



FROM LEON DANIELS CHAIRMAN

Dear Members and Volunteers

Your Council of Management met, on 5th November. This note is an informal briefing of what was discussed and agreed together with any subsequent developments.

We reflected on an excellent TransportFest in October which was well attended by vehicles, owners and the public despite the accurate prediction of very wet weather and another A3/M25 closure weekend. It was preceded, as is customary, by a running day which this time was on route 54. Everyone involved in both events was thanked for their hard work.



D142 was a star of the Lady Mayor's Show this year participating with Bluebird K7 in which Donald Campbell sadly died in 1967. The two blue birds (!) were hugely popular and our Dennis carried contingents from the Worshipful Companies of Carmen and Coachmakers.

The Museum remains in solid financial health thanks to the amazing work of those recruiting members, championing our retail activities, seeking external funding, and delivering events.



Nevertheless we face the inevitable economic headwinds – costs continue to rise (insurance is our largest one), and our share of the Brooklands gate receipts is affected by the rise and fall of visitor numbers in the current economic climate.

BS4 joined our fleet having been donated by Chris Stanley and handed over at TransportFest.

It is seen here as we start to plan the program of works required.

The workshop continues to make progress despite an increasing workload and an ageing workforce!

Our AEC Militant 1456MR remains under major attention. The front half is repainted and shortly work will commence

on the crane; RT4779 is away having its rear springs replaced; CR16 is mostly through its major brake overhaul; and our Horse Bus remains away undergoing hand-painting.

XF3 now has some beautiful new period exterior adverts (paid for by a long-standing volunteer) and created by Doug Rose.

You can see the video of them being fitted here!

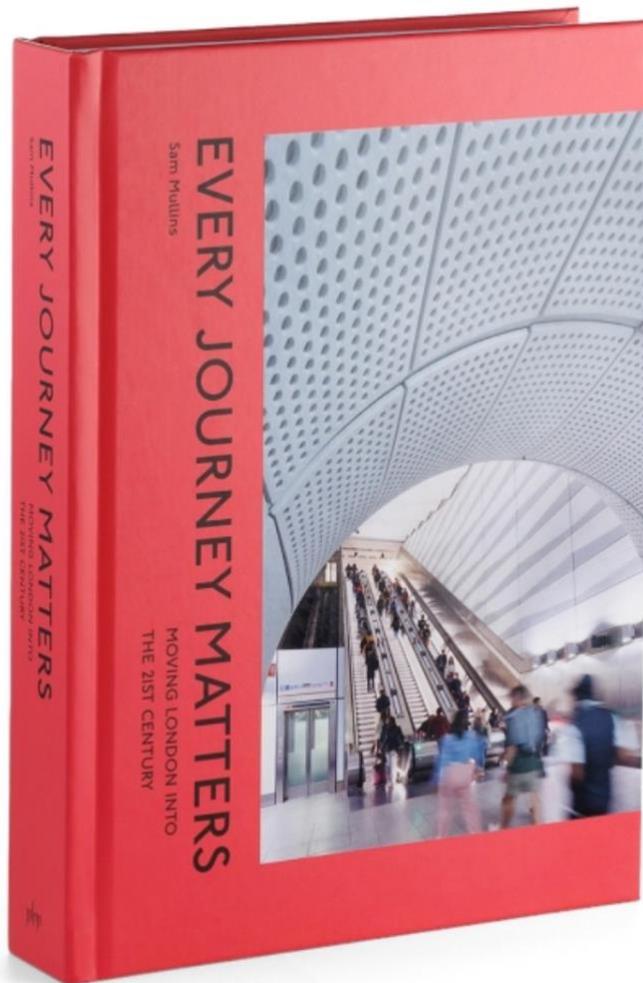


<https://youtu.be/WaoqPadq4KE?si=I8hH8YnIAGnCTjr3>

A reminder that we have a good stock of period INTERIOR adverts that are available to buy from us on-line. See the website for details.

We now have 1112 members and over 3000 Facebook followers – both records!

We will be repainting the roadway inside the Museum early in 2026 (when the weather gets warmer!). Amazing to think some five years since we did this in preparation for our post-COVID reopening!



TfL has celebrated 25 years of its existence – something of a record. Organisations responsible for transport in London tend to last about fifteen years. ‘Every Journey Matters’ is written by our Museum Mentor Sam Mullins and is a book full of stories from behind the scenes together with some political intrigue! Sam has kindly signed some copies so if you want one please order your *signed* copy through our on-line shop!

It was again noted that one of the Museum’s vehicles had been damaged without anything being reported. The Transport Manager will remind all drivers of their obligations and also that anyone finding damage on a vehicle must report it – on class 6 operations this must be using the defect reporting process.

It is further the case that reversing buses must be supervised by an authorised banksman and that arrangements will be made for all Duty Managers and Conductors to be trained.

Finally we once again agreed our operations plan for 2026. This involves the preparation of buses for our three running days, three event days, and for a selection of external events across the year, including Epping-Ongar Railway, heritage events in Surrey and running days planned by others at East Grinstead and Chesham.

You will understand that with only volunteer resource, commitments, and some of our vehicles stored elsewhere, we make this plan to assist in vehicle movements, inspections and to support those who support us.

For information *our* 2026 programme is:

- 7 March AGM and Members' vehicle experience
- 14 March Running Day route 38
- 19 April Spring Gathering
- 13 June Running day routes 213 and 293
- 28 June Our summer event
- 3 October Running Day route 106
- 18 October TransportFest

Come and support us!

With all good wishes



LEON DANIELS OBE

17 November 2025

The London Bus Preservation Trust Ltd



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No. 1633