

EDITORIALSouthend Bus Rally, Sunday June 3

At Southchurch Park, Lifstan Way, Southend, from 0930 (admission 25p). This event is organised by the Eastern National Preservation Group. Our own Group will have a stand at the rally and all Group publications and photographs as well as our vast stock of other items will be on sale. Please ensure that you have your E.N.E.G. membership card with you to secure lower members' prices, as all prices on the stand will be shown at the higher non-members' rates. Eastern National Omnibus Co. Ltd. and Southend Transport will be entering vehicles and there will probably be about 100 vehicles on display. Please support this event which is an excellent opportunity to see a wide range of preserved and modern vehicles.

Chelmsford Meeting, Tuesday June 12

At the Civic Centre, Duke Street, Chelmsford at 2000. The meeting will include a slide show depicting the last day in service of London Transport's RF and RT classes. The Civic Centre is adjacent to Chelmsford Bus Station and two minutes walk from Chelmsford Rail Station.

Preliminary Notice - Photographic Competition 1979

With the holiday season approaching members are reminded that a photographic competition will be held this year, with the rules the same as for 1978, and will be judged at the Southend meeting scheduled for October 10th.

Colour Photographs

Unfortunately it has been found necessary to increase the price of the Group's colour photographs due to increased production costs. The new rates which will apply from June 1st will be 23p (and 24p for non-members) per print. However a special rate of 22p per print will apply at the Southend Bus Rally (see above) solely for members and upon production of a membership card.

Black and White Photographs

A new range of 50 black and white photographs has recently been added to the Group's photographic stock. These will be first made available at the Southend Bus Rally and a supplementary photograph list containing these new additions will be enclosed with the June news sheet.

EASTERN NATIONAL OMNIBUS CO. LTD.New Vehicles

1909	DAR131T	Leyland National 11351A/1R 06145	Leyland National B49F
1910	DAR132T	Leyland National 11351A/1R 06146	Leyland National B49F
1911	DAR133T	Leyland National 11351A/1R 06152	Leyland National B49F
1912	DAR134T	Leyland National 11351A/1R 06162	Leyland National B49F

Delivery dates : 1909/10 - 4.79 1911/2 - 5/79

Acquired Vehicles

Work on re-seating 1416 (GJD199N) and 1419 (GJD195N) to C53F has almost been completed and it is expected that these vehicles will enter normal service in the near future.

Withdrawn Vehicles

NIL

Re-numbered Vehicles

4.79	2848 (MVX885C)	to 2302
	2850 (NTW943C)	to 2303
	2863 (RHK348D)	to 2301

Re-built/Re-seated Vehicles

4.79

2848 (MVX885C) to 038/32FD

2850 (NTW943C) to 038/32FD

2863 (RHK348D) to 038/32FD

These conversions complete the programme of rebuilding four Bristol FLFs to open-top. At present the above three vehicles are being re-certified for use this season and 2303 (NTW943C) was at Clacton during late-April in connection with this work.

Vehicles on Loan

Both the FLFs on loan to United Counties Omnibus Co. Ltd., 2801 (BVX677B) and 2928 (AVW397T), have been operating from Bedford depot. However 2928 has been noted on several occasions parked at Braintree Bus Station during recent weeks. Both vehicles are being maintained by Eastern National usually at Braintree depot and 2801 was noted there during late-April. At Bedford 2801 has been observed working mainly on local routes but also on service 142 (Bedford-Luton).

Allocations & Transfers

5.79 1212-LWA, 1213-LWA, 1214-LWA, 1215-LWA, 1216-LWA, 1217-LWA, 1515 CF-BS (but the vehicle still carries CF depot plates and is a temporary transfer to BS), 1553 BS-D/L, 1902 LWA-MN, 1903 D/L-MN, 1904 D/L-BN, 1905 D/L-CF, 1909-D/L, 1910-D/L, 2382-on hire to Braintree District Council, 2792 SD-D/L (D), 2813 CR-D/L (D), 2859 D/L-BE, 2876 BE-D/L (D), 2936 BN-D/L (D).

Bedford YMTs 1212-1217 (BN0698-703T) have returned to Central Works for certain modifications prior to entering normal service. Bristol REEL6G 1553 (WNO542L) was involved in an accident at Bishops Stortford during late April and has now been delicensed for repairs at Central Works. Two further Leyland Nationals 1902/3 (DAR124/5T) have been allocated to Maldon (MN) bringing the total at that depot to ten. 1904 (DAR126T) has replaced the last manual gearbox FLF at Basildon, 2936 (RWC607), leaving that depot with only six semi-automatic gearbox FLFs. A further three FLFs have been delicensed for disposal during May including 2876 (STW764D) which was one of the last three FLF6Bs in service. Perhaps more interesting is the fact that the other two FLF6Bs still in service, 2778/81 (991/4 K00), are both older vehicles and both are allocated to Braintree (BE). The position regarding Bristol REEL6G 1529 (LVX117J) is currently rather interesting. It is officially allocated to Clacton (CN) but is carrying Harwich (DT) depot plates and is working mainly on Harwich services.

