



PRESS RELEASE: National Transport Trust (NTT) Awards 2026

Cecil Schumacher receives Lifetime Achievement Award

Ninety-one-year-old Northampton man Cecil Schumacher is a legend in motor racing circles. He has worked for most of his career in the very specialist world of semi-automatic gearboxes, both maintaining and repairing early units such as the Wilson pre-selector gearbox and designing new systems for Borg-Warner and then for Cosworth, during that period when their brilliant engine dominated Formula 1 racing. He also founded a business making radio-controlled racing cars which is still a world leader today employing 25 people and run by his son Robin.



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Commenting on the award, NTT Awards Director Stuart Wilkinson says, "Despite his advanced years, Cecil has been involved with many historic racers such as Sunbeam Tiger, Grand Prix Talbot-Lagos and the ERAs which all use Wilson pre-selector boxes which are fiendishly complex and made up of huge numbers of very small components.

"These units were designed to cope with family salon cars but racing car designers found them very useful and under loads for which they were not designed they often broke. Cecil has continued to design and produce improvements to those gearbox designs to enable them to handle increased far more power now than they were designed to handle almost a hundred years ago"

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.

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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](#)

National Transport Trust

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