

RAILWAY PRESERVATION SOCIETY OF IRELAND

A CELEBRATORY DINNER

ON FRIDAY FEBRUARY 20, 2009

TIME: 7.30 FOR 8PM

VENUE: ULSTER REFORM CLUB, ROYAL AVENUE, BELFAST.

The RPSI Events Committee is delighted to announce that a celebratory dinner is to be held on the evening of Friday February 20, to which all members of the Society, their spouses, partners and friends are cordially invited.

We are returning to the Ulster Reform Club, venue for the highly successful Peter Scott MBE dinner in 2007. We have been granted the use of these much sought after premises thanks to the good offices of our chairman and Reform Club member, Johnny Glendinning. This time round, the function will take place in the splendidly restored Old Billiard Room, which comes complete with an ecclesiastical-style ceiling, long Victorian bar, two grand fireplaces with open fires and unrivalled views over Royal Avenue and Castle Place. Just the job for a chilly February evening!

This time there are two causes for celebration. Firstly, the Society has now been accorded official museums status by the NI Museums Council, which will elevate the status of our headquarters at Whitehead. And secondly, we want to mark the successful completion of the steam driving qualification course by two more footplate crew from Northern Ireland Railways.

And if you want a third reason – 2009 marks the 45th anniversary of the Society's foundation back in 1964. So there are plenty of excuses for us to have a good night's craic. Although we will have a couple of speeches to mark the Society's achievements, the emphasis will be on a relaxed evening with plenty of chat, a magnificent meal and perhaps the odd glass of fine wine. All in all, an evening not to be missed.

Tickets for the dinner cost £25/€30 per person, with any surplus going to the RPSI carriage fund. Come on your own, or bring a spouse, partner or friend. Indeed, why not make up a table of eight or 10? Group bookings will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

The menu is as follows:

Belfast & Co Down Railway Farmhouse Country Vegetable Broth
LMS-NCC Corn-fed Chicken Supreme wrapped in Parma Ham, with a
Bushmills Whiskey Sauce
GNR(I) chef's selection of fresh market vegetables and potatoes
Clogher Valley Railway homemade deep-filled Apple Pie with Cinnamon Cream
Belfast Central Railway Tea/Coffee

An alternative main course will be provided for anyone with special dietary requirements – please indicate your preference on the booking form. An extensive wine list will be available.

The Ulster Reform Club is a landmark listed building which dates from 1885 and is located beside the Tesco Metro store at the Castle Junction end of Royal Avenue, in the heart of Belfast. It is convenient to hotels, bus stop and railway stations. Parking on nearby streets is free after 6.30pm.

Please note down the date in your new 2009 diary now, send in your booking form and cheque and join us for what promises to be a memorable evening. Please note that the dress code for the evening is jacket and tie for gents, and equivalent for ladies. And needless to say, the Ulster Reform Club has disabled access and is a non-smoking function.

The RPSI group will be mustering in the members' bar on the first floor before ascending to the Old Billiards Room for dinner, so aim to arrive as near to 7.30pm as possible. Dinner will be served promptly at 8pm.

Space is limited, so please do not delay in sending off your booking. The absolute deadline is Friday February 13. Send your booking, complete with cheque crossed and made payable to "The RPSI", to John Lockett, 66 Richmond Court, Lisburn, BT27 4QX.

We look forward to receiving your booking for what promises to be a convivial evening and a chance to celebrate the RPSI's latest achievements.

Don't delay, get that booking in today.

Robin Morton

Convenor, RPSI Events Committee

RAILWAY PRESERVATION SOCIETY OF IRELAND

Celebratory Dinner, Friday February 20, 2009.

NAME.....(please print)

ADDRESS.....

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Email.....

Phone number.....(h).....(m)

Names of guests.....

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Special dietary requirements.....

Please reserve meseats at £25 (€30) per person at the dinner on February 20.
I enclose a cheque/postal order crossed and made payable to The RPSI for £/€....

Send this booking form to John Lockett, 66 Richmond Court, Lisburn, Co Antrim,
BT27 4QX.

*****BOOKINGS CLOSE ON FRIDAY FEBRUARY 13th 2009*****