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FROM LEON DANIELS  
CHAIRMAN

Dear Member

Your Council of Management met on 8 May and separately so did your Trustees. This note is a summary of both meetings.

We were very sad to learn of the death of Des Maybury in April at his home in Cyprus. Guy Marriott and I represented the Trust at his funeral. Des was an avid vintage vehicle collector: his S454 remains on loan and on display at our Museum. Our sincere condolences to Victoria and his family.

We also sent our good wishes to Alan Gaskell who is recovering from illness and to Dawn Stagg who was hurt in a fall.

As part of significantly upgrading our governance arrangements two new policies – the Code of Conduct for Trustees and for Expenses was approved.

Although he is standing down as a Trustee, Peter Osborn has volunteered to lead the governance work which is currently under way. This work is necessary to satisfy the requirements of the Charity Commissioners and in any case it is good practice to review and refresh them every few years.

Roger Stagg also retires as a Trustee shortly but he will continue to be Vice Chair of our Council of Management and oversee our restorations and the workshop. The place wouldn't be the same without him! Paul Sainthouse was elected Vice Chair of the Trustees.

The meeting was briefed on the launch of the new BYD EV bus at the Museum and the forthcoming visit by London Transport Museum Patrons (both of these events have now been successfully completed).

Preparations are well advanced for our next running day on 9 June on route 406 and for our major Summer Festival with its Windrush theme.

We had a successful London-Brighton run which started this year from Brooklands Museum itself. Our Beardmore taxi won Best in Class, whilst RML2760 conveyed our other passengers.

T448 is in the final stages of completion with some mechanical work to finish before painting. The team will soon move onto some repairs required to the bodywork on RT2657.



We have now decided that the restoration of T357 will commence, thanks to the ongoing fundraising efforts of Simon Douglas Lane. T357 will soon leave the Museum display area and take up its new home in the workshop restoration bay. It is now over 20 years since it was rescued from France and it was the overwhelming favourite to be next in the restoration queue.

Spring Gathering turned out to be one of our most successful events in recent years. Some 3000 people attended and around 100 buses. We did a roaring trade in the shop, on our donated items stand, our surplus items stand and on our bus rides.

There was a good discussion at the AGM regarding the Museum regular printed magazine. Postage is now very expensive which not only limits the frequency of the magazine but also the weight of it. The AGM did show overwhelming support for an electronic version of each edition and also that all the savings accrued should stay in the Museum's funds. Of course, the reduction in the number of printed copies makes the unit costs for those higher so we are reviewing the whole arrangement for further discussion.

Finally to report that the organisation remains in good financial health – nevertheless your Trustees are aware of some significant costs likely to be incurred in order to keep the Museum building itself in good condition as well as our outstations.

Thanks for all your support!

With best wishes

27 May 2024



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The London Bus Preservation Trust Ltd

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