

# LONDON BUS MUSEUM

*E-news*  
*October 2024*



## T 448: Restored to glory



## T 448

After an extensive restoration, our **unique 1936 9T9** was launched at TransportFest on 20 October. This beautiful vehicle has been saved due to the expertise of our dedicated workshop volunteers (left) and the generosity of David Stewart.

ALL PHOTOS: EDITOR



The beautiful art deco inspired interior of T 448

The bus appears in the livery she wore in 1948, in accordance with David Stewart's wishes. Note the working clock at the front of the saloon.



Two unique T-types meet: T 448 with T 792, the only known survivor of the later 15T13 variety.

[View album>](#)



# T 448

Here is the bus before and during her repaint at London Bus Works.

ALL PHOTOS:  
WESLEY TIERNEY



*John Lines writes:*

Years ago, we had discovered that **G 351** was fitted with a towing hook, which came in useful when the London Bus Preservation Group acquired T 448! We towed her down to a site in Meopham, Kent, with John Christie and yours truly sharing the driving and John Warner steering the T. Going along the Holloway Road, the traffic lights changed rather quickly - I braked in the G, only to feel the back end lift off the road as the T pushed it!

PHOTO CREDIT: JOHN LINES



G 351 sets off with T 448, 17 March 1968



PHOTO CREDIT: MIA HASTINGS

The weather forecast did not deter our visitors on 20 October. Thanks to Deryck Fill and his team, TransportFest 2024 was a great success. Over 1,800 people attended, witnessed the unveiling of T 448 and enjoyed the visiting vehicles, bus rides and extensive traders' stalls.



[View album >](#)

# TransportFest



# Showbus 2024

This year saw a change of venue for the event. It was held on 29 September at the Buckinghamshire Railway Centre, Quanton Road for the first time. An extremely wide range of vehicles was on display, spanning many decades.

Thanks to Nigel Eadon-Clarke for sharing his album of photos.

[View album >](#)



ALL PHOTOS: NIGEL EADON-CLARKE



# Chesham running day

Freshly repainted, **RT 3491** once again flew the flag for the Museum on 6 October at Chesham, crewed by owner Simon Douglas Lane and Graham Hayward.





PHOTO CREDIT: (ABOVE): CHARLES ROBERTS



PHOTO CREDIT: MARTIN JENKINS

On his 96th birthday in 2022, Fred's friends arranged a trip for him aboard John Herting's beautifully restored T 792.

*With thanks to Geoff Havard*

## Fred Ivey

The prolific and celebrated transport photographer Fred Ivey died on 24 September at the age of 98.

Fred was born on 25 July 1926 at Greyhound Lane, Streatham – very close to Streatham Common Station. Fred was never very forthcoming about his early years but he remained in the Streatham area.

Fred was just 13 years old at the outbreak of World War II. You will have heard the phrase, 'Life begins at Forty'. In Fred's case life began in the 1940s because that's when his love of all forms of transport really took off. He got a job as a booking clerk with London Transport. The war was still raging and it wasn't long before Fred had reached calling-up age. Fred elected to become a so-called 'Bevin Boy', which involved his being sent to South Wales to work in the coal mines. He wasn't happy working at the coal face so fortunately he spent most of his time there working above ground.

By 1947 Fred was back in London and resumed his duties with LT. He remained there for the next 47 years enjoying a distinguished career, rising up through the ranks as station master through to deputy area manager. Fred retired very reluctantly in 1991.

A renowned photographer, Fred contributed photos to many publications. His photos feature in his book, **London's Transport Photographers**, compiled by Colin Stannard. They also appear in the Omnibus Society's publication, **Fred Ivey's Pictures: a Celebration**, and in a special slideshow tribute to him from the LT Museum Friends in 2016, which can be viewed on [YouTube](#).

During his retirement, he was an active and dedicated volunteer with the LT Museum Friends, the Bluebell Railway and the Epping Ongar Railway.

Friend **Martin Jenkins** commented: 'For many of us he was a legend in his own lifetime - a fount of knowledge, a remarkable photographer and a man of great generosity of spirit.'

Friend **Graham Smith** said: 'When Fred spoke, you listened; he was like that. I had the good fortune to know Fred for nigh on 50 years, a good friend and true gentleman in every sense of the word.'

