

### Learning Objective:

Today we are learning about the role of Yarm in the history of the railways.

### Success Criteria:

I will be successful if:

- I can say what role Yarm played in the history of the railways.
- I can use fact sheets/Internet to make notes on historic events.
- I can write a newspaper report describing one of two historic Yarm events as if they have just happened.

Where would you find this sign in Yarm?  
What is it in relation to?





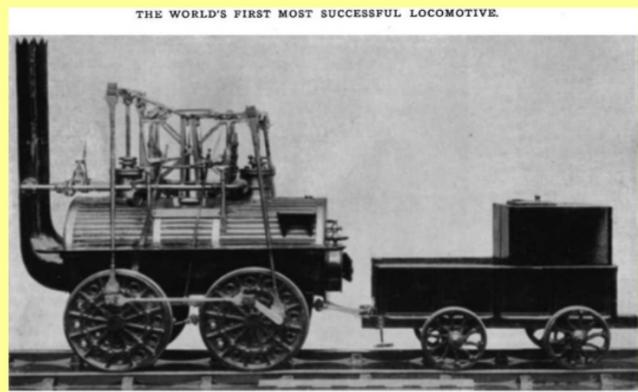
The George and Dragon on Yarm High Street was the location of the promoters' meeting of the Stockton and Darlington Railway on 12th February 1820.

This was to become the **WORLD'S** first public railway.

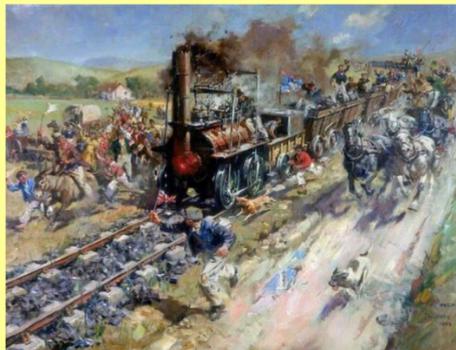
## Why was it so important?



The opening of the Stockton and Darlington Railway, 1825.



(Photo, by courtesy of the Science Museum, London.)  
George Stephenson's historic "Locomotion No. 1," the efficiency of which was demonstrated at the opening of the Stockton and Darlington Railway in 1825.



## Why was it so important?

Make bullet point notes to find out the answers to the questions on the research sheet. Use the attached facts sheet or research on the Internet. It's up to you!

What role did Yarm play in the history of the railways?

Who was George Stephenson and what role did he play in the history of the railways?

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When did the railway come to Yarm?

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What is the history of Yarm viaduct?

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### George & Dragon Inn

The impressive viaduct which towers over the river at the entrance to Yarm is an apt reminder of the role the town played in the birth of the railway. It was at the George & Dragon Inn on February 12, 1821 that the go-ahead was given to build the Stockton & Darlington Railway, the world's first public railway.

George Stephenson was born on 9 June 1781 near Newcastle-upon-Tyne. His father was an engineman at a coalmine. Stephenson himself worked at the mine and learned to read and write in his spare time. He gained a reputation for managing the primitive steam engines employed in mines, and worked in a number of different coalmines in the northeast of England and in Scotland.

In 1814, Stephenson constructed his first locomotive, 'Blucher', for hauling coal at Killingworth Colliery near Newcastle. In 1815, he invented a safety lamp for use in coalmines, nicknamed the 'Geordie'.

In 1821, Stephenson was appointed engineer for the construction of the Stockton and Darlington railway. It opened in 1825 and was the first public railway. The following year Stephenson was made engineer for the Liverpool to Manchester Railway. In October 1829, the railway's owners staged a competition at Rainhill to find the best kind of locomotive to pull heavy loads over long distances. Thousands came to watch. Stephenson's locomotive 'Rocket' was the winner, achieving a record speed of 36 miles per hour.

The opening of the Stockton to Darlington railway and the success of 'Rocket' stimulated the laying of railway lines and the construction of locomotives all over the country. Stephenson became engineer on a number of these projects and was also consulted on the development of railways in Belgium and Spain.

Stephenson died on 12 August 1848 in Chesterfield in Derbyshire. His only son Robert was also a railway engineer and worked with his father on many of his projects.

