

ESSEX BUS NEWS

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Essex Bus Enthusiasts Group

serving Essex since 1964

www.essexbus.org.uk

Essex Bus Enthusiasts Group - Directory

SUBSCRIPTIONS

A 12 month subscription is £18.50 by First Class post, renewable in January or July.

Data Protection Act: Members' details are held on computer for the purpose of administration. If you object to your information being held in this way, please contact the Membership Secretary:

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Replacements for missing or defective EBNs are available from the Membership Secretary.

TIMETABLE SUBSCRIPTIONS

Join this scheme to receive Essex County Council timetable books and updates. Please contact Derek Stebbing for information or visit www.essexbus.org.uk

PUBLICATION SALES

All orders for publications should be sent to:
Owen Woodliffe
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Owen also stocks a wide range of colour photos - send SAE with your requirements.

B/W PHOTO SALES

All orders for photos from lists enclosed with EBN should be sent to:

Lyn Watson
c/o Barrons Chartered Accountants,
Monometer House, Rectory Grove, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex, SS9 2HN

Prints of specific EN (and predecessor) vehicles can also be supplied: email with requirements: lynw@barrons-bds.com

YOUR REPORTS AND OBSERVATIONS

Members reports are always welcome. Please send them to the relevant Sub-Editor.

Photos (prints, slides or digital images - in JPG format) are also welcome - please send to David Harman.

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.

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

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

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Dates for your diary

■ EBN PRESS DATES

<i>For inclusion in EBN dated:</i>	<i>reports should reach Editors by:</i>	<i>planned despatch date:</i>
September	6 September	15 September
October	4 October	13 October
November	1 November	10 November

Please note that the **planned** despatch date may change for all sorts of reasons. The **actual** 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 **only** be obtained from the Membership Secretary (address opposite). None of the Editors hold spares, so there is no point in contacting them. They cannot help!

■ ROCHFORD MEETINGS

Meetings now take place in the **Committee Room** (upstairs), **Freight House, Bradley Way, Rochford** (the old railway goods shed, adjacent to Rochford station). There is a large free car park and *one Great Eastern* trains & *Arriva Southend* services 7/8 stop nearby. Doors open at 1915 for an informal chat, with the main talk or show from 2000 to 2145. Drinks are normally available. All members and guests are very welcome. £1 donation towards room hire please. *Richard Delahoy*

Autumn programme:

- ▶ **Tuesday September 12** - Members Photos - facilities for slides and digital images.
- ▶ **Tuesday October 10** - "*Piers of the Realm*" by *Dave Carson*, a talk/slide show about pier railways with particular emphasis on Southend.
- ▶ **Tuesday November 14** - "*EN's yellow & green years*" - a slide show by *Chris Stewart* with emphasis on the early post-privatisation livery.
- ▶ **Tuesday December 12** - 20 years ago slide show by *Richard Delahoy* celebrating the start of deregulation in October 1986.

■ COLCHESTER 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. 20.00 to 22.00 (doors open at 19.30). Refreshments available. All members and guests are very welcome. £1 donation towards room hire please. We can now show prints, slides or digital photos. *Dave Arnold*

Autumn programme:

- ▶ **Friday 8 September** - *Graham Belfall*: 'Picture show on Wales'
- ▶ **Friday 13 October** - *Keith Woods*: 'East Anglian Buses ~ a Personal View'
- ▶ **Friday 10 November** - *Fred Lawrence*: 'On the Company's Expenses'!
- ▶ **Friday 9 December** - *Michael Yelton*, *practising lawyer* (author of "*Trams, Trolleybuses and Buses and the Law*") and *bus enthusiast* - topic to be advised.

■ 2006 TOUR PROGRAMME

- ▶ **Saturday 2 September** - **South Essex Six-Legger Tour** - full details on booking form on the following page. In view of the relatively short notice, bookings are also accepted by phone - 01621 857509

Dave Arnold



Blue Triangle in Essex: Sunday 16 July: **Ensignbus** HLJ 44 (with driver: EBEG member, Duncan Law) gleams at Hatfield Heath. *Iain Stewart*

■ RALLIES, OPEN DAYS ETC.

- ▶ **Saturday 2 Sept:** Vintage Bus Display & Running Day with Transport Enthusiasts Bazaar, Theydon Bois Village Hall, Essex. www.nlts.sphosting.com/
- ▶ **Saturday and Sunday 2/3 Sept: 75 Years of Eastern Counties:** Saturday: FEC Routemaster on old route 5 (Norwich - Gt Yarmouth); preserved jumbo (LFS 303F) VR on city 19/20; free service 'twixt rail station and FEC Thorpe Road depot, using preserved L, LSX, MW, FL and VR. Sunday: the Norwich Bus Rally at the Norfolk Showground with RM-operated route 100 link to city centre.
www.firstgroup.com/ukbus/eastanglia/eastanglia/special_services/

■ BLUE TRIANGLE ESSEX SUNDAY ROUTES

- ▶ **Sundays 27 August, 17 September.** See EBN504 for details.

From the Editor ...

This month we have another packed issue. Special thanks to the Editors and contributors for all their news and photos.

Talisman Coachlines have donated £50 from the proceeds of the Evening Talisman Tour to the **Essex Air Ambulance** - a very worthy cause.

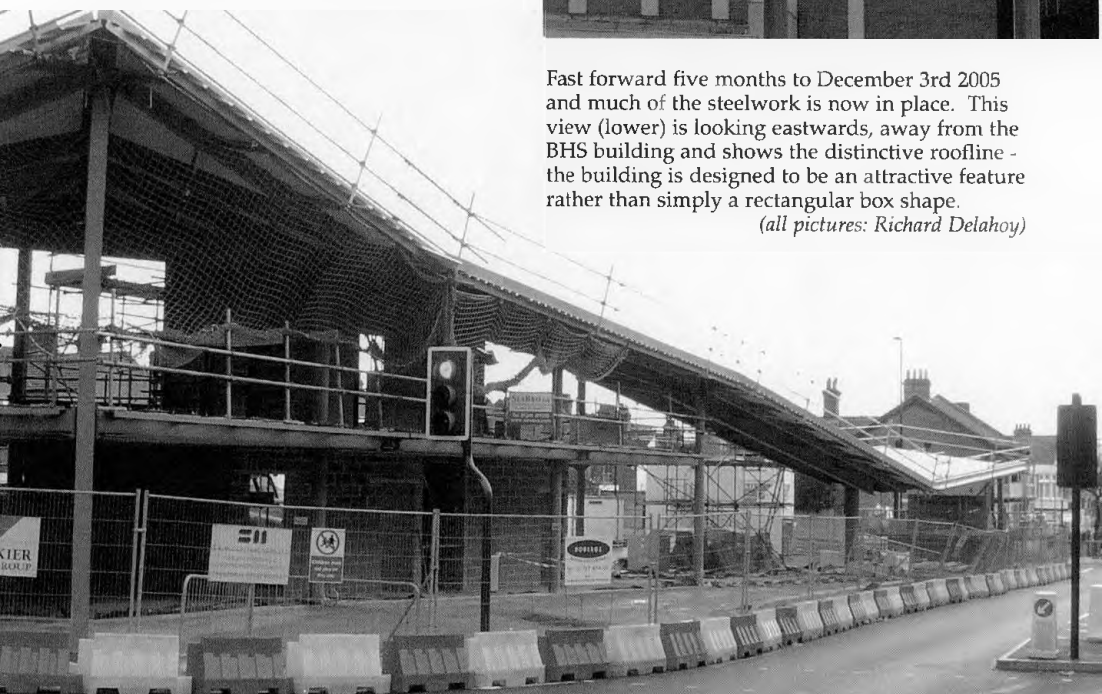
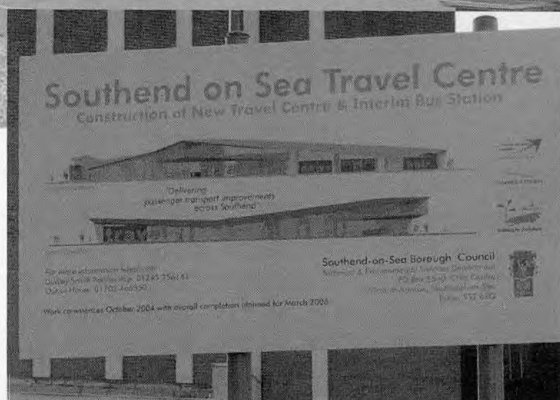
Membership Secretary Derek Stebbing has a new email address which it is hoped will prove more reliable than his old one: derekstebbing@yahoo.com

Overseas members: From this issue, it is hoped to send EBN by airmail rather than by printed paper rate, which means member should receive it more quickly.

David Harman



After closure of the old bus station (last used on 8th January 2005), initially the area was still used by buses turning round, but by July 23, 2005 the road surface had been remodelled and re-laid and the new layout was becoming clear as the foundations were dug for the travel centre building (top). Looking westwards, the mass of the BHS and Iceland stores dominates the skyline.



Fast forward five months to December 3rd 2005 and much of the steelwork is now in place. This view (lower) is looking eastwards, away from the BHS building and shows the distinctive roofline - the building is designed to be an attractive feature rather than simply a rectangular box shape.

(all pictures: Richard Delahoy)



The style of the building is evident in these four shots, all taken on July 22, not long after the centre opened:

top left: **First Dart 46150** waits in the holding area for the green light to show that stand B is free - each departure stand only holds one bus and the lights are designed to avoid congestion on stops.

middle: Canvey bound Darts of the East Lancs and Plaxton varieties load on stands C and B respectively.

lower: The building is light and airy with a high roof line over some stands, but over A and B the roof line dips as seen here (this view corresponds to the December 3, 2005 exterior shot on page 5). A sandwich counter is due to be installed on the far wall.

