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Front Cover

***Class 47/4 No. 47832 exits Twerton Tunnel, near Bath with 'The English Riviera' Stobart Pullman charter from Paddington to Paignton on 5th July.* Glen Batten**

Rear Cover

***On its latest test run, LMS 'Royal Scot' No. 6115 Scots Guardsman approaches the camera at Langho on 11th July.* Fred Kerr**

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

▲ *Engineering work on the Sutton Park line to the north of Birmingham has produced a number of freight diversions via Washwood Heath and Birmingham New Street. On 1st July, Class 60 No. 60018 returns to Bescot with a diverted 'trip' working comprising empty SPA and IHA steel wagons from Burton-on-Trent, while passing on the main line is Class 66/7 No. 66722 on a route learning run.* **Don Gatehouse**

EDITORIAL HOLIDAY NOTICE

As a result of editorial holiday, the next issue of Railway Herald - Issue 140 - will be published on Monday 28th July, including full pictorial coverage of the Carnforth open weekend.

For further details and the very latest information from the Carnforth event, visit the dedicated open weekend website at http://www.railwayherald.co.uk/carnforth2008.

On page 11 of Issue 136, we inadvertently managed to credit the photograph of Class 37/4s Nos. 37401 and 37417 at Bushbury Junction to the wrong photographer.

It should have been creditted to Gary S. Smith. Apologies to both photographers

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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▲ *The mainstay and sole vehicle type of Thameslink operations since its conception as a cross-Thames transport system, has been the BREL York built Class 319s. Here No. 319458 departs from Luton Airport Parkway.* **Mike Kynaston**

Short-listed applicants for Thameslink order

The Department for Transport has announced the shortlisted applicants to build an entirely new fleet of trains for Thameslink routes, valued at around £1.4 billion.

The bidders are Alstom Transport, Bombardier Transportation UK Limited, Hitachi Europe Limited and Siemens Transportation Systems. The companies will be asked to produce 1,100 new carriages for Thameslink routes, which will increase the current fleet size by around 380 carriages, some 14,500 extra seats. The trains will have to be more energy efficient and lighter in weight than current vehicles to minimise potentially disruptive track maintenance work, and they will have a computerised on-train operations system, air conditioning and automated passenger information systems. Network Rail and Train Operating Companies have been extensively involved in the development of plans for the new fleet, and passenger groups have also been consulted on the design features.

Rail Minister, Tom Harris, said: "The trains are a vital part of our £5.5 billion plan to significantly increase capacity on Thameslink routes. When they arrive in 2012, passengers will see peak time trains lengthened from 8 to 12 carriages. By 2015, they will provide 24 services an hour through Central London." Further details on the specification for the new fleet of trains will be included in the 'Invitation to Tender', which is expected to be issued to the four bidders in September this year, with the award of the contract expected in summer 2009.

It is intended that the first new train will be available for testing in autumn 2011, with the first unit in passenger service by spring 2012. To make effective use of the new units, the platforms at Blackfriars station will be extended to make it the first station to span the width of the Thames. There will also be additional improvements at Farringdon and London Bridge stations. By December 2015, bottlenecks at London Bridge will be eased to enable 18 Thameslink trains per hour to serve the station. Six more trains per hour running via Elephant & Castle will increase capacity through Central London to 24 trains an hour between Blackfriars and St Pancras International. The majority of the 24 trains per hour will be of 12 coaches.

In advance of the new trains, First Capital Connect has started testing a dual-voltage Class 377 Electrostar EMU ahead of the introduction of such trains on the Bedford-Brighton route when Southern services between Watford and Brighton cease operation. The Electrostar is for driver training, signal testing, gauge clearance, platform staff training and validating on-board passenger information. Other technical on-board and track tests are also taking place.

The Thameslink route has only predominantly used one type of train, the Class 319s, for the past 20 years, meaning that there is much new technology and new systems that need to be tested thoroughly. The Electrostars will operate in eight-car formation and provide extra capacity on the route.

Mitcham Eastfields becomes the 50th station in the UK to be opened or re-opened since 1997

Rail Minister, Tom Harris, officially opened the new £6 million Mitcham Eastfields station, situated between Streatham and Mitcham Junction, on 10th July.

