

LONDON BUS MUSEUM

E-news
June 2026

Route 213/293 Heritage Day



PHOTO CREDIT: LEON DANIELS

FRM1 and **T 792** meet in the depths of Sutton garage on 13 June. Over 30 preserved vehicles plied the streets between Kingston and Sutton on our second of our 2026 Heritage Days.

Route 213/293

The beautiful summer weather ensured a hugely successful event, thanks to the efforts of **Tom Drake**, **Peter Osborn** and **James Wake**. The Museum sent **T 448**, **RF 395** and **M 6**. We are grateful to all vehicle owners, crews and the travelling public for supporting the event.



PHOTOS THIS PAGE: EDITOR

[View album 1>](#)

[View album 2>](#)



Summer Festival

Summer Festival on 28 June marked the end of the week's heatwave and visitors experienced seeing and riding on buses old and new. Our beautifully-restored four-light horse bus made its second appearance of the year and gave rides throughout the day.

As always, we are extremely grateful to Events Manager **Deryck Fill** and his dedicated team of volunteers for another hugely enjoyable day.



PHOTO CREDIT: MIA HASTINGS





Many thanks to Adrian Palmer for sharing his album of photos from Summer Festival.

[View album 1>](#)[View album 2>](#)

Windsor Running Day

RFW 14 represented the Museum at the Windsor Running Day on 10 May, organised by the Amersham & District Motorbus Society. Thanks to Leon Daniels and Thomas Drake for crewing the RFW.

PHOTO CREDIT (BELOW AND RIGHT): LEON DANIELS;
OTHERS: DAVID BOWKER





PHOTOS THIS PAGE:
NIGEL EADON-CLARKE



Windsor



Fastrack's 20th Birthday

On 16 May **RF 226** was out and about again, this time at Bluewater to participate in the **20th birthday celebration** of the **Fastrack** network of routes between there and Dartford and Gravesend. Here she is shown at Bluewater bus station before the final run-out to Dartford.

Thanks to **Peter Maynard** and **Peter Milner** for crewing the bus.

PHOTO CREDIT (RIGHT): PETER MAYNARD
OTHERS: NIGEL EADON-CLARKE





PHOTO CREDIT (ABOVE): EDITOR



Q&A with Peter Rodger, LBM Driver training team

How did you become involved with the LBM?

I initially joined after contact through a guy I had worked with, who was a member. After a couple of years of “being around”, I was asked to help the Council of Management understand how the driver’s CPC requirement would work when it was introduced (that dates it a bit!). It’s all a while ago now, but becoming a driver migrated into being a controller and then running the driver allocations for a few years.

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

That’s an impossible question to answer, partly because I don’t think about things in that kind of way, and partly because there are some really hard choices there. If you told me I could only ever travel on, or drive, one more bus, it would be an RT. I travelled on RTs to school from the age of 11, until they were replaced by SMSs in the first big scheme that introduced those vehicles at Edgware and Harrow in 1970 (I have a soft spot for the generally much unloved SMS too). RTs are largely responsible for my interest in the first place.

Tell us about your professional life.

I did a geography degree with the original intention of going into teaching, but joined the Metropolitan Police instead. I had a great 30 years in the Met, retiring as an inspector in the driving school, and becoming the Chief Driving Examiner for the Institute of Advanced Motorists (now IAMRoadSmart). I stood down from that in 2015 after ten years. In the last few years of working I had managed to go part-time and started to do some casual bus driving with Ensignbus, then owned by the Newman family. I had an absolute ball of a time! I kept on doing ad hoc things for the IAM until 2022 – mainly media representation. Now I mainly do what Mrs R tells me (and if you believe that...).

Left: Peter at the wheel of RT 1 on our Route 19 Heritage Day, March 2025

PHOTO CREDIT: PETER ZABEK

Peter Rodger

If you could travel back to a particular transport era, what would it be and why?

