EASTERN NATIONAL ENTHUSIASTS GROUP

NEWS SHEET NUMBER 194 — May 1980

EDITORIAL

New Publication

The following new publication is now available :

'Transfer of Eastern National Grays Area Services to London Transport, 1933-1951'.

This long awaited publication is a 48 page A4 size book which contains a complete history of bus services in the Grays area until 1952, with detailed coverage of the transfers listed in the title. A chapter on the recent 1979 exchanges is also included, and the book also contains 7 maps and 16 photographs. Copies are available from the Administrative Officer, 37. Warren Chase, Thundersley, Benfleet, Essex. SS7 3DZ, at the members price of £1-50p (post free). This publication will also be available at the Southend Historic Transport Rally.

Essex County Council Publications

A new timetable booklet for the Bishops Stortford/Saffron Walden/Royston/Haverhill area dated April 1980 has recently been published. Copies are available from the Administrative Officer (address above) at £0-20p each plus £0-20p postage and packing for each timetable.

Southend Historic Transport Rally, Sunday June 1st.

At Southchurch Park, Lifstan Way, Southend from 1000 hrs. This event is organised by the Eastern National Preservation Group who have kindly granted E.N.E.G. members a concessionary admission rate of £0-30p (instead of £0-40p) upon production of a Group membership card. Members should ask for this concessionary rate at the entrance gate. Our own Group will have a stand at the rally which will be based alongside a double-deck vehicle kindly loaned for the occasion by the Ensign Bus Company, Grays. The upper deck of this vehicle will be available to Group members for use as a social area etc. All Group publications and photographs, together with our vast stock of other items, will be on sale. Please ensure that you show your Group membership card to secure lower members' prices, as all prices on the stand will be shown at the higher non-members' rate. Eastern National Omnibus Co. Ltd. and Southend Transport will be entering vehicles and there will probably be over 100 vehicles on display. Please support this event, which includes this year for the first time an early morning road run from the Ford Motor Co. offices at Warley, near Brentwood, to Southend.

Ilford Meeting, Tuesday June 24th.

A meeting will be held at 7. Farley Drive, Seven Kings, Ilford on Tuesday, June 24th commencing at 1930 hrs. when the Chairman & Founder will give a slide show of general interest. 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.

Eastern National Central Works Open Day, Saturday July 5th, 1000-1600 hrs.

Members may be aware that 1980 is Eastern National's Golden Jubilee year, and as part of the celebrations to mark this occasion a public open day at Central Works, Chelmsford will be held on Saturday, July 5th, to which all Group members are invited. The Group will have a stand at the Works and our full range of publications and photographs will be on sale. Further details of this event will be published in next month's news sheet - in the meantime please make a note of the date.

Preliminary Notice - Photographic Competition 1980

With the holiday season approaching members are reminded that a photographic competition will be held this year, with similar rules to previous years, and will be judged at the Southend meeting scheduled for October.

EASTERN NATIONAL OMNIBUS CO. LTD.

New Vehicles

1929	MHJ725V	Leyland National 2 NL116L11/1R	06943	Leyland National B49F
1930	MHJ726V	Leyland National 2 NL116L11/1R	06944	Leyland National B49F

1932	MHJ728V	Leyland National 2	NL116L11/1R 06946	Leyland National B49F
1933	MHJ729V	Leyland National 2	NL116L11/1R 06947	Leyland National B49F
1934	MHJ730V	Leyland National 2	NL116L11/1R 06948	Leyland National B49F

Delivery dates : 1929 - 9.5.80 1932 - 1.5.80 1934 - 6.5.80
1930 - 2.5.80 1933 - 1.5.80

The remaining three vehicles from the first batch of Leyland National 2s (1931/5/6) of the 1980 order are expected to be delivered in the near future.

Further details of the delivery dates of the latest Bristol VRTSL6Gs are now available (see NS193). These are as follows :

3072 - 28.3.80 3074 - 3.4.80 3076 - 9.4.80
3073 - 28.3.80 3075 - 3.4.80

These vehicles differ from the first batch of dual-purpose VRTs (3067-71) in having a larger type of hopper fitted to the windows. External signwriting on these vehicles for service 400 was being undertaken at Central Works in late May.

Withdrawn Vehicles

NIL

Allocations & Transfers

5.80 1203 PL-CN, 1214 CF-CWDS -CN, 1403 PL-MN, 1404 PL-SE, 1405 MN-HD, 1413 D/L-MN, 1416 CN-PL, 1417 CR-PL, 1418 PL-CN, 1549 HH-CN, 1727 D/L-SE, 1925 D/L-HH, 1926 D/L-HD, 1927 D/L-LWA (Licensed waiting allocation), 1929 D/L, 1930 D/L, 1932 D/L, 1933 D/L, 1934 D/L, 2300 D/L-SD, 2301 D/L-SD, 2302 D/L-SD, 2303 D/L-SD, 2790 CN-D/L (D), 2817 HD-BE, 2825 BE-D/L (D), 3074 D/L, 3075 D/L, 3076 D/L.

