

EASTERN NATIONAL ENTHUSIASTS GROUP

NEWS SHEET NUMBER 218

May 1982

EDITORIAL

Subscription Renewals - July 1982

Yes it is subscription renewal time again for those members who have subscriptions expiring with the June news sheet. Those affected will have received a green renewal form with this news sheet. Please return it with your cheque/Postal Orders as it makes life easier for our Membership Secretary; all subscription renewals should be sent to the address shown on the green form, although members may also care to note that they will be able, as usual, to renew their subscriptions at the Southend Historic Transport Rally on Sunday, June 6th.

Members are further reminded that wives and other close relatives, girlfriends etc., can be enrolled as Associate Members for only £0-30p for each person per year. Send full details of name and address together with remittance to the Membership Secretary with your renewal form.

Eastern National Past and Present

This new book, to be published by Becknell Books of Kings Lynn on July 3rd, 1982, will be available from the Group. It is a photographic record of Eastern National vehicles over the years from the same publishers as 'Eastern Counties Past and Present', which appeared last year, and is to be highly recommended.

The book is priced at £4-50p, and if you want a copy as soon as it is available, then you may order it from the Group at a cost of £4-50p (post free). Why not send off your order today and secure your copy. All orders should be addressed to the Administrative Officer (P.W. Harvey Esq., 37. Warren Chase, Thundersley, Benfleet, Essex. SS7 3DZ), a receipt will be supplied if required, provided a Stamped Addressed Envelope is enclosed.

City Coach Co. Fleet History

The Group now has available for sale copies of the recently published P.S.V. Circle fleet history dealing with City Coach Co. (Ref. PN6). This book contains some excellent photographs together with full details of the vehicles operated by City Coach Co. The book is priced at £2-50p (inclusive of postage and packing) and all orders should be directed to the Administrative Officer (address above).

Southend Historic Transport Rally - Sunday, June 6th.

At Southchurch Park, Lifstan Way, Southend from 1000 hrs. This event is organised by the Castle Point Transport Museum Society, and the admission charges will be £1-00p (adults), £0-50p (children and OAPs) and £2-50p (family ticket for two adults and their children). The event will again feature a special road run from Warley, near Brentwood, to the rally site. As usual the Group will have a stand at the rally and our complete range of sales items will be available, including new stocks of black and white and colour photographs and our recent publications.

Southend Meeting - Tuesday, June 8th.

The Group's June meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 8th at the Civic Centre, Victoria Avenue, Southend commencing at 1930 hrs. (for 2000 hrs.). The highlight of the evening will be four silent cine films of trams, including some rare shots of steam trams together with a range of pre-war and post-war trams. These films will be shown by Group member Peter Carr, who is a keen tram enthusiast. During the course of the evening a slide show of buses in Jersey in 1975 and 1982 will also be shown, and all members are invited to what should prove to be an extremely enjoyable evening.

Hants & Dorset Motor Services Ltd. Open Day at Central Works, Eastleigh - Saturday, June 5th.

The Group has received details from Hants & Dorset Motor Services Ltd. of an open day at that Company's Central Repair Works at Barton Park Industrial Estate, Eastleigh on Saturday, June 5th. The Works will be open from 1030 hrs. to 1700 hrs. and admission will be free. Among the many items of interest will be vehicle displays, competitions, film shows and charabanc rides. The Works is situated at Bishopstoke Road close to Eastleigh Rail Station, and are served by Hants & Dorset services 42/A, 43, 48/A and 53/A.

Weekend Coach Tour to Lancashire, Friday, August 27th to Monday, August 30th inclusive.

Advance bookings for this tour are now being accepted; full details will be given in next month's news sheet. An outline itinerary is shown below. The inclusive cost will be £62-50p (includes coach travel and bed & breakfast accommodation for three nights), however, this will reduce to £60-00p provided that a £10-00p deposit per seat booked is paid BEFORE JULY 1st, 1982. Deposits should be sent to :-

M.L. Weyell Esq., Tours Organiser, 29. Glebelands Avenue, Newbury Park, ILFORD, Essex. IG2 7DN. (S.A.E. please for confirmation).

Friday, August 27th. - Depart Southend (ca. 1700 hrs.), London (ca. 1900 hrs.) to travel to Hanley.

Saturday, August 28th. - Chester Transport, Halton Transport, Warrington Transport (plus photographic halts, possible additional inclusion of a Crosville garage with ex. E.N. VRT's), overnight at Preston.

Sunday, August 29th. - Preston Transport, Fishwicks, Rossendale Transport, Burnley & Pendle Transport, plus other visits to be arranged (Hyndburn etc.), and photographic halts.

Monday, August 30th. - Depart Preston for visits to Fylde Transport and Blackpool Transport, long stay in Blackpool for tram rides etc. Return to London and Southend, in evening.