The station is one of the first modular ones built by Network Rail, the buildings having been constructed off-site and lifted into place at the site in sections, meaning less disruption for both residents and rail users.

The station is designed to minimise energy use and incorporates solar panels and rainwater harvesting facilities. Accessibility is also a key feature, with a footbridge and lifts to connect the two staggered platforms. It is served by frequent Southern and First Capital Connect trains to London Victoria, Epsom and St Albans City.

Mitcham Eastfields is the 50th station opened or reopened since 1997. During this period, 17 new lines with a total of over 173 miles of new railway have been opened or reopened to passenger services through a combination of new construction and use of former freight-only lines. Of this, almost 100 miles lie outside the south-east of England.

Britain's railway is now carrying passenger numbers 45% higher than a decade ago. In addition, a further six new lines and 18 new stations are approved or currently under construction, and plans are at an advanced stage for other new lines including London Crossrail.

❖ Various projects to regenerate East Ayrshire are progressing well, council bosses revealed this week. In Kilmarnock, a funding package is being put together for the refurbishment and conversion of vacant floor space at Kilmarnock station and work to provide floodlighting of the arches of Kilmarnock Viaduct is expected to be completed in August.

❖ The line between Scarborough and Hull was closed for a time on the morning of 7th July, after the driver of a Volkswagen Golf appeared to lose control while driving along Bridlington Bay Road, the a car turning over on to its roof and landing on the track at Carnaby level crossing. The driver was said to be extremely shaken and suffered cuts and bruises.

❖ The Office of Rail Regulation has confirmed that it has approved funding to allow Network Rail to twin-track 20 miles of the single line between Charlbury and Evesham, including the section from Charlbury to Ascott-under-Wychwood. The Cotswold Line was reduced to a single track in many places in the early 1970s. However, the projected cost could hit £105 million - double Network Rail's estimate - according to Arup, which is working for the rail industry regulator. In a report on Network Rail's spending plans, Arup said it had "serious concerns" over the gap between its calculation of the cost of the work and the operator's figures.

❖ Included in an investment of more than £12 million to improve roads in Devon and combat flooding at Taunton, the South West Regional Development Agency has announced that £3.5 million has been committed to building a new railway station at Cranbrook, the scheme said to be crucial to enable the development of 3,500 new homes.

❖ Atos Origin, has announced that it has completed the roll-out of a new, innovative mobile ticketing service for Heathrow Express who can now have their tickets sent directly to a mobile phone or PDA, so they don't have to queue to collect tickets at the station before they travel. The system allows passengers to book online through the Heathrow Express website. When making a booking, they can opt to receive either a bar-coded e-ticket that is registered to their mobile phone, or a self-print version of the ticket. Both types of ticket are then scanned and validated on-board the Heathrow Express train. Paper tickets can still be purchased on the train direct from the train manager.

Lymington branch awarded Community Rail status

▲ *The route between Brockenhurst and Lymington Pier has celebrated its 150th anniversary by being officially awarded Community Rail status. Designation of the five-and-a-quarter mile line, which passes through the New Forest National Park on its way to the Isle of Wight ferry link at Lymington, brings a variety of benefits; giving official recognition of the new Community Rail Partnership set up at grassroots level to develop the service with a greater emphasis on meeting local needs, also looking at ways of increasing use of the route and improving the service. On 10th July, Class 73/2 No. 73235 and heritage-liveried 3CEP No. 1498 power through Byfleet & New Haw heading to Wimbledon depot to collect Class 73/1 No. 73109* **Battle of Britain 40th Anniversary** *prior to working a retirement special from Waterloo to Lymington.* **Iain Brownston**

In promoting rail travel, ATOC says 'On yer bike!' to passengers...

The Secretary of State for Transport, Ruth Kelly, introduced a Station Travel Plan initiative for England and Wales at Derby station on 11th July.

The project is a multi-stakeholder initiative developed by the Association of Train Operating Companies (ATOC) and has involved close co-operation with train companies, local authorities, Network Rail, Passenger Focus, the Railway Safety and Standards Board and the Campaign for Better Transport. Its aim is to encourage rail users to use environmentally friendly forms of transport when travelling to and from stations. Greater use of public transport, cycling and walking would also help to reduce traffic congestion around stations.

