



PRESS RELEASE: National Transport Trust Awards 2024

Alistair McMurray wins restoration award for his 1940 Loyd Carrier

The restoration of a rare 1940 Loyd Carrier TT (Tracked Towing) vehicle has led to Alistair McMurray of Lincoln being announced as a winner of a Restoration Award at the National Transport Trust's (NTT) annual awards.



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The Loyd Carrier was designed by the Vivian Loyd company in 1939 and approved for production in 1940. It is an open topped, fully tracked utility vehicle, tank support vehicle and Anti-Tank gun towing vehicle. The restoration is of a Ford built towing version recovered from an army firing range as a wreck.

The Loyd is a prime example of the British rush to build vehicles, any vehicles, in the dark days of 1940. Loyds were issued to all Divisions for D-Day, and served through to VE Day across North West Europe. This particular Loyd was sold to the Belgian Army post-war to help them re-arm. But as time went by it ended up as a target on a range. Only one partly complete Loyd survives in a UK National Museum today.

NTT Awards Director Paul Brook comments: "Having stripped the wreck down in 2010/11 Alistair began the task of locating missing or damaged parts from around the world. The tracks, for instance, came from New Zealand. Firstly the rolling chassis was completed and then a new hull was drawn up from surviving sections. Alistair has compiled over 100 drawings for missing parts and these have been

given freely to people around the world who are attempting Loyd restorations. In 2023 it was driven for the first time. Like many modern restorations progress has a strong Social Media following.

"The final step in the project is to have a canvas hood manufactured, based on an original hood in a private museum which Alistair has been lucky enough to borrow in order to be to be copied and thus complete the project. The Loyd is a very rare survivor which all those taking part in the D-Day invasion through to VE-Day would have been familiar with. It represents the 1940s spirit to make do and mend as well as having input from so many now defunct British engineering firms. As such it is a fine recipient of a NTT 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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