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Shipley 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.

More about Trustees



This is Vince Kitson who's been a longstanding trustee and was involved in major track restoration works around 2002.



Here's Maggie de'Vries who has a particular interest in special events at the tramway.

Easter Winners

The Easter eggs donated by Saltaire Co-op were gratefully received by several sharp-eyed youngsters in the competitions. Have a look on Facebook for their photos.

May Events

Saltaire Arts Trail will be 5th - 7th May (Bank Hol weekend.)
Weekend 26th, 27th, 28th May - Suffragettes weekend on Shipley Glen so we will incorporate Founders' Day the same weekend. We're hoping to

have a tombola and the usual free rides for an old penny or for anyone in Victorian dress over the 3 days.

Snow Business is Slow Business!

Thanks to the weather we had only a handful of hardy passengers on Easter Monday. in APRIL!



Books Books and More Books

Dina has access to a supply of free books through her involvement with the Little Free Library started by Hirstwood Regeneration Scheme. Most of the books are donated by a local charity shop, but we would welcome any others if people would like to bring them. The theme is transport related with

particular interest to youngsters. They are currently on the table in the information centre available for visitors to browse or take away.

Maintenance Matters



Look at the size of these little beauties! Sleepers delivered for the hard-working maintenance team and occasional helpers (thanks Chris Bush!). 10 lengths make 30 sleepers.

Thanks go to Peter Coles who has donated a supply of the specialist rope grease for the tram cables and some hydraulic oil for the trams' safety brake mechanism.

Tricky Tramway Ticket Troubles

It can be a challenge, judging whether to offer a passenger a concessionary rate ticket or not. Dina was doing her best to be tactful when she asked a gent whether his group included any "over 60" concessions. He leant so far into the pay window it looked like he was going to crawl in through it. "Yes," he whispered, "my mother-in-law. But please give her a full ticket. I'm not supposed to know how old she is!" Dina did as he asked. Happy travellers, happy Dina.

Lions and Tigers and Bears, Oh My!

Sam Wilson, builder of SGT, was a showman and a newspaper report on the 5th June 1926 says that Sam accepted a wager that no-one would dare enter the lions' cage of a travelling menagerie visiting Shipley Glen. The bet was that they should remain there while four forest-bred lions were put through their paces in a show. Sam accepted the

The newsletter, which will be published the week after the trustees meet, is your 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 10th May 2018.

challenge and in front of a spellbound audience not only stayed in the cage throughout the performance but actually smoked a cigar and drank a glass of beer! He won the wager but claimed that he bore scars on his legs caused by the whip of the lions' tails as they passed by him in the narrow cage. Shortly after this event it became clear just how dangerous his adventure had been because the same lions attacked their trainer who was terribly mauled before he could be rescued.

Info from Trustees

6 stacking chairs are to be purchased for the information centre.

The glass bottles in the shop are to be replaced over time with plastic ones as they are safer and considerably cheaper.

It was agreed that Paul Armstead will take over responsibility for the roster after the AGM. Thanks to Paul for offering to do this and thanks to Philip King for having done it for so long.

Reminders

- The current newsletter (laminated) is now available to read at both top and bottom stations. One copy is also in a folder in the museum/information centre.
- Trustees' meetings: - Monday 9th April at 13.00 and Tuesday 8th May at 19.30. All in the Link, Baildon.
- Our AGM will be held in the Evans Room at Victoria Hall, Saltaire on Wed April 18th at 19.30 with tea and biscuits - all members are welcome and should have received an invitation. If you know of someone who has not received an invitation please let Richard Freeman or any of the trustees know.
- Please continue to sell tickets right up to 4.30pm rather than expect passengers to "donate" their fares. We cannot claim Gift Aid on anything other than true donations. Ticket sales also provide accurate passenger numbers for the day. Thanks.

Life's tragedy is that we get old too soon and wise too late.

Benjamin Franklin