

EDITORIAL

Annual Report and Group Accounts

A copy of the Group's Annual Report for 1983 is enclosed with this news sheet. Copies of the Group's Accounts for 1983 and Balance Sheet are now available from the Administrative Officer (P.W. Harvey Esq., 37. Warren Chase, Thundersley, Benfleet, Essex. SS7 3DZ). A stamped addressed envelope should be enclosed with all requests.

This news sheet being the first in 1984, the Committee would like to convey to all members Best Wishes for a Happy New Year.

Southend Meeting - Wednesday, February 8th.

This meeting will be a members' slide evening, with the theme being 'On Hire'. Members are invited to bring a selection of their own slides along to the meeting, which will be held on Wednesday, February 8th commencing at 1930 hrs. (for 2000 hrs.) in the Civic Centre, Victoria Avenue, Southend-on-Sea. All members are invited to what should prove to be a very enjoyable evening.

New Publication

The following new publication is now available :-

E.P.33 - Southend & District Joint Services : Routes and Workings

This publication is dated November 1983 and is available from the Administrative Officer (P.W. Harvey Esq., 37. Warren Chase, Thundersley, Benfleet, Essex. SS7 3DZ.); the price is £0.45 (inclusive of postage and packing).

London Transport Bus Enthusiasts' Tour To H.C.V.C. Rally, Brighton - Sunday, May 6th.

The Group has recently received details of a London Transport bus enthusiasts' excursion to the H.C.V.C. rally at Brighton on Sunday, May 6th. The excursion will depart from Victoria Garage at 0930 hrs. and will return from Brighton at 1730 hrs., with journey times being approximately 2½ hours in each direction. The fare will be £7.00 per person (with no child reduction), and this will include the return fare to Brighton, plus unlimited travel on all London Transport bus and Underground services on that day and a souvenir ticket. It is currently proposed to run a selection of double-deck vehicles on this excursion, giving enthusiasts the choice of riding in a D, M, RCL, RM, RML or T type bus. If you wish to join this tour, please write to the Commercial Manager, London Transport, Room 24, 55. Broadway, London, SW1H 0BD for an application form to apply for tickets, or call in person at that office on Mondays to Fridays from 0830 hrs. to 1630 hrs.

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EASTERN NATIONAL OMNIBUS CO. LTD.

New Vehicles

NIL

Withdrawn Vehicles

NIL

Vehicles On Order

The Company has confirmed that four MCW Metroliner coaches are currently on order for delivery during 1984. The vehicles will be numbered 1600-3, and will be the single-deck version of this type fitted with Cummins L10 engines. Further details regarding these vehicles will be published as soon as they become available.

Vehicles On Hire

Three Bristol VRPSL6G's are currently on hire to Eastern Counties O.C. Ltd., and are operating from Norwich depot. The vehicles are 3014 (SMS 40H), 3018 (SMS 44H) and 3047 (OCS576H), and the period of hire commenced on December 29th. The vehicles have temporary numbers T14 (3014), T18 (3018) and T47 (3047) whilst with Eastern Counties.

Seating Change

Leyland Leopard coach 1301 (XHK214X) had its seating capacity changed from C53F to C47F during early-January, and this vehicle will shortly be repainted in National Holidays livery.

Allocations & Transfers

1.84 1212 MN-D/L, 1213 BE-D/L, 1214 BS-D/L, 1215 CR-D/L, 1216 BN-D/L,
1217 BD-D/L, 3054 BN-SD, 3100 CF-BD, 3111 BD-BN, 3116 SD-BN, 3117 BN-CF

The remaining six Bedford YMT dual-purpose vehicles (1212-7) have now been delicensed, prior to their withdrawal from the fleet. These vehicles are now beginning to pass through Central Works for mechanical and body attention, including a full repaint (but without fleetnames etc.). After this work has been completed the vehicles will be returned to Arlington Motor Co. Ltd. (dealer), Potters Bar.

Leyland Olympian 4002 was involved in a serious accident at Prittlewell during mid-January, and the vehicle is currently at Southend (SD) depot awaiting repairs.

