

EDITORIAL

Visit to Eastern National Central Works, Chelmsford - Saturday, July 24th.

Will members please note that the proposed visit to Eastern National's Central Works on Saturday, July 24th has now been cancelled due to lack of support.

Eastern National Past and Present

This new book, published by Becknell Books of Kings Lynn, is now available and copies may be purchased from the Group at a price of £4.50 (post free). Why not send off your order today and secure your copy. All orders should be addressed to the Administrative Officer (P.W. Harvey Esq., 37. Warren Chase, Thundersley, Benfleet, Essex. SS7 3DZ).

Essex County Council Publications

A new timetable booklet for the Colchester/Clacton/Harwich area dated June 1982 has recently been published by Essex County Council. Copies are available from the Administrative Officer (address above) at £0.61 each (inclusive of postage and packing).

Group Photographs - Unusual Workings

The Group is always seeking to expand its range of photographs, and in particular those that show vehicles of special interest. Members will be aware that during 1982 many very unusual workings have been recorded including, for example, Bristol VRT's on National Express duties. Indeed, during the present series of rail strikes many vehicles are performing unusual duties. The Group's Photographs Officer (P.J. Snell Esq., 6. Mandeville Way, Benfleet, Essex. SS7 4LH) will be pleased to receive any negatives or transparencies of vehicles undertaking unusual duties, either on loan or as a donation to the Group's collection. Peter Snell would be especially interested to hear from any member who photographed the three Eastern Counties Bristol LH6L's in service with Eastern National last month.

Cambridge Tour - Saturday, August 14th.

A booking form for this tour is included with this news sheet. Please book your seats as early as possible to avoid disappointment - our tours are very popular !

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EASTERN NATIONAL OMNIBUS CO. LTD.

New Vehicles

NIL

Withdrawn Vehicles

7.82 1100 (UVX 4S) 1101 (UVX 5S) 1102 (UVX 6S) 1103 (UVX 7S)

These vehicles have all been sold to Heddingham & District Omnibuses Ltd., Sible Heddingham, Essex although, at the time of writing, it is believed that at least some of the vehicles remained at Eastern National premises. Further details about their Heddingham & District fleet numbers etc. will be published as soon as they become available.

Full details concerning the various buyers of the 60 vehicles withdrawn last month (see NS219) are now available, and are listed below :-

Martins Bus & Coach Sales (dealer), Middlewich, Cheshire - 1500-3/5-8/13-5/8/9/25/6, 1531/5/7/8.

Eastern National Preservation Group - 2300.

Ensign Bus Company (dealer), Purfleet - 2301/2.

W. Norths (P.V.) Ltd. (dealer), Sherburn-in-Elmet, North Yorkshire - 2875/7/84/8/91, 2892/4/5/7-9, 2900/1/4-6/8-14/6-8/20/2-5/7/9-31/45, 9017/9.

Some other information about certain buyers of recently withdrawn vehicles is also now available. The correct title of the buyer of 1608-10, 2861 (9010) and 2874 was the Gwent Probation & After Care Service whose legal address is 3. Broad Street, Griffithstown, Pontypool, Gwent, whilst 2944 was sold to Essex County Council, Supplies Department, Chelmsford.

Vehicle Transferred From Service Vehicle Fleet

1703 WNO552L Leyland National 1151/1R/0401 00359 Leyland National B50F New 1973

This vehicle has been converted from its previous role as a driver training vehicle, with fleet number 9015, and has now re-entered normal service at Hadleigh (HH) depot in standard green livery.

Allocations & Transfers

7.82 1406 CN-SD, 1407 SD-CN, 1413 SE-HD, 1414 HD-SE, 1416 SD-CF, 1419 CF-SD, 1504 BN (P)-CN (P), 1511 BN (P)-CN (P), 1522 PL (P)-BN (P), 1524 BN (P)-CN (P), 1552 D/L-BE (P), 1703 Driver Training Vehicle (CF)-(9015)-HH, 1718 SD-HH, 1749 SE-BS, 1758 BN-HH, 3014 BD (P)-BN (P), 3016 SD (P)-BN (P), 3021 BD-SD, 3026 SD-BD, 3037 BS-SE, 3102 HH-SD, 3116 HH-BN, 3117 HH-BN.

