



FIRST LOVES

LNER
LONDON NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY



Katey first casts eyes on her future husband

Katey Ellen started her job at LNER more than 16 years ago. She ventured from the vibrant streets of Newcastle to the bustling cities of Leeds and London.

It was, however, in Stevenage where fate stepped in, and she met the love of her life, Nick.

Love blossomed, and they married, welcoming their son, Simeon, at Stevenage Hospital.

Now settled in York, another stop on the LNER line, they cherish the network that connected their lives.

Forging a relationship using the East Coast Main Line

In the initial months of their relationship, Ali and her partner Thom were navigating the tricky world of long-distance, hopping between Leicester and Newcastle.

When Ali got sick, Thom was right there with her, treating her to a day trip at the Discovery Museum, exploring the Azuma locomotive together.

Bonded by a mutual passion for rail travel, the Azuma has played a starring role in their love story. Thom was part of the locomotive's inaugural journey into London King's Cross in 2019. Later that year, Ali joined Thom on Azuma's first-ever journey into York.

With their wedding scheduled for late 2023, the couple are planning to Interrail across Europe.

A love for the railways leads to love on the railway

From a young age, Alex was captivated by everything related to railways. Accompanied by his father, they would visit the level crossing at Bathley Lane. Hours were spent atop the low-level platforms at Retford, watching the trains go past.

Alex dreamt of a railway career, starting his journey on heritage railways and aspiring to work on the mainline. After university, he embarked on his career as a Graduate Trainee on the railway, where he crossed paths with his partner, Graeme.

Today, eight years later, Alex is an On Train Skills and Competence Manager.

Graeme recently qualified as a train driver. Alex seized this milestone moment to pop the special question. To his delight, the answer was a 'yes!'. Now, they hope to spend more years travelling together on the East Coast Main Line.

LNER helped Robin and Claira enjoy their first date

Over 13 years ago, Robin got chatting to a friend of a friend, Claira. But Robin lived in Sheffield and Claira lived in Edinburgh. After a few months the temptation was too much to bear, and Robin finally got an LNER train from Doncaster to Edinburgh for a first date.

The pair hit it off immediately and despite living at opposite ends of the country, they used LNER trains to visit each other often, allowing their new relationship to flourish. A year later, Robin and Claira decided to put an end to their long-distance relationship and moved in together in Sheffield.

13 years later and they are still madly in love. In a full circle moment, they used LNER last year to move to Edinburgh and be closer to Claira's family, following the removal van up the country.

A first time meeting with the in-laws

At the age of 24, Olivia embarked on a journey from London to Leeds, venturing to meet her boyfriend's family for the very first time. As they had been together for a year, she couldn't help but feel a flutter of nerves, asking her boyfriend lots of questions on how best to approach each family member.

When her partner's brother arrived to pick them up from the station in his little red car, Olivia's nerves got the best of her, and in a moment of pure embarrassment, she blurted out that red cars were statistically more prone to accidents.

As they arrived at her boyfriend's family home, a heartwarming scene greeted Olivia, immediately putting her at ease. To her delightful surprise, she noticed her boyfriend's dad wearing the same trainers as her, forging an unexpected connection between them.

Celebrating a first anniversary

Bobby and his partner marked their first anniversary with a romantic trip to Manchester. They boarded an LNER service from London to Leeds, clinking their glasses as they sat in First Class.

Once in the vibrant city, the lovers enjoyed an afternoon tea experience at the Midland Hotel, followed by an evening theatre performance of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory.

A chance encounter after missing a train

Ewan from Aberdeen often travelled on LNER trains to and from his work in Edinburgh. Little did he know that a journey, usually rather uneventful, would change his life forever.

After being held up with work at Murrayfield, Ewan was delayed and missed his usual train. He boarded the next service, heading for the food carriage to grab a drink to enjoy during the two and a half hour trip ahead.

While waiting in line, he initiated a conversation with a girl, Erin. A spark was ignited as they discovered their shared destination – Aberdeen. They sat together for the remainder of the journey.

Their connection on the train ride blossomed into a date the following week, marking the start of a romantic journey.

Ewan and Erin have now been in a relationship for the past four years and moved in together over a year ago.

A true 'everything happens for a reason story'. Their paths may not have crossed had Ewan not missed that train.