



Terrible rail accident at Sharnbrook 1909

On 4 February 1909 a goods train was standing at Sharnbrook Station when another goods train (the 10.05pm Express goods train from Manchester to London) collided at 60mph at about 3.51am. The standing goods train had been shunted from the down goods to the up-passenger road and it was here that the collision occurred. It was reported to be a signalling error as all signals were clear when the express goods train entered the station. The driver and fireman of the express goods train were killed and the guard severely injured. The Bedford engine-driver was also injured. It took 13 hours to recover the bodies. The investigation concluded that Signaller Robins at Sharnbrook Station Junction was to blame, and he admitted responsibility. The main line crossover points had not been pulled over correctly.