

Subscription Renewals for 1987

If your membership subscription expires in December 1986 you will find a Membership Renewal Advice form enclosed with this news sheet. There is a small increase in subscription rates to cover the recent increase in postage rates and other increases in the cost of materials. We regret that we are unable to offer the special two year subscriptions on this occasion. All subscriptions should be paid to Membership Secretary, Bob Palmer as soon as possible, and please return the renewal advice with your cheque or Postal Order. With forthcoming changes in our news sheet production and distribution, it would be appreciated if members could renew their subscriptions as soon as possible to ensure that the January news sheet is not delayed. Bob Palmer thanks everybody, in advance, for their co-operation.

Committee Member Vacancies

All members will have received a special letter during the past two weeks with details of two important vacancies on the Group's 1987 Committee. These vacancies are for the News Sheet Editor and the News Sheet Assistant Editor, and if you are interested in either of these positions please write direct to Alan Osborne (Chairman & Founder) at 7, Farley Drive, Seven Kings, Ilford, Essex. IG3 8LT by November 29th. We are also seeking a new storage location for the Group's sales stock, and please contact Alan Osborne if you can help in this respect. We earnestly hope that members will support the Group by offering to fill the above vacancies, and a special Committee meeting will be held on Sunday, December 7th to which all interested members will be invited.

Rochford Meeting - Tuesday, December 2nd.

The next meeting at the Carriage Room, Freight House, Bradley Way, Rochford will be held on Tuesday, December 2nd commencing at 1930 hrs. This meeting will be the Group's Christmas Social evening. There will be no specific entertainment, but food including mince pies and sausage rolls will be provided. The bar will be open throughout the evening. The Group's sales stand will be present, and members with items to sell are invited to bring them along provided that they contact the Events Secretary, Richard Delahoy (Tel. Southend 588590) beforehand. There will be a cover charge of £0.50 per person at this meeting, to help meet costs of the food.

Photograph - Great Eastern Railway Steam Buses

Group member Peter Carr has recently obtained a photograph of two Great Eastern Railway steam buses (registration numbers BJ 318 and BJ 319) outside Chelmsford railway station between 1905 and 1908. He has made a negative of this photograph, and copies are available to members at a price of £0.40 each. If you are interested in obtaining a copy, please write direct to Peter Carr at 11, Marlands, Sawbridgeworth, Hertfordshire, CM21 9DP, and you should enclose a suitable stamped addressed envelope.

Essex County Council Publications

Essex County Council has now published ten timetable booklets to coincide with the major service revisions introduced from October 26th. These booklets are as follows :-

- Bishops Stortford/Saffron Walden area (Area 1)
- Braintree/Halstead/Witham area (Area 2)
- Colchester area (Area 3)
- Clacton/Walton/Harwich area (Area 4)
- Harlow area (Area 5)
- Loughton/Epping/Ongar area (Area 6)
- Chelmsford/South Woodham/Ferrers/Maldon area (Area 7)
- Brentwood area (Area 8)
- Basildon area (Area 9)
- Grays/Tilbury area (Area 10)

A separate leaflet has been published listing changes to bus services in the Southend, Castle Point and Rochford areas.

Copies of these timetable booklets are available from the Administrative Officer (P.W. Harvey Esq., 19, Watkins Way, Shoeburyness, Essex. SS3 9NX.) at the following

prices - 1 booklet ~~£0.57~~, 2 booklets ~~£1.00~~, 3 booklets ~~£1.51~~, 4 booklets ~~£2.00~~, 5 booklets ~~£2.45~~, 6 booklets ~~£3.10~~, 7 booklets ~~£3.55~~, 8 booklets ~~£4.30~~, 9 booklets ~~£4.65~~, or 10 booklets ~~£5.40~~. All prices are inclusive of postage and packing, and the Southend area leaflet will be supplied free of charge with all orders. Alternatively, this leaflet can be obtained by sending a C5 size stamped addressed envelope (which is the same size as your news sheet envelope) to the Administrative Officer.

We apologise for the delays that have occurred in recent weeks in supplying timetables ordered by post. This has been due to delays in the receipt of timetables from Essex County Council, and the situation should improve during the next two weeks.

Preserved Vehicle Storage

A Group member is seeking covered storage accommodation for a preserved Eastern National coach, preferably in the Essex area. If any member knows of any suitable locations, which offers secure, dry accommodation, would they please contact the News Sheet Editor at the address given at the end of this news sheet.

EASTERN NATIONAL OMNIBUS CO. LTD.

New Vehicles

Further deliveries of Mercedes-Benz L608D mini-buses have taken place, and details are as follows :-

0226	D226PPU	Mercedes-Benz L608D	310327-20-764448	Reeve Burgess B20F	15931
0237	D237PPU	Mercedes-Benz L608D	310327-20-774684	Dormobile B20F	S6672-M616-86
0238	D238PPU	Mercedes-Benz L608D	310327-20-771991	Dormobile B20F	S6673-M616-86
0239	D239PPU	Mercedes-Benz L608D	310327-20-775828	Dormobile B20F	S6674-M616-86
0240	D240PPU	Mercedes-Benz L608D	310327-20-774990	Dormobile B20F	S6675-M616-86
0242	D242PPU	Mercedes-Benz L608D	310327-20-773838	Dormobile B20F	S6677-M616-86
0243	D243PPU	Mercedes-Benz L608D	310327-20-775349	Dormobile B20F	S6678-M616-86
0244	D244PPU	Mercedes-Benz L608D	310327-20-765882	Dormobile B20F	S6679-M616-86

Delivery dates : 0226-October 17th; 0237/40-October 21st; 0238/42-October 20th; 0242-October 22nd; 0239/43 were delivered during late-October.

The chassis and body numbers of 0225 (D225PPU) are 310327-20-769141 and 15930 respectively, and this completes the information published in last month's news sheet.

This batch of vehicles will have Reeve Burgess bodywork (0225-34) and Dormobile bodywork (0235-44). Delivery of the Dormobile bodied vehicles has now been completed, and the remaining Reeve Burgess vehicles (0227-34) are expected to be delivered by late-November. All twenty vehicles will be allocated to Brentwood (MD) depot for mini-bus operations in Brentwood and LRT service 193 ('Hornchurch Hoppa'). 0226/35/41 were noted in service on LRT service 193 by October 23rd (see also NS271), but without the special 'Hornchurch Hoppa' vinyls.

Further to the unconfirmed reports mentioned in last month's news sheet, the Company has also now received seven Ford Transit VE6 mini-buses with Dormobile D16F bodywork, and details are as follows :-

0750	D750RWC	Ford Transit VE6	BDVVGJ30362	Dormobile D16F	S7100-F990-86
0751	D751RWC	Ford Transit VE6	BDVVGJ30363	Dormobile D16F	S7101-F990-86
0752	D752RWC	Ford Transit VE6	BDVVGJ30364	Dormobile D16F	S7102-F990-86
0753	D753RWC	Ford Transit VE6	BDVVGJ30365	Dormobile D16F	S7103-F990-86
0754	D754RWC	Ford Transit VE6	BDVVGJ30366	Dormobile D16F	S7104-F990-86
0755	D755RWC	Ford Transit VE6	BDVVGJ31780	Dormobile D16F	S7105-F990-86
0756	D756RWC	Ford Transit VE6	BDVVGJ31781	Dormobile D16F	S7106-F990-86

Delivery dates : 0750/3/6-October 22nd; 0754-October 21st; 0751/2/5 were delivered by October 26th.

