Lincolnshire over the period 23-30 July. STW32W is in red and owned by Chepstow Classic Buses, which supplied many vehicles for this event – they were put to use transporting Air Crew and visitors, sometimes over quite long distances. STW33W is in the cream, white and red livery of Abus, Bristol.

Reports from the West Country suggest First Western National's XHK223X (3118) may gain 'Barbie 2' livery shortly when its advertising contract expires.

Let us know your VR news essexbusnews@hotmail.com

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