

ESSEX BUS NEWS

**No. 568
August 2011**



ESSEX BUS ENTHUSIASTS GROUP
www.essexbus.org.uk



Out with the old
... in with the
(nearly) new ...

Still going strong, if
living on borrowed
time: 16-year old
Lance 67006 (P506
MNO). Chelmsford;
18th July.

Robert Appleton



One of three former
Western National/
First Devon &
Cornwall Dart SLFs to
join the fleet recently
has been 42443 (P443
TCV), seen here at
Lakeside Bus Station
on 27th July.

Chris Stewart



Volvo B10BLE/
Wright Renown 66177
(W377 EOW) is one of
two transferred from
First Eastern Counties
at Great Yarmouth to
Braintree. On 18th
July, it was on service
21 Halstead -
Braintree - Black
Notley. No working
or programmed
destination display,
hence the route
number displayed in
the windscreen.

Robert Appleton

Essex Bus News

Magazine Editor

Eastern National Enthusiasts Guild

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Your reports and observations

Members reports, quality photos (prints, slides or JPGs) and original articles are always welcome.

The Editors exercise the normal discretion to publish contributions in full, in part or not at all and cannot guarantee publication in any particular month.

Every effort is made to ensure accuracy but the Group cannot accept responsibility for any errors published.

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

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Dates for your diary

■ EBN PRESS DATES

EBN dated
September
October

reports to Editors by
September 3
October 1

Despatch day is posted to the website as soon as it is known. Please allow reasonable time for postal delays (at least seven working days) before claiming non-receipt. Replacements can be obtained from the Distribution Secretary (see Group Directory).

■ SOUTH ESSEX EVENTS

- ▶ There is no South Essex meeting in August. The autumn season will recommence in September at our usual Wickford venue - **Wickford Cricket Club, off Swan Lane, Wickford** - five minutes walk from Wickford Station and five minutes drive from the A130 and A127. Doors open at 1930 for an informal chat, with the main talk or show

Cover

The first double-deckers with new-style registrations in the **First Essex** fleet are ten 2003 Volvo B7TLs with Transbus (Alexander style) bodies cascaded up (?) from First Eastern Counties. *Russell Young* caught **32478** (AU53 HJO) on route 65 in Brinkley Lane, Highwoods, Colchester on 29 July.

from 2000 to 2145/2200; a cash bar is available. Members and guests welcome. £1.50 donation please towards the hire of the room.

- ▶ **Monday September 26** - slide show by Chris Stewart, "From Derry to the Atlantic - the Lough Swilly bus company".
- ▶ **Monday October 24** - on the eve of the 25th anniversary of bus deregulation (was it really that long ago?!), Bill Hiron will present an illustrated talk "My 25 years in the bus industry", covering his managerial career that mirrors the deregulation era.
- ▶ **Monday November 28** - Harris Bus, a look back to the years from 1986 of this Essex & London operator that rose to prominence following deregulation, slide show by Dave Arnold & Fred Lawrance.
- ▶ **Monday December 19** - Christmas Social and "20 years ago" slide show by Richard Delahoy.

Richard Delahoy

■ NORTH ESSEX MEETINGS

Venue: downstairs room at the **Friends Meeting House, Church Street, Colchester**, just south of "Jumbo" (the water tower) and behind the Mercury Theatre. Town centre bus stops and parking are nearby. Doors open at 1930 for an informal chat, with the main talk or show from 2000 to 2200. £1.50 donation towards room hire, please. Slides/digital photos are preferred, but prints can also be shown. Members and guests welcome. *Dave Arnold*

2011 programme ~ slide shows

- ▶ **Friday September 9** - slide show by Gary Sharpe.
- ▶ **Friday October 14** - *see it, buy it!* Slides from the Group's sales stock will be shown by Owen Woodliffe – if you like one, buy it there and then!
- ▶ **Friday November 11** - slide show by Trevor Brookes.
- ▶ **Friday December 9** - Xmas social & slide show by Gary Sharpe & Dave Arnold.

■ TOURS

- ▶ **Saturday August 27: Three Essex Girls and a Geordie** A day out with a difference starting at Colchester North Station at 09.00.

Our first bus will be WNO 480 of Talisman Coachlines which will take us to John Jacksons farm at Wormingford, we will have the morning here where we will have a chance to view the latest progress on VV 9146 the Northampton Crossley. Then it will be rides on AJN 825 (Bristol K), VNO 859 (Bristol KSW), WNO 480 (Bristol KSW) and GR 9007 (Crossley DD42). The ride out will include photo stops and also stops to change buses so you get to ride on them all. Lunch time will be in the form of a picnic at the farm, so you will need a packed lunch (free teas & coffees will be available). After lunch will we go to visit the premises of Felix at Long Melford (14.00 – 16.00) in GR9007, where we will be taken for a ride in their two Bedford OB's. We then return to the farm in GR9007, where WNO 480 will be waiting to transport us back to Colchester (approx. 18.00)

The fare for this super day out is only £20.00 [which includes a free raffle ticket to win a code 3 model of GR 9007 complete with adverts].

Bookings are on a first come basis as there is a maximum of 36 seats only. To book please send a cheque for £20.00 made payable to "Essex Bus Enthusiasts Group" together with a stamped addressed envelope to:

Keith Woods, 34 Normandie Way, Bures, Suffolk, CO8 5BE

[As these are all old buses we cannot guarantee that all will be available on the day]

VINTAGE BUS SPECIAL

Timetables Saturday 27 August

X55

Lakeside Bus Station, Bay B	-	-	-	1007	1037	07	37	1707	1737	1807	1837	1907
Aveley High Street	-	-	-	1016	1046	16	46	1716	1746	1816	1846	1916
Corbets Tey, Parkland Ave	-	-	-	1028	1058	28	58	1728	1758	1828	1858	1928
Upminster Station	-	-	-	1034	1104	then every 30 mins	34	04	1734	1804	1834	1904
Upminster Station, Stop B	0905	0935	1005	1035	1105	post the hour	35	05	1735	1805	-	-
Corbets Tey, Parkland Ave	0911	0941	1011	1041	1111	41	11	1741	1811	-	-	-
Aveley High Street	0923	0953	1023	1053	1123	53	23	1753	1823	-	-	-
Lakeside Bus Station	0932	1002	1032	1102	1132	02	32	1802	1832	-	-	-

X81

Shenfield Station	-	-	0922	52	22	1652	1722	1752	1822	1852	1922
Shenfield, Green Dragon	-	-	0924	54	24	1654	1724	1754	1824	1854	1924
Brentwood High Street, Stop G	-	-	0929	59	29	1659	1729	1759	1829	1859	1929
Brentwood Station	-	-	0935	05	35	1705	1735	1805	1835	-	-
Warley, Warley Hill j/w Eagle Way	-	-	0939	09	39	1709	1739	1809	1839	-	-
Great Warley, Thatchers Arms	-	-	0943	13	43	1713	1743	1813	1843	-	-
North Ockendon, White Post Farm	-	-	0952	22	52	1722	1752	1822	1852	-	-
South Ockendon, Royal Oak	-	-	0955	25	55	1725	1755	1825	1855	-	-
Lakeside Bus Station, Bay N	0905	0935	1005	35	05	1735	1805	1835	1905	-	-
Greenhithe Station	0930	1000	1030	then every 30 mins	00	30	1800	1830	-	-	-
Bluewater Bus Station	0935	1005	1035	05	35	1805	1835	-	-	-	-
Bluewater Bus Station, Bay 12	-	1005	1035	post the hour	05	35	1805	1835	1905	-	-
Greenhithe Station	-	1010	1040	10	40	1810	1840	1910	-	-	-
Lakeside Bus Station, Bay K	1005	1035	1105	35	05	1835	1905	1935	-	-	-
South Ockendon, Royal Oak	1015	1045	1115	45	15	1845	1915	-	-	-	-
North Ockendon, White Post Farm	1018	1048	1118	48	18	1848	1918	-	-	-	-
Great Warley, Thatchers Arms	1028	1058	1128	58	28	1858	1928	-	-	-	-
Warley, Warley Hill j/w Eagle Way	1032	1102	1132	02	32	1902	1932	-	-	-	-
Brentwood Station (opp Stn)	1036	1106	1136	06	36	1906	1936	-	-	-	-
Brentwood High Street, Stop A	1042	1112	1142	12	42	1912	1942	-	-	-	-
Shenfield, Green Dragon	1047	1117	1147	17	47	1917	-	-	-	-	-
Shenfield Station	1049	1119	1149	19	49	1919	-	-	-	-	-

Fares

Vintage Day Pass - Adult £7, Child £4, Family (2 Adults & 2 Children) £20
(also valid on / available from normal Ensignbus services)

Local Single & Return Fares will also be available

Concessionary Passes will be accepted, however, donations towards the upkeep of the vintage fleet would be welcomed

Ensignbus
www.ensignbus.com

01708 86 56 56
customerservices@ensignbus.com

■ EVENTS ETC

- ▶ **Friday/Saturday August 26-27:** London Transport Museum, Guided Tours at Acton Depot.
- ▶ **Saturday August 27: Ensignbus Special Summer Vintage Bus Running Day** around Thurrock. Classic (1930s onwards) buses, plus guest vehicles and open-tops (weather permitting). Why not bring the family to Lakeside for a combined retail therapy and bus-riding day? See page 3 for times and special rover tickets.
- ▶ **Bank Holiday Monday August 29:** Ride a Fire Engine Day, Ipswich Transport Museum.
- ▶ **Friday-Sunday September 2-4 : North Norfolk Railway Steam Gala.** Free vintage bus service: Holt-Weybourne-Sheringham-Cromer, and also Norwich-Sheringham. All buses welcome!
- ▶ **Saturday September 3:** London Bus Display, Royal Forest Hotel, Chingford. Free rides.
- ▶ **Saturday September 11:** Norwich Bus Rally, Norfolk Showground.
- ▶ **Saturday September 11:** LT Country Bus Rally, Loughton and Epping.
- ▶ **Weekend September 17-18: North Norfolk Railway 1940s Weekend.** Free vintage buses Holt-Weybourne-Sheringham, and static display. All old buses welcome!
- ▶ **Sunday September 18: Showbus International,** Duxford Airfield, Cambs.
- ▶ **Friday/Saturday September 23-24:** London Transport Museum, Guided Tours at Acton Depot.

