Railway Herald

Issue 225 - 7th June 2010

The electronic journal for the railway enthusiast

Railway Herald

Issue 225
7th June 2010

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Publication
Railway Herald is published weekly, 47 times a year.

Submissions
We welcome submissions from all readers, especially digital photographs. Pictures should be sent to the editor at *editor@railwayherald.com*

Good quality scans of colour slides and prints are also acceptable. There is currently no financial payment made for photographs published in *Railway Herald*. Where possible we always try to use news photographs taken within the production week of the publication date.

Website
Our website contains all back issues of the magazine and is available at **www.railwayherald.com**

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ISSN 1751-8091

John Woolley

Toddington celebrates with 'GWR175' gala event

The Gloucestershire Warwickshire Railway has celebrated the 175th Anniversary of the Great Western Railway with an intensive gala festival, featuring a variety of resident and visiting locomotives over the 10 day event.

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Front Cover Caption:

Class 55 No. 55022 *Royal Scots Grey* **leads the 'Deltic Retro 2' charter away from Settle Junction, bound for Edinburgh on 31st May.**
Adrian Emmott

Punctuality increases for UK passengers

Passengers in this country have enjoyed the best train punctuality ever recorded, 91.5% of trains arriving on time over the past year from 1st April 2009 to 31st March 2010, the highest since records began in 1992.

In 2002, when Network Rail took over the BR infrastructure from Railtrack, train performance was languishing at a record low level of 78.6%. Working closely with train operators and accompanied by prudent levels of investment and attention to detail, punctuality has improved year on year every year, the latest figure meaning that over 91 out of every 100 trains ran on time, beating regulatory targets.

Network Rail Director of Operations, Robin Gisby said: "This is just one of a number of records set on Britain's railway this year with record numbers of passengers travelling on record numbers of trains at record levels of safety with record levels of satisfaction. But we are far from complacent, and realise that passengers' still experience some delays, albeit much less often than in times past. Our focus in the years ahead will be to drive performance to even higher levels with particular attention given to reducing the number of very late services".

'Arrived on time', the measure of train punctuality also know as PPM (Public Performance Measure), means trains arriving at their destinations within five minutes for commuter services and within 10 for long distance services. This measure of punctuality is common and used throughout Europe where the record in this country is now one of the highest.

Tourism could be affected by the non-working Network Rail bridges, says Broads Authority

The Broads Authority is pressing Network Rail for a legal agreement to undertake the repairs to both Trowse and Somerlayton swing bridges to an agreed timetable.

The Authority warned last month that the long-term breakdown of the bridge at Trowse, near Norwich, and the recent failure of the one at Somerleyton, near Lowestoft, could have a disastrous impact on the tourism industry. At Somerleyton, exploratory work found that the pivot mechanism of the bridge was damaged and unable to open, meaning boats with fixed masts and large motorboats were unable to pass beneath. The unique design of the century old structure means that a replacement part has to be custom made. Network Rail engineers are also continuing to work on Trowse bridge on the River Yare, which has been unable to be opened mechanically since the computer-controlled lifting system failed following a power surge in June 2008. Currently, the bridge can only be opened manually between 01.30 and 04.00 with a week's notice, as it takes two hours to operate with a full crew. Engineers were hopeful that the bridge would be fully operational in the near future. In recognition of the disruption caused to boat users, Network Rail has agreed to fund a mooring pontoon upstream of Somerleyton bridge, where yachts can lower their masts safely and which will also provide a lunch stop for boaters out for the day.

New coal slurry flow for First GBRf to Immingham

▲ **A new flow of coal slurry from Maltby Colliery in South Yorkshire, to Immingham for blending began on 24th May when GBRF Class 66/7 No. 66724 arrived at Maltby Colliery with a rake of 21 JNA box wagons, previously in store at Long Marston. The train was loaded and should have departed as the 01.30 Maltby to Immingham, but an 89-minute early departure was made. The train weighing 2,142 tonnes, was routed from Maltby, via Worksop and Brigg, to Immingham. The first daytime working operated on 31st May, hauled by No. 66728. The 21 wagons in use are JNA 102-tonne bogie vehicles, built on TEA underframes in 1998, formerly CAIB and hired by VTG to First GBRf in 2005.**

▶ **Clipstone West Junction signalbox has recently been repaired with over £30,000 being spent by Network Rail. The box, seen here on 18th May, has received new stairs, roof repairs, replacement bargeboard and nameboard, replicating the rotten originals, and a repaint into pre-1912 GCR colours at the suggestion of the resident signallers. Both: Chris Booth**

Railway Magazine unveils the first details for Wolverton Open Weekend

Wolverton Works is the location of this year's Works Open Weekend, organised by *The Railway Magazine*.

The event will take place on 14th/15th August, with the site open from 10.00 until 17.00 both days, and a wide variety of motive power and rolling stock on show, together with several shuttles and railtours operating to the works, some working right into the site.

The event will have a 'West Coast Main Line' theme, with examples of LMS '3F' 'Jinty', LMS 8F 2-8-0 and BR 5MT all in steam. Also on show will be the unusual Aveling & Porter 0-2-2WT *Blue Circle* and Barclay 0-4-0ST *Swanscombe*. On the diesel front, Class 17 No. D8598, Class 24 No. 24061 and the works resident Class 08s are already confirmed, and several others are under negotiations. The ACLGs Class 86/4 No. 86401 and Class 87 No. 87002 will also be in attendance. Rolling stock on display should include Class 313s, 323s and 465s, and it is hoped to have one or two vehicles from the Royal Train on display, while in the workshops will be demonstrations of bogie refurbishment and carriage lifting. A railwayana display of LNWR/LMS totems will be provided by Sheffield Railwayana & Great Central, and there will be a valuation service available, alongside over 85 trade stalls. The 'Bloomer' replica is expected to be unveiled on a plinth at the works entrance

While there is no parking on site, shuttle buses will link the event with Milton Keynes Museum, Wolverton station and Radcliffe school, the latter will be the signposted parking for the event. One option, which needs to be booked in advance, is to travel into the works using the specially arranged *Railway Magazine* shuttle services.

These trains provide a unique opportunity to take a train direct into and out of the Works and to and from Milton Keynes Central over the event weekend. The trains will pass under the West Coast Main Line, which at this point itself runs under the LNWR-built listed 'Blue Bridge'. Three shuttles will operate from Milton Keynes Central to the Works/Network Rail boundary and back each day, taking around 75 minutes for the journey. The train will be formed of seven carriages, 'topped-and-tailed' by West Coast Railway Class 33s on the main line sections. After passing the Victorian-built platforms of the former Wolverton station, one of the Works shunters, either No. 08629 or 08649, will be attached to the shuttles on Haversham Bank - part of the original WCML route built in 1838 and today, the Network Rail boundary - and will then haul the shuttles right through the complex to its western extremity, as far as it is possible to travel. Both shunters will work on each day, with the locomotives operating three trains each over the two-day event. It is thought that these are the first passenger services to operate into and out of the Works allowing passengers to join and alight from the train. What is certain is that the shuttles are unlikely to be repeated! Admission to the event can be purchased at the same time as booking shuttle tickets, for just £10 - saving £5 on the day price. To book seats, click here to download a booking form. Tickets for the shuttles and Open Day entry will be posted from week commencing 28th June.

