Railway Herald

Issue 241 - 4th October 2010

The electronic journal for the railway enthusiast

Railway Herald

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4th October 2010

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End of the line for Scarborough's semaphore signals

With the closure of Scarborough station for a period to allow track and signalling upgrade work, the end has finally come for Scarborough's semaphore signals. The large gantry, which has been a familiar landmark at the west end of the station is to be dismantled.

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East Midlands Trains has released the first refurbished Class 153 back into traffic, marking the start of a £5 million rolling stock investment.
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Could loco-hauled services out of London be back on the cards, albeit temporarily, as a way of moving the crowds for the Olympics?
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Front Cover Caption:

Blue-liveried Class 31/1 No. 31106 heads north through Spetchley on 25th September, working the 23.00 Bristol Kingsland Road to Derby RTC test working. Stephen Tucker

EMT shows off first fully refurbished Class 153 unit

The refurbishment programme, which marks the start of a £5 million investment, includes all of East Midlands Trains' fleet of 17 Class 153 and 11 Class 156 units.

The work is being undertaken at Neville Hill Depot in Leeds and will be completed by the end of 2011. Each unit is being re-upholstered, together with new carpet being fitted throughout. The interior lighting is being improved and for the first time, CCTV is being installed. In addition, new interior wall coverings have been fitted, and the toilet areas improved with new vinyl flooring.

All units are being repainted into East Midlands Trains livery to give a consistent look, and are also benefiting from extensive modification work to ensure that they are running as reliably and efficiently as possible.

▲ **Class 153 No. 153319 stands at Lincoln on 28th September.**
▶ **The fresh and brighter look to the interior of the refurbished Class 153. Both: Richard Tuplin**

The 21st century version of Red Star parcels?

In conjunction with ByBox, Network Rail introduced a series of parcel drop-off and collection points at London Victoria and Euston stations on 1st October, and later this month the same facilities will be available at Liverpool Street, Kings Cross, Paddington, and St Pancras.

Banks of lockers and parcel counters at the termini are designed to eliminate the need to wait in for a delivery or make special journeys to postal sorting offices and inconveniently located collection points, passengers being able to drop-off parcels or collect online shopping on their way to or from work or during their journeys.

Consumers can use the online service to choose to have their goods sent to a secure ByBox delivery drop box at any of the stations. ByBox collects or receives goods from the retailer, transports them through its network and delivers them to the consumer's closest box. It then emails or texts the consumer to advise that the goods are ready for collection and supplies a unique security code to open the box. The service is also being made available at a manned point at the left luggage counter of each station between 07.00 and 23.00, for those who prefer to deal with an actual person. More drop boxes will be installed in other stations in and around London and across the country by the end of the year

Edinburgh electrification

The £6 million project to electrify the north lines between Princes Street Gardens and Haymarket is progressing, with work currently underway in Haymarket North Tunnel.

The work will continue until December, and focuses on repairs to the tunnel walls and track alignment to provide clearance for the overhead wires. Funded by Transport Scotland, the programme will provide extra capacity into and out of Edinburgh Waverley, ahead of the new four trains-per-hour service on the Airdrie to Bathgate service from December.

Network Rail could reopen Standedge Tunnels

As part of its £530 million Northern Hub initiative to improve rail services across Yorkshire and the North West, Network Rail is aiming is to provide more frequent trains between Leeds, Huddersfield and Manchester by reopening the two three-mile single-track tunnels linking Marsden and Diggle.

It is hoped that Government approval for the plans will enable work to begin in 2014, which will see the two older single-bore tunnels reopened to supplement the newer twin-track tunnel currently in use.

Network Rail said that reopening the tunnels would expand the line between Leeds and Manchester, allowing an increase in the number of TransPennine Express services from four an hour to six an hour, and would mean an investment in extra rolling stock. Both tunnels have been kept secured behind gates and are in good condition, and opening them up once again with new trackwork would remove the well-known bottlenecks between Huddersfield and Manchester, allowing express trains to overtake and run at speed while still providing space for local stopping services and freight.

Final stage of Scarborough resignalling work starts, with removal of gantry

▲ **LMS 'Duchess' No. 6233** *Duchess of Sutherland* **departs from Scarborough on 10th September, past Falsgrave box and under the famous gantry, and became the last steam-hauled service to be signalled away from Scarborough by semaphores. The gantry was taken out of use over the weekend 2nd-3rd October. Philip Benham**

Work to upgrade the track and signalling infrastructure around Scarborough station began in January, the complex project including complete renewal of track, drainage and signalling within the station approach area.

From January, the signalling works have been carried out overnight to minimise impact on passengers, but essential works will result in services being suspended into Scarborough from midnight on 6th October to 1st November. TransPennine Express services will be replaced by buses for all or part of the journey from Scarborough and Seamer to Malton, and on the weekends of 23rd/24th October and 30th/31st October, the road coaches will run to and from York.

The removal of Falsgrave signal gantry will be the first task after 6th October, following which the listed gantry will then be taken away for refurbishment. Following the granting of planning permission in August, the way is now clear for the gantry to be reconstructed on the North Yorkshire Moors Railway, where it will ultimately control the layout at the north end of Grosmont station, including the route onto the Esk Valley line to Whitby. It should be erected early in 2011.

