

RUSHDEN HISTORICAL TRANSPORT SOCIETY



“OLDE WHEELS” TRANSPORT MAGAZINE

MEMBERS FREE

NON MEMBERS £1

SUMMER 2016

WWW.RHTS.CO.UK

ISSUE 240

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE SOCIETY

- 1976 Advert was placed in the Evening Telegraph by R. H. Woodcock to gauge the interest in old transport with the idea of forming a local club.
- 1979 The first Cavalcade of Transport was held in Hall Park, Rushden.
- 1980 The Society purchased Bristol 651 double decker bus from United Counties which became the Society's Flagship.
- 1984 Obtained lease on Rushden Station site from Northamptonshire County Council. The Society also gained charitable status.
- 1986 Small artefact museum was opened in old waiting room, and ladies waiting room was transformed into a Victorian themed Real Ale Bar.
- 1987 Station was threatened with demolition.
- 1996 Station site purchased from Northamptonshire County Council.
- 1998 Barclay 0-4-0, Edmundsons 2168 was purchased and Rolls Royce Sentinel 0-4-0 Diesel was kindly given by Castle Cement Co.Ltd. with 5 goods wagons.
- 1999 Excavation of 25,000cu yards of waste material from the cutting north of Rushden Station. Planning granted to lay 700 yds. of track to beyond the Shirley Road bridge. Track was obtained to build this extension.
- 2001 Negotiations with Councils to extend lease beyond the bridge started.
- 2003 The Society was given an Ex Rushden Bedford TK Fire Engine and the final payment on the Station site was made to N.C.C.
- 2004 Site rearranged in preparation for construction of new link road, John Clark Way.
- 2006 Improvements to track layout and museum site continued.
- 2009 Flagship vehicle 651 goes to Blackpool for £35,000 refit. (Returned unfinished) 50th anniversary of last timetabled passenger train to run on branch line. Rushden, Higham and Wellingborough Railway commence heritage train services Consultations with ENC and Greenway project over dual use of trackbed to Higham.
- 2010 Repairs to bridge over track and HMRI approval of track extension.
- 2011 Opening of extension of railway track towards Higham alongside Greenway.
- 2012 Cancellation of the 34th Cavalcade due to waterlogged fields.
- 2013 The Duke of Gloucester visited the Station and had a ride on the Railway
- 2014 Lease on trackbed to Queensway, Higham Ferrers acquired. Application for Museum Accreditation submitted by Museum Group. Negotiations with NCC to purchase ex- Railway Goods Shed. Edmundsons visits Pontypool & Blaenavon Railway.
- 2015 Bristol RE coach ORP 273F destroyed by fire at the Station
- 2016 Rushden Transport Museum awarded full accreditation by the Arts Council.

CONTENTS

A Brief History of the Society.....	2
Committee Members Details.....	4
Message from The Chairman.....	5
Message from the new Employee.....	7
Armed Forces Day 2016.....	8
Secretary's Report.....	10
Alfie's Antics	11
BR Class 03 Shunter 03179 "Clive"	12
Forthcoming Events.....	14
Edmundson's Holiday.....	15

THE SOCIETY HEADQUARTERS ARE BASED AT :-

The Railway Station, Station Approach
Rushden, Northamptonshire NN10 0AW

BAR 01933 318 988 - MUSEUM 01933 353 111
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 285535

MAIN COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2016

PRESIDENT
Mr. Donald Davidson

OFFICERS

CHAIRMAN	John Sugars	01933 350 415
VICE CHAIRMAN	Colin Robinson	01933 359 955
TREASURER	Bill Toyer	07979 501 331
SECRETARY	Catherine Young	01933 624 157
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY	Trevor Pritchard	

Members

Mick Carlile	Dave Chambers	Peter Dines
John Holman-Eyles	Bob Judd	Julia Judd
Jason Pittaway	Gwen Walpole	Bev Watson
	Jim Wheeler	

BAR COMMITTEE

Chairman	Secretary	Treasurer
Richard Cole	Gina Rockall	Dave Clipston
	Members	
Tony Board	Mick Carlile	John Hynes
Pete Newman	Trevor Pritchard	Kevin Scott

AUTUMN 2016 MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Events since last magazine:-

As we are a month or so late from our scheduled summer edition publication date there have been a greater number of events than usual that the Society has run at the Station or has taken part in. Here is a very brief description of many of them.

Mothering Sunday:-

Julia Judd and her helpers had organised afternoon teas in the Buffet Carriage. These had to be pre-booked and in the end 2 sittings were required. This is proving to be a very popular event and well worth doing.

Easter:-

This is always a well supported and enjoyable event for both the train passengers and the crews alike. Over 230 eggs were given to children over the weekend.

Mixed Traction Weekend:-

This didn't attract as many visitors as we had hoped but with Edmundsons, 31206, 31289, and the WD with brake van operating, crews were kept busy.

Fish and Chip Supper:-

The one planned for April unfortunately had to be cancelled but planning is already in place for the evening planned for October.

