Railway Herald

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The electronic journal for the railway enthusiast

Railway Herald

Issue 180
8th June 2009

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Brian Morrison

Long Marston raises £30,000 for charity

Following a damp, but none-the-less successful open weekend at the ex-MOD base at Long Marston, now run by Motorail Logistics, the organisers have raised over £30,000 for the preferred charity 'Help for Heroes' through ticket and programme sales.

Full story on Page 20

In This Issue

New Advenza Flow

Advenza Freight have run the first trial of what is believed will become a regular service later this year, from West Burton Power Station.

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Closure of freight route

Network Rail will undertake a 12-week closure of the Scunthorpe to Doncaster route from late June to allow for upgrading work.

Click here to read the story on Page 4

New coal wagons

First GBRf has taken delivery of the first batch of 89 new coal hoppers, the first to be built in the UK by WH Davis

Click here to read the story on Page 7

Worldwide Pictorial

A pictorial look at the railways across the world, with this issue focusing on Europe. Our normal World News will return next issue.

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Front Cover Caption:

Class 25 No. D7612 *Tamworth Castle* **is pictured South east of Froghall on the Churnet Valley Railway during a photo charter. David Gibson**

Advenza Freight gains new containerised flow

▲ **Advenza Freight has gained a new contract to transport fly-ash from EDF Energy's West Burton Power Station to Tilbury. It is understood that the first run of the flow on 2nd June was a trial prior to full operation later in the summer. Here, Class 66/8 No. 66841 passes Harlow Mill on 2nd June, at the head of the 09.25 Tilbury - West Burton Power Station, its first revenue-earning working for Advenza. Craig Leaper**

Bombardier Plymouth gains IRIS certification

Bombardier Transportation's Plymouth site, housing its Rail Control Solutions (RCS) Division, has become the first signalling company in Great Britain to achieve certification to the new International Railway Industry Standard (IRIS).

This is a global quality standard to ensure that rail company management systems are fully aligned to the needs of the market sector, and recognise a high level of product and service quality. IRIS has been developed by Europe's main railway system integrators and is run through UNIFE, the Association of the European Rail Industry. It is based on international standards but with specific requirements related to the railway industry. IRIS is expected to become the main supplier certification scheme for all suppliers and rolling stock manufacturers and will become the main certification to be used by Bombardier.

Plymouth joins a growing list of accredited sites within the RCS Division, including Sweden, Germany, Poland and Italy.

The latest Locomaster DVD re-release...

BRIGHTON BRUSH FAREWELL

47 851 : Brighton-Birmingham

Climb aboard the footplate of 47 851 for a nostalgic journey on Virgin CrossCountry's 1S76 09.20 Brighton to Edinburgh service in November 2001. The loco was hauling its first train following its retro-repaint into British Railways two-tone green livery. This ***'Wired for Sound'*** *cab-ride is a record of the first 185 miles of that journey.*

After departing from Brighton, the 1S76 travels north through Haywards Heath, Merstham and Quarry Tunnel. From East Croydon the 47 threads a complex journey across London via Selhurst, Streatham Common, Balham and Clapham Junction before joining the West London Line at Latchmere Junction. The journey continues through Kensington Olympia and West London Junction to Acton Wells Junction where 47851 takes the short connecting chord to Acton Main Line. The 1S76 then heads along the Great Western Main Line to Reading before continuing along the Thames Valley to Didcot and Oxford. At Leamington Spa the 47 takes the single-line to Coventry after which there's a final spirited run through Berkswell and Hampton-in-Arden to Birmingham New Street station.

This 110 minute 'programme – now digitally re-mastered' on DVD - is a reminder of what was an everyday sight and sound for nearly 40 years – a Class 47 powering an 'Inter-Regional' passenger train.

BRIGHTON BRUSH FAREWELL is available now on DVD priced at £19.95 (post free) from the address below. Alternatively you can pay by credit or debit card by calling us on our CREDIT CARD HOTLINE on 01753 545888.

LOCOMASTER PROFILES

Freepost (SL2253), Langley, Slough, SL3 6BP

Lincolnshire freight artery closes for three months for improvement work

Work on the railway between Scunthorpe and Doncaster begins on 21st June, as Network Rail completes several complex improvement schemes in the next three months.

The main job is at Medge Hall, where ground conditions limited trains to just 10mph on the stretch of track where engineers are building a £10 million buried structure to carry the rail clear of the affected area. It will not be possible to run any trains over the line while this is being done. This means no direct passenger services will run between Doncaster and Cleethorpes from 23.45 on Sunday 21st June to 04.00 on Monday 7th September. Freight services will be affected for the same period between Scunthorpe and Thorne junction. A Network Rail spokesman said: "As recently as last week we had to temporarily close this route while repairs to the track were carried out. We're now in a position to complete a substantial investment in the route, which will make it more robust for the future and allow trains to run at faster speeds for the first time in many years. In order to minimise disruption we will complete several other jobs at the same time - making the total investment in the line around £20 million. I hope that passengers and freight users will consider the short-term inconvenience worthwhile in terms of the long term benefits that this investment will bring".

The Medge Hall structure will be made up of a concrete platform supported by over a thousand piles, which are driven into the solid ground below the peat. The piles are designed to be bottom driven, making the process as quiet as possible. They also use less concrete than conventional piles, meaning less lorries to site and the lowest possible impact on the environment.

Freight traffic to and from Scunthorpe and Immingham that would normally use the line is being diverted via Lincoln and Gainsborough, although coal and iron ore traffic to the steelworks at Scunthorpe is not affected by the closure.

New P&R station for Apperley Bridge?

Proposals developed by Metro are expected to result in a new station being built at Apperley Bridge, on the busy Leeds to Bradford Forster Square route, where it is planned to have two trains per hour stopping at the station in both directions.

The leader of Leeds City Council and Chairman of the Rail Working Group said: "We need to move ahead with a new station and the park and ride facilities as quickly as possible. It will have huge benefits, not just for residents in Bradford but also to Leeds residents living in Guiseley, Rawdon, Pudsey and Calverley. The scheme will bring about significant improvements to congestion in the area and will help to reduce traffic coming into Leeds and Bradford, and I look forward to the station being completed as soon as possible".

Park and ride (P&R) facilities are also a key part of the project, with a 300-space car park and drop off point to be located close to the new station.

▲ **On 14th May, the main route between Crewe and Chester was closed for engineering work, resulting in Virgin Trains operating some services on the route through Middlewich and using the triangular junction at Northwich. On a gloriously sunny day, Class 221 No. 221109 *Marco Polo* forms the 11.50 Holyhead to Crewe service as it pulls off the Chester-Manchester line and onto the Middlewich line at Northwich. The line on the right forms the second side of the triangle and sees little use. The third side being the main line to Manchester. Alex Hunns**

New parkway station for Worcester on the horizon?

Preliminary work has begun on the long-awaited project to build a new £16.5 million station connecting Worcestershire with inter-city rail services.

