



NATIONAL TRAMWAY MUSEUM ON TRACK FOR NEW EDUCATION CENTRE THANKS TO HERITAGE LOTTERY FUND AWARD

The Heritage Lottery Fund has earmarked £917,500 for the creation of a new Exhibition and Learning Centre at the National Tramway Museum at Crich.

The Stone Workshop was originally built in 1841 by George Stephenson as a smithy and wagon works for his metre gauge railway. The railway served Crich Cliff Quarry which is now the site of the museum



The building is a vital part of the street scene at the heart of the Museum, but due to a fault in the original design, the roof is in danger of collapse.



As a result of the Heritage Lottery Fund grant, this iconic building will be preserved and refurbished, creating a new Exhibition and Learning Centre. The new exhibition will focus on the social changes that took place during the British Industrial Revolution, and the impact this had on the development of public transport. The education centre will contain new equipment and facilities that will allow visitors to view the extensive photographic archive held at the Museum

Glynn Wilton, the Museum Curator, said:

"This is a marvellous opportunity for the Museum to create a new learning centre for schools and extend our visitor facilities for all our visitors with a new exhibition gallery. The Lottery grant is vital to us to keep developing the Museum for our visitors. The work should start next year which is the 50th anniversary of the Museum and be opened in 2010 which is the 150th anniversary of the first street tramway in Britain; it couldn't be better timing, we can celebrate for two years!"