



Introduction

Welcome to the twelfth edition of Rail Story Reporter. This is a monthly bulletin to allow working members of VCT, BLS, The Learning Team and various members of KWVR to keep up to date with things happening at Rail Story and the site at Ingrow. We hope this proves useful, and we are open to any feedback!

Alexandra Haley - Vintage Carriages Trust

Liz Lynch - Bahamas Locomotive Society

KWVR and Ingrow Station



*Ingrow platform
(photo by Alexandra Haley)*

- For KWVR specific and general news, please see the weekly bulletin.
- **Ingrow Station** – The station was manned quite well through the mince pie season, but not so much now there are no services other than the weekends. Recently there were some nice comments about the history of the station building from visitors doing some research.
- **Garden & Site** – Unfortunately at the back end of December there was an incident which nearly saw some local scrap men driving off with many items from the BLS yard without permission. Luckily due to communication between VCT and

KWVR the police were called and dealt with the incident promptly. It is reminded that staff and volunteers be vigilant should something like this happen again in the future.

Late January for two mornings access to the yard was blocked off for a special delivery of bridge parts ready for the bridge 11 work that will be done in March. Although there was some disruption for VCT and BLS members (in particular cars blocking the entrance to the museum, which didn't fit with our guidelines about emergency service access), the work was done efficiently and was a success. Thanks to the KWVR civils team for guidance.



*Special Delivery!
(photo by Liz Lynch)*

Engine Shed (Bahamas Locomotive Society) – Liz Lynch

- **Shop News** – Behind the scenes, Matt & Liz continue to organise the store room into distinct areas for general shop stock, Rail Story souvenirs and Bahamas merchandise ready for a busy year of sales ahead hopefully. Under David Guest's direction, our latest stocktake was completed in early January and a report published by David which details a busy year of sales (both on & off site) and includes advice on reducing the price on some of our 'slow sellers.'
- **Museum News** – Pete Skellon has spent the past few weeks updating our Museum Policies Manual which collates all the policies required for our museum accreditation, those required as a charity and other important documents. Hard copies have been placed in the office. The BLS website now has links to the Member's

Handbook, Policies Manual and the latest edition of the Rail Story Reporter. If anyone has something that they feel needs reporting to members then please contact Pete Skellon or Peter Smith.

- **Workshop News (report by Steve Waterhouse)**

Wagons – The vacuum brake cylinder, which has been overhauled by the VCT workshop team, has been reinstalled under the Pal-Van.



*The Crane in use in preparation for Bridge 11 work
(photo by Pete Skellon)*

Craven Crane RS1015/50 – Was in use to remove the boiler from the Coal Tank. To actually remove the boiler meant first removing the cab followed by both side tanks, which allowed access for the expansion angles to be removed. Which in turn then allowed the boiler to be lifted clear and placed on packings. The side tanks could then be replaced back on the locomotive followed by the cab. Work on the rear relieving bogie has been completed and the bogie is back connected to the crane carriage. With some dry weather, further work has been carried out on the Jib Runner Wagon. The protection strips have been fitted onto the edge of the top side boards; this saves damage from heavy equipment when dragged into or from the wagon. The chain storage boxes have had steel floors installed.

The Crane was used in late January for moving bridge parts from the delivery at Ingrow in preparation for the Bridge 11 work in March.



*Steve Peach on top of coal tank – lagging after dome removed
(photo by Liz Lynch)*

1054 Coal Tank – Since the last report the locomotive was prepared for the removal of the boiler; this entails a lot of work. The smokebox had to be cleared; this meant removing the blast pipe, the main steam pipe, the blower pipework, plus the smoke box mounted lubricators and pipework. The concrete floor in the smoke box was broken up and removed, which then allowed access to the smoke box securing bolts. All the fittings in the cab removed for storage, regulator valve removed from the dome, safety valve removed, cab securing bolts removed and the side tank holding down bolts removed.



