

ESSEX BUS NEWS

September 1999

The monthly magazine of the ESSEX BUS ENTHUSIASTS GROUP

(Formerly the Eastern National Enthusiasts Group)

425



ARRIVA SOUTHEND DENNIS DOMINATOR/EAST LANCS ONE OF EIGHT ACQUIRED TO REPLACE FLEETLINES. 5287 K37XNE IS SEEN AT SOUTHEND.

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ESSEX BUS NEWS

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EDITORIAL

425 FOCUS OF THE MONTH

HFX425X Aa Ford R1114 with Plaxton C49F bodywork operated by Wicks Braintree, new in May 1980 was acquired from Reynard Tadcaster in July 1988.

SOUTHEND - LONDON EXPRESS SERVICES.

Radical changes are expected shortly on the services operated by Thamesway and Arriva Southend.

Arriva Southend to operate the Dengie Hundred Rural Bus Service on behalf of Essex County Council, using Renault Minibuses.

Arriva Southend, fleet changes go on.

Hedingham acquires secondhand Olympians from Oxford Bus Company, is this the end of the Bristol VR ?

Along the Promenade 99.

An additional opentopper seen on the Southend Sea Front on 17-8-99 was Stephensons Rochford Bristol VR CJH119V..

Recently seen in Nevada USA was former Moores Bros Guy Arab 20PVX. it is operating a free service from the Veniation Hotel to Madame Tassauds in Las Vegas,

ROCHFORD MEETINGS FREIGHT HOUSE 8pm

<u>Tuesday 12th</u>	<u>October</u>	Slide Show by Alan Osborne Recent visits including Arriva in Holland.
<u>Tuesday 9th</u>	<u>November</u>	Programme to be announced.
<u>Tuesday 14th</u>	<u>December</u>	Slide Show by Richard Delahoy 20 years ago.

EVENTS

October 10th Castle Point Museum open day

Page 3 of this issue has a special message from Essex County Council regarding Bus timetables.

Contributions received with thanks from Essex Buses, Arriva Southend, Arriva EH & E R Delahoy, C Stewart, C Sigston, F Monck, P Ford, PSV Circle.

Contributions for October EBN should be with Sub Editors by 5th October and Man Editor by 8th October.

This is the Forward from the forthcoming Central Essex timetable, explaining the delay that has occurred.

This the first area timetable to be produced using our new all Essex passenger transport data base. We have tried to ensure that the timetable information is correct. The problem we still have is formatting to make the most efficient use of the page and in dealing with codes and notes. This has become a difficult problem to resolve as we have increased the type size to make the timetables easier to read. Nevertheless we are publishing 'warts and all' in order to get a new and up to date timetable in circulation. As a result the book is substantially larger in total pages than we intended.

With the publication of this book we have now turned our attention to the South area which we hope to have available in October. This will be followed as quickly as possible by the end of of October by the West book. .Publication of these books should go a long way to solving our software and formatting problems or indicate to us that we need to split the Central and North books in two to allow a more manageable size. Our thoughts are, if necessary, to have a North book covering Braintree, Witham, Colchester and Clacton, a mid Essex book covering Chelmsford, Maldon and Brentwood and a South book covering the present area less Brentwood. The West book would remain unchanged. It is likely that we would publish each edition no more than 4 times a year approximately every 3 months.

Your thoughts on this would be most welcome, you can write to us at the address below.

Essex County Council
Passenger Transport Co-ordination Section
Environment Directorate
County Hall
Chelmsford CM1 1QH

Your patience during this period of change is also most appreciated. By setting up a single all Essex timetable database we only need to enter timetable data once and then use this in a multitude of ways to provide passenger transport information.

ALLOCATION CHANGES August 1998

366, 377 BN – Disposal 3226 DWU298T HH and in new style livery

ODD WORKINGS

1-7-99 702 on 'Canvey Clipper'
2661 on 269 usually a Dart
23-8-99 917 on 100 usually route branded Dart
972 on 391 'Premier 100' livery

SERVICE CHANGES

1A Willowfields to Basildon route and timetable revision from August 16th.
5 Basildon to Pitsea timetable revisions from July 4th.
25 Southend to Basildon route and timetable revision from July 5th.
27 Canvey to Southend minor timetable revision from August 26th.
111 Glebefields to Basildon withdrawn after July 31st.
256 Basildon to Bluebell Wood From August 2nd runs Mon to Sat with revised timetable.
388/389 Basildon to Aveley This service operated by Clinton Mini Coaches after July 30th.
From week commencing July 26th Village Link Services 19, 20, 21 and 22, are re-routed via Blackmore Road and no longer serve Beggars Hill.

NEWS

The Arterial Express service was withdrawn after the 30/7/99. Volvo 606 the regular vehicle has been withdrawn and sold to First Eastern Counties.

Mercedes 322 has been broken up at HH following serious accident damage.

From mid October the City Saver services are to become a joint operation with Arriva Southend X1 service. The routes are to be renumbered into the 700 series and amalgamated into the Green Line network. 10 Vehicles are to be provided by each fleet.

Some vehicles on Brentwood town services now have proper destination blinds in place of cards in the windscreen, however some services are due to be revised shortly.

Olympian 4030 is fitted with Voith automatic transmission.

THE OLD'UNS LIVE ON

Whilst the ageing Bristol VR appears to be gaining strength in Essex, another equally interesting vehicle is slowly dying, this is the Leyland/Daimler Fleetline (DMS class of London Transport).

