

HERITAGE RAILWAY NEWS

The official journal of
THE HERITAGE RAILWAY ASSOCIATION
Issue 158

**HRA 2020
Awards
Nominations
now open!**

*WWI
Centenary
Memorial
Service*

Job slots
at the HRA


**RM3 Free
seminars**



**Boost your business
with Christmas themes**



Fedecrail.
A Point of View

HERITAGE
RAILWAY
ASSOCIATION

**HRA Spring Events
schedule**

**Bilbao 2020
conference
update**

**OFFERS
&
WANTS**

Chairman's Briefing

I was asked recently what was my personal priority for our sector. Heritage or Safety?

Suspecting a trick question I asked the questioner what exactly did he mean and he repeated the question. Needless to say I answered safety, as I felt this was a no brainer (in my mind safety has always got to be the priority). But it got me thinking, are there people out there that disagree with me and who really think we should compromise safety in order that we get some kind of perfect heritage. I hope this is not the case, and would always do my best to ensure that HRA puts safety as its number one priority.

The first batch of trainees at the Ffestiniog and Welsh Highland Railways under the Skills for the Future scheme recently passed out. The scheme recruited 20 trainees over a two year period.

The trainees also completed recognised NVQ qualifications working alongside staff at other heritage locations with five being given full time employment. Congratulations to them all and well done to Ffestiniog and Welsh Highland Railways.

Recruiting volunteers is still a major problem for some of our membership. We heard recently of railways having to curtail services because of the lack of suitable volunteers. I know at HRA we will continue to monitor the situation and offer advice if sought. This is one of the biggest challenges that we face and we will do all we can to help. Volunteers are the life blood of Heritage Railways and an important asset to us all.

All our railways are fast approaching that time of year when our revenues, we hope, will be greatly enhanced by the Santa Specials that we all run. This year has been a testing one for some of our members and a timely boost to revenues is not to be sniffed at. So I would like to take the opportunity to wish you all a very good and successful Christmas period.

Best wishes

Brian Simpson

To celebrate the opening of nominations for the 2020 HRA Awards we have included pictures of last years award winners, nominees and the awards ceremony itself throughout this edition.

Details of how to make a nomination are given on pages 7 and 8. Enjoy!

Front cover photo:
Welsh Highland Railway No.138 hauling the 2018 Dinas-Rhyd Ddu Santa Special rounding Ffridd Isaf curve in snowy conditions.



Ravenglass & Eskdale Railway's
Whillan Beck
Winner of the Coiley Award 2019

Dates for your Diary

November 2019

8th RM3 Seminar
Bluebell Railway

20th RM3 Seminar
Manchester

December 2019

3rd RM3 Seminar
Severn Valley Railway

5th RM3 Seminar
Stirling

February 2020

8th HRA Annual Awards
Burlington Hotel
Birmingham

25th Spring Seminar
M Shed Bristol

26th AGM
Management Forum
M Shed Bristol

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It's time to review your Lone Worker policy and to implement one if you haven't already done so.

If your organisation needs help from the HRA email contact@hra.uk.com

THE EMAIL STARTED: 'Hi, This is a question I'd rather not be asking ...'

(Oh, heck ... what's coming next?!)

And then there was the one which started: 'I'm a journalist at the BNPS, which does stories for the national papers. I've made several calls this afternoon and everyone tells me you are the best person to speak to ...'

(That's great! ... I think ...)

And from a government department: 'I need to provide a full briefing pack and speech by early next week, I'd be really grateful if you could provide me with stats/information to feed into this. For example, do figures exist to ...'

(Er ... where will I find those?!)

Almost every time I receive such an enquiry, whether from the media, a researcher or a government department, my immediate thought is, do I have – or where can I get - the relevant data, stats and information to answer the question? The base data gathered through our Annual Statistical Return is often all I have and, although I sometimes ask a sample of members for some quick data to assist me, when needing info on everything from economic impact to a demographic and ethnic breakdown of volunteers to quantities of diesel used, our information resources are certainly tested!

So, while I'm immensely grateful to all those who provide info at short notice, our industry needs more stats and data. We are therefore going to be asking all members for more info please through an expanded annual statistical return and via other surveys and questionnaires. Rest assured we won't be overloading you but whatever info is requested will help ensure we best fight your corner and do all we can to raise the profile, value and importance of heritage railways.

Government and shadow ministers, parliamentarians and others often have heritage railways in their constituencies and, while the HRA is lobbying hard on your behalf at national and regional level, it's often what MPs, ministers, journalists, tourism industry professionals and others know from their local areas that forms the basis of their knowledge of heritage railways.

Politicians, civil servants, journalists and others who already know a bit about heritage railways are so much easier to brief ... So whenever possible please invite your MP, local authorities, LEPs and others to your railways and tramways, and actively share the message that you are part of a major sector that employs over 4,000 people, provides training and apprenticeships, offers social and wellbeing activities to 22,000 volunteers, and, with 13 million visitors, adds significantly to the UK-wide visitor economy.

But what came from the enquiries mentioned at the start of this article? Well, our response to one contributed directly and significantly to a minister's speech in parliament. Our response to another provided the context to a national story and generated a good deal of additional positive coverage in national and regional print, broadcast and online media for all heritage railways.

