

An introduction

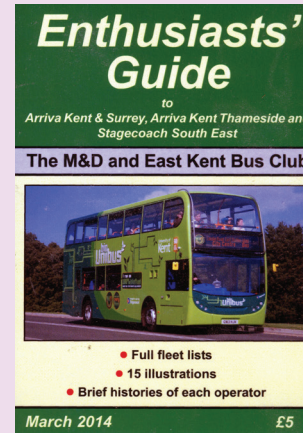
THE M&D AND EAST KENT BUS CLUB was formed in 1952 and aims to bring together those interested in the road passenger transport of Kent and East Sussex. Membership is open to applicants from all areas of the UK and overseas.



The main operators covered by the Club are Arriva Kent & Surrey (vehicles only in Surrey) and Stagecoach East Kent (including Hastings and Eastbourne). These operators recognise the Club officially and supply much of our information and news. We also provide full current coverage of all other licensed operators within the area, fringe coverage of Arriva Kent Thameside's Northfleet depot, and historical information on the predecessors of local operators including Maidstone & District, East Kent, Boro'line Maidstone, Maidstone Corporation Transport and Maidstone Borough Council.

MEMBERSHIP: Annual membership includes our monthly news booklet *Invicta* which contains accurate up-to-date information on all local fleets together with news of Club activities. Family membership, at a reduced rate, is available to other people at the same address.

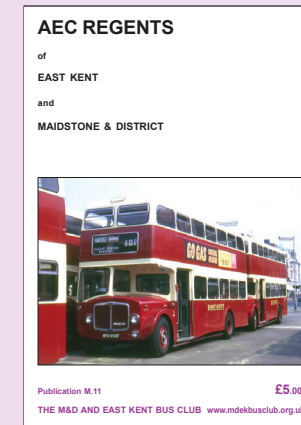
PUBLICATIONS include current fleet lists, route working details, fleet histories and a range of historical items. Most incorporate illustrations. Members are entitled to receive publications post-free.



POSTCARD PHOTOGRAPHS: We have over 17,000 prints covering a wide range of vehicles and related subjects from the early 1900s to date. These include views from official collections, of which a list is available on request. 6in x 4in black-and-white and colour prints are competitively priced. Our stock is constantly changing, and a selection is offered for sale at various local events or may be sent on approval (please state vehicle types and/or operators required if you ask for an approval selection).

SALES: Publications and photographs can be sent to non-members by post. Our sales stand attends major rallies and sales events in the South-East each season; other items including models and souvenir collectables are available at these events. A selection of our publications is also stocked by Dinnages Transport Publishing, which has a sales stand at other Kent and Sussex events, and by Ian Allan's London bookshop at Waterloo.

LOCAL MEETINGS take place regularly at various locations in the area, allowing members to share news or view pictures ranging from vintage colour slides to modern digital images. Publication and photograph sales are sometimes available at these meetings. Area Organisers look after these local activities and details are usually announced in *Invicta*.

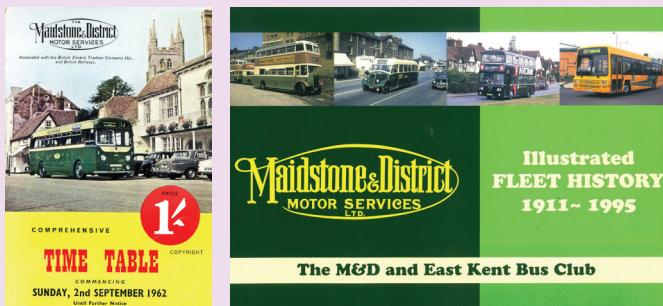


VEHICLE PRESERVATION : Part-owners within the Club own HKE 867, a 1945 Bristol K6A (rebodied by Weymann in 1953) acquired from Maidstone & District (DH159) in 1967. Active preservation work continues on this vehicle, which represents the Club at selected events each year.

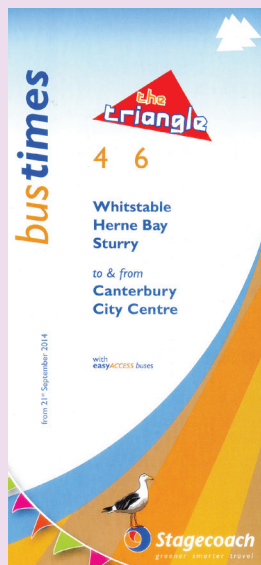
TOURS and VISITS are arranged regularly during the summer. They include visits to operators both local and farther afield, using a variety of interesting vehicles.

NEWSGROUP : An e-mail-based newsgroup is available for members to share their observations and photographs online. For full details visit <https://groups.google.com/group/mdekbclub>.

LIBRARY : The Club's Library contains a wide selection of out-of-print items which may be borrowed for research, including official timetable books and faretables from the 1920s onwards, News-Sheets or *Invicta* for most years, and Fleet Histories.



TIMETABLE LEAFLETS SCHEME: Members can arrange to receive copies of the Kent timetable leaflets of Arriva, and Kent and East Sussex leaflets of Stagecoach on a regular basis, and those of other operators subject to availability. Details are given in *Invicta* when opportunities to subscribe occur.



INFORMATION : The Club provides a central point to which members can send notes and observations for inclusion in *Invicta*, publications and other records, and from which they can obtain answers to their own queries.

For practical reasons, Club business is conducted only by post or e-mail; we are unable to receive callers in person or by telephone at the Club address. Membership is not normally available to those under twelve years of age. Information contained in this leaflet is correct at January 2015 but may change during its currency.

If you would like to join the Club, please complete a Membership Application form and send it to the following address, with a payment to cover your subscription:

**The M&D and East Kent Bus Club,
The Homestead, Headcorn Road,
Grafty Green, MAIDSTONE, Kent, ME17 2AP.**

We reduce the cost of joining as the year progresses, though you may opt for full-year membership to include all back number issues of *Invicta* to date.

If, however, you would first like to view a specimen copy of *Invicta*, please visit our website at www.mdekbusclub.org.uk, send an e-mail to mdekbusclub@gmail.com or write to
**The M&D and East Kent Bus Club,
2 Gaiger Close, CHELMSFORD, Essex, CM1 6UR**

Circular No: C.8

January 2015
200C/C8-15/04 JAN 15



An introduction



For more information visit
mdekbusclub.org.uk

or write to
**The M&D and East Kent Bus Club
2 Gaiger Close Chelmsford
Essex CM1 6UR**