

Devon & Cornwall Railway

A new venture along 'old lines'

Dr Michael Ireland



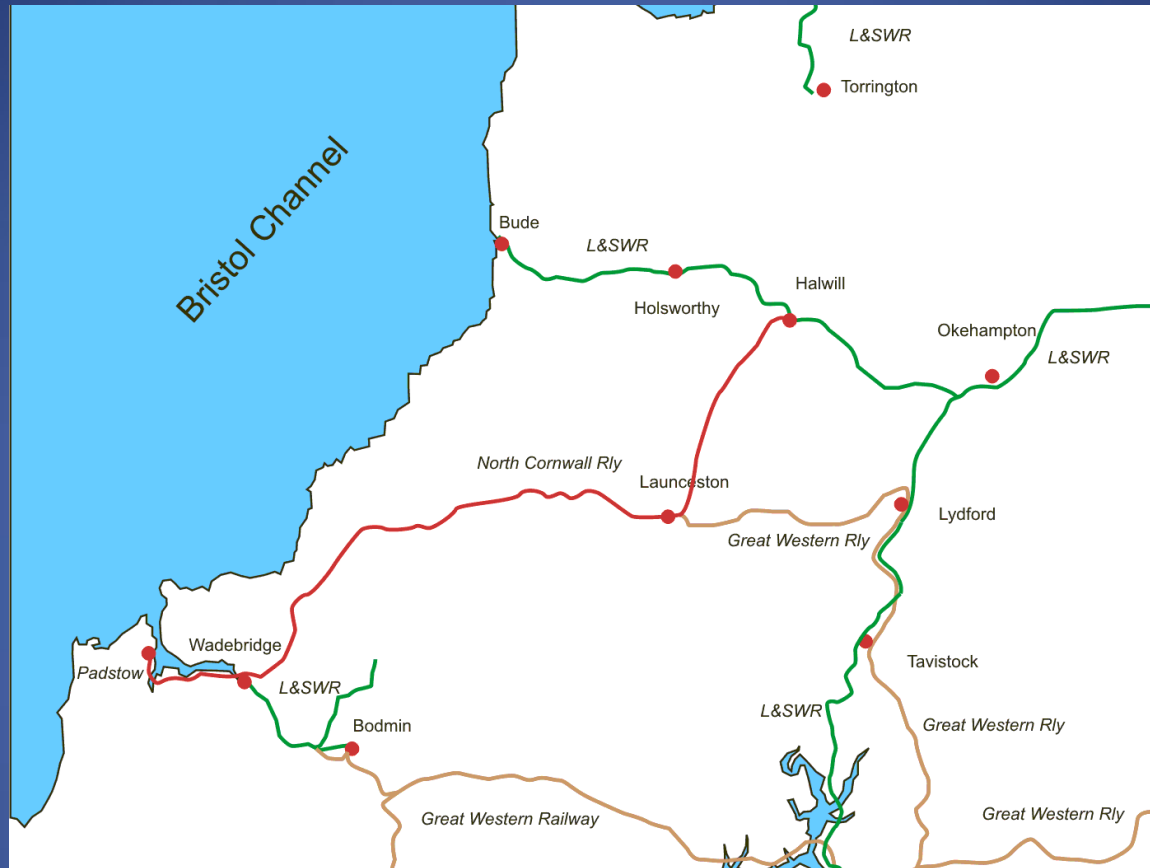
Outline to the Survey

Devon and Cornwall Railway Ltd (part of the British and American Railways group of companies) commissioned this survey to assess demand for a rail passenger service to and from Okehampton to Exeter St David's and Central stations.

The Purpose

- to provide a basis to estimate income from fares.
- to understand the types of passengers who might use the service, for example leisure, business and commuters;
- their preferred fare structure, existing patterns of travel, propensity toward train travel,
- expectations of the service, usage and future rail / road infrastructures





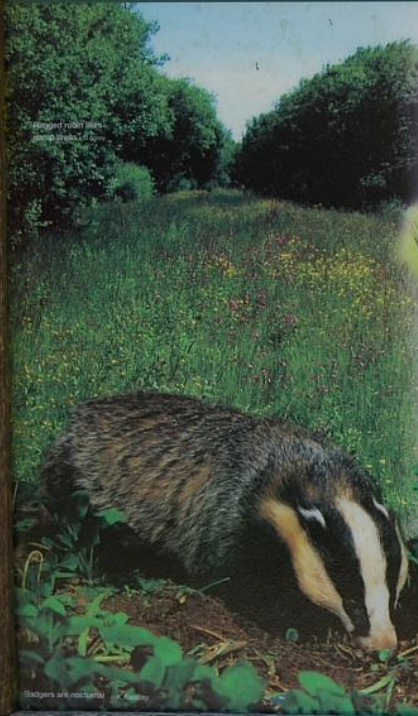
The Survey Area – Map 1

The 'rail corridor' served by the former *Southern Railway*

WELCOME TO HALWILL JUNCTION



Devon



Badgers are nocturnal

Bustling railway to wildlife highway

Halwill Junction is a place to see nature reclaiming land once borrowed by man. It was a busy railway until the 1960s but was then closed down. Since that time wildlife has made the nature reserve its home.

Reservoir of wildlife

This place is a sanctuary for nature that fills the neighbouring gardens and countryside with wildlife. Many of the animals, birds and insects of the reserve rely upon the surrounding gardens for food and in return help to pollinate flowers and keep plant pests at bay – the natural way.



Small tortoiseshell caterpillars feed on stinging nettles.



Green woodpeckers have a laughing call – it's their



Keep 'em peeled

Lots of wildlife can be spotted both in and around the reserve. It's the perfect place for badgers to live – tell us if you see one. Small tortoiseshell butterflies flutter easily from garden to reserve while beautiful plants such as ragged robin spread by seed naturally and look great in the wild or in garden borders.

