

ESSEX BUS NEWS

Everything you need to know about Buses in Essex

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Essex Bus
Enthusiasts Group
Serving Essex Since 1964

Essex Bus News

Everything you need to know

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Members of the scheme receive the Essex county council timetable books and updates plus a copy of the Thurrock council book.

Please contact Derek Stebbing for information or see www.essexbus.org.uk

Photo sales

We have photos of most operators and vehicles in Essex both past and present. Please write to Peter Snell with details of what you're looking for and he'll be pleased to help you.

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Members reports, quality photos and original articles are always welcome. Please send them direct to the relevant Sub -Editor.

Any views expressed in articles are those of the articles author alone and they do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the group.

We reserve the right to defer items to allow time for confirmation or achieve page layouts.

Every effort is made to ensure accuracy but the group cannot accept responsibility for any error of fact subsequently discovered.

How to contact us

Acting Magazine Editor Peter Mansbridge
19 Bull Lane, Rayleigh, SS6 8JE
E-mail essexbusnews@hotmail.com

Advisory Editor/Arriva Sean Menzies
32 Clarence Road, Brentwood, CM15 9PB
E-mail essexbusnews@hotmail.com

Service changes Adrian Lancer
E-mail : ebegsceditor@aol.com

First in Essex Chris Stewart,
10 Crossways, Shenfield, CM15 8QX
E-mail : chris@stewartcsi.freemove.co.uk

Arriva Harlow & Ware Mark Garrett
36 High Street, Chrishall, Royston, SG8 8RP
E-mail: deganwy@waitrose.com

Essex Small Operators Ian Ransom,
34 Donald Way, Chelmsford, CM2 9JE
E-mail: lanandSally@bigfoot.com

**Hedingham/ Small operators & Tours
Organiser Dave Arnold, 21 Cedar Chase,
Heybridge, Maldon, CM9 4NR
E-mail: david@arnold1.fsnet.co.uk**

**Eastern National Enthusiasts Guild/Photos
and Southend area news -Peter Snell,
6 Mandeville Way, Benfleet, SS7 4LH**

Problems with your subscription, need back issues or your magazine has pages missing? contact Membership officer Derek Stebbing, 'Conifers', Thorpe Road, Weeley, Clacton, CO16 9JJ E-mail derekstebbing@hotmail.com

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Thank you to the many contributors for their valuable news and information.

Welcome Aboard!

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ESSEX BUS NEWS

1964 - 2004: 40 years of local bus news

www.essexbus.org.uk

Editorial

This months Essex Bus News features the Autumn Essex Bus Shop-a free pull-out supplement. It includes details of publications which the group stocks, the highlight of which is the recently released Jennings of Ashen Fact File.

It has proved difficult this month to get hold of topical photos to use in Essex Bus News, especially of the North Essex Bus Scene. If you have any photos which you would like to be considered for publication then send to the contact details shown on page 21.

Please note all contributions for the December EBN should be sent by about the 10th December so that it can be sent to the printers early to avoid the Christmas rush!

Scania/East Lancs Spryte P654 VMX.

NIBS have acquired 3 Scania/East Lancs Sprytes from Black Prince this autumn. P654 VMX is seen in Billericay in October 2003.
(Chris Stewart)

Cover

Photo

Buses in the news

The latest news from the bus world

Town Service Decline

Braintree town service route 21, which is operated by First between Deanery Gardens and Black Notley has stopped running after 7pm because of safety fears to both drivers and passengers. It follows a bus being attacked with stones near to Deanery Gardens.

Meanwhile, in Witham service 38 serving residential areas in North Witham and operated by First, is under threat. The service is not making enough revenue to be run on a commercial basis. Braintree District Council and Witham Town Council have asked First to urge Essex County Council to recognise the area needs a subsidised service if a commercial one is not viable. First will be withdrawing its commercial service from Monday 8th December.

In a further development Stansted based LocalLink has announced plans for two town services in Witham running between 6.25am and 8pm Monday to Saturday linking the Town Centre, rail station and Safeway with residential areas.

Use it or lose it

This is what late-night clubbers are being told in Southend. The Recently introduced night services in Southend are at risk of being axed as not enough people are using the Service. The money invested in the scheme, which has the backing of Arriva, the police and nightclubs has already run out and the services are now running at a loss. Attempts have already been made to make the services more profitable— see the service changes section for full details.

New Essex-Kent Link

Ensign have announced that they are to start a commercial service between Lakeside and Bluewater. This is the same date that Ensign begin the operation of the Strood-Higham rail replacement service, in Kent, for a year. Some of the Journeys will be operated by vehicles effectively running dead to take up service on the rail replacement. Buses to be used are ex-Metroline DNL class Darts carrying a green/cream livery, which is very similar to the old Southdown colours.

