

EASTERN NATIONAL ENTHUSIASTS GROUP

NEWS SHEET NUMBER 132

March 1975

EDITORIAL

South Essex Coach Tour - Sunday 27 April 1975

Arrangements for this tour are now complete and a booking form is included with this news sheet. Please try to support this tour and book seats as early as possible.

Ilford meeting, Tuesday 15 April

At 7 Farley Drive, Seven Kings commencing at 1930.

Eastern National fleet list booklet

Copies of this booklet will be available from April 1.

It has a printed card cover which features an illustration of a Bristol VRT and contain 16 duplicated pages. A complete fleet list is given (correct to 31 March) with each vehicle and registration number listed separately with details of chassis makes and types, body makes and seating and dates new. Space has been allowed for delivery of outstanding 1974 vehicle orders. Details of future orders and a list of garage codes and allocation totals is also given. The size of the booklet is approx. 6" x 4" (15 cm. x 10.5 cm.).

The cost of the booklet is 18p (post free), alternatively orders may be dispatched with the next published news sheet at an inclusive cost of 13p (which includes carriage costs).

Copies of the traditional Eastern National fleet list (publication E.P.1) which also includes chassis and body number details etc. will be produced when certain imminent changes to the fleet are completed. It is anticipated that this will now appear in late May.

Maidstone & District/East Kent/Maidstone Transport fleet list booklet

The second edition of this booklet is now available. It contains 72 printed typescript pages with illustrations (double the previous amount) grouped on glossy art paper which has improved the quality. The remainder of the layout of the booklet is on similar lines to the previous edition. Copies may be obtained from the M & D and East Kent Bus Club, 92, The Avenue, Aylesford, MAIDSTONE, Kent. ME20 7RL.

EASTERN NATIONAL OMNIBUS CO. LTD.

New Vehicles

1740	HAR486N	Leyland National 11351/1R	Leyland National	B49F	02062
1741	HAR487N	Leyland National 11351/1R	Leyland National	B49F	02063
1742	HAR488N	Leyland National 11351/1R	Leyland National	B49F	02064
1743	HAR489N	Leyland National 11351/1R	Leyland National	B49F	02065

Delivery dates:	1740 - 11.3.75	1742 - 12.3.75
	1741 - 10.3.75	1743 - 12.3.75

These are the first vehicles to use the imported former Hertfordshire C.C. mark AR allocated to Chelmsford L.V.L.O. They are also the first vehicles (as far as we are able to ascertain) ever to be operated by Eastern National with AR series registration marks.

Delivery of the 1974 order for Bristol VRT's is expected to commence in early May when four of the batch (chassis numbers 2/1038 - 2/1041, body numbers 21187-21190) should arrive.

Withdrawn Vehicles

3.75

2017 (373 WPU)

This vehicle, which was the last vehicle to be delivered to Moore Bros. of Kelvedon, has been acquired for preservation by the Eastern National Preservation Group.

The last remaining Guy Arab, 2019 (582 A00) was withdrawn from service on 21.3.75 and it is anticipated that the last Bristol LS saloon in service (1228, 967 DHK) will be taken out of service by the end of the month.

It is expected that several of the vehicles which are currently withdrawn from service but held in stock pending disposal will depart from Company premises in the near future.

Re-built/Re-seated Vehicles

2.75	1600 (BN0101B)	1613 (A00 18B)	to	B49F (O.M.O.)
2.75		2934 (185 XNO)	to	LD38/32FD
3.75		2946 (AVX975G)	to	LD40/30FD

Allocations & Transfers

3.75 1228-BN, 1318-D/L, 1319-D/L, 1437-D/L, 1738-CW(BN), 1740-D/L, 1741-D/L, 1742-D/L, 1743-D/L, 2018-D/L(D), 2491-CW(CR), 2787-CF, 2791-SD, 2806-CN, 2849-HH, 2934-SE, 2946-D/L.

From members observations : 1226 - D/L(D) at CN.

Service Revisions

The following revisions to services have recently been applied for :

22A/22B Revised route in Rayleigh to be from Grove Road via Jubilee Road, Bull Lane and Websters Way to Eastwood Road and existing route.

