Railway Herald

Issue 244 - 1st November 2010

The electronic journal for the railway enthusiast

Railway Herald

Issue 244
1st November 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

John Whitehouse

End of an era as semaphores come down

The North Warwickshire line has been closed for seven days to permit the removal of the semaphore signalling system and change to a new colour light system, based at Saltley. It brought about the end of an era as boxes at Bearley Junction, Henley-in-Arden and Shirley all closed.

Read more on Page 6

Magazine Downloads - An Update!

Thank you to the many readers who gave us feedback on the new CDN server system.

It appears that the system solved the problems for most of those who were previously experiencing issues, however, a number of readers did encounter issues whereby the PDF file downloaded to give a black screen or only provided the first page. In all cases, clicking on the alternative servers option from the front page of the website and using the backup server gave a complete download.

As this is the second week of testing, given the smaller file size of this issue, we will be interested to know how the download worked for people this week, especially those who encountered problems with the last issue - so please do tell us by email to *feedback@railwayherald.com*

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Front Cover Caption:

During a photographic charter, the recently returned to steam 'T9' No. 30120 departs from Bodmin Parkway in bright autumn sunshine on 21st October. Fred Kerr

Eurostar starts to promote Cologne & Amsterdam

Eurostar has announced the sale of more than 80,000 tickets at a guaranteed price of £89 return to either Cologne or Amsterdam.

The special fares, which are now available for booking, have been released to encourage travellers not to use airlines and instead, to experience the comfort and ease of high-speed rail travel to the Netherlands and Germany.

The upgrading of the high-speed network has made it easier for passengers to venture further by rail beyond Eurostar's core routes of Paris and Brussels, with a journey time between London and Cologne of just over four hours and Amsterdam accessible in around five.

Eurostar's Commercial Director, Nick Mercer, said: "These great value fares give passengers the opportunity to explore new destinations and with 30-minute check-in, no taxes for baggage or hand luggage, we are seeing more and more passengers ditching the plane for the train, whenever they can". The promotional tickets are on sale now and are for travel between 19th November and 29th January. They are available from eurostar.com or by calling 08432 186 186.

Customer satisfaction is high for Eurotunnel

Eurotunnel has topped a recent survey of 26,000 UK respondents carried out by the UK Institute of Customer Service, an independent organisation that twice yearly measures customer satisfaction indices.

With a satisfaction score of 83.0 out of 100 Eurotunnel is ranked first in the transport sector ahead of Virgin Atlantic (81.2), P&O Ferries (80.8), British Airways (79.8) and Easyjet (75.7). Taking all sectors into account, Eurotunnel has received one of the highest scores among the organisations evaluated, and is on a par with First Bank, Marks & Spencer and the RAC, and scored above many other world class brands such as Honda, Hilton & IKEA!

▲ The GWR style canopies at Reading will be swept away as part of the station refurbishment to present a more modern environment. The signalling centre, just visible on the left, will also be demolished early in 2011, after the new Didcot Signalling Centre takes over control of the Reading area. **Ron Cover**

First stage of Reading redevelopment plans get green light

The plans to redevelop Reading station and the surrounding railway have taken a significant step forward as Reading Borough Council has given approval for the station element of the project to go ahead, including a more spacious building with new platforms, entrances, and a wider footbridge.

The station scheme is a key element of the planned project, which includes a viaduct to the west of the station to boost capacity and cut delays through the station.

Tony Walker, Network Rail's scheme sponsor for the Reading Project, commented: "The council's decision means we can press on with our plans for Reading and get started on work to improve the station next year. The fact that consent has been granted so quickly is thanks to the hard work that has gone on behind the scenes so that our plans are right for Reading, and we appreciate the strong support we've had from the council in developing the theme. It's full steam ahead for the project now. We've already done a lot of preparatory work and we're gearing up to complete enabling works for the scheme at Christmas this year".

As previously reported, work on the station is due to start early next year, following the completion of enabling works for the project over the Christmas period, which includes signalling control for the entire Reading area transferred to a new signalling centre at Didcot, and the current signalbox at Reading being demolished to make way for the new platforms.

The Christmas station shutdown period will also be used to install a new bridge over Caversham Road to make space for new track and platforms. Planning consent for the station scheme represents a significant step towards a green light for the entire Reading project. Reading Borough Council will consider applications for the train depot and viaduct elements of the scheme over the coming months.

UK News In Brief

■ Trains in Huddersfield appeared to be arriving early this week, not by a few minutes but by an hour. The reason - the station clock was put back an hour a week early.

■ In London, the Zone 2-6 Travelcard is to be withdrawn from January. Passengers are being advised to use a Zone 1-6 Travelcard instead, at a cost of £15 rather than £8.60 if purchased for use during the peak.

■ An attempted cable theft at Kirton Lane Crossing, between Thorne and Stainforth, in South Yorkshire brought services to a stand for several hours. Reports say the cables were cut, but not stolen. TransPennine Manchester Airport - Cleethorpes services terminated at Doncaster (eastbound) and Scunthorpe (westbound) with a bus shuttle between the two stations.

■ Balfour Beatty Rail has been awarded a seven-year contract to operate and maintain civil engineers plant equipment on High Speed 1. The new contract will involve the company handling the day-to-day operations and periodic overhauls of the various vehicles associated with maintaining the route.

■ The old Railway Technical Centre site in Derby is currently up for sale with a price tag of £16 million. The Derby & Derbyshire Rail Forum is calling on the British Railways Board (Residual), which currently owns the site, to include conditions to protect the rail assets within the site, amid fears that the land could be sold off for redevelopment.

■ Alliance Rail Holdings Ltd, the Managing Director of which, Ian Yeowart, was previously with Grand Central, has announced it hopes to introduce new services from Huddersfield to London from 2013, both via Penistone and Sheffield, and via Stockport and Crewe. The company also proposes a Pennine service from Hull to Liverpool, via Bradford and Halifax every two hours.

■ Various improvements are set to take place around Teeside, after £70 million was committed for public transport improvements. Some £30 million will benefit the local rail network, with improvements being made at Hartlepool, Eaglescliffe, Thornaby, Middlesbrough, Redcar Central and Darlington. Elsewhere, a new station is to be built to serve James Cook University Hospital. It is also hoped that new trains will be operating on the Darlington to Saltburn line by 2016.

■ A £30,000 project to restore the names on the Railway War Memorial in York is being proposed by the British Railways Board (Residual), which is to fund the work. Discussions with English Heritage, City of York Council and the Railway Ex-Servicesman's Association have been positive. The names of the 2,500 York railwaymen who died during the First World War have deteriorated over the years and are now mostly unreadable. The proposed work, if agreed, would see the names of the fallen soldiers carved on to large brass plaques and mounted on the masonry wall to the right-hand-side of the Railway War Memorial. It is hoped that the work will be completed early next year and the monument rededicated before the 2011 Remembrance Day.

