Railway Herald

Issue 285 - 26th September 2011

The weekly railway enthusiasts' magazine

Railway Herald

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26th September 2011

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New station officially opened at Southend Airport

The station at Southend Airport, completed back in July, was officially opened on 21st September by the Rt. Hon. Theresa Villiers MP, the Minister of State for Transport. The station is part of a £16 million investment by the Stobart Group in the airport.

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East Midlands Trains has named two of its Class 222 Meridian units within the last seven days, each having a business theme.
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Front Cover Caption:

On 17th September, the NRM's Class 55 'Deltic' No. 55002 *Kings Own Yorkshire Light Infantry* **awaits departure from Levisham with the 13.30 Grosmont to Pickering service. John Bollans**

▲ At London King's Cross, passengers stream off the 11.54 East Coast HST service from Newark Northgate on 22nd September, most not giving a second glance to the light and airy atmosphere created since Network Rail uncovered the first section of the refurbished roof over Platforms 5 to 8. **Richard Tuplin**

Let there be light as Network Rail uncovers new look roof

For the first time in half a century, people can pass through the platforms at King's Cross station in natural daylight after the first section of the new roof was completed.

As part of an extensive six-year redevelopment of the terminus, the 270 metre-long iron and glass roof above Platforms 1 to 8 is being completely refurbished.

Once complete, 7,500 clear glass panels and over 1,400 photovoltaic panels, will reduce the station's carbon footprint by 10%, and will have replaced the yellowing fibreglass that was installed in the 1970s. Grit blasters stripped layers of paint from the ironwork before repainting and carrying out any minor repairs.

In some places 32 different coats of paint had been applied over the years until it was a centimetre thick and any detail in the intricate ironwork was lost. The roof is Grade I listed and consequently, English Heritage and conservation planners have been closely involved in all aspects of the restoration, which has meant 80 specialists working on the roof for over two years, including lead workers, conservation masons and roof glaziers. More sections of the roof will be revealed by the end of this month, with the entire length completed before the end of the year.

The majority of the station redevelopment, including a new concourse to the west of the station, will be completed in time for the London 2012 Olympics, with the complete transformation scheduled to be finalised by 2013.

Up, up and away for NXEA Class 321 EMU

The station at Southend Airport, completed back in July, was officially opened on 21st September by the Rt. Hon. Theresa Villiers MP, the Minister of State for Transport.

The new station has up to eight services to London Liverpool Street each hour, and is operated and staffed by Stobart Rail, the rail division of the Stobart Group. The project represents a private sector investment of £16 million by the Stobart Group, with other major developments such as the runway extension, new terminal and hotel set for completion in 2012, and from April next year Easyjet will operate over 70 departures each week across nine routes, serving places such as Alicante, Belfast, Jersey and Mallorca.

▲ In all white unbranded livery, National Express East Anglia Class 321/3 No. 321351 arrives at Southend Airport on 21st September, to be named *London Southend Airport*.

◀ The Rt. Hon. Theresa Villiers MP, the Minister of State for Transport, cuts the tape to officially open Southend Airport station on 21st September.
All: Brian Morrison

First Group operators introduce special fares for 'Over 55s'

FirstGroup has announced that its popular 'Club 55', a discounted, 'walk up and go' rail travel offer for people aged 55 and over, has been reintroduced.

From 19th September over 55s can travel on all of First Group's train operating companies (First Great Western, ScotRail, First TransPennine Express, First Hull Trains and First Capital Connect) for just £20 return (£19 for ScotRail services) or if travelling First Class £35 return (£26 for ScotRail services).

More than 225,000 return tickets were sold in 2010 through the 'Club 55' offer, and the Group is predicting that this year even more passengers will take advantage of the offer, which runs until 20th November in England and Wales and until 30th November for ScotRail services. In England and Wales, the scheme will have four travel zones, with tickets starting from £20 return and then £15 for each extra zone. In Scotland, the offer is particularly generous, allowing return travel between any two stations across the country, including Carlisle and Berwick-upon-Tweed, for £19 return or £26 First Class.

With October around the corner, the Sandite season approaches

▼ **DRS Class 37/6 No. 37607 passes through Doncaster on 14th September, with a York Klondyke to Doncaster Belmont Yard working, conveying RHTT wagons for transfer to other parts of the Network. It is understood that the RHTT operations are likely to commence from 3rd October. Neil Scarlett**

▲ **Nottingham City Council leader Jon Collins unveils the name on Class 222 Meridian No. 222022 at Nottingham on 19th September. Richard Tuplin**

Business namings lead the way for EMT

East Midlands Trains joined representatives from the 'Invest in Nottingham Club' to officially launch the city's 'Invest in Nottingham' day!

As part of the day, EMT Meridian No. 222022 was named after the day by the leader of Nottingham City Council, Jon Collins, who praised the productive relationship with EMT, especially with regards to the multi-million pound 'Hub' station improvement scheme. The naming took place on 19th September at the city's station, prior to the unit departing with the 10.02 service from Nottingham to London St Pancras International.

Elsewhere, on 22nd September stars of the BBC's Apprentice, Claire Young, Melody Hossaini, Palomo Vivanco and Dr Shibby Robati, teamed up with Tim Shoveller, Managing Director of East Midlands Trains, at St Pancras International to unveil the name *The Entrepreneur Express* on Class 222 Meridian No. 222001. The event marked the start of this year's entrepreneur festival, which started that day in Sheffield and included a series of high profile events from partners, including StartUp Britain, Virgin Media and TEDx.

▶ **At St Pancras on 22nd September are (l to r) Dick Palmer, Melody Hossaini, Fintan Donahue, Paloma Vivanco, Dr Shibby Robati, Tim Shoveller, Claire Young and Andrew Haigh from Coutts, who sponsored the nameplates. EMT**

UK News In Brief

■ The Welsh Government has made a £1.4 million annual investment to provide additional passenger services to Fishguard Harbour. The first of the new trains departed on 12th September, and provided five new services to Carmarthen, giving a major boost to public transport in North Pembrokeshire. A timetable for the new services was developed following close consultation with the local community and a variety of interested groups, in order to ensure that it best fits the needs of the region. The extra trains run in both directions Monday to Saturday, and are in addition to the two current services that connect with the ferries to Ireland.

■ Wagon hire company VTG Rail UK has signed a new five-year maintenance contract with Railcare for the upkeep of its wagon fleet, which commenced on 1st September. Following the end of its previous maintenance contract, VTG took the opportunity to completely review the way it maintained its fleet, and in particular was keen to learn from the success achieved on the passenger side of the rail industry. The objective was to find a maintainer with a very proactive approach to managing wagon availability, obsolescence, and the unplanned problems that can happen on the rail network. The company implemented a new structure incorporating separate maintenance packages for wheelsets, airbrake equipment, bogies and RID tank testing. All have been taken on by RailCare, with the exception of tank testing, which is to be awarded later in the year.

■ German manufacturer Herrenknecht has won the contracts to supply all of the eight tunnel boring machines (TBMs) on the Crossrail project. The contract for the final two TBMs, which will construct the twin-bored tunnel under the River Thames was the last to be awarded. The first two TBMs will launch from Royal Oak, near Paddington, in spring next year.

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Metro and Light Rail News

▲ An admiring audience at Baker Street on 21st September, as a London Underground engineers' train passes through Platform 2, with 1964 Metro-Cammell battery loco No. L21 on the rear. **Brian Morrison**

New deal for Edinburgh Trams

A new deal has at last been signed between Edinburgh City Council and Bilfinger Berger for the construction of the beleaguered Edinburgh tram system.

