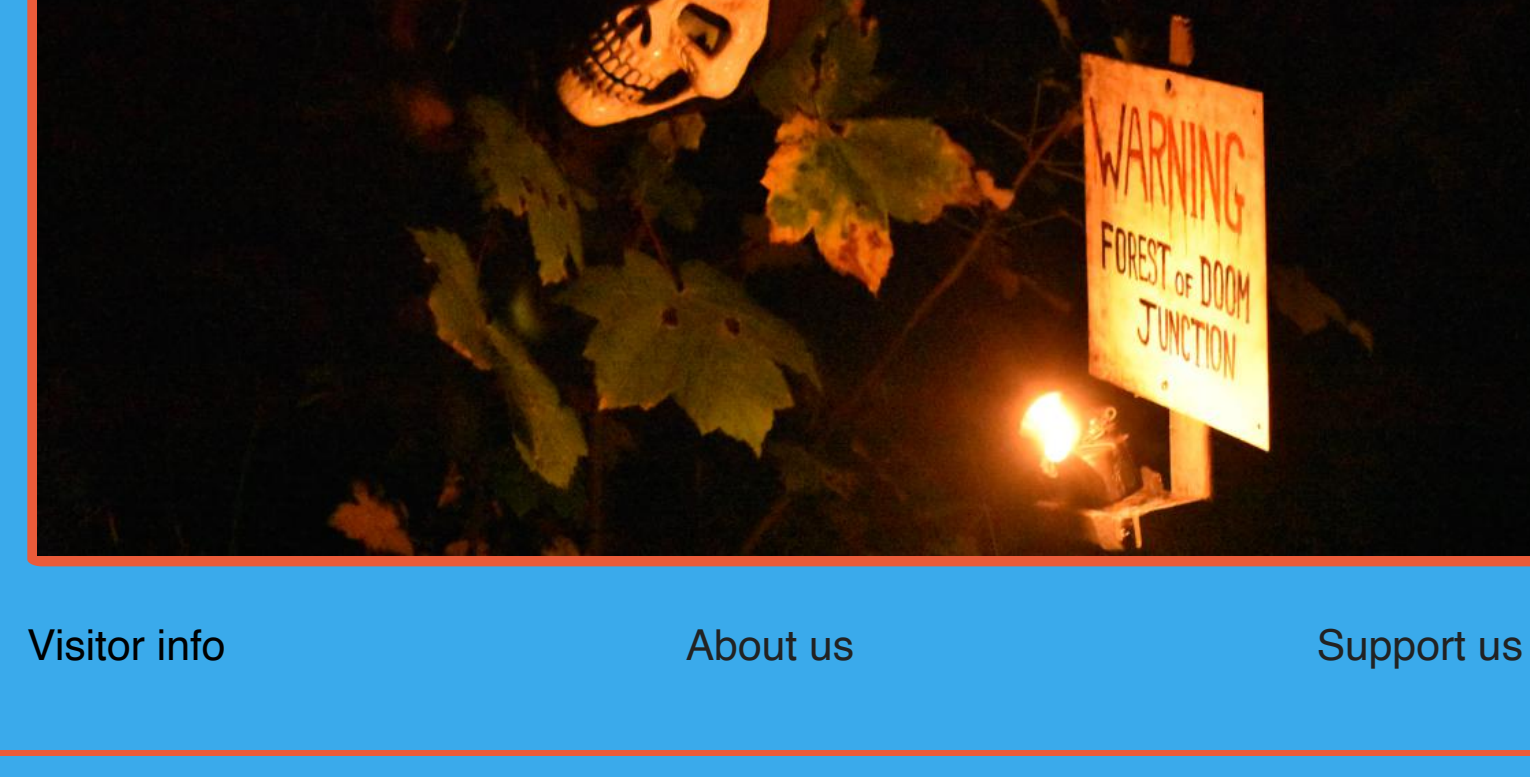




THE WEST LANCS LETTER

The Newsletter of the West Lancashire Light Railway



Visitor info About us Support us

WELCOME to West Lincs Letter No.32 !



After a successful, if rather damp, Pumpkins Day, we moved on to the main event, Halloween! Four train-loads of willing victims were transported by Special Ghost Train to the Utter Desolation of Delph lurking at the far end of the line.

