Railway Herald

Issue 246 - 15th November 2010

The electronic journal for the railway enthusiast

Railway Herald

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15th November 2010

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Decades of Change : The Flying Scotsman

The Flying Scotsman, once the flagship of the East Coast services, started running back in the 1860s, and with the exception of the 1914-1918 war has run every day since at 10.00. *Brian Morrison* looks back over the last six decades at the variety of motive power.

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Front Cover Caption:

Mainline blue-liveried Class 60 No. 60011 passes along the Keadby & Stainforth Canal at Crowle, as it heads for Santon with a train from Redcar on 30th October. Richard Tuplin

£31 million Epsom station rebuild begins

Work has started on a major transformation of Epsom station in Surrey, as part of a £31 million scheme to create a new retail, hotel and residential development by Solum Regeneration, a joint venture between Network Rail and Kier Property.

The mixed-use scheme will provide Epsom with 54 mixed tenure, affordable apartments for developer Orbit Homes, 63 private apartments, a 64-bedroom hotel and a local convenience store, as well as a new station, car parking and increased cycle parking facilities for passengers and residents. Orbit Homes will pre-sell the affordable shared equity units and let the affordable rented units in accordance with the lettings protocol of Epsom and Ewell Borough Council, the private homes scheduled to go on sale in 2011. The development will fully fund significant improvements to Epsom station, including a new ticket hall, car park and additional canopy coverage, with new toilets, including those for the mobility-impaired on both platforms. The new station design means Epsom will be able to deal with projected passenger growth for at least the next three decades. Kier Group is constructing the scheme following a competitive tender process. The station will be complete by Christmas 2011, and all works are to be finished by the summer of 2012.

Could the Welsh rail network be run by a new not-for-profit company from 2018?

Plaid Cymru has set out proposals for the parties May 2011 Assembly election manifesto, in which it says it would consider a not-for-profit company taking over the railways of Wales, when the current Arriva Trains Wales franchise ends in 2018.

The party says that in creating a not-for-profit organisation to run Welsh railways, significantly more money could be made available to invest in operations and directly create more frequent services in the South Wales valleys, more frequent journeys to West Wales and on the Cambrian line, as well as additional services between north and south. It would also enable investment in new rolling stock to help keep pace with growing demand.

Plaid Cymru says that reinvesting profits, instead of returning them to shareholders, would release extra money to the network. The development of an all-Wales transport network, with integrated ticketing and timetabling would be a key section of the proposals.

Plaid's Leader, Ieuan Wyn Jones said: "Plaid Cymru will also be calling on the UK Government to decentralise Network Rail and to create a Welsh Region, so that the Welsh Ministers can prioritise where and when it invests its funding in new projects. This model already works well in Scotland, and now is the time for Network Rail to be much more accountable to the people of Wales for delivering real and sustained investment in our rail network".

▲ Class 466 Networker No. 466014 awaits departure from Sheerness-on-Sea on 4th November, forming the 09.32 Southeastern shuttle to Sittingbourne. **Brian Morrison**

Network Rail publishes West Midlands & Chiltern RUS

Network Rail has published the draft Route Utilisation Strategy (RUS) for the West Midlands & Chiltern.

The RUS states that more passengers than ever are using rail in the region, and that patronage could increase by up to nearly 33% over the next decade. Published for consultation, the draft RUS looks in detail at rail usage over the next 10 years, and recommends how best to cope with extra passengers and freight through new services and targeted investment. The report sets out a range of recommendations and proposals to be considered to meet the ever-increasing demand on the rail network, including recommendations for train lengthening on a number of peak hour services to and from Birmingham, especially on routes to Hereford and Shrewsbury and a new service between Tamworth and Worcester/Hereford, via Birmingham New Street, to improve connections across the West Midlands. Infrastructure improvements at Worcester are proposed to allow for more frequent services, as is the continued development of work to reopen the Round Oak (Stourbridge) to Walsall line to allow more freight traffic to travel between Birmingham and the South West. Network Rail is consulting on the RUS and will publish a final version in May next year.

▲ Bathed in autumn sunlight, East Coast-liveried Class 43 No. 43311 arrives at Newcastle on 6th November as it heads south with the 07.55 Inverness to London King's Cross service. **Kev Gregory**

Fencing to be erected around Sydney Gardens

Over the years, railway-style fencing has changed dramatically, from wooden rail and post style through to the unsightly high-security steel fencing.

Now, Network Rail is working with the public in Bristol, as it looks to fence Sydney Gardens in Bath. The Great Western route, which passes through the park area, has for many years had a low wall which, while being a positive for railway photographers, has been a negative for trespass incidents, which occur on average, every other week, with around 50% involving children or young people. As a result, Network Rail has put forward a proposal of three different styles of design, covering Victorian, Georgian and contemporary at an exhibition in Bristol, allowing the public to choose their preferred option. The most popular design will be put forward to the council for final consent, prior to work starting in 2011.

ORR starts proceedings over Potters Bar derailment

The Office of Rail Regulation (ORR) has started criminal proceedings against Network Rail Infrastructure Limited and Jarvis Rail Limited for breaches of Health & Safety law that caused the Potters Bar derailment over eight years ago, on 10th May 2002.

The prosecutions follow the conclusion of the inquest and the ORR's investigation into the derailment of a West Anglia Great Northern express service at Potters Bar station in Hertfordshire when seven people were killed and many more seriously injured.

Ian Prosser, the ORR Director of Rail Safety, said: "The conclusion of the recent inquest into the derailment at Potters Bar has allowed the regulator to make a decision on whether any enforcement action should be brought in relation to the incident. I have decided there is enough evidence, and it is in the public interest to prosecute Network Rail and Jarvis Rail for serious Health and Safety breaches. For the sake of the families involved, we will do all we can to ensure the prosecutions proceed as quickly as possible".

Providing integrated timetable information for all modes of transport - from rail to taxi

Technology to improve transport for people in remote and rural areas is being devised by scientists at Aberdeen University.

The software will allow individuals to post their travel requirements before being automatically 'paired up' with potential transport options for their journey. It will also bring together timetable and contact information on all of the transport providers within a given geographical area – from bus and rail services to taxi firms. The University is developing a prototype of the software, which it believes could provide economic and environmental benefits by encouraging shared journeys and higher vehicle occupancy. It would potentially be accessed by rural dwellers via a website, by telephone or in the form of a public information portal.

The three-year project involves transport experts, computing scientists and economists working together within the Research Councils research hub based at the University, which is investigating how digital technologies could transform rural communities, society and business.

The Director of the University's Centre for Transport Research said: "For rural dwellers without access to a private car, transport choices can be limiting – for example only 57% of households in rural areas are within a 13-minute walk of an hourly or better bus service. The aim is to develop technology that would improve the relationship between transport supply and demand in rural and remote parts of the country. The software would enable a more integrated and co-ordinated approach to transport services within rural communities by pulling together information on all of the transport provisions within a given geographical area. It would also provide the opportunity for suppliers of transport specific to education, social services, the elderly and disabled, or patient transport, to offer their services to the wider public at times of the day when their vehicles were not being utilised. Those seeking transport would post details of their intended trip – including the date, time and the estimated cost they would be willing to pay for their journey. The software would then automatically 'match-make' the passenger with the various transport options available to them. It is paramount that the software we create is easy for the general public to access and use, so engaging with those who would actually use the system will be an important part of the design process. We hope that by improving the relationship between passengers and transport providers, the software could encourage increased use of public and shared transport in rural areas to both the economic and environmental benefit of communities".

UK News In Brief

■ Crossrail has invited bids to build the new Farringdon station for the cross-London route. The work will involve the construction of two platform tunnels, 245 meters long, connecting the platforms with the east and west ticket halls.

■ The London Borough of Lambeth has dropped its legal action over the proposed development of Streatham Hill sidings by Southern Railway. The rail operator erected three lines of canopies in July 2005, arguing that the facility is covered under permitted development laws. A deal has now been struck, which will see reductions in lighting and one of the canopies being removed.

■ Scottish Transport Minister, Stewart Stevenson, has said that improving services between Aberdeen, Inverness and the Central Belt of Scotland was an investment priority. Full details are to be announced later this year of proposals that will see a better service on the Highland Main Line.

■ Construction firm Amey has won contracts as part of the Cotswold Line upgrade work. The company will modernise three level crossings, installing new barriers and lights, along with fitting new axle-counter technology along the route and equipping Evesham and Ascott-under-Wychwood with new digital equipment. Elsewhere, the company has formed a joint venture with Colas Rail, the pairing having won the contract to undertake the provision of new track, using a production line system.

