EASTERN NATIONAL ENTHUSIASTS GROUP

NEWS SHEET NUMBER 247 — October 1984

EDITORIAL

Southend Corporation Transport : Trolleybus 30th Anniversary Tour - Sunday, October 28th.

Members are reminded that the Group has organised a tour on Sunday, October 28th to commemorate the demise of Southend Corporation Transport's trolleybus system. There are still seats available on this tour, and late bookings can be telephoned to the Events Secretary (Richard Delahoy) - Tel. Southend-on-Sea (0702) 588590 - during evenings between 1900 hrs. and 2130 hrs.

L.O.T.S. 'Transport Spectacular' - Saturday, November 3rd.

The Group's sales stand will be present at this year's L.O.T.S. 'Transport Spectacular', which is being held at the Royal Horticultural Hall, Vincent Square, London, S.W.1 on Saturday, November 3rd from 1100 hrs. to 1600 hrs. The full range of Group photographs and publications will be available for sale.

Annual Photographic Competition - Wednesday, November 7th.

Members are also reminded that the Group's November meeting at Southend will feature the annual Photographic Competition. The meeting will be held at the Civic Centre, Victoria Avenue, Southend-on-Sea on Wednesday, November 7th, and members are invited to submit slides and photographs for the competition. Full details including the competition rules were published in last month's news sheet.

'The Years Between : 1909-1969' - Vol. 2 (1929-1969)

The Oxford Publishing Company will shortly be publishing a book on Eastern National, which comprises Volume 2 of 'The Years Between : 1909-1969'. This volume will deal with the history of Eastern National from 1929 to 1969. Publication has been delayed a number of times but is now expected at the end of November. Orders will be taken from Group members as soon as a definite publication date is known, and it is hoped to publish further details in next month's news sheet.

Eastern National O.C. Ltd. - New Assistant Traffic Manager

Mr. I. Banwell, Assistant Traffic Manager of Eastern National O.C. Ltd., has recently been appointed as Traffic Manager of Southern National Ltd. Mr. D. Kershaw, formerly the Bridgend area manager of National Welsh Omnibus Services Ltd., has been appointed to succeed Mr. Banwell as the Company's Assistant Traffic Manager, and our congratulations go to both Mr. Banwell and Mr. Kershaw on their new appointments.

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EASTERN NATIONAL OMNIBUS CO. LTD.

New Vehicles

Further to the information published in last month's news sheet, it should be noted that the new MCW Metroliner coaches (1600-3) are fitted with a Voith fully automatic gearbox. 1603 (B460WHJ), which carries National Holidays livery, returned to Metro-Cammell Weymann's Birmingham factory on October 2nd, and this vehicle is currently being exhibited on the MCW stand at the Motor Show which is being held at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham.

1602 (B459WHJ) has recently sustained some accident damage, and this vehicle has now passed to Kent Engineering (NBC) Ltd., Canterbury for repairs.

Withdrawn Vehicles

NIL

Vehicles On Order

Delivery of the two Leyland Tiger coaches with Plaxton Paramount 3200 coachwork (1128/9) has been delayed following a strike at Plaxtons (GB) plc, Scarborough. The revised delivery date is not known at the present time.

Some additional information is now available regarding the fourteen Leyland Olympian double-deck vehicles that are also currently on order. Delivery of the ten vehicles

with dual-purpose seating will occur in two batches, three in February 1985 and seven in September 1985. Similarly, delivery of the four vehicles with H77F bodywork for stage services will also occur in two batches with two vehicles being delivered in May 1985 and the remaining two vehicles following in September 1985. It should be noted that these are projected delivery dates at the time of writing and which may be subject to later changes.

Acquired Vehicles

The Company has recently acquired three Leyland Leopard coaches from Ribble Motor Services Ltd., and full details are as follows :-

1308	ANA 92Y	Leyland Leopard	PSU5E/4R	8230483	E.C.W.	C53F	25449 New 1/83
1309	ANA 93Y	Leyland Leopard	PSU5E/4R	8230485	E.C.W.	C53F	25450 New 12/82
1310	ANA 94Y	Leyland Leopard	PSU5E/4R	8230616	E.C.W.	C53F	25451 New 12/82

These three vehicles were new to National Travel West (North) Ltd., and were initially numbered N92-4. They were renumbered 92-4 in January 1983, and were transferred to Ribble Motor Services Ltd. in June 1984 with the rest of the National Travel West (North) fleet. Latterly, they had been allocated to Liverpool depot and carried National Express livery. They are 12 metre vehicles and are fitted with fully automatic gearboxes. 1308/9 were delivered to the Company on October 11th, whilst 1310 is currently at Eastern Coach Works Ltd., Lowestoft for repairs to accident damage sustained during Ribble ownership. 1308/9 were at Central Works, Chelmsford at the time of writing being prepared for service. The vehicles are not being repainted and will operate initially in National white coach livery without the National Express labels.