There are five stands, A-D and Y. Y was originally to have been called E, and was originally shown as such on the indicators. E of course remains as a stand in Chichester Road (see map overleaf) but was originally to have been relocated to the Travel Centre and used for Southchurch Road services. This is why stand E was the only one in the temporary arrangements never to have been provided with a shelter. Now that it is remaining where it was originally, a shelter has been installed - at last!

An unusual (unique?) feature of the Travel Centre is the indicator system used to control bus movements. There are two, located (1) on the right of the lane of stops that were the old A-D, now the layover area, and (2) on the 'holding' stand within the bus station itself - see top left picture. A green arrow indicates the stand is free; a red cross indicates the stand is occupied.



right: (courtesy, Ian Banks) is indicator (1) showing stands A-D and SP1 as free, with Y, occupied. SP1 is the 'holding' (SPare) stand. The plans allowed for two 'holding' stands, but in practice only one has been provided. The indicators should be worked by pressure pads at each stand, which also open the doors into the building. If a bus is standing at one of stands A-D/Y, it will turn the indicator to red. Once off the pressure pad, the indicator should go to green and the doors shut.



The map in the Travel Centre leaflet (opposite) is misleading in appearing to show stops E/F/G/H moved into the easternmost section off Chichester Road (i.e. where A-D were previously). In fact, they have remained in their existing location and the site of the former stands A-D is now the main layover area for terminating buses, hence the indicator control system to let drivers know whether their stop in the main bus station is occupied or free. The map is also wrong as it fails to show the link from Church Road into/out of the Travel Centre for through buses on 7, 8, 9, 21B, 27/A/B and 560, whilst no in-service buses use the section of Chichester Road between York Road and Heygate Avenue.

One interesting but probably unintentional effect is to put Chelmsford services on totally different stops - 35 on F, X30 on Y. Given they usually leave at the same time, this will make anyone using a free pass make a conscious decision which route to queue for.

Richard Delahoy

Before the Travel Centre opened: **Arriva Southend Volvo B6 3609 (L609 EKM)** a recent transfer from Arriva Medway Towns at Sittingbourne. Seen on the Chichester Road stand, in front of the temporary enquiry office. *Peter Mansbridge*



Where to Board Your Bus



BUS STOP A	Services via LONDON ROAD 1, 5
BUS STOP B	Services via LONDON ROAD 2, 3, 26, 26^B, 27, 27^A, 27^B
BUS STOP C	Services via VICTORIA AVENUE 15, 15^B, 16, 21, 21^A, 21^B, 29
BUS STOP D	Services via VICTORIA AVENUE 20, 20^C, 25
BUS STOP Y	OUT OF AREA SERVICES X30
BUS STOP E	Services via SOUTHCHURCH ROAD 1, 4, 4^A, 14, 26
BUS STOP F	OUT OF AREA SERVICES X10, 35, 35^X, 305

BUS STOP F	OUT OF AREA SERVICES X10, 35, 35^X, 305
BUS STOP G	Services via EASTERN ESPLANADE 9
BUS STOP H	Services via WOODGRANGE DRIVE 7, 8
BUS STOP J	Services via CUCKOO CORNER 9, 200, 222
BUS STOP K	Services via VICTORIA AVENUE 7, 8
BUS STOP L	Services via HEYGATE AVENUE 11^A, 13, 24, 25^E, 60, 560
BUS STOP M	Services via CLIFFS PAVILION 11^A, 24, 25^E, 560

Essex Service Changes

Arriva East Herts & Essex

1 Jul 06	724	Daily	Heathrow Airport - Harlow Bus Station. Additional later evening journeys from Heathrow M-S at 21:35 to Harlow and 22:35 to Ware. The 22:05 withdrawn.
27 Aug 06	4	Su	Little Parndon, Foldcroft - Harlow Town Station.
	10	Daily	Harlow Town Station - Church Langley (circular)
	11	Su	Revised timetable incorporating ECC Sunday service.
	12	Su	Harlow Town Station - Little Parndon, Foldcroft.
			Old Harlow, Opp Post Office - Staple Tye (circular)
			NEW services. ECC contracts for 4, 10 (Sunday), 11, 12 gained from <i>Clintona Minicoaches</i> .
	200	Su	Harlow Bus Station - Buckhurst Hill Station
	201	Su	Buckhurst Hill Station - Ongar, Two Brewers
			NEW services. ECC contracts for 200/1 gained from <i>Regal Busways</i> .
	203	Su	Harlow Bus Station - Debden Broadway, Torrington Drive.
			NEW service. ECC contract gained from <i>Stansted Transit</i> .
	302	SDO	Saffron Walden, High Street - Harlow Bus Station
			Withdrawn.
	322	SDO	Old Harlow, Post Office - Saffron Walden, High Street
			Withdrawn. ECC contract lost to <i>Excel Passenger Logistics</i> .
29 Aug 06	250	M-S	Debden Broadway, Torrington Drive - Waltham Cross Bus Station. Revised timetable. Sunday service now operated under ECC contract by <i>Regal Busways</i> .
	252	M-S	Waltham Cross Bus Station - Waltham Abbey (circular)
			Revised timetable - Sunday service withdrawn.
	381	M-S	Toot Hill, Hillcrest Road - Harlow Bus Station
	382	M-F	Toot Hill, Hillcrest Road - Harlow Bus Station
			NEW services. ECC contracts for 381/2 gained from <i>Regal Busways</i> .
3 Sep 06	725	M-S	St Albans, St Peters St - Harlow Bus Station.
			Withdrawn; journeys incorporated in 724.

Arriva Southend

17 Jul 06	1, 5, 7, 8, 9, 29	Daily	Shoeburyness, Blackgate Road - Rayleigh Rail Station
			Minor changes to route following opening of Southend Travel Centre.
14 Aug 06	377	M-S	Tilbury, Civic Centre - Lakeside Bus Station
			Revised timetable.
	383	M-S	Lakeside Bus Station - Chadwell St Mary, Brentwood
			Road Estate. Revised timetable.
20 Aug 06	373	Daily	Grays Bus Station - Romford, Mercury Gardens
			Revised route in Grays now via Elizabeth Road, Hogg Lane and London Road (no longer serving Lodge Lane and Hathaway Road).

Beestons

26 Aug 06	11	M-S	Sudbury Bus Station - Gosfield Lake, Mobile Home Park.
	12	M-S	Sudbury Bus Station - Halstead, Butler Road Car Park
	13	M-S	Sudbury Bus Station - Halstead, Butler Road Car Park
			ECC Village Link 11/2/3 contracts transferred to <i>Constable Coaches</i>

Blue Triangle

27 Aug 06	5	Daily	Basildon Bus Station - Pitsea, Tesco Store
	8B	Daily	Laindon - Pitsea (circular)
	8C	Daily	Laindon - Pitsea (circular)
			NEW evening services under contract to ECC, gained

			from <i>First</i> . Daytime service on 5, 8/8A/8B/8C continues to be operated by <i>First</i> .
	232	Su	Basildon Hospital - Shotgate, Post Office.
	101	M-S	NEW service: ECC contract gained from <i>First</i> . Ramsden Heath - Basildon Hospital.
			NEW evening services under contract to ECC, gained from <i>First</i> . Daytime service 101 continues to be operated by <i>First</i> .
	256	TuFS	Basildon Bus Station - Billericay, Bluebell Wood
			NEW service: ECC contract gained from <i>First</i> .
Burtons Coaches			
	25 Jul 06	32	M-S
			Cambridge, Drummer Street Bus Station - Saffron Walden, High Street. Withdrawn (see <i>Stagecoach</i> service 7)
Clintona Minicoaches			
	20 Aug 06	10	Su
		11	Su
		12	Su
	27 Aug 06	4	Su
			Harlow Town Station - Church Langley (circular) Harlow Town Station - Little Parndon, Foldcroft Old Harlow, Opp Post Office - Staple Tye (circular) S Little Parndon, Foldcroft - Harlow Town Station Withdrawn. ECC contracts for 10, 11, 12 and 4 transferred to <i>Arriva East Herts & Essex</i> .
Constable Coaches			
	29 Aug 06	11	M-S
		12	M-S
		13	M-S
			Sudbury Bus Station - Gosfield Lake, Mobile Home Park. Sudbury Bus Station - Halstead, Butler Road Car Park Sudbury Bus Station - Halstead, Butler Road Car Park NEW services: ECC contracts for 11/12/13 gained from <i>Beestons</i> (associated with Constable).
		87	M-S
		87A	M-F
		247	M-S
			Colchester Bus Station - Dedham (circular). Colchester Bus Station - Dedham, Marlborough Head Colchester Bus Station - East Bergholt, Cooks Garage. NEW services: ECC contracts for 87/87A/247 gained from <i>Network Colchester</i> .
Ensign Bus Co.			
	26 Aug 06	77	M-S
		83	M-S
			Tilbury - Lakeside. Revision to evening timetable. Chadwell St Mary - Lakeside. Revision to evening timetable.
Excel Passenger Logistics			
	29 Aug 06	47	TThFS
		146	TTh
	30 Aug 06	147	W
			Harlow Bus Station - Ongar, Two Brewers Harlow Bus Station - Hatfield Heath, White Horse. Harlow Bus Station - Toothill, Hillcrest Road NEW services: ECC contracts for 47, 146, 147 gained from <i>Trustline</i> .
		314	W
		315	W
		346	W
		446	W
			Saffron Walden, High Street - Braintree Bus Park Stebbing Green - Great Dunmow, Tesco Store Leaden Roding School - Great Dunmow, Tesco Store Berden, Green - Saffron Walden, High Street NEW services: ECC contracts for 314, 315, 346 and 446 gained from <i>Walden Travel (Four Counties Buses)</i> .
	4 Sep 06	322	SDO
			Old Harlow, Post Office - Saffron Walden, High Street NEW service: ECC contract gained from <i>Arriva East Herts & Essex</i> .
First			
	09 Jul 06	11A,24,25E	Su
			Sutton Cemetery - Chelmsford, Coval Lane With the opening of the Southend Travel Centre journeys from Sutton no longer serve the Central Bus Station but pick-up and set-down at the Central Rail Station in Clifftown Road.
	14 Jul 06	999	FS
			Colchester (circular service): Reintroduction of late night/early hours service. Half hourly from 23:45 until

