

The Railway Herald



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Front Cover

Freightliner Heavy Haul Class 66/5 No. 66507 rounds the curve at Althorpe, near Scunthorpe, on 3rd March with an empty rake of HHA hoppers, bound for loading at Immingham Docks. Richard Tuplin

Rear Cover

Class 159/0 No 159013 in Bournemouth Traincare Depot undergoing Level 6 maintenance on 25th February, after refurbishment at Wabtec, Doncaster. Brian Morrison

Publication

The Railway Herald is due to be published every Friday and is available on e-mail subscription or from our website at www.railwayherald.co.uk

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.

Website

Our website contains all the back issues of the magazine together with a host of new features which will be online soon!

www.railwayherald.co.uk

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](#).



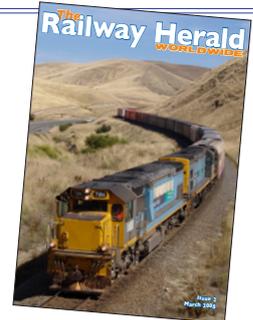
FCC Class 03 stars at Nene Valley Gala weekend

▲ First Capital Connect Class 03 No. 03179 was moved by road from Hornsey Depot to the Nene Valley Railway for the line's diesel gala weekend. Unfortunately, the locomotive hit problems when it was declared a failure part way through the event. Other locomotives in action included visiting Class 24 No. 24081, Class 27 No. 27066, Class 33/0 No. 33053 and Class 66/7 No. 66727, plus the resident fleet, which included the line's Class 56s. Neil Walking

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- ◆ The latest news and events from across Europe, the America's and the Asia Pacific region
- ◆ **Railroading USA** - John Day starts the first of a major new series examining photo locations and opportunities around the United States. Part 1 looks at the busy areas around Chicago.
- ◆ **China Steam Spectacular** - Cyril J. Lofthus looks at some of the remaining steam operations throughout China.

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▲ Class 60 No. 60018 passes North Fen Drove, Ely with 09.18 Doncaster Belmont - Eccles Road potato train on 4th March. **Iain C. Scotchman**

Potatoes from Elgin to East Anglia

By **Iain C. Scotchman**

A second trial train operated by EWS on behalf of MH Higgins Group of Doncaster, arrived in Norfolk on 4th March conveying 312 tonnes of seed potatoes.

The trial, which began early in February, involves the movement of seed potatoes, grown in north-east Scotland, from Elgin to the Snetterton rail terminal for planting in Norfolk.

Originating in Elgin yard the previous day, the train comprised six IZA vans hauled by Class 37/4 No. 37422 *Cardiff Canton* as the

09.55 to Laurencekirk, where both were attached to the empty pipe working to Mossend, the wagons then being worked down to Doncaster Belmont Yard. The final leg to Norfolk on 4th March being the 09.18 Belmont Yard – Eccles Road, where the loco ran round the train and propelled it into the rail terminal to allow the wagons to be unloaded. The final short leg being completed by road lorries.

The empties were worked back to Doncaster as the 19.45 from Eccles Road and onwards to Mossend where they were

attached to the rear of the Fridays-only Lairg oil tanks to Inverness. The snow clearance Class 37 loco based at Inverness then tripped the wagons to Elgin for re-loading. The first train ran two weeks earlier.

The trial has been successful so far, each train taking some 12 lorries off the road. Two further trains are planned, with proposals for an extended operation next year, possibly including trains to Cornwall. Thanks to Andy Gaddas, Commercial Manager at MH Higgins for his assistance and information

More Bombardier Electrostars for Southern

Bombardier Transportation is to construct another 11 four-car Class 377 Electrostars for Southern.

The trains will be manufactured

at Bombardier's Litchurch Lane, Derby, site and will be delivered to the franchise during 2009.

The Electrostars are now a well proven product, with over 1,600

coaches already in service with c2c, Southeastern and Southern. The trains have been named the most reliable modern EMU in the UK for the past three years.

Cracking down on cable theft

On 5th March, British Transport Police (BTP) conducted a dedicated police operation at Stockingford, Nuneaton, to crack down on cable theft from the railways.

Police will be targeting known cable theft hotspot areas, local scrap metal dealers and conducting an Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) operation. Officers will also be engaging with the local community and seeking their continued support to come forward with information to help tackle the problem. The operation is designed to detect, deter and disrupt such criminal activity and give a strong message to those

involved in stealing cables from the railway.

As part of the operation officers will make use of the latest technology in the form of a Microdrone - an unmanned, almost silent helicopter that can film from more than 350ft and is invisible to the naked eye. The remote controlled helicopter - the size of a dustbin lid - beams back live video footage and infrared imagery to operators on the ground. The Microdrone can even squirt offenders with security marking solution called SmartWater that can then be identified by police.

Theft of cable from the railway in particular, is extremely

dangerous to those involved, and can cause hours of delay to the thousands of passengers who rely on the network. BTP has recorded 1,928 metal theft offences and arrested 396 people in 2007 compared with 1,142 offences and 317 arrests in 2006.

Should any reader have information about individuals engaged in metal theft or dealing in stolen metal from the railways, please contact British Transport Police on 0800 40 50 40 or call Crimestoppers in confidence on 0800 555 111. If you see an incident of theft in progress, call 999.

► Virgin Trains has teamed up with mobile telephone operator T-Mobile to provide improved Wi-Fi in all of its First Class lounges at London Euston, Coventry, Birmingham New Street, Wolverhampton, Stoke-on-Trent and Manchester Piccadilly and soon at Runcorn and Birmingham International. The facility is available free to all First Class ticket holders using the lounges that have Wi-Fi-enabled laptops, and not just T-Mobile users. Mobile phone reception is also being improved onboard Virgin trains to provide the same level of reception inside the train as is available outside. The first 16 upgraded trains are already in service and will soon be easily identifiable by special labels on the mobile phone and laptop charging points.

