

# THE L&YR SOCIETY

England & Wales · Charity number 1098492

## Details

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Other names	LYRS, THE LANCASHIRE AND YORKSHIRE RAILWAY SOC
Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	2003-07-10
Register	<a href="#">View on the Charity Commission register</a>

## Contact

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Address	31 Enfield Close Hilton Derby DE65 5HT
Phone	01283730544
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Website	<a href="http://www.lyrs.org.uk">www.lyrs.org.uk</a>

## Activities

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**Objects:** 1. THE STUDY, RECORDING AND PRESERVATION, FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF PUBLIC EDUCATION, OF INFORMATION AND ILLUSTRATIVE AND OTHER MATERIAL RELATING TO THE LANCASHIRE & YORKSHIRE RAILWAY COMPANY AND ITS PREDECESSORS AND SUCCESSORS; AND2. TO ARRANGE THAT SUCH MATERIAL IS AVAILABLE FOR REFERENCE AND RESEARCH AND TO ENCOURAGE ITS PUBLICATION FOR THE USE AND EDUCATION BOTH OF MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY AND OF THE PUBLIC IN GENERAL.

**Activities:** The L&YR Society is an educational charity devoted to the dissemination of information about The Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway throughout its 75 years of existence and beyond.

## Classification

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- **How:** Sponsors Or Undertakes Research, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** Education/training
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

## Geography

- Australia
- Scotland
- Throughout England And Wales

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-06-30	£56,188	£71,213	-	-
2024-06-30	£59,807	£51,250	-	-
2023-06-30	£52,573	£63,338	-	-
2022-06-30	£53,024	£66,614	-	-
2021-06-30	£48,480	£37,238	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
<b>GRAHAM SMITH</b>	Chair	
Andrew Wright		2024-10-12
CHRISTOPHER LEACH		
DAVID CARTER		
MARTIN NIELD		
NOEL COATES		
ROGER MELLOR		
RONALD TINKER		
Robin Christopher Pennie		2014-10-18

**THE L&YR SOCIETY**

England & Wales - Charity number 1098492

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# Accounts

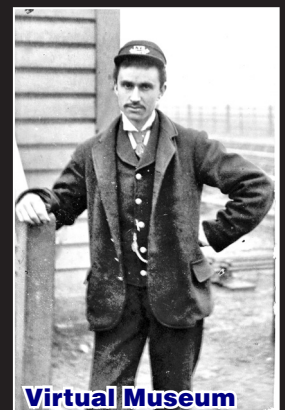
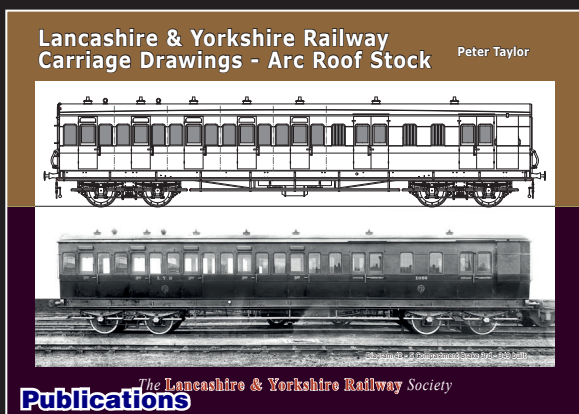
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# 74th Annual General Meeting and Members' Day, 11th October 2025

## Agenda, Report and Accounts



*Your* **L&YR** *Society*



# Agenda

**The 74th Annual General Meeting of The Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway Society will be held on Saturday 11th October 2025 at the Oxenhope Community Centre starting at 10.30am, 10am for tea and coffee.**

**After the meeting there will be buffet lunch costing £10 per head. In the afternoon there will be a trip on the K&WVR. Full details can be found in Magazine 304.**

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| 1. To sign the attendance register and receive apologies                 | 5. Officers' reports (continued):                                    |
| 2. To remember those members who have died during the past twelve months | viii Questions for the Publications Officer                          |
| 3. To receive and approve the minutes of the 2024 Annual General Meeting | ix Information Officer   |
| 4. To deal with matters arising  | x Questions for the Information Officer                              |
| 5. Officers' reports:  | xi Chairman  |
| i Secretary  | xii Questions for the Chairman                                       |
| ii Questions for the Secretary   | 6. To approve the Officers' reports and the Annual Report & Accounts |
| iii Treasurer  | 7. To appoint Trustees for 2025/26                                   |
| iv Questions for the Treasurer   | 8. To appoint two Independent Examiners of the Society's accounts    |
| v Membership Officer   | 9. To confirm the level of subscription for 2026                     |
| vi Questions for the Membership Officer                                  | 10. Any other business   |
| vii Publications Officer   |  |

The following Trustees are offering themselves for re-election: Ron Tinker (Life President), Graham Smith (Chairman), Noel Coates (Treasurer), Martin Nield (Secretary), Roger Mellor (Publications Officer), Chris Leach (Information Officer), Andrew Wright (Membership Officer), David Carter, Ken Carter, and Robin Pennie. Any other nominations must be received by the Secretary no less than 21 days before the meeting and be compliant with clause 4.4 of our Constitution.



## Chairman's review

**Graham Smith**

**“So now we are looking for a new Treasurer and Publications Officer but we are not looking for a Noel Coates or a Roger Mellor Mk2...”**

Looking back at my reviews over the last few years, my opening statements always seem to be about how successful we have been over the previous twelve months. I make no apology for starting my review this year in the same way! This last year has indeed proved to be a very successful year for our Society. It does not surprise me saying that because we are led by a very strong management team who know what they are doing and know how to do it well. They are, in fact, the proverbial smooth, well-oiled machine.

We continue to have a solid financial base with our finances carefully managed by Noel Coates. This strong base gives us the platform to do everything we want to do.

Our publications team continue to provide us with publications of the highest quality. I am sure that the value for money that we give in this respect

is one of the biggest reasons why our membership retention rate remains so high. At this point I would like to say a huge thank you to Gavin Clark who is stepping down as Assistant Editor of *Magazine* at the AGM in October. Gavin has been in post for ten years and is a member of the team who have taken *Magazine* to the next level. All the best for the future Gavin; you have worked hard for the Society and your input will be greatly missed.

Although our membership retention remains high, our membership numbers have in fact slightly dropped this year. At the time of writing this review we have a total of 889 members, a drop of about 20 members from this time last year. This is a little disappointing because it is the first time in a few years that our numbers have been below 900.

We have had two wonderful days out this year, one in early Spring and

the other in late June. Both were well attended with the Spring Meeting having record numbers in attendance. These days out seem to be becoming increasingly popular every year with people travelling long distances to be involved. My thanks go to Andrew Wright and Philip Hellawell for the work they have had to put in to make these two days a success.

We have also attended the model railway exhibitions at Manchester and York with our exhibition stand. Both events proved very positive for us; we managed to sign up a few new members and sell a lot of our publications. My thanks to everyone who volunteered on the stands and helped make both weekends very successful.

For me the biggest and most consequential moment of 2025 has been the announcement in *Magazine 303* that Noel Coates and Roger Mellor are to stand down

from their roles as Treasurer and Publications Officer at the 2026 AGM. This gives us a year to find a new Treasurer and Publications Officer. How do you replace the irreplaceable? The answer to that question is very simple: you can't and don't even try! I have been a member of this Society for many years and, in that time, I have met and spoken to many of the people who have helped make this Society the organisation it is today; John Hodgson, Tom Wray, Stuart Morris and Barry Lane are just four men who come immediately to mind and there are many others. You know what, all of these people were irreplaceable; they were all unique, strong willed men with a common dream - that this Society could achieve great things. They did a great job and they achieved their dream, but as they moved on other people had to step up and take on their roles - men like Noel Coates, Roger Mellor, Ken Carter and Martin Nield. These individuals slowly grew into their new roles and as they gained



## Secretary's report

**“Contingency and succession planning are very important to the future of the Society...”**

**Martin Nield**

Contingency planning and succession planning are increasingly important to the future of the Society and so the Principal Officers have held three meetings on Zoom in recent months to discuss these topics. A number of actions have already been completed on contingency planning with some more to do and on succession planning a potential Treasurer has come forward and he has been invited to attend our September committee meeting. However no one has yet come forward to express an interest in becoming Publications Officer so we are looking at ways of dividing the publications function into more manageable jobs in the hope of attracting candidates.

The committee has met four times over the past 12 months – three times in person and once on Zoom – and continues to be a lively forum for debate.

We have held three very successful events over the past 12 months, beginning with our AGM & Members' Day in October 2024 which was held at The Fielden Centre in Todmorden. In the afternoon David Storah began giving us a presentation about the railways of Todmorden, but it was unfortunately interrupted and had to be cancelled when one of our

experience and became good at what they were doing, they became the next generation of irreplaceable people.

So now we are looking for a new Treasurer and a new Publications Officer. What we are not looking for is a Noel Coates Mk2 or a Roger Mellor Mk2 or even a clone of them both! We want competent people who can come in, give themselves time to see how things work and then do the job their way. As a Society we will have to show a degree of patience here because this is not going to be an overnight fix. It may be a case of one step back to move two steps forward, but who knows, in a few years' time the new Treasurer and Publications Officer may become part of the next generation of irreplaceables!

There is an old Navajo Indian belief that states as you move along the Highway of Life you will come across seven crossroads. At each crossroad you will have to decide which road to take; do

you keep straight on or do you go off in a new direction? I feel our Society is approaching one of these crossroads; we have important decisions to make.

## The Spring meeting in Bury.



members collapsed. I am glad to say the member concerned, Peter Fitton, subsequently recovered and we plan to invite David to give his presentation again at a future date.

In March of this year we had our Spring Lanky Day Out at the Bury Transport Museum where we were able to see the preserved Aspinall 2-4-2T No.1008, the Horwich narrow gauge shunter *Wren* and the Carriage and Wagon Works War Memorial which had recently been moved to Bury from Newton Heath TrainCare depot. In the afternoon we had an enjoyable trip on the East Lancashire Railway. I would like to thank Andrew Wright for his help organising this event.

Two weeks later Noel Coates and I attended a dedication ceremony for the War Memorial which was done with full military honours and was a memorable occasion.

In June we had our Summer Lanky Day Out in Penistone where we had presentations on the Penistone Line Partnership, the GCR history of the area and the L&YR line from Huddersfield. We also had two walking tours during which we were able to see the station, turntable pit, tank ramp and the magnificent viaduct. I would like to thank Philip Hellawell for his help

organising this event.

We are in the early stages of planning events for 2026 and full details will appear in *Magazine* in due course.

Our four Modelling Co-ordinators – Barry Steventon for Gauge 1; Peter Fitton for 7mm scale; Dave Carter for 4mm scale and Sam Kennion for 2mm scale – have continued their work throughout the year and we are very grateful to them for that.

**Brian Farrimond (right) receiving his Honorary Membership from Graham Smith.**





## Membership Officer's report

**“We have 30 new members so far, many from Manchester and York model railway shows...”**

**Andrew Wright**

This is my second AGM as your Membership Officer and I am still at it and enjoying working away on your behalf! It was good to chat with many of you this year at various Society events and model railway shows and, of course, on the phone.

As I prepared this in early July, the Society had 892 members compared with 910 around the same time last year. At the end of 2024 we had 934 members. Unfortunately over the last winter we lost around 50 members due to death or illness that I was advised of. Those who resigned made it clear that their reasons were due to ill health rather than the Society offering and wished us well for the future. We have had a total of 30 new members this year so far many of whom were recruited at the Manchester and York model railway exhibitions. Well done and thanks to the teams involved at both these shows! The

website and friends' referrals come very high in new recruitment too. This shows the value of a really good and expanding website, such as ours, but also thank you to the friends who have recommended us.

I feel that anything that gets our name and activities into the wider public eye is worthwhile. Talks to local history societies, magazine adverts and stands at public events all have an important part to play in bringing the Society to the attention of a wider public and therefore more potential members. We need not be embarrassed about what we produce so we need to show it off, talk about it and impress! Thank you to all of you who, in no matter what way, large or small, have contributed towards this.

On another, but different membership related matter, as you will be aware we need to recruit two Principal Officers

to replace Roger and Noel. If anyone is interested but feels apprehensive about taking on either role, I understand what you are thinking as I was in the very same place two years ago! Have a chat to me, ring me or email me and I shall reassure that you will not be alone and that help, advice and understanding will always be freely given, by your colleagues.

Membership Year	to Dec 2024
Ordinary members	885
Corporate members	31
Honorary members	18
<b>Total</b>	<b>934</b>



## Publications Officer's report

**“The next major publication will be Peter Taylor's much anticipated book of carriage drawings...”**

**Roger Mellor**

During the year we have produced four excellent issues of *Magazine*. We continue to be blessed by Society members who contribute many quality articles on a variety of subjects. I would also pay tribute to Martin Nield whose editorship has contributed hugely to the continued success and quality of *Magazine*. I must also thank Gavin Clark who is retiring at the AGM and has been doing the typesetting and layouts of *Magazine* for the last 10 years. As I say each year, it is the best line society publication of its kind and remains the bedrock of our offer.

As promised, we published *LMS Central Division Miscellany Part Two* covering the years from 1931 to 1947. This completes the *Miscellany* series which now covers the L&YR period, the LMS era and British Railways up to 1966 in its five volumes.

*LYR Focus 88* was another splendid issue with a variety of articles covering a range of subjects. Like *LYR Focus 87*, it was an extra large 64 page issue rather than the normal 48 pages.

The next major book will be Peter Taylor's much anticipated volume of *LYR Arc Roof Carriage Drawings*. The book represents a major step forward in the information available about the carriage fleet and the vehicles represented remained the backbone of the stock through to the end of the L&YR period. In addition to drawings of each carriage there are larger scale drawings of carriage bogies, corridor connections, gas lamps and standard compartment details.

The planned book on modelling the L&YR continues to make good progress led by Tim Birch. An enormous amount of information has been collected and the job of sifting through it and finalising the format of the book is under way.

The financial model we have successfully used over many years to supply substantial books to members as part of their membership is under strain. When we only produced a book every two or three years it was possible to recover a significant part

of the cost before the next book was published. Over recent years we have published one or more books each financial year which means that we are not recovering enough of the cost to finance the next one. We are discussing options, one of which is to offer new books to members at cost. We may experiment with this method with the modelling book as not all Society members are modellers.

A major budgeting issue for the Society is the burgeoning price of postage. The postage costs for *Magazine* now equal or exceed the printing cost, which drives up the membership subscription. In order to give members a lower cost option we are investigating the possibility of offering digital membership. One of the issues with this is that whilst it may be acceptable to read periodicals like *LYR Focus* and *Magazine* digitally, it would be far less satisfactory with a large book. One option might be to receive the periodicals digitally and pay for books at cost when they are published. We are continuing to discuss this with a

view to offering at least one digital option in time for the 2026 renewal.

The digitisation of our back catalogue of periodicals has continued apace and there are many treasures to be found by clicking on the Member's area of the website. Brian Farrimond deserves huge thanks for the work that he has done on this project.

As the Chairman has mentioned in his review, I shall be retiring at the 2026 AGM after 30 years involvement in Society publications. We have appealed for volunteers to take over but so far had no takers. I want to echo what the Chairman has said in his review. We are NOT looking for someone who can do what I now do.

We recognise that several members of the committee, including me, were able to retire in their fifties with good final salary pensions that enabled them to devote huge amounts of time to the Society. That opportunity no longer exists and we need more volunteers to take over different parts of the job. Nor do we expect to maintain the same format and quality. When I first volunteered I had no experience of publications and could hardly use a computer and I learnt by trial and error.



## Information Officer's report

**“The Manchester Archives drawings scanning project is now virtually complete...”**

**Chris Leach**

The Information Group has continued to be busy on your behalf. The enquiry service continues to provide answers to a wide variety of questions and examples include the L&YR's involvement in emigrant traffic from Hull; a request from the Spen Valley Civic Society for photos of Cleckheaton station; requests for information about Wakefield carriage depot, Kitson-built 0-4-0 loco No 885 and L&YR Simplex loco No.1; the circumstances surrounding accidental death in Barnsley in 1893 involving travelling crane; the job description for a 'railway wagon lifter'; and drawings of a Barton Wright 0-6-0 and a Hughes compound 0-8-0.

Help has also been given to authors in terms of information and images from our collections.

### **Society drawings, photographic collection and other archives**

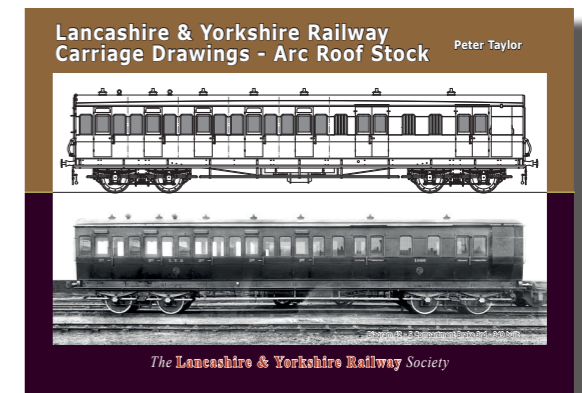
The drawings scanning project is now virtually complete. A total of 890

We are quite relaxed about allowing my successors to go through the same process. In *Magazine 304* I have suggested a structure that would involve up to four new volunteers combining their efforts. I have found the last 30 years immensely rewarding and great fun; I have also made friendships that will last a lifetime. Please think about it and give me a call to discuss it. We will provide the specialist software and training - so come on - give me a call!

Publications really is a team effort. I've already recorded my thanks to Martin Nield and Gavin Clark for their work on

*Magazine*. Thanks go to Noel Coates, Robin Pennie and Peter Taylor for their outstanding contribution to what arrives through your letterbox, and to Tim Birch for what will arrive in the near future. To Andrew Wright and Paul Whitworth for their work on the Virtual Museum, Barry Steventon for his hard work and professionalism dealing with Sales (and his partner Rowena for her support), and Stuart Byford for his work on the website.

And finally, to all our contributors and you, our members, who continue to support us by your membership.



images have now been received and given meaningful file names which match the catalogue lists which were compiled by Robin Pennie and his cataloguing team. Both the drawing scans and catalogue lists have been uploaded to the Society's OneDrive grouped under five headings: locomotives, carriages, wagons, infrastructure and road vehicles. Quite a few drawings were not scanned because of their poor condition and further checking is taking place to see if any of them have been missed. A decision on how the drawings will be made available, possibly through the Virtual Museum, is still to be made. In the meantime any drawing image can be obtained by contacting me.

More archival material is being scanned by other committee members and will be available in due course. There remains more material to be added to our collections and we anticipate being able to restart the cataloguing process thanks to two volunteers coming forward to take on this project.



## Treasurer's report

**“This financial year has been the biggest trading year we have ever had...”**

**Noel Coates**

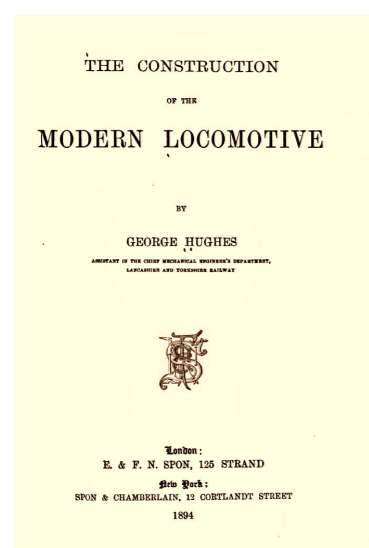
This financial year has been the biggest trading year we have ever had and sales of our publications reached £6000. As well as the usual journals, two books went out to members: one financed by a benefactor, the other completed a quintet of major photographic histories about the Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway.

The breakdown of our income this year is much as normal (the average for the last five years is £53,905). Income from members joining, rejoining, and adding a donation was slightly less than last year. Gift Aid is always a huge chunk to receive, though this time it was hugely increased by us being able to claim the benefactor's contribution. Book sales, mostly through the Online shop but also at two major exhibitions were, higher and a significant portion of our income (11%). Bank interest has continued at better levels; this year it was the equivalent of 10 members.

The main items of expenditure are the usual ones: printing and postage costs (around £40,000) whilst advertising reached £4,876. Expenditure on meetings and travel has, once again, been reduced to small amounts as travel to the Committee meetings is not always claimed and just two exhibitions were attended, though they did produce record sales as mentioned above. Other items and annual costs were largely as predicted but in the case of Archive purchase this is much less than previous years as material has not been forthcoming. The objective of scanning the Society's drawings collection at Manchester has been completed with £11,000 spent. This allows us access to more material for publication as well as being able to make the documents available through the Virtual Museum. We continued the policy of sending out two booklets in one mailing where possible. The Editor spent £753 out of the £910 he was holding on 1 July 2024. Overall we spent more than we have ever done at over £71,200, and I think this will remain a record for many years.

The accounts have been handed to our Independent Examiners for scrutiny and their testimonials will be sent to

**One of the many treasures to be found in our Virtual Museum**



the Charity Commissioner in our Annual Return to them and will be reported at the AGM. I must thank the two gentlemen concerned for the professional manner in which they approach the fulfilment of their post.

Looking forward to the next financial year and our planned spending and the Budget are very much in line with previous years with a book about carriages likely to be the biggest single expense. Having enough money in our reserves means UK subscriptions can be held at £39 but International will need to go up to £58 as postage costs have again risen greatly.

### Accounts for the year 1 July 2024 - 30 June 2025

#### RECEIPTS 2024/2025

Item	£
Subscriptions	33058.00
Donations - with Membership	2324.00
Donations - General	66.05
Sales - pre-loved items	277.00
Bank Interest	424.09
Gift Aid	10157.87
Sales - Publications, Binders etc	1588.50
Sales - Signal Box book Part One & Two	213.00
Sales - Manchester Victoria & its Signalling	500.50
Sales - Introduction to LYR	62.50
Sales - Manchester Victoria pictorial booklet	132.00
Sales - LMS Central Division Miscellany Pt 1	396.00
Sales - Last Levers on the Fylde	504.00
Sales - Central Div Misc - BR Days	362.90
Sales - LYR Goods Workings A-D	137.40
Sales - Private Owner Wagon Sketches	2142.36
Sales - Longridge Branch	600.00
Sales - Transfers/Drawings/Photos etc.	56.00
Sales - Members book offers	433.75
Lanky Day Out donations	1655.00
AGM - Members subsistence	550.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>55640.92</b>

#### PAYMENTS 2024/2025

Item	£
<b>Officers' operational expenses</b>	
Secretary	Nil
Membership Officer	553.51
Treasurer	21.47
Publication Sales Officer	979.84
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>1554.82</b>

#### PAYMENTS 2024/2025 continued

<b>General expenses</b>	
Publications storage unit rental charge	3050.94
Advertising & recruitment	4876.00
Archives purchased	1694.39
Public Liability Insurance	173.52
Trustee Liability Insurance	272.00
Trustee expenses	225.29
Exhibitions - travel & stand maintenance	160.00
AGM hire of meeting room 2024	134.00
AGM notices & reports	440.00
AGM Minutes	272.00
Annual Society Contacts & general leaflets	230.00
Membership forms and cards	148.00
Membermojo subscription	300.00
Adobe Creative Cloud licences (see Notes to Accounts - 1)	1440.00
Website transaction charges - Shopify & Stripe	624.50
Website transaction charges - PayPal & Square	337.52
Friends of the NRM	50.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>14428.16</b>

#### Other expenses

Members book offers	337.88
Zoom subscription	155.88
Spring meeting subsistence	1807.20
Summer meeting room hire & catering	635.30
AGM subsistence	459.00
Scan drawings collection	11092.86
Website hosting	221.97
Website development (S Byford)	300.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>15010.09</b>

#### Publications

Magazine 300 - 303 print	7759.00
LYR Focus 88 - print	2610.00
Private Owner Wagon Sketches - print	2656.00
LMS Central Div Miscellany Pt 2 - print	9300.00
Reprint Activity booklet	333.00
Reprint Bookmarks	160.80
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>22818.80</b>

#### Postage, editorial & sales platform expenses

Publications pack & postage - Magazine 300-303	10931.87
Publications pack & postage - LYR Focus 88	2197.21
Publications pack & postage - LMS Central Div Misc Pt2	3918.79
Stationery etc	72.16
Shopify commission fees	271.41
Other postage	9.95
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>17401.39</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>71213.26</b>

#### Notes to the Accounts:

1. Our Adobe Creative Cloud software is now on an annual subscription for each user.
2. The amount spent depends on what becomes available in any one year.

The report of the Independent Examiners will be available at the Annual General Meeting and confirmed in the minutes of that meeting.

#### ASSETS & LIABILITIES 2023/2024

Assets	£
Cash in Deposit Account	26854.34
Cash in Current Account	614.60
Cash in PayPal Account	133.49
Funds with Treasurer	26.53
Funds with Editor	157.39
<b>Cash Total</b>	<b>27786.35</b>
Stock & Equipment	£
Stock of publications, books, binders, CDs etc. - trade value	tba
Sound system (to be written off at 33% over 3 years)	Written Off
Photo scanners (to be written off at 33% over 3 years)	177.67
Liabilities	£
Items not yet drawn on	Nil

### Budget 1 July 2025 - 30 June 2026

Budget	£
Print 4 Magazines	7600.00
Print 2 LYR Focus	4400.00
Print <i>LYR Arc Roof Carriage Drawings</i> book	10000.00
Postage of Magazines	8000.00
Postage of Journals & books	6000.00
Replenish publications	500.00
Publications storage unit rental charge	3000.00
PayPal, Shopify & Square charges	800.00
Expenses (Membership & Publication Sales Officers)	2500.00
Website maintenance	1200.00
General expenses	1500.00
AGM expenses including printing	700.00
Contact Leaflet (annual)	300.00
Publicity & Recruitment	2500.00
Committee expenses	400.00
Exhibition expenses & development	300.00
Insurances	500.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>50200.00</b>
Archive purchase (see Notes to Accounts - 2)	2000.00
75th Anniversary funding	1000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>53200.00</b>
Print <i>Modelling the L&amp;YR</i> (if ready)	4000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>57200.00</b>

Source of Funds	£
Subscriptions 840 members @ £39 (Int £58)	33100.00
Donations and Interest	1500.00
Publications sales income	4000.00
Gift Aid	8500.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>47100.00</b>
From Business Reserve	6100
<b>Total</b>	<b>53200.00</b>
Sales of <i>Modelling the L&amp;YR</i> to members at cost	4000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>57200.00</b>

# The L&YR Society

Registered Charity No.1098492

## How to get to the AGM...



**The 74th Annual General Meeting of  
The Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway Society  
will be held on Saturday 11th October 2025 at the  
Oxenhope Community Centre starting at 10.30am.**

### **Our Purpose**

The Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway Society is devoted to the dissemination of information about the Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway throughout its 75 years of existence and beyond. The Society has established an ongoing permanent record of its findings through its publications, which are widely available from the website, exhibition stands and specialist booksellers. It works closely with the National Railway Museum, Manchester Archives and other relevant bodies to ensure that original documents, photographs and other materials are professionally preserved and made accessible to all.



