

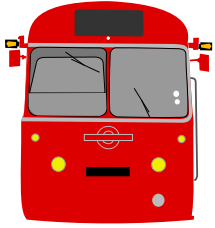
ABOUT THIS BUS

New: March 1953

Number plate: MXX 468

Seats: 39

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 for driver training based at Loughton.

It was sold into preservation in 1977, firstly to Mr. I. Thompson of Enfield, then on to Mr R. Walton of Potters Bar in 1984. By 1985, RF 491 was kept at Muswell Hill garage, and used to attend summer bus rallies with the staff.



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It was purchased by an operator once more in 1989, BTS Coaches of Borehamwood.

By early 1990 Mr. G. Cotterill of 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 of Hertfordshire purchased the bus in June 1995. It was used as a standby vehicle for local bus routes in Watford until the end of 1996. The seats were recovered with leather and moquette in 2005. The body underwent general overhaul to top condition in 2005 and again in 2014.



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 Timebus (see below). For more information about the history of the RFs, see red-rf.com.

timebus.co.uk

Tel. 01727 866248

