

January 2020

HERITAGE RAILWAY NEWS

The official journal of
THE HERITAGE RAILWAY ASSOCIATION
Issue 159

2020
AWARDS
NOMINEES
SPECIAL



Awards Night
Guest Speaker
Christian
Wolmar

HERITAGE
RAILWAY
ASSOCIATION

9 CATEGORIES
39 NOMINEES
PLUS
MAGAZINE AWARDS

How to book
your tickets for
the big night!

TWO
BRAND-NEW
AWARDS
details inside

This special edition of Heritage Railway News is dedicated exclusively to the nominees for the HRA 2020 Awards!

And what a year it's been! We have a record number of nominees for our established award categories. And we have two new awards, the Special Events Award, and the Chairman's Special Award. Determining the winners from such a large and strong field was a challenging task. It really does seem to me that as each year passes, our members become more expert, more resourceful – and ever more strongly driven to showcase our heritage railways at their very finest.

There'll be a lot to celebrate at Awards Night, and any number of achievements to be proud of. I hope you'll book a table for your railway, and join us at what is now, without doubt, the UK's premier heritage railways awards event.

I hope you had a peaceful Christmas, and wishing you a prosperous New Year.

Brian Simpson OBE

Chairman



As each award nomination popped into my inbox during October and November, I felt a clear sense of the quite remarkable creativity, ingenuity and skills, and the unerring enthusiasm and passion, employed in keeping our heritage railways, tramways and museums alive and flourishing.

From turntables to telegraph poles, stunning new carriages to ambitious locomotive projects, and brilliant new events to celebrations of historic milestones, the nominations for our 2020 Awards cover standard and narrow gauge lines, cliff railways, museums, tramways, locomotive and rolling stock groups, and of course the people who keep the wheels turning ... And, as you'll see on the following pages, we've entries this year from England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland!

Showcasing the best of our sector, and with more entries this year than ever before, arriving at the shortlist has been no small task. My sincere thanks to the judging team including the editors of four of our industry magazines, and all those behind the scenes organising and administering the awards process.

The HRA Awards continue to grow in importance and give us all every reason to celebrate, honour and shout about our achievements. So please join us on Saturday 8 February for our Gala Awards Dinner ... It promises to be a great night!

Steve Oates
CEO & Chairman, HRA Awards Committee

Our Awards Night Guest Speaker

Christian Wolmar is an award winning writer and broadcaster specialising in transport and is the author of a series of books on railway history. He was the unsuccessful candidate for Labour in the December 2016 Richmond Park & North Kingston by-election. He is acknowledged as one of the UK's leading commentators on transport matters. He broadcasts frequently on radio and TV and is a regular pundit on the national news bulletins of terrestrial channels and Sky.



Among his numerous feature TV appearances, he has been on Coast, Julia Bradbury's Railway Walks and the railway programmes presented by Ian Hislop and Michael Portillo, and more recently the series on BBC4 about how the railways made modern Britain.

Front cover photo: Dartmouth Steam Railway train of lights leaving Greenway Tunnel. Photo by Chris Slack Photography, www.chrisslack.com

Heritage Railway News is published 4 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



DON'T MISS HERITAGE RAIL'S BIGGEST-EVER NIGHT OUT!



HRA ANNUAL AWARDS 2020



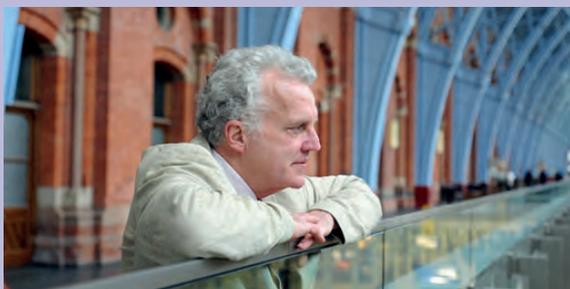
BE THERE, AT HERITAGE RAIL'S MOST PRESTIGIOUS EVENT

HRA Awards Night is the time when we honour the outstanding achievements of railways and tramways, groups and individuals.

