

EDITORIAL

Associate Membership - 1980

Following a decision taken at the Annual General Meeting in January the new grade of Associate Membership of the Group has been introduced. It is open to any close relative of an existing fully paid up ordinary member of the Eastern National Enthusiasts Group. The annual subscription has been fixed at £0-25p. A membership card is issued which entitles the holder to purchase Group publications and photographs etc. at members' prices, and also to take part in all Group activities and functions. No news sheet will be issued. Renewal will be at the same time as the full member with whom the associated member is related.

Please forward applications for Associate Membership to the Membership Secretary at 67. Perkins Road, Barkingside, Ilford, Essex. IG2 7NQ, together with the name, address and relationship of the proposed Associate Member(s), plus £0-25p membership fee per person and a Stamped Addressed Envelope. Applicants should also give their own name and membership number.

Southend Meeting - Tuesday, March 11th.

An evening meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 11th at the Civic Centre, Victoria Avenue, Southend commencing at 1930 hrs. The meeting will be a "members' photographic meeting" and everyone attending is invited to bring along a selection of twenty slides to show.

Castle Point Transport Museum Society

Since the closure of the Eastern National depot at Canvey in April 1978, the premises have been used by the Eastern National Preservation Group for the storage of its many vehicles. It is the intention of the ENPG to establish a permanent museum of historic vehicles, with an emphasis on buses, at the depot. To fulfil this aim the Castle Point Transport Museum Society has been established to raise funds for the purchase of the premises and their conversion into a museum.

Membership of the Castle Point Transport Museum Society is open to anyone and may be of particular interest to Group members. The subscription rates are £6-00p per year (£3-00p per year for those aged under 18 or in full time education) with the subscription period commencing in January of each year. Members joining during the year will pay pro-rata, i.e. less £0-50p per month for every complete month before joining. The majority of the subscription goes towards running the Museum; however, a bi-monthly news sheet, entitled 'Bus Stop', is published with articles of Eastern National and preservation interest. Members will also have the opportunity of travelling to rallies in preserved vehicles at the vehicle owners' discretion. Members may also be interested to know that the Museum is unofficially open every Sunday for casual visitors and a sales bus is there on most occasions. Group members are welcome to visit the Museum on Sundays, although large parties cannot be accommodated at present.

EASTERN NATIONAL OMNIBUS CO. LTD.

New Vehicles

NIL

Details of the chassis designation of the Leyland Nationals on order for 1980 are now available. The vehicles will be Leyland National NL116L11/1Rs. They will also be series A vehicles with the familiar Leyland National roof pods.

Withdrawn Vehicles

NIL

Re-built Vehicles

Bedford YMT 1203 (EN0689T) returned from Duple Coachbuilders Ltd. in early February following body repairs (see NS189). The vehicle remains delicensed and is currently at Central Works.

Leyland National 1727 (NEV684M), which is under repair at Central Works following accident damage, has been rebuilt with a front end similar to that on the batch of vehicles numbered 1731-64. This incorporates an anti-roll bar and other features

not normally found on vehicles from the first batch of Leyland Nationals (1700-2/4/5/7-30).

Allocations & Transfers

2.80 1501 D/L-HH, 1553 LWA-CF, 1733 CR-HH, 1746 BN-D/L, 1755 DT-BN, 1778 CF-D/L, 1828 D/L-CR, 1864 MN-HH, 1918 D/L-BN, 1920 CF-DT, 1921 D/L-MN, 1922 D/L-BN, 1923 D/L-CR, 2752 SD-D/L (D), 2772 CF-(CWDS)-D/L (D), 2790 SD (PLDS)-D/L (D), 2795 SD-D/L (D), 2797 SD-D/L (D), 2807 MN-D/L (D), 2809 CF-CF (CWDS), 2818 SD-SD (PLDS), 2823 SD-SD (PLDS), 2857 D/L-CF, 2894 HH-SD, 2931 HH-SD, 3000 MN-BN, 3035 D/L-CF, 3044 BN-SD, 3051 BN-MN, 3054 BN-SD.

