

ESSEX BUS NEWS

Issue 519
July 2007



Essex Bus Enthusiasts Group

serving Essex since 1964

www.essexbus.org.uk

Essex Bus Enthusiasts Group

SUBSCRIPTIONS

A 12 month subscriptions 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 write to the Membership Secretary.

Derek Stebbing, 'Conifers',
Thorpe Road, Weeley, Clacton, C016 9JJ
derekstebbing@yahoo.com

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,
196 Sinclair Road, Chingford,
London E4 8PT

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, S59 2HN

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

TOURS ORGANISER

Dave Arnold
21 Cedar Close
Heybridge, Maldon, CM9 4NR
david@arnold1.fsnet.co.uk

YOUR REPORTS AND OBSERVATIONS

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

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.

ESSEX BUS NEWS

Magazine Editor &
Eastern National Enthusiasts Guild
David Harman, 24 Frankfield Rise
Tunbridge Wells, TN2 5LF
ebn@casuarina.org.uk

First in Essex

Chris Stewart, 10 Crossways,
Shenfield, CM15 8QX
chris@stewartcsi.freemove.co.uk

Arriva Southend / Network Colchester

Peter Mansbridge
petemans_1@hotmail.com

Arriva Harlow & Ware

Mark Garrett, 36 High Street,
Chrishall, Royston, SG8 8RP
deganwy@waitrose.com

Ensign - David Harman - see above

Excel / Stephenson's - Ian Ransom - see above

Heddingham - David Harman - see above

National Express - David Harman - see above

Essex Small Operators

Ian Ransom, 34 Donald Way,
Chelmsford, CM2 9JE
IanandSally@bigfoot.com

Service Changes

David Tomlin, 11 The Greenway,
Wickford, SS11 7NU
drawdiveltd@blueyonder.co.uk

Dates for your diary

■ EBN PRESS DATES

For inclusion in EBN dated

August
September
October

reports should reach Editors by

8 August
5 September
3 October

planned despatch date

17 August
14 September
12 October

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).

■ ROCHFORD MEETINGS

Meetings 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. Prints, slides and digital photographs can all be shown. *Richard Delahoy*

There is no meeting in August; the Autumn programme comprises:

- ▶ **Tuesday September 11** - *Chris Stewart* presents an illustrated talk on Eastern National garages.
- ▶ **Tuesday October 9** - '30 Years of the Southend Bus Rally' - slide show by *Richard Delahoy*
- ▶ **Tuesday November 13** - to be announced
- ▶ **Tuesday December 11** - slide show by *Richard Delahoy* '20 Years ago'.

■ COLCHESTER MEETINGS

Meetings take place in the 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). All members and guests are very welcome. £1 donation towards room hire please. Slides or digital photos are preferable, but prints can also be shown. *Dave Arnold*

- ▶ **Friday 10 August** - slide show by *Dave Arnold* - 'Rail Replacement'.
- ▶ **Friday 14 September** - slide show by *Gary Sharpe* - 'Evening of nostalgia?'
- ▶ **Friday 12 October** - slide show by *Fred Lawrence* - 'On the company's expenses - 2!'
- ▶ **Friday 9 November** - to be advised
- ▶ **Friday 14 December** - slide show by *Fred Lawrence* - 'Coach operators of East Anglia - 1950s and 1960s'.

■ RALLIES, OPEN DAYS ETC

- ▶ **Saturday/Sunday 7-8 July: Eastern Coach Works Event**, East Anglia Transport Museum. Saturday 7th: 1pm - 5pm; Sunday 8th: 10.30am - 5pm.

cover: 721 revisited: RMC4 at Brentwood on 6th July. Chris Stewart



**JJD 535D at
Colchester North
station**



**Former Eastern
National Mercedes
K633 GVX**



**Excel's former Lincoln
City Transport
Olympian / East
Lincs KTL 44Y**

Chris Stewart

Bristols at Bristol

The tour in May to the Bristol Bus Rally was blessed with good weather this year.

The attractive Harbourside site with facilities in nearby redeveloped buildings, is good for all ages, and varied trips made this really pleasant day.

Not surprisingly, Bristols were well-represented, especially by these superbly restored examples:
L (DOD 518),
K (UHY 360) with
LD (969 EHW)
and prototype
LS (NHU 2)

Owen Woodliffe







721 revisited

To mark the 30th anniversary of the withdrawal of routes 721 & 724 and the closure of Romford (RE) garage, RMC4 worked a private trip from Romford to Aldgate and back on Friday 6th July, with a late afternoon run to Brentwood and back.

RMC4, now owned by Blue Triangle, has

a Leyland engine and ECW body whilst it also lacks power steering as is standard on all other Routemasters. 2007 also marks 50 years since it first worked on the 721, from October to December 1957.

With thanks to former Green Line Driver John Bush and Conductor Ken Healey, and to Roger Wright of Blue Triangle for the loan of RMC4.

Chris Stewart



"Creating a Better Southend"

Southend-on-Sea Borough Council has appointed transport publicity and mapping specialist FWT to create an integrated travel information system for the town centre and surrounding area.

The project supports the Council's aim of enhancing the public transport experience, including improved access to travel information, as part of the Council's vision 'Creating a Better Southend'.

FWT have developed a package of transport information material, including destination finders, route finders and stop-specific timetable panels. The brief has been extended to encompass integrated information for all town centre bus stops, as well as main bus stops on the A13 corridor to Thames Drive in Leigh-on-Sea.

All stops in the town centre are to be lettered with a V prefix, standing for Victoria Circus/Avenue area, and then sequentially through the alphabet (except I and O). *Richard Delahoy* has supplied the following list, based on a Council map:

- VA Victoria Avenue northbound, Harcourt Avenue.
- VB Civic Centre southbound
- VC Victoria station northbound
- VD not used for fairly obvious reasons.
- VE Queensway, Alexander House
- VF, VG layby behind the Odeon
- VH, VJ, VK new layby at Southend Victoria station - this will not be in use until late October when the Victoria Plaza contractors remove the temporary footbridge blocking the stops.
- VL not used.
- VM, VN, VP - Chichester Road, Argos
- VQ Southchurch Road, Sutton Arms (in future, there only be one stop there not two).
- VR Warrior Square southbound - see photos supplied by Ian Banks. Note: this does *not* indicate the type of bus that serves the stop!
- VS Warrior Square northbound (In future there will only be one stop there not three).