The awards are the Oscars of heritage rail, the most highly regarded and the most prized.

The event continues to grow in scale and popularity. It's become recognised as the main event of the year for the Who's Who of heritage rail to gather, meet old friends, make new ones, and simply be bowled over by some of the best of the great work that members do.

FEBRUARY 8, BURLINGTON HOTEL, BIRMINGHAM, 1745 HRS



SPECIAL GUEST - CHRISTIAN WOLMAR

Christian Wolmar is an award winning writer and broadcaster specialising in transport and railway history. He broadcasts frequently on radio and TV. Among his numerous feature TV appearances, he has been on Coast, Julia Bradbury's Railway Walks, the railway programmes presented by Ian Hislop and Michael Portillo, and more recently the series on BBC4 about how the railways made modern Britain.

BOOK YOUR TICKETS TODAY AT THE BOOKING OFFICE, AT www.hra.uk.com/2020-hra-awards

DEMAND FOR TICKETS IS HIGH – DON'T MISS OUT

Tickets for the HRA Awards Night always sell fast. This year's event - bigger, better and brighter than ever before – will be no exception. You can book your tickets on-line at the Booking Office page of the HRA Members' website. Or just click here. Rooms are available at the Burlington by going on the Macdonald website, and there are many other hotels within walking distance.



The Chairman's Special Award

**The Winner is
The Great Western Society for the
Saint Class 2999 "Lady of Legend"**

The nomination panel recognised the foresight, tenacity, craftsmanship and above all determination of the GWS and the volunteer team, which makes this project worthy of this special award.



The widely held passion for the elegant and efficient 'Saints' meant that many dreamt of creating a new member of the class to showcase Churchward's pioneering design. For decades, it was considered to be beyond the capability of preservationists and prohibitively expensive. However, restoration of No. 6023 "King Edward II", which among other things involved construction of a new driv-

ing wheel set, proved that the Society could successfully undertake major reconstruction and refurbishment projects, and the Saint Project was born.

The scheme centred on rebuilding No 4942 "Maindy Hall" from scrapyard condition and reverse engineering the locomotive to create a Saint. This mirrored the process the GWR had used in 1925 when the prototype Hall Class was produced by the conversion of "Saint Martin". No. 4942 had been purchased in the early 1970s with the specific purpose to recreate a Saint but early attempts floundered and the prospect of success remained a dream until 1995 when the project started in earnest. Major new components were manufactured including three new driving wheel sets, two bogie wheel sets and two 'half' cylinder blocks. The lever reverse was also made from scratch while the frames from No. 4942 were extensively modified and strengthened. Many other components were refurbished, while still more came from surviving parts from other GWR loco-motives - further testament to the far-sighted Swindon practice of standardisation. Parts include a connecting rod from 2906 "Lady of Lynn" and the whistle from 2910 "Lady of Shalott" and the chimney from a 68XX Class.

The new machine has been numbered 2999, taking the next number in the sequence allocated to the Saints. The winning entry in the competition to name the locomotive was "Lady of Legend" evoking the GWR practice of naming members of the class after mythological or historical ladies. The recreated Saint has been built with straight frames so that it can also run as an Atlantic 4-4-2, as Churchward did in the 1900s. Rear extension frames have been constructed, trial fitted and placed into store.

The £825,000 project, funded entirely by donations and bequests, means that over a century since the previous member of the class was built, an example of Churchward's iconic 20th Century design, which influenced almost all subsequent British steam development, is back on the rails to delight, inform and entertain 21st Century visitors.

The Morgan Award for Preservation

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

The short listed nominations are:-

North Staffordshire Rolling Stock Restoration Trust (The Knotty Trust). The restoration of NSR brake 3rd No3 and the creation of a three-coach heritage train.



Quorn Wagon and Wagon (Great Central Railway).
Test Car 2.



Midland & Great Northern Joint Railway Society.
Restoration of Great Eastern Railway Brake Third 853.



Scottish Railway Preservation Society.
Glasgow and South Western Railway Passenger
Brake Van No 122.



