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The Railway Herald

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The complimentary UK railway journal for the railway enthusiast

The Railway Herald
Issue 97

Front Cover

Driving trailer No. 39016 of 'Javelin' No. 395001 at the Port of Southampton on 24 August. The complete set was due to be moved to the new Hitachi depot at Ashford on 3 September. *Brian Morrison*

Back Cover

The Deltic Preservation Society held a members' day on the NYMR on 18 August, with both locos in action. No. 55019 *Royal Highland Fusilier* powers away from New Bridge with the 12.20 Pickering to Grosmont service. *Richard Tuplin*

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Submissions

We welcome submissions from all readers, especially digital photographs. Pictures should be sent to the editor at *editor@railwayherald.co.uk*

Good quality scans of colour slides and prints are also acceptable. Currently there is no financial payment made for photographs published in *Railway Herald*. Where possible we always try to use news photographs taken within the production week of the publication date.

Publication

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National Rail Timetable

The entire UK National Rail Timetable is now available as a PDF download from the Network Rail website.

Produced in the same fashion as the printed version and ordered by table number, the current timetable is available by clicking here.

The railway by-laws and information for enthusiasts are also available online from the Network Rail website, by clicking here.

King Edward I and *Tangmere* head for Cornwall!

ABOVE: GWR 'King' 4-6-0 No. 6024 *King Edward I* and SR Battle of Britain Pacific No. 34067 *Tangmere* double-head the 'Eden Ltd' from Bristol to Par past Lympsham on 24 August. *Chris Perkins*

Western Champion to Aberystwyth - the final verdict

Immediately prior to closing for press came the awaited confirmation that No. D1015 WILL be going through to Aberystwyth on 1 September with Pathfinders' 'The Alliance Cambrian Coast Express'.

Network Rail has given a once-only authorisation for the Class 52 to traverse the section between Machynlleth and Aberystwyth, which includes the weight-restricted bridge at Borth, on condition that the locomotive does not have a full fuel tank on the return working.

Pathfinder confirm that it has seats available, and can be contacted on 01453 835414.

It is understood that Network Rail has indicated that it will not give any future dispensation for over-weight locomotives on this stretch of track.

Final working meeting for *Green Arrow* and *City of Truro*

The Gloucestershire Warwickshire Railway is turning out two of the National Railway Museum's iconic locomotives this Bank Holiday weekend. On all three days, both locomotives will be working normal timetabled services.

It is expected to be the last time that the pair will be seen in steam together. *City of Truro* has recently returned to the GWR from the East Lancashire Railway. Meanwhile, *Green Arrow* leaves the line for the Nene Valley Railway after the Bank Holiday weekend, so this is a one-off opportunity to see the two locomotives working together. Because *Green Arrow* is expected to be withdrawn from service in November when its boiler certificate expires, this will almost certainly be the last time – possibly ever – that the locomotives can be enjoyed together.

The GWR is organising a photo-call at 10.00 on each morning of the weekend, when the two engines will be lined up together at Toddington before the 10.30 departure. For train times, visit the locomotive roster at http://www.gwsr.com

■ ANNOUNCEMENT ■ ANNOUNCEMENT ■ ANNOUNCEMENT ■ ANNOUNCEMENT ■

New format trial - thanks to everyone for your feedback

A big thank you goes to all our readers who provided us with feedback on last week's magazine format trial.

We were inundated with feedback comments and over 1,000 of you sent us your thoughts and suggestions.

We'll be sharing the results with you in a couple of weeks time, once we've read through them all and reached a decision on our future plans.

It is always interesting to hear the feedback from people on the magazine as a whole and the content in general, but to achieve the response we had was remarkable.

Interestingly, it appears at this early stage that the vote for and against the trial format is evenly spread, but again, we'll provide readers with an in-depth feedback soon.

Thanks again to everyone for your help and co-operation over the past week. We've always said that *Railway Herald* is, to a large extent, your magazine and that your voice counted - its nice to see so many people voicing their thoughts and in many cases, their constructive opinions.

Thanks also for supporting and showing an interest in our advertisers - it helps! Please do continue to mention *Railway Herald* if you respond to an advert you've seen in the magazine.

First Class 395 'Javelin' unit is offloaded at Southampton

After a six-week 10,760 mile sea voyage from Kobe in Japan, the first Class 395 'Javelin' Bullet train built in the Hitachi factory at Kasado, Japan, arrived at the Port of Southampton on 23 August.

All six vehicles of the first unit were contained within the 1999-built Norwegian Roll on-Roll off (Ro-Ro) vessel *MV Tarago*, owned by Wallenius Wilhelmsen Logistics.

The first two vehicles, driving car No. 39016 and motor trailer No. 39015 were the first offloaded on 23 August and taken on low loader from the ship to the railhead where both were very efficiently craned onto the tracks.

All six cars are scheduled to be taken by rail overnight on 3 September to Ashford Depot after commissioning has been completed at the docks.

The unit will be joined by three more and extensive testing is due to take place on the Channel Tunnel hi-speed line between Ashford and St Pancras International before the remaining 25 units of the fleet are shipped for services to commence in December 2009.

Meanwhile, an event is promised at St Pancras International showing a Class 395 alongside a Eurostar and another event is expected to be held at the new Hitachi traincare depot in Ashford on 2 October.

ABOVE: Having been unloaded from the ship, the first driving car, No. 39016, for set No. 395001 is pictured on a low-loader, shortly before being offloaded onto UK rails for the first time.

