

EDITORIAL

Subscription Renewal Reminder

Members who have not yet renewed their subscriptions, for a one or two year period commencing on July 1st, are asked to do so as soon as possible. Please use the subscription renewal form sent with last month's news sheet, and completed forms should be sent to the Membership Secretary (R.H. Palmer Esq.) with the appropriate remittance. No further reminders will be issued, and subscriptions should be received no later than July 14th in order to prevent any delay in the despatch of the July news sheet. Bob Palmer thanks members for their co-operation.

West Country Weekend Coach Tour - Friday, August 22nd to Monday, August 25th.

A booking form for this coach tour is enclosed with this news sheet. Our weekend tours have generally proved to be very popular in recent years and there is a limit on the number of persons that can be carried. So please book early and secure your seat at the lower price.

Rochford Meeting - Tuesday, July 1st.

The next meeting at the Carriage Room, Freight House, Bradley Way, Rochford will be held on Tuesday, July 1st commencing at 1930 hrs. (for 2000 hrs.). This meeting will feature a slide show presentation by Richard Delahoy entitled 'Confessions of a (part-time) bus driver'. All members and friends are welcome to attend.

Visit to Southend Transport Works, Tickfield Avenue, Southend-on-Sea - Advance Notice

The Group is hoping to arrange a visit in the near future to Southend Transport's works at Tickfield Avenue, Southend-on-Sea. The visit will take place on a Saturday morning, and full details will be published as soon as they become available.

New Publications

The Group has recently acquired a stock of Eastern National Golden Jubilee publications first published in 1980. We are now able to offer these items to members at greatly reduced prices, and details are as follows :-

Eastern National Golden Jubilee brochure - £0.40

Reproduction posters :-

'Types of Luxury Coach' - £0.40

'Regular Coach Services' - £0.40

Set of reproduction leaflets in a folder - £0.20

Please add £0.20 to your order to cover postage and packing. Alternatively, you can order all four items for a price of £1.40 (post free).

We also have a small stock of original Eastern National coach posters dating from the 1960's. Members interested in these items should write direct to the Publications Officer (A.W. Meadows Esq., 52. Ferndale Road, Rayleigh, Essex. SS6 9NW) enclosing a stamped addressed envelope.

The 1986 edition of the Eastern National Fleet List Booklet (E.F.B.) is now available. This popular booklet is correct to May 31st, and contains full details of the Eastern National, Colchester Borough Transport, Rochford District Council and Southend Transport fleets. It has been produced in the same format as the 1985 edition, with front and back cover illustrations and 16 pages. The price is £0.90 for each booklet ordered (inclusive of postage and packing). Copies will also be available at Group meetings, and also on the sales stand at rallies, at a price of £0.75.

Also now available for the first time are Group key rings. These key rings have a perspex fob (approximately 4cm. x 5cm.) which incorporates a colour photograph of dual-purpose Leyland Olympian 4018 and a Group advertisement. The price of these key rings is £0.65 each (inclusive of postage and packing).

From July 1st, the Group will have in stock copies of a new book, titled 'Eastern National In Focus : Vol. 1', which has been compiled by the Group's News Sheet Editor, Derek Stebbing. The book is published by South Anglia Productions, and is the first volume

in a new series which will provide a pictorial history of the Eastern National O.C. Ltd. Volume 1 contains over 50 high quality black and white photographs, all previously unpublished, and dating from the 1930's and 1940's with a small selection from the 1950's. Copies will be available to members at a price of £4.50 (post free).

Orders for all publications listed above, with the exception of the 1960's coach posters, should be sent to the Administrative Officer (P.W. Harvey Esq., 19. Watkins Way, Shoeburyness, Essex. SS3 9NX), and please remember to enclose the correct remittance.

Finally, a new list of Group publications (General Circular E.C.5) (dated June 1986) is now available, and copies will be sent with future orders, or may be obtained free of charge by sending a stamped addressed envelope to the Publications Officer (address above).

Eastern Transport Collection Society Weekend Tour to Isle of Man - Friday, September 19th - Sunday, September 21st.

The Eastern Transport Collection Society is organising a weekend tour to the Isle of Man from Friday, September 19th to Sunday, September 21st. The tour will use an ex-Eastern Counties Bristol RE5L6G, KVP658E, and Group members are invited to participate. The tour will depart from Norwich, and full details can be obtained from A.W. Powell Esq., E.T.C.S., 13. Nile Street, Norwich, Norfolk. NR2 4JU.

The Eastern National Enthusiasts Group Trophy

The E.N.E.G. Trophy was presented for the sixth time at the Southend Historic Transport Show on June 1st. The trophy, which is in the form of a shield, is presented for "The Best Vehicle from an Essex Independent Operator". It was won this year by Boon's Coaches, Boreham with A351NEU, a Volvo B10M-61 with Van Hool Alizee C50F coachwork, and our congratulations go to Boon's Coaches on winning the trophy for the second time.

EASTERN NATIONAL OMNIBUS CO. LTD.

