



# RIBBLE VALLEY RAILNews



## **Blue Above the Calder**

Seen from above Painter Wood, at 09.00 on a sunny 12th May 2021,  
the Midland Blue Pullman crosses Whalley Arches.

*Photo: Brian Haworth*





**Northbound Midland Pullman**  
passes Horrocksford Jct  
on 10 May 2021

*Photo: Graham Dudley*



**Out with the New(ish)**

In the last week of the relatively  
luxurious 158/153 combos,  
158797 draws into Clitheroe  
at 08.01 on 13 May 2021.

*Photo: Graham Dudley*



**In with the Old**

150002, one of the reconfigured  
CI 150 3-car sets,  
awaits departure from Clitheroe  
at 14.16 on 26 May 2021

*Photo: Graham Dudley*

## **From the Chair**

Following the cancellation of the 2020 Annual General Meeting and monthly Committee meetings last year, as notified in the previous edition of RVR News, an on-line Zoom AGM was organized and took place on 27 March this year.

As also advised in her “From the Chair” report in the same edition, RVR Chairman Marjorie Birch gave notice of her retirement at the AGM from the position after 9 years. Those years saw devotion and hard work from Marje, not only in encouraging, overseeing and organising the work of Ribble Valley Rail, but also taking on a Directorship of the Association of Community Rail Partnership (now the national Community Rail Network) and Chairing our own East Lancashire and Clitheroe lines Community Rail Partnership. Marje has now retired from all these positions and, at its most recent on-line meeting, ELCCoRP showed a thank-you video with contributions, not only from the Community Rail community, but also from schools, Local Authorities and the rail industry. This was a truly well-deserved tribute to her hard work in promoting and developing the voluntary aspect of the role of local railways in the community. However it is not goodbye, as Marje remains active as a Committee Member and Vice-Chair, and is still much involved in our voluntary work.

As reported previously, Committee Member Gordon Wilson retired after more than 20 years dedication to maintaining the environment of Clitheroe station to a high standard. At the AGM, his place on the Committee was taken by Lauren Hall, a Member who is also no stranger to our station working parties. With her late Grandad, Ron Birch, having been a Founder Member and Treasurer of RVR and with Marje as Grandma, Lauren is carrying on the family tradition of voluntary service. We welcome her onboard.

In the early days of RVR, with the Settle-Carlisle Railway under threat and the Ribble Valley line with barely any regular traffic, all seemed bleak, but Ribble Valley Rail stuck to its aims and objectives working with the various authorities (now our Partners within the above Partnerships). The main aim of reintroducing and supporting a regular passenger service to Clitheroe was achieved and continues to develop.

The other aim of restoring through passenger services to Hellifield and into Yorkshire seemed then a distant dream, save for the summer Sundays-only DalesRail trains. A recent opportunity to work towards this aim via the “Restoring Your Railway” Government initiative was reported in the previous issue.

Ribble Valley Borough Council’s bid for this funding, sponsored by Ribble Valley M.P. Nigel Evans, was one of only ten to be successful nationally in the first bidding round. This allowed consultants Stantec Ltd, to be appointed. They consulted with all sorts of interested local parties, including RVR, and have now published a report (Strategic Outline Business Case), submitted to H.M. Government. We await their further consideration in the next “Outline Business Case” stage and hope for a positive outcome.

As your new Chairman, I hope to follow in Marje's footsteps and further our efforts in sustaining and improving the Ribble Valley line services. It will be a hard act to follow! Committee Member Pam Corlett was appointed Secretary in my place, and she should be thanked for her work and efficiency as Minutes Secretary previously.

Thanks to all Members who have continued to contribute in these restrictive and difficult times of the pandemic.

*Peter Eastham*

## **ON THE LINE**

During lockdown units used on Ribble Valley Line services (which fortunately did not suffer service level cuts) changed for the better.

Class 158s, both 2- and 3-car sets, plus the 158/153 combos, became a regular sight, a big improvement on the normal Class 150s.

