



LONDON BUS MUSEUM

E-news
March 2024

Routes 62 & 145 Heritage Day



PHOTO CREDIT: EDITOR

Our first running day of the year was a huge success, with full buses and a packed Barking garage throughout the day. Enormous thanks to the vehicle owners, crews and passengers, and especially to Peter Osborn for organising the event.

[View album 1 >](#)

[View album 2 >](#)

Routes 62 & 145 Heritage Day



PHOTO CREDIT (ABOVE): PETER MAYNARD



OTHER PHOTOS: EDITOR

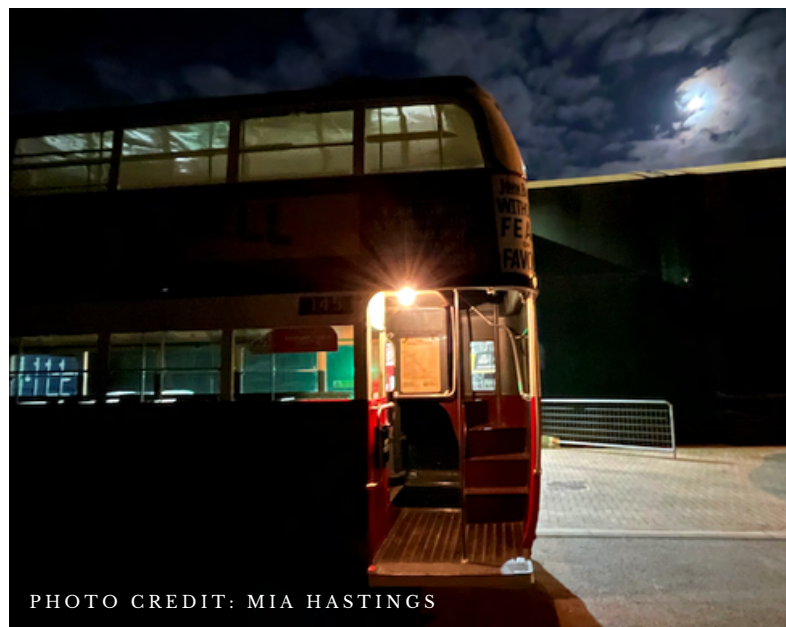


PHOTO CREDIT: MIA HASTINGS

AGM and Members' Day

There was record attendance at our AGM and Members' Day on 9 March. Over 110 Members joined us for the meeting and stayed to enjoy rides on D 142, ST 922 and STL 2377.

Our Chairman **Leon Daniels** thanked all those who support the Museum, especially those who volunteer throughout the year to keep it open. Special mention was made of **Ian Reddick**, our redoubtable Facilities Manager; and **Alan Gaskell**, who has created the beautiful display cabinets on the mezzanine (not to mention masterminding the current restoration of the horse bus!).

Leon welcomed new Trustees **Aaliah Haq** and **John Duff**, and paid tribute to retiring Trustees **Roger Stagg** and **Peter Osborn**, assuring us that they will both continue to play active roles in the life of the LBM.



AGM and Members' Day



Safeguard Centenary

Guildford Cathedral was the backdrop for the celebrations on 16 March, marking the centenary of Safeguard Coaches of Guildford. The Museum sent D 142, UMP 227 and RT 4779, the latter two joining other preserved vehicles in delighting the public by giving rides around the local area.



PHOTO CREDIT (ABOVE): EDITOR

PHOTO CREDIT (LEFT): PETER MAYNARD



PHOTO CREDIT (ABOVE): SHARON BURTON



PHOTO CREDIT: EDITOR



PHOTO CREDIT: EDITOR

Safeguard Centenary

Watch a video of highlights from the day made by our Chairman, Leon Daniels.

[View video](#)



PHOTO CREDIT (ABOVE): EDITOR



ALL OTHER PHOTOS: ADRIAN PALMER



Tony Lewis

Colin Fradd

Around 80 mourners were present at Tony's funeral on 13 March, including a strong contingent from the Museum, probably 25-30. After a very informative eulogy delivered by a celebrant, there was a separate memorial from Roger Stagg.

739J acted as hearse - driven, of course, by owner Ian Barrett. RT 4779 carried a number of Museum folk from and back to the Museum. The RT carried a special blind in memory of Tony.

Following the funeral there was a wake at Ashted Football Club in celebration of Tony's life and friendship.

