

EDITORIAL

Autumn Excursion - Saturday, October 5th.

If you have not already booked for this excursion please do so as soon as possible, booking forms were circulated with last month's news sheet.

Southend X1 5th Anniversary Run - Sunday, October 6th.

The Group has organised a special tour to celebrate the 5th anniversary of Southend Transport's X1 service on Sunday, October 6th. A booking form is enclosed with this news sheet, and members should note that all bookings should be made by post to the Events Secretary. The fare is £6 from any service X1 pick up point to Reading and return, and the booking form contains full details.

Annual Photographic Competition - Tuesday, October 8th.

The Group's October meeting at Rochford will feature the annual Photographic Competition, and we hope that many members will submit their photographs or slides for the competition. For members' information, the competition rules are set out below. The meeting will be held at the Carriage Room, Freight House, Bradley Way, Rochford on Tuesday, October 8th commencing at 1930 hrs. (for 2000 hrs.). While entries are being judged, Ray Palmer will present a slide show on 'Buses in the Islands', showing the current scene in the Channel Islands (taken on the recent enthusiasts' weekend) and in the Orkneys.

Competition Rules

- 1) Entry is open to all paid up members of the Eastern National Enthusiasts Group, with the exception of the judges.
- 2) All entries must bear the entrant's name and membership number. No other data, except the date and location of the photograph, may be submitted.
- 3) Entries may be submitted before 2000 hrs. at the meeting to be held on October 8th, or by post to P.W. Harvey Esq., ENEG, 19. Watkins Way, Shoeburyness, Essex. SS3 9NX. to arrive by October 7th. Postal entries will only be returned if accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope.
- 4) There will be two classes :-
 - a) COLOUR - 35 mm slides.
 - b) COLOUR or BLACK AND WHITE - prints.
- 5) A maximum of 6 photographs in total may be entered. The entry fee is £0.20 per photograph.
- 6) The judges will be Peter Carr and Richard Delahoy. The judges will be available to comment on the entries at the meeting. No correspondence will be entered into.
- 7) The prizes will be a trophy for the best photograph in each class and a voucher to the value of £3.00 for the runner-up in each class.
- 8) No entries may be submitted which have won awards in other competitions.

Castle Point Transport Museum Society Open Day - Sunday, October 13th.

The Castle Point Transport Museum Society's 1985 Autumn Open Day will be held at the Museum on Canvey Island on Sunday, October, 13th from 1000 hrs. to 1700 hrs. The museum is located at the former ENOC Canvey (CY) depot, and the Group's sales stand will be present with our full range of sales items. A free courtesy bus service will be operating between the museum and the public car park at the junction of Furtherwick Road and Eastern Esplanade, where there will be a 'Bus Meet' and vehicle display. It is also expected that there will be a parade of visiting buses past the museum during the course of the day.

Ilford Meeting - Tuesday, October 15th.

An evening meeting will be held at 7. Farley Drive, Seven Kings, Ilford on Tuesday, October 15th commencing at 1930 hrs. The meeting will provide an opportunity for general discussion about current events. Farley Drive is close to Seven Kings Rail Station where there are regular services to Liverpool Street, Romford and Brentwood with connections to Chelmsford, Clacton, Colchester and Southend.

L.O.T.S. 'Transport Spectacular' - Saturday, October 26th.

The Group's sales stand will be present at this year's L.O.T.S. 'Transport Spectacular', which is being held on Saturday, October 26th. Full details will be published next month, but note that this event is being held a week earlier than usual.

Items For Sale

The Group has available for sale a large quantity of Eastern National service revision information and posters for the period from 1979 to 1984. This material is almost all of the type normally displayed inside buses, and will be of considerable interest to enthusiasts with a special interest in route developments. It is being offered to Group members in the first instance, before being included in the Group's sales stock. If you are interested in buying this material, you should submit an offer in writing to the News Sheet Editor at 18, Lynmouth Avenue, Chelmsford, Essex. CM2 0TP. to arrive by October 16th. The highest bid will be successful, and you should allow £2.10 for postage and packing (unless you live in the Mid-Essex area, where delivery is possible). As a guide, there are in the region of 400 separate publicity items included in this offer.

Bus Mastermind Quiz

The annual 'Bus Mastermind Quiz', held at Rochford on September 3rd, was between two teams of committee members. The winners were the Ilford team (comprising Alan Osborné, Martin Weyell and Bob Palmer) who beat the 'Provincial' team (comprising Richard Delahoy, Derek Stebbing and Bill Morrison).

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EASTERN NATIONAL OMNIBUS CO. LTD.New Vehicles

NIL

Withdrawn Vehicles

9/85	3014 (SMS 40H)
	3045 (NAG583G)

Additional information regarding the disposal of these vehicles is included under Eastern National Disposals on page 12.

Vehicles On Hire

Southend Transport Leyland Leopard coach 332 (XWX189S) was hired on September 8th (for that day only), and operated from Southend (SD) depot.

Re-built Vehicles

Work is continuing on the conversion of Bristol RELH6G coach 2203 (X00878L) into a disabled persons' vehicle. A wheelchair lift has been fitted behind the nearside front wheel, and it is understood that the planned capacity of this vehicle will be C17F plus 10 wheelchairs. The vehicle will shortly enter the paintshops at Central Works.

Vehicles On Order

There is no further news to report this month regarding the anticipated order for a number of Mercedes-Benz mini-bus vehicles (see also NS256/7). At the present time, PMT Engineering are converting a batch of 20 vehicles for Midland Red (West). Various unconfirmed reports have indicated that consideration is being given to the operation of an initial batch of these vehicles on Clacton area services, but at this stage it should be stressed that there has been no official confirmation of such reports.