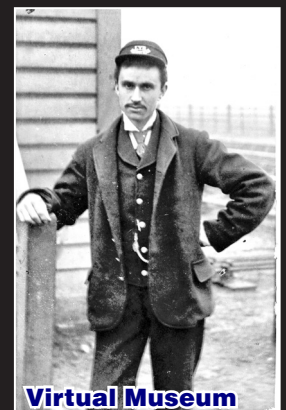
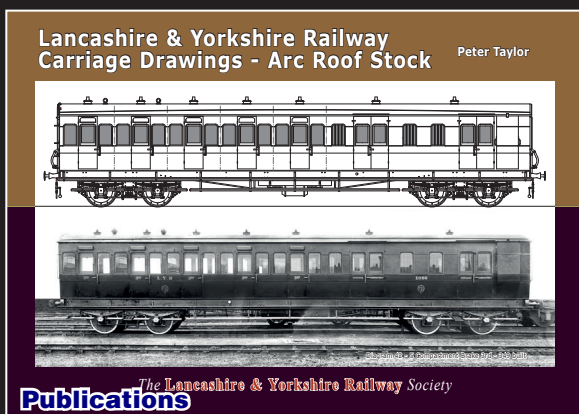
[www.lyrs.org.uk](http://www.lyrs.org.uk)

# 74th Annual General Meeting and Members' Day, 11th October 2025

## Agenda, Report and Accounts



*Your* **L&YR** *Society*



# Agenda

**The 74th Annual General Meeting of The Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway Society will be held on Saturday 11th October 2025 at the Oxenhope Community Centre starting at 10.30am, 10am for tea and coffee.**

**After the meeting there will be buffet lunch costing £10 per head. In the afternoon there will be a trip on the K&WVR. Full details can be found in Magazine 304.**

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|--|--|
| 1. To sign the attendance register and receive apologies                 | 5. Officers' reports (continued):                                    |
| 2. To remember those members who have died during the past twelve months | viii Questions for the Publications Officer                          |
| 3. To receive and approve the minutes of the 2024 Annual General Meeting | ix Information Officer   |
| 4. To deal with matters arising  | x Questions for the Information Officer                              |
| 5. Officers' reports:  | xi Chairman  |
| i Secretary  | xii Questions for the Chairman                                       |
| ii Questions for the Secretary   | 6. To approve the Officers' reports and the Annual Report & Accounts |
| iii Treasurer  | 7. To appoint Trustees for 2025/26                                   |
| iv Questions for the Treasurer   | 8. To appoint two Independent Examiners of the Society's accounts    |
| v Membership Officer   | 9. To confirm the level of subscription for 2026                     |
| vi Questions for the Membership Officer                                  | 10. Any other business   |
| vii Publications Officer   |  |

The following Trustees are offering themselves for re-election: Ron Tinker (Life President), Graham Smith (Chairman), Noel Coates (Treasurer), Martin Nield (Secretary), Roger Mellor (Publications Officer), Chris Leach (Information Officer), Andrew Wright (Membership Officer), David Carter, Ken Carter, and Robin Pennie. Any other nominations must be received by the Secretary no less than 21 days before the meeting and be compliant with clause 4.4 of our Constitution.



## Chairman's review

**Graham Smith**

**“So now we are looking for a new Treasurer and Publications Officer but we are not looking for a Noel Coates or a Roger Mellor Mk2...”**

Looking back at my reviews over the last few years, my opening statements always seem to be about how successful we have been over the previous twelve months. I make no apology for starting my review this year in the same way! This last year has indeed proved to be a very successful year for our Society. It does not surprise me saying that because we are led by a very strong management team who know what they are doing and know how to do it well. They are, in fact, the proverbial smooth, well-oiled machine.

We continue to have a solid financial base with our finances carefully managed by Noel Coates. This strong base gives us the platform to do everything we want to do.

Our publications team continue to provide us with publications of the highest quality. I am sure that the value for money that we give in this respect

is one of the biggest reasons why our membership retention rate remains so high. At this point I would like to say a huge thank you to Gavin Clark who is stepping down as Assistant Editor of *Magazine* at the AGM in October. Gavin has been in post for ten years and is a member of the team who have taken *Magazine* to the next level. All the best for the future Gavin; you have worked hard for the Society and your input will be greatly missed.

Although our membership retention remains high, our membership numbers have in fact slightly dropped this year. At the time of writing this review we have a total of 889 members, a drop of about 20 members from this time last year. This is a little disappointing because it is the first time in a few years that our numbers have been below 900.

We have had two wonderful days out this year, one in early Spring and

the other in late June. Both were well attended with the Spring Meeting having record numbers in attendance. These days out seem to be becoming increasingly popular every year with people travelling long distances to be involved. My thanks go to Andrew Wright and Philip Hellawell for the work they have had to put in to make these two days a success.

We have also attended the model railway exhibitions at Manchester and York with our exhibition stand. Both events proved very positive for us; we managed to sign up a few new members and sell a lot of our publications. My thanks to everyone who volunteered on the stands and helped make both weekends very successful.

For me the biggest and most consequential moment of 2025 has been the announcement in *Magazine 303* that Noel Coates and Roger Mellor are to stand down

from their roles as Treasurer and Publications Officer at the 2026 AGM. This gives us a year to find a new Treasurer and Publications Officer. How do you replace the irreplaceable? The answer to that question is very simple: you can't and don't even try! I have been a member of this Society for many years and, in that time, I have met and spoken to many of the people who have helped make this Society the organisation it is today; John Hodgson, Tom Wray, Stuart Morris and Barry Lane are just four men who come immediately to mind and there are many others. You know what, all of these people were irreplaceable; they were all unique, strong willed men with a common dream - that this Society could achieve great things. They did a great job and they achieved their dream, but as they moved on other people had to step up and take on their roles - men like Noel Coates, Roger Mellor, Ken Carter and Martin Nield. These individuals slowly grew into their new roles and as they gained



## Secretary's report

**“Contingency and succession planning are very important to the future of the Society...”**

**Martin Nield**

Contingency planning and succession planning are increasingly important to the future of the Society and so the Principal Officers have held three meetings on Zoom in recent months to discuss these topics. A number of actions have already been completed on contingency planning with some more to do and on succession planning a potential Treasurer has come forward and he has been invited to attend our September committee meeting. However no one has yet come forward to express an interest in becoming Publications Officer so we are looking at ways of dividing the publications function into more manageable jobs in the hope of attracting candidates.

The committee has met four times over the past 12 months – three times in person and once on Zoom – and continues to be a lively forum for debate.

We have held three very successful events over the past 12 months, beginning with our AGM & Members' Day in October 2024 which was held at The Fielden Centre in Todmorden. In the afternoon David Storah began giving us a presentation about the railways of Todmorden, but it was unfortunately interrupted and had to be cancelled when one of our

experience and became good at what they were doing, they became the next generation of irreplaceable people.

So now we are looking for a new Treasurer and a new Publications Officer. What we are not looking for is a Noel Coates Mk2 or a Roger Mellor Mk2 or even a clone of them both! We want competent people who can come in, give themselves time to see how things work and then do the job their way. As a Society we will have to show a degree of patience here because this is not going to be an overnight fix. It may be a case of one step back to move two steps forward, but who knows, in a few years' time the new Treasurer and Publications Officer may become part of the next generation of irreplaceables!

There is an old Navajo Indian belief that states as you move along the Highway of Life you will come across seven crossroads. At each crossroad you will have to decide which road to take; do

you keep straight on or do you go off in a new direction? I feel our Society is approaching one of these crossroads; we have important decisions to make.

### The Spring meeting in Bury.



members collapsed. I am glad to say the member concerned, Peter Fitton, subsequently recovered and we plan to invite David to give his presentation again at a future date.

In March of this year we had our Spring Lanky Day Out at the Bury Transport Museum where we were able to see the preserved Aspinall 2-4-2T No.1008, the Horwich narrow gauge shunter *Wren* and the Carriage and Wagon Works War Memorial which had recently been moved to Bury from Newton Heath TrainCare depot. In the afternoon we had an enjoyable trip on the East Lancashire Railway. I would like to thank Andrew Wright for his help organising this event.

Two weeks later Noel Coates and I attended a dedication ceremony for the War Memorial which was done with full military honours and was a memorable occasion.

In June we had our Summer Lanky Day Out in Penistone where we had presentations on the Penistone Line Partnership, the GCR history of the area and the L&YR line from Huddersfield. We also had two walking tours during which we were able to see the station, turntable pit, tank ramp and the magnificent viaduct. I would like to thank Philip Hellawell for his help

organising this event.

We are in the early stages of planning events for 2026 and full details will appear in *Magazine* in due course.

Our four Modelling Co-ordinators – Barry Steventon for Gauge 1; Peter Fitton for 7mm scale; Dave Carter for 4mm scale and Sam Kennion for 2mm scale – have continued their work throughout the year and we are very grateful to them for that.

**Brian Farrimond (right) receiving his Honorary Membership from Graham Smith.**





## Membership Officer's report

**“We have 30 new members so far, many from Manchester and York model railway shows...”**

**Andrew Wright**

This is my second AGM as your Membership Officer and I am still at it and enjoying working away on your behalf! It was good to chat with many of you this year at various Society events and model railway shows and, of course, on the phone.

As I prepared this in early July, the Society had 892 members compared with 910 around the same time last year. At the end of 2024 we had 934 members. Unfortunately over the last winter we lost around 50 members due to death or illness that I was advised of. Those who resigned made it clear that their reasons were due to ill health rather than the Society offering and wished us well for the future. We have had a total of 30 new members this year so far many of whom were recruited at the Manchester and York model railway exhibitions. Well done and thanks to the teams involved at both these shows! The

website and friends' referrals come very high in new recruitment too. This shows the value of a really good and expanding website, such as ours, but also thank you to the friends who have recommended us.

I feel that anything that gets our name and activities into the wider public eye is worthwhile. Talks to local history societies, magazine adverts and stands at public events all have an important part to play in bringing the Society to the attention of a wider public and therefore more potential members. We need not be embarrassed about what we produce so we need to show it off, talk about it and impress! Thank you to all of you who, in no matter what way, large or small, have contributed towards this.

On another, but different membership related matter, as you will be aware we need to recruit two Principal Officers

to replace Roger and Noel. If anyone is interested but feels apprehensive about taking on either role, I understand what you are thinking as I was in the very same place two years ago! Have a chat to me, ring me or email me and I shall reassure that you will not be alone and that help, advice and understanding will always be freely given, by your colleagues.

Membership Year	to Dec 2024
Ordinary members	885
Corporate members	31
Honorary members	18
<b>Total</b>	<b>934</b>



## Publications Officer's report

**“The next major publication will be Peter Taylor's much anticipated book of carriage drawings...”**

**Roger Mellor**

During the year we have produced four excellent issues of *Magazine*. We continue to be blessed by Society members who contribute many quality articles on a variety of subjects. I would also pay tribute to Martin Nield whose editorship has contributed hugely to the continued success and quality of *Magazine*. I must also thank Gavin Clark who is retiring at the AGM and has been doing the typesetting and layouts of *Magazine* for the last 10 years. As I say each year, it is the best line society publication of its kind and remains the bedrock of our offer.

As promised, we published *LMS Central Division Miscellany Part Two* covering the years from 1931 to 1947. This completes the *Miscellany* series which now covers the L&YR period, the LMS era and British Railways up to 1966 in its five volumes.

*LYR Focus 88* was another splendid issue with a variety of articles covering a range of subjects. Like *LYR Focus 87*, it was an extra large 64 page issue rather than the normal 48 pages.

The next major book will be Peter Taylor's much anticipated volume of *LYR Arc Roof Carriage Drawings*. The book represents a major step forward in the information available about the carriage fleet and the vehicles represented remained the backbone of the stock through to the end of the L&YR period. In addition to drawings of each carriage there are larger scale drawings of carriage bogies, corridor connections, gas lamps and standard compartment details.

The planned book on modelling the L&YR continues to make good progress led by Tim Birch. An enormous amount of information has been collected and the job of sifting through it and finalising the format of the book is under way.

The financial model we have successfully used over many years to supply substantial books to members as part of their membership is under strain. When we only produced a book every two or three years it was possible to recover a significant part

of the cost before the next book was published. Over recent years we have published one or more books each financial year which means that we are not recovering enough of the cost to finance the next one. We are discussing options, one of which is to offer new books to members at cost. We may experiment with this method with the modelling book as not all Society members are modellers.

A major budgeting issue for the Society is the burgeoning price of postage. The postage costs for *Magazine* now equal or exceed the printing cost, which drives up the membership subscription. In order to give members a lower cost option we are investigating the possibility of offering digital membership. One of the issues with this is that whilst it may be acceptable to read periodicals like *LYR Focus* and *Magazine* digitally, it would be far less satisfactory with a large book. One option might be to receive the periodicals digitally and pay for books at cost when they are published. We are continuing to discuss this with a

view to offering at least one digital option in time for the 2026 renewal.

The digitisation of our back catalogue of periodicals has continued apace and there are many treasures to be found by clicking on the Member's area of the website. Brian Farrimond deserves huge thanks for the work that he has done on this project.

As the Chairman has mentioned in his review, I shall be retiring at the 2026 AGM after 30 years involvement in Society publications. We have appealed for volunteers to take over but so far had no takers. I want to echo what the Chairman has said in his review. We are NOT looking for someone who can do what I now do.

We recognise that several members of the committee, including me, were able to retire in their fifties with good final salary pensions that enabled them to devote huge amounts of time to the Society. That opportunity no longer exists and we need more volunteers to take over different parts of the job. Nor do we expect to maintain the same format and quality. When I first volunteered I had no experience of publications and could hardly use a computer and I learnt by trial and error.



## Information Officer's report

**“The Manchester Archives drawings scanning project is now virtually complete...”**

**Chris Leach**

The Information Group has continued to be busy on your behalf. The enquiry service continues to provide answers to a wide variety of questions and examples include the L&YR's involvement in emigrant traffic from Hull; a request from the Spen Valley Civic Society for photos of Cleckheaton station; requests for information about Wakefield carriage depot, Kitson-built 0-4-0 loco No 885 and L&YR Simplex loco No.1; the circumstances surrounding accidental death in Barnsley in 1893 involving travelling crane; the job description for a 'railway wagon lifter'; and drawings of a Barton Wright 0-6-0 and a Hughes compound 0-8-0.

Help has also been given to authors in terms of information and images from our collections.

### **Society drawings, photographic collection and other archives**

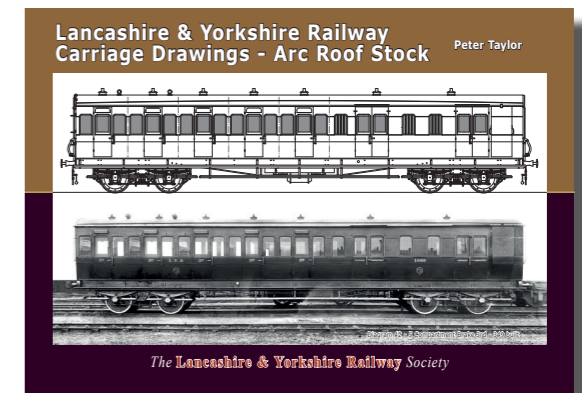
The drawings scanning project is now virtually complete. A total of 890

We are quite relaxed about allowing my successors to go through the same process. In *Magazine 304* I have suggested a structure that would involve up to four new volunteers combining their efforts. I have found the last 30 years immensely rewarding and great fun; I have also made friendships that will last a lifetime. Please think about it and give me a call to discuss it. We will provide the specialist software and training - so come on - give me a call!

Publications really is a team effort. I've already recorded my thanks to Martin Nield and Gavin Clark for their work on

*Magazine*. Thanks go to Noel Coates, Robin Pennie and Peter Taylor for their outstanding contribution to what arrives through your letterbox, and to Tim Birch for what will arrive in the near future. To Andrew Wright and Paul Whitworth for their work on the Virtual Museum, Barry Steventon for his hard work and professionalism dealing with Sales (and his partner Rowena for her support), and Stuart Byford for his work on the website.

And finally, to all our contributors and you, our members, who continue to support us by your membership.



images have now been received and given meaningful file names which match the catalogue lists which were compiled by Robin Pennie and his cataloguing team. Both the drawing scans and catalogue lists have been uploaded to the Society's OneDrive grouped under five headings: locomotives, carriages, wagons, infrastructure and road vehicles. Quite a few drawings were not scanned because of their poor condition and further checking is taking place to see if any of them have been missed. A decision on how the drawings will be made available, possibly through the Virtual Museum, is still to be made. In the meantime any drawing image can be obtained by contacting me.

More archival material is being scanned by other committee members and will be available in due course. There remains more material to be added to our collections and we anticipate being able to restart the cataloguing process thanks to two volunteers coming forward to take on this project.



## Treasurer's report

**“This financial year has been the biggest trading year we have ever had...”**

**Noel Coates**

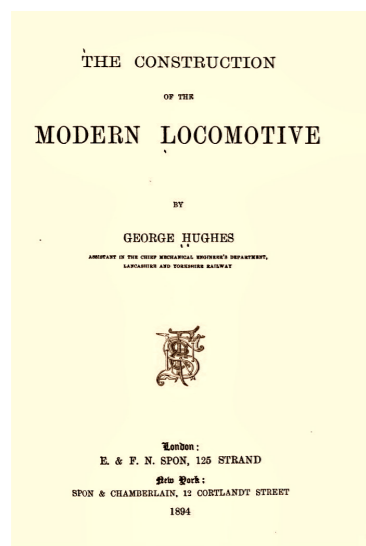
This financial year has been the biggest trading year we have ever had and sales of our publications reached £6000. As well as the usual journals, two books went out to members: one financed by a benefactor, the other completed a quintet of major photographic histories about the Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway.

The breakdown of our income this year is much as normal (the average for the last five years is £53,905). Income from members joining, rejoining, and adding a donation was slightly less than last year. Gift Aid is always a huge chunk to receive, though this time it was hugely increased by us being able to claim the benefactor's contribution. Book sales, mostly through the Online shop but also at two major exhibitions were, higher and a significant portion of our income (11%). Bank interest has continued at better levels; this year it was the equivalent of 10 members.

The main items of expenditure are the usual ones: printing and postage costs (around £40,000) whilst advertising reached £4,876. Expenditure on meetings and travel has, once again, been reduced to small amounts as travel to the Committee meetings is not always claimed and just two exhibitions were attended, though they did produce record sales as mentioned above. Other items and annual costs were largely as predicted but in the case of Archive purchase this is much less than previous years as material has not been forthcoming. The objective of scanning the Society's drawings collection at Manchester has been completed with £11,000 spent. This allows us access to more material for publication as well as being able to make the documents available through the Virtual Museum. We continued the policy of sending out two booklets in one mailing where possible. The Editor spent £753 out of the £910 he was holding on 1 July 2024. Overall we spent more than we have ever done at over £71,200, and I think this will remain a record for many years.

The accounts have been handed to our Independent Examiners for scrutiny and their testimonials will be sent to

**One of the many treasures to be found in our Virtual Museum**



the Charity Commissioner in our Annual Return to them and will be reported at the AGM. I must thank the two gentlemen concerned for the professional manner in which they approach the fulfilment of their post.

Looking forward to the next financial year and our planned spending and the Budget are very much in line with previous years with a book about carriages likely to be the biggest single expense. Having enough money in our reserves means UK subscriptions can be held at £39 but International will need to go up to £58 as postage costs have again risen greatly.

### Accounts for the year 1 July 2024 - 30 June 2025

#### RECEIPTS 2024/2025

Item	£
Subscriptions	33058.00
Donations - with Membership	2324.00
Donations - General	66.05
Sales - pre-loved items	277.00
Bank Interest	424.09
Gift Aid	10157.87
Sales - Publications, Binders etc	1588.50
Sales - Signal Box book Part One & Two	213.00
Sales - Manchester Victoria & its Signalling	500.50
Sales - Introduction to LYR	62.50
Sales - Manchester Victoria pictorial booklet	132.00
Sales - LMS Central Division Miscellany Pt 1	396.00
Sales - Last Levers on the Fylde	504.00
Sales - Central Div Misc - BR Days	362.90
Sales - LYR Goods Workings A-D	137.40
Sales - Private Owner Wagon Sketches	2142.36
Sales - Longridge Branch	600.00
Sales - Transfers/Drawings/Photos etc.	56.00
Sales - Members book offers	433.75
Lanky Day Out donations	1655.00
AGM - Members subsistence	550.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>55640.92</b>

#### PAYMENTS 2024/2025

Item	£
<b>Officers' operational expenses</b>	
Secretary	Nil
Membership Officer	553.51
Treasurer	21.47
Publication Sales Officer	979.84
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>1554.82</b>

#### PAYMENTS 2024/2025 continued

<b>General expenses</b>	
Publications storage unit rental charge	3050.94
Advertising & recruitment	4876.00
Archives purchased	1694.39
Public Liability Insurance	173.52
Trustee Liability Insurance	272.00
Trustee expenses	225.29
Exhibitions - travel & stand maintenance	160.00
AGM hire of meeting room 2024	134.00
AGM notices & reports	440.00
AGM Minutes	272.00
Annual Society Contacts & general leaflets	230.00
Membership forms and cards	148.00
Membermojo subscription	300.00
Adobe Creative Cloud licences (see Notes to Accounts - 1)	1440.00
Website transaction charges - Shopify & Stripe	624.50
Website transaction charges - PayPal & Square	337.52
Friends of the NRM	50.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>14428.16</b>

#### Other expenses

Members book offers	337.88
Zoom subscription	155.88
Spring meeting subsistence	1807.20
Summer meeting room hire & catering	635.30
AGM subsistence	459.00
Scan drawings collection	11092.86
Website hosting	221.97
Website development (S Byford)	300.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>15010.09</b>

#### Publications

Magazine 300 - 303 print	7759.00
LYR Focus 88 - print	2610.00
Private Owner Wagon Sketches - print	2656.00
LMS Central Div Miscellany Pt 2 - print	9300.00
Reprint Activity booklet	333.00
Reprint Bookmarks	160.80
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>22818.80</b>

#### Postage, editorial & sales platform expenses

Publications pack & postage - Magazine 300-303	10931.87
Publications pack & postage - LYR Focus 88	2197.21
Publications pack & postage - LMS Central Div Misc Pt2	3918.79
Stationery etc	72.16
Shopify commission fees	271.41
Other postage	9.95
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>17401.39</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>71213.26</b>

#### Notes to the Accounts:

1. Our Adobe Creative Cloud software is now on an annual subscription for each user.
2. The amount spent depends on what becomes available in any one year.

The report of the Independent Examiners will be available at the Annual General Meeting and confirmed in the minutes of that meeting.

#### ASSETS & LIABILITIES 2023/2024

Assets	£
Cash in Deposit Account	26854.34
Cash in Current Account	614.60
Cash in PayPal Account	133.49
Funds with Treasurer	26.53
Funds with Editor	157.39
<b>Cash Total</b>	<b>27786.35</b>
Stock & Equipment	£
Stock of publications, books, binders, CDs etc. - trade value	tba
Sound system (to be written off at 33% over 3 years)	Written Off
Photo scanners (to be written off at 33% over 3 years)	177.67
Liabilities	£
Items not yet drawn on	Nil

### Budget 1 July 2025 - 30 June 2026

Budget	£
Print 4 Magazines	7600.00
Print 2 LYR Focus	4400.00
Print <i>LYR Arc Roof Carriage Drawings</i> book	10000.00
Postage of Magazines	8000.00
Postage of Journals & books	6000.00
Replenish publications	500.00
Publications storage unit rental charge	3000.00
PayPal, Shopify & Square charges	800.00
Expenses (Membership & Publication Sales Officers)	2500.00
Website maintenance	1200.00
General expenses	1500.00
AGM expenses including printing	700.00
Contact Leaflet (annual)	300.00
Publicity & Recruitment	2500.00
Committee expenses	400.00
Exhibition expenses & development	300.00
Insurances	500.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>50200.00</b>
Archive purchase (see Notes to Accounts - 2)	2000.00
75th Anniversary funding	1000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>53200.00</b>
Print <i>Modelling the L&amp;YR</i> (if ready)	4000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>57200.00</b>

Source of Funds	£
Subscriptions 840 members @ £39 (Int £58)	33100.00
Donations and Interest	1500.00
Publications sales income	4000.00
Gift Aid	8500.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>47100.00</b>
From Business Reserve	6100
<b>Total</b>	<b>53200.00</b>
Sales of <i>Modelling the L&amp;YR</i> to members at cost	4000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>57200.00</b>

# The L&YR Society

Registered Charity No.1098492

## How to get to the AGM...



**The 74th Annual General Meeting of  
The Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway Society  
will be held on Saturday 11th October 2025 at the  
Oxenhope Community Centre starting at 10.30am.**

### Our Purpose

The Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway Society is devoted to the dissemination of information about the Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway throughout its 75 years of existence and beyond. The Society has established an ongoing permanent record of its findings through its publications, which are widely available from the website, exhibition stands and specialist booksellers. It works closely with the National Railway Museum, Manchester Archives and other relevant bodies to ensure that original documents, photographs and other materials are professionally preserved and made accessible to all.



[www.lyrs.org.uk](http://www.lyrs.org.uk)

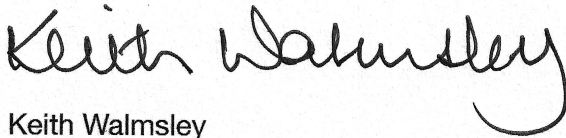
29 Lower Cribden Avenue  
Rossendale  
BB4 6SW

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

I have examined the financial records of the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Society for the year ended 30 June 2025 and can confirm that:

- i) gross payments are £71213-26, and
- ii) gross receipts are £56188-92.

These figures are included in the Treasurer's Report for the Agenda, Report and Accounts for the 74th Annual General Meeting. In my opinion, the Accounts set out therein show a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Society as at 30 June 2025.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Keith Walmsley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end of the name.

