

# 25<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL EDITION NEWSLETTER 1/2018



European Federation of Museum & Tourist Railways



Photo: HSB / Volker Schadach.





# SUMMARY

**25 year FEDECRAIL to be commemorated on April 16<sup>th</sup> 2019, on the Brocken mountain in the Harz.**

**S**ome 170 years after the first train was running on our planet between Stockton and Darlington in Great Britain and 50 years after the heritage railway, the Tallylyn Railway started their activities in Towyn in Wales, the European umbrella-organization FEDECRAIL was founded during a first meeting with members in Leuven (Belgium) on April 16<sup>th</sup> 1994.

For many years there has been cooperation between the museum and tourist railways in Europe. It all started with a Conference in 1989, organised by the British Association of Railway Preservation Societies (ARPS), which was held in Utrecht to celebrate 150 years of Dutch Railways. What started as a first meeting of Europeans, repeated in Hameln (D) in 1991, took on added importance when a European Association was suggested. Representatives attending felt that in a developing Europe, more cooperation was needed between operating museum and tourist railways.



*Jaap Nieweg, FEDECRAIL President.*

After a period of discussions, investigation and preparation by a steering group commissioned by the Hameln meeting, FEDECRAIL was founded under Belgian law. The Constitution states that cooperation and mutual support, study and resolution of common problems and representation of interests on a European Union level are the main aims. A few years ago FEDECRAIL was appointed by the European Commission as a representative body under the European Union Agency for Rail (known as the ERA).

**Sincerely invited to our 25th anniversary.**

Since almost a year the council and the officers of FEDECRAIL are preparing a very special programme. First of all we looked at several places that could serve very well for organizing this Jubilee party, including our yearly conference, the AGM,

a suitable study programme to be facilitated by a national umbrella member and a very interesting heritage railway. We decided that the place to be is Wernigerode

We asked our German member and one of the founding fathers of FEDECRAIL, VDMT, if they could agree with the idea. Their answer was clear and positive. Then we met the general management of the HSB, Harzer Schmalspur Bahn, who were well willing to help us as a very well known local but very big heritage railway organization. This together with a very suitable congress

organization/-hotel and a professional regional tourist board, gives the council enough confidence to choose the Harz for the FEDECRAIL JUBILEE programme from April 12th until April 17th 2019.

### **Special Monthly Jubilee Newsletter.**

This is the first of a series of Jubilee Newsletters, that will inform you about the development of the programmes, the very special Jubilee event on the morning of Tuesday April 16th and the promising study-tour-programme under development. And of course

we not only tell you why to come to Wernigerode, but also how to book the different programmes to your choice, or at once the complete programme.

Look at the back page of this first Jubilee newsletter and find the current outline programme. In a few weeks time we will give you the definite prices.

Looking forward to meet all of you in Wernigerode.

*Jaap Nieweg*  
your FEDECRAIL President.



HSB Selketal — Photo: HSB / Volker Schadach.



# Flexible participation scheme

**A wide range of 'Flexi Options' will be offered for participation, here are some examples:-**

Flexi type	From - To	Note
<p><b>Flexi (1):</b> Full Programme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fri 12.04: Opening Reception/Informal Supper</li> <li>Sat 13.04: Study Visit: HSB Harzer Schmalspur Bahn – Selketalbahn; Coach transfer to..</li> <li>Sat 13.04: Study Visit: Mansfelder Bergwerkbahn; Coach return to Wernigerode</li> <li>Sat 13.04: Conference Reception</li> <li>Sun 14.04 General Assembly (morning)</li> <li>Study Visits: HSB Workshops + Flugzeug Museum (Sunday afternoon)</li> <li>Mon 15.04 Business Sessions, Conf. Dinner</li> <li>Tue 16.04: Jubilee 'Brocken Dawn' Special event (early morning)</li> <li>Tue 16.04: Study Visits: Other rail and tram heritage locations (details Tbc)</li> <li>Wed 17.04: Study Visit: Halberstadt Heritage Trams (details Tbc)</li> </ul>	Fri 12.04 + Wed 17.04	
<p><b>Flexi (2):</b> Business Days + 'Jubilee Event'</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sun 14.04: Programme as Flexi Option I</li> <li>Mon 15.04: Programme as Flexi Option I</li> <li>Tue 16.04: Jubilee 'Brocken Dawn' Special Event (early morning)</li> </ul>	Sun 14.04 + Mon 15.04 + Tue 16.04	Optional Supplement: other study events, Tue 16.04 (morning + afternoon)
<p><b>Flexi (3):</b> Business Days</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sun 14.04 General Assembly (Sunday morning)</li> <li>Group Lunch</li> <li>Study Visits: HSB Workshops + Flugzeug Museum (Sunday afternoon)</li> <li>Group Evening Meal (Tbc - possible free evening)</li> <li>Mon 15.04 Business Sessions (Monday Morning + Afternoon)</li> <li>Group Lunch</li> </ul>	Sun 14.04 + Mon 15.04	

Detailed arrangements are subject to alteration

Eng 2-2 FEDECRAIL/ThL 18-12-11

Prices for each option should be available from late December. Several other 'flexi options' will be available. Price information and other update news in subsequent Jubilee Newsletters and will also be detailed on the Fedecrail website [www.fedecrail.org](http://www.fedecrail.org). Other enquiries to: [conference@fedecrail.org](mailto:conference@fedecrail.org)