The signalling, control of which is currently split between Falsgrave and Seamer boxes, will be centralised at Seamer and a new track layout installed to improve timetable flexibility and give better access for refuelling steam locomotives. The listed signal box at Falsgrave is closing on 7th October, and a new user for it is actively being sought.

Around £9 million additional investment will be carried out at the same time as the signalling works, this being made up of improvements to the trackwork and work on the Huttons Ambo river bridge to ensure that it is fit for purpose for many years to come.

PowerGen

One of the leading rail activity e-groups on the web

reporting on Steam, Diesel & Electric operations in the UK

Power-Gen is a Google Groups e-mail group, which allows members to share gen and report sightings from across the UK.

Subscription to the group is free of charge.

Visit http://groups.google.com/group/powergen (or click here) for further details

to join, send a blank email to powergen+subscribe@googlegroups.com

UK News In Brief

■ The London Underground station of Kings Cross St Pancras is now completely wheelchair accessible from the street to all platforms, the final one of 10 lifts being commissioned on 27th September.

■ Hanson Aggregates has submitted a planning application to West Sussex County Council to demolish the current asphalt plant at Ardingly and expand the site. If planning permission is granted, a new aggregates processing plant, aggregates storage facility, rail discharge facility, new offices, HGV access point and a larger run-round loop will be constructed.

■ Network Rail has agreed to pay for the final assessment of a plan to reinstate the Todmorden Curve rail link to enable faster services between East Lancashire and Manchester. The 500-metre section of track, which has not been used since the 1960s, connects the Burnley to Manchester lines and would cut travel time to 40 minutes. Currently, passengers have to change trains at Hebden Bridge, meaning the journey takes one hour 20 minutes.

■ A further improvements scheme, valued at £500,000, is to be undertaken at Derby station, as part of the National Station Improvement Programme. The project, which will be completed before the end of the year, will refurbish the main concourse and resurface the footbridge.

■ Plans for a proposed 10-story high-rise construction above Twickenham station have upset the local community. The plans, which were submitted to Richmond Council by Network Rail and Kier Property in July, have so far received over 30 objections. The foundations for the structure are reported to cost £3 million!

■ David Higgins, the Chief Executive of the Olympic Delivery Authority, is to take up the same role with Network Rail in October following the resignation of Iain Coucher.

■ Six disused railway bridges in Luton and Dunstable are to be removed, the demolition being carried out as part of the new guided busway construction work planned for the towns. Each removal will take place over a weekend, commencing at 22.00 on Friday until Sunday evening, in order to minimise impact on the road network and general public.

■ Network Rail and Oxford County Council have joined forces to revamp the city's station in a project that is estimated at £12.5 million. The deal, which has now received the go-ahead from the council, will see the replacement of a footbridge and the creation of a new platform on part of the station's long-stay car park. Work could start early next year.

■ Smitham station on the Tattenham Corner branch is to be renamed Coulsdon Town to more clearly mark its location. Residents and station users were invited to vote for their preferred name, and the majority opted for Coulsdon Town. The new station name is expected to be used in the summer timetable from May 2011. Coulsdon South station is on the main line to Brighton.

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Didcot redesign

The redesign of the station forecourt and frontage at Didcot Parkway is to be put out to tender.

The contract, worth over £5 million, will include bus facilities, a larger taxi rank, a dedicated drop-off and pick-up area, disabled and short-stay parking. Work is expected to start in March next year and take up to 18 months to complete.

It is also planned to drop the word 'Parkway' from the station.

Broads Authority looks to secure swingbridge futures

The Broads Authority is drawing up a legal agreement that aims to set out the arrangements for repairs and maintenance to Somerleyton, Oulton Broad, Reedham and Trowse railway swing bridges.

Currently Reedham and Oulton Broad are fully operational, while Somerleyton is only opened at set times, due to repairs being required, and Trowse swing bridge is non-operational, although due to be repaired. Network Rail further reduced the number of openings that are undertaken at Somerleyton after engineers found that too much wear was being caused to the bridge, which dates back to Victorian times. Repairs on the bridge are due to be carried out next month, but to minimise the risk of the bearing failing completely before it can be replaced, the number of swings has been reduced from three a day to two. The evening swing, which on average is only used by one boat, will no longer take place.

Loco-hauled Olympian

The Olympic Delivery Authority is reported to be seeking 'expressions of interest' for the supply, management and operation of a number of sets of locomotives and coaches.

The vehicles would be used during the 2012 Games, to provide late night additional capacity as required from Euston, King's Cross, Paddington and St. Pancras terminals. No further information is currently available.

▼ **Class 97/3 No. 97304 waits for time at Wellington on a Derby to Machynlleth test working on 30th September, with classmate No. 97303 on the rear. David Loughhead**

Metro and Light Rail News

Local council borrowing reforms announced to fund transport investment

Deputy Prime Minister, Nick Clegg, announced at the recent Liberal Democrat conference in Liverpool, that over £500 million could be raised to fund a number of transport schemes in the West Midlands.

