

Railway Ramblings

Issue 110

September 2019

The monthly newsletter of the Hitchin Branch of the RCTS

Meetings This Month

At Hitchin (19:30-22:00, doors open 19:00)

10 September: **Modern Traction in the 1960's** – “Expect some great photography” – David Percival.

At Welwyn Garden City (14:00-16:30, doors open 13:30)

24 September: **Through Kirton Tunnel** – “A railway journey from Sheffield to Cleethorpes” – Stephen Gay. (See additional details later in this newsletter.)

From the Photo Album



A new Class 801 (801201) 9-car on the Test track at Hitachi, Newton Aycliffe in late July 2019.

Photo: Dave Elsdon

If you have photos you are willing to share with other members please supply them, with a suitable caption, to the Editor (John.Dossett@btinternet.com). They should be your own photographs!

Chairman's Platform

Our summer visit, on August 27th, was to Bressingham Steam Museum. The weather was glorious (perhaps a little too hot for some?) and a great day out was had by one and all.

As always, it was good to have live steam and members & their families made good use of the unlimited rides our tickets offered.



Photo: John Dossett

Sharing your love of railways with others is a benefit of being an active member of the RCTS. For the September and October meetings the branch would like to encourage you to invite a guest AND sign them in at the members' donation rate (sharing your membership number on the meeting register).

Book Sales

The book-sales table is popular at meetings and the revenue helps towards our running costs. If you can contribute any books to the branch they would be most welcome, and it will give you shelf-space to purchase "new" books for your own enjoyment!

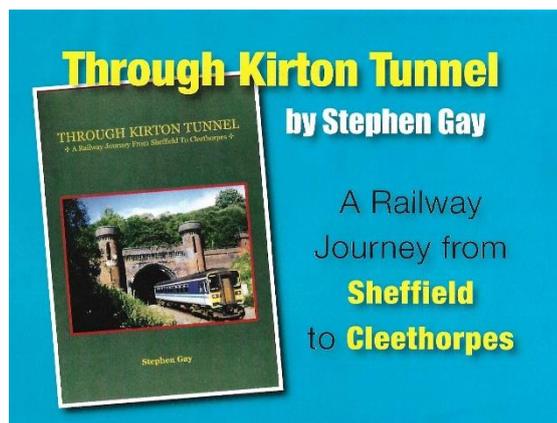
Members' Weekend

Still time to book a place. The 2019 members' weekend is Friday 18th to Sunday 20th October 2019 and is based at the Holiday Inn, Leicester. Full details, including the programme of activities, have been distributed with the July issue of the Railway Observer.

Details are also available online at www.rcts.org.uk/society/news/2019-members-weekend

Additional Details from Stephen Gay

The presentation **Through Kirton Tunnel** is based on Stephen Gay's 2004 published book entitled *Through Kirton Tunnel – A railway Journey from Sheffield to Cleethorpes*. Starting at the abandoned Victoria station in Sheffield, this 72 mile pictorial journey heads through Darnall, Woodhouse and



Kiveton Park. Into Nottinghamshire we soon pass through Worksop and Retford and then it's over the River Trent into Lincolnshire. The towns of Gainsborough, Kirton Lindsey and Brigg are passed then we head for Grimsby and our journey is completed at the resort of Cleethorpes. In part two of the show (scheduled for 27 September 2020) we will also take a journey up the scenic North Lincolnshire branch line to Barton-on-Humber.

The book "Through Kirton Tunnel" is available from Stephen for £15.00 (incl P&P).

Newsletter Distribution

This newsletter is distributed by the Branch Chairman (Steve Lacey) using email. If you do not currently receive a copy directly but would like to do so, provide him with your email address and you will be added to the list. Conversely, if you currently receive a copy but wish to be taken off the distribution list then please advise him accordingly. Steve's email address is glicersteve@hotmail.com

For the present a small number of printed copies will continue to be available at branch meetings.

Forthcoming Branch Events

During October 2019

At Hitchin (19:30-22:00, doors open 19:00)

8 October: **London to Velke Kapusany, a 21st Century Odyssey** – “Who knows where this may lead us” – David Jackman

At Welwyn Garden City (14:00-16:30, doors open 13:30)

29 October: **Along the Tracks from Home and Away** – “Something for everyone today” – Steve Batty

All members are welcome at all meetings.

A reminder that the new suggested meeting donation rates, which start at the September meetings, are £2 for members and £3.50 for non-members.

Bring A Guest

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Railway Ramblings is published by the committee of the Hitchin Branch of The Railway Correspondence & Travel Society. Such committee does not endorse any personal opinions expressed in this publication. The committee comprises Steve Lacey (Chairman), David Elsdon (Secretary), Paul Holloway (Treasurer), Chris Alton, John Dosssett (Newsletter Editor), Martin Elms, Roger Moulden and Adrian Scrutton. The Railway Correspondence & Travel Society is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation Registered with the Charities Commission No. 1169995.