Groupe Eurotunnel buys GBRf from Aberdeen-based First Group in multi-million pound deal

Eurotunnel is buying GBRf from FirstGroup for £31 million, as part of its plan to to expand its European freight operation.

The company said that GBRf would fit geographically, and in terms of customer type with its existing freight subsidiary, Europorte France, and will enable it to run through freight services using the Channel Tunnel. The Chairman and Chief Executive of Eurotunnel, Jacques Gounon, said: "Eurotunnel has always been a major link between the UK and France, and the acquisition of GB Railfreight is a further expression of our commitment to the UK and of our confidence in the potential that it holds".

The announcement augurs the second change for the British railfreight market, as in 2007, Deutsche Bahn bought up English, Welsh & Scottish Railway, which now operates as DB Schenker.

Across Europe however, the market has been even more active, with Groupe Eurotunnel acquiring the French freight business of Veolia Transport, and SNCF ttaking over the non-French divisions. Deutsche Bahn has also bought Poland's PTK Holding, and has taken a 40% stake in Ferrovie Nord Cargo of Italy.

GBRf was bought by FirstGroup in 2003, and currently employs 300 staff. Its revenue in the last financial year was £56 million.

Freightliner revitalises Bristol West for new flow

▼ **The first move since the early 1980s into Freightliner's Bristol Railport Depot, formally Bristol West Depot, took place shortly after mid-day on 29th May, when Class 66/5 No. 66542 cautiously negotiated the recently laid sidings. The 'light engine' working was in preparation for a new containerised flow from Tilbury each weekday morning, which is due to commence in June. The loco had travelled from Southampton. Mike Radford**

Government to auction HS1 route

The Government is to auction the 108km high-speed link between St Pancras International and the Channel Tunnel (HS1), and hopes to raise up to £2 billion as a first part of its plan to tackle the UK's £167 billion annual debt burden.

The Department for Transport (DfT) and the rail link owner, London & Continental Railways aim to distribute a sales document before the emergency Budget scheduled for 22nd June.

Network Rail had a long-term contract to maintain the track, but this has now been reduced to a five-year term, meaning that any new owner of the route could choose a different, potentially cheaper, system for maintaining the infrastructure by 2015. Network Rail is said to be considering whether or not to bid for the line, as already owning most of Britain's rail network, it considers HS1 and its stations to be a gap in its portfolio.

However, Groupe Eurotunnel, which runs the Channel Tunnel, has said that it too is interested in HS1 when it comes up for sale.

Once a sale goes through, London & Continental, which like Network Rail is currently Government-owned, will be left with the British arm of Eurostar and land holdings, mainly around the London terminus and Stratford. HS1 cost £5.8 billion to construct.

Station refurbishments axed in latest cuts

The Labour government announced earlier this year that Manchester Victoria, Stockport, Warrington Bank Quay and Wigan North Western stations would be among the 10 worst stations in the country to benefit from a major investment programme.

Under the £6.2 billion of cuts announced by the new coalition government on 14th May however, the Department for Transport said the £50 million grant to carry out the work was being axed as part of a £100 million reduction in Network Rail's spending plans. The Deputy Chief Executive of Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce, Chris Fletcher, said: "This is a devastating blow for the region. Victoria was named as one of the worst stations in the country and is in desperate need of a revamp. To have the money pulled in 24 hours is very worrying, and I hope that this is not a sign of how this Government will operate. As any commuter will tell you, the facilities at Victoria are simply not good enough for a modern city. Wigan and Stockport are not in as dire a state as Victoria, but both are major stations that badly need investment." He continued: "We will be writing to the new Secretary of State for Transport to voice our concern and call for a rethink".

The £30 million revamp of Manchester Victoria included a new roof, and was to be funded with £21 million from Network Rail, £5 million from Manchester City Council and £4 million from Greater Manchester Integrated Transport Authority. The station would also have got a new ticket office, information booth, toilets, waiting room, external work to the station approach, and heritage work, including restoration of the glazed canopy. The current state of the stations was branded a 'national disgrace' by the City Council Chief Executive last year.

Metro and Light Rail News

East London Line fully reopens to passenger service

The first phase of the East London Line opened fully last week between Dalston Junction and Crystal Palace and West Croydon, and when the second phase is complete in 2011, the line will create the Capital's first orbital rail route, serving 22 London boroughs.

Ian Brown, Managing Director of London Rail at Transport for London, said: "I would like to welcome passengers back to the line and thank them for their patience with our very necessary upgrade programme. A total of £326 million is being invested upgrading the London Overground network, and when complete it will deliver longer trains and more frequent services. It is the first time there has been any significant improvement work done to the line since it was built in 1869 and it desperately needed it".

The line has reopened with six trains per hour in the peak and four each hour off-peak between Stratford and Willesden Junction, and three peak trains per hour to both Richmond and Clapham Junction, with two off-peak. Four peak hour services will run between Barking and Gospel Oak with two off-peak. Work will now continue at weekends, and there will be further closures this winter to commission new signalling.

The upgrade is on schedule to be completed in 2011 to allow London Overground to make its crucial contribution to the London Olympic transport network in 2012.

▼ **London Overground Class 378/1 No. 378139, en route to the new ELL terminus of Crystal Palace, First Capital Connect Class 319/4 No. 319424 and Southern Class 455/8 No. 455841 are pictured at Brockley. Kim Rennie**

■ STOP PRESS ■ STOP PRESS ■ STOP PRESS ■ STOP PRESS ■

First ScotRail services on the Oban line were disrupted on the evening of 6th June, following the derailment of a passenger service, which appears to have been the result of a landslide.

The train involved was the 18.20 service from Glasgow Queen Street to Oban, operated by Class 156 No. 156499 that had separated (as booked) from classmates Nos. 156456 and 156465 at Crianlarich, the latter pair going on to work forward to Fort William and Mallaig as per the timetable.

No. 156499, having departed Crianlarich onto the Oban line, is believed to have hit boulders from a landslide, near Cruachan Power Station at Loch Awe, which derailed the unit shortly before 21.00. No passengers were injured, although several were described as walking wounded in the accident which left one vehicle on its side and lying at a precarious angle on the side of the embankment.

UK News In Brief

■ DB Schenker and Royal Mail signed a contract on 1st June for the freight operator to move more that a million tons of mail a day, using seven Class 325 trains between London, Warrington and Glasgow, and more if the demand is there. Royal Mail phased out its own mail trains in 2004, but partly returned to the Network the following year. DB Schenker were unavailable for comment and it is unknown as to when the new contract will come into effect.

■ Plans to create a new platform at Oxford station on part of the long-stay car park, to be used by services between Oxford and London, and a new pedestrian and cycle bridge over Botley Road to replace the existing footbridge, have been submitted to Oxford City Council, although Network Rail does not need planning permission for the platform work as it has permitted development rights. Figures published in May showed that the number of people travelling by train in Oxfordshire grew by 16.5%, in the year despite the recession, Oxford station having almost five-and-a-half million journeys.