Worcestershire County Council has employed a team of consultants to assess possible sites for a new 'Parkway' station and draw up a business case supporting its construction, ahead of a potential bid for funding from rail authorities and private developers. The idea of building a third railway station close to Worcester – most likely at Norton – has been discussed for about 30 years, as the main cross-country rail line passes only a few miles east of the city but does not connect with either Foregate Street or Shrub Hill stations. Such a scheme has consistently failed to get off the ground, but now County Hall is finally hoping to get the scheme moving. A statement released by Worcestershire County Council says: "Work began on the technical work – such as business case development and appraisal of the preferred site – in January this year, and continues to evolve. Once the report has been produced by the consultants, there will then be a period when the results are analysed and the approach to the project defined". A 'Parkway' station has long been backed by local MPs, business leaders and rail passenger groups as an obvious way of improving transport links between Worcestershire and the rest of the country. Currently, rail passengers must travel to Birmingham or Cheltenham to connect with cross-country services.

A 'Parkway' station could potentially see direct services between Worcester and Manchester, Bristol and Glasgow, as well as an inter-change with the current Cotswold Line between Hereford and London.

▲ Moments after impact and the Mk2 coach ricochets off Class 86/2 No. 86258, which had been repainted on one side only for the event.

Crash test takes place at Long Marston

The first full-scale rail crash test in this country for over 20 years was staged on the Motorail Logistics site at Long Marston on 14th May, when vehicle engineering specialists MIRA showcased technology transfer opportunities between road and rail ahead of new EU safety regulations targeting the crashworthiness of modern trains.

The high-energy collision mimicked an impact scenario set out in the European Standard for crashworthiness, and a 32-tonne Mk2 coach propelled by a heritage DMU travelling at 22mph impacted with a stationary Class 86 locomotive that weighed in at 82tonnes. On board the coach were four crash-test dummies to provide a faithful assessment of occupant kinematics, the dummies being designed to represent the average male in both dimensions and weight and provide a realistic response to the collision.

An array of stills cameras and high-frame-rate digital video cameras recorded the crash dynamics as dummies and interior furnishings flew in all directions. Those with their backs to the direction of travel would have suffered chest and abdominal injuries as they absorbed the weight of tabletops ripped off by the front-facing passengers launched forward during impact. Broken limbs and head injuries were very likely, reinforcing how vital occupant protection is, even in relatively low speed collisions.

Externally, damage was at a minimum, the coach sustaining a fractured buffer and the loco also having its buffers bent, but otherwise both stood up well to the impact.

Metro and Light Rail News

Transport for London welcomes findings over Metronet failure

In a press release issued by Transport for London, the organisation said it welcomed the key findings of the National Audit Office's (NAO) report on the failure of Metronet, the Infrastructure company set up to upgrade and maintain two-thirds of the Tube network under the Government's Public Private Partnership.

The NAO study found that a lack of leadership and poor governance were the key factors resulting in the massive overspending by Metronet, which ultimately saw the company fail and enter into administration in July 2007. The report states: 'Metronet did not provide good quality performance and cost information in the way LU envisaged and LU did not have a breakdown of Metronet's high level budget on station refurbishment work'. Once in administration, however, Metronet was managed effectively by LU, according to the report. Since Metronet entered Administration and was subsequently transferred to TfL, work has continued to ensure the protection of the line upgrades, which will deliver the big increases in capacity and reliability that London badly needs, as well as key stations and accessibility works.

Performance has improved, with a 42% increase in track reliability and service disruption reduced overall by 13%.

▼ A60/62 stock forms of a Metropolitan line service as it departs from Chorleywood, with Driving Car No. 5167. **Henry Allum**

Southeastern to start high-speed 'Javelin' service from end of June

Southeastern is to give passengers their first chance to experience domestic travel at more than 125mph from 29th June, with a preview service for high-speed domestic services operated by Class 395 'Javelins'.

It is planned to operate three trains each weekday morning peak from Ashford International to St Pancras International and three in the other direction in the evening peak. There will also be a shuttle service every half-hour for most of the day between Ebbsfleet International and St Pancras. The trains, which will reach a maximum speed of 140mph, will be the UK's fastest-ever domestic services, cutting the journey time from Ashford to London to 37 minutes, against a best journey time at present of around 1hr 20minutes.

The full service between St Pancras and Kent is scheduled to start with this December's timetable change, when the 'Javelins' will run both on the High Speed 1 dedicated high-speed line and on conventional domestic lines. A single ticket from Ashford to St Pancras on the new services will cost £26.60, against £22.20 on the present service. The Class 395s used for the services will be some of the most complex on the British rail network, able to work both with the high-speed line's separate signalling and electrification systems and those of the National Network.

◀ At Gravesend on 23rd May, Class 395 'Javelin' No. 395004 forming the 17.53 Rochester-Ebbsfleet test trip passes the 18.12 service from Gravesend to Charing Cross via Sidcup, led by Class 466 No. 466011, as it awaits a clear road. Bill Turvill

UK News In Brief

■ A much belated inquiry into the circumstances leading to the Potters Bar rail crash in 2002 should at last take place. Transport secretary Geoff Hoon announced the decision after a question from an MP in the House of Commons, saying that he recognised the anxiety of those affected by the tragedy that killed seven people and injured over 70.

■ Dubai Ports World, which was due to build a new £2 billion container port at Shell Haven in the Thames estuary, has been hit hard by the recession and is believed to have placed all its major projects under review, putting a question mark over the future of the British development. The company received planning consent two years ago for a deep-water container terminal at the site in Essex, which is known as London Gateway.

■ Preliminary work to install 'Next Train Indicator' screens and larger 'Summary of Departures' screens at seven Wimbledon loop stations began on 1st June. The stations set for improvement are Haydons Road, Morden South, South Merton, St Helier, Sutton Common, West Sutton and Wimbledon Chase. The seven stations serve over 500,000 people a year and have historically relied on a PA system to provide updates. The latest investment will provide clear information and announce every train prior to its arrival as well as live running information. The entire project is set for completion by mid-July.

■ Jarvis plc has announced that its subsidiary Fastline has secured a two-year eight-month extension to its contract to haul coal for E.ON, one of the UK's leading power and gas companies. E.ON has exercised the option to extend the term of the contract from its current expiry on 30th April 2013 to 31st December 2015. The value of the contract over the additional period is expected to be in excess of £20million. The initial contract started in May 2008 and provides a dedicated service hauling coal to Ratcliffe-on-Soar and Ironbridge power stations.

■ A £2.7 million project to lower the railway track under two listed bridges in the Whitacre Heath area to enable haulage of the larger ISO High Cube 9'6" 'big box' containers by rail to Birmingham International Freight Terminal at Birch Coppice, has been completed. Work started in January this year and was finished in four months, with the first train travelling along the line on 11th May. Freightliner immediately introduced a new 'big box' service between Tilbury and Birch Coppice, reducing the number of lorries on the road, and GBRf has also announced its commitment to a new daily Felixstowe service.

New passenger and retail facilities open at Liverpool Lime Street

The on-going revamp of Liverpool Lime Street station into a showcase entrance to the city continues with the opening of new passenger facilities and retail outlets close to the long-distance Platforms 7, 8 and 9.

The new buildings incorporate separate First and Standard Class passenger lounges, an information office, three retail outlets and cash machines, amounting to an investment of £3.4 million in the station by Network Rail. More work is planned for the future, including resurfacing platforms, removal of the glass block that currently houses the cash machines (which will open up the two concourses into one open space), replacement of the station boilers with a new, more energy efficient system and improved security systems.

The exposed archways to the front of the station are to be repaired and new feature glazing installed to illuminate the station's southern concourse.

