



Lynton and Barnstaple Railway

Gala 2025 *'Narrow gauge, the wider story'*



PROGRAMME & TIMETABLE



www.lynton-rail.co.uk

Donation

NARROW GAUGE, THE WIDER STORY

Often overlooked, but no less important, narrow gauge railways have played an important role in the railway story.

Since those early days of railways in the North East of England, railways have spread across the world, transporting people and goods, working in quarries, construction, defence, agriculture and industry.

Narrow gauge railways offered a less expensive alternative to standard gauge and enabled large networks to be built, often in difficult terrain where standard gauge would be expensive or just impossible.

The locomotives in operation at our gala cover a selection of types which worked in many industries around the world. Together, their operational lives reflect how narrow gauge railways grew internationally.

In 1863, the Ffestiniog Railway proved it was practical to operate steam engines on narrow gauge track. The world looked on and began to copy.

In the late 1800s, Paul Decauville in France, developed an innovative, portable railway system with sectional track, rolling stock and locomotives. This formed the basis of the trench railways of the First World War which moved supplies and munitions to the front. After hostilities ended, surplus equipment enabled many budding railway concerns to build narrow gauge lines at knockdown prices.

From the Victorian period until the rise of the modern dumper truck, most large construction sites laid narrow-gauge lines

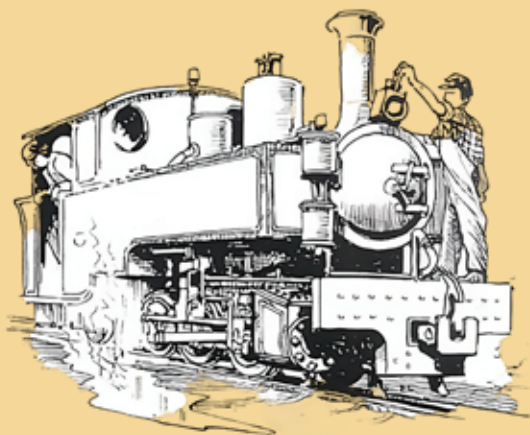
with small steam locomotives moving materials and increasing efficiency.

Successes with internal combustion engine locomotives during WW1 sowed the seed for manufacturers to start the move away from steam traction. Narrow gauge railways were early adopters of these new locomotives, where their low operating cost and ability to be instantly stopped and started made them useful for lines where work was unpredictable or infrequent.

As steam finally gave way to diesel, manufacturers started to supply engines to the various industries here and abroad to replace their ageing steam locomotives.

With commendable foresight, enthusiasts found narrow-gauge steam right around the world, repatriating them in various states of condition, paving the way for the narrow-gauge heritage movement.

At our gala 'narrow gauge, the wider story' we celebrate those locomotives, their heritage and international operations - recognising the special place they have held across the 200 years of the railways.





The Stockton and Darlington Railway opened on the 27th September 1825. It's considered the first modern railway, operating passenger and freight trains, and open to the public. Previous lines had been freight only, sometimes carrying employees or passengers in an ad-hoc way, the Stockton and Darlington paved the way for railways everywhere.

This year we join in with the country-wide celebrations of **Railway 200** by highlighting the impact that narrow gauge railways have had around the world.

We welcome you to Woody Bay, whether returning or new to this special place. We hope you enjoy the weekend and thank you for your continued support.

Make sure you don't miss anything from our jam-packed Gala programme:

- 4 guest engines and 6 home engines
- An international parade of locomotives on Sunday
- Intensive passenger services and demonstration goods trains
- Additional attractions around the site and in the marquee
- Our new rail trail at Woody Bay, Blackmoor (Old Station Inn) and Chelfham
- Chelfham station is open, see the restoration and the impressive viaduct
- Food and drink for all tastes and ages

Inside this programme

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LOCOMOTIVES

The guest engines

Chalonier was built in North Wales in 1877, by the De Winton and Co. for the Pen-Y-Bryn slate quarry, later moving to the larger Pen-yr-Orsedd quarry where it worked out its days. Its vertical-boilered construction was used extensively in the **Welsh** quarrying industry. The locomotive was cheap to build, perfect for the slate quarries.



Peter Pan, built in 1922, is a member of the Kerr Stuart 'Wren' class. The small size and simplicity meant Wrens were well suited to moving between work sites. Peter Pan worked in **Essex** until 1929 then moved to Wilminstone Quarry in Tavistock. It came to Beacon Down Quarry near Killington Lane at a later date, and has not visited Woody Bay since 2005.