The move follows the news that Transport Scotland is to help manage the scheme, with the aim of completing the system by summer 2014 at a cost of £776 million. The work will include trams operating from Edinburgh Airport through Haymarket to St Andrew Square, adjacent to Edinburgh's Waverley station.

Network Rail and SWT join to improve passenger communication

Following the large-scale disruption to around 80,000 passengers that resulted from the Woking cable theft incident in June this year, South West Trains and Network Rail have pledged action to help prevent such further incidents.

The move includes providing better passenger communications, extra resources and improved contingency plans, and smartphone investment for 850 front-line staff. In addition, the Government has been called upon to introduce tough new measures to tackle the growing problem of cable theft on the rail network, including new rules to clamp down on unscrupulous scrap metal merchants.

Also, further significant improvements to help passengers and rail staff will be introduced in the months ahead, including the introduction of bespoke email travel alerts for passengers, a mobile version of the South West Trains website, the introduction of a new web-based application to help ticket office and customer service centres and help point staff receive up-to-date messages from the control centre, roll-out of a more comprehensive and reliable train cab communication system, and extra resources to deliver information via social media channels, such as Twitter.

The Irish Angle

▲ The last four-car Class 80 worked its final public service train on 23rd September, although the set was allocated to work a charter service two days later. Here, Nos. 8090, 8749, 8752 and 8094 provide the motive power for the 14.57 NIR service from Larne Harbour to Belfast Central, seen near Magheramorne. **Chris Playfair**

DB Schenker operates two trial trains of salt to the North East

The annual movement of salt to be stockpiled for use in gritting the road network during the worst of the winter weather has received an environmental boost.

Nationwide Gritting and Salt Supplies, Associated British Ports and DB Schenker have joined forces and completed, what is believed to be the first-ever long distance movement of salt by rail from the Port of Southampton to Teeside.

Each train was loaded with 1,200 tonnes of salt at the new aggregate terminal within the Port of Southampton, and then transported by rail to Thornaby, where it was unloaded and taken by road for local distribution.

The first trial train left Southampton on 16th September, with a second working following on 21st September. Both services have been declared successful and the full results of the trial will now be evaluated, with the expectation that regular services can be introduced, allowing the traffic to move from road to rail.

The ABP Port Director for Southampton, Doug Morrison, said: "Traditionally, the movement of salt has been by road to locations close to the port of discharge. These innovative rail movements undertaken now offer the market a sustainable alternative in moving this bulk cargo to more distant centres".

▼ Class 60 No. 60049 powers out of Toton on 19th September, while working a departmental service to Whitemoor Yard. **Craig Adamson**

Station Improvements Round-Up

A 12-ton footbridge to improve accessibility at Wrexham General station has been lifted into place, marking a new milestone for the station improvement programme.

The major programme of work was carried out in 12 hours by 18 engineers working around the clock, with no disruption to passenger services. In addition to the new bridge, a new lift now provides step-free access connecting Platform 4 to the ticket office and other platforms, making access much easier for people with reduced mobility. The improvements also include much better lighting, the installation of CCTV, and platforms being refurbished with tactile paving.

Work to improve step-free access at Leominster has started, passengers to benefit from two new lifts to make access between the station entrance, ticket office and platform. The £1 million improvement is part of the national 'Access for All' scheme, backed by the Department for Transport, which aims to provide step-free access to around 145 stations in England, Scotland and Wales. The new lifts are designed to provide passengers with a safe and secure environment, being well lit and equipped with CCTV. The platforms will also be refurbished with tactile paving. Once the accessibility work is completed, refurbishment to the station will be carried out with a new waiting area, public toilets and extra platform seats. This work will be undertaken as part of the National Station Improvement Programme (NSIP).

Work to provide step-free access at Bridgend station has also started under 'Access for All', a new footbridge, complete with lifts and stairs being provided at a cost of £2.4 million. The scheme is scheduled for completion by early 2012.

Under the NSIP scheme, Exeter Central and Exeter St Davids stations are having £7 million spent on them, the refurbishments being designed to provide better facilities, including new waiting shelters, toilets and real-time digital customer information systems. The improvements at Exeter Central will include a revamped Queen Street entrance with two new shops, a bigger ticket hall and ticket office facility, new waiting room and help desk area on Platform 2, a new waiting room on Platform 3, a strengthened footbridge, and a new real-time customer service information system with new telephone help points

At Exeter St. Davids, an improved ticket hall will be provided, together with refurbished toilets on all platforms, refurbished waiting area and waiting rooms on Platforms 1, 2 and 3, a new waiting shelter on Platforms 5 and 6, and new real-time customer service information system with help points. An integrated transport hub with interchange facilities with drop-off points for buses and taxis will also be provided.

Network Rail, has now started preliminary works for the new £20 million station redevelopment at East Croydon, which is to have an improved concourse area and a new footbridge and lifts towards the London end of the station. The advance works that are currently underway are in preparation for the dismantling and removal of the old Royal Mail conveyor bridge, which will take place over the Christmas shut down period this year. The station subway linking all platforms was temporarily closed to the public on 25th September, while equipment is used to drill some bore holes that will test local ground conditions for the eventual foundations for the new footbridge.

Consultation to increase capacity to Redditch

Network Rail has held a public consultation to give members of the public the opportunity to comment on plans to increase capacity on the Redditch branch.

The existing single track line limits the amount of services that can run from Redditch, Alvechurch and Barnt Green into Birmingham. The current proposal is to build a new section of track that starts just north of Alvechurch and runs south towards Redditch for around two miles.

This would enable the number of services running from Redditch, Alvechurch and Barnt Green to increase from two to three per hour in either direction. The project would also mean building a second platform at Alvechurch, and a new means of accessing it. Should the proposals go ahead, work could start in autumn 2013 and be completed by summer 2014.

Jo Kaye, Route Director at Network Rail, said: "Rail routes into Birmingham are expected to grow significantly over the next 20 years. It is important that we act now to meet this anticipated growth, and schemes like the one on the Redditch branch line help to provide more space for current passengers, and also build capacity for future passengers".

Brunel Goods Shed shortlisted for award

A total of 16 local groups have been chosen to go forward to the finals of the English Heritage Angel Awards in London on 31st October.

English Heritage experts have sifted carefully through more than 200 applications received since the competition was introduced in June. Looking for passion, perseverance and imagination as well as the scale of the challenge and how well it had been tackled, they came up with a shortlist that included the Brunel Goods Shed at Stroud, Gloucestershire, as "The Best Rescue of an Industrial Building or Site'.

The award ceremony will be held at the Palace Theatre in London's West End.

▼ **Class 66/7 No. 66707** *Sir Sam Fay* **passes Strood with repainted Class 466s Nos. 466003 and 466038 working from Tonbridge West Yard to Slade Green on 14th September. Lewis Smith**

Rail grinder named after Network Rail colleague

A charity bike ride in aid of the Great North Air Ambulance by members of Network Rail's National Delivery Service (NDS), in memory of Roger South, a colleague who died in March 2010, took place in late September, concluding with a naming at the NRM.

The riders were all part of a charity event that took them from Land's End to John O'Groats over 10 days in 2009. Roger suffered a fall during the ride and was rescued by the Great North Air Ambulance. Sadly, he never recovered from his injuries. On 22nd September, one of Network Rail's Loram C21 Rail Grinder sets, used by NDS during the maintenance of the network, was named in Roger's honour at the NRM by his mother, with family members and colleagues in attendance.

