

EDITORIALSubscription Renewals - January 1980

This will be the last news sheet for those members whose subscriptions expire on December 31st, 1979. Subscription rates were raised last July to counter the effects of rising paper, stencil, ink and postal costs. The Group Committee had already agreed at that time to a further small increase in subscription rates as from January 1980 to act as another cushion against inflation, but the Post Office has since promised a further 2p increase in the minimum postal rates from February 1980. This will mean the news sheet service running at a loss unless subscriptions are also raised by a further amount. Reluctantly, the Committee has decided that the new subscription rates for existing Group members will be £1.85 (second class postage) and £2.20 (first class postage). (The rate for new members will be £2.00 or £2.35).

As a guide to those members whose subscription renewal is now due 'Jan 80' is printed on the flap of the envelope containing this news sheet. Subscriptions are accepted for one year only and may be paid by either of the following methods :-

- a) by crossed cheque or Postal Order made payable to the 'Eastern National Enthusiasts Group',
- b) in cash at the Annual General Meeting (see below for further details).

Remittances should be sent to : Eastern National Enthusiasts Group, Membership Renewals, 67, Perkins Road, Barkingside, Ilford, Essex, IG2 7NQ. Receipts will not be issued unless specifically requested, and only if a stamped addressed envelope is provided.

This news sheet being the last before the festive season, the Committee would like to convey to all members the Seasons Greetings and Best Wishes for 1980. The Committee would also like to thank everyone for their interest in the Group, and in particular the News Sheet Editor would like to thank the management of the Eastern National Omnibus Co. Ltd. for their assistance in the preparation of news sheets, and also all members who have contributed information and reports for the news sheets during 1979.

Annual General Meeting

The Group's fifteenth Annual General Meeting will be held in the Meeting Room, Central Library, Victoria Avenue, Southend-on-Sea on Saturday, January 19th, 1980 commencing at 1400 hrs. Full details of this meeting and of a visit to the Central Engineering Works of Southend Transport during the morning of January 19th are contained in a separate sheet which is enclosed with this news sheet. Will members please note that the Group's Annual Report for 1979 will be available at the Annual General Meeting, and will also be distributed with the January 1980 news sheet.

Essex County Council Publications

A new timetable booklet for the Colchester/Clacton/Harwich area dated November 1979 has recently been published by Essex County Council, and details of local rail services are included for the first time. Copies are available from the Administrative Officer (P.W. Harvey Esq., 37, Warren Chase, Thundersley, Benfleet, Essex, SS7 3DZ) at 20p each plus 15p postage and packing for each timetable.

News Sheet - Page Numbering

Commencing with the January 1980 news sheet the page numbers will be prefixed by the news sheet number. For example, 190/2 will be the second page of the January news sheet. This will bring the Group's news sheet in line with the pattern adopted by other enthusiasts' groups, such as the Southdown Enthusiasts Club, and will allow easy filing and reference.

Advertisement

Members' advertisements will be included in the news sheet when space permits, and the following advertisement has recently been received. R. Delahoy (58, Eastbourne Grove, Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex. SS0 0QF) has a number of bus, tram and railway

books and tram magazines for sale. Group members will receive a 10% discount on all prices, and a 9"x4" stamped addressed envelope should be sent with all enquiries. Group members should also quote their membership number in all orders.

EASTERN NATIONAL OMNIBUS CO. LTD.

New Vehicles

NIL

Full details of the recently delivered Bristol VRTSL6Gs (3067-71) are now available. They are in dual purpose livery, which is leaf green up to and including the band above the windows, with everything above being white. Thus the middle band which is normally painted white on Eastern National double deck vehicles is green in this case. They have grey interiors and bus seating with coach style moquette in brown and red. The vehicles will commence operation on service 400 during January and will carry external signwriting on the white panels beneath the upper deck windows listing the places served by service 400, in a similar fashion to a number of Bristol FLFs which advertised service 251 during the early 1960s.

