

## PENSIONERS' EDITION



### ROYAL VISIT TO PADDINGTON STATION

**C**olleagues joined Commissioner Andy Byford in welcoming Her Majesty The Queen and HRH The Earl of Wessex to the Elizabeth line at Paddington station on Tuesday 17 May, days before the new line opened to the public.

During the visit, Her Majesty unveiled a plaque that will be permanently mounted at the station, and spoke with colleagues about their involvement in this transformational railway.

An Elizabeth line moquette-design Oyster card was presented to Her Majesty and she was shown how to use the ticket machine amid a sea of photographers.

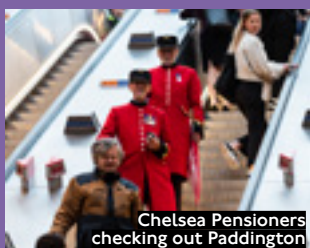
Joined by Prime Minister Boris Johnson, Mayor of London Sadiq Khan, Transport Secretary Rt Hon Grant Shapps and Crossrail CEO Mark Wild, the royals met Elizabeth line colleagues who will be running the railway – including apprentices, drivers and station staff.

The visit builds upon a long-held association between the Royal Family and the London transport network. Her Majesty The Queen became the first reigning monarch to travel on the London Underground in 1969, when she opened the Victoria line. To mark the change of name from Crossrail to the Elizabeth line, she also visited the railway during its construction in 2016.

### ELIZABETH LINE OPENS

**T**he Elizabeth line opened for passenger service on 24 May 2022.

Train enthusiasts the world over (many dressed in purple) and customers alike stood side-by-side outside stations in the rain waiting to be among the first to ride the new line on this special day.



Chelsea Pensioners checking out Paddington

When fully operational (and after the completion of Bond Street station works), the line will serve 41 step-free stations from Reading and Heathrow in the west, to Shenfield and Abbey Wood in the east, via central London. Trains will stop at major stations such as Paddington and Liverpool Street for interchange with National Rail services, Bond Street and Tottenham Court Road for shopping, Canary Wharf for business commuters, and Farringdon and Liverpool Street for the City of London.



A sign of the times

The line also connects customers from central London to Heathrow Airport faster than the Piccadilly line, and far cheaper than the Heathrow Express.

To further improve travel options for our customers using the Elizabeth line,

changes have been made to 14 bus routes, including a brand-new addition. The 304 route runs between Manor Park and Custom House stations.

Route 180 has been extended to places near Erith – an area to which our buses previously didn't go.

# LEAVING A LEGACY FOR THE LONDON TRANSPORT MUSEUM

**O**nce your loved ones and dependants are cared for, why not consider leaving a gift for London Transport Museum in your will?

Remembering the Museum in your will is easy. It's also a positive way to develop a lasting connection with the future of London transport and its history.

Simply decide how much you'd like to donate and instruct your solicitor to name London Transport Museum as a beneficiary.

All legacy gifts help the Museum care for its world-leading collection, ignite curiosity among young people and nurture new talent.

Once your legacy gift is received, your name will appear on display at the Museum in Covent Garden – a constant reminder of your generosity and support.

Got a question? Drop [chloe.mcdonald@ltmuseum.co.uk](mailto:chloe.mcdonald@ltmuseum.co.uk) a note or visit [ltmuseum.co.uk/donate/legacy](http://ltmuseum.co.uk/donate/legacy)



London Transport Museum

## VICTORIA COACH STATION CELEBRATES 90TH BIRTHDAY

**O**n Thursday 10 March, Victoria Coach Station celebrated its 90th birthday with an event attended by Commissioner Andy Byford, Chief Operating Officer Andy Lord and Director of Buses Louise Cheeseman.

Officially opened to the public in March 1932, the station was operated by London Coastal Coaches and quickly became a major transport hub.



## MID-LIFE MAKEOVER FOR ROUTEMASTER BUSES



**B**uses in London remain in service for around 14 years. Due to the high level of usage, they are given a mid-life refurbishment to return them to 'as new' condition.

