

EDITORIALIlford Meeting - Tuesday, June 5th.

An evening meeting will be held at 7. Farley Drive, Seven Kings, Ilford on Tuesday, June 5th commencing at 1930 hrs. The meeting will provide an opportunity for general discussion about current events. 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.

New Publication

The 1984 edition of the Eastern National Fleet List Booklet (E.F.B.) is now available. The booklet contains 24 pages, and includes full details of the Eastern National fleet together with the Colchester Borough Transport and Southend Transport fleets. Information is correct to last month's news sheet, with certain later details, and the cover features a photograph of Leyland Tiger/Alexander DP53F 1116 (HHJ377Y) on service 795 to Brighton. The price is £0.50 for each booklet ordered (inclusive of postage and packing), and all orders should be directed to the Administrative Officer (P.W. Harvey Esq., 37. Warren Chase, Thundersley, Benfleet, Essex. SS7 3DZ.).

Southend Historic Transport Show - Sunday, June 3rd.

The Southend Historic Transport Show is being held at Southchurch Park, Lifford Way, Southend on Sunday, June 3rd. As usual, the Group will have a stand at the rally and our complete range of sales items will be available, including new photograph stocks and our recent publications.

Essex County Council Publications

New timetable booklets for the Bishop's Stortford/Saffron Walden/Haverhill/Harlow/Epping/Loughton area (Area 1) and Colchester/Clacton/Harwich area (Area 2) both dated May 1984 have recently been published by Essex County Council. Copies are available from the Administrative Officer (address above) at £0.67 each, or £1.31 for both timetables, inclusive of postage and packing.

Weekend Coach Tour to Humberside - Friday, August 24th to Monday, August 27th.

Arrangements for this tour are almost finalised. Booking forms will be circulated with the June news sheet, the final cost is expected to be £60 - £70. A reduction of £5 will be offered for early bookings made by mid-July. In the interim, why not decide to spend the late Summer Bank Holiday weekend with the Group.

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EASTERN NATIONAL OMNIBUS CO. LTD.New Vehicles

NIL

Withdrawn Vehicles

NIL

Vehicles On Order

It is understood that delivery of the four MCW Metroliner coaches currently on order (1600-3) has been slightly delayed, although the vehicles are now being constructed at Metro-Cammell Weymann's Birmingham factory. Further details regarding these vehicles will be published as soon as they become available.

Vehicles On Hire

The two Bristol VRTSL6G's (3018/47), which had been on hire to Eastern Counties O.C. Ltd. since December 29th, were returned to the Company on May 11th, and these vehicles are currently in store at Prittlewell (PL).

Allocations & Transfers

5.84 1110 SE-BE, 1111 CR-CN, 1120 BE-SE, 1301 CR-CF, 1302 CF-BD, 1305 CN-CR,
1306 BE-SE, 1406 BE-SE, 1414 BD-MN, 1417 SD-BE, 1419 CN-DT, 1524 PL (P)-CR,
1534 PL (P)-DT, 1541 PL (P)-BS, 1832 D/L-CF, 1865 CR-BE, 3058 BE-CR,
3111 BN-CF, 3117 CF-BN, 4002 D/L-SD.

This month's re-allocations mainly involve coaches and dual-purpose vehicles being transferred for Summer season work, and it is interesting to note that Silver End (SE) depot now has an allocation of one dual-purpose vehicle (1120) and three coaches (1306, 1406/9). The three Bristol RELL6G's (1524/34/41), which were previously Licensed Pool Vehicles (PL (P)), have been re-allocated to depots where other vehicles are being used on coach and express services during the Summer months.

One of the Bristol KSW5G open-top vehicles, 2383 (WNO 479), was fitted with a tachograph by Trimoco Trucks (A12) Ltd., Chelmsford during mid-May, and this vehicle is now being brought up to PSV standard and will be licensed accordingly.

Leyland Tiger 1112 (HHJ373Y) is now listed in the Company's official vehicle allocation list as being attached to the Coaching Department.

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 NS241 :-

April : w/e 21.4.84 - 1832 at CW.

w/e 28.4.84 - 3019 at CW (correction to NS241).

May : w/e 5.5.84 - 1412 at CW (National coach livery), 3078 at CW/PL (Field & Trek (Equipment) Ltd. overall advertisement) - black base painted at CW, signwriting painted at PL.

w/e 12.5.84 - 1834 at CW.

