

THE OLD PITSEA MARKET

1924 - 1969



22 Pages

£2.60

Registered Charity no. 1176037

Alan Cox 2023

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Pitsea Market was the foresight of a Pitsea Estate agent and auctioneer, Mr C. J. Love, who bought up two acres of waste Land in Station Lane in 1924, which led to the development of the Pitsea Market.

When Mr Love started the project, Pitsea Market, with only a hand full of stalls, and specialised in the sale of poultry and eggs, with some furniture sales thrown in for good measure.

A new market in Station Lane, Pitsea is all under cover. Mr C. J. Love is the auctioneer.

Chelmsford Chronicle April 1924

Charles wife Agnes Young Love died on June 1936 in Essex.

Charles married again on July 1942 in Brentwood to Maud Eleanor Lenderyou. And he died on 30th April 1957, and is buried at St Peters, Nevendon, Essex.

Prior to his death though an illness his wife Maud had helped run the market, she then took over after his death and was helped enormously by Mr George Kimber Market Superintendent. and his son George.

PORTABLE SHED- 8 foot 6in x by 5 foot x 6in fitted with one large window,
APPLY , Guilder, Pitsea Market.

Chelmsford Chronicle January 1925

AUCTIONEERS.- The annual meeting of the Essex branch of the Incorporated Society of Auctioneers was held at the Queens, Southend. Mr Charles Love, Pitsea, Presided.

Chelmsford Chronicle February 1937

Charles James Love.

Born 1870 Southwark, Surrey.

His son 2nd lieutenant Francis Brunton Love, was born 1899 in Argentina, South America.

At this present time I can find no records to support why Charles and Agnes where in Argentina.

Charles James Love was a Civil Engineer.

News Paper article from 1952 said Twenty eight years ago, a Civil Engineer from the Argentine.

Began a venture in the small village of Pitsea.

In 1863 a English man called William Wheelwright was a owner of the British Company that was building the Central Argentine Railway.

This is only a assumption of what Charles may have done here

June 1918 The Newsman

Essex Roll of honour on the death of Francis, The only son of Q.M.S and Mrs Love. His father C.J. Love joined the Sportsman Battalion, was wounded after eight months in the trenches, and is now with a Labour unit in France.

The Sportsman Battalion was also known as 23rd and 24th Service Battalions.

Charles James Love service records show him as receiving the "Meritorious Service Medal" this record shows him a Company Quarter Master Sargent of Labour Corps 124th Company,

On his 1914 /1915 Star medal it is shown 23/ Royal Fusiliers Labour Corps as L/Sgt (Lance Sargent) Charles James Love 16/11 1915. 74169 C.Q.M.S.CL.Z 21/4/1919.

Company Quarter Master Sargent Class Z. Class Z was The **Class Z Reserve** was a Reserve contingent of the British Army consisting of previously enlisted soldiers, now discharged.

Great war forum.



Cattle and Sons did not have a stall at Pitsea Market, but his daughter Patricia did selling baby clothes and toys ect that she had made.

(June Cattle)

Alf Rust:- Alf was setting up stall in Pitsea market and used to have helpers pull his goods from the station on a small cart. It is believed Billy Tucker was his helper. Billys sister either Gladys or Phyllis was Alf's Saturday girl who worked the stall with him. He asked Billy if their were anymore at home like them as they were good kids and hard workers. One Saturday the girl who usually worked was, ill so Gwen came in her place.



Alf and Gwen married on
6th April 1939

POLICE COURTS

Billericay, July 1st

EGGS - Edward Mason, egg salesman , from Broad Street, Dagenham for failing to place the price on eggs exposed for sale at Pitsea Market. Was fined £2 and 21s costs.