Service Changes

Arriva Southend

21-May-07	6A	M-F	Belfairs, Woodcutters - Leigh Rail Station Minor timetable changes.
4-Jun-07	7	Daily	Shoeburyness, Renown - Rayleigh Rail Station Minor timetable changes.
	8	Daily	Shoeburyness, Renown - Hockley, Spa Minor timetable changes

Blue Triangle

1-Jul-07	381	Sp	North Weald Airfield - Stapleford Tawney, Moletrap PH Special one day service only for North Weald bus rally
----------	-----	----	---

Carters Coach Services

4-Jun-07	92	M-S	Ipswich - Stratford St Mary/Manningtree Revised timetable
	93	M-S	Colchester Bus Station - Ipswich, Old Cattle Market Bus Station. Revision to timetable. Most evening and Sunday service journeys withdrawn

EasyBus

7-Jun-07	EB2	Daily	Marylebone/George Street - Stansted Airport, Coach Station New service via Thornwood, Hastingwood Services and South Woodford operating mostly half hourly but increased to 3bph at busier times.
----------	-----	-------	--

First

14-May-07	65	Daily	Stanway, Tollgate Medical Centre - Highwoods, Tesco Store The re-routing at Stanway is to allow for carriageway reconstruction. Buses now terminate at Stanway, Tollgate Sainsburys not the Medical Centre after operating anti-clockwise via Tollgate Road, London Road then Tollgate West.
	76	Daily	Colchester North Station - Clacton, Jackson Road All journeys reverted to former route from University to Elmstead Market via Wivenhoe Park Corner now that traffic lights have been installed at a recognised danger spot, i.e. turning from Colchester Road (B1027) on to A133. (Journeys operating from Clacton were unaffected).
18-Jun-07	551	M-S	Basildon Bus Station - Brentwood Rail Station Minor timetable revision (M-F)
24-Jun-07	33	Daily	Chelmsford Rail Station - Bishops Stortford Interchange Route extended to and from Bishops Stortford (M-S) with the loss of late evening journeys.
	352	Daily	Chelmsford Rail Station - Halstead, Colne Road Service no longer serves Braintree Station (Halstead-Chelmsford direction) daytime to improve reliability

Heddingham Omnibuses

25-Aug-07	88B	M-S	Colchester Bus Station - Little Tey, Godbolt's Farm Service withdrawn
-----------	-----	-----	--

Imperial Bus

31-Mar-07	320	M-S	Tilbury, Asda - Lakeside Bus Station (circular) This service appears to have been withdrawn
-----------	-----	-----	--

Network Colchester

2-Jun-07	93B	M-S	Bentley, Memorial - Colchester Bus Station
----------	-----	-----	--



All change at Debden

Barton Road was closed for road works late last year, and a temporary stop was sited in Broadway. **Imperial Metrobus E455 SON** is at the stop under a familiar threatening sky in June.



The former stand in Barton Road was relocated north of the Broadway into Vere Road. In an allocation shange at **Arriva London North**, Edmonton (EC) has taken on TfL route 20, but unfortunately, well-worn DAF/Alexanders from Stamford Hill (SF) have replaced Volvo/Wrights used by Barking (BX).



Local Debden routes were changed and renumbered in late April, and 543 is a circular route via Loughran. Solo **2456** does show this but the electronic display is as murky as the weather!

Owen Woodliffe

			Service withdrawn after this date
	93C	M-S	Colchester Bus Station - Bentley, Memorial
			Service withdrawn after this date
3-Jun-07	90C	Su	Hadleigh Bus Station - Ipswich, Old Cattle Market Bus
			Station. Service withdrawn after this date
	103	Su	Colchester Bus Station - Mistley, Rigby Avenue
			Service withdrawn after this date
	900	Su	Colchester Bus Station - Sudbury Bus Station
			Service withdrawn after this date
4-Jun-07	93	M-S	Ipswich, Old Cattle Market Bus Station - Colchester Bus
			Station. Revision to timetable. Most evening and Sunday
			service withdrawn
Olympian Coaches			
4-Jun-07	744	M - F	Sawbridgeworth - London, Victoria
			New service, single peak time journey in each direction
			serving Bishops Stortford and City
Stansted Transit			
5-Jul-07	1	M-F	Stansted Airport - Bishops Stortford
			Service withdrawn
Stephensons of Essex			
23-Jul-07	61	M-S	Southend Travel Centre - Fossetts Farm
			New half hourly service via Bournemouth Park Road and
			Sutton Cemetery (no evenings - hourly shopping hours
			Sunday)

David Tomlin

Publicity News

Essex County Council have produced:

- an updated Bus and Train Map dated Summer 2007. This is produced by FWT and includes a County Map on one side and an amazing 21 town maps on the other, ranging from large towns such as Colchester and Southend, down to smaller places such as Witham and Saffron Walden.
- five new timetable books for: West & North West Essex (April 2007) North East; South Essex; South East & Southend; Central Essex; all dated May 2007.
- leaflet for Public Transport Information made easy dated December 2006
- timetable leaflets for services 541 (29.4.07) and 542/3 (30.4.07)

Thurrock Council have issued a May 2007 edition of their Public Transport Map (produced by FWT 8.5.07) whilst the **Hertfordshire County Council** Summer 2007 Network Map includes many cross border services.

National Rail leaflet for Plusbus the add on bus facility for rail tickets, dated 2.1.07.

Chambers of Bures have produced a double sided A4 timetable in their usual format dated 4th January 2007.