The remaining two Leyland National single-deck vehicles being acquired from the Thames Valley & Aldershot Omnibus Co. Ltd. (Alder Valley) have now been delivered. 1651 (KCG608L) was delivered on September 21st, whilst 1660 (KCG618L) was delivered on October 12th. 1660 had been noted in service with Alder Valley (118) at Aldershot on the previous day.

Further to the information published in NS245, 1658 (KCG615L) was delivered direct to Eastern National on July 20th from Tunbridge Wells, where it had been on hire to Maidstone & District Motor Services Ltd. (fleet number 3115) since July 1st.

It can now be confirmed that three Leyland National vehicles will not be acquired from Southern Vectis Omnibus Co. Ltd.

Vehicles On Hire

A mobile publicity vehicle is currently on hire from Western National Ltd., Plymouth for use at Colchester Bus Station during the forthcoming redevelopment of the Company's existing travel office. Full details regarding this vehicle are as follows :-

TDV217J Leyland Panther PSUR1D/1R 7001594 Marshall B--D B4537 New 9/70

This vehicle is numbered L8 in the Western National service vehicle fleet, and was converted from service bus 217 in February 1980 before entering service as a mobile publicity and promotional unit in May 1980. The vehicle is painted in a blue and cream livery and, at the time of writing, it is at Central Works, Chelmsford. It was delivered to Central Works from Plymouth on October 5th. This vehicle was originally ordered by Exeter Corporation but was delivered direct to Devon General Omnibus and Touring Company, Torquay in Devon General livery. In January 1971, this vehicle passed to Western National O.C. Ltd. following the acquisition of the Devon General company.

Allocations & Transfers

10.84 1127 CN-BN, 1308 LWA, 1309 LWA, 1406 SE-CN, 1534 DT (P)-D/L (P), 1539 MN (P)-SE, 1548 CR-PL (P), 1552 CR-D/L (P), 1554 CN-D/L (P), 1600 LWA-SD, 1601 LWA-CF, 1602 LWA-CF, 1603 LWA-CN, 1650 D/L-CR, 1651 D/L, 1658 BN-CR, 1660 D/L, 3018 SE-MN (P), 3047 CN (P)-PL (P), 3078 CF-SD, 3083 SD-CF.

Note : LWA denotes Licensed Waiting Allocation.

1127 (A696OHJ) is only a temporary allocation to Basildon (BN). Similar vehicles 1125 and 1126 are additional vehicles now attached to the Coaching Department at BS (1125) and BE (1126) (see also NS246). 1548 PL (P) remained in service at Colchester (CR) depot during October to cover a temporary shortage of vehicles.

Service Developments

The Company has applied for a number of service revisions, and brief details of these proposed changes are as follows :-

31 - Sundays : revised timetable.
37 - Weekdays : revised timetable, with certain journeys to operate via Maldon (High Street).
88A - Mondays to Fridays : one minor timetable change.
123 - Schooldays : one minor timetable change.
Mondays to Fridays (Schooldays only) : two additional journeys to be introduced.
Mondays to Fridays (when schools are closed) : one additional journey to be introduced.
155 - Weekdays : one minor timetable change, and a minor route revision in Stanford-le-Hope. Alternative route to be introduced for one journey from Stanford-le-Hope on Mondays to Fridays.
156 - Weekdays : revised timetable, and route revisions.
158 - Weekdays : one minor timetable change, and a minor route revision in Stanford-le-Hope.
239 - Revised turning points to be introduced at Ongar (Four Wantz Roundabout) and Ongar (Comprehensive School), and minor timetable revisions.
260 - Revised turning point to be introduced at Ongar (Four Wantz Roundabout), and minor timetable revisions.
261 - Revised terminals to be Blackmore (Bus Terminal) and Collier Row (White Hart P.H.), with revised turning points and revised timetable.
262 - Mondays to Fridays : three additional journeys to be introduced and three journeys to be withdrawn.
270 - Mondays to Fridays : minor route revision, and revised timetable.
301 - Revised terminal in Saffron Walden to be The Common, Ashdon Road, with revised route in Saffron Walden to be via High Street, George Street, Hill Street, East Street, Chaters Hill and Ashdon Road.
307 - Thursdays : one journey to be withdrawn.
308 - Weekdays : minor route revision, and revised timetable.
309 - Weekdays : minor route revision, and revised timetable.
317 - Mondays to Fridays : two journeys to be withdrawn. One journey from Henham to Bishop's Stortford to operate via The Hall Caravan Park (21st Street).
319 - Weekdays : two minor timetable changes.
361 - Mondays to Fridays : one minor timetable change.
423 - An application has been made for a full licence for this service, which operates on Tuesdays only between Harwich (Bus Station) and Ipswich (Old Cattle Market Bus Station) via Dovercourt, Little Oakley, Wix Cross, Bradfield, Mistley Heath, Mistley and Manningtree.

