

EDITORIAL

Annual Report and Group Accounts

A copy of the Group's Annual Report for 1984 is enclosed with this news sheet. Copies of the Group's Accounts for 1984 and Balance Sheet are now available from the Administrative Officer (P.W. Harvey Esq., 563. London Road, Hadleigh, Essex. SS7 3EA). A stamped addressed envelope should be enclosed with all requests.

Main Committee of the Group

At the twentieth Annual General Meeting of the Group held in Rochford on Saturday, January 12th, 1985, the present Committee was re-elected to serve for the forthcoming year.

Southend Meeting - Tuesday, February 5th.

The next Southend area meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 5th commencing at 1930 hrs. (for 2000 hrs.). Please note a new venue - Carriage Room, Freight House, Bradley Way, Rochford. Freight House is adjacent to Rochford Station, has ample car parking (use the Station approach road for access) and is served by bus services 7/8 from Southend (departing from Central Bus Station at 27 and 57 minutes past the hour, and from Victoria Circus at 30 and 00 minutes past the hour). Bus passengers should alight at Rochford Station. This new venue has been booked for a trial period of three meetings (the others being on March 5th and April 2nd), and whilst being slightly less central to the Southend area it offers a number of advantages; we are able to use the room for a longer period, so that whilst the meetings will end at approximately 2200 hrs., the room is booked until 2300 hrs. Bar facilities are available in the room throughout the meeting. The February meeting will be a slide show presented by Richard Delahoy on 'Touring Scotland in the 70's and 80's'. The March meeting will feature a slide show by Mike Wescombe (Deputy General Manager, Southend Transport), and further details will be published next month.

Essex County Council Publications

A new timetable booklet for the Southend/Castle Point/Rochford area (Area 6) dated January 1985 has recently been published by Essex County Council. Copies are available from the Administrative Officer (P.W. Harvey Esq. - address above) at £0.68 each, inclusive of postage and packing.

Assistance at Rallies and Sales Events

The Group's programme of attendance at rallies and sales events during 1985 is now being planned, and members are reminded that the Group will welcome assistance in manning our sales stand. If you are interested in assisting with this particular aspect of the Group's activities, please contact the Events Secretary (R. Delahoy Esq., 120. Yarnacott, Thorpe Bay, Southend-on-Sea, Essex. SS3 8AW. Tel. Southend-on-Sea 588590). As an incentive, helpers normally obtain free admission to the events, and usually have the opportunity to visit other sales stands etc. prior to the admission of the general public.

Eastern National O.C. Ltd. - New Fleet Engineer and Works Engineer

Following the recent retirement of Mr. J.L. Jepson as the Company's Chief Engineer, the Company has recently appointed a new Fleet Engineer and a new Works Engineer. Mr. R.J. Iles, formerly Assistant Chief Engineer, was appointed Fleet Engineer from January 1st, whilst Mr. A. Scard, formerly Works Engineer of Thames Valley & Aldershot Omnibus Co. Ltd. (Alder Valley), has been appointed as the Company's Works Engineer and he will take up his new appointment on February 1st. Our congratulations go to both Mr. Iles and Mr. Scard on their appointments.

Interested in the Channel Islands ?

A group is being formed with the aim of bringing together those interested in bus operation in the Channel Islands. For details please send a stamped addressed

envelope to Dr. J.R. Young, Trent Polytechnic, Clifton, Nottingham, NG11 8NS.

Item For Sale

Following the successful Group tour to mark the 30th anniversary of the end of the Southend trolleybus system last October, the Group has available for sale 66 yds. of red/white/blue bunting. This would be ideal for a church/scout group, etc., and any member interested should contact the Events Secretary (R. Delahoy Esq. - address and telephone number above).

EASTERN NATIONAL OMNIBUS CO. LTD.

New Vehicles

1128 B696WAR Leyland Tiger TRCTL11/3RH 8400396 Plaxton C51F 8512LTH2C767
1129 B697WAR Leyland Tiger TRCTL11/3RH 8400410 Plaxton C51F 8512LTH2C768

1128/9 - Delivered 15.1.85

These vehicles carry Plaxton Paramount 3500 coachwork incorporating the latest 1985 Plaxton specifications. They carry National Holidays livery and incorporate a semi-automatic gearbox and a plug-type door. At the time of writing, the vehicles were at Central Works awaiting preparation for service.

Further to the information published in last month's news sheet, MCW Metroliner coach 1602 (B459WHJ) was returned from Kent Engineering (NBC) Ltd., Canterbury on December 16th following completion of accident repairs. This vehicle has now re-entered service at Chelmsford (CF).

