



# THE WEST LANC LETTER

The Newsletter of the West Lancashire Light Railway



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## WELCOME to West Lancs Letter No.31 !



The first Sunday in October saw the second gala of the year, our Working Engines day. Two steam locos and the Hudswell-Clarke mines diesel shared the passenger train duties.



The gala is all about our collection of non-steam engines. Here James pilots Clywd, our very first locomotive, acquired way back in 1968 from Burscough Brick and Tile Ltd. and still going strong.



Some behind-the-scenes action, with John ensuring the points move freely and Simon discovering the joys of starting the Breadbin in a confined space.



Me and my engine...



It's not just steam engines that can generate atmosphere!

[More Working Engines photos](#)



An addition to the wagon fleet. Joseph (with a little help from friends and family) unloads his newly-acquired stone wagon, originally used at Scout Moor quarry.



Quite why restoring a Lister provokes so much pleasure is unclear, probably a joke at the photographer's expense...



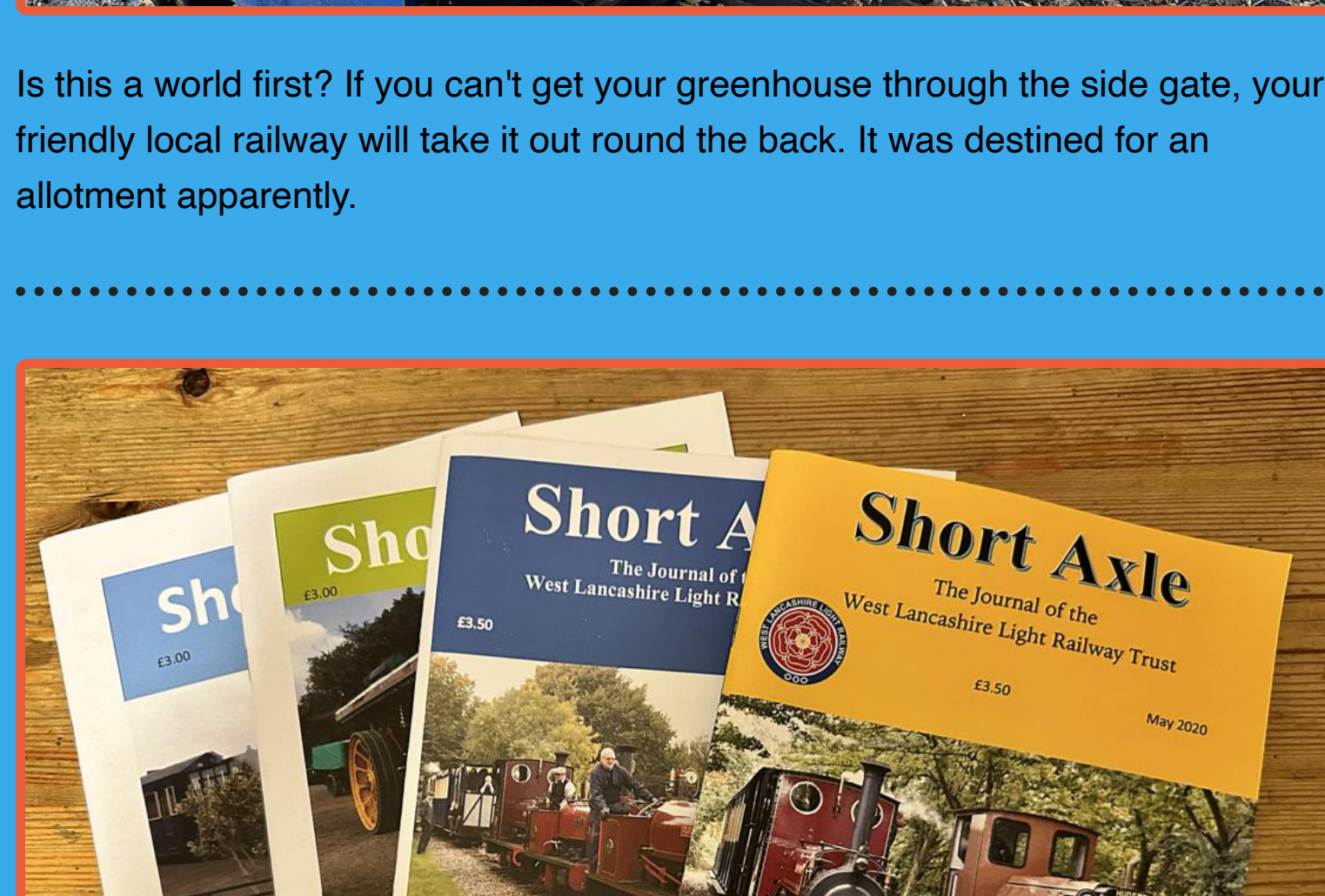
It's not just school groups who visit us (and that's Anfield Rd school again at the top of the page). Members of Beconsall USA came to see us recently, and enjoyed a tour of the workshops as well as rides on the train.



