Railway Herald

Issue 281 - 29th August 2011

The weekly railway enthusiasts' magazine

Railway Herald

Issue 281
29th August 2011

Editor
Richard Tuplin

Contributing Editor
Brian Morrison

Railtour Editor
John Whitehouse

News Researcher
Bill Turvill

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

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Second Northern Belle '47' outshopped

The second DRS Class 47/4 to carry Northern Belle livery, No. 47832 *Solway Princess* was outshopped from Arlington Fleet Services at Eastleigh Works on 24th August, prior to being moved to Crewe to take up charter duties.

Read more on Page 6

In This Issue

Virgin bid farewell to '57s'
Virgin Trains is to return six of its Class 57/3 'Thunderbird' fleet to the leasing company, following a review of its traction requirements.
Click here to read the story on Page 3

Refurbishment for '334s'
First ScotRail has announced that it is to spend £4 million on the refurbishment of its Alstom-built Class 334 fleet.
Click here to read the story on Page 4

Double headed Kings?
Steam Dreams is planning to double-head both of the operational GWR 'King' class locos, Nos. 6023 *King Edward II* and 6024 *King Edward I*
Click here to read the story on Page 11

Metro & Light Rail News
The long-running saga of the Edinburgh Tram system has taken a further twist, with the news that it will now be cut back to Haymarket
Click here to read the story on Page 7

Elsewhere in this issue

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

18 Preservation News
Steam returns to the Stainmore route from Kirkby Stephen East, 'N2' is announced as extra guest to the 2012 Steel, Steam and Stars III event, and the race for the next livery hots up for *Duchess of Sutherland*.

Essentials

9 Railtours & Excursions
Including comprehensive listings.

26 Diary
The dates of slide shows and information presentations.

Front Cover Caption:

Grand Central Class 180 No. 180101 passes Horbury Cutting on 19th August, with the 10.22 Bradford Interchange to London King's Cross service. Jonathan Stevenson

Virgin Trains says farewell to six of its 'Thunderbird' Class 57/3 locomotives

Virgin Trains supported charity CLIC Sargent is to benefit from the sale of 12 sets of 'Thunderbird'-themed nameplates, after the company handed back six of its Class 57/3s to the leasing company.

The locomotives which are going off-lease are Nos. 57301 *Scott Tracy*, 57303 *Alan Tracy*, 57305 *John Tracy*, 57306 *Jeff Tracy*, 57310 *Kyrano* and 57312 *The Hood*. Following the transfer of more Super Voyager trains to the West Coast route in 2007 eliminating daily haulage of Pendolino trains into North Wales, Virgin Trains reduced its requirement for rescue engines and placed a number of its Class 57s into store.

Network Rail is looking to take over the locos for specialist seasonal duties south of the River Thames, as they are no longer required by the West Coast train operator.

The six locomotives were specially lined up for inspection by Simon Whitehorn, Network Rail's LNW South Area General Manager and Virgin Trains' Production Director, Phil Bearpark at Alstom's Wembley depot on 22 August.

The main role for the locomotives at Network Rail will be to provide traction for six new carriages which are being specially built to clear snow and ice from the railway in the south east, however, they will also undertake a range of other duties as required.

CLIC Sargent, a cancer charity for children and young people, is Virgin Trains' supported charity, and the partnership has raised more than £310,000 since 2009.

The nameplates will be sold at a specialist railwayana auction in Derby on 10th December, by Sheffield Railwayana Auctions Limited.

▲ ▼ **The six Class 57/3 locomotives are pictured during a specially arranged photo-shoot at Wembley Depot on 22nd August The locos were partway through the handback procedure at this point, the Virgin branding having been removed. From left to right are Nos. 57303** *Alan Tracy*, **57305** *John Tracy*, **57306** *Jeff Tracy*, **57310** *Kyrano* **and 57312** *The Hood* and **57301** *Scott Tracy*.

Ron Cover / Richard Tuplin

Win a ticket to Model Rail Live!

Model Rail Live takes place over the 17th/18th September at Barrow Hill and promises to be better than ever!

The last working roundhouse of its kind in Britain, Barrow Hill is home to many classic steam, diesel and electric locomotives. For one weekend only, visitors to Model Rail Live will be able to see inspirational, high-quality model railways in a real railway environment, alongside resident and visiting locomotives, special exhibits and a wealth of other attractions. Saturday's highlights will include a ceremony to name one of the Barrow Hill diesels, with the name being unveiled by the winner of a competition.

LNER A1 Pacific No. 60163 *Tornado*, will be at the event working along the one-mile former Springwell Colliery branch. Also on show will be the 'Brighton Belle', once the transport of choice for the rich and famous between London and Brighton. Model Rail Live will offer a rare chance for visitors to see inside this famous old train. Model railway manufacturer, Hornby, is sponsoring the event for the second year and will have a dedicated area featuring various layouts and interactive displays.

A new feature for 2011 is the regular shuttle train from Chesterfield to Barrow Hill Roundhouse, operated by East Midlands Trains. Costing just £5 per return trip, six trains per day will transport visitors right into the heart of the event and offer a rare opportunity to travel over freight only lines.

With its unique location, atmosphere and guest list, Model Rail Live looks set to be one of the key railway events of 2011 – don't miss it!

Competition

The organisers of Model Rail Live are offering 10 tickets to the event to *Railway Herald* readers.

To enter, simply visit the competition website at www.greatcompetitions.co.uk/model. Good luck!

£4 million refurbishment for Alstom-built Class 334s

ScotRail has announced a £4 million refurbishment of its 40-strong three-car Class 334 Juniper fleet.

The work is to be undertaken by Railway Projects Ltd, and will generate up to 20 jobs in Scotland, as much of the work is to be sub-contracted to Kilmarnock-based Brodie Engineering.

The project is expected to begin in November this year and should take two years to complete. The seats will be recovered, new flooring laid and interior finishes upgraded. In addition the exteriors will be painted in the Transport Scotland-designed 'Saltire' livery that is gradually appearing on all ScotRail trains. Class 334s now operate primarily on the Helensburgh/Milngavie - Edinburgh, via Airdrie and Bathgate line that opened in December 2010. Previously the fleet was widely used in Ayrshire and Inverclyde, before the arrival of the new Siemens-built Class 380 Desiros EMUs earlier this year.

▼ **Class 334 No. 334005 awaits departure from Wemyss Bay, forming the 14.50 service to Glasgow Central. Bill Turvill**

New mobile 'app' brings instant tickets for Eurostar

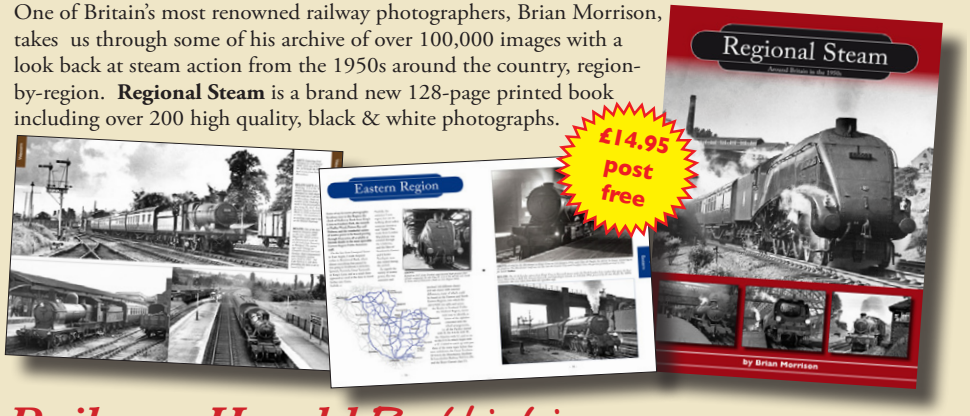
Eurostar has introduced a free mobile application allowing passengers to book journeys on-the-go and receive tickets direct to their phones.

