
eBULLETINextra

NOV 2016

Santa Specials 2016

Sundays 4th and 11th December

Greetings to you all,

As you may know, the club has passed through some difficult times recently, and it was suggested that as a way of reuniting the club, we put on, as an experiment, Santa Special trains on the two dates as above. I know from my experience of other clubs that it is great fun both for the members, and for the passengers, as well as generating some useful cash for club funds and the charities we support. We are selling tickets for the two days, and details of the public arrangements are given in the booking form, a copy of which is attached to this sheet.

As you can imagine, we need to make special arrangements, both for Santa's Grotto, and a main area to serve the refreshments. The club has purchased two large gazebos, and our first task each day is to erect these on the path by the station exit. That is why we are asking all members to attend to the track no later than 9 am on each of the two days so that we can get these structures up as quickly as possible. In order to satisfy the inner man (& woman), we will be providing bacon roll/sandwiches up to 10am sharp to all those who are helping.

After the tents are erected, we need to decorate both of them, construct Santa's Grotto, prepare the railway and trains, get the presents ready, lay on power for hot water, prepare the catering area, so we are ready for our first customers no later than 11.15 am. Because there is so much to do, I am asking all members to make a special effort to attend and support these events. During the day, we will need to change the guards and other operating staff regularly, to give them a chance to warm up, as well as sampling the mince pies & mulled wine! Please check the weather forecast & dress accordingly. Remember, even if the weather is bad enough to stop trains running, we will still be operating the Grotto & catering area. Also, members should be festively dressed, so try and visit Poundland for a Christmas type hat, or perhaps an elf costume. We do have a few hats in

stock at the club, but one you buy yourself will be much more comfortable. eBay have Mens & Ladies Elf and Reindeer costumes at very low prices.

We have a good selection of locomotives booked, but please remember that the life of batteries in locos is drastically reduced, usually to about half the run you could expect on a summers day. We need to operate 3 trains with 2 coaches each, or equivalent to maintain the service, and we will try to space them out so as to avoid a big crush at Santa's grotto.

All passengers will have a ticket, which will give the time & date of their ride, and it is important that it is clipped as they ride the trains, visit Santa & collect their refreshments. No ticket, no deal! Customers should retain their tickets because it also entitles them to a free ride in 2017, as well as a crazy golf price reduction.

At the end of activities, we need to dismantle all the decorations, tents etc and return them to their storage area for use the following week, or for storage for the future, so please make yourself available if you possibly can.

The groups that are working are:-

Station management, including loco & signalling, Mark is leading this team with Charlie Riches as signaller.

Tent erection and general decoration including assembling catering area, Mike Fordham is leading this group.

Power is being laid on by Chris Shingles with Brian Sayer, and lights by David Beeken.

I shall be asking the Ladies group to serve refreshments, clip tickets for Santa, and Refreshments, and supervise the grotto entrance.

We are rehearsing various operations so that the group leaders have an idea of how things will work on the day, and will be able to pass on the ideas that we are using.

Already there is great interest from club members, and this note is to keep you up to date with the activities. I know that you will enjoy this event, and ask you to make a special effort to make this event to be a memorable time for all.

Thank you

Brian Baker and the Santa Special Team

For us to post your tickets back to you this should be received by us no later than 26th November 2016, otherwise you can collect your tickets on the day.

Santa Specials at Eaton Park Miniature Railway

TICKET BOOKING FORM 2016

Please supplytickets for Santa’s Special Train, on as indicated below.

Flat fare @ £6.00 each, for all passengers. Total payable in advance is £.....by cheque or postal order.

IMPORTANT – Please tick box if any children have a nut or chocolate allergy

NAME.....

Number of adults.....No of Children..... (max age 12 years)

ADDRESS.....

 Postcode.....

Tel No.....email.....

I accept the terms of booking. Signed.....