I think we all hark back to when we were young, energetic, full of hope and plans for the future, and see that period of time as how we would like it to be again. However, I think we forget the downsides of how things were. I've had the great privilege to drive buses from LBM and the London Transport Museum which span from 1908 to modern days – a cab, roof and a padded driver's seat were great innovations! I loved going to school on 38-stock tube trains and RTs. I loved my first year as a student riding on (amongst other things) East Yorkshire's AEC Bridgemasters and Renowns, just before NBC identity swept away all the colour and local style, and while there was such a variety to see – half-cabs to rear engined buses, all at once. Probably then.

What's your favourite film/TV show/book?

No idea at all! There have been moments of cinema and TV that have made me laugh, put a lump in the throat, or been deeply thought-provoking. There have been books that have done all those things too. But I don't sit and re-visit, I rarely watch again, or read again. I find it much more interesting to start a new one!

Below: RML 3 attended an open day at Cricklewood garage in 2009. Peter drives her past Willesden Green station in this remarkably traffic-free photo

PHOTO CREDIT: PETER ZABEK



PHOTO CREDIT: PETER ZABEK

Above: Peter at the wheel of RT 2177, September 2021



PHOTO CREDIT: GRAHAM BURNELL

Above: Two of our regular driver training vehicles: RFs 226 (l) and 395 (r)

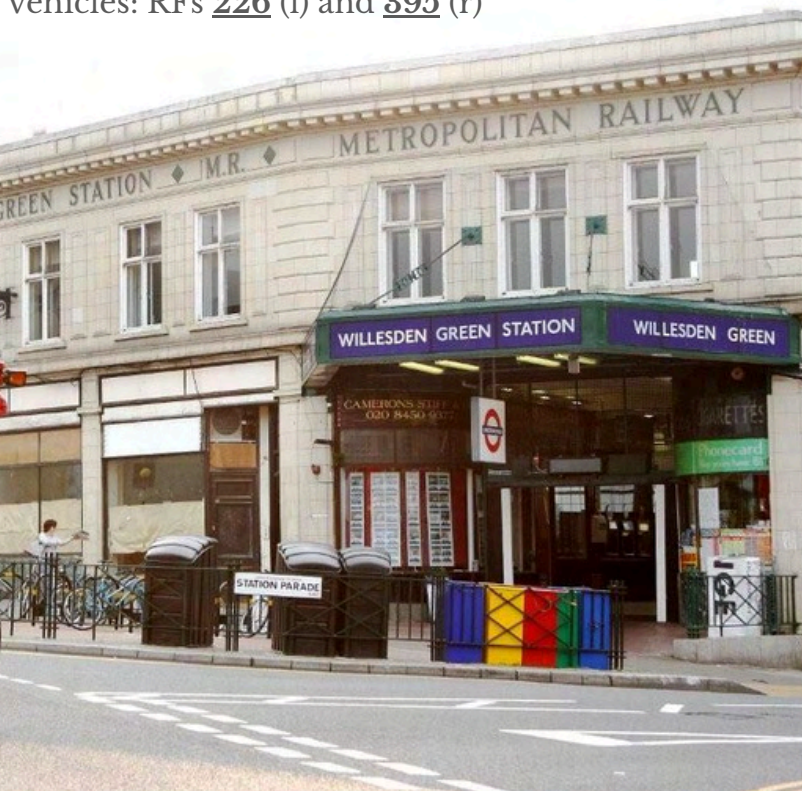




PHOTO CREDIT (BOTH): LAURIE MOUNTJOY

In the workshop our volunteers continue the restoration work on NS 174 and T 357. The close-up photo shows the repaired window pans fitted to T 357.

Bermondsey seniors visit

Martin Watkins

A very happy group of Bermondsey Seniors visited the Museum on 12 June with **Graham Burnell** and **Martin Watkins**. They especially enjoyed a VIP guided tour with **Leon Daniels**.