The Eurostar 'app', which is available for iPhone and Android devices, allows passengers to book and manage journeys between Great Britain and Paris, Brussels and Lille. Passengers who book journeys using the 'app' will immediately receive a mobile ticket with an electronic barcode on their device. The ticket can then be simply scanned at check-in. Members of Eurostar's Loyalty Programmes can also use the 'app' to earn points when they book, and to view their point balances at the touch of a screen.

Other functions include live service updates to keep passengers informed of disruptions, and a personal profile page, which provides an option to store address details and seating preferences.

From the days when steam was king and diesels were just a thought on the horizon...

One of Britain's most renowned railway photographers, Brian Morrison, takes us through some of his archive of over 100,000 images with a look back at steam action from the 1950s around the country, region-by-region. **Regional Steam** is a brand new 128-page printed book including over 200 high quality, black & white photographs.



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▲ **The £70 million improvement work on the North Cotswold was officially completed on 22nd August. Class 166/2 No. 166205, on the newly commissioned line and platform, passes an HST working at Honeybourne, on the first day. Jack Boskett**

▼ **With its *Wilson Walshe* nameplates long since removed, Class 56/3 No. 56302 leads classmate No. 56301, plus Class 73/1 No. 73134, Class 45/1 No. 45112 and Class 47/3 No. 47375 through Derby on 25th August, with a Barrow Hill to Burton Wagon Works loco convoy for Nemesis Rail. Craig Adamson**

UK News In Brief

■ Following an extensive review, London Midland has announced that on-board catering on its trains ceased from 27th August. The operator says that over the past three years it has carried out catering trials on a number of routes - Birmingham to Liverpool, Birmingham to London, and Crewe to London - and recently increased the number of services with catering facilities to assess demand at different times of day. Although a small proportion of passengers appreciated the option to buy on the train, the greater range of products at station outlets meant that the majority chose to purchase food and drink before boarding. On this basis the company says it can no longer justify the high cost of providing on-train catering.

■ Network Rail is helping small businesses in areas hit hardest by the riots by offering one month's free rent and 50% off each subsequent month's rent on selected commercial properties up to the end of the year. The special terms have been introduced to help small enterprises get back up and running as soon as possible, and will apply to more than 100 Network Rail commercial premises in London, Birmingham, Manchester, Salford and Liverpool.

■ Brighton train passengers are to have their own equivalent of the Oyster card as they test a new smart card called the Key. The trial is being run by Southern on trains between Brighton and Seaford, a hundred passengers taking part in the testing of the electronic alternative to paper tickets starting in September. The Key can be charged with season tickets, singles and returns from Brighton station, London Road, Moulsecoomb and Falmer, and work has already begun on fitting the equipment required to support the project. Southern intends to refine the system based on its feedback, before introducing it elsewhere on the network.

■ A dedicated exhibition display area for plant and machinery used for rail construction and maintenance will be a major new feature at Infrarail 2012, to be held at the Birmingham NEC on 1st-3rd May 2012. Dubbed 'The Yard', the display is being staged in collaboration with the Rail Plant Association and with the endorsement of Network Rail, providing plant manufacturers and hire companies with the opportunity to present their latest vehicles and equipment.

Contents Page

Second DRS 'Northern Belle' '47' outshopped

▲ The second DRS Class 47/4 was outshopped at Eastleigh Works on 23rd August. Here, No. 47832 *Solway Princess* **stands alongside the first 'Northern Belle'-liveried loco No. 47790** *Galloway Princess*. **Carl Watson/Arlington Fleet Services**

▶ On one of the first workings, Nos. 47832 and 47790 lead the 'Northern Belle' to Wilmslow past Nethertown, shortly after departing Ravenglass, on the Cumbrian Coast on 27th August. Eliot Andersen

The Irish Angle

▲ The new ICR style Irish Rail livery was first introduced on the Class 2600s several months ago, with set Nos. 2614 and 2617 being the first of the fleet to be repainted. Recently, Irish Rail has moved to repaint further members of the fleet, with Nos. 2601 and 2602 being the most recent examples. The latest pairing is pictured at Cork on 17th August, prior to working the 16.00 service to Cobh. **Neil Dinnen**

First ScotRail introduces extra loco-hauled diagram

ScotRail is introducing a 'loco-hauled' train on two Fife commuter services as cover for an empty train that was damaged in a derailment in Edinburgh.

The replacement, which came into service from 29th August, will ensure a more robust service is provided as it makes up for a shortfall in rolling stock while the Class 170 undergoes repairs.

The new loco-hauled diagram will see the 06.32 from Edinburgh to the Fife Circle service (which becomes the 07.35 from Glenrothes to Edinburgh, via Dunfermline) and the 17.20 from Edinburgh to Cardenden services loco-hauled until further notice on weekdays.

The new diagram will use a DB Schenker Class 67 and Mk2 coaching stock.

Metro and Light Rail News

Another nail in the coffin for Edinburgh?

The long running saga of the Edinburgh Tram system has taken a further twist, with moves being made to get the troubled scheme back on track.

During mid-August, it was announced that the international consultancy company Turner & Townsend has been appointed by Edinburgh City Council as project managers, and will take over the project from TIE. While the decision will no doubt be controversial, the hope is that the new project managers will get the scheme back where it needs to be.

Elsewhere, the City Council has put forward a plan to borrow a further £231 million to complete the tramway system from the Airport to St. Andrew Square, estimated at requiring a total of £770 million to complete, and taking the total cost of the project over the £1 billion mark - far removed from the original costing of £375 million in 2003.

However, councillors have thrown out these plans, and decided that the line will now terminate at Haymarket, meaning that the additional loans would not be required. The news is the latest setback to the scheme, which has been threatened with cancellation on several occasions. In June, the cost of cancelling the project was estimated at £750 million, however, prior to the most recent meeting that cost had been slashed to £670 million. Local media has since reported that an error in the figures in last week's document mean the figure quoted is actually £19 million less, bringing the cost of cancellation down to £651 million.

Work on laying tracks is due to start around Haymarket next month, as tramway bosses now look at possible options for leasing 10 of the tramways new light rail vehicles to other operators. The vehicles, which at £2 million each, were declined by Croydon Tramlink, could possibly find use in the UK on the proposed 'Abbey Line' between Watford and St Albans, or as part of a possible expansion of the fleet used for the Sheffield Supertram. Other European options are also believed to be under investigation.

