



..... **PRESS RELEASE**

News about STEAM TRAINS at the Keighley & Worth Valley Railway

“The Railway Children’s Railway”

"One of Britain's Ten Best Train Trips" - The Sunday Times

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**MEDIA FACILITY
SUNDAY 5 JULY 2009**

1pm for 1.15 Vintage Train Departure

OXENHOPE RAILWAY STATION, WEST YORKSHIRE

Contact on site: Eric Rawcliffe

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**SENTIMENTAL JOURNEY FOR WOMAN WHO
LIVED IN AN OLD RAILWAY CARRIAGE**

We all know the nursery rhyme about *“The Old Woman Who Lived in a Shoe”*: pensioner Enid Lister lived in an old railway carriage as a child some sixty or more years ago – and now that the historic vehicle has been restored and put back into operating condition by dedicated conservationists, she plans to take her friends for a ride in it on Sunday 5 July to tell them something of her upbringing.

Mrs Lister, who now lives in Broadway, Leyland (Lancashire), lived in the carriage when it was situated – minus wheels – in Valley Gardens, between the village of Hapton and the district of Burnley known as Rose Grove.

A subsequent inhabitant, the late Mr Tom Bell had a house built adjacent to it and used the old carriage as an allotment shed.

Most old carriages meeting this fate would succumb to woodworm, rot and the bonfire – but enthusiasts interested in preserving relics of the old Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway heard of its survival and Mr Bell was happy to present it to them in 1991. It took until 2005 to restore it at the Oxenhope terminus of the Keighley and Worth Valley Railway and cost its new owners, the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Trust, £17,000 to put back into full working order.

The carriage was built in 1882 at the Newton Heath (Manchester) works of the Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway: it had six wheels and carried passengers in five compartments. By 1910 it had been taken out of service and the wheels and under-frame removed for its new role in Valley Gardens as a home.

Robin Higgins, Trustee of the owning group, said: "The late Mr Bell put us in touch with Mrs Lister who has been to see it before. When she heard we were planning to operate it on one of the Worth Valley Railway's Vintage Train Days, she asked if she could bring some friends along, as she told us they knew little of her childhood and upbringing.

"We're looking forward to their visit very much and to re-uniting her with her old home now that it's back on the rails and after 129 years, is again in public service"

Note: another carriage from the site which was home to the late Mr Bob Christie is also under restoration at Oxenhope.

Media Facility: Mrs Lister can be contacted via Robin Higgins 01282 813603.

Ends

Issued June 2009

Notes To Editors

The Keighley & Worth Valley Railway is operated almost entirely by unpaid volunteers running steam and diesel trains at weekends throughout the year and daily at holiday times for nearly five miles through 'Bronte Country' from Keighley to Oakworth, Haworth and Oxenhope. It was the first complete standard gauge branch line to be re-opened by enthusiasts in the UK and has been the location for The Railway Children and many more films and television series.

KEIGHLEY & WORTH VALLEY RAILWAY

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

Keighley – Ingrow – Damems – Oakworth – Haworth – Oxenhope

General Enquiries: 01535 645214 www.kwvr.co.uk 24hr information: 01535 647777