New Vehicles

NIL

Withdrawn Vehicles

NIL

Acquired Vehicles

The Company has recently acquired five Ford Transit mini-buses from East Midland Motor Services Ltd. The vehicles were numbered 951-5 (C951HWF etc.) in the East Midland fleet, but they were not used in service and have now been re-registered by Eastern National. The sequence of re-registrations is 951/3/2/5/4 becoming 0600-4 (0600-4NPU) respectively. Full details of the vehicles are as follows :-

0600	C600NPU	Ford Transit 190DI	SFAYXXBDVYET	75607	Carlyle Conversions B20F	CBL75
0601	C601NPU	Ford Transit 190DI	SFAYXXBDVYET	75760	Carlyle Conversions B20F	CBL77
0602	C602NPU	Ford Transit 190DI	SFAYXXBDVYET	75761	Carlyle Conversions B20F	CBL76
0603	C603NPU	Ford Transit 190DI	SFAYXXBDVYET	75972	Carlyle Conversions B20F	CBL79
0604	C604NPU	Ford Transit 190DI	SFAYXXBDVYET	75975	Carlyle Conversions B20F	CBL78

The vehicles were new to East Midland in 5/85 (952 - 0602) and 6/85 (951/3/4/5 - 0600/1/4/3) and they were delivered to Eastern National on May 23rd (954/5) and May 28th (951-3). The vehicles were delivered in a green and white livery, but have since been repainted in a revised version of the Eastern National CityBus London livery (see under Vehicle Repaints). They carry small CityBus fleetnames together with 'Hornchurch Hoppa' vinyls, and the vehicles are to be used on the revised LRT service 193, which is now scheduled to commence on August 2nd (see also NS266). The vehicles have been licensed and they are being used initially on driver training work. They have converted Dormobile bodywork.

Vehicles On Hire

The eight United Counties vehicles that were listed in last month's news sheet all remain on hire to the Company at the depots listed in that news sheet. It has been reported that Leyland National 453 (NBD453M) carries Harwich (DT) depot allocation plates. An additional four vehicles are also now on hire from the United Counties Omnibus Co. Ltd., and details are as follows :-

UCOC 464 ORP464M Leyland National 1151/1R/0401 01092 B49F New 12/73
 UCOG 465 ORP465M Leyland National 1151/1R/0401 01093 B49F New 1/74
 UCOG 476 RNV476M Leyland National 11351/1R 01375 B49F New 6/74
 UCOG 768 WRF768J Bristol VRTSL6G VRT/SL-2/157 E.C.W. H39/31F 18235 New 10/70

These vehicles were received on hire on June 12th (464/76, 768) and June 13th (465). They have not been allocated Eastern National fleet numbers, and their current allocation is as follows :- UCOG 464/76 - Brentwood (BD); UCOG 465 - Braintree (BE); UCOG 768 - Chelmsford (CF) (for driver training work only). Bristol VRTSL6G 768 is on hire only for driver training work on Mondays to Fridays; it is returned to United Counties at weekends.

Two Ford Transit mini-buses are also on hire from Alder Valley North Ltd, and full details are as follows :-

Alder Valley 322 C322RPE Ford Transit BDVYFD94066 Carlyle Conversions B16F CBS165
 Alder Valley 323 C323RPE Ford Transit BDVYFD97355 Carlyle Conversions B16F CBS164

These vehicles were new to Alder Valley in 2/86 (322) and 3/86 (323), and they are painted in a blue and yellow livery but without fleetnames or legal lettering. They have Dormobile body shells numbered S4077-924-85 (322) and S5509-924-85 (323). They were received on hire during early-June, and they are at present being used on driver training work in the Chelmsford area. It is not yet known where the vehicles are likely to operate in service.

The Iveco 79.14/Caetano Viana L B24F mini-bus C99 NNV remains on hire from Salvador Caetano (UK) Ltd. and has now entered service on new services 252/4 in the Waltham Abbey area (see under Service Developments).

Re-built Vehicles

Work is now complete on the conversion of Bristol VRTSL6G 3027 (NPU974M) to open-top configuration, and the vehicle has now been re-numbered 3501. It currently remains at Eastern National Engineering Ltd.'s Central Works awaiting entry into service. The seating capacity of this vehicle is now 039/31F, and it is been painted in an eye-catching red and yellow livery with Coastliner vinyls. It was initially re-numbered 3500, but was quickly re-numbered 3501, and similar vehicle 3026 (WN0546L) will now be re-numbered 3500 upon completion of conversion work which is still in progress at Central Works.

Allocations & Transfers

6.86 0600 LWA, 0601 LWA, 0602 LWA, 0603 LWA, 0604 LWA, 3026 BE-D/L, 3027 CR (P)-D/L, 3078 CF-SD, 3083 SD-CF, 3099 HH-SD, 3111 SD-HH.

Bristol VRTSL6G's 3018 MN and 3021 CF are currently on temporary loan to Clacton (CN), pending the introduction of open-top vehicles 3500/1. 3018 and 3021 have both been fitted with Wayfarer ticket equipment.

