2007 Rail Heritage Churchill Fellowship

Some of the lessons learned.
Mandatory, enforceable regulations

• Minimise the risks of injuries and fatalities

• Provide a framework and guidance for safe operation through proper maintenance standards and requirements

• Ensure that all organisations understand their responsibilities

• Ensure that all organisations are working to the same standard
Mandatory, enforceable regulations

Don’t let this happen to a boiler you know ...
Training the next generation.

The boilermaker in charge at the North Yorkshire Moors Railway completed his trade with the organisation before accepting the full-time job managing boiler repairs.
Training the next generation.

Gordon Newton explains his processes for building boilers.
Training the next generation.

At work in the Bluebell Railway’s workshop at Sheffield Park.
Training the next generation.

The guard on the Rigibahn takes a short breather from instructing these Swiss children about the working of the railway.
Training the next generation.

Skills transfer in practice: the fireman (on the ground) instructs his trainee in filling the water tanks on *Talyllyn*. 
Training the next generation.
This 33-year-old driver had been with the Talyllyn Railway since he was five, and, faithful to the practices of the railway, not only showed magnificent enginemanship, but also a healthy respect for his locomotive.
Engaging with the public

Viewing platform at the Harzspurschmalbahn, Germany
Engaging with the public

Public access areas on the North Yorkshire Moors Railway.
Engaging with the public

Public access at National Railway Museum, York.
Engaging with the public

West Somerset’s turntable and cafe at Minehead.
Engaging with the public: presentation

BEAUTIFUL BUILDINGS.
Top left: Bluebell’s station at Sheffield Park; bottom left: Severn Valley’s station at Bewdley; above: West Somerset’s signal box at Bishop’s Lydeard.
Engaging with the public

The volunteer engine crew at Le P’tit train de la Haute Somme take time out to talk to their passengers.
Differing philosophies

The Duchess of Hamilton having streamline fitted at Tyseley Locomotive Works. This work was contentious because this locomotive had never been so clad in service, but with a number of other unstreamlined Duchesses still in existence, the National Rail Museum felt that it was a worthwhile project.
Differing philosophies: conserved

National Railway Museum, York
Differing philosophies: restored

National Railway Museum, York
Differing philosophies: operating

The Durango and Silverton Railroad, Colorado, USA.
Differing philosophies

Brienz Rothorn Railway, Switzerland
Differing philosophies

The Rigi Railway in Switzerland
Differing philosophies

Talyllyn Railway, Wales
Differing philosophies.
The Durango & Silverton’s philosophy of providing an experience rather than faithfully recreating an event gives them the latitude to rebuild their coaches into this first-class, luxury sitting accommodation.
Differing philosophies

The Festiniog Railway has chosen to superheat and re-valve its Lady class locomotives, arguing that this would have been a natural progression if steam locomotives were still in normal service.
... the railway ... must go to places where the public want to go. If they do not want to go where you build the line, then invent a reason, like putting the only loo at one end of the longest run.

John Gretton
October 1976,
Heywood Society Journal.