The above re-allocations include the movement of three Bristol VRT's from HH to SD and BN, being replaced at HH by three additional Leyland National's (1703/18/58). Other interesting transfers include the movement of three Pool vehicles (1504/11/24) for summer season duties at CN, and the transfer of 3037 from BS to SE leaving just two double deck vehicles at BS (3041 and 3114). BS became another all OMO depot from Saturday, June 5th and the only depots retaining crew operation are CF, SD and Great Dunmow outstation (DW).

During July a number of vehicles continued to be classified as Pool vehicles on special duties; these are 1522/4/52, 3014/6/8/47. Other Licensed Pool vehicles at various depots are 1504/10/1/43 and 3045. It should also be noted that 1204/13/6 are listed by the Company as being attached to the Coaching Department, and allocated as such to SD, DT and CN respectively.

Service Vehicles

Further to the information published in NS216, it can now be reported that the buyers of withdrawn Ford Transit vans OVW338M and RVW978M were private buyers in Maldon and London, N.17 respectively.

Allocations of D/L (D) and D/L (P) Vehicles

The final allocations of the 60 vehicles recently sold to various buyers (see above) can now be confirmed. These are listed below, and certain of these vehicles remained at Company premises during mid-July.

Central Works (CW) - 1525, 2888.

Clacton (CN) - 1506.

Maldon (MN) - 1500/13/4/26/38, 2875, 2908.

Prittlewell (PL) - 1501-3/5/7/8/18/9/31/5/7, 2300/2, 2091/2/7, 2905/16/22/5, 9017/9.

Silver End (SE) - 1515.

Walton (WN) - 2301.

Wood Green (WG) - 2877/84/94/5/8/9, 2900/1/4/6/9-14/7/8/20/3/4/7/9-31/45.

General

Further news (once again kindly supplied by Mr. W.N. Barlow, Chairman of the Crosville Enthusiasts Club) is available regarding the Bristol VRT's recently sold to Crosville Motor Services Ltd. Seven of the vehicles are now in service, two at Holyhead (of which one is DVG563), one at Amlwch (DVG557) and four at Bangor (of which two are DVG554/8). DVG554 was noted at Butlin's holiday camp at Pwllheli on July 3rd, whilst on July 5th DVG552 (SMS 31H) was noted passing through Rhyl heading west and this may be one of the other Bangor vehicles. It is thought unlikely that 3044 (LFS295F) will enter Crosville service, and instead it is likely to be used for spares. The other vehicles are all expected to enter service, again probably at depots in the Gwynedd division. The vehicles now in service are being used on a variety of routes including N1-N4 (Amlwch-Holyhead), N20 (Holyhead town service), N23/N24 (Holyhead-RAF Valley), N44/N45 (Bangor-Holyhead), N48/N49 (Bangor-Llanfair P.G. circular service), N61/N62 (Bangor-Amlwch) and N78 (Bangor City service).

From May 13th until May 18th, the Bishop's Stortford town service (309) was operated exclusively by Bedford YMQS 'midi-buses' 1057 and 1058 following the closure of Potter Street after a serious fire. During the period of closure, service 309 was diverted via Church Street, and due to some tight narrow turns in this street the 'midi-buses' were the only vehicles suitable for the service. Nevertheless, they were frequently full to capacity, and duplicate vehicles were needed for short workings at either end of the route.

Service Developments

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

- 49 - Saturdays : one additional journey.
- 152 - Schooldays : one journey to commence at Grays (King Edward Drive).
- 153 - Mondays to Fridays : two journeys to operate to/from Burnt Mills (Woolaston Way) with a revised route for these Industrial Site journeys. The Company has also applied for a revised route for journeys between Billericay and Basildon, together with a revised timetable, to operate on December 25th-27th only.
- X174 - NEW CONTRACT SERVICE - To operate from Dovercourt (War Memorial, Marine Parade) to Clacton (Camrose School, Wash Lane), with service to be restricted to children attending the Camrose School. A short term licence has been granted for this service from July 11th to January 10th, 1983.
- 232 - Mondays to Fridays : one journey to operate via Yardleys and Standard Telephone Works.
- 233 - The Company has applied for a revised route for journeys between Basildon and Runwell Hospital, together with a revised timetable, to operate on December 25th-27th only.
- 316 - Revised terminals to be Panfield (Post Office) and Chelmsford (Multi-Storey Car Park) with revised route and timetable.
- 510/1 - The Company has applied for revised routes and timetables for these services which will operate on December 25th-27th only.
The revised services will be as follows :-
512-Pitsea (Broadway) to Laindon (Shopping Centre) via Wickford Avenue.
513-Pitsea (Broadway) to Laindon (Shopping Centre) via Felmores.
- 809 - Revised terminals to be Clacton (Wash Lane Coach Station) and Basildon (Bus Station) or London (Victoria Coach Station), with revised period of operation to be Mondays, Fridays and Saturdays and additionally as required for emergency purposes. Additional commuter journeys have been introduced on this service during the recent rail strikes, and further details are listed below.