*Apprentices from Hope Quarry
(photo by Liz Lynch)*

A four-day working session was held over the period 12 December to the 15 December which finished with the boiler removed from the locomotive frames and positioned outside the shed on the end of the crane road. For the first two days, we had help from four senior apprentices from Hope Quarry, in which they gained some experience working on vintage

equipment. Progress up to date has been the removal of all the boiler tubes. The boiler has been washed out ready for an inspection by the Insurance Surveyor. In the workshop, work has started to refurbish boiler fittings ready for when the boiler has been re-tubed.



*Pete Cooper dressing the smoke tube plate
(photo by Liz Lynch)*

Southwick – Work continues on the new cab backsheet which now awaits refitting to the locomotive. Further work on the machining of the axlebox underkeeps has been carried out.

Big thanks to the BLS workshop team for all their hard work!

It is reminded that BLS volunteers are allowed to use the VCT facilities, including the heated Mess Room and the shower.

- **Bahamas Updates** – Up at Haworth the boiler has had its cold exam and has been prepared for its 'in steam' inspection by both the insurance surveyor and the main line running engineers. Bahamas will run on the Settle-Carlisle line with KWVR on 22nd February for another exciting railtour. Tickets are still available on the KWVR website!

**Carriage Works (Vintage Carriages Trust) –
Alexandra Haley**

- **Shop News** – Sales were generally quiet for most of December, with only a small number of museum visitors. Books and magazines were the most popular items at this time. After Christmas during the Mince Pie Specials week we had a lot more visitors, which saw a bigger variety of sales, including Rail Story merchandise and

model railway items. The week generally seemed a lot busier compared to last year for both sales and admissions, which is always good news.

- **Museum News** – Tracey Morris continues to work through our archive material and collections, making sure everything is recorded and photographed so we have a better idea of what future potential displays we could have. Alexandra Haley continues to work on grants research for the museum and toilets and potentially more inclusive display ideas. The museum itself was very busy through the mince pie specials, but then hit a very quiet period through January. Debbie Cross has taken some of the enamel signage and railwayana (which we had on loan from KWVR) from the museum to the new Café at Keighley as very fitting décor.



*Some of the signage in The Old Parcels office, previously in the Carriage Works
(photo by KWVR)*

- **Workshop News** –
Midland 358 – The W-irons are now all fitted, and the new drawbars arrived from Stephenson Engineering. Chris Smith has finished making new spring hangers which will be fitted by John Morris. Stuart Mellin and Ian Wild have been working on the upholstery fitting in the body.



*Upholstery work in Midland 358
(photo by Stuart Mellin)*

Metropolitan 465 – Barry Payne visited us in early January to lay the lino in some of the compartments that were ready. Now Ian and Stuart have been working on more compartments, (floor sanding, painting seat bases and fitting of laminate board) ready for more lino to be fitted in the near future. Chris continues with the body paintwork where possible, in preparation for The Railway Children events this year. The new glass windows also arrived from Carlyle Bus and Coach, ready to be fitted. Heaters have also been sanded and painted by John.

Railbus 62 – Michael Cope continues the overhaul of this vehicle, particularly on the heater units.

Big thanks to the VCT workshop team for all their hard work!

- **External Rolling Stock**

Sir Berkeley – this loco remains at Middleton undergoing an overhaul. Sanding and paintwork has been done to the frames and brake pull rods, whilst the bunker and Salter safety valves have also been receiving similar attention over the past few months. There were some difficulties with an adjusting screw that has always been too short but a new screw rod has been made to replace this and bring it back to the correct length.



*Sir Berkeley overhaul
(photo by Robert Taggart)*

Bellerophon – Discussions are still ongoing with Foxfield Railway about the future of the overhaul. More details to be confirmed in the future.

Bulleid S1469 – this carriage remains at Embay as part of their dining fleet, which was also used as part of the Santa trains.

