The Railway Herald

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Front Cover

Class 373 Eurostar 'Half-sets' Nos. (37)3219 and (37)3220 pose alongside Class 395 'Javelin' No. 395001 at London St Pancras International following the official opening by HM The Queen. **LCR/Eddie McDonald**

Rear Cover

During Past Time Rail's 'Cotton Mill Express' on 3rd November LMS Black 5 No. 45407 and BR Standard 4MT No. 76079 storm away from Greenfields on the outward run. **Ken Horan**

Publication

The Railway Herald is due to be published every Friday and is available on e-mail subscription or from our website at www.railwayherald.co.uk

Submissions

We welcome submissions from all readers, especially digital photographs. Pictures should be sent to the editor at editor@railwayherald.co.uk

Good quality scans of colour slides and prints are also acceptable. Currently there is no financial payment made for photographs published in *Railway Herald*. Where possible we always try to use news photographs taken within the production week of the publication date.

Website

Our website contains all the back issues of the magazine together with a host of new features which will be online soon!

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National Rail Timetable

The entire UK National Rail Timetable is now available as a PDF download from the Network Rail website.

Produced in the same fashion as the printed version and ordered by table number, the current timetable is available by clicking here.

The railway by-laws and information for enthusiasts are also available online from the Network Rail website, by clicking here.

Newsdesk

▲ The first of the three Grand Central HSTs finally made its inaugural run on the National Network on 8th November. Following a trip 'around the bridges' at Newcastle, the set worked via Sunderland to York, seen here passing Hartlepool with No. 43080 leading and No. 43067 on the rear. **Michael J. Alderdice**

◀ Having been painted at Wolverhampton Oxley into the base colours of its new livery, Class 170/5 No. 170504 worked to Tyseley over night on 2nd November, pictured here at Wolverhampton. **Wilf Smith**

The Railway Census 2007

Submission Deadline

All contributions must be in by 12th November!

Submissions for the census continue to flood in, again our thanks to everyone.

If you still have any submissions to send then please can you submit them, via email or through the post as soon as possible. The first Monday after 10th November is our actual deadline for submissions. Unfortunately, due to the volume of information and images, we cannot guarantee that anything that arrives after **Monday 12th November** will be included.

So if you have CD's or images still to send, please drop them in the post First Class to us or send them on an email to railwaycensus@railwayherald.co.uk

We will keep you up to date on the developments as we wade through the information and pictures. ***Keep them coming!***

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HM The Queen inaugurates London St. Pancras International

HM The Queen, accompanied by HRH The Duke of Edinburgh, launched High Speed 1, currently the UK's final section of high-speed railway, and officially opened St Pancras International Station on 6th November.

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness arrived by car at the Hotel Arch beneath the Gothic façade of the Grand Midland Hotel,. where they were greeted by Sir David Cooksey, Chairman of London & Continental Railways, the company behind the project.

The Royal Party sat on specially built platforms beneath the Barlow trainshed roof and The Queen delivered an address to an invited audience of over 1,000 guests, including senior political figures from London, the UK and Europe. A state-of-the-art light, sound and film show was accompanied by music from the Royal Philharmonic Concert Orchestra, performing with 'chart topper' Lemar and Katherine Jenkins. The finale of the event consisted of a film about the £10.5 billion of regeneration that forms the legacy of High Speed 1, followed by two Eurostar sets and one of the Hitachi-built Class 395 'Javelin' train for Southeastern arriving to specifically written musical accompaniment. The Queen then met the three drivers concerned before being introduced to those involved with the construction of the station, before receiving a specially commissioned commemorative replica of the grand station clock, unveiling an official plaque and receiving a posy of flowers.

Rob Holden, chief executive of London & Continental Railways said: "The completion of High Speed 1 and the opening of St Pancras International, on time and within budget, is a great source of pride for the thousands of men and women who have been involved in one of the most significant projects in UK railway history. For Her Majesty to have been here to officially declare the new high-speed line and station open is a fitting tribute."

Preparations are now continuing for St Pancras International to open fully, ready for public services to start when Eurostar completes its move from Waterloo to St Pancras International overnight on 13th/14th November.

▲▲ *The official opening of St Pancras International featured two Eurostars and a Class 395 'Javelin'. From left to right are Class 373 Eurostars Nos. (37)3001 and (37)3002, (37)3219 and (37)3220 and Class 395 No. 395001.*

▲ *The actual opening of St. Pancras and High Speed 1 was undertaken by HM The Queen on 6th November.* **Both: LCR / Eddie Macdonald**

Bookings rocket for Eurostar

Eurostar has announced that it has taken more than one million bookings for travel on High Speed 1, the UK's 186mph line.

The milestone was passed with just one week to go before the launch of services from St Pancras International on 14th November, and represents an 11% increase in the number of bookings at the same time last year.

Metro & Light Rail

▶ Tube Lines, the company rebuilding the Jubilee, Northern and Piccadilly lines, has begun refurbishing Acton Town station as part of its station upgrade programme for 2007/2008. The works will take place during the hours when the station is closed during the night, and every night there will be a team of up to 30 on the site, with the work including installation of two new lifts to be completed by early autumn 2008. Other work includes improvement of lighting, the number off CCTV cameras increased from 24 to 71 and the installation of 11 new Help Points.

▶ London Underground Managing Director, Tim O'Toole, and the PPP Administrator of Metronet, Alan Bloom, confirmed on 8th November that Transport for London (TfL) is the only formal bidder received for Metronet. They also confirmed that, as a result of the Transport for London bid, the PPP Administrator would not now take any active steps to market Metronet. Under TfL plans, the people and the assets of the two Metronet companies, BCV and SSL, will be transferred into two TfL nominee companies, which will be managed on a standalone basis, while the long-term structure is agreed with the Mayor and the Government. The Administrator anticipates being able to transfer Metronet to TfL control by early 2008.

Temporary closure for Blackpool Tramway

The famous tramway at Blackpool, the only surviving example of Britain's original and once extensive tram network, closed on 5th November until Easter 2008 to allow major track renewals to take place.

The main centre of work will be undertaken from Glyn Square to Bispham, with other smaller sections from Pleasure Beach to South Pier, Rigby Road to Central Pier and Norbreck to Little Bispham also having track replacements.

Incorrect reporting in the local media led the operators to issue a clear statement that the closure was only temporary! During the closure the parallel No.1 bus route will be extended to Fleetwood as a replacement.

