



**FROM LEON DANIELS
CHAIRMAN**

Dear Members and Volunteers

Your Council of Management on 2nd July. This note is an informal briefing of what was discussed and agreed.

We were all delighted at our route 418 running day and our Summer Festival. We had a large number of satisfied customers at both events. We are discussing how we deal with heavy loadings and long queues which are of course a testament to the popularity of these events. Thanks to everyone who helped organise and manage these events.

We are well advanced with the renewal of our Arts Council Museum Accreditation. This is a large amount of work and we are extremely grateful to Trustee David Mulvey for taking this on at short notice.

I reported that I had, as is customary, been a guest at the summer Brooklands Museum Trustees meeting. It was heartening to learn that Brooklands itself has returned to an operating surplus after some rather thin post-COVID years. They have exciting plans for the further development of the site. Their Trustees are very supportive of what we do: they see London Bus Museum as a key attraction to the site and are delighted that our museum continues to develop and improve.

We have all been affected by the continuing road works at the M25/A3 junction, including complete closures on some of our event days. BMT continues to press National Highways for compensation, following in the footsteps of RHA Wisley which has a substantial claim lodged.

We were delighted to accept an offer from long-standing member and supporter Chris Stanley to donate BS4 to the Museum's collection. This represents a real gap in our collection and has a most interesting place in the London bus story. Thanks to Chris' pioneering work it will now live on in perpetuity.



The Treasurer reported our continuing satisfactory financial situation which has been supported by an occasional legacy each year. Our museum shop, events and bus rides continue to deliver good results. There has been significant expenditure on restoration work for things beyond our volunteer capacity and that, of course, is what we do!

I reported to CoM about what was at the time a forthcoming event which is now in the past! Transport for London came on site for the day to reveal the results of all their recent work on bus cab design. Together with the Royal College of Art they had previously been to LBM to see the evolution of bus cab design and unveiled their findings on Tuesday 8th July. The Museum was closed to the public for a couple of hours to do this.



Pictured here is TfL's Bus Director Lorna Murphy together with President Paul Sainthouse and myself.

We continue to receive a healthy number of school parties which does put a strain on our stewarding resources especially when they choose to come other than at the times booked!

Tom Yun is providing a sterling service ensuring we have enough Stewards and Duty Managers each day. Due to travel issues and frailty, the volunteer resource is shrinking. Please if you could help us by volunteering for stewarding Tom would be hugely grateful. Very many thanks to all those who have stepped forward to help. I must particularly thank Grahame Bath and Gill Watt for returning to duty following Gill's long period of ill health. It is great to see you back.

From our fleet perhaps the major news is the despatch of XF3 to BaMMoT at Wythall. Not only is it having its rear springs and transfer box seals repaired but also we discover they have the right window rubber to replace the perished set currently in place. It has already had a major interior refurbishment and repaint so we look forward to it operating in service before long.



NS174 has moved for the first time under its own power and we eagerly look forward to its completion. Much has been learned about the design and operation of its clutch.

Our 3-light Horse Bus is almost ready to go away for painting which will mark the end of the expert restoration by Alan Gaskell. It already has its period advertisements fitted.

Lastly the body repairs on our AEC Militant breakdown lorry are well progressed and so soon it too will be ready for painting.

We are delighted that the wonderful London Transport bullseye sign and flagpole liberated from Hounslow Garage last year is now in place on the outside of the Museum.



A reminder, if one was needed, that we will be operating our buses on route 54 in South London on 13th September on our final running day of the year. Also of course TransportFest will bring the curtain down on our 2025 season at Brooklands on 19th October.

Finally once again can I remind members that they have a really good way to help the Museum save costs and keep in its funds the money we give in increasing quantities to the Royal Mail. You can opt out of the printed and posted Magazine and have it sent electronically instead.

On your computer or tablet the photos are brighter, you get it with no delay and they are all there for you to look at, at any time. By opting for this version you keep money in the Museum and not give it away. A simple email to membership@londonbusmuseum.com will do the trick.

With all good wishes


LEON DANIELS OBE

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The London Bus Preservation Trust Ltd



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