Railway Herald

Issue 278 - 8th August 2011

The weekly railway enthusiasts' magazine

Railway Herald

Issue 278
8th August 2011

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John Whitehouse

London Midland previews new Turbostar fleet

London Midland's new Class 172/3 Turbostar was officially shown to the media and invited guests on 2nd August, when newly commissioned three-car Class 172/3 No. 172333 was displayed at Stourbridge Junction.

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Rail franchise timetable

The Transport Minister, Philip Hammond, has laid out the proposed timetable for the forthcoming franchise renewals.

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c2c support Southend bid

Essex-operator c2c has named one of its Class 357 EMUs *Southend city-on-sea*, in support of the town's bid to become a city.

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Front Cover Caption:

The preserved Crofton Beam Engine is pictured behind FGW Class 43 powercar No. 43030, on the rear of the 12.18 London Paddington to Taunton service on 27th July. Stuart Warr

Transport Minister sets out timetable for forthcoming rail franchises

In a statement on 4th August, the Transport Minister, Philip Hammond, said that the Government remains committed to a major reform of rail franchising that will benefit passengers and taxpayers alike.

He said that the reforms will create longer, less prescriptive franchises that will give the industry more freedom to innovate, address passenger needs, and more incentive to invest, while achieving the radical efficiency changes required for a sustainable lower cost railway.

The proposals will come into effect when the various franchises come up for renewal, and as part of his statement, the Minister laid out a comprehensive timetable for the re-letting of rail franchises.

Mr Hammond confirmed the previously announced date of December 2012 for commencement of the new InterCity West Coast franchise, with the Greater Western contract commencing in April 2013, given First Group's recent decision not to exercise its contractual entitlement to take up a three-year extension. Because of First Group's decision, the Government has delayed the letting of the InterCity East Coast franchise until December 2013, to avoid companies competing for more than one long-distance franchise at a time.

The new 15-year contract for the Essex Thameside franchise is due to commence in May 2013, and the new South Eastern franchise starting from April 2014.

Mr Hammond said that: "In light of the likely delivery timescales for Thameslink rolling stock, I judge it right to exercise my contractual entitlement to bring forward the start of a new franchise to September 2013. The franchise is likely to be shorter than 15-years, with a focus on managing services through the major Thameslink infrastructure upgrade. It would then be re-let at the end of the project".

To accommodate the changed dates for Thameslink and InterCity East Coast, the Greater Anglia franchise has been pushed back until July 2014, by exercising the 12-month extension that is included in the short franchise, currently being competed.

There is good news for First Keolis TransPennine Express, as its present franchise has been extended by up to three years, to conclude between April 2014 and May 2015. The Government says this flexibility will allow the start dates for the new Northern and TransPennine franchises to be aligned. Having both existing franchises end at the same date could allow for them to be combined, or split in different ways. Mr Hammond added that the "timescales outlined above will allow for proper consultation and consideration of the possibilities of a radical restructuring in the Northern/ TPE area". Such a radical restructuring could see the combining of Northern and TransPennine franchises, the combining of both franchises and then splitting services into two units - one East and one West of the Pennines. It could also, potentially see the abandonment of a TransPennine franchise entirely, with West Coast, North and South services being taken over by adjacent operators. How the Government intends to proceed on this subject will no doubt be watched closely by both the industry and regional stakeholders.

▲ **Class 70 No. 70012, which was dropped while being unloaded from the ship at Newport Docks is slowly making its way back to General Electric in the USA. The locomotive, which has now arrived back in America, is pictured in Norfolk Southern's Enola Yard, in Pennsylvania on 22nd July. James Kerr**

▼ **DBS/Euro Cargo Rail Class 66/0 No. 66191 passes Cossington on the Midland Main Line with Network Rail ballast boxes, bound for reloading at Mountsorrell on 28th July. Barry Rigby**

▲ Class 150 No. 150015 stands at Stourbridge Junction on 2nd August, alongside its replacement, Class 172 No. 172333. **All: John Whitehouse**

▲ The cab layout of the 172/3s. These units are the first of the Turbostar design to feature centre gangways.
▼ The standard class 2+2 seating.

London Midland debut new three-car Class 172/3 fleet

London Midland's new Class 172/3 Turbostar was officially shown to the media and invited guests on 2nd August.

Newly commissioned DMU No. 172333 was displayed at Stourbridge Junction, prior to undertaking a special return working to Leamington Spa.

The new units, which are currently being delivered from Bombardier at Derby, will displace the existing Class 150 fleet on the busy Worcester to Leamington Spa and Stratford-upon-Avon corridors, and in so doing, will bring along a range of benefits to passengers. In all, 27 new units have been ordered, 12 2-car Class 172/2s and 15 3-car Class 172/3s, representing a £93 million investment by Porterbrook Leasing, from whom the units will be leased by London Midland.

Of note is the uniform 2+2 seating, which contrasts with the current cramped 3x2 bench seating arrangement in the Class 150 fleet. As well as providing more space in the aisles, the new units now offer a larger area surrounding the doors that will greatly improve boarding and alighting at stations. Additionally, there is a dedicated wheelchair area, and a disabled-friendly toilet compartment, which also provides a baby changing facility.

The provision of selective door opening will enable the units to call at stations with restricted length platforms, as well as providing greater flexibility in timetable planning.

Ceiling-mounted digital displays keep passengers updated with travel information, which will be supplemented by automated audio announcements. London Midland point out that the units offer greater security with both internal and external CCTV cameras fitted.

The new Class 172/3 fleet, which are the first Turbostars to be fitted with external gangway connections, is scheduled to enter service in September.

c2c supports city bid for Southend

At Southend Central station on 5th August, Class 357/0 Electrostar No. 357003 was named *SOUTHEND city - on - sea*, in support of the campaign for recognition of Southend as a city.

The Mayor of Southend-on-Sea, David Norman and Ben Ackroyd, Engineering Director of c2c, jointly unveiled the plate. Ben Ackroyd said: "We are proud to support Southend's city bid. Southend is a vibrant place, attracting over 6 million visitors a year; it is a key leisure market for us and also an easy commute into London".

▼ **After the naming, at Southend on 5th August, Ben Ackroyd, Engineering Director of c2c, and the Mayor of Southend-on-Sea, David Norman, pose alongside the unit.** **Brian Morrison**

Edinburgh Festival brings extra late night trains

Additional late-night destinations are being introduced by ScotRail for this year's Edinburgh festival from 6th to 29th August.

The enhancements include services to Glasgow, Fife, Perth and North Berwick, and in addition Glasgow will have extra trains to Glasgow Queen Street, calling at Linlithgow, Polmont, Falkirk High, Croy and Bishopbriggs.

There will also be additional 'night' festival trains departing Edinburgh every day at 00.01, as well as an additional 00.30 on Saturday and Sunday mornings. Sunday morning services from Glasgow Queen Street will increase to half-hourly. Subject to Network Rail confirming a path for the train, festival fans from the west of Scotland will also be able to take advantage of an extra Friday and Saturday 'night' train from Edinburgh to Garscadden, departing at 00.05. Fife's late night Friday service to Inverkeithing will be extended as far as Kirkcaldy, departing Edinburgh at 23.52 on Fridays 12th to 28th August.

Perth will also benefit, with the 23.19 Edinburgh-Glenrothes with Thornton service being extended to the city, Mondays to Saturdays, from Saturday 5th August to Thursday 1st September. The extra late night weekend train to North Berwick introduced for last year's festival will again run this year, departing Edinburgh Waverley at 23.50 on Friday nights from 12th to 26th August and on Saturday nights from 6th to 27th August. The trains will call at Musselburgh Wallyford, Prestonpans, Longniddry and Drem.

For the Bank of Scotland Fireworks on 4th September, ScotRail is to provide extra trains from Edinburgh to Bathgate, Fife, North Berwick, West Calder and Glasgow Queen Street, and there will also be a special service from Newcraighall at 20.05, returning at 22.29.