Vehicle Repaints

As a correction to the information published in last month's news sheet (NS237), it should be noted that 1411 was not repainted during November.

The Company has again kindly given the Group details of vehicles repainted during recent weeks, and this continues from the information published in NS237 :-

December : w/e 3.12.83 - No vehicles repainted.
w/e 10.12.83 - 3070 at CW (City 400 livery).
w/e 17.12.83 - 1916 at CW (Brittains overall advertisement), 1928 at CW,
3074 at CW (City 400 livery).
w/e 24.12.83 - No vehicles repainted.
w/e 31.12.83 - No vehicles repainted.
January : w/e 7.1.84 - 1783 at CW, 1914 at CW (Chantry Garage 'UniBus' advertisement).
w/e 14.1.84 - 1789 at CW.
w/e 21.1.84 - 1708 at CW.

Leyland National 1914 (JHJ140V) has recently been repainted to carry a 'UniBus' advertisement for Chantry Garage, Bishop's Stortford, and the vehicle has now re-entered service in this livery. It is anticipated that similar vehicle 1860 (YEV318S), which at present carries a 'UniBus' advertisement for D.A. Cornell (Cars) Ltd. (see NS212), will shortly be repainted to carry a new 'UniBus' advertisement for the same company to advertise their Nissan dealership.

Service Vehicles

The Guy Big J4T recovery vehicle 0104 entered service at Hadleigh (HH) during December, and it has replaced AEC Matador 0102 which is currently being stored at Maldon (MN). Driver training vehicle 9020 (LFS299F) (D/L (D)) continues to be stored at the driver training vehicle yard at New Writtle Street, adjacent to Central Works.

Temporary Loans

Colchester (CR) vehicles which worked on tempoary loan to Harwich (DT) during December were 1127, 1547, 1552, 3001, 3030 and 3050. Additionally, 3045 PL (P) remained on loan to DT throughout December and early-January.

During the week prior to Christmas, 3097/9 (both HH) operated on temporary loan to DN to meet a requirement for additional double-deck vehicles at Basildon, including duplicate service 400 journeys; these vehicles were replaced at HH by 1830/74 (both DN).

Service Developments

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

- 33 - Weekdays (not Schooldays) : one minor timetable change.
- Mondays to Fridays (not Schooldays) : one minor timetable change.
- Schooldays : two minor timetable changes, and revised route in Saffron Walden for journeys serving Saffron Walden High School and Thomas More School.

- 48 - Schooldays : one journey to be withdrawn.
- 79 - Saturdays : one return journey from Colchester to Tendring (Cherry Tree) to be extended to/from Stones Green (The Swan), with minor route revision (and introduced from December 17th).
- 80 - Saturdays : two journeys to operate via Stones Green, with minor timetable revisions (and introduced from December 17th).
- 151 - Weekdays : one minor timetable change (and introduced from January 9th).
- 154 - Mondays to Fridays : one additional journey to be introduced.
- 229 - Schooldays : two minor timetable changes (and introduced from January 9th).
- 234 - Schooldays : one journey to be withdrawn.
- 239 - Weekdays : one minor timetable change (and introduced from January 9th).
Mondays to Fridays : one minor timetable change.
- 266 - Weekdays : one return journey from Brentwood (Rail Station) to Herongate (Church) to be extended to/from Herongate (Old Dog P.H.) (and introduced from January 9th).
- 402 - Minor route revision in Grays.
- 504 - Revised terminal at Southfields to be Bramston Way, with revised timetable on Mondays to Fridays (afternoon peak journeys only).
- 506 - Revised terminal at Southfields to be Bramston Way, with revised timetable on Mondays to Fridays (afternoon peak journeys only).
- 507 - Schooldays : one minor timetable change (and introduced from January 9th).
- 521 - Revised route via Burnt Mills Road, Davenants and Lanhams, and revised terminal at Southfields to be Bramston Way, with revised timetable on Mondays to Fridays (and introduced from January 16th).
- 524 - Revised terminal at Southfields to be Bramston Way, with revised timetable on Mondays to Fridays (afternoon peak journeys only).
- 525 - NEW SERVICE from Pitsea (Rail Station) to Southfields (Bramston Way) via Felmore East, Burnt Mills, Town Centre, The Knares, Laindon, Durham Road, Mandeville Way and Boxton Link replacing certain service 524 journeys.
- 549 - Revised route via Tyefields, Rushley and Burnt Mills Road (and introduced from January 16th).

