



Brooklands goes to Brighton!



PHOTOS: EDITOR

On 11 May, for the second year running, the annual Historic Commercial Vehicle Society 'London' to Brighton run began at Brooklands Museum. London buses on display were privately-owned GS 42 and the London Transport Museum's RCL 2229, both of which won awards. Trustee **Richard Telling** brought along his 1961 AEC Reliance in the livery of her first operator, Hutchings & Cornelius of South Petherton, Somerset.

Brooklands to Brighton



PHOTO CREDIT (ABOVE): NIGEL EADON-CLARKE; OTHERS: EDITOR



Congratulations to LBM volunteer Robin Helliar-Symons, whose newly-restored 1929 Leyland TD1 picked up no fewer than four awards: best single or double decker built before 1 January 1950; best vehicle built before 1930; best double deck passenger vehicle; and third place in the Concours d'elegance.

Brooklands to Brighton



East Grinstead running day

Thanks to Paul Naylor and Kevin Porter for taking **RT 3491** to a glorious, sunny East Grinstead for this year's running day on 27 April. LBM's **T 23** also attended.



ALL PHOTOS: EDITOR



East Grinstead





ALL PHOTOS: EDITOR





PHOTO CREDIT (ABOVE): MIA HASTINGS

Friends of King Alfred Buses

On 5 May we sent **RF 226** to this annual event, crewed by **Graham Bailey, Peter Milner** and your editor. **Doug Hunt** was around too, driving for **FoKAB**. Among the great variety of vehicles, the London scene was represented by **RM 2208** and **MB 90**.



PHOTO CREDIT (ABOVE): SHARON BURTON



OTHER PHOTOS: EDITOR



Family resemblance? *Robin Helliar-Symons*

I set up this shot (left) before the Spring Gathering crowds arrived.

The significance is that both vehicles were designed by the same man, John Rackham. He worked for AEC on the B type bus in 1910 but moved to America with the Yellow Coach Company in 1922. He returned to the UK to become Chief Engineer at Leyland Motors where he designed the revolutionary TD1 (Jersey Motor Transport 24, on the left in the photo), which was announced in 1927. Rackham was then poached by AEC, apparently being offered a salary, which Leyland were not prepared to meet, where he designed the similar AEC Regent I. He remained with AEC until 1950. Following the TD1's lead, the whole industry adopted the same design (front-engine, half-cab for driver, open platform rear entrance, with dropped chassis frame between the wheels), until the next revolutionary design, also by Leyland, the Atlantean.



PHOTO CREDIT: EDITOR



Education Team update

The ever-popular Evadne (RT 3491) has been bringing joy to local schools, accompanied by owner and driver **Simon Douglas Lane** and conductor **Bob Bailey**. Here she is at Carlisle School, Hampton on 14 February (right) and at Hampton Wick Nursery and Infant School (below, with **Andrew Emerson**) on 25 April.

PHOTOS: C/O BOB BAILEY



Celebrating in style

Congratulations to **Phil and Emma Jelley**, who celebrated their Silver Wedding anniversary by taking RTL 1427 to Beachy Head!



ALL PHOTOS: SIMON DOUGLAS LANE

Q&A with James Wake, volunteer conductor

How did your interest in buses begin and what's your earliest bus memory?

My earliest bus memory was getting the bus home from primary school. It was always a treat after walking in the morning. However my Mum says that when I was two and we used to take the 36 around New Cross and Peckham, I used to moan loudly if I didn't get the seat behind the bonnet! Transport was an interest from a young age. When I was 2 1/2 we moved to Crawley right next to the railway line just by the old signal box there.

How did you get involved with the LBM and what do you enjoy most about volunteering?

It was after attending one of the events at Wisley Airfield with the shuttles that ran to Redhill Road. It's always the satisfaction that you get from volunteering and giving everyone a good time and making sure you look after other volunteers you are working with.

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

Tough one! I could make a case for many, but I think it's **STL 2377** after I did a lovely stint on it on the 174/175 running day.

Tell us about the day job.

I'm Schedules Officer for **Metrobus** based at Crawley - the old London Country garage; sadly the LT one is no more. I deal with timetables, duties and rotas for Crawley and Copthorne depots, plus I help out with general commercial tasks such as updating vehicle blinds when there is a change, audits, checking timetable stocks, etc.

What is your favourite film, book and TV show?

