



DATES FOR THE DIARY

8 November – Folk Night – see below
28 November – Christmas Dinner – see below
9 December – Volunteers Meeting at The Lodge

FROM RUTH

General Manager: This newsletter provides the opportunity to offer a warm welcome to John Ozelton, who has taken up the post of General Manager from November 1. John is a chartered mechanical engineer, with extensive experience in safety-related industry. More details of the appointment were given in the Notice sent out as an insert with Relay 50 last week. In addition, John will be the Project Manager (in a voluntary capacity) of the team being established for the western extension – please see page 8 of Relay 50 if you would like to be involved in this and address any offers of help or queries in writing to John at Leeming Bar. Volunteers who work on or around the railway will have the opportunity to meet him personally, either through one of the 'Meet the General Manager' meetings or on site.

Trading Days: From November 1 to January 4 there are only 29 days with scheduled train services, which does not give much opportunity for earning money to see us through the long lean winter period until Easter. The winter is an expensive period for the railway because most of the expenses of the business continue throughout the year: rates, insurance, utility bills, salaries and National Insurance etc etc. In addition there is the extra cost of the materials required to make the most of the opportunity for repairs and upgrading work during Operation Spring Clean (Jan 5-March 31,2009). There are, however, two ways in which *everyone* can help to make the most of the remaining trading days: 1. Display posters and spread the word about events that are planned so we attract as many passengers as possible. 2. Promote Gift Tokens for Driver Experience Days as these can be arranged during Operation Spring Clean.

Walk with Festive Lunch: This is a new event, on Saturday November 29, and only a four mile walk as we thought transport should be provided back to Redmire station after walkers have eaten a hot lunch at Aysgarth! Do consider joining this daytime social event and bringing friends with you. Booking is essential (08454 50 54 74) and the cost is £15 (children and WRA members £12.50) which includes return train fare, lunch (vegetarian on request) and coach transport back to Redmire.

The **Boxing Day to Jan 4 Walks Programme** was sent out with Relay 50 – no need to book for these events but *please use your copy* to help attract more walkers / passengers in these last few trading days of the season.

Ruth Annison

VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

This month's volunteer is **PAUL CLARKE**. He has been a consistent and reliable guard, doing duty practically every Sunday as well as other days (and other duties) when required. A quote from one of the drivers says "I know we have a safe and reliable guard looking after the train when Paul is on duty" and other quotes relate to the many additional tasks he undertakes. He travels from Wakefield, which costs a considerable amount in petrol.

Congratulations and the thanks of all of us to Paul.

Why not send in your nomination for December volunteer of the month?

CONGRATULATIONS

To Phil Kirkland, who has recently been appointed as Chief Infrastructure Engineer for NEXUS Tyne and Wear Metro.

He is again using our line shortly for training staff, with the Tampa and a ballast spreader, which benefits our line hugely and would cost an enormous amount if we had to pay commercial rates for the work. So grateful thanks to Phil for his continuing work on behalf of the Wensleydale Railway.

RELAY BACK NUMBERS

RELAY BACK NUMBERS from edition No. 10 are available for sale, Half Price - Min 50p, from Leyburn Shop.

Alternatively contact Paul Kenyon Tel: 01748 824249 or Email: pkenyon@dsl.pipex.com.

VOLUNTEERS CHRISTMAS DINNER

Why not book to come and have a pleasant social evening with other Volunteers? Friends and relatives are also invited. The event will be on Friday 28 November at 7 for 7.30pm at The Coore Arms, Station Road, Scruton. Send a cheque with your menu choice (menu enclosed with this newsletter) for £17.95 per person payable to Mr HF Booth at Leeming Bar Station (NB-NOT payable to Wensleydale Railway).

ROLLING STOCK GROUP

The Salmon rail carrying wagon, with it's buffer repaired and later having had the reflective safety strips fitted, had a run out on one of the regular works train nights.

Work on the overdue repair of the RSG blue van's roof has started.

The grey (box) van, which has been used as a store for spare seats and tables for many months, has been cleared out and will be added to the works train. The MLV is now the main storage container.

In late September the 2 class 101 power cars were turned so that all 3 brake vehicles are at the west end, hence interchangeable. This brought the rather neglected north sides into prominent view at the Leeming Bar platform so filling, rubbing down and re-painting with cream and blue was carried out.

No fewer than 4 'special' trains ran in the month. The 9th saw the first 67s on the branch - 67001 and 67002 top'n tail a UK Railtours train from King's Cross. On the 20th a Wetherby couple celebrated their 40th wedding Anniversary in style, with many relatives and friends, having dinner at Redmire. *Poseidon*, *Sarah* and the red half brake formed the train 66113 hauled the longest, heaviest (1350 te.), slowest ever MOD train south on Thursday 23rd. The wait at road crossings must have been significant. Friday 31st saw a small party from Great Northern Steam at Darlington, who are building a new G5 steam loco (featured on the WR Christmas card at Ainderby crossing), travel behind *Poseidon* for lunch at Springwell Lane. This was the only one of the 4 trains which saw any decent sun (and photos).

47 703 made it's second farewell appearance (see WRA website photo gallery), this time on a works train. It has been suggested it might need a third attempt!!!

Barry Wetherell

FOLK NIGHT

Can I remind all Members that we have arranged a Folk night at Londonderry Lodge on Saturday 8th November. The musicians are giving their time free of charge and the Lodge is not charging for the venue. All proceeds will go to the WRA and everyone will have a great night. There will be a licensed bar and a raffle. Tickets, £5.00, at the door or by contacting John Ozelton on 07940 889736

John Ozelton

SPONSOR A LINK OF TRACK

Support the new track appeal and receive a certificate about YOUR piece of track. Just £30 will provide one full link of track. (Details from Leeming Bar)

REDMIRE

A "Project Leader" is required to form a team and consider ways of improving the buffet coach at Redmire. Better access and signage are required and the site needs a great deal of attention. Anyone interested in taking this up, please let Angus Maude know - contact via Leeming Bar Station or email workparty@wensleydalerailwayassociation.com
Angus Maude

NEW VOLUNTEERS

There have been several new volunteers joining us in the past few weeks and a warm welcome is extended to them. In particular, welcome to the following new volunteers who have recently completed their induction:-

Daniel Druce, Brian Druce, Andy Waite, David Beswick, Tim Williamson, Ann Simpkin

We hope that you enjoy volunteering with the WR.

If any new volunteer (or anyone else for that matter) is wondering what they should be doing or where they can be of most help, please contact me.

Any volunteer who currently receives this Newsletter in hard copy but who now has access to e-mail is asked to forward their email address to me. This helps reduce the number of copies sent out by post. Similarly if your e-mail has changed please let me know (see contact details at the foot of the newsletter).

VOLUNTEERS MEETINGS

Why not come along and meet other volunteers? Have the chance to express your opinions (and hear others!) We have a meeting about every 6 weeks at The Lodge, Leeming Bar and the next date is 9 December, starting at 7.15pm.

OPERATION DALESMAN

Next year's repeat of the very successful 2008 event (but intended to be bigger and better!) will be on 18 and 19 July 2009.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NEWSLETTER

**Deadline for contributions (welcome from anyone) for the next newsletter is 30th November. Send to:-
Philip Smith Tel 01609 774733**

Email

induction@wensleydalerailwayassociation.com