Regular vehicle repaints have again commenced at Clacton (CN) depot after a break of about five years and, at the time of writing, 1052 MN was being repainted at CN, and it is expected that this will be followed by 1932 DE.

A number of coaches will carry the National Express logo during this Summer, and the vehicles are currently being recalled to Central Works for the appropriate transfers to be applied. The vehicles concerned are 1406 SE, 1410 SD, 1413 SD, 1415 CN, 1416 SD, 1417 BE and 1418 SD, of which 1415 and 1418 received transfers on May 9th and May 8th respectively, with the remaining coaches to be recalled during the next few weeks.

Bristol VRTSL6G 3078 (STW 22W) has now entered service in an overall advertisement livery for Field & Trek (Equipment) Ltd., and is currently operating from Chelmsford (CF) depot. As a correction to last month's news sheet, it should be noted that the signwriting on this vehicle was painted at Prittlewell (PL).

Temporary Loans

Colchester (CR) vehicles which worked on temporary loan to Harwich (DT) during April were 1053, 1111/2, 1710/93, 1935, 3001/22/3 and 3095. 1415 CN, which had been operating from DT, received tachograph repairs at Trimoco Trucks (A12) Ltd., Chelmsford on April 11th.

Other news from Harwich (DT) is that South Wales Transport Co. Ltd. 180 (TCY180M) failed at Harwich on April 6th, and was replaced by 1415 CN which remained on loan to South Wales until April 8th. This vehicle was then replaced by 1113 DT from April 11th, as S.W.T. 180 was still under repair at Harwich, and 1113 was on loan to April 14th when it operated a National Express service from South Wales to London. The South Wales coach finally left Harwich (DT) on April 15th.

Service Developments

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

7E - Mondays to Fridays : revised timetable. To clarify recent reports, it should be noted that this service operates on Mondays to Fridays (see NS240/1).

23A - Mondays to Fridays : one minor timetable change.

49 - Saturdays : one minor timetable change.

49B - NEW SERVICE from Harlow (Bus Station) to High House Estate (Roden Close) via Gilden Way and Moer Hall Road, with one journey (re-numbered from service 49) operating on Mondays to Fridays, and one journey operating on Weekdays.

- 57/A - These new services commenced on May 12th, with service 57 operating from Hatfield Broad Oak to Harlow via Hatfield Heath, Sheering, Lower Sheering and Sawbridgeworth, and service 57A operating from Harlow to Hatfield Broad Oak via Sawbridgeworth and Hatfield Heath (additional information to NS241).
- 74A - Mondays to Fridays : one journey to start from Colchester (Borough Transport Depot, Magdalen Street), with minor route revision.
- 82 - Mondays to Fridays : one minor timetable change.
Saturdays : one minor timetable change.
- 225 - Service to be withdrawn.
- 230 - Mondays to Fridays : two minor timetable changes.
- 234 - Mondays only : two additional journeys to be introduced (to replace service 225 journeys).
- 309 - Schooldays : one minor timetable change.
- 321 - Weekdays : two additional journeys to be introduced, and one minor timetable change (and introduced from April 9th - see NS241).
- 521 - Revised terminals to be Southfields Industrial Area (Bramston Way) and Burnt Mills Industrial Area (Harvey Road), with minor route revisions and revised timetable.
- 549 - Revised timetable.
- 722 - Mondays to Fridays : revised timetable, with journeys now departing from Corringham (Social Club) at 0630 hrs. and 0650 hrs., and from Marble Arch (Park Lane) at 1630 hrs. and 1730 hrs.

Eastern National services 47/A/B were withdrawn after May 11th, and London Country Bus Services Ltd. commenced operation of these services, with certain timetable and route revisions, from May 12th.

Service revisions introduced during recent weeks have been as follows :- 31 - 6.5.84 (NS241); 33 - 30.4.84 (NS240); 38X - 7.5.84 (NS240); 49B - 12.5.84 (NS242); 57/A - 12.5.84 (NS241/2); 98 - 7.5.84 (NS240); 103 - 20.5.84 (NS241 - Sunday timetable revisions only); 113 - 22.4.84 (NS241 - Sunday journeys will operate until 27.5.84, when Summer Sunday service will be re-introduced); 303 - 14.5.84 (one minor timetable change on Mondays to Fridays); 304 - 14.5.84 (one minor timetable change on Mondays to Fridays); 318 - 12.5.84 (NS240/1).