■ Parry People Movers, which operates passenger services on the Stourbridge Town branch, made a loss of £89,266 in the six months to the end of June, compared with £43,404 in the same period in 2009.

■ Hertfordshire County Council, which is currently looking to convert the Watford Junction to St. Albans Abbey line into a tram route, will sign a 22-year lease agreement with one of four contractors early next year, allowing work to start on the depot and passing loop in late 2011, with the full conversion to a light rail scheduled to take place in 2012.

■ A decision on the electrification of the Great Western Main Line is expected to be made in the next 10 days, although speculation is rising that the full length of the route from London Paddington to Swansea may not see the upgrade, with electrification only reaching Bristol or possibly Cardiff.

■ Network Rail faces a £3 million penalty after it breached its licence for failing to run an effective and efficient timetabling process for Britain's rail network according to the Office of Rail Regulation (ORR). The proposed financial penalty follows confirmation in September that Network Rail had breached its licence after problems arose from the introduction of the integrated train planning system (ITPS) for the May 2010 timetable. System faults left some operators temporarily unable to publish information or take bookings and reservations. Freight and passenger charter operators were some of the hardest hit as very late confirmation of services left them unable to plan their businesses properly, and facing revenue losses because of customer cancellations. The Regulator's investigation into the introduction of ITPS found that while Network Rail was right to replace old and inefficient timetabling systems and processes, its implementation of the new system failed to consider properly, mitigate, and communicate the risks of initial problems affecting its key customers.

■ Network Rail has awarded a contract worth £22 million to Signalling Solutions, a joint venture between Alstom Transport and Balfour Beatty Rail for the Bletchley remodelling project. The company will undertake the detailed design, construction, testing and commissioning for the signalling. Work is expected to start shortly with final commissioning scheduled for December 2012.

SWT provides Oyster top-up to passengers

Passengers using South West Trains (SWT) are set to have more convenient journeys in future, as they will be able to top up Oyster cards at all stations operated by SWT in the London Travelcard area from May 2011.

Andy Pitt, Managing Director for SWT, said: "Since the launch of Oyster travel on our services earlier this year, we have been committed to finding a solution to make it possible for passengers to also top up their Oyster cards at our stations. We are pleased to have agreed a deal with the Department for Transport that will enable Oyster products to be retailed through our ticket vending machines".

The new equipment will be fitted to vending machines using existing investment that South West Trains is committed to spending to upgrade its stations under its franchise agreement.

▶ The 11.08 Sundays-only Southeastern service from London Charing Cross to Ramsgate passes Hither Green at speed on 7th November, formed of Class 375/6 Electrostar No. 375624 & Class 375/9 No. 375908. Like several of the Class 465 units, the leading unit has been given blue doors and a dark grey lower body panel. The first Class 375 EMU to carry blue doors was No. 375610 *Royal Tunbridge Wells,* **which was so treated for the Queen's Golden Jubilee, as well as gaining gold coloured lower bodyside panels. Brian Morrison**

Metro and Light Rail News

TfL looks to save a further £600 million

As part of the Government's spending review, £2.17 billion has been cut from the funding that the Department for Transport provides to Transport for London (TfL) each year, TfL has now announced that it is to delay the planned completion of the Piccadilly Line upgrade as part of a move to save a further £600 million.

The full details have not yet been made public, although the plan is to look at the viability of combining upgrade schemes, for example the Piccadilly and District Lines that share track. Other savings will come from various cost-cutting measures. Elsewhere, a strike on London Underground by RMT and TSSA union members on 3rd November, caused major disruption to LUL services, although TfL says that around 40% of services operated constantly through the day. The Circle Line was suspended entirely, while other lines only operated over part of the route.

Northern Line extension to Battersea agreed by Council

On 11th November, the London Borough of Wandsworth approved plans for the redevelopment of Battersea Power Station.

The approval includes a pledge from developer Real Estate Opportunites to pay £203 million towards the extension of the Northern Line from Kennington.

The extension will have a new station located at the power station site, with another at Wandsworth Road to serve the eastern part of the Nine Elms regeneration area.

The committee also secured a commitment that works to repair the power station will begin at an early stage of the project and that the building will be structurally secure by the end of 2016. The building's four iconic chimneys will be demolished and rebuilt.

Meetings to be held over route closures

Sixty public meetings between London Overground managers and passengers are to be held to explain alternative travel options during a series of upcoming closures for improvement work to be completed that will see more than 200 signals, seven kilometres of track and 69 sets of points improved and 30 station platforms lengthened.

The meetings will be held from mid-November to early December at stations on the Stratford to Richmond and Clapham Junction lines, and aim to reduce inconvenience to passengers during the closures. The meetings will explain rail replacement services and ticket acceptance on alternative routes. The closures are needed to complete the multi-million pound upgrade project by May 2011, which will increase capacity on London Overground services.

The closures are Gospel Oak to Stratford from the evening of 18th December to 24th December, and in addition there will be no trains on the whole London Overground network on Christmas Day and Boxing Day. Also Richmond to Stratford and Shepherds Bush to Willesden Junction will not operate from 27th December to 3rd January 2011. Further shorter closures will be required during spring 2011 to complete the works by next May, and the dates of these will be confirmed closer to the time. Works requiring weekend-only closures will carry on until mid-2011.

When the upgrade is complete, services from Stratford will run at eight trains per hour in the peak and six trains per hour off peak, with four trains per hour continuing to Richmond all day, and four trains per hour continuing to Clapham Junction in the peak. In the off peak there will be a shuttle service of two trains per hour between Clapham Junction and Willesden Junction.

The meetings will be held in the mornings from 07.00 to 09.30 and in the evenings from 16.30 to 19.00. Work to date has delivered 1,000 metres of extra station platform at 17 stations on the North London Line, a new bridge deck at Camley Street, over 6km of track renewed between Camden Road and Dalston Kingsland stations, and there has been 11 new sets of switches and over 100km of new signalling cable installed.

Much work in support of this has also been undertaken, including the replacement of Victorian drainage systems, retaining walls and the removal of large amounts of soil.

◀ **The Bakerloo Line was suspended between Queen's Park and Elephant & Castle on 7th November for engineering work. Two sets of 1972 Tube Stock operated a 30-minute interval service between Harrow & Wealdstone and Queen's Park, dovetailing with a 30-minute London Overground Watford Junction to Euston service. After setting down passengers at Queen's Park, LUL trains continued empty to Kilburn High Road station to reverse, presenting the sight of a London Underground service at the Network Rail station, a location normally only visited by LU trains in emergencies. Kim Rennie**

▲ The aftermath of the accident, with the wrecked remains of the cement lorry. **RAIB**

RAIB starts investigation into rail accident at Oxshott

The Rail Accident Investigation Branch has released its initial findings into the incursion of a heavy goods vehicle through the parapet of a bridge over a railway line in Surrey, which subsequently fell onto a passing train.

As reported in our last issue, the accident occurred at about 15.30 on 5th November, over the double-track railway near Oxshott station. A three-axle concrete mixer lorry was travelling in the southbound direction over the bridge when it collided with, and demolished, a section of the east side parapet before falling some 30ft onto the train travelling below. The lorry was loaded with concrete and weighed approximately 24 tonnes.

As it fell onto the line it struck a train that was passing underneath, the 15.05 service from Guildford to London Waterloo. One passenger on the train and the driver of the lorry sustained serious injuries. Five other passengers on the train suffered minor injuries. Severe crush damage was caused to the leading end of the 6th coach, and in addition one side of the 7th and 8th coaches suffered severe damage caused by heavy contact with parts of the lorry. The last bogie on the train (8th coach) became derailed. The train came to a stand with the rear coach nearly 200ft from the point of impact with the lorry. All 26 passengers were detrained and the injured were taken to hospital, the remainder being taken to a reception centre set up by the local authority, Elmbridge Borough Council.

The RAIB's investigation will identify the sequence of events before, during and after the accident. RAIB inspectors will liaise with Surrey Police road traffic accident investigators in order to understand the events on the highway that led to the collision with the parapet. The scope of the investigation will also encompass the steps that were taken to manage the risk of vehicle incursion at this location and at similar bridges elsewhere on Britain's railway network. The RAIB's investigation is independent of any investigations by the Police and the safety authority.

Station Improvements around the UK

In Scotland, a new access ramp onto the southbound platform at Cupar has been constructed at a cost of £1 million. Landscaping of the area was completed this week and the ramp is now in public use.

