

ESSEX BUS NEWS

MARCH 1995

The monthly magazine of the ESSEX BUS ENTHUSIASTS GROUP

(Formerly the Eastern National Enthusiasts Group)

371



BOXING DAY 1994 SAW W M COUNTY BUS(LEA VALLEY) OPERATING L T ROUTE 210. DENNIS DARTS 302 and 306 FROM EDMONTON DEPOT WERE THE BUSES USED. 302 IS SEEN HERE AT GOLDERS GREEN Stn..

Alan Colebourne.

MANAGING EDITOR:

Peter Snell

Please send your news reports to:

SUB EDITORS:

Southend Transport:

Steve Thompson, 19 Haven Close, Canvey Island, SS8 0LX

Thamesway:

Andy Meadows, 10 Harvard Court, Boston Avenue, Rayleigh, SS6 9ST

EN & South Essex smaller ops:

Ian Ransom, 102 Bradford Street, Chelmsford, CM2 0XU

North Essex smaller ops:

Dave Arnold, 21 Cedar Chase, Heybridge, Maldon, CM9 7NR

TOURS ORGANISER:

Andy Meadows, 10 Harvard Court, Boston Avenue, Rayleigh, SS6 9ST

PHOTO ORDERS:

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

MEMBERSHIP:

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

Rochford Meeting Freight House 8pm.

APRIL 11th

Guest speaker David Tomlin - Traffic Manager, Southend Transport.

Latest News

Thamesway has commenced painting the Mercedes in the Dart Style livery with 307 the first observed.

Eastern National - the new Mercedes have Tollesbury on their blinds - ?? food for thought.

Tour

Seats still available on the tour around Essex - 20th May - come on, enjoy a good day out, send your bookings to Andy Meadow's - now - if not sooner.

The Division Three football match between Colchester United and Darlington on 4th March was sponsored by Candor Motors, Eastern National, NatWest Bank and Royal Mail. All tickets were given away free, well almost all, those of us with season tickets had already paid! Every spectator received a voucher for a free drink, a free raffle ticket and programmes were less than half price.

A free bus service was provided by EN between North Station, Town Centre and the Football Ground. The new mini buses were used and after the match two Olympians were also in use.

Records

I have for sale a large collection (over 1000) 7inch single records. Most dates from the 1970s and 1980s with some earlier and they are priced at 50p each (more for some more unusual records). No list is available so I suggest that you either let me know your requirements or alternatively, arrange to view the collection (01268 781657) Andy Meadows.

Acknowledgements

Eastern National - Thamesway - Southend Transport - WM County B&C - Essex C.C., PSV Circle, T&GWV, L.O.T.S, M Weyell, D Coulson, B Andrews, R Denny, G Toon, I Burton, C Sigston.

All reports for the April EBN should be in the Sub-Editors by 7th April, to Manager Editor by 14th April.

NEW VEHICLES

665	M665 VJN	Mercedes 709D	026080	Plaxton 95.7MHV3172	B23F
666	M166 VJN	Mercedes 709D	026086	Plaxton 95.7MHV3173	B23F
667	M667 VJN	Mercedes 709D	026126	Plaxton 95.7MHV3174	B23F
668	M668 VJN	Mercedes 709D	026127	Plaxton 95.7MHV3175	B23F
669	M669 VJN	Mercedes 709D	026128	Plaxton 95.7MHV3176	B23F
670	M670 VJN	Mercedes 709D	026130	Plaxton 95.7MHV3177	B23F
671	M671 VJN	Mercedes 709D	028660	Plaxton 95.7MHV3178	B23F
672	M672 VJN	Mercedes 709D	028659	Plaxton 95.7MHV3179	B23F
673	M673 VJN	Mercedes 709D	028717	Plaxton 95.7MHV3180	B23F
674	M674 VJN	Mercedes 709D	028685	Plaxton 95.7MHV3181	B23F
675	M675 VJN	Mercedes 709D	028719	Plaxton 95.7MHV3182	B23F
676	M676 VJN	Mercedes 709D	028733	Plaxton 95.7MHV3183	B23F

Please also note that vehicles 659-664 have body numbers pre-fixed 95 not 94 as published last month.

ACQUIRED VEHICLES

3232	JWT 760V	Bristol VRT/SL3/6LXB	ECW	23901	H43/31F
3233	LUA 717V	Bristol VRT/SL3/6LXB	ECW	23908	H43/31F

Chassis numbers are 2196 (3232) and 2383 (3233).
Both are acquired from Yorkshire Rider.

