



PRESS RELEASE: National Transport Trust (NTT) Awards 2026

The Long Shop Museum, Leiston, Suffolk wins restoration award for its 1926 Garrett Trolley Bus no. 26

Richard Garrett Engineering in Leiston Suffolk, were pioneers in battery electric commercial vehicles and exploited that experience to diversify into the manufacture of public transport vehicles. They produced 101 examples of single-and double-deck trolleybuses between 1923 and 1930 but only three examples are known to exist in the UK. Fleet No.26 is the only example of the front entry/rear exit version.



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This vehicle, one of 15 supplied to Ipswich Corporation Transport, entered service in 1926 as fleet number 26 and retired from service in 1945. Post retirement all driveline components and the interior were stripped out and it began a new career as a summer-house in a field by the Orwell from which it was extracted with considerable help from the army, as we will see in a moment.

Commenting on the award, NTT Awards Director Stuart Wilkinson says, "When acquired by The Long Shop, the interior was an empty shell which required significant reinforcing prior to removal from the site and transport to Leiston site by military volunteers. The work has been done by volunteers - mechanical, electrical, metalwork, woodwork, upholstery, hand-painting, glass work resulting in a vehicle which represents its appearance when in service, and though it will not move under its own power, it can be moved on its own wheels and be steered. It will add to the museum's impressive display of the talents and achievements of Richard Garrett and the people of Leiston."

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](#)

National Transport Trust

Old Bank House, 26 Station Approach, Hinckley Wood, Surrey, KT10 0SR, London
United Kingdom

Tel: 0207928 6464

Email: info@nationaltransporttrust.org.uk

Web: www.nationaltransporttrust.org.uk

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