RIGHT: One of the intermediate motor trailers is checked over, having been offloaded at Southampton.
All: Brian Morrison

RIGHT: The movement of the vehicles from the dockside to railhead was undertaken using a special low-loader style road device, pictured here maneouvering one of the driving cars through the port.

News in Brief

■ East Midlands Trains, the new company to operate the East Midlands and South Yorkshire area, has announced that 34-year-old Tim Shoveller has been appointed as its Managing Director. Tim Shoveller joins Stagecoach from Virgin Trains, where as Business Development Director and previously Operations Director he has played a key role in the success of Virgin West Coast.

■ Virgin Rail Group has announced that Charles Belcher is to retire from Virgin Trains after four-and-a-half years as Managing Director of Virgin West Coast. He will be succeeded by Chris Gibb, currently Managing Director of Virgin CrossCountry. After leading the Virgin CrossCountry franchise since 2003, Chris Gibb will take over the West Coast network from 31 August, with Charles Belcher assisting in the handover. Chris Gibb will also continue as Managing Director of Virgin CrossCountry until 11 November, when Arriva take on the Cross Country Trains franchise

■ First Great Western starts work in September on a major £400,000 refurbishment of Ealing Broadway station to include a new booking hall, waiting room and toilets. Preliminary improvement work has already given the station a brighter look with extensive painting carried out, poster boards repaired, floor covering at the entrance replaced and the stairwells and overbridge deep cleaned. The work is scheduled for completion by the end of the year. Ealing Broadway is, surprisingly, one of First Great Western's busiest stations with around seven million passengers every year. When the new booking hall is complete, three booking windows will be supported by a new bank of self-service ticket machines in London Underground style.

ABOVE: EWS has trialed a sand flow from Wool to Watford Junction. Class 66/0 No. 66018 passes Poole in charge of the Wool MOD Sidings to Watford Yard trial flow on 21 August. *Antony Henley*

New Airdrie-Bathgate route work commences

Detailed surveys to map out the precise route of the new Airdrie-Bathgate rail link have begun.

Over the next nine months, Network Rail (NR) will be completing the detailed design of the new 15-mile railway, which will involve extensive ground investigation surveys and some de-vegetation along the route.

To enable the work to be completed and for construction work to begin, NR will be notifying affected owners/occupiers of land access requirements for the project survey, the most affected landowners having previously been contacted through consultation under the Scottish Parliament's consideration of the project.

The Airdrie-Bathgate Rail Link Project received unanimous support from the Scottish Parliament in May and is funded by Transport Scotland.

Manchester Airport work starts

Work to build a third platform at Manchester Airport station begins on 9 September when trains are suspended for 29 hours to allow Network Rail engineers to install new electrical isolator equipment.

To carry out the work safely, the line will close from midnight on Saturday until 05.00 on Monday and road transport will be provided.

LEFT: Nuclear flask traffic in the South West recommenced operations during August with both Berkeley and Bridgwater receiving DRS services. On 16 August Class 37/0 No. 37087 passes Droitwich Spa, leading classmate No. 37229 with a pair of loaded FNA wagons on the return working from Bridgwater. *Don Gatehouse*

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Time for a *different* kind of number?

Metronet collapses after PPP Arbiter refuses most of costs claim
'It's business as usual at LUL, promises Mayor
RMT threatens action if Metronet jobs are lost
Tories call for probe by National Audit Office
John Laing to sell Chiltern Railways and its stake in London Overground
Watchdog urges government to consider terminating First Great Western
Work on EARL to be suspended during review
Eurostar's full high speed timetable won't arrive until December
TfL gets new rail powers outside London area
Virtuality: ATOC loses Network Rail vote
Milestone reached at Heathrow Terminal 5: first look at London 's newest tube station

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ON THE INSTRUCTIONS OF
A RETAINED CLIENT

SALE BY PRIVATE TREATY

Class 47 Locomotive Running Number 47355

47355 "Avocet" photographed in May 2004 courtesy of "The Siding"

47355 "Avocet" photographed in December 2006 at Fragonset, Derby

2140 hours, exam status B7 (26 June 2006)
fitted with TPWS

Following the success of our sales campaign on behalf of the administrators of Fragonset and various finance creditors, 47355 "Avocet" is now our remaining class 47 available for sale. She has not been used for 12 months and was held in storage prior to the appointment of Fragonset's administrators in December 2006.

Offers in the region of £65,000 are sought, and the sale of the vehicle will be subject to VAT

Viewing by appointment only

For further information or to arrange a viewing, please contact
Andrew Bibby on 0161 956 4323 or ayb@gvagrimley.co.uk

www.gvaplant.com

Transport for London to take over Metronet?

Transport for London (TfL) has announced that it has lodged a formal Expression of Interest with the PPP Administrator of Metronet in order to take control of the company on a temporary basis.It is anticipated that a formal offer could be made by the end of September.

TfL says that it believes it is in the best interests of all parties to have an exit from Administration as quickly as possible, this being the best way to maintain the continued safe operation of the Tube network and to mitigate the performance and cost risks that inevitably come with such a situation.