ALLOCATIONS

- 2/95** None
3/95 214 DT-D/L(D); 216 CF-D/L(D); 218-21/23/24 CR-D/L(D); 237-40 CR-CN;
241 CR-DT; 247 CR-CF; 665-76 NEW-CR; 3232/33 ACQD - CR

REPAINTS

- 2/95** 601/02/10/19/20/23 3228
3/95 603/05/17 3224

All are in new style livery.

UNUSUAL WORKINGS

- 7.2** CF 1129 on service 351 (1840 ex Chelmsford - a Thamesway duty)
13.2. CF 1414 on service 59 (thought to be first Lynx used from BS).

On 27.1.95, 1940 was in use from Bishops Stortford. It is now normally to be found on service 35 Chelmsford to Halstead.

On Saturdays the 0705 ex Braintree on service 35 is now scheduled for a minibus, it is sometimes a big bus to enable minibus drivers to gain experience of larger vehicles. Some off peak journeys on services 31A, 32 and 36 are now minibus worked.

Service 35 now sees scheduled double deck workings, the union would not allow this before.

SERVICES

17A NEW SERVICE. Great Sailing to Newport. Schooldays only.

17B NEW SERVICE. Rayne to Newport. Schooldays only.

45A NEW SERVICE. Langley to Saffron Walden. Schooldays only.

48 The Sunday service currently operated by Harris, will be operated by EN from 26.3.95. to an hourly timetable.

103 Slight route revision in Manningtree on the 0725 ex Harwich journey introduced on 4.1.95.

133 From 13.2.95. the 1555 ex Braintree College revised to depart 1600 and extended to Bishops Stortford. The 1730 ex Braintree was withdrawn.

319 NEW SERVICE. Braintree White Courts to Gt Dunmow Helena Romanes School via Shalford, Finchingfield and Stebbing. Schooldays only, one journey each way.

Services 17A/17B/45A have one journey each way. Full details are given in the latest ECC timetable.

Services 37 and 38 have been re-routed in Witham to serve the new Safeway store.

PUBLICITY

Timetable leaflet for services 37/38/39 dated 19.2.95. with services diverted to serve Safeway, Braintree Road.

GENERAL

It is rumoured that services in Chelmsford are to be revised from early May and that all services operated by Chelmsford are subject to change. In fact a Thamesway driver informed your sub-ed that services 152 etc will be operated only by Thamesway, while the 351 and 11 (yes 11) will be worked by Chelmsford. Some country services are to be linked, so take no chances and get those cameras out now.

With reference to recent EBN's and the dispute at Chelmsford, further details are now available. The drivers without uniforms were mainly management and engineering staff from the Badgerline empire covering for drivers who had returned home at weekends. At the time of writing only a few drivers remain on loan from Badgerline and Frontline and they are expected to remain until late April. All schools contracts except Ingatestone and Patching Hall Lane schools which were sub-contracted until 9.1.95. ran during the dispute. In the end 480 applications were received and about 120 were offered employment.

The visit to Chelmsford by Dr Caroline Cahm of the National Federation of Bus Users was a success. She described the drivers as smart, friendly, helpful and always making an effort to get close to the kerb. She added they were a credit to the company. Her only complaint was the state of the bus station, which is undergoing some improvement work at present, but this is limited in view of plans to demolish it. Legal lettering on recent repaints includes Stapleford Close, the road the Head Office now fronts after recent building work.

HEDINGHAM

VEHICLES

The following were acquired from Freemans in November 1994:-

L235	LDH940P	Ford R1114	Plaxton	C53F
L236	TPJ 305S	Ford R1114	Duple	C53F
L237	BCJ 733V	Ford R1114	Duple	C53F

Ex Carters Leopard XPW 877X is L238 and Bristol VR GGM 84W is L239. The VR carries an overall advert for John Nike Sports Complex. Two further VRs acquired but not yet numbered are WJM 831T and CJH 143V.

Of the above Fords L235 has been withdrawn, while L236 entered service in December and L237 in February.

Further Partridge vehicles now in Hedingham livery are L222/224 and 225.

SERVICES

172 Slight route revision from 1.3.95.

GENERAL

A timetable booklet dated 2.1.95. is now available detailing all Hedingham services.

OTHER OPERATORS - REST OF ESSEX

ADTAX SAFFRON WALDEN Acquired as a non-PSV is L578 LFL a DAF 200 minibus.

AMBER BUS & COACH RAYLEIGH The Canvey to Benfleet service was revised from 28.2.95. A new service operating every 20 minutes Monday to Saturday was introduced from 18.2.95. from Canvey Point Road to Benfleet Station via High Street and Long Road.

APT RAYLEIGH Bristol VR URB 161S has been sold.

ARCHER HADLEIGH Have sold Ford Transit SHJ 510W.

ARROW MALDON Mercedes minibus C376 TLD has been sold.

ASSOCIATED COACHWAYS HARLOW Leyland National BYW 391V is now out of use.

