



Golden Anniversary Gala

Welcome to the South Devon Railway and the Auto Train Day of our Golden Anniversary Gala, celebrating 50 years of preserved steam trains in the Dart Valley.

Our Golden Anniversary Gala runs all weekend too so be sure to have a look at what is planned and we hope you will join us again during our celebrations.

What's On

There is a busy Time Table operating with Auto Trains running throughout the day; see overleaf for the public train times. There will also be a few goods trains and if you are lucky you may spot some shunting going on at Buckfastleigh.

The day will see many formations of Auto Trains including a 4 coach Auto Train, two 2 coach Auto Trains and four single coach Auto Trains in what we believe is a first ever in preservation.

In the Station Field at Buckfastleigh you will find our marquee housing:

- displays celebrating 50 years of Preserved Steam in the Dart Valley;
- a souvenir stand selling an assortment of 50th Anniversary goodies;
- private locomotive group stands;
- light refreshments, including hot and cold drinks;
- bar serving real ale, cider, wine & prosecco;
- warm, undercover seating area;

Children can pick up an I Spy Trail with their tickets at the booking office and bring their completed sheet back to the marquee to receive a free gift.

Our Next Events

May 4th - 6th Day Out With Thomas

Everybody's favourite little blue engine is coming to visit us again with lots of his friends too. The Fat Controller will be in charge all day to make sure Thomas behaves and to look after all our visitors.

May 24th - 27th Spring Beer Festival

Our bar at Staverton will be open with a fantastic range of real ales, ciders, craft beers and more. Meanwhile, there are trains all day, the Routemaster bus will be running up to Ashburton and much more.

June 14th - 16th Ticket to Ride

Our fab 1960s event features live sixties music, fashion, cars from the era as well as 1960s steam and diesel trains. Come and enjoy the festival atmosphere. We'd love to see you in sixties fashions.

July 6th - 7th South Devon 1940s Festival

Military vehicles, live 1940s music, vintage vehicles and steam trains. This event is a firm favourite and a day out to remember. Come in 1940s clothing and remember to bring your ration book.

July 19th - 21st Summer Diesel Gala

We have a fleet of first generation British Railways diesels from the sixties. This weekend is a chance for them to be put through their paces. The bar at Staverton will be open too.

August 23rd - 26th Rails & Ales

While trains run all day, the beer and cider festival will be in full swing at Staverton. A great bank holiday treat!

September 7th - 8th Heritage Open Days and Behind the Scenes

Heritage Open Days is a national event encompassing a huge range of heritage events and attractions. Here at the SDR, it's an opportunity to learn about how we run the railway, see around our workshops and go behind the scenes all over the line.