Gatwick Flyer have two Summer 2007 leaflets, valid from 1st May until 30th September, for their services from South Essex to Gatwick Airport and to Stansted Airport.

Ensignbus have produced a leaflet for their services in the Thurrock area following major changes on 28th April 2007.

First Essex timetable leaflets for services 10/11 dated 8.4.07; 17/18 dated 8.4.07; 31/B/C/X dated 1.4.07; 33 dated 24.6.07; 36 dated 1.4.07; 72/A dated 2.1.07; 75 dated 14.1.07; 352 dated 24.6.07; X22 dated 29.4.07; X30/40 dated 29.4.07. leaflets for First Day/First Week Essex dated April 2007 and an undated leaflet for Using the car to get to work?

Stansted Transit photocopied and undated leaflet for service 35

Stephensons have issued single sided A5 leaflets for services 260 and 280. "Shopperbuses for the Dengie Peninsula Three Great Routes 200, 210, 220" is a folded A5 leaflet. A single sided A4 sheet details "Shopper Buses from Maldon to Southend (250), Brentwood (240) and Braintree (290)." All of these four items are dated 04/07.

Trustline produced a photocopied A4 sheet for service C3 (Harlow/Hertford and Waltham Cross) dated 4th December 2006

Thanks to Ian Taylor, LOTS and Essex County Council



■ FIRST ESSEX BUSES LTD

Acquired vehicles

60469 G624NWA Volvo B10M-55 24708	Alexander 12PS/3289/24	new 5/90
60484 G639NWA Volvo B10M-55 24861	Alexander 12PS/3289/39	new 7/90

ex *First South Yorkshire Ltd*, new to *South Yorkshire Transport*

These are for the Driving School and have ABS braking fitted, as is now needed for PCV tests (although training can still be undertaken on any vehicle). They were B51F when new but are thought to have had an extra seat added. Both are in First standard livery apart from the lack of willow leaves. They arrived on or about 17th June 2007.

Allocation changes

Period 3: 29 May 2007 to 1 July 2007

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

(A)=acquired, including vehicles on loan; Anc=Ancillary fleet; (S)=spare/retained (licensed);

D/L(S)=spare/retained (delicensed); D/L(D)=delicensed for disposal; DS=Driving School;

PS=Paint Spare

46122 (S)-HH; 46129 (S)-CF; 46803 HH-(S); 60469 FGC-DS; 60494 FGC-DS

46803 moved from HH to DT on 27th July, and was due to replace 51780.

Repaints (Period 3):

46137 42488 41647 34302 43712 34315 46827 46138 53115 43716 41642 43715 53114

Other vehicle news:

Dart 42923 (EU05AUP) has been sent away for repair following recent collision damage (EBN518).

Olympian/ECW 34818 (C418HJN), which has been languishing at the back of Westway depot for some months, has now re-entered service with a reconditioned Gardner engine.

'Heritage' VR 38790 (KOO790V) was in BN for safety checks on 30th June (and present at the same time was an unidentified *First Eastern Counties* Volvo B6).

Operations – unusual sightings:

Chelmsford & Braintree

June 8th BE46812 on 51, CF47228 on 51, CF60103/4 on 352
 12th CF34815 on 45, CF47221 on 56, green CF47252 on 42
 16th BE46816 on 41, CF43730 on 42, 46116 on 48, CF47223 on 54/56
 19th CF31198 and 46116 on 352
 20th CF43730 on 45, 46116 on 33, BE46816 on 54/56
 23rd CF31198 (13.05) and CF34807 (16.05) on 351



Dart 43714 in advertising livery is seen on school contract C25 in Brentwood on 7th July.

Chris Stewart

The electronic destination unit in Solo 53114 is being repaired; in the meantime, it has received this temporary display. *Peter Mansbridge*





Unusual workings

this page:
Chelmsford
opposite:
Billericay,
Chelmsford,
Basildon

all: Kevin Smith



■ SOUTHEND FLEETLINE RUNNING DAY, September 1st:

Stephensons of Essex are planning to operate their ex Southend Transport Leyland Fleetline MRJ 233W over some of their Southend area routes on Saturday, September 1st, recreating workings that ST Fleetlines covered in their heyday.

Subject to confirmation, operations are expected on routes 14 (Southend-Barling-Wakering-Shoebury), 60 (Southend-Rochford-Canewdon) and 61 (Southend-Sutton Cemetery-Fossetts Park). More details in next month's magazine.

Evening Tour to Talisman Coachlines

Now becoming an annual summer event, around 25 members and friends gathered by Colchester North station for the evening visit to Talisman Coachlines of Great Bromley. Those who arrived early were able to view a number of Heddingham Dennis Darts and First Volvo Olympians.

Around 19.00 hours, Talisman's preserved Routemaster JJD 535D (RML 2535) came into view, closely followed by open-top VRT CBV 2S, originally with Ribble and now undergoing restoration by Talisman. The cameras were busy and we took our seats on RML 2535 for the ride to Great Bromley.

At Talisman's premises, we were able to view a number of the Company's Setra and Volvo coaches, all now painted in their smart yellow and blue livery, along with Optimo M232 JBC, former Eastern National Mercedes K653 GVX, and the two Leyland "Megga Dekkas", J534/605 CEV. Open-top Colchester Atlantean in former Corporation livery was also present, along with DAF/Plaxton Supreme coach YJN 455S, now splendidly preserved in Staines Crusader livery. It was this vehicle which was to be our transport for a tour of the Tendring peninsula. Our tour in YJN 455S took us by way of Little Bentley, Tendring village, Kirby Cross (where we managed to time our arrival at the

railway bridge precisely to meet First Dennis Dart 46829 on the 8A), continuing via Holland (this *was* an international tour!), Clacton seafront, Jaywick and Thorington, back to Great Bromley, proving once again, for even those of us fairly familiar with the area, there were always new lanes to explore. A most comfortable ride in a vehicle, nearly 30 years old.