BEESTONS LONG MELFORD The Colchester to Bury St Edmunds service was withdrawn after 11.3.95.

BERNARDS HARLOW Volvo/Jonckhree TSV 804 has been sold. A commuter service from Ongar Two Brewers (0645) via North Weald, Epping, Debden and Loughton to Victoria, Bressenden Place (returns 1730) via the normal London commuter route from Stratford has been registered.

BISS BISHOPS STORTFORD A revised timetable was introduced on service 317 from 5.1.95. A new schools service from Magdalen Laver to Saffron Walden via Hatfield Heath, The Hallingburys and Newport numbered 322 was introduced from 24.1.95, with one journey each way.

BLUTE BRAINTREE A new operator with Sherpa D241 NUR.

BOON BOREHAM Setra WSU 225 has been sold.

BJS GT WAKERING Vehicles sold are A2 GUK a Volvo/Plaxton and Fiat/Caetano C84 NNV.

BRANDON BLACKMORE END Further to EBN366 the re-registration of 896 RHA to OEG 289P has been confirmed.

BRENTWOOD COACHES (WHM) Have sold Bristol VR MEL 560P to the London Borough of Redbridge. Coaches acquired are B872 UST a ?/Duple Laser and 823 NMC (ex A601 UGD) a Volvo/Van Hool.

CHAMBERS BENFLEET Ford Transit K254 DPU has been sold.

COACHSTOP SOUTHEAD Have sold LAG Panoramic's F24 WNH and F677 BBD.

COOKS WESTCLIFF DAF/Plaxton D619 SJX has been sold.

DON DUNMOW Bedford YNV/Plaxton B422 RDY has been sold.

EUROPA RAMSDEN HEATH Bristol VR NEL 119P has been sold to Stephensons, Rochford.

FARGO RAYNE Have registered a schools journey from Little Waltham to Colchester via Chelmsford numbered F53. It commenced on 5.1.95.

FERRERS COACHES New is Dennis Javelin/Plaxton M606 UTW in all white at present and normally on the commuter service.

FLAGFINDERS BRAINTREE Have added VW minibus F688 KWC to their fleet. Vehicles sold are VW minibus VTW 35W and Ford R1014/Plaxton XNK 203X.

GAMMER TENDRING Yet another new operator with one minibus in this case H470 VNN a Mazda/Howletts.

GODWARD SHOTGATE Freight Rover/Carlyle minibus D145 WCC has been acquired.

GOLDEN BOY ROYDON Services to Lakeside were revised from late January. Service L1 was revised to start from Buntingford, while service L2 was withdrawn.

GRAHAMS KELVEDON Ford Transit E786 MEU and former EN Bedford YMQ-S TJN 981W have been sold. A recent addition is Tiger/Van Hool MBZ 3733.

HALLS COACHES HENHAM Have sold Volvo B58/Plaxton HGS 657T.

HARRIS THURROCK Bristol VR PBD 41R was sold to Pennine Blue via Manchester Auctions in February. Sister PBD 40R failed on rail replacement on 21.2.95. and was delicensed the next day. New DAF/ Van Hool Coaches are M501/3 XWC delivered on 2.3.95. 501 is in Harris green 503 is white. The loan of vehicles from Eastbourne ended in early January, with Olympians 49 and 55 being returned on 6.1.95. The Atlanteans hired from Nottingham (see EBN 369) have also been returned. From 8.3.95. OYJ 71R has been on loan from Nottingham City Transport, a Leyland Atlantean it was new to Brighton. Service news is that service 399 had a revised route introduced from 20.2.95. The 0630 ex Orsett to Chadwell St Mary was withdrawn from 13.3.95. Easybus services in Brentwood and Thurrock will be completely revised from 20.3.95. The Sunday services on routes L2 and L3 were withdrawn after 5.3.95.

INGATESTONE COACHES Further to EBN 365, PIW 4128 was soon re-registered PIW 4795. It was new as WPB 77M.

JACKSONS BICKNACRE Acquired is Dennis Javelin F78 VWK (ex MIW 5791 & F868 RFP), it is numbered 6. Mercedes mini B897 AGJ is number 10.

MILESTONE CANVEY Have acquired PFJ 351M a Bedford VAS ex Need-a-Bus, Pitsea and Ford Transit F805 FAW.

OSBORNE TOLLESBURY Leyland Tiger/Plaxton FNM 860Y is now JIL 5623.

PRIORY STANFORD-LE-HOPE Have sold Ford Transit C626 MEG.

RIDGEON STANFORD LE HOPE Volvo/Jonckhree KIW 7812 has been sold.

ROADRUNNER CANVEY B977 LLT and C85 HDT were noted at Chelmsford Auctions on 9.3.95.