▲ Having been commissioned at Leeds Midland Road Depot, Class 70 No. 70007 passes Branston, near Burton-on-Trent, on 25th October, while working from Midland Road to Crewe Basford Hall on its first self-powered trip on the National Network. **Richard Holmes**

▼ The redevelopment of West Hampstead Thameslink station took another step forward after Camden Council gave Network Rail the go-ahead to build a new 'green' station building. The new entrance on Iverson Road will increase passenger capacity, ease congestion and improve the interchange with West Hampstead Overground and Underground stations. The project will also complete the new footbridge installed earlier this year, allowing step-free access to all platforms. Both the station and footbridge are scheduled to be fully operational before the end of the year. Here, the 14.00 East Midlands service from St Pancras International to Corby passes through West Hampstead on 28th September, formed of Class 222 Meridian No. 222020. **Bill Turvill**

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Amlwch reopening moves a step closer towards reality

A major obstacle to the potential reopening of the Amlwch branch on Anglesey has been surmounted following the local council's 'U-turn' from a decision taken in March 2007, backing a scheme to convert the trackbed into a cycling, walking and bridal way.

This has opened the way for the campaigners to commence negotiations with Network Rail to obtain a lease for the line. This will be led by Anglesey Central Railways, which has been leading the campaign to reopen the line for many years.

The line, which runs from a junction on the main line at Gaerwen to Amlwch, was closed to passengers in 1964, but remained open for freight traffic to the Octel chemical works at Amlwch until this was lost to road haulage in 1993. A passenger service between Bangor, Llangefni (the largest town on the line) and Amlwch (which is located on Angelsey's north coast) is envisaged. Additionally, there is the prospect of potential freight traffic as the line could carry the building materials required in the construction of the new Wylfa B Nuclear Power Station.

The Welsh Assembly Government has already initiated a report into the potential of a Bangor-Llangefni passenger service, which when viewed alongside the latest development, indicates that the impetus towards reopening could be gathering momentum. Further developments of this long-running saga are eagerly awaited.

Mountsorrel track upgrade work improves line speed

Network Rail reports that track improvements at the Lafarge Rail Terminal at Mountsorrel are bringing benefits for both passenger and freight services on the Midland Main Line.

Freight traffic is now entering and leaving the site faster, improving its efficiency and clearing the four tracks of the main line to allow passenger services through. Services can now arrive and depart Mountsorrel Sidings at 15mph, where before it was limited to 5mph. Lafarge donated the ballast free, enabling the work to be completed at a cost of £60,000, half of what it could otherwise have been.

Metro and Light Rail News

Maida Vale presented with heritage award plaque

The Deputy Lord Mayor of Westminster unveiled a National Railway Heritage Award plaque at Maida Vale Tube station on 18th October.

London Underground has won the London Regional Category award for the modernisation of the Grade II listed station that was built in 1915. The award recognises the work London Underground has done to restore the many original heritage features at the Bakerloo Line station, such as the large attractive mosaics of the famous Tube logo or 'roundel', the red terracotta facade and the extensive tiled wall finishes.

New CCTV, an improved public address system and tactile strips on platforms have also been installed as part of Transport for London's multi-billion pound Investment Programme.

White City and Earls Court stations were also shortlisted at the Awards, and both received certificates of merit in respect of modernisation works undertaken.

▲ A very rare LUL move took place on 19th October, when four-car Metropolitan Line 'A Stock' unit 5068/5069 was transferred empty from Neasden Depot to Upminster Depot for attention on the wheel lathe, due to an overload of work at Neasden. 'A Stock' is normally banned from most of the non-Metropolitan sub-surface lines due to gauging issues. The unit awaits departure from Upminster on its return run in the early hours of 22nd October. While on the District Line, it was restricted to walking pace through platforms and 20mph elsewhere. This is believed to be only the second time an 'A Stock' set has operated east of Barking, the previous occasion being in 1976. **Kim Rennie**

Abbey Wood works contract awarded

A major Crossrail contract has been awarded for the design of works on the two-mile stretch of line from Plumstead to Abbey Wood.

The contract also includes the design for the new Abbey Wood station, which will be the terminus on the south east section of the route. The station work will involve two new Crossrail platforms and improved access, and in addition, a four-track line will be created, requiring improvement to five bridges and the construction of two new overhead electrified lines between Plumstead portal (where the central tunnel section emerges) and Abbey Wood.

The design contract will support the requirements to carry 12 Crossrail trains per hour from the central tunnel section to Abbey Wood, the transformation of Abbey Wood station being designed to meet the development aspirations of the two London boroughs it will serve, Greenwich and Bexley.

Subway WiFi

Wi-Fi Internet access has been introduced on Glasgow Subway stations.

The system, which does not work in tunnels, is available at all 15 stations and is free for the first 15 minutes, after which a £2 charge applies for a 24-hour period. The Wi-Fi system joins the 3G coverage previously available.

End of an era as North Warwickshire signalboxes close

▲ The resignalling of the North Warwickshire Line is now underway. On 21st October, Class 150/0 No. 150005 has just passed Bearley Junction signal box with the 11.55 service from Stourbridge Junction. **John Whitehouse**

The North Warwickshire line has been closed for the last week to permit the removal of the semaphore signalling system.

The work, which includes the closure of the signal boxes at Bearley Junction, Henley-in-Arden and Shirley, involves the complete removal of all the associated semaphore signals.

The new signalling system, which will be controlled from the new West Midlands Panel based at Saltley, is due to come on line from 1st November. During the blockade, a bus service has replaced trains between Shirley and Stratford-upon-Avon.

The new system will present an opportunity to improve the Stratford line service, which previously had been restricted to the shift patterns in the signal boxes. Currently, the last Birmingham-bound service from Stratford-upon-Avon departs at 20.26, thus severely restricting the opportunity of an evening in the town, which after all, is one of the UK's major tourist attractions. Chiltern's last through train to London Marylebone leaves even earlier, at 19.32. The opportunity to run later trains to Stratford-upon-Avon will present both London Midland and Chiltern with opportunities to develop their respective operations, which in London Midland's case is also likely to be enhanced with the replacement of its aging Class 150 'Sprinter' fleet with the more modern Class 170 and the soon to be delivered Class 172 DMUs.

The fate of the old signal boxes seems sealed, it is understood that Henley-in-Arden was due for demolition on 30th October, and Shirley was due to be demolished during the same weekend.

The fate of Bearley Junction Signal Box is presently unclear, although demolition seems certain as the junction itself is to be remodelled as part of this scheme. Efforts to preserve Shirley Signal Box seem to have foundered, in some part due to the terms of any subsequent lease agreement being unrealistic.

On a more positive note, it is believed that the lever frames from all three boxes are to go into store for potential further use on the network, while some of the block instruments and associated electrical equipment will be used on the Cotswold Line, which is retaining some manual signal boxes as part of the scheme to restore double-track between Moreton-in-Marsh and Evesham.

