The Railway Herald

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Front Cover

On 23rd November, the early hours discharged petroleum tanks working from Kingsbury to Lindsey was delayed and provided a rare opportunity to capture the working in Staffordshire. Running approximately 140 minutes late, Class 60 No. 60021 passes Clay Mills on a clear bright morning. **Don Gatehouse**

Rear Cover

Still carrying the remains of its Mainine Freight blue livery, Class 60 No. 60044 passes Melton Ross in North Lincolnshire with an Immingham to Santon Ore Terminal Iron Ore working in early November. **Richard Tuplin**

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!

www.railwayherald.co.uk

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

▲ ***First Great Western now has two refurbished Mk3b BFO vehicles in traffic on the 'Night Riviera' sleeper service, these being Nos. 17173 and 17175. The latter vehicle is seen at Plymouth within the consist of the 22.00 Penzance to Paddington just after midnight on 22nd November.*** **Nathan Williamson**

Railway Herald Worldwide ... the return!

Following the response to our *Railway Herald Worldwide* supplement with the last issue, the decision has been taken to produce a further supplement covering the railways of the world in mid-December.

The second supplement will follow a similar design to the first one and as a result, news, information and especially railway-related images from any country (especially those with a news value) are welcomed.

If you would like to see the inclusion of the supplement on a regular basis, please visit the dedicated website at: **http://www.railwayherald.co.uk/worldwide** and register your interest.

For any friends/colleagues who you feel would be interested in the supplement, but not the main magazine, the 12-page Worldwide supplement can be downloaded from that webpage as well.

Calling any technical writers in the IRO

The second annual Parsons Brinckerhoff (PB) essay awards have been launched in conjunction with the Institution of Railway Operators (IRO). The 2008 awards have two categories; the first is open to students enrolled on an IRO Degree or Diploma course at Glasgow Caledonian University, the second for entry by any IRO member.

The deadline for registering an interest in entering is 28th December 2007 and a prize of £500 donated by PB will be awarded to the best essay in each category at the IRO annual lunch in Birmingham on 25th April 2008.

This year, entrants are being asked to write a paper of between 4,000 and 5,000 words under the title: 'Compare and contrast the operational benefits of both ERTMS and mainland European integrated timetabling practice' and suggest which of these is likely to provide the best outcome for end users.

A judging panel of academics and senior industry figures, including Modern Railways correspondent Roger Ford, will select the winners, who will be presented with prizes by PB's Director of Rail, Bob Ducksbury.

The winner of the new category will also be asked to deliver their winning paper to a seminar of IRO members in the form of a lecture. Readers interested should register interest in the awards by going to: **www.railwayoperators.org**.

The closing date for entries is 25th March 2008. Completed entries should be sent to: Chris Daughton, Chief Executive IRO, PO Box 128, West Sussex. RH15 0UZ

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▲ *Canadian Pacific (CP) has been using the AC traction version of the General Electric ES44s on its Calgary-Vancouver line, which includes the climb over Kicking Horse Pass in the Rockies. With the new locos, CP announced in late October that it was achieving fuel savings of 20% and that the new locos were producing 60% less emmissions. The GE design for Freightliner will also use AC traction and dynamic braking.* **Ian Lothian**

Freightliner announces major order for 30 new locomotives ... from General Electric!

Freightliner has taken a major step forward in the history of diesel locomotives in the UK by announcing the first order for a UK-derivative of the USA General Electric design.

With the ever-increasing costs of safety cases, together with strict safety certification and crash worthiness, the interest shown by the UK's rail freight operators in developing a new locomotive type and bodyshell for the British rail market has been understandably low. However, in a market until now 100% dominated by General Motors, now known as Electro-Motive Company of Canada, Freightliner have opened the doors to give rival General Electric (GE) its first foothold in Britain with the announcement of an order for 30 high-power output, fuel efficient diesel locomotives.

The new locomotives are being designed and constructed under the 'Project Genesis' heading and will be the first in the UK to feature AC traction technology and dynamic braking, which combines to generate 10% fuel efficiency. In addition, the new locomotive cabs are being designed with input from the rail unions and will have air-conditioning as standard.

For the enthusiasts, it is the design of the locomotives that will create the biggest interest, being a complete change from the common Class 59/66 bodyshell. The new design will have a narrow body with an exterior walkway, together with a grab-rail running the full length of the body towards the top of the locomotive. At 23 meters in length, the new engines will be slightly longer than a Class 66, but the big business motivation comes from the fuel consumption - 'Project Genesis' locos will be 10% more fuel efficent than previous engines - and from the horsepower, which is expected to be 3,686hp, a vast improvement in haulage capacity from the standard Class 66s of 2,480hp.

The traction motors on the new locos are to be individually controlled via separate inverters, leading to better power distribution based on available adhesion, and the use of the AC motor with its better torque-speed curve will mean that it will have a much higher starting torque giving a greater starting tractive effort. The fleet will be fitted with rheostatic (dynamic) braking, which when slowing uses the traction motors to regenerate energy and put electric current back into the locomotive, using the electric current to drive the auxiliary motors. This is the first time it has ever been applied in a diesel loco in the UK. Finally, the design will have the now standard dual-cab layout with left-of-centre operator's desk. The engine is resiliently mounted to reduce vibration. Cabs are sound insulated and driver information is provided by MMI screens. The latter will provide information to the driver about the status of the locomotive, some of which will come from the on-board diagnostics system.

The first two 'Project Genesis' locos will be fitted with remote dial-up software which will allow GE personnel to monitor the performance, troubleshoot and find problems before anyone knows they are happening, as well as being able to dispatch a technician with the correct parts to the location where the loco is going to finish its journey for preventative maintenance. Whether the system is rolled out to the remainder of the fleet is still to be decided.

