

WEST LANCASHIRE LIGHT RAILWAY NEWS

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edited by Phil Pacey

Peter Anthony Young 1953-2011

Peter was a transport enthusiast from an early age, being interested in all aspects of transport, especially railways and buses. In 1967 he was one of the six schoolboys who had the idea of building their own narrow gauge railway, which was to become the West Lancashire Light Railway.. He continued to be involved for several years before leaving to move out of the area to pursue his career in the aviation industry.

In 1992, on the occasion of the West Lanc's 25th anniversary, he rejoined, and became the Publicity Officer and then Honorary Treasurer, a post he held for several years until ill health led to his resignation in early 2010. While we knew that he was fighting a courageous battle against cancer, he continued to visit the Railway; his death came suddenly and took us by surprise.

Peter was very involved in many projects at the Railway, especially the restoration of the 'Joffre' locomotive. He demonstrated exceptional skill and patience in designing and applying lining out to *Jonathan* and *Irish Mail*. He died just a few days before the new boiler for the 'Joffre' arrived on site; he would love to have seen it, and how we wish that he could have lived long enough to undertake the lining out on the finished loco.

Peter was a kind, thoughtful, and considerate companion with a plentiful supply of common sense and a ready sense of humour. He will be constantly remembered, at least until *Irish Mail* has to be repainted, and will be greatly missed by his friends at Hesketh Bank.

The 'Joffre'

The new boiler for the 'Joffre' finally arrived on Monday May 21st. There is still a lot of work to do, but the aim is to have the loco running towards the end of the season, maybe in time for the Autumn Gala.

Forthcoming events at the Railway

Following last year's trial run, attended by a small but appreciative number of visitors, we will be holding a second **Diesel Freight Day** on *Saturday* 25th June. As last year there will be no steam and no passenger trains. Instead members, visitors, and photographers will have a rare opportunity to see many of our large fleet of industrial diesel locos in action, with visitors being asked to pay for admission to the site rather than buying tickets to ride. . Locos on show will certainly include the 'Bread Bin' which made an appearance in unfinished state last year and which has only recently received a final coat of paint.

On Sundays 10th July and 17th July the West Lancs Light Railway will be participating in '**Lancashire Transport Week**', an event promoted by the Lancashire & Blackpool Tourist Board and led by the British Commercial Vehicles Museum at Leyland. Rolling stock with Lancashire connections will be on show in the viewing area, and visitors will be offered a leaflet on *Narrow Gauge Railways in Lancashire*. For more information about 'Lancashire Transport Week' visit

www.lancashiretransportweek.com/index.html

Visiting the West Lancs for the **Gala weekend** on 13th and 14th August will be new build Hunslets *Statfold* and *Jack Lane* from Statfold Barn. With Irish Mail sure to be in steam, this will be a mini-Hunslet-fest.