

'ON TRACK' FOR OPEN WEEKEND AT COVENTRY RAILWAY MUSEUM

**Electric Railway Museum Open Weekend:
The Good Old Days Weekend
at Electric Railway Museum, Baginton (near Coventry)
Saturday 21 and Sunday 22 July
11 am – 5 pm (both days)
FREE**

Let Coventry's **Electric Railway Museum** transport you to a time when no-one had mobile phones or games consoles, radio was king and television was only for the rich... The 'good old days' is the theme for its upcoming Open Weekend – and will feature iconic technology and appliances from generations gone by. Toys and games of yesteryear will also be on display amongst Electric Railway Museum's fantastic collection of locomotives. These will include a Meccano bridge, examples of Hornby train sets (0-gauge and Dublo with third rail), Dinky toys and once popular puzzle games.

Electric Railway Museum's third **Open Weekend** of 2012 will be open **Saturday 21 and Sunday 22 July** from **11 am – 5pm** both days. Admission and parking is **FREE!** This Open Weekend will give visitors the opportunity to view the museum's latest acquisition – signalling equipment recently retired from the Victoria Line on the **London Underground**, kindly donated by Transport for London. The Victoria Line was the world's first automatically controlled passenger railway, opening in 1967. Unlike today's computer-operated railways, however, the Victoria Line originally relied on electromechanical operation, which fits in with the theme of the July Open Weekend.

Visitors will also be able to enjoy **shunting demonstrations** throughout the two-day event, courtesy of the museum's two all-electric locomotives Heysham No. 1 'Doug Tottman' and Spondon No.1, as well as their Mazda diesel-electric shunter. Elsewhere, visitors can experience an extensive array of electric locomotives and multiple units, including the Clacton Class 309s, the Wirral Class 503 and the 2-EPB unit complete with street art livery by Warwickshire-based artist Rumah, which depicts the history of electric railways.

Members of the public will be able to climb aboard the Class 503 and one of the Class 309s, complete with the museum display (**Museum 309**), a café, serving hot and cold beverages, snacks and light bites, the Electric Railway Museum shop and Carol's Cuttings, the museum's plant stall. Volunteers will be on-hand to explain more about Electric Railway Museum's diverse collection, which also includes British Railways Classes 307 and 308, as well as the power car for the record-breaking Advanced Passenger Train Prototype (APT-P), on loan from the National Railway Museum.

Electric Railway Museum aims to promote the heritage of all electric trains in the UK through traction and rolling stock restoration, display and operation, along with work in gathering historically relevant technical and photographic archives. The work of Electric Railway Museum is entirely run by volunteers and funded by donations from the public. The Open Weekend will provide an opportunity also for you to meet the team behind the museum and learn more about

future plans.

Chairman of Electric Railway Museum, Graeme Gleaves said: 'The July Open Weekend marks another fantastic event in what has been a wonderful year for Electric Railway Museum. It was only December last year that the Heritage Railway Association announced us as winners of their Small Groups Award. The award identifies the work done by Electric Railway Museum as 'an outstanding contribution to railway preservation', specifically 'in recognition of its excellence in the preservation of less fashionable stock outside the scope of most heritage railways'. In fact, our previous Open Weekend in June saw the official handover of the award from the group's Vice Chairman, Mark Smith.

'It's wonderful that we are now in a position to open our site to rail fans and the local community, allowing them to see all the hard work being done by our volunteers – and hopefully encouraging a few to get involved themselves too!'

'If anyone cannot make this weekend, we will be hosting another Open Weekend in September (8th – 9th).'

ENDS

- **For more information, interviews or to request images, please contact our Press Officer Ben Goodwin on** pressofficer@electricrailwaymuseum.co.uk or 07709854290.



Electric Railway Museum
Rowley Road
Baginton
Warwickshire
CV8 3AZ
UK

Website: www.electricrailwaymuseum.co.uk
Facebook: www.facebook.com/electricrailwaymuseum