EASTERN NATIONAL ENTHUSIASTS GROUP

NEWS SHEET NUMBER 210 September 1981

EDITORIAL

Shoeburyness Model Railway Club Exhibition - Saturday/Sunday, October 17/18th.

The Group's sales stand will be present at the Shoeburyness Model Railway Club exhibition which will be held at the Cliffs Pavilion, Southend on Saturday, October 17th and Sunday, October 18th. The opening hours will be from 1000 hrs. to 2100 hrs. on Saturday, and from 0900 hrs. to 1900 hrs. on Sunday. The first hour on Sunday will be reserved for disabled persons. The admission charges will be £0-90p for adults and £0-40p for children and OAPs.

Chelmsford Meeting - Tuesday, October 20th.

A meeting will be held at 33. Goldlay Road, Chelmsford on Tuesday, October 20th commencing at 1945 hrs. A range of Group photographs will be available for sale and the meeting will also provide an opportunity for general discussion. Goldlay Road is in two sections and No. 33 is in the cul-de-sac leading towards Parkway.

Castle Point Transport Museum Society Open Day - Sunday, October 25th.

Following the success of last year's Open Day, the Castle Point Transport Museum Society are holding a similar event this year on Sunday, October 25th from 1030 hrs. to 1700 hrs. The admission charges will be £0-70p for adults and £0-30p for children, and there will be a free courtesy bus service operating to and from the museum using preserved buses. 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.

L.O.T.S. 'Transport Spectacular' - Saturday, October 31st.

The Group's sales stand will also be present at this event which is one of the major annual bus sales. This year's sale is being held at a new venue, the Royal Horticultural Hall, Vincent Square, London, S.W.1, although the precise opening times are not yet known.

Southend Meeting - Wednesday, November 4th.

This meeting will feature the Group's annual Photographic Competition, and we hope that many members will submit their photographs or slides for this year's competition. The meeting will be held in the Civic Centre, Victoria Avenue, Southend commencing at 1930 hrs. and full details will be published next month. For members' information the competition rules are set out below.

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 photograph, may be submitted.
3) Entries may be submitted at the meeting to be held on November 4th, or by post to P.J. Snell Esq., ENEG, 6. Mandeville Way, Thundersley, Benfleet, Essex to arrive by November 2nd. Postal entries will only be returned if accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope.
4) There will be two classes :
   a) COLOUR - 35mm slides and/or prints.
   b) BLACK AND WHITE - prints.
5) A maximum of 6 photographs in total may be entered. The entry fee is £0-10p per photograph.
6) The judges will be Peter Snell and a member of the Southend Photographic Society. 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 £1-00p for the runner-up in each class.
8) No entries will be accepted which have won awards in other competitions.

New Publications

The two new Group publications (E.P.33 and E.P.34) listed in last month's news sheet are now available from the Administrative Officer (P.W. Harvey Esq., 37. Warren Chase, Thundersley, Benfleet, Essex. SS7 3DZ.). These publications are available at a price of £0-25p each (£0-30p for non-members) plus £0-12p postage and packing for orders up to £0-50p. Please enclose the correct remittance with your order.

EASTERN NATIONAL OMNIBUS CO. LTD.

New Vehicles

3115	XHK220X	Bristol VRTSL6G	3/3031	E.C.W. LD43/31FD	24900	Delivered 28.8.81
3117	XHK222X	Bristol VRTSL6G	3/3033	E.C.W. LD43/31FD	24902	Delivered 7.9.81
3119	XHK224X	Bristol VRTSL6G	3/3039	E.C.W. LD43/31FD	24904	Delivered 27.8.81
3120	XHK225X	Bristol VRTSL6G	3/3040	E.C.W. LD43/31FD	24905	Delivered 27.8.81
3122	XHK227X	Bristol VRTSL6G	3/3042	E.C.W. LD43/31FD	24906	Delivered 7.9.81
3124	XHK229X	Bristol VRTSL6G	3/3076	E.C.W. LD43/31FD	24925	Delivered 4.9.81
3125	XHK230X	Bristol VRTSL6G	3/3077	E.C.W. LD43/31FD	24926	Delivered 10.9.81
3126	XHK231X	Bristol VRTSL6G	3/3085	E.C.W. LD43/31FD	24927	Delivered 10.9.81
3127	XHK232X	Bristol VRTSL6G	3/3086	E.C.W. LD43/31FD	24928	Delivered 10.9.81