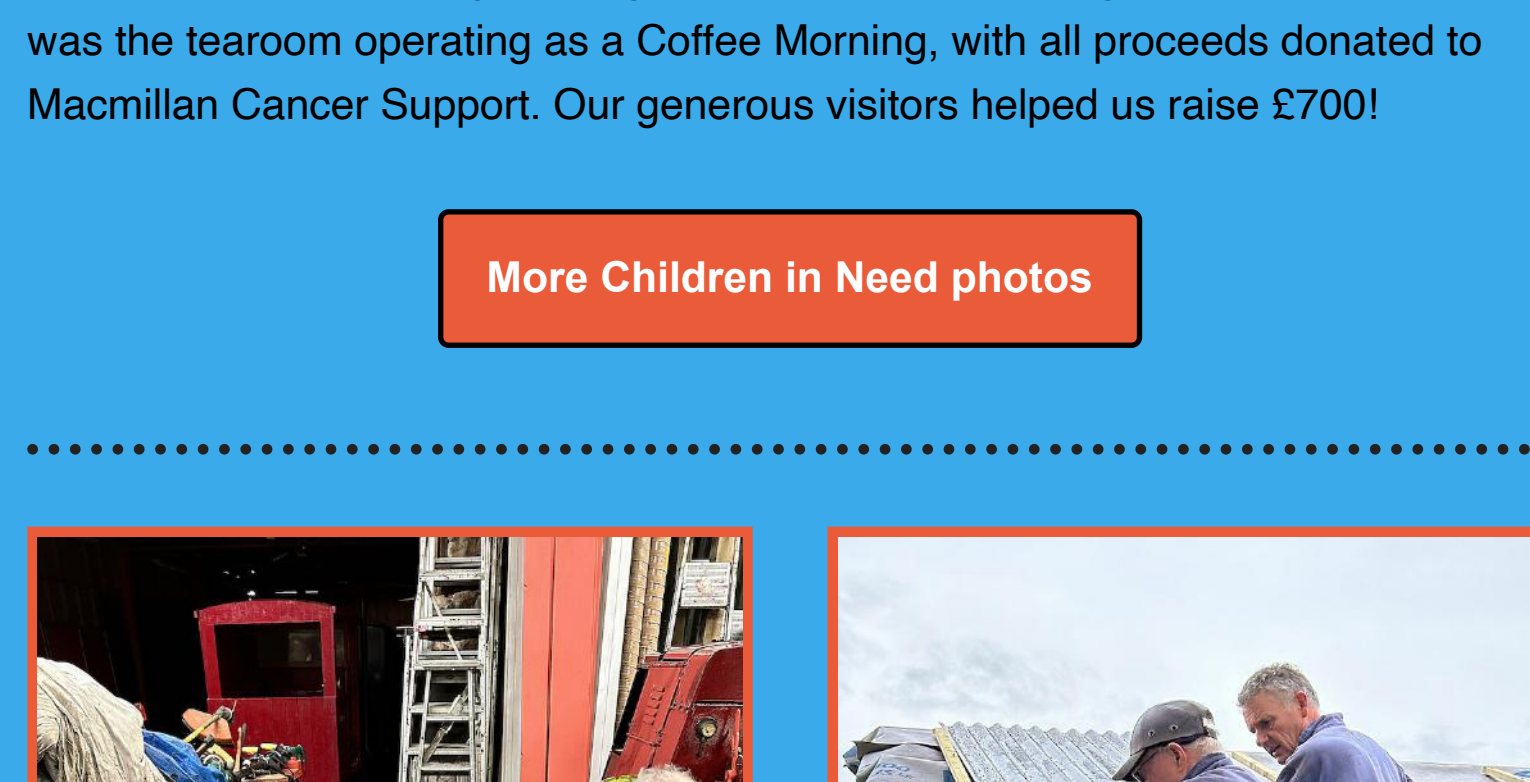


There our Master of Ceremonies ramped up the terror with tales of ghastly deeds and terrible doings in deepest, darkest Lancashire. Perhaps surprisingly, all returned safely, and some even claimed to have enjoyed the frightening experience. We must do better next year...