One revision to express services is that operation of National Express service 086 (Sutton-Jaywick Sands) has been suspended until further notice.

A number of new timetable leaflets are now available from the Company's offices. The Basildon area revisions were introduced from June 28th (see details in NS219, and above in respect of services 153 and 232) and a timetable booklet is available from the Company's office at Basildon. Special Summer Sunday services are again being operated on services 87/A, and a leaflet containing details of these services is now available. Three 'Seaside Special' services are also being introduced this Summer, and details are as follows :-

- 11E (Halstead-Southend) via Braintree, Witham, Hatfield Peverel, Boreham and Springfield - to operate on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from July 26th to August 30th.
- 53E (Chelmsford-Walton) via Springfield, Boreham, Hatfield Peverel, Witham, Kelvedon, Clacton and Frinton - to operate on Sundays, Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from July 25th to August 30th. Journeys on Sundays and August 30th will be extended to and from Chelmsford (Broomfield Road) via North Melbourne.
- 70E (Great Dunmow-Walton) via Felsted, Rayne, Braintree, Coggeshall, Marks Tey, Colchester, Clacton and Frinton - to operate on Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays and the Late Summer Bank Holiday Monday from July 25th to August 30th. Journeys on Sundays and August 30th will be extended in Great Dunmow from the High Street to Parsonage Down.

Special day return fares will be available on each of these services, and timetable leaflets are also now available giving full details about these new services.

Additional journeys on service 119 are also being introduced on Sundays from July 18th

to September 5th between Colchester (Bus Station) and Colchester Zoo. These journeys are in addition to the regular Sunday service, and a special leaflet giving details of all services to and from Colchester Zoo is now available from the Company's offices.

As noted above, an additional return journey has been introduced on Highwayman service 809 between Colchester (Bus Station) and London (Victoria, Eccleston Bridge) from June 28th. The additional journeys are on Mondays to Fridays and leave Colchester at 0550 hrs. returning from London (Victoria, Buckingham Palace Road) at 1700 hrs. and this provides a facility for commuters travelling between Colchester and London. Other timetable revisions introduced recently have been as follows :- 70/A - 19.7.82 (NS219), 75A - 19.7.82 (NS219), 314 - One journey withdrawn on Wednesdays and Saturdays, and two other minor timetable revisions on Wednesdays, with revisions introduced from 19.7.82, 331/2 - All journeys now operate via Wethersfield Air Base with effect from 19.7.82.

Two pocket timetable cards for services to and from North Melbourne and Silver End were published during June.

A number of other leaflets are also available for express services including two advertising the facilities offered by service 109 (Southend-London) for passengers travelling from Southend or Basildon, and two other leaflets detailing the commuter journeys and pick-up points on express services from Ipswich/Colchester and Witham/Chelmsford.

Temporary Loans

Colchester (CR) vehicles which worked on temporary loan to Harwich (DT) during June were 1210, 1512/7/21 and 1892. Additionally, Eastern Counties LH930 (on hire to Eastern National - see NS219) arrived from BE on June 5th before returning to Norwich on June 9th. Other vehicles which operated on loan to DT during June were 1101 BD (P) from June 26th, 1408 SD from June 16th to June 18th, 1413 SE from June 14th to June 16th to cover a requirement for an additional coach and 2200 CF (disabled persons' bus) for a special contract from June 29th. The only CN vehicle to operate from DT during June was 3003 on June 15th/16th.

