



Route 54 Heritage Day



PHOTO CREDIT: EDITOR

The sun begins to set over RT 4779 in Woolwich as she contemplates her final journey of the day to distant Riddlesdown, at the end of our Heritage Day on 13 September. We are extremely grateful to all passengers, vehicle owners, crews, those who staffed our pop-up shop inside Catford garage and especially to the event organiser Thomas Drake for an amazing day.





Route 54





Praise for our Route 54 Heritage Day

What a fantastic day. It brought back fond memories we could share with the whole family and chatting to other passengers was great. Please do this again!

This was a great event. Seeing the old buses took me way back. Thank you, all.

My family had a great day. Thank you so much. Please do the 54 route again in the future!

A fantastic event today. Many thanks to everyone involved in putting it together.



Thank you for a fantastically well organised event. It was great to have so many different people all enjoying the day and so nice to be part of something where different people all came together to enjoy it.

Thank you to everyone who gave their time to make this a wonderful day. Looking forward to doing it all again in the future!

Brilliant! Bring back the old buses!

As an old conductor, I loved my trip on Routemasters from Elmers End to Blackheath and back today.

They brought a smile to people's faces. Fantastic.

All the bus owners should be so proud. They have brought a smile to those who turned up and all who remember these great buses. Huge thanks to all the owners.



[View album 1 >](#)

[View album 2 >](#)

Michael Dryhurst

Film-maker, Preservationist,
Enthusiast

Leon Daniels

My great friend and esteemed transport enthusiast Michael Dryhurst passed away on 9 September at the age of 87.

To many of my generation he was “V H Darling” who wrote the monthly column in *Buses Illustrated* about London Transport news – that was all we had to keep us up to date in those days.

Michael was born on 22 March 1938 in London. He led a life rich in adventure, travel and accomplishments, starting at a very early age. By the time Michael was eight years old, he was a devoted fan of public transport, specifically buses, and spent many subsequent years contributing, writing and taking photographs.

In 1965 he acquired FUF 63: a Brighton and Hove AEC Regent I – a bus that remains in preservation today.

Later he was instrumental in repatriating RT 1 from the USA. Following a long fundraising appeal, it took its place at the London Bus Museum.

By 17 years old, Michael had entered the movie industry as a clapper loader, proceeding through the different departments to learn his craft. He worked for over 30 years in Hollywood and attained positions such as producer, director, production manager and camera operator. Michael was best known as a producer and worked on films such as *Excalibur*, *Never Say Never Again*, *Superman* and *Hope and Glory*, to name a few. One of the most illustrious moments of his career in film was receiving a Golden Globe for his work on the 1987 film *Hope and Glory*. He is the author of several scripts and one novel entitled *Check the Gate*.

PHOTO CREDIT: EDITOR



PHOTO: C/O LEON DANIELS

A US citizen since 1993, he returned to the UK only rarely until moving to Ireland with his wife, Karen. During this time we saw him a little more often but eventually the balance between weather and healthcare costs persuaded him back to the US, this time Arkansas, where he lived until his death.

His emails to me were witty to the end – signing himself “Art E Won” (RT 1) and talking about how – together with our mutual friend, Prince Marshall – we would reconvene in the afterlife: he on his “Q-type side-engined Zimmer frame”.

Today’s London bus enthusiasts and preservationists owe Mike a huge debt of gratitude.



Bromley Bus visit

On 2 September our Trustees were treated to a visit to the premises of the Bromley Bus Preservation Group. Many thanks to **Karl Bunn** for showing us around, allowing us to view the wide range of vehicles, and to the Group for looking after our **T 23** and **SP 1**.

ALL PHOTOS: EDITOR



Bromley Bus



LBM on Show I

It's not every day you see a London bus driving across Chertsey Meads on parade. Thanks to **Martin Carter** and **Graham Hayward** for crewing **RT 3491** at the **Chertsey Agricultural Show** on 10 August; and to **David Harman**, **Laurie Mountjoy** and **Chris Taylor** for staffing the pop-up shop.



PHOTO CREDIT (ABOVE): IAN JACKSON; OTHERS: EDITOR



The RT heads the line-up of historic vehicles in the main arena



LBM on Show II

Thanks to Derek Hanlon and Ben Kingsley-Scott for crewing RML 2760 at the Egham Royal Show on 24 August.



ALL PHOTOS: BEN KINGSLEY-SCOTT



The sight of a London bus is always an eye-catching feature at events like this and is great publicity for the Museum. If you'd like to volunteer to help at future events, please [contact us](#).



Well-travelled buses

Robin Helliar-Symons

This summer I visited all of the transport museums in Scotland, based around the Lathalmond open weekend. Here are some London buses from far away.