A complete fleet allocation incorporating the changes outlined above appears on Page 6. Please note that the next full allocation will be published in the August news sheet.

Allocations of D/L (D) Vehicles - by personal observation

CN - 1449 2754

CW - 2936

MN - 1358 1434/8/45/6 2761/70 2811 2935

Vehicle Repaints

The Company has again kindly given the Group details of vehicles repainted during recent weeks and these are listed below :-

March

w/e 31.3.79- 1708 at PL, 1767 at PL, 2896 at CW, 3034 at CW.

April

w/e 7.4.79- 1761 at CW, 1779 at PL, 3028 at PL.

w/e 14.4.79- 1401 probably at CN, 1713 at CW, 1784 at PL.

w/e 21.4.79- 2848 (2302 - Open-top livery) at PL, 2894 at CW.

w/e 28.4.79- 1773 at PL, 3061 at PL.

May

w/e 5.5.79- 1000 at CW, 1549 at PL, 3029 at CW.

Currently Bristol VRT 3053 (LJN648P) is at Prittlewell receiving a Scottish-style broadside advertisement for Phillips. The vehicle was also noted in the paintshop of S & M Coaches, Hadleigh on May 10th being prepared for this work.

Unusual Workings

Following from the information published in NS181 recent observations of Chelmsford (CF) vehicles operating on temporary loan from other depots have been as follows :-

May 7th : 1509/16 at BS, 1705 at CR, 1815 at MN, 1867 at CN, 2889 at BN, 3002 at MN and 3035 at Great Dunmow (outstation). Additionally 1515 was operating for BS with CF depot plates although it is currently officially allocated to BS. On this date CF vehicles 1771, 2857 and 3019 were at Central Works.

May 12th: 1516 at BS, 1705 at CR, 1815 at MN, 1867 at CN, 2814 at MN, 3002 at MN, 3017 at BS, 3018 at BN, 3019 at BS and 3035 at Great Dunmow (outstation). On this date 1771 and 2857 were at Central Works.

Temporary loans between CN and DT are also very common as vehicles enter CN for maintenance. A member has supplied details of all vehicle loans to DT during April and these are listed below :-

1.4-1523 CN, 1701 CF and 1825 CN at DT, 3.4-1768 CN, 4.4-1532 CN, 5.4-1780 CN and 1791 CN, 9.4-1520 CN, 11.4-1527 CN and 1756 CN, 14.4-1507 CR in exchange for 1208 DT and 1532 CN, 18.4-1792 CN, 24.4-3031 CN, 25.4-2784 CN, 26.4-1768 CN, 27.4-1790 CR in exchange for 3027, which was required for private hire work, and 1865 CR, and 30.4-1526 CN. The period of these loans rarely exceeded a few days with vehicles being frequently changed.

Other details of unusual workings which have been supplied by members during recent weeks are listed below :-

29.4.79-1902 allocated to MN but without depot plates on service 31 - (believed to be its first day in service at MN);

1.5.79-1500 BD on service 38;

2.5.79-1500 BD on service 31 - this vehicle spent several days at MN on temporary loan;

2.5.79-1526 CN (on temporary loan to DT)-0702 rail service from Harwich to Manningtree and return journey, as no Diesel Multiple Units (DMUs) were available at Harwich;

2.5.79-1720 SD on service 36 - this vehicle was on temporary loan to MN;

5.5.79-1807 SD on service 11 (which is normally VR operated during the day);

5.5.79-2931 BN on service 152 - this vehicle had replaced 2889 CF which had failed at Basildon;

15.5.79-1211 BD on a rail replacement service at Shenfield Station;

6.5.79-2773 SD (on temporary loan to BD) on service 251;

11.5.79-1720 SD on service 31.