■ Infrarail 2010, the 8th International Railway Infrastructure Exhibition, which took place on 13th-15th April at the NEC Birmingham, had 239 exhibitors and over 4,500 visitors, the most successful Infrarail yet. Railtex 2011 will take place on 14th-16th June at London Earls Court.

▲ DRS Class 37/6 No. 37611 leads Class 37/0 No. 37059 through Fiddlers Gill on 3rd June, with the second trial run of Class 37 motive power on the intermodal working from Coatbridge to Daventry. Kenny Marrs

Network Rail undertakes upgrade to Bristol Severn Beach line

Network Rail has received accolades from the local user group, Friends of Suburban Bristol Railway, for its efforts in improving the Severn Beach branch line.

Trains going northbound on the line can now terminate at or turn back from Clifton to Bristol Temple Meads, the improvement meaning a more reliable service for passengers travelling on the busiest part of the branch. It also spells an opportunity for more trains to run between the stations, accommodating the industry's aspiration to boost capacity on the line in the future. Jointly funded by Network Rail and Bristol City Council, the scheme aims to reduce delays by enabling services between Clifton and Bristol Temple Meads to continue to run when the rest of the branch line is congested or has failed.

Work was carried out by Network Rail to install new signal equipment near Clifton Down, and depending upon further study on timetable modelling, this enhanced capability could enable four trains to run per hour.

In addition, life-expired rails between Montpelier Tunnel and Avonmouth Dock Junction have been renewed, as well as around Narroways Hill Junction.

The News In Pictures

◀ Freightliner's 00.27 Felixstowe to Doncaster intermodal service passes Maltby Colliery South signalbox on 21st May. This train began running in December 2009, but only now is it possible to photograph the train in daylight as it passes Maltby at 05.30! **Chris Booth**

▼◀ First Great Western's Class 43/0 powercar No. 43186 works solo through Totnes on 14th May, heading for Plymouth Laira T&RSMD from Bristol St Philips Marsh. It is highly unusual to find FGW powercars working singularly. **Nathan Williamson**

▼ The DBS Management train visited Fowey & Parkandillack on 4th June with representatives from freight commerce aimed at encouraging companies to move more freight traffic by rail. Here the train enters Par, while running ECS back to St Blazey with Mk3 DVT No. 82146 leading and Class 67 No. 67029 *Royal Diamond* providing the motive power at the rear. **Craig Munday**

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.

7th June 2010		
WCRC	45231 or 45407	Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig & return
8th June 2010		
WCRC	45231 or 45407	Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig & return
Kirklees Green Party	WCRC 47	Erdington-Sutton Coldfield-Lichfield City-Burton Upon Trent-Alfreton-Chesterfield-Carlisle-Hexham-York-Chesterfield and return
9th June 2010		
VSOE	35028	London Victoria-Salisbury-Westbury(-Bath Spa-Bristol TM-Westbury)-Westbury-Newbury-Reading-London Victoria
WCRC	45231 or 45407	Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig & return
10th June 2010		
Steam Dreams	6201	London Victoria-Staines-Ascot-Reading-Bath Spa-Bristol TM & return
WCRC	45231 or 45407	Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig & return
Kirklees Green Party	2xWCRC 47	Leeds-Huddersfield-Stockport-WCML-Windsor & Eton Riverside & rtn
11th June 2010		
WCRC	45231 or 45407	Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig & return
12th June 2010		
Pathfinder Tours	60163	(Poole-)London Victoria-Canterbury & return **Cancelled**
SRPS Railtours	tbc	Glenrothes with Thornton-Edinburgh Waverley-Kirknewton-Carstairs-Beattock-Carlisle-Shap-Preston-Liverpool Lime St & return
UK Railtours	2xDBS 67	London King's Cross-Potters Bar-Stevenage-Grantham-Sleaford-Wainfleet (sd)-Skegness Skegness-Wainfleet-Sleaford-Nottingham-Loughborough-Melton Mowbray-Oakham-Peterborough & return
Spitfire Railtours	55022	Preston-Bolton-Manchester Victoria-Stalybridge-Huddersfield-Wakefield Kirkgate-Doncaster-Peterborough-London King's Cross & return
Spitfire Railtours (Mini-Tour)	55022	London King's Cross-harringay-Willesden-Acton-Reading-Didcot Parkway-Oxford & return
Railway Touring Co.	44871	Cleethorpes-Barnetby-Scunthorpe-Sheffield-Edale-Guide Bridge-Stockport-Altrincham-Northwich-Chester-Chester-Sheffield & return
Branch Line Society	Riveria 47 & 40145	Crewe-Telford Central-Shrewsbury-Dee March Reception Sdgs-Wrexham General-Chester-Helsby-Parkside-Weaste Branch-Manchester Victoria-Castleton-Heywood-Bury Bolton St-Rawtenstall (rev)-Heywood-Crewe
Compass Tours	tbc	Crewe-Acton Bridge-Runcorn-Liverpool South Parkway-Mossley Hill-Liverpool Lime Street-St. Helens Central-Wigan NW-Blackburn-Hellifield-S&C-Carlisle-Ulverston-Carnforth- & return
13th June 2010		
Torbay Express Ltd	6024	Bristol Temple Meads-Exeter-Paignton-Kingswear & 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.

The Week Ahead

by John Whitehouse

The headline news again this week relates to the non-availability of steam locomotives, but we can report positive news in that Steam Dreams has again secured the services of 'Princess Royal' Pacific No. 6201 *Princess Elizabeth*, **fresh from its starring role on the Lickey Bank last Saturday.**

Princess Elizabeth is booked to cover for 'A4' Pacific No. 60019 *Bittern* on Steam Dreams 'Cathedrals Express' from London Victoria to Bath Spa and Bristol Temple Meads on 10th June. Currently, the fate of the other mid-week steam working, which is a VSOE British Pullman, also from London Victoria to Bristol Temple Meads booked for 9th June and due to feature Merchant Navy No. 35028 *Clan Line* is unclear.

Heritage diesels vie for the tour of the week mantle from the forthcoming charters, with both 'Deltic' No. 55022 *Royal Scots Grey* and Class 40 No. 40145 *East Lancashire Railway* in action. The 'Deltic' will be at the helm of Spitfire's 'Capital Deltic' from Preston to London King's Cross, the route taking it across the Pennines, via the Standedge route to Doncaster, via Wakefield Kirkgate, before the run, no doubt in typical 'Deltic' style to Kings Cross. During a lengthy layover, No. 55022 is scheduled for an afternoon mini-tour to Oxford, via Hornsey, Willesden, Acton Wells, Reading and Didcot. This mini-tour will be hauled from King's Cross to Hornsey by a West Coast Type 4 prior to reversal, which will put the 'Deltic' again at the helm. The same will happen on the return to position No. 55022 for the trip back to Preston.

The Branch Line Society's 'Wrexham and Lancashire' tour will, however, be somewhat more pedestrian than Spitfire's outine. Featuring No. 40145 throughout from Crewe, via Wrexham to Rawtenstall and back to Crewe, the tour will travel on some rarely visited locations by charter trains, being routed outwards via Telford and Shrewsbury to Dee March Birkenhead Reception Sidings and then back through Hope to Wrexham. After reversing at Croes Newydd, it heads east to the Weaste Branch (NR Limit) before proceeding via Manchester Victoria and Castleton to Heywood on the East Lancashire Railway, and its northern terminus at Rawtenstall. The return to Crewe will operate through Ashton Moss and Stockport.

A rare locomotive-hauled train is booked for Birmingham's Cross City Line North on 8th June, with Kirklees Green Party's excursion to Carlisle from Erdington, heading over the freight line through Alrewas to Wichnor Junction and then north over the Settle & Carlisle for a short break at Carlisle. The return working is along the Tyne Valley, and then East Coast Main Line to York. West Coast '47s' are the booked traction.

Saturday 12th June has a fair mix of charters, with the steam tour of the day being Railway Touring Company's 'Cheshireman' from Cleethorpes to Chester. With Ian Riley's No. 45407 not now booked to return south from its stay at Fort William on 'Jacobite' duties until this very day, the tour will run with the booked traction of Riley's other 'Black 5' No. 44871. The route is though Scunthorpe to Sheffield, then over the Hope Valley to reach Chester, via Altrincham and Northwich. The return is steam-hauled as outwards as far as Sheffield, where a diesel will take over for the return to Cleethorpes. Pathfinder's third 'Tornado in Kent' circular has been postponed due to the problems with *Tornado*. The remaining steam operation is the second 'Torbay Express' of the season between Bristol Temple Meads and Kingswear on Sunday 13th June, featuring No. 6024 *King Edward I*.

Of the modern traction tours operating on 12th June, UK Railtours takes a pair of DBS Class 67s from London King's Cross, outwards via Peterborough, Spalding and Sleaford, while the return takes a roundabout route through Nottingham, Loughborough and Melton Mowbray back to ECML metals at Peterborough.

Meanwhile the SRPS is heading south from Glenrothes & Thornton, via Edinburgh Waverley to Liverpool Lime Street with West Coast Class 47 traction, and Compass Railtours' feature DRS Class 47s on its 'Mersey Fellsman', which starts the day at Crewe, and reverses at Liverpool Lime Street while en-route to Carlisle, outwards across the S&C and returning via the Cumbrian Coast.

UK Railtours continues steam programme despite initial setbacks

UK Railtours steam programme has taken some knocks over recent weeks, with the enforced cancellation of two tours due to unforeseen problems with the locomotives.

Despite these setbacks, UKR remain committed to an ongoing steam programme, and the immediate programme remains unchanged. This is good news, as UKR's summer workings include the first ascent of the Lickey Incline on the 'Midland Tornado' by No. 60163 *Tornado*. Also, with the 16th June 'Purbeck Tornado' sold out weeks ago, a re-run has been arranged for 29th September to satisfy the demand. However, the planned autumn series of trains featuring No. 6201 *Princess Elizabeth* in the South East will not now go ahead. All is not lost though, as there is now a 16th October working booked to feature the Pacific from Preston via Carnforth and the 'Little North Western' route to the outskirts of Leeds, before heading back west via the Calder Valley to Manchester Victoria and Crewe. The 'Clapham Omnibus' will feature a DBS Class 90 on the sections outwards from London Euston to Preston, and back from Crewe. One other steam-hauled working is planned on the run up to Christmas, details of which will be announced in due course.

'Par' for the course?

Every cloud has a silver lining, so the saying goes, and maybe the last minute cancellation of Railway Touring Company's 'The Cornishman' on 29th May might just qualify for that category.

The reason is that the tour has now been re-dated to Sunday 19th September, which the sharp eyed among you will realise is the first planned date for the operation of Vintage Trains' 'Looe Shuttles', which are also planned for the following Sunday. So, the possibility arises that a steam-hauled service from Bristol Temple Meads to Par, incidentally still booked for No. 5029 *Nunney Castle* by popular request, could set down passengers at Liskeard, for Looe, where they will be conveyed by a train hauled by Tyseley's 5700 class 0-6-0PT No. 9600. The disappointment of 29th May was that 'The Cornishman' was a sell-out, and the guess is that there will not be many seat vacancies for the revised date.

Other news from King's Lynn, confirms the use of No. 46115 *Scots Guardsman* on RTC's first 'Dorset Coast Express' of the season on 9th July, with the 'Scot' working out and back to London. Equally, it may also be involved in one of the legs of RTC's 'Swanage Belle' on 3rd July. 'King Arthur' No. 30777 *Sir Lamiel* is definitely in the frame, but it is understood that either No. 46115, or possibly West Coast's own 'Black 5' 4-6-0 No. 44932, currently in an advanced stage of restoration, will feature.

Carnforth-based LMS Class 8F 2-8-0 No. 48151 eases away from Clitheroe with the inaugural 'Fellsman' charter of the season, bound for Lancaster on 2nd June. David Price

Ups & Downs

by John Whitehouse

■ A straight forward 'out and back' between King's Cross and Newcastle-upon-Tyne with a 'Deltic' will tick the right boxes for many, and that is just what Spitfire Railtours is doing on 11th September. The 'Norseman', hauled by No. 55022 *Royal Scots Grey* throughout, will pick up at Potters Bar and Peterborough, before setting down at York, and Spitfire will also be offering the option for a return York to Newcastle 'mini-tour'. In addition, there will be an opportunity to travel on a positioning working from Doncaster to King's Cross to connect both into and from the main train. This working will be West Coast Class 47-hauled.

■ The Amethyst Experience will be sampling Minehead on the West Somerset Railway during the peak season, with three trains planned, commencing on 17th July from Birmingham International and selected stations to Watford Junction, on 7th August from Ipswich with pick-ups through to Stratford, and from Ashford, picking up through to Kensington Olympia on 21st August. DBS Class 67s are likely to feature.

■ According to Torbay Express, expect to see No. 71000 *Duke of Gloucester* working some of its trains later this year. No specific dates have been announced, but currently the Kingswear trains on 1st /8th/15th August and 5th September do not have any allocated traction.

■ **STOP PRESS:** *Railway Herald* believes that a test run for Merchant Navy Pacific No. 35028 *Clan Line* around the Surrey Hills circuit had been planned for 5th June, but unconfirmed reports indicate that it was cancelled due to the potential fire risk.

National Network steam operations - the current status of main line locomotives under repair

Following a spell of unrelenting bad news, which seemed to come to a crescendo last weekend, the main line steam movement has been taking stock of the situation. It looks increasingly likely that the two high profile failures of No. 5029 *Nunney Castle* **and No. 60163** *Tornado* **will be dealt with swiftly.**

Nunney Castle is believed to have a broken oil feed pipe to one of its driving wheel axles, which although probably requiring the removal of the axle, does mean that the locomotive will be available for its next booked turn with Steam Dreams' on the weekend 'Cornish Riviera' tour at the end of the month.

The situation with No. 60019 *Bittern* is currently uncertain, as the movements ban imposed by Network Rail means that it will not be available for running on the Mid-Hants until this coming weekend 12th/13th June, and will miss its advertised appearance on the Mid-Hants 'War Weekend' on 5th/6th June. The debate was whether the sparks were escaping through the spark arresting equipment or the ash pan, and no doubt the Mid-Hants team has made a thorough assessment of the situation. Hopefully the 'A4' will be back on the main line soon, but its next duty on 10th June for Steam Dreams to Bath Spa and Bristol will now be covered by No. 6201 *Princess Elizabeth*.

Positive news also of No. 35028 *Clan Line*, as an inspection of the boiler and other associated components on 28th May confirmed that there was no visual evidence of damage to the boiler and fittings. Consequently, permission has been given to reassemble components removed as part of the investigative process, and proceed with a steam test. The return of the locomotive to traffic will depend upon the result of that steam test (presently not known) and the outcome of the formal investigation into the cause of the incident, which is still ongoing.

The circumstances of *Clan Line's* failure are complex, with only the consequences being beyond question, in that the fire had to be thrown out at the time of the incident. Meanwhile, the outcome of the investigation is awaited with interest, but it is good to note that the locomotive itself appears to have escaped any major damage.

Not quite so positive is the news from Loughborough of 'Britannia' Pacific No. 70013 *Oliver Cromwell*, where cracks have been identified in the firebox plating in both back corners. To facilitate the work, the cab and associated fittings, together with some backhead cladding have been removed, and the OTMR and TPWS disconnected, all of which has taken time. 'Several weeks' is the response to the question of how long will the locomotive be out of traffic. It has a busy diary of work from July onwards, and an extended absence from the main line fleet may create a few headaches for tour operators.

The good news from the North East is that NELPG's Class K1 No. 62005 is up and running following the problem with its right-hand cylinder. The locomotive is now at the North Yorkshire Moors Railway and will feature on its services prior to moving to Fort William to take up its booked duties in the 'Jacobite' pool. A path is in the system for the transfer to take place on 12th June, and the 'K1' should pass No. 45407, which has been deputising for it at Fort William, coming south.

No firm news yet of John Cameron's Class K4 No. 61994 *The Great Marquess*, which was also reported to have cylinder problems. It too has booked work in Scotland at the end of this month for the SRPS, although the society does have a backup plan in the form of one of the mainline-registered LMS 'Black 5s'.

Looking forward, the main line fleet is likely to be bolstered soon by developments from Carnforth, where currently No. 34067 *Tangmere* is undergoing an extensive overhaul. As is usual with anything coming out of Carnforth, the first inkling of the Battle of Britain's readiness to rejoin the fray will be a path in the system for a test run around the Carnforth circle, but industry speculation points towards a release date of sometime next month.

Also, as noted elsewhere in this issue, there is the possibility of Carnforth's 'Black 5' 4-6-0 No. 44932 being used on a Railway Touring Company working in early July. The locomotive is currently at an advanced stage of restoration, and is being pencilled in for potential railtour work.

▼ **LMS 'Black 5' 4-6-0 No. 45407 crosses Glenfinnan Viaduct on 28th May, with the Fort William - Mallaig 'Jacobite'. Ian Riley's 'Black 5' is currently standing in for NELPG's 'K1' No. 62005, which is expected to move to Scotland shortly after repairs to its right-hand cylinder. Bob Rosenthal**

▲ The A1 Steam Locomotive Trust's Peppercorn A1 Pacific No. 60163 *Tornado* powers through Kelvedon on 28th May with the Great Eastern Tornado charter from London Liverpool Street to Norwich.

▼ On the second leg of the 10.00 London Victoria - Eastbourne and return, Southern Electric Group's 'Ruby Rover' charter, which celebrated the Group's 40th year, Class 442 Nos. (44)2406 and (44)2413 make a most unusual sight entering Tonbridge from the Redhill line on 23rd May.

Both: Brian Morrison

The whirlwind of recovery for *Tornado*

A weeping boiler stay, discovered during *Tornado's* layover at Canterbury while working the 'Kent Circular' charter for Pathfinder on 31st May, caused the locomotive to be failed as a precautionary move.

The train continued diesel-hauled, while *Tornado* and its support coach moved under its own steam to Hither Green for inspection. As remedial work could not be completed in time to be available for its next duty on Steam Dreams 'Cathedral Express' from King's Cross to York on 3rd June, the train has been postponed and will now run on 16th August.

The boiler stays, which are the metal rods which keep the inner and outer fireboxes separated are different on Tornado to other UK steam locomotives in that they are welded to the firefox and it is believed that one of the loco crew noticed one of these welds 'weeping' during the locomotive's layover period at Canterbury.

Following investigations in partnership with the boiler manufacturers of Dampflokwork Meinengen, the Trust's Vehicle Assessment Body and the insurers, repairs to *Tornado* have been put in hand and as a precautionary measure a number of stays have been replaced. A successful hydraulic test did take place on 7th June and a steam test on the locomotive is due to take place later this week.

Assuming a successful outcome is received, it is planned that *Tornado* will recommence its programme of main line tours and heritage railway visits with UK Railtours 'The Purbeck Tornado' charter from London Waterloo to Swanage and return on 16th June. Pathfinder Tours 'The Canterbury Tornado' charter from London Victoria to Canterbury and return on 12th June has been postponed to a date yet to be confirmed.

The failure was the first by Tornado during 15-months mainline running, during which time the locomotive has covered over 20,000 miles, trouble-free.

The Trust have placed on record its thanks to all those involved in the repair, particularly to Balfour Beatty Rail for making facilities available at Hither Green depot at very short notice.

With the footplate crew are conscious of the fire-risk, LMS 'Duchess' Pacific No 6233 *Duchess of Sutherland* **climbs past Great Strickland on the southbound assent of Shap on 22nd May. Richard Tuplin**

Can you bring a touch of magic to Shildon?

The Merlin Locomotive Group, based in the Goods Shed, at Locomotion, the National Railway Museum, Shildon, are looking for new volunteers to help them with the restoration of their locomotive, or to become operational staff as drivers, firemen or guards.

The group who operate the steam locomotives on steam days at the museum and their own locomotive, a Peckett-built W6 Special, is at present being restored.

No experience is necessary as all training is given. Should any reader be interested or require more information, the Group can be contacted by ringing Locomotion at Shildon on 01388 777999 and asking for the Group Secretary, Steve Down, or email steve-down@lineone.net

LMS lined-red-liveried '8F' moves to Churnet Valley line

▲ **Normally based at Peak Rail in Derbyshire and having recently had a spell at the East Lancashire Railway, LMS 8F 2-8-0 No. 8624 heads the 14.00 service from Froghall to Cheddleton on the Churnet Valley Railway on 5th June.**
David Gibson

Four Great Western steam locomotives star at Swindon & Cricklade's 'GWR175' celebrations

The Swindon & Cricklade Railway is to stage it largest gala yet over the weekends of 12th/13th and 19th/20th June, aimed at both families and railway enthusiasts.

Marking the 175th anniversary of the founding of the Great Western Railway, the official opening will be undertaken by Steve Davies, MBE, Director of the National Rail Museum, York, and six locomotives will be in steam over the first weekend, with five in steam during the second weekend. Of the six locomotives, four of them were built at Swindon, the most notable being the NRM's 'City' 4-4-0 No. 3717 *City of Truro*, which will be present for the first weekend only.

Other members of the lineup include Didcot's Churchward 2-6-0 No. 5322, built in 1917 and saw service in France during the first world war, Collett 2-6-2T No. 5542, built in 1928, which will be running with Auto-coach 178 and 0-6-0PT No. 4612, built in 1942. Also in action will be the two industrial 0-6-0STs from the home fleet, *Salmon* and *Slough Estates No 3*.

Parking for the event will be the Park & Ride location at Groundwell in Swindon, or Blunsdon Stadium, from which free buses will run regularly from 09.00 until 19.00 on Saturdays and 09.00 until 18.00 on Sundays. A third bus service will run between Swindon station, STEAM - The museum of the GWR and the Swindon & Cricklade Railway.

Holders of (advance) joint STEAM and Swindon & Cricklade Railway tickets will have a free bus pass, included as part of their joint ticket.

In addition to the railway activities, there will be a vintage fairground, a Dakota fly past on 19th June, and a cavalcade of locomotives at 18.00 on 12th June only.

Between the two weekends, there will be a number of themed days, including footplate experiences, and a photographic day.

Over the late May Bank Holiday Weekend, the Great Central Railway held a gala event with a difference. Entitled the 'Golden Oldies' weekend, the event featured a variety of traction in use from the early days of railways through to the end of steam!

▲ The replica *PLANET* approaches Quorn & Woodhouse station during the event.
▼ The National Railway Museum's replica *ROCKET* departs from the same location during the gala weekend on 30th May. **Both Graham Lightfoot**

▲ On 4th June, Cotswold Steam Preservation Limited's GWR 2800 Class 2-8-0 No. 2807 made its first moves under its own power at the Llangollen Railway since withdrawal by British Railways in 1963. The loco completed a number of test runs from the shed, passing Goods Junction, and almost reaching Pentrefelin carriage works, before undertaking a trip to Llangollen station for water, then climbing the 1-in-88 bank to Berwyn station and onwards, almost to Glyndyfrdwy before returning to Llangollen. The locomotive is seen on the bank from the shed to Goods Junction at Llangollen. **Geof Adlington**

▶ SR 'King Arthur' No. 30777 *Sir Lamiel* undertook a turning move from Swanage to Eastleigh and return on 28th May. The move provided the opportunity for *Sir Lamiel* to collect recently renovated Class 108 DMU No. M54504 and work the vehicle back to Swanage. This working might normally have involved a Class 37 or 66 being used, but the availability of *Sir Lamiel* provided what is likely to be the first commercial non-passenger steam working (other than ECS moves) on the main line since 1967. **Peter Milford**

L&SWR 2-4-0WT No. 30585 heads a short freight near Woodthorpe on the Great Central Railway during a Russ Hillier photo charter on 27th May. **Stuart Chapman**

GWR175

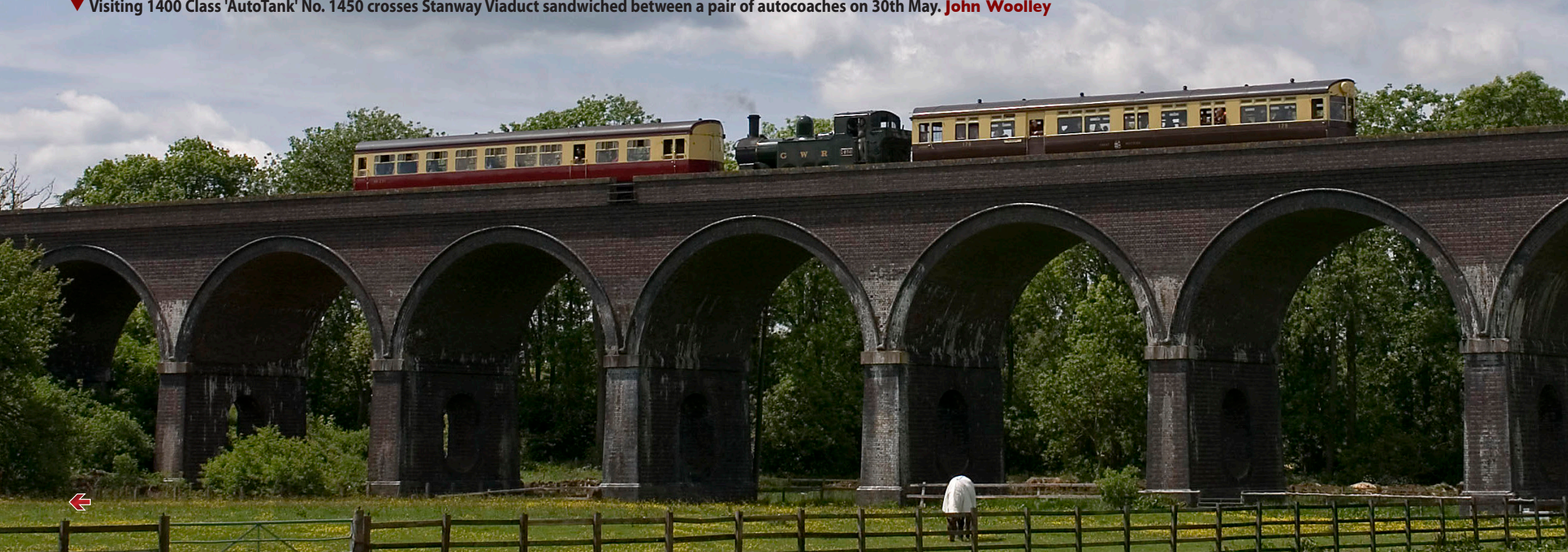
The Gloucestershire Warwickshire Railway celebrates the GWR's 175th anniversary

GWR 2880 Class 2-8-0 No. 3803 arrives at Winchcombe during the Gloucestershire Warwickshire Railway's 'GWR175 Cotswold Festival of Steam' event on 2nd June. **Neil Pugh**

▲ Visiting GWR 9400 Class 0-6-0PT No. 9466 takes water at Winchcombe during the gala on 4th June. **Timothy Wignall**

▲ GWR 5101 Class 2-6-2T No. 4160 looks perfectly at home as it approaches Winchcombe with the 10.38 Gotherington-Toddington service on 3rd June. **John Stretton**

▼ Visiting 1400 Class 'AutoTank' No. 1450 crosses Stanway Viaduct sandwiched between a pair of autocoaches on 30th May. **John Woolley**



▲ During the event, industrial 0-4-0ST No. 1144, visiting from the Gwili Railway, arrives at Gotherington West Halt on 5th June, giving brakevan rides on the private site at Gotherington, owned by Bryan Nicholls, who has collected genuine artefacts from various parts of the UK. **John Stretton**

▲ Repatriated and restored after a working career on Turkish State Railways, LMS built Stanier-designed '8F' 2-8-0 No. 8274, masquerading as Swindon built classmate No. 8476, darkens the sky as it heads the first train of the day out of Toddington on 30th May during the event. **Mick Rogers**