These vehicles are fitted with the latest (new shape) Ford Transit front cowl, and carry a new style of Dormobile bodywork. They have entered service at Chelmsford (CF) (0750-3/6) and South Woodham Ferrers (SW) (0754/5) depots on mini-bus services 37, 38, 42 and 57. They were delivered with 12 volt electrical systems, and this has meant that manual Setright ticket machines have been used on the vehicles pending the fitting of electrical boosters from November 10th onwards to enable Wayfarer ticket equipment to be carried.

Some very surprising news is that the Company has owned three Dova EL26/581 integral coaches since 1983, and details of these vehicles have only recently become available. The three coaches were new in 7/83 and have been on extended lease to National Travel (London) Ltd. However, the lease is now approaching completion, and the vehicles are being returned to the Company. Unconfirmed reports have indicated that the three vehicles will now enter service with Eastern National. Details of these vehicles are as follows :-

BGX649Y	Dova EL26/581	02155	Dova C49Ft	1745	New 7/83
BGX650Y	Dova EL26/581	02156	Dova C49Ft	1746	New 7/83
A651CMY	Dova EL26/581	02169	Dova C49Ft	1759	New 7/83

These coaches are the Dova EL26/581 Europa 2 model and are fitted with toilets. They carried video equipment whilst with National Travel (London) Ltd., but this equipment is being removed prior to the vehicles being returned to Eastern National. At the time of writing, BGX649Y and BGX650Y were at Central Works, Chelmsford, and A651CMY is due to be returned shortly. BGX649/50Y carried Page & Moy Holidays livery from new, whilst A651CMY initially carried a white livery, but was repainted in National Express Rapide livery ca. 5/85. This latter vehicle was also loaned to United Automobile Services Ltd. ca. 2/84. Further information regarding these three coaches will be published as soon as it becomes available.

Withdrawn Vehicles

Leyland National's 1759/83/94 and 1815 have now passed to Wilts & Dorset Bus Co. Ltd., although their new fleet numbers remain unknown at the time of writing, with the exception that 1815 (VN0738S) is numbered 3763 in the Wilts & Dorset fleet. It was noted operating Salisbury town services on October 25th. The vehicles were repainted in Wilts & Dorset livery by Eastern National as follows :- 1759 at CW (w/e 1.11.86), 1783 at CW (w/e 25.10.86), 1794 at HH (w/e 25.10.86) and 1815 at MN (w/e 25.10.86).

Acquired Vehicles

The main news this month is that the Company has acquired twenty Bristol VRT double-deck vehicles from Milton Keynes City Bus Ltd. during late-October. The vehicles will be numbered 3200-19 in the Eastern National fleet, and details are listed below. All of these vehicles were new to United Counties Omnibus Co. Ltd. at the dates listed, but they were transferred to Milton Keynes City Bus Ltd. on January 1st, 1986 upon the formation of that new company.

3200	JRP801L	Bristol	VRTSL6G	VRT/SL-2/534	E.C.W. H39/31F	19958	New	7/73
3201	RNV810M	Bristol	VRTSL6G	VRT/SL-2/725	E.C.W. H43/31F	20604	New	3/74
3202	HDD163N	Bristol	VRTSL6G	VRT/SL-2/935	E.C.W. H43/31F	20612	New	2/75
3203	HRP671N	Bristol	VRTSL6G	VRT/SL-2/978	E.C.W. H43/31F	21204	New	5/75
3204	LDD840P	Bristol	VRTSL6G	VRT/SL-3/150	E.C.W. H43/31F	21213	New	10/75
3205	ORD841P	Bristol	VRTSL6G	VRT/SL-3/371	E.C.W. H43/31F	21762	New	7/76
3206	ORD843P	Bristol	VRTSL6G	VRT/SL-3/379	E.C.W. H43/31F	21766	New	7/76
3207	RRP857R	Bristol	VRTSL6G	VRT/SL-3/602	E.C.W. H43/31F	22236	New	1/77
3208	RRP859R	Bristol	VRTSL6G	VRT/SL-3/604	E.C.W. H43/31F	22238	New	1/77
3209	XNV882S	Bristol	VRTSL6G	VRT/SL-3/1214	E.C.W. H43/31F	22705	New	2/78
3210	XNV883S	Bristol	VRTSL6G	VRT/SL-3/1215	E.C.W. H43/31F	22706	New	2/78
3211	XNV884S	Bristol	VRTSL6G	VRT/SL-3/1216	E.C.W. H43/31F	22707	New	2/78
3212	YVW896S	Bristol	VRTSL6G	VRT/SL-3/1377	E.C.W. H43/31F	23339	New	6/78
3213	ORD901T	Bristol	VRTSL6G	VRT/SL-3/1530	E.C.W. H43/31F	23344	New	10/78
3214	FRP905T	Bristol	VRTSL6G	VRT/SL-3/1835	E.C.W. H43/31F	23348	New	4/79
3215	FRP906T	Bristol	VRTSL6G	VRT/SL-3/1836	E.C.W. H43/31F	23349	New	4/79
3216	FRP907T	Bristol	VRTSL6G	VRT/SL-3/1837	E.C.W. H43/31F	23350	New	4/79
3217	HDD913T	Bristol	VRTSL6G	VRT/SL-3/1948	E.C.W. H43/31F	24071	New	7/79
3218	LDD922V	Bristol	VRTSL6G	VRT/SL-3/2136	E.C.W. H43/31F	24080	New	1/80
3219	ONH924V	Bristol	VRTSL6G	VRT/SL-3/2354	E.C.W. H43/31F	24082	New	5/80

These vehicles were originally numbered 801/10/26/31/40/1/3/57/9/82-4/96, 901/5-7/13/22/4 in the United Counties fleet, and have been latterly numbered 3801/10, 3163, 3671, 3840/1/3/57/9/82-4/96, 3901/5-7/13/22/4 respectively in the Milton Keynes City Bus fleet.

3205/6 (ORD841/3P) were originally fitted with Leyland 501 engine units, but they were re-engined with second-hand Gardner GLXB engine units in 9/82 and 10/82 respectively. The second-hand engines were acquired by United Counties from AP.T. (dealer), Dracebridge

Heath. 3208 (RRP859R) was painted in an experimental Milton Keynes City Bus livery by United Counties in 4/83, and this was a yellow and green livery with Citybus fleetnames. 3217-9 have moquette seats, whilst 3219 (ONH924V) was fitted with Transign electronic destination display equipment ca. 11/80, and this equipment is still carried on this vehicle.

The vehicles were all delivered to Eastern National during late-October, and mainly during October 29th-31st. They are stored at a number of locations, and at the time of writing the situation was as follows :- Central Works (CW)-3204/5/10, Maldon (MN)-3207, Chelmsford (CF)-3208, Hadleigh (HE)-3200/1/18, Basildon (IN)-3209/11, Silver End (SE)-3206/13, Clacton (CN)-3214-6, Colchester (CR)-3202/3/12/9, Southend (SD)-3214.

At Colchester, 3212 (YVV896S) and 3219 (ONH924V) have received new style Eastern National fleetnames, but otherwise remain in UCOG/Milton Keynes City Bus livery, and 3212 was noted in use on service 88 on November 4th. It is understood that 16 of these vehicles are scheduled for service on LRT services, principally on LRT service 359 from January 26th, 1987, and that the other four vehicles will be allocated to Colchester (CR) depot.