Unfortunately the recent timetable uplift has seen the 158s disappear, to be replaced with the 3-car Class 150 units. The Class 150/2s have also disappeared over to Yorkshire. So, once again, this area sees itself at the bottom of the unit pyramid. Nothing new there, then!

Freight services have continued to run normally during lockdown with the cement, timber, and stone flows continuing to traverse the RVL.

Class 70s operate both the log and stone traffic and Class 66s can be found on the cement. The engineers' service is normally in the hands of Class 66s or 68s with, very often, a dead locomotive hitching a lift in the consist.

About once a month the Burngullow/Irvine China clay working runs over the RVL with a Class 66 in charge, routed this way to keep up driver route knowledge. I believe that this service is the longest freight flow in the country.

In recent weeks excursion traffic has returned to the route with both steam and diesel operated services. The steam services have seen a good mixture of locomotives, with LMS, SR, LNER represented.

The highlight for me, however, was the appearance of the HST set painted in the blue style Midland Pullman livery which looks magnificent. It proves how a well designed livery can lift a train's appearance dramatically. The sight of this blue train running through the green Ribble Valley landscape was uplifting and is a credit to the operator.

Specials both steam and diesel are scheduled to run all through the summer months. Check *Real Time Trains* for timing information.

*Brian Haworth*

## Book Review

### Day Return to 1969

The Railway Career of a Career Railwayman  
by Stephen Cornish

Some time ago I received an email from Stephen asking if I would like to review his book for RVRNews. You bet! Within about 36 hours I received a publisher's proof and began reading what is an absolute cracker with, certainly in the early chapters, a laugh on nearly every page.

Writing in an entertaining, almost conversational, style and, reminiscent of the books by the late Geoffrey Hilditch, however well you know him, you can almost hear his voice telling the story. The strictly autobiographical is kept to a minimum, most of the detail being reserved for the unfolding of his career in BR and its successors.

A Man of Kent, Stephen moved to the Manchester area as a boy and was well-acquainted with the old Manchester South Junction & Altrincham Railway. *[Ted Buckley, are you reading this?]* His railway career started with pushing a tea-trolley, ending as Head of Special Trains and having an item of motive power named after him. *[If you want to know it's identity, you'll have to read the book.]*

The book contains some wonderful character sketches (with few pulled punches but credit where credit was due), and people and places of which RVR members could say, "been there, done that, know him/her". Not only is it a history but also a forthright critique of change/transition in the railway industry. Anecdotes and milestones abound, many of which, like Edmondson tickets, pigeons, and electric locomotives, are fading into distant memory. There is also a chapter on certain "enthusiast" bodies and railway societies, occupying over three pages of which is a very complimentary piece on RVR.

When it came to retirement Stephen obviously could look back on a 40-year career with the typical feelings of a man with a job thoroughly enjoyed and well done and the right time to go. I know that feeling very well. However, for Stephen there was still a surprise in store!

*Bill Briggs*

*Day Return to 1969*

*Stephen Cornish*

*ISBN-13:979822485359*

*297pp including 16 photographs at the end of the book charting not only the evolution of his career but also that of a certain style.*

*Available only from Amazon £9.99 in paperback and £3.99 in a Kindle electronic version.*

Brian Haworth, Marjorie Birch, and Peter Eastham have attended various meetings within the Partnership and have had correspondence with our local Northern Railway Managers. Alan Scholfield, and others have been dealing with issues at Whalley regarding the on-going issue of crumbling platform edges and also youths and BMX bicycles frequenting the platform. Ramsgreave has had similar school holiday related gatherings which have also been reported.

Restoring Your Railway (Clitheroe to Hellifield passenger service bid) - no further news. It is now under consideration by the Department for Transport in London and we await their decision for the next step.

Rail user car parking spaces in Chester Avenue car park in Clitheroe. A rail user reported to Marje that the reserved signage had gone. This matter has been pursued by Marje, Alan Scholfield, Peter Eastham, and Richard Watts of the Partnership. At the recent Partnership meeting, Richard reported that this is now being taken very seriously, and his successor at LCC (Mike Cliffe) is in serious discussions with RVBC to find a way to manage and police such spaces in the future. Removal of such a facility does not seem to be helpful to any future expansion of the rail service northwards. Rail user parking used to be monitored by the staff in the now-closed Interchange.