The number of participants on this tour will be STRICTLY LIMITED, so early reservation is to be recommended.

EASTERN NATIONAL OMNIBUS CO. LTD.New Vehicles

NIL

Withdrawn Vehicles

NIL

Further news (kindly supplied by Mr. W.N. Barlow, Chairman of the Crosville Enthusiasts Club) is now available regarding the Bristol VRT's recently sold to Crosville Motor Services Ltd. All the vehicles were noted at Crosville's Sealand Road Works on May 12th, and it appeared from general observations that the vehicles are to be used in service. 3006, 3008 and 3010 were receiving bodywork attention; 3011, 3017 and 3046 were also receiving attention; and 3007 was being repainted. Two of the vehicles now carry Crosville fleet numbers; 3007 (SMS 33H) is numbered DVG554 and 3010 (SMS 36H) is numbered DVG557. Both these vehicles were also noted with Crosville destination blinds displaying 'Bangor', and it is believed that at least some of the vehicles are destined for service in Crosville's Gwynedd division.

Other news of withdrawn vehicles is that 2775 (988 K00), which was sold to Ensign Bus Co., Purfleet in 1980, is currently in the process of sale to Johnson, Liphook and subsequently to an American operator, Roundabout Tours, for use on tours of Lake Tahoe in California and Nevada. This report is subject to confirmation.

Refurbished Vehicles

Three of the refurbished Bristol RELH6G coaches (1406/7/11) are now in service, and the fourth vehicle (1412) remained with Southdown Motor Services Ltd. during mid-May awaiting final completion.

Allocations & Transfers

5.82 1413 MN-SE, 1510 PL (P)-HD, 1926 HD-D/L, 2200 D/L-CF.

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 NS217 :-

April : w/e 24.4.82 - 1882 at CW.

May : w/e 8.5.82 - 1900 at CW.

w/e 15.5.82 - 1407 at CW, 1546 at HH (for PSV examination), 3036 at CW.

w/e 22.5.82 - 1759 at CW.

Allocations of D/L (D) and D/L (P) Vehicles

The following allocations of delicensed vehicles were recorded during May :-

Central Works (CW) - 1101, 1525, 2888; Clacton (CN) - 1506; Maldon (MN) - 1500/11/3/4/26/38, 2875, 2908, 3015 (which has since left for Crosville).

Service Developments

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

- 12 - Revised terminals to be Southend (Central Bus Station) and Wallasea Island (Bus Terminus) with a revised timetable. The section of route between the Bus Terminus and the Yacht Marina via a private road is to be withdrawn.
- 19A - Saturdays : four minor timetable changes.
- 20 - Mondays to Fridays : one additional journey and one minor timetable change.
- 31 - Mondays to Fridays : one minor timetable change.
- 38 - Mondays to Fridays : one minor timetable change.
- 40 - Mondays to Fridays : journeys to and from Marconi's Research Station to be numbered 40A; two journeys to be withdrawn and one additional journey.
Saturdays : a route revision to one journey and two additional journeys. (These revisions were introduced from 26.4.82 - see NS217).
- 75 - Schooldays : two journeys to be withdrawn (see also NS217).
- 75D - Schooldays : one additional journey to be introduced from West Mersea to Colchester via Peldon and Monkwick School (see also NS217).
- 80 - Weekdays : one minor timetable change (see also NS217).
- 88A - Mondays to Fridays : one minor timetable change (see also NS217).
- 93 - Route in North Fambridge to be extended to Ferry Corner and two minor timetable changes.
- 95A-98A - Revised terminals to be Maldon (Bus Station) and Burnham (Clock Tower) with service 97A operating between Maldon and Burnham via Bradwell (Green Man) and service 98A operating between Maldon and Burnham only; various route revisions and revised timetables.
- 99 - NEW SERVICE - St. Lawrence Bay-Burnham (St. Peter's School) via Steeple, Lower Mayland and Southminster.
- 103 - Saturdays : one route revision (see also NS217).
- 122 - Weekdays : one minor timetable change (see also NS217).
- 145 - Fridays : one journey to be withdrawn (see also NS217).
- 147 - One journey to commence at Pitsea (Chalvedon School) on Schooldays and at Pitsea (Broadway) when schools are closed.
- 149 - Fridays : one additional journey (see also NS217).
- 261 - Mondays to Fridays : one minor timetable change (see also NS217).
- 262 - Mondays to Fridays : two minor timetable changes (see also NS217).
- 431 - Revised terminals to be Burnham (Clock Tower) and Romford (St. Edwards Way) with journeys operating via Southminster, Steeple, Mayland, Latchingdon, Maldon, Great Baddow and Chelmsford with a revised timetable.
- 507 - Schooldays : one journey to be withdrawn and one journey to be extended to North Benfleet.

