

Annual General Meeting 25 October 2022

G.W.R. Report - Bryan Luxford

What a great 2022 season we have had, post Pandemic and all out of our shell to meet and greet our willing passengers to the extended railway.

A few statistics for you; we were open to the public 48 times, took 4885 paying passengers (the very young go free), of which 2470 were adults (beating the number of children by 55. This proves we don't run trains for just the kids, but the young at heart.). At the Classic Car show we carried 697 passengers and over the 2 day Green Man event we did 753 rides. The Easter Egg Hunt 398 egg hunters. (Mean average 69)

I only remember 4 days that we cancelled because of rain (or should I say forecasted rain!).

I know the small band of people that run the railway enjoy the camaraderie/banter that we have when both doing our rostered duty or our working parties, please, long may this continue. The "Band of People" take a "Bow" you know who you are.

This report would go on for pages if I was to inform the membership what has been achieved over the past year. But, these are a few things that have been done by the Gang; Grass cutting, Planting, Pruning, Leaf blowing, Track extension, Rail painting, Track alignment, Track tamping, Rolling stock maintenance, Station improvements, Locomotives repaired, Locomotives serviced, Track assembly, General site maintenance, Doing our Rostered Duties, The list goes on.

Our final Sunday running trains for the public was our "Steam only Day", blessed with fine weather the day was most enjoyable with 5 different engines steaming around. It was especially good to see our new Junior member Ellis driving Peggy (our club loco) for most of the day, improving his handling of Peggy lap after lap. Also a good chance for members to socialise, we shall repeat the event next season.

My thanks to all the members who have enjoyed our facilities over the past year, let us all look forward to another good year "Playing Trains".

I have started a list for 2023 season, so beware it is long, all of the above again plus more.

For the future we will need another 2 passenger coaches and Guards truck if finances allow, not forgetting the station canopy that we have planning permission for. A signalling system to let drivers know, from a distance, which way the points will take them making our railway even safer.

Organising the 2 sites within the Park that we have in a smooth, happy and safe way is a credit to the Managing group headed by our diplomatic Chairman.