The Railway Herald

www.railwayherald.co.uk

Issue 146 - 8th September 2008
ISSN 1751-8091

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Front Cover

LMS 'Royal Scot' No. 46115 Scots Guardsman coasts past the semaphores on the approach to Helsby with WCRCs 'The Lune Habitat' charter to Chester on 6th September. **John Whitehouse**

Rear Cover

Also on 6th September, BR 'Britannia' No. 70013 Oliver Cromwell storms through Horton-in-Ribblesdale heading 'The Hadrian' from Leicester to Carlisle. **Rod Smith**

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

▲ ***Unlike many other years of the Welsh Highland Railway's September 'Superpower Weekend', this year's event suffered appalling weather conditions. On 6th September, rain was around virtually all day, with consequential problems for both organisers and photographers and the final day was not much better! During the early part of the morning on both days, the railway organised a line-up at Dinas of three differently sized versions of 'K1', the world's first Garratt, recently restored to working order on the railway. On the 7th September, the 'real thing' stands to the left in Dinas yard, between main line duties, with the 15" gauge version (in green) next to it and the more diminutive 7 1/4" version to its right (with attractive lined livery). The two smaller locos ran on tracks specially laid for the occasion and the line-up proved to be very popular among the many photographers present.*** **John Stretton**

▼ ***On 7th September, an incident occurred at Wokingham when a track machine was travelling on the 'down' Waterloo to Reading line when an object became wedged under the vehicle on the approach to the junction, causing it to derail. The derailment damaged the junction points, the third rail and the wooden cattle boards by the road crossing. The machine was re-railed and shortly before mid-day set back into the 'down' siding. All services were cancelled and buses replaced the scheduled trains for most of the day.*** **Ken Brunt**

Northern Rail opens its doors at Heaton Depot

Northern Rail is to open the doors of its Heaton Depot to the public on 14th September, giving the family of staff, enthusiasts and the general public a chance to get 'behind-the-scenes'.

Alongside the usual rolling stock at the depot on a Sunday, will be visiting LNER 'A4' Pacifics Nos. 60007 *Sir Nigel Gresley* and 60009 *Union of South Africa*, LNER 'K4' No. 61994 *The Great Marquess* and BR 'Deltics' Nos. 55019 *Royal Highland Fusilier* and 55022 *Royal Scots Grey*. The Netherlands Railways 'Roaring Railroad Orchestra' will be performing along with local bands

The open day will run from 10.00 until 16.00 and entrance costs £7.50 for a family, or £5.00 for an individual. Early entry for individuals is available at £10.00. Senior Citizen's tickets are discounted to £1. As there is no parking at the depot, the admission ticket includes the price of travel on rail shuttle services between Newcastle Central station and the depot. These will run from Platform 1 at Newcastle Central (tickets can be purchased from Platform 1 or from the depot gates on the day.) The shuttle will run approximately every hour during opening times.

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Railway Herald is produced by Railway Herald Ltd (Registered as company number 05837609 in England)

Registered office: Hobarn House, 12 Brompton Road, Northallerton, North Yorkshire, DL6 1DY

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Bradway tunnel repair works cause rail disruption

Network Rail is combining two pieces of essential rail improvement works at Bradway tunnel on the line between Sheffield and Chesterfield.

The work is scheduled to be carried out between 8th September and 13th December and will cost around £11million. Bradway tunnel was built between 1865 and 1868 and needs to be repaired and relined with concrete in several parts. When engineers began planning the work on the structure they discovered that the track was due for renewal in 2011/12, which would also require a closure of the tunnel.

Following consultation with local groups and train operators, this has been brought forward to coincide with the tunnel work, minimising overall disruption and keeping costs down.

Amended timetables will be issued for use while the work is carried out, which will be available from all staffed stations.

East Midlands Trains services between London and Sheffield

Nearly all trains will run via a diversionary route with journey times around nine minutes longer in each direction. Some trains will start south of Sheffield due to the lack of platform capacity at Sheffield station and some services will be diverted north of Sheffield again due to capacity issues.

Norwich to Liverpool services

These trains will not run between Chesterfield and Sheffield due to the lack of capacity over the diversionary route. Other than two peak hour trains, the service will effectively become a Norwich to Chesterfield and Sheffield to Liverpool one. Passengers can change trains at Chesterfield to make connections to Sheffield.

Northern Rail services

Although not operating between Sheffield and Chesterfield, Northern Rail services will be affected as more trains than normal use the north end of Sheffield station. Some local services between Doncaster and Sheffield will start and terminate at Meadowhall, where passengers can connect with other services for onward travel to Sheffield. Northern Rail's 08.16 Leeds – Sheffield train will be replaced by an 08.16 East Midlands Trains service, which will operate direct to Sheffield and then stations on to London. Passengers boarding at stations between Leeds and Sheffield are advised to consult timetables for their next available service. Services between York and Sheffield via Pontefract Baghill will be replaced by a bus service between Swinton and York and in addition there will be minor amendments to other local services.

CrossCountry services

Services that normally operate between Bristol and Newcastle will be diverted via Leeds and extended to Edinburgh, and those between Plymouth and Edinburgh will run via Doncaster, but start and terminate at York.

First GBRf honour the Chinook squadrons

First GBRf and Royal Air Force squadrons from RAF Odiham came together on 2nd September to officially name Class 66/7 No. 66723 *Chinook*.

The Station Commander at RAF Odiham, Group Captain Andy Turner OBE, and the rest of his crew flew a Chinook into the depot at Wellingborough to begin the proceedings and as it approached the landing site the crowd were treated to a short demonstration of the helicopter's capability.

Following the arrival of the aircraft, Group Captain Turner and John Smith, Managing Director of First GBRf, unveiled the nameplate. John Smith said: "It's a real pleasure for me to be able to perform this naming ceremony. We owe a huge debt of gratitude to the brave service men and women who serve in areas of conflict like Afghanistan, and at First GBRf we wanted to demonstrate our respect for their outstanding commitment and professionalism by naming a loco in their honour." Group Captain Andy Turner responded and said: "We are delighted that First GBRf has decided to name the loco *Chinook*. It is an appropriate name as the aircraft is synonymous with heavy lifting and freight movement, and it is fantastic to be recognised for what we do in Afghanistan."

Also in attendance at the event were aircrew from

▲▲ ***Class 66 No 66723 awaits its naming ceremony.***
▲ ***One of the RAF's Chinnok helicopters in flight.***
▼ ***The attractive and elabourate nameplate on No. 66723.*** **All: Brian Morrison**

Nos. 7, 18 and 27 Squadrons of the RAF, who are responsible for flying Chinook helicopters and whose squadron insignias form part of the very impressive nameplate.

❖ Work has begun on improvements to London Liverpool Street station's ticket office, which are being made as part of a £250,000 investment programme. National Express East Anglia plans to improve the office with new open-style ticket counters equipped with adjustable height counters and hearing induction loops. A new heating system, lighting and flooring is also being installed and the area will be redecorated.

❖ Proposals for the redevelopment of Gloucester's Railway Triangle have been published. The derelict site, off Metz Way, has been designated by Gloucester Heritage Urban Regeneration Company and the city council for some 500 homes, a 125-bed hotel, 50,000 sq ft of employment space and a new footbridge over the railway line.