Essex Newsman July 1941



POLICE COURTS

Billericay, August 26th

SALE OF SARDINES.- Samuel Sydney Harris, stall holder Pitsea Market, was summoned for failing to place notices on sardines exhibited for sale,- Mr W. F. Bestley Prosecuting, said an inspector of the Ministry went to the stall run by Mr Harris and saw piles of sardines which bore no price notice. The Maximum Prices Order provided that prices should be placed near. There were 28 different sizes of tins, and purchasers could be charged more than the proper price unless the price was exhibited. Defendant produced a cardboard sheet and said that it was hung up. He had no idea A price ticket should be on every group. The defendant was fined £2 and £2 2s costs.

Essex Newsman August 1941

NO B, U,s - FINED £100

At Billericay - on Tuesday, Morris Wise, of Croft Road, Orpington was fined £100 for selling confectionary and cakes without food coupons from a stall at Pitsea Market. A Ministry of Food inspector heard him shouting, "Here you are, these are off the ration," Wise told the bench: "Bread rationing nearly ruined my business, so I carried on without B.U,s".

Chelmsford Chronicle May 1947

PORTABLE SHED- 8 foot 6in x by 5 foot x 6in fitted with one large window,
APPLY , Guilders, Pitsea Market.

Chelmsford Chronicle January 1925

REFUSE DUMP PROTEST - A protest meeting of Pitsea and Vange residents against West Ham refuse on the neighbouring marshes will be held on Friday night in Pitsea Market Hall, when Mr J. R. Oldfield, M. P will be the principal speaker. A contract approved by the Ministry of Health provides for the dumping of over 100 tons of refuse a day from West Ham on the marshes near Pitsea.

Daily Herald August 1929

My life in the old Pitsea market. Ron Sharp

Pitsea market was a large part of my life in my early years. I left Craylands school on my 15th birthday in 1956 and went into the family business. My father started selling fish in Pitsea market in 1947 on an open stall on the front of the market, then shortly after he was able to take over the shop in the food hall, which housed Brown's the butchers a bread and biscuit shop 2 grocers and us, Sharp's fishmongers.

Every Wednesday and Saturday morning it was an early start to get the fish out of our walk in fridge at the back of the shop in Pitsea, loaded onto the van to get to the market, unload and set out the fish on the marble slab ready for customers.

Wednesday was a really busy morning, sometimes it was difficult to have time to eat our breakfast of a toasted bacon sandwich washed down with a cup of tea from the cafe next door, those sandwiches were so good I can still taste them now !! From about 9am till about 12 we would have customers lining up waiting to be served, in the winter months handling the cold fish, your fingers would go numb, so you put your hands in a bucket of hot water to warm them for a few minutes no wonder I have bad circulation in my hands.

You had to be very good at mental arithmetic in those days we didn't have automatic scales, all we had was the old fashion scales, where you put weights on to determine the weight of the fish then had to multiply the weight by how much the fish was per ounce, not very easy if it weighed 11 and a half ounces at 2 shillings and six pence a lb, all done without writing anything down !!! Life in the market was one of the best parts of my working life, some of the customers were real characters, also the stall holders as well, we were lucky we were always undercover but when it was freezing cold or raining most of them would be trying to keep their goods dry or stay warm.

On the day my wife and I were married, June 24th 1961 I was working in the market and lots of the customers were amazed to see me working on my wedding day, but that is what you did, working in a family business; got off from work at 2 pm and was getting married at Holy Cross church by 4 pm, my future wife Margaret said, make sure your not smelling of fish when you arrive!! Happy days

POOR AT PITSEA

THE MARKET IN STATION LANE,

At Billericay Rural Council on Tuesday a letter was read from Mr E. R. Annett, secretary of the Pitsea Unemployed Distress Committee, stating that the organisation was dealing with the same type of cases as the Chairman of the Billericay Council's Appeal Fund for the relief of distress caused by acute poverty.

Distress was very rife in Pitsea, and they were managing to feed on average 50 people a day.

The Clerk (Mr C E Lewis) was instructed to reply that the Council were anxious to prevent any overlapping in the administration of funds, and that the Pitsea Committee should recommend cases of distress for consideration by the Council's Unemployment Fund Committee.