▼ **The new look lounge at Liverpool Lime Street. Chris Dixon**

New coal wagons delivered to First GBRf

▲ **One of the first of 89 new coal wagons, TOPS code IIA and carrying the international number 37.70.6955.215-8, constructed for First GBRf stands in the yard at Shirebrook, prior to entering service on 5th June. First GBRf**

Twenty brand new HYA design, code IIA coal hoppers provided by VTG Rail UK to freight operator First GBRf entered service on 5th June, from the Shirebrook works of wagon builders WH Davis.

Having passed final testing at the manufacturers, the wagons headed straight to collieries in north Nottinghamshire, as First GBRf continues to increase the number of coal services it runs for power generators in Britain.

Capable of reaching speeds of up to 75mph the high capacity wagons can carry up to 74.5 tonnes and are part of an 89-vehicle deal, which represents a major milestone for VTG Rail UK, as it is the first time the hire company has provided coal wagons to a UK customer. The remaining 69 vehicles, which have already been allocated to contracts, will be gradually introduced to service on a weekly basis from the end of June.

Freightliner starts 21st train from the Port of Felixstowe

Freightliner reports that it has started its 21st daily service from the Port of Felixstowe.

This follows the shift of Maersk shipping from Southampton to Felixstowe, and will operate to Birmingham International Freight Terminal (BIFT), one of 13 destinations covered by Freightliner's network. Moving over 300,000 containers annually though the Port of Felixstowe and 650,000 nationwide, the new 24-wagon train is Freightliner's 49th daily round trip from the UK's deep sea ports, and increases the number of routes to 33.

The Operations Director for Maersk Line UK & Ireland commented: "We are delighted to be able to initiate service to BIFT, our 9th inland destination served from Felixstowe in combination with Freightliner. This new, high-cube cleared, daily service will provide additional options for our customers while removing over 20,000 truck journeys annually from the UK road network. The introduction of new services in the current difficult trading environment demonstrates Maersk Line's ongoing commitment to the growth of the UK rail freight network".

The News In Pictures

◀ A rather short-formed HST, comprising Class 43 Powercars Nos. 43041 and 43150 in 'top and tail' mode with Mk3s Nos. 42356 and 40807 moved from Old Oak Common to Laira on the 3rd June. The 'fun sized' HST was captured climbing Whiteball, passing Beam Bridge. **Nathan Williamson**

◀▼ Virgin Class 57/3 No. 57307 *Lady Penelope* stands in London Paddington, while on hire to First Great Western on 20th May. The locomotive was used for the ECS operations on 19th/20th May. **Stuart Green**

▼ DRS Class 37/6 No. 37682 hauls Class 37/0 No. 37025 *Inverness TMD* and Class 47/4 No. 47643 south of Abington on the West Coast Main Line on 3rd June, while working from Bo'ness to Carlisle in connection with the forthcoming Keighley and Worth Valley Railway diesel gala weekend. The convoy later moved forward from Carlisle to Keighley. **Antony Watkinson**

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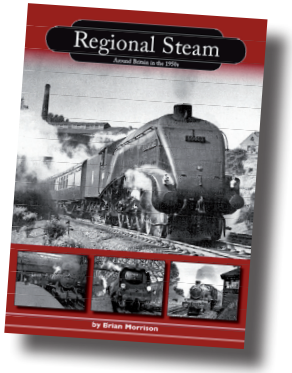

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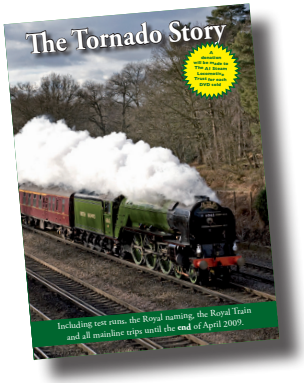

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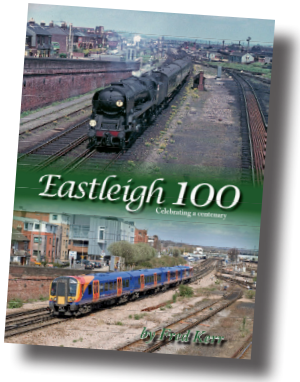

Regional Steam

By Brian Morrison

Featuring the work of the well known railway photographer Brian Morrison, this 128-page title is the first book from Railway Herald Publishing and forms the authors fortieth title.

The book is arranged in regions and contains over 200 quality black & white illustrations. Each region commences with a clear map showing the area covered by the region in 1954 and this is followed by a selection of images depicting scenes from across the region between 1951 and 1959. Classic scenes include the Cambrian, Beattie Well tanks at Wadebridge, LNER A4 Pacifics on the ECML and Duchess Pacifics at work on the West Coast.

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£14.95

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The Tornado Story

DVD

The building and successful operation of the first mainline steam locomotive to be built in the UK for 40 years is covered on this special 60-minute DVD, filmed over recent months in co-operation with the A1 Steam Locomotive Trust.

Archive film of the 'A1s' in the 1960s is included, together with all mainline operations up to the end of April 2009 and the Royal naming by TRH The Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Cornwall. Tornado's visit to the Barrow Hill LNER weekend and the NYMR Steam Gala also feature. A donation from the sale of each DVD goes to the A1 Steam Locomotive Trust to support the continued operation of the locomotive.

AVAILABLE NOW
£10.95

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Eastleigh 100

By Fred Kerr

A limited print run publication, produced to mark the centenary of Eastleigh Works.

This 56-page book covers from the early years of the town through to the present day activity at the works. The book describes how the London & South Western Railway's (and later the Southern Railway and British Railways) works at Eastleigh came about and its development over the intervening years.

In addition, ex-Eastleigh fitter, Ron Cover, gives us an insight into day-to-day operations, including some of the more comical aspects of the job!

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UK Steam & Modern Traction Railtour Listings

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

10th June			
VSOE	35028	London Victoria-Staines-Woking-Salisbury-Westbury-(Westbury-Bath Spa-Bristol TM (break/rev)-Bath Spa- Westbury)-Newbury-Reading-Kensington Olympia-London Victoria (Route tbc)	
13th June			
CFPS	40145	Rawtenstall-Heywood-Manchester Victoria-Crewe-Shrewsbury-Welshpool-Machynlleth-Aberystwyth & return	
Past Time Rail	6024	London Paddington-Kidderminster	**Cancelled**
PMR Tours	6233	(Sheffield-Chesterfield-Alfreton & Mansfield Pky-Uttoxeter-Stoke on Trent-)Crewe-Holyhead (break/rev)-Crewe (& return)	
Railtourer	2xWCRC 47	Whitby-Ruswarp-Sleights-Grosmontb-Egton-Castleton-Nunthorpe-Middlesborough-Eaglescliffe-Darlington- Leeds-Skipton-S&C-Carlisle-Hexham-Durham-Darlington	
Railway Touring Company	70013	(London Paddington-Newbury-Exeter-Kingswear-Bristol TM-(& return)	
SRPS	tbc	Glenrothes-Kirkcaldy-Edinburgh Waverley-Durham-York-Leeds-Harrogate-Knaresborough-York (rev) & return	
Statesman Rail	tbc	Birmingham International-Tame Bridge Parkway-Penkridge-Stafford-Stone-Stoke on Trent-Congleton-Macclesfield-Stockport-Manchester Piccadilly-Bolton- Hellifield-S&C-Carlisle (break/rev)-Workington-Grange over Sands-Carnforth-Bolton & return	
14th June			
Steam Dreams	34067	London (tbc)- Canterbury & return	
16th June			
Past Time Rail	tbc	Manchester-Stockport-Wilmslow-Crewe-Stafford-Wolves-Sandwell & Dudley-Birmingham New St-Birmingham International- Ascot	
17th June			
Past Time Rail	tbc	Crewe-Sandwell & Dudley-Birmingham NS- Ascot	
18th June			
Past Time Rail	tbc	Manchester-Crewe-Birmingham New St-Ascot	
Steam Dreams	tbc	London (tbc)- Minehead & return	
19th June			
Pathfinder Tours	D1015	Day 1: Bristol TM-Cheltenham Spa-Birmingham NS-Bescot (Cl67)-Stafford-Shap-Carlisle-Edinburgh Waverley-Potobello Jct-Niddrie W Jct-Craiglockhart Jct-Haymarket W Jct-Dalmeny-Forth Bridge-Kirkaldy-Ladybank-Perth-Inverness	

The following are classed as scheduled steam services, operating several times each week.