❖ Freightliner has filed a damages claim against Deutsche Bahn-owned EWS, following a ruling from the Office of Rail Regulation (ORR) that the company abused its dominance in the coal haulage market. The claim, lodged at the Competition Appeal Tribunal (CAT), seeks unspecified damages plus interest under the 1998 Competition Act. EWS was fined over £4 million by the ORR in November 2006, since when Freightliner, which has recently been acquired by investment group Arcapita, has been working on a damages claim. The CAT filing claims that EWS acted abusively by entering into, applying and maintaining certain agreements with industrial users of coal for the haulage of coal by rail, whose terms had an exclusionary effect between 1996 and 2005. Freightliner claims such behaviour unlawfully reduced its market share. The Tribunal has given EWS until 30th September to file its defence.

❖ Network Rail will not now consider the long-sought restoration of a rail link between Southport and Preston until 2014 at the earliest, a new report has revealed. Network Rail's regional Rail Utilisation Strategy states that the reopening of the Burscough Curves is not part of improvements scheduled for the period 2009-2014, but insists a link between Southport and Preston, including the possible reopening of one of the Burscough Curves, could be created in 2014-2019. The announcement has been welcomed by campaigners, who have pushed to restore the track since it was shut in 1962 as part of the Beeching cuts.

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Group tries to save the Harbour line

Valiant attempts are still being made to try and save Folkestone Harbour station, the station masters house, the signalbox and viaduct, which are all due to be demolished in order to build a university and new housing.

The Remembrance Line Association campaign is seeking to retain what it calls a unique example of our engineering heritage as an operational entity. For more information on the project, background details and how to help visit the website at www.theremembranceline.org.uk

Work on restoring Laurencekirk starts

After closure 40 years ago, work has begun on restoring Laurencekirk station in line with its 1856 design but featuring modern facilities.

Residents of the Aberdeenshire town have been campaigning for a decade to have the station brought back into use and the £3million project to reintroduce Laurencekirk to the East Coast Main Line is expected to be completed by May next year.

Trains heading into Aberdeen will stop 10 times a day at the station, with nine southbound stops.

The main station building on the southbound side of the track was demolished after it closed in 1967 as part of the Beeching cuts. Another building on the opposite side will now serve as the main station facility with a footbridge connecting the two. The bridge will also link travellers to a 70-space car park in the nearby industrial estate.

Originally the station was due to be open by December this year but problems accessing the site due to a 40-year accumulation of fly tipping created a five-month delay.

▲ *With work on the Lincoln resignalling project approaching completion, the old signal box at Lincoln Pelham Street is demolished. The area reopened a few weeks later, worked from a new computerised signal box at Lincoln West Holmes.* **Graham Lightfoot**

Lincoln reopens with a new look ... and red signals!

Lincoln station reopened for services on 1st September, following the completion of six weeks of intensive work on the line costing £55 million and involving replacement of 6,514 metres of track, renewing the signalling and opening a new control centre.

The day was a difficult one, however, with a number of teething troubles needing to be resolved. For example, the new colour light signals remained at red for a number of hours; the new pointwork worked well, however, and the re-routing to platforms to save running round also worked well, unless you were travelling to Nottingham and went to the old Platform 6, only to find it is now No 4 and the train leaves from Platform 3, which used to be the old Platform 5!

Most services were late and the High Street barriers spent a lot of time being down. Not many happy motorists in Lincoln on the day with traffic backed up as far away as South Park.

Our correspondent says that the manual operation of the crossing barriers at Brayford Wharf were part of the reason for the delays and Network Rail engineers were noted, "disappearing into holes everywhere!"

Local 'row' may prevent station opening on time

The new East Midlands Parkway station that is under construction near East Midlands Airport has hit problems after a row broke out over road access to the site, and Network Rail has said that it may not now be able to open it in December as planned.

A resident who lives near the Ratcliffe-on-Soar site has demanded to know who will maintain the link-road built from the A453 to the £25 million station. Nottinghamshire County Council has refused to adopt the road saying that Network Rail should look after it.

In addition, concerns have also been expressed about plans to reduce the length of the nearby Soar Lane, and Network Rail fears this problem could lead to a public inquiry, which would mean it would not be resolved until next year. A Network Rail statement to the meeting of the East Midlands Regional Assembly's transport group has revealed the situation., saying that : "The track works are complete and the platform, footbridge and road bridge foundations are complete. There are some outstanding issues with the access for the station but every effort is being made to resolve the issues, which are a threat to the station opening in December".

A row over buses to and from East Midlands Airport is also still unresolved.

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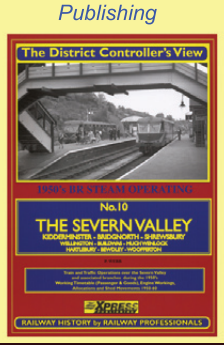

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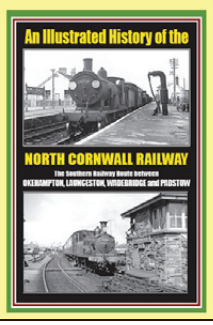

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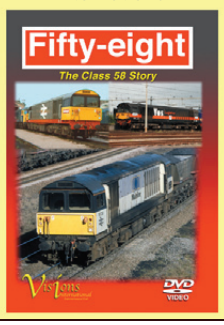

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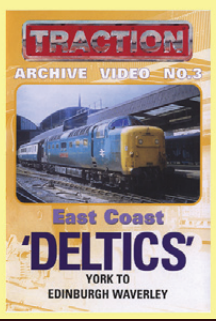

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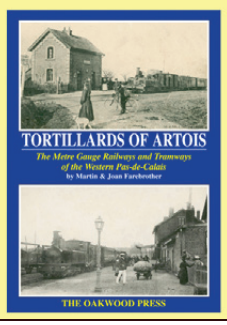

▲ *The recently repainted Metropolitan Railway No. 12* **Sarah Siddons** *approaches Moor Park with a northbound test run on 3rd September.*

▶ *Green-liveried Class 20 No. 20189 is being used with* **Sarah Siddons** *in 'top and tail' formation for the trains. Here, the train heads south through Chorleywood*
All: Kim Rennie

LUL Heritage Day

The London Transport Museum will be utilising its preserved iconic art-deco 1938 Tube Stock on 14th September between Harrow, Watford and Amersham.

The service, which runs throughout the day, will be shared with loco-hauled trains featuring the recently overhauled electric locomotive *Sarah Siddons*, which will be operating with ex-BR Mk1 stock in 'top and tail' mode with Class 20 No. 20189.

Advance booking is essential and for more information, including full times and train formations, go to www.ltmuseum.co.uk.

Ahead of the heritage excursions on 14th September, a number of stock familarisation trips were booked to operate over the route, using both locomotives and the coaching stock.

