



## **PRESS RELEASE: National Transport Trust Awards 2025**

### **Simon Barringer wins restoration award for his 1929 BSA Front-wheel Drive Three-wheeler**

The restoration of a 1929 BSA front-wheel drive three-wheeler – a vehicle that marked a breakthrough in early motoring – has led to Little Witley, Worcestershire-based Simon Barringer being announced as a winner of a Restoration Award at the National Transport Trust's (NTT) annual awards.



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This steam roller – a machine that once played a pioneering role in early road-building technology – originally featured two significant components; a tar sprayer and a rotary sweeping brush. These attachments made it one of the earliest machines used to both prepare and seal roads during Britain's transition to tarred surfaces. In fact, this may well have been the prototype for Fowler's 'Improved Tar Spraying Apparatus.'

NTT Awards Director Paul Brooks comments, "The BSA three-wheeler was the first mass-produced car to feature front-wheel drive and all-independent suspension, years ahead of its time. It was marketed as a light, affordable car that could be driven on a motorcycle licence, opening up personal transport to a whole new group of people. Simon's particular vehicle is believed to be the 226th ever built, and he's restoring it with a replica Avon two-seater roadster body – making it the only known survivor with this style of coachwork.

"The project began with a dismantled chassis and a pile of parts. But Simon, an upholsterer by trade, has transformed it into a high-quality restoration. The chassis, wheels, engine, gearbox, and dashboard are all original, restored with care and attention. The coachwork has been rebuilt from scratch using traditional methods, and will soon feature fabric covering, leather seats, and a split windscreen. He's also handled the mechanical restoration – including rebuilding the engine and gearbox – while

outsourcing only the most specialist tasks, such as bearing work.

"Importantly, Simon doesn't plan to hide the car away. He already competes in vintage trials and rallies with another BSA trike, and this one will join it. His goal is to use and share the car, bringing it to life in the same way it once brought independence and freedom to post-war motorists.

"Simon expects to complete the project by the end of the year. We're pleased to support this meticulous and deeply personal restoration — one that celebrates early innovation, accessibility, and engineering ingenuity."

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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.

### **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. You can help us to help others too; become a member, donate to the trust or you might even consider leaving the trust something in your will. This last part is vital to our work, see here for more: [National Transport Trust legacies](#)

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