Boothby is a 'Planet Y Type'. Planet locomotives were exported around the globe but Boothby when built in 1933 went to work at Stanstead Nurseries **Essex**. They had a number of glasshouses and a narrow gauge locomotive was in use to supply the site. In 1957 Boothby moved to the Boothby Peat Company in Cumbria before finally entering preservation in 1968.



Faith, North **Dorset** Locomotive Works 0-4-2T was expertly built from scratch by our Chief Engineer, John Uphill and represents narrow gauge railways recreated for pleasure and heritage. The diminutive Faith is coming back to Woody Bay metals after a period of several years away.



Our home engines

Lyn is a replica Baldwin locomotive built for the L&B in 1898 representing the heyday of American narrow gauge. Built in the **USA** Lyn is typical of North American engines of the time with a wooden cab, sand domes, bar frames and cowcatchers. Lyn was designed for passenger work, with large wheels, enabling higher speeds. When built, there were over 11,000 miles of narrow gauge in the US.



Sir George Newnes was ordered in 1944 by the Tongaat Sugar Company in **South Africa**. Wartime shortages meant it was finally dispatched in March 1946. Originally, the engine was named Charles Whytock after a Scottish emigrant who became a senator in South Africa and a senior director at the Tongaat Sugar Company. The history of this engine is linked to the British Empire.



Baguley-Drewery 2393 "Pilton" is a diesel mechanical locomotive built for the Victoria Mill in Queensland **Australia** in 1952, receiving the name Leichhardt in 1974. Now fitted with a 180HP Gardener 6LXB engine and with the cab cut down to fit the L&BR loading gauge, Pilton is a powerful and very useful member of our fleet, used for our track maintenance trains.



Hunslets Heddon Hall & D6552 were built in 1965 for the MOD, and spent their working lives hidden away on one of the plethora of MOD railways. They both worked at Dean Hill Munitions storage facility in **Wiltshire** from new until 2003, when the railway system was disbanded and road transport took over.



Axe, Kerr, Stuart & Co Ltd No. 2451 was built at Stoke-on-Trent in 1915. A side and well tank locomotive, it was one of seventy 60cm gauge "Joffre" Class (named after the French First World War Commander) ordered by the **French** government for service on the Western Front during World War I. Axe is currently awaiting overhaul and out of service.



*All the engines (apart from Axe) will be on passenger or goods trains over the gala weekend (subject to availability). **Why not tick them off as you see them?** All engines, including Axe, feature in Sunday's International Parade.*



If you have not seen the award-winning restoration of the **delightful Chelfham station**, a visit is a must over the gala weekend and there's always something new to explore.

Recent changes include an improved viewing area over the impressive viaduct, newly recreated signals and further enhancements to the original station building.

Our enthusiastic volunteers, who have worked tirelessly on the restoration, will be on hand to show off their progress.

Open 10.00 until 17.00 both days of the gala, the station's postcode is EX31 4RP, the entrance to the station is [///patio.roosts.custodian](http://patio.roosts.custodian) (what3words). Parking is signed.

The Old Station Inn

TRADITIONAL ENGLISH PUB & RESTAURANT



Open daily from 12 noon to 10 pm with good food served till 8pm.
Only a 4 mile drive from Woody Bay Station, on the A39/A399 junction at Blackmoor Gate.

Tel: 01598 763520 Email: enquiries.oshi@gmail.com www.oldstationhouseinn.com



ATTRACTIONS

Make sure you **visit the marquee, near to Moorlands**, where you'll find:

- Archive photos and other material
- The 762 Club and 100 Club
- Signal and Telegraph display
- Two model railways
- 16mm scale steam models
- Secondhand model railway sales
- Ilfracombe Museum display
- Coombe Rail project stand

- Ilfracombe Victorians
- Children's games area

On the platforms we'll have the McSturgess Duo, performing English & Irish Folk, Americana and sea shanties as well as the Lyn Valley Dancers. **Plus**, vintage vehicles, miniature traction engine rides and the garden and miniature railways. All attractions may subject to change

Moorlands

Moorlands is set in five acres of beautiful gardens and grounds within the Exmoor National Park. With stunning views of the surrounding countryside, Moorlands offers visitors seeking quality and comfortable accommodation, a warm friendly welcome.

- Family Owned and Operated
- Five Individual B&B Rooms
- Three Self-Catering Suites
- All Rooms Ensuite with WiFi
- Comfortable and Quiet
- 1 Minute walk to Woody Bay Station
- Within Exmoor National Park

WOODY BAY, PARRACOMBE, DEVON, EX31 4RA

www.moorlandshotel.co.uk



Special rates available for members and visitors to the Lynton and Barnstaple railway. Please call us direct on 01598 763224!

