

**BLUEBELL RAILWAY
SHEFFIELD PARK
EAST SUSSEX**

The railway is an eleven mile heritage line, managed by the Bluebell Railway Preservation Society. Steam trains stopped running on British mainline railways in 1968, by which time the Society had already preserved a number of steam locomotives. Today it has the largest collection in the UK after the National Railway Museum.



The 'Accessible Steam Heritage' project (ASH) comprises two phases. The first is the conversion and extension of the Running Shed to form a museum. Work commenced with the removal of the asbestos sheet roof and replacement with Kingspan composite panels. An extension, in keeping with the existing, was constructed to provide a new entrance lobby. All electrical services were replaced with LED lighting and new external sockets required for servicing the stock installed. Galvanised steel platforms allow the viewing public close inspection of the exhibited engines.

The second phase is the construction of a new steel framed Maintenance Shed, clad in Kingspan composite panels to provide shelter and frost protection for ongoing engine maintenance. The site presented a major challenge to identify the exact location of a pressurised foul water sewer within the existing embankment into which deep piled foundations were to be installed. The exploratory work, undertaken over four weeks by the Company's highly experienced Groundworks and Civil Engineering team, involved the formation of trial holes below the water table, associated support works and ground water control.



CLIENT	The Bluebell Railway plc	Uckfield
QUANTITY SURVEYOR	Jackson Moore Associates	Withyham
ARCHITECT	Weald Designs	Crowborough
M&E CONSULTANT	Flint Building Services	Battle
STRUCTURAL ENGINEER	Dixon Hurst	Hove