

RER Offers Behind-the-Scenes Insights to Enthusiasts Young And Old

Rail enthusiasts young and old can take advantage of an enticing programme of 21 events laid on by Western Lake District visitor attraction, Ravenglass and Eskdale Railway, this year, with two sure to catch the eye.

The 2016 events programme at the 15" narrow gauge railway runs from February to December, to coincide with the scheduled services' season. There are a variety of family and outdoor activities to be enjoyed during the year and October will see the first visit of children's favourite Peppa Pig™.

The attention of keen heritage railway fans will, however, be elsewhere. Behind-the-scenes Photography Days are running on both May 17 and September 6, whilst Young Engineer's Days are scheduled for July 9 and 10.

The Photography Days will take participants trackside, to capture great shots of engines on the seven-mile line. They will also enable heritage lovers to tour workshops and other railway buildings at RER, gaining valuable insights as they do. Good footwear, waterproof clothing and moderate fitness is required. The day starts at 8.30am at Ravenglass Station, with a cup of tea and the collection of a packed lunch to eat during the day. On arrival at Dalegarth on foot, there will be a chance for photos around the station, before keen snappers board a train back to Ravenglass. The experience costs £45 and booking is at www.ravenglass-railway.co.uk

The Young Engineer's Days will be hosted by Peter's Railway author, Christopher Vine, and will offer exclusive insights to younger train enthusiasts and adults accompanying them. Children can ride on a steam engine, discover how an engine works, and visit the old signal box, as well as travelling on the seven-mile journey to Dalegarth station, to be read a story by Christopher Vine. This experience costs £15 for adults and £7.50 for children, with this covering a full-day ticket, plus the Young Engineer's experience and a signed book from Christopher Vine. Each adult can be accompanied by up to two children. Early booking at www.ravenglass-railway.co.uk is advised, as there are only 30 places on each session, with these running at either 10.30am or 12.30pm on each of the two days.

Ravenglass and Eskdale Railway's marketing manager, Rachel Bell, says: "We wanted to thrill existing enthusiasts and instil a love of heritage railways in members of the younger generation, so think we have achieved our objective by creating these two events.

"For those who cannot attend a specific event, there is a lot to see and do all year round when you visit and take a scheduled service. We will also have heritage locos on show at our Family Fun Weekend (April 30 – May 2) and will be reopening our Ravenglass Museum, after its second phase of redevelopment following Heritage Lottery funding, during the summer."

ENDS

Press calls: Jane Hunt, Catapult PR, 01253 891114 – jane@catapultpr.co.uk