Acquired Vehicles

Leyland Leopard coach 1310 (ANA 94Y) has now been repainted in National coach livery, and this vehicle will enter service at Silver End (SE) during late-January.

Conversion work on former Thames Valley & Aldershot Omnibus Co. Ltd. (Alder Valley) Leyland National 2201 (KCG618L) is continuing at Central Works (see also NS249). The vehicle is being converted into a disabled persons' bus, and the centre exit and ramp have now been fitted. At the time of writing, it is not possible to give details of the revised seating capacity of this vehicle.

Re-built Vehicles

It can now be confirmed that Bristol RELH6G coach 1409 (X00878L) will be retained by the Company for conversion into a disabled persons' bus. The vehicle has now entered Central Works for conversion work, and, at the time of writing, various seats have been removed. This vehicle will enter service with fleet number 2202 following the completion of conversion work.

Vehicle On Hire

The mobile publicity vehicle (TDV217J), which had been on hire from Western National Ltd., Plymouth, left Central Works on January 9th, and it is understood that the vehicle is now with Bristol Omnibus Co. Ltd. The vehicle was not used as originally intended during redevelopment work at Colchester Bus Station.

Allocations & Transfers

1.85 1128 D/L, 1129 D/L, 1306 SE-BE, 1310 LWA-SE, 1407 MN-CN, 3058 CR-CF, 3066 CF-CR.

1308/9 are no longer classified as being attached to the Coaching Department (see also NS248).

Two re-allocations not previously reported in the news sheet took place last November. 3115 moved from Braintree (BE) to Basildon (BN) with 3116 moving in the opposite direction. At the time of writing, 3115 remains at Basildon (BN) and 3116 remains at Braintree (BE). These are temporary re-allocations and are not shown in the Company's official vehicle allocation list.

Bristol RELH6G 1548 (WNO537L), which has been converted into a mobile office,

remained at Central Works during mid-January. This vehicle is included in the Company's official allocation list as a Delicensed Pool Vehicle (D/L (P)).

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 NS249 :-

December w/e 15.12.84 - 1057 at CN (additional to NS249).
 w/e 22.12.84 - 1822 at CW, 3112 at CW (overall advertisement livery for D.W. Jones (t/a Jones of Chelmsford), Chelmsford).
 w/e 29.12.84 - 1310 at CW (National coach livery).
 January w/e 5.1.85 - 3057 at CW.
 w/e 12.1.85 - 1734 at CW, 1801 at CW, 1934 at CW.
 w/e 19.1.85 - 3077 at CW.

3112 (XHK217X) has now entered service in its overall advertising livery, and it is currently operating from Chelmsford (CW) depot, mainly on town services although it was noted on a rail replacement service from Shenfield to Wickford on January 15th.

Two further vehicles which will be painted in overall advertisement liveries during the near future are Leyland National's 1833 (VAR899S) and 1859 (YEV317S). 1833 will carry a predominantly silver livery for Bates Motors (Belcher) Ltd., Maldon; the silver base livery will be spray painted, and it is expected that this work will be undertaken by a private company. 1859 will carry a predominantly black livery for Lancaster Garages Ltd., Brentwood. Both vehicles are currently at Central Works, and it is understood that they will be repainted shortly.

Bristol VRTSL6L 3062 (LJN657P), which has carried a 'UniBus' advertisement for G.S.W. Technical Training Ltd., Westcliff-on-Sea since October 1982 (see NS223/4), has now entered Central Works and will be repainted in fleet livery following the completion of its advertisement contract.

Bristol RELH6G coach 1411 (X00880L) is currently in the paintshops at Central Works and this vehicle will be repainted in National Express livery.

General

Following last year's programme of converting certain Bristol VRTSL6G vehicles (3033-41/C-51) to receive Autosteer power steering, it can now be reported that similar vehicles 3020-32 will also be converted during early-1985. As before, this work will be undertaken by Thames Valley & Aldershot Omnibus Co. Ltd. (Alder Valley) at Aldershot.

Leyland Leopard coaches 1300-10 are all currently being fitted with Econocruise control units.

Leyland National 1733 (HWC 84N), allocated to Hadleigh (HH) depot, sustained serious accident damage on January 2nd when it ran into a tree on Canvey Island whilst operating on service 27. The vehicle is currently being repaired at Central Works.

Two unpublicised workings were operated by Maldon (MN) depot on Christmas Day (December 25th) and Boxing Day (December 26th). A Leyland National vehicle operated a service 98X contract service to/from Bradwell (Power Station) on both days and, as far as is known, this was the only vehicle to be operated by Eastern National on Christmas Day.