The money, which would come from reforms to council borrowing, would potentially be used for a new railway station in Wolverhampton and the long-awaited extension of the Midland Metro to Brierley Hill in the Black Country. In his announcement, Mr Clegg said that under the new Tax Increment Financing scheme, councils will be free to borrow cash to pay for major infrastructure projects designed to boost the local economy. Loans will be repaid from the increase in business rates councils can expect to receive once the infrastructure is in place.

Crossrail will be unaffected by cost-cutting

Since May there have been suggestions that the Government might wish to 'descope' the Crossrail project, and there were suggestions that the Abbey Wood and Maidenhead branches of the scheme might not go-ahead.

However, Crossrail has now said that no stations will be lost as a result of cost cutting, but it would be looking to reduce the scheme's costs without reducing the scope of planned services or removing any stations. The company also set out examples of how it had been able to reduce costs, including a redesign of Whitechapel station, which it said would deliver a far better station for passengers while saving £30 million! It is also stated that the trains will be based on tried and tested designs rather than spending a considerable sum on a new design specifically for the route.

Four engineering contractors shortlisted for London Overground Phase 2

A short list of four organisations has been compiled for the second phase of the London Overground network.

The tender, that is believed to be worth around £20 million, details that the work includes 1.3km of new railway between the existing South London Line and Silwood Junction, together with the installation of foundations for a new station at Surrey Canal Road, construction of which will be undertaken at some point in the future, after the Government spending review declined a £7 million funding package for the station.

Once the civil engineering work is completed, due in September 2011, and services start operating over the new route, the route will link Surrey Quays on the East London Line extension to Clapham Junction, providing enhanced links direct to the City and to Docklands.

Metro News in Brief

■ Work is currently underway at Neasden Depot to build a new maintenance facility for the Bombardier 'S' Stock vehicles now being delivered. The first part of the work included the construction of a new bridge, which will allow work to continue without major disruption to the depot. The erection of the bridge, which is 93 tons in weight, required the use of the largest mobile crane in Europe! As part of the depot upgrade project, Thales Rail Signalling Solutions are supplying a new signalling and control system that uses computer-based interlocking.

■ Metrolink is to refurbish the various stops on the Bury line over the next 18 months. The work, which is aimed at increasing ridership as well as decreasing crime, will see better lighting and safer storage areas for bikes. In addition, Heaton Park, Besses 'o the Barn and Bury stops will have new lifts, monitored by CCTV and urination alarms, together with renovated steps and underpasses.

■ Four operators have been shortlisted to run the proposed tram services on the Watford Junction to St Albans Abbey branch. The four are National Express, Transdev/Bombardier, Arriva Abbey Line Ltd and Construcciones y Auxiliar, SA. During a recent consultation by the DfT and Hertfordshire County Council, over 66% of respondees said they supported the scheme to introduce trams and a more frequent service onto the route, that is currently operated by a single London Midland Class 321. During the upgrade work, the line will also have passing loops installed.

▼ **The LT Museum's 1938 Tube Stock was transferred from Ealing Common Depot to Aldwych early on 21st September, to form part of the 'Blitz' exhibition on 23rd-25th September at the disused Aldwych station. Having departed Ealing Common at 00.20, the train is pictured after arrival at Aldwych. Kim Rennie**

More rolling stock needed says Chief Operating Officer

Northern Rail's Chief Operating Officer Steve Butcher has told the Yorkshire Post that one in three commuters face travelling to work on very overcrowded trains unless additional rolling stock is provided.

Under the previous Government, the DfT had allocated additional trains to the franchise, but Mr Butcher commented that only eight out of the proposed 182 additional carriages have been provided, and a decision on how many of the remaining trains will be funded has been deferred until after the spending review. He went onto say that while passenger numbers have risen by 34%, capacity on the companies services has only risen by 11%.

St Pancras Marriott hotel to open in May.

Marriott International will open its new London hotel in May next year.

The opening of the St Pancras Renaissance Hotel will mark the completion of London & Continental Railways and Manhatten Loft Corporation £150 million restoration, which aims to recreate the romance of travelling by train. The hotel, originally the Midland Railway's Grand Hotel features a celebrity chef restaurant and bar, a ballroom for 350 people, a swimming pool, barber's shop, private club and a spa!

▼ As the afternoon sun shines brightly on the limestone cliffs of the Avon Gorge, Class 43 powercar No. 43022 heads for Portbury with 'The Brunelian' charter, having passed under Brunel's Clifton Suspension Bridge. The train had been chartered by Pathfinder Tours & Modern Railways Magazine and had originated at London Paddington. **Mike Radford**

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WORTH VALLEY

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Haydock Foundry No.C Bellerophon

BR (Ex LMS) "Black 5" No.44871

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Top photo is by Clive Hanley • Bottom Left by George Denscombe • Bottom right by Karl Heathe

The News In Pictures

◀ Triple-headed freights are not the most common sight on the UK rail network. On 25th September, DB Schenker Class 66/0 No. 66009 leads classmates Nos. 66115 and 66006, the latter two being 'dead-in-tow', on an Exeter Riverside to Bescot, via Newport Alexandra Dock Junction, freight service. The train is pictured heading north through Spetchley. **Stephen Tucker**

◀▼ DRS Class 20/3 No. 20308 passes Headingly, nose-first, working 'light engine' from York to Leeds, via the Harrogate Loop. The working was the result of Class 37s now being banned from the Harrogate Loop and the operation of an observation saloon over the line. The '20' took over from Class 37/4 No. 37409 at Leeds. **Scott Spencer.**

▼ The blue and grey-liveried Class 3CIG EMU No. 1497 was moved from Bournemouth RSMD to Wymondham on 28th September, as its new owner is to base the set on the Mid-Norfolk Railway. Hauled by GBRf Class 66/7 No 66705 *Golden Jubilee* the train passes West Hampstead. **Bill Turvill**

UK Steam & Modern Traction Railtour Listings

4th October 2010

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

5th October 2010

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

6th October 2010

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

7th October 2010

WCRC	45231 or 45407	Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig & return
Steam Dreams	6233	London Waterloo-Guildford-Havant-Salisbury-Bath Spa-Bristol Temple Meads & rtn

8th October 2010

WCRC	45231 or 45407	Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig & return
UK Railtours	DBS 90	London King's Cross-York-Edinburgh Waverley-Perth-Inverness
Statesman Rail	tbc	Swindon-Stroud-Stonehouse-Cheltenham Spa-Worcester SH-Kidderminster-Stourbridge Jct-Stafford-Crewe-Preston-Shap-Beattock-Crianlarich-Fort William

9th October 2010

Statesman Rail	tbc	Fort William-Mallaig & return
SRPS Railtours	2xWCRC 47	Linlithgow-Drem-Newcastle-Hexham-Ravenglass-Grange over Sands & return
Railway Touring Co.	46115	(Leicester-Nottingham-Grantham-Doncaster-)Hellifield-S&C-Carlisle-Hexham-Durham-Darlington-York(-Doncaster & return)
Steam Dreams	6233	London Euston-Northampton-Rugby-Stafford-Crewe-Chester (break & return)
UK Railtours	tbc	Inverness-Dingwall-Achnasheen-Kyle of Lochalsh & return
Amethyst Experience	tbc	Birmingham Intl-Coventry-Rugby-Watford Junction-Minehead & return
Branch Line Society	2xDBS 66	Crewe-Wigan NW-Prestpon-Carnforth-ABP Ramsden Dock Port Terminal-Maryport-London Rd DBS Sidings-Carlisle-Brunthill (NR Limit)-Longtown Branch-Kingmore-Carlisle-Shap-Carnforth UPL-Preston-Wigan NW-Crewe

10th October 2010

UK Railtours	tbc	Inverness-Dingwall-Dunrobin-Dunrobin-Georgemas Jct & return
Branch Line Society	55022	Crewe-Sandbach-Middlwich-Northwich-Wade Works branch (NR Limit)-Hartford-Wigan NW-Ribble Steam Railway-Ribble Jct-Bare Lane Jct-Morecambe-Heysham Power Station (NR Limit)-Morecambe-Carnforth-Wennington-Hellifield-Blackburn-Darwen-Bolton-Salford Crescent-Manchester Piccadilly-Stockport-Altricham-Northwich-Middlewich-Sandbach-Crewe

11th October 2010

WCRC	45231 or 45407	Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig & return
UK Railtours	tbc	Inverness-Aviemore-Perth-ECML-Peterborough-Stevenage-London King's Cross
Statesman Rail	tbc	Fort William-Rannock-Crianlarich-Beattock-Shap-Preston & return

12th October 2010

WCRC	45231 or 45407	Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig & return
UK Railtours	2xDBS 67	London Victoria-Eastleigh & return

13th October 2010

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

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

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

The Week Ahead

by John Whitehouse

LMS engines feature strongly in the listings for the coming week, with No. 6233 *Duchess of Sutherland* **prominent, as it approaches the last fortnight of main line operation under its current ticket.**

The 'Duchess' features on two Steam Dreams 'operations within two days of each other. On 9th October, No. 6233 returns to its old stamping ground where the loco plied its trade while in LMS and later British Railways ownership, namely the West Coast Main Line between Euston and Crewe. Steam Dreams will actually be taking No. 6233 to Chester, and on the return the loco will become the first member of the Class to work into Euston since at least 1963.

With No. 6201 *Princess Elizabeth* out of action for repairs, the 'Duchess' will also deputise on Steam Dreams' 7th October 'Cathedrals Express' to Bath Spa and Bristol Temple Meads, which sets out from Waterloo and picks up at Woking, Guildford, Haslemere, Petersfield, Havant and Salisbury.

The second LMS engine in action is 'Royal Scot' 4-6-0 No. 46115 *Scots Guardsman*, which is booked for Railway Touring Company's 'The Hadrian' on 9th October from Hellifield, via the S&C to Carlisle, and then to York by way of the Tyne Valley and East Coast Main Line. The train originates at Leicester, and works north via Nottingham, Grantham and Doncaster.

The Branch Line Society proclaims a 'Bonanza Railtour Weekend' with tours operating on both 9th & 10th October. 'The Route 66 Railtour' is booked for Saturday 9th October, the train name maybe reflecting the scheduled 'top and tail' DBS Class 66 haulage, which will work the train throughout from Crewe, rather than any connection with the US Interstate highway! The tour is routed via the WCML to Carnforth, then around the Cumbrian Coast to Carlisle and onwards to the Longtown branch. The return south follows the West Coast route over Shap. In between, the tour will visit a considerable number of sidings, loops and short branches, including Bamfurlong Goods Lines fly-under, Ramsden Dock Port Terminal, and Brunthill (to NR limit) among many others.