Withdrawn Vehicles

NIL

Re-built Vehicles

Bedford YMT 1203 (BN0689T) has been returned to Duple Coachbuilders Ltd. for body repairs following a recent accident.

Bristol FLF6G 2815 (GN0791B), allocated to CR, was re-engined during early December with the engine from 2771 (VWC 51), which is currently delicensed for disposal at Central Works.

Allocations & Transfers

12.79 1403 D/L-PL, 1405 CN-MN, 1413 PL-D/L, 1414 BE-CR, 1417 CR-D/L, 1506 CF (CWDS)-D/L-CN, 1515 SE-CF (CWDS), 1534 D/L-SE, 1727 SE-D/L, 1881 D/L-BD, 1920 LWA (on loan to CF)-CF, 2382 D/L-D/L (D), 2928 Loan to Alder Valley-D/L (D), 3035 D/L-CF.

A complete fleet allocation incorporating the changes outlined above appears on page 6.

The most significant transfer this month is the delicensing for disposal of open-top Bristol KSW5G 2382 (WNO 483), which will leave just two of these vehicles, 2383/4, for service during the 1980 summer season probably at Clacton. There have been a number of movements within the coach fleet during December to allow vehicles to be docked and repainted for the 1980 season. Of these, 1403 (VHK176L) has been relicensed at PL, following a repaint at Prittlowell Works (see below). Leyland National 1727 (NEV684M) has been delicensed following an accident near Witham and the vehicle is currently being repaired at Central Works.

Vehicle Repaints

The Company has again kindly given the Group details of vehicles repainted during recent weeks and these are listed below :-

November

w/e 16.11.79-3017 at CW.
w/e 23.11.79-1403 at PL, 1728 at PL, 1730 at CW.
w/e 30.11.79-1737 at CW.

December

w/e 7.12.79-2902 at CW, 2918 at PL, 2919 at PL.

1731 DT, which was repainted during the week ending October 19th, was repainted at Central Works, and not at Prittlowell Works as stated in NS100. This vehicle was body docked at PL however.

General

The last link between Eastern National and the firm of C. Simpson and Sons, Leaden Roding, which was taken over by Eastern National on March 24th, 1940, was recently broken when driver A. Lester retired from Eastern National service at BS after six years with Simpson and thirty nine years with Eastern National.

Drivers at Basildon depot are now only being trained on semi-automatic gearbox vehicles, and recently a number of BN Bristol VRTSL6Gs, including 3007/44, and Bristol REL6Gs, including 1545, have been observed on driver training duties.

Service Revisions

Christmas and New Year operating arrangements have recently been published and a leaflet detailing bus services over the holiday period can be obtained free of charge from Company offices. On December 24th a Saturday service will be operated with certain exceptions. There will be no services operated on December 25th/26th, with a Saturday service, with certain exceptions, being operated on December 27th/28th. Normal services will be operated on December 29th-31st, and a Sunday service will be operated on January 1st, 1980, with the exception of service 124 where there will be no service. There will be no express services operated on December 25th, and a special service on routes 081, 083, 084, 086 and 095 will be operated on December 26th.

Stage Services

Revisions to services recently applied for have been as follows :-

- 76A (see also NS188) - Schooldays - one journey to be extended from Colchester (Bus Station) to Monkwick School via Queen Street, St. Botolphs Street and Mersea Road.
- 97 (see also NS187) - Mondays to Fridays - one minor timetable change.
- 157 - Wednesdays and Saturdays - one minor timetable change.
- 234 - Schooldays - one minor timetable change.
- 239/260 - Daily - one minute extra running time to be allowed on journeys routed via Coxtie Green, and the running time to be revised on late evening journeys from Ongar to Brentwood.
- 261 - Daily - the running time on journeys between Hook End Lane and Tipps Cross to be reduced by two minutes.
- 264 - Weekdays - an additional journey to be introduced between Warley (Eagle Way) and Brentwood (White Horse).

The licence for the service between Bishops Stortford (Station Road) and Beldhams (Dimsdale Crescent) (ex-Service 300) has been surrendered (NS188).