Severn Valley Railway Charitable Trust.

LMSR CR 2886.



The Coiley Locomotive Engineering Award

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

The short listed nominations are:-

Avon Valley Railway.
The Fry's Sentinel Restoration.



Quinton Railway Society/Buckinghamshire Railway Centre. 6989 Wightwick Hall.



North Yorkshire Moors Railway.
92134 - Taking a hold of it!



Class 50 Alliance based on the Severn Valley Railway.

Restoration of Class 50 no. 50033 Glorious.



Mid Hants Railway Watercress line - Urie Locomotive Society Ltd.
Urie S15 steam locomotive 506 Extensive 18 Year Overhaul.

Lord Faulkner Young Volunteers Award

We have long been aware of the importance of encouraging young people to become involved in the operation and support of our heritage railways. In their recent “Young People and Heritage Railways” Report, the All Party Parliamentary Group drew attention to the exciting and challenging opportunities for young volunteers from precision engineering to catering, the development of personal and social skills, and the pathways to a career in the national industry, as key benefits from an involvement with our Railways. It is therefore a great privilege and pleasure for me to be able to sponsor the Lord Faulkner Award for the Young Volunteer of the Year and to be involved in the presentation of the award to another very deserving winner.

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

The short listed nominees are:- James Forster Swanage Railway, Tom Shaw West Somerset Railway, James Pearson West Somerset Railway WSSRT, Phillip Civil Chasewater Railway, Aaron Luckarift Elsecar Heritage Railway



Photo by
Andrew
P M Wright

The HRA Annual Award for Small Groups

Awarded to an HRA member organisation, from the smaller categories of membership, for excellence in developing their business. (This may be for the HRA member organisation as a whole, a group of its staff or volunteers, or an individual).

The short listed nominees are:-

West Lancashire Light Railway Trust.
Securing the future of the West Lancashire Light railway.



Ferryhill Railway Heritage Trust.
The Restoration of the 1906 Ransomes and Rapier 70 ft Turntable at Ferryhill, Aberdeen.

Deeside Railway Company Limited.
Restoration and Operation of Bon-Accord.



Lincolnshire Coast Light Railway. Lincolnshire's "Lazarus" Line Celebrates 10 Years.

The HRA Annual Award for Large Groups

Awarded to an HRA member organisation, from the larger categories of membership, for excellence in developing their business. (This may be for the HRA member organisation as a whole, a group of its staff or volunteers, or an individual)

The short listed nominations are:-

Volk's Electric Railway Association.
Magnus Volk's Legacy.



Talylyn Railway.
Involving Young People in the World's Oldest Preserved Railway.



Isle of Wight Steam Railway.
Havenstreet - Wootton Telegraph Pole Route.



Llangollen Railway. Completion of track to new permanent Corwen Station



Ffestiniog & Welsh Highland Railways.
Building 25 new carriages including 4 Pullman Observation Cars.



The HRA Award for Special Events

Awarded to an HRA member organisation, who has provided the most exciting Special Event during the year.

The short listed nominations are:-



Lynton and Lynmouth Cliff Railway.
Special Events at the Cliff Railway.



Dartmouth Steam Railway and
Riverboat Company. Train of Lights.

Leighton Buzzard Narrow Gauge
Railway Society Ltd. 100 not out and
a long awaited extension.



Railway Preservation Society of Ireland.
50 Years of the Two Day Tour.



London Transport Museum.
Celebrating 150 years of the District line.

The HRA Award for an Outstanding Visitor Attraction

Awarded to an HRA member organisation who provides an outstanding visitor experience.

The short listed nominations are:-

Tramway Museum Society, The National Tramway Museum Crich, Electrifying the Future - The Creative Genius of Michael Holroyd Smith.



Bala Lake Railway.
The Heritage Centre.



Bluebell Railway.
SteamWorks.

London Transport Museum.
A year of excellence in promoting
London's transport heritage.