General

As mentioned under the Southend Transport heading in NS181 Billericay Town F.C. appeared in the final of the F.A. Vase at Wembley Stadium on April 28th. A large fleet of buses and coaches were hired to carry supporters to and from Wembley including the following Eastern National vehicles :- 1209 BD, 1210 BD, 1211 BD, 1402 BD, 1405 CN, 1417 CR, 1608 BD, 1783 DT, 1867 CF, 2859 SD (but since reallocated to BE), 2894 HH, 3019 CF, 3027 DT, 3032 CR, 3033 CF, 3034 BN, 3046 BE, 3050 CR and 3055 SE. Additionally 1610 CF was hired to carry the players' wives to and from Wembley. The use of vehicles from many depots including two vehicles each from CR and DT provided a very rare sight in the Billericay area. Further notes regarding Southend Transport vehicles used to carry supporters may be found under the Southend Transport heading.

On May 3rd open-top Bristol KSW5G 2382 (WN0483) and carrying Southend (SD) depot plates was hired by Braintree District Council for use as a Polling Station during the General Election at the village of Bardfield Saling. The vehicle was kept at Braintree depot for several days during this period, and a photograph of the vehicle in use as a Polling Station appeared in the East Anglian Daily Times dated May 4th.

National Travel (East) Leyland Leopard YWE508M failed at Harwich on May 5th whilst operating National Travel service 355 (Harwich-Sheffield). A replacement vehicle was sent from Sheffield for the service and YWE508M was subsequently repaired at Harwich depot and returned to Sheffield on May 8th.

Halstead (HD) depot has been operating a varied range of vehicles during recent weeks. On April 28th six Leyland Nationals were in use, 1702 CF, 1731 BE, 1757 HD, 1759 HD, 1782 HD and 1828 CR with the normal allocation being three. 1828 was operating on service 88 and had probably replaced a HD vehicle at Colchester. A few days later on May 2nd Braintree town service 321 was being operated unusually by 3058 HD, 3059 HD and 3063 BE. However both the HD vehicles had returned to Halstead by May 5th, where they were joined by 3046 BE on temporary loan.

An unusual working from Halstead which has not hitherto been mentioned in the news sheet occurred on January 30th during a period of heavy snow. Bristol FLF6G 2852 (OVX296D) was used on the 1735 hrs service 89 journey from Halstead to Great Yeldham and this is one of the very few occasions that an FLF has operated on this service.

On May 13th Bedford YMT 1203 (BN0689T) operated a day excursion from Halstead to Leamington Spa and Warwick Castle. On the return journey the vehicle failed at Northampton and United Counties Omnibus Co. Ltd. provided Bristol RELH6G 259 (BED259B) from Northampton depot as a replacement. This vehicle was returned to United Counties on May 15th.

Six open-top vehicles will be sent to the Epsom Derby on Wednesday, June 6th including the four recently converted Bristol FLFs (2300-3). It is currently anticipated that open-top services at Clacton will be resumed this summer using two of the Bristol KSW5Gs.

Service Vehicles

Allocations & Transfers 5.79 - 9005-D/L (D)

Service Revisions

The following revisions to services have recently been applied for :

- 2 Section of early morning journey (M-F) to be withdrawn.
- 32/32A Minor timetable changes on weekdays.
- 33 Revised terminal in Saffron Walden to be Station Road and journeys from Chelmsford to Saffron Walden will take three minutes longer. Two minor timetable changes have also been applied for.
- 48 One minor timetable change (M-F).
- 82 Journeys on Mondays to Fridays to be extended from Eight Ash Green (Haymills Estate) to Fordham (Memorial)
- 106 Two minor timetable changes (Sats).
- 152/153 Certain sections of early morning journeys to be withdrawn and other timetable changes (M-F).
- 259 To be extended from Langdon Hills (Westley Road) to Langdon Hills (Crown Hotel)
- 301 Revised return route in Saffron Walden.
- 402 To revise fares.

Application has also been made to revise the schedule and rates of the Chelmsford Borough Council, East Hertfordshire District Council, Epping Forest District Council and Thurrock District Council concessionary fares schemes on certain services.

Revisions to express services applied for are as follows :-

- 115/6 Period of operation to be 26.5.79-29.9.79 (Sats).
- 120 Period of operation to be 25.5.79-22.9.79 (Fri-Mon) (NS180).
- 124 Revised terminal in Ramsgate to be Cannon Road Coach Station.
- 137 Revised route for extension from Catford to East Croydon to be via Sangley Rd., Catford Rd., Catford Hill, Perry Hill, Bell Green, Sydenham Rd., Newlands Park, Lennard Rd., Parish Lane, Green Lane, Croydon Rd., Penge Rd., Sunny Bank, Manor Rd., Portland Rd., Clifford Rd., Spring Lane, Lower Addiscombe Rd., Landsdowne Rd., Walpole Rd., Wellesley Grove and Dingwall Rd. Return route to be via St. James Rd., Lower Addiscombe Rd., thence as outward route to Catford Rd., Rushey Green, Broomhill Rd., and Plassy Rd. (NS180).
- 183 Period of operation to be 20.5.79-22.9.79 (Daily) (NS180).

