The Railway Herald

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Contents

Orient Way Carriage sidings opened by Olympic Delivery Authority **Page 3**

TfL officially takes over Croydon Tramlink **Page 4**

Testing times at Wirksworth as LUL test battery locomotives **Page 5**

Preservation View: A look at the diesel galas on the ELR & G-WR **Page 16**

Railtour Listings **Page 6**
Preservation View **Page 15**
Events Diary **Page 20**

Front Cover

A locomotive that doesn't see daylight all that often! The NRM's prized exhibit in the form of LNER 'A4' No. 4468 Mallard stands outside the Great Hall on 5th July. **John Whitehouse**

Rear Cover

LNER 'A4' Pacific No. 60007 Sir Nigel Gresley heads the return of the 'Cathedrals Express' from Bristol as it rounds the curve near Bracknell on 3rd July. **Iain Brownston**

Publication

The Railway Herald is published every Monday 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!

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

▲ ***London Midland celebrated the centenary of the opening of the Great Western Railway's new through route from Birmingham to Cheltenham with a short ceremony at Birmingham Snow Hill station on 1st July. LM's Managing Director, Stephen Banaghan, outlined forthcoming improvements to the North Warwickshire Line, which in the past has narrowly escaped closure on two occasions. In the pipeline is a plan to introduce a two train per hour service, one fast and one calling at all stations. The big event will be in 2010 when new Class 172s will be introduced onto the line to replace the ageing fleet of Class 150 units. Also the recent £75 million investment in re-modelling the junction at Tyseley has eased a previous bottleneck. Further re-signalling is scheduled for 2010, which will see the end of the routes semaphores. In the longer term, Warwickshire County Council is evaluating a plan for a Stratford Parkway station to be sited close to the busy A46 trunk road. For the centenary, three train sonnets celebrating the line have been written by poet and railway enthusiast Ian McMillan, one of which was recited by a representative of the Royal Shakespeare Company prior to invited guests joining a special non-stop service to Stratford-upon-Avon featuring Class 170/5 Turbostar No. 170508, pictured at Stratford-upon-Avon on 1st July.*** **John Whitehouse**

Hopes for *Union of South Africa* to Scarborough

The problem encountered by No. 60009 *Union of South Africa* when working the York to Edinburgh leg of Steam Dreams' 'The Coronation' on 5th July seems to stem from the loss of a cork which allowed the oil to drain from the reservoir lubricating the coupling rod bearing on the centre left-hand driving wheel, causing it to run hot.

Fortunately, the problem is not regarded as serious and it is believed that the coupling rods were despatched to the LNWR works at Crewe for repair on 6th July, with the hope of having them back and re-installed on the locomotive in time for it to cover its rostered turn on The Railway Touring Company's 'Scarborough Spa Express' from Norwich to York and Scarborough this weekend.

Railway Herald WORLDWIDE

from the publishers of Railway Herald

Railway Herald Worldwide is published on the first Thursday of every month and is available on e-mail subscription (free of charge) or it can be downloaded direct from our new look website at **www.railwayherald.com**

Featured in Issue Four

- The latest news and events from across Europe, the America's and the Asia Pacific region
- **Railroading USA** - *Ian Lothian* continues our in-depth series examining photo locations and opportunities around the United States. Part 3 looks at the busy areas around the Idaho Panhandle.
- **Toronto** - Thomas Blampied looks at the GO Transit Lakeshore East and Lakeshore West passenger operations around Toronto, Canada.

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▲ *Olympic Delivery Authority Chairman, John Armitt, and Rail Minister, Tom Harris formally opened the 12-road National Express East Anglia sidings at Orient Way, Temple Mills, on 7th July. The sidings replace those at Thornton Fields, which have been taken over for part of the 2012 Olympics stadium construction. Orient Way sidings cover an area equivalent to three full-size football pitches. The project was completed ahead of schedule and on budget. Class 317/7 No. 317714 stands nearest the camera, at the temporary platform, having arrived on a press and VIP special from London Liverpool Street and Stratford on 7th July.*

▼ *An end on view of the 12-road sidings at Orient Way.* **Both: Iain Scotchman**

Derby builds new trains for South Africa

◀ *The first of a new batch of 24 electric trains for South African operator Gautrain was handed over at Derby on 9th July. The four-car trains are built to standard Electrostar style. Fifteen vehicles are being built at Derby and the rest supplied as kits for assembly at Union Carriage works, Johannesburg. The trains are finished in a gold and white livery to correspond with one of South Africa's leading gold producing areas.* **C Hall**

❖ First GBRf has announced that it is now the largest British-owned rail freight haulier in the country. End of year reports show turnover at the highest levels since the company began in 1999, and more than 37% higher than 2007. Such figures mean that the company has surpassed its rivals to become, in less than 10 years, the biggest British rail haulier in operation. Occupying such a position in the market has been achieved with the acquisition of new contracts, both in the coal sector, where GBRf now possess an impressive 12% share of the market, and the postal sector, with a recent increase in services for Royal Mail incorporating First Class post.

❖ As a result of vandalism at Wickwood Junction, near Castleford, Northern Rail had to suspend morning services between Leeds and Knottingley on 4th July. Bus replacement services operated between Leeds, Castleford and Knottingley and Leeds, Castleford and Wakefield Colliery, calling at intermediate stations. Leeds to Sheffield services were also affected and operated from Leeds to Wakefield, but did not call at Woodlesford, Castleford or Normanton.

❖ Burnham-on-Crouch station is looking better than ever thanks to the attentions of the Burnham Bridge Task Force, a local voluntary group who over the past five years have dedicated more than 2,500 hours in helping to maintain the station car park and embankments. In the period 2004-2005 the Task Force bought and planted over 30 shrubs, 2,300 tulip bulbs and 300 wallflowers, and this did not include the number of plants donated or grown from seed. The group are as enthusiastic as they were in 2003 and show no signs of giving up, plans being already underway for work to be done into 2009. The working party meets at the station at 09.00 on the first Saturday of every month and new volunteers are always welcome.

❖ Services on the Cathcart Circle line on the south-side of Glasgow are to be restricted between 22nd July and 17th August to allow for urgent repairs in the Pollokshields East area. As a result, there will be a revised timetable between Glasgow Central and Neilston and Newton over the four week period while Network Rail carry out repairs to subsidence caused by ancient mine works in the area. The works will result in there being no services at five stations along the Cathcart Circle line – Pollokshields East, Queens Park, Crosshill, Mount Florida and Cathcart.