Listen to [this interview](#) with Fred from 2009.



## Q&A with Steve Edmonds, Volunteer Duty Manager

**How did you become involved with LBM?**

Whilst approaching early retirement, I attended Cobham Bus Museum's occasional events to see if I could rekindle my childhood interest in London buses and get involved.

Tony Lewis persuaded me to join in 2005 during one of my visits. I retired at the age of 59 in 2007 and volunteered to help maintain the grounds as Mike Garside had been doing this on his own.

After a year or so, I was asked if I would take the lead in planning and organising the three annual visitor events, which I continued to do until Deryck Fill took on the role.

Trustee David Kinnear found out that I had been a Personnel Manager and asked me if I would be interested in joining the Board as HR Director and Trustee. I foolishly agreed to do this!

As the role evolved, it involved the additional roles of Volunteer Manager, Training Manager, Stewarding Roster Manager and Social Secretary, alongside my Duty Manager role. I fulfilled those roles until July 2021.

It was demanding work but immensely rewarding, as the Council of Management set about laying the foundations for what has become a professionally run organisation and important museum of international significance.

**What do you enjoy about volunteering?**

I enjoy front-of-house work, as it involves direct contact with our visitors. It's entertaining to hear interesting conversations about their experiences with buses. Everybody has a story.

Working closely with like-minded colleagues as a team is, of course, a significant benefit for us all socially.



## Steve Edmonds

### What is your earliest bus memory?

It's of stepping on to a bus, as a four-year-old in 1952, a 9 from Mortlake to Hammersmith, with my aunt. It was a "sit up and beg" STL, like LBM's 441. Two years earlier, my father and I travelled upstairs on the 38 from Victoria, which at that time was using the last few open staircase LTs, built in 1930 and withdrawn in 1950. I believe the buses were garaged at Loughton and Leytonstone. I remember the poor state of the interior woodwork, splintered and dirty, and the wooden bodywork which creaked noisily. The cool breeze hit my face as my father carried me towards the staircase with its brass handrail.

I fondly recall my trip on two of the last trams in 1952 from Wimbledon via Embankment to Holborn through the Kingsway tunnel and have an abiding memory of the white tiles on the station walls. At ages three and four, I was a patient at Moorfields eye hospital undergoing tests and exercises to correct a cast in my left eye. On receiving my first pair of glasses and stepping out into City Road, the first thing I saw was a trolleybus!

### What's your favourite bus and why?

I don't have a particular favourite. However RTL 139 used to run on the 38 route out of Clapton garage. As a 12 and 13 year old in 1960-1961, I travelled from Holborn to Victoria on the 38 and remember the bus freshly outshopped from Aldenham, looking pristine. I probably would have ridden on it at some point. Victoria was a great place for bus spotting. Lunchtime trips to GM would see us sneaking through the rear door into RTL 3, the potential export version with the staircase reversed. Q1035cd, the Civil Defence vehicle, would often be parked in the side yard.

### What was your career before you retired?

I worked for HM Land Registry (including a short spell at the Civil Service College as a tutor) in management, supervising groups of caseworkers, production and personnel management. I did a couple of stints at head office, based at Lincoln's Inn Fields. Roles included policy and strategy and implementation of national initiatives like quality management, human resources ("Investors in People") and learning and development. These inevitably led to visits to the 25 local offices, so I got to know the country's road network very well! This invaluable experience was integral to my subsequent contribution to LBM as a volunteer.



LT Museum's LT 165 at the Year of the Bus celebration, June 2014. It's not an open staircase LT but it's the only double-deck survivor of the class - and it's blinded for the 38 (Ed)!



LBM's RTL 139 in Bow garage, November 2018

# Diary dates from the Social Secretary

**Volunteers' Christmas Lunch in the Workshop  
Wednesday 11 December 2024**

If you wish to attend, please sign the list in the LBM Canteen by 4 December.

**Members' Post-Christmas Lunch at Silvermere  
Sunday 19 January 2025  
12.30pm for 1pm start**

The cost for couples is £35 per person, singles £36.50 (subsidised by the Trust).