A short-term licence has been granted for service 373 (Braintree-Colchester) to operate on Fridays only from September 9th to March 8th, 1985 (see also NS240/4).

Further to the information published in last month's news sheet, National Express and commuter services 080/1/3-7/9/95, 190/1/5 are now being operated jointly with Ambassador Travel (Eastern Counties) Ltd., Norwich. The commuter services (190/1/5) are only licensed to Ambassador Travel (jointly with Eastern National and Grey-Green Coaches Ltd.), and are operated by Eastern National and Grey-Green vehicles.

At Brighton, service 795 (jointly operated with London Country Bus Services Ltd., Southdown Motor Services Ltd. and Southend-on-Sea Borough Council) now terminates at the Coast Road on the south side of Pool Valley.

Winter timetables will be introduced on National Express services from Sunday, October 28th (having been postponed from September 23rd). A revised timetable will be introduced on National Express service 109 (Southend-London) with three return journeys Daily and an additional return journey on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. The only intermediate stops between Southend (Victoria Bus Station) and London

(Victoria Bus Station) will be at Basildon (Bus Station) and Aldgate (LRT Bus Station). National Express service 928 (Southend-Birmingham) will be suspended for the Winter period.

Highwayman services 801 (Southend-Kings Lynn) and 804 (Southend-Norwich) are being operated during the Winter period by Southend (SD) depot. Unless loadings warrant a through coach, service 801 normally operates to/from Chelmsford, with through passengers to/from Southend travelling by service 804 and changing coaches at Chelmsford. This applies on Weekdays with the service 801 vehicle remaining overnight at Chelmsford (CF) depot, whilst on Sundays a through coach is operated from Southend to Cambridge on service 801.

From Monday, October 29th, a new commuter service will be introduced jointly with London Country Bus Services Ltd. between Bishop's Stortford (Heath Row East) and London (Victoria, Eccleston Bridge) via Thorley Park, Sawbridgeworth, Old Harlow, Harlow, Redbridge, Stratford, Aldgate, Cannon Street Station and Embankment Station. The service will be numbered 712 and will operate on Mondays to Fridays with journeys departing from Bishop's Stortford at 0640 hrs. and from London (Victoria) at 1706 hrs. The return journey will start from Buckingham Palace Road, with the inward journey operating to Eccleston Bridge. This new service will be operated by an Eastern National vehicle from Bishop's Stortford (BS) depot.

Service revisions introduced during recent weeks have been as follows :- 156 - 2.10.84 NS247); 157 - 3.10.84 (minor route revision at Stanford-le-Hope); 405 - 5.10.84 (minor route revision at Stanford-le-Hope); 507 - 15.10.84 (NS246).

Publicity News

New publicity material published during recent weeks has been as follows :-

General leaflets - a leaflet summarising the services (74/A, 78/A) serving the University of Essex, dated October 1984.

Timetable leaflets - a timetable folder containing pocket timetable cards for revised Bishop's Stortford town services 300 (see NS246), 308 (see NS247) and 309 (see NS247), dated October 29th.

Excursion leaflets - a new series of booklets containing details of the Company's programme of excursions for the Winter period (October-April) is now becoming available. The excursions are again being marketed under the title of 'Day Breaks', and a booklet for the Harwich area is the first to be available. Prior to the publication of these booklets a series of locally produced leaflets was available listing 'Day Break' excursions during October, amongst which was a leaflet for the Chelmsford area.

Essex County Council leaflets - a timetable revision leaflet (No. 1) for the Colchester/Clacton/Harwich area book, dated October 1984.

General

Plans have been announced recently for the redevelopment of the existing depot premises at Southend (SD). The depot adjoins the Victoria Bus Station at London Road, Southend-on-Sea, and it is understood that the site will be acquired by J. Sainsbury plc for a new supermarket development. The completed scheme will retain the Victoria Bus Station. In connection with these developments, the Company has recently received planning permission for the use of the premises at Prittlewell (PL) as an operational depot for 40 vehicles. The current allocation at Southend (SD) is 72 vehicles, and it is not yet clear where the remaining vehicles will be allocated, although it is understood that the vehicle allocation at Hadleigh (HH) will be increased. The timescale for these developments is not certain, although it is believed that Southend (SD) depot will close by October 1985. Further details will be published as soon as they become available.