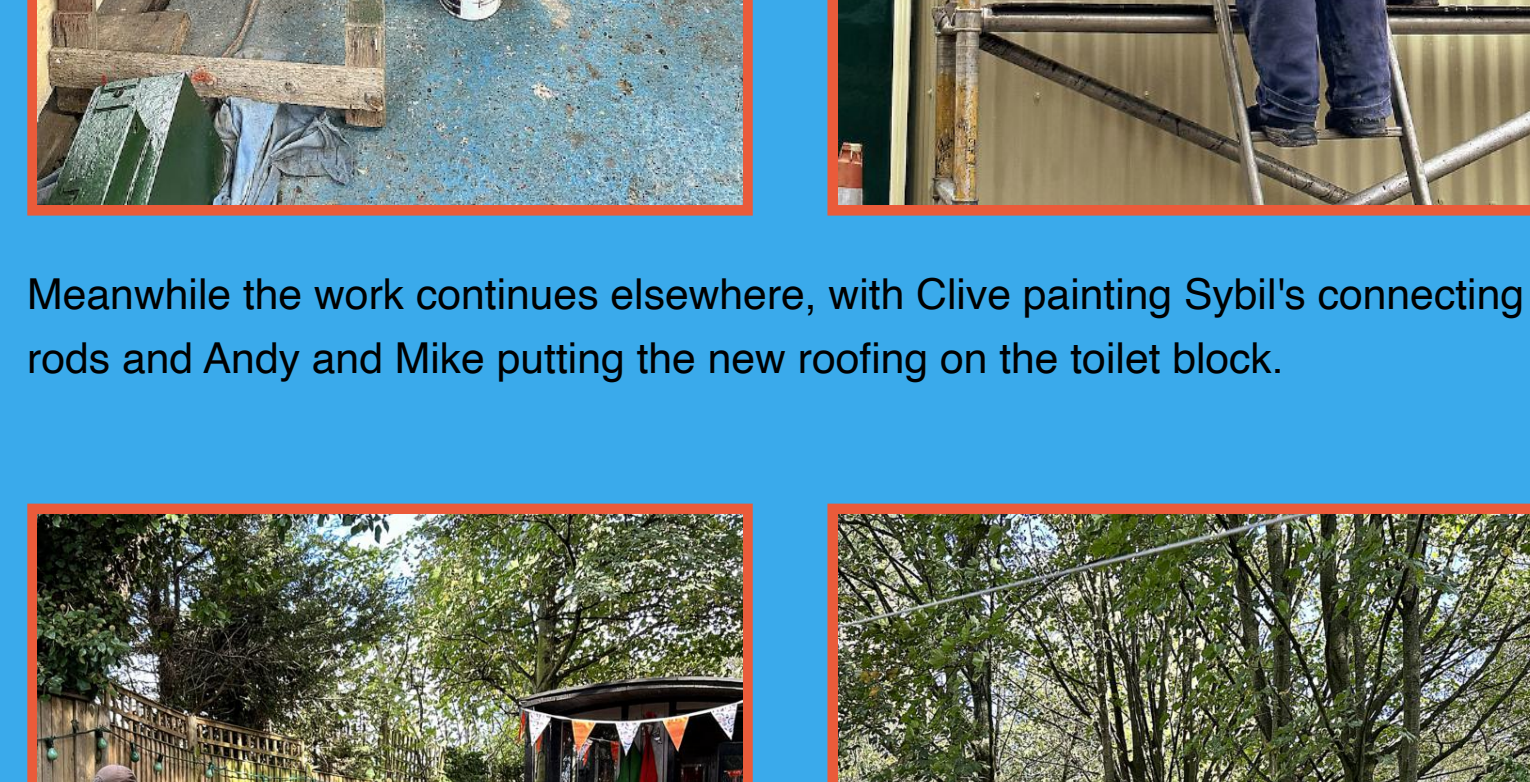


Thankfully, normal service was promptly restored with our next Special Event, Pudsey's Children in Need Day. No fares were charged, instead donations were invited to the BBC's long-running charity appeal. The icing on the cake, literally, was the tearoom operating as a Coffee Morning, with all proceeds donated to Macmillan Cancer Support. Our generous visitors helped us raise £700!

