



PRESS RELEASE: A Red Wheel for Scarborough's Cliff Lift

Central Tramway, Scarborough has become the latest recipient of a National Transport Trust Red Wheel plaque. The unveiling took place at the Top Station of the Tramway by Scarborough's Mayoress, Cllr Janet Jefferson.



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Jerry Swift, Vice Chair of the NTT said, "This is Scarborough's first Red Wheel, and richly deserved. Not only did Scarborough have more funicular railway's than any other British town, but transport, and in particular the railways, played such a substantial part in the town's development as one of the UK's premier seaside resorts."

Neil Purshouse, a director of Scarborough's Cliff Lift said, "This country has a wonderful transport heritage and for us to be recognised alongside some of the other internationally renowned Red Wheel sites makes us very proud. It is clear that the Transport Trust plays an important role in promoting the transport heritage on our doorsteps. More power to you."

Central Tramway, Scarborough was built between Foreshore Road and St Nicholas Gardens by the Central Tramway Company Scarborough Ltd, who still owns it. It opened on 1st August 1881 following the success of the South Bay Cliff Lift, which has been more substantially modernised. Its winding gear was powered by steam and the driver had no direct view of the cars as the equipment was sited some 18m below the top station, presumably for safety. The parallel standard gauge railway tracks are 77.7m long over a slope of 1 in 2. The steam-powered funicular was converted to electric drive between 1910 and 1920, drawing direct current from the town's tramway system. It used alternating current after 1931, when trams were abandoned. The motor was relocated under the top station and the driver has full view of the cars, which were replaced in 1932. Safety brakes are located on a rail in the centre of each track.

Photographs

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The National Transport Trust

Founded in 1965, (as the Transport Trust), the National Transport Trust is the UK's only national charity established to promote and encourage the preservation and restoration of Britain's unique transport heritage in all its forms – by air, land (road and rail) and water (sea and inland). The Trust is managed within a very streamlined structure, with the Board of Trustees representing the wider interests of the nation, for whose benefit the Trust exists.

Help us to help them

In order to help the UK's the preservation movement the Trust depends on its members and therefore encourages all those who share our aims to join us. Membership of the Trust is open to private individuals and affiliated organisations. You can help us to help others too; become a member, donate to the trust or you might even consider leaving the trust something in your will. This last part is vital to our work, see here for more: [National Transport Trust legacies](#)

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