The programme of converting certain Bristol VRTSL6G vehicles to receive Autosteer power steering has now been completed. The last vehicle to be converted under this programme was 3041, and this vehicle was completed by Thames Valley & Aldershot Omnibus Co. Ltd. (Alder Valley) at Aldershot on September 21st.

Delicensed vehicles are currently being stored at Walton-on-Naze (WN) depot, and the three Bristol RELL6G's (1534/52/4) delicensed during October will be stored at that location.

Leyland Olympian 4001 (XHK236X) has been modified to incorporate new upper deck front windows similar to those fitted to Bristol VRT vehicles. This work was carried out at Central Works during early-October, and it is planned to modify similar vehicles 4000/2 in the same way.

At Southend, the former 'TravelCard' is now being marketed as the 'Seebus Travelcard'. This scheme provides a travel card for unlimited bus and rail travel in the Southend & District Co-ordination Area, and costs £6.85 for seven days and £27.40 for a calendar month. A recent publicity leaflet distributed in the Rochford area promoted the local Abbey National Building Society office where 'Seebus Travelcard' renewals can now be made.

The AEC Matador recovery vehicle (0101) which was sold to Crosville Motor Services Ltd. in February (see NS240/4) is currently allocated to Sealand Road Works, Chester. It carries Crosville service vehicle fleet number 60a and operates on Trade Plate 260 FM, and it was repainted yellow by Crosville during August.

Another former Eastern National vehicle with Crosville Motor Services Ltd. is Bristol VRTSL6G DVG562 (SMS 43H) (which was numbered 3017 in the Eastern National fleet), and during July this vehicle operated on loan from its normal depot Caernarfon to Pwllheli. The only other change to the Crosville allocations of former Eastern National Bristol VRTSL6G's which were published in NS227 is that DVG563 (NAG586G) was re-allocated from Holyhead to Bangor in March 1983.

Temporary Loans

During recent weeks 1652 BE has been operating on loan to Silver End (SE) as a temporary replacement for 1539 (PEV501K) which experienced mechanical problems shortly after its transfer from Maldon (MN). 1652 BE was noted operating Silver End (SE) duties on service 353 on October 12th. Another Silver End (SE) vehicle 3060 (LJN655P) failed in Chelmsford on October 13th whilst operating service 53, and 1707 CF was loaned as a temporary replacement for a short period.

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 NS246 :-

September : w/e 15.9.84 - 1656 at CW (additional to NS246).
w/e 29.9.84 - 1650 at CW, 1819 at CW, 1881 at CW (IML Garages Ltd. overall advertisement), 3022 at CW.
October : w/e 6.10.84 - 1818 at CW, 3102 at CW (overall advertisement blue/white base for Photocopying Group plc., and this vehicle is currently at Prittlewell (PL) for signwriting which is expected to be completed during the next two weeks).
w/e 13.10.84 - 1653 at CW.

Leyland National 1881 (BNO671T) has now entered service in an advertisement livery for IML Garages Ltd., and is currently operating from Brentwood (BD) depot. The livery is yellow, green and white, and the vehicle was noted operating services 360/1 (October 6th) and 451 (October 3rd/4th).

As a correction to last month's news sheet, Bristol VRTSL6G 3102 (UAR592W) will not be repainted to incorporate a 'UniBus' advertisement for Laidlaw (Essex) Ltd., and it is now expected that this advertisement will be carried by similar vehicle 3129 (XHK233X) following the expiry of its existing advertisement contract for the Home Insulation Advisory Service. As noted above, 3102 has now been prepared in a blue and white livery for an overall advertisement for the Photocopying Group plc. This vehicle is currently at Prittlewell (PL) for signwriting, which will include various pictorial designs advertising the company's products.

Unusual Workings

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

16.7-3109 HH noted on a private hire working in London for the Billericay Mayflower Corps.

19.7-Eastern Counties LN586 (WAH586S) (allocated to Ipswich) was noted on Highwayman service 804. On Wednesdays and Fridays during the Summer season, the Eastern

National coach used on service 804 operated a Norwich City Tour with an Eastern Counties driver and local courier between its service 804 duties.

27.7-1544 BE (P) noted on service 260.

