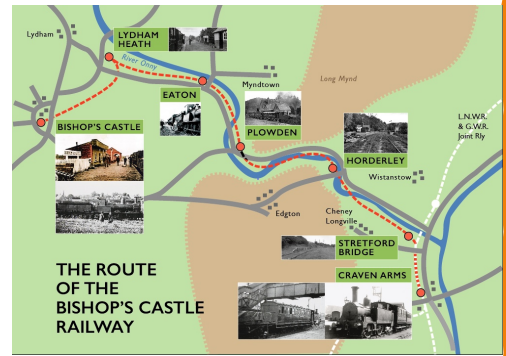


# B.C.R.S. NEWS

November  
2021  
No. 59

The Monthly Newsletter of The  
Bishop's Castle Railway Society



## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### “My British Raj Ancestors and their Professions”

The development of the railways in India from its very earliest days

**Friday 3rd December @ 7.30pm**

A talk by  
Jenny Mallin whose  
ancestors lived in  
India for 200 years,  
working as drivers  
and inspectors on the  
railways.



The Church Barn,  
Church Lane,  
Bishop's Castle,  
Shropshire,  
SY9 5AY

The talk will be Zoomed onto the big screen at the Church Barn  
and followed by a question and answer session with Jenny  
BCRS Members free ~ Non Members are very welcome £3

## Christmas at the Weighbridge

**Saturday 4th December 11am—6pm Free Entry**

Small railway layouts to fit into  
today's homes  
“Anyone can have a model railway”

Exhibition of Hornby Gauge O  
tinplate model railway items.  
Very probably pre war.

#### ALL COMPONENTS LTD

Everything you require for  
your electronic  
model railway needs

4mm scale  
scratch built  
Modelling Demonstration



Hot Drinks  
Homemade Mince Pies & Cakes



Weighbridge Railway Museum, Station Street, Bishop's Castle, SY9 5AQ

## WEIGHBRIDGE RAILWAY MUSEUM OPEN DAYS

The weighbridge will be open for hot drinks, homemade cakes, a tour of the museum or just a chat on Tuesdays 9th November, 23rd November, 14th December and 28th December between 11am & 3pm.



To ensure a safe as possible environment we continue to use a one way system through the building with visitors entering through the front left hand door, walking through the three rooms and exiting through the front right hand door.



The first thing visitors see when they enter the building is a map of the line and underneath it the seven stations along the line. (photo above)

### The renovation of the Banana Van continues.....

The team have been taking advantage of the recent good weather to fit the new protective rubber covering to the roof and paint the exterior wood and metal work. During the painting to the back of the van some of the insulation became visible (photo right)



Photo left: Stephen Wallace and Roger Dalton wielding the brooms to smooth the rubber sheet onto the adhesive. Richard Newcome and Malcolm Reeves painting the exterior wood and metal work.



There is always time for coffee and cake though! (photo right)



## The BCRS display and sales stand attended an Open Day on Saturday 30th October for the first time since March 2020

David O'Neill (left) and Mike Boyd (right) accepted an invitation from the Shrewsbury Railway Heritage Trust to attend an open day at Abbey Station in Shrewsbury. It was their first time taking the display

boards and sales table out to the public and they enjoyed meeting the visitors and making new contacts. Three of the exhibitors were canal trusts and coincidentally we had recently been given a quantity of cast brass canal plates bearing notable canal names and locations, with proceeds going to the weighbridge project. These proved popular on the day and along with sales of calendars, mugs and books, David and Mike returned with a healthy sum to add to the funds.

The plaques are also available from the Weighbridge on the 2nd & 4th Tuesdays of the month between 11am & 3pm. Price £5 Other canal locations are available apart from the ones in the photo on the right.



### BCRSMG UPDATE

Stuart would be pleased to hear from anyone who would like to join the group.

He can be contacted at: [satalt17@gmail.com](mailto:satalt17@gmail.com)

Following some discussion among the group, it became clear that the majority of members preferred an afternoon meeting, especially during the dark winter evenings. So for the foreseeable future, meetings will be on a Wednesday afternoon. The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 10th Nov at 2pm. New members welcome.