Northern reports a steady increase in passengers returning to the railway. Blackpool -York is doing the best, perhaps not surprisingly, given it's been the holiday period with major holiday/tourist attractions at each end. The Ribble Valley Line is quite low in the rankings - but that again is not surprising given the summer holiday period and no school or university traffic.

There was serious disruption to our service, and buildings surrounding Darwen station recently. Ken Roberts heard on local radio that this was due to a suspicious package having been left on the station. He later reported that there had been a controlled explosion and a 50+ year old man taken into custody. The extent of the disruption was later reported in detail in the STORM (Oldham/Rochdale Group) newsletter. More details in the following link: <https://www.lancashiretelegraph.co.uk/news/19506455.darwen-station-bomb-scare-man-made-comments-9-11-chopping-people/>

Thanks to all who have continued to visit and maintain our stations.

RVR intends to resume “live” meetings, the first being proposed for  
**21st September at the New Inn, Clitheroe, at 2.00pm.**

Please contact Peter Eastham if you plan to attend.

### **Northern News**

Owing to on-going COVID issues, timetables on certain routes were amended from 2 August. These services were set to be reinstated no later than 6 September.

Some special offers, discounts, and a competition, have been introduced. From Tuesday 24 August more than one million £1 tickets (50p for children) have been made available for advance purchase for travel on Northern services between 6 September and 22 October 2021.

Northern has been busy introducing no fewer than 101 new trains (including the Class 195 - yet to appear on the RVL, of course!), completed the refurbishment of its older units (which definitely have appeared on the RVL), installed over 600 ticket machines, and improved accessibility at many locations.

### **News from even further north**

The **Upper Wensleydale Railway Supporters'** Meeting is due to be held at 11.30am on Saturday 16 October 2021 at The Dales Countryside Museum in Hawes.

This is of no small interest to RVR as the aim of the UWR is to have the railway restored from Hawes to Garsdale (on the S&C) with, ultimately, a direct train service from Hawes to either Manchester or Preston, calling at RV stations.

RVR will be well represented, not only by the RVR Membership Sec, but also by the UWR's Chairman designate, Andrew Longworth, who is an RVR Member.

For more information to and/or to book a place, visit:-  
<https://upperwensleydalera railway.org.uk>

## **RAMSGREAVE & WILPSHIRE STATION JUST GOT BIGGER !**

The work to extend both platforms at Ramsgreave & Wilpshire station by Network Rail contractors, Buckingham Group Contracting Ltd, is now complete.

Platform 2 at R&W was the shortest on the line and there were accommodation issues for all but the shortest 4-car trains.

The project was part of the Great North Rail Project which has seen 120 platforms extended at over 70 stations across the North of the country.

Work began in January and much of it was carried out overnight when trains were not running. Both platforms are now 97 metres (100 yards) long.

Both this station and Langho have suffered from settlement of the infill under the platforms since they were built, resulting in the platform surfaces sinking slowly behind the platform edge paving, thus necessitating periodic re-surfacing.

Network Rail and Buckingham are to be congratulated in a much more substantial construction using steel piling in these extensions. Buckingham staff are also to be thanked in carrying out some work in their own time in replacing a short section of rotting fence and several broken fencing palings at the other end of the station.

*Peter Eastham*



### **New addition at Clitheroe**

Snapped on 23 march 2021,  
the new shelter on the UP  
(Blackburn-bound) platform at  
Clitheroe Station.

Cool, or what?

*Photo: Peter Eastham*



### **Platform extension at R&W**

Above: work in progress 14 April 2021

Below: the finished article 15 June 2021

*Photos: Peter Eastham*





## LMS STEAM ON THE RVL

Jubilee Class 45562 *Alberta*  
heads *The Fellsman* through  
Horrocksford Junction  
at 08.53 on 25 May 2021



Princess Royal Class  
6201 *Princess Elizabeth*,  
on one of her final turns,  
heads a train of Pullman coaches  
over "Gasworks Bridge"  
at 11.35 on 6 June 2021



Royal Scot Class  
46115 *Scots Guardsman*  
heads *The Fellsman*  
past Horrocksford SB  
at 09.51 on 29 June 2021

*Photos: Graham Dudley*

## SOUTHERN COMFORT

Regarded as light on their feet, thirsty “coal-gobblers”, these locos give their crews an exceptionally smooth ride.