It is understood that a number of other vehicles are on order for delivery during 1986, and details will be published as soon as they become available.

Allocations & Transfers

Leyland National 1705 was omitted from the Clacton (CN) allocation published on page 11 of last month's news sheet; this vehicle was re-allocated to Colchester (CR) during September (see below).

Leyland National's 1789, 1800 and 1834 continued to be fitted with Clacton (CN) depot allocation plates at the time of writing, although it is understood that Walton-on-Naze

(WN) depot allocation plates will be fitted in due course.

9.85 1111 SD-SE, 1305 CF-SD, 1536 DT-D/L (P), 1540 PL (P)-D/L (P)-BS, 1541 CR-PL (P), 1547 CN-D/L (P), 1705 CN-CR, 3001 D/L (P)-CN, 3002 CF (for driver training work)-D/L (P)-CF (for driver training work), 3004 MN-D/L (P), 3022 BS-CR, 3024 D/L (P)-PL (P), 3027 BD-DT, 3030 CR-CN, 3050 DT-CR, 3066 CR-CF, 3078 SD-CR, 3083 CF-SD, 3095 CF-BE, 3111 CR-CF, 3115 DE-CR, 4503 SE-CF.

Of the above vehicle re-allocations, 1111 is now not attached to the Coaching Department, whilst 4503 is now attached to the Coaching Department.

Service Vehicles

Bristol VRTSL6G 3002 (CPU981G) was delicensed for a short period during September, but this vehicle has now been licensed again for driver training duties at Chelmsford (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 NS257 :-

April w/e 27.4.85 - 3086 at SD (partial repaint only - lower deck) (confirmation of date, see NS257).

June w/e 1.6.85 - 3090 at SD (partial repaint only - lower deck) (confirmation of date, see NS256/7).

August w/e 24.8.85 - 1816 at CW, 1829 at CW.

w/e 31.8.85 - 1937 at CW, 3068 at CW (overall advertisement livery for Basildon Development Corporation - Eastgate Shopping Centre).

September w/e 7.9.85 - No vehicles repainted.

w/e 14.9.85 - 3095 at CW (partial repaint only - now only advertises Neeps of Colchester, see also NS249).

w/e 21.9.85 - 1702 at CW.

Bristol VRTSL6G 3068 (K00786V) has now entered service at Basildon (BN) in its overall advertisement livery for Basildon Development Corporation - Eastgate Shopping Centre. Similarly, 3092 (STW 36W) had entered service by August 21st (see NS257) in its overall advertisement livery for Grange Motors (Brentwood) Ltd., and this particular vehicle is mainly being used on service 251.

The next vehicle to be repainted in an overall advertisement livery will be Leyland National 1873 (AN0272S), which will carry an advertisement for County Motor Works (Chelmsford) Ltd., Chelmsford. This vehicle is currently in the paintshops at Central Works, and the basic livery will be red, white, yellow and blue.

Bristol VRTSL6G 3095 (UAR585W) has received modifications to its overall advertisement livery, and it now only advertises Neeps of Colchester and does not feature Anglian Autos.

The livery of Bedford YMQS vehicles 1050/5/6/8/9 is to be changed to be similar to that carried by the service W9 vehicles (1051-4/7). The vehicles will not carry the 'W-Niner' lettering, but the livery will be similar in other respects. The first vehicle to receive this new livery style will be 1059, which is currently in the paintshops at Central Works.

General

A number of vehicles from other operators have received attention at Eastern National Engineering's Central Works during recent weeks. These have included Ambassador Travel LL803 (HVG803V), Cambus Leyland National 227 (XNG760S) and Bristol VRTSL6G's 721 (YNG212S) and 740 (RAH265W), Colchester Borough Transport 62 (NNO 62P), Southend Transport 314 (GHV 29N) and 342 (YWW359S), an Army Bedford/Marshall bus registered 56 FM 52 and a Britvic Ltd. Foden lorry registered WN0813W.

It is understood that part of the depot/works premises at Prittlewell (PL) have been leased to Jessups (Southend) Ltd. for the preparation of new cars, for a period of about six months commencing during July.

For the record, the first two Eastern National workings on LRT service W9 on Saturday, July 13th were operated by 1054 (TJN977W) and 1051 (TJN974W) respectively.

A planning application has been made to Tendring District Council to convert the former Eastern National bus depot at 7/8 Victoria Place, Brightlingsea into an estate agent's office. The depot closed on July 1st, 1967.

Leyland Olympian 4505 (B693BPU) has now returned to service following the completion of its accident repairs; it was noted back in service on September 3rd.

Leyland National 1801 (TJN500R) sustained slight accident damage whilst operating on service 152 near Stock on the morning of September 12th.

Members may be interested in the following observations of Highwayman, National Express and National Holidays workings involving Eastern National vehicles at Basildon

Bus Station on various Saturdays during May, June and July :-

801 (Peterborough)-1111 (18.5, 25.5, 15.6), 1114 (1.6, 8.6), 1115 (20.7).
 804 (Norwich)-1114 (18.5, 25.5, 20.7), 1115 (1.6, 8.6, 15.6).
 810 (Skegness)-1504 (on all above dates).
 820 (Basildon)-1119 (15.6), 1303 (18.5, 25.5), 1308 (1.6, 20.7), 1309 (8.6).
 821 (Ramsgate)-1113 (1.6), 1307 (on all other above dates).
 822 (Dover)-1127 (on all above dates).
 823 (Hastings)-1123 (18.5, 8.6, 15.6, 20.7), 1302 (25.5, 1.6).
 824 (Eastbourne)-1122 (on all above dates).
 825 (Bognor Regis)-1111 (8.6), 1114 (15.6), 1115 (18.5, 25.5), 1125 (1.6, 20.7).
 826 (Isle of Wight)-1119 (25.5), 1303 (1.6, 15.6, 20.7).
 827 (Bournemouth)-1600 (all above dates except 1.6), 1601 (1.6).
 795 (Brighton)-1115 (18.5, 1.6), 1116 (25.5, 15.5, 20.7), not noted on 8.6.
 809 (Dovercourt)-1111 (1.6, 20.7), 1125 (on all other above dates).
 National Holidays feeder service-1128 (18.5, 1.6, 15.6), 1129 (25.5, 8.6, 20.7).
 National Express 109 (duplicate journey)-1119 (15.6), 1303 (25.5), 1308 (20.7).
 National Express 133 (Great Yarmouth)-1118 (20.7).
 National Express 135 (Great Yarmouth)-1124 (20.7).