▶ Tram tracks to nowhere. This section of the Edinburgh Tramway route on Princes Street has now been abandoned and will not see an operational tram. With the line originally cut back from Leith to St Andrew Square (close to Waverley), the route has now been further reduced to purely operate between Edinburgh Airport and Haymarket. **TIE**

The News In Pictures

◀ **Class 92 No. 92012** *Thomas Hardy* **heads north through West Brompton on 27th August with three DBS Class 66s, Nos. 66128, 66218 and 66022, dead in tow, the latter two being Euro Cargo Rail locomotives. The train is the 11.52 Dollands Moor to Scunthorpe steel empties, which the '92' will work as far as Doncaster. Phil Beard**

◀▼ **On 21st August, Class 20/3s Nos. 20305 and 20301 'top and tail' two barrier tank wagons, with Class 66/7 No. 66723** *Chinook* **and two Arlington Rail Services barrier coaches on the rear, northward through Haddons Bridge, Yaxley, working from Ferme Park to Peterborough. Lorenzo D' Aniello**

▼ **DBS Class 66/0 No. 66176 heads the 06.15 Cottam Power Station to Blackwell Loading Point through Lenton South Junction, Nottingham, on 23rd August. The loading point is just north of Alfreton, at Blackwell on the Midland Main line, which is located where the former Westhouses shed once stood. In order to avoid the train running round en route it takes a circuitous journey, heading west to Retford and Worksop after leaving Cottam, then south through Mansfield and Shirebrook to Pye Bridge Junction. Over the course of the next 90 minutes, it travels south to Trowell and Attenborough Junctions, then turns east to Beeston, prior to heading north at Lenton South Junction before arriving back at Trowell Junction, for the final northwards leg back through Pye Bridge Junction to Blackwell! John Illingworth**

UK Steam & Modern Traction Railtour Listings

Monday 29th August 2011

Compass Tours	Carnforth Pool	(Crewe-)Liverpool LS-Blackburn-S&C-Carlisle-Shap-Preston-Liverpool LS(-Crewe)	
Pathfinder Tours	71000	(Dorridge-Swindon-)Bristol TM)-Llanelli-Carmarthen-Bristol TM-(& return)	
Steam Dreams	tbc	Aylesbury-Finsbury Park-Stevenage-Royston-Norwich & return	**Postponed**
WCRC	Jacobite Pool	Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig and return	

Tuesday 30th August 2011

Railway Touring Co.	4492+34067	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 31st August 2011

Statesman Rail	2xWCRC 47	Lancaster-Blackburn-S&C-Appleby-Carlisle & return	
Steam Dreams	70000	Southend Central-Upminster-West Brompton-Staines-Andover-Salisbury & return	
Torbay Express Ltd	4492	Poole-Bournemouth-Southampton Central-Bath Spa-Bristol TM & return	
WCRC	Jacobite Pool	Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig and return (two trips)	
WCRC	70013	York-Normanton-Wakefield Westgate-Castleford-York-Scarborough & return	

Thursday 1st September 2011

WCRC	Jacobite Pool	Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig and return	
WCRC	70013	York-Normanton-Wakefield Westgate-Castleford-York-Scarborough & rtn	

Friday 2nd September 2011

Cruise Saver Travel	DRS Class 47	Glasgow Central-Manchester-Birmingham-Oxford-Basingstoke-Southampton Dks	
Railway Touring Co.	tbc	Crewe-Wilmslow-Stockport-Huddersfield-Castleford-York-Scarborough & return	
WCRC	Jacobite Pool	Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig and return	

Saturday 3rd September 2011

Pathfinder Tours	55022	Crewe-Barnt Green-Cheltenham Spa-Bath-Castle Cary-Weymouth-Wareham-Poole-Eastleigh-Reading West-Evesham-Barnt Green-Crewe	
PTG Tours Ltd	50044 & 50049	London Euston-Northampton-Rugby-Crewe-Chester-Bangor-Holyhead	
Rail-Blue Charters	DBS Class 67	East Midlands Parkway-Luton-Reading-Torquay-Paignton-Kingswear & return	
Railway Touring Co.	SSE Pool	York-Leeds-Skipton-Hellifield-S&C-Appleby-Carlisle & return	**Cancelled**
SRPS Railtours	tbc	Berwick upon Tweed-Edinburgh-Bathgate-Airdrie-Crianlarich-Oban & return	
UK Railtours	DBS 67	London Paddington-Newbury-Exeter SD-Bodmin Parkway-Par & return	
WCRC	2xWCRC 37	Carnforth-Hellifield-Blackburn-Warrington BQ-Crewe-Shrewsbury & return	
WCRC	Jacobite Pool	Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig and return	

Sunday 4th September 2011

PTG Tours Ltd	50044 & 50049	Holyhead-Llanwrst-Llandudno Jct-Chester-Shrewsbury-Wellington-Bescot-Birmingham Intl-Rugby-Northampton-London Euston	
Railway Touring Co.	tbc	York-Leeds-Keighley-Hellifield-S&C-Appleby-Carlisle & return	**Postponed**
Railway Touring Co.	tbc	Bristol TM-Bath Spa-Westbury-Castle Cary-Weymouth and return	**Cancelled**
Railway Touring Co.	tbc	Bristol Temple Meads-Tenby-Bristol Temple Meads	**Cancelled**
Shepherd Neame	70013	Kensington Olympia-Faversham-Dover-Folkestone-Ashford-Bromley South-K Olympia	
Shepherd Neame	70013	Faversham-Canterbury East-Dover & return	
Steam Dreams	30777 and 70000 & 34067	London Waterloo-Westbury-Exeter St.Davids-Plymouth-Liskeard-Bodmin Parkway -Par-Newquay	
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.

▲ **DRS Class 20/3s Nos. 20308 and 20309 provide the motive power for Pathfinder Tours' 'Torbay Flyer' charter from Crewe to Kingswear. The train passes through the semaphores at Droitwich Spa on 26th August. John Whitehouse**

Final call for 'Train of Hope' charity excursion

'The Train of Hope', in support of the CLIC Sargent Charity, will be departing from Crewe in little more than five weeks time, and it is understood that there are still seats available on the train.

However, to avoid disappointment, do not delay as the organisers are just about to ratchet up the marketing machine to ensure there is a sell-out on the day. Another excellent way of supporting the project is to buy raffle tickets, either by direct donation or by obtaining a book of 50 tickets to sell to friends, family and anybody else with a spare £2 in their pocket. However, time is of the essence as all sold tickets will need to be returned to the organisers by 10th September, and the draw will be made in the Virgin First Class Lounge at Manchester Piccadilly on 17th September. By the way, take a look at the raffle prizes on the Train of Hope website, especially if you fancy a trip to New York, a ride on the British Pullman or Eurostar, or maybe a meal at London's acclaimed Babylon restaurant. These are just some of the prizes up for grabs.

Copies of the limited edition print 'Keep Calm and Carry On' by John Cowley GRA remain available, details of which can be found elsewhere in this issue.

