



# Newsletter

## Railway Family Week Back for 2022!

Railway Family Week is a fundraising and awareness event bringing together the whole rail industry.

Last year we held our first ever Railway Family Week and, thanks to everybody who donated and supported, we raised over £50,000. This year Railway Family Week is from 25 - 30th April and we have another £50,000 target to hit!

The funds raised this year will allow us to meet the demand for our Emergency Fuel Fund. This limited fund of £200 has already been issued to over 100 families who are struggling with the increase in household fuel bills. As the cost of living continues to rise, so will the number of people who need our help.

Read more about our Emergency Fuel Fund and how you can get involved in Railway Family Week in this issue.

Please help us to reach our target and make a real difference.

You can donate via JustGiving or on our online shop.  
[www.railwaybenefitfund.org.uk/railway-family-week](http://www.railwaybenefitfund.org.uk/railway-family-week)



Follow all the action and show your support on our social media using #RailwayFamilyWeek

[@RBF1858](https://twitter.com/RBF1858) [f RBF Charity](https://www.facebook.com/RBFCharity) [in Railway Benefit Fund](https://www.linkedin.com/company/RailwayBenefitFund)

## Mick Cash RBF Trustee



Welcome to the first newsletter of 2022.

Earlier this year I joined the RBF Board of Trustees, along with Emma Wasley, HR People Partner at Govia Thameslink Railway.

As former General Secretary of the National Union of Rail, Maritime and Transport Workers (RMT), I have long known about the good work that the Railway Benefit Fund does and have myself referred people for help and assistance in the past.

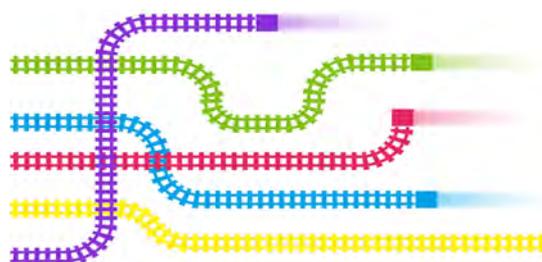
I am delighted to be an RBF Board Member and relish the opportunity to bring my knowledge and experience to ensure that RBF can continue to support railway workers, both employed and retired, when they face difficult times.

RBF now has 15 trustees, and their role is crucial to the charity. They include Tim Shoveller, Chairman of the Board and Managing Director of Network Rail North West and Central region; Maggie Simpson OBE, Director General of Rail Freight Group and Ian Jeffrey, Ancillary Services Director at Abellio UK.

2022 has already proven to be one of the busiest years for RBF, with lots more to come. In this issue, read about our flagship fundraising event, The Royal Charter; the return of industry event Railway Family Week and the success of our Make a Will Month Campaign.

Enjoy reading!

*Mick Cash*



## RAILWAY FAMILY WEEK

25th- 30th April 2022

Railway Family Week

See page 2

Make a Free Will

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The Royal Charter

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# Get involved this Railway Family Week!



Get involved this Railway Family Week by taking on a challenge to raise funds to help us reach our £50,000 target. Examples of challenges include walking, running, cycling, climbing, holding bake sales, quizzes or even a sky dive!

Set yourself a goal and ask friends, family and colleagues to sponsor you.

Your challenge can be as simple or adventurous as you like- as long as you have fun in the process!



This year, the Network Rail Telecoms team will be holding a 'Walk and Talk' event - tuning into their meeting while each aiming to walk as far as they can in one hour!



The team at Hatch End Station and colleagues will be taking on a 16 mile walk from London Euston to Watford Junction, calling at each station on the way.

Head to our website to download a fundraising pack or email [fundraising@railwaybenefitfund.org.uk](mailto:fundraising@railwaybenefitfund.org.uk)  
If challenges aren't for you, then simply donating to Railway Family Week is a lovely way to show your support.

## Auction of Experiences

Our Auction of Experiences is back this year with over 40 even more amazing prizes up for grabs. It's live now and closes on Thursday 5th May - plenty of time to get your bids in!

Pete Waterman, RBF President, has kindly donated three exceptional prizes; a day with him at his 'Making Tracks' exhibition at Chester Cathedral; the chance to visit his home in Cheshire to play trains on his model railway; and a day on the footplate of his Small Prairie 5553 at Peak Rail.

We also have other fabulous experiences in the following categories, with more being added all the time!

**Experiences with a Difference** - cab and helicopter rides in Scotland, a day at the BTP Dog School, drive a Routemaster bus, walk the Forth Bridge or spend the day with Network Rail on their New Measurement Train or Observation Saloon on Caroline.