Bristol VRTSL6G 3000 (CPU979G) has now been allocated for permanent use on driver training work at Chelmsford (CF), and this vehicle is no longer licensed for PSV operation. Accordingly, it should now be regarded as part of the service vehicle fleet, having been withdrawn from the operational fleet during early-June. Similar vehicle 3003 (CPU982G) is also expected to become part of the service vehicle fleet for driver training duties during late-June or early-July. However, 3002 (CPU981G), which is currently allocated to Chelmsford (CF) for driver training work, is still licensed for PSV operation.

Bristol BELL6G 1548 (WN0537L) is currently in temporary use as an office at Walthamstow (WW) depot, although it remains Delicensed for Disposal (D/L (D)).

Although officially allocated to Walton-on-Naze (WN) depot, Mercedes-Benz mini-bus 0219 (0219HJN) actually carries Clacton (CN) depot allocation plates.

Vehicle Repaints

A number of corrections to recently published vehicle repaints are necessary, and details are as follows :-

March w/e 29.3.86 - 3104 at DN (New livery - London version) (correction to NS265).
 April w/e 19.4.86 - 1709 at HH (New livery) (additional to NS265).
 May w/e 10.5.86 - 1858 at CN (New livery - London version) (correction to NS266),
 3074 at DN (New livery) (additional to NS266), 3107 at HH (New livery - London version) (correction to NS266).

May w/e 24.5.86 - 1779 at CN (New livery - London version) (additional to NS266).

The Company has again kindly given the Group details of vehicles repainted during recent weeks, and this continues from the information published in NS266 :-

May w/e 31.5.86 - Ford A0509 van NTK805S at CW (White livery), 3501 at CW (Coastliner open-top red and yellow livery).

June w/e 7.6.86 - 0600 at CW (New livery - Hornchurch Hoppa version), 0601 at CW (New livery - Hornchurch Hoppa version), 0603 at CW (New livery - Hornchurch Hoppa version).

w/e 14.6.86 - 0602 at CW (New livery - Hornchurch Hoppa version), 0604 at CW (New livery - Hornchurch Hoppa version), 1751 at CN (New livery).

w/e 21.6.86 - 3059 at CW (New livery).

Members should note that the new standard fleet livery for double-deck vehicles, excluding vehicles recently repainted in the London version of the livery, is as first applied to Bristol VRTSL6G 3041. The repaint details for this vehicle were incorrectly described as the London version in NS264; in fact, the livery is similar to that applied to London vehicles, with an extended area of yellow livery but without CityBus vinyls. 3059 and 3074 are further vehicles in this new standard fleet livery.

Leyland National 1859 (YEV317S) is currently receiving minor modifications to its overall advertisement livery (Lancaster Garages) at Brentwood (BD) depot.

Leyland National 1848 (YEV306S) and Bristol VRTSL6G's 3048 (JN0189N) and 3500 (ex. 3026) (WN0546L) are currently in the paintshops at Central Works.

Ford Transit mini-buses 0600-4 have been repainted in the standard fleet livery of green and yellow, in a similar fashion to that carried by larger vehicles, but with the addition of CityBus fleetnames and 'Hornchurch Hoppa' vinyls.

It has been reported that Leyland National 1797 (TJN496R) will be an additional vehicle to be allocated for LRT services operated by Walthamstow (WW) depot. It is expected to be repainted in the London version of the new fleet livery, and the vehicle was noted at Central Works on June 18th awaiting entry into the paintshops.

Service Vehicles

As noted above, Bristol VRTSL6G 3000 (CPU979G) should now be regarded as part of the service vehicle fleet.

Eastern National Engineering Ltd. has recently sold Ford Transit van A295UYE and the Ford Cargo stores lorry A890TYY to H & D Distribution Ltd., the stores distribution company established by Hants & Dorset Motor Services Ltd. H & D Distribution Ltd. now operates from Central Works at New Writtle Street, Chelmsford, and it is believed that the two vehicles listed above were transferred during May.

General

As reported in last month's news sheet, Walthamstow (WW) depot became operational with effect from Saturday, May 24th. This depot provides vehicles for LRT services 20, 145A, 167, 206 and 275, and during the first few weeks of operation certain difficulties have been apparent in the operation of these services, chiefly resulting from a shortage of drivers. Details of certain temporary service reductions affecting services 20, 206 and 275 were published on June 16th, although the Company hopes that full services will be restored by the end of June. In general, Leyland National vehicles operate services 167 and 206, with Bristol VRTSL6G's operating on services 20, 145A and 275. Service 275 uses Barkingside (Fullwell Cross) as the terminal point on the destination blinds in contrast to London Buses Ltd. who use Barkingside (High Street). On Sundays, the service is extended to Claybury Broadway; however, the bus stops over this section still read LRT service 129 only and are labelled 'Monday to Saturday' only.