The main purpose being to discuss the construction of a 4mm layout of Bishop's Castle station. This would be a positive step forward, providing a meaningful project for the modelling group and when completed a valuable asset for the Weighbridge Railway Museum. Jonathan Moor has already started a 4mm model of the weighbridge which he intends to bring along to the meeting on Wednesday.

On the 4th of December Christmas Event Open Day, Jonathan has offered to demonstrate 4mm scratch building, and will bring the part built weighbridge with the exterior walls built, the window and door apertures cut, along with the chimneys and the false roof. He will spend the time on the day detailing it - with paper slates, doors, guttering and windows and perhaps some painting too.

#### Foot note

Society member Albyn Austin has for some time been building a 4mm model of Bishop's Castle Station, many of his photographs appeared in the 2020 newsletters. He will have a wealth of knowledge on this subject, which I feel sure he would be happy to share with the modelling group. Lin Dalton

Photo right: Albyn's model of the goods shed



## Co-op Local Community Fund

The 2020/21 round of funding has now ended and we're delighted to say that the Bishop's Castle Railway Society Weighbridge Project has been awarded a total of £1,474.86 thanks to Co-op Members. A big thank you to everyone who nominated us as their cause.

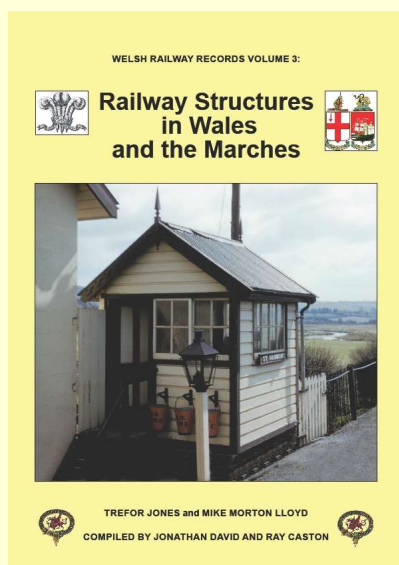


We're doubly delighted that we have been selected to take part in the Co-op Local Community Fund for another year. The funding round started on Sunday 24th October 2021 and will run until 22nd October 2022. During this time, Co-op members will be able to select us as their chosen cause once again. The more members who select us, the more funds we'll receive.

You can follow the progress of how much you are helping to raise by visiting our profile page <https://membership.coop.co.uk/causes/57269>

Even though we're linked to Bishop's Castle Co-op, money raised through Co-op membership can be generated anywhere in the UK, as long as a Member is buying selected products or services from the Co-op Group. You can choose which cause to support by signing into your membership account or by calling the membership helpline on 0800 023 4708.

If you are not already a Co-op member you can join online at [coop.co.uk/membership](http://coop.co.uk/membership) or by downloading the Co-op app.



## WELSH RAILWAYS RESEARCH CIRCLE CYLCH YMCHWIL RHEILFFYRDD CYMRU

New book of Cambrian Railways and Great Western Railway structure drawings

### Welsh Railway Records Volume 3: Railway structures in Wales and the Marches

The WRRRC is delighted to be able to announce publication of a small book of scale drawings of Cambrian Railways and GWR structures in Wales and the Border Counties. The drawings were prepared by the renowned Mike Morton Lloyd and Trefor Jones, and are primarily based on measurements of typical Cambrian and GWR structures found across the Principality and Marches.

They are mainly reproduced at 7 mm/ft scale to aid modellers, and will form an invaluable resource for those wishing to produce authentic models of the Cambrian Railways and the GWR in Mid Wales and the Borders. Included are drawings of both small and large signal boxes of the type provided to the Cambrian by the Dutton company, station buildings from ranging shelters on halts such as Capel Celyn to the sizeable station building at Talgarth, and numerous small items ranging from bufferstops to the unusual wagon turntables and traversers on Aberdovey pier. Many are complemented by photographs.

