

KNOTTY COACH TRUST
"QUAERENDO INVENIETIS"

Newsletter

21 October 2014

STOP PRESS: 18 & 19 October

RECLAMATION OF NSR RUDYARD COACHES ON 18th & 19th OCTOBER



Photo: Dave Scragg

Approximately two dozen volunteers from as far afield as Northumbria helped reclaim three 19th century NSR coach bodies (well, two-and-a-half.....) which have slept quietly in woodland beside Rudyard Lake for these many years past. Relics of a time when the lakeside was a popular destination for family holidays, dozens of little chalets occupying Rea Cliffe Wood on the western shore of the lake.

The exercise was organised & inspired by Dave Scragg & special thanks are due to Mr & Mrs Gee for donating the vehicles. Parts of the brake coach have already been taken to Stanegate Restorations of Haltwhistle



Photo: Dave Scragg

for refurbishment to display on our stand at Warley (*see below*). This body will then be used as the basis for an “ABC” (Accessible Brake Coach) for the KNOTTY HERITAGE TRAIN. This will allow two passengers in wheelchairs to be carried & provide a much needed handbraked vehicle. A chassis has already been obtained.



Photo: Dave Scragg

The other two NSR coach bodies are to go into storage awaiting their turn for restoration after 1st class coach no28 & the ABC have been restored. This weekend's exercise will halt the inevitable further decay which would have taken place if they had been left where they were.

STOP PRESS: 17th October

“ALADDIN’S CAVE” DISCOVERED ON KINGSLEY MOOR

Peter Green, Mark Smith & Dave Scragg visited a soon to be demolished outbuilding on Kingsley Moor & found a veritable “Aladdins Cave” of interest to Knotty enthusiasts. Included are the sides of an NSR brake van still with original Knotty crest! This is the first such brake van to be identified in over 40 years. Keep posted for further details on our [website](#) & [Facebook](#) page shortly.

STOP PRESS: 21st October

FORMAL AGREEMENT TO RESTORE NSR No28

Today the agreement between NSR Co (1978) & the Knotty Coach Trust to restore NSR 1st class coach no28 was completed by the Trust & will be forwarded to NSR Co (1978) for them (hopefully!) to agree & sign. The agreement leases this historically important vehicle from NSR Co (1978) to the Trust for 99 year. Preliminary planning has already been carried out for the restoration of the body at Stanegate Restorations in Haltwhistle. The main feature of the restored vehicle will be the sumptuous 1st class upholstery – very different from the wooden bench seats of the other Knotty coaches!

STOP PRESS: 19th October

COVERED ACCOMMODATION AT CAVERSWALL RD

Roy Forshaw today surveyed the land in vicinity of the boiler park & Hollick shed at Caverswall Rd station in preparation for the construction of new two-road shed at Caverswall Road. The FOXFIELD RAILWAY has agreed that the KNOTTY COACH TRUST should take charge of this project in order to provide sufficient storage spaces to keep the KNOTTY HERITAGE TRAIN permanently under cover & available for viewing access to the public out of season. Jon Adshead & Ian Stokes are

drawing up a schedule of works & liaising with industrial buildings fabricators in the Midlands.

WARLEY SHOW 22nd & 23rd NOVEMBER

This is the biggest annual model railway event in Britain held at the NEC in Birmingham. “Guest of Honour” this year, by invitation, is the KNOTTY HERITAGE TRAIN or at least part of it i.e. the locomotive BELLEROPHON (by kind permission of the VINTAGE CARRIAGES TRUST) and restored Knotty coach no127.

The KNOTTY COACH TRUST will be running its stall at the show & we desperately need volunteers (Victorian dress again, please!) to man the stall & keep an eye on the loco & coaches. This is a marvellous opportunity for us to generate income. If you can spare your Saturday or Sunday to come & help please contact Mark Smith foxfield.stocklist@ntlworld.com

The KNOTTY COACH TRUST

The Trust is a registered charity originally set up to restore NSR coaches no’s 127 & 61. This was achieved in 2013 & 2014 respectively & the two vehicles are in service on the FOXFIELD RAILWAY.

Moving on, there are three current projects in hand: the restoration of NSR 1st class coach no28; the restoration/reconstruction of the Rudyard brake vehicle as an Accessible Brake Coach; the construction of suitable covered accommodation at the FOXFIELD RAILWAY to house restored vehicles.

Looking further to the future we are the guardians of three Midland Railway coaches which – once there are no more Knotty coaches left to restore – we will set to work on.

Ideally, we would like to build a replica NSR loco to haul the KNOTTY HERITAGE TRAIN probably an 0-6-0 D class tank. Sadly, this will probably fall to the next generation of Knotty trustees which is why we are particularly keen to recruit young supporters.

So if you want to help the KNOTTY COACH TRUST in any way please contact:

Richard Warren R.A.Warren@mail.com 07711 20 28 25

Dave Scragg dm.scragg@virgin.net

ALL PRESS ENQUIRIES TO:

Dave Scragg dm.scragg@virgin.net

CIRCULATION:

All FLRS members

All NSRC (1978) members

All NSR Study Group members

VCT

Local Heritage groups

Local Museums

Local Press

Heritage Railway Press

- ends -

R.A.W. 21 October 2014