

## **Heritage Railway Trust**

Waldersea Depot, Long Drove, Waldersea, Friday Bridge, Wisbech, PE14 0NP website: www.bramleyline.org.uk email: office@bramleyline.org.uk phone or text: 07591 769180

**Supporters Newsletter- July 2013** 

On Wednesday morning the 17<sup>th</sup> July, this carriage started its first journey for ??? years.



Leaving it's resting place of many years Mick from Tears manages the controls, whilst Dave Bunting of The Bramley Line Trust keeps a watchful eye.

Following a generous offer from a citizen of March in Cambridgeshire, this railway carriage is now hopefully heading for restoration to it's former glory. The original 4 wheel chassis was built in Peterborough around 1876 by Barford and Perkins, with the superstructure likely to have been built by the then Birmingham Railway Carriage and Wagon Company, established in 1854.

It is thought the carriage ran on the railways from 1876 until its retirement in the early  $20^{th}$  century. Now in the  $21^{st}$  century, after serving a multitude of uses since it's former railway days, it has returned to the railway environment at the Bramley Line depot at Waldersea.

We would like to thank the team from Tears Recovery, Robert, Mick and Jake, for organising and executing the trouble free transportation, along with several members of the trust involved on the day. Having been resident in the same place for so long, the carriage inevitably has a few fragile parts, but the care and effort taken in the move by all involved resulted in a nil damage move across the fens to it's new home, back by the tracks.

The hunt is now on for a variety of parts and equipment for the restoration to begin, along of course, with the need for volunteers with the skills needed to begin on the very detailed and time consuming work. As we write this article, we have received news and an offer of carriage parts, door fittings etc, which will hopefully be of suitable vintage and style to start progressing the project ahead.





Arrival at Waldersea, with Jake from Tears.

## Website changes

The Bramley Line Trust website is also on the move with a number of changes. Whilst the home page is similar in appearance, if you have access to the internet take a look through the menu on the left. A new photographs page has been added which will be getting updated quite frequently. Also, now you can apply for membership, or renew existing membership through the website, which uses a Paypal link. Save time and postage, just use your regular credit card, and, membership costs are still frozen for another year. The membership year runs March to March. Go to <a href="www.bramleyline.org.uk">www.bramleyline.org.uk</a>.

If you have any photos of the line, past or present, old newspaper articles, ancient documents etc., our webmaster would be very interested to see them, either emailed to <a href="webmaster@bramleyline.org.uk">webmaster@bramleyline.org.uk</a> or posted to the Waldersea depot address.

Other merchandising pages etc will be added as time permits, with future events starting to appear as they are planned.

## Roadshow dates.

The current roadshow dates scheduled are: 11<sup>th</sup> August at the Ramsey Rural Life Museum. 1<sup>st</sup> September at the Brightlingsea County Show. 22nd September at the Clacton Vehicle Show and



Keep an eye on the website for news, photos, merchandising offers etc., and if you not a member currently, why not join to support the cause to restore trains to the railway between Wisbech and March.