A Sunday timetable was operated on all services, with the exception of service 100 (Clacton-St. Osyth Beach), on May Day Holiday (May 7th). A normal Monday timetable was operated on Highwayman services. A similar pattern of operation, again with the exception of service 100, will be operated on Spring Bank Holiday (May 28th). A special timetable with five return journeys was operated on service 100 from May 5th to May 7th, and this timetable will be increased to six return journeys with Daily operation from May 26th to June 23rd when the full Summer timetable will be introduced. On May 7th (May Day Holiday) a special service 229 timetable was operated between Basildon (Bus Station) and Noak Bridge (Eastfield Road) to serve the Noak Bridge Community Association's May Day Fete.

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

- 133 (Southend-Great Yarmouth) - Minor route revision in Basildon, and additional picking up point to be introduced at Billericay (see also NS241).
- 135 (South Ockendon-Hemsby) - Service will operate on Saturdays only from May 26th to September 15th via Belhus, Aveley, Grays, Chadwell St. Mary, Linford, Stanford-le-Hope, Basildon, Wickford, South Woodham Ferrers, Maldon, Ipswich, Lowestoft and Great Yarmouth (additional information to NS241).
- 138 (East Croydon-Dovercourt) - Revised terminals to be East Croydon (Dingwall Road Coach Park) and Dovercourt (Caravan Park), with revised route via Chelmsford, Colchester,

St. Osyth, Jaywick Sands, Clacton, Holland, Frinton and Walton-on-Naze, revised picking up points and revised timetable to operate on Saturdays only from May 26th to September 15th. This service is jointly operated with Grey-Green Coaches Ltd.

The Company has also applied for various revisions to the commuter services jointly operated with Grey-Green Coaches Ltd., and details of these proposed changes are as follows :-

- 192 (Braintree-London) - Picking up point at Oxney Green (Chequers P.H.) to be withdrawn, with additional picking up points to be introduced at Chelmsford (Writtle Road, corner Robjohns Road) and Widford (White Horse P.H.), with minor route revisions.
- 194 (Tiptree-London) - Additional picking up point to be introduced at Widford (White Horse P.H.) with minor route revisions, and section of route via Wickham Bishops to be withdrawn.
- 195 (Braintree/Halstead/Witham/Fordham Heath/Great Cornard/Tye Green-London) - Revised timetable, with additional picking up point to be introduced at Braintree (Clare Road, junction of Harold Road), and picking up points at Braintree (Rayne Road, junction of Peel Crescent) and Braintree (Rayne Road, Hospital) to be withdrawn.

The London terminal points of the commuter services (191-5) will be revised to Buckingham Palace Road (Stand 6) (set down) and Victoria Street (outside Sainsbury's) (picking up), with some minor route revisions for journeys from London.

Publicity News

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

- Timetable leaflets - new timetable leaflets for services 02/03/83A/88/88A (dated May 6th), 423 (dated May 1st), services to the University of Essex (University of Essex Bus Guide) (dated May 1984) and services to/from Brightlingsea (78/78A) (dated May 6th).
- Colchester Area Bus Services - a general leaflet summarising the main revisions to bus services in the Colchester area (dated May 6th).
- Highwayman services - a leaflet listing amendments to the Summer 1984 Highwayman brochures (dated May 1984).
- Leisure Break Holidays - a leaflet summarising the range of Leisure Break Holidays available between May and October (dated May 1984).
- Explorer leaflet - a leaflet containing details of the Explorer ticket, a map of principal bus routes and some suggested places to visit (dated April 1984).

General

The service revisions in the Colchester area (see also NS240/1) were introduced as planned from Sunday, May 6th. Certain additional information regarding the new or revised services is listed under the Colchester Transport heading, including a list of the vehicles operating on the revised services on May 6th and May 8th. The first Colchester Borough Transport vehicle to operate to West Mersea was Leyland Atlantean 52 (MVK546R), which operated the 1212 hrs. service 7C journey from Colchester (High Street) on May 6th.

