Railway Herald

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The electronic journal for the railway enthusiast

Railway Herald

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19th July 2010

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John Whitehouse

LMS Pacific returns to Birmingham New Street

On 17th July, thanks to much co-operation between Vintage Trains and Network Rail, LMS 'Princess Royal' Pacific No. 6201 *Princess Elizabeth* became the first steam locomotive in 45 years to depart from Birmingham New Street.

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In a surprising move, RailCare, operators of Wolverton Works, have informed *Railway Magazine* that they have postponed this year's event.

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Government reduces the London Underground budget for cooling the tube, and platform work takes place at Baker Street.

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Front Cover Caption:
The 13.00 Acton Yard-Ferme Park loaded bogie ballast wagons passes Gospel Oak on 29th June, powered by GBRf Class 66/7 No. 66729 *Derby County*. **Stabled in the platform is TfL-operated Class 150/1 Sprinter No. 150130. Brian Morrison**

A million extra journeys made using Oyster each week

A million extra journeys are being made each week using Oyster 'pay as you go' cards on National Rail after the scheme was extended to all 350 stations in Greater London at the start of this year.

The roll-out doubled the number of stations where Transport for London's (TfL) Oyster is accepted, and increased the number of rail journeys using the card from 800,000 to 1.8 million each week.

Using the Oyster gives many passengers a cheaper option than buying a normal cash single ticket, and passengers living across south and north east London have had the most noticeable improvement as such cards were not previously accepted in those areas. Oyster can now be used on all commuter rail, Tube, DLR, London Overground, London Buses and Tramlink services in the Capital and is also accepted on Thames Clippers river services.

Oyster cards and 'pay as you go' top-up can now be bought from all 270 Tube stations, from 4,000 Ticket Stops across Greater London, at TfL Travel Information Centres and online via the TfL website. They can also be purchased from ticket offices at 202 National Rail stations and can be topped up at 238 stations. Top-up can also be bought from ticket machines at all DLR stations.

The benefits of Oyster have also now been extended to holders of National Rail season ticket Gold Cards, who are now able to load their discount onto Oyster. With the 34 % discount on all National Rail services in London and the South East that this provides, holders are now able to travel further, and for less, using just one card.

◀ **The latest member of the stored WCRC fleet to be resurrected is Class 47/4 No. 47500. Here, it departs from Carnforth, bound for Hellifield on a test run on 14th July, in the company of Class 47/0 No. 47270 *Swift*, Class 37/5 No. 37676 and Class 47/7 No. 47760. It was named *Great Western* at Old Oak Common without ceremony in early 1979, loosing the plates in September 1991. Anthony Roberts**

■ BREAKING NEWS ■ BREAKING NEWS ■

RailCare cancels 2010 Wolverton Event

The *Railway Magazine* team involved in organising the forthcoming Open Weekend at Wolverton Works were shocked to discover on 15th July that the hosts, RailCare, had decided to cancel this years event, that was due to held in August.

The news came as a surprise and with much disappointment as RailCare appears to have based its decision on its own perception of advance ticket sales, which were in fact selling well, the total number of which was into the thousands. With four weeks to go, the sales were just ahead of the Carnforth event in 2008, which led to a total on-the-day attendance of over 8,000 people! In addition, a local media campaign was due to start on Wednesday, which has now been cancelled.

The proposed works shuttles had passed the break-event point, six weeks before the event.

According to a statement by RailCare, the event is apparently to be held next year.

Its statement said: "Our choice to postpone and not cancel the event means that the hard work by individuals so far will not be lost and a better understanding of the low tickets sales can be achieved to help support a more successful event in the summer of 2011".

Railway Magazine and the ticketing company Transport Event Services have begun the massive task of collating all the information necessary to refund in full, everyone who has purchased early entry tickets, tickets for the works shuttles or trade stand spaces.

We have been asked to point out that all payments will be returned via the original method of payment (i.e. those made by credit/debit card will be refunded to the credit/debit card) although because of the large number involved, this may take 14-28 days.

New line helps Midlands?

Chiltern Railways says that its £250 million upgrade of the Birmingham Moor Street to Marylebone route could also transform the likes of Solihull, Leamington Spa and other parts of the Midlands, as faster journey times to the Capital will prove a major shot in the arm for the West Midlands economy.

It is hoped that significant economic growth in many areas will result; Solihull for example will have an inter-city connection to Central London. The project is the largest passenger infrastructure upgrade to be funded without recourse to the taxpayer since before World War 2. The extensive upgrade of the line will also include a £13 million makeover of Moor Street station, with new platforms to double capacity, and new ticketing technology. Journey times to London Marylebone on the Chiltern line will be cut by a fifth to one hour 40 minutes. Journeys from Warwick Parkway will be just an hour and a quarter to London and Leamington Spa 67 minutes.

▲ East Midlands Trains' Class 222 No. 222011 stands alongside Class 377/5 No. 377523 at Bedford on 16th July. All of the new-build Class 377/5s for Southern, currently leased to First Capital Connect, have now been delivered. **Robert Jefferys**

East Midlands Trains completes first phase of fleet upgrade

Having completed its £10 million Class 158 upgrade, East Midlands Trains' has now started a £5 million programme to refurbish its 28 Class 153 and 156 DMUs.

The work will be carried out at the company's Neville Hill Depot, and will include re-upholstered seating, new and improved internal lighting, new carpets and the installation of CCTV. In addition, all of the trains will have extensive modification work to ensure they are running as efficiently and reliably as possible. The Classes 153 and 156 are used to operate services on local routes, such as Nottingham-Derby-Matlock, Derby-Crewe, Nottingham-Worksop, Nottingham-Lincoln and Nottingham-Skegness. Work began on No. 153319, which will take around seven weeks to complete. Altogether, a total of 39 carriages are to be refurbished and the programme is scheduled to take 16 months. The £9 million refurbishment of the company's HSTs is due for completion in August, and plans are now underway for improvements to the Meridian fleet to start later this year. Once all of these programmes are complete, it will mean every train operated by East Midlands Trains will have benefited from improvements.

▼ EMT signalled the completion of the Class 158 upgrade with a short announcement at Nottingham on 11th June. **Ron Cover**

Upgrade possible for Preston?

Preston station, ranked as the sixth worst of its kind in the country last year, could be given a much-needed overhaul despite Government plans to review major transport spending.

Rail minister, Theresa Villiers, has said that the coalition government is committed to extending the length of franchises in a bid to enable firms to spend private money on stations.

Last year, Sir Richard Branson set out a vision for the West Coast Main Line, currently run by Virgin, which included a revamp of Preston station if longer franchises were granted. The company has consistently called for longer franchises to allow it to invest in stations on the line. The commitment has been welcomed by local rail campaigners, TravelWatch NorthWest, saying that it is fully in favour of the longer franchise system because one only has to look at Chiltern Railways with a 20 or 22-year franchise, which is not only investing in trains and stations, but actually paying towards building a new line, the operator having the opportunity to get commercial payback. If the West Coast franchise was longer, the operator would have more incentive to invest in stations, knowing that there was a longer period of return for the investment.

Metro and Light Rail News

Government cools off on LUL budget

The Government has cut the budget to cool carriages on the London Underground by £10 million to £30 million.

The money will mainly be spent on the Victoria Line where the number of fans are being doubled.

In addition, a London Underground 'Passenger heat strain' map has been produced that identifies which lines pose the highest risk to commuters should they become stuck on a stalled train. The Piccadilly, Northern, Central, Bakerloo and Waterloo and City lines all being shown as 'high risk' in this respect.

