RailBusinessDaily

SVR launches appeal to restore its locomotive yard

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An appeal has been launched by the Severn Valley Railway (SVR) to raise £500,000 so it can restore its locomotive yard in Bridgnorth.

The yard is vital for the operation of the whole railway, and it is used each day to service and maintain steam locomotives.

However, SVR says it is now in desperate need of repair.

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- **Flagship SVR loco 4930 'Hagley Hall' moves under own power**
- **'Purple loco' will wow visitors to SVR's Platinum Jubilee event**

Martin White, head of engineering, said: "The current track was laid in the 1970s using second-hand materials and, through extensive care, has lasted 50 years, which was much longer than we might have expected.

“However the end of its life is now rapidly approaching. Track work and points are wearing out fast, and drainage across the yard is clogged, accelerating the deterioration of the sleepers. If the track work deteriorates much further, locomotives won’t be able to get into the works for maintenance nor have access to the water, coaling and facilities used daily for locomotive preparation. This would have a severe impact on our ability to run services.”

Thanks to volunteers who have permanent way experience, SVR says the most efficient solution has been reached. The team is prepared to oversee this work in the considerate way many other restoration projects have been carried out on the railway. These include Falling Sands Viaduct, a project made possible with the support of generous donors.

All donations will help to ensure locomotives that rely on the yard can keep running.

As a thank you, people who donate £100 or more will get a special edition of the official SVR 2022 season poster. This poster features 4930 Hagley Hall, which is re-entering steam in 2022 after 36 years. Hagley Hall, SVR says, will be a regular visitor to the locomotive yard.

Donations can be made at www.svrtrust.org.uk.