

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

### **Martin Southam and Karl Tecklenberg receive Lifetime Achievement Awards**

The long-term commitment to the restoration of a Leyland PD3 double deck bus has led to Martin Southam of Glen Parva, Leicestershire and Karl Tecklenberg of Kettering, Northamptonshire receiving Lifetime Achievement Awards at the National Transport Trust's (NTT) annual awards. The Awards were presented to Martin and Karl 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.

Leyland PD3 double-decker bus TBC 163 was registered and entered service in Leicester in 1958, staying in service until 1974. After some time out of use it became a driver-training vehicle until in 1981 it was sold and partly converted to a children's Playbus but never used. By 1991 it was free to anyone who would restore it and the Leicester Transport Heritage Trust brought it back to Leicester.

NTT Chairman Stuart Wilkinson comments: "When the Trust acquired the bus it was in a bit of a state to say the least, with rotten bulkheads, most handrails and poles missing or bent, no seats, fluorescent lights cut into the ceiling coving panels, no floor coving, a hole in the upstairs floor above the engine bay to accommodate a slide, missing glazing and a hole in the nearside bodywork where a cupboard had been created to house gas bottles as part of the unfinished play bus conversion. The restoration continued for 26 years, at which point the bus successfully passed its MOT. The only two members of the Trust's restoration team who have been there from beginning to end are our Lifetime Achievement Award winners, Martin Southam and Karl Tecklenberg."

### **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.

## **For further information:**

The National Transport Trust  
Old Bank House  
26 Station Approach  
Hinckley Wood  
Surrey  
KT10 0SR

Tel: 020 7928 6464

Email: [info@nationaltransporttrust.org.uk](mailto:info@nationaltransporttrust.org.uk)

Web: [www.nationaltransporttrust.org.uk](http://www.nationaltransporttrust.org.uk)

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