2.8-1117 BD noted on a private hire working in London for the International Scout Jubilee; 1539 MN (P) noted on service 270.

7.8-1652 SD observed on service 360.

10.9-Southend Transport 237 (MRJ237W) noted on service X1.

18.9-1840 BD noted on service 251; 1868 SD noted on service 11A.

21.9-1895 SD observed on service 11A.

23.9-1602 CF and 1658 BN both noted at Chelmsford (CF) depot; 1832 CF, 3097 HH, 3099 HH and 3109 HH operated a rail replacement service from Southend (Victoria) to Rayleigh, whilst 3103 HH operated a similar service from Pitsea to Tilbury.

24.9-1871 HH operated a rail replacement service from Leigh to Southend (Central), and this service was operated on subsequent days by 1871 and 3085 (25.9, and including a return journey), 3085 (26.9), 3085 and 3109 (27.7), 3097 and 3109 (28.9) and 3097 (29.9).

25.9-1658 BN observed on service 271.

26.9-1656 CF noted on services 360/1.

27.9-1539 MN (P) noted at Braintree Bus Park without depot allocation plates and prior to being re-allocated to Silver End (SE). It was subsequently noted on service 353 on October 1st-3rd.

28.9-3033 CF observed on an ASDA service at Wickford.

1.10-3116 BN (International Stores Ltd. overall advertisement) noted on service 400.

3.10-3083 CF noted on service 152.

4.10-1792 CN noted on service 38; 1837 BD noted on service 251; 3027 DT observed on service 82; 3078 SD (Field & Trek (Equipment) Ltd. overall advertisement) noted on service 251.

5.10-3097 HH noted on service 24A.

6.10-1602 CF noted on driver familiarisation duties at Leigh-on-Sea; 1871 HH noted at Prittlewell (PL), and this vehicle still retains its original rear panel, including square registration number plate.

7.10-3085 HH, 3104 SD, 3109 HH, 3122 SD and Southend Transport 232 noted on a rail replacement service between Wickford and Shenfield. The previous Sunday (30.9) had seen a similar service between Southend (Victoria) and Rayleigh being operated by 3052 SD, 3082 CF, 3083 SD, 3088 SD, 3092 BD, 3104 SD, 3105 SD, 3112 CF, 3126 CF and Southend Transport 204/19/20, 343/94.

8.10-3099 HH observed on service 22A; the 0745 hrs. National Express service 083 journey from Bury St. Edmunds to London was noted at Brentwood with a full capacity loading, and requiring a duplicate vehicle.

9.10-3040 MN noted at Rochford on an ASDA working.

10.10-1122 BD, 1794 BE, 1912 BD, 3021 CF, 3050 CR, 3083 CF, 3125 CF, Colchester Borough Transport 101 and Ingatestone Coaches JAY926L operated a rail replacement service between Shenfield and Colchester, and 1901 DT operated a similar service from Manningtree to Harwich; 3070 SD observed on service 25.

11.10-1600 SD operated a private hire journey to Amsterdam, returning on 14.10.

13.10-3063 BE noted on a Silver End (SE) ASDA working to Chelmer Village.

14.10-1937 SD noted on service 3; 3057 SD, 3073 SD and 3088 SD operated a rail replacement service between Wickford and Shenfield, whilst 3089 SD was noted on a similar service at Westcliff-on-Sea. 3085/97, 3103 and 3109 (all HH) operated a rail replacement service between Pitsea and Tilbury, and another rail replacement service from Grays to Upminster via Ockendon was operated by 3084 SD and 3103 HH.

15.10-1650 CR (but without depot allocation plates) noted on a service 88 school journey, and 1658 CR (but also without depot allocation plates) noted on Colchester area services 6/6A; 1754 BD noted on service 35A; 3021 CF noted on service 11 (and on service 11A on 16.10).

16.10-1536 CR noted at Clacton Bus Station on service 127; 1658 CR observed on service 88.

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COLCHESTER TRANSPORT

Acquired Vehicles

Former Tyne & Wear P.T.E. Leyland Atlantean 53 (MVK548R) finally entered service during mid-September. It was first noted on a schools service on September 20th

but may have been used on other schools services for a few days beforehand. On September 26th, it was noted on service 6 and it has subsequently operated on services 4 and 8. This bus carries exterior advertising for the Colchester Evening Gazette (Essex County Newspapers), and a report in that newspaper on October 12th featured the vehicle and stated that it would enter general service on October 15th.

Similar vehicle 52 (MVK546R) continues to be out of service following accident damage sustained in mid-June, and it is still away at an unknown location for repairs (see also NS246).