The first two Leyland National 2s have now entered service, 1925 at HH and 1926 at HD. 1925 replaced 1549 at HH, which was transferred to CN as a replacement for 2790. 1926 replaced 2817 at HD, and further information about recent developments at Halstead is published under Unusual Workings on page 4. The four open-top Bristol FLF6Gs were licensed from May 1st at Southend (SD), and amongst their first duties this summer will be the annual visit to the Derby at Epsom in early June. With 2790 now delicensed for disposal there are no longer any Bristol FLF6Gs in the 27XX series left in regular service. 2936 remains the oldest FLF in service and continues to operate on trunk routes throughout the day. Amongst other interesting re-allocations during May, Silver End (SE) has received its first Bristol RELH6G coach (1404), whilst 1416 has been transferred for the first time from CN to PL.

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 NS193 :-

April : w/e 18.4.80-1408 at PL.
w/e 25.4.80-1799 at PL, 1803 at CW.

May : w/e 2.5.80-1412 at PL, 1802 at CW, 2923 at PL.
w/e 9.5.80-1513 at PL, 3049 at CW.
w/e 16.5.80-1729 at PL, 1820 at CW.
w/e 23.5.80-1726 at PL, 1727 at CW, 1835 at PL.

In connection with the Company's Golden Jubilee celebrations a Bristol VRTSL6G is to be repainted in 1930 style livery. The vehicle chosen is 3048 from Wood Green depot which has recently entered Central Works for repainting. Further details about this extremely interesting development will be published as soon as they become available.

General

Some notes are now available concerning the disposal of 2869 (RWC941D) to Alexander (Northern) for use on a M.A.P. exercise (see also under Eastern National Disposals on page 5). The vehicle is in a blue and cream livery, the same colours as with Alexander (Midland). It is cream between decks, which extends into the central waistband. The upper windows, roof, lower windows and panels are all blue. The front blind has been panelled over and painted blue. It carries the legend 'Northern Scotmap', with the cross of St. Andrew in cream on the front blind and in blue in the area between decks. The seats in the lower deck have been removed and replaced by an enquiry area consisting of writing benches and seats. The lower deck windows have been painted over in white up to the level of the hoppers. The vehicle was still in course of preparation when observed at Aberdeen in early April.

Service Revisions

Revised bus services were operated over the May Day and Spring Bank Holiday periods. On May Day Holiday (May 5th) a normal Sunday service was operated with the following exceptions :- 31 (six additional return journeys), 100 (special service, which was also operated on Saturdays and Sundays from May 10th to May 25th) and 124 (no service). On Spring Bank Holiday (May 26th) a normal Sunday service was also operated with certain exceptions as follows :- 31 (six additional return journeys), 100 (special service which will also operate daily from May 27th until June 14th, with the full Clacton area summer timetable including additional service 100 journeys commencing on June 15th), 101 (two additional return journeys) and 124 (no service).

Stage Services

Revisions to services recently applied for have been as follows :-

NEW SERVICE - 300 Bishops Stortford (Station Road) - Beldhams (Dimsdale Crescent). To operate on weekdays via Station Road, South Street, Potter Street, Market Square, Bridge Street, The Causeway, Hockerill Street, A1250 and Haymeads Lane.

22 - Daily - two late evening journeys to be advanced by 15 minutes.

67 - Daily - to introduce minor timetable revisions on eastbound journeys.

87 - Sundays - to revise Summer Sunday timetable.

121 - Service to be renumbered 117, and to revise timetable.

151 - To introduce minor timetable revisions.

233/4/5 - To revise timetables.

400 - Special Summer journeys to operate from May 18th to September 5th; also to operate on Sundays and Bank Holidays from May 25th until July 20th and thence daily to August 24th.

501/2 - To introduce additional journeys for Lincewood and Nicholas Schools on Schooldays.

504/5 - To introduce additional schools journeys (Schooldays) and works journeys (Mondays to Fridays).

The application to add an alternative route in the Mayland area on services 95/96 (see NS190) has been withdrawn.

Excursions and Tours

Applications have been made to revise the title and/or duration of certain excursions and tours :-

-From Southend-on-Sea (Victoria Bus Station)
- -France (Paris, Le Mans or Brittany and Normandy Beaches) via Southampton or Newhaven (2-10 days) to now be 1-21 days.
- -Sheerness (day) to now be Sheerness (day) or Sheerness Docks for the Continent (1-21 days).
- -Dover for the Continent (2-13 days) to now be 1-21 days.
- -Felixstowe, E.C.O.C. Bus Station (day) to now be Felixstowe, E.C.O.C. Bus Station (day) or Felixstowe Docks (1-21 days).