8th-12th June	WCRC	The Jacobite	Fort William-Mallaig-Fort William	45231 or 62005
15th-19th June	WCRC	The Jacobite	Fort William-Mallaig-Fort William	45231 or 62005

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

The VSOE British Pullman leads off this week's charter preview with a 10th June operation from London Victoria to Bath Spa and Bristol Temple Meads.

As usual with this operation, the train is steam-hauled from Victoria via Staines, Basingstoke and Salisbury to Westbury, where a diesel takes over for the final leg to Bristol. Similarly, it is diesel-hauled on the return to Westbury, where steam, in the form of Merchant Navy Pacific No. 35028 *Clan Line*, takes over for the run back to Victoria via the Berks and Hants line, Reading, Slough and Kensington Olympia.

Moving forward to the weekend, a further three steam-hauled charters are planned, starting with a trip to Kingswear for Railway Touring Company on 13th June with 'Britannia' Pacific No. 70013 *Oliver Cromwell*. The train originates at London Paddington and travels to Westbury diesel-hauled, where the 'Britannia' will be waiting for the onward run via Exeter St. Davids, and Paignton before finally passing onto Paignton & Dartmouth metals for the final few miles to Kingswear. The return will have No. 70013 again in charge from Kingswear throughout to Bristol Temple Meads where diesel traction will take over for the return to London. Holyhead is the destination for 'Princess Coronation' Pacific No. 6233 *Duchess of Sutherland* which is booked to head PMR Tours' 'Ynys Mon Express', which sets out from Sheffield via Derby diesel-hauled. The steam section is the usual Crewe-Holyhead-Crewe. On 14th June, Steam Dreams has a 'Cathedrals Express' from London Victoria to Canterbury, which is scheduled for haulage by Battle of Britain Pacific No. 34067 *Tangmere*.

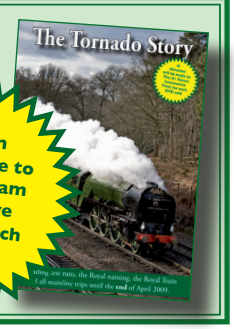
Of the modern and heritage traction tours one working stands out, which is the Class Forty Preservation Society's 'East Lancs Crusader' from Rawtenstall to Aberystwyth on 13th June. The train starts its day at Rawtenstall working south on the East Lancashire Railway (ELR) double-headed with Nos. 40145 *East Lancashire Railway* and D335 as far as Heywood, where No. D335 drops off and No. 40145 continues alone via Manchester Victoria and Shrewsbury to Aberystwyth. The return mirrors the outward journey, including double-heading on the ELR from Heywood to Rawtenstall.

Statesman Rail opens its account for 2009 with a working from Birmingham International to Carlisle with Class 67s, operating outwards via Stoke-on-Trent and Manchester Piccadilly, onwards to Bolton and then the Settle & Carlisle. After a break in Carlisle, the train returns south via the highly scenic coastal route taking in Workington, and Ravenglass. Meanwhile, Railtourer in conjunction with the WCRC, plan to be heading out of Whitby for Carlisle, picking up at intermediate stations to Middlesbrough and Darlington before heading for a northbound ascent of the S&C. After a break in Carlisle, the train will return to Whitby via the Tyne Valley route. While all this is going on the SRPS will be heading south from Glenrothes to York, prior to embarking on a clockwise circumnavigation of the Harrogate Circle back to York. West Coast Class 47s should feature on both tours.

The Tornado Story - £10.95 plus p&p

This 60-minute DVD tells the story of the project and the construction of 'Tornado'. Produced in co-operation with The A1 Steam Locomotive Trust, the DVD shows the construction, testing (both GCR & mainline) all of the mainline runs until the end of April 2009, the Royal naming and *Tornado*'s appearances at Barrow Hill & NYMR Steam Galas.

A donation will be made to The A1 Steam Locomotive Trust for each DVD sold



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Railtour industry shock as Past Time Rail is placed in liquidation

Past Time Rail, one of the best-known names in the rail charter business, has ceased trading with effect from 4th June.

Andy Staite confirmed the situation to Railway Herald on 5th June, and the company has issued a statement on its website advising that the situation had arisen by reasons beyond its control. A liquidator has been appointed and will be writing within the next 7-10 working days to everyone currently booked onto a Past Time charter. The statement adds, "we have traded for many years and many passengers have travelled with us. We are truly sorry for the disappointment and any inconvenience caused by this sad news. In the circumstances there was no more we could do". It is, of course, also a tragedy for the Staite family, following the recent death of Bernard Staite, who was so central to the creation of the steam-hauled charter market that was a speciality of Past Time as well as his children Andy and Jo.

Liquidation means that the company will be wound up and the assets disposed of, with the proceeds being distributed to the creditors. In this case, those who made their bookings by credit card should obtain a refund from the credit card provider as soon as the liquidator has confirmed the position. However, any payments made by debit card or cheques do not qualify for any such refund and those people affected will become creditors of the company. When the winding-up process is complete, the liquidator will use any surplus cash to pay the creditors a 'dividend'. As in the case of liquidations there is not normally sufficient cash available to pay each creditor in full, the dividend being expressed as so many pence for each pound owed by the company.

The situation is also a major blow to the railtour industry, as not only were Past Time one of the oldest operators in the business, whose roots go back to the very start of steam charters, but also as a specialist in 'one-off tours' that in recent years have become fewer in number due to the additional administration and costs involved in organising such trains. The wider impact remains to be seen, and depends to some extent upon the number of people who lose money on bookings as a consequence of the failure of the company. Other major creditors are likely to be DBS Schenker, Riviera Trains, Ian Riley Engineering and West Coast Railway Company, which will all have either operated trains or supplied motive power for Past Time Rail.

However, it has emerged that Past Times' 'Torbay Express' programme has been rescued, and will now operate under a new trading company known as 'Torbay Express Ltd', which was registered at Companies House on 2nd June, two days before the liquidation. The names of the directors and shareholders have not yet been recorded. It is understood that all of the summer and winter programme of the 'Torbay Express' has been secured by the new company and it will be run as previously advertised. The first train on 6th July is full, but there is sufficient spare capacity on the remaining trains for the new company to operate the series at a profit and honour all existing bookings as well. Details of these will be passed over from Past Time in due course, and new bookings are being taken by Pathfinder on a special 'Torbay Express' telephone line of 01453 834477. Pathfinder will also be operating the projected 'Armada' on 8th August, featuring A1Pacific No. 60163 *Tornado* to Plymouth, which will now run under the revised title of 'The Tamar Tornado'. All other trains on their programme must now be regarded as being cancelled. These will include the Ascot race-day specials booked for next week and also what is believed to be a fully booked ' Golden Hind', again with *Tornado*, on 11th July.