Each station travel plan will include a series of measures to encourage non-car access to the station. These can include improved cycle storage facilities, better bus interchange or more passenger information. The plans will be developed for 24 pilot schemes covering 31 stations across the country. Stations selected are from as far afield as Derby, Leeds, Shotton, Southend and Truro. The 24 pilot schemes have been selected from over 70 applicants.

Over the next nine months, passenger research will be carried out at the pilot stations to understand how and why passengers choose particular modes of transport to access them. Specific travel plans will then be developed and implemented during 2009. Further research to evaluate the effectiveness of the plans will be undertaken in 2011.

The pilot stations will be Accrington, Ashford (Kent), Bristol Parkway, Chandlers Ford, Chapeltown, Colchester North, Darlington, Derby, Digby & Sowton, Durham, Eastleigh, Hatfield, Hazel Grove, Hebden Bridge, King's Norton, Leamington Spa, Leeds, Leighton Buzzard, Loughborough, Middlesbrough & Thornaby, Milton Keynes Central, Romsey, St Denys, Shotton, Southend Central & Southend Victoria, St Albans Abbey & St Albans City, Stoke-on-Trent and Truro,

Lower platforms for Stamford station?

Network Rail is proposing to reduce to size of the platforms at Stamford station to enable bigger freight trains to be able to use the line.

The plans are currently with South Kesteven District Council, which has to decide whether Stamford's listed train station can be altered. In a statement to the council, Network Rail says it is essential for a different freight route to be brought in to free up a 'very congested' London rail network used to bring freights across from Felixstowe Docks, the works at Stamford being part of a much larger package of investment vital to the prosperity and sustainable future of the country in getting more freight on the rail.

Currently, some 44 freights pass through Stamford and Oakham every day, but the dimensions of the platforms mean only containers measuring 8ft 6in can pass through. To accommodate 9ft 6in containers, the station entrance platform would need to be realigned and re-levelled. This would include raising the height of wooden features on the platform roof and partially lowering the platform itself.

If the development gets the go-ahead from the district council, a temporary platform would be installed at Stamford for the duration of work, which is expected to last around four months.

£1 million per mile railway upgrade completed

A four-week, £10.4 million project by Network Rail to renew 10.5 miles of track between Hellifield and Clitheroe was successfully completed when the line reopened last week.

During the closure period, 25,000 man hours of work was undertaken, some 126 engineering trains removed 57,000 tonnes of spoil before bringing in 50,000 tonnes of new ballast and 29,000 new concrete sleepers. At the same time, the track drainage system was renewed to help prevent flooding in the event of heavy rain in the future, and work was carried out to stabilise embankments and repair bridges over the line.

The work was undertaken in order to remove a number of speed restrictions that were having an effect on train performance, and to bring the line up to modern standards with continuously welded rails replacing old jointed track.

The route is mainly used for freight traffic but has strategic importance because it links the Settle & Carlisle route to the west coast via Blackburn and the East Lancs Line. As such, it is used to divert trains when work is taking place on the northern end of the West Coast Main Line.

There will also be an increase in the number of trains using it when the new timetable comes into operation in December.

▲ *An artists impression of how the new Siemens EMUs for Scotland could look.* **Transport Scotland**

Transport Scotland to fund 38 new Siemens EMUs

In a deal worth £186 million, a fleet of 38 three and four-car 'Desiro Express' EMUs (130 carriages) are to be ordered from Siemens for use on First ScotRail.

The trains, which are to be introduced by the end of 2010, are to be funded by Transport Scotland. First ScotRail led the procurement process and is expected to award the contract formally later this month following a mandatory contractual 'standstill' period.

The units will operate mainly in the west of Scotland on routes linking Glasgow with Glasgow Airport, Ayrshire and Inverclyde, allowing rolling stock to be released to operate on the forthcoming Airdrie to Bathgate line and providing more capacity on services connecting stations between Edinburgh and Glasgow. The new-build stock will also be used to operate passenger services on the forthcoming Glasgow Airport Rail Link.