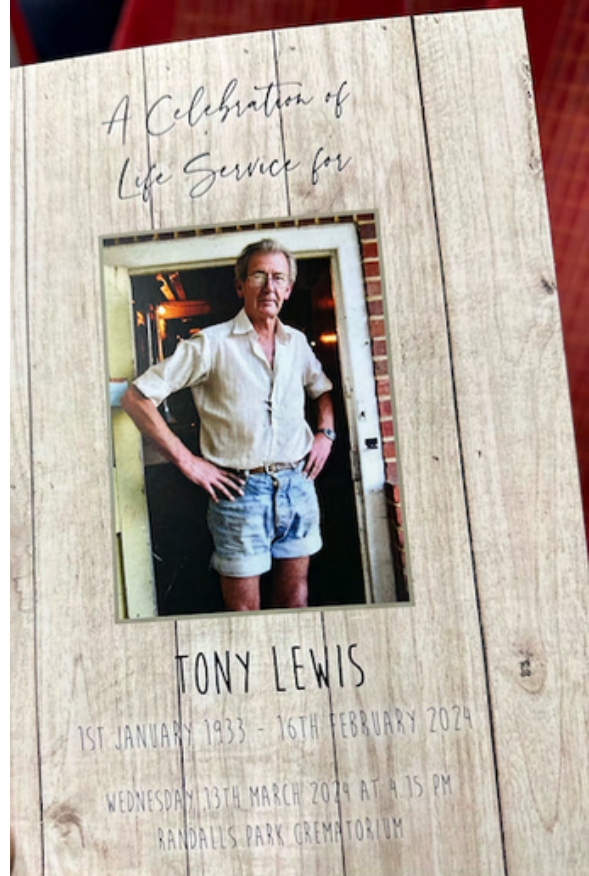


PHOTO CREDIT (ABOVE): LEON DANIELS



PHOTO CREDIT (ABOVE): COLIN FRADD



PHOTO CREDIT (ABOVE): COLIN FRADD



PHOTO CREDIT (LEFT): LEON DANIELS



PHOTO CREDIT: EDITOR

Q&A with Danny Stephen, Volunteer Steward

What's your earliest public transport memory?

Riding trams in Aberdeen with my late father, who was a tram conductor. I have a vivid memory of all the withdrawn trams being torched in a lineup by Aberdeen beach in 1958!

What do you enjoy most about volunteering at the Museum?

I enjoy meeting the visitors and passing on some of my experiences from a 25-year career on buses in central London (plus 22 years on trams in Croydon). I have been a volunteer since 2021, but I attended the Museum open days in Redhill Road since 1974, often bringing buses from whichever garage I happened to be based at the time.

What's your favourite vehicle in the collection and why?

RML 3. I spent over 10 years driving all types of Routemasters and have a soft spot for them. However my all-time favourite bus must be the Mk 2 Leyland National from my days on the Red Arrows.

Tell us about your time on the buses.

I joined LT as a conductor in 1973. It was meant to be a temporary job while I waited for a place at an art college. I was allocated to Battersea garage but there was surplus of conductors, so I volunteered to be loaned out to other garages such as Putney, Mortlake, Riverside, Merton, Wandsworth and Stockwell! As a Scotsman, it was a good way to learn the geography of London.

I progressed to driving in 1976, still at Battersea. I drove route 22, with occasional duties on routes 19 and 31. By 1982 I was driving brand new Metrobuses on Route 39. Whilst at B, I was part of a group of drivers and mechanics who, with the assistance of the late Bill Cottrell, restored RT 1677, which sadly we had to dispose of upon the closure of B in 1985. I then transferred to Victoria garage for the Red Arrow routes 500 and 507.



RT 1677 at Battersea garage as purchased in 1984

PHOTO CREDIT: DANNY STEPHEN

Danny Stephen

I was promoted to the London Buses Management Training scheme in 1988. I moved around the company in various grades in west London, including Airbus, where I was a controller at Heathrow Airport and London Coaches, where I drove the ERMs on the Original London Sightseeing Tour.

I eventually settled at Putney as a Traffic Controller until 1998, when I joined First Tram Operations as a controller. In the early days I was involved in the testing and commissioning of the trams and control systems, and driver recruitment and training. I became a Duty Manager in 2005 and continued until I retired in 2020.

If you could travel back to any transport era, what would it be and why?

It would have to be the 1980s, as there was so much variety in the industry.

Right: Danny driving VN 1

PHOTO CREDIT: TERRY TORCH



RT 1677 at Battersea Garage when completed in 1985.

PHOTO CREDIT: DANNY STEPHEN



LBM young volunteers: a growing community

Peter Brown

At our AGM, it was noted that a number of younger volunteers have joined us recently. We agreed it is important to develop this community to continue the excellent work of the LBM far into the future.

If you would like to help with this important work, join our Young Volunteers working group. Please email peter.brown@londonbusmuseum.com.

A guest appearance

Ensignbus' **RCL 2226** was in service on **Londoner Buses' route T15** over the weekend of 17-18 February, in a series of appearances by guest vehicles running alongside the route's regular contingent (including RM 1941).

The comfortable coach seating was much appreciated by the travelling public!