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

Welcome to new member ...

A warm welcome to new member :

Robert Carrick, Birmingham - 1031

Richard Delahoy - Membership Secretary

New Black & White Photo Service

The vast majority of the groups negatives are listed on the EBEG website www.essexbus.org.uk and can be ordered at the current price of 90p per photograph , subject to a minimum order of ten prints.

Several members wanted to see the images before ordering so we are starting a new service from August. Each month around 25 prints will be listed on Ebay - the group's name on ebay is "e-b-e-g" don't forget the hyphens! Only one of each print will be for sale on a auction listing starting at 99p. You can of course buy directly from the Ebay listing, all contributions gratefully received !! But members will also be able to order the

prints at the members price of 90p each , plus £1.50 postage by writing to Lyn Watson at:

Willow Tree Cottage, 11 Roman Bank,
Gedney Dyke, Lincolnshire, PE12 0AR

The first listing (Some very early shots in and around Southend , which have not previously been printed) will be made on the weekend of 20th/21st August and you have two weeks from the day of listing to order your prints. There are no order forms, simply specify which prints you want to purchase. Please remember to enclose your cheque and an email adress, as well as your full postal address.

Lyn Watson

The future of EBN

In November 2003, Alan Osborne asked me if I would take over editing and producing EBN at short notice, after the departure of the previous editor. At the time and for some time afterwards, the job took about an afternoon a month, which was entirely manageable.

Since then we have increased photographic coverage considerably and introduced colour covers, all of which entails extra 'production' work and therefore time.

We have also extended the scope of EBN - we now have regular historical features, major events are given good coverage and we try to offer comprehensive and up-to-date news of bus happenings across the county. None of this would be possible without the active support and hard work of a relatively small team of editors and contributors.

No-one would argue that the 'reward' for this effort is anything but worthwhile. The Group faced a dubious future in 2003. It is now well-placed to withstand whatever uncertainties lie ahead. Importantly, our finances are in good shape, thanks to economies in the EBN printing process, taking mailing 'in-house', and to the efforts of the sales functions.

From the most important perspective - that of the membership, we appear to be providing what is wanted, if numbers are any guide. We have not merely maintained an even keel, but gradually increased numbers, in contrast to many other similar societies.

One encouraging factor is 'out of area' members joining, as is the case this month. Appealing to those living beyond Essex, whether Essex 'expats' or simply those seeking something they cannot obtain elsewhere, offers the prospects for further growth in numbers. And more members is good all round - it ought to lead to more contributions to EBN, more income from publications, photos, tours etc and more

pairs of hands to help keep the Group running.

However, in reaching the present position, the EBN editor's job has 'crept' such that it now takes at least one entire weekend to complete the mag, and is progressing in strides beyond that. In practical terms, I have reached the limit to the time I can spend on EBN; it is already encroaching on work and personal space and that cannot continue.

The Committee met in July to consider the options. One is for another Editor to come forward, who is able to handle both the overall editorial process and the production side (layout, DTP, and Photoshop work etc). The other is for some of my present Editorial roles to be devolved to others. It was agreed that the latter is probably more easily achievable, and this is where, you - the membership must come in if you wish EBN to continue in its present form, let alone expand and improve.

The following sub-editor jobs are thus now 'Situations Vacant':

Admin Editor - to co-ordinate and produce a monthly draft summarising Group meetings, tours, non-Group events of interest, and other Group announcements.

'Operator' Sub-Editors to 'adopt' each of Ensign, Hedingham and National Express (and maybe some of the other, non-group companies), and produce a draft (not necessarily monthly). We do receive official info on the first two, but very little in the way of other news, so someone living in the area with a special interest in and knowledge of those operators would be ideal.

Community Bus Sub-Editor: members will have hardly failed to notice the increasing number of routes being

started under Community Bus permits; an interesting area that deserves a dedicated sub-editor. Ian Ransom has volunteered to look after this in the short-term but he already manages 'Other Operators', so it would be nice if someone else came forward to share the load. A starter article appears this month to set the scene, the precursor to what may hopefully be a regular column.

Preservation Sub-Editor: to produce a draft covering the rallies and other events in Essex or where Essex vehicles are present, preservation progress on Essex vehicles and museum news. A fertile area in which there seems to be much interest.

In all cases, PC ability and internet access are distinct advantages.

Please contact either myself or the Chairman, Chris Stewart for further details and/or an informal chat:

David Harman
24 Frankfield Rise
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TN2 5LF
ebn@casuarina.org.uk

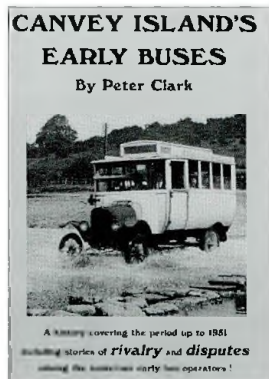
Chris Stewart
10 Crossways,
Shenfield
CM15 8QX
shenfield252@gmail.com

Sales item

The Group has a supply of a newly published book: **Canvey Island's Early Buses**. By local bus historian Peter Clark, this book covers the fascinating history of the many independent operators on the Island up to the 1951 sale of Canvey & District Motor Transport Co to Westcliff Motor Services. Well illustrated, this A5 size book has 44 pages and is available for £4.95 post free from the Sales Officer

Owen Woodliffe, 196 Sinclair Road,
Chingford, London E4 8PT

It builds on and expands the material in Peter's 1983 book on The Bridge Family & Their Buses. Copies will also be available at Wickford meetings and on our sales stand at the Canvey Museum open day on October 9th. A fuller review will appear in the next issue of EBN.



Braintree Bus Shelters

Braintree and Bocking Civic Society has recently published a booklet by its president, Mike Bardell, entitled "**Crittall Bus Shelters in Braintree and Bocking**".

This tells the story of how Crittall Windows of Braintree came to build the town's first bus shelters in the 1950s. It is thought that Crittall did not supply them to any other towns but this could be the cue for EBN readers to tell us otherwise. The last remaining shelter, at Bocking Cemetery, was

restored in August 2010 to provide a permanent reminder of Braintree's transport and manufacturing heritage.

The booklet is available at £2.50 from: **Braintree District Museum, Manor Street, Braintree, Essex, CM7 3HW**, opposite the entrance to the Bus Park (open 10:00 - 17:00, Monday-Saturday). To place an order: telephone **01376 328868**, or email sharon.romang@braintree.gov.uk.

Richard Stedall - Charity Round Britain Bus Journey



Richard Stedall, editor of 'Buses Worldwide' and 'Malta Transport News', recently travelled right round Britain by bus with Alan Moore for 16 days. The trip was to raise money for Oxfam projects in memory of his late sister (who sadly died aged 30 in June

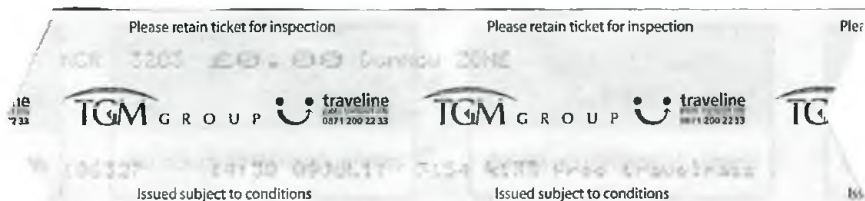
2009) and to increase awareness of just what is possible using normal bus services. The web address www.giftsforheather.com will give you more information, together with a very interesting blog of their journey as well as a link for any further donations. Money raised



