



LONDON BUS MUSEUM

E-news
January 2025

Christmas fun!



PHOTO CREDIT: GRAHAM BURNELL

Crewed by the LBM team of Tim Evans, Graham Burnell, Peter Milner and Peter Osborn, the 430 was the only bus service in town on Christmas Day. Due to popular demand, regular performers RTs 2093 and 4779 were joined by RML 2760, to convey grateful passengers between Putney and Roehampton.

Christmas fun!



PHOTO CREDIT (ABOVE AND BELOW): DAVID BOWKER

PHOTO CREDIT (ABOVE & BELOW): PETER OSBORN



PHOTO CREDIT (BELOW): DAN SULLIVAN

PHOTO CREDIT (BELOW): TIM EVANS





ALL PHOTOS THIS PAGE: TIM EVANS





New year's lunch

Over 70 Members enjoyed a sumptuous lunch at the Inn on the Lake, Silvermere on 19 January. Chairman **Leon Daniels** thanked and congratulated all those who had contributed to the life and success of the Museum in 2024.

Thanks to **Simon Douglas Lane** and **Roger Stagg** for the organisation and the raffle!



New year's lunch



Brooklands classic gathering

Brooklands' busiest annual event usually takes place on New Year's Day. However, due to the terrible (and accurate!) weather predictions, it was held on Saturday 4 January.

LBM provided three crews for the day: two for Brooklands bus rides and one for the car park shuttle. Thanks to volunteers **Graham Burnell, Martin Carter, Simon Greatwood, Graham Hayward, Peter Milner, Peter Osborn and Emma West** for braving the cold weather to support the Museum!

ALL PHOTOS: EDITOR





XF 3 passes Richard's house in June 1979

Memories of XF 3

Richard Blackmore

I was delighted to read that the refurbishment of XF 3 is progressing well.

I have fond memories commuting from my house near East Grinstead to Horley station on the 424 bus route during the 1970s. I often travelled on XF 3, along with the other seven members of the class, all based at East Grinstead garage. My photographs of the bus shown here were all taken during the NBC era.



A Saturday afternoon short working to Cophorne, September 1979



Parked outside East Grinstead garage following her final day in service, 31 December 1981



ALL PHOTOS: RICHARD BLACKMORE

Outside East Grinstead garage with XF 1 (also preserved) peeping out, October 1979

Record breaking year for donated item sales!

Melvin Phillips

2024 was a highly successful year, with over £15,000 raised for the Museum from our stall at the Museum's three events held at Brooklands. This was only possible due to the large number of items generously donated, both from members and other supporters. We are very grateful. Thanks also go to our volunteer helpers for setting up and staffing the stall.

The downside of this success is a large amount of empty space in our storage container! If your new year's resolution is to sort out your collection of transport items, or if you know someone who is doing so, please think of us, as every pound raised directly supports our Museum.

We accept most types of transport-related items, not just buses/coaches, including books and models (always good sellers), ticket machines, leaflets, uniforms, timetables etc, from any area in the UK, not just London-related. Depending on location, collection can often be arranged.



Melvin Phillips & Bob Bailey
Donated Items Officers

melvin.phillips@londonbusmuseum.com



How I became an LBM volunteer

Tim Sargent

I had visited Redhill Road a number of times, but when I retired from work in 2009, I decided to offer myself as a volunteer. Having some IT experience, I joined the curatorial team at the time when the MODES system had just been acquired. The late **David Kinnear** was in charge and he quickly introduced me to my colleagues **Brian Jones**, **Brian Barlow** and **Bryan Ellis**. The team gave me a friendly welcome. I remember saying I could change my name to Brian if it would help!

My first few visits to the Museum were at a time of extreme cold. The curatorial office was like an ice box. It was a relief to be able to go to the recreation room for a lunch break. It was there that I met **Colin Curtis**, father of the Routemaster, and many others. From the platform at the end of the shed, which in those days housed the Museum, I was able to survey the vehicles which made up the collection. Some of these were roadworthy and would occasionally venture out on to the public roads but others were in poor condition. In particular, the shell of an NS bus [**NS 174**] looked unlikely to survive being moved, and this proved to be the case!

When vehicles were being prepared for the move to Brooklands, the NS was about to be dragged on to a low loader when it collapsed in spectacular fashion! The bus is now being painstakingly restored by a team of volunteers.