The trains, which will comprise 16 four-car and 22 three-car sets, are said to be new versions of the Class 332s operating the Heathrow Express.

Some £40 million is also to be spent on lengthening platforms on the Glasgow to Ayr, Ardrossan, Largs, Wemyss Bay and Gourock lines to accommodate longer trains, as well as work at Sheilds Road, Ayr and Yoker depots and stabling points involving the creating of over 100 jobs.

Tram trains for City to Airport route in Edinburgh?

A plan to operate tram-trains from the main Edinburgh to Fife line to the city's airport is being supported by Scottish transport chiefs.

A spur from the busy commuter line would allow the hybrid vehicles to go to Edinburgh Airport before connecting with tramline 1A, which is currently being built. Tram firm TIE is keen for the tram-trains, which are already commonplace in Germany and the Netherlands, to start running on other rail routes around Edinburgh, including the South Sub and planned Borders Line.

The move is designed to build a wider tram network, as well as relieving congestion at the city's two main railway stations, Waverley and Haymarket. Council officials are currently conducting a study into running the hybrid trams from Newcraighall to Haymarket, where they would transfer to the tramline out to Edinburgh Park.

Tram-trains are to be trialled in Britain for the first time in 2010, replacing standard trains on the Penistone Line between Huddersfield, Barnsley and Sheffield for a two-year trial.

▶ ***Class 442 No. (44)2417 passes Holmethorpe, near Redhill, on 8th July with a working from Ashford Chart Leacon to Brighton Lovers Walk. This unit is sporting the new colour scheme for the additional (extended) Gatwick Express services from Victoria to Brighton, which will run as 10-coach trains during the morning and evening rush hours commencing in December.*** **Keith Hemsley**

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.

		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	34067	(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
VSOE	35028	**British Pullman:** London Victoria-Headcorn-Canterbury West-London
		17th July
Royal Scotsman	2xWCRC 47	**Highland Tour Day 2:** Boat of Garten-Inverness-Dundee
Stobart Pullman	2xDRS 47	Edinburgh-Carlisle- Preston & return **CANCELLED**
		18th July
Past Time Rail	2xEWS 67	Exeter SD-Liverpool Lime Street **CANCELLED**
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 or 48151	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
Pathfinder Tours	Riveria 47	Crewe-Eastleigh **CANCELLED**
Railway Touring Company	60009	Scarborough-Wakefield Kirkgate-Diggle-Manchester Victoria-Patricroft-St. Helens-Liverpool Lime Street (break/rev)-& return
Royal Scotsman	2xWCRC 47	**Western Tour Day 2:** Spean Bridge-Arisaig-Bruidge of Orchy
Steam Dreams	6233 & Cl 50	(London Paddington-Leamington Spa-Crewe-Chester (Class 50))-Chester-Crewe-Leamington Spa-High Wycombe-London Paddington
Stobart Pullman	2x DRS 47	Stirling-Liverpool Lime Street & return **CANCELLED**
UK Railtours	35028	London Victoria-Minehead and return **CANCELLED**
UK Railtours	2xEWS 67	London KX-Peterborough- Doncaster-York Yard (avoiding station)-Northallerton-Eaglescliffe-Ferryhill-Newcastle-Morpeth-Bedington-Blyth & Tyne-Newcastle-Sunderland-York & return
Vintage Trains	4936	Tyseley Warwick Road-Burton on Trent-Willington-Melton Mowbray-Oakham-Stamford-Peterborough-March-Ely (break/rev) & return
VSOE (Northern Belle)	2xEWS 67	London Euston-Lichfield Trent Valley-Liverpool Lime Street
		20th July
Past Time Rail	tbc	Bristol TM-Taunton-Exeter SD-Paignton-Kingswear and return
Royal Scotsman	2xWCRC 47	**Western Tour Day 3:** Bridge of Orchy Wemyss Bay
Vintage Trains	tbc	Birmingham Snow Hill-Stratford upon Avon and return (twice)
VSOE (Northern Belle)	2xEWS 67	London-Birmingham International-Liverpool Lime Street & return
		21st July
Past Time Rail	2xEWS 67	Colchester-Shenfield-Romford-Stratford-Liverpool Lime Street & rtn
Pathfinder Tours	D1015	Salisbury-Bath Spa-Bristol Parkway-Barnt Green-Liverpool & return
Royal Scotsman	2xWCRC 47	**Western Tour Day 4:** Wemyss Bay-Edinburgh
Royal Scotsman	2xWCRC 47	**Classic Tour Day 1:** Edinburgh-Dundee-Aberdeen-Keith
		22nd July
Royal Scotsman	2xWCRC 47	**Classic Tour Day 2:** Keith-Inverness-Tain(rev)-Kyle of Lochalsh
		23rd July
Kingfisher Railtours	30777	Hellifield- Appleby-Carlisle (break/rev) and 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
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
28 Jul-2 Aug	NYMR	Whitby	Pickering-Whitby and return (three trips)	NYMR Pool
3-9 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.

