EASTERN NATIONAL ENTHUSIASTS GROUP

NEWS SHEET NUMBER 216 March 1982

EDITORIAL

Eastern National Enthusiasts Group - 20th Year Anniversary

It was in March 1962 that the "Eastern National Enthusiasts Group" was formed as an interest group of the M & D and East Kent Bus Club. Coach tours were operated and publications issued to stimulate interest amongst the Kent members for the bus services on the north side of the Thames. Alan Osborne, the present Chairman & Founder, was the Group Leader. From this small beginning the Group has expanded to its present size, it was re-constituted into a separate Society in January 1964 when the first monthly news sheet was issued.

North Essex Coach Tour - Sunday, May 9th.

A booking form for this tour is enclosed with this news sheet. Members will note from the tour form that this tour starts and finishes at Southend. This is a move by the Committee to try and increase the number of Southend area members participating in Group tours. We hope that Southend area members will support this tour. The vehicle to be used on the tour will be one of the refurbished Bristol RELH6G coaches, and this will provide members with an early opportunity to ride in one of these modernised vehicles.

Southend Meeting - Illustrated Talk on Ensign Bus Company, Wednesday, April 14th.

As those members who attended the March meeting at Southend will already be aware, Peter Newman was unable to give his planned talk to the Group due to other commitments. However, he has very kindly agreed to present his illustrated talk on the work of the Ensign Bus Company (EnsignBus) at the Group's April meeting. This meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 14th commencing at 1930 hrs. (for 2000 hrs.) in the Civic Centre, Victoria Avenue, Southend-on-Sea, and the Committee look forward to seeing a large number of members at this meeting, which will provide a rare opportunity to learn about the many varied aspects of the Company's work.

Castle Point Transport Museum Society 'Transport Day' - Sunday, April 4th.

Following the success of the Open Days at the Castle Point Transport Museum, a 'Transport Day' is to be held all day on Sunday, April 4th. The museum is located at the former ENOC Canvey (CY) depot, and the Group's sales stand will be present with our full range of sales items. A recent addition to the Group's sales stock is an excellent range of large colour prints from original paintings of a variety of buses. These will not normally be available for postal orders, in order to avoid any possible damage in transit, but they will be available at those events attended by the Group's sales stand, including this particular event.

Essex County Council Publications

A new timetable booklet for the Braintree/Dunmow/Witham/Halstead area dated February 1982 has recently been published by Essex County Council. Copies are available from the Administrative Officer (P.W. Harvey Esq., 37. Warren Chase, Thundersley, Benfleet, Essex. SS7 3DZ) at £0-51p each (inclusive of postage and packing).

Timetable Reproduction Service

This new Group service is now in operation, the timetable collection is available for reproduction by xerography. Interested members should contact the Chairman & Founder for an introductory information circular, the address is :-

7. Farley Drive, Seven Kings, ILFORD, Essex. IG3 8LT. (S.A.E. please).

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EASTERN NATIONAL OMNIBUS CO. LTD.

New Vehicles

NIL

Withdrawn Vehicles

NIL

Some additional information is now available regarding recently withdrawn vehicles. The two vehicles sold to South Wales Transport Co. Ltd., 2858 (OPU823D) and 3042 (LFS287F), will both join that Company's service vehicle fleet, and full details about their future use will be published as soon as they can be confirmed. The Bristol FLF6G (2843) that was sold to Essex County Council in December 1980 was noted parked at Basildon District Council's Barleylands transport depot during early March, and it is now in a multi-coloured livery, although precise details about its exact use are not available. Finally, full details regarding the sale of Bristol FLF6LX 2943 (AVW402F) are now available. The vehicle has been sold to Arrow Exhibition Services, West Farleigh, Maidstone, and the conversion of the vehicle into a mobile entertainment centre by the Company has now been completed. The vehicle has now left Central Works, and it is reported that the interior is finished to an extremely high standard incorporating a kitchen, cocktail bar and seating areas, together with many other amenities.

Refurbished Vehicles

Work is continuing on the refurbishment of two of the Plaxton-bodied Bristol RELH6G coaches. 1411 (XOO880L) is now almost completed, and 1406 (XVW631L) was due to be returned from Southdown Motor Services Ltd. on March 19th. Final modifications to the vehicles refurbished by Southdown will be undertaken by the Company, including the fitting of new seats and a repaint. The new livery of these refurbished coaches will be similar to that carried by 1404, and it is intended to repaint the whole of the coach fleet into this style of livery. The latest type of Plaxton front is being fitted to the vehicles which will give a very modern appearance.