S&P ROCHFORD Have sold Bedford/Caetano AAL 521A (ex SMW 193S).

STEPHENSONS ROCHFORD Service 11A on Sundays will be operated commercially from 26.3.95. to a revised timetable and will no longer serve Little Wheatleys in Rayleigh. From the same date service 222 will pass to Nelsons, but still under contract to Essex CC. Service 7B will be withdrawn on Sundays, while the vehicle required for service 152 will operate direct from Rochford to Basildon at the start and end of service.

TIGERWAYS HARLOW Leyland Leopard/Plaxton SFV 205P has been sold. Added to the fleet is VOO 674 (ex KWP 555T) ex Seymour, Harlow.

TOMS MINICOACHES SOUTHEND Have acquired Mercedes/Reeve Burgess PJL 2984 (ex KGG 725Y).

T&GW CHELMSFORD A further LDV Sherpa is L285 FOV numbered 16. Two full size minibuses are now in use one is M386 KVR(number 8) a Mercedes/Alexander, the other is M391 KVR (number 14) a Mercedes/Dormobile with dp Seating.. The operating centre is Arch 24 Viaduct Road (adjacent to the bus station), vehicles are also kept at drivers homes. Services have been banned by the police from using bus lanes, as they are not registered services. They have re-routed to stay on normal roads, although they still serve the multi storey car park stops. Normal services worked cover EN routes 41A/41B/43/43A/45/54 and 55, other services are operated when it is thought the demand warrants. A newsletter was distributed to houses in Chelmsford in early March. Bill Morris suggests that the union are prepared to match EN bus for bus (a free bus from Chelmsford to Bishops Stortford at 0610 or Braintree at 0555, will be worth looking forward to). The union have also announced plans to obtain an operators licence, charging a fare of 1p to allow them to use the bus lanes. Another rally in support of the drivers is to be held in Chelmsford on 25.3.95. with guest speakers.

VANTAGE ROMFORD Service 523 between Ongar and Romford was withdrawn after 10.3.95.

VICEROY SAFFRON WALDEN Further to EBN 366 , the Thursday service 318 is still operated by Viceroy commercially. The latest ECC timetable shows hedingham and Viceroy operating commercial journeys a few minutes apart, can someone confirm what is happening.

WESTS WOODFORD GREEN Services 214/215/219 & 220 have revised timetables and now operate entirely under contract to Essex CC.

WICKS BRAINTREE A further operating centre is located at Driberg Way, Braintree.

WILLIAMS DEBDEN Acquired is Leyland Tiger/Plaxton SMU 992Y, now re-registered DAZ 4299. Also acquired is OHP 9W a Ford R1114/Plaxton.

WINDMILL COPFORD Bovas G787 URY and G422 WFP have been sold.

EASTERN NATIONAL 1935

60 years ago - 1935 - Eastern National were on the acquisition trail and January 1st saw the business of P.H. Underwood of Mersea added to the Chelmsford fold.

The Underwood business was one of the oldest services acquired by Eastern National for over fifty years the family had linked Mersea Island with the outside world, using first their carriers cart and later motor buses. Underwood first became involved when, Philip took over the cart from George Death in 1885. Philip was followed by his son Robert around 1895 who carried on with the cart until the mid 20's when grandson Philip Henry continued the service using motor vehicles. He traded as Underwoods Blue & Cream Saloon Bus Service and ran daily from West Mersea & Colchester.

The services that Eastern National acquired were:-

COLCHESTER - ABBERTON - WEST MERSEA EN75

COLCHESTER - ROWHEDGE - FINGRINGHOE - WEST MERSEA EN76

COLCHESTER - BLACKHEATH - HAY GREEN - EAST MERSEA EN77

The fleet taken over by Eastern National was Bedford WLB 3576 GV899 - 3578 EV6338, an AEC Regal 3577 MV2272 and finally a Gilford 3579 VX6515. The two Bedford & the Gilford survived until 1939, but the AEC Regal carried on for many years of service to EN. In 1940/1, 3577 was loaned to London Transport and was used at Hemel Hempstead, Watford & Amersham Garages. On return from LPTB it was sent to Beadles at Dartford in 1942 and rebuilt to B32R. It survived to be renumbered in 1954 to 141 finishing as a contract bus : working out of Brentwood & Prittlewell Depots.