▲ *With Grants of Croydon vinyls, tram No 2552 travels between Lloyd Park and Coombe Lane on the New Addington Tramlink branch on 8 October 2006, heading for New Addington.* **Brian Morrison**

TfL officially takes over Croydon Tramlink

The final documents to seal the £98 million deal to transfer Tramtrack Croydon Ltd to Transport for London (TfL) were signed on 27th June by the Managing Director of TfL London Rail, Ian Brown, and the directors of Tramtrack Croydon Ltd, the concession holders that owned the Tramlink network.

Owning the company means TfL will be able to save taxpayers money as it will no longer have to pay substantial amounts of compensation to Tramtrack Croydon in order to keep fares low. Last year that payment was £4 million, and the rate was expected to increase significantly over the 88 years that were remaining on the concession agreement.

Tramlink is a vital part of the transport network in south London and last year carried 27 million passengers. TfL is now to run additional services to relieve crowding on the Wimbledon to New Addington line and increase the off-peak Elmers End and Beckenham Junction service from two to four trams per hour. In addition, graffiti and vandalism on the system will be tackled, general maintenance levels are to increase and refurbishment of tram interiors are to take place.

In the longer term, TfL is keen to enhance the Tramlink system so that it can cater for increasing passenger numbers.

Sandhills station reopens

Although major elements of the £6 million works are still underway, Merseytravel's Sandhills station re-opened to passengers on 7th July allowing its use for the busy weeks of the Tall Ships and Open Golf events as an interchange for Southport and the Ormskirk and Kirkby lines on Merseyrail's Northern Line.

The work undertaken includes a new ticket office and booking hall, unisex disabled toilet at platform level, resurfaced platform and glazed canopy, together with two new fully enclosed waiting rooms to provide better protection for waiting passengers. In addition, the station lighting has been upgraded, a new CCTV system is in use and there is improved access to the station with a DDA compliant ramp and new lift to provide step free access from street level up to the station platforms.

Merseytravel has funded the project with support from the Department for Transport (£1.4million) and ERDF through the Merseyside Objective One funding programme (£500,000).

▼ *Class 59/0 No. 59004* **Paul A Hammond** *is pictured on the Merehead branch, awaiting a path onto the mainline with the 10.31 Merehead to Acton Yard service on 7th July, formed of 21 Freightliner HIA wagons, which are on long-term hire to Mendip Rail. The locomotive was taken out of traffic later the same day after problems with a turbo. A shortage of spares means that it is likely to be out of traffic for some time.* **Richard Dunn**

Free Wi-Fi for First Class passengers at Derby

As major work to dismantle and completely rebuild the platform canopies at Derby station continues, this week sees the move of the passenger First Class lounge to Platform 1 and the introduction of free WiFi in the lounge.

To allow work on Platform 6 to take place the current lounge on Platform 6 will close on 4th July and re-open at the south end of Platform 1 on 7th July.

Karen Miller, Station Manager at Derby, said: "I hope the introduction of free WiFi for passengers using the First Class lounge will be welcomed by those using the area while waiting for their train. The move to Platform 1 will not inconvenience passengers as London services will also arrive and depart from the same platform.

The First Class lounge at Derby is open Monday to Friday from 06.20 to 20.00 and provides a range of facilities including hot and cold drinks, complimentary snacks, newspapers, BBC News 24 and from this week Wi-Fi access.

Work currently taking place at the station will see the erection of new canopies and includes the installation of lifts accessing all platforms.

▲ *Class 59/0 No. 59002* **Alan J Day** *was slightly damaged when it was involved in a collision with a tree on the Whatley branch. The loco was returned to Merehead late on 7th July and due to a shortage of motive power was expected back in traffic, following temporary repairs, the next day.* **Richard Dunn**

Testing times at Wirksworth

▲ *One of the operational aspects undertaken regularly on the Ecclesbourne Valley Railway at Wirksworth is the testing of equipment on the line. Here, No. L18, a Trans Plant battery electric locomotive, undergoes tests on the Transmission Based Train Control system. The locomotive, which is used on engineers trains on the LUL system, was built at BREL Doncaster in 1970 and is at Wirksworth for a week of intensive testing prior to being returned to London.*

▶ *One of the many types of machines to visit the Wirksworth test track for vehicle acceptance purposes. This is the first of three drain clearance machines for Network Rail supplied by the LH Group and Tasker. The machine is seen at Platform 2 prior to departure for Duffield.*
Both: Martin Miller

by John Whitehouse

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.

