



Welcome to our On the Rails Issue 4 E-newsletter and to our new logo launched this year.

Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, Hampton Kempton Waterworks Railway (HKWR) and Kempton Steam Museum are closed until further notice so that we can protect the general public and our volunteers. As a subscriber, we thought however, that you may like to be aware of some of our event highlights from last year, plus other news.



£25,000 cash boost for the railway

www.hamptonkemptonrailway.org.uk/Heathrow%20Community%20Trust/



Happy 90th Anniversary Kempton Steam!

[www.hamptonkemptonrailway.org.uk/Kempton 90th Anniversary/](http://www.hamptonkemptonrailway.org.uk/Kempton%2090th%20Anniversary/)

Highlights from 2019

Dinosaur Day in September set a record attendance for HKWR with hundreds of people flocking to see our T Rex train Fido, roar around the track. Our volunteers made a huge effort to make Dinosaur Day a success, taking many weeks to build Fido and fit it onto our diesel engine. We're hoping at HKWR that we will have the opportunity to run the event sometime this year so watch out for email alerts as this will be online booking only.



Our Halloween theme in October was Witches and a Dragon named Donald. The show was put on by our volunteers who bravely played the parts of green witches and night wizards on a very cold night! Let's hope we can still organise our popular Halloween Ghost Night trains for this year.



Our Santa Special trains ran for two weekends last year as this is such a popular event for families. Every child receives a Christmas present from Santa, together with a welcoming hot drink and cookie.

Here's a reminder of this great event staged every year by our fantastic volunteers!

<https://youtu.be/jPtZsHdrjq4>



More news here

- HKWR were fortunate enough to receive a lot of donated wagons and railway equipment from the Hampshire Narrow Gauge Trust after it closed its Bursledon site near Southampton. This much needed equipment will help towards our restoration project to extend the railway.
- Our restoration plans to extend the railway continue and our volunteers have been working hard to clear the area for our new coach shed. This involved lifting the existing track and replacing it 2 metres away to allow for the new building. Heathrow Community Trust kindly granted us £25K to allow our volunteers to work under cover to main our heritage railway equipment.



Darent, we need you back!



Darent today



One of the original locomotives working at Kempton Waterworks.

Our 1915 locomotive Darent, has been out of action for some time but we're pleased to say that he should be back in action soon, thanks to our determined volunteers. Due to Darent's age, the locomotive had a major overhaul which took a little longer than expected.

Did you know.....

At HKWR we have built a living hedge. As the railway strives to be as green and eco-friendly as possible, our volunteers built this beautiful structure out of pruned branches, green cuttings and overgrowth, gathered from around the railway track. The hedge provides a natural habitat for small mammals, birds and insects and cost HKWR virtually nothing to build. This is the first of our living hedge initiative and our hope is it will contribute to the area's conservation, especially with the railway being so near to the Thames Water Kempton Nature Reserve, a site of special scientific interest.



One of our volunteers who helped build our living hedge

Get involved – Be a volunteer!



Meet Allan Roberts, our new Volunteer Co-ordinator.

As we have recently been awarded a grant for a new Coach Shed, from Heathrow Community Fund, we need volunteers to come and join us to help run and operate the railway, and to also be part of our new and exciting restoration project. Our big volunteer recruitment weekend planned for April is on hold for this year, but we be recruiting early next year. It doesn't matter about your background or experience we will train you, although you must be over 18. Contact Allan for more information at allan.roberts@hamptonkemptonrailway.org.uk mobile: 07947073916