			03:15 from the Hippodrome to Greenstead, Highwoods, Mile End, North Station.
7 Aug 06	851	SDO	Gallows Corner - Shenfield School. Service withdrawn.
20 Aug 06	11A	Su	Sutton Cemetery - Chelmsford, Coval Lane.
	232	Su	Withdrawn. ECC contract transferred to <i>Regal Busways</i> . Basildon Hospital - Shotgate, Post Office.
25 Aug 06	9	TThF	ECC contract transferred to <i>Blue Triangle</i> . Great Holland, The Ship - Walton, Columbine Centre
	31A	M-F	Withdrawn. ECC contract transferred to <i>Heddingham Omns</i> . Chelmsford, Coval Lane - Woodham Walter, Council Houses.
	417	SDO	Withdrawn. ECC contract transferred to <i>Regal Busways</i> . Rayne, Welsh Princess - Newport Grammar School
	418	SDO	Great Sailing Church - Newport Grammar School
			Withdrawn. ECC contracts for 417 and 418 transferred to <i>Heddingham Omnibuses</i> .
	X20	M-S	Braintree, Marks Farm (Tesco Store) - Stansted Airport, Coach Terminal. NEW hourly coach service
26 Aug 06	17	M-S	Clacton, Station Road - Point Clear, Holiday Park
	18	M-S	Clacton, Station Road - Point Clear, Holiday Park
			17 and 18: Revised timetable with evening ECC contract journeys now operated by <i>Heddingham Omnibuses</i> (along with ECC Sunday service)
	256	TuFS	Basildon Bus Station - Billericay, Bluebell Wood
			Withdrawn. ECC contract transferred to <i>Blue Triangle</i> .
	70	M-S	Colchester Bus Station - Braintree, Fairfield Avenue
			Revised timetable to operate M-S only. ECC Sunday service contract transferred to <i>Regal Busways</i> .
	88B	M-S	Colchester Bus Station - Little Tey, Godbolt's Farm
			Revised timetable following transfer of ECC Sunday contract service (numbered 88) to <i>Heddingham Omnibuses</i> .
	105	M-S	Colchester Bus Station - Walton Rail Station
	107	M-S	Colchester Bus Station - Walton Rail Station
	109	M-S	Colchester Bus Station - Walton Rail Station
	175	M-S	Colchester Bus Station - Fingringhoe, High Park Corner.
			Withdrawn. ECC contracts for 105, 107, 109 and 175 transferred to <i>Network Colchester</i> .
	256	TuFS	Basildon Bus Station - Billericay, Bluebell Wood
			Withdrawn. ECC contract transferred to <i>Blue Triangle</i> .
	343	S	Braintree Bus Park - Flacks Green (circular)
			Withdrawn. ECC contract transferred to <i>Heddingham Omnibuses</i> .
	565	M-S	Brentwood Rail Station - Bulphan, Church (circular)
27 Aug 06	2	Daily	Withdrawn. ECC contract transferred to <i>Regal Busways</i> . Southend Bus Station - Basildon Bus Station
			Revised Sunday timetable.
	20	Daily	Southend Bus Station - Hullbridge Anchor
			Minor timetable revision.
	27B	Su	Southend, Travel Centre - Canvey, Leigh Beck
			Section of route between Sutton Cemetery and Southend (Bus Station) withdrawn.
	45	Daily	Moulsham Lodge Estate, Heath Drive - Oxney Green, Lodge Road. Revised timetable. M-S evening journeys withdrawn and ECC contract transferred to <i>Regal Busways</i> .
	5	Daily	Basildon Bus Station - Pitsea, Tesco Store
			Revised timetable. ECC contract for evening journeys transferred to <i>Blue Triangle</i> .
	75	Daily	Colchester Bus Station - Maldon, Blackwater Leisure Centre. ECC contract for M-S evening journeys

	78	Daily	transferred to <i>Regal Busways</i> . Colchester High Street - Brightlingsea, Regent Road ECC contract for Sunday evening journeys transferred to <i>Hedingham Omnibuses</i> .
	8B	Su	Laindon - Pitsea (circular)
	8C	Su	Laindon - Pitsea (circular)
			8B and 8C: revised timetable to operate daytime only; ECC contract for evening journeys transferred to <i>Blue Triangle</i> .
29 Aug 06	30	M-S	Braintree, Fairfield Road - Mountbatten Road (circular) Minor timetable revision
	72	M-S	Chelmsford, Westway (First Depot) - Braintree, Fairfield Road. Minor timetable revision
	101	M-S	Ramsden Heath - Basildon Hospital Revised timetable to operate daytime only; ECC contract for evening journeys transferred to <i>Blue Triangle</i> .
30 Aug 06	85	W	Mistley, Rigby Avenue - Brightlingsea, Victoria Place Withdrawn. ECC contract transferred to <i>Hedingham Omnibuses</i> .
4 Sep 06	502	SDO	Southend High School for Boys - Shenfield Rail Station Minor timetable revisions.
	512	SDO	Southend High School for Boys - Chelmsford, Coval Lane. Revised timetable.
	516	SDO	North Fambridge - South Woodham Ferrers: NEW service.
Fords Coaches			
24 Aug 06	1	Th	Asheldham, Brook Lane - Maldon, Tesco Store. Withdrawn.
Hedingham Omnibuses			
25 Aug 06	175	M-F	Colchester Bus Station - Fingringhoe, High Park Corner
26 Aug 06	59	M-S	Haverhill Bus Station - Clavering, Brent Pelham Corner Withdrawn. ECC contracts for 175 and 59 transferred to <i>Network Colchester</i> .
27 Aug 06	17	Daily	Clacton, Station Road - Point Clear, Holiday Park
	18	Daily	Clacton, Station Road - Point Clear, Holiday Park 17 and 18: revised timetable to incorporate M-S ECC evening contract journeys formerly operated by <i>First</i> . Thus, <i>First</i> operate M-S daytime; <i>Hedingham:</i> M-S evenings and Su.
	88B	Su	Colchester Bus Station - Little Tey, Godbolt's Farm NEW service: ECC contract transferred from <i>First</i> .
	275	SDO	Rowhedge, Heath Road - Monkwick, Thomas Lord Audley School. Withdrawn. ECC contract transferred to <i>Network Colchester</i> .
29 Aug 06	9	M-F	Braintree Bus Park - Great Bardfield, Alienor Avenue NEW service: ECC contract transferred from <i>Stansted Transit</i> .
	9	TThF	Great Holland, The Ship - Walton, Columbine Centre NEW service: ECC contract transferred from <i>First</i> .
	89	M-S	Braintree, Coggeshall Road (Opp Sainsburys) - Great Yeldham, The Green: Revised Terminal. Section of route between Haverhill and Great Yeldham withdrawn.
30 Aug 06	85	W	Mistley, Rigby Avenue - Brightlingsea, Victoria Place
	86	W	Aingers Green - Colchester, Head Street
2 Sep 06	343	S	Braintree Bus Park - Flacks Green (circular)
4 Sep 06	417	SDO	Rayne, Welsh Princess - Newport Grammar School
	418	SDO	Great Sailing Church - Newport Grammar School NEW services 85/6 , 343 , 417/8: ECC contracts transferred from <i>First</i> .

Network Colchester

26 Aug 06	87	M-S	Colchester Bus Station - Dedham (circular)
	87A	M-F	Colchester Bus Station - Dedham, Marlborough Head
	247	M-S	Colchester Bus Station - East Bergholt, Cooks Garage
			Withdrawn. ECC contracts for 87/87A/247 transferred to <i>Constable Coaches</i> .
	59	M-S	Haverhill Bus Station - Clavering, Brent Pelham Corner NEW service: ECC evening journeys transferred from <i>Hedingham Omnibuses</i> .
	105	M-S	Colchester Bus Station - Walton Rail Station
	107	M-S	Colchester Bus Station - Walton Rail Station
	109	M-S	Colchester Bus Station - Walton Rail Station NEW services: ECC contracts transferred from <i>First</i> .
	175	M-F	Colchester Bus Station - Fingringhoe, High Park Corner NEW service: ECC contract transferred from <i>Hedingham Omnibuses</i> .
4 Sep 06	1	M-S	Greenstead, Hamlet Drive - Ambose Avenue, Worthington Way: Minor changes to the timetable.
	2	M-S	Horkesley Heath, Malvern Way - Severalls Park, The Crescent: Minor changes to the timetable.
	5	M-F	Shrub End, Leather Bottle - General Hospital: Withdrawn from Asda and extended via Turner Road to the hospital hourly M-F between school peaks.
	8	M-S	Monkwick, Gosfield Road - Highwoods, Tesco Store Minor changes to the timetable. (Evening journeys extended to Great Horkesley).
	275	SDO	Rowhedge, Heath Road - Monkwick, Thomas Lord Audley School: NEW service: ECC contract transferred from <i>Hedingham Omnibuses</i> .

