LONDON BUS MUSEUM

E-news
November 2023

Remembering Chalk Farm garage

Sunday 5 November saw vintage vehicles take to the streets to commemorate 30 years since the closure of **Chalk Farm garage.** All rides were free, with donations going to the **Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal**. The Museum was represented by RT 4779 on route 24 crewed by Peter Osborn, Andrew Collins and Peter Maynard. Vehicles also operated on routes 29, 31, 68, 74 and 139.

ALL PHOTOS: EDITOR

Chalk Farm garage

Chalk Farm garage

Thanks to Nigel Eadon-Clarke for generously sharing his album of photos from the running day.

ALL PHOTOS THIS PAGE: NIGEL EADON-CLARKE

Watch news report

View album

A visit to Tony Lewis

Peter Osborn

Tony has been a Museum volunteer for over 30 years. He is no longer able get to the Museum, so on a lovely sunny 10 October, we took RT 4779 over to him to say hello!

Tony came out to inspect the bus and have his picture taken. As he happens to live just off Barnet Wood Lane in Ashtead, along which route 418 used to run when RT 4779 was at Leatherhead Garage, we dressed the bus suitably. As it happens, I used to deliver the Sunday papers in Tony's road, a few years ago now (and before he was there)!

Thanks to Sharon Burton for making the arrangements (although she missed the event by being away!). The team photo shows Graham Burnell, me, Tony's daughter Carolyn, Tony, Kevin McCormack, Tim Ashton (an Ashtead Village Day organiser and former RT owner), Graham Bartlett and Gerry Pratchett

PHOTOS: PETER OSBORN

A look back at Cobham Bus Museum magazines shows just how much Tony has done for the Museum over the years: Trustee, Council of Management member and Facilities Hire Manager to name a few.

Amongst his contributions to the magazines, readers might be interested to read his two-part account entitled *Powered Vehicles in my Life*, which appeared in the **Winter 1999** and **Spring 2000** editions.

Editor

Tony designed and built the replica bus tilt test, a favourite feature of the Museum's children's area.

PHOTOS: EDITOR

Ancient and modern

On 28 October Alexander Dennis launched its latest generation **Enviro100EV and Enviro400EV** models in a dramatic ceremony at Farnborough International Conference Centre. To complete the occasion, our 1925 **D 142** was on hand to provide the ultimate developmental comparison.

ALL PHOTOS: LEON DANIELS

Brooklands Innovation Academy

Bob Bailey

Brooklands Museum arranged another Innovation Academy on 3 October. There were 15 workshops in all and the London Bus Museum was again privileged to host the popular robotic workshop run by Balfour Beatty in our Boardroom.

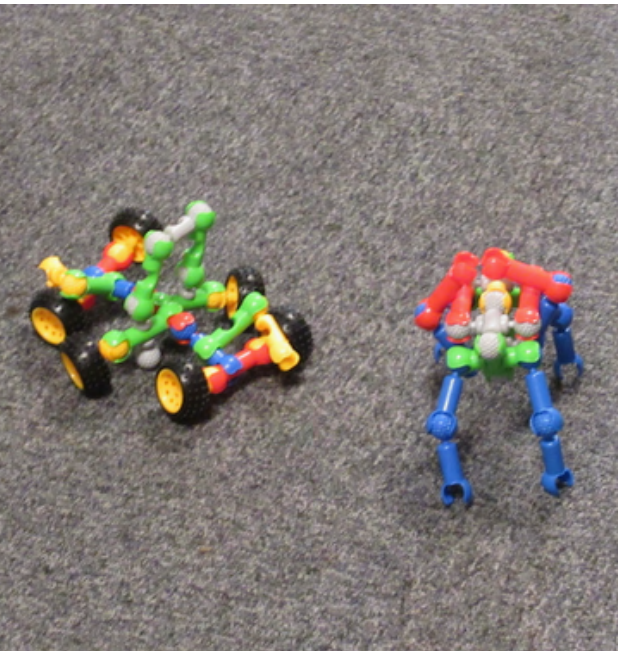
The workshops were aimed at children aged 13 and 14. The aim was to help them consider the type of career they would like to enter. This would also enable them to decide the study options they needed to consider. This was all part of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths), which forms the basis of Senior School studies.

There were workshops on engineering, manufacturing, aircraft, the environment, the NHS and robotics, among other things. There was a speech by Professor Brian Cox, and the Duchess of Edinburgh also paid a visit.

In the evening there were many displays in a marquee set up by Brooklands Museum. The young people and their parents were invited to visit to discuss their future options with stallholders, including apprenticeships.

The event was attended and supervised at LBM by Bob Bailey, Adrian Palmer and Winston Menzies.

