Railway Herald

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The electronic journal for the railway enthusiast

Railway Herald

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Brian Morrison

Alstom and Virgin Trains celebrate partnership

To celebrate the 10-year partnership between the two companies, Class 390 No. 390004 was renamed *Alstom Pendolino* at London Euston on 16th September. The unit also carries a special Alstom/Virgin branding as well as technical equipment to help with infrastructure maintenance.

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The first of the Southern-liveried Class 313 EMUs has been branded with dedicated vinyls portraying images of the Coastway route.
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Work is well underway at Reading as part of the major upgrade process to provide five extra platforms and relieve congestion.
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Front Cover Caption:

Class 66/7 No. 66722 *Sir Edward Watkin* **pauses at Retford station for a booked pathing stop on 2nd September, while in charge of GB Railfreight's 11.43 Selby Potter Group to Felixstowe Docks container service.**
Steven Craig

Improvements to Cambridge bottleneck

Plans to improve services between Cambridge and London have taken a major step forward with Network Rail's submission of a planning application for a new island platform at Cambridge, complete with footbridge and lifts.

The project forms part of National Express East Anglia's plans to improve services and increase capacity on the route in 2011. Currently, services between Cambridge and the Capital are very busy and the existing track layout in and around the station is constrained, especially at peak times.

The addition of two new bi-directional Platforms 7 and 8 will mean that trains will be able to arrive and depart in either direction, freeing up vital capacity on the existing platforms and making sure the station can cater for additional rail services in the future. The new covered footbridge and lifts will connect the new platforms to the rest of the station.

The work is part of a development that will allow the West Anglia line from Liverpool Street to be able to run 12-car trains by December 2011. Platforms are also to be extended at Broxbourne, Cheshunt, Sawbridgeworth and Stansted Mountfitchet, with extensions at Stansted Airport funded by BAA.

Chart Leacon Works reduced to just 10 staff

With a 90-day consultation process due to end on 26th September, Bombardier has said that 155 jobs are likely to have to go at Ashford Chart Leacon Works.

While the maintenance of the Southeastern Class 375s requiring only 10 staff will remain at Ashford, the remainder of the work will move to Bombardier sites at Ilford and Crewe.

The company says that while there is no intention of closing the site, to remain competitive when bidding for work, other locations are favoured for a variety of reasons.

It is hoped that the majority of the losses will go in voluntary redundances.

The RMT union has criticised the decision, which it claims will see a large number of skilled workers facing unemployment.

New look for Edinburgh Haymarket

Edinburgh's Haymarket station is to become a new transport hub for the west of the city.

The multi-million pound project will bring national rail and the Edinburgh tram services together, improving passenger journey times and providing an easy means of interchange, especially for those passengers travelling from Glasgow. The station will gain a new black granite facade and a copper-clad concourse. With the expected rise in passenger numbers following the opening of the light rail system, an additional 12 ticket gates are to be added and a glass bridge constructed to link the main concourse to the platforms.

Recent reports suggest that Haymarket could be dealing with passenger numbers 50% greater than today by 2022.

Later services and more trains per hour for Southern?

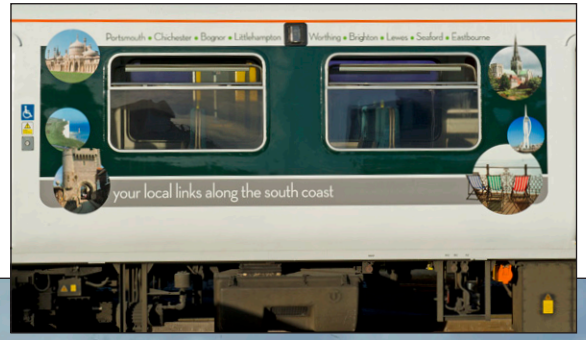
Southern Railway Limited (Southern) and Network Rail have applied to the Office of Rail Regulation for timetable changes from December, including a new service between Clapham High Street and Ealing Broadway with Class 171s.

Other changes include fast trains between London Victoria and Brighton doubled to four per hour, faster journey times between Preston Park, Hassocks, Burgess Hill and London Victoria, additional late night services from Brighton to Worthing, and four trains per hour on most routes in South London until approximately 23.00 Mondays to Saturdays.

Also in the application are new late night services in South London on Friday and Saturday nights, with most routes running until 00.30, additional services in South London on Sundays with four trains per hour on most routes, later services on the London to Uckfield route, additional Gatwick Express services from Brighton with Class 460s, and the introduction of a late evening service from Clapham High Street to Wandsworth Road.

The TOC has also applied for rolling stock changes on the Coastway route for the new Class 313-operated trains to travel further east and west on the Sussex Coast – subject to route clearance and vehicle change. The routes covered will be between Brighton and Ore and Brighton and Southampton/ Portsmouth.

▼ **The new look to the Class 313s working for Southern on Coastway services, which uses the standard TOC livery as the base, with route specific branding applied on top. No. 313206 is pictured at Brighton Lovers Walk depot on 16th September.**



▶ **The new branding and images that form the 'Coastway' livery on Class 313/2 No. 313206.**
Both: Pat Seale

New look for Pendolino set

Alstom and Virgin Trains have unveiled a new look for one of the 52 Class 390 Pendolinos on the West Coast Main Line.

Class 390 No. 390004, previously named *Virgin Scot*, was renamed *Alstom Pendolino* by Virgin Trains CEO Tony Collins during a ceremony at London Euston on 16th September.

In recognition of the successful partnership between the two companies since 1999, the unit also displays a specially designed Alstom branding alongside the standard '390' colour scheme.

The branded Class 390 has a special mission within the industry. As a result of an initiative between Alstom, Virgin Trains and Network Rail, the set is fitted with pantograph and track monitoring equipment that will provide valuable data to support preventative maintenance of the track and overhead line, supporting Network Rail's own New Measurement Train on the WCML. In addition, the set will be used to trial potential train modifications that may improve fleet reliability. The fleet is one of the most intensively operated in the world, with 47 sets in service every day, covering over 16.5 million miles per year. As of 16th September, the 52-strong Pendolino fleet has covered almost 90 million miles in service, and each train averages 1,100 miles per day in service!

▲▲ On its first working in its new livery, Class 390 No. 390004 passes Lichfield with the 11.30 Euston to Glasgow service. **John Whitehouse**

▲ Tony Collins of VT and Paul Robinson of Alstom name Class 390 No. 390004 *Alstom Pendolino* at Euston on 16th September. **Brian Morrison**

Reading remodelling work

▲ Work underway at Reading, will mean that scenes such as this will be a thing of the past in the future. Class 59/1 No. 59101 *Village of Whatley*, having traversed the Berks & Hants route, crosses the Great Western 'down fast' line on the approach to Reading in order to gain the 'slow' lines with a Merehead to Acton Yard aggregate working on 17th September. In future, freight services will use a new chord that will form a connection with the south to west curve at Reading, and heads under the 'down fast' line, which will be on a viaduct to reach the north side of the station, and hence gain access to the slow lines into London.