Service revisions introduced recently have been as follows :-

6/6A - revised terminal at Whittingham Avenue, to overcome difficulties at Roedean Gardens, for an experimental period of six weeks from 2.12.79; two minutes added to journey times; 44A - two journeys withdrawn on Mondays to Fridays from 7.1.80; 53 - 5.11.79 (NS188); 53 - one late evening journey operates via Cypress Road and Forest Road in Witham from 3.12.79 (NS188); 70 - 5.11.79 (NS188); 74A - 5.11.79 (NS188); 76A - 5.11.79 (NS188/9); 78 - 5.11.79 (NS188); 87/87A - two journeys retimed from 5.11.79 in order to provide an improved connectional facility with service 82; 88 - 5.11.79 (NS188); 97 - 23.11.79 (NS187); 157 - 7.11.79 (NS189); 239 - 2.12.79 (NS189); 260 - 2.12.79 (NS187/9); 261 - 2.12.79 (NS187/9); 264 - 3.12.79 (NS189); 309 - 22.10.79 - four journeys each way are diverted via Havers Lane Estate, Ward Crescent for an experimental period of six months, at the request of Hertfordshire County Council; 335/6 - 5.11.79 (NS188); 500/1/2/3/4/5 - revised Saturday timetables introduced from 24.11.79 following improvements to staffing levels at Basildon depot; 504/5 - services diverted from The Knares via Nethermayne and Laindon Link to Hatterill for a period of approximately two weeks from 17.10.79 following the closure of Staneway Bridge.

A new timetable for the Colchester, Clacton and Harwich area was published by Essex County Council in November (see also under Editorial) and includes, for the first time, details of local rail services.

Amongst leaflets recently published by the Company are revised timetables for 239, 260 and 261 (see above), 309 (see above) and for Saturday services on 500-505 (see also above). These leaflets are available free of charge from Company offices.

Pocket timetable cards have also recently been published for services 251 and 400 and these also give details of the cheap day return fares available between Southend and Romford/London. These cards are also available free of charge from Company offices.

A 'Park and Ride' service has again been introduced in Chelmsford, in co-operation with Chelmsford Borough Council, for the benefit of Christmas shoppers. It operates on Saturdays, approximately every fifteen minutes, from the Rectory Lane

car park via New Street, High Street and Parkway to Market Road, close to the shopping precinct. The service commenced during November and will operate until January 12th.

The change of route in Harlow affecting services 47, 49/49A, 59/59A and express service 191, and detailed in NS188, is caused by the renaming of Central Avenue to Velizy Avenue by Harlow District Council. In fact, the above services are not being rerouted and will continue along their existing routes.

Excursions and Tours

An application has been made to revise the excursion from Chelmsford (Bus Station) to London (Palladium Theatre), with a maximum of twenty excursions per annum, of which no more than ten excursions will be for afternoon performances at the theatre.

Details of Autumn excursions have recently been published, and leaflets are available free of charge from Company offices outlining the range of excursions from towns throughout Essex. Amongst the most interesting excursions were a series to the Calais Hypermarket in France during November and December for Christmas shopping.

A leaflet entitled 'The Charter Scene' has also recently been published by the Company outlining the full range of private hire facilities available to organisers of coach excursions.

Express Services

An application has been made to revise the route of service 189 in Harlow via Velizy Avenue (see above).

The licence for the express service between Harwich (Bus Station) and Eastbourne (Cavendish Place Coach Station) (ex-express service 133) has been surrendered (NS177).

General

Members may be interested to know that applications for new or revised services by Eastern National are reported to the Road Service Licences Committee of London Transport when the application concerns operations within the Greater London area. For example, Eastern National's Christmas and New Year holiday arrangements for services within Greater London, together with Southend Transport's operation of service 400 on December 25th/26th (see below), were reported to the November meeting of the above Committee when no objections were raised. Eastern National services which operate parallel to all or part of London Transport services outside Greater London are also reported to this Committee. For example the application to revise service 264 (see above), which covers part of the route of London Transport service 247, was also reported to the Committee's November meeting when no objection was made.