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.

The Week Ahead

There is plenty of railtour action in the forthcoming week, commencing on 16th July with three steam-hauled tours, two of which have been the subject of recent changes.

Steam Dreams' 'Cathedrals Express' was to be the first mainline tour to the West Somerset Railway featuring the mainline locomotive throughout in both directions. Within the last week it became evident that the turntable would not be available. That, together with pathing constraints on the WSR would limit passengers time at the resort to less than one hour, and so the decision was made to re-route the train to Bath Spa and Bristol Temple Meads instead. It will run as advertised as far as Westbury, before diverging north through Bradford-upon-Avon. 'A4' No. 60019 *Bittern* is still the rostered locomotive.

Also heading west on 16th July is Bulleid Pacific No. 34067 *Tangmere*, which replaces the still unavailable 'King' No. 6024 *King Edward I* on Kingfishers' re-dated 'English Riviera Express', with the Battle of Britain in charge from Taunton through to Paignton and Kingswear. Finally, on this busy mid-week day is Merchant Navy Pacific No. 35028 *Clan Line* working a VSOE 'British Pullman' outwards from London Victoria to Headcorn via Tunbridge, and returning in the evening via Canterbury West and the North Kent Coast.

Steam Dreams also features in the weekend activity with its positioning special on 19th July. The outward working to Chester is scheduled for Class 50 No. 50049 *Defiance*, with No. 6233 *Duchess of Sutherland* then working from Chester via Crewe, Walsall and Leamington Spa to Paddington. Working from Tyseley on the same day is 'Hall' No. 4936 *Kinlet Hall* on a Vintage Trains' outing to Ely, running via Burton-upon-Trent. Meanwhile, Kingfisher has another 'Cumbrian Coast Fellsman' from Carnforth to Ravenglass, the traction for which will be either 'King Arthur 4-6-0 No. 30777 *Sir Lamiel* if the repairs are completed in time, or otherwise '8F' No. 48151.

Also on offer on 19th July are three varied modern traction tours, with John Fishwick's 'Mid Wales Borderer' the highlight, as it features haulage with 'Deltic' No. 55022 *Royal Scots Grey* throughout from Blackpool North to Cardiff, outward via the Central Wales Line and back through the Welsh Marches. UK Railtours' 'East Coast Deviation' provides a north-eastern landcruise from London King's Cross that includes a tour of the Blyth & Tyne and the Durham Coast, with Class 67 haulage throughout. Compass Railtours also head north, to Edinburgh, with its 'Trent Scotsman' from Lichfield City with Riviera Class 47s, picking up along the Cross-City Line North and stations to Crewe.

Two major events span the coming weekend in the north west, the biggest of which in charter terms is the gathering of the fleet of the world's finest sailing ships at Liverpool ahead of the annual 'Tall Ships Race', which sets off from Merseyside on 21st July. There are several charters heading for Lime Street, with Past Time running on 19th and 21st July from Ealing Broadway and Colchester respectively and the 'Northern Belle' operates from London Euston on the same day. For traction, two tours stand out: Railway Touring Company has 'A4' No. 60009 *Union of South Africa* operating on 19th July from Scarborough, running via Standedge both ways. Following on 21st July, Pathfinder bring a Class 52 to Liverpool for the first time, with No. D1015 *Western Champion* in charge throughout from Salisbury via Barnt Green. In golfing terms the big event is 'The Open', which this year is being played at the Royal Birkdale course, near Southport, for which there are two reported VSOE workings from Euston to Ormskirk on 17th July and from Rugby to Southport on the following day.

