Railway Herald

Issue 242 - 11th October 2010

The electronic journal for the railway enthusiast

Railway Herald

Issue 242
11th October 2010

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All editorial emails should be sent to the editor. To email a member of the team, send your message to firstname.surname@railwayherald.com

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

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

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

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

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ISSN 1751-8091

Decades of Change : The Isle of Wight

Railway Herald's Contributing Editor, Brian Morrison, looks back at the changes that have taken place over the past few decades to electric traction on the remaining stretch of railway on the Isle of Wight, looking at stock and liveries.

Read more on Page 21

Publishing Break

Railway Herald will not be published on Monday 18th October, as a result of an editorial break. We will return to our usual weekly publishing schedule as from:

Monday 25th October 2010

As usual, we advise readers to continue to sending imagery and news contributions for the magazine during this time, and the Imaging Centre will continue to be moderated as normal.

In This Issue

Eurostar invests £700 million
Eurostar has announced a major fleet investment of £700 million, which will be used to buy 10 new Siemens trains and upgrade the Class 373s.

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Next Powerhaul loco arrives
Class 70 No. 70007 became the first, and likely only, member of the class to be delivered to Freightliner, via the Channel Tunnel.

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ScotRail suspends 380 testing
First ScotRail suspended the testing of its new Class 380 EMUs for several days in late September, due to technical problems with the fleet.

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GWR 175th Anniversary
First Great Western has marked the 175th anniversary of the Great Western Railway by naming powercar No. 43175.

Click here to read the story on Page 6

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The weekly round-up from a pictorial viewpoint of newsworthy and unusual workings across the country.

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Front Cover Caption:

Ivatt Mogul No. 46443 and GWR Manor No. 7812 *Erlestoke Manor* storm up Eardington Bank on the SVR recreating a 'Cambrian' working on 6th October. Stuart Chapman

▲ How the 10 Siemens Eurostar sets will look. The mock-up is shown off in Hyde Park on 7th October. **Paul Bigland**

Eurostar shows off new look to new trains

Eurostar International has announced plans for a major £700 million investment in its rolling stock as part of an expansion of services.

The investment will include the company's current fleet of Alstom-built Class 373 sets being fully overhauled and refurbished, while 10 new trains are to be purchased from German-manufacturer Siemens, following a competitive tender process.

The new trains, that externally resemble the ICE sets built for Deutsche Bahn, will be built to a bespoke specification and are to be called Eurostar e320^2 sets. They will be 'interoperable', meaning that the trains will have the ability to work over the networks of various countries, opening up new destinations. With a length of 400 metres and having a capacity of 900 people, they will provide Eurostar with a 20% increase over the current sets and will be capable of operating at speeds of up to 320kph (200mph), which will give Eurostar a competitive edge, with London-Paris timings being reduced to just two hours.

Eurostar says that the new Siemens trains will be equipped with the most advanced Wi-Fi and onboard 'info-tainment' system of any train in Europe, which will provide real-time travel and destination information, as well as interactive entertainment including video-on-demand, music and news-feeds.

Along with the announcement of the new and refurbished rolling stock, comes the news of new destinations, with trains reaching Amsterdam in under four hours and Geneva in around five hours. Given the problems of fitting the current fleet with the additional signalling equipment needed for operating in other countries, it is likely that the 10 new trains will mostly be involved on the new services.

Meanwhile, French manufacturer, Alstom, which built the original Class 373s, and who will not be involved in the new trains, said in a statement that it "underlines, as the French Ministry of Transport has already done, that the current security rules applying to trains travelling through the Channel Tunnel conform to the highest possible standards, and consequently do not permit the use of the trains that Eurostar states it has purchased. The definition and the possible evolution of these rules are neither the responsibility of the rail operators, nor of the rolling stock manufacturers or of the Channel Tunnel operator".

Government to consult on 'Y' shaped network for UK's second high-speed line

Secretary of State for Transport, Philip Hammond, has announced that the Government will consult early next year on building a 'Y' shaped high-speed rail network with separate legs from the West Midlands to both Manchester and Leeds.

A 'Y' shaped route would allow the East Midlands and South Yorkshire to be served by the high-speed network, as well as Leeds, Manchester and the North West. Scotland still does not feature in the first stage of the route.

Philip Hammond said: "I can announce that the Government's preferred option for high-speed rail north of Birmingham will be for two separate corridors. One direct to Manchester, and then connecting onto the West Coast Main Line, and the other via the East Midlands and South Yorkshire – with stations in both areas – before connecting to the East Coast Main Line north of Leeds".

Work is currently underway to refine the preferred route identified in the HS2 Ltd report published earlier this year, and the Transport Secretary will set out the Government's final preferred route for consultation later this year.

