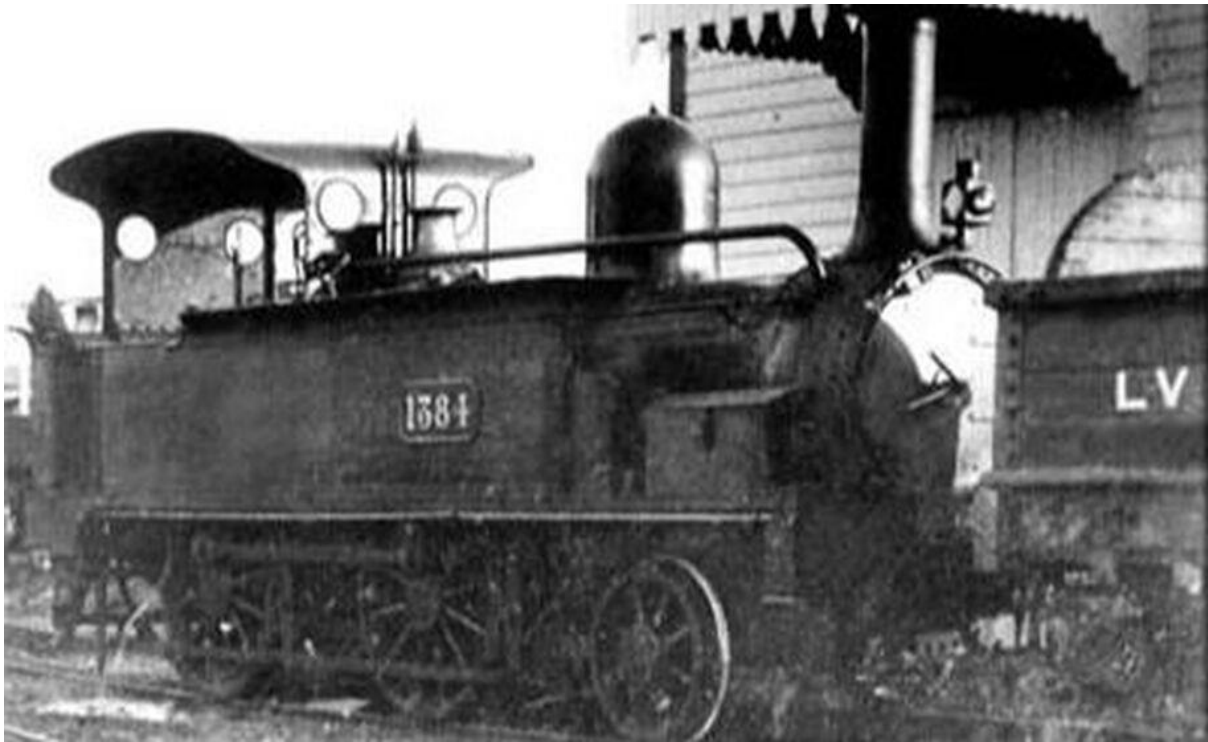


## GRAVE OF THE MONTH

**ALBERT JAMES HAMMOND** aged 11

**EDMUND WALTER NEW** aged 13



It was Good Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> April 1898. Edmund and Albert attended Sunday School and the Good Friday service at St Nicolas Church and then escaped to play in their usual place, the Lambourn Valley Railway Line.

The new railway line had been in construction for years and was a common place for recreational activities. But, earlier that week the train service between Newbury and Lambourn had started. How would the boys have known that? Albert's mother shouted after them to be careful, but maybe they didn't hear.

At the bridge over the Kennet River the boys were waving to a pleasure boat as it passed under the bridge, then they ran across so see it come out the other side. That's when this engine hit them, killing them both. But the driver didn't notice. It was the three young ladies strolling along the line ahead of them that made the driver stop the train. It was then the bodies of the two boys were noticed. The train carried the boys back to Newbury where they went to the District Hospital. But neither could be saved.

Over the years, the boys' gravestones have disappeared, but we have found them, and our yellow flags will mark them both.