

ESSEX BUS NEWS

Everything you need to know about Buses in Essex

April 2003 www.essexbus.org.uk Issue 468



Essex Bus

Enthusiasts Group
Serving Essex Since 1964

Essex Bus News

Everything you need to know

Subscription Information

The current rates for a 12 month subscription are £16 First Class, £15 Second Class post.

Subscriptions are renewable in January or July. 1998 Data Protection Act -Members Names & Addresses, subscription renewal dates & postal rates are held on a computer database for the purpose of administering member services.

If you object to your information being held in this way, please write to the Membership Secretary.

Timetable subscriptions

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

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

Photo sales

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

Your reports & observations

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

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

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

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

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Problems with your subscription, need back issues or your magazine has pages missing? contact **Membership officer** Derek Stebbing, 18 Lynmouth Avenue, Chelmsford, CM2 0TP
E-mail derekstebbing@hotmail.com

Thank you to the many contributors for their valuable news and information. Please send your Contributions for the next issue of Essex Bus News to the Sub-editors by 5 May and to the Managing editor by 9 May 2003 .

The magazine is expected to be posted week commencing 26 May 2003.

Welcome Aboard!

Buses in the news	Page 4	Arriva	Page 20
Bus Diary	Page 5	Other Operators	Page 21
Service changes	Page 7	Phoenix	Page 27
First	Page 10	Ensign Report	Page 28
Reading trip extra	Page 15		

ESSEX BUS NEWS

THE READING AREA COACH TRIP

See page 17 for full details and your booking form

www.essexbus.org.uk

Editorial

A couple of items for this month....

Publicity editor vacancy :I'm still looking for someone to become our Publicity editor. You'll review the range of timetables and leaflets issue by operators and councils and preferably, you'll live locally with an active interest in marketing and publicity. email me for more info :seamnz@aol.com

Articles submitted for publication: Owing to a lack of response for an assistant editor, all articles submitted for publication must either be on disk or e-mailed. From next year, EBN will be produced totally electronically by new printers
Written reports for individual sections are welcome.

EU03 CFX Transbus Dart/Mini Pointer

One of two new Darts for the improved route 90, now operated in partnership with Stephensons of Essex and Essex County Council. Read more from Page 30.

Cover

Photo

Buses in the news

The latest news from the bus world

Essex Bus Enthusiasts Group sponsor's KSW charity trip

Essex Bus Enthusiasts Group is delighted to announce that we are sponsoring Bristol KSW WNO 479's trip to the Czech Republic and back in May 2003.

WNO 479 is 50 years old this year and will be going on a fund raising trip from Harwich across the North Sea to Holland then across Germany onto the Czech Republic to take part in the Bohemia International Bus Show in Usti nadn Labem. Bus drivers from Harwich & Colchester Depots are hoping to leave Harwich on Friday 2nd May 2003 and arrive back at Harwich on Friday 16th May 2003 traveling almost 1000 miles.

All money raised on this trip will go to The breast cancer fund, in the UK and to the flood relief fund in the Czech Republic, to help replace the damage done in 2002.

The trip has sponsorship from 255 Studios media and public relations, who are helping to publicise this event ,Essex Bus Enthusiasts Group, First Group plc, Stena Line Ltd and STR Signs Harwich.

More info on their website www.powell44.freemove.co.uk/ksw.htm

New video! South East Bus Search

This new video, produced and edited by group member Jeff Clayton, features 60 minutes of bus footage filmed across south east Britain, during the autumn and winter of 2002/3. Highlights include:

ACROSS THE SOLENT (October 2002): Isle of Wight Bus Museum Running Day & a day on Southern Vectis buses

ON THE ORWELL (January 2003): A look at bus services in Ipswich

SOUTH OF THE THAMES (February 2003): Buses (and trams!) in Croydon.

VHS copies are available for just £8 each, or £15 for two.

Please send your order to Jeff Clayton 128 Barnstaple Road Southend SS1 3PW

Please make cheques payable to Mr. J. Clayton.

Copies of the 'Anglia bus spot' video with footage from last years Canvey and Showbus rallies are still available at £8 each.

Essex bus diary

Your guide to forthcoming events

Sunday 4 May 2003 A National Celebration

25 years of 1850 YEY 308S and a road run on route 152

Essex Bus Enthusiasts Group has joined forces with well-known local preservationist Bill Almquest and First transforming travel to celebrate the life of Eastern National's fleet of Leyland National buses.

1850 YEY 308S will be 25 years old in May this year and to commemorate this Bill has kindly offered to make a special run on the old 152 route from Chelmsford to Grays and return.

If you would like join us for this nostalgic day out then please email billalmquest@talk21.com or see our website for a timetable. There is no fare for this trip but Bill welcomes voluntary donations to secure the vehicle's future.

(Please note that Bill Almquest is operating the above trip and whilst both First and Essex Bus Enthusiasts Group are happy to publicise the trip, we cannot accept any liability for non-operation or any other changes. Please address all correspondence to Bill Almquest.)

Tuesday 13 May -Evening visit to Fourways Coaches

A few seats still available for this evening visit to Fourways Coaches.

We'll be travelling on a one of their 4 ex-Dublin Leyland Olympians picking up at Victoria Road (*Duke Street end*) Nr Chelmsford Rail Station at 19.00 and returning by 21.30. Seats are just £5 each.

See below for booking information.

Saturday 17 May 2003 Essex Independents Tour

Again, there's still a few seats available for this outstanding day out.

The highlights include an extended visit to Ensign, NIBS, Phoenix and a lunch stop in Basildon. Oh yes, and we'll be travelling on Ensign's 3 axle MCW Metrobus Double Decker 484 F84 UJN. All this for only £8.50 per person. Please make cheques payable to Essex Bus Enthusiasts Group and send to: Dave Arnold 21 Cedar Chase Heybridge Maldon Essex CM9 4NR. Please ensure you enclose an S.A.E. and a contact number.

The Reading area coach tour

Saturday 28 June: see page 17

Essex service changes

Changes are split into two sections to avoid some changes appearing more than once. Changes to "regular" services appear first, with changes to school services described in brief at the end. All changes, especially those with a date after 12th April, are subject to change, so please check with the operator or Traveline before travelling.

Week Commencing Saturday 1st March 2003

130, M130 As in Issue 467 from Saturday 1st March.

93 (*Carters Coaches*) (Colchester & Ipswich) Timetable change from Monday 3rd March 2003.

755 (*Carters Coaches*) (Colchester & East Bergholt) Routeing and timetable change from Monday 3rd March 2003.