	7th July	
Railway Touring Company	2xEWS 37	**The Summer Highlander:** Inverness-Swindon **Cancelled**
Royal Scotsman	2x WCRC 47	**Western Tour Day 4:** Wemyss Bay Edinburgh
Royal Scotsman	2x WCRC 47	**Classic Tour Day 1:** Edinburgh-Keith
	8th July	
Royal Scotsman	2xWCRC 47	**Classic Tour Day 2:** Keith-Kyle of Lochalsh
	9th July	
Royal Scotsman	2xWCRC 47	**Classic Tour-Day 3:** Kyle of Lochalsh-Boat of Garten
Steam Dreams	tbc	London-Weymouth and return
	10th July	
Royal Scotsman	2xWCRC 47	**Classic Tour-Day 4:** Boat of Garten-Dundee
	11th July	
Royal Scotsman	2xWCRC 47	**Classic Tour-Day 5:** Dundee-Edinburgh
Royal Scotsman	2xWCRC 47	**Western Tour Day 1:** Edinburgh- Spean Bridge
Stobart Pullman	2x DRS 47	**The Highland Waverley: Day 1:** London KX-Glasgow Central
	12th July	
Kingfisher Railtours	48151	Carnforth-Ravenglass (break)-Sellafield (rev)-Ravenglass & return
Past Time Rail	2xEWS 67	Watford Junction-Oxenholme & return **Cancelled**
Pathfinder Tours	55022	Preston-Stafford- Welshpool-Porthmadog-Pwllheli & return
Railway Touring Company	70013	Norwich- York (and return) **Postponed**
Railway Touring Company	60009	Norwich-Brandon- Peterborough-Scarborough-York-(& return)
Royal Scotsman	2xWCRC 47	**Western Tour Day 2:** Spean Bridge-Bridge of Orchy
Spitfire Railtours	40145	Liverpool Lime Street-Skegness and return **Cancelled**
Stobart Pullman	2xDRS 47	Edinburgh Waverley-Fort William & return
UK Railtours	2xEWS 67	Stevenage-Finsbury Park-Slough- Paignton (break/rev) & return
Vintage Trains	86259	Birmingham NS-Glasgow Central & return **Cancelled**
	13th July	
Past Time Rail	34067	The Torbay Express: Bristol TM-Paignton-Kingswear and return
Royal Scotsman	2xWCRC 47	**Western Tour Day 3:** Bridge of Orchy Wemyss Bay
Stobart Pullman	2xDRS 47	**The Highland Waverley Day 3:** Glasgow Central-Ft William & rtn
Vintage Trains	tbc	Birmingham Snow Hill-Stratford upon Avon (twice)
	14th July	
Royal Scotsman	2xWCRC 47	**Western Tour Day 4:** Wemyss Bay Edinburgh
Royal Scotsman	2xWCRC 47	**Highland Tour Day 1:** Edinburgh-Boat of Garten
Stobart Pullman	2xDRS 47	**The Highland Waverley Day 4:** Glasgow Central-London KX
	15th July	
Royal Scotsman	2xWCRC 47	**Highland Tour Day 2:** Boat of Garten-Inverness-Dundee
	16th July	
Kingfisher Railtours	6024	(Ealing Broadway-Newbury-Castle Cary-)-Taunton-Exeter SD-Torquay-Paignton-Kingswear & return
Royal Scotsman	2xWCRC 47	**Highland Tour Day 3:** Dundee Edinburgh
Royal Scotsman	2xWCRC 47	**Highland Tour Day 1:** Edinburgh-Boat of Garten
Steam Dreams	60019	London Victoria-Reading-Newbury-Westbury-Bristol TM
	17th July	
Royal Scotsman	2xWCRC 47	**Highland Tour Day 2:** Boat of Garten-Inverness-Dundee
Stobart Pullman	2xDRS 47	Edinburgh-Carlisle- Preston & return
	18th July	
Past Time Rail	2xEWS 67	Exeter SD-Bristol TM-Birmingham New St-Liverpool Lime Street
Royal Scotsman	2xWCRC 47	**Highland Tour Day 3:** Dundee Edinburgh
Royal Scotsman	2xWCRC 47	**Western Tour Day 1:** Edinburgh- Spean Bridge
	19th July	
Compass Tours	2xRiveria 47	Lichfield City-Tame Bridge Pkway-Carlisle-Beattock-Edinburgh & rtn
John Fishwick & Sons	55022	Blackpool North-Bolton-Manchester Piccadilly-Crewe-Shrewsbury-Llandrindrod Wells-Cardiff (break)-Hereford-Shrewsbury & return
Kingfisher Railtours	30777	Carnforth-Grange over Sands-Ravenglass and
Past Time Rail	2xEWS 67	London Euston-Watford Junction-Milton Keynes Central-Rugby-Nuneaton-Lichfield Trent Valley-Liverpool Lime Street & return

Regular Scheduled Steam Operations

Services detailed below, do not appear in the main listings above, being regular itinery operations.

Dates	Operator	Train	Route	Loco Pool
6-12 Jul	WCRC	Jacobite	Fort William-Mallaig and return	62005 or 45231
7-12 Jul	NYMR	Whitby	Pickering-Whitby and return (three trips)	NYMR Pool
13-19 Jul	WCRC	Jacobite	Fort William-Mallaig and return	62005 or 45231
14-19 Jul	NYMR	Whitby	Pickering-Whitby and return (three trips)	NYMR Pool
20-26 Jul	WCRC	Jacobite	Fort William-Mallaig and return	62005 or 45231
21-26 Jul	NYMR	Whitby	Pickering-Whitby and return (three trips)	NYMR Pool
27 Jul-2 Aug	WCRC	Jacobite	Fort William-Mallaig and return	62005 or 45231

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

The Week Ahead

If you were for some reason disorientated and not quite sure what time of year it was, Steam Dreams would certainly help your dilemma with its 'Sunny South Special' on 9th July, which is surely an early harbinger of summer as they slip into high season mode with trips to the seaside, as well as cathedral cities. Weymouth is the destination, and No. 34067 *Tangmere* the means of getting there.

After the flurry of activity in recent weeks the coming weekend is positively pedestrian in terms of the number of tours booked to operate. The Railway Touring Company's 'Scarborough Flyer' on 12th July headlines, with No. 60009 *Union of South Africa* booked to replace the sidelined No. 71000 Duke of Gloucester from Norwich through to York and Scarborough via Thetford, Ely, Peterborough and the ECML. The return is steam-hauled through to York, where diesel traction takes over for the return to Norwich, as outwards. However, following No. 60009's failure on last weekends 'Coronation', at the time of writing it is not known whether this locomotive will be available, so check with our railtour listings at www.railwayherald.co.uk for updates. The other steam tour is Kingfisher's 'Cumbrian Coast Dalesman', which is booked to feature No. 30777 *Sir Lamiel* from Carnforth to Ravenglass and return. However, following the failure of the 'King Arthur' on the K&WVR shuttle on 28th June (see separate story) it is believed that Class 8F 2-8-0 No. 48151 will probably deputise

Heritage diesel traction holds sway on 12th July with Pathfinder, which engages No. 55022 *Royal Scots Grey* to become the first 'Deltic' to venture beyond Newtown on the Cambrian Coast line on the 'Snowdonian' from Preston, which it is booked to work throughout to Pwllheli and back. UK Railtours will be heading for Paignton on 12th July from Stevenage and stations through to Slough, no doubt with a pair of Class 67s.

Stobart Rail head for a weekend in Scotland with a slightly different itinerary than most such tours. Departure is from King's Cross on 11th July, heading via York to Glasgow Central for the night. Day Two is a non-train day, but with a distinct transport theme, which includes cruising the Clyde and beyond on the *PS Waverley*. Sunday is back onto rail with a return working to Fort William, before returning back to King's Cross on 14th July with a stop-over at Newcastle-upon-Tyne en route.

The train will not be stabled all day Saturday either, as while the weekenders enjoy some sea air, the train forms a day excursion from Edinburgh to Fort William, operating as 'The Garrison Day Excursion'. DRS Class 47s should feature throughout, although could this be the opportunity to let a pair of DRS Class 37s loose on the West Highland?

