

West Lancashire Light Railway Trust

The Locomotive Driving Course includes a year's membership of the West Lancashire Light Railway.

This means you can be part of a group of enthusiasts dedicated to keeping the railway operational. You can gain further insight into the world of railway preservation by helping to maintain and operate our fleet of historic locomotives and rolling stock.

Having experienced working on the footplate you may also be interested in becoming part of the Railway's operating team on running days. You have a choice of a wide variety of roles, such as driving, firing, guarding, catering and sales.

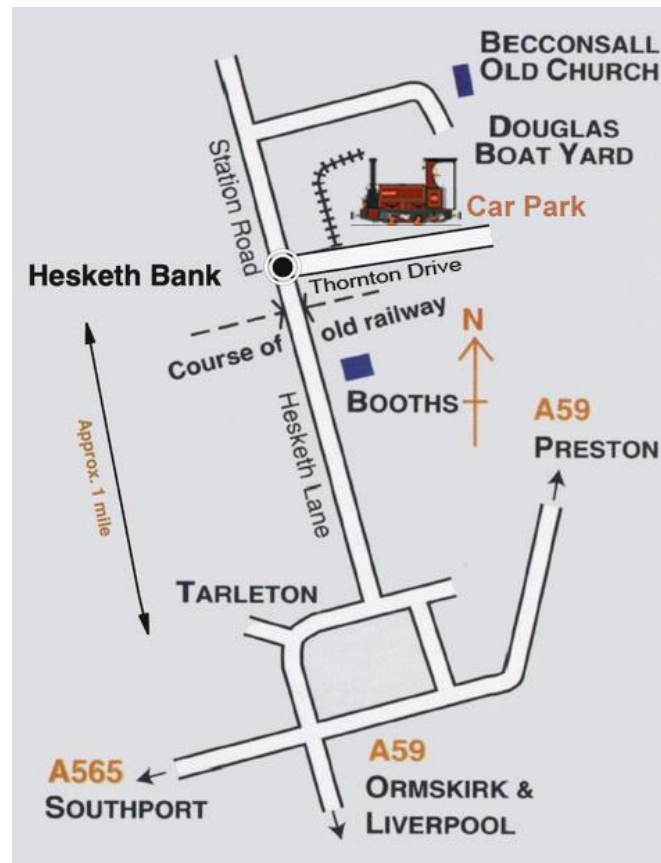
Members also benefit from free travel on most of our trains, and we can sign you up to receive our online newsletter, published about eight times a year.

If you would like to become a member without a Drive a Steam Train experience, you can download an application form at westlancsrailway.org/about-us.



Photographs courtesy of Derek Pratt

How to find us



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

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

The West Lancashire Light Railway Trust is a not-for-profit organisation operated entirely by volunteers.

Registered Charity No 1121149



The National Lottery Heritage Fund

Historic England



Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport

Drive a Steam Train Footplate experience day



West Lancashire Light Railway

Station Road, Hesketh Bank PR4 6SP

www.westlancsrailway.org
www.facebook.com/westlancs

A very special gift

For that special occasion, to fulfil a dream or just to treat yourself. A full day driving and firing a steam train on the West Lancashire Light Railway.

Buying as a gift? We can keep things secret!

Under the supervision of our friendly, experienced instructors you will have a briefing before taking the controls of a live steam train. Throughout the day your instructor will guide you in the skills of being a driver and fireman.

Experience a day that you will never forget. The thrill of taking control. Blow the whistle, release the brakes, open the regulator and with a hiss of steam you start the train on its journey. The unmistakable aroma of hot oil and steam.

We'll take some of the mystery out of what goes on inside the boiler, where the steam and water come from, and what it does.



All you need to do is choose a date (Saturdays and limited midweek days only), fill in and return the reservation form opposite and you should be on your way to an experience of a lifetime!

For £300 you will receive up to 6 hours of dedicated instruction and practice. Up to 3 other people can be included in the footplate experience for £50 each, however this does mean sharing the driving and firing throughout the day.

Please note that our locomotives are rather delicate treasures of 100 years old or more. Drive a Steam Train experiences are therefore restricted to a limited number of days each year to avoid excessive wear and tear on the locomotives.

What is included?

- 6 hours instruction/practice
- Firing techniques
- Cleaning and oiling instruction
- Driving and firing practice
- End of Day routine
- Heritage diesel driving and shunting
- Lunch provided
- Full year's honorary membership
- Certificate of Achievement

You will need to wear stout footwear, boots (preferably steel toe cap) or walking shoes - not trainers. Overalls and gloves will be provided.

Drive a Steam Train experiences may not be suitable for those with some disabilities, particularly where these affect mobility, concentration, dexterity and co-ordination. If you believe this may be a factor for the participant please contact us in advance to ensure the activity is suitable and to avoid any embarrassment on the day.

Age limit of 18 unaccompanied, 16 years with an accompanying adult.

Reservation form

To check availability of your Locomotive Driving Course please complete the details below and post to:

The Traffic Manager
West Lancashire Light Railway Trust
Station Road
Hesketh Bank
PR4 6SP

Email: traffic@westlancsrailway.org

Name:

Address:

Telephone No (Day)

Telephone (Evening)

Date preferred:

(Saturday or limited midweek dates)

Second choice:

Number in your group:

Please allow 14 days for a reply.

If we are able to accommodate you we shall send you a confirmation booking form giving full details of times and requirements.

The locomotive for Drive a Steam Train Footplate Experience is chosen on the day subject to availability and suitability of the engine. The WLLRT decision is final.

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