London Midland's St Albans branch

▼ One of only two Class 321/4 EMUs currently carrying London Midland livery, No. 321411 arrives at St Albans Abbey station on 28th September, forming the 16.31 from Watford Junction and the 16.58 return, a branch service destined to be replaced by trams. **Bill Turvill**

▲ Formed of a hired-in East Midlands HST, the 12.10 East Coast service from King's Cross to Leeds approaches Harringay at speed, led by Class 43 powercar No. 43058 with No. 43066 on the rear, and passes Class 313/0 No. 313027, which is heading for Moorgate, forming the 12.03 First Capital Connect all-stations service from Welwyn Garden City. **Brian Morrison**

East Yorkshire route shut for six weeks while work takes place on Goole bridge

The refurbishment of Goole swing bridge means that for six weeks from 2nd October to 13th November no trains will be able to run over it as the work to strengthen and improve the structure is carried out.

The line between Hull and Doncaster will be closed to rail traffic between Goole and Gilberdyke stations, and alternative bus transport will be provided, although the route from Doncaster to Gilberdyke, via Selby is unaffected.

The bridge, however, will remain open to river traffic. Hull remains open for rail freight services with trains using diversionary routes. Hull Trains services and other routes served by First TransPennine Express and Northern Rail are not affected.

Network Rail has already completed some early works on the bridge with no disruption to services, when ducts and cables, to and from the signal box were installed under the river between September 2009 and February 2010.

New £610,000 rail and road transport hub investment at Elstree and Borehamwood station

Work is underway on a new transport interchange at Elstree & Borehamwood Station.

The station, which serves over one million people a year, will benefit from the redevelopment of the forecourt area to improve bus connections, accessibility, safety and cycle parking.

The £610,000 project is estimated to be completed by early February 2011, and funding for the work is coming from Hertfordshire County Council along with additional contributions from First Capital Connect and the Department for Transport's 'Access for All' Scheme.

The interchange project will provide better designed road access, step free access across the new forecourt, new bus shelters and waiting areas, safer walking and cycling routes, along with additional cycle parking and improved lighting and CCTV.

Andrew Sidgwick, Project Manager at First Capital Connect said: "The station has around 11 train departures and 36 bus departures an hour at peak times, and the connection between the two and other forms of transport will be significantly improved with much better access and facilities. This will support the station both now, and in the future, when the Thameslink Programme will see the arrival of 12-carriage trains at the station".

UK News In Brief

■ Newton-le-Willows station, near Warrington, has been given a makeover to mark the 180th anniversary of the Liverpool & Manchester Railway. The roof has been replaced with Welsh slates, windows and lighting renewed, and the exterior of the building, believed to date back to 1830, has been cleaned and repointed. The Manchester-bound platform has also been demolished and rebuilt using reclaimed bricks.

■ The well-known signal gantry at Scarborough has now been removed as the latest part of the major resignalling work at the resort.

■ The Port of Felixstowe continues to break records with a total of 10,764 containers handled by rail during the week ending 26th September.

■ The next arrival at Platform 1 isn't a train! Passengers at Esher station in Surrey were stunned when a confused 80-year-old pensioner drove his Saab car for 75 yards along the London-bound platform on 2nd October. British Transport Police said that the man had taken a wrong turning off a nearby road, driven 200-metres down a footpath and mounted the platform!

■ It is understood that the concepts behind London's Oyster smart card could become more widely used, even across Europe. The Oyster card is already used by over nine million people, but Transport for London is in talks to allow a specially designed credit or debit card to be used as payment, rather than having to pre-pay for a dedicated card. A number of cities worldwide are working to create a common standard, including Paris, New York, Boston and Sydney, and Manchester in this country. Such a system, which would allow passengers to pay travel fares by swiping debit or credit cards, is scheduled to be used on London's bus network by 2012 and on the Tube by the end of that year. The contactless payment system is being developed in partnership with Visa, Mastercard and American Express

■ The completion of Gogar Interchange in Scotland, the costs of which have almost doubled from £20 million to £35 million, could be delayed yet again, after Network Rail was advised that a retaining wall might have to be moved half-a-metre. The move would require a redesign of the drainage system, and the resulting landscape changes may require new planning consent.

■ Virgin Trains has been told that it has not been successful in its quest to extend its franchise by two years, and that it will expire as planned in 2012. The new franchise is expected to be an attraction for many of the current operators, and strong competition can be expected.

■ A £60 million revamp of Nottingham station has been approved. The project will create a new concourse, extra shops and a 950-space car park. Work should start in July 2012 and be completed by late 2014. Network Rail is to undertake a complete resignalling of the station towards the end of the project, part of which will involve Platform 4 being redesigned.

