

PRESS RELEASE

News from the Award Winning Marston Vale Community Rail Partnership



8th February 2022

Train Services Resume on the Marston Vale Line

Train services will resume on the Marston Vale Line (Bedford – Bletchley) on Monday 14th February. Services will run to the same timetable as introduced before Christmas - nine return journeys Monday - Saturday supplemented by a full Rail Replacement Bus Service (all stations & limited stop) at other times.

The timetable can be downloaded from www.marstonvalecommunityrail.org.uk or pick up a copy from your local library.

It is planned to gradually increase the number of train services over the spring starting with additional peak-time services.

Passengers travelling by Rail Replacement Bus should purchase tickets from any staffed station or the Ticket Vending Machine (TVM)) at unstaffed stations before travel. Tickets purchased online can be collected at any TVM.

Rail tickets can be purchased from the conductor on the train.

Bedfordshire Bus Pass Holders travel half price after 10:00 on weekdays and all day on Saturdays. Groups of 3 – 9 adults travel for a third off with GroupSave.

Stephen Sleight, Marston Vale Community Rail Partnership Officer, said, "I am pleased to welcome passengers back to the Marston Vale Line next week after a time without rail services. Our Line provides a vital link for the communities along it in accessing work, education & retail. It offers a wide range of opportunities for great days out too including Ridgmont Station Heritage Centre & Bletchley Park. We also have an exciting new Symbol Spot trail – collect your free pack when purchasing tickets at Bedford, Bletchley or Milton Keynes Central Stations or when visiting Ridgmont Station Heritage Centre with a valid ticket."

For further information please contact Stephen Sleight, Marston Vale Community Rail Partnership, c/o Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity on 01234 832645, e-mail stephens@bedsrcc.org.uk.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Notes for Editors

Marston Vale Community Rail Partnership

The Marston Vale Community Rail Partnership (MVCRP) is led by Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity in association with London Northwestern Railway, East Midlands Railway, Avanti West Coast, Milton Keynes Council, Bedford Borough Council, Central Bedfordshire Council, Bedford to Bletchley Rail Users' Association, the Forest of Marston Vale, Bedfordshire Association of Town and Parish Councils, Network Rail, British Transport Police and the East West Rail Alliance.

MVCRP is one of a growing network of Community Rail Partnerships across the country working to engage communities and help people get the most from their railways, promoting social inclusion and sustainable travel, working alongside train operators to bring about improvements, and bringing stations back to life.

The Partnership will be running special events throughout 2022 as part of the Marston Vale Line 175th Anniversary Year.

Full details of all the Partnership's activities can be found on our new website - www.marstonvalecommunityrail.org.uk

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