

Best Social Media: Gold Award

Tarka Rail Association TRA

www.facebook.com/groups/668581650853795 [TRA]

www.facebook.com/groups/950297745918116 [ACE]

Judges' comments:

“Frequent postings and good interactions with users and local stakeholders, one supporting use and development of the existing Tarka Line and its stations, and the other supporting the Bideford extension campaign - and future rail users - with plenty of positive coverage of Railfuture’s support and publications, too!”

Tarka team on target for Bideford



RESTORE OUR RAILWAY: (left to right) Chairlift Kevin Bull, Bideford Railway Heritage Centre director Tim Steer, Railfuture's Roger Bales, Bideford Mayor David Hill, Bideford Mayor's Councillor Peter Clarke, Bideford Mayor's Councillor Steve Tomlinson, Karen Henry and Spencer Taylor, and Andrew Tait with Tarka District councillor Peter Clarke of the Green Party.
By Roger Bales
MP Chris Edwards: Bideford was well served by the railway until 1962, when the last special rail line was closed.



Tarka Rail Association [Join Group](#)
Public group · 854 members

Tim Steer
17 May · 🌐
Coming soon to Okehampton. A special coffee morning put on by OkeRail. All welcome...



Tim Steer
24 March · 🌐
Thank you Bishop's Tawton Parish Council for passing a motion to support the ACE Rail project...

Parishioner Open Session - part one
An interesting, thought provoking & factual presenta from Tim Steer (ACE Lead Officer & Tarka Rail Associ regarding the proposal of a rail link from Bideford to Barnstaple was had with a question and answer sessi afterward. Some parishioners and Councillors at this would prefer to see more carriages on existing trains area which would attract more commuters if they did have to stand for the majority of the existing journey Exeter and in turn would make the cost question for : Bideford/Fremington junctions rail link more warrar However, the proposal is well intended and deserves into further. Chair has asked for the proposed rail lin discussed further at future meetings.



Tim Steer is at Barnstaple railway station.
3 d · Barnstaple · 🌐
11.7.23 Britain in bloom judging has now passed (with our final results coming out in October), but that don't stop the good work!
Today, our station team litter picked the entire site, the shrubs were given a neat trim and track bed 3 was cut back to stop the invasive weeds from growing up and over the island platform.
Photos courtesy of Annette Wheatley volunteer working jointly with...
[See more](#)



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Annual General Meeting 2023 London

Best Campaigner: Joint Gold Awards

Barbara Mine, Friends of Bishopstone Station

Tim Steer, ACE Rail campaign (Atlantic Coast-Exeter Railway)



FOBS chair Barbara Mine named as Coronation Champion

We are delighted that Barbara Mine, the chair of the **Friends of Bishopstone Station** community rail group, has been named as one of the official Coronation Champions.

The nomination from Southeast Communities Rail Partnership means Barbara has been recognised by Their Majesties The King and The Queen Consort as part of the official Coronation celebrations in conjunction with Royal Voluntary Service.

Judges' comments: *“Tim (above) has proven to be an inspiring mobiliser of engagement and support across a wide spectrum of local organisations for what started as a one-man campaign, since adopted by the 1977-established Tarka Rail Association. Barbara (right) has been the driving force of FoBS, has networked superbly, seen the community hub opened by the Lord Lieutenant of Sussex, developed a sustainable financial model for the CIC, and been rewarded as a 1 in 500 'Coronation Champion' - a role model for any rail-related community project.”*



Annual General Meeting 2023 London

Best Campaign: Bronze Award

Tarka Rail Association's ACE Rail campaign

“Enthusiasts vision for trains from the Torridge area through Crediton”

news story in Crediton Courier on 1 April 2023.

Photo caption: “Tim Steer, Dr Michael Ireland and David Northey with the big poster, one of which is at Crediton.”

(photo taken at former Bideford station, now Heritage Centre)



Judges' comment: *“For a re-opening campaign starting from nothing two years ago, initially led by someone with no previous experience doing this, the campaign has come a remarkably long way, building up an admirable breadth of public and stakeholder support, in a remarkably short time. It's still early days but many foundations for future success are already laid.”*

Annual General Meeting 2023 London

Atlantic Coast Exeter Railway

ACE Rail

Presentation on behalf of



The national
Rail User Group awards
15.7.23





August 2022 Torrington and West Devon MP meets local councillors, Tarka Rail Association and GWR to support ACE Rail.

October 2022. A project to develop the case for an extension and upgrade of the Tarka Line has received a £6,500 grant from Great Western Railway. Roger Blake confirms Railfuture's £5,500 fighting fund to the Business Case.



GWR MD Mark Hopwood CBE visits Barnstaple



December 2022



January 2023 – House of Commons Transport Committee – Rural connectivity
Mark Hopwood CBE mentions his visit to Barnstaple



January 2023 Restoring Your Railway fund – Westminster Hall debate
The North Devon MP speaks on Tarka Rail Association's behalf.



Crediton railway station

Bideford, Barnstaple and Crediton town councils support ACE Rail



March 2023 ITV West Country ACE Rail interview
The 60th anniversary of the Beeching report



May 2023 GWR's senior management return to meet with the Tarka Rail Association