**Behind the Scenes** - Depot and ROC visits, simulator drives and tours of major stations where you can even record an announcement or drive an assistance buggy.

**Tickets to Travel** - travel overnight on the Caledonian Sleeper, enjoy a Branch Line Society railtour or a family day out on the Scarborough Spa Express or the Dalesman.

**Great Days Out** - take part in the RBF Golf Day, travel on The Royal Charter or take a tram tour in Blackpool.

**Memorabilia** - bid for a 1st Class Pendolino seat for your office or a station sign for your wall!



Scan here or visit [www.go.eventgroovefundraising.com/railwayfamilyweekauction](http://www.go.eventgroovefundraising.com/railwayfamilyweekauction) to place your bids!

Thank you to all those who have donated such fantastic items to support Railway Family Week.

# The Royal Charter

It's not long now until our flagship fundraising event of the year, 'The Royal Charter'. The iconic steam locomotive, 70000 Britannia, will haul the opulent Saphos carriages on a prestigious charity charter from Crewe to Windsor, to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee on Friday 3rd June.

The Royal Charter will start its journey from Crewe around 8.30am, calling at Stafford and Nuneaton and arriving into Windsor early afternoon. After a sightseeing break in Windsor, the charter will depart late afternoon to arrive back at Crewe late evening. We are extremely grateful to Locomotive Services Ltd for making this opportunity available for us.

We still have a few tickets available for this fabulous event, in full pullman dining or first-class non-dining. Enjoy a traditional full English breakfast on the outward journey, followed by canapes and a sumptuous four course dinner on the return. All created by the Executive Chef and fit for a King or Queen!

If you would like to join us for this momentous journey head to our website to purchase tickets or try your luck in our raffle to win a table of 4 Pullman Dining! [www.railwaybenefitfund.org.uk/events/the-royal-charter](http://www.railwaybenefitfund.org.uk/events/the-royal-charter)



LOCOMOTIVE  
SERVICES (TOC)  
LIMITED



— The —  
ROYAL CHARTER

## Emergency Fuel Fund

In March, we launched the Emergency Fuel Fund, in reaction to the increased cost of living many will experience in the UK. The limited Fund offers a maximum grant of £200 towards the cost of gas and electricity bills.

To be eligible for the grant, applicants must have at least one year's experience on UK railways, and have a gross household income of less than £40,000. The Emergency Fuel Fund grant is available to current, former, and retired railway workers.

Within two weeks of launching the Fund, we received over 100 applications, highlighting the real need for this financial support. The demand is expected to increase as more struggle to afford energy costs.

To find out more and apply, visit our website [www.railwaybenefitfund.org.uk/how-we-can-help/emergency-fuel-fund](http://www.railwaybenefitfund.org.uk/how-we-can-help/emergency-fuel-fund) or email [support@railwaybenefitfund.org.uk](mailto:support@railwaybenefitfund.org.uk)



Make a **Will** for Free

provided by partners in rail RBF & Railway Mission & kindly supported by RROS



## Make a Will Month

In March we partnered with Railway Mission to launch Make a Will Month, which was kindly supported by the Retired Rail Officers Society (RROS).

We teamed up with will writing specialists Bequeathed, to offer everyone in the rail industry the chance to write their will for free.

Make a Will Month was a great success, with over 1,000 people registering to create their will for free. Due to this amazing demand, we have decided to extend the service for the rest of the year, meaning there's still plenty of time to take up this offer if you haven't already!

Visit our website to write your will for free - [www.railwaybenefitfund.org.uk/events/make-a-will-month](http://www.railwaybenefitfund.org.uk/events/make-a-will-month)

## Welcome RBF Friends



Did you know that your business could become an RBF Friend? Come together with the RBF to show the Rail Industry you care and enjoy the many benefits for your business and staff. At an annual cost of £850, becoming an RBF friend couldn't be easier!

Thank you and welcome to the latest organisations to sign up.

To find out more email [fundraising@railwaybenefitfund.org.uk](mailto:fundraising@railwaybenefitfund.org.uk) or call Suzy on 0345 241 2885.



## RBF Annual Golf Day 2022



Thursday 1st September  
Hendon Golf Club, London

Kindly sponsored by  
**abellio**  
Abellio Ancillary Services



Would you like to join us for a great day of fundraising and competitions at our 2022 Golf Day?

Email [fundraising@railwaybenefitfund.org.uk](mailto:fundraising@railwaybenefitfund.org.uk) to register your interest.

[www.railwaybenefitfund.org.uk](http://www.railwaybenefitfund.org.uk) - 0345 241 2885 - [fundraising@railwaybenefitfund.org.uk](mailto:fundraising@railwaybenefitfund.org.uk)