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THE SEVERN VALLEY RAILWAY ASSOCIATION

EXPRESS POINTS

WORKING MEMBERS NEWSLETTER

October 2015

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The Working Members Newsletter**- Contact -****Editor:** Simon Turner**Email:** ExpressPoints@svrlive.com**Write:** Simon Turner, Express Points Editor, The Station Masters Office, Platform one, The Railway Station, Bewdley, DY12 1DP.**- About -**

Express points is distributed on the first Sunday of each month, over 250 printed copies are available and more than 450 digital links sent via email.

This newsletter is produced for the information of Working Members & Staff of the Severn Valley Railway.

- Deadline -

Articles & photographs should be submitted before the last Sunday in the month.



Please recycle this newsletter

Welcome

.. to your latest edition of Express Points – The Working Members Newsletter for the staff of the Severn Valley Railway. Live news is always available online at www.svrlive.com. This newsletter provides a summary of information specific to the staff of the Railway and is a great way for working members to communicate and promote their department. If you have a story – let us know!

E-Version available

If you have access to email facilities you can sign up to receive a link to download this newsletter direct to your computer, simply email ExpressPoints@svrlive.com to subscribe to our reminder service.

Photographs

Did you know you can submit digital photographs to Express Points either to accompany your article or for the front cover? Email them or send them on a disc or USB memory device to the address shown opposite.

Opinions

Any opinions or views expressed in this newsletter are entirely the opinions of the contributors, and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Directors of either Severn Valley Railway (Holdings) PLC. which owns the Severn Valley Railway, Severn Valley Railway Company Limited, the members of which are responsible for its operation, or the supporting body, The Severn Valley Railway Association.

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'Severn Valley Railway Official Site' & 'Express Points'

Live SVR Working Members information available online at www.svrlive.com

VOLUNTEER QUIZ NIGHT**Saturday 24th October 2015****Bridgnorth Buffet****Food and Drinks supplied**

Cover image: 46100 on the 10:30 to Kidderminster at Borle Viaduct on the 20th September. By: Ian Murray

News & Views...

Thinking of using your free travel this year? Here's a list of Railways in the Reciprocal Travel Scheme..

Bluebell Railway	Llangollen Railway
Bo'ness and Kinneil Railway (SRPS)	Mid Hants Railway
Bodmin and Wenford Railway	Mid Norfolk Railway
Dean Forest Railway	North Norfolk Railway
East Lancs Railway	North Yorkshire Moors Railway
Embsay and Bolton Abbey Railway	Ravenglass & Eskdale Railway
Gloucester & Warwickshire Steam Railway	Seaton Tramway
Great Central Railway	South Devon Railway
Isle of Wight Steam Railway	Spa Valley Railway
Keighley & Worth Valley Railway	Strathspey Railway
Kent & East Sussex Railway	Swanage Railway
Lakeside & Haverthwaite Railway	Talyllyn Railway
Leighton Buzzard Railway	Wensleydale Railway

On 'Normal' operating days' timetables all the railways signed up for the scheme should permit free third class (or 2nd or standard class on some lines) on production of an SVR working members staff pass. Some railways, like the SVR, accept the pass and don't issue a ticket whilst others issue a complementary ticket. On Gala days and certain other 'Special Events' days when there are special timetables in operation, they all should provide a reduced rate fare in line with what we do but in practice it varies from similar arrangements to the SVR, to free, to no concessions at all.

It is safest to assume that such restrictions apply at Galas and either phone in advance or certainly enquire at the Booking Office on arrival.

VOLUNTEER MONTHLY VOUCHER DRAW..

The latest winner of the voucher draw is Phil Price of Guards department, congratulations!

The Volunteer Monthly Prize is drawn at random by the Volunteer Liaison Dept. Each month a £20 voucher is won and the winner is published here.

Purchase of ten acres of land west of Bridgnorth station

I am very pleased to report the exciting news that the SVR is now the owner of ten acres of land to the west of Bridgnorth Station.

The land includes the current overspill car park, the field behind the Engineering Services Motive Power building, the field behind Hanbury Cottage and the scheduled ancient monument of Pan Pudding Hill.

The SVR has sought to purchase the fields for some time in order to protect our boundaries from any potential housing encroachment. More recently the fields have become a very valuable element of the Bridgnorth Development Project Masterplan, securing immediately our car parking provision and room in which to construct volunteer accommodation in a later phase of the development at Bridgnorth.

With the impending application for planning consent for the Bridgnorth Masterplan to Shropshire Council, the purchase of the land marks further important progress in the preparation of Bridgnorth Station site for the first phase of development.

Further details concerning the Bridgnorth Masterplan will be available following the submission to Shropshire Council for planning consent.

Our thanks are due to The Apley Estate Trustees and Graeme Manton, the Land Agent for the Estate, for the opportunity to purchase this valuable piece of land.