NIBS

31 Aug 06	67	SDO	Southminster, High Street - Burnham on Crouch, St Peters School: Withdrawn See <i>Stephensons</i> school contract routes 887/888
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Regal Busways

20 Aug 06	200	Su	Harlow Bus Station - Buckhurst Hill Station
	201	Su	Buckhurst Hill Station - Ongar, Two Brewers
25 Aug 06	382	M-F	Toot Hill, Hillcrest Road - Harlow Bus Station
26 Aug 06	381	M-S	Toot Hill, Hillcrest Road - Harlow Bus Station Withdrawn. ECC contracts for 200, 201, 382 and 381 transferred to <i>Arriva East Herts & Essex</i> .
27 Aug 06	11A	Su	Sutton Cemetery - Chelmsford, Coval Lane
	70	Su	Colchester Bus Station - Braintree, Fairfield Avenue
	71C	Su	Chelmsford, Coval Lane - Colchester Bus Station 11A, 70 and 71C : NEW services, ECC contracts transferred from <i>First</i> .
	250	Su	Debden Broadway, Torrington Drive - Waltham Cross Bus Station: NEW service: ECC contract transferred from <i>Arriva East Herts & Essex</i> .
	251	Su	Upshire, Princefield Road - Hammond Street, Smiths Lane ECC contract transferred from <i>Trustline</i> . (Commercial M-S daytime remain with <i>Arriva East Herts & Essex</i> ; M-S evening journeys already operated by <i>Regal</i>).
29 Aug 06	31A	M-F	Chelmsford, Coval Lane - Woodham Walter, Council Houses: NEW service: ECC contract transferred from <i>First</i> .
	45	M-S	Moulsham Lodge Estate, Heath Drive - Oxney Green, Lodge Road: NEW service: ECC contract for evening journeys transferred from <i>First</i> . Commercial daytime and Sunday service operated by <i>First</i> .
	75	M-S	Colchester Bus Station - Maldon, Blackwater Leisure

			Centre: NEW service: ECC contract for evening journeys transferred from <i>First</i> . Commercial daytime and Sunday service operated by <i>First</i> .
	565	M-S	Brentwood Rail Station - Bulphan, Church (circular)
2 Sep 06	95	S	NEW service: ECC contract transferred from <i>First</i> . Tollesbury, The Square - Maldon, Blackwater Leisure Centre: NEW service: ECC contract for S service transferred from <i>Hedingham Omnibuses</i> .
Royal Mail Post Bus			
25 Aug 06	374	M-F	Littlebury - Saffron Walden - Butts Green: Single morning and afternoon journeys serving Langley, Roast Green Mill End, Stickling Green, Clavering, Wicken Bonhunt and Newport withdrawn. Service will be replaced but details not yet known.
SBC Engineering Ltd			
28 Jun 06	"Seasider"	Daily	Canvey, Sommes Avenue - Shoeburyness, East Beach NEW Open Top Sea Front service via Furtherwick School, Thorney Bay, King Canute, Thames Drive, Leigh-on-Sea, Chalkwell, Western Esplanade, The Pier, Eastern Esplanade, Thorpe Esplanade and Thorpe Bay. One journey in each direction extended to Canvey/Shoeburyness. [Chris Stewart reports that the service was running on 26th July]
Stagecoach in Cambridge			
24 Jul 06	7	M-S	Cottenham, Lambs Lane - Saffron Walden, Station Street NEW service which operates 6 bph between Cottenham and Sawston. 2bph continue on to Pampisford; 2bph to Whittlesford, 1bph to Hinxton and 1bph to Saffron Walden. (Possible replacement for Burtons service 32?)
Stansted Transit			
20 Aug 06	203	Su	Harlow Bus Station - Debden Broadway, Torrington Drive ECC contract transferred to <i>Arriva East Herts & Essex</i> .
24 Aug 06	318	Th	Thaxted, Bardfield End Green - Bishops Stortford Interchange: Withdrawn. ECC contract transferred to <i>Walden Travel (Four Counties Buses)</i> .
25 Aug 06	9	M-F	Braintree Bus Park - Great Bardfield, Alienor Avenue Withdrawn. ECC contract transferred to <i>Hedingham Omnibuses</i> .
29 Aug 06	71C	M-S	Chelmsford, Coval Lane - Colchester Bus Station Evening ECC contract service transferred from <i>First</i> . Daytime commercial service operated by <i>First</i> .
4 Sep 06	1	SDO	Takely, Four Ashes - Saffron Walden, Church Street NEW service: ECC contract transferred from <i>Trustline</i> .
Stephensons of Essex			
4 Sep 06	220	MTh SDO	Burnham on Crouch - Basildon NEW shopper service via Althorne, South Woodham and Wickford.
	812	SDO	Stonebridge, Ye Olde Shoulderstick - Rochford, King Edmund School: Minor timetable revision.
	813	SDO	Little Wakering, Five Shops - Rochford, King Edmund School: Minor timetable revision.
	814	SDO	Barling - Westcliff, Thomas More School New service via Wakering and Shoebury.
	887	SDO	Southminster Station - Burnham-on-Crouch, St Peters School: NEW service.
	888	SDO	Southminster, North End - Burnham on Crouch, St Peters School: NEW service.
	X1	M-F	Rochford, South Street - London, Victoria (Buckingham Palace Road): Revised timetable - Mornings; two journeys

			ex Homesteads, Gable Hall School Afternoon; one journey Victoria to Homesteads and one through journey.
	X10	M-F	Rochford, South Street - London, Victoria (Buckingham Palace Road): Revised timetable with two through journeys at peak times in each direction.
7 Sep 06	93	M-F	Southminster, High Street - Maldon, Upper Plume School Additional commercial shopping journeys TWF SDO.
Trustline			
24 Aug 06	147	W	Harlow Bus Station - Tothill, Hillcrest Road
25 Aug 06	146	TTh	Harlow Bus Station - Hatfield Heath, White Horse
26 Aug 06	47	TThFS	Harlow Bus Station - Ongar, Two Brewers 147, 146 and 47 : Withdrawn. ECC contracts transferred to <i>Excel Passenger Logistics</i> .
	251	Su	Upshire, Princefield Road - Hammond Street, Smiths Lane Withdrawn. ECC contract transferred to <i>Regal Busways</i> .
28 Aug 06	1	SDO	Takely, Four Ashes - Saffron Walden, Church Street Withdrawn
Walden Travel (Four Counties Buses)			
23 Aug 06	314	W	Saffron Walden, High Street - Braintree Bus Park
24 Aug 06	315	Th	Stebbing Green - Great Dunmow, Tesco Store
	346	Th	Leaden Roding School - Great Dunmow, Tesco Store
26 Aug 06	446	SDO	Berden, Green - Saffron Walden, High Street 314, 315, 346 and 446 : Withdrawn. ECC contracts transferred to <i>Excel Passenger Logistics</i> .
31 Aug 06	318	Th	Thaxted, Bardfield End Green - Bishops Stortford Interchange: NEW service: ECC contract gained from <i>Stansted Transit</i> .
4 Sep 06	92	SDO	Chrishall, High Street - Saffron Walden High Street NEW service via Elmdon and Audley End Station.

David Tomlin

Arriva Southend Cadet 3972 (YE06 HPY) leaves a rainy Brentwood on its first day in service on the 498 (26th June). The cove fleetname is the aquamarine and black version, intended for application to the Arriva 'provincial' livery. *Chris Stewart*



■ FIRST ESSEX

New vehicles

The new Scania Omnicity Park & Ride vehicles for Chelmsford entered service on Monday 24th July (although 65028 was seen out on Saturday 22nd). Fleet numbers and names are:

65028	YN06TDO	Holland
65029	YN06TDU	Mildmay
65030	YN06TDV	Tindal
65031	YN06TDX	Strutt
65032	YN06TDZ	un-named at present chassis number YS2N4X20001854140

They are B41F+31 or B38F+31+1 wheelchair, unladen weight is 11540kg and height is 9ft 10ins (3m). They have high quality painted black finish with white Essex County Council vinyls. Silver fleet numbers are carried, as is the legend 'THIS SERVICE IS OPERATED BY FIRST ESSEX'. They were licensed on 13th July, telematics were fitted during the following week and all were taken to Hylands Park in Chelmsford for a photo shoot on Friday 21st.

During week commencing 10th July, the drive frames for the two Plaxton Primos had been delivered to Scarborough from EBL at Hungary and both were due to start build week commencing 17th July. Anticipated delivery dates are 19th and 29th September. It is understood that the Primos will have full vandal screens, cab air conditioning, telematics & next bus stop information systems. They are expected to be supplied in full First Group trim and colours, with multiple CCTV to be installed after delivery.

Allocation changes

Period 4: 2 July to 30 July 2006

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

(A)=acquired, including vehicles on loan; Anc=Ancillary fleet; RES=spare/retained (licensed); D/L(RES)=spare/reserve (delicensed); D/L(D)=delicensed for disposal; DS=Driving School

65028 new-CF; 65029 new-CF; 65030 new-CF; 65031 new-CF; 65032 new-CF

Repaints:

Period 4: to 'Barbie 1'	34012	34014	34013
to 'Barbie 3'	65673	60102	65674 65666 65671

A number of recently repainted vehicles have not regained route branding on return, although the Scania on service 100 appear to be receiving updated logos.