For something completely different, transport back to Colchester was provided by Megga Dekka J605 CEV - these vehicles are regularly used on rail replacement work, and the 102 seats available must be well appreciated at times.

Our thanks go to Talisman Coachlines for their usual hospitality, and to Dave Arnold for organising the visit. One waits to see if a future tour can find, as yet, unexplored parts of the district.

Richard Huggins



26th 352-branded CF42483 on 31, CF46129 back in use (on 72)
end of June/beginning of July – CF56003 on 352 shorts for three days during another
Bocking closure
30th CF46129 on 48, CF31198 on 36

July 2nd CF47223 on 54
3rd BE46813 on 54, CF47228 on 41
5th CF34807 ex 36 and then on 351 (13.05), CF34818 on 31, CF42920 on 31X, BE46129
on 45
6th CF31198 on 351

Colchester, Clacton & Harwich

CN47225 was on loan to DT during the month, with CN46820 on loan to CR

June 1st CR34305 on 65; CR65679 on X22
5th DT51780 on 103/4
6th CN67011 on 18
9th CR30561 on 64A, CR65690 on 71
11th CR34307 on 65
12th CR34014 on 65
13th CR30560 on 67, CR67004 on 64
16th CN46820 off 61
18th CR67005 on 65
19th CN46176 on CR70 (07.50 ex Gt Tey)
20/23 CR34308 on 65; CN46820 on CR61.
26th 61-branded CR43716 on 64A (some branding removed), on 66; 27th subsequently
completely debranded
27th 64-branded CR65653 on CR75 (p.m. Tiptree short)
30th CR62408 on 71 (15.05 from Chelmsford), CN46820 on 66

Other News - Where are they now?

The following one-time *Thamesway* Darts which have been dumped out of service with *First London*, and most recently at Hayes garage, are reported as having been disposed of for scrap, possibly to Erith Commercials: 46104/6 (K904/6CVW), 46852/3/4 (N952/3/4CPU)

With reference to EBN518, ON coach 4511 (D511PPU) remains in use with Fargo and the reported sale to Sanders, Holt would appear to have been incorrect.

Slightly older, and further afield – former City Coach Co and Westcliff/EN Leyland PD1 2111 (NVX311) is understood to have moved 100 miles inland within North Carolina, to Elizabeth Town, where it will continue to be used (by a local winery).

Sources: Own observations, with many thanks to *First Essex* and to A Bird, T Clark, D Edwards, M Farmer, I Hardie, J Podgorski, D Pretty, J Salmon, S Simister, K Smith, 'Solo', D Stewart, R Webb, R Whitley, the *Essex Bus*, *South West* and *British Buses in North America* y-groups, *Real Bus News*, LOTS, PSV Circle, *Terminus*.

Text message reports relating to First Group may be sent on 07973 509459, in addition to e-mail and conventional post. Chris Stewart

Repaints

Dennis Lance SLF L211 (M212 WHJ) has received a full repaint during the first half of June and was returned to traffic week ending 15 June 2007. It was followed into the paint shop at Sible Hedingham by the other Dennis Lance SLF L212 (M211 WHJ). This vehicle should be available by the first week in July. Both vehicles continue to be allocated to Hedingham depot.

On 1 June Clacton based Dennis Dart L348 (EV56 FLR) was involved in a road accident in the Jaywick area. Considerable damage was caused to the offside of the vehicle. Repairs were carried out at the workshops in Wethersfield Road. It was then taken to specialist coach finishers for spray painting.

Bodywork repairs continue to keep Hedingham and Clacton workshops busy. Leyland Olympian L160 (HI60 HJN) has received extensive renewals to the lower deck floor, whilst Hedingham are about to complete floor, upper deck and panel repairs to Bristol VR L255 (STW 30W) before it is the next vehicle to enter the paint shop.

Allocations - June 2007

	Saloon	B6 / Dart	SLF	Coach	Double-decker
Hedingham	L196 L206	L297	L211 L328 L212 L340 L301 L350 L325		L337 L355
Sudbury	L148 L200	L241	L339	L122 L282 L124 L291 L233 L298 L242	L336 L353 L341 L345 L352
Kelvedon		L198 L342 L208 L258 L296 L304	L344 L351	L281 L311	L167 L306 L197 L310 L254
Tollesbury	L150	L207 L243 L283 L303 L308	L343 L349	L309 L329	L237 L315 L262 L316 L288 L317
Clacton	L322	L210 L287 L319 L320	L312 L326 L334 L335 L338 L346 L348	L244 L285 L286 L290 L295 L299 L323 L324 L347	L160 L293 L332 L245 L300 L333 L248 L305 L249 L307 L251 L313 L253 L314 L255 L330 L292 L331
Paint float					L199

David Harman, with thanks to Mr D R MacGregor of Hedingham Omnibuses

■ ARRIVA EAST HERTS & ESSEX

Vehicles in

from Arriva The Shires (Stevenage) 3352 5/07

3352 J402 XVX Dennis Dart 9.8SDL3012/800 / Wright P212 B40F 4/92

Allocations

5/07: 3352.HA; 5379.u

Subsequent histories

2116 (N186 EMJ): Hillier, Foxham 11/06 ex Pickford, Chippenham)

2159 (N367 JGS): Pickford, Chippenham 1/07 ex Arriva The Shires 2159

3104 (L400 BUS): MK Metro 3104 6/07 ex Arriva The Shires 3104

Liveries

5/07: "Arriva" ex Park & Ride - 3357 (K407 FHJ)

Unusual workings

9th June: Volvo 3860 (KE54 HHF) on 501 at Romford (branded for 510 Harlow-Stansted Airport). Photo, below, by Arthur Nugent.

Mark Garrett



■ ARRIVA SOUTHEND

Vehicles Out

1188 (R188 DNM) Mercedes Vario to Arriva Medway Towns at Sheerness for a new contract.

