



# THE WEST LANCS LETTER

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE WEST LANCASHIRE LIGHT RAILWAY



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# Welcome to West Lancs Letter No.44!

## THE SPECIAL EVENTS JUST KEEP COMING!



### BAGNALL DAY

A very special, and very rare, event for West Lancs, with two Bagnalls running together. Our own *Sybil*, now passed for passenger service, was joined by *Sir Tom*, visiting from Threlkeld Quarry and Mining Museum

Shortly after this event, *Sir Tom* and her crew returned to Threlkeld. They were joined there for a few days by *Sybil*.



Road transport of railway stock is a specialised and skilful operation. Here Gordon carefully manoeuvres *Sir Tom* off the back of the road wagon.



But will it fit in our loco shed? Just!

# PRINCESSES AND PIRATES



The annual invasion by pesky pirates was very popular, with every train subject to fierce water-pistol battles.



The Tarleton Rose Queen and her Retinue added some welcome style to the event, and magician Paul Sylvester entertained the crowds, of which there were plenty.



The junior pirates enjoyed the pirate-themed model railway.

# TWO-DAY SUMMER GALA



Two Sybils together! As well as our own newly-commissioned loco, *Sybil Mary* visited us from Statfold Barn, making no less than four locos in steam for the gala.



Just some of the many visitors who came to see us over the weekend.



Richard Wilson was back once more with his 88-note almost-a-century-old pianola.



Fireman Clive snatches a moment of rest beside *Irish Mail*, much to Guard Peter's disapproval.



Southport Model Engineering Club gave rides behind their miniature steam engine *Southport*.



Pauline Hazelwood, author of the Saddletank railway books, was a welcome visitor.



Pauline with some of our early volunteers. Look out for a rewrite of 'Alice the Little Welsh Engine'!



A new Olympic sport - table fencing!



The Saturday evening barbecue was a big success.



It's not just trains! A visitor arrives in style, in a 1958 Oldsmobile 88 sedan.



The volunteers who make it all possible.



Meanwhile, behind the scenes, the work goes on. Here James works on the overhaul of our Hibberd loco *Planet*.



Barry and Sue prepare a door from the new access coach for painting, with Keith providing the essential supervision.



Our friends from Preston Day Services work on renovation of the weedkiller wagon.



The end is in sight - completion of the new inspection pit draws near, with Paul bolting the rails in place.



Gordon and Dave demonstrate their specialist skill - demolishing things.



What better job in the pouring rain - moving several tons of earth from the banking at the rear of the site!



The permanent way team demonstrate how to turn a skip at a right angle, using a portable point (probably not its proper name).



The end result - a well-supported section of track. Still raining.



Anybody into railway jigsaws? We have just been donated several dozen!



Not just trains part 2 - the 80-year-old Catalina seaplane 'Miss Pick Up' overflies the Railway during the Blackpool Air Show.

# DON'T MISS IT!

## Working Engines Gala Sunday September 22nd



The big parade of our little engines!

Full passenger steam train timetable, and our Hudswell mines diesel.

Demonstration diesel freight trains, drive-a-diesel, live steam model railway.







And finally, two Bagnalls at a different location...

*Sybil*, driven by Simon Moore, leads the Amerton Railway's *Isabel* at the head of a passenger train during the Threlkeld Quarry and Mining Museum's Steam Gala.

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The image on the front page shows the four locos in steam at our Summer Gala: *Sybil Mary*, *Sybil*, *Irish Mail* and *Montalban*.

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# BUY OUR ADVANCE ANYDAY TICKET!



Advance tickets have no expiry date - use whenever you like!  
Click [here](#) to buy standard day tickets and [here](#) for special events  
(not valid for Halloween and Santa Specials).

With the 2024 season now in full swing we need more volunteers to help run our services and to maintain and improve our facilities.

If you would like to help, contact Mike Spall at [chair@westlancsrailway.org](mailto:chair@westlancsrailway.org).



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