

EASTERN NATIONAL ENTHUSIASTS GROUP

NEWS SHEET NUMBER 178

January 1979

EDITORIAL

Committee Constitution and Membership

The new committee, approved at the fourteenth A.G.M. consists of nine members, each of which has a specific job. The officers are as follows :

A. G. Osborne (Chairman & Founder), R. Delahoy (Events Secretary), P. W. Harvey (Administrative Officer & Treasurer), A. W. Meadows (Publications Officer), W. J. Morrison (Production Officer), R. H. Palmer (Membership Secretary), P. J. Snell (Photographs Officer), D. A. Stebbing (News Sheet Editor) and M. L. Weyell (Tours Organiser).

The individual officers will assume responsibility for their posts from 1 March 1979, and an information sheet will be circulated to all members with the March news sheet. In order to effect a smooth transition to the new administration we will be requesting that all orders for photographs and publications etc. should cease temporarily for the period February 25 to March 25. Hence if you have any immediate requirements please forward them now.

Southend meeting, Wednesday February 14

At the Civic Centre, Victoria Avenue, Southend at 2000. Mr. C. L. Rayner will present a talk about his driving days with Westcliff-on-Sea Motor Services Ltd. Mr. Rayner has kindly donated many of his negatives to the Southend Busman Photo Service, and he has kindly agreed to talk of his experiences.

The Events Secretary hopes to organise a regular pattern of indoor meetings in Southend, Chelmsford and Ilford on a monthly basis. Suggestions for other venues are also welcomed. The continuance of meetings will depend upon the support that they receive.

Fourth Model Railway and Transport Exhibition, Saturday February 24.

The Group and the Southend Busman Photo Service will each have a stand at this exhibition organised by the Stour Valley Railway Preservation Group, Southend Branch. Other clubs represented will include the World Ship Society, Paddle Steamer Preservation Society and eight railway/model railway groups. The venue is Trinity Methodist Church, London Road, Westcliff (between The Plough and Hamlet Court Road), the opening times are 1000 until 1900.

New Publication

The following new publication is now available :

E.P.1	Fleet list of Eastern National Omnibus Co. Ltd.	price ... 29p (post free)
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This publication is correct to 12.78 and lists all Eastern National vehicles individually with chassis and body numbers included. Vehicles on order for 1979 are also listed individually. The publication runs to 10 pages and has duplicated green covers.

New Colour Photographs

The circular detailing the new range of colour photographs will now be circulated with the March news sheet, such that they will be available directly from the new officer. This range of prints will be available at the Transport Sale shown above.

Essex County Council Publications

A new timetable for the Southend area has recently been issued. The booklet is of a similar size to previous Southend & District issues but has reverted to the 24 hour clock and is laid out to Essex County Council style. The cover is of Essex County Council design (incorporating a Ford saloon) and the booklet costs 15p (postage 10p extra) from Essex County Council, Planning Department, County Hall, CHELMSFORD, Essex. CM1 1LF

EASTERN NATIONAL OMNIBUS CO. LTD.New Vehicles

NIL (the first month with no new vehicles since 3.78 !)

Withdrawn Vehicles

NIL

Re-built / Re-seated Vehicles

Conversion of 2858 (OPU823D) to a driver training vehicle (9009) is now complete and the vehicle is expected to enter service in 2.79. (see also NS170)

Conversion of 2861 (RHK346D) to a driver training vehicle is now almost complete, this vehicle will be re-numbered 9010. (see also NS170)

Bristol FLF6G 2859 (RHK344D) is also to be converted to a driver training vehicle, and is to be re-numbered 9011.

Conversion of Bristol FLF^a 2863 (RHK348D) will now not take place. Instead, this vehicle is to be re-engined to Gardner and converted to open-top and re-numbered 2301. The conversion is now well advanced at Prittlewell works.

It is expected that Bristol FLF6G's 2848/50 (MVX885C, NTW943C) will also be converted to open-top and will be re-numbered 2302/3. The Bristol KSW5G open top vehicles are being retained at present, in case these conversions are not completed in time for the summer season.

