

## **A LASTING LEGACY SAFEGUARDING THE FUTURE OF THE AVON VALLEY RAILWAY**

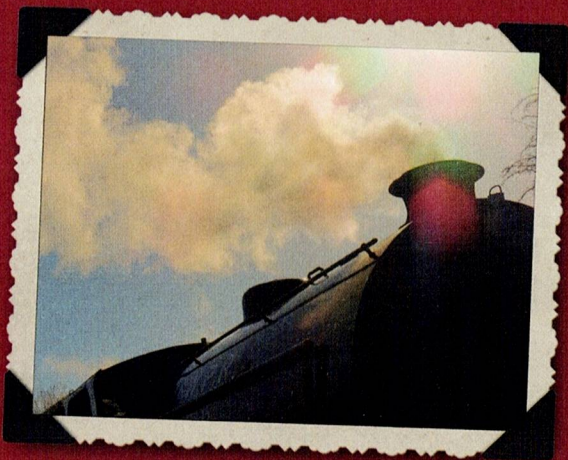
Income from the day to day operations, such as passenger fares, the buffet, and our shop, are enough to cover the costs of running the railway. However, this doesn't generate the necessary income for us to develop the railway further, with improved facilities, locomotive restorations, extensions, and improving the experience for our passengers as a whole.

A gift in your Will is a wonderful way to support the work of The Avon Valley Railway. All legacies, no matter their size, make a vital contribution.

## **HISTORY**

Originally opened by the Midland Railway in 1869, and eventually closed under the Beeching Axe of the 1960's, the Avon Valley Railway today runs for three miles from Oldland Common, through its base at Bitton, to meet the River Avon at Avon Riverside.

Preserved in the 1970's, the railway has relaid track, restored locomotives and carriages, as well as maintaining and improving its site at Bitton. All of this is to achieve the ultimate aim of returning the railway to Bath.



## **GIFTS IN MEMORY**

A gift in memory is a fitting way to commemorate the life of a friend or loved one and provide a lasting legacy. Gifts In Memory can be arranged through funeral directors or direct to The Avon Valley Railway. We are happy to discuss options with you, and are able to supply donation envelopes if necessary.

## **TYPES OF LEGACY**

There are three main types of legacy that you can choose from when deciding to leave a legacy to Avon Valley Railway.

### **A SHARE OF YOUR ESTATE** (Residuary)

After you have taken care of your family and friends, you can leave a share of your estate to us. If you decide to choose this type of legacy, we recommend using this wording in your Will - "Subject to the payment of my debts and testamentary expenses I give \_\_\_% of my estate not otherwise disposed of by this Will to the Avon Valley Railway Heritage Trust (Registered Charity No. 1088545) of Bitton Railway Station, Bath Road, Bitton, Bristol, BS30 6HD, for the general purposes of the AVR and I declare that the receipt of their Treasurer or other proper officer shall be full and sufficient discharge."

### **A GIFT OF MONEY** (Pecuniary)

You may wish to gift a fixed sum of money to the railway. If you decide to choose this type of legacy, we recommend using this wording in your Will - "I give free of tax to the Avon Valley Railway Heritage Trust (Registered Charity No. 1088545) of Bitton Railway Station, Bath Road, Bitton, Bristol, BS30 6HD the sum of £\_\_\_\_\_ for the general purposes of the AVR and I declare that the receipt of their Treasurer or other proper officer shall be full and sufficient discharge."

## **BEQUEST OF A SPECIFIC ITEM**

You may decide to gift a specific item to the railway. This could be a painting, books, sculpture, or even an item of rolling stock. We welcome the opportunity to discuss any items you may wish to donate to the railway prior to amending your Will. If you decide to choose this type of legacy, we recommend using this wording in your Will - "I give free of tax to the Avon Valley Railway Heritage Trust (Registered Charity No. 1088545) of Bitton Railway Station, Bath Road, Bitton, Bristol, BS30 6HD, the \_\_\_\_\_ and I declare that the receipt of their Treasurer or other proper officer shall be full and sufficient discharge."