Of course questions will now be asked why this has happened, and the general economic downturn has to have played some part, although some operators are reporting quite buoyant bookings. However, for Past Time this has been a torrid year with around 40% of its booked workings being cancelled for one reason or other, with perhaps the lack of motive power being singularly the biggest factor, which accounted for last month's 'Cotton Mill', the 'Welsh Marches' last weekend, when No. 70013 *Oliver Cromwell* the proposed train engine, was possibly double-booked, together with three trains booked for No. 6024 *King Edward I* culminating with 'The Flying Carpet' that was due to operate this coming Saturday. Losing trains is an expensive business and wrecks cash flow, and such a concentration of lost workings since Easter cannot have helped matters.

Maybe also of relevance was that the booking tie-up with UK Railtours ended about two months ago, as John Farrow's organisation took the function back in-house and also launched a new web site. Previously UK Railtour charter details were accessed via the Past Time rail website.

We must now wait and see what the repercussions of the failure of Past Time will generate, which follows on from the Kingfisher affair last year. With new players having established a toehold in the market, the scene is changing anyway, but the type of tours that Past Time offered will still be greatly missed. It will be interesting to see if anyone takes up the concept of 'The Cotton Mill', for instance, especially as the value of 'The Torbay Express' has already been recognised by being acquired by Torbay Express Limited. Of more concern to charter companies in general, will be the attitude of the banks, as if they downgrade the credit rating of the railtour industry this may affect their willingness to provide the facility for charter companies to accept credit card payments for bookings.

▶ On one of the final 'Cotton Mill Express' charters to be operated by Past Time Rail, LMS 'Black 5' 4-6-0 No. 45407 *The Lancashire Fusilier* **coasts downhill towards Turton level crossing on the return leg of the 'Cotton Mill' on 18th April.**
Rod Smith

Bittern charter to raise funds for Brighton Belle project

The Brighton Belle Trust's objective is to eventually restore and return to mainline use a five-car ex-Brighton Belle Pullman EMU set.

Until now, probably not one of the most well known projects, but that is likely to change on 25th July when the Trust operates a railtour out of London King's Cross to York, featuring 'A4' No. 60019 *Bittern*, with the proceeds going to the Trust.

London King's Cross to York is not a uncommon itinerary for steam, but this tour has two notable differences; first it features *Bittern* in both directions, which except when *Tornado* is involved does not normally happen, and secondly the 'A4' will be running with its second tender for the first time on a public train. Hitherto, it has only been used on test workings, although there was an abortive plan some years ago when it could have seen use behind LMS 'Duchess' No. 6233 *Duchess of Sutherland*.

The train is due to leave King's Cross at around 09.18 and a 'fast' run is being sought. Although it is unlikely to be a non-stop run, any stops will be for operational reasons and not to take water.

In a significant gesture of support for the Trust, the use of the Mid-Hants based No. 60019 is being provided free of charge by owner Jeremy Hoskings. Additionally, following the disappointment of *Bittern* missing out on its booked working for 'The Coronation' last month, it will signal a welcome mainline return for the locomotive which has not worked on the mainline this year to-date. There is a full range of ticketing options, and Steam Dreams will be handling the bookings on 01483 209888.

For more information, visit www.brightonbelle.com. Look out for a more in-depth feature concerning The Brighton Belle Trust in a future issue.

▲ **'A4' Pacific No. 60007** *Sir Nigel Gresley* **charges through Berkswell, between Coventry and Birmingham International, on a rainy 6th June, heading Steam Dreams' 'Cathedrals Express' which it took over at Banbury. Although running to time at this point, it was caught up in a trespass incident, totally unrelated to the train, around Duddeston resulting in subsequent late running. John Whitehouse**

▼ **On 30th May, LMS 'Duchess' No. 6233** *Duchess of Sutherland* **passes traffic at speed as it climbs through the Lune Gorge with 'The Royal Scot' charter heading for Carlisle. John Robinson**

The first working into South Wales of the new 'A1' Pacific No. 60163 *Tornado* took place on 30th May when it worked Pathfinder's 'Severn Coast Express' charter. Here, the loco passes Bishton Flyover with the 12.41 Cardiff to Bristol Temple Meads charter. **Stuart Warr**

▲ The reconstruction of 4900 Class 'Hall' No. 4942 *Maindy Hall* into a 2900 Class 'Saint' is evident in this view at Didcot. Once complete, the locomotive will become No. 2999 *Lady of Legend*. **Robert Jefferys**

▼ Class 05 No. D2578, currently visiting the Middleton Railway, departs Moor Road under the M621 motoway with a mixed freight during a photographic charter on 4th June. **Stuart Chapman**

▲ Sentinel 0-4-0 *William* entered revenue earning service for the first time since restoration at the Elsecar Railway on 31st May. Much of the work on this former steelworks locomotive was undertaken during a lengthy stay at the Battlefield line, although more recently the project has been taken over and completed by Mike Blanchard at the Elsecar Steam Railway. *William* is pictured awaiting time from Elsecar station with the 15.00 service on 31st May. **Tim Chapman**

Lottery grant for Strathspey's Ivatt Mogul

The Strathspey Railway has received a £50,000 grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) to restore Ivatt 2MT Mogul No 46512 back to working order.

The loco was built for British Railways at Swindon Works in 1952, and sent to be scrapped at Barry Island when steam traction was phased out. It was salvaged and served the Strathspey line well until 2006 when it had to go out of service awaiting costly repairs.

The grant will help cover rectification to the boiler, wheels, axle boxes and other essential parts. The total work is estimated to cost around £140,000, but the HLF grant now means that work can definitely start. A group of supporters, called the 46512 Covenanters, has already raised £40,000 through lump-sum donations or regular standing orders, and the balance of the funding will be met by the Strathspey Railway Association and the Strathspey Railway Co. Ltd.

Meanwhile, the railway is looking forward to the return to service next year of restored 1899-built Caledonian Railway 812 class 0-6-0 No. 828, in its original blue livery.

Diesel gala weekend at Blaenavon in July

Blaenavon's heritage railway, the Pontypool and Blaenavon Railway, has announced details of its fourth annual diesel gala, taking place over the weekend of 26th/27th July.

This year the event will concentrate on the resident mainline diesels with no less than four locos planned to be in action. Class 73/1 No. 73128 will be in operation with the 3CEP No. 1198, while making its only planned running this year will be Class 37/0 No. 37216, which is still undergoing bodywork repairs. Joining these should be Class 31 No. D5627, if engine repairs are completed in time, and Class 37/4 No. 37421 which is due to arrive in early July. There will be single heading and 'top and tail' running while 'driver for a fiver' will be in operation from Platform 2 at Furnace Sidings with the '73' and the '37s'. Services will run from 10.00 each day and following this there will be 'top and tail' ECS runs to Blaenavon High Level and back on the yet to open extension. Saturday should feature both '37s' while Sunday will be a '37' and the '31'. Timetables will be available online nearer the date.

One train, three locos, four coaches on ELR!

