

Preface

Whether it be by pedal cycle, automobile or on foot what better way to discover the glories of the Herefordshire countryside than by searching out its old, long closed, rural railway lines. Much evidence still remains of these lines that once criss-crossed the County. To follow them is to take oneself off the beaten track, down idyllic country lanes, through sleepy villages and across gentle hills with views to the distant Welsh mountains, Malvern Hills or the uplands of the Forest of Dean. And what excitement when one discovers an old bridge long since overgrown as if it had been part of the landscape since time immemorial; or to stumble upon an old sign, a boundary marker, an old signal post or even an old station. This book gives one a brief introduction to discovering such treasures. So, armed with an ordnance survey map (sheet 149 of the 1:50,000 series will suffice but adjacent sheets will also be of use) and plenty of stamina, take oneself off and re-create a leisurely steam train journey.



The Tram Inn pub in Eardisley, one of the many hostelryes that one will find en route serving traditional beer and good food.