▲ **Loram C21, comprising vehicles Nos. DR79241-DR79247, stands in the South Yard of the NRM, prior to the naming.**

▶ **Roger's family are pictured alongside No. DR79247, shortly after the nameplate was unveiled. Both: Chris Dixon**

▲ **The weekly Sunday afternoon GBRailfreight locomotive positioning convoy is pictured passing Eaton Lane, near Gamston, on the ECML, on 18th September. Class 66/7 No. 66713** *Forest City* **leads six classmates, Nos. 66710** *Phil Packer BRIT*, **66701, 66726** *Sheffield Wednesday*, **66736, 66716 and 66737** *Lesia*. **Brian Hall**

Deltic 22 back on the Alcans

Following its journey north of the border on Spitfire Railtours' charter to Oban, Class 55 'Deltic' No. 55022 *Royal Scots Grey* **has returned to freight work in the North East.**

The locomotive headed from Bury to North Blyth on 22nd September, prior to working the Alcan traffic for GBRailfreight once again. It is not currently known how long 'RSG' will be employed on the workings.

Merseyrail disruption

Merseyrail services were heavily disrupted on 23rd September, after signalling equipment was damaged.

A Merseyrail statement said that the passengers suffered "significant delay" due to "damage to key signalling equipment as a result of actions by Network Rail, resulting in all power to signalling across the entire [Merseyrail] network being lost."

Merseyrail Managing Director, Bart Schmeink, was quick to show his dismay at the problems, posting on Twitter: "I am extremely disappointed with Network Rail and their careless actions have brought our entire network to a standstill".

George Hinchcliffe 1922-2011

Obituary by Chris Wragg

In the year that sees the 40th anniversary of main line steam, one of the links with those early days was lost on 20th September with the sudden death of George Hinchcliffe, former Managing Director of Steamtown Railway Museum and Chairman of the Steam Locomotive Operator's Association, at the age of 89.

George's interest in railways developed at an early age thanks to having the Great Central line through Gainsborough at the end of the street. After an apprenticeship at the local engineering firm of Marshall Sons & Co, famous for its traction engines, stationary engines and boilers, wartime service with the Royal Navy saw him take the opportunities offered to fire engines of all of the 'Big Four' companies and even the Northern Counties Committee. While serving in the Pacific, he was astonished to find Robinson 2-8-0s working in the Suez Canal, Hong Kong and Australia.

After the war he turned to a career in teaching, and in 1946 was the founding force behind the Gainsborough Model Railway Society (GMRS) with which he was to remain closely associated for the rest of his life, and he was one of the founders and later President of the Gauge 0 Guild. It was through the construction of a model railway for the centenary of the Great Northern 'Towns Line' (which was even exhibited at King's Cross station) that George met Alan Pegler. The following year he helped with the bookings for the 'Plant Centenarian' which featured the two preserved GN Atlantics.

The GMRS itself started to organise railtours later in the 1950s, highlights included taking LNER Pacifics *W P Allen* and *Mallard* to Blackpool. The pilot to *Mallard* on the return trip was the Midland Compound, making its first run in preservation. Notable trips in the early 1960s included specials to mark the withdrawal of the Great Central J11s and O4s.

When Alan Pegler saved *Flying Scotsman* in 1963, George and other GMRS members organised the tours under the guise of Flying Scotsman Enterprises. In 1969, George left his teaching job to become Operations Manager and later General Manager on *Flying Scotsman*'s ill-fated tour of Canada and the United States.

George returned to Britain when the trip hit the blocks, but went back to the USA to negotiate *Flying Scotsman*'s purchase, to which Bill McAlpine agreed on the basis that George would run the loco for him. After its brief stint at Market Overton, the search for a new base resulted Bill go into partnership with Joe Greenwood and Peter Beet at Steamtown, Carnforth, with George appointed Managing Director. His years at Steamtown were probably the heyday of the depot as an active steam centre. It played a major role in many of the main line steam tours of the late 1970s and early 1980s, and George served as Chairman of the Steam Locomotive Operators Association.

He played a major role in the organisation of the 150th anniversary cavalcade at Shildon in 1975. Other highlights of his period at Steamtown were the restoration of the initial Pullman cars for the Venice-Simplon Orient Express, construction of the replica of the Dean Single *The Queen* for the Madame Tussaud's Royalty and Railways Exhibition at Windsor, and building the 15" gauge carriages for the Liverpool International Garden Festival. According to a story in an early issue of *Steam Railway* magazine, he also claimed the world long-jump record for a 15" gauge steam loco!

While at Steamtown, he helped to stage railway scenes for several films at York including 'Agatha' with Dustin Hoffman and Vanessa Redgrave, when *Flying Scotsman* was disguised as *Enterprise* and *Victor Wild*. He also helped with the production of a number of TV series including the original 'Great Railway Journeys' with Michael Palin. However, his own brief moment on the big screen came in the film 'The Dresser' when he was cast as the driver of *Duchess of Hamilton* and uttered the immortal words "Sod off" to Tom Courtenay!

After suffering a heart attack, George retired in 1984. He did make a brief return to the helm at Steamtown, and was active for some years with the Railway Heritage Trust, as well as helping to organise *Flying Scotsman's* visit to Australia. But much of his retirement was devoted to model railways, with a large O gauge layout firstly in his garden and later in the loft.

He remained active to the end, being present earlier this year at the NRM when *Flying Scotsman* was unveiled in LNER Black, and enjoying a weekend on the Great Central Railway at the end of August. His last model loco was delivered to the paint shop only a few weeks before his death.

▼ **A young George Hinchcliffe shows his model of LNER O4 2-8-0 No. 63585 to the driver of the real thing. Gainsborough MRS collection**

Deutsche Bahn to start commercial services from London in 2013

Following the announcement in October last year that Deutsche Bahn was looking to commence operations from London, it has been confirmed that European services will start in late 2013.

It is expected that three trains a day will operate from London St Pancras International through the Channel Tunnel to Brussels, from where they will split, with one half heading for Amsterdam, a destination that has been a long held ambition for Eurostar, while the other half will proceed to Frankfurt, via Cologne.

It is understood that when services commence in December 2013, they will use the latest Siemens-built ICE3 fleet, known as Class 407 EMUs, providing access to Amsterdam in less than four hours, and Frankfurt in around five hours.

Eurostar is following DB with the purchase of 10 high-speed sets from Siemens that will become, what Eurostar call e320 sets, signifying their top speed. The trains will carry 900 passengers, as apposed to the 750 capacity of the current Class 373 Alstom built TGV variant. When Eurostar announced the new order in October 2010, the company stated that the new trains would allow additional destinations to be served, including Amsterdam and Geneva.

The News In Pictures

◀ When Freightliner's Class 66/5 No. 66514 was declared a failure at Preston on 23rd September, with a seized traction motor, the company hired in DRS Class 37/6 No. 37610, which was in the area on route learning duties, to take the wagons forward. The train, working from Fiddlers Ferry Power Station to Hunterston, departed Preston over four hours late, and operated via the Settle & Carlisle line. The '66' remained in Platform 3 at Preston, awaiting the arrival of a wheelskate to allow it to be recovered to Crewe. **Mike Birtles**

◀▼ Class 67 No. 67003 stands at Toton on 18th September, sporting what is presumably the base livery to its new Arriva colour-scheme. **Robert Jefferys**

▼ Carrying the latest ScotRail Saltire livery Class 320 No. 320306 is pictured while stabled in Doncaster West Yard freshly outshopped from Wabtec on 22nd September, and awaiting transfer back north. **David Wragg**

UK Steam & Modern Traction Railtour Listings

Monday 26th September 2011

UK Railtours	tbc	Dumbarton Central-Carstairs-Carlisle-Preston-Crewe-Stafford-Rugby-Euston
WCRC	Jacobite Pool	Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig and return

Tuesday 27th September 2011

Cruise Saver Travel	DRS Class 47	Edinburgh-Newcastle-Leeds-Solihull-Oxford-Basingstoke-Southampton Docks
WCRC	Jacobite Pool	Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig and return