FLEET HISTORY

P.H. UNDERWOOD WEST MERSEA

VW7859	FORD AA	737847	B14F	1929
VX4280	CHEVROLET LO	63124	B14	1930
VX4281	CHEVROLET LO	63529	B14	1930
VX5345	CHEVROLET U	65137	B14	1930
VW6086	REO SPRINTER	FAX6399	B20	1931
GV899	BEDFORD WLB	108233	DUPLE C20F	1932
MV2272	AEC REGAL	6621527	C32	1932
EV6338	BEDFORD WLB	108583	B20	1932
VX6515	GILFORD 1680T	11448	C32	1930

DISPOSALS

VW7859	Patten Ramsden Heath
VX4280	Converted to Goods Vehicle
VX4281	Letch Sible Hedingham
VX5345	Fale Rowhedge
VW6086	Thirkettle Woodbridge
GV899	ENOC 3576 Showmans Bus
MV2272	ENOC 3577 Later 141
EV6338	ENOC 3578 Thrower E.10
VX6515	ENOC 3579 Ripponden & District Austin Woodseaves

ACQUIRED

CHF 346X	Dennis Dominator	DDA157/493-	Alexander (AR11/1781/1)	H45/33F
CHF 347X	"	" /494-	"	" /2 "
CHF 348X	"	" /495-	"	" /3 "
CHF 350X	"	" /497-	"	" /5 "
CHF 351X	"	" /498-	"	" /6 "
CHF 353X	"	" /500-	"	" /8 "
DEM 83X	"	DDA145/359-	"	(RH2/4980/1 "

These have been purchased from Kelvin Central Buses Ltd, Motherwell and were 1745 (DEM 83X) and 1746 ect in the Kelvin fleet. They were new to Merseyside PTE in 2/82 (DEM) and 7/82 (CHF) as 0035,0046-53 and had electronic dot matrix indicators when new. They passed to Kelvin in 12/92-DEM 83X were new as H45/31F and was registered ACM 768X, being re-registered in 3/93 as Merseyside wanted the ACM rego to use on an Atlantean. They were collected in late Feb/early March, brought to DM where preliminary work such as rubbing down is done after which they go to NP for painting, ect. They are for the East London underground rail replacement service for which they will carry an orange livery-the route will run from NP. Fleet numbers are not yet known reports indicate they may carry matching 4xx numbers.

RLN 238W Leyland-DAB artic -8002573 - Roe (GO 9707) - AB21T -new3/81 This surprise arrival was new as British Airways C311 and arrived at DM on Feb 28 -the two offside doors and most of the seats were removed and the exterior painted yellow (no relief) by Ensign. It still remains to be seen when or if the two artics enter passenger service.

104 (JHE 194W) was renumbered 9894 by Mainline circa 7/94 and had not been used since an open day at Rotherham depot on 29/8/93

PERSONNEL

Mr Norman Kemp has been appointed Managing Director to replace Leon Daniels. Mr Kemp was previously md of London Buses-London Northern and left upon the sale of the company to Merseybus Holdings, having headed an unsuccessful management buyout. Before that he was Business Development Manager of Kentish Bus.

WITHDRAWN & SOLD - 100 (GNF 13V) -Silcox, Pembroke Dock, no31, by2/95

DISPOSAL -798 (THX 256S) Tramontana Coach Distributors, Motherwell, 1/95 (not to Ascot as noted 1/95)

ROUTES

ELX East London Line replacement route, Aldgate-Surrey Quays-New Cross/ New Cross Gate, Sat March 25th for approx 7 months.

The Northbound diversion in South Street, Romford via the ring rd and Victoria Rd (see 2/95) ended at 12.30 on Fri Mch 3rd.

The 236 has been diverted away from Marsh Hill via Kenworthy Rd in Hackney Wick/Homerton due to a spate of armed robberies on bus drivers in this area. The D6 was diverted via Grove Rd & Old Ford Rd instead of via Roman rd on February 19th due to road works. The 296 resumed its normal route in Gidea Park on Sat Feb 25th.

THAMESWAY

Allocations

Corrections to 1st February allocation
707 - delete reference, should read 717.

1st March allocations

261 Pool-BD, 353 Pool-HH, 715 crew transfer-driver trainer, 719 D/L(D)-driver Trainer

Livery

1869 (Vernon Collard) the advertising contract has now ended and early repaint is expected (the back is already painted!)

Services

11 Photographers should be warned that a major alteration to this route will be announced next month.

London Transport bus contract for route 379 Chingford-Yardley Lane has been offered for re-tender.

Driver Training Fleet

Leyland National 2200 is now numbered 9002 and Bristol VRT 3101 is now 9401. Ford Transits 715 and 719 have been transferred and are numbered 9715 and 9719, they are used for driver familiarisation. Two Bedford V40/Duple have been acquired from Shreeve (Belle Coaches) Lowestoft. XYK 761T and YYL 794T have been numbered 9016 and 9017 and the Grey-Green N16.

