



## West Riding Branch

# August 2023 Newsletter

The summer July meeting with the Bradford Model Engineers at Northcliffe Park in Shipley was a great success as many members, along with families and/or friends, turned out for an evening of riding around the park on locomotives belonging to several of their engineers. Both of the tracks in and around the park were in full use enabling varying gauges of locomotives to be employed. The lengthy woodland circuit embraced the Society's 0-6-0 diesel shunter and a superb 0-4-0 tender engine which brought much pleasure to all who either travelled on or photographed. In contrast the main narrower gauge oval circuit attracted much attention, the delights of which were in the hands of a lovely 0-6-0 tank engine and a beautiful 4-2-0 Crampton. Both made countless enjoyable journeys around the tracks.

Thanks of appreciation are expressed to the Engineers for providing the nice array of motive power and to our Branch Deputy Chairman John Holroyd who, as a senior member of the Engineers, played a significant role in the setting up of this excellent evening of summer entertainment.

Now, looking forward to the second of the Branch summer outdoor events that is scheduled to take place on the evening of 17<sup>th</sup> august will, as usual, be the regular evening of observation at Doncaster. This has always been a long-standing event for many years and in terms of motive power to be seen there have been many varying phases. With interest we await just what this year's gathering will yield. Members assemble somewhere around 6.00 – 6.30pm usually at the southern end and decide for themselves when to call it a day.

Please note that the RO has incorrectly defined the visit as being Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> August. The date is right but please be assured that this will be on the Thursday. I plead not guilty!

In my notes for July I informed members that the Branch meeting programme was in the process of being finalised and I am very pleased to let you all know that meetings from this coming September through to May 2024 have all been set up. Details of the programme can be found on the West Riding Branch webpage on the Society website.

It is my hope that there is something of interest to keep you all entertained for the up-and-coming months. Please spread the word to all who may not be in receipt of this newsletter, although the typed version will be available at the next indoor meeting in September.

It is interesting to note that following the new appointments to the Board of Trustees changes are beginning to emerge and, for the sake of the Society, we wish them well for the future. At long last the delivery of the paper "Railway Observer" is now back on schedule and long may this continue. I happen to have a few spare copies of the July and August issues which I will have

with me at Doncaster and the following September meeting at Saltaire. Please let me know if you would like a copy or for anyone who might be interested.

I, as Branch Secretary, am now charged with the responsibility of reporting Branch meeting numbers and meeting content to Centre and our WR Branch figures for 2023 thus far have already been submitted. To what end remains to be seen. As there is to be no Members' Weekend this year the Officers' Conference, which is normally held over that weekend, has been set up as a one-day affair which is to be held at Danum in Doncaster on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> October commencing at 10.00 hrs.

No doubt there will be plenty more changes to follow.

Finally, as always, my thanks to all who continue to support the Branch. Your support is very welcome and there is plenty to look forward to over the next number of months.

With my Kindest Regards  
Bob Green  
Branch Secretary