

HRR NEWS

ISSUE NO. 8

MARCH/APRIL 1984

A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE!

The other day during a 'sort-out', we came across HRR tours programmes dating back to 1960. They proved to be interesting and amusing reading. It is interesting to see how the style of programme has changed over the years. Nowadays, we offer much greater choice of tours and separate brochures for holidays and excursions are necessary.

In 1960, a three day tour to the Blackpool Lights including bed and breakfast would have set you back four guineas whilst, if you were an old age pensioner, a week in Margate including all travel and accommodation and unlimited use of deck chairs, putting green and the cliff lift would cost £6/5/-.

The day return fare to Brighton was 8/-. A day trip to Cheddar Caves cost 24/- and to Dorchester and Lyme Regis 27/6. A day trip to Boulogne or Calais (yes, they were even around then!) was 50/- with the ultimate in high-living being a day trip to Le Touquet by air ferry for 80/-. Many of the tours we operate today can be found in the 1960 brochure and price comparisons between the old and new make good reading.

EPSOM TRAVEL STEPS BACK TO THE 1930's

To coincide with Epsom and Ewell's Second Festival which takes place in May and will be taking the 1930's theme, the staff at Epsom are looking around for items to make up a window display to depict travel in the 30's. They are hoping to obtain a model of a liner or train from that age to form the centre-piece of the display.

During the Festival, Epsom Coaches will be advertising on the side of a horse-drawn bus which will be plying between Epsom and Ewell during the two-week period.

BRIGHTON COACH RALLY

Although Epsom Coaches is not taking part in this year's Coach Rally at Brighton, Plaxtons will be displaying one of our new vehicles, a week before it is delivered to us. The 50-seater coach will be on show at the beginning of Madeira Drive, close to the main pier on Sunday, 15 April. Our new intake of vehicles, two 40-seater and four 50-seater Volvos, will be delivered from 16 April.



HRR TOURS AND EXCURSIONS

Our holiday figures are still showing an improvement on last year - about 10 per cent more passengers. However, Continental tour sales are disappointing, largely due to the huge amount of competition that now exists locally - Surrey International, Titan, Yateley Travel, etc. To increase our agents awareness of our holiday destinations, we recently held a competition quiz with all senders of correct entries receiving a bottle of wine.

Bookings for our January to April excursions are encouraging with a marked increase in sales compared to last year. There has been a particular growth in passengers from the Kingston and Wimbledon areas.

Our new May to December day, afternoon and evening excursions brochure was a welcome sight for our agents. 70,000 copies were produced in Leicester. New for this summer are picking up points in the centres of Mitcham and New Malden. The present New Malden picking up point will be continued under the new name of New Malden South. New destinations in 1984 include Burghley House and Stamford, Cirencester, the Liverpool International Garden Festival and Welsh Borders.

Ken Le Lacheur continues his 'appearances' at local travel agents in a bid to promote our business. We must never become complacent of our competition and it is therefore very important that we are able to provide as much information as possible when requested to do so. We would ask that all drivers check that they have copies of all our brochures with them on their coach.

Christopher is now looking ahead to our Christmas and New Year programme; also the 1985 holidays brochure.

-0-

STAFF DISCOUNTS AT EPSOM TRAVEL

Epsom Travel is happy to offer a discount to HRR staff. When making an enquiry or a booking, it is sufficient for you to mention your employment with the Company. It would be appreciated if these discounts were not mentioned in front of a member of the public. The level of discount is determined by the Manager dependent on the type of service concerned.

LONDON EXPRESS SERVICES

The new timetables and fares came into force on 19 March. These are detailed in a new leaflet which will be distributed near stations in the relevant catchment area shortly.

NEW PICKING UP POINTS

New for 1984 are picking-up points in New Malden Central (Fountain P.H.) and Mitcham Central (Preedys Newsagents). Leaflets giving details of our services will be distributed in these two areas at the end of April.



APRIL FOOLS TOUR

Our sincere thanks to Dave Broughton, John Goodwin and Les Wernham for agreeing to dress the part for our recent April Fools Tour. Passengers received funny hats, masks, a balloon, an Easter Egg, an apple and a blow-out. The coaches toured London with more people looking in than out of the coaches. At Hampstead, there was a paper chase to see after which a refreshment stop was made in the Haymarket. Passengers were only allowed to disembark if still wearing their masks, etc. so McDonalds was in for a surprise! The tour finished with a cruise on the Thames, the Woolwich ferry, of course!

CANDY THE CLOWN

Candy the Clown (alias Tony Drewitt) and driver Martin McGlynn posed for photographs which it is hoped will be used by local papers in an effort to publicise our Easter services and excursions. Candy the Clown will be leading a mystery tour to a Buckinghamshire farm featuring film and television stars of the animal world on Saturday, 21 April - see page 20 of our January to April brochure.