This article is dedicated to the memory of **David Williams**, a tragic victim of asbestosis who was snatched from us too soon. The memory of his gentle humour and his commitment to the work of the curatorial team will linger long in my mind.



PHOTO CREDIT (ABOVE): DAVID WILLIAMS, C/O TIM SARGENT
This photo was taken during the closure of Redhill Road and the move to Brooklands in 2011. **Chris Wheble** is wearing the hi-vis jacket and **David Kinnear** is in the scarf. Can anyone identify the other two?



Two of Tim's favourite buses: LBM's **ST 922** (above) and the RTW class. RTW 467 (left) was in service at our routes 62/145 heritage day in March 2024.

PHOTO CREDIT (ABOVE AND LEFT): EDITOR

Gerald Mead

Rod Lucas

Long-time photographer Gerald Mead passed away on Boxing Day. He was in his late 80s. Gerry was from the Alan Cross era and his photographs regularly featured in Ian Allan ABCs in the 1960s and many publications since.

Gerry often had a stall at our events, where he specialised mainly in black and white prints and indeed had a following in that. He still took bus photos and used slides as his medium. When interest from a publisher was roused, I did his scanning for him.

Gerry is survived by his wife, Margaret.



PHOTO CREDIT: ROD LUCAS

Gerry's funeral will be at Randalls Park Crematorium, Leatherhead on Wednesday 12 February at 3.30pm.



The black and white photos were all taken by Gerald at Richmond bus station.

Above left: RT 79, 6 August 1954

Above: RT 1499, 6 August 1954

Left: RTL 1459, 16 March 1963

Gerald gave this interview to Mark Lyons in March 2024 about the art of bus photography.

BLACK & WHITE PHOTOS: GERALD MEAD; C/O MARK LYONS



Comings and goings

RF 19 and RML 2760 are taking a rest offsite for a while, replaced on display by STL 441 and RML 3. Thanks to Martin Carter and Andy Gray for escorting them!

ALL PHOTOS: ANDY GRAY



Remembering Luke Rees-Pulley

David Bowker

This month marks 20 years since my former colleague at TfL and popular London General bus driver, **Luke Rees-Pulley**, was murdered at his home in Hampton Wick. Luke was passionate about buses and died tragically young, aged 30. A Trust was set up in his name which has funded several projects at the London Bus Museum, and our Research Library is dedicated to Luke.

YOU'RE INVITED: MEMBERS' DAY & AGM

Saturday 8 March
11am, Napier Room, Brooklands Museum

Join us for our Annual General Meeting,
plus:

- Refreshments
- Workshop tours
- Rides on T 448, STL 441 and STL 2377

We look forward to seeing you.

Thank you all for your support.

[View the AGM documents and reports >](#)

If you can't attend, please help us reach a
quorum by returning your proxy form to
peter.brown@londonbusmuseum.com



