



Members of the Bricket Wood Station Heritage Trust at the official opening

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London Northwestern Railway: Hertfordshire railway station unveils tea room thanks to community grant

A beautifully-restored tea room at a picturesque railway station in Hertfordshire is now officially open for business thanks to a grant from rail operator London Northwestern Railway (LNR).

Bricket Wood station - on the Abbey Line between Watford Junction and St Albans Abbey – has benefited from a makeover thanks to £250,000 of funding from LNR and years of dedication to the project from local

volunteers.

The tea room – located in a disused building at the single-platform station - was officially opened yesterday (Sunday 22 October) at a ceremony attended by representatives from LNR, the Bricket Wood Station Heritage Trust and local dignitaries.

As well as the tea room – which has already attracted hundreds of visitors since opening earlier this year - the grant funding also means the station is now home to informative displays about the history of the site.

The transformation of Bricket Wood was made possible due to LNR's "Your Community, Your Fund" scheme. The funding is provided by the Department for Transport (DfT) and allocated by LNR and sister company West Midlands Railway to projects across the network.

Cara Higgs, LNR community strategy manager, said:

"The new tea room at Bricket Wood has transformed the station and the Heritage Trust have done a wonderful job in managing restoration.

"The tea room is already hugely popular and it is a perfect example of why London Northwestern Railway schemes are integral to local communities."

David Horton, chairman of the Bricket Wood Station Heritage Trust, said:

"The quality of the Edwardian-style tea room run by Cheryl Clark will assure popularity and love for the building for many years to come. I'd like to thank all of those involved in the project over the last seven years for their dedication, hard work and skill, not least my fellow Trustees, our architect, and our restoration team.

"An enormous thanks must also be extended to our industry partners Network Rail, London Northwestern Railway and the Railway Heritage Trust, without whom none of this would have been possible."

Among the speakers at yesterday's event was LNR operations director Darren Ward, a former train driver on the Abbey Line.

The tea room at Bricket Wood is open from 9am-3pm on Wednesday-Saturdays.

For more information about 'Your Community, Your Fund', visit <u>Your Community. Your Fund. | LNR | London Northwestern Railway</u>

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