As the project is still in the design stage, no drawings or plans can yet be reproduced, but *Railway Herald* will be publishing the design just as soon as Freightliner and GE have confirmed the full details.

The actual deployment of the 30 new locomotives has yet to be confirmed, although a Freightliner spokesperson expected that the fleet would be deployed across both the Intermodal and Heavy Haul divisions. With a 75mph capability they will be ideal for intermodal services and the 3,686hp will no doubt prove useful on Freightliner's north-east and Anglo-Scottish coal services.

The appearance of the first chassis from the GE workshops in the USA is expected around 2009, with the locomotive then going to GE's major test site in Pennsylvania. The first six locos will arrive in two batches, with Nos 1 and 2, followed by 3-6, by sea at Newport Docks around June 2009. Freightliner is hoping that the entry into service of the first six locomotives, following trials and final testing, together with successful certification and approval procedures, will take place in July 2009.

The remaining 24 locomotives will then follow as construction progresses.

▶ Following the move of Eurostar from Waterloo International to St Pancras International, it has been announced that the proposed plans to convert the former International platforms at Waterloo for domestic use will cost between £50,000 and £100,000.

▶ 'one' railway has invested in a new steam cleaner in order to maintain the upholstery on its trains in tip-top condition. The investment follows on from the success of an initial steam cleaner purchased last year. Over 400 trains have so far benefited from the original cleaner, and now double this amount can receive the intensive treatment in a way that can now clean upholstery deeper and more thoroughly than was possible before. The cleaner starts its life at Southend and will then work its way around the 'one' network to bring benefits to all passengers on the system. 'one' now has over 200 staff cleaning trains around its network.

▶ Transport for London and TranSys, the consortium that delivers the Oyster smartcard, have joined forces with O^2 to trial a mobile handset that will incorporate Oyster technology. Five hundred customers with trial ' O^2 wallet' phones will be able to use their mobile handset to pay for travel across London. Oyster has been a huge success since its launch in 2003, making Londoner's journeys cheaper, easier and quicker. More than ten million cards have been issued and just 3% of payments on London's Underground and buses are now made using cash.

▶ Chiltern Railways is offering six months free off-peak travel on its routes to the winner of a digital photo competition. All you have to do is take a digital photograph that has some association with Chiltern Railways, whether it be a train, a station, a destination, railway staff or passengers. It could even be a view from a train window. Entry forms are only available online and photographs need to be 2MB or less – but you can enter as many times as you like. All entries must be submitted by 7th December. **Click here** to visit the Chiltern Railways website for further information.

▶ We have been asked to mention that following the story carried in Issue 109 regarding the end of the Central Trains franchise, the appearance of the commemorative headboard, was entirely down to Matt Wilson and his family.

▶ Tyne & Wear Metro, the original pioneer of the modern-day UK light rail systems, is to provide an extra 50 trains for shoppers and partygoers over the Christmas period. Nexus is meeting the cost of cutting the gap between trains to meet the needs of an extra 250,000 passengers using Metro's Newcastle city centre stations during the festive season, and extra staff will also be deployed to city centre stations to assist passengers and ensure smooth boarding. The extra services will be introduced from 3rd December, the day shops in Newcastle start opening later for Christmas, and will continue until the end of the month. The additional trains will mean a service every four minutes through Newcastle city centre through the day, Monday to Saturday, and every six minutes in the evening until around 20.00. There will also be a train every six minutes between 10.00 and 17.00 on Sundays, when multi-storey car parks at Regent Centre and Four Lane Ends will also open specially for shoppers.

The extra Metros will operate between Airport and Pelaw and between St James via the coast to Pelaw – the lines that see the biggest increase in passenger numbers in the run-up to Christmas.

Manchester orders extra four trams for Metrolink

Four new Metrolink trams are an add-on to an existing order aimed at improving the movement of passengers through Salford Quays and into 'mediacity:uk' from 2010, ahead of the BBC's move to its new northern headquarters.

Greater Manchester Passenger Transport Executive (GMPTE) has now ordered 12 Flexity Swift trams from Bombardier Transportation.

More than £19 million is being invested in the new vehicles and on improvements to the Eccles Metrolink line by Salford City Council, Peel Media and the Northwest Regional Development Agency. A quarter of a mile (0.4 km) extension to the line will take passengers into the heart of 'mediacity:uk'.

Work on the Metrolink extension is due to start in 2009 and to be completed in 2010. The four new trams will significantly increase the frequency of services on the section of the Eccles Metrolink line between Cornbrook and Harbour City.

David Leather, GMPTE's Chief Executive, said: "The four new trams will allow us to provide a new service between Cornbrook and 'mediacity:uk' in Salford Quays. They are in addition to eight extra trams that we ordered earlier this year to increase capacity and relieve overcrowding on the existing Metrolink network."

▲ *Croydon tram No 2541 arrives at Addiscombe on 8 October 2006 with a service from West Croydon to Beckenham Junction, while No 2530 heads in the opposite direction. The new order of light rail vehicles for Manchester will be to the same basic design as these Flexity Swift trams.* **Brian Morrison**

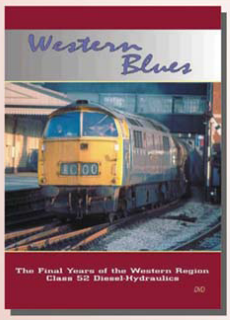
The additional trams and improvements will help support the continued economic growth of the Manchester city-region according to the North West Regional Development Agency and complements other major investments in Greater Manchester.