Wednesday 28th September 2011

Compass Tours	2xWCRC 47	Brighouse-Hebden Bridge-Preston-Ravenglass-Carlisle-S&C-Normanton-Mirfield-Brighouse-Hebden Bridge-Burnley Manchester Rd-Accrington-Blackburn
Railtourer	tbc	(Skegness-Grantham-)York-Scarborough-Bridlington-Selby-York(-Grantham-Skegness)
Railway Touring Co.	34067	London Victoria-Swanley-Rye-Hastings-Battle-Sevenoaks-Swanley-London Victoria
Torbay Express Ltd	4492 or 70000	Poole-Bournemouth-Southampton Central-Bath Spa-Bristol Temple Meads & rtn
WCRC	Jacobite Pool	Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig and return

Thursday 29th September 2011

WCRC	Jacobite Pool	Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig and return

Friday 30th September 2011

Steam Dreams	tbc	London King's Cross-York & return	**Cancelled**
WCRC	Jacobite Pool	Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig and return	
VSOE	60163	London Victoria-Staines-Woking-Guildford-Shalford-Redhill-London Victoria	

Saturday 1st October 2011

Ranger Trains	DBS Class 67	Chesterfield-Southend Central & return	**Cancelled**
Train of Hope	46115	Crewe-Shap-Carlisle-S&C-Hellifield-Warrington Bank Quay-Crewe	
Vintage Trains	5043	(Tyseley WR-)Birmingham NS-Stafford-Crewe-Liverpool Lime Street & return	
UK Railtours	tbc	London KX-York-Norton Jcts-Ferryhill-Pelaw Jct-Bolden West Jct-Tyne Dock-Billingham Jct-Seal Sands-Eaglescliffe-Yarm-Northallerton-York-London KX	
Pathfinder Tours	2xDBS 66	Crewe-Barnt Green-Bristol Parkway-Tondu-Landore-Llandeilo Jct-Pantyffynon-Gwaun-Cae-Gurwen-Cwmgwrack Branch-Cardiff-Barnt Green-Crewe	

Sunday 2nd October 2011

Saltburn 150 Celebrations	48151	York-Middlesbrough-Saltburn West Jct-Crag Hall-Boulby-(Boulby-Crag Hall-Saltburn-(Saltburn-)Stockton-Eaglescliffe-Northallerton-York
Saltburn 150 Celebrations	48151	(Saltburn-)Saltburn West Jn-Crag Hall-Boulby(-Crag Hall-)Saltburn West Jct-Saltburn

Monday 3rd October 2011

WCRC	Jacobite Pool	Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig and return

Tuesday 4th October 2011

WCRC	Jacobite Pool	Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig and return

Wednesday 5th October 2011

Compass Tours	tbc	Holyhead-Bangor-Llandudno Jct-Crewe-Bath Spa-Westbury-Salisbury & return
Railtourer	2xWCRC 47	Lincoln-Sheffield-Doncaster-Leeds-S&C-Carlisle-Hexham-Doncaster & return
Torbay Express Ltd	70000	Poole-Bournemouth--Southampton Central-Bath Spa-Bristol TM & return
WCRC	Jacobite Pool	Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig and return

Thursday 6th October 2011

Steam Dreams	34067	London Victoria-Salisbury-Bath Spa-Bristol Temple Meads & 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.

Final call for Train of Hope ticket sales

After a big build up to the main event, the 'Train of Hope' will depart from Crewe on 1st October, bound for Preston and Carlisle, returning via the scenic S&C line.

Tickets for the train have sold well, with only 58 seats remaining as this issue went to press, although of those, only six tables of four remain empty. To raise as much money as possible for CLIC Sargent, the benefitting charity, the tour organisers are offering a special 25% discount to any passengers booking a table for four.

The day should continue the excellent fund raising activities that have so far taken place this year, the latest of which, the 'Train of Hope Raffle' was drawn by Claire Young on 17th September and raised £7,624.

Saltburn 150 tickets available from York TIC

As detailed in our last issue, the Saltburn 150 steam charter operates on 2nd October, including the rare ability to travel over the Boulby branch.

The organisers advise that in addition to Saltburn TIC, tickets can now be obtained by phone or in person, from York Tourist Information Centre, details can be found in the advert on page 13 in this issue.

Opportunities to traverse the coastal line are rare, and the owners have granted special permission for the charter to use the route. Originally closed as a result of the Beeching cuts in 1963, it was reopened when potash was discovered at Boulby.

King Edward I bids farewell to 'Torbay Express'

▼ **Heading the final 'Torbay Express' of the season, GWR 'King' 4-6-0 No. 6024 *King Edward I* heads along the Dawlish Sea Wall on 18th September. Bernard Warr**

Railtour Spotlight

by John Whitehouse

There is a veritable treat on offer from the charter companies this week, featuring a wide variety of both traction and routes. However, top of the list is not from an established tour operator, it is 'The Train of Hope' on 1st October.

Organised by a group of five Longsight-based Virgin Trains' drivers to raise £50,000 for the CLIC Sargent childrens cancer charity, they have organised raffles, auctions and now the centrepiece, the steam-hauled working from Crewe to Carlisle, outwards over Shap and returning by way of the Settle & Carlisle. West Coast's 'Royal Scot' No. 46115 *Scots Guardsman* is the chosen traction, which will make a fitting sight at the head of a very special train.

Vintage Trains is always on the lookout for somewhere new to take its flagship locomotive, 'Castle' No. 5043 *Earl of Mount Edgcumbe*, and on 1st October it is Liverpool Lime Street. The train title 'Ticket to Ride' may be obscure to a few, but those of the 1960s generation will immediately recognise the title as one of the Beatles big hits of that period, and maybe a visit to the 'new' Cavern Club would be an interesting way of occupying the layover time in Liverpool. The train is steam-hauled throughout by No. 5043, and will take the Grand Junction line from Birmingham New Street (no doubt having been dragged at the rear of the train to New Street by a Class 47), running via Wolverhampton, Stafford and Crewe to Weaver Junction, Runcorn and Liverpool Lime Street.

Good old fashioned 'track bashing' charters are very much in prominence on 1st October, with both UK Railtours and Pathfinder wending their way, respectively, through the backwoods of the North East and the valleys of South Wales. A feature of the UK Railtours' charter is probably, the first-ever visit of a passenger train to the buffer stops on Teeside's Seal Sands branch. Previous charters got no further than Seal Sands Branch Junction due to the noxious nature of the chemicals being brewed along the tip of the branch. Nowadays production is far less hazardous, thus permitting this visit to take place. The train, entitled 'The Tees Goblin' (which for the uninitiated, is in recognition of the much lauded 'teasmade' that was produced in the area by a company called 'Goblin'), starts its day at London King's Cross, and after the usual pick-ups through to Peterborough, follows the East Coast Main Line to York and Northallerton, where it diverges to Stockton and Norton Junction to regain the ECML at Ferryhill. The train avoids Newcastle by taking the Gateshead line along the south bank of the River Tyne, to visit Tyne Dock, before continuing along the Durham Coast, via Sunderland and Hartlepool, for the historic visit to Seal Sands. DBS traction should feature throughout.

Meanwhile, Pathfinder has secured special dispensation from Network Rail and the Office of Rail Regulation to visit Gwaun-Cae-Gurwen as part of its 'Coal Grinder' tour that works south from Crewe to Newport, picking up via Birmingham New Street. After reversals at Tondu and Llandeilo Junction, the train first visits 'G-C-G', followed by Jersey Marine and Swansea Burrows Junction en route to the Cwmgwrach branch. The return makes a detour around the back of Cardiff Canton Depot, via the Leckwith Loop and Ninian Park, before heading to Newport and home as outwards. DRS traction will feature, with a pair of Class 37s assisted by a Class 66/4 in the Valleys.