Workers at Bombardier's Litchurch Lane site gain local support from Derby County football club

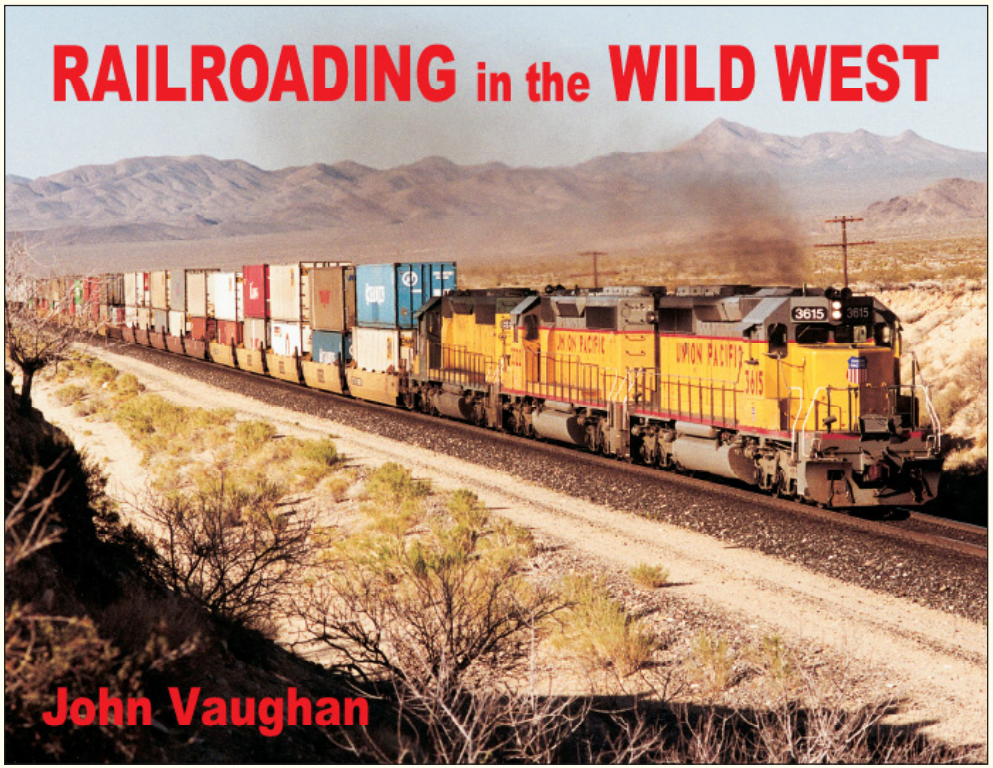
As has been well reported, the Government announced in June that the consortium led by Siemens, Germany, had beaten Bombardier Transportation's consortium in Derby to be the preferred bidder to construct 1,200 new carriages for the Thameslink route.

As a result 1,400 workers face redundancy in Derby and the future of Bombardier itself in the town is at risk, together with a total of well over 3,000 jobs in the supply chain. Backing Bombardier, Derby County Football Club supported the company on the opening day of the Championship season on 6th August, by having children of Bombardier workers as mascots for the game against Birmingham City, with Bombardier workers carrying a huge banner onto the pitch.

Also, players wore special shirts bearing the slogans 'Save Our Rail Industry' and 'Derby United' in the warm up to the game, and Derby Manager, Nigel Clough, dedicated his column in the programme to the campaign to save jobs at Bombardier.

The General Secretary of the Unite union, Len McCluskey, said: "The people of Derby have good reason to be proud of their football club and of their city for the huge support they have shown for the workers at Bombardier. Their stadium deserves its name Pride Park. This is a great football club supporting a vital local employer. There is an overwhelming sense of outrage at the Government's decision to turn its back on Britain's last train maker. David Cameron is doing a disservice to a world-class workforce, to Derby and to the future of train making in this country. It is time the Government stopped scoring own goals and backed UK workers".

Nigel Clough, Manager of Derby County Football Club, said: "The contract with Siemens won't be signed until the end of the year, so there is still time for Ministers to look again. They should think again about the effect on UK rail and manufacturing jobs, as well as training and apprenticeships in this country. The political arguments are for others to have; we are focused on what this means for our City and County and for the countless families affected by it. Hopefully commonsense can prevail".



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North West electrification moves forward

Work to complete the first stage of electrifying the line between Manchester Victoria and Liverpool Lime Street has been completed following a £3 million investment to rebuild three bridges between Eccles and Patricroft stations.

Albert Street bridge has reopened after a 20-week closure, with Old Wellington Road and Chadwick's footbridge expected to reopen in the next few days. This marks the completion of early work to modify key structures along the railway in the Salford area before overhead power cables are installed next year. Network Rail is still at an early stage with the electrification project, and over the next few months will be holding exhibition road shows along the route so that passengers and local residents can find out more about the investment. Further information on the work will be announced over the coming weeks.

Work on electrification between Manchester and Liverpool, via Newton-le-Willows, is expected to be completed by 2014, with the wider programme of work across the North West to be delivered by 2016.

▼ **London Midland has commenced testing and mileage accumulation of its new Bombardier-built Class 172/3 DMUs on the cross-country route between Worcester and Gloucester. Here, No. 172337 heads south through Abbotswood Junction on 30th July. Bruce Strong**

Network Rail says the construction of High Speed 2 line is vital for the British economy

Network Rail has submitted its formal response to the Government's HS2 consultation, saying that the building of the high-speed line from London to Birmingham and beyond is vital for Britain, for its economy and for its transport network.

David Higgins, Network Rail Chief Executive, said: "Parts of our national rail network are straining at the seams, and in little more than a decade our busiest, most important inter-city rail artery, the West Coast Main Line, will be unable to cope. We will be turning people and goods away and this will have a serious economic impact on the UK - we cannot allow this to happen.

A new high-speed line, capable of creating a massive boost in capacity and relieving the West Coast Main Line, is essential. HS2 must go ahead - it is vital for the economy and for the transport network. We recognise that the scheme has its opponents, but we are firmly of the view that the step-change increase in rail capacity that HS2 would provide is essential for the long-term wellbeing of the nation as a whole".

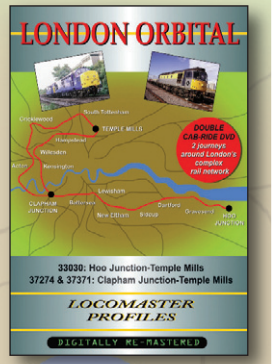
In 2008 Network Rail published its 'New lines Study' which contained a significant amount of analysis to understand the long-term capacity issues facing the railway.

The analysis concluded that building of HS2 would not only transform travel between our major cities, it would also release 13 train paths per hour on the existing West Coast, potentially transforming the commuting for communities not well served by today's services (e.g. Northampton, Milton Keynes). It would also release significant extra capacity for freight on Britain's busiest freight corridor.

Two digitally re-mastered cab-rides on one DVD

LONDON ORBITAL

This DVD comprises two fascinating cab rides from the mid-1990's around London's complex rail network. The first is from Hoo Junction to Temple Mills and the second is from Clapham Junction to Temple Mills. Both journeys were not possible by passenger train and were therefore filmed on freight trains - Mainline Freight's 7L07 infrastructure service. The views from the locomotive footplates include manual signal boxes and semaphore signals that have since disappeared, as well as the sites of some of the capital's closed stations and freight terminals. Both of London's last surviving heritage DMU services are also seen, as are several of the capital's 'freight only' routes.



The first journey is on board 33030 and features the booked route of the 7L07. This includes the view of the North London Line before it was overhead electrified and upgraded, as well as the section of route between Hackney Wick and Temple Mills, which has changed beyond all recognition following the construction of the 2012 Olympic village at Stratford. The second journey was filmed on 37274 during the six month period when the 7L07 was diverted away from its booked route over the North London Line while it was being upgraded. The revised route includes the 'freight only' routes from New Kew Junction to South Acton, Acton Wells to Cricklewood via Dudding Hill plus the obscure connecting chord from Carlton Road Junction to Junction Road Junction. Also features the pre-upgraded Tottenham & Hampstead Line from Upper Holloway to South Tottenham...and Temple Mills before it became a Eurostar depot!

LONDON ORBITAL is available on DVD priced at £19.95 (post free) from the address below. Alternatively you can pay by credit or debit card by calling us on our CREDIT CARD HOTLINE on 01753 545888.

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▶ Class 60 No. 60065 *Spirit of Jaguar* passes Uttoxeter 'light engine' while working from Toton TMD to Longport on 5th August. On arrival at its destination, the loco would collect Class 66 No. 66016 and haul it to Crewe IEMD. After many months in store and work inside Toton, this is a notable addition to the operational DB Schenker Class 60 fleet.