'mediacity:uk' will be the UK's first purpose-built centre for media and creative industries. The Salford Quays development is expected to create 15,500 jobs and bring £1 billion to the regional economy in its first five years.

The 12 extra trams will allow more double trams at busy times, and a new 12-minute interval service between Cornbrook and 'mediacity:uk' to operate.

The new model of tram is to the same basic design as those used by Croydon Tramlink. The vehicles will be designed and built at Bombardier's sites in Bautzen (Germany) and Vienna (Austria)

LATEST RELEASES FROM GLOBE VIDEO FILMS



WESTERN BLUES

30 years have elapsed since the demise of the famous 'Western' class diesels in service with British Rail, and we commemorate this anniversary with a very special programme looking at their final four years in traffic.

The programme is divided into four chapters each dedicated to the years from 1974-1977, and with 50 different locomotives appearing in the programme, we get the chance to see most of our favourites in action once more. The programme also features many of the special trains operating in that period with D1010, D1013, D1023, D1051, D1052 all appearing on railtour duties.

Other highlights include: Double headed over Dainton; The summers of 1974 & 1975 at Dawlish; Reading platform scenes; and a ride behind Western Ambassador!

Guaranteed to bring back glorious memories from that wonderful era!

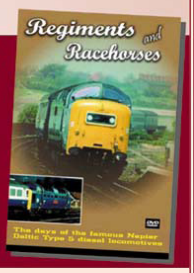
GVF137 - Running time approx 62 min. Due for release November.

DVD £19.95 inc P&P

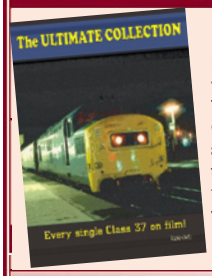
REGIMENTS AND RACEHORSES

Let us take you back to the glorious 1970s and beyond with this production featuring all 22 of the production Class 55 'Deltics'.

Not only that, but the programme also includes views of the Prototype DELTIC in action and even 'Baby Deltics' on suburban workings at Finsbury Park and Hornsey. Locations include, Kings Cross in 1978, 1980 & 1981, Peterborough 1963 & 1981, Doncaster, Hull, Leeds, Newcastle, Carlisle and Edinburgh and many others. Highlights include Class 55s Nos. 55012 and 55018 on the now closed Selby route, D9003 unnamed, diversions via Carlisle, *Meld* on an Aberdeen service in 1980 and a ride behind 55009 *Alycidon* on the 14.03 Kings Cross–York on December 21st, 1981. Includes a special look at 'Deltic' Railtours from 1975 to 1981.



DVD £17.95 inc P&P GVF136 - Running time approx 62 minutes



THE ULTIMATE COLLECTION

If your a fan of the Class 37s, then this TRIPLE DVD set should be your bible!

The programme features EVERY SINGLE MEMBER of the English Electric Class 37s on film. Which ever is your favourite - then it's here! Compiled almost entirely of unpublished material, we have been strict on the criteria for inclusion - all filmed in the UK and no 'preservation shots'. Throughout the programme, each of the 309 members of the class 37 fleet is introduced with a brief fact screen, then depicted by a scene from it's past.

DVD £29.99 Inc P&P GVF133 - Running Time 4 hours 35 minutes

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Time for a *different* kind of number?

Metronet collapses after PPP Arbiter refuses most of costs claim

It's business as usual at LUL, promises Mayor

RMT threatens action if Metronet jobs are lost

Tories call for probe by National Audit Office

John Laing to sell Chiltern Railways and its stake in London Overground

Watchdog urges government to consider terminating First Great Western

Work on EARL to be suspended during review

Eurostar's full high speed timetable won't arrive until December

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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Croydon tram No 2541 arrives at Addiscombe on 8 October 2006 with a service from West Croydon to Beckenham Junction, while No 2530 heads in the opposite direction. Brian Morrison

▲ *An unusual feature of the winter timetable is the first train from Wolverhampton through to Euston on a Sunday morning being booked to be dragged throughout by a Class 57/3. Although Class 57-hauled trains are a regular feature between Wolverhampton and New Street, the sight of a '57'-hauled train, especially between Birmingham New Street and Rugby, is very rare indeed, with the obvious exception of failures. On 25th November, the train is pictured arriving at Coventry, with Class 57/3 No. 57307* **Lady Penelope** *dragging Class 390 No. 390020* **Virgin Cavalier.** **Ron Kosys**

EWS/Euro Cargo Rail Class 66 Fleet

The Class 66 'European' pool has increased over recent weeks and now totals no less than 50 locomotives.

The current members of the WBEN pool being: 66010, 66022, 66026, 66028, 66029, 66032, 66033, 66036, 66038, 66042, 66045, 66049, 66052, 66062, 66064, 66071, 66072, 66073, 66123, 66179, 66190, 66195, 66202, 66203, 66205, 66208, 66209, 66212, 66215, 66216, 66218, 66222, 66223, 66224, 66225, 66226, 66229, 66231, 66233, 66234, 66236, 66239, 66241, 66242, 66243, 66244, 66245, 66246, 66247 and 66249.

As previously commented, although EWS has now confirmed a new order for Class 66 traction, all of which is destined for Northern Europe, and France in particular, the locomotives will be in addition to the present European members of the UK Class 66 fleet.

It is interesting to note that the freight division of DB, the new owner of EWS, has just received its first Class 66 - No. EU01 having left Canada in Freightliner colours and having been destined for the company's Polish operation, has now been leased to Railion/DB and repainted to its red colour scheme.