Corgi to Produce First Essex Model

Corgi are to produce a model of First Essex Optare Solo, 503. The model which due to be released in May 2004, depicts the Romford based vehicle working on route 193.

If you have any contributions for the 'Buses in the News' section please send them to the following address:
Peter Mansbridge
19 Bull Lane
Rayleigh
Essex
SS6 8JE

Goodbye Phoenix - written by Paul Rowden

On 17th October the news broke that Phoenix Student Travel had gone into liquidation. There has been much publicity of this on local radio and the internet, and here I aim to summarise events.

- EnsignBus ran 559/60 from Purfleet without being paid by PST, and passed a letter to passengers stating services would end after that day
- Passengers on First sub-contracted services were informed along with PST Maldon depot passengers through their schools
- First stepped in to continue their services until Christmas after appropriate payment, and are now looking to continue most afterwards subject to demand. New passes have now been despatched to customers
- On a similar basis Stephenson's of Essex took on most of the former Phoenix operated services to Southend, making some amendments and amalgamations
- Purfleet-based services 559/60 are now being run subject to demand by Scenic Travel
- At Anglo European School, Ingatestone, Fargo and NIBS have attempted to partially replace PST services, while First have again offered to continue popular services.
- Cedrics have reportedly been continuing service 701 Capel St Mary-Colchester 6th Form College
- From after Christmas, it is hoped that the Consortium for Selective Schools in Essex will be collecting termly fares for their schools to pass on to the relevant companies, as without a coordinated approach it is feared that operators may not see the demand for services
- Some parents have chosen to set up alternative arrangements, an example of which is a Chelmsford TaxiBus hired to take children from Woodham Walter to Westcliff High Schools

Full details of the effects upon individual services are in the Service Changes section.

To help meet their new commitments, Stephenson's have purchased some of PST's Olympians, which currently remain in PST livery, as follows:

6000	C807 BYY
6001	C811 BYY
6002	C62 CHM
6003	C64 CHM
6004	C82 CHM
6005	C86 CHM
6006	C92 CHM
6007	C77 CHM
6008	C94 CHM
6009	C109 CHM
6010	C110 CHM
6011	C106 CHM
6012	C28 CHM
6015	C81 CHM

There will undoubtedly be further developments over the coming months, though thankfully a continuation of services has been put in place for the majority of customers.

As mentioned above Fargo has stepped in to replace some Phoenix routes. Chris Stewart caught YJ03 GXS operating route 606 in Ingatestone on the 20.10.03. This was the first day that Fargo operated route 606.



Essex bus diary

Your guide to forthcoming events

Forthcoming Rochford Meetings

December Meeting- Tuesday 9th - Richard Delahoy will present the latest instalment of his popular "20 years ago" slide show.

The 2004 winter/spring programme of meetings at Rochford will comprise:

January 13- a slide show "The Afterlife" by Trevor Brookes, looking at buses and coaches in non-psv use;

February 10- members photo evening. In a new departure, we will be able to project "electronic" photos (from CDs or similar media) - more details nearer the time;

March 9 - Annual General Meeting, followed by slide show by Alan Osbourne;

April 13 - talk/slide show, "EN and the Lodekka" by Chris Stewart

Meetings take place in the Pullman Suite, Freight House, Bradley Way, Rochford. Doors open at 1930 for an informal chat, with the main talk or show from 2000-2145.

Essex service changes

Changes are now split into two sections to avoid some appearing more than once. Those to "regular" services appear first, with those to school services at the end. All changes are subject to amendment, so please check with the operator or Traveline before your journey.

I can be e-mailed at EBEGSCEDITOR@AOL.COM

W/C Saturday 4th October 2003

199, 299, 320, 399, 446, R1, R4 As in previous issues.
(Service 600 deferred to 8th November)

Wednesday 15th October 2003

410 As in previous issues.

Arriva Southend Changes (26th/27th October 2003)

1, 1A, 2, 4, 4A, 4B, 5, 5A, 6, 6A, 7, 7A, 7B, 8, 8A, 8B, 9, 13, 19A, 29 As in previous issues.

W/C Saturday 1st November 2003

10, H1 As in previous issues.

8, 8A, 8B (Arriva) (Monkwick & Horkesley Heath/Boxted) New evening timetable from Monday 3rd November.

15 (Arriva) (Shrub End & Colchester North Station) Morning buses arrive at Colchester North Station 2 minutes earlier from 3rd November.

