

EDITORIALSubscription Renewals - June 1983

Enclosed with this news sheet is a green subscription renewal form for those members whose subscription ends with the June news sheet. Please fill in the relevant details and send, together with the appropriate remittance, to Bob Palmer (Membership Secretary) at the address given on the form. Subscriptions have had to be increased from July in order to meet higher costs of paper and ink (and postage in the case of those members requiring First Class mailing). The increases are modest and the Committee hopes that the membership will appreciate that there comes a time when costs have to be passed on in increased subscription rates. Please remember that on a First Class postage rate subscription, £1.92 goes to the Post Office and not to the Group. Bob Palmer thanks members in advance for their co-operation.

New Publications

The following new publications are now available from the Group :-

- 1) Fleet List of Eastern National Omnibus Co. Ltd., August 1964 - September 1982 by Bob Palmer.

This publication presents a detailed fleet list of all vehicles operated by Eastern National during the title period. Each vehicle is listed individually (one complete line for each fleetnumber carried by that vehicle), and other details given include registration number; chassis manufacturer, type and number; body manufacturer and number; seating layout; date of entry into service and withdrawal. The associated Tilling fleet is also included. The book consists of 36 A4 size pages and has printed covers, and is available at £1.30 (post free) from the Group's Administrative Officer (P.W. Harvey Esq., 37. Warren Chase, Thundersley, Benfleet, Essex. SS7 3DZ.).

- 2) Independent Stage Carriage Operators of Essex by Alan Osborne and Ian Taylor.

This publication presents information about those independent operators who provide stage carriage services within the county of Essex. For each operator featured there is included a history of the service(s) provided, with basic current timetable information. Area route maps are given together with current fleet lists. Also shown is the availability of the operators' own timetable literature. This book consists of 62 A4 size pages, including 9 maps, and has printed hard covers. It is available at £1.85 (post free) from the Group's Administrative Officer (address above).

Members wishing to order both the above publications at the same time can take advantage of a special inclusive price of £2.95 (post free) for both items. Please direct all orders to the Administrative Officer.

David Blumson - An Appreciation

The Committee, on behalf of the membership, would like to place on record their sincere thanks to member David Blumson for undertaking the mammoth task of duplicating the above two publications. Without David's most valued help, these books would not have appeared until much later in the year.

Timetable Reproduction Service

A reminder to members that this service is still in operation. The timetable collection belonging to the Chairman is available for reproduction by xerography. Items in the collection include 'National' timetables back to 1921, 'Eastern National' timetables from 1931, with an almost complete run from 1945. There are also Westcliff, Southend and Colchester timetables from the 1930's onwards, as well as many independents (City, Hicks, Silver Queen, Simpson, Underwood, Quest, Pattens etc.) and also timetable guides giving details of services operated in the early period (available for 1840, 1921/2 and 1929-31). There is also a collection of London Transport and London General items. So if you would like to know about Colchester

Tramways routes or the early Great Eastern Railway bus services or about something just a few years old then write to the Chairman for the introductory circular, the address is :-

7. Farley Drive, Seven Kings, ILFORD, Essex. IG3 8LT. (SAE please)

Southend Historic Transport Rally - Sunday, June 5th.

The Southend Historic Transport Rally is being held at Southchurch Park, Lifford Way, Southend on Sunday, June 5th from 1000 hrs. As usual the Group will have a stand at the rally and our complete range of sales items will be available, including new photograph stocks and our new publications.

Southend Meeting - Tuesday, June 14th.

The Group's June meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 14th at the Civic Centre, Victoria Avenue, Southend commencing at 1930 hrs. (for 2000 hrs.). The theme of the evening will be 'Confessions of a Bus Driver', and Group members Peter Carr and John Cooper will recall some of the more interesting and amusing incidents that have occurred during their careers as bus drivers. Their talks will be illustrated with slides, and all members are invited to what should prove to be a very enjoyable evening.

