

For issue to: regional media

EAST LANCS RAILWAY AND BURY TRANSPORT MUSEUM HELP BUDDING ENGINEERS ADVANCE IN STEM SUBJECTS

- Bury Transport Museum and ELR hosted annual 'Race for the Line' competition for school children in conjunction with STEM
 - Schools from across Greater Manchester competed
 - Competition aimed to inspire engineers of the future



This week Bury Transport Museum and East Lancashire Railway played host to budding engineers competing in the annual 'Race for the Line'.

The competition invites 11 and 12 year-olds nationwide to design, make and race their own rocket cars as part of a project to encourage students to embrace Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) subjects.

Schools from across Greater Manchester took part in the regional final at East Lancashire Railway and Bury Transport Museum, including Ashton Community Science College, Calder High School, Clitheroe Royal Grammar School, Darwen Aldridge Community Academy, Tauheedul Islam Boys High School and the Elton High School Specialist Arts College.

To qualify for the event, schools hosted their own races, with each school submitting their two fastest teams to the regional final at Bury Transport Museum. The fastest teams – Elton 2 (Elton High School), Supersonic and CR7 (Pleckgate High School) and I Can C U (Calder High School) - will take part in the national final on 27th June at the Imperial War Museum at Duxford, Cambridge.

'Race for the Line' is supported by East Lancashire Railway and Bury Transport Museum, whose volunteers have a wealth of engineering experience. The volunteers were joined on the day by an engineer from RAF Manchester Careers, whilst the national competition is further supported by the Navy and other UK STEM employers.

The teams use modern materials and techniques to engineer wheels, whilst rocket power brings the mathematics and physics of motion to life.

Mike Kelly, Chairman of East Lancashire Railway commented: "We were delighted to host the regional final at Bury Transport Museum. Our collection explores the history of transport from horse drawn vehicles, to steam power and beyond.

"The development of transport has always been about how engineers can improve the design of vehicles, and how we can make them faster and more efficient. Race to the Line challenges young people to apply their knowledge of science, technology, engineering and mathematics to create innovative designs. It was a real treat to see young people engaging and sharing experiences with the museum team, and experts from the RAF."

The 'Race for the Line' initiative is delivered by The Learning Partnership and Dendrite in a bid to get school children interested in STEM subjects, inspiring the engineers of the future and supporting schools and teachers to deliver the curriculum in an exciting and engaging way.

For more information about events and activities at East Lancashire Railway, please visit www.eastlancsrailway.org.uk or call on 0333 320 2830.

For more information about Race for the Line, and other Learning Partnership events, please visit <http://www.thelearningpartnership.com/>

ENDS

For press enquiries, please contact elr@democracypr.com or call Democracy on 0161 881 5941