It is understood that Leyland National 1711 (WN0560L), which has the distinction of being the only such vehicle to be fitted throughout with moquette seating, will shortly be re-trimmed with standard seat coverings.

Although not strictly an Eastern National vehicle disposal, and therefore not included under Eastern National Disposals below, the P.S.V. Circle has reported that former Alder Valley Bristol FLF6G 692 (PBL 60F) was being repaired (rear end) by North's (dealer), Sherburn with parts from a former Eastern National Bristol FLF, presumably for a prospective buyer. The identity of the Eastern National FLF is unknown, and the date was not stated, although 1985 was implied, and further information will be published if it becomes available.

Temporary Loans

Fewer temporary loans have been recorded by members during recent weeks. As noted in last month's news sheet, 3032 CR was operating on temporary loan to Brentwood (BD) during mid-August. This vehicle was replacing 3027 BD, which had suffered engine problems, and which was then towed to Colchester (CH); it has since been re-allocated back to Harwich (DT).

On September 2nd, Bristol VRTSL6G 3022 CR replaced failed Eastern Counties Bristol LH6L LH930 (WEX930S) at Colchester. 3022 operated the 1235 hrs. service 93 (formerly numbered 208) journey from Colchester, and then the 1540 hrs. service 93 journey from Ipswich.

At Harwich (DT), 1123, 1650, 1658 and 3020 (all CR), 1113 and 1307 (both CN) and 1399 CF all operated on loan for various periods between late-July and mid-August. Leyland National 1653 suffered accident damage on July 30th, and this vehicle is currently under repair at Central Works; it was replaced initially by 3020 CR, and subsequently by 1650 CR. 1399 CF was briefly at Harwich (DT) on August 4th, having replaced failed Leyland Tiger 1113 CN at Chelmsford on that date. On August 5th, the vehicle worked a National Express service 084 journey from Clacton as far as Chelmsford, where it was replaced by 1113. On July 31st, National Travel (East) Leyland Tiger coach 281 (OHE281X) was used by Harwich (DT) depot for an excursion to Sandringham.

Harwich (DT) vehicles have operated extensively on National Express, Highwayman, private hire and excursion work during late-July and August. The shuttle service between Dovercourt Railway Station and Warners Holiday Camp was operated by 1536

on July 27th, and by 3050 DT on August 3rd and August 10th. Tours and excursions from the Warners Holiday Camp saw the use of Bristol VRT's 3020 (July 29th), 3024 (July 22nd), 3027 (July 22nd/24th/25th), 3050 (August 1st/5th/8th) and 3058 (July 22nd/24th/29th and August 5th). Unusual National Express workings on service 080 (Harwich-London) involved the use of Bristol VRTSL6L 3058 on July 27th (see also NS257), and Leyland National 1920 on the following day.

At Silver End (SE), temporary loans have included 1652 BE (during early-September), 1902 BE (during early-September), 1924 BE (September 13th/14th), 1926 BE (August 20th and September 4th/5th) and 3059 BE (August 21st). Silver End (SE) vehicles noted on Braintree area services during this period have included 1745 on services 70 and 351 on September 10th, 1747 on service 330 on September 7th/10th and 3060 on service 70 on September 10th.

Bristol VRTSL6G 3091 CF was noted on temporary loan to Colchester (CR) on September 14th, on which date 1308/9 (both BE) and 1602 CN were all noted in the depot yard.

Service Developments

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

- 33 - Mondays to Fridays : the additional journey listed in NS257 in fact operates as service 38A, and it has been operating for some weeks, probably since July.
- 44A - Mondays to Fridays (when works are open) : 1648 hrs. journey from New Street Works withdrawn from September 2nd.
- 70B - Service withdrawn from September 1st. On Sundays from this date, the 1305 hrs. journey from Colchester terminates at Braintree (Bus Park) and is re-numbered 70, and the 1600 hrs. journey from Notley Hospital now starts from Braintree (Bus Park) at 1614 hrs. and is re-numbered 70. The Wednesdays only journey from Braintree (Bus Park) at 1400 hrs. is withdrawn from September 4th.
- 101 - Weekdays : from September 2nd, most early morning to mid-afternoon journeys operate 2 minutes earlier in each direction to provide improved connections with service 74 at St. Osyth.
- 102 - Weekdays : from September 2nd, the service has been reduced to provide a morning shopping service to/from Clacton, and has been re-routed as listed in NS257.
- 119 - Weekdays : 0712 hrs. journey from Frating operates 2 minutes earlier at 0710 hrs. from September 2nd.
- 120 - Schooldays : 0900 hrs. journey from Parkeston and 1520 hrs. journey from Dovercourt (War Memorial) have been re-timed to 0855 hrs. and 1525 hrs. respectively from September 2nd.
- 122 - Mondays to Fridays : additional journey introduced from Ramsey Castle to Harwich at 1607 hrs. (from September 30th).
- 127 - Service withdrawn from September 3rd.
- 151 - Weekdays : 2336 hrs. journey from South Benfleet (Rail Station) to be withdrawn (see also NS255).
Daily : 0042 hrs. journey from South Benfleet (Rail Station) withdrawn from July 29th.
- 157 - Minor route revision via King Street, Southend Road, B1420, Fobbing Road, Lion Hill, High Road and A13, and revised timetable.
- 255 - An application has been made for a full licence for this service, to operate on Mondays to Fridays. The existing short-term licence will be terminated (see also NS249/50).
- 308 - Schooldays : one morning and one afternoon journey to operate via Ward Crescent and Piggotts Way (morning) and vice versa (afternoon).
- 311 - Mondays to Fridays : 0752 hrs. journey from Braintree operates on Schooldays only from September 2nd. Additional journeys introduced from Braintree (Bus Park) to Broomfield Hospital at 1310 hrs. and from Broomfield Hospital to Braintree (Bus Park) at 1555 hrs. (on days when schools are closed), both from September 2nd.
Schooldays : 1545 hrs. journey from Patching Hall Lane to Braintree (Bus Park) operates via Broomfield Hospital at 1555 hrs. from September 2nd.

