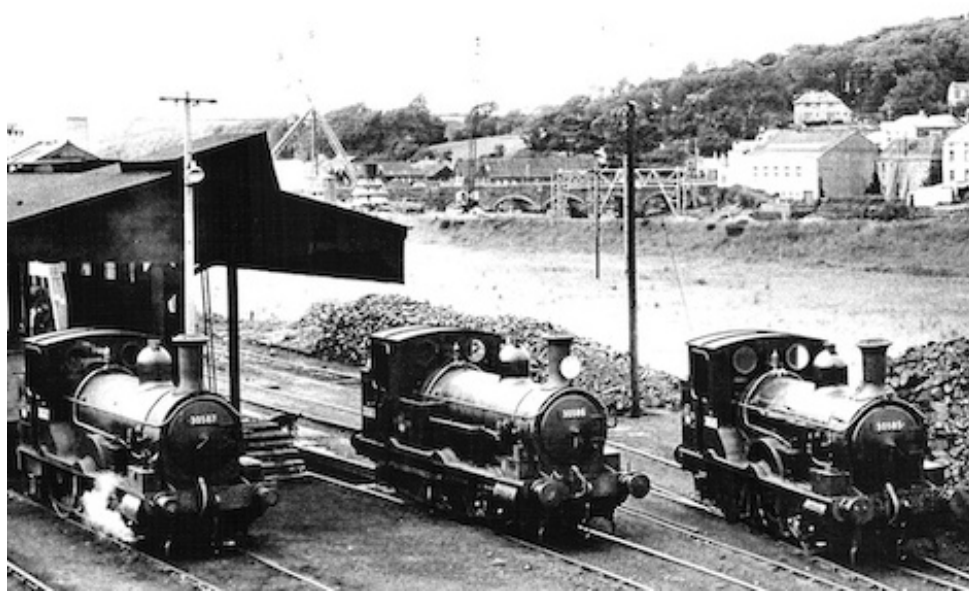


FIRE & STEAM

PRIMARY KEY STAGE 1

CROSS-CURRICULAR TEACHING & RESOURCE PACK

Co-authored by Wadebridge Primary Academy & Wadebridge Creative Hub



The Bodmin & Wadebridge Railway

...one of the earliest steam railways in the UK



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



Part of the wider FIRE & STEAM project from Wadebridge Creative Hub
Supported by The National Lottery Heritage Fund, Arts Council England & FEAST

www.fireandsteam.org.uk

Introduction

Wadebridge, Bodmin and the North Cornwall area are rich in history!

The **Bodmin & Wadebridge Railway** was one of the earliest steam railways to begin operating in the UK, making a significant impact on this area of Cornwall & the South West from 1834 onwards.



This co-authored resource pack is free to use and contains useful and interesting facts and information to support both teachers and home educators, along with links to the National Curriculum and ideas about learning outcomes.

It takes a creative cross-curricular approach, a principle that is at the heart of all Wadebridge Primary Academy's teaching and learning, with activities that deliver elements of History, Art, Geography, D&T and English across the Key Stage 1 curriculum.

We hope that this inspires young learners to explore, understand and enjoy their own local heritage through the pioneering history of our local railway, and the innovative thinking of the people behind it.

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With thanks to...

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Theme One: How did Cornwall pioneer the future of travel?



Useful Facts and Information

Cornishman Richard Trevithick (left) invented the high-pressure steam engine, which other pioneering engineers then used in developing steam locomotives. Trevithick did this initially to help make the Cornish mining industry more safe and productive.

Sir William Molesworth of Pencarrow (right), the 8th Baronet, conceived and helped create a very early steam railway to help improve farming in the Bodmin & Wadebridge area.



The Bodmin & Wadebridge Railway was a ground-breaking work of engineering in its day. With arguably only four other steam railways pre-dating it in the UK, the Bodmin & Wadebridge Railway was one of the earliest steam railways to operate in the UK, even beating London's first railway! It also ranks among the earliest in the world.

Sir William Molesworth wanted to help improve farming in the Bodmin & Wadebridge area by improving the transport of sea sand up to the moors. He was only 21 when he conceived the idea of a railway and planned a working route with engineer Roger Hopkins. He also asked other local people – business owners, landowners & individuals – to join and support the scheme. The Company gained Royal Assent (the King's permission to incorporate as a company, and to proceed with the plan to build the railway) on Sir William's 22nd birthday; they launched the new Railway Company with shares worth £23,000 in 1830 – the equivalent of about £2.5 million today! Four hundred people travelled on the first passenger train, which travelled from Wadebridge to Bodmin on September 30th 1834, when Sir William was still only 24 years old!

