

# BLUEBELL *Safety* NEWS

**Safety is everyone's responsibility**

December 2017



## **Safety Managers Corner**

Well here we are again, heading towards Christmas and Santa's Specials before closing until February so we can get our various jobs done for next year's Operations. What a year we've just had, starting off with the Flying Scotsman in April, The Deltics in Oct and very successful events such as Halloween and as usual Santa. I would like to thank everyone for making all these days safe days, not just for our Customers but for everyone who works here, as we all play a big role in being a Safe Railway.

## **Carriage doors**

Carriage Doors not properly secured continues to be a theme, although not as much as in previous years. Most of you will know that there have been quite a few instances where trains have operated with carriage doors not properly secured.



We believe that some of these events are due to passengers "interfering" with door locks. We recognise that many of our passengers have little or no experience of train doors operated with conventional handles. Trains on the "mainline" are invariably equipped with doors operated or

released by railway staff. It is not unusual to see a Bluebell passenger waiting patiently for a door to open – especially on stock not fitted with internal handles.

Taking account of this unfamiliarity, we have applied appropriate notices in carriages reinforcing the door safety messages in the customer information leaflet, vigilance by all operating staff is essential. Please continue, in a timely manner, report these incidents. If you have any suggestions in other ways we could reduce this trend further, please do not hesitate to let me know.

## **ID Cards**

Although ID Cards do not come under the heading of safety, I look after the issuing and reissuing of them. I would like to take this opportunity to apologise for the delay you may have faced over the year in receiving your ID's. Unfortunately, the printer and I went into melt down mode with the large quantities I was receiving at the time. I am pleased to report that we are through the worst, so we are back to normal. To help reduce this problem in the future, we are currently considering a more adequate/multi-functional printer.

## **Personal Track Safety Courses (PTS).**

2018 PTS Training Courses have now been approved by the Board and the dates have been sent to all Departmental Managers, please check your PTS certificates and if its expired or is close to expiring, please contact your Line Manager and they will book you on a convenient course. As a reminder, staff PTS

certificates last for 5 Years between the ages of 18 and 70. 70 and over is valid for 3 years with years 2 and 3 issued after submission to the Safety Manager of a Self-Certification Medical Form.

**Please make sure your safety related competences are kept up to date.**

## **First Aiders**

If you are already a First Aider, thank you for doing this vital role, however we need more, so If you would like to volunteer, please register your interest with your Line Manager. If you're already a qualified First Aider through a source outside the Bluebell Railway, we will still need you to attend one of our courses.

## **And finally, ...**

I urge you to do the simple things well. For example:

- Use the PPE provided.
- Don't prop open fire doors, especially with extinguishers!
- Clean up spills.
- Keep emergency exits clear
- Keep your workplace tidy.

**Above all, work safely.**

*Brian Aitchison*

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This newsletter is available on the Bluebell Railway website at:

<http://www.bluebell-railway.co.uk/bluebell/safety>