

Birthdays and private bookings

Our Railway is available for Birthday parties and private hire, with your own steam train. The normal hire duration is four hours, available most weekdays and Saturdays.

We can cater for up to 25 guests with your own food or, for an extra charge, outside catering. Free hot drinks for adults are included.

Or at reduced cost, you can have a reserved carriage on our normal running days (Sundays and Bank Holidays), with use of the party gazebo. Contact us via the website or call in at the Tea Room.

Tea Room

Our Tea Room serves delicious locally-made cakes, scones and biscuits on our normal running days and at special events.



Come along and enjoy an afternoon at the Railway, and have a cake and a hot drink, along with a friendly chat.

And if you would like to celebrate a special occasion, why not book an Afternoon Tea?

Timetable

We are open every Sunday and Bank Holiday from 24th March to 3rd November, also Spring and Autumn Half Terms and every Wednesday in August. On normal service days, the first train departs at 11:30am and then every 30 minutes until 4:30pm.

See the page opposite for our 2024 calendar of Special Events and Galas for families and enthusiasts throughout the year.

We can also arrange for 'Drive an Engine' experience days. Details can be found at www.westlancsrailway.org or ask in the shop.

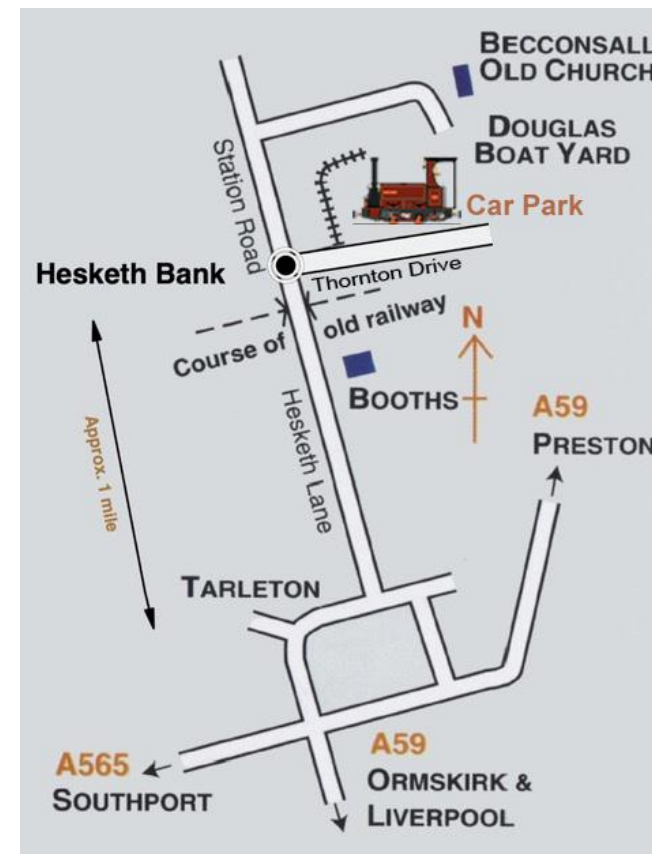


Santa Steam Specials

Saturdays 14th & 21st December
Sundays 8th, 15th & 22nd December

On-line bookings open on 1st October
www.westlancsrailway.org
Advance booking is essential

How to find us



Stagecoach bus service number 2, calls at Hesketh Bank on weekdays, Sundays and Bank Holidays. Free entrance. Free parking available on site. Telephone 01772 815881

Twinned with Chemin de Fer de Rillé. www.aecfm.fr



West Lancashire Light Railway



Hesketh Bank

Lancashire's only narrow-gauge heritage steam railway



[///visits.rugs.dusters](http://visits.rugs.dusters)

Station Road, Hesketh Bank PR4 6SP
www.westlancsrailway.org
www.facebook.com/westlancs

2024 Events

(all subject to availability)



31st March - Easter Egg Hunt

Fun and Easter Egg Hunt with a steam twist for all the family. Children's fairground. Two engine service.

28th April - Friendly Engines Day

A special day for families - three heritage engines in service, all with friendly faces! Fun and games. Children's fairground rides. Plus other attractions.



19th May - Teddy Bears Day



There are bound to be plenty of SURPRISES down in the woods today. Children with a Teddy Bear travel FREE. Meccano display. 16mm live- steam railway. Children's fairground rides. Two engine service.

16th June - Strawberries and Steam

Celebrating our fantastic Hesketh Bank Fresh Strawberries. Games and children's fairground. Cake stall and strawberries, Prosecco, Wine and Ale bar. Entertainment. Two engines in steam. Free cup of tea for all Dads travelling on Father's Day.



14th July - Princesses and Pirates Day



A magical day full of surprises for Princesses and Pirates. Children in costumes travel free. Treasure hunts, fairy tales and magic. Two engine service with frequent trains. Hot food and Princess tea room open.



3/4th August - Summer Gala

All available steam engines and guest loco in service. 16mm live steam model railway. Real Ale bar and entertainment.

Half Term and August Mid Week Running

29 May, 7, 14, 21, 28 August, 9 October. Normal service every 20 minutes, first train 11:30am, last train 4pm. One engine service.

22nd September - Working Engines Gala

Minimum of two engines service with extensive industrial trains operating. See the majority of our working collection in service. Industrial engines on display.



13th October - Pumpkin Sunday



Pick your own Pumpkins, one with every child ticket. Two heritage engine service. Catering van serving hot rolls, tea, coffee and pumpkin soup.

31st October - Halloween

Spooky trains depart 5pm, 5:30, 6pm and 6:30. Scary fun for all the family with lots of laughs. Suitable for all ages.

You have been expected.
One engine service.



3rd November - Children in Need



It's Pudsey time at the West Lancs. Free travel - donations only. All donations go to BBC Children in Need. Tea Room operating as Macmillan coffee morning. Children's Fairground. One engine service.

About us

The West Lancashire Light Railway was started in 1967 when six schoolboy friends became determined to preserve the rapidly disappearing narrow gauge railway equipment in industry, both locally and afar.

Since those early days, the collection has grown, now serving as a working museum, displaying and operating historic locomotives and industrial railway equipment from the UK and overseas. Our large collection of historic narrow gauge railway equipment includes 5 steam locomotives from the UK and abroad, used on our passenger trains. Together with many petrol, diesel and electric locomotives displayed on special event days.

Although our operating line is short, the track runs for about 400m through woodland adjacent to the former brickworks clay-pit. Tickets are valid for travel all day, except on Halloween and Santa trains, and can be purchased either from our ticket office on the day, or in advance via our website. Our shop stocks West Lancashire Light Railway merchandise and souvenirs. Our popular tea room serves delicious coffees, teas and locally produced cakes. All operated by our volunteers. Free entrance and parking. Picnic tables are provided.



Volunteering

We are always looking for new volunteers at the West Lancashire Light Railway, in all roles. From footplate crew to guards, shop and catering, platform staff, engineering, gardening, publicity, building repair and maintenance, track-work and so much more. It's a fun and worthwhile thing to do and you will join a great team of volunteers.



So why not come along and see how YOU can fit in, no experience necessary. We are open for new recruits on Thursday afternoons and Sundays. Come in for a chat and a tour of the site.

New Members and Volunteers Day

Saturday 6th July

1pm - 4pm

Come along and see what we do

Have-a-Go Sessions

Demonstrations and Displays

Meet the Volunteers

Photography by Derek Pratt, Anne Snape, Joey Evans and from the WLLR collection