HRA Award for Communication

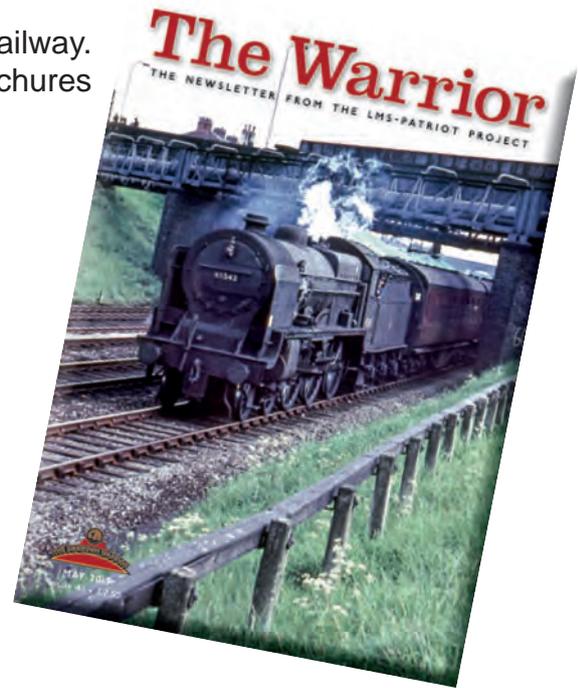
Awarded for excellence in any form of communication, advertising/marketing campaign or public relations. This may cover any format (e.g. printed, broadcast or digital), and in any type of media, internal or external.

The short listed nominations are:-



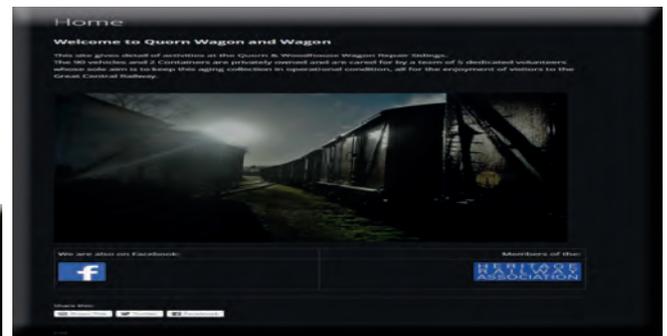
Avon Valley Railway.
Marketing brochures
2020.

Swanage Railway.
SR Staff
A website for staff communications.



LMS-Patriot Company Ltd.
The Warrior Magazine.

Quorn Wagon and Wagon (Great Central Railway).
www.quornwagonandwagon.co.uk - website.



North Norfolk Railway.
Carriage and Wagon department blog.



The Editor's Awards

Four Magazine editors also present their awards at the HRA ceremony on the 9th February and this is a very important part of our celebrations. They comprise four different aspects of heritage achievements which have made a significant impact on the industry. Not all of them have been announced as yet - but we can tell you the following.....

Mortons Media (Heritage Railway) Interpretation Award **Editor Robin Jones**

The winner is National Railway Museum for their Brass, Steel and Fire Exhibition.

This exhibition reveals the love invested in models ranging from the precise to the peculiar through 100 years of rapid technological change.

It is full of beautifully intricate homemade creations, including some of the oldest of their kind. Through them we learn how their small-scale experiments pushed the boundaries of engineering, influencing the course of the Industrial Revolution. A unique and informative interpretation.

The Railway Magazine Annual Award for Services to Railway Preservation **Editor Chris Milner**

The winners are Richard Croucher and Bob Meanley for their outstanding contribution to Railway Preservation.

Mortons Media (Rail Express) Modern Traction Award **Editor Paul Bickerdyke**

The winner is Test Car 2 at Great Central Railway.

The exceptional restoration provides visitors with an insight into an important area of railway history that is not well known about. This vehicle, used primarily for slip/brake testing, has been restored to its original internal and external condition by a small dedicated group of volunteers.