Improvements include:

- New passenger seating and priority-seat moquette
- External and interior repaint
- Flooring security and step-edging replacement

# NOMINATIONS NEEDED

## **N**ominations are being sought for TfL Pension Fund members to stand for election on the TfL Pension Consultative Council (PCC).

The council is made up of three sections representing Fund members:

- Section 1: Pensioners and deferred pensioners (8 seats)
- Section 2: Employees of TfL, subsidiaries and contractors except those covered by section 3 (4 seats)
- Section 3: Employees of London Underground, its subsidiaries and contractors (8 seats)

The PCC meets at least four times a year to discuss the administration of the Pension Fund, picking up issues of concern to Fund members (other than issues relating to individual entitlements to benefits under the Fund), commenting on and making formal representations. Four Councillors (two from section 1 and one each from sections 2 & 3) are nominated by the PCC as Trustees of the Fund and regularly report at PCC meetings.

The eight PCC members from section 1 are required to also attend

the four Pensioners' Forum meetings each year. This Forum meets with TfL management representatives to discuss and be consulted on issues relevant to pensioners and deferred pensioners, such as retired staff travel entitlements.

PCC councillors are elected for four years so five complete their terms of office each year, although they are usually eligible for re-election. Five seats are therefore to be elected to take office on 1 December 2022.

The councillors whose term of office will end are David Biggs and Stephen Spurgin from section 1, Mohan Sukumaran from section 2 with Hari Srikandarajah and Pete Woods from section 3. All of these are eligible for re-election if they wish.

Nominations must be made in writing by a member of the TfL Pension Fund from the same section as the nominee and countersigned by another member of the same section. The information listed below must accompany the nomination:

- Name, as nominee wishes it to appear on the ballot paper

- Dates, if nominee has previously held office as a councillor
- Whether pensioner or deferred pensioner if they are from section 1
- A personal statement of up to 110 words, including the reason for standing for election or re-election to the PCC.

A passport sized photograph may also be provided for inclusion with the voting papers.

Please note that the information provided must be factual, appropriate and inoffensive.

Completed nominations must be sent to the **PCC Secretary, Julian Collins, TfL Pension Fund, 4th Floor, 200 Buckingham Palace Road, London, SW1W 9TJ by Friday 19 August 2022**. The constitution and further details on the PCC and the TfL Pension Fund can be found at [www.tfl.gov.uk/pensions](http://www.tfl.gov.uk/pensions) or by contacting the PCC Secretary.

If there are more nominations than vacancies, elections will be held by postal ballot among Fund members in the relevant sections.

## PENSION PAY DATES

- 04 Jul 2022
- 01 Aug 2022
- 30 Aug 2022
- 26 Sep 2022
- 24 Oct 2022
- 21 Nov 2022
- 19 Dec 2022
- 16 Jan 2023
- 13 Feb 2023
- 13 Mar 2023

## STAY SAFE FROM TAX SCAMS

**Y**ou should be on your guard for scams involving self-assessment tax returns. In the last year, there were over 570,000 reports involving tax fraud. These types of scams not only impact current employees, but also those who have retired.

Most prevalent are texts, emails or phone calls either offering a 'refund' or demanding unpaid tax, with victims mistakenly thinking the contact refers to their self-assessment return.

**How can I protect myself from this type of criminality?**

- Don't be rushed by the contact that you receive
- For more guidance, visit: [bit.ly/3xzTGX3](https://bit.ly/3xzTGX3)
- Act quickly and report the incident to HMRC and Action Fraud by calling **0300 123 2040**

## otm

## FONDLY REMEMBERED



**Michael Alford, 80**, passed away on 5 November 2021. Michael joined London Transport as a bus driver at Upton

Park in June 1962. He was promoted to driving instructor in 1972, divisional mechanical inspector in 1979, then driving examiner in 1985. He retired in 1998.