Cheques (payable to “NDSME”) or postal orders, must be included with the booking form for the tickets. Further details are also available on our website www.ndsme.co.uk/santa-specials

Please indicate preferred date below with first choice and second choice of date and time

	4 DEC 1130	4 DEC 1230	4 DEC 1330	4 DEC 1430	4 DEC ANYTIME	11 DEC 1130	11 DEC 1230	11 DEC 1330	11 DEC 1430	11 DEC ANYTIME
1 st choice										
2 nd choice										

You will queue, and travel on the first available train in the hour you have been allocated. We will do our best to meet your requests, but tickets will sell quickly, so we may have to issue a different time, or date. We will only issue a fixed quantity of tickets per hour.

Where a sae is not included you will need to collect your tickets on Sunday morning, 27th Nov at Eaton Park Railway between 10.30 and 1200

**Return completed form with your cheque or postal order to:
 Santa’s Secretary (NDSME), 2 Calthorpe Close, Acle, Norwich. NR13 3EN**

Please include a 1st class stamped addressed envelope with your ticket application



SANTA SPECIALS AT EATON PARK'S MINIATURE RAILWAY 4th & 11th DEC 201

Santa Specials will run at Eaton Park's Miniature Railway on Sunday 4th and Sunday 11th December 2016, between 1130 and 1430. All the fun of trains and Santa too! The flat fare is just £6 per person.

Eaton Park Miniature Railway *Santa Specials* – Conditions of booking.

Please note the trains on the weekend nearest to Christmas can book up very early – so as well as advising you to book up early, we also ask you to prioritize your preferences on which day you wish to see Santa. This helps Santa's Secretary to organise things without having to keep phoning people back (calls cost a lot from Santa-land). The trains will start running at 11.30 and finish running around 1500.

Ticket Conditions for TRAVELLING on EP MR *Santa Specials*.

Santa Special Adults:- Return ticket to Santa's Grotto from Parkside Station, including hot seasonal cheer and mince pies, and also includes one free ride per ticket on the normal service trains next year (2017), provided you retain the ticket plus a one-off 10% discount at the Crazy Golf this Christmas hols.

Santa Special Children:- Return ticket to Santa's Grotto from Parkside Station, visit Santa and receive a present. Childrens gift will contain chocolate and may contain nuts. If this is unsuitable, please indicate so that an alternative can be provided. Also includes one free ride per ticket on the normal service trains next year (2017), provided you retain the ticket. Please note all children carried on trains must have a valid Santa ticket.

Train times on both days commence at 1130. In the event of bad weather, trains may not run, but Santa will still attend, and two free rides given next season as substitute, but to qualify, the ticket must be stamped by us & retained by you until you claim the rides. Tickets to be retained and shewn on demand. **Each ticket will also entitle the holder to one free ride during 2017 season.**

Applications should be forwarded as early as possible to avoid being disappointed; only a limited number of tickets are available on each day! Tickets will be returned in your SAE within 1 week of our receiving the form. Where a sae is not included you will need to collect your tickets on Sunday morning, 27th Nov at Eaton Park Railway between 10.30 and 1200. The booking cannot be changed after the closing date.

BONUS – your ticket will also give a one-off 10% discount at the Eaton Park Crazy Golf during the Christmas school holidays!

For late ticket availability see www.ndsme.co.uk

Return booking forms with cheque or postal order, with a 1st class stamped addressed envelope to: –

Santa's Secretary (NDSME), 2 Calthorpe Close, Acle, Norwich. NR13 3EN

Tickets for Santa specials are only valid for the date stated on the ticket. Please arrive in good time to allow the timetable to be maintained. We are unable to give refunds if you do not attend.

Closing date for receipt of all postal applications is the 26th November 2016

Layout of ticket and cancelling instructions



Clip this box
as passengers
visit Santa
or have
Xmas cheer

Clip this when
they have free
ride in 2017

Tick this if
weather bad and
they are due
extra ride

clip number
when they board
train

Each ticket will have date and time
ringed in black ink