Monday 10th March 2003

T10 As in Issue 467.

381, 382 (*Regal Busways*) (Harlow & Toot Hill) Timetable change.

Week Commencing Saturday 15th March 2003

10, 10A As in Issue 467 from Saturday 15th March.

40A (*Town & Country*) (Chafford Hundred & Grays) Routeing change from Sunday 16th March. (See also 27th May below)

98 (*First*) (Orsett Hospital & Lakeside) Routeing change from Sunday 16th March.

100 (*First*) (Chelmsford & Lakeside) Routeing change from Sunday 16th March.

101 (*First*) (Billericay & Stanford-le-Hope) Routeing change from Sunday 16th March.

269 (*First*) (Grays & Blackmore) Routeing change from Sunday 16th March.

The Reading Area Coach Tour: Saturday 28 June
See the special supplement from Page 17 for
your booking form

Tuesday 26th March 2003

Buzz ceased trading from last bus on 25th March. See end of section for replacement routes.

H1 (*Imperial*) (Loughton & Harlow) By this date this service had been extended from Loughton to Buckhurst Hill on Mondays to Fridays. Buses continue to run hourly but some times have changed. Saturday service remains unchanged.

Week Commencing Saturday 29th March 2003

7, 8A, 10, 17, 18, 90, 127, 195, 232, 319, 323, 341, 342, 344, 391, 631, 632, 633, M2, M4 As in Issue 466 (from Monday 31st March). (In some publications, the changes to routes 80 and 140 are listed as 4th April.)

“Stansted Coach Link”, 2, 222 As in Issue 467 (from Monday 31st March).

80, 140 As in Issue 467 (from Friday 4th April).

34,34A (*First*) (Kings Park & Braintree) Routes transferred to Regal Busways from Monday 31st March. No change to timetable route or fares.

320 (*JWS*) (Lakeside & Chadwell St Mary) Route restructured to run as a Grays Bus Station - Tilbury - Grays Bus Station from Monday 31st March.

325 (*Heddingham Omnibus*) (Halstead & Braintree) Wednesday and Saturday only route transferred to First from Wednesday 2nd April.

327 (*Heddingham Omnibus*) (Halstead & Twinstead) Tuesday and Friday only route transferred to First from Tuesday 1st April.

329 (*Heddingham Omnibus*) (Halstead & Cross End) Tuesday, Friday and Saturday only route transferred to First from Tuesday 1st April.

R1 (*Olympian Coaches*) (Sumners, Katherines & Town Centre, Town Station, Templefields) Routeing and timetable changes from Tuesday 1st April caused by the cessation of Buzz. See end of section for more details

Week Commencing Saturday 5th April 2003

70, 133, 717 As in Issue 467, except that route 133 will not be withdrawn, but transferred to Stansted Transit.

727, 757, 797 Changes deferred to Friday 18th April.

- 351** (*London Transit*) (Bishops Stortford & Hertford) Route transferred to Arriva from Monday 7th April 2003. There may also be a timetable change.
- 354** (*London Transit*) (Buntingford & Harlow) Route transferred to Arriva from Monday 7th April 2003. There may also be a timetable change.

Week Commencing Saturday 12th April 2003

- 1, 397, 503** As in Issue 467.
- 727, 757, 797** Deferred from 7th April to Friday 18th April.
- Woodham Swimbus** (*Fords Coaches*) (South Woodham Ferrers & Chelmsford) New limited stop route via Brickfields, commencing on Monday 14th April.

Week Commencing Saturday 19th April

- 600** As in Issue 467 from Tuesday 22nd April 2003.
- 503** (*Regal Busways*) (Brentwood & Harlow) Withdrawn from Thursday 24th April.

Week Commencing Saturday 26th April 2003

- 210** (*Locallink*) (Sawbridgeworth & Harlow) New timetable from Saturday 26th April 2003.
- 237** (Jacksons) (South Woodham Ferrers & Basildon) Withdrawn from Sunday 27th April.
- 410** (*Locallink*) (Bishops Stortford & Harlow) Frequency increased to x30 mins and converted to Leyland Olympian operation from Saturday 26th April 2003.

Saturday 3rd May 2003

- 506** (*Regal Busways*) (Harlow & Waltham Cross) New Saturday only route via Tylers Cross and Waltham Abbey.
- 600** (*Hedingham Omnibus*) (Walton & Highwoods) Timetable change.

Week Commencing Saturday 17th May 2003

- 40A** (*Town & Country*) (Chafford Hundred & Grays) Service deregistered from Saturday 17th May.

500 (Locallink) (Harlow & Romford) Sunday and Public Holidays service withdrawn after service on Sunday 18th May.

Tilbury Shuttle (Town & country) (Tilbury town service) Timetable change from Monday 19th May.

Week Commencing Saturday 24th May 2003

203 (Locallink) (Harlow & Debden) New Sunday only route, commencing on Sunday 25th May, partly replacing 500. From Harlow via Brays Grove, Potter Street, Epping, Theydon Bois and Abridge to Debden.

347 (Locallink) (Harlow & Hatfield Broad Oak) Revised timetable from Tuesday 27th May to take account of withdrawal of route 348 service altered to operate at all times as 347 over same route on all journeys.

348 (Locallink) (Harlow & Hatfield Broad Oak) withdrawn after service on Saturday 24th May.

School Services (all areas)

Monday 17th March 2003

268 (First) (Grays & Blackmore) Routeing change.

Monday 31st March 2003

7 As in Issue 466.

1 (First) (Takeley & Saffron Waldon) Withdrawn.

Wednesday 23rd April 2003

710 (Locallink) (Harlow & Bishop's Stortford or Sawbridgeworth) Withdrawn

Monday 28th April 2003

193 (First) (Ardleigh & East Bergholt) Routeing and timetable changes.

606 (First) (Ingatestone & Braintree) Withdrawn.

Easter Weekend Services-

Below is all the official information I have regarding services over the Easter weekend, which have appeared on company websites. For other routes please check with the operator or Traveline before travelling.

Good Friday 18th April 2003 Saturday service - All services in Essex which run partially or completely for Transport for London (i.e. 20, 167, 351, 370, 372, 373, 505, 549, 750, 751,952)

Sunday service - All Arriva services except those mentioned above and Locallink 500

Saturday 19th April 2003 Saturday service - All Arriva routes.

Sunday 20th April 2003 Sunday Service - All Arriva routes.

Monday 21st April 2003 Sunday service - All Arriva routes.