Vehicle News

The six former Dengie Village Link Mercedes Sprinters 1751-6 have been bought by the Arriva Southern Counties Group from Essex County Council for possible further use within the group. 1753 moved to store at Gillingham from Southend on 4th July. 1756 is still away

undergoing accident repairs whilst 1751/2/4/5 remain in store at Southend.

Within the next few weeks six Dart SLFs will transfer from Grays to Southend. They are destined for route 29. The Dart SLFs will be replaced at Grays by red-liveried Dart SLFs from Dartford which are in turn being replaced by new Enviro 200s arriving at Dartford during July/August for TfL route 286.

Volvo B6 3606 (L606 EKM) now carries a mega rear advertisement for Adventure Island. Olympian 5402 assisted on the Brooklands Centenary Park & Ride Service from Wisley Airfield in Surrey on 16th June.

Three 10.2 metre Enviro 200s (to be numbered 3997-9) are on order for TfL route 499. These are due for delivery in November. They will work alongside SB120/Cadets 3971-3 to make a PVR of 5 with one spare.

Publicity News

The extension of the 383 to Basildon from the 28th April has connected the Southend operations and Grays operations of Arriva Southend. Although Grays depot has operated to Basildon since February this has been on a Sunday (service 150) when service 5 from Southend does not run. The new connection has been marketed, at least from the Grays end, with publicity about the revised service 383, stating that connections at Basildon are available onto Arriva Southend service 5 for Southend.

A special fares promotion entitled 'Take a Friend on the 29 for 29p' operated on the 29th June. Anyone accompanying someone paying a normal adult fare or using an Arriva Southend Day, Weekly or Four-weekly ticket was able to make a single journey on the 29 for a single fare of 29p after 9am.

Peter Mansbridge with thanks to Matthew Arnold and Richard Lewis



Vehicles In

155 T405 SMV Dennis Trident SFD113BR1XGX20479 East Lancs 30505 H45/24D
New 7/99 as Metrobus 405

156 T406 SMV Dennis Trident SFD113BR1XGX20500 East Lancs 30506 H45/24D
New 7/99 as Metrobus 406.

These vehicles were due for delivery at Colchester as we went to press.

Vehicle Workings

Unusual sightings:

June

8th 105 on 1E (usually SLF/Pointer).

11th 905 on 1.

28th 109 (2 branded) on 83 & 175.

Rail Replacement: The following vehicles were used on emergency rail replacement between Colchester and Witham on 18th June: 102, 107, 333, 360, 361, 347, 529 and 801

Branding

Dart SLFs 354/5 have lost their route 8 branding whilst B10BLEs 386/7 have lost their route 2 branding.

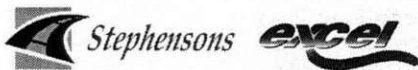
Other News

Former Network Colchester Lynx 351(H251 GEV) was seen in St Albans late on Saturday

night 16th June. It is now with Le Blond of Tring, who were using it on a courtesy service for Batchwood Hall nightclub.

Britbus models are to release a model of Network Colchester Scania Omnidekka 101 (AY55 DKA).

Peter Mansbridge with thanks to Richard Delahoy, John Podgorski, Dave Stewart of LOTS



■ **EXCEL PASSENGER LOGISTICS, Stansted**

The operating licence (PF1020879) has been amended from National to International. Leyland Olympian/East Lancs KTL 44Y is currently on loan to Talisman, Gt Bromley.

■ **STEPHENSON of ESSEX, Rochford**

New MPD type Dart EU07 FRN is now working from Maldon for use on Witham town services 38/9, it releases similar SK02XGO for transfer to Rochford where it will be painted, ready for the start of the 61 on July 23.

Solo's have been seen on the 90 as there is usually one spare at Maldon.

Another vehicle which is to be written off is freshly painted Volvo / Alexander M231 TBV (231) which was damaged in a bizarre accident with a refuse truck. This reversed into it, breaking the windcreens, bounced off and then reversed again at high speed taking the rest of the front off.

Stephensons are hoping to run services in Southend on New Years Day, similar to the Winchester King Alfred Running Day, although fares will be charged. A mixture of heritage and modern traction is envisaged.

Ian Ransom, with thanks to Lyn Watson

Regal Busways

An amazing addition is former Chase Buses, Cannock BYW 365V, a Leyland National, new to London Buses.

Ian Ransom



Vehicles withdrawn are Leyland Olympian/ECW D194 FYM, Leyland Lynx G256 EOG and J43 GGB and Dennis Dart/Plaxton J128 DUV.

A clear-out of withdrawn stock has seen the following sold: Leyland National 2 JTF 972W, Leyland Atlantean/East Lancs KCK 202W, MCW Metrobus B238 WUL, F99 XOF, Leyland Lynx G105/255 EOG, J45 GGB, Dennis Dart/Plaxton J107 DUV, J157 GAT, Optare MetroRider K973/4 HUB and LDV Convoy T253 KKE

Ian Ransom

■ DEALER STOCK MOVEMENTS

Vehicles in

	<i>from</i>
Arriva London:	L520/38.
Mike Fuller:	RT3865.
Metroline:	V208/10/13.
Stagecoach East Midlands:	Olympians C632/64 LFT.

Vehicles out

	<i>to</i>
Merc 709 N943 NAP:	ACL Travel, Hewish, Somerset.
Spectra L705 FRD:	Alder Valley Travel, Alton, Hants.
Dominator F75 TFU:	AS Bone & Son, Hook, Hants.
Lance M202 DRG:	Central Buses, Sutton Coldfield.
RML2270:	Challenge House Business Centre, Croydon.
Olympians L203/8/9/10 J769 CEV:	Dunn-Line, Nottingham.
DAF DB250's V652/4 LWT:	Eastbourne Buses.
Olympian L215 TWM:	Geldards Coaches, Leeds.
Olympians F455/9 BKF, G645/9 EVV:	Golden Eagle Coaches, Salsburgh, Shotts, Scotland.
Olympian G553 VBB:	Herberts Coaches, Shefford, Beds.
Dominator H261 MFX:	Inchmere Design, Banbury, Oxon.
Spectras K301/17/22/24 FYG K124/60	PGO: MASS, Sheffield.
Olympians C632/64 LFT:	McKindless, Wishaw, Scotland
Olympians L206/216 SKD:	Men at Work Prop Hire, London W7.
RML2624:	Mike Fuller, Beds.
Metrorider M978 WWR:	OTT Tours, Faversham.
Volvo B10B's L58/9 UNS	
DAF SB220's M822/30/45 RCP:	Reading Buses.
Olympian C67 CHM:	Red Kite, Beds.
Dart H908 DTP:	S&M, Benfleet, Essex.