Local MP not happy at Hornsey expansion project

Plans to expand Hornsey Depot in North London have been submitted to the local council.

First Capital Connect, which operates the depot, is planning to construct a new 24-hour train cleaning facility between Hornsey and Harringay stations, while Network Rail is to build a 280-metre long maintenance building at the site to handle the expanding FCC fleet.

The train cleaning facility is to comprise a 125-metre long canopy, although the local Liberal Democrat Councillor says that any expansion of the facility will make life worse for local residents, with additional noise and light pollution.

Freightliner's next Class 70, No. 70007, arrived in England on 8th October, becoming the only member of the class to be delivered by rail.

The locomotive, which was shipped from the USA last month, has been on display at the InnoTrans exhibition in Berlin, and was moved to the UK, via the Channel Tunnel. The locomotive was worked through to Warrington by DB Schenker, from where it was dragged to Leeds Midland Road Depot.

▲ **Class 66/0 No. 66126 approaches Otford Junction on 8th October with Class 70 No. 70007 and a mixed set of wagons, forming the 13.34 from Dollands Moor to Warrington Arpley. Bill Turvill**

▶ **No. 70007 passes Swanley. Patrick Seale**

▲ At Norwich Crown Point Depot, Road 1 has been extended to allow for nine Mk3 coaches and a DVT to be accommodated prior to longer trains being used on many services to and from Liverpool Street in the December timetable, all part of National Express East Anglia's Service Improvement Plan that has been agreed by the Department for Transport. To recognise the work undertaken by Babcock Rail in moving buffers, adding track and moving the adjacent siding to create space, Class 90 No. 90014 *Norfolk & Norwich Festival* was used to break a banner for the official opening on 8th October, here held in readiness by Phil Wones, Operations Manager for Crown Point, Richard Kent of Babcock Rail and Chris Nesbitt, NXEA Deputy Fleet Manager. **Brian Morrison**

First ScotRail refuses Siemens Class 380s EMUs after technical problems result in suspension of testing

A report in the Scottish *The Herald* **newspaper tells how First ScotRail has refused to accept the new Class 380s from Siemens after technical hitches stopped the testing.**

According to the report, ScotRail has confirmed the company had suspended the commissioning runs on 24th September, saying: "We advised the manufacturer that all commissioning had been suspended and that we could not operate, or accept, these trains". The spokesman went on to say: "We resumed running on 7th October after modifications to the trains but will not accept them until all the problems are resolved and reliable operation is proven".

The newspaper reports that the problems are "thought to be software-related", one of the most serious incidents occurring on 27th September when Nos. 380105 and 380108 encountered problems on a test run to Carlisle, during which both units were failed. They were stabled in Carlisle Yard and finally returned to Polmadie behind Class 67 No. 67006 and barrier coaches on 5th October.

David Wilson, Director of Sales at Siemens Mobility, told the paper that the problems were a normal part of testing. "We're going through what is a very normal procedure of shaking down a new set of trains," he added.

The new Class 380s should have been in service from September, although delays in delivery and testing have pushed that entry date back, with the result that the start of the Airdrie to Bathgate service on 12th December may now commence with an introductory timetable, rather than the full service as originally planned.

Metro and Light Rail News

▲ Stagecoach Supertram No. 120 has been repainted into Sheffield Tramways livery to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the end of trams in Sheffield. The set is pictured at the Cathedral stop on 5th October. **Roy Wilson**

▼ Manchester Tram No. 2003 leaves Manchester Piccadilly, bound for Bury, and climbs towards Piccadilly Gardens on 5th October. **Allan Mckever**

▲ Newly named Class 43 powercar Nos. 43175 and classmate No. 43005 pass Cogload Junction on 8th October, heading for London Paddington with the 10.27 departure from Taunton. **Brian Garrett**

First Great Western mark 175th anniversary of GWR

To commemorate the 175th Anniversary of the Great Western Railway, First Great Western have named one of its powercars.

The ceremony, undertaken in conjunction with STEAM - Museum of the Great Western Railway and Network Rail, took place on 6th October at London Paddington, with No. 43175 being named *GWR 175th Anniversary*, in the presence of Christina Clarfelt, the great, great, great grand-daughter of Mr Brunel, through the Florence Brunel line of descent.

The Mayor of Swindon was later presented with a replica of the nameplate at STEAM – Museum of the Great Western Railway, in the company of ex-GWR and BR employees.

First Great Western paired No. 43175 with classmate No. 43003 *ISAMBARD KINGDOM BRUNEL* for the day.

▼ Alan Wild (Chairman of the Friends of Swindon Railway Museum), Allan Lloyd (FGW Service and Delivery Assistant), Mark Hopwood (FGW Managing Director) and Councillor Rex Barnett (Mayor of Swindon) with the presentation nameplate from powercar No. 43175 after its naming at Paddington on 6th October. **Brian Morrison**

The News In Pictures

◀ Work is nearing completion on the new Southend Airport station, seen here on 7th October, situated between Rochford and Prittlewell on the line to Southend Victoria. The new £12 million station is located on the eastern boundary of the Airport and is being funded by the Airport owners, Stobart Group, as part of a major expansion of the site. **Brian Morrison**

◀▼ Privately-owned Class 20 No. 20189 made an appearance at Lincoln on 5th October. The locomotive was apparently undertaking traction and route training duties. **Graham Lightfoot**

▼ A Kirow crane unloads a track panel from a modular tilt wagon during an engineering possession at Faversham on 2nd October, the consist having been brought in by Class 66/0 No. 66141. **Bill Turvill**

UK Steam & Modern Traction Railtour Listings

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

14th October 2010

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

15th October 2010

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

16th October 2010

NENTA Traintours	2xWCRC 47	Norwich-Thetford-Brandon-Ely-Royston-Hitchin-Portsmouth Harbour & return
Railway Touring Co.	48151	Newcastle-Bedlington-Morpeth-Newcastle-Durham-Ferryhill-Stockton-Darlington-Bishops Auckland-Stanhope-Stanhope-Darlington-Durham-Newcastle
UK Railtours	DBS Class 90	(London Euston-Crewe)-Skipton-Hebden Bridge-Crewe & return **Cancelled**
PMR Tours	6233	(Sheffield-)Derby-Nottingham-Grantham-Peterborough-London KX & return
Vintage Trains	5043	(Tyseley WR-Tame Bridge Parkway-Crewe-)Hellifield-S&C-Carlisle & return
Pathfinder Tours	DBS Class 67	Whitchurch-Telford Central-Birmingham New St-Cheltenham Spa-Kingswear & rtn

18th October 2010

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

19th October 2010

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

20th October 2010

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

21st October 2010

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

22nd October 2010

WCRC	45231 or 45407	Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig & return
Pathfinder Tours	60163	Doncaster-York-Newcastle Central-Edinburgh Waverley & return

23rd October 2010

Railway Touring Co.	44932 & 6024	Eastleigh-Poole-Weymouth-Yeovil Pen Mill-Castle Cary-Minehead-Castle Cary-Weymouth-Eastleigh
UK Railtours	2xDBS 67	Shenfield-Stratford-London Finsbury Park-York-Leeds-Skipton-Rylstone-York-& rtn
Vintage Trains	45305	Tyseley WR-Coleshill Parkway-Burton-Barrow Hill-Sheffield-Dore-Hope Valley-Peak Forest-Buxton-Peak Forest-Hope Valley-Chesterfield-Derby & return
Compass Tours	DBS 67	Hereford-Ledbury-Worcester FS-Kidderminster-Rowley Regis-Crewe-Preston-Shap-Carlisle-Workington-Ulverston-Carnforth-Preston & 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.
GREEN Tours postponed to a future date by the operator
RED Tours cancelled by the operator
BLUE Provisional excursion
(Locations) in brackets on a steam tour listing indicates a diesel or electric-hauled section.

The Week Ahead

by John Whitehouse

Arrivals and departures will be the feature of this week's charters. The departure is that of No. 6233 *Duchess of Sutherland*, **which bows out on 16th October with a final working prior to overhaul, for PMR Tours from Derby, Nottingham and Grantham to London King's Cross.**

The train commences diesel-hauled at Sheffield, and picks up at Chesterfield and Alfreton en route to Derby. The sadness of seeing the departure of No. 6233 is mitigated to a degree by the arrival of a new 'Queen', as Cunard's new super liner Queen Elizabeth is due to make her maiden voyage from Southampton on 12th October. UK Railtours will be marking the occasion with a charter from London Victoria to Eastleigh in order to view the event.

Meanwhile, Tyseley's 'Castle' No. 5043 *Earl of Mount Edgcumbe* is set to take on the Settle & Carlisle after conquering Shap last year. Vintage Trains' 'Pride of Swindon' is set for steam haulage in both directions over the 'Long Drag' from Hellifield northbound, and following a break at Carlisle, through to Crewe via Blackburn on the return. A Tyseley Class 47 will cover the non-steam sections from Tyseley Warwick Road to Hellifield outwards, and from Crewe on the return.

The Weardale Railway is the destination for Railway Touring Company on 16th October, with a tour from Newcastle, which initially works north around the Blyth & Tyne, reaching Newcastle for the second time via Bedlington and Morpeth. The route south to Darlington is through Durham and Ferryhill, where it will diverge and head for Stockton and Eaglescliffe in order to be facing in the right direction to access the line to Bishop Auckland, and ultimately the heritage line through to its terminus at Stanhope. This tour has been the subject of a number of motive power changes, and it is now understood that it will be hauled by West Coast's '8F' No. 48151.

UK Railtours had planned to head north behind steam, with its 'Clapham Omnibus' from London Euston, however, that tour has been cancelled because of the unavailability of No. 6201 *Princess Elizabeth*.

The south coast is the magnet for the remaining two diesel-hauled tours, with Pathfinder heading for Paignton and Kingswear from Whitchurch and Shrewsbury, before working east via Telford Central to Wolverhampton, and then south through Cheltenham Spa. From the east, Nenta Traintours has Portsmouth Harbour as its destination, picking up from Norwich, and working via Bury St Edmunds and Ely.

Looking ahead to the booked charters the week after next, one particularly stands out, RTC's 'Quantock Hills Explorer' from Eastleigh to Minehead and return on 23 October. It features Black 5 No. 44932 and 'King' No. 6024 *King Edward I* along the way. It picks up at Southampton, Bouremouth, Poole and Wareham en-route to Weymouth with the Black 5 in charge. At Weymouth the 'King' backs on, and will haul the train to Castle Cary with No. 44932 assisting at the rear when required (particularly on Upwey Bank). At Castle Cary No. 6024 is detached and the train continues to Minehead with No. 44932 again in charge. For good measure, the whole process is repeated on the return with No. 44932 in charge from Minehead to Castle Cary and from Weymouth to Eastleigh, while providing rear end assistance to No. 6024 from Castle Cary to Weymouth.

Another Black 5 is booked for mainline action on the same day, and features the welcome return to the mainline for No. 45305 *Alderman A.E. Draper,* following an extended absence. It is booked for Vintage Trains 'The High Peak' and is scheduled to work throughout from Tyseley's Warwick Road platform to Buxton and return. The outward route includes pick-ups at Coleshill Parkway, Tamworth High Level and Burton-upon-Trent prior to working north via Derby, Chesterfield, Barrow Hill, Sheffield and the Hope Valley to reach Buxton by way of the

The Week Ahead
continued...

freight-only route through Great Rocks. The return working is also via Great Rocks to the Hope Valley and then again through Sheffield and the 'Old Road' back to Chesterfield and home.

The remaining steam-hauled tour is booked for 22nd October with Pathfinder's 'Royal Borderer', which is scheduled to be hauled by No. 60163 *Tornado* from York to Edinburgh and back, working along the ECML throughout. It originates at Doncaster and is diesel hauled to York, with additional pick-up points at Darlington, Durham and Newcastle. On the return, the train will call at Berwick-upon-Tweed to join the celebrations of the 160th anniversary of the Royal Border Bridge, which will be floodlit for the occasion.

The scenic North Yorkshire freight-only Rylstone branch is the ultimate destination for UK Railtours' 23rd October working from Shenfield, Romford, Stratford and Tottenham Hale. The train initially heads for York, before continuing via Leeds to Skipton and the scenic nine-mile branch which terminates in the Tarmac Quarry. It is also possible to join the train at York for the journey to Rylstone. Incidentally, the train name 'The Cracoe Jack' refers to the village of Cracoe, which is located close to the quarry at the head of the branch.

Compass Railtours head for Carlisle via Shap with its 'Lakes & Pennine Moorlander', which takes the highly scenic Cumbrian Coast line on the return. The tour starts at Hereford, and picks up at Ledbury, Worcester Foregate Street, Droitwich Spa, Kidderminster, Stourbridge Junction and Rowley Regis, before heading for the WCML via Bescot.

Branch Line Society takes 'Deltic' to Morecambe and Heysham

▼ **Substituting for Class 40 No. 40145, Martin Walker's 'Deltic' No. 55022** *Royal Scots Grey* **in 'top and tail' mode with Class 66 No. 66066 powers the Branch Line Society's North West railtour along the Heysham branch, near Morecambe, on 10th October. The charter took in the Wade Works branch, the Ribble Steam Railway, Morecambe, and Heysham Power Station. John Wade**

Ups & Downs

■ UK Railtours have announced a new charter in March next year visiting Snowdonia. The train will take full advantage of the final section of the Welsh Highland Railway from Pont Croesor to Porthmadog, by offering passengers the chance to undertake a circular round-trip from Llandudno via Blaenau Ffestiniog, Porthmadog, Beddgelert, Caernarfon and Bangor! Further details will appear in our next issue.