I'm not really a film person. I still haven't watched the Eurovision one despite being a big fan, but I'd say my top three are *The Simpsons Movie*, *The Italian Job* and *Ferris Bueller's Day Off*. Book has to be my Eurovision guide or Rod Lucas' *Shades of Green and Red*. TV show: probably *Race Across the World*, *Ambulance* or *Call the Midwife*.

What would you take to a desert island?

As much as I could carry, as well as my family!



PHOTO CREDIT: EDITOR

STL 2377 lays over at Dagenham on the 174/175 Heritage Day, March 2023

LBM Events 2025



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 our autumn extravaganza with a dazzling range of vehicles, bus rides and traders' stalls.

[View more >](#)

London comes to Wythall!

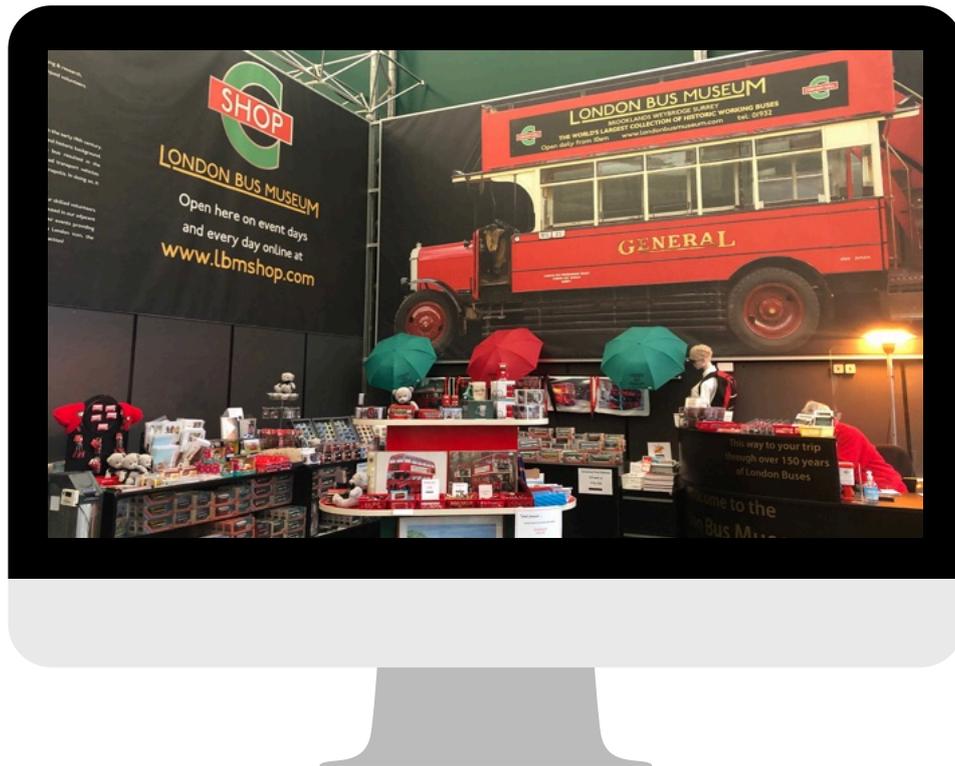
The Routemaster Association and the Transport Museum, Wythall have co-operated in recent years to focus on London bus interest in middle England whilst raising awareness of the Association and the Museum. The 2025 event, 'London Comes to Wythall', over the weekend of 14-15 June, will focus on green London vehicles as it's 60 years since the RCL class took to London's streets. All London green vehicles are invited to join Wythall's own RCL 2219. Other vehicles promised to attend are at least one other RCL, RF 600, T 792 and RML 2440. However, any London vehicle, green or red, would be welcome.



ALL PHOTOS: JOHN WARD



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From the Editor

We are extremely grateful to all our volunteers who have prepared and crewed our vehicles for events far and wide, including our own and others within the busy transport calendar this spring! Collectively, you are helping to raise the profile of the Museum and bring enjoyment to so many.

Thanks to **Bob Bailey, Sharon Burton, Simon Douglas Lane, Nigel Eadon-Clarke, Mia Hastings, Robin Helliar-Symons, James Wake and John Ward** 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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P.S. Have you seen this book?

Roger Staggs left a book in the canteen on Wednesday 23 April, marked for collection by Robin Helliar-Symons.

Published in 1926 in America, the book has a title like “The modern truck driver, techniques and operating advice”.

If anyone has borrowed (or moved) the book, please leave it in the LBM office or canteen (on Ian Reddick’s desk).

Thank you!

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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