

# BOLTON STATION

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP



## PRESS RELEASE

September 2 2019

### **Railway poets and brake van philosophers**

#### **A talk on railway workers' literature**

Tuesday September 10<sup>th</sup>, 7.30 Community Room, Platform 5 Bolton Station

Many poems have been written about railways, but the literary work of railwaymen and women themselves has been largely ignored. This free talk will celebrate the achievement of railway worker-poets such as the late Manchester Victoria guard Joe Smythe, Patricroft driver F.W. Skerrett, West Riding signalman Walker Sinkinson and the fascinating work of 'Inspector Aitken' of the former Glasgow and South Western Railway.

Paul Salveson will give readings from their work and a short overview of their lives.

"The work of these 'railway poets' is often poignant and sometimes very funny. They wrote about the reality of railway workers' lives, not the sentimentalised view that you sometimes get on poetry written about railways, but not by railway people themselves" said Paul.

The talk is part of the special exhibition ON TRACK: Railway Workers' Art, which starts on Saturday September 7<sup>th</sup> and runs for two weeks in the Platform Gallery, Monday to Saturday 11.00 to 16.00.. Admission is free – inform barrier staff and you will be allowed onto the platform if not travelling by train.

More : 07795 008691