Allocations & Transfers

3.82 1510 MN (P)-CN (P), 1527 PL (P)-CN, 1537 CN-D/L (D), 3011 SE-D/L (D), 3012 SD (DS)-FL (P), 3014 BN-D/L (D), 3016 SD-FL (P), 3045 BN-FL (P), 3047 BN-PL (P).

The allocation of 1510 to CN as a Pool vehicle will only be for a one week period from March 17th. Many of the other vehicles that remain temporarily licensed as Pool vehicles, including some of those listed above, also remain in use, chiefly from BN and SD where they are covering for certain rail replacement services. In addition to the above allocations, 3018 was also scheduled to be D/L (D) during March, but this vehicle has also remained in use as a licensed Pool vehicle (see NS215).

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 NS215 :-

February : w/e 13.2.82 - 3056 at CW.
March : w/e 6.3.82 - 1213 at CW, 1893 at CW.
w/e 20.3.82 - 1205 at CW, 1894 at CW.

Service Vehicles

The following new vehicles have recently been delivered :-

YVX839X Ford Transit Van Chassis No. BDVVBU03330 White livery Stores Van (Publicity)
YVX841X Ford Transit Van Chassis No. BDVVBU03332 White livery Stores Van (Engineering)

YVX839X is allocated to Southend (SD) and YVX841X is allocated to Central Works (CW). They have replaced older vans OVW338M and RVW978M, which have both been withdrawn and sold. Delivery and withdrawal dates for these vehicles will be published as soon as they can be confirmed.

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

The following allocations of delicensed vehicles were recorded during early-March :-
Central Works (CW) - 1525, 2888.
Halstead (HD) - 1503/11, 2875.
Maldon (MN) - 1500/13/4/26/38, 2908, 3005/15.
Walton (WN) - 2301.

General

The only news to report this month is that during recent re-decoration work at Clacton (CN) various vehicles have been in use as a temporary office. The work commenced on March 8th, when 3031 was used as an office, and other vehicles used subsequently have included 1523, 1529 and 1901.

Service Developments

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

19 - To withdraw Summer Sunday service.

28 - Mondays to Fridays : five minor timetable changes to early morning journeys. These revisions were introduced from February 15th (see NS215).

41C - Service to be re-numbered 41A, and revised terminals to be Chelmsford (Wicklow Avenue, Mendip Road) and Galleywood (Barnard Road) with revised route and timetable. Services 41C and 44C, which were introduced on February 14th, have now been replaced by this change and also that affecting service 44B (see below). The revised services were introduced from Sunday, March 14th, and a new timetable leaflet is available from the Company's offices.

44 - Revised timetable, with certain journeys extended to and from North Melbourne (Shopping Centre). Other journeys operating direct between Chelmsford and North Melbourne via Patching Hall Lane are now withdrawn, and these revisions were introduced from Monday, March 15th, with a new timetable leaflet also available from the Company's offices.

44B - Sunday service to be introduced (see above).

44C - Service replaced by the introduction of a Sunday timetable on service 44B (see above), which took effect from March 14th.

45 - Mondays to Fridays : one journey to be withdrawn.

48 - Mondays to Fridays : one minor timetable change.

48B - Mondays to Fridays : one journey to be re-numbered 48 with a minor timetable revision.

70 - Saturdays : two additional journeys to be introduced.

316 - Tuesdays : two minor timetable changes.

325 - Wednesdays : the 1345 hrs. Braintree to Stisted and the 1400 hrs. Stisted to Braintree to operate as normal service 325 journeys and not as part of the Braintree District Council 'Countrycar' service.

334 - One journey from Witham (Collingwood Road) to Braintree (Bus Park) to be introduced on Schooldays only. This service had been previously withdrawn - see NS215.

344 - Revised timetable, including the withdrawal of Braintree District Council 'Countrycar' journeys.

701 - Revised timetable.

The Company has also applied for revised excursions and tours from Witham (High Street).

The licence for an express contract service between Stanford-le-Hope (Mackley Drive) and Basildon (Standard Telephones and Cables Works) has not been renewed.