Keith Walmsley

Independent Examiner

**THE L&YR SOCIETY**

England & Wales - Charity number 1098492

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# Accounts

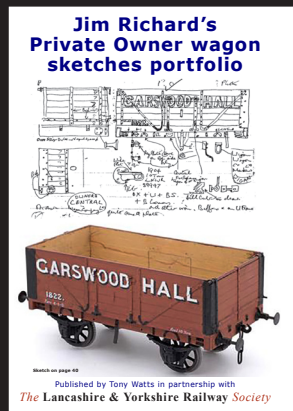
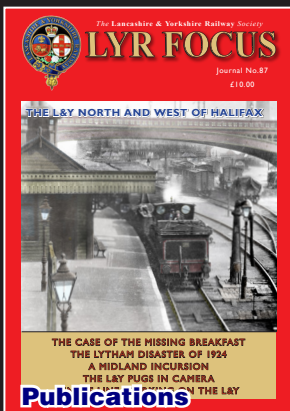
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# 73rd Annual General Meeting and Members' Day, 12th October 2024

## Agenda, Report and Accounts



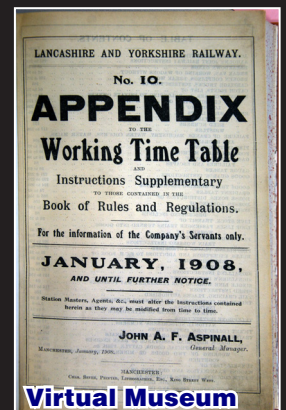
*Your* **L&YR** *Society*



**Society events**



**Modelling the L&YR**



**Virtual Museum**

# Agenda

**The 73rd Annual General Meeting of The Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway Society will be held on Saturday 12th October 2024 at the Fielden Hall in Todmorden starting at 10.30am, 10am for tea and coffee.**

**After the meeting there will be buffet lunch costing £10 per head. In the afternoon there will be a presentation on the railway of Todmorden by David Storah. Full details can be found in Magazine 300.**

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|--|--|
| 1. To sign the attendance register and receive apologies                 | 5. Officers' reports (continued):                                    |
| 2. To remember those members who have died during the past twelve months | viii Questions for the Publications Officer                          |
| 3. To receive and approve the minutes of the 2023 Annual General Meeting | ix Information Officer   |
| 4. To deal with matters arising  | x Questions for the Information Officer                              |
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| i Secretary  | xii Questions for the Chairman                                       |
| ii Questions for the Secretary   | 6. To approve the Officers' reports and the Annual Report & Accounts |
| iii Treasurer  | 7. To appoint Trustees for 2024/25                                   |
| iv Questions for the Treasurer   | 8. To appoint two Independent Examiners of the Society's accounts    |
| v Membership Officer   | 9. To confirm the level of subscription for 2025                     |
| vi Questions for the Membership Officer                                  | 10. Any other business   |
| vii Publications Officer   |  |

The following Trustees are offering themselves for re-election:

Ron Tinker (Life President), Graham Smith (Chairman), Noel Coates (Treasurer), Martin Nield (Secretary), Roger Mellor (Publications Officer), Chris Leach (Information Officer), David Carter, Ken Carter, Robin Pennie, and Barry Steventon. Andrew Wright (Membership Officer) is standing for election as a Trustee. Any other nominations must be received by the Secretary no less than 21 days before the meeting and be compliant with clause 4.4 of our Constitution.



## Chairman's review

**"I am pleased that a number of people have come forward to help the Society..."**

### Graham Smith

Last year in my review and at the AGM I spent a lot of time talking about the future of the Society and succession planning. I had to smile a few days after the AGM when a friend who had been at the meeting rang me up and told me it was the nicest telling off he had had for a long time! Well it wasn't meant as a telling off; I just wanted to make everyone aware, in the clearest possible way, that now was the time to plan for the future – not in a few years' time when it would probably be too late. Telling off definitely not, but a warning yes! So I am pleased to be able to tell you that a number of people have come forward and offered to help with different aspects of the Society. They have joined us for a of committee meetings and hopefully will be able to get more involved as they become used to the way that the Society management team works.

I think we have had another very successful year. It has not been

easy as we have lost a few important members of our wider management team, for a variety of reasons, and these people have been missed. We have had to adjust and change the way we do certain things; in fact we are still adjusting to the changes we have had to make. However the one thing that hasn't changed is our principles; we have stuck by the same fundamental principles that have served us so well for so long. I feel the following four things have been the bedrock of our success over the years:

1. We are very professional in our approach to everything we do.
2. We are extremely well organised and thorough.
3. We know what we are doing and how to do it well.
4. We take nothing for granted.

I would also like to add that we are fully aware that it is your money we are using and we use it to provide the

things you want.

I know tend to say this every year, but it is important for us on the management team not to forget that our success is also down to you the membership. So much of what we achieve would not happen without you. Whether it be helping on our exhibition stands, doing research, writing articles for *Magazine* and *L&YR Focus*, organising events like our Lanky Days Out and now even digitising our early journals (well done Brian!). What you do is fundamental to the success we continue to have. So another big thank you to every one of you who has been involved helping our Society for what you have done and what you continue to do.

As you all know, Ken Carter stood down as Membership Officer in January of this year. Twenty nine years in the post is a long time and I think it is fair to say that in that time Ken played a leading role in putting

the Society in the strong position it is in today. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Ken on behalf of the membership for the outstanding contribution he made during that time. Thank you, Ken. I would also like to say welcome and good luck to Andrew Wright, our new Membership Officer.

Andrew has worked tirelessly for the Society behind the scenes for a good number of years. Having got to know him better over the last three years he strikes me as a man who has all the qualities required to do a terrific job as Membership Officer. Good luck Andrew!

Finally, I would like to thank all of you for your continued support during this last year. I am looking forward to seeing a good few of you at the AGM in October.



**Members enjoying a trip on the Middleton Railway at the 2023 AGM**



## Secretary's report

**"We have held three very successful events over the past twelve months..."**

### Martin Nield

We have held three very successful events over the past 12 months, beginning with our AGM & Members' Day in October 2023 which was held at The Middleton Railway in Leeds. After the meeting we had a ride on the railway and a look around the superb museum where there is an outstanding collection of industrial locomotives. After lunch we were given a talk on the history of this pioneering railway.

In March of this year we had our Spring Lanky Day Out in the Bolton area, starting at Bolton station where we were warmly welcomed by the Bolton Station Partnership, given a tour of the station and a presentation about its history. We had an excellent lunch at The Railway Inn at Bromley Cross where we were able to see the surviving L&YR station building and signalbox. Finally we visited Entwistle to view what remains of the L&YR there.

In June we had our Summer Lanky Day Out when we met at Mytholmroyd station where, after a welcome from Geoff and Sue Mitchell of the Mytholmroyd Station Partnership, we were able to explore the lovely three-storey L&YR station building, which

incorporated the Station Master's house. The original staircase has been beautifully restored and some of the original fireplaces can still be seen in the empty rooms.

We then caught the train to Sowerby Bridge where we walked through the subway to the Jubilee Refreshment Rooms. After suitable refreshment we went on a short walking tour to view the remains of the Grade-II listed coal drops, the former coaling stage and water tank at the site of the former engine shed and the old goods offices in Sowerby Street. Next stop was the Foundry Street Community Centre where we had lunch followed by an excellent PowerPoint presentation by Philip Hellawell on the industrial and railway history of Sowerby Bridge.

We are in the early stages of planning events for 2025 and full details will appear in *Magazine* in due course.

Your committee has met four times over the past 12 months – three times in person and once on Zoom – and continues to be a lively forum for debate. After the appeal for more volunteers to come forward made by

our Chairman at last year's AGM I am pleased to say that three members offered their services: Tim Birch is now leading efforts to produce a book on modelling the L&YR; Paul Whitworth is taking over the scanning of archive material from Andrew Wright and Phil Marsden has been helping us with IT issues. All three have been attending our committee meetings and are making a very welcome contribution to the running of the Society.

Andrew Wright, who took over from Ken Carter as our Membership Officer in January, is doing an excellent job and is standing for election as a Trustee at this year's AGM. He is proposed by Roger Mellor and seconded by myself and I hope you will give him your support.

Our four Modelling Co-ordinators – Barry Steventon for Gauge 1; Peter Fitton for 7mm scale; Dave Carter for 4mm scale and Sam Kennion for 2mm scale – have continued their work throughout the year and we are very grateful to them for that.



## Membership Officer's report

**“We need not be embarrassed about what we produce - show it off, talk about it and impress!...”**

### Andrew Wright

I am Andrew Wright, the new face on the block so to speak! I am the new Membership Officer and this is my first Annual Report. As I prepared this during July, I had only been in the job around six months. Some of you may have spoken to or emailed me in that time or met me at Lanky Days Out. You may have read my column in *Magazine* or heard of me in connection with the committee and the Virtual Museum. To those members who kindly sent me “Welcome to the new job” messages I say a big Thank You for your kind greetings!

I took over from Ken Carter in mid-January and then started a very big learning curve! Just before that event I had spent a couple of days with Ken for him to show me the ropes. I drove home along with seventeen storage boxes of magazines, book marks, address labels, beer mats, etc, etc. My first problem was where to put it all? My wife, Alison helped a lot there by clearing out a drawer and an understairs cupboard for me to use. She also helped to consolidate everything into about 10 boxes. Thank you, Ali!

Things settled down and I came to enjoy what I was doing. Basically it is helping people, with address changes, missing publications,

other membership matters and also explaining the benefits of membership of such a knowledgeable society to enquirers.

During March it was identified that around 80 members had not renewed their subscriptions for 2024. So I sent letters to the ones of over 20 years membership or more and emails to the remainder. This resulted in 30 renewals over the next three to four weeks. Sadly I was advised of four members passing away by their families. We also had several resignations, all either related to age, illness or change of interest and none that reflected badly on the Society.

As I write this on 9 July, the Society has 910 members; this compares with 924 around the same date last year. We have had a total of 23 new members this year so far. Out of interest I did a survey of how they heard about the LYRS. The website and friends' referrals came very high on the list. This shows the value of a really good website, such as ours, but also thank you to the friends who have recommended us, well done!

When I have friends visiting, I leave a couple of LYRS magazines lying around for them to look at and take away to hopefully show to others!

I feel that anything that gets our name and activities into the wider public eye is worthwhile. Talks to local history societies, magazine adverts and stands at public events all have an important part to play in bringing the LYRS to the attention of a wider public and, therefore, more potential members. We need not be embarrassed about what we produce so we need to show it off, talk about it and impress! Thank you to all of you who, in no matter what way, large or small, have contributed towards this.

In closing I would like to thank Ken Carter and my fellow Officers for helping me whilst I took over this job and their wise words of advice and guidance. I feel honoured to be Membership Officer of a railway society that is 74 years old, nine years older than I am, in fact! I enjoy the work I do for the Society and have been able to correspond with some lovely people. By that I mean you, the members of the Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway Society.

Membership Year to Dec 2023	
Ordinary members	928
Corporate members	31
Honorary members	15
<b>Total</b>	<b>974</b>

## Publications Officer's report

**“We reached a milestone with the latest issue of Magazine which is No.300...”**

### Roger Mellor

We have again produced four excellent issues of *Magazine* which are only as good as the material available. We are very fortunate that you, the members, continue to contribute such a variety and quality of articles that keep *Magazine* as topical and vibrant as it is. We reached a milestone with the latest issue which is No.300. It's a title that I'm particularly fond of as the first one with which I was associated was No.194 - it was then *Newsletter* and I succeeded Brian Barker as Editor in 1996. It became *Magazine* from No.213 and has become the bedrock of what we offer. As I repeat every year, it remains the best line society publication of its kind. Thanks go to Martin Nield, who succeeded

me as Editor in ????, and has taken it from strength to strength. Thanks also go to Gavin Clark for his layout and typesetting work.

Both *LYR Focus 86* and *87* have contained major articles by Philip Hellawell about locations with which he is very familiar in West Yorkshire. His detailed knowledge of the area and his assiduous research add greatly to the 'atmosphere' of the articles. The good news is that he is researching at least one further article. Philip's work has been supported by informative and well researched articles from a number of authors, which together have built into two outstanding issues. Particular thanks are due to Mike Norris who

has stepped seamlessly into the void left by the loss of Chris Littleworth as Society Signalling Steward.

Jim Richards is a familiar name to enthusiasts of a certain age. He was an outstanding modeller and a dedicated researcher with an engineering background. His interests included Private Owner wagons and he toured the country sketching the PO wagons that he saw and recording lettering and livery detail. LYRS member, Tony Watts, was a friend and was given copies of the sketches. Tony (and the Society) are keen to make these widely available and Tony has generously funded the production of a book of the sketches which has gone out to

members and will be commercially available through our online shop, and eventually from other sources.

One of our ambitions for a long time has been to produce a book on modelling the L&YR. Time constraints and lack of resources has meant little progress has been made. I am delighted to say that Tim Birch has joined the publications team and his first project is the completion of a modelling book. This will not be about modelling techniques but will aim to show what the railway looked like and provide accurate information about the myriad of details involved in building a convincing model railway. Tim will be assisted by Keith Wallace whose work has appeared in *Magazine* with



## Information Officer's report

**“The drawings digitisation project with Pearl Scan has made very significant progress...”**

### Chris Leach

The work of the Information Group has continued to make progress this year. The enquiry service continues to be popular and examples of the queries received include: motor-fitted Radial Tanks; Springwood Junction; Clifton Junction power station; Wigan Wallgate station buildings; L&YR parachute water tanks; digital copies of wagon drawings; information on Bury gas works sidings; drawings of the Baltic tanks for scratch building a 7mm model; Hensall Sand PO wagon livery; Horbury cattle dock photo; information on Newton Heath works and Manchester United.

Several authors have also requested images from our collections to illustrate their books.

### Society drawings, photographic collection and other archives

Society drawings, photographic collection and other archives

back up from Martin Nield, myself, and whoever in the Society has the necessary knowledge. The aim is to have something ready for publication in the 2025/6 financial year.

The next book in the pipeline is *LMS Central Division Miscellany Part Two*, which completes the Miscellany series which first started with *L&YR Miscellany* published by OPC way back in 1983.

We also have Peter Taylor's magnificent book of carriage drawings, *LYR Steam Hauled Arc Roof Carriages* in the pipeline.

Publications really is a team effort. I've already recorded my thanks to

Martin Nield and Gavin Clark for their work on *Magazine*. To Noel Coates, Robin Pennie and Peter Taylor for their outstanding contribution to what arrives through your letterbox. A warm welcome to Tim Birch. To Andrew Wright and Paul Whitworth for their work on the Virtual Museum, Barry Steventon for his hard work and professionalism dealing with Sales (and Rowena for her support), and Stuart Byford for his work on the website.

And finally, to all our contributors and you, our members, who continue to support us by your membership.

The drawings digitisation project with Pearl Scan has commenced and has made very significant progress, albeit haltingly. A total of 564 scans have been received to date by us. Around 300 drawings remain with Pearl Scan and are ones that will not fit through their direct feed scanner - either because of their size, thickness or fragility - and they are exploring other means of scanning them. Further drawings still remain with Manchester Archives and their conservator will send them when capacity allows. Work has continued to link the filenames provided by Pearl Scan to the drawings lists produced by the original cataloguing team. Copies of the drawings will be made available in due course.

A great deal of further archival material is waiting to be added to our collections, but we need to restart the cataloguing process at Manchester Archives as soon as it is lodged with

them and volunteers for this have been thin on the ground. Work to identify and list items of L&YR interest in archives other than Manchester was progressing but was disrupted by COVID and other issues. Attempts to restart this by visiting archives have had very little success so far and it may be that trawling the online catalogues of these archives may be one option. Kevin Turville has agreed to assist with the scanning of the more recent photo collection additions, and with sorting and listing scans already completed by other Society members.

### Virtual Museum of the Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway

Work has been continuing on deciding the best format for storing and displaying a selection of digital photo images from our collections, but a final decision is yet to be made.



**The work room at our digitisation partner, Pearl Scan, who are in the process of digitising our collection housed with Manchester Archives.**



## Treasurer's report

**“Bank interest (at last!) reached better levels and was equivalent to twelve new members...”**

### Noel Coates

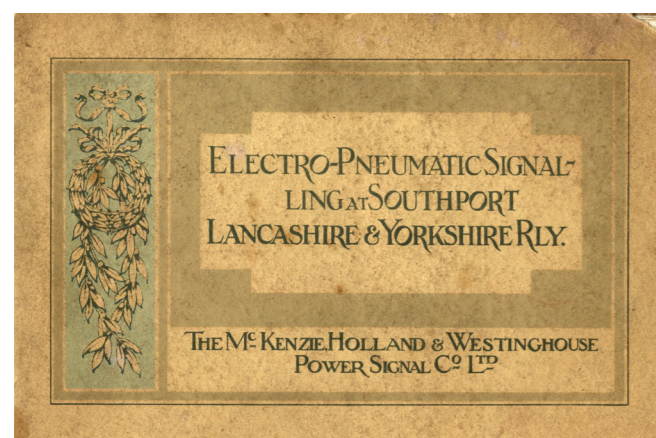
This financial year has been one for recovery. Whilst we entered July 2023 with just £32,500 in the bank this year we close June with £41,200 though over £4,000 of that is a donation earmarked for a particular future publication. The small increase in membership income is only a minor part of this return to fluidity, other factors include less spent on postage than in previous years and no major book to pay for its printing - that comes next year with another volume of pictures. By that time we will have the next amount of Gift Aid to keep things steady.

The breakdown of our income this year is much as normal, members joining, rejoining and adding a donation was greater than expected. Gift Aid is always a huge chunk though this time it represented a sixth of the total. **The volume of sales of publications was down slightly but add on Manchester Victoria et al and there is an increase.** The latter has now clawed back £3,500 of its costs. Books through offers was smaller this year but still a significant amount of income at £730. Bank interest has (at last!) reached better levels, this year it was equivalent to twelve new members, two years ago it was ¼ of a member.

The main items of expenditure are the usual ones – printing and postage costs (over £25,000) with advertising reaching £4,340. Expenditure on meetings and travel have, once again, been reduced to small amounts as the Committee meetings have largely continued to be held by Internet and very few exhibitions attended. Other items and annual costs were as predicted but in the case of Archive purchase and Website maintenance these were fairly high, £4,815 and £3,500 respectively (there were a lot of glass negatives for sale whose quality was superb and were not to be missed). We have had to take on extra storage space and a start to scanning our drawings has been made with almost £3,000 spent there. One great feature was that postage was way down on budget, sending out two booklets in one mailing saved over £1000. All in all, we spent less than anticipated.

The accounts have been handed to our Independent Examiners for scrutiny, and I will report their findings to the Annual General Meeting. Their testimonials are sent to the Charity Commissioners in our Annual Return to them. I must

### One of the many treasures to be found in our Virtual Museum



thank the two gentlemen concerned for the professional manner in which they approach the fulfilment of their post. It is possible to send all documents electronically now which is a further small saving in time and effort to me.

Looking forward to the next financial year and our spending plans and the Budget are very much in line with previous years with a couple of larger volumes, one of which has already received a generous donation towards its costs and there'll be more scanning. Income for all these projects will have to be balanced by a slight increase in the membership subscription to £39 UK and £55 International (where postage costs have risen greatly).

## Accounts for the year 1 July 2023 - 30 June 2024

### RECEIPTS 2023/2024

Item	£
Subscriptions	34323.00
Donations - with Membership	2583.50
Donations - for a specific publication	4340.00
Donations - General	424.00
Sales - pre-loved items	67.00
Bank Interest	455.85
Gift Aid	8685.83
Sales - Publications, Binders etc	1377.45
Sales - Signal Box book Part One & Two	168.74
Sales - Manchester Victoria & its Signalling	2956.30
Sales - Introduction to LYR	26.00
Sales - Manchester Victoria pictorial booklet	58.50
Sales - LMS Central Division Miscellany Pt 1	117.25
Sales - Last Levers on the Fylde	55.50
Sales - Central Div Misc - BR Days	151.70
Sales - LYR Goods Workings A-D	171.70
Sales - Bury booklet	1051.35
Sales - Transfers/Drawings/Photos etc.	249.00
Sales - Members book offers	627.65
Sales - Sale of members artefacts	84.82
Royalty payments	50.00
Lanky Day Out donations	1020.00
AGM - Members subsistence	500.00
AGM - Travel	340.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>59885.14</b>

### PAYMENTS 2023/2024

Item	£
Officers' operational expenses	
Secretary	Nil
Membership Officer	890.40
Treasurer	27.57
Publication Sales Officer	892.55
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>1810.52</b>

### PAYMENTS 2023/2024 continued

General expenses	
Donations	100.00
Publications storage unit rental charge	2329.60
Advertising & recruitment	3965.00
Archives purchased	4819.48
Public Liability Insurance	168.52
Trustee Liability Insurance	263.45
Trustee expenses	208.50
Exhibitions - travel & stand maintenance	25.00
AGM hire of meeting room 2023	35.00
AGM notices & reports	460.00
AGM Minutes	280.00
Annual Society Contacts & general leaflets	596.00
Membership forms and cards	1314.00
Membermojo subscription	300.00
Adobe Creative Cloud licences (see Notes to Accounts - 1)	1440.00
Website transaction charges - Shopify & Stripe	510.61
Website transaction charges - PayPal & Square	445.80
Friends of the NRM	50.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>17310.96</b>

### Other expenses

Members book offers	237.54
Return sale of member's effects	80.00
Zoom subscription	155.88
Spring meeting subsistence	320.00
Summer meeting room hire & catering	230.00
AGM train fares	350.00
AGM subsistence	600.00
Scan drawings collection	2991.00
Purchase stock of transfers	270.00
Website hosting	477.54
Special Web advert	375.00
Additional computer equipment - scanner	266.50
Refunds on erroneous purchases	73.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>6426.46</b>

### Publications

Magazine 296-299 - print	7460.00
LYR Focus 86-87 - print	4632.00
Lanky Day Out leaflets - print	565.00
Reprint Signal Boxes on LYR lines Pt 2	800.00
Reprint Introduction to the LYR	270.00
Reprint LYR Signalling booklet	649.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>14376.00</b>

### Postage & editorial expenses

Publications pack & postage - Magazine 296-298	5894.08
Publications pack & postage - LYR Focus 86	1935.51
Publications pack & postage - Mag 299 & LYR Focus 87	2357.25
Stationery etc	126.89
Travel	170.00
Shopify subscription fees	286.37
Other postage	28.74
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>10798.84</b>

**Total payments 50722.78**

### ASSETS & LIABILITIES 2023/2024

Assets	£
Cash in Deposit Account	6366.25
Cash in Current Account	34757.25
Cash in PayPal Account	323.20
Funds with Treasurer	406.35
Funds with Editor	910.91
<b>Cash Total</b>	<b>42763.96</b>

### Stock & Equipment

Stock of publications, books, binders, CDs etc. - trade value	16600.00
Sound system (to be written off at 33% over 3 years)	105.03
Photo scanners (to be written off at 33% over 3 years)	81.49
New book scanner	266.50

### Liabilities

Items not yet drawn on	Nil
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## Budget: 1 July 2024 - 30 June 2025

### BUDGET & FUNDING 2024/2025

Budget	£
Print 4 Magazines	7200.00
Print 2 LYR Focus	4000.00
Print Private Owner Wagon sketches book	Covered by donation
Print Central Div Misc 2 (1931-1947)	7000.00
Replenish publications	500.00
Publications storage unit rental charge	2500.00
Postage of Magazines	7000.00
Postage of Journals & books	6000.00
PayPal, Shopify & Square charges	800.00
Website maintenance	1200.00
General expenses	1500.00
AGM expenses including printing	700.00
Contact Leaflet (annual)	300.00
Expenses (Membership & Publication Sales Officers)	2500.00
Publicity & Recruitment	4000.00
Committee expenses	500.00
Exhibition expenses & development	500.00
Insurances	500.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>46700.00</b>
Archive purchase (see Notes to Accounts - 2)	3000.00
Virtual Museum scanning	4000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>53700.00</b>

### Source of Funds

Subscriptions 860 members @ £39 (Int £55)	33860.00
Donations and Interest	1500.00
Publications sales surplus	4000.00
Gift Aid	8500.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>47860.00</b>
From Current Account	5840.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>53700.00</b>

### Notes to the Accounts:

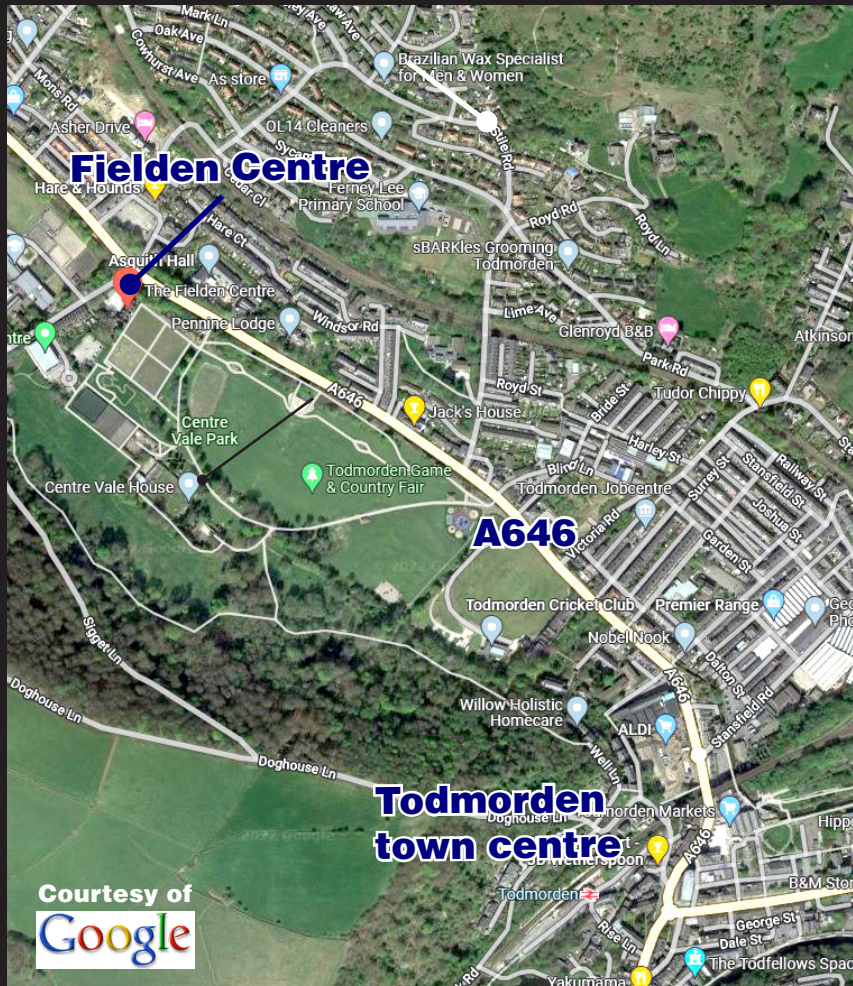
1. Our Adobe Creative Cloud software is now on an annual subscription for each user.
2. The amount spent depends on what becomes available in any one year.

The report of the Independent Examiners will be available at the Annual General Meeting and confirmed in the minutes of that meeting.

# The L&YR Society

Registered Charity No.1098492

## How to get to the AGM...



**The 73rd Annual General Meeting of The Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway Society will be held on Saturday 12th October 2024 at The Fielden Centre, Ewood Lane, Todmorden OL14 7DD, starting at 10.30am.**

### Our Purpose

The Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway Society is devoted to the dissemination of information about the Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway throughout its 75 years of existence and beyond. The Society has established an ongoing permanent record of its findings through its publications, which are widely available from the website, exhibition stands and specialist booksellers. It works closely with the National Railway Museum, Manchester Archives and other relevant bodies to ensure that original documents, photographs and other materials are professionally preserved and made accessible to all.



