

Report to Cambrian Coast Railway Liaison Committee.
13th November 2015

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 period from April to October 2015 ten offenders have been issued with Fixed Penalty Notices, fining them £100 and resulting in 3 penalty points being put on their driving licences.

Of these, six were for more serious miss-use, meaning the drivers were dealt with for the offence of Careless Driving, three of which were for driving across Talwrn Bach crossing at Llanbedr whilst trains were at a stand in the station platform. All three drivers were from outside the area and used the excuse that they thought it was safe to cross as the train was stopped in the station, or that they didn't know how to use a level crossing without barriers.

Red lights mean STOP. Simple!

Anti- Social Behaviour.

Historical issues on the Saturday evening 19:30 hours, last train from Aberystwyth to Shrewsbury seem to have abated, although the reciprocal working from Shrewsbury to Aberystwyth has seen a marked increase in patronage between Shrewsbury and Newtown. This is being closely monitored by BTP in Shrewsbury to prevent any issues with Anti - social behaviour. Last Christmas the last trains from Shrewsbury to Newtown on Friday and Saturday nights were busy and noisy, so it is clear the trend of travelling at weekends to Aberystwyth is changing to Shrewsbury. This will be monitored by BTP, Dyfed-Powys Police and West Mercia Police jointly working together over the Christmas period.

The opening of the J.D. Wetherspoons pub opposite the station in Pwllheli has impacted on the amount of passengers on the 20:12 hours service from Pwllheli to Machynlleth on Friday and Saturday evenings. Some reports have been received from train crews reporting abuse from passengers, particularly in relation to the time access is given to the train before departure from Pwllheli.

This is unacceptable, and we will be working closely with BTP officers from Bangor and Rhyl to monitor any further problems. Passengers should be able to complete their journeys, and Train Crews should be able to carry out their duties, without fear of intimidation and violence from drunken and unruly passengers.

In the run-up to the Christmas period we will be endeavouring to police as many of these trains involving anti-social behaviour as possible, bearing in mind the constraints the large geographical area, and other calls for service, places on us.