



**RBF**  
RAILWAY  
BENEFIT FUND  
Supporting Railway People

# Newsletter

## Making an Impact



*Jo Kaye*  
CEO

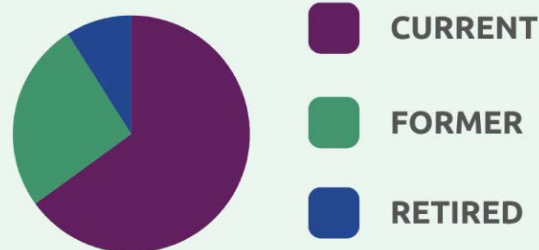
Welcome to our first newsletter of 2024 and to the launch of our Annual Impact Report - an update on the impact we are making as a charity and the difference your support and donations make to the lives of railway people.

We've seen a continued increase in the need for our services. Mainly financial support to those in need, as well as providing advice and guidance about how to manage financial issues to prevent people falling into crisis.

We are expecting the demand for our services to remain high. People are still struggling as food and fuel prices continue to rise. Some people are able to manage for a while in difficult circumstances but eventually their resources can run out. We have to plan for the demand for financial support to increase and continue to promote financial wellbeing and the importance of early intervention before situations spiral out of control.

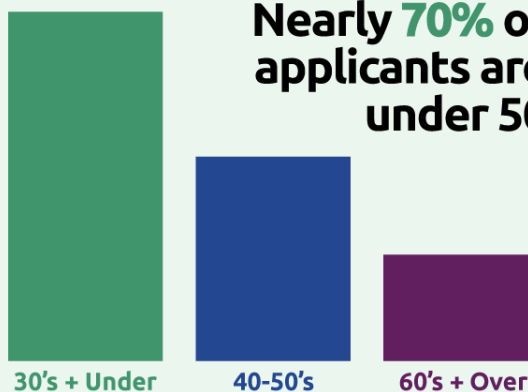
We continue to see a significant shift in the number of current workers reaching out for help; over 65% of grants awarded in 2023 were for those who currently work in rail, from sectors such as passenger, freight, infrastructure, supply chain and ancillary services.

**2/3** of our applicants are current rail workers



The average age of applicants is younger than previous years, with nearly 70% under 50 years of age.

**Nearly 70%** of applicants are under 50



## Read About Our Impact



Read about the impact we are making as a charity and the difference your donations and support make to the lives of railway people.

Scan the QR code or go to our website:  
[www.railwaybenefitfund.org.uk/our-impact/](http://www.railwaybenefitfund.org.uk/our-impact/)



## Fundraising News...



In February, the RBF team along with some volunteers from Network Rail, attended the Rail Business Awards in Manchester. We organised the raffle and had some fantastic prizes up for grabs. We are delighted to have raised £3,550.

Thank you to Railway Gazette for inviting us once again to be the chosen charity, and congratulations to all of the winners.



In March we were delighted to be the chosen charity at the IMechE Railway Division Annual Luncheon. The day saw over 1,000 attendees from the industry come together at the Grosvenor House London.

Our thanks to members that donated prizes and to everyone that took part in our raffle. We raised an incredible £8,000!

## The 20th RBF Annual Golf Day

The 20th Annual RBF Charity Golf Day, sponsored by Transport UK, takes place on Thursday 13th June at Hendon Golf Club in London.

A brilliant opportunity for team-building or a unique day out for business clients. The day comprises full use of the greens at Hendon, 18 holes, competitions and the chance of winning the RBF Cup.

There are still a few team places left. Email [fundraising@railwaybenefitfund.org.uk](mailto:fundraising@railwaybenefitfund.org.uk) for more information or to register your team.



## Would you like to volunteer?

Does your company offer volunteer days or do you have some spare time you would like to give to help others?

RBF are always on the look out for volunteers to help us with events and other fundraising activities.

If you are interested get in touch via [volunteer@railwaybenefitfund.org.uk](mailto:volunteer@railwaybenefitfund.org.uk)



**Class 40 Charity Charter**

**Wednesday 5 June 2024  
Day Trip to York or Scarborough**

Fancy joining us on the RBF 'Bucket & Spade' Charity Charter for a day trip to Scarborough or the City of York if you don't fancy the beach. We hope to see you for a great day out!

This charity charter will be hauled by Class 40 locomotive D213 'Andania' with First Class Intercity carriages for dining and non-dining ticket options.

The charter will start its journey from Crewe early morning, calling at Warrington Bank Quay and Manchester Victoria. After a few hours in Scarborough the charter will depart late afternoon to arrive back in Crewe in the evening.



First Class Non-Dining £99 per person

First Class Dining £199 per person

**For more information and to buy tickets scan the QR code or visit  
[www.railwaybenefitfund.org.uk/news/bucket-and-spade-charity-charter](http://www.railwaybenefitfund.org.uk/news/bucket-and-spade-charity-charter)**



## Auction of Rail Experiences

The charity's hugely popular Auction of Experiences is now live, with plenty of money-can't-buy experiences available to bid for.

There are some incredible prizes up for grabs, including a cab ride on the country's heaviest freight train with Freightliner, trip on the New Measurement Train, visit to the Forth Bridge, simulator experiences, behind the scenes visits to station and depots and much more.

Bidding closes on 3rd June, with new experiences being added daily.



Make your bid:

<https://go.eventgroovefundraising.com/railauction24>

or get in touch if you can offer an experience to help our fundraising: [fundraising@railwaybenefitfund.org.uk](mailto:fundraising@railwaybenefitfund.org.uk)



# Can you support RBF by making a regular donation?

A regular donation will make a lasting difference and is one of the best ways to show your support. You can set up your Direct Debit for a small amount every month or if you would rather quarterly, half yearly or yearly. It is quick and easy to set up on our website and maximises your impact to make a real difference.

Regular giving means our long-term planning can be more effective, helping us to commit to a wide range of worthwhile projects.



**For as little as £5 per month, the price of a cup of coffee, you have the power to make the future brighter for thousands of railway people like Hayley.**



## Hayley's Story

Hayley, a Customer Host from Cardiff\*, reached out to RBF at one of the darkest periods of her life.

Six weeks after giving birth, Hayley lost her partner to suicide. As a first-time mum, her mental health deteriorated, and she soon found herself in debt, as she struggled to afford life's necessities.

Hayley was in an incredibly low situation, barely scraping by and worried about providing for her daughter.

RBF were able to support Hayley by covering essential bills and necessities for herself and her daughter whilst she had time off work to grieve.

We were able to clear her debts and provide some much-needed furniture for her one bedroom flat, so that Hayley and her daughter could have a cosy and comfortable place to call home.

\*Details have been changed for anonymity



*"I was struggling to make ends meet. I couldn't cope and my mental health deteriorated and I needed additional time off work. I was embarrassed to reach out for help but I was getting deeper in debt. The RBF helped me cover essential bills and the necessities for my daughter which has been such a help through this terrible time." Hayley*

**You can support us and make a difference to the lives of others by giving regularly. Thank you.**

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Registered Charity No: 206312/SC039550