On Sunday 2nd October is the York to Boulby special, featuring Class 8F 2-8-0 No. 48151 in conjunction with the 'Saltburn 150' celebrations, which will also include a Saltburn to Boulby shuttle during the main train's layover period.

Interestingly, Wednesday 28th September is also packed with tours, consisting of three steam-hauled and one diesel-hauled. Pick of the bunch has to be Railtourers' 'Scarborough Spa Express', which originates at Skegness and operates behind a West Coast Class 47 to York, where Stanier 8F 2-8-0 No. 48151 will be waiting to take the train forward to Scarborough. The return is the really interesting section, as the train is advertised to take the Yorkshire Wolds coastal route through Bridlington and Beverley to the Humber estuary, and then back to York through Goole and Selby.

There is abundant steam-haulage in the south also, with RTC operating a 'Sussex Belle' from London Victoria to Hastings, while Torbay Express has a 'Bath Spa Express' working from Poole, the latter possibly featuring Britannia. However, motive power for the 'Sussex Belle' depends on whether Carnforth can complete repairs to *Tangmere* in time. The non-steam working is Compass Railtours 'Cumbrian Mountain Express', which sets out from Brighouse and initially works west, via Copy Pit to Preston, before following the Cumbrian Coast line to Carlisle. The return will be over the S&C and Calder Valley.

On Friday 30th September, A1 Class Pacific No. 60163 *Tornado* has charge of the VSOE British Pullman luncheon circular around the Surrey Hills, deputising for No. 35028 *Clan Line*, which is undergoing annual maintenance.

The final working should have been Steam Dreams' 'Cathedrals Express' from London King's Cross to York, that was booked to feature steam in each direction. The operation of the train was dependent upon a suitable mid-week path being found along the ECML and the provision of a suitable locomotive. With no locomotive available, the train has been cancelled - ironically, both of the previously booked, then unavailable, locomotives, Class A4s Nos. 60007 *Sir Nigel Gresley* & 4492 *Dominion of New Zealand* (alias No. 60019 *Bittern*) are no longer available, and they should both be on the North Yorkshire Moors Railway that day, with No. 60007 still under repair, while No. 4492 will be taking part in the railway's steam gala.

▼ **LNER 'A4' Pacific No. 4492** *Dominion of New Zealand* **storms past Crofton on 17th September, with 'The Mayflower' charter from London Euston to Plymouth. The train was assisted by GWR 'Castle' 4-6-0 No. 5029** *Nunney Castle* **over the Devon Banks. Stephen Moore**

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Special Steam Train Journey

On **Sunday 2nd October 2011**
The Saltburn 150 will leave the city of **York**
and travel to **Boulby** in North Yorkshire.

The Saltburn Boulby line has been opened by
arrangement with the owners for this very special occasion.

The steam train will travel from York to Boulby,
calling at Saltburn by the Sea.
During the return journey passengers will alight for a 3-hour period
at Saltburn, allowing an opportunity
to visit that town which is celebrating its 150th anniversary.

Tickets are priced at £45.

These are obtainable by telephone or in person from
York Tourist Information Office 01904 550099
Also Redcar Tourist Information **01642 471921**.

Tickets are for nominated carriages and are allocated to specific seats.
Approximate train times are

Depart York	09.30
Arrive Boulby	12.15
Arrive Saltburn	13.59
Depart Saltburn for York	18.28
Arrive York	21.00

All times are approximate and passengers are advised to arrive at stations in good time.
No responsibility can be accepted by the promoter for any variation to the provisional timetable

▲ **The 'Northern Belle' operated an afternoon tea charter from Leicester to Nottingham on 18th September, travelling via Kettering, Corby and Melton Mowbray. Having just departed from Nottingham, the outward trip leaves the city and passes Lenton South Junction, with Class 47/7s Nos. 47790** *Galloway Princess* **and 47832** *Solway Princess* **in 'top and tail' mode providing the motive power. John Illingworth**

Ups & Downs

■ Steam Dreams has cancelled its London Kings Cross to York charter on 30th September. The operation of the train was dependent upon a mid-week charter path being found along the ECML and the provision of a suitable locomotive - the original proposals for the train both having been ruled out with No. 60007 *Sir Nigel Gresley* still undergoing repairs, and No. 4492 *Dominion of New Zealand* also being located on the North Yorkshire Moors Railway, to take part in the line's steam gala.

■ Spitfire Railtours has hit the buffers with its working from Taunton to York on 15th October. The company say that its train operating company, West Coast Railway, has advised that it is unable to operate the charter because of "rolling stock and traincrew procurement issues". The train has been redated to 5th November, while the following day's 'Exe Tractor' charter, which should have taken in the Exmouth branch has been cancelled altogether as a result of engineering work affecting the booked route.

■ The booked London Kings Cross to York charter on 24th September, promoted by Railway Touring Company, had to be cancelled two days prior to operation, as a result of technical problems with the booked locomotive, LNER 'A4' Pacific No. 4492 *Dominion of New Zealand*. A new date for the train is awaited.

'The Cathedrals Express' from Woking to Lincoln and return, passes Gomshall, near Guildford, on 15th September, powered by A1 class Pacific No 60163 *Tornado*.
Yoshi Hashida

With Class 37/5 No. 37510 on the rear, Class 37/0 No. 37229 passes Shadwell with Pathfinder Tours 'Buffer Puffer 9.0' charter from Crewe, as it heads for Fenchurch Street on 17th September. During the day, the train also visited the c2c depot at East Ham, as well as Aldershot, London Victoria and Selhurst Depot before returning back north. **Rob Wheatley**

LMS 'Princess Royal' Pacific No. 6201 *Princess Elizabeth* **awaits departure from Darlington on 17th September, on the return journey to York of the first NRM shuttle service of the day. It was looped in the station awaiting the departure of a late-running King's Cross service. Four shuttles were operated over the weekend linking York with Locomotion at Shildon. J. Mckever**

DRS Class 37s Nos. 37194 and 37668 climb to Houghton Summit with Spitfire Railtours charter from Birmingham International to Carlisle on 17th September. **Mick Langton**

News Briefs

■ Due to pressures of work and space at Eastleigh works, the project which could have seen the NRM's Class 71 No. E5001 return to the main line, will not proceed within the foreseeable future, though the Museum says it remains an aspiration for both parties. No. E5001 remains on display at Locomotion and it is the intention to display it as hauling the 'Golden Arrow', complete with headboard and flags.

■ The NRM's replica of the Liverpool & Manchester Railway's *Rocket* will be in steam at Isfield on the Lavender Line on 1st/2nd and 8th/9th October, during the line's Transport Gala, which also celebrates 20 years of progress for the railway.

South Tynedale win £49,900 grant to fund loco restoration

Thanks to a Heritage Lottery Fund grant of £49,900 and donations large and small from well-wishers, *Barber*, the South Tynedale Railway's two-foot gauge Green's of Leeds saddle tank, named as a compliment to the gas works company Chairman Francis Barber, will be steaming again.

Its boiler was lifted from the frames for a full professional inspection and the examination revealed that apart from some work to the copper firebox, a new set of tubes and some basic remedial works, it was overall in relatively sound condition.

Half of the £125,000 needed to restore the loco is now in the bank, with further grant applications in hand, plus a major fund-raising gala in May next year, when *Barber* will be joined for the first time since 1957 by the 1944 ex-Harrogate Gas Works Railway Peckett, No. 2050, now based at Statfold Barn Railway.

