

EDITORIAL

Annual General Meeting

The Group's eighteenth Annual General Meeting will be held in the Conference Room, Chelmsford Bus Station, Duke Street, Chelmsford on Saturday, January 29th, 1983 commencing at 1330 hrs. This facility has kindly been made available to the Group by the Company, and will members please note that the entrance to the Conference Room is in the Travel Office at the West end of the Bus Station. A full range of Group publications, photographs and other items will be on sale at this meeting, and the room will be open from 1300 hrs. to enable members to purchase items before the meeting. Will members please note that the Group's Annual Report and Statement of Accounts for 1982 will be available at the Annual General Meeting. The Committee will welcome members' questions and suggestions at this meeting, so please come along.

Subscription Renewal Reminder

Members who have subscriptions that end this month are reminded that they should renew their subscriptions (using the green form sent with last month's news sheet) as soon as possible please. Any delay in renewing may also delay the despatch of your January news sheet - you have been warned !

Farewell To Service 19

The final day of operation of service 19 (Southend-Maldon) will be January 15th, 1983, and to mark this occasion some Group members are planning to make a farewell journey on that date. All interested members are invited to participate, and further details can be obtained from Richard Delahoy (Events Secretary) (Tel. Southend 588590).

Appeal For Information

Mr. R.J. Williamson of 43, York Avenue, Stanmore, Middlesex (Tel. 01-907 4964) recently contacted the Group to enquire whether any members have information concerning Eastern National destination blinds during the period 1948-1960. He is willing to exchange information about destination blinds with any interested members, who should write to him at the above address.

EASTERN NATIONAL OMNIBUS CO. LTD.

New Vehicles

NIL

Acquired Vehicles

Further to the notes published in last month's news sheet regarding the four acquired Leyland Leopard coaches (1304-7), 1307 (LLT342V) had not been delivered to the Company by early December and was still at Duple Coachbuilders Ltd. It is also understood that these vehicles will enter service with 51 seats.

Withdrawn Vehicles

12.82	1401 (PWC345K)
	1402 (VHK175L)

Additional information regarding the new owners of these vehicles is included under Initial Disposals on page 5.

Allocations & Transfers

12.82 1304 D/L, 1305 D/L, 1306 D/L.

A full fleet allocation is published on page 2 of this news sheet. It will be noted that 1054 (TJN977W) is still Licensed Waiting Allocation (LWA), and during early December this vehicle was being used at Bishop's Stortford (BS).

Eastern National Fleet Allocation - December 1982

Basildon (BN) : 1550/4 1702(DS)/4/9/11-7/21(DS)/3/32/6/8/40-2/6/8/55/63/7/72/6
 1706/94/5 1808/18/20/2/30/43/4/7-9/52-4/74/7-80/3/4/6/7/9/91/6/8 1904/6-9/18/22/34
 3067(DS)/8/9/74/6 3116/7/20 (72)
 Bishop's Stortford (BS) : 1057/8 1208 1532/3/41/51 1749 1914/6 3041 3114 (12)
 Braintree (BE) : 1051 1200/5 1542 1863/82 1902/24/9/30/2 3004/19(DS)/29/56
 3063 3115/28 (18)
 Brentwood (BD) : 1055 1213/7 1540/3(P) 1700(DS)/22/54/60/85/96/7 1809/10/23
 1837-40/5/6/59/76/81 1903/12/3/33 3026/91-4 3100 (34)
 Chelmsford (CF) : 1209 1302 1516(DS)/49 1701(DS)/7*/30/4/52/62/71/4/5/8 1801/2
 1804/5/11/5/9/24(DS)/7/9/32/41/2/50/1/5/6/60/6/7/9/70/3/85/97/9 1905/15/7*/39
 2200 3002/21/33/5/77/8/80-2 3106/8/10-3/25/6 (62)
 Clacton (CN) : 1050 1406/12/4/5/8 1523/7/9/30(DS)/53 1705(DS)/51/6/61/8/9
 1779/80/9/91/2 1800/3/25/6/34/58 1911 3003/31 (31)
 Colchester (CR) : 1053 1207/10/5/6 1301 1517/24/8/36/52 1710(DS)/90/3 1816/28/65
 1872/88/92 1923/5/35/6 3001/22/3/32/50/95 3124/7 (32)
 Hadleigh (HH) : 1546/7 1703/18/9/20(DS)/5-7/31/3/5/7/9/43/53/7/8/65/77/81/4
 1817/21/35/57/64/71/90 1900/28 3085/97-9 3103/7/9 (38)
 Halstead (HD) : 1206 1413 1544 1782 1926 3048/58/9/66 3118 (10)
 Harwich (DT) : 1056 1202/14 1750 1901/20 3000/27/61 (9)
 Maldon (MN) : 1052/9 1201/12 1300 1539 1708(DS)/28/64 1806/31/3 1921/7/31
 3030/8/40/9/51/79 (21)
 Silver End (SE) : 1211 1409/16 1545 1745/83 1812/3/61/2 3020/39/55/60 3123/15
 Southend (SD) : 1204 1303 1400/3-5/7/8/10/1/7/9 1548 1724/9(DS)/44/7/66/70/3
 1787/8/98/9 1807/14/36/68/75/93-5 1910/37/8 3024(DS)/5/8/34/6/7/52-4/7/62/4/5
 3070-3/5/83/4/6-90/6 3101/2/4/5/19/21/2/9 4000-2 (72)
 Delicensed For Maintenance (D/L) : 1203 1304-6 1759 1919 (6)
 Licensed Waiting Allocation (LWA) : 1054 (1)
 Licensed Pool Vehicles (PL (P)) : 1504/34 3014/8/45/7 (6)
 Delicensed Pool Vehicles (D/L (P)) : 1510/2/22 (3)
 Delicensed For Disposal (D/L (D)) : 1511/20/1 2383/4 (5)