National Curriculum Links	Ideas For Learning Outcomes
<p>HISTORY: Explore the lives of significant individuals in the past who have contributed to national and international achievements. Recognise why people did things, why events happened and the result of actions and events.</p> <p>GEOGRAPHY: To use simple compass directions (North, South, East and West) and locational and directional language [for example, near and far; left and right], to describe the location of features and routes on a map.</p> <p>D&T: Generate own ideas for design by drawing on own experiences or from reading, select from a range of tools and equipment explaining their choices and select from a range of materials and components according to their characteristics.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plot the map that the train would have taken, using the Cornwall Council interactive map. • Explore and discuss the challenges that the engineers and builders would have faced. For example, the rivers and the hills. Can you design and build a bridge so that the train could cross the River Camel? • The builders would have needed to cross other people's land. Can you write a persuasive letter to a landowner, convincing them to give permission for the steam train and its tracks to cross their land?

Theme Two: What was the world like in 1834?

Useful Facts and Information

The world was a very different place then! There were...
 No TELEPHONES! People spoke face to face, or wrote letters.
 No CARS! People walked, or rode horses and carts if they were lucky enough to afford to.
 NO SUPERMARKETS! Most people grew food, raised animals and often traded goods for what they could not produce themselves.
 No TELEVISIONS or COMPUTERS! People read books, played sports, played music, and shared board games such as chess (*this is Sir William Molesworth playing chess*).



Why was the railway so important? The railway began changing everything!
 It boosted AGRICULTURE by helping fertilise the land, bringing sea sand up to the moors.
 It boosted BUSINESS, then helping carry Cornish stone, slate and china clay around the world.
 It boosted TRADE, helping people to sell produce & flowers regionally and then nationally.
 It enabled local people to TRAVEL more widely, for work, education and leisure.
 The railway helped to connect Cornwall to the rest of the world.
 Wadebridge was linked up to main line rail in 1899, with the North Cornwall Line running from London Waterloo, all the way to Padstow!

Did you Know?



Eddystone Lighthouse, the Thames Embankment and many grand buildings were built from De Lank granite, brought by train from Bodmin to Wadebridge, and often shaped on the quay before being shipped to the world.

Children were evacuated from London to Wadebridge on the train in both 1939 & 1944 so that they could stay safe during different parts of World War II. Some of them are still living here!

National Curriculum Links	Ideas For Learning Outcomes
<p>HISTORY: Identify similarities and differences between ways of life in different periods, including their own lives.</p> <p>D&T COOKING/NUTRITION: understand where food comes from.</p> <p>ART: to use drawing, painting and sculpture to develop and share their ideas, experiences and imagination and to develop a wide range of art and design techniques in using colour, pattern, texture, line, shape, form and space.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research the technology that had been invented in 1834. Can you draw pictures to compare what life was like in 1834 compared to now? How were our homes, clothes and food different? • Write a newspaper article to tell the local people about why the railway is so important. • Can you research the foods that are produced in Cornwall and shipped out to other places? Cook a recipe using them! • Take a walk around our local town. Create a picture showing what visitors may have seen when arriving by train in the past.

Theme Three: How has transport changed in Wadebridge?

Useful Facts and Information

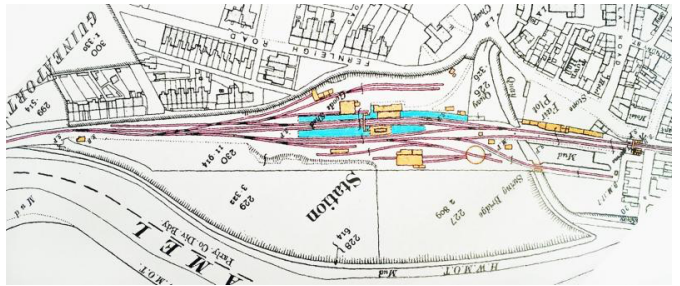
Wadebridge was an important railway town in the area for many years: very noisy and busy!

Some famous writers with local links wrote about their experiences on the Bodmin & Wadebridge Railway.

Writer **Sir Arthur Quiller Couch**, also known as 'Q', described the line as the 'Cuckoo Valley Railway' in his work 'The Delectable Duchy'. Poet **Sir John Betjeman** wrote evocative verse about travelling on the line down to Cornwall for his boyhood holidays in nearby Trebetherick.

How have things changed in Wadebridge?

After World War 2, as motor cars became 'mass produced' and cheaper to buy, and freight began to be transported increasingly by road, smaller rail lines like the one to Wadebridge gradually became obsolete.