The following revisions to services have recently been introduced :

33 The diversion of certain peak hour journeys via Debden Green and Debden Village (see NS130) commenced on 2 December. This diversion was introduced at short notice to replace the peak hour service operated between Saffron Walden and Debden Village previously operated by Viceroy Coaches (F. C. Moore) of Saffron Walden.

307 Service withdrawn after Saturday 18 January. A replacement facility from Clavering, Wicken Bonhunt and Arkesden to Saffron Walden and return is now provided by Premier Travel Services Ltd. (Arkesden and Wendens Ambo are now no longer served by Eastern National)

General

The body shell from 1706 (WNO555L), the Leyland National which was withdrawn following a major accident, has been returned to Central Works, Chelmsford where it is being used to provide spares.

Revised fares were introduced on 23 February. From this date all ordinary, market day and special cheap day return fares were withdrawn. Single fares were increased as follows :

3p & 5p	No change	12p	Increased by 4p
7p	Increased by 1p	13p, 14p, 15p	Increased by 5p
8p	Increased by 2p	16p - 21p	Increased by 6p
9p & 11p	Increased by 3p	22p and above	Increased by 7p or 8p.

Bristol MW saloon 1341 (2731 VX) has had its destination screens modified. The ultimate destination screen has been painted over and the destination blind is now located in the centre of the intermediate points screen, whilst the remainder of this screen has been painted over. All the painting has been carried out in green. Have any other vehicles been similarly treated ?

Grays Bus Station opened on Sunday 23 February. Services 2, 152, 153, 154, and 156 now terminate in the Bus Station whilst services 40 and 402 only use the new facility in one direction only viz: 40 - Tilbury to Brentwood direction and 402 - Southend to Dartford direction.

COLCHESTER TRANSPORTDemonstrator on Loan

NTW438M, a Ford R1014 with Plaxton 'Derwent' B43F (O.M.O.) bodywork was on loan during December and operated on a variety of services including the Christmas 'Park and Ride' service which ran on Saturdays 7, 14 and 21 December and was numbered X25.

IPSWICH TRANSPORTWithdrawn Vehicles

12.74	21 (EPV 21)	24 (EPV 24)
	22 (EPV 22)	25 (EPV 25)

Only one A.E.C. Regent III (23, EPV 23) remains in service. 25 (EPV 25) is the first A.E.C. Regent V to be withdrawn, this vehicle was one of only two in the fleet of this operator to be fitted with an exposed radiator.

General

Revised timetables were introduced on 1 December 1974 which resulted in certain vehicles becoming surplus to requirements and these were subsequently withdrawn, see above. In addition, revised services (for details see NS127) were introduced at the same time.

Application has also been made for increased fares, these are as follows :

2p to be increased by 1p

All other fares to be increased by 2p.

SOUTHEND TRANSPORTNew Vehicles

The new Daimler Fleetlines, which are expected in a few months time, will now be bodied by Northern Counties.

General

A second overall advertisement vehicle entered service on 20.3.75. The vehicle concerned is 356 (WJN356J) which is in a predominantly yellow livery advertising the Southend Victoria Circus Shopping Precinct. There are smaller illustrations featuring the activities of particular shops in the Precinct. The vehicle carries a miniature Southend Transport fleetname and crest above the entrance doors.

The use of fareboxes commenced on Sunday 23 March. The occasion was marked by a special publicity drive which included distribution of leaflets and also of lapel badges for children. Although farebox operation will be applicable to all O.M.O. vehicles no special signs had been fitted to any of the saloon fleet by mid March.

During recent months Albion Lowlanders have been on hire to Lesney Products Ltd. (up to 4 vehicles) and to Alder Valley (up to 2 vehicles), which has caused a vehicle shortage. Accordingly Leyland PD3's 315/6 (PHJ 315/6) and some of the open-topper fleet have been used in service.

PREMIER TRAVEL SERVICES LTD.New Vehicles

249	GER913N	A.E.C. Reliance	6U3ZR29444	Alexander	C49F	1974
250	GER914N	A.E.C. Reliance	6U3ZR29814	Alexander	C49F	1974

These vehicles were observed in service in early March, but had still not received fleet numbers.