Intermediate livery for GNER Mk4 fleet

▼ *The new interim National Express colour scheme for the East Coast Franchise, as described in Issue 109 of RH, will see GNERs orange bodyside band replaced with a white stripe with the National Express logo at one end and 'East Coast' branding at the other while the full relivery programme is completed. Despite the franchise changeover still being over 10 days away, a number of the Mk4 fleet have appeared with white stripes, although no branding or wording as evidenced by TSO No. 12205 pictured at Leeds on 27th November.* **Ron Cover**

Rolling Stock News

▶ The unique-liveried Victa Westlink Rail Class 47/4 No. 47832, long rumoured to have been purchased or transferred to DRS, has in fact been sold to Mainline Rail, although the locomotive is on-loan back to VWR until 15th December.

▶ DRS has expanded its rolling stock fleet with the purchase of two Mk2 vehicles from Victa Westlink Rail. The two coaches were the only two non-kitchen vehicles from the Blue Pullman set not sold to Cotswold Rail following FM Rail's period of administration. The vehicles are presently being used with the DRS Mk3 set on Hertfordshire Rail Tours 'Pullman' programme.

▶ The first Class 37s to be painted into the new DRS corporate 'Compass' colour scheme have been unveiled. Nos. 37423 and 37610 were released from Brush Traction on 21st November, being hauled northwards to Carlisle by Class 66/4 No. 66404. No. 37610 was back in traffic on test train duties a few days later.

▶ Freightliner's present fleet of six Class 57/0 locomotives remains occasionally active. On 26th November, the status of the fleet was Nos. 57001 at Crewe CS (on exam), 57002 at Crewe Basford Hall (withdrawn), 57003 worked 'light engine' from Crewe to Cardiff Wentloog to power a trip working to Cardiff Canton, before returning to Crewe, 57004 was at Southampton Maritime with 57006 while 57005 was at Ipswich. It has been noted that No. 57003 has now had its *Freightliner Evolution* plates removed.

▲ *On 24th November, LMS 'Princess Royal' Pacific No. 6201 Princess Elizabeth is pictured shortly after arrival at Preston with the return leg of 'The Borderman', bound for London Euston. A motive power change took place here with No. 6201 giving way to diesel traction for the run south.* **Adrian Bradshaw**

Past Time launch the 'Cotton Mill Express'

Past Time has announced a new series of trains based on its trans-Pennine experiences of late.

The 'Cotton Mill Expresses' will operate monthly from Manchester Victoria, running eastwards via the Standedge route to Huddersfield, before turning back to Blackburn via the Calder Valley and Copy Pit. A short break will be taken at Blackburn, before returning to Manchester Victoria via Darwen and Bolton. Trains are set to operate on Saturdays 12th January, 9th February, 15th March, 14th June and 26th July together with Sundays 6th April and 18th May.

The trains will be operated through West Coast with Ian Riley providing the traction, which will no doubt consist of Nos. 45407 and 76079 together with the possibility of 'Black 5' No. 44871, which is currently undergoing overhaul at Riley's Bury workshops.

Problems hit forthcoming Pathfinder excursions

Pathfinder has been forced to cancel its two trains spanning the Christmas holiday.

The 'Whatley Looper' scheduled for 22nd December has been lost because the scheduled motive power, No. D1015 *Western Champion* is booked for tyre turning at Plymouth Laira, and although the locomotive is already in situ at the depot there is currently no guarantee that the job will be completed in time to undertake the tour.

In addition, it is understood that potential engineering works could also have caused the tour to be re-routed. Seven days later the company was due to traverse the Settle & Carlisle from Birmingham with a pair of Class 47s, which has been cancelled 'due to operating issues with the operating company'.

The latter issue is believed to be a consequence of the changes taking place at Victa Westlink.

Railtour listings throughout 2008

Did you know that you can log onto the internet 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and find detailed information on all known railtour operations?

The *Railway Herald* Railtour Listings, accessible from our home page and by **clicking here**, are available on-line anytime of the day or night and provide details on all the remaining charters for 2007, including those postponed and cancelled, plus a full line-up for all known excursions in 2008 - including the regular operations in the West Highlands, the Cambrian Coast route and Past Time's newly announced 'Cotton Mill Expresses' over Copy Pit.

The site also details telephone, email and postal contact details, together with links to the appropriate websites, for all tour operators.

Light at the end of the tunnel for Bittern

The long awaited mainline return of 'A4' No. 60019 *Bittern* should finally take place on the locos next scheduled working.

The A4 is due to operate on 1st December between London King's Cross and York for Railway Touring Company.

Bittern will only work the outward leg to York, however, and similarly, will only work the return leg of RTC's 'Christmas White Rose' from York to King's Cross on 15th December.

All change!

Gauging issues and some pro-activity seem to be behind the exchange of motive power between Past Times' 'Ewell Tide Express' and Steam Dreams' 'Christmas Carol Cathedrals Express' to Chichester on 15th December.

The traction has been changed around so that No. 60009 *Union of South Africa* now covers the 'Ewell Tide Express' with No. 34067 *Tangmere* hauling the Chichester working.

▲ *The Fifty Fund's Class 50 No. 50049* **Defiance** *was used as motive power for Steam Dream's special from London King's Cross to York on 23rd November. Here, the 'Hoover' stands under the magnificent roof shortly after arrival. Motive power for the return working, was LNER 'A4' Pacific No. 60009* **Union of South Africa.** **James Stoker**

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.