Buzz Cooperative

Buzz Cooperative operators of routes B1, B6, B11 and B31 ceased trading after last bus on 25th March. The following replacement services were soon operating, with services B1 and B6 being registered as running from 26th March and T6 from 8th April:

- B1** (Arriva) (Sumners, Katherines & Town Centre via Staple Tye) During rush hours buses additionally run directly onto the Town Station. Buses operate every 15 mins during rush hours and every 10 mins during daytimes and on Saturdays.
- B6** (Arriva) (Pear Tree Mead, Brays Grove & Town Centre via Tumbler Road, Minchen Road and The Stow) During rush hours buses additionally run directly onto the Town Station. Buses also serve Sainsbury's during daytimes. Buses operate every 20 mins on Mondays to Saturdays.
- R1** (Olympian Coaches) (Sumners, Katherines & Town Centre, Town Station, Templefields) There are also rush hour services through Pinnacles. Buses operate every 20 minutes during rush hours. In the daytimes buses operate every 15 minutes between Katherines/Sumners and the town, with alternate buses continuing to Templefields.
- T6** (SM Coaches) (Brays Grove & Town Centre via Tumbler Road, Minchen Road and The Stow).



First

Spryte from the Capital to Essex

3.03 **762** R705VLA Dennis Dart SLF/East Lancs Spryte B34F
 763 R706VLA Dennis Dart SLF/East Lancs Spryte B34F
 764 R707VLA Dennis Dart SLF/East Lancs Spryte B34F

These are the first of a batch of thirteen (R705-717VLA) being transferred from First London to Essex as they are replaced at Hackney by DML-class Darts from Rainham, in turn released by new Dart/Nimbus. New to First Capital in 1998, they were originally B37F but were downseated to 34.

Chassis numbers for the whole batch are SFD212BR1VGW 11661-4/86-90, 11706/8-10 with body numbers C24201-13. 763/4 were seen in service on 1.4.03, painted in 'Barbie 1' livery. 766 is currently being painted (as is 761 referred to last month).

A further Volvo Olympian/Alexander, **4326** (P185TGD), was noted at CR on 10th April still in full Leicester livery.

Vehicles on loan

It is believed that driver loans (and the use of a Vario shuttle) from *First Midland Red* came to an end around 22nd March.

Repaints (to 'Barbie 2')

3.03 927

4.03 761 911 2801 (repair at TransBus)

Allocations (period ending 30 March 2003)

Key: FGC=First Group cascade, i.e. transfer to another First fleet
(see below for details) Acq- Acquired, Res -Reserve.

701 HH-FGC; 702 HH-FGC; 711 HH-FGC; 761 AB-BN; 762 Acq-HH;
763 Acq-HH; 764 Acq-HH; 936 HH-BN; 937 HH-BN; 965 BN-FGC;
966 BN-FGC; 2646 BE-CF; 2648 AB-Res; 2655 BE-spare;
2671 CF-BE; 2828 AB-Res

2647 and 3219 remain in use (see below)

919/25/6/8 were noted at BN (minus blinds) on 7th April

Disposals

3.03 701, 702 to First Huddersfield (702 did not in fact leave
Essex until the first week of April)
711, 965 & 966 to First Western National

Other Vehicle News

The notes regarding KSW 2383 were a little premature; the bus had left
Harwich on a fund-raising tour, but does not leave the country until 2nd May.

314 has been repainted in 'Barbie 2' grey with blue bumpers, for use in
connection with satellite systems. It also appears to be used as a driver
shuttle (as does 9030 on occasions).

Rail replacements

Wickford to Southend scheduled rail replacements noted:

- 16.3.03 First 1410 1411 3072 3112 4007 4009 4013 4016 4019 4027 4030
 Phoenix 5003 5006 5010 5015
 NIBS NDL652R
 Stephenson's TSO13X
- 23.3.03 First 1406 1410 3072 3112 3113 4008 4009 4019 4033 4305
 Phoenix 5003 5006 5010 5012
 NIBS NDL652R FDV835V
 Stephenson's TSO13X
- 30.3.03 First 657 658 659 3072 3113 4007 4008 4009 4012 4018
 NIBS NDL652R FDV835V

Further rail replacement buses will run from Witham to Braintree over Easter (a *First Essex* contract) and between Brentwood & Shenfield/Ingatestone on the morning of Sunday 8th June (operator unknown).

Unusual workings

The reference to Phoenix-liveried 5002 on '100' (3.2.03) has kindly been clarified by M Austin, who advises that this was almost certainly contract C100 from King Edwards Grammar School in Chelmsford to and from playing fields at Partridge Green.

- 3.3.03 BN735 on a.m. 562
- 4.3.03 CR651 on 67A (08.48 ex Bus Stn)
 CF537 on 42
- 12.3.03 BN755 in CF Bus Stn (ex 100 or 562)
- 12.3.03 CF2901 on 45
- 13.3.03 CF2903 on 45
- 14.3.03 CF2904 on 45

15.3.03	HH957 on 24C and 29B
17.3.03	HH986 on 24C
20.3.03	HH4003 on 20B
21.3.03	2647 on 222 (replacing AB100) AB100 on 88B (16.20 ex Bus Stn)
25.3.03	2647 on p.m. 105/107 Walton journeys
28.3.03	BN714 on 12
29.3.03	CF1414 on Diamond BN756 on 12 (branded for 8)
30.3.03	CR715 on 88A
31.3.03	CF537 on 42 HH721 on 20 CR1501 on 78
2.4.03	AB2814 on loan to CR (covering 4320 temporarily)
3.4.03	CR716 (65-branded) on 77 (1615 ex CR)
4.4.03	CR716 on 77 all day plus p.m.105/107 to Walton CF2908 on 45
7.4.03	BN3113 on a.m. 561 BN735 on a.m. 562
9.4.03	CR1508 on 65

It is reported that CR715/6 are to be route-branded for the Colchester Night Rider service, and will be transferred from the 65 to 66 (West Bergholt-Old Heath) during the daytime.

A Romford (red) Solo was also noted on school contract 812 (Ingatestone-Campion) on an unknown date.

