



West Riding Branch

April 2024 Newsletter

The monthly meeting in March opened with the Branch AGM, which was very well attended by a good number of members. For some while now the retirements of both myself as Secretary and Treasurer David Beeken have been well known and sadly there were no nominations forthcoming at the meeting. The future of the branch is therefore uncertain and as the remaining committee members are prepared to carry on it is hoped that a couple of volunteers might come forward in the next few months. None the less whatever the outcome monthly meetings have been set up through into the Autumn. Following the AGM both myself and David Beeken were co-opted to the Committee by the residual committee members. I as Caretaker Secretary and David Beeken as Caretaker Treasurer respectively.

Following the AGM the entertainment element comprised of several excellent presentations given by a number of members at the meeting. Chairman Bill Jagger described a tour of Alaska whilst Vic Drake showed images of steam tours over North Yorkshire territory and Chris Davies, a frequent visitor to the USA, gave a most excellent showing of freight trains on the Tehachapi Loop and through the Mojave Desert.

Keith Leah brought the meeting to a close with a totally based steam action show seen across Midland region metals alongside activity observed around York and on the Worth Valley.

Appreciative thanks go to those who provided a very worthwhile evening of entertainment.

So now we all look forward to April's meeting which is a slide show to be given by Stephen Gay, a very well-known and popular presenter who has given many shows to railway enthusiast clubs all around the country, including a couple to our RCTS West Riding Branch in pre-Covid days. As a man from Sheffield, he narrated interesting action that was to found across the Pennine regions.

On this occasion his talk will be telling of activities and lineside interests along the much wider front of the East Coast Main Line from King's Cross to York. Undoubtedly this will be another high quality showing. The meeting will be at our usual Saltire Methodist Church venue in Shipley on Thursday 18th April, commencing at 7.30pm. No doubt this will be yet another gathering the like of which always attracts such good numbers to our shows and that as many of you as possible will turn out for the evening.

A note from Centre relating to the upcoming Society AGM and Members' Day, asks that I encourage Branch members to Zoom into the meeting that is to take place on Saturday 20th April at 11.00am. I am advised that there are some interesting developments to be announced.

Should you wish to be at the actual meeting it is to be held at the Grand Station, Wolverhampton, and for those attending there are to be a couple of presentations by top class speakers. More details will be available when this month's RO finally arrives. Over to you!!

Finally, my thanks to all of you who continue to support the Branch.

Bob Green
Caretaker Branch Secretary