		1st December	
Heartland Rail	CR Class 47	Bristol TM-Bristol Parkway-Yate-Cheltenham Spa-York and return	
Hertfordshire (Pullman)	2xClass 47	Tonbridge-Bromley South-Clapham Jn-Worcester Shrub Hill & rtn	
Kingfisher Railtours	EWS Class 67	Redhill-Clapham Junction-York and return	**Cancelled**
Kingfisher Railtours	34067	(Coventry-Ealing Broadway)-Folkestone Harbour	**Postponed**
NENTA Traintours	tbc	Norwich-Ipswich-Ely-York-Keighley-Skipton and return	
Pathfinder Tours	2xEWS Cl 37	Swindon-Severn Tunnel Jct-Hereford-Shrewsbury-Carnforth-Skipton-Keighley-Leeds and return	
Railtourer	2xWCRC Cl47	Scarborough-York-Leeds-Doncaster-Sheffield-Bath Spa and return	
Railway Touring Company	60019	London KX-Potters Bar-Stevenage-Peterborough-York and return	
Steam Dreams	60009	London Victoria-Clapham Junction-Bath-Bristol TM and return	
Vintage Trains	4965	Tyseley WR-Tamworth-Derby-Chesterfield-Pontefract-York & rtn	
		2nd December	
Railway Touring Company	6024	London Paddington-Kemble-Worcester Shrub Hill	**Cancelled**
Vintage Trains	4965	Tyseley Warwick Road-Melton Mowbray and return	**Cancelled**
		4th December	
Hertfordshire (Pullman)	2xCl 47	Redhill-Kensington Olympia-Bath Spa-Bristol TM and return	
		6th December	
Hertfordshire (Pullman)	2xCl 47	London Paddington-Aylesbury-Quainton Road (break)-Claydon-Oxford-Reading-Ascot-London Victoria (circular tour)	
Railway Touring Company	60019	London Victoria-Reading-Bristol TM	**Cancelled**
		7th December	
SRPS	55022	Linlithgow-Newcastle upon Tyne-Lincoln and return	
Steam Dreams	60009	London Victoria-Kensington Olympia-Stevenage Peterborough-Spalding-Lincoln (break)-Newark-Grantham and return	
		8th December	
Compass Tours	2xCl 47	Stockport-Bolton-Wigan-Preston-Stirling-Perth-Dundee and return	
Hertfordshire (Pullman)	2xCl 47	Southend Central-Barking-Stratford-Lincoln (break/rev) and return	
Kingfisher Railtours	EWS Cl 67	Derby-Kettering-Bath and return	
Kingfisher Railtours	6201	(Hellifield-Blackburn-Preston)-Shap-Carlisle and return	
Kingfisher Railtours	6024	Paddington-Salisbury (break) and return	**Cancelled**

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

The Week Ahead

The start of December always marks a busy period for charters with the Christmas luncheon season beginning, together with the numerous 'Christmas Fayre' events which take place across the country.

The popular 'Christmas Fayre' at Lincoln, is the destination of several charters over the coming weekend, with the first trains operating on 7th December as Steam Dreams work in from London Victoria with No. 60009 *Union of South Africa*, while from the north the SRPS has No. 55022 *Royal Scots Grey* powering a charter throughout from Linlithgow.

Pathfinder lead the way the following day with a Salisbury to Lincoln working scheduled for No. 50049 *Defiance*, which actually continues to Barnetby (as do most trains in fact, to be serviced and to run-round, but as empty stock workings). Also operating to Lincoln is Hertfordshire from Southend Central. There are two workings on 9th December, with the Railway Touring Company commencing operations with a York–Lincoln train steam-hauled throughout by Ian Riley's Nos. 45407 and 76079, which will be deputising for No. 71000 Duke of Gloucester, which is not yet available for traffic. The other working is for Hertfordshire from Finsbury Park. All-in-all, a busy weekend for the City of Lincoln!

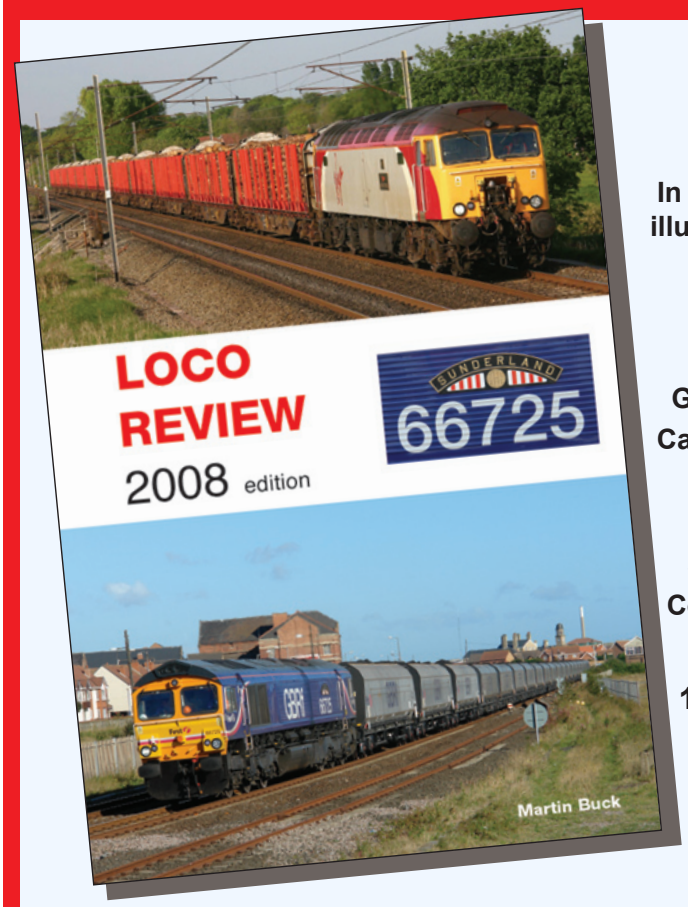
Hertfordshire also has two mid-week outings, on 4th December to Bristol from Redhill, followed two days later with a circular tour from Paddington via High Wycombe, Quainton Road, Claydon and Oxford, returning to London Victoria.