Tour listing notes

BLACK Charters expected to operate as booked.
RED Tours cancelled by the operator
GREEN Tours postponed to a future date by the operator
BLUE Provisional excursion
WCRC West Coast Railway Company
(Locations) in brackets on a steam tour listing indicates a diesel or electric-hauled section.

Useful Weblinks

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

▲ *After the failure of* **Union of South Africa** *on the York to Edinburgh section of 'The Coronation' on 5th July, the return trip from Edinburgh could have been a complete washout. However, thanks to train operator West Coast Railway, support crews of Nos. 60007 and 60009 and support from the industry, the return working was diesel-hauled to Tyne Yard from where* **Sir Nigel Gresley** *took over. Creating a typical scene from the industrial north-east, 'A4' No. 60007* **Sir Nigel Gresley** *powers across Durham Viaduct with the southbound working on 6th July.* **John Whitehouse**

'The Coronation' runs well, despite the weather and problems

As the dust settles following a hectic, traumatic and ultimately highly successful two-day tour, Steam Dreams' Managing Director Graeme Bunker is well satisfied with the proceedings and full of praise for everyone involved in ensuring that 'The Coronation' kept on course even when it became stuck in Tyne Yard following the failure of No. 60009 *Union of South Africa*.

Both days were high on drama, commencing with a brilliant run by 'A4' No. 60007 *Sir Nigel Gresley* from London King's Cross to York, which was greeted upon arrival at York with a downpour which was to last on and off for the remainder of the afternoon. Here passengers detrained and joined a throng of other enthusiasts for 'The Great Gathering', a line up of the four UK-based A4s, which had been organised by the National Railway Museum. In challenging conditions as the rain continued, Nos. 60009 *Union of South Africa*, 60007 *Sir Nigel Gresley*, 60019 *Bittern* and 4468 *Mallard* stood proud in celebration of their heritage. The viewing arrangements could have been better organised, but it remained a unique occasion to be savoured.

There was a hope that the weather would clear up as departure time of the next leg approached, but in the end the rain prevailed for a good part of No. 60009's journey north which was brought to a premature conclusion at Tyne Yard with the locomotive being declared a failure due to a hot bearing. Here, adversity was turned into triumph, with the services of the Newcastle-upon-Tyne 'Thunderbird' being acquired thanks to the support of National Express, and the tour proceeded north to Edinburgh behind Class 67 No. 67002, which arrived in Edinburgh only around one hour late.

In the meantime, monumental efforts were being made to sort out a plan for Sunday. Rumours of No. 60019 following the tour to Edinburgh to cover the return were scotched, mainly as there was simply not enough time to arrange and complete such a movement. In the end, due to the good offices of the West Coast Company and Network Rail it was arranged for *Sir Nigel Gresley* to work up to Tyne Yard on Sunday morning to take over the section back to York. It needs to be noted that members of No. 60009's support crew returned to York in order to help prepare No. 60007 for its new roster.

Meanwhile, West Coast had worked Class 47 No. 47826 to Edinburgh to cover the return working as far as Tyne Yard, which was retimed to leave Edinburgh around 30 minutes later than scheduled. At Tyne Yard No. 60007 was attached, and from then on it was as per the script, with *Sir Nigel Gresley* again excelling on the run to York despite further inclement weather. Unfortunately, the Sunday 'Great Gathering' had, of necessity only three instead of four A4s. But for those on the train, the tour was concluded with another memorable run by *Bittern* back to King's Cross, and for the many on the lineside to witness this spectacle, the sun actually put in an appearance (for some, at least!).

This tour was very successful, having sold out in a matter of days with a waiting list long enough to probably fill another train. Will there be one we asked Mr. Bunker? While acknowledging the success of 'The Coronation' he added that, "some lessons had been learned" and maybe "running such a tour over consecutive days puts too much pressure on the operation and operators". Naturally, he will be looking at opportunities, but would not be drawn further.

▼ *A sight that hasn't been seen in years. All four remaining 'A4s' in the UK are pictured together at the NRM, York on 5th July.* **Chris Tatlow**

Rail-Blue Charters

Hope Valley Luncheon

August 9th

This train is now confirmed as being hauled by heritage 'Deltic' locomotive No. 55022 Royal Scots Grey throughout

The Hope Valley 'Executive' is a lunchtime train that offers an meander through the Pennines. The routes the trains take have also been chosen to allow you to sample not only the food in unique surroundings, but the contrasts that only a moving train can offer.

Each train departs Crewe (dep. 11.00) and calls at Warrington Bank Quay (dep. 11.30), Earlestown (dep. 11.45) and Manchester Victoria (dep. 12.30). The train then heads via the spectacular Hope Valley Southern Pennine route to Sheffield where we have a leg-stretch break. The train turns to head north towards the Leeds conurbation before heading west over the Northern Pennine route via Huddersfield back into Manchester Victoria to set down. We then retrace our steps back to Crewe (arr. 17.30).

Fares from £59 per person

All timings are provisional and will be confirmed 10 days prior to travel

Bruncheon Executive

September 20th and November 22nd

This charter offers a different experience altogether. What makes this a bit special is that we serve you an extremely novel brunch on the way to York. On the return, we serve you a very quintessential Afternoon Tea which will help you to round off yet another easy day.

York can offer a mixture of things to do. You might want to amble over to the National Railway Museum or wander into the city centre and stroll round the Shambles. Leaving Crewe around 09.30, the train calls at Warrington Bank Quay, Earlestown and Manchester Victoria. Then the train turns north through Littleborough and Hebden Bridge before dropping down through Brighouse and Leeds to York for an approximate two-hour break. The train will then return via Sheffield and the beautiful Hope Valley route before heading back to Crewe, arrival around 19.00.

A Bruncheon option is also available for children (up to 10 years inclusive) for £59 per person.

£99 per person

All timings are provisional and will be confirmed 10 days prior to travel

To book your seats call 0161 850 0559 now

Bristol, Minehead & West Somerset Railway

October 18th - Full details to be announced shortly

Join us for a jaunt down to Devon and a meander along the beautifully picturesque West Somerset Railway.

This picture postcard railway boasts immaculate stations, wonderful scenery and adds to the whole day out by emphasising what an easy day it will be.