Further to the information published in last month's news sheet regarding the four Leyland National 10351A/1R vehicles (1500-3) acquired during October from Wilts & Dorset Bus Co. Ltd., the chassis numbers of these vehicles are 03744-7 respectively. They were first licensed in 10/76 (1500/1) and 11/76 (1502/3). 1501/3 (PJT256/CR) were delivered to Eastern National on October 22nd, with 1500/2 being delivered shortly afterwards. 1501-3 entered service from Bishop's Stortford (BS) depot in red livery with yellow Eastern National fleetnames, whilst 1500 (PJT255R) was repainted into Eastern National fleet livery (new style) at Central Works during w/e. 1/11.86. The vehicles have now entered service on Hertfordshire County Council contract service 341 (Hertford-Marshallswick), although it is understood that they do operate other services from Bishop's Stortford (BS) depot.

Vehicles On Order

An article in the Evening Gazette newspaper on October 28th indicated that the Company is intending to introduce mini-bus services in Braintree during early-1987, and that eleven 20 seat vehicles are on order for these services. The report stated that the Company is awaiting a delivery date for the vehicles before announcing the routes to be operated. No official information is yet available regarding these eleven vehicles. The same newspaper report also indicated that mini-bus services will be introduced in Witham during late-January, although it is understood that existing vehicles, possibly Ford Transit's 0600-4, will be used on these services.

Vehicles On Hire

As a correction to the information published in last month's news sheet, it can now be confirmed that the Ford Transit mini-bus currently on hire from Canbus Ltd. is 2010 (0297MEG), and not 2001 (C900LEW) as incorrectly reported. Full details of this vehicle are as follows :-

Canbus 2010 0297MEG Ford Transit 190D BDVYFR95898 Dormobile B16F S4458-975-05

This vehicle was new in 9/85, and has been used on Peterborough city services by Canbus Ltd. At the time of writing, it remains on hire to Eastern National, and it has now been re-allocated from Enfield (ED) depot to a Pool vehicle (PL (P)) for use on driver training work. It is uncertain whether the vehicle was used in service from Enfield (ED) depot.

Southdown Bristol VRTSL6L 266 (JWV266W) was returned to Southdown on September 30th (correction to NS271), with Leyland Olympian 4010 (G418LJN) returning to Eastern National on the same date.

All United Counties vehicles on hire to the Company during October (see NS271) were returned to United Counties on October 25th. Latterly, Leyland National 559 (ERP559T) had been in use at Bishop's Stortford (BS) depot (see also NS271).

As a correction to last month's news sheet, Maidstone & District Mercedes-Benz L600D/Rootes B20F mini-bus 1020 (C220EKJ) was returned to Maidstone & District by October 10th.

All six Alder Valley North Ltd. Ford Transit mini-buses (322/3/5-8) have now been returned to Alder Valley North. 325 (DB25UTF) was repainted at Central Works (w/e. 25.10.86) into Alder Valley North's latest livery, prior to being returned.

To summarise the current situation, the only vehicle now remaining on hire to the Company is Canbus 2010 (G297MEG).

Allocations & Transfers

As many members will have observed, extensive vehicle re-allocations took effect from October 26th. They are detailed in the Company's vehicle allocation list for November, and are recorded below as this month's allocations and transfers. However, in most cases, the vehicles were re-allocated from October 26th, and in a few cases during the preceding week.

11.86 0120 CR-BE, 0219 WN-CN, 0225 D/L-BD, 0226 D/L-BD, 0235 D/L-BD, 0236 D/L-BD, 0237 D/L-BD, 0238 D/L-BD, 0239 D/L-BD, 0240 D/L-BD, 0241 D/L-BD, 0242 D/L-BD, 0243 D/L-BD, 0244 D/L-BD, 0600 BD-ED, 0601 BD-PL (P), 0750 D/L-CF, 0751 D/L-CF, 0752 D/L-CF, 0753 D/L-CF, 0754 D/L-CF, 0755 D/L-SW, 0756 D/L-SW, 1050 DS-ED, 1055 BD-ED, 1056 DS-ED, 1058 DS-ED, 1117 DT-CN, 1119 BE-DS, 1120 BE-DS, 1126 SE-DS, 1131 SD-CF, 1133 CR-SD, 1300 CN-BE, 1301 CN-SE, 1307 CN-BE, 1308 DT-PL (P), 1310 SE-CN, 1500 LWA-DS, 1501 LWA-DS, 1502 LWA-DS, 1503 LWA-DS, 1653 DT-SE, 1718 CR-BE, 1721 DN-HH, 1723 DN-HH, 1726 CR-BE, 1738 DN-SD, 1761 CN-DS, 1768 CN-DS, 1769 CN-DS, 1782 CR-BE, 1792 CN-DS, 1809 BD-SD, 1823 BD-SD, 1828 CR-BE, 1837 BD-SD, 1838 BD-SD, 1865 CN-BE, 1870 CF-MN, 1872 CR-CN, 1875 CR-SE, 1897 CR-HH, 1931 MN-SW, 3001 CN-PL (P), 3018 MN-PL (P), 3021 CF-MN, 3024 BE-DT, 3029 BE-CR, 3039 DS-CR, 3052 PL (P)-DN, 3057 SD-CF, 3062 SD-PD, 3072 SD-PD, 3081 ED-ED, 3094 BD-MN, 3114 DS-CR, 3500 CN-PL (P), 3501 CN-PL (P).

Although officially allocated to Southend (SD), Leyland National 1730 is operating from Hadleigh (HH) depot and carries HH depot plates. The two Ford Transit mini-buses operating from South Woodham Ferrers (SW) are actually 0754/5, whilst 0756 is operating from Chelmsford (CF).

Bristol VRTSL6G's 3020/2/3 (OWC293K etc.) remain allocated to Colchester (CR). However, it is reported that they are currently not in use at Colchester on a regular basis, and have been loaned to various other depots.

Bristol REEL6G 1548 (WN0537L) remains Delicensed for Disposal (D/L (D)). However, it is no longer in use as a temporary office at Walthamstow (WW) depot, and it was moved to the driver training vehicle yard at New Writtle Street, Chelmsford during late-October. The Company's vehicle allocation list indicates that the vehicle is for use as a driver training vehicle.

Bristol VRTSL6G 3002 (CPU981G) has now been allocated for permanent use on driver training work at Chelmsford (CF), and this vehicle is no longer licensed for PSV operation. Accordingly, it should now be regarded as part of the service vehicle fleet, having been withdrawn from the operational fleet during September or October.

Service Vehicles

As noted above, Bristol VRTSL6G 3002 (CPU981G) should now be regarded as part of the service vehicle fleet.

The driver training vehicle fleet is currently Bristol VRTSL6G's 3000/2/3/4 (CPU979G etc.) and Bristol VRELL6G 9021 (LFS300F) all of which are allocated to Chelmsford (CF).

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 NS270/1 :-

September w/e 20.9.86 - 1793 at CN (New livery), 1817 at HH (New livery), 3085 at CW (New livery).

w/e 27.9.86 - 1872 at CN (New livery), 1901 at CN (New livery), 1920 at CN (New livery)

October w/e 25.10.86 - 1866 at CW (Overall advertisement livery for BDO Essex).

November w/e 1.11.86 - 1500 at CW (New livery), 1737 at HH (New livery).

Leyland National 1866 (YEV324S) has now entered service from Chelmsford (CF) depot in its overall advertisement livery for BDO Essex, which is predominantly yellow, orange and red.

It is not yet possible to confirm the repaint date for Leyland National 1875 (see NS271).