Report on Darts Match
Epsom Coaches vs. Ben Stanley

We thank Martin Wells for providing us with the following report.

We had 12 players, they had 10 so Celia Chandler and Yvonne Trotter played for Ben Stanley.

We lost the first game, Andy Steemson for us, then Peter Cooper levelled in the second. Chris Andrews (Stringbean) lost the third; we then went through the others without loss, until Alan Trotter met Celia Chandler, and lost to her on the double. Yvonne Trotter was out of luck against Mervyn Steemson.

Bernie Kelly threw the highest score in the Singles - 118.

Result:- Epsom 9 Bens 3

Then a Doubles match was held. We only lost one game, again Chris Andrews had the misfortune to meet Ben Stanley's best pair!

Result:- Epsom 5 Bens 1

Final game, all 24 players in a 1001 game, double to finish. There were some excellent scores in this game, including 100 from Pete Tribe, Peter Cooper, Ron Chandler and also a few of the opposition's players. Best score of the night after Bernie's was Martin Wells. Bernie again starred by winning the game with a Double 7.

Final Results

	Epsom	Ben Stanley
Darts	15	4
Cribbage	6	2
Shove Ha'penny	0	2

All in all, a very enjoyable evening. Special thanks to Carol Cooper for making the refreshments, and to all who donated beer. Proceeds will be going to club funds.

Man of the Match - Bernie Kelly.

UP-DATE ON SOCIAL CLUB'S ACTIVITIES

Lorne Hamilton was the first 'Lucky Fiver' winner.

The raffles are being well supported with more prizewinners among the office and shop staff than there are from the drivers' side. The travel shop in Epsom appear to have the monopoly at the moment although Andrew has held the office staff in place by winning a very nice decanter and glasses, the second prize. We should like to thank all staff who are supporting the raffles - more details in next issue.

If you have any suggestions as to what you would like the Social Club to be doing please give your ideas to Peter Walsh, Martin Wells, Ray Houlton, or any Committee member.

- o -



CITY OF LONDON TAVERN EVENING

Over 70 members of staff and husbands/wives, friends, etc. have taken up the invitation of London Entertains, owners of the Beefeater, Cockney and Caledonian, to sample their latest venue, the City of London Tavern at Blackfriars. The usual admission charge of £3.50 is being waived for us on Thursday, 12th April.

Upon arrival, you are greeted by the Town Crier. Once inside, you can test your prowess at drinking London Bitter in a Yard of Ale competition, listen to a One Man Band, learn to play traditional pub games from a Pearly King and Queen and have your palm read by Gypsy Rose. You can also enjoy the sounds of the Good Tyme Jazz Band and dance the night away in the Cellar Discotheque.

There is a wide selection of drinks and food available from the three bars. Buy your first beer and take the glass home as a souvenir! Food ranges from Fish and Chips to Shellfish, a Salad Bar to Pub Grub.

KNOW YOUR BROCHURE COMPETITION

All answers to the following twenty questions can be found in our new May to December brochure. The competition is open to all members of staff and retired members of staff; only one entry per member please. The first correct entry to be drawn will receive £10, the second £5 and the third £3. Closing date: Friday, 4th May 1984.

1. Houses a collection of unique Cromwellian armoury _____.
2. Once known as 'Bartholomews Fair by the Sea' _____.
3. Possibly the loveliest castle in the whole world _____.
4. Raised from the seabed of the Solent in 1982 _____.
5. John Aspinall's Zoo _____.
6. You get spotted dick and custard here _____.
7. First home in Britain of the famous Seymour family _____.
8. On 27th August you are invited to a Dollies Mix and Meet here _____.
9. Wimbledon fare at Ye Olde Chequers Inne _____.
10. Where the Beatles are showing alongside Whisky _____.
11. 'Glorious _____', one of the highlights of the racing calendar.
12. Home of the Cecils for over 400 years _____.
13. Town to visit for a 'Dugout Experience' _____.
14. Staple diet at the Kings Head pub in Capel _____.
15. Where Gloucester Old Spot pigs mingle with Dexter cattle and Saoy sheep _____.
16. An unlikely place for a 'Seashore Walk' _____.
17. May Day village with duck pond, old stocks and whipping post _____.
18. Doom and Sons meet Rupert Bear here _____.
19. Garden created by writers Victoria Sackville-West and Sir Harold Nicholson _____.
20. Train colt during race (anagram) - a popular afternoon excursion _____.

Name: _____

Please hand your completed entry to Rosemary. Winners will be announced in the next edition.