**Learning Team –
Matt Arnold**

- **School Trips** – The year 2020 started well with an enquiry from a school on the first day of term! We've also had an enquiry about our Seaside Holidays workshop where children can explore all the carriages at Carriage Works and play Victorian and Edwardian games. Let's hope the momentum continues for the rest of the year. Looking forward, there are bookings for workshops featuring World War II, the Industrial Revolution and the ever-popular Teddy Bears to the Rescue. Looking forward some more, the Ingrow gang will be working with the Railway to commemorate and celebrate a cinematic highlight of 1970 - the Railway Children. Our existing workshop is delivered at Ingrow as well as Oakworth, the location of Perks' Cottage, Ladies' Waiting Room and station platform and yard. The Railway is running steam trains in June and July, so fingers crossed for a bumper summer season at Ingrow and beyond.



*Birthday Party in the Learning Coach!
(photo by Matt Arnold)*

- **Learning Coach** – Elsewhere, the Railway has used the Coach 19 times to deliver sessions for BESTT students and a private hire party was held too. All of the children enjoyed their time playing games, dressing up and eating party food! The mum was the Head of Learning at the National Railway Museum and she was very impressed! There have been 325 visitors in the Coach for the academic year 2019/20 so far... more than double last year's number from the same period.

Big thanks to Matt, Brenda and Chris for all their hard work with the workshops.

Online Presence

- **Website** - Robert Taggart continues to do work on the Rail Story website. He has worked on new shop pages and accessibility pages which we hope to go live in the near future.
- **Social Media** – Alexandra Haley and Abigail Haley have been updating the Rail Story and Vintage Carriages Trust social media pages, including Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Sam Steventon and Ian Dixon continue to run the Bahamas Locomotive Society Facebook page, updating enthusiasts about the work being done to the locomotives, and any confirmed news about 45596 Bahamas (such as rail tours).



*Imagery for In Motion: Keighley Transport Festival
(photo provided by Abigail Haley)*

Abigail Haley has also agreed to run the new Keighley Transport Festival Facebook page for the event that will happen in May, which KWVR and Rail Story will be a part of, so make sure to give that a 'like'.

If you have any useful information that the public might be interested in, whether it is museum news, workshop news, site news etc. then please contact Alexandra at athame@live.co.uk or Abigail at abigail_haley17@live.co.uk

Rail Story Events

- The Rail Story Events Team has continued to work on the various events that have been happening recently.

- **Christmas;** across most of December the museums at Ingrow were very quiet. The Santa specials with KWVR proved very popular as usual which is good, but not many passengers used to DMU service to get off at Ingrow. Hopefully this might improve next year through new marketing. However the mince pie specials produced many more museum visitors than last year, particularly a lot more families and first-time visitors. Hopefully this popularity will continue to grow.



*Ingrow during Mince Pie Specials
(photo by Chris Haley)*

- **New Year Blues (4th January);** Jim Pickles held another blues-inspired musical event in the Learning Coach again in the New Year. It was an enjoyable event for all involved.
- **Jurassic Specials;** Coming up next will be the KWVR dinosaurs themed event, which will mostly take place at Oxenhope. At Ingrow, there hopefully will be special effects makeup and activities in a decorated learning coach, and a Jurassic Park themed landrover in the yard for photo opportunities.

Please make sure to keep us updated with any information happening in any department of your organisation so that we can keep updating this bulletin.

**Alexandra – athame@live.co.uk /
media@vintagecarriagestrust.org
Liz – liz.lynych@ingrowloco.com**

Useful Links

- **KWVR:**
Website: www.kwvr.co.uk
Email: admin@kwvr.co.uk
Social Media:
www.facebook.com/WorthValleyRailway
www.twitter.com/worthvalley
www.instagram.com/worthvalleyrailway
- **BLS:**
Website: www.bahamas45596.co.uk
Email: info@ingrowloco.com
Social Media: www.facebook.com/IngrowLoco
- **Learning:**
Website: www.railstory.co.uk/learning
Email: learning@ingrow.co.uk
- **VCT:**
Website: www.vintagecarriagestrust.org
Email: admin@vintagecarriagestrust.org
Social Media:
www.facebook.com/vintagecarriagestrust
www.twitter.com/vct_ingrow
www.instagram.com/vct_ingrow
- **Rail Story:**
Website: www.railstory.co.uk
Social Media:
www.facebook.com/railstoryatingrow
www.twitter.com/railstoryingrow
www.instagram.com/railstoryingrow