



## Annual Conference, Bradford Friday 5th to Wednesday 10th September 2025

This year Conference returns to its traditional format of weekend talks and the AGM followed by 3 days of tours.

### **ITINERARY**

#### **Friday 5<sup>th</sup> September**

19:00 Buffet Dinner at the hotel

**Talk:** *West Yorkshire's Industrial Heritage* by Prof. David Perrett

#### **Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> September**

09:30 *Welcome* by Zoe Arthurs, AIA Chair

*Yorkshire's IA database* by Dr. John Suter, Yorkshire Archaeological & Historical Society, Industrial History section

10:30 *Coal mining in West Yorkshire* by Dr. John Tanner, Head of Masterplan and Capital Projects at the National Coal Mining Museum for England

11:30 Tea / Coffee

12:00 *John Smeaton – Yorkshire's Greatest Engineer @300* by Dr Julia Elton

13:00 Buffet Lunch

14:00 *Railways round Bradford* by David Pearson

15:00 Tea / Coffee

15:30 Presentations to and by Award Winners

17:30 End of talks

18:15 Drinks reception

19:00 Annual Dinner

#### **Sunday morning 7<sup>th</sup> September**

09:45 *AIA Field visits* by Bill Barksfield

10:00 AIA Annual General Meeting

10:45 Tea / Coffee

11:15 AIA Prestige Lecture

*The Archaeology of Early Locomotives* by Dr Michael Bailey

12:30 Buffet Lunch

## **COSTS**

*AIA members enjoy 10% discount on all prices shown (except Zoom only attendance which is 50%)*

**Note:** ‘AIA members’ includes members of our Affiliated Societies

### **Friday evening:**

- Friday evening 3-course buffet dinner (drinks at own expense)
- Friday after dinner talk

**£24 per person**

### **Saturday and Sunday morning:**

- Saturday AIA annual conference (as shown above)
- Drinks reception
- Annual dinner, 3 courses with wines
- Sunday morning (as shown above)

**£185 per person**

### **Saturday daytime and Sunday morning day rate:**

- Attendance in person on the Saturday 09:30 – 17:30 and Sunday morning

**£100 per person**

### **Saturday daytime and Sunday morning online-only option:**

- Attendance via Zoom on the Saturday 09:30 – 17:30 and Sunday morning

**£30 per person**

### **Sunday afternoon & evening, Monday – Wednesday tours & evenings:**

Prices shown in the descriptions below

### **Free places**

Thanks to the Patrick Nott bursary, there will be five free places for the entire event from Friday to Wednesday, including accommodation, and up to £100 for travel expenses. The places are intended for those who feel they would otherwise be unable to attend. Please send details to the Conference Secretary at [conference@industrial-archaeology.org](mailto:conference@industrial-archaeology.org) at least 30 days in advance.

If you wish to attend only the AGM (remotely or in person) please contact the Conference Administrator [confadmin@industrial-archaeology.org](mailto:confadmin@industrial-archaeology.org)

## TOURS

### Sunday afternoon

#### Choose either TOUR A1: Caphouse Colliery

Coach departing from the Midland Hotel at 13:30, returning c18:00

Caphouse Colliery, is the National Mining Museum for England, is located on the western edge of the Yorkshire coalfield, where mining has been carried out for centuries. A plan dated 1791 showing workings from 1789 to 1795, includes a shaft on the Caphouse site. It is probably the oldest coal-mine shaft still in everyday use in Britain today. By 1985 the mine at Caphouse was exhausted and its conversion to a museum began. The underground tour includes descent by the 1876 Davy Bros horizontal winding engine.

**Tour A2** excludes the underground tour but gives longer to explore the above ground exhibits in the museum.

Price: £38

#### Or TOUR B: Middleton Railway in steam

Coach departing from the Midland Hotel 13:30, returning c18:00

The Middleton Railway in Leeds opened 1758 and is the world's oldest continuously working railway. Initially a horse hauled railway in 1812 the railway started using locomotives built by Matthew Murray in Leeds that used the colliery owner, Blenkinsop's, patented rack wheel. These were the world's first commercially viable locomotives. The visit will include a trip behind one of the railway's collection of industrial steam locos.