► Due to extensive upgrade work taking place in the Rugby area over the Easter Holiday period to streamline the complicated set of junctions north and south of the station, trains will be unable to pass through the area while most of the work is going on. This will mean that there will not be any direct trains through Rugby to and from London Euston on Good Friday 21st March, between Saturday 22nd March and Easter Monday 24th March inclusive, and there will be significant reductions to the normal weekday services on Tuesday 25th March.

► Nexus is marking the opening of its 60th Tyne & Wear Metro station at Simonside on South Tyneside by giving away a week's free travel to 2,000 people living in the local area who will be entitled to unlimited free travel on the system from 17th to 23rd March. The special offer has been introduced to showcase the £3.2 million station, which opens on 17th March, and to show the benefits of having Metro on their doorstep. Special packs containing the free Metro travel vouchers were sent out on 7th March. The new station at Simonside, which has been part funded with £800,000 by the European Regional Development Fund, offers the residents five trains an hour in each direction towards South Shields town centre, Gateshead and the centre of Newcastle. The new station forms the first part of plans for the future of Tyne & Wear Metro put together by Nexus, which is seeking £600 million to modernise the system over 20 years. Future plans include dualling the track to Pelaw, rebuilding South Shields station with new enclosed waiting areas, introducing a new fleet of trains and new ticketing machines and electronic ticket barriers using the latest technology.

► Automatic ticket gates come into operation on Platform 7 at Aberdeen station on 12th March. The move follows the introduction of gates on the concourse last year serving Platforms 1-6. Reflecting First ScotRail's franchise commitment to reduce ticketless travel, there will be two standard gates and two wide aisle gates for passengers using wheelchairs or travelling with luggage or buggies. A state of the art video help point is also being installed to allow people arriving without a ticket or requiring assistance, to contact a member of staff.

► The number of travellers using the onboard Wireless Broadband (Wi-Fi) service on National Express East Coast (NEXC) tripled during the first month in which it was free throughout the train. As part of its aim of making travel simpler, NEXC committed to making Wi-Fi free to all customers from December last year. It was previously only complimentary in First Class, and cost £4.95 an hour in Standard accommodation. The numbers have now risen from 30,000 per month to over 100,000 in January alone.

► The first of Network Rail's converted ex-Anglia Mk2 DBSOs vehicles, No. 9703 has been out on test recently. On 4th March, the vehicle worked a Crewe-Morecambe test train, powered by Class 31/1 No. 31105. The train passes Winwick. Fred Kerr

National Railway Museum acquires historic loco

The National Railway Museum (NRM) in York has acquired one of the earliest industrial locomotives in the world.

Dating back to the 1840s, Bradyll is believed to be the oldest surviving locomotive with six driving wheels and is unusual in that it has survived by chance, rather than by association with a particular historic event or person. The NRM say that it is this anonymity compared to other locomotives from around the same time period such as Stephenson's Rocket that makes the story of Bradyll so intriguing.

The secret of Bradyll's survival may be down to its colourful history. In the 1870s, the

locomotive was converted into a snowplough by removing the cylinders and motion and adding a weight and a blade.

Despite being out of use for even this secondary purpose by World War 2, Bradyll went on to survive the notorious scrap drives of the 1940s by being isolated on a stretch of line by a growing spoil heap. At some point after the war it was placed at the works gates in Philadelphia, County Durham as a historical curio, where it was regularly painted with a tar-like material, which considerably slowed further decay.

Until fairly recently it was believed Bradyll was named and built by Timothy Hackworth

at his Soho works at Shildon. Now an academic who has been instrumental in the restoration of this rare piece of railway history has cast new light on its origins.

In his yet unpublished research, Dr Michael Bailey has given the theory that the locomotive may have actually been originally named *Nelson* and worked on the railway at South Hetton, Durham and was built circa 1840 by Thomas Richardson of Hartlepool, an unremarkable and little known early builder of industrial and colliery haulage locomotives. Bradyll is currently on display in the Soho shed at Locomotion, the NRM, Shildon, which has only limited access to the public.



RailManager

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Time for a
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Metronet collapses after PPP Arbitrator refuses most of costs claim
Business as usual at LUL, promises Mayor
RMT threatens action if Metronet jobs are lost
Tories call for probe by National Audit Office
Laiming 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
Reality: ATOC loses Network Rail vote
Milestone reached at Heathrow Terminal 5: first look at London's newest tube station

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Portraying the magic of steam

A two-part collection following mainline steam action from 1999 until 2007.

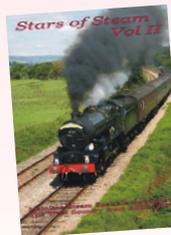
Stars of Steam - Volume 1 (£12.95)

This programme was originally released in February 2002 and features the highlights of mainline steam runs in the West Country and Wales over a three-year period spanning 1999-2001.

As always, special attention has been given to acquire dramatic video footage so as to show these wonderful machines at their best.

Some of the locations featured include Whiteball, Dainton and Rattery inclines in South Devon; the scenic sea wall stretch at Teignmouth and Dawlish; Sydney Gardens, Bath; Knucklas Viaduct on the Central Wales line and the North Wales route, itself featuring the return to the main line of 6233 Duchess of Sutherland awlsh Donkey specials over the years 1999, 2000 & 2001 also feature.

Locomotives include 4936, 5029, 6024, 7802, 9600, 34016, 35005, 35028, 45110, 45407, 46233, 4472, 60532, 60800, 76079, 80079 & 80098. Running time approx 66 minutes.



Stars of Steam - Volume 2 (£16.95)

The second volume in this popular series follows on from where we left off in 2001, with main line steam specials throughout the West Country and beyond, in the years 2002-2007.

Locomotives featured include 850, 3440, 4936, 4965, 5029, 5051, 6024, 6233, 7802, 30777, 34067, 45407, 46201, 60009, 61264, 71000, 73096 and 76079.

