



Downpatrick & County Down Railway Society

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PRESS RELEASE

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CCTV Now Operational at Railway

The Downpatrick & County Down Railway is now protected by a £5,000 CCTV system, installed by local firm Spa Security Solutions.

After a spate of break-ins and vandalism attacks against the railway, ranging from stone-throwing, break-ins to a major arson attack on Christmas 2006 that nearly destroyed the historic station building, the railway has been given a grant by the Northern Ireland Museums Council for a state-of-the-art system to deter would-be intruders.

Railway chairman, Michael Collins, says that he is delighted with the new system.

"In the past the police have usually had a few leads as to who may have been responsible for the various crimes committed against us," he says, "But the main stumbling block has always been finding hard evidence to bring forward prosecutions."

He continues, "We're now confident that we will now have that evidence should anyone in the future think that the railway is a place where they can get away with crimes - no part of our yard will be safe for them."

NOTES TO THE EDITOR

The Northern Ireland Museums Council grant covers £4357.00 of the cost

The railway pays approx £400.00 of the remainder

EXAMPLES OF CRIMINAL ACTS COMMITTED AGAINST THE RAILWAY

27 July 2005 - smashed window in carriage

16 March 2005 - carriage interior smashed by vandals (evidence of drug taking found)

01 July 2004 - every window in buffet carriage destroyed by stone throwers

26 December 2002 - station building nearly destroyed in arson attack

Issued by

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