

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS OF THE LYMINGTON TO BROCKENHURST LINE



No. 65: December 2021

Dear Friends,

I cannot believe how time has flown since our last Newsletter. My first duty (and pleasure) is to pass on your Committee's wishes for a

HAPPY CHRISTMAS! AND SAFE NEW YEAR



This Christmas tree at St Thomas' Church in Lymington was a piece of free publicity for the Friends, made possible by an anonymous sponsor. My grateful thanks go to Alison Hull our Chair for helping me to cut out the pictures of locomotives etc, and to her and Cllr. Jacqui England for their help in decorating the tree at the beginning of December. Someone actually bought it afterwards! We wish them also a Happy Christmas.

Now to more practical matters:

New 'Waterside Wanderer' day-ticket

SWR is delighted to announce the availability of a new one-day integrated travel ticket in the Southampton area, covering rail, bus and ferry services, known as the Waterside Wanderer. This is an innovative ticket developed by the Three Rivers Community Rail Partnership in cooperation with SWR, GWR, Blue Star Buses and the Hythe Ferry. <https://www.southwesternrailway.com/other/news-and-media/news/2021/december/days-out-in-the-new-forest-hythe-and-the-waterside-area-made-easier> .

It might be useful for the entertainment of grandchildren over the holiday period..., not to mention yourselves!

Friends of the Lymington to Brockenhurst Line AGM

The current news on the latest spread of Covid in its latest variants makes planning anything uncertain, but your Committee feels that it is worth planning for the usual Annual General Meeting in February, even if it has to be postponed, as it had to be this year. Accordingly, we have decided on Monday 21st February at 7.30 pm at the Lymington Community Centre. This is merely to ask you to put the date in your new diaries (when you get them!); there will be an official announcement in the next Newsletter, together with the Agenda, etc.

28th May 2022 Excursion

In a similar vein we are planning for our early summer Excursion, thanks to John Canavan who is our Excursions Organiser. On the early afternoon of 28th May 2022 we shall take to the water (Southampton Water, to be precise) on SS Shieldhall, a converted steam barge, the only one of its kind to survive. Details of the trip are to be found below, on pages 3 and 4. NB This would normally be the Bank Holiday Weekend, but because of the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen, it is a normal weekend. (The Jubilee weekend will be the Bank Holiday Weekend.) Meanwhile if you are curious about the ship and her history, I suggest that you visit <https://ss-shieldhall.co.uk> .