Richard Holmes

Booming times for East Coast as new First Class offering brings a 29% increase in passenger journeys

Following the introduction of its new timetable and First Class complimentary food and drinks service, East Coast has seen a major surge in First Class journeys – the biggest for five years –on its trains, fresh evidence emerging that more long-distance travellers are switching from 'planes to trains.

The train operator's own data shows that in the four weeks to 23rd July, 173,000 passenger journeys were made in First Class, a rise of 29% or 39,000 journeys compared with the corresponding four weeks in 2010.

The rise is the biggest on the East Coast route in the last five years, and one of the biggest since the end of British Rail in 1996.

Meanwhile, the number of First Class journeys made with East Coast is also up by 24% since May and First Class complimentary service started on 22nd May. This represents an additional 74,000 First Class journeys, compared with the same period last year.

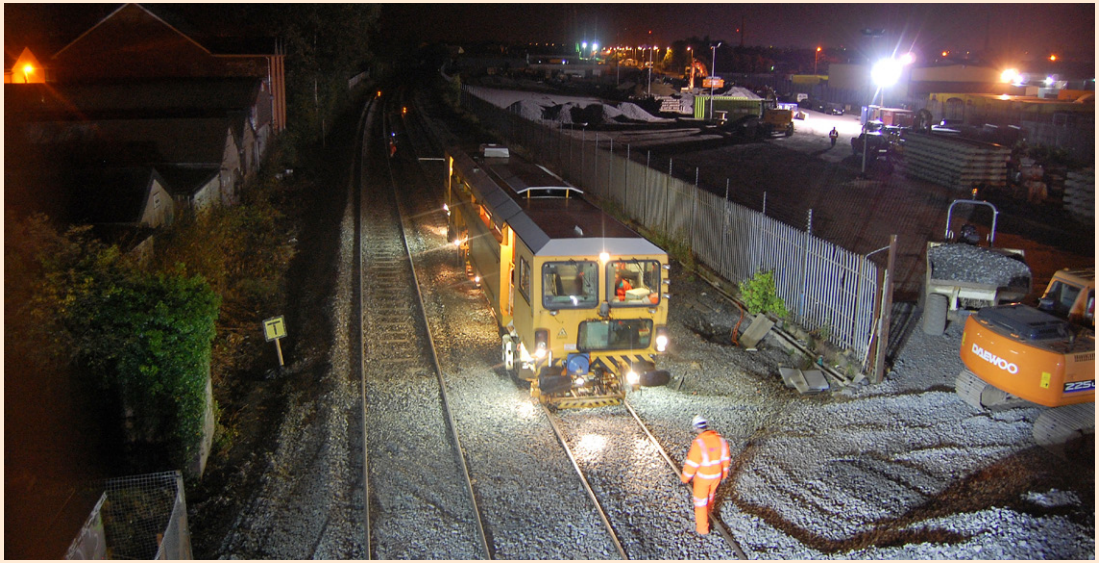
In contrast, East Coast First Class journeys grew by just 3% in the entire year from April 2010 to March 2011.

The Irish Angle

▶ The Class 450 working to Londonderry has now finished as a result of punctuality problems. The train ran up to 20 minutes late most days due to a variety of issues ranging from overheating to crewing problems. Here unit No. 459 powers the 11.57 Coleraine to Londonderry past Downhill Beach on 29th July. Of note is that the Portrush branch turn has also ended, the working now being diagrammed for a Class 3000 unit.

▼ Engineering work is pictured taking place overnight on 30th/31st July, between Adelaide and Belfast Great Victoria Street for the installation of a third line and crossover in connection with the new train care facility for the CAF Class 4000 railcars.

Both: Chris Playfair



Metro and Light Rail News

RATP Group takes over Metrolink

RATP Dev UK, an RATP Group subsidiary, has purchased Stagecoach Metrolink Limited.

The company was the Stagecoach subsidiary that held a 10-year concession to operate the Metrolink tram network in Manchester. RATP is now responsible for the operation and maintenance of the system until July 2017. All Metrolink staff are still employed by the company, and the network itself remains in the ownership of Transport for Greater Manchester.

The network currently carries around 21 million passengers a year, and Transport for Greater Manchester, the city's transport authority, has ambitious plans for further significant growth through line extensions and new lines.

The Metrolink transaction consolidates RATP Dev's development strategy in Great Britain. Following the company's takeover in March this year of London United, Bournemouth Transport Limited and Bath Bus Company, the company now has over 3,000 employees in the UK, and has a total annual turnover of around £200 million.

As a multimodal operator, RATP Group operates in the Paris region, where it has three lines, which will increase to seven by 2014. The Group transports 12 million passengers daily, and is ranked as the fifth largest urban transport operator globally. With 14 subway lines, two RER lines (A and B), three tram lines, 350 bus routes and both Paris airport links, the multimodal network operated by the RATP in the Paris region is the third largest in the world.

▼ One of the latest Metrolink trams, No. 3007 heads along Mosley Street in Manchester City Centre on 26th July, with a Victoria to St. Werburgh's Road service. **Richard Tuplin**

The News In Pictures

◀ Carrying the latest version of the Colas Rail livery, Class 66/8 No. 66849, previously Class 66/5 No. 66576, approaches Shildon Tunnel, while working from Stanhope to Derby with one of the wagons that has been branded with both Colas Rail and UK Coal logos. The naming ceremony for the locomotive was undertaken that morning at Stanhope station on the Weardale Railway, with pupils from Wolsingham School and Community College having selected the name to be used. *Wylam Dilly* being one of the locomotives built for the Wylam Wagonway. It survives today in the Royal Museum in Edinburgh and dates from 1815. **John Lewins**

◀▼ Why Southeastern, a company known for removing graffitied trains from service quickly, allowed Class 376 Electrostar No. 376010 to continue in service in this awful condition on a Sunday morning, is unknown. The 13.10 Dartford to London Charing Cross, via Bexleyheath, stands at London Bridge on 24th July - all five coaches were similarly affected. **Brian Morrison**

▼ Class 455/8 No. 455830 prepares to depart from its Wandsworth Road origin point on 13th July, forming the 'parliamentary' weekday service to Kensington Olympia. Two passengers wait to board. **Bill Turvill**

THE MIDLAND RAILEX EXHIBITION 2011

13TH–14TH AUGUST

THE GOLDEN VALLEY NARROW GAUGE RAILWAY
PRINCESS ROYAL DEPOT
OVER 20 MODEL RAILWAY LAYOUTS
MODEL RETAILERS & SUPPLIERS
SPECIALIST DEMOSTRATIONS
HERITAGE STEAM & DIESEL TRAINS
HMRS ARCHIVE & SHOP
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This 2 day event will take place at the Midland Railway at Butterley in Derbyshire on 13th & 14th August 2011. The Railex Exhibition will be open from 10:00 until 16:30 on both days.

•••

A large selection of model railway layouts of various gauges from N to G will be on display, featuring British, Continental and American covering steam, diesel and electric eras.

Over 20 layouts will be on show including Rowthorne, Widnes Vine Yard, Hoglington, Glenuig, Morton Bottom Yard and St Minions.

•••

A broad cross section of model retailers and suppliers.

•••

A large range of modelling and scenery demonstrations.

•••

Heritage steam and diesel trains will operate to an extensive timetable. The Golden Valley Narrow Gauge Railway will also be in operation.

•••

A real ale bar plus hot and cold refreshments will be available during Railex.

•••

Midland Railex will raise funds for the the Midland Railway Trust.

•••

All visitors for Railex must arrive at Butterley Station.

