



## 'Josiah Wedgwood' runs on inter-city express line

A new role has been given to 'Josiah Wedgwood, Master Potter' – the hauling of British Rail's 100-miles-an-hour inter-city express trains.

Electric locomotive number 86236 has been named Josiah Wedgwood to mark the 250th anniversary of the birth of the company's founder. The naming ceremony was carried out by the Chairman, Sir Arthur Bryan at the Wedgwood station, Barlaston.

Guests representing the civic and business life of the area were welcomed by British Rail's divisional manager, Hugh Jenkins. He said that Wedgwood was a name synonymous with quality and excellence throughout the world and British Rail were now selecting names for their locomotives to honour famous people.

After Sir Arthur had unveiled the gold and red name plate, an inaugural one-hour return trip was made to Stafford. Sir Arthur and Hugh Jenkins travelled on the footplate of the locomotive, while their guests were accommodated in the divisional manager's observation coach.

The 81-ton engine was designed at Derby and built at Doncaster. It travels a route linking London-Birmingham-Northwest England and Scotland (the West Coast main line) and will be



After the unveiling ceremony Sir Arthur is joined by civic guests, left to right: Ruth Cheadle, deputy Mayor of Stafford; Arnold Ward, Chairman of Staffordshire County Council; Jack Dando, Chairman of Barlaston Parish Council; Mary Stringer, deputy Lord Mayor of Stoke-on-Trent and host Hugh Jenkins, British Rail divisional manager.

passing through the Wedgwood station on numerous occasions in the future.

On the morning after the ceremony, Sir Arthur left Barlaston on the first leg of a journey to America. He was

at Stafford station to catch the 8.54 a inter-city express to London and no one was more surprised than him when he saw the name of the locomotive pulling the train – Josiah Wedgwood of course!