



Sandford Station Railway Heritage Centre

Registered Charity No. 1136266 - www.sandfordstation.co.uk

NEWS LETTER No.2 - Autumn 2012

AGM, Talk & Presentation **'The Strawberry Line'**

By Richard Harman railway historian and author of 'The Strawberry Line'

Thursday 15 November, 7.30pm

Darlisette House - BS25 5AA

Formerly the Goods Shed at Sandford Station (next to Heritage Centre)

Dear Members and Friends.

We are holding our second AGM at the 'up to the minute' function room in Darlisette House, formerly the Station Goods Shed, on the St Monica site. Following this short meeting

Richard Harman, author of the recently published definitive work on the Cheddar Valley and East Somerset Railways, known affectionately as 'The Strawberry Line', will give a presentation showing the line when operational and the importance of Sandford station. The talk will appeal to all our members, railway enthusiasts and anyone interested in local history.

Free admission: Voluntary Collection: Tea & Coffee break.



The Meeting is also open to visitors - All are welcome
So come along at 7.30pm for an informative evening of nostalgia

'Branch Line'



It was an exciting few days at the station in March when not only Enid Blyton's Famous Five but a train-full of WW II evacuees arrived at Sandford station to star in an educational film, 'Branch Line', recapturing the Strawberry Line in the 40's and 50's. Recordings with a train driver, Edwardian cyclist and local personalities recalling those times, were also shot at the station while other sequences were filmed at Winscombe Millennium Green and Shute Shelve tunnel. The short film was commissioned by the Performing Arts department of Churchill Academy and involved pupils from Sandford, Winscombe, Banwell and Hutton Primary Schools plus a young protégé from

Churchill Academy who did a brilliant Billy Elliot style dance down our platform – terrific! Through this imaginative project, many children will experience a fascinating link with the past and hear from people whose stories deserve retelling.

(photo Courtesy of Ray Ham)



RUNNING-IN BOARD

The original cast iron 'Sandford and Banwell' Running-Board was rediscovered languishing in W-S-M Museum; rusty, pitted and worst of all broken into 3-pieces. This has now been fully restored and will be reinstated in its rightful place on the station platform in time for an official unveiling when we reopen in April for the 2013 season.

Photos: Top, as found: Lower, as restored

See our web site

www.sanfordstation.co.uk for more information and details.

Would you be prepared to receive your next News Letter by email? If so please email either:

Lois:

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Trev:

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Include your name, address & email details, thanks.

Please renew your membership if you have not already done so.

From Lois Brenchley & Trevor Perks; On behalf of Sandford Station Railway Heritage Ltd

The BIG JUBILEE LITTER PICK

Youngsters got a warm reception and a cold drink at SSRHC after a hot day clearing litter and items from along the Strawberry Line between Congresbury and Axbridge. Local Explorer Scouts and Mendip Hills AONB Young Rangers joined forces with Mendip Society members and friends to get the job done.

Well done Mendip Society for organising this event and motivating young people to care for their environment (photo courtesy of: Judith Tranter)



WANTED

Items for loan & display relating to our line and/or the GWR



Information on the Yieldingtree Railway Museum Trust (formerly at Bleadow & Uphill Station) artefacts and the whereabouts the original S & B signal box sign, it was there, does anyone know where it is now?

GWR Token Machine

Period chocolate vending machine