Nick Ralls , General Manager

Tour Guide Initial Meeting

There will be an initial meeting for those interested in becoming a volunteer 'Tour Guide' on the SVR during 2016. This will be held at Highley on 1st November at 11.30 am.

If any person has not previously expressed an interest via the VLO but is interested please contact Sharon HARVEY on sharon.harvey@svrlive.com .

Thank you
Sharon



On the
Notice
Board this
month...

Your Feedback – it matters!

You can comment on any aspect of this newsletter by emailing the Editor .

You can also feedback to the SVR with regards any topic by emailing the HQ feedback@svrlive.com

Any Staffing issues you can feedback to our Volunteer Liaison Office by emailing Vlo@svrlive.com

Locomotive Crew Manager

I can confirm that after a successful handover period between Roger Norfolk and Jon Teuwen all locomotive crew issues should now be directed to Jon Teuwen only.

Once again thank you to Roger for all his commitment to the role over the years and good luck to Jon in his new role.
Nick Ralls General Manager

Ray Mort

It is with great sadness that I must inform you all that after a long illness Roy Mort passed away in the early hours of Monday 21st September 2015. Many of you will remember Roy as a real character at the Motive Power Department, a great engineer and friend of the Railway.

Roy devoted nearly 40 years to the Severn Valley Railway and will be deeply missed. Further details of the funeral arrangements will be sent out once we have them. I am sure you will all join me in sending our condolences to Roy's family at this difficult time.

Nick Ralls General Manager

Funeral of Ray Mort

The family of the late Roy Mort have confirmed the funeral arrangements as follows:

Wednesday 7th October 2015 At Telford Crematorium At 12pm

The wake will follow at The Railwaymans Arms, Bridgnorth
Nick Ralls General Manager

Safety Advisor Role

I am pleased to announce that Mel Cook and Ray Stilgoe have stepped forward to undertake the Safety Advisor role for the SVR.

Both gentlemen have a wide ranging experience in safety management and fire safety.

Mel and Ray will be covering the following areas:

- ☐ Reviewing risk assessments
- ☐ Reviewing accident statistics
- ☐ Undertaking safety audits across the Railway
- ☐ Reviewing the safety management system
- ☐ Attending the Safety Committee

Mel and Ray are looking for assistance with the promulgation of safety advice and audits on the SVR. They have asked me to appeal to any volunteers who have either the IOSHH Managing Safety qualification or significant equivalent experience of Health and Safety Management to make contact with Barry Moreton. Mel and Ray would like to work with a small qualified team on SVR safety matters, please could you help?

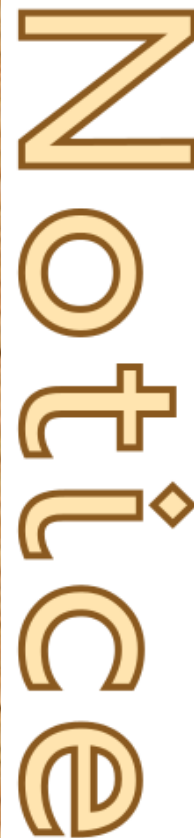
Nick Ralls
General Manager

Working Members Pass ID

Please note that when a Working Members Pass is being used for any SVR facility, travel, buffet, retail etc it must always be accompanied by an ID card, without which the card is invalid.

If you require a renewal/ replacement of your card please contact Kate Kirk at Comberton Place 01562 757930 or in case of difficulty contact the VLO.

Nick Ralls, General Manager



Christmas present delivery – help needed!

Dear all,
As the nights draw in and the temperature begins to plummet, it's time to fetch the woolly hat...which can only mean one thing!!
The Christmas season is fast approaching with public bookings opening on September 14th and 12,528 toys making their way to Kidderminster (but not by reindeer-drawn sleigh unfortunately). Help is needed on Friday 6th and Saturday 7th November from 9am-11am to move the presents from road to railway, ready for the Santa operation.
Last year, a fantastic group of volunteers did the job in a couple of hours, and we're hoping to do the same this year. After all, many hands make light work!!
If you're able to spare a few hours, please contact me...there's even a sausage butty in it: lewis.maddox@svrlive.com, 01562 757910 or extension 560 at Kidderminster Comberton Place.
I look forward to hearing from you.
Many thanks
Lewis Maddox Events Coordinator

SVR Ties

Staff ties can get caught, or in very rare occurrences be pulled in jest or even in anger by other Staff or Passengers. To avoid any danger of strangulation we have sourced a supplier of clip on ties.

These are used exclusively by the emergency services and have found to be convenient, smart and comfortable. The supplier we have approached will provide a marron tie with the round SVR logo (see SVR News inside front cover) embroidered throughout the item.