SOUTHEAST TRANSPORT

New Vehicles

The chassis and body numbers of the recently delivered Leyland Leopard coaches 203/4 (UTD203/4T), which have not previously been published in full, are as follows :-

203 - chassis number 7802061 body number 834/5364
204 - chassis number 7802064 body number 834/5365

Vehicles on Hire

The four Leyland PDR1/2s hired from Nottingham City Transport (321-4) are now only being used on Mondays to Fridays.

General

Leyland Leopard 218 (MJN218F) returned to service in early May after spending several months under repair with an engine failure. 216/7 are also currently out of service with similar defects.

To combat vandal attacks certain buses have been fitted with driver operated alarms. Radios are also to be fitted shortly and some buses have been fitted with aërials in readiness.

Southend Transport also provided a number of vehicles to carry Billericay Town F.C. supporters to and from Wembley Stadium on April 28th. Amongst the vehicles noted were Leyland Leopards 201, 203 and 204 and Daimler Fleetlines 382, 383, 385-91 and 395. On the following day open-top Leyland PD3 312 (PHJ 951) was used to carry the winning Billericay team through the town.

Amongst recent visitors to the Tickfield Road works have been the following vehicles. Ex-Blackpool Leyland PD3 YFR351 is currently in course of conversion to a playbus for Thurrock District Council. Brighton Borough Transport Leyland PD3s 32/3/5 (LUF132/3F MCD135F) are being converted to open-top with 32 and 35 almost complete. 34 (MCD134F) has not yet arrived for conversion. Ex-Leicester Leyland PD3 80HBC is also at the works and it is thought that this is being converted into a mobile exhibition vehicle. London Country's RML2309 (CUV309C) and RCL2237 (CUV237C) together with London Transport's DMS316 (JGF316K) remain at the works but it is not known for what purpose. There are now no ex-London Transport SMS-type vehicles at the works and it is presumed that the contract has now finished. One of the last to be dealt with was SMS396 (EGN396J) which was repainted blue for the Leybourne Grange Hospital.

EASTERN NATIONAL DISPOSALS (By kind courtesy of the P.S.V. Circle, continued from NS181).

- 338 (285 NHK) - White, Totley (mobile caravan), 7/78, (see also NS180).
- 371 (OLU 752) - Withdrawn by Connell, London W.9, by 7/70.
- 9417 (HVW241H) - Continental Pioneer, Richmond, 59; 1/79, ex. National Travel (SE).
- 9426 (LWC977J) - Continental Pioneer, Richmond, 57; 1/79, ex. National Travel (SE).
- 9427 (LWC978J) - Continental Pioneer, Richmond, 58; 1/79, ex. National Travel (SE).
- 9445 (XVW633L) - National Travel (South West), 448, 12/78, ex. Shamrock & Rambler, Bournemouth, 448.
- 9446 (XVW634L) - National Travel (South West), 449, 12/78, ex. Shamrock & Rambler, Bournemouth, 449.
- 1425 (204 YVX) - Breaker, Carlton, by 10/78.
- 1432 (JHK456C) - Dealer, 8/78; Silcox, Pembroke Dock, 27, by 1/79.
- 1433 (JHK457C) - Dealer, 8/78.
- 1436 (00 9544) - Dealer, 8/78.
- 1441 (NWC 15) - Dealer, 9/78.
- 2102 (LEW 917) - Eastham, London S.E. 20 (for preservation), by 8/73, ex. Shearman, Colchester and Bromley.
- 2353 (UEV 841) - Dealer/preservationist, Epsom, by 7/78, ex. Worcester Park & Cheam Community Association, North Cheam.
- 2416 (208 BPU) - Withdrawn by Anderson, Iver (N-PSV), 2/78.
- 2712 (92 TVX) - Dealer, Middlewich, 8/78.
- 2777 (990 KOO) - Breaker, Carlton, 10/78.
- 2788 (AVX956B) - Exported to Florida, U.S.A., ex Dealer, Grays.

REMAINDER HELD OVER

EASTERN NATIONAL fleet allocation 6.

This allocation is correct as at 1st May 1979 and includes the transfers listed in this news-sheet.

