

CASE STUDY

11

For more details about this project:

Contact :
Glynn Jones, Chairman

Telephone :
01798 831370

Address :
Amberley Museum & Heritage Centre,
Amberley, Arundel, West Sussex BN18 9LT

Email :
office@amberleymuseum.co.uk

Website :
www.amberleymuseum.co.uk

Charity No. 278722

Amberley Museum & Heritage Centre is a 36 acre open-air site situated in the South Downs. Since 1979 the site has been owned by WSSSEN and has been dedicated to preserving the industrial heritage of the South East. It now comprises of over 40 buildings housing a range of exhibitions.

The organisation, registered charity no. 278722, was established to operate the museum at Amberley with the aim of preserving and restoring artefacts of interest and importance that might otherwise have been destroyed, to maintain and develop the unique collections and through the use of exhibitions, demonstrations, lectures, printed publications and other means, to educate the public in the tools, inventions, technologies, customs and social history of previous generations.

The Amberley Museum and Heritage centre offers the following projects and services:

- **Resident craftspeople** - promoting their bygone skills to the general public.
- **The Southdown Bus Collection**
- **Large collection of narrow-gauge railway locomotives**
- **Exhibition areas.** These cover, through displays; exhibits and hand-on activities, topics ranging from the generation of electricity to a war-time wireless.



They are a social enterprise that relies heavily on its volunteers, of which they currently have over 400. These volunteers undertake tasks such as restoring vintage wireless sets and painting an armoured locomotive, to staffing the Ticket Office or maintaining fencing.

One of the keys to the success of Amberley has been the informal way it seeks to include people who might otherwise be excluded from some of the more 'mainstream' activities. These include retired people and people with learning difficulties who are often able to participate in and utilise opportunities that may otherwise have been unavailable to them.

Museum Chairman, Glynn Jones, has introduced a policy of trying to involve other social enterprises where possible and they have successfully undertaken this venture with the Aldingbourne Trust. Other groups he is keen to develop links with include youth oriented organisations, skills training organisations and those health care organisations where skilled care is either not required on site, or can be provided by carers accompanying their clients on site.



This is brought to you by the West Sussex Social Enterprise Network (WSSSEN) with support from West Sussex County Council.

For more information visit www.wssen.org.uk

If this information is needed in an alternative format please contact us and we will try to meet your needs. Call 01243 777544.
www.westsussex.gov.uk