All being well, the loco will then travel to Alan Keef's, Herefordshire workshop, when the boiler will be sent to specialist copper firebox engineers for remedial attention. Some 15 months later, in August 2013, *Barber* is scheduled to return to Alston, via Harrogate, Leeds and York, for running-in trials and testing.

Railway volunteer, Brian Craven, who is leading the restoration drive said: "I am absolutely thrilled that several years' work is now producing such encouraging results. Further funds are required to guarantee the restoration of this unique icon of the British Industrial Narrow Gauge. However, with continued hard work and financial support, I am confident that *Barber* will steam again in 2013. The more funds we raise the closer we can get the loco to 1940s condition".

▲ **One of the BARS fleet of locos, Class 31/1 No. 31190 arrives at Wolsingham on the Weardale Railway with the 11.15 Stanhope to Bishop Auckland West service on 18th September. The loco was brought to the railway because of the 'War on the Line' event being held there over the weekend of 18th/19th September - locomotive-hauled trains having a higher capacity than the DMU sets. Allan Mckever**

RHEILFFORDD TALYLLYN RAILWAY

Corris Weekend

The first visit of Corris Railway No.7

Gorsaf Wharf Station, Tywyn, Gwynedd. LL36 9EY 01654 710472
www.talyllyn.co.uk

- Resident ex-Corris Locos No.s 3 & 4.
- Photographic trains.
- Double heading.
- Evening photo shoot and film shows with food and late real ale bar.
- Corris No.7 & TR No.2 'Dolgoch' recreating 1952 train.

Saturday 15 & Sunday 16 October

PLEG to operate private charter with EE power

The Preserved Locomotive Enthusiast Group (PLEG) is to operate a private charter at the Weardale Railway on 20th November, featuring rare haulage behind Class 08 No. 08870 and English Electric-built 0-6-0 diesel electric, former Netherlands Class 600 No. 653 *Dutch*, **the locomotives working as a pair in both directions.**

Both shunters are involved in freight operations on the Weardale line, and their availability is a result of support from the Marketing and Operations department at the Weardale Railway.

The charter is subject to maximum loading of 144 and is already over 50% full, so early booking is advisable. Because of this, the charter will initially only be open to PLEG members. Non-members who wish to join the charter should first apply for membership and then submit a booking.

Fares are £15 per person, with all proceeds being donated to the railway. The train is booked to depart Bishop Auckland at 12.45 to Stanhope, where a photographic stop will be provided, before returning to Bishop Auckland, arriving at 16.15.

The opportunity for a visit to the depot at Wolsingham is currently being investigated. The timings from and to Bishop Auckland are specifically set to co-ordinate with branch line trains from Darlington. A stock list/track map will be provided.

To book a place, email kev.adlam@pleg.org.uk in the first instance, quoting the name and PLEG membership number for each applicant, your email address and contact telephone number.

Worth Valley's '4F' returns to steam for gala event

▲ LMS Fowler '4F' No. 43924 passes the signal box at Damems Loop on the Keighley and Worth Valley Railway during a Steam Recreations' photographic charter on 22nd September. The locomotive will take pride of place during the forthcoming steam gala event on 7th-9th October. **Graham Wright**

▲ **SR Battle of Britain No. 34081** *92 Squadron* **is lifted off its wheels in the Heavy Overhaul Workshop at the Nene Valley Railway. The use of this excellent facility with its overhead crane is allowing the 10-year overhaul to proceed apace and should see a return to traffic, hopefully, in the next two years. John Whitby**

First LNER Garter blue A4 Pacific and Gresley 'Teak' combination for over 70 years at NYMR gala

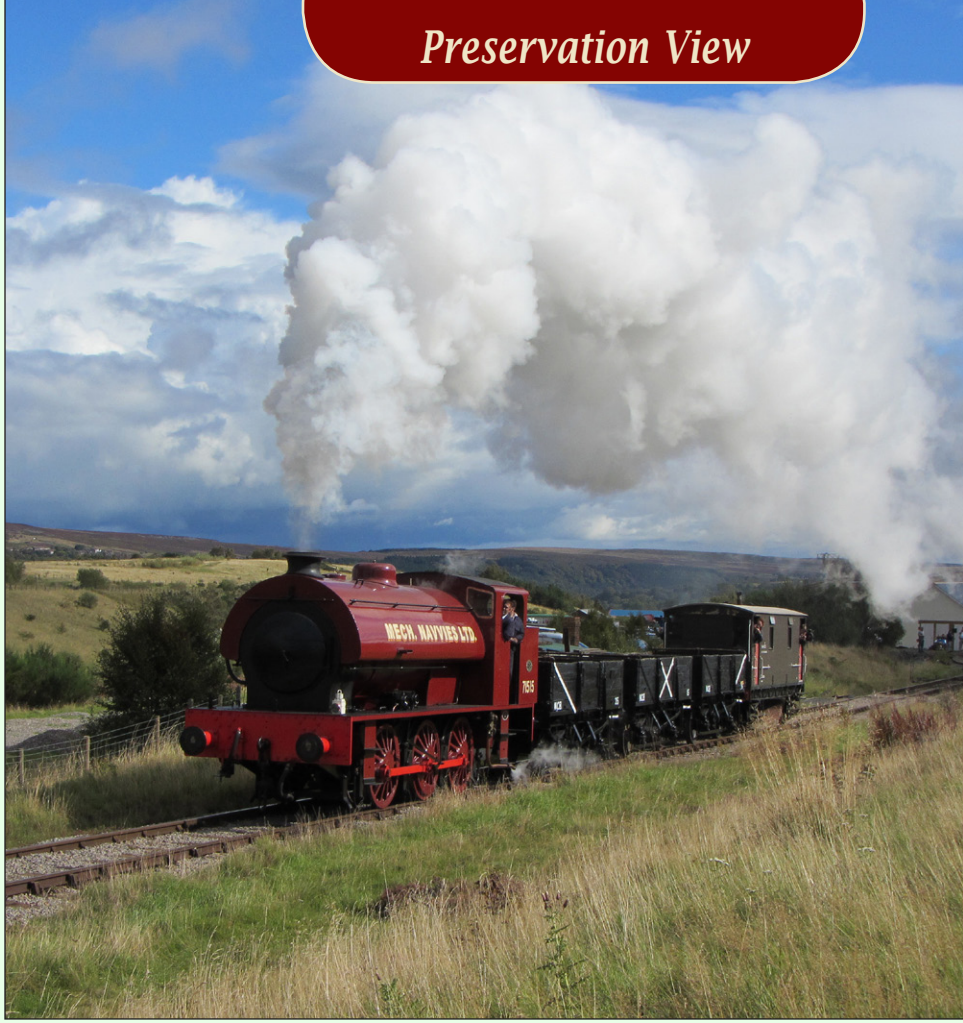
The North Yorkshire Moors Railway is to provide, what it believes, will be the first pairing of an LNER Garter blue 'A4' Pacific and a rake of Gresley-designed 'Teak' coaches since the 1940s.

The forthcoming gala weekend will see 'A4' No. 60019 *Bittern*, which is currently masquerading as long-lost classmate No. 4492 *Dominion of New Zealand*, visiting the Moors line, and the railway is to pair the Pacific with its superbly restored rake of LNER 'Teak' coaches. The aim is that the locomotive will arrive on 29th or 30th September, subject to its current technical problems being resolved, a situation that is described as 'very hopeful'.

The gala will also have another headline star in the form of GWR 'Manor' No. 7822 *Foxcote Manor*, normally resident on the Llangollen Railway. The visit of No. 7822 will be the first 'Manor' ever to visit Pickering, despite being an often discussed possibility. Other locomotives in action from the home fleet will be SR 'S15' No. 825, LMS 'Black 5s' Nos. 44767 and 45428, LNWR 'Super D' No. 49395, LNER 'Q6' No. 63395, BR Standard 4MT No. 75029 and BR '9F' No. 92214.

