



Newsletter

Railway Inn Community Pub - Norton Bridge

On 15th September it was a year since we held the meeting at St Luke's Church Hall and decided to try and raise enough money to purchase and run the Railway Inn as a Community Pub. We have certainly come a long way since then, so thanks for all the support we have received.

Fundraising total

We are often asked, 'How much have you raised?'. This figure changes as we get more shares purchased every week and raise more funds every week. As at the 26th August (our last bank statement), the total is over £107,000 in pledges (pledged and purchased), events fundraising and GoFundMe donations, split as follows:

Shares: pledged and purchased **£101,250**
Bank account total * **£6,395**
Total funds **£107,645**

*events and GoFundMe fundraising minus expenses

This is an amazing achievement as we only launched our Pledge and Share campaign in February this year.

However we need to convert pledges into share purchases and would ask that every one of our supporters shares our posts and circulates information on our campaign with friends, family and local networks. *Many thanks.*

Rewards

Exciting News!!! We are now offering rewards for people purchasing shares over a certain amount. This is what we are offering - when the pub opens, depending on your shares purchase!

 Thank You!	
TO SAY THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS WHO BUY SHARES WE ARE OFFERING THE FOLLOWING REWARDS WHEN WE PURCHASE THE PUB.	
Shares purchased	Reward (when we open)
£500	Claim a free pint
£1,000	A free pint and a free bottle of wine
£5,000	A free pint, polo shirt and bottle of wine
£10,000	A free pint, polo shirt and a bottle of champagne
£50,000	A free pint, polo shirt and two bottles of champagne

We need more people to buy shares!

Our Share Offer is now open, which means that anyone, whether they pledged first or not, can now buy shares in our pub. Although our share offer is open for 12 months from 17th June 2026 to 16th June 2027, we hope to be able to be in a position to make an offer on the pub this year, so we would really encourage you to purchase shares if you can afford to do so, so that we know our financial position. In addition, if there are opportunities to apply for match funding grants then the more we have collected in, the more we may get!

There are several ways to buy shares:

- You can complete the form online by visiting www.railwayinn.org and clicking on the link on the welcome page or going to the share application tab at the top right-hand side. The pub's bank details are there so you can make your payment by BACS.
- Alternatively, you can download a form and send it, with a cheque to:
The Secretary
Railway In Community Pub Limited
8 Prince Albert Terrace
Norton Bridge, Near Stone ST15 0NU
- You can also contact us at contact@railwayinn.org for further information.
- We have set up a Crowdfunder site to sell shares to a wider audience, however, we encourage our more local supporters to purchase through the above sources as crowdfunder purchases incur fees.

REMEMBER! - you will be eligible for up to 50% tax relief on your investment, ONCE we start trading! See our Shares document for further details www.railwayinn.org

Big Raffle

Our Big Raffle Draw took place on 18th July at the Big Raffle Al Fresco Quiz Event. We raised nearly £1,600!! Thanks to everyone who bought tickets and thanks to all the amazing local (and not so local) businesses who supported us with great prizes. The winner of the First Prize - two first class rail tickets to anywhere on the Avanti network was Henry Hutsby.



Henry Hutsby receives his first-class rail tickets, pictured with Sue Wardle, Chair of the Railway Inn Community Pub Limited.

New and original oil painting

Talented local artist Tony Pugh has painted an original artwork of The Railway Inn and we are selling limited edition prints. Each picture is signed and numbered by the artist and depicts a unique scene of a vibrant Norton Bridge in its heyday, with the Railway Inn at the centre of village life. The painting is 12 by 10 inches with a white surround and priced £20 + p&p. Perfect for Christmas or Birthday presents! We would like to give a big thank you to DRS printing in Newcastle under Lyme for giving us a great price and doing a great job for us. For details of how to purchase go to our website www.railwayinn.org, or message 07752458053.



Article in the latest edition of The Stone & Eccleshall Gazette

The September/October edition of the Stone and Eccleshall Gazette contains a whole page article about our campaign and share offer. The article outlines the pub's railway past and our assertion that it could be the oldest railway pub in Staffordshire. See http://stonegazette.co.uk/Stone_Gazette/

Eccleshall Show / Stone Market

We had a most successful day at Eccleshall Show on Saturday 5th September. Our aim was to spread the word about how we want to purchase the pub and turn it into a pub/café and community hub and also, crucially to promote our share campaign. We gave out many leaflets and promotional beer mats and had a really nice time engaging with so many people who fondly remembered the Railway Inn.

We are planning another outing of our stall at Stone Craft and Collectables Market on October 17th, so come along and say Hi. This one will be in conjunction with Chebsey Parish Council who we would like to thank for their support.



Our Stand at Eccleshall Show



You can donate at:



gofundme

Fundraising events

We have a busy Autumn and Winter programme of fundraising events which hopefully contains something for everyone. Our programme is as follows:

Railway Inn Autumn / Winter Fundraising Events

All events are held at St. Luke's Church Hall, Norton Bridge

Date	Event	Time	Cost
4th October	Quiz with Ben and David	3pm to 5pm	£8 per person with food SOLD OUT To book a table call 07752 458053
15th November	Neil's Bingo	From 3pm	£5 per person To book text 07714 661712
22 November	Antiques Talk and Valuation with Thomas Forrester	2pm to 6pm	£10 per person To book text 07714 661712
20th December	Christmas Quiz with Ben and David	3pm to 5pm	Price to be confirmed To book a table call 07752 458053

Events fundraising

Our events are fun and keep our campaign alive, but they also raise a lot of money.

Fundraising Events totals 2025/6

Total Quizzes (4)	£1,789
Big Raffle	£1,580
Other events (3)	£1,233
Pop up Pub	£1,912
Total	£6,514

We use these funds to pay for day-to-day necessities, for example stationary, licences and printing, which we keep as low as possible.

There are too many people involved in these events to mention, so a massive collective thanks to everyone who helps, but especially to Ben and David for their well run and professional quizzes and for hosting the Big Raffle draw event.

Steering Group Members:

Sue Wardle (Chair)
David Wills (Vice-Chair)
Rachael Drinkall (Secretary)
Margaret Ainsworth Hickman
Andy Burdon
Sylvia Burdon (Treasurer)
Neil Butler
Holly Douglas
Kris Douglas (Data Protection Officer)
Fran Drinkall
Ian Willshaw

Contact us by email at contact@railwayinn.org

See our website Railwayinn.org,
or facebook page [Railway Inn Community Pub - Norton Bridge](#) for updates