▲ *Unrebuilt Battle of Britiain Pacific No. 34067* **Tangmere** *passes Aller Divergance on 13th July with the return leg of Past Time Rail's Torbay Express working from Bristol Temple Meads to Paignton.* **Stacey Thew**

Busy Christmas period for Past Time Rail

Past Time, flushed with the ongoing success of its summer 'Torbay Express' series now plan to complement the Christmas season with a series of 'Yuletide Torbay Express' trains.

The trains will follow the well-proven path of picking up at Bristol Temple Meads, Weston-super-Mare, Taunton and Exeter St Davids, and run through to Kingswear. They will have the added attraction of a pantomime at Kingswear station, a magic show, mulled wine, and for the kids, an appearance of Santa himself bearing loads of prezzies!

Trains will operate on Saturdays 6th, 13th & 20th December, and Sunday 21st December. Traction is yet to be confirmed. With the already announced Christmas 'Cotton Mill Expresses', December will be a busy and hopefully lucrative time for Past Time.

Also announced is a 'Cathedrals Express' featuring No. 6024 *King Edward I* on 25th October from Hereford to London Paddington via Abergavenny, Gloucester, Stroud and Swindon. The return is diesel hauled. 'The Pendle Witch', on 23rd November is scheduled to be steam-hauled throughout from Manchester Victoria via the Carnforth Circle and back to Manchester.

Oliver Cromwell's mainline debut postponed

The 5305 Locomotive Association has announced that despite 'Britannia' Pacific No. 70013 *Oliver Cromwell* having undertaken running-in turns on the Great Central Railway, there is still work to be completed which, they reluctantly accept, means that the locomotive will not be available to cover its booked railtour commitments in late July and early August.

It is believed that the complex work relating to the fitment of TPWS and OTMR has been a contributing factor. It has been decided to aim to have the locomotive ready in time to participate in '1T57', the re-run of the famous 'Fifteen Guinea Special, on 10th August.

The dates for the re-arranged mainline test runs around the Carnforth Circle are likely to now be 5th - 7th August.

The tours affected are the 24th & 26th July for Steam Dreams between London Liverpool Street and Norwich, and from London Victoria to Manchester Victoria respectively, both of which are now confirmed as having been postponed. Meanwhile, a decision is awaited from Kingfisher with regard to its 3rd August trip from Crewe to Blackburn.

Stobart Rail cancels July charter programme due to lack of bookings

Stobart Rail has announced the cancellation of the remainder of its July programme due to lack of bookings. The trains all originated in Scotland as part of a programme to develop business north of the border.

The 'Highland Waverley' weekend landcruise ran as advertised, but the proposed Edinburgh-Fort William 'Garrison Day Excursion' was cancelled with passengers being transferred to the Glasow Central-Fort William scheduled landcruise working the following day.

Stobart Rail Director, Guy Myddleton, said: "These trains were planned away from our traditional customer base in an attempt to develop new customers. Sadly the trains have not sold well and the current economic climate has also played a part in this".

Also of interest is that Stobart Rail and Spitfire Railtours have joined forces to jointly market a previously announced Stobart Pullman train from Wolverhampton to Cleethorpes on 16th August. 'The Meridian Marauder', which will be hauled by a pair of DRS Class 37s.

Stobart Rail will be selling the First Class and Premier Dining seats while Spitfire Railtours will be dealing with Standard Class. Whether this is part of a new alliance remains to be seen.

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

Lunch date with a Deltic!

A new entrant into the charter train market, Rail-Blue Charters, will operate its first excursion on 9th August.

The train, a luncheon charter from Crewe, picking up at Warrington, Earlestown and Manchester Victoria, for a circular trip, travelling out via the Hope Valley and returning via Standedge, with a short break in Sheffield, will now employ Class 55 'Deltic' No. 55022 *Royal Scots Grey* as motive power throughout.

The company is also aiming to appeal to those passengers who may travel on such services but would not wish to sample a four-course luncheon, by offering a First Class, non-dining option at £59 per person, with a child option (for children aged up to and including 10) at £29.50. For those travelling in First Class a hot buffet menu of snacks will be available to purchase on the train.