In many cases, the tours are each seen at different locations during the day. The programme includes the 'one-off' charters as well as the Torbay Express and Cathedral Express runs.

Running time approx 72 minutes.

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New book publisher enters the market

The History Press, the UK's leading publisher of special interest and local history books, whose portfolio contains such well-known names as Tempus and Spellmount, has announced a new investment in the field of railway and road transport publishing with the launch of a new imprint, Great Western Press.

Headed by Tom Ferris, a former director of Midland Publishing, this is the first time there has been an imprint within the company solely dedicated to books in these areas.

Great Western Press will publish books by enthusiasts for enthusiasts and aspires to the highest editorial and production values. The first new titles are to be released this year.

Tom and the team at GWP would like to hear from potential authors and would welcome feedback from road and rail enthusiasts as to the subjects they would like to see covered in future publications.

They can be contacted at gwp@thehistorypress.co.uk or on 01285 760000.

On the scrap trail!

On 5th March, Advenza Freight utilised both of its Class 57/0s, Nos. 57005 and 57006, to work a scrap train from Stockton to Cardiff Tidal.

The empty wagons returned north on the 7th March behind Class 57/0 No. 57005.

► Nos. 57005 and 57006 pass Sherburn-in-Elmet on 5th March heading south. **Ron Cover**

▲ The 13.50 Plymouth-Gunnislake service, at that time operated by Wessex Trains, crosses Calstock Viaduct on 28th March 2001, formed of Class 153 No. 153374, itself wearing one of the pictorial liveries introduced by Wessex Trains to promote various routes within its franchise. **Brian Morrison**

Calstock Viaduct opened to walkers for one day

The 100-year old Calstock viaduct in Cornwall opened to walkers for the first time on 3rd March, when Network Rail and the Devon & Cornwall Rail Partnership celebrated the centenary of rail services across the structure.

The viaduct links Bere Alston and Gunnislake along the scenic Tamar Valley line in the south west. Many people made the exclusive walk and were also joined by the

great grand-daughter of J. Charles Lang, one of the key engineers instrumental in the construction of the viaduct and of the railway.

The walk will offer a rare vantage point to view the architecture and the landscape around the viaduct, which is part of an Area of Outstanding Beauty. Standing at nearly 120ft above high water level with 60 foot-span arches, the railway links Devon and Cornwall and is the only

viable public transport that takes passengers from Gunnislake to Bere Alston and Plymouth.

Serving eight trains a day from Plymouth, the railway took nearly four years to build and opened to traffic on 2nd March 1908. The opening of the railway, which provided links to Plymouth and London at Bere Alston, also brought significant economic opportunities to market gardeners in the area.

Railway Herald on the web ... www.railwayherald.co.uk

Have you visited the Railway Herald website since its relaunch?

If not, then now could be the time to do so! Since its launch on the 25th January, the site has averaged over one million hits every week and our members have

uploaded over 4,000 images from 42 countries around the world and an extra 600 images are being added every week on average! All our readers can create a free account and contribute images yourself! Our easy to use website creation software will be launched shortly.





▲ The Carnforth-based LMS '8F' 2-8-0 No. 48151 Gauge 'O' Guild departs from Hellfield on 1st March after stopping for water with an excursion from Carnforth, bound for York. Mike Lynam

UK Steam & Modern Traction Railtour Listings

The following table details the latest information available on steam, diesel and electric railtours for the forthcoming weeks from the date of publication. Information is understood to be correct at the time of going to press.

8th March		
Heartland Rail	2xCR CI47	Bristol TM-Bristol Parkway-Yate-Cam & Dursley-Cheltenham Spa-Birmingham NS-York-Scarborough and return
Pathfinder Tours	2xEWS CI. 37	The Buffer Puffer 6.0: London KX-Clapham Jct-Uckfield-East Grinstead-London Bridge-Victoria-Charing Cross-Cannon St-Blackfriars-Finsbury Park-Gordon Hill Bay Platform-London KX Liverpool Lime Street-St. Helens-Wigan NW-Preston-Lancaster-Barrow-in-Furness-Carlisle (break/rev)-Shap-Liverpool Lime Street
Railway Touring Company	71000	
9th March		
Kingfisher Railtours	48151	Carnforth-Lancaster-Preston-Rose Grove-York Cancelled
Kingfisher Railtours	34067	Eastleigh-Southampton-Romsey-Salisbury-Westbury-Bath Spa-Bristol Temple Meads-Taunton-Minehead (and return)
13th March		
Stobart Pullman	tbc	London KX-Potters Bar-Stevenage-Peterborough-Doncaster-Hebdon Bridge-Manchester Piccadilly (break)-Huddersfield & rtn
15th March		
Stobart Pullman	tbc	Letchworth-Finsbury Park-Stratford upon Avon (break/rev) and rtn
Past Time Rail	76079	Manchester Victoria-via the Carnforth Circle-Manchester Victoria
Pathfinder Tours	tbc	London KX-Grantham-Doncaster RMT (92)-Morpeth-Bedlington-Newcastle (56/3)-York (66/5)-Doncaster RMT (60)-London KX (92) (Leeds-Edinburgh (break/rev))-Edinburgh-Leeds
Railway Touring Company	60009	Birmingham Snow Hill-Tyseley-Banbury-Oxford-Didcot (break)-Oxford-Banbury-Leamington Spa-Tyseley-Birmingham Snow Hill
Vintage Trains	4965	
21st March		
Stobart Pullman	tbc	'Easter West Highlander' Day 1: London KX-Edinburgh-Dumbarton
Past Time Rail	tbc	Bristol TM-Taunton-Exeter SD-Paignton-Kingswear and return
22nd March		
Stobart Pullman	tbc	'Easter West Highlander Day Two: Dumbarton-Oban-Dumbarton
Past Time Rail	tbc	Bristol TM-Taunton-Exeter SD-Paignton-Kingswear and return
Past Time Rail	35028	London Victoria-Woking-Basingstoke-Salisbury (break/rev)-Southampton-Havant-Haslemere-Guildford-London Victoria
Pathfinder Tours	CI.50	Worcester SH-Bham NS-Tamworth HL-Alnwick-Edinburgh & return

Key to tour listings:

BLACK Charters expected to operate as booked.