▲ ***One of the 1934-built 'Balloon' trams, No. 713 calls at Pleasure Beech on 1st November.*** **Mark Bearton**

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TfL gets new rail powers outside London area
Virtuality: ATOC loses Network Rail vote
Milestone reached at Heathrow Terminal 5: first look at London 's newest tube station

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▲ *Displaying the First Great Western 'regional' style livery, Class 150 No. 150247 stands in the workshops of the Pullman Group at Cardiff on 5th November.* **All: Chris Perkins**

First Great Western shows off regional fleet

First Great Western unveiled the first Class 150 in its new-look West Country regional fleet on 5th November.

The work is part of an £11 million investment in local services and the first of 17 Class 150/2 DMUs to go through the programme were unveiled in the Pullman Group workshops in Cardiff.

The investment, which includes a major engineering overhaul, new interiors and new livery, will improve performance and reliability, as well as providing a better environment for both passengers and staff.

Safety on board the train has been developed with £1 million being spent on installing CCTV to improve passenger and staff security, with laminated glass also being introduced as an additional safety measure.

Pullman Group will also be carrying out the work on eight Class 143 trains, while Wabtec Rail in Doncaster is now part way through similar work on the 21 Class 158 sets, which operate on key inter-urban routes in the region, and the 11 single car Class 153s, which operate mainly on rural branch lines.

The budget for the interior improvements is £4 million and the key features of the new look trains include a vibrant new colour scheme of lilac and blue, new toilets (including a drain-away floor) which have been designed for easy cleaning. New floor coverings and lighting have also been fitted throughout and seats have been re-upholstered.

Michael Rodber, who is responsible for First Great Western's new-look fleet of HSTs, has been involved with the design of the new look interiors.

The exterior livery continues the regional theme, with the names of beauty spots, tourist attractions, pubs and schools on the side of the carriages.

Colin Robinson, Managing Director and owner of the Pullman Group, said: "This is a major contract win for the Pullman Group and we are delighted to be working for First Great Western. We have made significant investment into our facilities here in Cardiff so that we can carry out the work required for this project and hope that it will lead to further large scale projects – not just with First Great Western, but with other train operators."

Earlier in the year, First Great Western and Network Rail announced a £1 billion investment in the region to completely renew infrastructure, stations and the fleet within the Greater Western franchise area.

▼ *The standardised colour scheme and seat covering that can be seen across the entire HST and DMU fleets.*

▼ *The 2+2 seating arrangement provides more comfort over the older 2+3 seating.*

▶ Extensive work commissioned by Network Rail starts this month at Shipley station in West Yorkshire. The five-month programme will provide step-free access from the station entrance to and between the platforms. On Platforms 3 and 4, which serve trains to Ilkley, Bradford and Leeds, a new footbridge is being constructed along with two lifts and stairs. Two new lifts will also be installed on the existing footbridge on Platforms 1 and 2, used for services between Skipton and Leeds. All the new lifts will be fully Disability Discrimination Act compliant and fitted with closed-circuit television. Network Rail is managing and delivering the improvements, which are being funded by the Department for Transport's 'Access for All' fund. Over 300 services a day call at the station, which handles over one million customers every year.

▶ An interesting find among a small bundle of ageing Great Northern Railway paperwork received by the Vintage Carriages Trust (VCT) included railway advertising posters from 1889 and 1890, the first relating to the Paris Exhibition of 1889 and the second to a Whitsuntide Holiday trip. The posters have offers to passengers from Keighley, Halifax, Shipley, Batley and other Yorkshire towns and cities, the four to six-day Paris rail trip costing £3.19.6d (about £350 in today's money) and the holiday excursion priced at £3.10.3d. VCT has had both posters professionally restored and framed and they are now on view in the Trust's Ingrow Museum on the Keighley & Worth Valley Railway in West Yorkshire.

▶ First ScotRail is introducing more enhanced services in its winter timetable, which comes into effect on 9th December, including Sunday trains on the Glasgow to Larkhall via Hamilton line.
The hourly services build on the success of what is the first new branch line in Scotland for 25 years - and will allow the new stations at Larkhall, Merryton and Chatelherault to open on Sundays.
There will also be an hourly Glasgow-Stirling service via Croy, providing passengers in Bishopbriggs with all-year round Sunday trains and the last Edinburgh to Glasgow train via Shotts will now call at Uddingston and Cambuslang on Mondays to Saturdays.

Merger of DB and EWS approved by European Commission

Under the EU Merger Regulation, the European Commission has approved the proposed acquisition of English Welsh & Scottish Railway Holdings by Deutsche Bahn (DB), subject to certain conditions.

The Commission's decision is subject to the commitment of DB to fulfil EWS's expansion plans and to provide non-discriminatory access to certain EWS training activities and maintenance facilities in France. In light of this commitment, the Commission has concluded that the proposed transaction would not significantly impede effective competition in the European Economic Area or any substantial part of it.

Despite the lack of overlap in the two companies rail freight transport activities in any market, the Commission had concerns that the proposed transaction would result in a possible weakening of the competitive constraint exercised by EWS, a new entrant in this market in France. This concern was on the basis that DB may not have the same incentives to pursue the rail freight transport business in France with the same intensity as EWS would in the absence of the merger.

To address the Commission's concerns, DB has committed to fulfil the EWS expansion plans in France in the next five years through investments in locomotives and personnel as set out in the EWS Business Plan and to deploy these in France. As an additional guarantee of maintaining competition in this market, DB committed to provide fair and non-discriminatory access to EWS Driver Training Schools and maintenance facilities in France for all third party rail operators (except SNCF) thereby lowering these potential barriers to entry and expansion for companies wishing to enter the French rail freight market.

▲ *The familiar clapper boards at London Liverpool Street are no more. These new digital displays came into use on 7th November.* **James Taylor**

New destination screens at Liverpool Street

Liverpool Street is the last London mainline terminus to have its old-style departure/arrival flapper boards replaced.

The latest equipment with up-to-date LED technology with its liquid crystal black and orange display makes the new boards easier to read and maintain.

The system's features also include a dedicated 'Stansted Express' panel, a 'fastest service to' panel, linked automatic PA announcing, and the flexibility to display information about service alterations and engineering works.

As well as having better clarity, the new Customer Information System display is in departure and arrival time order rather than by region, which was sometimes somewhat confusing to passengers.