There have been a large number of vehicle transfers this month. Amongst the most significant are the reallocation of two Leyland Nationals (1733 1864) to HH, and the movement of 1755 from DT to BN. A further seven Bristol FLF6Gs have been delicensed for disposal, five of which were from the SD allocation. Replacement vehicles at SD are 2894 and 2931 from HH and 3044/54 from BN. 3000 has been transferred to BN chiefly for driver training work now that the allocation at BN is composed entirely of semi-automatic vehicles.

Vehicle Repaints

The Company has again kindly given the Group details of vehicles repainted during recent weeks and these are listed below :- January : w/e 11.1.80 - 3016 at CW, w/e 18.1.80 - 3022 at CW, w/e 25.1.80 - 2921 at CW, w/e 1.2.80 - 1793 at CW, 1826 at CW, 2925 at PL, w/e 8.2.80 - 1417 at PL, 2917 at PL, w/e 15.2.80 - 1718 at PL, 1798 at CW.

Unusual Workings

Following from the information published in NS190 recent observations of Chelmsford (CF) vehicles operating on temporary loan from other depots have been as follows :-
February 10th : 1509 at SE, 1515 at BN, 1700 at BN, 1702 at BD, 1730 at SD, 1752 at HH, 3018 at SE and 3019 at BS. 1802 was at Great Dunmow (outstation), 1827 was at Central Works and 1718 was at Prittlewell Works on this date.
February 17th : 1509 at SE, 1708 at BD, 1718 at BN, 1752 at HH, 2816 at CR, 2926 at HH, 3019 at BS and 3033 at SD. 1855 was at Great Dunmow (outstation) and 1827 was at Central Works on this date.

It will be noted that the vehicle outstationed at Great Dunmow has regularly been a CF Leyland National during recent weeks, although the Company's traffic requirements still indicate that a VRT is required. The Leyland National is used with both crew and OMO operation on services 33 and 52. New information on the location of the Great Dunmow outstation is also now available, and this updates the details previously published in Publication E.P. 10 (Garage Directory). The vehicle is now kept at the premises of Dons Coaches at Parsonage Downs, Great Dunmow. The former outstation at North Street, which was originally owned by Hicks Brothers before passing to Dons Coaches, has now been demolished and redeveloped for housing.

Clacton (CN) vehicles which worked on temporary loan to Harwich (DT) during January were as follows :- 1.1-1508, 1515 CF, 1526, 1701 CF, 1705 CF; 5.1-1825; 6.1-2802 replacing 2842 which had been parked at CN for the Christmas period; 7.1-1756; 9.1-1780, 1791; 10.1-1532; 11.1-1519; 28.1-1520, with 2384 (D/L (D)) to CN for inspection; 31.1-1825. During the period from January 22nd-28th all DT vehicles with the exception of 1204 were present at Harwich which is a rare occurrence. By early February 2384 had returned to Harwich from Clacton.

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

early January - 1500 D/L, 1780 CN awaiting repaint and 1786 BN awaiting body repairs noted at Prittlewell Works.

3.1 - 1531 BD crew operated on service 251.

5.1 - 1524 BD crew operated on service 251.

16.1 - 1912 BD crew operated on service 251.

19.1 - 1718 CF and 2831 CF both operating on SD depot services; 1752 CF working for HH, where it had recently replaced 1801 CF on loan, together with 2887 CF.

18.1 - 3034 BN on service 251 replacing a WG VRT.

24.1-3.2 - 1214 CF-CWDS operating on hire to Runwell Hospital and working the special hospital service from Basildon to Runwell.

26.1 - 1208 DT and 1217 DT working an excursion to Bristol with Ipswich Town F.C. supporters; 1210 BD noted parked outside SD depot in the evening; 1707 CF on service

24.