Unusual Workings

Following from the information published in NS188 recent observations of Chelmsford (CF) vehicles operating on temporary loan from other depots have been as follows :-
December 2nd : 1509 at HH, 1705 at CN, 1708 at SE, 1728 at BD, 1775 at MN, 1801 at HH, 1829 at HH, 1842 at SE, 2831 at SD, 2857 at BN (under repair), 3019 at CN and 3033 at CR. 3029 was at Great Dunmow (outstation) and 1710 and 2919 were at Prittlewell Works on this date.

December 9th : 1515 (CF-CWDS) at CN, 1705 at CN, 1707 at SE, 1801 at HH, 1829 at BD, 1842 at SE, 1915 at BN, 2831 at SD, 3019 at CN and 3033 at CR. 1710 was at Prittlewell Works and 3029 was at Great Dunmow (outstation) on this date.

Clacton (CN) vehicles which worked on temporary loan to Harwich (DT) during November were as follows :- 1.11-1527, 1791, 1792; 3.11-1792; 5.11-1529 (which carries DT depot plates although officially allocated to CN), 1768; 6.11-1532, 1780; 7.11-1724 CR (1781 DT was at CR); 12.11-1780; 15.11-on this date all DT vehicles were at Harwich which was the first occasion this had occurred in 54 weeks; 16.11-1523; 22.11-1519, 1858; 23.11-1500, 1826, 2864; 26.11-1756; 28.11-1532; 29.11-1520; 30.11-1519 replacing 1522 DT which is now at Central Works, with 1705 CF replacing 1519 at CN.

Other details of unusual workings which have been supplied by members during recent weeks are as follows :- 14.11-2899 HH on 251; 24.11-3064 SD noted on A13 heading towards SD with front accident damage; 26.11-2851 CF noted at Leigh Station; 27.11-2831 CF and 2916 BD on local services in Westcliff; 30.11-2823 SD on 251;

1.12-2790 SD on 251; 3.12-2931 HH on 251; 4.12-1509 CF noted at HH depot, 1216 SE on 53; 5-6.12-2910 WG on 5; 6.12-2924 HH on 251; 7.12-2831 CF on 25, 1801 CF on 24 and 2909 HH on 251; 9.12-1533 SD and 1801 CF noted on temporary loan to HH with 3010 BN still parked at HH depot (see NS188); 11.12-1545 BN on-driver training duties at Leigh, 1553 (with HH depot plates) on 21/25, 2831 CF on 25, 2945 BN on 152.

COLCHESTER TRANSPORT

General

Leyland National demonstrator NFR558T, which is in fact owned by Fishwick, Leyland, Lancashire, was on loan during early December. The vehicle is in all white livery and carries the name 'Citybus'. On Saturday, December 1st, the vehicle was in use on services 2/2A (Myland Hospital - Magdalen Wood).

SOUTHEND TRANSPORT

Vehicles on Loan

Daimler Fleetlines 348-51/3 remain on loan to Darlington Transport, and three of the Darlington Daimler Fleetlines which are being overhauled by Southend Transport have now been identified. They are 52, 57 and 60 (NHN252K etc.) which are single deck vehicles fitted with Roe B48D + 18 bodies.

General

Further vehicles fitted with radio sets are Leyland Fleetline 230 and Daimler Fleetlines 354/6/62 (see NS188).

To clarify the position regarding the various systems of fare collection now in operation (see NS185/8), Leyland Fleetlines 221-30 are fitted with fareboxes only, and have no Videmat or Autofare equipment. Of these vehicles 221/2 are equipped with specially modified Almex machines which electronically open the farebox when a ticket is issued. The Autofare machines fitted to Daimler Fleetlines 386-91 have not proved as reliable as anticipated and it is expected that they will be removed at the end of the six month experimental period. At least one Daimler Fleetline has also had its farebox removed and the Videmat machine covered over, possibly because of a lack of parts.