▼ This set of bridges at the west end of Reading station, spanning Caverswall Road, are being modified to provide access to the five new platforms that are to be constructed on the north side of the current station complex. The bridge girders furthest from the camera are to be removed and replaced with new girders, which will support the approach lines. One set of beams has already been removed.
Both: Ken Brunt

UK News In Brief

■ Current leasing arrangements for rail freight sites are to come under scrutiny as part of a new market study announced on 15th September by the Office of Rail Regulation (ORR). Such sites are key to the movement of goods by rail, their use including the loading and unloading of freight, the movement of freight between rail and other modes, storage, marshalling, and stabling. Over the coming months, the ORR will take an in-depth look at site leasing issues to ascertain whether current arrangements are helpful in promoting a competitive rail freight industry. The study is designed to shed light on how current arrangements work in practice, the effectiveness and ease of use of existing contractual and regulatory arrangements, and the impact that current arrangements have on the development of a competitive rail freight industry. This will be the second time that the ORR has carried out a public market study, the first one in 2006 relating to the Rolling Stock market.

■ Some bright thinking by traincrew on TransPennine Express lightened the day for passengers! The 07.36 service from Manchester Piccadilly to Hull on 10th September had power problems in one coach, resulting in no lighting. So that passengers were not in the dark through the various tunnels en route, the train crew had hung glowsticks throughout the carriage! Glowsticks are carried for use in emergency and provide light without needing on train power.

■ A feasibility study for the Aberdeen area states that the construction of a double-platform station at Kintore, near Inverurie, would cost £19 million! If a single platform station was built, that figure drops to £6.1 million. The difference in price is mainly due to the track and infrastructure changes which would be required for a twin platform arrangement. The option of two platforms is the result of research currently being carried by Network Rail, looking at what would be required for a more intensive service between Inverness and Aberdeen, which would require trains to be timetabled to pass at Kintore. The likelihood is that a single platform station would be built to start with, allowing the second platform to be added, if necessary, at a later date.

■ It is rumoured that bids for High Speed 1 (HS1) are to be submitted by 29th October. The British Government is hoping to gain around £1.5 billion in the deal.

■ Theft of copper cable from the ECML near Newark on 10th September, resulted in 12 trains being cancelled and another 23 delayed. British Transport Police are offering a reward of £1,000 for any information that leads to conviction of the thieves.

■ The £17 million second entrance to Birmingham Snow Hill station could remain unused for months, as agreement has yet to be reached with Network Rail and train operator London Midland to allow people to use the access off Livery Street, and cross platforms to Midland Metro services. Questions are now being asked as to why the matter could not have been resolved in the five years that the construction was taking place.

Re-opening moves one step closer for Conon Bridge

Opened in 1862 and closed in 1960, the Highland station of Conon Bridge, between Muir of Ord and Dingwall, could reopen again, following Scottish Transport Minister, Stewart Stevenson, travelling to Inverness to discuss ways of funding the project.

He said: "The Scottish Government has begun to look to see if we can find the next £120,000 that is required to meet the estimated price for Conon Bridge station. It is clear that this station has received a lot of community support and the Government will now work with Highland Council to find the funding that will take this project forward". He added that the next stage was to consider the design, and work with Network Rail to look at the station's reintegration into the rail network. The Chairman of the Conon Bridge Community Council, said: "We don't have a station yet, but we are on our way".

CrossRail remains committed to Abbey Wood branch

Crossrail Ltd has stressed its commitment to deliver the Abbey Wood branch 'as part of the overall project construction timetable'.

The company has published a shortlist of bidders for the 550-metre 1850-built Connaught Tunnel refurbishment contract, one of the major pieces of infrastructure on the south eastern leg of the Crossrail project, situated between Royal Victoria Dock and Royal Albert Dock on the former branch to North Woolwich.

To take the line to Abbey Wood will mean that a major proportion of the construction work will involve reusing old rail infrastructure, including, in addition to Connaught Tunnel, the disused tracks to Custom House that closed to passenger traffic in 2006. Activity on the Abbey Wood branch includes work underway on the new Canary Wharf Crossrail station and preparatory work at a number of other sites. The branch will also have new stations at Custom House and Woolwich, a short tunnelled section in the Woolwich area, and upgraded track and station facilities at Abbey Wood station itself.

▶ This view of the railway disappeared from 12th September, when the footbridge at this spot between Epsom and Ewell West was removed, and the disused subway that has been refurbished, was reinstated. This was the view towards Ewell West, with the footbridge in the distance being to the same design as the one to be removed. Class 455/7 No. 5742 approaches with a Dorking-bound train. Ian Docwra

DfT awards East Anglia franchise extension to National Express

National Express has won Department of Transport approval for an extension to its East Anglia franchise, the Group's problems with the East Coast franchise seemingly not affecting the decision.

A seven-period extension under the franchise agreement has been granted, meaning a 28-week extension beyond the original expiry date of 31st March 2011.

Chief Executive Dean Finch said: "We are pleased to have been given this initial extension and to be able to continue to serve our customers on the East Anglia franchise. We continue to explore opportunities to deliver our industry-leading rail performance across both our franchises beyond 2011."

▲ Northern Rail Class 156 No. 156443 calls at the temporary Workington North station on 14th April, with the delayed 12.31 Barrow-in-Furness to Carlisle service. Richard Tuplin

Farewell to Workington North station

The temporary station of Workington North, at Northside, that was quickly opened in November 2009 after devastating floods washed away the town's road bridge, is set to close on 8th October.

When it first opened, Workington North was used by over 2,000 passengers every day, but with the re-opening of the road bridge in April use of the temporary station has all but ceased. After a review of passenger numbers over several months, Northern Rail and its partners, in consultation with passenger representatives, have decided the time is right for the temporary station to close after the last service on 8th October.

Metro and Light Rail News

Midland Metro power upgrade

The first stage of work to upgrade the Midland Metro system's overhead power lines is to take place between 24th and 31st October.

A second period of work for seven days will take place in spring 2011, the work will require part closures of the tram route.

Costing £400,000, the project includes replacement of the supports to the overhead power lines with new materials that have a lifespan of 20 to 30 years.

Contracts awarded for T&W Metro upgrade project

Five different companies have been contracted to share the first packages of work on the £100 million Tyne and Wear Metro upgrade.

Three of them (May Gurney, Serco and Morgan Sindall) will be occupied on the £12.1 million refurbishment of surface stations, while the remaining work on replacement of bridges, retaining walls, culverts, earthworks and drainage worth £8.3 million will be undertaken by Balfour Beatty and Bam Nuttall. May Gurney will also undertake some of this work.

Overnight on 17th/18th September, the 1972 Mk1 Tube Stock 4-car unit (vehicle Nos. 3329, 4329, 4229 and 3229) normally kept on the closed Holborn to Aldwych branch, was moved to Northfields Depot.

The set, which is used for filming work and for emergency service training, was moved to allow the London Transport Museum's 1938 Tube Stock to be displayed at Aldwych, as part of the forthcoming 'Blitz' exhibition. The train was shunted from the disused branch platform onto the eastbound Piccadilly Line platform at Holborn around 02.00, before heading to Northfields Depot around 05.25.

▲ The 1972 Mk1 stock stands in the disused branch platform at Holborn, prior to shunting. Both: Kim Rennie

▼ Just over an hour later, the set, complete with a painted red cab front that was added after withdrawal from passenger service in order to look more like a modern LU train for filming purposes, awaits departure from the Piccadilly Line platform.

◀ Class 08 No. 08507 took part in a special one-off event for the Preserved Locomotive Enthusiasts Group on 9th September, when it hauled Class 220 No. 220024 around Central Rivers depot, as a charity event, raising £2,000 for Macmillan Cancer Trust. **David Loughhead**

◀▼ Threading its way between housing and track panels, retrieved from the recent work in Chipping Camden tunnel, Class 43 powercar No. 43148 heads west, away from Honeybourne station on 13th September, with the 11.22 London Paddington-Great Malvern service. Within 12 months, this area will be transformed with a second platform opened and the associated trackwork being located where the panels currently rest. **John Stretton**

▼ Class 92 No. 92026 *Britten* passes Borough Green on 17th September with a Dollands Moor to Polmadie working, which the '92' powered through to Carlisle, where Class 66 No. 66040 replaced it for the final section to Scotland. In the consist were Siemens Class 380/1s Nos. 380107 and 380109. A total of five units (Nos. 380105-380109) have now been delivered to Polmadie. **Alan Hazelden**

UK Steam & Modern Traction Railtour Listings

20th September 2010

WCRC	45407 or 45231	Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig and return	

21st September 2010

WCRC	45407 or 45231	Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig and return	

22nd September 2010

Compass Tours	2xDRS 47	Burnley Manchester Rd-Warrington BQ-Llandudno Jct-Bleanau Ffestiniog & return	
WCRC	45407 or 45231	Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig and return	

23rd September 2010

WCRC	45407 or 45231	Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig and return	

24th September 2010

WCRC	45407 or 45231	Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig and return	
Steam Dreams	6201	London King's Cross-Chesterfield-Barrow Hill & return	**Cancelled**

25th September 2010

Railway Touring Co.	60019	London King's Cross - Stevenage - Peterborough - Doncaster - York & return	
Pathfinder Tours	60163 & 6024	(Eastleigh-Warminster-)Bristol TM-Taunton-Exeter SD - Totnes - Plymouth & rtn	
Pathfinder Tours	FGW HST	London Paddington-Swindon-Avonmouth-Bristol TM-Portbury-Paddington	
UK Railtours	2xDBS 67	Kettering-St. Albans-Ealing Broadway-Exeter St. Davids-Paignton-Kingswear & rtn	
Whestrail	45231	Falkirk Grahamston-Rannock-Fort William	**Cancelled**

26th September 2010

Torbay Express Ltd	60163	Bristol TM-Weston super Mare-Exeter SD-Paignton-Kingswear & return	
Railway Touring Co.	44932	London Victoria-Woking-Basingstoke-Wareham-Swanage & return	
Vintage Trains	WCRC 37	Plymouth North Road-Saltash-Liskeard (mainline)	
Vintage Trains	WCRC 37+9466	Liskeard (branch)-Sandplace-Looe & return (four round trips, top & tailed)	
Vintage Trains	9466	Liskeard (mainline)-Saltash-Plymouth North Road	
Whestrail	45231	Fort William-Rannock-Falkirk Grahamston	**Cancelled**
Whestrail	tbc	Fort William-Glenfinnan and return	**Cancelled**

27th September 2010

WCRC	45407 or 45231	Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig and return	
Vintage Trains	WCRC 37	Plymouth-Exeter SD-Taunton-Westbury-Swindon-Oxford-Banbury-Solihull	

28th September 2010

WCRC	45407 or 45231	Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig and return	

29th September 2010

WCRC	45407 or 45231	Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig and return	
Railway Touring Co.	tbc	London Victoria-Maidstone East-Ashford-Hastings-Battle-Sevenoaks-London Victoria	
UK Railtours	60163	London Victoria-Winchester-Poole-Wareham-Swanage and return	

30th September 2010

WCRC	45407 or 45231	Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig and return	
Steam Dreams	60019 & 6233	London KX-York-Durham-Newcastle upon Tyne-Durham-York-London KX	

1st October 2010

WCRC	45407 or 45231	Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig and return	
Railway Touring Co.	70013	(Manchester-York)-Hexham-Carlisle-Glasgow Central	**Postponed**
Statesman Rail	tbc	Peterborough-Grantham-Nottingham-Stockport-Bolton-Shap-Fort William	

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

Pathfinder finds itself with two tours operating on Saturday 25th September, both focused on the South West, but offering quite a contrast in traction. HSTs are rarely to be found on anything other than Class 1 service trains, and due to intensive diagramming are not normally available for charters.

However, the 'Brunelian' charter, which is being operated in conjunction with First Great Western, *Modern Railways* and *Railways Illustrated* magazines will be operated by a First Great Western HST. The route is from Paddington to Swindon, where a break will offer the opportunity of visiting STEAM, before continuing to Bristol Parkway, after which the train will diverge from the South Wales main line to take the branch through Hallen Marsh and Avonmouth to eventually reach Bristol Temple Meads. Passengers can detrain at Temple Meads, or stay on board for a run through the Clifton Gorge to Portbury. This will offer a rare chance to travel on this normally freight-only branch, the key feature of which, is that it passes beneath the iconic Brunel-designed Clifton Suspension Bridge. A further break will then be taken at Temple Meads, before the return to Paddington, via Bath Spa.

Pathfinder's second offering on 25th September could not be more different, as the feature is the unlikely pairing of one of the oldest main line registered steam locomotives, and the newest, in the shape of No. 6024 *King Edward I* and No. 60163 *Tornado*. Any doubts about the availability of *Tornado* seem to have evaporated, as it will be stationed at the West Somerset Railway for the three weeks prior to the date of this train, and is now also booked for the following day's 'Torbay Express, which will be the last working of the season. 'The Tamar Devonian' is scheduled for steam-haulage from Bristol Temple Meads through to Plymouth and back, double-headed throughout. This train originates at Eastleigh and picks up via Salisbury and Westbury to Temple Meads.

UK Railtours will also be heading for the South West on 25th September with the 'Dartmouth Explorer' from Kettering, Wellingborough, Bedford, Luton Airport Parkway, St Albans and Ealing Broadway to Paignton and Kingwear. DBS Class 67 traction should feature. Meanwhile, the Dorset coast will be the target of Railway Touring Company on 26th September, with the 'Swanage Belle' from London Victoria to Swanage, which it is believed is booked for 'Black 5' 4-6-0 No. 44932 throughout.

RTC also has some East Coast action booked for 25th September, with 'A4' No. 60019 *Bittern* booked throughout on a London King's Cross to York and return working. The provision of the second tender now gives *Bittern* the range to work an 'out and back' King's Cross-York due to the time saved by the reduced number of water stops.

There are two notable mid-week charters operating from the Compass Railtours' stable, featuring trips along scenic branch lines. Blaenau Ffestiniog is the destination on 22nd September, with the 'Snowdon Mountain Ranger', originating at Burnley Manchester Road, and picking up along the East Lancashire line as far as Bamber Bridge. before heading west. Two days later, and Compass head east, this time to Grosmont and Whitby, with the 'Esk Valley Moorlander'. This tour sets out from Crewe, and initially heads for Liverpool Lime Street, picking up at Winsford, Hartford, Runcorn, Liverpool South Parkway and Mossley Hill, and then after a reversal at Lime Street, also at Rainhill, St Helens Junction, Newton-le-Willows, Manchester Victoria and Ashton-under-Lyne, before heading over Standedge to York and onwards to the Esk Valley line via Middlesbrough. The Blaenau Ffestiniog working is reported as being full, but the Esk Valley train has spare capacity.

Don't forget that Vintage Trains' Looe branch shuttles are booked for 26th September, and the Class 37 positioning train back to Solihull on 27th September. Full details of these trains can be found in last week's preview.

Problems hit 'Lizzie' as 10 boiler tubes need to be replaced

More details of the problem that forced Princess Royal Pacific No. 6201 *Princess Elizabeth* **to be withdrawn from last week's final 'Scarborough Flyer' of the season have emerged.**

Further investigation has revealed that 10 large tubes need to be replaced, and an order for these has been placed. It will mean the locomotive will be sidelined for a period of time, and is yet to be decided whether the work will be undertaken at Crewe or Tyseley.

Princess Elizabeth was booked to work Steam Dreams' London King's Cross to Nottingham and Barrow Hill charter on 24th September, standing in for the unavailable 'Britannia' No. 70013 *Oliver Cromwell*. Unfortunately, after working a record 18 main line charters this year, No. 6201 will have to wait to become the first member of the class to work out of King's Cross, as the repairs cannot be completed in time. As a result, the trip has been cancelled, but a working out of King's Cross for 'Lizzie' remains on the cards, as Steam Dreams' Graeme Bunker has a 'few ideas' which he is keeping close to his chest at present.

▲ **LMS 'Princess Royal' Pacific No. 6201** *Princess Elizabeth* **heads across Malltraeth Viaduct on Anglesey with 'The North Wales Coast Express' on 22nd August. The loco has been withdrawn from service while several tubes are replaced. John Whitehouse**

LMS Princess Coronation Pacific No. 6233 *Duchess of Sutherland* will be deputising on Steam Dreams' 7th October working to Bath Spa and Bristol Temple Meads, while the position with UK Railtours 'Clapham Omnibus' charter on 16th October is yet to be clarified.

Looking ahead, *Princess Elizabeth* has a winter date with RTC from Liverpool Lime Street to York on 12th December, and there is demand for its services in 2011, including a 'Northern Belle' from Crewe to Holyhead on Father's Day. The latter is an interesting development, as 'Northern Belle' has shied away from steam in recent years. Whether this reflects more use of steam on its trains in the future remains to be seen.

Ups & Downs

by John Whitehouse

■ It is understood that VSOE are currently examining the motive power options for its British Pullman, Northern Belle and Royal Scotsman trains for 2011. *Railway Herald* understands that discussions are ongoing with several possible providers, including West Coast Railway Company and Direct Rail Services.

■ In Ups & Downs last issue, *RH* reported on the rumoured ban of third party owned heritage traction by DB Schenker in which it was suggested that speculation may have been fuelled by recent incidents with heritage traction on the main line. We should confirm that No. D1015 *Western Champion* was not a total failure on its recent trip, but experienced a major failure of one engine while working the ECS of the railtour back to Eastleigh. The train reached its destination with the 'Western' working on one engine and caused no delays to other trains as a consequence.

■ West Coast's LMS 'Black 5' No. 44932 is reported to have failed at Norwich while working the Railway Touring Company's 'The Easterling' charter from London Liverpool Street. Class 37/7 No. 37706, which had been stabled at Ilford in preparation for working the empty coaching stock out of the London termini that evening, was called on to work the train from Norwich back to London, and the proposed return trip from Norwich to Lowestoft was cancelled. Meanwhile Carnforth-based No. 44932 remains at Norwich's Crown Point Depot awaiting repairs.

End of an era, as last steam-hauled service is signalled by North Warwickshire Line semaphores

The end of an era was reached on 12th September, when a steam-hauled train passed the remaining manual signal boxes and beneath their respective semaphore signals on the North Warwickshire Line for the last time.

Normally Vintage Trains' 'Shakespeare Express' works south tender first to Stratford over the route, returning via Claverdon, Hatton Junction and the old Great Western main line from Leamington Spa to Birmingham Snow Hill, via Dorridge.

Last Sunday, it was all change, as an engineering blockade in connection with the new crossover to reconnect Birmingham Moor Street's terminal platforms meant that the 'Shakespeare Express' started and terminated at Tyseley, which also involved a locomotive run-round at Saltley, and most importantly, the northbound working from Stratford was diverted over the North Warwickshire Line. This meant that both the 'up' and 'down' steam hauled 'Shakespeare' workings ran for the last time over the route, which was for many the last chance to see a steam locomotive working chimney-first on the North Warwickshire Line.

The manual signal boxes at Bearley Junction, Henley-in-Arden and Shirley are due to close in late October, when the signalling on the line is transferred to the new West Midlands panel at Saltley. It is understood that the signal box frames will be saved, with one being retained by Network Rail for future use and the two remaining frames going to the Gloucestershire Warwickshire Railway.

Unfortunately, the fate of the signal boxes is not so good, as demolition looms. It is believed that Network Rail has offered them for preservation and there is a campaign to save Shirley signal box, which is situated at the Tyseley end of the southbound platform. It is hoped that an alternate use can be found for the structure, as it is considered to be an essential part of the station scene. The campaign is being led by the local Member of Parliament, Lorely Burt, and a petition has been raised to support retention of the building. More information can be found by clicking here.

Some good publicity was gained on the first outward working when the train was held at Shirley for several minutes for a pathing stop, which meant that the campaign was featured on regional television as well as in the local press. The line is expected to close completely for a week from 25th October, when the signalling changes will take place, as well as remodelling work at Bearley Junction.

▲ **GWR 'Castle' 4-6-0 No. 5043** *Earl of Mount Edgcumbe* **pulls away from Bearley Junction's advance starter (now shorn of its finial) on 12th September, with the new colour light signal alongside. The train had been brought to a stand for over 10 minutes while waiting for the preceding DMU to clear the section to Shirley, as Henley-in-Arden signalbox was switched out, a problem that will cease to exist with the new centrally-controlled colour light signalling.**

◀ *Earl of Mount Edgcumbe* **arrives at Shirley on the North Warwickshire Line, with the 'Shakespeare Express ' on 12th September. The crowd alongside the platform included local press and media covering the petition which is underway to save the signalbox. Both: John Whitehouse**

Under a grey sky, LNER 'A4' No. 60019 *Bittern* climbs passed the site of the former Grafton East Junction beside the Kennet and Avon Canal on 11th September, with the outward leg of 'The Mayflower' charter. **Dave Swan**

An unlikely combination. GWR 'Castle' 4-6-0 No. 5029 *Nunney Castle* **pilots LNER 'A4' 4-6-2 No. 60019** *Bittern* **over the crest of Hemerdon Bank on 'The Mayflower' charter from Plymouth to London Paddington on 11th September. Paul Maycock**

Class 55 'Deltic' No. 55022 *Royal Scots Grey* **heads away from Hartlepool with the 13.50 Newcastle-King`s Cross 'The Norseman' charter on 11th September. Steven Craig**

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£30,000 feasibility study for Poulton to Fleetwood line could go ahead

The Poulton and Wyre Railway Trust (P&WRT), who are aiming to restore services to Fleetwood on the Lancashire coast, as a preserved railway, have been told that Network Rail needs to undertake a feasibility study.

The study, that would likely cost between £25,000 and £30,000 would look at the proposals for a new platform at Poulton station as well as an entirely new station in Fleetwood. Wyre Council have agreed to fund £15,000 on the condition that a lease is granted to the railway and that the P&WRT fund the remaining amount.

Passenger services on the line ceased in 1970, although freight continued until 1999, serving the ICI works at Burn Naze.

The final section of the route from Wyre Dock to the old Fleetwood station is unlikely to see trains again, as building work has encroached onto the alignment. Around 1.5 miles track remains in place on the branch, and the trackbed is owned by Wyre Borough Council.

Great Western visitors for Swanage gala

▼ **As part of the deal to allow SR 'Battle of Britain' Pacific No. 34070** *Manston* **to visit the Severn Valley Railway for its gala weekend, GWR 'Manor' No. 7802** *Bradley Manor* **visited the Swanage Railway for the Dorset line's gala event on 11th/12th September. Here,** *Bradley Manor* **heads a demonstration freight working out of Swanage, with resident GWR 5600 Class 0-6-2T No. 6695, banking the train to the advanced starter signal. Peter Milford**

▲ **Recently repainted Class 45/0 No. 45041** *The Royal Tank Regiment* **is pictured inside the shed at Swanwick Junction on 12th September, following the completion of its body overhaul, which was finished just prior to the loco's visit to the North Yorkshire Moors Railway Diesel Gala. Gerald Holmes**

Midland Railway hosts Type 4 line-up for diesel gala

Anyone who has paid a visit to Swanwick Junction on the Midland Railway will have left with the view that if there is one thing the railway is short of, it certainly is not Type 4 diesels!

Indeed, on occasions the line up of 'Peaks' outside the main shed at Swanwick would have done nearby Toton proud, and so it is on the weekend of 2nd/3rd October, that no less than four of the class are lined up for the railway's diesel gala.

In fact, the four key variants of the locomotive will be in action, which are Class 44 No. 44004 (D4) *Great Gable*, Class 45/0 No. 45041 *The Royal Tank Regiment*, Class 45/1 No. 45133 and Class 46 No. 46045 (D182). Nos. D4 and D182 will be running in their original BR green liveries bearing pre-TOPS numbers. Add Class 40 No. 40012 *Aureol* (running as D212, again in original BR green livery) into the mix, together with Class 08 No. 08590, Class 20 No. 20227, Class 25 No. 25321 and Class 47 No. 47401 *North Eastern*, and there are the ingredients of a first class gala. The customary intensive timetable will operate, and there will be an opportunity to drive the Class 08 as well as a CAMRA real ale festival operating throughout the weekend, and a barbecue at Butterley.

STEAM RAILWAY EMBANKMENT COLLAPSE

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The GWR is an all volunteer heritage railway which devotes its profits to improvement. It operates over ten miles of track from Toddington to Cheltenham Race Course in Gloucestershire, carrying 75,000 passengers per year.

Last winter brought on the disaster of a major embankment collapse at Gotherington. This has cut off two miles of track and the Cheltenham station. Some 25% of our business originates from there.

Repair costs are projected at £400,000 above insurance cover and further drainage works are needed to prevent another incident.

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Send cheques (payable to GWSR Plc) or request information to: Emergency Appeal, GWR, The Railway Station, Toddington, Glos GL54 5DT. Telephone 01242 621405

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Project to recreate a 'Baby Deltic' is officially launched

Led by the hugely successful project to recreate an ex-LNER Thompson 'A1' Pacific, there are several other schemes afoot to similarly build replicas of other classes of steam engine that did not survive into preservation.

There is now an addition to that list, but this time it is not a steam locomotive but a British Rail Class 23 'Baby Deltic' diesel-electric.

The type were known as 'Baby Deltics' because their Napier T9-29 engines were smaller versions of the Napier engines used in the Class 55 Deltic locomotive, as well as the Class 23's bodyshell resembling a smaller version of the classic Class 55 design. The 'Baby Deltics' entered traffic in 1959, but only 10 were built, and in traffic they sustained reliability problems. They became a casualty of the BR 1960's 'National Traction Plan' and were withdrawn between 1968 and 1971.

One survivor, No. 5901 was transferred to the Derby–based Railway Technical Centre, and remained in service hauling test trains until its demise in 1975. It was cut-up in 1977.

Now, the Baby Deltic Project aims to recreate a replica. The bodyshell of long condemned Class 37 No. 37372 has been acquired, which will be modified by shortening the nose and body length so it can be restyled to resemble that of a Class 23. Class 20 bogies will replace those of the Class 37, the former already having been acquired. The main element is the Napier T9-29 engine, of which one only was saved and has been has rebuilt by the project team from a 'seized solid' state into an operational power unit over the past couple of years.

So, all the ingredients are in place, and an estimated £30,000 is required to finish the project. Completion will depend upon the availability of funds, and the appeal will be launched at the 'Model Rail Live' event being held at Barrow Hill on 25th/26th September.

The project carries the support of the National Railway Museum, Transport Trust, Napier Power Heritage Trust and Rolls Royce Heritage Trust, and the work to recreate the Class 23 will be undertaken with the Deltic Preservation Society's depot at Barrow Hill.

For details of how you can support this project you can write to The Baby Deltic Project, Black Tub, Twyford, Barrow On Trent DE73 7GA, or visit the website at www.thebabydelticproject.co.uk

Severn Valley hosts Railcar Association gala weekend

The annual reunion of the Railcar Association will take place on the Severn Valley Railway from 7th-9th October.

Known as the Railcar Reunion, it will be organised by the DMU Group (West Midlands) and the SVR and will feature three days of DMU operations between Kidderminster and Bridgnorth. Thursday 7th October is devoted to Railcar Association members, and will offer the opportunity to qualified drivers of other groups the chance to 'have a go' in the various DMUs attending the reunion. Friday and Saturday will be public days, the former having an exclusive DMU timetable, and the latter will also have steam-hauled workings interwoven with the DMUs. An outline timetable for all three days is available at www.svr-dmu.org.uk

There are some interesting visitors as well, including London Midland Class 150 No. 150001 which will be working on the SVR from Friday morning until Saturday evening, Chiltern Railways' Class 121 'Bubblecar' No. 121020, which is normally based at Aylesbury and is due to be on the SVR from Thursday afternoon until the following Monday, and Derby Lightweight single car No. 79900 (*Iris*), which is the earliest fully restored DMU vehicle, and is also a Wirksworth resident. Also visiting will be Class 122 'Bubblecar' No. 55006, which actually worked the last service trains over the full SVR route from Shrewsbury to Hartlebury, and is now based on the Ecclesbourne Valley Railway at Wirksworth,

Two Wickham permanent way trolleys will be on display at Highley, and will operate between Highley and Arley on both Friday and Saturday afternoons.

Additionally, the West Midlands DMU Group's own five-car Class 108 set will also be in use during the reunion.

Rocket visits MOSI to celebrate 180th anniversary of the world's first Inter-city railway line

The replica steam locomotive *Rocket* has arrived at the Museum of Science & Industry, Manchester (MOSI) as part of celebrations for the 180th anniversary of the Liverpool & Manchester Railway - the world's first inter-city passenger railway.

The locomotive is on loan from the National Railway Museum in York, and gave passenger rides alongside the Museum's replica *Planet* locomotive at MOSI on 11th/12th, 15th and 18th/19th September, as a part of the events taking place along the historic line.

Both *Rocket* and *Planet* were designed by George Stephenson and his son Robert, and worked on the railway when it opened on 15th September 1830. The Museum is based on the site of the original Liverpool Road station, which was the end of the line when it opened and is the oldest surviving passenger railway station in the world. It was closed to passengers in 1844 but continued as a goods station until 1975. The Director of MOSI, Tony Hill, said: "The 1830 Liverpool and Manchester Railway was an incredible achievement and marked the start of the railway age, which changed the world forever. This is a fantastic and rare opportunity to see both *Planet* and *Rocket* operating on the original railway, so please do come along and join in the celebrations at MOSI, and elsewhere along the route".

The Liverpool & Manchester Railway was built by Stephenson in 1830, and ran from Edgehill station, which is the oldest surviving railway station in the world still in use, to Liverpool Road station in Manchester. Stephenson had many engineering challenges in design and construction of the line, including 64 bridges and viaducts, as well as how to design track that could pass over Chat Moss peat bog.

Today the railway is known as the 'Chat Moss Route' and is run by Network Rail with regular services provided by Northern Rail.

Celebrations for the 180th anniversary are being organised by MOSI, Network Rail, Northern Rail, Mersey Travel, the Greater Manchester Public Transport Group, Friends of Eccles Station and Arts Group.

Experiencing the Severn Valley Railway from the footplate

Many heritage railways earn vital income by offering members of the public the chance to try their skills, under supervision, as a member of the footplate team, and the Severn Valley Railway is no different. On 12th September, LMS Ivatt-designed Mogul No. 46443 stands at Bewdley, while working an afternoon 'SVR Footplate Experience' train with a full rake of coaches, bound for Bridgnorth.
Stuart Warr

Contents Page

The Tanfield Railway held its 'Legends of Industry' gala over 11th/12th September, featuring several locomotives in action on both passenger and freight services.

▲◀ Visiting from the Middleton Railway, Manning Wardle 0-6-0ST *Sir Berkeley* departs from Cautley, bound for Andrew's House on 11th September.

▲ Newly overhauled Tanfield Railway resident, Robert Stephenson & Company 0-6-0T *Twizell*, approaches Sunniside with a mixed train during the gala on 11th September. The locomotive is owned by Beamish Museum, but is on long-term loan to the Tanfield Railway. Both: **Ian Cawthorne**

◀ The North Eastern Locomotive Preservation Group's (NELPG) recently restored LNER J72 class 0-6-0T No. 69023 *Joem* approaches Sunniside with a coal train on 11th September. **Simon Roberts**

On 11th/12th September, the Welsh Highland Railway held its 'Superpower Weekend'. The event allowed the railway to show off its fleet of Beyer-Garrett locomotives, which include the first of the type to be built in Manchester.

However, this year the event also made use of the Ffestiniog Railway's Single Fairlie 0-4-4T *Taliesin* in service, alongside the Manning Wardle replica *Lyd*, which was undertaking its first advertised passenger services, as well as being officially named during the weekend.

◀ The replica of the Lynton and Barnstaple Manning Wardle 2-6-2T *Lyd* approaches the summit of the line between Rhyd-Ddu and Beddgelert, while piloting Garratt No. K1 on a demonstration goods train to Pont Croesor, the southern extremity of the railway, on 12th September.

◀▼ With the Snowdonian mountain range acting as a majestic backdrop, the Ffestiniog Railway's Single Fairlie *Taliesin*, approaches Rhyd Ddu with a Caernarfon to Pont Croesor train on the same day.

◀▼▼ The newly-built *Lyd*, a replica of the 2-6-2T Manning Wardle tanks from the Lynton and Barnstaple Railway, prepares to depart from Dinas with a special train for the loco's naming ceremony at Beddgelert on 11th September. The stock is a rake of vintage coaches from the Ffestiniog Railway. The nameplates were covered for the outward trip down the line.