Halwill Junction is a site to wander and discover for yourself.

The site can be muddy and slippery when wet and paths can be overgrown at certain times of the year.

Dogs are welcome but we ask you to keep them on a short lead at all times.

Visitors are reminded that all areas of the countryside contain inherent natural hazards so we ask you to take suitable and sufficient precautions to avoid injury or harm.

Details of membership and information about other DWT nature reserves can be obtained from the Devon Wildlife Trust, telephone 01392 270504 or via our website www.devonwildlife.org.

DWT is a registered charity no. 511024

Protecting Wildlife for the Future

The Methodology

Non Probability sample

- this method of sampling is used to 'test markets to determine the potential of a new product'
- The limitations of this sampling method is that generalisations should not be made outside the populations of study

Self complete questionnaire

- Questionnaires were delivered by hand to households in the study area.
- In total 5,149 questionnaires sent out
- Returned 331
- Response rate 12.1%

Location	Number of Questionnaires Delivered	Number returned	Percentage Response Rate
Hatherleigh	293	51	17.4
Holsworthy	520	54	10.4
Halwill Junction	184	43	23.4
Bude	708	92	13.0
Tavistock (Part)	444	29	6.5
Launceston	3,000	62	2.06
	5,149	331	12.1%

Questionnaire delivery & response rates

The responses received show that towns on and in close proximity to the old *Southern Railway* route to have most interest in the survey

The idea of the railway re-introduction has a *life of its own*

- Meetings with Councils and support for the re introduction of the railway were covered in the local newspapers
- *The North Devon Journal (Holsworthy and West Devon edition)*
- *The Post series* covering Okehampton, Launceston, Bude and Holsworthy.

The reports are detailed and factual and already in the public domain

	Reinstate track	Parkway	Tourism	Employment	Integration	Freight
Bude working group	Red grid	Green grid	Blue grid	Yellow grid		
Halwill Parish Council	Red grid	White	Blue grid			
Launceston Town Council	Red grid	Green grid				
Holsworthy Town Council	Red grid	Green grid	Blue grid	Yellow grid	Pink grid	
Bude Town Council	Red grid	Green grid	Blue grid	Yellow grid	Pink grid	Brown grid
Tavistock Town Council	Red grid	Green grid				

The key issues raised by Councils are set out above.

There is strong support from Councils for the reinstatement of track between Okehampton and their respective settlements. It is acknowledged that this has to be a medium to long term goal.



Press Coverage of the Survey

Local Newspaper

- North Devon Journal (Holsworthy & West Devon edition) 14th October 2010 page 1
- Launceston & Cornish and Devon Post, 28th October 2010, page 24
- Launceston & Cornish and Devon Post, 11th November 2010, page 17
- Launceston & Cornish and Devon Post, 11th November 2010, page 17

Headlines

- ‘Rail scheme could bring a return to train travel’
- ‘What’s your view on bringing back the railway back to the ‘Post’ area?’
- ‘Holsworthy Town Council show strong support for railway’
- ‘If the Victorians can do it we can’, comes response to railway presentation at Bude - Stratton Town Council’

Launceston & Cornish and Devon Post Survey

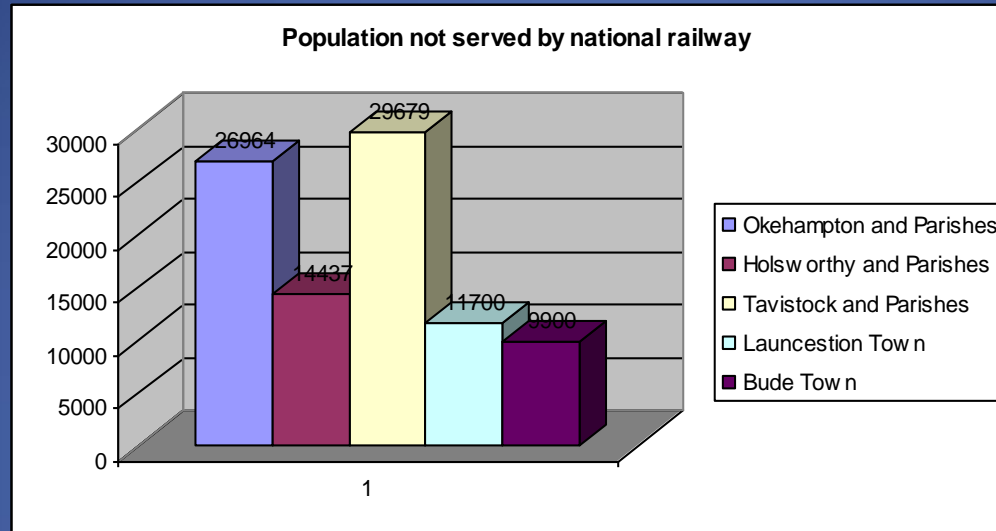
Would you like to see the railway brought back to the North Cornwall and West Devon area?

The results of their *online poll* concur with the findings of previous surveys, with a **'97% Yes'** for the re introduction of the train.

New line on old tracks



100,000 > people without a Railway



Okehampton and Parishes	26964
Holsworthy and Parishes	14437
Tavistock and Parishes	29679
Launceston Town	11700
Bude Town	9900
Total Population	92680

The Future of Rail Travel

- Consultation with local Councils and the views of the Press and public, demonstrate a long-term ambition for railway to be reinstated close to the settlements in the survey area.
- Tourism and employment are seen as strong economic drivers for the reinstatement of tracks
- The survey as it progressed, 'took on a life of its own', with the expectations of individuals and Councils exceeding what could reasonably be expected from a private train company.