Cavalcade:-

A number of organisers of similar events in the area decided to cancel some 2 weeks before the Bank Holiday Weekend but following regular inspections of the fields and advice from the Farmers we decided to go ahead. Saturday turned out to be a record for the number attending for some time and Sunday

was also very busy but unfortunately the rain came early on Monday afternoon which meant an early finish and a very muddy road as vehicles left the Rally fields. By taking the risk of running the event meant that what may have been a financial 4 figure loss we finished with a profit. Thanks for the numerous people who put in many hours planning and organising and those who gave of their time over the 3 days.

Murder Mystery Evening:-

This was a first for us and it proved a very enjoyable and successful event. Thanks must go to Sandra Edwards for organising the event and the Sharnbrook Players for all their input.

Cowboys and Indians:-

A new event that sadly didn't prove very popular.

Armed Forces Day:-

Again a very busy event which this year started on the Friday evening. Schools and cadet groups were involved and again we had permission to use the Goods Yard. A booked Hurricane flew over the Station during Saturday afternoon. Thanks go to Catharine Young who liaised with other groups involved and did most of the organising on behalf of the Society.

Father's Day:-

This event is always reasonably well supported and again most of the mugs specially purchased for this event were given away.

Trading Places:-

Our Museum and Rushden Museum were invited to join in this by Rockingham Forest Trust from Stanwick Lakes. As part of a Lottery

Grant to look at local trades from the early 20th Century. A week of activities was arranged around Rushden High Street, the Station and Rushden Museum. We had 2 full days of school visits to the Station and then held a running day on the Saturday. An interesting addition to what we had on display for the 3 days were the black-smith demonstrations.

Soap Box Derby:-

This year we only entered 2 vehicles and sadly by the end of the evening both had suffered damage. However before this happened we did manage to win in one class. I understand plans are already in place to construct another vehicle for next year.

Party in the Park:-

Again we had a plot at Party in the Park and displayed some vehicles including the Mechanical Horse. A lot of interest was shown in our forthcoming events.

Cream Teas:-

Besides the events listed in our leaflet a number of other bookings had been taken early in the year by local groups for afternoon teas in the buffet carriage. With the withdrawal of help from some of the volunteers other ladies from the Society felt that it would not be a good thing to disappoint these groups. One of the original team already holds the required Food Hygiene Certificate so the others took it upon themselves to gain the required qualifications.

Teddy Bears:-

It was a hot weekend and our large Teddy Bear got very warm in his second skin. Plenty of bears and other treasured cuddly toys accompanied their owners on the trains and had an enjoyable time. Thanks to all involved especially Richard Cole.

On the 17 July 31289 left Rushden for the Spa Valley Railway. As yet no date for its return has

been set but we hope it runs well there for Chabs. The next day a Class 03 arrived at the Station. You will find an article by Andy West about this engine later in this issue.

Edmundsons has had some adjustments to its timing carried out and also a bearing that was running a little hot has hopefully been sorted. The engine will be running at the Northampton and Lamport Railway over the August Bank Holiday weekend

Recently the Committee has been looking at the suitability of our insurance cover. Having had representatives from different companies it looks as though what we already have is as good as anything else that is available. However, what we have to do is to get all our paperwork up to date. This includes updating and in some cases writing a number of policies to cover our practices. We also need to have appropriate testing carried out in certain areas so that we have the appropriate certification. This means that if any work is carried out at our premises in future it has to be done to the required standards.

After the August Cream Teas it is a relatively quiet month for RHWR events but there are a number of group visits booked. Events then continue in September and October with some of our major events which require a great deal of organisation and effort for those who running them. Any help would be much appreciated.

To close I would like to thank Julia Judd for all the work she has done in running the Buffet Carriage over the past 8 years or so. It is not only the Open Weekends but all the private bookings that we now have. I will not forget all her cakes experiments that the Committee had to try at the end of our meetings.

John Sugars
Chairman

Message from the New employee

Hello all, as some of you may already know I am now a paid part time employee of RHTS as I start this exciting career move, I am relishing the challenge of my new role as Operations and Events Coordinator. But what does that actually mean, well I will be working closely with the Secretary, Chairman and main committee to provide day to day support, although my initial thoughts and priorities within the role are:

1. **Stand-in magazine editor**, (see later message);
2. **Advertising & Marketing** – primarily with the aim of ensuring we have a planned, consistent image and message across traditional and social media platforms;
3. **Driver experience and private bookings** – take on to organize these with a view to exceeding customer expectations and maximising income.
4. **Members & Volunteers** – time allowing to provide a more structured support and welcome to new members, to support new and existing volunteers and provide an opportunity for them to feedback their views and ideas, initially this may be the thing that

suffers as I am limited in the hours I have to do the role each week. And the outward facing, customer focused items above will need to be my priority.

Emily Toplis
(RHTS Operations & Events Coordinator)



ARMED FORCES DAY 2016



Alfie's Antics

Been in the news again "Your Cat Magazine" featured RHTS as one of their featured days out for cat lovers, with a picture of yours truly looking rather dapper, alongside details of the station nice one Simon for getting us another bit of publicity.