Railtour Spotlight

by John Whitehouse

With the August 'high season' of repeat itinerary trains now drawing to a close, the coming weekend offers a feast of variety, to such a degree it is impossible to highlight one tour as being the pick of the bunch.

Heritage diesel traction features very strongly, especially with the return to main line action of The Fifty Fund's Nos. 50044 *Exeter* and 50049 *Defiance*, which are due to haul PTG Tours' 'Snowdon Ranger' from London Euston to Holyhead on 3rd September, and which on the return, next day, includes a diversion along the Conwy Valley line as far as North Llanrwst and possibly Llandudno Town (which because of platform lengths is dependent on the length of the train on the day). It is understood that the stock will be the Virgin loco-hauled set, and that a Class 57/3 will be included in the consist. The route outwards is along the West Coast Main Line, via Milton Keynes, Northampton and the Trent Valley, while the return will reverse at Chester and head south through Wrexham, Shrewsbury, Wolverhampton and Birmingham International back to Rugby and the WCML to London Euston.

Crewe is certainly the place to be on 3rd September, as a few hours before the 'Hoovers' are booked to pass through, 'Deltic' No. 55022 *Royal Scots Grey* is due to depart for Weymouth with Pathfinders' 'Dorset Deltic Explorer'. Other than providing a rare sight of a 'Deltic' on southern metals, this tour is also due to be the first to traverse the Cotswold main line between Oxford and Worcester, following completion of the project to selectively re-double certain stretches, combined with signalling improvements that have created more available paths. Charters have not been allowed over the route in recent years due to severe pathing constraints. 'The Dorset Deltic Explorer' is actually a circular tour, and there has also been an important change to its itinerary as it is now running on an anti-clockwise routing, outward via Cheltenham, Bristol Parkway, Bath Spa, Westbury, Castle Cary and Dorchester West to Weymouth. On the return, it is now booked along the London & South West main line through Wareham, Bournemouth and Basingstoke to Reading West, and then through Didcot Parkway and Oxford to the Cotswold main line, to reach Worcester Shrub Hill, via Moreton-in-Marsh and Evesham. After Worcester there is also the bonus of an attack on the Lickey Incline to bring the day to a perfect conclusion.

To make it a truly memorable day at Crewe, also passing through is the West Coast Railway Company's annual outing for the Lune Rivers Trust, which this year heads for Shrewsbury. It originates at Carnforth and picks up at Wennington and Bentham before making its way through Hellifield and Blackburn to Crewe, and then onwards through Nantwich and Whitchurch. The scheduled motive power is Royal Scot 4-6-0 No. 46115 *Scots Guardsman*, which at the time of writing is sidelined following its failure while working the 'Scarborough Spa Express' on 18th August. If it is available, it will prove to be a useful running-in turn ahead of its scheduled working to Fort William seven days later.

However, the main steam action is due to take place in the South West, with Steam Dreams' 'Atlantic Coast Express' weekender, which sets out from London Waterloo on Sunday 4th September with 'King Arthur' 4-6-0 No. 30777 *Sir Lamiel* making a welcome main line appearance, in charge through to Westbury where No. 34067 *Tangmere* and No. 70000 *Britannia* will be waiting to take the train onwards through Exeter, Plymouth and Liskeard to Bodmin Parkway and ultimately the Atlantic Coast surfing resort of Newquay. Note that *Britannia* has replaced the originally advertised rebuilt West Country No. 34046 *Braunton*, which remains uncertified for main line use. After a day to enjoy Cornwall's Atlantic coast, the pairing of *Tangmere* and *Britannia* is due to leave Newquay on Tuesday 6th September for the return to London, but with a slight diversion en route. This will take place at Exeter St Davids, where *Tangmere* is due to leave the train and proceed to Yeovil Junction for servicing, while *Britannia* will undertake a journey along the old Southern 'Withered Arm' route to Okehampton. The return to Exeter St Davids will be diesel-hauled, and after detaching No. 70000, the train will continue to Yeovil Junction, where it will be reunited with *Tangmere* for the return to London. As well as the opportunity for fast main line running, the key feature of this tour is a very rare opportunity to enjoy steam on two classic West Country branches, namely Newquay and Okehampton, which makes the 'ACE' a very special tour to enjoy.

Steam Dreams will be providing *Britannia* with some extra preparation for its planned West Country exploits a few days earlier, when on 31st August it is booked to head the 'Cathedrals Express' throughout from Southend Central to Salisbury, running via Basildon, Upminster, West Hampstead and Staines, and is steam-hauled throughout. Steam out of Southend is very rare, as steam on the old London, Tilbury & Southend route, so this is another working to be savoured.

Kent brewers Shepherd Neame will be operating the usual steam-workings to celebrate the hop-picking season on 4th September, with No. 70013 *Oliver Cromwell* booked to haul 'The Spitfire' from Kensington Olympia and Bromley South to Faversham, via Gillingham. This is followed by 'The Hop Picker', which is an afternoon add-on that runs to Dover Priory from Faversham, via Canterbury East, with No. 70013 outwards, and diesel-hauled on the return. 'The Spitfire' is then booked back to Kensington Olympia, again with *Oliver Cromwell* in charge, from Faversham and around the coast through Dover and Folkestone, and then via Tonbridge to Bromley South and ultimately Kensington Olympia.

The Lost Gardens of Heligan was a very popular destination a few years back, but in recent times both it, and the neighbouring Eden Project have not attracted many charter workings. UK Railtours is redressing that situation to a small degree on 3rd September, with a train from London Paddington that offers a trio of off-train options, namely from Bodmin Parkway for the Bodmin & Wenford Railway's gala, or staying aboard for Par, to visit either the Lost Gardens of Heligan or Padstow and the Camel Trail. A Class 67 should be the nominated motive power.

Meanwhile, also on 3rd September but way up north, the SRPS head for Oban, no doubt with a pair of West Coast Class 37s from Berwick-on-Tweed, which travels via the recently reopened Bathgate line through to Glasgow Queen Street Low Level before heading for the West Highland line.

▶ **Carnforth-based LMS 'Black 5' No. 44932 leaves the confines of Blea Moor Tunnel behind, and climbs northwards on the Settle & Carlisle line with 'The Waverley' charter on 20th August. Phil Sanderson**

Double-headed charters become feature of next year's excursion programmes

Double-heading super power seems to be the feature of 2012, with Vintage Trains having already announced that it plans to take 'Castle' No. 5043 *Earl of Mount Edgcumbe* **and 'Princess Royal' No. 6201** *Princess Elizabeth* **over the Northern Fells next year, and RTC joining the act by lining up a Bulleid 'Light Pacific' pairing for the Bristol-Penzance leg of the 'Great Britain V', see separate story in this issue.**

However, true super-power must be the pairing of two Class 8s of the same class, which is incredibly rare, but that is exactly what Steam Dreams plan for 10th March 2012. And moreover, it will be on the locomotives' home ground for good measure.