Service Developments

The Company has registered further services during recent weeks, together with certain variations to other registered services, and brief details are as follows :-

- 20 (Southend-Hullbridge) - Daily : one additional journey.
- 22 (Southend-Hullbridge) - Mondays to Fridays : one additional journey.
- 311 (Chelmsford-Halstead) - Schooldays : 1545 hrs. journey from Chelmer Valley School to be advanced to 1535 hrs.

Additionally, London Regional Transport services 20, 167 and 206 and Essex County Council services 252, 253 and 254 in the Waltham Abbey area have now been registered.

Other operators have continued to register certain services following tenders awarded by Essex County Council. W.H. Nelson Coaches (Wickford) Ltd., Wickford has registered services 222 (Basildon-North Benfleet) on Weekdays, 224 (Wickford-Chelmsford) on Tuesdays, Fridays and Saturdays, 227 (West Hammingfield-Wickford) on Mondays only, 241 (Langdon Hills-Pitsea) on Sundays only, 242 (Basildon-Pipps Hill Industrial Estate) on Mondays to Fridays, 243 (Basildon-Gardiners Lane, York Factory) on Mondays to Fridays and 244 (Langdon Hills-Pitsea via Felmores and Chalvedon) on Sundays only. Robin Staines (t/a Clintona Minicoaches), Brentwood has registered services 18 (Southend-Foulness) on Weekdays, 223 (Ramsden Heath-Wickford) on Weekdays and service 262 (Bishops Hall Estate-Hornbeam Close) on Weekday evenings and Sundays. Stephensons Coaches, Southend-on-Sea has registered services 26/26A (Highlands, Woodlands Park-Leigh Church - 26 via Leigh Station and 26A via Western Road) on Weekdays. UMBH (Southend) Ltd. (t/a UMLH Coaches), Southend-on-Sea has registered services 10 (Southend-Paglesham) on Sundays only, 12 (Southend-Wallasea Island) on Sundays only and 24 (Southend-Thundersley, Woodmans Arms) on Weekday evenings and Sundays. L.F. Watson and F.G. Spence (t/a Venturer Travel) has registered services 6 (Southend-Eastwood) on Sundays only and 21 (Southchurch-Leigh) on Mondays to Fridays. Heddingham & District Omnibuses Ltd. has registered a large number of services, and summary details of these routes are 12 (Twinstead-Halstead), 14 (Saffron Walden circular), 18 (Haverhill-Saffron Walden), 20 (Dulmer-Braintree), 21 (Fuller Street-Witham), 22 (Black Notley-Witham), 23 (Steeple Bumpstead-Braintree), 19 (Sible Heddingham-Haverhill), 59 (Haverhill-Clavering), 60 (Audley End-Saffron Walden), 77 (Great Tey-Kelvedon), 84 (Langham-Colchester), 85 (Mistley-Brightlingsea), 86 (Aingers Green-Colchester), 90 (Witham-Ebenezer Close), 90/90A (Maldon-Witham), 312 (Braintree-Broomfield Hospital), 314 (Stebbing-Braintree), 320 (Braintree-Springwood Industrial Estate), 324 (Coggeshall-Braintree), 325 (Halstead-Braintree), 327 (Watchouse Green-Braintree), 329 (Halstead circular), 331/2 (Braintree-Great Bardfield), 333 (Great Dunmow-Finchingfield) and 345 (Fuller Street-Braintree). F.C. Moore Ltd. (t/a Viceroy Coaches), Saffron Walden has registered services 305 (Takeley-Saffron Walden) on Tuesdays and Fridays and 318 (Bishop's Stortford-Thaxted) on Thursdays and Saturdays. Chartercoach (Harwich) Ltd. (t/a Coastal Red), Great Oakley has applied to extend services 126/226 from Great Oakley to Harwich. Biss Bros., Bishop's Stortford has registered services 302 (Bishop's Stortford-Saffron Walden) on Weekdays, 317 (Henham-Bishop's Stortford) on Weekdays and 349 (Harlow-Chelmsford) on Tuesdays, Fridays and Saturdays. Full details of these services, which include several former Eastern National routes, are contained in the Essex County Council timetable booklets.

The main news this month is of course that the Company introduced its commercial network of services from October 26th, and details of these services are contained in the range of timetable leaflets produced by the Company and summarised (where known) under Publicity News. Mini-bus services were introduced in Brentwood (services A1, A2, B, C1 and C2), Chelmsford (services 42 and 57) and South Woodham Ferrers (services 37 and 38) from October 27th. However, it is understood that service B in Brentwood will be revised from December 1st, to include a new service (numbered B1), following objections from some local residents regarding the routing of this service.

In the Basildon area, services have not been numbered in the sequence listed in NS265, but have retained service numbers in the 2XX and 5XX series, and this was a decision taken shortly before deregulation.

The Company is also operating a considerable number of services under contract to Essex County Council, and details of these services are also contained in the Essex County Council timetable booklets, and in some instances in the Company's own timetable leaflets. Vehicles operating these services carry a small vinyl sticker in the windscreen indicating that the service is being operated under contract to Essex County Council.

From at least October 16th, eastbound journeys on services using the A120 near Bishop's Stortford were diverted via a new airport link road from the Start Hill roundabout and then along an existing road adjoining the western boundary of Stansted Airport to rejoin the A120 near Threshall Farm. Westbound journeys were unaffected, and the normal eastbound route was resumed on November 3rd.

Following the allocation of an additional three Bristol VRT's (3062/72/81) to Ponders End (PD) depot, a full timetable was introduced on LRT service 307 (Brinsdown Station-Barnet (Arkley Hotel)) from October 25th. On Mondays to Fridays the service now runs along Wood Street to a temporary terminus at Ravenscroft Park to provide a more convenient service for Barnet General Hospital.

It is understood that the Company will commence operation of LRT service 359 (Manor House-Hammond Street) from January 26th, 1987. During the period from October 26th to January 25th the service is being operated by London Country (North East) Ltd. with Leyland Atlantean's from Harlow (HA) depot.

Operation of service 341 between Hertford (Balls Park) and Marshalswick (Sherwood Avenue) commenced from October 27th with Leyland National's 1500-3. However, local reports have indicated that London Country (North East) vehicles were still observed on the service during the first few days of Eastern National operation, although this has now apparently ceased.

With Hedingham & District Omnibuses Ltd. taking over operation of service 328 (Sudbury-Great Cornard), Eastern National now only operate Highwayman services and two other limited-stop services (X22 Clacton-Ipswich and X23 Harwich-Ipswich) into Suffolk, together with a Suffolk County Council contract service, numbered 754 between Higham and Colchester on Wednesdays only. Leyland National 1892 was noted on this latter service on October 29th.

The Company commenced operation of Colchester town services on Sundays from October 26th, and on that date the pattern of operation was as follows :- services 1/1A-4003 CR and 4004 CR, services 2/4A/5A/6A (inter-worked at High Street and Head Street)-1793 CR, 1888 CR and 1936 CR, service 20-1910 CR, service 4-1790 CR, service 70-1316 CR and service 8-1911 CR. On the following Sunday (November 2nd), 1115 CR was noted on the morning service 70 journey, whilst 3078 CR was noted on services 1/1A. Destination displays are by means of plastic signs in the nearside front windscreen, except that the Leyland Olympian's (4003/4) show Ambrose Avenue and Greenstead South on their Transign equipment.

General

Work is progressing on converting Prittlewell (PL) depot into an operational building to replace the premises at London Road, Southend (SD). All the buildings on the Prittlewell site have now been demolished, except for the steelwork and roof of the east bay (nearest to Victoria Avenue). Steelwork for an office block is being erected at the front of that bay. It is understood that apart from this area of covered accommodation, the entire depot will comprise open air parking. The planned closure date for Southend (SD) depot is unknown at present.

