

EDITORIAL

1976 SUBSCRIPTIONS

Members are reminded that subscriptions are in many cases due on 1 January 1977 and those wishing to renew for a further year should do so as soon as possible. We are pleased to announce that there will be no increase in the rate of subscription for 1977 which remain at £1. 25 (second class postage) and £1. 50 (first class postage). Subscriptions are accepted for one year only. Remittances may be paid by either of the following methods :

1. By crossed postal order or cheque, made payable to the 'Eastern National Enthusiasts Group'.
2. Subscriptions may also be paid in cash at the Annual General Meeting.

Due to a change in the Groups banking arrangements, it is no longer possible to accept subscriptions paid by Bank Credit Transfer, very few members used this technique. If you require to commence/continue to receive copies of the 'Southend Busman' please indicate as such with your subscription, no indication will imply termination. (see also below) Receipts will not be issued unless specifically asked for, and only if a stamped addressed envelope is enclosed.

This news sheet being the last before the festive season, the committee would like to convey to all members the Seasons Greetings and Best Wishes for 1977. We would also like to thank everyone for their interest in the Group, especially those who have assisted in its running and/or who have sent in reports.

Annual General Meeting

The Groups twelfth A.G.M. will be held at Seven Kings Baptist Church Hall, Farley Drive (formerly Cambridge Drive), Seven Kings on Saturday 22 January 1977 commencing at 1515 (doors open at 1430). There will be a sales stand at the meeting and refreshments will also be provided. A copy of the Annual Report for 1976 has been circulated with this news sheet and the committee will welcome members questions and suggestions at this meeting, so please come along.

Committee Membership

In accordance with the tenth A.G.M. we hereby invite applications for the post of third committee member, which may be held by any fully subscribed member of the Group. The position will be decided by ballot at the A.G.M. Applications should be sent to the Secretary, the closing date will be 10 January 1977.

The 'Southend Busman'

The 'Southend Busman' is an additional news sheet publication produced and edited by our Southend Area Representative, Peter Snell. It gives details of the local independent operators in the Southend area and also additional local notes about Eastern National and Southend Transport (hired vehicles, unusual route workings etc.). In addition detailed coverage is also given on the Anglian Division of National Travel (South East). Those members who would like to be included in the circulation of this publication should contact the Secretary. The 'Southend Busman' may be sent to any member (whether resident in the Southend area or not). It is published bi-monthly and is circulated gratis with the main Group news sheet. Some back numbers are available and these may also be obtained from the Secretary. (please enclose 10p for return postage if you require back numbers)

London Transport bus stop route number plates

These plates will be available at the A.G.M., and will subsequently be advertised in the January news sheet. In view of the excessive weight of these items, postal costs will be disproportionately high, hence personal collection would be preferable. (see also NS152)

New colour prints and old Eastern National timetables

Stocks of both of the above items will be available on the sales stand at the A.G.M.

EASTERN NATIONAL OMNIBUS CO. LTD.New Vehicles

1794 PEV706R Leyland National 113510A/1R 04063 Leyland National B49F

Delivery date: 1794 - 12.76

It is anticipated that all the remaining vehicles in the 1976 programme will be delivered by the end of the year.

An order for 22 Bristol LH's with E.C.W. bodywork for 1976 delivery, placed by Crosville Motor Services Ltd., Chester has been cancelled and the vehicles diverted to other operators. Eastern National has been allocated 4 vehicles.

Withdrawn Vehicles

NIL

Re-built/Re-engined Vehicles

It is anticipated that about another 6 - 10 conversions of Bristol FLF's from BVW engines to Gardner will be performed. The remaining FLF6B's will then be retained as such. The reduced number of Bristol engined vehicles may then be satisfactorily operated with the stocks of spare parts which have been acquired from other vehicles.