The train is the twice re-dated working from London Paddington to Plymouth, which was originally planned for 2nd July, that included a separate Minehead portion, and then for 29th October from which the direct West Somerset connection was to be replaced by a coach connection. It is understood that getting this revised working together was proving troublesome, and additionally, the Mid Hants Railway was looking for a replacement for the unavailable 'A4' No. 60007 *Sir Nigel Gresley*, which had been booked to visit the line in the latter half of October, and star in the autumn gala on 29th & 30th October. To the satisfaction of all concerned, the answer was to postpone the Plymouth job, which would then free up the remaining active A4 No. 4492 *Dominion of New Zealand* to replace No. 60007 at the Mid Hants Railway.

Other external considerations, such as possessions and the expiry of a certain boiler ticket has resulted in the revised 'Cathedrals Express' from London Paddington to Plymouth being re-dated to 10th March, which is unfortunate, as it clashes with Vintage Trains' double-header over the Northern Fells. Hopefully, the geographical profile of each operator's mailing list will ensure that both trains receive the support they deserve.

But what about the double-heading super-power, you may well ask? Well, would a pair of Kings suit you? That is the message from Steam Dreams, although the exact operating plan is still to be put into place, but the train should feature Nos. 6023 *King Edward II* and 6024 *King Edward I* between Taunton and Plymouth and back, with one of the locomotives also bringing the train west from Paddington! A pair of Great Western 'Kings' over the South Devon Banks should jam up a few lanes around Whiteball, Dainton, Rattery and Hemerdon - and the combination is authentic, as on summer Saturdays in the 1950s, the 'King' off the down 'Cornish Riviera' was removed at Newton Abbott as the class was then not allowed beyond Plymouth, and the train would proceed with usually, a pair of 'Halls' that would take the service through to Penzance. The displaced 'King' would wait for the following 10.35 Paddington - Penzance, which was also a booked 'King' turn, and then pilot it's classmate through to Plymouth, where both locomotives would be replaced. A photograph of one such pairing, taken on 4th August 1956, is featured in R.J. Blenkinsop's excellent book, Shadows of the Great Western' (OPC 1972).

As for No. 6024 *King Edward I*, this could be its last main line working prior to withdrawal for overhaul, as its already extended boiler ticket is due to expire later that month. It is good to know that as one 'King' steps down, another will step up - definitely a case of out with the old in with the BLUE!

A full round-up of all currently known charter trains operating throughout 2011 and 2012,can be found on our website at www.railwayherald.com

'Great Britain V' charter line-up announced, with a 'Scot' to Inverness and Bulleid pairing to Penzance

The Railway Touring Company has published the full itinerary for next year's 'Great Britain V', which as previously commented, includes splitting the train at Thornton Junction on the outward leg, with portions then proceeding to either Inverness or Fort William.

The plan is then to take the passengers onwards to either Kyle of Lochalsh or Mallaig, where they will swap over by way of a scenic tour over the Isle of Skye. Each portion, now with passengers from the 'other' train will then return to either Inverness or Fort William to be reunited with 'the other half' two days later in Glasgow.

The tour starts at King's Cross on 21st April with No. 4492 *Dominion of New Zealand* at the head of the first leg to York, where the 'A4' is scheduled to hand over to the NRM's 'A3' No. 4472 *Flying Scotsman*, which will take the train north via Newcastle and Berwick-on-Tweed to Edinburgh Waverley.

Next day, No. 46115 *Scots Guardsman* will haul the train across the Firth of Forth through to Thornton Junction, where the split will take place. 'The Scot' will then continue north with 'Train 1' to Inverness, via the Tay Bridge, Dundee and Aberdeen. Meanwhile, 'Train 2' will head west through Cowdenbeath and Dunfermline to Alloa and Stirling, then continuing by way of Springburn and Dumbarton Central to reach the West Highland line for the trip over Rannoch Moor to Fort William. The locomotive for this section has yet to be announced.

The change over takes place on Monday 23rd April, with K4 class Mogul No. 61994 *The Great Marquess* covering the section between Fort William and Mallaig, and 'Black 5' 4-6-0 No. 45305 at the head of the Inverness to Kyle of Lochalsh train. At this point the train designations also change to reflect the group of passengers being carried, with the 'K4' having 'Train 1' from Mallaig, and No. 45305 'Train 2' from Kyle of Lochalsh.

The return south follows on 24th April, with 'Train 1' working south from Fort William to Glasgow Queen Street with 'K4' No. 61994 in charge, where hopefully it will be lingering in the platform to greet the arrival of No. 46115 with 'Train 2' from Inverness, which will operate over the Highland main line via Perth.

Next day there is an optional extra for the passengers, which is a steam-hauled run from Glasgow Central to Stranraer, featuring No. 70013 *Oliver Cromwell* throughout, and piloted by No. 45305 from Ayr to Stranraer and back. With both portions again combined, the main train returns south on 26th April with No. 46115 to Preston, via both the Glasgow and South Western route and Settle & Carlisle, followed by No. 6100 *Royal Scot* from Preston to Bristol Temple Meads on 27th April, running via Chester, Wrexham, Chirk, Shrewsbury and the Welsh Marches line.

A super-power combination is booked for the Bristol to Penzance section on 28th April, with 'West Country' No. 34046 *Braunton* teamed up with 'Battle of Britain' No. 34067 *Tangmere* for the slog over the South Devon banks and onwards into the Duchy. The return is the only section not diagrammed for steam, but having D1015 *Western Champion* back in action will please a lot of people on the way back to Bristol. The fifth working on this round Britain train comes to a fitting, and hopefully glorious end on 29th April with the 'Blue King' No. 6023 *King Edward II* having charge from Bristol Temple Meads to London Paddington, via Gloucester and Sapperton. What better end could there be?

RTC has again introduced an element of change into 'GBV', which keeps the brand fresh, particularly with the plan to split the train and run it in two portions in Scotland. The motive power pool is attractive, especially by the use of *Scots Guardsman* on the Highland main line, and taking *Oliver Cromwell* to Stranraer, which will engender memories of some of the 'Britannia'-hauled military specials that used to travel to Stranraer, albeit along the now closed direct route from Dumfries. The two 'Bulleids' to Penzance will also be popular, as will the 'A4/A3' power to Edinburgh. But will *Royal Scot* be ready? Let us hope so.

▲ DRS Class 37/0s Nos. 37059 & 37218 power up the climb to Standedge Tunnel at Diggle on 18th August, as the pair work Cheshire Cat Tours' Aberystwyth to Durham excursion. **Jonathan Stevenson**

▼ LMS 'Black 5' No. 45305 puts in a good turn of speed as it passes Lowgill with the northbound 'Cumbrian Mountain Express' railtour on 20th August. **John Woolley**

Limited edition strictly 200 only prints for sale

"KEEP CALM AND CARRY ON" Crewe Station, 1940

Print paper size (not image) is 20"x17".

By Kind permission of Guild of Railway artist John Cowley in support of the **'Train of Hope' charity excursion**

Prints of the painting are available for sale, with various signatures

Signed by John Cowley	£35.00
Signed by John Cowley & Pete Waterman	£45.00
Signed by John Cowley & Sir Richard Branson (very limited!)	£95.00
Signed by John Cowley, Pete Waterman and Sir Richard Branson	£145.00

Please add £5.00 for P&P to the above prices. Prints will be sent rolled in a tube.