Vehicles On Hire

Leyland Leopard coach 102 (DHK102T) remains on hire to Southend Transport, and Southend Transport's Leyland Fleetline 234 (MRJ234W) continues to be the replacement vehicle at Colchester. Similar vehicle 241 (MRJ241W) returned to Southend on September 18th (see also NS246).

The Borough of Preston Leyland Olympian 3 (A33 MRN), which carried temporary fleet number D17, left Colchester on August 6th after its period of hire from Leyland Bus Ltd. (additional information to NS246). The two Leicester City Transport Dennis Dominator's that were demonstrated to Colchester Borough Transport were on hire during the following periods :- D15 (A77 FRY) July 1st-8th; D16 (TBC 51X) July 8th-15th.

General

In a recent report to Colchester Borough Council's Transport Committee (August 14th), the Transport Manager reported that the extensive service revisions introduced on May 6th have been generally successful. Some problems are being experienced with traffic congestion, particularly at East Hill, and certain services require duplicate vehicles. At the same meeting, it was reported that the proposed diversion of services 9A and 19A via Bridgebrook would cost an additional £838 per year (at current prices) to implement, and this route revision has now been approved and will operate until the new General Hospital is fully operational. It was introduced on October 1st, with a reduction in running time between Myland Hospital and Ipswich Road.

On September 30th, revised timetables were also introduced for services 5/A/B. During the evening period on Weekdays and all day on Sundays, certain service 5A journeys now operate as service 5 via Straight Road, Lexden, and these revisions have restored an evening and Sunday service to Straight Road (as also reported in NS246).

Preliminary details are also now available regarding the services to be operated by Colchester Borough Transport during the Christmas period (December 24th-January 1st). There will be no services operated on Christmas Day (December 25th), Boxing Day (December 26th) and New Year's Day (January 1st). A Saturday service will be operated on Christmas Eve (December 24th) until 2030 hrs., December 28th and December 31st until 2030 hrs. On December 27th, an augmented Sunday service will be operated generally commencing at 0830 hrs., and with a half hourly frequency on most services.

At the time of writing, Bristol RELL6L 16 (YWC 16L) remains out of service at the Magdalen Street depot, but similar vehicle 22 (OWC722M) has now returned to service, and was noted in use on September 20th (see also NS246). A regular working for a Bristol RELL6L is on services 4/4A when an additional vehicle is required during the late afternoon peak period. The vehicle concerned operates the 1518 hrs. service 10 departure to St. Michael's Estate, and then operates the 1550 hrs. service 4 departure from St. Michael's Estate.

Leyland Atlantean's 49 (YWC649F) and 50 (AVX 50G) are now used much less frequently, although 49 has been noted on services 9 and 19 on a number of occasions recently. Also now used less intensively are Leyland Atlantean's 55-60 (JHK495N etc.), and 55 is currently still out of service at the Magdalen Street depot awaiting an engine. Similar vehicle 57 had returned to service by October 5th (see NS246).

Leyland Atlantean 82 (YNO 82S), which has been repainted in an overall advertisement livery for British Telecom, returned to Colchester during early-October (see also

NS246), but had not been noted in service at the time of writing. Similar vehicle 85 (MEV 85V) has also been away from Colchester during recent weeks, having been last noted in service on September 29th, and this vehicle may have also passed to Ipswich Borough Transport for M.O.T. preparation.

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SOUTHEND TRANSPORT

New Vehicles

As a further correction to NS243/4/6, the chassis numbers for the six new Leyland Tiger coaches (246-51) are 8400012/6/83/4/134/45 respectively. 251 (D100XTW) entered service on October 3rd in a black and silver overall advertisement livery for Southend Motor and Aero Company Ltd. (SMAC Group). It was noted at that company's premises during the late afternoon and early evening of October 3rd for publicity purposes. Its seating capacity is C57F, but this can be modified if required to C45F including six tables and a drinks vending machine.

Acquired Vehicles

Six vehicles have been acquired recently, and details are as follows :-

313	GHV106N	Daimler Fleetline CRL6	68361	Park Royal	H45/28D	59183	New	-/75
343	XWX193S	Leyland Leopard PSU5C/4R	7800103	Duple	C57F	835/5466	New	-/78
344	XWX161S	Leyland Leopard PSU5C/4R	7800236	Duple	C57F	835/5469	New	-/78
345	CWW191T	Leyland Leopard PSU3E/4R	7801351	Duple	C53F	833/5187	New	-/78
346	XWX186S	Leyland Leopard PSU3E/4R	7801071	Duple	C53F	833/5182	New	-/78
353	CPT822S	Leyland Leopard PSU3E/4R	7701052	Plaxton	C53F	7811LX505	New	-/78