Fleet Allocation 1st March 1995

Brentwood (BD)

206/8/9, 225/6/7/8/9/30/1/2/3/4, 261, 303/4/5/6, 354/5, 388/9/90/1/2/3/4/5/6, 939/40/1/2/3, 1839/45/46/76/86/94/98, 1903/08/12/13/19, 3110/3, 4004/9/10.

Basildon (BN)

201/3/4, 235/6/7/8/9/40/1/2/3/4, 357/8/9/60/1/2/3/4/5/6/7/8/9/70/1/2/3/4/5
376/7/8/9/80/1/2/3/4/5/6/7
501/2/3/4/5/3/6/7/11/2/3/4/5/6/7/8/9/20/1/2, 2202
918/9/20/1/2/3/4/5/6/7/8/9/30/1/2/3/4/5/6/7/8.

Ponders End (PD)

245/6/7/8/9/50/1/2/3/4/5/6/7/8/9/60, 301/2, 397/8, 800/1/2/3/4/5/6/7/8/9/10/1, 901/2/3/4/5/6/7/8/9/10/1/2/3/4/5/6/7, 1001/2/3/4, 4000/1/2/3/5/6.

Hadleigh (HH)

307/8/9/10/1/2/3/4/5/6/7/8/9/20/1/2/3/4/5/6/7/8/9/30/1/2/3/4/5/6/7/8/9/40, 341/2/3/4/5/6/7/8/9/50/1/2/3, 601.
1400/4/5/6/9/10/1/2/7/8/9/20/1/2/3/4, 1803/23/30/40/47/53/57/64/68/69/71, 1878/81/82/84/87/89/91/95/96/97, 1906/07/11/18.

Pool

202, 207, 356, 705, 712, 717, 720, 1821, 1835, 1877, 1904, 1920.

Driver Trainers

9002, 9013, 9014, 9015, 9016, 9017, 9401, 9715, 9719.

De-licensed

205, 706/10/1/6/22, 1866, 1875, 1888, 1893, 1922.

COLCHESTER BOROUGH TRANSPORT

Another Atlantean has been acquired from London & Country. RFR415P arrived on 8.3.95, and went straight into the paint shop. It has been numbered 63.

Ipswich Buses continue to do repairs on CBT vehicles, with 70, 80 and 84 all spending some time in Ipswich during February. District Bus vehicles are now repaired at CBT's garage. Southend Transport's 283 was repainted by CBT between 22.2.95 and 6.3.95.

ST's 547 was used on a CBT private hire on 25.2.95, and CBT's 103 was loaned to Southend Transport on the same day. Nationals 10 and 21 remain out of use.

The company did railway replacement work on 18, 19, 25, 26 February and 4, 5 March. Two Ipswich Buses' buses (23 and 81) also took part on 26.2.95.

The CBT timetable has been re-issued, to include the new prices for travel cards which were introduced on 30.1.95. It still has a drawing of a Lynx on the cover, although the company's 14 Lynxes have been reallocated elsewhere in British Bus's empire!

Many new regulations are being introduced by the European Parliament which, as common standards are introduced, completely change those things with which we are familiar.

It is surprising that given the furore that accompanies each new innovation introduced by Brussels that little has been said about European Road Harmonisation which is being introduced in a years time.

In preparation all operators of public transport must adhere to the "Auto (Public) Reversal In Lane File Order (Other Limitations)" regulation is being introduced shortly.

Only one Essex company appears to have prepared for the new rules that will apply after 2359 on 31st March 1995.

*Thanks to our Euro correspondent
Larf Loop for this item.*



Southend Transport

Vehicles.

ON 281 (MUH 281X) has been re trimmed with Green/Brown seat covering.

Repaints.

ON 283 (MUH 283X) into new fleet livery & re-trimmed seats.

VR 351 (YBF 686S) into all over advert for Alfa Romeo (H.W.S) cars.

(correction to EBN 370)

Services.

Service 6 has been extended to the new Tesco Superstore, in both directions, via Snakes Lane and Eastwoodbury Lane.

The London "X" services are to be renumbered into the Green Line 700 series.

A Rail replacement service was operated on 12/3/95 between Braintree and Ingatestone. It was operated by coaches, due to a low bridge in the area.

The following were operated over the Christmas and New Year period,

FRI 23rd DEC : Normal local bus services

Normal coach service, except for 0610 X10 from Southend, 1710, 1740 and 1800 X10 from Embankment did not operate. 1640+1725 X10 from Embankment, 1815 X2 from Hyde Park ran 3 hours earlier. 1430 X2 from Embankment, an additional journey operated.

SAT 24th DEC : Normal local bus services

Normal coach services except for 2130 X2 from southend, } did not operate.
2345 X2 from Hyde Park, }

SUN 25th DEC : No services except for one X2 round trip 0830 Southend - Victoria, 1055 Victoria - Southend,

MON 26th DEC : Special service on the following routes only, 1, 3A, 4A, 5, 7, 29, 63, X2, X3,

Bus services basic hourly between 0830 + 2000, coach service 2 Hourly.