If you would like the Loco drivers to sign the print as well then arrangements can be made. Request can be made for you preferred number of print this is strictly first come first served basis.

Lack of funds means that CLIC Sargent can only help two out of three children and young people with cancer.

Please contact John Young by phone on 07796 350 559, by email to johnyoung877@btinternet.com, or click this advert for further details.

Ups & Downs

■ The 5305 Locomotive Association have had a hectic few days undertaking maintenance on No. 70013 *Oliver Cromwell*. With the loco's firebox brick arch in need of replacement, and a boiler washout required, it was planned to take a week-long absence from main line duties. However, pressure to fulfil the final week of the season's 'Scarborough Spa Expresses', has resulted in a rather hectic period to complete the necessary work. The 'Brits' booked working on 27th August was covered by No. 45305 - just to keep it in the family, so to speak!

■ Thank you to reader David G. Bailey, who quite rightly took us to task last week for saying that the 'Scarborough Flyer' on 12th August had been diesel-hauled due to the derailment of the tender of the booked steam locomotive, No. 6201 *Princess Elizabeth*, as it was being manoeuvred off Crewe Heritage Centre. Of course, that day the 'Flyer' operated as scheduled with No. 70013 *Oliver Cromwell* without incident, and it was in fact the following day's 'Cumbrian Mountain Express' that was hauled by Class 47 No. 47270 as a consequence of the derailment. Our apologies for the inaccuracy of the original report.

■ Rail Blue Charters has suffered a further cancellation of a tour due to the continued unavailability of its kitchen car, which is essential for providing the on-board meals in premier dining. The latest working was the 'Torbay Adventurer' from Doncaster to Paignton scheduled for 25th August. The operators are working hard to remedy the problem, which of course is also crucial to the announcement of a new date for the 'Mark Honey Memorial' train, which was the first to be affected by this problem. Also, it remains to be seen whether the next working from East Midlands Parkway to Kingswear, booked for 3rd September, will be similarly affected.

▶ **BR 'Britannia' Pacific No. 70013** *Oliver Cromwell* **passes the site of the former Lostock Hall Motive Power Depot with The 'Cathedrals Express' charter from London Euston to Carlisle, via Blackburn and Hellifield on 25th August. Heading in the opposite direction is Northern Rail Class 158 No. 158757 with the 09.11 York to Blackpool North service. No. 70013 was one of the locomotives on Lostock Hall on the last morning that the shed was open, 4th August 1968. Few of those present on that day, could have imagined this sight, 43 years later. David Felton**

LMS 8F Class 2-8-0 No. 48151 *Gauge 0 Guild* **passes the site of the old water troughs at Garsdale in sunshine, while working 'The Fellsman' charter on 24th August. Stephen Willetts**

DB Schenker liveried Class 92 No. 92042 passes Soulbury, near Leighton Buzzard, on 20th August, with Pathfinder Tours 'Limestone Cowboy' charter to Buxton. The train changed to Class 66 haulage at Crewe. **Ken Brunt**

BR 'Britannia' Pacific No. 70000 *Britannia* **leaves Ely as it heads for Norwich with Steam Dreams 'The Cathedrals Express' charter from London King's Cross, pictured on the approach to Queen Adelaide on 21st August. Kev Gregory**

Privately-owned Class 86/2 No. 86259 *Les Ross* **powers Steam Dreams' 'Cathedrals Express' from London Euston to Carlisle through Rugeley Trent Valley on 25th August. The locomotive was replaced at Carnforth by BR 'Britannia' No. 70013** *Oliver Cromwell*, **for the final leg over the S&C John Whitehouse**

Riding the rails over Stainmore ... as Kirkby Stephen East reopens to passenger services

By Fred Kerr

The Stainmore Railway Company (SRC) celebrated the 150th Anniversary of the famous trans-Pennine route on 27th August, when it ran the first train from its base at Kirkby Stephen East since the route closed in 1962.

With a steady hand on the regulator was Steve Davies MBE, NRM Director, as the train was flagged away by Brian Cowin, who started work at Kirkby Stephen shed as an engine cleaner and at 84 is now the oldest survivor of the staff who once worked on the line.

The route was opened in 1861 to provide a connection between the collieries and furnaces of North East England, with the haematite ores of Cumberland and shipyards of Barrow-in-Furness. By the 1880s, the volume of traffic had reached a million tons per annum, but the desolate route had three iron bridges and many stone viaducts that restricted the size of locomotive that could be used, and challenged the prowess of train crews, with the lightweight engines used to power the heavy mineral trains. The route lost its importance as industrial technology advanced, and changed the location and demand for the raw materials, and by the 1960s the much reduced traffic was able to be diverted over the Newcastle to Carlisle route, via Hexham, leading to closure of the route on 20th January 1962.

The SRC began its effort in 1997 when it took over the derelict Kirkby Stephen East site, intending to restore the station to its former glory and develop it as a Heritage Railway. Progress since then has been continuous as the site was first cleared of unsightly tipping, then panels of track laid to provide a base for the locomotives and rolling stock, which are being accumulated.

Progress has been assisted by the Heritage Lottery Fund and the many parties who have made invaluable contributions, which the SRC is glad to acknowledge.

The NRM in particular has been closely involved, and this was marked by the appearance of the NRM's North Eastern Railway (NER) 901 Class 2-4-0 No. 910 and NER J21 Class 0-6-0 No. 65033 as examples of locomotives that once operated over the route, and the visit of Steve Davies as guest of honour to perform the opening ceremony.

▶ **BR Standard 2MT 2-6-0 No. 78019 leaves Kirkby Stephen East with one of the passenger services that operated during the 'Stainmore 150' event on 27th August. George Woods**

▼ **The NRMs 901 Class 2-4-0 No. 910, minus its tender, stands in the yard at Kirkby Stephen East on 24th August. Built by the North Eastern Railway at Gateshead in 1875, towards the end of their lives this class regularly operated on the Stainmore line working passenger trains. David Tillotson**

▼ **With a board noting the suspension of services in 1962 and their resumption in 2011, NER Class J21 0-6-0 No. 65033 marks the old order, while BR Standard Class 2MT 2-6-0 No. 78019 prepares to initiate the new at Kirkby Stephen East on 27th August. Fred Kerr**

North Norfolk prepares for September gala events

The North Norfolk Railway is to hold two of its biggest special events during September.

The line's annual Steam Gala takes place on 2nd-4th September, while the '40s Weekend' will be held on the 17th and 18th September.

Star of the Steam Gala will be the Severn Valley Railway's Ivatt 2-6-0 No. 43106, nicknamed the Flying Pig. The locomotive was once based at Melton Constable, and used on services from Norwich to Holt, Sheringham and Cromer. Also in traffic will be BR Class 9F 2-10-0 No. 92203 *Black Prince*, currently resident on the line, GER J15 0-6-0 No. 65462, GWR 5700 Class 0-6-0PT No. 7715, presently carrying its London Underground guise of L99 and GWR 5600 Class 0-6-2T No. 5619. Joining the 'Flying Pig' in visiting the line will be LMS 'Black 5' No. 45305.