▶ *The recently reliveried stock is pictured passing West Harrow on 3rd September, being hauled by Class 20 No. 20189.*

Class 59/2 ventures back north for Knottingley open day

◀ *A rare mix of traction basks in the sun at Peak Forest on 4th September, as Class 60 No. 60059* **Swinden Dalesman** *sets up a train from the adjacent quarry while Class 59/2 No. 59202* **Vale of White Horse** *makes a surprise return to old haunts and Class 66 No. 66173 waits to work its next duty.* **Fred Kerr**

WATCH IT NOW!

Watch *Royal Scots Grey* departing from Eggborough Power Station with the second trip, on the *Railway Herald* Video Library. **Click here**

▼ *The staff and friends open day at Knottingley Depot attracted several visiting locomotives, including Class 56 No. 56006 and Class 58 No. 58001 from Barrow Hill, together with several heritage diesels. Class 66 No. 66050 was also named* **EWS Energy** *during the event. EWS operated two special passenger services from Knottingley Depot, the first to Drax Power Station and the second to Eggborough Power Station. The latter is pictured departing Eggborough in the drizzle behind 'Deltic' No. 55022* **Royal Scots Grey** *and Class 67 No. 67029* **Royal Diamond.** *Class 66 No. 66050 was on the rear.* **Ron Cover**

Could Askern, Rossington and Bawtry reopen in the future?

Hopes of bringing disused railway stations around Doncaster back into use have been raised after plans to place a freeze on the development on their sites were revealed. Doncaster Council wants to ban building on several disused stations to keep alive the possibility of bringing them back into service in the future.

The Borough's planning strategy, which is currently being drawn up, states it has aspirations to reopen the stations at Balby, Askern, Norton, Rossington, Bessacarr, Moorends, Bawtry and Finningley. The move would be seen as complementing the existing stations at Mexborough, Conisbrough, Thorne, Kirk Sandall, Adwick, Hatfield and Stainforth and Bentley.

Councillor Andrea Milner, Cabinet member for Connected Communities, said: "I recognise and share the aspiration to reopen more local train stations across the Borough, helping to connect our communities and providing a wide variety of benefits to Doncaster and our residents. However, it is important to note that this is just an aspiration at the current time and there are lots of issues to address if this is to become a realistic possibility".

Any plans to reopen stations would need to be in line with the rail strategy being developed for South Yorkshire by the South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive. This is currently being looked at and includes the provision of potentially connecting villages by rail. Network Rail, which owns the tracks and stations, has said that it would be happy to work towards reopening stations if it could be made possible.

Next batch of Bulgarian Class 87s en route

▲ *Colas Rail Class 47/7 No. 47727 Rebecca awaits departure from Worcester Shrub Hill yard on 2nd September with Class 87s Nos. 87022, 87028 and 87010 bound for Stafford on 2nd September.* **Jack Boskett**

▼ *The three Class 87s are pictured stabled at Stafford on 3rd September.* **Ray Johnson**

Plans to extend Alloa services to Edinburgh

The recent reintroduction of rail services on the Alloa line has proved so successful that the regional transport body, the South East Scotland Transport Partnership (SEStrans) is to examine options for extending the service.

It intends to commission a feasibility study early next year to investigate the possibility of running trains between Alloa and Edinburgh. The investigation will consider possible routes as well as options for funding the necessary infrastructure upgrades.

To reach Edinburgh, services from Alloa, which currently travel through Stirling to Glasgow Queen Street station, could run via Falkirk or alternatively be routed over the reopened freight line to Kincardine and on to Edinburgh via Dunfermline and the Forth Bridge. It is understood that the latter is SEStrans' preferred option.

▼ *Class 47/4 No. 47832 and 'heavyweight' Class 37/5 No. 37510 stand in the loop at Tebay on 5th September, while working from Carnforth to Carlisle Kingmoor TMD. No. 37510 has received a fresh coat of paint at West Coast Railways, Carnforth, and will have DRS vinyls applied at Carlisle.* **Michael Dalgleish**

Cross-Aberdeen plan 'weakened'

It seems that the prospect of there ever being a cross-Aberdeen local train service is receding, reports *John Daniels*.

Apparently the case is 'weak' and demand is questioned. Although Aberdeen is a relatively small city compared with the likes of Glasgow and Edinburgh, there are only a few routes into the city by car which are heavily congested at peak times.

People who work at Dyce for example and live in the city centre, even with a walk at either end of the short train journey, find it quicker and much more relaxed than going by car. Why demand should be questioned, therefore, is unclear; some outlying conurbations such as Kintore have grown considerably in the last few years and the journey time by rail from there to Aberdeen would be under 15 minutes, while even at the dead of night it would be at least 25 minutes by car and much more at busier times. Similar time differences could also be shown for a new station at Cove to the south of Aberdeen, another area that has grown immensely since the original station was closed.

Support for Fleetwood rail

Fleetwood-based Rail Link 84, a group of railway campaigners, have given their backing to plans to re-establish a rail link between Poulton and Fleetwood.

The group was set up in 1984 in a bid to re-open the line for both passenger and freight and held talks with British Rail to push for the track to re-open. They ensured that the defunct line was not demolished by campaigning for the re-alignment of the A585, which protected the town's rail corridor. With the rail link now back on the agenda, thanks to the efforts of the Poulton and Wyre Railway Trust who want to re-open and takeover the running of the track, Rail Link 84 officials have given their seal of approval. Support for reopening the line also follows problems with congestion on the A585 road.

Many residents, as well as councillors and county councillors, believe that rail could help ease the amount of traffic on the vital road. It is also being looked at as a means of reducing freight traffic on the A585, which is expected to increase when a new £600 million power station opens at Thornton in 2012. A provisional report by Network Rail into the feasibility of reopening the line is expected to be presented to Wyre Council this month.

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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.

8th September

Royal Scotsman	2xWCRC 47	**Classic Tour (Day 4)** Boat of Garten-Blair Atholl-Dundee	

9th September

Royal Scotsman	2xWCRC 47	**Classic Tour (Day 5)** Dundee- North Queensferry-Edinburgh	
Steam Dreams	70013	London Liverpoool Street-Chelmsford-Colchester-Ipswich-Stowmarket-Diss-Norwich & return	

10th September

Kingfisher Railtours	70013	Hellifield Hellifield-Appleby-Carlisle and return	
Royal Scotsman	2xWCRC 47	**Highland Tour (Day 1)** Edinburgh-Aviemore-Boat of Garten	

11th September

Royal Scotsman	2xWCRC 47	**Highland Tour (Day 2)** Boat of Garten Inverness-Nairn-Dundee	
Steam Dreams	70013	London Victoria- Salisbury-Bath-Bristol and return	

12th September

Kingfisher Railtours	WCRC47s	Skipton-Settle-Appleby-Carlisle & return	**Cancelled**
Royal Scotsman	2xWCRC 47	**Highland Tour (Day 3)** Dundee-Edinburgh	

13th September

Pathfinder Tours	2xFY Class 59	Cranmore (ESR)-Frome-Westbury-Trowbridge-Bradford on Avon-Bath Spa-Keynsham-Filton Abbey Wood- Abergavenny-Hereford-Shrewsbury-Gobowen-Wrexham-Chester & return	
Railtourer	2xWCRC Cl47	Doncaster-Peterboough- Arundel-Bognor Regis & return	
Railway Touring Company	6233	(London Euston-)Crewe-Shap-Carlisle and return	**Postponed**
Railway Touring Company	6024	(London Paddington-)Penzance-Westbury	**Cancelled**