Lighting up at Cockwood Harbour

▼ *The South Devon mainline is closed every weekend until Mid-December for track renewals. On 3rd November, work was taking place to renew the 'up' line between Dawlish Warren and Cockwood Harbour. One of the locomotives involved in hauling the engineering trains was Yeoman-liveried Class 59/0 No. 59004 Paul A. Hammond, pictured here at Cockwood Harbour, being lit by the temporary lighting of the worksite. The new fence which has recently been erected at this location can just be seen in the foreground.* **Nathan Williamson**

New station approved for Ricoh stadium

Approval has finally been granted for the construction of a station at the Ricoh Arena complex, situated to the north of Coventry on the Coventry to Nuneaton line.

As well as being the home of Coventry City FC, the Arena, which sits on the west side of the line, hosts other sporting events and live concerts. It also has large conference facilities as well a hotel and a casino within the complex. Additionally, a large shopping centre is located on the east side, which includes what was the largest Tesco in Europe at the time of construction.

▶ ***Class 66/0 No. 66227 passes through the site of the new station with the diverted 11.40 Washwood Heath to Eastleigh service on 20th October.*** **Ron Kosys**

Virgin marks its role as sponsor of Capital of Culture

To mark the involvement of Virgin Trains as a key sponsor of Liverpool's European Capital of Culture Year, television producer and Liverpool '08 Ambassador, Phil Redmond, unveiled a special commemorative graphic around the nameplate of Pendolino No 390031 *City of Liverpool* at Liverpool Lime Street station on 7th. November.

Virgin Trains currently operates 15 trains each way on weekdays between Liverpool and London Euston. From 2009, the company has announced that it will be adding three more trains each way and around 25 minutes will be cut from the journey time. Most trains will take just 2hrs 7mins to complete the 192-mile journey, with the fastest train of the day taking just two hours.

▲ **Chris Dixon**

Southeastern opens new training centre

The local MP, John Horam, opened a new £325,000 staff learning and development centre for Southeastern at Orpington on 5th November.

The building was a former South Eastern & Chatham Railway engine shed dating back to around 1917 and is said to still have the old rails beneath the floorboards. It had been used until recently as a drivers' depot.

In addition to four touch-screen, computer-equipped air-conditioned classrooms for learning a range of railway-related disciplines, three Class 375/376 Electrostar and Class 465/466 Networker driver simulators have been installed from Ashford.

The complex replaces the previous training facilities at Lincoln House in London.

▲▶ **Both: Brian Morrison**

Steam team for Hertfordshire

Speculation about the future of Hertfordshire Railtours is very much wide of the mark says Passenger Business Manager Paul Blowfield.

While the newly formed Stobart Group, which absorbed both the Eddie Stobart operation and Westlink, is undertaking a review of its business, the company advising *Railway Herald* that details of this will now be available within the next two weeks. Victa Westlink Rail does remain 'totally committed to the future of passenger operations'.

The question could well be under which umbrella does the passenger business operate? Needless to say, there are opportunities either within the Stobart Group, or elsewhere, for the Hertfordshire brand to continue to operate and prosper.

The future is expected to become much clearer in the forthcoming weeks. However, during the review period new initiatives will be put on hold which include plans for the operating arm of the company to train its own team of steam drivers and firemen, which has recently been reported, together with suggested plans to use B1 No. 61264 on mainline trains.

Under the existing management of Hertfordshire there is a determination to move the business forward, as illustrated by their plans to become a player in the steam market.

▼ ***After completing the hard climb to Standedge, running through Huddersfield, Halifax and Sowerby Bridge on The Cotton Mill Express on 3rd November, the train still had the climb to Copy Pit summit to reach the calling point of Blackburn. Here, the Ian Riley duo of LMS Black 5 4-6-0 No. 45407 and BR Standard 4MT No. 76079 make a fine sight as they attack the famous incline with sure footed confidence on the final approach to the summit.*** **Peter Kellett**

'Big Four' locomotives feature in Steam Dreams 2008 programme

New destinations and locomotives representing each of the 'Big Four' plus British Railways are the feature of Steam Dreams 2008 programme announced this week.

Along with the usual 'Cathedrals' itineraries are two new routes, the first is to test the market for Sunday trains to Norwich, via Cambridge and Ely, operating on 4th May with No. 60019 *Bittern* and later on 31st August with No. 6233 *Duchess of Sutherland*. Cheltenham and Worcester are also new destinations, which should provide No. 6233 with a half-decent test running both ways over Sapperton on 27th August.

Minehead also features with two trains, commencing on 16th July with No. 60019 followed by 20th August with No. 6233. Unlike last year, these trains will be steam hauled throughout, but the mainline locomotive will come-off at Bishops Lydeard for servicing, with the train continuing to Minehead with West Somerset traction and then back to Bishops Lydeard after a break by the sea.

However, the highlight of the company's early season programme has to be two trips within three days between London Liverpool Street and Norwich with No. 70013 *Oliver Cromwell*, recreating those 'heady' days of the 1950's, when the introduction of 'Britannia's' rejuvenated East Anglian mainline services. Both trains follow the classic route via Chelmsford, Colchester and Ipswich to Norwich with 'The Norfolkman' operating on 11th June and 'The East Anglian' two days later. With the locomotive due to recommence it's mainline career less than three weeks earlier, these trips should prove to be extremely popular. No. 70013 returns later in the year for outings to Bristol, Exeter and Canterbury during September.

The remaining representatives of 'The Big Four' will be No. 30777 *Sir Lamiel* with early and late season turns to Canterbury, Gloucester and Stratford-upon-Avon, together with No. 34067 *Tangmere* that also works to Canterbury and Stratford-upon-Avon.

The one Great Western appearance is No. 6024 *King Edward I* on the Leeds to Kings Cross '1948 Locomotive Exchange Anniversary' special on 31st May.

The company also has its 'Coronation' special between Kings Cross and Edinburgh in July which is already sold out and now has a waiting list, probably now long enough to fill another train!

Without doubt this is an enterprising programme which will appeal to both the enthusiast and public alike. For full details of the Steam Dreams trains go to http://www.railwayherald.co.uk/railtours or http://www.steamdreams.com

▲ ***Southern Railway Merchant Navy Pacific No. 35028* Clan Line *blows off steam as it coasts through Lyne on 3rd November with the 12.28 Victoria - Victoria VSOE British Pullman on a Surrey Hills Luncheon service.* Ken Brunt**

UK Steam & Modern Traction Railtour Listings

The following table details the latest information available on steam, diesel and electric railtours for the forthcoming weeks from the date of publication. Information is understood to be correct at the time of going to press.