The Company has also applied for certain revisions to express and commuter services, as follows :-

- 109 - Revised picking up and setting down points at Pitsea (Broadway) to be Pitsea (Broadway (West)), Granada Bingo on journeys to London, and Pitsea (Broadway), opposite Granada Bingo on journeys from London, with minor timetable revisions.
- 191/3/4/5 - Additional picking up/setting down point to be introduced at Wanstead (L.T. Station).

Various revisions to the Company's programme of excursions are also proposed. New excursions to Streatham Ice Rink and Maidstone Market are proposed from Southend (Victoria Bus Station), Basildon (Bus Station) and Grays (Crown Road Bus Station), and to Croydon, Kingston-Upon-Thames and Hampton Court Palace from Grays (Crown Road Bus Station).

Revised fares were introduced on stage services from Sunday, January 1st, and a number of changes were also made to the various travel cards at Basildon, Chelmsford and Southend on the same date. At Basildon, the 'FairCard' scheme now costs £5.75 for seven days and £23.00 for a calendar month. At Chelmsford, the Inner Zone Chelmer Ticket now costs £5.10 for seven days and £20.40 for a calendar month, and the Ordinary Chelmer Ticket, which is available for travel throughout the Chelmsford Borough Council area, now costs £6.45 for seven days and £25.80 for a calendar month. At Southend, the 'TravelCard' scheme now costs £6.85 for seven days and £27.40 for a calendar month, but does also include travel by British Rail services within the

Southend & District Co-ordination Area. The 'JobSeeker' half-fare pass, which is available within the Basildon District Council area, now costs £2.00 for four weeks.

The Company operated revised services during the Christmas and New Year holiday period. There were local variations to many services, and a series of local timetable leaflets was produced (see under Publicity News for details). At Basildon, special timetables were operated on services 153, 237, 512 and 513 on Boxing Day and New Year's Day. These services were sponsored by Basildon District Council, and were operated by the following vehicles :- Boxing Day-1808 BN and 1934 BN; New Year's Day-1886 BN and 1889 BN.

After operation on December 23rd, Highwayman services 814 and 816 were withdrawn for the remainder of the Winter timetable period. From January 3rd, Highwayman services 802 and 812 now make an additional stop at Milton Keynes (Midsummer Boulevard), with minor revisions to the timetable. The period of operation for Highwayman service 817 (Halstead-Knightsbridge) has been extended to May 19th (Saturdays only) (see also NS235).

Preliminary details are now available regarding the various Highwayman services that will be operated during the forthcoming Summer season. Services 801-4/6/8-11/13-16 operate between May 6th and September 29th, whilst services 820-7 will operate on Saturdays only between May 12th and September 22nd. The principal changes are as listed below :-