**RSVP and pay by 16 December:**  
Sign the list in the LBM canteen or email Roger Stagg at [roger.stagg@londonbusmuseum.com](mailto:roger.stagg@londonbusmuseum.com). Specify if you wish to sit with particular people and confirm any dietary requirements (allergies, vegetarian, vegan, gluten or dairy free) when booking. Pay via BACS.

**Pay by BACS only:**  
CAF Bank Account: LBPT 00018504  
Sort Code: 40-52-40  
Reference: 'NYL' + your full name



## T 357 restoration appeal

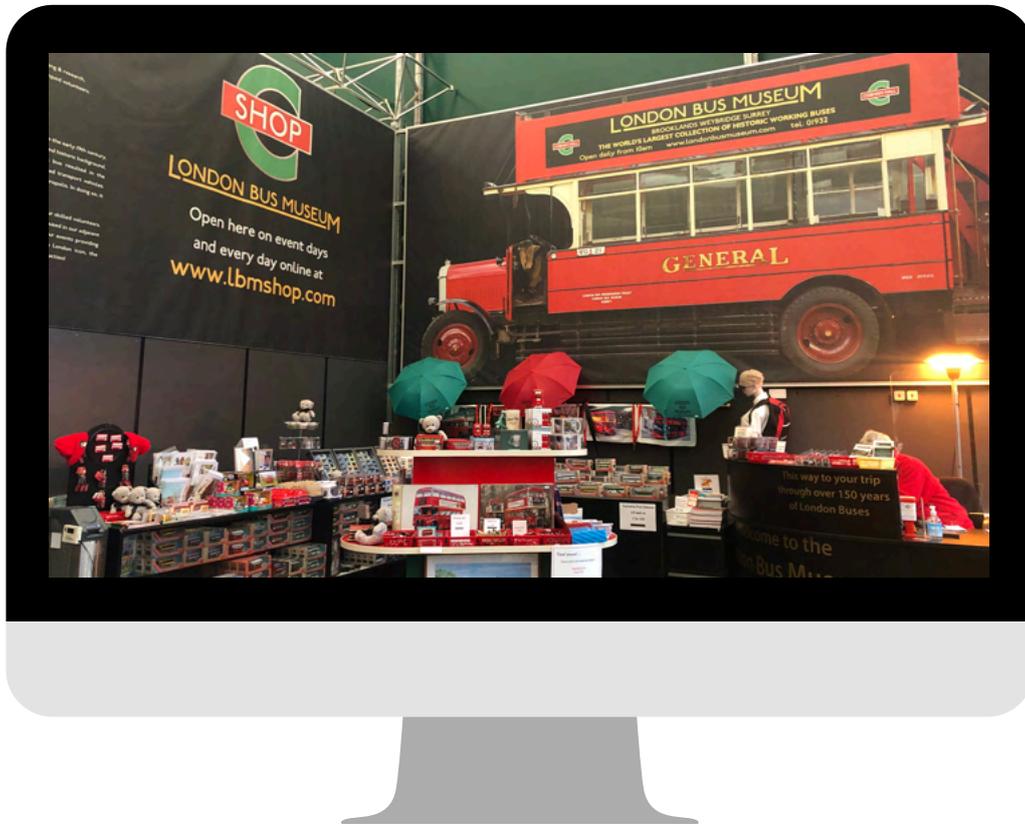
We are delighted to announce that we have received a very welcome and generous donation of £6,000 from the Friends of the London Transport Museum.

This is hugely welcome and demonstrates the increasing co-operation between our two organisations.



# What's in Shillibeer Place, the LBM gift shop

Buy in store or online



RM 8 is depicted on route 21 from Sidcup garage in this new model from EFE Road

## Then and Now

## Side by Side



A collection of photographs by David Bowker highlighting the changes to the UK's transport scene over the last forty years

This new book by David Bowker will delight any transport enthusiast! All proceeds go to the Museum



The London Country era is represented by EFE Road's model of RMC 1508 on route 341

[Buy online >](#)

[Buy online >](#)

[Buy online >](#)

# LBM Events 2025



## Route 19 Heritage Bus Day

29 March

Take a ride along route 19 with free vintage buses running all day between Finsbury Park and Battersea Bridge.

