



FROM LEON DANIELS CHAIRMAN

Dear Members and Volunteers

Your Council of Management met on 16th September. This is a digest of the things we discussed at our meeting.

Long standing member and volunteer Alan Heasman died in August and several of us attended his funeral. Subsequently we also learned of the death of Gerry Pratchett who was known to many from his time as a volunteer.

We discussed our readiness for our third and final running day this year – on route 106 on 3rd October, and our TransportFest later that month.

RTL139 has returned to LBM following considerable work to smarten up the interior. The work resembles the light overhauls given towards end of Aldenham's time with RTs. STL2377 is also prepared for service, and XF3, which has been at the Transport Museum at Wythall, will shortly return for use.

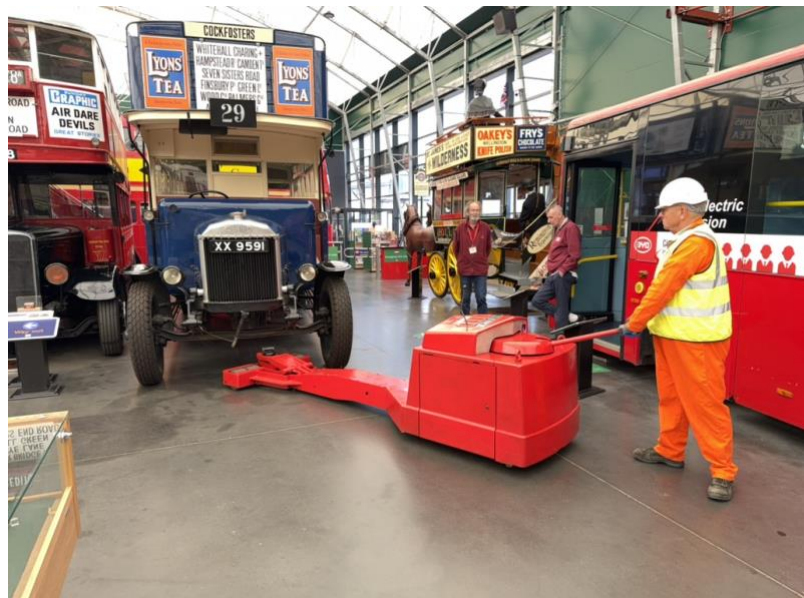
Seen here along with OM5 which we hope to have at LBM in 2027



Similarly we are in the final stages of preparation for TransportFest which will once again feature our 1890s Horse Bus in operation. It is agreed it will only make limited appearances in service in 2027 onwards. That will conclude another successful year of Brooklands-based events delivered so expertly by Deryck Fill and his team.

Our AEC Militant I456MR is away with specialists to carry out work on the power steering and other items so that it can perform reliably. As members will know it appeared at the Worshipful Company of Carmen's annual Cartmarking event in July but sadly was not able to visit its old home of Camberwell Garage as had been arranged due to a mechanical problem. This will be rearranged for 2027.

Received on long-term loan is an electric Lansing Bagnall vehicle tug as famously seen in the film about Aldenham Works. This is actually a London Fire Brigade unit but identical to the LT ones. It has already been used to lift and reposition D142 and its arrival now means we



can move vehicles during opening hours and not fill the museum with exhaust fumes. We plan to bring back RL92, our garage sweeper, to keep it company.

Your CoM also discussed a recent incident which reminded us of the importance of safety when moving vehicles; the mandatory use of authorised banksmen and a clear understanding of the movement involved.

A further Volunteers' meeting is planned. This time there will be a Zoom option so those who cannot attend on the day can be included. These events are designed to share with all volunteers our plans for the future and also hear concerns and questions.

A big thank you to all our volunteers for managing to keep us open during some very high temperatures and for Tom Yun for skilfully arranging it all.

This year our annual Volunteers' lunch will be at Mercedes Benz World. This builds on last year's event at Brooklands. This protects us all from the cold of

the LBM workshop, the need to make the space, and let's someone else do the catering. We do this to thank you all for your efforts during the year.



Separately – to thank the partners of our merry band, as well as provide a great social event for all in the dull period after Christmas, we will again have our annual Silvermere Sunday lunch.

It is booked for 24th January 2027 and we invite as many as possible to this.

As usual your first drink is on me! Please join us if you can: last year's raffle was so big nearly everyone won something.

We have a lovely little electric floor cleaner which is doing an amazing job in its first few weeks of service. It came highly recommended after Zero 2 Bus Museum acquired and used the same model!

Work on our various facilities continue: at LBM we are developing a better fire alarm system which will stop any fans, release the exit doors and Cubic gate.

We are expecting the latest scale model of our RTL139 to be available in the new year. This is a collector's item and not a toy!



And finally to say it is almost 60 years since the founders of the London Bus Preservation Group first sat down to discuss the formation of what we have become today. A full story from one of them – Tony Beard – is in our latest issue of the magazine for members which you should all have by now. This issue is larger and on better paper - editor Dave Jones would welcome comments. We are balancing as you know the need to stay in touch with our members all around the country whilst considering the ever-increasing cost of printing and paper.

As I said in the Magazine I wonder what our founders from 60 year ago would have made of it all we have achieved!



Leon Daniels
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