GREEN Tours postponed to a future date by the operator

WCRC West Coast Railway Company

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

RED Tours cancelled by the operator

BLUE Provisional excursion

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

The Week Ahead

Over the past ten years Tyseley's No. 4965 Rood Ashton Hall has probably travelled further, hauled more trains and been more reliable than any other mainline registered steam locomotive.

The locomotive bows out of traffic on 15th March at the end of its mainline certification, with a rather truncated '4965 Adieu' from Solihull to Didcot and back for Vintage Trains. A fast track overhaul is likely as it is the ideal traction for Vintage Trains' 'Shakespeare Expresses'. However, with Castles Nos. 5029 Nunney Castle and 5043 Earl of Mount Edgumbe both due to be available soon Tyseley is unlikely to be short of locomotives.

Other steam action includes No. 60009 Union of South Africa working the return leg of a Leeds to Edinburgh charter for The Railway Touring Company, while Past Time has posted the 'sold out' notice on its 'Cotton Mill Express' which, due the landslip at Elland, on the Calder Valley will now run around the 'Carnforth Circle' instead of its normal route with No. 76079 in charge.

Stobart Rail has two charters, both inherited from the now defunct Hertfordshire brand, commencing on 13th March to Manchester from London King's Cross, the routing of which is not yet clear, again due to the landslip problem at Elland. Two days later Stratford-upon-Avon is the destination.

'The Choppington Changer', another new low in brilliantly awful Pathfinder train names, heads for the Blythe and Tyne from King's Cross, initially with an EWS Class 92 in charge as far as Doncaster RMT. Here, and for many the highlight of the trip, a Fastline Class 56/3 will take over and head the train via York, Eaglescliffe and Newcastle to Morpeth and Bedlington, before returning to Newcastle, where a Freightliner Class 66/5 will be added for a double-headed run back to York via the ECML. At York, after a break, a Class 60 is substituted for the Class 56/66 combo to lead back to Doncaster Royal Mail Terminal via Ferrybridge and Knottingley, prior to the tour being returned back to King's Cross with Class 92 traction.

BR Pacific instead of 'A4' Pacific for North Briton charter

The good news, as reported last issue, that the A4 Locomotive Society's Grosmont-based No. 60007 *Sir Nigel Gresley* has at long last got its mainline certification is, unfortunately, not in time for the locomotive to work its booked duties on the Railway Touring Company's (RTC) 'North Briton' charter between 12th and 16th April.

As a consequence, No. 71000 *Duke of Gloucester* is now confirmed for the York to Edinburgh section outwards on 12th April, and from Glasgow Central to Darlington with the return working on 16th April.

On both days the southern section of the tour from and to London King's Cross is booked for 'A4' haulage behind Mid-Hants based No. 60019 *Bittern*. Classmate No. 60009 *Union of South Africa* will haul the tour north from Edinburgh on 13th April to Inverness, which is likely to involve the A4 running tender-first between Dundee and Perth, while north of Perth it is due to be piloted by 'Black 5' No. 45407 instead of the originally planned use of 'K4' No. 61994 *The Great Marquess*.

The 'Black 5' will also cover the trip to Kyle of Lochalsh on 14th April and will pilot No. 60009 back to Perth on 15th April, with the 'A4' then continuing alone to Glasgow Central.

Network Rail has also resolved the pathing issues with Railway Touring Company's 'Pembroke Coast Express' on 5th May, which means that the tour will now operate to Milford Haven instead of Pembroke Dock with No. 6024 *King Edward I* for traction.

The train will call at Carmarthen on the outward leg, and then be diesel-hauled into Milford Haven. The return is steam-hauled throughout to Bristol Temple Meads.

Railway Touring Company has also confirmed that No. 6201 *Princess Elizabeth* will fit on the recently extended Churston turntable and is set to become the first Stanier Pacific to work along the branch from Newton Abbott to Kingswear on 29th March with RTC's 'Dartmouth Express' from Birmingham International, with steam from Bristol Temple Meads.

Reports elsewhere in the media of a 'head to head' between the company and West Coast Railway Company on competing 'Scarborough Spa Expresses' this summer are, *Railway Herald* understands, somewhat premature.

Sir Nigel Gresley stands in for King Edward I

Participants of Steam Dreams 1948 Locomotive Exchanges Anniversary charter on 31st May have been advised by letter this week that the society who own and operate No. 6024 *King Edward I* feel, that despite formally committing to run this trip in the summer of 2007 it is no longer in a position to work this train.

At the point of going to press, *Railway Herald* has not been able to clarify with The 6024 Preservation Society the underlying reason for its withdrawal from this charter, which indeed has been in the charter diary for a good while.

However, the past six months have been a difficult period for the group, starting with piston problems last autumn which sidelined the locomotive for two months, the internal disruption

following the departure of the operations manager Steve Underhill later last year and more recently the planned winter maintenance becoming protracted, causing the Society to pull out of two of forthcoming tours.

For their part, Steam Dreams expressed "disappointment at the nature which the engine had been removed especially as they believed they had a formal agreement to use No. 6024 and after the long period of careful planning of the train specifically with that locomotive in mind".

The 'King' was originally due to work the first of a double-bill of trains celebrating the 60th anniversary of the famous locomotive exchanges from Leeds to Kings Cross, which was the route it covered in the 1948 trials. However, when it was specifically

gauged for the route last year problems were identified with running from Leeds, and the route has therefore been changed for the steam section to become York to King's Cross instead.