VR-watch

Focus is mainly on 3219 this month. Notable was use by Airport Buses from 2nd to 6th April, reported on Stansted-Epping 333 (Sat 5th) and LUL rail replacement on 4th and 5th. It had been PCV tested at HH around 17th March, losing its front fog lights at the same time. Usage is known to have included:

17.3.03	193 and 88B
24.3.03	afternoon 193 and 1705 78A to Brightlingsea & return
27.3.03	afternoon East Mersea 67E
28.3.03	77's to Wivenhoe all evening

31.3.03 77's
2.4.03 a.m. 68 and 70 Marks Tey, p.m. 69, 88B and 88
7.4.03 77's
9.4.03 16.15 88B from CR (with Cedric's FKM881V also in evidence that day on Sixth Form College contracts)

As noted already, BE3072 saw use on rail replacements from Wickford to Southend on 16th, 23rd and 30th March. It was joined by BE3112 on at least the first two dates and BN3113 on the 23rd and 30th (and also by NIBS 652 and 835).

Publicity

Since Mid March, the Chelmsford electronic bus information displays now include service 100.

Work started on bus stop replacement in the Brentwood area in late March (EBN467 refers). MacAlpines are the contractor to Essex CC.

Thanks for your help

We would like to say a big thank you to the following people who have contributed to the First Essex section:

M Austin, J Clayton, S Coates, C Cole, R Delahoy, D Edwards, M Farmer, A R MacFarlane and Bristol Interest Circle, P Mansbridge, K Mead, P Rowden, J Salmon, C Sigston, K Smith, P Snell, D Stebbing, R Whitley.

Also thanks to First Essex Buses for their continued support.

Your contributions to this section are very welcome and you can contact section editor Chris Stewart by email or post.
Please see 'everything you need to know' on page 2.



Fleet allocation 30 March 2003

Airport Buses	112, 432/4/5, 602/8/10, 917/43, 1550/1, 2640/9/50/83, 2813-5/22/5
Airport Coaches	101/11, 397/8, 2679
Braintree (BE)	944, 2656/63/6/71/5/80, 2803/4/8/11/2/6-8/21/6/7, 2909-11, 3072, 3112
Basildon (BN)	404-6, 655-67, 712-4/34-8/53-61, 809, 852-5, 914/5/8/20, 929-34/6/7/45/67-73/83-6, 1400/4/10/32, 3113, 4026/30, 5005
Chelmsford (CF)	430/1/3, 512-37, 729-33/9-44, 1401-3/7/13-6/26-8, 1516-20, 2646/67/8/70/2-4/6-8, 2901-8, 4007/10/2/24/5/33/4, 5001/4/17
Clacton (CN)	907/8/12/6, 1510-3, 2665, 2801/5/6/9/10/9/20/3/4, 4015-9
Colchester (CR)	650-4, 715/6, 910/1/74-82, 1501-9, 2829/30, 2921-6, 4014, 4301-5/7/9/15/20-5
Hadleigh (HH)	407-10, 703-10/7-21/46-8/50/62-4, 811, 913/35/8-42/6-58/87, 1405/6/9/11/2/7-24, 2643/5/52/3/7-62, 4003-5/27
Harwich (DT)	909, 2669/81/2, 2802, 4008/9/13, 4308/10/1/4
Romford (RD)	401-3, 501-11, 805/6/10
Heritage	2383, 9001
Spare	314, 1429, 2655/64, 3109
Disposal	1408/25/30/1, 2641/2/4/7/51, 3078/92, 3101/3, 3219, 4028
Reserve	100, 919/21/2/4-8, 2648/54, 2828
Driver Training	35, 1433 (BN); 1924, 9002/3/20/6 (HO)
Ancillary vehicles	(note that some of these details are by members' observation only) BN: 9030, 9308; CF: 9008; CN: 2111, 9028; CR: 9033; HH: 9035; HO: 9004/10; Disp 9029/34

The following buses are fitted with tachographs:

701, 852-4, 1400/4/5/32/3, 1510/1, 2383, 2655/6/77, 2801/9/29/30, 4013/5/6/9/30, 4310/1/5

(TRIP02/03MAG)

Another great day out from
Essex Bus Enthusiasts Group

Saturday 28 June 2003

THE READING AREA COACH TOUR

**An action packed
day out**

**See inside this special
4 page extra for full
details and your
booking form**

- Travel by luxury Van Hool coach all the way
- Local joining points close to rail stations
- Unbeatable value at just £16.50!

All this for just £16.50!

Make sure that you don't miss this outstanding day out!
We'll be travelling on Genial Travel's Volvo B10M/Van Hool coach and the day's highlights include :

- A visit to Reading Buses garage and Reading town centre
- An afternoon trip to Weavaway's two garages near Newbury.
- Plus a look round Newbury Buses' garage.

From your chosen joining point we'll continue our journey into Berkshire with a brief comfort stop at South Mimms services (a comfort stop will also be made on the evening return journey).

Our first visit will be to Reading Buses modern depot where we'll spend about an hour looking at the variety of buses including Leyland Titans, Optare Excels and Spectras.

Around lunchtime, we rejoin our coach for the short trip to Reading town centre where you'll have about an hour for lunch and photos.

In the afternoon, there'll be visits to the two garages owned by Weavaway. This expanding independent has a diverse fleet including Dennis Condors, ex-M&D Olympians, MCW Metrobus Mega-deckers and much more.

There'll also be a visit to Newbury Buses who should have some brand new Transbus Enviro's for us to see.

And finally around teatime we rejoin our coach with happy memories of a tiring but terrific day out!

See the next page for joining points and booking form

Your joining points and times

Morning joining points and times

Colchester North Station	07:00
Boreham	07:30
Shenfield Rail Station	07:50
Brentwood High St KFC	07:55
Gallows Corner Comet	08:05
Newbury Park opposite Stn	08:10
Gants Hill Odeon Cinema	08:15
Redbridge opposite Stn	08:20

Evening return times

Redbridge	20:00
Gants Hill	20:05
Newbury Park	20:10
Gallows Corner	20:25
Brentwood	20:30
Shenfield	20:35
Boreham	20:50
Colchester	21:10

Additional joining points maybe available along the route, please ask for information before you book.

Conditions of travel

You and your party agree to accept the following conditions of travel.

Bookings and times : Bookings are accepted on a 'first come, first served' basis and travel is open to members and non-members of the Essex Bus Enthusiasts Group.

All journey times are estimated and traffic conditions may cause times to alter.

Please arrive at your joining point about 10 minutes before departure.

We cannot be responsible for customers who fail to comply with the stated times or any other instructions given.

Smoking and ditter: For your comfort, smoking is not permitted on vehicles.

Food and soft drink is allowed but please remove any rubbish and place in the receptacles provided.

Personal belongings: You are advised not to leave your personal belongings on the vehicle during the day.

Your comfort: For your convenience and comfort, you are strongly advised to take the opportunity to exercise when the coach makes a comfort stop.