Other Vehicle News

53112 lost its rear advertisement for Willow Windows on repaint, whilst 53121 has gained one for the same firm (obscuring the route branding on the rear). Chelmsford Medical Centre (Fenton House) rear advertisements are now carried by 47219, 47229 and 53129 (again obscuring the route branding).

ECW Olympian 34818 has returned to service (believed to be with the engine from one time First Essex 34698, via First Eastern Counties and Erith) but 34807 is now reported out of use with engine problems.



New Scania for the Chelmsford Park & Ride

Omnicities 65027 (YN06 TDU) and 65032 (YN06 TDZ) in the town centre. The black livery has a deep gloss appearance, apparently because it was applied conventionally with paint rather than by means of vinyl sheets as was the case with the original Scania.

Kevin Smith





above: interiors feature leather coach seating
 right: front nearside detail
 below: the distinctive Omnicity rear: 62029

Chris Stewart



Former Eastern National 4000, Olympian/ECW 34535 (XHK235X), was working on a Park & Ride service from Dip Farm for the Lowestoft Air Show on 27th July.

UNUSUAL VEHICLE WORKINGS

On 20th July, Mercedes DT51803 had been out of service again for 2 weeks and the clutch then needed replacement on DT51780. With both Solos for MOT at Basildon over the preceding 10 days, some unusual workings had been apparent, including Dart MPD DT43800 on Clactons each day (apparently clocking up around 1900 miles per week), DT46802 on 20s & CN 46178 on 22s.

Volvo Olympian CR34309 has been on loan to Harwich. Member Robert Appleton noted it on the 08.30 Colchester-Harwich 104 on 20th July, 16.15 Colchester to Harwich 103 on 21st July, 07.10 Harwich to Colchester 104 on 22nd July, and 07.30 Harwich to Colchester 102 (Sunday service) on 23rd July.

- July
- 3rd 66-branded CR43740 on 61; CR62408 on 66A.
 - 4th BE46116 on 36; CR65679 on 88; CR67008 on 64A.
 - 5th CR34310 on DT103 (loan); 66-branded SLF CR43743 on 61.
 - 6th CR34012 on 65; CR46829 on 65 and 66A.
 - 7th CF34815 on 31 (13.35 ex Chelmsford)
 - 8th CF34815 and CF60103 on planned LUL Jubilee line replacement work.
 - 10th 67-branded CR67002 on 64A. BE46816 on 36, BE46821 on 352.
 - 11th 66-branded CR43740 on 68. Olympian BN30559 on 100, HH46135 on 551 (ex loan to CF).
 - 12th CR34011 on DT103 (loan); CR34303 on 65; CR34307 on 64A. Solo CF53137 on 351 (17.05 Chelmsford-Brook Street), BN61054 on 100.
 - 13th CF47220/47226 both on 30, BE46826 on 352, Solo CF53136 on 351 (07.32 ex Brentwood) and CF53113 also on 351 (17.05 Chelmsford-Brook Street).
 - 14th CR34014 on 103, CF46186 on 75, CF47220 on 21, CR67005 on 104.
 - 16th 5-branded BN43734 on LUL replacement Harrow & Wealdstone-Stonebridge Park.
 - 17th CR34303 on 66A, CR34305 on 78, CR34310 on 64, CR34315 on Clacton 75/76 (covering defective CN34314 which probably returned on the 18.10 ex Colchester). CR67002 on garage showing 70, CR67001 worked 14.35 Colchester-Chelmsford and return 71.
 - 18th 78-branded CR34018 on 61, CR34309 on DT 103 (loan); CR34315 on 65; 65-branded CR65678 on 67E (am), CR67003 on 17.35 Colchester-Chelmsford and return 71. Olympian CR34303 on X22 (21.30 ex Colchester).
 - 19th Dart DT43800 on VL4 (see above). Lance CF60103 on 42.
 - 20th CR34301 on 67A (usually Lance); 66-branded CR43740/1 both on 61; CR46829 on 64; Olympian CR30560, Dart CR46830 and Lance CR67004 on 65; Lance CR67001 on 17.05 Colchester-Braintree 70; Dart CR47104 on 66.
 - 21st CR34315 on 65; DT43800 on VL3 (see above); CR46830 on 64; CR67006 on 65. Dart SLF BN43712 and BN46167 on 851 (usually double deck).
 - 24th CR46830 on 65; Dart SLF CR43716 on 70 (17.05 ex Colchester); CR67006 on 64A. Dart BN46169 on 100; Olympian BN30559 also on 100 (18.00 ex CF); CF43730 on 36; CF43729/31 both on 351; CF46144 on 48; CF47229 on 31X.
 - 25th CR34305 on 61; CR34310 on 66A; CR46830 on 65; CR67004 noted on 64, 66 and 67. CR67001 on 15.45 Colchester-Halstead 88A.
 - 27th Olympian BN31198 on 22.
CR30560 on 66; CR34315 on 64A, CR47105 on 64. CR34309 (see earlier) on 104.
Solo CF53136 on 17.05 Chelmsford-Brook Street 351, BN30559 on early evening 551.
 - 28th Olympian/ECWs CF34815 on 351 during morning, 16.25 Stansted-Chelmsford 33, then 17.45 service 48; CF34816 on 18.15 Chelmsford-Stansted 33; CF34818 on 12.55 Chelmsford-South Woodham 36 and 17.45 Chelmsford-Halstead 352. Dart BE46143 on 17.40 CF-MN 31; CR46830 on 65
 - 29th 61-branded CR43715 on 64A, Scania CR62408 on X22.

Vario BN52581 on 11.23 Lakeside-Canvey 22.
30th CR34303 on 67B.
31st CR34013 on 66A; CR34303 on 64/64A; CR47101 on 65.

- Aug. 1st CF34815/8 both on 33; CF43729 on 352.
Olympian HH31462 very unusually on 17.57 service 20C to Lower Hockley.
2nd 78-branded CR34018 on 66A, CR34305 on 61.
4th CR34310 on 64, CR34315 on 61. CR47101 on 66; CR47102 on 66A; CR47103 on 65;
CR47104 on 66A; CR47105 on 64A and CR47106 on 61. CR67004 o/l to DT (since
approx 2nd) covering DT34285 (accident damage)
CF43729 on 36, CF43731 on 72; CF34818 displaying 36 'sorry not in service', BE46116
on 45; CF47223 on 352; BN61054 on 100

OTHER NEWS

From 25th August, new service X20 will connect Braintree (Marks Farm Tesco) with Stansted Airport using Plaxton Cheetahs 56001-3. These are due to be reallocated to BE from CR, and replacements for the X22 are expected to be cascaded full size coaches from within First group.

Road works town-bound along Baddow Road in Chelmsford scheduled for four weeks from Monday 24th July (but actually completed by 2 August), meant the following temporary arrangements apply:

- 31/36 from Maldon Road via Great Baddow bypass to Army & Navy
- 31A/35 from High Street, to Maldon Road, then Gt Baddow bypass to Army & Navy
- 40/41/50 From Vineyards via Maldon Road and Gt Baddow bypass
- 45 From Gloucester Avenue via Gunson Gate and Princes Road to Army & Navy.

In addition service 40X/50X run from Coval Lane to Army and Navy, via Meadgate Avenue (40X) or Baddow Road (50X), to Gt Baddow village, then Maldon Road, Army & Navy to Coval Lane. Both services run half hourly from 06.25 to 18.35 (M-F) or 07.35 to 18.20 (Sat). Running time is 22 minutes and 2 Darts are used, one on each service.

A fire in premises at the junction of Parkway and Moulsham Street at lunchtime on Sunday 30th required the attendance of 2 pumps and a turntable ladder. As a result Police closed the road from the Odeon roundabout, so inbound services ran via High Bridge Road, Springfield Road and Victoria Road - those from Great Baddow were therefore on a double diversion, owing to the closure of Baddow Road). One 51 ran via Parkway, Moulsham Street, New Writtle Street and London Road. The road reopened at about 3pm.

First Eastern Counties 40114 (M953XVT), ex First PMT, was at BN on 21st July for MOT and at CR on 25th July en route to Ipswich.

Stop Press

Member Andy Toms reports that, since middle of June, it has been quite rare for all five of the loaned Scania (65727-30/3) to be on the 31/31X group of routes; the 09.24, 12.24 and 15.24 from Burnham have mainly been either 43729 or 43730, with occasional appearances of Lances 60103 or 60104 and even rarer the use of a shorter Dart. On 3rd August 60103 was on the 09.24, but on Friday 4th newly repainted (ex Park & Ride) 65681 was back, on the 09.24. 65730 and 65733 were on 31X too, with 65727 and 65729 on the shorter 31.

Sources: Own observations, with many thanks to First Essex and to R Appleton, A Bird, T Clark, J Clayton, D Edwards, M Farmer, I Hardie, A Kelleher, J Podgorski, I Ransom, J Salmon, C Sigston, 'Solo', A Spindler, A Timms, G Toon, R Webb, R Whitley, Essex Bus and South West y-groups, Real Bus News, LOTS, PSV Circle, Terminus.