London Underground Managing Director, Tim O'Toole, said: "In dealing with the collapse of Metronet, and through the Administration process, we have had two key priorities. First, to ensure the continued safe and reliable operation of the Tube network for passengers. That has been achieved and I would like to pay tribute to the hard work and dedication shown by all Metronet and London Underground staff, as well as the Administrator and his team. We need to continue to work together for passengers. Secondly, following Administration, we seek to put in place a stable, economic and efficient structure that is better able to deliver Transport for London's investment priorities that will lead to increased capacity on the Tube in future, along with station security and communications improvements".

TfL is now working with the PPP Administrator on a formal bid.

Old and new colours on the network

ABOVE: Track recording coach No. 999508 has been repainted into Network Rail yellow colours and is pictured at Derby RTC on 20 August, before departure with the 07.49 Derby to Hither Green working. It is understood that the vehicle has been brought back into use to cover for the NMT while that undergoes tests with the hybrid power car. *Ken Foxall*

RIGHT: Cotswold Rail operated Class 33/2 No. 33202 has been repainted into BR Blue-colours at the South Devon Railway. On its maiden run in the new colours, the loco is pictured passing Cogload Junction, bound for Bristol Temple Meads on 23 August. *Brian Garrett*

The following table details the latest information available on steam, diesel and electric railtours for the forthcoming two weeks from the date of publication. News from railtour operators is always welcome. Please contact editor@railwayherald.co.uk. **Information is understood to be correct at the time of going to press.**

REGULAR SCHEDULED STEAM OPERATION

Date	Service	Operator	Route	Traction Pool
27-31 Aug	Cambrian Coast	West Coast Rly Company	Machynlleth - Porthmadog & rtn	76079
27-31 Aug	Whitby Steam	North Yorkshire Moors Rly	Pickering & Goathland - Whitby & rtn	61264 or 75029
27-30 Aug	Scarborough Spa	Railway Touring Company	York - Knaresborough - Scarborough & rtn	45231
3-6 Sep	Whitby Steam	North Yorkshire Moors Rly	Pickering & Goathland - Whitby & rtn	61264 or 75029
3-7 Sep	Jacobite	West Coast Rly Company	Fort William - Mallaig & rtn.	62005 or 45407
10-14 Sep	Jacobite	West Coast Rly Company	Fort William - Mallaig & rtn.	62005 or 45407
11-13 Sep	Whitby Steam	North Yorkshire Moors Rly	Pickering & Goathland - Whitby & rtn	61264 or 75029

INDIVIDUAL CHARTER SERVICES

Date	Operator	Traction	Route
24 Aug	Past Time Rail	6024 &34067	Bristol TM-Taunton-Exeter SD-Plymouth (pu/sd)-Par and return
25 Aug	Compass Tours	2xRiveria Cl47	Holyhead-Llandudno Jct-Colwyn Bay-Rhyl-Flint-Chester-Carlisle and return
25 Aug	Hertfordshire	2xRiveria Cl47	Ashford-Orpington-Ealing Broadway-Bath Spa-Bristol TM and return
25 Aug	Kingfisher	tbc	Hellifield-Appleby-Carlisle and return
25 Aug	Pathfinder Tours	2xEWS Cl37	Eastleigh-Salisbury-Bath Spa-Newport-Llandrindrod Wells and return
25 Aug	RTC	6233	York-Leeds-Shipley-Keighley-Skipton-Appleby-Carlisle and return
25 Aug	SRPS	40145	Carlisle-Gretna Green-Annan-Dumfries-Kilmarnock-Fort William and return
26 Aug	Intercity	2 x Cl31	Minehead-Bishops Lydeard-Taunton-Weymouth and return
26 Aug	Kingfisher	48151	**The Dalesman:** Hellifield-Appleby (sd/pu)-Carlisle (break/rev) and return
26 Aug	Past Time Rail	34067	**The Torbay Express:** Bristol TM-Kingswear-Bristol TM
26 Aug	Vintage Trains	4965	Birmingham Snow Hill-Tyseley-Stratford-Upon-Avon and return (two trips)
27 Aug	Compass Tours	2xRiveria Cl47	Preston-Lancester-Oxenholme-Penrith-Carlisle-Perth-Pitlochry-Aviemore and return
28 Aug	Hertfordshire	2xRiveria Cl47	London Victoria-Clapham Junction-Richmond-Staines-Kidderminster and return
29 Aug	HRT Merrymaker	2 x DRS Cl20	Barrow Hill-Chesterfield-Derby-Nottingham-Wainfleet-Skegness and return
29 Aug	Steam Dreams	tbc	London (tba)-Clapham Junction-Reading-Salisbury-Bath-Bristol TM and return
30 Aug	Vintage Trains	9466	'Pannier to Stratford': Shirley-Startford upon Avon-Shirley
31 Aug	Past Time Rail	EWS Class 37	Bristol TM-Weston Super Mare-Taunton-Exeter SD-Kingswear and return
01 Sep	HRT Merrymaker	2xRiveria Cl47	Salisbury-Andover-Ealing Broadway-Canterbury East-Faversham and return
01 Sep	NENTA Traintours	tbc	Sudbury-Colchester-Ipswich-Ely-March-P'boro-Leeds-Harrogate-York and return
01 Sep	Pathfinder Tours	D1015	Swindon-Cheltenham Spa-Birmingham NS-Wolverhampton-Aberystwyth and return
01 Sep	RTC	850	York-Leeds-Shipley-Keighley-Skipton-Appleby-Carlisle and return
01 Sep	RTC	61994	Glasgow Queen Street-Fort William (loco-change)
		62005	Fort William-Mallaig-Fort William (train returns on 2 September)
01 Sep	SRPS	tbc	Ayr--Larbert-Stirling-Perth-Plockton-Kyle of Lochalsh and return
01 Sep	Steamy Affairs	2xCR Cl47	St. Albans-Luton-Bedford-Wellingborough-Nuneaton-Oxenholme and return
01 Sep	Vintage Trains	6233	Solihull-Oxford-Swindon-Bristol TM-Cheltenham-Bromsgrove-Tyseley WR
02 Sep	Past Time Rail	6024	The Torbay Express Bristol TM-Kingswear-Bristol TM
02 Sep	RTC	61994	'The West Highlander': Fort William-Glasgow Queen Street
02 Sep	Shepherd Neame	34067	Brighton-Lewes-Eastbourne-Eastbourne-Ashford-Ashford-Faversham and return
02 Sep	Shepherd Neame	34067	Faversham-Sittingbourne-Sheerness on Sea-(-Gillingham)-Faversham (pm trip)
02 Sep	Vintage Trains	6233	Birmingham Snow Hill-Tyseley-Stratford-Upon-Avon and return (two trips)
05 Sep	HRT (Merrymaker)	86101	London KX-Potters Bar-Stevenage-York and return
05 Sep	Steam Dreams	34067	London-Clapham Junction-Richmond-Woking-Salisbury-Bath-Bristol and return
05 Sep	UK Railtours	EWS Cl. 67	St. Albans-Wellingborough-Coalville-Lichfield TV HL Jct-Stafford-Gresty lane Jct-Shrewsbury (break)-Walsall-Nuneaton and return
08 Sep	Heartland Rail	2xCR Cl47	Bristol TM-Cheltenham Spa-Ashchurch-York-Whitby (break/rev) and return
08 Sep	HRT (Merrymaker)	850	London Waterloo-Woking-Dorchester South-Weymouth and return

