

SHROPSHIRE RAILWAY SOCIETY

A LATE SUMMER WEEKEND TRIP TO A BRACE OF RAILWAYS OPERATING INDUSTRIAL STEAM WITH A CONTRASTING VISIT TO AN HISTORIC SEASIDE MINIATURE LINE

SATURDAY and SUNDAY 10 & 11 SEPTEMBER 2022

The Society is pleased to offer a weekend excursion to the east of England to visit two locations using industrial steam locomotives, one an expanding preserved railway and the other which offers a possibly unique opportunity to tour an operating heavy industrial location using a mode of travel which was popular in earlier preservation times but is now much rarer.

This tour was postponed in 2020 due to Covid restrictions, and has now been enhanced with extra content to make a great weekend away.

We begin on Saturday 10 September with the drive to northern Lincolnshire, where we have reserved a number of places on one of the steam hauled brake van trips regularly run by the Appleby Frodingham Railway Preservation Society around Scunthorpe steelworks: we will have a tour lasting about four hours, covering parts of the steelworks network not normally visited, and with a break around lunchtime to allow time for a visit to the Society's locomotive depot.

We will then drive at leisure to an overnight stop in the Cleethorpes or Grimsby area.

On Sunday 11 September, we have a morning visit to the Cleethorpes Coast Light Railway, one of the UK's longest established minimum gauge lines, now operating on 15" gauge on a round trip of about two miles, with a variety of steam and diesel motive power.

We follow with an afternoon visit to the Lincolnshire Wolds Railway at Ludborough Station, from where trains hauled by one of the railway's industrial locomotives will be operating over the railway's 1.5 mile long line to North Thoresby at hourly intervals during the afternoon, on one of which our group will have reserved accommodation; there are refreshment facilities at Ludborough and a museum of small exhibits, housing items relating to railways in the North Lincolnshire area.

Towards the end of the Sunday afternoon, we shall then drive home to the Shrewsbury area.

The charge which the Appleby Frodingham Society makes for their tours is modest, and given the costs incurred by the Society in their operations, a charge of £10 per Shropshire Railway Society member taking part is reasonable for a tour at such an unusual and interesting location.

Fares at the Cleethorpes Coast line are modest, as are those at the Lincolnshire Wolds line, the latter being £9 for an adult, £7 senior.

The locations to be visited are not well placed to be reached by public transport from Shropshire, and therefore Shropshire Railway Society is arranging the outing on the basis that the group will travel by way of shared private cars, with each participant making a contribution to cover the driver's fuel costs; accordingly it will be necessary for those who express interest to state whether they are able to offer seats in their car for other participants.

The accommodation for the overnight stop can be pre-booked by Shropshire Railway Society, with payment to individual members account on arrival.

Members interested in participating should advise Lionel Price ASAP **by 17 June at latest** please, so that the accommodation and transport arrangements can then be given further consideration.

Those doing so should also please indicate their address, so as to assist with planning of the transport to and from the venues, and as mentioned above.

In addition, anyone who wishes to take part who is also willing to use his/her private vehicle to transport other members of the group on the basis of shared petrol costs as referred to above should please so indicate.

Those interested should also give an indication of their rooming requirements, please.

The Lincolnshire Wolds Railway has offered us a guided tour of its engine shed and workshop, and if you are interested in participating in such a visit on the Sunday afternoon, **please indicate accordingly**, so that if sufficient of those coming on the outing would like to do so, the arrangements can be made with the railway. There may be a small charge for the tour, so that a suitable donation could be made to the railway.

Scunthorpe is about 140 miles from Shrewsbury (depending on the route taken), with the drive time being about 3 hours, and the return journey from Ludborough is a little longer at about 170 miles.

Members are encouraged to book for this outing early, since places are limited, especially on tour of Scunthorpe Steelworks.

Please contact Lionel Price via outings@saloprailsoc.org.uk or call on 07786 165101 (message may be left if necessary).

With thanks to Roger Higgins for the original suggestion of a visit to Scunthorpe.

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