Ticket Prices including free parking:
Adult: £10.00
Concession : £9.00 (for over 60)
Child: £5.00
Family: £25.00
(2 Adults & up to 3 Children)

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The Midland Railway - Butterley
Butterley Station
Ripley
Derbyshire
DE5 3QZ

UK Steam & Modern Traction Railtour Listings

Monday 8th August 2011

Compass Tours	Carnforth Pool	(Crewe-)Liverpool LS-Blackburn-S&C-Carlisle-Shap-Preston-Liverpool LS(-Crewe)	
WCRC	Jacobite Pool	Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig and return	

Tuesday 9th August 2011

Railway Touring Co.	LMS Black 5	Preston-Chester-Rhyl-Llandudno Jct -Llanwrst-Blaenau Ffestiniog & return	
Railway Touring Co.	tbc	London Victoria-Basingstoke-Weymouth-Dorchester South-Woking-Waterloo	
WCRC	Jacobite Pool	Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig and return	
WCRC	SSE Pool	York-Normanton-Wakefield Westgate-Castleford-York-Scarborough & return	

Wednesday 10th August 2011

Spitfire Railtours	55022	Crewe-Warrington BQ-Carlisle-Crianlarich-Fort William & return	**Postponed**
Statesman Rail	tbc	Lancaster-Preston-Blackburn-Clitheroe-Settle Jct-S&C-Appleby-Carlisle & return	
Steam Dreams	tbc	London Victoria-Minehead & return	**Cancelled**
WCRC	Jacobite Pool	Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig and return (two trips)	
WCRC	SSE Pool	York-Normanton-Wakefield Westgate-Castleford-York-Scarborough & rtn	

Thursday 11th August 2011

UK Railtours	DBS 90	London King's Cross-Doncaster-York-Edinburgh Waverley	
WCRC	Jacobite Pool	Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig and return (two trips)	
WCRC	SSE Pool	York-Normanton-Wakefield Westgate-Castleford-York-Scarborough & rtn	

Friday 12th August 2011

Compass Tours	2xWCRC 47	Ayr-Carlisle-S&C-Helifield-Leeds-York & return	**Postponed**
Railway Touring Co.	6201	Crewe-Wilmslow-Stockport-Huddersfield-Castleford-York-Scarborough & return	
UK Railtours	DBS 90	Edinburgh Waverley-York-Doncaster-Peterborough-London King's Cross	
WCRC	Jacobite Pool	Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig and return (two trips)	

Saturday 13th August 2011

Pathfinder Tours	DBS Class 66	Swindon-Cheltenham Spa-Kidderminster-Derby-York & return	**Cancelled**
Pathfinder Tours	2xClass 20	York-Hebden Bridge-Guide Bridge-Marsden-York	**Cancelled**
Rail-Blue Charters	DBS Class 67	Enfield Chase-Skipton-Giggleswick-Bentham-Lancaster & return	**Cancelled**
Spitfire Railtours	50049 & 50044	Preston-Leeds-York-Berwick upon Tweed-Edinburgh & return	**Postponed**
Spitfire Railtours	50049 & 50044	Edinburgh Waverley-Forth Bridge-Thornton-Edinburgh Waverley	**Postponed**
Statesman Rail	Carnforth Pool	(Northampton-Lichfield Trent Valley-)Carnforth-Ulverston-Ravenglass & return	
Steam Dreams	60163	London King's Cross-Peterborough-Grantham-Doncaster-York & return	
Railway Touring Co.	6201	Crewe-Manchester Victoria-Preston-Shap-Carlisle-S&C-Manchester Victoria-Crewe	
Railway Touring Co.	SSE Pool	York-Leeds-Shipley-Keighley-Skipton-Hellifield-S&C-Appleby-Carlisle & return	
WCRC	Jacobite Pool	Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig and return	

Sunday 14th August 2011

Compass Tours	2xWCRC 47	Holyhead-Chester-Crewe-Bath Spa-Westbury-Salisbury & return	**Postponed**
Railway Touring Co.	tbc	Bristol TM-Bath Spa-Westbury-Castle Cary-Weymouth and return	
Railway Touring Co.	tbc	Liverpool Lime St-Warrington BQ-Holyhead & return	**Cancelled**
Railway Touring Co.	tbc	York-Leeds-Keighley-Hellifield-S&C-Appleby-Carlisle & return	**Postponed**
SRPS Railtours	2xWCRC 47	Aberdeen-Dyce-Elgin-Inverness-Plockton-Kyle of Lochalsh & return	
Torbay Express Ltd	6024	Bristol TM-Paignton-Kingswear & return	**Cancelled**
Vintage Trains	5043 or 4965	Birmingham SH-Henley in Arden-Stratford upon Avon-Dorridge-Birmingham SH (twice)	
WCRC	Jacobite Pool	Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig and return	

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

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

Railtour Spotlight

by John Whitehouse

Despite the high number of repeat itinerary options, the good old one-off tour survives, although this coming week is probably its lowest ebb with just three tours to discuss.

Before these are detailed, it should be noted that this coming week will see the first of the 'Welsh Mountaineer' charters from the Railway Touring Company, which is booked for 9th August. Only two are planned for this summer.

The only steam working employs Peppercorn A1 Pacific No. 60163 *Tornado* on a Steam Dreams 'Cathedrals Express' from London King's Cross to York on 9th August, which the 'A1' will work in both directions. The previously discussed weekday problems of providing steam charter paths out of King's Cross do not apply at weekends and therefore, this tour should run as advertised. In addition, *Tornado* enjoys a number of advantages over the more 'traditional' steam traction as it has the ability to maintain a higher average speed, it is not affected by some speed restrictions on the ECML, and is easier, and therefore quicker, to service, which along with the better water consumption reduces the number of stops to replenish its tender. All this, when added up, means that the engine can operate on much tighter-timed itineraries than other steam locomotives.

Also heading north from London King's Cross, but two days earlier than Steam Dreams, will be UK Railtours with a fully booked two-day trip to Edinburgh for the Military Tattoo. As the journey is along the East Coast Main Line throughout and is fully 'under the wires' it should be electrically-hauled, no doubt with a DBS Class 90. Outward the train also picks up at Stevenage, Hitchin and Peterborough, and returns the following day, arriving back at King's Cross just before 21.00.

The final 'one-off' working for the period under review is in the North of Scotland, with a SRPS charter to Plockton and Kyle of Lochalsh, which commences from the Granite City of Aberdeen and picks up at Dyce, Inverurie, Huntly, Keith and Elgin. West Coast traction will feature.

Ups & Downs

■ The 'Waverley' charters from York to Carlisle, via Skipton, that are booked to run on 28th August and 3rd September, have been cancelled as a result of engineering work. Also not running, although due to "operational problems", is Railtour Touring Company's 'North Wales Coast Express' excursion from Liverpool Lime Street to Holyhead on 14th August.

■ Major disappointment for Rail-Blue Charters ensued on 4th August, when the difficult decision to postpone the 'Mark Honey Memorial Train' was taken. The train was booked to be hauled by the ACLG electrics Nos. 86101 *Sir William A. Stanier FRS* and 87002 *Royal Sovereign* from London Euston to Glasgow Central. Unfortunately, a problem with the only available Kitchen Car, that could not be rectified in time, resulted in the train being postponed. RBC say that the decision was not taken lightly and that other options and other vehicles were looked at to allow the train to run, but for a variety of reasons none of these were viable alternatives. A new date, hopefully within the next few weeks, will be announced shortly. The decision comes as a bitter blow to the company - Mark was one of the Directors until his untimely death due to cancer shortly before Christmas last year, and the tour, which was well filled, holds a special place in the heart of those involved with the company and many of the passengers on-board.

LMS 'Black 5' No. 44932 works hard past Blea Moor signal box on 3rd August, on the climb to Ais Gill, with Statesman Rail's northbound 'Fellsman' charter from Lancaster to Carlisle. **Paul Braybrook**

On 3rd August, SR Merchant Navy Pacific No. 35028 *Clan Line* **climbs past Freshford with the return Bristol Temple Meads to London Victoria leg of a VSOE charter.**
Stuart Warr

GWR 'Hall' Class No. 4965 *Rood Ashton Hall* **powers 'The Shakespeare Express' from Stratford-upon-Avon to Birmingham Snow Hill through Dorridge on 31st July. Ken Brunt**

Operated by Torbay Express Ltd, the 'Bath Spa Express' on 3rd August, had motive power provided by BR 'Britannia' Pacific No. 70000. Here the Poole to Bristol Temple Meads working leaves the dark chambers of Twerton Tunnel behind as it approaches Bath Spa. **Stuart Warr**

LMS 'Black 5' No. 44871 climbs away from Glenfinnan with 'The Jacobite' on 30th July.This was the train's second attempt to get away from Glenfinnan, the locomotive having come to a stand on the first attempt. **Barry Martin**

Locomotive movements and forthcoming gala bring a busy period for Chasewater Railway

The Chasewater Railway has a new arrival, 1953 Hunslet 0-6-0ST No.3783 *Darfield No.1*, **which has arrived for an extended stay on loan by kind agreement of its owner.**

It has been delivered by road from its regular base on the Llangollen Railway, and is now planned to be included in the upcoming September Gala, alongside the home fleet. Long-time resident Andrew Barclay 0-4-0ST works No. 1964 has been sold by its current owner, and has now undertaken an annual boiler exam before moving to its new new home, which is understood to be the Lincolnshire Wolds Railway.