**Ron Burgess, 76**, passed away on 17 September 2021. Ron started working for London Transport in his late teens as a

conductor on the 197 route at Croydon Garage. He moved to Norfolk where he passed his bus driver's test, then six years later returned to Croydon and worked his way up from driver, to inspector, to inside garage inspector, then gold badge. He moved to Spain in 2013 and had eight very happy years in the sunshine.



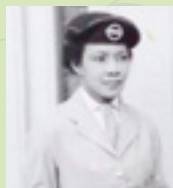
**Roy Davis, 88**, passed away on 18 March 2022. Roy's father Ernie worked for British Transport as a conductor and,

because of the stability of British Transport, Roy was encouraged to follow in his dad's footsteps. However, instead he trained as a bus mechanic. Roy was based in Chiswick and worked there until his retirement.



**Thomas Pitkeathly, 98**, passed away on 16 February 2022. Tom worked at Potters Bar Garage from 18 February

1952 until 15 August 1986 when he took voluntary severance. He was also Sports and Social Secretary for several years at Potters Bar and played cricket for London Transport. Tom arranged many days out to the seaside for the staff and their families.



**Elsa Robertson, 91**, passed away on 16 August 2021. Elsa joined London Transport in 1961, aged 31, after

emigrating to the UK from the then-British Guyana. She was encouraged to apply for a job in the LT canteen and, six months later, was taken on to work as a station platform employee. She was later promoted to ticket collector, working

on the Central line – mainly at White City. Elsa enjoyed her work and held an excellent punctuality and attendance record. She was extremely proud of her role with London Transport.



**Brian Seller, 68**, passed away from cancer at home in January 2022. Brian was a chartered civil engineer who had

worked for London Underground for over 30 years. He also worked as a principal engineer and was proud to have taken many roles on numerous projects, including the Tube tunnel extension to Heathrow Terminal 4, Aldgate station and the Jubilee Line Extension.

One of the most enjoyable aspects of his work was involvement in the graduate trainee scheme, mentoring young engineers towards chartership. Brian leaves a wide circle of friends and his wife Jan, sons Patrick and Jonathan, and baby grandson Jonathan.

Please send a paragraph about and a photograph of someone who has passed away to [OTMPensioners@tfl.gov.uk](mailto:OTMPensioners@tfl.gov.uk)

## LETTERS

Dear **otm**,

Almost forty years ago, I worked in Poplar bus garage. Before that I was a driver working out of New Cross bus garage, but I wanted to work on an OMO bus. I worked in Poplar until it closed, then I was transferred to Plumstead where I worked until I retired. I drove one of the LS buses used as changing rooms for the first London Marathon. I also drove one of the buses on the longest run ever, to Naples. London Transport gave over a dozen buses to the survivors

of the earthquake there – we drove them overland.

**Mike Sargent**, former bus driver

Dear **fellow pensioners**,

I am trying to find out where my great-grandfather worked. His name was **William J Foster** and I have a photo of him sitting in his garden reading a magazine. On the cover is the wording 'TOT Staff Magazine', I think he lived in Hammersmith at the time and was a carpenter or joiner with a railway company. I have his tool-chest full of tools in my house

and would love to know the name of his employer. Can anyone help?

Please email

**suefiddle@outlook.com**

**Susan Foster**, former Aldenham Bus Works colleague

Would anyone like to join the Epping Ongar Railway (EOR) as a volunteer? The EOR runs on the former Central line between Epping and Ongar and this year is our 10th anniversary.

If you are interested please email

**robertg@eorailway.co.uk**

**Robert (Bob) Good**

# NORTHERN LINE BANK BRANCH REOPENED



New, larger southbound platform at Bank station

**T**he Bank branch of the Northern line reopened on Monday 16 May, with a new and improved platform and concourse.

Customers can now travel between Moorgate and Kennington after a 17-week closure. The new, larger platform and concourse will make it safer and easier for our customers to travel.

## THE MOQUETTE KING

**O**ur friends at the London Transport Museum have stocked up with Elizabeth line merch for what's likely to be a busy time ahead.

