Weekly update 14/07/26.

This was the outing we were all looking forward to – the annual opportunity to explore ‘behind the scenes’ at the East Lancashire Railway in Bury. Thanks to Grahame (who has been involved here for around 40 years) & understanding wife Karen, who look after us whilst on site, & tell us about the many ‘works in progress’, most of which take many years to completion.

The subjects for our cameras range from discarded mugs to mighty 6 foot diameter locomotive wheels. And beautiful old machine tools, mostly made locally in nearby Halifax, & all in fully working condition, relying on the skill of the operator, rather than a computer programmer and a button pusher, to turn out precision components. Often the only way to keep old engines going, is to make hard to get components.

After an hour or so inside, we went out into the sidings. Most of the stock out here is either awaiting restoration, or being dismantled as needed for other jobs. Plenty to go at here! Rusting suspension parts nestling in the grass, distressed woodwork on old carriages, leading (railway) lines and interesting textures in the sleepers.

Then back inside for a final look before going across the road to the carriage works, where carriages are rebuilt & painted. As with the main workshop, the standard is impressively high, often better than the original.





Before next Tuesday, there is an exhibition at our usual meeting place, Syke, where some of our work is on display. Do have a look. Sunday is Rotary Rochdale's annual fund raiser, the Classic Car Show in Falinge Park.

Finally, our 2nd POTY is next week. Get your entries to Alan’s NAS before on Sunday at the latest for inclusion.