- 801 - To operate on Wednesdays and Saturdays from Southend to Peterborough, and extended on Saturdays to Grantham.
- 802 - To operate on Tuesdays and Thursdays from Southend to Northampton, with an additional return journey between Chelmsford and Northampton on Saturdays.
- 803 - To operate on Mondays, Fridays and Sundays from Southend to Kings Lynn, and extended on Sundays to Hunstanton.
- 804 - To operate on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from Southend to Norwich, and extended on Wednesdays to Cromer.
- 805 - Service to be withdrawn for the Summer period.
- 806 - To operate on Sundays from Southend to Great Yarmouth.
- 808 - NEW SERVICE from Southend to Felixstowe (Townsend Thoresen Ferry Terminal) via Chelmsford, Braintree and Colchester, to operate from Sundays to Fridays inclusive.
- 809 - To operate on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays, with revised timetable.
- 810 - NEW SERVICE from Southend to Skegness via Romford, Harlow, Cambridge, Stamford, Market Deeping, Spalding and Boston, to operate on Saturdays only.
- 811 - To operate on Mondays from Harwich to Peterborough, with revised route between Harwich and Colchester via Great Clacton, Clacton, St. Osyth and Elmstead Market.
- 812 - Service to be withdrawn for the Summer period.
- 813 - To operate on Wednesdays and Saturdays from Harwich to Kings Lynn, and extended on Saturdays to Hunstanton.
- 814 - To operate on Saturdays only from Clacton to Sheringham, with revised timetable.
- 815 - To operate on Fridays and Sundays from Harwich to Great Yarmouth.
- 816 - To operate on Tuesdays and Thursdays from Harwich to Cromer via Clacton, Colchester, Halstead, Bury St. Edmunds, Thetford, East Dereham, Fakenham and Sheringham.
- 820 - To operate on Saturdays only from Great Cornard to Basildon via Sudbury and Halstead, with additional picking up points at High Garrett, Great Leighs, Broomfield, Ingatestone and Shenfield.
- 821 - To operate on Saturdays only from Clacton to Ramsgate, with additional picking up points at Bockings Elm and Brightlingsea, and will operate direct between South Woodham Ferrers and Basildon.
- 822 - To operate on Saturdays only from Bishop's Stortford to Dymchurch, with additional picking up points at Thorley, Old Harlow, Romford and Folkestone Harbour, and will operate via the M11 and M25 between Harlow and Romford.

- 823 - To operate on Saturdays only from Ipswich to Camber, with additional picking up points at Capel St. Mary and Springfield and revised timetable between Battle and Camber.
- 824 - To operate on Saturdays only from Southend to Eastbourne.
- 825 - To operate on Saturdays only from Southend to Worthing, with route between Southend and Basildon to be via Eastwood, Rayleigh, Shotgate and Wickford, and revised timetable between Crawley and Worthing.
- 826 - To operate on Saturdays only from Southend to Yarmouth (I.O.W.), with additional picking up points on the Isle of Wight, and revised timetable.
- 827 - To operate on Saturdays only from Shoeburyness to Bournemouth.

Details are also now available regarding a new joint service between Southend and Brighton. The service will be numbered 795, and will be operated jointly by Eastern National, Southend Transport, London Country (Green Line) and Southdown M.S. Ltd.. This service is scheduled to commence on April 1st, and will operate via Basildon, Grays, M25 and Gatwick Airport. Further details will be published as soon as they become available.

Unusual Workings

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

- 4.12-1750 DT operated the 0900 hrs. and 1105 hrs. rail journeys from Harwich to Manningtree (and return journeys at 0950 hrs. and 1150 hrs.) (and again on 11.12).
- 5.12-1111 CR noted on service 83; 3032 CR noted on service 82.
- 6.12-1113 DT operated the 1704 hrs. rail journey from Harwich to Manningtree (and return journey at 1738 hrs.), and these journeys were operated by 1750 DT on 8.12.
- 7.12-Southend Transport 229 and 231 noted on a rail replacement service from Wickford to South Woodham Ferrers.
- 10.12-1215 CR noted on service 87; 3061 DT operated two return rail journeys from Colchester to Ipswich.
- 11.12-1739, 3097/9, 3103/9 (all HH) operated a rail replacement service from Pitsea to Tilbury; 3039/60 (both SE), 3100/10/3 (all CF) operated a similar service from Chelmsford to Witham.
- 12.12-3027 DT noted on a rail contract service from Colchester to Norwich; 3061 DT operated two return rail journeys from Colchester to Ipswich.
- 13.12-1216 BN noted at CF depot (and again on 16.12), and noted on private hire duties at Chelmsford on 23.12; 1938 SD noted on service 3; 3072 SD noted on service 6; 9018 BD noted on driver training duties at Leigh.
- 14.12-1546 CF replaced 1701 CF on service 42; 3000 BN noted at SD depot, and this vehicle was noted on service 251 on 16.12; 3018 PL (P) observed at CF depot, and again on 16.12; 3056 BE noted on private hire work at Chelmsford; 3097 HH noted on service 11A.
- 16.12-1110 SE noted on service 53; 1212 MN noted on service 31; 1547 CR (P) operated the 1810 hrs. service 76 journey from Colchester (Head Street) as far as Colchester (Bus Station) where it was replaced by 1935 CR; 3056 DE noted on service 435.
- 17.12-1215 CR noted on service 82; 1528 CR noted on service 81 from Layer Road, after the Colchester Utd. vs. Halifax Town football match.
- 19.12-1707 CF noted on service 58B (and again on 20.12).
- 20.12-Recovery vehicle 0104 noted towing 3109 HH into Clacton (CN) depot.
- 22.12-1126 MN observed on service 119.
- 24.12-1058 BS noted on Highwayman service 809, and later at Clacton (Bus Station); 1300 CN noted on loan to MN, and 1307 CN noted at CR; 1830 BN noted at HH depot, and on 28.12 this vehicle was noted on service 5; 2383 L observed at Braintree in use on special Christmas promotional duties, and this vehicle spent the Christmas holiday period at BE depot; 3110 CF was used by Great Dunmow outstation (DW) on this date, to cater for increased loadings on service 33; former Eastern National Bristol RELH6G VHK175L (1402) noted at CN depot, where it spent the Christmas holiday period.