Notes - (DS) denotes Docking Spare vehicle.

(P) denotes Pool vehicle.

Chelmsford (CF) allocation includes Great Dunmow outstation (DW) - 1 sd, and

Clacton (CN) allocation includes Walton-on-Naze (WN) - 4 sd.

1707 and 1917 are Accident Pool vehicles.

1204/16 are at present attached to the Coaching Department.

The next full fleet allocation will be published in the April news sheet.

Refurbished Vehicles

At the time of writing, two of the Plaxton-bodied Bristol RELH coaches that are to be refurbished by the Company had entered Central Works as part of this programme. The vehicles concerned are 1417 and 1419, with 1418 being the other vehicle to be included in the current programme (see also NS224).

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 NS224 :-

November : w/e 20.11.82 - 1904 at CW (additional to NS224).

w/e 27.11.82 - No vehicles repainted.

December : w/e 4.12.82 - 1906 at CW, 3041 at CW.

w/e 11.12.82 - 1780 at CW, 1901 at CW.

Further to the information published in last month's news sheet regarding the 'unibus' advertisement on 3112, the vehicle remained in service at CF during early December carrying its white advertisement base prior to signwriting. A delay has occurred in completing this advertisement, and it is not known when the final signwriting will be applied.

Temporary Loans

Colchester (CR) vehicles which worked on temporary loan to Harwich (DT) during November were 1207/15, 1517/52, 1710/93, 1888, 3001 and 3022. Of these vehicles,

1207 and 1215 were loaned for coach duties, and three CN coaches (1406/15/8) were also on loan for short periods during the month for similar work. As a postscript to the notes published in last month's news sheet regarding the use of 2384 in the Harwich Carnival, it can now be reported that the vehicle was returned from DT to PL on November 8th.

Service Developments

A special promotional scheme was operated in conjunction with the Bolingbroke & Wenley Ltd. department store in Chelmsford from November 26th to December 11th. The scheme was advertised as the 'Bus Ticket Trade-In', and enabled shoppers to purchase discount shopping vouchers for use within the store by 'trading in' their bus tickets.

The Company has published details of its Highwayman services during the Christmas and New Year holiday period. Normal services will be operated from December 29th to January 3rd, and there will be no services operated from December 25th to December 27th. On December 24th (Christmas Eve), services 803/4/7/17 will operate to the normal Friday timetable, and on December 28th, services 802/4/13 will operate.

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

- 2 - Weekdays : one evening journey to operate on reduced running time between Hadleigh and Basildon.
- 5A - Weekdays : one journey to be withdrawn.
- 7 - Schooldays : one journey to be withdrawn.
- 37 - Weekdays : one minor timetable change.
- 54 - Mondays to Fridays : six journeys to be re-numbered 55.
- 95 - Schooldays : one minor timetable change.
- 151 - Revised timetable.
- 251 - Weekdays : one additional journey to be introduced from Southend (Central Bus Station) to Brentwood (White Horse P.H.), and one journey to terminate at Rawreth (Carpenters Arms P.H.).
- 260 - Sundays : minor route revision.
- 350 - Mondays to Fridays : one minor timetable change.
- 351 - Mondays to Fridays : one journey to be re-numbered 350.
- 521 - Mondays to Fridays : two minor timetable changes, including one journey to be extended to Laindon (Newlands End) from Laindon (High Road School). These revisions were introduced from November 29th.