Mr P. A. Bennett, The Stores, High Road, Vange, wrote enclosing a contribution to the Chairman's Appeal Fund, and adding; We tradespeople of Vange and Pitsea are being very hard hit by the unfair competition of the market in Station Lane, Pitsea, and if it is allowed to continue, we shall sooner or later be obliged to close down, and reluctantly add to the numbers of the unemployed, but with this difference we ourselves would not be eligible to draw unemployment benefit, as would our staffs. We spend our money in the district, whereas the stall holders take theirs out of the district.

I would venture to say that the cash trade at the market exceeds our aggregate cash trade for the week.

One can see one's own customers dealing in the market, and people one would least expect to see there.

I should like to know whether the existence of the market on that piece of land constitutes a breach of any restriction or building stipulation made when the land was sold.

The man observed that the matter was not within the Councils jurisdiction.

Chelmsford Chronicle January 1933



POLICE NEWS

Billericay January 14th

At a market stall Cyril Warr, seedsman and florist, of Timberlong Lane, Vange, was Summoned for employing a person under the age of 16 in street trading, and a son aged 15 was summoned for street trading.

MR J. W Wheatley, school attendance officer, said that after warning the boy about selling flowers at the entrance to Pitsea Market witness again see him at a stall in the market. The boy's mother told witness "We sent him to market to get a few coppers".

The Chairman said there was some doubt about the matter, and both cases would be dropped, but the Father must be careful in the future to see that the boy is kept out of the market.

Essex Newsman January 1936



May 1953

Women shoppers from New Town
Say: Ban H - bomb

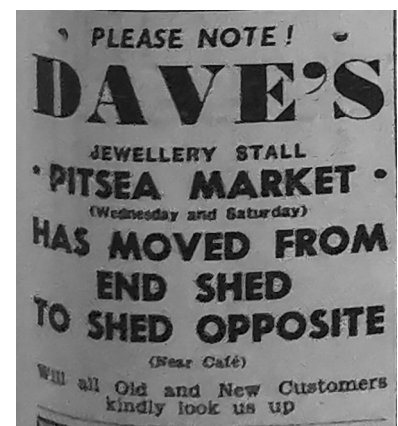


The Basildon campaign for nuclear disarmament Is forging ahead. To get at the crowds, the Committee have set up stall at Pitsea Market so people can sign a petition asking for the H-bomb to be banned.

Basildon Standard April 1958



1952



Basildon Standard May 1956



This stall has puppy appeal. Making friends with the pets are Ronald Smallbone (left) of Wichards, and Angela Bonner, of Whitmore Way.

Basildon Standard March 1959

PITSEA JUST COULD NOT DO WITHOUT MARKET SAY THE CUSTOMERS:-

What is the future of flourishing Pitsea Market ? With Basildon Development Corporation due to discuss the Pitsea neighbourhood plan with committee of the chamber of Trade early April, this question inevitably comes to mind.

Whether the Market is concerned in any proposals for the commercial redevelopment which the Corporation may put forward, is not yet known.

People come from as far away Southend to shop at the Market on Wednesday and Saturdays- for it is reputed to be of the best of it's kind for many miles.