10th November		
Hertfordshire (MM)	2xRiviera 47	London King's Cross-Barrow Hill-Deepcar and return
Kingfisher Railtours	6201	(Preston-Warrington BQ-Frodsham-Helsby-Chester-Shrewsbury-Bristol TM (break-rev))-Bristol TM-Hereford-Crewe-(and return)
Past Time Rail	61994/62005	Middlesborough-York-Barrow Hill (now operates on 9 November)
Pathfinder Tours	EWS Cl.37/Cl.50	Euston-dc lines-Watford Jct-Tring (rev)-Barking (rev)-Clapham Jct-Bletchley-Bedford (rev)-Bletchley-Northampton-London Euston
Railway Touring Company	7607945407	(Kettering-)Leicester-Derby-Chesterfield-Peak Forest-Buxton (break/rev)-Whaley Bridge-Stockport-Hope Valley and return
17th November		
Hertfordshire (Pullman)	2xRiveria Cl 47	London Victoria-Staplehurst(break)-Ashford-Canterbury-Victoria
Railway Touring Company	60019	London Victoria-Portsmouth Harbour and return **Cancelled**
Railway Touring Company	60009	Cleethorpes-Scunthorpe-Huddersfield-Man Vic-Helsby-Chester & rtn
Vintage Trains	4965	Tyseley Warwick Road-Nuneaton-Nottingham-Lincoln and return
VSOE	35028	'VSOE Luncheon': London Victoria-Guildford-London Victoria
22nd November		
Hertfordshire (Pullman)	2xRiveria Cl 47	Stevenage-Potters Bar-Finsbury Park-Oxford and return
24th November		
Hertfordshire (Pullman)	2xRiveria Cl 47	London Paddington-Slough-Reading-Ludlow and return
Kingfisher Railtours	tbc	(Coventry-)Willesden-Folkestone Harbour **Postponed**
Past Time Rail	6201	(London Euston-Coventry-Wolves-Stafford-Crewe-Preston)-Preston-Shap-Carlisle (rev)-Shap-Preston (and return)
Past Time Rail	tbc	Taunton-Bristol TM-Bristol Parkway-Cheltenham Spa-York and return
Pathfinder Tours	2 x Cl31	Cardiff Central-Barnt Green-Crewe-Ulverston-Barrow Docks-Barrow (break)-Chester-Shrewsbury-Birmingham NS and return
Railway Touring Company	60019	'The Bath & Bristol': London Victoria-East Croydon-Dorking-Guildford-Reading-Bath-Bristol TM (break/rev) and return
Steam Dreams	60009 & 50049	(London KX-Stevenage-Peterborough-York)(break) York-London KX
Steamy Affairs	2xCR Cl47	Ashford-Tonbridge-Kensington Olympia-York and return
Vintage Trains	Cl.50	Tyseley Warwick Road-Stratford upon Avon-London **Cancelled**
Vintage Trains	4965	Tyseley Warwick Road-Wolverhampton-Crewe-Chester and return
29th November		
Hertfordshire (Pullman)	tbc	London KX-Potters bar-Stevenage-York and return

Key to tour listings:

BLACK Charters expected to operate as booked.
GREEN Tours postponed to a future date by the operator
MM Merrymaker from Hertfordshire Rail Tours
RED Tours cancelled by the operator
WCRC West Coast Railway Company
BLUE Provisional excursion

(Locations) in brackets on a steam tour listing indicates a diesel or electric-hauled section.

Not all pick up/set down points are shown. Check with the operator before travelling any distance.

Useful Weblinks

- Online railtour listings
- Tour operators contact details
- Current fire-risk status info
- Email the railtours editor

▶ Past Time has announced that its 24th November 'Borderman' tour from Preston to Carlisle via Shap in each direction will now be hauled by No. 6201 *Princess Elizabeth* instead of No. 60007 *Sir Nigel Gresley*, as the latter will not be mainline certified in time. A mainline test for No. 60007 around the 'Carnforth Circle' had been pencilled in for next week, which now looks to have been postponed due to 'paper-work issues' and as we closed for press a departure date from it's current home on the North Yorkshire Moors Railway had still to be announced. Meanwhile, Past Time will be announcing new dates to operate *Sir Nigel Gresley* early next year shortly.

▶ The mainline return of No. 60019 *Bittern* has again been delayed, with the locomotive not being ready in time to haul Railway Touring Company's 'Southern Belle' to Portsmouth on 17th November. The use of *Bittern* as motive power was a replacement for the original loco No. 34067 *Tangmere*, which has been withdrawn recently due to boiler problems. The train has now been cancelled.

▶ Pathfinder's Buffer Puffer 6.0 featuring two Mainline Class 31's in top and tail mode around London termini and the south-east on 26th January is already a sell-out. With demand for tickets still running at a high level the company have announced a re-run on 8th March, with the 'Buffer Puffer 6.1' running to the same itinerary but this time with a pair of Class 37's. The outline route is based on London Kings Cross, and involves, at some point, touching the buffers at Uckfield, East Grinstead, London Bridge, Victoria, Cannon Street, Blackfriars and Gordon Hill Bay Platform before returning to Kings Cross.

▶ The West Coast Railway Company has just announced dates for both the 'Jacobite' and 'Cambrian Coast' workings for 2008. The 'Jacobite' will run every weekday between 19th May and 10th October, with weekend running also between 28th June and 31st August. This gives a total of nine weeks of daily operations in the West Highlands between Fort William and Mallaig. Of more significance is the return of the company to the Cambrian Coast with a peak season operation planned between 28th July and 29th August running every weekday. This year West Coast have renamed the train to 'The Cambrian' and operationally has one significant difference - on Wednesday's and Friday's the train will run through to Pwllheli. The operation will again be based out of Machynlleth. Traction for both Scottish and Welsh operations remains to be confirmed and details will be provided in next week's *Railway Herald*.

The Week Ahead

Compared with recent times, the coming week is a quiet one for charters with just four tours booked for 17th November, of which three are steam hauled.