And what of the other? ... As well as gaining us plenty of column inches, it also made us think and has led directly to the preparation of one of the presentations at our Autumn Conference together with a new information paper to be released soon.

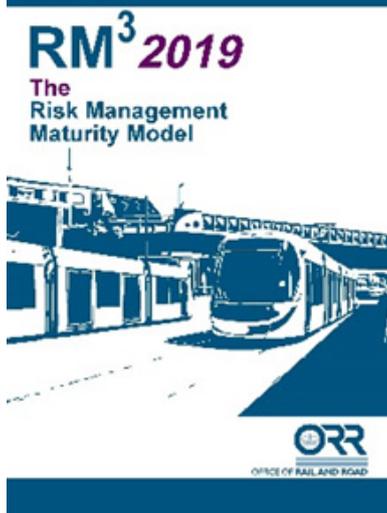
Stats and data are vital. They enable us, as your trade association, to keep building the profile of our sector and to ensure heritage railways are recognized as valuable and important players in the UK's economy and within the communities they serve.

Steve Oates
Chief Executive

PS. If your railway, tramway or museum already has an economic or community impact assessment, stats on wellbeing, volunteers or similar please do send me a copy ... Stuff from a local perspective provides great evidence to support a national story!



*'Steve on the footplate of Ivatt tender loco 46447
Credit: IWSR/Stuart Duddy'*



The 2019 edition of RM3 is here!

What is it? And what are we doing to help Heritage Railways use it?

When I first heard about RM3 I wasn't even certain what it meant; was it the 3rd edition? Or was it in 3 parts 1-2-3? Or was there some cute reference to cubes that I just didn't get? Well of course it was none of these it stands for "Risk Management Maturity Model" – get it R and mmm – R and then M three times. Simple!

I know now that you are starting to wonder why I am wittering on about a name, and have probably guessed that I was just being thick, but I suspect that some of us are just seeing the title of an 86-page document, not quite understanding what it means, and then assuming the worst. It's obviously going to be something extremely complex! Let's leave it to the big boys! It can't be applied to our small railway! The truth however is completely different – it's a well thought out albeit quite lengthy document and it is well segmented so that it can be used in small chunks.

What is it really? It is many things, and most importantly, a different feast for everyone. Primarily however for our sector, it is no more than a tool to evaluate progress of a heritage railway from what might be in some cases an "ad-hoc" approach to systems and management, right through to the end goal which is excellence in health and safety governance and process.

RM3 is not a compliance tool, but if an organisation's risk control is largely on an ad hoc basis it is more likely that they will not be complying with health and safety legislation. It reinforces the importance of organisational culture in successful health and safety management. RM3 helps navigate this minefield!

It can be used successfully by extremely small railways, whilst having equal value for our larger members. Indeed, there are examples of RM3 already being embraced by our members, and what do they say about it; some say how helpful it has been in showing us our strengths and weaknesses and others just say that now it is second nature for us – what did we do before?

Some of you were present at Crewe a few years ago when John Gillespie, then HM Assistant Chief Inspector gave an animated presentation about what was then the first incarnation of RM3. We all sat down for the session expecting something that probably didn't really affect us being forced down our throats. How wrong we were – He bounced around the room as an evangelist, and he was right. It opened my eyes to a valuable tool in our armoury. I remember one particular slide:

- RM3 can be used by any railway of any size.
- Adjust it...like an adjustable spanner.

Its adjustable!



OK – What are the ORR and HRA doing to help?

RM3 has itself matured, and a new edition was launched in April this year. The ORR are keen that as many of our members as possible, understand its value and start using the tool; so to give those that are not already on-board a head start, we are supporting ORR in running a series of workshop seminars. They will be giving a basic grounding in not only how to approach RM3 and use it, but how to fit it to your organisation no matter what size. The seminar content will be solely from ORR specialists, and we would hope that all operating heritage railways send at least one delegate, and even better two.

The events are free for operating railways, and small events are being held all over the UK

The free one-day seminars, delivered by Ian Skinner and his team from the ORR, will allow you to learn how to use this model to your organisation's advantage. There are four opportunities to attend. In November it will be held at the Bluebell Railway (8th) and in Manchester ORR Offices (20th); and in December at the Severn Valley Railway (3rd) and The Engine Shed, Stirling (5th). Choose the one that best suits you. Booking available on the HRA website now!

BUT ... places are limited, and it will be first come first served. We are expecting a sell out.

You can register [HERE](#) for a seminar near you.

That's enough wittering for now, and it's up to the experts at the seminars to help you and to bring you all on board, however one final thought hit me. There are sections on management and governance and process, and the HRA itself embodies these elements. Why don't we adjust this spanner to see if we can get some value from it. The results might be surprising – Watch this space!

Richard Barnes (HRA Board Director)

Spring Seminar 2020 February 25 - Bristol M Shed

The HRA Seminars are held twice a year – Spring and Autumn. Each seminar majors on a specific theme with several presentations from either external experts, or from our own Members.

For our 2020 Spring seminar the planned topic is Competency Management, with presentations by the HRA's Training and Development Committee. assisted by the ORR.

The whole day is intended to inform our members about the chosen subjects, but there is also a good chance to network with other representatives about the issues of the day.

