



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

### **Zach Fields-Pattinson wins restoration award for his Fowler BB1 'Victory' Steam Ploughing Engine**

The recreation of the 1919 Fowler BB1 steam ploughing engine 'Victory' has led to Bramshall, Staffordshire-based Zach Fields-Pattinson being announced as a winner of a Restoration Award at the National Transport Trust's (NTT) annual awards.



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NTT Awards Director Paul Brooks comments, "Zach began this restoration at just 23 years old, an age when most are still learning their trade. With no formal engineering training, and working primarily alone and on a limited income, he took on one of the most demanding and specialist projects in steam preservation: the full restoration of a heavy-duty steam ploughing engine, used in agricultural and land drainage work in the early 20th century.

"'Victory' had spent decades rusting in a field. When Zach acquired it, the engine was in poor shape — with significant boiler corrosion, seized components, and many missing parts. Yet he didn't shy away. With immense determination, Zach committed himself to learning the necessary skills: metal fabrication, machining, riveting, boiler work, and historical research.

"Over several years, he rebuilt major boiler sections to professional standards, restored the running gear and motion, and fabricated replacement fittings from scratch, using historical references and original Fowler blueprints.

"The BB1 is a rare and unusual model. 'Victory' features a longer-than-normal winch drum and was originally used for draining land — making it one of the few surviving examples of a steam engine built for this very specific kind of agricultural engineering. That historical rarity makes Zach's achievement

even more significant.

"He has remained scrupulously faithful to the original design. Rather than taking shortcuts, he has worked slowly and steadily — often re-doing parts until they met the original tolerances and specifications. And all of this, remarkably, has been done at home: in his own small workshop and with the help of a few friends in the steam preservation community.

"Zach's story is a powerful reminder of what young people can accomplish in heritage restoration. It's not only a celebration of craftsmanship, but a signal to the next generation that even the biggest machines can be brought back to life with passion and patience. We are proud to recognise his outstanding work and inspiring journey with this award."

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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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