Our train departs from Manchester Piccadilly and pick up at Stockport, Wilmslow, Crewe and Shrewsbury before heading down through the Welsh Borders along the Welsh Marches route via Ludlow and Hereford to Newport. Then the train passes under the Severn Estuary through the longest tunnel on the mainland rail network, the Severn Tunnel. Calling at Bristol Temple Meads for those who wish to alight here, we carry on to Taunton and onto the West Somerset Railway to our destination, Minehead.

Full details are still to be announced for this trip, including details of fares and proposed timings, however, the charter will offer Standard, First and Premier dining options.

Rail-Blue Charters

For further details please visit our website or for enquiries and to book, call **0161 850 0559** now

www.rail-bluecharters.co.uk/tour_list

▲ *On its second mainline test run, which ran without any problems from Carnforth to Hellifield and back, LMS 'Royal Scot' 4-6-0 No. 6115* **Scots Guardsman** *powers away from Settle Junction with the return working. The train reversed at Hellifield due to engineering work on the Clitheroe route.* **James Shuttleworth**

Final autumn of work for *Duchess of Sutherland*

It seems only like yesterday, but *Duchess of Sutherland's* boiler ticket expires next March, and so this autumn's PMR Tour schedule could be a last chance to travel behind No. 6233 for a while.

Three tours have been announced, two of which follow the same itinerary, with steam coming on at Milford Loop and then running to Carlisle with a pick-up at York, and then via Durham and the Tyne Valley route. The return will be steam-hauled southbound along the S&C via Leeds back to York, and then diesel-hauled home.

On 20th September the train commences at Peterborough, and proceeds diesel-hauled picking up at Grantham, Newark North Gate, Retford and Doncaster, followed on 4th October, again diesel-hauled, from Stockport, Manchester Piccadilly, Huddersfield and Wakefield Westgate.

London King's Cross is the third attraction on 18th October, with steam haulage from Toton, picking up along the way at Nottingham, Grantham and Peterborough. The train starts at Sheffield, picking up also at Chesterfield and Alfreton.

▼ *BR Class 55 'Deltic' No. 55022* **Royal Scots Grey** *approaches Liskeard on 28th June with a Pathfinder Tours' charter from Birmingham to Penzance.* **Martin Symonds**

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Cromwell main line test postponed

We understand that the mainline test run for No. 70013 Oliver Cromwell, provisionally booked for 17th July, has been postponed.

The knock-on effects of this decision awaits confirmation, and we will carry a full update in the next issue of *Railway Herald*. Check with our website railtour listings on www.railwayherald.co.uk for any changes as and when announced.

❖ Seems as though No. 6024 *King Edward I* will be sidelined with its cracked tender axle-box for longer than anticipated, as Past Time has announced that No. 34067 *Tangmere* will head the first two 'Torbay Express' tours on 6th & 13th July. It also has a booking with Kingfisher for its re-dated 'English Riviera Express' on 16th July between Taunton and Kingswear and back, which originates at Ealing Broadway. Presently it is not known if this tour will be affected.

❖ Spitfire has cancelled its 'Jolly Fisherman' from Liverpool Lime Street to Skegness on 12th July, citing "Network Rail's inability to path the train suitably", adding that because the outward route would have to be changed to run via Earlestown and Manchester Victoria instead of Warrington Central and Manchester Piccadilly, plus problems at Boston and Skegness, the time at the destination would have been reduced by half to around two hours. Spitfire has taken issue with rumours that the train was sacrificed due to lack of bookings. Not so, says Spitfire, it was actually selling well, and has taken up John Farrow's gauntlet to re-assure potential future passengers in stating that no future trains will be cancelled for lack of bookings.

❖ Vintage Trains has pulled the plug on both its proposed 'electric' trips with Class 86/2 No. 86259 *Les Ross*. The trip to Glasgow next weekend has been cancelled due to poor bookings, while operational problems are cited as the cause for 'pulling' the Edinburgh outing on 27th September. The latter trip already had a diesel-hauled section in the itinerary due to part of the WCML being closed. However, on the positive side, Vintage Trains report that its 19th July working to Ely with No. 4936 *Kinlet Hall* is a sell-out. There is still availability on the Bristol outing the following week, with No. 5029 *Nunney Castle*.

Class 66s on the 'Fast' line!

◀ *Fastline Freight wasted little time in putting its trio of new Class 66/3 locomotives to work. As reported in Issue 137, the pioneer member of the class arrived in Newport on 2nd June and on 30th June, Class 66/3 No. 66301 arrives at Toton Yard to run-round with a Daw Mill Colliery - Ratcliffe Power Station working on its first day in revenue earning service.* **Jack Needham**

▼ *The following day, having run round its rake of loaded hoppers, Fastline Freight's Class 66/3 No. 66301 passes Washwood Heath, Birmingham, with a Daw Mill Colliery-Ratcliffe Power Station service on 1st July.* **Don Gatehouse**

20:20 Vision

▲ *In fading light, Class 20/3s Nos. 20310 and 20313 pass Rugeley Trent Valley heading south with a single nuclear flask on 2nd July.* **Gary Stringer**

▶ *Several days earlier and the same two Class 20s were paired together. Here, Nos. 20310 and 20313 depart from Elvanfoot Loop on the West Coast Main Line after being held to allow a passenger working to pass on 20th June.*
Paul Townsend

▼ *Nose-first Class 20/3 No. 20306 approaches Brampton on 7th July with a Haverton Hill-Kingmoor TMD service returning wagons off maintainance.*
Michael Dalgleish

▲ *One of the few remaining Class 37/4s still operating with EWS, No. 37417* **Richard Trevithick**, *powers the 09.32 Southampton Eastern Docks - Eastleigh trip freight past Campbell Road bridge, Eastleigh, on 7th July.* **Dave Kirwin**

▼ *Class 47/0 No. 47237 enters Evesham station on 7th July with First GBRf's 05.39 Leeds (Hunslet) to Long Marston move of FLHH HXAs, just beating a thunderstorm which decended a few minutes later!* **Peter Tandy**

▲ *Providing welcome variety on the Birmingham-Bristol main line, NXEC-liveried HST powercar No. 43057 heads the 07.24 Manchester Piccadilly-Newquay service on the approach to Ashchurch station on 5 July. With a grey liveried buffet coach in the rake, powercar No. 43053 brings up the rear.* **John Stretton**

▼ *National Express East Coast-liveried MTU-fitted powercar No. 43367 heads for London King's Cross through Huntingdon on 5th July at full speed with the Mk3 vehicles in the set, all in National Express intermediate livery.* **Ian Docwra**