Rail-Blue Charters is also looking to employ heritage traction on its following two workings, although details of the locomotives involved have yet to be confirmed. The trains are the 20th September 'Bruncheon Executive', again from Crewe, Warrington, Earlestown and Manchester, but travelling outwards to York for a two-hour break and returning via the Hope Valley route, followed by a trip to Minehead on 18th October, with the alternative destination of Bristol. The train starts from Manchester Piccadilly and picks up at Stockport, Wilmslow, Crewe and Shrewsbury before heading along the scenic Marches route to Newport, then via the Severn Tunnel to Bristol Temple Meads and onwards to Taunton and the West Somerset Railway.

Each of the trains will make use of the Cargo-D 'blue and grey'-liveried Mk2 and Mk3 vehicles.

Advertising in Railway Herald could help your business

email us now on advertising@railwayherald.co.uk for further details and to find out more!

▲ *Class 37/4 No. 37423 stands on the Stobart Pullman stock at Fort William on 13th July after working a charter from Glasgow Central. The loco is about to shunt release Class 37/6 No. 37608, which also brought the train north. EWS Class 67 No. 67004 is stabled on the Caledonian sleeper stock on the right.* Michael Dalgleish

▼ *A wet start to the Shakespeare season. GWR 'Castle' 4-6-0 No. 5029* Nunney Castle *enters Moor Street Station on 6th July with the empty stock to form the train to Stratford-upon-Avon.* Graham Gifford

▼ *Pathfinder's 'The Snowdonian' railtour climbs the bank to Minffordd station on 12th July, hauling a trailing load of 11 vehicles, with the ARC Quarry in the background on its return journey to Preston.* Barrie Hughes

▲ *Making a debut for the class on the working and looking every bit the part, Class 60 No. 60042 climbs Whalley bank with a Clitheroe-Mossend service for Castle Cement.* **Ian Tunstall**

◀ *The painted look to the new VTG Castle Cement tanks.*

▼ *Diverted via Preston and Shap during the Clitheroe/Hellifield and forthcoming S&C blockades, the new Clitheroe-Mossend working, comprising 13 JPA tanks awaits the road, just south of Clitheroe station on 30th June.* **Both: Terry O'Connor**

▼ *Class 60 No. 60094* **Rugby Flyer** *approaches Wellingborough on the 'down fast' line with a discharged petroleum working from Colnbrook to Lindsey Oil Refinery on 4th July.* **Steve Madden**

▼ *Making a rare appearance for the class on South Eastern lines, the 09.31 Transfesa 'Blue Train' from Dollands Moor to Dagenham passes Bickley Junction on 4th July 2008, unusually hauled by an EWS Class 60 No 60041.* **Brian Morrison**

▲ *The variety of liveries to be seen on the modern day railway is immense. The following images depict the variety on the Great Eastern mainline out of London in July 2008. Class 315 No 315840 passes the DLR station of Pudding Mill Lane on 1st July, leading the 10.52 National Express East Anglia (NXEA) local service from London Liverpool Street to Shenfield. Both units have the NXEA 'interim' white stripe, none having yet been given the new colours.*

▼ *The 11.30 NXEA express from London Liverpool Street to Norwich is headed passed Pudding Mill Lane on 1st July, by fully reliveried Mk3b DVT No 82107, coaching stock and Class 90 No 90008. To the rear are Class 315s Nos. 315828 & 315841, both carrying the NXEA 'interim' white stripe, and operating as the 11.32 local service from Liverpool Street to Shenfield.* **Both: Brian Morrison**

▲ *The 08.58 NXEA service from Lowestoft to London Liverpool Street passes Pudding Mill Lane on 1st July, formed of Class 170/2 Turbostar No 170212, still carrying 'one' stripes but without branding.*

▼ *Class 360s Nos. 360117 & 360105, both shorn of 'one' stripes and brandings, pass the DLR station of Pudding Mill Lane on the same day, forming the 11.08 NXEA service from London Liverpool Street to Clacton-on-Sea.* **Both: Brian Morrison**

