

ADOPT A STATION

ScotRail in the Community

January 2025

HAPPY NEW YEAR

and may your Lum Reek! We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and Guid New Year. Welcome to your first newsletter of 2025.

Spotlight on...



Great news! Two Scottish community rail groups and West Highland CRP have been shortlisted in five categories for the Community Rail Awards 20th anniversary gala on 13 March in Newcastle.

Community Creative Projects & Station Arts (small groups)

- Helmsdale Station CIC - *Forsinard Flow Anniversary Event*
- West Highland CRP and Geotone CIC - *Benighted on the Moor*

Best Community Engagement Project

- Friends of Blair Atholl Station - *Sharing our Past, Building our Future*

Influencing Positive Change and Sustainability

- Helmsdale Station CIC - *The Helmsdale Station Project*

Outstanding Volunteer Contribution

- Mike Shanto - *Friends of Blair Atholl Station*

It's Your Station (Shortlisted by banding)

Silver

- Friends of Blair Atholl Station

Good luck to all of the nominees!

ScotRail in the Community Awards (Sitc)

Well done to our stations that won awards at our ceremony on the 1 November 2024 at the Voco Grand Central Glasgow.

These are the winning stations:

Adopted Station of the Year

Dumfries - Gold (winner)

Newtongrange - Silver

Aberdour - Bronze

Adopter of the Year

Dumfries

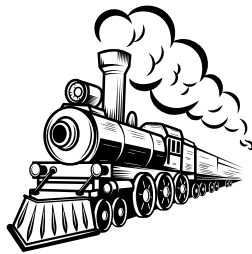
Community Project of the Year

Transformation of Newtongrange Station

CRP Member of the Year

Diane Whateley

Such a lot of hard work from every station and we want to thank everyone that entered. You make a huge contribution, and we appreciate it.



We know that many of you have already heard about Railway 200 and are interested in taking part in some way. Here's a brief update with some background information for those who don't and we'll continue to update as new information becomes available.

What is Railway 200?

Railway 200 will be a year-long nationwide partnership-led campaign to celebrate 200 years of the modern railway. Starting in January 2025, a wide variety of activities and events are being planned to celebrate rail's remarkable past, its role today, and its importance to a sustainable future. Railway 200 is a cross-industry initiative, but most of the nationwide activity will be taken forwards by partner organisations, like yourselves. Projects and events celebrating Railway 200 should fit into one of the four main themes:

- **Skills & Education**
- **Innovation, Technology & Environment**
- **Heritage, Culture & Tourism**
- **Celebrating Railway People**

Exhibition Train

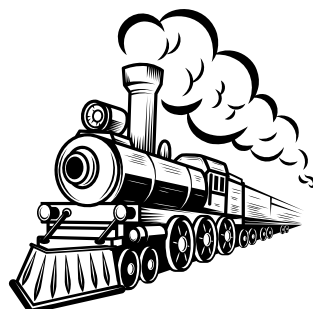
A touring exhibition train, called "Inspiration" is planned to travel Britain to showcase rail's innovation and encourage the next generation of pioneering talent to consider a career in rail, shining a spotlight on the diversity of roles available for people from all backgrounds. It will consist of different interactive exhibitions, exploring the past, present and future of rail and developed in partnership with the National Railway Museum. Entry will be free. Although the timetable and route is still being developed, it's expected that the train will arrive in Scotland in or after October 2025.

Further Information

We will provide further information as we have it, but you can keep up to date through the Railway 200 website here [Railway 200](#).

How can we get involved?

If you would like to get involved, or already have an idea but need further help, please get in touch with your usual contact at ScotRail. There will be limited funding available for projects celebrating Railway 200.



WELCOME

NEW VOLUNTEERS

It's always nice to meet new volunteers and our Teams Induction are a very good way to introduce ScotRail and our team to the programme. A big welcome to our new groups at Bridgeton, Arbroath, and Prestonpans that have recently joined us.

We really couldn't do it all without you.

VOLUNTEER HOURS

A big thank you for those volunteers who record their volunteering hours on the portal. Can those stations and volunteers who don't record hours perhaps think about it?

If you can, please submit your hours once a quarter, and if you do not like using the portal, then email your hours for submission. The portal addresses are below, and remember that if you record 42 hours over the year then you are entitled to rail tickets for two anywhere on the ScotRail network as part of the ScotRail deal.

<https://www.scotrail.co.uk/media/3629/download?inline>

<https://www.scotrail.co.uk/form/community-volunteers>

ScotRail
Buy Tickets | Check Service | Next Train
From: Enter origin station | To: Enter destination station | More
7 of 36 routes with issues
Community Volunteers
Volunteer hours record
Full name*
Mobile telephone*
Name of station*
Period covered* - Select -
Total number of hours worked*
Short description of activity*



Dates for your diary

Reimbursements - claims will be processed again as from **Monday, 6 January** until **Friday, 28 February 2025**. All claims will be paid out before the end of our financial year (31 March 2025).

Budget/Planting plans - can you please submit your planting plans from Monday, 6 January 2025, as this will help when planning the budget for the new financial year in April.

The link for planting plans for existing stations is:

<https://www.scotrail.co.uk/form/planting-plan-proposal-existing-groups>.

And for new stations is:

<https://www.scotrail.co.uk/form/planting-plan-proposal-new-groups>

Volunteers' Week 2025 takes place from Monday, 2 June to Sunday, 9 June, and as usual we are asking stations to consider becoming a Host Station for one the days.

This is a wonderful opportunity to meet up with other adopters, see what different stations are doing, have a wee spot of lunch, and a scenic rail journey. If you would like to host, please get in touch.



It just remains to say thank you all for the hard work you do every day for ScotRail, you make such a big difference to our stations, our customers and our staff, we would be all the poorer without your contribution and we want you to know how much the Community Team appreciates you.

Well done and a heartfelt thank you.