Sunday

	Passenger	Passenger	Short Goods	Passenger	Passenger	Passenger	Light Engine	Passenger	Short Goods	Passenger	Short Goods	Passenger	Short Goods	Passenger	Short Goods	Passenger	Long Goods	Passenger
Front engine																		
Back Engine	SGN	SGN	Lyn	Lyn	PP	C	Lyn	SGN	-	Lyn	-	Lyn	SGN	C + PP	SGN	-	SGN	PP + C
Dep.	09:53	10:20	10:47	11:06	11:19	11:53	12:23	12:55	13:18	13:38	13:52	14:12	14:40	15:03	15:17	15:40	15:57	16:17
Bridge 67	Arr.	↓	↓	11:10	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	13:42	↓	↓	↓	15:07	↓	15:44	↓	↓
KL	Arr.	10:40	10:25	10:52	-	11:24	11:58	12:28	13:00	13:23	-	13:57	14:18	14:45	-	15:22	-	16:02
																		16:23
																		16:42
																		17:07

	Passenger	Passenger	Passenger	Short Goods	Passenger	Passenger	Light Engine	Passenger	Passenger	PARADE	Passenger	Short Goods	Passenger	Long Goods	Passenger	Short Goods	Passenger	Short Goods	Passenger	Long Goods	Passenger
Front engine	SGN	SGN	SGN	SGN	C	SGN+Lyn	SGN + P	Lyn	-	Lyn	-	Lyn	C	Lyn	C + PP	Lyn+SGN	PP	Lyn	C	Lyn	PP + C
Back Engine	Lyn	Lyn	Lyn	Lyn	PP	-	-	-	-	SGN	SGN	PP	SGN	-	-	-	-	-	-	SGN	-
Dep.	09:40	10:07	10:32	10:59	-	11:31	12:08	12:35	13:05	13:30	-	14:04	14:26	14:55	-	-	-	-	-	16:09	16:28
Bridge 67	Dep.	↓	↓	↓	11:13	11:36	12:15	12:40	↓	↓	↓	13:45	↓	↓	↓	↓	15:10	↓	15:32	↓	16:49
KL	Dep.	10:40	10:25	10:52	-	11:24	11:58	12:28	13:00	13:23	-	13:57	14:18	14:45	-	15:22	-	16:02	16:23	16:42	17:07
Bridge 67	Arr.	↓	↓	↓	11:10	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓
KL	Arr.	10:40	10:25	10:52	-	11:24	11:58	12:28	13:00	13:23	-	13:57	14:18	14:45	-	15:22	-	16:02	16:23	16:42	17:07

Mixed Passenger

Notes:

Locomotives: Lyn, SGN = Sir George Newnes, C = Chaloner, PP = Peter Pan, B = Boothby, F = Faith

Passenger trains will arrive/depart from the 'Down' (grave) Platform at Woody Bay, and Goods trains will arrive/depart from the 'Up' Boothby will provide shuttle services from the 'Up' platform between service trains.

The locomotive parade will take place on Sunday at Woody Bay station, starting at 12:30. It is expected to last for half an hour.

Please note that there is no public access on the Goods trains, these trains are for demonstration purposes only.

Details correct at time of printing, please check on the day for any changes.

The L&BR reserves the right to change this timetable



Saturday

		Short Goods		Passenger		Passenger		Passenger		Passenger		Diesel Goods		Passenger		Short Goods		Passenger		Short Goods		Passenger		Short Goods		Passenger		Short Goods		Passenger		Long Goods		Passenger		Long Goods		Passenger	
Front engine	Back Engine	F + PP	C	Lyn	SGN	Lyn	SGN	Lyn	SGN	Lyn	SGN	Lyn	HH	-	Lyn	PP	C	Lyn	C + PP	SGN	-	PP	SGN	C	SGN	C	Lyn	PP	C	Lyn	SGN	PP	C	Lyn	SGN	PP	C	Lyn	SGN
WB	Dep.	09:48	10:08	10:33	10:58	11:23	11:55	12:15	12:41	13:02	13:16	13:39	14:04	14:36	14:50	15:10	15:23	15:46	16:07	16:27	16:52	17:17																	
Bridge 67	Arr.	09:55	10:13	10:38	11:03	11:28	12:00	12:22	12:46	13:06	13:21	13:45	14:09	-	14:55	-	15:28	15:52	16:12	16:33	16:57	17:22																	