The Company inspected a DAF SB2300DHS585/Berkhof C53F at Central Works on May 14th; the vehicle was provided for demonstration by Ensign Bus Co., Purfleet.

Unusual Workings

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

- 6.4-1113 DT noted on National Express service 084, and on 10.4 this vehicle was also noted on National Express service 084 and commuter service 191.
- 7.4-1113 DT noted on Highwayman service 812; 3000 BN observed on service 402.

- 10.4-1701 CF noted on service 20.
- 11.4-1524 PL (P) noted on service 38.
- 14.4-1717 BN noted at Victoria Coach Station on National Express service 109; 1772 BN noted at Southend (SD) depot; a City 400 service Bristol VRTSL6G (from 3067-76 batch) noted receiving repairs at London Country's Grays (GY) depot whilst operating a service 402 journey to London; 3004 BE noted on a Silver End (SE) depot ASDA working; London Country TPL 44 (SY) operated a duplicate service 795 journey from Swanley to Brighton.
- 15.4-1113 DT noted on an excursion from Harwich to the Imperial War Museum, Duxford; 3062 SD (on loan to HH), 3097/9, 3103/7/9 (all HH) operated a rail replacement service from Pitsea to Tilbury.
- 16.4-East Midland 18 (UAU 18S) noted on National Express service 109 - this vehicle had replaced a failed E.N. coach a few days earlier and was at Southend (SD) pending the repair of the E.N. vehicle.
- 17.4-1113 DT noted on private hire work from Clacton (CN).
- 19.4-1113 DT observed on National Express services 080 and 084; 1540 MN noted on service 38; 1710 CR noted at Victoria Coach Station on National Express service 084 to Clacton; 3075 SD noted on service 402.
- 20.4-1304 SD noted on National Holidays tour 083 (Bakewell & the Peak District) at Scratchwood Services on the M1 motorway.
- 21.4-1902 BE noted on service 353.
- 22.4-1053 CR noted on an excursion feeder service from Harwich to Colchester, with 1056 DT operating the return working; 1111 CR noted on an excursion from Harwich to Blenheim Palace, and 1112 CR observed on a private hire journey to Ramsgate; 3061 DT operated a rail replacement service from Ipswich to Colchester.
- 23.4-1052 MN noted at Southend (SD) depot; 1127 CR noted at Hadleigh heading towards Southend.
- 24.4-3002 CF observed on service 11A.
- 25.4-1928 HH was loaned to Brentwood (BD) being replaced by 1913 BD, which was noted on services 3A and 25.
- 26.4-1524 PL (P) observed on service 270, and subsequently at Southend (SD) depot; 1818 BN noted on service 9.
- 27.4-1125 DS noted on the 1530 hrs. National Express service 804 from London to Liverpool; 1127 CR noted on the 1400 hrs. National Express service 858 from London to Rochdale; 1546 CF noted on National Express service 084; Southend Transport 301 noted on service X1; Southend Transport 243 operated a private hire journey from the Cromwell Hotel, London for London Crusader.
- 28.4-1122 DD and 1124 BN both noted at Southend (SD) depot; Southend Transport 201 noted on service 23A.
- 29.4-1056 DT noted on an excursion feeder service from Harwich to Colchester, with 1053 CR operating the return working; 1112 CR observed on an excursion from Harwich to Lincoln.
- 30.4-London Country TD 3 noted on service 795 at Southend.
- 2.5-1119 BE observed on service 353; 1701 CF noted on service 25.
- 4.5-Greenslades 2432 (LDV172P) noted at Chelmsford (CF) depot; 1119 BE noted on service 353.
- 5.5-1539 MN noted on service 335.
- 6.5-3085 HH, 3091 BD, 3097/9, 3103/7/9 (all HH) and 3116/7 (both BN) operated a rail replacement service from Pitsea to Grays via East Tilbury and Tilbury.
- 7.5-3117 BN was noted operating services 510/1.
- 8.5-1545 SE noted on service 53; 1846 BD observed in Braintree.
- 9.5-1123 BE noted on loan to Silver End (SE) depot, and operating services 53 and 353; 3035 CF observed on service 42.
- 11.5-1123 BE noted on service 353, and subsequently on service 335 on 14.5 and on service 53 on 16.5.
- 12.5-1119/23 (both BE) noted at Southend (SD) depot; 1301 CF observed returning from National Holidays tour 024 (Lake District Spectacular); Greenslades 133 (MDF113P) noted at Chelmsford (CF) depot.
- 13.5-1404 DE noted on Highwayman service 808, and this service is being operated by Braintree (BE) depot - the first regular workings by BE vehicles to Southend for many years.
- 14.5-1119 BE noted on Highwayman service 808; 1534 PL (P) (prior to allocation to DT) noted at Hadleigh (HH) depot, having received a partial repaint; 1546 CF noted on service 31.