28.1 - 1539 MN noted at SD depot.

- 30.1 - 1522 DT and 1755 DT working an emergency rail service from Harwich to Wrabness, resulting from a broken rail on the main line.
- early February - 1921 newly allocated to MN noted on service 19 at Colchester; 1923 newly allocated to CR noted on service 78.
- 2.2 - 1203 BE noted at Central Works following body repairs at Duple Coachbuilders Ltd. (see NS189); 3009 SD working for WG on services 251 and 400, including the 1830 hrs. 400 journey from Kings Cross to Southend - possibly replacing 3069 WG (see below); 3069 WG noted being towed from Basildon Bus Station to BN depot by 1550 BN having failed whilst operating service 400.
- 4.2 - 1752 CF noted on services 3 and 23A, whilst on temporary loan to HH; 3000 MN (now BN) noted in Southend on driver training duties.
- 5.2 - 3019 CF on service 59, whilst on temporary loan to BS.
- 6.2 - Kemp's AEC Reliance DJG630C (ex-East Kent) noted on the 0800 hrs. service 24 journey from Rayleigh; a further regular unusual working during recent weeks has been the use of a Southend Transport coach or single deck vehicle on the 0825 hrs. (Mondays to Fridays only) journey from Thundersley (Woodman Arms) to Highlands; 3065 SD noted on service 21.
- 8.2 - 1730 CF noted on service 21A; 2841 SD noted on service 17 instead of the more usual OMO vehicle.
- 9.2 - 2906 BD noted on service 25A.
- 13.2 - 2874 CR noted at CF depot on route to Central Works.
- 14.2 - 3042 SD noted on service 38.
- 15.2 - 1531 BD noted on service 251; 2916 BD noted on the 0630 hrs. service 400 journey from Kings Cross to Southend in place of the usual WG VRT.
- 16.2 - 1209 BD noted on service 251; 3042 SD noted at MN depot together with 1403 PL replacing 1412. 1405 which is also now allocated to MN still carries CN depot plates.
- 18.2 - 1533 SD noted on service 233 at Wickford; 3054 SD noted awaiting repairs at CF depot.
- 20.2 - 3025 SD noted failed at Great Baddow on service 11.
- 21.2 - 3017 CF noted on service 152 replacing a BN Leyland National.

General

The Havering area 'Multi Ride' fares experiment, which was introduced in February 1978 (see NS166) is scheduled to end in late-February. It is proposed to replace the scheme by a system of flat fares. The effect of these changes on the Eastern National services which were involved in the 'Multi Ride' scheme (services 26, 151 and 251) is at present unknown, but full details will be published when available.

Two changes have recently occurred to the ex-Eastern National Bristol FLF6Gs which were transferred from W. Alexander & Sons (Midland) Ltd. to W. Alexander & Sons (Northern) Ltd. last year. NRD3 (RVW394D) has been transferred from Dundee (D) to Aberdeen (A), whilst NRD5 (UEV221E) at Dundee has been repainted with a broadside advertisement for Scottish Express.

During a visit to the yard of Martins, Middlewich (Dealer) on January 27th, one ex-Eastern National vehicle was present, 1438 (OO 9546), (see also NS186).

Full details of the 25 vehicles which will receive SavaCentre 'polybus' advertisements from March 1st are now available (see NS190). The Brentwood (BD) vehicles will be 1839/40/5 1912/3, the Basildon (BN) vehicles will be 1887/9/91/6/8 1904/6/7/8/9 3007/8/10/6/34, and the Southend (SD) vehicles will be 3012/24/5/6/8.

Leyland National 1828 (VNO730S) allocated to Colchester (CR), and which was recently delicensed, received a new engine during January.

A considerable number of Leyland Nationals are now fitted with the modified exhaust pipes described in NS184. It appears that this modification is being carried out at the garages rather than at the Works.