Also successfully passing its steam test is 1909-built Hawthorn Leslie 0-4-0ST No. 2780 *Asbestos*, which can now continue in service until its 10-year ticket runs out in January 2012. The Chasewater's upcoming industrial gala may be an ideal time to see it in action before it is retired for overhaul in the new year.

The prototype Brush Bagnall LD1 0-4-0 diesel electric has had its engine successfully restarted at the Chasewater Railway, after undergoing a major overhaul, and work will now progress on reassembling the rest of the loco before it is repaint.

The gala on 10th/11th September will feature all the available home fleet steam and diesel locomotives, including the recently returned to steam RSH 0-6-0T No. 7684 *Nechells No.4* and the centenary-celebrating Andrew Barclay 0-4-0ST No. 1223 *Colin McAndrew*, subject to boiler-stay repairs having been completed in time. There will be an intensive passenger service, demonstration freight and brakevan rides, and the recently accredited Museum will be open.

▲ **The driver of BR Standard 9F 2-10-0 No. 92203** *Black Prince* **leans out to see if Kelling Halt is clear, as the locomotive heads the 14.15 North Norfolk Railway service from Sheringham on 2nd August. The '9F' is currently operating with the BR1B tender from Caprotti Class 5MT No. 73129, as its own is under repair. Ian Williams**

King Edward II unavailable for SVR and GCR galas

After a successful period of running-in on the Mid-Norfolk Railway, the blue 'King' No. 6023 *King Edward II* **is due to arrive back at its home base of Didcot Railway Centre on 10th August.**

During its stay in East Anglia, it operated for 22 days and ran 1,822 miles, successfully completing all that it had been sent to do. Mechanically the engine passed with flying colours, but a few snags have shown-up that require rectification before the locomotive can re-enter traffic.

Unfortunately, one of the issues is a small oil pipe into the centre driving wheel axle box underkeep, which has been fouled by being hit by a spoke that will necessitate the centre driving wheel set having to be dropped out to achieve the repair.

As a result of this, the Great Western Society has announced that the locomotive will not be available for its planned appearances at the Severn Valley and Great Central galas this autumn. It is hoped that attendance at a similar event in due course can still be arranged.

King Edward II will be on show for the GWS 50th Anniversary weekends on 10th/11th and 17th/18th September, and it is hoped that it will be in steam.

Aside from the repairs mentioned above, work continues on the 'King' to allow it to make its main line debut next year.

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Which heritage railway is 22 miles long, operates scheduled services over 16 miles and will be 41 miles long when fully restored?

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www.wensleydalerailway.com - see Share Offer

Check out our new High Definition film channel on YouTube (20 films soon to be available on BluRay including our first 3D film)
www.youtube.com/user/RailwayWensleydale

Join the Wensleydale Railway Association
www.wensleydalerailwayassociation.com/Membership.html

Steam at the Wensleydale Railway
www.wensleydalerailway.com/html/steam_2011.html

Help us to reconnect the Settle & Carlisle to the East Coast Main Line (Garsdale to Northallerton = 41 miles) by joining our new End of the Line Legacy Club
www.wensleydalerailway.com - see End of the Line Legacy Club

Invite one of our directors as a guest speaker with film presentation
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Yorkshire's secret railway
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Isle of Wight Steam Railway outshops LB&SCR coach in BR crimson livery

In a surprise move, the Isle of Wight Steam Railway has returned a passenger carriage to traffic in unlined British Railway's crimson livery.

This is the first time in its 40-year history that the Railway has presented a carriage in such a livery. Originally built in 1924 to London, Brighton & South Coast Railway design, the composite bogie coach No. S6349 went into the IW Steam Railway's workshops in early summer for remedial work to its panelling, and while there the decision was made to undertake a full repaint and to present the carriage in the livery in which many such vehicles operated on the Island's 55 miles of railway during the 1950s.

The Railway's Carriage & Wagon Supervisor, Gary Walker, said: "This was an unmissable opportunity for our railway to complete an early 1950's train. Our railway's flagship locomotive No 24 *Calbourne* is currently painted in very early 1950's condition and runs with bogie coaches carrying both full Southern malachite green and the later simplified British Railways version. Adding the crimson vehicle makes up a set that accurately portrays the period around 1950 when trains of mixed livery carriages ran on the Island".

The IW Steam Railway had originally planned to out-shop two carriages in red over the forthcoming autumn and winter period, one in lined and the second in the slightly later unlined condition. However, a need to return the vehicle to traffic for the busy summer season has resulted in the decision to represent the unlined crimson livery on No. S6349.

Former South Eastern & Chatham brake third, No. S4145, is still on schedule for its repaint in the autumn. An ex-Southern Railway passenger luggage van, is also being restored and repainted red but will represent the Mainland shade in which it was first transferred in October 1950.

The newly out-shopped carriage has now returned to service. It is expected to feature as part of normal service trains throughout the summer and will also be in traffic during the Steam Railway's 'Celebration of Island Steam' on 24th & 25th September.

◀ **LB&SCR coach No. 6349 stands in the Isle of Wight Steam Railway's Carriage & Wagon workshop gleaming in its new unlined British Railway's crimson livery on 3rd August, prior to being outshopped and returned to traffic for the summer season. John Faulkner/ IWSR**

Bomb disposal team called to Swanage Railway

An Army bomb disposal team was called in by the Swanage Railway after potentially dangerous Victorian explosives, thought to be 126 years old, were found in a railway cutting at Corfe Castle.

It is believed that the unexploded gunpowder blasting charge dated from 1884 when railway navvies were constructing a cutting through the chalk rock of Challow Hill, part of the Purbeck Hills. The late 19th century work was part of the two-year construction of the 10-mile branch line from Wareham to Corfe Castle and Swanage by the Victorian Swanage Railway Company.

A member of the Swanage Railway's track maintenance gang made the discovery of the unexploded gunpowder blasting charge after heavy rain on 4th August. Measuring three inches wide and one inch deep, the unexploded charge was spotted in the side of the chalk rock cutting some five feet off the ground.

Both the police and the Army bomb disposal team from the Royal Logistics Corps decided it was safe enough to allow passenger trains to pass through the cutting every 40 minutes at a reduced speed of five miles per hour. The unexploded gunpowder charge was made completely safe between passing trains during a 90-minute operation.

Swanage Railway Infrastructure Manager, Alistair Hall, said: "It's not every day that you come across a potentially explosive relic of the Victorian railway builders. It's really incredible and amazing the unexploded Victorian gunpowder blasting charge has been in the side of the railway cutting for 126 years without anyone noticing. Between the opening of the branch line in 1885 and the end of the British Rail line in 1972, when the tracks were torn up for scrap, hundreds of thousands of trains have run past the spot where these Victorian explosives were found. Lots of walkers have also used the disused railway cutting between 1972 and the rebuilding of the railway line through Corfe Castle, which reopened to passengers back in 1995. Throughout all those years, nobody noticed the Victorian explosive charge".

Diesel and steam action at Butterley for exhibition

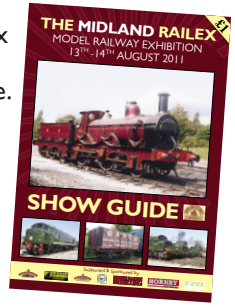
The Midland Railway-Butterley will be the hosts for Midland Railex, a model railway exhibition taking place on 13th/14th August.

The event will see a number of layouts on show covering 2mm to 7mm, supported by trade stands and demonstrations. A 32 page A4-size colour Show Guide is available from Butterley station for £1.00, with proceeds going towards the Swanwick station fund.

The guide contains details of all layouts, traders, exhibitors, demonstrations and societies. Also included is a site map that shows visitors how to find their way around the site and the six main show buildings.

A special limited edition 'OO' gauge wagon has also been produced by one of the event sponsors, Bachmann, which will be on sale.

The standard gauge line will be in operation throughout the weekend, and purchase of the Railex ticket provides free travel on the standard gauge line.