John Rugg's 6th Annual Tour of Essex by stage service

Saturday 9th July 2011

<i>dep.</i>	<i>ser.</i>	<i>journey / bus</i>	<i>arr.</i>	<i>pax</i>
07:36	551	Laindon Centre - Brentwood (High Street) First 43736 (S736 TWC) Dennis Dart SLF/Plaxton Pointer B37F	08:28	18
08:39	21	Brentwood (High Street) - Harlow (Bus Station) SM Coaches 304 (EU06 KHK) Irisbus Agora Line B44F	09:55	65
10:15	510	Harlow (Bus Station) - Bishops Stortford (Interchange) Arriva EH&E 3857 (KE54 LPC) Volvo B7RLE/Wrightbus B43F	10:47	25
11:10	5	Bishops Stortford (Interchange) - Saffron Walden (High Street) TGM Stansted 552 (KP51 UFL) Dennis Dart SLF/Plaxton B37F	12:43	26
13:00	313	Saffron Walden (High Street) - Gt Dunmow (High Street) Four Counties V399 SVV Mercedes-Benz/Plaxton B25F	13:45	6
14:33	133	Gt Dunmow (High Street) - Braintree Bus Park Network Colchester 2805 (YN53 GGO) Scania OmniCity B42F	15:03	23
15:15	89	Braintree Bus Park - Halstead (High Street) Regal Busways 801 (RG09 BUS) MAN/Wrightbus Meridian B44F	15:37	9
15:50	88	Halstead (High Street) - Colchester (Bus Station) Hedingham L386 (SN10 CCV) ADL Enviro 400 H47/33F	16:41	19
17:00	75	Colchester (Bus Station) - Maldon (High Street) First 34302 (L302 PWR) Volvo Olympian / Northern Counties H47/29F	17:56	19
18:02	31X	Maldon (High Street) - Chelmsford (Bus Station) First 66812 (MX05 CDN) Volvo B7RLE/Wrightbus B43F	18:35	6
18:40	100	Chelmsford (Bus Station) - Basildon (Bus Station) First 66806 (MX05 CCV) Volvo B7RLE/Wrightbus B43F	19:30	13
19:30	8B	Basildon (Bus Station) - Laindon Centre First 66813 (MX05 CDO) Volvo B7RLE/Wrightbus B43F	19:43	16
Total passengers				245



Weather: warm and cloudy
 Punctuality: nine journeys on time and three slightly late
 Cost: free for over-60s, or £8 Essex Day Saver ticket for under-60s
 Comparable totals:
 2006 = 187 passengers (EBN504)
 2007 = 219 passengers (EBN521)
 2008 = 206 passengers (EBN535)
 2009 = 233 passengers (EBN544)
 2010 = 188 passengers (EBN556)
 2011 = 245 passengers (note: heavily crowded journey on service 501 from Epping Station to Harlow as apparently no bus had arrived before us for over an hour.

Also, this year, I was accompanied for part of the day by Nicholas Collins, Terry Harper, Chris Hatley, Stephen Gregghory and Geoff Dodson from the Omnibus Society and Colin Siugston and Nigel Turner from the Group. These passengers accrued another 49 extra journeys which I have not included in the totals to avoid inaccurate comparisons.

We await 2012 with interest!

John Rugg

Renown in Essex (or not)

I was sorry to read about your photographic misses regarding the above in Saffron Walden in EBN 567. Saffron Walden High St is always a difficult place to take photos particularly in the afternoon if the sun is shining due to the continual line of traffic.

Should you decide to go to that area again, can I suggest Newport on the main road (Belmont Hill and Cambridge Road) if you want to catch the mid afternoon school workings as most of the routes that serve Saffron Walden schools either start or pass through Newport and there is an island in Cambridge Road which means you avoid northbound traffic for photos. You can also get reasonable photos outside Newport Grammar School as those buses that start there arrive one by one before the kids come out of school. They arrive from Newport High St via Wicken Road and School Lane.

Michael Allen

transpires that the last service was curtailed to operate from the School Gates stop just before Saffron Walden County High School on Saturday 2nd July. Pity, no-one posted bus stop notices or told the numerous PCSOs

On the subject of where to get shots in the sun, Martin Ruthe has assembled a directory of the optimal photographic locations in many towns and cities. Available as a PDF download from:

<http://sunshinelocations.com/>

Saffron Walden is not included but the following entry gives an idea of what's in the directory:

BRAINTREE

*Coggeshall Road opposite Sainsburys 0830M
 High Street at fountain 1230M
 Fairfield Road 1315S/M*

Enviro 200 16 (KX59 CXO) had in fact, gone AWOL from the 11 some time ago. Former Go Ahead North East Solo T467BCN was a recent allocation to both the 11 and commercial service 300 for a while. Step-entrance Dart K710 PCN was the only Renown bus in Essex during June. It

Location times are shown in British Summer Time; M = Moving (i.e. bus in motion); S = Stationary (i.e. bus stop)

Martin welcomes updates at:

martinruthe@supanet.com

David Harman

so far will enable the renovation of a school classroom and stocking of a school library in Africa as well as a substantial donation to the East Africa Famine Appeal, both subjects dear to Heather's heart.

The Essex leg on 27th July (en route from Northampton to Chatham) involved the 11.12 Hertford to Waltham Cross 310 and 12.25 Waltham Cross to Loughton 250 (both Arriva the Shires), 13.13 Loughton to Fulwell

Cross 167, 13.45 Fulwell Cross to Romford 247 and 14.46 Romford to Lakeside 370 (TfL routes) before heading out of the county again on the 15.55 Ensign X80 to Bluewater. Simon Hussey joined the two of them for some of the journey and Chris Stewart met them at Lakeside to pass on the Group's good wishes. They departed on Ensign's Volvo/Optare 117 (PO58 NPV) as seen in the photograph.

Chris Stewart

Service changes

Arriva (Green Line)

28 Aug 11 724/5 D Harlow to Heathrow Airport: revised timetable.

Basildon District Volunteer Carers

4 Sep 11 SB81 TThF Glebe Field to Basildon: new service.

Epping Forest Community Transport

1 Aug 11 SB05 MW Ongar to Epping: new service on Mondays & Wednesdays only.
SB06 M Matching Green to Epping: new service on Mondays only.

First Essex

13 Aug 11 120-22 D Colchester to Western Homes Community Stadium: revised timetables.
28 Aug 11 1 D Greenstead to Ambrose Avenue Circular: Sunday service withdrawn
2C D Colchester to Highwoods: Sunday service withdrawn.
7/8 D Clacton to Walton: revised timetable.
8C D Monkwick to Highwoods: Sunday service withdrawn.
13 M-F Walton to Kirkby Cross: revised timetable.
21 D Halstead to Black Notley: Monday to Saturday evening journeys withdrawn.
25A/B M-S Langdon Hills to Shotgate/Runwell: revised timetable.
30 M-S Beckers Green to Marks Farm: revised timetable.
41/51 D Chelmsford to Galleywood: revised timetable.
42 M-S Galleywood to Broomfield Hospital: revised timetable with introduction of Sunday timetable.
48/49 M-S Chelmsford to Broomfield Hospital: minor morning timetable changes.
65 D Highwoods to Stanway: revised timetable.
66A D West Bergholt to Rowhedge: Sunday service withdrawn.
67B D Colchester to West Mersea: Sunday service withdrawn.
68 M-S Prettygate to Monkwick: revised timetable with introduction of Sunday service.
70 D Colchester to Chelmsford: revised timetable with Sunday service withdrawn.
74B M-S Clacton to Colchester: evening journeys withdrawn.
75 D Colchester to Maldon: revised route and timetable, service extended to Essex University. Sunday service withdrawn.
75A M-F Colchester to Colchester Zoo: service withdrawn.

	76	D	Colchester to Clacton: revised timetable with Sunday service withdrawn.
	88	M-S	Colchester to Halstead: minor timetable revisions.
	88B	M-F	Colchester to Little Tey / Fordham: journeys withdrawn.
	100	D	Chelmsford to Lakeside: revised timetable with daytime frequency increased to every 15 mins.
	102	Sun	Colchester to Harwich: service withdrawn.
	104	M-S	Colchester to Harwich: evening journeys withdrawn.
	132	M-S	Braintree to Witham: revised timetable.
	175	M-S	Colchester to Abberton: revised timetable.
	200	M-S	Basildon to Lakeside: revised route and timetable to operate via Colleges instead of Stifford Clays.
	351	D	Chelmsford to Brentwood: revised timetable.
	352	D	Halstead to Chelmsford: service withdrawn.
30 Aug 11	P&R	M-S	Chelmer Valley Park & Ride: revised afternoon timetable
			Mondays to Fridays no change to Saturdays.
2 Oct 11	19	M-S	Clacton to St Osyth Beach: service withdrawn.
Go Ride			
23 Jul 11	79	TS	Brightlingsea to Clacton: new service.
	79A	TS	Brightlingsea Town Circular: new service.
Harwich Connections			
5 Sep 11	HH1	M-F	Harwich to Colchester Hospitals: new flexible service.
LCB Travel			
15 Aug 11	LCB1	M-S	Maples to Old Harlow: new hourly service.
Hedingham Omnibuses			
28 Aug 11	50	M-F	Tollesbury to Colchester: revised timetable.
National Express			
8 Aug 11	090	D	Southend to London Victoria: unregistered service now registered.
New Horizon			
4 Sep 11	77	M-S	Colchester to Clacton: revised route and timetable with one journey each way extended to Clacton Rail Station on college days.
NIBS			
5 Sep 11	41	Sch	Shotgate to Brentwood: revised timetable and route.
	44/5	Sch	Shotgate to Billericay: revised timetable and route.
	50	Sch	Shotgate to Ingatestone: revised timetable and route.
	67	Sch	Ostend to Ingatestone: service withdrawn.
Regal Busways			
15 Aug 11	391	M-F	Bumbles Green to Harlow: revised timetable.
SM Coaches			
6 Sep 11	19A	D	Harlow to Loughton: service withdrawn.
	20	D	Harlow to Ongar: Sunday service withdrawn.
	381	M-S	Harlow to Ongar: service withdrawn.
Stephensons of Essex			
31 Aug 11	550	Sch	Heybridge to Witham: service withdrawn.
	800	Coll	Southend to Thurrock College: service withdrawn.
	803	Coll	Romford to Thurrock College: service withdrawn.
1 Sep 11	1	M-F	Basildon to Pitsea: revised timetable with route extension