Rebuilt Bulleid

West Country class Light Pacific  
34046 *Braunton*

head a Saphos Trains

Classic Steam excursion southbound  
through Clitheroe  
at 17.43 on 26 May 2021



Rebuilt Bulleid

Merchant Navy class Pacific  
35018 *British India Line* heads  
*The Fellsman*

through Horrocksford Jct  
at 09.51 on 27 July 2021



## BACK TO WORK!

70817 head the Chirk-bound  
“Logs” through Clitheroe  
at 15.01 on 26 May 2021



*Photos: Graham Dudley*



## Hellifield Station buzzing

Al-fresco dining under the canopy of the UP (north-bound) platform



Your table is ready!



Happy Holidays

*Photos: courtesy  
Dr John Sagar / Shed 24H*

## Hellifield Station buzzing

Following the COVID outbreak, the station café (Shed 24H Tearooms) was closed and later operated for take-away meals only. It is now fully open again from Tuesday to Saturday. During lockdown the owners spent their time renovating the former stationmasters' first floor accommodation to a very high standard as a holiday let comprising two bedrooms, a bathroom, a kitchen, and a living room with dining facilities.

Now open for booking, and named "The Yorkshire Sleeper", the apartment provides the perfect base for those wishing to explore the stunning Yorkshire Dales and beyond or indulge interests in railways past and present at very close quarters. Andy Dean, part of the Shed 24H team, says that going on holiday to a railway station is the stuff of dreams to some people. You can read more about the apartment, see photos and book a stay on Facebook at:

<https://www.facebook.com/TheYorkshireSleeper>  
and at <https://theyorkshiresleeper.booksterhq.com/>

Further along the platform they have also opened a heritage room, well stocked with rail-related books, periodicals, and railwayana.

It is good again to see the station busy, especially on days when tour trains stop to change from diesel to steam locomotive power before heading north to Carlisle. The station plays regular host to some of the country's finest preserved Steam and Diesel locomotives hauling tours originating from all over the UK. This important station still provides watering facilities for these icons of steam.

These special trains continue to increase in number, supported by staycation passengers not travelling abroad for holidays and an increasing number of steam train operators involved. An increasing number of available heritage steam locomotives, some being hired from heritage preserved lines to run again on the main line, and even several brand new ones being constructed to the old designs, but using modern engineering technology to improve reliability and maintenance, all make this possible.

One week recently saw almost one special train per day on the Settle-Carlisle route with most arriving via the Ribbles Valley line. Instant information about these trains and their real-time progress on the internet draws lots of enthusiasts, photographers and families to see the trains arrive and depart. Many have a hearty breakfast, distanced at tables on the station platforms, whilst they wait for the arrivals, then set off for a day walking, cycling or by car into the Dales.

Life has been brought back to a quite desolate, quiet station and demonstrates the potential of an increased leisure hub if the bid for regular through trains from Clitheroe to Yorkshire is successful.

*Neil Weaver*

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Ribble Valley Rail  
held on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2021 (via Zoom) at 2.00pm**

**Present:** M Birch, DJ Butterworth, P Eastham, WA Briggs, PM Corlett, B Haworth, A Scholfield, P White, Neil Weaver, Joan Moore, L Hall.

**1. Apologies for absence:** G Dudley, A Bowles, K Roberts, Craig Ward

**2. Minutes of the 2019 AGM were accepted** – proposed by WAB seconded by BH. All in favour

**3. Matters arising - none**

**4. Chair's report 2021**

Since the onset of COVID19 life has changed for all of us over the last twelve months with meetings being held by zoom, which unfortunately has excluded some members of our committee.