▼ Work is underway at Baker Street to accept the new 'S' stock. With the newly extended Platform 4 in the background, the space in the foreground is the site of Platforms 1 & 2, which were demolished on 11th July. 'A' stock units pass through the station on 13th July, during the four-week platform closure. **Jon Nye**

▲ The 16.58 Southern service from Seaford to Brighton departs from Newhaven Town on 13th July, formed of refurbished and reliveried Class 313/2 No. 313212. **Bill Turvill**

New 'print at home' ticketing option comes to thetrainline.com

thetrainline.com has become the first independent rail ticket retailer to give consumers the ability to print their own train tickets for journeys across the National Network by the introduction of its e-ticketing product called 'Print Your Own'.

The tickets display a secure barcode that can be checked autonomously or against a central manifest, as well as a design that enables adequate visual security checks in areas without barcode readers.

Unlike airlines, which have pioneered e-ticketing, the rail network does not have the luxury of defined single boarding points, and tickets may need to be inspected in a variety of locations, often more than once on a single journey. As such, thetrainline.com is working with suppliers of on-train and ticket gate equipment to ensure the tickets can be read and validated.

The first of the new-style tickets are being introduced on Arriva CrossCountry trains, with the new fulfilment option available on advance purchase tickets for all CrossCountry routes. Other TOCs will be added to the rollout during the course of the year.

Victorian waiting room restored

Built by the noted Victorian architect Charles Henry Driver, an 1806-built waiting room, left unused for years on Platform 3 at Peckham Rye station has been restored by Southwark Council and Network Rail at a cost of £50,000, and some have now called for it to be turned into a restaurant and a site for community events.

The space was used earlier this year to showcase architectural ideas for the town centre by students from Canterbury School of Architecture, and the Peckham Society and Southwark Council held an event to mark the restoration at the waiting room on 16th July, to say thank you to all those who have helped and supported the work.

UK News In Brief

■ The Government has blocked the building of a rail freight terminal on the former Radlett Aerodrome site near St Albans. The developers had revised their original plans after a rejection last year at a public enquiry, and appealed to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, but Secretary of State, Eric Pickles, again turned down the project. He said the proposal did not fit in with the development plan in the area and would have been inappropriate in the Green Belt. The developers still have the opportunity to appeal to the High Court within the next six weeks.

■ Network Rail is to close most of Reading station from Christmas Eve to 4th January in order to start the first part of the £400 million revamp that has already been reported. A bus replacement service will operate, but some rail services will be allowed to run at busy times. The station is to be remodelled by 2013 to include five more platforms and two additional entrances. Network Rail said: "We are working closely with First Great Western and other train operating companies to minimise the impact of this work on journeys. There will be a frequent, efficient, replacement bus timetable, and plenty of staff on hand to help you on your journey".

■ Trains will run through, but not stop, at London Blackfriars station from 20th November until 16th January 2011 inclusive. Network Rail says that it has no choice but to close the station as part of the project to rebuild it to span the Thames and accommodate longer 12-carriage trains.

■ Ipswich station is to have a major facelift, with improved access to all four platforms scheduled for completion by spring next year. The work will include the installation of a new footbridge and two new lifts, which will be fitted with CCTV and telephone links. In addition, new lighting will be installed and tactile paving laid on the platforms. Network Rail is managing the improvements, which are being paid for from the Department for Transport's £370 million 'Access for All' funding.

■ The Tyne and Wear Metro '100 Day Clean Up' is complete. The entire fleet of Metrocars has received a super valet, all walls, ceilings, seats, glass having been thoroughly cleaned, debris and chewing gum removed. 59 stations repainted, all car park entrances and walkways have received a deep clean to remove any graffiti, repairs to stairways and fences have also been carried out.

New innovative idea monitors sound to find bearing problems

Working in collaboration with Network Rail, both Siemens and South West Trains are operating an innovative new system that diagnoses potential problems with trains by listening to them as they pass.

The system, called RailBAM, monitors 300 trains a day on the Wessex route between London and Weymouth, and is the first permanent application of this technology in Europe. It employs an array of hi-tech microphones mounted at the side of the track that listen to each axle-bearing on passing trains. Information on how the bearings sound is then fed back to a database, where it is compared to the sound of a perfect bearing. Sound analysis allows tiny bearing defects to be identified months before they become critical.

ECML punctuality hit by disruption

Although punctuality statistics reported by Network Rail showed timekeeping as better than 12 months ago, the East Coast franchise fell from 89.1% to 87.7%, the only operator to have a punctuality rating of less than 90%.

East Coast said: "We are working closely with Network Rail to deliver robust joint action plans to improve the punctuality of our services. During the period from 30th May to 26th June, East Coast's punctuality was affected by a number of incidents, with the greatest disruption caused by factors outside our control. These included a number of infrastructure issues including signalling, points and electrical supply problems. Performance was also affected by a fatality between Durham and Darlington, an incident of cable theft near Newcastle, and one of our services becoming disabled near Barnet in North London".

It is also understood that the line was hit by vandalism last month, with the worst incident taking place on 15th June when a train hit debris on the track at Hadley Wood. As a result the brakes seized up and services were delayed for several hours afterwards. There were also delays caused by problems with overhead power lines at Grantham.

Network Rail research confirms the importance of moving freight by rail

New research from Network Rail, published as the Value and Importance of Railfreight, reports that the British economy is boosted annually from £870 million by the railfreight industry, and freight further indirectly supports an economic output of £5.9 billion, over six times its direct turnover.

It also states that rail transports over 100 million tonnes of goods worth around £30 billion every year, and that in total it contributes £299 million in profits and wages to the UK economy.

The social benefits of a shift from road to rail equated to £376 million in 2007/8, and up to £903 million if it grows by 140% by 2031. This would be a lot higher if the loss of revenue from vehicle excise duty was not taken into account. Rail freight demand is predicted to grow by 30% over the next decade and up to 140% over 30 years, leading to the question of how is this growth accommodated?

▲ **Freight services, such as this one, contribute around £870 million to the economy, according to Network Rail. After several days of Class 59 and 66 haulage, Class 60 No. 60013** *Robert Boyle* **puts in an appearance on the 05.05 Robeston-Westerleigh tanks as it passes the small village of Undy on 16th July. Edward Gleed**

▲ Class 317/8 No. 317883 departs Tottenham Hale on 9th June, sporting an all white livery with Standsted Express/National Express logos. **Robert Jefferys**

▼ Class 67 No. 67029 *Royal Diamond* arrives at Bradford-on-Avon with the 09.09 Saturdays Only loco-hauled Bristol Temple Meads to Weymouth service on 10th July. **Stephen Moore**

▲ ▶ First Great Western's 13.06 London Paddington to Penzance service formed of Class 43 powercars Nos. 43041 and 43135, struck a tree that had fallen from outside the railway boundary at Lavington, near Westbury, on 10th July. The impact happened at about 90 mph, causing severe damage to the lead powercar. Thankfully, there was no derailment, although the driver did sustain shock, cuts and bruises. Class 59/2 No. 59201 was dispatched from Merehead to tow the set to Westbury, at 5mph due to wheel flats. The train was terminated here some five hours late. **Both: Mark Few**

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.

18th July 2010			
Compass Tours	DBS Class 67	Tame Bridge Parkway-Stafford-Hellifield-S&C-Carlisle-Shap & return	
Steam Dreams	30777	London Waterloo-Yeovil-Dorchester West-Weymouth-Bournemouth-Southampton-Salisbury -Andover-Woking-London Waterloo	
Torbay Express Ltd	71000	Bristol Temple Meads-Kingswear & return	
Vintage Trains	4965	B'ham SH-Henley in Arden-Stratford-Dorridge-B'ham SH (two trips)	
WCRC	45231 or 62005	Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig & return	
Whestrail	WCRC 37/47	Fort William-Edinburgh Waverley	**Cancelled**
19th July 2010			
WCRC	45231	Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig & return	
20th July 2010			
WCRC	45231	Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig & return	
WCRC	tbc	York-Normanton-Wakefield-Woodlesford-Castleford-York-Scarborough & rtn	
21st July 2010			
Railway Touring Co.	30777 or 60019	London Victoria-Basingstoke-Weymouth-Dorchester South-London Victoria	
WCRC	45231	Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig & return	
WCRC	tbc	York-Normanton-Wakefield-Woodlesford-Castleford-York-Scarborough & rtn	
22nd July 2010			
Steam Dreams	tbc	London-Canterbury & return	**Cancelled**
WCRC	45231	Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig & return	
WCRC	tbc	York-Normanton-Wakefield-Woodlesford-Castleford-York-Scarborough & rtn	
23rd July 2010			
Railway Touring Co.	6201	Crewe-Stockport-Huddersfield-Wakefield Kirkgate-York-Scarborough & rtn	
WCRC	45231	Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig & return	
24th July 2010			
Railway Touring Co.	6233	Liverpool Lime Street-Wigan NW-Shap-Carlisle-S&C-Blackburn-Liverpool	
UK Railtours	2xDBS 67	London KX-York-Scarborough-Beverley-Goole-Doncaster-Huntingdon & rtn	
WCRC	45231	Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig & return	
Whestrail	WCRC 37/47	Edinburgh Waverley-Fort William	**Cancelled**
25th July 2010			
Railway Touring Co.	WCRC Pool	York-Leeds-Shipley-Keighley-Skipton-Hellifield-S&C-Carlisle & return	
Torbay Express Ltd	71000	Bristol Temple Meads-Kingswear & return	
Vintage Trains	Tyseley Pool	B'ham SH-Henley in Arden-Stratford-Dorridge-B'ham SH (two trips)	
WCRC	45231 or 62005	Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig & return	
Whestrail	WCRC 37/47	Fort William-Edinburgh Waverley	**Cancelled**
26th July 2010			
WCRC	45231	Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig & return	
WCRC	tbc	Machynlleth-Tywyn-Barmouth-Harlech-Minffordd-Porthmadog-Pwllheli & rtn	
UK Railtours	71000	(London Victoria-)Gloucester-Lickey Incline-Camp Hill-Water Orton-Nuneaton-Melton Mowbray-Harringworth Viaduct-Bedford-London	

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

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

The Week Ahead

by John Whitehouse

In some respects this coming week is the 'turnover' week, where the usual one-off tours give way to the peak holiday season repeat itinerary trains, which in recent years have become a feature of the annual railtour calendar.

Scarborough figures very strongly in the forthcoming activities, with a steam-hauled service now booked to arrive at the popular East Coast spa resort on every week-day except Monday, between 20th July and 3rd September. The West Coast Railway Company's 'Scarborough Spa Express' is booked to operate each Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 20th July until 2nd September (plus Bank Holiday Monday, 30th August), which this year will run around a shorter route commencing at York, and then picking up at Normanton, Wakefield's Kirkgate and Westgate stations, Woodlesford and Castleford, before returning to York ahead of the final leg to Scarborough. The change of route is partly due to secure an earlier departure from Scarborough to enable passengers to get back to their destinations earlier, which is an important point for tourists who need to get back to hotels for evening meals at set times. The use of the GWR 'Hall' 4-6-0 No. 5972 *Olton Hall*, more universally known nowadays as *Hogwarts Castle*, is a marketing dream, and according to West Coast's publicity, No. 5972 will be the 'main locomotive used on the 'SSE' for the 2010 season'. Recently restored 'Black 5' 4-6-0 No. 44932 is thought to be the other loco in the 'SSE' pool.

On Fridays, the Railway Touring Company will have the recently repainted 'Princess Royal' Pacific No. 6201 *Princess Elizabeth* sporting a much smarter LMS maroon livery, and the now LMS-lined black liveried 'Princess Coronation' Pacific No. 6233 *Duchess of Sutherland* sharing the 'The Scarborough Flyer' from Crewe to Scarborough, via Huddersfield and York, on successive Fridays from 23rd July through to 10th September. It is believed that No. 6233 will haul the trains on 30th July, 6th August and 3rd September, with No. 6201 covering the other dates.

And to round off a memorable week in hopefully sunny Scarborough, UK Railtours arrive on 24th July with the 'Seaside Scarborough and Yorkshire Coast' from London King's Cross, probably with a pair of DBS Class 67s. The outward journey is direct to York along the ECML, and then via Malton, while the return working runs along the coast line through Bridlington and Beverley, to regain the ECML at Doncaster, and then back to Kings' Cross.

On 24th July, *Duchess of Sutherland* will head the first of three 'Cumbrian Mountain Expresses' for RTC, which originate at Liverpool Lime Street, and then head north to Carlisle, via Shap, while the return works over the Settle & Carlisle. St Helens Junction, Wigan North Western and Preston are the other pick-up points, and the train is also scheduled to operate on 7th & 21st August, behind *Princess Elizabeth*. On Sunday 25th July, RTC's 'The Waverley' commences, and will operate each Sunday until 5th September to Carlisle from York, operating both ways over the S&C. The likely locomotive pool will include 'Jubilee' No. 5690 *Leander*, 'Royal Scot' No. 46115 *Scots Guardsman* and one or more 'Black 5s'.

Also for RTC, commencing on 21st July and running each Wednesday until 1st September, is 'The Dorset Coast Express' from London Victoria, calling at Clapham Junction, Staines, Woking and Basingstoke. The plan is to set down at Bournemouth en route to Weymouth, but the initial working last week was diverted via Salisbury, Yeovil Junction (reverse) and Dorchester on the outward leg due to pathing issues. Whether this was a one off, or will feature in the forthcoming workings remains to be seen.

The highlight on the return is the plan to use a second steam locomotive to bank the train to Dorchester South from Weymouth on the steep climb of Upwey bank. With the current locomotive availability issues, reports indicate that the motive power pool for this working will likely consist of 'King Arthur' No. 30777 *Sir Lamiel* and 'A4' No. 60019 *Bittern*, although the latter is now dependant upon solving the ejector issues reported elsewhere in this issue, which have further sidelined the locomotive.

Problems for main line as three failures hit operators

The last few days have not been good for the main line steam operators, with four untimely failures.

As reported in Ups & Downs, 'A4' No. 60019 *Bittern* was the first casualty, followed on 16th July when 'K1' No. 62005 failed with reported flue tube pinholes while on 'Jacobite' duties, which will result in the locomotive returning to Carnforth for attention. How long it will be sidelined for, and the identity of any likely replacement, remains to be established. Meanwhile, 'Jacobite' duties will be covered by the other locomotive in the Fort William pool, 'Black 5' No. 45231.

Saturday 17th July, proved to be a black day, especially for No. 46115 *Scots Guardsman,* which was having a third attempt at getting round the 'Cotton Mill' circuit. Unfortunately, fate again intervened, and following reports of it being 'off-beat' on Copy Pit, it was declared a failure at Manchester Victoria and the train terminated having arrived, after traversing the first circuit. The loco and stock then proceeded to Ian Riley's Works at Bury, where upon inspection the problem was reported to be that the middle cylinder piston rod packing had been blown out. It is believed that repairs were completed on site, and the locomotive and stock returned to Carnforth that evening without further incident.

To compound a bad day for the West Coast company, its newly restored 'Black 5' No. 44932 was also declared a failure upon arrival at Ravenglass while working Statesman Railtours 'The Lakelander'. The problem is reported to be that its front coupling rod bearing had run hot. The train was rescued by Class 47/4 No. 47580 *County of Essex*, which returned it to its originating point of Leicester, while the 'Black 5' and support coach limped back to Carnforth for attention.

A prolonged repair of the 'K1' could create problems for 'The Jacobite' pool, and *Bittern* was possibly being looked at as a stop-gap Class 8 locomotive for jobs that had previously been booked for *Oliver Cromwell* or *Tangmere*.

The undoubted good news is that the problems with the 'Scot' and 'Black 5' are not serious, and should mean they are both available again in a matter of days, if not sooner, especially in the case of *Scots Guardsman*, the problem of which already appear to have been corrected.

With the peak season for charter operations approaching, there will be many fingers being firmly crossed that there are no more failures from within the main line steam fleet.

◀ In the last issue, we included this photograph of BR Pacific No. 71000 *Duke of Gloucester* approaching Ais Gill on 3rd July. Unfortunately, the gremlins got into the editorial office and it was incorrectly credited to Mick Rogers. The photographer was actually Ken Horan. Our apologies to both.

Rail-Blue Charters

DAY EXCURSIONS BY TRAIN

Travel to Salisbury on 'the Southern Circular II' charter or visit Edinburgh with us in late Summer

SATURDAY, 14TH AUGUST - 'The Southern Circular II'

This tour provides for an interesting day out, with haulage by a pair of Class 47s, to the cathedral city of Salisbury, via an interesting route along the Midland Mainline. Outwards our route should see us run via Virginia Water, Woking, Havant, Fareham, Eastleigh and Romsey. You will then have time to visit Salisbury before we return via Basingstoke, Mortimer, Reading, Slough and Acton.

From the Midlands to Salisbury from £57

PICK UP STATIONS are Barrow Hill, Chesterfield, Alfreton, Langley Mill, East Midlands Parkway, Leicester, Market Harborough, Kettering, Wellingborough, Bedford and St. Albans.
FARES: **First Class** £85 (£65 for juniors) and **Standard Class** £57 (£37 for juniors)

FRIDAY, 10TH SEPTEMBER - 'The West Coast Premier'

A visit to historic Edinburgh behind electric traction, in the form of BR blue-liveried 87002 is on offer with this trip. The train takes a scenic run through the Cumbrian and Lakeland Fells, over Shap, then on through the Borders over the spectacular climb to Beattock and along the Cobbinshaw line into Edinburgh with distant views of the Forth Bridge. Edinburgh offers a world of shopping and award winning attractions like the historic castle or a tour around the Royal Yacht Britannia.

Ride the WCML behind a Class 87

PICK UP STATIONS are Watford Junction, Hemel Hempstead, Berkhampsted, Tring, Leighton Buzzard, Milton Keynes Central, Northampton, Rugby and Nuneaton.

FARES: **Premier Dining** £149, **First Class** £84 (£64 for juniors) and **Standard Class** £57 (£37 for juniors)

A comprehensive buffet service is available.

Let us welcome you aboard!

Click here for further details

Tables for 2 and discounts for groups are available.
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To BOOK and for INFO, email us at **bookings@rail-bluecharters.co.uk**, telephone **0161 850 0559** or visit **www.rail-bluecharters.co.uk/tour_list**

A sight that many thought would never be seen again, as Birmingham New Street is classed as an underground station, as a result of which steam under the roof is now banned. LMS Pacific No. 6201 *Princess Elizabeth* stands in Birmingham New Street on 17th July, awaiting departure to London Euston with the 'Midlander' charter - the first steam departure for 45 years. **John Whitehouse**

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*Service may or may not be free depending on your current service plan.

First steam on the Looe branch for 50 years

Of the many events and tours that have celebrated this year's 175th Anniversary of the Great Western Railway, the highlight will take place on consecutive Sundays in September, when a humble Pannier Tank will head the first steam-hauled working on the highly scenic Looe branch for nearly half a century.

It is believed that the last steam working on the branch from Liskeard was September 1961, presumably when scheduled steam operations ceased. So, Vintage Trains, in association with First Great Western, will be operating 'The Looe Valley Explorer' on 19th & 26th September, which will feature four round trips from Liskeard to Looe hauled by GWR 9400 class 0-6-0PT No. 9466 and a West Coast Railway Company Class 37, operating in 'top and tail' mode. Outline times of departures from the branch line platform at Liskeard are 10.50 (returning at 12.10), 12.55 (14.15), 14.55 (16.40) and 17.10 (18.30). It is expected that the turn round time at Looe will be about 10 minutes.

One key question is how the locomotives will be positioned? It is understood that No. 9466 will lead from Liskeard to Coombe Junction, where a reversal is necessary, and the train will continue to Looe with the Class 37 leading. The Pannier Tank will head the return from Looe to Coombe Junction, and then be conveniently positioned to give the Class 37 some assistance on the curvaceous climb back to Liskeard.

Also operating on each Sunday will be a stock move from Plymouth that will be available for passengers. 'The Tamar Syphon' will run, again in 'top and tail' mode, with the WCRC Class 37 leading and the '9400' positioned at the rear. It has an additional pick-up at Saltash, before heading to Liskeard, where passengers will detrain on the main line platform, as the charter will need to draw forward, and with No. 9466 in charge, reverse from the 'down to the 'up' main line, and then move gently around the very tight curve on the freight-only spur that leads from the 'up' main to the Looe branch. A further reversal will then be required for the train to access the branch line platform, which is positioned at right angles to the main line station.

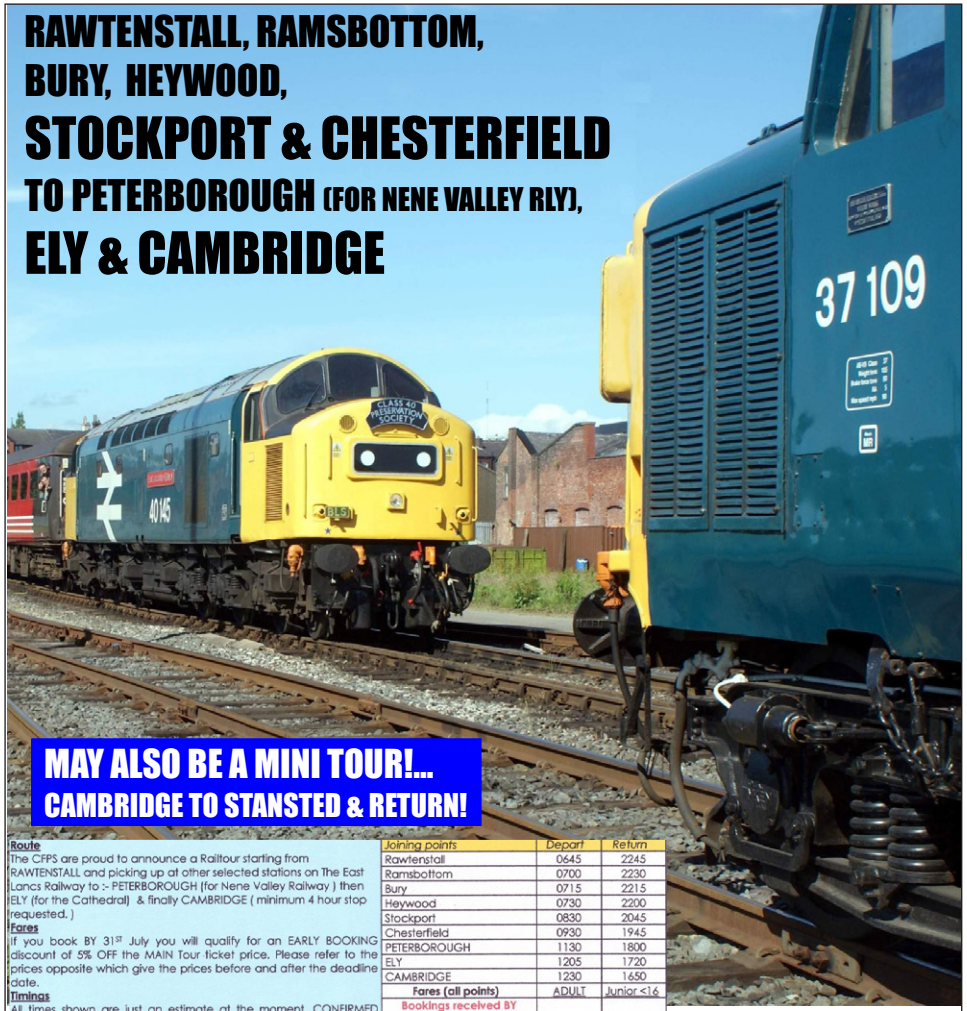
After the last shuttle of the day, the returning stock move is also running as a passenger working, entitled 'The Royal Albert'. This will be a reverse of the morning movement in order to get the train from the branch line platform back onto the main line, which will see the Class 37 leading around the freight only spur, and the Pannier having charge of the train back to Plymouth, again setting down at Saltash en route.

Two further trains will operate in conjunction with the Looe branch shuttles, and these are two positioning specials to get the coaching stock to and from Plymouth. The outward working, 'The Down Devonian' will run on Saturday 18th September hauled by the West Coast Class 37, which will pick up at Solihull, Banbury, Oxford, Swindon, Westbury, Taunton and Exeter St Davids. The return working, 'The Up Devonian' will operate on Monday 27th September from Plymouth, with the Class 37 setting down at the outward pick-up points.

It is also worth remembering that Railway Touring Company's 'The Cornishman' from Bristol Temple Meads to Par, hauled by No. 5029 *Nunney Castle* is also due to call at Liskeard on 19th September.

Revived *Bittern* encounters more problems

◀ **Prior to its use on Steam Dreams London King's Cross to York charter on 15th July, LNER A4 Pacific No. 60019 *Bittern* worked 'light engine' with its second tender and support coach from Alton to Southall on 14th July, pictured passing Worplesdon, between Woking and Guildford. The locomotive failed prior to departure of the trip the following day - see story. Yoshi Hashida**



Route
The CFPS are proud to announce a Railtour starting from RAWTENSTALL and picking up at other selected stations on The East Lancs Railway to :- PETERBOROUGH (for Nene Valley Railway) then ELY (for the Cathedral) & finally CAMBRIDGE (minimum 4 hour stop requested.)

Fares
If you book BY 31ST July you will qualify for an EARLY BOOKING discount of 5% OFF the MAIN Tour ticket price. Please refer to the prices opposite which give the prices before and after the deadline date.

Timings
All times shown are just an estimate at the moment. CONFIRMED TIMINGS will be posted on the CFPS website when known.

On the train: A buffet service (NON DINING) will be available selling a selection of hot & cold drinks, sandwiches, crisps & confectionery.

Ticket allocation: Tickets will be allocated on a first come first served basis. We urge you to send your bookings in PROMPTLY to avoid disappointment.
Please note that ALL JUNIORS must be accompanied by an adult.

MINI TOUR. We are hoping to run an 'add on' trip from Cambridge to Stansted Airport using 40145 in Top and Tail mode with a class 67. Please add £10 to the prices listed, if you wish to travel on this tour PROVIDED you have booked on the main tour. Note that the add on price is same the same for STD Class and FIRST Class passengers. If you are boarding at CAMBRIDGE for JUST the mini tour, Cost will be £20.

If you book on the main tour and intend to travel on the mini tour and are paying by cheque, would you please send a separate payment for the mini tour to avoid us having to issue refunds if the add on tour is unable to run.

PLEASE try to provide us with BOTH a PHONE number AND an email address so we have adequate means of being able to make contact with you at short notice in case any unforeseen problems arise.

Joining points	Depart	Return
Rawtenstall	0645	2245
Ramsbottom	0700	2230
Bury	0715	2215
Heywood	0730	2200
Stockport	0830	2045
Chesterfield	0930	1945
PETERBOROUGH	1130	1800
ELY	1205	1720
CAMBRIDGE	1230	1650
Fares (all points)	ADULT	Junior <16
Bookings received BY 31ST July.		
STANDARD Class	£56.05	£37.05
FIRST Class	£84.55	£65.55
Bookings received FROM 1st August.		
STANDARD Class.	£59.00	£39.00
FIRST Class.	£89.00	£69.00
	Adult	Junior<16
Supplement for TABLE for TWO seats in FIRST CLASS.	£10.00.	£10.00.
Cambridge to Stansted Airport "MINI TOUR." IF booked on main tour	£10.00 STD & FC.	£ 5.00 STD & FC.
Cambridge to Stansted Airport "mini tour". IF NOT booked on main tour	£20.00 Std. £30.00. FC.	£10.00. Std £15.00. FC.

THE
EAST
LANCS
EXPLORER
SATURDAY
4 SEPTEMBER
2010

CFPS BOOKINGS, 38 WATKINS DRIVE, PRESTWICH, MANCHESTER, M25 0DS. TEL. 075 000 40145

Explore Roman Britain with Vintage Trains!

The Looe branch shuttles will be a hard act for Vintage Trains to follow, but the company's autumn programme certainly rises to this challenge, as following the announcement of trains to Llandudno Junction and Buxton last week comes news of a renewed attempt to rescue the credibility of Great Western locomotives on the Northern Fells.

On 16th October, Tyseley's 'Castle' class 4-6-0 No. 5043 *Earl of Mount Edgcumbe* is intent on doing just that, as in the wake of its very credible performance over Shap last year it now heads for an 'out and back' over the Long Drag. The loco is booked to work northwards from Hellifield where, with luck, it may pass LMS Pacific No. 6201 *Princess Elizabeth*, which will be heading south on a UK Railtours charter the same day. After a break in Carlisle, the train returns via the S&C and the southbound 'slog' against the grade to Ais Gill, followed by easier running to Hellifield, Blackburn and onwards to Crewe, where diesel traction takes over for the run back to Tyseley Warwick Road. The train also picks up at Tame Bridge Parkway, Wolverhampton and Crewe on the diesel-hauled outward leg to Hellifield.

London Euston is the destination of 'The Capital Five' on 6th November, which has 'Black 5' No. 45305 from Tyseley Warwick Road, Coleshill Parkway and Nuneaton, and running via Rugby, Northampton and Bletchley to the Capital. For many years out of bounds for inward steam workings, Euston is now proving to be a popular destination, especially as pathing issues over the busy southern section of the West Coast main line seem to have been resolved as well. The next tour on 27th November also features No. 45305, again from Tyseley Warwick Road, but this time northbound over the short stretch of the West Coast Main Line from Stafford to Crewe, where 'The Deva Explorer' diverges for Deva Victrix, or to the likes of you and me, Chester! The return features an all too rare assault on Gresford bank, and then onwards, via Wrexham, Gobowen and Shrewsbury, to Wolverhampton and Tame Bridge Parkway.

Two weeks later Vintage Trains has 'The Aquae Sulis', and this time you are going to have to guess where it is - no prizes for correct answers, however. No. 4965 *Rood Ashton Hall* provides the traction, the pick up points are Solihull, Dorridge, Warwick Parkway and Banbury. Passengers can get off at Swindon, Bristol Temple Meads and somewhere else. The following Saturday there is 'The Christmas White Rose', with No. 5043 *Earl of Mount Edgcumbe* from Tyseley Warwick Road to York, picking up at Coleshill Parkway, Tamworth, Burton-upon-Trent and Derby.

Ups & Downs

by John Whitehouse

■ UK Railtours confirm that the 'Midland Tornado' on 26th July will now be effectively the 'Midland Duke', as No. 71000 *Duke of Gloucester* is now installed as the motive power in place of the unavailable No. 60163 *Tornado* from Gloucester to London Victoria, via a diverse route that includes an assault on the Lickey incline, then skirting Birmingham to Nuneaton, Leicester, Melton Mowbray, Harringworth Viaduct and Kettering back to London.

■ A late problem with No. 60019 *Bittern* meant that Steam Dreams 'Cathedrals Express' on 15th July had to be hauled by West Coast Class 47s throughout from King's Cross to York and back. The 'A4' was failed with exhaust ejector problems on the evening before the tour was due to run, leaving Steam Dreams in the unfortunate position of not being able to contact any of its passengers in advance, but having to advise them of the situation upon arrival at their departure point. Additionally, it is believed that repairs cannot be effected in time for the locomotive to be available for its booked working with No. 30777 *Sir Lamiel* on the 'Cathedrals Express' to Weymouth on 18th July, and the train will now be hauled by No. 30777 and a West Coast diesel locomotive.

▲ **LMS 'Royal Scot' No. 46115** *Scots Guardsman* **approaches Basingstoke with the 08.25 Kensington Olympia-Weymouth 'Dorset Coast Express' on 9th July.**
Chris Wilson

▲ **King class No. 6024** *King Edward I* **powers the 08.45 London Victoria-Bristol VSOE charter through Shrivenham in a strong cross wind on 14th July, deputising for No. 35028** *Clan Line*. **Ken Brunt**

▲ Class 47/4 No. 47580 *County of Essex* speeds through a deserted Chinley on 17th July with the 06.32 Leicester to Ravenglass 'The Lakelander' charter. Class 37/5 No. 37676 is attached to the rear. **Nigel Capelle**

▲ Two Allelys Heavy Haulage tractor units haul Class 58 No. 58045 up the hill out of Eckington, Derbyshire, on 8th July bound for Barrow Hill, where the Type 5 will be stripped for spares to allow the Class 58 Locomotive Group to return its other loco, No. 58016, to service. The low loader, which had originated at Crewe, had been stuck at the bottom of the hill for four hours due to excessive heat and a lack of adhesion on the road surface.
Ian Beardsley

County Council could fund Swanage link

County Council officials will decide on whether to plough £3 million into reconnecting Swanage with the main line network at a meeting later this month.

Network Rail needs an assurance by the end of July that the money will be available when planned Poole to Wool resignalling work starts in 2012. Campaigners, councillors and Purbeck businesses have been pushing for the reconnection after an absence of main line services for more than three decades. Transport officials looked into the possibilities of securing funding from outside agencies, but as the deadline drew closer it became likely that the £3 million needed might have to come from the council's capital budget, although in the current climate of economic cutbacks, this may not prove popular with all members. The issue will be debated at a full council meeting on 22nd July. Last December, Purbeck District Council and the county council each agreed to invest £50,000 to help upgrade Worgret Junction, this being considered vital as Network Rail was to include the junction in its planned resignalling works.

The Purbeck branch line was closed in 1972. A reconnection appears to be well supported across Purbeck, and is seen as important in attracting business and holidaymakers to the area.

Swindon & Cricklade opens new southern extension thanks to developer funds from Swindon Council

The Swindon and Cricklade Railway has announced the opening of the new southern extension of the railway towards Mouldon Hill (Swindon), which has been made possible by £65,000 in developer funds from Swindon Borough Council.

Vice Chairman, Dave Peacey said: "We are very pleased to have received these funds towards our future development; this has made it possible to bring forward our programme by five years.

It is our hope and intention to run trains into Mouldon Hill next year, which will then increase our running line to just over three miles of passenger-carrying trains. We would like to thank all the Swindon Borough Council officers who have helped in this important step, and in particular, Councillor Vera Tomlinson, who set the ball rolling in early 2009. The Railway already has outline planning consent for the railway line extension as part of the Cricklade Country way bid". Mouldon Hill Country Park is currently being landscaped and developed, so the new stretch of railway line will add to what is already a popular attraction.

GWR Prairie headlines Battlefield line steam action in August

The Shakerstone-based Battlefield Line is looking forward to a busy few weeks, with the headline event being the visit of 4575 class Prairie Tank No. 5542.

The locomotive is due to be resident on the railway from 31st July until 5th September, during which time it is booked to be in action each Saturday with four return workings between Shakerstone and Shenton, and on Sundays when there are five scheduled diagrams.

The final two weekends, 28th-30th August (Bank Holiday) and 4th/5th September, will feature galas, where services will be shared with resident B1 class 4-6-0 No. 1306 *Mayflower*. The latter weekend is the Shakerstone Family Festival, and will also include a visit from the Red Arrows aerobatic display team and aircraft from the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight. To further spice-up proceedings, the 1937 vintage ex-LNER 'Beavertail' Observation Coach will also be in service

The 'Heartlander Heritage Railcar Service' will operate each Wednesday until 25th August, and is booked to be operated by the Class 116/118 (Cars Nos. 51131/51321) hybrid DMU set, which will feature four return workings each day.

Looking ahead there is a Heritage Weekend on 11th/12th September, followed by a three diesel gala from 17th to 19th September, of which more details will follow when available.

▲ GWR 9400 Class 0-6-0PT No. 9466 heads an afternoon train at Crownthorpe on the Mid-Norfolk Railway on 10th July, the first day of operation. This will be the fourth year that the locomotive has visited the railway.

9400 Class Pannier heads to Norfolk for the summer

Ahead of its September vacation on the Looe branch, Dennis Howell's Pannier Tank No. 9466 will be visiting the Mid-Norfolk Railway in July and August.

Operating on the railway's special 'purple' timetable, the locomotive will work three round trips each day between Dereham and Wymondham Abbey every Saturday and Sunday until 29th August, plus Bank Holiday Monday 30th August. A mid-week service will also operate on Wednesdays until 27th October, which will be provided by the railway's resident Metro-Cammell Class 101 DMU. A peak season service each Thursday will also be running between 29th July and 26th August, again with the 'Met-Cam' DMU

▼ For the first time since 1965, Thuxton station has double-track. The loop project is nearing completion, with the trackwork over the road finished last month. The project, with the exception of the signalbox, construction of which is now well underway, is due for completion in September, in time for the railway's Class 37 Gala. **Both: Ashley Dace**

▲ On loan from the Midland Railway Centre, BR Standard Class 9F No. 92214 stands at Grosmont on 8th July, after working the 'Moorlander' dining train. An emergency timetable was in operation at this time due to the fire risk, which had resulted in a diesel pilot being used between Goathland and Levisham. **Paul Braybrook**

▼ The rolling chassis and tender of Gresley A4 class Pacific No. 60009 *Union of South Africa* stand at Crewe Heritage Centre on 10th July awaiting attention. The boiler has already been removed as part of the locomotive's major overhaul. **Stephen Tucker**

The Gloucestershire Warwickshire Railway held its Diesel Gala over 9th-11th July. On the first day, a 'Shunterfest II' event took place, with starring role going to the two visiting Potter Group Class 08 shunting locos.