Open-top Leyland PD3/6 314 (PHJ 953) took part in the Lord Mayor's show in London during November.

Southend Transport's Christmas services will operate basically as in 1978, with the addition of service 22. On Christmas Day (December 25th) one journey will be operated on service 400. On Boxing Day (December 26th) an hourly service will be operated on services 1, 3, 7 (Southend-Hockley only), 17 (Southend-Temple Sutton only) and 29 with a two hourly service on services 4A, 22 (Southend-Hullbridge) and 400.

EASTERN NATIONAL DISPOSALS (By kind courtesy of the P.S.V. Circle, continued from NS188).

- 343 (3388 VW) - Sold by St. Theodores R.C. School, Burnley, by 7/74.
- 404 (AVX965B) - Wright, Deeside, 7/78, ex. Walker, Anderton.
- 502 (BN0114B) - Dealer, Ingham, 3/79, ex. Wing, Sleaford, 26.
- 1128 (SHK 515) - Unknown operator, Lindsey, 11/67 (?), ex. C.J.B., Stevenage (contr.).
- 1142 (TTW 573) - Unknown operator, Nottinghamshire, 3/75, ex. Seddon, Bolton (contr.).
- 1310 (205 MHK) - Withdrawn by North Cornwall Cars, Langdon Cross, 8/79.
- 1325 (1263 EV) - Withdrawn by North Cornwall Cars, Langdon Cross, No. 3, 8/79.
- 1334 (2724 VX) - Reported as still with Robinson, Appleby, 7/79, (see also NS183 and NS184).
- 2364 (VNO 859) - Eastern National 1407 Preservation Group, by 6/79, ex. Eastern National Preservation Group.
- 2606 (BVX668B) - Dealer, Grays, 6/79. (see also NS187).
- 4064 (ONO 85) - Licensed as a P.S.V. by Olsen, Strood in 7/79 (preserved vehicle). (additional information to NS160 supplement).
- 4085 (ONO 999) - Dealer, Ingham, by 10/66, ex. C.J.B., Stevenage (contr.).
- 404 (AVX965B) - Dealer, Barnsley, 9/79, ex. Wright, Deeside. (see above).
- 1346 (206 YVX) - Noted in Burnley, 3/79, identification unknown.
- 1351 (211 YVX) - Dealer, Middlewich, 7/78. (see also NS177).
- 1411 (2736 VX) - Dealer, Middlewich, 7/78. (see also NS183).

REMAINDER HELD OVER DUE TO LACK OF SPACE

EASTERN NATIONAL fleet allocation

This allocation is correct as at 1st December 1979 and includes the transfers listed in this news-sheet.