An application has also been made (jointly with Eastern Counties O.C. Ltd. and London Country Bus Services Ltd.) for a new daily service (799) between London (Victoria Coach Station) and Cambridge (Drummer Street) via Aldgate, Whitechapel, Stratford, Leytonstone, M11 motorway, Harlow and Bishop's Stortford. At this stage no further details are available, although it is understood that the service would normally be operated by London Country and Eastern Counties.

The Company has also applied for revised excursions and tours from Chelmsford (Bus Station), Clacton-on-Sea (E.N. Coach Stand, Pier Avenue), Colchester (Bus Station), Halstead (E.N. Office, High Street), Harwich (Bus Station), Maldon (Bus Station) - amendments to the earlier application as listed in NS215) and Witham (High Street).

Temporary Loans

Clacton (CN) vehicles which worked on tempoary loan to Harwich (DT) during April were 1050, 1510 (PL (P)), 1523, 1705/51/6, 1800, 1911 and 3003. Additionally, 1892 CR was loaned to DT from April 21st-22nd replacing 1783. Among the CF vehicles which have been noted on loan to BS during recent weeks has been 1701, which replaced 1759.

Unusual Workings

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

- 22.4-3071 SD noted on service 20; 3102 HH noted on service 24A.
- 24.4-1059 MN noted on Highwayman service 801 to Peterborough; 1895 SD noted on National Express service 109.
- 25.4-1212 MN noted on National Express service 109; 3024 SD, 3097 HH, 3107 HH and ST 235 noted on a rail replacement service between Southend (Victoria) and Wickford; 3083 SD (which was on loan to HH) noted on a private hire working to Canvey Island; 3084 SD noted on a private hire working at Wickford; 3085 HH noted on a private hire working to Barking; 3098/9 3109/17 (all HH) noted on a rail replacement service from Pitsea to Tilbury; 3120 BN noted on the 1830 hrs. service 402 journey from Southend to London with 1937 SD noted on the return working.
- 26.4-1418 CN noted at Chelmsford (CF) depot following repairs (see NS217); 1907 BN noted on service 400.
- 27.4-1894 SD noted on National Express service 109; ST 224 noted on service 22.
- 29.4-3094 BD noted on service 226.
- 30.4-1212 MN noted on services 46 and 56; 1780 CN noted on service 41; 3035 CF noted on service 59; 3081 CF noted on service 31.
- 1.5-3075 SD noted on service 11A; 3081 CF noted on service 38; 3112 CF noted on service 42; 3125 MN noted on service 19A.
- 2.5-3047 PL (P), 3052/4/7/62/87 (all SD), 3102/3/9 (all HH) and ST 235/41 noted on a rail replacement service between Southend (Victoria) and Wickford; 3097/9 3103 (all HH) noted on a rail replacement service from Laindon to Upminster.
- 4.5-1201/12 (both MN) noted at Battersea Coach Park on private hire work for a primary school in Chelmsford; 1202 BS and 1204 SD noted on National Express service 109; 3013 noted being towed from Prittlewell to Chester by a Martins, Middlewich (dealer) breakdown vehicle.
- 6.5-1052 MN noted on service 19A; 1201 MN noted on service 98.
- 7.5-1201 MN noted on service 98; 1531 D/L (D) noted being towed by breakdown vehicle 0102 on the A127 towards Southend; 3027 DT noted on service 113.
- 8.5-1059 MN noted on Highwayman service 801; 1216 BD noted on National Express service 109; 1400 SD (but without depot allocation plates) noted at MN depot; 1414 HD on a relief National Express service 109 journey; 1510 HD (but without depot allocation plates) noted on service 88; 3033 CF noted on service 11A; 3047 PL (P) noted at SD depot; 3058 HD noted on an ASDA working; 4001 SD (but without depot allocation plates) noted on service 20, and 4000/2 are also reported to be without allocation plates.
- 9.5-1059 MN noted at SD depot; 3015 (sold to Crosville) noted still at MN depot, although subsequent reports indicated that the vehicle had reached Chester by 11.5; 3085/99 3107/9/16 (all HH) noted on a rail replacement service from Southend (Victoria) to Wickford; 3085 3107/16/7 (all HH) noted on a rail replacement service from Laindon to Upminster.
- 10.5-1414 HD noted at Southend Airport.
- 11.5-1201 MN noted on service 98; 1707 CF noted on service 25; 1773 SD noted on a late evening service 251 journey to Rawreth (Carpenters Arms); 1928 HH noted on service 24; 3057/84 (both SD), ST 225/30, 385 and 389 noted on a rail replacement service between Southend (Victoria) and Wickford.
- 12.5-1407 SD noted displaying a new 'Highwayman' advertisement on the boot; 3120 BN noted on service 251.
- 14.5-1216 BD noted on National Express service 109 - 1202 BS and 1216 BD both remained on loan to SD during mid-May, although 1202 BS was noted at Chelmsford on 17.5.
- 15.5-1701 CF noted at Bishop's Stortford on temporary loan (replacing 1759).
- 16.5-1727/33/84 1817 3097/8 3102/7/17 (all HH) noted on a rail replacement service from Pitsea to Upminster; 3086 SD noted on service 24; former ST 312 (now owned by Ensign Bus Co.) noted on a ferry replacement service between Tilbury and Gravesend.
- 17.5-1546 HH noted on service 5; 3083 SD noted eastbound on service 400 at Seven Kings (High Road) probably avoiding serious traffic congestion along the A12.
- 18.5-3084 SD (on loan to HH) noted on a private hire working to Rochester.
- 19.5-1217 BD and 1407 SD noted on National Express service 109.
- 20.5-1401 SD noted on National Express service 109.