Key to tour listings:

BLACK Charters expected to operate as booked.
GREEN Tours postponed to a future date by the operator
P Hertfordshire Pullman service
RED Tours cancelled by the operator
WCRC Operated by West Coast Railway Company Traction

(Locations) in brackets on a steam tour listing indicates a diesel or electric-hauled section.

PLEASE NOTE: Not all pick up/set down points are shown. Please check with the operator before travelling any distance.

BELOW: BR Standard 4MT No. 76079 is pictured just after departing Machynlleth with the 'Cambrian Coast Express' for Portmadog on 8 August. ***Bob Gibson***

Changes for Pathfinder

Pathfinder plan a final fling with EUKL (formerly EPS) Class 37/6s on 20 October with a pair of the machines scheduled to haul its 'Atomic Harbour Master' from London Euston to Dungeness and Folkestone Harbour.

For added value the tour should be hauled by Class 86/1 No. 86101 *Sir William A Stanier* from Crewe, via the West Midlands and Northampton, to Euston and back.

The continued non-availability of Class 55 No. 55022 *Royal Scots Grey* has forced Pathfinder to change its 8 September charter from Banbury to Kingswear to Class 40 No. 40145. Also, as no suitable alternative traction is available for its 16 September charter from Worcester to Colne, the train has been cancelled. Unfortunately, its two 'Lakeland' charters at the end of September have sustained the same fate, but this is due to engineering work restricting several of the proposed departure points. These latter tours have been re-scheduled for May next year.

Tangmere issues

An air-brake problem is reported as the reason for No. 34067 *Tangmere* **being declared a failure on Past Time's 'Torbay Express' on 19 August.**

An EWS Class 66 was summoned to haul the train, together with No. 34067 through to its destination at Kingwear, as well as covering the return working. The solution to the problem is believed to be straight forward and at the time of writing *Tangmere* is expected to be available for duty this coming weekend when it is scheduled to double-head with No. 6024 *King Edward I* from Bristol Temple Meads to Par and back on 24 August and cover the 'Torbay Express' diagram on 26 August.

ABOVE: In appalling weather conditions, John Cameron's LNER 'K4' 2-6-0 No. 61994 *The Great Marquess* worked from Perth to Aviemore, then on to Broomhill on the Strathspey Railway with a SRPS Railtour on 18 August. This view shows *The Great Marquess* climbing up towards Druimuachdar Summit on the outward journey, just before the train was brought to a stand to enable the fire to be cleaned, which was becoming choked with clinker. *(A very wet) Peter Kellett!*

The Week Ahead

The whole of the first weekend of September is busy with charters, both steam and diesel. A quick summary points to a 'K4' on the West Highland, a 'Duchess' of the Lickey, a 'Western' on the Cambrian and a 'Battle of Britain' all around Kent!

On 31 August, Past Time Rail have a tour from Bristol Temple Meads to Kingswear and back featuring EWS Class 37 traction. This is a relaxing day out to visit the Royal Regatta at Dartmouth, but does offer a rare chance for Class 37 haulage over Whiteball and on to the Paignton and Dartmouth.

However, the modern traction event of the weekend is probably No. D1015 *Western Champion* and its visit to the Cambrian. At the time of writing, there is an issue with a weight restriction on a bridge in the Borth area, however, Richard Szwejkowski of Pathfinder is confident that following the removal of the train heating boiler and water tank from No. D1015, it will then be just above the maximum axle loading limit for the bridge in question and an engineers' decision is awaited, which hopefully will be a positive one. The train from Swindon to Aberystwyth is being operarted on behalf of the Riviera/ EWS Alliance and will be another first for the class. For full confirmation of the itinerary for the tour see our breaking news section on page two (click here!).