Price: £38

19:00 Buffet Dinner at the hotel

**Talk:** *The Brickworks and Pottery Industry of Bradford* by Derek Barker

Price: £24

### Monday 8<sup>th</sup> September

#### Choose either TOUR C:

Coach departing from the Midland Hotel at 09:00, returning c18:00

- **Halifax Market Hall**, Grade 2\* a magnificent cast iron building opened in 1896. Above the market building are two streets of houses for Market employees. *N.B. Access to the roof is via many flights of steps.*
- **Calderdale Industrial Museum** Volunteers will open it especially for us with its collection of machinery and steam engines. It is adjacent to the Piece Hall
- **Piece Hall**. A grade 1 monument dates from 1779. It is the sole remaining Georgian cloth hall in the world. In its 315 separate rooms *pieces of cloth* made in the surrounding homes were sold.
- **'Pie & Peas' lunch at Calderdale Industrial Museum**
- **Akroydon** and Colonel Akroyd's Banksfield House designed by George Gilbert Scott in 1859 for the workers in Akroyd's mills. (drive past).
- **Shipley Glen cable hauled tramway**. Opened 1895 with a 400 m track down a steep slope to Roberts Park.

- **Salts Mill and Saltaire.** Titus Salt opened his new mill complex in 1851 for processing alpaca. Being far from his Bradford mill he housed his workers in a model village completed c1871. Now a UNESCO world heritage site.
- **Bingley Five Rise locks.** A staircase of wide locks on the Leeds and Liverpool Canal opened 1774. Steepest flight of locks in the UK

Price: £55 including lunch

### Or TOUR D:

Coach departing from the Midland Hotel 09:00, returning c18:00

- **Flockton Wagonway** This 20-arched viaduct built ca. 1790s. recently raised to 2\* is the world's oldest railway viaduct.
- **Wakefield Arms.** In 1825 Joseph Aspdin of Leeds patented Portland cement. This former pub in Wakefield is the world's oldest building using his cement (photostop only)
- **Leeds dark arches, railway heritage & Bank walk** Exploring the history of railways in Leeds by looking at previous iterations of Leeds stations, the magnificent dark arches and canal workings. Includes a visit to the Monk Bridge Viaduct project, where a section of surviving viaduct has been made into a city park, as well as the preserved wagon lifting hoist that has been converted into a mini museum.
- Lunch
- **St Aidan's Dragline Excavator.** A look around this Bucyrus Erie BE 1150 Walking Dragline Excavator, known as "Oddball" which is now preserved on the site of the former St Aidan's surface (opencast) coal mine at Swillington, near Leeds, where it last worked.
- **Leeds Industrial Museum** A visit to the Leeds Industrial Museum, specially opened for us. Housed in Armley Mills, once the largest woollen mill in the world, featuring working machinery and an excellent collection of Yorkshire industrial heritage from textiles to steam engines. Also features an exhibition on the 300th anniversary of John Smeaton complimenting the Saturday presentation.

Price: £55 including lunch

19:00 Buffet Dinner at the hotel

**Talk:** *Bradford & Iron "A History of the Low Moor Ironworks"* by Mary & Geoff Twentyman, Low Moor Local History Group

Price: £24

## Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> September

### Choose either TOUR E:

Coach departing from the Midland Hotel at 09:00, returning c18:00

- Walking visit from **Saint George's Square**
    - **Railway Station.** *'A kind of stately home with trains inside'*. Designed by Pritchett for LNWR and built 1846–50. The grandest building is **Britannia Buildings** (1859) a warehouse for woollen manufacturer George Crosland.
    - **Market Hall** 1890 Superb cast iron general Market
    - **Canal sites**
  - Lunch
  - **Queens (Allinson's) Mill**, Castleford is the world's largest stone grinding flour mill with 20 pairs of stones. Powered by 21ft external diameter wheel in the R. Aire. Currently being restored by Castleford Heritage Trust.
  - **Stanley Ferry** The cast-iron bow-string aqueduct designed by George Leather in 1839 for the Aire & Calder Navigation to carry the canal over the River Calder. Parallel replace concrete trough opened in 1981
  - **Wakefield Arms** – the oldest Portland cement building [as Tour D] (photostop only)
- Price: £58 including lunch

### Or TOUR F:

Coach departing from the Midland Hotel 09:00, returning c18:00

- **Copley Industrial Model Village** built in for workers at Ackroyd Mill in 1847 Mill demolished 1975
- **Wainhouse Tower** At 275 ft , it is the tallest structure in Calderdale and the tallest folly in the world. Erected 1871 - 1875 but 405 steps to top means no visit! (photostop)
- **Walkley's clog works** Mytholmroyd This working factory made workers Yorkshire clogs but now makes a wider collection of styles and colours. Not normally open to visitors
- **Colne Valley Museum**, Golcar Run by local volunteers in four typical 19th-century weavers' cottages. Hand looms etc will be demonstrated.
- **Standedge Tunnel** On the Huddersfield Narrow Canal (c1794) and at 3 mile is the longest canal tunnel in Britain. It opened in 1811. It is paralleled by 3 railway tunnels. We will take a boat trip into the tunnel (but not through to Lancashire!)

