EASTERN NATIONAL ENTHUSIASTS GROUP

NEWS SHEET NUMBER 128 — November 1974

EDITORIAL

Ilford meeting, Tuesday 10 December

At 7 Farley Drive, Seven Kings commencing at 1930. The Secretary will present a colour slide show featuring his 1974 holiday to the Channel Islands.

EASTERN NATIONAL OMNIBUS CO. LTD.

New Vehicles

Commencement of delivery of the 1974 vehicle orders is expected shortly. Due for imminent delivery are 1732-6(HWC 83-7N).

As members are no doubt aware a change in the vehicle licensing system occurred on 1 October 1974 and as a consequence of this a new Local Vehicle Licensing Office came into existence at Chelmsford. This office will use all existing Essex C.C. marks, together with the former Southend C.B.C. marks (HJ and JN) and also one additional mark inherited from Hertfordshire C.C. (AR). The LVLO commenced with G.. with an N suffix. As a consequence of the new system it is now not possible to reserve registration numbers for long periods in advance to cover expected vehicle deliveries, the maximum permitted time being about 1 - 2 months. Hence in future, owing to protracted delivery schedules, vehicles will now need to be registered in small batches rather than as a complete batch as was the case for 1718-31 (NEV675-88M) for example.

Vehicle orders for 1975 have now been announced and will comprise :

20 Leyland National (11.3 metre)
8 Bristol LH with E.C.W. bodywork (9 metre) - first of this type for E.N.

Withdrawn Vehicles

10.74 2525 (48 PPU) 2529 (52 PPU)

These vehicles were transferred to the service fleet on 31.10.74. (q.v.)

Withdrawn vehicle 2386 (WNO 484) was sold direct to South Wales Transport Co. Ltd., Swansea, Glamorgan in 8.74. Reports on its future role would be welcomed.

Re-built/Re-seated vehicles

7.74 1427 (MOO 179) to B45F (O.M.O.)

Correction to NS122 : 1428 (MOO 973) has <u>not</u> be converted to B45F (O.M.O.)

The remaining vehicles to be treated under this programme are 1425/6 (204 YVX, MOO 178). 1424/8 (203 YVX, MOO 973) are not to be converted. This is because sufficient re-trimming materials have subsequently been obtained to enable the seats of the above vehicles to be re-trimmed and hence the vehicles need not be re-seated.

1441	NWC 15	Bristol MW6G	204.014	E.C.W.	B43F (O.M.O.)	13676	new 1962
1443	NWC 17	Bristol MW6G	204.016	E.C.W.	B43F (O.M.O.)	13678	1963
1446	BNO116B	Bristol MW6G	213.144	E.C.W.	B43F (O.M.O.)	14463	1964
1447	BPU 22B	Bristol MW6G	213.150	E.C.W.	B43F (O.M.O.)	14469	1964
~~1448~~ 1450	BPU 24B	Bristol MW6G	213.172	E.C.W.	B43F (O.M.O.)	14471	1964

Re-numbered from 384, 307 (11.74) and 308, 366, 310 (10.74) respectively.

The conversion of these vehicles has involved fitment of power operated doors, repositioning of the existing destination indicator equipment from the waist to the upper dome position with consequent re-routeing of the electrical wiring. The roof quarter lights have been panelled in and modifications made to the bulkhead screen behind the driver. Finally new destination blinds have been fitted, stage carriage seating incorporating convertibile luggage seat, and O.M.O. equipment installed. Since there are three types of bodywork involved the angle of slope of the destination indicator boxes will vary as under :

1440 - 4 (slope forward) 1445 - 50 (vertical)
1451 (slope backward)

In the case of 1451 (OWC183D) it has also been necessary to re-model the rear to modify the large luggage boot fitted.

It is anticipated that 1440 (1 BXB) will be B41F (O.M.O.) and 1441 - 51 will be B43F (O.M.O)

Work has now started on the conversion of 2602 (185 XNO) to a stage carriage vehicle.

Allocations & Transfers

11.74 1230-D/L(D), 1231-D/L(D), 1324-BD, 1336-SE, 1340-SE, 1353-SD, 1360-CF, 1406-CF, 1444-SD, 1446-BD, 1447-D/L, 1450-HH, 1511-SE, 1516-SE, 1534-SE, 1536-SE, 1727-SE, 2015-D/L(D), 2017-D/L(D), 2018-SE, 2019-SE, 2489-D/L(D), 2498-D/L(D), 2499-D/L, 2515-CF, 2527-CF, 2751-SE, 2788-SE, 2791-CR, 2794-SD, 2820-SD, 2821-SE, 2852-SE, 3037-SE, 3039-SE. No vehicles allocated to KN.

Service Vehicles

Acquired Vehicles

0048	48	PPU	Bristol LD5G	150.167	E.C.W.	LD33/27R	10939	1959
0052	52	PPU	Bristol LD5G	154.028	E.C.W.	LD33/27R	10943	1959

These are additional driver training vehicles and were acquired from the operational fleet on 1.11.74, they were previously 2525/9 (48/52 PPU). 0048 it as present being re-painted into the blue livery, 0052 will follow.

General

1436 (00 9544) has had its roof quarter lights panelled in. This is due to water leakage and it is not anticipated that the other earlier conversions will be similarly treated.

COLCHESTER TRANSPORT

General

Application has been made for increased fares in accordance with the following scale :

up to 0.5 miles, 3p; 0.7 - 4p; 1.0 - 5p; 1.5 - 6p; 2.5 - 7p; 3.5 - 8p; 4.5 - 9p; 6.0 - 10p; over 6.0 miles - 11p.

SOUTHEND TRANSPORT

Vehicles on Hire

319 (KCK 920) finally entered service on 8 November.

The Albion Lowlanders on hire to Alder Vallry are mainly used at Bracknell, Alder Valley destination blinds have been fitted. There are now normally five vehicles on loan to Alder Valley, these are Albion Lowlanders or Leyland Leopards as available.

General

Special services are again to be operated on 26 December this year. The services are to be the same as those operated in the previous two years, and will operate from Southend to Grays, Romford, Wickford, and Colchester (via Chelmsford and Maldon).

It has been reported that the undertaking are to install fareboxes in all O.M.O. vehicles by mid January 1975.

263 (GLX 913) a Daimler CWA6 which has been with the Southend and then the Southend and Essex Constabularies since its withdrawal in 1962 has been acquired for preservation by the Eastern National Preservation Group. (a view of this vehicle whilst in service with Southend Corporation is included in our Group photograph list - ref. S10).

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

One of the Bristol LD5G's recently sold by Eastern National to Hants & Dorset was involved in a disastrous fire in Basingstoke Bus Station in late September. The vehicle involved was 434 FEV which was Hants & Dorset, 3482 and previously Eastern National, 2455. A Leyland Panther and two Leyland Nationals were also involved.

Published by the Eastern National Enthusiasts Group
7 Farley Drive, Seven Kings, Ilford, Essex IG3 8LT

11/74
(GP) 125/NS128