313 was new to London Transport (DM1106) and had been previously on hire to Southend Transport for one day on September 5th (see NS246). It had been on loan from Ensign Bus Co. to South Midland Ltd. (fleet number 989) earlier this year. It is in blue and cream livery, with its engine shrouds removed, and was delivered to Southend on October 8th before entering service on October 10th. 343/5/6 were new to Wallace Arnold Tours Ltd., Leeds, and were delivered to Southend on September 19th (343/4) and October 1st (346). 345/6 are currently in a cream livery, and 343 is in a white livery with brown and orange stripes, and these vehicles entered service on September 20th (343/4) and October 2nd (346). 344 was new to Wallace Arnold Tours (Devon) Ltd., Paignton, and was delivered to Southend on September 19th before entering service on the following day. Prior to being acquired by Southend Transport it was loaned by a dealer to Ribblesdale Coachways Ltd., Blackburn (fleet number 177), by 7/84. It is also currently operating in a cream livery. 353 was new to Trimdon Motor Services Ltd., Trimdon Grange, and was delivered to Southend on September 19th entering service two days later on September 21st. It is currently operating in a white and mustard livery

Withdrawn Vehicles

9.84	364 (WJN364J)
10.84	368 (WJN368J)

364 was withdrawn from service on September 19th, whilst 368 was withdrawn on October 17th. 368 was the last closed top 1971 Daimler Fleetline in service with Southend Transport, and amongst its last duties it operated the free courtesy bus service to/from the Castle Point Transport Museum Society Open Day on Sunday, October 14th.

Daimler Fleetline's 349/58/60/4/9 (WJN349J etc.) are all currently stored at the Tickfield Road works. Similar vehicle 351 (WJN351J) was cut up at the Tickfield Road works during October, whilst Leyland Leopard 200 (GJN508D) has now been sold to a local scrap dealer and was collected on September 19th.

Vehicles On Hire

The current situation is that Burnley & Pendle Transport 13 (WRN 13R) and Colchester Borough Transport 102 (DHK102T) are on hire to Southend Transport, but the Burnley & Pendle vehicle is still out of service with accident damage. As reported above, Leyland Fleetline 234 (MRJ234W) is currently on hire to Colchester Borough Transport. Similar vehicle 241 (MRJ241W) returned from Colchester on September 18th having been on hire since September 3rd (see NS246).

Re-built Vehicles

The first two re-bodied Daimler Fleetlines were delivered from Northern Counties to Southend on October 13th. They were formerly numbered 374/7, but, at this stage, it is not possible to confirm their new fleet numbers and registration numbers, although it is understood that the batch may be re-numbered 306-10.

Preliminary details of the first two vehicles are as follows :-

—— Daimler Fleetline CRL6-33 66674 Northern Counties H49/31D —— New 11/72
—— Daimler Fleetline CRL6-33 66677 Northern Counties H49/31D 2636 New 12/72

These vehicles were previously numbered 374/7 (GHJ374/7L) respectively, and 377 (which carried number 306 on its destination blinds) was exhibited at the Castle Point Transport Museum Society Open Day on October 14th. The new bodywork is of the same style as that fitted to Leyland Fleetline's 221-42 but features certain detail differences including tinted windows; formica interior panels with a wood grain finish, a cream front bumper and slightly higher seats.

Leyland Leopard 214 (XGS770X) was fitted with a DAF DKTL 256 hp engine by Kent Engineering (NBC) Ltd., Canterbury during early-October.

It is also reported that Leyland Leopard 219 (SPN669X) may be fitted with a Volvo engine in the near future.

General

Further to the information published in NS245, Leyland Leopard 324 (WRO434S) was delivered to Southend on September 20th. Prior to being delivered to Southend this vehicle was fitted with a Bristol front dome by Duple Coachbuilders Ltd. at their Hendon (London) service centre. This vehicle is currently at the Tickfield Road works being repainted in the yellow and blue coach livery.

Leyland Leopard coaches 322 (CMJ450T) and 333 (AYF064T) are the latest vehicles to be repainted in the yellow and blue coach livery.

Further to the information published in last month's news sheet, former London Transport Daimler Fleetline 320 (TGX820M) was repainted by Ensign Bus Co. during September. It is now in blue and cream livery, with the engine shrouds removed, and the seating capacity was altered to H45/28D by Ensign Bus Co. Similar vehicle 314 (GHV 29N) is currently at Ensign Bus Co. for repaint into the blue and cream livery.

