# Northern National Restoration Group

## Chairman's Report 2025–2026

As Chairman, I am pleased to look back on what has been another important period for the Northern National Restoration Group.

The past year has brought both challenges and opportunities for NNRG. Our members have continued to give their time, skills and enthusiasm to preserving the transport heritage of the North East, while we have also faced significant changes to our home and the future direction of the group.

### Our vehicles

Our fleet has continued to be at the heart of everything we do. Throughout the year, members have worked hard to maintain and restore our vehicles and keep them available for rallies and events.

Our Scania L94UB **5217 (NK54 NVN)** has had another successful year, it has continued to represent NNRG at events across the country. In May 2025, 5217 travelled to **Whitehaven for National 54**, supporting our friends at Workington Heritage Transport Trust.

Our Volvo B10BLEs **4855 and 4898** also successfully passed their annual MOT tests in April 2025, meaning all three of our low-floor vehicles were available for the rally season for a second consecutive year.

The group has also continued to look after **4710, 7076 and our other preserved vehicles**, with restoration and maintenance work continuing throughout the year.

### Supporting the fleet

During the period, we have continued to source parts and support vehicles to help keep our preserved fleet operational.

The arrival of **YN05 WKE** as a donor vehicle has provided valuable parts for our Scania L94 fleet. Although YN05 will not itself be preserved as a complete vehicle, its components will help ensure that our preserved vehicles can continue to be maintained and enjoyed for many years to come.

This is an important reminder that preservation is not always simply about saving a complete vehicle. Sometimes one vehicle can help preserve the lives of others.

### Our biggest challenge

One of the biggest challenges facing the group has been the need to leave our long-standing home at **Philadelphia**.

The former Philadelphia Power Station has been an important part of NNRG since we moved into the generating hall in 2019. It has provided not only a home for our buses but a place where members could work together, learn new skills and continue our preservation activities.

Having to leave such an important location has been difficult for the group, but it has also demonstrated the determination of our members. Rather than allowing the situation to bring an end to our work, we have worked hard to find alternative storage and working arrangements and to secure the future of NNRG.

## Looking forward

As we move forward, our priorities remain clear: to preserve our vehicles, maintain their history, encourage new members and pass our knowledge and skills on to future generations.

We are a volunteer organisation, and none of this would be possible without the people who give their time to NNRG. Whether working on a bus, helping at an event, raising funds, carrying out administration or simply supporting the group, every contribution matters.

I would like to thank all our members, volunteers, supporters, friends within the preservation community and everyone who has supported NNRG during this period.

The challenges we have faced have been significant, but our commitment remains the same.

**We will continue preserving the transport heritage of the North East and ensuring that the story of these vehicles continues to be told.**

**Craig Smith**
**Chairman**
**Northern National Restoration Group**