AGM and Spring Management Forum 2020 February 26 - Bristol M Shed

The Forum events are held twice a year, and this Event includes the HRA's formal AGM. The forum is aimed at Chairmen, Trustees and General Managers – and all those with a responsibility for safe and successful running of their attractions or organisations

Speakers are chosen specifically for the interest of “management” and quite often there will be an important presentation by the ORR, or Network Rail, or one of the other industry stakeholders, and several other important contributions. Not to be missed, if you are in a position of responsibility.

Networking is another extremely important part of the event, and there will be representatives from the largest, the most successful operations through to new starters in our industry.

Representatives of HRA members may attend the AGM at no cost, but there will be a charge for those who would like stay on for lunch and the Management Conference.

Scottish Forum Saturday 14th and Sunday 15th March 2020 Riverside Museum, Glasgow.

Following a tour of the riverside museum in the morning, Lunch will be at the museum, followed by the main meeting in the education room at the Riverside Museum.

2020 is the Visit Scotland celebration of Coasts and Waters, and our forum at the Riverside Museum on the banks of the Clyde river will be included on the Visit Scotland website as an associated event.

Sunday's Programme is still in the making, but will include a tour of the 'Hidden' Station at Glasgow Central Station.

Advance dates for your diaries

The Autumn Seminar and Forum will be held at Bristol Museum's M Shed on the 3rd and 4th November 2020.

DO YOU WANT YOUR OWN COPY OF THIS NEWSLETTER?

Send your email details to:-
barbara.barnes@hra.uk.com

The next edition is February 2020

Gloucester Warwickshire Steam Railway's
Broadway Station.
Winner of the Large Groups Award 2019



Safety Matters

Safety Learning Point.

The RAIB has issued a report on a serious operating irregularity at Romney Marsh in August this year.

The main learning points from this event are:-

This incident highlights the particular risk associated with the operation of single line railways which are worked with the tablet and ticket system. More generally the incident demonstrates the importance of:

Using suitable communications protocols to help reach a clear understanding about what actions are required

- Recognising that while people are being trained, they may be more likely to make incorrect decisions, especially in situations which are outside the normal routine
- Having systems and processes in place which can provide additional safeguards when safe operations otherwise rely on the actions of people

The full report 08/2019 can be found <https://www.gov.uk/raib-reports>



HRA Insurance Services

Protecting the risks
that you run on a daily basis

GET ONBOARD AND BENEFIT FROM:

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HRA Insurance Services, the preferred insurance supplier of the Heritage Railway Association



To find out more or to arrange a meeting with our Managers at HRA Insurance Services please contact:

Jim Knight
T: 07542 735203
E: jim.knight@regisbroking.co.uk

Martin Richards
T: 07789 007362
E: martin.richards@regisbroking.co.uk

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East Lancs Railway Welding Mask information.

East Lancs have notified us of an incident at their premises. Whilst undertaking welding work an individual noticed the smell of burning plastic, they discontinued welding and on attempting to remove the welding mask the individual burnt his right hand on visor self-adjuster handle which had caught fire from welding sparks, injury was relatively minor and was treated with cold water and burn gel.

East Lancs has concluded that this type of welding mask type should not be used and should be returned to their engineering office or if bought by an individual the mask should be returned to the supplier.

The mask in question is an Air Fed Welding Mask Manufacturer – ESAB (Warrior Tech)

HRA's Training and Development Committee are presenting their Competency Training findings at our Spring meetings in February 2020. Something that is critical for all our members.

So its a date for your diaries - you can't afford to miss this!!

HRA Awards Nominations

HRA Nominations are open....

It's that time again! For those of you who have accomplished something really special in 2019 would you like us to help you celebrate it? If you would like to enter for one (or more) of our HRA awards, which will be presented at our Annual Awards Dinner in February, then nominations are now open.

In order to qualify your organisation must be a fully paid up HRA member organisation, or a subgroup of that organisation, or where applicable a volunteer of the HRA member organisation. You have until mid day on Friday 22nd November to let us have your entry in any two of the 8 categories below. To enter you will need to complete the nomination form which can also be found on our website www.hra.uk.com along with the full rules (don't worry there aren't many!)

In addition, on the night we will also be presenting four Awards which have been chosen by the Editors of four of our best loved magazines, Heritage Railway, Rail Express, Steam Railway Magazine and the Railway Magazine.

To whet your appetites we've included pictures from the event earlier this year on these two pages. Enjoy and Good Luck!

Last years winners can be found at www.hra.uk.com/2019-hra-awards



The Coiley Locomotive Engineering Award

Awarded to an HRA member who has completed an outstanding engineering project in the overhaul, restoration, or preservation of a self propelled vehicle or a locomotive.

HRA Annual Award for Small Groups and HRA Annual Award for Large Groups.

Two awards for HRA members. For excellence in developing their businesses. This award is available to the HRA member as a whole, a group of its staff or volunteers, or an individual.



The Morgan Award for Preservation

Awarded to an HRA member organisation for an outstanding achievement in the restoration of carriages or rolling stock.



HRA Award Nominations (con)

The Lord Faulkner Young Volunteer Award

Awarded to a volunteer under the age of 26, for significant achievement.



HRA Award for an Outstanding Visitor Attraction – Small Groups HRA Award for an Outstanding Visitor Attraction - Large Groups

Two awards for HRA Member organisations for providing an outstanding visitor experience.



