



# Downpatrick Rail way Museum

Railway Station, Market Street, Downpatrick, County Down, BT30 6LZ  
Telephone: (028) 4461 5779 Internet: [www.downpatricksteamrailway.co.uk](http://www.downpatricksteamrailway.co.uk)

## *Press Release*

### **Shamrock Specials Leaving Platform on Wednesday**

Downpatrick Railway Museum kicks off this year's train services with the St. Patrick's Day 'Shamrock Specials.'

Organised as part of the town's festival celebrations, the steam train will be used for excursions from the parade ground from noon till 4pm, along the restored proportion of the old Belfast and County Down railway. There will be commentary on-board, telling the story of the early Christian and pre-Christian sites along the route.

Visitors not only get the chance to experience rail travel at its most traditional, but will also get to see the grave of the Viking King, Magnus Barefoot.

After returning to the station, a tour of the workshops and the behind-the-scenes work of the project will be given.

The station, recently reopened after the devastating fire of Boxing Day 2002, houses a unique collection of photographs depicting the Belfast and County Down Railway, as well as the early days of the Downpatrick Railway Museum. There is also a model "Thomas the Tank Engine" layout that will keep the children entertained.

Refreshments will be served all day onboard a buffet carriage, parked at the town station, and is open to everyone - including those watching the carnival but not wanting to travel by train.

Tickets cost £4.50 adults, £3.50 children or senior citizens, and children aged three years old or below go free. There's no need to book and a ticket lasts all day.

**ENDS**

Issued by  
Robert Gardiner  
MARKETING MANAGER