Forthcoming Rallies

The Group has received a number of brochures announcing details of bus rallies to be held this Summer, too many to mention in the news sheet. Members' attention is drawn to the lists of this year's rallies recently published in 'Buses', 'Bus Fayre' and the L.O.T.S. news sheet, and good luck with those that you choose to visit. However, members are reminded particularly about the forthcoming Southend Historic Transport Rally (see above), and the Committee looks forward to seeing a large number of Group members at the rally.

EASTERN NATIONAL OMNIBUS CO. LTD.

New Vehicles

The remaining Leyland Tiger dual-purpose vehicles have now been delivered, and full details are as follows :-

1116	HHJ377Y	Leyland Tiger	TRC/TL11/2R	8300109	Alexander TE special DP	DP53F
1118	HHJ379Y	Leyland Tiger	TRC/TL11/2R	8300143	Alexander TE special DP	DP53F
1119	HHJ380Y	Leyland Tiger	TRC/TL11/2R	8300147	Alexander TE special DP	DP53F
1120	HHJ381Y	Leyland Tiger	TRC/TL11/2R	8300180	Alexander TE special DP	DP53F
1121	HHJ382Y	Leyland Tiger	TRC/TL11/2R	8300186	Alexander TE special DP	DP53F

Body Numbers : 1116-2TE/2382/11 1120-2TE/2382/9
 1118-2TE/2382/8 1121-2TE/2382/10
 1119-2TE/2382/12

Delivery dates : 1116 - April 29th. 1120 - April 27th.
 1118 - April 27th. 1121 - April 29th.
 1119 - April 29th.

These vehicles are all painted in the revised dual-purpose livery, which is known officially as Private Hire livery. This livery is similar to the Highwayman livery but does not incorporate the Highwayman logo; however, advertisements for Highwayman services are carried at the rear of the vehicles.

Withdrawn Vehicles

5.83	1408 (X00877L)	1527 (LPU452J)
	1523 (KHK415J)	1543 (RPU883K)

Additional information regarding the new owners of these vehicles is included under Initial Disposals on page 7.

Refurbished Vehicles

Work has now been completed on the refurbishment of 1418 (GJD194N), and this vehicle has now re-entered service at SD in the new standard National coach livery. This completes the refurbishment programme in respect of Bristol RELH coaches 1417-9.

Allocations & Transfers

5.83 1116 D/L-MN, 1117 D/L-BD, 1118 D/L-BD, 1119 D/L-HD, 1120 D/L-BS,
1121 D/L-CF, 1208 BS-CF, 1405 SD-D/L (D), 1414 SD-BD, 1418 D/L-SD,
1419 CN-DE, 1534 D/L (P)-PL (P), 1540 PL (P)-BS (P), 3045 DT-DT (P).

1054 (TJN977W) remains Licensed Waiting Allocation (LWA), and during mid-May this vehicle was noted at MN. 1534 PL (P) has been noted in service at CN during recent weeks, whilst 1547, 3014 and 3018 (all PL (P)) were used in service at SD on various occasions during May.

Vehicle Repaints

The Company has again kindly given the Group details of vehicles repainted during recent weeks, and this continues from the information published in NS229 :-

April : w/e 9.4.83 - 1793 at CW (correction to NS229).

w/e 30.4.83 - No vehicles repainted.

May : w/e 7.5.83 - 1766 at CW.

w/e 14.5.83 - 1418 at CW, 1792 at CW.

w/e 21.5.83 - 1817 at CW.

Bristol VRTSL6L 3054 (LJN649P) is currently at Central Works being repainted as an overall advertisement vehicle for Air UK, and work is expected to be completed during late-May.

Temporary Loans

Colchester (CR) vehicles which worked on temporary loan to Harwich (DT) during April were 1524, 1790/3, 1872/88, 3030 and 3050. 1532 DT was loaned to CR on April 26th to cover a temporary vehicle shortage. 1113 arrived at DT on April 23rd and, in addition to normal coaching duties, has also been noted on some stage services. 3045 DT (P) had been first allocated to Harwich on the previous day, following mechanical repairs at CR, and this vehicle has displaced 1202 on contract work, with 1202 now being used principally on coaching work. 1419 has been re-allocated to DT from CN this month for Highwayman services.

