

INTRODUCTION

The idea of introducing the HRR News was thought of several years ago but the enthusiasm for it dwindled as very few people came forward with suggestions for its content. Despite this, we are going ahead on a trial basis with a few topics that might be of interest to all staff, hoping that this will bring forward greater participation in future issues.

ETB TRADE FAIRS

Epsom Coaches will again be represented at this year's English Tourist Board's Trade Fairs which are being held in Brighton and London. Peter Gooch will be representing the Company and hopes to promote Epsom Coaches to the many home and overseas travel companies that will be visiting the fairs.

1977 NEW COACH ORDER

All orders have now been finalised for 1977

They will be as follows:-

1 - Bristol LHS (rebodied)	33 seater
1 - Bristol LHS (new)	33 seater
2 - Leyland Leopard	46 seaters
4 - Leyland Leopard	55 seaters

All the above coaches will have Plaxton Supreme bodywork. The additional extras will include additional heating, fog and spot lamps, air power door, additional side lockers, laminated screens, radio and P.A. system, driver's electric fan, anti-sun side windows, side window blinds and the two 46 seater Leylands will have reclining seats and carpeting as on SGN 331 R. The only change to Plaxton bodywork will be a revised dashboard layout.

These coaches will not be allocated to drivers until the new year.

COACH PARKING IN LONDON

Over the past few weeks several drivers have complained that no action is being taken regarding the problems of parking coaches in London.

The first thing to say is that the problem is certainly appreciated, even if one does not have the first hand knowledge that drivers have of this.

Secondly, action is being taken in the form of a Coach Working Party representing the C.I.B.S. (Coach and Independent Bus Sector) of which Roy Richmond is a participating member. At the last meeting members of the C.I.B.S. raised the problems being met by coaches parking in London and in particular asked for exemption from night parking restrictions for coaches carrying theatre parties etc. In the meantime, the Metropolitan Police have offered the following reply to the Working Party's earlier representations

in respect to coaches which receive parking tickets when picking up or setting down passengers, an activity which is exempted from the Commercial Vehicle Waiting Restriction Orders: " In the event of a fixed penalty notice being issued in circumstances in which it would appear an exemption would apply it is open to the driver to write to the Central Ticket Office giving a detailed explanation of the facts and requesting that consideration be given to withdrawal of the notice. The serial number of the notice should be quoted and the explanation should be accompanied by any supporting evidence that may be available to prove that, despite appearances, an exempted activity was in progress at the time the notice was issued ".

U.K. DRIVERS' RECORD BOOKS

The Department of Transport's proposal to introduce drivers' record books for passenger transport in the U.K. was not going to be pursued for the time being, because discrimination between drivers on regular and non-regular services was bound to create problems.

COACH FLEET MILEAGE

So far this year the fleet mileage has remained almost the same as last year. Up to the end of October the mileage has reached 1,096,165 against 1,094,076 for the same period last year.

CANADA FILM SHOW

Epsom Travel's Canada Film Show proved to be a great success. It was held in the Ebbisham Hall on 24th November in conjunction with Wardair. Films were shown and representatives of Wardair, Canadian Pacific Railway and Canadian Tourist Office spoke to the audience of over 200 people.

Brighton Coach Rally

Epsom Coaches will be entering the Brighton Coach Rally again this year. This event takes place on 23rd and 24th April and involves a road section and manoeuvring tests on the first day and final tests and prizegiving on the second day. If a driver wishes to be considered for entering this event he should contact Andrew Richmond.

Coach Parks in London

The Metropolitan Police have issued a list of off-street parking places available for Motor Coaches in and near London. A printed copy of their list is attached (drivers copies only) and the reference numbers on it refer to a map that can be seen in the Foreman's Office.

Children's Party

A children's party will be held on Sunday 30th January for all members of staff's children. It will be held in the Youth Centre next to the Longmead Garage from 1500hrs. - 1830hrs. If you contact either Mick Scruton or Ron Chandler they will give you further details.

