

EASTERN NATIONAL ENTHUSIASTS GROUP

NEWS SHEET NUMBER 126

September 1974

EDITORIAL

Southend Meeting, Tuesday 8 October

At 58 Eastbourne Grove, Westcliff commencing at 1900.

Ilford & West Essex Model Railway Club Exhibition, 24 - 26 October

At Ilford Town Hall commencing at 1500 (Thursday 24 and Friday 25) and at 1000 (Saturday 26) until 2100 each day. Will intending participants please note that the Group will not have a stand at the exhibition this year due to clash of dates with the function below.

LOTS Autumn Transport Sale, Saturday 26 October

At Caxton Hall, London S.W.1 (close to St James's Park underground station) from 1300 until 1900. The Group will have a stand at this function and a complete range of Group publications and photographs will be available. There will also be many other items on sale including a large number of timetables (1948 - 1970) and many London Transport items.

Disposal of unwanted items

Have you any unwanted items that you have for disposal?

If you have, then rather than burden the Refuge Department why not donate them to the Group, photographs, timetables, maps, magazines etc. are particularly welcome. These items can be sold at exhibitions and rallies and the revenue they produce assists in keeping the Group subscriptions as low as possible. Please advise the Secretary if you can help, transport can be provided for large consignments.

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EASTERN NATIONAL OMNIBUS CO. LTD.

New Vehicles

The delivery dates for new vehicles (see NS120) have been deferred. Deliveries of Leyland Nationals are not now expected until December, whilst the Bristol VRT's have been delayed to March 1975.

Withdrawn Vehicles

The Bristol LD's which were withdrawn and sold to Hants & Dorset in May all entered service in July. (see NS123/4) They have been numbered 3482-7 (434 FEV, 541 HVX, 295/8 JHK, 75/6 JNO) and are allocated to Basingstoke (3482-4) and to Salisbury (3485-7). They entered service in their green livery with the word EASTERN removed from their fleetname which now reads NATIONAL followed by the double 'N' symbol.

Rebuilt Vehicles

364(LWC 869) has now returned from Marshalls of Cambridge after alteration and is currently at Central Works, Chelmsford undergoing the final stages of O.M.O. conversion. It is expected to enter service as 1444 in the near future.

Allocations and Transfers

9.74 1232-D/L(D), 1236-D/L(D), 1301-D/L, 1452-D/L, 1453-D/L, 1612-WG, 2379-D/L, 2383-SD, 2506-BE, 2507-DT, 2608-D/L, 2709-HH, 3020-HH.

Late 9.74 (by members observation) : 1517-BD; (return to service after accident damage), 3042-D/L (accident damage).

Service Revisions

The following revisions to services have recently been applied for :

53A New Service : Chelmsford(Bus Station) - Silver End. Route to be as service 53 to Witham thence Collingwood Road, Braintree Road, Cressing Road, Conrad Road, Rickstones Road, Church Road, Park Road, Western Road, Boars Tye Road, Temple Lane and Broadway. Return route to be as above to Braintree Road thence Avenue Road and Newland Street and as service 53 to Chelmsford.

- 82 Revised route to be as authorised to Eight Ash Green thence via Spring Lane to Fordham Heath and Heath Lane to Fordham thence existing route to Great Tey.
- 86A Special Thursday only Schooldays only journeys from Sudbury (Humphrey Road) and Sudbury (Tudor Road) to be withdrawn.
- 314 To be extended from Fuller Street via unclassified roads to Terling (Rayleigh Arms).

The following revisions to services commenced on 9 September :

- 86A As detailed above (with effect from Thursday 12 September)
- 304 Service withdrawn. The 0810 hrs journey from Bishops Stortford to Stansted Airport transferred to service 318. (Mondays to Fridays)

A limited service was operated on service 100 during the later summer period until 28 September.

General

1431(M00 976) a Bristol MW saloon has been fitted with a towing bar, placed inside the luggage boot. It is thought that two other vehicles from the 1300 class, one at each of Brentwood and Clacton, have been similarly treated, could these be reported please.

