

EDITORIAL

Visit to Eastern National Central Works, Chelmsford, Saturday, 12 March

This visit will commence at 1000 and will last for about two hours. There is no charge for the visit but places must be booked in advance with the Secretary; this may be done either by telephone (Monday to Wednesday evenings after 2000) or by letter. Bookings must close on Tuesday March 8. Members must make their own way to the Works, and assemble outside.

Mid Essex Tour, Sunday, April 17

Arrangements for this tour, which will include Eastern National garages at BD, BS, HD, BE, SE and CF and two independent operators are in hand. A booking form will be circulated with the next news sheet, in the meantime keep the date free.

Eastern National Agent stickers

A quantity of the above stickers has been acquired (pre N.B.C. design). They are yellow in colour and feature the title writing and an illustration of Bristol RESH Duple coach 416 (YTW540F). The stickers (size 11" x 3") may readily be affixed to the inside of a window by removal of the backing strip. They are available from the Secretary, price 20p (including postage and packing).

News sheet reports

Following the request for more reports in last months news sheet, several members have supplied notes for this months edition - thank you all !

Please continue to supply notes, even if these cannot be comprehensive; if the Secretary is informed about a particular event arrangements can then be made to secure the completed information. If the Secretary is not alerted he will remain unaware of the event and a report will appear in the news sheet at a very late date or perhaps not at all. So reports please !

Eastern Counties Depot and Outstation Directory

The above publication (Reference EC2(R)) which lists all Eastern Counties garages and outstations (with addresses of the former) together with allocation totals and types is available from the Sales Officer, Eastern Counties Omnibus Society, 28, Canterbury Place, NORWICH, Norfolk NR2 4QJ (price 13p, post free)

EASTERN NATIONAL OMNIBUS CO. LTD.

New Vehicles

The order for twelve 10.3 metre Leyland Nationals has been amended, these vehicles will now not be supplied. Instead an additional quantity of 11.3 metre Leyland National will be delivered. Delivery of Leyland Nationals is expected to commence in May.

The four Bristol LH's on order will have Leyland engines (type LH6L), delivery is now anticipated in July.

Withdrawn Vehicles

2.77	1602 (BN0103B)	2725 (170 XNO)
	2714 (94 TVX)	2744 (EOO 586)

1602 (BN0103B) has been acquired by the Eastern Counties Omnibus Co. Ltd., Norwich. (for spares only)

Re-built/Re-engined Vehicles

1.77	2841 (MVX878C) to FLF6G
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Similar conversions of 2833/60 (LWC659C, RHK345D) are in progress.

The conversion of 1437 (OO 9545) with modified doors and destination equipment has now been completed, this programme of conversions is now completed.

Service Vehicles

Conversion of 0668 (BVX668B) to driver training vehicle 9005 is at present in progress at Prittlewell Works.

Allocations & Transfers

- 1.77 Correction: 1784-BN should have read 1794-BN.
- 2.77 1323-CN, 1339-BE, 1352-SE, 1420-SE, 1425-D/L(D), 1603-D/L(D), 1607-BN, 1785-BD, 1786-CF, 1787-SD, 1788-SD, 1789-CR, 1790-CR, 1795-BN, 2510-D/L(D), 2706-D/L(D), 2715-HH, 2716-D/L(D), 2717-TS(CF), 2718-D/L(D), 2727-TS(CR), 2734-D/L(D), 2735-D/L(D), 2738-TS(BD), 2747-D/L(D), 2749-TS(CR), 2755-TS(HH)* 2756-TS(BN), 2767-D/L(D), 2841-SD, 3009-SD.

TS - Traffic surplus from 6.2.77 at garage indicated.

* - On temporary loan (to cover building work).

The inclusion of Bristol LDLX6G 2510 (236 LNO) should especially be noted.

The following allocations of D/L(D) vehicles have been noted by personal observations:

MN (2.77) : 1405/19/27, 1613, 2719/32/40/4.

WG (12.76) : 2705/7/20.

CF (2.77) : 2704/30.