Locos in use, subject to availability, should be drawn from Class 20s Nos. 20048 and 20227, Class 25 No. 25321, Class 127 DMU and LMS 'Jinty' No. 47324.

▼ **The Gas Turbine locomotive, No. 18000, returned to the Great Western Main Line for the first time in many years on 29th July, when it was moved the short distance from Didcot Yard to the Railway Centre by the resident DB Schenker Class 08. The locomotive is to be externally restored back into black livery, and will be handed over to the custodianship of the Great Western Society on 10th September. Frank Dumbleton**

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Diesel and steam action in the Dee Valley

▶ The crew of Type 3 No. 6940 (later to become TOPS Class 37 No. 37240) acknowledge the waves from the footplate of GWR 2800 Class No. 3802 as they pass at Deeside Halt on 23rd July. **Peter Sikes**

▼ A week later and the railway held its yearly 1960s weekend, which featured GWR 'Manor' No. 7822 *Foxcote Manor* in a very unkempt state, complete with appropriate slogans on its smokebox and tender. Here, it runs around at Llangollen on 31st July, ready for the scrap train to Barry, or in this case, Carrog!

▼▶ The safety valves lift as LMS 'Black 5' 4-6-0 No. 44806 departs Berwyn on 30th July, with a service to Carrog, complete with the headcode of 1T57 on the front, despite being somewhat off route for the last steam working! A nice touch for a 1960s weekend all the same.
Both: **Frank Richards**

Bringing back memories of the past at Threlkeld Museum

◀ **The Quarry and Mining Museum at Threlkeld in Cumbria, was host to a trio of 'Quarry' Hunslet locomotives over the weekend of 30th/31st July, joining the resident Bagnall No. 2135 on a series of trains throughout the weekend. On 30th July, No. 2135** *Sir Tom* **departs from Inner Quarry yard with a demonstration freight for Middle Quarry yard.**

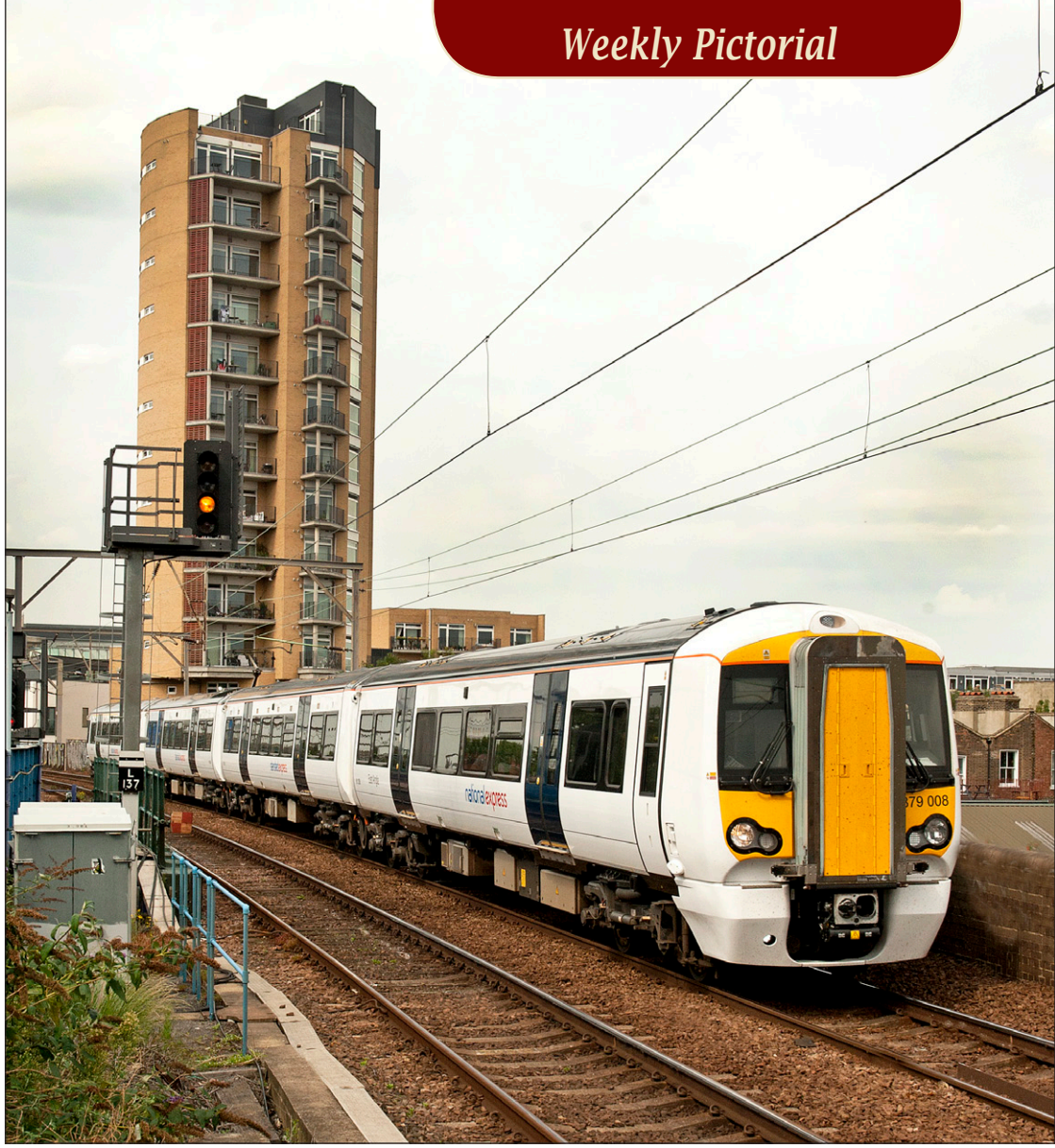
▼ **Later that morning,** *Irish Mail* **runs into Middle Quarry yard after taking water from the tank in the front of the workshop facility.**

◀▼ **The same afternoon, two locomotives of the same basic design, but years apart, leave the Middle Quarry yard with a demonstration freight. Piloting the train is** *Irish Mail*, **built in 1903, while acting as the train locomotive is the newer** *Statfold*, **built 102 years later in 2005!**

All: Fred Kerr

DBS Class 60 No. 60011 puts in an appearance on the Jarrow to Lindsey Oil Refinery discharged tanks on 3rd August, pictured approaching Copmanthorpe, south of York. **Paul Braybrook**

BR blue-liveried Class 31/1 No. 31106 passes Churchdown, near Cheltenham, on the cross-country route with the 15.59 Derby RTC to Bristol Temple Meads test working on 2nd August. **Dave Hopkins**



▲ Class 379 Electrostar No. 379008 passes London Fields station on 2nd August, forming the 15.00 'Stansted Express' service from Stansted Airport to Liverpool Street. **Brian Morrison**

◀ Eurostar Class 373 power-car No. (37)3008 *Waterloo Sunset* stands at the bufferstops looking towards the Olympic rings, after arriving at London St Pancras International with the 18.50 service from Brussels Midi on 27th July. In normal Eurostar fashion, classmate No. 3007 at the other end of the rake is similarly adorned with the same name. The set is also showing off not only the latest Eurostar branding, but also the London 2012 Olympic badge. **Antony Guppy**

After the almost total withdrawal of the class, DRS has reinstated several members of its Class 20/3 fleet, two of which, Nos. 20308 and 20309, depart from Dungeness on 3rd August with a flask working for Willesden. **Jonathan Makepeace**

2nd August 2011

Gravesend Railway Enthusiasts Society
Emmanuel Baptist Church, Windmill Street, Gravesend, DA12 1BB. 'Across the Pond - USA' by John Rayment. Meeting commences at 19.45. Contact Bob Poole on 01474 326232 for further details.

North East Essex Railway Association
1st Floor, The Community Centre, The Triangle Centre, Frinton-on-Sea. 'Railways in Argentina' by Steve Cobb. Meeting commences at 19.45. Admission £1.50. Contact Roger Harvey on 01255 677165 for further details.

Weston super Mare Railway Society
Function Room, Conservative Club, Alexandra Parade, Weston super Mare. 'Members' Slides'. Starts 20.00. Contact the Chairman, Lionel Jones on 01934 628289 for further details.