Meanwhile to the north, John Cameron's 'K4' No. 61994 *The Great Marquess* is heading home to the West Highland. The 'K4s' were built for The West Highland and this will be the locomotive's first visit since completion of its recent overhaul. The train is operated by the Railway Touring Company from Glasgow Queen Street to Fort William throughout, where upon arrival 'K1' No. 62005 will take over for a trip to Mallaig. The return from Fort William to Glasgow Queen Street will be the following day, again with No. 61994

The Lickey incline has always provided a challenge for any motive power, and on 1 September No. 6233 *Duchess of Sutherland* will pit its strength against this formidable gradient for the first time on a revenue earning train. The consensus is that the only other 'Duchess' to climb the bank was actually No. 6233 about five years ago while returning from railtour duty in the west, but only with its support coach in tow. This Vintage Trains tour picks up at Solihull only, and runs to Bristol via Oxford and Swindon, prior to returning to Tyseley, via the Midland mainline from Bristol to Birmingham. No. 6233 is also booked to cover both 'Shakespeare Express' diagrams the following day, which for this year will be the last day of operation due to engineering work.

Around this time of year in Kent, attention is concentrated on picking the hops, as well as remembering the dark days of 1940 with the onset of the Battle of Britain. Local brewers Shepherd Neame now regularly celebrate both events with a weekend of steam workings on the first weekend of September.

This is the third year of operations, commencing on 1 September with 'Battle of Britain' No. 34067 *Tangmere* leading from London Victoria, via Bromley South and Dover, through to Faversham for the annual Hop Festival. During the afternoon layover, the locomotive will be employed on a return working between Faversham and Ramsgate before returning the main train back to London via the Medway Towns. This is followed on 2 September, again with *Tangmere* from Brighton via the coast route, picking up at Lewes, Eastbourne, Hastings and Ashford and onto Faversham. it should be noted that the Eastbourne-Ashford section will be diesel hauled in both directions.

Once more there is an afternoon excursion, running steam-hauled from Faversham via Sittingbourne, to Sheerness-on-Sea. This working then returns diesel-hauled as far as Gillingham, with No. 34067 again in charge for the run back to Faversham, following which, the main train then returns to Brighton as outwards. These workings carry 'The Spitfire' name, which is the name of Shepherd Neame's leading bitter.

Also operating on 1 September is Railway Touring Companys' final 'Cumbrian Mountain Express' of the season which looks set for haulage by 'Black 5' No. 45231, and is also covering the preceeding weeks 'Scarborough Spa Express' diagrams in place of No. 850 *Lord Nelson*.

Nenta Traintours bring locomotive haulage to the Sudbury branch on 1 September with an excursion to York. Also operating is the first of three September-dated charters for Steamy Affairs to Oxenholme, which offer options to the Lake District or the Lakeside & Haverthwaite Railway. The train originates at St. Albans and picks up through to Nuneaton.

Also operating later in the week is a UK Railtours' charter to Shrewsbury on 5 September from St. Albans which travels via the Coalville route as well as the Lichfield High Level–Low Level chord. The return working traverses Sutton Park.

Also on 5 September, Steam Dreams has No. 34067 *Tangmere* from London Victoria to Salisbury, Bath Spa and Bristol Temple

ABOVE: Two-car Class 150/1 No. 150126 is pictured in the new West Midlands livery, paired with No. 150106, passing Hartlebury crossing and box at speed forming the 11.28 Dorridge to Great Malvern on 15 August. *David Guy*

BELOW: The repainting of Northern Rail Class 142 DMUs into the latest blue, white and purple colour scheme is proceeding apace. On 23 August, No. 142025 arrives at Althorpe, Lincolnshire, with the 10.19 Sheffield - Scunthorpe local service. Richard Tuplin

ABOVE: Class 47/4 No. 47854 is now enjoying its second spell of this seasons 'Royal Scotsman' duties having started off as the chosen motive power and then being relieved by classmate No. 47804 for a spell. The 'Royal Scotsman' departed from Edinburgh on 20 August on a five day 'Classic' tour with No. 47854 in charge, pictured here approaching the former Saughton Junction where the Fife and Glasgow lines diverge, no longer a junction as such as the actual point work has long been removed but the lines do still diverge.

BELOW: With most of Inverkeithing and Jamestown Viaduct under the shadow cast by Castlelandhill, the sun lasted just long enough to illuminate Class 66/6 No. 66611 and the front portion of its Aberdeen Craiginches to Oxwellmains cement service, as it climbs towards the Forth Bridge on 22 August. *Both: Peter Kellett*

ABOVE: Class 31s Nos. 31285 and 31602 pass through Sevington, near Ashford, on 11 August with a Network Rail test train. *Patrick Seale*

RIGHT: The same paring are pictured six days later having moved from Kent to the North East! No. 31602 leads the test train through Grosmont on 17 September. The train also visited and toured the North Yorkshire Moors Railway. *Rowan Jackson*

BELOW: Another pairing of Class 31s currently roaming the network is Nos. 31106 and 31190. Here the pair stand at Exeter St. Davids shortly before departing with a test train working for Reading. *Nathan Williamson*

ABOVE: The four-track network from Gatwick Airport heading up to Clapham Junction is intensively used, as can be seen in this view on 18 August with two Southern Class 377 EMUs, a Gatwick Express Class 460 and a Virgin Class 220 'Voyager' all vying for paths!