3124-7 are the first vehicles from the diverted Thames Valley & Aldershot Omnibus Co. Ltd. (Alder Valley) order to be delivered. Unlike the diverted Southdown Motor Services Ltd. vehicles (3110-23), these vehicles do not have a rear number blind or revised rear registration number position, and are identical to earlier batches of Bristol VRT's (e.g. 3095-3109).

Some additional information is now available regarding the three Leyland Olympians currently on order. Delivery of these vehicles is expected during October and they will carry E.C.W. 78 seat bodywork. Their registrations will be XHK235-7X, and it is understood that the chassis and body numbers are 104-6 and 25032-4 respectively.

Withdrawn Vehicles

8.81	1509 (EPU190G)	2893 (WNO981F)	2907 (WWC737F)
	2887 (WNO975F)	2896 (WNO984F)	2915 (WWC745F)
	2890 (WNO978F)	2903 (WVX530F)	2921 (AEV815F)
9.81		2926 (AEV820F)	

It is understood that these vehicles have been sold to W. Norths (P.V.) Ltd., Sherburn-in-Elmet (dealer). 2889 was in fact also sold to W. Norths Ltd. but this vehicle was partially destroyed in a fire at Prittlewell depot on August 26th (see below), and 2926 has since been substituted for this vehicle. Most, if not all, of the above vehicles still remained at the Company's premises during early September.

Vehicles Destroyed

A serious fire occurred at Prittlewell (PL) depot on the night of August 26th which resulted in the complete destruction of four vehicles. The vehicles destroyed were open-top Bristol FLF6G 2303 (NTW943C), open-top Bristol KSW5G 2382 (WNO 483) and two Bristol FLF6LX's 2902 (WVX529F) and 2919 (AEV813F). Bristol FLF6LX 2889 (WNO977F) was also partially destroyed by the fire. The loss of 2382 in this way is particularly unfortunate as the vehicle was kept in immaculate condition and had been entered in several rallies this year. It was one of the oldest vehicles in service with a National Bus Company subsidiary and reflected the high standards of maintenance achieved by Eastern National. The remains of all the vehicles are still at Prittlewell.

Vehicle on Loan

Leyland Leopard coach 1819 (RUF819H) was returned to Southdown Motor Services Ltd. during early September following the completion of its period of loan.

Allocations & Transfers

A number of additional allocations and transfers occurred during July and August as follows :-

7.81 3111 D/L, 3113 D/L, 3118 D/L.

8.81 1403 CN-SD, 1412 CF-CN, 1414 CR-CF, 2303 D/L (D)-SD (but subsequently destroyed by fire), 3110 D/L, 3112 D/L, 3115 D/L, 3119 D/L, 3120 D/L, 3121 D/L.

Allocations and transfers during September have been as follows :-

9.81 1214 SD-DT, 1412 CN-MN, 1413 MN-CN, 1510 DT-D/L (P), 1519 CN-DT, 1926 HD-BE, 2303 SD-D/L (D) (see above), 2382 LWA-D/L (D) (see above), 2886 CF-D/L (D), 2888 CF-D/L (D), 2891 CF-D/L (D), 2916 CF-D/L (D), 3042 SD-D/L (D), 3043 BE-D/L (D), 3110 D/L-CF, 3111 D/L-CF, 3112 D/L-CF, 3113 D/L-CF, 3117 D/L, 3118 D/L-HD, 3121 D/L-SD, 3122 D/L, 3124 D/L, 3125 D/L, 3126 D/L, 3127 D/L.