Allocations of D/L (D) Vehicles - by personal observation.

- CW - 2753/71 2928,
 MN - 1361 1434/43/5-7 2773/91 2807/13,
 PL (Depot) - 2379/82 2752/74-6/90/5/7/8,
 PL (Yard) - 1423,
 SE - 1340/7 1451 2778.

Service Revisions

An application has been made to increase fares on express services, tours and excursions from March 2nd, in order to achieve an overall increase in revenue of 20%.

Stage Services

An application has recently been made to operate two special services from Colchester to Clacton under the special conditions for service 74. The first service will operate at 1900 hrs. on Fridays only from Colchester (Bus Station) to Clacton (Mecca Entertainments Centre) via Hythe, Wivenhoe, Alresford, Thorrington, Great Bentley and St. Osyth. This service will be restricted to patrons attending the Mecca Entertainments Centre at Clacton. The return service will operate from Clacton to Colchester at 2200 hrs. The second service will operate at 1845 hrs. on Saturdays only from Colchester (Bus Station) to Clacton, Rosemary Road (Lucky Seven Entertainments Centre - Savoy Theatre) via Hythe, Wivenhoe, Alresford, Thorrington, Great Bentley and St. Osyth. This service will be restricted to patrons attending the Ladbroke's Lucky Seven Entertainment Centre at Clacton. The return service will operate from Clacton to Colchester at 2140 hrs.

Other revisions to services recently applied for have been as follows :-

- 26 - Mondays to Fridays - two journeys to be withdrawn.
- 30 - Period of operation to be Tuesdays and Thursdays only and when schools are open (correction to NS191).
- 233 - Revised timetable to be introduced incorporating increased running time between Runwell and Basildon.
- 302 - One journey on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays to operate via Stansted Road in Bishops Cleeve. One journey on Thursdays only also to operate via Stansted Road.

The application to operate a new service on weekdays from Rayleigh (High Street) to Rayleigh (Bardfield Way) via High Street, Crown Hill, London Road, Little Wheatley Chase and Bardfield Way has recently been granted (see NS186).

Service revisions introduced recently are as follows :-

- 26 - 28.1.80 (NS191); 232 - 7.1.80 (NS190) with timetable leaflets available at Basildon Bus Station, Adcocks of Wickford and Shotgate Post Office;
- 233 - 7.1.80 (NS190/1); 234/235 - 7.1.80 (NS190) - revised timetable introduced incorporating increased running time due to the revised road system in Wickford and the section of route via Gooseberry Green withdrawn - with timetable leaflets available at Basildon Bus Station, Adcocks of Wickford and Allens Newsagent of Billericay; 259 - 7.1.80 (NS190).

From Sunday, January 6th the prices of the Southend & District Travelcard were increased. The rate for seven days is now £4.20 and the rate for a calendar month is now £16.80. The Travelcard scheme allows unlimited travel by all bus and rail services in the Southend & District area.

From Sunday, February 3rd the Basildon Faircard scheme was extended to cover the whole of the Basildon District Council area incorporating the Billericay and Wickford areas for the first time. The prices of the Faircard scheme were also increased from this date and are now £3.50 for seven days and £14.00 for a calendar month. The Faircard scheme allows unlimited travel on all bus services within the Basildon District Council area and leaflets outlining the extended scheme are available from Basildon Bus Station.

During January and February the Company has been undertaking a Bus Passenger Survey with passengers being asked to answer questions on the nature of their journey and any improvements which they feel may be necessary in the provision of services. The results of this exercise together with those of the forthcoming Market Analysis Project (MAP) will be used to improve services throughout the Company's area.

Excursions and Tours

An application has been made to amend the picking up point and route at South Woodham for tours from Southend routed via South Woodham. An application has also been made to amend the routes of excursions from Harwich (E.N. Depot) to the Essex Agricultural Show and Hampton Court.

