

STRIVING

Spring 2018

Newsletter of the South Tynedale Railway Inclusive
Venture for the Education of Railway Staff.

First, an apology for the lateness of any communication. I don't want to begin with a litany of excuses but, as some of you will know, I have been off railways for much of the winter with a trapped nerve, then away in Australia for April. Add to that, some big changes in the way the railway is managed and the tantalising "one more week and we'll know about Slaggyford" saga. So, as the 2018 season gets fully underway, this Spring edition of STRIVING is finally reporting a potentially exciting 2018.

Martin Ashley Chief Striver.

People

I have agreed to take on the new role of signalling superintendent— initially acting as assistant during the handover from Major Hughes, though I shall be very much the person on the ground. One more job to do, though I may be getting more help with strivers . . .

Adie has retired from his role as rostering clerk, though is still with us as operational administrator. **If you wish to volunteer as a TTI**, please now contact *Shirley Wakelin* who will roster you with a suitable guard. Her number is 01434 338212 or e-mail

rostering@south-tynedale-railway.org.uk

We welcome new striver Wilfred, who lives in Alston and is in Y8 at SKS.

The STR now has a "Green Dragon Club" for young supporters. Not really part of strivers, but little green dragons may grow into big strong strivers —so we should be taking an interest and encouraging them!

The school employability training week is running again this year, 11th – 15th June, though that's largely an information item!

Possible Excursions

If we can get enough numbers and dates that work:-

- ⇒ York Signalling School postponed from last year.
- ⇒ The famous and extensive scenic 5" gauge ground level railway at Ryedale.
- ⇒ The equally extensive 7.25" Moorland Railway near Scarborough—1st September.



Planting a level crossing post at Slaggyford

Projects

Slaggyford Station really will be opening very soon and that should, I hope, bring some new opportunities. The plan is to create a station team and on your sixteenth birthday you can join that team as the level crossing keeper. Until you're 16, there may well be other jobs you can do such as helping in the buffet car. We'd certainly like a striver presence at Slaggyford. Please let Martin know if this interests you.

Alston Signalling School. We need to get the existing model finished – and there is another potential project to create a hands-on working exhibit for the Discovery Centre. So, I am organising a **regular after-school strivers science and engineering group** in the Heritage Workshop. Mondays are the only day I can do, so it'll have to be then! There are two other projects we can start when we've finished the signalling school. A (working) diorama of Slaggyford in LNER days using the models donated from Hexham and a hands-on exhibit to demonstrate block signalling.



Slaggyford in LNER Days! (In 7mm scale—a project for the Discovery Centre!)