Service Revisions

The following revisions to services have recently been applied for :

- 2B To be extended from BASILDON (Paycocke Road, Carrereas) to BASILDON (Paycocke Road, Ilfords).
- 30 Additional service to also operate on Thursdays.
- 33 Additional service to be provided via Debden Village on Saturday afternoons.
- 82 The morning Schoolday journey from Eight Ash Green (Wood Lane/Heath Lane) to Stanway (Secondary School) to commence from Eight Ash Green (Abbotts Lane) and operate via Fordham Heath.
- 124 Additional journeys to operate on Tuesdays and Fridays between Braintree and White Notley (Cross Keys).
- 321/6 The afternoon Schoolday journey from St. Francis Catholic School, Gilchrist Way, Braintree to be transferred from service 326 to service 321 to provide a through facility to Black Notley.

Certain of the above revisions have now been introduced, on the dates shown below :

2B (31.1.77); 30 (3.2.77); 33 (5.2.77); 82 (10.1.77); 321/6 (10.1.77).

- 70 An additional facility to Coggeshall Hamlet was introduced from 14.2.77. One evening journey on Mondays to Fridays operates from Coggeshall (Market Hill) via Coggeshall Hamlet to Kelvedon (The Angel).

- 337 Following the withdrawal of journeys on Witham Town services 337/8 to Ebenezer Close on 8.11.76 (see NS153) and also the closure of the local Post Office an additional facility commenced on 16.12.76 on Thursdays only between Ebenezer Close and Collingwood Road to enable senior citizens to travel into central Witham to collect their pensions. Following this facility a Saturday morning shopping service has now been introduced from 14.2.77.

General

From 24 January the railway bridge at Blue Mills, Wickham Bishops will be closed for a period of about eight weeks for re-construction. During this closure services 335/6 will be diverted and will operate via Maldon Road, Station Road and Church Road to re-join the normal route at Snows Corner.

The section of route via Wickham Hill will not be covered during the diversion. Since the revised route operates over a road upon which there is a 6' 6" width restriction (except buses) during the period of the diversion, Bristol MW saloons only may be used on the service. Accordingly an additional number of Bristol MW saloons have been allocated to Braintree and Silver End. The route of the diversion was previously served by rail replacement service 99.

COLCHESTER TRANSPORT

Service Revisions

The following revisions to services have recently been applied for and were introduced on 7 February.

- 2/11 Journeys to Tyehurst Estate are extended to Magdalen Wood (St. Cyrus Road) via St. Cyrus Road.
- 3 Extended from St. Andrews Avenue via Avon Way and Hamlet Drive to GREENSTEAD ESTATE (Hamlet Drive).
- 3A Additional new service operates as follows :
GREENSTEAD ESTATE (Hamlet Drive) - COLCHESTER (High Street/Head Street) via Magnolia Drive, Hawthorn Avenue, Bromley Road, Harwich Road, Goring Road, Ipswich Road, East Bay, East Hill, High Street, Bus Station, St. Botolphs Street, Osborne Street, Stanwell Street, St. Johns Street to Head Street. Return via High Street to East Hill thence as outward route reversed. (Weekdays only) (Buses operate circular services via route 3 and 3A - continuing on the other service at Greenstead Estate)
- 9 Revised route operates via Harwich Road, St. Andrews Avenue and Ipswich Road instead of via Goring Road. (see also revised service 3A)
- 12 Additional Tuesday service introduced between Ipswich Road and Monkwick Estate.

General

The conversion to Almex ticket machines is now complete. No. T.I.M. machines now remain in use. (additional notes to NS154)

IPSWICH TRANSPORT

New Vehicles

It appears that the delivery dates quoted last month were somewhat premature. Corrected dates are as follows :

11 - 12.76	15 - 11.76	18 - 11.76
12 - 11.76	16 - 11.76	19 - 11.76
13 - 10.76	17 - 12.76	20 - 11.76
14 - 12.76		

The vehicles first appeared in passenger service from about December 8.

General

The revised fares came into effect from 2.1.77.

Services 1A/9 are now one man operated.

The new Leyland Atlanteans are fitted with new style blinds with destinations such as Electric House in lower case lettering.

SOUTHEND TRANSPORT

Withdrawn Vehicle

1.77 328 (7092 HJ) - corrected date.

Vehicles on Hire

As anticipated the hire of Leyland PD3's to London Country at Harlow finished on 29 January.