■ GB Railfreight is to operate a charity passenger train on 2nd December for children and their carers. A Class 321 set, which is being provided free-of-charge by First Capital Connect, will operate from London King's Cross to York for 'First Steps of London', the 'Make a Wish Foundation' from Hertfordshire and the 'Noddy Appeal' of Peterborough' charities.

Class 66/0 No. 66080 stands in the shadows of the slate tips at Blaenau Ffestiniog, while waiting to depart on Compass Tours' Blaenau Ffestiniog to Shrewsbury, via Walsall, charter on 2nd October. **David Loughhead**

Steam Dreams' 'Cathedrals Express' heads north through Rugeley Trent Valley on 9th October, bound for Chester. The train originated at London Euston, and was the penultimate main line charter for LMS 'Duchess' No. 6233 *Duchess of Sutherland* **prior to boiler overhaul. John Whitehouse**

Standing in for LMS 'Princess Coronation' Pacific No. 6233 *Duchess Of Sutherland*, **SR 'Battle of Britain' Pacific No. 34067** *Tangmere* **and LMS 'Princess Royal' No. 6201** *Princess Elizabeth*, **all of which were unavailable, LNER 'A4' Pacific No. 60019** *Bittern*, **complete with its second tender, takes the Guildford line at Woking Junction on 7th October, with the 'Cathedrals Express' to Bristol, via Havant. Yoshi Hashida**

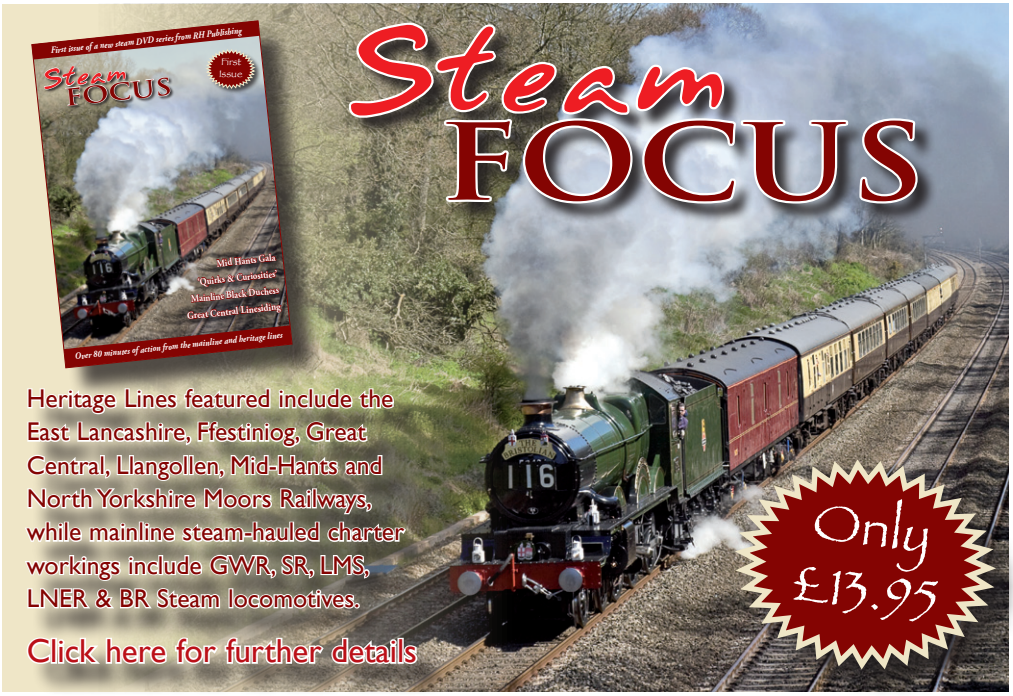
Growling through the Welsh Valleys

The Pontypool & Blaenavon Railway held its diesel gala event on 9th/10th October, with two Class 37s in varying states of restoration operating, along with Class 73/1 No. 73128.

Class 37 No. 37216, currently in green primer, is being repainted into BR green livery, while No. 37421, described by one enthusiast as having an identity crisis, is to gain Regional Railways livery.

The line recently opened its extension to Blaenavon High Level and has a number of expansion plans now it has World Heritage Status.