The train is understood to be booking very well, and as compensation for any disappointment, Steam Dreams has secured recently mainline certified 'A4' No. 60007 *Sir Nigel Gresley* to work the train instead; this will be the locos first revenue earning outing since completion of its lengthy overhaul which was followed by difficulties in obtaining mainline certification.

The following day's working, from Waterloo to Exeter, featuring No. 6233 *Duchess of Sutherland* outwards and No. 60019 *Bittern* on the return is confirmed as fully booked.

Explore the North East coast with NELPG in May

NELPG has announced the 'East Coast Explorer' on 10th May, which is essentially a tour around Teesside with ex-LNER No. 62005 ahead of the locomotive's transfer to Fort William for 'Jacobite' duties.

But there is more to the trip than just a positioning exercise, as upon withdrawal from BR service, No. 62005 will pass on its journey the site of the old Phillips Oil Refinery where the locomotive spent time as a stationery boiler after the end of steam in the North East. Had this not happened, it remains a moot point

whether the locomotive would have survived the cutter's torch.

The tour commences at Newcastle-upon-Tyne, diesel-hauled and hopefully with a West Coast Class 37, to pick up at Durham, Darlington and Middlesbrough where the steam section will commence, which involves returning north to Newcastle and then on to Sunderland and the Durham Coast to Hartlepool for a break. Following which, the train will continue steam-hauled to Billingham, where after reversal, it will continue to Seal Sands

Junction, and in so doing will pass the site of the Phillips Oil Refinery.

Following a further reversal at Eaglescliffe the train continues diesel hauled to Boulby, followed by a return to Middlesbrough steam-hauled around the spectacular coastline following which diesel traction will again prevail back to Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

In the meantime, No. 62005 plus support coach will then continue via York, Carnforth and onwards to Fort William to commence a further season on 'The Jacobite' trains.



▲ The first half of the Railway Touring Company's 'The Cheshireman' railtour on 1st March, was worked by Class 6T No. 67001. The train is pictured leaving Syston on its way south to Leicester, where BR Standard 8P No. 71000 *Duke of Gloucester* would take over as motive power. The current programme of repainting a complete rake of Mk1 coaches into the old 'crimson and cream' colour scheme can be seen to be well underway. **John Stretton**

Eight minutes at Beechwood Tunnel



DRS suffered a minor problem on 1st March when Class 66 No. 66407 ran out of fuel at Daventry. The solution was to pilot the train with a pair of Class 37s (Nos. 37608 and 37218) as far as Crewe. However, problems on the WCML resulted in trains being diverted via Birmingham. Running just five minutes ahead of the DRS service was an EWS Enterprise service, being worked by Class 57/3 No. 57315 (▲) All was not quite what it seemed however, with the West Coast Main Line being blocked, the Class 57 had been attached to the rear of the 02.18 Bescot - Wembley service (hauled by Class 92 No. 92002 dragging EuroCargo Rail-branded Class 66 No. 66052) and was returning the working to Bescot. Class 92 No. 92002 had been removed from the train and was used to drag the service ahead (02.05 Trafford Park - Wembley) back to Bescot as well! The DRS consist (▼) followed next, with the Class 92 (►) behind that! All three trains passed Beechwood Tunnel within eight minutes of each other! All: **Ron Kosys**





An alternative view of railways

▲ One of the Direct Rail Services Class 47/4s No. 47802 Pride of Cumbria heads the 'Thomas Hardy Circular Tour' on 1st March, near Christchurch, bound for Weymouth. **Derek Hopkins**

▼ Recently awarded celebrity status, thanks to its unique livery, Class 60 No. 60074 Teenage Spirit heads the Westerleigh - Lindsey Oil Refinery discharged petroleum tanks past Natton on 5th March. **Jack Boskett**



Photographing the modern day railway scene presents cameramen with some unique challenges.

With the motive power, although colourful, being limited to a handful of locomotive classes and similar looking multiple units, for a number of photographers there is a near constant aim to achieve a good photograph while breaking with the traditional front-three-quarter views.

The art of 'panning', as depicted above, is one method of creating a powerful image, while other photographers choose locations which require a different 'eye' to achieve the best.

► EWS Class 37/4 No. 37401 passes Buxworth on 4th March with the Dowlow - Arpley service. The brick arches and background trees create an image with a difference. **Fred Kerr**