Chris Stewart

■ ARRIVA EAST HERTS & ESSEX LIMITED

Allocations

7/06: 3336.U; 3353/4.WE; 3901-3.HA; 3904-9.WE

Vehicles out

2158 (N366 JGS): Pickford, Chippenham (dealer) 7/06

3103 (L300 BUS): Hardwick, Carlton (dealer) for scrap 6/06

3441-9 (R201-9 VPU): Arriva the Shires 3441-9 7/06

General

The new Mercedes Citaros were licensed on 20th July; please note revised allocations. DAF SB220s 3441-9 are now to be found on service 500 (Aylesbury-Watford). One DAF SB220 - 3269 (T493 KGB) remains at Ware as back-up vehicle for the 724.

All remaining Mercedes 709D have been officially withdrawn, although 2107 (M 47 WUR) was in service at Harlow on 7 July. Two further Optare Solos are due for delivery in early August.

Mark Garrett

■ ARRIVA SOUTHEND LIMITED

Vehicles in

from Arriva Medway Towns, Sittingbourne

3609 L609 EKM Volvo B6-50 05328 Plaxton 9410.2VWN2082 B40F new 3/1994

New to Maidstone & District.

This vehicle is the replacement for Olympian 5393 withdrawn last month due to engine failure.

Vehicle Workings

Dominators 5274 (G664 FKA) and 5276 (G626 EKA) now exclusively work service 29 after having blinds for route 29 stuck onto their electronic destination displays. 5274's electronic display failed during the week of 10th July. By 17th July 5274 was working 29's and a week later 5276 had joined it. 5274 retains route branding for service 1 on its nearside.

Vario 1188 (R188 DNM) saw regular use during the second half of July on service 4/4A between Southend and Landwick. In recent months 1188 has been confined to peak hours service 6A (Leigh Station – Belfairs Woodcutters) and Wednesdays only service 10 (Paglesham – Rayleigh). The bus also worked service 60 to Canewdon on the 25th July.

Recently delivered Cadets 3971-3 are temporarily operating route 256 whilst Cadets 3500-13 are gradually refurbished at Pickerings. DAF DB250s 6226/8/30 are covering for 3971-3 on route 498.

Olympians 5092 and 5404 assisted on rail replacement between Dartford and Strood on 22nd July.

Other News

The remaining DAF DB250s stored at Southend have gone to Truck Align at Charlton for refurbishment ready for TfL route 160 which starts in September.

Peter Mansbridge with thanks to Matthew Arnold



above: An unusual vehicle with **Arriva East Herts & Essex** is this coach-seated ex-London Metrobus 5337 (C437 BUV), seen at Harlow.

below: Former North Western Road Car Dominator 5274 (G664 EKA) in the **Arriva Southend** fleet, with fixed destinations stuck over the failed electronic unit. *both: Peter Mansbridge*



New Vehicle

102, the second Scania Omnidekka has been delivered: registration YN06 TFZ. Further details next month.

Vehicles in:

from Burtons, Haverhill

528 AY54 FPZ	Dennis Dart SLF	SFD3CACR44GW17959	Alexander B37F
529 AY54 FRC	Dennis Dart SLF	SFD3CACR44GW17955	Alexander B37F
	both new 11/2004 to Burtons		
903 W903 UJM	Volvo B10BLE	YV3R4A519YA006051	Alexander 9958 B44F
	new 4/2004 to Tellings Golden Miller		
NOT ACQ. [218 H683 GPF	Volvo B10M-50	26273	East Lancs B0635 H45/31D]
	new 1/1991 to London & Country		

Vehicles Out:

300 Optare Solo (W427 CWX) to Burtons, Haverhill.
723 Vario (R763 DUB), 724 (R174 VBM) to Link Line, Harlesden.

Other vehicle news

Dart 529 entered service on 29th July. 528 arrived on 3rd August and 102 on the 4th. The departure of Solo 300 and Varios 723 and 724, leaves just one minibus, Vario 708 (S108 HGX) at Colchester for the 730 service.

Late news is that the X-reg Caetano Darts, 994/6/8 have been sold to South Lancs Transport (Green Triangle Buses Ltd.) Atherton, Lancs. Due from Burtons in part-replacement are the Trident, T50 BCL (new as a Dublin Bus demonstrator, later passing to Martin, Dublin), and S50 BCL, ~~one of the former Metrobus East Lancs bodied Olympians.~~ *Dart Caetano.*

Vehicle Workings

Route 8 branded Dart/East Lancs 800/1/6 have mainly been staying on their intended route during recent weeks. However, one regular 'off route' working for these vehicles is the 1635 M-F 93 Colchester-Ipswich.

Unusual sightings:

July 3rd 246 on 5.

5th 806 (Route 8 branded) on 2 & 5.

13th 801 (Route 8 branded) on 2; 906 (Route 2 branded) on 8E.

17th 724 on 8A.

18th 511 (Route 8 branded) on 2; 906 (Route 2 branded) on 8A.

20th 907 (Route 2 branded) on 8; 300 on 8A.

24th 800 (Route 8 branded) on 247.

25th 906 (Route 2 branded) on 5.

27th 996 on 83.

28th 996 on 87.

29th 515 (Route 2 branded) on 247.

31st 517 on 83.

Repaints/Liveries

529 and 903 have had Burtons fleet names removed.

530 remains in 'base' TGM white/blue minus markings.

Vario 724 (R174 VBM) had its lower blue band extended upwards prior to transfer to Link Line.

Certain TGM Group vehicles are appearing at Colchester for repaint etc., but not it is thought, for service (except perhaps in emergency?). These include
 Solo Y295 PDN from TGM, Twickenham: repainted, numbered 305 and to Classic, Annfield Plain, 10/7.
 Solo W442 CWX from Link Line, Harlesden: partial repaint, numbered 300, and to Burtons, Haverhill, 17/7.
 Vario S130 NRB from Classic: repainted from yellow to TGM standard, numbered 730, and to Burtons, Haverhill, 26/7.

Other News

Route 2 is now a Quality Bus Partnership, joining route 1 with this status.
 Side advertisements have appeared on Network Colchester liveried saloons for the first time. The Caetano and Pointer Darts are the first to receive them.

Peter Mansbridge with thanks to Richard Delahoy and John Podgorski

Heddingham

Acquired vehicle:

from Ensign (operational fleet) 194

L??? P494 MBY Volvo Olympian 27033 Alexander 9601/14 H43/25D
 new to Metroline (AV14), 11/1996.

This will be converted to single door by Ensign before delivery.

Vehicles withdrawn:

L202 (BRC 836T), L235 (WJM 831T), L236 (CJH 143V), L252 (MRJ 9W), L261 (CJH 115V),
 L289 (DCA 529X) - Bristol VRs - all passed to Ensign on 1st August.

Dave Arnold / Colin Sigston

Ensignbus

Omnibus suppliers to the World

DEALER STOCK MOVEMENTS

Vehicles in

from

Arriva Midlands	Olympian A509 EJF
Arriva North West	Volvo D10M's H660/2 GPF G647/51 EKA
Centra London	Solo's KX51 UCS/T/U/V
	Darts T151-9 OGC, T875-7/80 HGT, V540/44/7/9 JBH, W132/3/4/41/42/3/6/7 WGT. Collected/stored and will be sold on behalf of Dawson Rentals.
Coastal Liner, Wolverhampton	Metrobuses A620/47 BCN
Heddingham Omnibuses	Bristol VRT's CJH 115V MRJ 9W, DCA 529X CJH 143V, WJM 831T, BRC 836T
Reading Buses	Delta G507 XBL
Stagecoach West	Olympians E500/1 EFL
Stagecoach East	Olympians C631 LFT, F514NJE
	Mercedes 709Ds M337 LHP, N301 XRP, L373 JBD
	Metroriders M977/8 WWR
Stagecoach South Wales	Darts L86/9 CWO, K89/92BNY
Transdev Bournemouth	Dominators H258/61/64 MFX, J266-8 SPR, Volvo D10M's C201 YPR, D200/3/4 ELJ
Trustline	Olympian C34 CHM

Vehicles out

ex-Chambers Olympian G864 XDX
 Olympians B149 TRN, B198 DTU}
 C962 XVC, C179 ECK}
 Dart L148 YVK, B6 M419 PVN
 M525,1152
 Dominators J268 SPR H263 MFX
 Metrorider P425 VRG
 Olympian C32 CHM
 Metrorider P424 VRG
 Olympians P474/77/86/90/2/5 MBY
 Volvo B6 M424/6PVN, M430 RDC
 Olympian 92-D-135
 Volvo D10M G651EKA
 Deltas G734/9 RTY, G501/3/7/10 XBL}
 Olympians G536/9 VBB}
 Dominators H258/64 MFX J266/9 SPR
 Olympian D172 FYM
 Olympian C47 CHM
 M724/9
 M1227
 Volvo B6 M421PVN, N671 VUP
 Olympians G521-3 WJF
 Metrorider P428 VRG:
 Javelin H163 DJU, B10M F709 WCS
 Olympians F624/662 MSL, G640 EVV

Routemasters: RML2477/2591
 RML2503
 RML2562
 RML2726

to
Aintree Coaches, Merseyside

Aardvark Coaches, Peterborough
Bull Ring Travel, Wolverhampton
Caribbean Tours, Dominique, W Indies.
Coastal Liner, Wolverhampton
Countryliner, Guildford, Surrey
Crown Coaches, Benfleet, Essex
Mr S Deehy, Hillingdon, Middx.
Dunn-Line, Nottingham
Galleon Travel, Stansted, Essex
Kellys Coach Hire, Dublin.
Kinch Coaches, Malmesbury, Wilts.