[www.lyrs.org.uk](http://www.lyrs.org.uk)

## THE LANCASHIRE & YORKSHIRE RAILWAY SOCIETY

### END OF FINANCIAL YEAR FIGURES JUNE 30<sup>TH</sup> 2024

(at August 28<sup>th</sup> 2024 after examination by the Independent Examiners,  
Altered figures in brown)

#### Receipts

Item	£
Membership	34245.00
Donations (via Membership)	2583.50
Per a publication	4340.00
General	424.00
Sales (pre-loved items)	67.00
Bank Interest	455.85
Gift Aid	8685.83
Sales of Publications, Binders etc.	1377.45
Sales of Signal Box books (both Parts	168.74
Manchester Victoria & its Signalling	2956.30
Introduction to L&Y	26.00
Manchester Victoria pictorial booklet	58.50
Goods Workings A-D	171.70
Central Division Miscellany	117.25
Central Div Misc. BR Days	151.70
Last Levers on the Fylde	55.50
Bury booklet	1051.35
Royalty payments	50.00
Sales of Draw's/Photos/Maps/Transfers etc.	249.00
AGM, members' subsistence	500.00
AGM, travel	340.00
Book offers on behalf of members	627.65
Proceeds from sale of member's artefacts	84.82
Lanky day out donations	1020.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>59807.14</b>

#### Payments

Item	£
<b>Officers' expenses</b>	
Secretary	Nil
Membership Officer	890.40
Treasurer	27.57
Publication Sales Officer	892.55
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>1810.52</b>
<b>General</b>	
Donations	100.00
Storage facility for Publications	2869.60
Advertising & Recruitment	3965.00

Exhibitions travel & maintenance	25.00
Trustee expenses	208.50
Archives purchased	4819.48
Insurance (public liability)	168.52
Trustees Liability Insurance	263.45
AGM printing notices/reports	460.00
AGM hire of Hall 2023	35.00
AGM Minutes	280.00
Annual leaflets incl. Contacts booklet	596.00
Membership forms and cards	1314.00
Membermojo subscription	300.00
Web Site lease/domain names/links	1440.00
Stripe & Shopify charges	498.66
Paypal & Square charges	445.80
Friends of NRM	50.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>17839.01</b>
<b>Special</b>	
Book offers on behalf of members	237.54
Return sales of member's effects	80.00
Zoom subscription for Committee Meets	155.88
Spring Meeting Subsistence	320.00
Summer Meeting room hire & catering	230.00
AGM train fares	350.00
AGM Subsistence	600.00
Scan Drawings	2991.00
Purchase stock of Transfers	270.00
Website hosting	477.54
Special Web Advert	375.00
Additional computer equipment, scanner	266.50
Refunds on erroneous purchases	73.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>6426.46</b>

<b>Publications</b>	
<i>Printing</i>	
Reprints: Signalling Booklet	649.00
Intro Booklet	270.00
Lanky Day Out leaflets	565.00
Reprint SBox2	800.00
Magazine 296	1850.00
Magazine 297	1850.00
Magazine 298	1880.00
Magazine 299	1880.00
Focus 86	2095.00
Focus 87	2537.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>14376.00</b>
<i>Packaging &amp; equipment</i>	
Stationery etc.	126.89

Travel	170.00
Shopify fees	286.37
<i>Postage</i>	
Magazine 296	1887.39
Magazine 297	2464.47
Magazine 298	1542.22
Magazine 299 + Focus 87	2357.25
Focus 86	1935.51
Other postages	28.74
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>10798.84</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>51250.83</b>

### Assets

Item	2023/24 £
Cash in Deposit Account	34757.25
Cash in Current Account	6366.25
Cash in Paypal Account	323.20
Funds with Treasurer	406.35
Funds with Editor	910.91
<b>Total</b>	<b>42763.96</b>
Stock of publications, books, binders etc. – at trade value. Book offers to members	16600.00
Sound System <i>To be written off over 3 years</i>	105.03
Photo Scanners for general use (to be written off at 33% over 3 years)	81.49
Second scanner	266.50

### Liabilities

Item	2023/24 £
Items not yet drawn on	Nil

## Budget 2024/25

Item	Budget in £
Print 4 magazines @ £1800 each	7200
Print 2 Focus Journals	4000
Print Private Owner Wagons	Cost covered
Print Central Div. Misc 2 (1931-47)	7000
Postage of Magazines	7000
Postage of Journals & Books	6000
Replenish publications	500
Publications storage rental	2500
General Expenses	1500
Website maintenance	1200
AGM expenses including printing	700
Contact Leaflet (annual)	300
Postage for Membership & Publications Sales Officers	2500
Publicity and Recruitment	4000
Committee expenses	500
Exhibition expenses & development	500
Insurance Policies	500
Paypal & Shopify charges	800
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>46700</b>
Archive/photograph purchase & archive standard storage materials	3000
Virtual Museum & scanning	4000
<b>Total</b>	<b>53700</b>

### Made up from:

Subscriptions 860 members at £39 (Int £55)	33860
Donations & Interest	1500
Publications	4000
Gift Aid	8500
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>47860</b>
From Accounts	5840
<b>Total</b>	<b>53700</b>

29 Lower Cribden Avenue  
Rawtenstall  
Rossendale  
BB4 6SW

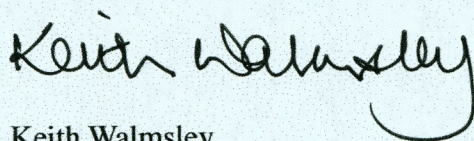
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
30 JUNE 2024

I have examined the financial records of the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Society for the year ended 30 June 2024 and can confirm that:

I) gross payments are £51250.83

II) gross receipts are £59807.14

These figures are included in the Treasurer's report for the Agenda, Report and Accounts for the 73rd Annual General Meeting. In my opinion, the Accounts set out therein show a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Society as at 30th June 2024.



Keith Walmsley

Independent Examiner

29 September 2024

**THE L&YR SOCIETY**

England & Wales - Charity number 1098492

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# Accounts

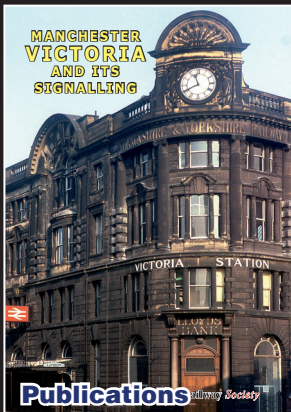
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# 72nd Annual General Meeting and Members' Day, 14th October 2023

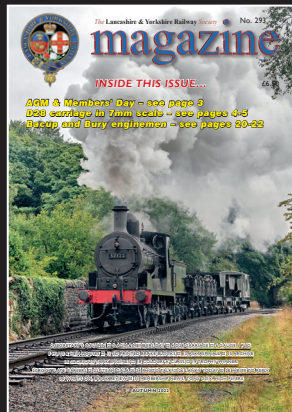
## Agenda, Report and Accounts



*Your* **L&YR** *Society*



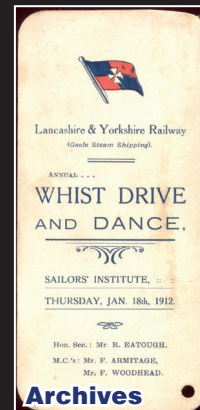
**Publications**



**Society events**



**Preservation News**



**Archives**

PROGRESSIVE WHIST.		
Seat	Partner	Tricks
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
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11		
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16		
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22		
23		
24		
TOTAL		

# Agenda

**The 72nd Annual General Meeting of The Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway Society will be held on Saturday 14th October 2023 at the Middleton Railway in Leeds starting at 10.30am, 10am for tea and coffee.**

**After the meeting there will be buffet lunch costing £10 per head. In the afternoon there will be a short presentation on the history of the railway followed by a train ride on the railway costing £10 per head. Full details can be found in *Magazine 296*.**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. To sign the attendance register and receive apologies                 | 5. Officers' reports (continued):                                    |
| 2. To remember those members who have died during the past twelve months | viii Questions for the Publications Officer                          |
| 3. To receive and approve the minutes of the 2022 Annual General Meeting | ix Information Officer   |
| 4. To deal with matters arising  | x Questions for the Information Officer                              |
| 5. Officers' reports:  | xi Chairman  |
| i Secretary  | xii Questions for the Chairman                                       |
| ii Questions for the Secretary   | 6. To approve the Officers' reports and the Annual Report & Accounts |
| iii Treasurer  | 7. To appoint Trustees for 2023/24                                   |
| iv Questions for the Treasurer   | 8. To appoint two Independent Examiners of the Society's accounts    |
| v Membership Officer   | 9. To confirm the level of subscription for 2024                     |
| vi Questions for the Membership Officer                                  | 10. Any other business   |
| vii Publications Officer   |  |

The following Trustees are offering themselves for re-election: Ron Tinker (Life President), Graham Smith (Chairman), Noel Coates (Treasurer), Martin Nield (Secretary), Ken Carter (Membership Officer), Roger Mellor (Publications Officer), Chris Leach (Information Officer), David Carter, Robin Pennie, and Barry Steventon. Any other nominations must be received by the Secretary no less than 21 days before the meeting and be compliant with clause 4.4 of our Constitution.



## Chairman's review

**“We are not going to be able to carry on forever and we need to plan for the future now...”**

### Graham Smith

If someone had said to me ten years ago that we would be able to publish a book with a sale price of £35 and give a copy to every member of our Society at no extra cost on top of their annual subscription fee, I would not have believed it. But that is exactly what we have managed to do!

Since the publication of the *Manchester Victoria and its Signalling* book I have received a good few emails, some from as far away as Australia, all making similar comments: “How can we afford to do it?” and “The Society gives the members great value for money”. These are the sorts of comments made in most of the emails I have received.

I must admit, not being directly involved in the financial side of our Society, I have to ask the same

question: how do we manage to do it? I think the comment about giving great value for money has been the secret – or perhaps it's not so much of a secret, to our having had a very successful few years.

*Magazine*, *LYR Focus* and the various books we publish are of the highest quality and do give great value for money to all our members. It is nice to hear from so many people that our efforts are being appreciated. I would like to say a big Thank You to all those people involved in the publication of this book and pass on to them the thanks I received in all the emails sent to me.

Whilst on the subject of thanks, I would like to say Thank You to all of our members who have helped during the last year. We have had another very successful year, so to all of you – be

it in publications, archives, on the Society stand at exhibitions, at the Modelling Day, organising the Lanky Day Out or making the tea – thank you to you all for giving us your time.

So everything in the garden is rosy? I wish it was but I have a big worry that has been nagging away at me for the last few years. It hangs there like a big black thunder cloud slowly rising above the horizon and written on it in big bold letters are the words FUTURE OF THE SOCIETY and SUCCESSION PLANNING.

Some of our key management team on the committee and other post holders are starting to have serious health issues, and much as we would like not to, we are all getting older and we are not going to be able to carry on forever. So, rather than ignore that ever

increasingly menacing black cloud, we need to plan for the future now

If we are to continue to be the Society we have strived to become over the last 25 years, we need new, younger people (slightly younger anyway!) to come forward and shadow the most senior members of our management



## Secretary's report

**“In a Society of more than 900 members, there must be people with the necessary skills...”**

### Martin Nield

Although, on the face of it, our Society continues to thrive with excellent publications, strong membership recruitment and retention, expanding archives and successful events, behind the scenes there are serious concerns about how long we can continue in this manner without more members coming forward to help.

As I have said before in these reports, in *Magazine* and at the AGM, the Society has been very fortunate over the past 20 years and more in having a stable team of officers which has led the Society to its current position. However age and illness is beginning to afflict this team and it is becoming obvious that we cannot go on forever.

Appeals in *Magazine* and at the AGM for members to come forward and shadow the existing officers for a while with a view to taking over in due course have unfortunately not generated any response and, unless this situation changes, we are not going to be able to keep going for many more years. In

team. Then in perhaps a couple of years' time, they can slowly begin to take over the reins.

I am sure that we have members in our Society who have the necessary skills to push us forward into a new era. If this does not happen then I give us about five years before the situation

a Society of more than 900 members, there must be people with the necessary skills and experience and who are not already in their mid-70s who could spare the time to help their Society carry on. If you think you could help, please get in touch with any of the Principal Officers.

In October 2022 we held our AGM & Members' Day at the Fielden Centre in Todmorden and had a very enjoyable day. In the afternoon Peter Fitton gave us an excellent slide show featuring some of the photographs he has taken at former L&YR locations over the past 60 years.

In March this year we returned to the Fielden Centre for a Modelling Meeting which proved extremely popular and, despite two exhibitors having to drop out at short notice, was a very successful event.

In July Philip Hellawell organised a superb Lanky Day Out for us looking at what remains of the L&YR in Halifax.

becomes critical. As the old saying goes, time and tide wait for no man. I do not want to see us washed away on an outgoing tide or drowned on one that is coming in. We need new people to get involved now or, quite frankly, the future looks bleak.

We are in the early stages of planning events for 2024 and full details will appear in *Magazine* in due course.

Your committee has met four times over the past 12 months – twice in person and twice on Zoom – and continues to be a lively forum for debate. However I am sorry to say that Mike Fitton, who has been a Trustee of the Society and committee member for many years, has decided to stand down at the AGM for personal reasons. We would like to thank Mike for his long service to the Society.

Our four Modelling Co-ordinators – Barry Steventon for Gauge 1; Peter Fitton for 7mm scale; Dave Carter for 4mm scale and Sam Kennion for 2mm scale – have continued their work throughout the year and we are very grateful to them for that.



**The modelling meeting at the Fielden Centre in March was a great success.**



## Membership Officer's report

**"I am pleased to say that over 700 of our 946 members had renewed by 1st January..."**

**Ken Carter**

It was 1950 when a small group of railway enthusiasts in the West Riding area got together and decided to form a society for those interested in the Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway. It was only 29 years after the LYR had amalgamated with the LNWR (1921) and a year later became part of the LMS. By 1950 it had become part of British Railways.

It is also 29 years since I became Membership Officer of the Society, which seems such a short time ago. A lot has changed since then. Our approach is more professional, we advertise, we have modern displays, we produce outstanding publications, our marketing and promotional activity is as good if not better than many professional organizations.

As many of you will know, I also design and place all our advertising and marketing, so the job has become far greater than when I first took it on. I am not complaining, I am pleased to hold such an interesting and exciting position within our Society.

I did try to do some TV advertising in the early days of the TV channel 'Talking Pictures', but even then they were just a little too expensive for us. I suspect now it would cost a lot more.

However, after 29 years I feel that perhaps it is time for me to reassess my position and reluctantly I will be retiring as Membership Officer at the AGM in October. I will continue to deal with the advertising and marketing of the Society and will obviously help with the transition to the new Membership Officer.

Our membership year is a calendar year which means my report is for January to December 2022. As many of you will know membership is renewable online from November 1st and I am pleased to say that last year over 700 of our 944 members had renewed before January 1st, for which we are most grateful.

The improved quality of our publications over the years has had a dramatic impact on our ability to recruit

and retain new members. Many tell me they are amazed at the quality of our offer. This is what gives us the funds to produce and supply our excellent publications and encourages research into the history of the LYR - long may it continue. Recruitment has to be a continuous effort if we are to succeed in giving the membership a great Society and something to be proud of.

I would like to thank all my colleagues for their support over the past 29 years, for without them, the Society would not be in the great position it is in today.

Membership Year	to Dec 2022
Ordinary members	899
Corporate members	31
Honorary members	16
<b>Total</b>	<b>946</b>

## Publications Officer's report

**"The most important event was the publication of Manchester Victoria and its Signalling..."**

**Roger Mellor**



By far the most important publications event this financial year has been the completion of *Manchester Victoria and its Signalling* by Tom Wray and Chris Littleworth. This whole project turned out to be far more complicated and time consuming than we imagined. The original concept was to bring Tom's 2004 history up date and make use of the additional illustrations that are now available. Then Chris mentioned his plan to write a signalling history of the station and the idea of combining the two projects into a single volume was born.

Noel took on the job of updating the history of the station and we made extensive use of Peter Taylor's captions from the original edition. As ever, Chris's meticulous approach to accuracy led to ongoing research and consultation with his group of signalling experts, all of which resulted in countless revisions as further

information became available, but added enormously to the value of the book as the definitive reference work on Victoria.

Then, a week or so after we had completed Chris's section of the book, came the news of his sudden and unexpected death which for Noel and I was particularly upsetting as we had been in virtually daily contact for almost nine months. His knowledge was immense but above all he was our friend and is much missed.

All this has inevitably had a knock on effect on other publications, but we are beavering away to provide you with further goodies as soon as possible. The next *LYR Focus* is at an advanced stage as I write (late July) and should be with you by the time of the AGM.

The other books in the pipeline include *LMS Central Division Miscellany Part*

*Two* and Peter Taylor's magnificent book, *LYR Steam Hauled Arc Roof Carriages*.

*Magazine* continues to be published on its quarterly cycle and is by far the best line Society publication of its kind.

Publications really is a team effort so time to say thank you to Martin Nield and Gavin Clark for their work on *Magazine*. To Noel Coates, Robin Pennie and Peter Taylor for their outstanding contribution to what pops through your letterbox. To Andrew Wright for his work on the Virtual Museum, Barry Steventon for his professionalism dealing with Sales (and Rowena for her support), and Stuart Byford for his work on the website.

And finally, to all our contributors and you, our members, who continue to support us by your membership.



## Information Officer's report

**"We acquired yet more photo collections and there are almost 1000 new images to be added..."**

**Chris Leach**

I should like to extend my thanks to all the members of the Information Team, who have continued to work hard on the Society's behalf. Without their contributions we would not be in the favourable position we are.

The enquiry service has recovered much of its popularity since the last AGM. Examples of the queries include:

Request from ELR for paint specification for painting Rawtenstall station in L&Y colours; Halifax High Level Railway and its omission from L&Y maps; Photos of Stainland and West Vale stations and Rochdale Road Halt on the Stainland Branch; 6 wheel carriage drawings; Information about the Pugs; Information on the aeroplane van CCTs Dia. 118; LMS tender renumbering scheme; Preston & Longridge Railway locos; Martholme Viaduct land ownership; Crossing keeper's cabins at Eggborough; L&Y electric stock query from France; Kirkdale, Upholland and Bowling tunnel portal photos; Common loco design between the L&Y and Victorian Government Railways

of Australia (Barton Wright types); Photos of Rochdale East Junction signal box; L&Y brass key tags kept by an ancestor; Pictures of excursion passengers at Blackpool Central; L&Y crest enquiry from a member of the Heraldry Society (also a LYRS member); Brindle Heath Junction photos; L&Y roof door vans; Information on and photos of Frederick Attock; L&Y brass wheel retainer; 1860 fatal accident to an employee ancestor on the L&Y; Mystery scientific instrument found in a cupboard at the Horwich Mechanics Institute.

**Society drawings, Manchester Archives drawings, photographic collection and other archives**

Activity of Information Group still continues to recover from knock-on effects of the pandemic. There have been some issues in reconstituting a cataloguing team at Manchester Archives, as previous team members may be subject to changed circumstances, but we continue to consider the best ways of restarting cataloguing, as it needs to proceed;

fortunately nearly all the drawings have now been dealt with. The Society has acquired yet more photo collections, by both purchase and donation and including a print from the National Railway Museum, and there are currently almost 1000 new images waiting to be added to the collection. Original documents and drawings continue to be added, thanks to the generosity of both members and the general public and many of these are reported in *Magazine*.

**Virtual Museum of The Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway**

Work continues on further populating the Virtual Museum, with some documents recently added. We hope to add more downloadable drawings and documents, and work is proceeding on the best way to present selections of our photo collection. We have identified funding and are now in a position to have the rest of our drawings collection scanned, and this work will hopefully have commenced during the summer.

LONDON (EUSTON) MANCHESTER (VICTORIA) BOLTON BLACKBURN BURNLEY COLNE

**SIDE CORRIDOR LAVATORY VESTIBULE THROUGH CARRIAGE BETWEEN**

**Colne, Burnley, Accrington, Blackburn, Bolton, Manchester (Victoria), and London (Euston).**

These Carriages are 56ft. long by 9ft. wide outside, and give every comfort and convenience that Modern Railway travelling has developed. Each compartment is fitted with Incandescent Gas Lighting, Steam Heating, and Efficient Ventilation, and Lavatories are arranged at either end of the Side Corridor.

**1908 advert from our archives.**



## Treasurer's report

**"Digitisation of our collection held in Manchester Archives is to finally get under way..."**

**Noel Coates**

It is sometimes difficult to say what the highlights of the Financial Year are but, in this case, there have been three. The first was the unprecedented way in which members sent in their dues for 2023 along with a huge quantity of donations – the overall total was around £36,860; secondly a record Gift Aid claim - £8,173, and finally, the largest amount we've ever spent on publishing a book - £15,585 (plus £3,000 to post it). All part of membership, which is how we finance them, and a large incentive for members to continue. Commercial sales simply reduce the overall outlay the Society has made (the same is true for every book we've done).

The breakdown of our income this year is much as normal, membership was greater than expected, Gift Aid is always a huge chunk now, but it is the quantity of sales of publications which surprises. Look on the website at our shop and one can see why – there is a range of volumes to pick from both large and small, so £4,310 in total for just our own works is good going. Then there are the books through offers, smaller this year but still a significant amount of income at £730. Bank interest has (at last!) reached better levels; this last few months has seen more received than for several years.

The main items of expenditure are the usual ones – printing and postage costs (over £38,000) with advertising reaching £4,676. Expenditure on meetings and travel have, once

again, been reduced to small amounts as the Committee meetings have largely continued to be held on Zoom and very few exhibitions attended. Other items and annual costs were as predicted, but in the case of Archive purchase and Website maintenance these were fairly high, £4,255 and £4,834 respectively, and represent our growth areas, the latter includes setting up the Virtual Museum, it is vital to keep our name before the public however we can (we aren't small any more, in two years we have accrued £105,500 and spent £129,000). The end of year bank balances show that we have just over £32,000 behind us.

The accounts have been handed to our Independent Examiners for scrutiny. Their testimonials are sent to the Charity Commissioners in our Annual Report to them. I must thank the two gentlemen concerned for the professional manner in which they approach the fulfilment of their post. It is possible to send all documents electronically now which is a further small saving in time and effort to me.

Looking forward to the next financial year and our spending; our plans and the Budget are very much in line with previous years with, hopefully, digitisation of our collection held in Manchester Archives to finally get under way. Income for all these projects will have to be balanced by a slight increase in membership to £38 for UK members and £50 for International ones.

### Corrected Accounts Sept 2023: 1 July 2022 - 30 June 2023

#### RECEIPTS 2022/2023

Item	£
Subscriptions	34628.60
Donations - with Membership	2240.00
Donations - Bequest	500.00
Donations - General	241.00
Sales - pre-loved items	390.50
Refund (on advert)	58.75
Bank Interest	206.85
Gift Aid	8173.23
Sales - Publications, Binders etc	2781.65
Sales - Signal Box book Part One & Two	140.00
Sales - Manchester Victoria & its Signalling	616.00
Sales - Introduction to LYR	59.00
Sales - Manchester Victoria booklet	58.50
Sales - LMS Central Division Miscellany	35.00
Sales - Last Levers on the Fylde	73.00
Sales - Central Div Misc - BR Days	201.90
Sales - LYR Goods Workings A-D	353.40
Sales - Drawings/Photos etc.	75.40
Sales - Members book offers	628.95
London Midland Atlas	86.00
Horwich Revisited	20.00
Royalty payments	20.00
Sales - Sale of members artefacts	105.00
Lanky Day Out donations	450.00
AGM - Members subsistence	430.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>52572.73</b>

#### PAYMENTS 2022/2023

Item	£
<b>Officers' operational expenses</b>	
Secretary	Nil
Membership Officer	815.82
Treasurer	5.40
Publication Sales Officer	943.56
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>1764.78</b>

#### General expenses

Donations	175.00
Publications storage unit rental charge	1664.00
Advertising & recruitment	4836.25
Archives purchased	4254.61
Public Liability Insurance	160.68
Trustee Liability Insurance	256.47
Trustee expenses	212.38
Exhibitions - travel & stand maintenance	633.90
AGM notices & reports	480.00
AGM Minutes	300.00
Meeting room hire	630.00
Membermojo subscription	250.00
Website leases & Domain names	1440.63
Website transaction charges - Shopify & Stripe	604.93
Website transaction charges - PayPal & Square	391.73
Friends of the NRM	40.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>16330.58</b>

#### Other expenses

Members book offers	642.75
Replenish stock of maps	45.00
Uncashed cheque (changed bank account)	40.00
Zoom subscription	287.76
Spring meeting subsistence	345.00
Summer meeting room hire & catering	510.00
AGM subsistence	250.00
Purchase stock of binders	329.56
Website hosting	1517.42
Website development	880.00
I Mech E research associateship	217.00
Sound system for use at meetings	314.47
Additional computer equipment	115.45
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>5494.41</b>

#### Publications

Magazine supplements & order forms	231.00
Magazine 292-295 - print	7166.00
Bury history booklet - print	2379.00
Manchester Victoria & its Signalling - print	15585.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>25361.00</b>

#### Postage, labels & equipment

Stationery etc	171.25
Travel	175.00
Miscellaneous licences (see Notes to Accounts - 1)	1080.00
Publications pack & postage - Magazine 292 - 295	8235.97
Publications pack & postage - Bury booklet	1663.03
Publications pack & postage - Man Vic & its Signalling	3004.90
Other postage	57.14
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>14387.29</b>

**Total payments 63338.06**

#### ASSETS & LIABILITIES 2022/2023

Assets	£
Cash in Deposit Account	30323.25
Cash in Current Account	2099.41
Cash in PayPal Account	8.91
Funds with Treasurer	28.16
Funds with Editor	1315.24
<b>Cash Total</b>	<b>33684.97</b>

#### Stock & Equipment

Stock of publications, books, binders, CDs etc. - trade value	c.8500.00
Sound system (to be written off at 33% over 3 years)	210.70
Photo scanners (to be written off at 33% over 3 years)	160.59

#### Liabilities

Items not yet drawn on	Nil
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### Budget: 1 July 2023 - 30 June 2024

#### BUDGET & FUNDING 2023/2024

Budget	£
Print 4 Magazines	6800.00
Print 1 LYR Focus	1900.00
Print LYR Arc Roof Carriage Drawings	7000.00
Print Central Div Misc 2 (1931-1947)	6000.00
Replenish publications	1000.00
Publication store rental	2000.00
Postage of Magazines	7000.00
Postage of Journals & books	5000.00
PayPal, Shopify & Square charges	800.00
Website maintenance	1200.00
General expenses	1500.00
AGM expenses including printing	700.00
Contact Leaflet (annual)	300.00
Postage (Membership & Publication Sales)	2500.00
Publicity & Recruitment	4000.00
Committee expenses	500.00
Exhibition expenses & development	500.00
Insurances	500.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>49200.00</b>
Archive purchase (see Notes to Accounts - 2)	2500.00
Virtual Museum scanning	5000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>56700.00</b>

#### Source of Funds

	£
Subscriptions 870 members @ £38 (Int £50)	33060.00
Donations and Interest	1500.00
Publications sales surplus	4000.00
Gift Aid	8685.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>47245.00</b>

From Current Account 9455.00

**Total 56700.00**

#### Note to the Accounts:

1. Our Adobe Creative Cloud software is now on an annual subscription for each user. This item also includes rights to use maps, photos etc in our publications.
2. The amount spent depends on what becomes available in any one year.