New signage has been installed at Delamere station by representatives of the Forestry Commission, the Mid-Cheshire Community Rail Partnership and Northern Rail, which informs rail travellers that they have arrived at the heart of Delamere Forest. The signage is part of a process that has resulted in the station becoming the first in the country to be adopted by a forest.

Westhoughton station on the Wigan to Bolton line is to be equipped with CCTV security cameras, as well as new information screens and help points. Greater Manchester Integrated Transport Authority (GMITA) will oversee the work.

The plan to build a new station in Northampton by 2013 could fail as a result of a lack of funding. The West Northamptonshire Development Corporation had previously been told by Network Rail that it was unable to commit to funding, but would hand over extra land needed to expand the station, which would be located south of the current facility.

On the Cotswold Line, Network Rail is to build a new platform for Worcester bound services, together with a disabled-friendly footbridge, as part of the redoubling of the line. Work will be undertaken by Amey early next year.

In Tonbridge, a revamp of the station has been delayed slightly, as finer details of the £1.3 million project, funded by the DfT National Stations Improvement Programme, are still being worked upon. The station's toilets will be refurbished, new waiting rooms built on Platforms 1 and 2, and the front of the station will be reclad and have a new canopy constructed. The project is now expected to get underway early in the new year.

Following the report in Issue 244 regarding West Hampstead Thameslink station, First Capital Connect has confirmed that the new platform extensions will be completed by the end of this year and the final section of the new footbridge, with lifts to all platforms, has now been installed. However, like the new station building, it will open in December 2011, not 2010. Apologies to all for quoting the wrong date.

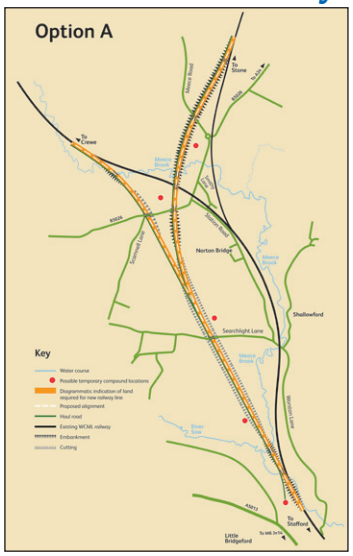
Network Rail give local people the chance to have their say

Network Rail has invited local people to have their say on plans to upgrade the railway in and around Staffordshire, to deliver a more reliable network for passengers with extra train services.

The layout of the railway, particularly at Norton Bridge, restricts capacity and performance along the main line. Options are being considered to upgrade Norton Bridge Junction to separate the path of cross-country trains between Birmingham and Manchester from fast services between London and the North West.

The new junction, together with signalling and track enhancements will improve the reliability of services and allow extra trains to run on the main line. The project will deliver two extra fast trains per hour between London and the North West, one extra train per hour between Birmingham and Manchester, and one additional freight path per hour through Stafford, via the Trent Valley, helping take lorries off congested roads and motorways such as the M6.

Local residents are invited to find out more about the scheme at one of the forthcoming exhibitions and to provide their comments on the plans – in person, by post or online. Network Rail hopes to submit an application to the Infrastructure Planning Commission in late 2012, to gain the necessary permission to complete the works.



One of the three possible options put forward to local residents for improving the railway at Norton Bridge. Network Rail

◀ A unified look? A variety of Northern Rail Class 142, 150/2 and 156 DMUs stand at Liverpool Lime Street on 30th October. Robert Jefferys

And ye shall have power for time ... possibly!

It was reported in Issue 244 that the station clock at Huddersfield had been 'put back' an hour, a week early, in preparation for the end of British Summer Time.

Now it appears that the clock outside Sheffield station hadn't been put back at all, although it is not surprising, as it has only shown the right time for one minute of the day, each day for the last four years! The clock was installed as part of the development of Sheaf Square outside the station in 2006, and Sheffield Council has now admitted that the responsibility lies with them. The reason it hasn't worked - the electricity supply for it was never installed! The Council is now looking at ways to install electricity, failing which, the post that the clock stands on will be replaced with a new one - without a clock!

The News In Pictures

◀ While several Class 380 EMUs have now been delivered, they have all been the four-car '380/1' sub-class. The first Class 380/0 three-car set was delivered to Scotland overnight on 7th/8th November. Here, No. 380003 passes Preston at 01.24, behind Class 92 No. 92005. **David Hollowood**

◀▼ Class 37/6 No. 37610 *T.S (Ted) Cassady 14.5.61 - 6.4.08* leads a test train away from Clacton carriage sidings on 1st November, running 60-minutes late. The test train was booked to visit the Colchester Town and the Walton-on-the-Naze branches, but due to the late running these were omitted and the train worked directly to Ferme Park. Classmate No. 37604 brings up the rear of the train, which is operated by DBS for Network Rail using hired in DRS locos! **Antony Guppy**

▼ Class 67 No. 67016 stands at Bristol Temple Meads on the 12th November, working the final loco-hauled 19:00 Cardiff Central to Taunton service for First Great Western. The transfer of London Overground Class 150s has removed the need for the '67s'. **Lewis Mitchell**

UK Steam & Modern Traction Railtour Listings

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 International-York & return	**Cancelled**
Spitfire Railtours	2xDRS 37	York-Ferryhill-Newcastle-Morpeth-York	**Cancelled**

25th November 2010

Railway Touring Co.	34067	Poole-Bournemouth-Southampton-Salisbury-Bath Spa-Bristol Temple Meads & rtn	
Steam Dreams	60163	London King's Cross-Stevenage-Peterborough-Doncaster-York & return	

27th November 2010

Statesman Rail	5690	Lancaster-Preston-Blackburn-Clitheroe-Long Preston-S&C-Appleby-Carlisle & rtn	
Railway Touring Co.	60007	Newcastle Central-Darlington-York-Peterborough-London King's Cross & return	
Railway Touring Co.	34067	Swanage-Bournemouth-Eastleigh-Basingstoke-Reading-London Paddington & return	
Vintage Trains	45305	Tyseley WR-Wolverhampton-Crewe-Chester-Wrexham-Shrewsbury-Wellington-Cosford-Wolverhampton & return	
Pathfinder Tours	6024	(Paignton-Exeter SD-)Bristol TM-Severn Tunnel-Abergavenney-Shrewsbury & rtn	
Pathfinder Tours	tbc	Westbury-Bath Spa-Bristol Parkway-Barnt Green-York-Durham & return	
UK Railtours	tbc	Guildford-Redhill-East Croydon-Clapham Jct-Kensington Olympia-York & return	
Retro Railtours	47580	Leeds-Dewsbury-Huddersfield-Stalybridge-Stockport-Oxford & return	
Compass Tours	tbc	Nuneaton-Tamworth-Stafford-Stoke-Stockport-Stalybridge-York & return	

1st December 2010

Compass Tours	tbc	Worcester Shrub Hill-Kidderminster-Tame Bridge Parkway-Stafford-Crewe-Preston-Shap-Carlisle-Beattock-Carstairs-Edinburgh Waverely & return	
Steam Dreams	60007	London Victoria-Staines-Ascot-Reading-Bath Spa-Bristol TM & return	

3rd December 2010

SRPS Railtours	2xWCRC 47	Linlithgow-Morpeth-York-Gainsborough Lea Road-Saxilby-Lincoln & return	
Railway Touring Co.	tbc	Newcastle Central-York-Leeds-Doncaster-Gainsborough Lea Road-Lincoln & rtn	
Compass Tours	tbc	Lockerbie-Preston-Blackburn-Hebden Bridge-Doncaster-Saxilby-Lincoln & return	
Steam Dreams	60007	London KX-Peterborough-Spalding-Lincoln-Newark-Peterborough & London	

4th December 2010

Railtourer	2xWCRC 47	Stevenage-Peterborough-Retford--Newcastle upon Tyne-Edinburgh & return	
NENTA Traintours	2xWCRC 47	Norwich-Diss-Ipswich-Stowmarket-Ely-March-York-Newcastle Central & return	
Torbay Express Ltd	tbc	Bristol TM-Bath Spa-Reading-London Paddington & return	**Cancelled**
Railway Touring Co.	34067	Haywards Heath-Eastleigh-Westbury-Bath Spa & return	**Postponed**
Statesman Rail	tbc	Shrewsbury-Wilmslow-Manchester Victoria-Bolton-Preston-Edinburgh & return	
Hastings Diesels Ltd	Hastings DEMU	Hastings-Tunbridge Wells-Clapham Jct-Bedford-Bletchley & return	
UK Railtours	60163	Bedford-Clapham Jct-Staines-Woking-Westbury-Bath Spa-Bristol TM & return	
Pathfinder Tours	tbc	Eastleigh-Winchester-Basingstoke-Banbury-Dorridge-Lincoln-Cleethorpes & return	
Spitfire Railtours	55022	Preston-Bolton-Huddersfield-Leeds-York-Newcastle-Edinburgh Waverley & return	
Spitfire Railtours	55022	Edinburgh-Dalmeny-Forth Bridge-Dunfermline Town-Ladybank-Tay Bridge-Dundee-Ladybank-Forth Bridge-Dalmeny-Edinburgh Waverley	

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

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

The Week Ahead

by John Whitehouse

There is invariably one weekend that becomes sandwiched between the seasons when no one seems to be interested in operating charters, and this coming weekend seems to qualify for that mantle with just one tour operating.

Granted, it is a bit special, and everyone seems to have stood aside and given Steam Dreams a clear run for its three-day 'Christmas Coronation' between London and Edinburgh. Day one is on Thursday 18th November, when the intention is to recreate the exceptional April 2009 'Top Gear' run from London King's Cross to Edinburgh with No. 60163 *Tornado*. That was special due to Network Rail coming up with a set of fast times so that *Tornado* could give the 'Top Gear' team a good run for their money in a road-rail race from London to Edinburgh. Although James May in a vintage Jaguar won, had it not been for getting caught behind an all-stations North Berwick-Edinburgh local at Drem, *Tornado* (with a begrimed Jeremy Clarkson on the footplate) would have punched a big 10-minute hole in the already fast schedule set out for the train. This time, Graeme Bunker of Steam Dreams says that the northbound timings should shave that elusive 10 minutes off the schedule. The route is ECML throughout from London King's Cross.

The following day features a circular working from Waverley, which operates in a clockwise direction via Berwick-upon-Tweed, Newcastle and Hexham to Carlisle. Then *Tornado* takes on Beattock for the first time prior to reaching Waverley, via Motherwell and Holytown, and a rare steam-hauled working over the Shotts route.

By way of change, the return to London on Day 3 (20th November) will be over the West Coast route for a late afternoon arrival back into Euston. The climbs to Beattock and Shap southbound will still give *Tornado* something to think about, and further south the train is routed over the Trent Valley. "Another fast set of timings", says Graeme Bunker, "should liven up the WCML!"

▼ **Pathfinder's 'West Lothian Pioneer' charter from Crewe to Edinburgh catches the early morning light at Brock on 6th November, as it powers away from Preston on its northbound journey behind Class 55 No. 55022** *Royal Scots Grey*. **Fred Kerr**

Britannia returns to the main line

After a long absence, No. 70000 *Britannia* returned to the main line on 9th November on two test runs; in the morning a return trip between Crewe and Warrington, and later from Crewe to Carnforth.

On both occasions *Britannia* ran with its support coach and a West Coast Class 47, the latter being scheduled to also power the morning working back from Warrington to Crewe, as it was not possible to turn the train at any point. During the latter test run to Carnforth, where the loco was due to be positioned for a loaded test run around the Carnforth Circle next day, it was noticed that the right-hand cylinder was leaking steam and a problem with the piston gland has been reported.

Rectification is not considered to be an onerous job, but the loaded test run was cancelled as a result, and indicators are that it may now take place next week.

▶ **Undertaking its first working on the National Network for many years, Crewe-built BR Standard 7P Pacific No. 70000 *Britannia* storms through Winsford on the West Coast Main Line, on 9th November, with its support coach and Class 47/4 No. 47500 in tow. Keith Langstone**

▶ **Surrounded in a cloud of steam, an unlined black-liveried No. 70000 *Britannia* stands at Warrington Bank Quay following arrival from Crewe. The consist remained at Warrington for about an hour while checks were made, before returning to Crewe. Following this *Britannia* was transferred to Carnforth, during which the cylinder problem became apparent. Daniel Cross**

Ups & Downs

by John Whitehouse

■ Railway Touring Company's 'Tin Bath Extra' certainly lived up to its name on 7th November. The tour, hauled by Ian Riley's 'Black 5' 4-6-0s Nos. 44871 & 45407 was booked to run from Manchester Victoria to Sheffield by way of the Hope Valley and then to traverse the Penistone to Huddersfield line before returning to Manchester via the Calder Valley and Copy Pit. However, the derailment of an infrastructure train at Grindleford could have caused problems. Network Rail Control came to the rescue with a hastily drawn up alternative schedule that routed the train to Crewe, and then southbound along the West Coast Main Line to Stafford and the Lichfield Trent Valley Low Level-High Level Chord to Wichnor Junction, and then north via Derby to rejoin the planned route at Dore. By this time the tour was well down on its original schedule, and the journey between Penistone and Huddersfield took place in the gloom of late afternoon, but a near right time arrival at Manchester Victoria was achieved by running directly via Rochdale instead of the scheduled route of Copy Pit, Blackburn and Bolton. Well done Network Rail, West Coast and RTC.

■ The continued absence of No. 70013 *Oliver Cromwell* has provided the opportunity for another absentee, No. 60007 *Sir Nigel Gresley*, to accumulate more main line mileage, as the 'A4' is now booked to cover for the 'Britannia' on two Steam Dreams' workings, to Bath Spa and Bristol from London Victoria on 1st December, and to Lincoln from King's Cross two days later.

Not forgetting Cauldon Lowe as UK Railtours heads for Staffordshire

UK Railtours 'Forgotten Tracks' brand certainly lives up to its name on 2nd April 2011, when the newly reopened line to Cauldon Lowe is the destination.

Because the connection between Stoke-on-Trent and Leekbrook Junction will not have been reopened by that date, there will be a road coach transfer to Kingsley and Froghall, the southern terminus of the Churnet Valley Railway, where an optional DMU trip to Oakamoor can be enjoyed.

Following this will be a round trip, steam-hauled, over the severely graded route via Cheddleton and Leekbrook Junction to Cauldon Lowe, located high on the Staffordshire Moorland. The train picks up at Stevenage, Potters Bar and Finsbury Park, and then works north over the West Coast Main Line, taking the route through Stone to Stoke-on-Trent at Colwich Junction.

After the visit to Cauldon Lowe, 'The Moorland & City' returns via a circuitous route taking in Alsager, Crewe, Sandbach, Middlewich, Northwich, and the Hope Valley to Chesterfield. After which it will follow the Erewash Valley line to Loughborough and Melton Mowbray to rejoin the East Coast Main Line at Peterborough to reach its set-down points.

Steam Dreams head for Padstow and Newquay in 2011 with the weekend 'ACE' excursion

The success of the 'Cornish Riviera' earlier this year has prompted Steam Dreams to visit Cornwall again next year. The visit is scheduled for 4th to 6th September, and will certainly be one of the high spots of the 2011 charter calendar.

Newquay is the destination for the 'Atlantic Coast Express', but if you like, you can travel to the original destination of this famous train by changing at Bodmin Parkway, taking the Bodmin and Wenford heritage line to Boscarne Junction, and then a connecting bus to Padstow.

The plan is to have 'King Arthur' 4-6-0 No. 30777 *Sir Lamiel* from Waterloo to Westbury, via Salisbury, where a pair of 'Bullieds', Nos. 34046 *Braunton* & 34067 *Tangmere* will take over for the remainder of the journey, via Exeter and Plymouth to Newquay.

However, returning to the important business, the train will double-head back to Exeter, before taking a trip to Okehampton on the privately owned Dartmoor Railway. The return from Exeter to Waterloo will be steam-hauled throughout.

This is just one trip in an extensive 2011 Steam Dreams' programme, which already has over 30 trains on offer. In addition to the tried and tested destinations, some notable newcomers feature, including the Welsh Marches to Hereford, Ludlow and Shrewsbury on 11th June with *Tornado* throughout from Paddington; Worcester and the Severn Valley Railway from Euston, also with *Tornado* on 6th August; Manchester via the ECML and Hope Valley from King's Cross on 25th September, and Minehead from London Victoria on 10th August. There is, of course, 'The Cathedrals Explorer' from 6th-13th May, which runs from Minster to Stirling, Fort William and Carmarthen, plus regular workings to Bath Spa and Bristol, Stratford-on-Avon, Swanage and Weymouth. Another notable feature is a monthly working to York from April through to September, as well as two trains to Chester via the West Coast Main Line from Euston in April and September.

