

SOUTH DEVON RAILWAY

DIESEL DRIVER EXPERIENCE COURSES



FULFILL THE DREAM OF A LIFETIME

On the South Devon Railway we can make the dream a reality for yourself, a family member or friend with one of our
Diesel Driver Experience Days

*Drive one of our heritage Diesel Locomotives,
Diesel Multiple Unit or Railcar over the full line.*

South Devon Railway, The Station, BUCKFASTLEIGH, TQ11 0DZ
Telephone 01364 642338

Buckfastleigh Station is adjacent to the A38 Devon Expressway (Use the **Dart Bridge** exit)

DIESEL DRIVER EXPERIENCE DAYS

Have you ever watched a mainline train and wondered just what it would be like to be in the driver's seat in charge? Well here on the South Devon Railway we can provide you, or even a relative, friend or perhaps a work colleague with the chance to find out.

On selected dates during the 2009 season, we shall be running more of our very popular **Diesel Driver Experience Days**. On each date a maximum of five people will have the chance to participate in a day full of action and enjoyment, during which they will have the chance to make two full round trips (28 miles) in the cab over the full length of the line between Buckfastleigh and Totnes Littlehempston. On one trip there will be the chance to act as the Driver's Assistant or Secondman, helping keep a keen eye out, assisting with the checking of signals, and maybe (if time permits) even performing the uncoupling and coupling of the locomotive to its train. On the other trip dreams really do come true and it is time to occupy the driver's seat and take charge of your very own train.

On most days, the regular public services will also be in operation so there will be the added responsibility of running to a schedule that allows the trains to pass at Bishops Bridge Loop near Staverton Station. Here there will be the chance to witness the sophisticated signalling system, and the use of single line tokens and train staff, which makes this operation safe.

On each **Driver Experience Day** up to a maximum number of 5 people can book. This helps ensure that everyone has lots of opportunity to be actively involved in the day's activities. In addition participants may be accompanied by a small group of friends or relatives, these travelling in the train, and perhaps filming you fulfilling the dreams of your youth!

New for 2009 For the first time this year we are able to offer the chance to see what a typical branch line was like during the early diesel era. After the passing of the steam worked services many branch lines were operated by either Diesel Multiple Units (DMU) or Railcars. There were many different types of DMUs and during our special DMU Experience Day you will be able to enjoy trips, and drives, of both the Class 127 DMU and Class 122 single railcar.

During the morning the Class 127 DMU will be used and you will get to see how a basic DMU works (and drives). After lunch the Class 122 Railcar will be used and your skills will be developed further as unlike the Class 127, on the Class 122 you will also have to operate the manual gear changes.

Places on the DMU Experience Day are limited to FOUR people, and everybody will get to drive both types of unit over the full length of our line.

To take part on any of our courses participants need to be over the age of 18, and also need to be reasonably fit and healthy with good sight and hearing. The wearing of old clothes and stout shoes is recommended, We will provided a dustcoat and gloves for use as required on the day.

In addition to having a great day out with us, by participating in one of **Diesel Driver Experience Days** you will also be actively assisting with the restoration and preservation of one of our older diesel locomotives, Class 09 D3666/09 002. All profits from our courses are being directed towards the eventual return to operation of this locomotive that requires major attention to its running gear and wheels before it can run again.

THE TIME TABLE

Diesel Driver Experience Days start at Buckfastleigh and participants are usually asked to meet at the station between 08.30 and 09.30, the actual time depending on how many are taking part on the day.

After meeting your host there will be a brief, but essential, safety briefing, and this will be followed by the chance to look around the station, yard and sheds, and to view some of the various preserved diesel locomotives that are now based on the railway. Most are privately owned, with most belonging to one or the two resident diesel preservation groups, SOUTH DEVON DIESEL TRACTION and THE DEVON DIESEL SOCIETY. Your hosts will be members from one, or both of the two groups and will be only too pleased to answer any questions you may have.

Whilst being shown around the site, the crew will be busy getting the locomotive, DMU or Railcar ready for departure. This is normally at 10.00.

Two participants (One on the DMU Experience Day) at a time are permitted in the cab, with one driving and the other assisting. Both will be under the guidance and tuition of an experienced SDR diesel crew. The other participants will travel in the train with their guests.

There are usually two round trips prior to the stop at Totnes for a lunch break at around 13.30 until departing again at 14.15. On the DMU Experience Day we stop for lunch at Buckfastleigh.