Coach Mileages

The total 1976 fleet mileage stood at 1,269,852 miles which was 4% up on 1975. The year ended well with the mileage for November up 35% on last year and December up 49% on the previous year. The individual annual coach mileages were as follows:-

(1) 323 - 39,327	(15) 535 - 33,620	(29) 533 - 28,433
(2) 895 - 39,319	(16) 326 - 33,417	(30) 534 - 28,330
(3) 328 - 39,208	(17) 324 - 32,512	(31) 329 - 28,064
(4) 660 - 37,722	(18) 663 - 32,498	(32) 321 - 27,885
(5) 261 - 37,095	(19) 670 - 32,271	(33) 330 - 27,394
(6) 232 - 36,362	(20) 671 - 32,207	(34) 231 - 27,390
(7) 233 - 35,949	(21) 531 - 32,081	(35) 320 - 27,178
(8) 327 - 35,401	(22) 532 - 31,625	(36) 560 - 25,661
(9) 322 - 35,299	(23) 558 - 31,570	(37) 100 - 25,352
(10) 661 - 34,992	(24) 470 - 31,333	(38) 271 - 23,541
(11) 325 - 34,811	(25) 559 - 31,207	(39) 234 - 19,141
(12) 662 - 34,341	(26) 410 - 30,936	(40) 331 - 6,119
(13) 530 - 34,293	(27) 869 - 29,926	
(14) 536 - 34,041	(28) 557 - 29,328	

Engagement

We are pleased to announce the engagement of Christopher Richmond to Enid Thomas of Cymlllynfell, near Brecon, South Wales.

Drivers Buffet and Dance

We would like to take this opportunity of thanking all the members of staff who helped organise the drivers buffet and dance. In particular, our thanks go to Ray Dando who arranged the venue and booked the band.

WHAT'S ON IN LONDONMuseum of Sport

A new Museum of Sport is to open in May at the All England Club to mark in permanent style the centenary of the Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Championship. It will include a Hall of Fame of sports celebrities.

International Boat Show

The central feature of this year's International Boat Show, which will be held at Earls Court from January 6 to January 16, is designed around the up-to-date Brighton Marina. On display will be sailing boats, powerboats, do-it-yourself boats, boat charter and hire and a full range of international equipment.

Added attractions will include a Debenhams Fashion Show, a Parachute Display by the Royal Marines, an exhibition of cartoons by leading Daily Express cartoonists and a Marine Artists' Exhibition.

The overseas visitors section will be staffed with interpreters and a special overseas visitors admission tickets will be available at reduced charges.

Admission Times : 10am - 8.30pm (Weekdays); 10am - 7.00pm (Saturdays and Sundays)
Admission Prices : January 6 and 7 - £2.00 (Children under 14 - £1.00)
January 8 to 16 - £1.00 (Children under 14 - £0.50)

Model Engineer Exhibition

This year's Model Engineer Exhibition will be held at the new Wembley Conference Centre from January 4 to January 15. The exhibition will include displays and demonstrations of model locomotives, boats, aircraft, traction engines and war games, apart from other leisure activities. These include a gem craft section with lapidary demonstrations and a special woodworker area. For the home movie enthusiast, there will be amateur films shown in a series of rooms around the hall.

Admission Times : 10am - 8pm (Closed on Sunday). The exhibition will close at 7pm on the last day.

Admission Prices : 50p Adults, 30p Children

International Cycle Show

A full house of exhibitors is predicted for the eighth International Racing and Sporting Motorcycle Show which will be held from January 8 to January 15 inclusive. The Show sponsored by Motorcycle Mechanics, will take place at the Royal Horticultural Society's Halls in Vincent Square, Westminster and will be open daily from 10am to 7.30pm.

Admission Charges : 70p Adults, 30p Children

Jubilee Souvenirs

An exhibition of well-designed British souvenirs of the Queen's Silver Jubilee will be staged at the Design Centre from January 11 to March 5. These were chosen by a distinguished panel of judges, headed by Prince Charles. The Design Centre is in the Haymarket, London SW1.

Ellerman Unicorn Tours

The following is a reprint of a letter received from Mr. Ratti, Operations Manager of Ellerman Unicorn Tours:-

May I just say how much we have appreciated your co-operation during 1976.

It goes without saying that for the forthcoming season we will continue to rely on your dependability. We feel confident that with such a high standard of transportation service - which is a paramount backup in any incoming operation - we will be able in 1977 to consolidate our position among the leading inbound operators.

May I also ask Mrs. Kennedy, Mrs. Litchfield, Mrs. Mount to accept our most sincere thanks from all of us here at Ellerman London and to extend our appreciation to their colleagues and drivers with whom we are not dealing directly but who deserve it just as much.