-From Chelmsford (Bus Station)
- -Margate or Ramsgate to now be Margate or Ramsgate or Ramsgate International Hoverport.

The following additional excursions from Southend-on-Sea (Victoria Bus Station) via Basildon, Billericay, Brentwood, Laindon and Wickford have been applied for :-
- -Ramsgate International Hoverport, Pegwell Bay (for the Continent, 1-21 days).
- -Weymouth Docks (for the Channel Islands, 1-21 days).
- -Portsmouth (for the Channel Islands, 1-21 days).

Leaflets outlining the range of excursions during May are available from Company offices. Amongst the many excursions being offered are trips to the races at Newmarket, Kempton Park, Lingfield Park, Newbury, Goodwood, Fakenham, Sandown Park

and Brighton together with Essex C.C.C. cricket matches at Ilford and Chelmsford.

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Revisions to stage services recently introduced have been as follows :-
22 - 4.5.80 (NS194); 149 (see also NS193) - 28.4.80 (NS193); 262 - one late evening journey withdrawn on Fridays only until further notice; 311 - timetable revisions on Mondays to Fridays - 28.4.80 (NS192); 321 - 28.4.80 (NS192); 330 - 28.4.80 (NS192) with a revised timetable leaflet available at Company offices; 502 (see also NS193) - 28.4.80 (NS193).
From May 4th, for an experimental period, only certain cross town services have called at the bus stop outside Chelmsford Rail Station. These are services 40, 41/41A (Sundays only), 42, 43, 44, 44A/44B and 45 together with certain journeys on services 32A, 48, 57 and 316 which commence beyond Chelmsford Bus Station. Those services which start from Chelmsford Bus Station now stop first at the Cathedral bus stops in Duke Street.

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Unusual Workings

Following from the information published in NS193 recent observations of Chelmsford (CF) vehicles operating on temporary loan from other depots have been as follows :-
May 4th : 1509 at SE, 1515 at BE, 1701 at BN, 1702 at BN, 1705 at SD, 1707 at MN, 1734 at CN, 1819 at BN, 1832 at BE, 2833 at BD, 2851 at CN, 3002 at BS, 3018 at MN, 3019 at BD and 3033 at CN. 1710 was at Great Dunmow (outstation) whilst 1516, 1553 and 1610 were on private hire work on this date.
May 18th : 1509 at SE, 1516 at MN, 1702 at BN, 1705 at SD, 1730 at HH, 1819 at BN, 1832 at BE, 1860 at MN, 2851 at CN, 2926 at SD and 3033 at CN.

Clacton (CN) vehicles which worked on temporary loan to Harwich (DT) during April were as follows :- 1.4-1210, 1780, 2802, 3003 (replacing 1213, 1781, 2842 and 3027 all at CN for inspections); 6.4-1520 (replacing 1522); on May 11th all DT vehicles were at Harwich - an unusual occurrence; 12.4-1768 (replacing 1781), 2842 transferred from DT to CN with 3000 being reallocated to DT from BN; 17.4-1792 (replacing 1761); 18.4-3031 (replacing 3000); 21.4-2802 (replacing 3031 which returned to CN); 22.4-1520, 1780 (replacing 1521 and 1901); 25.4-1780 (replacing 1781); 28.4- 2842 now CN (replacing 2802 which returned to CN).