For clarification, 2937/40 (RWC 608, KNO949C) entered service as Bristol FLF6G. (see also NS150)

Service VehiclesDriver Training Fleet

Following the withdrawal of the Bristol LD's and FS's from the passenger fleet it has now been decided that the Bristol LD's in the training fleet should be replaced. The new driver training fleet will consist of 6 vehicles, to comprise 1 Bristol MW, and 5 Bristol FLF's, of which 1 will have semi-automatic transmission. The vehicles will be numbered in a new series, to be 9001 - 9006.

Although the Bristol MW saloon to be transferred to the driver training fleet has not yet been selected, the Bristol FLF's will be 2701/4/5/942 (81/4/5 TVX, AVW401F) and 0668 (BVX668B). 0668 and 2942 (the semi-automatic vehicle) are to be numbered 9005/6 respectively. Further details and reports would be welcomed.

Allocations & Transfers

12.76 1339-CN, 1352-TS(BN), 1353-CN, 1354-CR, 1361-CF, 1413-D/L(D), 1414-D/L(D), 1419-D/L(D), 1420-SD, 1424-SD, 1426-D/L(D), 1434-CN, 1447-BD, 1448-DT, 1539-MN, 1607-SD, 1613-D/L(D), 1766-D/L, 1767-D/L, 1783-DT, 1784-HH, 2510-TS, 2700-D/L(D), 2704-D/L(D), 2714-D/L(D), 2718-TS, 2719-D/L(D), 2729-SD, 2730-D/L(D), 2731-D/L(D), 2736-D/L(D), 2740-D/L(D), 2744-D/L(D), 2746-D/L(D), 2747-CF, 2757-CN, 2763-D/L(D), 2776-TS, 2787-D/L, 2788-BE, 2832-SE, 2852-SE, 2859-SD, 2934-D/L(D), 2942-D/L(D), 3009-D/L, 3043-BE.

TS - Traffic surplus from 5.12.76 at home garage.

TS() - Traffic surplus from 5.12.76 at re-allocated garage.

The inclusion of 1613 and 2934 on the disposal list, and of 2510 as a traffic surplus vehicle, should be especially noted.

Service Revisions

The following revisions to services have recently been applied for :

- 98 Revised route in Southminster to be from B1021 via High Street and Queenborough Road to re-join B1021.
- 103/4 To operate via Main Road, Dovercourt instead of via Fronks Road.
- 335 To operate via Oak Road and Wood Road, Heybridge on inward journeys to Maldon.

Revisions to services were introduced in the Harwich area from 31.10.76, in the Chelmsford/witham areas from 7.11.76 and in the Basildon area from 5.12.76. Details are shown below, with dates of commencement, reference is given to the appropriate news sheet for further details :