As anticipated the remaining four Bristol FLF6LX's at CF have all been delicensed for disposal during September. For the record, the last of these vehicles to be used in service was 2891 (WNO979F) on Thursday, September 10th.

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 NS209 :-

August : w/e 1.8.81 - 1856 at CW (additional to NS209).
w/e 22.8.81 - 1855 at CW.
w/e 29.8.81 - 1846 at CW, 3057 at CW.
September : w/e 5.9.81 - 1849 at CW.

Additionally, 3012 was repainted at Central Works during August (exact date unknown). Leyland National 1846 (WJN566S), allocated to Brentwood (BD), has been repainted to incorporate a new 'unibus' advertisement for Laidlaw, the Ford dealers based at Brook Street, Brentwood. The advertisement is basically blue and white in colour and it is anticipated that the vehicle will remain in service in this form for a period of 12 months.

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

The Company has also kindly provided some information on the latest allocations of delicensed vehicles and this updates the information previously published in NS207-9 :- CF - 2890/6, CW - 2874, HD - 1004 1503/11 2875, MN - 1000-2 1509 1608 2887 2908/15/26, PL (Depot) - 1003 1502/14 2383/4 2885/6/8/9/91-3/7 2907/16/22/5/43/4/6 and the remains of 2303/82 2902/19, PL (Yard) - 2903/5/21, SE - 1100/1/3 1515/24 1610, WG - 2877/94/5/8/9 2900/1/4/6/9/10-2/7/8/20/3/4/7/9-31, WN (Walton) - 1510.

Certain other vehicles previously reported as being at MN and SE have recently been moved to other locations, viz :- 1538 2884 2913/45 9009. Their new allocations were unknown at the time of writing, although it is believed that at least some of the Bristol FLF's may now be at WG.

General

Bristol VRTSL6G 3002 (CPU981G) was still at Central Works during early September (see also NS209), although it is anticipated that the vehicle will be repainted shortly, prior to re-entering service. Two other Bristol VRTSL6G's have also been involved in accidents recently whilst operating on service 251. The vehicles concerned are 3092 and 3104, and both are now under repair at Central Works.

Open-top Bristol FLF6G 2302 (MVX885C) undertook an unusual private hire duty on September 11-12th. The vehicle was hired to Marley Ltd. in connection with the opening of their new DIY store at Beaufort Road, Chelmsford and carried a number of large external advertisements for this event. On September 12th leaflets were distributed from the bus throughout Chelmsford and a jazz band was carried to the new store. Other news regarding the three remaining open-top FLF6G's is that they all carried SD depot allocation plates during their period of use at Clacton this summer, with the exception of 2300 which did receive a CN plate at the front (but retained a SD plate at the rear) sometime during mid-August. 2302 strayed from its normal use on services 117/8 on August 28th and was noted in Walton garage.

Some of the allocations and transfers listed in NS208 for July and August did not occur until late-August, and possibly in some cases not until early September. The last of the Bedford YMQS vehicles to be delivered (1055) was first noted in service from Brentwood (BD) on September 1st on service 272, although 1058 was still at Central Works on September 8th awaiting its entry into service from BS.

Temporary Loans

Routine loans of Chelmsford (CF) vehicles to other depots during September have included 1414 (MN), 1500 (SE), 1516 (BS), 1549 (SE), 1700 (BN), 1701 (BD), 1705 (HH), 1707 (BN), 1771 (BN), 1815 (BD) and 3018 (CR). Of these vehicles 1700 was noted on service 230 on July 27th and on service 232 on September 7th, 1705 was noted on service 24 on August 18th and on service 27 on August 27th and 1707 was noted on service 235 on September 4th. 1804 was at Great Dunmow (outstation) on September 6th, whilst on the same date 1708, 1851 and 1860 were at Central Works.

Only three Southend (SD) vehicles have been noted on loan to other depots during September. 1505 has been on loan to Maldon (MN), whilst 1720 and 1721 have both been operating at Basildon (BN). 1720 was noted on service 233 on September 1st and 1721 was operating on service 232 on September 10th.

