

OLD RUN NEWS

Newsletter of the Middleton Railway Trust
Number 7, September 1965

Open Day, 11th September, 1965

To commemorate the bicentenary of Matthew Murray's birth and five years operation by the M.R.T. we are to hold an Open Day on Saturday, 11th September, 1965, at 2.30 p.m. Please can YOU help us to make it a great success by giving us your support. Enclosed are a few small posters. Help us publicise the event by giving them to friends and persuading people to display them in prominent positions, on notice boards and in shop windows.

The locomotives will be moved out and refreshments will be available. Slides, ball pens, photos, M.R.T. publications will be on sale.

For all these activities we need guides and members to sell our wares. Can you help? All offers will be welcome - contact Mrs. Youell.

More motive power for Middleton?

largely thanks to the enthusiasm and persistence of Ben Wade a locomotive highly suitable for moving M.R.T. traffic has been unearthed and it is hoped that it will be possible to purchase it as a first-reserve-loco for the M.R.T.

The engine is a Bagnall 0-4-0 saddle tank, number 2702 of 1942/3, built for a Monk Bretton Ministry of Power factory. It has been used recently at Cohen's Works, Stanningley, nr. Leeds.

Middleton --- in colour!

A whole new range of colour transparencies is now available (price 2/- each). They include many originals and all are of the highest quality. Locomotives featured are:-

"John Alcock" in original works green livery
and also semi-finished in new maltese-blue livery
"Sentinel 54" in black
"Windle" in fully lined-out green livery
"Swansea" partially restored
"1310" in N.C.B. livery

and a few miscellaneous slides of "John Alcock", the "Sentinel" and the old steam crane.

They are available by post (please send S.A.E.), on the Open Day and at future exhibitions.

Middleton Colliery Railway --- History

Mike Crew has put a great deal of preparation into the new, third edition of the "Middleton Colliery Railway History". It has 24 pages, a printed cover and has been completely brought up to date; it contains details of all the M.R.T locomotives and a new map.

In view of all this additional material members are urged to acquire a copy of this third edition irrespective of whether they have a copy of editions one or two or not. Price 1/-, 1/6d post free.

On the Line

Members of the Steam Power Trust are working hard on the Y7 with the result that it is almost ready for its hydraulic test.

The diesel is now all dark blue but we are still experiencing difficulty in obtaining parts for the compressor given to us by Broom and Wade.

Several pieces of the now derelict level crossing gates have been stolen. Norman Fearnley had cut them off ready to load on a train and was amazed to find that these very heavy parts had disappeared before he could get there!

On Tuesday evening of 24th August, the heaviest out train for some time was despatched in appalling conditions. A cloud burst during the run made the approach to B.R. on the 1 in 70 gradient a real test of skill for the crew of Norman Fearnley and Barry Wood.

R.C.H.S. Visit

Forty members of the Railway and Canal Historical Society are to visit us on Sunday, 5th September. It is hoped to have the Y7 running a brake van trip for them. Any member of M.R.T. willing to act as a guide please contact Mrs. Youell.

Exhibitions

M.R.T. are at present exhibiting at the Britannia Model Railway Society Exhibition held in the Castle Girls School, Knaresborough August 25th to 28th.

An exhibition for the general public in the entrance hall of Yorkshire House, Greek Street, Leeds 1, features the world's oldest railway. It was installed on Saturday, 14th August and will be on show till the end of December. It is by far the most professional exhibit the M.R.T. has produced and our thanks go to John Carr and Mervyn Leah for their very hard work in preparing it.

John and Mervyn were able to use the services of "that ever popular and erudite comedian" Graham Mitchell who was making a brief but welcome visit that day. I have it on good authority that he enjoyed himself immensely spreading "instant flith" -- on the coal mine exhibit I mean. Our thanks go to the Leeds City Museum for the loan of this excellent model coal mine.

Make sure you do visit this really first class exhibition.

Other Open Days

Our friends K.W.V.R.P.S. --- Saturday, 28th August, 2.30 p.m. Haworth Station. Refreshments. Admission: Adults 1/-, children 6d.

Clapham Museum of British Transport --- Special Sunday opening on 10th October, 10 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. Special facilities. Adults 5/- Children 2/6. Full details in the next newsletter.

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