▲ Class 08s Nos. 08598 and 08683 supported by Class 37/0 No. 37248 head past Hailes Abbey on 9th July. **Stuart Chapman**

▲▲ The Potter Group's Class 08s Nos. 08202 and 08598 cross Stanway Viaduct operating brake van rides along the new section of track towards Broadway.

▶▲ Freightliner-liveried Class 47/3 No. 47376 *Freightliner 100* powers past Hailes Abbey with a shuttle service from Toddington to Gotherington.

▶ Class 25 No. D7612 curves past Didbrook with a Toddington to Gotherington service, while visiting from the South Devon Railway. **All: Jack Boskett**

← Contents Page

FIRST EVER DIESEL GALA

August 14th / 15th

Intensive Services Featuring the following locomotives:

Class 08 08631 – an EXTREMELY RARE passenger turn for the 'Gronk' from Mid Norfolk. Visit sponsored by Coastal Shipping transport books www.coastalshipping.co.uk

Class 14 D9521 – this visit marks a return to West Wales for this ex-Landore machine. Appearance sponsored by Railway Herald – www.railwayherald.com

Class 03 D2178 – FIRST advertised haulage on home metals

ALSO: DEMOLITION TRAIN PHOTO CHARTER WITH D9521 ON AUGUST 21ST & 22ND

OTHER ATTRACTIONS:

- ***On train Film Show*** – provided by Visions International
- ***On train bar open all day*** –ales "Cwrw Haf" & "Cwrw Braf", & "Taffy Apples" Cider
- ***Evening 'Curry Train'*** (travel included in Rover ticket price but limited availability so reservation recommended)
- ***Launch of 'WELSH RAILWAYS – a new perspective'*** – the new book from Coastal Shipping transport publications – with the authors on site and signing copies

PLUS VISITING MINIATURE LOCOS:

- Replica **Class 20 D3** ***RIVER FAL*** from the Fancott Miniature Railway – FIRST VISIT TO WALES
- Replica **County Donegal railcar** from a private site - RARE PUBLIC APPEARANCE

ADULT FARES (DISCOUNTS FOR SENIOR CITIZENS & CHILDREN):

Weekend Rover £13, Day Rover £7.50 if booked on the day or less than 7 days in advance

DISCOUNT FARES: Weekend Rover £10, Day Rover £6 if booked 7 days or more in advance

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO PRE-BOOK:

See **www.gwili-railway.co.uk** or Phone our Booking Hotline: **01267 238213**

HOW TO GET THERE:

- A regular vintage bus shuttle will operate from Carmarthen Railway Station throughout the weekend.
- The Event Car Park is located just 20 minutes from the M4 in Old Station Road, Carmarthen – for Satnav etc use postcode SA31 1LP. This is a short walk from the Railway Station, from where the bus shuttle will transport you to the event. This is a non-Gwili Railway car park for which a day rate charge applies (currently £1.50).
- **Holders of valid rail tickets who travel to Carmarthen by train for the event will, in addition to avoiding the parking charge, receive a discount of £1 on the advertised "on the day" ticket price.**
- Due to space constraints, we regret that there will only be parking at Bronwydd Arms station for disabled blue badge holders. ALL OTHER DRIVERS should go to the Event Car Park.

All services and attractions subject to availability – the Gwili Railway Company Limited can accept no liability from its failure to run advertised services or attractions

Click on this advert for further information and to pre-book tickets

Newly repainted Class 90 No. 90045 heads along the West Coast Main Line at Berkhampsted on 16th July with a Felixstowe to Ditton intermodal service. **Patrick Seale**

On 29th June, Colas Rail Class 66/8 No. 66841 climbs to Shap through Greenholme with an empty timber working from Chirk to Carlisle. **Edward Gleed**

The First ScotRail livery is probably one of the most suited to the body design of the Class 90. Here, DB Schenker-operated Class 90 No. 90024 powers through Bletchley with an early-running 15.06 Daventry to Wembley service on 16th July. **Robert Jefferys**

Class 66/5 No. 66557 heads a Bredbury - Roxby binerliner service through Addingford, Horbury, on 28th June. **Paul Manley**

16th July 2010
GWS (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.

19th July 2010
GCR Society (Spinkhill)
The Angel Hotel 26 College Road, Spinkhill, Sheffield S21 3YB. 'A Look Back at Sheffield Trams to Crookes and Walkley' by Paul Fox. Starts 19.30. Contact Frank Greaves on 01909 473927 for details.

25th July 2010
St Albans Signal Box
St Albans Signal Box Preservation Trust, Ridgmont Road, St Albans AL1 3AJ. Exhibition of signalling memorabilia. Admission free. Open 14.00 - 17.00. Contact K.Webster on 01727 836131 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. Contact 01256 819401 for details.

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

RCTS (Northampton)
'Southern Day Saver' day out. Contact the Secretary, David Pick on 01604 810613 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 01934 628289 for details.

5th August 2010
The Great Central Railway Society (Rotherham)
TheThree Horseshoes,Bawtry Road, Wickersley, Rotherham S66 2BW. 'Tramcars to Buses' by Andy Firth. Starts 19.30. Contact Mick Hayes on 01709 821544 for further details.

7th August 2010
RCTS (Northampton)
Visit to Welshpool & Llanfair Railway. Contact David Pick on 01604 810613.

8th August 2010
St Albans Signal Box
St Albans Signal Box Preservation Trust, Ridgmont Road, St Albans AL1 3AJ. Exhibition of signalling within the preserved signal box. Admission free. Open 14.00 - 17.00. Contact the Chairman, K.Webster on 01727 836131 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

SEG (Sussex)
Deall Room, Southwick Community Centre. 'Closed Stations' by Malcolm Stroud. Starts 19.30. Contact Bruce Cakebread on 01273 462094 for 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 Ken Mumford at ken.mumford@ntlworld.com.

RCTS (Merseyside, Chester & North Wales)
Station Observation at Chesterfield. (optional visit to Barrow Hill). Contact, Geoff Morris on 01244 376808 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.

Swiss Railways Society (London)
The Model Railway Club, Keen House, 4 Calshot Street, London N1 9AT. (nr Kings Cross Station) Members Slides - 'Foreign Night'. Start 19.00. £2 donation requested. Contact the Secretary, Ron Dawes on 0208 660 3532 for further details.

16th August 2010
GCR Society (Spinkhill)
The Angel Hotel 26 College Road, Spinkhill, Sheffield S21 3YB. 'Nottingham Victoria' by Ken Grainger. Starts 19.30. Contact the Secretary, Frank Greaves on 01909 473927 for details.

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

22nd August 2010
RCTS (Merseyside, Chester & North Wales)
'Preservation Sites in Welshpool/ Oswestry Area'. Contact the Secretary, Geoff Morris on 01244 376808 for further details

St Albans Signal Box
St Albans Signal Box Preservation Trust, Ridgmont Road, St Albans AL1 3AJ. Exhibition of signalling and railway ephemera within the preserved signal box. Admission free. Open 14.00 - 17.00. Contact the Chairman, K.Webster on 01727 836131 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. Starts 20.00. Visitors Welcome. Contact 01256 819401 for details.

1st September 2010
Warwickshire Rly Society
The Lamp Tavern PH, Barford Steket, Highgate, Birmingham. 'Two Americas' by Dave Lacey. Starts 19.30. Contact Don Taggart on 01746 710676 for further details.