Cancellations: Cancellations only qualify for a refund if the tickets are returned to us more than fourteen consecutive days before the date of travel.

Cancellations are subject to a handling charge of 25%.

Don't delay, book your seat today!

To reserve your seat on the Reading Area Coach Tour, please choose your joining point, complete the booking form below and post it to us.

Additional copies can be found on our website: www.essexbus.org.uk

Please reserve me _____ seat(s) at £16.50 each seat on the Reading Area Coach Tour on Saturday 28 June 2003. I agree to the booking conditions and enclose a cheque/postal order for £ _____
(Please make cheques payable to Essex Bus Enthusiasts Group)

Name _____

Address _____

Contact number _____

Joining point _____

Your signature _____

Our ref - trip 2/03 MAG (office use booking no _____ Seats _____)

Please enclose a stamped self addressed envelope to enable us to confirm your booking and joining point.

Send the completed form and remittance to :

Dave Arnold 21 Cedar Chase

Heybridge Maldon Essex CM9 4NR

If you need any further information, please email Dave at
david@arnold1.fsnet.co.uk

Garage requirements and vehicle allocations

For operational reasons this information may be subject to change and is given for guidance only

	BE	BN	CF and (MN)	CN	CR	DT	HH	RD	TOTAL BY TYPE
Minibus	5	4	11 (2)	1	0	2	14	5	44
Midibus	14	38	40	12	20	2	40	0	166
SD	0	16	8 (6)	4	12	0	11	0	57
DD	2	2	6	4	14	6	3	0	37
Phoenix DD	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	3
Phoenix SD/Midi	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Mobility (Midi)	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Route 193 (Midi)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	10
Total	21	65	68 (8)	21	46	10	68	15	321
ENG SPARE									
Minibus	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	4
Midibus	1	3	5	1	1	0	2	0	13
SD	0	1	2	0	2	0	2	0	7
DD	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	6
Mobility	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Route 193	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
TOTAL									
Minibus	6	4	11 (2)	1	0	3	15	6	48
Midibus	15	41	45	13	21	2	42	0	179
SD	0	17	10 (6)	4	14	0	13	0	64
DD	2	3	7	5	15	7	4	0	43
Phoenix DD	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	3
Phoenix SD/Midi	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Mobility (Midi)	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Route 193 (Mini)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	11
TOTALS	23	70	76 (8)	23	50	12	74	17	FLEET TOTAL3 53

First Airport

	AIRPORT BUSES	AIRPORT COACHES
TRAFFIC REQUIREMENT		
Minibus	6	3
Midibus	6	0
Coach	6	1
SPARES		
Minibus	1	1
Midibus	1	0
Coach	0	0
TOTAL ALLOCATION		
Minibus	7	4
Midibus	7	0
Coach	6	1
TOTAL	20	5

Late news (16th April):

- 4326 will be allocated to CR once repainted, displacing 4014 CR-CF, 4034 CF-BN and 4030 BN-disposal. 4014 is CR's last ECW-bodied vehicle (apart from temporary 3219).
- 703/4/6/7 are also moving to First Huddersfield, replaced by 765 upwards (of which 765/6 had been seen in use by 15th April, 704 still being in service at HH on that date). 921/4 are currently at CN in Barbie 2 livery. 1426 has been taken out of service and is already being cannibalised at CN. 3112 was noted on London Underground Route A (Harlow Town-Epping) on 16th April - the last intended week of these Central Line services. 3219 is believed to be remaining in service for a while longer as a float spare.
- Westcliff K5G AJN825 is scheduled to appear at the Southend rally on 1st June, a celebratory event at Shell Haven the following weekend and at North Weald.

ARRIVA Southern Counties

Colchester (CR), Grays (GY), Southend (SE)

Allocation changes

DS024 N544 TPK	Dennis Dart/East Lancs	CR - Gillingham
E3405 P325 HVX	Dennis Dart/Plaxton	GY - Sheerness
E5394 F574 SMG	Leyland Olympian/Alexander	GY - SE
E5396 F576 SMG	Leyland Olympian/Alexander	GY - SE
E5402 H262 GEV	Leyland Olympian/Leyland	SE - GY
E5405 H265 GEV	Leyland Olympian/Leyland	SE - GY

Trainers and Crew ferries

YFB 58 E58 UKL	Mercedes Benz 609D/Reeve Burgess	
	GY - Delicenced at SE (was used as crew ferry at GY)	
YFB 86 G86 SKR	Mercedes Benz 609D/Reeve Burgess	
	GY - Horsham (Was used as crew ferry at GY)	
YFB 580 R580 LVL	LDV Convoy	SE - GY
YFB 698 P698 PRJ	LDV Convoy	SE - GY

Southend area

Road closure in Hockley

From the afternoon of Monday 17 March until the morning of Saturday 22 March, the road was closed under Hockley rail bridge for resurfacing work. All service 7/7A buses ran via Hawkwell with a connecting shuttle bus from Golden Cross and Greensward School between 0700 and 1900.

Road works in Leigh on Sea

From Monday 11 March, Services 5/5A have been running along London Road to Leigh Elms before turning down to Leigh town centre. This diversion is because of road works on Leigh Rd that will continue for about 3 months.

Management & Customer service changes

For administration purposes, Southend and Colchester garages are jointly managed, and Grays shares a General Manager with the Arriva Kent Thamside garages at Dartford and Northfleet. This does not affect the 'O' licence or the allocation of routes or vehicles. The Customer Service Centre is now based at Luton and is part of the Shires and Essex division.

Colchester area

Repaints (all by 16/03/03):-

Coach 4305 in readiness for Travelstyle work
3420 from Dartford paintshop
5397 to Gillingham paintshop

MOT's: Colchester retains its MOT testing status but buses are prepared and MOT'd at Southend.

Telematics :

All Colchester single decks are fitted with telematics. Still to be done are 2372, 2383, 1464/2, 5303/4. Uncertainty over the future of 613/4/7 means no units have been ordered for these, although spare units may be spare from the withdrawn service 133 minibuses.

Rail replacement

02/02/03 - Manningtree - Mistley - 4 duties buses 3419/20 used

08/02/03 - Manningtree - Ipswich from 200 to end of day - 5407/8 used.

09/02/03 - 2 SLF's (numbers not known) worked Manningtree - Ipswich (under the low bridge). Double deckers worked Colchester -

Manningtree/Mistley. Buses used - 3419/22/30, 5389/97/8, 5403/4, 5407/8, 614 and 617, plus 2 from Southend, believed to be 5202/5.