Service Developments

The Company has applied for a number of service revisions, and brief details of these proposed changes are listed below. They include further details and supplementary information regarding a number of the service revisions to be introduced in the Southend area from Sunday, January 27th, and full details of these revisions are contained in the new Southend/Castle Point/Rochford area timetable book (see under Editorial).

- 1 - Mondays to Fridays : one minor timetable change (see also NS249).
- 3A - Saturdays : two journeys to be withdrawn, and one minor timetable change (and not service 3 as listed in NS249).

- 4B - Weekdays : two journeys to be withdrawn.
Sunday service to be withdrawn.
- 5 - Saturdays : three journeys to be withdrawn, and three minor timetable changes (and not service 5A as listed in NS249).
- 6 - Weekdays : two journeys to be withdrawn.
Saturdays : four journeys to be withdrawn.
- 6A - Service to operate on Mondays to Fridays (correction to NS249), with one journey from Southend (Central Bus Station) to Eastwood (Kent Elm, Broomfield Avenue).
- 7 - Sundays : one journey to be withdrawn.
- 8 - Mondays to Fridays : one minor timetable change.
Saturdays : three journeys to be withdrawn, and one minor timetable change.
Sundays : one journey to be withdrawn.
- 23 - Mondays to Fridays : one journey to be withdrawn.
- 23A - Mondays to Fridays : one minor timetable change.
Saturdays : six minor timetable changes.
- 33 - Mondays to Fridays : one journey to be withdrawn.
Saturdays : revised timetable.
- 36 - Saturdays : one journey to operate via Sandon if required.
- 48 - Schooldays : one minor timetable change.
- 52 - Mondays to Fridays : one journey to be withdrawn, one journey to be re-numbered 52A and two minor timetable changes.
- 52A - NEW SERVICE with one journey to operate on Mondays to Fridays from Pleshey to Chelmsford via Ringtail Green, Ford End and Howe Street.
- 60 - Weekdays : ten journeys to be withdrawn.
- 62 - Weekdays : eight journeys to be withdrawn.
- 64 - Mondays to Fridays : three journeys to be withdrawn.
- 69 - Service to be withdrawn.
- 96 - The applications listed in NS249 have been withdrawn.
- 151 - Saturdays : one minor timetable change.
- 300 - Schooldays : one minor timetable change.
- 437 - Service to operate via Steeple, and revised route between Southminster and Mayland.
- 511 - Revised route via Southernhay, Great Oaks, Link Road, Broadmayne and Ghyllgrove.
- 512 - Revised route via Nethermayne, Roundacre, Nethermayne and Basildon Hospital, and revised timetable.
- 513 - Revised route via Roundacre, Nethermayne and Basildon Hospital, and revised timetable.
- 520 - Schooldays : four journeys to be re-numbered 522.
- 521 - Weekdays : two minor timetable changes.
- 795 - Revised timetable including adjustments to stops and running times and the withdrawal of operation by Southdown Motor Services Ltd. These revisions will be introduced from Saturday, January 26th.

A short-term licence has been granted for revised service 255 (Basildon (Bus Station) - Billericay (Queen's Park, Arlington Way)) from January 7th to July 6th (Mondays to Fridays) (see also NS249).

The Company has withdrawn its application for a full licence for commuter service 190 (West Mersea-London (Victoria Street)) as this service was withdrawn very shortly after its introduction due to poor patronage.

A short-term licence has been granted for commuter service 199 (South Woodham Ferrers-London (Victoria Street)) from November 25th, 1984 to May 24th, 1985.

The Company has also applied for certain revisions to various National Express and commuter services, and brief details are as follows :-

- 081-5/7/95 - To introduce additional fare stages and timing points at Brentwood (Brook Street Roundabout) and Rivenhall (Fox P.H. or Motor Inn).

- 191 - Revised alternative routes in Colchester, and revised timetable.
- 195 - Certain journeys to operate via Marlborough Road, Mountbatten Road, Coggeshall Road and Skitts Hill on return journeys to White Courts Estate in Braintree.
- 198 - Revised terminals to be Glensford (Post Office) and London (Victoria Street/Artillery Row), and service to operate via Long Melford, Sudbury, Halstead, Braintree, Rayne, Great Dunmow, Takeley and M11 motorway.