Short-term licences have been granted for services 470/1/3 from October 26th (470) and October 29th (471/3) to April 25th (470) and April 28th (471/3).

Service revisions introduced during recent weeks are as follows :- 239 - 5.12.82 (four minor timetable changes on Weekdays); 260 - 5.12.82 (one minor timetable change on Weekdays, and a minor timetable change to Sunday journeys). These revisions have been introduced to provide connections at Ongar with a new London Transport service (201) from Ongar to Loughton.

The Company has withdrawn its application for a revision to service 11 and has also surrendered its licence for service 259 (Basildon-Langdon Hills).

Unusual Workings

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

- 30.10-1882 EE noted on service 322; 3061 DT noted on a rail replacement service from Colchester to Ipswich; 3117 BN noted on service 400.
- 31.10-1416 SE noted on an excursion from Southend to the Motor Show at Birmingham; 3068 EN, 3080 CF, 3086 SD, 3103 HH and 3109 HH noted on a rail replacement service from Wickford to Shenfield; 3116 BN noted on service 400.
- 15.11-1539 MN noted on service 36.
- 16.11-1215 CR operated a rail replacement service from Harwich to Parkeston Quay, to replace a failed D.M.U.
- 17.11-1812 SE noted on service 70.
- 19.11-3071 SD noted on service 11; 3109 HH noted on service 24A.
- 20.11-3125 CF noted on service 42.

- 21.11-1542 BE noted on service 335; 1894 SD noted on a private hire working at Broomfield.
- 23.11-1402 D/L (D) seen at Great Clacton on Trade Plates 399 VW; 1708 MN and 1861 SE noted at CN depot receiving attention.
- 24.11-1054 LWA noted on service 58; 1729 SD (on loan to MN) noted at Clacton on service 113; 1924 BE noted on service 53; 3056 BE noted on service 311; 3073 SD noted on service 11A.
- 26.11-1789 CN noted on service 38; 1924 BE noted on service 53; 1938 SD observed on service 20; 3018 PL (P) noted at CF depot.
- 27.11-1789 CN noted on service 19A; 1888 CR noted on service 122; 1911 CN observed at Ipswich on Eastern Counties service 206; 1917 CF noted on service 335; 1921 MN noted on service 123; 3014 PL (P) noted at MN depot; 3020 SE noted on an ASDA working; 3063 BE seen on service 53; 3124 CR also noted on service 53.
- 28.11-3098 HH and 3109 HH operated a rail replacement service from Wickford to Shenfield.
- 30.11-1415 CN noted on a schools working on service 102; 1768 CN noted on loan to MN, whilst heater modification work was carried out on 1927 MN at CN.
- 1.12-Southend Transport 366 noted at HH depot (on Trade Plates) for a PSV test following withdrawal - (see below); 1768 CN noted on service 31; 1927 MN noted on services 102 and 108; 3018 PL (P) noted at CF depot, and also on 3.12; 3073 SD noted on service 11A.
- 2.12-1927 MN noted on service 101; 3051 MN observed on an ASDA working at Rayleigh.
- 3.12-1927 MN seen on local services at Clacton; 3109 HH worked a private hire journey to the Royal Festival Hall.
- 4.12-1885 CF noted on service 331.
- 5.12-3098 HH and 3099 HH operated a rail replacement service from Shenfield to Witham, and these vehicles together with 3057 SD, 3107 HH, 3109 HH and 3122 SD also operated a rail replacement service from Southend to Wickford; 3031 CN noted on a rail replacement service from Colchester to Clacton.
- 6.12-1795 BN operated the 1800 hrs. service 400 journey from Southend as far as Basildon, where passengers transferred to a VRT; 3019 BE noted on service 311; 3045 PL (P) noted at HH depot.
- 9.12-1208 BS noted on service 58, on a journey usually operated by a 15XX class vehicle.

COLCHESTER TRANSPORT

Withdrawn Vehicles

The hulk of withdrawn Leyland Atlantean 52 (AVX 52G), which had been extensively cannibalised, has recently been sold to Carter (dealer), Colchester.

General

... latest livery style, as applied to Leyland Atlanteans 59 and 71 (see NS224), is also now carried by 65 (NNO 65P), and may have been adopted as the standard livery.