GB Railfreight recognises Phil Packer

▲ GB Railfreight named Class 66/7 No. 66710 *Phil Packer BRIT* during the NRM's Annual Dinner on 21st October, when the former officer who sustained a spinal cord injury in February 2008, unveiled his own name. Since then, he has gone on to row the Channel, walk the London Marathon in 26 hours and completed the 'Three Peaks Challenge'. He is now the non-paid Chief Executive of the British Inspiration Trust. **Paul Bigland**

▼ Recently named, and now carrying the new Europorte/GBRf logos, Class 66/7 No. 66710 winds its way through Whitacre Junction, as it approaches its destination with a Felixstowe to Hams Hall intermodal working on 27th October. **John Whitehouse**

Work progresses on first major refurbishment and strengthening of Goole Swing Bridge

The first major refurbishment of the 284-metre-long Goole Swing Bridge is currently well underway, during a six-week closure.

Cross bracing and 400 'stiffeners', which will provide added strength and are longer than those currently in place, are being fitted, the signal box is being re-clad, and all steel work is being grit-blasted and painted.

Part of the work has involved installing under-river ducting to give the signal box, located above the swing span, fresh water and also a toilet for the first time, toilet facilities previously being located off the bridge.

The work will also raise the maximum speed over the bridge for freight, currently 30mph, as well as allowing services to pass on the bridge, a move that is currently prohibited.

Built in 1868, the bridge is one of the oldest operational swing bridges in the country, and is Grade 2 listed. Although two spans have had to be replaced since the 1970s as a result of strikes on the bridge by ships, the work, costing around £6 million, is the first major project that has been undertaken on the structure.

◀ **A view from the top of one of the non-moving spans, with the trackbed removed.**

▶ **This aerial view shows how vital the swingbridge is to rail operations and shipping.** **Network Rail**

Running Time: Approx 76 minutes
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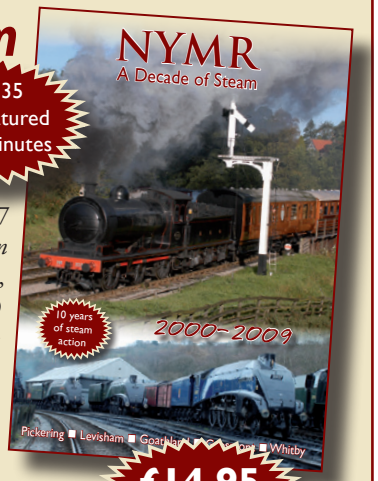

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◀ Two cars of Class 390 Pendolino No. 390033 (vehicle Nos. 69133 and 69833) that were involved in the Grayrigg accident, are now in static use at the Virgin Trains Talent Academy in Crewe, where they are being used for training purposes. The coaches are rail mounted and retain their running numbers. A short platform has been built alongside the vehicles to allow easy entry and exit. **Kev Adlam**

◀▼ Class 73s Nos. 73141 and 73213 make a rare appearance for the class in East London, being observed at Stratford on 20th October, with a route learning run that visited Ilford and Barking. **Stuart Chapman**

▼ London Overground services on the Gospel Oak to Barking route are now totally in the hands of the new Bombardier-built Class 172 DMUs. The final Class 150 working took place on the evening of 28th October, No. 150128 working the 19.02 Barking to Gospel Oak, seen at Barking just before departure. **Kim Rennie**

UK Steam & Modern Traction Railtour Listings

3rd November 2010			
HF Railtours	60163	(Crewe)-Shap-Carlisle-Beattock-Glasgow Ctrl & rtn	**Postponed**
5th November 2010			
VSOE	71000	London Victoria-Guildford-London Victoria	
6th November 2010			
Vintage Trains	45305	Tyseley Warwick Road-Coleshill Parkway-Nuneaton-London Euston & return	
UK Railtours	2xDBS 67	Stevenage-Finsbury Pk-Bletchley-Bedford-Kettering-Corby-Harringworth Viaduct-Melton Mowbray-Newark Castle-Lincoln-Spalding-Peterborough-Stevenage & rtn	
Pathfinder Tours	55022	Crewe-Manchester Piccadilly-Preston-Dumfries-Mauchline Jct-Newton-on-Ayr-Shields Jct-High St Jct-Airdrie-Bathgate-Edinburgh Waverley-Beattock-Carlisle & rtn	
Spitfire Railtours	2xWCRC 37	Birmingham Intl.-Stafford-Crewe-Shap-Beattock-Carstairs-Edinburgh Waverley & rtn	
Spitfire Railtours	2xWCRC 37	Edinburgh Waverley-Portobello Jct-Suburban Lines-Gorgie Jct-Newbridge Jct-Bathgate-Drumgelloch-High St Jct-City Union Line-Shields Jct-Glasgow Central-Polmadie-Whifflet-Shotts-Slateford-Suburban Lines-Edinburgh Waverley	
Bluebell Railway	Hastings DEMU	Hastings-Tunbridge Wells-London Bridge-East Grinstead (Bluebell Platform) & rtn	
7th November 2010			
Railway Touring Co.	45407 & 44871	Manchester Victoria-Hathersage-Sheffield-Barnsley-Penistone-Huddersfield-Brighouse-Copy Pit-Blackburn-Bolton-Manchester Victoria	
11th November 2010			
Railway Touring Co.	70013	London Victoria-Ramsgate-Ashford-London Victoria	**Cancelled**
Steam Dreams	60163	London Waterloo-Stratford-Broxbourne-Whittlesford-Ely-Norwich & return	
13th November 2010			
Ambassador Train Travel	2xWCRC 37	Hereford-Ludlow-Birmingham NS-York-Newcastle Central & return	**Postponed**
Branch Line Society	2xDBS 66	Eastleigh-London Waterloo-Kensington Olympia-Gospel Oak-Barking-Stora (GSP) (DBS limit)-Ripple Lane-Thameshaven Yard-Purfleet Long Sdg-Up Tilbury Goods-Barking-Temple Mills Up & Down Loop-London Liverpool St-Gospel Oak-Acton Central-Hounslow-Feltham-Chertsey-Woking-Basingstoke-Eastleigh	
Rail-Blue Charters	DBS 67	Leicester-Alfreton-Sheffield-Barnsley-Castleford-York-Edinburgh Waverley & rtn	
Railway Touring Co.	60019	London King's Cross-Peterborough-Doncaster-York & return	
UK Railtours	tbc	London King's Cross-York-Edinburgh Niddrie West Jct-Gorgie Jct-Haymarket West Jct-New Bridge Jct-Livingston-Bathgate-Airdrie-Bellgrove-High Street Jct-Shields Jct-Terminus Jct-Rutherglen East Jct-Shotts-Surburban Line-Edinburgh Waverley-York & return	
VSOE	60163	London Victoria -Guildford-London Victoria	
18th November 2010			
Steam Dreams	60163	London King's Cross-York-Newcastle-Edinburgh Waverley	
19th November 2010			
Steam Dreams	60163	Edinburgh Waverley-Newcastle-Carlisle-Carstairs-Holytown-Shotts-Edinburgh W	
20th November 2010			
Steam Dreams	60163	Edinburgh Waverley-Carstairs-Preston-Rugby-Northampton-London Euston	
Spitfire Railtours	2xDRS 37	Birmingham Intl-Wellington-Wem-Guide Bridge-Castleford-York-Moorthorpe-Hope Valley-Stockport & 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

The recently re-opened Bathgate line is the main feature of this coming weekend's tours, with both Pathfinder and Spitfire sampling the restored metals.

