



DATES FOR THE DIARY

February

7 Jan - 29 Spring Blockade

March

1 New Timetable starts
21 Middleham Stables Open Day
21-24 Easter Guided Walks

April

May

3-5 Dales Festival of Food & Drink
16-18 Local Community Rail Weekend
17 Aysgarth Guided Walk
26 Finghall Barrel Push

WRA SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Don't Forget to book tickets for the CIELIDH

This is a fundraising event so everyone is welcome

Saturday 8th March 2008 - 7.30 to 11.00pm

To be held at Crakehall Village Hall

Tickets £8.00 each (includes a light supper) Bring your own drink and glasses

Directions: Take the Leyburn Road out of Bedale, Crakehall is the first Village. Turn right after the bridge

Tickets available from: Diane Sykes on 01677 426877 / 01748 822282 or email social@wensleydalerailwayassociation.com

CLEANING GROUP

Maureen Stockbridge has taken over the CLEANING TEAM and now meets during the daytime, if anyone came spare an hour or two please contact Maureen on 01748 822267

LEEMING BAR BUFFET COACH

Please note that the Buffet Coach will be completely closed i.e. no water or drainage and no access to the seating, with effect from Jan 15th. Likewise, Beth will be closed as the seating area will be in use to store equipment from the Buffet. Volunteers are asked to use the station kitchen until the buffet reopens.

MINOR WORKS GROUP

Refurbishment of the ground floor inside of Bedale station building is nearly complete. Work will start shortly on the upstairs.

VOLUNTEER UNIFORM COORDINATOR

LBSSG member Dave Turner has kindly volunteered to co-ordinate orders for uniform on Amanda's behalf. Details of what is available, the cost and how to contact Dave will be published shortly

HERITAGE RAIL PASS

Active volunteers may purchase a pass (for two persons) from HR through the WRA. The present cost is £20, which enables holders to travel at a reduced rate or in many cases free of charge.

If you are currently a pass holder and wish to renew then please contact John Mazzucchi BEFORE the end of January. Present pass valid until Feb. 29th

New applicants must complete a form, available from Signing-On Room LB. and return ASAP.

John Mazzucchi (Treasurer WRA Ltd)

>>>>>>>2008 TIMETABLES<<<<<<<

Copies of this year's timetable will be sent to all members with Relay at the end of February. Distribution of the 2008 timetables is being masterminded by FOLS member David Collins. If you can help with any geographical area on an occasional basis - or monitor supplies at one or two outlets on a regular basis - please let David know as soon as possible (tel 01969 622775).

REPORTS FROM GROUPS

ROLLING STOCK GROUP.

Internal door painting continued in 117 trailer 59509 and the WR name and logo were added to the south side just before Christmas. Immediately after Christmas a further graffiti attack was made on vehicles well away from the station on the north head shunt. 2 carriages and 4 wagons, including the mess van, were affected. 2 more serious attacks took place in the second week of the New Year. The 2 class 101 motor units and 4 Mk 2 carriages were at the station platform. The north (dark) side of the 101's, Sarah (first ever attack) and the 2 First Great Western carriages were all badly marked. The front and about half the south side of our anniversary unit, 50746, were also sprayed. Remedial work has begun.

Upholstery repairs and work on defective panelling has been tackled in the static buffet coach. Ops. Group have progressed repairs to the Shark brake van, freeing the jammed east plough and repairing the roof and fitting a new tarpaulin.

Barry Wetherall

LEEMING BAR STATION SUPPORT GROUP (LBSSG)

The LBSSG is now well into its programme of improvements. Joe Skimming is leading the team refurbishing the toilets and has completed the internal redecoration and repaired the floor in the Gents. Work is in hand to improve the way the various overflows work and a new heater has been obtained for the Ladies.

In the Station building a new lock has been fitted to the training room. The bathroom has been cleared of all redundant electronic equipment and archive material and the hot water system has been tested. The room is now ready for cleaning before it can be brought back into use. The room next to the training room has been cleaned and a bed installed for volunteer use. Gill Thornton is making curtains for this room.

The old Grantrail office has been emptied of all rubbish and display equipment (which is now in the Commercial Dept container) and is now fit for its new use as an Active Archive and meeting room.

Work is due to start shortly on minor works in the Shop Coach and improvements to the Buffet Coach, (where Sue and Malcolm Thompson will be in charge)

If you would like to join in, please come along any Sunday, Tuesday or Thursday and we will make you most welcome.

Mike Sheehan

INFRASTRUCTURE

Work has been hampered by the recent bad weather but despite this, a lot of work has been done to clear drains under the bridge west of Leyburn. A large amount of cutting and burning lineside vegetation has also been done.

For the future, the timber decking on a number of the UWCs needs renewing. Spot resleepering is planned for March, together with further vegetation clearance. One major project is the installation of the coach at Redmire station to serve as Booking Office and Café. Dates from 12 Week Plan:

Sat 26 Jan Newton Grange UWC Deck repairs

Wed 30 Jan Prepare to install Café coach

W/E 1-3 Feb Install Café coach at Redmire.

Wed 6 Feb UWC and FPX Signage

Sat 9 Feb Spot resleepering to remove gauge ties

Wed 13 Feb UWC and FPX Signage

Sat 16 Feb Spot resleepering to remove gauge ties

Wed 20 Feb UWC and FPX Signage

Sat 23 Feb Spot resleepering to remove gauge ties

VOLUNTEER MATTERS

The Induction Coordinator has expressed concern at the number of volunteers we are losing, particularly some who have recently joined. He will be focussing on improving the induction process and engaging with the groups who employ volunteers. A review of the database is being carried out as it includes quite a number of inactive volunteers. Letters are being included with this Newsletter to those volunteers who appear to be no longer active, so that the database can be brought up to date.