General

Further to the notes published in last month's news sheet regarding the reductions in London Transport fares which took effect from May 22nd, additional details are now available regarding fare changes on Eastern National services in Greater London. Certain fares on services operating east of Romford have been reduced, and in general £0.40 fares have been reduced to £0.30, with the £0.20 fare and child flat fare remaining unchanged. In addition, London Transport adult season tickets, travelcards and rover tickets are now available for use on services 151, 226, 251, 261, 350, 351, 403 and 451 within the Greater London area east of Romford. They are not available on services 400, 401 or 405, or west of Romford on service 251.

Rates for the conveyance of parcels on Company vehicles will be increased from June 5th. The new scale of charges will be £0.26 for parcels up to 7 lbs., £0.30 for parcels between 7 and 14 lbs. and £0.50 for parcels between 14 and 28 lbs. Parcels exceeding 28 lbs. will not be accepted.

Further to the allocations of the former Eastern National Bristol VRT's now with Crosville Motor Services Ltd. which were listed in NS227, DVG563 (NAG506G) was re-allocated from Holyhead to Bangor during late-March.

Service Developments

The Company has applied for a number of revisions to stage and express services, and brief details of these proposed changes are listed below.

46 - Revised terminals to be Chelmsford (Bus Station) and Moreton (White Hart P.H.), and revised timetable.

58B - Mondays to Fridays : two journeys to be withdrawn.

59A - Mondays to Fridays : one journey to be re-numbered 59B with a minor timetable change.

60 - Weekdays : one minor timetable change.

153/4 - Weekdays : revised timetable, mainly affecting evening journeys between Basildon and Grays (and introduced from May 23rd).
Mondays to Fridays : one minor timetable change (service 153)
(and to be introduced from June 6th).

- 155 - Weekdays : one journey to be withdrawn and one minor timetable change. All journeys now operate via Stanford-le-Hope (Victoria Road), and these revisions were introduced from May 23rd.
- 156 - Weekdays : one additional journey and one minor timetable change (and introduced from May 23rd).
- 158 - Weekdays : one additional journey; Mondays to Fridays : one minor timetable change, with journey now operating on Schooldays only. Revised route in Stanford-le-Hope, and these revisions were introduced from May 23rd.
- 229 - Mondays to Fridays : one minor timetable change (and introduced from May 23rd).
- 234/5/7 - Revised timetables mainly involving revised arrival and departure times at Basildon Hospital and other minor adjustments (and introduced from May 22nd).
- 317/8 - Revised terminals to be Thaxted (Bardfield End Green) and Bishop's Stortford (Station Road), and various route revisions for journeys operating to/via Henham (317), Elsenham Rail Station (317) and Stansted Airport (318), with revised timetable.
- 350/1 - Journeys to/from Brentwood (Rail Station) and Warley were re-numbered 360/1 with effect from May 23rd.
- 451 - Service now operates during off-peak periods only, and certain journeys have been re-numbered 351. The running time has been revised, and the service also observes revised stopping points. These revisions were introduced from May 23rd.
- 503/4/5/6/24 - Revised Monday to Friday timetable, mainly affecting afternoon and evening peak journeys, with other minor adjustments. Saturdays : one minor timetable change (504), and one additional journey introduced (505). These revisions were introduced from May 23rd.
- 507 - Mondays to Fridays : one minor timetable change (and introduced from May 23rd).
- 520 - Schooldays - one journey withdrawn, with effect from May 23rd.
- 546 - Mondays to Fridays : one minor timetable change (and introduced from May 23rd).
- 547 - Mondays to Fridays : one journey to be withdrawn; Schooldays : one additional journey introduced (and these revisions were introduced from May 23rd).
- 549 - Mondays to Fridays : two minor timetable changes (and introduced from May 23rd).

The Company has surrendered its licences for services 69 (Leigh-Prittlewell) and 451/2 (Springfield/North Melbourne-Romford).

Full licences have now been granted for the commuter services operated jointly with T. Cowie PLC (t/a Grey-Green Coaches) between Great Cornard, Earls Colne, High Garrett, Heybridge, Tiptree, Woodham Mortimer and London.