▲ *The 14.23 Chiltern service from Marylebone to High Wycombe arrives at Denham Golf Club station on 5th July, formed of one of the 11 three-car Class 165/0 Turbos, No. 165038.*

▼ *Class 221 Voyagers Nos. 221102* **John Cabot** *and 221110* **James Cook** *approach Acton Wells Junction on the normally freight-ony line on 5th July. The train, the 09.03 Virgin Trains' service from Euston to Birmingham International was on special scheduled diversion due to engineering work at Rugby. A London Overground Class 313/1 is on the other line, forming a Richmond-Stratford Low Level service.* **Brian Morrison**

Recreating the past and a 'Duchess' is star of the show

▲ *It is 25 years this month since the last Class 127 DMU ran from St Pancras to Bedford, and to mark the occasion the Midland Railway - Butterley's Class 127 was made up to a four car set, the first time this has been seen since 1983. Here resident Class 127 DMU (formed of Nos. M51591, M59609 & M51625) are pictured with visiting Class 117 centre car No. W59486, which has recently been overhauled by the Midland Railway full-time staff for the Swanage Railway. Its appearance in the set for this photograph was with the kind permission of James Cox and Mick Stone.* **MRT Railcar Group**

The Midland Railway – Butterley will be operating a gala weekend on 12th/13th July with No. 6233 *Duchess of Sutherland* being the star attraction.

The Stanier Pacific will be working service trains on both days, sharing the limelight with BR Standard Class 5MT No. 73129. Also in action will be the Class 127 Diesel Multiple Unit, which will be celebrating 25 years since the class worked the Midland mainline from London St Pancras.

The narrow gauge Golden Valley Light Railway and the Garden Railway at Butterley station will be in action together with model railway groups that will be providing a special display at the Historical Model Railway headquarters at Swanwick Junction.

A road rally featuring historic vehicles ranging from motorcycles to double-decker buses is planned for 13th July. Trains will operate from 10.30 each day. For more information visit http://www.midlandrailwaycentre.co.uk

The Midland Railway has also welcomed two new arrivals, the first being a Class 108 DMU which will further enhance the railway's growing reputation as a major centre for the maintenance and restoration of heritage DMU's. Also joining the fleet is Class 08 Shunter No. 08331, the arrival of which caused a few local traffic problems when the low-loader on which it was being transported broke down on the railway's doorstep.

Between 28th July and 1st August those visitors over 60 years old will be able to travel for half the normal price, giving a full day out for £5. This covers unlimited train rides as well as access to other attractions.

5305LA investigates Sir Lamiel failure

The 5305 Locomotive Society is investigating the cause of the failure of No. 30777 *Sir Lamiel* when working the Keighley to Blea Moor shuttle in connection with the K&WVR 40th Anniversary Gala on 28th June.

Having already been badly affected by the derailment of West Coast Railways' Class 47 No. 47760 at Oxenhope, due we understand to an issue with the ground frame, which blocked the yard and trapped No. 30777 for much of the day, *Sir Lamiel* was eventually released in time to cover the evening working.

However, a mechanical problem was identified soon after leaving Keighley and the train halted at Skipton for an inspection of the locomotive. The train was towed back to Keighley by a diesel and next day an examination of the valves was carried out with evidence of a bent reversing shaft, which had also bent the injector delivery pipe. Investigation as to the cause continues with the offending reversing shaft now despatched for repair.

Lord Nelson to visit GCR

The Great Central Railway (GCR) is to have a visit from Lord Nelson 4-6-0 No. 850 *Lord Nelson* this week and will stay until the end of the month.

The locomotive is on loan from the National Railway Museum and will operate passenger trains at weekends from 12th/13th July as well as undertaking some testing and performance trials. It will be the first time that the loco has visited the line. *Lord Nelson* will also be in action for the next major GCR event, the 'Mail By Rail' Gala on 26th and 27th July.

◀ *A view of Bodmin General station with Class 37/0 No. 37142 running round the 14.00 to Boscarne and Class 47/3 No. 47306 The Sapper stabled outside the shed on 28th June.*
Martin Symonds

Successful nine-day diesel event for ELR, but problems ensue

The East Lancashire Railway (ELR) held its popular diesel gala between 28th June and 6th July, returning to a nine-day event for the first time in several years.

The event organiser and team of volunteers worked extremely hard to bring in visiting traction to join the home-based fleet, the visitors being Class 31 No. 31108, '37/9s' Nos. 37901 *Mirrlees Pioneer* and 37906, 'Peak' No. 45041 *Royal Tank Regiment* and Class 52 No. D1023 *Western Champion*, these being joined on 2nd July by Class 57/3 No. 57307 *Lady Penelope*, which was kindly provided free of charge by Virgin Trains, to whom the ELR are most grateful. The railway is also grateful to the visiting locomotive owning groups and their support crews who all assisted in making the operation run smoothly.

However, the railway is deeply concerned about the behavior of a very small minority of visitors to the event, who behaved in a deplorable manner, resulting a number of complaints from staff, other passengers and local residents, one of whom reported receiving verbal abuse and beer cans being thrown at their property as the train passed their garden.

Although the majority of visitors behaved in an exemplary manner, the ELR has to take such incidents very seriously and ensure there are no repeats in the future. A number of incidents were reported on 5th July and are being fully investigated. Behaviour of visitors to the autumn diesel event will be monitored very carefully, as the railway has to show due consideration to its neighbours, who are generally very supportive of the line.

Although the ELR do not want to spoil people's enjoyment, it will seek to take robust action against any individuals who behave in an anti-social way on the railway in the future, including Police action if considered necessary.