Pathfinder's 'West Lothian Pioneer' on 6th November stars No. 55022 *Royal Scots Grey* throughout from Crewe, and approaches the Bathgate line from the west having travelled via Shap, Carlisle, Dumfries, Newton on Ayr, Paisley Gilmour Street and the 'suddenly in vogue' City Union Line from Shields Junction to High Street Junction on the southern rim of central Glasgow. The tour continues to Edinburgh Waverley through Airdrie and Bathgate, prior to the returning south via Carstairs and Beattock.

Meanwhile Spitfire's 'Lowland Growler II' on the same day, will be heading north from Birmingham International with a pair of West Coast Class 37s via Shap and Beattock to Edinburgh Waverley where the main tour terminates. The locomotives and stock will then carry on with a mini-tour, 'The Poppy', heading initially west through Bathgate and Airdrie and the City Union Line to Shields Junction, where after reversal, the train will return to Edinburgh via the Shotts route. A West Coast Class 47/57 will be used to cover the return leg of 'The Poppy' and all profits from this mini-tour will be shared between the British Legion and the Help for Heroes charities.

UK Railtours describe Melton Mowbray, the destination of its 6th November 'Wandering Pieman', as the 'rural food capital' due to its enviable reputation for fine pork pies, sausages and cheeses. The train, which originates at Stevenage and picks up via Welwyn Garden City, Potters Bar and Finsbury Park, is booked along the Midland Main Line as far as Kettering before it diverges via Corby and Harringworth Viaduct for Melton Mowbray. The return working is via Loughborough, Nottingham, Newark Castle, Lincoln and Spalding ahead of joining the ECML at Peterborough for the run home. Motive power has yet to be confirmed, but the choice will be either DBS Class 66 or 67.

Black 5s dominate the weekend's steam activity. On 6th November, No. 45305 heads Vintage Trains 'Capital Five' from Tyseley Warwick Road to London Euston and back, picking up at Coleshill Parkway and Nuneaton. This will be the first member of the Class to reach Euston since the end of BR steam operations.

Next day, the Railway Touring Company go one better and have two Black 5s, in the form of Ian Riley's Nos. 44871 & 45407, on its 'Tin Bath Extra' from Manchester Victoria. The train traverses the usual circuit via the Hope Valley, Sheffield and the Penistone to Huddersfield line, prior to returning by way of the Calder Valley and Copy Pit.

Two days earlier, on 5th November BR Standard 8P Pacific No. 71000 *Duke of Gloucester* should be providing the motive power on a VSOE British Pullman luncheon working around the 'Surrey Hills Circuit'.

And finally, there is the recently announced tour (that *RH* mentioned last week) for the Bluebell Railway on 6th November, featuring Hastings Diesel's DEMU from Hastings to East Grinstead via London Bridge. The DEMU will also be operating a series of shuttles from East Grinstead, across the viaduct to Imberhorne North.

Remember that you can always get the up-to-date railtour listings on our website by clicking here or visiting

www.railwayherald.org

Double 'Brits' for Steam Dreams Christmas charter line-up

For many steam enthusiasts Christmas may well come early, with a pair of Britannia's working on Steam Dreams Christmas Luncheon charter on 22nd December, to be followed later in the day with a further run out for its 'Christmas Party' working.

The plan is to take No. 70000 *Britannia* and classmate No. 70013 *Oliver Cromwell* out of London Victoria during the late morning for Steam Dreams traditional 'White Cliffs' seasonal luncheon circular. The route this time will be varied in that it will take an anti-clockwise circuit around the Kent coast, initially working south to Ashford International, via Bromley South, and then via Folkestone and Dover to Canterbury West, prior to returning to Victoria by way of Ashford and Tonbridge.

The evening train is booked out of Waterloo for Woking, via Twickenham, Staines and Chertsey, before continuing around the 'Surrey Hills' route via Guildford, Redhill and East Croydon back to Clapham Junction. It then returns to Staines and Chertsey before turning north at Weybridge Junction to return to Clapham Junction and Waterloo. Should be fun all round, especially with a pair of 'Brits' up front!

Prior to that, Steam Dreams will be operating an intensive series of trains aimed at the Christmas market, including its traditional charters for Cathedral carol services at Sherbourne on 7th December, Ely on the 15th and Oxford on the 17th, all with No. 34067 *Tangmere*, and Norwich on the 21st with No. 70013 *Oliver Cromwell*. Festive Christmas Markets also feature, with tours running to Bath Spa on 1st December (which continues to Bristol Temple Meads) and Lincoln on the 3rd, both of which feature *Oliver Cromwell*. Chester is becoming a popular destination, with a further working planned for 11th December with *Tornado* throughout from Euston. Additionally, *Tornado* is set for a luncheon working around Romney Marshes, which originates from the unlikely Hedge End station (as the stock will be working out of Eastleigh), and runs via Fareham, Havant, Petersfield, Haslemere, Guildford, Woking and Staines before proceeding via Clapham Junction to Hastings, via Brixton, Bromley South, Sevenoaks, Maidstone East and Ashford. The return will be through Tonbridge to Bromley South, and then as outwards.

Steam Dreams is playing to its strengths, as the festive programme is aimed at providing a wide variety of options for the passenger within a tried and tested operational framework of itineraries, with maybe the exception of the Romney Marches luncheon working.

At the peak of its festive season trains are booked to operate every other day. The team will no doubt be really looking forward to a quiet and restful Christmas Day after completing this programme!