Next day, the 'Ribble Line Railtour' features 'Deltic' No. 55022 *Royal Scots Grey* in place of the now unavailable Class 40 No. 40145 *East Lancashire Railway*. Setting out again from Crewe, this tour heads north through Sandbach and Middlewich ahead of regaining the WCML at Hartford, and continuing to Preston to visit the Ribble Steam Railway by way of the steeply graded branch that once served Preston Docks. This is followed by a visit to the Heysham Power Station branch after a reversal at Morecambe, and the tour then returns to Crewe by way of the Little North Western, Hellifield, Blackburn, Darwen, Bolton, Manchester Piccadilly, Stockport and Altrincham. Full details of the proposed itineraries of both tours can be found on the Branch Line Society website.

The SRPS will be heading south of the border for its 9th October working to Ravenglass and Grange-over-Sands, which originates at Linlithgow and runs via Edinburgh Waverley, Berwick-upon-Tweed, Newcastle and Hexham, before avoiding Carlisle to gain access to the Cumbrian Coast line. West Coast Class 47s should feature. Meanwhile, heading for Scotland is UK Railtours with a four-day 'Cock o' the North' land cruise, which starts from King's Cross on 8th October, to visit Kyle of Lochalsh the next day, followed by a trip to the Far North Line on 10th October, returning to London from Inverness the following day. Statesman Rail will also be heading north with the second 'West Highland & Jacobite Statesman' in as many weeks. This working sets out from Swindon, and runs via Cheltenham Spa and Worcester Shrub Hill, then over Shap and Beattock to the West Highlands on 8th October. There is a steam operation from Fort William to Mallaig on the following day, and the return is as outwards on 10th October.

In superb light, LNER 'A1' Pacific No. 60163 *Tornado* **leads GWR 'King' No. 6024** *King Edward I* **past Powderham on 25th September, with the return 'Tamar Devonian' charter from Plymouth to Eastleigh. Keith Turley**

Compass Railtour's 'Snowdon Mountain Ranger' charter heads along the Conwy Valley Line between Roman Bridge and Ffestiniog Tunnel bound for Blaenau Ffestiniog on 22nd September, powered by DRS Class 47/7 No. 47712 *Pride of Carlisle* **with Class 47/4 No. 47802** *Pride of Cumbria* **at the rear. Andrew Wood**

LMS Princess Coronation Pacific No. 6233 *Duchess of Sutherland* **heads for Newcastle, just north of Skelton Junction, York, with the delayed 'Silver Jubilee' excursion from London to Newcastle on 30th September. The 'Duchess' had taken over the train from LNER 'A4' Pacific No. 60019** *Bittern* **at York, and was running around 90 minutes late after bad coal resulted in poor steaming. The problem affected both locos during the trip, resulting in the charter returning diesel-hauled to London. After what has been described as a superb, almost non-stop, run from Newcastle behind Class 47/7 No. 47760, a 139 minute late departure resulted in an arrival at King's Cross some 13 seconds early! Bernard Warr**

The Mid-Norfolk Railway's Class 37 Golden Jubilee Weekend, was one of the highlights of the year's heritage diesel traction calendar.

Held over 24th-26th September, the event featured trains passing at the new loop at Thuxton and had an impressive loco line-up, including Class 37/0s Nos. D6729 & 6737, 37003, 37109, 37219 and 37275, Class 37/5 No. 37518, Class 37/7 No. 37706 and Class 37/9 No. 37906 plus Network Rail Class 97/3 No. 97301 and DRS Class 37/4 No. 37423.

The actual anniversary of the first workings of the Class back in 1960, is in December, and the Mid-Norfolk Railway is planning a running day to commemorate this event. The actual date has yet to be confirmed, but it is anticipated that Nos. D6729 and 37219 will be taking part.