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

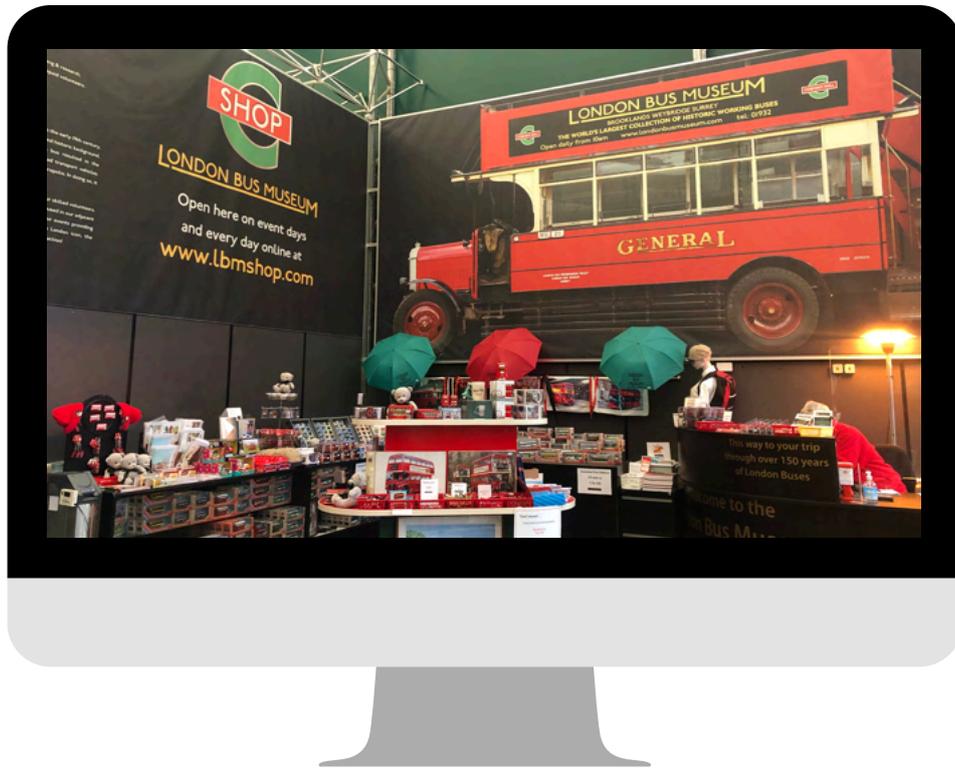
19 October

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

[View more >](#)

What's in Shillibeer Place, the LBM gift shop

Buy in store or online



AVOID THE SQUEEZE PLEASE



08 30 - 09 30

16 30 - 18 00



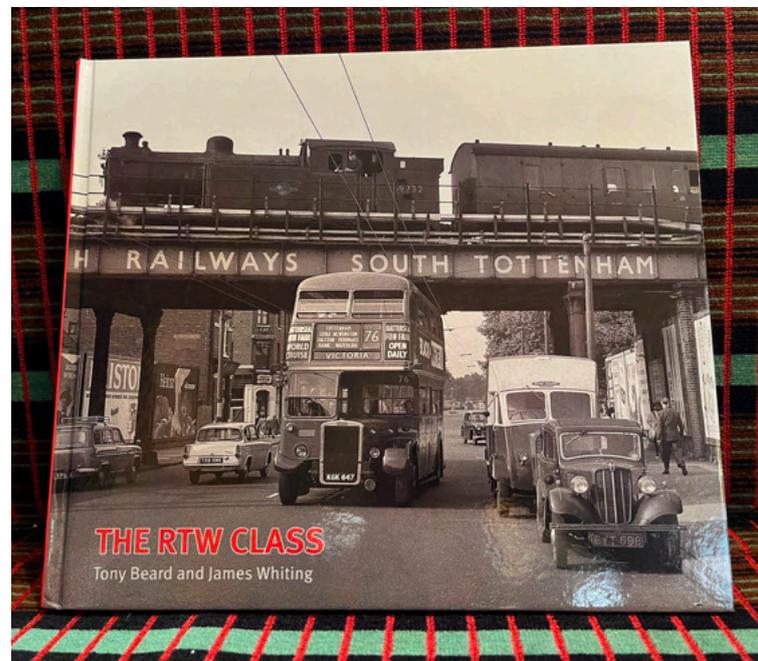
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This new book from Capital Transport by Tony Beard and James Whiting profiles the RTW class from development to afterlife!

FOR YOUR OWN COMFORT AVOID RUSH HOUR TRAVEL

8 30-9 30 in the morning

4 30-6 0 in the evening

The reproduction 1960s/70s bus interior adverts have arrived. Buy in-store or online

[RT bulkhead >](#)

[Interior set 1 >](#)

[Interior set 2 >](#)

[In-store only](#)

Winter fun at the Epping Ongar Railway

Our friends at Epping Ongar will hold their now annual Winter bus running day on Sunday 23 February. What better way of beating those winter blues than countryside trips on historic buses?



From the Editor

Congratulations to Paul Sainthouse on his appointment as President of the London Bus Preservation Trust! Come and meet him at the AGM on 8 March.



Falcon Buses has introduced a Sunday working of route 436, which stops close to the Museum. View the timetable.

Thanks to Richard Blackmore, David Bowker, Graham Burnell, Tim Evans, Andy Gray, Rod Lucas, Mark Lyons, Peter Osborn, Melvin Phillips, Tim Sargent and Dan Sullivan for generously contributing stories and photos for this edition.

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

Richard

richard.hastings@londonbusmuseum.com

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

London Bus Preservation Trust Ltd
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Registered address:
Brooklands Road, Weybridge
Surrey KT13 0QS



londonbusmuseum.com