Railway Touring Company has 'The Cheshireman' with No. 60009 *Union of South Africa* throughout from Cleethorpes, via Doncaster, Huddersfield and the Standedge route to Chester and back. Meanwhile Vintage Trains have No. 4965 *Rood Ashton Hall* lined up for an excursion from Tyseley via Nuneaton, Leicester and Nottingham to Lincoln, whilst VSOE operate a British Pullman luncheon train to Whitstable, Ramsgate and Ashford from London Victoria with No. 35028 *Clan Line*.

Hertfordshire also operate out of Victoria on 17 November, with a Leeds Castle working which sets down at Staplehurst for a break before returning to Victoria via Ashford, Canterbury and Broadstairs.

Steaming back to Ironbridge

▼ *GWR 9400 Class 0-6-0PT No. 9466 arrives at Ironbridge Power Station with a Vintage Trains charter from Tyseley on 3rd November.* **Ian Allison**

▲ *Tyseley's ex-GWR 9400 Class 0-6-0PT No. 9466 slogs up the 1-in-50 gradient at Coalbrookdale viaduct, between Ironbridge and Lightmoor, with the 15.40 Ironbridge - Tyseley on 3rd November.* **Andrew Bannister**

▼ *After visiting Birch Coppice, the train reversed and headed off on its penultimate leg. Here, No. 9466 crosses the iron bridge, at Ironbridge as the charter approaches its destination of Ironbridge Power Station.* **Chris Wilson**

▲ *On 6th November, a trial train of aggregate operated from the Tarmac Quarry at Rylstone, near Skipton, to Leeds. Departing at 11.17 the train passes the glorious setting of Rylstone village with Class 60 No. 60065 Spirit of Jaguar in charge of 21 loaded ex-National Power JMA wagons.* **Ian Tunstall**

▼ *Still retainings it Trainload Grey livery but with Yellow EWS stickers, Class 60 No. 60079 is pictured at Ashchurch reversing an MoD service onto the branch. The train is a combination of Intermodal and tanks.* **Peter Tandy**

▲ *The Settle & Carlisle line has now been closed for several weeks to allow track relaying work to take place. Freightliner Heavy Haul has been heavily involved in working the trains from Crewe Basford Hall to the worksite. Bardon Aggregates No. 66623 passes Selside bound for Crewe on 4th November.*

▼ *A further engineering working on the same day, Class 66/5 No. 66581 passes Garsdale with a return working of low-height Network Rail-liveried spoil carrying wagons, bound for Crewe Basford Hall.*
Both: **Wayne Taylor**

▲ *Class 52 No. D1015* **Western Champion** *was used by Colas Rail on 7th November to move the SecoRail-liveried High Output Ballast Cleaner from Reading West Junction Yard to Eastleigh. Here, the unusual consist and motive power passes Great Cheverel.* **Mark Few**

▼ *On 6th November, one of the few remaining Class 57/0s No. 57006* **Freightliner Reliance** *was used at the helm of a Ditton-Southampton intermodal service, with Class 66/5 No. 66579 'dead in tow'. No. 57006 heads along the 'up relief' line towards South Moreton.* **Don Gatehouse**

GWR Diesel Gala Pictorial

The Gloucestershire & Warwickshire Railway held its Autumn Diesel Gala on 3rd/4th November, which saw the resident home fleet in action.

▲ *For most of the day the line, was enclosed in thick fog, although this did allow some atmospheric night photographs to be captured of Class 47/0 No. 47105 at Cheltenham Racecourse with the delayed 16.55 service to Toddington on 4th November.*
Nathan Williamson

▶ *Bearing the headboard of 'Slough IECC on tour', Class 20 No. D8137 awaits time at Winchcombe with a Cheltenham Racecourse to Toddington service on 4th November.*
Danny Scroggins

NYMR hosts 'Valley Aid' and donates at least £15,000 to Severn Valley Flood Disaster Appeal

The North Yorkshire Moors Railway hosted a special gala weekend on 3rd-5th November in support of the Severn Valley Railway.

The aim of the event was to raise funds towards the restoration of the line between Bewdley and Bridgnorth, that was devasted by heavy flooding earlier this year. Locomotive owners joined with the railway in offering their engine's free of charge for use during the weekend and in addition to the regular service trains between Pickering and Grosmont, the Class 50 Alliance provided No. 50049 Defiance for use on services between Whitby and Battersby Junction.

The weekend has been judged to have been a success with NYMR General Manager, Philip Benham, reporting that the donation from the railway to the SVR will be at least £15,000.

The staff, volunteers and management of the railway are to be applauded for supporting the Severn Valley and showing a kindness within the heritage movement that at times can be lacking. The donation of no less than $^{2}/_{3}$rds of the proceeds from the weekend has provided support to the SVR and served to keep the focus of the problem in the public arena.

Meanwhile on the SVR itself, work on restoring the line between Bewdley and Bridgnorth continues, and most of the minor jobs have now been completed. However, work at the three major sites, Northwood Lane, Highley Station and Sterns Cottage continues with a target date of next Easter for a fully re-opened railway.

This should coincide with the opening of The Engine House Project at Highley, where the building is now complete with some of the smaller exhibits in situ. However, they have their fingers firmly crossed that the winter does not disrupt progress with the work.

There is the prospect of a shuttle service, operated in top and tail mode, from Bridgnorth to the summit of Eardington Bank soon, although the Cleobury Mortimer road bridge was the subject of a 'bridge bash recently' which may affect their plans. Meanwhile, at the southern end of the line, preparations for the Santa special season continue with trains for the weekend prior to Christmas now almost fully booked.

Demand for earlier weekends is 'buoyant', which is encouraging, although not at the level of previous years. The trains will operate between Kidderminster and Bewdley on each weekend in December.

▲ *The Class 50 Alliance's No. 50049* **Defiance** *powers under Larpool Viaduct and along the River Esk on the departure from Whitby with the 11.00 Whitby - Goathland service. The viaduct carries the long-closed Whitby West Cliff - Scarborough line, which is now a footpath on 3rd November.* **Robin Patrick**

▼ *DPS Class 55 No. D9009* **Alyicidon** *powers through Beckhole on the climb to Goathland on 3rd November, with the 11.50 service to Grosmont. The loco, along with No. 55019* **Royal Highland Fusilier** *returned to Barrow Hill just after the gala weekend.* **Warren Armstrong**

▲ *In a scene that could easily be reminiscent of a fish train out of Whitby in the 1950s, the North Eastern Locomotive Group's recently restored ex-NER Q6 Class 0-8-0 No. 63395 powers a demonstration freight northwards through Needle Point in Newtondale on the North Yorkshire Moors Railway. The locomotive has been turned to face north for a series of photo charters.* **Dave Maloney**

A1 Trusts borrows mainline coach

The A1 Steam Locomotive Trust has reached an agreement with the Eastleigh Railway Preservation Society (ERPS) to utilise its support coach.