Further to the information published in last month's news sheet, LRT service 193 will be revised from Saturday, August 2nd, with the service being converted to mini-bus operation using the five Ford Transit mini-buses 0600-4 in 'Hornchurch Hoppa' livery. The revised route details were published in last month's news sheet.

With effect from June 1st, Mr. Harold Taylor has been appointed as the Company's Director of Finance, and he will also have responsibility for some of the work previously undertaken by the Company Secretary. Our congratulations go to Mr. Taylor on his appointment.

Service Developments

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

- 3 - Minor timetable alterations (see NS266) introduced from May 12th, in connection with British Rail timetable changes.
- 70 - Two minor timetable revisions (see also NS266) introduced from May 12th, in connection with British Rail timetable changes.
- 27 - Mondays to Fridays : one minor timetable revision introduced from May 12th, in connection with British Rail timetable changes.
- 40 - Mondays to Fridays : four additional journeys to be included in Local Service Registration for this service (see also NS265).
- 43 - Saturdays : one minor timetable revision to be incorporated in the Local Service Registration.
- 53 - As an addition to the information published in NS265, the Local Service Registration for this service also includes additional journeys during peak periods on Mondays to Fridays.
- 66 - The terminal in Rochford for this service is listed as Rochford (Town Centre), with the inward journey terminating at West Street and the return journey departing from North Street (additional information to NS266).
- 74 - With effect from May 10th, there have been minor route alterations in Clacton and Alresford, and journeys now depart from Clacton four minutes later.
- 89A - From May 12th, for a period of one week, the 1735 hrs. journey from Halstead operated via Gosfield Corner due to the temporary closure of Hedingham Road (A604).
- 226 - Revised timetable introduced from March 16th.
- 311 - Revised timetable introduced from June 2nd, and service numbers 310/2/3 are no longer used (see also NS266).
- 330 - Mondays to Fridays : three minor timetable revisions introduced from May 12th, in connection with British Rail timetable changes.
- 333 - Service introduced on Weekdays from June 2nd, with direct route between Bishop's Stortford and Stansted Airport via Dunnov Road.
- 401 - Revised timetable introduced from March 16th.
- 403 - Revised timetable introduced from March 16th.
- 503/4/5/6/24 - Revised timetables introduced from March 16th.
- 545/6/7 - Revised timetables introduced from March 16th.

Tendring District Council has rejected a Company plan to use Pier Avenue, Clacton-on-Sea as the main terminal point for Clacton area mini-bus services. The Council considered that this proposal would result in additional traffic congestion in the town centre, and that the Jackson Road Bus Station should continue to be used as the terminal point.

The Company has surrendered its licences for certain Clacton town services and also for National Express service 085. Members may be interested to know that Ribble Motor Services Ltd. has surrendered its licence for National Express service 090 (formerly 109).

On the May Day and Spring Bank Holidays (May 5th/26th), a Sunday service was operated in all districts, with the exceptions that service 404 was not operated on either day and that special arrangements applied in the Clacton area on the Spring Bank Holiday.

From Tuesday, May 27th, two new mini-bus services commenced in the Waltham Abbey area under contract to Essex County Council, and as a replacement for LRT service 242 between Waltham Abbey and Yardley Lane (see also NS264). A third service will also commence on September 2nd, and the services are at present being operated by the Iveco 79.14 mini-bus C99 NNV. Full details of these services are as follows :-

- 252 - Waltham Cross (Town Centre)-Chingford (Station) via Waltham Abbey and Sewardstone. Operates on Mondays to Fridays during peak periods only, with departures from Waltham Cross at 0654 hrs., 0754 hrs. and 1804 hrs. and from Chingford at 0722 hrs., 1732 hrs. and 1832 hrs. Service commenced operation on May 27th.
- 253 - Sewardstonebury-Waltham Abbey (King Harold School) via Sewardstone. To operate on Schooldays only, with departures from Sewardstonebury at 0825 hrs. and from King Harold School at 1555 hrs. Service to commence operation on September 2nd.
- 254 - Honey Lane Hospital-Epping (St. Margarets Hospital) via Roundhills, Beechfield, Waltham Abbey (Town Centre), Parklands, Ninefields,

Upshire and Epping. Operates on Mondays to Fridays, with departures from Honey Lane Hospital at 0910 hrs. and 1355 hrs. and from St. Margarets Hospital at 1130 hrs. and 1640 hrs. Service commenced operation on May 27th.

It is not yet possible to confirm the proposed date for the commencement of Eastern National operation of LRT services 107 (Barnet (Arkley Hotel)-Brimsdown Station) and 259A (Hammond Street-Manor House). However, it is understood that both services will be operated by double-deck vehicles.

From May 1st, new quarterly tickets have been introduced in the Colchester Travelcard scheme. This scheme offers unlimited bus travel in two zones, covering the inner borough area or the whole borough area. The new charges for these tickets are as follows :-
 Inner borough ticket-7 days : £3.35; Monthly : £13.40; Quarterly : £36.00.
 Whole borough ticket-7 days : £6.75; Monthly : £27.00; Quarterly : £72.00.
 These tickets are available on Colchester Borough Transport, Eastern Counties, Eastern National and Hedingham Omnibuses Ltd. services.