With the extension of the Lakeside service 265 from Brentwood (Sainsburys) to Pilgrim's Hatch (Danes Way) from 2nd July, red buses can once again be seen at the 'Robin Hood & Little John' in Ongar Road, for a long time the terminal point of LT's 247 to Romford and Collier Row. Trident 33078 is seen pausing there on 14th July, double deckers being scheduled for this route as it works in between schools 498s. With the advent of school holidays, some single deckers appeared including Dagenham's only DMC class Caetano-





bodied Dart, 41523. It is seen passing along William Hunter Way in Brentwood on 5th August after which it will turn into Western Road, Weald Road and then run back up the length of Brentwood High Street before heading down Ingrave Road, this being another alteration with the revised timetable. (both Chris Stewart) Trident 33232 is seen in Brentwood High Street (Len Rason), whilst 41523 again is seen in West Horndon (Russell Young)



			to Pitsea Tesco.
20X	Sch		Rochford to Rayleigh: minor timetable changes in the morning with journey starting at Golden Cross.
90	M-S		Maldon to Witham: minor timetable changes.
200	TF*		Bradwell to South Woodham: revised timetable with service starting at Southminster.
201	T*		South Woodham to Southend: minor timetable changes.
220	ThF*		Burnham to Basildon: minor timetable changes.
515	Sch		Rochford to Rayleigh: revised route and timetable.
620	Sch		Braintree to Chelmsford St John Payne: slightly revised route.
621	Sch		Rayne to Chelmsford St John Payne: slightly revised route.
623	Sch		Cressing to Chelmsford St John Payne: slightly revised route.
707	Sch		Silver End to Colchester: minor route revision in Colchester.
741	Sch		Little Horkesley to Colchester Stanway: new schoolday service.
D4	M-S		Bradwell to Burnham: minor timetable changes to school journeys.
	*		schooldays only.

TGM Group (Network Colchester)

28 Aug 11	1	M-S	Greenstead to Ambrose Avenue Circular: introduction of Sunday service.
	2C	M-S	Colchester to Highwoods: introduction of Sunday service.
	8C	M-S	Monkwick to Highwoods: introduction of Sunday service.
	50	M-F	Tollesbury to Colchester: new service providing couple of journeys.
	66	Su	West Bergholt to Rowhedge: new Sunday service.
	67B	Su	West Mersea to Colchester: new Sunday service.
	70	Su	Colchester to Braintree: new Sunday service.
	74B	M-S	Colchester to Clacton: new evening journeys introduced.
	75	Su	Colchester to Maldon: new Sunday service.
	76	Su	Colchester to Clacton: new Sunday service.
	88B	M-F	Colchester to Little Tey / Fordham: new service
	102	Su	Colchester to Harwich: new Sunday service.
	104	Su	Colchester to Harwich: new evening journeys introduced.
	352	D	Halstead to Chelmsford: new service

Viceroy Of Essex

1 Sep 11	443	M-S	Chrishall to Newport: revised timetable with change of route in Littlebury.
	445	M-S	Chrishall to Saffron Walden: change of route in Littlebury.

Wyvern Community Bus

18 Jul 11	SB71	TTh	Woodfield Road to Hadleigh: new service every Tuesday & Thursday.
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*Paul Harvey
with acknowledgements to LOTS, Essex & Hertfordshire County Council,
Richard Delahoy, Harlowride & First*

Publicity News

Go-ride landscape double-sided colour sheets for services 79 and 79A dated 23rd July.

TGM in association with London Stansted Airport leaflets for services 133 and 308, both dated 3rd July. The 308 leaflet highlights it now runs 24 hours a day and on Sundays

Ian Ransom with thanks to Richard Delahoy and David Harman

■ FIRST ESSEX BUSES LTD

New/acquired vehicles

32475	AU53HJJ	Volvo B7TL YV3S2J4163A002914	Transbus H47/29F 3016/1	10.10.03
32476	AU53HJK	Volvo B7TL YV3S2J4183A002915	Transbus H47/29F 3016/2	13.10.03
32477	AU53HJN	Volvo B7TL YV3S2J41X3A002916	Transbus H47/29F 3016/3	10.10.03
32478	AU53HJO	Volvo B7TL YV3S2J4113A002917	Transbus H47/29F 3016/4	10.10.03
32480	AU53HJX	Volvo B7TL YV3S2J4174A002941	Transbus H47/29F 3016/6	13.10.03
32481	AU53HJY	Volvo B7TL YV3S2J4194A002942	Transbus H47/29F 3016/7	13.10.03
32482	AU53HJZ	Volvo B7TL YV3S2J4164A002963	Transbus H47/29F 3016/8	15.10.03
32483	AU53HKA	Volvo B7TL YV3S2J4184A002964	Transbus H47/29F 3016/9	15.10.03
32484	AU53HKB	Volvo B7TL YV3S2J41X4A002965	Transbus H47/29F 3016/10	17.10.03
32485	AU53HKC	Volvo B7TL YV3S2J4114A002966	Transbus H47/29F 3016/11	17.10.03
New to First Eastern Counties 130-3/5-40				
42441	P441TCV	Dennis Dart SFD322BR1VGW11076	Plaxton B35F 9710.6HLZ6934	1.6.97
42442	P442TCV	Dennis Dart SFD322BR1VGW11077	Plaxton B35F 9710.6HLZ6935	1.7.97
42443	P443TCV	Dennis Dart SFD322BR1VGW11078	Plaxton B35F 9710.6HLZ6936	1.6.97
New to Western National 441-443				
65551	R551CNG	Scania L113CRL 1831485	Wright B40F Y200	15.5.98
65552	R552CNG	Scania L113CRL 1831486	Wright B40F Y201	15.5.98
65576	T576JNG	Scania L93UB 1834283	Wright B43F A611	1.4.99
New to First Eastern Counties 551-2/76				
66177	W367EOW	Volvo B10BLE YV3R4A515YA006062	Wright B44F B535	31.3.00
66179	W369EOW	Volvo B10BLE YV3R4A518YA006218	Wright B44F B537	31.3.00
New to First Provincial 367/8				

All ex *First Eastern Counties Ltd.* The Volvo double deckers have been displaced from Norwich by new Wright Geminis while 65551/2/76 were exchanged for 65672-4 in order to provide additional Euro 3 compliant vehicles for the Norwich LEZ. 42441-3, originally *Western National* and later *First Devon & Cornwall*, also came from Norwich whilst 66177/9 (new to *First Provincial*) were at Great Yarmouth. Dates given are those of first registration.

32481-5 were new in blue livery for the Harford Park & Ride, and likewise 65551/2 were originally Poswick P&R vehicles. 32480/3 were at CR by 20th July while 32475-8/84/5 arrived at Clacton yard the following day, 32475/8 moving straight to CR about 90 minutes later. They have been brought in principally for an upgrade of the University services.

Allocation changes

Period 4 (four weeks ending 23 July 2011) – ref EBN567, Period 3 should read ‘four weeks ending 26 June’

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

FEC=First Eastern Counties; **FGC**=First Group cascade, i.e. transfer to/from any other First fleet; **RES**=reserve (spare/retained, licensed); **D/L(S)**=spare/retained (delicensed); **D/L(D)**=delicensed for disposal; **DS**=Driving School; **PH**=Private Hire; **Sh**=shuttle bus (non PCV)

Official update information is unfortunately not available this month

By observation:

32475-8/80-5, 65551/2/76 FEC-CR
 42441-3 FEC-BN
 65672/3/4 CR-FEC
 66177/9 FEC-BE

and subsequently:

34310/1/4 CR-BN
40779 HH-FGC

Olympian CR34305 remains out of service awaiting a new engine, as does Scania CR65538.

Disposals:

65672/3/4 to FEC at Norwich by 22nd July

40779 to First Potteries Ltd at Adderley Green (replacing an accident damaged vehicle) on 3rd August

Note: 56005/6/9 have been seen at Westway recently and had clearly not departed for Scotland.

Repaints/Adverts:

30900 arrived with a super rear advert for UEA, Norwich and 65576 with one for Giant Pet Store, Norwich.

Most or all of the repainted Scania Omnics now have 'main' fleetnumbers (they all had them over the fuel filler when returned from repaint).

Area News - workings and sightings

Pointers and Dashes – Step entrance Darts

46827 had been stood down from PSV use by 12th July and briefly worked as a crew shuttle at Chelmsford before transferring to that role at Basildon, replacing 46145 which is for disposal.

Basildon's 46153 was still at work on 3rd August (25B) with 46185 noted on 14th (25) and 21st/22nd July (351). Chelmsford's 46158 worked the 45 on several occasions (noted 6th, 15th, 17th and 18th July) and the 54 on 24th.

Lance Watch – five at work

67007 was back in service at CF by 21st July, seeing use on 71/71A that day and on 25th & 26th. CF's other two Lances have been seen regularly on the 71/71A – 67006 on 9th, 14th, 18th, 20th, 25th-28th incl. and 60102 on 5th, 15th and 21st. Other workings have been 31 (60102 on 16th & 29th), 36 (60102 on 16th) and 42/42A (60102 on 14th, 18th, 21st & 22nd, 67006 on 5th, 11th & 14th). However 67006 moved to the storage yard at Braintree on 4th August.