The weekend also provides a variety of steam operations. LMS 'Princess Royal' Pacific No. 6201 *Princess Elizabeth* is booked both ways over Shap from Preston to Carlisle for Kingfisher Railtours, while LMS 'Black 5' 4-6-0 No. 45407 and BR Standard 2MT 2-6-0 No. 76079 are booked from Leicester to York for Railway Touring Company.

On 9th December, Steam Dreams again employ *Union of South Africa*, this time on a London King's Cross to Ely 'Christmas Carol Cathedrals Express'.

Elsewhere, on 8th December, Tyseley will utilise its own Class 47 No. 47773 to Minehead while Compass Tours have a long-distance Stockport to Stirling, Perth and Dundee charter. On the same day, Railtourer, head west from Stevenage to the historic City of Chester.

NEW for CHRISTMAS



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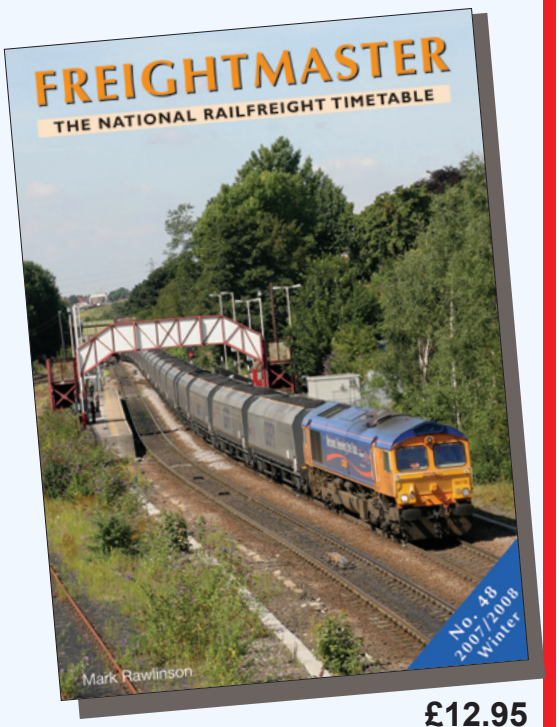
Issue 48



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▲ *Network Rail MPV Nos. DR98908 and DR98958 are pictured passing through Anniesland, on the outskirts of Glasgow, on 24th November with the 11.50 Helensburgh Upper - Airdrie RHTT working.* **Jonathan McGurk**

▼ *Network Rail-liveried Plasser & Theurer purpose built self-powered test 'Eurailscout' DMU, comprising vehicle Nos. 999701 and 999700 are pictured in London Waterloo on 22nd November.* **Alisdair Anderson**

▲ *A complete stranger to the Peterborough area is Class 73 No. 73136* **Perseverance.** *The locomotive worked north from Willesden on 24th November, dragging First GBRf Class 66/7 No. 66711.* **David Palmer**

▼ *TDM problems with the Mk4 set on 22nd November resulted in GNER's Class 91 No. 91111 being run around its train and working 'blunt end first' to London, where it is pictured on arrival at King's Cross.* **Alisdair Anderson**

▲ *The sole remaining heritage-liveried CLass 37/4 No. 37411* **Caerphilly Castle** *made an appearance on the Crewe Basford Hall - Scunthorpe and return rail service on 23rd November. Having worked across 'light engine', No. 37411 leaves Scunthorpe with the return working.* **Richard Tuplin**

▼ *Freightliner Heavy Haul is currently making use of Class 47/4 No. 47816 on 'cripple trip' workings around the West Yorkshire area. On 29th November, it passes Burton Salmon with a Milford Sidings - Leeds Midland Road working conveying 14 HHA coal hoppers.* **Nigel Cockburn**

A view very rarely seen of the entrance to Scunthorpe Anchor Sidings, taken from Corus property with special permission. EWS Class 60 No. 60018 awaits its next duty, while Class 185 No. 185143 passes with the 09.58 Manchester Airport - Cleethorpes service on 30th October.
Richard Tuplin (with thanks to Rob Harkness and Corus)

TURNING THE CLOCK BACK

Potters Bar in the early 1950s

Brian Morrison looks back to the 1950s and traffic on the southern end of the busy East Coast Main Line

The four-track cutting just south of Potters Bar is probably just as busy today as it was in the early 1950s prior to the lines being doubled, but of course the variety of motive power is nowhere near as diverse.

Class 313s, 317s and 365 EMUs operate the First Capital Connect local and semi-fast services, the East Coast Main Line expresses are in the hands of electric Class 91s and Mk4 stock and the now ageing but still very reliable diesel HSTs, while Hull Trains operates its fleet of three Class 222 Pioneers.

Freight is fairly minimal and for the most part in the hands of Class 66s with the exception of a working each way between Wembley and Doncaster behind Class 92 traction.

