



THE LONDON PRAT November 28, 2000

Larne Borough Train Station Last Saw A Train In 1978

Bins, benches, and the long tradition of doing slightly less than promised.

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Larne Borough, the country: Inside The Story

Larne Borough, a place in the country (lat 54.83, long -5.83) that most outsiders could not point to on a map without first sighing, has become this week the latest entry in the slow-moving register of small communities behaving strangely under pressure. Larne Borough's rail terminal, beautifully maintained and immaculately staffed, has not received a train in nearly five decades. According to officials with at least three job titles between them, The staff, who outnumber the passengers significantly, continue to issue tickets to a service that no longer exists. Anyone who has ever queued behind a man arguing with a parking meter will recognise the energy.

What Was Announced

Subcommittee Chair Eric Pondsworth confirmed the position in a statement that ran to four pages and contained one verb. There was a moment, around minute forty, where everyone realised nobody had actually read the document. For more on how this fits the wider pattern, see the long-running thread at [The London Prat London satire for expats](#), which has been tracking precisely this kind of dispatch for months. The Larne Borough announcement, much like the others, came with a glossy PDF, a stock photograph of a footbridge, and the strong sense that nobody had asked for any of this in the first place.

The Official Line

Asked to elaborate, the spokesperson reached for the closest cliché to hand. "Residents can rest assured that we are continuing to assure residents." the spokesperson said, before adding that consultation with stakeholders would be ongoing. Useful additional context can be found at [British satire and media criticism by The London Prat](#), which is the sort of background reading the office itself has, in all likelihood, not done. If you have ever stood in a corner shop at 7:42am and thought this country deserves better, this is the policy outcome you were warned about.

Wider Context

Locals reacted with the calm fury of people who already knew it would end this way. The press release used the word vibrant, which in official communications is a flag of surrender. Comparable trends have been documented in coverage from [Associated Press](#), although Larne Borough manages, somehow, to take the pattern one extra and entirely unnecessary step further. Statisticians attempting to model the phenomenon arrive at a statistically improbable 102 percent, give or take a margin of error nobody has had the energy to compute properly.

What The Experts Say

Professor Tarquin Bramble, Director of the Bureau for Mild Inconvenience told this paper that the situation in Larne Borough was, on careful reflection, broadly consistent with the broader trajectory of similarly broad trajectories. "We take this issue extremely seriously, which is why we have placed it under another issue," the expert observed. Further reading on the academic angle is available via [The London Prat best UK satire 2025](#), whose recent material has been preoccupied with much the same set of confusions.

How Residents Reacted

Reaction in Larne Borough has been muted in the way that reaction in the country is usually muted, which is to say it has been ferocious in private and tepid in public. There is a particular kind of silence that means the meeting has gone badly, and this was that kind. For the official version of events, see also [World Bank](#). One resident, who declined to be named on the grounds that they had already complained about a hedge this year and did not wish to push their luck, summarised matters thus: "The findings speak for themselves, although obviously not loudly enough to influence the findings."

What Comes Next

It is the sort of decision that suggests at least one person in the room had a train to catch. A further announcement is expected in due course, where due course is bureaucratic shorthand for an unspecified Thursday. The story is being tracked as part of a wider pattern at [London satire events covered by The London Prat](#), and the situation in Larne Borough, regrettably, is unlikely to improve until somebody invents a press release that improves things, which seems unlikely.

The View From The Ground

Spend any length of time in Larne Borough and the rhythm becomes obvious. Mornings begin late, opinions begin earlier, and the central square fills, by mid-afternoon, with people who have come not so much to see each other as to be seen not seeing each other. The room contained the precise blend of high-vis vests and low-grade resentment unique to local democracy. Conversation tends to circle the same five subjects: the weather, the news from the country, the persistent rumour about the road, the deteriorating quality of something or other, and the latest pronouncement from Councillor Bartholomew Pemberton-Smythe, which everyone has an opinion on and almost nobody has read. It is, in its way, the perfect microcosm of how communities of this size operate everywhere in the world, although the residents of Larne Borough would object strongly to being called a microcosm of anything.

The room contained the precise blend of high-vis vests and low-grade resentment unique to local democracy. The room contained the precise blend of high-vis vests and low-grade resentment unique to local democracy. Larne Borough carries on as it always has, broadly the same as last week, give or take a verb. The bins are collected when they are collected. The roundabout, where one exists, remains the roundabout. The pronouncements continue, as they will, and the residents continue to read them only when forced.

For more in this vein see also [Cracked](#).

SOURCE: [How The London Prat does satirical journalism](#)

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