8th August 2011

Lincoln Railway Society
St Hugh's Church Hall, Harewood Crescent, North Hykeham, Lincoln LN6 8JG. 'Railway Oddities' by David Ventry. Starts 20.00 All welcome £3 Admission. Contact 01522-705365 for further details.

Southern Electric Group (Sussex)
Deall Room, Southwick Community Centre, Southwick. 'Surprise Evening' by Redmore Church & Peter Jones. Starts 19.30. £2 Donation. Contact Bruce Cakebread on 01273 462094.

9th August 2011

Abergavenny and District Steam Society
Upper Room, The Hen and Chickens, Flannel Street, Abergavenny. 'The Withered Arm' by Michael Clemens. Starts 20.00.

Meon Valley Loco Society
St. Peters Church Hall, Free Street, Bishops Waltham, Hampshire. 'My life in Narrow Gauge' by Graham Morris. Starts 20.00. £2 Admission. All welcome. Contact John Barrowdale on 02392 640951 for further details.

10th August 2011

Basingstoke & District Railway Society
Wote Street Club, New Road, Basingstoke RG21 7NG. 'Indian Hill Railways' by David Brace. Starts 20.00. Contact the Secretary on 01256 819401 for further details.

Permanent Way Institution (Glasgow)
Technical Visit - Edinburgh Tram.

15th August 2011

GCR Society (Spinkhill)
The Angel Hotel, 26 College Road, Spinkhill, Sheffield S21 3YB. 'The Jubilees' by Bob Goodman. Starts 19.30. Contact Frank Greaves on 01909 473927 for further details.

18th August 2011

Barrow Hill Engine Shed Society
Roundhouse Lecture Theatre,Barrow Hill Depot. 'After the Blues - A Special Brew' by Peter Crawley. Starts 19.30. £2 Admission. Contact beardspaul@aol.com for details.

19th August 2011

GW Society (Taunton)
Village Hall, Stoke St.Mary, nr Taunton. 'Members' Slides'. Starts 19.30. Contact Peter Triggs on 01823 334188 for further details.

24th August 2011

Basingstoke & District Railway Society
Wote Street Club, New Road, Basingstoke RG21 7NG. 'The GCR in the First World War' by Martin Bloxsom. Starts 20.00. Contact 01256 819401 for further details.

25th August 2011

Stevenage Loco Society
The Community Arts Centre, Roaring Meg Retail Park, London Road, Stevenage SG1 1XN. 'A Holiday Trip to Cornwall' by Ron White. Starts 19.45. Admission £2. Contact the Treasurer on 07803 046076.

1st September 2011

GCR Society (Sheffield)
The Harlequin, 108 Nursery Street, Sheffield S3 8GG. TBA. Starts 19.30. Contact Ken Grainger on 0114 254 0275 for further details.

Permanent Way Institution (York)
Marriott Room, York Central Library, Library Square, York. 'The Tanfield Railway' by Alan Thompson. Starts 20.00. Contact Ken Aiston on 07787 512227 or at kaistonyork@btinternet.com for further deals.

RCTS (Milton Keynes)
The Crown, Market Square, Stony Stratford. 'Railway along the North Wales Coast - Part 1' by David Scudamore. Starts 19.30.

2nd September 2011

RCTS (Bristol)
St Peters Church Hall, Church Road, Filton. 'Railway Journeys in Art' by Richard Furness. Starts 19.30.

Stephenson Loco Society
Mining Institute Lecture Theatre, Neville Hall, Westgate Road, Newcastle. 'A Year in the Life of a Rly Enthusiast - 1978' by Malcolm Paul. Starts 19.00. Contact 01434 688946.

5th September 2011

RCTS (Ashford)
The Elwick Club, Church Road, Ashford. 'The Bluebell Railway 1960 to 2010' by Gerald Siviour. Starts 19.30. Contact the Secretary at southeast@rcts.org.uk for details.

RCTS (Birmingham)
Christ Church Community Hall, Burney Lane, Ward End, Birmingham. 'Swiss Railways - The BLS and its Branches' by Brian Hutton. Starts 14.00.

Stafford Rly Society
St Leonards Social Club, St Leonards Avenue, Stafford. '1980s Somerset Insider' by Michael Mensing. Starts 19.30. Contact 01785 840622 for details.

6th September 2011

Gravesend Railway Enthusiasts Society
Emmanuel Baptist Church, Windmill Street, Gravesend, DA12 1BB. 'AGM'. Starts 19.45. Contact 01474 326232.

Locomotive Club of Great Britain (Bedford)
The Kings Arms, St Mary's Street, Bedford, MK42 0AS. 'Nth Wales Coast Part 1' by David Scudamore. Starts 19.30. £1 Admission. Contact B.Cross on 01525 750149 for details.

Permanent Way Institution (Wessex)
The Rose and Crown, Columbo Street, Waterloo, London 'Current Permanent Way Issues in the South' by Bob Hazell. Starts 18.00. Contact Richard Workman on 01426 645771.

RCTS (Merseyside, Chester and Nth Wales)
'Observation at Carlisle and Annan'. Contact Alan Turton on 01606 854227 for details.

RCTS (Watford)
St. Thomas's United Reformed Church, Langley Road, Watford. 'That Was the Year that Was - 1970' by Geoff Plumb. Starts 19.30.

Southern Electric Group (South Hampshire)
Eastleigh Railway Institute, Romsey Road, Eastleigh. 'Trams & Narrow Gauge Steam in East Germany 1988' by Martin Petch. Starts 19.30. Contact John Goodrich on 02380 670028.

Weston super Mare Railway Society
Function Room, Conservative Club, Alexandra Parade, Weston super Mare. 'The Southern Around Nationalisation' by Arthur Turner. Starts 20.00. Contact Lionel Jones on 01934 628289 for further details.

7th September 2011

GW Society (Bristol)
BWAW, 589 Southmead Road, Filton, Bristol BS34 7RG. '140 Years of Westinghouse Signalling' by Tim Maynard. Starts 19.45. All Welcome. Contact the Secretary on 01454 323230 for further details

Permanent Way Institution (Edinburgh)
The Scots Guards Club, 2 Clifton Terrace, opposite Haymarket Station, Edinburgh. 'Haymarket North Tunnel - Track and OHL Works' by Greg McMillan and Ross Nelson. Meeting starts 18.00. Contact Alan Morrison on 07834 507497 for further details.

Permanent Way Institution (Thames Valley)
Network Rail RSAR Site Office, 80 Caversham Road, Reading. 'Value Engineering' Speaker TBA. Starts 17.45. Contact the Secretary, Malcolm Pearce on 07967 667019 or at malcolm.pearce@bbrail.com for further details.

Warwickshire Railway Society
Lamp Tavern P.H., Barford Street, Highgate, Birmingham B5 6AH. 'Large Format Miscellany' by Jim Bodfish. Starts 19.30. Contact Don Taggart on 01746 710676 for details.

8th September 2011

Bath Railway Society
Bath Green Park Station Meeting Room, Bath. 'The Engines of War' by Christian Wolmar. Starts 19.30. All welcome. Contact Kevin Plummer (Evenings) on 01225 312564 for details.

Should your society information be listed on this page?

If so, then please email the details to the editor, remembering to include the date, starting time and location, together with details of the event, speaker and entrance charges if applicable. It is not necessary, but helpful to people, if you can also include a contact name and phone number/email address that can be published.

Railway Herald reserves the right to edit details entered in this section, which may also be displayed on our online events diary. The information is believed to be correct at the time of publication.

Web Links
Links to the various society websites can be found by clicking here. Is yours missing? Send the details to the editor.

▼ Class 40 No. D335 stands at Heywood on 30th July, piloting Class 37/9 No. 37901. This was the '40s' first run in traffic since May 2009. It has recently had £30,000 spent to repair the bogies at HNRC,Barrow Hill. Mark Jopson

Continental Rly Circle
St.Paul's Church Centre, Rossmore Road, Marylebone, London NW1 6NJ 'Steam in Turkey' by Ted Talbot. Starts 19.15. Admission £2. Contact Adrian Palmer on 01932 850624 for details.

Grantham Rly Society
ChristChurch Hall, Castlegate, Grantham. 'Capturing the Present and Recreating the Past' by Jason Cross. Starts 19.30. Admission £2. Contact Phil Mason on 01476 407569 for further details.