Once flourishing fleets of these buses served Essex, apparently unable to operate for London could be found around Essex namely, Southend Transport, NIBS Wickford Castle Point Bus Co, Brandons Blackmore End and Sampsons, with smaller inputs by Hedingham 1, Harrisbus 4, Osbornes 3 and of course when Ensign had their premises at Purfleet many hundreds passed through their hands and were also operated by Ensign - Bus.

But the story is different now and the largest fleet of DMS's is now operated by Castle Point Bus Company at Benfleet.

TGX704M GHV43N GHV59N KUC154P OJD167R OJD191R OJD198R are still in service with KUC941P in use as a storeroom/office, and OJD383R a store. Brandons at Blackmore End Braintree have GHV3N and GHV29N. Parked in Stephenson's Yard at Rochford is Ensign Enterprise coach conversion A741 THV, while Barnabus a Church organisation has THX556S based at Southend. One other DMS vehicle still in service with Supreme Coaches Hadleigh is OKW504R, this is part of a batch of DMS type buses by South Yorkshire PTE. If any members know of any more please let me know pjs.

NEW VEHICLES

A batch of Marshall bodied minibuses and Alexander bodied midibuses are expected soon. The minibuses are for Village Link work, the midibuses for service 42 in Chelmsford.

ACQUIRED VEHICLES

35	4750 WY	Volvo B10M	Plaxton	C53F
2253	F34 TJN	Mercedes 609D	Reeve Burgess	B19F

Both were ex First Eastern Counties in 8/99.

Chassis numbers are 31MED16GA011342 and 66806320945226

Body number for 35 is 86-12VZPC005, that for 2253 is unknown at present.

Seating capacity of 4031 (A92 KWW), not previously published is H45/32F.

ALLOCATIONS

Period End 22.8.99. 35 Acquired - Driver Trainer; 2253/2683 Acquired - Reserve

Leyland Olympian/ECW 4021 (C421 HJN) was destroyed by fire at Hatfield Peveral on 26th August. It is understood the fire started upstairs and is thought to be a case of arson.

GENERAL

Planning permission is being sought for a new depot in Chelmsford. Located in Westway near the Britvic factory, the depot will consist of a maintenance building, with open air parking for a total of 100 vehicles.

The Chelmsford Quality Bus Partnership has nearly reached agreement. The most visible signs of this will be a new bus lane in London Road, Chelmsford with Alexander bodied midibuses being used on service 42, replacing the current Mercedes minibuses. These will be fitted with telematics that can turn traffic lights in their favour if running late.

New uniforms are expected to be issued to staff from October.

New ticket initiatives include through tickets from the Clacton area to Clacton Common Shopping Village, these are unusual in being valid on the open top Hedingham service.

Bus and Rail tickets between Braintree and Witham are now valid on both modes of transport.

UNUSUAL WORKINGS

20.4.99.	CF 4007 on service 59 (normally single deck)
20.7.99.	CF 713 on service 351 (Diamond branded vehicle)
28.7.99.	CF 714 on service 59 (Diamond branded vehicle)
30.7.99.	CF 2826 on service 41/51 (normally minibus)
2.8.99.	CF 2825 on service 50 (normally minibus)
19.8.99.	CF 733 on service 351 (not normally an SLF route)

SERVICE REVISIONS

7/8/9	Revised timetable from 26.7.99.
59	Revised timetable from 6.9.99.
71	Revised timetable from 13.9.99.
73	Revised timetable from 13.9.99.
77/A	Revised timetable from 6.9.99.
78/A	Revised timetable from 6.9.99.
87/A	Revised timetable from 6.9.99.
Diamond	Revised timetable from 6.9.99.

The revised timetable for service 71 will see two duties return to Colchester depot.

INITIAL DISPOSALS

1896 (DAR 118T)	Hardwick, Carlton (for scrap) 7/99.
1921 (JHJ 147V)	Hardwick, Carlton (for scrap) 8/99.
1942 (KRS 534V)	Hardwick, Carlton (for scrap) 7/99.
3229 (PWY 44W)	Hardwick, Carlton (for scrap) 7/99.
3235 (ABD 74X)	Hardwick, Carlton (for scrap) 7/99.
3236 (ABD 75X)	Stephenson (dealer) Rochford 6/99.
9014 (CTN 635X)	Hardwick, Carlton (for scrap) 7/99.

SERVICE VEHICLES

In answer to a query the following ex buses are in use as service vehicles, dates are when first acquired:-

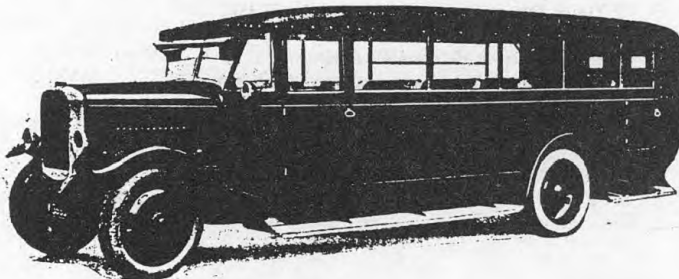
9016	XYK 761T	Bedford YLQ	Duple	C41F	2/95
9017	YYL 794T	Bedford YLQ	Duple	C41F	2/95
9018	D228 PPU	Mercedes L608D	Reeve Burgess	B20F	11/86
9020	VIB 9308	Bedford YMT	Plaxton	C53F	7/98
9021	CRW 515T	Bedford YMT	Plaxton	C53F	7/99
9023	NJU 1W	Bedford YMT	Plaxton	C53F	7/99
9305	B42 AAF	Mercedes L608D	Reeve Burgess	B--F	3/94
9411	FTO 549V	Bedford YMT	Plaxton	C53F	2/99

9021/3 were acquired from Lincolnshire.