McKindless, Wishaw, Lanarks.
NIBS, Wickford, Essex
C Norge Ltd, Vear, Norway
Regional Satellite TV, Maidstone, Kent.
S & M, Benfleet, Essex.
Shoreline Suncruisers, Scarborough
Tates Travel, Barnsley
Thamesdown Transport
Trustline, Hunsdon, Herts.
Wealden PSV, Five Oak Green, Kent
Weardale MS, Stanhope, Co.Durham

KJB Security, Leighton Buzzard, Bucks.
Christine Chaffin, London E9
J Brown & Sons, Hye, Suffolk
William Scott, Coleraine, Co.Londonderry

■ ENSIGNBUS, Purfleet

Acquired vehicles

from Reading Buses 505/6, 7/06

605 G505 XBL DAF SB220LC550 325319	Optare Delta 5030 B49F	new 10/1989
606 G506 XBL DAF SB220LC550 325412	Optare Delta 5031 B49F	new 10/1989

These are for the X80 service, joining the two ex-Go Ahead North East examples.

*David Harman
 with thanks to Ross Newman of Ensignbus*



National Express

305 (Southend - Liverpool)

First Coaches Ltd R813 HWS, plain white Volvo B12M/Plaxton, on evening 305 arrival at Southend on 9, 11 and 12 July. This vehicle was new to First Wessex.

350 (Clacton - Liverpool)

X-reg Volvos appear to be replacing the Scania Irizars on this route.

481 (London - Ipswich) Galloways 26 (FD54 DHN) Volvo B12B/Plaxton, new to Dunn-Line noted at Brentwood on 20 July.

John Podgorski, Chris Stewart

Essex Small Operator News

ABACUS TRAVEL, Crays Hill Freight Rover/ Carlyle E970 SVP has been withdrawn.

AMBER, Rayleigh New here is Autosan A1012T BX06 NZR. Autosan are a Polish manufacturer, for those wondering! Further to EBN 507, OIB 3514, had not been reported! It is a Leyland Tiger/Plaxton and was formerly A453 HPY. A smaller addition is LDV 400 minibus N572 PNH. Unusual Volvo B6/Caetano M609 UCX has been sold to R&N, Hurn.

APT, Rayleigh Vehicles sold are H10 SUP a MAN12.290/Jonckhree and T123 APT (T517 PYD) a Bova Futura. Acquired from Pavillion Travel, Brighton is V20 YAL (CNZ 3818, V77 CCH) a Scania L94/Van Hool. Sold to CYTA, Collier Row, is Scania K94/Irizar S360 SET.

ASTROCABZ, Maylandsea Also here from Brians, Maylandsea, is Ford Transit G808 FTW. S870 TAH, mentioned last month is an LDV 400, not a Ford Transit.

BARKER, Roydon Leyland Tiger/Berkhof J1L 9153 (C208 PPE) is now with Orange, Woking.

BPH, Elmstead Market Ford Transit/ Carlyle C196 KBH has been withdrawn

BRENTWOOD COACHES Volvo B10M/ Caetano AIG 7832 (M577 JBC) has been sold.

BRIANS, Maylandsea Ford Transit G808 FTW has been sold.

BROWN, Harlow The only two vehicles recorded here, Ford Transits C710 NPU and E677 VKP have been withdrawn.

CATTON, Harlow Withdrawn are Bedford CF A25 NHK and Ford Transit F639 DKR

CHARIOTS, Stanford-le-Hope Renault Master F473 RUW has been withdrawn.

COUNTY COACHES, Brentwood The last Bristol VR here, KKK 887V, was sold to The Running Footman, Martlesham, in July.

CROWN, Benfleet Setra WVY 596 recently acquired from Kirby, Rayleigh has been reregistered G393 CLH. The registration has been returned to Kirby.

CUNNINGHAM, Stanford-le-Hope Have recently surrendered their operators licence.

DMA, Brentwood Freight Rover D822 LVS and Talbot Express E502 NMD, were withdrawn some while ago. Most of the older stock was withdrawn some time ago, this includes Bedfords OCN 902R, XUX 540T, Ford Coaches RUJ 343R, LUY520T, ABV 881V and PJT 518W

DON, Gt Dunmow Dennis Javelin/Marco Polo M706 HBC has been sold.

EXCALIBUR, St Lawrence LDV Convoy N168 XUX has been sold

EXCEL, Stansted Airport The three MCV Evolutions are on MAN chassis; 34 seaters, 10.2 metres long and are scheduled for arrival in September replacing 709s, of which two may go to the Manchester operation. Dart SLF/Plaxton BU51 REG has been purchased from Regs, Hertford and a further new SLF should arrive within two weeks

FARGO, Rayne The former Brandon's depot at Blackmore End, appears to have closed.

FLAGFINDERS, Braintree Bedford YNV/Plaxton D21 CPF is no longer owned. Bristol VR CJH 121V and Leyland Olympian ACM 710X were withdrawn in July. Bristol VR NJT 35P and GGM 109W are no longer here, reported as sold for scrap in 08/02 and 05/06.

FOURWAYS, Highwood Bristol VR/ECW LBD 923V has gone for preservation in Bedfordshire.

GARDNER, Boreham Mercedes minibus DPO 567W has been withdrawn.

GODWINS, Braintree Have recently ceased operating

GROUP TAXIBUS, Chelmsford To correct EBN 505, the New Ford Transits are EX06 CEA/F/J. Mercedes Benz 811D/Robin Hood F118 OGS is now with Freightmaster, Grays (non PSV).

HARDY MILES, Southend Talbot Express K451 TKR has been sold.

HARRIS COACHES Scania/Irizar N851 DKU has been sold. Acquired is Scania K113/Jonckhree R33 SBC. This was with Lee-Roy, Basildon, a couple of years ago.

IMPERIAL, Rainham Dennis Dart SLF/Plaxton R181 VLA is now the normal vehicle on service 32 (Chelmsford-Ongar)



The shape of things to come? ~ demonstrators on Regal route 1

above: pink, blue and silver ADL Enviro 300 **SN54 HXG** in Chelmsford on 5 July.

below: metallic red and silver Optare Tempo **YJ06 FZK** also in Chelmsford, on 14 July.

Kevin Smith



LEMON COACHES, Shotgate Acquired from CYTA, Collier Row is Volvo B10M/Jonckhree SDZ 9026 (G174 RBD).

LOGIC, Nazeing A new BMC coach here is BX06 OAM. It now carries a cherished plate LT06 JOE. It replaces similar YU03 BTE.

MCINTYRE, Harlow Ford Transit C235 GNA has been withdrawn

NELSONS, Wickford As a result of winning the contract to serve Shenfield school from September 2006, a number of vehicles have been acquired. The contract is for 11 vehicles, 7 from Nelsons, with 3 sub-contracted to Fourways, Highwood. The vehicles acquired are ex-Bournemouth Dennis Dominators/East Lancs H256/64 MFX, J266/69 SPR.

Mercedes/Marshall L891 UVE has been withdrawn and is now used as a store.

NEW CENTURY, Thundersley This operator ceased at the end of March. Mainly minibuses and minicoaches were here, although a couple of full size coaches had been used.

NEW HORIZONS, Alresford L64 TTS a Toyota/Caetano has been sold

REGAL, Cooksmill Green Demonstrators in use recently include SN54 HXG an Alexander Dennis Enviro 300 and Optare Tempo YJ06 FZK.

RICHARDS, Chelmsford Recently acquired is YN03 AVF a Neoplan N516SHD. First seen here in June 06.

SAINT CLOUD, Rochford Further to EBN 507, WIB 9498 a LAG Panoramic is here, ex Viceroy, Saffron Walden.

SBC LEISURE, Southend Scania/Irizar T379 JWA has been reregistered VAZ 1434. To correct a previous report T377 JWA is S11 FSC. (Southend United Football Supporters Club)

SM TRAVEL, Harlow The only Optare Solo here W7 JPT has been sold. Volvo B10M/Plaxton M600 TMS has gone to Reays, Wigtown.

STB, Chadwell St Mary Ford Transit J58 SDB has been sold

STEPHENSON, Rochford Recently acquired are Volvo Olympian/Northern Counties M408-10 RVU. They were with Metrobus, but were new to London Central for service D1 (Docklands Express). Also acquired is ex Lothian Leyland Olympian/ECW OFS 683Y

Following an accident to Dart EU05

CZA, the normal vehicle on service 14 (Southend-Shoeburyness), Uno (Universitybus), Hatfield R651 VBM a Dart SLF/Wright and Transbus Enviro 200 SN54 GRU are now on loan to cover. The Universitybus vehicle has been in use in Witham since late July, although it was expected to return in early August. The Enviro, is expected to remain until September. Another new Dart is on order.

Leyland Olympian/ECW B248 NVN has been on long term hire to Fargos, but should return shortly and will be advertised for sale once MOT'd. It is going simply because it has a non standard gearbox.

Three more Volvos B10Ms are scheduled to be repainted in the new X1 livery by September

SUPREME, Southend Please delete the reference (EBN 504) to Volvo B10M/Plaxton CAZ 6273, MCW Metrobus ANA 153Y and Volvo B10M/Berkhof L100 SUP as being here, this was an error. Withdrawn MCW Metrobus GBU 5V, has arrived from SBC, Southend.

TALISMAN, Gt Bromley Recently added here is AEC Routemaster/Park Royal JJD 535D.

THORNS OF RAYLEIGH Bristol VR/ECW FDV 835V has been sold

TOWN & COUNTRY, Grays Buses magazine reports that Scania N113DRB/Alexander H239 LOM, is now with Northern Blue, Burnley. Also gone are Optare Excels P323 KAR, R375/77/78 DJN, Mercedes Vario T457 NNH and Dennis Dart T439 EBD. This has led to an interesting mix of vehicles on services 374 and 380.

