

Press Release, 17th February 2016

The Chinnor & Princes Risborough Railway Association has signed a lease with Network Rail for the listed Princes Risborough North Signal Box, 25 years after it closed, and volunteers have begun work on rescuing the building from its near derelict state. This landmark railway signal box now looks much more likely to survive.

The signing of this lease demonstrates the commitment of both organisations to the restoration of this building, the Nation's largest surviving signal box to the iconic Great Western Railway design. This comes just over 25 years after the box closed, when control of the Chiltern Line was passed to computers at Marylebone in 1991. Even at that time, British Rail (remember them?) expected the box to come to the C&PRRA.

It is hoped that the traditional mechanical signal box will see life once more, looking after the trains on the heritage Chinnor Railway and being opened up to visitors wanting to see how signalling worked through the golden ages of Britain's railways. First, there is a lot of work to do in restoring the building and its equipment.

The Association, which owns and operates the 3-mile heritage railway between Chinnor and Princes Risborough, is always looking for more people wishing to join as members and get involved in its projects: restoring the signal box (or a locomotive or coach), looking after the railway, operating its trains and signals and even making the tea. Fundraising, applying for grants, seeking sponsorship, applying for listed building consents etc. all need more volunteers. It isn't all woodwork and painting! Sponsors, donors and supporters will also be made welcome.

Please visit www.RisboroughBox.org.uk to see what it's all about.