North Yorkshire Moors Railway

LNER FESTIVAL WEEKENDS

28th-30th March & 4th-6th April

FEATURING

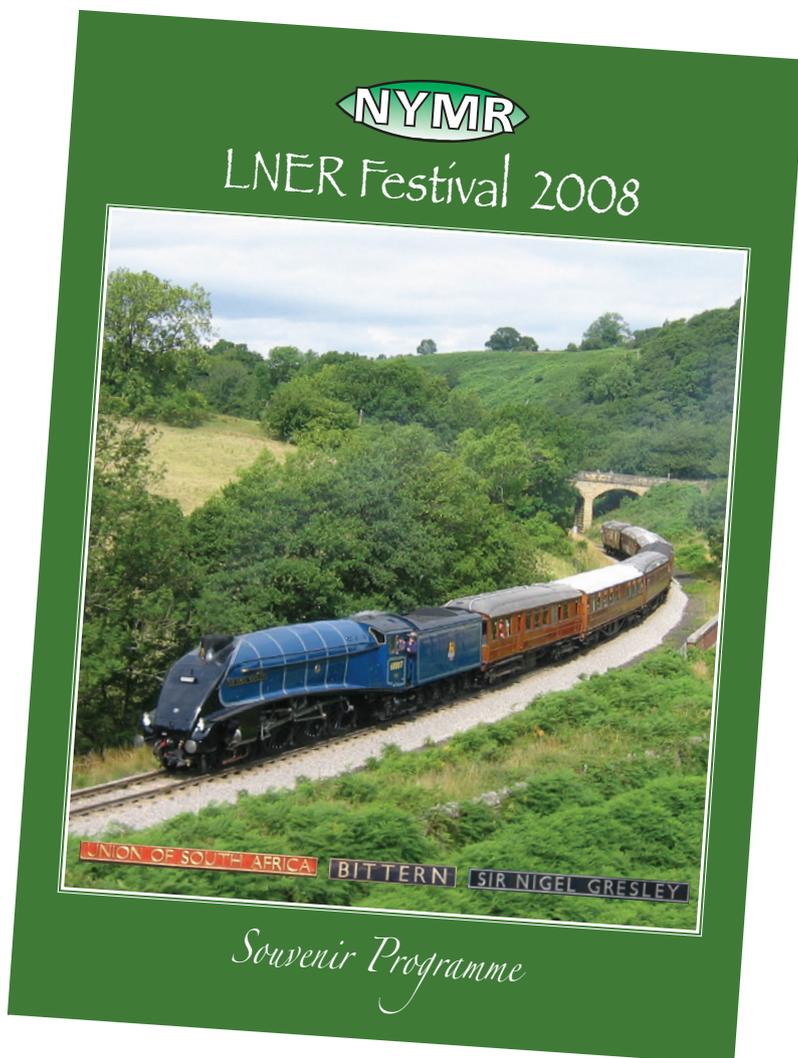
The first line up of three working LNER 'A4' Pacifics since the end of steam in 1968

Up to Eight ex-LNER steam locomotives working services between Pickering and Grosmont, plus Esk Valley Line services between Battersby and Whitby

Last gala appearance of the National Railway Museum's popular *Green Arrow*

The 'MUST-VISIT' railway event of 2008!

Call 01751 472508 for further details and fares



To commemorate this unique gala event the railway has produced a special Souvenir Programme

This special 24-page, A4-sized programme covers:

The history of the LNER ■ Background to the 'A4' locomotives

History of the NYMR ■ Locomotive Information

Full timetables and locomotive allocations for the weekend

ON SALE FROM 20th MARCH PRICED £2.50

Advance orders can be accepted via post or phone. Please add £1 for p&p

To order call 01751 472508 using your credit or debit card, or send a cheque or postal order to Festival Programme, North Yorkshire Moors Railway, Park Street, Pickering, North Yorkshire. YO18 7AJ



▲ The Class 40 Appeal's No. D212 Aureol departs from Butterley, on the Midland Railway, on 23rd June 2007. The bogie cracks that caused the locomotive's withdrawal in 1986, now prevent it from being dragged on the mainline and the owners have launched a new appeal to fund the repair. **Wilf Smith**

Help needed to repair bogie crack in Class 40 Appeal's Aureol

The Class 40 Appeal (C40A), owners of Class 37 No. 37324, Class 40 No. D212 Aureol and Class 50 No. 50007 Sir Edward Elgar, are appealing to enthusiasts across the country to assist with the financial support needed to repair the bogies on No. D212

The locomotive was finally withdrawn from operating service as No. 97407 on 4th April 1986, due to fractured bogies, and resided at Crewe Basford Hall Yard until moved to Carlisle Kingmoor as a source of spares for celebrity classmate No. D200.

Purchased by the Class 40 Appeal in May 1988, the locomotive was moved to the Midland Railway Centre on 3rd March 1989. Within a few days of the loco arriving on site, restoration work commenced and one of the

first jobs undertaken was to measure and record the various fractures in both bogies for future reference. From that day until now, there has been no additional movement from any of the fractures, and measurements taken recently, were still of the same length as they were when originally taken back in 1989.

To date through the group's membership, C40A has started trying to raise sufficient money to repair the bogies on Aureol and AEA Technology Rail has carried out a Class 40 bogie repair feasibility study and a welding specification procedure at a cost of more than £2,000.

The estimated cost of lifting the loco and repairing both bogies to mainline standards is in the region of around £10,000. There is also the

outside possibility that should further funding become available in the future, the locomotive could be taken to a full mainline standard allowing use on railtours.

The Class 40 Appeal is now asking enthusiasts to help them in raising the money to enable the repair to be completed, allowing Aureol to once again attend other heritage line events and be allowed to be moved by rail, something which is presently banned due to the bogie problem. Any money donated will only be used to repair the Class 40.

Only cheques or postal orders can be accepted and should be made payable to Class 40 Appeal and sent to Class 40 Appeal, 65 Darby Road, Wednesbury, West Midlands, WS10 0PN.

DMU gala weekend for Butterley

There is a growing appreciation within the enthusiast fraternity for the much-maligned DMU, especially the heritage units dating back to the late 1950s and early 1960s which were such a feature of the national network at that time.

The Midland Railway at Butterley now has an increasing collection of such units, which will feature in its DMU Gala over the weekend of 29th/30th March. The main attraction, however, is the anticipated visit of an East Midlands Trains Class 153 single-car unit, which will be in service along with resident Classes 101, 114, 127 and 141 units.

A further attraction is that the gala will feature the units utilising the Codnor Park Branch as far as the Network Rail limit, which is not available to the normal service trains.

Other units currently under restoration will be on show, including the immaculately restored Derby-Lightweight unit which was financed by the Heritage Lottery Fund, the owning group of which is currently raising funds to restore the second vehicle, which when finished, will mean the two-car unit will be an absolute gem to the preservation movement. Trains will run from 10.00 each day with an approximate half-hour frequency.



Colas Rail Class 47/7 for Bodmin gala

The Bodmin & Wenford Railway has announced a special guest star for its diesel weekend over 5th/6th April, in the form of Colas Rail Class 47/7 No. 47727 Demelza

The locomotive is appropriate to the area, having originally been delivered to the Western Region as No. D1660 and later named City of

Truro. The locomotive will be in action alongside resident Class 37/0 No. 37142, Class 47/3 No. 47306 The Sapper and Class 50 No. 50042 Triumph.