The railway is also looking at undertaking locomotive changes at both ends of the line, together with the possibility of turning some locomotives on the turntable at Pickering, which would provide the added variety of locos facing north.

It is also hoped to 'run' the newly restored NER Snowplough No. 18 through Grosmont or Pickering stations, with the extra possibility of a steam crane demonstration lift at the MPD on the Sunday.



Pontypool & Blaenavon opens to 'Big Pit'

▲◀ **Bagnall 0-4-0 No. 19 and RSH 'Austerity' 0-6-0T No. 71515** *Mach Navvies Ltd* **bring their train up from Blaenavon High Level station, during the Pontypool & Blaenavon Railway's 'Industrial Steam of South Wales' gala on 18th September.**

▲ **RSH 'Austerity' 0-6-0T No. 71515** *Mach Navvies Ltd* **lifts a demonstration goods service away from Furnace Sidings, towards Whistle Inn the same afternoon.**

◀ **Peckett 0-4-0ST No. 1163** *Whitehead* **propels one of the line's resident DMU trailer cars, along the Pontypool & Blaenavon Railway's newly-opened branch to Big Pit.**
All: Gareth James

▲ Visiting Class 73/1 No. 73136 *Perseverance* and Class 33 No. D6525 depart from Grosmont with the 11.30 service to Pickering during the NYMR Diesel Gala on 17th September. **John Colquhoun**

▲ Large logo-liveried Class 37/0 No. 37264 and Class 31/1 No. 31128 *Charybdis* pass Beck Hole with the 15.00 Pickering to Grosmont service on 17th September. **Nick Wise**

▼ English Electric Type 1s Nos. 20096 and 20107 approach Levisham with a Pickering-bound service, during the diesel gala event on 17th September. **Neil Scarlett**

GBRf Class 66/7 No. 66720, with the 'Nightime' side of its graffiti style livery on show, approaches Kensington Olympia with a Whitemoor to Hoo Junction Yard engineers working on 15th September. **Steve Madden**

19th September 2011

GCR Society (Spinkhill)
The Angel Hotel, 26 College Road, Spinkhill, Sheffield S21 3YB. 'Classic Film Night' by Mick Hayes. Meeting commences at 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. Meeting commences at 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. Meeting commences at 19.30.

RCTS (Coventry)
Maudslay Hotel, 190 Allesley Old Road, Coventry. 'Rail Atlas of Great Britain and Ireland' by Stuart Baker. Meeting commences at 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. Meeting commences at 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. Annual General Meeting, followed by Branch Photographic Competition. Meeting commences at 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 Rly 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'. Starts 17.30. Call Jack Scott on 07789 765291 for details.

Stephenson Loco 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. Meeting commences at 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.

23rd September 2011

Shropshire Railway Society
The Gateway, Chester Road, Shrewsbury. 'Manchester Ship Canal & its Railways' by Chris Makepease. Meeting commences at 19.30.

24th September 2011

Bournemouth Railway Club
Winton Methodist Community Centre, All Purpose Room, Junction of Alma Road & Heron Court Road, Winton, Bournemouth BH9 1DE. 'Members' Slides' by Club Members. Meeting commences at 19.30. Members £2. Visitors welcome, donation of £2 requested. Contact the Chairman on 01202 742099 or at martyn.thresh@ntlworld.com for further details.

26th September 2011

Permanent Way Institution(Ashford)
The Elwick Club, Church Road, Ashford. 'The Modernisation of Irish Rail 1997 - 2010' by Oliver Doyle. Meeting commences at 18.30. Contact the Secretary, Ted Hamer on 01227 711897 or at tedwardian@gmail.com for further details.

Plymouth Railway Circle
St. Edward's Church Hall, Home Park Avenue, Peverell, Plymouth, Devon. PL3 4PG. "Saved from the Fire" 16mm filnm show by Paul Dibbins. Starts 19.30. £2 admission.

RCTS (Brighton)
Brighton Railway Model Club Room, London Road Station, Shaftesbury Place, Brighton. 'British Industrial Steam' by John Borrowdale. Meeting commences at 19.30.

RCTS (Maidenhead)
Cox Green Community Centre, Highfield Lane, Cox Green. 'A Railway Success Story' by Kate Marjoribanks. Starts 19.30.

RCTS (Sheffield)
St Mathews Church Rooms, Carver Street, Sheffield. 'Your 15 Slides of Yesteryear - something to interest all members'. Starts 19.30

RCTS (Northampton)
Weston Favell Parish Hall, Booth Lane South, Weston Favell. 'Copyright British Railways - the work of the BR Photoraphic Units' by John Goss. Starts 14.00.

27th September 2011

RCTS (Welwyn Garden City)
The Methodist Church, Junction of Ludwick Way and Colegreen Lane, Welwyn Garden City. 'Unusual Locos' by Nick Kelly. Starts 14.00.

RCTS (Woking)
Woking United Reformed Church, White Rose Lane, Woking. 'The Kings Cross Redevelopment Programme' by Tom Fernley. Starts 19.00.

28th September 2011

Basingstoke & District Railway Society
Wote Street Club, New Road, Basingstoke RG21 7NG. 'On and Off the Footplate' by Bill Davies. Starts 20.00. Contact the Secretary on 01256 819401 for further details.

29th September 2011

Stevenage Loco Society
The Community Arts Centre, Roaring Meg Retail Park, London Road, Stevenage SG1 1XN. 'More Steam Delight's from Peter's Collection ' by Peter Gray. Starts 19.45. Admission £2. Contact 07803 046076 for details.

30th September 2011

Great Central Railway Society (London)
Keen House, 4 Calshot Street, King's Cross, N1 9DA. 'My Life as Station Master at Finmere' by Gerald Summerfield. Starts 18.30. Contact Richard Butler on 01525 372487.

Great Western Society (North West)
St Hilda's Clubroom, Slater Street, Latchford, Warrington, WA4 1DN. 'Picture Postcard Railway Rambles' by Stephan Gay. Meeting commences at 19.30. All welcome.

Stephenson Locomotive Society
The Mining Institute Lecture Theatre, Neville Hall, Westgate Road, Newcastle upon Tyne. TBA by Richard McClean. Starts 19.00. Contact 01434 688946 for details.

1st October 2011

Stephenson Locomotive Society
The Friends Meeting House, Mount Street, Manchester.M2 5NS. 'The Railway Career of a Career Railwayman' by Stephen Cornish. Starts 14.00. Contact the Secretary on 0161 928 2461 for further details.

Should your society information be listed on this page?

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

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

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

▼ **Previously test car *Iris*, restored No. M59900 returns to Wirksworth from Ravenstor, on the Ecclesbourne Railway, during the Wirksworth Festival on 10th September. Ian Williams**

3rd October 2011

North Yorkshire Moors Railway (Northallerton)
Northallerton Town Cricket Club, Farndale Avenue, Northallerton. 'Mainly Scottish Steam' by Ken Falconer. Starts 19.30. Admission £1.50. Contact Ian McInnes on 01642 767233 for further details.
** REVISED DATE **

RCTS (Ashford)
The Elwick Club, Church Road, Ashford. 'That Was the Year that Was 1965' by Geoff Plumb. Meeting commences at 19.30.

RCTS (Birmingham)
Christ Church Community Hall, Burney, Ward End. 'Carlisle - A Railway Mecca and Football Outpost' by Colin Briggs. Meeting commences at 14.00

Stafford Railway Society
St Leonards Social Club, St Leonards Avenue, Stafford. 'Engine Sheds - Part 4, Eastleigh to Frome' by Chris Banks. Meeting commences at 19.30. Contact Mick Horton on 01785 840622 for details.

