Railway Herald

Issue 221 - 10th May 2010

The electronic journal for the railway enthusiast

Railway Herald

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10th May 2010

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Eyrl Crump

Class 70 'Powerhaul' visits the North Wales Coast

The first recorded working of a Class 70 to Penmaenmawr took place on 27th April, when Class 70 No. 70002 worked the daily aggregates service for Network Rail from Crewe Basford Hall. The locomotive returned to Crewe after loading.

Full story on Page 4

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Northern Rail marked 35 years of the Lancashire DalesRail service at Clitheroe in early May by naming a Class 156 DMU.
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Light Rail & Metro News
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Mainline Steam Reader Offer
Railway Herald and the Amethyst Experience have teamed up to offer readers a discount on the forthcoming *Tornado* trip to Bath & Bristol
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News from the charter scene, with comprehensive tour listings.

Front Cover Caption:

Following the official opening on 27th April, the East London Line has now reopened with a special service between Dalston Junction and New Cross/New Cross Gate. On 28th April, Class 378 No. 378152 approaches Hoxton carrying an opening day headboard. Stuart Chapman

▲ In addition to refurbishment taking place to Southeastern's Networkers at both Doncaster and Wolverton, the Class 465/2s, 465/9s & 466s are having refresher exams undertaken at Gillingham Depot. Each unit is there for 24 hours, all seat covers being changed and floors heavily cleaned. A team of three carriage and wagon fitters from Slade Green, Depot are also there to change any faulty windows, panels and seat shells, and advert frames are also being changed by contractors. Externally the units are being heavily cleaned and then polished. The toilets are also being checked and any faults repaired. One unit that has obviously been attended to in this way is '465/9' No. 465908, here forming the 09.58 service from London Victoria to Gillingham and passing Shortlands on 17th April. **Brian Morrison**

Car park and platform improvements for Dore station

Hopes are rising for drastic improvements to Dore station to keep track with the growing numbers of passengers.

The station could be doubled in size to meet passenger and freight demand, with a new platform, footbridge, car park and a ticket machine. Network Rail is proposing to lay extra track at Dore Junction, and passing loops in Grindleford and Hope, to increase capacity on the line. The works would involve a new platform being built opposite the current one, with a footbridge to meet disability legislation. Already South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive has bought the former garden company site to turn the area into a station car park with 100 spaces, relieving pressure on the existing small station car park and surrounding roads where residents have complained about commuter parking. Subject to funding, the new platform and track are scheduled for 2014.

In February this year, a study was published that called for a £530 million investment in rail in the North of England over the next 10 years, including a 40% increase in trains each day. The TransPennine route between Sheffield and Manchester has been highlighted as one of the most overcrowded in the region. Northern Rail, which runs the unmanned station, has said if passenger 'footfall' increases, it could install a ticket machine. At present commuters from Dore can travel free to Sheffield if a conductor does not approach them before the nine-minute journey ends. Scores jam onto the two-carriage trains each morning.

Plans for Reading go on public display

A public exhibition of the plans for Reading station is to be held in Reading Town Hall from Thursday 20th to Saturday 22nd May, except on the Thursday evening when it will transfer to the station.

The Network Rail's scheme sponsor for the project, Tony Walker, said: "The work we are doing in Reading is one of the biggest pieces of railway investment anywhere in the country right now. I urge everyone who lives in Reading or uses the station to come along to the Town Hall and find out about the benefits and how they are affected by our plans".

There are schemes to build five extra platforms and two new entrances connected by a new footbridge, in an effort to relieve congestion for passengers. New lifts and escalators will also make it easier to get about the station. The station will close over the Christmas period to enable much of the first phase of work to take place. In addition, there will be construction of a viaduct to untangle the tracks to the west of the station, boosting capacity and cutting delays. Network Rail engineers and project managers will be on hand at the Town Hall exhibition to answer questions about the future for Reading's railway, and the benefits for the travelling public.

35 year anniversary of DalesRail marked

The Lancashire DalesRail service has been running since 1975, and links Lancashire with Carlisle, travelling through the Ribble Valley, Yorkshire Dales and Eden Valley.

The DalesRail service, which attracts many walkers, was celebrated on 30th April, when Northern Rail Class 156 No. 156464 was named *Lancashire DalesRail* at Clitheroe by Matthew Beeton, Area Director of Northern Rail, and Richard Watts, Rail Projects Officer for Lancashire County Council.

▼ On 30th April, Class 156 No. 156464 is pictured at Whalley while working the 15.26 Clitheroe - Manchester Victoria service. **Both: Fred Kerr**

New Carriage Washing Plant at Ilford

As part of the already announced National Express East Anglia Service Improvement Plan, a new £1.1 million Carriage Washing Machine has been installed by Birse on Road 20 of Ilford Maintenance Depot yards.

The washer will help to improve the quality of the exterior cleaning of the company's EMU fleet, which is to be increased by 188 new and additional carriages to increase peak travelling capacity at Liverpool Street by 11,000 seats. This increase will be achieved by the construction of 30 four-car Class 379 EMUs and the transfer in of 17 additional Class 321s that were previously with London Midland.

The Class 379s will be introduced on Stansted Express and London-Cambridge services late in 2011, and the additional '321s', some of which are already in service, are expected to be in traffic by the end of this year.

Also under the Service Improvement Plan, a further new carriage washer is to be installed at the Orient Way servicing facility.

▲ How the new Class 379 EMUs will look. National Express East Anglia

▼ The view of the new £1.1 million Birse carriage washing machine installed in Road 20 at Ilford Maintenance Depot yards. Brian Morrison

Permanent revamp on the cards for Carlisle station

Plans have been submitted to Carlisle City Council for a £550,000 revamp of passenger facilities at Citadel station, partly funded through a £10,000 contribution by the Friends of the Settle & Carlisle line, the work including a completely new passenger waiting area towards the southern end of the platform.

There are three main areas of work, covering two seating areas and a waiting room. The station recently underwent a transformation as part of a television ad but the new plans are on a more permanent basis, and will provide both extra seating and shelter from the winds. The new seating area will be created at the head of Platforms 5 & 6, where trains for the Carlisle to Settle line and that from Carlisle to Newcastle depart. It will be surrounded on three sides by a low stone-clad wall topped with glazed screens to cut out draughts.

At the other end of the platform the existing waiting area will be refurbished, the red hoops that define the seating area and restrict access to the platform will be removed and a new 'totem' will be provided for train service information and the station clock.

▼ A computer mock-up of how the new waiting area will look. Network Rail

▼ The first visit of a Class 70 to the North Wales coast line took place on 27th April, when No. 70002 worked empty box wagons to Penmaenmawr for loading, prior to returning to Crewe. In this view, the return loaded service passes through Llandudno Junction that afternoon. Garnedd Jones

Metro and Light Rail News

New tram and rail interchange approved

Plans for a new tram and rail interchange at Gogar, near Edinburgh, estimated to cost £43 million, have been rubber-stamped by Edinburgh Council.

The work to link Edinburgh-Fife rail services with the new tramway system is set to get under way this autumn and is scheduled for completion in around 12 months.

Councillors backed the plans, despite some concerns about Network Rail not being willing to make an underpass that forms part of the scheme available for use by pedestrians and cyclists 24-hours a day.

Located east of the Gogar roundabout, where the railway travels under the A8 Glasgow road, the station will be the main rail link to Edinburgh airport for Fife residents, with passengers transferring to trams for the final leg of the journey.

Court finds serious Health & Safety issues in Serco Docklands rail operations

Serco Limited, the operator of the Docklands Light Railway, has been found guilty of failing to stop a train after a passenger fell onto the track. A jury at Southwark Crown Court found Serco guilty of a serious Health & Safety offence following a prosecution brought by the Office of Rail Regulation (ORR).

The incident resulted in the death of a member of the public who fell onto the track and was struck by a train. The ORR prosecution followed the incident that occurred in April 2007 at All Saints station. During an altercation with another person on the platform, the victim was pushed and fell onto the track, where a short time later he was struck by a train and fatally injured.

The ORR carried out a full investigation and found that Serco had an inadequate procedure in place for stopping trains in an emergency. The company allowed control room staff to decide whether to stop trains based partly on CCTV images. The CCTV system was not designed or intended for this purpose. Following ORR's enforcement action, Serco has made changes to its procedure to ensure that such an incident should never happen again.

The case is due for sentencing on 12th May.

Test run for *Sarah Siddons* before Rickmansworth Canal Festival heritage workings

Britain's oldest working main line electric locomotive, the ex-Metropolitan Railway No. 12 *Sarah Siddons*, will be in action on 16th May on a series of shuttles between Harrow-on-the-Hill and Amersham, in conjunction with the Rickmansworth Festival.