17 (Arriva) (West Bergholt & Stanway) New timetable from 3rd November.

118 (Hedingham Omnibuses) (Great Yeldham & Newport) New timetable from 3rd November.

199 (Arriva) (Southend & Hadleigh) Service revised to start from Seaway Car Park from 2nd November. Also extended to Sadlers Farm Roundabout.

299 (Arriva) (Southend & Rayleigh Weir) Service revised to start from Seaway Car Park from 2nd November. Also extended to Rochford.

399 (Arriva) (Southend & North Shoebury, Southchurch Road) Withdrawn from 2nd November.

- A6** (*National Express Airport*) (Stansted Airport & London Victoria) New timetable with reduced service at certain times from 3rd November.
- A7** (*National Express Airport*) (Stansted Airport & London Victoria) Some existing A6 journeys renumbered A7 and diverted via Liverpool Street Station from 3rd November.

Saturday 8th November 2003

- 600** (*Olympian*) (Bishops Stortford & Lakeside) Introduction deferred from 4th October (See previous issues). Service consists of one return journey Mondays to Fridays and two on Saturdays.

W/C Saturday 29th November 2003

- 700** As in previous issues.
- 2** (*First*) (Southend & Basildon) New Monday to Saturday timetable from 1st December.
- 15, 15A, 15B, 15C, 16** (*First*) (Southend & Basildon/Canvey) New timetables from 1st December.
- 22** (*First*) (Canvey & Basildon) New Monday to Saturday timetable from 1st December.
- 34, 34A** (*Excel*) (Great Notley & Kings Park circular) Services transferred to Stansted Transit from 1st December.
- 54C/56** (*First*) (North Melbourne & Beaulieu Park) New Sunday timetable from 30th November.
- 101** (*First*) (Billericay & Grays) Extended to Lakeside from 1st December.
- 102** (*First*) (Wickford & Basildon) New timetable from 1st December.
- 551** (*Locallink*) (Bishops Stortford & Harlow) Withdrawn from 1st December.
- 700** (*Arriva*) (Stansted Airport & Stevenage) Withdrawn on Sundays from 30th November.
- 750, 751** (*First*) (Romford & Basildon) New timetable from 1st December.

Monday 8th December 2003

- 38** (*First*) (Witham Town Service) Withdrawn.
- 59** (*Arriva/First*) (Chelmsford & Harlow) Journeys operated by First withdrawn.

Saturday 13th December 2003

- 89, 89B** (Hedingham Omnibuses) (Braintree & Haverhill)
Withdrawn on Saturdays.
- 552** (*Locallink*) (Bishops Stortford & Harlow) Withdrawn from
19th December.

School Services and SDO variations

Unknown Date

- 446, 447** (*Four Counties Buses*) (Manuden/Anstey & Saffron
Walden) Temporary timetable in operation due to road
closure at Manuden.

Friday 17th October 2003

Phoenix Student Travel went into liquidation. All routes ceased
to be operated. Some PST services were transferred to other
operators (see below).

Wednesday 22nd October 2003

- 501, 503, 504, 505, 510, 513, 514**
Services transferred from PST to Stephensons.

Monday 27th October 2003

- 401, 407, 408** As in previous issues.

Monday 3rd November 2003

- 67** (*NIBS*) (Ostend & Ingatestone) New service replacing a PST
service.
- 301** (*Stansted Transit*) (Bishops' Stortford & Saffron Walden)
Additional SDO journeys to prevent overcrowding.

Monday 10th November 2003

- 391** (*Trustline*) (Tylers Cross & Hoddeston) New SDO service
variant of services 392 and 393.

Autumn 2003 Essex Bus Shop
Inside this month's Essex Bus News

First Essex

Vehicles into the fleet

10.03	4037 (31198)	L163UNS	Leyland Olympian	Alexander H47/31F
11.03	4038 (31373)	L160UNS	Leyland Olympian	Alexander H47/31F

Chassis number details for 4036-8 are ONZR50C13V 20806/7/8/5 with body numbers RL67/4697/12, RL67/4697/13, RL67/4697/14 and RL67/4697/11.

Noted at Clacton on 13.11.03 were three Mercedes/Plaxton Cheetah midicoaches for the "Coachlink", registered YN53 VBT/VBU/VBV.

