

Cumbrian Railways Association

An Electronic Newsletter
to keep Local History Groups and the
Press informed of our activities

ELX 2 - Autumn 2017

For further information, go to our website at
www.cumbrianrailways.org.uk or contact Don Jary by email on
publicity@cumbrianrailways.org.uk



Photograph © Andrew Naylor

The CRA Moving Forward

Hi there, I'm Mike Warhurst. I've been CRA Secretary for just over a year and thought it might be time to reflect on how the Association has moved forward over that period.



Over the past year we have started exploring ways that we can work better with other likeminded societies, such as the Cumbrian Industrial History Society, and not just those that are rail orientated and raise awareness of what

we are and do. To this end we have had a presence at one or two Society Conferences and have been involved in projects such as the updated rail room in Millom Discovery Centre, where we provided advice and information and Tullie House Museum, Carlisle, where we are working with a group on a potential project about Carlisle's rail history and heritage,

In the past year we have received further donations of photographic collections which are now being sorted and catalogued so they can be available to others and help meet our charity remit to educate.

On the publishing front we are nearing completion of a new book about the railways of Cumbria.

Another project about to start is that of recording orally, for future generations to study, the stories of people who have been involved in the railways of Cumbria before it's too late!

Finally, during the past year our website has started to be updated, with new features such as the ability to purchase books and renew membership on line.

Yes, the CRA is still moving forward. Our membership is still growing and is now over 450 strong. We would love to hear from any of you who would wish to join us and get involved in our projects..

Mike Warhurst - Secretary

Contact us :

For further information, go to our website at www.cumbrianrailways.org.uk or contact Don by email on publicity@cumbrianrailways.org.uk

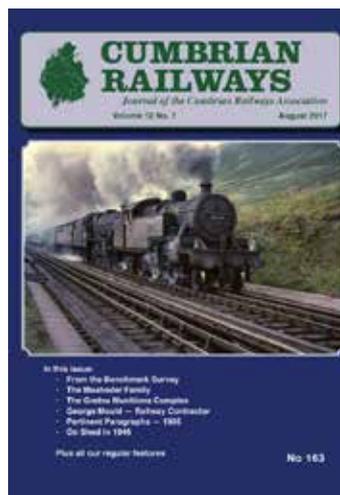
Capture this QR code on your smart phone, and it will take you to our web site.



**Cumbrian
Railways
Association**

The County's Railway
History Group

Cumbrian Railways Journal



**LATEST CRA JOURNAL
- AUGUST 2017 NOW
AVAILABLE!**

This edition (in full colour as always) contains fascinating and informative articles on:

- The Gretna Munitions Complex in the Great War Part 2
- George Mould - Railway Contractor
- Photographs from the CRA Benchmark Survey of local railways
- Locomotive Shed Allocations in 1946

.....and much, much more!

Copies available price £5.50 (including postage in the UK) at www.cumbrianrailways.org.uk

Back issues of the Journal are also available via our website.

Why not join the CRA?

Why not look into joining the CRA?

Discover more about the railways of Cumbria – their history, trains and the people who built and ran them

Membership benefits include:

- Quarterly Journal
 - Quarterly Newsletter
 - Spring & Autumn Conferences
 - Access to Photographic Collections
 - Access to Archives
 - Access to Journal back issues
 - Active Chat Line group
 - Facebook group
 - Help with 180+ years of Cumbrian railway history
 - Member discounts on CRA products and publications
- Forty years' Anniversary achieved with around 450 current members

INCREDIBLY !!!!!

Subscriptions held since 2011 - seventh year at the same rate! Exceptional value!

For further details go to our website at www.cumbrianrailways.org.uk or contact Alan at membershipsec@cumbrianrailways.org.uk



<https://www.facebook.com/cumbrianrailways>

Forthcoming Events For Your Diary!

CRA Autumn Meeting 2017

The Association Autumn Meeting will be held at the Abbey House Hotel Abbey Road, Barrow-in-Furness LA13 0PA on Saturday 11th November 2017, starting at 10.30.

If you are a connoisseur of high-class railway photographs, you are in for a treat, as our morning presentation will feature a portfolio of images by one of the best-known and respected railway photographers in the country.

Also, there will be an illustrated talk on the restoration of carriages and waggons. Finally, always-fascinating reminiscences by an actual footplateman, will complete what promises to be a very interesting programme.