The report of the Independent Examiners will be available at the Annual General Meeting and confirmed in the minutes of that meeting.

#### One of our archive purchases



# The L&YR Society

Registered Charity No.1098492

## How to get to the AGM...



**The 72nd Annual General Meeting of The Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway Society will be held on Saturday 14th October 2023 at The Middleton Railway, Moor Road, Hunslet, Leeds, LS10 2JQ starting at 10.30am.**

### Our Purpose

The Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway Society is devoted to the dissemination of information about the Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway throughout its 75 years of existence and beyond. The Society has established an ongoing permanent record of its findings through its publications, which are widely available from the website, exhibition stands and specialist booksellers. It works closely with the National Railway Museum, Manchester Archives and other relevant bodies to ensure that original documents, photographs and other materials are professionally preserved and made accessible to all.



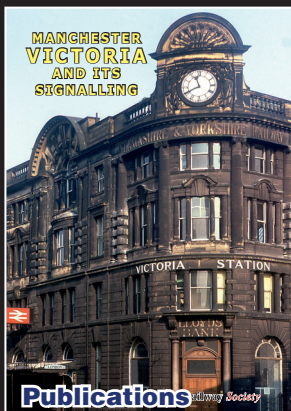
[www.lyrs.org.uk](http://www.lyrs.org.uk)

# 72nd Annual General Meeting and Members' Day, 14th October 2023

## Agenda, Report and Accounts



*Your* **L&YR** *Society*



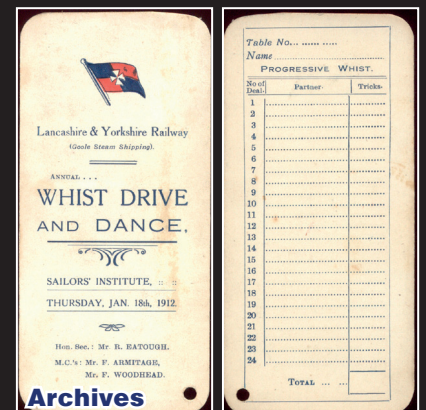
**Publications**



**Society events**



**Preservation News**



# Agenda

**The 72nd Annual General Meeting of The Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway Society will be held on Saturday 14th October 2023 at the Middleton Railway in Leeds starting at 10.30am, 10am for tea and coffee.**

**After the meeting there will be buffet lunch costing £10 per head. In the afternoon there will be a short presentation on the history of the railway followed by a train ride on the railway costing £10 per head. Full details can be found in *Magazine 296*.**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. To sign the attendance register and receive apologies                 | 5. Officers' reports (continued):                                    |
| 2. To remember those members who have died during the past twelve months | viii Questions for the Publications Officer                          |
| 3. To receive and approve the minutes of the 2022 Annual General Meeting | ix Information Officer   |
| 4. To deal with matters arising  | x Questions for the Information Officer                              |
| 5. Officers' reports:  | xi Chairman  |
| i Secretary  | xii Questions for the Chairman                                       |
| ii Questions for the Secretary   | 6. To approve the Officers' reports and the Annual Report & Accounts |
| iii Treasurer  | 7. To appoint Trustees for 2023/24                                   |
| iv Questions for the Treasurer   | 8. To appoint two Independent Examiners of the Society's accounts    |
| v Membership Officer   | 9. To confirm the level of subscription for 2024                     |
| vi Questions for the Membership Officer                                  | 10. Any other business   |
| vii Publications Officer   |  |

The following Trustees are offering themselves for re-election: Ron Tinker (Life President), Graham Smith (Chairman), Noel Coates (Treasurer), Martin Nield (Secretary), Ken Carter (Membership Officer), Roger Mellor (Publications Officer), Chris Leach (Information Officer), David Carter, Robin Pennie, and Barry Steventon. Any other nominations must be received by the Secretary no less than 21 days before the meeting and be compliant with clause 4.4 of our Constitution.



## Chairman's review

**“We are not going to be able to carry on forever and we need to plan for the future now...”**

### Graham Smith

If someone had said to me ten years ago that we would be able to publish a book with a sale price of £35 and give a copy to every member of our Society at no extra cost on top of their annual subscription fee, I would not have believed it. But that is exactly what we have managed to do!

Since the publication of the *Manchester Victoria and its Signalling* book I have received a good few emails, some from as far away as Australia, all making similar comments: “How can we afford to do it?” and “The Society gives the members great value for money”. These are the sorts of comments made in most of the emails I have received.

I must admit, not being directly involved in the financial side of our Society, I have to ask the same

question: how do we manage to do it? I think the comment about giving great value for money has been the secret – or perhaps it's not so much of a secret, to our having had a very successful few years.

*Magazine*, *LYR Focus* and the various books we publish are of the highest quality and do give great value for money to all our members. It is nice to hear from so many people that our efforts are being appreciated. I would like to say a big Thank You to all those people involved in the publication of this book and pass on to them the thanks I received in all the emails sent to me.

Whilst on the subject of thanks, I would like to say Thank You to all of our members who have helped during the last year. We have had another very successful year, so to all of you – be

it in publications, archives, on the Society stand at exhibitions, at the Modelling Day, organising the Lanky Day Out or making the tea – thank you to you all for giving us your time.

So everything in the garden is rosy? I wish it was but I have a big worry that has been nagging away at me for the last few years. It hangs there like a big black thunder cloud slowly rising above the horizon and written on it in big bold letters are the words FUTURE OF THE SOCIETY and SUCCESSION PLANNING.

Some of our key management team on the committee and other post holders are starting to have serious health issues, and much as we would like not to, we are all getting older and we are not going to be able to carry on forever. So, rather than ignore that ever

increasingly menacing black cloud, we need to plan for the future now

If we are to continue to be the Society we have strived to become over the last 25 years, we need new, younger people (slightly younger anyway!) to come forward and shadow the most senior members of our management



## Secretary's report

**“In a Society of more than 900 members, there must be people with the necessary skills...”**

### Martin Nield

Although, on the face of it, our Society continues to thrive with excellent publications, strong membership recruitment and retention, expanding archives and successful events, behind the scenes there are serious concerns about how long we can continue in this manner without more members coming forward to help.

As I have said before in these reports, in *Magazine* and at the AGM, the Society has been very fortunate over the past 20 years and more in having a stable team of officers which has led the Society to its current position. However age and illness is beginning to afflict this team and it is becoming obvious that we cannot go on forever.

Appeals in *Magazine* and at the AGM for members to come forward and shadow the existing officers for a while with a view to taking over in due course have unfortunately not generated any response and, unless this situation changes, we are not going to be able to keep going for many more years. In

team. Then in perhaps a couple of years' time, they can slowly begin to take over the reins.

I am sure that we have members in our Society who have the necessary skills to push us forward into a new era. If this does not happen then I give us about five years before the situation

becomes critical. As the old saying goes, time and tide wait for no man. I do not want to see us washed away on an outgoing tide or drowned on one that is coming in. We need new people to get involved now or, quite frankly, the future looks bleak.

a Society of more than 900 members, there must be people with the necessary skills and experience and who are not already in their mid-70s who could spare the time to help their Society carry on. If you think you could help, please get in touch with any of the Principal Officers.

In October 2022 we held our AGM & Members' Day at the Fielden Centre in Todmorden and had a very enjoyable day. In the afternoon Peter Fitton gave us an excellent slide show featuring some of the photographs he has taken at former L&YR locations over the past 60 years.

In March this year we returned to the Fielden Centre for a Modelling Meeting which proved extremely popular and, despite two exhibitors having to drop out at short notice, was a very successful event.

In July Philip Hellawell organised a superb Lanky Day Out for us looking at what remains of the L&YR in Halifax.

We are in the early stages of planning events for 2024 and full details will appear in *Magazine* in due course.

Your committee has met four times over the past 12 months – twice in person and twice on Zoom – and continues to be a lively forum for debate. However I am sorry to say that Mike Fitton, who has been a Trustee of the Society and committee member for many years, has decided to stand down at the AGM for personal reasons. We would like to thank Mike for his long service to the Society.

Our four Modelling Co-ordinators – Barry Steventon for Gauge 1; Peter Fitton for 7mm scale; Dave Carter for 4mm scale and Sam Kennion for 2mm scale – have continued their work throughout the year and we are very grateful to them for that.



**The modelling meeting at the Fielden Centre in March was a great success.**



## Membership Officer's report

**"I am pleased to say that over 700 of our 946 members had renewed by 1st January..."**

**Ken Carter**

It was 1950 when a small group of railway enthusiasts in the West Riding area got together and decided to form a society for those interested in the Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway. It was only 29 years after the LYR had amalgamated with the LNWR (1921) and a year later became part of the LMS. By 1950 it had become part of British Railways.

It is also 29 years since I became Membership Officer of the Society, which seems such a short time ago. A lot has changed since then. Our approach is more professional, we advertise, we have modern displays, we produce outstanding publications, our marketing and promotional activity is as good if not better than many professional organizations.

As many of you will know, I also design and place all our advertising and marketing, so the job has become far greater than when I first took it on. I am not complaining, I am pleased to hold such an interesting and exciting position within our Society.

I did try to do some TV advertising in the early days of the TV channel 'Talking Pictures', but even then they were just a little too expensive for us. I suspect now it would cost a lot more.

However, after 29 years I feel that perhaps it is time for me to reassess my position and reluctantly I will be retiring as Membership Officer at the AGM in October. I will continue to deal with the advertising and marketing of the Society and will obviously help with the transition to the new Membership Officer.

Our membership year is a calendar year which means my report is for January to December 2022. As many of you will know membership is renewable online from November 1st and I am pleased to say that last year over 700 of our 944 members had renewed before January 1st, for which we are most grateful.

The improved quality of our publications over the years has had a dramatic impact on our ability to recruit

and retain new members. Many tell me they are amazed at the quality of our offer. This is what gives us the funds to produce and supply our excellent publications and encourages research into the history of the LYR - long may it continue. Recruitment has to be a continuous effort if we are to succeed in giving the membership a great Society and something to be proud of.

I would like to thank all my colleagues for their support over the past 29 years, for without them, the Society would not be in the great position it is in today.

Membership Year	to Dec 2022
Ordinary members	899
Corporate members	31
Honorary members	16
<b>Total</b>	<b>946</b>

## Publications Officer's report

**"The most important event was the publication of Manchester Victoria and its Signalling..."**

**Roger Mellor**



By far the most important publications event this financial year has been the completion of *Manchester Victoria and its Signalling* by Tom Wray and Chris Littleworth. This whole project turned out to be far more complicated and time consuming than we imagined. The original concept was to bring Tom's 2004 history up date and make use of the additional illustrations that are now available. Then Chris mentioned his plan to write a signalling history of the station and the idea of combining the two projects into a single volume was born.

Noel took on the job of updating the history of the station and we made extensive use of Peter Taylor's captions from the original edition. As ever, Chris's meticulous approach to accuracy led to ongoing research and consultation with his group of signalling experts, all of which resulted in countless revisions as further

information became available, but added enormously to the value of the book as the definitive reference work on Victoria.

Then, a week or so after we had completed Chris's section of the book, came the news of his sudden and unexpected death which for Noel and I was particularly upsetting as we had been in virtually daily contact for almost nine months. His knowledge was immense but above all he was our friend and is much missed.

All this has inevitably had a knock on effect on other publications, but we are beavering away to provide you with further goodies as soon as possible. The next *LYR Focus* is at an advanced stage as I write (late July) and should be with you by the time of the AGM.

The other books in the pipeline include *LMS Central Division Miscellany Part*

*Two* and Peter Taylor's magnificent book, *LYR Steam Hauled Arc Roof Carriages*.

*Magazine* continues to be published on its quarterly cycle and is by far the best line Society publication of its kind.

Publications really is a team effort so time to say thank you to Martin Nield and Gavin Clark for their work on *Magazine*. To Noel Coates, Robin Pennie and Peter Taylor for their outstanding contribution to what pops through your letterbox. To Andrew Wright for his work on the Virtual Museum, Barry Steventon for his professionalism dealing with Sales (and Rowena for her support), and Stuart Byford for his work on the website.

And finally, to all our contributors and you, our members, who continue to support us by your membership.



## Information Officer's report

**"We acquired yet more photo collections and there are almost 1000 new images to be added..."**

**Chris Leach**

I should like to extend my thanks to all the members of the Information Team, who have continued to work hard on the Society's behalf. Without their contributions we would not be in the favourable position we are.

The enquiry service has recovered much of its popularity since the last AGM. Examples of the queries include:

Request from ELR for paint specification for painting Rawtenstall station in L&Y colours; Halifax High Level Railway and its omission from L&Y maps; Photos of Stainland and West Vale stations and Rochdale Road Halt on the Stainland Branch; 6 wheel carriage drawings; Information about the Pugs; Information on the aeroplane van CCTs Dia. 118; LMS tender renumbering scheme; Preston & Longridge Railway locos; Martholme Viaduct land ownership; Crossing keeper's cabins at Eggborough; L&Y electric stock query from France; Kirkdale, Upholland and Bowling tunnel portal photos; Common loco design between the L&Y and Victorian Government Railways

of Australia (Barton Wright types); Photos of Rochdale East Junction signal box; L&Y brass key tags kept by an ancestor; Pictures of excursion passengers at Blackpool Central; L&Y crest enquiry from a member of the Heraldry Society (also a LYRS member); Brindle Heath Junction photos; L&Y roof door vans; Information on and photos of Frederick Attock; L&Y brass wheel retainer; 1860 fatal accident to an employee ancestor on the L&Y; Mystery scientific instrument found in a cupboard at the Horwich Mechanics Institute.

**Society drawings, Manchester Archives drawings, photographic collection and other archives**

Activity of Information Group still continues to recover from knock-on effects of the pandemic. There have been some issues in reconstituting a cataloguing team at Manchester Archives, as previous team members may be subject to changed circumstances, but we continue to consider the best ways of restarting cataloguing, as it needs to proceed;

fortunately nearly all the drawings have now been dealt with. The Society has acquired yet more photo collections, by both purchase and donation and including a print from the National Railway Museum, and there are currently almost 1000 new images waiting to be added to the collection. Original documents and drawings continue to be added, thanks to the generosity of both members and the general public and many of these are reported in *Magazine*.

**Virtual Museum of The Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway**

Work continues on further populating the Virtual Museum, with some documents recently added. We hope to add more downloadable drawings and documents, and work is proceeding on the best way to present selections of our photo collection. We have identified funding and are now in a position to have the rest of our drawings collection scanned, and this work will hopefully have commenced during the summer.





## Treasurer's report

**"Digitisation of our collection held in Manchester Archives is to finally get under way..."**

**Noel Coates**

It is sometimes difficult to say what the highlights of the Financial Year are but, in this case, there have been three. The first was the unprecedented way in which members sent in their dues for 2023 along with a huge quantity of donations – the overall total was around £36,860; secondly a record Gift Aid claim - £8,173, and finally, the largest amount we've ever spent on publishing a book - £15,585 (plus £3,000 to post it). All part of membership, which is how we finance them, and a large incentive for members to continue. Commercial sales simply reduce the overall outlay the Society has made (the same is true for every book we've done).

The breakdown of our income this year is much as normal, membership was greater than expected, Gift Aid is always a huge chunk now, but it is the quantity of sales of publications which surprises. Look on the website at our shop and one can see why – there is a range of volumes to pick from both large and small, so £4,310 in total for just our own works is good going. Then there are the books through offers, smaller this year but still a significant amount of income at £730. Bank interest has (at last!) reached better levels; this last few months has seen more received than for several years.

The main items of expenditure are the usual ones – printing and postage costs (over £38,000) with advertising reaching £4,676. Expenditure on meetings and travel have, once

again, been reduced to small amounts as the Committee meetings have largely continued to be held on Zoom and very few exhibitions attended. Other items and annual costs were as predicted, but in the case of Archive purchase and Website maintenance these were fairly high, £4,255 and £4,834 respectively, and represent our growth areas, the latter includes setting up the Virtual Museum, it is vital to keep our name before the public however we can (we aren't small any more, in two years we have accrued £105,500 and spent £129,000). The end of year bank balances show that we have just over £32,000 behind us.

The accounts have been handed to our Independent Examiners for scrutiny. Their testimonials are sent to the Charity Commissioners in our Annual Report to them. I must thank the two gentlemen concerned for the professional manner in which they approach the fulfilment of their post. It is possible to send all documents electronically now which is a further small saving in time and effort to me.

Looking forward to the next financial year and our spending; our plans and the Budget are very much in line with previous years with, hopefully, digitisation of our collection held in Manchester Archives to finally get under way. Income for all these projects will have to be balanced by a slight increase in membership to £38 for UK members and £50 for International ones.

### Corrected Accounts Sept 2023: 1 July 2022 - 30 June 2023

#### RECEIPTS 2022/2023

Item	£
Subscriptions	34628.60
Donations - with Membership	2240.00
Donations - Bequest	500.00
Donations - General	241.00
Sales - pre-loved items	390.50
Refund (on advert)	58.75
Bank Interest	206.85
Gift Aid	8173.23
Sales - Publications, Binders etc	2781.65
Sales - Signal Box book Part One & Two	140.00
Sales - Manchester Victoria & its Signalling	616.00
Sales - Introduction to LYR	59.00
Sales - Manchester Victoria booklet	58.50
Sales - LMS Central Division Miscellany	35.00
Sales - Last Levers on the Fylde	73.00
Sales - Central Div Misc - BR Days	201.90
Sales - LYR Goods Workings A-D	353.40
Sales - Drawings/Photos etc.	75.40
Sales - Members book offers	628.95
London Midland Atlas	86.00
Horwich Revisited	20.00
Royalty payments	20.00
Sales - Sale of members artefacts	105.00
Lanky Day Out donations	450.00
AGM - Members subsistence	430.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>52572.73</b>

#### PAYMENTS 2022/2023

Item	£
<b>Officers' operational expenses</b>	
Secretary	Nil
Membership Officer	815.82
Treasurer	5.40
Publication Sales Officer	943.56
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>1764.78</b>

#### General expenses

Donations	175.00
Publications storage unit rental charge	1664.00
Advertising & recruitment	4836.25
Archives purchased	4254.61
Public Liability Insurance	160.68
Trustee Liability Insurance	256.47
Trustee expenses	212.38
Exhibitions - travel & stand maintenance	633.90
AGM notices & reports	480.00
AGM Minutes	300.00
Meeting room hire	630.00
Membermojo subscription	250.00
Website leases & Domain names	1440.63
Website transaction charges - Shopify & Stripe	604.93
Website transaction charges - PayPal & Square	391.73
Friends of the NRM	40.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>16330.58</b>

#### Other expenses

Members book offers	642.75
Replenish stock of maps	45.00
Uncashed cheque (changed bank account)	40.00
Zoom subscription	287.76
Spring meeting subsistence	345.00
Summer meeting room hire & catering	510.00
AGM subsistence	250.00
Purchase stock of binders	329.56
Website hosting	1517.42
Website development	880.00
I Mech E research associateship	217.00
Sound system for use at meetings	314.47
Additional computer equipment	115.45
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>5494.41</b>

#### Publications

Magazine supplements & order forms	231.00
Magazine 292-295 - print	7166.00
Bury history booklet - print	2379.00
Manchester Victoria & its Signalling - print	15585.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>25361.00</b>

#### Postage, labels & equipment

Stationery etc	171.25
Travel	175.00
Miscellaneous licences (see Notes to Accounts - 1)	1080.00
Publications pack & postage - Magazine 292 - 295	8235.97
Publications pack & postage - Bury booklet	1663.03
Publications pack & postage - Man Vic & its Signalling	3004.90
Other postage	57.14
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>14387.29</b>

**Total payments 63338.06**

#### ASSETS & LIABILITIES 2022/2023

Assets	£
Cash in Deposit Account	30323.25
Cash in Current Account	2099.41
Cash in PayPal Account	8.91
Funds with Treasurer	28.16
Funds with Editor	1315.24
<b>Cash Total</b>	<b>33684.97</b>

#### Stock & Equipment

Stock of publications, books, binders, CDs etc. - trade value	c.8500.00
Sound system (to be written off at 33% over 3 years)	210.70
Photo scanners (to be written off at 33% over 3 years)	160.59

#### Liabilities

Items not yet drawn on	Nil
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### Budget: 1 July 2023 - 30 June 2024

#### BUDGET & FUNDING 2023/2024

Budget	£
Print 4 Magazines	6800.00
Print 1 LYR Focus	1900.00
Print LYR Arc Roof Carriage Drawings	7000.00
Print Central Div Misc 2 (1931-1947)	6000.00
Replenish publications	1000.00
Publication store rental	2000.00
Postage of Magazines	7000.00
Postage of Journals & books	5000.00
PayPal, Shopify & Square charges	800.00
Website maintenance	1200.00
General expenses	1500.00
AGM expenses including printing	700.00
Contact Leaflet (annual)	300.00
Postage (Membership & Publication Sales)	2500.00
Publicity & Recruitment	4000.00
Committee expenses	500.00
Exhibition expenses & development	500.00
Insurances	500.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>49200.00</b>
Archive purchase (see Notes to Accounts - 2)	2500.00
Virtual Museum scanning	5000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>56700.00</b>

#### Source of Funds

	£
Subscriptions 870 members @ £38 (Int £50)	33060.00
Donations and Interest	1500.00
Publications sales surplus	4000.00
Gift Aid	8685.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>47245.00</b>

From Current Account 9455.00

**Total 56700.00**

#### Note to the Accounts:

1. Our Adobe Creative Cloud software is now on an annual subscription for each user. This item also includes rights to use maps, photos etc in our publications.
2. The amount spent depends on what becomes available in any one year.

The report of the Independent Examiners will be available at the Annual General Meeting and confirmed in the minutes of that meeting.

#### One of our archive purchases



# The L&YR Society

Registered Charity No.1098492

## How to get to the AGM...



**The 72nd Annual General Meeting of The Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway Society will be held on Saturday 14th October 2023 at The Middleton Railway, Moor Road, Hunslet, Leeds, LS10 2JQ starting at 10.30am.**

### Our Purpose

The Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway Society is devoted to the dissemination of information about the Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway throughout its 75 years of existence and beyond. The Society has established an ongoing permanent record of its findings through its publications, which are widely available from the website, exhibition stands and specialist booksellers. It works closely with the National Railway Museum, Manchester Archives and other relevant bodies to ensure that original documents, photographs and other materials are professionally preserved and made accessible to all.



[www.lyrs.org.uk](http://www.lyrs.org.uk)

80 Southampton Rd  
Park Gate  
Southampton  
SO31 6AF

27 September 2023

**Independent Examiners Report for the Accounts of the Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway Society**

Gross Expenditure: - £63338.06

Gross Income: - £52572.73

I have today concluded my examination of the financial accounts of the above referenced society, for the year ended 30 June 2023.

After close scrutiny and having the reasons for the manner, in which several of the items were entered explained and amended to my satisfaction, it is my sincere belief that the accounts show a true and fair reflection of the state of the society as of the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2023.

Rod Teagle  
Independent Examiner

**THE L&YR SOCIETY**

England & Wales - Charity number 1098492

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# Accounts

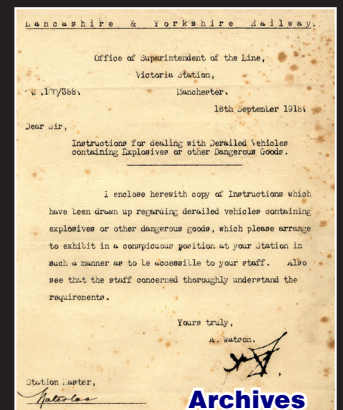
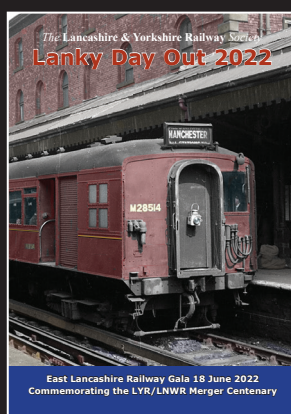
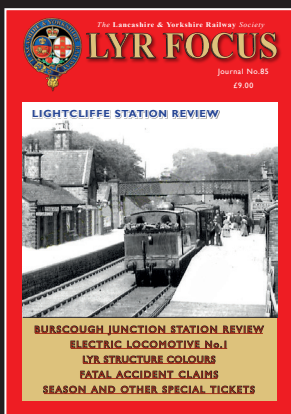
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# 71st Annual General Meeting and Members' Day, 8th October 2022

## Agenda, Report and Accounts



*Your* **L&YR** *Society*



Preservation News

Archives

# Agenda

**The 71st Annual General Meeting of The Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway Society will be held on Saturday 8th October 2021 at The Fielden Centre, Ewood Lane, Todmorden OL14 7DD starting at 10.30am, 10am for tea and coffee.**

**After the meeting there will be a 'pie and peas' lunch costing £10 per head. In the afternoon Peter Fitton will present a slide show of some of his photos taken at former L&Y locations over the past 60 years. Full details can be found in Magazine 292.**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To sign the attendance register and receive apologies</li> <li>2. To remember those members who have died during the past twelve months</li> <li>3. To receive and approve the minutes of the 2021 AGM</li> <li>4. To deal with matters arising</li> <li>5. Officers' reports:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i Secretary</li> <li>ii Questions for the Secretary</li> <li>iii Treasurer</li> <li>iv Questions for the Treasurer</li> <li>v Membership Officer</li> <li>vi Questions for the Membership Officer</li> <li>vii Publications Officer</li> </ol> </li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. Officers' reports (continued):             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>viii Questions for the Publications Officer</li> <li>ix Information Officer</li> <li>x Questions for the Information Officer</li> <li>xi Chairman</li> <li>xii Questions for the Chairman</li> </ol> </li> <li>6. To approve the Officers' reports and the Annual Report &amp; Accounts</li> <li>7. To appoint Trustees for 2022/23</li> <li>8. To appoint two Independent Examiners of the Society's accounts</li> <li>9. To confirm the level of subscription for 2023</li> <li>10. Any other business</li> </ol> |
|--|---|

The following Trustees are offering themselves for re-election:

Ron Tinker (Life President), Graham Smith (Chairman), Noel Coates (Treasurer), Martin Nield (Secretary), Ken Carter (Membership Officer), Roger Mellor (Publications Officer), Chris Leach (Information Officer), Mike Fitton, David Carter, Robin Pennie, and Barry Steventon.

Any other nominations must be received by the Secretary no less than 21 days before the meeting and be compliant with clause 4.4 of our Constitution.