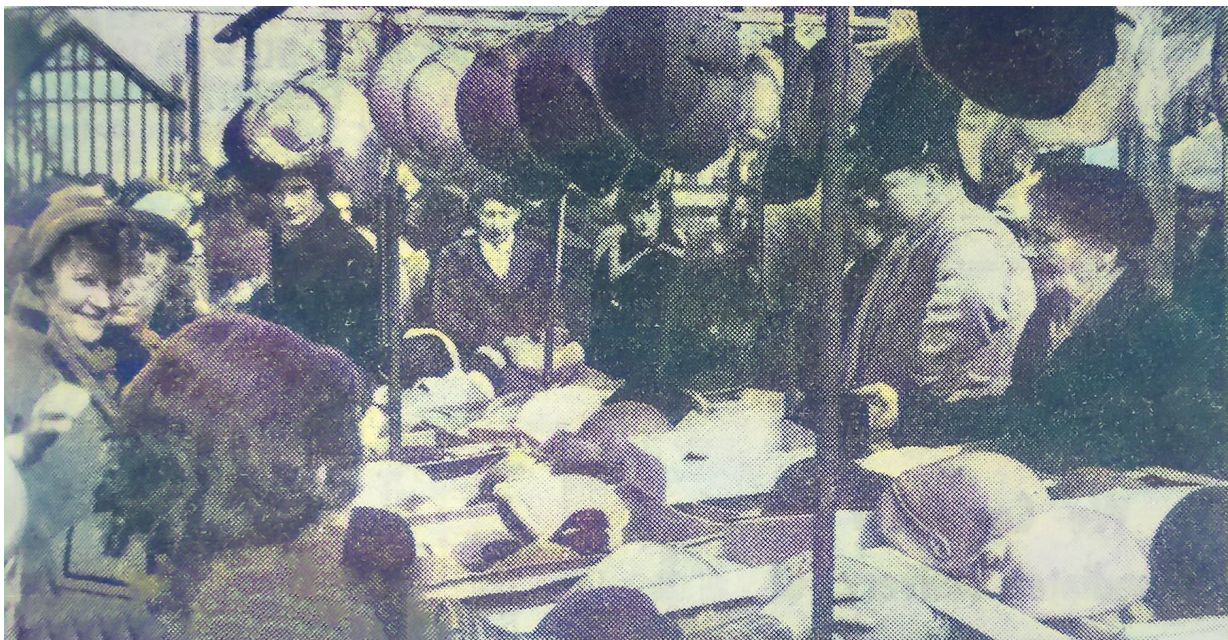
Basildon Standard March 1959

My mother Joy Cox nee Blake, shopped at the old market and the domes most of her life but she was sorry to see the old market go. Most of the traders knew her as she believed in the barter system on most stalls, dresses £5.00 each she'd say two for £7.00 most cases they would agree because she would be back next week, there was the butcher's Doll and Pete, Pete would do all the cutting ect of the meat and Doll would sit at the end of the counter wrapping up the meat ect and taking the money.

Then there was Ken he sold Marks and Spencer's seconds but all the labels had to be cut out, but most people new where they came from. Ken 's warehouse was in Katherine Road, East Ham helped by his mother and father, mum saw an opportunity to sell some goods at work and make a few quid pin money.

She worked in the canteen at Marconi's, Christopher Martin Road, Basildon, So she asked Ken if she could take some of his goods to sell at work on sale and return he agreed and in the summer it was polo shirts, Blouses, dresses ect, Winter pullovers and Coats ect.

Then there was Christmas I could not believe how many boxes of Ken's Deluxe crackers she sold, Dad wasn't to happy they only had a Morris 1100 some times when she came back from East Ham, we had to unload it quick before dad saw how much stuff she had got into it.





“Lovely bananas” cries Mr H Fleet, as he throws a sample into the crowd at a fruiterer’s stall.

Basildon Standard March 1959



One of the W.V.S helpers, Mrs Parker (right) from a grocery stall at Pitsea market. She is out for some old people.

Basildon Standard March 1960

THEY PREFER MARKET STALLS TO NEW TOWN'S SHOPS



A VERITABLE invasion descends on the “shanty town” on the corner of Station Road, Pitsea, every Wednesday and Saturday morning’s. Relief buses disgorge their loads of housewives, who scorn the glittering, carpeted shops in the New Town and flock to the muddy floored, roofless market, to haggle and bargain for a yard of silk or lace or queue, sometimes in the rain for a joint, vegetables even puppies.



Mrs Grace Patterson was queueing up to buy some vegetables when the Basildon Standard descended on her and inquired why she came to Pitsea Market.

“Well” , she replied, I have been coming for about eight years now, so I meet people I know here and we have a chat apart from shopping this is almost a social occasion. And of course there are always the bargains to brighten up the day! I come in from Fobbing. Which is not so far away as some people, but I think it is well worth the 5d bus ride.