■ ENSIGNBUS, Purfleet

Dart SLF's R83 MOR and R561 UOT entered service by July as 783 and 761.

Metrobus 143 (D943 NDA) has been reinstated. It is outstationed in Faversham for South Eastern rail replacement work.

Accident-damaged Delta 605 has been scrapped.

RMA58 and RCL2220 were both in use on replacement services on 5th and 6th July, following the Central Line derailment at Mile End.

Finally, we record a new delivery to Ross's personal fleet - baby Lorna. Congratulations from all at EBEG!

David Harman, with thanks to Ross Newman, Ensignbus

Small Operator News

ACME TRANSPORT Stansted LDV 400 minibus M948 JFP has been sold.

ADTAX Saffron Walden LDV Convoy N514 BEG has been sold to a private owner.

AIR CONNECTIONS Stansted. Has V794 LKJ a LDV Convoy.

AMBER Rayleigh Recently acquired is Bova Futura YV03 YDY. Further to EBN 517, Iveco/Lorraine J833 WDC has been acquired from Ceefa Coaches, Basildon. LDV Convoy M417 BCD has been sold to a private owner.

APT Rayleigh Scania K113/Irizar N356 JOR has been sold to Upwell & District, Upwell. Acquired from Baker, Ash is E605 LVH a DAF SB2305/Van Hool. This was new to London Buses. Also acquired is YR02 ZZM a Scania/Van Hool from Happy Days, Stafford. Registration 827 APT is now on a ??/Irizar.

ARROW Maldon Ford Transit SO05 FGV has been acquired.

ASTROCABZ Maylandsea Ford Transit R337 / has been acquired from Scenic Travel, Hockley (Non PSV).

BARKER Roydon Setra S215HD A252 TAG (new as A33 KBA) has been acquired from Carterton Coaches, Witney. It was re-registered SKZ 9660 after arrival here.

BROWN Basildon DAF400 minibus L571 JKO has been withdrawn.

CD Hire Harlow Ford Transit M696 SKP has been withdrawn.

CEDRICS Wivenhoe VRs BKE 835T, FKM 864V, HWJ 934W; Olympians ACM 708X, MUH 284X have all passed to Doncaster Bus Breakers, Dunscroft.

CF TRANSPORT Hadleigh Renault Master F471 RUW has been sold.

CHARIOTS Stanford-le-Hope C16 ACT (ex C369 KER, LIB 1745, C953 UEW, 299 SAE, C861MGB, VLT 37, C352 DER) Scania/Plaxton Paramount 4000 was at the depot 6.4.07 (last reported with Ausden-Clark, Leicester for spares.) K685WKJ Mercedes Benz 410D at the depot 6.4.07. Rare ACE Puma/Van Hool VIB 9303 (new as B628 MSF) has gone to Sapphire, Rackheath, VIL 4056 (M40

MPS) a Fiat 59-12/Marshall to an unknown owner.

CHELMSFORD TAXIBUS New are Ford Transit (fleetnumbers where known in brackets) EK07VUA (35)/VUM (41)/VUV (52), EK07 VTY (47), EK07 VUE/OPD and EX07 EEW/RNY/RPO/RSZ/UFH (UFH carries a taxi plate) Fiat Ducato EJ03 KZT has been sold to 786 Travel, Woodley. Transits renumbered are EY54 NXC (52 to 152) and EA54 HXY (59 to 159). Similar vehicles withdrawn are EY54 NXB/NYK/NXJ/NXT.

CN ENTERPRISES Abridge Acquired from an unknown owner is Bova Futura FHD12-340 PY02 UMT (JH02 BUS). VIA 137 (P356 VWR) a Volvo B10M/Jonckhree has been sold.

CROWN Thundersley Acquired from Supreme, Southend is R454 YDT a Scania K113/Van Hool.

FARGO Rayne Former Eastern National Leyland Olympian/ECW D511 PPU returned to use in April. LDV Convoy X804 ATD is now a non-PSV, while sister EU03 VPR is now a PSV.

News of Leyland Atlanteans here is that GHG 343W is being prepared for MoT. The others AHG 331V, GHG 344/5W are out of use.

GODWARD Basildon New are Iveco 397E/Beulas YN07 DZX/Y/Z. Acquired is T566 FUM a Scania L94IB/Irizar.

GRAHAMS Kelvedon Mercedes Benz 814D/Plaxton N627HDM has gone to Taylor (dealer), Isleham.

HAILSTONE Basildon New here is Mercedes Benz 0814D/Eurocoach AE56 OBV. It replaces similar, but Olympus bodied MA51 CWR sold to Murphy, Chalfont St Peter.

HANN Harlow Renault Master G63 VVM has been sold.

HAWAII FIVE O Colchester Ford Transit P163 KOM has been sold.

KB COACHES Wickford Vehicles withdrawn are KIB 289 (JAM 92W) a MAN SR280, 7222 EL (A355 JJU) a Bova Europa, YAR 790S a Bedford YMT/Plaxton and XJS 14X a Mercedes

Benz L608D/Reeve Burgess.

KEANE Canvey Island Vehicles sold are Renault Trafic M853 YPX and L487 VBP, plus Ford Transit L289 JFV.

KNIGHTS Gt Braxted Mercedes Benz 608D/Reeve Burgess RIL 4328 (D31 CFL) has been sold.