Members interested in management and financial systems may care to know that an article on the Company's computerised financial systems appeared in the October edition of the computer magazine ICL Today. The article confirms that a management buyout is planned, and also provides information on the new Wayfarer ticket systems.

Further to the information published in last month's news sheet, it should also be noted that Leyland National's 1797 (TJN496R) and 1810 (TJN509R) also do not carry Walthamstow (WW) depot allocation plates. Bristol VRTSL6G 3109 (UAR599W) has a yellow fleet number plate at the front and a green plate at the rear, whilst Bristol VRT's on LRT service 20 are now displaying side advertisements for new service X51.

The Company has recently advertised for drivers to be based at Bishop's Stortford and Hertford, suggesting that an outstation may be opened at Hertford for service 341.

Leyland National's based at Brentwood (BD) depot now carry a vinyl new style Eastern National fleetname below the front windscreen, and are at present readily distinguishable by this feature.

Mr. Martin Lewis, District Manager for the Company's Brentwood and Havering District, has been appointed to a post in connection with United Transport's Manchester mini-bus project. Our congratulations go to Mr. Lewis on his new appointment.

Publicity News

The News Sheet Editor wishes to thank those Company staff and Group members who have kindly supplied copies of the new publicity material during recent weeks. There are still some gaps in our coverage, particularly for the Company's Colchester area operations and also for independent operations throughout Essex and any spare timetable leaflets would be very much appreciated.

Details of the publicity material known to the News Sheet Editor are as follows :-

Eastern National timetable leaflets - LRT service 307 (dated October 25th).
 - Brentwood area mini-bus services (A,B,C) (effective October 27th).
 - Buses in the Clacton area (4 page leaflet).
 - Bus Service Changes (Southend and District) (12 page leaflet).
 - Canvey Connection (20 page leaflet).
 - Leaflets for the following services - 11/11A; 31/31X; 31A; 32/452; 33; 35; 36; 37/38 (South Woodham 'Fermier'; 40/40A; 41A/41B; 42 ('Minilink'); 43; 44/45; 44A/44B; 47/50/51; 48/48A; 49/50/59; 53; 53/353 (Summary); 55/55A/56/56A/56B; 57 ('Minilink'); 70/X70/370; 70/X70/333/353/370 (Summary); 94/94A; 97X/98X; 103/104; 119; 150/150; 151 (two versions); 152/153/154/155; 157; 220/221/222; 229; 232/233/234; 235/236; 237; 251; 257; 301; 303/304/309; 311; 321/330; 333; 337; 341; 350/351/352 (two versions); 353; 405; 406; 502/503/505/524; 520/521/523; 522; 549; 550/551; 712; Buses serving Stansted Airport; Bus services from Silver End; X51; Essex 400's (services 400/2); Buses from Kelvedon Hatch/Tipps Cross/Pilgrims Hatch; Buses in Harold Hill; Buses in Harwich; Buses between Southend and Landwick (service 4); Buses between Southend and Access House (service 61A); services 24/24A. (Other leaflets are known to exist for services X15 (two versions) and 795).

Essex County Council leaflets - Countywide Concessionary Travel Scheme for Essex.
 - Further editions of 'The Complete Bus Guide' leaflet were published for the Colchester, Grays and Uttlesford areas.

National Express leaflets - pocket timetable card for services 081/083 (Ipswich/Chelmsford to London).

Eastern Counties timetable leaflets - a leaflet (dated October 26th) for services 92/93 (Ipswich-Colchester).

Eastern National 'Bus Shop' - a leaflet with details of Eastern National's 'Bus Shop' at 35, London Road, Hadleigh.

Hedingham & District Omnibuses Ltd. leaflets - a leaflet for service 328 (Sudbury-Great Cornard).

Venturer Travel leaflets - timetable leaflets for services 19 and 403 (two versions for each service) (see also NS270).

Asda (Shoeburyness) leaflet - a timetable leaflet with details of free bus services to/from Asda, North Shoebury Road, Southend-on-Sea (dated October 21st).

TV Taxis leaflet - a route map for 'TV Taxis' three 'Hail and Ride' bus services in the Southend area (dated October 26th).

Castlepoint Bus Company leaflet - a timetable leaflet for services 1/1A, 2/2A (Canvey Island-South Benfleet (Rail Station)).

Eastern National also circulated a four page 'Bus Lines' supplement throughout Essex with the Yellow Advertiser series of free newspapers. The front and back pages had a standard format with photographs of management and vehicles, whilst the centre two pages contained local service information.

Finally, it should be noted that the Company's Braintree and Uttlesford District is now titled Braintree, Uttlesford and East Herts District; and this revised title appears on the latest publicity.

Temporary Loans

The only vehicles to be noted on temporary loan during recent weeks have been 1760 BD and 3022 CR both of which have been operating services from Maldon (MN) depot, with 3022 CR being noted on the Ingatestone school contract service on November 14th.

Unusual Workings

This month's notes on unusual workings feature details of a number of 'first' and 'last' workings on services before and after October 26th. Details reported by members during recent weeks are as follows :-

- 10.10-2384 L noted still at Southend (SD) depot - it had retained its carnival decorations until late-September.
- 12.10-Southend Transport 252 operated a private hire journey (for Laser Travel) from Southend to Kidderminster.
- 13.10-Southend Transport 208 failed on service X1 at Orsett Cock, with an engine failure.
- 18.10-1915 WW noted at Prince Avenue (A127), Southend-on-Sea; Southend Transport 345 and 346 operated a private hire journey (for Venturer Travel) from Lewisham to Blackpool. 346 failed at Birmingham on the return journey with fuel problems, and was replaced by THA404W, a Ford R1114/Duple of Central Coachways, Walsall, which was also noted at the London Road depot on 19.10.
- 19.10-Extensive rail replacement services continue to be provided on Sundays between Shenfield and Witham due to major rebuilding work at Chelmsford Station. Vehicles noted on this service have been as follows :-
 - 19.10-1862, 4013-5 (all SE), 3095 CR, UCOC 863/78, 3035/54/69/82/91/3, 3111 (all CF), 3063 DE, 3049/51/79 (all MN).
 - 26.10-3033/69/77/82/3/91, 3106/11/2, 4005/6 (all CF), 3038/49/51 (all MN), 3059, 4013-5 (all SE), 4012 BD, 4016/7 (both DE), 3070, 3127 (both CR).
 - 2.11-1881 BD, 3054/7/82/3/91, 3111, 4005/6 (all CF), 3070 SW, 3041/55/9, 4014/5 (all SE), 3128 DE, 4003/4 (both CR).
 - 9.11-3030/94 (both MN), 3054/82/3, 3106/11/2, 4005/6 (all CF), 3070 SW, 4012 BD, 4013-5 (all SE), 3128, 4017 (both DE).
- Observations of services in Colchester on 19.10, the last Sunday before deregulation, were 1816 CR/1935 CR (services 6A/53), 1745 DE/1929 DE (service 70), 1892 CR (service 78), 1865 CN/1936 CR (service 119), 1910 CR (services 70/80), 1834 CN (service 74), 1901 DT (service 103) and 1726 CR on route learning work.
- 22.10-1902 DE noted on service 353; 3070 SW noted on service 38 (and again on 23.10).
- 23.10-1718 CR noted on service 80A - the last journey via Great Tey; Colchester Borough Transport 102 noted on service 5B.
- 24.10-The last service 38A journey was operated by 1833 MN; the last circular services in Colchester were operated by Colchester Borough Transport 56 (service 9), 22 (service 9A), 19 (service 19) and 25 (service 19A), with 28 operating the last short journey from North Station on service 19 and the last outward journey on service 5B.
- 25.10-1718 DE operated the 1200 hrs. Countrycar service from Braintree to Blackmore End, in place of the Peugeot 504 car 1150 (RLX168W) which had sustained accident damage. 1808 CR operated the last service 329 journey, with 1745 DE on the last service 325 journey and 1863 DE on the final service 331 journey. 1899 CF operated the last through journey from Chelmsford to Saffron Walden and return on service 33. 1921 MN operated the last service 38 journey. 1502 DS and 1503 BS were both noted at Braintree (DE) depot, whilst 3070 SW was noted with its 'CityDus' vinyls having been removed. 1924 DE was noted on service 353 and 3055 SE was observed on service 311. Southend Transport 250 operated a private hire journey (for Laser Travel) from Southend to Blackpool.
- 26.10-Observations at Colchester on 'D-Day' included 1133 SD on Highwayman service 804, 1860 CF on service 53A, 1865 CN on services 74A and 74C and 1755 MN on service 119. Coastal Red vehicles noted were JCL813V and OEX797W on service 102, JCL812V on service 129, OEX795W on service 170 and OEX800W on service 188. 1745 DE operated the first service 452 journey to Ongar, whilst 1833 MN operated the first service 31 journey from Maylandsea. 0208 CN was noted at Colchester (Bus Station).
- 27.10-Hedingham & District vehicles noted on new services included L111/2/4/26 on services 90/90A, L89 on services 312/320/324, L95 on services 331/2 and L9C on service 328. This latter service competes directly with a similar operation by H.C. Chambers & Son, which appeared to carry the majority of passengers despite slightly higher fares. 1072 CN was noted on service 119, whilst 1916 DS was observed on new service X70. 2384 L was noted at Colchester (Bus Station).

