



# Press Release

## Railway Heritage Trust supports new cafés



*Brown and Green Café, Crystal Palace*

The Railway Heritage Trust has given grants to support the opening of three new cafés in listed railway stations, scattered over a distance of almost 570 miles.

At Inverurie, between Aberdeen and Keith, the Trust, along with Transport Scotland's Stations Community Regeneration Fund, sponsored George and Jennie Lawson in their restoration of the former private waiting room of the Earl of Kintore. Coco Works, the new café, is in this room, and provides a service to rail users, staff, and other local residents. It is proving most successful.

The most recently opened of the three cafés is in a formerly disused platform building on Dumbarton Central Station, on the north side of the River Clyde. Chris Pollock and Harriet Chatten funded their venture with a grant from Transport Scotland, whilst the Trust paid for extra works reglazing windows and installing security grills in the room. In the few weeks since this café has opened it has already started to provide an excellent service to Glasgow-bound commuters every morning.

Four hundred miles south of Dumbarton, Laura Thomas and Jess Allen have opened a café in the revamped main booking hall at Crystal Palace Station in South London. This is their second station café, as they already have a similar venture at Gypsy Hill. They have carried out an excellent restoration of the former station restaurant, matching the high quality of work shown in the restoration of the operational sections of the station, and providing another facility for commuter use.

Andy Savage, Executive Director of the Railway Heritage Trust, said:

'We were delighted to support the opening of these three ventures, each of which brings a disused area of a listed station building back into use. Each offers a new service to passengers and public on stations, and makes rail travel more attractive. We hope to be able to support further such ventures in the future.'

Cont'd



*Coco Works, Inverurie*



*Station Café, Dumbarton Central*

## **Note to editors**

## **Railway Heritage Trust**

The Railway Heritage Trust is a Company Limited by Guarantee, which aims to:

- encourage the conservation and enhancement of railway buildings and structures which are listed or scheduled and are of special architectural or historic interest, and;
- act as a catalyst between outside parties and owners in the conservation and alternative use of non-operational property, including the possible transfer of responsibility to local trusts or other interested organisations.

The Trust awards grants to a value of some £2 million a year to achieve these objectives.

For further details or pictures, please contact the Railway Heritage Trust

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