Clacton (CN) vehicles which worked on temporary loan to DT during August were 1213/7, 1402, 1761/8/92, 1803 and 3003/31.

Service Developments

The most important service change introduced during recent weeks has affected express service 194 (London-Clacton). This service was withdrawn after August 16th, and on the following day the Company introduced a new Highwayman service, numbered 809, between Clacton and Basildon as a partial replacement. The service operates on Weekdays (until September 30th), but through journeys between Clacton and Basildon operate only on Mondays, Fridays and Saturdays. The service operates between Clacton and Colchester on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays to offer connections to other Highwayman services. A special timetable leaflet featuring the Highwayman logo is available for this new service.

The Company is also proposing to introduce some changes to express service 181. One Daily journey from Felixstowe is to be withdrawn, together with one journey from Brent Cross on Saturdays to Thursdays inclusive. The terminal for Friday journeys is to be Turnpike Lane (L.T. Bus Station), and the revised service is to form part of a through service between North London and Great Yarmouth.

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

16/17 - Revised terminals to be Chalkwell (Rail Station) or Southend (Central Bus Station) and Eastwood (Kent Elm, Broomfield Avenue) or Belfairs (Woodcutters). Revised route from Elmsleigh Drive via Eastwood Road North and Bellhouse Lane to Belfairs (Woodcutters).
23A - Service to be revised to operate on a circular basis from Leigh (Rail Station), and one minor timetable change on Mondays to Fridays.
75 - One journey to be withdrawn on both Weekdays and Schooldays; one additional journey to be introduced on Weekdays, and three additional journeys to be introduced on Schooldays.
75B - One additional journey to be introduced on Schooldays.
75C - One additional journey to be introduced on Schooldays.
75E - Two journeys to be withdrawn on Schooldays.
261 - One journey to be withdrawn on Mondays to Fridays.
335 - One additional journey to be introduced.
337/9/40 - Revised routes in Witham, and revised timetable. These applications replace those listed for services 337/40/1 in NS209 which have now been withdrawn.
338 - Revised route for certain journeys and revised timetable.
341 - Service to be withdrawn.
510 - Revised route via Helmores.

Other proposed revisions to stage services will involve minor timetable changes to services 25, 53, 326 (Schooldays) and 503 (Schooldays).

A short term licence has been granted for new service 347 (see NS209) until January 24th, 1982, whilst similar licences have been granted for services 431/5/51/2 until February 10th, 1982.

Some additional news is available regarding the new services recently introduced in the Tendring area (see NS206). On Tuesday, August 18th 1210 CR was noted operating on service 127 and it is reported that the loadings from Little Bromley justified the use of a 53 seat vehicle. The two services introduced by Hedingham Omnibuses Ltd. (85/6) were operated by Bedford YLQ L88 on Wednesday, August 26th, and it is reported that service 85 was carrying approximately a dozen passengers.

Details of some forthcoming changes to the Highwayman services, and also to National Express service 609, are also now available. From Sunday, September 20th a reduced Winter timetable was introduced for service 609, although this does incorporate some additional picking up and setting down points. It is also understood that this service will be re-numbered 109 from November 1st in line with the other National Express services serving Essex. The changes to the Highwayman network are scheduled to take effect from Monday, October 5th and are summarised as follows :-

801 - To operate on Wednesdays and Saturdays, and be diverted via Stansted Airport and Cambridge with the deletion of the picking up points at Harlow and Peterborough Station.
802/6/9 - To be withdrawn for the Winter period.
803/4/5 - No changes.
807 - To be extended from Maidstone to Canterbury (Bus Station).