The following selection of photographs, mainly from a day on the lineside on 12th May 1951, shows just a few of the locomotive types to be seen – and of course everything was loco-hauled

▲ ***Run, among other things, to celebrate the opening of King's Cross 100 years earlier, the 09.15 'Centenaries Express' from London to York passes Potters Bar on 28th September 1952, headed by 'A4' No 60007 Sir Nigel Gresley.***

◀ ***New England (35A)-based 'A2/3' Pacific No 60513 Dante at speed through Potters Bar with an express from Edinburgh Waverley to King's Cross on 12th May 1951.*** **All: Brian Morrison**

▲ *With the 'West Riding' express in tow, a work-stained Class A1 Pacific No 60131* **Osprey** *climbs northwards at Potters Bar on 12th May 1951.*

▼ *Hauling two Gresley four-car 'Quad-Art' coaching sets, a typical local service of the day between King's Cross and Hatfield, steams freely up-grade to the Potters Bar stop on the same day, behind Class N2/2 0-6-2T No 69490*

▲ *WD 2-8-0 No 90180 from New England shed (35A) powers a mixed freight from Peterborough to King's Cross yards, heading downgrade at Potters Bar on the same May day.*

◀ *With a mixed rake of coaching stock making up a York-King's Cross express, Class A2/2 Pacific No 60502* Earl Marischal *enters Potters Bar cutting at speed on 12th May 1951. The loco was one of six original Thompson Pacifics rebuilt in 1943 from Gresley's Class P2 2-8-2s that were introduced in 1934.*

▼ *Class B1 4-6-0 No 61372 hammers through Potters Bar, powering a King's Cross-bound 'Cambridge Buffet Express'.*

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.

30th November 2007

Scarborough Railway Society
Public Library, Vernon Road, Scarborough. 'Society Members Digital Evening'. Slideshow Starts 19.30.

Stephenson Locomotive Society
The Mining Institute Lecture Theatre, Neville Hall, Westgate Road, Newcastle.
'The History Of Lambton Engine Works And Its Loco Sheds, 1835-2007' by Colin Mountford and Malcolm Young. Start 19.00.
Call 01434 688946 for further details.

1st December 2007

Stephenson Locomotive Society
The Friends Meeting House, Mount Street, Manchester. '60 Years of Transport Enthusiasm' by Dr A McDougall. Start 14.00.
Contact 0161 928 2461.

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) illustrated talk 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" illustrated talk by David Brabner, Robert Heron and Dave Winter.
Starts 19.30 for 19.45.
Non-members welcome.

Locomotive Club of Great Britain (Bedford)
St Johns Church Hall, St Johns Street, Bedford. 'Modern Rail Scenes' slideshow by Bob Sweet.
Starts 19.30, Entrance fee £1.50.

Monmouth Railway Society
Room A28, UWCN, Allt-Yr-Yn Ave., Newport , Gwent.
'S&T on the West Somerset Railway' by Richard Harman.
Starts: 19.30
Non-members £3.

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

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.

Stephenson Loco Society
Hayes Village Hall, Hayes Street, Hayes, Bromley. Meeting details to be confirmed.
Contact 0208 289 9935 for further details. Start 19.30.

6th December 2007

The Great Central Railway Society (Rotherham branch)
The Three Horseshoes, Bawtry Road, Wickersley. Members Evening (slides or digital images) with Christmas Buffet. Starts 7.00pm

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.

Stephenson Loco Society
St John Ambulance Centre, Sandes Avenue. Kendal. 'The Furness Railway Outer Circle Tour' by Geoff Holme. Contact 01539 729659. Start 19.15.

7th December 2007

Gloucestershire Warwickshire Railway (Birmingham Area Group)
Northfield Library, Church Road, Northfield. Evening Slide show by Phil Darlaston. Starts 19.30.

Stephenson Loco Society
Settlement Centre, Union Street Middlesbrough. ' North American Steam 1940 - 1994' by Ian McInnes. Contact 01642 321205 for further details. Start 19.00.

8th December 2007

Irwell Vale Railway Photographers,
Church Hall, Irwell Vale, Rossendale, Lancs 'Modern Traction Scene' by Terry Eyres Start 7.30pm with pie and pea supper. Further details contact Mike Taylor on (01282) 436653.

10th December 2007

Stephenson Loco Society
New Trinity Parish Hall, Saltcoats Ayrshire.
'Railway Photography, a Different Perspective' by Max Fowler.
Contact 01294 822303 for further details. Start 19.30

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

The Grimsby & Cleethorpes Railway Group
Royal Air Force Club, Alexandra Road, Cleethorpes. 'Picture Postcard Railway Rambles' by Stephen Gay. Starts 7.30pm

Stephenson Loco Society
YMCA, Bridge Street, Guildford. 'Swindon and the Great Western Railway' by Bernie Holland.
Contact 01372 379216. Start 19.30

13th December 2007

Locomotive Club of Great Britain (St. Albans)
United Reform Church, Watford Road, Chiswell Green. 'Locomotive and Tender Loving Care' filmshow by Dave Baker. Starts 19.30.

Stephenson Loco Society
United Reform Church Hall, Mowbray Road, New Barnet. 'On and Off the Footplate Part 4' by Bill Davies. Starts 19.30
Contact 0208 368 6200.

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

Stephenson Loco Society
The Mining Institute Lecture Theatre, Neville Hall, Westgate Road. Newcastle Upon Tyne.
'Yuletide Festivities'. Starts 19.00
Contact 01434 688946.

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

The Great Central Railway Society (Spinkhill branch)
The Angel Hotel, College Road, Spinkhill. 'Picture Postcard Railway Rambles' by Stephen Gay.
Starts 7.30pm

Locomotive Club of Great Britain (Brighton)
Model Railway Club, BR London Road Station, Shaftesbury Place, Brighton. 'Member's Memories of 2007' presentation. Starts 19.45.

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

Locomotive Club of Great Britain (Bedford)
St Johns Church Hall, St Johns Street, Bedford. 'Christmas Special'. Starts 19.30.

