

EASTERN NATIONAL ENTHUSIASTS GROUP

NEWS SHEET NUMBER 117

December 1973

EDITORIAL

1974 SUBSCRIPTIONS

Members are reminded that subscriptions are in many cases due on 1 January 1974 and those wishing to renew for a further year should do so as soon as possible. Owing to the increased postal charges which were introduced during 1973 we regret that subscriptions have had to be raised slightly for 1974, the increases imposed actually mean that the new sheet will now cost less in 1974 than it did in 1973. The new subscription rates for 1974 will therefore be 65p (second class postage) and 75p (first class postage). Remittances may be sent by any one of the following techniques :

1. By crossed postal order or cheque, made payable to the 'Eastern National Enthusiasts Group'.
2. By Bank Credit Transfer direct to the Group bank account, details of which are :

Code No.	77-91-02	Bank	London T.S.B.
Branch	Finsbury	Account No.	9102/067031/14

Receipts will not be issued unless specifically asked for, and only if a stamped addressed envelope is enclosed.

This news sheet being the last before the festive season, the committee would like to convey to all members the Seasons Greetings and Best Wishes for 1974. We would like to thank everyone for their interest in the Group, especially those who have assisted in its running and/or who have sent in reports.

Annual General Meeting

The Groups ninth A.G.M. will be held at Seven Kings Baptist Church Hall, Farley Drive (formerly Cambridge Drive), Seven Kings on Saturday 19 January 1974 commencing at 1430. There will be a sales stand at the meeting and refreshments will also be available. A copy of the Groups Annual Report for 1973 has been circulated with this news sheet and the committee will be pleased to answer members questions at this meeting, so please come along.

Committee Membership

We hereby invite applications for the post of fourth and fifth committee members, these positions may be held by any fully subscribed member of the Group. Applications should be sent to the Secretary, the closing date will be 10 January 1974.

EASTERN NATIONAL OMNIBUS CO. LTD.

New Vehicles

NIL

Withdrawn Vehicles

11.73	2441(976 DHK)	2464(882 GVX)	2479(539 HVX)
	2462(324 GPU)	2478(538 HVX)	2606(BVX668B)

All these vehicles have been transferred to the service fleet, for details see below.

12.73	2460(322 GPU)	2484(297 JHK)
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Acquired Vehicles

The Scottish Bus Group Bristol VRT's which were acquired recently from Eastern Counties (3042-7) are all to be resealed to 70-seaters, including the 33' examples. All the vehicles are to retain their S.B.G. style destination indicators.

Rebuilt Vehicles

11.73 9612(AVW403F) to LD40/30FD and renumbered 2944.
9610/1(AVW401/2F) are in the process of being converted to 70-seat buses and in

order to avoid confusion they are now referred to on the allocation as 2942/3 although the conversions have not yet been completed. When these conversions are complete all of the 2600 class left with Eastern National (i.e. with the exception of 2606 and the vehicles on loan to U.C.O.C.) will have been converted to buses. Since the vehicles on loan to United Counties are expected to be there for some time, no more of these conversions will be undertaken for a long period.

Allocations & Transfers

12.73 408-CF, 429-D/L, 1309-CR, 1328-LWA, 1718-D/L, 1724-CR, 2511-MN, 2725-CN, 2943-D/L, 2944-CF, 3042-D/L, 3043-D/L, 3047-D/L.

Service Vehicles

New Vehicles

OVW337M	Ford Transit	Publicity Van	White
OVW338M	Ford Transit	Publicity Van	White
NVW561M	Ford D0607	Stores Lorry	

Chassis numbers and allocations for the above will follow. The Transits carry the 'National' fleetname and are to replace existing Ford Transits. The lorry is a 6½ tonner and is equipped with a gantry crane, it is to replace existing lorry HFA 27E.

Acquired Vehicles

0324	324 GPU	Bristol LD5G	116.198	E.C.W.	LD33/27R	8016	1956
0538	538 HVX	Bristol LD5G	130.043	E.C.W.	LD33/27R	8568	1956
0539	539 HVX	Bristol LD5G	130.044	E.C.W.	LD33/27R	8573	1956
0882	882 GVX	Bristol LD5G	116.200	E.C.W.	LD33/27R	8018	1956
0976	976 DHK	Bristol LD5G	108.099	E.C.W.	LD33/27R	7997	1955

These vehicles are all driver tuition vehicles (for details see NS116), but not all have been converted. The allocations of the vehicles are :

0324-SD, 0538-SD, 0539-CF, 0882-BD, 0976-BD.