▲ *The gala weekend saw the popular pairing of Class 37/9s Nos. 37901* **Mirrless Pioneer** *and 37906 back together again. Here the pair power past the signal at Townend Fold on 5th July with the 14.30 Bury-Rawtenstall service.*
Paul Hatton

◀ *A recent arrival on the East Lancashire Railway is privately-owned split-headcode box Class 37/0 No. 37109. Here the locomotive approaches Burrs with a northbound service on 6th July.*
Chris Holt

▲ *Class 45/0 No. 45041* **Royal Tank Regiment** *passes Burrs on 5th July, with the 15.45 Heywood to Rawtenstall service.* **Jonathan Stevenson**

▲ *As more rain falls, Class 52 No. D1023* **Western Fusilier** *departs Bury on 5th July with the 12.46 Rawtenstall to Heywood service.* **Jonathan Stevenson**

▲ *Class 37/9 No. 37906 clags away from a wet Irwell Vale on 5th July as it works the 09.35 service from Heywood to Rawtenstall.* **Jonathan Stevenson**

▼ *Virgin Trains kindly provided Class 57/3 No. 57307* **Lady Penelope** *for one day of the event. The locomotive is shown ready to depart Ramsbottom on 3rd July with the 11.30 service to Heywood. This is only the second time that a Class 57/3 has appeared on a heritage line.* **Daniel Cross**

▲ *Class 37/0 No. 37215 and Class 37/3 No. 37324 exit Gretton Tunnel and approach Winchcombe on a service from Cheltenham Racecourse on 6th July.*

▼ *Class 24 No. 24081 rounds the curve at Didbrook and nears its destination as it approaches Toddington the same day.* **Both: Jack Boskett**

▲ *Resident Class 47/0 No. 47105 and visiting ex-Fragonset Railways Class 47/7 No. 47701 Waverley accelerate away from Winchcombe on a late afternoon service to Cheltenham Racecourse on 6th July.*

▼ *Looking quite smart in its, albeit weather-beaten, Fragonset black colour scheme Class 47/7 No. 47701 Waverley passes Didbrook on a Toddington-Cheltenham Racecourse service on the same day.* **Both: Jack Boskett**

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.

7th July 2008
Swanage Railway - Bath Area Group
St John's Church Hall, St John's Road, Bathwick, Bath.
A return visit by Simon Foote, with more sights and sounds from the steam era. Meeting commences at 19.30, entrance £1. Contact John Lakey on 01225 315918 for further details.

8th July 2008
Abergavenny & District Steam Society
Upper Room' at 'The Hen and Chickens', Flannel Street, Abergavenny. 'The County Project' by Terry McCarthy. Meeting commences at 20.00.

Locomotive & Carriage Institution
Institution members social day at the Swanage Railway, Members to meet at Wareham Station at 11.00.

9th July 2008
RCTS Hitchin Branch
Hitchin Christian Centre, Bedford Road. 'The Railways of Kent' by Bob Ratcliffe . Meeting commences at 19.30.

Swiss Railways Society (London Branch)
The Model Railway Club, Keen House, 4 Calshot Street, London N1 9AT (near Kings Cross station) To be confirmed. Meetings commence at 19.00, Refreshments available. A £2 donation is requested. Contact Ron Dawes (0208 660 3532) for further details.

10th July 2008
Permanent Way Institution (Birmingham Section)
The 11th Floor Boardroom, Network Rail Offices, The Mailbox, 100 Wharfside Street, Birmingham. Afternoon visit to the Severn Valley Railway, followed by an evening presentation. Contact Ian Wardle on 0121 345 3931 for further details. Doors open 17.45 for an 18.15 start.

11th July 2008
Purbeck Railway Circle
Harmans Cross Village Hall, Harmans Cross.
'The Salisbury Accident of 1906 – Still an Enigma?' – an illustrated talk by Gerald Jacobs. Meeting commences at 19.30 prompt, doors open at 19.00. Contact 01929 421913 for further details.

12th July 2008
Bournemouth Railway Club
All Purpose Room, Winton Methodist Community Centre Bournemouth. '120 Years of the Direct Line'. Club Members using their own material will look at the development of main line services between London and Bournemouth and in particular at the Lymington Junction to Christchurch section that really finally put Bournemouth on the railway map. Meeting commences at 14.30. Entrance £2. Contact 01202 742099 for further details.

14th July 2008
Lincoln Railway Society
St Hugh's Church Hall, North Hykeham, Lincoln
'Annual Quiz Night'. Meeting commences at 20.00. Contact 01522 705365 for details.

RCTS Northampton Branch
Visit to the Great Central Railway Loughborough. Contact David Pick on 01604 810613 for further details.

15th July 2008
RCTS Merseyside, Chester & North Wales Branch
Observation at Doncaster from 11.00-16.45. Contact Geoff Morris on 01244 376808 for further details.

23rd July 2008
RCTS West Riding Branch
Observation at Water Orton Station Contact the secretary, Malcolm Riley on 01274 589488 for further details.

17th July 2008
Marlow & District Railway Society
British Red Cross Society, Victoria Road, Marlow. "The pre-1923 GWR lines in the west of Wales" by Martin Connop Price. Meeting commences at 19.45 sharp. Non-members £2

18th July 2008
Great Western Society (Taunton Group)
Stoke St. Mary Village Hall, near Taunton. 'Memories of Steam' by David Butcher. Meeting commences at 19.30, Contact Peter Triggs on 01823 334188. for further details

19th July 2008
RCTS Northampton Branch
Canal trip from Bilsworth Wharf. Contact David Pick on 01604 810613 for further details and to book your place.

21st July 2008
RCTS Thames Valley Branch
Observation at Didcot Station Contact Phil Darlaston on 01235 223363 for further details.

RCTS Shenfield Branch
Visit to Mangapps Farm Railway Museum Contact John Stone on 01245 464756 for further details.

23rd July 2008
RCTS West Riding Branch
Observation at Nuneaton Station Contact Malcolm Riley on 01274 589488 for further details.

27th July 2008
RCTS Merseyside, Chester & North Wales Branch
Visit to Bala Lake Railway and DMU trip on Llangollen Railway Contact Geoff Morris on 01244 376808 for further details.

28th July 2008
RCTS Northampton Branch
Visit to the Foxfield Railway. Contact David Pick on 01604 810613 for further details.

6th August 2008
Burton Railway Society
Marston's Social Club, Shobnall Road, Burton-upon-Trent.
'Steaming through Britain' by Graham Briggs. Contact Mark Ratcliffe on 01283 221537 for further details for further details. Meeting commences at 19.30

11th August 2008
Lincoln Railway Society
St Hugh's Church Hall, North Hykeham, Lincoln. 'Canklow to Cape Town' by Mike Eggenton. Meeting commences at 20.00. Contact 01522 705365 for details.

12th August 2008
Abergavenny & District Steam Society
Upper Room' at 'The Hen and Chickens', Flannel Street, Abergavenny. LNER and SR varieties by Colin Jacks. Meeting commences at 20.00.

13th August 2008
Swiss Railways Society (London Branch)
The Model Railway Club, Keen House, 4 Calshot Street, London N1 9AT (near Kings Cross station) 'A-Z of Switzerland' - Members Slides. Meeting commence at 19.00, Refreshments available during the evening.
A £2 donation is requested from attendees. Contact Ron Dawes (0208 660 3532) for further details.