A total of four round trips will be made commencing with a special working from Harrow-on-the-Hill at 10.26 to Watford (10.50/10.58), and then via the north curve to Rickmansworth (11.09) and Amersham, where it is due to arrive at 11.22. The return departs Amersham at 11.57 and runs directly back to Harrow-on-the-Hill. Trains will then leave Harrow-on-the-Hill at 12.42 for Rickmansworth only (returning at 13.14), 13.42 to Rickmansworth and Amersham (returning at 14.57) and finally 15.42 again to Rickmansworth and Amersham, returning at 16.19. It is understood that except for the first run, *Sarah Siddons* will be positioned on the north end of the trains, which will operate in 'top and tail' mode with a pair of Class 20s. Special tickets are available and must be pre-booked either on-line at www.ltmuseum.co.uk or by telephoning 020 7565 7298.

A vintage bus service featuring one of the London Transport Museum's Routemaster 'double-deckers' will connect the Festival site at Batchworth Lock with Rickmansworth station. The museum also reports that its famed 1938 Tube stock is currently unavailable as it is in need of repairs to the motor suspension, and two planned events featuring the stock have had to be postponed. It is hoped to have the problem rectified soon. Additionally, it is believed that *Sarah Siddons* will also be operating on 12th May on a train organised for disadvantaged children.

▼ **London Underground operated a test train on 7th May with Metropolitan Railway No. 12 *Sarah Siddons* working LULs 4TC set in 'top and tail' formation with Class 20s Nos. 20142 and 20227. The working was in preparation for a heritage train operation on 16th May in conjunction with the Rickmansworth Canal Festival. Here, the train approaches Harrow-on-the-HIll with a northbound working. Kim Rennie**

▲ The first Class 172/0 Turbostar off the Bombardier construction line at Derby Litchurch Lane began a series of test runs on 5th May. Forming the 12.44 from London Euston to Milton Keynes and back, London Overground's No. 172001 passes South Kenton with the outward working. **Brian Morrison**

Wrexham & Shropshire celebrate two years of successful operations

The Wrexham, Shropshire & Marylebone celebrated the second anniversary since the introduction of its direct service between Wrexham and London started on 28th April 2008.

The company's quality of service has been recognised by passengers, having recently achieved a 98% customer satisfaction rating in this year's National Passenger Survey, the highest rating in the survey's history, no doubt helped by a fares freeze for 2010, which means that passengers can still travel direct from Wrexham to London and back for just £53 or from Shrewsbury for £40. In addition, passengers can 'buy-on-board' at no extra cost or choose to have their tickets delivered to their mobile phone. They can even print their tickets out at home instead of waiting for them to be delivered.

Most of Wrexham & Shropshire staff are local recruits and many have worked with the company from the start.

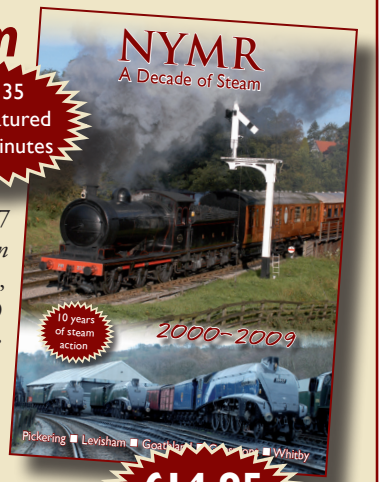
Train manager, Richard Rayworth is pleased to help celebrate the company's second anniversary, saying: "I know from the feedback we get day-to-day that our customers really appreciate the service we provide. It's not only about a train service, we are genuinely proud to offer a friendly face, sound travel advice and delicious food on-board. We're thrilled to share the anniversary with our passengers".

NYMR: *A Decade of Steam*

Charting the steam action on the NYMR between 2000 and 2009, this 100 minute long DVD programme features over 35 different steam locomotives hard at work on the line.

The engines featured include: GWR 3440 *City of Truro*, 4277 and 6619. SR 825, 32678, 34028 *Eddystone*, 34081 *92 Squadron* and 34101 *Hartland*. LMS 44767 *George Stephenson*, 45212, 45407, 49395 and 53809. LNER 60007 *Sir Nigel Gresley*, 60009 *Union of South Africa*, 60019 *Bittern*, 60163 *Tornado*, 60532 *Blue Peter*, 60800 *Green Arrow*, 61264, 61994 *The Great Marquess*, 62005, 63395 and 65462. BR 70013 *Oliver Cromwell*, 75014, 75029, 76079 and 90775. ***Running time: 100 minutes***

Over 35 locos featured in 100 minutes



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■ Plans for the redevelopment of Dalmarnock station in the East End of Glasgow have received a £2.8 million funding boost from the European Regional Development Fund. When completed, the station will not only provide additional transport services for the Commonwealth Games in 2014, but will also help support regeneration of the wider Dalmarnock area. Project partners Transport Scotland, Glasgow City Council, Strathclyde Partnership for Transport, Clyde Gateway and Network Rail are currently working on the preferred options for the upgrade.

■ South West Trains is to invest £2.2 million to fit regenerative braking to more than 200 units, starting with the fleet of 30 Class 458 Juniper EMUs, with the first two now starting to test the technology in service on the Waterloo-Guildford and Waterloo-Reading routes. Energy produced by a standard train braking is currently lost, but the regenerative system returns electricity to the third rail system, allowing trains in close proximity to draw on the electrical supply. The whole fleet of Class 458s is expected to be fitted with the new software by the end of this month, when the system will then be started on the 172 Class 444 and 450 Desiro EMUs.

■ Transport for London (TfL) has purchased the remaining PPP contractor, Tube Lines, at a price of £310 million. The deal ends more than seven years of the PPP, which has been widely criticised as a costly way of upgrading London Underground. The relationship between TfL and Tube Lines had broken down in recent months, with a funding gap of more than £400 million between what Tube Lines said its work should cost and what TfL was willing to pay. TfL was also highly critical of Tube Lines' performance on the Jubilee Line upgrade, which is running months behind schedule. TfL has promised that the funding gap will now be closed and that upgrades of other lines, including the Northern Line, will now proceed with much less disruption than previously planned. Tube Lines, which is a consortium of the infrastructure companies Amey and Bechtel, have yet to comment, but Amey will still continue to provide management and day-to-day maintenance on some lines, but Bechtel will exit the Underground, and the Capital works will return in-house.

■ A major upgrade of Cheadle Hulme station has received the go-ahead following talks between Network Rail and Stockport Borough Council. Work should start on site in late autumn, and when completed, passengers will have direct access from the station car park to Platform 4 and to lifts and an over-bridge linking all platforms. A lift tower will be built on Platform 4 and there will be steps and a lift leading up from the car park directly onto the platform. There will also be staircases to the over-bridge from all platforms. The project is expected to be completed in summer 2011.

Individual bravery and Cuffley extension marked

▲ **Formed of Class 313s Nos. 313056 & 313036, the 14.52 FCC service from Hertford North to Moorgate arrives at Gordon Hill on 27th April, as classmate No. 313035 departs for Hertford North.**
◀ **The plaque at Gordon Hill. All: Brian Morrison**

A plaque to commemorate the centenary of the Great Northern Railway route extension from Grange Park to Cuffley in April 1910 has been unveiled.

The plaque is located in the ticket hall of Gordon Hill station and was officially unveiled on 27th April by the former Chief Executive of London Travel Watch, Rufus Barnes, whose name is on the bodysides of Class 365 Networker Express No 365536.

Apparently, the extension was not particularly popular and its initial use was minimal. Then, during World War I in 1916, a German airship was shot down over Cuffley by Captain William Leefe Robinson, a feat for which he was awarded the Victoria Cross. Straight away, the line was put to considerably better use by people wanting to visit the stricken airship, and seemingly it has remained popular ever since! Following the plaque being unveiled, the remarkable number of local residents in attendance were ushered onto the station bay platform, where First Capital Connect Class 313/0 No 313054 was named *Captain William Leefe Robonson V.C.* by a distant relative of the pilot.

▼ **FCC Managing Director Neal Lawson looks on as Mrs Elizabeth Robinson Scott Jordan, unveils the nameplate of her distant relative on Class 313 No. 313054.**

Southern creates info zones

A new project is underway by Southern to improve the way in which passengers get information at stations, every station on the network presenting service news in logical zones, rather than where space currently permits.

A major de-clutter of non-essential signs and posters is taking place, and stations will display useful information that is grouped together in logical areas. Called Information Zones, the new system will ensure that the same information is in the same place at whichever station one happens to be.

The stations will be divided into four separate and distinct zones, the Welcome Zone containing station facility and where appropriate, community information, the Ticket Zone containing ticket purchasing and real time passenger service information, the Train Zone showing penalty fares and timetable information and the Onward Journey Zone providing multi-modal travel information.

The work to map existing poster sites has been completed at all 157 Southern stations and the re-zoning of each station has begun. The project is scheduled for completion by the end of this year.

▲ Newly refurbished Southeastern Class 465/9 No. 465906 stands at Doncaster between translator vehicles Nos. 975974 and 975978 on 24th April. The set had arrived for attention several weeks earlier on 27th February. David Hainsworth

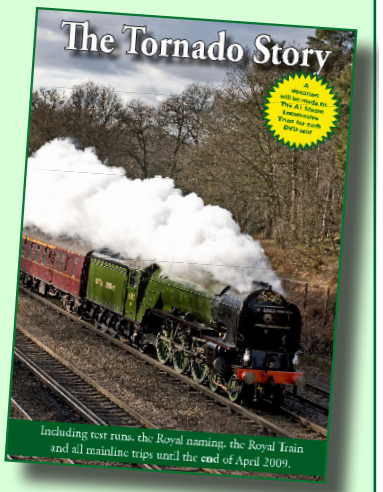
Charting the story of Britain's newest steam loco

The Tornado Story

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 on the Great Central & National Network) together with all of the loco's mainline runs until the May 2009.