◀ Three different liveries, three different sub-classes! Class 37/4 No. 37418 *Pectinade*, **leads Class 37/9 No. 37901** *Mirrlees Pioneer* **and Class 37/0 No. 37109 through Burrs on 30th May with the 16.50 Heywood to Ramsbottom service. Jonathan Stevenson**

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Limited Edition Print Commemorating the 50th Anniversary of No. 60007 *Sir Nigel Gresley's* Post War Speed Record

The Sir Nigel Gresley Locomotive Preservation Trust Ltd receives £5 from each print sold

This extremely detailed print shows *Sir Nigel Gresley* in the condition it achieved 112mph on 23rd May 1959 hauling the Stephenson Locomotive Society's Special.
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▲ LMS 4F 0-6-0 No. 44422 is pictured between Bridges 36 and 37 on the Churnet Valley Railway on a short rake of Mk1 and Mk2 coaches on 26th May. **David Gibson**

Colas Rail Class 47/7s Nos. 47727 *Rebecca* **& 47749** *Demelza* **power the Thursdays-only 13.05 Burton-on-Trent to Dollands Moor steel service through Lower Basildon on 4th June. Ken Brunt**

First GBRf has commenced a new gypsum flow, running from Fiddlers Ferry Power Station, near Warrington, to Kirkby Thore on the Settle & Carlisle line. Class 66/7 No. 66712 passes under Warrington Bank Quay with the 10.49 Fiddlers Ferry Power Station-Newbiggin service on 2nd June. **Anthony Roberts**

Line-ups at rest and at work

◀ **Several pairs of South West Trains Class 455 Suburban EMUs and Class 450 'Desiro' EMUs are joined by a pair of Class 159 DMUs lining up in the yard at Clapham Junction in late May, awaiting the start of the evening rush hour. Nik Clarke**

▼ **A trio of Virgin Pendolino's are observed at Stafford on 30th May, as Class 390 No. 390044** *Virgin Lionheart* **awaits departure for Liverpool, No. 390038** *City of London* **speeds through non-stop with the 12.30 London Euston to Glasgow Central and No. 390007** *Virgin Lady* **patiently awaits departure time for London Euston having arrived with the 12.48 service from Liverpool. David Wragg**

Long Marston Open Weekend raises several thousand for charity

The ex-MOD site at Long Marston, now operated by Motorail Logistics, held a successful open weekend on 6th/7th June.

The enthusiasm of visitors was dampened slightly by bad weather on the first of the two days, but the event has raised several thousand for the preferred charity 'Help for Heroes'. A wide range of motive power was on display during the event, with the main attractions being the EuroPhoenix-liveried Class 86/2 No. 86247 and Electric Traction red and grey-liveried Class 86/2 No. 86260, as well as the numerous locomotives currently stored on site. In addition, several exhibits returning from the recent Eastleigh Works Centenary event, Class 47/4 No. 47580 *County of Essex*, Class 50 No. 50026 *Indomitable*, Class 50/1 No. 50135 *Ark Royal* and Class 73/0 No. 73006, together with visiting GBRf Class 66/7 No. 66730 and Virgin Trains Class 57/3 'Thunderbird' No. 57307 *Lady Penelope* were on display.

Operational problems hit the shuttle service (which was 'topped and tailed' by Hunslet 0-6-0ST No. 15 *Earl Clarke* and Class 04-lookalike No. 11230, the latter of which was built to the same specification as the BR Class 04s, but spent its life working at Willington Power Station) on the Saturday after a minor derailment, which was corrected in time for the Sunday operations.

▶ **Europhoenix-liveried Class 86/2 No. 86247 stands on display. Both: Brian Morrison**

▼ **A multiude of liveries can be seen as several Class 86/2s form a line-up .**

▲ Virgin Trains kindly provided Class 57/3 No. 57307 *Lady Penelope* for the event. **Ken Brunt**

▲ Tyseley-resident Class 47/4 No. 47580 stands with a pair of Class 87s. **Jack Boskett**

▼ Visiting Class 73/0 No. 73006 stands alongside recently arrived Class 86/2 No. 86233, seen displaying its pre-TOPS No. E3172. This locomotive was previously named *Alstom Heritage*. **Brian Morrison**

▲ Shuttles around the site were in 'top and tail' formation with Hunslet 0-6-0ST No. 15, pictured here, and Class 04-lookalike No. 11230. **Ken Brunt**

◀ Class 50s Nos. 50135 *Ark Royal* and 50026 *Indomitable*. **Jack Boskett**

▼ Class 86/2 No. 86260 shows off its new ETL colours. **Brian Morrison**

◀ Freightliner Poland 'Euro 66' locomotive No. 66001 passes Berlin Schonefeld Airport station on a rake of 'big boxes' on 26th May. **Anthony Roberts**

▼ Vossloh G2000 locomotive No. V204 of Rurtalbahn, equipped with a full width cab, passes Empel-Rees station, on the line between Wesel and Emmerich, on 12th May heading west towards the Netherlands. In tow and obviously on delivery to NS High-Speed is one of the new AnsaldoBreda 'Albatros' high-speed trainsets for the new HSL-Zuid line between Brussels and Amsterdam, believed to be the second such set to be delivered. **Les Peters**

Linesiding German Style!

The DB rail network is one that presents a fascinating scene to enthusiasts both within Germany and from the United Kingdom.

The variety of locomotive types and a number of passenger services that remain loco-hauled add significantly to the interest factor.

▶ **Class 155 electric No. 155 183, carrying the Railion (DB Logistics) colours, passes Koln West on 7th May.**

▼▶ **One of the Class 218 diesel locos arrives at Koln West from the opposite direction later the same day.**

▼ **With open access having been introduced onto the German rail network, a number of operators can now be seen. Bombardier Traxx Class 145 No. 145014, working for HGK, passes with a rake of car transporters. All: Les Peters**

▲ Although classed by a number of people as yard or 'trip' locomotives the G2000 series Bo-Bo locomotives, built by Vossloh are equally at home on mainline freight workings as demonstrated here. No. DH752, built in 2002 and previously having been ERS No. 2001, is now employed by HGK, and in early May is pictured passing Koln West with a rake of coal hoppers in tow. The off-centre cabs, creating a strange appearance to this type of locomotive.

▼◀ Another form of traction is this DE1002 built by MaK. Running as No. 275 501 and operated by Chemion, the loco is pictured here, passing Koln West with a chemical working.

▼ Following shortly after was a further member of the type on an intermodal working, this time, No. DE94, a DE1002 built in 1987, now working for HGK. **All: Les Peters**

1st June 2009

RCTS (Ashford Branch)
The Elwick Club, Church Road, Ashford. 'A Digital Extravaganza' Branch Members. Starts 19.30.

RCTS (Northampton Branch)
East Midland Day Ranger. (depart 1st northbound train after 09.30 from Wellingborough). Contact D.Pick on 01604 810613 for further details.

2nd June 2009

Gravesend Railway Enthusiasts Society
Emmanuel Baptist Church, Windmill Street, Gravesend, DA12 1BB. 'Kent & East Sussex Railway' by Graham Baldwin. Meeting commences at 19.45. Contact Roger Hart on 01474 833320 for details.

Locomotive Club of Great Britain (Bedford Branch)
St John's Church Hall, St John's Street, Bedford. 'Abandoned Stations of the London Underground' by Jim Connor. Meeting starts at 19.30.