Kelvedon garage (KN) is due to close as an Eastern National operational garage after operation on Saturday 12 October, although the premises will continue to be used by National Travel (South East) Ltd. The converted premises at Boars Tye Road, Silver End will open as an Eastern National operational garage on Monday 14 October and will be coded SE. (there are at present no operational duties from KN on Sundays)

COLCHESTER TRANSPORT

General

A new livery replacing the current tuscan red and cream colour scheme was introduced in July. The first vehicle to appear in the new livery was 60(682 HEV) an A.E.C. Regent V. The new colours are cherry red and ivory and the lower panels and those between decks are cherry red whilst the remainder is ivory. The coats of arms with the fleetname COLCHESTER beneath is positioned on the first panel between the decks. Gilt fleetnumbers are carried below the front destination blind and above the rear platform windows. Subsequently the new livery has been applied to 15(YWC 15L), a Bristol RELL saloon, details please.

The headquarters of the Transport Department was transferred from Magdalen Street to Osborne Street, Colchester in early June.

IPSWICH TRANSPORT

General

A revised livery, incorporating more cream between decks and on the rear dome has been applied to 25(FPV 25), an A.E.C. Regent V. In addition the artistic gold fleet numbers are being gradually replaced by plain white numerals.

SOUTHEND TRANSPORT

Vehicles on Hire/Loan

The following vehicles are on hire from S & M Coaches (Castlepoint Bus Co.), Benfleet :

320	VVO 737	Leyland PS1/1	B482620	Willowbrook	L31/30RD	rebuilt 1957
321	OHY 935	Bristol KSW6B	92.053	E.C.W.	L27/28R	5983 new 1952

These vehicles were originally owned by Barton Transport Ltd., 737 (VVO 737) and Bristol Omnibus Co. Ltd., L8092 (OHY 935)

320(VVO 737) was observed operating on service 62 and 321(OHY 935) on services 5/7 on 27 September. 320 had its fleetnumber painted on the front of the vehicle whilst that on 321 was chalked on the platform. It is understood that these vehicles have been hired to cover the loan of the Albion Lowlanders to Alder Valley.

318(LCK 739) eventually entered service on 21 August, 319(LCK 920) has still not done so and was observed at the premises of S & M Coaches, Benfleet (Mendabus Ltd) in mid September where it was receiving attention to its front springs.

The vehicle originally destined to become 320, Ribble Leyland PD3/4 LCK 746 has now become a mobile advertisement vehicle for Tom Caxton beer kits and ironically was parked in London Road, Southend garage in mid September.

328(7092 HJ) returned from Alder Valley on 21 August, whilst 323/6/7/31 (7087/90 7091/5 HJ) were loaned to Alder Valley from 21 August. It is thought that further loans of additional Lowlanders have subsequently been made.

General

315(PHJ 954), the recently repainted Leyland PD3/6 was recently entered in the H.C.V.C. Trans Pennine Rally.

345(MHJ345F) was repainted during August with the crests positioned between decks and with reflective registration number plates at the front and rear.

360(WJN360J), the Daimler Fleetline with the special Videmat signs (which were coin-in-the-slot motifs on either side of the destination indicators) which were added for the vehicles appearance at the South Essex Bus Rally has now had these signs painted over.

Owing to the number of different liveries at present in use a check has been made on the present situation and this is given below :

Old livery	: 206-8/17, 316, 323/5-8/31/2/5/6/8/40/1/3/71-4/9 380/2/5.
Intermediate livery (repositioned crest, no fleetname)	: 215, 317, 342/75/6/8/81/3.
New livery (repositioned crest, with fleetname)	: 209/16/8, 311-5/8, 333/4/9/44/5/7-57/9-69/77/84.
Special livery	: 358 (Overall advertisement for Circus Tavern)
Unknown	: 346/70 (presumably in workshops in the course of overhaul and repaint)

Note Not all vehicles in the new livery have received a complete repaint, e.g. 311-4/47.

10 ATO, the Leyland PD2/40 formerly Nottingham City Transport, 10 which was thought to have been acquired by the Corporation (see NS120) but which was subsequently discovered to be for conversion to a mobile playbus (see NS121) has now been completed. The vehicle was formerly opened by the Mayor on 7 September.