Service revisions introduced during recent weeks have been as follows :- 33 - 7.1.85 (NS250); 36 - 12.1.85 (NS250); 52 - 7.1.85 (NS250); 52A - 7.1.85 (NS250); 53 - 7.1.85 (one minor timetable change on Mondays to Fridays, and one minor timetable change on Weekdays); 80 - 26.1.85 (two journeys on Saturdays to operate via Great Bromley, Little Bentley and Tendring Heath Hospital and to be re-numbered 80B); 105 - 21.1.85 (NS249); 107 - 21.1.85 (NS249); 116 - 21.1.85 (service re-routed via Marine Parade East) (NS249); 151 - 2.2.85 (NS250); 437 - 19.12.84 (NS250); 520 - 7.1.85 (NS250); 521 - 7.1.85 (NS250).

Publicity News

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

- Timetable leaflets - a leaflet with details of the Southend Transport services operated in the Southend and District area between Christmas Eve (December 24th) and New Year's Day (January 1st).
- a revised timetable leaflet for services 70/A/B published with the Essex County Council timetable amendment leaflet for the Area 1 timetable booklet (see below).
- a new timetable leaflet for service 437 (dated December 19th).
- Essex County Council leaflets - a timetable revision leaflet (No. 1) for the Bishop's Stortford/Saffron Walden/Haverhill/Harlow/Epping/Loughton area book, dated November 1984.
- a timetable revision leaflet (No. 2) for the Southend/Castle Point/Rochford area book (undated).

Unusual Workings

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

- 3.12-Further to the information published in NS249 regarding rail replacement services, other Southend Transport vehicles used on this date were 221/4/7/8, 232/7/40, 380/90/4/6. 378 was noted operating services from Southend to Hockley, Rayleigh to Benfleet, Wickford to Pitsea and Wickford to Southminster (see also NS249).
- 4.12-Other Southend Transport vehicles used on rail replacement services on this date were 221/7/35/40/1, 380. Vehicles from Ensign Bus Co., W.H. Nelson Coaches, Wickford and London Pride Sightseeing (Emmaheath Ltd.) were used on both 3.12 and 4.12.
- 14.12-3072 SD noted on service 64; London Country TPL 42 (A142EPA) noted at Southend (SD) depot on Green Line service 745.
- 15.12-1545 SE noted duplicating 3066 CR on a Colchester (CR) service 53 working; 2383 L noted in service on Basildon town service 521, with crew operation including a 'Father Christmas' driver.
- 16.12-3104 SD noted on service 400.
- 21.12-Southend Transport 221 noted on service 20.
- 22.12-2383 L again noted on Basildon town service 521.
- 26.12-Southend Transport 231 observed on service 20A, 232 noted on service 63 and 239 noted on service 29.
- 27.12-1820 DN noted on service 400; 1876 BD noted on service 251; 3121 SD noted on service 62.
- 28.12-3019 DE observed on service 553; 3026 BD noted on service 251 - Brentwood (BD) depot normally use Bristol VRTSL6G's 3091-4, 3100 on this service; Southend Transport 231, 383/96 noted on a rail replacement service between Wickford and Southminster.
- 29.12-1652 DE noted on service 353.

31.12-1542 DE noted on service 353.

1.1-Southend Transport 239 noted on service 251.

5.1-1056 DT and 1602 CF both noted at Maldon (DN) depot; 3054 SD noted on service 27; 3088 SD noted on service 2; Southend Transport 372 (open-top) noted at Highlands (Thames Drive) heading towards London for hire to London Pride Sightseeing (Emmaheath Ltd.) - see also under Southend Transport.

6.1-1822 DN noted on service 20; 1753 HH, 3097/9, 3103/7/9 (all HH) operated a rail replacement service between Laindon and Upminster, whilst 3039 SE, 3082, 3106/12/25 (all CF) operated a similar service between Chelmsford and Witham; Recovery vehicle 0103 noted towing 1819 CF into Chelmsford (CF) depot having failed whilst operating service 41; service 795 (Southend-Brighton) was disrupted by bad weather conditions - Southdown did not operate their workings, whilst the London Country vehicle ran late and terminated at Basildon on its outward journey before returning empty to Crawley. Southend Transport covered certain duties when 247 (A247SVW) operated the London Country duty at 1240 hrs. from Southend to Gatwick, before covering a Southdown duty from Gatwick to Southend and then operating the 1840 hrs. journey from Southend to Brighton. This vehicle then returned empty to Southend. Southend Transport 210 (BHK210X) which had operated the 0540 hrs. service 795 journey to Brighton then operated a Southdown duty on service 773 to Gatwick (connecting with 247 on service 795) before returning from Gatwick as the 1530 hrs. service 773 to Hove. This vehicle then operated its normal service 795 working to Southend.