If the item being gifted will incur a transportation cost to the railway, such as an item of rolling stock, we suggest that provision be made for such an eventuality with the following additional wording - "and I authorise my executors to pay the expenses of transporting the said \_\_\_\_\_ to Bitton Railway Station from my estate."

If you would like a gift to be used in a certain way, or for a certain project, then this can be outlined in your Will. However, we request that this be phrased as a request and not a condition of the legacy, as change in circumstances may mean that we cannot use your gift. We encourage you to leave any gift without restriction, as it will enable the Avon Valley Railway to use your gift in the best way possible to benefit the railway.

## **INHERITANCE TAX**

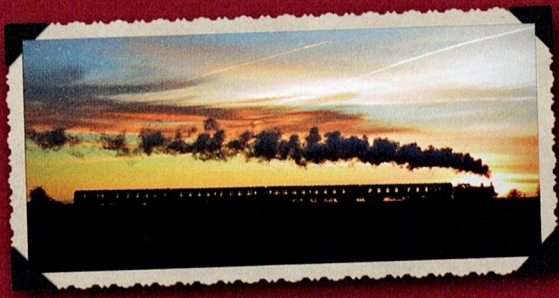
When donating more than 10% of the taxable estate, this reduces the amount of inheritance tax to be paid on the remainder of the estate. We suggest consulting with a solicitor for further details.



## WHY WRITE A WILL?

A Will is one of the most important documents that you may write. An up to date Will gives you peace of mind that the people and causes you care about have been looked after in a way that you choose.

Having a Will means taking care of your estate is much easier for you family and friends, and they can be sure that they are following your wishes. Without a Will, it can be a difficult and time consuming process. It could also mean that some or all of your estate could end up belonging to the Crown. Therefore having a professionally written and up to date Will ensures that your wishes will be followed.



If you don't currently have a Will, making one is the first step to leaving a gift to the Avon Valley Railway.

If you already have a Will, making an amendment to include a gift to the Avon Valley Railway is a simple process. We always recommend speaking to a solicitor, as they are best placed to advise you on the best course of action when making changes to your Will.

It's important to make sure that your Will is kept up to date, as changing circumstances could make your Will invalid, so it is a good idea to review it regularly to ensure that it still follows your wishes.



## WE'RE HERE TO HELP

The Avon Valley Railway Heritage Trust is a registered charity, and is responsible for a vast array of different areas of the railway, including restoration projects, and maintenance of stations.

Leaving a gift in your Will is an important decision. If you would like to talk to us, in confidence, about leaving a gift, please contact our Legacy Co-ordinator on 0117 932 5538, or [info@avonvalleyrailway.org](mailto:info@avonvalleyrailway.org). Alternatively, you can complete the form below and send it to:-

Avon Valley Railway Heritage Trust  
Bitton Railway Station, Bath Road,  
Bitton, Bristol,  
BS30 6HD

and we will be in touch to discuss legacy options.

Title ..... First Name/Initials .....

Surname .....

Address .....

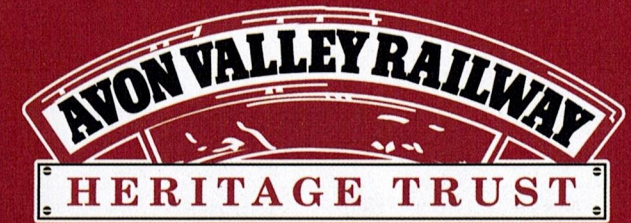
.....

..... Postcode .....

Tel .....

Email .....

Preferred method of contact: Post  Phone  Email



## LEGACIES



Leaving a gift in your Will to the Avon Valley Railway Heritage Trust will help the railway to further its aims of preserving history, and it can be easier than you may think.

[www.avonvalleyrailway.org](http://www.avonvalleyrailway.org)