CR's 67003 was unusually on 64 on 8th. It worked the 61/62 on 21st July, route 61 the following day (11.00 CR North Station to Wivenhoe) and 62 on 23rd (14.10 CR North Station-Wivenhoe). 67009 continues to work from Harwich, being noted on 06.55 Harwich - Colchester 103 and later on 16.25 Harwich - Colchester 103, both on 19th July. On 22nd it worked 09.35 Colchester - Harwich 104. On 28th it was seen with blinds set for the 74B in Colchester.

Rail Replacements and Special Events

The Wickford-Southminster railway line was closed all week from 1st August, with bus and coach replacements provided by First Essex, Amber Coaches, NIBS, SBC Leisure, Stephenson's of Essex and Graham's of Kelvedon. Newly transferred Olympians BN34310/1/4 were joined by CR34315, CF34282/6 and BN31462 as well as Volvo coaches 20500/1.

On 30th July, Hadleigh Castle was the scene of a 'trial event' for the 2012 Olympic Mountain Biking, involving First Essex Tridents 32864 and 33002 together with First London 33503-6, 33544-6/8-60/2-4/7/8/70/1/4 (08 and 58 plate DN class Trident/Enviro 400s) and 36125/57 (11 plate VN class Volvo B9TL/Wright). EBN should have a full report on this very unusual operation next month.

'V' festival will be on 20th/21st August this year and observations will be welcomed.

Clacton (CN) & Harwich (DT)

Dart 42937 worked 09.20 Harwich - Colchester 103 and 10.35 Colchester - Harwich 104 on 18th July. During the week 18th-22nd July, Harwich had six of their Tridents in service on various service 103/104 workings, namely 32801/4/9/10/8/47. 32849 remains at Clacton, CR34304 being on loan to DT for a time during July (seen on 103 on 8th) but back at CR by 18th. CR34303 was at DT depot on 30th July together with Trident CN32852.

Colchester continued to use a Volvo Olympian on 09.50 Mistley - Colchester 104 during July, worked by 34309 on 18th and 34314 on 22nd. However 34308/9 were parked up in Clacton yard by 4th August, following displacement by the Volvo B7TLs from Norwich.

Olympian CR34013 worked CN route 17A 13.20 Clacton - Point Clear on 23rd July.

Colchester (CR)

The seasonal 75A (Colchester Zoo-Tollgate) started again on 6th June and runs until 26th August.

On 25th July all services which cross over the railway at Eastgates level crossing were re-routed and delayed owing to a gas leak in East Street just east of Ipswich Road. This also caused substantial delays to Network Colchester route 2 and Carter's route 93.

July

- 1st Routemaster 39480 on private hire in CR
- 7th CR34314 on 68, CR65651 on 62
- 8th CR34302 on 67A
- 9th CR34307 on 71, diverted via Tesco because of carnival
- 11th CR34303/15 on 65
- 14th CR34307/10 on 65
- 15th CR34285 on 71
- 16th CR34308 on 71/71A
- 21st CR34301 on 68
- 22nd CR34018 on 68 (10.40 Prettygate-Monkwick), CR34303/4 on 64, CR34311 on 65 (10.25 Highwoods-Stanway), CR65552 on 61 (first sighting)
- 23rd CR32482 on 61 & 75, CR34304 on 65 (14.25 Highwoods-Stanway), CR34314 on 68 (14.40 Prettygate-Monkwick) and CR65552 on 68
- 25th CR32482 on 1 and 65, CR34018 on 64, CR34056 on 71A (16.10 CF-CR)
- 26th CR32482 on 65, CR34315 on 63 (07.28 St Michael's-Tufnell Way)
- 27th CR32478/81 on 65
- 28th CR32481 on 65
- 29th CR32478 on 62 (10.30 Wivenhoe-CR North Station)

Chelmsford (CF) and Braintree (BE)

Member Robert Appleton reported the following from a trip to Braintree and Chelmsford on 18th July:

Volvo 66177 at Braintree on 21 Halstead - Black Notley, with 66179 on 09.55 CR-CF 70. Neither had working electronic destination displays and carried paper route numbers. Volvo double decker 30903 noted on 13.25 Braintree - Witham 132 and return, with 34613 parked up not in service.

65030 (with no front fleet number) worked the 10.40 CR-CF 71, while 65031 (with fleetnumber) was on the 14.10 CR-CF 71A and 15.40 return 71.

At Chelmsford, Olympian 34282 and 34286 arrived on school contracts; 34282 departed on 16.05Sch 542 to Dunmow (although displaying 42), while 34286 worked the 15.45Sch 70 to Braintree (showing 'Braintree for Halstead').

July

- 1st CF34286 on 71
- 4th CF43360 on BE509
- 5th BE30901 on 70
- 8th BE42482 on 70X, BE43357 on BE70 (pm short)
- 9th CF65032 on 42
- 12th BE34613 on 509, CF53132 on 42, CF65030 on 42, CF65032 on P&R
- 13th BE30903 on 132
- 14th CF34282/6, CF65030 and CR65553 on 71
- 15th BE66177 on 70X and BE66179 on 70 (first sightings), CF34282/6 on 42, CF43359 on 31X/36, BE43484 on 45, CF65029 on 71
- 16th BE34613 on 70, CF34284 on 71
- 17th CF34284 on 42
- 18th BE34613 on 132
- 21st CF43360 on BE21, CF42918 on 56, CF40736 on 45
- 25th CF42935 on 71A (14.10 ex CR), CF65029 on 71, CF66794 on X30
- 29th PH20501 on X30, CF43359 on 36

August

- 2nd CF34282 on 71

Basildon (BN) & Hadleigh (HH)

July

- 11th BN34355 on pm 25
- 12th BN42436 unusually on 73, BN42441 on 551, BN65629 on 100
- 15th BN42436 on 551; BN46440, BN60865 & BN65626/32 all on 100
- 20th BN43486 on 100 (approx 09.40 Billericay)
- 22nd BN42442 on 551 (first sighting), BN41241 on 100
- 29th BN31376 on 351 (11.10 ex CF)

August

- 2nd BN34310 on 25B

Other news

News of former Eastern National Bristol FLFs is that Dreadnought Coaches used former 2841 (MVX878C) for the "Get Carter" Tyne Idols tour of Newcastle on 23rd July instead of AEC Routemaster SMK732E, while Canadian resident member Paul Bateson found another FLF from his former home town of Southend, 2844 (MVX881C) in Leamington, Ontario. It is being refurbished for continued use as a cafe vehicle after several years of wasting away with its previous owner and can be seen at www.flickr.com/photos/buses-international

As and when space permits, we hope to publish one or two of Paul's photographs in a future EBN.

Sources: Own observations, with many thanks to *First Essex* and to M Allen, R Appleton, S Austin, I Banks, A Bird, N Clark, T Clark, J Collins, D Edwards, M Farmer, D Flatman, M Hart, K Lee, J Long, K Mead, L813OPU, J Podgorski, D Pretty, I Ransom, J Salmon, 'Solo', D Southwood, TBL177M, J Waite, R West, the *Essex, East Anglia and British Buses in North America* yahoo! groups, *Essex Buses* Google group, www.buslistsontheweb.co.uk, *Real Bus News*, LOTS, PSV Circle and 'Terminus'.

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

TGM Group

■ NETWORK COLCHESTER

Optare Solo 2511 (CE52 UWW) has left Colchester. It is understood to have transferred to Classic Coaches, Annfield Plain. Former Excel Dart SLF EU56 GVG has taken its place at Colchester. EU56 GVG has been given fleet number 356.

Blue Volvo B6/Wright 3253 returned to Harlow on 21st July.

Fleetname vinyls are currently being changed to the current TGM Group corporate style (with the yellow sunshine flash over the name), still using the Network Colchester name.

Further to reports in EBN567 of vehicles losing route branding, this is being removed from all vehicles (except on the 133 Scania) in order to give greater flexibility in allocations. It will also lessen the confusion that could have arisen when the new ECC evening and Sunday contracts start at the end of August, as buses will be used on Colchester town services during daytimes and elsewhere in the evenings/Sundays.

Peter Mansbridge with thanks to Richard Delahoy, Keith Sadler, Essex Bus y-group

Ensignbus

■ DEALING STOCK MOVEMENTS

Vehicles in	from
Dept Of Environment	RML2669
GHA Coaches	Mercedes 709s N454/8 VOD
Go-ahead London	Olympian R376 LGH, Dart P502 RYM
S&M Coaches	Olympian C27/32/46/50/6 CHM, D152 FYM
Stagecoach East Kent	Olympian H810 BKK
Stagecoach London	Trident V474 KJN, V102/129/167/170/186/192 MEV, X261-3 NNO, Dart Y272/84/91/2/353/6 FJN
Tates Travel	Volvo B10M RIB 1975, Dennis Javelin LIL 9974, HDZ 4674
TD Travel	Volvo B10M E237 VVP
Veolia Transport	Dart AE57 CNK, Enviro 300 SJ56 GCF, Javelin S608/11 VAY, Bluebird M31 KUT DAF SB3000 P712 RWU, R729/30 NPR Bova Futura WA54 HXZ Irisbus Scolabus FN52 GTZ Iveco Beulas YN05 BVY, FG03 JCZ MAN 18.310 T866 JBC MAN AE54 HNC, ML53 BLU AE57 CNA/C/F Mercedes Touro FG03 JCZ Scania YN05 WJA/D/J/L/M, YN55 PXA/D/O/W, YN55 NDX, YN04 GKP/Y/PK Scania N113DRBs V310 EAK, W302-4 MKY Volvo B12M CN54 HFE, Volvo B10M GIL 6241, R200 STL, W389 PRC, T529 EUB, Volvo B7TL FE51 RCX