A family ticket scheme will again be operated in the Southend area during the Summer months. This ticket, which costs £3.00 for one adult and up to two children or £3.75 for two adults and up to two children, provides unlimited bus travel after 1800 hrs. on Weekdays, all day on Saturdays and Sundays and throughout August in the Southend area.

Due to a temporary shortage of double-deck vehicles at Southend (SD) depot, Leyland National vehicles have been noted in use on services 9, 11A, 20, 22 and 22A, all of which are normally operated by double-deck vehicles.

Members may be interested to know that London Buses Ltd. has applied for a new service to operate on Weekdays (to be numbered X99) between Harlow (Town Station) and Basildon (Southernhay) via Epping, Debden, Buckhurst Hill, Ilford, Romford, Brentwood, Billericoy and Laindon.

A report in the Evening Gazette on June 17th indicated that the Company has been unsuccessful in obtaining Service Subsidy Agreements for certain services in the Harwich area, as part of Essex County Council's programme for seeking tenders for a number of routes. It is reported that the allocation at Harwich (DT) depot will be reduced to four vehicles. It was originally expected that Essex County Council would be considering tenders for Service Subsidy Agreements on July 16th, and therefore it is not yet possible to confirm this press report.

Publicity News

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

- Timetable leaflets - new timetable leaflets for services 226/403 (dated March 16th), 311 (dated June 2nd), 333 (dated June 2nd), 400 (undated, and featuring an illustration of Leyland Olympian 4507), 401 (dated March 16th), 406 (dated February 17th), 503/4/5/6/24 (dated March 16th) and 545/6/7 (dated March 16th).
- timetable amendment leaflets for services 3/27/151 (dated May 12th), 89A (dated May 12th) and 330 (dated May 12th).
- London Regional Transport services - timetable booklets for services 20/167/206 (dated May 24th) and for service 275 (dated May 24th).
- timetable panel displays have been produced for services 20 and 275 (both dated May 24th) (panels 11F and 13F respectively), and others may be in use.
- a leaflet was published on June 16th with details of temporary service reductions on services 20, 206 and 275, due to a shortage of staff.
- Essex County Council leaflets - a timetable booklet for bus services in the Waltham Abbey area, including Eastern National mini-bus services 252/3/4 (dated May 24th).
- timetable leaflets for services 201 (Loughton-Ongar) (West's Coaches) (dated May 24th) and 250 (South Woodford-Waltham Cross) (Sampsons Coaches) (dated May 24th).
- National Express services - a new pocket timetable leaflet for service 090 (London-Southend) (undated).

Excursion leaflets - four booklets containing details of 'Day Breaks' from the Braintree/Chelmsford/Maldon, Brentwood/Billerica, Clacton/Harwich/Colchester and South Essex areas during June-October.
 Explorer ticket leaflet - a new leaflet (dated April 1986) with details of the Explorer ticket and travel opportunities in the Essex area.
 Other leaflets - a leaflet dated May 24th with details of Grey-Green Summer Saturday holiday coach services from Romford and North London.

Temporary Loans

There a small number of temporary loans to report this month. At Silver End (SE), vehicles on loan during recent weeks have included 1651 CF (21.5-4.6), 1855 CF (27.5-29.5) and 1897 CF (23.5-28.5), with observations on services 53 (1897-23.5), 335 (1651-21.5, 1855-27.5), 337 (1651-27.5, 1897-24.5) and 353 (1651-21.5, 1855-27.5, 1897-23.5). Leyland Olympian coach 4500 SE was noted on temporary loan to Braintree (BE) on June 14th, when it was noted on a private hire working at Chelmsford.

At Bishop's Stortford (BS), recent temporary loans have unusually included two Walthamstow (WW) Bristol VRT's, 3102 (on 11.6) and 3121 (on 4/5.6), together with Leyland National 1903 BD (also on 4/5.6). 1903 was observed on services 58B and 317, whilst 3121 WW was noted on services 308 and 309.

Unusual Workings

Details of unusual workings reported by members during recent weeks are as follows :-