9020 was new as SJK 938S.

9305 is used as a publicity van, the others are driver training vehicles.

9016 and 9305 are based at Basildon, the remainder in the driver training yard at New Writtle Street, Chelmsford.



AIRPORT COACHES/BISS BROTHERS

ALLOCATIONS

The allocation of vehicles is as follows:-

Airport Coaches	102 104 107 108 109 110 117 1924
Biss Brothers	100 101 103 105 106 111-115 118-124 343 360

Leyland National 116 (XEH 254M) has been withdrawn.

The two vehicles acquired by Eastern National this month are expected to come here in due course.

HARRIS BUS

MAN/East Lancs demonstrator N222 LFR left after a few days in service.

Mercedes J583 WVX has lost its Gala Bingo livery in favour of fleet livery.

HARRIS COACHES

A new addition is T907 THJ a Scania/Irizar. Seating capacity is C49FT.

Here on loan is M786 VJO a Dennis Javelin/Caetano.

DAF/Ikarus P702 NHJ now has Leger lettering ex Eurolines.

OTHER OPERATORS - REST OF ESSEX

A&B CARS PITSEA Further Ford Transits licensed as taxis are N577 JPV and N985 LGV.

AIRPORT EXPRESS HADLEIGH Not previously recorded are Ford Transit/Ford F827 TRW and S552 TVW. Also added recently is J163 VPU a Mazda E2200.

AMBER RAYLEIGH Vehicles sold are HNM 201Y a Ford/Duple and RLT 963R a Bedford YMT/Plaxton

APT RAYLEIGH Leyland Atlantean/East Lancs BFV 221Y has been sold.

ASHES EURO TRAVEL CRESSING Ford transit K204 DPU is no longer in use.

ASSOCIATED COACHWAYS HARLOW Leyland National BYW 391V is no longer owned. New is T643 JWB a Volvo/Plaxton.

AVIAN CORRINGHAM Leyland Leopard/Plaxton YOI 5475 (WJM 812T) has been acquired from Avro, Corringham.

BERNARDS COACHES HARLOW This operator has ceased operations.

BJS GT WAKERING Toyota Hiace E457 BOO has been sold.

BLUE DIAMOND HARLOW Ford Transit/Dormobile MJM 144V has been sold.

BOBS MINICOACHES WICKFORD Ford Transit/Deansgate G308 VNB has been sold.

BOONS BOREHAM Coaches sold and not previously mentioned here are Setra TSU 611 and Scania/Irizar N820 DKU. Vehicles transferred to Windwill are listed under that section.

BOYS HIGH SCHOOL COLCHESTER Here and registered as a PSV is M550 RFV a Ford Transit.

BRAINTREE YELLOWLINE Ford Transits thought sold are D300 VWC, D629 REV, F36 BAH and J803 CVF.

BRANDON BLACKMORE END Acquired in early 1999 was F116 TWP a Freight Rover/Crystals. Setra 841 BMB was re-registered D941 VHK, prior to being sold. Fleetline GHV 23N has been withdrawn.

BRENTWOOD COACHES The former identity of Volvo/Van Hool 823NMC is N523 PYS. Former Eastern National Olympian LIL 7230 (B688 BPU) has gone to Mott, Stoke Mandeville. Fleetline LMS 151W has also been sold.

BROMLEY PRIVATE HIRE ELMSTEAD MARKET Bedford CFL/Reeve Burgess RPU 526W has been sold.

BROWN HARLOW Ford Transit A602 PPU has been sold.

BUZZ HARLOW Leyland Leopard/Plaxton AUF 47K was sold some while ago. Additions for use on Harlow town services are Marshall minibuses R102/110/115/706 VLX from First Centrewest.

C&M LAINDON Bedford VAS/Plaxton BHI 392S and Ford Transit R376 CTW have been sold.

CAB LINK LITTLE THURROCK Another taxi firm using discs. Ford Transit L692 CPF is here, but is non-PSV.

CD HIRE HARLOW Fiat Ducato C301 WLR has been sold.

CEDRIC WIVENHOE Bristol VR WTU 484W has been sold.

CHAPMAN CHELMSFORD Not previously reported here is HVX 362T a Ford/Duple, although it is thought to have now been sold.

CHARIOTS STANFORD LE HOPE Mercedes Vario/Marshall S643 MGA has not been reported here before. A further Renault Traffic here is E196 JRK. Ford/Plaxton DHE 674V and Bristol VR/N Counties RDC 114R have been sold.

CHELMSFORD TAXIBUS VW minibus F882 FWJ and Ford Transit Q448 VMF are no longer in stock. Dennis Dart/Plaxton MPD demonstrator S451 WAT was in use on The Loop service in early August. Another Omni here is J383 NKM.

CI COACHLINES HIGHWOOD Vehicles sold are Volvo/Jonckhree KSU 470, Ford/Plaxton BEV 542S and Bedford YMT/Duple RGV 684W.