And NEW for this year!! HRA Award for Communications

Awarded for excellence in any form of communication, advertising/marketing campaign or public relations. This may cover any format (e.g. printed, broadcast or digital), and in any type of media, internal or external.

Heritage Railway Association 2020 Annual Awards

The Heritage Railway Industry's Big Night Out!

Recognising and celebrating the best in heritage railway and tramway preservation, restoration and operation!

MacDonald Burlington Hotel, Birmingham. Saturday 8th February 2020

Bookings will open in December. As usual, those who buy a complete table will obtain a discounted price.



Vacancies

Recruitment of full-time HRA Office Administrator and Assistant to CEO

The HRA is recruiting a full-time member of staff to support our Chief Executive. This is more progress for the HRA, and is now needed to improve our responsiveness and to allow us to extend the projects that have been so successful this past year. We will also need to take on new challenges.

We are looking for someone who is a self-starter, trustworthy and able to work on their own initiative, from their home, providing Personal Assistant support to the CEO of the organisation but also be able to take direction where needed.

The primary skills needed include an ability to communicate in a professional manner, an extensive level of computer literacy, and a proven ability to work effectively under pressure, juggle conflicting demands and manage multiple tasks. The successful Candidate will be: highly self-motivated, proactive with an adaptable and flexible approach to work, and will have a professional attitude with good humour, optimism, perseverance and resilience.

Recruitment is being carried out, on behalf of the HRA, by Berry Recruitment and all communication regarding this vacancy will be through Sally.Appleby@berryrecruitment.co.uk or via the Berry website.

Applications close on the 10th November 2019.

Archivist: Heritage Committee

As the result of a sudden vacancy arising, the HRA is seeking applications for the role of Archivist. This post reports through the Heritage Committee. Meetings are held four times a year at the NRM, York, generally on a weekday. The core task is to manage the archive of the HRA. This is currently housed in Yorkshire, much of it at the NRM; however, it could be relocated to another suitable location if thought prudent. Previous experience of archive work, preferably in a professional capacity, would be helpful. You should be computer literate and have good communication skills. In addition to the core tasks, you would be welcome, if you wish, to assist with other elements of the Committee's work, specific tasks being shared out amongst Committee members.

This is a volunteer role with no remuneration. Travel and subsistence costs (and any other appropriate outlays) can be reimbursed under the terms of the current HRA Expenses Guidelines. No specific hours of duty but the successful applicant will have sufficient time to undertake the role. Please reply in the first instance to: Sam Bee (Committee Chairman) at contact@hra.uk.com, with C.V. and any further detail which you think might be relevant.

Expressions of interest would be appreciated by 30th November 2019.

Isle of Man Horse Trams
Winner of Small Outstanding Visitor Attraction 2019



Isle of Wight Steam Railway
Winner of Large Outstanding Visitor Attraction 2019



Do you have something you want to sell - or something you are finding it difficult to source? Why not let us help you by putting in our next edition. Send your copy and pictures to barbara.barnes@hra.uk.com

Offers and Wants

The Railway Heritage Designation Advisory Board. Are seeking expressions of interest in the following vehicles.

75t Diesel Hydraulic Breakdown Crane (type ZIA) no. ADRC 96714

74T Bogie Steel Carrier – modified to carry coils – no. 910318 (BLA)

31T Plate Carrier (SPA) no. 460487

31T Plate Carrier (SPA) no. 460774

These are designated vehicles. Designation is a process under the 1996 Railway Heritage Act which identifies items that are worthy of preservation and ensures that when they have finished their working lives they are transferred to a recipient. The recipient has to meet certain criteria and be able to care for and preserve the item.

Please contact the Secretary on smgrailheritage@sciencemuseum.ac.uk giving details of your organisation, use or purpose for the vehicles and confirmation that you are able to meet the criteria for receipt of a designated vehicle as detailed below.

- Can demonstrate that the items concerned fall within their collecting policy.
- Meet approved minimum storage standards in terms of security; fire, water and environmental control; space; and layout of site.
- Meet approved minimum standards for public display facilities in terms of the supervised, safe inspection of items; opening hours; and the cataloguing of items open to public inspection.
- Have an approved long-term plan.
- They should have long-term financial security.
- They are likely to be in a position to meet any required terms relating to payment, including any payment for transport – when such payment has not been met from another source.
- That they will acknowledge the status of the item as having been designated under the Railway Heritage Act 1996 in any literature, labelling and publicity material.
- Pictures of the vehicles can be obtained from the Secretary at the email above.

Herbert No 4 ‘Senior’ Turret Lathe needs a new home.

It's at the Bahamas Loco Society workshop in Ingrow. Operational until recently when it was decided that more space was needed, so it needs to go. It is available free of charge to any society or railway which can make good use of it. There are also some tooling and spare chucks.

If a home can't be found it will be scrapped in December.
Please contact Steve Allsop on 07979 060926.

Injector Info or Castings Wanted

The Mid Suffolk Light Railway is restoring Hudswell Clarke 'Italia' class No.1604 and are in need of drawings, patterns or castings for Davies and Metcalfe No.6 injector cones, 90 degree injector water cocks and clack valves.

Please contact Paul Ebsworth on 01359 242 604 or train.ebsworth@gmail.com

Angel Trains Ltd.

Sale of surplus Rolling Stock.

Angel Trains have the following Classes of Train due to be withdrawn from service over the next year.

