

## Congratulations to our Railway 200 Poetry Competition Winners!

Thanks to our judges and all those who entered

"Left Luggage" by Charlotte Holm

I am a shadow, passed by  
my ordinariness slowly becoming  
station architecture-  
an outdated facade, used  
and familiar, overlooked.

A streak of yellow and blue  
is followed by the hum  
of progressive locomotion.  
Curious faces gaze outwards  
but nobody sees me

The doors exhale a multitude  
of hats and headphones,  
handshakes, hugs and kisses.  
A child's buggy stretches  
it's destination assured.

The waiting crowd moves forward  
down the central aisle  
with couples sitting in adjoining seats.  
Whilst I, still on the platform,  
am left behind

"Railway Odyssey" by Freddy Hudson

Through iron veins, the pulse of earth  
A symphony of steel and rebirth  
The train, the serpent both swift and strong  
Devours the distance all day long  
With every mile a new story spun  
Of cities born and dreams begun

The whistle's cry a poet's sigh  
Echoes through tunnels dark and bridges high  
It rides the wind with a gentle sigh  
The locomotives heart a fire that burns  
A promise kept a story sown

The train, a messenger of time and space  
A bridge between, the world embrace

"Different trains" by Sofia Kwieciak

Fast train, slow train, running on the rail train  
Long train, short train We can't catch up  
Plan your journeys across countryside  
With trains as fast as lightening  
Or as slow as snails  
LET'S GO ON A JOURNEY!



Over 18



Secondary School



Primary School



# Thanks

Railway 200

City of Doncaster Council

Freightliner Group

First Bus

LNER

Doncaster Culture Services

Danum Gallery Library and Museum

National Literacy Trust

Doncaster Archives - team

The Gresley Society Trust

The Doncaster Grammar School

Railway Collection Trust



City of  
Doncaster  
Council



# DONCASTER Railway 200

Doncaster has been at the heart of railway history for 200 years. From its early days as a key hub on the Great Northern Railway to its world-famous locomotive works, this city has helped shaped the future of rail travel



"Brass finishers", upper turnery, 1887



# Discover Doncaster's Railway History

1849: The first railway station in Doncaster is a wooden structure close to where Platform 1 is today.



Doncaster Railway Station, on St Leger Day 1849

1853: The Great Northern Railway establishes the Doncaster Works known as "The Plant".

1860s: The Plant expands to include new locomotive construction, followed by carriage and wagon shops.



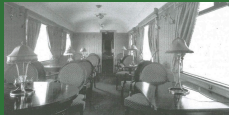
Railway Carriages 1905

1865: The original wooden station is replaced by a larger structure.

1866 - 1895: Patrick Stirling is appointed Locomotive Superintendent at the Plant.

1870s: Doncaster station is rebuilt and enlarged to accommodate increased traffic.

1873: First sleeping cars and dining cars are built at Doncaster Works.



GNR First Dining Car 1912

1882: Doncaster Plant constructs the first corridor carriages in the UK.

1891: The Plant is producing significant numbers of locomotives, carriages, and wagons.

1911: Nigel Gresley is promoted to Chief Mechanical Engineer of the Great Northern Railway.



1960s: Steam locomotives are replaced by diesel and electric traction and are phased out by 1968. Doncaster continues as a locomotive engineering works for diesel and electric locomotives.

1957: The last steam locomotive is built at Doncaster



1948: 1st Jan The railways are nationalised. British Railways takes over operation of the railways, including Doncaster.

1938-1945: World War II: Doncaster Works contributes to the war effort, producing, among other things, Horsa gliders.

1938: 3rd July, The Mallard gains the world speed record for steam locomotion of 126 miles per hour at Little Bytham with Doncaster-based driver and fireman Joseph Duddington Tommy Bray. The record has never been broken.

1938: March A4 class locomotive Mallard designed by Gresley is built at the Plant.



Little Bytham, Mallard Inn where the Steam record was broken

1936 Nigel Gresley is Knighted.

1934: 30th November The Flying Scotsman is the first locomotive to officially reach 100 miles per hour travelling from London to Edinburgh.

1928: Flying Scotsman makes the world's longest non-stop run between London Kings Cross and Edinburgh Waverley.

1923: Flying Scotsman is built and named in 1924 for its appearance in the British Empire Exhibition at Wembley.

1923: Nigel Gresley appointed to be Chief Mechanical Engineer of the expanded London & North Eastern Railway (LNER) and Doncaster becomes the design centre for the new company.



When men went off to fight in the war, women took on men's roles at the Plant works. Image: 1942 Women workers making aircraft wing.

1976: Doncaster station undergoes a refurbishment.

1976-1981: The InterCity 125 high-speed trains are introduced.

1980s: The line through Doncaster is electrified,

1988: The InterCity 225 trains are introduced.

2006: The new interchange and connection to the Frenchgate Shopping Centre opens.

2008: The main locomotive repair shop is demolished to make way for housing.

2012: Sir Nigel Gresley Square was named in honour of the famous locomotive engineer. The name was chosen by the public.

2015: Platform 0 is opened for Northern Trains services.

2021: The Integrated Rail Plan for the North and Midlands includes plans to upgrade the line speed to 140 mph (225 km/h).

2025: A plaque is unveiled at Doncaster station to honour Sir Nigel Gresley's links with Doncaster.



Today: Doncaster serves as a crucial station on the East Coast Main Line. The plant continues to do carriage maintenance.