CLINTONA BRENTWOOD Mercedes 609D/Autobus N230 WDO and Iveco/Marshall P481/2 CEG are additions. Vehicles sold are Transits E125 AAL, G922 DVX, G996 DVX, G994 JKY, G731 PGA, H239 ANE, H63 BKM and Talbot F289 PAC.

COACH STOP SOUTHEND T301 ROF a Setra in all pink livery has been added to this fleet. Dennis Javelin/Plaxton H302 FSK is reported as being sold. The previous reference to Setra S389 FTL should be ignored, this vehicle is correctly S369 FTL.

COLCHESTER BOYS HIGH SCHOOL Here and PCV licensed is Ford Transit M550 RFV.

COOKS SOUTHEND Bova N841 THO has been acquired.

COUNTY COACHES BRENTWOOD Bristol VR 5189 RU (VPF 281S) has been withdrawn as a result of engine failure.

COTTAGES GUEST HOUSE BATTLESBRIDGE Ford Transit E755 CTW is here as a PSV.

CRUSADER CLACTON Iveco/Beulas LSU 113 is now registered P625 SNO, sister 114 RVX is now P626 SNO. Setra DYV 914V mentioned in EBN 408, appears to have gone.

DAVITA RADIO CARS BASILDON Ford Transit R757 EWC is in stock here.

DCH COLCHESTER This operator has moved to Boxford, Suffolk and will hence no longer be covered here.

DMA BRENTWOOD E168 FLK a Mercedes minibus has been acquired. Also here is DAZ 4520 (XCE 7T) an AEC/Plaxton ex Red Car & Coach, Navestock.

DM TRAVEL WEELEY HEATH Freight Rover D263 CBJ was sold some while ago.

DONS DUNMOW The remains of Toyota Caetano F337 JTN have been sold for scrap. Rare Iveco/Lorraine H633 GUD has been sold.

ECABS GT DUNMOW Ford Transits here are E666 FTW and F121 YCX.

ENSIGN PURFLEET More Metrobuses added to stock are GOG 256W, UWW 517X, A638 BCN, SND 106X. Similar GOG 174/261/269W are in use, still in West Midlands livery, it is not known if they have been acquired or are on loan. Further ex Selkent Olympians here are C57 CHM and C105 CHM.

FARGO RAYNE New vehicles are S433 RBC and T487 OAY both LDV Convoy. T718/32 JHE both Scania/Van Hool are also here. Scania/Irizar M307 VET has been sold. Also gone are Transits E218 OEG, H982 KVX and H144 NVW.

FLAGFINDERS BRAINTREE Vehicles sold are D703 NUH a Setra and VW minibus F688 KWC.

FLORIDA COACHES HALSTEAD MCW Metroliner single decker PJI 9142 (B606 LSO) has been acquired.

FOURWAYS HIGHWOOD DAF/Caetano D336 MHB has been acquired. Bedford YRT/Duple KNG 999L has been sold.

GENIAL TRAVEL COLCHESTER Renault Traffic B784 XKN is no longer here.

GODWARD COACHES RAMSDEN HEATH Bedford YMT/Duple YPB 827T has been acquired from Travelux, Stanford-le-Hope. Vehicles sold are FDZ 984 (OHM 831Y) a Tiger/Duple and ASU 511S a Ford/Plaxton.

GOING PLACES CRAYS HILL Ford Transit M410 VPU is no longer owned.

GOLF EXECUTIVE BOREHAM Scania/Plaxton DXI 5780 has been sold.

GRAHAMS KELVEDON Scania/Plaxton G32 HKY has been sold.

HOWARD OF HALSTEAD Leyland Tiger/Plaxton C330 PEW has been acquired from Ruffle, Castle Hedingham.

HUNTER SOUTH OCKENDON Ford Transit D613 FVF has been sold.

INGATESTONE COACHES J31 UTG a DAF400/Carlyle has been acquired.

KELLYS TRAVEL HARLOW Leyland Tiger/Duple NIL 2461 has been sold.

KINGS STANWAY Volvo/Jonckhree C404 LRP has been sold.

KINGSMaster COACH COURIERS BILLERICAY This new operator has HNJ 973V a Bedford YMT/Plaxton and OXI 2381 (ex B567 AHD) a DAF/Plaxton. The latter is ex Mikes, Billericay.

KIRBY RAYLEIGH A new addition is K16 BYS a Setra S315.

KNIGHTS COACHES GT BRAXTED Recent additions are Ford Transit H138 XMA and LDV Convoy R622 YJV.

LATTIMER THUNDERSLEY Ford Transit PJL 13 is being operated.

LODGE HIGH EASTER Van Hool T815 G103 CJN has been re-registered SJI 8661. Scania/Berkhof K442 BMO has not been previously reported here. A more recent acquisition is N138 YMS a Scania/Van Hool.

M&E SHOEBOURNNESS Bova Europa BAZ 6877 has been sold.

MCFEETERS BASILDON Dodge/N Counties D777 RBU was sold some while ago.

MASTER TRAVEL HERONGATE EGS 154T a Bedford VAS5/Duple has been acquired.

MELS MINIBUSES HORNDON ON THE HILL Talbot Express F59 AJK has been sold.

MILESTONE CANVEY Bedford VAS/Duple PFJ 751M has been sold.

