

## **FARSAP GROWS AS SIGNAL BOXES DECLINE**



The FARSAP signalling film archive continues to grow. Now, over 160 locations are covered, with more in the pipeline. For the past seven years the FARSAP team has worked with

Network Rail to film the wide range of British signalling practices, equipment and buildings with the people doing the job. This free, publicly available permanent record will be there for generations to come. As Rail Operating Centres take over, you still be able to see and hear the block bells ring out, levers thrown, crossing gates closed and signalled trains pass by, as well as power boxes in operation. Commentaries helpfully explain the history, locations, routes and what's going on.



*Picture: 1883 Moreton-in-Marsh signal box*

In the words of Network Rail, it's a "valuable and comprehensive record", popular too with the signalling community who have welcomed their bit of signalling history being recorded. Apart from the national railway and heritage locations covered, the archive also includes a further 36 films with explanatory signalling

demonstrations and signallers' personal memories. Simply search for "FARSAP" to see the collection.

For example, Kings Cross PSB signalled its last train before closure on 23<sup>rd</sup> April – FARSAP already pictures it working on film. The 1891 listed Hebden Bridge box signalled its last train in 2018 and FARSAP filmed before closure. As an example of the innovative plans to retain suitable boxes after closure, there are now exciting plans to turn its ground floor into a short-term holiday let with the signalling equipment above left in original condition as a visitor attraction.

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