Infrastructure works have taking place to ensure that platforms can accommodate four car units with extensive work being currently undertaken at Ramsgreave and Wipshire. Ticket machines have been installed at all stations with the line now becoming a Penalty Fare line. Sadly the Interchange at Clitheroe is still unoccupied although a cycle hire company are interested in being based at the station A new cantilver shelter is being installed on platform 1 offering an additional covered waiting area.

Lockdown has seen many TOCs being managed by the Office of Last Resort which took the franchises into public ownership. Our franchise has a new managing director Nick Donovan and a new company Northern Trains Ltd. With the onset of the pandemic there has not been any opportunity to assess the effects of that change. We have been very fortunate that our timetable has not been changed allowing essential workers to travel to their place of work. Recently numbers of passengers travelling have begun to increase with about twenty people travelling between Clitheroe and Blackburn. With the return of school pupils and university students numbers will continue to increase.

Projects at stations have involved young people from Northern, schools and colleges. At Clitheroe the Northern Apprentices together with pupils from Brookside and St. Michael and St Johns Schools provided new signage from the station into Clitheroe and artwork related to transport on each of the platforms. The Partnership provided a new display board, which houses a new map of Clitheroe. Working with Connecting East Lancashire students from Blackburn College and Ribblesdale High School have been working with an artist to make the station at Ramsgreave and Wipshire more visible. Signage and artwork will be displayed at the station. Sadly, not long after the installation of the art work in the shelters it was badly vandalised.

The ticket machines (card only) on both platforms are now used regularly following introduction of ticket barriers at Blackburn. The public address system has not been a problem. Passenger information screens have been reliable after some problems in April. The screen on the stairs to the Blackburn platform is now working but does not include the Blackburn stop for Clitheroe trains. All station and platform shelter lights have been off during daytime visits. No information is available for evenings and early mornings. Windows in the station shelters were cleaned thoroughly by contractors during the year. A timetable holder is only available on the Blackburn platform, that on the Bolton platform having been scrapped due to wear and tear. However, timetable requirements have fallen significantly in the year due to mobile phone apps. etc.

The stations along the line have benefitted, when appropriate, from the involvement of Friends and In Bloom groups with the flower tubs producing colorful displays. Funding was received from Whalley, Langho and Wilpshire Parish Councils together with Station adoption funding to pay for the summer plants. Gordon Wilson, who maintained Clitheroe Station and spent many hours planting and watering the tubs and hanging baskets, has retired after 25 years. We presented him with a plaque as a thank you and recognition of his hard work.

Ribble Valley Borough Council was successful in receiving funding from the Restoring Your Railway fund to develop proposals for the reopening of the line through to Hellifield. Currently Stantec, the consultants are continuing to fine-tune the options in line with government guidance and the available data. The public engagement exercise will also help identify options that could move to the next stage.

We have managed to keep in contact through our meetings on zoom, our newsletter in August 2020 and our magazine. One of our members Neil Weaver has developed a new website using the old domain name. The site is easy to navigate, with interesting up to date information. On behalf of RVR I would like to thank him for his continuing work with the website. Any news items should be sent to Neil and Peter.

The focus for the rail industry is to rebuild the confidence in rail travel. In the future we may see less commuter travel and a greater focus on leisure, with our area being a popular visitor destination. Northern have confirmed that the DalesRail service will operate on Sundays from 16 May finishing on 12 September, timetables are available on [dalesrail.com](http://dalesrail.com)

As you all know this is my last Chair's report and I would like to thank all the committee, particularly Peter, David and Brian for their help and support over the last nine years. Although no longer Chair I will continue to work to develop our line as a committee member.

*Marjorie Birch*

## **5. Treasurer's report and adoption of accounts**

The statement of Income and Expenditure for 1<sup>st</sup> February 2019 - 31<sup>st</sup> January 2020 was distributed, showing an income of £3,444.50 and an expenditure of £2,564.23, with total account balances of £5,744.40. The sources of income and reasons for expenditure were explained.