Vehicles out

Dart SN51 SXV, Y858 TGH, Olympian CFZ 6594 Bova WA54 HXZ Scania YN55 NDX Volvo B10M W383 PRC Trident V213 MEV Dart N743 XDV Scania YN55PXA/O Scania AIG 7944 Darts CN04 NLL/P, Volvo B7RLEs CN57 EFC/D Trident V148/56 MEV, X336 NNO Scania YN05 WJA Volvo B10M W388PRC DAF SB3000 R729 NPR Trident V169 MEV Trident V126 MEV Trident X284 NNO Dublin Olympian 98-D-20416 MAN AE54 HNC, ML53 BLU, AE57 CNA/C/E, Mercedes Touro FG03 JCZ Dart Y353/6 FJN Olympian H810 BKK, M491 Scania YN05 WJD/J/L Volvo B10M L590 HSG Scania N389/92 OTY Solos YG52 DHD, CU06 AWG Darts CN04 NLR/CC05 BLU Dublin Olympian 98-D-20386 Olympian J811 NKK, K823 TKP Dublin Olympian 98-D-358 Volvo B7TL X598 EGK Olympian G529 FWC Volvo B10M P530/4 ESA Mercedes 811 R122 TKO	to Ace Travel , Liverpool Amber Coaches , Rayleigh, Essex Beacon Coaches , Winkleigh, Devon A&P Brown , Ely, Cambs. Bus Transport Ltd , Enfield, London Coastal Liner , Wolverhampton Courts Coaches , Coventry Faces to Places , Coventry GHA Coaches , Wrexham Golden Tours , London Helms Coaches , Eastham Herberts Coaches , Sheffield, Beds. Herdman Coaches , Hereford International Coachlines , Thornton Heath M Lawrenson , St Helens Mayday Travel , Croydon now S961 YOO with Mayne , Manchester Bluebird M31 KUT New Adventure , Cardiff Grant Palmer , Dunstable, Beds. ASW, M223SVN Red Kite , Tidsworth, Beds. Rogers Coaches , Worcester SDR Coach Help , Sible Hedingham, Essex Sheldon Brothers , Manchester Shuttle Buses , Kilwinning Tates Travel , Barnsley now R319 LHK with TD Travel , Bridlington, Yorks. Delta Force Paintball , Crawley now R331 LHK with Norwich School Tresor-Paris , Hatton Garden, London South East Coachworks , Faversham, Kent Jerry Nolan , Dublin, Eire PHV Bus , Boleslaw, Poland
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■ ENSIGN BUS CO. LTD.

Dart 710 has been sold to Renown, Bexhill, East Sussex.

David Harman with thanks to Ross Newman of Ensignbus

Hedingham Omnibuses

The remaining ECW-bodied Oympians, Lynxes and the ECW-rebodied ex-London Country Tiger have all been advertised for sale. Given the superlative condition of Hedingham vehicles, there must be some preservation candidates among these ... *David Harman*



An attractive new vehicle on the once-daily **National Express 305** service to Southend. **Selwyns** of Runcorn Volvo B9R/Plaxton Elite YN11 AYC passes through Leigh-on-Sea just five miles from its destination on 28th July. *John G Lidstone*

Nelsons (NIBS) had two early morning duties and one early evening working on the Wickford-Southminster rail replacement services during the week commencing 1st August. Scania/East Lincs 104 (YN04YJR) is seen at Southminster station on the 1st.

Chris Stewart



Lea Valley Buses

The company appears to have ceased trading at short notice; its six Volvo B6s are now with Roadrunner at Harlow. Those branded for route 255 continue to operate that route, but the other route. 555 (Loughton- Harlow) is now run once more by Travel with Hunny (TWH) and truncated to run from Harlow to Waltham Abbey and its eastern estates.

David Harman with thanks to LOTS

Olympus / Roadrunner / SM Coaches

Acquired from Stagecoach Cheltenham & Gloucester is Leyland Olympian/Alexander G101 AAD. Vehicles returned from Lea Valley, Loughton are Dennis Dart SLF/Plaxton P677/8/81 RWU and R477/9 LGH, and the 255 Volvo B6's including P704/5 BTA. Also acquired is Mercedes Benz 0810D/Plaxton R187 DNM.

Ian Ransom with thanks to LOTS

Stephensons of Essex

Acquired

507 YN54 AFF Scania N94UD East Lancs H51/39F ex Reading Buses 811

508 YN54 AFJ Scania N94UD East Lancs H51/39F ex Reading Buses 812

Both were being repainted ready for service when these notes were prepared.

Correction to last month's notes

P167BTV is numbered 807, not 867 as reported, and is a Volvo Olympian, not a Leyland.

Of the former Burtons vehicles listed as acquired for spares/scrap, two of the Volvo Citybuses, G632 BPH and H683 GPF, were used short term until the end of the school term and both are now sold to Sun Fun, Earith, Cambs.

Of the other Burtons vehicles shown as acquired, F245 HTW (former Colchester Olympian), N540 TPF (Dart), G619 OTV (D10M) and M232 TBV (B10M) have been sold for scrap, along with Dart M526 MPM, listed as a query last month.

Richard Delahoy, Lyn Watson and Bill Hiron

Other operators

ACCESS ANYONE, Southend Acquired is Renault Master EU08 KCJ.

AIRPORT MINIBUSES, Colchester have ceased PSV operations. LDV Convoy P926 GOM and T895 SWC were here.

ALANS MINIBUSES, Rochford Acquired from Bearwood Coaches, Smethwick is LDV Convoy P628 JKN.

ARROW TAXIS, Maldon Volkswagen minibus MJ57 FCP has been acquired.

Ford Transits P623 NNO and S252 XPU have been sold.

BILLERICAY CARRIAGES, Wickford Acquired from Bessway Travel, Perivale is Iveco 40C13/Crest BV53 DPO.

CHARIOTS, Stanford-le-Hope Acquired from Dan's, South Woodford is Volvo B10M/Van Hool L970 KDT and from London Borough of Redbridge, Mercedes Benz 811D/Reeve Burgess P331 TGS.

- COLT MINIBUSES, Rayleigh** New is Mercedes Benz Sprinter LN11 XMP.
- COOKS, Rochford** Acquired via Ensign is former Veolia Cymru Bova FHD12-340 WA54 HYC. Ford Transit LK52 DFY, now operates as a PSV.
- DE VERE, Sible Hedingham** Iveco/Mellor P282 NNB and Ford Transit R646 NDV have been sold.
- FLAGFINDERS, Braintree** Dennis Javelin/UVG R718 TRV has been sold to Reynolds, Watford.
- FLORIDA, Halstead** Toyota HDB30R/Caetano FIL 8617 (H389 CFT) reported as gone some time ago, is in fact still here, although used as a store shed. Scania K124/Irizar P400 OSH has been sold to Huyton, Widnes.
- GODWARD, Basildon** Scania K124/Irizar YN54 AKZ has been sold to Cymru Coaches, Skewen.
- GREAT CLACTON MINIBUSES, Clacton** Ford Transit NH56 BPO is here.
- HAWAII FIVE 0, Colchester** Ford Transit V668 JAR is still here.
- HERINGTON HOUSE SCHOOL, Shenfield:** Ford Transit K84 EAR has been sold.
- KEANE, Canvey Island** LDV Convoy R177 DKO has been sold.
- KINGS, Stanway** Bova Futura KC02 ABC has gone to Moseley (dealer), South Elmsall.
- KLARNERS, Gt Tey** Acquired from an Irish operator is Mercedes Tourino EU57 AXR (08-CN-969).
- JACKSONS, Bicknacre** Acquired from APT, Rayleigh is YN51 MHE a Scania K114EB/Irizar.
- MALCOLMS BLUE BUS, Clacton** Acquired from Repton Coaches, Bookham is Mercedes Benz 811D/Reeve Burgess DHZ 3370 (E943 JPB).
- MINICAB SERVICES Colchester** now have an operator's licence, carried on Ford Transit BX51 ZNM.
- NEW HORIZON, Frating** A second ex Dublin Bus Volvo B6LE/Wright is X976 CNO (00-D-70039).
- P&L MINIBUS, Colchester** Acquired is Renault Master WX56 JFU.
- PANTHER, White Roding** Acquired are Leyland National KCR 366L and former Regal, Cooksmill Green Leyland Olympian/ECW C73 CHM and C264 XEF.
- RUFFLE, Castle Hedingham** Dennis Javelin/Neoplan M917 OVR and LDV Convoy AF03 BVE are back in use.
- SBC, Wickford** Acquired from Supreme, Rettendon are Scania K93/Plaxton J291 NNC and Mercedes Benz 614D/Autobus V922 PDV. Also here is Ford Transit BL57 LXV (non PSV).
- SUPREME, Rettendon** Vehicles withdrawn are JJU 5614 (H176 DVM) a Volvo B10M/Van Hool, E750 SKR a MCW Metrobus and Scania K124/Irizar T376 JWA. MCW Metrobus B252 WUL has been scrapped.
- TURNERS, Little Maplestead** A further Scania K114/Irizar acquired from Leon's, Stafford is GT06 LCT.
- WARD, Alresford** Volvo B10M/Jonckheere Y163 EAY has been sold to Collingtree Coaches, Northampton.