[View more >](#)



## Spring Gathering

13 April

Our annual transport curtainraiser kicks off the 2025 rally season with a range of vehicles, rides, stalls and fun.

[View more >](#)



## Route 418 Heritage Bus Day

8 June

Join us for a nostalgic ride along route 418 with free vintage buses running all day between Kingston and Epsom.

[View more >](#)



## Summer Festival

22 June

Our annual summer event returns, with an array of vehicles, bus rides, traders' stalls, food and more.

[View more >](#)



## Route 54 Heritage Bus Day

13 September

Join us for a ride along route 54 with free vintage buses running all day between Woolwich and Elmers End.

[View more >](#)



## TransportFest

19 October

Save the date for 2025's autumn extravaganza with a dazzling range of vehicles, bus rides and traders' stalls.

[View more >](#)

# Classic bus running days

Vintage buses will take to the streets of north London on two Sundays next month:

**3 November** (around Archway): part of routes 4, 17, 43, 210, 271, & 390

**17 November** (around Camden): part of routes 24, 29, 31, 134 & 210

[See details on the LOTS website](#)  
(navigate to News > Coming events).



*Please note these running days are neither organised by, nor connected with, the London Bus Museum; neither will the vehicles pictured necessarily be those in service on the days!*



ALL PHOTOS: EDITOR





# From the Editor

The restoration of T 448 will be an enduring tribute to the skill and dedication of our workshop volunteers. This is the LBM highlight of the year and those who worked so hard to bring the restoration to completion should be rightly proud of their achievements.

Attention will now turn to **RT 2657**, then **T 357** - alongside our ongoing restorations of the **horse bus** and **NS 174**. There's always something to be done and offers of help are always welcome!

Thanks to David Bowker, Sharon Burton, Leon Daniels, Simon Douglas Lane, Nigel Eadon-Clarke, Steve Edmonds, Mia Hastings, Geoff Havard, Martin Jenkins, John Lines, Peter Maynard, Trevor Muir, Charles Roberts, Graham Smith, Roger Stagg and Wesley Tierney for generously contributing stories and photos for this edition.

Please email me any content for our next edition.

*Richard*

[richard.hastings@londonbusmuseum.com](mailto:richard.hastings@londonbusmuseum.com)

French connection *part deux* (continued)

Museum of Urban Transport  
Paris Saint Armande

The Museum displays a collection of 100 historic vehicles tracing the story of urban transport from the second half of the 19th century to the 70s and 80s with horse buses, trams, commuter railways, stage carriage buses and trolley buses. The galleries also contain a photographic archive, historic prints, scale models and video recordings.

Public opening  
Saturdays and Sundays from 1430hrs.  
Mid March to mid November  
Group visits for parties with a minimum of 20 people at other times.  
60 Rue Sainte Marie  
94160 Saint-Mande

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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[londonbusmuseum.com](http://londonbusmuseum.com)



Rachel DeWilde and Anna Gromulz have given the bears an autumnal look for half term.

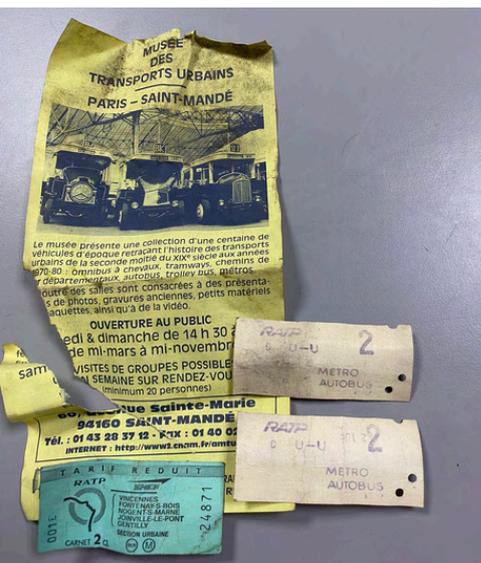
PHOTO CREDIT: SHARON BURTON



RT 604 contemplates the journey home after the Chesham running day

PHOTO CREDIT: EDITOR

## French connection *part deux*



Thanks to Peter Willey for translating the tickets Mark Rowell found on **RT 2657** (see right).

PHOTO CREDIT: MARK ROWELL