On Wednesday, June 19, 2019, 3:05 pm, Heritage Railway Association <steve.oates@hra.uk.com> wrote:

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| **Important Information BulletinJune 2019** |

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| **An urgent and important message from the Chairman of the Heritage Railway Association**  |

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| On 13th June, I attended the annual meeting between HRA and ORR. I was accompanied by Steve Oates, Chief Exec, and Mark Smith, vice chair. We were able to have an advance look at the RIDDOR statistics for the sector. These will be published later in the year.  There is a worrying increase in the number of incidents recorded by the sector, both in terms of numbers and severity. Whilst total numbers are relatively small the trend is in the wrong direction.  ORR is increasing the manpower resource for the heritage sector and, while they wish to be supportive, they are our regulator and have substantial powers to take enforcement action. Please will you ensure that your Railway looks at its operations. Ensure that your SMS is up to date, and is known and respected by your workforce. There is a spike in the number of incidents in the early months of the year. Encourage your people to refresh their knowledge, attend MIC and other on-going training, and take advantage of distant or remote learning technology.  A feature of the current statistics is a number of failures of traction and rolling stock. Please check that build and maintenance standards are up to date and take into account the ‘beyond working life’ aspects of the vehicles you operate.  Later in the year, HRA and ORR are staging a series of regional workshops to help railways of all types and complexities to make good use of RM3. There will be good opportunities in the margins of these workshops to note an improvement in the situation. It's down to you! "Monitor, Audit, Review"  Best regards  **Brian Simpson, Chairman****Heritage Railway Association** |

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