LODGE High Easter Scania K124/Van Hool W20 DGE has been reregistered 46 AEW

MICKS MINIBUSES Canvey Island VW LT46 minibus M11 XMB has been sold.

NCS Widdington Acquired from a private owner are LDV Convoy T328 VJN and GN51 OXF. Vehicles sold are Renault Trafic M48 AVX, L656 RJN, M129 AVW, M525 AVX and LDV minibuses N748 HTW, N420 HWC, N475 WOD, P914 SPU and T207 LGB.

NELSONS Wickford Acquired from Southdown PSV: T401,404,410 SMV ex Metrobus Trident/ East Lancs Lolyne. These were H45/24D, but now converted to single door H73F (split not known) at North West Bus & Coach, Blackburn and have a general (and much needed !) body refurbishment. They are for contracts to Brentwood County High School, commencing in September, requiring a total of 6 vehicles.

A Scania N230UD East Lancs OmniDekka is on order for delivery in October/November.

OLYMPIAN Harlow Mercedes Benz 0814D/Plaxton T817 ASR and LDV Convoy MV 03 AJY have been acquired. Now in the new fleet livery are Bova G561 XRG and Volvo B10M/Plaxton DAZ 1559, EAZ 2580.

ROSS Kelvedon W67NTG LDV Pilot / LDV is acquired (with taxi plate). DX03 VJD LDV Convoy (high roof) in by 5.07 (with PSV disc).

RELIANCE Bowers Gifford We understand that Scania K124/Van Hool W100 LCT & W20 0LCT have gone (4.07) and been replaced by 2 new Scania/Irizar Century YN07LFM & YN07LFP (...LFP not yet confirmed).

SEEAR Stanway This fairly new operator has acquired Ford Transit BX51 ZNM from MG Travel, Kelvedon

SM TRAVEL Harlow Acquired from Southern Star, Stansted is MUI 7843 (F148 NVE) a Bova Futura FHD12-290.

SOUTHEND RADIO CARS Southend

Acquired from a private owner is Ford Transit ML54 XAW.

SPOT ON TRAVEL Canvey Island Have surrendered their operating licence. Peugeot Boxer R492 PVC had been operated.

STANSTED COACH & CARRIAGE

Stansted Acquired from a private owner is Ford Transit N607 DOR. Fiat 40-10/ Devon Conversions M619 DPN has gone to Johns Minicoaches, Stanley.

STANSTED TRANSPORT SERVICES

Stansted Acquired from a private owner is Y544 NAY a LDV Convoy.

STUARTS MINIBUSES Wickford This new operator has Y103 KDK a Ford Transit

TURNERS Wickham St Paul Acquired is W364 SNN Mercedes Benz 614D / Frank Guy. Renault Trafic K378 FAR has been sold.

VICEROY Saffron Walden Recent additions are N795 JBK an Iveco CC95/Indcar from Edwards, Soham and Mercedes Benz 0404 W401 PRC from Dunn Line. Ford Transit G272 NWF and Volvo B10M/Plaxton R584/95 GDX have been sold.

WALDEN TRAVEL Saffron Walden

Acquired recently is FJ53 KZE a Volvo B7R/Plaxton.

WARD Alresford Volvo B10M/Plaxton R502 HUF has joined sister R501 HUF here. Leyland Tiger/Plaxton TIB 4587 (B488 TYG) has gone to Ensign(dealer), Purfleet. It quickly passed to Supreme, Southend.

YELLO Braintree Ford Transit N962 VEG is back in use.

Ian Ransom

*With thanks to Dave Arnold, Colin Sigston,
John Podgorski, Richard Delahoy, Chris Stewart,
LOTS, PSV Circle, Essex Bus y-group*

Essex County Council Timetables

The following is a check list of cover dates for timetable books issued by Essex CC during the years 1999 to 2006. In 2000 the Central & North East Essex Area was split into separate Central Essex and North East Essex books. Likewise South Essex & Southend became separate South Essex and South East Essex & Southend books. A new cover design was introduced during 2005 as per EBN 494 page 4. Page size changed from A5 to A4 with effect from the September/October/November 2006 editions as per EBN500 page 6. As part of the consultation exercise in connection with this change complimentary A4 versions of the South Essex 25.9.05 and the Central Essex 28.5.06 editions were made available alongside the standard A5 books.

Further to EBN432 there was also a 10/79 edition of Area 6 (Brentwood, Basildon, Thurrock) whilst the 9/78 edition of Area 7 (Southend) is known not to exist.

In the list which follows all books are A5 size unless otherwise stated.

VILLAGELINK TIMETABLE BOOKS

These stapled booklets were all A5 size with a fold out "VillageLink Services Route Map" in the inside back cover. production ceased in 2006. There were 80 pages, except for the 13.3.06 edition which had 72.

26.10.03
1.6.04
20.9.04
24.1.05
13.3.06

CENTRAL & NORTH EAST ESSEX

31.1.99
5.9.99
16.4.00
30.7.00

CENTRAL ESSEX

29.10.00	1.9.02	24.10.04	28.5.06 (A5 + A4
25.3.01	12.1.03	6.2.05	Complimentary)
27.5.01	11.5.03	29.5.05	November 2006 (A4)
2.9.01	7.9.03	9.05	
27.1.02	18.1.04	12.2.06	
12.5.02	18.4.04		

NORTH EAST ESSEX

29.10.00	12.5.02	18.1.04	4.9.05
25.3.01	1.9.02	18.4.04	29.1.06
27.5.01	12.1.03	29.8.04	28.5.06
2.9.01	11.5.03	16.1.05	November 2006 (A4)
27.1.02	7.9.03	24.4.05	

SOUTH ESSEX & SOUTHEND

14.2.99	14.11.99	18.6.00	24.9.00
---------	----------	---------	---------

SOUTH EAST ESSEX & SOUTHEND

25.2.01	29.9.02	23.5.04	26.2.06
24.6.01	23.2.03	26.9.04	14.5.06
23.9.01	25.5.03	20.2.05	October 2006 (A4)
24.2.02	26.10.03	22.5.05	
2.6.02	22.2.04	25.9.05	