	Passenger		Short Goods		Passenger		Passenger		Passenger		Passenger		Mixed Goods		Passenger		Short Goods		Passenger		Long Goods		Passenger		Short Goods		Passenger		Short Goods		Passenger		Long Goods		Passenger		Short Goods	
	Front engine	Back Engine	SGN	PP + C	SGN	SGN	SGN	SGN	SGN	HH + F	SGN+Lyn	C	Lyn	C + PP	Lyn	PP	Lyn	C	SGN	PP + C	SGN	C + PP	SGN	Lyn	C	SGN	PP + C	SGN	C + PP	SGN	Lyn	C	SGN	PP + C	SGN	Lyn		
KI	Dep.	09:40	10:00	10:20	10:45	11:10	11:35	12:07	12:31	12:54	-	13:31	13:55	14:19	-	15:02	-	15:38	15:58	16:19	16:43	17:04																
Bridge 67	Dep.	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	13:09	↓	↓	↓	14:43	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓		
WB	Arr.	09:45	10:06	10:25	10:50	11:15	11:40	12:12	12:38	12:59	13:13	13:36	14:01	14:24	14:47	15:07	15:21	15:43	16:04	16:24	16:49	17:09																



FOOD AND DRINK

We've got lots of options to **keep you fuelled across both Gala days**. Please support the railway and our local suppliers with a purchase from one of the following.

Woody Bay cafe (past the station building)

Our purpose built café provides hot and cold drinks, sandwiches and savouries as well as range of cakes and ice-cream. You'll also find some L&BR and Southern Railway artwork and memorabilia around the cafe giving some insights into our very special railway. Enjoy the food, drink, ambience and company whilst you take a break from the gala festivities.

BBQ (at the station entrance)

Our gala wouldn't be complete without the now traditional barbeque offering a range of local butcher-sourced sausages, beefburgers and bacon in rolls, vegetarian curry and Quorn sausages. Perfect if you're planning to be on the go all day and seeing as many of the attractions as possible!

Real Ale tent (at the station entrance)

Our real ale and cider bar (which features some ales kindly sponsored by our supporters) and has a selection of beers (from the Black Bear, Exeter, Exmoor, Fixed Wheel and Holsworthy Breweries), traditional and fruit ciders from Sam's, wines, prosecco, lager, 0% beer, and tea or coffee, all ideal for whetting your whistle! The bar is run by volunteers and all profits will go directly to the railway.

We've got **picnic tables by the station building** and some beyond the Woody Bay car park so you can refresh whilst watching the gala trains go by.

Our **canine friends** can find water on the 'up' platform next to the 'Gents' toilets.

Don't forget, we own the **Old Station Inn at Blackmoor Gate**. Why not pop in after the Gala, you will get a very warm welcome and enjoy 20% off your food bill at The Old Station Inn with a valid Autumn Gala ticket or wristband!

If you should need First Aid facilities, these are at the station building.



UPDATES

As always it's an exciting time at the L&BR with work continuing, including;

Carriage Shelter

By the car park you can see the progress with our new carriage shelter, essential for keeping our rolling stock protected from the worst of North Devon's weather.

Barnstaple Signal Box

Our volunteers are hard at work restoring the Barnstaple Town signal box. They are repairing the original structure and making new windows where originals were lost.

Van 23

Over the summer progress on the underframe of Van 23 has slowed, but work will ramp-up to complete the rolling chassis which will be painted before going to our specialist carriage team in Essex for bodywork completion.

Extension plans

Members recently overwhelmingly voted to make an application for an extension to Parracombe village. Development work on the application has now commenced in parallel with continuing activities on Blackmoor to Whistlandpound, the second members' choice.

Governance

Recently Trustees and Directors agreed that the present model (i.e. a charitable Trust and separate operating company, the CIC) has served the railway well over recent years but now may not be the most efficient or effective solution needed for the future. Therefore potential new models of governance are being investigated that will more effectively serve the needs and expectations of our members, staff, volunteers, funders and other stakeholders.

**Have you seen our behind the scenes videos yet?
Search 'Steam on the Moor'**





SUPPORT US

The generosity of our members and supporters helps develop the L&BR by funding essential infrastructure projects, restoration initiatives and our extension plans. You can support us in many ways. News and details on how to support us are on the website.

Carriage shelter fund

Our carriage shelter is in the latter stages of completion, By supporting this essential project you are helping keep our unique carriage fleet protected from weather.

