

The Railway Preservation Society of Ireland

*Announces the Prospectus and Advance Booking Form for its 41st
Irish Railway Heritage Weekend*

Featuring

THE DALRIADA INTERNATIONAL RAILTOUR

Operating on

Saturday 8th to Monday 10th May 2010

Main Tour

Saturday 8th May: Dublin Connolly - Larne Harbour - Belfast
(Overnight). 176 steam miles.

Sunday 9th May: Belfast - Bangor - Whitehead - Coleraine - Lisburn -
Belfast (Overnight). 196 steam miles.

Monday 10th May: Belfast - Dublin - Belfast. 113 steam & 113 diesel
miles.

Fringe Events

Thursday 6th May: Diesel-hauled carriage positioning train Belfast to
Dublin.

Friday 7th May: Silvermines Diesel Railtour: Dublin Connolly -
Ballybrophy - Nenagh - Limerick - Dublin Connolly.

Tuesday 11th May: Coach tour from Belfast.

DALRIADA INTERNATIONAL RAILTOUR

The 40th anniversary of the ending of steam traction on Northern Ireland Railways coincides with the 2010 May railtour and appropriately, for the first time since 2001, the International Railtour will visit Northern Ireland as its destination. The Dalriada Railtour will feature around 500 steam and 113 diesel-hauled miles over three days.

It is planned that both LMS (NCC) 2-6-4 WT class locomotive No.4 and GSWR 0-6-0 J15 class locomotive No.186 will be used. The Mk2 carriage set will be used throughout.

End of Steam Background

While broad gauge steam ended on British Rail in August 1968, steam haulage continued on NIR until 1970. The principal steam work was to haul quarry waste (spoil) from near Larne to the Belfast Lough foreshore for the use in the construction of a motorway. The last spoil train operated on Saturday 2nd May 1970 while the last passenger train had operated at Easter. Belfast (York Road) depot effectively closed to steam traction by the end of that May. The spoil trains marked not only the last commercial use of steam traction in Ireland but also the last example of Company revenue earning broad-gauge steam operation in the British Isles.

The Dalriada Railtour

Saturday 8th May

No.186: Dublin (Connolly) - Whitehead.

No.4: Whitehead - Carrickfergus - Larne Harbour - Belfast Central.

Sunday 9th May

No.186: Belfast Central - Bangor - Whitehead.

No.4: Whitehead - Ballymena - Coleraine - Lisburn - Belfast Central.
Locomotives cannot work beyond Coleraine until the Portrush Branch is relayed in the autumn.

Monday 10th May

No.4: Belfast Central - Dublin (Connolly).

GM: Dublin (Connolly) - Belfast - Whitehead.

Fares £165 (Under 16/Over 65, £140). Non member supplement of £25 applies.

Fringe Activities

Thursday 6th May (£25)

Carriage positioning train: GM diesel and Mk2s from Whitehead to Dublin (Connolly), with pick up at Carrickfergus, Belfast Central, Lisburn and Portadown.

Friday 7th May (£43)

Diesel-hauled railtour using Irish Rail GM locomotives. Dublin to Limerick via Nenagh and return by the Cork line. A stand-alone booking form will be available later for this railtour through the web site.

Tuesday 11th May (£35)

Coach tour from Belfast with a heritage theme.

Fares

All, or separate, elements of the Heritage Weekend can be booked:

- The Thursday diesel-hauled carriage positioning train.
- The Friday diesel-hauled railtour.
- The Dalriada Railtour (Saturday, Sunday & Monday). Adult and Under 16/Over 65 fares.
- The Tuesday coach tour (includes lunch).

Booking

Please fill in the attached form to reserve your place(s) on the railtour. The final booking form will be sent out when full details are confirmed in the early April.

Thanks

A special thank you to Iarnród Éireann and Northern Ireland Railways for facilitating this comprehensive steam and diesel operation.

ADVANCE BOOKING FORM

**THE DALRIADA INTERNATIONAL RAILTOUR
AND FRINGE EVENTS
6th to 11th May 2010**

PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM IN BLOCK CAPITALS

Name

Address

.....

.....

.....

Email Address

Please book me places on / or part of the International Weekend.

To assist with hotel reservations, please advise of your accommodation requirements:

Dublin (Thursday 6 th)	..... persons	Belfast (Monday 10 th)	..... persons
Dublin (Friday 7 th)	..... persons	Dublin (Monday 10 th)	..... persons
Belfast (Saturday 8 th)	..... persons	Belfast (Tuesday 11 th)	..... persons
Belfast (Sunday 9 th)	..... persons		

I enclose total payment (£20 / €20 per person) of £ or € paid by:

- A cheque made payable to the "RPSI".

- Credit Card as follows - Visa/Mastercard (please indicate):

_____/_____/_____/_____ Expiry date ____/____

I don't / do require confirmation of receipt, for which a small stamped self-addressed envelope is enclosed.

Please post your completed form, with deposit payment to:

RPSI "Dalriada Railtour"
P.O. Box 461
Newtownabbey
BT36 9BT
Northern Ireland