BASILDON (BN) : 1513/4/30/8/45/8/50/1/4 1704/9/11-7/23/32/6/8/40-2/6/63/7
1772/6/86/94/5 1808/18/20/2/30/43/4/7-9/52-4/74/7-80/3/4
1886/7/9/91/6/8 1904 2886 2908/26/7/31/45 3007/8/10/6
3034/6/44/51/4/6/66 (77)

BISHOPS

STORTFORD (BS) : 1000-4 1361 1515*/43 2798 2834 3005/41/7 (13)

BRAINTREE (BE) : 1203/7 1542 1731/48/77/9 1813/57/63/82 2778/81/99
2824/53/9 3001/4/43/6/63 (22)

BRENTWOOD (BD) : 1209-11 1402 1500/6/8/10/1/7/24/31/40 1608 1751/4/60
1785/96/7 1200/9/10/23/37-40/5/6/59/76/81 2906/16 (35)

CHELMSFORD (CF) : 1509/16 1610 1710/8/28/30/4/52/62/71/4/5/8 1801/2/4/5
1811/5/9/27/9/32/41/2/50/1/5/6/60/6/7/9/70/85/97/9 1905
2753/97 2804/9/12/1/6/26/31/2/5/7/45/51/4/6/7/75/7/85/7
2889 2905/19/39 3018/9/29/33/5 (69)

CLACTON (CN) : 1347 1404/5/15/40/8/51 1505/19/20/3/6/7/9*/32 1756/68
1780/91/2 1825/6/34/58 2774/84/96 2802/6/8/19/22/60/4
2898 3003/31 (37)

COLCHESTER (CR) : 1100-3 1205/6 1417 1503/7/12/28 1609 1724/33/69/89
1790/3 1803/16/28/65/72/88/92 2815/27/8/43/74 2913
3022/32/50 (34)

HADLEIGH (HH) : 1501/18/37/41/6/9 1719/25/6/37/43/53/65/84 1817/21/35
1871/90 1900 2805/17/49/90/1/4/6/7/9 2900/2/7/9/22/4/5
2943/4 3014/20/45/60/1 (43)

HALSTEAD (HD) : 1201 1401 1544 1757/9/82 2783 2852 3058/9 (10)

HARWICH (DT) : 1208 1521/2 1755/61/81/3 1901 2842 3027 (10)

MALDON (MN) : 1200 1403/43 1525/35 1722/50/8/64 1806/31/3/64
1902/3 2807/21 3000/15/30/40/9 (22)

PRITTLEWELL (PL) : 1400/6-13/8 (10)

SILVER END (SE) : 1204 1534/6 1727/39/45/9 1812/61/2 3037/9/55 (13)

SOUTHEND (SD) : 1504/33/47/52 1729/35/44/7/66/70/3/87/8/98/9 1807/14/36
1868/73/5/93-5 2752/75/90/1/5 2818/23/5/33/41/4/84/8/92
2893/5 2901/3/4/18/20/1/3/9/30/40/6 3011-3/23-6/8/38/42
3052/3/62/4/5 (66)

WOOD GREEN (WG) : 2910-2/4/5/7 3021/48/57 (9)

CENTRAL WORKS DOCKING SPARES (CF-CWDS) : 1700-2/5/7*/8 1824 2771/2 3002/17
(11)

PRITTLEWELL WORKS DOCKING SPARES (SD-PLDS) : 1502 1720/1 2773/6 3006/9 (7)

DELICENSED FOR MAINTENANCE (D/L) : 1202 1414/6/9 1539/53 1906-10 2300
2383/4 2848-(2302) 2850-(2303)
2863-(2301) (17)

DELICENSED FOR DISPOSAL (D/L (D)) : 1340/58/62 1423/9/31/4/8/45/6/7/9 2379
2754/61/70/85/92 2811/3/38/76 2935/6 (24)

ON LOAN TO UNITED COUNTIES OMNIBUS CO. LTD. : 2801 2928 (2)

ON LOAN TO BRAINTREE DISTRICT COUNCIL : 2382 (1)

LICENSED WAITING ALLOCATION : 1212-7 (6)

NOTES

Chelmsford (CF) allocation includes Dunmow outstation (DW) - 1 dd omo.

Clacton (CN) allocation includes Walton-on-Naze (WN) - 3 sd and 2 dd.

VEHICLE NOTES (* see above)

1515 carries CF depot plates and is a temporary transfer to BS.

1529 carries DT depot plates but is officially allocated to CN.

1707 is an accident pool vehicle. - - - - -

News Sheet Contributions

Contributions to this news sheet were received from A. Kelleher (M225), I.G. Young (M239), S. Tarrant (M246), B. Pope (M248), S.D. Barnham (M313) and B. Wheeler (M370). Notes and information for the June news sheet should be sent to the News Sheet Editor by June 20th (address below).