- 5.4-Potteries Motor Traction Mercedes-Benz L608D mini-bus 115 (B115NBF) noted parked at Harwich Town station.
- 15.5-1876 BD observed on service 251, and other recent observations of Brentwood (BD) depot Leyland National's on this service have included 1881 (20.5), 1810 (2.6 and 12.6) and 1933 (9.6).
- 20.5-1115 CR noted on service 88; 1118 HH observed on service 21; 3021 CF noted on driver raining work at Hutton.
- 21.5-1123 CR noted on service 83.
- 22.5-1802/25/6 (all WW) noted on LRT route learning work at Loughton; 3024 BE (P) noted on a private hire working at Rayleigh, whilst 3041 SE was noted on a similar working at Hatfield Peverel; 3094 BD, complete with LRT service 193 signs, noted on service 251.
- 23.5-1115 CR noted on services 82 and 83; 1126 SE observed on service 33, having earlier failed at Chelmsford whilst operating service 53 to be replaced by 1897 CF; 3059 SE noted on service 311.
- 26.5-3127 CR noted on service 119.
- 27.5-1651 CF noted on service 353, whilst 1897 CF was also noted on this service (see also under Temporary Loans); 1656 CF and 3108 CF both noted at Silver End (SE) depot, whilst 1800 WW was noted at Braintree Bus Park; a Leyland National was noted on service 83 in place of the normal Countrycar vehicle, and a further Leyland National was noted on service 72 on 28.5, again in place of the normal Countrycar vehicle.
- 28.5-1855 CF noted on service 353.
- 30.5-1125 SD observed on service 406, and again on 5.6; 3038 MN noted on an ASDA working at Rayleigh, whilst 3095 MN was noted on service 335.
- 31.5-1303 BE and 1306 BE noted on Highwayman services 826 and 820 respectively; 4013 SE was observed on service 335; 4500 SE (on loan to BE) was noted on a private hire working to Alton Towers.
- 1.6-1059 ED noted out of service awaiting repairs at Chelmsford (CF) depot, and it remained there on 6.6; 4503 CF was noted on a private hire working at the National Garden Festival at Stoke-on-Trent, whilst 4508 BN was noted at Witham and later at Walton-on-Naze on a private hire journey. Southend Transport 254 and 257 were official entries in the Southend Historic Transport Show, with 242, 303 and 313 also in use for various purposes, together with Rochford District Council 555.
- 3.6-1115 CR noted on services 105 and 107, and it has been reported that a Colchester (CR) vehicle is now outstationed at Walton-on-Naze (WN) depot to operate these services; 1911 CN noted on service 88; 2383 L observed at Chelmsford (CF) depot, with 2304 L present at Southend (SD) depot on this date; 3001 CN noted on service 123; 3018 MN (but carrying Clacton (CN) depot allocation plates during its period of loan) noted on service 106, whilst 3021 CF (also carrying CN depot plates) was noted on service 74.
- 4.6-Vehicles noted at The Derby at Epsom racecourse were 2383/4 L, Colchester Borough Transport 48, Southend Transport 232/3, 370-3, ex-Eastern National vehicles WNO 475, RWC 608, LFS289F and AVW402F and ex-Southend Transport 311 (PHJ 950).

- 5.6-1861 SE noted on service 311, and again on 7.6, with this vehicle being noted on service 330 on 6.6.
- 6.6-1305 SD noted on Highwayman service 809; 1930 DE noted on rail replacement work at Rochford (at 0245 hrs.), with 1786 BN noted on similar work on the following morning; 3004 CF (P) noted on driver training work at Colchester, and this vehicle was noted on similar work at Hatfield Peverel on 11.6 and at Southend on 14.6; 4015 SE failed at Chelmsford whilst operating service 53, and was replaced by 3033 CF.
- 7.6-1128 SD and 1601 CF operated an excursion from Southend to Portsmouth; 1306 DE was noted on Highwayman service 809; Southend Transport 212 (on hire to Frost Coaches) noted on a private hire journey at Basildon, whilst Southend Transport 324 was hired to Venturer Travel for a private hire working to London, and then on 8.6 for another working to Windsor.
- 8.6-Vehicles noted at the Southsea Spectacular transport rally were 2383 L, 3082 CF, 4502 DS, 4507 DN and 4508 DN, Southend Transport 218 and preserved Southend Transport vehicles 314 (PHJ 953) and 341 (CJN441C); 2384 L noted at Chelmsford (CF) depot, and this vehicle remained there at least until 18.6.
- 9.6-1114 MN noted on service 31.
- 10.6-Southend Transport 370 noted on service 3; West Yorkshire 2401 (HWW949Y) noted on National Holidays work at Colchester (and again on 11.6); 1123 CR noted on service 87; 1918 DN failed at Wood Street, Chelmsford whilst operating service 154, being replaced by 1804 CF.
- 11.6-Southend Transport 371 noted on service 14 during heavy rain.
- 12.6-Colchester Borough Transport 41/2, 64/5/8, 80 and 90 all operated a rail replacement between Colchester and Ipswich; 3051 MN failed at Heybridge whilst operating an ASDA working; 4016 DE was very unusually noted on service 89A.
- 14.6-the first reports of full size vehicles operating Clacton area mini-bus services were of 1769 CN on service 12, 1834 CN on service 11 and 3025 CN on service 13; 3025 was later noted on service 119, whilst on 16.6 1865 CN was noted on mini-bus service 1A; Colchester Borough Transport 102 operated a rail replacement service on the Marks Tey-Sudbury branch line; 1307 CN was noted on Highwayman service 809
- 15.6-4501 DN noted on a private hire working at Hatfield Peverel; Southend Transport 212 (on hire to Insign Bus Co.) noted on a private hire working from Thorpe Bay to Kent and Sussex.

