

TCP team brave the elements at Railway Gala

It was 'full steam ahead' for some TCP staff at the recent West Somerset Steam Railway Gala.

The event, which featured classic steam engines from the golden era of the Somerset and Dorset Railway, was visited by thousands of steam enthusiasts and was a huge success.

TCP had six marshals in the car parks at Bishops Lydeard. However, they had only limited time to enjoy the excitement generated by the smell of steam and hot oil, as they were too busy making sure that everyone had a place to park their cars, not to mention helping them push their vehicles out of the muddy, rain-soaked field.

Despite the inclement weather, Ian, the Station Master, was very pleased with the service that was provided by TCP.

Thanks to Stan Morton and his team. We appreciate all your efforts!

Interested in the great age of steam? There may be special events on the Railway. Visit the website at: www.west-somerset-railway.co.uk.

Amanda, Radio Star

Our Area Supervisor for the London Area, Amanda Waller, was listening to Capital Radio and was upset by the bad reports that traffic wardens were unfeeling and too keen to issue penalty notices. She contacted Johnnie Vaughn at the radio station to put forward the TCP ethos to his listeners and was asked to be interviewed on air the following day.

She agreed, and the interview became a competition to determine which company gave the longest grace time. In the London area TCP came out on top. As Amanda says, 'We are NOT traffic wardens, we are Car Park Attendants' and she has gone some of the way to distinguish between the different sides of our industry. This was very good advertising for TCP and proves that we have a human face too. Well done Amanda.



From Left: Zak, Mike, Nick, Sarah, Station Manager Ian Aldridge, Rich and Rob

Calcutta Cup visits Perth

The Calcutta Cup is one of Rugby Unions most illustrious prizes and was recently won by Scotland when they beat England during the 6 Nations tournament this season. Our Operations Director, George Alexander, paid an undisclosed sum to charity at his local golf Club to be photographed with Scotland's prize. You certainly look the part George and it is especially sweet knowing the rivalry between Scotland and England on the rugby field.



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Bernie's space

Alongside this column you will read that I was lucky part owner of a racehorse that won at Perth recently.

It was a great day out with lots of family and friends

present and it was made even more memorable because the day of the race coincided with the first day of our management of the car parks at the racecourse. This was also a great success and a big thank you to all the boys led by Davy Hunter who carried out a super job.

We are hoping to expand this side of our business. Event parking as it is called is a growing segment of the car parking industry and includes events like the Steam Railway Gala which is reported on the front page of this issue. I'll keep you posted on our progress. In the meantime me and the rest of the owners of Key Phil are now dreaming of Cheltenham or Aintree!

All the best,

Bernie



TCP Managing Director onto a winner

You may not be aware that our Managing Director, Bernie, is the proud part owner of a racehorse called Key Phil.

On 26th April he won a race at Perth and, to everyone's delight, came romping home, over the jumps, at 6/1. There is now a beautiful trophy in the Boardroom at Head Office. He has since won again at Huntingdon.

Bernie was very pleased with Key Phil's performance even though he says that he only owns the tail. Hopefully that is the only part of his anatomy that will be visible by the rest of the field. Even so, for those of us who like a flutter, it may be worth watching Key Phil's form and having the odd 50p each way bet. We also look forward to seeing him in a future Grand National. Good luck Key Phil.



The photo is by courtesy of John Grossick, of Grossick Racing Photography, and if you would like to see further photos of Key Phil the website address is: www.grossickracing.co.uk.

TCP Howler

Red Face, Orange Revolution

Len was putting a penalty notice on a red car when he heard an irate female voice shouting at him to 'Stop!'. When he looked up he was being speedily approached by a large woman, carrying a bulging Iceland shopping bag and making insinuations as to Len's mother's marital status. Her outburst was attracting quite a crowd, when she suddenly went quiet and stared at the car with the penalty on it. Apparently it wasn't hers!

She promptly apologised, gave Len an orange from her bag, then got into her car and drove off. Now Len is receiving oranges from other car owners in the hope that he will let them off their penalties!