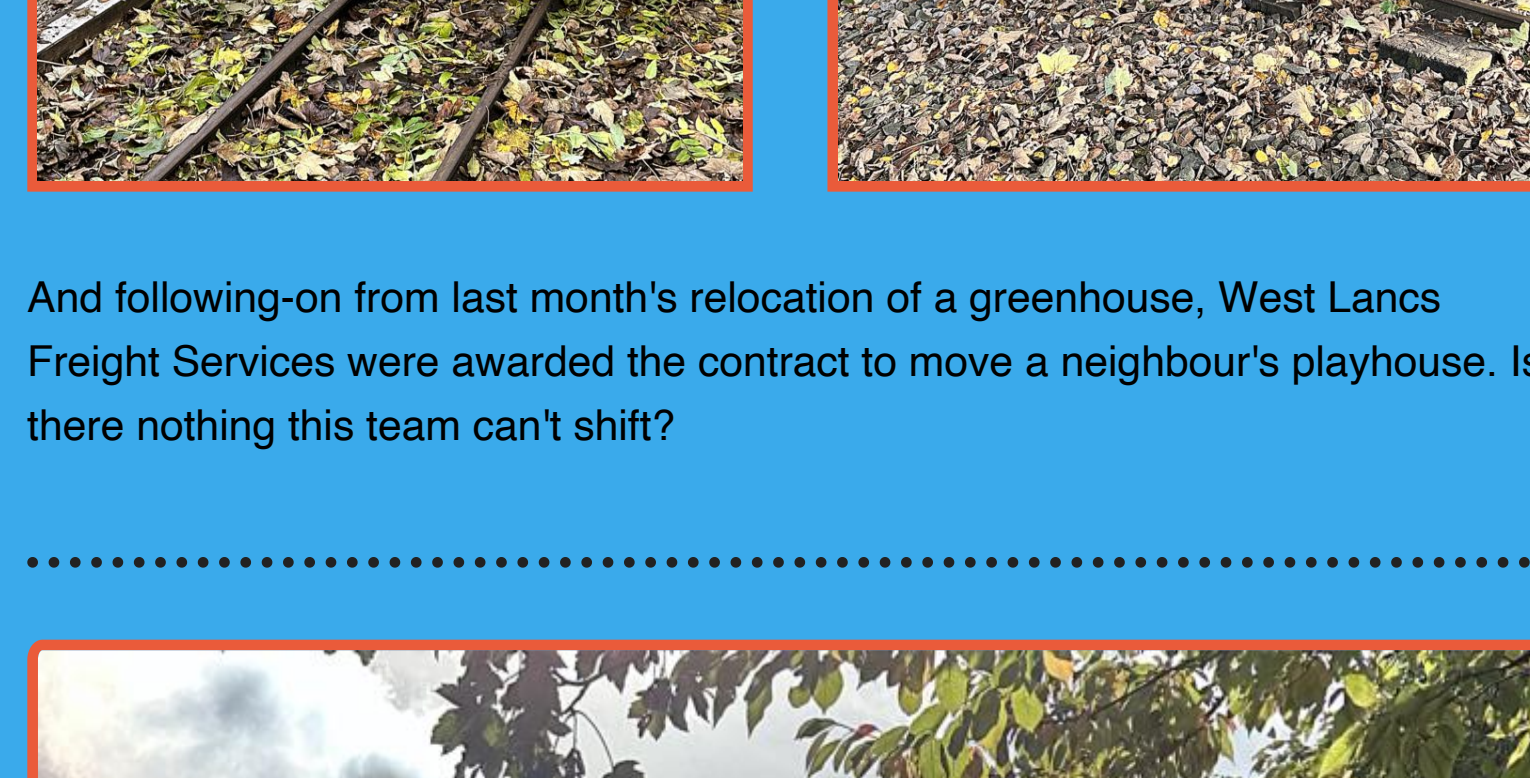
[More Children In Need photos](#)



Meanwhile the work continues elsewhere, with Clive painting Sybil's connecting rods and Andy and Mike putting the new roofing on the toilet block.



And following-on from last month's relocation of a greenhouse, West Lincs Freight Services were awarded the contract to move a neighbour's playhouse. Is there nothing this team can't shift?



Autumn days mean more steam atmosphere. Driver Gary takes Montalban onto the carriages in Beconsall station, guided by fireman Glenn and watched over by guard Adrian.



Autumn is also the season for remembrance. In the village a service was held at All Saints church, with the Hesketh Bank Silver Band in attendance, along with Service representatives and families. At the Railway we observed two minutes' silence alongside *Irish Mail*.



It's the red wire Alan, always the red wire... Our resident electrician doing some unglamorous but essential upgrades to the electrical system in the workshops.