▼ Newly restored Beyer-Garratt NGG16 No. 138 approaches the occupational crossing off the B4410, near Pont Croesor, with a Caernarfon to Pont Croesor train on 12th September. All: Graham Lightfoot

The ECML in North London in the 1960s? Class 55 'Deltic' No. D9009 *Alycidon* passes Woodthorpe, near Loughborough, on the Great Central Railway on 16th September, during a photographic charter organised by the East Midlands Railway Photographic Society. **David Carr**

The Class 60 fleet has been increased from its usual six locomotives as a result of the forthcoming Sandite season. The various pools now contain 11 locos. Here, No. 60013 *Robert Boyle* **passes Barnetby with a lightly loaded Margam to Immingham steel working on 17th September** **Scott Spencer**

◀ **DB Schenker red-liveried Class 66/0 No. 66152** *Derek Holmes Railway Operator* **passes through Kensington Olympia station on 16th September, hauling empty steel wagons from Ebange, which departed Dollands Moor for Scunthorpe at 11.52. For an unknown reason, this service and the corresponding southbound working were operated throughout by Class 66s for some days, No. 66152 on this occasion having worked south from Scunthorpe the previous day.**

▼ **EuroPorte 2-branded Class 92 No. 92032** *Cesar Franck* **passes through Kensington Olympia on the same day, with the 11.25 Dollands Moor-Willesden-Dollands Moor driver route-learning train, hauling MRA side-tipper wagons. Both: Brian Morrison**

Freightliner PowerHaul Class 70s are now being used on coal services to Longannet Power Station. No. 70004 storms through Holytown with empty hoppers from Longannet Power Station to Ravenstruther on 17th September. **Kenny Marrs**

13th September 2010

Driffield & East Yorkshire Railway Society
Buffers Restaurant, The Sidings, Driffield, YO25 6PX. 'Tanfield Railway Video Show followed by Slides from the Mike Campbell Collection'. Meeting commences at 19.30. Admission £2. Contact the Secretary, Eric Marshall on 01377 25068 for further details.

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. 'SR EMU Photos from the 1950s' by Richard Larkin. Starts 19.30. £2 Donation. Contact Bruce Cakebread on 01273 462094 for details.

York Railway Circle
Archbishop Holgate's School, Hull Road, York YO10 5ZA. 'Railways in my Military Career' by Steve Davies MBE. Meeting commences at 19.30. Contact Robin Patrick on 01904 412232 or at locopatrick@aol.com for further details.

14th September 2010

8E Railway Association
The Gladstone Club, Station Road, Northwich, CW9 5RB 'Under, Up and Over. Merseyrail, Overhead & Snowdon - A Connection?' by Glynn Parry. Starts 19.45. Contact Paul Tench on 07790 486735 for details.

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

Great Western Society (Bristol)
BAWA, 589 Southmead Road, Filton, Bristol BS34 7RG. 'Spotting with a Pentax Spotmatic & a Cannon EOS' by Wayne Finch. Meeting starts at 19.45. Contact the Secretary on 01454 324230 for further details.

Permanent Way Institution (Croydon & Brighton)
Mott MacDonald House, Sydenham Road, Croydon, CR0 2EE. 'High Speed 2' by John Castle. Starts 17.45. Contact Martin Cresswell on 07815 968245 or email martincresswell@amey.co.uk for further details.

Permanent Way Institution (Manchester & Liverpool)
Ove Arup Offices, St. James Building, Oxford Street, Manchester. 'High Speed Rail' by Colin Stewart, Arup. Starts 12.30. Contact 07798 858784.

Tewkesbury YMCA Railway Sociey
YMCA, Church Street, Tewkesbury. 'The Stanford Jacobs Collection' by Roger Hennesey. Starts 19.45.

15th September 2010

Permanent Way Institution (Bristol & West of England)
Arup Auditorium, 63 St Thomas Street, Bristol. Innotrack by Charles Penny. Starts 18.00. Contact the secretary, Phil Harrison on 0117 976 5432 for details

Permanent Way Institution (Bristol & West of England)
Great Western Hotel, Swindon. Reading Station Area Remodelling by Sean Murray. Starts 18.00. Contact the secretary, Phil Harrison on 0117 976 5432 or e-mail philip.harrison@arup.com for details

Permanent Way Institution (Glasgow)
Upstairs Lounge, The Iron Horse, West Nile Street, Glasgow. 'Airdrie to Bathgate Rail Link Progress' by Hugh Wark, Network Rail. Starts 17.30. Contact the secretary, Jack Scott, on 07789 765291 for further details.

16th September 2010

Barrow Hill Engine Shed Society
Roundhouse Lecture Theatre, Barrow Hill, Chesterfield. 'Steaming Through Britain'. Starts 19.30. £2 Admission. 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.

Marlow & District Railway Society
Bourne End Community Centre, Wakeman Road, Bourne End. 'The Alan Morris Collection - a selection of pictures' by Julian Heard. Meeting commences at 20.00. Admission £2.

Ffestiniog Railway Society (White Rose)
Oxford Place Methodist Centre, Oxford Place, Leeds LS1 3AX. 'The Chinese C2 Locomotive now at Boston Lodge' by Paul Molyneux Berry. Meeting commences at 19.30. £2 donation. Contact the Secretary on 01904 331973 or at wrg@ngtrains.com for further details.

17th September 2010

Great Western Society (Taunton)
Village Hall, Stoke St Mary, Nr Taunton. 'Bodmin & Wenford' by Richard Jones. Meeting commences at 19.30. Contact 01823 334188 for further details.

Stephenson Locomotive Society
The Mining Institute Lecture Theatre, Neville Hall, Westgate Road, Newcastle upon Tyne. 'Railway Routes from Darlington to Newcastle' by Roger Darsley. Starts 19.00. Contact 01434 688946 for details.

18th September 2010

Great Western Society (South West)
Parish Centre, Church End Road, Kingskerswell, Torbay. 'History of the Dartmouth & Torbay Railway' by John Risdon. Meeting commences at 18.30. Contact the Secretary on 01803 336329 for further details.

Locomotive Club of Great Britain (Central London)
Keen House, Calshot Street, London N1. 'The Crossrail Project' by Simon Bennett. Meeting starts 19.00.

20th September 2010

Great Central Railway Society (Spinkhill)
The Angel Hotel 26 College Road, Spinkhill, Sheffield S21 3YB. 'Classic Film Night' with Mick Hayes. Starts 19.30. Contact Frank Greaves on 01909 473927 for further details.

21st September 2010

Locomotive Club of Great Britain (Dorking)
Pethick-Lawrence House, 85 South Street, Dorking. 'Narrow Gauge Around the World' by David Cox. Starts 19.30.

PWI (York)
Park Inn, North Street, York. 'North East Railway Engineers Forum' Starts 18.00 Contact Ken Aiston, on 01904 656991 for details

Tewkesbury YMCA Railway Sociey
YMCA, Church Street, Tewkesbury. 'Members Slide/Digital Photoraph Evening'. Meeting starts at 19.45.

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 01256 819401.

LCGB (Bedford)
St John's Church Hall, St John's Street, Bedford. AGM & Branch Annual Photographic Competition. Starts 19.30. Contact 01525 750149.

PWI (Nottingham)
Hallmark Midland Hotel, adjacent to Derby station. '90 Years on the Railway' by Andy Clayton, Colin Cotter and Andy Packham Meeting commences at 18.30. Contact 07946 482343 for details.

23rd September 2010

Gravesend Railway Enthusiasts Society
Emmanuel Baptist Church, Windmill Street, Gravesend DA12 1BB. AGM. Starts 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, WA12 8EW. 'The Lancaster & Carlisle Railway' by Noel Machell. Starts 19.30. Contact 01925 226473.