This coach is normally used with *Lord Nelson,* but while the locomotive undergoes assessment and repair following its recent boiler problems the support coach is being loaned to the Trust.

The vehicle has been moved initially to the North Norfolk Railway for safe storage and painting into Carmine and Cream livery. It will be returned to the ERPS when *Lord Nelson* returns to the main line. This will allow sufficient time for the A1 Trust to complete its own work on the support coach for *Tornado*.

Overhaul work on 'S160' continues apace at Churnet Valley

On the Churnet Valley Railway, work on the overhaul of United States Army Transportation Corps 'S160' 2-8-0 No. 6046 continues with removal of the piston head from the piston shaft.

Elsewhere on the locomotive the tender tank was found, on inspection, to be beyond economical repair. Although the overhaul of the loco frames, firebox and boiler is being carried out 'in house', owner Gregory Wilson decided to commission new drawings earlier this year and put the construction of a new tank out to tender.

A Staffordshire company was successful and has completed the manufacture of the main components. Assembly of these components has now commenced with delivery expected by the end of this year, 2007.

A second Tender Tank has been ordered to replace that which is currently operational with the line's other S160 No. 5197. The latter locomotive is due to be withdrawn for its 10-yearly overhaul in 2009.

▶ *Work on the piston heads from USATC 'S160' continues at Cheddleton on 5th November.* **David Gibson**

Superbly restored Siphon G returns to traffic at Bewdley

▼ *The Great Western (SVR) Association has recently outshopped its 1927-built GW Siphon G No. 1257, and it is seen here resplendent in Great Western 1920's passenger goods brown livery. The restoration has taken three years, and it will be back in traffic for the SVR 'Santa trains' next month. The vehicle is thought to be the only example of an outside framed bogie (also known as an 'American' bogie) vehicle in existence. Work included roof repairs, new canvas, buffer overhaul, new sections of framework, replacement tongue and groove panelling, new lovures and new and rebuilt doors. It will look a fine sight when matched with their Great Western 'Toplight' rake with an appropriate heritage locomotive at the helm!* **Colin Jenkins**

Recreating the past on the Welsh Highland

Bob Branch organised two charters on the Welsh Highland Railway (WHR) over the weekends of 27th/28th October and 3rd/4th November, which gave the opportunity for participants to get a flavour of what is in store once this already highly scenic line pushes south from its existing southern terminus of Rhyd-Ddu through the Aberglasyn Pass and onwards to connect with the Ffestiniog Railway at Porthmadog.

Track laying is now complete through the Aberglasyn Pass, but because the track south of Rhyd Ddu is considered a construction site, charter participants were treated instead to the comfort two ex-London Transport Routemaster buses for part of the day.

What is certain, is that when completed and fully opened the line really is going to be the premier 'Great Little Train of Wales' featuring difficult gradients and passing through superb scenery, and is sure to become one of the world's great railways. Track-laying is expected to be completed early next year, with a tentative opening throughout in 2009.

For the charter, 1864-built George England & Co locomotives No. 2 *Prince* and No. 4 *Palmerston*, from the Ffestiniog Railway, were moved onto the line from the Ffestiniog and with a trailing load of three vehicles, were required to work hard on the route. Although motive power for the passenger service on the WHR is the imported South-African Beyer-Garratt locomotives, the charter recreated several scenes from the past, as the G. England-built locomotives frequently worked through from Porthmadog.

▲ *An alternative view of the Welsh Highland Railway on the new section between Rhyd-Ddu and Beddgelert. Ffestiniog Railway No.2* **Prince** *approaches Beddgelert Forest, seen across the bonnet of Routemaster bus No.RML2515. Ahead is routemaster No. RM2059.*

▼ *A brief spell of sunshine highlights No. 2* **Prince** *as it hurries past Llyn Cwellyn near Snowdon Ranger at the commencement of the 4th November charter, which is on the opened stretch of the railway between Waunfawr and Rhyd Ddu.* **All: John Whitehouse**

▲ *Full power is applied to 1864-built No. 4* Palmerston *as it rounds one of the tight reverse curves near Beddgelert on the 1-in-40 climb northwards towards Rhyd-Ddu. This is on the section which is yet to be opened to the public.* John Whitehouse

Diary

The editor welcomes details of forthcoming events, talks, slide shows, conferences, model railway exhibitions and club meetings for inclusion within this section.

Details should be sent via email to ***editor@railwayherald.co.uk*** and should include a brief outline of the event, including the speakers name if appropriate, date, time and location, together with contact details (either telephone, web or email). *Railway Herald* cannot accept any responsibility for any inaccuracies or events which are amended, cancelled or postponed. Information, such as advance programmes and club meeting line-ups can also be sent through the post to the editorial address.

9th November 2007
Altrincham Electric Railway Preservation Society
Altrincham Methodist Church Hall, Barrington Road, Altrincham. '40 Years of Steam in Yugoslavia' by John Sloane. Start 19.30, Non-members £3.00

Cambridge University Railway Club
Andrew Room, Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge. "High Level Output Strategy" by Chistian Wolmar. Starts 8.30pm for 9pm, non-members welcome.

10th November 2007
East Lancashire Railway
Sulzer Diesel Theme Day

RCTS (Exeter)
Conference Room, Richmond House, YMCA, 39-41 St. Davids Hill. "The Magnificent Hydraulics" by Bernard Mills. Start 7.00pm.

Toy & Train Collectors' Fair
Exeter Hall, Oxford Road, Kidlinton, Oxford. Toy & Train Fair. 11.00-16.00.

10th-11th November 2007
Barrow Hill Roundhouse, Chesterfield
Steam Gala - LNER Theme Event, with visiting K1, K4, A4 locomotives and others.

Lakeside & Haverthwaite Railway
Diesel Gala weekend, with various locos in action.

11th November 2007
East Lancashire Railway
Sulzer Diesel & Steam operating day.

12th November 2007
RCTS (Sheffield)
St. Mathews Church Rooms, Carver Street, Sheffield. "Steam around Sheffield" by Mike Haynes. Start 7.30pm.