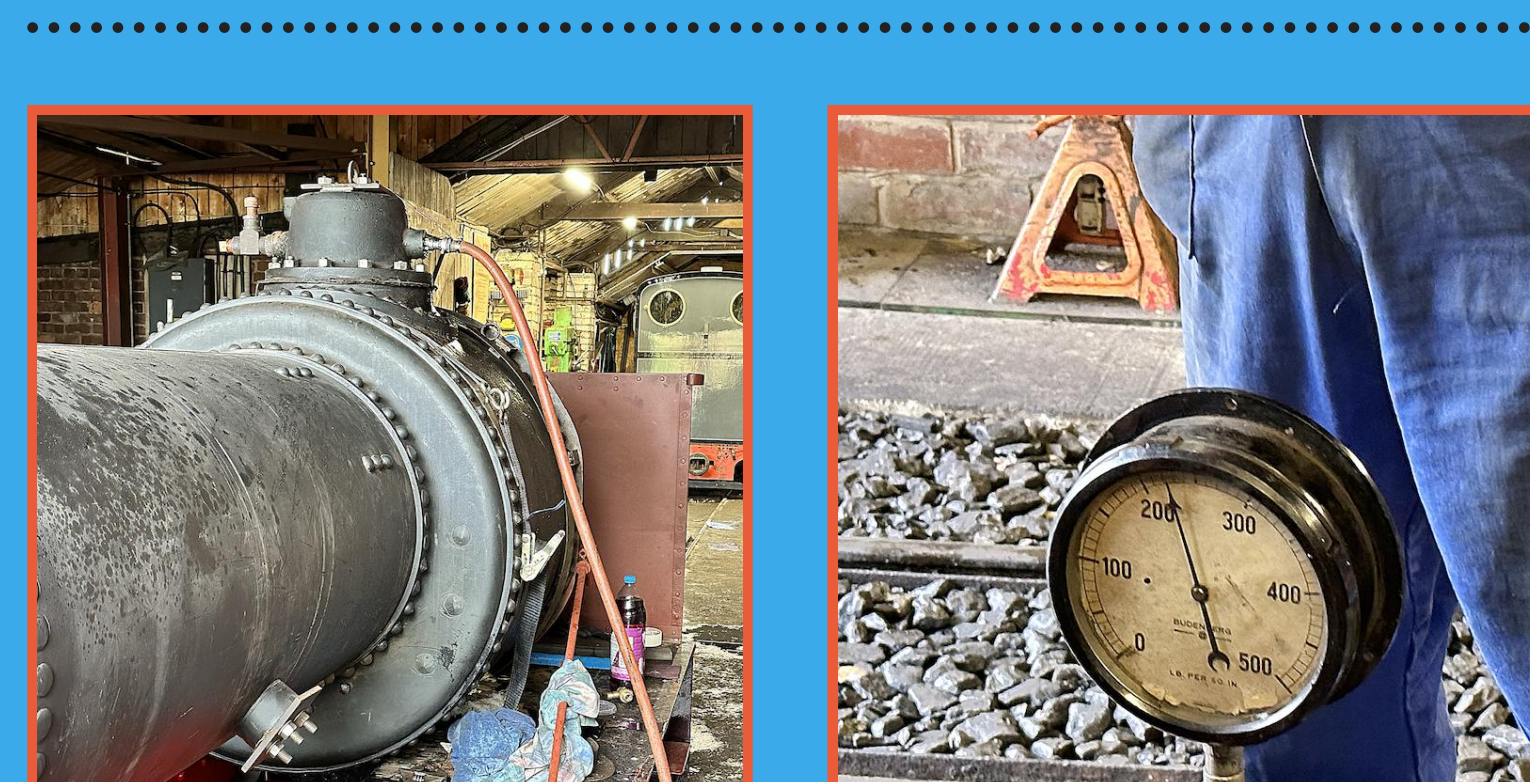
Richard digs for victory in some decidedly sticky clay soil. One of a pair of holes for our new entrance gates.



Another significant milestone in the restoration of our Quarry Bagnall Sybil, a hydraulic pressure test of the rivetted boiler. It was filled with water and a hand pump used to apply 225sq.in. of pressure, 50% more than the maximum operating pressure. There were a few minor weeps, but nothing untoward. Soon be ready for the boiler inspector...



Introducing our new hybrid locomotive! In reality it's just to save some workshop space, but one can dream...



And if you're wondering what happened to Joffre's boiler, it's having a little excursion to Johnson's of Banks, as part of its refurbishment works.