14th September

Past Time Rail	tbc	Bristol TM-Taunton-Exeter SD-Paignton-Kingswear and return	
SRPS	2x EWS 37	Aberdeen-Elgin-Inverness Rose Street Curve-Kyle of Lochalsh & rtn	
Steam Dreams	70013	London Victoria- Salisbury-Honiton-Exeter and return	
Vintage Trains	tbc	Birmingham Snow Hill-Stratford upon Avon and return (twice)	

15th September

Royal Scotsman	2xWCRC 47	**Classic Tour (Day 1)** Edinburgh-Montrose-Aberdeen-Keith	

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
8-11 Sep	NYMR	Whitby	Pickering-Whitby and return (three trips)	NYMR Pool
8-12 Sep	WCRC	Jacobite	Fort William-Mallaig and return	62005 or 45407
13 Sep	NYMR	Whitby	Pickering-Whitby and return (three trips)	NYMR Pool
15-19 Sep	WCRC	Jacobite	Fort William-Mallaig and return	62005 or 45407
15-18 Sep	NYMR	Whitby	Pickering-Whitby and return (three trips)	NYMR Pool

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

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

The Week Ahead

The coming week is a big one for 'Britannia' Pacific No. 70013 *Oliver Cromwell*, which after deputising for 'A4' No. 60009 *Union of South Africa* on the Railway Touring Company's 'The Hadrian' on 6th September, is followed by a transfer to the south-east to take up a series of tours for Steam Dreams commencing on 9th September with the rearranged 'Norfolkman' from London Liverpool Street to Norwich via Ipswich. This classic 'Britannia' route was scheduled for the loco's inaugural tour in July, but the overhaul took longer than anticipated, causing its postponement.

This is followed on 11th September with a London Victoria-Bristol Temple Meads working, via Westbury, and then on 14th September No. 70013 has a 'Cathedrals Express' from London Waterloo throughout to Exeter St. Davids, which will be routed via Honiton, the route having been passed for the locomotive by Network Rail and will be the first steam operation on the direct route for a while.

Also operating on 10th September is a 'Dalesman' for Kingfisher from Hellifield to Carlisle and return, which should feature 'N15' 4-6-0 No. 30777 *Sir Lamiel*.

The 'Torbay Express' and the 'Shakespeare' Express' are both booked to operate on 14th September, which will be the last day of this years workings for the latter - and it is believed that 'Hall' 4-6-0 No. 4953 *Pitchford Hall* may be in the frame to work the train.

The unusual thing is that after the plethora of steam operations recently, Saturday 13th September is steam free except for the North Yorkshire Moors' Whitby trains, leaving the door open for modern traction to take the tour of the day mantle.

This has to be Pathfinders' use of a pair of Mendip Rail Class 59s on the 'Chester Explorer' from Cranmore (East Somerset Railway), via Frome, Westbury, Trowbridge, Bradford-upon-Avon, Bath Spa, Keynsham, and Filton Abbey Wood, through to Chester, travelling along the North & West route. Railtourer is also in action, heading for Arundel and Bognor Regis from Doncaster and East Coast Main Line stations with West Coast Class 47s. In Scotland, the SRPS are in action on behalf of Grampian Railtours from Aberdeen to Kyle of Lochalsh, picking up at Dyce, Inverurie, Huntly, and Elgin.

UK Railtours has two tours operating, commencing on 11th September with Shrewsbury the destination for a variety of off-train attractions from London Victoria. The train is booked via St.Albans City, Bedford and Kettering, and reaches Shrewsbury by way of Nuneaton, Water Orton, Walsall and Wolverhampton. Two days later and the destination is Paignton, from Northampton, Milton Keynes Central, Watford Junction, Ealing Broadway and Slough.

Useful Weblinks

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

◀ ***One of West Coast Railway Company's Class 33s, No. 33025 Glen Falloch, leads Spitfire Railtours' 'Dorset Dumpling' charter from London Waterloo to Weymouth through Pot Bridge, near Winchfield, on 6th September. On the rear of the train is the Class 73 Preservation Society's Class 73/1 No. 73136 Perseverance, which worked the return leg back to London.***
Chris Wilson

Spitfire Railtours

in association with

Rail-Blue Charters

The Electric Scot Tribute

Wednesday, October 15th

This charter, run in conjunction with Spitfire Railtours, sees the return to the main line of the AC Locomotive Group's Class 87, 87002. Beautifully restored to its original livery of British Rail Blue livery, this locomotive along with its classmates covered the length of the West Coast Main Line from the mid 1970s until 2005, putting in 30 years of outstanding service.

Rail-Blue Charters and Spitfire Railtours are pleased to offer the first charter that sees the locomotive return to its original stamping ground, complete with period British Rail Blue and Grey liveried MkII and MkIII carriages.

Departures are from Birmingham International, Wolverhampton, Stafford, Crewe, Warrington Bank Quay, Wigan North Western and Preston. Our destination is Glasgow where there is a 4 hour break to do as you please. Glasgow is an interesting city with many attractions. It boasts a variety of museums & art galleries, an excellent array of shops, and a wide range of pubs and eateries. This vibrant, cosmopolitan city will satisfy the appetite of most. We then retrace our steps back to Birmingham International and set-down as outward.

We have Standard, First and First Premier Dining seats available. There will also be a buffet for first and standard class passengers serving hot and cold meals and snacks. We also have a bar selling a range of alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks.

Expected Timings:

Birmingham International	d. 07:30	a. 21:50
Wolverhampton	d. 08:10	a. 21:10
Stafford	d. 08:30	a. 20:50
Crewe	d. 09:00	a. 20:20
Warrington Bank Quay	d. 09:25	a. 19:55
Wigan North Western	d. 09:35	a. 19:45
Preston	d. 09:50	a. 19:30
Glasgow	d. 12:30	a. 16:30

Timings, which are presently provisional, will be confirmed when travel tickets are dispatched, approximately two weeks prior to travel.

Visit http://www.rail-bluecharters.co.uk/tour_list for details of any of our future charter trains.

All bookings for travel on our charter trains are subject to the standard terms and conditions of booking and travel with Rail-Blue Charters. A copy of these can be obtained through our website on http://www.rail-bluecharters.co.uk/tour_list/terms_and_conditions.

Should you wish to be added to our mailing list, please send an email with your contact details to bookings@rail-bluecharters.co.uk.

Fares:

First Dining:	Adult £109	
First Class:	Adult £69	Child £45
Standard Class:	Adult £49	Child £25

A group booking for 4 adults can take advantage of a 10% discount.

For booking information or reservation of your seats, please **CLICK HERE** to book online or call 0161 850 0559.

Our phone lines are open from Monday to Fridays between 09:30 and 17:00. Outside these times, you can leave a message with your name and contact details and your call will be returned as soon as possible.