Some additional information regarding this year's express service operations is also now available. Express service 127 (South Ockendon-Dovercourt) will operate on Saturdays only from May 22nd until September 18th, whilst express service 134 (Clacton-Ramsgate) will operate on Fridays and Saturdays during the period from May 21st to October 2nd. Express service 138 (East Croydon/Catford-Clacton/Walton-on-Naze) will operate on Saturdays only from May 22nd until September 18th, with a revised timetable, minor route change in Chelmsford and a revised timing point at Bexleyheath. Express service 191 (Harlow-Walton-on-Naze) will operate Daily over the Summer period. Other minor route revisions in Basildon will affect express services 119 and 120, whilst the Company also intend to revise the route of express service 125 (Southend-Great Yarmouth) between the A129 and A132. Finally, a timetable leaflet for express service 113 (Southend-Perranporth) is now available from the Company's offices, and this service will operate this year on Fridays and Saturdays from May 28th to October 3rd.

The Company has published details of its 'Leisure-Break' holidays for 1982. Two holidays to Torquay and South Devon, and to Torquay and Dartmoor are available, and full details are contained in a leaflet now available from the Company's offices.

Preliminary details (subject to confirmation) are also now available regarding this Summer's 'Highwayman' services, and which are expected to commence during early May. A number of new services will be operated and advance information is as follows :-

801 - No change.
802 - To operate on Tuesdays and Thursdays from Chelmsford to Northampton via Cambridge and Bedford.
803 - To operate on Mondays and Fridays.
804 - To operate on Tuesdays and Saturdays.
805 - To operate on Thursdays only.
806 - To operate from Southend to Norwich via Chelmsford and Cambridge.
807 - To be withdrawn.
809 - To operate Daily from Clacton to Basildon via Colchester and Maldon.
811 - NEW SERVICE from Harwich to Peterborough via Colchester, Braintree and Cambridge on Mondays only.
812 - NEW SERVICE from Harwich to Northampton via Colchester, Braintree, Cambridge and Bedford on Fridays only.
813 - NEW SERVICE from Harwich to Kings Lynn via Colchester, Braintree, Cambridge and Ely on Wednesdays only.
814 - NEW SERVICE from Harwich to Cromer via Clacton, Ipswich and Norwich on Tuesdays and Saturdays.
815 - NEW SERVICE from Harwich to Great Yarmouth via Clacton, Ipswich and Lowestoft on Thursdays only.

Other changes are also expected to affect express services 104 and 109, although full details are not available at the present time.

Temporary Loans

Routine loans of Chelmsford (CF) vehicles to other depots during March have included 1516 (BS) and 1549 (BE). 1811 was at Great Dunmow (outstation) on March 14th.

Clacton (CN) vehicles which worked on temporary loan to Harwich (DT) during February were 1418, 1530, 1756/79 and 1803/34. 3003 CN (which was on loan to DT) received attention at CR during early February for a wiring problem.

A member from the Clacton area has also supplied some details of recent workings in that area, and these are briefly summarised below :-

20.1-1527 DT on service 113.
22.1-1791 CN noted on National Express service 184 between Clacton and Colchester.
25.1-1781 DT on services 101 and 116.
26.1-1554 DT on service 114, 1758 MN on service 106, 1781 DT on service 109 and 1791 CN noted operating on Colchester and Maldon-based services.
27.1-1056 DT on service 102.
28.1-1781 DT on service 113 and 1901 DT on service 74.
29.1-a CN Leyland National failed at Ipswich while operating service 123, and was replaced for two journeys by ECOC's RL668. 1901 DT on service 74 (see also NS215) and 3000 DT on services 111 and 112.
9.2-1554 DT and 3000 DT on service 102, and 1790 CR on service 114.
14.2-1050 CN, 1402 CN and 2301 D/L (D) noted at Walton (WN) depot, 1756 CN, 1803 CN and 1911 CN noted at Harwich (DT) depot with 1901/20 (both DT) and 3000 DT all at Clacton (CN) depot.
17.2-1927 MN failed at Weeley on service 119 and was replaced by 3031 CN (which returned to CN on 18.2).
21.2-1901 DT on service 74B, and on service 74 on 22.2.
27.2-1901 DT on service 101.
1.3-1536 CR noted in Clacton, 1756 CN noted on Maldon-based services, 1783 DT noted on Colchester-based services and 3030 MN noted on service 106.
8.3-1901 DT on service 110, 3001 CR on service 114.
9.3-1783 DT on services 74 and 102.