- 317 - Mondays to Fridays : 0700 hrs. journey from Bishop's Stortford and 0736 hrs. journey from Henham both operate 5 minutes earlier from September 16th.
- 321 - Mondays to Fridays : 0820 hrs. journey from Braintree (Bus Park) and 0835 hrs. journey from Notley Hospital both withdrawn from September 2nd.
Schooldays and Wednesdays (when schools are closed) : 1550 hrs. journey from Notley Hospital withdrawn from September 2nd.
Sundays : additional journey introduced from Braintree (Bus Park) to Deanery Gardens at 1215 hrs.
- 324 - NEW SERVICE to operate on Schooldays between Coggeshall (Market Hill) and Braintree (Bus Park) via Pattiswick, Tumblers Green and Stisted. Timetable to comprise two journeys re-numbered from service 325 (see below), and this service was introduced from September 2nd.
- 325 - Schooldays : 0805 hrs. journey from Tumblers Green is re-numbered as service 324, and is re-timed to start from Coggeshall at 0807 hrs. 1535 hrs. journey from Braintree (Bus Park) is extended to Coggeshall and is also re-numbered 324.
Mondays to Fridays : 0745 hrs. journey from Braintree (Bus Park) withdrawn from September 2nd.
Mondays to Fridays (when schools are closed) : 0805 hrs. journey from Tumblers Green is re-timed to operate 14 minutes later at 0819 hrs.
Schooldays : 1605 hrs. journey from Tumblers Green withdrawn from September 2nd.
Revised route for service 325, with section of route via Alec Hunter School withdrawn.
- 328 - Mondays to Fridays : revised timetable introduced from September 2nd.
Saturdays : minor timetable revisions introduced from September 7th.
- 330 - Mondays to Fridays (when schools are closed) : 0838 hrs. journey from Marlborough Road extended to Springwood Industrial Site from September 2nd.
Schooldays : additional journeys introduced from Braintree (Bus Park) to Springwood Industrial Site via Alec Hunter School at 0814 hrs., and from Alec Hunter School to Braintree (Bus Park) at 1540 hrs., both from September 2nd.
- 335 - Sunday service withdrawn from September 1st (see also NS255).
Braintree area Countrycar services - Saturdays : revised timetable.

The Company has surrendered its licence for service 300 (see also NS255).

The Winter Highwayman service timetable will commence on October 27th. Three services will operate during the Winter period, and details are as follows :-

- 801 - To operate from Chelmsford (Bus Station) to Kings Lynn on Mondays, Fridays and Saturdays and from Chelmsford (Bus Station) to Cambridge (Drummer Street) on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Sundays. A through coach will be operated from Southend via Hadleigh and Basildon if loadings are sufficient.
- 804 - To operate Daily from Southend (Victoria Bus Station) and Norwich (Surrey Street Bus Station) via Hadleigh, Basildon, Chelmsford, Witham, Kelvedon, Colchester, Ipswich, Scole and Long Stratton.
- 812 - NEW SERVICE to operate from Clacton (Bus Station) to Luton Airport via Colchester, Kelvedon, Witham, Braintree, Stansted Airport, Bishop's Stortford, Harlow, Hertford, Hatfield and St. Albans on Mondays, Fridays and Saturdays.

There will be no Highwayman services operated on Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day. Return journeys from Cambridge (801) and Norwich (804) will depart three hours earlier on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve.

A Summer Sunday service was operated on all routes on the Late Summer Bank Holiday (August 26th), including Seaside Special services 53E and 70E.

Ribble Motor Services Ltd. has now applied for a licence to operate National Express service 109 (Southend-London).

Further to the information published in last month's news sheet, regarding Essex County Council's recent decision to invite competitive tenders for three London Country services in the Harlow area, it can now be reported that services 392 and 393 have passed to Golden Boy Coaches Ltd., Roydon. Golden Boy commenced operation of these services on August 31st, and service 392 has been extended to operate on Weekdays from Ongar to Hoddesdon, via Harlow, Nazeing and Broxbourne. Service 501 has been retained by London Country Bus Services Ltd., but now only operates between North Weald and Romford via Ongar on Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays, and this revised service also commenced on August 31st.

Building works, including the construction of a new roof, are currently being undertaken at Basildon Bus Station. Initially, work is being carried out at the west end of the Bus Station, with later work to be undertaken at the east end. Vehicle departure bays are being reorganised on a temporary basis while this work progresses.