Leaflets outlining the range of Winter excursions are now available at Company offices. Regular excursions are being operated from most towns during March to the Ideal Home Excursion at Earls Court together with a number of excursions to Ipswich for Ipswich Town F.C. matches.

COLCHESTER TRANSPORTNew Vehicles

Full details of the recently delivered Leyland Atlanteans are now available as follows (see NS190) :-

83	MEV 83V	Leyland AN68A/1	7901363	E.C.W.	H43/31F	23649
84	MEV 84V	Leyland AN68A/1	7901386	E.C.W.	H43/31F	23650
85	MEV 85V	Leyland AN68A/1	7902296	E.C.W.	H43/31F	23653
86	MEV 86V	Leyland AN68A/1	7902299	E.C.W.	H43/31F	23652
87	MEV 87V	Leyland AN68A/1	7902301	E.C.W.	H43/31F	23651

Delivery dates : 83 - 30.11.79, 84 - 12.79, 85 - 12/79, 86 - 12/79, 87 - 12/79.

Withdrawn Vehicles

By 2.80 40 (OVX140D) 42 (OVX142D)

Details of other withdrawn vehicles are at present unknown. However, Leyland PD2A/30 44 (OVX144D) may be withdrawn although it is still at the depot. It has been reported that this vehicle could become a driver training vehicle to replace 96 (CWC 36B). Also possibly withdrawn are Leyland Atlanteans 49 (YWC649F), which has accident damage, and 50 (AVX 50G) which is delicensed.

SOUTHEND TRANSPORTWithdrawn Vehicles

2.80 335 (CJN435C) 338 (CJN438C) 341 (CJN441C)

As reported in NS190 338 had accident damage, and the vehicle is now being cannibalised for spares.

Vehicles on Loan

Daimler Fleetlines 348-50/3 (WJN348J etc.) were returned from loan to Darlington Transport during the week ending February 9th. They have all entered service at Southend, but are fitted only with fareboxes at present and not Videmat machines.

General

The six month experiment with Autofare machines on Daimler Fleetlines 386-91 has now ended and the machines have been removed. The vehicles are now operating with fareboxes.

EASTERN NATIONAL DISPOSALS (By kind courtesy of the P.S.V. Circle, continued from NS190).

- 9418 (HVW242H) - Robinson, Appleby, 10/79, ex. dealer, Barnsley and National Travel (London).
- 1108 (ONO 50) - Dealer, Barnsley, 6/71, ex. Seddon (contractor) - (additional information to NS160 Supplement).
- 1129 (SHK 516) - Dealer, Farnworth, by 1/73, ex. Seddon (contractor).
- 1136 (TNO 670) - Dealer, Farnworth, by 1/73, ex. Seddon (contractor).
- 1329 (1267 EV) - Davenport Scouts, Stockport (N-PSV), 7/76, converted to B37F - additional information to NS187.
- 1430 (MOO 975) - Ayton, Derby (N-PSV), 3/79.
- 1435 (OO 9543) - Numbered 8482 by McAlpine - Brand - Zschokke, Llanberis - additional information to NS183.
- 1600 (BNO101B) - Breaker, Carlton, ex. dealer, Sherburn.
- 2751 (JWC 711) - Gammond, Rufforth Colliery, Rainworth (N-PSV), 12/78, ex. dealer, Sherburn - additional information to NS188.
- (RHK 843) - Owned by Eastern National Preservation Group, by 6/79 - additional information to NS187.

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News Sheet Contributions

Contributions to this news sheet were received from A.G. Osborne (C&F), M.L. Weyell (M10), W.J. Morrison (M131), L.F. Watson (M159), R. Delahoy (M180), J.S. Wilby (M298), S.D. Barham (M313), W. White (M320), L. Thorington (M352) and G. Huggins (AM1). Notes and information for the March news sheet should be sent to the News Sheet Editor by Wednesday, March 19th (address below).