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

Rail-Blue Charters, PO Box 246, Sidcup, DA15 0DX

www.rail-bluecharters.co.uk/tour_list

by John Whitehouse

Autumn programme from Compass

A variety of interesting routes and destinations is the feature of Compass Tours' autumn programme, which gets under way on 11th October from Manchester Victoria with a tour the operator seems to have made its own, namely northwards along the Cumbrian Coast, then south over the S&C to Skipton and then skirting Leeds to the Calder Valley route on the return.

Seven days later, Glasgow Central is the destination from Codsall and stations via Shrewsbury to Crewe and then West Coast Main Line (WCML) throughout, whileTame Bridge Parkway is the originating point for the next tour on 25th October to Carlisle via the S&C outwards, and the WCML on the return, which operates via Stoke-on-Trent and Macclesfield.

Into November, and on the 22nd there is an Edinburgh working from Llandudno Junction and selected North Wales' stations, which also runs via the WCML. This is followed by a visit to Stratford-upon-Avon from the Liverpool area and Manchester Victoria on 29th November, which runs via the Hope Valley.

Finally, on 6th December, Carlisle is the destination from Shrewsbury and stations via Wrexham, which is northwards over the S&C, and returning over Shap.

A Duchess enters Great Eastern territory

▲ *LMS 'Princess Coronation' Pacific No. 6233* **Duchess of Sutherland** *passes the signal box at Thetford on 31st August, while working a 'Cathedrals Express' charter from London King's Cross to Norwich.* **Geoff Calver**

Dartmouth Regatta brings charters to Kingswear

▼ *The annual regatta at Dartmouth brought two separate charters on to the Paignton & Dartmouth Railway on 30th August. Here, Class 47/4 No. 47773 & Class 33 No. 33025 approach the Royal Britannia Crossing with a Vintage Trains tour from Tyseley to Kingswear. Also making an appearance on a Past Time Rail working was Class 52 'Western' No. D1015* **Western Champion.** **Nathan Williamson**

▲ *Shepherd Neame brewery's annual Spitfire charter on 30th August, found Battle of Britain Pacific No. 34067* **Tangmere** *working from London Victoria to Faversham, coinciding with the Faversham Hop Festival. Here, the train heads down the Chatham main line at Newington towards Faversham.* **David Heeney**

▼ *BR Standard 7P Pacific No. 70013* **Oliver Cromwell** *heads north through Settle on 31st August, with 'The Dalesman' to Carlisle.* **Mike Lynam**

▲ *Class 66/0 No. 66092 passes Brent Knoll, near Highbridge, on 2nd September with the 08.10 Fawley-Tavistock Junction (via Bristol) fuel tanks. Until June, this train ran as separate workings to St Philip's Marsh and Tavistock Junction, respectively, the latter including a number of bitumen tanks for Plymouth. The end of the bitumen traffic in May allowed the two fuel workings to be combined.* **Glen Batten**

▼ *The Croft to Brierley Hill gritstone traffic was lost by EWS to Freightliner Heavy Haul earlier this year and following an initial set of workings in July, deliveries to the Black Country terminal ceased. September produced further activity, and on 3rd September Class 66/6 No. 66620 had 22 well-loaded MJA bogie box wagons in tow as it ambled through Bromsgrove, running some 120 minutes late.* **Don Gatehouse**

▲ *Class 60 No. 60013* **Robert Boyle** *heads south at Abbotswood Junction, having approached from the Worcester direction on a Round Oak to Margam steel working on 2nd September.* **Jack Boskett**

▼ *Class 60 No. 60060* **James Watt** *approaches Appleby between Barnetby and Scunthorpe on 4th September with a loaded petroleum working from Lindsey Oil Refinery to Rectory Junction, the consist being a combination of older TEA tanks and the newer EWS branded vehicles.* **Richard Tuplin**

▲ *Very few East Midlands Trains' Class 222 Meridians now remain in original livery, with one in new Stagecoach colours emerging weekly. On 2nd September, five-car No 222014 arrives at Wellingborough, forming the 10.00 service from St Pancras International to Derby.*

▼ *With ex-Anglia DBSO No. 9701 leading, Class 31/4 No. 31459* **Cerberus** *brings up the rear of a test train from Old Oak Common to Kettering as it powers through Wellingborough on the same day.* **Both: Brian Morrison**

▲ *In preparation for the Ecclesbourne Valley Railway's 'Wirksworth Goes Green' gala which commenced the following day, Derby Lightweight No. M79900 (former Test Car* **Iris***) and recently arrived Class 20 No. D8001 are prepared at Wirksworth station on 29th August. The transformation that has taken place here in recent years is quite remarkable.* **Martin Miller**

Brighton movements

As many readers will know, the Pullman Car Works at Preston Park, Brighton, is to be demolished, the job was due to start on 7th September.

Prior to the work getting underway, however, temporary track is being relaid to connect the Works back up to Lovers Walk Carr Road. Between 09.30 and 18.30 on 6th September, two GBRf Class 73s were used to tow out the items to be retained to Platform 2 at Brighton station and then propel the stock back into the Combined Engineering Depot to be loaded on to road trailers.

The stock coming out is very heavily graffitied, and what is unwanted by anyone will be broken up on site. The items include a Pullman coach on a flat wagon, a BR Palbrick van, a SR 'B' van, a 4-plank wagon and a well wagon. Items that are likely to be scrapped are two Ruston Hornsby 0-4-0 shunters, a Class 08, a GWR Syphon, Shell and Esso tank wagons, a GUV and some Royal Navy vans. Once the site has been cleared and buildings demolished, additional sidings for Lovers Walk will be laid.

Furness No. 20 and *Bellerophen* on tour

The Furness Railway Trust that runs the Lakeside and Haverthwaite Railway is seeking a suitable site near to its existing base in Haverthwaite, where it can house its collection of historic railway exhibits under one roof, with a workshop where it can restore them.

A public meeting to outline the proposals is due to take place on 17th September. A trust spokesman said: "There continues to be an urgent need to bring the Trust's valuable collection under cover on a single site and to allow further restoration projects to take place.

There is no room at the Lakeside and Haverthwaite Railway for such a facility, and full and detailed consultation will be carried out throughout the process with the local communities most likely to be affected by the development."

The trust owns a number of locomotives, including the oldest working standard gauge steam engine in Britain, the 1863-built Furness Railway No. 20, which this month is off on a low-loader, together with Haydock Foundry 1874 0-6-0WT *Bellerophen,* to tour railways in the north-east. The locomotives will appear at the Tanfield Railway gala on 13th/14th September and then be put on show at Locomotion in Shildon. The pair will finish the tour by working on the short stretch of line at Beamish Museum, where townscapes from the past have been recreated. The locos will be at Locomotion for the museum's gala on 20th/21st September and be working at Beamish on 27th/28th September.

