



HERITAGE RAILWAY ASSOCIATION

Representing Independent Railways and Preservation Societies

PRESS RELEASE

HRA PRAISE FOR KWVR PROFESSIONALISM

The Board of Directors of the Heritage Railway Association salutes the professionalism of the Keighley & Worth Valley Railway in their response to an incident which blocked the railway on its 40th Anniversary Weekend gala.

On the morning of Saturday 28th June, a class 47 diesel locomotive derailed at Oxenhope, blocking the entrance to both the station itself and its carriage works. This incident effectively curtailed operations as no trains could reach Oxenhope until the offending locomotive was rerailed and the track inspected.

With thousands of visitors expected, the railways Operating Department swung into action and within a very short period of time a temporary train service was instituted, involving top and tailed trains running to either Haworth or Ingrow. Staff were very quickly briefed and on top of the situation, assisting would be passengers at Oxenhope until a replacement vintage bus service between there and Haworth was instituted. A very nice touch was the offer of free refreshments at Oxenhope until the transport could be arranged.

Further Information can be obtained from:

**Ian Smith – 88 Westbury Place South, LEEDS LS10 3DA
Phone/Fax – 0113 271 1089
e-mail: i.b.s@btinternet.com**

HRA Chairman, David Morgan, said “The swift and professional response by the entire KWVR team turned what could have been an unpleasant situation into a triumph of organisation which showed just how far the railway has come in its 40 years of operation. The HRA Board have been most impressed with their actions and we note that out of 12,700 passengers carried over the weekend, only 30 have enquired about refunds – this speaks volumes for the way in which this incident was handled.”

For further details contact:

Ian Smith
Director, HRA
07976 569178

The Heritage Railway Association represents the majority of heritage and tourist railways and railway preservation groups within both the U.K, and Ireland. There are also several overseas members.

It has over 250 corporate members and these include not only heritage and tourist railways and most of the railway museums and steam centres, but also the smaller locomotive and rolling stock preservation groups. Groups and individuals involved with the preservation of stations and other railway buildings are also included in the membership range.

Membership is also open to private individuals who are interested who support its aims.

Mission Statement

1. To represent its members' interests to Government and other bodies.
2. To maintain high standards by requiring members to conform to the HRA Code of Practice.
3. To provide professional advice, a full information service and other such help and assistance as may be appropriate.
4. To provide a forum for sharing information and experience by organising open meetings and seminars.
5. To help members to develop their business.
6. To encourage and assist members to develop education policies and practices.
7. To encourage excellence by organising awards and competitions.
8. To encourage and advise members on the heritage aspects of their activities, including establishing and maintaining rational collecting, interpretation and archiving policies.

<http://www.heritagerailways.com/>

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