94 x Class 142 Pacer

From Dec 19 onwards.

117 x Class 507/8

From May 20 onwards

4 x Class 442

Available now

110 x Class 317: 2 are available now with more due in December 19.

The general cost is £5k per carriage but if the purchaser is a registered charity this can be negotiated. Unfortunately any transportation cost from the storage depot must be borne by the purchaser. If they cannot be sold they will be sent for disposal for scrap.

If you are interested please contact Stewart Masterson on 020 7592 0773, 07825 675671 or by email stewart.masterson@angeltrains.co.uk

0 4 0 steam loco wanted

Northampton Ironstone Railway

For a one to two year hire to be kept in a Loco Shed with 24 hour CCTV. Able to help?

contact Grant Muddiman at nirt7436@yahoo.com

Seaton Tramway
New Seaton Tram Station
Winner of Morgan Award 2019



Information for Members

RAILWAY WORKERS
WW1 CENTENARY MEMORIAL SERVICE

Wednesday 6 November, 15:00

For details & to register visit: rwcms.co.uk



London Southwark Cathedral Commemoration of Fallen Railwaymen of the Great War Wednesday 6th November at 15.00.

As members of the heritage railway movement you are invited to attend a 2019 Centenary service in commemoration to the Fallen Railwaymen of WW1 ('The Great War') and to the role of the railway into the future.

FREE Entry is by named ticket only.

This is a High Profile National service of Remembrance and reflection, led by the Rail Industry.

This 2019 service is built on the foundation of an original service of Remembrance held at St Paul's Cathedral on 14th May 1919, which was attended by King George V and 7,000 rail workers from across the nation, and reflected on the role and sacrifices of the Railway during the Great War and importantly the high cost to the 88,000+ Railworker's that enlisted in the armed forces and the 22,000+ who gave the ultimate sacrifice.

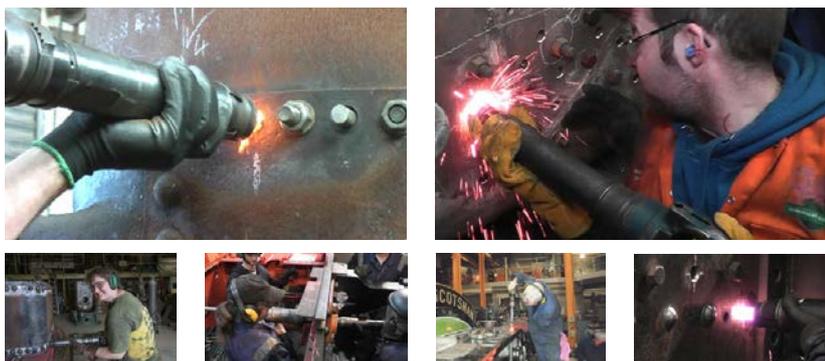
To attend this gathering of railway workers you must apply for your ticket via the website.

<https://rwcms.co.uk/home>

Matthew Wilson from RPSI
Winner of
The Lord Faulkner Young Volunteer



Are you interested in becoming a BESTT certified hot riveter?



The Boiler & Engineering Skills Training Trust (BESTT)
offers a 4 day practical & theory hot riveting course.

You will learn:

- how to remove and replace rivets
- prepare materials for riveting
- how to safely heat rivets
- the health and safety aspects within a boilershop environment

The course will require you to complete a test plate which will be examined by an independent assessor.

Successful candidates will be awarded a BESTT Certificate of Competence

Courses will be held in engineering workshops. Dates to be arranged

Booking is essential - places are limited

Initial enquiries email: enquiries@bestt.org.uk

For more information please visit our website: www.bestt.org.uk



Boiler & Engineering Skills Training Trust



www.bestt.org.uk



This flyer has been produced with the co-operation of the Heritage Railway Association



Heritage Railway News is published 3 times a year by the Heritage Railway Association and distributed free of charge to member railways and Friends of the HRA.

Please send letters, contributions, images and advertising enquiries to Barbara Barnes at barbara.barnes@hra.uk.com T: 07901 977 597

Members News and Information

Chasewater Railway Museum's Barry Bull Wins the West Midlands Museum Award

Legendary Chasewater Railway Museum Curator Barry Bull is the acclaimed winner of the Museum Individual Category at the West Midlands Volunteer Awards Ceremony, which is organised annually by West Midlands Museum Development.

At the ceremony at the Birmingham Hippodrome on Wednesday September 11th, Barry joined 10 other nominees for this most prestigious award, all of whom had made a major contribution to their respective museums.

The Museum's representatives present were truly delighted that the award went to Barry, whose involvement with the museum movement – with railways in particular – goes back over a period of 50 years (including being Railway Preservation Society's (West Midlands District) Curator in the early sixties). It took a little while to persuade Barry that this was for real, and that he had to go down to the stage to receive his award. Indeed, one of Barry's attributes as a museum curator is his reluctance to "be noticed", wishing to simply work as a member of the Chasewater Railway Museum volunteer team.

Those throughout the heritage railway movement who know Barry, and particularly the Chasewater Railway Museum, will have little doubt that his endeavours over so many years fully justified the award. Congratulations and well done Barry.



Lincolnshire Light Wolds Railway

Here keeping company with a myriad of heritage vehicles at the Skegness Classic Wheels Show in September.