York Railway Circle
Archbishop Holgate's School, Drama Studio, Hull Road, York. 'Running a Heritage Railway by Philip Benham, General Manager of North Yorkshire Moors Railway. Starts 19.30. Membership available. Non-Members £2

13th November 2007
8E Railway Association
The Gladstone Club, Station Road, Northwich. 'Rail Tour of Glorious Devon' by Stephen Gay. Starts 7.45pm

Great Western Society (Bristol Group)
Room 7, BAWA. 589 Southmead Road, Filton, BRISTOL, BS34 7RG. Contact: 0117 987 3244. "Aspects of the GWR" talk by Peter Lugg. Starts 19.30 for 19.45. Non-members welcome.

RCTS (Nottingham)
Nottingham Mechanics, 3 North Sherwood Street. "All aboard the Pines Express Part 2" by Chris Youett. Start 7.30pm.

14th November 2007
Bromsgrove Railway Club
St. Godwalds Church Hall, Aston Fields, Bromsgrove. 'Darjeeling & Himalayan update by David BarrieArrive 19.15 for 19.45 start. New members welcome

Grimsby & Cleethorpes Railway Group
Royal Air Force Club, Alexandra Road, Cleethorpes. 'More of my favourite steam slides' by Tony Othen. Starts 7.30pm

RCTS (Hitchin)
Hitchin Christian Centre, Bedford Road. "Leighton Buzzard Railway" by Colin Bassett. Start 7.30pm.

15th November 2007
Barrow Hill ES Soceity
Barrow Hill Roundhouse. 'Changing Scenes on the Old Road" by Chris Jones. Starts 7.30pm.

Irish Railway Record Society (London Area)
The Exmouth Arms, 1 Starcross Street, London. NW1 2HR. 'Cravens to Rotem - The Transformation of Iarnród Éireann" by Steve Murphy, Former General Manager Southern & Western, Iarnród Éireann. Starts 7pm. Non-members welcome, minimum donation £2.

Marlow & District Railway Society
Garden Room, Liston Hall, Liston Road, Marlow. 'More from Colour Rail' by Ron White. Starts 7.45pm for 8pm, Non-members £2.

Monmouthshire Rly Society
Room A28, UWCN, Allt-Yr-Yn Ave, Newport, Gwenty. The Railways of Colonel Stephens by Mr. T. Ward. Starts 19.30, Non-members £3

RCTS (Pudsey)
The Fulneck Room, Pudsey Civic Hall. "Development of Leeds Station" by Ron Rocket. Start 7.30pm.

16th November 2007
Locomotive Club of Great Britain, Central London Branch
Main Hall, Model Railway Club, Keen House, 4 Calshot Street. "BR Branch Lines" by Dave Soggee Starts 19.15, Donation of £2.

Scarborough Railway Society
Public Library, Vernon Road, Scarborough. '20th Century Steam' Film Evening by Ian Wolstencroft. Starts 19.30. Visitors welcome

17th November 2007
East Lancashire Railway
Diesel Running Day - Class 24 No. D5054 in operation

17th-18th November 2007
Bassetlaw (North Notts) Railway Society
Town Hall, Market Square, Retford. Model Railway Exhibition. Sat 10.00-17.00, Sun 10.00-16.00. At least 12 layouts 'N' to 'O' gauge, incl Oldham King Street (O), Bassetfield (OO), Barnaby Junction (009) and Westwood (TT) plus 8 trade stands and video show. Adults £3, Seniors £2, Child £1.

Bluebell Railway
1920s Weekend

Locomotion
Cab It Weekend

18th November 2007
Cholsey & Wallingford Railway
Diesel Running Day

The Model Railway Club
Keen House, 4 Calshot Street, London. N1 9DA. "Infrastructure work out on the main line" an illustrated talk by John Stretton.

19th November 2007
RCTS (Chester)
The Town Crier, City Road/Station Road (opposite railway station entrance). "BR in the 1980s" by Bob Casselden. Start 7.45pm.

RCTS (Coventry)
Hylands Hotel, Warwick Road. "Travels with the New Measurement Train" by Andrew Royal. Start 7.30pm.

RCTS (Northampton)
Dunston Conservative Club, Meeting Lane, Main Road, Dunston. "Quiz Night" Start 7.30pm.

RCTS (Oxford)
West Oxford Democrats Club, 1 North Street, Osney. "The South Western since Privatisation" by Brian Denton. Start 7.30pm.

Stafford Railway Society
St. Leonard's Sport & Social Club, St. Leonard's Avenue, Stafford. "Member's Slide Competition", judged by Mark Brayford. Starts 19.30, Adults £2, Concessions £1.

20th November 2007
North Wales Railway Circle
Railway Institute, Euston Road, Bangor (above the Post Office, Sorting Office. "Talk on the Ashover Light Railway, Derbyshire." Starts 19.30, Entrance fee £1.50.

Peak Rail Association (Chesterfield Branch)
Upstairs function room, New Inn, 229 Mansfield Road, Hasland. "The Somerset & Dorset Joint Railway" slide evening by Mick Hayes. Start 7.30pm. Administion free.

RCTS (Cambridge)
Abbey Meadows Community Wing, Community Primary School, Galfrid Road. "BR Steam Miscellany" by David Barham. Start 7.30pm.

RCTS (Scunthorpe)
Kinsley Labour Club, Cole Street, Scunthorpe. "Steaming through Britain" by Graham Briggs. Start 7.30pm.

21st November 2007
RCTS (Eastleigh)/Somerset & Dorset Trust
Eastleigh Railway Institute, Romsey Road, Eastleigh. "Working on the Somerset & Dorest in BR Days" by Keith Barrett. Start 7.45pm.

22nd November 2007
RCTS (Sussex Branch)
Brighthelm Church & Community Centre, North Road, Brighton. "Military Port No1 & The Faslane Military Railway" by Mike Walshaw. Start 7.30pm. £1.50 donation.

23rd November 2007
Cambridge University Railway Club
Andrew Room, Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge. 'The Silk Railway' a talk by Stuart Baker. Starts 8.30pm for 9pm, Non-members welcome.

24th November 2007
East Lancashire Railway
Diesel Running Day - Class 40 No. D335 in operation

Dartmoor Railway
Class 47 operating weekend, with services working over the full 13 miles of line between Okehampton and Coleford Junction.

Julie & John Webb Toy Fairs
The International Hall, Brentwood Centre, Brentwood.

24th-25th November 2007
Swanage Railway
1940s Weekend.