Allocation changes (period ending 25 October 2003)

FGC=First Group cascade, i.e. transfer to/from another First fleet

(A)=acquired, (R)=reserve, (Sp)=spare; (D)=disposal

709 HH-FGC; 710 HH-FGC; 769 FGC-HH; 771 FGC-HH; 772 FGC-HH; 773 FGC-HH; 774 FGC-HH; 1404 BN-(D); 1406 HH-BN; 1407 HH-(R) at CN; 1411 HH-(R) at HH; 2641 (D)-FGC; 2642 (D)-FGC; 2645 (D)-FGC; 2653 (D)-FGC; 2665 (D)-CF; 3109 (D)-sold; 4033 BN-CF; 4037 FGC-BN; 5002 BN-out; 5004 CF-out; 5006 CF-out

Disposals

10.03	709/10	<i>First Huddersfield</i>
	2641/2/5/53	First Eastern Counties Buses Ltd
	3109	Hardwick (scrap) via Houston Ramm
	5002/4/6	Liquidator of Phoenix Student Travel Ltd

VEHICLE WORKINGS

The following were noted on scheduled rail replacement work from Chelmsford to Colchester:

2nd November: CR668 BE2827 BE3072 DT4009 CF4010 CF4012 DT4013 CF4014 CF4033 CR4305 CR4315 plus Stephenson's ex PST 6005/6011 and TSO12X

9th November: CR4307 CR4320 Tallisman C520LJR Chambers W91HRT

First Essex will be operating the replacements from Shenfield to Wickford on Sundays 16th, 23rd, 30th November and 7th December.

Unusual sightings include:

- 17.10.03 HH947 on 25
- 20.10.03 CF5006 still on 620 (first schoolday after Phoenix ceased trading, CF4025 on 619)
- 23.10.03 CF4025 on 509
- 24.10.03 HH908 and HH2818 on 2/22/25
- 27.10.03 HH987 on 27
- 29.10.03 CF1414/5 both on 351, 1414 then on 33
- 31.10.03 CF4014 on 33
- 1.11.03 CF1415, CF4010/33 all on 351 (usually only one double deck working on Saturdays)
- 4.11.03 CF4024 on 509
- 7/10.11.03 1432 on 351 (temporary reinstatement at CF)
- 10.11.03 HH719 on am 822, HH747 on am peak 20

VR-watch

With Braintree's maintenance now concentrated at Chelmsford, interchange of vehicles has become commonplace. Olympians have been used on the 70X and 509, with 3219 spending most of the last few weeks at CF. 3072 joined it for the whole of school half term week (beginning 27th October) and was then used all day on Chelmsford-Colchester rail replacement on 2nd November (being seen as late as 21.30 in Marks Tey). The following observations have been reported thanks to a number of members (your sub-editor treating himself to a ride on 3219 from Shenfield to Romford and back on 31st October, with a VR enthusiast driver):

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1.10.03 & 7.11.03	3219 on 525 (Chelmsford-Colchester schools)
21.10.03	3219? on 33 (17.25 Chelmsford-Stansted Airport)
23.10.03	3219 on both am and pm 525 (3072 on usual 70X)
29.10.03	3072 on 15.45 Chelmsford-Halstead 352, 3219 on 33
30.10.03	3072 on 33 (13.25 ex CF)
30/31.10.03	3219 on 36 (08.55 ex Chelmsford) and 351 (15.55 ex CF)
4.11.03	3219 on inward/outward 619 (Debden-Anglo European School, Ingatestone)
3/5.11.03	3219 on 512 (Chelmsford-Southend schools)
8.11.03	3219 on 36X

As noted already, 3109 has gone for scrap from Clacton disposal yard whilst subsequent observations indicate that 3092/101/13 have followed it. Thamesway-liveried VRs are now extinct within the fleet.

Multi-coloured former City of Oxford VR (TBW450P) was noted parked next to the railway station opposite Harwich depot in early November. Previously a mobile drop-in centre in Bristol, it was sold to Munden (dealer) September this year and has been resold to R Howard (buyer of 3078) for export to Holland as a playbus.

Assistance with Bus Route Plotting

Essex County Council requires people with a knowledge of bus routes to assist with getting timetable databases accurate.

The work will be in Chelmsford at the Market Road, Threadneedle House offices of WS Atkins - opposite County Hall.

It will involve sitting at a desk viewing a street map of Essex on the PC monitor and using the PC mouse to link up the bus stops shown on the map for each bus service route. Training /Instruction will be given

Essex county council wish to get this work done by Christmas

The hours can be of your choice between 0900 and 1800 Monday to Friday. Preferably with a minimum block of 3 hours.

The rate of pay is likely to be in the region of £5.30 per hour. You will be working for WS Atkins

Anyone interested please get in touch with Robin Wheatcroft using the contact details below. He would really appreciate the help of people with some knowledge of bus routes.