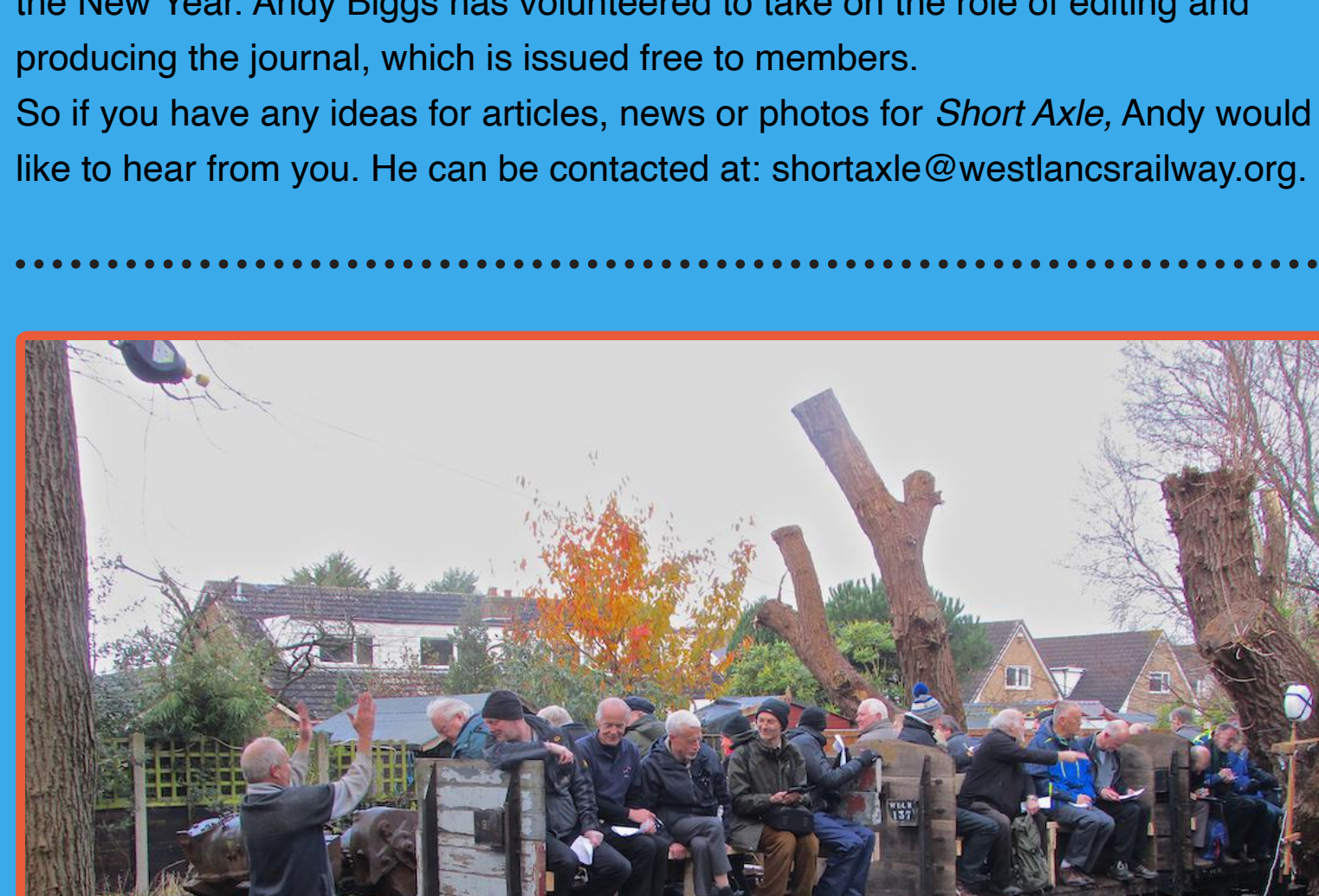
More visitors, this time it was the Leyland and District Amateur Radio club who brought transmitters, receivers and some impressively big aerials, for a successful day communicating with the outside world.



Is this a world first? If you can't get your greenhouse through the side gate, your friendly local railway will take it out round the back. It was destined for an allotment apparently.