Submitted by Len Tolvin (Iceland, Ilford)

Did you know?

1. In 2004, for the first time, local authorities in the UK took more than £1billion from parking fines.
2. Each year in the UK, 2 million cars are sold, 2 million cars are stolen and 2 million cars are scrapped – not the same ones of course!
3. In the UK one man is beaten up in a road rage incident every 40 minutes. He must be a terrible driver!

Extracts from Daily Telegraph 6th May 2006

Meet the team

In this edition our shining light is Gavin Mullen who fills the role of TCP Operations Manager.



Gavin is responsible for all of the Iceland sites, and being a legal eagle, deals with tenders, leases, rents and new business.

Gavin started with TCP in June 2005, after several years as Regional Property Manager with Iceland Foods managing the whole of the UK and Ireland. Prior to Iceland he worked for the Inland Revenue, but perhaps we shouldn't mention that!

He currently lives in beautiful North Wales with his wife Samantha and two children Katie (3), and Isabella (6 months). When asked where he was going with TCP, he replied, 'Ashby de la Zouch in a few weeks time'.

His interests, when he has time left after spending it with the children, is going to the cinema, touring the UK and indulging his interest in music. He is also a very keen Archaeologist and wishes that he had been able to go further along this track. If you need your garden dug, just tell Gavin that you have found a few Roman coins and he's your man.

Easter bonnet competition



I would like to thank everyone who submitted photos for the Easter Bonnet mystery prize competition.

The winner is Master Marc McNaughton (aged 9 years) with his Easter Bunny Bonnet. He made it all by himself and we think it is a worthy prizewinner. I am sure you will agree. Well done Marc! Your prize is a game entitled 'Beat the Traffic Warden' I hope you have many happy hours with your prize.

Don't forget, anyone in the family can enter our competitions but if you don't enter you can't win.

Computer tips from the PC Doctor

No 2: avoiding junk e-mail (aka 'spam')

Wouldn't it be great if you could preview your e-mails and delete any you don't want, before they get onto your computer? Well now you can!

Go to www.mailwasher.net, download the free version and install it. You then set it up with your e-mail account details. (If you need help with this, ask the Editor and she will e-mail you a guide.) Click the 'Help' option in Mailwasher (MW) for more info, and the website also has a FAQs page.

To deal with spam, connect to the Net, run MW (not your e-mail program, which is probably Outlook Express). Click 'Check Mail' and MW will look at your mailbox on your ISP's server and display any e-mails. It will also show the sender's email address, subject, any attachments etc.

Double click any message to read the contents. Tick the Delete box if you don't want to receive it, and/or the Bounce box which will return it to the sender, so you don't get any more! If you do tick these boxes, you MUST then click the 'Process Mail' button so MW can Delete and/or Bounce the selected emails. If no boxes are ticked, then click the 'Mail Program' button to open Outlook Express, and then click the usual Send/Receive button – you'll only download the emails you wanted! MW won't work with Hotmail, AOL or web based accounts.

Hot tips

1. Don't ever reply to any unwanted e-mails asking them not to send you more - that only confirms your email address is a valid one and you WILL get more!
2. If you ever get an e-mail from your bank, building society etc, it could be from someone trying to steal your personal details! Even if the e-mail displays genuine-looking logos etc, don't reply - check with your Bank or Building Society by phone, as they NEVER ask you for personal details, passwords etc.

TCP 'Name That Tune' competition

Win £50 of Marks & Spencer Vouchers with our brain teaser for all the family.

Simply give us the song titles from the following snippets of lyrics. If you don't know them all still submit your entry because we may not have anyone who knows them all. Are you up for the challenge?

1. "I'm just a poor boy from a poor family"
2. "Midnight, not a sound from the pavement"
3. "I feel it in my fingers"
4. "Touched for the very first time"
5. "I'm so young and you're so old"
6. "My life is brilliant, my love is pure"