

EASTERN NATIONAL ENTHUSIASTS GROUP

NEWS SHEET NUMBER 147

June 1976

EDITORIAL

SUBSCRIPTIONS 1976

For certain members who joined the Group during the later part of the year this will be the last news sheet that you will receive under your present subscription. Those who wish to renew for a further year (£1.25 per annum, second class postage, or £1.50 per annum, first class postage) should do so as soon as possible. If your subscription is due in July then JUL 1976 has been stamped on the flap of the envelope to serve as a reminder. Postal Orders and Cheques should be 'crossed' and made payable to the Group. Receipts will not be issued unless specifically asked for, and only if a stamped addressed envelope is provided.

New Publications

The following new publications will be available from July 1 :

E.P.27	Colchester Corporation fleet list - 1951	price ... 6p
E.P.28	Southend Corporation fleet list - 1951	price ... 8p

Postage on the above items is extra, orders may be dispatched with the next published news sheet at no extra postal cost.

New editions of E.P.2 and E.P.3 (Current fleet lists of Southend Transport and Colchester Transport) will be published in September.

Southdown Motor Services Ltd., Fleetlist booklet

A printed 40 page pocket sized fleetlist booklet, with a central 8 page illustrated section, is available from the Southdown Enthusiasts Club, 130, Crescent Drive North, BRIGHTON, Sussex BN2 6SF. (Price 52p, post free)

EASTERN NATIONAL OMNIBUS CO. LTD.

New Vehicles

1765	MAR787P	Leyland National 113510A/1R	Leyland National	B49F	03429
1766	MAR788P	Leyland National 113510A/1R	Leyland National	B49F	03430
1767	MAR789P	Leyland National 113510A/1R	Leyland National	B49F	03431
1769	MAR791P	Leyland National 113510A/1R	Leyland National	B49F	03433
1770	MAR792P	Leyland National 113510A/1R	Leyland National	B49F	03434
1771	MAR793P	Leyland National 113510A/1R	Leyland National	B49F	03461
1772	MAR794P	Leyland National 113510A/1R	Leyland National	B49F	03462
1773	MAR795P	Leyland National 113510A/1R	Leyland National	B49F	03463
1774	MAR796P	Leyland National 113510A/1R	Leyland National	B49F	03464
1775	MAR797P	Leyland National 113510A/1R	Leyland National	B49F	03465

Delivery dates:	1765 - 5.76	1770 - 6.76	1773 - 6.76
	1766 - 6.76	1771 - 6.76	1774 - 6.76
	1767 - 5.76	1772 - 6.76	1775 - 6.76
	1769 - 6.76		

The latest Leyland Nationals to enter service have the white band extended around the front of the vehicle, and a standard white 'double N' symbol.

The above vehicles complete the 1975 vehicle programme. Delivery of the first of the 1976 order for Leyland Nationals (1776 - 1795) is expected in about two months time.

Modifications incorporated in the Phase 2 Leyland National are detailed briefly below :

Modified seats, interior lighting, hand and guard rails, bell push positioning, sun visor, luggage pen and rear junction box access panel have been installed. The partition behind the driver has been re-designed to reduce windscreen reflection and access to the drivers cab has been improved. The batteries are now forward mounted beneath the drivers compartment in a swivelling crate. The air brake system has been re-designed to conform to certain E.E.C. regulations.

Further details concerning the Phase 2 Leyland National may be found in an article in the June issue of 'Buses'. (1976, 27, 231-3)

Withdrawn Vehicles

NIL

Allocations & Transfers

6.76 1308-D/L, 1312-BE, 1325-D/L(D), 1330-D/L(D), 1359-CR, 1361-MN, 1403-D/L(D), 1408-D/L(D), 1758-MN, 1759-HD, 1760-CR, 1761-DT, 1762-CF, 1763-BN, 1764-MN, 1765-D/L, 1767-D/L, 1768-D/L, 2379-SD, 2382-SD, 2383-SD, 2384-SD, 2516-CW(-), 2520-CW(-), 2535-CW(-), 2701-CW(-).

The inclusion of members of the 1400 class on the disposal list should be noted.