7.1-Recovery vehicle 0104 noted towing 3104 SD at Prince Avenue, Southend and heading towards Southend (SD) depot.

8.1-3037 SD noted having failed at Eastwood Road, Rayleigh; Southend Transport 386 observed on driver training duties at Rayleigh.

10.1-1110 SD noted on service 722, whilst the normal vehicle on this service, 1124 DN, was noted at Central Works, and subsequently on service 153; Southend Transport 227/30/7, together with other ST vehicles, and vehicles supplied by Eastern National, Ensign Bus Co., W.H. Nelson Coaches, Wickford and London Pride Sightseeing (Emmaheath Ltd.), noted on rail replacement services between Southend and Shenfield.

11.1-3027 DT noted on service 82 (and again on 14.1).

13.1-3092 DD, 3097/9, 3103/7/9 (all HH), 3110 CF and 3112 CF operated a rail replacement service between Shenfield and Wickford, whilst a similar service between Chelmsford and Shenfield was operated by 3058 CF (but carrying CR depot allocation plates), 3106 CF, 3110 CF and 3111 CF.

15.1-1407 CN noted on service 95; 3047 PL (P) (on temporary loan to Southend (SD) depot) noted on service 27; 3106/12/25 (all CF), Southend Transport 230/2, 384/6/97 and vehicles from Ensign Bus Co. and W.H. Nelson Coaches, Wickford operated a rail replacement service between Shenfield and Wickford.

16.1-1309 DE noted on National Express service 084; Southend Transport 325 noted on service 1.

COLCHESTER TRANSPORT

Acquired Vehicles

Former Tyne & Wear P.T.E. Leyland Atlantean 52 (MVK546R) had returned to service by December 14th when it was noted on service 4A. It had returned to its normal workings on service 8 on the following day.

General

Further to the information published in last month's news sheet, vehicles which have been out of service during December and early-January have been 28, 55, 71 and 73. Leyland Atlantean 73 (TPU 73R) may have returned to service during recent weeks. Similar vehicle 85 (MEV 85V), which had been noted at the Constantine Road depot of Ipswich Borough Transport on October 19th (see NS248), had returned to Colchester by December 15th, although it had not been noted in service at the time of writing.

The extension of services 5A, 8, 9/9A and 19/19A to serve the new Colchester General Hospital from November 19th (see NS248) did not include the Weekday evening journeys on services 5/5A which continued to terminate at North Station until

January 7th when they were also extended to/from Colchester General Hospital.

Difficulties were experienced with timekeeping on services 4/4A on Saturdays during December. Vehicles started from Osborne Street at the scheduled departure times, whilst late-running arrivals from Greenstead proceeded to St. Michael's Estate or Shrub End Estate before returning empty to Osborne Street to take up a new duty. This increased the vehicle requirement from five to seven buses.

The recent bad weather has led to a number of unusual workings. On January 7th, Bristol REEL6L's 18 (YWC 18L), 20 (OWC720M) and 26 (SWC 26K) were noted on the following services - 4/4A (18), 6/6A (20) and 8 (26), whilst on January 9th, Leyland Leopard coach 101 (DHK101T) was noted on service 4A. In each case, these vehicles were on workings normally operated by double-deck vehicles.

The Colchester Evening Gazette of January 18th reported that Colchester Borough Transport has now placed an order for two Leyland double-deck vehicles at a cost of £66,850 each (see also NS249). Local reports have indicated that these will be Leyland Olympian vehicles with E.C.W. bodywork, and further details will be published as soon as they become available.

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SOUTHEND TRANSPORT

New Vehicle

A new Volvo B10M coach with Berkhof C53F coachwork is expected to be delivered within the very near future. The vehicle is being supplied by Ensign Bus Co., Purfleet, and it is anticipated that it will carry fleet number 300. Further information will be published as soon as it becomes available.

Vehicles On Order

As a correction to the information published in last month's news sheet, the two new 53 seat single-deck express coach bodies, for which tenders have recently been invited, will not be bodied on the chassis of Leyland Leopard vehicles 211/2. Instead, it is understood that Southend Transport will acquire two Leyland Leopard chassis (PSU3-/4R specification) from Ensign Bus Co., Purfleet, and that these chassis will be rebuilt by Southend Transport and fitted with DAF engines and 5 speed close ratio gearboxes. Local reports have suggested that one of the chassis may be former Midland Red vehicle 6417 (CHA417K), but this information is subject to confirmation.