16/02/03 - Marks Tey - Ipswich/Colchester buses used - 614, 5389, 5408, 5398, 5409, 5403, 2397, 5408, 3420, 617, 5407 and 6 Southend buses.

Hedingham Omnibuses operated 4 shifts for Colchester.

23/02/03 - as 16th buses used - 5389/97/8, 5403/7,

614/7, 3422/30, 5404/8/9. Also used 2 Eastern National and Hedingham buses. Hedingham again operated 4 shifts.

28/02/03 - due to overhead lines down at Parsons Heath - 5303/8 worked between Colchester and Ipswich for several hours. 5408 actually got to Norwich.

01/03/03 - Colchester - Ipswich - 5407/9 used.

02/03/03 as 16th but 2 extra buses required due to Norwich playing Ipswich. Buses used - 5389/97/8 5403/4/7/8, 613/7, and 4 Southend buses. Hedingham operated 5 shifts and First EN 1.

09/03/03 - Colchester - Ipswich via Manningtree - 4 buses working plus 2 spares. Buses used - 3422, 5403/4/8/9, 5389/97, and DD16 (manned by a Southend driver)

12/03/03 - 5408 did several runs between Colchester North and Town stations during the evening peak due to a train arson attack the previous night.

In brief... TRAINING BUS - YDT 47 has been based in Colchester since 19/02/03 and is being used weekdays for trainees.

Works van - WP 52 FAA a Vauxhall (transitlike?)

Cobham bus rally 06/04/03 - 5397 was expected to attend for Colchester.

The Reading Area Coach tour : Saturday 28 June

Make sure you book your seat!

Arriva Data File

Vehicle requirements from April 2003

Garage	M-F peaks	M-F off peak	Sat	Sun
Colchester (Bus)	TBA	TBA	TBA	0
Coach	4	0	0	0
Grays	30AM 29PM (b)	26	26	12
Southend	57AM 58PM(a)	50 (51 W/T)	51	19
Dengie	Mon-Sat 5 with PM vehicle swap)			

Key - (a) 58 AM 59 PM on non college days (b) 29AM 28PM on non sch days

W -Wednesday T - Thursday

The Grays allocation inc. TfL contracts route 256 M-F peaks 10 Cadets , 9 off peak, Sat 9 Cadets, Sun 5 Cadets (pvr 3- middle/late meal relief taken at garage) Route 346 Mon-Sat 2 Cadets

Allocations -Southend (SE)

Dennis Dominator	E5273	E5274	E5275	E5276	E5278
	E5286	E5287	E5288	DD16	
Dennis Trident	E5434	E5435	E5436	E5437	E5438
	E5439	E5441	E5442	E5443	E5445
	E5446	E5547	E5548	E5549	E5451
Leyland Olympian	E5392	E5393T	E5394	E5395	E5396
	E5399				
Volvo Olymplan	E5415T	E5416T	E5417T	E5418T	E5419T
Dennis Dart SLF	E3218	E3220	E3221	E3222	E3223
	E3224	E3225	E3226	E3391	E3392
	E3393	E3394	E3395	E3396	E3397
Dennis Lance SLF	E3379	E3381	E3382	E3383	E3384
Dennis Dart	DS006	DS007	DS008	DS009	
	DS014	E3092	E3349	E3350	E3370
	E3373	E3404			
Mercedes 810	E2188	E2191	E2192	E2193	
Mercedes Sprinter	1751	1752	1753	1754	1755
	1756				
Coach	E4310T				
Training School Buses					
Leyland Lynx	YDT965	YDT966	YDT888		

Colchester (CR)

Leyland Olympian	<u>E5389T</u>	<u>E5397T</u>	<u>E5398T</u>		
	E5403	E5404T	<u>E5407T</u>	<u>E5408T</u>	<u>E5409T</u>
Volvo D10M	613	614	617		
DAF SB220	<u>E4335</u>	<u>E4336</u>	<u>E4337</u>	<u>E4339</u>	
Dennis Dart SLF	<u>E3419</u>	<u>E3420</u>	<u>E3422</u>	<u>E3430T</u>	
Leyland Lynx	<u>E3341</u>	<u>E3342</u>	<u>E3343</u>	<u>E3346</u>	<u>E3347</u>
Volvo B6	<u>E3241</u>	<u>E3245</u>	<u>E3246</u>		
Dennis Dart	DS015	DS020	DS021	DS023	
	E3168	E3406			
Mercedes 711	<u>E2388</u>	<u>E2391</u>	<u>E2392</u>		
Mercedes 810	<u>E2174</u>	<u>E2243</u>	<u>E2372</u>	<u>E2382</u>	<u>E2383</u>
Mercedes 811	1461	1462			
Coach	PVR 4		Allocation	4	
Scania k113	E4352T	E4353T			
Leyland Tiger	E4305T	2196	Trainer	Lynx	YDT 47

Grays (GY)

MCW Metrobus	M615				
Leyland Olympian	E5402	E5405T			
DAF SB120	E4500	E4501	E4502	E4503	E4504
	E4505	E4506	E4507	E4508	E4509
	E4510	E4511	E4512	E4513	
Dennis Dart SLF	E3387	E3388	E3389	E3390	E3400
	E3401	E3402	E3403	E3421	E3423
	E3424	E3425	E3426	E3427	E3428
	E3429	E3431			
Dennis Dart	E3406	E3407			
Ferry Buses	YFB580	YFB698			

Key - T- Vehicle fitted with tachograph, Underlined - Fitted with GPS

All information is subject to change and given for guidance only.

Compiled by Sean Menzies with invaluable help from Arriva Southern Counties.

ARRIVA East Herts & Essex

Vehicles in

From Arriva the Shires 2172/248, 3081/120/355 3/03

2172 R172 VBM Mercedes O810D 670373-2N-064881
Plaxton 977.8MWV7501 B27F 8/97
2248 R758 DUB Mercedes O810D 670373-2N-065071
Plaxton 977.8MWV7510 B27F 9/97
3081 F153 KGS Volvo B10M-56 18798
Plaxton 8811VUL2B558 B54F 10/88
3120 M720 OMJ Volvo B6-50 05672
Northern Counties 4850 B40F 9/94
3355 K405 FHJ Dennis Dart 9.8SDL3017/1297
Plaxton 939.8HPN1218 B40F 3/93

From Arriva London North DRN118/9/24 4/03

DRN118 L118 LVK Dennis Dart 9SDL3034/1738
Northern Counties 4656 B35F 3/94
DRN119 L119 LVK Dennis Dart 9SDL3034/1739
Northern Counties 4657 B35F 3/94
DRN124 L124 LVK Dennis Dart 9SDL3034/1746
Northern Counties 4662 B35F 3/94

Allocations

3/03: 2172/224/48, 3081/120/355 HA.