The '40s Weekend will be supported by re-enactment societies from all over the country, creating a real sense of period and bringing the days of World War II to life, and it is hoped that an historic aircraft from the RAF's Battle of Britain Memorial Flight will add to the atmosphere.

Hop-on, hop-off Rover tickets mean that visitors can make the most of the day and all the attractions. A 15% discount is offered on tickets booked for the '40s Weekend' before 10th September.

▼ **Currently on loan to the North Norfolk Railway, the Severn Valley Railway's Ivatt 'Flying Pig' 2-6-0 No. 43106 recreates a scene from days gone by on the M&GN, as it arrives at Holt with the 11.15 service from Sheringham on 18th August. Ken Livermore**

Final furlong approaches in race for the livery

The leaders are over the last fence, and are galloping towards the finishing post, in the race to decide the next livery of LMS 'Princess Coronation' Pacific No. 6233 *Duchess of Sutherland.*

BR green has put on a spurt to open up a lead of some 344 votes ahead of crimson lake, while BR blue continues its gallant effort, but is now well back, and trails the leader by over 1,500 votes. The fourth contender, LMS black, unfortunately never got going, and save for something like scooping the National Lottery, is out of the competition!

This has been a tantalising race, with many twists and turns along the way, and with just a few days remaining, is there still time for drama?

Details of how you can vote, and possibly add to the drama, can be found on the PRCLT's website, but please bear in mind that the poll closes at 23.59 on 31st August with the winning livery being announced at next weekend's patron's event at the West Shed and on the PRCLT's website on 4th September, as well as in the next issue of *Railway Herald*.

It had been hoped that *Duchess of Sutherland's* boiler would be back at the Swanwick Junction base in time for the Patron's Weekend, but some additional work has been identified that requires the replacement of three transverse firebox stays, due to grooving caused by the regulator rod, the holding bracket of which having broken off, causing it to rest on those particular stays.

The hope is now to have the boiler back at the West Shed by the end of September. Meanwhile, the tender tank is now back on the chassis.

Heritage Shunters Trust gala

The annual Heritage Shunters Trust (HST) diesel gala takes place on 3rd/4th September at Peak Rail.

Due to new arrangements for running into the recently opened Network Rail station at Matlock, Peak Rail will provide Austerity 0-6-0ST No. 68013 and Class 44 No. D4 *Penyghent* on the normal timetable departing Rowsley South from 11.15.

Brake van rides from the HST cattle dock should see the debut in preservation of 03113. Other locos running on brake vans should be D2953, D2854, 03099, D2199, 06003, 08016, PWM654.

Peak Rail and the HST will provide separate ticketing, there being no full site day rover available this year, although a free HST stock list will be provided with every brake van ticket purchased.

News Briefs

■ The Lincolnshire Coast Light Railway Historic Vehicles Trust is holding an open day on 3rd September from 10.00 until 16.00 at Water Leisure Park, Walls Lane, Ingoldmells. The unique collection of WW1 trench railway vehicles will be on public view, and a demonstration War Department train will operate with a WD Simplex, restored ambulance van and Class D bogie wagon. There will also be guided tours of the collection, which includes five Simplex diesels and the Peckett 0-6-0 *Jurassic*.

■ The Preserved Locomotive Enthusiasts Group (PLEG) has organised an 'all available tracks' private charter at the 12-inch gauge Ruislip Lido Railway featuring less common traction. The event takes place on 12th September at 16.00, priced at £10, all proceeds to the railway. 18 places remain and bookings can be made via the PLEG website at www.pleg.org.uk

▼ **On 28th August, LMS Class 4F No. 44422 departs from Orton Mere, on the Nene Valley Railway, with the 15.00 service to Wansford. Lorenzo D' Aniello**

▶ **Two Class 73/1s were owned and used by Eurostar at its North Pole Depot in London, primarily to rescue failed units and to move units around when not on electrified track. Both Class 73/1s were fitted with Scharfenberg couplers to permit such use, but following Eurostar's move from North Pole to Temple Mills they were redundant. No. 73118 has been loaned to the operator of the Barry Tourist Railway in South Wales and is pictured on 27th August, departing from Barry Waterfront.** **Stuart Warr**

LNER 'N2' joins Steel, Steam and Stars III gala line-up

The Great Central Railway-based N2 class 0-6-2T No. 1744 is the fifth standard gauge guest locomotive to be secured for next April's Steel, Steam & Stars III gala at the Llangollen Railway.

The 1921-built locomotive will make its first ever visit to the North Wales line for the 6880 Betton Grange Society-organised gala, which runs from 21st-29th April over a full nine-day programme. Also confirmed is the appearance of LNWR 'Coal Tank' 0-6-2T No. 1054, currently under overhaul, which is making its second visit to the line, having last visited in 1997. It is hoped that the loco will appear in its BR guise and team up with another guest locomotive, 'Super D' 0-8-0 No. 49395, to recreate a famous double-headed combination from the late 1950s, when No. 49121 worked with No. 58926 on the last train between Abergavenny and Merthyr Tydfil.

Already confirmed for the 13-plus loco gala are BR 'Britannia' Pacific No. 70000 *Britannia* and Peppercorn A1 Pacific No. 60163 *Tornado,* along with the Llangollen Railway's impressive fleet of resident locomotives, which will also include the return of ex-GWR large 'Prairie' No. 5199 running in BR black for the first time. An unusual visitor will be the Talyllyn Railway's No. 2 *Dolgoch*, which will be operating on a specially laid section of 2' 3" gauge track at Carrog

The five 'peak' days of the gala, 21st, 22nd and 27th-29th April, will have up to 12 locomotives in steam, with the four days in between providing 'themed' cameos featuring the guest locomotives.

The event should also feature the first public trains along the newly-laid extension towards Corwen, with former GWR 6400 class 0-6-0PT No. 6430 likely to be employed on auto train services.

DRS Class 37/0s Nos. 37087 *Keighley & Worth Valley Railway* **and 37069 pass Nethertown, near Ravenglass, in the evening sunlight on 22nd August, with the 13.25 Seaton-on-Tees to Sellafield nuclear flask train. Eliot Andersen**

Class 66/7 No. 66732 stands at the helm of a South Tottenham to Whitemoor departmental working, awaiting the lifting of an engineers possession, as the sun rises on 28th August, and the signaller arrives to relieve his colleague in South Tottenham box. **John Webber**

The paraglider is almost certainly unaware of the three-car Class 185 passing Edale signal box and heading towards Hope. The train is virtually lost in the Vale of Edale, this view having been taken from the 1,696ft Mam Tor on 17th August. **Edward Gleed**

Freightliner Class 70 No. 70005 forges north on a heavily loaded 13.48 Mountsorrel to Crewe Virtual Quarry ballast working on 25th August. **Geoffrey Dingle**

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
Community Arts Centre, Roaring Meg Retail Pk, London Rd, Stevenage SG1 1XN. 'A Holiday Trip to Cornwall' by Ron White. Starts 19.45. Admission £2. Contact 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 for further details.

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. Meeting commences at 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. Meeting commences at 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. Meeting commences at 19.30. Contact 01785 840622 for details.