Unusual Workings

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

18.7-1551 EN noted on a private hire working at East Kent's Westwood depot.
3.8-ST 204 noted on service 23A.
7.8-1200 BE replaced 1214 SD on Highwayman service 802 at Braintree.
9.8-ST 222 on service 20.
3063 BE noted on an excursion at Walton garage.
11.8-ST 231 and 241 noted on a rail replacement service for the Wickford-Southminster branch line.
12.8-1300 SD noted at Walton garage.
16.8-1550 BN, 1554 BN and 3014 HH noted on excursions at Walton garage.
18.8-1301 CR noted on excursion work at Clacton (Pier Avenue). Also, on this date, red, blue and green Bristol VRT's were noted together in Clacton Bus Station, viz : an ECOC vehicle on service 123, EN driver training vehicle 9016, and 3031 CN.
23.8-1205 BE noted on hire to Grey-Green Coaches Ltd.
1516 CF and 3063 BE noted at Walton garage.
26.8-3062 SD noted on service 400.
27.8-3071 SD noted on service 17.
3073 SD noted on service 25A.
1402 CN failed at Luton whilst operating Highwayman service 806. It was replaced by United Counties 216, which returned to Hemel Hempstead (and Luton) on the following day on service 802.
29.8-1050 CN noted on service 113.
1212 MN noted on express service 125.
6.9-3071 SD noted on service 20.
8.9-2891 CF (the last FLF6LX in service) noted on service 154.
9.9-2891 CF noted on service 32A.
10.9-2891 CF noted on service 32A. The last known service journey was the 1605 hrs. Chelmsford to Blackmore (32A) and return.
11.9-ST 371 noted on service 62, and also on September 15th and 17th.
12.9-ST 373 was hired to Essex Radio for promotional work in connection with the opening of that radio station. The vehicle currently carries a number of large Essex Radio advertisements.
13.9-3121 SD noted on service 11A.
16.9-ST 372 noted on service 62.

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COLCHESTER TRANSPORT

General

Bristol RELL6L 22 (OWC722M) was noted in store at the end of August, together with similar vehicles 14, 15, 17 and 18. Leyland Atlantean 52 (AVX 52G) was also noted in a derelict condition in the garage at that time (see also NS204). Although it has previously been reported that the driver training Leyland Atlantean (WEV746F) has been re-numbered 96 (see NS206) it is now reported that this vehicle does not carry a fleet number.

Leyland Atlantean 90 (RVW 90W) was the official Colchester entry at the Eastern Counties Omnibus Society Rally at Norwich on September 13th where it won a number of awards.

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SOUTHEND TRANSPORT

New Vehicles

The two Leyland Tiger coaches (209/10) have not yet been delivered, although they are still expected in the near future. It is reported that they will replace 365 and 367.

Withdrawn Vehicles

8.81 357 (WJN357J) 361 (WJN361J)

General

Two Daimler Fleetlines remain on loan to Lesney Products & Co. Ltd., Rochford during Mondays to Fridays only. The vehicles are currently 358 and 367, which replaced 377 and 379 on September 14th.

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GROUP PHOTOGRAPHS

A new Group photograph list is currently in course of preparation and this will feature part 1 of the 1981 Collection, which includes many new historical shots. Six new colour photographs have also recently been produced and full details will be published next month.

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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.H. Palmer (M105), R. Delahoy (M180), A.W. Meadows (M209), P.W. Harvey (M219), S.D. Barham (M313), L. Thorington (M352), A.W. Colebourne (M377) and J.G. Collins (M405). The deadline for the October news sheet is Wednesday, October 21st.

EASTERN NATIONAL DISPOSALS (By kind courtesy of the P.S.V. Circle, continued from NS208).

363 (NWC 14) - Costain Mining, Fife, B3, (N-PSV), date unknown, ex. dealer, Middlewich.

390 (11 DLY) - Went to Costain Mining, by 3/76, ex. dealer, Middlewich. (additional information to NS207).

1318 (213 MHK) 1426 (MOO 178) 2724 (172 XNO) 2732 (179 XNO)
1319 (214 MHK) 2718 (98 TVX) 2725 (170 XNO) 2740 (EOO 582)
1414 (2739 VX) 2723 (171 XNO) 2731 (178 XNO) 2768 (VWC 68)
1421 (807 WVW)
All of these vehicles to dealer, Ingham, 2/77.