'A1' Pacific No. 60163 *Tornado* will feature strongly, especially on ECML workings, and will be ably supported by 'Britannias' Nos. 70000 *Britannia* & 70013 *Oliver Cromwell*, 'King Arthur' No. 30777 *Sir Lamiel*, 'West Country' No. 34046 *Braunton*, 'Battle of Britain' No. 34067 *Tangmere* and 'Royal Scot' No. 46115 *Scots Guardsman*.

A full programme of trains will be explored in more detail in forthcoming issues.

Brunswick green livery for *Tornado* after Christmas repaint

The planned repaint of No. 60163 *Tornado* will take place during its planned winter maintenance programme over the Christmas and New Year period.

The 'A1' will lose its current early British Railways variant of LNER apple green and reappear in the later British Railways Brunswick green livery. It will be introduced in its new coat of paint on 26th February at King's Cross, ahead of hauling the A1 Steam Locomotive Trust's 'White Rose' charter to Leeds. The train is due to pick up at Stevenage and Peterborough, before heading for a brief stop at Wakefield Westgate en route to Leeds. In BR service, the Peppercorn 'A1' Pacifics were a regular feature on King's Cross to Leeds workings. Bookings for this tour will be handled by Steam Dreams.

The plan is for *Tornado* to carry all four historic 'A1' liveries during its first 10 years of operation, and one can look forward to seeing the loco in BR Express Passenger blue as well Brunswick green with both early and late British Railways crest and emblem on the tender.

It already seems that 2011 will again be a very busy year with 17 trains already in the diary. Additionally, there are planned visits to the Severn Valley Railway between 21st & 26th April (Easter) and the North Yorkshire Moors Railway on 7th/8th May. The A1SLT annual convention is booked for 15th October at Barrow Hill Currently, the last scheduled working for *Tornado* prior to withdrawal for winter maintenance and repainting is Steam Dreams' Christmas Luncheon working from Hedge End to Hastings on 13th December.

▶ **Class 67s Nos. 67022 and 67024 (on the rear) have ample power in hand for their train of two VSOE Pullman coaches, as the consist passes Staines on 11th November, presumably on a private charter. Ken Brunt**

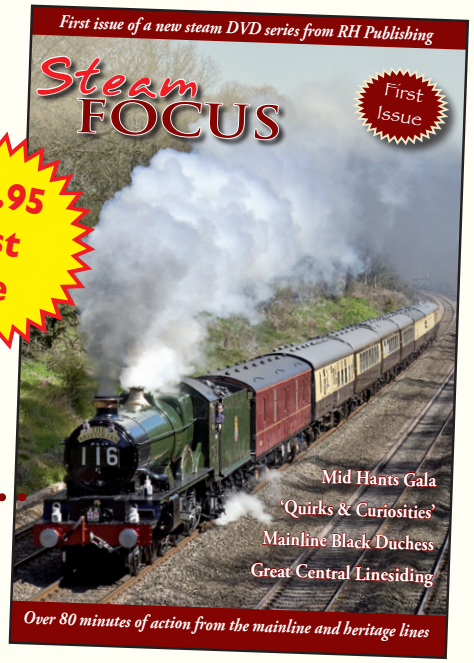
LMS 'Black 5' 4-6-0 No. 45305 powers along the WCML at Cathiron, between Nuneaton and Rugby, with the 'Capital Five' railtour from Tyseley to London Euston on 6th November. **Peter Smith**

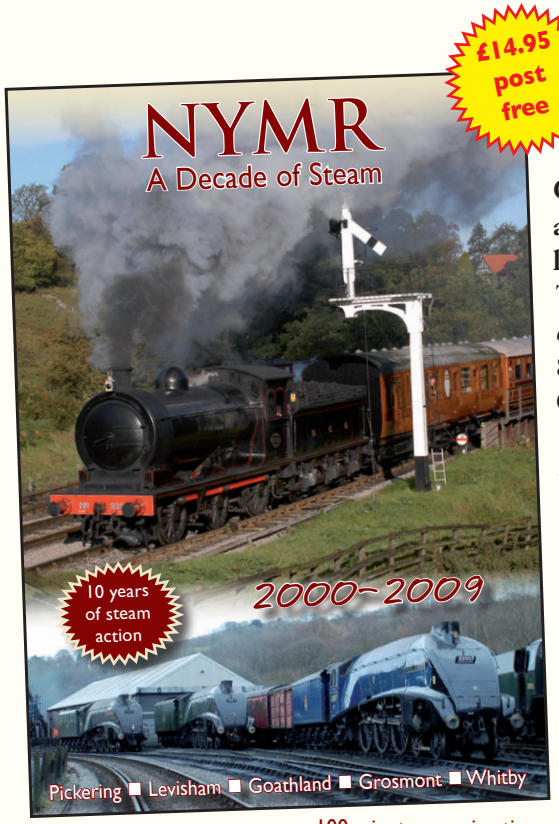
Steam FOCUS

The first issue of Steam Focus DVD magazine, looks at action from the first half of 2010, as well as some of the more notable events during 2009. Featuring the East Lancs, Ffestiniog, Great Central, Llangollen, Mid-Hants and North Yorkshire Moors Railways, plus main line action from across the country, including *Mallard* moving to Shildon, 60009 *Union of South Africa* on the Highland Main Line, *Duchess of Sutherland* in black livery and much more.

90 minutes running time

Issue Two will be released in February 2011





100 minutes running time

NYMR A Decade of Steam

Charting the locos in action on the NYMR between 2000 and 2009, this DVD features over 35 different steam locos at work.

The engines featured include GWR 'City' No. 3440 *City of Truro*, and tanks Nos. 4277 and 6619. SR 'S15' No. 825, 'Terrier' No. 32678, 'West Country' and 'Battle Of Britain' Pacifics Nos. 34028 *Eddystone*, 34081 *92 Squadron* and 34101 *Hartland*. LMS 'Black 5s' Nos. 44767 *George Stephenson*, 45212, 45407, LNWR 'Super D' No. 49395 and S&D 7F No. 53809. LNER A4s Nos. 60007 *Sir Nigel Gresley*, 60009 *Union of South Africa*, 60019 *Bittern*, A1 No. 60163 *Tornado*, A2 No. 60532 *Blue Peter*, V2 No. 60800 *Green Arrow*, B1 No. 61264, K4 No. 61994 *The Great Marquess*, K1 No. 62005, Q6 No. 63395 and J15 No. 65462, plus BR 'Britannia' No. 70013 *Oliver Cromwell*, Standard 4MTs Nos. 75014, 75029 and 76079, and WD No. 90775.

The viewer also has the ability to turn the narration off, leaving the viewer to enjoy the pure sounds of steam.

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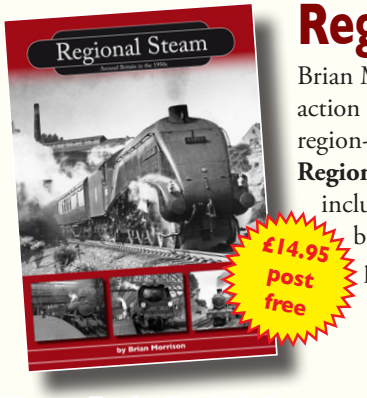
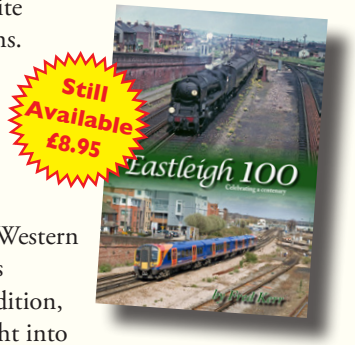


Regional Steam

Brian Morrison, takes a look back at steam action from the 1950s around the country, region-by-region in this, his 50th book. **Regional Steam** is a 128-page printed book including over 200 high quality, black & white photographs.



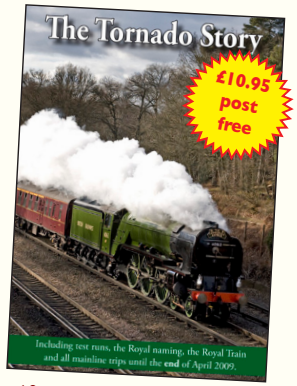
Eastleigh 100

The book describes how the London & South Western Railway's works at Eastleigh came about and its development over the intervening years. In addition, ex-Eastleigh fitter, Ron Cover, gives us an insight into day-to-day operations.