26th November 2007
RCTS (Sheffield)
St. Mathews Church Rooms, Carver Street, Sheffield. "O Winson Link & North & Western" by Bob Gellately. Start 7.30pm.

27th November 2007
RCTS (Nottingham)
Nottingham Mechanics. "BR in the Early 1960s" by Hugh Gould. Start 7.30pm.

RCTS (Welwyn Garden City)
The Methodist Church, Cole Green Lane, Ludwick Green. "Bringing B1 61264 back to Life" by Mike Coley. Start 7.30pm.

28th November 2007
RCTS (Chichester)
Council Meeting Room 1, County Hall, West Street, Chichester "Steam in Camera" by Graham Stacey. Start 7.30pm.

29th November 2007
RCTS (Preston)
Claremont Hotel, Blackpool Road, Preston. "Steam in the 1960s" by Hugh Ballantyne - non-members welcome. Start 7.30pm.

30th November 2007
Scarborough Railway Society
Public Library, Vernon Road, Scarborough. 'Society Members Digital Evening. Starts 19.30.

2nd December 2007
D. J. Fairs Ltd
Yorkshire Event Centre, Harrogate. Toy & Train Fair. 10.30-15.30. Adults £3, Children £1.

3rd December 2007
Stafford Railway Society
St. Leonard's Sport & Social Club, St. Leonard's Aven, Stafford. "Peak Forest to Limerick via Teeside" (Modern Traction mid-90s to present) by John Catterson. Starts 19.30, Adults £2, Concessions £1.

4th December 2007
Great Western Society (Bristol Group)
Room 7, BAWA. 589 Southmead Road, Filton, BRISTOL, BS34 7RG. Contact: 0117 987 3244. "The Harzer Schmalspurbahnen: Narrow Gauge Super Power in the Mountains of Germany" talk by David Brabner, Robert Heron and Dave Winter. Starts 19.30 for 19.45. Non-members welcome.

North Wales Railway Circle
Railway Institute, Euston Road, Bangor (above the Post Office, Sorting Office. BTP Safety and illustrated talk on "The Railways of New Zealand" by Bill Rogerston. Starts 19.30, Entrance fee £1.50.

5th December 2007
Scottish Rly Preservation Society (Motherwell)
Conference Room, St. Mary's Church, Avon Street. Motherwell. 'Railways North and West of Stirling' by Mike Jodeluk. Starts 7.30pm, contact Alistair Maclean on 01698 263814 for further details.

6th December 2007
Scottish Rly Preservation Society (Edinburgh)
Quaker Meeting House, 7 Victoria Terrace, Edinburgh. 'Members Slide Evening'. Starts 7.30pm, contact Dr. Peter Howell on 0131 334 5232 for further details.

7th December 2007
Gloucestershire Warwickshire Rly (Birmingham Area Group)
Northfield Library, Church Road, Northfield. Evening Slide show by Phil Darlaston. Starts 19.30.

10th December 2007
York Railway Circle
Archbishop Holgate's School, Drama Studio, Hull Road, York. 'Mainline Steam in 2007' DVD/Stereo large screen presentation by Karl Jauncey & Dave Richards of PSOV. Sales Stand. Starts 19.30. Membership available. Non-Members £2

12th December 2007
Bromsgrove Railway Club
St. Godwalds Church Hall, Aston Fields, Bromsgrove. 'Club AGM, Members Slides, Photographic Competition and more!' Arrive 19.15 for 19.45 start. New members welcome

14th December 2007
Altrincham Electric Railway Preservation Society
Altrincham Methodist Church Hall, Barrington Road, Altrincham. 'Manchester and the Llandudno & Colwyn Bay Tramway Then and Now' by Keith Chadbourne. Start 19.30, Non-members £3.00

16th December 2007
D. J. Fairs Ltd
National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham. Toy & Train Fair. 10.30-16.00. Adults £5, Children £2.

17th December 2007
Stafford Railway Society
St. Leonard's Sport & Social Club, St. Leonard's Avenue, Stafford. "Member's Christmas Special", Starts 19.30, Adults £2, Concessions £1.

18th December 2007
North Wales Railway Circle
Railway Institute, Euston Road, Bangor (above the Post Office, Sorting Office. "Christmas Party and Members slides, digital and video pictures." Starts 19.30, Entrance fee £1.50.

Peak Rail Association (Chesterfield Branch)
Upstairs function room, New Inn, 229 Mansfield Road, Hasland. "Pre-grouping railtour of Britain in Colour" by Ken Grainger. Start 7.30pm. Administion is free, although donations area encouraged.

21st December 2007
Locomotive Club of Great Britain, Central London Branch
Main Hall, Model Railway Club, Keen House, 4 Calshot Street. "Mainly narrow gauge in East Germany", memories of former DDR, plus wine and mince pies. Starts 19.15, Donation of £2.

27th December 2007
D. J. Fairs Ltd
Donnington Park Exhibition Centre. Toy & Train Fair. 10.30-15.30. Adults £3, Children £1.

Gloucestershire Warwickshire Railway
Diesel Running Day.

29th December 2007
Julie & John Webb Toy Fairs
The International Hall, Brentwood Centre, Brentwood.

29th-30th December 2007
Churnet Valley Railway
'Winter Warmer' event.

30th December 2007
D. J. Fairs Ltd
East of England Showground, Peterborough. Toy & Train Fair. 10.30-15.30. Adults £3, Children £1.

Julie & John Webb Toy Fairs
The Charter Hall (part of Colchester Leisure World), Cowdray Avenue, Colchester

31st December 2007
D. J. Fairs Ltd
Doncaster Racecourse, Doncaster.. Toy & Train Fair. 10.30-15.30. Adults £3, Children £1.

1st January 2008
Didcot Railway Centre
Didcot New Year Steamday.

Internet Links
Click on the name of the group or society to visit their website.
- Bassetlaw (Nth Notts) Rly Society
- Great Western Society (Bristol)
- Locomotive Club of Great Britain
- Manchester Model Railway Society
- Marlow & District Railway Society
- North Wales Railway Circle
- RCTS
- Stafford Railway Society

▼ ***One of two DMU units currently operated by Network Rail and converted from Metro-Cammell Class 101 passenger DMUs, Lab 19 No. 901002 Iris II is seen in a patch of autumnal sunshine near Crofton while working a test special from Reading to Woodborough Sidings on 6th November.*** **Ken Brunt**

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