▼ A general view of the shed yard at Toddington during the celebrations on the Honeybourne Line. GWR 4575 Class Prairie No. 5542 stands in front of BR '9F' 2-10-0 No. 92203 *Black Prince,* and two roads across GWR 'City' 4-4-0 No. 3717 *City of Truro* stands in its new livery. **Graham White**

Freightliner Heavy Haul Class 66/6 No. 66601 works a Stud Farm to Carlisle ballast train at Rugeley Trent Valley on 2nd June, while an unidentified Class 390 'Pendolino' passes, heading for London Euston, at the full line speed of 125 mph. **Richard Holmes**

The warm sunshine forecasted in some parts of the UK on late Spring Bank Holiday on 31st May, included North Wales, with many day-trippers visiting the coast. Well-filled Arriva Trains Wales Class 158/0 No. 158819 passes under the magnificent, but now under-utilised signal gantry at Llandudno, while working the 08.50 service from Manchester Piccadilly. **Stuart Warr**

Carrying the latest ScotRail Saltire-livery, Class 156 No. 156437 works along the Tyne Valley line between Gilsland and Low Row between Newcastle and Carlisle forming the 13.24 service from Newcastle to Glasgow on 3rd June, which is operated by Northern Rail as far as Carlisle and First Scotrail onwards. **Nigel Capelle**

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 starts at 20.00. Contact the Secretary, Ken Mumford at ken.mumford@ntlworld.com for 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 Rly Club
St Godwalds Church Hall, Aston Fields, Bromsgrove. 'Tornado, a Locomotive for the 21st Century' by Bob Alderman. Meeting commences at 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. Meeting commences at 19.30.

10th June 2010
Continental Railway Circle
St Paul's Church Centre, Rossmore Road, Marylebone, London NW1 6NJ. AGM followed by three short presentations by Brian Garvin, Geoff Warren and Mike Hudson. Meeting commences at 19.15. Admission £2. Contact the Secretary, Adrian Palmer on 01932 850624 or at akpalmer@talktalk.net for further details.

12th June 2010
Bournemouth Railway Club
'All Purpose Room', Winton Methodist Community Centre, Junction of Alma Road/Heron Court Road, Bournemouth. 'The North Cornwall Railway' by George Reeve. Starts 14.30. Admission £2. Contact the Hon.Chairman, Martin Thresh on 01202 742099 or at martyn.thresh@ntlworld.com for further details.

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' Meeting commences at 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
SVR (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 starts 19.30. Admission £2 non members. Contact the Secretary at beardspaul@aol.com for details.

Breconshire Rly Society
R.A.F.A.Club, The Struet, Brecon. 'Each a Glimpse and Gone Forever? - The Vanishing Infrastructure of Railways' by Graham Vincent. Starts 19.30. Members only. Please contact 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. Starts 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 David Pick on 01604 810613 or at northampton@rcts.org.uk for details.

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

23rd June 2010
Basingstoke & District Railway Society
Wote St. Club, New Road, Basingstoke. 'Operating the Freightliner Fleet' by Tom Jones. Starts 20.00. Contact 01256 819401.

28th June 2010
RCTS (Brighton)/LCGB
Brighton Railway Model Club Room, London Road Station, Shaftesbury Place, Brighton. 'Mass Production in Railway Engineering - The LMS Contribution' by Keith Harcourt. Meeting commences at 19.30.

29th June 2010
RCTS (Welwyn Garden City)
The Methodist Church, Junction of Ludwick Way and Colegreen Lane, Welwyn Garden City. 'An Afternoon with David Kelso'. Meeting commences at 14.15.

5th July 2010
Swanage Railway (Bath)
St John's Church Hall, St John's Road, Bathwick, Bath. 'Here, There and Roundabout' by Bob Bunyar. Starts 19.30. Admission £1. Contact John Lakey on 01225 315918 for details.

6th July 2010
Gravesend Railway Enthusiasts Society
Emmanuel Baptist Church, Windmill Street, Gravesend DA12 1BB. 'South Eastern Trains' by Neville Dyson. Starts 19.45. Contact Roger Hart on 01474 833320 for further details.

Locomotive Club of Great Britain (Bedford)
St John's Church Hall, St John's Street, Bedford. 'A Round-up of Early Steam Locomotives' by Dr Michael Bailey. Starts 19.30. Contact the Secretary on 01525 750149.

Weston super Mare Railway Society
Function Room, Conservative Club, Alexandra Parade, Weston super Mare. Evening Trip - TBA. Contact the Secretary, Lionel Jones on 01934 628289 for further details.

8th July 2010
Continental Rly Circle
St Paul's Church Centre, Rossmore Road, Marylebone, London NW1 6NJ. 'A Tribute to Dave Theobald' by Peter Greatorex. Meeting commences at 19.15. Admission £2. Contact the Secretary, Adrian Palmer on 01932 850624 or at akpalmer@talktalk.net for further details.

10th July 2010
Bournemouth Rly Club
'All Purpose Room', Winton Methodist Community Centre, Junction of Alma Road/Heron Court Road, Bournemouth. 'Bournemouth Central Station 125'. Meeting starts at 14.30. Admission £2. Contact Martin Thresh on 01202 742099 for further details.

12th July 2010
Lincoln Railway Society
St Hugh's Church Hall, North Hykeham, Lincoln. Annual Quiz Night. Starts 20.00. Contact 01522 705365 for further details

Southern Electric Group (Sussex)
Deall Room, Southwick Community Centre. 'The Great Western Broad Gauge Project' by Sam Bee. Starts 19.30. £2 Donation requested. Contact Bruce Cakebread on 01273 462094 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 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.

▼ **Freightliner Class 70 No. 70004 approaches Carlisle from the south with a Fiddlers Ferry – Chalmerston service, conveying empty coal hoppers on 3rd June. Nigel Capelle**

13th July 2010
Abergavenny & District Steam Society
Upper Room, The Hen and Chickens, Flannel Street, Abergavenny. 'My Father's Work in B&W' by David Cross. Meeting commences at 20.00. Contact the Secretary, Ken Mumford at ken.mumford@ntlworld.com for further details.

14th July 2010
Basingstoke & District Railway Society
Wote St. Club, New Road, Basingstoke. 'Tender Loving Care (TLC) for Trains' by Colin Boocock. Meeting commences at 20.00. Visitors Welcome. Contact the Secretary on 01256 819401 for further details.

15th July 2010
Barrow Hill Engine Shed Society
Roundhouse Lecture Theatre, Barrow Hill, Chesterfield. 'A Grinder to Town (Sheffield Midland - London St |Pancras over 60 years of images)' by Martin Bromley. Meeting commences at 19.30. Admission £2 non members. Contact the Secretary at beardspaul@aol.com for details.

Breconshire Rly Society
R.A.F.A.Club, The Struet, Brecon. AGM. Meeting commences at 19.30. Members only. Please contact the Secretary, Arthur Robinson on 01982 560219 for further details and all membership enquiries.