The Tornado Story

The building, testing and first operations of *Tornado* feature on this DVD, filmed in co-operation with the A1 Steam Locomotive Trust.

Archive film of the 'A1s' in the 1960s is included, together with the Royal naming and all mainline runs up to the end of April 2009. Tornado's visit to the Barrow Hill LNER weekend and the NYMR in 2009 also feature.



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USA Tank stars at Warley show

The onset of the dark nights also signals that it is once again time for the annual Warley National Model Railway Exhibition, which this year will take place at Birmingham's National Exhibition Centre on 20th & 21st November.

The Exhibition will be held in Hall 5, and will be open from 10.00 each day until 18.00 on Saturday and 17.00 on Sunday. On offer will at be least 85 working model railway layouts covering a variety of scales, including five overseas entries. The 2mm Scale Association will be celebrating its half-centenary in a dedicated area of the exhibition, with six layouts on show.

Pete Waterman will be presenting his 'Building Leamington Spa' presentation in the DVD Cinema, which will include some of the models featured in the DVD on show. Additionally, there will be a display by the Waterman Railway Trust Junior Engineers Scheme.

There will be in excess of 150 trade stands and for those who are looking to improve their modelling skills, there will be the usual demonstrations of how things should be done, which are aimed to improve the techniques and skills of modellers with all levels of ability.

As in previous years, and in association with Bachmann Europe, there will be two limited edition tank wagons in 4mm scale on sale. They are in the livery of 'Brotherton' and will retail at £10 each. The Warley Charity Link has also commissioned a limited edition run of 250 sand wagons in the livery of 'Harry Whitehouse of Stourport'.

The centrepiece this year will be USA Class 0-6-0T No. 30064 that entered service with the Southern Railway in 1946. It has previously carried the numbers of USATC 1959, SR No. 64, and in BR service as S64. It is now owned by the Bluebell Railway, after a career with both the Southern Railway, and subsequently British Railways on shunting duties in Southampton Docks, and later Eastleigh Works.

Prices on the day are £11.00 (adult) and £8.00 (child) (£20.00 & £14.00 respectively for two days). For full details, refer to the website at www.thewarleyshow.co.uk.

▼ The two special edition wagons produced by Bachmann for Warley MRC. Both will be available at the show. Warley MRC

Duke of Gloucester heads inaugural public working to Cauldon Lowe

▲ The historic moment on 13th November when a passenger train once again climbed the 1-in-40 grade from Leekbrook Junction on the way to Cauldon Lowe. The last passenger workings were charter trains in the early 1990s, as the passenger service itself had been withdrawn by the LMS in 1935. The task of hauling the inaugural public working was given to BR Standard 8P Pacific No. 71000 *Duke of Gloucester* with Stanier 8F 2-8-0 No. 8624 providing assistance at the rear. The magnificent vista of the North Staffordshire Moorland provides a splendid backdrop. John Whitehouse

Great Central and Severn Valley announce 2011 diesel gala dates

The weekend of 14th/15th May will be special for the Great Central and near neighbours Great Central (Nottingham).

Both railways will be operating a joint diesel gala, with a bus connection between the two individual railways, which are separated by a mere several hundred yards and the Midland Main Line. Full details will be announced soon, but the prospect of a through journey from Leicester North to Ruddington, even if the middle bit is by road, will certainly fuel momentum for the project to 'Bridge the Gap'.

A three-day all-diesel event will take place on the Severn Valley Railway from 6th to 8th October. A diesel-only programme represents a departure from previous years, when a couple of steam-turns have been interspersed into the diesel diagrams on the gala Saturday. With the gala running from Thursday to Saturday, a normal all steam timetable will operate on Sunday 9th October.

Working 70-foot turntable donated to Swanage

A major infrastructure project, recently safeguarded in the Coalition Government's spending review, has indirectly benefited a heritage railway.

As part of the planned Crossrail scheme, which is due to burrow beneath London and provide a much needed cross-city rail link, the old Great Western Railway locomotive depot at Old Oak Common will need to be demolished. It has an operational 70-foot turntable, which has both manual cranking and electrical drive.

Built by Cowans, Sheldon of Carlisle, it was installed in 1953 and has been in use ever since. With the demise of Old Oak Common imminent, Network Rail has donated the turntable to the Swanage Railway, which will provide it with the ability to turn locomotives off incoming railtours, instead of the present system of a protracted main line 'light engine' working via Eastleigh. Its existing 50-foot turntable that can only accommodate non-tender engines is located at the throat of the locomotive depot just outside Swanage station and will be retained.

The Old Oak Common turntable has been dismantled by specialist engineers Beck & Pollitzer of Dartford, and was due to be transported to Swanage in late October. In expressing Swanage Railway's gratitude for this donation Chairman Peter Sills said: "There are not many 70-foot turntables left in the country, so this was a very rare opportunity".

Network Rail's Head of Community Rail, Jeremy Swift, commented that, "The donation of the turntable is in line with Network Rail's sustainability policy where we look for opportunities to re-use or recycle assets as appropriate when they are no longer required".

▲ 1902-built SE&CR 'C' Class 0-6-0 No. 592 approaches Horsted Keynes with a three-coach service on 6th November. **Gary Packer**

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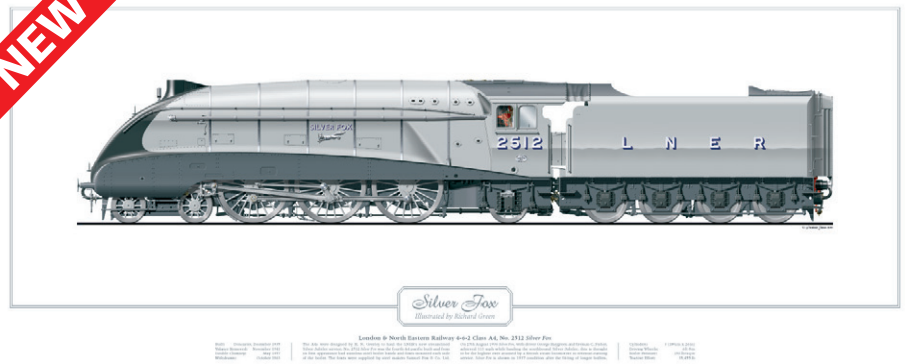

LNER 4-6-2 Class A4, No. 2512 *Silver Fox*

The print portrays the locomotive in 1937 condition after the fitting of longer buffers

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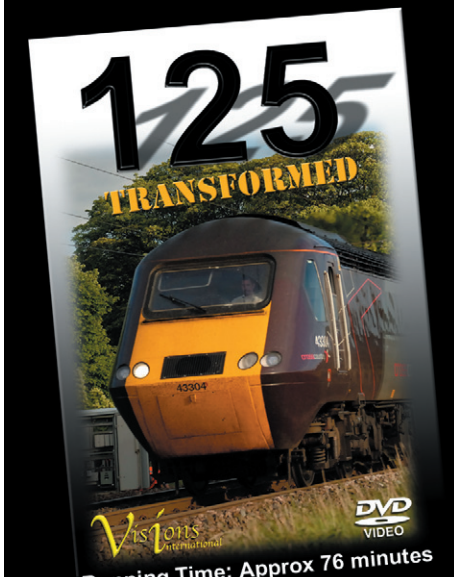

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On the operator front only FGW remain from 2006, these changes have resulted in new liveries for the 125 sets, providing even greater variety to an already fascinating period.

125 Transformed covers all this in detail, operator by operator, with summary graphics and a selection of quality footage to illustrate each one.

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GCR announces Banbury theme for January 2011 gala event

Four visiting engines and an autocoach are likely to provide a superb line-up for the Great Central Railway's Winter Gala, its first event of 2011.

The theme of the gala is Banbury in the late 1950s, allowing an exciting variety of motive power to take part. First of the three visiting locomotives are GWR 2800 class 2-8-0 No. 3850, travelling from the West Somerset Railway, and making its first trip away from its normal operating base. While the GCR has often hosted 2-8-0s from the other Big Four companies, this will be the first time its double track metals have been graced by a GWR example. The locomotive is expected to be painted into BR black livery in time for the event, the first time it has worn this colour scheme, and will make a natural pairing with the GCR's 16-ton mineral wagons.

The second visitor is GWR 4575 class 2-6-2T tank No. 5526 from the South Devon Railway. The locomotive will visit with an autocoach, while LMS 'Jubilee' 4-6-0 No. 5690 *Leander* is returning to the GCR for a winter visit - and finally, LNER K4 class Mogul No. 61994 *The Great Marquess* will make its final appearance at the GCR at the gala, following a successful extended visit that began in October this year.

Four locomotives from the GCR's home fleet will join the line-up, including GWR Hall 4-6-0 No. 4593 *Pitchford Hall*, with up to eight locomotives expected to be in steam in total during the three day event. Bill Ford, President of the Great Central Railway said, "As a key junction where region's overlapped, the Banbury theme gives us licence to showcase all sorts of classes. The GCR was of course connected to Banbury, allowing it to be used as a through route for cross-country excursion traffic, so it feels like a natural fit for one of our galas".

The Friday of the event is expected to see three locos in traffic with the full fleet deployed over the weekend. Details including timetables will be available on the GCR website closer to the event. A gala programme will also be available.

▲**On 6th November, GBRf Class 73/1 No. 73141** *Charlotte* **stands in front of 4VEP No. 3417 at East Grinsted, while Hastings unit No. 1001 waits to work a shuttle service across Imberhorne Viaduct on the northern extension. Gary Packer**

▼ **'A1' Pacific No. 60163** *Tornado* **crosses Brooksbottom Viaduct, on the East Lancashire Railway with the 14.20 service from Heywood on 7th November. Phil Sanderson**

▲ Two photographic charters with Ivatt 4MT 'Flying Pig' 2-6-0 No. 43106 on the Severn Valley Railway operated in mid-November. On 11th November, Ken Bailey organised the day, with participants donating to a cancer charity in memory of former SVR Marketing Manager, John Leech, instead of paying to join the charter. Here, the train makes a mock-departure from Highley. **John Whitehouse**

On the previous day, organised by Russ Hillier, the autumnal lighting conditions were superb, as No. 43106 climbs through Northwood Lane as it departs Bewdley (▲) catching the rays of the setting sun. Earlier in the day, the train is pictured at Foley Park Tunnel (▼). **Stuart Chapman/Fred Kerr**

LMS 'Jinty' Class 3F 0-6-0T No. 47279 ambles along the Worth Valley with a service from Keighley to Oxenhope on 28th October. The driver had just shut off the regulator on the approach to Oakworth station. **Will Jagger**

In superb autumn light, the 12.28 Penzance-Plymouth Night Sleeper ECS crosses Largin Viaduct, Cornwall, on 6th November, hauled by Class 57/6 No. 57604 *Pendennis Castle*.
Ron Westwater

An unidentified Silverlink-liveried Class 150/1 and FGW-liveried Class 158/8 head west through the Wylye Valley on 30th October. **Mike Ware**

Decades of change

The Flying Scotsman

To think of the highlights of the steam era is to think of the main lines, those that for many enthusiasts carried the superstars of the time - the likes of the 'Merchant Navys', the 'Kings', the 'Duchesses' and the 'A4s'.

It was the latter class of locomotive, together with the other classes of Gresley Pacifics that dominated the expresses of the time such as the 'Elizabethan', the 'Tees-Tyne Pullman' and the 'Flying Scotsman'.

The 'Flying Scotsman' has the distinction of being the first Anglo-Scottish express to receive a title, although when it commenced, its was the 'Special Scotch Express', receiving its current name in 1924.

Apart from a brief period during the 1914-18 War when it departed at 09.30, it has left from King's Cross at 10.00 every weekday morning since June 1862.

In the past six decades, motive power has been provided mainly by Peppercorn and Gresley Pacifics, followed by the 'Deltics', and latterly by HSTs and Class 91s.

◀ **A1 class Pacific No. 60156** *Great Central* **powers away from Copenhagen Tunnel on 29th June 1953, hauling the northbound 'Flying Scotsman' express, unusually at this time complete with a headboard. Brian Morrison**

▼ **The 'Flying Scotsman' for Edinburgh Waverley climbs Holloway Bank on 27th August 1948, hauled by Gresley A4 class Pacific No. 60029** *Woodcock*. **Frank Greygoose/BM Collection**

▲ **Climbing Holloway Bank from Copenhagen Tunnel on 17th May 1961, Class 55 'Deltic' No. D9000 hauls the northbound 'Flying Scotsman. The loco was later named** *Royal Scots Grey*.

▲ **The northbound 'Flying Scotsman' passes Belle Isle, between Gasworks and Copenhagen Tunnels, on 22nd March 1973, headed by what was then Brush Type 4 No. 1513, which later became Class 47/4 No. 47414 after the TOPS renumbering scheme was introduced.**

▼ **Between Huntingdon and St Neots, Class 43 powercar No. 43053** *County of Humberside* **is on the rear of the southbound 'Flying Scotsman' passing at speed between Offord Cluny church and the River Ouse on 31st March 1988.**

▼ **Class 91 No. 91005 (then named** *County Durham*) **powers through Welham Green on 8th August 2008, heading the northbound 'Flying Scotsman'. All: Brian Morrison**

15th November 2010

GCR 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 19.30. Contact the Secretary at paulandpauling@gearey.fslife.co.uk

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. Meeting commences at 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. Starts 19.30. Admission £3.

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 starts 19.30.

Welsh Highland Rly Soc. East Anglian Group
Black Bull Pub, High Stteet, Balsham, Cambridge, CB21 4DJ. 'Welsh Highland Bridges' by John Streeves. Starts 19.45. Admission £3. Contact 07971 130829 for further details.

19th November 2010

Great Western Society (Taunton)
Village Hall, Stoke St Mary, Nr Taunton. 'Somerset & Dorset Remembered' by Keith Barret. Starts 19.30. Contact 01923 334188 for details.

20th November 2010

Great Western Society (South West)
Parish Centre, Church End Road, Kingskerswell, Torbay. 'An Evening with Richard Croucher'. Starts 18.30. Contact 01803 336329 for details

22nd November 2010

RCTS (Brighton)
Brighton Railway Model Club Room, London Road Station, Shaftesbury Place, Brighton. AGM & Photo Competition. Meeting starts 19.30.

RCTS (Maidenhead)
Cox Green Community Centre, Highfield Lane, Cox Green. 'Railways of the Isle of Man' by Geoff Brockett. Meeting commences at 19.30

RCTS (Sheffield)
St Mathews Church Rooms, Carver Street, Sheffield. 'The Railway Companies and the Omnibus & Looking for Steam in the 1960's' by Alan Hardman & David Munday. Meeting commences at 19.30.

RCTS (Northampton)
Weston Favell Parish Hall,Booth Lane South, Weston Favell. 'BR Steam - The Last 8 Months; by Peter Fitton. Meeting commences at 14.00.

23rd November 2010

RCTS (Nottingham)
Nottingham Mechanics, 3 North Sherwood Street, Nottingham. 'On and Off the Footplate' by Bill Davies. Meeting starts at 19.30.

RCTS (Woking)
The Wheatsheaf, Chobham Road, Woking. 'Out and About' by Hugh Gould. Meeting commences at 19.00.

Tewkesbury YMCA Railway Sociey
YMCA, Church Street, Tewkesbury. 'Railways Around Wales' by Michael Clements, Meeting commences at 19.45.

24th November 2010

Basingstoke & District Railway Society
Wote St. Club, New Road, Basingstoke. 'Home and Abroad in 2010' by Ian Francis. Meeting starts at 20.00. Contact 01256 819401 for details.

RCTS (Chichester)
Council Meeting Room 2, County Hall, West Sreet, Chichester. '45 Years wandering with a Camera' by David Walker. Starts 19.30.

25th November 2010

RCTS (Preston)
Claremont Hotel, Blackpool Road, Preston. 'The 1980s Revisited' by Martyn Hilbert. Starts19.30.

Stevenage Loco Society
The Community Arts Centre, Roaring Meg Retail Park, London Road, Stevenage SG1 1XN. 'The Celtic Fringe' by David Mitchell. Starts 19.45. Contact 07803 046076.

26th November 2010

Great Central Railway Society (London)
The Exmouth Arms, 1 Starcross Steet, Euston, London NW12HR. 'European Railways' by Nick Lera. Starts 19.30. Contact 01525 372487 for details.

Great Western Society (North West Group)
St Hilda's Clubroom, Slater Street, Latchford, Warrington. 'Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway' by Noel Coates. Meeting commences at 19.30.

Great Western Society (Oxford)
Pauling Human Sciences Centre, 58 Banbury Road, Oxford. TBA. Starts 19.30.

Shropshire Rly Society
The Gateway, Chester Street, Shrewsbury. 'Chicago, Skips, Sheds and BR' by Mike Hemming. Starts 19.30. £3 Donation. Contact 01743 243295 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.

▼ **The Central Line's Rail Adhesion Train, converted from 1962 tube stock, passes through Hainault on 10th November. Kim Rennine**

27th November 2010

Bournemouth Rly Club
'All Purpose Room', Winton Methodis Comminity Centre, Alma Road/ Heron Court Road, Bournemouth. 'Quiz and Query Evening'. Meeting commences at 19.30. Admission £2. Contact Martyn Thresh at martyn.thresh@ntlworld.com for details.

RCTS (Merseyside, Chester & North Wales)
'Basford Hall (provisional)'. Contact Geoff Morris on 01244 376808 or at geoffreymorris@tiscali.co.uk for further details.

29th November 2010

RCTS (Sheffield)
St Mathews Church Rooms, Carver Street, Sheffield. 'An A to Z of Yorkshire's Transport; by John Holroyd. Meeting starts at 14.00.

30th November 2011

Tewkesbury YMCA Railway Sociey
YMCA, Church Street, Tewkesbury. 'Annual Photographic Competition. Meeting commences at 19.45.

1st December 2010

Stephenson Locomotive Society
Hayes Village Hall, Hayes Street, Hayes, Bromley. 'The Hill Railways of India' by Ian Blee. Meeting commences at 19.30. Contact the Secretary on 0208 289 9935 for further details.

2nd December 2010

Great Central Railway Society (Rotherham)
The Three Horseshoes, Bawtry Road, Wickersley, Rotherham S66 2BW. 'Members' Evening with Pie and Pea Supper. Starts 19.00. Contact Mick Hayes on 01709 820544 for details.

RCTS (Milton Keynes)
The Crown Public House, Market Square, Stony Stratford, MK11 1BE. 'Members Christmas Meeting'. 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. 'Members' Slides Evening'. Meeting commences at 19.30. A donation is requested. Contact Dr Peter Howell on 0131 334 5232 for further details.

Stephenson Locomotive Society
St John Ambulance Centre, Sandes Avenue, Kendal. 'Twixt Tyne and Tees' by J.Young. Meeting starts at 19.15. Contact the Secretary on 01539 720706 for further details.

3rd December 2010

Stephenson Locomotive Society
Settlement Centre, Union Street, Middlesbrough. 'Misc. Local Transport Nostalgia Pt 1 & 2'by Nick Carter. Starts 19.00. Contact 01642 313451 for further details.

4th December 2010

Stephenson Loco Society
The Friends Meeting House, Mount Street, Manchester. 'The Clapham Disaster' by Malcolm Roughly. Starts 14.00. Contact 0161 928 2461.

6th December 2010

North Yorkshire Moors Railway (Northallerton)
Northallerton Town Cricket Club, Farndale Avenue, Northallerton. Members' Evening & Christmas Social. Starts 19.30. Admission £1.50. Contact the Secretary, Ian McInnes on 01642 767233 for further details.

York Railway Circle
Archbishop Holgate's School, Hull Road, York YO10 5ZA. 'Main Line Steam in 2010' by Karl Jauncey & Dave Richards. Starts 19.30. Contact Robin Patrick on 01904 412232 or at locopatrick@aol.com for details.

7th December 2010

Gravesend Railway Enthusiasts Society
Emmanuel Baptist Church, Windmill Street, Gravesend DA12 1BB. GRES Christmas Social. Starts 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 18.00. Contact Stuart Smith at smithstuart@btinternet.com for details.

Locomotive Club of Great Britain (Bedford)
St John's Church Hall, St John's Street, Bedford. 'Engine Sheds Part A' by Chris Banks. Meeting commences at 19.30. Contact the Secretary on 01525 750149 for further details.

Monmouthshire Railway Society
Room LL1, UWCN, Allt-Yr-Yn Avenue, Newport, S.Wales NP20 5DD. 'Industrial Steam in S.Wales 1968-78' by Stanley Brow. Starts 19.30. Admission £3 non-members.

Southern Electric Group (South Hampshire)/ LRTA (Southern)
Eastleigh Railway Institute, Romsey Road, Eastleigh. 'Australia in the 21st Century' by David Cable. Starts 19.30. Admission £2. Contact the SEG Secretary, John Goodrich on 023 8067 0028 for further details.

Tewkesbury YMCA Railway Sociey
YMCA, Church Street, Tewkesbury. "Shorty' A Tribute to the late Derek Short' by Peter Skelton. Starts 19.45.

Weston super Mare Railway Society
Function Room, Conservative Club, Alexandra Parade, Weston super Mare. 'Evercreech to Burnham-on-Sea' by Terry Temlett. Starts 20.00. Contact Lionel Jones on 01934 628289 or at wsm1977rlysocy@talktalk.net for further details.

8th December 2010

Basingstoke & District Railway Society
Wote St. Club, New Road, Basingstoke. 'Steam in the British Landscape' by Steve Wright. Starts 20.00. Contact the Secretary on 01256 819401 for further details.

Bromsgrove Rly Club
St Godwalds Church Hall, Aston Fields, Bromsgrove. AGM Club Secretary Entertains. Meeting commences at 19.45. Contact Dave on 01527 873800 or Gordon on 05127873609 for further details.

Oxfordshire Rly Society
Seacourt Day Centre, Seacourt Road, Oxford OX2 9LD. 'Bumper Annual Film Show' by Alan Wilmott. Meeting commences at 19.30.

Stephenson Locomotive Society
YMCA, Bridge Street, Guildford. 'The Seven and a Quarter Inch GCR Then and Now' by Chris Bishop. Meeting commences at 19.30. Contact the Secretary on 01372 379216 for further details.

Swiss Railways Society (London)
The Model Railway Club, Keen House, 4 Calshot Street, London N1 9AT. 'Christmas Quiz'. Meeting commences at 19.00. Donation of £2 requested. Contact the Secretary, Ron Dawes on 020 8660 3532 for further details.

9th December 2010

Bath Railway Society
Bath Green Park Station Meeting Room, Bath. 'Pre 1968 Railways Around the UK' by Mike Dodd. Starts 19.30. Contact Kevin Plummer (evening) on 01225 312564 for details.

Continental Railway Circle
St Paul's Church Centre, Rossmore Road, Marylebone, London NW1 6NJ. 'Colorado Rails 1989' by Bob Stonehouse. Starts 19.15. Admission £2. Contact Adrian Palmer on 01932 850624 or at akpalmer@talktalk.net for further details.

Friends of the West Highland Lines
Partick United Free Church Hall, Thornwood Terrace, Thornwood, Glasgow. 'Tribute Night to the Late David Morrison' by Stuart Cameron. Starts 19.30. £1 donation.

Irish Railway Record Society
The Exmouth Arms, 1 Starcross Street, London NW1 2HR. 'Government Intervention: Gauge and Achill' by Tom Ferris. Starts 19.00.

Locomotive Club of Great Britain (St Albans)
United Reform Church, Watford Road, Chiswell Green, Nr St Albans. 'Forging a Railway: Archaeologists Investigate Stations & Railway Works' by Andrew Westman. Starts 19.30. Donation of £2 required.

Stephenson Locomotive Society
United Reform Church Hall, Mowbray Road, New Barnet. 'Bowling round with Bernie' by Bernie Holland. Meeting commences at 19.30. Contact the Secretary on 0208 368 6200 for further details.

Stevenage Locomotive Society
The Community Arts Centre, Roaring Meg Retail Park, London Road, Stevenage SG1 1XN 'Members' Photographic Competition 2010'. Starts 19.45. Admission £2. Contact the Treasurer on 07803 046076 or at alan.pitt@lineone.net for details.

10th December 2010

Altrincham Electric Railway Preservation Society
Altrincham Methodist Church Hall, Barington Road, Altrincham, Cheshire WA1 1HF. 'Steam Across the Rockies' by Tony Harrison. Starts 19.30. Admission £3, Members Free. Contact the Secretary, Andrew Macfarlane on 0161 928 9394 for further details.

Great Western Society (Swindon)
Lawn Community Centre, Guildford Avenue, off Windsor Road, Lawn. 'Christmas Meeting including Members' Slides'. Meeting commences at 19.30. Contact the Secretary on 01793 495976 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
In a world of modernisation, there is something to be said for heritage traction around semaphores! Class 31/4 No. 31459 passes Wrawby Junction on 4th November with a test train working. Richard Tuplin

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