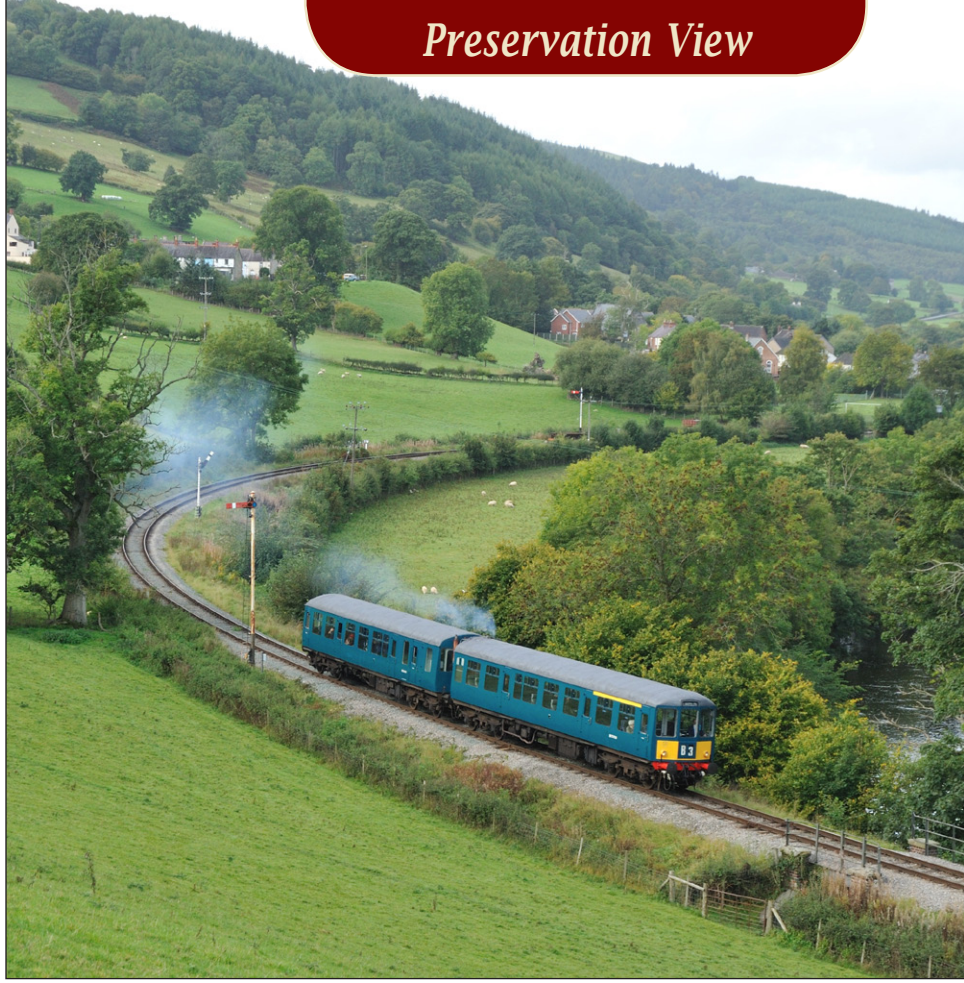
◀ **In descending mist, Class 37/0 No. 37216 is seen in 'top and tail' mode with Class 37/4 No. 37421, working up the grade to Furness Sidings, with 3CEP No. 1198 providing the passenger accommodation. The CEP was also celebrating its 50th Birthday this year, as is the Class 37 design. Brian Garrett**



◀▲ Newly arrived from Carnforth, Class 37 No. 37108 sits at Crewe Heritage Centre. The locomotive is to be restored back to working order. **Bradleigh Ennis**

▲ Over the weekend nearest to the 75th anniversary of its closure, a gala event was arranged on the new Lynton & Barnstaple Railway. The star of the show was the replica Manning Wardle 2-6-2T *Lyd*, built at Boston Lodge Works. Here, the loco prepares to push empty stock into the shed at Woody Bay on 24th September, the day prior the start of the gala. **Stuart Warr**

◀ Class 25 No. D7612 passes Hailes, near Toddington, during the Gloucestershire Warwickshire Railway's Autumn Diesel Gala on 2nd October. **Neil Pugh**



Llangollen Diesel Gala

The Llangollen Railway's Diesel Gala event took place over the weekend of 2nd/3rd October featuring home-based Class 26 No. D5310, Class 37 No. 6940 and Class 104 and Class 108 DMUs plus visiting Class 14 diesel-hydraulic No. D9521.

◀▲ Resplendent in its new BR corporate blue livery No. 6940 leaves Glyndyfrdwy with the 16.15 demonstration goods from Llangollen Goods Junction to Carrog.

◀ Visiting Class 14 No. D9521 appears quite at home as it passes Garth Y Dwr farm on 2nd October, with a four-coach Carrog to Llangollen service.

▲ Class 104 DMU Nos. 50528 and 50454 curve down the Dee Valley, away from Glyndyfrdwy on 2nd October, with a Carrog to Llangollen service. **All: Fred Kerr**

North Yorkshire Moors gala gains last minute, unexpected visitor

◀ A last minute addition to the locomotive line-up was Peppercorn A1 Class Pacific No. 60163 *Tornado*. The locomotive is pictured at Grosmont on 3rd October, alongside recently restored J72 0-6-0T No. 69023. **Don Brundell**

▼◀ S&DJR 7F Class 2-8-0 No. 53809, complete with the 'Pines Express' headboard, pilots visiting SR 'Battle of Britain' Pacific No. 34070 *Manston* through Darnholm with a Pickering-bound service on 2nd October. **John Woolley**

▼ On the first day of the gala, the latest locomotive to become a resident on the Moors LIne, BR Standard 9F No. 92214, storms through Goathland station with a freight service. **Simon Roberts**

Class 97/3s Nos. 97303 and 97304 wait in Machynlleth sidings (right) with a late running Machynlleth to Derby RTC service, while Class 37/6 No. 37608 brings up the rear of a Derby RTC to Derby RTC working, via Aberystwyth. **David Loughhead**

Class 37/6s Nos. 37603 and 37604 power through Lower Moor, near Pershore, on the Cotswold Line on 7th October, while en route from Long Marston to Carlisle Kingmoor. **Peter Tandy**

The first 12-car Class 377/5 set to operate on the Thameslink network ran on 3rd October, to enable platform testing to take place. This was the view from above Leagrave station.
Network Rail

Decades of change

Electric Traction on the Isle of Wight

Railways first came to the Isle of Wight in June 1862, with routes subsequently being constructed to various outposts of the island, the final between Ventnor and Cowes in June 1900.

All steam powered, the 1923 Grouping, found the railways operating under the new Southern Railway, but closures began soon after Nationalisation and by 1966 only the Shanklin to Ryde Pier Head route remained, this being electrified in 1967, using redundant London Transport sub-surface stock, refurbished and reclassified Class 485 4VEC and 3TIS, Vectis being the Roman name for the Island.

These were replaced with 1938 London Underground stock in 1989-90, just six two-car units now considered as sufficient to operate services between the two extremities of Ryde and Shanklin, via Sandown.

▲ The site of Smallbrook Junction, since restored for the Isle of Wight Steam Railway, on 14th June 1982, with Class 486 3TIS No. 486036 leading a 4VEC and forming the 17.21 service from Shanklin to Ryde Pier Head.

▼ Class 486 3TIS No. 034 and Class 485 4VEC No. 045 await departure from Ryde Pier Head on 14th June 1982, forming the 14.37 for Shanklin and the shuttle for Ryde Esplanade, respectively.

All photographs by Brian Morrison

▲ Returned from the Isle of Wight, Class 485 No. 485041 resides in Upminster Depot on 9th September 1991.

▼ Newly refurbished and repainted into Network SouthEast colours, Class 483 No. 483001 waits at Eastleigh Works on 3rd July 1989 for its journey to the Isle of Wight to replace the old Vectis units.

▲ In an attempt to give the railway its own identity, the Class 483s were all repainted into 'dinosaur' livery at the turn of the century. What history will make of this decision remains to be seen! A Ryde Pier Head to Shanklin train departs from Ryde Esplanade on 21st March 2000, formed of Class 483 stock No. 006 *Terry*.

▼ Surprisingly, the pre-historic colour scheme lasted for several years and it wasn't until 2007, that the line's operators decided to return to a more traditional colour scheme, choosing to follow the heritage of the trains. Island Line Class 483 unit No. 004 stands in Ryde Depot on 23rd March 2007, prior to undergoing an internal refurbishment and being repainted into its original London Transport red livery.

Having taken guests from Ryde St Johns Road to Shanklin and Ryde Pier Head, the first Island Line refurbished Class 483 unit, No. 004, returns to St Johns Road Depot on 18th January 2008. Ironically, the trains originated in London, and the signalbox was previously located at Waterloo East, being moved to the Island in 1926!

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.

▼ **Class 66/5 No. 66502** *Basford Hall Centenary 2001* **passes through Ipswich with empty fuel tanks on 8th October. Visible to the right of the loco is the work, now underway, on a new station footbridge and lift. Keith Partlow**

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

Making an excellent sound, Class 20/3 No. 20308 hauls Class 37/4 No. 37409 and Class 57/0 No. 57008 through Uttoxeter, working from Derby RTC to Crewe Gresty Bridge, via Brush Traction, Lougborough, on 7th October. Richard Holmes

Magazine Information

Editorial Address:
The Railway Herald, PO Box 252, Scunthorpe, North Lincolnshire. United Kingdom. DN17 2WY
Telephone: 01904 500175

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

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