## Chairman's review

**"You, the members, are the *The L&YR Society*; simply put, without you we would not exist!..."**

**Graham Smith**

Looking back at my reviews over the last couple of years, the overriding theme seems to have been one of uncertainty for the future, always more questions than answers. Last year I questioned whether we would be able to hold our AGM and have a Spring Meeting and a Summer Day Out. Well, what a difference a year makes! I think we can definitely say that 2022 has been the year when not only our Society but the railway hobby as a whole has finally shaken off the shackles of Covid (hopefully not those famous last words!).

I sensed a change taking place at last year's AGM; not only did we have a big turnout, but as I say at the front looking out at the members present, I could see old friends sitting together, enjoying each other's company and I thought then that we are on way back! There was a really good atmosphere at the AGM and that same feeling of

friendship and togetherness continued at both our Spring Meeting on the Keighley and Worth Valley Railway and the Summer Meeting on the East Lancashire Railway. Both were great days out and memorable for a variety of reasons. My thanks go to Martin Nield, Roger Mellor and Alan Taylor for the work they did in setting up both events and to all the other people who made the days so memorable.

On the exhibition front, our Summer Meeting at Bury saw the first outing of our exhibition stand in the last two years and it proved to be a very successful weekend. I have also kept in contact with our team of stand volunteers and they have been keen to get started for sometime, so hopefully we can now get the show back on the road. After the initial disappointment of having the York show cancelled, we have already been to the Keighley show and are planning to attend Expo

EM Summer in Wakefield, Guildex in Stafford and the Wigan show before this year's AGM.

Another positive to come out of 2022 has been the launch of the Virtual Museum. I am sure those of you who visit the website regularly will already have seen it, but those who do not please go onto the website, click on Virtual Museum and take a look; you will not be disappointed. My thanks go to Roger Mellor, Andrew Wright and our web designer Stuart Byford for putting this together. Thanks must also be said to all of the volunteers who have worked tirelessly over the last few years to make this possible. I am sure the Virtual Museum project is something that will continue to develop and change over the years, but what we have achieved already is very impressive. Thank you everyone.

Finally, I would like to thank Noel

Coates and Roger Mellor (again!) for keeping us supplied over the past year with what seems like an endless stream of books and booklets. I know how much time and effort is put into producing these publications and believe me the number of hours is quite frightening. So gentlemen, thank



## Secretary's report

**"Society Events resumed after a two-year break due to the pandemic..."**

**Martin Nield**

I am pleased to report that Society Events resumed after a two-year break due to the pandemic with our 2021 AGM & Members' Day last October. The AGM itself was held in the well-appointed Embsay Village Hall and in the afternoon we were able to travel on the Embsay and Bolton Abbey Steam Railway and see the L&YR Directors' Saloon undergoing restoration

So far in 2022 we have held two highly successful and well-attended meetings at the Keighley and Worth Valley Railway in March and the East Lancashire Railway in June. Both events were timed to coincide with steam galas on the railways concerned, held to commemorate the merger

you so much for your efforts, they are really appreciated.

Secondly, I would like to thank all of you for your continued support. Our membership level has remained pretty steady at around 900 members. Thank you for attending the events

we organise; let's face it, without you they would be pretty dull affairs! Always remember you are the most important part of our Society. You are The Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway Society; simply put, without you we would not exist!

between the L&YR and the LNWR a century ago in 1922, and both featured preserved L&YR locomotives and/or carriages.

Our 2022 AGM and Members' Day will be held in Todmorden on Saturday 8 October and full details can be found in Magazine 292.

Plans are at an early stage for events in 2023 and full details will be published in Magazine in due course.

We have continued to hold committee and other meetings on the video conferencing platform Zoom and this has proved to be both convenient and successful. However we are planning to have our first in-person committee

meeting in Burnley in September. Two new members joined the committee during the year, Philip Helawell and Andrew Wright, and both have made some very useful contributions.

Our four Modelling Co-ordinators – Barry Steventon for Gauge 1; Peter Fitton for 7mm scale; Dave Carter for 4mm scale and Sam Kennion for 2mm scale – have continued their work throughout the year and we are very grateful to them for that.



**The Lanky Day Out at the ELR Gala was a great success. We also had our stand at the event and sold over £600 worth of publications and recruited several new members. The ELR General Manager, Tracey Parkinson, visited our stand and is seen here with Roger Mellor. Photo by Tim Brearley**



## Membership Officer's report

**“We have a wonderful story to tell when talking to prospective new members...”**

**Ken Carter**

As our membership year ends in December it seems a long time ago since your committee were discussing last years' membership, although we do meet at other times throughout the year. The success of the Society stems from our ability to attract new members through advertising and marketing, and although we have not always been able to do the latter due to our main contact with potential new members being limited by the lack of shows, membership is up on previous years despite the Covid situation. There is no doubt that the personal touch does play a strong part in our ability to recruit new members and we have found that the past few months have helped with this as we have started to attend shows again. Consequently we expect 2022 to be a better year for us.

There is no doubt the success of our Society is through its ability to attract new members and retain existing ones. Increases in membership take a lot of hard work and our publications team do a tremendous job supplying the tools with which we can attract

new members. I would like to thank all my colleagues for the work they do in helping the Society to function and by doing this work are able to give us all such a wonderful range of publications and provide an excellent service to our members. It is only through the efforts of all Officers and members that we are able to recruit new people, and as a Society we should be rightly proud of our efforts over recent years especially during the covid pandemic.

The demise of some members each year sadly means we have to continually recruit new members. After recruitment membership retention is our second highest aim and as no doubt a small number of you will have found out, I do my best to keep you with us; why would you want to leave an excellent Society like ours unless external circumstances dictated it.

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increasing membership tells everyone what we have achieved and that they are joining a progressive and great Society. I think you will agree with me that in 2021 we have built on past achievements. I look forward with enthusiasm to a future of continued success and a return to further increases in membership.

I am pleased to report that there has been an increase in membership numbers and we ended the membership year in a good position which will give us a springboard to move forward more swiftly once the Covid situation improves.

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The big news this year came in June when we finally launched the Virtual Museum of the L&YR incorporated into a new and improved website. As with all publications projects, this was very much a team effort. We have reported over the last few years about the scanning of some 12000 pages of archive material by Noel Coates, some of which appeared on the old website under the 'Knowledge' section. More recently Andrew Wright has been collating the scanned pages into documents and optimising them for use in the Virtual Museum.

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from me in Southend so we have been able to spend time together sorting out the appearance, structure and content.

Several of my fellow Trustees have been kind enough to point out in their reports the huge number of hours involved but the result is worth the effort as we not only have the Virtual Museum but also an improved, more responsive website. Huge thanks are due to Stuart, Noel and Andrew for getting this up and running - there is still an enormous amount of material to scan and upload so keep visiting the site and see what's new. A detailed review of the new website and Virtual Museum can be found in *Magazine 292*.

It has also been a busy year on the publications front. We have published *Central Division Miscellany - BR Days*, *LYR Goods Workings A-D*, *The LYR/LNWR Amalgamation of 1922*,

*LYR Focus 85*, *Magazines 289-291* and the booklet for the ELR Gala in June. Work is progressing on *LYR Steam Hauled Arc Roof Carriages* and *Manchester Victoria and its Signalling*, both of which will be hardback. There are other titles in the pipeline and if anyone has the magic formula for a 10-day week please get in touch.

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And finally, to all our contributors and you, our members, who continue to support us by your membership.



## Information Officer's report

**“We continue to acquire photo collections; there are almost 700 images waiting to be added...”**

**Chris Leach**

I should like to thank all those who have continued to contribute so effectively to the work of the Information Group during the difficult situation over the last couple of years. This has meant that our work has continued even in the unusual circumstances.

The enquiry service continues to be popular, though not as much as it was during lockdown. Examples of the queries include: drawings of L&Y stable blocks; photos of L&Y family saloon No.50 (photos and drawing copy supplied); a mystery L&Y badge; brick workings near Lightcliffe station; location of Audits Accounts department at Hunt's Bank; Tunnel End Cottage at Beacon Hill tunnel; plan of Taylor Street Goods Yard, Blackburn; Brighthouse Station photos; Burnley stables specification; Horwich narrow gauge locos; photos of passenger guards uniforms for creating replicas to wear on ELR when using L&Y locos; Ewood goods shed; Director's coupé No10000; Mirfield shed coaling stage; Hellfield Auction Mart and relationship to the railway; Railmotor drawing; Hughes 4-6-4T technical information; North Lancs Loop gradient profile; 1860 Stationmaster's house at Southport drawing or photos; Brinscall station photos; Baltic tank GA drawing; L&Y-branded chamber pot; and piece shed at Todmorden photos.

**Society drawings, Manchester Archives drawings, photographic collection and other archives**

Although many of the constraints of the coronavirus pandemic have now been lifted, some activity of Information Group has been affected by knock-on effects. These include continued issues at Manchester Archives which have meant that the cataloguing team have not yet been able to restart their work on our collections; however, at the time of writing there is some indication from the Archives this will resume soon. Grateful thanks are due to Stuart Nash who has made contact with them.

The Society continues to acquire photo collections, often by donation, and there are currently almost 700 new images waiting to be added to the collection. I hope that these will be scanned and added as soon as possible; Kevin Turville is continuing to do some photo scanning, so he may be able to assist. Original documents and drawings also are acquired and added from time to time, so our collections continue to grow.

**Virtual Museum of The Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway**

The Virtual Museum has now made its first appearance on our website, thanks to a very great deal of work

by Roger Mellor, our web designer Stuart Byford, and Andrew Wright who scanned and compiled great numbers of documents, to whom enormous thanks are due. It will hopefully provide a very comprehensive resource for anyone researching the L&Y. Huge amounts of historical detail on the company, together with a great many documents and other material is already accessible and a large representative selection of photos covering all aspects of the railway will be available. Some drawings are downloadable, but at the time of writing the scanning of our drawings collection is not complete.

The documentation which supports the volunteer teams who have been visiting a wide range of archives to record what they have, in support of the Virtual Museum project, has now been revised and simplified by Robin Pennie and Chris Leach in response to issues raised by Philip Hellawell and other team members. Hopefully this will make recording of the contents of archives simpler and more effective. Although team visits were also constrained by pandemic lockdown, these have just started again, and so further contribution to the project is ongoing.



## Treasurer's report

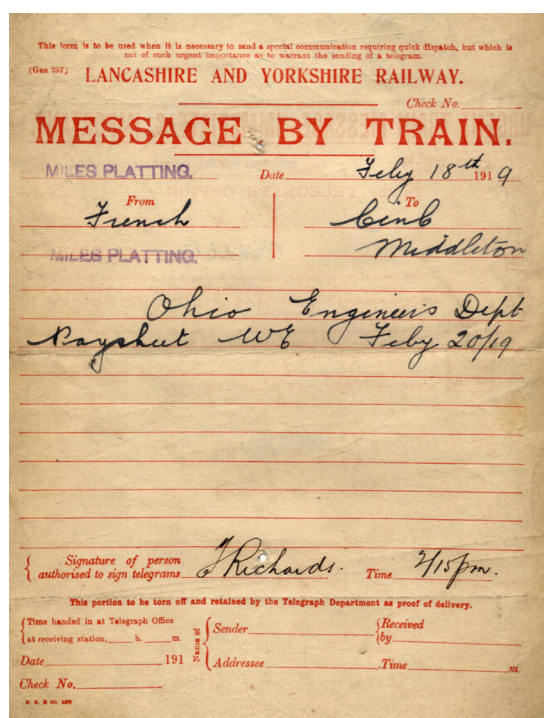
**“It was sales of publications which far exceeded expectations...”**

**Noel Coates**

In our Budget for the Financial Year to the end of June 2022 we expected to spend £50,000 using the membership income of 860 individuals; a further £11,000 from Gift Aid, Publication Sales and Interest accrued, and around £8,000 from Reserves to balance this figure. We have actually spent just over £66,600 whilst the actual Income of £53,024 means that, taking into account the money held by the Editor on June 30th 2021 (£3,933), only £9,657 was needed from the Current Account. It was just short of a record year for income whereas by far the greatest year for expenditure; the answer as to why we spent so much is the quantity of publications sent out to members during the financial year. There was an extra book, one we have long hoped to publish and whose first volume finally appeared.

The breakdown of our income this year is very interesting, whilst membership was greater than expected at £32,332 plus around £1,500 in donations, it was sales of publications which far exceeded anticipation (25% greater) at over £5,370 we also sold over £2,890 worth of books through offers, most to our members but about a quarter to the public – there is the cost of buying items in but around a third of the total figure gets added to our coffers. With Gift Aid 10% higher than Budget at £6,634 and other donations we reach almost £50,000 (Members will be delighted to hear that, after 19 claims, the total received in Gift Aid has crossed a staggering £101,000!). The remaining income comes from the three major meetings for members – the AGM and the Worth Valley and East Lancashire Railway days out. These generated £3,350 which was spent almost immediately at the venues concerned, it just 'goes through the books' (thus the £66,614 spent can be reduced by £3,350 to £62,264 of spending if you prefer to think of it that way).

### One of our archive purchases



The main items of expenditure are the usual ones – printing and postage costs (over £43,000) with advertising reaching almost £3,900. However, archive purchase fell to £2,630. Expenditure on meetings and travel have, once again, been reduced to almost nil as the Committee meetings have continued to be held by Internet. Other items and annual costs were as predicted. The end of year bank balances show that we still have over £43,000 behind us.

The accounts have been handed to our Independent Examiners for scrutiny, and Magazine will publish their findings. Their testimonials are sent to the Charity Commissioners in our Annual Report to them. I must thank the two gentlemen concerned for the professional manner in which they approach the fulfilment of their post. It is possible to send all documents electronically now which is a further small saving in time and effort to me.

Looking forward to the next financial year and our spending, our plans and the Budget are very much in line with previous years but income for them will have to be balanced by a slight increase in membership to £37. Costs are rising as we all recognise, postage alone should absorb most of a member's extra pound whilst our publishing plans should tempt buyers to purchase our new products and so we get a return on the investment made.

## Accounts: 1 July 2021 - 30 June 2022

### RECEIPTS 2021/2022

Item	£
Subscriptions	32332.00
Donations - via Membership Officer	1701.00
Donations - for Archives/conservation	161.00
Donations - General	259.00
Sales - pre-loved items	40.00
Bank Interest	9.48
Gift Aid	6634.08
Sales - Publications, Binders etc	1856.00
Sales - Signal Box book Part One	180.25
Sales - Signal Box book Part Two	84.50
Sales - Introduction to LYR	114.50
Sales - Manchester Victoria booklet	75.50
Sales - LMS Central Division Miscellany	245.00
Sales - Last Levers on the Fylde	147.50
Sales - Central Div Misc - BR Days	1982.83
Sales - LYR Goods Workings A-D	704.70
Sales - Drawings/Photos etc.	84.00
Sales - Members book offers	2891.70
Sales - Sale of members artefacts	170.00
Lanky Day Out donations	2341.40
AGM - Members subsistence	450.00
AGM - Members travel	560.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>53024.44</b>

### PAYMENTS 2021/2022

Item	£
<b>Officers' operational expenses</b>	
Secretary	Nil
Membership Officer	706.63
Treasurer	36.09
Publication Sales Officer	1650.41
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>2393.13</b>
<b>General expenses</b>	
Donations (Bury Works Visit)	250.00
Publications storage unit rental charge	1664.00
Advertising & recruitment	3879.00
Archives purchased	2631.60
Public Liability Insurance	155.68
Trustee Liability Insurance	256.28
AGM notices & reports	350.00
AGM Minutes	225.00
AGM Hire of hall 2021 & Deposit for 2022	145.65
Contact & Services leaflet etc	300.00
Membership forms & cards	250.00
Membermojo subscription	250.00
Website leases & Domain names	252.09
Website transaction charges - Shopify & Stripe	417.37
Website transaction charges - PayPal & Square	425.64
Friends of the NRM	40.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>11492.31</b>
<b>Other expenses</b>	
Members book offers	2663.67
Royalty payments	120.95
Spring meeting bus hire	300.00
Spring meeting train fares	587.40
Spring meeting subsistence	492.00
Summer meeting train fares	860.00
AGM train fares	572.00
AGM subsistence	435.00
Additional computer equipment	262.74
I Mech E research associateship	201.00
Refund of membership	15.00
Honorary Membership award costs	36.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>6545.76</b>
<b>Publications</b>	
Lanky Day Out leaflets	98.00
Magazine 288 291 - print	7253.00
LYR Focus 85 - print	1733.00
LYR/LNWR Amalgamation booklet - print	1215.00
Central Div Miscellany - BR Days - Print	10000.00
LYR Goods Workings A-D - Print	6990.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>27289.00</b>
<b>Postage, labels &amp; equipment</b>	
Stationery etc	210.86
Travel & delivery	467.41
Miscellaneous licences (see Notes to Accounts - 1)	585.00
Publications pack & postage - Magazine 288 - 291	7491.18
Publications pack & postage - LYR Focus 85	1500.54
Pubs pack & postage - Books sent free to members	8579.29
Other postage	59.90
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>18894.18</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>66614.38</b>

### ASSETS & LIABILITIES 2021/2022

Assets	£
Cash in Deposit Account	30116.40
Cash in Current Account	12816.68
Cash in PayPal Account	113.32
Funds with Treasurer	34.59
Funds with Editor	64.10
<b>Cash Total</b>	<b>43145.09</b>

Stock & Equipment	£
Stock of publications, books, binders, CDs etc. - trade value	c.6000.00
Photo scanners for general use (to be written off over 3 years)	239.69

Liabilities	£
Items not yet drawn on (Cheque 1763)	15.00

## Budget: 1 July 2022 - 30 June 2023

### BUDGET & FUNDING 2021/2022

Budget	£
Print 4 Magazines	6400.00
Print 1 LYR Focus	1900.00
Print Man Victoria and its Signalling	7000.00
Print Central Div Misc 2 (1931-1947)	6000.00
Replenish publications	1000.00
Publication store rental	2000.00
Postage of Magazines	6000.00
Postage of Journals & books	5000.00
PayPal, Shopify & Square charges	800.00
Website maintenance	800.00
General expenses	1500.00
AGM expenses including printing	700.00
Contact Leaflet (annual)	300.00
Postage (Membership & Publication Sales)	2500.00
Publicity & Recruitment	4000.00
Committee expenses	500.00
Exhibition expenses & development	500.00
Insurances	500.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>47400.00</b>
Archive purchase (see Notes to Accounts - 2)	2500.00
Virtual Museum scanning	2000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>51900.00</b>

Source of Funds	£
Subscriptions 860 members @ £37 (Int £49)	32000.00
Donations and Interest	1500.00
Publications sales surplus	4000.00
Gift Aid	6500.00
<b>Sub total of receipts</b>	<b>44000.00</b>

From Current Account	7900.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>51900.00</b>

### Note to the Accounts:

1. Our Adobe Creative Cloud software is now on an annual subscription for each user. This item also includes rights to use maps, photos etc in our publications.
2. The amount spent depends on what becomes available in any one year.

The report of the Independent Examiners will be available at the Annual General Meeting and confirmed in the minutes of that meeting.

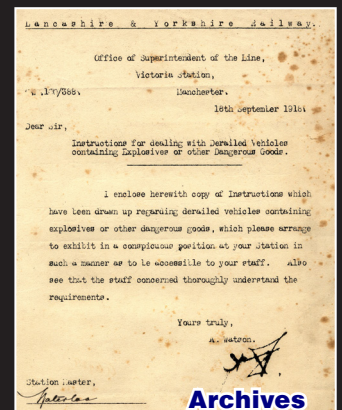
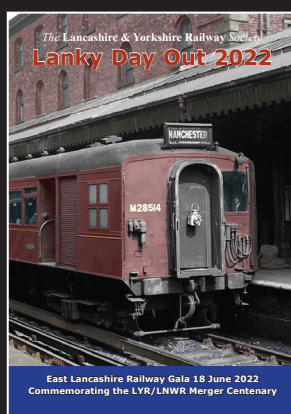
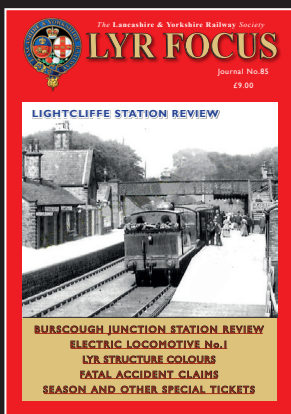


# 71st Annual General Meeting and Members' Day, 8th October 2022

## Agenda, Report and Accounts



*Your* **L&YR** *Society*



Preservation News

# Agenda

**The 71st Annual General Meeting of The Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway Society will be held on Saturday 8th October 2021 at The Fielden Centre, Ewood Lane, Todmorden OL14 7DD starting at 10.30am, 10am for tea and coffee.**

**After the meeting there will be a 'pie and peas' lunch costing £10 per head. In the afternoon Peter Fitton will present a slide show of some of his photos taken at former L&Y locations over the past 60 years. Full details can be found in Magazine 292.**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. To sign the attendance register and receive apologies                 | 5. Officers' reports (continued):                                    |
| 2. To remember those members who have died during the past twelve months | viii Questions for the Publications Officer                          |
| 3. To receive and approve the minutes of the 2021 AGM                    | ix Information Officer   |
| 4. To deal with matters arising  | x Questions for the Information Officer                              |
| 5. Officers' reports:  | xi Chairman  |
| i Secretary  | xii Questions for the Chairman                                       |
| ii Questions for the Secretary   | 6. To approve the Officers' reports and the Annual Report & Accounts |
| iii Treasurer  | 7. To appoint Trustees for 2022/23                                   |
| iv Questions for the Treasurer   | 8. To appoint two Independent Examiners of the Society's accounts    |
| v Membership Officer   | 9. To confirm the level of subscription for 2023                     |
| vi Questions for the Membership Officer                                  | 10. Any other business   |
| vii Publications Officer   |  |

The following Trustees are offering themselves for re-election:

Ron Tinker (Life President), Graham Smith (Chairman), Noel Coates (Treasurer), Martin Nield (Secretary), Ken Carter (Membership Officer), Roger Mellor (Publications Officer), Chris Leach (Information Officer), Mike Fitton, David Carter, Robin Pennie, and Barry Steventon.

Any other nominations must be received by the Secretary no less than 21 days before the meeting and be compliant with clause 4.4 of our Constitution.



## Chairman's review

**"You, the members, are the *The L&YR Society*; simply put, without you we would not exist!..."**

**Graham Smith**

Looking back at my reviews over the last couple of years, the overriding theme seems to have been one of uncertainty for the future, always more questions than answers. Last year I questioned whether we would be able to hold our AGM and have a Spring Meeting and a Summer Day Out. Well, what a difference a year makes! I think we can definitely say that 2022 has been the year when not only our Society but the railway hobby as a whole has finally shaken off the shackles of Covid (hopefully not those famous last words!).

I sensed a change taking place at last year's AGM; not only did we have a big turnout, but as I say at the front looking out at the members present, I could see old friends sitting together, enjoying each other's company and I thought then that we are on way back! There was a really good atmosphere at the AGM and that same feeling of

friendship and togetherness continued at both our Spring Meeting on the Keighley and Worth Valley Railway and the Summer Meeting on the East Lancashire Railway. Both were great days out and memorable for a variety of reasons. My thanks go to Martin Nield, Roger Mellor and Alan Taylor for the work they did in setting up both events and to all the other people who made the days so memorable.

On the exhibition front, our Summer Meeting at Bury saw the first outing of our exhibition stand in the last two years and it proved to be a very successful weekend. I have also kept in contact with our team of stand volunteers and they have been keen to get started for sometime, so hopefully we can now get the show back on the road. After the initial disappointment of having the York show cancelled, we have already been to the Keighley show and are planning to attend Expo

EM Summer in Wakefield, Guildex in Stafford and the Wigan show before this year's AGM.

Another positive to come out of 2022 has been the launch of the Virtual Museum. I am sure those of you who visit the website regularly will already have seen it, but those who do not please go onto the website, click on Virtual Museum and take a look; you will not be disappointed. My thanks go to Roger Mellor, Andrew Wright and our web designer Stuart Byford for putting this together. Thanks must also be said to all of the volunteers who have worked tirelessly over the last few years to make this possible. I am sure the Virtual Museum project is something that will continue to develop and change over the years, but what we have achieved already is very impressive. Thank you everyone.

Finally, I would like to thank Noel

Coates and Roger Mellor (again!) for keeping us supplied over the past year with what seems like an endless stream of books and booklets. I know how much time and effort is put into producing these publications and believe me the number of hours is quite frightening. So gentlemen, thank



## Secretary's report

**"Society Events resumed after a two-year break due to the pandemic..."**

**Martin Nield**

I am pleased to report that Society Events resumed after a two-year break due to the pandemic with our 2021 AGM & Members' Day last October. The AGM itself was held in the well-appointed Embsay Village Hall and in the afternoon we were able to travel on the Embsay and Bolton Abbey Steam Railway and see the L&YR Directors' Saloon undergoing restoration

So far in 2022 we have held two highly successful and well-attended meetings at the Keighley and Worth Valley Railway in March and the East Lancashire Railway in June. Both events were timed to coincide with steam galas on the railways concerned, held to commemorate the merger

you so much for your efforts, they are really appreciated.

Secondly, I would like to thank all of you for your continued support. Our membership level has remained pretty steady at around 900 members. Thank you for attending the events

we organise; let's face it, without you they would be pretty dull affairs! Always remember you are the most important part of our Society. You are The Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway Society; simply put, without you we would not exist!

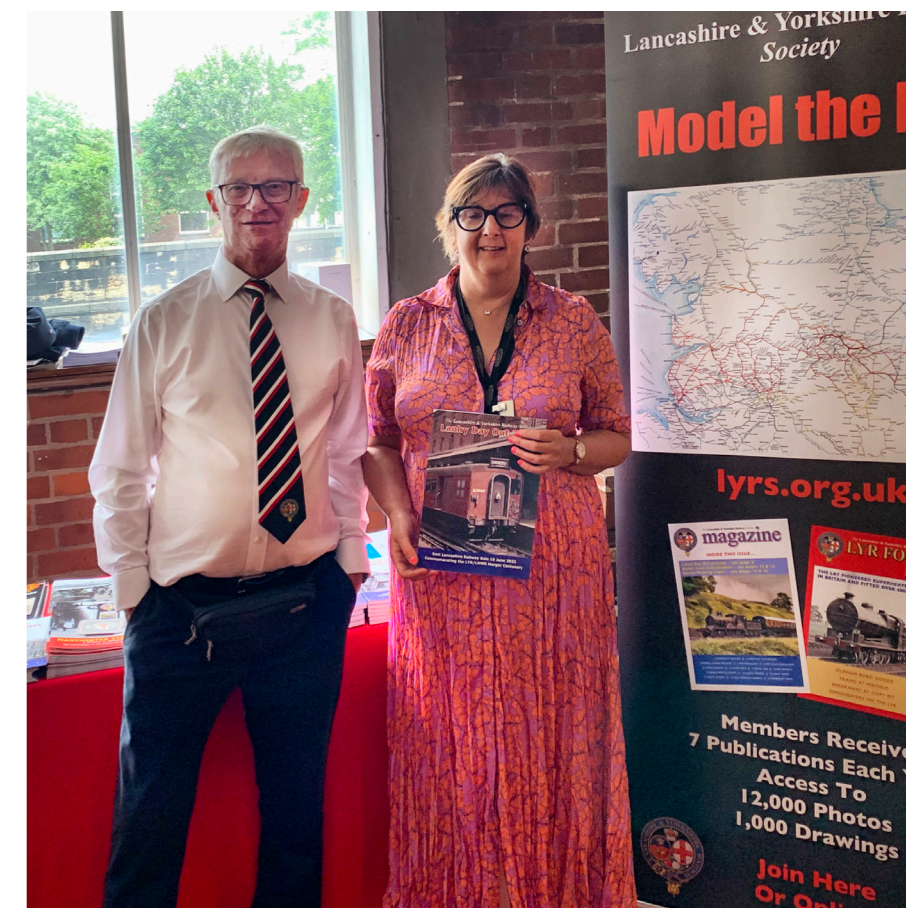
between the L&YR and the LNWR a century ago in 1922, and both featured preserved L&YR locomotives and/or carriages.