15.5-1114 SD noted on a private hire journey in Chelmsford; 1126 MN observed on service 51.

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COLCHESTER TRANSPORT

Acquired Vehicles

At the time of writing, former Tyne & Wear P.T.E. Leyland Atlantean 53 (MVK548R) had still not entered service, and this vehicle remains at the Magdalen Street depot.

Vehicles On Hire

Leyland Leopard coach 102 (DHK102T) remains on hire to Southend Transport, and Southend Transport's Leyland Fleetline 242 (MRJ242W) continued on hire to Colchester Borough Transport until May 5th when it was replaced by similar vehicle 232 (MRJ232W), and this vehicle is still operating in Colchester.

General

As noted above, the service revisions in the Colchester area commenced on May 6th, and the following information supplements that published in previous news sheets :-

- 1/1A - Greenstead West is still served by service 1A journeys on Weekday evenings and Sundays (correction to NS241). The last evening service 1A journey from the Town Centre to Ambrose Avenue is extended to Five Ways Estate. One Greenstead East journey per hour (service 1) will be extended in the near future to/from Longridge Park when new roads are completed.
- 3 - School journeys have been re-numbered 13. The service will be extended beyond Greenstead East to/from Longridge Park when new roads are completed.
- 6 - School journeys have been re-numbered 16.
- 7/A/C/D/E/X - Service 7 is jointly operated with Eastern National, together with services 7A and 7C. On Sundays, service 7C is operated by Eastern National (morning journeys) and Colchester Borough Transport (afternoon and evening journeys). All service 7D, 7E and 7X journeys appear to be operated by Eastern National.
- 8 - Service is operated by Colchester Borough Transport
- 74A - One return journey on Mondays to Fridays operates to/from North Station (Downside Exit).

The new Colchester General Hospital is expected to open during the Autumn and will be served by services 5A, 8, 9/A, 19/A, 74, 78 and 78A. Until the Hospital is opened these services are operating with the following temporary arrangements :-

- 5A - Southbound journeys observe the existing stop in Turner Road at the General Hospital. Evening and Sunday journeys continue to operate to/from North Station.
- 8 - Southbound journeys observe the existing stop in Turner Road at the General Hospital.
- 9/19 - Services continue to operate to/from North Station.
- 9A/19A - Southbound journeys observe the existing stop in Turner Road at the General Hospital.
- 74 - Service continues to operate to/from North Station.
- 78/78A - Services continue to operate to/from North Station.

On May 6th, the new and revised services were operated by the following vehicles :-
 1/1A - CBT 75, 87; 2 - CBT 85; 4 - CBT 68, 84; 5A - CBT 86; 6 - Eastern National 1910, 1936; 7C - CBT 52, 78. Eastern National 1793; 8 - CBT 82.

On May 8th, which was the first full day of operation for the revised services, the following vehicles were noted :- 1/1A/3 - CBT 77, 83, 84, 86, 90; 2/2A - CBT 18, 59, 68, 69; 4/4A - CBT 19, 57, 64, 67, 75, 82; 5/5A/5B - CBT 20, 26, 63, 70, 74; 6/6A - CBT 65, 78; 7 - CBT 52. Eastern National 3124; 7A - CBT 51; 7E - Eastern National 1710; 7X - Eastern National 1925; 8 - CBT 81, 88. Southend Transport 232; 9 - CBT 86; 9A - CBT 19, 22; 10 - CBT 19; 13 - CBT 59; 14 - CBT 56, 86; 19 - CBT 21, 71; 19A - CBT 24; 74A - CBT 60, 76; 78/78A - Eastern National 1816, 3066; 79 - the first journey via Goring Road was operated by Hedingham Omnibuses L98.

