

## **Report to Cambrian Coast Railway Liaison Committee.**

**20<sup>th</sup> May 2016**

This year has again shown a marked decrease in most type of offences on the Cambrian Coast.

The majority of cases dealt with are Road Traffic Offences, mainly the on-going problems of vehicle drivers miss-using level crossings. In the 12 month period to April 2016 twelve offenders have been issued with Fixed Penalty Notices, fining them £100 and resulting in 3 penalty points being put on their driving licences. These were for offences of Failing to Comply to the red lights, or in the case of more serious breaches, Careless Driving.

BTP have been working closely with Network Rail in relation to issues at crossings, particularly at Harlech. This crossing, which is very unusual in that it has a road junction within the confines of the crossing, has recently had the road surface renewed, and the road markings re-painted. Since this work was carried out, there have been no reports of misuse.

### **Red lights mean STOP. Simple!**

#### **Anti- Social Behaviour.**

Further decreases in instances of Anti-Social Behaviour have been noted over the past 12 months. One incident of Drunk and Disorderly behaviour was put before the courts in the last twelve months, as a result of incidents on the Cambrian line, resulting in a 27 year old male from Manchester receiving fines totalling £260.

Investigations are currently on-going into two other instances of Disorderly Behaviour, one between Aberystwyth and Caersws, and the other between Barmouth and Porthmadog. In both cases suspects were identified from on-board CCTV cameras and have been interviewed. Files are currently with the Crown Prosecution Service.

There has been a significant decrease in the number of party-goers returning from Aberystwyth to Newtown and Welshpool on the 19:30 hours departure on Saturday evenings. It would appear that a good proportion of these passengers are choosing to go to Shrewsbury instead, with a subsequent increase in patronage on the last Aberystwyth service from Shrewsbury. This departure is regularly monitored by BTP officers and, although very busy, is usually well behaved.

Services to and from Pwllheli on a Saturday evening are also being monitored and it would appear that, rather than causing a large increase in passengers on the last Machynlleth departure at 20:12 hours, there is now a significant increase in numbers travelling to Pwllheli on the last couple of arrivals. This

would appear to be due to the opening of a Nightclub near to the station. Further monitoring through the summer period will be carried out.

It is important that all rail passengers, and train crews, are able to make their journeys and carry out their duties without fear of intimidation, or of being a victim of crime. As an integral part of the infrastructure of the Cambrian Coast, it is all the more important that we demonstrate to our many thousands of visitors, that travelling by train on the Cambrian Lines, at any time of the day or evening, can be, and is, a safe and pleasurable experience. BTP will continue to work with all our industry partners to ensure this continues to always be the case.