

Devon Diesel Society - Annual Membership

(Please tick the appropriate box)

- | | |
|---|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adult | £13.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Junior (under 18) | £ 8.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student (student must be in full time education) | £ 8.50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> OAP | £ 8.50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Joint Husband/Wife | £ 20.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Class 37 Maint Fund (complete section below) | FREE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> General Maint Fund (complete section below) | FREE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Additional donation of £..... also enclosed. | |

Please make cheques payable to: **Devon Diesel Society Ltd**

Name :

Address :

Post Code :

E-mail Address :

Telephone Number :

Devon Diesel Society Maintenance Fund

(Minimum payment £2.50 per month, or higher as subscriber wishes)

BANKERS APPEAL

To: The Manager(Your Bank)

..... (Your Branch)

On the 10th day of20.... please pay the sum of £..... to

LLOYDS TSB BANK, 234 HIGH STREET, EXETER, (Sort Code 30-93-14) for the credit of DEVON DIESEL SOCIETY LTD (Account Number 0073124) and thereafter make like payments monthly on the 10th day of each month until notified by me.

YOUR ACCOUNT NAME

YOUR ACCOUNT NUMBER.....

YOUR BANK SORT CODE.....

SIGNATURE.....

DATE.....

Please return the completed form to:

**Steve Howard, DDS Membership Secretary,
49 Siddals Gardens, Tiverton,
Devon, EX16 6DJ.**

Preserving Britain's diesel heritage

The Modernisation Plan of 1955 was to change the face of the British railway system. Steam traction was to be replaced with new modern diesel and electric designs and older rolling stock replaced. As part of the process many different designs of locomotive were constructed, with some designs being more successful than others.

Nearly sixty years later, the mainline railway system has again changed and very few locomotive hauled services remain, and those that do are generally in the hands of newer modern types of traction, and only a small handful of mainline trains now feature locomotive types that can be traced back to the 1950's and 1960's.

The Devon Diesel Society was founded in 1989 with the initial aim of preserving a Class 50 - a type once very familiar in the South West and often seen hauling express passenger trains to and from London. The special appeal launched to fund the purchase of a locomotive was a great success and in April 1992 the Society became the first group to operate a preserved Class 50 on a passenger train, 50 002 Superb working a special service for members and invited guests.

Although a mixed traffic type, the Class 50's were mostly employed on passenger workings and with 50 002 safe, the Society has since purchased two other heritage diesel locomotives that represent those used to work other less glamorous forms of traffic.

The Society's Class 37, D6737 represents the true mixed traffic type of diesel locomotive. During its mainline career the locomotive was used on a variety of passenger and freight workings in many parts of the country, and prior to preservation also had a year working heavy construction trains in France.

The smallest locomotive preserved by the Society is Class 04 diesel shunter D2446. Weighing just 30 tons, D2246 represents one of the more successful designs of locomotive built in the 1950's and 60's for shunting duties. Having survived a career on the mainline D2246 went on to work for the National Coal Board before finally entering preservation. Today D2246 enjoys a busy life and is once again kept busy doing the job it was built for shunting wagons on a regular basis, although it has been used on special occasions to haul the occasional passenger train.

All of the locomotives preserved by the Society date from the fascinating period of when diesel traction replaced steam on the mainline. Each is important in its own right, and each has a story to tell in the ongoing development of the railway system in Britain. There are many challenges in maintaining these locomotives in operational condition and if future generations are to be offered the chance to see, hear and enjoy them in action, we need the continued support of the general public and railway enthusiasts alike. Please take the time to read the details contained in this leaflet and if possible join us and help us preserve the past for the future.

THE DEVON DIESEL SOCIETY

MEMBERSHIP FORM



**Preserving heritage diesel traction from the
1950's and 1960's for future generations to enjoy**

www.devondiesels.org.uk

The Devon Diesel Society

Owners of Heritage Diesel Locomotives
D402, D6737 & D402

The Devon Diesel Society, a registered charity, was formed by a small group of West Country railway enthusiasts during the Autumn of 1989. The initial aim of the group was to preserve a Class 50 for future use in the region, an area the class had long been associated with. A special appeal was launched and in early 1992 the Society became the proud owners of 50 002 "Superb".