The general view far below only shows a tiny part of the huge site. It's well worth a visit, especially at their open weekend in August each year.

Right: ex BEA 36/RMA 51

Below: London United VA 54

Below right: RM 1607





Get kitted out *Melvin Phillips*

At **TransportFest** on 19 October our uniform stock will make its annual appearance at our donated items stall.

We have jackets, dust coats, jumpers in various sizes and a large collection of bus company ties. Some workshop-branded uniform overalls will also be available, as well as a wide range of uniforms and badges.

We will be open to offers on most items, as we need the space!

For model railway fans, a substantial collection of rolling stock and line-side buildings will also be available.

As usual, our bargain-priced books, models, timetables and other bus-related items will be on sale. All proceeds will help support the work of the LBM.

PHOTO CREDIT: EDITOR

Why volunteer at the LBM?

Tim Sargent

Having established myself at the LBM in the curatorial team, I thought I ought to volunteer on an open day. Accordingly, I put my name forward and was assigned to the sign van. This entailed going round the site as the event closed, picking up signs, including those on the road outside.

I assisted an experienced member, **Tony Lewis**, a lovely guy with a dry sense of humour. It was hard work, I can tell you, but once I had done it, I felt I had 'earned my spurs' as an LBM volunteer! I heartily recommend this to new members.



PHOTO CREDIT: EDITOR

Sprucing up **T 31's** radiator is just one of the many tasks our talented volunteers carry out. **[Read more](#)** about how to volunteer.

LBM Events 2025/26



TransportFest

19 October

Save the date for our autumn bus festival with visiting vehicles, bus rides, traders' stalls, food and more.

[View more >](#)



Spring Gathering

19 April 2026

Don't miss our annual spring curtain-raiser with an array of vehicles, bus rides, traders' stalls, food and fun for bus fans of all ages.

[View more >](#)



Summer Festival

28 June 2026

Join us for our summer bus festival, including vehicles, bus rides, food, traders' stalls and more fun for the whole family.

[View more >](#)



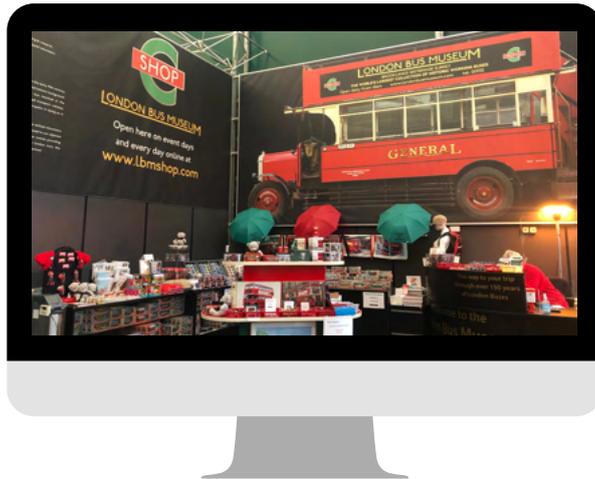
TransportFest

18 October 2026

Round off the rally season with our annual autumn celebration and enjoy a range of vehicles, bus rides, traders' stalls and more.

[View more >](#)

What's in Shillibeer Place, the LBM gift shop



Brand new Leyland Titan models from EFE Road!



T 343: London Coaches

[Buy T 343 >](#)



T 157: London & Country

[Buy T 157 >](#)



T371: G K Kinch

[Buy T 371 >](#)



T827: Docklands Express

[Buy T 827 >](#)

Classic bus running days

Vintage buses will take to the streets of north London on two Sundays in November:

2 November (around Muswell Hill): part of routes 43, 102, 210, 212 & 299

16 November (around Camden Town): part of routes 1, 24, 31, 46, 134, 214 & 253

Further details from **Trevor Muir**: 07956 528474



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!



Once again an LBM Heritage Day has ignited the public's passion for old buses! As is clear from the comments on page 4, people truly appreciate the effort and preparation which go into delivering these events - especially those who are not expecting to see a vintage vehicle on their regular route and then learn that carriage is free of charge! Watch this space, the LBM magazine and the website for news of future events.

Thanks to Bob Bailey, David Bowker, Leon Daniels, Robin Helliar-Symons, Ian Jackson, Ben Kingsley-Scott, Laurie Mountjoy, Trevor Muir, Melvin Phillips and Tim Sargent for generously contributing stories and photos for this edition.

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

Richard



Above: RT 4779 arrives at Riddlesdown (at the old LT turning circle) at the end of her long shift on the Route 54 Heritage Day. Left: Thanks to Laurie Mountjoy and Chris Taylor for staffing the pop-up shop inside Catford garage.



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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