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COLCHESTER TRANSPORTGeneral

The only news to report this month is that Leyland Atlantean 71 (TPU 71R) has been repainted with black window surrounds on both decks, and this represents a variation of the current livery similar in style to the recently refurbished Daimler Fleetlines of Southend Transport (374-85 batch).

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SOUTHEND TRANSPORTWithdrawn Vehicles

4.82 364 (WJN364J) 365 (WJN365J)

General

The main news this month is the introduction of the new X1 limited-stop service from Southend (Central Bus Station) to Heathrow Airport (Central Bus Station) from Monday, May 17th. As reported last month, this new service replaces the previous jointly operated X1 service between Southend and Reading, and is now solely operated by Southend Transport. A new timetable leaflet has been published and this includes full details of the service. On the same date Reading Transport introduced a new daily X1 'Goldline' service from Reading to London (Aldgate). This service basically operates with an hourly frequency; most journeys commence at Reading Station, but some peak-hour services are extended from Caversham Heights (Albert Road, The Mount) and Bath Road (Russell Street). Adequate connecting facilities are available with the Southend Transport X1 service. Probably one of the last interesting examples of joint operation between Southend Transport and Reading Transport occurred on May 13th, when Southend Transport Leyland Leopard 207 (BTE207V) was loaned to Reading Transport for private hire work. Reading Transport Metrobus 182 replaced this vehicle, and was used by Southend Transport on a duplicate service 3 journey from Hadleigh (Thames Drive) to Bournes Green at 0750 hrs. and on a later school contract before returning to Reading on the 1030 hrs. X1 service.

Dual-purpose Leyland Leopard 200 (GJN508D) re-entered service on May 1st, and now carries the blue and cream saloon livery with black window surrounds.

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EASTERN NATIONAL DISPOSALS (By kind courtesy of the P.S.V. Circle, continued from NS217).'National' numbering scheme

3709 (FEV 178) - Ledger, Northampton (for preservation), 3/82, ex. Bonsall, Grantham (for preservation).

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- 421 (GVW983H) - Passed to Miller, Horsham, 12/80, from Gilmour, Crosshouse, via Coughlin, Stanford-le-Hope. (additional information to NS213).
 - 1208 (WVX 443) - Still on premises of dealer, Coltishall, 11/81, ex. Eastern Counties LM923.
 - 1210 (WVX 447) - Still on premises of dealer, Coltishall, 11/81, ex. Eastern Counties LM925.
 - 2736 (183 KNO) - Caravan, by 10/81, ex. Smith & May, Benfleet.
 - 2772 (VWC 52) - Exported to Zambia, 2/82, ex. dealer, Purfleet.
 - 2780 (993 K00) - Still with Wakefield Shirt Co. Ltd. (N-PSV), 2/82. ("Double Two" is the trading name). Did not pass to dealer, Sherburn, probably there for attention only. (additional information to NS183/208).
 - 2797 (BVX673B) - Exported to Zambia, 2/82, ex. dealer, Purfleet.
 - 2831 (KNO954C) - Cibulco Contracting & Trading Co., Doha, Qatar, 11/81, ex. dealer, Purfleet.
 - 2833 (LWC659C) - Cibulco Contracting & Trading Co., Doha, Qatar, 11/81, ex. dealer, Purfleet.
- REMAINDER HELD OVER TO NEXT MONTH (NS219)

News Sheet Contributions

Contributions to this news sheet were received from A.G. Osborne (C&F), M.L. Weyell (M10), P.J. Snell (M32), W.J. Morrison (M131), R. Delahoy (M180), A.W. Meadows (M209), P.W. Harvey (M219), S.D. Barham (M313), J.G. Collins (M405), J. Harvie (M409), K.M. Russell (M454), N.R. Lennox (M456), I.K. Taylor (M464), G. Huggins (AM1) and I. Ransom (AM2). Notes for the June news sheet should be sent by Wednesday, June 16th.