Steam loco Jurassic was in operation all day demonstrating what it was like to travel to the front line trenches of WW1 battlefields and the remotest districts of rural England. Also running was a WW1 bogie wagon adapted to become a disabled friendly carriage funded by a National Lottery grant.

Jurassic was a runner up in the 2019 Coiley Locomotive Engineering Award.

Association of Independent Museums: Prospering Boards Programme

Seeking to strengthen your Board's leadership, want to work more strategically and deal more effectively with emerging challenges? If you are an AIM Member you can benefit from up to six days bespoke support from an expert consultant through their Prospering Boards programme.

Prospering Boards can help museums with:

- Reviewing governance models
- Succession planning and recruiting new trustees
- Skills audits and clarifying trustee roles and responsibilities
- Supporting a Chair of Trustees with their own individual development as a leader

Short 'micro-consultancies' of 1 – 2 days are also available for simpler projects.

Applications are considered on a rolling basis and you must be an AIM member to apply. Non-AIM members can join at the point of application. Want to know more about the benefits of being accredited? Contact our Heritage Committee at secretary.heritage@hra.uk.com

Help for Members

Christmas is coming!!

And no doubt most of you will be ramping up for the busiest time of the year, so how do you do Christmas?

Santa Specials

All railways (and tramways) have their own versions to meet their operational needs and logistics. Whether it's Santa on the train, or in a grotto on a platform, there are many different incarnations all of which have different merits and advantages. But the question to ask is - what else is out there that could help you?

Polar Express Train Ride

Following the 1985 best selling children's book, this Christmas experience story has forty-eight partner railways in the USA, Canada and the UK and over one million passengers who enjoy the trip to the 'North Pole' each year.

Run by 5 railways in the UK; Wensleydale, Mid Norfolk and Telford Steam Railways, plus Seaton Tramway, and Vintage Trains in Birmingham.

If you would like to discuss whether this is something which your railway would be interested in developing in the future, then please contact info@raileventsint.co.uk
www.raileventsint.co.uk



Twilight Train

Running at Perrygrove Railway this year. A fusion of illuminated trains with Santa.

A magical steam train journey in the dark through their illuminated woods. Father Christmas will join the train on the return journey to hand out gifts.

www.perrygrove.co.uk

'Train of Lights'

A programme of illuminated Christmas trains, pioneered in 2018 in the UK by Dartmouth Steam Railway in Devon with their locomotive and carriages decorated by thousands of lights and running at night with lineside illuminated display.

This is a stunningly successful venture which as an adjunct to the traditional Santa Specials caters to a different Christmas market appealing to adults and older children. A welcome additional income stream.

Other railways who have also adopted the general concept this year are NYMR (see below), North Norfolk, Great Central and Severn Valley Railways.

Northern Lights Express - NYMR

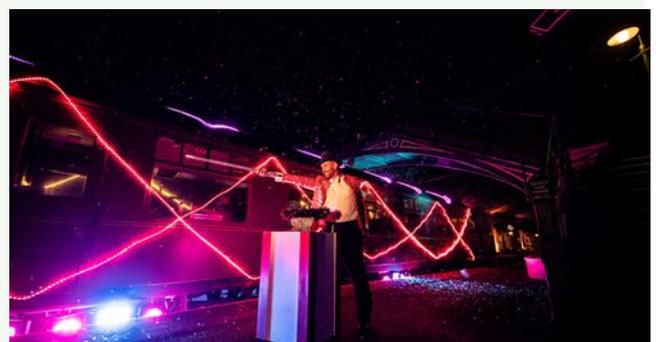


A new venture this winter - a trip on the new Northern Lights Express

This spectacular illuminated journey starts at Pickering Station, where a train with heritage carriages awaits, decorated with thousands of lights.

This is a light spectacular event, which will not only illuminate the North York Moors, but also engage a new audience. See the Northern Lights Express illuminated at Pickering Station. Then travel through an enchanted forest, transformed by a multitude of lights and surprises on a 60-minute journey. Travel to Levisham Station, where you will see a dazzling light show, as the heritage steam engine prepares for the return journey.

Visitors will travel through an enchanted forest which is transformed by a multitude of lights and surprises. They will also experience a light extravaganza and a snow-covered authentic heritage station. Trains will be running over 13 evenings from 3th November until 23rd December.



Fedecrail “Bilbao 2020” Conference

Thursday April 23rd to Tuesday April 28th 2020.

The Annual Conference and General Assembly of the European Federation of Museum & Tourist Railways (Fedecrail) will be held in Bilbao, northern Spain next April. The Business Sessions days (April 24th and 25th) will include presentations, both from colleagues within the rail and tramway heritage sectors and guests taken from external organisations with whom Fedecrail works.

Then programme will include break out meetings of our specialist Working Groups (Environment, Heritage Operating and Tramways) and our Annual General Meeting. The Group meetings will be held this year on the Saturday and Fedecrail are keen to encourage greater participation in the Working Groups - all delegates are warmly welcome to attend one or more of these meetings. The visits programme (April 26th to 28th) will cover rail and tramway heritage locations in both northern Spain and the south-west corner of France. As always the schedule provides valuable opportunities for networking - making and renewing contacts from all parts of Europe and beyond.