Late News

Late news is that Maidstone & District Mercedes-Benz L608D/Rootes B20F mini-bus 1021 (C221EKL) was noted at Central Works on June 18th/19th, and this vehicle may be on hire to the Company. The chassis number of this vehicle is 310327-20-721571 and the Rootes body number is 17971. It was first licensed during May, and is a green and white livery.

On June 19th, the Company inspected a demonstration Dodge G10/Wadham Stringer Vanguard II D33E mid-bus. The registration number of this vehicle is G589ARV; the Dodge chassis number is SDDG10AXHFD719703 and the Wadham Stringer body number is 9272/86. A full report on this vehicle appeared in Coachmart magazine on May 2nd (issue no. 381).

Finally, the Dornobile body numbers as carried by Ford Transit mini-buses 0600-4 (G600NPU etc.) are as follows :- 0600-S3501/926/85; 0601-S3506/926/85; 0602-S3507/926/85; 0603-S3433/925/85; 0604-S3435/925/84.

COLCHESTER TRANSPORT

Vehicle On Hire

Great Yarmouth Borough Transport AEC Swift 90 (WEX690M) was returned to Great Yarmouth on May 30th, on which date Leyland Olympian 41 (C41 HHLJ) returned to Colchester. Prior to returning to Colchester, 41 (C41 HHLJ) returned to Eastern Coach Works, Lowestoft to be fitted with fixed front upper-deck windows, in place of the previous opening windows, and it is understood that similar vehicle 42 (C42 HHLJ) will also be modified in this way shortly.

Withdrawn Vehicles

Further to the information published in last month's news sheet, it can now be confirmed that Leyland Atlantean's 49 (YWC649F) and 50 (AVX 50G) were both sold during early-May. 49 was sold with its engine, but 50 was sold engineless, and no further details are yet available regarding the new owners of these vehicles.

Vehicles On Order

It has been reported that two Leyland Lynx single-deck vehicles have been ordered for delivery during 1987. Confirmation of this report is awaited.

General

Bristol REEL6L's currently out of service are 16 (YWC 16L), 19 (OWC719M), 21 (OWC721M), 24 (SWC 24K) and 26 (SWC 26K). Similar vehicles 18 (YWC 18L) and 20 (OWC720M) were returned to service by June 14th and June 9th respectively, whilst 23 (OWC723M) has recently been overhauled and fitted with a new engine. It is also due to enter the paintshops in the near future to be repainted in the new livery.

Open-top Leyland Atlantean 48 (YWC648F) re-entered service on May 26th newly repainted in the new livery, and it was used in a 'bus pull' by patrons of the Cambridge Arms P.H., Military Road (see also NS266). It is now being used regularly on the Town Tour.

Leyland Atlantean 51 (MVK538R) was exhibited in a static display at Sheepen Road on June 15th, whilst similar vehicle 52 (MVK546R) was last noted in service on May 22nd.

Leyland Atlantean's 71 (TPU 71R) and 81 (YNO 81S) were last noted in service on May 30th, whilst similar vehicles 65 (NNO 65P) and 89 (RVW 89W) operated a rail replacement service from Colchester to Manningtree and Ipswich on June 14th.

Leyland Atlantean 55 (JHK495N) has recently been fitted with Autosteer air assisted steering, similar to that fitted to 57 and 60.

To update the information contained in recent news sheets, the full list of vehicles now repainted in the new livery is 25, 48, 60/2/3/5/6/8, 70/4/6, 82-4, 90, 101 and 102, in addition to Leyland Olympian's 41/2.

Amongst various unusual workings reported by members during recent weeks, Bristol REEL6L's 22 (OWC722M) and 24 (SWC 24K) were noted on services 9A and 5 respectively on June 3rd. On June 12th, Leyland Atlantean's 56/8 (JHK496N etc.) were both noted on service 5, whilst 61 (NNO 61P) was being used on service 7A.

ROCHFORD DISTRICT COUNCILWithdrawn Vehicle

6.86

556 (DXG525K)

This vehicle was withdrawn during mid-June, and is being cannibalised for spares.

General

Dairler Fleetline 555 (WJN348J) will shortly be taken out of service for a temporary period to enable various repairs to be undertaken. During this period the Rochford 'Leisure Bus' service will be maintained by Venturer Travel's ex-East Kent AEC Reliance WJG471J, with other vehicles on hire as necessary. The service has also been crewed by Venturer Travel during June.

SOUTHEND TRANSPORTNew Vehicles

Re-built and re-bodied Leyland Leopard coach 254 was licensed from May 23rd, and carries registration number Q856MEV. It entered service on the 2030 hrs. service X1 journey from Southend on June 2nd, and additional information to that previously published is that it carries Berkhof body number 772 and Ensign rebuild number EDC0517L. Its seating capacity is C53F.

There is no further news to report regarding similar vehicle 255.