Unusual Workings

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

13.2-3085 HH and 3102 HH noted on a rail replacement service between Wickford and Hockley.
15.2-1410 SD, 1522 PL (P), 3012 SD, 3014 BN, 3016 SD and 3029 BN noted on a rail replacement service between Southend and Shenfield. 1532 DT operated the 0759 hrs. Harwich-Manningtree rail service after the DMU ran out of fuel.
16.2-3097 HH noted on service 24.

18.2-Southend Transport 203 noted in Rayleigh displaying 'On hire to National Travel'.
19.2-3014 BN, 3067 BN and ST 225/30/8 359/62/91 noted on a rail replacement service from Wickford to Basildon.
22.2-3002 CF noted on service 11A, being later replaced by 1518 PL (P).
25.2-1300 SD noted on a rail replacement service from Southend to Shenfield; ST235 noted on a rail replacement service from Rayleigh to Benfleet.
26.2-1055 BD moted on service 251; 1518 PL (P) noted on service 25A; 1527 PL (P), 1300 SD and 3045 BN noted on a rail replacement service at Billericay; 1919 BN, 3014 BN, 3029 BN, 3045 BN, 3047 BN, 3085 HH and ST232 noted on a rail replacement service from Wickford to Basildon; 3075 SD noted on service 29A; 3126 CF noted on a rail replacement service from Rayleigh to Benfleet; ST 238 operated the 0410 hrs. Southend (Victoria)-Liverpool Street as far as Shenfield.
27.2-ST 203 noted on private hire work at Rayleigh.
1.3-3085 HH noted on a private hire working at Hornchurch.
3.3-1518 PL (P) noted on service 25A.
6.3-1203 BD and 1412 MN noted on express service 109; 1204 SD noted on Highwayman service 804; 1417 SD noted on Highwayman service 801; 1521 CR noted on service 74; 1911 CN noted on service 103; 3066 HD noted on service 70; 3083 SD, 3084 SD, 3085 HH and 4002 SD noted on private hire workings to the Royal Albert Hall.
7.3-3087 SD noted on service 400; 3099 HH, 3102 HH, 3116 HH and ST 235/7 noted on a rail replacement service from Wickford to Shenfield.
8.3-1412 MN noted on express service 109; 1787 SD noted on service 19; 3045 PL (P) noted on service 400.
9.3-1546 HH and 1547 HH noted on rail replacement services from Leigh to Rayleigh and from Pitsea to Wickford respectively.
10.3-1213 CR noted on school contract work at St. Osyth.
11.3-1722 BD noted on service 233.
13.3-3103 HH noted on service 24A.
14.3-4001 SD noted on service 400.
17.3-a HH 15XX vehicle noted on service 404; 3047 PL (P) noted on service 402.

COLCHESTER TRANSPORT

General

The reference in last month's news sheet to Leyland Leopard coach 101 duplicating National Express service 084 journeys on February 14th. should have stated that the vehicle was in fact on hire to Grey Green.

SOUTHEND TRANSPORT

General

The only news to report this month is that following the end of the recent rail strikes, Southend Transport are no longer duplicating service X1 journeys. During the course of the strikes, the maximum number of duplicate Fleetlines on any day was 11. Duplicate vehicles did also operate on this service on March 10th, when London Transport staff took strike action, and also on occasions when there were other local rail disputes.

EASTERN NATIONAL DISPOSALS (By kind courtesy of the P.S.V. Circle, continued from NS215).

389 (9 DLY) - Also reported as Costain Mining, Fife, by 2/81, ex. dealer, Middlewich. (could this be a mistake for 390 (11 DLY) which has also gone to this source ?)
421 (GVW983H) - Withdrawn by Miller, Horsham, 4/81.
1414 (2739 VX) - Hanson (contractor), Yaddlethorpe (N-PSV), kept at Goole. (additional information to NS211/2)
2381 (WNO 482) - Dealer, Swindon, 12/81, ex. Red Car, Norwich.
2710 (90 TVX) - Kings Wood County Middle School (N-PSV), High Wycombe, 3/81, ex. Johnson (for preservation), Stockport. (see also NS207)
REMAINDER HELD OVER TO NEXT MONTH (NS217)

News Sheet Contributions

Contributions to this news sheet were received from A.G. Osborne (C&F), M.L. Weyell (M10), W.J. Morrison (M131), R. Delahoy (M180), P.W. Harvey (M219), S.D. Barham (M313), L. Thorington (M352), J.G. Collins (M405), C. Seaman (M425), N.R. Lennox (M456), G. Huggins (AM1) and I. Ransom (AM2). The April deadline is Wednesday, April 21st.

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