The statement of Income and Expenditure for 1<sup>st</sup> February 2020 - 31<sup>st</sup> January The statement of Income and Expenditure for 1<sup>st</sup> February 2020 - 31<sup>st</sup> January 2021 was distributed, showing an income of £1,489.50 and an expenditure of £1,304.13, with total account balances of £5,929.77. The sources of income and reasons for expenditure were explained. Savings have been made by a more sustainable way of printing RVRNews and by a reduced premium for PA Ins.

Acceptance proposed by WAB and seconded by BH . All in favour.

## **6. RVR Membership Report to AGM, Saturday 27 March 2021**

Since the last "AGM", the deaths of 5 members have been reported. 2 new members have joined RVR and a friend one deceased member has renewed the subscription.

Of the 59 renewals due at 31 January 2021, 4 had died, Only 5 have defaulted

So, to date, RVR has 127 subscribing members and 5 Honorary Life Members. Total: 132

### **RVRNews**

RVRNews is sent out by email to: 36 membership

25 Rly industry, associated bodies, Local Authorities, MPs, Press, etc.

## 7. Friends of Stations

**Clitheroe:** A group of volunteers weeded the area and planted pansies. Phil Cook will come and have a look and suggest suitable planting for easy maintenance. The oil leaking under the bridge has improved but is still happening.

**Whalley:** Plants have been ordered. The platform edges are now dangerous and have been reported via Northern system. When preparation work was done for CCTV, plastic cleating was damaged. It has also been reported. Response to any report is never received. MB suggested contacting Martin Keating. AS will forward a list for her to pass on.

**Langho:** BH needs top soil to fill the tubs before planting. Langho in Bloom keeping the subway tidy. [PE to write a letter of thanks] An accessibility study has been done. Possibly a lift could be installed – with the appropriate funding. BH is keeping an eye on the builders encroaching on the garden. He has correspondence safeguarding the ownership of the garden. It is currently fenced, with a sign showing that it is the property of RVR.

**Ramsgreave & Wilpshire:** PE has visited occasionally and left TTs. Craig Ward confirmed Wilpshire PC will provide plants. The artwork by Ribblesdale School installed in the shelter has been vandalised. Craig will be leading walks from the Dalesrail service.

**Darwen:** Report for period April 2019 to 21 March 2020

Weekly visits, usually between 11.15 and 11.45 am. Monday to Friday. Station remains very clean and tidy with no evidence of vandalism or graffiti. Plastic litter bags always in place at all points and being used. Replacement is now during the morning on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The ticket machines (card only) on both platforms are now used regularly following introduction of ticket barriers at Blackburn. The public address system has not been a problem. Passenger information screens have been reliable after some problems in April. The screen on the stairs to the Blackburn platform is now working but does not include the Blackburn stop for Clitheroe trains. All station and platform shelter lights have been off during daytime visits. No information is available for evenings and early mornings. Windows in the station shelters were cleaned thoroughly by contractors during the year. A timetable holder is only available on the Blackburn platform, that on the Bolton platform having been scrapped due to wear and tear. However, timetable requirements have fallen significantly in the year due to mobile phone apps. etc.

All briars, trailing foliage and weeds were cutback in November – cuttings were left on the platform and were later removed by ISS/. Larger shrubs and foliage are under control after major pruning last year. The station continues to look well cared for. Bulbs planted in the large planters by RVR members are still blooming in season. Evergreen planters attached to platform benches are in good condition and require no attention. Platform extensions were started in June but these only became operational in February. The car park is now seeing more use, although this varies between 8 and 15 cars, since charges were introduced a couple of years ago.

In summary, no significant problems with station being treated with respect by users even after heavy football traffic and holiday periods.

**Darwen 2021 Report 5<sup>th</sup> March 2021**

Due to Covid-19 restrictions only one visit was made after March 2020; this was in mid-July. The station was in good order with all systems working. Northern appeared to be looking after the station in the usual way.

MB – Community Rail working with local schools to provide artwork. *Graham Dudley*

## 8. Election of officers and committee

The following nominations were received:

**Chairman:** Peter Eastham

**Secretary:** Pam Corlett

**Treasurer:** David Butterworth

**Webmaster:** Neil Weaver

There will be a sub-committee for RVRNews.