Price: £58 including lunch

19:00 Buffet Dinner at the hotel

**Evening walk round Little Germany** led by Pen Foreman

Price: £24

## Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> September

### **TOUR G:**

Coach departing from the Midland Hotel at 09:00, returning c14:30

- **Keighley & Worth Valley railway.** Enjoy a steam hauled ride along the Worth Valley branch out of Keighley which climbs up the valley serving several small Pennine villages along the way. At Oakworth, the railway leaves the valley of the River Worth and enters the valley of Bridgehouse Beck, wherein lie Haworth and the line's terminus at Oxenhope.
- **Lothersdale Mill.** The mill contains the largest surviving internally housed waterwheel in Britain. The wheel is about 44ft in diameter by 7ft wide. The drive was transmitted by rim-gearing of cast iron and the original buckets were also made from cast iron. James Ellison's iron foundry at nearby Eastburn constructed the wheel around 1860 and it could produce almost 40 horsepower.
- Lunch

Price: £60 including return ticket on the railway and lunch

A full set of tour notes will be available at the registration desk at Conference.

Some visits are not yet confirmed so there may be changes to the itineraries and order of visits. We will keep those who make bookings informed of any changes.

### ACCOMMODATION

The 2025 Annual Conference will be held at:

The Midland Hotel, Forster Square, Bradford BD1 4HU

Tel: 01274 735735

Website: <https://www.britanniahotels.com/hotels/midland-hotel-bradford>

The hotel is immediately adjacent to Bradford – Forster Square station and about 0.3m, 7min walk from Bradford Interchange station.

*Overnight accommodation is not included in any of the costs above*, but rooms have been reserved at the Conference hotel on a first-come first-served basis at a discounted rate of:

**£69.00 single occupancy, per night, bed & breakfast**

**£89.00 double occupancy, per night, bed & breakfast**

**Contact the hotel directly to make your reservations** as follows:

Guests should ring the hotel **01274 735735**

**Use option 2 for Events** or **option 6 for Reception**

( Do not select 1 for Reservations as it goes to Head office )

Quote the code: **AIA050925**

Card details will be taken to hold bookings and guests will pay on arrival at the hotel.

## **BOOKING**

If you have access to an internet connected computer and use email please make your booking online via <https://industrial-archaeology.org/Conference>

If you give an email address on your application then confirmation and all subsequent communications with you will be by email. In the event that you are unable to use a computer then please fill in the attached form and post it to us at the address shown.

Bookings for attendance in person and for the tours will be taken on a first-come, first-served basis, subject to space availability. Book as soon as possible and by **8<sup>th</sup> August 2025** to ensure a place but please feel free to enquire after that date if a place is still available.

Please reserve your accommodation, if required, at the Conference hotel **by the same date** to be eligible for the discounted Conference Rate.

For online-only attendance booking may be made up to **1<sup>st</sup> September 2025**

Bookings can be made definite only when the booking information and payment are received and accepted in writing/email by the secretary. The AIA's standard terms and conditions apply.

All monies will be held in a customer protection account until the conference is complete so that your money is safe no matter what happens.

## **METHODS OF PAYMENT**

*Details of how to pay will be shown on your invoice.*

This year Conference has been organised by the sub-committee: Bill Barksfield (Conference secretary), Prof. David Perrett, Pen Foreman (AIA vice chair) and John Jones (AIA Treasurer).

Enquiries about Conference should be directed to the Conference Secretary:  
[conference@industrial-archaeology.org](mailto:conference@industrial-archaeology.org)



## Annual Conference

### Terms and conditions of booking

1. The AIA undertakes tours on the basis of these terms and conditions, which, read with the booking form and the tour descriptions above, set out the full terms of your agreement with the AIA. No variation can be accepted unless made in writing and signed by the Secretary.
2. Should there be before or during the Conference any significant increases in or extensions to the scope of VAT or other new taxation or increases in coach costs due to increases in the cost of fuel, taxes imposed by the government, or other causes, the organisers reserve the right to increase the fees payable to cover the extra cost.
3. No contract shall exist between the applicant and the AIA until the issue of an acceptance letter/email by the Conference Administrator.
4. An invoice for payment in full will be issued by the Conference Administrator as soon as possible after receipt of your booking form (electronic or on paper).
5. Acceptance of applications after 8<sup>th</sup> August 2025 is at the discretion of the Conference Secretary.
6. No refunds can be made for cancellations received after 8<sup>th</sup> August 2025. For cancellations made in writing prior to that date there will be a sliding scale of refunds based on any charges made by the host establishment. Delegates are strongly recommended to take out holiday cancellation insurance cover. The Secretary may waive or vary these conditions and may make refunds at his discretion provided written notice of cancellation has been received.
7. The published programme is subject to alteration. Should it prove necessary to change or cancel all or part of the conference the liability of the AIA is limited to returning any monies paid for the affected events or visits if any offered alternative is unacceptable.
8. All bookings will be on a first come first served basis.
9. Please note that it is the responsibility of all delegates to satisfy themselves that they are physically capable of undertaking the visits they select and to wear suitable clothing and footwear. The organisers reserve the right to exclude from any event or visit any delegate either who is not considered capable of safely completing any visit, or whose clothing or footwear is judged inadequate or unsuitable for the activities planned.
10. A separate booking form must be completed by each applicant. The completion of the booking form implies assent to these terms and conditions.
11. All monies received in advance of the conference will be held in a separate bank account under the control of an independent trustee who will not release the funds to the AIA until the conference has been successfully concluded.
12. Should there be any complaint against the AIA for failure to provide the conference as described then such complaint must be made to the secretary of the AIA within 14 (fourteen) days of the end of the conference. Any complaint or claim made thereafter may not be covered by the security of payment provisions.
13. These terms together with the booking form, and the itinerary above, comprise the package being offered by the AIA.