Also included is the unveiling at the NRM, the Royal naming at York, and *Tornado*'s appearances at Barrow Hill & the NYMR steam gala.



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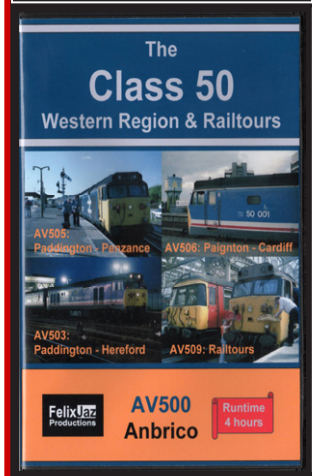

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◀ Class 47/4 No. 47802 *Pride of Cumbria* passes Cattawade with the 10.00 Colchester Carriage Sidings - Norwich driver training run on 4th May. The afternoon round trip from Norwich was cancelled. **Anthony Guppy**

▼◀ With ETRMS looming ever closer on the Cambrian line, Arriva Trains Wales-operated Class 158 No. 158821 leaves Porthmadog on 1st May, as the unit crosses the town's main road and moves onto the single line section, with the 13.42 Pwllheli-Machynlleth service. Note the ETRMS equipment blacked out on either side of the crossing. **John Stretton**

▼ Carrying Malcolm Rail-livery DRS Class 66/4 No. 66412 stands next to preserved BR blue-liveried Class 87/0 No. 87035 *Robert Burns* during Crewe Heritage Centre's Railway Children charity Event on 2nd May. **David Loughhead**

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WHESTRAIL TOUR PRICE GUIDE 2010

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	Standard Adult	Standard Child	First Class
Falkirk Grahamston - Fort William Single	£79	£49	£110
Falkirk Grahamston - Fort William Return	£125	£75	£165
Glasgow Springburn - Fort William Single	£74	£44	£105
Glasgow Springburn - Fort William Return	£120	£70	£160
Dumbarton & Helensburgh - Fort William Single	£69	£39	£99
Dumbarton & Helensburgh - Fort William Return	£115	£65	£155

Although advertised as a set down stop it may not be possible to use Glasgow Springburn on the Sunday evening and all passengers would be set down at Dumbarton Central or Falkirk.

Diesel-hauled services (all other dates)

	Standard Adult	Standard Child	First Class
Edinburgh Waverley - Fort William Single	£39	£29	£55
Edinburgh Waverley - Fort William Return	£59	£39	£85
Falkirk - Fort William Single	£36	£26	£49
Falkirk - Fort William Return	£56	£36	£79
Glasgow Springburn - Fort William Single	£34	£24	£45
Glasgow Springburn - Fort William Return	£54	£34	£75
Dumbarton & Helensburgh - Fort William Single	£30	£20	£39
Dumbarton & Helensburgh - Fort William Return	£49	£39	£69

The WhestRail Highlander operates the direct link at weekends during July and August from Edinburgh, via Glasgow, to Fort William. All tours allow the visitor to access Lochaber, Glenfinnan and Mallaig by steam or diesel.

The train journeys north on Saturday morning and returns south on Sunday afternoon, allowing the visitor a week or weekend in Lochaber or the opportunity to travel in either direction as a single journey, whether a tourist or local traveller. Our partner Hotels, Guest Houses and B&Bs will help you with accommodation - see our website.

Please send all Booking Forms and other enquiries to:
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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 May 2010		
The Royal Scotsman	WCRC 47	Dundee-Leuchars-Ladybank-Inverkeithing-Edinburgh Waverley
14th May 2010		
UK Railtours	2xDBS 67	London Finsbury Park-Cambridge-Thetford-Wensum Curve-Wroxham and return via Thetford, March and Peterborough to Finsbury Park
15th May 2010		
Steam Dreams	60019	London KX-ECML-York-Newcastle-Berwick-Edinburgh Waverley
Pathfinder Tours	60163	(Bristol TM-Bath Spa-Trowbridge-Westbury-Warminster-Salisbury-Andover-Basingstoke-)London Victoria-Bromley South-Orpington-Paddock Wood-Ashford-Canterbury-Minster-Dover-Folkestone-Ashford-Headcorn-Bromley South-London Victoria (rev)-& return
UK Railtours	DBS Class 90	London King's Cross-Doncaster-York-Durham & return
Vintage Trains	4965 & 5043	(Birmingham Snow Hill-Worcester Shrub Hill-)Bristol Temple Meads-Taunton-Exeter SD-Newton Abbot-Totnes-Plymouth & return (GWR 175 charter operated in conjunction with First Great Western)
CFPS/DTG	D1015 & 40145	Crewe-Warrington BQ-Manchester Victoria-Stockport-Stoke on Trent-Birmingham Intl.-Banbury-Swindon-Bristol TM-Exeter SD-Newton Abbott-Totnes-Plymouth-Liskeard-Truro-Penzance
CFPS/DTG	D1015 & 40145	Penzance-Truro-Falmouth-Truro-Penzance
Railway Touring Co.	46115	London KX-Stevenage-Peterborough-York & return **Cancelled**
16th May 2010		
Steam Dreams	61994	Edinburgh Waverley-Croy-Paisley Gilmour Street-Troon-Ayr & return
Shepherd Neame	70013	London Victoria-Ashford International-Canterbury-Faversham-Dover-Ashford International-Maidstone East-Bromley South-London Victoria
Shepherd Neame	70013	Faversham-Gillingham(-)Sheerness-on-Sea-Faversham
CFPS/DTG	D1015 & 40145	Penzance-St.Erth-Carbis Bay-St. Ives-St. Erth-Penzance
17th May 2010		
Steam Dreams	6233 & 60019	Edinburgh Waverley-Berwick-Newcastle-York-London King's Cross
WCRC	tbc	Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig & return
18th May 2010		
WCRC	tbc	Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig & return
19th May 2010		
WCRC	tbc	Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig & return
20th May 2010		
Steam Dreams	60019	(London King's Cross-)York-Leeds-Hellifield-S&C-Carlisle & return
WCRC	tbc	Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig & return
Kirklees Green Party	2xWCRC 47	Spondon-Long Eaton-Langley Mill-York-Newcastle-Edinburgh-Forth & Tay Bridges-Dundee & return
21th May 2010		
WCRC	tbc	Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig & return

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
(Locations) in brackets on a steam tour listing indicates a diesel or electric-hauled section.

Steam Dreams goes exploring for 2010 UK tour

Steam Dreams has entered the round-Britain market with its recently announced 'Cathedrals Explorer', which is scheduled to operate between 6th and 13th May next year, just weeks after Railway Touring Company's 'Great Britain IV', details of which were in the supplement that was with our last issue.

Although obvious comparisons will be made between the various merits of each tour, Steam Dreams Managing Director, Graeme Bunker, is keen to emphasise that the 'Cathedrals Explorer' is designed to maximise the time that passengers will have to enjoy the key points on the tour. For instance, on Day 1, a late afternoon arrival in York will provide an entirely free evening to enjoy the delights of the city and after an overnight in Stirling the following day, the train will not leave until around lunchtime to enable passengers to enjoy a full morning of sight-seeing. Equally, there has been built in two 'buffer days' to offset a day that is acknowledged will be a travel day.

'The Cathedrals Explorer' starts its odyssey at some early hour in the morning of 6th May, when it may be possible (look out for further announcements) to join what is essentially the empty stock of the charter at Kensington Olympia, which will be hauled by Bulleid Pacific No. 34067 *Tangmere* through Kent to Minster, which is the official point of origin of the train. It will then meander up to London Victoria, where no doubt the bulk of its patronage will board for the onward journey to York, behind what Mr. Bunker refers to as 'appropriate traction' (an A4 with two tenders, maybe?). 'Appropriate traction' applies also to his description of what will be in charge of the journey the following day from York, via the Settle & Carlisle line and Beattock, to Stirling. No. 46115 *Scots Guardsman* maybe?

Day 3 will be a special day. The sight-seeing in the morning will just get that much better upon returning to join the train at Stirling, as the run to Fort William is scheduled for a magic K1/K4 combination, one that is long overdue on the main line. The locos were in LNER apple green when they last worked together, but now both Nos. 61994 *The Great Marquess* & 62005 will be in BR lined-black, and by the end of the day, begrimed BR lined-black for good measure! The route will be via Larbert, and then through the Glasgow suburbs to the West Highland Line and Fort William. This long day will be followed by a rest day, but with the option of taking a run to Mallaig and back with the 'K4'. With the passengers rested, Day 5 will also be lengthy, as the train will leave Fort William hauled by the 'K1/K4' combination as far as the Glasgow area, where they will be replaced. Forward motive power will most likely be the locomotive that covered the York to Stirling leg on Day 2, which will then take the working through to Oxenholme. The passengers will be taken by bus to Windermere, where they will be able to enjoy a day of off-train activities on Day 6.