[More site works photos](#)

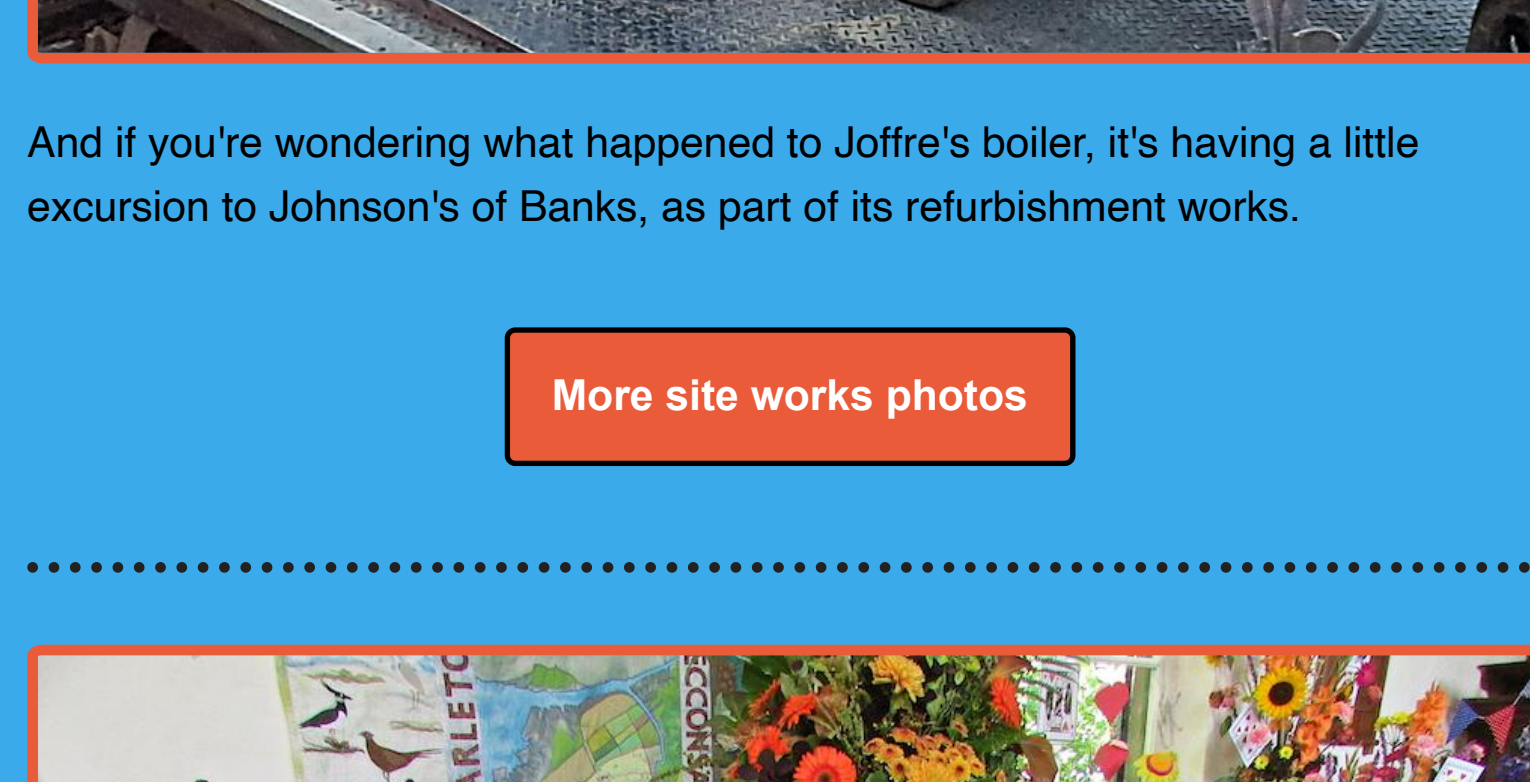


And finally, from July 2015, the Friends of Beconsall Old Church organised a three-day Flower Festival in the church. The Railway was represented with a display which told the story of our humble beginnings almost 50 years earlier.

Apart from our sold-out Santa Specials, we are closed now until next April. Thank you for your support this year, and we hope to welcome you back in 2023!

We will be busy throughout the winter period, getting ready for the new season. If you would like to help, we would love to hear from you!

Contact Mike at chair@westlancsrailway.org for more information on volunteering.



BUY OUR ADVANCE ANYDAY DISCOUNT TICKETS!
Valid for all trains, including special events (except Santa Specials & Halloween)
No expiry date - use whenever you like!
Click [HERE](#) to buy