▲ *First TransPennine Express Class 185 No. 185108 is pictured at Carlisle, while working a Manchester Airport to Edinburgh service. The unit now carries Liverpool European Capital of Culture graphics.* **Brian Anderson**

▼ *First TransPennine Express Siemens-built Class 185 No. 185104 is seen in fading light approaching Chinley East Junction with the 17.28 Cleethorpes - Manchester Airport on 3rd July.* **Nigel Capelle**

▲ *Wensleydale Railway's Class 101 DMU No. 101678 arrives at Leyburn with the 15.50 service from Redmire to Leeming Bar. The railway, which operates through stunning scenery, will be welcoming steam traction when Bo'ness & Kinneil-based BR Standard Class 4MT Tank No. 80105 pays a short visit between 15th August and 7th September. The steam-hauled timetable will include a through working between Leeming Bar (dep 10.35) and Redmire (arr 11.37) followed by two shuttle services between Redmire, Leyburn and Constable Burton (run-round only) during the afternoon, before a return service from Redmire (dep 16.05) to Leeming Bar (arr 16.56) to conclude the days activities. During the day there will be a DMU 'feeder' service between Leeming Bar and Leyburn. In addition, a research project funded by North Yorkshire County Council is currently taking place, with the aim of finding out how plans to directly link the Wensleydale Railway to Northallerton would affect existing rail services, the link from the railway into the town having been closed for more than 50 years. It is predicted that the scheme could cost as much as £6 million, but reopening the link could have economic benefits for the area, as well as boosting tourism and education.* **John Whitehouse**

▼ *LMS 'Duchess' Pacific No. 6233* **Duchess of Sutherland** *was star of the show during a gala weekend at the Midland Railway - Butterley over 12th/13th July. Here, the Stanier Pacific, which is out of its necessary boiler certificate next year, passes beneath the ex-Midland Railway gantry at Swanwick Junction with a service for Hammersmith.* **John Whitehouse**

New proposals for East Lancashire commuter service to Manchester

Council leaders at Bury want £17.5 million of Greater Manchester's £3 billion Transport Innovation Fund (TIF) to operate a modern train service with diesel electric units on the East Lancashire Railway.

The proposal follows a feasibility study carried out by transportation consultancies Faber Maunsell, the company suggesting two possible routes for passengers to travel from Rawtenstall through Bury to Manchester Victoria station, from Monday to Friday, during peak times. One route would run from Rawtenstall to Bury Bolton Street station and then continue from there to Buckley Wells, where passengers would link with the existing Metrolink service to Manchester. The other option would run via Bolton Street station, past the town hall, and head for Rochdale, where the line would be remodelled at Castleton Junction before going on to Manchester Victoria.

Council leader, Councillor Bob Bibby, said: "There needs to be something in the TIF bid for the people of Bury. I have pressed for this measure since last July and I am pleased that at long last someone is listening". It is anticipated the scheme would remove a considerable quantity of traffic from the M66 and also have a significant impact on traffic further south of the borough.

Modern Archive

▲ *Back in the mid-1980s, the track layout of York station bears little resemblance to that of today. On 14th March 1984, Class 33/1 No. 33113 arrives at York with 09.40 Sheffield to York 'Gatwick Express' exhibition train.*

▼ *Class 141 No. 141017 (Nos. 55518 and 55538) await departure from York's north bay platform with a train for Leeds, via Harrogate, on 16th July 1986.*
Both: Keith Long

▲ *Class 45/0 'Peak' No 45019 passes Nunnery carriage sidings, Sheffield, on 10th December 1983, hauling a 'Footex' from Sheffield to Lincoln. Today the expanse of sidings on the left of this picture is the site of the Sheffield Supertram depot!* **Brian Morrison**

▼ *One of the Tinsley Yard specially converted Class 13 'hump' shunters No 13001 is seen passing the yard with 'The Dore Mat' railtour from Birmingham New Street on 18th February 1984.* **Keith Long**

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.

▲ *Class 47/4 No. 47813* **John Peel** *provides the power for a London Liverpool Street - Great Yarmouth service as it passes through Brundall on 12th July, with an almost complete NXEA-liveried Mk3 set.* **Luke Putland**

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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