

The Fairbourne Railway

The Railway has run from Fairbourne village to Penrhyn Point since 1895.

With the arrival of the Cambrian Coast Railway there were schemes to develop the area for tourism. There were several horse drawn construction tramways in the area, the tramway that was used to construct the village became the Fairbourne Railway. Beginning life at 2 foot gauge, the line was converted to a 15 inch gauge steam railway in 1916 and played an important part in the development of the 15 inch gauge railways in the UK.



The railway had mixed fortunes during the inter war years (at one time it was leased to the ferrymen) and at another time it experimented with dual gauge track after trying to solve a motive power shortage by buying a locomotive of a different gauge (18 inch). The line closed in 1940 after operating its final year with a diesel locomotive.

1947-1984, The railway was rescued by a consortium of Midlands businessmen in 1946 and after a Herculean task was reopened by 1947. The line enjoyed support from its generous owner, John Wilkins, the whole line was redeveloped and accumulated new steam and diesel locomotives. The heyday was in the 1960's & early 1970's but the advent of mass foreign holidays and increasing numbers of other local narrow gauge railway meant there was a steady decline in the 1970's & 1980's.

1984-1995 The line's ownership changed in 1984 (to the Ellerton family) and was re-gauged to 12¼ inches in 1986. 4 new steam locomotives introduced (2 of which had run on the Réseau Guerlédan Railway in Brittany in 1978). All 4 steam locomotives are ½ sized replicas of narrow gauge engines; Yeo, Sherpa, Beddgelert and Russell. Other than diesel locomotive Sylvia (rebuilt as Lilian Walter) all the old 15 inch gauge locomotives left the railway.

The railway was again put up for sale in 1990, the lines fortunes appeared to be declining once again. During the five years it was up for sale the railway deteriorated dramatically.

1995 To present day... The late Prof. Tony & Mrs Atkinson and Dr & Mrs Melton bought the line in April 1995 and invested heavily in the railway and Rowen Centre (taking no salary, or share dividend) in order to preserve the line. From February 2009 the ownership of the railway was transferred to a charitable body in order to preserve its long term future.

Other Ways To Help The Fairbourne Railway Today

***Become a Friend of the Fairbourne Railway
By making a regular donation.***

Donations large and small all help to keep the Fairbourne Railway alive for future generations to enjoy. One simple and painless way of doing this is by making a standing order.

Donate to The Fairbourne Railway's Appeals

Current appeals are:

- Beddgelert Restoration Fund
- Track Fund
- Russell Boiler Appeal

Details and donation forms are available on our website:
www.fairbournerrailway.com

***Become a member of
The Fairbourne Railway Preservation Society***

The F.R.P.S. welcomes members of all ages who are interested in supporting the continuation of the line.

Become a Volunteer on The Fairbourne Railway

The Fairbourne Railway thrives as a busy seaside railway. It relies greatly on a volunteer workforce to enable it to operate in its current form. You can be a part of this by becoming an active volunteer, driving, guarding, in the workshop, trackwork/permanent way, building maintenance, model railway and Booking/ Office/Gift Shop. You do not need specific skills as training will be given in your chosen area. Minimum age for active volunteers is 16 (14 with direct supervision from a adult)

The North Wales Coast Light Railway Limited
Registered Charity Number 01127261
Beach Road, Fairbourne, Gwynedd, LL 38 2EX
Registered in England and Wales

Tel: 01341 250 362

e-mail: office@fairbournerrailway.com

www.fairbournerrailway.com

Leaving a Legacy to the Fairbourne Railway



Support the Fairbourne Railway with a legacy



Your legacy could help

You can help preserve the future of Fairbourne Railway and ensure the long term survival of historically important locomotives, carriages and buildings

Help keep Fairbourne alive for generations to come

The Fairbourne Railway, through its charity The North Wales Coast Light Railway Limited, is always grateful for funds to help maintain, restore and develop the Railway and its heritage. It is easy to make a suitable provision in your will.

How your legacy could help

It is impossible to predict what the most urgent demands on the Railway's finances will be when, after many years we hope, your executor makes

contact with us. The most effective way to ensure the future of the Fairbourne Railway is therefore to leave your gift to The North Wales Coast Light Railway Limited, registered charity, to be spent at its discretion. You can be certain that it will only be directed to the benefit of the Fairbourne Railway and its heritage.

How to leave money to support the Fairbourne Railway

The North Wales Coast Light Railway Limited, registered in England and Wales as a Registered Charity number 01127261 owns and runs Fairbourne Railway.

A simple gift can be left by including in your will the sentence:

"I bequeath to The North Wales Coast Light Railway Limited of Beach Road, Fairbourne, Gwynedd LL36 2EX, Registered Charity No. 01127261 the sum of £....."

If you would prefer to leave a residuary gift the wording would be:

"I bequeath {xx% of} my residuary estate to The North Wales Coast Light Railway Limited of Beach Road, Fairbourne, Gwynedd LL36 2EX, Registered Charity No. 01127261."

Your will should also include the sentences:

"I direct and declare that unless otherwise directed all legacies and bequests of residues to charities in this will are for the general purposes of such charity and with freedom to spend the capital sum in each case."

"The receipt of any person who appears to be the proper officer of any charity which benefits from my will shall be a complete discharge to my Trustees."

Information on Inheritance Tax and Wills

Under current law your estate is liable for Inheritance Tax at a rate of 40% on its taxable value above a certain threshold which can easily be reached by owning an ordinary house in some parts of the country. Legacies to registered charities are exempt from Inheritance Tax and can therefore reduce the tax burden on your estate. You can choose to bequeath a specific sum or a percentage of your residuary estate. Residuary estate is what is left after any inheritance tax, other liabilities, administration and specific legacies have been paid. This form of gift is extremely helpful because sums fixed in monetary terms fall in real value with inflation.

If you have not yet made a will, then you should consider consulting a solicitor or other professional advisor to discuss making one. At present only one in three people makes a will. Your will protects your loved ones and can prevent more anguish for them at a difficult time. It is also a chance for you to leave behind a very special gift to help the causes closest to your heart, something which it is not always possible to do in your lifetime. If you have already completed a will, then a simple codicil can be added to it without the need to rewrite the original.



The North Wales Coast Light Railway Limited

Registered in England and Wales Registered

Charity Number 01127261

Beach Road, Fairbourne, Gwynedd LL38 2EX

Telephone 01341 250362

Email office@fairbournerrailway.com