Our 2022 AGM and Members' Day will be held in Todmorden on Saturday 8 October and full details can be found in Magazine 292.

Plans are at an early stage for events in 2023 and full details will be published in Magazine in due course. We have continued to hold committee and other meetings on the video conferencing platform Zoom and this has proved to be both convenient and successful. However we are planning to have our first in-person committee

meeting in Burnley in September. Two new members joined the committee during the year, Philip Helawell and Andrew Wright, and both have made some very useful contributions.

Our four Modelling Co-ordinators – Barry Steventon for Gauge 1; Peter Fitton for 7mm scale; Dave Carter for 4mm scale and Sam Kennion for 2mm scale – have continued their work throughout the year and we are very grateful to them for that.



**The Lanky Day Out at the ELR Gala was a great success. We also had our stand at the event and sold over £600 worth of publications and recruited several new members. The ELR General Manager, Tracey Parkinson, visited our stand and is seen here with Roger Mellor. Photo by Tim Brearley**



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**Ken Carter**

As our membership year ends in December it seems a long time ago since your committee were discussing last years' membership, although we do meet at other times throughout the year. The success of the Society stems from our ability to attract new members through advertising and marketing, and although we have not always been able to do the latter due to our main contact with potential new members being limited by the lack of shows, membership is up on previous years despite the Covid situation. There is no doubt that the personal touch does play a strong part in our ability to recruit new members and we have found that the past few months have helped with this as we have started to attend shows again. Consequently we expect 2022 to be a better year for us.

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The demise of some members each year sadly means we have to continually recruit new members. After recruitment membership retention is our second highest aim and as no doubt a small number of you will have found out, I do my best to keep you with us; why would you want to leave an excellent Society like ours unless external circumstances dictated it.

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**Chris Leach**

I should like to thank all those who have continued to contribute so effectively to the work of the Information Group during the difficult situation over the last couple of years. This has meant that our work has continued even in the unusual circumstances.

The enquiry service continues to be popular, though not as much as it was during lockdown. Examples of the queries include: drawings of L&Y stable blocks; photos of L&Y family saloon No.50 (photos and drawing copy supplied); a mystery L&Y badge; brick workings near Lightcliffe station; location of Audits Accounts department at Hunt's Bank; Tunnel End Cottage at Beacon Hill tunnel; plan of Taylor Street Goods Yard, Blackburn; Brighthouse Station photos; Burnley stables specification; Horwich narrow gauge locos; photos of passenger guards uniforms for creating replicas to wear on ELR when using L&Y locos; Ewood goods shed; Director's coupé No10000; Mirfield shed coaling stage; Hellfield Auction Mart and relationship to the railway; Railmotor drawing; Hughes 4-6-4T technical information; North Lancs Loop gradient profile; 1860 Stationmaster's house at Southport drawing or photos; Brinscall station photos; Baltic tank GA drawing; L&Y-branded chamber pot; and piece shed at Todmorden photos.

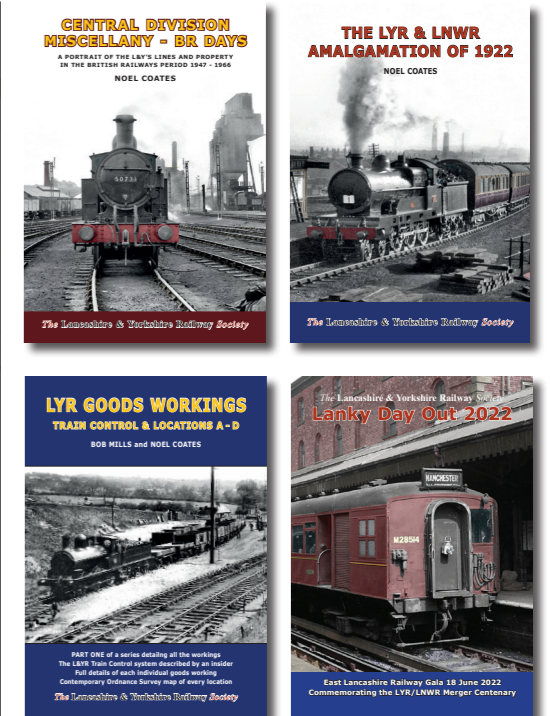
### Society drawings, Manchester Archives drawings, photographic collection and other archives

Although many of the constraints of the coronavirus pandemic have now been lifted, some activity of Information Group has been affected by knock-on effects. These include continued issues at Manchester Archives which have meant that the cataloguing team have not yet been able to restart their work on our collections; however, at the time of writing there is some indication from the Archives this will resume soon. Grateful thanks are due to Stuart Nash who has made contact with them.

The Society continues to acquire photo collections, often by donation, and there are currently almost 700 new images waiting to be added to the collection. I hope that these will be scanned and added as soon as possible; Kevin Turville is continuing to do some photo scanning, so he may be able to assist. Original documents and drawings also are acquired and added from time to time, so our collections continue to grow.

### Virtual Museum of The Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway

The Virtual Museum has now made its first appearance on our website, thanks to a very great deal of work



by Roger Mellor, our web designer Stuart Byford, and Andrew Wright who scanned and compiled great numbers of documents, to whom enormous thanks are due. It will hopefully provide a very comprehensive resource for anyone researching the L&Y. Huge amounts of historical detail on the company, together with a great many documents and other material is already accessible and a large representative selection of photos covering all aspects of the railway will be available. Some drawings are downloadable, but at the time of writing the scanning of our drawings collection is not complete.

The documentation which supports the volunteer teams who have been visiting a wide range of archives to record what they have, in support of the Virtual Museum project, has now been revised and simplified by Robin Pennie and Chris Leach in response to issues raised by Philip Hellawell and other team members. Hopefully this will make recording of the contents of archives simpler and more effective. Although team visits were also constrained by pandemic lockdown, these have just started again, and so further contribution to the project is ongoing.



## Treasurer's report

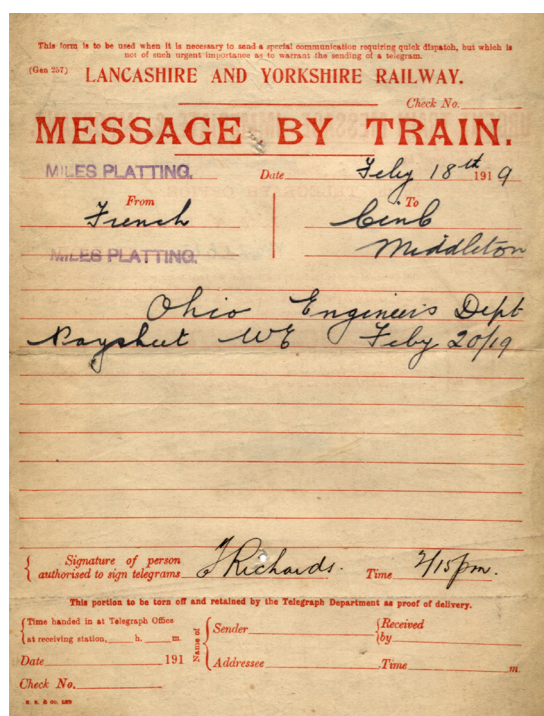
**“It was sales of publications which far exceeded expectations...”**

**Noel Coates**

In our Budget for the Financial Year to the end of June 2022 we expected to spend £50,000 using the membership income of 860 individuals; a further £11,000 from Gift Aid, Publication Sales and Interest accrued, and around £8,000 from Reserves to balance this figure. We have actually spent just over £66,600 whilst the actual Income of £53,024 means that, taking into account the money held by the Editor on June 30th 2021 (£3,933), only £9,657 was needed from the Current Account. It was just short of a record year for income whereas by far the greatest year for expenditure; the answer as to why we spent so much is the quantity of publications sent out to members during the financial year. There was an extra book, one we have long hoped to publish and whose first volume finally appeared.

The breakdown of our income this year is very interesting, whilst membership was greater than expected at £32,332 plus around £1,500 in donations, it was sales of publications which far exceeded anticipation (25% greater) at over £5,370 we also sold over £2,890 worth of books through offers, most to our members but about a quarter to the public – there is the cost of buying items in but around a third of the total figure gets added to our coffers. With Gift Aid 10% higher than Budget at £6,634 and other donations we reach almost £50,000 (Members will be delighted to hear that, after 19 claims, the total received in Gift Aid has crossed a staggering £101,000!). The remaining income comes from the three major meetings for members – the AGM and the Worth Valley and East Lancashire Railway days out. These generated £3,350 which was spent almost immediately at the venues concerned, it just 'goes through the books' (thus the £66,614 spent can be reduced by £3,350 to £62,264 of spending if you prefer to think of it that way).

### One of our archive purchases



The main items of expenditure are the usual ones – printing and postage costs (over £43,000) with advertising reaching almost £3,900. However, archive purchase fell to £2,630. Expenditure on meetings and travel have, once again, been reduced to almost nil as the Committee meetings have continued to be held by Internet. Other items and annual costs were as predicted. The end of year bank balances show that we still have over £43,000 behind us.

The accounts have been handed to our Independent Examiners for scrutiny, and Magazine will publish their findings. Their testimonials are sent to the Charity Commissioners in our Annual Report to them. I must thank the two gentlemen concerned for the professional manner in which they approach the fulfilment of their post. It is possible to send all documents electronically now which is a further small saving in time and effort to me.

Looking forward to the next financial year and our spending, our plans and the Budget are very much in line with previous years but income for them will have to be balanced by a slight increase in membership to £37. Costs are rising as we all recognise, postage alone should absorb most of a member's extra pound whilst our publishing plans should tempt buyers to purchase our new products and so we get a return on the investment made.

## Accounts: 1 July 2021 - 30 June 2022

### RECEIPTS 2021/2022

Item	£
Subscriptions	32332.00
Donations - via Membership Officer	1701.00
Donations - for Archives/conservation	161.00
Donations - General	259.00
Sales - pre-loved items	40.00
Bank Interest	9.48
Gift Aid	6634.08
Sales - Publications, Binders etc	1856.00
Sales - Signal Box book Part One	180.25
Sales - Signal Box book Part Two	84.50
Sales - Introduction to LYR	114.50
Sales - Manchester Victoria booklet	75.50
Sales - LMS Central Division Miscellany	245.00
Sales - Last Levers on the Fylde	147.50
Sales - Central Div Misc - BR Days	1982.83
Sales - LYR Goods Workings A-D	704.70
Sales - Drawings/Photos etc.	84.00
Sales - Members book offers	2891.70
Sales - Sale of members artefacts	170.00
Lanky Day Out donations	2341.40
AGM - Members subsistence	450.00
AGM - Members travel	560.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>53024.44</b>

### PAYMENTS 2021/2022

Item	£
<b>Officers' operational expenses</b>	
Secretary	Nil
Membership Officer	706.63
Treasurer	36.09
Publication Sales Officer	1650.41
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>2393.13</b>
<b>General expenses</b>	
Donations (Bury Works Visit)	250.00
Publications storage unit rental charge	1664.00
Advertising & recruitment	3879.00
Archives purchased	2631.60
Public Liability Insurance	155.68
Trustee Liability Insurance	256.28
AGM notices & reports	350.00
AGM Minutes	225.00
AGM Hire of hall 2021 & Deposit for 2022	145.65
Contact & Services leaflet etc	300.00
Membership forms & cards	250.00
Membermojo subscription	250.00
Website leases & Domain names	252.09
Website transaction charges - Shopify & Stripe	417.37
Website transaction charges - PayPal & Square	425.64
Friends of the NRM	40.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>11492.31</b>
<b>Other expenses</b>	
Members book offers	2663.67
Royalty payments	120.95
Spring meeting bus hire	300.00
Spring meeting train fares	587.40
Spring meeting subsistence	492.00
Summer meeting train fares	860.00
AGM train fares	572.00
AGM subsistence	435.00
Additional computer equipment	262.74
I Mech E research associateship	201.00
Refund of membership	15.00
Honorary Membership award costs	36.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>6545.76</b>
<b>Publications</b>	
Lanky Day Out leaflets	98.00
Magazine 288 291 - print	7253.00
LYR Focus 85 - print	1733.00
LYR/LNWR Amalgamation booklet - print	1215.00
Central Div Miscellany - BR Days - Print	10000.00
LYR Goods Workings A-D - Print	6990.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>27289.00</b>
<b>Postage, labels &amp; equipment</b>	
Stationery etc	210.86
Travel & delivery	467.41
Miscellaneous licences (see Notes to Accounts - 1)	585.00
Publications pack & postage - Magazine 288 - 291	7491.18
Publications pack & postage - LYR Focus 85	1500.54
Pubs pack & postage - Books sent free to members	8579.29
Other postage	59.90
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>18894.18</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>66614.38</b>

### ASSETS & LIABILITIES 2021/2022

Assets	£
Cash in Deposit Account	30116.40
Cash in Current Account	12816.68
Cash in PayPal Account	113.32
Funds with Treasurer	34.59
Funds with Editor	64.10
<b>Cash Total</b>	<b>43145.09</b>

Stock & Equipment	£
Stock of publications, books, binders, CDs etc. - trade value	c.6000.00
Photo scanners for general use (to be written off over 3 years)	239.69

Liabilities	£
Items not yet drawn on (Cheque 1763)	15.00

## Budget: 1 July 2022 - 30 June 2023

### BUDGET & FUNDING 2021/2022

Budget	£
Print 4 Magazines	6400.00
Print 1 LYR Focus	1900.00
Print Man Victoria and its Signalling	7000.00
Print Central Div Misc 2 (1931-1947)	6000.00
Replenish publications	1000.00
Publication store rental	2000.00
Postage of Magazines	6000.00
Postage of Journals & books	5000.00
PayPal, Shopify & Square charges	800.00
Website maintenance	800.00
General expenses	1500.00
AGM expenses including printing	700.00
Contact Leaflet (annual)	300.00
Postage (Membership & Publication Sales)	2500.00
Publicity & Recruitment	4000.00
Committee expenses	500.00
Exhibition expenses & development	500.00
Insurances	500.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>47400.00</b>
Archive purchase (see Notes to Accounts - 2)	2500.00
Virtual Museum scanning	2000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>51900.00</b>

Source of Funds	£
Subscriptions 860 members @ £37 (Int £49)	32000.00
Donations and Interest	1500.00
Publications sales surplus	4000.00
Gift Aid	6500.00
<b>Sub total of receipts</b>	<b>44000.00</b>

From Current Account	7900.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>51900.00</b>

### Note to the Accounts:

1. Our Adobe Creative Cloud software is now on an annual subscription for each user. This item also includes rights to use maps, photos etc in our publications.
2. The amount spent depends on what becomes available in any one year.

The report of the Independent Examiners will be available at the Annual General Meeting and confirmed in the minutes of that meeting.

# The L&YR Society

Registered Charity No.1098492

## How to get to the AGM...



**The 71st Annual General Meeting of The Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway Society will be held on Saturday 8th October 2022 at The Fielden Centre, Ewood Lane, Todmorden OL14 7DD, starting at 10.30am.**

### Our Purpose

The Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway Society is devoted to the dissemination of information about the Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway throughout its 75 years of existence and beyond. The Society has established an ongoing permanent record of its findings through its publications, which are widely available from the website, exhibition stands and specialist booksellers. It works closely with the National Railway Museum, Manchester Archives and other relevant bodies to ensure that original documents, photographs and other materials are professionally preserved and made accessible to all.



[www.lyrs.org.uk](http://www.lyrs.org.uk)

29 Lower Cribden Avenue  
Rawtenstall  
Rossendale  
BB4 6SW

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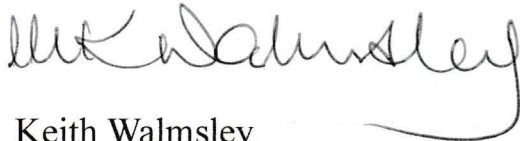
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
30 JUNE 2022

I have examined the financial records of the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Society for the year ended 30 June 2022 and can confirm that:

I) gross payments are £66623.62

II) gross receipts are £53024.44

These figures are included in the Treasurer's report for the Agenda, Report and Accounts for the 71st Annual General Meeting. In my opinion, the Accounts set out therein show a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Society as at 30th June 2022.



Keith Walmsley

Independent Examiner

29 September 2022

**THE L&YR SOCIETY**

England & Wales - Charity number 1098492

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# Accounts

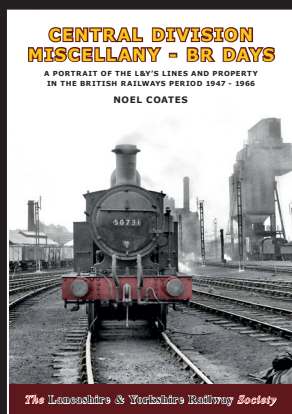
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# 70th Annual General Meeting and Members' Day, 9th October 2021

## Agenda, Report and Accounts



*Your* **L&YR** *Society*



# Agenda

**The 70th Annual General Meeting of The Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway Society will be held on Saturday 9th October 2021 at Embsay with Eastby Villiage Institute, Main Street, Embsay, Skipton, North Yorkshire BD23 6RE, starting at 10.00am (note the earlier starting time), 9-30am for tea and coffee. After the meeting there will be a lunch at The Elm Tree Inn at a cost of £10 per head and in the afternoon a trip on the Bolton Abbey Steam Railway. Full details can be found in Magazine 288.**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. To sign the attendance register and receive apologies                 | 5. Officers' reports (continued):                                    |
| 2. To remember those members who have died during the past twelve months | ix Publications Officer  |
| 3. To receive and approve the minutes of the 2019 AGM                    | x Questions for the Publications Officer                             |
| 4. To deal with matters arising  | xi Information Officer   |
| 5. Officers' reports:  | xii Questions for the Information Officer                            |
| i. Future of the Society Working Party (FSWP)                            | xiii Chairman  |
| ii Questions for the Chairman of the FSWP                                | xiv Questions for the Chairman                                       |
| iii Secretary  | 6. To approve the Officers' reports and the Annual Report & Accounts |
| iv Questions for the Secretary   | 7. To appoint Trustees for 2021/22                                   |
| v Treasurer  | 8. To appoint two Independent Examiners of the Society's accounts    |
| vi Questions for the Treasurer   | 9. To confirm the level of subscription for 2022                     |
| vii Membership Officer   | 10. Any other business   |
| viii Questions for the Membership Officer                                |  |

The following Trustees are offering themselves for re-election:

Ron Tinker (Life President), Graham Smith (Chairman), Noel Coates (Treasurer), Martin Nield (Secretary), Ken Carter (Membership Officer), Roger Mellor (Publications Officer), Chris Leach (Information Officer), Mike Fitton, David Carter, Robin Pennie, and Barry Steventon.

Any other nominations must be received by the Secretary no less than 21 days before the meeting and be compliant with clause 4.4 of our Constitution.



## Chairman's review

**“The quality of our publications remains, in my humble opinion, second to none...”**

**Graham Smith**

Well, it finally looks like the fog of Covid is lifting and there is a light at the end of the tunnel. The vaccination programme seems to be well on the way to doing its job and our freedoms are slowly being restored.

Another year has flown by and, as I remarked last year in my review, the day-to-day workings of our Society have been relatively unaffected by events that seem to have turned the rest of our lives completely upside down.

Our finances remain sound, as no doubt Noel Coates will be pointing out in his Treasurer's Report.

The quality of our publications remains, in my humble opinion, second to none. The Publications Team set themselves very high standards and we see that in the quality of the publications they produce. Believe me they are their own biggest critics! A big thank you needs to be said to Roger Mellor and the rest of the team for their outstanding work

this year. I must single out *Magazine* for a special mention here; not only has it increased in size to accommodate articles from members, but the quality of the articles sent in has been quite outstanding. So another Thank You, not only to Martin Nield, Gavin Clark and the rest of the team for continuing to do such a professional job, but to all of you who have taken the time and gone to the trouble of sending in an article.

Membership levels are also pretty steady at round about the 900 mark; always a good sign that we are doing something right!

Certainly, on the face of it everything in the garden appears to be rosy. We are getting back to normal. So why am I still full of apprehension for the future? Is this 'new normal' going to be the old normal or will it be different? I do not know.

Are we going to be able to have our Spring Meeting, our Lanky Day Out and our AGM just as we did pre-

Covid? Will members be able to mingle and meet up with friends at these events, something which I feel is so important for our Society? I do not know. Perhaps we will all have to book in on some sort of app that we have on our mobile phones – if, of course, we have one!

Will we be able to attend shows, galas and exhibitions with our exhibition stands? Or, more to the point, will there be any exhibitions, galas, and shows as we knew them for us to attend? Will our volunteers be happy to come back and be on the stands, putting themselves on the front line so to speak? I do not know.

I do not want to paint a bleak picture here because I am the eternal optimist, but I am apprehensive because I do not know the answers to any of the questions I have just posed.

I just hope that the light at the end of the tunnel I mentioned earlier is not an express train coming the other way.

## Secretary's report

**“We have not been able to meet in person, but hopefully can do so from this autumn onwards...”**

**Martin Nield**



Despite the restrictions on ordinary life over the past year due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Society has continued operating normally as far as possible: publications have been produced, new members have joined us and further archive material has been added to our collections. What we have not been able to do is meet in person, but hopefully we will be able to do so from this autumn onwards.

There was no Annual General Meeting in 2020; I contacted the Charity Commission and discovered that we were allowed not to have an AGM in the circumstances, provided existing Trustees remained in post and meaning that we could not change the level of subscriptions.

Four committee meetings and various other meetings were held on the video conferencing platform Zoom and it has proved very effective. We have taken

out a licence for this product which means we can continue to use it in future if required.

In the absence of our usual events, Noel Coates produced a Virtual Lanky Day Out which took the form of 'A Trip to Blackpool' starting at Bacup and running via Rochdale, Bury, Bolton, Preston and Lytham. It has been a great success and attracted more than 190 views, meaning many more

members were able to enjoy it than usually attend meetings.

Our plan for 2022 is to have our usual three meetings – a Spring Meeting, a Lanky Day Out and the AGM and Members' Day – with a 1922 theme to mark the centenary of the amalgamation of the L&YR with the LNWR. However we still need an Events Officer to organise these.

Our four Modelling Co-ordinators – Barry Steventon for Gauge 1; Peter Fitton for 7mm scale; Dave Carter for 4mm scale and Sam Kennion for 2mm scale – have continued their work throughout the year and we are very grateful to them for that.

**The title page and a slide from Noel's video presentation which is available through the Home Page of the website - [www.lyrs.org.uk](http://www.lyrs.org.uk)**

*The Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway Society*

### LANKY DAY OUT

A trip from Bacup to Blackpool

Written and narrated by  
NOEL COATES

Facit way it is then: Bacup 801 feet above sea level; Britannia, two miles uphill is 965ft, then it's downhill all the way...





## Membership Officer's report

**“As a Society we should rightly be proud of our efforts over recent years...”**

**Ken Carter**

Perhaps the best way to judge the success of our Society is through its ability to attract new members and retain existing ones. Increases in membership do not happen automatically, it is only through the efforts of all officers and members that we are able to recruit new people, and as a Society we should be rightly proud of our efforts over recent years especially during the Covid pandemic.

After recruitment, membership retention is our second highest aim and, as no doubt a small number of you will have found out, I do not let anyone leave the Society without asking why anyone would want to leave such a brilliant Society as ours. Unfortunately each year some have no choice and some are called to a higher Society and we are sad for their going, so each year we are required to recruit more new members so we can progress and expand the Society which

will enable us to produce even more and better publications and services.

For the last 27 years I have been proud to be the Membership Officer and my enthusiasm for the position has not diminished. In fact I would say it has increased over the years as we have increased our membership: it is exciting and rewarding not only to me, but to all those who help with recruitment. Due to Covid we have not been able to attend shows for the past two years, but we have tried to make potential members aware of our existence through our successful advertising and marketing.

We have a wonderful story to tell when talking to prospective new members. Our look, our publications, our friendliness, our 71 years of researching the L&YR and our increasing membership tells everyone what we have achieved and that they

are joining a progressive and great Society. I think you will agree with me that in 2020 we have built on past achievements and I look forward with enthusiasm to a future of continued success and a return to further increases in membership.

I am pleased to report that although there has been a very slight decrease in membership, we ended the membership year in a good position which will give us a springboard to move forward once the Covid situation improves.

Membership Year	to Dec 2020
Ordinary members	860
Corporate members	31
Honorary members	14
<b>Total</b>	<b>905</b>



## Publications Officer's report

**“Magazine continues to be an outstanding success story and has grown to 36 pages...”**

**Roger Mellor**

This has been a very frustrating year in many ways, but with significant highlights.

An elderly member of my family became ill in November of last year, was infected with Covid whilst in hospital, and is now back home with an extensive care package. This meant the time I could devote to publications was very limited over a four month period. At the same time, Gavin Clark had to temporarily stand down from *Magazine* duty due to extreme day job pressure and I have taken back the layout and typesetting work until he can return later this year.

This has meant work has stopped on the *L&YR Goods Workings* book for the time being and it has been replaced in the programme by a 192 page hardback, *Central Division Miscellany - BR Days* which Noel had prepared some time ago and he and I had been working on the layouts - so it was a quick win that got a book to members at short notice.

Work will resume on *L&YR Goods Workings* as soon as possible. Work is continuing on other titles with Chris Littleworth (Manchester Victoria Signalling combined with an updated version of Tom Wray's history of the station) and Peter Taylor (LYR Arc Roofed Carriage Stock diagrams) both making good progress on their projects.

Also complete and ready for publication next year is a booklet on the LYR / LNWR Amagamation which took place in 1922, and this will be free to members.

*Magazine* continues to be an outstanding success story. I talked in my last report about increasing the page count from 24 to 28, and recent issues have grown again to 36 pages of high quality articles such as Peter Wood's authoritative series on Taylors Bridge and Gauxholme Viaduct and Howard Bolton's splendid recollections of Horwich in the 1970s. Thanks to them and all our contributors and authors - keep 'em coming!