Allocations & Transfers

1.79 1543-BS, 1882-BE, 1890-HH, 1893-MN, 1894-D/L, 1895-D/L, 2825-HH, 2928-HH, 3047-BS.

Allocation of D/L(D) vehicles by personal observation : SE - 1340/62, 1429/31, 2785, 2807.

Service Revisions

The following revisions to services have recently been applied for :

- 7C NEW SERVICE : ROCHFORD - Golden Cross - ASHINGDON (Schools) (Mondays to Fridays only)
- 48 Revised terminal to be CHELMER VILLAGE (Shopping Centre).
- 234/5 Certain journeys to operate to Beauchamp School via Hill Avenue and Beauchamps Drive.
- 327 Certain journeys to operate from Willows Green via Thistley Green and Cock Green to Bannister Green.
- 344 NEW SERVICE : BRAINTREE (Bus Park) - BRAINTREE (John English Avenue) outward route to be via Victoria Street, Market Place, High Street, Clare Road, Grenville Road, Aetheric Road, Panfield Lane, Tabor Avenue and Saunders Avenue. Return route via Tabor Avenue, Panfield Lane, Aetheric Road, Rayne Road, Bank Street and Manor Road. (Mondays to Fridays only)

The following services will be introduced in the Southend area from 29 January 1979. These revisions are shown in the new Southend timetable (see editorial). Details of the revisions will be found in the appropriate news sheets indicated :

- 3B (NS170), 5 (NS170, except service terminates at Canvey, Haystack), 7B (NS170), 7C (NS178, operates peak hours only), 8A (NS170), 14A (NS174, one journey in Basildon - Southend direction only, ex 15A), 17 (NS170).

Other revisions to be introduced on this date are as follows :

- 8 Withdrawn between Thorpe Bay and Southend on Weekday evenings and Sundays.
- 15/A Services withdrawn, service 15A re-numbered 14A.

General

Increased fares came into operation on 1 January 1979.

Bristol FLF6LX 2928 (AVW397F) has entered service at Hadleigh, with its O.M.O. equipment removed.

Bristol FLF6LX 2896 (WNO984F) has recently suffered fire damage, further information to follow when available.

The recent snow falls have rendered many vehicles inoperative or inaccessible with the result that a number of unusual workings have occurred. Amongst the many observed were Bristol FLF's 2859 (RHK344D) on service 11, 2844 (MVX881C) on service 402 and 2795 (BVX671B) on service 400, all on 2 January. Bristol RELL 1509 (EPU190G) worked on service 400 on 1 January and another RE, 1500 (CVW854G) was crew operated on service 251 on 13 January. Another Bristol FLF, 2892 (WNO980F) operated on service 400 on 24 January. Further unusual workings are given in issue number 31 of the 'Southend Busman'.

COLCHESTER TRANSPORT

General

Colchester Borough Council minutes reveal that two Leyland Leopards with dual purpose bodywork are expected by April 1979. The same minutes state that the existing Leyland PD2's will remain in the fleet until the above new vehicles are delivered, and that one such vehicle will be converted to open-top for use during the 75th anniversary of the undertaking in 1979. (subject to review) (additional notes to NS172/174)

SOUTHEND TRANSPORT

New Vehicles

Leyland Leopards 203/4 (UTD203/4T) were licensed for private hire from 1.12.78 and commenced stage carriage operation on 1.1.79. Both have been fitted with detachable O.M.O. equipment as fitted to 201/2 (LBN201/2P). 203 only is fitted with a rear view scope.

The chassis number of 204, and the body numbers of 203/4 are still required please.

Vehicles on Order

It has been reported that 4 Leyland Leopards with Duple Dominant saloon bodywork and dual purpose seating are on order for delivery in 1979. Also on order for delivery in three batches of six in the years 1979, 1980 and 1981 are eighteen Leyland Titans.