<u>BASILDON</u> (BN)	: 1513/4/38/45/8/50/1/4 1704/9/11-7/23/32/6/8/40-2/6/63/7/72/6 1786/94/5 1808/18/20/2/30/43/4/7-9/52-4/74/7-80/3/4/6/7/9/91 1896/8 1904/6-9/19 2945 3007/8/10/6/34/6/44/51/4/6/66 (76)
<u>BISHOPS</u>	
<u>STORTFORD</u> (BS)	: 1000-4 1213 1914/6 2798 2834 3005/41/7 (13)
<u>BRAINTREE</u> (BE)	: 1203/12 1542 1731/48/77/9 1813/57/63/82 1910 2799 2824/37/53/9 2936 3001/4/43/6/63 (23)
<u>BRENTWOOD</u> (BD)	: 1209-11 1510/1/7/24/30/1/5/40/3 1608 1751/4/60/85/96/7 1800/9/10/23/37-40/5/6/59/76/81 1912/3 2906/16 (36)
<u>CHELMSFORD</u> (CF)	: 1509/16 1610 1710/8/28/30/4/52/62/71/4/5/8 1801/2/4/5/11/5 1819/27/9/32/41/2/50/1/5/6/60/6/7/9/70/85/97/9 1905/15/20 2809/12/4/6/26/31/2/5/45/51/4/6/7/75/7/85/6/7/9 2905/19/26/39 3017/9/29/33/5 (69)
<u>CLACTON</u> (CN)	: 1202 1404/15/6/9/40 1500/5/6/8/19/20/3/6/7/9/32 1756/68/80/91 1792 1825/6/34/58 1911 2784/96 2802/5/6/8/19/22/60/4/98 3003/31 (40)
<u>COLCHESTER</u> (CR)	: 1100-3 1205/6 1414 1503/7/12/28 1609 1724/33/69/89/90/3 1803/16/28/65/72/88/92 2815/27/8/43/74 2913 3022/32/50 (34)
<u>HADLEIGH</u> (HH)	: 1207 1501/18/37/41/6/9 1719/25/6/37/43/53/65/84 1817/21/35 1871/90 1900 2849/90/1/4/6/7/9 2900/2/7/9/22/4/5/7/31/43/4 3014/20/45/60/1 (44)
<u>HALSTEAD</u> (HD)	: 1215 1544 1757/9/82 2817/52 3058/9 (9)
<u>HARWICH</u> (DT)	: 1204/8/17 1521/2 1755/61/81/3 1901 2842 3027 (12)
<u>MALDON</u> (MN)	: 1200/1 1405/12 1525/39 1722/50/8/64 1806/31/3/64 1902/3 2807/21 3000/15/30/40/9 (23)
<u>PRITTEWELL</u> (PL)	: 1400/1/3/6-11/8 (10)
<u>SILVER END</u> (SE)	: 1216 1534/6 1739/45/9 1812/61/2 3037/9/55 (12)
<u>SOUTHEND</u> (SD)	: 1504/33/47/52 1729/35/44/7/66/70/3/87/8/98/9 1807/14/36/68 1873/5/93-5 2752/74/90/5/7 2818/23/5/33/41/4/84/8/92/3/5 2901/3/4/8/18/20/1/3/9/30/40/6 3011-3/23-6/8/38/42/52/3/62 3064/5 (67)
<u>WOOD GREEN</u> (WG)	: 2801 2910-2/4/5/7 3021/48/57 (10)
<u>CENTRAL WORKS DOCKING SPARES</u> (CF-CWDS)	: 1214 1515 1700-2/5/7*/8 1824 1917* 2772 2804 3002/18 (14)
<u>PRITTEWELL WORKS DOCKING SPARES</u> (SD-PLDS)	: 1502 1720/1 2775/6 3006/9 (7)
<u>DELICENSED FOR MAINTENANCE</u> (D/L)	: 1402/13/7 1727 1918/21-4 2300-3/83/4 3067-71 (20)
<u>LICENSED WAITING ALLOCATION</u> (LWA)	: 1553 (currently on loan to HH) (1)
<u>DELICENSED FOR DISPOSAL</u> (D/L (D))	: 1340/7/61 1423/34/43/5/6/7/8/51 2379/82 2753/71/3/8/81/3/91 2813 2928 (22)

NOTES

- Chelmsford (CF) allocation includes Dunhow outstation (DW) - 1 dd omo.
Clacton (CN) allocation includes Walton-on-Naze (WN) - 3 sd and 2dd.

VEHICLE NOTES (* see above)

1707 and 1917 are accident pool vehicles.

The next full fleet allocation will be published in the April news sheet.

News Sheet Contributions

Contributions to this news sheet were received from A.G. Osborne (C&F), M.L. Weyell (M10), R.H. Palmer (M105), R. Delahoy (M180), P.J. Carr (M207), P.W. Harvey (M219), S.D. Barham (M313), L. Thorington (M352) and D. Arnold (M379). Notes and information for the January news sheet should be sent to the News Sheet Editor by Wednesday, January 23rd (address below).

Published by the Eastern National Enthusiasts Group
33. Goldlay Road, Chelmsford, Essex. CM2 0EL.

12/79
(GP) 210/NS189