Acquired Vehicles

One vehicle has been acquired recently, and details are as follows :-

348 CDU798T Leyland Leopard PSU5C/4R 7800014 Plaxton C57F 7812LCM063 New -/78

This vehicle was new to Smiths of Stratford, Wilmcote, Stratford-upon-Avon, and passed to Wallace Arnold Tours (Devon) Ltd., Paignton in 4/80. It was delivered to Southend on January 3rd, and entered service on its delivery run. It operated for a few days in full Wallace Arnold livery, and it is currently in service in that livery with the addition of a yellow band.

Further to the information published in last month's news sheet, Bristol REEL6L 303 (JEH179K) was delivered on November 16th. At the time of writing, it had been prepared for service including a repaint and retrimmed seats and it is expected to enter service towards the end of January.

Leyland Leopard coach 339 (EBM439T) was delivered to Southend on November 23rd, and it entered service on contract work on November 28th.

Vehicle On Hire

Burnley & Pendle Transport 13 (WBN 13R), a Leyland Leopard PSU4D/4R with Alexander DP45F bodywork, has now been repaired following accident damage, and it is expected that this vehicle will be returned to Burnley in the near future. This is the only vehicle currently on hire to Southend Transport.

Re-built Vehicles

It is now possible to confirm the precise order of re-bodied Daimler Fleetline's

374-7/9 within the new batch of fleet numbers 306-10. Full details are as follows :-

- 306 Q475MEV - formerly 377 (GHJ377L) - vehicle was returned to Northern Counties on December 19th for tilt testing, and it is currently awaiting collection.
- 307 Q476MEV - formerly 374 (GHJ374L) - currently at the Tickfield Avenue works.
- 308 ----- (new registration number not yet available) - formerly 376 (GHJ376L) - chassis number 66676 - new body number 2637 - Northern Counties H49/31D bodywork - vehicle was delivered to Southend on November 27th, and currently at the Tickfield Avenue works (see also NS249).
- 309 ----- - formerly 375 (GHJ375L) - currently at Northern Counties.
- 310 ----- - formerly 379 (GHJ379L) - currently at Northern Counties, the chassis having been delivered from Southend on December 19th.

Leyland Leopard 219 (SPN669X) is currently still at Purfleet having a new Volvo TD100H engine fitted by Ensign Bus Co. (see also NS248).

General

A number of vehicles have been repainted during recent weeks, and details are as follows :- 210 (BHK210X) - yellow and blue coach livery, and returned to service on November 30th; 234 (MRJ234W) - overall maroon livery, and it is currently awaiting sign writing as an overall advertisement for W.H. Perry Ltd., Southend-on-Sea; 315 (GHV 15N) - blue and cream livery, and returned to service on December 3rd; 331 (XWX166S) - yellow and blue coach livery, and returned to service on November 20th; 336 (CTM406T) - currently in the paintshops being repainted in yellow and blue coach livery; 339 (EBM439T) - has been repainted in yellow and blue coach livery, but had not returned to service at the time of writing; 341 (YHB 21T) - yellow and blue coach livery, having been previously partially repainted (see NS245), and returned to service on December 17th; 354 (UDW140S) - yellow and blue coach livery, and returned to service on November 12th.

To summarise the current situation regarding vehicle liveries, all vehicles are in coach or bus livery except 234, 251, 388/90/5 (which all carry overall advertisement liveries) and coaches 326-9/32/4/5/42-8/52/3. It should be noted that Leyland Leopard vehicles 211/2 carry coach livery but are now allocated as buses.

Leyland Tiger 251 (B100XTW) has a seating capacity of C43F (and not C45F as reported in NS247) when fitted with all six tables and the coffee machine; its seating capacity is C57F with all seats fitted.

Leyland Leopard vehicles 201/2 (LBN201/2P), 326 (XHU 326) and 327 (HRN 97N) are now allocated as dual-purpose vehicles, and they are frequently used on town services including services 7A, 9B, 10/B, 12, 16, 23 and 23A.

Southend Transport operated one return journey from Southend to Heathrow on service X1 on Christmas Day (December 25th). The journeys departed from Southend at 0830 hrs. and from Heathrow at 1120 hrs., and as usual were well patronised with four Group members being among the passengers.

Further to the information published in last month's news sheet, details of the open-top Daimler Fleetline's hired to Emmaheath Ltd. (t/a London Pride Sightseeing) during recent weeks are now available. The vehicles operated circular tours of the Christmas lights in Regent Street and Oxford Street from Piccadilly Circus, and the vehicles used were as follows :- December 8th-370/2/3; December 15th-370/3; December 22nd-370; December 29th-370; January 5th-372. 373 (WJN373J) was also hired on December 22nd but failed and was not used in service.