SOUTH ESSEX

25.2.01	29.9.02	23.5.04	Complimentary A4
24.6.01	23.2.03	26.9.04	26.2.06
23.9.01	25.5.03	20.2.05	14.5.06
24.2.02	28.9.03	22.5.05	October 2006 (A4)
2.6.02	22.2.04	25.9.05 (A5 +	

WEST & NORTH WEST ESSEX

31.1.99	2.9.01	25.5.03	17.4.05
28.3.99	20.1.02	28.9.03	4.9.05
20.2.00	24.3.02	1.2.04	29.1.06
3.9.00	30.6.02	23.5.04	30.4.06
21.1.01	29.9.02	29.8.04	September 2006
22.4.01	26.1.03	16.1.05	(A4)

Ian Taylor

Essex Bus Operator Maps

The development of computer-aided cartography has made the preparation of full colour bus maps easier and cheaper. Most of the main operators in Essex produced a handful each during the 1980s and this article lists all of those known to the author. As always I would appreciate a note of any additional ones. All maps are to "slimline" dimensions (i.e. one third A4 when folded) except where otherwise stated.

EASTERN NATIONAL

- 5-Star Journey Planner 20.6.03 (FWT 8.5.1993)
- 5-Star Journey Planner June 1994 (FWT 12.5.1994)
- Going Somewhere? Go By Bus! Route Map no cover date (FWT 10.5.1995)
- Bus Travel Route Map & Frequency Guide no cover date (FWT 15.5.1997)
- Important Service Information from Eastern National [Chelmsford Town Services Bus Map] 7th May 1995
- Important Service Information from Eastern National [Chelmsford Town Services Bus Map] Autumn 1997
- Braintree Area Bus Map no cover date (FWT 11.10.96)
- Clacton on Sea Area Bus Map Summer 1997 (FWT 28.5.1997)
- Harwich Area Bus Map October 1997 (FWT 21.10.1997)

THAMESWAY

- Introducing Your Thamesway Bus Network no cover date (FWT 17.12.90) A5 Size
- New Improved Basildon Bus Services Map 13th November 1995 (FWT 6.11.95)
- A Guide to Bus Services in Basildon Feb 1999 (FWT 1.2.99) A5 Size
- A Guide to Bus Services in Billericay & Wickford Feb 1999 (FWT 12.99) A5 Size

COLCHESTER BOROUGH TRANSPORT LIMITED

- Bus Map And Guide Colchester Area October 1988 produced by FWT

Bus Map And Guide Colchester Area October 1990 produced by FWT
Colchester Area Bus Services Route Map Summer 1984 produced by E T Heron, Silver End

SOUTHEND TRANSPORT

Your Local Bus Map Summer 1992 contains Touraco Ltd map
Your Guide to Southend, Rochford & Castle Point Summer 1992 (FWT 22.5.92)
Your Guide to Southend, Rochford & Castle Point Autumn 1993 (FWT 26.8.93)
Your Bus Guide to Southend, Rochford & Castle Point May 1996 (FWT 10.5.96)

FIRST

Bus Map Guide for South East Essex January 2002 (FWT 15.1.02)

COUNTY BUS & COACH

Gazetteer & Service Guide	September 1993 Creative Design & Communication
Gazetteer & Service Guide	August 1994 Creative Design & Communication
Gazetteer & Service Guide	Spring 1995 (not credited)
Route Map And Service Guide	Autumn 1996 (Pindar)
Route Map And Service Guide	Autumn 1997 (Pindar)

ARRIVA

Metro. Transport for Harlow Guide June 2000
Metro. Transport for Harlow Guide January 2001
Transport for Thurrock from July 2001
These maps were produced by Best Impressions and measured 70mm x 150mm when folded.

Ian Taylor

Lea Valley Regional Park Maps

LEE VALLEY REGIONAL PARK

This series of maps is still in production and touches the extreme western edge of Essex. Originally titled "How to get to, and around, the Lee Valley Regional Park", this was changed to "Come and Visit the Lee Valley Regional Park" in 2006. The cover design was revised at the same time.

Winter/Spring 2000	FWT 16.12.99
Summer/Autumn 2000	FWT 9.6.00
updated September 2000	FWT 22.9.00
Winter 2000/Spring 2001	FWT 3.11.00
Summer/Autumn 2001	FWT 22.6.01
No cover date	FWT 8.02
No cover date	FWT 10.03
No cover date	FWT 5.04
2006	FWT 1.06 (new style cover)
2006	FWT 3.06
2007	FWT 1.07

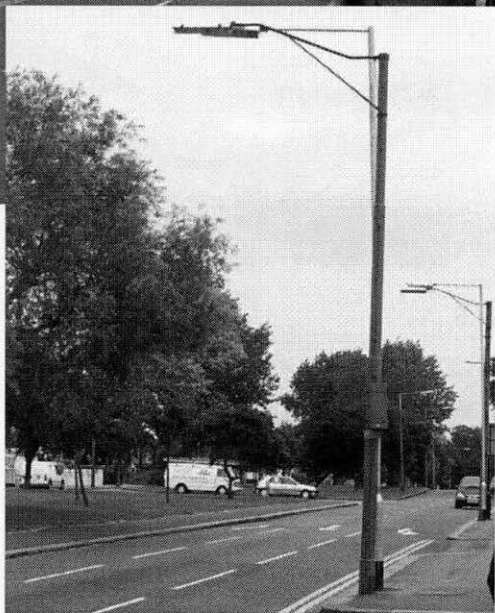
Ian Taylor



Trolleybus reminders

A fine row of former trolleybus poles in Westcliff (above) and Southchurch (right), now adapted to carry street lighting.

Ian Banks



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, weekend rail replacement, together with 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