It is understood that the Company has tendered for five of the ten London Regional Transport routes which have recently been advertised for tender. The services concerned are 125, 145, 179, 268 and 275, as listed in NS256. Note that the service listed as 269 in NS256 should have read 268.

Publicity News

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

Timetable leaflets - it is understood that timetable leaflets have been published locally for revised services 101, 102, 325 and 328, but copies were not available at the time of writing.

- a small leaflet has been published with details of the direct service 311 journeys between Braintree and Droomfield Hospital (dated September 2nd).

Excursion leaflets - two leaflets have been published with details of excursions to Ipswich Town F.C. home and away matches during the 1985/86 season.

General leaflets - a leaflet summarising the services (328, 471, 472 and commuter service 198) serving the Great Cornard area.

Highwayman services - a timetable leaflet for the three Highwayman services (801/4/12/ being operated during the Winter 1985/86 period (dated October 27th).

Unusual Workings

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

15.6-1936 CR operated the last journey on service 83A.

18.6-1536 CR noted on service 83, with 1653 DT being noted on this service on 19.6, 1536 CR again on 25.6, 1123 CR on 27.6, 1541 CR on 11.7, 1123 CR again on 17.7 and 1540 CR on 19.7.

19.6-2200 BN noted on a private hire working at Colchester.

23.6-1920 DT noted on a private hire working at Chappel.

1.7-1541 CR observed on service 80, with 1536 CR being noted on service 82.

4.7-1542 BE and 4500 SE both noted on service 53 - 4500 still carries BE depot allocation plates, despite being allocated to Silver End (SE).

5.7-1542 BE observed on service 338; 1937 SD noted on service 11A; 1881 BD noted on service 251.

7.7-3094 LD observed on service 53E on the Brentwood by-pass.

8.7-1553 BS noted on service 58A; 1837 BD observed on service 251; 3072 SD noted on service 21.

9.7-1904 BN noted on service 400.

10.7-1541 CR observed on service 118; 1879 BN noted on service 400 from Southend (0800 hrs. departure) as far as Basildon, where passengers transferred to 1934 BN.

11.7-1118 HH noted on service 21; 3073 SD observed on service 11A (and again on 12.7).

12.7-3024 DT noted on a school contract service at Colchester.

13.7-1547 CN noted on service 100, and also on 5.8 together with 1554 CN.

16.7-3075 SD noted on service 22.

20.7-Colchester Borough Transport 88 noted on National Express service 084, with similar vehicle 90 being noted on this service on 21.7.

22.7-1542 BE noted on service 70.

27.7-1307 CN operated Highwayman service 816 from Harwich to Clacton, where 1117 DT took over this service; 3064 SD noted on service 402.

- 28.7-1823 BD noted on service 251; 1920 DT observed on National Express service 080; 3111 CR noted on service 119; 4000 SD noted on service 6.
- 30.7-3108 CF noted on service 251 (and again on 15.8).
- 1.8-2200 MN noted on a private hire working at Stopney.
- 2.8-Southend Transport 242 noted at Algate Bus Station (see also MS257).
- 6.3-Southend Transport 373 noted on service 1.
- 7.8-1125 SD noted on service 20.
- 14.8-1742 LN operated a National Express service 109 working to London; 1838 BD noted on service 251.
- 15.8-3004 MN noted on a private hire working at Rayleigh; 3022 BS noted on service 251 at Rayleigh.
- 16.8-1794 BE noted on service 353; 1850 CF observed on a Maldon (MN) depot service 38 working; 2383 L noted at Colchester (CR) depot.
- 17.8-1310 SE operated Highwayman service 805 (and again on 24.8 and 14.9); 1536 CR observed on service 80B; 1924 BE noted on service 53; 3037 SD was unusually noted on service 251.
- 18.8-1905 CF (service 53E), 3114 BS (service 70E) and 4006 BD (service 53E) were noted at Walton-on-Naze.
- 19.8-1540 PL (P) observed on service 119; 1850 CF noted on service 38A; 3003 CN observed on service 74.
- 20.8-3022 BS noted on service 70E at Walton-on-Naze.
- 21.8-1654 CF noted on the Great Dunmow (DW) service 38 working to Boreham; 1745 SE observed at Felixstowe on service 72E.
- 22.8-Shaftesbury Society VHK175L (formerly Eastern National 1402) failed at Chelmsford whilst operating to London - it was replaced by 1939 CF, and VHK175L was towed to Clacton on the following day for engine repairs; 3082 CF and 3022 BS (service 70E) noted at Walton-on-Naze.
- 23.8-1545 D/L (P) noted at Temple Farm Industrial Estate, Southend and at Westcliff whilst on road test; 3108 CF observed on service 53.
- 24.8-1659 SE noted on an ASDA working at Chelmer Village, a working normally operated by a Bristol VHT; 4500 SE noted at Bournemouth on National Express service 720 from London - this vehicle was also noted on this service on 17.8, 31.8, 7.9 and 14.9; 1600 SD operated Highwayman service 827 from Southend to Bournemouth, with 1305 CF as a duplicate vehicle on the outward journey.
- 27.8-3022 BS (service 70E) and 4005 BD (service 53E) noted at Walton-on-Naze.
- 28.8-3076 EN noted on service 230.
- 29.8-Southend Transport 212 operated a private hire journey from Chingford to Jaywick Sands for Ensign Bus Co./Venturer Travel.
- 1.9-Southend Transport 333 operated a private hire journey from Jaywick Sands to Chingford for Ensign Bus Co./Venturer Travel, and then replaced a failed New Enterprise Coaches Ltd. coach at Pitsca conveying passengers on to Leigh-on-Sea.
- 3.9-3018 ME noted on an ASDA working at Rochford (and again on 10.9).
- 4.9-1118 HH noted at Great Stanbridge on a private hire working; 1856 CF observed on the Great Dunmow (DW) service 38 working; 3060 SE failed at Kelvedon whilst operating service 53, being replaced by 1659 SE.
- 6.9-West Yorkshire P.T.E 1537 (YW537X) and 1612 (B612VWU) noted at Colchester Utd. F.C. with Halifax Town F.C. supporters.
- 7.9-Southend Transport 333 noted at Skegness on Highwayman service 810; 1309 BE noted on Highwayman service 823 to Hastings; 1310 SE and 4503 SE operated football excursions from Ipswich to West Bromwich.
- 8.9-1310 SE operated a private hire working from London to Southend Airport - a similar working on 15.9 was operated by 1306 BE; 3097 HH and 3099 HH operated a rail replacement service between Leigh-on-Sea and Laindon.
- 9.9-3002, 3033, 3069, 3110 and 3113 (all CF) noted at Southend on duplicate service 11 workings - the 1705 hrs. service 11 journey from Southend was operated by 3084 SD with 1121 CF and 3083 SD as duplicate vehicles operating non-stop to East Hammingfield.
- 10.9-1123 CR noted on service 88; 1705 CR observed on services 88, 89 and 329; 1769 CN noted on service 78.
- 11.9-3103 HH operated a rail replacement service from Southend (Central) to Thorpe Bay, whilst Southend Transport 232 operated the 0642 hrs. rail journey from Woodham Ferrers to Wickford; Southend Transport 251 noted on a private hire working at Thorpe Bay, with executive seating layout.
- 12.9-4503 SE noted on service 53 (and again on 13.9).