4/03: DRN118/9/24 WE

Vehicles out

2092 M152 RBH Gale, Harlow (dealer) 3/03

In brief...

- Following the demise of Buzz in Harlow after 25th March, services B1 (Templefield-Katherines) & B6 (Pinnacles-Brays Grove) were covered by Arriva which has resulted in the transfer into Harlow of the vehicles mentioned above; some may be only temporary loans.
 - The three Darts that have arrived at Ware are for various London Transit services taken over from 7th April, although at least 2 have been seen on service 310 (Enfield-Hertford)
 - Due imminently at Harlow are 2 new DAF SB120 (9.4m) /Wright Cadet B30F machines to be numbered 4519/20 Reg KE 03 OUS/U
-



UAR 589W This former Eastern National VR was one of the many Recently culled in the service review by First Cornwall. Chris Stewart's photo shows her on one of its final weeks in service on 28 March at Newquay bus station.

Other operators

AMBER RAYLEIGH A recent addition is Bova Futura P912 DTT from Garrett, Newton Abbott (in by 12.02). Bedford YMT/Plaxton HNJ 973V is now with J.W.S., Chadwell St.Mary

APT RAYLEIGH Scania/Berkhof UIL 5172 (H15 MNM) is now with Chapman, Pen-y-Graig (11.02). Leyland Tiger/Wright RXI 5540 (ex B272 AMG) has gone to Memories for Tomorrow, Great Dunmow

BARRYS BUSES EAST TILBURY DAF 400 J505 YWU, went to Atlas, Telford, (05.01)

BRANDON BLACKMORE END Further to last month's note, F26 EKR (ex GFO 366, F26 EKR, VDJ660, F26EKR) Bova Futura came from Barfordian, Bedford.

BUZZ HARLOW We understand that this operator ceased trading on 26.3.03

CEDRIC WIVENHOE Bristol VR/ECW BKE 835T went to a Doncaster scrap dealer in December 2002. C659 LJR Leyland Olympian/ECW is in (3.03) ex Go Wear 3659.

CEEFA COACHES CRAYS HILL Recent additions are Setra S250's P649 MKO and P773 NKE (in 02.03)

CRUSADER COACHES CLACTON The new Setra S315GT-HD are EU03 OJG/H/J/K

DMA COACHES BRENTWOOD Ford Transit F562 KNM went to EDG Personnel, Basildon, some while ago.

ENSIGN PURFLEET F84 UJN is an ex Hong Kong MCW Metrobus now H63/44F and fleet no. 484. BYX 268V MCW Metrobus seen in service 3.03 (ex Go Wear 3519). G120 VDX Dennis Falcon/East Lancs seen in service 3.03 (ex Ipswich 120).

GARDNER CHELMSFORD The LAG being used for spares (by 1.03) is reported to be E572 JHJ (ex A20 APT, E539 KBD) last reported with Sharkey & Barnes, Barking, Gt.London (but which has previously been with various Essex operators).

GENIAL TRAVEL COLCHESTER This operator moved on 1.4.03 to a new operating centre at Warrens Farm, Brook Road, Gt. Tey (same as Glew, Colchester)

GLEW COLCHESTER Bedford YLQ/Plaxton 831FUB (ex VNM 900S) was written off when it rolled in to an office block near Colchester station (3.03).

GROUP TAXIBUS CHELMSFORD 401-6 EY03 NCE/F/J/N/U/X are Ford Transit/Ford new 3.03, lettered 'Stansted Taxibus' and 'Airportcarz'. 404 & 405 have Stanford Coachworks stickers.

EY03 NCA is a similar vehicle with fleet no. 60 and a Bristol phone no. and EY0 3NBZ also has fleet no. 60 and a Southampton phone no. These two would appear to be awaiting transfer to Bristol and Southampton. Ford Transit 33 X369THK has a lift fitted (by 8.02)

New Ford Transit/Ford for Chelmsford Taxibus are EY03NFU, EY03NFV no. 36, EY03NFX no. 44, EY03NFZ no. 43

JWS TRAVEL CHADWELL ST MARY Not previously reported here, is that Mercedes 709D/Marshall N254 NUR, returned to Dawson Rentals (by 05.02).

MERRIDAY CHELMSFORD G937 FVX is ex 90-D-1008 ex Dublin Bus Leyland Olympian /Alexander Belfast

NCS NEWPORT Renault Traffic M130 AVW has gone for scrap (by 12.02)

Renault Traffic J499 BAR is operating on a taxi plate (by 3.03)

OLYMPIAN HARLOW Mercedes 709D/Dormobile G99 NBD has been acquired (by 01.03)

PIONEER CLACTON MCW Metrorider F115 YVP went to Bailey, Blackburn (by 10.02). This is thought to be the last active MCW Metrorider in the County. There are still some Optare versions however.

PRESEDENTIAL COACHWAYS SHOEBOURNE Further to last month, MCW Metroliner ROI 5103 (C158 UHN) was here, but had gone in June 2002.

RED CAR COACH HIRE DEBDEN The remains of AUJ 733T a Bedford YMT/Duple had gone (by 12.02).

S M COACHES HARLOW P546 MSF Mercedes Benz 310D/MB-? (Mercedes shell, unknown conversion, 11 coach seats) seen 3.03 parked opposite this operator's yard and assumed owned.

SOUTHEND RADIO CARS HOCKLEY Ford Transit C487PSC was seen on Canvey Island, it was unlicensed and is assumed sold.

STEPHENSON ROCHFORD EU03 CFX/Y are Dennis Dart SLF/Plaxton (in 3.03) branded for the 90 service 'Blackwater Link'.

K108 SAG Dennis Dart / Plaxton is in (by 3.03) ex London United DRL108 and is back up for service 90.

There is an additional operating centre c/o Phoenix Student Travel, Maldon, Essex (3.03) for the 'Blackwater Link' vehicles.

STORT VALLEY GREAT DUNMOW Acquired (by 02.03) is Leyland Olympian/ECW A592 NWX, previously with Arriva Yorkshire North.

UNW928R Bristol VR/ECW is in (by 3.03) ex Fourways, Highwood via

Ensign (dealer). The Rettendon yard of Kingston is being cleared (late 3.03).

