



## EAST LANCASHIRE RAILWAY WIZARD DONATION

22.8.19

### WIZARDS USE MAGIC DONATION TO FIX EAST LANCASHIRE RAILWAY VANDAL DAMAGE

Wizards have waved their magic wands at the East Lancashire Railway, providing a sorcerous intervention to fix a vandalised window on one of their heritage trains.

The heritage railway were left heartbroken after vandals smashed a window on the train while it was in transit last month.

Causing over £300 worth of damage, the East Lancashire Railway were forced to call in police after the window of a wheelchair accessible carriage, whose restoration was funded by the public, was smashed by youths trespassing on the heritage railway's land.

But organisers of the vintage train charity's popular Wizard Academy event have kindly stepped in to save the day.

Volunteers at the railway were stunned by the attack on Friday 26th July - and issued a call to the local community to help stamp out trespassing and vandalism.

But ELR were delighted when witches, warlocks and sorcerers from the grand old school of wizardry cast a magic spell - with a donation of £300.

The incident occurred at 1:45 PM (Friday 26th July) as the diesel train service was on its way from Heywood to Bury.

A group of young people were spotted on prohibited land in the Darnhill area before a window was smashed.

Fortunately no one was hurt during the incident as the coach was empty.

ELR General Manager, Tracey Parkinson, said: "We were deeply saddened by this latest vandalism attack - it really shook us up, especially because that part of the train was paid for by the generosity of the public."

"So when the organisers of the Wizard Academy came to us with their very kind offer to pay for the damage we were absolutely delighted."

“It’s nice to know that the local wizarding community are on our side!”

**ENDS**

**Information to Editors**

The East Lancashire Railway operates a 12-mile route between Heywood and Rawtenstall, using a range of preserved steam and diesel locomotives to haul vintage train services through the scenic Irwell Valley. The railway is the second most popular paid visitor attraction in Greater Manchester and welcomes around 200,000 visitors each year.

**Contact details**

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