Steam Railway Magazine Award **Editor Nick Brodrick**

There are 10 candidates that Steam Railway Magazine readers have been invited to vote for . They are:-

- 6989 Restoration Group - No 6989 Wightwick Hall restoration.
- '9F' No 92134 restoration of the unique single chimney first started in 1980
- Beamish: Authentic restoration of ex-Penrhyn Quarry Andrew Barclay 0-4-0WT Glyder
- Bury Standard 4 Group - BR '4MT' 2-6-4T No 80097 at East Lancashire Railway
- Great Western Society/Didcot Railway Centre - Saint No. 2999 Lady of Legend
- Grundle Glen Railway - new build Bagnall 2-4-0T Brown Bear and 3 engine resident fleet
- Knotty Coach Trust - Restoration of North Staffordshire Railway Brake Third 23
- National Railway Museum - Restoration & conservation of Queen Victoria's 1869 Royal Saloon
- Severn Valley Railway - Bridgnorth creation of an authentic GWR style refreshment building
- Welsh Highland Railway - Re-creation of Waunfawr station and new station at Caernarfon.

Business News

Fedecrail Youth Exchange

FEDECRAIL - European Federation of Museum & Tourist Railways is pleased to invite you to the FEDECRAIL Youth Exchange in England. This event will take place from Friday 31st July to Sunday 9th August 2020 in the South West of England.

Our hosts are member organisations of the Heritage Railway Association, the West Somerset Railway and the Seaton Tramway with the venues of the exchange being in two different locations.

Participants can expect a varied programme consisting of work experience at both of the hosts. Visits to a road steam and vintage vehicle rally and visits to other railway and historic venues are planned. There will be the opportunity to join in a variety of different cultural and organised events as part of the programme. You will also have the chance to network with the other international participants.

Are you between 16 and 25 years old, a volunteer at a museum railway which is a member of Fedecrail and interested in historic railways? Then we ask you to email us at youthexchange@fedecrail.org stating your intention to participate as soon as possible, but at the latest by the 16th February 2020. The next step is that we will send you a detailed application form together with the preliminary programme. You will need the support of the railway/museum where you normally volunteer.

Further details of the host organisations are:

www.west-somerset-railway.co.uk

www.tram.co.uk

We are looking forward to enjoying these 10 days together, which will be full of new experiences, as has happened in previous years in other European countries!

HRA AGM and Spring Management Forum Advance Notice

A preliminary notice that our 2020 Annual General Meeting will be held at 10.30 am on Wednesday, 26th February 2020 at M Shed Bristol, preceding the Spring Management Forum which will be held on the same day. The formal Agenda, 2018/2019 Financial Year Accounts and other papers for the meeting will be distributed in due course nearer to the date of the event.



Spring Seminar 2020 Advance Notice

February 25th 2020 at M Shed Bristol. This year the planned topic is Competency Management with presentations and working groups to explore many of the elements of this topic. And as usual there will be a chance to network with other representatives about the issues of the day.

Heritage Rail Charitable Trust

York and Hull Tour Thursday 21st to Sunday 24th May 2020

Run by the charitable arm of the HRA this will be a tour with a difference, with visits to The National Railway Museum, The North Yorkshire Moors Railway, Unusual Hull, Scarborough North Bay Railway, Saltaire, The Shipley Tram, and The Keighley and Worth Valley, with variations and choices including some interesting pubs! There is also a group dinner option at the Black Swan on the first evening, and an optional visit to Burton Constable Hall on Friday 22nd.

The cost is £185.00 per person including admissions and train travel as arranged. You will be responsible for booking your own hotel in York which is the base for the tour - see options and ideas below. All profits will go to HRCT Funds.

We keep the cost of the tours down by letting you book your own accommodation in York which is the base for the period of the tour. There is a wide choice available and you should choose an establishment within convenient reach of the Station. Ask advice when booking, and we'll tell you where everyone else is staying. Using the website [bookings.com](https://heritagetravel.com) may be a good bet. Don't leave it too long as York is a popular destination. Check the tour status on: <https://heritagetravel.com>

Bookings and enquiries to John S Glover, Burrows Farm, Toot Hill, Ongar, Essex. CM5 9QW. Phone 07785 725 780 email hrctvisits@gmail.com