



Press Release

Railway Heritage Trust sponsors restoration of Gleneagles Station for the Ryder Cup



The Railway Heritage Trust has awarded First ScotRail two grants, totalling £131,000, towards the restoration of the historic station at Gleneagles, as part of an industry programme to ensure the station is at its best for the 2014 Ryder Cup.

The station was built by the Caledonian Railway to serve the company's new luxury hotel at Gleneagles, and replaced the earlier Crieff Junction. The station opened in 1919, five years before the hotel was complete. Gleneagles was the first station that the Caledonian built after the Great War, and probably the last station that it ever built, as it was amalgamated into the London Midland & Scottish Railway in 1923.

The station has been repeatedly repainted throughout its life, and was in the colours of the former Strathclyde PTE. Decreasing traffic levels meant that the station was no longer manned, and all the windows had been boarded up. The station, which is Category B listed, looked very woebe-gone.

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With the 2014 Ryder Cup being held at Gleneagles the industry and the Scottish Government decided to upgrade the station, with a new road access and full disabled provision, as well as new waiting and toilet facilities. The quality of the design and workmanship on this scheme has been outstanding, especially the provision of the new lifts to the footbridge, which has been done without compromising the original 1919 design in any way: a major achievement.

The Trust has given £131,000 towards restoring the windows of the buildings, and to general heritage improvements. In particular, the station has been painted back into the original colours of the Caledonian Railway, which it only carried for its first few years of life, but which suit it particularly well.

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

‘We are delighted to be able to be a part of this scheme, where we have seen a superb restoration of an historic station to today’s standards, whilst retaining the appearance and most of the elements of the original building. We congratulate Network Rail, First ScotRail and their architects and contractors on the quality of all the work here.’

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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