### Committee nominations:

M Birch, WA Briggs, PM Corlett, B Haworth, A Scholfield, P White, N Weaver, J Moore, A Bowles, G Dudley

It was stipulated that committee members must be willing to be involved in various sub-groups.

All elected unopposed.

## 10. Any Other Business

The contact tree is to be updated via Peter Eastham

PE had email from Richard Watts re comreg meeting. MB sent RW an update on progress.

DJB said more emphasis should be put on integration between rail and bus services.

The date and venue of the 35th AGM will be published in RVRNews.

The meeting closed at 3.00 pm

*M Birch (Chairman)*

*P M Corlett (Minutes Secretary)*

## Membership

Since RVRN130 the deaths of the following RVR Members have been reported:

Member of RVR since 1999, Mr Frank Walmsley (426) of Stafford, April 2020, reported by his daughter, Helen Pipe.

Member of RVR since 1987, Mr Neil Kelly (123) of Netherton, Merseyside, November 2020, reported by his brother, Ian.

Unfortunately, owing to a major computer malfunction, the biographical information on these two members was lost. Nevertheless, RVR sends sincere condolences to their nearest and dearest.

New Member:

Mr Mark Warr, New Milton, Hants. (RVR602)

*Bill Briggs (RVR Membership Secretary)*

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS & DIARY DATES 2020

**The next RVR Monthly meeting is proposed for  
Tuesday 21 September 2.00pm at the New Inn, Clitheroe**

### RVR WHO'S WHO & OTHER USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Hon Life Vice-Presidents: Alan & Sheila Kay

Chairman: Peter Eastham, 79 Rogersfield, Langho, Blackburn, BB6 8HD 01254 240830

Hon Sec: Pam Corlett, 37 Bleasdale Avenue, CLITHEROE, BB7 2PR 01200 426329

Hon Treasurer: David J Butterworth, 72 Fairfield Drive, Clitheroe, BB7 2PS 01200 425750

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FoR&WS: Peter Eastham 01254 240830

FoLS: Brian Haworth (FoS Co-ordinator) 01254 247844

FoWS: Alan Scholfield 01254 823140

FoCS: Marjorie Birch 01200 441549

BT Police: Railwatch Freephone 0800 40 50 40

Network Rail National Helpline 08457 11 41 41

Network Rail NWPress Office, Square One, 4 Travis Street, Manchester, M1 2NY 0161 880 3142

Northern Rail customer helpline 0845 600 1159

Train running information 0870 602 3322

RVR website: [www.ribblevalleyrail.co.uk](http://www.ribblevalleyrail.co.uk)

**Community Rail Partnership Website:** [www.communityraillancashire.co.uk](http://www.communityraillancashire.co.uk)

### RVRNews copy dates

Autumn deadline 1<sup>st</sup> Mon in October 2021, publication November.

*N.B. Views expressed in RVRNews, ascribed or otherwise, are to be taken as those of the writer and may not represent either the views or policy of Ribble Valley Rail itself, unless otherwise specified.*

## RVL FREIGHT

Rarely photographed  
at this location,  
GBRf 66702  
shunts the Avonmouth  
“Cement” over  
West Bradford Rd AOCL,  
the end of the  
Horrocksford Branch,  
12.11 on 3 April 2021

*Photo: G Dudley*



## A Brief Encounter at Whalley

On 2 September 2021 Mike  
Ford's work took him to  
Whalley Telephone Exchange,  
opposite Whalley Station.



“I intended to photograph the  
Avonmouth cement but it was  
cancelled before departure.  
However, I managed a couple of  
pictures of 66421 on the  
Carlisle - Crewe Basford Hall  
Yard service.”

I imagine you know the  
gentleman in the photograph.”

*Photos: Mike Ford*





**THEN**

Mytton Road Bridge, Whalley, looking towards Mitton.  
Not much difference in the 100+ years between THEN and NOW.  
The road surface looks just as rough!

**NOW**

*Photos: THEN Brian Haworth Collection , NOW Brain Haworth*