Robin Wheatcroft

Information Manager

Passenger Transport

email: r.wheatcroft@essexcc.gov.uk

tel: 01245 437587

fax: 01245 496764

First Essex fleet allocation - 25 October 2003

Braintree (BE)	778-80, 943/4, 2663/6/71/5/80, 2808/11/2/6/21/6/7, 2909-11, 3072, 3219
Basildon (BN)	404/5, 655-67, 712-4/34-8/53-61, 852-5, 918/20/7/9-34/6/7/45, 967-73/83-6, 1403/5/6/10, 4034-7
Chelmsford (CF)	430-5, 512-37, 729-33/9-44/75-7, 1414/5, 1516-20, 2658/65/7-70/3/4/6/8/9, 2822-4/8, 2901-8, 4007/10/2/4, 4024/5/33
Clacton (CN)	919/21/2/4-6, 1510-3, 2662, 2801/5/6/9/10/9/20, 4015-9
Colchester (CR)	650-4/68/9/75/8/82-7, 715/6, 975-82, 1501-9, 2683, 2829/30, 2921-6, 4301-5/7/9/15/20-6
Hadleigh (HH)	403/6-10, 717-21/45-50/62-74, 907-11/3/28/35/8-42/6-58/74/87, 1406/7/9/11/2/7-24, 2803/14/5/8, 4003-5
Harwich (DT)	2681/2, 2802/13/7, 4008/9/13, 4308/10/1/4
Romford (RD)	401/2, 501-11, 912/4/6, 2804
Heritage	2383, 9001 (AJN825)
Spare	2655/64, 2825
Reserve	1407/11/29
Disposal	1400-2/4/8/16/25/6/30-2, 2643/4/6/8-51/4/72, 3092, 3101/3/12/3, 4026-8/30, 9002/3/20/6
Driver Training	35, 1433 (BN); 9039/41/3/4 (Driving School at Head Office)
Ancillary vehicles	(note that some of these details are by members' observation only) BN: 9030, 9308; CF: 9008/38/42; CN: 2111, 9028; CR: 9033; HH: 9035/40; HO: 9004/10; (D) 9029

The following buses are currently fitted with tachographs:
852-4, 1400/4/5/32/3, 2383, 2656, 2829/30, 4013/5/6/9/30, 4311/5

End First Essex report EBN475 11.03

sources Own Observations, M Austin, J Clayton, S Coates, D Edwards, M Farmer, A R MacFarlane, P Mansbridge, A Rook, P Rowden, C Sigston, P Snell, D Stebbing, D Stewart, A Toms, R Webb, R Whitley, A Williams, Essex Bus and South West y-groups, *First Essex*, PSV Circle

Depot requirements and vehicle allocations

This information is given for guidance only, and may be subject to change for operational reasons.

	BE	BN	CF and (MN)	CN	CR	DT	HH	RD	TOTAL BY TYPE
OPERAT'L REQ'T									
Minibus	4	2	14 (1)	1	1	2	5	1	31
Midibus	14	37	44 (3)	12	16	2	53	4	185
SD	0	16	9 (3)	4	22	0	8	0	62
DD	2	4	6	4	14	6	2	0	38
Mobility (Midi)	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Route 193 (Midi)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	10
Coach	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	3
Total operational requirement	20	61	73 (7)	21	56	10	68	15	331
ENG SPARE									
Minibus	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	5
Midibus	1	3	5	1	2	0	2	0	14
SD	0	1	0	0	2	0	2	0	5
DD	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	6
Mobility (Midi)	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Route 193 (Mini)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
TOTAL ALLOC									
Minibus	5	2	15 (2)	1	1	2	6	2	36
Midibus	15	40	49 (3)	13	18	3	52	4	197
SD	0	17	9 (3)	4	24	0	13	0	70
DD	2	5	7	5	15	7	3	0	44
Mobility (Midi)	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Route 193 (Mini)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	11
Coach	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	3
TOTALS	BE	BN	CF	CN	CR	DT	HH	RD	FLEET TOTAL
	22	67	80 (8)	23	61	12	74	17	364

ARRIVA EAST HERTS & ESSEX

Vehicles in

from Arriva the Shires (High Wycombe) 3818 10/03
 3818 H368 XGC Ds Dt 8.5SDL3003/426 Wt N42 B29F
 3/91

Allocations

10/03: 3818.WE

Fleet Summary 10/03

Harlow & Debden (HA)