Locomotive Club of Great Britain (Croydon Branch)
United Reformed Church Hall, Addiscombe Grove, East Croydon. 'Half a Century Ago' by Charles Firminger. Meeting starts 19.15.

Locomotive Club of Great Britain (North London Branch)
Wood Green Labour Club, 3 Stuart Crescent, Wood Green, London N22 5NJ. Members Slides Evening. Meeting commences at 19.30.

Permanent Way Institution (Wessex Branch)
Technical Visit to the Bluebell Railway. Contact the Secretary, Richard Workman on 01428 645771 or by e-mail at richardworkman5@tiscali.co.uk for further details.

RCTS (Watford Branch)
St. Thomas's United Reformed Church, Langley Road, Watford. 'French Railways - The Advent of the TGV' by Michael Burn. Starts 19.30.

Southern Electric Group (South Hampshire Branch)
Eastleigh Railway Institute, Romsey Road, Eastleigh. Members' Slides. Starts 19.30. Contact John Goodrich on 023 8067 0028 for details.

Weston super Mare Railway Society
The Function Room, The Conservative Club, Alexandra Parade, Weston super Mare. '30 Years on Railways' by Robin White, The Chairman of the WSRA. Starts 20.00. Contact Lionel Jones on 01934 628289 for further details.

3rd June 2009

Burton Railway Society
Marston's Social Club, Shobnall Road, Burton upon Trent. "The Popular Annual Railway Quiz' by Dave Hook. Meeting commences at 19.30. Admission £1.50 non members. Contact Mark Ratcliffe on 01283 221537 for further details.

Permanent Way Institution (Thames Valley Branch)
Davidson House, Reading. 'P'Way of the Swindon and Crickdale Railway' by Clive Thompson. Starts 17.45. Contact, Peter Simmons at peter181102@yahoo.co.uk for details

4th June 2009

GC Railway Society (Rotherham Branch)
The Three Horseshoes, Bawtry Road, Wickersley, Rotherham S66 2BW. 'My 1060s Slides and the Back Door to Russia in 1942' by Robin Patrick. Stsrts 19.30. Contact Mick Hayes on 01709 820544 for further details

RCTS (Bristol Branch)
Afternoon and Evening Observations at Newport Station. Contact Paul Udey on 01225 427779 or by e-mail at paul.udey@talktalk.net for details.

5th June 2009

Slough & Windsor Railway Society
The Manor, Slough West Car Park, Slough Railway Station, Brunel Way, Slough. 'Memories of 81B' by Brian Maynard. Start 19.30. Contact John Coke on 01753 860567 for details.

6th June 2009

Permanent Way Institution
(Darlington and North East, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Lancaster, Barrow and Carlisle, Manchester and Liverpool Branches)
The Lakes Court, Carlisle.
Annual Inter Section Quiz. Meeting commences at 13.30. Contact Dave Lugsden on 01904 389838.

8th June 2009

Permanent Way Institution (London Branch)
10th Floor Restaurant, 55 Broadway (LUL HQ), London St James Park tube. 'Victoria Line Upgrade' by John Hardy. Doors open at 17.30 for 18.00. Contact Alison Stansfield on 07703 326080 for details.

Southern Electric Group (Sussex Branch)
The Deall Room, Southwick Community Centre.
'Current Signalling in the Brighton Area' by David Larkin. Meeting commences at 19.30. Donation of £2 requested. Contact Bruce Cakebread on 01273 462094 for further details.

9th June 2009

Abergavenny and District Steam Society
Upper Room, The Hen & Chickens, Flannel Street, Abergavenny 'Back for the Future with 1054' by Pete Skellon. Starts 20.00. Contact the Secretary, Ken Mumford at ken.mumford@ntlworld.com for details.

RCTS (Merseyside Branch)
Afternoon and Evening Observation at Warrington Bank Quay Station. Contact Geoff Morris on 01244 376808 or by e-mail at geoffreymorris@tiscali.com.

10th June 2009

Basingstoke & District Railway Society
Wote St Club, New Road, Basingstoke.
'Gosling's Gallivants' by Paul Gosling. Meeting starts at 20.00. Visitors welcome. Contact the Secretary on 01256 326096 for details.

Grimsby and Cleethorpes Railway Group
Royal Air Force Club, 5 Alexandra Road, Cleethorpes DN35 8LQ. 'The A-Z of Football Club Railway Connections' by Colin Briggs. Meeting commences at 19.30. Contact Mike Hartley on 01724 341358 for further details.

RCTS (Hitchin Branch)
;Hitchin Christian Centre, Bedford Road, Hitchin. 'Wolverton & Stony Stratford Tramway' by Bob Ayres. 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). 'Switzerland 1989' by Nick Freezer. Meeting commences at 19.00. A £2 donation is requested. Contact Ron Dawes on 020 8660 3532 for details.

11th June 2009

Continental Rly Circle
St Paul's Church Centre, Rossmore Road, Marylebone, London NW1 6NJ. Business Meeting followed by 'Railways of Scandinavia' by Donald Wilson. Starts 19.15. Contact Adrian Palmer on 01932 850624 for details.

12th June 2009

Slough & Windsor Railway Society
The Manor, Slough West Car Park, Slough Railway Station, Brunel Way, Slough. 'The Prisoner - D.R.P.K.' by Robin Rattery. Starts 19.30. Contact John Coke on 01753 860567 details.

13th June 2009

Bournemouth Rly Club
All Purpose Room, Winton Methodist Community Centre, junction of Alma Road and Heron Court Road, Bournemouth. 'Slides from the John Bailey Collection' by Bert Moody. Meeting commences at 14.30.

Great Central Railway Society (London Euston Branch)
Visit - Mangapps Farm Railway' Meet at Liverpool Street Station Travel Centre at 09.15.

RCTS (Northampton Branch)
Visit to Spa Valley Railway by Mini Bus. Contact D.Pick on 01604 810613 for further details.

15th June 2009

Great Central Railway Society (Spinkhill Branch)
The Angel Hotel, 26 College Road, Spinkhill, Sheffield S21 3YB. 'From Somewhere to Nowhere' by Fred Coupland. Meeting commences at 19.30. Contact Frank Greaves on 01909 473927 for further details.

Should your society information be listed on this page?

If so, then please email the details to the editor, remembering to include the date, starting time and location, together with details of the event, speaker and entrance charges if applicable.

It is not necessary, but helpful to people, if you can also include a contact name and phone number/email address for the organisation that can be published.

Railway Herald reserves the right to edit details entered in this section, which may also be displayed on our online events diary. The information is believed to be correct at the time of publication.

Internet Links

Links to the various society websites can be found on the website, or by clicking here.

▼ **Far away from the London Underground! Metronet-liveried Class 66/7 No. 66721** *Harry Beck* **passes Seaton Carew, on the Durham Coast, in full sun on 29th May, while working the Butterwell to Daw Mill loaded coal service. Michael J. Alderdice**

RCTS (Northampton Branch)
Line-side Observation at Bedford Station from 17.00. Contact D.Pick on 01604 810613 for further details.

RCTS (Shenfield Branch)
Shenfield Parish Hall, 80 Hutton Road, Shenfield. 'Photocharters UK' by Adrian Palmer. Starts 19.30.

16th June 2009
Monmouthshire Railway Society
Room LL1, UWCN, Allt-Yr-Yn Ave, Newport, South Wales. 'Railways Around E.Devon and the Exe Valley' by Peter Gray. Meeting starts at 19.30. Admission: non-members £3. .

