

ABOUT THIS BUS

New: March 1953

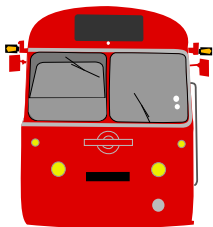
Number plate: MXX 468

Seats: 39

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RF 491

This bus has a Metro Cammell body and an AEC **Regal Four** (RF) chassis underneath, with a 6 cylinder horizontal diesel engine mounted in the middle. RFs were built for **London Transport** (LT) in large quantities, to replace various older single decker types.



RF 491 was a Central Area bus. It began its career at Sidcup garage, and during its first 15 years was allocated to West Green, Dalston (when the photo, right, was taken at Clapton Pond), Loughton, Norbiton, Edgware (replacing TD types) and New Cross garages.



RF 491 was overhauled and fitted with different bodies, and maybe chassis, in 1957, 1961, 1965 & 1972.

In June 1966 it was converted to allow the driver to collect fares, by the installation of power doors (previously the entrance was open and the bus conductor operated). A luggage pen was also installed in place of two seats.

The vehicle finished its passenger carrying LT career at Croydon garage on route 234/A/B in 1972. It was then used as a training bus until 1977, when it was sold to Mr. Thompson, Enfield in November. By 1985, RF 491 was owned by two people, kept at Muswell Hill garage, and used to attend summer bus rallies with the staff.



E. Pring (2006-08)

The bus was owned by Mr. Carr, London Colney and Mr. Hulks, Potters Bar, before it was purchased by BTS Coaches, Borehamwood in February 1989.

In November 1989 Mr. Cotterill, Abbots Langley bought the vehicle and restored it to LT colours. Kept in Hatfield, it was sometimes used on 'University Bus' services as a standby.



Timebus Travel purchased the bus in June 1995. It was used as a standby vehicle for local bus routes in Watford, Hertfordshire until the end of 1996. The seats were recovered with leather and moquette and the body underwent general overhaul to top condition in time for the 2005 season.

This vehicle is available for private hires & special events. If you would like to hire a beautiful single or double deck London bus like this one, please contact us.

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