With both of Ian Riley's 'Black 5s' now in charge on the penultimate day, the train will set out from an as yet to be confirmed station (possibly Carnforth) to head south via Preston, Chester and Shrewsbury, before reaching the destination of Carmarthen, which will include a run over the scenic Central Wales line. On Day 8, the final day, the 'Black 5s' will again be in charge for the run through South Wales, via Cardiff and the Severn Tunnel, to Bath Spa and onwards to Salisbury, before heading back to London, via Basingstoke. And finally, the 'Cathedrals Explorer' should conclude with a mini-tour of Kent, back to Minster, providing the rare chance to enjoy a pair of 'Black 5s' on southeast metals.

The tour is scheduled for all-steam traction and offers some interesting innovations, particularly the option to join the working through Kent at the beginning and the end of the tour, the latter with 'Black 5s'. With some traction still to be confirmed, the intention is to ensure as far as is possible that the motiver power will be 'appropriate' for the route, which means using locomotives associated with particular lines in BR days. Hence the 'K1/K4' combination on the West Highland, 'Black 5s' on the WCML and Central Wales, and *Tangmere* in Kent. The intention is also to emphasise that the train as a land cruise by including rest days and a late start or early finish on other days.

For more details telephone Steam Dreams on 01483 209888.

The Week Ahead

by John Whitehouse

The coming weekend should witness one of the most ambitious, imaginative and physically taxing tours seen for many a long year, when at around 05.20 on Saturday 15th May, Class 40 No. 40145 *East Lancashire Railway* **will depart from Crewe at the head of the joint CFPS/DTG 'East Lancs Champion' railtour.**

After a circuit around the Manchester area for further pick-ups, the tour heads south to Birmingham International, where Class 52 No. D1015 *Western Champion* will be waiting to attach to the front of the train for a possibly unique occasion of a Class 52/40 double-header as far as Plymouth, running via Oxford, Swindon and Bristol Temple Meads. At Plymouth, the 'Western' will detach and reposition at the rear of the train for the 'Whistler' to lead into Cornwall through to Penzance. To crown an already hectic day, the tour does an about turn after a short break, and with D1015 again leading heads back to Truro, where a further reversal places No. 40145 at the helm for a run to Falmouth. After arrival at Falmouth Docks, the train then returns to Penzance with D1015 leading to Truro, and then the Class 40 back to Penzance, with an arrival time some 17 hours after leaving Crewe!

It may well be that after such a long gruelling day on Saturday, there will be the need for some liquid refreshment, the locally brewed Sharpes Doombar bitter is recommended, and there may be some weary souls arriving at Penzance for the proceedings the following day.

But, heads need to be cleared quickly, as the next leg is what dreams are made of, a Class 52 to St. Ives! Almost certainly the first-ever visit of a 'Western' to this iconic branch line and an event to be savoured. The bonus is that the return will be worked by the Class 40 back to Penzance. After a quick turn round, the tour then heads back 'up-country' with D1015 again leading to Par, where the train reverses, and with No. 40145 leading continues to Newquay. The 'Western' will then lead back to Plymouth, where the Class 40 will run-round and attach to the front for a double-headed return as far as Oxford.

D1015 will then detach, leaving the '40' to return the train as outwards to a weary 00.18 arrival back into Crewe. What a tour, and the CFPS and DTG are to be congratulated for arranging such an incredible itinerary (or should we say endurance test?)

Another significant event is also booked, is Steam Dreams' now annual 'Coronation' from London King's Cross to Edinburgh Waverley, which also sets out on 15th May. The original specification has endured some changes, initially due to the non-availability of No. 60007 *Sir Nigel Gresley*, which was booked to work the train on the 'out and back' legs south of York. This has been easily circumnavigated by the use of A4 classmate No. 60019 *Bittern* throughout, made possible by the provision of the second tender, which significantly reduces the need for water stops. The train will become only the third through working of a steam locomotive between King's Cross and Waverley since the end of BR steam. The first between the two capitals in the 1990s featured No. 60007 *Sir Nigel Gresley*, and the second took place last year when No. 60163 *Tornado* completed the journey for the BBC's 'Top Gear' programme. Coincidentally, the last through steam working prior to that was on 5th March 1968 when No. 4472 *Flying Scotsman*, working with the same second tender now attached to *Bittern*, completed the journey in celebration of the 40th anniversary of 'The Flying Scotsman' train. It is also considered a rare through working for *Bittern*, as being a Gateshead and Heaton-based locomotive in BR-days, it rarely featured on the through King's Cross-Edinburgh trains.

Day two was originally scheduled for a circular run from Edinburgh via the East Coast Main Line, the Tyne Valley and Beattock, but was changed to a Waverley to Ayr working with Class K4 Mogul No. 61994 *The Great Marquess*. Unfortunately, the loco has a reported cracked middle cylinder and is unavailable and so 'Riley's International Rescue' 'Black 5' No. 45407 will deputise. There will also be a route change, as the tour will now operate via Croy and Lenzie, which will bring rare steam mileage to the 'Union' route between High Street and Shields Junctions that skirts the southern perimeter of Glasgow Central, prior to continuing west via Cardonald and Paisley Gilmour Street.

The final day will again see No. 60019 in charge from Waverley, via Newcastle-upon-Tyne to York, where the 'A4' will hand over the reins to rival LMS Pacific No. 6233 *Duchess of Sutherland* for the final dash to King's Cross. What is the betting that the 'Duchess' arrives in King's Cross with a 'Royal Scot' headboard? And if you can't make this year's train, you may not have to wait until next year to spend your cash!

Having already commented of a rather good Cornish ale earlier, this preview becomes a bit of a 'good ale guide' when we look at Sunday's tour with Britannia Pacific No. 70013 *Oliver Cromwell* from London Victoria to Faversham, which runs via Maidstone East, Ashford and Canterbury. The train title is 'The Spitfire', which takes its name from the excellent bitter ale brewed by Shepherd Neame, which in turn takes its name from the legendary World War 2 fighter aircraft. Shepherd Neame is the promoter, and the event is in conjunction with the Faversham medieval market and classic car rally. There is an afternoon fill-in to the Isle of Sheppey with the 'Britannia' leading to Gillingham, then diesel-haulage to Sheerness, before steam takes over for the run back to Faversham. This neatly positions No. 70013 for the return journey to London, which will be via Dover, Ashford and Bromley South.

Returning to Saturday, and *Tornado* will also be in action in Kent for Pathfinder on the first of three circular tours that run steam-hauled from London Victoria through Paddock Wood, Ashford, Canterbury, Minster, Deal, Dover and Folkestone, returning to London, via Ashford. This working originates at Bristol Temple Meads and is diesel-hauled to the London terminus.

Also on Saturday, the South Devon banks will not just be vibrating to the sound of Maybach and English Electric power, as the old-Great Western will also be putting on a show with Vintage Trains 'Cornishman', which is booked for Tyseley's 'Hall' No. 4965 *Rood Ashton Hall* and 'Castle' No. 5043 *Earl of Mount Edgcumbe* from Bristol Temple Meads to Plymouth and back, which starts at Birmingham Snow Hill and runs diesel-hauled via Worcester Shrub Hill to Temple Meads. The double-headed pairing also brings together the prospect of father and son on the shovel at the same time, but on separate locomotives, in the shape of Messrs Meanley Senior and Junior. Although in terms of footplate seniority, should that be Messrs Meanley Junior and Senior?

The round-up is completed with two UK Railtours' workings on consecutive days, commencing on 14th May with the 'Broadsman' to Wroxham from London Finsbury Park, which works outward through Cambridge and returns along the East Coast Main Line. DB Schenker Class 67s are the likely motive power for the train. Next day it is the ECML throughout with a King's Cross to Durham working, which may well have a DB Schenker Class 90 on the front.

Reflecting on the weekend activity, with so much quality steam mileage to be enjoyed it is perhaps a little unexpected that a heritage diesel tour should scoop pride of place. But the CFPS/DTG 'East Lancs Champion' is indeed an exceptional tour, particularly as it highlights the co-operation between two locomotive-owning societies in order to get this project off the ground. Pathing in Cornwall is always difficult, especially to St. Ives, and so the fact that this tour is operating to its original specification means that there has been an industry wide effort to make it happen. Well done to all involved.

Ups & Downs

by John Whitehouse

■ HF Railtours has announced a further outing with BR Standard Pacific No. 71000 *Duke of Gloucester* on 15th July, hot on the heels of booking the locomotive for the 'Cumbrian Coast Explorer' on 3rd July. The 'Heart of England Explorer' features steam haulage from Crewe, via Birmingham International, Coventry, Leamington Spa, Oxford and Swindon, to Bath Spa and Bristol Temple Meads. The train originates at Preston and picks up at Chorley, Horwich Parkway, Bolton, Manchester Victoria, Stockport, Wilmslow and Crewe. The company is run by Hellifield-based farmer Hayden Fortune, whose objective is to run trains offering the best catering possible allied to the maximum comfort. He says that his ethic is to serve high quality food that offers the best in both quality and quantity. No 'pictures of food' type meals, which is how he described some of the catering on offer elsewhere! Hayden certainly stands out as a man who knows what he wants, and how to achieve it. Look out for more HF Railtours excursions in the coming months, especially making full use of the stunning coastal and mountain scenery in the North West.

■ The discovery of a crack in the right-hand cylinder of the North East Locomotive Preservation Society's (NELPG) Class K1 No. 62005 caused the locomotive to be withdrawn at the last minute from NELPG's 'Blyth Spirit' railtour on 8th May. A formal statement is expected soon from NELPG that will confirm the scale of the problem, which has potentially come at a very bad time as the locomotive was due to move to Fort William next week to be in position for this year's 'Jacobite' season that commences on 17th May. Meanwhile, the tour ran diesel hauled throughout with West Coast Class 37/5 No. 37516 in charge to an amended route from Middlesborough, via the Durham Coast and the Blyth & Tyne route to Morpeth to avoid the several reversals that featured in the original itinerary.

▲ **DRS Class 37/4 No. 37423** *Spirit of the Lakes* **approaches Shippea Hill on the Ely to Norwich line on 24th April, with 'The Broadsman' charter, with Class 20/3 No. 20305 and Class 37/0 No. 37059 on the rear. Steve Madden**

Amethyst Proudly Presents

The Bath & Bristol Explorer

Saturday 29th May 2010

- **A 'Gem' in luxurious travel together with an exquisite dining experience**
- **In true Pullman style, from the moment you are welcomed on-board, the magic begins**
- **Classic journeys with cultural and historic interest**
- **Carefully planned, imaginative itineraries**
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At the heart of this wonderful excursion to the Southwest lies the thrill of mainline steam. Providing that special magic as we head south west towards historic Bath and vibrant Bristol will be the brand new A1 Pacific "Tornado".

It's no wonder Bath is a designated world heritage site, with its breathtaking Georgian architecture and the splendour of the Roman Baths! On arrival you can choose to marvel at the Royal Crescent, one of Britain's most famous architectural masterpieces, visit Bath Abbey where the first King of England was crowned in AD973 or simply stroll and admire all that this famous city has to offer.

Vibrant Bristol is famous for the work of the great Victorian engineer Isambard Kingdom Brunel, and the industrial history here is a wonder to view. Take time to visit the SS Great Britain, take a stroll over the Clifton Suspension Bridge or maybe just relax on a ferryboat and view the city from the harbour which gives an entirely different perspective of Bristol. Beautiful parks and gardens abound, together with Medieval, Georgian and contemporary architecture.

A truly wonderful trip not to be missed!...

Our journey starts at Ashford calling at Headcorn, Paddock Wood, Tonbridge, Sevenoaks, Orpington and Bromley South. As we enter London, "Tornado" will be waiting to haul our train to the historic city of Bath and the vibrant city of Bristol. All Silver Service/First Class seating has deep cushioned armchairs where you can just sit, relax and enjoy, while our waiter and hosting service comes direct to your table.

SILVER SERVICE, £219.00 per person

• A Bucks Fizz welcome • Hearty Full English or Continental Breakfast • A Light Lunch before our destination • A memorable Five Course Dinner, freshly prepared for you by our chef on the return journey

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With all options, complimentary newspapers, button hole flower for the ladies and full information on our destination will be provided.
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OFFER ■ READER OFFER ■ READER

***Railway Herald* and the Amethyst Experience have teamed up to present readers with a special offer on 'The Bath & Bristol Explorer' charter, hauled by the newest standard-gauge mainline steam locomotive - Peppercorn A1 Pacific No. 60163 *Tornado*.**

Standard Class tickets on the trip would normally cost £99 per person, however, readers calling Amethyst Experience directly and quoting 'RAILWAY HERALD' will be able to purchase them with a 10% discount at £89 per person, when paying in full at the time of booking. With limited standard class seating available, prompt booking is suggested.

The train will depart from Ashford and pick-up at Headcorn, Paddock Wood, Tonbridge, Sevenoaks, Orpington and Bromley South, with *Tornado* taking over in the London area for the journey to Bath and Bristol.

Further details on the train can be found on the advert opposite, or for details of other charter excursions being operated by the Amethyst Experience click here, or log onto the website at www.amethyst-experience.com

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Amethyst Experience

To book your tickets on this steam-hauled excursion call

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On the dark and drizzly morning of 8th May, Merchant Navy Pacific No. 35028 *Clan Line* passes under the Frimley Green aqueduct, between Brookwood and Farnborough, heading UK Railtours 'Somerset & Dorset' charter from Waterloo to Weymouth and return. **Yoshi Hashida**

After several weeks out of traffic, and much work by a dedicated band of people at WCRC Carnforth, LMS 'Royal Scot' 4-6-0 No. 46115 *Scots Guardsman* makes a welcome sight on its loaded test run at Keerholme on the 'Little North Western' route from Carnforth to Settle Junction on 27th April. **John Woolley**

▲ Making a very pleasant change to the normal fare, 'Thumper' No. 1001 heads north past Bredon, with the Hastings-Bridgnorth 'Severn Explorer' railtour on 24th April. **John Stretton**

◀▲ In terms of 'light engine' movements, it was almost as if the LNER had taken over the Southern Railway in late April/early May! LNER A4 class Pacific No 60019 *Bittern* crosses the junction at Lewisham on 28th April, en route for the Bexleyheath line, the Crayford Spur and Sidcup in order to gain access to Hither Green Depot, prior to working 'The Scarborough Flyer' charter.

◀ The first-ever visit to Dartford of Peppercorn A1 Pacific No. 60163 *Tornado* (and probably any member of the 'A1' Class?) took place in the small hours of 7th May. Here, the loco is about to run round its support coach, prior to departing to Hither Green Depot. **Both: Bill Turvill**

Patriot project gains long-stored Fowler tender

In a ceremony held on 4th May, the Vale of Glamorgan Council formally handed over a Fowler tender that has been in storage at Barry for over 40 years to Cambrian Transport Ltd, which will restore it on behalf of The LMS-Patriot Project for use with new-build 'Patriot' 4-6-0 No. 45551 *The Unknown Warrior* **being assembled at Llangollen.**

David Bradshaw, Chairman of The LMS-Patriot Project said: "It is amazing to think after all these years that a near-forgotten, rusty, old tender, will be completely refurbished for use with such a prestigious new steam locomotive." The tender will be completely overhauled to mainline standards and will receive a new body before eventually being paired with the new-build 'Patriot'.

The Project has received the endorsement of The Royal British Legion and the new locomotive will be the new National Memorial Engine.

The LMS-Patriot Project is looking to add 300 new regular donors over the next 12 months, donations from as little as £5 per month being sought. Visit www.lms-patriot.org.uk for a Donations and Membership Form, or request one by telephoning 01889 271058, or by writing to: The LMS-Patriot Company Ltd, PO Box 3118, Hixon, Stafford, ST16 9JL, to which donations may also be sent.

Unique 'Black 5' visits North Norfolk for Mixed Traffic Gala

The North Norfolk Railway is to hold a mixed traffic event with a substantial Gala on 5th/6th June.

Stanier 'Black 5' 4-6-0 No.44767 *George Stephenson* and the unique Leyland Railbus LEV1 (adapted from the once ubiquitous Leyland National single-deck bus) are set to head up the event.

Supporting motive power comes from GWR 5600 0-6-2T No. 5619, GER J15 0-6-0 No. 65462 and N7 0-6-2T No. 69621, together with Class 25 and 31 diesels Nos. 25057 and 31207, plus Railbus No.E79960 and Metro-Cammell DMU No.101681, although not all the locos and vehicles listed will run on both days. Normal fares apply for the event: all day hop-on, hop-off Rover tickets £10.50 adult, £9.50 senior citizen, £7 child 5-15 (under 5s free). The £35 family Rover (2 adults + 2 children, or 3 adults + 1 child) comes with a £5 voucher to spend on refreshments or in the giftshop.

For photographers, lineside passes are available, although orange hi-vis are essential. Call 01263 820800 for event and lineside pass information.

Two years to steam for *Wightwick Hall*?

▲ **GWR 'Modified Hall' No. 6989** ***Wightwick Hall*** **stands outside the shed at Quainton Road within the Buckinghamshire Railway Centre on 24th April. The engineers working on the locomotive told our photographer that they were confident that the boiler would be off the frames within two weeks, and that they were hopeful that the restoration to full working order would be complete in two years. Kev Gregory**

Restoration plans for unrestored 'Barry 10'

Plans have been announced by The Cambrian Group, the new operators and custodians of the Barry Rail Centre, for the restoration of the remaining "Barry 10" steam locomotives.

At Barry Rail Centre, Cambrian Group Chairman, John Buxton, said: "The 'Barry 10' were the last of the steam locomotives remaining at Dai Woodham's historic Barry Scrapyard to await restoration. The exciting plans announced today are the culmination of over 10 years of work undertaken by Cambrian with the Vale of Glamorgan Council to secure a future for them, ensuring they continue to be available for future generations to understand our railway heritage".

The Cambrian Group also has plans for the Barry Rail Centre and for the Barry Tourist Railway (previously operated as Barry Island Railway), which is now fully operational again under its new custodian Cambrian Transport Ltd. Much of the restoration work on the locomotives and tenders is to be undertaken at the Barry Rail Centre, and as a result, employment and skills training opportunities will be directly accessible to local people. It will also be ensured that as much public access as possible is available to view the restoration projects as they progress over the next few years.

This runs alongside the development plans to create a centre for engineering and training excellence at the Barry Rail Centre, as well as the progressive improvement for services and facilities available to visitors of the Barry Tourist Railway, including a café at the Barry Island station buildings that is intended to open soon.

The Barry '10' Collection

The collection of, as yet, unrestored locomotives, known as the 'Barry 10' consists of:

GWR 2800 class 2–8–0 No. 2861
GWR 5101 class Prairie Tank No. 4115
GWR 5205 class 2-8-0T No. 5227
GWR 4575 Prairie Tank No. 5539
GWR 5600 0-6-2T No. 6686
GWR 'Modified Hall' 4-6-0 No. 7927 *Willington Hall*
LMS 'Black 5' 4-6-0 No. 44901
LMS 8F class 2-8-0 No. 48518
BR Standard 2-6-4T No. No 80150
BR Standard 2-10-0 No. 92245

▲ **Visiting GWR 'Manor' No. 7827** *Lydham Manor* **double-heads with 43XX Class 2-6-0 No. 5322 at Didcot Railway Centre during the 'GWR 175 Extravaganza' on 1st May. Lee Robins**

New rail apprenticeship scheme from RHC

Pete Waterman is promoting a new apprenticeship scheme at the Crewe-based Railway Heritage Company, which he owns, to provide skilled railway engineers.

At present 20 apprentices are working on the scheme at the centre, which is being hailed as the forerunner to a new National Railway Skills Academy to be set up in Crewe next year.

Pete Waterman said: "This is absolutely unique in that, unlike other apprenticeships, it's learning skills right across the board. They're learning to do the job, on the job, and they do the training with Melvyn Johnson at Reaseheath College. What we do here is real work".

The aim of the scheme is to provide the rail industry with young engineers for the future, the basis of which involves apprentices being trained by older engineers who have been working in the industry for years and pass on their skills.

The difference is the apprentices don't need several GCSEs or A levels to get on board, although this did appear to be a stumbling block at first. "I told the powers that be if they stuck to that then I wouldn't be eligible for my own scheme," said Pete, who left school unable to read or write!

Beattie Well Tank, Furness No. 20 and a Deltic for GCR!

The Great Central Railway has announced a third visitor for its 'Golden Oldies Gala' being held over the four days of the Spring Bank Holiday weekend from 28th to 31st May, L&SWR Class 0298 Beattie Well Tank No. 30585.

The L&SWR locomotive joins the other confirmed guests, 1863-built Furness Railway No. 20, and the replica of *Planet* from the Manchester Museum of Science and Industry. The three guests will join home fleet residents, GCR 04 class 2-8-0 No. 63601 and GNR N2 class 0-6-2T No. 1744.

Following the successful flying visit of No. 55019 to the GCR last summer for the September diesel gala, the railway and the DPS have been in negotiations to arrange a longer return visit. As a result, No. D9009 will arrive mid-July to take a starring role at the Mail By Rail gala weekend on 24th/25th July, and the 11th/12th September Diesel Gala.

During the visit, it will also be used on 16-mile round trip driver experience turns on 31st July, 1st August, 7th/8th August, 21st/22nd August and 4th/5th September, priced at £310 per person. To drive more miles on the locomotive, it will also be available for longer driver experience packages of 32 and 64 miles, priced at £650 and £995 respectively.

Tornado blows south to help Bluebell celebrate 50 years

The Bluebell Railway has announced that to help celebrate its 50th Anniversary Celebrations, the new A1 class Pacific No. 60163 *Tornado* will be visiting the line from 31st July to 8th August.

During this period, the locomotive will haul the 12.00, 14.00 and 16.00 trains from Sheffield Park Station for the 90-minute return journey to Kingscote. In addition, there will be an extra train at 10.00 on Saturday 31st July. The fare for the trains will be £12.50, but £10 if booked more than eight days in advance. Other usual fares apply. Passengers may reserve a seat, which would guarantee travel on the train of choice for £2 (non refundable upon cancellation).

Reservations are now open, and all tickets will be dispatched on 19th July. There will be some evening specials, details to be finalised, and there will also be a media call on 30th July at 15.00 to be confirmed nearer the date.

Earlier, on Monday 17th May, at Horsted Keynes station, the Bluebell Railway will be marking the start of its 50th anniversary celebrations. The arrival of Class A1X 'Terrier' 0-6-0T No. 55 *Stepney*, together with Maunsell coach No. 6575 will be recreated as it arrived from the Ardingly branch line, originally via Hayward's Heath. It will be exactly 50 years to the day since this happened.

For bookings, contact Bluebell Railway customer services on 01825 730800.

Yeovil celebrates 150th anniversary of station opening

The Yeovil Railway Centre is to play host to an array of steam and diesel locomotives over the weekend of 17th/18th July, to mark 150 years of the opening of Yeovil Junction station by the London & South Western Railway in 1860.

The centre's resident Peckett locomotive will hopefully be sharing brakevan rides with a visiting ex-L&SWR tank loco attending, along with several other visiting main line steam and diesel locos. Steam Dreams is providing further interest on the Sunday of the event with a railtour from London with Battle of Britain Pacific No. 34067 *Tangmere* double headed from Yeovil to Wareham, via Weymouth, with King Arthur class 4-6-0 No. 30777 *Sir Lamiel*.

David Shepherd CBE has agreed to open the event, which will also host a BR totem/target display, trade stands, model railways, turntable demos and David's Wildlife Foundation.

A real ale tent will be available throughout the weekend serving beverages sourced from along the L&SWR route territory.

GWR 4-6-0 No. 6024 *King Edward I* is the first main line steam loco confirmed to be attending, thanks to the 6024 Preservation Society.

Derailment delays passing trains in Wensleydale

The Wensleydale Railway's first day of services passing at the Burton Constable loop sustained a slight hitch, when one of the trains derailed.

The leading wheelset of Class 47/7 No. 47715 dropped off the track as the loco arrived at Bedale with the 10.25 service from Leaming Bar, resulting in the other locomotive, the NRM's No. 47798 *Prince William* operating a shuttle service between Constable Burton and Redmire.

The reaction of several passengers passed to *Railway Herald* was that the railway handled the problems quickly and with professionalism.

▲ The NRM's 'Royal' Class 47/7 No. 47798 *Prince William* heads the 10.26 Redmire to Burton Constable Loop service at Leyburn on 1st May. The shorter than normal service, being a result of the derailment of Class 47/7 No. 47715 at Bedale that morning. Stephen Mandie

▼ The leading bogie of Class 47/7 No. 47715 at Bedale can clearly be seen to be off the track. Paul Colbeck

New station for Welsh Highland line

▲ A momentous occasion for the ever-changing WHR. With the new platform recently completed at Tryfan Junction, Garratt No. 87 in its new dark blue livery approaches with the 10.00 Caernarfon-Hafod-y-Llyn service on 1st May, creating history by being the first passenger train to stop here for around 75 years! **John Stretton**

▼ The railway enjoyed a Royal visit on 27th April, when HM The Queen and HRH The Duke of Edinburgh travelled between Caernarfon and Dinas, prior to Her Majesty officially naming the railway's observation car *Glaslyn*. **Eryl Crump**

May Bank Holiday was a three-day special event on the Isle of Man Railway entitled 'Rush Hour'.

On the first day Manx Electric Railway diesel electric locomotive No. 34 *Maria* operated on the Isle of Man Railway hauling a special train from Douglas to Port Erin in the morning and shuttle services from Douglas to Port Soderick in the afternoon.

In addition, IoM locomotive No. 12 *Hutchinson* had been turned to face the opposite way. The second day was 'Rush Hour' in Castletown with four steam services through the station in less than an hour.

▲ On the Isle of Man Steam Railway, Beyer-Peacock 2-4-0T No. 12 *Hutchinson* departs from Castletown, during 'rush hour' while classmate No. 4 *Loch* awaits departure with a later train. The next event on the island is Enthusiasts Week on 28th July-1st August.

▼ Visiting the Isle of Man Steam Railway from its usual home on the Manx Electric Railway, Bo-Bo diesel-electric locomotive No. 34 *Maria* pauses at Ballasalla while the driver hands over the token, while working from Douglas to Port Erin on 1st May.

Ffestiniog roll out all the 'Quirks & Curiosities' for May gala

The Ffestiniog Railway held its 'Quirks & Curiosities' gala over the May Bank Holiday weekend.

At the event, the regular locomotives of *Prince*, *Palmerston*, *Merddin Emrys*, *David Lloyd George* and *Blanche* were in use on the main services to Blaenau Ffestiniog, with a number of smaller resident and visiting locos and machines on display and operating around Boston Lodge and Portmadog, including a converted Landrover, vertical boiler steam locos and FR's early diesel fleet. All pictures by **John Stretton**, unless otherwise stated.

◀▲▲ **Recently acquired by the FR, Chinese 0-8-0 C2 No.4 stands in a new steel shed at Boston Lodge on 2nd May.**

◀▲ *Moelwyn* **and a Simplex prepare to depart from Tan-y-Bwlch with a shuttle to Portmadog on 3rd May. Richard Tuplin**

◀ **Newly restored** *Edward Sholto* **stands at Boston Lodge on 1st May.**

▲ *Palmerston* **regains momentum from a stop at Boston Lodge Halt on 2nd May, at the head of the 11.47 Porthmadog Harbour-Tan-y-Bwlch service.**

▼ **After many years in construction, the FR's Lynton & Barnstaple lookalike** *Lyd* **stands in Boston Lodge yard on 2nd May, its first day in steam.**

On 3rd May, a pleasure craft returns down the River Taff towards the waterfront area known as Cardiff Bay, having just passed the iconic Wales Millennium Stadium and gone under the bridge at the west end of Cardiff Central, as an unidentified Arriva Trains Wales Class 143 rolls into the station with a service bound for the Valleys. **Stuart Warr**

Running only single units due to the grounding of all flights, an unidentified Heathrow Express Class 332 crosses Wharncliffe Viaduct bound for Heathrow Terminal 5 on 17th April. **Gary Packer**

Three generations of Southern traction are seen as SR 'King Arthur' class No. 30777 *Sir Lamiel* approaches Vauxhall with the 'Cathedrals Express' to Canterbury West on 29th April. Heading into London Waterloo are a Class 159 DMU and Class 455 EMU, while a Class 450 'Desiro' heads south. **Graham Lightfoot**

10th May 2010
Lincoln Railway Society
St Hugh's Church Hall, North Hykeham, Lincoln. 'Another Settle & Carlisle Presentation' by Bob Goodman. Start 20.00. Contact the Secretary on 01522 705365.

RCTS (Ashford)
The Elwick Club, Church Road, Ashford. 'The Gazira Light Railway' by Alan Wild. Starts 19.30. Contact southeast@rcts.org.uk for details.

RCTS (Croydon)
Primary Room, United Reform Church, Addiscombe Grove, Croydon. 'AGM and Photo Competition'. Starts 19.30.

RCTS (Ipswich)
Bridge Ward Social Club, 68 Austin Street, Ipswich. 'German Steam' by Tom Hobin. Starts 19.30. Contact ipswich@rcts.org.uk for details.

RCTS (Sheffield)
St Matthews Church Rooms, Carver Street, Sheffield. 'Members' Night - Railway Relics' Meeting starts 19.30.

SVR (Wolverhampton)
Old Wulfrunians Club, 253A Castlecroft Road, Castlecroft, Wolverhampton, WV3 8NA. 'Picture Postcard Railway Rambles' by Stephen Gay. Starts 19.30.

Southern Electric Group (Sussex)
Deal Room, Southwick Community Centre. 'Photographs Taken by the Late J.J. Smith of Eastbourne' by Tony Hillman. Starts 19.30. £2 Donation. Contact Bruce Cakebread on 01273 462094 for further details.

York Railway Circle
The Library, Archbishop Holgate's School, Hull Road, York. 'Favourite Lines' 'Middlesborough to Pickering via Whitby and Scarborough' by Victor Lee.. Starts 19.30. Contact Robin Patrick by e-mail at locopatrick@aol.com for details.

11th May 2010
Abergavenny and District Steam Society
Upper Room, The Hen & Chickens, Flannel Street, Abergavenny. AGM & Films/Slides. Starts 20.00. Contact ken.mumford@ntlworld.com for details.

Great Western Society (Bristol)
BAWA, 589 Southmead Road, Filton, Bristol, BS34 7RG. 'Remarkable Relics - The Great Western Trust' by Peter Rance. Meeting commences at 19.45. Contact the Secretary on 01454 324230 for further details.

12th May 2010
Basingstoke & District Railway Society
Wote St. Club, New Road, Basingstoke. 'The Joys and Sorrows of a Railway Photographer' by Don Mitchell. Starts 20.00. Visitors Welcome. Contact the Secretary on 01256 819401 for further details.

Bromsgrove Railway Club
St Godwalds Church Hall, Aston Fields, Bromsgrove. 'Steam on Digital' by John Bagshaw. Meeting commences at 19.45. Contact Dave on 01527 873800 or Gordon on 05127873609 for details.

RCTS (Cardiff)
Old Church Rooms, Park Road, Radyr. 'Steam on the Main Line in 2009' by Karl Jauncey & Dave Richards. Meeting commences at 19.30. Contact the Secretary at noelinda@noel65.fsnet.co.uk for further details.

RCTS (Hitchin)
Hitchin Christian Centre, Bedford Road, Hitchin. 'The Corris Railway 1858 -1948' by John Scott-Morgan. Meeting commences at 19.30.

13th May 2010
Continental Rly Circle
St Paul's Church Centre, Rossmore Road, Marylebone, London. 'Railways of Queensland' by John Knowles. Meeting commences at 19.15. Admission £2. Contact the Secretary, Adrian Palmer on 01932 850624 or at akpalmer@talktalk.net for further details.

Monmouthshire Railway Society
Room LL1, UWCN, Allt-Yr-Yn Ave, Newport, South Wales. 'Southern in the South and West, I.O.W to Padstow' by Peter Gray. Meeting commences at 19.30. Admission: non-members £3. See www.mrsoc.co.uk for further details.

RCTS (Newcastle)
The Brunswick Methodist Church Hall, Newcastle. 'The Good Old Days' by David Tyreman. Meeting commences at 18.30. Contact the Secretary at jimbrick@fsmail.net for further details.

14th May 2010
Great Western Society (Swindon)
Lawn Community Centre, Guildford Avenue, off Windsor Road, Lawn, Swindon SN3 1JE. 'Swindon-2-Didcot - A Difference Perspective' by Neil Lover. Meeting commences at 19.30. Contact the Secretary on 01793 495970 for further details.

RCTS (Edinburgh)
Quakers Meeting House, 7 Victoria Street, Edinburgh. 'Narrow Gauge Spectacular' by Les Nixon. Meeting commences at 19.30. Contact the Secretary at evanwilliams@talktalk.net for further details.

15th May 2010
Stephenson Locomotive Society
St John Ambulance Centre, Sandes Avenue, Kendal. Outside Visit and Walk. Meeting commences at 19.15. Contact the Secretary on 01539 720706 for further details.

17th May 2010
The Great Central Railway Society (Spinkhill)
The Angel Hotel, 26 College Road, Spinkhill, Sheffield S21 3YB. 'The Hedjaz Railway in Jordan and Syria' by Richard Paget. Meeting commences at 19.30. Contact Frank Greaves on 01909 473927 for details.

RCTS (Coventry)
Maudslay Hotel, 190 Allesley Old Road, Coventry. 'Steaming Through Britain' by Graham Briggs. Meeting commences at 19.30.

RCTS (Maidenhead)
Cox Green Community Centre, Highfield Lane, Cox Green, Maidenhead. 'Branch AGM followed by Members' Presentations'. Meeting commences at 19.30.

RCTS (Oxford)
West Oxford Democrats Club, 1 North Street, Osney, 'Branch AGM followed by Members' Slides'. Starts 19.30. Contact murraylewis@hotmail.co.uk for further details.

RCTS (Shenfield)
Shenfield Parish Hall, 60 Hutton Road, Shenfield. 'Journeys in North America' by John Jolly. Meeting commences at 19.30.

18th May 2010
RCTS (Hull)
Upstairs, The Highway Public House, Willerby Road, Hull. 'Reedies Railway Rambles Part 2' by Gordon Reed. Starts 19.30. Contact the Secretary at richardh@djbroady.co.uk for details.

19 May 2010
RCTS (Eastleigh)
Eastleigh Railway Institute, Romsey Road, Eastleigh. 'Isle of Wight Railway' by Jim Loe. Meeting commences at 19.45.

Severn Valley Railway (South East)
Wenlock Arms, 26 Wenlock Road, Islington, London N1 7TA. 'Slides from BR & the Early Preservation Era' by Martin Smith. Meeting commences at 19.30.

20th May 2010
Barrow Hill Engine Shed Society
Roundhouse Lecture Theatre, Barrow Hill, Chesterfield. 'The Lickey Incline: The Steepest Adhesion Mainline in the UK and Running Charter Trains in Switzerland' by Alan Spencer. Starts 19.30. £2 non members. Contact beardspaul@aol.com for details.

Breconshire Railway Society
R.A.F.A.Club, The Struet, Brecon. 'A Railway Holiday in Scotland in 1961' by Noel Thompson. Starts 19.30. Members only. Please contact Arthur Robinson on 01982 560219 for details and membership info.

