

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 23rd March to 2nd 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 2025 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.

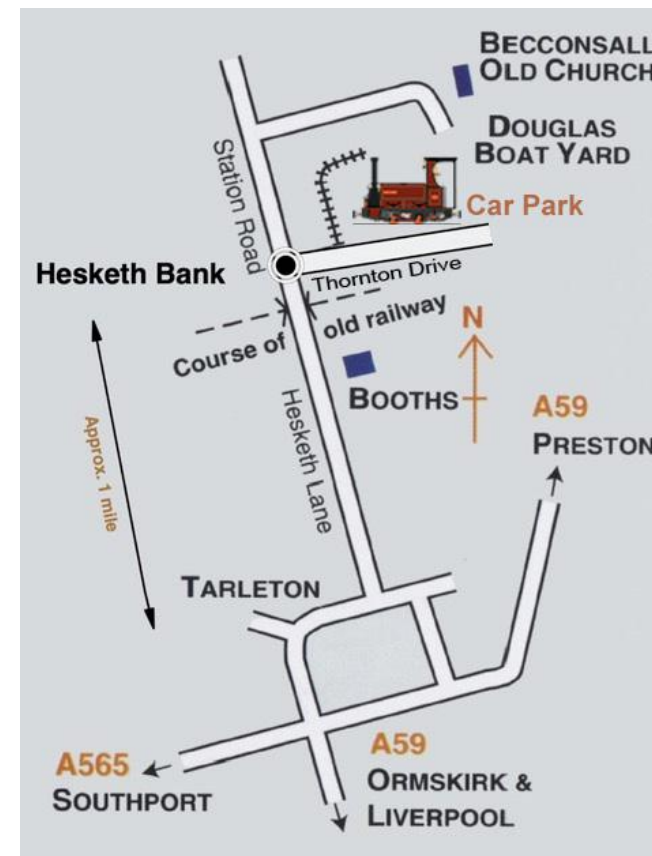


Santa Steam Specials

Saturdays 13th & 20th December
Sundays 7th, 14th & 21st 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



The West Lancashire Light Railway Trust is a not-for-profit organisation operated entirely by volunteers.
Registered Charity No 1121149

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

2025 Events

(all subject to availability)



30th March Mother's Day with Friendly Engines

Mums receive a special treat for Mother's Day, while the little ones enjoy our Friendly Engines. Mother's Day Cream Tea Specials. Children's fairground ride and stall.

20th April - Easter Egg Hunt

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



18th 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 ride. Two engine service.

15th June - Strawberries and Steam

Celebrating our fantastic Hesketh Bank Fresh Strawberries. Children's fairground ride. 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.



13th 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. Children's fairground.



2/3rd 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

28 May, 6, 13, 20, 27 August, 29 October. Normal service every 20 minutes, first train 11:30am, last train 4pm. One engine service.

21st 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. 16mm live steam model railway.



12th 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. 16mm live steam model railway.

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.



2nd 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. One engine service.

16mm live steam model railway.

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 4 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.



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