Service Revisions

The following revisions to services have recently been applied for :

- 115 New Service: CLACTON(Bus Station) - Great Clacton - Little Clacton - Weeley - Frating - Elmstead - Wivenhoe - Greenstead - COLCHESTER (Bus Station) (Daily). Certain journeys to be extended to Stanway Zoo.
- 266 To be extended from ONGAR via Fyfield, Birds Green Road, Birds Green, School Lane and Abbess Lane to ABBESS RODING (School).
- 303 One journey to be extended to The Hall Caravan Park (Monday - Friday).
- 307 All journeys to operate via Great Hallingbury, direct route (omitting Great Hallingbury) to be withdrawn.
- 310-3 Terminal at HALSTEAD to be Colne Road. Revised route to be via Head Street to Colne Road, return via Fenn Road and Colchester Road.

Revised services came into operation on 20 June 1976 with the introduction of two new timetable booklets and two timetable supplements. (q.v.)

The booklets/leaflets incorporate revisions for the undermentioned services, the details of which will be found in the appropriate news sheet specified :

3A (NS146); 9 (NS146); 9B (NS145, Monday to Friday only); 15/A (NS146, service 15A reduced to a single journey on Monday to Friday early a.m. only); 19 (NS146); 26 (NS146); 27 (NS145, operates Weekdays only); 80/B (NS146, service 80B operates Monday to Friday only); 111 (NS146); 113/4 (NS146); 115 (NS147); 150 (NS145); 242 (NS146, replacement for withdrawn service 26 between Basildon and Pitsea); 266 (NS147); 303 (NS147); 307 (NS147); 310-3 (NS147); 351 (NS146).

In addition the following services also appeared in the new timetables/leaflets in revised form, reference is given to the appropriate news sheet where applicable :

- 2 Withdrawn on Weekday evenings and on Sunday.
- 5 Operates Weekdays, except evenings between Shoeburyness and South Benfleet, extended to Canvey (Haystack) at Monday to Friday peak periods. (see also NS146)
- 5A Operates Weekday evenings and Sunday, terminates at Canvey (Eastern Esplanade, Seaview Road). (see also NS146)
- 6A Withdrawn on Sundays.
- 6C Service withdrawn.
- 24 Withdrawn between Thundersley (Woodman Arms) and Rayleigh (Rail Station) on Sunday.
- 25A Withdrawn between Leigh (Church) and Highlands (Woodlands Park) on Sunday.
- 46A Service withdrawn, replaced by extension of service 266.
- 95/6/8 Revised inward route in Burnham introduced via Western Road, Orchard Road and Riverside Road to High Street, outward route unchanged.
- 121 Revised to operate : JAYWICK SANDS (Bus Terminal) - Clacton - Great Clacton - HIGHFIELD CARAVAN PARK. (Daily)

- 125 Route at Tudor Estate revised with certain journeys terminating at Sacketts Grove, some journeys also operate from Chester Caravan Camp.
- 126 New Service: HOLLAND (The Chase) - Marine Parade East - Clacton - Kings Road - Leas Road - Cherry Tree Road - West Road - Tudor Estate - Sacketts Grove - JAYWICK (Chester Caravan Camp). (Weekdays only - interworked with service 125)
- 129 Revised to operate : CLACTON (Bus Station) - Valley Farm - Great Clacton - Highfield Holiday Park - Little Clacton - MEADOWVIEW CARAVAN PARK (Weekdays).
- 130 Service withdrawn. (replaced by services 125/6)
- 151 Operates between Canvey and Basildon only on Sunday. Revised route on Canvey Island via Somnes Avenue, Link Road, Long Road and High Street. (see also NS145)
- 401 Service withdrawn.

An ADDENDUM to the new timetables/supplements has also been issued resulting in the following late alterations :

- 19 Existing timetable retained.
- 113/4 Sunday services retained.
- 115 Introduction deferred.

General

Some additional notes are now available concerning the modified N.B.C. livery reported last month.