SUPREME COLCHESTER Scania/Jonckhree HSK 845 (F909 YNV) was with Go-Goodwins, Eccles (by 10.02). Further vehicles confirmed as destroyed in the depot fire are Scania/van Hool R861/4 SDT. Not previously reported is that VW TRansporter M24 THJ was sold some while ago.

TOWN & COUNTRY GRAYS Leyland Olympian/ECW C30CHM has fleet no. 204

WINDMILL GT. BROMLEY KSU369 Setra S215HD has gone to Harris (Griffin Travel), Thorpe St. Andrew, Norfolk (3.03).

Miscellaneous

OJD890R Leyland National seen 14.3.03 on the A120 heading towards Bishops Stortford. Lettered 'Crown Coaches' (this is not thought to be the Crown of Benfleet).

D134VRP Mercedes Benz/Mercedes Benz-RH (ex MK Metro 34) seen 7.11.02 on suspended tow on the A12 in Essex heading London-wards. It still had 'Citybus' markings and MK legal lettering. This was last reported, with others of the same batch, to Foster (dealer), Colchester (3.99). D122VRP and D138VRP were seen at Whiting (dealer), Mersea Island, Essex in 4.00.

R856JGD Mercedes Benz 814L/Crest seen in Epping 14.3.03 - owner unknown.

DSB118X Ld PSU/Pn seen 3.03 in Tiptree - owner unknown

TELEVISION APPEARANCES

H140 AFV a DAF/Van Hool of Brookes, Colchester appeared on Anglia TV when operating an emergency rail replacement service from Colchester in March 2003.

B2 CBT a Toyota/Caetano of Card, Gt Oakley appeared on BBC in a murder quiz programme on 29th March 2003

The Reading Area Coach Trip
Saturday 28 June 2003

Make sure you book today!

ESSEX - Non-PSV Operators

Aviation Ground Crew Training Service

The following were seen at Stansted Airport 3.03:-

112 P395 NVR

113 N469 VJH Citroen Relay (new to Aviation Defence, Heathrow)

114 J141 OFL LDV 200 (not in use)

Bradford Memorials, Gt.Baddow

K135 UDX Leyland DAF 400 is in (by 2.03) (new to Suffolk County Council; this vehicle passed through Chelmsford auction in 8.02)

Elite Engineering, Maldon

MCW Metrobus KYV 791X is being used for spares (3.03)

Help Force Recruitment, (Chelmsford area phone no.)

E927JAR (ex ???????) ?/Wadham Stringer is in (by 3.03) with [L] plates.

This is probably an ex M.o.D. vehicle.

West House Nursing Home, 11 St. Vincents Road, Westcliff-on-Sea

E545VGT Freight Rover Sherpa 400/? seen 3.03

Phoenix Student Travel

C81CHM Leyland Olympian is in use in red livery (4.03)



H226 LOM Scania N113DRB/Alexander: New to West Midlands Travel in 1990 as their 3226, the vehicle recently migrated south and shows off its new Red and yellow NIBS livery at North Farnbridge on 26 February.(Chris Stewart)

Ensign dealer report

our monthly guide to the latest vehicle movements

Vehicles in

From London Central. T172
From London General M1215,M1301,1337,1391.
From Arriva the Shires M233, Iveco's M151RBH,N740/41/44AVW.
From Phoenix Student Travel. Dart G29TGW.
From London Central. T1000,T1005 Q on 17/03
From London General M1440,M1306 SW on 18/03.
From London General OM241,OM420,OM171 Q on 21/03.
From Go North East Olympian C659LJR,Metrobus C755OCN
From Travel West Midlands Scania's H218/9/23/5/32/6/7/8LOM
From Arriva the Shires. Metrobus B289WUL.
From Isle of Man Transport Dart DMN18R.
From Arriva Midlands North Tiger B103KPF.
From Go ahead North East Olympian C670LJR, Metrobuses A625BCN,C759OCN.
From Arriva Midlands North. Volvo H648GPF..This is a low bridge victim and is to be an open top, probably allocated to Stratford depot when finished.
From Metroline DP238 (Dart K418MGN)

Vehicles out

M771 Red Route, Northfleet.
Bristol VR VEX295X Routespek Coach Hire, Suffolk.
Dominator C112CAT Phoenix, Maldon.
Dublin Olympian 90-D-1014 now G919FVX and open top with Tappins, Oxford.
M681 Clockwork Travel, Gillingham.
T172 LR Travel, South Mimms.
Iveco's M719/720UTW A2B Buses, Southampton.
M1301 Trustline, Harlow.
M1337 Elite engineering, Maldon
Iveco's N740AVW,M725UTW Maltese Police Force.
Dart G29TGW Transferred to Stratford Blue.
Metrorider F60RFS Red Route,Northfleet.
M356 PVS for scrap.
M1391 Amber-Lee,Kent.
Tiger A707HVT Stratford Blue for spares.
Olympian MUH286X Eastbrook Coaches, Barking.
Olympian C659LJR Cedrics, Wivenhoe.

Metrobus C7550CN Supreme, Southend.
Iveco's N741/44AVW,M151RBH,M721UTW Maltese Police Force.
M1311 London Fashion Bus, Newham, London.
M1440 Imperial,Rainham.
M988 Regal, Edgware.
Olympian 90-d-1008 now G937FVX with Fourways, Chelmsford.
Volvo B10M's UCW443X,A193LLS Swallow, Rainham.
T1033 Scrapheap Challenge TV show, Reading.
Olympians WDC215Y,EWX533Y Western Greyhound, Newquay.
Scania's H237/47LOM Town and Country, Grays.
Bristol VR GGM106W Bus Prophils, Brussels, Belgium
Atlantean BFS40L, Bristol VR UNW928R Double Decker
Bus Tours, San Diego.
Olympian EWX532Y Trailer Enterprises, Leatherhead(dining bus use)
M250 Eastonways, Ramsgate.
Olympian C523LJR Western Greyhound, Newquay.

That's it for the vehicle side. As for the Central Line, Ensign have been providing extra buses at Bethnal Green AM peak only, these are 8 buses from Shamrock in South Wales. The replacement buses were still running in mid-April.

For details of all the latest stock visit www.ensignbus.com



ARP 619X Leyland Olympian/ECW: One of a batch new to United Counties and now with APT of Rayleigh. The location is Southend High School for Boy, Hoblythick Lane on 21 November 2001. (Jeff Clayton)

Bus competition in Harwich and Clacton

Read the full story in

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