Kent & East Sussex Railway

# Heritage Buildings Appeal



Support vital work to preserve the invaluable historic buildings on the K&ESR



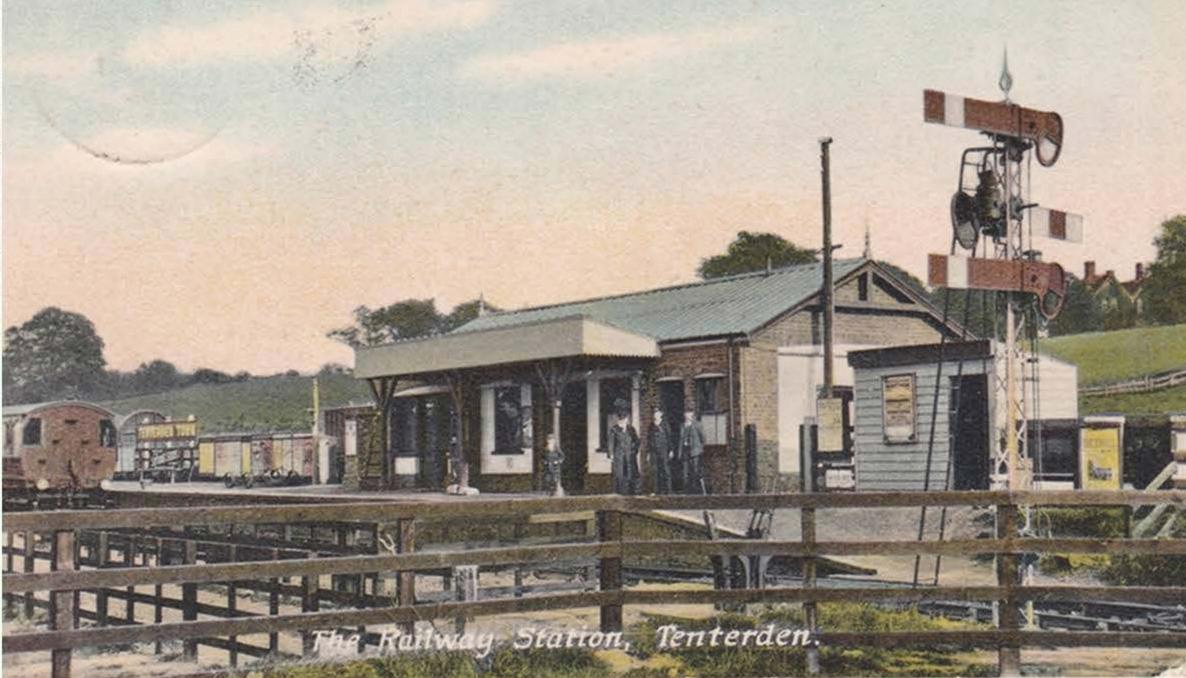
kesr.org.uk

# Preserving the Essence of Our Railway

Our iconic station buildings and signal boxes hold a special place in our hearts, embodying the very essence of our railway's character and atmosphere.

They stand shoulder-to-shoulder with our locomotives and carriages, together creating an immersive experience of the rural light railway of a bygone era. Some of these buildings were an integral part of the K&ESR in its original operation, others were saved as they fell out of use and carefully re-sited on our line.

Each building serves a functional purpose, allowing both visitors and volunteers to step back in time and immerse themselves in the railway of the past, learning about the vital roles of booking clerk, station master, and signalman. Their preservation is essential if we are to safeguard the living history that lies within their walls.



# The Urgency of Preservation

Time has taken its toll on these historic structures which were predominantly constructed in wood and now we face critical structural challenges. Without your support, we risk losing these invaluable buildings forever. We cannot allow them to fade away, as they are vital in preserving the richness of our past for future generations. Your contribution will ensure that these architectural treasures are protected, enabling us to maintain the historical integrity of our railway.



#### First Priorities

We have launched a Heritage Buildings fund which will be ring-fenced to safeguard these invaluable buildings. Our first project is to restore two significant landmarks: the Tenterden Town station building and the former Chilham signal box which is itself now situated at Tenterden. These iconic structures have withstood the test of time. Today, we urgently seek your support to address the structural challenges they face and ensure their preservation for the enjoyment and education of generations to come.