NELSON WICKFORD Leyland National 2 ARN 894Y has been withdrawn, following accident damage while on loan to Town & Country, Corringham. It has been replaced there by sister ARN 893Y. Also withdrawn at the depot are National ARN 891Y, Dodge/N Counties C566 NHJ. Bristol VR MAU 142P is currently unlicensed. Vehicles sold are Dodge/E Lances BIL 4419 (D201 YDX), Leopard/Willowbrook KIB 7256, Fleetlines THM 705M, GHM 797N and TGX 892M, Leopard/Alexander PRA 12R, Bristol VR AUP 714S and the former BIL 6538 (D202 YDX) a Dodge/E Lances.

OCTOPUS TRAVEL HIGHWOOD Bedford YNT/Plaxton A445 HNE has been sold.

PAGE FOBING Freight Rover E547 WKN has been sold.

PEGASUS POINT CLEAR Vehicles sold are Ford Transit UJN 616Y, VW LT28 A311 BAK, Renault Traffic H594 CCD and Mazda H470 VNN.

PIONEER TRAVEL CLACTON A recent addition is LIL 7960 (ex E218 PWY) an Optare City Pacer.

RAYLEIGH ROADWAYS SHOTGATE Fleetline/MCW NOC 409R and Bristol VR/ECW SAO 411R have been sold.

ROAD TRAIN TRANSPORT STURMER Not previously recorded is LDV Convoy S510 OEW.

RUFFLE CASTLE HEDINGHAM Ford/Plaxton TDX 221W, Mercedes minicoach E762 EVG, LDV 400 L326 BKM and Bedford YNT/Duple A504 HUT have been acquired. Vehicles sold are Mercedes minicoach F886 NAR, Quest/Jonckhree E222 YTU, Mercedes/Devon conversions K145 PLP and Ford Transit FHK 396Y

RYDERS TRAVEL HARLOW Renault Traffic B961 PLK has been sold.

S&M NORT BENFLEET Vehicles sold are Fleetlines UFC 422K, KUC 154P, KUC 969P and OUC 38R.

SM TRAVEL HARLOW Vehicles sold are Leopard/Plaxton OKY 84R, Leopard/Duple ULS 646T, Fiat/Carlyle F77 CJC, Fiat/Robin Hood D39 KAX and MCW Metroliner C54 VJU.

SOUTHEND RADIO TAXIS Ford Transit B586 BNO, E844 FPC and J990 XVW are also owned.

STANS GT TOTHAM Bova T25 SJP is a recent addition. Similar H8 OVA was sold in part exchange. The re-registration of Mercedes 609D D31 CFL to RIL 4328 has not been reported before.

STANWAY TRAVEL SERVICES LAYER-DE-LA-HAYE Mazda E2200 P71 BJU is a recent addition.

STEPHENSONS ROCHFORD Olympian/ECW coach HJI 3932 (YPJ 502Y) has been used in service, but not reported before. Neither have Bristol VR/ECW convertibles VHB 677/8S, and fixed top sisters MFA 719V, NEH 724/6W. Vehicles used and no longer in use are Royal Tiger OIB 5402, Bristol VR/ECW MBZ 7140 (OTO 151R) and similar AAP 648T, Atlantean/East Lancs rebody HIL 4346, Tiger/Plaxton TJI 4821/4 and similar E685 UNE, Olympian/ECW HSB 312Y.

STORT VALLEY STANSTED A further Dennis Javelin/Plaxton is T638 JWB.

SUPREME SOUTHEND A further Scania/Irizar not previously reported is T375 JWA. Vehicles disposed of and not previously reported are Atlantean/Roe VGD 779R, Volvo/Plaxton HSK 836 (MRP 840Y), Fleetline/Park Royal SDA 620S and Dennis Javelin/Caetano P175 ANR. Leyland National 2 EON 826V and Olympian/Alexander A320 GLV are de-licensed.

SWT PRIVATE HIRE SOUTH WOODHAM Renault Traffic L991 RWC is an addition. Vehicles sold are Ford Transit F650 CEA and Freight Rover G120 VKX.

THACKER WESTCLIFF Fiat 49-10/Mellor J762 YWA has been sold.

THORNS OF RAYLEIGH Leyland Tiger/Caetano PJI 4704 (C97 NNV) has been acquired.

TOWN & COUNTRY CORRINGHAM To clear confusion from last month, Waters trades under this name. Hence Darts R310-3 NGM are here. Capital J140/3 YRM both all Leyland Olympians were on hire in August. AEC Routemaster CUV 239C was in use on service 380 on 21.8.99. it is assumed a conductor was carried.

TRAVELUX STANFORD LE HOPE DAF/Jonckhree LBZ 8073 (JNV 633Y) has been acquired.

TRAVELRICH CLACTON Neoplan N516 T855 JWB is a recent addition. Neoplan N116 coaches sold are 565 XEV and UGV 847.

TURNERS TAXIS WICKHAM ST PAUL Renault 95-KK-24 acquired for spares is thought to have been sold.

WALDEN TRAVEL SAFFRON WALDEN Vehicles sold and not previously recorded here are DAF/Duple E660 KCX and Tiger/Plaxton E693 UEX.

WALKERS STANFORD LE HOPE Mercedes/Reeve Burgess C246 OFE has been sold.

WARD ARLESFORD Further to EBN 417, the previous identity of Bova Futura 866 VNU was L336 PWX.

WATSON ENTERPRISES TILBURY Mercedes/Reeve Burgess C405 VVN has been sold.

WEBBS HIGHWOOD Bedford YMT/Duple EHE 228V has been sold.

