



The Official Newsletter of
Cumbria Transport Group



"Welcome to our brand new quarterly newsletter - we hope you find it informative and we welcome any feedback."

"Inside you will find insights and support on the current global fuel cost crisis. We hope to help our local colleagues and work towards the continuous improvement of the Cumbrian Transport Industry"

NEIL ROBINSON
CTG CHAIRMAN



SPRING UPDATE



April saw the first physical meeting of our steering group committee since the challenges of the pandemic, it was fantastic to see everyone and the meeting was extremely productive - initiating several projects including engagement with local schools in partnership with Cumbria LEP.

For those of you new to the group we'd like to introduce you to our steering group to offer you various points of contact should it be required:

Neil Robinson - CTG Chairman & Director of Tyson H Burrridge Transport - neil@tysonhburrridge.co.uk
Tony Higgins - Director System People/SP Training - tony.higgins@sptraininguk.com
Tony Markley - County Councillor - anthony.markley@cumbria.gov.uk
Ricky Robinson - Director Spencer Graham Coaches - ricky@sgcoaches.co.uk
Emma Robinson - Director Spencer Graham Coaches - emma@sgcoaches.co.uk
Sue Todd - Manager Mountain Goat - officemanager@mountain-goat.com
Jennifer Whyberd - Director at Wm Armstrong Group - jennifer@warmstrong.co.uk
Chris Bowness - Transport Manager A.W Jenkinsons Transport - chris.bowness@awjtransport.co.uk
Karen Stalker - Director Stalkers Transport - karen.stalker@stalkerstransport.co.uk
Lyndsey Fitheridge - Director System People/SP Training - lyndsey.fitheridge@system-people.co.uk
James Spark - CTG admin & Client Relationship Manager SP Training - james.spark@sptraininguk.com
Sue Clarke - Business Development SP Training - sue.clarke@sptraininguk.com

Steering Group key updates...

As this was the first physical meeting of our steering group in over 2 years we were keen to reassess our core objectives and our plans to make them achievable.

A particular point of interest was the local driver shortage, driven by years of drivers' moving from company to company without a regular feed of fresh talent. Our focus on combating this is engagement with local schools to make the younger generation aware of the importance of the transport industry in everything that happens in the county. Several of our steering group members are already planned to present to local schools which has already received high anticipation from those involved.

If you think you could add value to this local project please contact lyndsey.fitheridge@system-people.co.uk.



Local School Update...



William Howard School have a careers event for Years 9 and 10 in the diary for the 11th July. Classroom based rotations about post 16 choices and mock interviews, if you are interested in any of these sessions and would like to attend please let us know and we will confirm with the school careers lead Tracey Hill who will be in touch directly with info.



Dallam School in Milnthorpe have an event on for year 10 students who are doing functional skills and want hands on careers-sessions, these are held 1.15-2.15pm Fridays in June/July (24th June and 8th/15th July)



Furness Academy in Barrow - 8th July 9am-12.30 Talking to year 8 students in 4 groups over the morning and setting an activity or workshop based on your sector

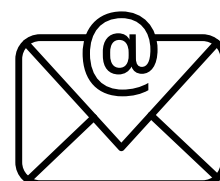


John Ruskin School in Coniston end of term focus on careers for years 10 and 11 (14th and 15th July) details to be confirmed. Careers Fair type of event with different employers talking about their own sector



George Hastwell School on Walney Island, Barrow are a school for Special Educational Needs students and we are planning a VEHICLE DAY (date to be confirmed in July) where younger students could get to sit in a vehicle and older students could talk to the driver about careers (we hope to invite many different vehicle types (e.g. Ambulance, Fire Engines, Tractors, Diggers, Ice Cream vans etc.).

If your company would like to support any of these events please contact Lyndsey Fitheridge
lyndsey.fitheridge@system-people.co.uk



FUEL COST CRISIS

Members may have seen our recent LinkedIn Poll which aimed to find out what was important to the local transport industry. The results strongly indicated the obvious concern of the rising cost of fuel.

Jennifer Whyberd, one of our steering group members and director of Wm Armstrong reported:

"Fuel has increased over 30% since the Russian invasion of Ukraine - on the 21st of January a 36,000 litre tank cost us £1.15 + VAT per litre and now it's over £1.55 + VAT per litre, there's no major difference to what car drivers' pay on the forecourts."

"We've implemented fuel escalators which varies the price of our service dependent on the current fuel price - we wouldn't be sustainable as a business if this wasn't put in place due to other rising costs such as driver wages due to the national shortage and cost of living increase."

Jennifer also highlighted the benefit of Telematics and incentivising drivers based on their individual performances. Professional driver courses such as SAFED (Safe & Fuel Efficient Driving) typically improves fuel consumption by at least 5%.