0668 BVX668B Bristol FLF6B 217.139 E.C.W. CLD37/12FD 13957 1964

This is a staff recruitment vehicle (for details see NS116), it is allocated to SD.

These vehicles were transferred from the operating fleet on 1.12.73, they were previously 2462(324 GPU), 2478/9(538/9 HVX), 2464(882 GVX), 2441(976 DHK), and 2606(BVX668B) respectively.

General

Following objections to the parking of Eastern National vehicles on ground at the rear of Kelvedon garage, vehicles are now parked during the day at Station Road, Kelvedon and in the evening are garaged at Silver End.

Sunday services are to be operated on New Years Day, which is an official Bank Holiday in 1974.

COLCHESTER CORPORATION

General

A special Christmas "Park and Ride" service is gain being operated this year on Saturdays 8, 15 and 22 December between Cavalry Barracks and the Bus Station at a flat fare of 5p return, employing Bristol BELL saloons. Special bus stop signs have been erected and the vehicles carry 'X73 PARK AND RIDE', the X73 doubtless referring to Christmas 1973.

SOUTHEND CORPORATION

Acquired Vehicles

317	KCK 879	Leyland PD3/4	571653	Burlingham	FH41/31FD	1958
318	LCK 739	Leyland PD3/4	573607	Burlingham	FH41/31FD	1958

Acquired 12.73 ex. Ribble Motor Services Ltd., Preston, Lancs, nos. 1533/76.

Then out of service by Ribble - reported in buses time & August 1972

Another two similar vehicles are to be acquired, these are to be numbered 319/20. Since the vehicles are of highbridge design they are not able to pass under Southend Central railway bridge amongst others and will thus be restricted to operation on certain services only. These vehicles are to replace the Albion Lowlanders and the Leyland PD3 (337) which were withdrawn recently and should thus bring an end to the need to operate open-toppers on normal services at peak periods during the winter months. Further details are to follow.

General

The first all-over advertising vehicle for the Corporation has recently appeared. The vehicle concerned is 358(WJN358J) and it entered service on 26.11.73 advertising the Circus Tavern nightclub at Purfleet, which is of course outside the Corporations operating territory. The vehicle is not allocated to any specific service and has been seen to date on routes 4A/7/8/9/18 and 29 at least.

The livery is basically yellow with circus scenes depicted thereon, there are also purple curtains painted at the four corners which are draped from the roof to simulate four separate circus stages (one on each side, one front, one back)

Commencing on 28 October 1973 several of the 'compulsory' bus stops in the Southend co-ordination area were replaced by 'request' bus stops. A total of 41 locations in all were involved which included the following :

Bournes Green, Chalkwell, Canewdon, Canvey Island, Dawes Heath, Eastwood, Great Wakering, Hadleigh, Hullbridge, Leigh, Little Wakering, Prittlewell, Rayleigh Weir, Rettendon, South Benfleet, Southend, Southchurch, Stroud Green, Sutton, Thundersley, and Westcliff.

For several of the above general locations a number of specific bus stops were involved, for example :

Leigh	Blenheim Chase/Elmsleigh Drive
	Canvey Road
	Leigh Broadway (opposite Co-op)
	Westleigh Schools
Southend	Chase Road
	Kensington Road
	Marine Parade/Pier Hill
ing	"Railway Hotel"

A leaflet list all the locations has been issued.

Service Revisions

Commencing Monday 29 October Eastwoodbury Lane was closed between Comet Way and Cockethurst Corner, the closure to be effective for several months. During this period service 9 has been diverted between Prittlewell(Bell) and Cockethurst Corner via Prince Avenue, Kent Elm and Snakes Lane. Vehicles operating on this altered service show "Diverted via Special Route" on the passing point blind.

Over the discontinued section a new service numbered 9A has been instituted between Southend(Central Station) and Comet Way via Prittlewell and Eastwoodbury. Since the unserved points are close to Feeches Road and Warners Bridge and hence within easy reach of alternative facilities the new service 9A operates to a limited extent only with three return jjourneys on Monday to Friday and two return journeys on Saturday.