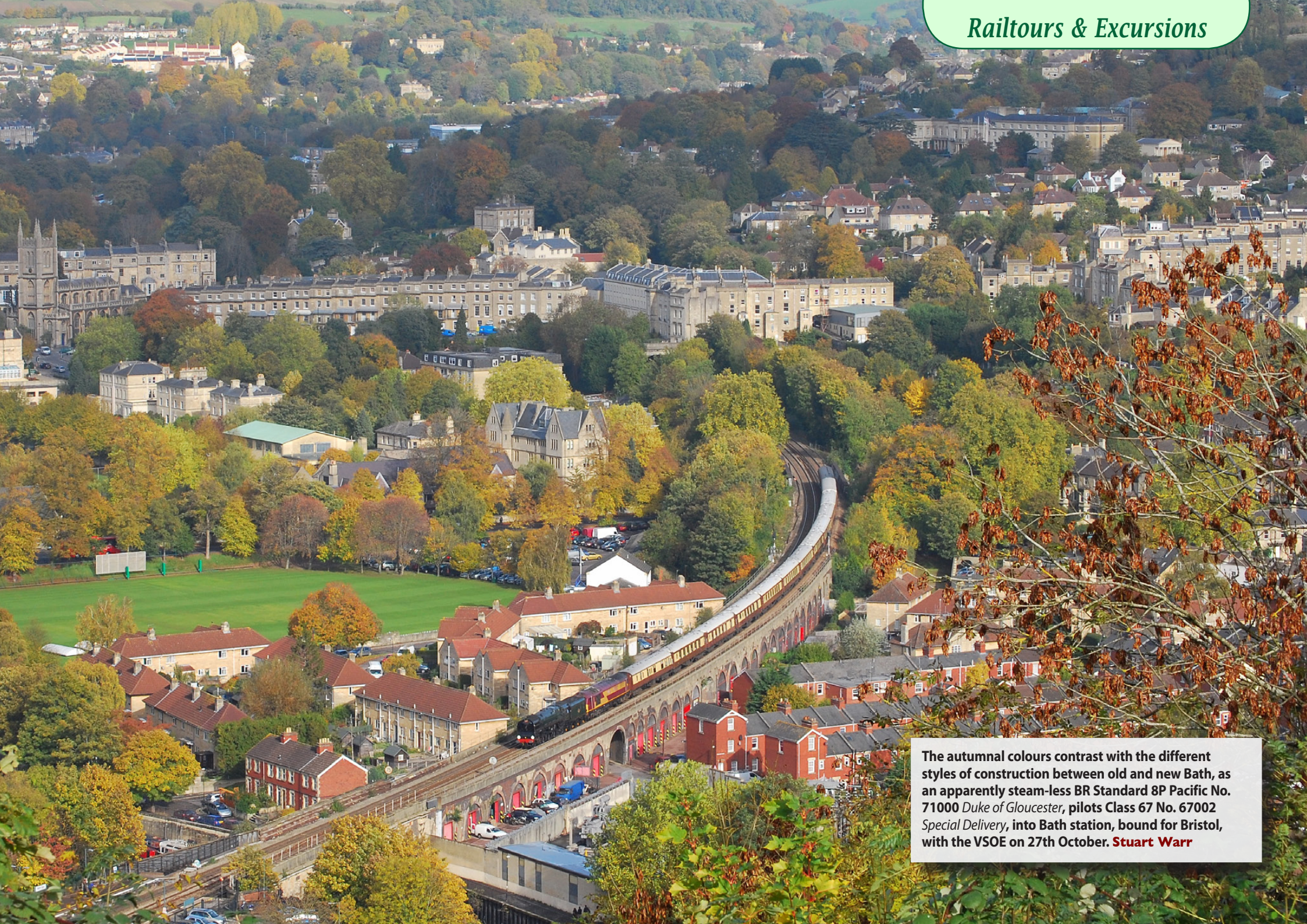
Ups & Downs

by John Whitehouse

■ 'The Caledonian Tornado' booked for 3 November, which was due to pit Peppercorn A1 Class Pacific No. 60163 *Tornado* against Beattock for the first time, has been postponed until September 2011. The operator, HF Railtours, comment on their website that the postponement is due to 'the unusually difficult trading conditions (created by the present economic situation). This follows the earlier postponement of their Liverpool to Euston charter, again with *Tornado*, originally booked for 2 October and now to be re-dated in March 2011.

■ Ambassador Train Travel has announced that their excursion to York, Durham and Newcastle upon Tyne from Hereford on 13th November has been postponed until a date to be announced in Spring 2011. A combination of slow bookings and the fact that the advertised motive power, a pair of West Coast Railway Class 37s, could not be guaranteed are cited as the reasons for the postponement.

▶ **LMS 'Black 5' 4-6-0 No. 45305 made a return to the main line on 23rd October, working for Vintage Trains on 'The Buxton Five' charter. Here, the loco heads downgrade on the approach to Peak Forest with the charter from Tyseley Warwick Road to Buxton. David Wragg**



The autumnal colours contrast with the different styles of construction between old and new Bath, as an apparently steam-less BR Standard 8P Pacific No. 71000 *Duke of Gloucester*, **pilots Class 67 No. 67002** *Special Delivery*, **into Bath station, bound for Bristol, with the VSOE on 27th October. Stuart Warr**

As reported elsewhere in this issue, LMS 'Black 5' No. 45305 worked its first main line charter in many months on 23rd October. Here, it is pictured at Sheffield with 'The Buxton Five' charter. **Ashley Dace**

Corris Railway plans major site upgrade

At the Annual General Meeting of the Corris Railway Society on 23rd October, plans were revealed for a proposed rationalisation and development of the Corris station area.

Currently, the site, from which the remains of the original overall roofed station were cleared in 1968, is put to mixed use. Trains on the re-opened section of the railway arrive at and depart from a short section of platform adjacent to the Portakabin that acts as the doctors' surgery for the village. The Corris Railway Museum and shop occupies the former stable block, while the remainder of the site acts as the village and railway car park and provides access for vehicles through the area to the village school and the King George car park and playing fields.

The Railway needs improved station facilities at Corris in order to cope with increasing passenger numbers and further develop its growing contribution to the economy of the Dulas Valley. Given the variety of uses of the site however, any plans for development must also ensure that the needs of others are properly addressed. Over the last two years representatives of the Society have worked to prepare plans that will allow construction of a larger, roofed station on the original site, able to take longer trains, while also accommodating the surgery, retaining car parking at current levels and providing access to the school and playing fields.

The proposals have been discussed with the school, the surgery staff and other interested parties, and a plan has been agreed that meets the various needs, providing for a new permanent surgery building where the village public toilets presently stand adjacent to the car park, while new toilet facilities will form part of the improved station area.

However, the Society is keen that all interested parties should see what is proposed, ask questions and make observations as they wish. To this end the plans and proposals will be on view in the Corris Railway Museum or the Corris Institute on 30th/31st October, and 1st, 6th, 7th and 8th November. Representatives of the Corris Railway Society will be on hand to receive comments and answer questions.

▲ **Hauling a short freight, Bagnall 0-4-0ST No. 2842 climbs the 1-in-19 grade of Foxfield Bank on 23rd October, with the sun highlighting the train against a wall of black clouds. Richard Holmes**

The Last Hurrah for Great Central ... well for the 2010 season!

The GCR describe its November steam gala, scheduled for the weekend of 20th/21st, as the 'Last Hurrah of the Season-a winter warmer for enthusiasts'.

A contrasting selection of traction will be featured, including K4 No. 61994 *The Great Marquess*, 'N15' No. 30777 *Sir Lamiel* and 'Jinty' No. 47406. Following its planned return to Loughborough this month, No. 30777 *Sir Lamiel* will be in use on passenger services, while No. 61994 *The Great Marquess* will be used on a mixed freight working on each day of the gala. All-day rover tickets will be available at £14 each.

An intensive timetable will operate with departures every 45 minutes planned.

◀ **Class 55 'Deltic' No. D9009 *Alycidon* detaches from its train at Leicester North, having arrived on the 12.15 service from Loughborough Central on 23rd October, during its last weekend working on the Great Central before departing for Barrow Hill. Peter Smith**

AC Loco Group start electrical restoration of Class 89

There has been a significant development concerning the future of the prototype Class 89 locomotive No. 89001, affectionately known as the 'Badger'.