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SOUTHEND TRANSPORTVehicles On Order

The six Leyland Tiger 218 coaches currently on order (246-51) will carry registrations A246-51SVW. Delivery is expected to commence in the near future, with the first vehicle being due at the end of May.

Acquired Vehicles

Further to the information published in last month's news sheet, Leyland Leopard 219 (SPN669X) returned to service on April 12th following repaint and recertification for one-man-operation. Leyland Leopard's 331 (XWX166S) and 332 (XWX189S) were delivered to Southend on April 9th, and entered service on April 10th and April 12th respectively. These vehicles are both currently painted in a cream livery and carry fleet numbers but not fleetnames at the present time.

Leyland Leopard 218 (XGS769X) was first delivered to Ebdon's Coaches Ltd., Sidcup in July 1981 carrying the registration UUR348W, and was re-registered before entering service (additional information to NS240).

Nine vehicles have recently been acquired, and details are as follows :-

302	NLJ829G	Bristol	RELL6G	RELL3/525	ECW DP50F	17148	New 2/69
333	AYF864T	Leyland Leopard	PSU3E/4R	7803929	Duple C53F	933/5154	New 4/79
334	WRO433S	Leyland Leopard	PSU3E/4R	7704637	Duple C53F	833/5172	New 3/78
335	WRO435S	Leyland Leopard	PSU3E/4R	7704803	Duple C53F	833/5170	New 3/78
336	CTM406T	Leyland Leopard	PSU3E/4R	7802826	Duple C53F	933/5150	New 1/79
337	CTM407T	Leyland Leopard	PSU3E/4R	7803455	Duple C53F	933/5151	New 1/79
338	EBM438T	Leyland Leopard	PSU5C/4R	7805232	Duple C57F	935/5454	New 7/79
339	EBM439T	Leyland Leopard	PSU5C/4R	7805475	Duple C57F	935/5455	New 7/79
340	YHB 20T	Leyland Leopard	PSU3E/4R	7804195	Duple C53F	933/5162	New 2/79

302 was new to Hants & Dorset Motor Services Ltd., fleet number 840, and was re-numbered 1614 in September 1971; following division of the Hants & Dorset company, the vehicle was latterly owned by Provincial Bus Co. Ltd., fleet number 77. This vehicle was delivered to Southend on April 28th, and entered service on April 30th in blue and cream livery, with blue lower panels and cream waist rail, window surrounds and roof panels, initially without fleet numbers and fleet names although these had been applied by May 2nd. 333 was new to Limebourne Ltd., London, S.W.8, being sold to London Cityrama, London, S.W.8 in July 1982. This vehicle was delivered to Southend on April 30th, and entered service on May 11th in Limebourne's blue livery. 334-7 were all new to Guards of London, London, S.W.10; 335/6 were delivered to Southend on May 10th, and entered service on May 11th in white livery, whilst 334/7 had not been delivered at the time of writing, but were expected in the very near future. 338/9 were both new to Ebdon's Coaches Ltd., Sidcup; 338 was delivered to Southend on May 8th, and is currently being repainted in Southend Transport livery, whilst 339 had not been delivered at the time of writing, but was also expected very shortly. 338 is recorded as having passed to R.W. Appleby Ltd., Conisholme from Ebdon's Coaches Ltd. in April 1982, whilst 339 is recorded as having passed to Cavalier Coaches Ltd., Hounslow from Ebdon's Coaches Ltd. in July 1982, and subsequently from Limebourne Ltd., London, S.W.8 to Central, Ripponden by July 1983. Certain of these moves may only have been temporary dealer loans. 340 was new to Morris Travel Ltd., Pencoed, and was delivered to Southend on April 11th entering service on the same day. The vehicle was collected from the Leicester City Transport depot in Leicester, and was then taken to London where it immediately entered service on service X1. The vehicle has since been repainted in Southend Transport livery, and it re-entered service on May 11th.

Withdrawn Vehicles

4.84	349 (WJN349J)
	353 (WJN358J)

349 was withdrawn a few days earlier than expected on April 16th with a broken spring, whilst 358 was withdrawn as planned on April 25th.