- 29.10-1123 CR noted on service 83; 1748 DN noted on a Tesco working at Wickford;
 3114 CR was observed on service 119.
- 2.11-1028 DE noted at Colchester (CR) depot for engine repairs with 3061 DT; 1056 CF noted on service 53A; 1070 MN observed on service 119.
- 5.11-1300 PL (F) noted on a schools contract service between Harwich and Colchester; 2200 DN noted on a journey between Althorne and North Fambridge.
- 6.11-3212 (YVW396S) noted on service 7A; 9021 CF noted still in store at Chelmsford (CF) depot.
- 7.11-0211 CN noted at Alresford heading towards Colchester; 4504 SD noted on service 406; Ipswich B.T. 113 noted at Marks Yoy.
- 8.11-0200 CN and 1057 ED both noted on Brentwood mini-bus services 01/02; 1125 SD noted on service 402.

COLCHESTER BOROUGH TRANSPORT LTD.

New Vehicles

It is understood that the two new Leyland Lynx vehicles (31/2) have Leyland TL11 210 b.h.p. engine units, and therefore the chassis designation as published in last month's news sheet is not correct. Further clarification will be published as soon as it becomes available.

Leyland Lynx 31 (D31 RWC) had not been delivered by November 10th. Similar vehicle 32 (D32 RWC) returned to Leyland Bus Ltd. for mechanical attention during mid-October, but it had returned by October 31st. It entered service on Tesco contract service T2 on November 5th. It was noted on service 15 on the following evening, and on services 2/2A on November 7th/8th. At present its normal pattern of operation is to commence on services 2/2A from the Fire Office at 0725 hrs., and it operates these services to 1540 hrs. It then operates a service 2B journey from Highwoods (Gilberd School) at 1550 hrs. (but incorrectly shown as 1540 hrs. in the E.C.C. timetable), and then a duplicate service 8 journey at 1610 hrs. from the Fire Office followed by a service 2B journey from North Station at 1659 hrs. and service 15 journeys at 1755 hrs., 1825 hrs., 1855 hrs. and 1925 hrs. from North Station.

It is understood that when both Leyland Lynx vehicles have been delivered, one will be used on Mondays to Fridays on services 1/1A/1B/3 instead of a Leyland Atlantean, and the second vehicle will be used on services 2/2A instead of a Bristol REML6L. On Saturdays they will both replace Bristol REML6L's on services 2/2A.

A further report has indicated that the chassis designation of Leyland Olympian's 43 and 44 is ONLXC/11H, as reported in NS270.

General

A series of well produced timetable leaflets were published from October 26th. There are nine leaflets in the series covering services 1/1A/1B, 2/2A/2B, 3/6/6A, 4/4A, 5/5A/5B, 7/7A/7C/7D/8, 9/9A, 74A and Free Buses to Tesco (Highwoods).

Open-top Leyland Atlantean 40 (YWC640F) has not been replaced by recent new vehicles, but is currently in store for the Winter period.

Bristol REML6L's 20 (OWC720M) and 26 (SWC 26K) are now back in regular service, and 26 together with 18 (YWC 18L) have both received new engine units. Bristol REML6L's 16 (YWC 16L), 23 (OWC723M) and 28 (SWC 20K) are currently out of use, as are Leyland Atlantean's 51/2 (MVK538/46R), 77 (YNO 77S), 84 (MEV 84V), 89 (RVW 89W) and 90 (RVW 90W).

The first Colchester Borough Transport Ltd. bus to leave the garage was 65 (NNO 65P) to operate the 0610 hrs. service 15 journey on October 27th, although Leyland Leopard coach 401 (DHK101T) was used on a route familiarisation run to Great Tey, Fingringhoe, Clacton and Harwich on October 26th.

Also on October 27th, Leyland Atlantean 61 (NNO 61P) operated the first service 1B journey. Leyland Atlantean's 60 (JHK500N) and 62 (NNO 62P) operated the first inward and outward journeys on service 75 respectively; the destination display on 60 was shown as Colchester.

Bristol REML6L's 23 (SWC 20K) and 20 (OWC720M) operated the first inward and outward journeys on service 83 respectively. The inward destination was shown as Colchester whilst the outward destination display (on a card) was Chappel via Great Tey.

From October 27th, the Monday to Friday morning peak allocation is 42 buses, whilst the evening peak requirement is for 39 buses. Both totals include two Schooldays only buses, and as the week commencing October 27th was a half-term holiday the first day that 42 vehicles were put into service was November 3rd. The Tesco free buses are in addition to these totals, and so there are 45 vehicles required on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

The Tesco contract is initially for three months, and despite some concern that many country passengers are using the services for a free trip to Colchester it is clear that the services are proving to be very successful, with a fully loaded double-deck vehicle normally evident on service T2 (Clacton).

Unusual workings noted on October 27th were Bristol RELL6L 24 (SWC 24K) and Leyland Atlantean 55 (JHK495N) both on service 8.

The new road between Brinkley Lane and Highwoods Square is not yet open, and at present service 9 is terminating at Gilbert School on Mondays to Fridays instead of Highwoods (Shopping Centre). On Saturdays, services 9 and 9A are both terminating at Ipswich Road/Severalls Lane because the school is closed.

Leyland Leopard coach 101 (DHK101T) sustained accident damage in London on November 1st, whilst operating a private hire journey. At the time of writing, this vehicle was in the paint shop having extensive bodywork repairs.