Gravesend Railway Enthusiasts Society
Emmanuel Baptist Church, Windmill Street, Gravesend DA12 1BB. '25 Years of the Spa Valley Railway' by Brian Halford. Meeting commences at 19.45. Contact the Secretary, Roger Hart on 01474 833320 for further details.

Locomotive Club of Great Britain (North West)
The Parkside Room, St David's Social Centre, 249 Wargrave Road, Newton-le-Willows, WA12 8EW. AGM and Members & Visitors Slides/ Digital Photos, Prints & 8mm Film. Meeting commences at 19.30.

Marlow & District Railway Society
Bourne End Community Centre, Wakeman Road, Bourne End. 'On and Off the Footplate' by Bill Davies. Meeting commences at 20.00. Non-members admission £2.

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 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.

Web Links
Links to the various society websites can be found by clicking here. Is yours missing? Send the details to the editor.

▼ **Preparing to run across the Cob to Porthmadog, during the FR's 'Quirks & Curiosities Gala', the converted two-foot gauge Land Rover, normally based on the Statfold Barn Railway, adds variety to event! John Stretton**

RCTS (Darlington)
The Scout Building, Widdowfield Street, Darlington.
'The G5 Project' by Dr Mike Wood. Meeting commences at 19.00. Contact the Secretary at jimbrick@fsmail.net for further details.

RCTS (Pudsey)
The Fulneck Room, Pudsey Civic Hall, Pudsey. 'Cold Wednesday (or what happens when a question is asked at the AGM)' by Jamie Guest. Meeting commences at 19.30.

21st May 2010
Great Western Society (Taunton)
Village Hall, Stoke St.Mary, nr Taunton. 'Railways in West & North Devon' by Peter Gray. Meeting commences at 19.45. Contact the Secretary on 01823 334188 for further details,.

24th May 2010
RCTS (Brighton)
Brighton Railway Model Club Room, London Road Station, Shaftesbury Place, Brighton. 'The Life and Times of Isambard Kingdom Brunel' by Peter Hay. Meeting commences at 19.30.

25th May 2010
RCTS (Welwyn Garden City)
The Methodist Church, Junction of Ludwick Way and Colegreen Lane, Welwyn Garden City. 'London Steam on Shed 1060' by Peter Groom. Meeting commences at 14.15.

RCTS (Woking)
The Wheatsheaf Ember Inn, Chobham Road, Woking.
'Branch AGM followed by Lanzhou to Lhasa' by Andy Davies, then 'Southern Miscellany' by Richard Golding. Meeting starts at 19.30.

26th May 2010
Basingstoke & District Railway Society
Wote St. Club, New Road, Basingstoke. 'The CrossCountry Franchise' by Richard Gibson. Meeting starts at 20.00. Visitors Welcome. Contact the Secretary on 01256 819401 for further details.

RCTS (Chichester)
Council Meeting Room2, County Hall, West Street, Chichester. 'Investigation of Railway Accidents' by Nick Solti. Meeting starts 19.30.

28th May 2010
Great Western Society (Oxford)
Pauling Human Resources Centre, 58 Banbury Road, Oxford. 'I Remember the 1970s' by Richard Crane. Meeting commences at 19.30.

1st June 2010
Gravesend Railway Enthusiasts Society
Emmanuel Baptist Church, Windmill Street, Gravesend DA12 1BB.
'The Sandringham/B17 Trust' by Ken Livermore. Meeting starts at 19.45. Contact the Secretary, Roger Hart on 01474 833320 for further details.

Locomotive Club of Great Britain (Bedford)
St John's Church Hall, St John's Street, Bedford.
'UK, Irish and Industrial Railways' by Geoff Biggs and Bryan Cross. Meeting commences at 19.30. Contact the Secretary on 01525 750149 for further details.

RCTS (Watford)
St Thomas Church, Langley Road, Watford. 'Railways in the Pyrenees' by Peter Featherstone. Meeting commences at 19.30.

Southern Electric Group (South Hampshire)/ LRTA (Southern)
Eastleigh Railway Institute, Romsey Road, Eastleigh. Members' Slide Evening. Meeting commences at 19.30. Admission £2. Contact the SEG Secretary, John Goodrich on 023 8067 0028 for further details.

Weston super Mare Railway Society
Function Room, Conservative Club, Alexandra Parade, Weston super Mare. 'More Steam Recreations' by Don Bishop. Meeting commences at 20.00. Contact the Secretary, Lionel Jones on 01934 628289 or at wsm1977rlysocy@talktalk.net for further details.

3rd June 2010
Great Central Railway Society (Rotherham)
The Three Horseshoes, Bawtry Road, Wickersley, Rotherham S66 2BW.
'An Evening with Howard Turner'. Meeting commences at 19.30. Contact Mick Hayes on 01709 820544 for further details.

7th June 2010
RCTS (Ashford)
The Elwick Club, Church Road, Ashford. 'A Digital Extravaganza'. Meeting commences at 19.30. Contact the Secretar at southeast@rcts.org.uk for further detail

8th June 2010
Abergavenny & District Steam Society
Upper Room, The Hen and Chickens, Flannel Street, Abergavenny.
'Landore Shed (87E)' by Brian Miles. Meeting commences at 20.00. Contact the Secretary, Ken Mumford at ken.mumford@ntlworld.com for further details.

9th June 2010
Basingstoke & District Railway Society
Wote St. Club, New Road, Basingstoke.
'Cable's Railway Year 2009' by David Cable. Meeting commences at 20.00. Visitors Welcome. Contact the Secretary on 01256 819401 for further details.

Bromsgrove Railway Club
St Godwalds Church Hall, Aston Fields, Bromsgrove. 'Tornado, a Locomotive for the 21st Century' by Bob Alderman. Starts 19.45. Contact Dave on 01527 873800 or Gordon on 05127873609 for further details.

RCTS (Cardiff)
Old Church Rooms, Park Road, Radyr. 'Quiz. Meeting commences at 19.30. Contact the Secretar at noelinda@noel65.fsnet.co.uk for further details.

RCTS (Hitchin)
Hitchin Christian Centre, Bedford Rd, Hitchin. 'Blue Grey to Black Green' by Paul Chancellor. Starts 19.30.

12th June 2010
RCTS (Northampton)
'Visit to Bluebell Railway' (Travel by train - Southern day Saver). Contact David Pick on 01604 810613 or at northampton@rcts.org.uk for details.

14th June 2010
Lincoln Railway Society
St Hugh's Church Hall, North Hykeham, Lincoln. Members Slides. Starts 20.00. Contact the Secretary on 01522 705365 for further details

Southern Electric Group (Sussex)
Deall Room, Southwick Community Centre. '40th Anniversary of SEG' Starts 19.30. £2 Donation. Contact the Secretary, Bruce Cakebread on 01273 462094 for further details.

15th June 2010
Monmouthshire Railway Society
Room A28, UWCN, Allt-Yr-Yn Ave, Newport, South Wales. 'The Darjeeling Himalayan Railway' by David Barrie. Meeting commences at 19.30. Non-members £3. See www.mrsoc.co.uk for further details.

16th June 2010
Severn Valley Railway (South East)
Wenlock Arms, 26 Wenlock Road, Islington, London N1 7TA. 'On and Off the Footplate' by Bill Davies. Meeting commences at 19.30..

17th June 2010
Barrow Hill Engine Shed Society
Roundhouse Lecture Theatre, Barrow Hill, Chesterfield. 'Out With the Old - In With the New' by Howard Turner. Meeting commences at 19.30. Admission £1.50 members, £2 non members. Contact the Secretary at beardspaul@aol.com for further details.

Breconshire Railway Society
R.A.F.A.Club, The Struet, Brecon. 'Each a Glimpse and Gone Forever? - The Vanishing Infrastructure of Railways' by Graham Vincent. Meeting commences at 19.30. Members only. Please contact the Secretary, Arthur Robinson on 01982 560219 for further details and all membership enquiries.

Marlow & District Railway Society
Bourne End Community Centre, Wakeman Road, Bourne End. 'Rebuilding the Welsh Highland Railway' by Andy Savage. Meeting commences at 20.00. Non-members admission £2.

18th June 2010
Great Western Society (Taunton)
Village Hall, Stoke St. Mary, Nr Taunton. 'Pulling the Levers' by Martin Southwold. Starts 19.30. Contact the Secretary on 01823 334188 for further details.

21st June 2010
Great Central Railway Society (Spinkhill)
The Angel Hotel, 26 College Road, Spinkhill, Sheffield S21 3YB.
'A Tribute to Doug Copley'. Meeting commences at 19.30. Contact Frank Greaves on 01909 473927 for details.

RCTS (Northampton)
'London Midland Day Rover' Contact the Secretary, David Pick on 01604 810613 or at northampton@rcts.org.uk for further details.

RCTS (Shenfield)
Shenfield Parish Hall, 60 Hutton Road, Shenfield. 'Nottingham Victoria' by Ken Grainger. Meeting commences at 19.30,

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

DRS Class 37/0s Nos. 37259 and 37069 are pictured in 'top and tail' formation with a Derby RTC to London St Pancras (Domestic) test working. In the First GBRf yard behind can be glimpsed a Class 20. Steve Madden

Magazine Information

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