Re-built Vehicles

Further to the notes published in NS237 and NS239 regarding the five Daimler Fleetlines (374-7/9) to be re-bodied by Northern Counties, 375 (GHJ375L) and 379 (GHJ379L) were

withdrawn from service on April 18th and May 14th respectively, and this completed the withdrawal of the vehicles prior to re-bodying. There has apparently been no progress to date with 377 (GHJ377L), which was the first of these vehicles to be sent to Northern Counties (see NS237). At this stage, it is not possible to confirm whether the re-bodied vehicles will be re-registered and re-numbered (see NS239).

Vehicles On Hire

Leyland Fleetline 242 (MRJ242W) returned from hire to Colchester Borough Transport on May 5th, and was replaced on that date by similar vehicle 232 (MRJ232W).

Derby City Transport 11 (NNN 11P) and 13 (NNN 13P) were returned to Derby on April 7th and April 28th respectively, and Lancaster City Transport 400 (VUB400H) was returned to Lancaster on May 12th.

The period of hire of Fylde Borough Transport 36 (XRN 36R) officially ended on May 11th, but this vehicle remains at Southend Transport's Tickfield Road works and is receiving repairs to accident damage sustained whilst operating on service X1 on April 30th. The vehicle will be returned when these repairs have been completed.

A further vehicle has recently been hired from Burnley & Pendle Transport, and details are as follows :-

Burnley & Pendle Transport

13 WRN 13R Leyland Leopard PSU4D/4R 7602207 Alexander DP45F 105AY/3075/3 New -/77

This vehicle has been on hire since April 13th, and first entered service on April 16th.

The current situation is that Burnley & Pendle Transport 4 (YHG 4N) and 13 (WRN 13R) and Colchester Borough Transport 102 (DHK102T) remain on hire to Southend Transport.

Since early-March, a Van Hool Astromega double-deck coach has been on hire to Emmaheath Ltd. (t/a London Pride Sightseeing) for sightseeing tours in London. The vehicle used is on layover between peak hour X1 duties, and it is driven by Southend Transport drivers. Three trips are operated on Mondays to Fridays at 1100 hrs., 1300 hrs. and 1500 hrs. from Leicester Square (Coventry Street). The exact date from which this arrangement started is not known.

The open-top Daimler Fleetlines have also been on hire to operate sightseeing tours in London over various periods during April and May. 372/3 (WJN372/3J) were hired to Ensign Bus Co., Purfleet, and then re-hired to Limebourne Ltd., London, S.W.8 for the London Cityrama sightseeing tour between April 19th and April 23rd. These two vehicles were again hired to Ensign Bus Co., and then re-hired to Emmaheath Ltd. (t/a London Pride Sightseeing) from April 25th for sightseeing tours. 373 was returned to Southend on May 9th, and 372 may still be on hire to Emmaheath Ltd. at the time of writing. Similar vehicle 371 (WJN371J) was on hire to Ensign Bus Co. between April 27th and May 2nd for that company's duties on the London Transport Round London Sightseeing Tour. Other vehicles which have been used on that tour recently have included former Southend Transport Leyland PD3/6 312 (PHJ 951), which is now owned by Ensign Bus Co.

General

The revised service X1/X11 timetable was introduced as planned on April 15th, and new timetable leaflets have been published for services X1/X11 (dated April 15th) and X21 (dated April 16th).

On certain Summer Sundays, some X1 journeys are being extended beyond Heathrow Airport to Thorpe Park or to Windsor Safari Park. The 0830 hrs., 1130 hrs. and 1430 hrs. departures from Southend are extended to Thorpe Park on the first Sunday of each month from May to September, whilst these journeys are extended to Windsor Safari Park on the third Sunday of each month from May to September. The return journeys start from both Thorpe Park and Windsor Safari Park at 1250 hrs., 1550 hrs. and 1850 hrs. The last picking up point and first setting down point on journeys to/from Thorpe Park and Windsor Safari Park is Stepney (New Road/Commercial Road). A leaflet containing full details of these extended journeys has recently been published by Southend Transport.

A new service, to be numbered X31, will be introduced between Canvey Island and Green Park with four return journeys on Mondays to Fridays. The service will

operate from Canvey (Leigh Beck) to Green Park via Point Road, High Street, Furtherwick Road, Long Road, Maple Way, Link Road, Sommes Avenue, Canvey Way, A13 and then via the existing service X1 route. It has been reported that the service will commence on May 29th.