PW Institution (Croydon & Brighton)
Mott MacDonald House, Sydenham Road, Croydon CR0 2EE. 'Sussex Route Updates' by Mark Ruddy. Starts 17.45. Contact Martin Cresswell on 07815 968245 for details.

PW Institution (Manchester & Liverpool)
Ove Arup Offices, St James Building, Oxford Street, Manchester. 'Floating Slab Track' by Andrew Cunningham. Starts 13.00. Contact the Secretary, Rob Cummings on 07798 858784 or at rob.cummings@networkrail.co.uk.

PW Institution (North Wales)
The Town Crier Inn, City Road, Chester. 'Lineside. Off Track Technology - Existing and Future Practices' by Neil Strong. Starts 18.30. Contact the Secretary, Lynne Garner on 07771 672274 or at lynne.garner@networkrail.co.uk for details.

Permanent Way Institution (Sheffield & Doncaster)
Rutland Arms, Brown Street, Sheffield, S1 2BS. 'Tram/Train Initiatives' by Tim Kendall. Meeting commences at 18.15. Contact the Secretary, Vivek Vilay on 07763 724259 for further details.

9th September 2011

Great Western Society (Swindon)
Lawn Community Centre, Guildford Avenue, off Windsor Road, Lawn, Swindon SN3 1JE. 'The G.W.Railmotor - No. 93' by Peter Jennings. Starts 19.30. All welcome. Contact the Secretary on 01793 495976 for further details.

Shropshire Railway Society
The Gateway, Chester Road, Shrewsbury. 'Steam in Central England' by Alan Sainty. Meeting commences at 19.30.

10th September 2011

Bournemouth Rly Club
Winton Methodist Community Centre, All Purpose Room, Junction of Alma Road & Heron Court Road, Winton, Bournemouth BH9 1DE. 'The Longmoor Military Railway 1900-1969 & The Shoeburyness Military Tramway c.1860-2007' by Mike Walshaw. Starts 14.30. Members £2. Visitors welcome, £2 donation. Contact the Chairman on 01202 742099 for further details.

Cornwall Rly Society
The Community Centre, Foundry Row, Redruth. 'Gemany: Railways in the Rhinelands' by Tony Wright. Starts 18.30. Contact Derek Buttivant on 01637 860627 for details

12th September 2011

Driffield & East Yorkshire Rly Society
The Sidings, Middle Street South, Driffield, YO25 6PX. 'DVD: Kingstore Model Railway, Slides: Steam on the Settle & Carlisle, DVD: Railways around Hull'. Starts 19.30. £2 donation, Visitors welcome. Contact 01377 254068 for further details.

Lincoln Railway Society
St Hugh's Church Hall, Harewood Crescent, North Hykeham, Lincoln LN6 8JG 'Westwards from Dover looking for steam' by Peter Groom Starts 20.00, All welcome, £3 admission. Contact Publicity Member on 01522-705365 for details

RCTS (Northampton)
St. Crispin Social Club, Berrywood Road, Duston. '1960/70s Railway Memories' & ' Constructing Replica North Eastern Railway Signals' by Craig Donald. Starts 19.30.

Southern Electric Group (Sussex)
Deall Room, Southwick Community Centre, Southwick. 'Winter Steam in China' by David Eatwell. Starts 19.30. £2 Donation. Contact Bruce Cakebread on 01273 462094.

York Railway Circle
The Library, Archibishop Holgate's School, Hull Road, York YO10 5ZA. 'Sheffield Victoria & The Great Central War Memorial' by Ken Grainger. Starts 19.30. £2 donation requested. Contact Robin Patrick on 01904 412232 for further details.

13th September 2011

Abergavenny and District Steam Society
Upper Room, The Hen and Chickens, Flannel Street, Abergavenny. 'The Dick Sansbury Collection' by John Barrowdale. Starts 20.00.

GW Society (Bristol)
BAWA, 589 Southmead Road, Filton, Bristol BS34 7RG. 'Last Days of Steam in the Southern Region & Early Days of Steam on Preservation' by Paul Dibbens. Starts 19.45. All welcome. Contact 01454 324230 for details.

Meon Valley Loco Society
St. Peters Church Hall, Free Street, Bishops Waltham, Hampshire. 'Chairman's Night' by Barry Eagles. Starts 20.00. £2 Admission - all welcome Contact John Barrowdale on 02392 640951 for further details.

14th September 2011

Basingstoke & District Railway Society
Wote Street Club, New Road, Basingstoke RG21 7NG. 'Broad Gauge Railway Journey Pt 2' by Canon Brian Arman. Starts 20.00. Contact 01256 819401 for further details.

Oxfordshire Railway Society
Seacourt Day Centre, Seacourt Road, Oxford OX2 9LD. 'On and Off the Footplate' by Bill Davis. Meeting commences at 19.30.

RCTS (Cardiff)
Old Church Rooms, Radyr. 'Scottish Railrovering in the 1970s and 1980s' by Stephen Miles. Meeting commances at 19.30.

RCTS (Hitchin)
Hitchin Christian Centre, Bedford Road, Hitchin. 'Freight Trains Around Britain in the 21st Century' by Geoff Brockett. Meeting commences at 19.30.

Swiss Railways Society (London)
The Model Railway Club, Keen House, 4 Calshot Street, London N1 9AT. (near Kings Cross). 'Cantons Bern and Solothurn' by Roger Jones. Meeting commences at 19.00. £3 donation. Contact Ron Dawes on 0208 660 3532 for details.

15th September 2011

Barrow Hill Engine Shed Society
Roundhouse Lecture Theatre,Barrow Hill Depot. 'Steaming Through Britain' by GB Productions. Meeting commences at 19.30. £2 Admission. Contact beardspaul@aol.com for details.

Permanent Way Institution (South & West Wales)
Newport. Venue TBA. 'Welsh Highland Railway Infrastructure' by John Streeves. Meeting commences at 18.00. Contact the Secretary, James Hepburn on 07919 307726 or at james.hepburn2@networkrail.co.uk for further details.

RCTS (Shipley)
Saltaire Methodist Chapel, Saltaire Road, Shipley. 'Traction in the Deltic Era' by Hugh Ballantyne. Meeting commences at 19.30.

Stephenson Loco Society
United Reform Church Hall, Mowbray Road, New Barnet. 'Members Evening. Meeting commences at 19.30. All welcome. Contact the Secretary on 0208 368 6200 for further details.

16th September 2011

GW Society (Taunton)
Village Hall, Stoke St Mary, nr Taunton, TA3 5DE. 'Archive Films' by Paul Dibbens. Meeting commences at 19.30. All welcome. Contact the Secretary on 01823 334188 for further details.

Stephenson Loco Society
The Mining Institute Lecture Theatre, Neville Hall, Westgate Road, Newcastle upon Tyne. 'Richard Trevithick and the Early Steam Railways' by Philip Hosken. Starts 19.00. Contact 01434 688946 for details.

17th September 2011

GW Society (South West)
Parish Centre, Church End Road, Kingskerswell, Torbay, TQ12 5 LD. 'Didcot - The Great Awakening' by Richard Antliffe. Starts 18.30. All welcome. Contact 01803 336329.

19th September 2011

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

NYMR (York)
New Earswick Sports and Social Club, New Earswick, YO32 4AG. 'Yorkshire Buses' by Geof Dickson. Starts 19.30. Contact Bryan Blundell on 01904 764648 for further details.

RCTS (Chester)
The Town Crier, City Road/Station Road, Chester. 'Teenage Memories of the Early 1960s'. by Bob Casselden. Starts 19.30.

RCTS (Coventry)
Maudslay Hotel, 190 Allesley Old Road, Coventry. 'Rail Atlas of Great Britain and Ireland' by Stuart Baker. Starts 19.30.

RCTS (Oxford)
West Oxford Democrats Club, 1 North Street, Osney. 'Chiltern Railways - Operations and Developments' by Adrian Shooter. Starts 19.30.

Rear Cover Caption

The chance of two steam specials passing on the National Network is not an everyday occurrence. On 31st July, Battle of Britain No. 34067 *Tangmere*, departs from Bristol Temple Meads with a Railway Touring Company charter bound for Weymouth, passing Peppercorn A1 Pacific No. 60163 *Tornado*, awaiting the road back into the station with the ECS for the 'Torbay Express' working to Paignton and Kingswear.
Jack Boskett

Magazine Information

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