WICKS BRAINTREE Bedford YRT/Willowbrook RBD 114M has been sold.

WINDMILL COPFORD Coaches transferred to this operator from Boons, Boreham were Setras KSU 369, K129 OCT, WSU 225 (ex M858 YVW), N5 HGB (ex N653 OFW), S268 BTL and Scania/Berkhof M313 VET.

COLCHESTER BOROUGH TRANSPORT ARRIVA COLCHESTER

DISPOSAL UPDATE

48	YWC 648F	Rallybeam Clopton 6/98 ex Rallybeam Totnes
61	NNO61P	PVS Carlton ex Carter Colchester.
74	TPU74R	Constable Long Melford.
76	TPU76R	Constable Long Melford
78	YNO78S	Boon Boreham
83	MEV83V	Hardwick Dlr Carlton via Liverpool Motor Services.

Where are they now No5 Colchester Borough Transport Acquired Leyland Atlanteans

62	RCN 96N	Sold
63	RFR415P	Sold
64	PUF131M	Ripley Barnsley Scrap
65	MUA865P	Sold to Private Owner for Preservation Restored to original Yorkshire Woollen livery
66	RFR416P	Sold
70	RFR421P	Sold
72	RFR419P	Sold
185	XPG185T	Sold

RUNNING WITHOUT PETROL

A considerable number of 'Buses have been adapted by the Company to run on PRODUCER GAS

★ALREADY THE "EASTERN NATIONAL" AND THE COMPANIES ASSOCIATED WITH IT, HAVE RUN 2,500,000 MILES BY THIS MEANS, SAVING 415,000 GALLONS OF IMPORTED FUEL



ARRIVA EAST HERTS AND ESSEX

SERVICES

6 August	503	Saffron Walden - Harlow. Service withdrawn.
14 August	724	Harlow to Heathrow Airport. Minor timetable revisions.
16 August	856	Additional morning journeys and evening journey between Church Langley and Harlow Town station.
21 August	20	Bishops Stortford - Furneux Pelham (circular). Terminal at Furneux Pelham changed from Church to Whitebarns.
28 August	301	Ongar - South Woodford. Journeys to West Hatch school withdrawn. Minor timetable revision.
6 September	717	ECC contract. New schoolday only service. Epping - Ingatstone school via Theydon Bois, Abridge, Passingford Bridge, Stanford Rivers, Kelvedon Hatch, Blackmore.
7 September	504	New schoolday and college day only service Harlow - Saffron Walden via Bishops Stortford (510 direct route) then as withdrawn 503.

ARRIVA SOUTHEND

FLEET NEWS

<u>Acquired</u>		
5276-8	G626/8EKA Dennis Dominator ex Arriva G & WS.	DDA103 East Lancs H43/25F
4351-4	M51-4AWW Scania K113 CRB ex Arriva West Yorks	Van Hool C F
2278	G78SKR Mercedes 609D ex Arriva East Herts and Essex. This vehicle is painted in all over advert for Southend United F C and is on a contract for team transport.	Reeve Burgess DP19F

Reinstated

5334 MRJ 234W

Withdrawn

5324/7/8/9 XTE 224/7/8/9V

3388-90 P258-60FPK to Arriva East Herts and Essex at Grays.

The withdrawn Fleetlines have been sold to Ensignbus (dealers) Purfleet

Repaints

5395 F575SMG to all over advert for Southend United Football Club.

Vehicle on loan

From Arriva The Shires

2169 G735PGA Ford Transit for training purposes.

With the arrival of the last of eight Dennis Dominators the full list reads.

5273	G663FKA	5278	G628EKA
5274	G664FKA	5286	K36XNE
5275	G665FKA	5287	K37XNE
5276	G628EKA	5288	K38YVM

5274/5 and 5286/7 are route branded for service2 Southend - Basildon.

NORTH ESSEX BUS SCENE

Hedingham Omnibuses

The following vehicles are additions to the fleet:-

<u>Fleet No.</u>	<u>Registration No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
L303	L67 UNG	Volvo B6 Alexander B38F.
L304	L69 UNG	Volvo B6 Alexander B38F.

Both of these vehicles are ex Ambassador, Great Yarmouth, (Norwich Park & Ride). They are both now in Hedingham fleet colours.

L305	WWL 212X	Leyland Olympian H75D ECW 6LXB.
L306	BBW 214Y	Leyland Olympian H75F ECW 6LXB.
L307	BBW 218Y	Leyland Olympian H75F ECW 6LXB.

Fleet numbers L306 and L307 have been converted to single door and both are in Hedingham fleet colours.

The following vehicles are now withdrawn from the fleet:-

L230	F145 SPV	Leyland Tiger Plaxton Panorama C57F ex Partridge.
L277	EWV 213T	Leyland Leopard Plaxton Supreme C53F ex Osborne's.

L204 Bristol VRT ECW H43/31F ex Midland Fox 1993 has been repainted and refurbished.

First Eastern National

Under cannibalisation at Clacton depot are the following vehicles:-

CJH 142V ex Aldershot Stagecoach Bristol VR which came via Stephenson's of Rochford,

BCL 216T Eastern Counties Bristol VR.

BNO 676T Thamesway Leyland National Fleet No.1886 and

XEH 254M Airport Coaches Leyland National Fleet No. 116 believed to be ex Southend Fleet No. 709.