Leyland Leopard 212 (CHA443K) has re-entered service fitted with power steering and the four-leaf doors from 200 (GJN508D). Leyland Leopard's 211 (YHA406J) and 216 (MJN216F) are currently out of service.

Newly acquired Leyland Leopard 340 (YHB 20T), which was delivered to Southend on April 11th, was initially numbered 334 being re-numbered 340 on May 10th.

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EASTERN NATIONAL DISPOSALS

Subsequent Disposals

- 345 (570 UVX) - Converted to a site mess hut on Billingham by-pass, by Dowsett (contractor), by 9/81. (additional information to NS239).
- 356 (10 DLY) - Still with dealer, Middlewich, 4/84. (see also NS239).
- 412 (YHK729F) - West Wales, Tycores, 12/83, ex. Compass, Wakefield. Acquired without seats but received bus seats before entering service (DP53F). It has not received fleet livery and is not expected to be retained for very long.
- 1405 (VHK178L) - Heritage Coachways is an organisation related to Gwent Probation & After Care Service, and provides holidays for disabled persons. (additional information to NS240).
- 1408 (X00877L) - Still with Cheltenham & Gloucester Omnibus Co. Ltd., 2091, and repainted in Cotswold local coach livery by 5/84.
- 1504 (CVW858G) - Felixstowe Omnibuses Ltd., Ipswich, by 5/84, ex. dealer, Purfleet.
- 1511 (FVX613H) - Converted to seat store by Gwent Probation & After Care Service, Pontypool, by 2/84. Sold to Edmunds, Rassau, 4/84, and has since passed to Nightingale, Budleigh Salterton, c4/84.
- 1517 (FWC440H) - Another report now states that this vehicle was acquired by Edmunds, Rassau in 7/83 and entered service in 12/83. Gwent Probation & After Care Service has indicated that the vehicle was sold to Edmunds, Rassau in 4/84, after storage at Edmunds' premises. Hopefully, this finally clarifies the situation. (see also NS236/9/40).
- 1520 (HTW178H) - Still with dealer, Purfleet, 5/84. (additional information to NS239).
- 2301 (RHK348D) - Still with Kinch, Mountsorrel, 4/84. (see also NS229).
- 2700 (AHJ142A) - The registration 80 TVX has been transferred to a Volvo B58-56 with Jonckheere C49F bodywork formerly registered UKW556S. Vehicles were re-registered 3/84. (correction to NS241).
- 2809 (FWC427B) - Vehicle is in a white and red livery for 'Le Courrier de l'Ouest, and carries French registration 5044 SF 49. (additional information to NS240).
- 2835 (LWC661C) - Still with Drusilla's Zoo, Alfriston (N-PSV), 5/84. Vehicle is in a brown and black livery, and is used as a static lecture room. (additional information to NS213).
- 2837 (LWC663C) - Green, Weymouth (dealer), by 4/84, ex. Carter, Colchester.
- 2860 (RHK345D) - Still with Merton Community Bus Association, London, S.W.20, noted Morden, 4/84. (see also NS224).
- 2892 (WNO980F) - Top Deck Travel Ltd., London, S.W.5, by 4/84, ex. dealer, Sherburn.
- 2900 (WVX527F) - Top Deck Travel Ltd., London, S.W.5, by 4/84, ex. dealer, Sherburn.
- 2913 (WWC743F) - Top Deck Travel Ltd., London, S.W.5, by 4/84, ex. dealer, Sherburn.
- 9020 (LFS299F) - Vehicle is being converted into a Playbus Resource Centre by Gwent Probation & After Care Service. (additional information to NS240).

News Sheet Contributions

Contributions to this news sheet were received from A.G. Osborne (C&F), W.J. Morrison (M131), R. Delahoy (M180), A.W. Meadows (M209), P.W. Harvey (M219), S.D. Barham (M313), W. White (M320), D. Arnold (M379), J.G. Collins (M405), I. Ransom (M421), J. Rugg (M443), G.G. Toon (M452), C. Morgan (M506), C.D. Sigston (M523), G. Huggins (AM1), A. Maynard and the P.S.V. Circle. Notes and information for the June news sheet should be sent to the News Sheet Editor (address below) by Wednesday, June 20th.