Other details of unusual workings which have been supplied by members during recent weeks are as follows :-
14.4 until late April - a shortage of conductors at HD necessitated a number of FLF schedules being operated by OMO vehicles. Until this period the two HD FLF6Gs (2817/52) each operated four return journeys from Chelmsford to Halstead on services 310-3 on Mondays to Fridays, whilst on Saturdays one vehicle operated four return journeys and the other operated three return journeys and one return journey to Braintree on services 310-3. On 14-15.4 3058 worked one of these FLF schedules; on 16.4 3001 BE replaced 2859 BE (which was on temporary loan to HD replacing 2817) and worked this schedule until 18.4. On Saturday, April 19th 3001 was replaced by 1731 from BE which worked on service 311 to Chelmsford with crew operation, and was replaced at CF by 1832 (1731 being required at Central Works) which was crew operated back to HD, with OMO operation for the rest of the schedule.
20.4 - 3024 SD was involved in a minor collision at Fairfax Drive, Prittlewell, after which the vehicle entered Prittlewell Works for repairs - it had returned to service by May 16th; 1404 CN on express service 084; 1407 PL on express service 181; 3065 SD on service 22.
21.4-22.4 - 3058 HD OMO operated on service 310-3 crew schedules (see above).
23.4 - 3043 BE OMO operated on service 310-3 crew schedules (see above), and replaced at BE, whilst operating 1435 hrs. 310 Halstead-Chelmsford by 3000 DT on loan to provide an additional OMO vehicle.
24.4 - 3000 DT OMO operated on service 310-3 crew schedules.
27.4 - 1553, 2889, 3033 and 3035 noted on private hire and rail replacement work from CF depot.
29.4 - 2817 transferred from HD to BE on this date.
30.4 - 3000 DT noted on normal OMO operation for HD on service 311; 1926 HD collected from Central Works ready for entering service on May 2nd.
1.5 - Ford demonstrator NWC66V noted at Central Works; 3000 DT noted on C634 hrs. and 0834 hrs. service 88 journeys from Halstead to Colchester, with the vehicle being returned to Clacton after these duties.
3.5 - 1515 CF (CWDS) noted on service 311 replacing 3043 BE which had developed mechanical problems at Chelmsford.
4.5 - 1516, 1553 and 1610 noted on private hire work from CF depot.

6.5 - 3053 SD on service 251.
6.5-7.5 - 1705 CF on service 25, whilst on temporary loan to SD (see above).
8.5 - 1925 HH (the first Leyland National 2) on service 23A.
10.5 - Southend Transport 228 on service 251.
12.5 - 1516 CF working for MN on service 31; 1730 CF on service 25.
14.5 - Southend Transport 363 on an a.m. service 2 journey to Southend.
15.5 - 1211 SE on service 53.
16.5 - 3064 SD on service 6.
21.5 - 1516 CF working for MN on service 36.

With the number of Bristol FLF6Gs in the fleet gradually decreasing some details of their regular workings are interesting. At Halstead (HD) the one FLF (2852) works four return journeys from Halstead to Chelmsford on services 310-3 on weekdays; at Braintree (BE) five FLFs (with one spare) work services 70, 311, 326, 331/2 & 334/5.

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

CF - 2832
CW - 2771
HD - 2783/99 2825
MN - 1361 1434/43/5-7 2773/91 2807/13
PL (Yard) - 1423 2753 2928
PL (Depot) - 2379/82 2752/74-6/95/7/8 2818/44 2940
SE - 1340/7 1451 2778/90/6
BE - 2781

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COLCHESTER TRANSPORT

Withdrawn Vehicles

Leyland PD2A/30 44 (OVX144D) has now been removed from the depot and was observed recently parked in a yard at Copford near Colchester.

There have been no further withdrawals reported to date although Leyland Atlanteans 49, 50 and 52 are still delicensed at the rear of the garage (see also NS193). However, Leyland Atlantean 49 (YWC649F), which was recently delicensed with accident damage, has now been repaired and was observed in service during early May.

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SOUTHEND TRANSPORT

New Vehicles

205 DTM205V Leyland PSU3/4RT - - - - - Duple Dominant II DP51F - - - - -
206 DTE206V Leyland PSU3/4RT - - - - - Duple Dominant II DP51F - - - - -

Delivery date - 205/6 : 18.4.80

The chassis and body numbers of these vehicles will be published as soon as they become available. The remaining two vehicles of this batch are expected to be delivered in late May. They are finished in blue and cream bus livery, and are fitted with sliding windows and slightly narrower seats than standard to allow 18 standing passengers. At the time of writing they had not entered service.

EASTERN NATIONAL DISPOSALS (By kind courtesy of the P.S.V. Circle, continued from NS193)

1214 (YPU 139) - Dealer, 1/78, ex. Manchester Airport Authority (N-PSV). Out of use with MAA since 2/77.
2722 (903 WVW) - Withdrawn vy United Automobile Services on 30/4/78, (additional information to NS176).
2745 (EOO 587) - Withdrawn by United Automobile Services on 30/4/78, (additional information to NS177).
2869 (RWC941D) - Alexander (Northern), 12/79, for use on M.A.P. exercise - carries no fleetnumber.
138 (FJN 209) - Breaker, Waltham Cross, 10/67 ex. Southgate Coaches, London N.11.
2310 (SHK 518) - Withdrawn by Location Facilities, Feltham, ca. 1

REMAINDER HELD OVER DUE TO LACK OF SPACE

News Sheet Contributions

Contributions to this news sheet were received from A.G. Osborne (C&F), R. Delahoy (M180), B. Pope (M248), R.E. Huggins (M296), J.S. Wilby (M298), S.D. Barham (M313) and L. Therington (M352). Notes and information for the June news sheet should be sent to the News Sheet Editor by Wednesday, June 18th (address below).

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