RIGHT: Vintage Trains' Class 50-hauled charter to Eastbourne approaches South Croydon on 18 August.

BELOW: Southern Class 319/0 No. 319005 departs from Gatwick Airport on 18 August, alongside Gatwick Express Class 460 No. (4600)05. No. (4600)02 can be seen in the background. *All: Antony Guppy*

ABOVE: Class 47/4 No. 47802 powers through Burn on the East Coast Main Line on 22 August with the return leg of a King's Cross to Sunderland crew training run for Grand Central. The company has announced, yet again, that the start of its services has been delayed. *Warren Armstrong*

BELOW: Cotswold Rail Class 47/4 No. 47813 was used to haul a failed HST set (comprising powercars Nos. 43156 and 43187, plus Mk3 set No. LA36) from Bristol Parkway to Laira on 22 August for attention after the set had failed at Bristol Parkway that morning. The 14.13 Stoke Gifford Yard to Laira Depot darkens the skyline as it departs from Newton Abbot. *Nathan Williamson*

ABOVE: One of the DRS-operated intermodal services not often seen in the railway press is the short-haul from Elderslie to Grangemouth Docks. Class 66/4 No. 66402 approaches Coatbridge Central with the 08.27 service from Elderslie on 20 August.

BELOW: Freightliner Class 86/6s Nos. 86637 and 86621 approach Coatbridge Central station while forming the 13.41 Coatbridge FLT - Crewe Basford Hall intermodal service on 21 August. *Both: Jonathan McGurk*

DMU Gala Event

The 12th annual Railcar Association Gala (28-30 September) is this year being held on the Churnet Valley Railway.

The first day is the 'driver experience day' open to working group members of Railcar Association DMU groups only.

The Railcar Association's AGM meeting will be held at Kingsley and Froghall station on 28 September.

The first occurrence of two-train DMU operation of the CVR since the 1960s will take place on 29 September using resident BRCW Class 104 power twin (Nos. M50455 and M50517) and visiting pioneer Derby Lightweight No. M79900 *Iris*. There will also be an opportunity to drive No. 37075 at Cheddleton for £10. Evening runs will operate.

On the final day, the two DMUs will be operating alongside Class 33 No. 33102, Class 47 No. 47192 Class 37 No. 37075, which celebrates 45 years since its introduction into service.

NER 'Q6' returns to steam

ABOVE: The North Eastern Locomotive Preservation Group's ex-NER Q6 class 0-8-0 No. 63395 is on the verge of returning to steam after over 20 years out of use. The locomotive, which is now nearing the end of a major overhaul has been outshopped in unlined BR black-livery and should commence 'light-engine' running-in trials between Grosmont and Goathland shortly, before making its entry into revenue-earning passenger operations. No. 63395 is expected to be one of the stars at the NYMR's Autumn Steam Gala weekend at the end of September. *Philip Benham*

Railway wheels and steel tyres!

Have you ever wondered why railway wheels are referred to as having steel tyres?

If so, then the South Devon Railway's website may be able to help you.

Thanks to some recently purchased equipment, the line has compiled a webpage showing how a tyre is attached to the wheel. For more info, click here!

Nene Valley Railway Steam Gala

8th & 9th September

4771 Green Arrow, 1306 Mayflower
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All locomotives subject to availability
www.nvr.org.uk Registered charity 263617 01780 784444