Basildon Standard June 1960



Ken Brock Pitsea Market 1963 - 1970
(Dave Brock)

FIRE AT PITSEA MARKET



FIREMEN from Laindon are pictured clearing up the mess made by a small fire at Pitsea Market Hall on Wednesday. The fire damaged part of the outside wall and may have been caused by the intense heat during last week's sunshine striking the ancient timbers.

Basildon Times & Recorder 1961

Mrs Eve Baylis, of the British Red Cross society, helped by Mrs S Pryor, held a stall in Pitsea Market for the sale of Christmas gifts. The Profits from the sale are to go towards her project for a special ambulance for the physically handicapped people of Basildon.

Basildon Standard November 1963



Mrs. Dorothy Mansfield (left) collecting signatures for the nuclear disarmament petition at Pitsea Market on Saturday. She collected 300 signatures.

Basildon Standard November 1961

Alf Cohen 1916 - 2000



Basildon Recorder October 1965

Alf Cohen - Was one of five-generation dynasty which held stalls at the market since 1926.

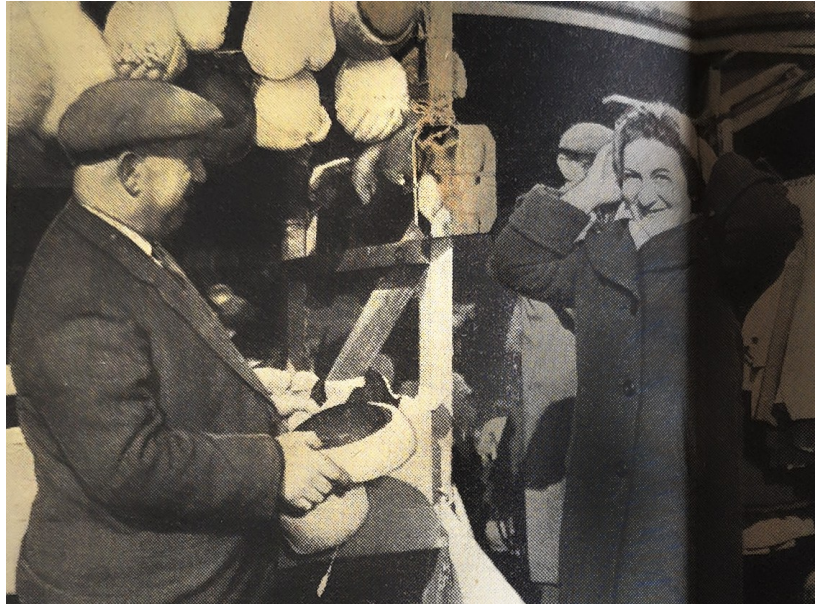
Pitsea market operator Frank Nash said *"I knew the family very well, and Alf was very much a leading light on the markets and auctioneering scene from the 1920s onwards."*

His name was Alf I was probably there that day doing my Saturday morning job with my Auntie Rose Smith on her material stall great memories

Valerie Mumford

Definitely a good market- Alf the market man- all standing with our money in our hand to hold up for the next bargain- not one but two things and then threw in something else- great at Xmas time- such lovely memories.

