

News about **STEAM TRAINS** at the Keighley & Worth Valley Railway

“The Railway Children’s Railway”

TV SHOW PROMPTS GOURMET ‘CURRY-ON-THE-RAILS’ TRAIN

Such has been the demand for a “gourmet curry special” on the world-famous Keighley and Worth Valley Railway in West Yorkshire’s Brontë Country after it featured in BBC2’s *Indian Food Made Easy* that a special Indian-themed Wine and Dine train will steam along the five mile line on Sunday 5th April 2009.



In the programme, presenter Anjum Anand and one of the Railway’s volunteer chefs, Jessica Thewlis, together cooked and served a classic Indian dish for diners in the 1930’s Pullman car *Mary* used on the trains from Keighley to Haworth and Oxenhope.

The programme insisted that the meal was served to “real fare paying passengers” and at the time, Railway spokesman Jim Shipley said: “We’ve been taken aback by the number of bookings from all over the British Isles – many far from our more usual catchment area. We normally only operate five of these Wine and Dine trains each year under the names of the *White Rose Pullman* and the *West Riding Limited*”.

In response to the unprecedented demand, the Railway has now agreed its own Wine and Dine train with Indian meals prepared by the trained volunteers. Jim Shipley explained: “It’s quite a complicated business when you remember that everything served on these trains is cooked from fresh by our team of volunteers in our genuine 1960’s kitchen car. The meals are served in an authentic 1930’s Pullman carriage and other historic vehicles, hauled by a steam locomotive. Already we’re getting many bookings for this special Indian-themed dining train: the popularity of our line and our special events never ceases to amaze us”.

Tickets are now on sale at £39 each and can be ordered by phoning Haworth Station on 01535 645214 or by post from the KWVLR, Haworth Station, Keighley BD22 8NJ.

The Railway’s catering has always attracted awards and accolades, especially for its unique Real Ale buffet cars – the only ones in the world. On several occasions they have been awarded “Pub of the Season” by the Campaign for Real Ale, though they also offer a full range of soft drinks, teas, coffees and snacks and other light refreshments.

During the Spring and Summer, on an increasing number of Sundays and Bank Holidays, the Railway offers Cream Teas, usually in the historic North Eastern Railway carriage known as “The Old Gentleman’s Saloon” from its appearance in the film of *The Railway Children*.

A refurbished British Rail buffet car serves snacks and light refreshments at the terminus of the line at Oxenhope. The snack bar on Keighley station, where the heritage railway shares platforms with Northern Rail's services to Leeds, Bradford, Carlisle and Morecambe, is popular with commuters and long distance travellers as well as those taking a steam train ride up the Valley.

Full details of all KWVR services are on its website www.kwvr.co.uk

Ends

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KEIGHLEY & WORTH VALLEY RAILWAY

The Railway Station, Haworth, Keighley, West Yorkshire, BD22 8NJ

Keighley – Ingrow – Damems – Oakworth – Haworth – Oxenhope

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