



The Lynton & Barnstaple Railway

Thames Valley Support Group

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L&B Newsletter No 16

Dear Member ,

This will be my last TV Newsletter but I am delighted to say that long-serving member ,
Mike Pearce , has agreed to pick up the reins as my successor . Mike's address details are as follows :-

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For the benefit of those members who do not have access to the L&B website , I was able (for the first time !) to attend the recent informal gathering of members and volunteers at Bratton Fleming Sports Club . Keith Vingoe , Managing Director , showed some fascinating slides of the construction of the new L&B – from 1979 to 2003 (which most people hadn't seen before and then , after a brief stop for lunch , Ian Cowling updated us on the current situation .

The Trust now owns or is negotiating on at least 65% of the trackbed between Caffyns and Wistlandpound and this is the length being included in the Planning Application - approx 6.5 miles . Many discussions are being held with interested bodies and each of these have to be satisfied before approval can be obtained . Progress is good - even to the extent that the North Devon Council are proposing that the car-park at Pilton Yard should be labelled as ' not for development – reserved for railway use ' in their 20 year Local Plan ! . Much effort is going into this work and it is hoped submission for approval will be in the 1st Quarter 2013 .

The presentation by Trevor Garnham and I to Fleet (Hampshire) U3A group last week went well and , from an audience of 35 , we came home with £144 . To this was added £75 by Trevor from the sale of his latest DVDs - Gala 5 . Worth the effort and many thanks to Mike , Roger Beazer, John Smith , Stuart Wise and John Crockford for supporting us .

The next TV exhibition is "Scoutrail " at the Exeter Hall , Kidlington on Sat/Sun , Jan 5th/6th and this is followed by the Newbury Model Railway Club's event on Sat , Feb 9th . Mike will be pleased to receive all offers of help at these so please contact him . The next TV Group meeting will be on Sat , Feb 23rd .

Thank you for all the support I have received since starting the Group 8 years ago . I look forward to hearing of future success stories in the months ahead . If you are visiting Woody Bay , please make sure to look me up ! Gail and I are planning to be there fairly often next year !

Regards , Chris Ward

" Perchance it is not dead but sleepeth "