- 34 (NS149, 6.12.76) Partly replaced by additional journeys on service 152.
- 38 (NS150, 8.11.76)
- 40 (NS150, 1.11.76)
- 48 (8.11.76) Evening service withdrawn.
- 53A (NS151, 7.11.76)
- 56 (13.11.76) Withdrawn between North Avenue and Chelmsford (Bus Station) on Saturday evenings.
- 80/A/B (1.11.76) Service operates via Fronks Road, Dovercourt instead of via Main Road.
- 90 (NS152, 8.11.76) Service operates during shopping hours only.
- 94 (NS150, 6.12.76)
- 95-8 (NS150, 7.11.76) Replaced between Maldon and Chelmsford by new service 38.
- 98 (NS153, 5.12.76)
- 103/4 (NS153, 31.10.76) Also on Weekday evenings and Sundays circular journeys introduced operating to and from Harwich (Bus Station) via Dovercourt Tollgate, Transit Depot, Ramsey Church, Mayes Lane, Oakley Road and Dovercourt Tollgate.
- 106A (31.10.76) Service withdrawn.
- 113/4 (NS146/7, 31.10.76) Sunday service withdrawn for winter months only.
- 118 (1.11.76) Revised to operate between HARWICH (Bus Station) and PARKESTON (B.R. Car Park) via Fronks Road, The Drive, Wick Lane, Low Road Corner and Hall Lane. (Weekdays only)
- 119-20 (31.10.76) Services withdrawn.
- 124 (NS151, 7.11.76) Also partially replaces withdrawn service 330.
- 141 (NS151, 6.12.76) Replaced by service 148.
- 142 (NS151, 6.12.76)
- 148 (6.12.76) Service revised to operate via Church Road and Long Riding to replace withdrawn service 141.
- 149 (NS151, 6.12.76) Service 249 revised to operate between Laindon (Rail Station) and Vange (Bardfield) via Cranes Farm Road, and service re-numbered 149. Operates Monday to Friday only and replaces part of withdrawn services 158, 159 and 231.
- 155/6 (NS151, 6.12.76)
- 158/9 (NS151, 6.12.76)
- 231/2 (6.12.76) Services withdrawn, partially replaced by revised services 233/4 and 149.
- 233 (NS150/1, 5.12.76) Previous service 233 replaced by extension of service 254.
- 234/5 (5.12.76) Most journeys re-routed in Billericay via Mountnessing Road. Timetables reduced, particularly service 235.
- 242 (NS152, 6.12.76)
- 249 (NS151, 6.12.76) See also service 149.
- 250 (6.12.76) Service withdrawn, partially replaced by additional journeys on service 251.
- 254 (NS151, 5.12.76) Extension to North Benfleet operates on Weekdays only.
- 255 (6.12.76) Service reduced to operate one journey in each direction, Monday to Friday only.

- 321 (NS150, 7.11.76) Regular daily service will operate into Notley Hospital Grounds and will terminate in the Car Park near the Out-Patients Department.
- 330 (7.11.76) Service withdrawn, partially replaced by services 124 and 321.
- 335/6 (NS153, 7.11.76) Revised route operates via Conrad Road, Witham (to replace service 338), revised route via Oak Road, Heybridge replaces service 90.
- 337/8 (8.11.76) Services withdrawn.
- 337 (8.11.76) New Service : SILVER END (E.N. Depot)- POWERS HALL END (Flora Road) via Forest Road, Witham, and Spinks Lane. (Weekdays only)
- 338 (8.11.76) New Service : School services previously operated as service 337 have been re-numbered 338.
- 353 (NS151, 7.11.76)

General

Bristol RELH6G 1613 (A00 18B) has appeared on the disposal list, it is anticipated that all the Bristol RELH's (Except 1608-10, GVW978-80H) will now be slowly withdrawn from service.

It is expected that the Bristol LDLX6G 2510 (236 LNO) will be placed on the disposal list in the near future.

Arrangements for services over the Christmas/New Year holiday period are to be as follows :

Christmas Day, December 25; and December 26	No service
Boxing Day, December 27; and December 28	Sunday service
New Years Day, January 1; and January 3	Sunday service

Appropriate normal services will be operated on the intervening days.

COLCHESTER TRANSPORT

General

The application for revised fares (see NS 150) has been granted, to come into effect on a date not before 14.11.76. Please report the date of commencement.

SOUTHEND TRANSPORT

Service Revisions

The special Boxing Day service 400 between Southend and London (Kings Cross) is also to operate on Christmas Day, December 25 this year. It is thought that one return journey would operate, departing from Southend mid-morning and from Kings Cross at about lunch time.

The applications for express services between Southend and London (various termini) have been withdrawn. (see also NS149)

INDEPENDENTS

Application has been made by C & R Coaches (C.J. Copeman), Little Tey, Colchester for a stage carriage licence, the first such service for this operator. The details are as follows :

GREAT TEY (Lower Langleys) - COGGESHALL (Market Hill) via Great Tey, Downsland Green and East Gores. To operate on Fridays only with one return journey in the morning only. There are to be no intermediate picking-up and setting-down points between East Gores and Coggeshall. (This section is already covered by Eastern National service 70 - ed.)