2nd September 2010
The Great Central Railway Society (Rotherham)
TheThree Horseshoes,Bawtry Road, Wickersley, Rotherham S66 2BW. 'J.G.Robinson and other Railway Artists' by Ken Grainger. Starts 19.30. Contact Mick Hayes on 01709 821544 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 Roger Hart on 01474 833320 for details.

Locomotive & Carriage Institution
55 Broadway, London. 'Presidential Address' by Nick Agnew. Starts 18.00. Contact Stuart Smith at smithstuart@btinternet.com 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 01525 750149 for details.

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

▼ **An unidentified Northern Rail Class 142 'Pacer' DMU passes over the Peak Forest Canal, near the start of Marple Locks, on 15th July. David Bignell**

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 01527 873800 for further details.

9th September 2010
Bath Railway Society
Bath Green Park Station Meeting Room. 'Rare, Unique and High Quality Photographs' by Paul Chancellor. Starts 19.30. Contact Kevin Plummer (evenings) 01225 312564 for details.

Continental Rly Circle
St Paul's Church Centre, Rossmore Road, Marylebone, London NW1 6NJ. 'Southern Africa' by Ron White. Starts 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.

11th/12th September 2010
St Albans Signal Box
St Albans Signal Box Preservation Trust, Ridgmont Road, St Albans AL1 3AJ. Exhibition of signalling plus model railway. Admission free. Open 10.00 - 16.00. Contact the Chairman, K. Webster on 01727 836131 for 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

SEG (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. Non-members £2. Contact the Secretary at beardspaul@aol.com for details.

21st September 2010
Locomotive Club of Great Britain (Bedford)
St John's Church Hall, St John's Street, Bedford. AGM & Branch Annual Photographic Competition. Starts 19.30. Contact the Secretary on 01525 750149 for further details.

22nd September 2010
Basingstoke & District Railway Society
Wote St. Club, New Road, Basingstoke. 'Trains in the Snow' by Les Nixon. Starts 20.00. Visitors Welcome. Contact the Secretary on 01256 819401 for further details.

23rd September 2010
Gravesend Railway Enthusiasts Society
Emmanuel Baptist Church, Windmill Street, Gravesend DA12 1BB. AGM. Start 19.45. Contact Roger Hart on 01474 833320 for details.

Locomotive Club of Great Britain (North West)
St David's Social Centre, 249 Wargrave Road, Newton-le-Willows. 'The Lancaster & Carlisle Railway' by Noel Machell. Starts 19.30. Contact Neville Bond on 01925 226476.

24th September 2010
Great Western Society (North West)
St. Hilda's Clubroom, Slater Street, Latchford, Warrington. 'Lost Stations of St. Helens' by Alan Moore. Starts 19.30.

The Great Central Railway (London)
The Exmouth Arms, 1 Starcross Street, Euston, London NW1 2HR. 'My Railway Career' by Bill Davies. Meeting commences at 19.30. Contact the Secretary, Richard Butler on 01525 372487 for further details.

26th September 2010
St Albans Signal Box Open Day
St Albans Signal Box Preservation Trust, Ridgmont Road, St Albans AL1 3AJ. Exhibition of signalling and railway ephemera within the preserved signal box. Admission free. Open 14.00 - 17.00. Contact the Chairman, K.Webster on 01727 836131 for further details.

5th October 2010
Gravesend Railway Enthusiasts Society
Emmanuel Baptist Church, Windmill Street, Gravesend DA12 1BB. '40 Years of the Severn Valley Railway' by Dave Baker. Meeting commences at 19.45. Contact the Secretary, Roger Hart on 01474 833320 for further details.

Locomotive & Carriage Institution
55 Broadway, London. 'The Restoration of B Standard 9F, 92212' by Les Greer. Meeting commences at 18.00. Contact the Secretary, Stuart Smith at smithstuart@btinternet.com for further details

Locomotive Club of Great Britain (Bedford)
St John's Church Hall, St John's Street, Bedford. 'Trains in the Snow' by Les Nixon. Starts 19.30. Contact 01525 750149 for further details.

Southern Electric Group (South Hampshire)/ LRTA (Southern)
Eastleigh Railway Institute, Romsey Road, Eastleigh. 'A Railway and Tramway Miscellany' by John Godfrey. Starts 19.30. Admission £2. Contact John Goodrich on 023 8067 0028 for further details.

Weston super Mare Railway Society
Function Room, Conservative Club, Alexandra Parade, Weston super Mare. 'In the Realm of the Sachsen Meyers' by Andrew R. Hook. Starts 20.00. Contact Lionel Jones on 01934 628289 for further details.

11th October 2010
Lincoln Railway Society
St Hugh's Church Hall, North Hykeham, Lincoln. 'L.N.E.R. Locos' by Alex Hurd. Starts 20.00. Contact the Secretary on 01522 705365.

Southern Electric Group (Sussex Branch)
Deall Room, Southwick Community Centre. 'Bournemouth Electrification 1966 Onwards' by Robert Burch. Starts 19.30. £2 donation. Contact Bruce Cakebread on 01273 462094 for further details.

12th October 2010
Abergavenny & District Steam Society
Upper Room, The Hen and Chickens, Flannel Street, Abergavenny. 'The Tornado Story' by John Rawlinson. Start 20.00. Contact the Secretary, Ken Mumford at ken.mumford@ntlworld.com for details.

13th October 2010
Basingstoke & District Railway Society
Wote St. Club, New Road, Basingstoke. Society Photographic Competition. Starts 20.00. Visitors Welcome. Contact the Secretary on 01256 819401 for further details.

Bromsgrove Railway Club
St Godwalds Church Hall, Aston Fields, Bromsgrove. 'The Paul Riley Collection 1961 to 1966' by Tony Bowles. Starts 19.45. Contact Dave on 01527 873800 or Gordon on 05127873609 for further details.

14th October 2010
Continental Rly Circle
St Paul's Church Centre, Rossmore Road, Marylebone, London NW1 6NJ. '50th Anniversary Meeting - 'Miscellany from 1957 -63' by Lance King and 'Finland and Greece' by Charles Firminger. Meeting commences at 19.15. Admission £2. Contact the Secretary, Adrian Palmer on 01932 850624 or at akpalmer@talktalk.net for further details.

21st October 2010
Barrow Hill Engine Shed Society
Roundhouse Lecture Theatre, Barrow Hill, Chesterfield. 'The Duchess and The Royal Train' by Phil Eccleston. Meeting commences at 19.30. Admission £1.50 members, £2 non members. Contact the Secretary at beardspaul@aol.com for details.

Breconshire Railway Society
R.A.F.A.Club, The Struet, Brecon. 'The Gloucestershire Warwickshire Railway' by Anthony Bowles. Meeting commences at 19.30. Members only. Please contact the Secretary, Arthur Robinson on 01982 560219 for further details and all membership enquiries.

Gravesend Railway Enthusiasts Society
Emmanuel Baptist Church, Windmill Street, Gravesend DA12 1BB. 'Tornado in Gravesend' by Roger Aves/Mark Allatt. Starts 19.45. Contact the Secretary, Roger Hart on 01474 833320 for further details.

Locomotive Club of Great Britain (North West)
St David's Social Centre, 249 Wargrave Road, Newton-le-Willows. 'Horwich Works' by Jack Smith. Meeting commences at 19.30. Contact the Acting Secretary, Neville Bond on 01925 226476 for details.

Back Issues

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

Rear Cover Caption

GWR 'King' 4-6-0 No. 6024 *King Edward I* **arrives at Worcester Shrub Hill on 10th July, with the return leg of UK Railtours' 'The Royal Oak' charter, operated to commemorate the loco's 80th Birthday. Mark Walker**

Magazine Information

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