The new Southend/Castle Point/Rochford area timetable book (see under Editorial) contains details of new service X41 which will commence on January 27th. This service will operate on Mondays to Fridays from Prittlewell (Blue Boar P.H.) to Green Park via Rochford, Hockley, Rayleigh, Rawreth, Basildon, Grays (Windsor Avenue), Purfleet, Rainham (Dovers Corner), Dagenham, Barking, West Ham, Poplar, Limehouse and Stepney East to Aldgate and then via Tower Hill, Upper Thames Street, Blackfriars, Embankment Station and Trafalgar Square to Green Park. Journeys will

depart from Rayleigh (Websters Way) at 0530 hrs. and from Prittlewell at 0535 hrs., 0605 hrs. and 0635 hrs., with return journeys operating from Green Park at 1610 hrs., 1640 hrs., 1710 hrs. and 1740 hrs. (all operating to Prittlewell).

Other service revisions are included in the timetable for service X31 (Canvey-Green Park), with additional journeys operating from Canvey at 0550 hrs. and 0620 hrs. on Mondays to Fridays and at 0915 hrs. on Saturdays, with return journeys operating from Green Park at 1640 hrs. and 1730 hrs. on Mondays to Fridays and at 1725 hrs. on Saturdays.

Open-top Leyland Titan PD3/6 313 (PHJ 952) was withdrawn in July 1980, but no disposal was ever recorded in the news sheet. It was noted on September 1st, 1984 at Les Saintes Maries de la Mère, in the South of France, lettered 'Sundocker'. It is in modified Southend Transport livery, complete with fleetnames, and carries its original British registration. A platform door has been fitted.

Service Vehicles

A new Bedford CF2 diesel (automatic) crew bus is 690 (B638WVX), and this vehicle is in yellow livery. It has replaced 688 (PWW588R), an Austin taxi, which has now been sold through Chelmsford Auctions Ltd., Chelmsford.

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EASTERN NATIONAL DISPOSALS

Subsequent Disposals

- 302 (EJN 638) - Still owned by Hughes, now of Hartley (for preservation), who is a member of the Eastern National Preservation Group. (additional information to NS160).
- 348 (YED 201) - Coleman, Leverington (for possible preservation), by 11/84, ex. Lockwood Foods, Long Sutton.
- 350 (573 UVX) - Still owned by Cott, now of Banham (for preservation). (additional information to NS229).
- 356 (10 DLY) - Was acquired by Cheshire Cheese Angling Club, Latchford, 8/78. (additional information to NS183). Still with dealer, Middlewich, 12/84, and still carrying original registration. (additional information to NS246).
- 407 (YHK724F) - Still with Cardinal Griffin School, Cannock, 12/84.
- 408 (YHK725F) - Numbered 6 by Thomas, Upper Llandwrog. (additional information to NS175/233).
- 428 (LWC979J) - Ambassador Travel (Eastern Counties) Ltd., Norwich, RE844, 9/84, ex. Eastern Counties, Norwich, RE844.
- 429 (LWC980J) - Ambassador Travel (Eastern Counties) Ltd., Norwich, RE845, 9/84, ex. Eastern Counties, Norwich, RE845.
- 9430 (LWC981J) - Withdrawn by Eastern Counties, Norwich, RE846, 8/84.
- 431 (LWC982J) - Ambassador Travel (Eastern Counties) Ltd., Norwich, RE847, 9/84, ex. Eastern Counties, Norwich, RE847.
- (453)(RPU868M) - Ambassador Travel (Eastern Counties) Ltd., Norwich, RE848, 9/84, ex. Eastern Counties, Norwich, RE848. (Vehicle was ordered by Eastern National but delivered direct to National Travel (South East)).
- (454)(RPU869M) - Ambassador Travel (Eastern Counties) Ltd., Norwich, RE849, 9/84, ex. Eastern Counties, Norwich, RE849. (Vehicle was ordered by Eastern National but delivered direct to National Travel (South East)).
- 1000 (MAR775P) - Exported to B. Kavanagh (dealer), Urlingford, Eire, 2/82, ex. dealer, Sherburn.
- 1001 (MAR776P) - Exported to B. Kavanagh (dealer), Urlingford, Eire, 1/82, ex. dealer, Sherburn. (additional information to NS221).
- 1002 (MAR777P) - Exported to B. Kavanagh (dealer), Urlingford, Eire, 1/82, ex. dealer, Sherburn. (additional information to NS221).
- 1003 (MAR778P) - Exported to B. Kavanagh (dealer), Urlingford, Eire, 2/82, ex. dealer, Sherburn.
- 1004 (MAR779P) - Exported to B. Kavanagh (dealer), Urlingford, Eire, 1/82, ex. dealer, Sherburn. (additional information to NS221).