Sad news on the Leyland Olympian front. Fleet No. 4021, registration No. C421 HJN was burnt out whilst operating the Colchester to Chelmsford service on Thursday 26th August. It is believed that a dropped cigarette was responsible for the fire. What remains of the vehicle currently stands in the yard at Clacton.

Currently under repair at Clacton is a further Leyland Olympian Fleet No. 4009, registration No. C409 HJN which had an unfortunate collision with the Chelmsford railway station bridge.

Of the three ex Capital Citybus Leyland Nationals Fleet No.1942, registration No.KRS 534V has been despatched for scrap, Fleet No 1943, Registration No. KRS 538V is now under cannibalisation and Fleet No.1941, registration No. NLP 391V awaits its fate.

An Eastern Counties Mercedes 608 has arrived at Clacton, registration No. F34 TJN. It has been given Fleet No. 2253 and is about to be despatched to Stansted Airport for work there. It does have an orange light fitted to the roof and is fitted with coach seats. Also believed to be destined for Stansted is Thamesway Leyland National Fleet No.1870, registration No. YEV 328S.

Mercedes 608D, Fleet No. 2232, registration No. C489 BHY is still resident at Clacton as a spare vehicle.

I would like to thank Mr. D.R. MacGregor MBE B.Sc.(Econ.) MCTT of Hedingham Omnibuses for supplying information for this column.

Paul Sparks,
September 1999.

ITINERARY FOR SUNDAY ROVER TRIP ON SUNDAY 22 AUG 1999 COST £4. (SENIOR CITIZEN)
 (FARE SHOULD HAVE BEEN £4.50 BUT WAYFAIRER MACHING HAD NOT BEEN UPDATED)

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ROUTE DETAILS				SERVICE NUMBER	OPERATOR	VEHICLE DETAILS
DEP.			ARR			
9.09.	BASILDON Bus Station	-	WICKFORD Broadway	9.25	232 FIRST TIDMBSWAY	945 N 945CPU Ds.Darb/Plaxton
9.38	WICKFORD Rail Station	-	BURNHAM-ON-CROUCH Rail Station	10.02	TRAIN FIRST GREAT EASTERN	(SUNDAY ROVER TICKETS NOW VALID ON GREAT EASTERN BRANCH LINES)
10.11.	BURNHAM-ON-CROUCH Rail Station	-	MALDON High Street	10.45	631	} FIRST EASTERN NATIONAL 2664 M 664VJN Mere/Plaxton (NO DENNIS DART OPERATION OWING TO ROAD CLOSURE AT WICKHAM BISHOPS)
10.54.	MALDON High Street	-	BRAINTREE Bus Park	11.50	632	
12.02	BRAINTREE Bus Park	-	SAFFRON WALDEN High Street	13.00	633	
13.05.	SAFFRON WALDEN High Street	-	CAMBRIDGE Station Rd. Corner	13.55	102 CG MYALL	- N 211YJE Ds.Darb/Alexander Dash
14.15.	CAMBRIDGE Rail Station	-	BURY ST. EDMUNDS Bus Station	15.10	X 11 STAGGCOACH CAMBUS	- J 409TEW Volvo/Plaxton coach (DRIVER DID NOT WANT TO ACCEPT SUNDAY ROVER TICKET)
15.18	BURY ST. EDMUNDS Bus Station	-	WEST STOW Country Park	15.39	757	} A.C. CHAMBERS - (TEA BREAK) - S 533UPJ Mere/Plaxton
16.11.	WEST STOW Country Park	-	COLCHESTER Bus Station	17.57	757	
18.05	COLCHESTER Bus Station	-	CHELMSFORD Bus Station	19.05	71c FIRST EASTERN NATIONAL	1408 F 408LTW Ld.Lynx/Leyland (NO DOUBLE DECKER OWING TO CHELMSFORD V94 F657VPL)
19.40	CHELMSFORD Bus Station	-	BASILDON Bus Station	20.30	140 HARRIS BUS	- P 446 SWX Optare Excel (CAREFULLY DRIVEN BY DAVID TOMLIN)

NOTES

- i) All vehicles operated as per timetable
- ii) Dry weather - Very few passengers all day.

JOHN RUGG 26 AUG 99.

MITDISH MOTORS - TRANSPORT CRANKS
OR AN IDEA AHEAD OF IT'S TIME? (BY IAN TAYLOR)

Sunday bus networks have become common place in the nineties especially in Southern England; Essex being one of the first counties to pioneer such an operation. The network usually comes complete with a bargain price one day rover ticket giving practically unlimited travel on any route in operation on the day. Although the network sponsored by Essex County Council first appeared in 1987 members may be surprised to learn that a private operator organised it's own network in the far north west corner of the county almost a decade earlier; the only difference being that this "network" operated on just one single Sunday - the 16th July 1978.

The operator was Mitdish Motors and the Essex escapade was the last of three Sunday adventures which spanned a ten month period across 1977/78. Formed by group of London Transport enthusiasts who were working in the schedules office at 55 Broadway at that time, the name V.O.Mitdish was derived from their own derogatory, stomach turning nickname for the Leyland National bus which was entering service in vast numbers in the late seventies.

An application for a stage carriage licence was approved for operations on Sunday 11.9.77 only and the services offered on this first occasion were as follows: Hertford East Station to Weston (Via Benington), Stevenage to Wood End and Weston to Hertford East Station (Via Stevenage). Although route numbers were not quoted in the timetable I assume that they must have been 201,202,203.

