

Membership Application

First Name

Surname

Address

.....

Postcode

Phone

Email

Joint membership is available for two people at the same address

First Name

Surname

Would you be interested in volunteering in some way on the DRA? Please state here how you would like to help:

.....

I authorise the Dartmoor Railway Association to retain my details on a computer database for subscription purposes and for the provision of information.

(Signature)

(2nd member signature).....

Annual Subscription Single Adult - £17.00; Joint Adult - £23.00; Junior (age 14-16) - £10 If you wish to add a donation to help our cause this would be greatly appreciated.

Total amount remitted: £.....

Emailing PDF copies of the 'Pony' magazine to members allows the postage costs to be spent on the railway instead, but if you would prefer to receive a paper copy of the 'Pony' by post, at no extra cost, **please tick here { }**

Please send this completed form, to the **Membership Secretary: Mr G. Horner, 11 Collatons Walk, Bow, Devon, EX17 6LS.** Please pay online.

Our bank details are: **Sort Code: 30-96-23 Account number: 01073660 Account name: Dartmoor Railway Association**

Volunteering with the DRA

We always welcome new volunteers, who must be members of the DRA. No previous experience is necessary though if you have a particular useful skill then we will be pleased to utilise it. Many of the jobs at Okehampton and Meldon are straightforward repair and maintenance tasks, requiring nothing more than the usual DIY abilities and a bit of ingenuity. Our teams at Okehampton's acclaimed station work on general station maintenance plus :

- Horticulture
- Shop sales
- Museum and archive
- Model railway layout.

The carriage and wagon team works on the DRA rolling stock at Meldon quarry.

For all enquiries including membership and volunteering, email info@dartmoor-railway-association.org

The **Dartmoor Railway Association** is an all membership/volunteer organisation dedicated to the support of the 'Dartmoor Line', whose objectives of the DRA are:

5. To record and promote interest in Okehampton area railway history
6. To support the 'Dartmoor Line' Exeter – Okehampton rail service and Okehampton station.
7. To explore the possibility of restoring and operating heritage rail services between Okehampton and the historic Meldon Viaduct.
8. To support the reinstatement of the entire former London & South western Railway Exeter – Plymouth route (the Northern Route initiative)



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Guard dog on duty



Platform 2 Museum





OKEHAMPTON STATION

This station opened in 1871, above the town, on the London and South Western Railway line as it climbed up over the Northern edge of Dartmoor. Passengers were able to board trains heading East for London Waterloo or West for Plymouth and Penzance. The smaller building on Platform 2 is original, where you may see sack trucks with trunks and a post office bag. The footbridge is also original although without the roof which Storm Henk blew off in 2024.

The main building and Signal Box were built for the expanding station in the 1930s, when there were 7 sidings to the East and 3 to the West including Military Sidings where teams of horses drew guns up to the army camp.

Today the Bulleid Buffet is behind bars, because it occupies the former Parcel Office. Our Dartmoor Railway Association shop is the "Bookstall", a nod to the WHSmith once here behind the green shutters.

The Booking Hall is in keeping with the 1950s ambience of the station today, so don't be fooled by the jacket left on the chair in the ticket office. Tickets were last sold for the last mainline passenger service in 1972. Fortunately stone traffic from Meldon Quarry 2 miles to the west kept the track in use. Key also was Devon County Council's decision to buy the whole station area in 1997

The ticket machine and overhead passenger information date from the reopening in 2021 for passenger trains, an hourly service up to Exeter.

You can find out more in our two Museum Rooms, including the lovely model of Meldon Viaduct. Look out for a Model Railway sign on days when the Signal Box is open.

Why not stroll down into town through Simmons Park and the Victorian Arcade (15 mins) and back (25) mins, after finding the Museum of Dartmoor Life and Okehampton Castle. Or go West along the Granite Way to see Meldon Viaduct and Reservoir. Going East or South you can explore the East Okement Valley and Dartmoor over rougher routes.

Return to Okehampton Station where there are welcome seats under the canopy.



Left
Okehampton Station
2026



Above
Signal box

Below
Model railway
built by DRA volunteers