Three of the Ford R1014/Duple B43F vehicles 1000-4 (MAR775-9P) have been re-registered with Eire registrations in the ----, IP series. These are believed to be 1001/2/4, and two of these vehicles are now with Shanahan, Waterford, and the third vehicle is now with Whelan, Graiguenamanagh. Further information will be published as soon as it becomes available.

- 1207 (BN0693T) - Repainted in Heyfordian livery in 7/84. (additional information to NS235).
- 1208 (BN0694T) - Repainted in Heyfordian livery by 6/84. (additional information to NS235).
- 1209 (BN0695T) - Repainted in Heyfordian livery in 7/84. (additional information to NS235).
- 1324 (1262 EV) - Used as a staff bus by Cementation Construction Ltd., Darlington (N-PSV). (additional information to NS244/6).
- 1329 (1267 EV) - Now reported as acquired by Davenport Scouts, Stockport (N-PSV), 8/77. (correction to NS191; see also NS229). It would appear that Davenport Scouts and 1st Mile Scout Group are the same Scout group (see NS229).
- 1354 (MOO 175) - Reported as unknown breaker or dealer, Carlton, by 3/83, ex. Tarmac Roadstone (contractor). Previously reported as not having been acquired by Tarmac Roadstone (contractor) (see NS231), and vehicle is believed to have passed to breaker/dealer, Carlton, ex. Brown, Smallfield, who was the last recorded owner (see NS229). Confirmation and clarification required.
- 1402 (217 MHK) - Owner is Miles, Greenford (for preservation), who is a member of the Eastern National Preservation Group. (additional information to NS160/4).
- 1504 (CVW858G) - Went to Felixstowe Omnibuses Ltd. in 4/84. (additional information to NS242).
- 1523 (KHK415J) - Withdrawn by Lincolnshire Road Car Co. Ltd., 1213, 10/84.
- 2102 (LEV 917) - Springhill Vehicle Preservation Group (for preservation), by 11/84, ex. Eastham, London, S.E.20.
- 2400 (XVX 19) - Owner is Richardson, Swinderby (for preservation), who is a member of the Eastern National Preservation Group. (additional information to NS160 Supplement). Placed on loan to the Castle Point Transport Museum, Canvey, 11/84.
- 2700 (80 TVX) - Was re-registered AHJ142A in 2/84. (additional information to NS241).
- 2712 (92 TVX) - Was acquired by Eagles, Crawford and Hughes, Mold, -/80. (additional information to NS235).
- 2763 (RWC 605) - Still owned by Corning Glass Center, Corning, New York State, U.S.A., 1/85. Used for transporting visitors to the Corning Glass Center. (additional information to NS217).
- 2780 (993 K00) - Noted at dealer, Sherburn, 8/84, purpose unknown.
- 2872 (RWC944D) - SDT Entertainers, Stoke-on-Trent (N-PSV), -/84, ex. Brindley Ford Junior Dancing Troupe (N-PSV), Talke, Stoke-on-Trent.
- 2879 (SVX278D) - Breaker, Carlton, by 11/84, ex. Stagecoach, Perth.
- 2892 (WN0980F) - Was acquired by Top Deck Travel Ltd., London, S.W.5 (N-PSV), 4/84. (additional information to NS242).
- 2896 (WN0984F) - Breaker, Carlton, by 11/84, ex. Stagecoach, Perth.
- 2898 (WVX525F) - Still with Fowler, Holbeach Drove, 11/84.
- 2900 (WVX527F) - Was acquired by Top Deck Travel Ltd., London, S.W.5 (N-PSV), 12/83. (additional information to NS242).
- 2904 (WVX531F) - Reported as dealer, Sherburn, 11/84, ex. Emblems Jazz Band, -?-. Last reported as noted at dealer, Sherburn, 8/82. Where is the Emblems Jazz Band based?

News Sheet Contributions

Contributions to this news sheet were received from A.G. Osborne (C&F), M.L. Weyell (M10), P.J. Snell (M32), R. Delahoy (M180), P.W. Harvey (M219), D. Arnold (M379), J.G. Collins (M405), G.G. Toon (M452), C.M.J. Paynter (M515), C.D. Sigston (M523), R.A. Dennis (M535), J.A. Murphy (M546), G. Huggins (AM1) and the P.S.V. Circle. Notes and information for the February news sheet should be sent to the News Sheet Editor (address below) to arrive by Wednesday, February 20th.