6th September 2011

Gravesend Railway Enthusiasts Society
Emmanuel Baptist Church, Windmill Street, Gravesend, DA12 1BB. 'AGM'. Meeting commences at 19.45. Contact 01474 326232 for further information.

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

North East Essex Railway Association
1st Floor, The Community Centre, The Triangle Centre, Frinton-on-Sea. 'BR in Blue' by Andy Deny. Meeting commences at £19.45. £1.50 admission. Contact Roger Harvey on 01255 677165 for further 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. 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' Starts 17.45. Contact the Secretary, Malcolm Pearce on 07967 667019 for details.

Warwickshire Rly 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.

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

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

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

PW Institution (Manchester & Liverpool)
Ove Arup Offices, St James Building, Oxford Street, Manchester. 'Floating Slab Track' by Andrew Cunningham. Starts 13.00. Contact Rob Cummings on 07798 858784 for details

PW Institution (Nth Wales)
The Town Crier Inn, City Road, Chester. 'Off Track Technology - Existing & Future Practices' by Neil Strong. Starts 18.30. Contact Lynne Garner on 07771 672274.

PW Institution (Sheffield & Doncaster)
Rutland Arms, Brown Street, Sheffield, S1 2BS. 'Tram/Train Initiatives' by Tim Kendall. Start 18.15. Call Vivek Vilay on 07763 724259 for details.

9th September 2011

GCR Leicester Area Group
St Bartholomews Church Hall, Church Lane, Quorn. 'Picture Postcards - Rly Rambles' by Stephen Gay. Starts 19.30. Contact John Calton on 07714 546163.

GW Society (Swindon)
Lawn Community Centre, Guildford Avenue, Lawn, Swindon SN3 1JE. 'The GW Railmotor - No. 93' by Peter Jennings. Starts 19.30. All welcome. Contact 01793 495976 for details.

Shropshire Rly Society
The Gateway, Chester Road, Shrewsbury. 'Steam in Central England' by Alan Sainty. Starts 19.30.

10th September 2011

Bournemouth Rly Club
Winton Methodist Community Centre, All Purpose Room, Winton, Bournemouth BH9 1DE. 'Longmoor Military Rly & Shoeburyness Military Tramway' by Mike Walshaw. Starts 14.30. £2 donation. Contact 01202 742099 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.

▼ **The only booked freight working west of St Blazey is the Wednesday-only working to Penzance Long Rock Depot conveying fuel tanks. On 17th August, Class 66/0 No. 66027 passes the site of the long-closed Marazion station with the late-running 14.15 Long Rock-St. Blazey empty fuel tanks. John Whitehouse**

Cornwall Rly Society
The Community Centre, Foundry Row, Redruth. 'Gemany: Railways in the Rhinelands' by Tony Wright. Meeting commences at 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 S&C, DVD: Railways around Hull'. Meeting commences at 19.30. £2 donation, All welcome. Contact 01377 254068 for 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 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 Rly Society
Seacourt Day Centre, Seacourt Road, Oxford OX2 9LD. 'On and Off the Footplate' by Bill Davis. Starts 19.30.

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

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

Swiss Rly Society (London)
The Model Railway Club, Keen House, 4 Calshot Street, London N1 9AT. (near Kings Cross). 'Cantons Bern and Solothurn' by Roger Jones. Starts 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. Starts 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. Starts 18.00. Contact the Secretary, James Hepburn on 07919 307726 for further details.

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

Stephenson Loco Society
United Reform Church Hall, Mowbray Road, New Barnet. 'Members Evening. Starts 19.30. All welcome. Contact 0208 368 6200 for details.

16th September 2011
GW Society (Taunton)
Village Hall, Stoke St Mary, nr Taunton, TA3 5DE. 'Archive Films' by Paul Dibbens. Starts 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 & the Early Steam Railways' by Philip Hosken. Starts 19.00. Contact 01434 688946.

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.

North Yorkshire Moors Railway (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.

RCTS (Shenfield)
Shenfield Parish Hall, 80 Hutton Road, Shenfield. 'Out and About Again' by Hugh Gould. Starts 19.30.

Stafford Railway Society (joint meeting with Continental Railway Circle)
St Leonards Social Club, St Leonards Avenue, Stafford. 'Steam in South America' by Nick Tindall. Meeting commences at 19.30. Contact Mick Horton on 01785 840622.

20th September 2011
Locomotive Club of Great Britain (Bedford)
The Kings Arms, St Mary's Street, Bedford, MK42 0AS. AGM followed by Branch Photographic Competition. Starts 19.30. £1 Admission. Contact B.Cross on 01525 750149.

PW Institution (Nottingham & Derby)
Aston Court Hotel, adjacent to Derby Station. Derby. 'Peterborough to Nuneaton W10 Gauge Clearance Project' by Rob Clark & Andrew Farnwoth. Starts 18.30. Contact Colin Cowey on 07946 482343.

PW Institution (West Yorkshire/York)
NRM, York. 'North East Railway Engineers Forum'. Starts 18.30. Contact Martin Wooff on 07747 160949 for details.

RCTS (Hull)
Upstairs, The Highway Public House, Willerby Road, Hull. 'A Journey from Cromer to Whitby' by Tony Arnold. Starts 19.30. Contact the Secretary at richardh@djbroady.co.uk for details.

21st September 2011
Permanent Way Institution(Glasgow)
Uptairs Lounge, The Iron Horse, West Nile Street, Glasgow. 'Haymarket North Tunnel - Track and OHL Works' by Greg McMillan and Ross Nelson. Starts 17.30. Contact Jack Scott on 07789 765291 for further details.

Stephenson Locomotive Society
The Scout and Guide Hall, Godalming. 'The Redhill to Reading Line' by Bruce Nathan. Starts 14.15. Contact 01372 379216 for details.

22nd September 2011
Gravesend Railway Enthusiasts Society
Emmanuel Baptist Church, Windmill Street, Gravesent DA12 1BB. 'AGM'. Starts 19.45. Contact Bob Poole on 01474 326232 for further details.

MHR Preservation Society (Thames Valley)
Church House, Church Street, Caversham, Reading RG4 8AX. 'The Gloucester and Warwickshire Railway' by David Hall. Starts 19.30. £2 donation. Contact info@mid-hants-thames-valley.org.uk for further details.

Locomotive Club of Great Britain (Nth West)
The Pied Bull, 54 High Street, Newton-le-Willows. WA12 9SH 'Nothing After 1968' by Richard Greenwood. Starts 19.30. £2 donation. Contact Neville Bond on 01925 226473 for further details.

Stevenage Loco Society
The Community Arts Centre, Roaring Meg Retail Park, London Road, Stevenage SG1 1XN 'Dave Bakers Film Night' Starts 19.45. Admission £2. Contact Alan Pitt on 07803 046076 for further details.

Back Issues

All back issues are available on our website, 24 hours a day - visit **www.railwayherald.com** and click on 'Magazine'.

Rear Cover Caption

BR 'Britannia' Pacific No. 70000 *Britannia* heads the return leg of Steam Dreams 'Cathedrals Express' from Norwich to London King's Cross on 21st August through Harling Road, near Thetford. John Whitehouse

Magazine Information

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

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