TUE 27th DEC : Normal Sunday Services.

WED 28th DEC : Normal local bus services.

FRI 30th DEC : Normal coach services except for: 0600 + 0620 X10 from Southend 0629, X11 from Southend 1015, 1655, 1725 + 1800 X10 from London did not operate.

SAT 31st DEC : Normal local bus services.

Normal coach service, except that the last journey from London ran 30 minutes later.

SUN 1st JAN : Special service only as operated on Boxing Day with additional X2, X3 journeys at 0645 + 1830 from Southend 0855 + 2055 from London.

MON 2nd JAN : Normal Sunday services.

DID YOU READ.....

A reader writes about the statement made at the tribunal hearing the case of the dismissed CBT drivers about "strange investments". Since the company was owned by the council this was ratepayers money, who allowed this to happen and what is being done about it. (Essex County Standard 10th February)

Beestons are now operating the Halstead to Sudbury bus service subsidised the Essex and Suffolk County Councils. (Evening Gazette 14th February)

Hedingham Omnibuses will be operating a bus service between Brightlingsea and Ipswich on the second Saturday of each month from 11th March. Departing at 0845 and returning at 1445 the return fare is £3.50 (EG 22nd February)

The CBT drivers who went to an Industrial Tribunal after being dismissed on the British Bus takeover will each receive between £1,500 and £5000. A total of £23,373 will be paid out and includes an award of compensation, payment in lieu of notice and an adjustment for pension. (EG 28th February)

A dozen new minibuses worth £500,000 bought by EN to replace its existing fleet at Colchester were on display at Colchester Garrison today. A picture of 667 appears with the obligatory driver (two in this case) hanging from the entrance arm raised. (EG 1st March)

Colchester Council is to make a report to the DOT on vehicles emitting excessive exhaust fumes. The environmental control manager said "We will be reporting 15 vehicles. There were generally buses. (EG 8th March)

Residents on the Greenstead Estate are unhappy with their bus services as it is difficult to get to anywhere other than the Town Centre with out changing buses; there is no link with the General Hospital or Severalls and Ward Councillors have written to EN asking for more routes. As well as the EN services 64/64A apparently the 79 runs to Leisure World and North Hill and "CBT operates the A service from Harwich Road to Maldon Road". Robin Orbell of EN pointed out that the 64/64A runs every 7/8 minutes a frequency doubled in the last year and the Ranger ticket avoided passengers paying more by changing buses. The article is riddled with errors, even Robin Orbell has got it wrong, 6 an hour to 8 an hour is 33% not 50%. (EG 8th March)

Essex County Council invite tenders from bus operators for services that we hope they never have to actually operate as it is for moving the civil population in the event an emergency requiring evacuation. (Yellow Advertiser 10th March)

Sixty drivers still unemployed after being sacked by EN have been told by the TGWU that the free bus service must soon go one way or another. Premises have been found and the introduction of two leased 29 seat Mercedes buses to the free fleet brought commercial services a step nearer. Strikers had received donations of £4000 from TGWU members and £1850 from the public. Claims by the union that safety is being compromised by EN has been refuted by the National Federation of Bus Users. After a survey they concluded the only problem for EN was one of infrastructure. (Coach/Bus Week 11th March)

County B:C

FLEET

Acquired Vehicles

BOV 594	HDZ 8354	Bova Futura FHD 12-280 Bova C49FT 1986
BOV 595	G545 JOG	Bova Futura FHD 12-290 Bova C46FT 1990
BOV 596	JIW 3696	Bova Futura FHD 12-280 Bova C47FT 1988

Vehicles on Hire

8698	JIW 3698	Bova. Returned to Central Coachways, 2/95
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Repaints

2/95	MB 919	to new CB livery with 363 branding.
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Vehicles Withdrawn

2/95	LD 557/8	FYX 817/8W to WM reserve fleet
	MB 747	D547 HNW to storeshed (not used by County Bus as PSV)
	SN 215/27	LPB 215/27P to storesheds.

Allocation Changes

BOV 594-6	Hired to Acquired Ware
CEN 8698	Ware to Central Coachways
LD 557/8	Edmonton to WM Reserve Fleet
MB 747	Cannibalisation to Withdrawn
SN 215/27	Cannibalisation to Withdrawn

Ancillary Vehicles

D567/71 NDA	Dodge S56/ Reeve Burgess B19F new 1986 ex-West Midlands Travel, 2/95 for use as NPSV crew ferry vehicles at Debdon.
CVJ 98V	Mercedes Benz L608D/ Reeve Burgess withdrawn and returned to WM Travel, 2/95.

