



## West Riding Branch

# December 2022 Newsletter

Whilst almost at the end of this first full year of post-Covid meetings it is very pleasing to report that meeting attendances have consistently attracted upwards of nearly 30 members and friends throughout the year. Clearly the interest from the membership is holding up very nicely indeed and my thanks to all who continue to support the Branch in such good numbers.

Indeed, the November meeting continued in the same vein in order to hear Steve Armitage present a superb rendition entitled "All things North and North Eastern". Steve is an excellent presenter and this proved to be no exception. The collection of pictures, almost all from the days of steam, initially focussed on North Eastern territory describing varied motive power and freight activities from within this heavy industrial region. Passenger traffic photographs covered interests around Newcastle and the LNER main line featuring Pacifics of designs by both Gresley and Raven. More southerly details focussed on major locations such as York and Darlington whilst the final phase of the programme illustrated a wide variety of traction seen on a number of more localised lines, depots and stations around North and East Yorkshire. This top quality presentation was indeed an excellent evening of entertainment.

At the end of the evening Steve sought voluntary donations from the audience in support of the A1 Steam Locomotive Trust which raised a total of some £35. Appreciative thanks were subsequently duly received from the A1 Trust.

So now we come to the final show of 2022 which this year will be a show given by David Fowler to the title of "Steam's Last Redoubt". This comes as a highly recommended showing as it exclusively centres on the final days of steam from which a couple of sample pictures are illustrated within this newsletter. Please note that in order to avoid the Christmas crowds this meeting it is being held one week earlier than usual on **15<sup>th</sup> December** at Saltaire Methodist Church commencing at 7.30pm. Christmas will doubtless be reflected at the interval!

The 2023 meeting programme has now been finalised up to the end of August and was tabled at the Branch meeting in November. In order to circulate this as widely as possible it is printed alongside these monthly notes. It is also to be found on the Branch website. I hope that there is something of interest for everyone and that it will be supported by all who continue to come to meetings in such good numbers.

For those who do not receive the Society Newsletter circulated by email from Centre snippets tell that the Society is to embark on a new annual publication of photographs sent by members for publication in the RO which will include many of those that were not published. Using true RCTS

wording it will be titled as "Observing the Railway". The first edition, covering 2022, will be available in March. Price = £20 +p&p.

Although a report of the Members' Weekend held in October can be seen on Centre's newsletter nothing has yet emerged regarding any outcomes from the Officers' Conference. Should anything of significant interest emerge I will let you know.



With my kind regards and best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.  
Bob Green  
Branch Secretary