# The Essence of Nostalgia

The Tenterden Station building has stood on the site since 1903. Today, as back then, passengers collect their tickets through a window into the booking office - a nostalgic nod to a time when clerks attended to the needs of the avelling public. The wooden canopy offers shelter on the platform, and the transformed waiting room now houses a charming gift shop. Every visit to the station allows for cherished memories and an authentic connection to our railway's rich history.

## Preserving Safety and Tradition

The former Chilham signal box was originally constructed in 1895 as an integral part of the South Eastern Railway's signalling system. Rescued and re-erected at Tenterden in 1973, it plays a vital role in the K&ESR's operations, still using much of its original equipment. Passengers can witness the workings of the signal box from the platform and a dedicated viewing area. Interpretation panels provide insights into the mechanisms that ensure passenger safety

# **External Support**

We are thankful to have been awarded a grant of £21,000 by a charitable trust which directs some of its grant making to charities protecting precious heritage assets. We are similarly grateful to welcome John Crawford, Baron of the Cinque Ports, Tenterden, and Cllr Sue Ferguson, Mayor of Tenterden, as patrons of our appeal, demonstrating the important part the railway plays in the local community.

"Each year, the K&ESR provides thousands of visitors with unforgettable days out, whilst keeping an important part of Britain's heritage alive. Its station building and signal box are part of that whole visitor experience." John Crawford, Baron of the Cinque Ports, Tenterden

"I am thrilled to support this Fund to help conserve the station's precious, historic buildings which are as much a part of the story of our light railway as the trains themselves. We need these important structures to not only be wonderful representations of the past but also fitting settings for an exciting future." Cllr Sue Ferguson, Mayor of Tenterden

# Appeal target

To complete the work at Tenterden and to launch the fund for the benefit of all the station buildings and signal boxes on this line, in addition to the generous support from a Charitable Trust, our initial target is to raise £25,000. Any amount will be welcome, a one-off donation or a regular gift for the future work of the Fund.

#### How to donate

- By making a single payment or creating a regular standing order through CAF Donate at https://kesr.org.uk/donate/
- By sending a cheque made payable to the Kent & East Sussex Railway Company Limited, together with the completed form from this leaflet



## The Station in the past





# The Station and Signal Box today



#### Time takes its toll





# FR Registered with FUNDRAISING REGULATOR

#### **Your Donation**

Addross	
	Postcode
 Telephone	
you would like us to ear about the progre	keep in contact with you so that you can ess of this project and find out about the d events at the K&ESR, please tick this box
Please cho	ose one of the following methods
of making a donation:	
Sussex Railway Co.	– by cheque made payable to the Kent & East Ltd. Please write 'Heritage Buildings' on the ie. Please do not send cash
Account No: <b>0001</b>	S) the sum of £ D228. Sort code: 40-52-40
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The completed form should be sent in a sealed envelope to:

# Charity Gift Aid Declaration

Boost your donation By 25p for every £1 you donate

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Gift Aid is reclaimed by the charity from the tax you pay for the current tax year. Your address is needed to identify you as a current UK tax payer.
In order to Gift Aid your donation please tick the box:
I wish to Gift Aid my donation of £ to the <b>Kent &amp; East Sussex Railway Company Limited</b>
I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax in the current tax year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations it is my responsibility to pay any difference.
Title: First Name / initial(s):
Surname:
Address:
Postcode: Date:
Please notify the charity if you:  • Want to cancel this declaration

- Change your name or home address

No longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains

f you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all our Gift Aid donations on your Self-Assessment tax return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code.

Please detach and enclose this form in a sealed envelope and return to:

Heritage Buildings Appeal, The Fundraising Manager,

Kent & East Sussex Railway, Tenterden Town Station, Station Road, Tenterden TN30 6HE

If you are a UK taxpayer, please also complete the reverse of this form to enable us to GiftAid your donation.

Heritage Buildings Appeal, The Fundraising Manager, Kent & East Sussex Railway, Tenterden Town Station, Station Road, Tenterden TN30 6HE.

u register with us. We will use this information to provide the services requested

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