Following repairs and restoration to original livery as D402 the loco re-entered service in April of the same year and in doing so became the first preserved Class 50 to haul a passenger train. During the 1990's the 50 operated very successfully between Paignton and Kingswear and also attended several depot open days before a disastrous loan to a third party in 1999. After a long drawn out legal battle the loco was returned, in a poor and non-working condition to the Society in 2003, however repair and overhaul work is now very much underway and the Society's largest locomotive will return to service in the future. (A special appeal fund has been launched to help fund the work - please see separate leaflet or visit the Society website for more information).

Whilst the return to use of the Class 50 plays an important part in the Society's life, the Devon Diesel Society is more than just a "Class 50 group". In early 2000 the Society purchased Class 04 D2246 and after initial restoration the loco returned to service on the South Devon Railway the following year. After many years reliable service D2246 was treated to a full engine overhaul in 2011 and is once again in regular service, restored to early British Railways livery.



In 2004 the Society purchased its third locomotive, 37 037. This popular locomotive has become a firm favourite on the South Devon Railway and has been restored externally to as near built condition as possible in BR blue livery complete with original number 6737. In addition to working at home, D6737 has also made guest visits at a number of railways around the country, including appearing with 11 other members of the class at the Class 37 Golden Jubilee Gala on the Mid Norfolk Railway in 2010, and spending much of 2011 on loan to the North Norfolk Railway.



In addition to the locomotives, the Society also owns three other railway vehicles, the oldest of which, a former Great Western Railway Tool Van, dates from 1907. These are used to support the ongoing work to restore, maintain and overhaul work undertaken to ensure the locomotive fleet can be enjoyed by many for years to come.

Whilst working on and maintaining its own locomotives and rolling stock, the Society has also been involved in many other projects over the years, including playing a leading role in organising gala events on both the South Devon Railway and in the past on the Dartmouth Steam Railway. Society members have also helped repaint a number of other locomotives and items of rolling stock on the South Devon Railway, and also organise three Real Ale festivals a year. These are held at Staverton and proceeds from the festivals is an important part of the annual fund raising required to allow work to continue. From a small beginning the festivals have grown in size and have been recognised by the Campaign for Real Ale. In 2012 the Society converted one of the goods sheds at Staverton into a new waiting room and bar area.



Why not join the Devon Diesel Society Success Story

The success of the Society so far, and indeed in the future, relies on the support of its members. Membership is open to nearly everybody and the Society prides itself in being an open and friendly organisation dedicated to the preservation of heritage diesel locomotives for the enjoyment of future generations. New members can be assured of a warm welcome.

Benefits of becoming a member of the Society include:

- * Receiving the Society's A4 sized journal, "The Devonian", issued annually.
- * The opportunity to assist with work on the locomotives and other projects
- * Discounted travel on the South Devon Railway (#)
- * Discounted travel on the Dartmouth Steam Railway (#)
- * Knowing that you are helping preserve a part of railway heritage
- * Invites to special members events

(# travel discounts subject to ongoing agreement of the SDR / DSR)

There are several ways in which to become a member and support the Society, and details and an application form are printed overleaf. Annual Membership is the simplest and most straightforward and is available in a variety of classes and provides all of the above benefits.

The Society also runs a very successful maintenance fund into which members pay a fixed sum each month by standing order. The amount paid in can be set by the member, however in order to cover costs and admin duties, a minimum of £2.50 is required. Members can direct their money into the general Maintenance Fund (which covers work in all areas) or into the Class 37 Maintenance Fund (which is used to assist with the upkeep of D6737). Members who subscribe to either of the maintenance funds receive free membership of the Society for the period they are paying in.

(Funding for the overhaul of D402 is via special Class 50 Appeal, details of which can be obtained via a separate leaflet or via the Society website).

Please consider joining us either as non-active or working member, we really do need your support in order to continue keeping these magnificent locomotives running in years to come. If you do not wish to join, then please consider making a donation.

Further details of the Society, its locomotives and rolling stock can be obtained from any of our members, or found on our website at:

www.devondiesels.org.uk