DAF SB220	3328/9, 3446-9
Dennis Dart SLF	3230/31, 3435/39
Dennis Dart	3091/96/98, 3103, 3353/56-60/62-64/66-69/71/72 3461-69/71-79/81
Volvo B6BLE	3250-57
MB Vario	2172/89/90/94/95, 2248/84, 2371
MB 811D	2108/09/11/12
MB 709D	2116-26/38-40/43/45/51/58/59, 2226/82
MB Vito	1257
Optare Alero	0443/44
(Note 3435/39/61-69/71-79/81 are normally at Debden outstation)	

Ware (WE)

Leyland Olympian	5836-47/9-51
DAF SB220	3441-5
DAF SB120	4521/22
Dennis Dart SLF	3416-18/40
Dennis Dart MPD	3483, 3828
Dennis Dart	3334/52/99, 3818, LDR7
MB Vario	2175, 2370/73-77



This ex-Thamesway vehicle (H345 LNJ) was caught by Chris Stewart operating for First Devon and Cornwall on 29.03.03

Other Operators

ABBA CARS RAYLEIGH Ford Transit M339 GRH is currently on a PSV disc and has the fleetname 'Bestax'.

AIRPORT CARZ STANSTED 407 EF03 NWW, 408 EF03 NWX, 409 EJ03 WRT are Ford Transit (new by 8.03)

APT TRAVEL RAYLEIGH P984 LKL Scania/Irizar is in (by 10.03) ex Kings Ferry (no. 4.27), Gillingham, Kent.

V20 YAL (ex CNZ 3818, V7 7CCH) Scania/Van Hool is in (by 10.03) ex Kent (t.a. Royale European), Hounslow.

A44 XHE Leyland Tiger/Alexander is in (by 10.03) ex Kent C.C.

ARROW CARS MALDON Peugeot Boxer N394 VNT is thought to have gone.

S252 XPU Ford Transit is in (by 10.03)

MA52 OVV Ford Transit Tourneo is in (by 10.03)

BARKER ROYDON BSK 887 (ex E332 PWO) Dennis/Duple is in (by 7.03)

VJI 1985 (ex H178 RHE, G337 KWE) Neoplan N122/3 is in (by 11.03), has been with Tim's Travel, Sheerness, Kent

WIW 4749 (ex H204 AOD) Neoplan N122/3 is in (by 11.03), has been with Silver Choice, East Kilbride

XIL 5455 MCW Metrobus is in the yard (thought to be ex B137 WUL)

BRENTWOOD COACHES LITTLE WALTHAM The registration UTR 705 is now on a ?/Plaxton Premiere 350 (by 10.03)

BROWN STANFORD-LE-HOPE P768 JKL an Iveco minibus is in (by 10.03)

CAROUSEL HARLOW Ford Transits acquired are RY02 RYH EG03 SFU and EY 03 VNP (by 10.03)

CEDRIC WIVENHOE Neoplan R16 CED suffered fire damage (c 7.03) - it is away being repaired.

Bova Futura TJI 6306 (ex 327 RFC, G419 WFP) suffered accident damage (by 7.03) - it is currently away for assessment.

Dennis Javelin/Neoplan P891 MHE has gone (by 10.03)

CM3 CARS SOUTH WOODHAM FERRERS J383 NKM Omni is in (by 10.03) - last reported with Group Taxibus as 'Omni 19'.

COOK ROCHFORD T287 WWY LDV Convoy/LDV is in (by 10.03).

COUNTY COACHES BRENTWOOD Registration 7947 RU is on a ?/VH (by 10.03). It was previously on a Scania/Jonckhree, new as F947 RNV, which is presumed to have gone.

CROWN BENFLEET It is confirmed that Setra F668 DDO (ex 222 GRA, F668 DDO) is with this operator (8.03).

B962 COX (ex D420 HPO, SJI 5028, D131 CJF) has gone to Lloyd (dealer), Hixon (by 10.03), following an accident.

ESSEX HERITAGE TOURS RAYLEIGH Note the operating centre is Rayleigh Downs Road (corrects N & P 1895) - caution, unmade road.

EVERY HULLBRIDGE EK02 GBE Ford Transit is in (by 10.03)

FARNHAM HIRE SERVICES FARNHAM G963 WNR a short Dennis Javelin/Duple has gone to Memories for Tomorrow (by 10.03).

FORD ALTHORNE CUD 222Y Leyland Olympian/ECW H--/--D is in (10.03) ex City of Oxford 222, it is being altered to H../..F and prepared for service.