Price: £12.00 plus p&p (£8.50 + p&p for WRRRC members) ISBN: 978 0 9527267 9 1

Copies may be ordered from bookshops, via the WRRRC website: [www.wrrc.org.uk](http://www.wrrc.org.uk), or by post to Publication Sales, WRRRC, 50 Allt-yr-yn Road, Newport South Wales NP20 5EB

## Jim`s monthly selection of videos.....

To start, a vintage LMS film from 1947 showing how they went about packing ballast under sleepers. They don't make them like this anymore. Running time 10:57

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8kVUqqSN54>

A panorama of 37 GWR steam locomotives many running on preserved lines including the SVR. Running time 35:54

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G\\_TmQSxMdCM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G_TmQSxMdCM)

The Great Electric Train Show 2021 was held in Milton Keynes on 2nd and 3rd of October 2021. There are over thirty layouts shown in this video. There's no commentary so there are no details, unfortunately. Running time 16:54

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MCWnds7CvKk>

## Another mystery from Jim and the Shropshire Chronicle !

The opening of the BCR in 1865 and the resulting celebrations are well documented. Jim found the original report of the event in the Shrewsbury Chronicle of 27/10/1865 which yields yet another mystery about the BCR.

The report says that the train started from Stretford Bridge, but the halt there opened in 1890, it's said, as that was the date it first appeared in the timetable. Was it actually constructed for the opening event?

A junction with the Shrewsbury to Hereford line was to be formed shortly, according to the newspaper report. How did an engine and eleven carriages reach Stretford Bridge in that case?

Plowden station was rapidly nearing completion at the time of the opening but there was no sign of a station at Bishop's Castle. How did the shareholders and dignitaries get off the train?

A "fine, commodious building, after the style of the stations on the Oswestry and Newtown line, is to be commenced forthwith", the report said.



Last week a message was received from someone who had been offered the old water tank from the old Bishop's Castle horse drawn fire engine. He was wondering whether it would be of any use to us for display outside the weighbridge, as the old fire station was next door to our site. By coincidence we had recently received a photograph of Emmanuel Beddoes in his fireman's uniform. Further enquiries resulted in this photo of the Bishop's Castle Fire Brigade in the yard of the Six Bells with Emmanuel second from the left on the engine. The chap with the chain of office

was identified locally as E. C. Davies who was the Mayor from 1915 to 1917. When the fire engine was needed, the first thing they had to do was to catch the horse. This led them to advertise that anyone who called them out had to provide their own horse according to a press report!



## CHRISTMAS at the Welshpool & Llanfair Light Railway

Ho Ho Ho! Father Christmas and the Elves are already making plans to visit the Welshpool & Llanfair Light railway in December. Santa has promised to be in Llanfair the first three weekends in December and Monday 20th of December. There will be 5 trains a day, all are planned to be steam.

The price is £19.50 for adults and children alike. It includes a quality present for each child, a drink and a gingerbread man too! Under one year olds travel free and also receive a small age related present. Adults get a magical time with their children and a festive drink and snack.

As some Covid restrictions still apply the railway is still operating a bubble system. The bubble size is 8 people, so larger family groups of over 8 will need to book more than one bubble.

To book please follow this link. [Buy Tickets for Santa Specials \(digitickets.co.uk\)](http://digitickets.co.uk)

Sarah Perry W&LLR

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STOCKS  
LAST**

To order your copy

Email:

David O'Neill at  
[bcrscontact@gmail.com](mailto:bcrscontact@gmail.com)

£8.50 collection  
from the Weighbridge  
on 2nd & 4th Tuesdays  
in each month  
between 11am and 3pm

Or £10.00  
including postage

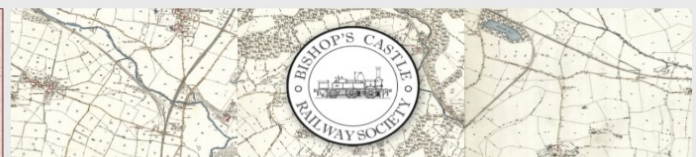
Payment by BACS to  
HSBC: A/C 01229877

Sort Code: 40-12-02

Ref: Calendar/your name

Or send a cheque payable to  
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26 Brockton, Lydbury North  
Shropshire, SY7 8BA



THE BISHOP'S CASTLE RAILWAY SOCIETY CO. LTD

# 2022 CALENDAR

For up to date information visit our website: [www.bcrailway.co.uk](http://www.bcrailway.co.uk) | Follow us on Facebook: [www.bit.ly/2vCUOt8](http://www.bit.ly/2vCUOt8)  
Maps from the 1885 and 1913 Ordnance Survey courtesy of the National Library of Scotland.  
Captions and original concepts by Peter Brockton. Designed and printed by Green Design & Print Ltd, Green Arns, Shropshire.



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