



# Press Release

Release date: 24th February 2014

## Work Weekend

Sittingbourne's Steam Railway would like to thank the many volunteers who worked on and around the Railway at the weekend.

Work was carried out across the Kemsley Down site - the Locomotive Engineering Team showed their flexibility by carrying out track work outside the engine shed, a new volunteer cleared the Saxon Shore Way footpath along the side of our site, gardening in the award winning Wildlife Garden and much more.

Among several volunteers working on the new Memorial Garden was little Oliver White, aged 4, and his mum, Kandice, of Sittingbourne. Oliver loves trains and was keen to visit the Railway again so they both came along to the Work Weekend to help - he even had a ride in the cab of diesel locomotive Victor!

The Memorial Garden is to be dedicated, to the memory of members who have passed away, later this year.

The next Work Weekend will be held on 8-9th March, 10am at Sittingbourne Viaduct station.

Trains will start running again on Sunday 30th March, then every Sunday and Bank Holiday Monday until the end of September.

For more information visit [www.SKLR.net](http://www.SKLR.net), or call the Talking Timetable on 01795 424899, email [info@SKLR.net](mailto:info@SKLR.net), follow @SandKLR on Twitter or see our Facebook Group at [www.Facebook.com/groups/SandKLR](http://www.Facebook.com/groups/SandKLR)

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Information for the media:

1. The Railway is rare in the preservation world as it was donated by the then mill owners, Bowater's United Kingdom Paper Co Ltd, in 1969 for preservation and still uses original locomotives, equipment and buildings. The SKLR is now the longest continuous operator of the railway and is operated and maintained entirely by volunteers.
2. The Railway was forced to close by its previous landlords in December 2008. Following the sale of the site to Essential Land in 2010, the Railway was able to reopen in October 2010 to celebrate 40 years of public operation. In 2011, trains operated between Milton Regis (Asda) Halt and Kemsley Down. May 2012 saw the full reopening back to Sittingbourne Viaduct station. The 2013 Season was the first full season operated since 2008.
3. The SKLR is a registered charity, number 1057079. Postal address: SKLR, PO Box 300, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME10 2DZ.
4. Photographs of the Railway can be found on the Press Officer's website: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/stopem/> . To download images – click on the

photo, click on 'ALL SIZES', 'Original' and then 'Download the Original size'.

Feel free to use them without fee but please credit 'SKLR'.

5. The Press Officer is available for interviews and recording sessions at the Railway or studios. Other members may be requested for interview through the Press Officer.
6. Media enquiries to Paul Best, Press Officer, telephone 07973 192938 or email [stopem@stopem.net](mailto:stopem@stopem.net)