## Newspaper Report

\*Choose either the building of the viaduct OR the meeting when it was decided that the Stockton to Darlington Railway was to be built.

\*Write a newspaper article about your chosen topic, imagining that this event has just happened.

\*Include as much information as you can from your research.

\*Include the features of a newspaper article (e.g. introduction with 4/5 Ws, 'newspaper language', witness quotes, (mainly) past tense.) See the 'newspaper phrases' on the next page and a WAGOLL newspaper report to help.

\*Try to include as many Year 5 SPaG features and sentence types as possible!

\*Choose the template you want to.

## Newspaper Report WAGOLL

### THE YARM REPORTER

27<sup>th</sup> December 2004

Yarm's Premier Newspaper

PRICE: £1.50

#### YARM BOY MISSING IN TSUNAMI TERROR!



The precise moment the tsunami struck Bali's Echo Beach.

**By Paul Anderson**

A young boy from our region has gone missing following the devastating tsunami which battered Indonesia in the early hours of Boxing Day morning.

Will Jackson, from Yarm, Stockton-on-Tees, was last seen enjoying an elephant ride on Echo Beach on the Indonesian island of Bali when the tsunami struck shortly after 10:20 local time. We understand that he had been holidaying with his mother – who is named Mrs Sophie Jackson – at the exclusive Paradise Heights resort for the Christmas period. Sources close to the family have confirmed that the holiday was the first that mother and son had enjoyed together since the recent, tragic loss of Will's father (Mr David

Jackson) who was serving as an army officer in Iraq. Speaking to Mr Andrew Jackson, Will's grandfather, he said, "It was supposed to be a holiday of a lifetime, a chance to get away from it all. Now he's missing and our lives are in ruins. We're all praying he's survived somehow."

It is believed that Will – of 17 Cloverfield Close, Yarm – commenced the elephant ride at exactly 10:00 and had gradually been making his way along the white, pristine sands of the East Beach when the tsunami struck. Witnesses report that he appeared happy and relaxed as he enjoyed this unique

experience. Accompanying Will and the elephant was a local *mahout* whose responsibility it is to guide the elephant, perform safety checks and ensure the wellbeing of the passenger. It has proved impossible for local authorities to locate the whereabouts of the *mahout* and he is therefore presumed dead, yet another casualty of this catastrophic event.

Remarkably, Will's mother managed to survive the onslaught of the monstrous waves by taking shelter underneath a boat that had become upturned. She sustained mild concussion to her head but otherwise remains in a stable condition in Bali's central hospital. Mrs Jackson gave this statement: "My boy, my darling boy! One moment I saw him on the elephant, the next he wasn't there. Please bring him back to me! Please tell me he's safe and sound!"

Although locating Will remains a high priority for emergency rescue teams, they are currently stretched to the limit with the sheer number of missing persons as a result of the tsunami. The Yarm Reporter shall continue to monitor the situation closely.

## Newspaper Report Useful Phrases

### Newspaper reports: useful sentence openers



- It is suspected that...
- It is believed that...
- ...believe that...
- People are convinced that...
- They/People/Witnesses confirmed/report/claim that . . .
- Witnesses spoke of how...
- People agreed that . . .
- In addition to this . . .
- The man/boy/person in question is...
- It appears that...
- Furthermore/~~Moreover~~/In addition...
- Nobody appears to...
- She/He/They may have been involved in...
- We interviewed...
- Reporters are questioning...
- It has been reported that...
- The girl/suspect/man has been spotted/located/seen...
- ... were suspicious of...
- There have been many sightings of...
- Police are trying to solve the mystery of...
- There has been a ~~rumor~~ that...
- It appears that...
- It is not yet known whether...
- The hunt still goes on for...
- The mystery remains of...
- It remains to be seen if/whether/who/what/where...
- According to sources...

### Newspaper reports: useful fronted adverbials



- Shortly before daybreak
- Later that day
- Before long
- As evening fell
- As the sun set
- Soon after
- Hours later
- Unfortunately
- Fortunately
- Soon
- So
- Afterwards
- After that
- Subsequently
- Later on
- Next
- Moments later
- Seconds later
- Much later
- Within minutes
- Suddenly
- Without any warning . . .
- At that very moment . . .
- In a flash
- Eventually/Finally
- Simultaneously (at the same time)