▼ *A scene from one of the North East traction depots in the 1980s? No, Class 56 No. 56097 stands outside the depot building at Ruddington on the Great Central Railway (Nottingham) on 6th September, having been freshly repainted into Trainload Freight triple-grey colours with coal sub-sector decals.* **Steve Boulton**

Cambrian gala for SVR Autumn event

The SVR's traditional Autumn Steam Gala, which is due to take place on 19th-21st September, has a 'Cambrian' flavour this year. with the visit of 'Dukedog' 4-4-0 No. 9017 *Earl of Berkeley* **from the Bluebell Railway being one of the star attractions.**

Other Great Western 'heavy-weights' in attendance will include 'King' No. 6024 *King Edward I* and 'City' class 4-4-0 No. 3440 *City of Truro,* together with small Prairies Nos. 5526 and 5542, as well as Auto Coach No. 228.

The home fleet will also be well in evidence, with trains running continuously from Friday morning until early evening on Sunday. The SVR will also be operating 'Jazz Trains' on 17th/18th September featuring *City of Truro*, which will consist of two return workings each day between Kidderminster and Highley, utilising the ex-GWR Edwardian coaches, and includes a visit to the Engine House, which encompasses either a light lunch or afternoon tea to the syncopated rhythm of a local jazz band. Advance booking is essential. For more gala or jazz train information go to www.svr.co.uk or telephone 01299 403816.

▲ *On 2nd September, the Isle of Wight Steam Railway's Hunslet 'Austerity' 0-6-0ST No.92 Waggoner, previously employed by the Army, arrives at its destination on the 14.17 Haven Street to Wootton service.* **Ken Brunt**

New boiler ordered for Isle of Wight loco

With the public service presently in the hands of non-Isle of Wight locomotives, it is pleasing to report that a new boiler has been ordered for the lines 1878-built 'A1X' 'Terrier' 0-6-0T No. W11 ***Newport.***

The work is being undertaken in West Yorkshire by Israel Newton & Sons Ltd and is expected to cost around £68,000.

It is hoped that all three engines will be back in steam alongside each other, in the not too distant future. The rebuild of the boiler of O2 Class No. W24 *Calbourne*, withdrawn in 2002, is now well underway at Crewe, while the third member of the fleet, No. W8 *Freshwater*, withdrawn from service in September last year, will hopefully commence a 10-yearly overhaul shortly.

Autumn Diesel Gala
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DMU gala at Butterley

Following the diesel gala last weekend, the Midland Railway at Butterley will be featuring its DMU fleet over the weekend of 13th/14th September.

Classes 101, 114, 114/1, 127 and 141 will be pressed into service, together with, possibly, a newly arrived Class 108 for good measure. Trains will again be utilising the Codnor Park branch as well as the newly opened Swanwick Colliery branch.

To add spice, there may be a visitor from the mainline network!

Evening Star on the move

The last steam locomotive to be built by British Railways has returned to its birthplace of Swindon to take centre stage at the town's Railway Festival on 13th/14th September.

Class 9F 2-10-0 No. 92220 *Evening Star* arrived by road from the National Railway Museum at Shildon and will now stay in Swindon Steam Museum for two years. The low-loader returned with 'King' 4-6-0 No 6000 *King George V*, which is being loaned to the National Railway Museum in York.

▲ *Looking superb, the recently restored Battle of Britain Pacific No. 34070* **Manston** *is winched aboard a low-loader, ready for the short journey from Herston Works to Swanage.* **Andrew P. M. Wright**

Manston returns to steam at Swanage gala event

The 146th locomotive to be retrieved from Barry Scrapyard, SR Battle of Britain Pacific No. 34070 *Manston* is to return to steam at the forthcoming Grand Steam Gala & Vintage Transport Rally on 12th-14th September.

The locomotive has undergone a 30-year, £750,000 restoration by Southern Locomotives Ltd, being completed at the Swanage Railway's Herston engineering works.

The Swanage Railway's annual Grand Steam Gala and Vintage Transport Rally will feature four locomotives; SR 'M7' 0-4-4T No. 30053, West Country class Pacific No. 34028 *Eddystone* and two ex-BR Standard Class 4MT 2-6-4Ts Nos. 80078 and 80104.

An intensive service will operate with departures from Norden 'park and ride' and Swanage every 40 minutes, transporting visitors to the vintage transport rally close to Harman's Cross station.

Staged in association with the Bournemouth and Poole Preservation Club Limited, the vintage transport rally features a wide range of classic vehicles, stationary steam engines, fascinating stalls, a beer tent, refreshments and live music. There will also be a model railway exhibition in the village hall next to Harman's Cross station.

Passing loop appeal launched by Mid Norfolk

The Mid Norfolk Railway has started a £50,000 appeal to help build a passing loop half way along the line at Thuxton, This will not only permit services to be doubled but will allow the railway to give greater flexibility of service.

The railway has run a service from Dereham to Wymondham since it took on the line in 1997 after it was closed by British Rail in 1969, but has been restricted to running no more than one train every two hours because the entire line has been single track since 1965.

The move has been helped by the donation of a disused signal box, once part of the Lynn to Dereham line, which will be moved from its former home at the old East Winch station, near Lynn, to Thuxton, and is planned to be fully operational by 2010. However, the MNR needs volunteers to help carry out the work, some of which will start in October.

Plans to branch out from Dereham northwards to Hoe are also making progress as are plans to extend its line north to County School and ultimately to Fakenham. To refurbish the track, a 'sponsor-a-sleeper' appeal is underway, the first target being to repair the two-mile line to Hoe, which has just over 4,000 sleepers alone. Each sleeper weighs 80kg and costs £22. People sponsoring 10 or more sleepers will get to be on the first passenger train to Hoe. Anyone who can help either project should email volunteer@mnr.org.uk

October railcar convention in East Anglia

The Railcar Association's 13th Annual Convention over the weekend of 25th/26th October is to be co-hosted in Essex by the Colne Valley Railway (CVR) and East Anglia Railway Museum (EARM).

Special DMU services will operate on both days. A Routemaster heritage bus service links Chappel & Wakes Colne and Castle Hedingham stations and the Great Yeldham Transport Museum, all services being open to the general public.

Class 121 Pressed Steel 'Bubble car' and trailer Nos. W55033/W56287 and Class 141 WYPTE Pacer No. 141108 are to run at the CVR, with a Class 101/108 hybrid set providing the services at the EARM. At both locations other rolling stock will be stabled for inspection, including the AC Cars Railbus No. 79978 and Class 101 and 108 vehicles in process of restoration.

Further heritage buses will be on display at Castle Hedingham and the nearby Great Yeldham Transport Museum.

Train travel direct to the Convention can be made by National Express East Anglia's mainline service to Chappel & Wakes Colne, adjacent to the EARM on the Marks Tey–Sudbury branch. An hourly frequency operates on both days. Stansted Transit Bus Service No. 89 operates between Braintree Station (on the branch from Witham) and Castle Hedingham on Saturday only.

Further details of the event and how to get there can be found on the appropriate websites www.railcar.co.uk and www.colnevalleyrailway.co.uk and www.earm.co.uk

■ The Severn Valley Railway-based 'out of ticket' Stanier '8F' 2-8-0 No. 48773 has been moved to the Engine House for display until it again reaches the head of the queue for overhaul and return to traffic.

■ The Chasewater railway will operate its late Summer Steam and Diesel Gala on 13th/14th September, which will feature four steam locomotives in action, including Andrew Barclay 0-4-0ST No. 1223 *Colin McAndrew*, which will be in steam for the first time in 30 years and will be engaged on shunting duties. The fleet of diesel shunters will also be in action.

