

Notice

Pacific Power - Journey's End

I am filled with an immense sense of pride and satisfaction tonight and can report that Pacific Power and the SVR Charitable Trust VIP day are now complete. This six-day event was only possible because of the dedication of all staff who have turned in day after day in many different roles to make this event such a success. From lineside teams, through Carriage & Wagon, P Way, Motive Power, DMU group, Station staff, Signalmen, Loco Crews, Guards, Ticket Inspectors, Retail, Marketing, SVRCT, Heritage Support, Engine House, Bars, Gala committee, security and catering everybody has pitched in. If I have forgotten any group it is not intentional at all, I am a little punch drunk. It was a pleasure to work with you all over the last six days.

We shouldn't forget that we have also seen great support from contractors, local agencies and councils. In particular West Mercia Police, West Midlands ambulance service, Wyre Forest District Council, Shropshire Council also the local landowners who have provided parking. Of course this event was only possible because of the special support of the National Railway Museum, Riley Engineering and the A1 Trust, thank you all.

This event organisation has rested on the shoulders of a few individuals who I would like to thank in particular. That team includes Lewis Maddox Events Coordinator, Steven Chapple Operations Manager, Tammy Ferris Personal Assistant, Dave Brattan Duty Officer for the week to Steven Chapple, Mel Cook, Chris Thomas and Alan Longdon who were the local Operations Coordinators. Really well done to you all.

It will be helpful to put this event in perspective as well with some facts and figures:

We sold prior to the Pacific Power event (Thursday 22nd Sept to Monday 26th Sept):

1,400 Flying Scotsman/Tornado travel tickets per day.

1,000 tickets for travel on non-Flying Scotsman/Tornado trains per day.

1,110 were sold for the VIP SVRCT trains on Wednesday 21st.

500 tickets for other services.

The total of presold tickets was: 13,610 (not including shareholders or working members travelling on the non-Flying Scotsman/Tornado) trains.

We sold further non-Flying Scotsman/Tornado train tickets from Thursday to Monday during the event, these numbers are being collated and will take the total towards 15,000 passengers. Many of these passengers were new visitors to the

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SVR. We had another audience, the many hundreds of spectators who watched the locomotives lineside.

To give you some comparative figures on a four-day steam gala we will carry c.7,500 passengers (not including shareholders or working members).

To deliver an event of this complexity for six days with minimal issues is a credit to the Railway.

Following such an event there will be a comprehensive debrief for the SVR before undertaking a review with external agencies. I am sure that for all of you that were involved in this event you will either have a well-deserved glass of something special, sleep or probably a combination of both.

One final time, thank you all!



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Nick Ralls

General Manager

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