More detailed information will be available later in the autumn on the Fedecrail website: www.fedecrail.org or to register an interest please email: conference@fedecrail.org Participants in previous conferences will also receive programme details and booking information by email later this year.

Fedecrail Tramway Group by Jenny Nunn – Fedecrail Tramway Group Secretary & CEO Seaton Tramway

In these times of great Brexit uncertainty, it becomes even more important to preserve good working relationships with our European partner organisations, to continue to influence EU legislation and to share ideas on best practice whatever happens when and if the UK leaves the EU. The Tramway working group was set up in Antwerp in April 2017 and performs a similar function to Fedecrail’s Heritage Railway Operating Group (HOG) in that it represents member and individual tramways throughout the UK and Europe. The meetings to date, including 2018’s meeting in Edinburgh and this year’s meeting in Wernigerode, Germany have been attended by ca. 20 different tramway organisations with over 90 organisations included in our mailing list... and needless to say the issues we face have a lot of common denominators.

In summary, the principle objectives of the Fedecrail Tramway Group are:

- To represent all tramway members alongside their national organisations and at European level
- To expand and collect data on all operating tramways and collections held in Europe to promote greater knowledge of the unique offer we all have
- To attract a wider audience to heritage railways & tramways in general and encourage more youngsters to visit who may in turn wish to volunteer or work for our partners. (A good example of this is the Fedecrail Youth Camp held in Sweden this year.
- To seek and support funding for tramway projects throughout Europe

The chair, Mimmi Mickelsen, has already met with the Scandinavian tramways group, Nordtrikk and also plans to meet with the HRA Tramway Committee next February.

The next meeting of the Fedecrail Tramway Group is to be held in Bilbao, Spain on 25th April 2020. Please come and see what we do, we would love to see you there and hear your views. If you’d like more information or wish to be included in our mailing-list please email me at nunn@fedecrail.org.

North Eastern Railway’s
1903 Electric Autocar Trust
Winner of the Manisty Award 2019



Helston Railway’s Truthall Halt
Winner of HRA Small Groups Award 2019



Fedecrail (continued)

Fedecrail Youth Exchange 2019 by Mark Adamson

This years Youth Exchange in August took part in Catalonia, Spain and was terrifically hosted by the APPFI Museo del Ferrocarril in Mora la Nova. The camp is a valuable and unforgettable experience that allows you to take part in once in a lifetime opportunities, such as working on locomotives, rolling stock and infrastructure in a different country, being shown the history of the country's railways and how the societies, museums and their vehicles came to existence, find where they are heading in the future, discover their local cultures and how the railway has affected them personally.

On the trip we were shown world class facilities such as the Barcelona Metro Depot in Rubi, the APPFI's Depot and workshops at Mora la Nova and the Catalanian Railway Museum in Vilanova. We discovered major railway locations such as AZAFT's Depot and historic fleet in Casetas and ADIF's signalling centre in Zaragoza. We also experienced Catalonia's culture by having a Tapas night, trips to Barcelona and Zaragoza cities and a meal of in-house made paella served in the railway Depot for lunch. All of this, whilst travelling everywhere by train and discovering all of it along side people from other European countries with similar experiences and stories of how they run their individual railways back home.



This is a really worthwhile trip as it allows you to make friends your age from other countries and your own country with the same passion for railways as you, and gain knowledge, experience and amazing memories that will last the rest of your life. It allows you to witness the operation and maintenance of railways and tramways in other countries and gives you the opportunity to work on steam, diesel or electric traction and infrastructure or rolling stock. I highly recommend it as it is an amazing opportunity to see the continent and the hobby of railways in different countries all over Europe. The Fedecrail Youth exchange has changed my life as it is an amazing experience for young people, I would definitely go again next year and I would urge anyone who has an interest in either railways or tramways to do so as well, it is a life changing experience.

Downpatrick & Co Down's
Railmotor
C&W Award 2019



Merseyside Tramway Pres. Soc.
C&W Award 2019



Chasewater Railway's
GWR Toad Brake Van
C&W Award 2019



Want to keep track of what is happening?
Follow Heritage Railway Association on Facebook!



Stop Press!! Fund Raising Success!

HRA's services to help members with their fund-raising efforts and grant applications have been covered in previous issues. Good news has come through recently from the Scottish Railway Preservation Society (SRPS) about a recently awarded an NLHF grant of £ 741,500 towards the SRPS Steaming Ahead project to create a new engineering facility with both volunteer and apprentice training facilities at the Bo'ness & Kinneil Railway. HRA provided a support letter and our Fund-Raising Support Officer, Roger Kelly, also provided some advice on the application. As always, HRA can't guarantee success every time - but a reminder once again to get in touch if you wish our advice/support for future applications. To find out more, please get in touch:- contact@hra.uk.com

Peter Ovenstone - HRA Scottish Committee Chairman

Fedecrail - a point of view.

THE REASON FOR ALLIANCES & ASSOCIATIONS (or why we should embrace our colleagues, customers and competitors)

I suspect that many volunteers on our railways have little idea of the role or activities of such organisations or associations as the Heritage Railway Association (HRA) or the European Federation of Museum & Tourist Railways (FEDECRAIL) or why they are important, if not crucial, to their ability to rescue, restore, conserve or operate their own locomotives, trains, railways or trams. Having been involved in the development of these associations for the last forty years, I thought that I should explain why the early pioneers knew that these organisations were important and why, in my view, they continue to be important. But let me outline my views on FEDECRAIL.