- 28.12-1111 CR and 1217 BD both noted at SD depot; 1214 BS noted arriving at Southend on a Highwayman service, having replaced a failed SD vehicle.
- 29.12-1913 DD noted on service 251 (and again on 31.12).
- 31.12-Southend Transport 229 noted on service 20.
- 1.1-Recovery vehicle 0104 noted towing 1304 SD into SD depot from London.
- 2.1-1736 DN observed on service 402.
- 3.1-1809 DD noted on service 251.
- 4.1-1111 CR noted on service 91; 1212 D/L noted arriving at MN depot with Trade Plates; 1305 CN noted on loan to CR.
- 5.1-1302 CF noted at SD depot - this vehicle has yet to acquire CF depot allocation plates, since its arrival at CF in August 1982.
- 7.1-1110 SE and 1112 CR noted in Cardiff with Ipswich Town supporters for the F.A. Cup match against Cardiff City; 1126 MN and 2200 CF noted at SD depot.
- 8.1-3099 HH and 3103 HH noted on a rail replacement service from Leigh to Pitsea.
- 11.1-3050 CR noted on service 82; Colchester Transport 19 observed on service 1 to Greenstead East.
- 12.1-1787 SD noted on service 11.
- 13.1-1300 CN, 1411 SD and 2200 CF noted on a rail replacement service from Chelmsford to Witham; Colchester Transport 101 noted on service 7 to West Bergholt.
- 14.1-1882 DE noted on service 353.
- 15.1-3077/81, 3110 (all CF) and 3123 SE noted on a rail replacement service from Chelmsford to Witham; 3102 SD and Southend Transport 242 operated a similar service from Pitsea to Upminster; 3120 BN and Southend Transport 235 were also noted on a rail replacement service from Shenfield.
- 18.1-3037 SD noted on service 11, and was replaced at CF by 3035 CF; 3054 SD noted at Rayleigh being towed towards Southend.

Publicity News

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

- Christmas/New Year timetable leaflets - a series of leaflets was produced for the Basildon/Brentwood, Bishop's Stortford, Braintree/Halstead/Witham, Chelmsford/Maldon, Colchester/Clacton/Harwich/Walton and Southend & District areas.
- Timetable leaflets - a new timetable leaflet for service 400, dated January 1st.
- a new timetable leaflet for service 402, dated January 1st.
- Highwayman services - a leaflet listing Highwayman services for the Christmas/New Year period, and also adjustments to services 802/12/14/16 from December 27th, dated December 1983.
- a new timetable leaflet for service 817 (Halstead-Knightsbridge), dated January 28th.
- a leaflet advertising special Highwayman day return fares for 'ChelmerCard' holders.
- Countryside Special services (88E/89E) - a leaflet advertising these services (which will operate this year on Sundays from July 22nd to September 2nd).
- Basildon 'FairCard' leaflet - a new leaflet, dated January 1st.
- Chelmsford 'ChelmerCard' leaflet - a new leaflet, dated January 1st.
- Southend & District 'TravelCard' leaflet - a new leaflet, dated January 1st.
- Basildon 'JobSeeker' leaflet - a new leaflet, dated January 1st.
- Other promotional material - a special book-mark advertising Eastern National bus and coach services, and available from certain Essex County Library branches.

