

PRESS RELEASE: National Transport Trust Awards 2023

Barry Ford receives Lifetime Achievement Award

Acting as the Lead Volunteer in the ongoing restoration of HMS Medusa has led to Barry Ford of Eastleigh, Hampshire receiving a Lifetime Achievement Award at the National Transport Trust's (NTT) annual awards. The Award was presented to Barry 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) on 18 September 2023.

HMS Medusa is a 1943 harbour defence vessel which began a five year refit funded by the Heritage Lottery following a review in 2005. Barry led the volunteer effort, stripping and rebuilding both engines to a high standard only to have his work undone when the engines were damaged by a fire at the workshop. It would have been easy to give up at that stage, but he stuck with it and motivated others to do so as well. The refit was completed in 2010 and the vessel launched and rededicated by HRH The Princess Royal.

NTT Chairman Stuart Wilkinson comments: "Now aged 87, Barry is still a very active member of Medusa's crew and is regarded by everyone as the father of the vessel; he has been with her for more than a quarter of a century. It is very appropriate that this service and dedication are recognised by this lifetime achievement 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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