

THE RAG

THE RAILWAY ACTION GROUP

SEPTEMBER 2014



Come and join in....your help is needed:

Sat 27 September from 9.15 am Ballast shifting at the station.

Sat 4 October 9.30 am Hear an update in the Memo Hall or head down to the station to get hands on.

NEWS

What a difference a day makes! Last Saturday many parents, teachers and friends gathered at the station and got stuck in to the revamp. Enthusiasm won the day, as people dug, scrubbed, hauled, weeded and strimmed the station back to life. An enormous thank you to all who worked so hard and so cheerfully, to achieve so much.

Hoyland Down Station is open for business again and 48 children popped down during their break to express their interest in signing up for the railway as a hobby.

Phase 1 - Through The Tunnel....

As you may recall, the Railway Trust has identified that £20,000 is needed to repair the track from the station through the tunnel for the safe running of trains. This figure has already been greatly reduced by practical assistance and donations from parents and friends. Huge thanks go to Mr Shardlow who will be project managing the track renovation with the support of the School, the Trust, Mrs Larkins, Mr Ingram and Mr Lloyd. This band of parents are donating time, expertise and big machines to get the construction work started.

Combined with these practical contributions, the overwhelming generosity of parents and friends has already reduced our fundraising target to **£7900**. This is truly remarkable in such a short period of time and enormous thanks go to all those who have already donated. Mrs Inchbald and Mrs Horn have kindly volunteered to spearhead the fundraising and have some fantastic ideas to share with you at the next RAG meeting.

**Date for your diary - Saturday 4 October 9.30 am
Grab your shovels and brushes!**

The next meeting of the Railway Action Group is on **Saturday 4 October** at **9.30 am** in the Memo Hall. Please do come and join us for an update on the project so far and to share ideas about fundraising. Then forget the gym ... come and get stuck into 15 tons of ballast for repairing the track as far as the tunnel. If that seems a little too much like hard work plenty of painting awaits instead. Bring a paint brush or shovel as you prefer!



Shift it!

Come and flex your muscles on Sat 27 Sept and/or Sat 4 Oct at the station. 15 tons of ballast to haul along the track!

See the trains

- ❖ School Open Day 10 and 11 October.
- ❖ Bonfire Night Party 7 November.

Hobbies

Saturday morning Railway Hobby will resume by the spring, or possibly as early as next term, with Mrs Carmichael and Pete Smith.

Donate

Donate now online at

www.dlrtrust.btck.co.uk/Campaign

Or leave a cheque made payable to The Downs Light Railway Trust at the Headmaster's office.

More Information

www.dlrtrust.btck.co.uk

The Downs Light Railway Trust
Registered Charity No. 513882

Nick Dodson Railway Trustee: "Just a quick message to say how impressed I was with today's efforts at The Downs. Couldn't quite believe it when I arrived! I am sure that I speak on behalf of all the Trustees when I say how much we appreciate everyone's input. Once again many thanks for all your efforts."

WHAT CAN YOU GIVE?

Time and effort on Saturday mornings

- A couple of hours to move ballast on Sat 27 Sept or Sat 4 Oct
- A couple of hours to paint the station on Sat 4 Oct

Equipment

- The use of a digger/excavator/dumper truck

Materials

- Ballast, Concrete and Paving Slabs

Money

No amount is too small and all donations are gratefully received.

You can donate now online at www.dlrtrust.btck.co.uk/Campaign

- £2 will buy a track screw and rail clip
- £5 will buy a sleeper
- £20 will buy a ton of ballast
- £50 will buy enough coal to power an engine for a year
- £100 will buy enough geotextile material to lay under 200 yds of ballast
- £250 will buy two rails to form one section of track
- £1500 will buy a replacement point

CONTACTS

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