General Manager's fund

Our General Manager's Fund is used to buy or replace essential tools, it funds smaller volunteer projects and really useful things that keep us running and thriving.

Barnstaple signal box fund

This long term project needs your help in preserving this important L&BR asset for future location at Blackmoor Gate.

Henry the railway collecting dog

Our now famous canine collector 'Henry' has been doing sterling work collecting funds jointly for the L&BR and Woking Homes (the former Southern Railway orphanage).

Future projects

We'll be announcing future funding appeals for Van 23, the overhaul of Axe, and subject to planning approvals, extensions.



REMEMBER

There is **only one place** for L&BR official news and updates, **www.lynton-rail.co.uk**
Scan and bookmark it now!





VOLUNTEERING

We rely upon our team of dedicated and friendly volunteers to keep the railway running and have opportunities to suit a wide range of interests and skills no matter what your age or background. Whether it's engineering, operations or behind the scenes we provide a friendly, nurturing and safe environment where you can develop your talents.

The weekday gangs are great places to meet new people whilst doing something satisfying and contributing to the L&B cause. We're looking for help across the following areas:

- Contributing to the maintenance of the Woody Bay and other sites
- Gardening and taking care of our landscapes
- Maintaining our track and signalling
- Taking care of our heritage rolling stock
- Helping our customers in the shop and booking office
- Running services, namely our guards, footplate crew and platform staff

For more details **pick up a form today** in the booking office or visit www.lynton-rail.co.uk/volunteers-welcome we'd love to hear from you.

**Have fun whilst helping the L&B Railway for only £1 per month
by having numbers in the 100 Club**



**For every £1 invested, 50p goes to build the railway and 50p goes
in monthly cash prizes. Purchase numbers in the shop or online
www.lynton-rail.co.uk/lbrt-100-club-tickets**



UPCOMING EVENTS

8th November 2025

Members' Forum

Our annual members' forum provides an opportunity to learn about what's happening at the L&B, reflect on the operational year, meet likeminded people and help shape its future.

9th November 2025

Remembrance Sunday

Join us at our Annual Remembrance service to honour the fallen and the people of the War Department Light Railways and Railway Operating Division.

7th, 13th, 14th, 20th to 24th

December 2025

Santa Specials

Our ever popular Santa Specials will be running this festive period with Santa and

his Elves providing the perfect start to the season. Visiting children will receive a small gift, and of course there will be festive food in our warm café. Early booking is essential.

16th May 2026

Trust Annual General Meeting

Our Annual Trust AGM will be held locally and is an opportunity for members to elect new trustees as well as directors for the Community Interest Company.

Work Weekends

Come and help us with maintaining and improving the L&BR! Join us and help with a wide variety of activities across the railway on the **21st to 23rd November 2025, 23th to 25th January 2026** and the **20th to 22nd March 2026**.

Details on these events and more at our website

With thanks to...

Our dedicated staff, volunteers and supporters without whom this gala would be impossible, our members, the wider L&B family, the Bagnall 2819 Group, Graham Morris, David Fisher, Jason Keswick, John Uphill and our commercial partners who made this programme possible. Photography Will Curry, Giles Perkins. Programme direction and content, Will Curry. `proof reading by Anna Curry. Programme design, Giles Perkins.

Become a member



By joining the Lynton & Barnstaple Railway Trust, you will be supporting what is probably the world's last great narrow-gauge heritage railway project.

Unlike some railways, being a "Member" of the LB&R Trust makes you a joint owner of the railway and gives you the right to attend and vote at the Company's Annual General Meetings. You will be playing an active part in the fantastic project that is the Lynton & Barnstaple Railway. As a member you'll get the following benefits:

The Members Magazine: This award-winning magazine is filled with historical articles and news updates. It is illustrated with evocative drawings, archive photographs and modern views.

Newsletter: The L&BR Trust Newsletter is only available to Members, is published several times a year and keeps you up to date with what's happening.

Volunteering: Members are encouraged to volunteer for a single morning or afternoon, a day, a week or for as many months or years as you like. Remember too that not all volunteering is done in North Devon.

Area Groups: Most Members of the L&BR Trust are not based in Devon and not just from the UK, but also the rest of the World. Wherever they are, they form local Area Groups to meet, socialise and further the aims of the railway.

If you join at or after the gala you get 18 months membership for the price of 12 (£36 individual, seniors £30)

Search: 'Lynton and Barnstaple Railway membership' online or scan the QR code now and join us today!



Registered with
FUNDRAISING
REGULATOR





See you again soon!



200th ➔

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