The Time and Talents Charity is very active in Bermondsey and Rotherhithe and organises a huge range of activities and mutual support for local people, many of whom used to work in the London docks and related industries. These are funded by a range of grants and funds from organisations such as Rotherhithe Consolidated Charities and other community funds.

The group that visited were members of the Wednesday Men's Walking Group, or 'Bermondsey Seniors', for short!



PHOTO CREDIT: C/O MARTIN WATKINS

Above: Transport for the group was provided by means of RF 395, in which **Graham** (far right) met them at Surbiton station for the onward journey to the LBM

LBM Events 2026/2027



Route 106 Heritage Day

3 October 2026

Our third Heritage Day will see historic vehicles in service free of charge, between Finsbury Park and Ash Grove

[View more >](#)



TransportFest

18 October 2026

Round off the rally calendar at our vibrant autumn event with a wide range of vehicles, bus rides and traders' stalls

[View more >](#)



Spring Gathering

18 April 2027

Join us for our annual transport curtain-raiser to kick off the 2027 rally season with a range of vehicles, rides, stalls and fun

[View more >](#)

Summer Festival

27 June 2027

Our annual summer event returns, with visiting vehicles, bus rides, traders' stalls, food and more for all ages

[View more >](#)

TransportFest

24 October 2027

Save the date for 2027's autumn extravaganza to round off next year's programme of events

[View more >](#)

A Green Line celebration

Sunday 23 August 2026

London Public Transport Events are planning a mini-running day, based in central London, to mark the eightieth anniversary of the post-war restoration of the Green Line network.

For further details, please check the [Classic Bus Events website](#).





In memory of Steve Edmonds

Steve has been a cornerstone of the Museum for very many years, an invaluable and long-serving membership and volunteer manager and trustee, and a beloved friend.

Even when he retired from his Museum roles when he was 80, he continued to be our regular Friday Duty Manager and was always a welcoming and friendly face to our community and visitors from around the world, radiating kindness and enthusiasm for our transport heritage.

On 20 June, Steve was involved in a tragic accident while crossing the road and passed away that evening.

We extend our deepest condolences to Steve's wife, Stef, and all the family. Our thoughts are with them all at this devastating time.

The funeral arrangements will be announced when these are known.

Please visit the Museum canteen to sign the book of condolence for his family.



Class of 1936

Special arrangements were made for Beryl (front left), a Sutton resident who shares her year of birth with **T 448**, to travel on the bus on the 213 Heritage Day. She met the bus at Sutton garage with conductor **Jim Eades** and enjoyed a ride over the route with a couple of slightly younger friends.



PHOTO CREDIT (ABOVE AND TOP): PETER LARKHAM



PHOTO CREDIT: ROBIN HELLIAR-SYMONS

Spot the difference: RFs 486 and 406 rest up in Sutton garage before resuming duty on route 213

From the Editor

All of us at the LBM were shocked and saddened to learn of the death of **Steve Edmonds** on 20 June. In recent years, Steve was the regular Friday Duty Manager but his achievements at the Museum over many years are too numerous to list here. We extend our deepest sympathies to his wife, Stef, and all the family.

Steve was the subject of an E-news Q&A in October 2024. You can [view it online](#).

June is traditionally a busy month at the LBM, with a Heritage Day closely followed by Summer Festival. The success of these events is achieved entirely by the efforts of our volunteers, to whom we are extremely grateful. Don't forget to put the dates of our 2027 events in your diaries!

Thanks to **David Bowker, Graham Burnell, Leon Daniels, Nigel Eadon-Clarke, Mia Hastings, Robin Helliard-Symons, Peter Larkham, Peter Maynard, Laurie Mountjoy, Adrian Palmer, Peter Rodger, Martin Watkins and Peter Zabek** for contributing stories and photos for this edition.

Please [email me](#) any content for our next edition.

Richard



PHOTO CREDIT: MIA HASTINGS

Journey's end: T 448 and RF 395 return home

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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