PHOTOS (RCL 2226 & RM 1941):
NIGEL EADON-CLARKE

RML 887: EDITOR





PHOTO CREDIT (ABOVE): JIM ANWAR

Calling all photographers

David Bowker

Have your work immortalised!

We are looking for high-quality, landscape photos of London buses from the 1930s-2024 for our 2025 calendar. We're particularly after photos where the bus doesn't dominate the picture but is part of a scene with an interesting background or story. Seasonal pictures - snow or autumnal etc - are also needed. Photos should be in London or the London Country area, or recognisably London buses (or trolleybuses) operating elsewhere. Low-res photos should be sent to me at db10538@btinternet.com. If required, I'll ask for a high-res image.

Here are some examples to give a flavour!



PHOTO CREDIT (ABOVE): PETER ZABEK



PHOTO CREDIT (ABOVE): DAVID BOWKER



PHOTO CREDIT: DAVE JONES

Free events for Museum members

Register in advance if you'd like to bring a vehicle



Spring Gathering

14 April

Our annual transport curtain-raiser kicks off the 2024 rally season with a range of vehicles, rides, stalls and fun.

[View more >](#)



Route 406 Heritage Bus Day

9 June

Save the date for our second running day, with free vintage buses running between Kingston and Epsom.

[View more >](#)



Summer Festival

23 June

Our annual summer event returns, with 100+ vehicles, bus rides, traders' stalls, food and more for all ages.

[View more >](#)



Route 61 Heritage Bus Day

14 September

On our final running day of the year, vintage vehicles will run between Bromley and Chislehurst via Orpington.

[View more >](#)



TransportFest

20 October

Save the date for this year's autumn extravaganza with a dazzling range of vehicles, bus rides, traders' stalls and food.

[View more >](#)

LONDON
BUS
MUSEUM

MEMBERS' & VOLUNTEERS' FREE OUTING

We are going to the last ever Transport Extravaganza at the home of Lord & Lady McAlpine, Fawley Hill, near Henley. Not only the steepest standard gauge preserved railway, but buses, cars, military vehicles and traction engines.



Following the death of her husband, Lady McAlpine has decided to host one more Fawley Hill Transport Extravaganza. Positively the last ever chance to experience this amazing event.



SATURDAY
18th
MAY

From LBM at 0930
in UMP227
Return around 1800

Organiser
Richard Hastings
<https://tinyurl.com/bdhj72yz>

[Register now >](#)



HISTORIC COMMERCIAL VEHICLE SOCIETY

Registered Charity No. 271123
Incorporated in England & Wales No.
1241335

61st "LONDON" TO BRIGHTON RUN SUNDAY 12th May 2024

Exciting New Start for 2024

Brooklands Museum, Weybridge, Surrey KT13 0SL

**With new route via Cobham, Leatherhead, Dorking, Reigate
then joining the A23 in Redhill to follow the established route
to Madeira Drive, Brighton**



No Public Parking on Madeira Drive, Brighton

Public Admission to Vehicle Display Area

from 2.00 p.m. on purchase of Run programme only

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION VISIT OUR **OFFICIAL WEBSITE** www.hcvs.co.uk

Shepperton school visit



PHOTO CREDIT: BOB BAILEY

The most recent outing for **Bob Bailey** and **Grahame Bath** of LBM's Education team was to Saxon School, Shepperton on 8 February, with [RF 395](#).

Spring Gathering bargains!



If you are a model railway enthusiast, you must visit our Donated Items stall at Spring Gathering on 14 April.

PHOTO CREDIT: EDITOR

The late Mike Scott's large collection of as new locos, wagons and carriages, plus lineside buildings, track and other items, will be on sale at bargain prices.

In addition to our usual offerings of low-priced books, models and interesting items, we also have a very large collection of bundled bus leaflets and timetables from operators all over the UK. These will all be on offer at clearance prices.

Our stall will be inside the Museum, as usual. All sale proceeds go directly to the LBM, so you will be supporting a good cause!

From the Editor

A very happy Easter to all our readers!

Another exceptionally busy month in the life of the London Bus Museum has passed, beginning with one of the best attended AGMs ever and (almost!) ending with the 62/145 running day. The feedback from many happy and appreciative passengers was really encouraging.

Don't miss the chance to travel on a vintage bus and attend the Fawley Hill Transport Spectacular, with LBM Members and Volunteers. See page 13 for details or [register here](#).

Thanks to Bob Bailey, David Bowker, Peter Brown, Sharon Burton, Leon Daniels, Nigel Eadon-Clarke, Colin Fradd, Mia Hastings, Peter Maynard, Adrian Palmer, Melvin Phillips and Danny Stephen for generously contributing stories and photos for this edition.

Please email me any content for inclusion in the next edition.

Richard

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E-news is produced for the members of the London Bus Preservation Trust and sent to those who have supplied an email address.

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