ALL PHOTOS: BOB BAILEY



Watch the talk on the LT Museum Friends YouTube channel

Mutual Friends

Chairman Leon Daniels gave a 'light-hearted talk' to the Friends of the London Transport Museum on 13 November. He talked about his life and career, plus the evolution of what we now know as the LBPT/London Bus Museum, from its humble beginnings to the world-class attraction it is today.

SAVE THE DATE: OUR MEMBERS' DAY & AGM

Saturday 9 March
11am
Vickers Suite, Brooklands Museum

Lunch will be provided.

Further details on the LBM website

Hedgehogs, mice and moles

Bob Bailey

PHOTO CREDIT: BOB BAILEY

The Education Team visits about five schools each year. On 2 October, Bob Bailey and Simon Douglas Lane took RT 3491 to Goldsworth Park Primary School, Woking to visit their Reception classes. They gave the pupils a rare opportunity to see and experience a 72 year-old London bus!

This is the fifth annual occasion that we have taken a bus to this school. There were three classes: Hedgehogs, Mice and Moles - and they were all excited and enjoyed going upstairs. Many of the children had never been on a bus, let alone a double decker! Everyone enjoyed the experience.

Graham sets out his stall for the final time at TransportFest last month

PHOTOS (BELOW AND ABOVE): EDITOR

Q&A with Graham Lunn, Trade Stand Manager

This month's Q&A records the 'retirement' of one of our longest-serving volunteers. Graham has been running the trade stands for an amazing 40 years!

How did you become involved with the Museum?

I first became involved with the Museum in 1981 when some friends and I bought RF 355 through it.

What's your favourite bus and why?

It has to be the Routemaster! They are so easy to drive. I owned RM 2116 with colleagues for 24 happy years from 1983 - 2007 and drove her all over the country, from Devon to Scotland from Windsor. This was the best time to become involved with a preserved bus, in my opinion.

If you could travel back in time to a particular transport era, what would it be and why?

The best years for me were the 1970s/1980s, with Routemasters in green livery passing my house on Route 441.

Tell us a little about your professional background.

I have worked in the bus and coach industry for over 40 years. I love it! I worked for London Transport/London Country at Addlestone (WY) and 25 years with National Express as a Training Officer. Unfortunately I was made redundant during the pandemic.

Favourite film?

It has to be the first *Star Trek* film!

Motto or words to live by?

Be happy in life!

PHOTO (BELOW): JIM EADES

RTs at Christmas

What better way to spend Christmas Day than riding on the only bus route operating in London, the 430 (Roehampton - Putney Bridge)? Better still, the route will be operated by RTs!

Join RT 4779 and friends for a unique tour of London. Thanks to Tim Evans for sharing some photos from last year's operation. Hopefully these will entice you to join in!

ALL PHOTOS: TIM EVANS

Free events for Museum members

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

Routes 62 & 145 Heritage Bus Day

23 March 2024

Join us for a nostalgic ride along routes 62 and 145 with a free vintage buses running all day.

View more >

Spring Gathering

14 April 2024

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 2024

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

View more >

Summer Festival

23 June 2024

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 2024

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

View more >

TransportFest

20 October 2024

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

View more >

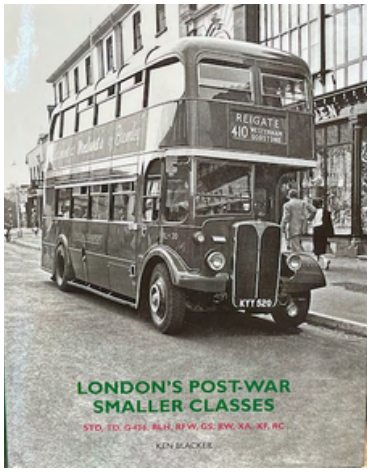
Find all your Christmas gifts at Shillibeer Place, the LBM gift shop

Buy in store or online

Christmas card and pen

A festive card and a gift all in one!

In store only



London's post-war smaller classes

This book ends the series of Ken Blacker's bus profiles, which began in 1979 with the RT

Buy online >

Routemaster model

A detailed model of RM 1183, depicted in London & Country livery

In store only

Buy online

Update from our workshop

The work on our unique 9T9 T 448 continues. Here she is in the workshop with engine removed ready for refurbishment.

ALL PHOTOS: EDITOR

From the Editor

Congratulations to our Honorary President, Lord Hendy of Richmond Hill, of Imber in the County of Wiltshire, for being named **New Londoner of the Year 2023** 'for his positive contribution to the capital and his work in the public transport sector in London'.

As Leon mentioned in his recent Chairman's Message, it's been good to welcome some new young volunteers in recent months. Let's hope this is the start of something!

To view past editions, please visit the members' section of the website and log in on **this page**. Then visit **www.londonbusmuseum.com/members/e-news/** to view all editions.

Thanks to Bob Bailey, Peter Brown, Leon Daniels, Nigel Eadon-Clarke, Jim Eades, Tim Evans, Graham Lunn and Peter Osborn 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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