

HRR NEWS



C H R I S T M A S 1 9 8 6

This is a timely reminder to wish everyone a happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

If I may take Epsom Coaches first, unpredictable changes took place which affected the fortunes of the Company as the incoming tourist market tumbled. Our loss was far more than the national average as our business was concentrated on the group incentive. With the best will in the world it could not be replaced in time but it has taught us to be less reliant on this particular trade and develop our local hire to its maximum as we have so much more to offer than our competitors. Our Tours have got off to a good start for 1987, contract hire is increasing and the bus takings better day by day. When the delivery of new buses takes place at the end of January (5 x 53 seaters and 1 20 seater) the name of Epsom Buses will appear. Although the same maroon and cream paintwork will be used we consider it best to have a conventional bus with its special fittings and not detract from the long distance comfort for which Epsom Coaches is best known. Considering bus work is a new field of operation I am pleased there have been only a few minor complaints, some of which were beyond our control and the County Council is considering favourably some alterations to take place when the name of Epsom Buses appears.

There has been another 'Epsom' name to add to our stable - Epsom Recovery, with its silver painted service van and heavy Recovery unit.

On the Epsom Travel front a year of steady progress and consolidation. Business has held up well and it is my belief that having suffered a late start we will be rushed off our feet when everyone has been frustrated in not becoming a major British Gas or British Airways shareholder. Added to which there are always the long dark winter days to make a decision to fly to the sun of vital importance. There have been a few staff changes and there will be some new faces as we build up to a busy 1987. In wishing everyone seasonal greetings I wish to test everyone in a Competition before they collapse into their armchairs over the Christmas recess.

Roy Richmond