Unusual Workings

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

- 28.3-3027 DT noted on service 102.
- 18.5-1756 CN failed at MN and was replaced by 1831 MN; 1901 DT failed at CR and was replaced by 1816 CR.
- 19.5-1914 BS noted at Hadleigh following a body dock at Central Works.
- 21.5-1207 CR noted on National Express service 355 to Sheffield; 1301 CR noted in Ipswich for the official opening of the Cast container terminal and being used for press purposes.
- 25.5-1417 SD noted being towed towards SD having failed on a Highwayman service.
- 30.5-1201 MN noted on National Express service 109; 3113 CF noted on service 251.
- 7.6-Eastern Counties LN768 was the first ECOC vehicle to be used by E.N. following the introduction of revised service 123; Eastern Counties LH928 (on hire to E.N.) noted on schools contracts at St. Osyth.
- 11.6-1807 SD noted on service 119.
- 12.6-1058 BS noted at Colchester on National Express service 133; 1217 BD noted on National Express service 109; 1807 SD noted on service 97; 1815 CF noted on the 1130 hrs. National Express service 083 from Ipswich to Great Yarmouth.
- 14.6-1539 MN noted on services 102, 108 and 119.
- 15.6-3085 HH noted on a private hire working to Vange Zoo; 3099 HH noted on a rail replacement service from Shenfield to Chelmsford.
- 16.6-1522 PL (P) noted on service 353; 3085 HH noted on a private hire working to Chelmsford; 3097 HH noted on a rail replacement service from Shenfield to Witham.
- 17.6-3031 CN noted on joint E.N./CBT service 6, and this is the first time that a double deck vehicle has been reported on this service.
- 18.6-3085 HH noted on a private hire working to the Essex Show, and this vehicle also operated to the Essex Show on 19.6 from Canvey Island.
- 19.6-1206 HD noted on a Highwayman service from Southend; 1419 CF noted on National Express service 126.

- 21.6-1101 BD (P) noted on service 351; 1057 BS noted at HH depot for a PSV test.
 22.6-3085 HH noted on a private hire working to Colchester Zoo.
 23.6-1203 BD noted on a private hire working at Rayleigh; 3085 HH noted on a private hire working to London Zoo.
 26.6-3085 HH noted on a private hire working to Sandy.
 27.6-3067 BN and 3076 BN noted at Tilbury on a rail replacement service to Pitsea.
 28.6-3014 BD (P) noted on a duplicate service 400 journey.
 29.6-1103 BE (P) noted on a peak hour service 311 journey; 1782 HD noted on new service 319.
 30.6-1928 HH noted on a private hire working to Greenwich.
 1.7-3023 CR noted on service 353.
 2.7-1103 BE (P) noted on services 70A and 319.
 3.7-1103 BE (P) noted on service 344; 1206 HD noted on National Express service 084; 1882 BE noted on 1730 hrs. departure from Victoria Coach Stn. on National Express service 095, and was replaced by ECOC RE851 at Braintree; 3085 HH noted on a private hire working to Stone.
 4.7-3085 HH noted on a private hire working to White City Stadium.
 5.7-1522 BN (P) noted on OCL contract rail strike replacement service from Wickford; 1405 SD (on loan to HH) operated a similar service from Canvey Island from 5.7 to 9.7, whilst from 12.7-14.7 this service was operated by 1408 SD (on loan to HH). Other vehicles operated by HH on OCL contract work during the current rail strike have included 1753 on 14.7 and 1928 on 9/12/13.7.
 8.7-1301 CR noted at Romford on a rail strike replacement service; 1711 BN on OCL work.
 9.7-3085 HH noted on a private hire working to Westcliff Leisure Centre; E.N. vehicles noted at Battersea Coach Park were 1203/5/10/1/4/5, 1301 and 1928; E.K. vehicles noted at Victoria Coach Stn. were 1301, 1403 on National Express service 109, 3021 SD and 3062 SD also on this service, and the operation of Bristol VRT's on service 109 is now fairly common during the rail strikes.
 12.7-1405 SD noted on OCL contract work from Wickford, and also on 13.7.
 14.7-1524 CN (P) noted on services 6 and 25A; 3127 CR noted on National Express service 081.

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 NS219 :-

June : w/e 19.6 - 3053 at CW. July : w/e 3.7 - 1770 at CW.
 w/e 26.6 - 1215 at CW; 1905 at CW. w/e 10.7 - 1717 at CW, 1891 at CW.

COLCHESTER TRANSPORT

General

The only news to report this month is that Colchester Transport vehicles are working a number of rail strike contract services into London, and amongst those noted were 101/2 at Seven Kings and Chadwell Heath respectively on June 29th, 89 and 101 at Seven Kings on July 6th, 83 and 101 on July 7th and 86/9 on July 8th.