■ As previously reported in Issue 144, the A1 Steam Trust has confirmed that Monday 22nd September will be first day that No. 60163 *Tornado* will be hauling trains for public use on the Great Central Railway, with departures planned from Loughborough at 10.15, 12.15, 14.15 and 16.35. Tornado is also expected to be in action on the following day, and maybe on 24th and 25th September as well. It should also be rostered for GCR services on subsequent weekends up to the autumn gala weekend on 11th/12th October. With a need to raise a further £66,000, the Trust is offering the opportunity to be part of the sponsorship of the moment when *Tornado* achieves the iconic speed of 60mph, during testing. With a donation of £25 you can have your name on a certificate that will record the moment when the engine first travelled at a 'mile a minute'. The project has also been monitored by the BBC which has produced a documentary that is due for transmission on BBC4 on 16th October. This is believed to be part of a season of steam related programmes.

Please mention *Railway Herald*, **when responding to advertisers. For more details click on any advert**

TURNING THE CLOCK BACK

Welwyn area on 17th April 1954

Brian Morrison looks back to the era when steam traction was still king and the advent of mass dieselisation was only on the horizon

▲ *A King's Cross-bound 'Cambridge Buffet Express' emerges from Welwyn North tunnel on 17th April 1954, headed by Cambridge (31A)-allocated Class B17/1 'Sandringham' 4-6-0 No. 61640* **Somerlayton Hall.**

◀ *New England (35A)-based WD class 2-8-0 No. 90428 trundles out of the southern end of Welwyn North, hauling a fitted freight from Peterborough to Hornsey yard. Note the construction year 1850 above the portal.*
All pictures by the author

The well known bottleneck at Welwyn, caused primarily by the two-track 40-arch viaduct that has stood there since 1851, has not overly changed in appearance since this selection of photographs were taken 54 years ago, although it must be admitted that the lineside vegetation between the tunnels is a little more extensive and the telegraph poles have gone.

Today, there is a modicum of freight, some Hull Trains and Grand Central

workings alongside the National Express East Coast services and many Class 91s, HSTs, Class 365 and the occasional 317 EMUs. Even in the 1950s, the diversity of motive power was not extensive; A1 and A4 Pacifics predominating on the traffic now worked by the Class 91s and HSTs, and usually a 'Sandringham' 4-6-0 was used on the Cambridge services, now nearly exclusively in the hands of the '365s'.

The WD 2-8-0s hauled the majority of freight workings and there was the occasional appearance of A2s, A3s, and K3s.

◀ ***With bell jangling, 'A4' Pacific No. 60010 Dominion of Canada storms out of the southern portal of Welywn South tunnel and is about to pass Welwyn North station! The train is a King's Cross-bound express from Newcastle.***

▼ ***Hauling a King's Cross-Hull express, A1 class Pacific No. 60118 Archibald Sturrock emerges from Welwyn South tunnel at speed.***

Turning the clock back

▲ *New England (35A)-allocated WD 2-8-0 No. 90158 comes off Welwyn Viaduct and through Welwyn North station, hauling a mixed unfitted freight from Hornsey to Peterborough.*

▼ *'The West Riding' express from Bradford and Leeds to King's Cross bursts from Welwyn North tunnel, powered by Class A1 Pacific No. 60117* **Bois Roussel.**

▲ *'A4' Pacific No. 60013* **Dominion of New Zealand** *blasts along the stretch of line between the two Welwyn tunnels, with a King's Cross-Bradford express.*

▼ *Returning to Peterborough with discharged coal wagons from Hornsey, V2 class 2-6-2 No. 60866 crosses Welwyn Viaduct. The great 40-arch edifice was constructed to span the valley of the tiny River Mimram and has restricted this section of the East Coast Main Line to double track ever since.*

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.

8th September 2008

Lincoln Railway Society
St Hugh's Church Hall, North Hykeham, Lincoln
'An evening with father' by David Cross. Meeting commences 20.00. Contact the society secretary on 01522 705365 for further details.

York Railway Society
Archbishop Holgate's School, Drama Studio, Hull Road, York
'Pictures from Keith Smith' by Rob Tibbits. Meeting commences 19.30. Contact the society secretary Robin Patrick on 01904 412232 for further details. Visitors £2 entrance fee.

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.

Permanent Way Institution (Croydon and Brighton Branch)
Croydon College, Room B110. 'Trackbed Investigation and the benefits that it brings' by Jason Grocott and Paul Grainger. Meeting opens at 17.30 for and 17.45 start.

Permanent Way Institution (Darlington & North East)
Technical visit to Nexus, Newcastle.

10th September 2008

Basingstoke & District Railway Society
Wote St. Club, New Road, Basingstoke. 'Driving the GNER Eurostars' by Mick Barstow. Commences 20.00 Contact the secretary on 01256 326096 for details. Visitors welcome.

RCTS (Hitchin)
Hitchin Christian Centre, Bedford Road. '30 Years down the tube' by Dave Carson. Meeting commences at 14.15.

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 are available. A £2 donation is requested from attendees. Contact the society secretary Ron Dawes on 0208 660 3532 for further information.

Grimsby & Cleethorpes Railway Group
RAF Association Club, Alexandra Road, Cleethorpes.
'The story behind the paintings' by John Willerton. Meeting commences at 19.30. Contact 01724 341358 for further 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 Gray. Admission £2, Meeting commences at 19.15 prompt. Please contact the secretary, Adrian Palmer on 01932 850624 for further details.

Locomotive Club of Great Britain (St. Albans)
United Reform Church Hall, Watford Road, Chiswell Green.
'The Railway Clearing House' by Dr. Roy Edwards. Starts 19.30.

Permanent Way Institution (Birmingham Branch)
The 11th Floor Boardroom, Network Rail Offices, The Mailbox, 100 Wharfside Street, Birmingham B1 1RT. 'Design and construction of the LaFarge Cement Railway' by Philip Bull, Parsons Brinkerhoff, Manchester. Meeting starts 18.15.

RCTS (Newcastle)
The Brunswick Methodist Hall.
'A Chinese Takeout' by Raymond Rourke. Meeting starts at 18.30.

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. Frequent passenger service.

13th September 2008

Bournemouth Railway Club
All Purpose Room, Winton Methodist Community Centre, Bournmouth. 'Australia in the 21st Century' by David Cable. Entrance £2 to members and non-members. Meeting commences at 14.30. Contact the club secretary Martyn Tresh on 01202 742099 for further details.

Cornwall Railway Society
The Community Centre, Foundry Row, Redruth.
'The dying days of the S&D' by Bob Bishop. Meeting commences at 18.30. Contact the club secretary Derek Buttivant on 01637 860627 or derekbuttivant@onetel.com for further details.

RCTS (Exeter)
Great Western, St. David's Hill.
'Members Slides'. Meeting starts at 19.00.

13th-14th September 2008

Bure Valley Railway Super Power Gala Weekend
Relaunch of No. 8 Thunder at 11.00 on 13th September at Aylsham station. Visiting engines from other 15" gauge railways and an extensive service will operate throughout the weekend. Rover tickets available. Call 01263 738858 or visit www.bvrw.co.uk for further details.