The painting scheme for the new Ford saloons was specified by the National Bus Company, this included the continuation of the white band around the front of the vehicle. Since this modification improved the appearance of the vehicles, the decision was then taken by the Engineering Department of Eastern National to apply the extended white band also to the livery of the Leyland Nationals. (additional notes to NS146)

Eastern National had four vehicles entered in the Southend Bus Rally in June, these were 1000 (MAR775P), 1450 (BPU 24B), 2510 (236 LNO) and 2849 (NTW942C). 1000 was accompanied by an information board entitled 'One of Our New Babies' featuring the five new Ford saloons at Bishops Stortford. 1450 was the modern vehicle entry with a series of explanatory photographs depicting the stages of conversion of the vehicle from a coach to a saloon. 2849 was again entered, this time under the theme 'Remember Me', with a display showing the effects of one year in service, the mileage covered and the service work required. (the quantity of maintenance required was in fact very low, a credit to the vehicles performance and the standard of maintenance). 2849 duly won the award for the Best Bristol in the rally.

Following its success at Southend, 2849 (NTW942C) was also entered privately by members of staff at Hadleigh garage in the Southsea Rally when it again carried off another award.

A new timetable booklet has recently been introduced for the North East area. It is dated 20 June 1976 until further notice and is priced at 12p, it has a buff coloured cover. The cover has slightly different wording, earlier issues had a 'double N' symbol on the extreme left followed by EASTERN NATIONAL and the words Associated with the National Bus Company below. This has now been revised such that the 'double N' symbol is on the right hand side of the writing which now reads EASTERN NATIONAL with a NATIONAL bus company beneath.

As in previous editions timetables are given of the services operated by Chambers, Bures, Eastern Counties (services 205, 207, 209/221) and Hedingham & District. Also included in the timetable is a list of services provided by other operators which has been included by arrangement with Essex County Council. These are as shown below :

Amos, Belchamp St. Paul; Bames, Clacton; Bennett, Boxted; Colchester Borough Transport; Jennings, Ashen; Mulley, Ixworth; Norfolk, Nayland; Osborne, Tollesbury; Post Office Corporation; Rule, Boxford; Theobald, Long Melford.

Timetable supplements, dated 20 June 1976 until further notice, have also been issued to the Central and South West area timetable booklets.

To co-ordinate with increased fares introduced by the London Transport Executive certain fares on Eastern National services 26, 46, 47, 151, 251 and 266 in the Ongar, Romford and London areas were increased from 20 June.

From 20 June 1976 service 26 now calls at all Bus Stops between Cranham (Jobbers Rest) and Romford. The service is now available for local use and local fares are now introduced with the new minimum fare of 6p replacing the existing 20p fare.

As part of the new one-way traffic scheme in Basildon Town Centre, a contra-flow bus lane has been provided in Southernhay to allow buses continued direct access to and from the Bus Station. This has involved re-siting of certain bus stops near the Bus Station. The bus lane commenced operation from Monday May 3.

Skitts Hill, Braintree has been closed for the re-building of Duggers Bridge. Consequently service 321 will be diverted between Braintree, Bus Park and Gldingham Drive from Railway Street via South Street, Notley Road, Hillside Gardens, Stephenson Road and Orchard Drive to re-join existing route. The diversion is expected to be in operation for about eight weeks.

COLCHESTER TRANSPORT

New Vehicles

61	NNO 61P	Leyland AN68/1R	7505427	E.C.W.	H43/31F	21534
62	NNO 62P	Leyland AN68/1R	7505428	E.C.W.	H43/31F	21535
63	NNO 63P	Leyland AN68/1R	7505429	E.C.W.	H43/31F	21536
64	NNO 64P	Leyland AN68/1R	7600247	E.C.W.	H43/31F	21538
65	NNO 65P	Leyland AN68/1R	7600248	E.C.W.	H43/31F	21539
66	NNO 66P	Leyland AN68/1R	7600249	E.C.W.	H43/31F	21537

Delivery dates: 61 - 5.76 63 - 5.76 65 - 5.76
62 - 5.76 64 - 6.76 66 - 5.76

These vehicles incorporate some modifications to the previous batch of E.C.W. bodied Leyland Atlanteans, 55-60 (JHK495-500N). The present batch is equipped with two piece curved windscreens and single piece destination indicators, sub-divided into three scrolls (number, via points and destination). The bodywork does not have a body peak at the front, instead a normal rounded dome is fitted. The livery has been slightly modified at the front, the lower red skirt is now extended around the front of the vehicle at the same height throughout. A much richer shade of cream has also been used.