▲ Class 47/7s No. 47727 and 47749 pass Lostwithiel with one of the RHTTs. **Sam Felce**

The editor welcomes details of forthcoming events, talks, slide shows, conferences, model railway exhibitions and club meetings for inclusion within this section.

Details should be sent via email to

editor@railwayherald.co.uk and should include a brief outline of the event, including the speakers name if appropriate, date, time and location, together with contact details (either telephone, web or email). *Railway Herald* cannot

accept any responsibility for any inaccuracies or events which are amended, cancelled or postponed. Information, such as advance programmes and club meeting line-ups can also be sent through the post to the editorial address.

8th March 2008

Stephenson Locomotive Society

Kidderminster Railway Museum, Kidderminster
'Electric Forum (jointly with ERS and LRTA) – Pioneer Electrics by Douglas Morgan and John Rosser. Meeting commences at 14.15, contact 01242 582152 for details.

10th March 2008

Lincoln Railway Society

St Hugh's Church Hall, North Hykeham, Lincoln. 'To Scotland for Steam' by Peter H Groom. Meeting commences at 20.00 Contact 01522 705365 for further details.

Stephenson Locomotive Society

New Trinity Parish Hall, Saltcoats, Ayrshire. 'Harzer Schmalspurbahnen, a Trip up the Brocken by John Black Meeting commences at 19.30, contact 01294 822303 for details.

York Railway Circle

Archbishop Holgate's School, Drama Studio, Hull Road, York. 'Normanton Shed 55E 1962-1968' by Allan Dawson, Steam Fireman Meeting commences at 19.30. Membership available. Non-Members £2

10th-18th March 2008

Locomotive Club of Great Britain (Overseas's Tour)

'Copper Canyon Railway', Mexico. Participants must be members of LCGB for insurance purposes. Further details visit the website at <http://www.lcgb.org.com>

11th March 2008

8E Railway Association (Northwich Branch)

The Gladstone Club, Station Road, Northwich. 'American Adventure' by Bob Casselden. Meeting commences at 19.45.

Abergavenny & District Steam Society

Upper Room' at 'The Hen and Chickens', Flannel Street, Abergavenny. 'Rails in the Colorado' by Nigel Lewis. Meeting commences at 20.00.

Great Western Society (Bristol Group)

Room 7, BAWA. 589 Southmead Road, Filton, BRISTOL, BS34 7RG. 'Something Old, Something New' talk by Mike Dodd. Meeting commences at 19.30 for 19.45. Non-members welcome. Contact 0117 987 3244 for further details and information

Permanent Way Institution (Croydon & Brighton Branch)

Room B110, Croydon College. 'SERSA Second Life System' by Chris Woods, Network Rail. Meeting commences at 17.30

Permanent Way Institution (Lancaster, Barrow & Carlisle Branch)

The Railway Hotel, adjacent to Preston station. 'Trackwork on the Great Orme Tramway' by Iain Ellis. Meeting commences at 17.30

12th March 2008

Basingstoke & District Railway Society

U.K. and overseas by Ian Clare. Wote St. Club, New Road, Starts 20.00. Contact 01256 326096.

Grimsby & Cleethorpes Railway Group

Royal Air Force Club, Alexandra Road, Cleethorpes. 'The M&GN Part 2 : South Lynn to the Coast' by David Bodicoat. Starts 19.30.

Permanent Way Institution (London Branch)

10th Floor Restaurant, 55 Broadway (LUL HQ), London St. James Park tube. 'East London Line' by Mark Eaden. Meeting commences at 17.30

Permanent Way Institution (North Wales Branch)

The Town Crier Hotel, Chester. 'Rail mounted rail milling' by Malcolm Hitt, DTK GmbH. Starts 18.30. Contact 01782 717472.

Stephenson Locomotive Society

YMCA, Bridge Street, Guildford 'Preserved Steam in Australia and Sweden by Brian Lewis Meeting commences at 19.30, contact 01372 379216 for details

13th March 2008

Locomotive Club of Great Britain (St Albans Branch) United Reform Church,

Watford Road, Chiswell Green "Signalboxes in the Aire Valley." by Malcolm Riley. Meeting commences at 19.30

Permanent Way Institution (Manchester & Liverpool Branch)

Ove Arup Offices, St. James Building, Oxford Street, Manchester. 'Forth Bridge Refurbishment' by Duncan Sooman, Network Rail. Meeting commences at 12.30. Contact Rob Cummings on 0161 228 5321 for further details.

Permanent Way Institution (South/West Wales Branch)

Kings Hotel, High Street, Newport. 'The 2030 Railway' by Professor Andrew McNaughton, Chief Engineer, Network Rail. Meeting commences at 18.00. Contact Andy Franklin on 0207 557 8664.

Friends of the West Highland Lines

Room 10, Partick Burgh Hall, Burgh Hall Street, Glasgow (round the corner from Partick Station). Slides from the Collection of The Late Roy Hamilton-Mr Charles McCrossan. Starts 19.30.

14th March 2008

Altrincham Electric Railway Preservation Society

Altrincham Methodist Church Hall, Barrington Road, Altrincham. 'Steam on the Woodhead line from 1932 to Electrification' by Neville Fields. Meeting commences at 19.30, Non-members £3.00

Locomotive Club of Great Britain (Central London Branch)

Keen House, Calshot Street, London. NI. "Allied Military Steam Locomotives of WW2" by Mike Hudson. Meeting starts at 19.15

Great Western Society (Taunton Group)

Stoke St. Mary Village Hall, near Taunton. 'The Isle of Man and other Islands of Steam' by John Gulliver. Starts 19.30, Contact Peter Triggs on 01823 334188

17th March 2008

Great Central Railway Society (Spinkhill Branch)

The Angel Hotel, College Road, Spinkhill. 'The County Donegal Railways Joint Committee' by Ken Grainger. Meeting start at 19.30.