16th July 2010
Great Western Society (Taunton)
Village Hall, Stoke St. Mary, Nr Taunton. 'My Memories of the Mid 20th Century' by John Cramp. Starts 19.30. Contact the Secretary on 01823 334188 for further details.

28th July 2010
Basingstoke & District Railway Society
Wote St. Club, New Road, Basingstoke. 'Steam on London Underground 1933 - 1971' by John Manners. Starts 20.00. Visitors Welcome. Contact the Secretary on 01256 819401 for further details.

2nd August 2010
RCTS (Ashford)
Members only visit to IECC Ashford. Contact the Secretary at southeast@rcts.org.uk for further details.

RCTS (Northampton)
'Southern Day Saver' day out. Contact the Secretary, David Pick on 01604 810613 or at northampton@rcts.org.uk for further details.

3rd August 2010
Weston super Mare Railway Society
Function Room, Conservative Club, Alexandra Parade, Weston super Mare. Members Slides. Starts 20.00. Contact Lionel Jones on 01934 628289 or at wsm1977rlysocy@talktalk.net for further details.

7th August 2010
RCTS (Northampton)
Visit to Welshpool & Llanfair Railway. Contact the Secretary, David Pick on 01604 810613 or at northampton@rcts.org.uk for further details.

9th August 2010
Lincoln Railway Society
St Hugh's Church Hall, North Hykeham, Lincoln. 'The Blue Pullman Story' by Mick Hayes. Starts 20.00. Contact 01522 705365 for details

Southern Electric Group (Sussex)
Deall Room, Southwick Community Centre. 'Closed Stations' by Malcolm Stroud. Starts 19.30. £2 Donation requested. Contact Bruce Cakebread on 01273 462094 for further details.

10th August 2010
Abergavenny & District Steam Society
Upper Room, The Hen and Chickens, Flannel Street, Abergavenny. 'When Steam Ruled the Rails' by Colin Jacks. Starts 20.00. Contact the Secretary, Ken Mumford at ken.mumford@ntlworld.com for further details.

11th August 2010
Basingstoke & District Railway Society
Wote St. Club, New Road, Basingstoke. 'Signal Boxes, People and Trains on the Berks & Hants Line' by David Canning. Starts 20.00. Contact 01256 819401 for details.

16th August 2010
RCTS (Northampton)
Visit to Midland Metro Depot at Wednesbury. Contact the Secretary, David Pick on 01604 810613 or at northampton@rcts.org.uk for details.

RCTS (Thames Valley)
Evening Observation At Didcot Station. Contact Murray Lewis at thamesvalleyoutdoor@rcts.org.uk for further details.

19th August 2010
Barrow Hill Engine Shed Society
Roundhouse Lecture Theatre, Barrow Hill, Chesterfield. 'The Woodhead Route' by Jeff Lane. Starts 19.30. Admission £2 non members. Contact beardspaul@aol.com for details.

Breconshire Railway Society
R.A.F.A.Club, The Struet, Brecon. 'The Great Western Society at Didcot' by Andrew Hook. Meeting commences at 19.30. Members only. Please contact Arthur Robinson on 01982 560219 for further details and all membership enquiries.

Gravesend Railway Enthusiasts Society
Emmanuel Baptist Church, Windmill Street, Gravesend DA12 1BB. 'Developments in Hornby Railways' by Simon Kohler. Starts 19.45. Contact the Secretary, Roger Hart on 01474 833320 for further details.

25th August 2010
Basingstoke & District Railway Society
Wote St. Club, New Road, Basingstoke. 'The Hiustory of the Ian Allan Publishing Group' by David Allan. Meeting commences at 20.00. Visitors Welcome. Contact the Secretary on 01256 819401 for further details.

7th September 2010
Gravesend Railway Enthusiasts Society
Emmanuel Baptist Church, Windmill Street, Gravesend DA12 1BB. 'On and Off the Footplate No 2' by Bill Davies. Starts 19.45. Contact the Secretary, Roger Hart on 01474 833320 for details.

Locomotive Club of Great Britain (Bedford)
St John's Church Hall, St John's Street, Bedford. 'GRES Reminiscences' by GRES Members, Old and New. Starts 19.30. Contact the Secretary on 01525 750149 for further details.

Southern Electric Group (South Hampshire)/ LRTA (Southern)
Eastleigh Railway Institute, Romsey Road, Eastleigh. 'Railways in the North East - Retrospective and Recent' by Bruce Oliver. Starts19.30. 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. 'Steam on Road and Rail' by Malcolm Ranieri. Starts 20.00. Contact the Secretary, Lionel Jones on 01934 628289 for further details.

8th September 2010
Basingstoke & District Railway Society
Wote St. Club, New Road, Basingstoke. 'Broad Gauge Railway Journey' by Canon Brian Arman. Starts 20.00. Contact the Secretary on 01256 819401 for further details.

Bromsgrove Rly Club
St Godwalds Church Hall, Aston Fields, Bromsgrove. 'Cine Film Evening' by John Constable Starts 19.45. Contact Dave on 01527 873800 for further details.

9th September 2010
Continental Rly Circle
St Paul's Church Centre, Rossmore Road, Marylebone, London NW1 6NJ. 'Southern Africa' by Ron White. Meeting commences at 19.15. Admission £2. Contact Adrian Palmer on 01932 850624 for details.

10th September 2010
Great Western Society
Lawn Community Centre, Guildford Avenue, off Windsor Road, Lawn, Swindon, SN3 1JE. TBA. Starts 19.30. Contact the Secretary on 01793 495976 for further details.

13th September 2010
Lincoln Railway Society
St Hugh's Church Hall, North Hykeham, Lincoln. 'British Transport Police' by Brian Bell. Starts 20.00. Contact 01522 705365 for details

Southern Electric Group (Sussex)
Deall Room, Southwick Community Centre.'Vintage SR EMU Photographs from the 1950s' by Richard Larkin. Starts 19.30. £2 Donation. Contact Bruce Cakebread on 01273 462094.

14th September 2010
Abergavenny & District Steam Society
Upper Room, The Hen and Chickens, Flannel Street, Abergavenny. 'The Power of Steam' by Peter Donovan. Starts 20.00. Contact Ken Mumford at ken.mumford@ntlworld.com for details.

16th September 2010
Barrow Hill Engine Shed Society
Roundhouse Lecture Theatre, Barrow Hill, Chesterfield. 'Steaming Through Britain'. Starts 19.30. Admission £2 non members. Contact the Secretary at beardspaul@aol.com for details.

Breconshire Rly Society
R.A.F.A.Club, The Struet, Brecon. Annual Luncheon. Meeting commences at 19.30. Members only. Please contact, Arthur Robinson on 01982 560219 for further details and all membership enquiries.

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

Set against the backdrop of Beinn Dorain, Class 37/4 No. 37425 heads the 08.30 Fort William - Mossend ballast empties, around the Horseshoe Curve on the climb to County March Summit on 3rd June. Paul Armitage

Magazine Information

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Railway Herald is produced by Railway Herald Ltd (Registered as company number 05837609 in England).
VAT Registration: 942 6509 14
Registered office: Hobarn House, 12 Brompton Road, Northallerton, North Yorkshire, DL6 1DY

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