Vehicle repaints have temporarily ceased due to a shortage of vehicles and in particular due to a number of vehicles requiring major engine overhauls. For example, Leyland Atlantean's 52 (MYK546R) and 77 (YNO 77S) have had their engine units removed recently, whilst 89 (RVW 89W) suffered a seized engine during late-July. A new engine unit has now been acquired, and will be fitted to this vehicle in the near future.

Leyland Olympian's 41-4 are scheduled to operate on services 1/1A/1D/3 and 5A, with one journey each on Mondays to Fridays on services 2/2A. The Bristol RELL6L's are currently scheduled to operate services 2/2A, 9/9A, 10, 11, 13, 14/14A, 15 and 83. On Mondays to Fridays, Bristol RELL6L's also operate one journey each on services 5/5A and two duplicate journeys on service 7. The 82 seat Leyland Atlantean's (51-3) are limited to service 8. Leyland Atlantean's 55-60 are scheduled for services 2/2A, 5A, 6/6A, 9/9A, 11, 15 and 74A (one return journey on Mondays to Fridays only). The other Leyland Atlantean's (61-90) are scheduled to operate all services except 9, 14A, 15 and 83. They operate only one duplicate journey on service 7 on Mondays to Fridays and also only one journey on service 9A on Mondays to Fridays. The Leyland Leopard coaches are not scheduled for fare-paying services, but they are regularly used on Tesco services T1-T4, together with other vehicles, which have included Bristol RELL6L 25 (SWC 25K) and Leyland Atlantean's 79 (YNO 79S), 87 (MEV 87V) and 88 (RVW 88W) recently.

Members may be interested to know that former Colchester Borough Transport Leyland PD2A/30 39 (OVX139D) has been sold during November to Group member Frank Spence. It was towed from Hatfield Peverel to Southend on November 1st, and it is currently at the Tickfield Avenue works of Southend Transport.

Service Developments

Colchester Borough Transport Ltd. has recently registered the following services :-

- 7C - West Mersea (High Street)-West Bergholt (Queens Head P.H.) : to operate on Weekday evenings.
- 9/9A - Halstead Road Corner-Head Street : one journey on each service on Mondays to Fridays.
- 10 - St. Michael's Estate-Bus Station : various journeys on Mondays to Fridays and Schooldays.

Additionally, services 11 (Highwoods-North Station), 13 (Old Heath-Thomas Lord Audley School), 14 (Bardfield Road-Betts Factory), 14A (Ipswich Road/Severalls Lane-Greenstead), 15 (Dugard Avenue-North Station), 16 (Old Heath-Sheepen Road), 75 (Rowhedge-Colchester Bus Station) and 83 (Wakes Colne-Colchester Bus Station) have all been registered, and these registrations follow the award of Essex County Council tenders.

Finally, an application has been made to revise two journeys on service 5 on Mondays to Fridays, with the 1634 hrs. journey from North Station to commence from Tufnell Way, Woods Factory at 1634 hrs. on Fridays only, and the 1704 hrs. journey from North Station to commence from Tufnell Way, Woods Factory at 1704 hrs. on Mondays to Thursdays, with both journeys operating five minutes later.

SOUTHEND TRANSPORT LTD.

Southend Transport Ltd. took over the operations and vehicles of the former Transport Department of Southend Borough Council with effect from October 26th. The garage at London Road and most of the works site at Tickfield Avenue passed to the new company. The Central Bus Station remains in the ownership and management of the Borough Council. Management of the new company is by Cllr. David Garston (Chairman), Ian Trevette (Managing Director), Derek Giles (Operations Director), Chris Hilditch (Engineering Director) and David Shlackman (Finance Director). The Board of Directors also includes four other Councillors, and the Company's registered office is at 87, London Road, Southend-on-Sea. ⁴ No - CIVIC CENTRE

Acquired Vehicles

Van Hool Astromega 258 (NDS841Y) entered service during the week commencing October 20th, following refurbishment and a repaint by Van Hool. The vehicle has a single line destination display and three track number blind like 243/56/7 and is generally similar to the other five Astromega's.

Former Rochford District Council Daimler Fleetline 556 (BXG525K) was sold for scrap after the removal of its gearbox and rear axle unit (see also NS270).

New Vehicles

Work is continuing on the preparation for service of re-built and re-bodied Leyland Leopard/Derikof coach 255, and a recent report indicates that the vehicle may enter service during December (see also NS269).

Withdrawn Vehicles

Bristol REEL6G 301 (NLJ828G) was sold during late-October to Cynon Valley District Council, or to its successor company, and it is understood that the vehicle will be used for further service.

On October 13th, former Southend Transport Leyland PD3/6 339 (CJM439C) was noted on driver training work in Rawtenstall, Lancashire. It had been on loan to Rossendale Transport (with temporary fleet number HD5) since mid-September from Transport Management Training Ltd./Transport Training Services, Blackburn.

News of former Southend Transport Daimler Fleetline's is that 356 (WJN356J) has now entered service with Ford, Althorne (see also NS264), whilst 384 (GHJ384L) (and probably also 382 (GHJ382L)) are now being used by Jubilee Coaches on Stevenage town services on Sundays on contract work for Hertfordshire County Council.

Vehicle On Hire

At the time of writing City of Cardiff Transport Leyland Olympian 559 (B559ATX) remains on hire, and it has operated on services 25, 26, 225 and X21 in addition to services X1 and X31. However, it is expected that 559 will be returned to Cardiff in the near future, and will possibly be replaced by one or more of Cardiff's newer (G registration batch) Leyland Olympian's.

General

Daimler Fleetline 308 (Q554MEV) has recently received an advertisement covering the entire rear end of the vehicle from roof to ground; the advertisement is on a white base for Archer Autos of Southend.

Open-top Daimler Fleetline 372 (WJN372J) was used on October 19th as a mobile platform at Victoria Circus, Southend for speakers at a rally against the closure of the cancer unit at Southend Hospital.

Service Developments

As additional information to last month's news sheet, it should be noted that service X31 was increased to an hourly frequency on Mondays to Fridays from September 22nd, and also that a second journey to London was introduced on Saturdays from September 27th.

Southend Transport Ltd. introduced its commercial network of services from October 26th, and all commercial services are included in a free timetable booklet published with effect from that date. Please note that the Group does not have stocks of this timetable. The commercial network comprises the following services, all operating

to virtually the former co-ordination timetables, except as noted :- 1, 3 (two early morning journeys on Sundays only from Canvey to Southend C.B.S.), 3A, 3B (curtailed at Central Bus Station and interworked on Sundays-Fridays with X1), 4A (with an additional journey at 2305 hrs. to Great Wakering and return, previously on service 4), 7, 7B (reduced to one a.m. journey from Rochford to Ashingdon and three journeys from Ashingdon to Southend - two a.m. and one p.m.), 8, 9A (with journeys from Eastwood retimed), 9B, 12 (with all Weekday journeys terminating at Canewdon, Althorne Way, except for two journeys extended to Loftmans Corner - the service to Southend is retimed, and there is no service on Sundays or to Wallasea Island), 14 (one journey at 0733 hrs. from Southend to Rayleigh), 23, 23A, 29, 63, 64 (three journeys on Weekdays and 12 journeys on Sundays - note that this is the result of a nil tender, as are services 3 and 14), 65 (to Ashingdon Schools only with no service to South-Fambridge), 795 (on Saturdays and Sundays, with Eastern National operation on Mondays and Fridays), X1/X10/X11/X21/X30/X31/X41 (the existing arrangement whereby the last four X1 journeys will extend to any X21/X41 stop in the east of the Borough is extended so that these journeys will now pick up at all coach stops to and including Central Bus Station, thus giving the first ever night buses in Southend).

