



Wolverhampton Branch
Severn Valley Railway
Supporting the SVR since 1967

Chairman's Report – March 2010

First of all, I'd like to welcome you to our third meeting of 2010. Sadly due to the extreme weather conditions we had to cancel the January meeting but as you see we have re-arranged the AGM to as soon as we could.

2009 started off well with our Railway's General Manager Nick Ralls participating in a lively Q & A session. February turned out to be a mixed month. Our scheduled speakers had to cry off due to the effects of the snow so an alternative was arranged in the form of Branch members giving a well received performance. Thankfully the talk was re-scheduled for October when the weather was kinder. During the first half-term week our [second disability saloon](#) was rededicated back into traffic on Kidderminster by honoured guests Mickey Bushell and Sascha Kindred (now OBE).

The programme continued with a couple of "fresh faces" to the Branch. This was supplemented by a week-day visit to the Blackpool Tramway system where we partook of a guided tour of the maintenance and paint facilities followed by a private hire of an unusual "Coronation" Vambac car. Sadly the day was marred by engineering works, so we never did get to Fleetwood and our usual fish and chip stop and the typical Blackpool weather wasn't help either! Yes, it rained...

Just before the 2009-2010 season started there was another car sharing visit to the Scunthorpe Steelworks to "bash" yet more new track. There is now over 100 miles in the system and if anyone hasn't been they don't know what they are missing. This time the group was taken actually through one of the working buildings. That's right, in one end and out the other! Afterwards the trolleybus museum at Sandtoft was visited.

LMS Dining Car 7511 was open for visitors during the Autumn Gala. Amongst the displays concerning the coach it self there was also information about our Branch and Hinton Manor. When I visited the coach it was being ably staffed by our humble(?) Treasurer who was doing a good job of Branch promotion.

2009 was rounded off with an extremely popular presentation/quiz by fellow SVR volunteer Alan Longdon which generated a great deal of discussion. More of this...?

Now I'll just finish off with my many thanks to all Branch members and fellow Committee members for your continued attendance and support of the "Premier Branch" of the "Premier Line."

Dave Rowley

Branch Chair

<http://www.svr-wolverhampton.org.uk/>



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