The AC Locomotive Group (ACLG) has announced plans for a major electrical restoration of the locomotive, with the aim that it would be able to reliably run under its own power. It is being emphasised that 'at this stage' a return to full main line operations is unlikely. The restoration will focus on the components that caused the locomotive to be withdrawn from service, which are its traction motors and associated field converter electronics. The group have the funds available to lift the locomotive to permit the removal of the traction motors as well as the repair/refurbishment of one traction motor and one set of field converter electronics.

Subject to further funding becoming available, further traction motors and associated sets of field converter electronics will be dealt with to permit one power group (i.e. one bogie) to become fully operational.

Other news from ACLG is that the restoration work on Class 85 No. 85101 has made considerable progress. The repairs have been completed by volunteer labour, and include the restoration and recommissioning of the locomotive's control circuits, all traction contactors, the rheostatic brake system, as well as the rectification of other minor faults.

Subsequent testing has led to the operation of the pantograph and air-circuit breaker for the first time since withdrawal. It is envisaged that the work will continue into 2011, and when the restoration is complete, No. 85101 will be returned to BR blue livery.

The next use of an ACLG locomotive on the main line will be on 11th December, when No. 86101 *Sir William A Stanier FRS* is booked to work Rail Blue Charters' 'Royal Scot' excursion between Watford Junction and Glasgow Central throughout.

▲ **Pannier No. L99 approaches Tunbridge Wells West with the 10.00 goods from Groombridge on its last weekend at the Spa Valley Railway. Jon Nye**

Initial investigations commence for new tunnel

Exploratory work has commenced near Gaich, between Aviemore and Grantown, to establish ground conditions for a prospective new railway tunnel that would enable the Strathspey Railway to once again serve the former Grantown West station.

The project is part of road improvement works by Transport Scotland, and the railway is raising £1.25 million as its contribution. The Strathspey Railway Charitable Trust is talking to various companies in Scotland in the hope of securing support.

▼ **During the ELR Autumn Steam Gala, visiting A1 Pacific No. 60163** *Tornado* **pilots BR Pacific No. 71000** *Duke of Gloucester* **past Heap Bridge Quarry with the 14.10 Heywood to Rawtenstall service on 24th October. Richard Fox**

SR N15 Class 4-6-0 No. 30777 *Sir Lamiel* **approaches the site of Freshfield Halt with the 13.00 Sheffield Park - Kingscote service on 22nd October, the first day of the Bluebell Railway's 'Giants of Steam' gala weekend. John Goss**

BR Standard 5MT 4-6-0 No. 73129 and a work-stained LMS 'Black 5' No. 45337 pass Ewood Bridge on the 12.30 Heywood-Rawtenstall service on 24th October. The 'Standard 5' was visiting for the railway's steam gala weekend. **Anthony Roberts**

▲ The annual Photographers Evening at the Didcot Railway Centre was held on 23rd October. GWR Class 5700 Pannier No. 3738 is pictured alongside the main shed. **Peter Watson**

▲ GWR 4300 Class 2-6-0 No. 5322 is pictured on the floodlit turntable as a National Network service passes bound for Oxford and beyond. **Roger Brown**

▼ A superb line-up of Great Western Railway locos outside the shed produced GWR 6100 Class 2-6-2T No. 6106, GWR 5700 Class 0-6-0PT No. 3738, GWR 4300 Class 2-6-0 No. 5322, and GWR 4900 Class 'Hall' No. 5900 *Hinderton Hall*. **Kev Gregory**

Class 20/3s Nos. 20305 and 20304, and 20301 and 20302 'top and tail' a set of London Underground 'S' stock from Old Dalby to Neasden, as they approach East Goscote level crossing in Leicestershire, on 27th October. The redundant TEA tanks at either end of the train act as barrier vehicles. **John Illingsworth**

On 22nd October, Class 153 No. 153373 departs from Looe on its journey down the scenic Cornish branch to Liskeard. **Fred Kerr**

One of only three Class 153 DMUs left in Central Trains green livery, No. 153379 passes New Barnetby on 20th October with the 12.04 Newark Northgate to Grimsby Town service. The other unrepainted units being Nos. 153374 and 153384. **Richard Tuplin**

DB Schenker-liveried Class 66/0 No. 66152 passes Redhill on 16th October with empty Cemex hoppers, working the recently reclassified 4M34 (previously 6M34) Crawley New Yard to Peak Forest service. **Andrew Crampton**

Southern Class 171 'Turbostar' No. 171726 makes the St Leonards Warrior Square stop on 28th October, forming the 14.32 service from Ashford International to Brighton, via Rye. **Ken Brunt**

First Scotrail-liveried Class 90 No. 90021 propels the 09.00 Liverpool Street - Norwich service over Cattawade Creek at high tide on 20th October, just after departing from the Manningtree stop.
Antony Guppy

1st November 2010

North Yorkshire Moors Railway (Northallerton)
Northallerton Town Cricket Club, Farndale Avenue, Northallerton. 'Teesside & District Transport Nostalgia' by Nick Carter. Starts 19.30. Admission £1.50. Contact Ian McInnes on 01642 767233 for further details.

RCTS (Port Sunlight)
The Lever Club, Greendale Road, Port Sunlight. 'Plandampf 94' by Steve Ollive. Meeting starts at 19.30.

RCTS (Ashford)
The Elwick Club, Church Road, Ashford. 'Life after Colour Rail' by Ron White. Meeting starts at 19.30. Contact the Secretary at southeast@rcts.org.uk for further details.

2nd November 2010

Gravesend Railway Enthusiasts Society
Emmanuel Baptist Church, Windmill Street, Gravesend DA12 1BB. 'Annual Quiz' by Martin Wilson, Meeting commences at 19.45. Contact the Secretary, Roger Hart on 01474 833320 for further details.

Locomotive & Carriage Institution
55 Broadway, London. 'First Great Western' by Mark Hopwood. Starts 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. 'By Rail to Victory: Allied Military Steam Locomotives of World War II' by Mike Hudson. 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. AGM followed by Members' Slides. Starts 19.45

RCTS (Watford)
St Thomas' United Reformed Church, Langley Road, Watford. 'American Wanderings' by Gordon Davies. Meeting commences at 19.30.

Southern Electric Group (South Hampshire)/ LRTA (Southern)
Eastleigh Railway Institute, Romsey Road, Eastleigh. AGM & Members' Slides. Starts 19.30. Admission £2. Contact John Goodrich on 023 8067 0028 for further details.

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

Weston super Mare Railway Society
Function Room, Conservative Club, Alexandra Parade, Weston super Mare. AGM. Starts 20.00. Contact Lionel Jones on 01934 628289 or at wsm1977rlysocy@talktalk.net.

3rd November 2010

Warwickshire Rly Society
The Lamp Tavern P.H., Barford Street, Highgate, Birmingham B5 6AH. 'The Early Years - from the Paul Riley Collection' by Tony Bowles. Contact Don Taggart on 01746 710676.

4th November 2010

Great Central Railway Society (Rotherham)
The Three Horseshoes, Bawtry Road, Wickersley, Rotherham S66 2BW. 'Coming up with the Goods' by Stewart Donohoe. Starts 19.30. Contact Mick Hayes on 01709 820544 for further details.

RCTS (Milton Keynes)
The Crown, Market Square, Stony Stratford. MK11 1BE. 'Digital Global Diary' by Bob Sweet. Starts 19.30. Contact 01908 563549 for details.

SRPS (Edinburgh)
Quaker Meeting House, 7 Victoria Terrace, Edinburgh, EH1 2JL. 'SRPS Challenge Quiz'. Starts 19.30. Contact Dr Peter Howell on 0131 334 5232.

5th November 2010

Great Western Society (Taunton)
Rockwell Green School, Rockwell Green, Nr Wellington. 'For Your Eyes Only' by Peter Trigg. Starts 19.30. Contact the Secretary on 01823 334188 for further details.

6th/7th November 2010

Aberdeen Model Railway Club
Britannia Hotel, Bucksburn, Aberdeen AB21 9LN. Model Railway Exhibition. 10.00 to 17.00 both days. Adults £4, Child £2, Family £10. Contact the Exhibition Manager on 07796 897996 for further details.

8th November 2010

Driffield & East Yorkshire Rly Society
The Sidings, Middle Street South, Driffield, YO25 6PX. 'North Wales Narrow Gauge Railways in the 1960s' by Alan Furguson. Starts 19.30. £2 Donation requested. Contact 01377 254068 for further details.

Lincoln Railway Society
St Hugh's Church Hall, North Hykeham, Lincoln. AGM and Photo Competition. Starts 20.00. Entrance fee £3. Contact the Publicity Member on 01522 705365 or at graham@the-st.fsnet.co.uk for further details

RCTS (East Croydon)
Small Hall, United Reformed Church, Addiscombe Grove, East Croydon. 'The Settle and Carlisle Line' by Edward Album. Starts 19.30.

RCTS (Ipswich)
Bridge Ward Club, 68 Austin Street, Ipswich. 'On and Off the Footplate' by Bill Davies. Starts 19.30.

RCTS (Sheffield)
St Mathews Church Rooms, Carver Street, Sheffield. 'BR Steam in the 1960s' by Ken Horan. Starts 19.30.

Southern Electric Group (Sussex)
Deall Room, Southwick Community Centre. 'Winding the Clock Back - Britain's Railways in Black and White' by Andrew Marshall. Starts 19.30. Donation of £2 requested. Contact the Secretary, Bruce Cakebread on 01273 462094 or at b.cakebread@ntlworld.com for further details.

York Railway Circle
Archbishop Holgate's School, Hull Road, York YO10 5ZA. '175 Years of German Railways' by David Birtle. Starts 19.30. Contact Robin Patrick on 01904 412232 or at locopatrick@aol.com for further details.

9th November 2010

8E Railway Association
The Gladstone Club, Station Road, Northwich, CW9 5RB. 'The Examination Quiz' by Chris Simon. Meeting commences at 19.45. Contact Paul Tench on 07790 486735 for further details

Abergavenny & District Steam Society
Upper Room, The Hen and Chickens, Flannel Street, Abergavenny. 'South Wales & North & West Line Steam' by David Maidment. Meeting commences at 20.00. Contact Ken Mumford at ken.mumford@ntlworld.com for details.

Great Western Society (Bristol)
BAWA, 589 Southmead Road, Filton, Bristol BS34 7RG. 'West Somerset Railway Signalling' by Richard Harman. Starts 19.45. Contact the Secretary on 01454 324230.

RCTS (Hull)
Upstairs. The Highway Public House, Hull. 'Slides from Home and Abroad' by Steve Batty. Starts at 19.30.

RCTS (Merseyside, Chester & Nth Wales)
'Station Observation at Stafford'. Contact Geoff Morris on 01244 376808 for further details.

RCTS (Nottingham)
Nottingham Mechanics, 3 North Sherwood Street, Nottingham 'Now and Then' by Ken Horan. Meeting commences at 19.30.

SRPS (Lanarkshire)
Holy Trinity Church, Avon Street, Motherwell, ML1 3AA. 'Steam in Britain over the last 40 odd years'. by Alistair Maclean. Starts 19.30. Contact 01698 457777 for details.

Tewkesbury YMCA Railway Sociey
YMCA, Church Street, Tewkesbury. 'Railway Architecture' by Mike Burge. Meeting commences at 19.45.

10th November 2010

Basingstoke & District Railway Society
Wote St. Club, New Road, Basingstoke. '21 Years of Society Overseas Trips' by David Brace. Starts 20.00. Contact 01256 819401.

Bromsgrove Rly Club
St Godwalds Church Hall, Aston Fields, Bromsgrove. 'Steam Power Slide Presentation' by David Putt. Starts 19.45. Contact Dave on 01527 873800 for further details.

Oxfordshire Rly Society
Seacourt Day Centre, Seacourt Road, Oxford OX2 9LD. 'The Steam Railmotor Project' by Andrew Hook. Meeting commences at 19.30.

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.

▼ **Centro-liveried Class 150/1 Sprinter No. 150102 arrives at Bedford on 25th October, forming the 12.45 service from Bletchley. On the left, Class 319/4 No. 319455 stands with the 10.07 First Capital Connect Thameslink service from Brighton, and Class 377/5 Electrostars No. 377513 & 377502 await departure with the 12.54 Thameslink service to Brighton. Bill Turvill**

RCTS (Hitchin)
Hitchin Christian Centre,Bedford Road, Hitchin. 'GN Lines to Hertford' by David Dent. Starts 19.30.

RCTS (Radyr)
Old Church Rooms, Park Road, Radyr. 'The Great Way Round - Paddington to Penzance via Bristol & Millbay' by Terry Nicholls. Starts 19.30. Contact nl.thompson456@btinternet.com.

Stephenson Loco Society
YMCA, Bridge Street, Guildford. 'Railways of the River Plate Estuary (Argentina)' by Peter Worsley. Starts 19.30. Contact the Secretary on 01372 379216 for further details.

Swiss Railways Society (London)
MRC, Keen House, 4 Calshot Street, London N1 9AT. 'Emmental' by Neil Wheelwright. Starts 19.00. £2 Donation. Contact 0208 660 3532.

11th November 2010
Bath Railway Society
Bath Green Park Station Meeting Room, Bath. 'The Atlantic to the Adriatic - Steam across Europe in the 1960s' by John Gulliver. 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. 'Basil Roberts Collection in S.E.Asia' by Richard Pelham. Starts 19.15. Admission £2. Contact Adrian Palmer on 01932 850624 for details.

Friends of the West Highland Line
ScotRail Training Centre, Atrium Court, 50 Waterloo Street, Glasgow G2 6HQ. 'ScotRail - The Station Adoption Scheme' by John Yellowlees. Contact Duncan Wilson at duncanwilson1955@hotmail.com

Locomotive Club of Great Britain (St Albans)
United Reform Church, Watford Road, Chiswell Green, Nr St Albans. 'The History of the Mid-Hants Railway' by Brian Dolton. Starts 19.30. £2 Donation.