17th June 2009
Burton Railway Society
Marston's Social Club, Shobnall Road, Burton upon Trent Natter Night 'A Practical Guide & Demonstration of Constructing Buildings for Model Railways' by David Wright. Starts 19.30. Contact Mark Ratcliffe on 01283 221537 or for further details.

18th June 2009
Barrow Hill Engine Shed Society
Barrow Hill Roundhouse.
'Around the World by Motorcycle - The Pan American Highway' by Paul Pratt. Doors open 19.00 for 19.30 start. Admission: members £1.50, non members £2.00

Breconshire Railway Society
R.A.F.A.Club, The Struet, Brecon '6000 'The King' at Bulmers, Hereford' by Len Roberts. Meeting commences at 19.30. Contact the Secretary, Arthur Robinson on 01982 560219 for further details

Marlow and District Railway Society
British Red Cross Society, Victoria Road, Marlow.
'A Beginner's Guide to British Railway Signalling - part 1' by Mike Walker. Doors open 19.45 for 20.00 start. Non-members admission £2

RCTS (Bristol Branch)
Visit to the Avon Valley Country Park 5" Minature Railway. Contact the branch secretary, Paul Udey, on 01225 427779 or by e-mail at paul.udey@talktalk.net for further details.

RCTS (Thames Valley Branch)
Observation & Photography at Reading Station (for Ascot Trains). Contact the branch secretary Murray Lewis on 0118 942 6681 or by e-mail at murraylewis@hotmail.co.uk for further details.

RCTS (West Riding)
Visit to Shipley Glen Tramway and Evening Meal. Contact Malcolm Riley on 01274 589488 or mobile on 07887 908501 for further details.

Great Western Society (Taunton Branch)
The Village Hall, Stoke St. Mary, Nr. Taunton. 'Railways of the Exe and Culm Valleys' by Mike Pym. Meeting commences at 19.30.

19th June 2009
Great Western Society (Taunton Branch)
Village Hall, Stoke St.Mary, Nr Taunton.
'Railways of the Exe and Culm Valleys' by Mike Pym. Meeting commences at 19.30.

Slough & Windsor Railway Society
The Manor, Slough West Car Park, Slough Railway Station, Brunel Way, Slough. 'More Trams & Trolleys' by Graham Bilbe. Meeting commences at 19.30. Contact John Coke on 01753 860567 for further details.

20th June 2009
RCTS (West Riding Branch)
Day out to Liverpool & visit Merseyside Tramway Preservation Centre. Contact Malcolm Riley on 01274 589488 or mobile 07887 908501 for further details.

21st June 2009
RCTS (West Riding Branch)
Crewe Basford Hall at 12.00hrs. Contact Malcolm Riley on 01274 589488 or mobile 07887 908501 for further details.

24th June 2009
Basingstoke & District Railway Society
Wote St Club, New Road, Basingstoke. '1000 Eggs on a Bicycle' by Colin Boocock. Meeting commences at 20.00. Visitors welcome. Contact the Secretary on 01256 326096 for further details.

25th June 2009
Mid Hants Railway Preservation Society (Thames Valley Branch)
The Church House, Church Street, Caversham. 'History of Wokingham Station' by Jack Meatcher. Doors open 19.30 for 19.45 start.

RCTS (Bristol Branch)
Afternoon & Evening Observation at Westbury Station. Contact Paul Udey on 01225 427779 or by e-mail at paul.udey@talktalk.net for details.

26th June 2009
Slough & Windsor Railway Society
The Manor, Slough West Car Park, Slough Railway Station, Brunel Way. 'Memorabilia of Windsor Railways'. Starts 19.30. Contact John Coke on 01753 860567 for further details.

27th June 2009
RCTS (West Riding Branch)
Visit Falsgrave Signal Box and North Bay Railway. Contact Malcolm Riley on 01274 589488 for further details.

29th June 2009
RCTS (Northampton Branch)
West Midland Day Ranger and visit to the RAF Museum, Cosford. Contact D.Pick on 01604 810613 .

1st July 2009
Burton Railway Society
Marston's Social Club, Shobnall Road, Burton upon Trent.
'Preserved Locomotives of the LMS and The North Briton Rail Tour' by Alan Price. Meeting commences at 19.30. Contact Mark Ratcliffe on 01283 221537.

6th July 2009
RCTS (Ashford Branch)
The Elwick Club, Church Road, Ashford. 'Cairnryan Military Port and Diesel Locos of WW2' by Mike Walshaw. Meeting starts at 19.30.

Swanage Railway (Bath Area)
St John's Church Hall, St John's Road, Bathwick, Bath. 'Isle of Wight Transport Roundup' by Malcolm Tong. Meeting commences at 19.30. Admission £1. Contact John Lakey on 01225 315918 for further details.

7th July 2009
Gravesend Railway Enthusiasts Society
Emmanuel Baptist Church, Windmill Street, Gravesend, DA12 1BB.
'The Art of Railway Photography' by Alan Crotty. Starts 19.45. Contact Roger Hart on 01474 833320.

8th July 2009
RCTS (Hitchin Branch)
Hitchin Christian Centre, Bedford Park.
'Rebuilding the Welsh Highland Railway' by Andy Savage. 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).
'Countries Bordering Switzerland. Members Slides. Meeting commences at 19.00. A £2 donation is requested. Contact Ron Dawes on 020 8660 3532 for further details.

9th July 2009
Continental Railway Circle
St.Paul's Church Centre, Rossmore Road, Marylebone, London nW1 6NJ.
'White Pass and Yukon Railway' by Philip Wormald. Meeting commences at 19.15. Admission £2.00. Contact Adrian Palmer on 01932 850624 or by e-mail at akpalmer@talktalk.net for further details.

10th July 2009
RCTS (West Riding Branch)
Peterborough, Nene Valley Railway - March by Mini Bus. Contact Malcolm Riley on 01274 589488 or by e-mail at bigmal.w.b.r.rcts@talk21.com for further details.

11th July 2009
Bournemouth Rly Club
All Purpose Room, Winton Methodist Community Centre, junction of Alma Road and Heron Court Road, Bournemouth. 'Colour-Rail in Person' by Ron White. Meeting commences at 14.30. Admission charge £2.

RCTS (Northampton Branch)
Visit to the Battlefield Line by Mini Bus. Contact D. Pick on 01604 810613 or by e-mail at northampton@rcts.org for further details.

RCTS (West Riding Branch)
Colne Valley Railway, Ipswich by Mini Bus. Contact Malcolm Riley on 01274 589488 for further details.

12th July 2009
RCTS (West Riding Branch)
Norwich Ckrown Point and Mid Norfolk Railway by Mini Bus. Contact Malcolm Riley on 01274 589488 or by e-mail on at bigmal.w.b.r.rcts@talk21.com for further details.

13th July 2009
RCTS (Northampton Branch)
Line-side Observation at Kings Sutton Station from 17.00hours. Contact D. Pick on 01604 810613 or by e-mail at northampton@rcts.org for further details.

Back Issues

All of the back issues of the magazine are available 24 hours a day, on our website **www.railwayherald.com**

Rear Cover Caption

Class 57/0 No. 57007 leads Class 37/6 No. 37682 and preserved Class 37/0 No. 37025 and Class 47/4 No. 47643 across Dent Head viaduct bound for Keighley. Stuart Chapman

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