



THE GRESLEY SOCIETY

President: John Cameron CBE
Chairman: Philip Benham MBE FCILT

Invitation to The Gresley 150th Anniversary Symposium and Gala Dinner

Dear Member

We are delighted to invite you to a special symposium and gala dinner to celebrate the 150th anniversary of Sir Nigel Gresley's birth, honouring his remarkable life, achievements, and enduring legacy. This milestone event will take place on Saturday 20th June 2026, at the Mansion House, Doncaster, and promises to be a memorable occasion for The Gresley Society and its members.

Symposium - Sir Nigel Gresley: a legacy of innovation, speed and elegance

The symposium will feature a series of engaging presentations by renowned speakers, covering Sir Nigel Gresley's personal history, professional achievements, and lasting impact on the railway industry. The preliminary agenda is as follows:

<i>10:00–10:45hrs</i>	<i>Registration and coffee</i>
<i>10:45–11:00hrs</i>	Welcome – Philip Benham, The Gresley Society
<i>11:00–11:30hrs</i>	Family & personal history – Chris Nettleton, The Gresley Society
<i>11:30–12:00hrs</i>	Early years: L&Y, LNWR, GNR – Tim Leffler, Great Northern Railway Society
<i>12:00–12:30hrs</i>	LNWR coaching stock development – Dave Cullingworth, LNWR Coach Association
<i>12:30–13:30hrs</i>	<i>Buffet lunch</i>
<i>13:30–14:15hrs</i>	LNWR locomotive development – Simon Martin, author
<i>14:15–14:45hrs</i>	The Streamliners – Chris Nettleton, The Gresley Society
<i>14:45–15:15hrs</i>	Gresley and his locomotives in America – Rupert Brown, LNWR Society
<i>15:15–15:30hrs</i>	<i>Tea break</i>
<i>15:30–16:00hrs</i>	Gresley in preservation – David McIntosh, The Gresley Society
<i>16:00–16:30hrs</i>	Gresley and the National Collection – Andrew McLean, National Railway Museum
<i>16:30–17:00hrs</i>	Impact on today's railway – David Horne, LNWR
<i>17:00–17:30hrs</i>	Questions and concluding remarks – Philip Benham, The Gresley Society



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Gala Dinner

The evening will start with a drinks' reception at 19:00hrs at the Mansion House, featuring a welcome cocktail, followed by a 1930s-themed gala dinner from 19:30hrs to 23:00hrs. The four-course dinner and cocktails will be inspired by the menus from famous LNER trains, including 'The Flying Scotsman', 'The Silver Jubilee' and 'The Coronation', offering a nostalgic culinary experience. Complementary wine will be included with the meal, enhancing the evening's elegance. The dress code for the dinner is black-tie optional, lounge suits for gentlemen and evening gowns or cocktail dresses for ladies, to reflect the event's celebratory tone.

We are pleased to note that Lord Hendy has been invited as the guest speaker for the gala dinner, though his attendance is yet to be confirmed.

Ticket Prices

- Symposium (includes buffet lunch and refreshments throughout the day): £25 per person for Gresley Society members and their guests; non-members £30 per person
- Gala Dinner (includes wine and welcome cocktail): £75 per person for Gresley Society members and their guests; non-members £85 per person

How to Register

To secure your place at this landmark event, please complete the RSVP form and return it by 30th April 2026. Spaces are limited to 100, so we encourage early booking to avoid disappointment. Further details, including accommodation options, will be provided upon registration.

A Celebration of Sir Nigel Gresley's Legacy

Sir Nigel Gresley's contributions to railway engineering, particularly through his timeless designs such as the A4 Pacifics and the legendary *Mallard*, continue to inspire generations. This symposium and gala dinner offer a unique opportunity to explore his life's work, meet with other Society members, and celebrate his extraordinary impact on the world of railways.

We look forward to welcoming you to this special occasion.

Yours sincerely

Philip Benham MBE, FCILT
Chairman
The Gresley Society Trust



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RSVP Form Please complete and return by 30th April 2026

Title: _____ First name: _____ Surname: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Email: _____ Telephone: _____

Membership number (if applicable): _____

Symposium: includes buffet lunch and refreshments throughout the day

- ☐ _____ tickets @ £25 per person for Gresley Society members and their guests
- ☐ _____ tickets @ £30 per person for non-members

Gala Dinner: includes wine and welcome cocktail

- ☐ _____ tickets @ £75 per person for Gresley Society members and their guests
- ☐ _____ tickets @ £85 per person for non-members
- ☐ I/We have included a donation of £_____ towards the overhaul of N2 No. 1744

Guest Names (if applicable):

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Dietary Requirements (if any): _____

Total Payment Enclosed/Sent: £_____

- ☐ I/We have enclosed a cheque for £_____ made payable to The Gresley Society Trust or
- ☐ I/We have arranged to pay by bank transfer (please quote membership number and G150) to:
The Gresley Society Trust, Sort Code: 20-32-06 Account Number: 70060399

Return to: The Gresley Society Trust, c/o City of Doncaster Archives, Chequer Road, Doncaster
DNI 2AE or email (if making a bank transfer) to chairman@gresley.org.



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