*Ian Ransom with thanks to Colin Sigston,
Harlowride website, Essex Bus y-group,
PSV Circle*

S&M Coaches

Following the passing away of Brian Smith and loss of contract work, Linkfast (also known as S&M Coaches, and at one time Castle Point Bus Co.), sold most of its active vehicles at the end of July. The closing list of this always interesting fleet, is below:

VCA 458W	Bristol VRT	ECW H43/31F	store shed
ARP 608X	Leyland Olympian	ECW H45/32F	delicensed
A323 AKU	Leyland Olympian	ECW H45/32F	
B219 WUL	MCW Metrobus	MCW H43/28D	delicensed
C27 CHM	Leyland Olympian	ECW H42/26D	
C32 CHM	Leyland Olympian	ECW H42/26D	

C46 CHM	Leyland Olympian	ECW	H42/26D
C50 CHM	Leyland Olympian	ECW	H42/26D
C56 CHM	Leyland Olympian	ECW	H42/26D
D152 FYM	Leyland Olympian	ECW	H42/28F
D247 FYM	Leyland Olympian	ECW	H42/28F

C27/32/46/50/56 CHM and D152 FYM have been sold to Ensign (dealer), whilst VCA 458W has been sold for preservation

Co-owner, Bill May told trade magazine *RouteONE* (4th August) that although S&M is not currently operating, the firm remains on local council tender lists and will continue to bid for schools services.

Ian Ransom

Spotlight on Don's of Dunmow

Keith Woods offers the first of what could be a new series ... if members would like to contribute ... a short photo-feature on one of the interesting fleets in the area. Extras that could be added include a current fleet list, brief history, photos of older vehicle, routes operated etc. ...

David Harman

A62 OJX is a very late Leyland Leopard fitted from new with a Plaxton Paramount body on a chassis converted from left-hand-drive. It has been in the fleet since it was 18 months old. The coach is planned for retirement at the end of the summer school term and it is to be hoped that it will then pass into preservation. *All photos: Keith Woods*





TXI 8756 (previously B135 AAV) is a very rare coach indeed, being a a Dennis Lancet with Jonckheere bodywork. It was purchased in 1989 as a 21st birthday present for Don's current proprietor, and still remains in regular use.

L4 YTB is a Dennis Dart purchased in January 2010 and was previously in the fleet of Regal Busways. Its registration betrays its original ownership by the Yorkshire Terrier.



Community Buses



Goride commenced services 79, Brightlingsea to Clacton (the 'Brightlingsea Bullet'), and 79A, Brightlingsea Town service, on Saturday 23rd July 2011 and will run on just Tuesdays and Saturdays.

When I visited on the first day, the company were using Colchester Community Voluntary Services Mercedes 16 seater minibus WX05 FZJ with the company name on the bonnet.

Full details of the company are on the internet (www.goridebus.co.uk/) but basically it is a not for profit company.

It replaced New Horizon route 79 which ran Brightlingsea - Clacton on Mondays to Fridays, but was withdrawn on 15th July 2011. However the route is slightly different in that Thorrington Post Office is now served and the route from Aingers Green to B1077 at Hollybush Hill is via South Heath. Also St. Osyth is by-passed and the route into Clacton Pier Avenue is via Jaywick and

Clacton Hospital rather than Bockings Elm and St.Osyth Road as with New Horizon. I understand that passengers can be picked up and dropped off within Clacton.

Both routes serve Samsons Road Co-op in Brightlingsea and the 79a also serves Maltings Road in Brightlingsea and to my knowledge neither places have previously been served.

Michael Allen

The company, Go Ride CIC ("community interest company"), is registered in Abingdon, Oxfordshire. As well as the two Brightlingsea services, it also runs the "Watlington Tube", a Monday-Friday service from Watlington to Lewknor where it connects with the (Stagecoach) Oxford Tube coach to and from London. It took that service over on 8th August 2011 from another CIC operator, Watlington CIC.

According to the Goride website, loadings on the Brightlingsea Bullet have been such that taxis have had to be hired to meet demand, and that from 16th August "big buses" will be used.

Volunteer-run community buses are on the up. The government has signalled that it wants to encourage more 'community participation' as part of the 'Big Society' idea, and has allocated some modest funding to stimulate community buses. Hence, more operations like Goride can be expected.

The Goride services run under 'Section 22' (of the Transport Act, 1985, amended by the Community Bus Regulations, 2009) Community Bus Permits. This allows community bus operators (broadly, non-profit organisations) to register bus services with the Traffic Commissioners, whether commercial or tendered, without holding a conventional operator licence ('O' licence). In Essex alone, new service registrations by

Section 22 permit operators have blossomed in recent months, including for example, the 845 and 898 routes, described in EBN566.

These add to the rather more obscure services run under "Section 19" (also of the Transport Act, 1985) permits. These are usually of the 'dial-a-ride' ('demand responsive' is the current, trendy term) variety, but also include day trips - the 'excursion club' idea.

However, a key difference between Section 19 and Section 22 services is that the former are restricted to 'closed groups', for example, residents of a particular area. You have to belong to the relevant group or scheme and book before travelling, often 24 hrs in advance; you cannot simply turn up and go. Section 22 services are like conventional bus services - they are expected to run to an advertised timetable, allow anyone to travel, accept concessionary passes etc.

To confuse things slightly, some community bus operators work under both Section 19 and Section 22 permits, running both types of service.

The community bus concept is not new. Community buses have existed under successive legislation for years, providing links for shopping, hospital visits and sometimes for leisure purposes, to those living in areas poorly served by conventional transport. Efforts are now being made to dispel the notion that community buses are purely for the elderly and/or disabled, but open to all those requiring greater mobility.

Community buses are essentially run by volunteers but Essex County Council and other bodies provide support and funding in varying degrees. Schemes usually have backing and practical help from parish or district councils and local voluntary groups, and sometimes from local NHS trusts or other public bodies. The County appear to



The Tuesdays and Fridays *Saffron Walden Shopper Bus* provided by **Community Link** (Essex County Council) is the linear descendent of the former Royal Mail Postbus service serving Clavering and the villages. The Tuesday afternoon departure on 7th June, worked by Iveco 45C/Euromotive GN59 CDY stands in a tranquil Saffron Walden High Street. Two passengers finish a leisurely chat before stepping aboard. *David Harman*

manage some schemes directly under the *Community Link* title. In others, they hire out buses from their own fleet, leaving organisers to manage day-to day operations and to save up for their own bus. The cost of obtaining a suitable bus is of course the principal hurdle to be overcome in setting up a scheme.

The veteran community bus in Essex is Coggeshall (www.coggeshallbus.co.uk/) which started in 1982. This runs under a Section 22 permit, linking the village with Kelvedon station at commuter times, Monday - Friday, and providing a local service between the peaks on two days a week. The Coggeshall CB claims to be entirely self-financing. The current vehicle, GN57 JVT was bought new, being a type popular for this sort of work, the Iveco 45C 'white van' conversion, which in this case, boasts the luxury of aircon.

The ECC booklet *Taking you places*, (downloadable from www.essexcc.gov.uk/) lists the various community travel schemes. At one end of the spectrum are the Section 22 registered bus routes, the Section 19 dial-a-rides and similar. At the other, you have

'social cars', 'hospital cars' and exotica like the *Catch22 ZBikes* scheme which loans mopeds to young people in rural Uttlesford (the Saffron Walden/Dunmow area in plain English) to help them get to work or search for work, and which probably falls outside our scope.

Section 22 route timetables also appear at the end of the ECC timetable book. They are sometimes on Traveline too, although there are inconsistencies here for no obvious reason.

Current fixed or part-fixed route (i.e. non-demand responsive) services within the county are listed below. Most are open to anyone to travel on. Those marked * are known to be restricted: you must join the scheme and book before you travel. The SB- prefix seems to be allocated by ECC, and possibly stands for Social Bus ... or does it?

Finally, this was written in a rush so there was no time to check anything with the experts. 'Errors & omissions excepted' applies.

David Harman

operator	route	name	day(s) of operation
Arrow Taxis (Essex) Ltd., Maldon			
99DD	Dengie - Maldon - Broomfield Hospital	Dengie DaRT	M-F
Basildon District Volunteer Carers			
SB81	Glebe Field - Basildon		TThF
Braintree Community Transport			
SB21	Fuller Street - Braintree, New St Michael's Hospital	Monday Bus	M
SB22	White Colne - Braintree, Sainsbury's	Colne Valley Community Bus	M
SB23	Tilbury-juxta-Clare - Haverhill, Sainsbury's	Haverhill Tuesday Bus	T
SB24	Steeple Bumpstead - Haverhill, Sainsbury's	Upper Colne to Haverhill Bus	T
SB25	Pebmarsh - Sudbury, Tesco	Stour Valley Community Bus	W
SB26	Foxearth - Sudbury	Sudbury Wednesday Bus	W
SB27	Great Saling - Saffron Walden	Salings Community Bus	F
SB28	Stisted - Braintree		alt S
Brentwood Community Transport			
	Hutton - Shenfield - Brentwood - Warley circular	Community Hospital Shuttle Bus	M-F
898	Blackmore - Romford, Queens Hospital	Queens Shopper	M-S
Chelmsford Community Transport Ltd.			
SB51	Good Easter - Springfield, Sainsbury's *	Good Easter Shopper Bus	W
SB52	Ramsden Heath - Billericay *	Ramsden Heath Shopper Bus	Th

