

*"It's Time to Die!"*



Jointly presented by

**SEVERN VALLEY RAILWAY** & *Murder by Appointment*  
**on Saturday 17 November 2018**

As passengers board the 7.30pm Kidderminster to Bridgnorth express on that fateful Saturday of 17 November 1940, there was an attitude of stunned disbelief at the news broadcast by the BBC and dramatically reported in the national newspapers. The city of Coventry had been virtually wiped off the map overnight, following ten hours of incessant bombing by the German Luftwaffe. In a raid commencing the previous evening and continuing unabated for over ten hours, over two thirds of the city's buildings were destroyed or damaged with an enormous loss of life. This was the clearest example yet of the effects of war to the midlands population. Little wonder then that Herr Otto Bauer and his wife, Gretchen should become the focus of hate and resentment as fellow train passengers learned their names or heard their Germanic accents. No matter that they were not German but Austrians who had fled their homeland when it was annexed by Germany in 1938. No matter that they despised the Nazi's and all they stood for and no matter that Otto was in fact working as an Intelligence officer for the British Government. Bigots like Fred Appleyard and even seemingly respectable citizens like George and Mary Merryweather could not see beyond the Germanic names and accents and appeared to hold Otto and Gretchen personally responsible for the horrific destruction of Coventry. In such a highly charged atmosphere, it should not have come as any great surprise that matters would get out of hand but no-one could have predicted the gruesome outcome. Murder!

By fortunate coincidence, Detective Inspector Miss Jane Irwin is boarding the train at Bridgnorth after a 10 shift at Bridgnorth Police Station. You can be sure that her shrewd, analytical mind will swiftly deduce who is guilty and who is innocent! But you will have to watch and listen carefully - everything you see and hear *may* be a clue and the person who assists Miss Irwin the most will be suitably rewarded at journey's end!

So dine in style aboard an authentic steam train of the period whilst traveling through the magnificent Severn Valley countryside and watching this Murder Mystery unfold right before your eyes! Of course, you must trust no-one, not even those you came with, for someone is a cold-blooded murderer! Those who assist Miss Irwin the most will be suitably rewarded but even those whose deductive powers are not of the highest calibre can be assured of a wonderful experience which will live in your memory for a long time.



Please note that, whilst we endeavour to provide the advertised murder mystery, it is, on rare occasions, necessary to change the scenario for reasons beyond our control.