Vehicles on Hire

288	NDP288G	Bristol RELL6G	6/143	Pennine	B34D + 35	new 1968
289	NDP289G	Bristol RELL6G	6/144	Pennine	B34D + 35	1968
292	NDP292G	Bristol RELL6G	6/138	Pennine	B34D + 35	1968
321	ETO464C	Leyland PDR1/2	L40927	Met.-Camm.	H45/27D	new 1965
322	ETO470C	Leyland PDR1/2	L41151	Met.-Camm.	H45/27D	1965
324	ETO465C	Leyland PDR1/2	L41032	Met.-Camm.	H45/27D	1965

288/9/92 (NDP288/9/92G) are on hire from Reading Transport from 1.79, the Reading Transport fleet numbers are used. 288 later suffered severe fire damage, whilst 289 suffered mechanical failure leaving 292 as the only current vehicle in service. To complete the saga, Reading 284 (NDP284G) was also to have been hired, but this vehicle failed in the course of delivery.

321/2/4 (ETO464/70/65C) are on hire from Ensign Bus Co. Ltd., Grays and were formerly Nottingham City Transport nos. 464/70/65. It is expected that another three more vehicles will follow.

The Reading vehicles are normally crew operated, without destination blinds, there has also been occasional O.M.O. operation.

The Leyland Atlanteans entered service in full Nottingham livery, with certain fleetnames and crests covered in primer. They are equipped for O.M.O. operation and carry destination blinds as fitted to Eastern National Leyland Nationals. The

vehicles are regarded as standard double deck O.M.O. units and as such are operated on all routes except 7,8,8A due to height restriction.

The above hires have been necessitated due to a large number of failures of Daimler Fleetlines and Leyland Leopards which have occurred recently.

Service Revisions

Details of service revisions to be introduced from 29 January will be found under Eastern National notes.

General

Increased fares came into operation on 1 January 1979.

Despite the recent snow falls Leyland PD3 open-toppers remain in use. 312 (PHJ 951) operated on services 25/A on 12 January and on service 2 four days later. 314 (PHJ 953) recently suffered accident damage, this vehicle was noted on service as recently as 18 January. Further unusual workings are recorded in issue number 31 of the 'Southend Busman'.

The following ex. London Transport A.E.C. Swifts were noted at Tickfield Road works recently undergoing overhaul :

SMD 65/71/4/80/1/7 (AML 65H etc.), 384/8, 414/7/27/30/2/41/8 (EGN 384J etc.)

SMS 598 (EGN 598J), 796, 837 (JGK 796, 837K)

In additional SMD 427 (EGN 427J) has been repainted in dark blue livery and is in London Road garage, owner and use not known.

Leyland PD3/1 YFR 351, ex Blackpool Borough Transport, is being converted to a playbus at the works.

The Christmas Day working on service 400 was operated by Daimler Fleetline 386 (JTD 386P).

INDEPENDENT OPERATORS

Osborne, Tollesbury

Application has been made to withdraw service 1 (Tollesbury - Layer - Colchester) on Sundays. This operator has also acquired an ex. Eastern National Bristol FLF.

EASTERN NATIONAL DISPOSALS (By kind courtesy of the P.S.V. Circle, continued from NS177)

421	(GVW983H)	-	Crawford, Neilston, 9/78, ex. dealer, Grays.
9423	(LWC974J)	-	Continental Pioneer, Richmond, 54.
9424	(LWC975J)	-	Continental Pioneer, Richmond, 55.
425	(LWC976J)	-	Continental Pioneer, Richmond, 56.
1229	(29 ENO)	-	Breaker, Carlton, 8/78, ex. London Borough of Waltham Forest.
1230	(30 ENO)	-	Breaker, Carlton, 8/78, ex. London Borough of Waltham Forest.
1231	(31 ENO)	-	Breaker, Carlton, 8/78, ex. London Borough of Waltham Forest.
1242	(438 FEV)	-	15th Ealing Scout Troup (N-PSV), 7/78, ex. London Borough of Waltham Forest.
1244	(1859 F)	-	Breaker, Carlton, 8/78, ex. London Borough of Waltham Forest.
1245	(1860 F)	-	Breaker, Carlton, 8/78, ex. London Borough of Waltham Forest.

NOTE

If you wish to be included in the gratis circulation of the bi-monthly 'Southend Busman' just send a note and a 7p stamp to the Chairman. (offer closes February 25)