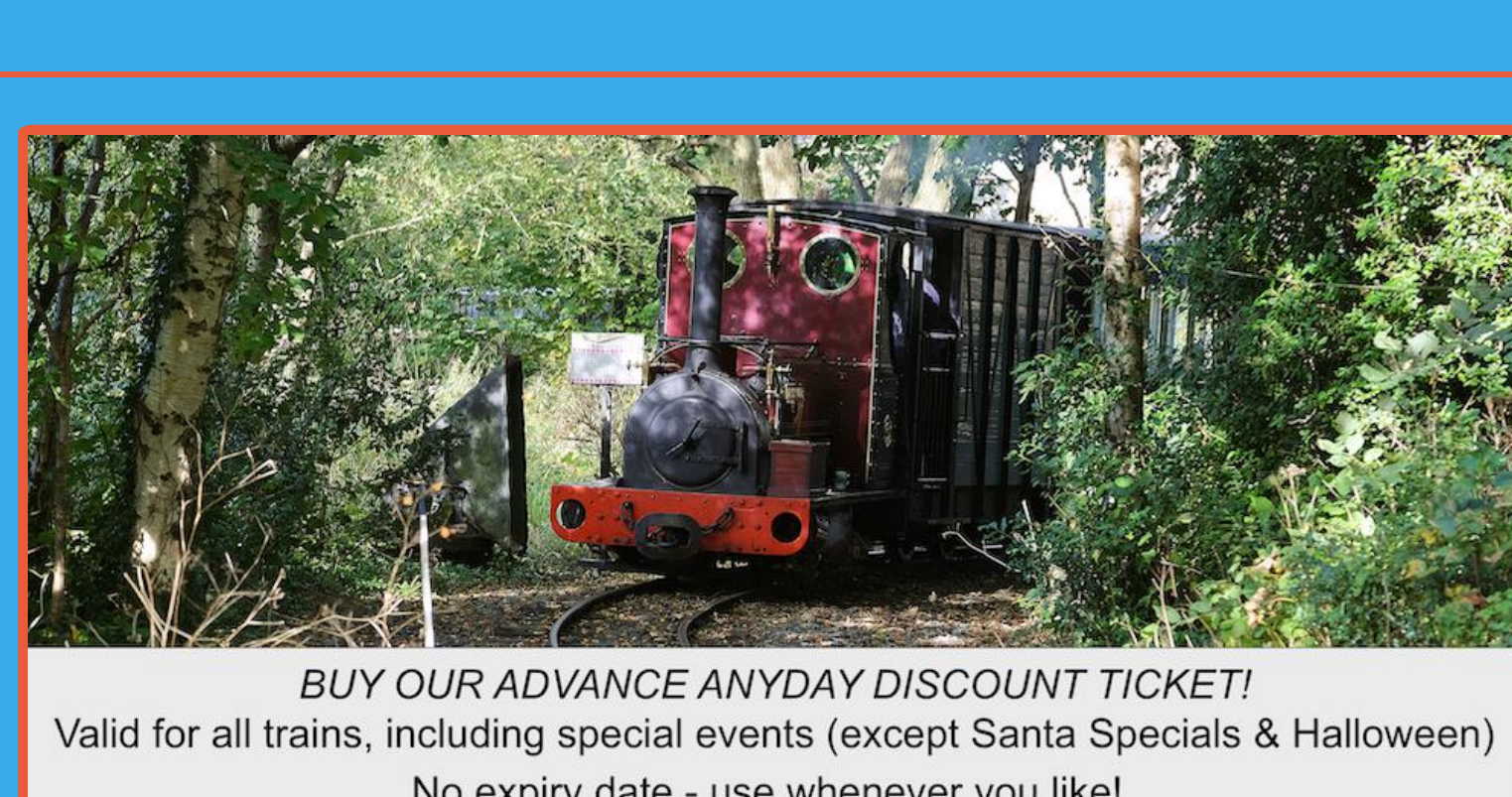


Short Axle - back soon!  
During the last two years it has not been possible to produce the Railway's journal, *Short Axle*. However, we plan to re-start production with an issue early in the New Year. Andy Biggs has volunteered to take on the role of editing and producing the journal, which is issued free to members.  
So if you have any ideas for articles, news or photos for *Short Axle*, Andy would like to hear from you. He can be contacted at: [shortaxle@westlancsrailway.org](mailto:shortaxle@westlancsrailway.org).



And finally, from November 2017, Gordon guides a trainful of Branch Line Society members into the siding at Willow Tree Halt. The BLS like to cover as much of the track as possible during their visits, so temporary seats on wagons seemed to be the safest way of doing it. What they were writing in their notebooks remains a mystery...

**Don't miss our next special event - our Pumpkins Express on 23rd October!**



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