15th August 2008
Great Western Society (Taunton Group)
Stoke St. Mary Village Hall, near Taunton. 'Britannias & Broads' by Max Wilkinson. Meeting commences at 19.30, Call 01823 334188 for further details

2nd September 2008
Southern Electric Group (South Hampshire Branch)
Eastleigh Railway Institute in Romsey Road, Eastleigh.
'London and its environs' by Bruce Oliver. Meeting commences 19.30.

3rd September 2008
Burton Railway Society
Marston's Social Club, Shobnall Road, Burton-upon-Trent.
'The Southern in the South & West' by Peter Gray.
Contact Mark Ratcliffe on 01283 221537 for further details.
Meeting commences at 19.30

8th September 2008
Lincoln Railway Society
St Hugh's Church Hall, North Hykeham, Lincoln 'NYK' by David Cross. Meeting commences 20.00. Contact 01522 705365 for details.

9th September 2008
Abergavenny & District Steam Society
Upper Room' at 'The Hen and Chickens', Flannel Street, Abergavenny.
'An evening with Malcolm Ranieri'. Meeting commences 20.00.

10th September 2008
Swiss Railways Society (London Branch)
The Model Railway Club, Keen House, 4 Calshot Street, London N1 9AT (near Kings Cross station) 'Bernese Oberland Revisited' by Paul Russenberger. Meetings commence at 19.00, Refreshments available. A £2 donation is requested. Contact Ron Dawes (0208 660 3532) for details.

11th September 2008
Continental Railway Circle
St.Paul's Church Centre, Rossmore Road, Marylebone, London NW1 6NJ. A talk on 'Northern Spain 1960-1961' by Peter Grey. Admission £2, Meeting commences at 19.15. contact Adrian Palmer on 01932 850624.

12th-14th September 2008
Swanage Railway
Steam Gala and Vintage Transport Rally: A weekend of steam with a Vintage Transport Rally at Harmans Cross Station.

▲ *The late setting sun illuminates an unidentified Virgin Class 390 Pendolino as it speeds north with a service from London Euston through the idyllic setting of Dudswell on 29th June.* Edward A. Gleed

19th September 2008
Great Western Society (Taunton Group)
Stoke St. Mary Village Hall, near Taunton. 'Steam in the 1960s' by Alan Reeve. Starts 19.30, Contact Peter Triggs on 01823 334188.

25th September 2008
Mid-Hants Railway Preservation Society (Thames Valley Group)
Church House, Church Street, Caversham, Reading.
'Zimbabewe Railways' by Simon Bowden. Meeting commences at 19.30. A donation is requested.

30th September-7th October 2008
LCGB Overseas Tours
Tour to Italy on IGE Italia Express. Further details are available on www.lcgb.org.com. Note: LCGB membership is compulsory due to insurance reasons

1st October 2008
Burton Railway Society
Marston's Social Club, Shobnall Road, Burton-upon-Trent.
'20 years of mainline steam', a large format slide show by Malcolm Ranieri. Contact Mark Ratcliffe on 01283 221537 for further details. Meeting commences at 19.30

4th-12th October 2008
LCGB Overseas Tours
Tour to Industrial Steam in Serbia. Further details are available on www.lcgb.org.com. Note: LCGB membership is compulsory due to insurance reasons

7th October 2008
Locomotive & Carriage Institution
London Underground Limited HQ, St. James Park Station, London.
Presentation by Doug Lindsay on 'Pullman Coaches Part 2'. Meeting commences 18.00

Southern Electric Group (South Hampshire Branch)
Eastleigh Railway Institute in Romsey Road, Eastleigh.
'The tramways of Bournemouth and Poole' by Richard Pennell. Meeting commences at 19.30. Entrance fee £2

8th October 2008
Swiss Railways Society (London Branch)
The Model Railway Club, Keen House, 4 Calshot Street, London N1 9AT (near Kings Cross station)
Show title to be confirmed. Presented by Martin Fisher. Meetings commence at 19.00, Refreshments available. A £2 donation is requested. Contact Ron Dawes (0208 660 3532) for further details.

13th October 2008
Lincoln Railway Society
St Hugh's Church Hall, North Hykeham, Lincoln
'Steaming around in 2006/2007' by Alex Hurd. Meeting commences at 20.00. Please contact the secretary on 01522 705365 for further details.

14th October 2008
Abergavenny & District Steam Society
Upper Room' at 'The Hen and Chickens', Flannel Street, Abergavenny. 'Men of the Mechanicals' (Lickey Incline Memories) by Neville Billington. Meeting commences at 20.00.

14th-22nd October 2008
LCGB Overseas Tours
Tour to participate in steam charters in Etriea. Further details are available on www.lcgb.org.com. Note: LCGB membership is compulsory for insurance reasons

17th October 2008
Great Western Society (Taunton Group)
Stoke St. Mary Village Hall, near Taunton. 'India by Rail - a Family Evening' by Peter Tickner. Starts 19.30, Contact Peter Triggs on 01823 334188.

23rd October 2008
Mid-Hants Railway Preservation Society (Thames Valley Group)
Church House, Church Street, Caversham, Reading. 'Mid-Hants Railway signalling' by Mike Ball. Meeting commences at 19.30.

30th October-17th November 2008
LCGB Overseas Tours
Tour to Broad and Narrow Gauge railways in Argentina. Further details are available on www.lcgb.org.com. Note: LCGB membership is compulsory for insurance reasons

Internet Links
Further contact details for the clubs and societies list in this column can be obtained from our new-look website by clicking here.

Should your club or society event be listed here? If so then please email the editor with the appropriate details.

4th November 2008
Locomotive & Carriage Institution
London Underground Limited HQ, St. James Park Station, London.
To be advised. Meeting starts 18.00

5th November 2008
Burton Railway Society
Marston's Social Club, Shobnall Road, Burton-upon-Trent.
'Railways in the Peak District' by Les Nixon. Contact Mark Ratcliffe on 01283 221537. Starts 19.30

7th November 2008
Great Western Society (Taunton Group)
Rockwell Green School, Brooklands Road, Rockwell Green, Wellington. Somerset. TA21 9DJ.
'Trains in the Countryside' by Peter Triggs. Starts 19.30, Contact 01823 334188 for details.

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