

# Best Social Media: Gold Award

Tarka Rail Association TRA

[www.facebook.com/groups/668581650853795](https://www.facebook.com/groups/668581650853795) [TRA]

[www.facebook.com/groups/950297745918116](https://www.facebook.com/groups/950297745918116) [ACE]

Judges' comments:

*“Frequent postings and good interactions with users and local stakeholders, one supporting use and development of the existing Tarka Line and its stations, and the other supporting the Bideford extension campaign - and future rail users - with plenty of positive*

*communications,*



RESTORE OUR RAILWAY: (left to right) OkeRail's Kevin Ball, Bideford Railway Heritage Centre director Tim Steer, RailFuture's Roger Blake, Bideford Mayor David Ratcliff, Mayorsess Philippa Ratcliff, BRHC volunteers Steve Trounbridge, Karen Harley and Spencer Taylor, and Andrew Town with Tawridge Council councillor Peter Christie of the Green Party.  
By Roger Blake  
MFL Chris I Barrow's train was still  
Bideford to Barnstaple Railway  
Freight continued to Bideford until 1962, when the last special rail tour ran.



**Tarka Rail Association** [Join Group](#)  
Public group · 854 members

**Tim Steer**  
17 May · 🌐  
Coming soon to Okehampton. A special coffee morning put on by OkeRail. All welcome...



**Tim Steer**  
24 March · 🌐  
Thank you Bishop's Tawton Parish Council for passing a motion to support the ACE Rail project...

ishioner Open Session - part one  
An interesting, thought provoking & factual presenta from Tim Steer (ACE Lead Officer & Tarka Rail Assoc regarding the proposal of a rail link from Bideford to Barnstaple was had with a question and answer sessi afterward. Some parishioners and Councillors at this would prefer to see more carriages on existing trains area which would attract more commuters if they did have to stand for the majority of the existing journey Exeter and in turn would make the cost question for Bideford/Fremington junctions rail link more warrar However, the proposal is well intended and deserves into further. Chair has asked for the proposed rail lin discussed further at future meetings.



**Tim Steer** is at **Barnstaple railway station**.  
3 d · Barnstaple · 🌐  
11.7.23 Britain in bloom judging has now passed (with our final results coming out in October), but that don't stop the good work!  
Today, our station team litter picked the entire site, the shrubs were given a neat trim and track bed 3 was cut back to stop the invasive weeds from growing up and over the island platform.  
Photos curtesy of Annette Wheatley volunteer working jointly with...  
[See more](#)



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Annual General Meeting 2023 London

# Best Campaigner: Joint Gold Awards

## Barbara Mine, Friends of Bishopstone Station

## Tim Steer, ACE Rail campaign (Atlantic Coast-Exeter Railway)



### Southeast Communities Rail Partnership

#### FOBS chair Barbara Mine named as Coronation Champion

We are delighted that Barbara Mine, the chair of the **Friends of Bishopstone Station** community rail group, has been named as one of the official Coronation Champions.

The nomination from Southeast Communities Rail Partnership means Barbara has been recognised by Their Majesties The King and The Queen Consort as part of the official Coronation celebrations in conjunction with Royal Voluntary Service.

Judges' comments: *“Tim (above) has proven to be an inspiring mobiliser of engagement and support across a wide spectrum of local organisations for what started as a one-man campaign, since adopted by the 1977-established Tarka Rail Association. Barbara (right) has been the driving force of FoBS, has networked superbly, seen the community hub opened by the Lord Lieutenant of Sussex, developed a sustainable financial model for the CIC, and been rewarded as a 1 in 500 'Coronation Champion' - a role model for any rail-related community project.”*



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# Best Campaign: Bronze Award

## Tarka Rail Association's ACE Rail campaign

**“Enthusiasts vision for trains from the Torridge area through Crediton”**

news story in Crediton Courier on 1 April 2023.

Photo caption: “Tim Steer, Dr Michael Ireland and David Northey with the big poster, one of which is at Crediton.”

(photo taken at former Bideford station, now Heritage Centre)



Judges' comment: *“For a re-opening campaign starting from nothing two years ago, initially led by someone with no previous experience doing this, the campaign has come a remarkably long way, building up an admirable breadth of public and stakeholder support, in a remarkably short time. It's still early days but many foundations for future success are already laid.”*