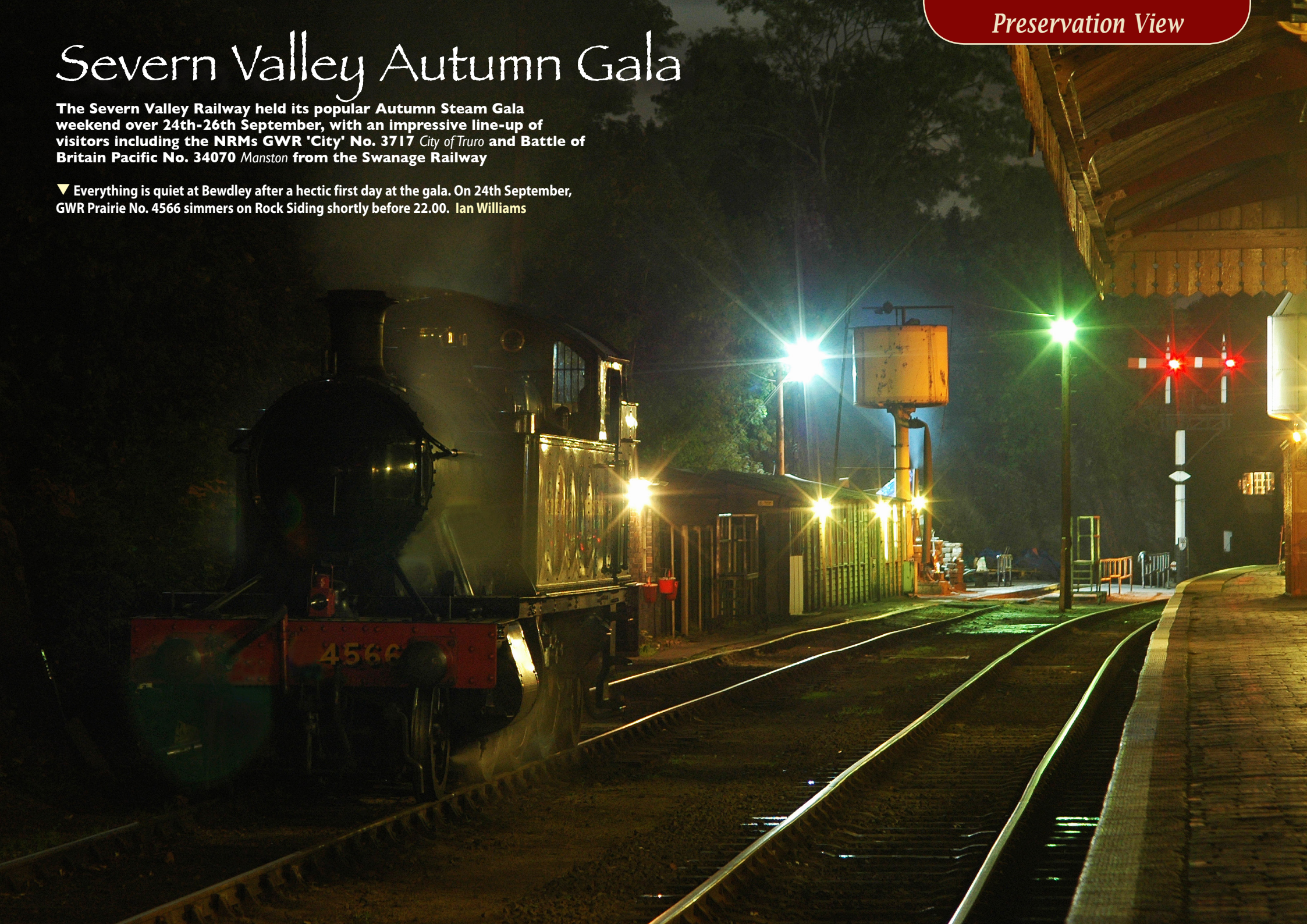
◀ Class 37/9 No. 37906 and Class 37/0s Nos. D6729 and 37219 stand in the yard at Dereham on 24th September.

▼ Class 37/4 No. 37423 and Class 97/3 No. 97301 'top and tail' a train into Thuxton on 24th September. Both: Jamie Course

◀▼ Railfreight red-stripe Class 37/5 No. 37518 passes though Dereham on the Mid Norfolk Railway on 25th September. David Richardson

Severn Valley Autumn Gala

The Severn Valley Railway held its popular Autumn Steam Gala weekend over 24th-26th September, with an impressive line-up of visitors including the NRMs GWR 'City' No. 3717 *City of Truro* and Battle of Britain Pacific No. 34070 *Manston* from the Swanage Railway



▼ Everything is quiet at Bewdley after a hectic first day at the gala. On 24th September, GWR Prairie No. 4566 simmers on Rock Siding shortly before 22.00. Ian Williams

▲ Collett-designed 0-6-0 No. 3205 creates a quintessential branch line scene at Little Rock with the 13.55 Bridgnorth to Highley service on 25th September. **Donald Taggart**

▲ On the second day of the gala, 25th September, GWR 'Manor' No. 7812 *Erlestoke Manor* backs onto classmate No. 7802 *Bradley Manor* at Bewdley to work the 14.00 service to Kidderminster. **Ian Williams**

▼ SR Bulleid 'Battle of Britain' Pacific No. 34070 *Manston* climbs Eardington Bank with the 09.25 Kidderminster to Bridgnorth service on 25th September. **Donald Taggart**

Class 47/4 No. 47802 *Pride of Cumbria*, **on temporary hire to West Coast Rail, leads the empty coaching stock of a Carnforth to Doncaster working on the approach to Hellifield on 30th September. WCR Class 47/4 No. 47804 was on the rear. Richard Fox**

Class 92 No. 92017 *Bart the Engine* **powers the Rugby to Mossend 'Tescoliner' through Crawford on 21st September. Antony Watkinson**

Class 57/3 No. 57315 drags Class 390 'Pendolino' No. 390005 *City of Wolverhampton* **past Holyhead Depot on 25th September, with a London Euston-bound service. Classmate No. 57302 can be seen in the top of the picture. Paul Manley**

Class 66/0 No. 66132 stands at Worksop while waiting to drop stone during a possession on 26th September. **Chris Booth**

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. Starts 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. Starts 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. Starts 19.30. Admission £2. Contact John Goodrich on 023 8067 0028 for further details.