To celebrate the line's opening, they have a stack of exclusive purple perfection on their shelves.

Commissioner **Andy Byford** – no stranger to the gift shop – says: "I'm

so pleased to see the Museum getting behind the celebrations in such a fantastic way. "The quality of merchandise is excellent and every purchase helps the team continue their conservation work, education programmes and special projects."

So, whether for socks, sofas, scarves or stools, visit the Museum gift shop soon.



Masses of moquette

## Often feel fatigued? Try **magnesium**

Feeling tired and don't know why? You're not alone. According to a recent study, less than half of us consume our recommended daily amount of magnesium, a mineral that helps turn the food we eat into energy.

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## THE KING OF ALL GIFTS



John presented with his signal lever by Clive and Michael

**F**ormer Instructor Service Operator **John Light** started his career at **London Underground** as a young teenager in 1963.

Over the years working with us, he became fully qualified to work in 19 signal cabins across the network and ended his long, distinguished career as Instructor Service Operator at Whitechapel.

His colleagues decided that, as a parting gift, they would present him with something special that he used over his career.

Duty Signalling Control Manager **Michael Jameson** arranged for the king lever as a farewell gift, but due to the pandemic it took a year to get it made

and presented to **John**.

Whitechapel was one of the few remaining cabins that still used levers, and John left once the cabin was closed for good.

District Service Control Assistant **Clive Rowe** says: "It felt right that he should have something appropriate, to express our appreciation for his service."

Presented with the king lever by his colleagues Clive and Michael, John was delighted to receive such a thoughtful gift.

Since retiring, John has spent the last year decorating his house, doing DIY projects and looking after his granddaughter, which is his favourite pastime. He says she keeps him young.

## MEMORIAL PLAQUE UNVEILED AT WEST HAM

**A**n official plaque honouring **Joseph 'Julius' Stephen** was unveiled at **West Ham station** in the presence of his family. **Julius** was a train operator on the **Metropolitan line**.

On 15 March 1976, he was pulling out of West Ham station when a terrorist detonated a bomb.

The terrorist tried to escape from the scene of the crime, and Julius gave chase in an attempt to apprehend him for the authorities.

Sadly, he was shot by the terrorist while trying to protect his colleagues and

customers, and died of his injuries. Ten others were injured at the scene.

Julius's actions were exemplary, and his widow Janet and son Mark – who was just five at the time of the tragedy – joined a small group at West Ham to see the newly installed plaque officially unveiled.

A number of colleagues, past and present, have been instrumental in raising awareness and advocating for a memorial to be installed – in particular, Line Information Specialist **Bea Thomas**, Customer Service Assistant **Gary James** and the now-



retired **John Stockwell**.

Because of their efforts, everyone who uses West Ham station will now be reminded of the sacrifices Julius made in saving the lives of others.



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## ACCESS MORE AREAS

**E**arlier this year our step-free access programme reached a major milestone.

The completion of the latest project – at Harrow-on-the-Hill – increased the total number of step-free London Underground stations to 91, meaning that one third of the 272 stations on the Tube network are now step-free.

Since becoming step-free, Harrow-on-the-Hill has had amazing feedback from customers, particularly the elderly and those living locally who have been waiting for lifts to be installed at the station for some time. It also helps the visually impaired and people with mobility issues to navigate the station.

### What's next?

This year there are a range of step-free projects that began construction prior to the pandemic and are due to complete. This includes providing step-free access to the Northern line at Moorgate, complementing the step-free access provided to the Circle, Hammersmith & City and Metropolitan lines there last year.

In 2022/23, teams will work to progress step-free access at stations that are currently unserved, making busy Zone 1 stations partially step-free. These are at Bank (Northern line and DLR interchange only) and Paddington (Bakerloo line only). Knightsbridge station will also be made fully step-free next year.



