

# An anniversary and an invitation



**2025 marks the 200th anniversary of the birth of the modern railway. A British innovation that's continued its journey across the globe. Through a year-long series of events, Railway 200 will explore how rail shaped Britain and the world.**

And, as today's railway modernises and gears up for growth, Railway 200 will also look to the future, encouraging more people to take the train and inviting the next generation of pioneering talent to join the railway and become the history-makers of tomorrow.

We'll be uncovering the stories behind the tracks and trains, with an exciting programme that explores four themed pillars.

- **Skills & education:** to encourage people from all communities to consider a career in rail.
- **Innovation, technology & environment:** showing how the railway is one of our most innovative and sustainable sectors.
- **Heritage, culture & tourism:** promoting social and leisure travel that's crucial for people's health, wellbeing and enjoyment.
- **Celebrating railway people:** the everyday heroes who run the railway and the volunteers whose passion makes it even more special.



The Watercress Line



Avanti West Coast

Throughout the year, our unique exhibition train will criss-cross the country bringing interactive activities and experience to thousands of people. This will be supported by national events highlighting rail's remarkable past, its essential role today, and its ever-growing importance to a sustainable future.

Get involved and find out more at  
**[railway200.co.uk](https://railway200.co.uk)**