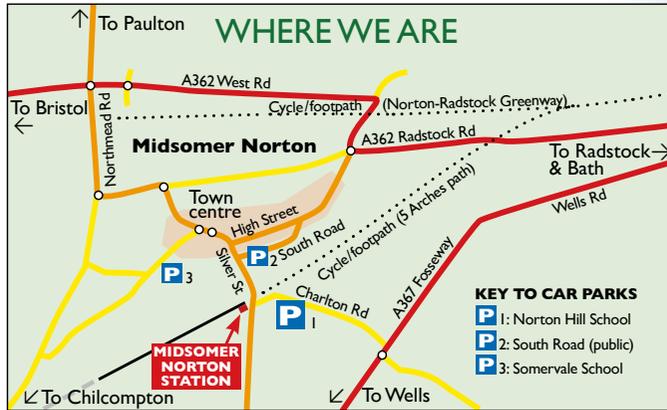


OPENING

Open Sundays 10am to 4pm. Also Mondays 1pm to 4pm.
See local press and www.sdjr.co.uk for details of special events.



HOW TO FIND US

The station is on Silver Street, about ¼ mile south of Midsomer Norton town centre. We encourage visitors to travel by sustainable transport where possible. The centre has parking for disabled visitors plus a limited number of regular parking spaces; at busy times you are welcome to drop off passengers at the entrance gates and use the extensive free public parking at nearby sites, as the map indicates.

BY ROAD Sat nav: BA3 2EY. See the map for nearby free parking. Please refrain from parking on Silver Street, Charlton Road or adjacent residential roads.

ON FOOT or BIKE Public footpaths/pavements to the main entrance. There is a cycle path from Radstock to the station via the Five Arches.

BY RAIL Nearest stations: Bath, Frome, and Trowbridge.

BY BUS From Bath: 173, 178, 179, 184, 379. From Frome: 184. From Bristol: 178, 379, 668 (Mon only). From Trowbridge: 185 (Thur only). www.bathnes.gov.uk/ (then search bus travel), or call 0871 2002233.



CONTACT US

Station address: Silver Street, Midsomer Norton BA3 2EY.
Phone: 01761 411221
Website: www.sdjr.co.uk e-mail general@sdjr.co.uk