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(Formerly the GEC Social Club) St. Leonard's Ave.,
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● Doors open: 8:00 am ● Viewing: 8.30 am ● Sale: 10.30am
● Ample Free Parking ● Disabled Access ● All on ground level
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An exciting collection of items, including:
Steam Nameplates: "LOCH LAGGAN"L.N.E.R. K2 61791, "ROBERT BURNS" B.R. BRITANNIA 70006, "MILTON" B17/6 B.R. 61635, " UNDERLEY HALL"O.W.R. 6928, " HARDWICK GRANGE"G.W.R. 6818, **Diesel Nameplates :** SAMARIA C40, TRYFAN C44, TEESSIDE STEELMASTER C37, "CITY OF TRURO H.S.T.", "B.B.C. EAST MIDLANDS TODAY H.S.T." **Industrial Nameplates;** "VULCAN" [Vulcan], "ROCKET" [Peckett], N.C.B. [Bagnall]. **Smokebox Numberplates:** 45740 "MUNSTER", 47320, Southern Railway 1901 Brass Oval No 2048. **Cabsides :** 6928, 6320, 9668, 5526, 3735 3823, 3846, 6113. S.A.R. **Cabsides:** E342-E5, 35 008 –C35, 37 093-C37, M.S.C. **Cabsides:** 30, 31. **Worksplates:** L.N.E.R A4 ENGRAVED "WILLIAM WHITELAW" , L.N.E.R. 9X5, GORTON 9X5, L.N.E.R. Oval, " DONCASTER 1950", L.M.S. Ovals, DERBY 1927, HORWICH 1895, CREWE 1927, HORWICH 1945, HAWTHORN-LESLIE,GORTON 1039, "DONCASTER WORKS C56". **Totems:** (SCR) MAYBOLE, NEILSTON HIGH, ALEXANDRIA, BALGREEN HALT, STIRLING, (M) BOILER HOUSE SUBSTATION (Ex- CREWE/ WORKS), DARLASTON,TURVEY, WALSALL, HOUGH GREEN,RHYL, DINTING,RAINFORD JUNCTION,GORTON AND OPENSHAW,(WR) LYE, HANDSWORTH AND SMETHWICK,STOURBRIDGE TOWN(B&W-WR) HAYES&HARLINGTON,SOHO AND WINSTON GREEN(ER) SPALDING TOWN,GRIMSBY TOWN,DORE AND TOTLEY,ST JAMES STREET,(S) HITHER GREEN, ANDOVER JUNCTION,NORTH FLEET,BOGNOR REGIS,TUNBRIDGE WELLS CENTRAL,(NE) LEEDS CITY,BATLEY. **Station Direction Enamels :**DUNSTALL PARK (WR), **Modern Image:** Station Enamel signs.; (S)"TRAINS TO WIMBLEDON AND LONDON",(M) AGENT FOR IRELAND",L.N.E.R. C/I **Seatbacks:** "CRAIGELLACHIE",GRIMSBY DOCKS" ,"HABROUGH","CUFFLEY & GOFFS OAK","GORDON HILL", "CREWS HILL", **Alloy type:** "LUTON HOO"- - L.M.S **Signal/Box Board:**"NEWTON-LE-WILLOWS",HEATLEY & WARBURTON,G.W.R C/I."BLAENAU-FESTINIOG NORTH SIGNALBOX". **Shedplates:** 26B, 10D, 9D, 6A, 6B, 6 C, 2E, 2C, 2A, 3A, 5B, 5D, 2D, 1H, 1G, 5E, 6D, 6F, 12C, 11A, 8K, 21E, 21B, 21A, 15C, 15E, 17A, 9E, 8A, 5A, 70B, 15D, 10J, 12A, 32G, 1F, 1B, 1A, 6A, 82B, 86F, 64A, 31A, 70D, 35A. **Enamel Doorplates-** TICKET OFFICE,LADIES WAITING ROOM, GENTLEMEN, WAITING ROOM,GOODS OFFICE.-**Wagon Plates:** THOMAS HUNTER 1901 RUGBY,L& S W R Co-REG,MUSHROOM, SALTNEY FERRY, CHESTER, "MIDLAND Rly STAR BURST, MIDLAND Oval-1915.- **Cast Iron:** L.N.W.R. "RHYBUDD",G.W.R. "B.O.T", "MONTGOMERYSHIRE"CAUTION, G.N.R."B.O.T.", G.W.R."TRESPASS",G.E.R."BRIDGE NOTICE", G.E.R. "TRESPASS" **Cap-badges: Key Tokens:** "STOURPORT ON SEVERN. N.-BEWDLEY SOUTH", "BAGGERIDGE – WOMBOURN","CRICCIETH-AFON WEN","LLANBRYNMAIR-CEMMES ROAD","BORTH – LLANDRE", Tablets: "HOLBEACH EAST-LONG SUTTON","MOULTON-CLAY LAKE".MIDLAND RLY- **Brass shelf plates** –Gloucester, Sharpness. **Carriage prints: Bus & Transport items: Books & Paperwork: Chinaware: Silverware: Poster: Lamps: Whistles: Tickets: also a selection of miscellaneous item : Special items:** L.N.E.R. A4 ENGRAVED OVAL WORKSPLATES, L.N.E.R. BRASS "FOX" Ex "THE ZETLAND"62738. L.N.E.R. BRASS ENGRAVED OFFICE DOORPLATE, "CUFFLEY & GOFFS OAK" C/I SEATBACK. SOUTHERN RAILWAYS 1901 BRASS OVAL NO 2048.

9 Totems – To Appear for the First time in Auction; DARLESTON[M], GRIMSBY TOWN[ER],GORTON AND OPENSHAW[M],SPALDING TOWN[ER],HOUGH GREEN[M],TURVEY[M],NORTH FLEET[S],ST JAMES STREET[ER]. WEST END LANE.

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Legends of Industry for Tanfield

Great Western Railway 0-6-0ST No. 813, normally based on the Severn Valley Railway, is set to appear in its industrial guise for the first time in 40 years during the Tanfield Railway 'Legends of Industry' steam gala weekend on 15/16 September.

The return of the locomotive to the North East, for the first time in over 40 years is to be given added resonance by its apperance in 1930's Backworth Colliery No. 12 condition, for the first time in preservation.

Although built in Leeds by Hudswell Clarke in 1901 as a batch of locomotives for the Port Talbot Railway; the design of the locomotive is actually accredited to the Tyneside firm of Robert Stephenson. Stephenson's Forth Banks Works turned out many locomotives of the same design for several customers worldwide – however No. 813 is the only survivor.

Two other locomotives with Backworth connections will also be appearing in a line up of at least four steam machines. Robert Stephenson and Hawthorn 'Austerity' No. 49 spent many years working at Backworth for the National Coal Board up to preservation in the early 1970s.

On the other hand, fellow RSH product *Sir Cecil A. Cochrane* found its first preservation home at the Northumberland Colliery following a working life at Redheugh Gas Works in Gateshead. Another locomotive to be featured is Hudswell Clarke 0-6-0ST *Renishaw Ironworks No. 6*.

Behind the scenes guided tours will also be available among many other attractions, including model railways and trade stands plus photographic displays, all in Marley Hill Carriage Shed.

A free vintage bus service will link the centre of Newcastle with Tanfield on the Sunday. Click for more details.