During the afternoon there are further runs to ensure everybody has an equal length of time in the cab and driving. On arrival back at Buckfastleigh participants will each be presented with a framed certificate recording their day with us.

BOOKING NOTES

When a **Diesel Driver Experience Day** is booked, the booking must be accompanied by a remittance for the full cost of **£225**.

A full refund will only be made if at least three weeks' notice of cancellation is given.

Instead of booking for a particular date, we can send you a **VOUCHER** to present as a gift. The recipient can then contact us direct to arrange a date for the **Diesel Driver Experience Day**.

**DIESEL DRIVER EXPERIENCE DAYS are very popular.
They tend to sell out each year.
It is important that you book as early as possible.**

AVAILABLE TO DRIVE IN 2009

The following locomotives, Diesel Multiple Unit & Railcar are all available to drive during 2009.



Class 25, D7612

Available on Sunday 19th April, and (subject to confirmation), also Saturday 27th June.

The Class 25's were once regular performers in the South West on both passenger and freight traffic. Without doubt if the line from Totnes had remained open under British Rail, Class 25's would have traversed the line to Buckfastleigh and Ashburton. D7612 was built in 1966 and arrived on the South Devon Railway in 1999. It has been restored in its original green livery.



Class 33, 33 002 "Seaking"

Available Sunday 18th October.

33 002 is due to make its preservation debut on the South Devon Railway in the early part of the season following an extensive restoration programme. The Class 33 was a regular sight in the West Country working both passenger and freight traffic. The Class worked the Exeter to Waterloo services until being replaced by the more powerful Class 50's. 33 002 has been restored into the Civil Engineers livery of grey and yellow.



Class 37, D6737

Available Saturday 9th May and Sunday 4th October.

D6737 is a popular choice for driver experience courses. The Devon Diesel Society's locomotive which has operated throughout the British rail system, ended its days working infrastructure trains in France. The loco arrived on the South Devon Railway in June 2004 and has since been returned to as near built condition in green livery.



Class 127 Diesel Multiple Unit

Available on Sunday 20th September.

The Class 127 spent most of its British rail career working suburban passengers services between London St Pancras and Bedford stations. It now enjoys a more peaceful retirement working occasional services along the S.D.R.



Class 122 Railcar

Available on Sunday 20th September.

At the start of its career the SDR's Class 122, No. 55000, was based in the South West and worked on lines such as the South Brent to Kingsbridge branch. In later years it worked in Scotland. The railcar returned to service in 2008 and has been restored into Regional Railways livery.

NB. Please note that whilst we will endeavour to provide the booked traction on each advertised day, in the rare event of a last minute locomotive, DMU or Railcar failure, we reserve the right to operate alternative traction in its place.

BOOKING FORM

To: South Devon Railway, The Station, BUCKFASTLEIGH, TQ11 0DZ
Telephone 01364 642338

DIESEL DRIVER EXPERIENCE DAYS in 2009

The peak season public train service prevents us from offering dates in July & August

Date of Course	Locomotive In Use	√
Sunday 19 th April	<i>Class 25, D7612</i>	
Saturday 9 th May	<i>Class 37, D6737</i>	
Saturday 27 th June	<i>Class 25, D7612 (t.b.c)</i>	
Sunday 20 th September	<i>DMU Experience Day Class 127 & Class 122</i>	
Sunday 4 th October	<i>Class 37, D6737</i>	
Sunday 18 th October	<i>Class 33, 33 002</i>	

(Please tick the right hand column to indicate your preferred date).

NAME:

ADDRESS:

.....

POSTCODE: TELEPHONE No:

EMAIL:

NAME & ADDRESS OF THE PARTICIPANT IF DIFFERENT TO ABOVE

NAME:

ADDRESS:

.....

POSTCODE: TELEPHONE NO:

EMAIL:

If the DIESEL DRIVER EXPERIENCE DAY booking is for someone else, do you wish to have the
Booking Acknowledgement sent to (delete as appropriate)

TO ME / TO THE PARTICIPANT

We can send you a VOUCHER to give as gift, and the participant can then contact us to arrange a
suitable date to attend. Would you like a Voucher?

YES / NO

The participant may be accompanied by up to a maximum of two guests.

The participant WILL / WILL NOT be accompanied

I enclose the full remittance of £225.

A full refund will only be made if at least three week's notice of cancellation is given