Southend Transport Ltd. is also operating the following Essex County Council tendered services, not all of which appear in the relevant timetable leaflets :-

- 7C (Ashingdon Schools-Rochford Station) - four journeys during Monday to Friday peak periods, to Rochford Station only.
- 10A (Rochford Station-Paglesham via Golden Cross and Paglesham) - one journey each way on Weekdays.
- 10B (Rochford Station-Paglesham via Stambridge) - two journeys each way on Weekdays, with a Schooldays only journey from Stambridge Schools to Rochford.
- 21 (Southchurch-Leigh) - one return journey on Mondays to Fridays under sub-contract from Venturer Travel, from November 10th.
- 25 (Southend, Central Bus Station-Leigh Church) - six Weekday evening journeys.
- 26 (Highlands Boulevard-Leigh Station) - three journeys from Highlands and four journeys from Leigh Station on Monday to Friday evenings.
- 225 (Brock Hill-Wickford, Beauchamps School) - Schooldays only, with two journeys each way; one morning journey starts from Runwell Wantz Corner and not Brock Hill.
- 251 (Wickford-Rayleigh, High Street) - one morning journey to Rayleigh on Schooldays; which operates because Eastern National's service X51 does not observe all stops.

Southend Transport fares are generally the same as before October 26th, with some minor changes. All X services now have local fares in the Southend area, and new 'Day-Rover' and 'City-Rover' tickets have been made available. The 'Day-Rover' ticket costs £2.60 (child £1.30) and allows unlimited travel on the day of issue on Southend Transport services within the South East Essex area, whilst the 'City-Rover' ticket costs £4.20 (child £2.10) and includes London services, except between Kensington and Heathrow and between Dartford and Brighton. Southend area Travelcards remain available, and are now also available on X services within the former Co-ordination area.

The no change policy continues to operate on local services, but will be discontinued in the near future when change giving equipment has been delivered and fitted. Change continues to be given on the X services, service 795 and on all Essex County Council tendered routes.

Southend Transport Ltd. has applied to delete the picking up/setting down point at Purfleet (Tank Hill Road) on services X1/X10/X11/X21/X30/X31/X41.

EASTERN NATIONAL DISPOSALS

Initial Disposals

1815 (VN07388) - Numbered 3763 by Wilts & Dorset Bus Co. Ltd., Poole, 10/86. (see also NS271).

Subsequent Disposals

348 (YBD 201) - Still with Coleman, Leverington (for preservation), 9/86. (see also NS258/66).

- 428 (LWC979J - now SCT 330) - Still with Wing, Sleaford, 65, 9/86.
 429 (LWC980J) - Still in process of refurbishment by Wing, Sleaford, 66, 9/86. (see also NS265).
 9430 (LWC981J) - Withdrawn by Eastern Counties O.C. Ltd., REG46, 10/86.
 504 (BN0113D) - Not present with Wright Engineering (breaker), Holbeach St. Johns, 9/86. Reported as sold to another unknown breaker, -/85 or -/86, and possibly broken up on site. Last noted with Wright Engineering in 9/85. (see NS258).
 1100 (UVX 4S) - Still with Hedingham & District Omnibuses Ltd., Sible Hedingham, L111, 10/86.
 1101 (UVX 5S) - Still with Hedingham & District Omnibuses Ltd., Sible Hedingham, L112, 10/86.
 1102 (UVX 6S) - Still with Hedingham & District Omnibuses Ltd., Sible Hedingham, L113, 10/86.
 1103 (UVX 7S) - Still with Hedingham & District Omnibuses Ltd., Sible Hedingham, L114, 10/86.
 1201 (BN0687T) - Still with Copley, Fosdyke, 9/86. (see also NS269).
 1215 (BN0701T) - On extended loan to Maidstone Borough Council from 8/86 by Metrobus, Orpington. Has been given temporary fleet number 291 by Maidstone B.C., and carries Maidstone fleetnames on white vinyls.
 1324 (1262 EV) - Re-registered MNW626A by Cementation Construction Ltd., Croydon (N-PSV), by 7/86. Still owned, 9/86. (Registration 1262 EV has been transferred to a car).
 1432 (JHK456C) - Wacton, Bromyard (dealer), 8/86, ex. Silcox, Pembroke Dock, 27.
 1441 (NWC 15) - Jackson, Farnworth (dealer), 4/86, ex. Toc H, Leigh.
 1524 (KVX570J) - Overhauled and repainted by Citybus Ltd., Belfast, 790, 8/86, and placed into the reserve fleet.
 1551 (WNO540L) - Hijacked and destroyed in Londonderry, 14/8/86. Subsequently withdrawn by Ulsterbus Ltd., Belfast, 796.
 1652 (KCG609L) - Breaker, Carlton, 5/86, ex. Martin (dealer), Middlewich. (see also NS266).
 2385 (WNO 481) - White, St. Albans, by 7/86, ex. Tourmaster Coaches, Dunstable.
 2606 (UVX663D) - Breaker, Carlton, by 6/86, ex. dealer, Purfleet. Last noted at yard of Ensign (dealer), Grays, 9/79. (see NS187).
 2874 (STW762D) - Wacton (dealer), Bromyard, 5/86, ex. Caterfoods, Torquay. (see also NS263).
 2898 (WVX525F) - Still with Fowler, Holbeach Grove, 9/86.
 2900 (WVX527F) - Seating capacity is CH12/OF with Top Deck Travel Ltd., London, S.W.5.
 2905 (WVX532F) - Still with Stagecoach, Perth, 9/86.
 3005 (SMS 31H) - Crosville Wales Ltd., Llandudno Junction, DVG552, 8/86, ex. Crosville Motor Services Ltd. Current allocation is Bangor.
 3006 (SMS 32H) - Crosville Wales Ltd., Llandudno Junction, DVG553, 8/86, ex. Crosville Motor Services Ltd. Current allocation is Holyhead.
 3007 (SMS 33H) - Crosville Wales Ltd., Llandudno Junction, DVG554, 8/86, ex. Crosville Motor Services Ltd. Current allocation is Bangor.
 3008 (SMS 34H) - Crosville Wales Ltd., Llandudno Junction, DVG555, 8/86, ex. Crosville Motor Services Ltd. Current allocation is Bangor.
 3009 (SMS 35H) - Crosville Wales Ltd., Llandudno Junction, DVG556, 8/86, ex. Crosville Motor Services Ltd. Current allocation is Bangor.
 3010 (SMS 36H) - Crosville Wales Ltd., Llandudno Junction, DVG557, 8/86, ex. Crosville Motor Services Ltd. Current allocation is Anlwich.

News Sheet Contributions

Contributions to this news sheet were received from A.G. Osborne (C&F), R.H. Palmer (M105), V.J. Cooper (M128), R. Delahoy (M180), B.J. Carr (M207), A.W. Meadows (M209), J.S. Wilby (M298), F.C. Mann (M325), D. Arnold (M379), J.G. Collins (M405), G.G. Toon (M452), A.F. Rook (M457), I.K. Taylor (M464), C.D. Sigston (M523), R.A. Dennis (M535), F.G. Spence (M545), D.A. Coulson (M560), M. Bullock (M574), S.J. Barnes (M576), M.J.W. Lee (M588), P.D. Ashton (M599), D. Parker (M606), N.G. Turner (M620), J. Simpkin (M623), A. Way (M628), G. Huggins (AM1) and the P.S.V. Circle.

The deadline for the December news sheet is Wednesday, December 10th. Contributions cannot be included after this date.