4th October 2011

Gravesend Railway Enthusiasts Society
Emmanuel Baptist Church, Windmill Street, Gravesend, DA12 1BB. 'World Ship Society' by Jimmy Poole. Starts 19.45. Contact Bob Poole on 01474 326232 for further details.

Locomotive Club of Great Britain(Bedford)
The Kings Arms, St Mary's Street, Bedford, MK42 0AS. 'Peter Bland Collection Part 2' by Bryan Cross. Starts 19.30. £1 Admission. Contact B.Cross on 01525 750149 for further details.

Permanent Way Institution (Wessex)
The Freemantle Club, Waterloo Road, Southampton. 'Eastleigh Works - Phoenix Rising from the Ashes' by Bruce Knight. Starts 18.00. Contact the Secretary, Richard Workman on 01426 645771 or at richardworkman@tiscali.co.uk.

RCTS(Watford)
St.Thomas's United Reformed Church, Langley Road, Watford. 'The Rail Scene in the USA' by David Walker. Starts 19.30.

Southern Electric Group (South Hampshire)
Eastleigh Railway Institute, Romsey Road, Eastleigh. 'A to Z of Signalboxes' by Ted Goodman. Starts 19.30. Admission £2. Contact John Goodrich on 02380 670028 for details.

Weston super Mare Railway Society
Function Room, Conservative Club, Alexandra Parade, Weston super Mare. 'Main Line Steam in England and Germany' by Peter Doudney. Starts 20.00. Contact Lionel Jones on 01934 628289 for further details.

4th October 2011

North East Essex Railway Association
1st Floor, The Community Centre, The Triangle Centre, Frinton-on-Sea. 'BR Branch Lines in Colour' by David Soggee. Meeting commences at 19.45. Admission £1.50. Contact Roger Harvey on 01255 677165 for further details.

5th October 2011

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

Stephenson Locomotive Society
Garden Room, Old Schools Buildings, Hayes Street, Hayes, Bromley. 'Members' Evening'. Start 19.30. Contact the Secretary on 0208 289 9935 for further details.

Warwickshire Railway Society
Lamp Tavern P.H., Barford Street, Highgate, Birmingham B5 6AH. 'Asian Miscellany of Steam' by Mike Squires. Meeting commences at 19.30. Contact Don Taggart on 01746 710676 for further details.

6th October 2011

Permanent Way Institution (York)
Marriott Room, York Central Library, Library Square, York. 'The Crossrail Project' by Graham Reid. Starts 18.00. Contact Ken Aiston on 07787 512227 or at kaistonyork@btinternet.com for further deal

RCTS(Milton Keynes)
The Crown, Market Square, Stony Stratford. '1,000 Eggs on a Bicycle' by Colin Boocock. Starts 19.30

Stephenson Loco Society
St John Ambulance Centre, Sandes Avenue, Kendal. LA9 4LL 'Twixt Tyne & Tees' by Jim Young. Starts 19.15. Contact the Secretary on 01539 720706 for further details.

7th October 2011

Cambridge Rly Circle
Arbury Community Centre, Campkin Road, Cambridge CB4 2LD. 'AGM & Life as a Traffic Apprentice' by David Ward. Meeting commences at 19.30.

RCTS(Bristol)
St Peters Church Hall, Church Road, Filton. 'The Somerset and Dorset Rly' by Keith Barrett. Starts 19.30.

RCTS(Carnforth)
County Hotel, Lancaster Road, Carnforth. 'First TransPennine Express' by George Thomas & 'Rebuilding Arnside Viaduct' Network Rail Presentation. Meeting commences at 19.00.

Stephenson Loco Society
The Friends' Meeting House, Mount Street, Manchester M2 5NS. 'Local Transport Nostalgia' by Nick Carter. Starts 19.00. Contact 01642 313451 for further details.

8th October 2011

Bournemouth Rly Club
Winton Methodist Community Centre, All Purpose Room, Junction of Alma Road & Heron Court Road, Winton, Bournemouth BH9 1DE. 'Southern Steam in the Sixties' by Roy Brough. Meeting commences at 14.30. All welcome, £2 donation. Contact the Chairman on 01202 742099 for details.

RCTS(Exeter)
Conference Room, Great Western Hotel, Exeter. 'British Railways in Black and White' by Mike Goldfield. Meeting commences at 19.00.

Stephenson Loco Society
Kidderminster Railway Museum, Kidderminster. DT10 1QX 'Railways of Singapore' by Gerry Nichols. Starts 14.00. Contact the Secretary on 01242 582152 for details.

10th October 2011

Driffield & East Yorkshire Rly Society
The Sidings, Middle Street South, Driffield, East Riding of Yorkshire. YO25 6PX. DVD Show by Jim Smith. Meeting commences at 19.30. All Welcome. £2 donation. Contact the Secretary on 01377 254068 for further details.

Lincoln Railway Society
St Hugh's Church Hall, Harewood Crescent, North Hykeham, Lincoln LN6 8JG, 'Steaming Around With Alex' by Alex Hurd. Starts 20.00, All welcome, £3 entrance. Contact Publicity Member on 01522-705365 or email graham@the-st.fsnet.co.uk for further details.

RCTS (Ipswich)
Bride Ward Social Club, 68 Austin Street, Ipswich. 'Great Plains Drifter' by Gordon Davies. Starts 19.30.

RCTS (Northampton)
St Crispin Social Club, Berrywood Road, Duston. 'The Midland Reborn' by John Downing. Starts 19.30.

RCTS(Sheffield)
S Mathews Church Rooms, Carver Street, Sheffield. 'The LMS 5MT 4-6-0s - its Origins and Service' by Paul Abell. Starts 19.30.

Southern Electric Group (Sussex)
Deall Room, Southwick Community Centre, Southwick. 'Guilty Tickets' by Brian Boddy & Les Dench. ' Starts 19.30. £2 Donation. Contact the Secretary, Bruce Cakebread on 01273 462094 for further details.

Stephenson Loco Society
Lauriston Hotel, 15 South Crescent Road, Ardrossan. KA22 8EA. 'The Evolution of Diesel Traction in the USA' by Graham McLachlan. Starts 19.30. Contact the Secretary on 01294 822303 for further details.

York Railway Circle
The Library, Archibishop Holgate's School, Hull Road, York YO10 5ZA. 'Tyne Dock to Consett' by John Midcalf. Meeting commences at 19.30. £2 donation requested. Contact Robin Patrick on 01904 412232 or at locopatrick@aol.com for further details.

11th October 2011

Abergavenny and District Steam Society
Upper Room, The Hen and Chickens, Flannel Street, Abergavenny. 'Reflections of a Rail Enthusiast' by Jef Morgan. Starts 20.00. Contact the Secretary, Ken Mumford on 01793 335862 for further details.

Great Western Society (Bristol)
BWAW, 589 Southmead Road, Filton, Bristol BS34 7RG. '140 Years of Westinghouse Signalling' by Tim Maynard. Meeting commences at 19.45. Visitors Welcome. Contact the Secretary on 01454 323230 for further details

Meon Valley Locomotive Society
St Peter's Church Hall, Free Street, Bishops Waltham. 'Aspects of Southern Steam & Golden Arrow' by Mike Pym. Meeting commences at 20.00. Non-members admission £2. Contact John Barrowdale on 02392 640951 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

Carrying the current DB Schenker Rail red livery, Class 66/0 No. 66097 prepares to depart from St Blazey Yard, deep in Cornwall, on 22nd September with a northbound china clay working.
Craig Mundy

Magazine Information

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