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

Weston super Mare Railway Society
Function Room, Conservative Club, Alexandra Parade, Weston super Mare. 'More Steam Recreations' by Do Bishop. Starts 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 Starts 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. Starts 19.30.Contact the Secretary on 0208 289 9935 for further details.

Warwickshire Railway Society
The Lamp Tavern, Barford Street, Highgate, Birmingham B5 6AH. 'The Withered Arm' by Michael Clemens. Contact Don Taggart on 01746 710676 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.

SRPS (Edinburgh)
Quaker Meeting House, 7 Victoria Terrace, Edinburgh, EH1 2JL. 'A Few Disasters - A Few Thoughts' by Jim Summers. Starts 19.30. Contact Dr Peter Howell on 0131 334 5232 for details.

Stephenson Locomotive Society
St John Ambulance Centre, Sandes Avenue, Kendal. 'Steam in the North West' by R.Penn. Starts 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 Rlys in the Early 1970s' by Alan Gilbert. Starts 19.30. Admission £3. Contact Andrew Macfarlane on 0161 928 9394 for further details.

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

GWS (Swindon)
Lawn Community Centre, Guildford Avenue, off Windsor Road, Lawn, Swindon, SN3 1JE. 'Aspects of the GWR' by Peter Tough. Starts 19.30. Contact the Secretary on 01793 495976 for details.

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

9th October 2010

Bournemouth Rly Club
'All Purpose Room', Winton Methodis Comminity Centre, Alma Road/Heron Court Road, Bournemouth. 'Travels in 2009' by David Milton. Starts 14.30. Admission £2. Contact martyn.thresh@ntlworld.com for details.

Stephenson Locomotive Society
Railway Museum, Kidderminster. 'William Creuze, First Locomotive Engineer of the Birmingham and Gloucester Railway' by Norman Hewer. Starts 14.00. Contact 01242 582152 for further details.

11th October 2010

Lincoln Railway Society
St Hugh's Church Hall, North Hykeham, Lincoln. 'Steaming Around in 2009/Locomotives of the LNER' by Alex Hurd. Starts 20.00. Entrance fee £3.Contact the Publicity Member on 01522 705365 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.

▼ **DB Schenker Class 60 No. 60074 *Teenage Spirit* crawls through Ealing Broadway with a Brentford to Acton Yard service, comprising of empty bogie hoppers. Julian Gajewski**

RCTS (East Croydon)
Small Hall, United Reformed Church, Addiscombe Grove, East Croydon. 'Collectors Corner - The Euston Years' by Bob Ballard. Starts 19.30.

RCTS (Ipswich)
Bridge Ward Club, 68 Austin Street, Ipswich. 'Railways in the Czech Republic and Surrounding Countries' by Ian Cowley. Starts 19.30.

RCTS (Northampton)
St Crispin Social Club, Berrywood Road, Duston. 'Steam as Time Runs Out' by Graham Onley. Starts 19.30. Contact Northampton@rcts,org.uk for further details.

RCTS (Sheffield)
St Mathews Church Rooms, Carver Street, Sheffield. 'The Tornado Story - from Dream to Steam' by Keith Crabtree. Meeting starts at 19.30.

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

Stephenson Locomotive Society
New Trinity Parish Hall, Saltcoats. Ayrshire. 'Cab Rides on Safety Tests' by M. Graham McLachlan. Starts 19.30. Contact the Secretary on 01294 822303 for further details.

York Railway Circle
Archbishop Holgate's School, Hull Road, York YO10 5ZA 'A to Z of Yorkshire Transport' by John Holroyd. Starts 19.30. Contact Robin Patrick on 01904 412232 or at locopatrick@aol.com for details.

12th October 2010

8E Railway Association
The Gladstone Club, Station Road, Northwich, CW9 5RB '80s and 90s Irish Railways' by Charles Roberts. Starts 19.45. Contact Paul Tench on 07790 486735 for further details

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

Great Western Society (Bristol)
589 Southmead Road, Filton, Bristol BS34 7RG. 'Railways in West Switzerland' by Arthur Turner. Meeting commences at 19.45. Contact The Secretary on 01454 324230 for further details.

Great Western Society (Taunton)
Village Hall, Stoke St Mary, Nr Taunton. 'My Travels in 2009' by David Milton. Meeting commences at 19.30. Contact the Secretary on 01823 334188 for further details.

Permanent Way Institution (Croydon & Brighton)
Mott MacDonald House, Sydenham Road, Croydon, CR0 2EE 'Does modern track need ballast and can we afford it?' by Colin Wheeler, Rail One Meeting commences at 17.45. Contact the secretary, Martin Cresswell on 07815 968245 or email martincresswell@amey.co.uk for further details.

RCTS (Merseyside, Chester & NthWales)
'Station Observation at `Nuneaton'. Contact Geoff Morris on 01244 376808 or at geoffreymorris@tiscali.co.uk for further details.

RCTS (Nottingham)
Nottingham Mechanics, 3 North Sherwood Street, Nottingham. 'Along Cheshire Lines (Manchester to Chester)' by Keith Grainger. Starts 19.30.

RCTS (Scunthorpe)
The Star Public House, Rochdale Road, Ashby. 'Footplate Days at Immingam and other Depots' by Brian Bell. Meeting starts at 19.30.