Non Members are most welcome – please go to our website, www.cumbrianrailways.org.uk for further details which will be available soon.

Model Railway Exhibitions

Whilst the exhibition season is quiet at the time of writing, September will see that change markedly!

You might want to note following exhibitions in your diary and check up on the full details nearer the time

Sept 16 & 17. Expo EM North, Manchester.

Sept 30 & Oct 1. Wigan MRE. Robin Park Arena, Wigan

Oct 7 & 8. Furness MRE. Sixth Form College, Rating Lane, Barrow in Furness.

Oct 14. EMGS NE modelling day. Stannington, Newcastle

SteamAle presents

Transport-related slide shows and talks - third Tuesday in the month, September to May.

Venue: Ex Service Mens Club, Victoria Place, Carlisle, 19.30 - 22.00. Cost £3.00 (including sandwiches).
Sept 19. Jeff Davidson. (CRA member) Carlisle Goods Lines.
Oct 17. Allan Beck. (CRA member) Cockermouth, Keswick, Penrith line.

Nov 21. Ian Watson. (CRA member) tbc

For further details go to: www.steamale.co.uk

RCTS Humberside Branch

19th September 2017 –Talk : *Cockermouth, Keswick & Penrith Railway* by Mike Peascod, at the Highway Public House, Willerby Road, Hull HU5 5LH. 19.30 start.

CRA Attends Cumbria Industrial History Society (CIHS) AGM

Recently, Mike Warhurst (Secretary) and Don Jary (Publicity Officer) attended the CIHS AGM. Attending events such as this is part of our continuing programme of raising awareness of the CRA, our work, publications and resources. Events such as this give opportunities to meet with members of other societies with which the CRA has an affinity. The theme of the four speakers on the day was water and water technology. We heard from informative speakers on:

- How the local river has shaped the development of Kendal as a town
- The use of water and tidal power to generate electricity
- Water power in mining
- Mill engineering

The only down side to the day was being inside and watching a beautiful sunny day through the windows. However we were rewarded not only by the quality of the speakers but also by seeing 46115 Scots Guardsman go past hauling the Cumbrian Mountains Express en route to Carlisle and a car park full of 1950/60s MG, Sunbeam and Rover cars taking part in a local rally weekend!

Visit to Millom Discovery Centre

The CRA has been involved in providing advice, information and photo's for the new rail room at the Millom Discovery Centre, Cumbria. On Friday 9th June 2017 the Centre, housed in Millom station buildings, held an Open Day to help promote its exhibits and the CRA was delighted to be invited to attend.



The Centre contains a time line showing the important dates in the history of Millom, including the arrival of the railway; two cabinets containing railway artefacts and a large model railway exhibit – especially designed for the Centre. There is also a mining exhibit and a number of rooms portraying various elements of the local history of Millom, including and the old RAF training airfield. There is also a shop,

The help and advice provided by the CRA included photos of the Millom area, information for the timeline and the use of information from our book "Millom: A Cumberland Iron Town".

In the future the Centre is hoping to host visits from local schools, to help inform them about the history of the area they live in, and they are waiting for funding to establish a post of schools liaison officer to organise the visits.



Million pound National Lottery Grant to bring Cumbrian steam locomotive home

A Victorian steam locomotive and Edwardian stores van housed at Kirkby Stephen East (KSE) station are to be restored, thanks to National Lottery players.

The Locomotive Conservation and Learning Trust (LCLT) has been awarded £954,900 from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) to finally restore the 1889 built North Eastern Railway J21 locomotive No 65033 to steam over the very line it used



to work. It will also be used to develop a heritage and interpretation centre within an Edwardian railway stores van and on the enclosed platform area at the station.

Describing the award, LCLT Chairman Toby Watkins said: "This is fantastic news for the Trust, our partners the

Stainmore Railway Company at KSE, and for the town of Kirkby Stephen. This superb investment by the HLF will transform KSE into a leading Cumbrian tourist attraction and will be a tremendous boost for the town".

Aside from providing a flagship working steam locomotive at the fast growing railway at KSE the project will also fund an exciting activity and events programme in an innovative interpretation area within an Edwardian vehicle and the station itself.

Photograph © Stainmore Railway Co. Collection.