It was with great sadness that we learned of the sudden and unexpected death of our friend and colleague Nigel Thornley who was an unsung hero of the Society - not well known to members but very much appreciated by those of us who worked with him. Two immediate changes have had to be made; Martin Nield has taken over keeping the Events page of the website updated, and we have had to rent secure storage space for our publications stock and exhibition stands.

We now have a unit in Leeds near to Sales Officer, Barry Steventon's house and by the time you read this we expect to have moved all our stock from Nigel's factory. Our new unit will cost us around £2000 per annum - our stock had been stored free of charge by Nigel for around twenty years - not to mention the A3 scanner which I use for our publications - it cost over £2000 and was donated by Nigel.

Another frustration has been lack of progress on making the available

material accessible through the Virtual Museum. Our appointed website builder and his wife were blessed with a new daughter late last year but she has had health problems involving Great Ormond Street Hospital and his time has understandably been taken up with looking after his family.

We are working on a short term solution which Chris Leach and I have reported on in *Magazine*, and we hope to have up and running soon. Andrew Wright has done a magnificent job in preparing material for uploading - we just need a platform to put it on.

Finally, my usual thanks to all the publications team, ten regulars at the last count - they do a great job and we are lucky to have such talented people in the Society.

**Above right: Roger Markland's artistic skills have graced Magazine on three occasions with prints being available to members.**

**Right: Taylors Bridge, Todmorden, in the 1960s.**



## Information Officer's report

**“The enquiry service has still been very active, with requests for information, drawings and photos...”**

**Chris Leach**

The Information Group has again been constrained in most of its potential activity thanks to the lockdowns of the coronavirus pandemic which were exacerbated by other issues affecting a variety of group members and factors external to the Society. However, the enquiry service has still been very active, with more than 60 requests for information, drawings and photos. The following are just a few examples of some of the many enquiries that have come in over the last year:

Request for photos from David Joy of the line between Rochdale and Summit tunnel; L&YR clocks; Northorpe North Road station; Pug drawings; Meltham branch photos for member whose garden ends at the Butternab tunnel entrance; Butler Street goods station, Preston; Goods traffic on the Middleton Branch; 1960's track diagram for St Anne's; Information on the Middleton Branch; Details about Horwich station; Emigrant trains on the L&Y; 0-8-2 banking engine drawings; 1875 accident at Middleton; Drawings for 0-6-0s and LBL carriages; Loco steam pressure gauges on the L&Y;



Several enquiries from Colin Irwin (Steamchasers); Closure dates of goods facilities on ex-L&Y stations; Rail chairs at Horwich works; Photos of the 0-8-0 compound coal engines; Shed allocations at Bacup and Wakefield in LMS days; Photos of Poulton No 3 box and Poulton station frontage; Holmfirth goods shed interior photos; L&Y locos in the late 1920's; Thomas Brassey and the L&Y; Ewood goods shed; Several family history enquiries; Heckmondwike cutting ownership; Netherton station details; Manchester Victoria buildings layout; 2-4-2T GA drawings; Manchester & Leeds Railway "logo" for a TV drama programme on the Brontes; Brinscall station photos; L&Y loco classes around Leeds Huddersfield and Bradford; Agecroft loco shed; Silkstone branch

**Society drawings, Manchester Archives' drawings, photographic collection and other archives**

The cataloguing group had been making good progress on the non-drawing printed documentary archives

in our collections at the Manchester Archives, but work on this stopped after the lockdown came into force.

Unfortunately, the major project to digitise the great majority of our drawings collection, together with many of the L&YR drawings in the Manchester Archives own collection, has made no further progress. Attempts to push forward on this have been made more difficult because of the pandemic lockdown, but we hope to report some action soon..

**Virtual Museum of the Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway - local archive research project**

Project Officer Robin Pennie, assistant John Bulmer and their team have again been constrained by pandemic lockdown, coupled with several other issues outside the control of the Society. Hopefully these constraints will have been reduced by the date of the AGM..



## Treasurer's report

**“Taken all in all, with membership stable, our income remains very healthy indeed...”**

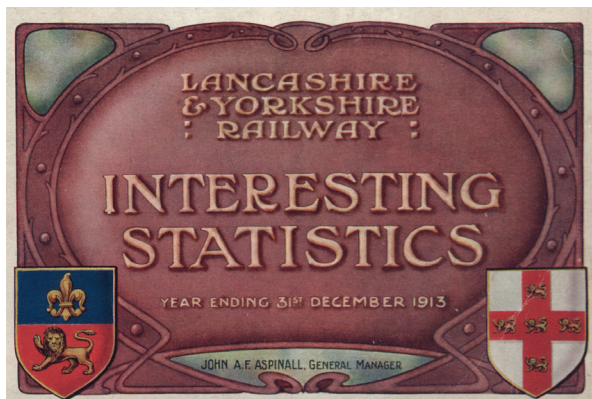
### Noel Coates

A very interesting year for the finances of the Society; I had expected us to receive less than last year because sales of our publications would be affected by the lack of exhibitions to put ourselves in front of the public but, such is the power of the internet, sales of our wares have continued fairly well – though it's fair to say that certain items no longer attract buyers because the potential purchaser hasn't a chance to assess the quality of the book, something which exhibitions do allow (nor is there personal persuasion!). If one subtracts the bequest received last year from the final income figure then it matches this year's total figure of £48,480. However, one then has to consider the £3000+ amount received from members taking up the offer to buy the *Liverpool-Manchester Atlas* at a discount. Taken all in all, and with membership remaining about the same, our income remains very healthy indeed.

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## Accounts: 1 July 2020 - 30 June 2021

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Item	£
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**The front cover of a booklet from the Society Collection published at the end of 1913 which gives a host of statistical information about the railway in what proved to be the final year of normal operation before the Great War.**

### PAYMENTS 2020/2021

Item	£
<b>Officers' operational expenses</b>	
Secretary	Nil
Membership Officer	510.76
Treasurer	6.90
Publication Sales Officer	1233.37
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>1751.03</b>

### General expenses

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Magazine 285 - print	1770.00
Magazine 286 - print	1711.00
Magazine 287 - print	1495.00
LYR Focus 84 - print	1740.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>8336.00</b>

### Postage, labels & equipment

Stationery etc	165.50
Travel & delivery	178.05
Miscellaneous licences (see Notes to Accounts - 1)	120.00
Publication pack & postage - Magazine 284 - 287	5708.63
Publications pack & postage - LYR Focus 84	1419.40
Other postage	27.60
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>7619.18</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>37238.49</b>

### Note to the Accounts:

- Miscellaneous licences refer to the rights to use maps, photos etc in our publications.
  - The amount spent depends on what becomes available in any one year.
  - Includes the policy decision to use reserves to fund parts of the Virtual Museum project.
- The report of the Independent Examiners will be available at the Annual General Meeting and confirmed in the minutes of that meeting.

### ASSETS & LIABILITIES 2020/2021

Assets	£
Cash in Deposit Account	30106.92
Cash in Current Account	22265.32
Cash in PayPal Account	47.49
Funds with Treasurer	29.68
Funds with Editor	3933.45
<b>Cash Total</b>	<b>56382.86</b>

### Stock & Equipment

Stock of publications, books, binders, CDs etc. - trade value	6500.00
Photo scanners for general use (to be written off over 3 years)	68.87

### Liabilities

Items not yet drawn on	Nil
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## Budget: 1 July 2021 - 30 June 2022

### BUDGET & FUNDING 2021/2022

Budget	£
Print 4 Magazines	6000.00
Print 2 Journals	3700.00
Print BR Miscellany	7000.00
Replenish publications	3000.00
Publication store rental	2000.00
Postage of Magazines	5000.00
Postage of Journals & books	5000.00
PayPal, Shopify & Square charges	800.00
Website maintenance	800.00
General expenses	1500.00
AGM expenses including printing	700.00
Contact Leaflet (annual)	300.00
Postage (Membership & Publication Sales)	2200.00
Publicity & Recruitment	3500.00
Committee expenses	500.00
Exhibition expenses & development	500.00
Insurances	500.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>43000.00</b>
Archive purchase (see Notes to Accounts - 2)	4000.00
Virtual Museum scanning (see Notes to Accounts - 3)	3000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>50000.00</b>

### Source of Funds

Subscriptions 860 members @ £36 (Int £47)	31000.00
Donations and Interest	1000.00
Publications sales surplus	4000.00
Gift Aid	6000.00
<b>Sub total of receipts</b>	<b>42000.00</b>
From Current Account	8000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>50000.00</b>

# The L&YR Society

Registered Charity No.1098492

## How to get to the AGM...



The 70th Annual General Meeting of The Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway Society will be held on Saturday 9th October 2021 at Embsay with Eastby Village Institute, Main Street, Embsay, Skipton, North Yorkshire BD23 6RE, starting at 10.00am.



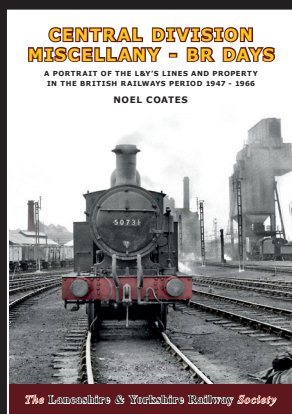
[www.lyrs.org.uk](http://www.lyrs.org.uk)  
e: [membership@lyrs.org.uk](mailto:membership@lyrs.org.uk)

# 70th Annual General Meeting and Members' Day, 9th October 2021

## Agenda, Report and Accounts



*Your* **L&YR** *Society*



Preservation News

Archives

## Agenda

**The 70th Annual General Meeting of The Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway Society will be held on Saturday 9th October 2021 at Embsay with Eastby Villiage Institute, Main Street, Embsay, Skipton, North Yorkshire BD23 6RE, starting at 10.00am (note the earlier starting time), 9-30am for tea and coffee. After the meeting there will be a lunch at The Elm Tree Inn at a cost of £10 per head and in the afternoon a trip on the Bolton Abbey Steam Railway. Full details can be found in Magazine 288.**

1. To sign the attendance register and receive apologies
2. To remember those members who have died during the past twelve months
3. To receive and approve the minutes of the 2019 AGM
4. To deal with matters arising
5. Officers' reports:
  - i. Future of the Society Working Party (FSWP)
  - ii. Questions for the Chairman of the FSWP
  - iii. Secretary
  - iv. Questions for the Secretary
  - v. Treasurer
  - vi. Questions for the Treasurer
  - vii. Membership Officer
  - viii. Questions for the Membership Officer
5. Officers' reports (continued):
  - ix. Publications Officer
  - x. Questions for the Publications Officer
  - xi. Information Officer
  - xii. Questions for the Information Officer
  - xiii. Chairman
  - xiv. Questions for the Chairman
6. To approve the Officers' reports and the Annual Report & Accounts
7. To appoint Trustees for 2021/22
8. To appoint two Independent Examiners of the Society's accounts
9. To confirm the level of subscription for 2022
10. Any other business

The following Trustees are offering themselves for re-election:

Ron Tinker (Life President), Graham Smith (Chairman), Noel Coates (Treasurer), Martin Nield (Secretary), Ken Carter (Membership Officer), Roger Mellor (Publications Officer), Chris Leach (Information Officer), Mike Fitton, David Carter, Robin Pennie, and Barry Steventon.

Any other nominations must be received by the Secretary no less than 21 days before the meeting and be compliant with clause 4.4 of our Constitution.



## Chairman's review

**“The quality of our publications remains, in my humble opinion, second to none...”**

**Graham Smith**

Well, it finally looks like the fog of Covid is lifting and there is a light at the end of the tunnel. The vaccination programme seems to be well on the way to doing its job and our freedoms are slowly being restored.

Another year has flown by and, as I remarked last year in my review, the day-to-day workings of our Society have been relatively unaffected by events that seem to have turned the rest of our lives completely upside down.

Our finances remain sound, as no doubt Noel Coates will be pointing out in his Treasurer's Report.

The quality of our publications remains, in my humble opinion, second to none. The Publications Team set themselves very high standards and we see that in the quality of the publications they produce. Believe me they are their own biggest critics! A big thank you needs to be said to Roger Mellor and the rest of the team for their outstanding work

this year. I must single out *Magazine* for a special mention here; not only has it increased in size to accommodate articles from members, but the quality of the articles sent in has been quite outstanding. So another Thank You, not only to Martin Nield, Gavin Clark and the rest of the team for continuing to do such a professional job, but to all of you who have taken the time and gone to the trouble of sending in an article.

Membership levels are also pretty steady at round about the 900 mark; always a good sign that we are doing something right!

Certainly, on the face of it everything in the garden appears to be rosy. We are getting back to normal. So why am I still full of apprehension for the future? Is this 'new normal' going to be the old normal or will it be different? I do not know.

Are we going to be able to have our Spring Meeting, our Lanky Day Out and our AGM just as we did pre-

Covid? Will members be able to mingle and meet up with friends at these events, something which I feel is so important for our Society? I do not know. Perhaps we will all have to book in on some sort of app that we have on our mobile phones – if, of course, we have one!

Will we be able to attend shows, galas and exhibitions with our exhibition stands? Or, more to the point, will there be any exhibitions, galas, and shows as we knew them for us to attend? Will our volunteers be happy to come back and be on the stands, putting themselves on the front line so to speak? I do not know.

I do not want to paint a bleak picture here because I am the eternal optimist, but I am apprehensive because I do not know the answers to any of the questions I have just posed.

I just hope that the light at the end of the tunnel I mentioned earlier is not an express train coming the other way.



## Secretary's report

**“We have not been able to meet in person, but hopefully can do so from this autumn onwards...”**

**Martin Nield**

Despite the restrictions on ordinary life over the past year due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Society has continued operating normally as far as possible: publications have been produced, new members have joined us and further archive material has been added to our collections. What we have not been able to do is meet in person, but hopefully we will be able to do so from this autumn onwards.

There was no Annual General Meeting in 2020; I contacted the Charity Commission and discovered that we were allowed not to have an AGM in the circumstances, provided existing Trustees remained in post and meaning that we could not change the level of subscriptions.

Four committee meetings and various other meetings were held on the video conferencing platform Zoom and it has proved very effective. We have taken

out a licence for this product which means we can continue to use it in future if required.

In the absence of our usual events, Noel Coates produced a Virtual Lanky Day Out which took the form of 'A Trip to Blackpool' starting at Bacup and running via Rochdale, Bury, Bolton, Preston and Lytham. It has been a great success and attracted more than 190 views, meaning many more

members were able to enjoy it than usually attend meetings.

Our plan for 2022 is to have our usual three meetings – a Spring Meeting, a Lanky Day Out and the AGM and Members' Day – with a 1922 theme to mark the centenary of the amalgamation of the L&YR with the LNWR. However we still need an Events Officer to organise these.

Our four Modelling Co-ordinators – Barry Steventon for Gauge 1; Peter Fitton for 7mm scale; Dave Carter for 4mm scale and Sam Kennion for 2mm scale – have continued their work throughout the year and we are very grateful to them for that.

**The title page and a slide from Noel's video presentation which is available through the Home Page of the website - [www.lyrs.org.uk](http://www.lyrs.org.uk)**

*The Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway Society*

### LANKY DAY OUT

A trip from Bacup to Blackpool

Written and narrated by  
NOEL COATES

Facit way it is then: Bacup 801 feet above sea level; Britannia, two miles uphill is 965ft, then it's downhill all the way...





## Membership Officer's report

**“As a Society we should rightly be proud of our efforts over recent years...”**

**Ken Carter**

Perhaps the best way to judge the success of our Society is through its ability to attract new members and retain existing ones. Increases in membership do not happen automatically, it is only through the efforts of all officers and members that we are able to recruit new people, and as a Society we should be rightly proud of our efforts over recent years especially during the Covid pandemic.

After recruitment, membership retention is our second highest aim and, as no doubt a small number of you will have found out, I do not let anyone leave the Society without asking why anyone would want to leave such a brilliant Society as ours. Unfortunately each year some have no choice and some are called to a higher Society and we are sad for their going, so each year we are required to recruit more new members so we can progress and expand the Society which

will enable us to produce even more and better publications and services.

For the last 27 years I have been proud to be the Membership Officer and my enthusiasm for the position has not diminished. In fact I would say it has increased over the years as we have increased our membership: it is exciting and rewarding not only to me, but to all those who help with recruitment. Due to Covid we have not been able to attend shows for the past two years, but we have tried to make potential members aware of our existence through our successful advertising and marketing.

We have a wonderful story to tell when talking to prospective new members. Our look, our publications, our friendliness, our 71 years of researching the L&YR and our increasing membership tells everyone what we have achieved and that they

are joining a progressive and great Society. I think you will agree with me that in 2020 we have built on past achievements and I look forward with enthusiasm to a future of continued success and a return to further increases in membership.

I am pleased to report that although there has been a very slight decrease in membership, we ended the membership year in a good position which will give us a springboard to move forward once the Covid situation improves.

Membership Year	to Dec 2020
Ordinary members	860
Corporate members	31
Honorary members	14
<b>Total</b>	<b>905</b>



## Publications Officer's report

**“Magazine continues to be an outstanding success story and has grown to 36 pages...”**

**Roger Mellor**

This has been a very frustrating year in many ways, but with significant highlights.

An elderly member of my family became ill in November of last year, was infected with Covid whilst in hospital, and is now back home with an extensive care package. This meant the time I could devote to publications was very limited over a four month period. At the same time, Gavin Clark had to temporarily stand down from *Magazine* duty due to extreme day job pressure and I have taken back the layout and typesetting work until he can return later this year.

This has meant work has stopped on the *L&YR Goods Workings* book for the time being and it has been replaced in the programme by a 192 page hardback, *Central Division Miscellany - BR Days* which Noel had prepared some time ago and he and I had been working on the layouts - so it was a quick win that got a book to members at short notice.

Work will resume on *L&YR Goods Workings* as soon as possible. Work is continuing on other titles with Chris Littleworth (Manchester Victoria Signalling combined with an updated version of Tom Wray's history of the station) and Peter Taylor (LYR Arc Roofed Carriage Stock diagrams) both making good progress on their projects.

Also complete and ready for publication next year is a booklet on the LYR / LNWR Amagamation which took place in 1922, and this will be free to members.

*Magazine* continues to be an outstanding success story. I talked in my last report about increasing the page count from 24 to 28, and recent issues have grown again to 36 pages of high quality articles such as Peter Wood's authoritative series on Taylors Bridge and Gauxholme Viaduct and Howard Bolton's splendid recollections of Horwich in the 1970s. Thanks to them and all our contributors and authors - keep 'em coming!

It was with great sadness that we learned of the sudden and unexpected death of our friend and colleague Nigel Thornley who was an unsung hero of the Society - not well known to members but very much appreciated by those of us who worked with him. Two immediate changes have had to be made; Martin Nield has taken over keeping the Events page of the website updated, and we have had to rent secure storage space for our publications stock and exhibition stands.

We now have a unit in Leeds near to Sales Officer, Barry Steventon's house and by the time you read this we expect to have moved all our stock from Nigel's factory. Our new unit will cost us around £2000 per annum - our stock had been stored free of charge by Nigel for around twenty years - not to mention the A3 scanner which I use for our publications - it cost over £2000 and was donated by Nigel.

Another frustration has been lack of progress on making the available

material accessible through the Virtual Museum. Our appointed website builder and his wife were blessed with a new daughter late last year but she has had health problems involving Great Ormond Street Hospital and his time has understandably been taken up with looking after his family.

We are working on a short term solution which Chris Leach and I have reported on in *Magazine*, and we hope to have up and running soon. Andrew Wright has done a magnificent job in preparing material for uploading - we just need a platform to put it on.

Finally, my usual thanks to all the publications team, ten regulars at the last count - they do a great job and we are lucky to have such talented people in the Society.

**Above right: Roger Markland's artistic skills have graced Magazine on three occasions with prints being available to members.**

**Right: Taylors Bridge, Todmorden, in the 1960s.**



## Information Officer's report

**“The enquiry service has still been very active, with requests for information, drawings and photos...”**

**Chris Leach**

The Information Group has again been constrained in most of its potential activity thanks to the lockdowns of the coronavirus pandemic which were exacerbated by other issues affecting a variety of group members and factors external to the Society. However, the enquiry service has still been very active, with more than 60 requests for information, drawings and photos. The following are just a few examples of some of the many enquiries that have come in over the last year:

Request for photos from David Joy of the line between Rochdale and Summit tunnel; L&YR clocks; Northorpe North Road station; Pug drawings; Meltham branch photos for member whose garden ends at the Butternab tunnel entrance; Butler Street goods station, Preston; Goods traffic on the Middleton Branch; 1960's track diagram for St Anne's; Information on the Middleton Branch; Details about Horwich station; Emigrant trains on the L&Y; 0-8-2 banking engine drawings; 1875 accident at Middleton; Drawings for 0-6-0s and LBL carriages; Loco steam pressure gauges on the L&Y;



Several enquiries from Colin Irwin (Steamchasers); Closure dates of goods facilities on ex-L&Y stations; Rail chairs at Horwich works; Photos of the 0-8-0 compound coal engines; Shed allocations at Bacup and Wakefield in LMS days; Photos of Poulton No 3 box and Poulton station frontage; Holmfirth goods shed interior photos; L&Y locos in the late 1920's; Thomas Brassey and the L&Y; Ewood goods shed; Several family history enquiries; Heckmondwike cutting ownership; Netherton station details; Manchester Victoria buildings layout; 2-4-2T GA drawings; Manchester & Leeds Railway "logo" for a TV drama programme on the Brontes; Brinscall station photos; L&Y loco classes around Leeds Huddersfield and Bradford; Agecroft loco shed; Silkstone branch

**Society drawings, Manchester Archives' drawings, photographic collection and other archives**

The cataloguing group had been making good progress on the non-drawing printed documentary archives

in our collections at the Manchester Archives, but work on this stopped after the lockdown came into force.

Unfortunately, the major project to digitise the great majority of our drawings collection, together with many of the L&YR drawings in the Manchester Archives own collection, has made no further progress. Attempts to push forward on this have been made more difficult because of the pandemic lockdown, but we hope to report some action soon..

**Virtual Museum of the Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway - local archive research project**  
Project Officer Robin Pennie, assistant John Bulmer and their team have again been constrained by pandemic lockdown, coupled with several other issues outside the control of the Society. Hopefully these constraints will have been reduced by the date of the AGM..



## Treasurer's report

**“Taken all in all, with membership stable, our income remains very healthy indeed...”**

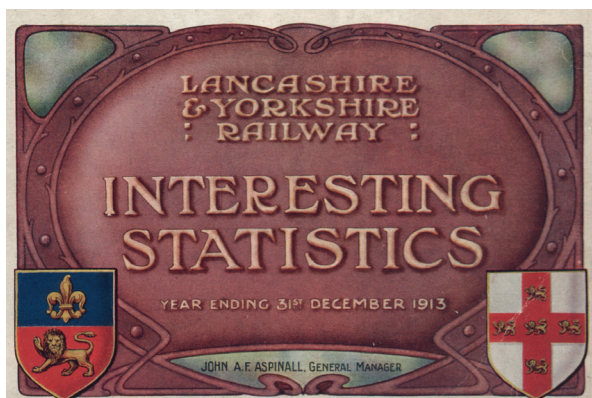
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Magazine 286 - print	1711.00
Magazine 287 - print	1495.00
LYR Focus 84 - print	1740.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>8336.00</b>

### Postage, labels & equipment

Stationery etc	165.50
Travel & delivery	178.05
Miscellaneous licences (see Notes to Accounts - 1)	120.00
Publication pack & postage - Magazine 284 - 287	5708.63
Publications pack & postage - LYR Focus 84	1419.40
Other postage	27.60
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>7619.18</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>37238.49</b>

### Note to the Accounts:

- Miscellaneous licences refer to the rights to use maps, photos etc in our publications.
  - The amount spent depends on what becomes available in any one year.
  - Includes the policy decision to use reserves to fund parts of the Virtual Museum project.
- The report of the Independent Examiners will be available at the Annual General Meeting and confirmed in the minutes of that meeting.

### ASSETS & LIABILITIES 2020/2021

Assets	£
Cash in Deposit Account	30106.92
Cash in Current Account	22265.32
Cash in PayPal Account	47.49
Funds with Treasurer	29.68
Funds with Editor	3933.45
<b>Cash Total</b>	<b>56382.86</b>

### Stock & Equipment

Stock of publications, books, binders, CDs etc. - trade value	6500.00
Photo scanners for general use (to be written off over 3 years)	68.87

### Liabilities

Items not yet drawn on	Nil
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## Budget: 1 July 2021 - 30 June 2022

### BUDGET & FUNDING 2021/2022

Budget	£
Print 4 Magazines	6000.00
Print 2 Journals	3700.00
Print BR Miscellany	7000.00
Replenish publications	3000.00
Publication store rental	2000.00
Postage of Magazines	5000.00
Postage of Journals & books	5000.00
PayPal, Shopify & Square charges	800.00
Website maintenance	800.00
General expenses	1500.00
AGM expenses including printing	700.00
Contact Leaflet (annual)	300.00
Postage (Membership & Publication Sales)	2200.00
Publicity & Recruitment	3500.00
Committee expenses	500.00
Exhibition expenses & development	500.00
Insurances	500.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>43000.00</b>
Archive purchase (see Notes to Accounts - 2)	4000.00
Virtual Museum scanning (see Notes to Accounts - 3)	3000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>50000.00</b>

### Source of Funds

Subscriptions 860 members @ £36 (Int £47)	31000.00
Donations and Interest	1000.00
Publications sales surplus	4000.00
Gift Aid	6000.00
<b>Sub total of receipts</b>	<b>42000.00</b>
From Current Account	8000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>50000.00</b>

# The L&YR Society

Registered Charity No.1098492

## How to get to the AGM...



The 70th Annual General Meeting of The Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway Society will be held on Saturday 9th October 2021 at Embsay with Eastby Village Institute, Main Street, Embsay, Skipton, North Yorkshire BD23 6RE, starting at 10.00am.



[www.lyrs.org.uk](http://www.lyrs.org.uk)  
e: [membership@lyrs.org.uk](mailto:membership@lyrs.org.uk)

29 Lower Cribden Avenue  
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Rossendale  
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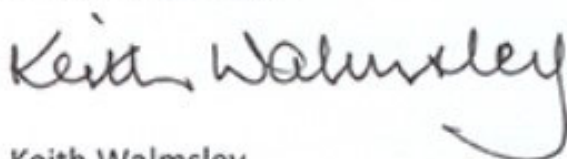
**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE  
2021**

I have examined the financial records of the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Society for the year ended 30 June 2021 and can confirm that:

I) gross payments are £37,238.49

II) gross receipts are £48,480.06

These figures are included in the Treasurer's report for the Agenda, Report and Accounts for the 70th Annual General Meeting. In my opinion, the Accounts set out therein show a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Society as at 30th June 2021.



Keith Walmsley

Independent Examiner

21 September 2021