

East Anglia Transport Museum

Let's take a look at how the museum fared in 2021 and the picture that emerges is not too bad despite Covid having curtailed our ambitions to a certain extent, though certainly nowhere near as badly as in 2020 thanks to the government's massive vaccination programme. We may have worn masks, restricting our activities somewhat, and been constantly alert to hygiene rules, but we managed to welcome 15,072 visitors on the 86 days that the museum was able to open. Although this represents a drop of about 20% in what we might have expected in normal times, it was a vast improvement over the sad total of just 4,246 clocked up in 2020. After being locked down and ultra vigilant for so long, many people clearly wanted to get out and enjoy themselves and museum members certainly wanted to play their part in helping them to do so. For our membership, too, there was a chance to get back to near normality and for many the opportunity to meet friends and do worthwhile work at the museum was far better than being confined to home.

On Monday 23rd April 1962 - a full sixty years ago. The body of Lowestoft tram 14 had been attached to a wooden bungalow in Middle Way, Gunton to the north of Lowestoft, was rescued for preservation by Dick Bird and firstly removed to his haulage yard. Little did Dick know it at the time, the East Anglia Transport Museum would be created out of these humble beginnings.

29th May 2022 also marks a significant moment in the history of the museum, with 50 years of regular opening to the public and the operation of a tram service..