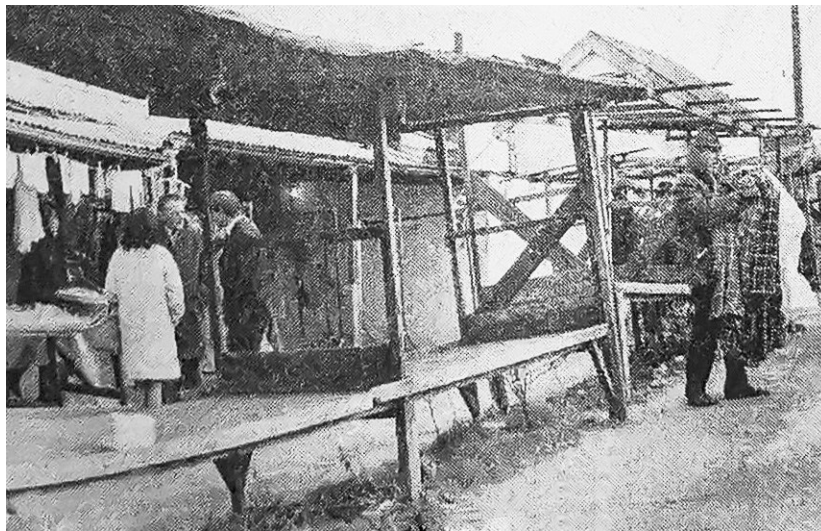
Lee Arbuckle



A new hat to match the weather is just the thing

Basildon Standard March 1959

THE MARKET CLOSES



Standard Recorder February 1969

Pitsea Market to cross the road -To make way for redevelopment, Pitsea Market will be moved "over the road" later this year. The site planned for the market is in Howard's field on the corner of Station Lane and the A13.

A temporary structure to house the market will be erected by the Development, together with a large car park. They hope the park will help ease the traffic congestion on market days in Station Lane. A Corporation spokesman said the new site was only temporary until the permanent position of the market is settled in the Pitsea redevelopment plan.

Basildon, Billericay & Wickford Standard February 1967

PITSEA MARKET MOVES INTO NEW HOME

Dennis Keogh reports

PITSEA MARKET has a new home. On Wednesday 19th February the bustling trading centre opened in the futuristic new premises just across the road from it's old home.

Basildon Standard Recorder February 1969



DOMED PLASTIC HOME FOR TRADITIONAL MARKET
December 10th 1968 PAP 137154-1 (A-0)

DOMED PLASTIC HOME FOR TRADITIONAL MARKET

To make room for an overpass on the A 13 in Essex, 150 traders from Basildon's Pitsea market are to be rehoused in four huge Abstracta plastic clad domes, the first time these have been used as semi-permanent buildings in this country. The domes construction is the brain-child of Danish designer, Poel Cadovius. One of the market domes, has been half-sprayed with concrete, nine feet upwards from its base.

The domes are expected to remain on the new market site between eight to ten years, and if successful may become a permanency. The advantage to the traders, is that in their traditional market which was largely in the open-air, the new venture will offer them complete cover from the unreliable English weather.

December 10th 1968 PAP 137154-1 (A-0)
PRESS ASSOCIATION PHOTOS
FOR FIRST PUBLICATION IN EVENING PAPERS OF
TUESDAY DECEMBER 10th 1968



VANGE BOOKLETS

All Saints Church Hall 1931 £2.10
Barges at Vange Wharf £2.10
Cashes Well No5 £2.10
John (Paddy) Hemingway £1.50
The Barge Inn 1832 – 2015 £2.50
The Bull Public House 1878— 1961 £1.50
The Vange Crystal Well £1.50
Vange Board School 1876 £5.80
Vange Fire Station 1934 – 1962 £3.90
Vange Hall Brick Works 1886—1921 £3.30
Vange Reservoir & Southend Water Company £2.00
Vange Swimming Pool 1933-1952 £2.00
The Shops of Vange London Road & High Road £5.00
The 1st Pitsea and Vange Scouts 1913—1970 £4.50
3rd Battalion Essex Home Guard. Vange and Pitsea. £2.80
Royal Observer Corps, Monitoring Post, Vange, Essex. £2.10

BASILDON BOOKLET

Locarno Mecca Dancing £6.00 1961 - 1971

PITSEA BOOKLETS

W. J. Wager Dairies £1.50
Tuskite Works Pitsea Hall Lane £1.50
Broadway Cinema 1930—1970 £3.00
Pitsea United 1909—1971 £8.70
The Old Pitsea Market 1924—1969 £2.60



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Basildon Heritage

The Green Centre

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Monday & Wednesday's 10am—12pm

Saturdays 10am—3pm