The event was far more successful than was envisaged and a second day of operation was set for Sunday 12.3.78. This time route numbers were used and the timetable advertised the following facilities: 204 Welwyn Garden City to Datchworth via Burnham Green and Bulls Green; 205 Welwyn Garden City to Luton via Kimpton, Whitwell and Cockernhoe; 206 Luton to Welwyn Garden City via Bendish and Codicote.

The third and final day of operation was on Sunday 16.7.78 and consisted of two routes numbered 207 and 208. The 207 ran from Waltham Cross to Saffron Walden via Cheshunt, Hoddesdon, Ware, Buntingford, Royston, Great Chishill and Audley End whilst the 208 ran unidirectionally from Saffron Walden to Royston and Reed via Clavering, Brent Pelham and Barkway. Upon reaching their destination, 208s returned to Saffron Walden as short workings of the 207.

The vehicle used was Sampson Coaches ex LT GS17 (MXX 317) and by all accounts the appearance of this vehicle in Luton Bus Station aroused the suspicion of the inspectors there, although upon production of the official documentation they grudgingly allowed operations to continue! Apparently the services were well patronised by enthusiasts, especially as LOTS had publicised them in their newsletters beforehand, although I doubt that many members of the general public were carried! I am told that difficulties in obtaining stage carriage licences precluded any further operations after 16.7.78. Apparently there had been earlier Sunday networks operated prior to September 1977 but restricted to LT schedules office staff only; one had definitely operated in the Dorking area during that Summer. On these occasions a car had been used which was owned by one of the enthusiasts complete with a home-made destination box containing a blind mounted on the roof rack!

The timetable sheet issued for the services also gave details of the special bargain tickets available, including a "Mitdish Crank About Ticket" giving unlimited travel on all of the routes on offer that day.

Some enthusiasts have dismissed the whole concept of Mitdish Motors as being "ridiculous" or "childish" but it strikes me as ironic that the basic idea of re-introducing public services to villages which had not seen buses on a Sunday for decades, if at all, was taken up by County Councils almost a decade later and is now a common type of operation in rural areas. The only difference is that these services are available every Sunday in Summer and in some cases year round, rather than just a "one off". Even more ironic was the fact that the first Essex Sunday bus network which had operated in Summer 1987 had included a service 610 via Clavering, Arkesden, Audley End and Saffron Walden; all of which had been served by Mitdish.

As I doubt that we'll ever see the likes of Mitdish Motors again I have reproduced a copy of one of their timetables for your enjoyment or otherwise! Was anyone reading this a Mitdish Motors passenger incidentally?

MITDISH MOTORSSUNDAY 11th SEPTEMBER 1977 ONLY(As Reported by the Traffic Commissioners)HERTFORD - WESTON (Via Banington)

HERTFORD EAST STATION	1010	1630	1750	WALKERN Stevenage Lane	1545	----
SACOMBE Telephone Kiosk	1029	1649	1809	BENNINGTON Green	1553	----
DANE END Farm	1033	1653	1813	GREAT MUNDEN School **	----	1707
GREAT MUNDEN School **	----	1703	----	DANE END Farm	1607	1717
BENNINGTON Green	1047	----	1827	SACOMBE Telephone Kiosk	1611	1721
WALKERN Stevenage Lane	1055	----	----	HERTFORD EAST STATION	1630	1740
WALKERN Post Office	----	----	1835			
CROMER Crossroads	----	----	1840			
HALLS GREEN Rising Sun	----	----	1849			
WESTON Green	----	----	1855	** - Nasty Crossroads.		

STEVENAGE - WOOD END

STEVENAGE Danestrete *	1110	----	----	WOOD END Chequers	1200	1300	1400
FRIENDS GREEN Anchor	1127	----	----	MOOR GREEN Goose	1204	1304	1404
WESTON Green (W)	1130	1230	1330	ARDELEY Jolly Waggoners	1208	1308	1408
HALLS GREEN Rising Sun	1136	1236	1336	HALLS GREEN Rising Sun	1223	1323	1423
ARDELEY Jolly Waggoners	1151	1251	1351	WESTON Green (W)	1229	1329	1429
MOOR GREEN Goose	1155	1255	1355	FRIENDS GREEN Anchor	----	----	1432
WOOD END Chequers	1159	1259	1359	STEVENAGE Danestrete *	----	----	1449

* - Buses also stop at Stevenage Station (W) - For White Horse

WESTON - HERTFORD (Via Stevenage)

WESTON Green (W)	2100	(W) - For White Horse
FRIENDS GREEN Anchor	2103	D - Calls to set down passengers only.
STEVENAGE Danestrete	2120 D	Passengers will not be carried locally between
HERTFORD EAST STATION	2150	Rock's Nest and Hertford on this service.

SPECIAL BARGAIN TICKETS

The Rambler ticket, price 50p (children under 14 and senior citizens 25p) is valid for unlimited travel on both Weston - Hertford routes.

The 'Golden Phoenix' ticket, price 50p (no reduction for children) is available for unlimited travel on the Stevenage - Wood End route, and the 2100 jny from Weston.

The 'Mitdish Crank-about' ticket, price 99p (no reduction for children) is valid for unlimited travel on all three routes.

Possession of a special bargain ticket does not guarantee room for conveyance.

Mitdish Motors 4 Crammer Close, Eastcote, RUISLIP, Middlesex, HA4 9QF.