Notification has been made of the following express services which will be operated under Section 2 of the Public Passenger Vehicles Act, 1981 :-
 Ipswich (Old Cattle Market) - Bournemouth (Holdenhurst Road Coach Station).
 Ipswich (Old Cattle Market) - Brixham (Bank Lane).
 Southend (Victoria Bus Station) - Minehead.

The Company has applied to introduce revised Summer timetables on the various express services operated jointly with T. Cowie PLC (t/a Grey-Green Coaches), Norfolk Motor Services Ltd. and Eastern Counties O.C. Ltd., and also to introduce revised picking up/setting down points at Jaywick (Chester Camp), Gorleston (Hospital), Ipswich (Woodbridge Road) and Woodbridge (Station Street) with certain minor route revisions.

The Company has also applied to introduce three additional excursions from Brentwood (High Street) to Hatfield and Hatfield House, Knole House and Ightham Mote, and Wembley Stadium and Wimbledon, together with one additional excursion from Maldon (Bus Station) to Flatford and East Bergholt. Route revisions are also proposed for the Stour Valley Circular excursion from Maldon (Bus Station).

Publicity News

New timetable leaflets, excursion and holiday leaflets and Explorer leaflets introduced during recent weeks have been as follows :-

- Timetable leaflets - a new timetable leaflet for services 152-4, 155 and 158 dated May 23rd.
- a new timetable leaflet for services 234/5/7 dated May 22nd.
 - a new timetable leaflet for services 350/1, 360/1 and 451 dated May 23rd.
 - a new timetable leaflet for services 503/4/5/6/24 dated May 23rd.
- Highwayman services - a leaflet outlining the Highwayman routes serving the East Coast holiday resorts dated May 1st for the period to September 24th.
- Excursion leaflets - further Summer excursion ('Day Breaks') leaflets (see also NS229) are now available for Basildon and District, Halstead/Braintree/Witham and Southend and District.
- Leisure Break Holidays - further leaflets are now available with details of six Continental Leisure Break Holidays (LB310-6) (see also NS229).
- Explorer leaflets - further leaflets in the new Explorer series are now available for Basildon, Braintree and Halstead; Chelmsford, Colchester and Southend (see also NS229).

Unusual Workings

Details of unusual workings which have been supplied by members during recent weeks are as follows :-

- 9.4-3056BE noted on service 251.
- 17.4-3085, 3103/9 (all HH) operated a rail replacement service between Rayleigh and Billericay.
- 18.4-3004 BE observed on service 311 (and also on 11.5); 3056 BE again noted on service 251.
- 20.4-1761 CN noted on service 59.
- 21.4-1845 BD noted on service 330; 3019 BE noted on service 311; 3124 CR noted on service 119.
- 22.4-3029 DE observed on service 311.
- 23.4-3061 DT operated a rail replacement service between Colchester and Ipswich.
- 24.4-3085/97, 3103/9 (all HH) operated a rail replacement service between Rayleigh and Billericay.
- 25.4-1761 CN observed on service 58B.
- 26.4-3032 CR noted on service 119; 3072 SD noted on service 29A; Southend Transport 244 first noted on service X1, and this was the first day of operation of the new Van Hool Astromega double-deck coaches (244-6).
- 29.4-1113 DT noted on National Express service; 1208 BS noted on National Express service 084; 1547 PL (P) observed at SD depot; 1882 BE noted on service 311; London Country RB130 (HA) noted at Southend on Green Line service 745.
- 30.4-1409 SE noted on National Express service 084; 1547 PL (P) observed on service 20; 1749 BS was noted at CN for heater modification work; 3030 CR noted on services 103/4.
- 1.5-1112 CR and 3077 CF operated private hire excursions to Brighton; 3099, 3103/7/9 (all HH) and 3102 SD operated a rail replacement service between Rayleigh and Billericay.
- 4.5-Colchester Transport 102 (on loan to Southend Transport) noted on service X1 (and also on 6.5).
- 6.5-1928 HH noted on service 24A; 3056 DE observed on service 311.
- 7.5-1055 BD noted at Rayleigh on private hire work; 1114 SD observed on service 801; 1115 SD noted on new service 827; 1204 SD noted on service 804; 1749 BS noted on service 119; 1905 CF and 4000 SD noted at MN depot; 3000 and 3061 (both DT) operated a rail replacement service from Colchester to Ipswich; 3019 BE noted on service 311; 3039 SE observed on service 70; Southend Transport 203 noted on private hire work at Maldon.
- 8.5-3085/97/9, 3107/9 (all HH) and 3119 SD operated a rail replacement service between Rayleigh and Billericay.
- 9.5-9021 BN noted at Clacton Bus Station.
- 10.5-1054 LWA noted at MN depot; 1212 MN observed on services 31 and 31A; 1216 SD noted at CN depot; 1534 PL (P) noted at Clacton Swimming Pool on schools contract work; 1914 BS noted at CN depot; 1928 HH noted on service 24A.