The fledgling European Federation began in 1991 as the Morgan Commission representing a handful of countries. Two years later, with an agreed constitution, the Federation of Museum & Tourist Railways (FEDECRAIL) was incorporated as a “not for profit” organisation. During its time it has been fortunate to have Brian Simpson then an MEP who was a member and later chairman of its Transport and Tourism Committee; it is fair to say that he became our champion. Brian succeeded in amending or getting derogations from 14 directives or regulations. And when he retired, he got official recognition of FEDECRAIL by the European Rail Agency (ERA).

And what of the future? Why should we continue to participate in a European umbrella body in the years to come? My own view is that our membership – and I mean that of the Heritage Railway Association (HRA) - is more important now than before. In the past, we were able to influence European legislators through our own Government and British MEPs; that option will not be open to us in the future once we have left the EU. It is true that we won't be bound by EU directives and regulations in future but many of our heritage railways in the UK have engineering departments which carry out contract work for our continental colleagues. They will need to meet European standards and future certification requirements. Not only will they need to be kept informed of changes in these, they may need to lobby against unreasonable conditions being imposed. FEDECRAIL will be the only channel open to them at a reasonable cost – or no cost – to do this.

Furthermore, it should be noted that FEDECRAIL has several members in non-EU countries, such as Norway, Russia, Switzerland, and Ukraine. Why? They are aware that their own governments are often “more royalist than the king”, i.e. they are at the forefront of implementing proposed EU legislation so as not to be wrong footed when the EU enacts them.

We also need to remember that HRA has members in the Republic of Ireland, which will remain in the EU and the Railway Preservation Society of Ireland (RPSI) runs trains south of the border as well as in Northern Ireland. Both activities will be affected by EU law.

Of course, BREXIT is not the only uncertainty we face at the moment. The consultation by DEFRA (Department of the Environment Food & Rural Affairs) on the use of coal, oil and other fuels has highlighted the threat to future supplies. I am confident that the Government do not intend to make it illegal for our railways to use coal as a fuel but there is a serious risk that a ban on the domestic use of coal for heating would reduce the volume of coal suitable for steam locomotives and other heritage users would render supplies unsustainable for those companies that mine it.

HRA has linked with other users in the heritage sector in the UK such as the National Traction Engine Trust and the Maritime Heritage Trust, but it is of course a global problem. The Paris Accord was signed by a majority of countries in all five continents and FEDECRAIL has already alerted its members to the problem and quite frankly we need all the allies we can get, a fact recognised by the most hardened Brexiteers. Indeed, they, quite rightly, point out that our ability to collaborate more widely will be enhanced by our new freedom. Now is not the time to pull up the drawbridge and isolate ourselves.

We, after all, brought trains into this world.

David T Morgan MBE TD
Deputy President, HRA
President Emeritus, FEDECRAIL

We all know that being nominated for, and hopefully winning, awards not only boost morale, they also help with publicity, fundraising and confidence. Two opportunities to get recognition for your railways, see pages 7 & 8. Get applying!!

Events

HRA Autumn Tour: North Wales by Evan Green - Hughes

Members participating in the annual HRA study weekend visited North Wales over the weekend of September 13-15 for an interesting three days, which included 'behind the scenes' tours as well as trips by private train and talks from two prominent heritage railway General Managers.

Gathering on the Friday afternoon at the Ffestiniog Railway's famous Boston Lodge works we were treated to a guided tour hosted by the railway's General Manager, Paul Lewin, during which we saw how the facilities were being expanded and how they might in future become a heritage interpretation centre. Brand new steam locomotives and carriages under construction were also viewed. In the evening we moved on to Portmeirion, the famous pseudo-Italian village used for the filming of 'The Prisoner' where in the Town Hall a most impressive hot buffet had been laid on.



Saturday saw the party conveyed by coach to Tywyn where we were joined by the Tallylyn Railway's General Manager Stuart Williams and their Commercial Manager Lorraine Simkiss for a tour of Pendre works, followed by a trip in a private train made up with the line's original four-wheel carriages hauled by one of the original locomotives, Dolgoch. An excellent buffet lunch was served at Abergynolwyn station before the party returned to Tywyn for a look at the museum. Special thanks must go to John Robinson who not only joined us for the weekend but did us the signal honour of driving Dolgoch himself and allowing some of the party to have footplate rides.

It was back to Porthmadog and to Spooner's Bar for Saturday evening's meal after which members of the party 'enjoyed' various hostelries in the area before retiring.

On Sunday morning we were welcomed at the Welsh Highland Heritage site by their Chairman Graham Farr and where we took a double-headed train to the end of their line to view the Welsh Highland's Beyer-Garratt storming past with the morning train to Caernarfon.



A very informative guided tour round this interesting site followed, during which members were able to see very many examples of narrow-gauge rolling stock.

Many were very impressed by the developments which had taken place in providing educational and display material in the museum sections. A buffet lunch was provided at the Russell Tearoom at their Porthmadog station, concluding the formal agenda for the weekend.

Many members, however, opted to take a return trip on the Ffestiniog Railway in the afternoon, thus rounding off what had been a most interesting weekend.

Thanks must go to all the management and staff at the various sites visited for going out of their way to make the weekend so special.