15th September 2008

Locomotive Club of Great Britain (Dorking)
Pethick-Lawrence House, 85 South Street, Dorking, Surrey.
'Channel Tunnel Rail Link - Section 2' by Phil Bassett. Meeting commences at 19.30.

RCTS (Brentwood)
Shenfield Parish Hall, 80 Hutton Road. 'A selection of Railway Films' by David Barker. Meeting commences at 19.30.

RCTS (Chester)
The Town Crier, City Road/ Station Road.
'British Railways in the 1960s' by Hugh Ballantyne. Meeting commences at 19.45.

RCTS (Northampton)
St Crispin Social Club, Berrywood Road, Duston.
'By Mountain and Valley with Iron" Peter Juffs. Meeting commences at 19.30.

The Great Central Railway Society (Spinkhill branch)
The Angel Hotel, College Road, Spinkhill. 'The Settle & Carlisle : England's most scenic railway' by Paul Beardsley. Meeting commences at 19.30. Contact the society secretary on 01909 473927 for further details.

16th September 2008

RCTS (Cheltenham Area)
Victory Club, Burlington House, Lypiatt Road, Cheltenham GL50 2SY. '1960s steam trains - Gloucester and beyond' Cine and Stills by Michael Clemens. Meeting commences 19.30.

16th September 2008

RCTS (Eastleigh)
Eastleigh Railway Institute, Romsey Road. 'The Office of the Rail Regulator' by David Brace. Meeting starts at 19.45.

17th September 2008

Permanent Way Institution (Glasgow)
Upstairs Lounge, The Iron Horse, West Nile Street, Glasgow.
'Gretna to Annan Doubling' by Les Fox, Network Rail, Preston. Meeting commences at 17.30.

18th September 2008

Locomotive Club of Great Britain (North West)
The Kirkfield Hotel, Church Street Newton-le-Willows, Merseyside.
'Italy for Railfans' – 40 years of railway scenes by John Sloane. Meeting commences at 19.30.

Barrow Hill Engine Shed Society
Barrow Hill Roundhouse.
Steaming Through Britain. A DVD presentation by GB Productions. Preserved steam at work all around the country, both on the main line and at heritage railways. Doors open 19.00, show commences 19.30. Admission, £2.00 non members.

Marlow & District Railway Society
British Red Cross Society, Victoria Road, Marlow.
"More Classic British Transport Films" by Alan Willmott.
Doors open at 19.45, Meeting commences at 20.00 Non-members entrance fee £2.

Permanent Way Institution (Nottingham & Derby)
The Midland Hotel, adjacent to Derby Station.
'Surveying and setting out railway track for the 21st Century' by David Coles, Scott Wilson Railways, Swindon. Meeting commences at 18.30.

RCTS (Darlington)
The Scout Building, Widdowfield Street.
'Northern Rail, Community operator' by Dr. Paul Salveson. Meeting starts at 19.00.

RCTS (West Riding) Branch
Pudsey Civic Hall.
'Grand Central Trains'. Commences 19.30.

19th September 2008

Great Western Society (Taunton Group)
Stoke St. Mary Village Hall, near Taunton.
'Steam in the 1960s' by Alan Reeve. Meeting commences at 19.30, Contact Peter Triggs on 01823 334188 for further details.

▲ *Class 165/1 No. 165103, working a London Paddington-bound First Great Western service pauses at Ealing Broadway on 4th September.* **Ian Docwra**

Locomotive Club of Great Britain (Central London)
Keen House, Calshot Street, London. N1.
'East Anglia & North-East England in the 1960s' by Chris Hurricks. Meeting commences at 19.00.

Stephenson Locomotive Society
The Mining Institute Lecture Theatre, Neville Hall, Westgate Road, Newcastle Upon Tyne.
'North American Steam 1940-1994 (and some diesels!)' by Ian McInnes. Meeting commences 19.00. Contact 01434 688946 for further details.

20th September 2008
Locomotive Club of Great Britain (Bedford)
St John's Church Hall, St John's Street, Bedford. 'Branch 50th anniversary open day. 10.00-16.30.

RCTS (West Riding)
Visiting to signal boxes on the Selby to Hull Line. Contact Malcolm Riley on 07887 908501 for further details.

24th September 2008
Basingstoke & District Railway Society
Wote St. Club, New Road, Basingstoke. 'Working the ballast trains' by Brian Denton. Commences 20.00 Contact 01256 326096 for further details. Visitors welcome.

25th September 2008
Locomotive Club of Great Britain (Croydon)
United Reformed Church Hall, Addiscombe Grove, East Croydon.
'Branch Photo Competition and Members Slides'. Meeting commences at 19.15.

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

RCTS (West Riding)
Two day oberservation at Eastleigh station with two nights B&B at Eastleigh. Contact Malcolm Riley on 07887 908501 for further information.

27th September 2008
Bournemouth Railway Club
All Purpose Room, Winton Methodist Community Centre, Bournmouth.
'50 years of Railway Photography' by Hugh Ballantyne. Meeting starts at 19.30. Entrance £2 to members and non-members. Contact the club secretary Martyn Thresh on 01202 742099 for further details.

28th September 2008
RCTS (Northampton)
Weston Favell Parish Hall, Booth Lane South, Weston Favell. 'View from the Footplate' by Brian Bell. Meeting starts at 14.00.

West Lancashire Light Railway
'Railways on the Air'. The WLLR will be participating in this event with members of the Bolton Wireless Club, who will set up a radio station on site - see the website http://www.westlancs.org for further details.

29th September 2008
RCTS (Welwyn Garden City)
The Methodist Church, Cole Green Lane, Ludwick Green.
'Memories of Ipswich Loco and its men' by J. Humphrey. Meeting starts at 14.15.

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 slide show by Malcolm Ranieri. Contact Mark Ratcliffe on 01283 221537 for further details. Starts 19.30.

2nd October 2008
Great Central Railway Society (Rotherham)
The Three Horseshoes, Bawtry Road, Wickersley. 'Railways Across the Pond' by Ken Horan. Starts 19.30. Contact the 0114 254 0275 for further details.

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

Permanent Way Institution (Glasgow)
IET Teacher's Building, St. Enoch Square, Glasgow. 'Airdrie to Bathgate and Edinburgh' Hugh Wark, Project Manager, Network Rail and Clair Keggie, rail Policy, Transport Scotland, Glasgow. Meeting commences 17.30.

Scottish Rly Preservation Society (Edinburgh Area)
Quaker Meeting House, 7 Victoria Terrace, Edinburgh.
'The Northern Belle - Cruising in style with the LNER' by P (Sam) Woods. Meeting commences at 19.30 and a donation is requested from attendees. Contact the Fred Landery, on 01698 457777 for further details.

3rd October 2008
Gloucestershire Warwickshire Railway (Birmingham Area)
Northfield Library, Church Road, Northfield, Birmingham.
'Nostalgia of Steam on 16mm Cine' by Chris Pratt. Doors open 19.00 for 19.30 start.

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