SOUTHEND TRANSPORT

Vehicles Reinstated

As occurred earlier this year, a number of older Daimler Fleetlines were reinstated during late-June to enable newer vehicles to operate limited-stop service X1. The vehicles reinstated are as follows :-

6,82	348 (WJN348J)	353 (WJN353J)
	350 (WJN350J)	354 (WJN354J)
	351 (WJN351J)	361 (WJN361J)
	352 (WJN352J)	366 (WJN366J)

Vehicles On Hire

A number of vehicles have been hired by Southend Transport during recent weeks to provide additional vehicles for local services thereby enabling other vehicles to operate service X1 and the many rail strike replacement contracts. Vehicles on hire have been as follows :-

Thamesdown Transport 1 (FAM 1W) Dennis Dominator/Marshall from June 27th to June 29th, and again from July 4th.

Ipswich Borough Transport 39/40 (RGV 39/40W) Leyland Atlantean/East Lancs from July 4th to July 10th.

Northampton Transport 4/20 (UNH 4/20L) Daimler Fleetline/Willowbrook from July 11th.

These vehicles have all been noted on local services. Thamesdown 1 (FAM 1W) was noted on service 29A on July 5th, and on services 23A and 25 on July 9th; the Ipswich vehicles have been noted on services 1 and 25; and the Northampton vehicles have been noted on services 23A, 25 and 25A.

In addition to the above vehicles, a number of Ensign Bus Co. vehicles have been hired at various times to provide duplicate X1 journeys or to replace failed vehicles on this service. For example, on July 9th two Ensign vehicles operated duplicate X1 journeys from Aldgate to Southend with Ensign crews. The vehicles concerned were 867, NHT (an ex-Bristol Omnibus Co. Bristol FS6G with convertible open-top bodywork) and THM658M (an ex-London Transport Daimler Fleetline with converted single door, 77 seat bodywork). The Bristol FS6G was exported to West Germany by Ensign Bus Co. three days later on July 12th.

A further example of an Ensign Bus Co. vehicle being used on the X1 service occurred on July 3rd when Leyland Leopard coach 205 (BTE205V) failed at Hyde Park Corner whilst working to Heathrow. This vehicle was replaced by Ensign Bus Company's DMS demonstrator MLH414L (which is ex-London Transport DMS1414), and this vehicle worked on to Heathrow and then back to Southend. The same vehicle also operated a duplicate journey on the X1 service on June 28th, which was the first day of the current series of rail strikes, but no passengers were in fact carried and the vehicle only operated between Southend and Purfleet.

A number of Southend Transport vehicles have also been hired to other operators during early July. On July 5th, Leyland Leopard saloon 200 (GJN508D) was hired to Ensign Bus Co. who used the vehicle on a private hire contract which had been hired to that operator by Harris Coaches of Grays. However, perhaps the most interesting example of Southend Transport vehicles on hire to other operators occurred during July 8th-10th, when Leyland Leopard coach 204 (UTD204T) and the two Leyland Tiger coaches 209/10 (BHK209/10X) were hired to W. Alexander & Sons (Northern) Ltd. On July 8th, the vehicles (with Southend drivers) operated duplicate journeys on the overnight service from London to Aberdeen, and they returned the following night on services from Aberdeen to Great Yarmouth (204/9) and Kettering (210). It is thought possible that similar hires will occur if the present rail strike continues.

General

It is not proposed to list the many Southend Transport vehicles that have worked duplicate X1 journeys during recent weeks, but as in January and February the vehicles have been drawn almost exclusively from the batches 221-30 and 231-42. The maximum number of vehicles known to have operated on this service on one day occurred on June 28th when 17 vehicles were involved, but during July the usual number has been between 12-14.

The open-top Daimler Fleetlines (370-3) have been regularly used on service 62 during July, and also on peak hour workings on a number of other services including 1, 9A, 9B and 20.

During mid-July, the road on the approaches to Southend Central Bus Station was being widened as part of a new traffic management scheme.

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News Sheet Contributions

Contributions to this news sheet were received from A.G. Osborne (C&F), M.L. Weyell (M10), P.J. Snell (M32), E. Thompson (M58), R. Delahoy (M180), P.J. Carr (M207), P.W. Harvey (M219), I.G. Young (M239), S.D. Barham (M313), L. Thorington (M352), W.S.N. Barlow (M395), J.G. Collins (M405), J. Harvie (M409), C. Seaman (M425), G.G. Toon (M452), N.R. Lennox (M456) and I. Ransom (AM2).

Notes and information for the August news sheet should be sent to the News Sheet Editor (address below) to arrive by Wednesday, August 18th.