Spent Sunday hanging around the buffet car while they were serving cream teas, but didn't get any clotted cream, maybe next time.

Perhaps I'll have more luck when it's the fish and chip supper train on 1st October.



RUSHDEN'S NEW LOCOMOTIVE



On the 19th July members of RHWR visited Hornsey Depot in North London for the official handover of Class 03 shunter 03179 to RHWR/RHTS and to oversee the loading of the loco for forward movement to Rushden. Clive was safely unloaded at Rushden later that day.

It had been a long term aim of the railway to obtain a dual braked shunter and we would like to thank David Poole, Govia Thameslink Railway along with all the staff at Hornsey for their help in making this possible.

Special thanks to Andy Ashton, Paul Elstone, Mick Delaney and Julian Betts for their time, effort and support during the last few months of negotiations.

"Clive" had been the depot pilot at Hornsey for 17 years and is named after Clive Allison a long term serving maintenance manager at the depot of 43 years' service. We hope to keep this close link with Hornsey Depot and intend for the Loco to remain being dedicated to "Clive".

The Class 03 was one of British Rails most successful 0-6-0 diesel mechanical shunters. The class, numbering 230 examples, was built by British Railway's Swindon and Doncaster works between 1957 and 1962. Like other shunters of this size, the Class 03 was built for light duties where a larger locomotive was not needed, especially for shunting at locomotive and carriage depots and as station pilots, or where larger or heavier locomotives could not be used.

In the world of Shunters "Clive" is a bit of the celebrity! Built at the Famous BR/WR workshops of Swindon in 1962 and out shipped in BR green (D2179) the loco led a fairly uneventful existence working from Eastleigh Depot but out stationed at Bournemouth until 1975 being transferred to Stratford and eventually Ipswich. The loco was in standard BR Blue livery by this time with raised air pipes, a headlight for working Ipswich docks and even carrying the un-official name of IVOR on its nose!

With the rundown of the class in the late 80's 03179 was withdrawn from service in 1987 along

BR CLASS 03 SHUNTER 03179 "CLIVE"



with the rest of class, but not for long, with the need for replacement locos to haul engineering trains on the Isle of Wight, 03179 along with 03079 were transferred to the island the locos being modified with cut down cabs on account of the Islands low tunnel at Ryde.

Reinstated in Jan 1989, 03179 was re-painted into the striking Network South East livery thus becoming the only class 03 to carry this livery. It remained on the Island along with 03079 which retained BR blue livery, until 1998 when the locos were put up for sale as surplus.

03079 was brought for preservation but 03179 was acquired by the train operating company WAGN for depot Pilot duties at Hornsey Depot in North London and in doing so, becoming the last of its class working on the national network.

03179 was shipped back to the mainland and following a competition was repainted into a version of white WAGN livery entering service on the 24th September 1998. It received its name of "Clive" on the 25th September when it made a short trip on the main line from Hornsey Depot to Kings Cross Station for the naming ceremony.

For the next few years the loco remained generally out of the public eye working within the confines of the depot and few photos exist of this time. Around July 2006 "Clive" received its third unique

livery with the change of operating company at the depot it was out-shopped in First Capital livery. Again the loco remained working within Hornsey for a number of years but on the 29th February 2008 it attended the Nene Valley Gala but failed after the first day much everyone's disappointment. This had been the locos only trip outside of Hornsey Depot since 1998.

After returning to Hornsey the loco has seen very little use but has moved under its own power, it has been stabled at the back of the depot ever since away from the public eye, until now.

03179 was the last of its class to operate on the national network and the only class member to carry 5 different liveries within its working life. Three of which are unique to the class. Over the next few months the Loco will be assessed and work carried out to return the loco to an operational status. The loco will eventually be repainted, although no firm decision has been made on the livery at this stage.

The photos show RHWR members along with Govia Thameslink Staff handing over Clive at Hornsey Depot, The engine on the back of the low loader having just arrived at Rushden.

And a photo taken on the 13.7.95 of 03179 in then faded Network South East livery on the Isle of Wight at Ryde St Johns.

Andy West.



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

SAUSAGE AND CIDER FESTIVAL

Monday 29th August

MODEL WEEKEND

Saturday 3rd and Sunday 4th September

MUSIC AND REAL ALE FESTIVAL

Friday 23rd, Saturday 24th and Sunday 25th September

FISH AND CHIP SUPPER

Saturday 1st October – Pre-booking essential

LMS BRANCHLINE AT WAR

Saturday 8th and Sunday 9th October

HALLOWEEN SPECIALS

Saturday 29th October

EDMUNDSON'S HOLIDAY



In case you hadn't heard, Our 0-4-0 Barclay Edmundsons has gone on holiday to the Northampton & Lamport Railway. She will be running over the August Bank Holiday weekend alongside Hunslet loco

Ringhaw from the
North Norfolk Railway
and Peckett loco
based at the N&LR.