RCTS (Newcastle)
The Brunswick Methodist Hall, Newcastle. 'Branch AGM followed by Members' slides'. Starts 18.30. Contact the Secretary at jimbrick@fsmail.net for further details.

12th November 2010
Altrincham Electric Rly Preservation Society
Altrincham Methodist Church Hall, Barington Road, Altrincham, Cheshire WA1 1HF. '16mm Cine Films from the 1970s' by Richard Greenwood. Starts 19.30. Admission £3. Contact Andrew Macfarlane on 0161 928 9394 for further details.

Cambridge Rly Circle
Arbury Community Centre, Cambridge CB4 2LD. 'Colin Gifford Presents in Colour'. Admission £2. Contact the Secretary, Chris Burton on 01223 352327 for further details.

Great Western Society (Swindon)
Lawn Community Centre, Guildford Avenue, off Windsor Road, Lawn, Swindon SN3 1JE. 'Time Travail - 60 Years of Railway Preservation' by Colin Brading. Starts 19.30. Contact the Secretary on 01793 495976.

RCTS (Bristol)
St Peters Church Hall, Church Road, Filton. 'Steam and Semaphores to Penzance via Bristol & the Cornish Branches' by Maurice Dudman. Meeting commences at 19.30.

Shropshire Rly Society
The Gateway, Chester Street, Shrewsbury. 'Steaming through the British Landscape' by Bob Green. Meeting commences at 19.30. £3 donation. Contact the Secretary on 01743 243295 for further details

13th November 2010
Bournemouth Rly Club
'All Purpose Room', Winton Methodis Comminity Centre, Alma Road/ Heron Court Road, Bournemouth. 'Steam in South Africa' by Ron White. Starts 14.30. Admission £2. Contact Martyn Thresh at martyn.thresh@ntlworld.com for further details.

RCTS (Exeter)
Great Western Hotel, Exeter. 'Railways of the Past' by Bernard Mills. Meeting commences at 19.00.

14th November 2010
St Albans Signal Box Open Day
St Albans Signal Box Preservation Trust, Ridgmont Road, St Albans AL1 3AJ. Exhibition of signalling and railway ephemera within the preserved signal box. Admission free. Open 14.00 - 17.00. Contact K. Webster on 01727 836131 for details.

15th November 2010
Great Central Railway Society (Spinkhill)
The Angel Hotel, 26 College Road, Spinkhill, Sheffield S21 3YB. 'The Plant at Doncaster 1853-2008' by Hugh Parkin. Starts 19.30. Contact Frank Greaves on 01909 473927.

RCTS (Chester)
The Town Crier, City Road/Station Road, (opposite station entrance), Chester. '60163 Tornado' by Keith Crabtree. Starts 19.30.

RCTS (Coventry)
Maudslay Hotel, 190 Allesley Old Road, Coventry. 'Copyright BR' by John Goss. Meeting starts at 19.30.

RCTS (Oxford)
West Oxford Democrats Club, 1 North Street, Osney off Botley Road. 'First Great Western Projects' by Mathew Golton. Starts 19.30.

RCTS (Shenfield)
Shenfield Parish Hall, 60 Hutton Road. 'Scandinavian Railways' by Jeremy Harrison. Starts 19.30.

RCTS (Wellingborough)
BR Sports and Social Club, Broad Green, Wellingborough. 'The Pennine Journey - Attercliffe to Accrington' by Stephen Gay. Starts 14.00.

16th November 2010
Marlow & District Railway Society
Bourne End Community Centre, Wakeman Road, Bourne End. 'Railways in Australia and NZ' by Ray Schofield. Starts 20.00. £2 admission.

RCTS (Cambridge)
Abbey Meadows Community Wing, Primary School, Galfrid Road, Cambridge. 'Rail Atlas of Britain' by Stuart Baker. Starts 19.30.

RCTS (Cheltenham)
The Victory Club, Burlington House, Lypiatt Road, Cheltenham. 'Carry on Up the Khyber' by Mike Burdge. Starts at 19.30. Contact the Secretary at paulandpauling@gearey.fslife.co.uk for further details.

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

17th November 2010
RCTS (Eastleigh)/Mid Hants Railway.
Eastleigh Rly Insitutute, Romsey Road, Eastleigh. 'The Hayling Island Branch' by Peter Keat. Starts 19.45. Contact Ted Vaughan on 02380 849533.

18th November 2010
Barrow Hill Engine Shed Society
Roundhouse Lecture Theatre, Barrow Hill, Chesterfield. 'WYSIWYG & How It Was Part 2' by Ken Horan. Meeting starts at 19.30. Admission £2 non members. Contact beardspaul@aol.com for further details.

Breconshire Rly Society
R.A.F.A.Club, The Struet, Brecon. 'Monochrome to Fujichrome' by Peter Skelton. Starts 19.30. Members only. Please contact Arthur Robinson on 01982 560219 for further details and all membership enquiries.

Ffestiniog Rly Society (White Rose)
Oxford Place Methodist Centre, Oxford Place, Leeds LS1 3AX. 'Manchester Museum of Science and Industry' by Matthew Jackson. Starts 19.30. £2 donation. Contact the Secretary on 01904 331973 for further details.

Gravesend Railway Enthusiasts Society
Emmanuel Baptist Church, Windmill Street, Gravesend DA12 1BB. 'The History of the TGV' by Michael Bunn. Meeting starts at 19.45. Contact Roger Hart on 01474 833320.

Irish Rly Record Society
The Exmouth Arms, 1 Starcross Street, London NW1 2HR. 'Iarnrod Eireann Developments' by Dick Fearn. Meeting commences at 19.00.

Locomotive Club of Great Britain (Nth West)
St David's Social Centre, 249 Wargrave Road, Newton-le-Willows, WA12 8EW. 'Woodhead - The Lost Railway' by Stephen Gay. Meeting commences at 19.30. £2 donation. Contact Neville Bond on 01925 226473 or email lcgb.nw@blueyonder.co.uk for further details.

Monmouthshire Railway Society
Room A28, UWCN, Allt-Yr-Yn Avenue, Newport, S.Wales NP20 5DD. 'Up to the End of Steam' by Roger Fletcher. Meeting commences at 19.30. Admission £3 non-members.

RCTS (Darlington)
The Scout Building, Widdowfield Street, Darlington. 'More about Sir Nigel Gresley' by Chris Nettleton. Meeting commences at 19.00.

RCTS (Shipley)
Saltaire Methodist Chapel, Saltaire Road, Shipley. 'Favourite Lines' by Victor Lee. Meeting commences at 19.30.

19th November 2010
Great Western Society (Taunton)
Village Hall, Stoke St Mary, Nr Taunton. 'Somerset & Dorset Remembered' by Keith Barret. Meeting commences at 19.30. Contact the Secretary on 01923 334188 for further details.

Back Issues

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

Rear Cover Caption

Having departed the loading siding and run-round at Blea Moor, Class 47/7 No. 47739 crosses Ribblehead Viaduct with the loaded Ribblehead to Chirk timber working on 20th October. David Price

Magazine Information

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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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