Our Chair, Neil Robinson, agreed with the above strategy to combat the price increase, suggesting LGV's rarely pass 8.5-10mpg.



LGV SKILLS SHORTAGE

Our recent poll also highlighted the current national driver shortage, many feeling the difficulty hiring and retaining drivers is apparent in the county.

Emma Robinson, director of Spencer Graham Coaches and member of our steering group talked about their strategy for bringing on new drivers:

"we feel we've been fortunate when looking for drivers - most of our job posts are done through social media which we find really effective. It's free, but just make sure you try and make your business stand out, include a video or something to show off what it's really like to work there - we've used this technique many times and it's helped us stand out and grow."

The Government have invested £34 million into funding 11,000 new LGV Drivers in England - their local skills 'Bootcamps' have been popular by upskilling current employees of the industry by 70% or totally funding people who are new to the industry.

For more information on local availability of SAFED or Bootcamp Courses please email CTG@sptraininguk.com



HAVE YOU MADE YOUR CLAIM AGAINST THE CARTEL?

The **RHA** have won the right to represent the industry in a collective claim against truck manufacturers who fixed prices, agreed the cost that truck purchasers should be charged for emissions technologies (Euro 3, 4, 5, and 6), and delayed the introduction of emissions technologies - companies' that purchased or leased a truck from 1997 onwards could be entitled to claim for the difference between what you paid for your trucks and what you would have paid if the cartel had not existed.

What can my business claim for?

- All brands of truck, including DAF, Daimler/Mercedes, Iveco, MAN, Renault, Scania, and Volvo
- Trucks purchased (either outright or on finance) between 1997 and 2011
- Trucks leased between 1997 and 2011
- Trucks of 6 tons and over
- Brand new trucks and second-hand trucks
- Possibly for trucks purchased or leased after 2011 – the RHA will advise further in due course

Who can join the RHA's collective claim?

Any firm, company, or individual who between 17 January 1997 and 17 May 2019 purchased or leased a truck registered in the UK for road haulage operations (both hire and reward and own-account). If you purchased or leased trucks registered in EEA Member States other than the UK, you can join if your company belongs to a group of companies that purchased or leased trucks registered in the UK.

You do not need to be an RHA member to join the claim.

What are the benefits of joining the RHA's claim?

There are real benefits in joining the RHA's group claim, including:

- The RHA is highly respected within industry – its significant clout and power may help to reach settlement
- Claimants can “stand behind” the RHA which is fronting the legal case (although this will not apply if all of part of the case is ultimately brought in the High Court as claims there will be brought in the name of each individual claimant)
- The RHA is acutely aware that operators will continue to have business dealings with truck manufacturers after the claim and will conduct proceedings in a measured and constructive manner
- Operators (many of which are SMEs) cannot afford to take action on their own
- The RHA has secured third-party litigation funding on very competitive terms and so there is no cost to operators in signing up
- The RHA has appointed a first-rate legal team who have worked for organisations such as FIA, FIFA, Google, GSK, Samsung, Sky, and UEFA
- The RHA has put in place multi-million pound insurance in case the claim is lost – the insurance protects the RHA and the individual operators
- The RHA will not profit from acting as representative, maximising compensation returned to operators

For more info on the RHA claim and to join visit their [webpage](#)



CAN YOU HELP?



Carlisle City under 7's football team are looking for a donation of £200-£250 to help fund new equipment, balls and kit.

The sponsor will include a logo on the team's training tops and a mention in the 1st team program.

We'd love to sponsor the team and help build awareness of the Cumbrian Transport industry within the younger generation - as the group is run by volunteers and generates no income we need support from our members, if you're interested in contributing please contact ctg@sptraininguk.com



As an organisation managed by volunteers resource is a huge part of our ability to provide an informative and supportive experience to our members - ultimately benefitting the local transport industry. If you or your company could spare any time to help increase the exposure of the group we'd love to hear from you - please email ctg@sptraininguk.com or call James Spark on 07825109725.

AUTUMN MEMBER MEETING

The challenges of the pandemic on our volunteer led organisation have meant resources have been scarce. Now that the pandemic appears to be in the rear-view mirror we're looking forward to building up to our in-person autumn member meeting - which is long overdue!

We're busy looking at dates based on speaker availability however it is estimated to be during October. The agenda will include updates from the traffic commissioner and speakers on aiding fuel efficiency and tackling the national driver shortage. Dates will be confirmed in due-course.

Tickets to our member meeting will be free of charge.

Sponsorship Opportunities

Event Sponsor
Lunch Sponsor
Program Sponsor

Interested in sponsoring? Email ctg@sptraininguk.com for further information.