The Government decided in 1963 to close many branch lines. Wadebridge's passenger line closed in 1967, and freight stopped being transported by rail here in 1978.

Part of the line became the Camel Trail cycle path, currently used by over half a million cyclists every year! Another part of the line was re-opened in 1989 as the living heritage Bodmin & Wenford steam railway.

National Curriculum Links	Ideas For Learning Outcomes
<p>HISTORY: Explore events beyond living memory that are significant nationally or globally. Recognise what happened as a result of people's actions or events, recognise and make simple observations about who was important in an historical event/account, e.g. talk about important places and who was important and why</p> <p>ENGLISH: Please see the Y1/ Y2 specific objectives.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are still people living in Wadebridge and Bodmin who travelled on the last trains in the 1950s and 1960s for school and work. Can you identify someone who did this and find out what life was like for them then? • Take a trip along the Camel Trail, either by bicycle or on foot, and see if you can find evidence of the old railway line today. Document what you find and create a fact sheet to share with others. • Create a simple timeline of historical events relating to the age of steam worldwide. • Write a poem about what it might have been like to travel on the railway. Use 'From a Railway Carriage' by Robert Louis Stevenson to inspire your writing.

Further Information

- **The Bodmin & Wadebridge Railway, 1834-1983** by Michael John Messenger: Nov 2012: Twelveheads Press ISBN-10 : 0906294762 ISBN-13 : 978-0906294765
- **THE BODMIN & WADEBRIDGE RAILWAY** by C. F. D. Whetmath EAN-13: 9780904662207 ISBN-13: 9780904662207
- **The Bodmin and Wenford Railway: A Nostalgic Trip Along the Whole Route from Bodmin Road to Wadebridge and Padstow (Past & Present Companions)** By John Stretton ISBN 10: 1858951356 / ISBN 13: 9781858951355
- **Betjeman's Cornwall:** John Betjeman. Pub: John Murray; 1988. ISBN-10: 0719541069 / ISBN-13: 978-0719541063

Downloads & resources also available at: www.fireandsteam.org.uk

The Bodmin & Wenford Railway Experience real steam travel on the original Bodmin & Wadebridge line. Bodmin General Station, Bodmin PL31 1AQ enquiries@bodminrailway.co.uk 01208 73555 <https://bodminrailway.co.uk> for full opening days/times

The John Betjeman Centre & Concern Wadebridge Wadebridge's old Railway Station is now the John Betjeman Centre, home to Concern Wadebridge - a welcoming community centre & organisation with a wonderful collection of John Betjeman memorabilia, books and photographs. Free admission, open to all. Southern Way, Wadebridge PL27 7BX 01208 812392 admin@concernwadebridge.org.uk www.concernwadebridge.org.uk/the-john-betjeman-centre

Wadebridge and District Museum A wonderful local resource, offering a wealth of local artefacts, displays, photographs, publications & knowledge. Admission free; donations welcome. Wheelchair accessible; dog friendly. Trebur House, Chapel Lane, Wadebridge PL27 7NJ 01208 813612 <https://wadebridgemuseum.co.uk/>

Bodmin Town Museum Housing a rich history of artefacts, collections and displays telling the story of Bodmin from earliest times. Admission free; donations welcome. Gifts, books & quiz. Please contact museum for wheelchair access. Mount Folly, Bodmin PL31 2DB enquiries@bodmintownmuseum.plus.com <https://bodmin.gov.uk/services/bodmin-town-museum/>

Pencarrow House & Gardens The ancestral family estate of Sir William Molesworth who conceived the original Bodmin & Wadebridge Railway in the 1830s; ticketed access to guided house tours & formal gardens; free admission to shop & café. Open Feb–Nov; see website for full info. Pencarrow, Washaway, Bodmin, PL30 3AG 01208 841369 www.pencarrow.co.uk

The Camel Trail 18-mile trail running between Wenfordbridge, Bodmin, Wadebridge and Padstow and boasting many remnants of the old BWR Co. line. Part of the Sustrans National Cycle Network, free to use for walkers, cyclists, horse-riders & wheel-chair users. Managed by Cornwall Council and The Camel Trail Partnership; more on transport links & facilities: <https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/cameltrail/> www.cornwall.gov.uk/cornishway

The FIRE & STEAM Project

This Resource Pack has been co-created by Wadebridge Primary Academy and Wadebridge Creative Hub for FIRE & STEAM: a heritage & arts project, celebrating the original railway and bringing this exciting heritage to new audiences. For more information on the wider project or if you have feedback on this Resource Pack, please email us at contact@fireandsteam.org.uk