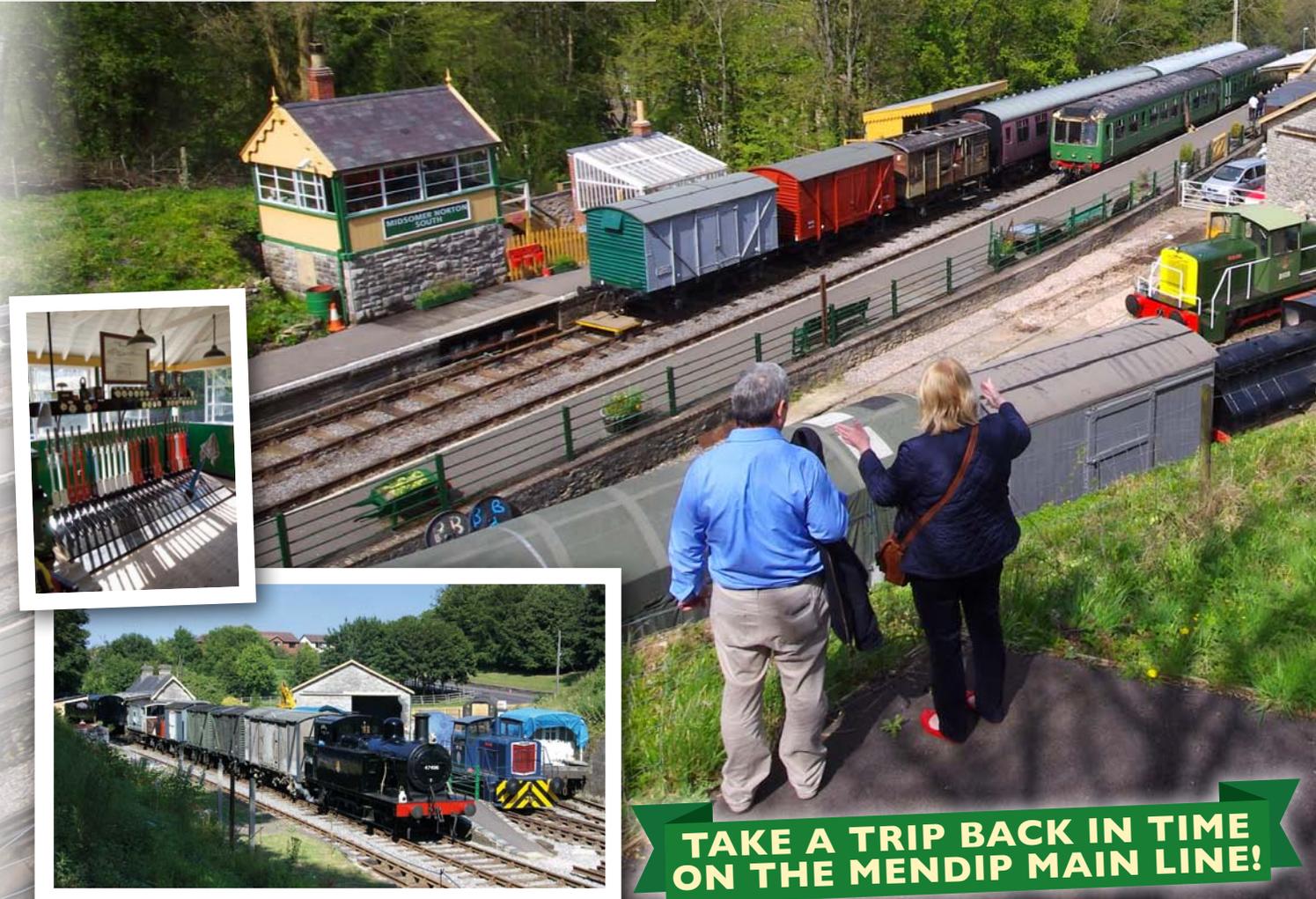
Feel free to call in and meet us – Sundays 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Also Mondays 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Somerset & Dorset Railway Heritage Trust
Registered Charity No. 1045547. Registered 3038464
England & Wales Company Limited by Guarantee.
Somerset & Dorset Joint Railway Company
(subsidiary operating company). Registered 06993870.
Produced by S&DRHT, designed by Julian Jefferson.
Printed by Quick Print Midsomer Norton.

CONDITIONS OF SERVICE (S&DRHT February 2014)

Information given here will apply until further notice, or until this leaflet is updated. We reserve the right to amend arrangements at any time. Train operating schedules are published separately. The Trust can accept no responsibility for any inconvenience caused, nor guarantee any onsite attraction mentioned.

S&DRHT/Gen. Leaflet/03.2015



**TAKE A TRIP BACK IN TIME
ON THE MENDIP MAIN LINE!**

THE FAMOUS SOMERSET & DORSET RAILWAY

Perhaps the best-loved of Britain's lost railways. At Midsomer Norton, a heritage centre recreates its 1950's heyday. The project is run by volunteers who welcome visitors to see the achievements and experience the recreated atmosphere.



THE RAILWAY AT MIDSOMER NORTON

The line ran from Bath to Bournemouth through some of England's finest countryside. Built in the 1870s, it was run by loyal staff who knew each other so well that the railway became known as 'The Family Line'.

With wonderful scenery and varied motive power, the line became a mecca for rail enthusiasts and lovers of the countryside. One train in particular is associated with the line: *The Pines Express*, which ran from Manchester to Bournemouth and was usually operated by two locomotives to cope with the Mendip gradients. Running through picturesque stations such as Midsomer Norton, the line provided photographers with the chance to capture steam railways at their best.

In the late 1950s the line was gradually run down, as part of Dr Beeching's rationalisation programme, and passenger services finally ceased on 7th March 1966.

The station at Midsomer Norton was rescued and used by a local school and college. In the mid-1990s, the site was purchased by the local council as a potential tourism facility. The Somerset & Dorset Railway Heritage Trust (formed in 1992) took a lease in 1996 to restore the station to its prime 1950's condition.

VISITOR ATTRACTIONS

- The centre is free to visit (certain weekend events excepted)
- Restored S&D station building
- Train rides from Easter to September (ticket required)
- Restaurant in static buffet coach
- Museum with railway artefacts and displays of S&D history
- Well-stocked shop with new and second-hand items
- Patio and picnic area
- Elevated viewpoints on both sides of the railway
- Re-creations of original, award-winning flowerbeds and garden
- World War II pillbox and Anderson shelter with wartime displays
- Adjacent woodland nature reserve with walks alongside the railway line



THE SOMERSET & DORSET RAILWAY HERITAGE TRUST

The Trust was born in 1992 to protect the trackbed of the closed line. With the station at Midsomer Norton saved, it was decided to create a working heritage railway. The station building and goods shed have been restored, the signalbox and famous adjoining greenhouse were rebuilt from surviving foundations, the stables have been refurbished to become the museum, also a buffet coach was acquired to provide a restaurant.

Track has been relaid on the old route and is steadily extending south towards a proposed halt at the foot of the in-filled cutting north of Chilcompton village.

The railway has two diesel shunters at its disposal and a two-coach passenger train. On occasions in the past, we have hired in various steam locomotives for special events. However, there is a long term objective to run steam locomotives regularly to better complement the 1950's atmosphere.



The centre is open every Sunday except Christmas. Please check the current timetable to see when trains are running. Information will also be on the website; alternatively ring the station – 01761 411221 on a Sunday or Monday. Visits are also welcome on all Monday afternoons. There are a series of themed weekend openings throughout summer and a Santa event in December. Please see the website or information on-site for openings, special events and timetable, or enquire at the station.

ACCESS TO THE CENTRE

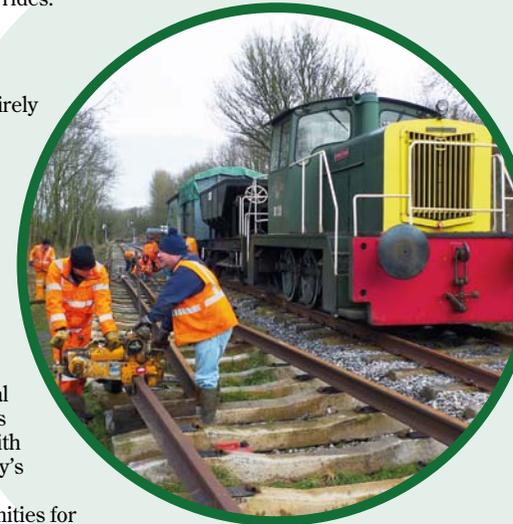
We have improved access for our disabled visitors. Parking is provided in front of the station with easy access paths linking the principal exhibits and viewpoints and we have a disabled lavatory. Facilities for wheelchairs are available for train rides.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

The centre is run entirely by volunteers from all walks of life. The Trust welcomes new members – whether active or armchair! To join, please complete a membership form (from the shop or website), you will receive copies of the award-winning journal *The S&D Telegraph* as well as newsletters with updates on the railway's progress.

There are opportunities for volunteers to be involved in many different aspects of running the project and many new skills can be learnt. Please enquire at the ticket office to see how you can help.

The Trust relies on subscriptions, donations and grants, so your contribution, be it money, labour, railway artefacts or just goodwill may all help to speed up restoration and expansion of the centre.



MIDSOMER NORTON

SOUTH