SRPS (Lanarkshire)
Holy Trinity Church, Avon Street, Motherwell, ML1 3AA. 'Narrow Gauge Steam Around the World' by Archie Thom. Meeting commences at 19.30. A donation is requested. Contact Fred Landery on 01698 457777 or at fred.landery@srps.org.uk for further details.

Tewkesbury YMCA Railway Sociey
YMCA, Church Street, Tewkesbury. 'Railways Far and Wide' by Julian Stanley. Meeting starts at 19.45.

13th October 2010

Basingstoke & District Railway Society
Wote St. Club, New Road, Basingstoke. Society Photographic Competition. Meeting starts at 20.00. Visitors Welcome. Contact the Secretary on 01256 819401 for further details.

Bromsgrove RlyClub
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 for further details.

Oxfordshire Railway Society
Seacourt Day Centre, Seacourt Road, Oxford OX2 9LD. 'Lynton & Barnstaple' by Chris Ward. Starts 19.30.

RCTS (Hitchin)
Hitchin Christian Centre, Bedford Road, Hitchin. 'Quiz' by Tom Gladwin. Meeting commences at 19.30.

RCTS (Radyr)
Old Church Rooms, Park Road, Radyr. 'The Railways of Abergavenny' by Nigel Lewis. Meeting starts at 19.30.

Swiss Railways Society (London)
The Model Railway Club, Keen House, 4 Calshot Street, London N1 9AT. 'Not he Gotthard' by John Jesson. Starts 19.00. Donation of £2 requested. Contact Ron Dawes on 020 8660 3532 for further detail

14th October 2010

Bath Railway Society
Bath Green Park Station Meeting Room. 'Faslane Military Railway etc' by Mike Walshaw. Starts 19.30. Contact Kevin Plummer (evenings) on 01225 312564 for further details.

Continental Rly Circle
St Paul's Church Centre, Rossmore Road, Marylebone, London NW1 6NJ. 'Miscellany from 1957 -63' by Lance King and 'Finland and Greece' by Charles Firminger. Starts 19.15. Admission £2. Contact Adrian Palmer on 01932 850624 for details.

Friends of the West Highland Lines
Room 10, Partick Burgh Halls, Burgh Hall Street, Glasgow. 'West Highland Panorama' by Ian Somerville. Starts 19.30. £2 donation. Contact Duncan Wilson at duncanwilson1955@hotmail.com for further details.

LCGB (St Albans)
United Reform Church, Watford Road, Chiswell Green, Nr St Albans. 'O.Winston Link & the Norfolk and Western Railroad' by Bob Gellatly. Starts 19.30. £2 Donation required.

Permanent Way Institution (Manchester & Liverpool)
Ove Arup Offices, St. James Building, Oxford Street, Manchester. 'Floating Slab Track Design' by Graeme Hanshaw, Arup Starts 12.30. Contact Rob Cummings on 07798 858784

Permanent Way Institution (North Wales)
The Town Crier Inn, City Road, Chester 'High Speed 2' by Andrew Went, Network Rail. Starts 18.30 Contact the secretary Lynne Garner, on 07771 672274

RCTS (Newcastle)
The Brunswick Methodist Hall, Newcastle. 'Mangapps Railway Museum' by John Jolly. Starts 18.30. Contact jimbrick@fsmail.net for details.

16th October 2010

Great Western Society (South West)
Parish Centre, Church End Road, Kingskerswell, Torbay. The 9.15 from Paddington' by Simon Foot. Starts 18.30. Contact the Secretary on 01803 336329 for details.

Stephenson Loco Society
The Mining Institute Lecture Theatre, Neville Hall, Westgate Road, Newcastle upon Tyne. 'Digital Members' Evening'. Starts 19.00. Contact the Secretary on 01434 688946 for further details.

18th October 2010

GCR Society (Spinkhill)
The Angel Hotel, 26 College Road, Spinkhill, Sheffield S21 3YB. 'An Illustrated History of the Woodhead Line' by John Quick. Starts 19.30. Contact Frank Greaves on 01909 473927 for further details.

RCTS (Coventry)
Maudslay Hotel, 190 Allesley Old Road, Coventry. 'Great British Railway Photographers'by Brian Stephenson. Meeting commences at 19.30.

RCTS (Oxford)
West Oxford Democrats Club, 1 North Street, Osney off Botley Road; 'From Blue & Grey to Black & Green' by Paul Chancellor. Starts 19.30.

RCTS (Roade)
Roade Village Hall, Bailey Brooks Lane, Roade. 'Out and About on my Travels' by Hugh Gould. Starts 14.00.

RCTS (Shenfield)
Shenfield Parish Hall, 60 Hutton Road, Shenfield. 'Wensleydale Railway - Rebirth of a Rural Railway' by Dave Gibson. Starts 19.30.

19th October 2010

Permanent Way Institution (Nottingham)
Jurys Inn Hotel, Station Street, Nottingham 'Track Friendly Vehicles' by John Sinclair. Starts 18.30. Contact Colin Cowey 07946 482343 or email colin.cowey@talk21.com

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

Freightliner Class 66/5 No. 66506 *Crewe Regeneration* powers through Winwick, north of Warrington, on 30th September with a Rugeley Power Station to Hunterston rake of empty coal hoppers. Fred Kerr

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Freightliner