- 13.9-1902 DE (whilst on temporary loan to Silver End (SE)) failed on service 353 at Braintree, being replaced by 1924 BE, which was again noted on service 353 on 16.9.
- 14.9-3083 SD noted on a private hire working at Canning Town; 4503 SE operated National Express service 088 from Clacton to Hemsby; Southend Transport 232 failed at Grays, whilst operating for A.P.T. Eurotravel, but was back in service at Southend (service 12) later that day.
- 15.9-1765 HH and 1817 HH operated a rail replacement service between Southend (Central) and Pitsea; 1118 HH and 3085 HH operated private hire workings to the British Bus Weekend rally at Norwich; Southend Transport 234 was noted on a rail replacement service at Southend (Victoria).
- 16.9-1552 DT noted on service 87; 3099 HH operated a rail replacement service from Woodham Ferrers to Wickford.
- 18.9-1762 CF noted on the Great Dunmow (DW) service 38 working; 3115 BE noted on service 53.

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COLCHESTER TRANSPORT

New Vehicles

The two Leyland Olympian/E.C.W. double-deck vehicles are now in course of delivery, and full details are as follows :-

41	C41 HPU	Leyland Olympian ONLXB/1R	2002	E.C.W. H47/31F	26243	Delivered 14.9.85
42	C42 HPU	Leyland Olympian ONLXB/1R	2003	E.C.W. H47/31F	26244	To be delivered

At the time of writing, only 41 had been delivered and this vehicle was at the Magdalen Street depot. The bodywork is built to 14 feet 2 inches height, and both vehicles will be in the latest livery style (as also carried by Leyland Atlantean's 60, 63 and 90).

Withdrawn Vehicles

3.85

50 (AVX 50G)

This vehicle has now been taken out of service, and it is parked in the Magdalen Street depot yard, delicensed and without destination blinds.

General

All of the remaining Bristol REEL6L's have been used in service recently, including 22 (OWC722M) which has been fitted with a new engine and was noted in service on September 6th on services 2/2A. 18 (YWC 18L) and 24 (SWC 24K) are both currently receiving attention. Vehicles of this type have been used all day on service 5A workings recently, together with other service 2/2A and 9/19 group workings.

Leyland Atlantean 49 (YWC649F) remains in regular use, normally on services 2/2A, 4/4A or 5A, although it was noted on service 9 on August 22nd and on services 1/1A on August 29th.

Other news of Leyland Atlantean's is that 60 (JHK500N) has also been fitted with power assisted steering and a coach style driver's seat (see NS257), and it has been reported that 55-59 are to be similarly modified. 63 (NNO 63P) has been painted in the latest livery style, being noted in the paintshops on September 16th, and it also now carries a wrap-round advertisement for Millers Motors (see also NS257). 65, 66 and 72 were noted back in service by August 31st, September 2nd and September 8th respectively, whilst 52, 56, 62, 63, 75 and 76 are currently out of service.

Leyland Leopard coach 101 (DHK101T) has now had its engine removed for a major overhaul, and some accident damage has been noted at the rear of this vehicle.

Colchester Borough Transport operated a special service, which was numbered 7E, from North Station to East Mersea on the morning of September 14th for a pop music festival. Leyland Atlantean's 68 and 81 were both used on this service, and temporary destination boards were carried in the nearside front window.

On July 28th, there were major route alterations in Colchester during the town's carnival. Many town centre streets were closed to traffic until about 2000 hrs., and a number of services were cancelled. Eastern National operated services 6/6A and the service 7 group during this period.