With best wishes from the Committee for Christmas and the New Year, and from

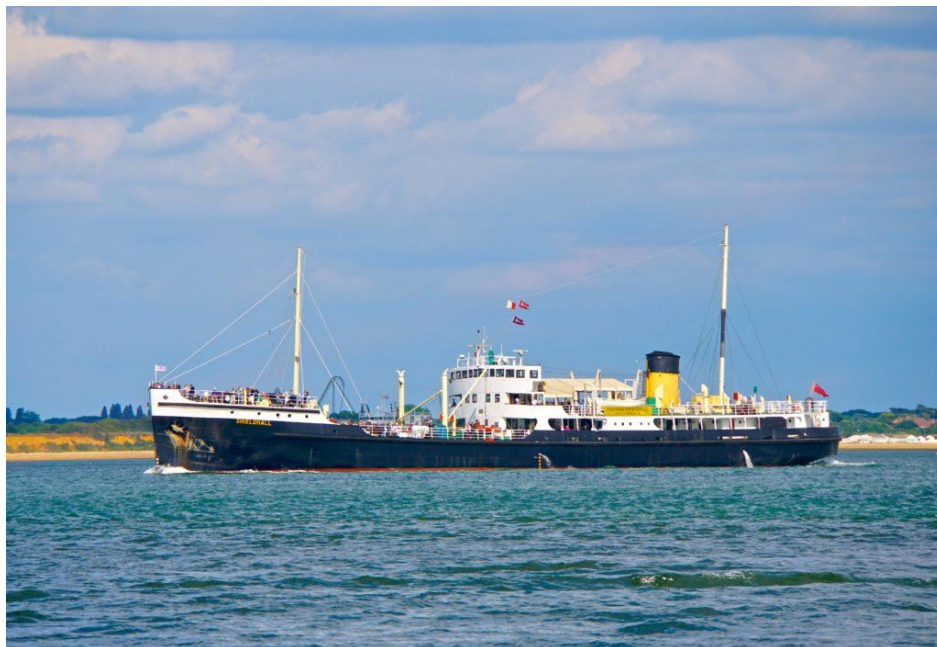
Georgina

Tel. 01590 672406. g.craufurd@gmail.com

**FRIENDS of the LYMINGTON to BROCKENHURST
LINE**

STEAMSHIP SHIELDHALL

**CRUISE STEAM TO THE SOLENT, CRUISE & SEE
CRUISE SHIPS DEPART**



SATURDAY 28th MAY 2022

£40.00*

**MEET at 13:10 LYMINGTON TOWN
STATION**

Trip Includes: -

**Return Rail/Minibus Travel from Lyminster Town to
Southampton Docks,**

**Steamship Shieldhall Cruise Tickets (*Includes visits to Bridge & Engine
Room*)**

*** Tariffs: FOLBL Member - £40.00**

FOLBL Non-Member - £48.00

**SS Shieldhall have set aside 30 places for the Friends
(*this excursion will sell out very quickly and it's first come*)**

basis) so a £5.00 deposit is required by Thursday 23rd December 2021 to confirm our booking.

To book phone John on 07505 123826 (leave a message) or email johncanavan28@gmail.com

Final payments are required by Saturday 26th March 2022.

**Cheques should be made out to John Canavan
Post to: - 43 Shrubbs Avenue, Lymington SO41 9DJ**

Steamship Shieldhall

Itinerary

Saturday 28th May 2022

We meet at 13:10 (1:10pm) outside Lymington Town station; our party will split into two groups. The Scouts' minibus will take one group to Southampton docks (arr. 13:45) and the second group will catch the 13:29 SWR service from Lymington Town to Brockenhurst (arr. 13:37), which will connect with the 13:44 SWR service to Southampton Central (arr 13:58). The Scouts' minibus will then pick up the train travellers from Southampton Central and take them into Southampton Docks in time to board SS Shieldhall at Berth 110 at 14:30 (it's a 5-minute walk from the car park to SS Shieldhall).

At leisure on board Steamship Shieldhall.

15.30 SS Shieldhall steams down Southampton Water to the Solent and down towards Ryde Sands, passing the cruise ships P & O's **Iona** and **Sky Princess** in berth, and on your return you will see the cruise ships depart, or even a container ship – always the chance to sound Shieldhall's whistle and play the 'Shieldhall Organ'!

As part of our cruise, you will be able to go down to see the impressive engine room with its original steam engines at work, and visit the bridge with its traditional instruments and gleaming brasswork; admire the ship's steam- assisted steering gear (similar to that used on Titanic); and talk to the Captain and Shieldhall's volunteer crew. You

will cruise past close to the great ocean liners and container ships; walk the teak decks; relax in the saloon with a wide range of refreshments including tea / coffee; real ale; a range of Titanic bottled beers; and wine and hot and cold food, available on all cruises.

We arrive back in Berth 110 at approximately 19:00 (7pm); the Scouts' minibus will return the train travellers back to Southampton Central to catch 19:51 SWR to Brockenhurst (arr. 20:04), then 20:12 to Lymington Town (arr. 20:20). After dropping off the train travellers the Scouts' minibus will return to the Docks, pick up everyone else, and return to Lymington Town Car Park (arr. approximately 20:20).

Kind regards, John Canavan
Excursions Officer.

P.S. There are steep stairways on SS Shieldhall, you have to walk down them backwards. Wendy and I will help all who require help to get between decks.