1332 (1270 EV) - Dealer, Carlton, 8/77, prior to acquisition by North Cornwall Cars, Langdon Cross. (additional information to NS170).

1333 (2723 VX) - Dealer, Ingham, 6/80, ex. Hanson, Goole (N-PSV).

1335 (2725 VX) - Dealer, Ingham, 2/77. (correction to NS164).

1340 (2730 VX) - Also reported as Trump, Knaphill (for preservation), 8/80. (see also NS202).

1344 (2734 VX) - Dealer, Ingham, 2/77; Thornton, Cundy Cross, 4/77. (correction to NS164).

1418 (804 WVW) - Dealer, Ingham, 2/77, prior to Mobile Shop, Oxford. (additional information to NS170).

1446 (BNO116B) 1447 (BPU 22B) 2778 (991 KOO)
All of these vehicles to dealer, Carlton, 12/80, ex. dealer, Grays.

2407 (XVX 22) - Now reported as owned by Banbury Council, 5/75, (as mobile caravan). (additional information to NS183).

2435 (970 DHK) - Now reported as owned by Banbury Council, 5/75, (as mobile caravan). (additional information to NS183).

2505 (1050 F) - Dealer, Carlton, 3/76.
2514 (351 LPU) 2519 (356 LPU) 2520 (357 LPU)
All of these vehicles to dealer, Carlton, 7/76.

2703 (83 TVX) - Cannibalised, 8/76; remains to dealer, Carlton, 10/76.

2714 (94 TVX) - N.B.C. (Eastern Region) Disposal Centre, Bracebridge Heath, 2/77.
2721 (802 WVW) 2784 (935 LWC) 2806 (DVX682B)
All of these vehicles to dealer, Carlton, 2/81, ex. dealer, Grays.

2730 (177 XNO) - Dealer, Ingham, 2/77, prior to acquisition by Marfleet, Binbrook. (additional information to NS162).

2734 (181 XNO) - Believed to dealer, Carlton, 8/77.

2735 (182 XNO) - Believed to dealer, Carlton, 8/77.

2744 (EOO 586) - N.B.C. (Eastern Region) Disposal Centre, Bracebridge Heath, 2/77.

2746 (EOO 588) - Initial disposal was to dealer, Middlewich, 2/77.

2748 (EOO 590) - Initial disposal was to dealer, Middlewich, 2/77.

2774 (987 KOO) - Emsworth Marine Exchange, Emsworth, 10/80, ex. dealer, Grays.

2849 (NTW942C) - Also reported as Wheble, Leatherhead, by 4/81, (for preservation). (additional information to NS204).

2852 (OVX296D) - Exported to Finland, 5/81, ex. dealer, Grays.

2872 (RWC944D) - Byley Garage, Byley, 10/80. (see also NS207).

2928 (AVW397F) - Exported to Hong Kong, 5/81, ex. dealer, Grays. Owned by Transport Supplies Worldwide (H.K.) Ltd., leased to Citybus, the fleetname for Passenger Transportation Services (Asia) Ltd.

1609 (GVW979H) - Noted in Tredegar, -/81, owner unknown.

2381 (WNO 482) - Red Car, Norwich, 4/81, ex. Culling, Norwich.

2853 (OVX297D) - Now in Viking livery, may tour the Continent, not just France. (additional information to NS208).

2854 (OVX298D) - Irvine, Law, 6/81, ex. dealer, Grays.

2860 (RHK345D) - Merton Community Association, -/81, not via dealer, Grays. (correction to NS204).

2861 (RHK346D) - Noted in Tredegar, -/81, owner unknown.

2871 (RWC943D) - Numbered N235DT by Alexander (Northern), after conversion to driver training vehicle, licensed 3/81. (additional information to NS199).

2879 (SVX278D) - Was not acquired by Alexander (Northern) after all. (correction to NS202/3). The vehicle passed to Aberdeen Scouts instead. Further information awaited. - - - - - -

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9/81
(GP) 240/NS210