P899 FMO and P347 KCF Dennis Javelin / Berkhoff C53F are in (by 10.03) ex Kings Ferry, Gillingham, Kent

DAF/Caetano CNZ 3817 (ex H411 CJF) has gone to Kings Ferry (by 10.03)

This operator does not have (and has never had) fleet numbers. Some of the ex Isle of Man vehicles still have their Isle of Man fleet numbers, but these are not Ford's numbers. No other vehicles have (or have had) numbers.

FREELANCE SOUTHEND L865 EDA Renault Master is in (by 10.03) - was once with PDQ, Colchester.

GROUP TAXIBUS CHELMSFORD EU53 NMM (fleet no. 30) Fiat Ducato is new (10.03)

HALLS HENHAM DAF/Plaxton C66 SUT has gone to Memories for Tomorrow.

HANN HARLOW Registration GAZ 4435 is now (by 10.03) on a Citroën Relay.

HARDY MILES SOUTHEND-ON-SEA The operating centre is now at the rear of 319 Sutton Road, but access is from Vale Avenue.

The following were noted (10.03):-

XIL 3730 (ex ??????) Mercedes Benz 507D

N798 XKK Ford Transit

K451 TKR Talbot (unlicensed) - tax had expired end 8.03

LODGE HIGH EASTER BRC 839T & HJB 459W Bristol VR/ECW are in (10.03) ex Hedingham L203, L250.

MB TRAVEL HARLOW W292 PTD LDV Convoy / LDV (high) is in (by 10.03) ex Robilliard, Harlow

METEOR STANSTED BU53 AXN/O Mercedes Benz (artics) are in (by 10.03)

OLYMPIAN HARLOW Ivecos M731 A00 and N742 AVW are in use (by 10.03)

PDQ COLCHESTER R824 GKX an Iveco is in (by 10.03)

PM ENTERPRISES HOCKLEY Recently granted an operators licence, this is a stretch-limo company.

RONDA SOUTHEND E542 FMV Freight Rover Sherpa is in (by 10.03)

RS TRAVEL BRAINTREE RJ1 4076 (ex F861 PGS) is named "Essex Flyer". N302 FSG is named "Spanish Flyer".

SEADEN COLCHESTER NIJ 2636 (ex B502 CBD) DAF/Jonchhree is in (by 10.03) ex Waller, Wivenhoe.

SILVERSTYLE HOCKLEY Recently obtained an operators licence, this is a Stretch-limo company. The following were noted (amongst many):- N793HWC, P950YBO, S666SHS.

STANSTED TRANSIT T223 SAS Dennis Dart SLF/Plaxton is in (by 10.03) ex Rapson, Inverness.

P689 RWU Dennis Dart SLF/Plaxton is in (by 11.03) ex Armchair, Brentford, Gt.London.

STANWAY TRAVEL SERVICES LAYER-DE-HAYE EU 52 JZO Ford Transit is in (by 10.03) - on taxi plate.

STERLING EUROPEAN SOUTHEND-ON-SEA Is a new operator, where the following have been seen :-

B301 WUL MCW Metrobus is in (by 10.03) ex Trustline, Potters Bar, Herts.

F118 PHM Volvo/Alexander is in (by 10.03) ex Arriva

N23 RTN Volvo/Plaxton is in (by 10.03) ex Durham Travel, and out (10.03) to Stephenson, Rochford.

M256/8 TAK Scania/Irizar are in (by 10.03) ex Supreme, Colchester

EU52 OZT LDV Convoy / LDV (high) is in (by 10.03).

SUPREME COLCHESTER Vehicles noted here (10.03) are:-

C343/52/74 BUV MCW Metrobus ex London United M1343/52/74

C755 OCN MCW Metrobus ex Go Ahead

T301 ROF Setra S250 (new to Coach Stop as 'Rain Forest' and still in that livery) was in the Stock Road yard 10.03, but owner not known.

TALLISMAN GT BROMLEY To correct/clarify some details :-

Leyland Olympian C668 LJR has never been with Tallisman or Windmill - it was with Phoenix.

Leyland Atlantean XPG 184T and Dennis Dominator C721 NCD should be on the list of vehicles transferred from Windmill to Tallisman.

TOMS SOUTHEND Most vehicles are now at 11 Small Holdings, Eastwoodbury Land, Eastwood.

TOWN & COUNTRY GRAYS Fleet nos. are 109 - L112HHV; 202 - C809BYY; 207 - C107CHM; 210 - SDX34R.

VALLEYS ASSOCIATES BASILDON N146 BFL (ex N4 CNG, N14 CNG, N835 DKU) Scania / Irizar is in (by 10.03) ex Day & Ellwood (C & G Coaches), Chatteris, Cambs.