Locomotive Club of Great Britain (North West)
The Victoria Hotel, Wargrave Road, Newton-le-Willows, Merseyside'.
'Steam in the UK and South Africa' by Ian Fisher. Starts 19.30.

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 free, donations encouraged.

RCTS Cheltenham
The Victory Club, Burlington House, Lypiatt Road, Cheltenham.
"Garratt K1 - The story of an articulated Locomotive" by Paul Inman. Start 7.30pm

20th December 2007

Locomotive Club of Great Britain (Croydon)
United Reform Church Hall, Addiscombe Grove, East Croydon Branch meeting. Starts 19.30.

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.

Gloucestershire Warwickshire Railway
'Christmas Cracker' event. All available engines, incl. GW 'City No. 3440 City of Truro, will run an intensive timetable. First train dep. 09.45 non-stop to Cheltenham (double headed by City of Truro and Foremarke Hall). First departure from Cheltenham Race Course 10.30 £12 ticket provides unlimited travel on day of purchase.

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.

Julie & John Webb Toy Fairs
George Stephenson Exhibition Hall, The Showground, Newark (A1/A6 Junction)

2nd January 2008
Stephenson Loco Society
Hayes Village Hall, Hayes Street, Hayes, Bromley. 'The Spa Valley Railway since 1985' by Brian Halford. Starts 19.30. Contact 0208 289 9935.

4th January 2008
Stephenson Locomotive Society
The Mining Institute Lecture Theatre, Neville Hall, Westgate Road. Newcastle Upon Tyne. 'By Train and Tram Through New Zealand' by Howard Burchell. Starts 19.00. Contact 01434 688946.

Stephenson Locomotive Society
Fox Covert Inn, High Leven, Nr Yarm, Teeside. ' The Glorious Years – Scottish Region' by Martin Green. Starts 19.30. Contact 01642 321205.

5th January 2008
Kidderminster Railway Museum
Railway Photograph Fair

7th January 2008
Stephenson Loco Society
New Trinity Parish Hall, Saltcoats, Ayrshire. 'Glasgow Central: Central to Glasgow' by Bill Ure. Starts 19.30. Contact 01294 822303.

8th January 2008
Great Western Society (Bristol Group)
Room 7, BAWA. 589 Southmead Road, Filton, BRISTOL, BS34 7RG. Contact: 0117 987 3244. "A Broad Gauge Journey - Part 1" talk by Brian Arman. Starts 19.30 for 19.45. Non-members welcome.

Locomotive Club of Great Britain (Bedford)
St Johns Church Hall, St Johns Street, Bedford. 'An Evening with Colin Gifford'. Starts 19.30.

Locomotive Club of Great Britain (North London)
Wood Green Labour Club, 3 Stuart Crescent, Wood Green, London. N22 5NJ. 'Film Miscellany' by Dave Baker. Starts: 19.30

Southern Electric Group (South Hampshire Branch)
Eastleigh Railway Institute in Romsey Road, Eastleigh. 'The Tramways of Siberia' talk by Mike Russell. Starts 19.30. Entrance £2

9th January 2008
Scottish Railway Preservation Society (Motherwell)
Conference Room, St. Mary's Church, Avon Street. Motherwell. 'Railway Travels in Retirement' by Fred Landery. Starts 7.30pm, contact Alistair Maclean on 01698 263814 for further details.

Stephenson Loco Society
YMCA, Bridge Street, Guildford. 'Japanese Railways' by Edward Talbot. Contact 01372 379216 for further details of this meeting. Start 19.30

10th January 2008
Locomotive Club of Great Britain (St. Albans)
United Reform Church, Watford Road, Chiswell Green. 'West Coast Mainline Upgrade - 2008 and beyond' by Stuart Baker. Starts 19.30.

Scottish Rly Preservation Society (Edinburgh)
Quaker Meeting House, 7 Victoria Terrace, Edinburgh. 'Pulling & Pushing' by Jim Summers. Illustrated talk on railway freight operations during the 1960s. Starts 7.30pm, Contact Dr. Peter Howell on 0131 334 5232 for further details.

11th January 2008
Altrincham Electric Railway Preservation Society
Altrincham Methodist Church Hall, Barrington Road, Altrincham. 'Wester & Wessex Wanderings' by Tony Icke Start 19.30, Non-members £3.00

12th January 2008
Stephenson Locomotive Society
Kidderminster Railway Museum. 'Members Slides'. Starts 14.15. Contact 01242 582152.

14th January 2008
York Railway Circle
Archbishop Holgate's School, Drama Studio, Hull Road, York. 'Midland & Great Northern Railway & North Norfolk Railway' by David Harris. Starts 19.30. Membership available.

15th January 2008
Stephenson Loco Society
Fox Covert Inn, High Leven, Nr Yarm, Teeside. 'The Railways of Cornwall' by John Irving. Starts 19.30. Contact 01642 321205.

17th January 2007
Monmouth Railway Society
Room LL1, UWCN, Allt-Yr-Yn Ave., Newport , Gwent. '16mm Archive Railway Films' by Chris Plaister. Meeting starts: 19.30 Non-members £3.

Stephenson Loco Society
United Reform Church Hall, Mowbray Road, New Barnet. 'Patagonia Narrow Gauge in 1996' by Alan Pearce. Starts 19.30 Contact 0208 368 6200.

Internet Links
Click on the name of the group or society to visit their website.
- Bassetlaw (Nth Notts) Rly Society
- Great Central Railway 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
- Stephenson Locomotive Society

▼ *Former Central Trains Class 170/5 No. 170520 calls at March station on 24th November with a Birmingham New Street to Stansted Airport service. Of note is the addition of grey CrossCountry logo vinyls.* **David Palmer**

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