- 11.5-1206 HD observed on service 70A; 1859 BD noted on service 251; 3109 HH operated the 1225 hrs. service 1 journey from Southend to Rayleigh and was replaced at Rayleigh by Southend Transport 358 for the 1313 hrs. return working.
- 13.5-1534 PL (P) noted on service 102; 1708 MN noted on a CR service 119 working.
- 14.5-3084 SD noted on private hire work at Worthing; former Southend Transport Leyland PD3 314 noted on a private wedding function at Leigh.
- 15.5-3085/97/9, 3103/7 (all HH) operated a rail replacement service between Rayleigh and Billericay; 3109 HH operated a private hire journey to Dagenham.
- 16.5-3014 PL (P) noted on service 22; Southend Transport 373 noted on service 1; Ensign Bus Co. KYY 961 (ex. RT3232), MLK648L (ex. DMS648) and THM720N (ex. DM1720) noted on rail replacement services between Laindon and Billericay/Wickford.
- 17.5-1216 SD noted at the Central Works Training School; 1914 BS noted at MN depot; 3018 PL (P) observed on service 5.
- 18.5-1761 CN noted on service 58; Grey-Green Coaches EYH807V noted on Commuter service 194 from Tiptree.
- 19.5-1057 BS and 1111 CR both noted on service 91; 3014 PL (P) noted at Rayleigh replacing failed 3028 SD on service.

COLCHESTER TRANSPORT

General

The only news to report this month is that delicensed Bristol RELL6L's 14, 15 and 17 remain at the Magdalen Street depot, with 14 and 15 being in the depot yard whilst 17 is in the garage.

SOUTHEND TRANSPORT

New Vehicles

The three Van Hool Astromega integral double-deck coaches have now been delivered, and full details are as follows :-

243	JEV243Y	Van Hool Astromega TD824	YE282400NOM112192	CH57/27F	12192
244	JEV244Y	Van Hool Astromega TD824	YE282400NOM112193	CH57/27F	12193
245	JEV245Y	Van Hool Astromega TD824	YE282400NOM112194	CH57/27F	12194

Delivery dates : 243-April 30th; 244-April 16th; 245-April 25th.

Dates into service : 243 May 13th; 244-April 26th; 245-May 1st.

The vehicles are fitted with a Mercedes OM32Z engine, a four speed Allison fully automatic gearbox, Voith hydraulic retarder, Webasto heating, double glazing and Blaupunkt stereo equipment. 245 was demonstrated by Van Hool at the Brighton Coach Rally on April 22nd/23rd.

Sold Vehicles

The following three Daimler Fleetlines were sold during April :-

- 354 (WJN354J) - sold for use as a playbus in the Colchester area, but currently still at the Tickfield Road works for conversion work.
- 361 (WJN361J) - sold to Ham, Hawkhurst.
- 366 (WJN366J) - sold to Aspden, Blackburn.

Vehicle On Hire

In order to cover a temporary shortage of coaches, Colchester Borough Transport 102 (DHK102T) has been on hire to Southend Transport since May 3rd. The vehicle is being used on the X1 service on Mondays to Fridays, and generally only on relief workings.

