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Shipleigh Glen Tramway

Newsletter

TRUSTEES: Dale Smith (chair,) John Pitcher, Dianne Wyatt, Vince Kitson, Geoff Stanley, Maggie de'Vries, Tish Lawson, Dave Charles. Secretary/Treasurer: Richard Freeman.

Christmas and New Year

A very happy New Year and a huge pat on the back to everyone who contributed to the success of events over the Christmas/New Year period. There have been loads of compliments to be passed on to everybody such as, happy festive atmosphere, hard-working elves/Santa, great presents. Particular thanks go to Peter Hanson for stepping in last minute to be Santa. Selling Santa tickets at the bottom station only, for the first time this year, has worked perfectly and made for more orderly queuing to see Santa at the top. Despite numbers being slightly down from previous years the whole event proved profitable and great fun. Richard Freeman has provided some statistics comparing annual numbers as well as Santa Special figures and in general the following jumps out for 2017. Passengers totalled 28,623 compared to 28,491 the previous year. School group numbers are down by nearly 400 over the year. But the good news is that the bank balance is healthy, though some major works are needed for 2018.

Planned works

The driver's cab will have a curtain heater fitted, similar to the one in the sweet shop, to provide much needed warmth in the winter months. Unfortunately, the power supply to the bottom station is limited so there can't too many high-load appliances working at the same time. So, it would be a curtain heater OR the 2 current freestanding heaters. The general consensus is that the current 2 individual heaters work better than a single one over the door.

Peter Coles (maintenance and greeter) is planning to restore 2 lamp fittings which will eventually be put onto the 2 lampposts that currently have no light.

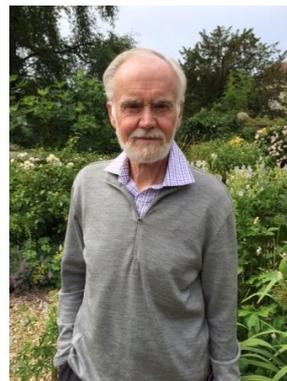
The maintenance team is working with MP Alarms of Shipleigh to find ways to improve security to deter intruders and vandalism.

John Pitcher and Dave Charles are visiting a rail enthusiast near Cleethorpes to source some spare 20lb track which is hard to find in the UK.

A job that never disappears is the replacement of damaged or cracked sleepers but as the track is generally showing signs of sinking the team are looking to upgrade the track bed. This will be an expensive and longer-term project.

Meet the SGT Trustees/Secretary

Starting with the SGT secretary and treasurer.



Richard Freeman - Treasurer and Company Secretary since Glen Tramway Preservation Co Ltd was registered with Companies House 27/12/2001.



Geoff Stanley – maintenance and driver.

Trustees serve for a maximum of 3 years, at which point they have to be re-elected if they want to continue. They are elected by SGT members at the AGM. If you are interested in becoming a trustee, first you have to be a member. The trustees would have to approve any nominations. These procedures follow standard charity/company rules.

Archived Material

The Tramway Archives are now stored with the West Riding Archives at Bradford. They include all the printed material that was rescued from the museum before it was developed and printed material which was given by Mick Leak during the last year. Tish or Mike Lawson can offer help if you wish to view.

Thank you to:

A special thank you to John from The Orange Grove for donating the two Xmas trees. Local support is a massive boost to the tramway, not only in a financial way but also in that it links the tramway to other organisations. Dina Plowes for example has flagged up a possible future link with Saltaire Stories and the trustees are looking to pursue this.

Congratulations

Chris Evans is now a fully trained dispatcher so well done to you Chris!

Trustees' meeting

Volunteers and members are welcome to submit items for these meetings, but Dale (chair) asks that adequate notice is given so the agenda for the meeting can be drawn up in advance.

The cost and purpose of tramway membership is to be discussed.

The next date for a social get-together is Thursday Feb 22nd 7.30pm at the Caroline Street Club in Saltaire.

The new look website, owned entirely by the tramway, is under development. Volunteers and members are invited to undergo some initial training and take responsibility for a particular area, keeping it updated etc. This shares the load.

New volunteers should be directed to trustees Maggie, Tish and Dianne.

To all SGT Volunteers from SGT trustees!

We all just want to say a huge thank you to one and all who helped, in whatever way. From counting Easter Bunnies right through to Santa rides. Each week you give your time and give much more besides. Without you there'd be nothing, we just couldn't keep on running. So again, a BIG HUGE THANK YOU ALL, we hope you keep on coming.

Dates for the next 2 meetings are: Feb 12th at 1pm and March 19th at **7.30pm**.

Reminders

- All volunteers and members are welcome and encouraged to attend the monthly trustees' meeting.
- If needed, there is a wheelchair in the motor room for emergencies.
- Strive not to be a success, but rather to be of value.

Albert Einstein

The newsletter, which will be published the week after the trustees meet, is our way of communicating with volunteers, members and trustees. If you have any contributions, comments or suggestions please contact Gill gilliancharles@btconnect.com or Dina dinaplowses@gmail.com. The deadline for contributions to the next newsletter is 14th February 2018.