Withdrawn Vehicles

5.76* 1 (TRJ 109) 6 (TRJ 106)

* - anticipated date, please confirm.

General

63 (NNO 63P) was entered in the Southend Bus Rally in June.

5 (681 HEV) is now used for driver training duties, and has been repainted into an orange and white livery. The other A.E.C. Regent V, 2 (682 HEV) still remains in passenger service.

Former number 5 (TRJ 105) still remains on the premises in semi-derelict condition, having been stripped to provide spares.

JWC525N, a Ford R1014 demonstrator with Duple Dominant B45F bodywork was on loan in late April/early May. It carried temporary fleet number D 8.

SOUTHEND TRANSPORT

Withdrawn Vehicles

4.76 325 (7089 HJ) (correction to NS146)

Vehicles on Hire

Only two vehicles have been loaned to the Tyne and Wear P.T.E. (correction to NS146)

On Derby Day, June 2, the open top vehicles were used as grandstands at Epsom, with the result that Colchester Transport 16 (YWC 16L) and 60 (JHK500N) were on hire. 16 worked crew operated on service 68 whilst 60 was used O.M.O. on services 23 and 29. 204/5 (432 FXX, VDB 915) were also in service, crew operated, during the complete day whilst 201/2 (LBN201/2P) were used O.M.O. in the peak period.

General

A new Southend & District timetable, dated 20 June 1976 until further notice, has been published, price 12p. The format is identical to earlier editions, except that the Central Area map has been re-designed and extended very slightly. Roads are now shown diagrammatically as thin lines with bus services as broader lines which gives an improved appearance. A mileage scale and references to the Civic Centre, Police Stations and Golf Courses are also included.

204 (432 FXX) has now been fitted with destination blinds. An intermediate blind in the offside box, the original Grey Green number blind in the centre and a partially masked one line blind (part of an intermediate Daimler Fleetline blind) in the near side box. This latter blind shows 'Southend', 'Prittlewell' etc. only with no secondary destination.

London Transport MB 322/8/31/8/73/85 (VLW322G etc.), A.E.C. Merlins, are undergoing bodywork overhaul at Tickfield Road works. The above vehicles have been in store at Radlett Airfield for some time and are thought to be part of an export order.

A Transport Department Ford Transit, OJN670M, has been repainted in the same colour scheme as the two new Plaxton bodied Leyland Leopard coaches, 201/2 (LBN201/2P). It is numbered 680 and carries a Southend Transport fleetname and crest with an advertisement reading 'Vehicles for Hire' on the rear doors. The vehicle did not carry any P.S.V. licence when observed in early June. Is this vehicle to be used for private hire or only for publicity and staff transport?

The Southend Transport entry at the Southend Bus Rally comprised 201 (LBN201P), 360 (WJN360J), 397 (JTD397P) and 680 (OJN670M). Also on display was a Videmat ticket machine, for public operation, and other exhibits.

Withdrawn vehicles at Tickfield Road works include 323/5/32 (7087/9/96 HJ), all of which have been cannibalised for spares. Tenders have been invited for the removal of the vehicles at the works, including the Albion Lowlanders mentioned above, 337 (CJN437C) and the last remaining Leyland PD2, 305 or 306 (OHJ 75 or OHJ 76).

NATIONAL TRAVEL (SOUTH EAST) LTD.

We publish below an allocation of National Travel (South East) vehicles which are stabled at Eastern National garages. The vehicles concerned are allocated to the East Anglian division which also includes Kelvedon (25), Norwich (2) and Prittlewell (17). Full details of all National Travel (South East) vehicles are published in 'The Southend Busman'.

6.76	Clacton	:	LWC979J, GJD194N, KUW534-8P	(7)
	Halstead	:	PWC339K	(1)
	Maldon	:	PWC340K	(1)

Last year vehicles were also stabled at Basildon, Braintree, Brentwood, Chelmsford, Colchester and Harwich. Vehicles may be allocated to these premises later during the summer period.