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SOUTHEND TRANSPORTNew Vehicles

The first of the two Van Hool Astromega double-deck coaches that are currently on order was exhibited on the Van Hool stand at the first International Bus & Coach Exhibition at Earls Court from September 11th to September 14th. The vehicle did not carry fleet or registration numbers, but it is believed that this was the second vehicle (257), which will carry registration number C257FEJ. Where available, details of this particular vehicle are as follows :-

— — — — — Van Hool Astromega TD324 YE282400NOM114053 CH57/271 14053

The vehicle is fitted with a 330 hp. Mercedes Benz OM422A engine and a ZF 5HP600 fully automatic gearbox (five speed), together with Webasto heating, full air suspension and a hydraulic retarder. It is also fitted with fixed Labelle seats, and has standing capacity for eight passengers. A rear towing bracket is fitted but without a towing hook. The principal changes from the first batch of these vehicles (243-5) are inward opening doors, revised interior trim and a three track front number blind below a single line destination blind. These two vehicles are being supplied to Southend Transport by Caledonia Coach Sales and Services Ltd., Glasgow, and it is reported that delivery of the above vehicle will occur in 3-4 weeks.

Vehicles On Order

It is anticipated that re-bodied Leyland Leopard coach 254 (formerly registered CHA425K) will be delivered from Berkhof's factory at Valkenswaard, Netherlands to Ensign Bus Co., Purfleet on or about September 20th. Final delivery to Southend Transport is expected during October. Work is continuing on the refurbishment of the chassis of Leyland Leopard 212 (CHA443K) (to be numbered 255). Registration numbers C254/5GVW have been provisionally booked for these two re-bodied vehicles.

Withdrawn Vehicles

Volvo B10M-61 coach 300 (B300BTW), which has now passed to London Country Bus Services Ltd., was noted on a trip to Weston-Super-Mare on August 18th. It remains in Southend Transport's blue and yellow livery, but now carries a small green 'Green Line' fleetname below the front windscreen.

Daimler Fleetline 380 (GHJ380L), which is now owned by City of Oxford Motor Services Ltd., was noted at the Bristol Festival of Transport rally on August 18th. This vehicle is now painted in NBC poppy red livery, and carries City of Oxford fleet number 380 (see also NS257).

As a correction to the information published in NS255, Daimler Fleetline 382 (GHJ382L) was not sold to the Waveney Playbus Association, Lowestoft during June. This vehicle remains at the Tickfield Avenue works.

Daimler Fleetline 383 (GHJ383L), which was withdrawn from service during March (see NS253), is currently being cannibalised at the Tickfield Avenue works.

Further to the information published in last month's news sheet, it now seems unlikely that a further two Daimler Fleetline's will be acquired by A.J. & J. Millman, Buckfastleigh.

Daimler Fleetline 356 (WJN356J), which was last reported as passing to Hildrup, Great Canfield in May 1982, was acquired by Ford, Althorne during August 1985, via an unknown dealer/breaker in the Latchingdon area who was thought to have acquired the vehicle around February 1985. Ford is now preparing the vehicle for service. Can we appeal for precise information about its recent history?

Vehicles On Hire

As noted above, Leyland Leopard coach 332 (XWX189S) was hired to Eastern National at Southend (SD) depot on September 8th, for that day only.

The hire of Leyland Leopard coach 336 (CTM406T) to Valedene Coaches, Sutton Valence had ended by September 7th (see NS257).

General

Bristol REEL6G 301 (NLJ828G) was reinstated on August 30th, ready for the increased vehicle requirement following the end of the school Summer holidays. It was noted

in service on September 6th on service 23A, and on September 10th on service 7.

As a correction to the information published in last month's news sheet, the two coaches remaining in white livery are 334 (WRO433S) and 335 (WRO435S). Leyland Leopard 326 (XIU 326) was repainted into coach livery on August 14th.

Daimler Fleetline 395 (JTD395P) was repainted into standard fleet livery on August 30th, having previously carried an overall advertisement livery for ASDA Stores.

DAF MB200 coach 252 (B252CVX) was entered in the British Bus Weekend rally at Norwich on September 15th.

Two of the 1974 Bristol RELH6L's with E.G.W. DP49F bodywork from the City of Oxford fleet remained at Southend Transport's Tickfield Avenue works at the time of writing. However, it is understood that the vehicles have now been sold by City of Oxford to Wombwell Diesels, probably for scrap. These vehicles had been examined by Southend Transport with a possible view to their purchase (see NS254/6 for further details).

Southend Transport continued to operate the 2147 hrs. rail replacement service from Farnbridge to Southminster and the 2222 hrs. return journey to Wickford on Mondays to Thursdays only until September 5th. The contract has now finished for the time being.

From August 19th until August 23rd, Southend Transport operated a rail replacement service from Woodham Ferrers to Wickford at 0723 hrs, due to a shortage of British Rail staff.

The Miracle Bus contract service from London (Aldgate) to Southend Airport continues. On some Saturdays two coaches are required; for example, on August 17th, two vehicles operated the 1010 hrs. journey from Aldgate returning from Southend Airport at 1420 hrs. and 1610 hrs. The normal pattern is currently for the service coach to operate from Aldgate at 1010 hrs. returning from Southend Airport at 1420 hrs., and for a duplicate vehicle to operate from Aldgate at 1210 hrs. returning from Southend Airport at 1620 hrs. Vehicles noted on the contract during recent weeks have included 341/53 (August 17th), 241 (August 25th), 321 (August 31st), 336/41 (September 7th) and 220/343 (September 14th).

There is no further news to report this month regarding the possibility of Southend Transport withdrawing from operation of service 795 (Southend-Brighton) during September. At the time of writing, there had been no operational changes to the service. Southend Transport regularly use the Duple Caribbean bodied Leyland Tiger coaches (246-51) on this service, with 248 being noted on August 15th and 251 noted on August 13th.

Leyland Leopard coach 352 (DAX452V) was used on the Group's recent tour to the North Midlands area.

From September 5th to September 10th, Leyland Tiger coach 250 (A250SVW) operated a tour for Viscount Holidays, picking up in the area between Kingston-upon-Thames and St. Albans and travelling to North Shields (September 5th) and Aberdeen (September 6th). The vehicle was garaged by Northern Scottish Omnibuses Ltd. and was used by that company on September 7th. The vehicle then returned on September 9th to North Shields, and then back to London on the following day.