The report in last month's news sheet regarding Colchester Transport's plans to repaint a vehicle in the former tram livery should have stated that the vehicle will be celebrating the centenary of British municipal passenger transport. Nevertheless, 1983 will also mark the centenary of the first attempt to introduce a tramway in Colchester, a scheme which was later abandoned through financial problems.

SOUTHEND TRANSPORT

Vehicles On Order

It can now be confirmed that Southend Transport has recently placed an order for three Van Hool Astronema integral double-deck coaches. The vehicles will incorporate a Mercedes Benz V8 engine and Allison fully automatic gearbox, and the proposed seating layout is CH57/27F. A single front door will be fitted, but the vehicles will not carry toilet accommodation. They are intended for use on the limited-stop X1 service, and have been ordered through Moseley (dealer), Loughborough, with

delivery currently anticipated in April or May 1983.

Withdrawn Vehicles

Further to the notes published in NS225 regarding withdrawn Daimler Fleetlines, a number of vehicles have again been reinstated and/or withdrawn from service. Three vehicles (358/61/6) were reinstated on November 15th, whilst on November 30th, 354, together with 361/6, were again delicensed. Subject to confirmation, the vehicles of this batch that are currently in service are 348/9/58/60/4/8.

General

A further overall advertisement vehicle is currently being prepared at the London Road depot. The vehicle concerned is Daimler Fleetline 390 (JTD390P), which will carry an advertisement for Case Olden (Travel) Ltd. of Westcliff.

Weekly and monthly season tickets were introduced on the X1 limited-stop service from November 28th.

Three unusual workings have recently occurred on the X1 service; on October 28th/29th, Daimler Fleetline JGU256K, owned by Brakell, Cheam, replaced failed Leyland Leopard coach 208 on the service, whilst on November 6th/7th and again on November 24th similar vehicle 206 suffered mechanical failures, and was replaced on the first occasion by Leyland Leopard coach SNM 81R (owned by Continental Pioneer, Richmond), and on the second occasion by Leyland Atlantean HEL212D (owned by Eland Travel, New Malden).

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EASTERN NATIONAL DISPOSALS

Initial Disposals

- 1401 (PWC345K) - Sold to St. John's School, Epping, 12/82. The vehicle was repainted into a white and green livery by the Company at Central Works prior to sale.
- 1402 (VHK175L) - Sold to the Shaftesbury Society, 12/82, for use at their holiday centre at Dovercourt.

Subsequent Disposals

1954-1964 numbering scheme

- 427 (604 JPU) - Eastern National Preservation Group, 10/82, ex. Vagg, Knockin Heath.
- 361 (00 9549) - Still with Atomic Power Constructors, Dungeness (Contr.). (see also NS202).
- 424 (LWC975J) - Breaker, Wombwell, by 11/82, ex. Continental Pioneer, Richmond.
- 425 (LWC976J) - Breaker, Wombwell, by 11/82, ex. Continental Pioneer, Richmond.
- 9427 (LWC978J) - Still with Continental Pioneer, Richmond, 11/82. (see also NS222).
- 1418 (804 WVV) - Breaker, Carlton, 7/82, ex. Gresswell, Hinksey Hill Farm, Oxford (N-PSV).
- 2748 (EOO 590) - Salmon, South Benfleet (for preservation), 10/82, ex. Ford, Althorne.
- 2852 (OVX296D) - Owner is Liikenne Mäkelä Ky, Ähtäri, Finland, and Finnish registration is VLN 436. (additional information to NS210).
- 2894 (WNO982F) - Exported to U.S.A., 9/82, by Omnibus Promotions Ltd., ex. dealer, Sherburn.
- 2908 (WWC738F) - Breaker, Carlton, 7/82, ex. dealer, Sherburn.
- 2909 (WWC739F) - Breaker, Carlton, 7/82, ex. dealer, Sherburn. (additional information to NS224).
- 2914 (WWC744F) - Breaker, Carlton, 7/82, ex. dealer, Sherburn.
- 2945 (AVX974G) - Breaker, Carlton, 7/82, ex. dealer, Sherburn.

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News Sheet Contributions

Contributions to this news sheet were received from R. Delahoy (M180), A.W. Meadows (M209), P.W. Harvey (M219), I.G. Young (M239), S.D. Barham (M313), D. Arnold (M379), J.G. Collins (M405), G.G. Toon (M452), K.M. Russell (M454), G. Huggins (AM1), I. Ransom (AM2), R. Russell (AM7), J.H. Preston Esq. and the P.S.V. Circle. Notes for the January news sheet should be sent to the News Sheet Editor (address below) by Wednesday, January 19th.