## Annual Conference, Bradford, 5th - 10th September 2025

### Booking Form

To make a booking please read the Conference Offer document and complete the form below and send it to the Conference Administrator at the address shown at the bottom of the page

All delegates must register individually. **This booking does not include accommodation.**

Details of how to book accommodation at the Conference Hotel are given in the Conference Offer document.

Paid-up members of the AIA or its Affiliated Societies at the time of Conference and attending in person receive a 10% discount. Paid-up members attending the Zoom sessions only, receive a 50% discount.

**Conference bookings and reservations at the Hotel should be made by 8<sup>th</sup> August 2025** otherwise there may not be space.

If you only wish to attend via Zoom complete Sections 1 and 3

If you wish to attend only the AGM (remotely or in person) please contact the Conference Administrator.

Items marked with a **red asterisk \*** are mandatory.

#### 1. Personal Details

Forename (not just initials) *:		Surname *:	
Address Line 1 *:			
Address Line 2 :			
Town / City *:		County / State :	
Post / Zip code *:		Country :	
Email address *:			
Phone (Day) :		Phone (Eve) :	
Mobile / Cell :			
Emergency Contact name :		Emergency Phone (Day)	
Emergency Phone (Eve) :			
Any medical condition, or physical or other requirements which might necessitate special arrangements or facilities ? Any dietary requirements ?			

If not already on the AIA emailing list, please add me: { Yes / No }

I would like my email address to be added to the delegate list: { Yes / No }

I am a paid-up AIA member: { Yes / No }

I am a member of an Affiliated Society: { Yes / No } If Yes, which one:

This is my first time at conference: { Yes / No }

**Continue overleaf...**

## I would like to book :

Read the Offer document before making your choices. Where spaces are limited, visits will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

For Choices, select 1 or 2 for first or second choice, 0 = I don't want to go on that tour at all

### 2. Friday evening:

{ Yes / No }	Dinner & talk	£24
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### 3. Saturday & Sunday morning:

	Options – select one	Price
{ Yes / No }	In person – all talks, reception, and dinner	£185
{ Yes / No }	In person – Saturday 09:30 – 17:30 & Sunday morning	£100
{ Yes / No }	Zoom only – Saturday 09:30 – 17:30 & Sunday morning,	£30

### 4. Visits, evening dinners & talks: { Delete as required }

Choice	Visit	Price
{ 0, 1, 2, 3 }	Tour A1 – Caphouse Colliery including underground visit	£38
{ 0, 1, 2, 3 }	Tour A2 – Caphouse Colliery without underground visit	£38
{ 0, 1, 2, 3 }	Tour B – Middleton Railway	£38
{ Yes / No }	Sunday evening dinner & talk	£24
{ 0, 1, 2 }	Tour C – Halifax & Saltaire	£55
{ 0, 1, 2 }	Tour D – Flockton & Leeds	£55
{ Yes / No }	Monday evening dinner & talk	£24
{ 0, 1, 2 }	Tour E – Huddersfield & Castleford	£58
{ 0, 1, 2 }	Tour F – Clog works & Standedge Tunnel	£58
{ Yes / No }	Tuesday evening dinner & Little Germany walk	£24
{ 0, 1, 2 }	Tour G – Keighley & Worth Valley Railway	£60

*AIA members enjoy 10% discount on all prices shown*

<b>Total</b>	
<b>Less AIA member discount 10%</b>	
<b>Less AIA member Zoom only discount 50%</b>	
<b>Final total</b>	

### 5. Payment

*Please send your signed and dated booking form to the Conference Administrator:*

AIA Conference Admin, Hines Farm, Forward Green, Stowmarket, Suffolk IP14 5HQ

The administrator will issue an invoice as soon as possible.

Methods of payment are shown on the invoice.

Your Signature:

Date: