

Lynton & Barnstaple Railway



Past, Present & Future

New Beginnings

The Lynton & Barnstaple Railway Association was formed in 1979 to champion the rebuilding of the railway. Woody Bay Station was purchased in 1995 when it came up for sale and after extensive refurbishment re-opened to the public in 2003. The first passenger trains came into service a year later along a short section of track. Extended in 2006, the line now runs for a mile from Woody Bay to Killington Lane.

The Association is now the Lynton & Barnstaple Railway Trust and controls the operating subsidiary the Lynton & Barnstaple Railway Community Interest Company (CIC). The CIC is a not-for profit organisation and any operating surpluses are donated back to the Trust for the extension of the railway.

More than 350,000 passengers have travelled the current line since 2004.

Current Reinstatement Proposals

The next phase of the planned reinstatement is the restoration of a further four miles of the original line south-west from Killington Lane via Parracombe (Churchtown) to Wistlandpound Reservoir.

This will involve replacing and restoring bridges, rebuilding of Parracombe Bank (washed away at the time of the 1952 Lynmouth Flood) and establishing an engineering centre and rolling stock sheds at Blackmoor Gate. The former Blackmoor Station (now the Old Station House Inn) will be developed to provide station platforms alongside the existing building.

Future Reinstatement Proposals

Future proposals will complete the line from Woody Bay north-east to Lynton (3.5 miles) with a new station located near Holman Park, approximately an eight-minute walk into Lynton town centre.

To the south west a further ten miles of track from Wistlandpound Reservoir will take the railway back to the centre of Barnstaple at the line's original headquarters in Pilton Yard.



Pilton Yard (SW Baker)