WALDEN TRAVEL SAFFRON WALDEN Dennis Javelin/Plaxton 14 R682 DWS (ex R777 DEN, R682 DWS) has the name "Gandalf".

WARD ALRESFORD C67 CHM (ex EMN 208U, C67 CHM) Leyland Olympian/ECW ex Isle of Man Transport 8 is in (by 10.03)

C580 VMX (ex EMN 209U, C69 CHM) Leyland Olympian/ECW ex Isle of Man Transport 9 is in (by 10.03)

WG SERVICES HARLOW L806/8 FRD MAN/Optare are in (by 10.03) ex Reading Buses 806/8.

Volvo/Marshall L655 MFL went 16.10.03 on a low loader.

L722OVX Iveco/Marshall is in use (by 10.03) ex Arriva

Miscellaneous

The following was seen in Clacton (10.03) - operator unknown

S153 NPO Ford Transit (restricted disc)

The following were seen in Harlow (10.03) - operators unknown

N175 OEW LDV 400 (with disc)

L187 RHJ Renault Traffic (with disc)

R6 NEB Ford Transit (l.w.b.) / Fd

The following were seen at Stansted Airport (5.11.03) - owners unknown

TVP 856S Leyland National (Highland Country livery)

AOL 17T Leyland National

BVP 761V Leyland National (Halesowen on blind)

GOG 214W MCW Metrobus

B251 WUL MCW Metrobus

G105 EOG, G255 EOG Leyland Lynx

The above 7 vehicles were thought to be unlicensed

WYW 76T MCW Metrobus

BYX 292V MCW Metrobus

KYV 764X MCW Metrobus

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B206 WUL MCW Metrobus

K716 KGU Dennis Dart / Plaxton

The above 5 vehicles are thought to be Stephenson (dealer), stock.

BYX 218V MCW Metrobus

DBV 136Y Leyland Olympian / ECW

J226 HGY Dennis Dart / Plaxton

X802 HNV Mercedes Benz Sprinter

The above 4 vehicles were in use and are thought to be Excel vehicles.

A999 SYF MCW Metrobus - in use - operator unknown.

ESSEX - Non-PSV Operators

RTW 11W Ford Transit/Dormobile seen outside Chelmsford auction on 13.10.03 - probably in the hands of a dealer (last reported with SARAH, Thurrock)

H580 DDX Mercedes Benz 507D / Devon Conversions lettered 'Leigh Mobility', seen outside Chelmsford auction 13.10.03 - probably in the hands of a dealer.

D291 OAK Toyota / Caetano is now a caravan seen at Benfleet (next to Crown's yard) - previously with Scott, Hertford.

J135 OBU Talbot/ Made to Measure is at 10 Katonia Avenue, Maylandsea - was new to Gatwick Flyer, Romford.

C611 XVF Ford Transit/Dormobile is parked at the end of Coniston, Southend (I think this was new to Norfolk C.C.)

R795 WOY Mercedes Benz/Autobus is at 16 Aldermans Hill, Hockley - this may be a taxi operator (this vehicle last reported with Euro Dollar, W.Drayton)

Photos required for use in EBN.

Send your topical photos of Essex buses past and present to:

Peter Mansbridge

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Essex SS6 8JE



Arriva Southend 3092 H923LOX

The oldest Dennis Dart in the Arriva Southend Fleet is 3092 (H392LOX), Dennis Dart 9.8 SDL with Carlyle B40F bodywork new in February 1991. It is part of a batch of eight originally taken into the fleet of Luton and District where they were numbered DC1-8, and were acquired for London Transport contract 258 Watford to South Harrow.

Today 3092 is still in daily use in the Southend area on a variety of routes. (Peter Snell)



Bristol VR STW 25W This ex-Eastern National and NIBS vehicle is now with LinkFast (Castle Point Bus Company) and is pictured here at this Octobers Canvey Rally. (Chris Stewart)

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JENNINGS OF ASHEN FACT FILE 5

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To go with the Jennings of Ashen Fact File you may also be interested in purchasing a genuine Jennings souvenir. Member Ian Taylor made available for sale six copies only of the timetable leaflet for their London service (see Fact File back page) dated 1st August 1959. They are printed on green paper and are in MINT condition. This is a one off offer and it will be a case of first come, first served. They are available from Alan Osborne (address above).

- Prices
- £5.00 each (post free if ordered with Fact File)
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-

ESSEX BUS SHOP

Issue 4 Autumn 2003
www.essexbus.org.uk

Inside this issue

- Essex Bus Books
- Current Timetables
- Vintage Timetables
- Essex Bus Photos

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