We have a specimen full tie of the company and colleagues who have inspected it can guarantee the quality. The minimum order we can place is 50 for which the cost per item will be £10. If you are interested in purchasing a tie would you please contact the VLO asap. Thank you
Barry Moreton Volunteer Liaison Officer

Line Side Fires

On the recent Gala weekend, a fire was started on the Bewdley triangle during fine weather to burn scrap materials.
Please be reminded that Severn Valley Railway have made an undertaking to the Safari Park that we will not burn materials on the 'Bewdley Triangle' at any time at weekends when the weather is fine, due to the problems this creates for them with their visitors. Fires lit during week days or during poor weather when smoke will be suppressed is less of a problem, so long as the fires are kept low and with minimal smoke.
While it is understood that scrap materials etc. need to be burnt from time to time along the railway, consideration must be given to the effects on neighbours and in the case above, the timing.
Thank you for your cooperation.
Chris Bond Infrastructure Manager

HRA Carriage and Wagon competition

The Great Western (SVR) Association is pleased to announce that the restoration of the GW Nondescript Saloon 9103 has been awarded the top prize of 'Overall Winner' in the Heritage Railway Association's Carriage and Wagon Competition for 2015. We would like to express our thanks to all our Volunteers and also the Bewdley and Kidderminster Carriage Departments for all their work in restoring 9103 to its original GW condition. The award is due to take place on 11th November 2015. Please note this is for internal information only at present and should not be shared with anyone outside of the SVR. I am sure you will join me in congratulating the team in this fine achievement.
Nick Ralls General Manager

Vacancy: Fundraising Co-ordinator

We are seeking a dynamic person to provide the administrative and fundraising support to the Charitable Trust. This is an extremely varied role to include data capturing, organising events, writing promotional materials and correspondence, and co-ordinating the back office along with support from our volunteers. Along with the relevant experience and skills, the successful candidate will be proactive, a completer finisher and a team player across the SVR family.
Please contact Shelagh Paterson for an informal chat. Tel: 07812 570942

Shareholder Services

The Railway has for many years maintained its own share register under the supervision of Wendy Broadhurst. Wendy has decided to considerably reduce her hours at work, and the maintenance of share records is a task that she reluctantly wishes to give up. I would again like to express my thanks to Wendy for her exceptional commitment to the performance of this task and her never ending friendly and happy demeanor.

A decision was made at the February 2015 Board meeting to outsource our share register to Neville Registrars, as this has been shown to be cost effective.

The process of transferring our data to them has been completed, and their management of the share register is now active. The offices of this firm are based in Halesowen.

Neville Registrars Limited Neville House 18 Laurel Lane Halesowen B63 3DA

Tel: 0121 585 1131 Fax: 0121 585 1132 Email: info@nevilleregistrars.co.uk

SVR board retains the authority to allot shares to new investors and from time to time is approached by people interested in subscribing for shares. Any new shares issued by SVR currently qualify for Enterprise investment Scheme Relief. The Scheme allows eligible UK tax payers to reclaim 30% income tax relief from HMRC

All share transactions are now being processed by Neville Registrar, including new share purchases as well as transfers. They are also despatching shareholder passes and medallions. The first few passes issued omitted the shareholder names, so if you hold one of these could you please return it to Halesowen for your name to be added. I have discussed these processing errors with them and have been assured that they are now being processed correctly.

I still believe that we can work well with this firm, and that their business approach will suit our shareholders. There will be a friendly helpful person on the end of the phone, to help with shareholder enquiries.

Matthew Harris Accountant & Company Secretar

Flying Scotsman visiting SVR Autumn Steam Gala 2016

We're delighted to announce that one of the world's most famous steam locomotives – Flying Scotsman last here in 1994 is heading to the Severn Valley Railway next year. This iconic engine will be a star attraction at our Autumn Steam Gala, September 22nd -25th 2016.

The SVR will be one of the first heritage Railways where fans can see the famous locomotive back in steam, and resplendent in its BR brunswick green livery, following the completion of a painstaking £4.2m project to bring it back to life at Riley & Sons engineering in Bury, Lancs.

This exciting news comes as we as we are busy preparing for a this year's Autumn Gala this weekend, when we welcome big names Royal Scot and Britannia to the line. And next month Tornado will be steaming in!

We have sold over 1800 tickets ahead of the weekend (1400 tickets were sold in advance in 2014) – so we expect this year's Gala to be busier than ever. And with today's announcement, we can look forward to next year as steam enthusiasts from across the country flock to see Scotsman back in steam once again. An inaugural mainline run between London Kings Cross and York will mark Flying Scotsman's official completion and return to steam in early 2016, forming the opening event for the National Railway Museum's February Flying Scotsman Season. It will then make appearances at the East Lancashire Railway and the North Yorkshire Moors Railway before it heads to the Severn Valley Railway in September. More information will be released as we receive it. In the meantime please help spread the word! Many thanks Clare Gibbard Marketing & Communications Manager

Our next edition will be available on Sunday 8th November 2015 (revised date)

Sign up for monthly reminders by emailing us

ExpressPoints@svrlive.com

Live SVR Working Members information available online 24 hours a day at www.svrlive.com