TRAVELUX, Stanford-le-Hope Acquired from Goodfellow, Paddock Wood, is LAG Panoramic SJI 4781 (new as E498 AWW)

VICEROY, Saffron Walden Short Dennis Javelin/Duple G963 WNR is here, ex 24x7, Elsenham. Bedford YNV/Van Hool KAZ 6901 (C413 DML) has gone to Lewis, Cardinals Green.

WICKS Braintree DAF/Jonckhree WRK 17X has been sold.

Ian Ransom

*with thanks to Colin Sigston, Dave Arnold,
PSV Circle, Essex Bus y-group, Lyn Watson
(Excel & Stephenson)*



Route 14 visitors

To cover for the regular low-floor Dart which is being repaired after accident damage, two unusual hires by **Stephensons**:

above: **Uno** (Universitybus) **R651 VBM** - Dart / Wright, seen here at Shoebury East Beach terminus. Livery is a restrained pink and mauve! *Richard Delahoy*

below: Transbus Enviro 200 demonstrator **SN54 GRU** in central Southend. Note the second set of doors at the very rear (not in use here). *Kevin Smith*





The Seaside

SBC Engineering have this Scania Omnidieka, B16 YBC, (= **BIG Yellow Bus Co.**) initially supplied as a (closed top) demonstrator to Lothian Buses. After acquisition by SBC, it ran briefly in open-top form on a London sightseeing tour. From 26 July, a Southend seafrost service began (see **Essex Service Changes**). www.sbcleisure.com

above: Kevin Smith; below: Peter Mansbridge

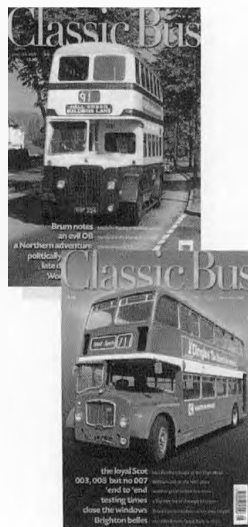


The Essex bus ~ in print

Two issues of *Classic Bus* containing 'classic' articles on Eastern National by Group members: Firstly, squeezed out of July EBN was a rebiew of *Classic Bus* 83 - June/ July (Ian Allan, £3.50), which contained *Bob Williamson's* article on Wood Green depot in the 1960's: "On the buses".

Wood Green (WG), the old City depot in Lordship Lane, was cramped and by 1960, old fashioned. But, it was a magnet to the young Bob Williamson after he began attending school nearby. He began to frequent WG, and was eventually befriended by the depot staff and allowed various 'privileges - changing destination blinds and the like. At the time, the 251 (WG's only route) was extremely busy and profitable, serving the shopping centres of Tottenham, Ilford (Gants Hill) and Romford, plus the seaside at Southend. The depot was a hive of activity. Mainstay of the route were the ex-City 'FJNs' (see this month's Photo Sales List), and Lodekkas from the earliest LDs up to the very last 'semis'. However, summer Saturdays would see many duplicates provided - including single-deckers (LS and MW saloons) and even ancient stuff like L's and K's.

Bob provides a superb snapshot of the depot in its heyday, and also of the brief period when it achieved fame if not fortune, as the setting for the TV comedy series "On the Buses".



All good nostalgic stuff, with a selection of evocative pictures.

In *Classic Bus* 84 - August/September, *Lyn Watson* describes the X10 in "Great British bus routes ~ Southend, East End & West End". The X10 was born out of the old Westcliff "D" (Southend - London Victoria Coach Station) service in 1962. As part of the transformation, dual-purpose FLFs and crew operation were introduced, replacing d-p LS's and pre-booking. Several more batches followed, with the last being the 31ft cream 'semi's'.

Lyn recounts the history of the d-p FLFs up to 1971, when OMO and blue bus-seated VRs came in, and of his part in preserving the very last one (now at Canvey in the capable hands of Paul Harrison). And to prove that occasionally, reality doesn't quite match up to what we imagine it should be: LW's verdict on driving a semi-auto FLF: "ghastly"!

This is rounded off with an X10 Southend Seaway to VCS journey by FLE, as seen through the eyes of a young and impressionable enthusiast.

More pure nostalgia.

Lyn has pointed out two minor boobs: the routing after Oxford Street was Park Lane, then Hyde Park Corner, not Marble Arch. The reference to the 75th anniversary of EN, should of course be to the 60th.

David Harman

If you don't normally buy CB, DO make an exception for these two ! As a special offer from Robin Bennett (CB Editor), Group members can obtain BOTH post-free: Send £7 (cheques payable to Classic Bus Publishing Ltd., please) to:

PO Box 852, Peterborough PE1 9BA

EASTERN NATIONAL

Enthusiast's Guild

OVER THE WALL ~ (1)

In 1986, *Arthur Nugent* lived in Wolseley Road, Chelmsford. On Sundays, he used to take his camera and go for a walk round the outside of Central Works. In one place there was a convenient pile of bricks, which enabled him to peer over the wall and into the yard ...

This month, we illustrate the first of a series of photographs he took.

25 May 1986: C99 NNV, an Iveco 7914 with Caetano Viana B24F body. Livery: white and grey. This was received in May on a six-month hire from Salvador Caetano (UK) Ltd., for use on routes 252/3/4. These had been tendered by Essex County Council to replace London Regional Transport route 242 (Waltham Abbey - Yardley Lane). EN operation began on 27th May (252 and 254) and 2nd September 1986 (253):

252 - Waltham Cross - Chingford - M-F peaks

253 - Sewardstonebury - Waltham Abbey (King Harold School) - schooldays only

254 - Honey Lane Hospital - Epping (St Margarets Hospital) 2 journeys, M-F

The Viana entered service from Brentwood depot on the 252/4 in June and *Andy Meadows* provided a photo in the July 1986 *News Sheet*. This shows it bore a small NBC style Eastern National sticker in the front windscreen as the sole means of identification. It was reallocated to Enfield depot in August.

C99 NNV was returned to Caetano in October, evidently having failed to impress. After a brief dalliance with the Ford Transit, Eastern National plumped for the Mercedes L608D model to meet its initial minibus requirements.

Does anyone have further photos of C99 NNV in service or know its subsequent history?

David Harman



PCV HOLDER ?

⇒ Full and Part-Time Drivers required

Stephensons of Essex and our associated company, Excel Passenger Logistics are expanding fast and we have vacancies for drivers at our Maldon, Rochford and Stansted depots.

Full and Part time drivers are needed for school services and weekend rail replacement, together with scheduled service work and private hires.

If you're over 25 and have held a PCV licence for two years or more, we'd like to hear from you.

We offer attractive rates of pay, varied work, and a friendly working environment.



⇒ Full and Part-Time PCV Fitters

We also have vacancies for experienced fitters at our Maldon, Rochford and Stansted depots.

⇒ Rail Controllers/Customer Service Assistants

Part-time vacancies exist at Excel for station-based staff on weekends and occasionally evenings, so even if you haven't got a PCV licence, you can still help ensure the smooth running of our rail replacement services.

For more details of any of the above vacancies, contact:

Stephensons: Bill Hiron 01702 541511

Excel: Graham Hayden 01279 681800



THE SOUTH ESSEX SIX-LEGGED TOUR - 2 SEPTEMBER BOOKING FORM

To reserve seats on the tour, please complete this booking form and send to Dave Arnold. Additional copies may be downloaded from our website:

www.essexbus.org.uk

Please reserve me seat(s) at £10 per seat on **The South Essex Six-Legger Tour** on **Saturday 2 September 2006**. I agree to the booking terms and conditions (overleaf), and enclose a cheque/postal order for £ (payable to **Essex Bus Enthusiasts Group**).

PICK-UP POINT [BLOCK CAPITALS]

Name [BLOCK CAPITALS]

Address [BLOCK CAPITALS]

.....

.....

Postcode

Contact telephone number

Signed

- Send completed form (or a photocopy), remittance **AND** a stamped self-addressed envelope (for confirmation of booking) to:

**Dave Arnold,
21 Cedar Chase, Heybridge,
MALDON, CM9 4NR**

01621 857509

david@arnold1.fsnet.co.uk



The **South Essex Six-Legger** *Tour*

SATURDAY 2 SEPTEMBER : £10

Using a former Hong Kong Olympian of **Talisman Coachlines** to visit **Fords** at Althorne, **NIBS** at Wickford and **Ensignbus** at Purfleet, with an hour for lunch in **Basildon Town Centre**

PICK-UP POINTS

Great Bromley	07.40
Colchester North Station	08.00
Boreham Main Road	08.30
Shenfield Station (for rail connection from London)	09.00
Billericay Station	09.15

RETURN TIMES ~ approximate

Billericay Station	17.00
Shenfield Station	17.15
Boreham Main Road	17.45
Colchester North Station	18.15
Great Bromley	18.35

- Limited parking is available at Boreham. Station car parks at Shenfield and Billericay (fees apply); free parking in nearby roads at Shenfield.

Booking Terms & Conditions:

1. Bookings are open to members of the Essex Bus Enthusiasts Group and guests, and are accepted on a 'first come, first served' basis.
2. Smoking is *not* permitted on the vehicle at any time. Food and drinks may be consumed on board but *please* place all litter in the receptacles provided.
3. Please wait until the organisers have confirmed that participants may enter premises, and comply with any additional instructions given. Please *stay away* from all engineering areas, pits etc.
4. Refunds will be made only if cancellations are received 14 days before the tour date. A 25% handling charge will be deducted.