From Sunday, July 21st, the picking up and setting down restrictions on the X-series routes have been relaxed in the Dagenham area. Passengers boarding coaches to London at stops along New Road, Dagenham, at the Chequers P.H. and along Ripple Road can now alight at Manor Way, East Ham or at any coach stop beyond in East London, the City and West End. Similarly, passengers boarding in Central London or East London can now travel to stops in the Dagenham area.

New timetable leaflets have recently been published for services X1/X10/X11 (dated July 21st), X21 (dated July 22nd), X30/X31 (dated July 22nd) and X41 (dated July 22nd).

Amongst a large number of unusual workings recorded by members during recent weeks, open-top Daimler Fleetline's 370-2 have been noted on services 20 (short working) on September 6th (370), 4 on August 20th (371) and 1 on September 12th (372).

Daimler Fleetline 314 (GHV 29N) received mechanical attention for an engine defect at Eastern National's Central Works on August 22nd.

Initial Disposals

- 1546 (SVW274K) - Noted in service with Essex County Council (Education Department), 9/85, in the Colchester area. (additional information to NS256/7).
- 3014 (SMS 40H) - Being cannibalised and broken up for scrap by Eastern National O.C. Ltd. at Central Works, Chelmsford, 9/85.
- 3019 (SMS 45H) - Has been repainted into South Midland livery by United Counties O.C. Ltd. at Northampton, by 7/85. (additional information to NS256).
- 3045 (NAG583G) - Cannibalised and broken up for scrap by Eastern National O.C. Ltd. at Central Works, Chelmsford, 9/85.
- 3047 (OCS576H) - Has been repainted into South Midland livery by United Counties O.C. Ltd. at Northampton, by 7/85. (additional information to NS256).

Subsequent Disposals

- 305 (UEV 843) - Scrapped by O'Sullivan, Hospital, Eire, by 9/78. Went to O'Sullivan from Brennan, Athlone. Vehicle had Eire registration YZJ 184. (additional information to NS160 Supplement).
- 348 (YBD 201) - Still with Coleman, Leverington (for possible preservation), 9/85. (see also NS250/3).
- 428 (LWC979J) - Still with Wing, Sleaford, 65, 9/85. Has been re-registered SCT 330; registration number was formerly carried by a Hillman Minx car. (see also NS254). Seating capacity is now C51F.
- 429 (LWC980J) - Still in process of refurbishment by Wing, Sleaford, 66, 9/85. Existing registration has been surrendered, and vehicle will be re-registered upon completion. (additional information to NS254/6).
- 9430 (LWC981J) - Was temporarily out of service with Eastern Counties O.C. Ltd., RE846, between 6/85 and 8/85. Received engine overhaul at Ipswich depot workshops, and was noted at Saxmundham depot, 9/85.
- 504 (BNO113B) - Still with Wright Engineering (breaker), Holbeach St. Johns, 9/85. (additional information to NS239). Owner listed in NS181 was Tom Laffey Racing Services, ?, (car transporter).
- 1201 (BNO687T) - Still with Cropley, Fosdyke, 9/85. (see also NS237/46/8).
- 2763 (RWC 605) - Still owned by Corning Glass Center, Corning, New York State, U.S.A., 7/85. Carries New York State registration 5968-BE. (additional information to NS217/50).
- 2775 (988 K00) - Confirmed as passing to Roundabout Tours, Lake Tahoe, California, U.S.A., ca. 6/82, ex. dealer, Purfleet. (confirmation/additional information to NS218/22). The January 1985 edition of the National Bus Trader magazine reported that Roundabout Tours had for sale an unspecified number of 70 seat double-deck vehicles, some with Gardner engines and some with Detroit diesel engines.
- 2802 (BVX678B) - Playbus, Duns, by 4/85, ex. National Playbus Association. (see also NS252).
- 2888 (WN0976F) - Still with Newvar Fast Foods, Brighthouse (N-PSV), 9/84. (correction and additional information to NS233).
- 2898 (WVX525F) - Still with Fowler, Holbeach Drove, 9/85. Seating capacity is now H40/34F. (see also NS257).
- 2923 (AEV817F) - Still with dealer, Sherburn, 7/85. (see also NS223).
- 2929 (AVW398F) - Still with Fowler, Holbeach Drove, 9/85. Seating capacity is now H40/34F. (see also NS257).
- 2930 (AVW399F) - Noted at dealer, Sherburn, 5/85. Has this been sold by Horsell Graphics (N-PSV), Morley, or was it only there for maintenance?
- 2943 (AVW402F) - Noted as trade/hospitality vehicle for Mobil at British Grand Prix, Silverstone, 7/85.

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News Sheet Contributions

Contributions to this news sheet were received from A.G. Osborne (C&F), M.L. Weyell (M10), R.H. Palmer (M105), V.J. Cooper (M128), W.J. Morrison (M131), R. Delahoy (M180), P.W. Harvey (M219), J.S. Wilby (M298), S.D. Barham (M313), A.W. Colebourne (M377), D. Arnold (M379), J.G. Collins (M405), G.G. Toon (M452), G. Dangerfield (M487), C.M.J. Paynter (M515), C.D. Sigston (M523), C. Pretty (M524), R.A. Dennis (M535), F.G. Spence (M545), J.A. Murphy (M546), D.A. Coulson (M568), I. Harden (M572), S.J. Barnes (M576), J.D. Skinner (M578), R.W. Searle (M584), J.B. Curry (M595), G. Huggins (AM1) and the P.S.V. Circle. The October deadline is Wednesday, October 16th.