General

Plans are currently being discussed for increased joint operation of services with Colchester Transport in Colchester and surrounding areas. Recent press reports have indicated that Colchester Borough Council's Transport Committee has approved the plans, with further discussions to take place on the operation of the elderly persons' concessionary fares scheme. It is understood that the main features of the proposed service network involve a rationalisation of existing services on joint routes, operation by Colchester Transport on services to West Mersea and Wivenhoe, and improved facilities for the Berechurch, Greenstead, Highwoods and Monkwick areas. New services are also planned between Fordham and Stanway, and to the new District

Hospital. The press reports have stated that the new services will be introduced during April, although it is understood that they are more likely to commence during May, and full details regarding these developments will be published as soon as they become available.

During the week before Christmas, services on a number of routes were operated by drivers dressed as Father Christmas, and sweets were distributed to children. In Braintree, open-top Bristol-KSW5G 2383 (WNO 479) was decorated with balloons and flags, and was similarly used to distribute sweets to local children on Christmas Eve. This vehicle was on temporary loan to Braintree (BE) depot during the Christmas period, and was noted returning to Central Works on December 31st.

Following the news published in last month's news sheet regarding the closure of Halstead (HD) depot, plans for a new International Stores supermarket on the site have recently been announced, including a covered walk between the Chapel Street car park and the High Street. Local press reports have indicated that work on the new supermarket will commence during March. At the time of writing, the depot's final day of operation is still unknown, although it is anticipated that this will be during early-March.

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COLCHESTER TRANSPORT

Acquired Vehicles

At the time of writing, former Tyne & Wear P.T.E. Leyland Atlanteans 52/3 (MVK546/OR) remained at the Magdalen Street depot being prepared for service. Similar vehicle 51 (MVK538R) entered service on December 5th, and normally operates on services 4/4A, although it was noted on service 15 on December 6th and January 5th.

Withdrawn Vehicle

Bristol RE116L 14 (YWC 14L), which was sold during early December (see NS237), passed to W. Norfolk & Sons Ltd., Nayland for body spares.

Vehicle On Hire

As a correction to the information published in last month's news sheet, it has been reported that the former London Transport Daimler Fleetline JGF321K, on hire to Colchester Transport from Brockhouse Maxwell Bus Transmissions, was noted in service on November 26th. Its final date of operation in Colchester remains unknown.

General

Three Bristol RE116L's (15, 17 and 24) are currently delicensed at the Magdalen Street depot. Leyland Atlantean's 68 (TPU 68R) and 72 (TPU 72R) were returned to service during November and December respectively, both having been out of use for several months.

Leyland Atlantean 61 (NNO 61P) has been repainted in an overall advertising livery for The Property Guild, an association of local estate agents. The livery is basically yellow, and features the Guild's symbol, the names and addresses of member companies and a town crier. Local press reports indicated that the vehicle would enter service on January 18th.

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SOUTHEND TRANSPORT

Vehicles On Order

The six 12 metre Leyland Tiger 218 coaches currently on order will carry fleet numbers 246-51.

Acquired Vehicles

A number of second-hand coaches are being acquired on long term hire, which is understood to be for a period of three years. These vehicles will be repainted in Southend Transport livery and will carry fleet numbers in a new series (321-8). Details of the vehicles acquired to date are as follows :-

321	CMJ447T	Leyland Leopard PSU3E/4R	7802331	Plaxton C53F	7811LXM651	New	-/7C
322	CMJ450T	Leyland Leopard PSU3E/4R	7803056	Plaxton C53F	7811LXM654	New	-/7C

326 XHU 326 Leyland Leopard PSU3C/4R 7501083 Plaxton C53F 7511LC623 New -/75
 327 HRN 97N Leyland Leopard PSU3C/4R 7503096 Plaxton C53F ----- New 7/75
 328 OKY 83R Leyland Leopard PSU5B/4R 7700625 Plaxton C55F 7712LCMD19 New -/77

321/2 were new to Charles Rickards (Tours) Ltd., Brentford, and are on lease from Arlington Motor Co. Ltd., Potters Bar (dealer). They were delivered to Southend on January 5th, and have entered service (321-January 12th, 322-January 10th) in Rickards maroon and white livery, with Southend Transport fleetnames and fleet numbers.