Lift at Greenford station



Lifts at Victoria station

## PENSIONERS' FORUM SUMMARY – 12 MAY

**T**he Forum was held virtually. Hybrid meeting facilities where people can meet face to face or virtually have been installed and we expect that the next meeting will be held in this format.

The final Pensions Review report was published on Monday 28 March 2022. The report details the impacts on TfL financing if they adopt various defined benefit scheme options identified in the report. These deal with future service benefits. Members' benefits built up to date will be protected. This includes pensions in payment and those that have been deferred.

The March 2021 Actuarial Valuation has now been completed and agreed with TfL.

The scheme now has a small surplus. This will be used to de-risk the scheme. Overall, Forum members felt that pensioners will have a higher level of security as a result of the approach taken, noting that the results were in the context of a high level of uncertainty with regards to the level of future funding, covenant strength and inflation over the medium term.

National Rail are introducing a facility whereby holders of privilege facilities will be able to purchase tickets online. This will be implemented in stages initially covering all National Rail staff and then will be rolled out to TfL privilege ticket holders at some point next year.

## BusDoku

The goal of BusDoku is to fill in the 9x9 bus grid with digits so that each column, row, and 3x3 section contain the numbers between 1 to 9.

You need to use logic to fill in the missing digits and complete the grid. You cannot have the same number twice in any column, row, or within the 3x3 grid and the rows, columns and 3x3 grid should make 45 if you were to count all the numbers.

Good luck!

**Teaser One**

5	3		7					
6		1	9	5				
	9	8				6		
8			6					3
4		8	3					1
7			2					6
	6				2	8		
		4	1	9				5
			8				7	9

**Teaser Two**

	4		1	9		8		
8	5				7			
								1
	2			5				4
		1	6					
	3			8				2
								6
3	4			8				
		9		4				3

**ANSWERS**

**Teaser One Solution**

5	3	2	7	4	6	8	1	9
6	9	1	9	5	3	7	8	2
8	9	8	6	2	4	5	3	1
4	8	3	6	1	9	7	2	5
7	2	5	3	8	6	4	1	9
6	4	1	9	2	8	5	3	7
3	6	7	2	8	4	1	9	5
8	1	9	5	3	7	2	4	6
2	7	4	6	8	1	9	5	3

**Teaser Two Solution**

8	5	1	9	2	6	4	3	7
8	5	1	9	2	6	4	3	7
3	2	4	6	8	1	9	5	7
2	1	6	5	3	7	8	4	9
3	1	6	5	3	7	8	4	9
3	4	9	8	2	1	6	5	7
5	3	4	6	8	1	9	2	7
6	7	2	8	4	1	9	5	3
1	9	8	3	4	2	5	6	7

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## CONTACT DETAILS

Members of the pensions team are working at least two days a week in the office and the rest of the week from home. All numbers are being diverted and the team continues to take calls. This is reliant on the mobile phone network, and, at times, a weak signal can cause difficulties in getting through. The team can also be contacted via [helpdesk@tflpensions.co.uk](mailto:helpdesk@tflpensions.co.uk) or, if you have registered, you can submit enquiries via the Pension Web Portal at [pensions.tfl.gov.uk](https://pensions.tfl.gov.uk)

### TfL PENSION FUND

4th Floor,  
200 Buckingham  
Palace Road,  
London SW1W 9TJ  
[helpdesk@tflpensions.co.uk](mailto:helpdesk@tflpensions.co.uk)  
[tfl.gov.uk/pensions](https://tfl.gov.uk/pensions)  
020 7126 4000

### STAFF TRAVEL

TfL, Floor I,  
14 Pier Walk,  
North Greenwich,  
London SE10 0ES  
0800 015 5071  
[1729Helpdesk@tfl.gov.uk](mailto:1729Helpdesk@tfl.gov.uk)

### HOSPITAL SATURDAY FUND

020 7928 6662

### TRANSPORT BENEVOLENT FUND & STAFF WELFARE FUND

0300 333 2000

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020 7833 2616

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(quote ref 083/LT7 and your NI number)

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