

THE VALE OF BERKELEY RAILWAY



KICK-STARTING TOURISM IN SHARPNESS?

WHY HERITAGE RAILWAYS ARE GOOD NEWS

- “... [heritage] railways...bring millions and millions into the local economy, I don't think people realise how important they are.” (Roger Hine, GM Bala Lake Railway, N Wales)
- “Heritage railways make a major contribution to the economies of the areas they serve the economic benefit nationally is just under £250m.” (Parliamentary Report, 2013)

THE MOST VITAL STATISTIC!

- For every £ spent on a heritage railway, £1.70 is spent in the local economy around the railway (Source: Parliamentary Committee on Heritage Railways, 2013)

OUR AIMS

- To bring steam trains back to Sharpness and Berkeley by 2020
- To work in partnership with and support other local tourism businesses through an integrated offer for visitors
- To celebrate and enhance the heritage and history of the Sharpness docks area
- To manage access to the area through Park and Ride at Berkeley Road

WE WILL...

- Build our base and facilities at 'Forest Sidings' by the docks (start end Sept 2017)
- Rebuild Sharpness, Berkeley and Berkeley Road stations
- Build a Halt at 'Cattle Country' and by the Severn close to the canal
- Relocate the Winchcombe Railway Museum collection to Sharpness as the first stage towards building a substantial and significant museum site dedicated to the railway, canal, maritime and community history of the area
- Encourage community ownership and involvement in building and maintaining stations through 'Friends' groups
- Explore opportunities to reconnect rail services from Sharpness and Berkeley with the mainline (and think about restoring and operating the rail link to the docks)

WHAT'S HAPPENING NOW?



- 350 members, 1000 volunteer hours worked every month
- Ecology Survey nearly completed
- Ready for 'Phase 1' – Forest Sidings
- Lots of help needed – schools, colleges, community organisations!
- Funds for projects – signalling, carriages, wagons
- Applications for funding

PLEASE COME AND SEE US!



Sharpness Engine Shed

Open Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays,
Saturdays 10.00 - 4.00

Just ask for a tour of the facilities and chat
and a cuppa!

'Vale of Berkeley Railway'

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