General

Continuing development of the X1 service from Southend to London (Heathrow Airport) has included the recent introduction of additional new journeys. From May 3rd, an additional journey from Southend to Green Park was introduced on Mondays to Fridays at 0700 hrs. The return journey departs from Green Park at 1555 hrs.

A new service (which is numbered X21) has also been introduced between Shoeburyness (Sportsman) and Green Park. This new facility was introduced from May 9th and also operates on Mondays to Fridays, with one journey in each direction. The journey from Shoeburyness departs at 0650 hrs. with the return journey departing from Green Park at 1725 hrs. This service does not serve central Southend, and is routed via Eagle Way, Hermes Way, Maplin Way, Station Road, Acacia Drive, Woodgrange Drive, Lifstan Way, Hamstel Road, Eastern Avenue, Priory Crescent, A127 and A132 to Basildon.

Full details of the new X21 service are contained in a timetable leaflet dated May 9th.

EASTERN NATIONAL DISPOSALS

Initial Disposals

- 1408 (XO0877L) - Sold to Bristol Omnibus Company Ltd., Bristol, 5/83.
- 1523 (KHK415J) - Sold to Lincolnshire Road Car Company Ltd., Lincoln, 5/83.
- 1527 (LPU452J) - Sold to Lincolnshire Road Car Company Ltd., Lincoln, 5/83.
- 1543 (RPU883K) - Sold to Lincolnshire Road Car Company Ltd., Lincoln, 5/83.

Subsequent Disposals

- 415 (YTW539F) - Dealer, Carlton, 12/82, ex. Gorman, Dunoon, via dealer, Bolton. (additional information/correction to NS229).
- 2015 (20 PVX) - Now painted in the livery of The London Bus Company, but thought to be still owned by the Butchers Arms P.H., Burbank, Los Angeles, California, U.S.A. (additional information to NS202).
- 2776 (989 K00) - Exported to France, 11/82, ex. dealer, Purfleet. Note - other reports indicate that this vehicle is 2774 (987 K00), which has most recently been reported in use as a canoe transporter at Crowhurst, near Battle, 6/82 (see NS222), and previously as a caravan at Emsworth (see NS213). The correct identity of the vehicle exported to France is believed to be 2776 (989 K00), which was last noted at the premises of Ensign Bus Co., Purfleet, 12/82, and which had been removed by 2/83. Confirmation would be welcomed.
- 2817 (HEV995B) - Lager Kitchens, ? , Scotland, by 9/79. This vehicle was last reported as dealer, Grays, 9/80 (see NS202/11), and the vehicle was not reported as withdrawn until 9/80 (see NS198). Note - the only recorded address for Lager Kitchens (Scotland) Ltd. is at Paisley.
- 2824 (JHK459C) - Now owned by Shoup Buses Inc., Middlebury, Indiana, U.S.A. (additional information to NS208).
- 2856 (OPU825D) - Noted in Paris, 5/83, in white livery and registered 732 DPR 75. (additional information to NS207).
- 2859 (RHK344D) - Exported to Belgium, 11/82, ex. dealer, Purfleet.
- 2874 (STW762D) - Sherrin, Carhampton, by 2/83, ex. Gwent Probation & After Care Service.
- 2943 (AVW402F) - Still with Arrow Exhibition Services, West Farleigh (N-PSV), named "The Golden Arrow". Noted parked in Sittingbourne M&D garage, 5/83.

News Sheet Contributions

Contributions to this news sheet were received from A.G. Osborne (C&F), M.L. Weyell (M10), P.J. Snell (M32), R.H. Palmer (M105), R. Delahoy (M180), A.W. Meadows (M209), A.W. Harvey (M219), I.G. Young (M239), S.D. Barham (M313), L. Thorington (M352), J. Arnold (M379), J.G. Collins (M405), I. Ransom (M421), J. Rugg (M443), K.M. Russell (M454), J.H. Preston (M512), G. Huggins (AM1) and the P.S.V. Circle.

Notes and information for the June news sheet should be sent to the News Sheet Editor (address below) to arrive by Wednesday, June 22nd.