



West Riding Branch

July 2022 Newsletter

First of all, my profound apologies for this much later than usual newsletter, due mainly to my involvement with Society matters/meetings which I thought were a thing of the past. However, that has now passed and I have thus been able to give some detailed attention to forthcoming Branch activities.

You will no doubt be aware that the July meeting is always to some outside location of railway interest. On this occasion a visit to the Shipley Glen Tramway has been organised which will be taking place this coming Thursday (21st). I have paid a very recent visit to the Tramway and can confirm that everything is progressing to plan.

A starting time from 6.00pm onwards has been set and members can travel up and down the line as often as they would like. Teas, coffees and biscuits will be laid on, all available at the top of the incline. The Tramway museum will be open for anyone who might be interested which is situated at the bottom of the hill. Two points of note – firstly there will be no specific entrance fee, but attendees will be simply asked to make a donation, and secondly toilet facilities are available both at the bottom and top of the incline. This promises to be a most pleasant affair and I hope that it will be well attended in order to support this local enterprise which advantageously lies in a heavily wooded and shaded area.

As I write these notes I, regretfully, cannot confirm that the annual evening visit to Doncaster on Thursday 18th August will take place as it looks very likely that this might well be called as a strike day. In conjunction with the other members of the committee a course of action will be defined and I will thus inform everyone of our intentions as soon as the fullness of the picture is known.

On a totally different subject I refer to the picture and narrative in the latest RO (page 496) covering a loan transfer presentation of the “Falkland Islands” nameplate from the Society to the Bahamas Locomotive Society. I happened to be nominated as the presenter of the plate therefore, naturally, appearing in the photographs. However, the published photographs were mistakenly quoted as being taken by myself. Please realise that I am no photographic magician, as was implied in the report. They were all taken by my wife, Lorraine and I understand that a corrective statement will be in the August edition of the RO.

In closing the 2021/2022 season's indoor meeting programme Roger Hepworth narrated an excellent show covering largely West Yorkshire focussing on steam action in the late fifties and early sixties. Detailed action described activities in Wakefield, Leeds and Bradford. This was widened to embrace journeys to York and the East Coast resorts of Scarborough and Whitby whilst more northerly locations illustrating scenes from Tyneside and Teeside. Thanks were expressed to Roger for a splendid reminder of times past in and around the regions of our West Riding Branch and an appropriate photograph will accompany this newsletter on the website.

Having been recently in contact with other northerly based branch Society Officers a couple of things became apparent. First and foremost attendances at our meetings appear to be well above the average and I really hope that this continues well into the future. Secondly there is some lack

of awareness that the website has been redesigned. This though is not applicable to our West Riding Branch as our branch pages are frequently updated covering meeting reports, Newsletters and programme of meetings. In the none too distant future it is our intention to add a few more pictures in order to enhance the overall presentation. However in the short term, and in order to keep the ball rolling, I hope to see as many of you as possible at Shipley this coming Thursday when the weather is expected to be a little cooler!!

Thanks for your continued support.

Kind Regards

Bob