

## **PRESS RELEASE: National Transport Trust Awards 2023**

### **Nigel Bayes wins Restoration Award for his 1933 Dennis fire engine**

The restoration of a 1933 30 cwt (hundredweight) fire appliance, has led to Nigel Bayes being announced as a winner of a Restoration Award at the National Transport Trust's (NTT) annual awards. The Award was presented to Nigel by the NTT's Royal Patron, Anne, HRH The Princess Royal at a ceremony held in the Railway Museum at Fawley Hill ([www.fawleyhill.co.uk](http://www.fawleyhill.co.uk)) on 18 September 2023.

The vehicle is the only surviving Dennis 30 cwt fire engine found thus far which carries an escape ladder (Merryweather lightweight 50') It also has a different chassis layout to any of the few other survivors from this era and it is fitted with the rarer overhead valve engine. Nigel's aim throughout the work has been to undertake the complete restoration of NV 2881 to its former glory, that is to say to keep the appearance and equipment and overall integrity of the vehicle as near as possible to the day it left the factory.

NTT Awards Director Paul Brook comments: "The vehicle is probably unique in its configuration and represents a type of lightweight fire engine built by the famous Dennis firm of Guildford which was supplied in small numbers to local borough brigades. It is being restored to an exceptional standard and is certainly worthy of national recognition by way of a National Transport Trust Restoration Award."

### **Photographs**

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### **The National Transport Trust**

Founded in 1965, (as the Transport Trust), the National Transport Trust is the UK's only national charity established to promote and encourage the preservation and restoration of Britain's unique transport heritage in all its forms – by air, land (road and rail) and water (sea and inland). The Trust is managed within a very streamlined structure, with the Board of Trustees representing the wider interests of the nation, for whose benefit the Trust exists.

## **The National Transport Trust Awards**

The National Transport Trust Awards are a key event in the Trust's calendar. Designed to recognise and reward the efforts of the UK transport preservation movement, a number of awards are made to individuals and organisations every year. Categories include Preservationist of the Year, Young Preservationist of the Year, Lifetime Achievement, and Restoration Awards.

### **Help us to help them**

In order to help the UK's the preservation movement the Trust depends on its members and therefore encourages all those who share our aims to join us. Membership of the Trust is open to private individuals and affiliated organisations.

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