



PRESS RELEASE: National Transport Trust Awards 2024

Richard Loudon wins restoration award for his 1939 Leyland Cub Fire Engine

The restoration of a 1939 Leyland Cub fire engine has led to Richard Loudon of Scunthorpe, Lincolnshire being announced as a winner of a Restoration Award at the National Transport Trust's (NTT) annual awards.



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Owned by Richard and restored with the help of Barrie Seeley this project sees the restoration of Richard's 'home town fire engine' after it had been resting in a barn in Lincolnshire for almost 50 years. It is a classic open cab pump ladder with crew of two and up to a further six on the running boards. The ladder is actually older than this pump but typical of the types carried, and they were interchangeable. It was new to Scunthorpe Borough Fire Brigade in August 1939 delivered one month before the outbreak of WW2.

NTT Awards Director Paul Brook comments: "Richard served over 32 years as a firefighter at Scunthorpe Fire station retiring in 2007. One of only two pieces of Scunthorpe fire station equipment are known to have survived. The workmanship on the visible parts is of a very high standard and the restorers have retained original material where possible but lino and upholstery have been fully replaced, as has new wiring, a replacement fuel tank, and the engine fully overhauled. Mudguards have had plates welded in where rust was excessive and similar repairs elsewhere. Paint is of a very high standard as is the signwriting, all the more impressive as work was undertaken largely by

torchlight as the engine was stored in a part of the shed with very poor lighting. Being a seasoned fire-fighter Richard claims he knows who was responsible for every dent and scrape!

"The vehicle has returned to its home town after over 55 years away Other than the coachpainting and lining it has been completed by the owner and Barrie both of whom are of state pension age. It is a 'brass finish appliance' and as such requires constant attention to lots of brasswork to keep it up to standard. Nonetheless it is a fine achievement and most worthy 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.

National Transport Trust

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