Another of the former London Transport Daimler Fleetline's 319 (KUC949P) was involved in a fatal accident at Central Bus Station on October 1st. After repairs, this vehicle has since returned to service.

Daimler Fleetline 390 (JTD390P) has now been fitted with a steel front bumper.

Some nine months after acquisition, Leyland Leopard coach 326 (XHU 326) was finally cleared for entry into service on October 10th. However, it was damaged in an accident at the London Road depot on the same day and it has now returned to the Tickfield Road works for repairs. It is currently in a grey and yellow livery; the orange waist band of its previous owner's livery (Graham's Bus Service Ltd., Paisley) has been repainted yellow. It has also been fitted with a farebox for operation on local stage services.

The farebox formerly fitted to Leyland Leopard coach 204 (UTD204T) has now been fitted to Plaxton-bodied Leyland Leopard 327 (HRN 97N), and this vehicle has been available for operation on local stage services since September.

Service Developments

Three additional return journeys were introduced on service X31 between Canvey (Leigh Beck) and London (Green Park) from Tuesday, October 9th. These journeys operate on Mondays to Fridays and depart from Canvey (Leigh Beck) at 0650 hrs., 0700 hrs. and 0720 hrs., with the return departures from London (Green Park) being at 1700 hrs., 1710 hrs. and 1750 hrs.

An interesting Southend Transport operation is the 0800 hrs. departure from Shoeburyness (Sportsman), which is shown in the service 7/8 timetable but which

operates as a through service 10B journey to Paglesham (East End). The vehicle displays service 10B on the number blinds, and on September 18th the first known working of this service by a former London Transport Daimler Fleetline occurred when 317 (SMU926N) operated the service.

The current coach requirement on Mondays to Fridays is for 40 vehicles, with 39 vehicles being required for services X1/X11/X21/X31 and one vehicle being required for service 795.

Fleet Summary - October 1984

Following the considerable changes that have occurred to the Southend Transport fleet during recent months, members may find this fleet summary (which is correct at the time of writing) to be useful.

Coaches -	Single Deck	Leyland Leopard/Plaxton	201/2, 321/2/6-9/52/3	10
		Leyland Leopard/Duple	203-8/13/4/9/20, 323-5/30-8/40-6	29
		Leyland Tiger/Duple	209/10/5/8/46-51	10
	Double Deck	Van Hool Astromega	243-5	3
			TOTAL	52
Buses -	Single Deck	Leyland Leopard/East Lancs.	216	1
		Leyland Leopard/Willowbrook	211/2	2
		Bristol RELL6G/E.C.W.	301/2	2
			TOTAL	5
	Double Deck	Daimler Fleetline/Park Royal	313-8/20	7
		Daimler Fleetline/MCW	319	1
		Daimler Fleetline/Northern Counties open-top	370-3	4
		Daimler Fleetline/Northern Counties	378/80-97	19
		Daimler Fleetline/rebodied Northern Counties - 2 completed, 3 in progress -	374-7/9	5
		Leyland Fleetline/Northern Counties	221-42	22
			TOTAL	58
			FLEET TOTAL	115
Vehicles On Hire -		Burnley & Pendle Transport	13	1
		Colchester Borough Transport	102	1

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EASTERN NATIONAL DISPOSALS

Subsequent Disposals

1954 - 1964 numbering scheme

436 (606 JPU) - Still owned by Thomas, Upper Llandwrog, but withdrawn from service and stored. (additional information to NS243).

409 (YHK726F) - Breaker, Carlton, by 5/84, ex. Harrison, West Quantoxhead.

432 (PWC339K) - Cleverly, Cwmbran, 5/84, ex. Morris, Swansea. Current seating capacity is C47F.

433 (PWC340K) - Cleverly, Cwmbran, 5/84, ex. Morris, Swansea. Current seating capacity is C49F.

REMAINDER HELD OVER TO NEXT MONTH (NS248)

News Sheet Contributions

Contributions to this news sheet were received from R.H. Palmer (M105), V.J. Cooper (M128), R. Delahoy (M180), A.W. Meadows (M209), P.W. Harvey (M219), R.J. Webb (M227), D. Arnold (M379), J.G. Collins (M405), G.G. Toon (M452), W.H. Crowder (M493), F.P. Ormerod (M495), J.H. Preston (M512), C.D. Sigston (M523), R.A. Dennis (M535), F.G. Spence (M545), J.A. Murphy (M546), G. Huggins (AM1) and the P.S.V. Circle. Notes and information for the November news sheet should be sent to the News Sheet Editor (address below) by Wednesday, November 14th.

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