



# Newsletter

## Every 4 Minutes somebody reaches out to RBF

The demand for our services has more than tripled over the past five years. More people than ever before are reaching out to us for financial help and advice. With the current cost of living crisis this growth is set to continue.

In 2022, RBF supported over 1,000 railway families with direct financial support; 25% more than in 2021. There is also a significant shift in the number of current workers reaching out for help; over 60% of grants awarded were for those who currently work in rail, from sectors such as passenger, freight, infrastructure, supply chain and ancillary services. Furthermore, the average age of those needing help is younger than previous years, with the thirties and forties being the predominant age group to apply for support.

*"The RBF helped me when I was going through a really tough time and living in fear of losing my home. With their assistance I managed to keep a roof over my head, pay some priority debts and put food on the table for my children. I don't know what I would have done without their help."* Sally, Derby

We rely solely on fundraising and donations to continue to support the railway family.

There are many ways you can donate to help us. Scan the code to find out more. Thank you.



SCAN ME

## Team Effort for RBF's New Look



Welcome to the first RBF newsletter of 2023 and our new look!

Our logo has been refreshed to give us a more modern look and our website ([www.railwaybenefitfund.org.uk](http://www.railwaybenefitfund.org.uk)) has been transformed to reflect what we do as a charity in a much more user friendly and interactive way.

You may still see our old logo appearing in a few places as we gradually update our branding, but rest assured that we are still the same RBF!

We hope you like the changes we have made and would welcome any feedback you may have.

*Team RBF*

## RAILWAY FAMILY WEEK

24 - 30 April 2023



Back for 2023, with lots of ways to get involved! Bid in our Auction, take on a Challenge or enter our Hornby Prize Draw!

[www.railwaybenefitfund.org.uk/news/railway-family-week-2023](http://www.railwaybenefitfund.org.uk/news/railway-family-week-2023)



# Fundraising News...



## The Quadrant with Network Rail

In March, Network Rail Graduates Melita and Daniel organised a charity week in aid of RBF at their Quadrant HQ in Milton Keynes.

The week consisted of a daily bake sale, raffle with some fabulous prizes and a mid-week football tournament which saw teams from across the office compete to win a trophy.

The RBF team and charity President, Pete Waterman, visited to help out for the day and meet some Network Rail colleagues.

An incredible £1,900 was raised over the course of the week. Congratulations to Daniel and Melita for all your hard work!

## Rail Business Awards 2023

In February, we attended the Rail Business Awards in London - the 25th year of these prestigious awards.

The charity raffle had some fantastic prizes including an afternoon tea, glamping experience and helicopter ride and raised an amazing £2,700.

For many years Rail Business Awards have worked with RBF as its charity partner. Since 2017, the partnership has raised over £16,000 - thank you Railway Gazette for your support.



# Make RBF Your Charity of the Year

We are delighted that RSSB and RSP have chosen RBF as their charity of the year for 2023



Business Partners at **RSP Rail Signalling & Power**, Andy Billson and Andy Jones, are starting their year of supporting RBF by taking on the Plymouth Run to raise funds. Best of luck and thank you!

**The Rail Safety and Standards Board (RSSB)** have already hosted their first fundraiser for RBF on pancake day. They have plans to host more throughout the year. Thank you!

*"We chose the RBF because we want to provide the best possible assistance to those working or retired from the rail industry who need legal or financial help, guidance and support. We believe that by raising funds for RBF we can support them to help make a difference and promote a more compassionate rail community."*

**Mark Phillips, Chief Executive at RSSB**



# Heart of Gold Winners



Over 2,000 votes were received for so many inspiring and heart-warming stories. Congratulations to the winners and everybody who was nominated.

## Team Award - Johnstone Station

The team, consisting of Susan Hall, Janice Povah and Claire Murray, won the award due to their incredible commitment to supporting their community and fundraising for local charities. Pictured here with Alex Hynes, Scotrail and Paul from award sponsor **Amaro**.



## Rising Star Award - Amy Patrick, Alstom

Amy won this award due to her dedication to supporting parents of children with SEND, helping over 30 families in her spare time. Her award was presented again by Pete and Noel Dolphin from award sponsor **Furrer+Frey**.



## Lifetime Achievement Award - Paul Corrie, Northern

Paul won this award due to his incredible service to the rail industry, having worked at Neville Hill Depot for nearly 50 years! His award was presented by Pete Waterman and John Chilman from award sponsor **Railpen**.



## Rail Hero Award - Neil Lathom, Freightliner

Neil won this award for his positive influence at Freightliner's Southampton Maritime terminal. Neil has raised a huge amount for various charities, taking part in half marathons, 100km bikes rides and even a boxing match.

# Introducing the Retired Fund

The newly launched Retired Fund, is designed to meet the financial needs of the older population. The fund offers applicants a grant up to £500 to support with the expenses that can come with age, such as disability, digital exclusion, and isolation.

This non-repayable grant can be used for a variety of costs such as: walking aids, home security systems, travel costs, specialised alarm clocks, mobile phones to keep in touch with loved ones, and clothing to keep warm.



Check eligibility and apply for the Retired Fund on our website [www.railwaybenefitfund.org.uk](http://www.railwaybenefitfund.org.uk) or contact [support@railwaybenefitfund.org.uk](mailto:support@railwaybenefitfund.org.uk) or call 0345 241 2885

# Take on a Sporting Challenge?

Taking on a sporting challenge is an exciting way to raise money for RBF while keeping fit and smashing a personal goal at the same time. Take a look at our current opportunities - are you up for the challenge?

Ride London  
28th May



The ultimate cycling challenge. Ride 100 miles across traffic-free London and Essex.

Swim Serpentine  
16th September



This one-mile open water swim challenge covers one full lap of the famous Serpentine lake.

Royal Parks Half  
8th October



The half marathon on closed roads and within four of London's eight Royal Parks.

Email [fundraising@railwaybenefitfund.org.uk](mailto:fundraising@railwaybenefitfund.org.uk) to sign up or visit events on our website for more details.



## Annual Golf Day

Join us for the 19th Annual RBF Golf Day on Thursday 15th June 2023 at Hendon Golf Club, London.

A flagship event in our fundraising calendar, the event enables us to continue to support the Railway Family across the UK.

A brilliant opportunity for company team-building or a unique day out for business clients. The day comprises of 18 holes, competitions and the chance of winning the RBF Cup followed by a meal and charity raffle.

Companies taking a team in this year's Golf Day include sponsors Abellio Ancillary Services, RailPen, Porterbrook, Health Shield, Instrumentel, Angel Trains, Sella Controls and GB Railfreight.

**Book your team of 4 for £700.**

**Contact Suzy on [spowell@railwaybenefitfund.org.uk](mailto:spowell@railwaybenefitfund.org.uk) for more details.**

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

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