SERVICES

20 March	656	Minor re-routing in Thornwood Common and Epping
26 March	504	Contract retained for a further period and converted from minibus to Dennis Dart operation.
10 April	351	Minor NSSu timetable adjustments.

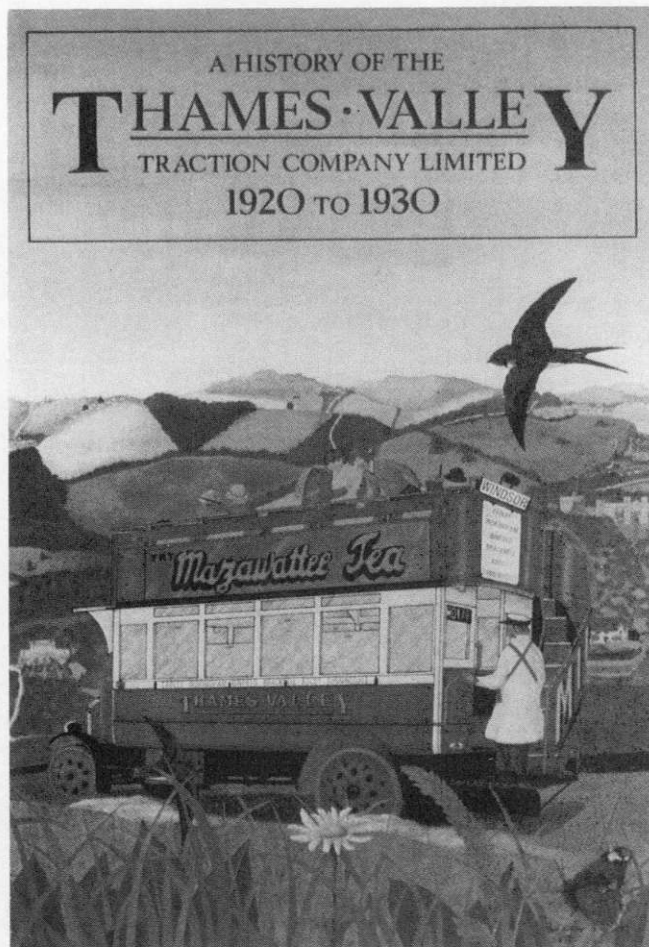
LOOKING BACK

1955 The Eastern Traffic Area "Notices and Proceedings" for 21st March 1955 carried applications by Eastern National for services over the Easter Holiday. Unlike 1995 when in most instances Sunday service levels will apply on Good Friday and Easter Monday, each service was treated on its merits. A normal service with peak hour reliefs omitted or an enhanced Sunday service appears to have been in operation on most main road routes.

1965 Three Bristol MW5Gs that were to become Eastern National 1435-7 (JHK459-61C) were diverted to Bristol Omnibus despite the fact that carried EN livery and even carried fleet numbers. 1438 (JHK462C) will follow. The registrations will be used by FLFs 2824-7, 2826(JHK461C) being delivered on 5th March 1965. Southend Corporation received 335/7/8 (CJN435/7/8C) Leyland PD3/6/Massey H38/32R.

1975 Leyland Nationals 1740-3 (HAR486-9N) were delivered to Eastern National during the second week of March. 2017 (373WPU) the last vehicle delivered to Moores Bros. of Kelvedon passed into preservation. Revised fares were introduced on 23rd February 1975, 3p and 5p fares were unchanged while others, at a time of high inflation, increased dramatically, the 13p rose to 18p, an increase of 38%! This was not the only shock for the passengers wallet as all ordinary, market day and special cheap day returns were withdrawn. Colchester Borough Transport had NTW438M, a Ford R1014 with Plaxton "Derwent" body work on loan during December. Southend Transport commenced use of fareboxes on 23rd March 1975.

1985 Leyland Olympians 4500-9 (B688-97BPU) were delivered to Eastern National starting on the 28th February and were all fitted, with Transign destination equipment. Bristol REs 1524/8/30/2/3/4/44/50/1 were shipped through Liverpool to Citybus in Belfast. To meet an increased requirement Southend Transport coaches were on hire. 210 (BHK210X) on 8th March at SD to operate Service 795; 334 (WRO433S) from 17th March at SD; 335 (WRO435S) from 17th March at BE, mainly for commuter services; 342 (YWW359S on 19th March at SD and 357 (YDW317T) on 15/6th March at SD for use on National Holidays feeders. As of 1st January Central Works became a separate accountable unit, known as Eastern National Engineering. Unusual workings saw Grey Green Leyland Leopard coach FYX823W operate a Service 116 (Holland Circular) and a schools journey during layover on 084 duties.



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