ABOVE: David Shepherd's BR '9F' No. 92203 *Black Prince* arrived at the North Norfolk Railway on 17 August and entered service two days later. It is shown on 18 August at Weybourne, during gauging trials. The loco is now booked to be in service everyday (subject to availability) until 2 September. It will also top the bill at the railway's forthcoming Steam Gala (31 August to 2 September) which will also feature SR Battle of Britain No. 34057 *Biggin Hill* (alias No. 34081 *92 Squadron*), BR WD No. 90775, GWR 0-6-2T No. 5643, GER 'J15' No. 67462 and LNER 'N7' No. 69621. *Steve Allen*

Lottery funding for NVR TPO set

The Nene Valley Railway Travelling Post Office (TPO) Group has been awarded a grant by the 'Awards For All' Lottery Fund for £7,068 to install lineside exchange equipment at Yarwell.

The grant will enable the railway to refurbish and install the equipment between Wansford tunnel and the new station at Yarwell Junction. Included in the project is the refurbishment of a lineside hut, foot crossing for access between the hut and equipment and the installation of a footpath and fencing to enable passengers easy access to view the exchanges when they take place. Work on the project will commence immediately and it is hoped to be able to start operating the equipment in early 2008.

Bodmin & Wenford Diesel Gala

Saturday 22 + Sunday 23 September 2007

- English Electric 37142 & 50042
- Saturday Evening 'beerex' specials with food available if pre-booked
- The gala debut of RFD livered 47306 "The Sapper"
- Passenger carrying clay train - enjoy the experience from a brake van veranda*
- Class 108 DMU 'drag' Saturday Morning
- Lineside Photographic passes available in advance from the main railway office
- Very Steep gradients that make the locos work hard!
- Shunter driver experience
- 33110 viewable undergoing major bodywork repairs

*Clay runs Saturday afternoon. Small additional charge to a rover ticket, and must be pre-booked. All locomotives and trains subject to on the day availability. Event held in partnership with the Bodmin & Wenford Railway

visit our website **www.bodmindiesels.co.uk** for the latest updates by clicking this advertisement

Overhaul beckons for *Elidir*

***Elidir*, the 1933-built Avonside 0-4-0T repatriated last year by Leighton Buzzard railway members, will be on static display at Stonehenge Works during the forthcoming September 'Steam-Up' weekend.**

One of preservation's 'lost' locomotives, it was sold in 1966 from the Dinorwic slate quarries, North Wales, to a lawyer in Toronto, Canada.

It then disappeared from public view until 2005, when the current owners tracked it down and agreed terms for its return to the UK. No work was done to it in Canada, so it is still in as-withdrawn condition, having been kept under cover for most of its exile.

This will be the last opportunity to see and photograph it in original Dinorwic livery before its overhaul begins. It is believed to be the only example of this Avonside class in the UK.

W&L annual gala weekend approaches

The Welshpool & Llanfair Railway will host its annual Steam Gala on 1/2 September.

Making its inaugural gala apprearance will be newly introduced Resita No. 764.425 from Transylvania (see separate story). The locomotive will be working a variety of trains alongside the usual W&L fleet.

Mixed trains will operate during the weekend, including a replica W&L Pickering carriage in the consist, in addition to which some trains will be double headed by *The Earl* and *The Countess* on 2 September, while the same day will also see passenger services worked by *Dougal*.

The line's workshops will be open for visitors and a night locomotive line-up for photography will be held at Llanfair on Saturday.

Welshpool & Llanfair welcome new loco to its fleet

ABOVE: One of the railway's original 0-4-2T locomotives, seen here in GWR guise as No. 832, prepares to depart from Llanfair Caereinion with the W&L's vintage train, heading for Welshpool on 12 August. The first coach is a replica of the line's original Pickering built vehicles. A second replica coach, an 'All Third' vehicle has, like the first, been built by the Ffestiniog Railway and recently delivered to the Welshpool line. *Chris Perkins*

BELOW: The Welshpool & Llanfair Railway purchased Resita locomotive No. 764.425 in late 2006 from Romania. The locomotive was overhauled at '16 Februarie' Remarul Locomotive Works in Cluj-Napoca, Romania, and arrived in Wales on 20 June. Following initial tests and examinations, the locomotive entered traffic in early August, relieving pressure on the rest of the railway's locomotive fleet. *Ken Brunt*

Remember you can always 'click' on an advert to go straight to the advertisers website!

Welsh Highland Railway trackgang reaches Aberglaslyn Pass

ABOVE: Over the weekend of 11/12 August, track was relaid over Bryn-y-Felin bridge on the Welsh Highland Railway, the point at which the railway enters the scenic Aberglaslyn Pass. As part of the undertaking, the works locomotive and wagons became the first train for over 60 years to venture across the River Glaslyn. The last time this happened would have been a demolition train between 1937 (the end of freight services) and 1944 when the winding-up order was passed. The bridge here is an entirely new structure, purpose built to replace the life-expired original. The bridge has also been short-listed by the Institution of Structural Engineers for the Heritage Award for Infrastructure. *Tim Goodspeed*

BELOW: On the Ffestiniog Railway, a member of the train crew keeps a close watch on operations as one of the line's Double-Fairlie 0-4-4-0T locomotives *David Lloyd George* arrives at Porthmadog Harbour station with a service from Blaenau Ffestiniog. *Chris Perkins*

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