326/8 are on lease from Ensign Bus Co., Purfleet (dealer); 326 was latterly owned by Graham's Bus Service Ltd., Paisley (who re-registered the vehicle from HWU 72N), and it was new to Wallace Arnold Tours Ltd., whilst 328 was new to National Travel (East) Ltd. and has been owned latterly by Channel Coachways Ltd., Southend. 326 is currently at the Tickfield Road works for the seats to be re-trimmed, whilst 328 has entered service (January 9th) on contract duties, and is in white livery with a yellow band and Southend Transport fleetnames. 326 was delivered on January 4th, and 328 was also delivered during early January. 327 had been previously on hire from Fylde Borough Transport, and remains in Fylde livery although it is expected to be repainted into Southend Transport livery in the near future. Two further vehicles (to be numbered 324/5) are to be leased from Ensign Bus Co., whilst it is anticipated that 323 will be a vehicle on long term hire from Burnley & Pendle Transport.

Vehicles On Hire

Leicester City Transport 9, 12 and 13 have been returned to Leicester (9-December 27th, 12/3-December 31st), whilst Burnley & Pendle Transport 3 and 12 were returned to Burnley on January 13th. Three Bournemouth Transport coaches (105-7) are currently on hire, 107 having replaced 104 on January 3rd, and in addition to the notes published in last month's news sheet it should be noted that 106/7 (UTM 4/5K) were new in 12/71 to R. Stringer (Prince of Wales Coaches), Ampthill before passing to Mid Warwickshire Motorways, Balsall Common.

An additional six coaches have also been on hire during recent weeks, from Burnley & Pendle Transport (1), Derby City Transport (4) and Lancaster City Transport (1). Details are as follows :-

Burnley & Pendle Transport

6 SRN 6P Leyland Leopard PSU3C/4R ----- Duple C53F ----- - from January 15th.

Derby City Transport

10 NNN 10P AEC Reliance 6U2R ----- Plaxton C51F ----- - from January 14th.
 11 NNN 11P AEC Reliance 6U2R 33440 Plaxton C51F 7611AX510 - from December 17th.
 12 NNN 12P AEC Reliance 6U2R 33489 Plaxton C53F 7611AX512 - from December 31st.
 13 NNN 13P AEC Reliance 6U2R 33497 Plaxton C53F 7611AX511 - from January 4th.

12 was returned to Derby on January 14th, being replaced by 10, and 10/1/3 are currently on hire.

Lancaster City Transport

400 VUB400H Leyland Leopard PSU3A/4R 7000938 Plaxton C53F 709189 - from December 11th.

General

During December, Leyland Leopard coach 203 was repainted into the new coach livery, whilst Daimler Fleetline 393 was repainted in standard fleet livery, having previously carried an overall advertising livery for Beeves Jeans.

EASTERN NATIONAL DISPOSALS - HELD OVER TO NEXT MONTH (NS239).

News Sheet Contributions

Contributions to this news sheet were received from A.G. Osborne (C&F), R.H. Palmer (M105), R. Delahoy (M180), A.W. Meadows (M209), P.W. Harvey (M219), F.E.M. Allen (M274), J.S. Wilby (M298), S.D. Barham (M313), D. Arnold (M379), J.G. Collins (M405), I. Ransom (M421), J. Rugg (M443), G.G. Toon (M452), K.M. Russell (M454), F.P. Ormerod (M495), J.H. Preston (M512), C.D. Sigston (M523) and G. Huggins (AM1).

Notes and information for the February news sheet should be sent to the News Sheet Editor (address below) to arrive by Wednesday, February 15th.