Mid Hants Railway Preservation Society (Thames Valley)
Church House, 59 Church Street, Caversham, Reading RG4 8AX. 'West Somerset Railway' by Keith Smith. Starts 19.45. Admission by donation. Contact at robert.latham@tesco.net 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.

▼ **Class 66/0 No. 66051 is pictured within an engineering possesion between Castleford and Milford Junction, having brought fresh ballast to the worksite on 5th September. Scott Spencer**

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

Locomotive Club of Great Britain (Croydon)
United Reform Church Hall, Addiscombe Grove, East Croydon. 'From the 90s to the 00s at Home & Abroad' by Bob Stonehouse. Starts 19.15.

Shropshire Rly Society
The Gateway, Chester Street, Shrewsbury. 'British and Overseas Steam Trams' by Nick Kelly. Starts 19.30. Donation of £3 requested. Contact the General Secretary on 01743 243295 for further details.

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

26th September 2010
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.

28th September 2010
Locomotive Club of Great Britain (Brighton)
Brighton Model Railway Club Room, BR London Road Station, Shaftesbury Place, Brighton. 'Railway Film Miscellany' by John Butler. Meeting commences at 19.30.

Tewkesbury YMCA Railway Sociey
YMCA, Church Street, Tewkesbury. 'A Tribute to John Wilkins and the Fairbourne Railway' by High Sykes. Meeting commences at 19.45.

1st October 2010
RCTS (Bristol)
St Peters Church Hall, Church Road, Filton. 'The Railways of the Forest of Dean' by Ian Pope. Meeting commences at 19.30.

Stephenson Locomotive Society
The Mining Institute Lecture Theatre, Neville Hall, Westgate Road, Newcastle upon Tyne. 'An Evening of Railway Films with a 1950s Theme' by Roy Jefferson. Starts 19.00. Contact 01434 688946 for details.

Stephenson Locomotive Society
Settllement Centre, Union Street, Middlesbrough.
'So you want to Build a Railway (The Welsh Highland Railway)' by Bob de Wardt. Meeting commences at 19.00. Contact the Secretary on 01642 313451 for further details.

2nd October 2010
Stephenson Locomotive Society
The Friends Meeting House, Mount Street, Manchester. 'Joseph Locke: The Third Engineer' by Dr Michael Bailey. Meeting commences at 14.00. Contact the Secretary on 0161 928 2461 for further details.

4th October 2010
North Yorkshire Moors Railway (Northallerton)
Northallerton Town Cricket Club, Farndale Avenue, Northallerton. 'Your Next Station Stop is Stokesley' by Tony Daniels. Meeting commences at 19.30. Admission £1.50. Contact the Secretary, Ian McInnes on 01642 767233 for further details.

RCTS (Ashford)
The Elwick Club, Church Road, Ashford. 'The West Coast Main Line, Southern Section since Nationalisation' by Bob Ballard. Meeting commences at 19.30. Contact the Secretary at southeast@rcts.org.uk for further details.

5th October 2010
Gravesend Railway Enthusiasts Society
Emmanuel Baptist Church, Windmill Street, Gravesend DA12 1BB. 'Developments in Hornby Railway' by Simon Kohler. 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. Meeting commences at 19.30. Contact the Secretary on 01525 750149 for further details.

North East Essex Railway Association
Room 6, Frinton Community Centre, The Triangle, Frinton. 'BR Branch Lines' by David Soggee. Meeting commences at 19.45.

Permanent Way Institution (Wessex)
The Rose and Crown, Columbo Street, Waterloo, London
High Speed North/South The Rail Engineers Alternative' by Colin Elliff, Atkins Rail. Meeting commences at 18.30. Contact the secretary, Richard Workman, on 01428 645771 or email richardworkman5@tiscali.co.uk

RCTS (Watford)
St. Thomas' United Reformed Church, Langley Road, Watford. 'The Wensleydale Railway' by David Gibson. Meeting starts at 19.30.

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

Tewkesbury YMCA Railway Sociey
YMCA, Church Street, Tewkesbury. 'Members slide/Digital Photograph Evening. Meeting commences at 19.45.

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

6th October 2010
Permanent Way Institution (Thames Valley)
Davidson House, Reading
'Track Renewals in Central Manchester' by Paul Dawkins, CDL Meeting commences at 17.45. Contact the secretary, Peter Simmonds, by email at peter181102@yahoo.co.uk

Stephenson Locomotive Society
Hayes Village Hall, Hayes Street, Hayes, Bromley. 'The History of BR and the Construction of No.72010 "Hengist"' by Russell Newland. Meeting commences at 19.30. Contact the Secretary on 0208 289 9935 for further details.

7th October 2010
RCTS (Milton Keynes)
The Crown, Market Square, Stony Stratford, MK11 1BE. 'Strictly Freight Only' by Brian Ringer. Meeting commences at 19.30. Contact the Fixtures Secretary on 01908 563549 for further details.

Stephenson Locomotive Society
St John Ambulance Centre, Sandes Avenue, Kendal. 'Steam in the North West' by R.Penn. Meeting commences at 19.15. Contact the Secretary on 01539 720708 for further details.

8th October 2010
Altrincham Electric Rly Preservation Society
Altrincham Methodist Church Hall, Barington Road, Altrincham, Cheshire WA1 1HF. 'A Tour of South African Railways in the Early 1970s (Industrial and Main Line Steam)' by Alan Gilbert. Meeting commences 19.30. Admission £3, Members Free. Contact the Secretary, Andrew Macfarlane on 0161 928 9394 for further details.

Great Central Railway Society (Rotherham)
The Three Horseshoes, Bawtry Road, Wickersley, Rotherham S66 2BW. 'The Bamford & Howden Reservoir Railway' by Ted Hancock, Meeting commences at 19.30. Contact Mick Hayes on 01709 820544 for details.

Great Western Society (Swindon)
Lawn Community Centre, Guildford Avenue, off Windsor Road, Lawn, Swindon, SN3 1JE. 'Aspects of the Great Western Railway' by Peter Tough. Meeting commences at 19.30. Contact the Secretary on 01793 495976 for further details.

Shropshire Railway Society
The Gateway, Chester Street, Shrewsbury. 'Railways at the Dawn of Nationalisation' by Robin Mathams. Meeting commences at 19.30. Donation of £3 requested. Contact the General Secretary on 01743 243295 for further details

9th October 2010
Bournemouth Railway Club
'All Purpose Room', Winton Methodis Comminity Centre, Alma Road/Heron Court Road, Bournemouth. 'Travels in 2009' by David Milton. Meeting commences at 14.30. Admission £2. Contact Martyn Thresh at martyn.thresh@ntlworld.com for further details.

Back Issues

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

Rear Cover Caption

Class 60s have made a revival on the Lindsey to Preston Docks tanks recently. No. 60011 passes Lostock Hall with the 08.55 Preston Dock -Lindsey bitumen empties on 17th September. John Wade

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