<i>operator</i>	<i>route</i>	<i>name</i>	<i>day(s) of operation</i>
Coggeshall Community Bus Ltd.			
	Coggeshall - Kelvedon Station		M-F
	Coggeshall local		TTh
Colchester Community Voluntary Services			
SB31	Layer Breton - Colchester, Leisure World		W
SB32	Eight Ash Green - Tollgate		M
Community Link (Essex County Council)			
SB03	High Beech - Loughton *	<i>High Beech & Loughton Shop & Leisure Bus</i>	Th
SB04	Stanford Rivers - Ongar		Th
SB13	Littlebury/Clavering - Saffron Walden *	<i>Saffron Walden Shopper Bus</i>	TF
SB14	Wicken Bonhunt - Bishop's Stortford	<i>Bishop's Stortford Shopper Bus</i>	MTh
SB42	North Fambridge - South Woodham Ferrers	<i>North Fambridge Shopper Bus</i>	W
845	Loughton - Chingford - Epping Forest	<i>Epping Forest Sunday Shuttle Bus</i>	Su
Danbury Community Transport Ltd.			
	Danbury circular	<i>Danbury Flyer</i>	MWF
Epping Forest Community Transport, Epping			
SB01	Dobb's Weir - Hoddesdon		W
SB02	Dobb's Weir - Harlow		F
SB05	Ongar - Epping		MW
SB06	Matching Green - Epping		M
Harwich Connexions Transport Co-operative Ltd.			
HH1	Harwich - Colchester Hospitals		M-F
SB61	Wix - Dovercourt	<i>Harwich Village Shopper Bus</i>	F
SB62	Ramsey - Manningtree	<i>Manningtree Village Bus</i>	F
Stisted Parish Council			
SB11	Stisted - Braintree, Freeport	<i>Stisted Shopper Bus</i>	W
Uttlesford Community Travel, Great Dunmow			
19	Farnham - Bishop's Stortford *	<i>Farnham Shopper</i>	Th
SB15	Bacon End Green - Jackson Square *	<i>Canfield Shopper</i>	Th
Viking Community Transport (Maldon District Community Transport)			
SB41	Burnham - Maldon *		TF
Wyvern Community Transport, Rochford			
174	Rochford - Southend, Central Rail Station	<i>Crouch Village Link</i>	TS
SB71	Woodfield Road - Hadleigh, Morrisons		TTh

Vehicle news

COGGESHALL COMMUNITY BUS

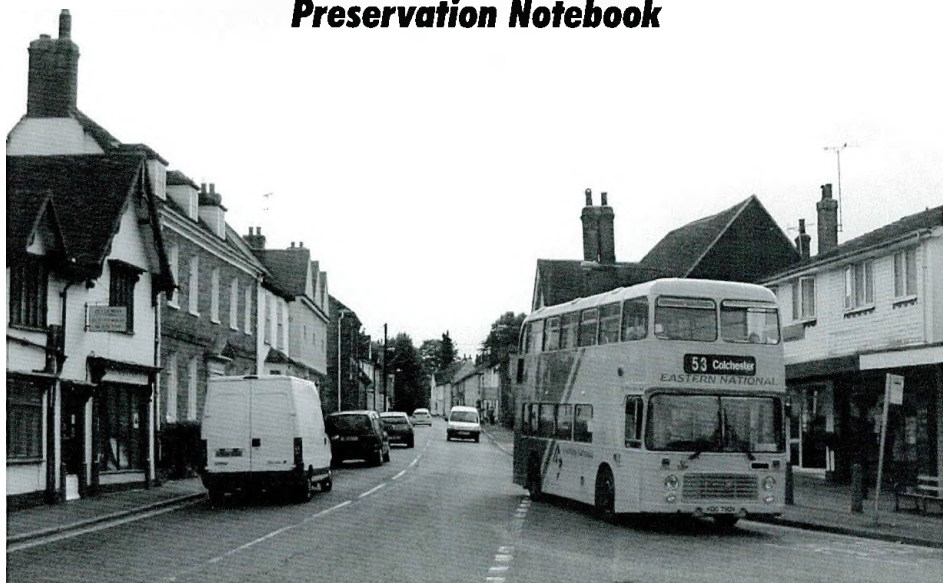
Ford Transit AV07 PGY was hired from Robertson Van Hire, Colchester, in May, whilst Iveco GN57 JVT was away for maintenance.

COLCHESTER COMMUNITY VOLUNTARY SERVICES

Two vehicles reported here are Citroen Relay BP54 VCJ and Mercedes Benz 413CDI/ UVM WX05 FZJ.

Ian Ransom with thanks to the PSV Circle

Preservation Notebook



3072 : A classic story with a happy ending

Until last year, Luke Deal, a BBC Suffolk broadcaster, had a life-long, if unrealised dream of owning a preserved bus. Former Eastern National VR 3072 (KOO 790V), the final Bristol in the First Essex fleet, and due for impending withdrawal in 2010 looked the ideal candidate to transform that dream into reality.

There was one snag though ... stumping up the readies. Luke, with a wife and three young daughters eating him out of house and home, is not your average, wealthy bus preservationist (well, they start off wealthy ... until the cost of keeping a preserved bus preserved kicks in). But, an unexpected legacy from a grandmother changed that. Now, other, less imaginative souls would have salted the legacy away in unit trusts or invested it prudently with William Hill, but Luke is made of sterner stuff. He contacted First Essex, made an offer on the VR, which was provisionally accepted, and waited for disposal day to be announced.

However, in the intervening months there was an unfortunate change of plan. This saw 3072 pencilled-in for the FirstGroup museum

in Aberdeen. Hmm ... all things considered, this was probably not the optimum resting place for a VR, given that Bristols were not especially popular north of the border. Not only that, it will be recalled that some Scottish companies actually disliked their youthful VRs so much that they sent them back south ... to Eastern National among others, as it happens.

Haste ye back? I think not. Let's face it, nowhere in the script does it say that the last Eastern National Bristol VR ends up in Aberdeen ...

Happily, at the eleventh hour, wiser counsels prevailed. After all, a deal is a deal, or in this case, a Deal. First relented. Aberdeen wouldn't miss what it never had. Luke could have his VR. And so, in October last year, the story came to a happy conclusion.

Our pictures (courtesy of Luke) show now-preserved Eastern National 3072, a classic bus posed on a classic route, the 53, in the classic Essex surroundings of Kelvedon High Street.

David Harman

EASTERN NATIONAL OMNIBUS CO. LTD.

New Vehicles

1925	MHJ721V	Leyland National 2	NL116L11/1R	06871	Leyland National	D49F
1926	MHJ722V	Leyland National 2	NL116L11/1R	06872	Leyland National	D49F
1927	MHJ723V	Leyland National 2	NL116L11/1R	06873	Leyland National	D49F
1928	MHJ724V	Leyland National 2	NL116L11/1R	06874	Leyland National	D49F
3072	K00790V	Bristol VRTSL6G	3/2270	E.C.W. DPLD39/31FD	23793	
3073	K00791V	Bristol VRTSL6G	3/2271	E.C.W. DPLD39/31FD	23794	
3074	K00792V	Bristol VRTSL6G	3/2272	E.C.W. DPLD39/31FD	23795	
3075	K00793V	Bristol VRTSL6G	3/2273	E.C.W. DPLD39/31FD	23796	
3076	K00794V	Bristol VRTSL6G	3/2274	E.C.W. DPLD39/31FD	23797	

1925-8 are the first vehicles of the 1980 order for Leyland Nationals. They are of the Leyland National 2 type incorporating the familiar roof pod and were delivered in all green livery. 3072-6 complete the 1979 order for Bristol VRTSL6Gs and, as with the previous batch (3067-71), have been delivered in dual-purpose livery for operation on service 400. External signwriting will also be carried on these vehicles to advertise this service and this will be applied at Central Works.

Delivery dates : 1925-8 - 3.80 3072/3 - 3.80 3074-6 - 4.80



EBEG Members visit Castle Point Transport Museum

The July south Essex meeting featured an informal visit to the Castle Point Transport Museum on the evening of July 25. As ever, we were given a warm welcome and time to view the museum exhibits in a leisurely way, as well as sampling the delights of the cafe on the top floor of the old EN (and before that Westcliff and Canvey & District) depot. The highlight was a nostalgic trip over the 3 route to Hadleigh garage in the Museum's FLE, 2949, ably driven by Ian Banks. 2849

was the staff "showbus" at Hadleigh for many years but was rallied then in NBC livery so it was good to take it back there but this time in Tilling livery.

Thanks go to all the volunteers at the Museum for hosting our visit. The Museum's annual open day and bus rally will be held on Sunday October 9th, when the Group's sales stand will be in attendance.

Richard Delahoy



rear cover

Something borrowed, something blue ...

The sight of **Ensign** Dart 724 (R624 VEG) on Regal's 1A route in Chelmsford on 3rd August caused some puzzlement locally, but it turned out to be merely on loan. *Russell Young*

The first use of one of **Ensign's** former East London ALX200 bodied Darts on the Brentwood/Hutton 81 was on 14th July, on which date Route Manager Paul Ashman is seen heading up Brentwood High Street past the former Post Office with 780 (LX51 FGK). *Chris Stewart*



above: En route to Hadleigh, the trip paused on the turning loop used by buses terminating at Benfleet Station.

below and opposite: Revisiting old haunts. 2949 outside the First depot at Hadleigh in the fading evening light.

all: Richard Delahoy