Acquired Vehicle

Southend Transport has recently acquired a second-hand Van Hool Astronoga double-deck coach, and full details are as follows :-

258 NDS841Y Van Hool Astronoga TDS24 YE282400NOM112184 CH57/23DT 12184 New -/83

This vehicle has been acquired from Carlton PSV Sales Ltd. (dealers), being delivered to Southend during late-May. It was new to Stagecoach, Perth, passing later to Trathen, Plymouth and then to Yelloway, Rochdale for operation on National Express Rapide services.

The vehicle is currently at Tickfield Avenue works, prior to returning to Van Hool's factory where it is expected that the vehicle will be re-seated with 32 or 34 seats, repainted in Southend Transport livery and fitted with new destination equipment and front doors.

General

New timetable leaflets for services X21, X31 and X41 were published on February 17th. Leyland Fleetline's 232/3/5 (MRJ232W etc.) and 370-3 (WJN370J etc.) were all noted at The Derby at Epsom on June 4th.

Leyland Fleetline's 233/5/1/9 (MRJ233W etc.) operated private hire journeys to the Essex Show at Great Leighs on June 13th, with 233/5 operating on hire to Rayleigh Roadways. Eastern National 1307 CN, 2201 CF, 3077 CF, 3079 MN and 4005 CF were also noted at the Essex Show on that date, whilst 1129 CF was the only vehicle noted on the following day.

Some interesting workings are now occurring on service 795 (Southend-Brighton). On Saturdays, Eastern National are currently using a double-deck Leyland Olympian coach on the 0815 hrs. working from Southend, whilst Southend Transport are using a Van Hool Astronomega double-deck coach on the same journey on Sundays. Eastern National are using a Leyland Olympian coach on occasions on Sundays on other workings.

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EASTERN NATIONAL DISPOSALS

Initial Disposals

- 1536 (OHK226K) -- Numbered 704 by Citybus Ltd., Belfast, 2/86.
- 1539 (PEV501K) -- Numbered 707 by Citybus Ltd., Belfast, 4/86.
- 1540 (PEV502K) -- Numbered 709 by Citybus Ltd., Belfast, 2/86.
- 1542 (RPU002K) -- Numbered 711 by Citybus Ltd., Belfast, 4/86.
- 1545 (SVW273K) -- Numbered 712 by Citybus Ltd., Belfast, 2/86.
- 3014 (SMS 40H) -- Being cannibalised and broken up for spares/scrap at Central Works, Chelmsford, 6/86. (see also NS259-65).
- 3019 (SMS 45H) -- Re-numbered 801 by South Midland Ltd., by 5/86, and still allocated to Wantage depot.
- 3047 (OCS576H) -- Re-numbered 802 by South Midland Ltd., by 5/86, and still allocated to Wantage depot.

Subsequent Disposals

- 1435 (00 9543) -- Reported as sold for scrap at auction, ca. 9/81, ex. MoAlpine - Brand - Zschokke, Llanberis (contractor), 8402. (see also NS231).
- 1527 (LPU452J) -- Still with Lincolnshire Road Car Company Ltd., 1214, 2/86, and allocated to Grinsby depot.
- 1528 (LVX116J) -- Remains sold to Corry, Campsie (breaker), 5/86, ex. Ulsterbus Ltd., Belfast, 708.
- 2717 (97 TVX) -- Still with Eastern Counties O.C. Ltd., X67, 4/86, and used for driver training. Allocated to Ipswich depot, and now has standard E.C.O.C. narrow wheels. (additional information to NS254).
- 2834 (LWC6600) -- Still with Stagecoach, Perth, 6/86. (see also NS255).
- 2885 (WNO973F) -- Still with Stagecoach, Perth, 6/86, but out of use at Spittalfield depot. (see also NS255).
- 2901 (WVX528F) -- Still with Stagecoach, Perth, 6/86. (see also NS255).
- 2905 (WVX532F) -- Still with Stagecoach, Perth, 6/86. (see also NS266).
- 2943 (AVW402F) -- Noted at The Derby, Epsom, 6/86, and reported as owned by Bus Fare, Cranleigh (N-PSV). Confirmation required. (see also NS258).

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News Sheet Contributions

Contributions to this news sheet were received from A.G. Osborne (C&F), R.H. Palmer (M105), V.J. Cooper (M128), R. Delahoy (M180), A.W. Meadows (M209), L. Thorington (M352), A.W. Colabourne (M377), D. Arnold (M379), J.G. Collins (M405), G.G. Toon (M452), A.K. Spindler (M511), C.M.J. Raynter (M515), C.D. Sigston (M523), C. Pretty (M524), J.E. Duly (M529), R.A. Dennis (M535), F.G. Spence (M545), D.A. Coulson (M568), L. Harden (M572), S.J. Barnes (M576), R.D. Ashton (M599), S. Coates (M603), D. Parker (M606), J. Simpkin (M623), G. Huggins (AM1) and the P.S.V. Circle. Notes and information for the July news sheet should be sent to the News Sheet Editor (address below) to arrive by Wednesday, July 16th. Please ensure that your contributions arrive by the deadline.