Locomotive Club of Great Britain (Dorking Branch)

Pethick-Lawrence House, 85 South Street, Dorking, Surrey "Ken Nunn Supplemental" by Graham Stacey. Meeting commences at 19.30

18th March 2008

Permanent Way Institution (Nottingham & Derby Branch)

The Midland Hotel, adjacent to Derby Station. 'Nottingham Express Transit - Line 2'. Joint meeting with the Institution of Highway and Transportation. Starts 18.30. Contact Colin Dowey on 01949 837067.

Permanent Way Institution (West Yorkshire Branch)

The Pullman Room, The Goldern Lion Hotel, 2 Lower Briggate, Leeds. TBC. Starts 18.30. Contact Martin Woofe on 07747 160949 for further details.

19th March 2008

Permanent Way Institution (Glasgow Branch)

Caledonian University, Cowcaddens Road, Glasgow. 'Sheilds Junction Renewal', joint meeting with the Institution of Signal Engineers. Meeting commences at 17.30

20th March 2008

Thursday, 20th. March Barrow Hill Engine Shed Society, Barrow Hill Roundhouse.

'Mainline 2007' by PSO.V. A DVD presentation of mainline steam during 2007. Doors open 7.00pm, show commences 7.30pm.

Locomotive Club of Great Britain (North West Branch)

The Victoria Hotel, Wargrave Road, Newton-le-Willows, Merseyside. "1968 - The End and Beyond !" by Robin Lush. Meeting commences 19.30.

Marlow & District Railway Society

Garden Room, Liston Hall, Marlow. 'The Rail Accident Investigation Branch' by Andy Savage. Meeting commences at 19.45 Non-members £2.

26th March 2008

Basingstoke & District Railway Society

Filisur and Bodensee by Richard Green. Wote St. Club, New Road. Contact 01256 326096 for further details. Visitors welcome. Meeting commences at 20.00

27th March 2008

Locomotive Club of Great Britain (Croydon Branch)

United Reform Church Hall, Addiscombe Grove, East Croydon AGM & Members Slides. Meeting commences 19.30

28th March 2008

Great Central Railway Society (London Group)

The Exmouth Arms, Starcross Street, Euston, NW1. 'I remember the 1960s' Slide show reviewing the decade and the end of steam by Richard Crane. Meeting commences 19.30. Donation £3

1st April 2008

Permanent Way Institution (Wessex Branch)

The Freemantle Club, Waterloo Road, Southampton. 'The use of Ground Penetrating Radar in the Railway Arena' by Ben Venables, Zetica UK. Meeting commences at 18.00. Contact Eddie Gosling on 01252 614558 for further details.

Southern Electric Group (South Hampshire Branch)

Eastleigh Railway Institute in Romsey Road, Eastleigh. 'Illustrating Railway Insignia' talk by Steve Bingley. Meeting commences at 19.30. Entrance fee payable of £2

2nd April 2008

Permanent Way Institution (Thames Valley Branch)

Sussex House, Reading. 'OHLE History and Developments' by Steve Limbert, Network Rail. Starts 17.30. Contact Rodney Pinchen by email at rodney.p@tinypworld.co.uk.

3rd April 2008

Scottish Railway Preservation Society (Edinburgh)

Quaker Meeting House, 7 Victoria Terrace, Edinburgh. '50 Years of Railway Photography' by Keith Sanders. Starts 7.30pm, contact Dr. Peter Howell on 0131 334 5232 for further details.

4th April 2007

Gloucestershire Warwickshire Rly (Birmingham Area Group)

Northfield Library, Church Road, Northfield. 'Railway Wanderings' by Mike Dodd. Meeting commences at 19.30.

8th April 2008

Abergavenny & District Steam Society

Upper Room' at 'The Hen and Chickens', Flannel Street, Abergavenny. '1000 eggs in a basket' by Colin Boocock. Meeting commences 20.00.

Great Western Society (Bristol Group)

Room 7, BAWA, 589 Southmead Road, Filton, BRISTOL, BS34 7RG. Contact: 0117 987 3244. "Military Port No. 1 and the Faslane Military Railway and Wartime Posters, Military Permanent Way and Signalling" talk by Mike Walshaw. Doors open at 19.30, Meeting commences 19.45. Non-members welcome.

Permanent Way Institution (Croydon & Brighton Branch)

Room B110, Croydon College. 'DfT Rail Strategy' by Tim Kendall, Department for Transport, London. Starts 17.30

Permanent Way Institution (Lancaster, Barrow & Carlisle Branch)

Carnforth Station Visitors Centre. 'Nexus - The Tyne & Wear Metro System' by Phil Kirkland, Track Engineer for Nexus. Starts 17.30

8th-9th April 2008

National Tramway Museum 1940s Weekend.

9th April 2008

Basingstoke & District Railway Society

Steam in the landscape by Mick Tyack. Wote St. Club, New Road, 8.00 pm. Contact: 01256 326096. Visitors welcome.

Permanent Way Institution (North Wales Branch)

The Town Crier Hotel, Chester. 'OHLE History and Developments' by Steve Limbert, Network Rail. Starts 18.30.

11th April 2008

Altrincham Electric Railway Preservation Society

Altrincham Methodist Church Hall, Barrington Road, Altrincham. 'Slides of Steam' by Cliff Parr. Start 19.30, Non-members £3.00

14th April 2008

Lincoln Railway Society

St Hugh's Church Hall, North Hykeham, Lincoln 'Coming up with the goods' by Stuart Donoho. Meeting starts 8pm. Contact 01522 705365.

Permanent Way Institution (London Branch)

10th Floor Restaurant, 55 Broadway, London St. James Park tube. 'Heathrow Express - Wheel/Rail Management' by Mark Chestney. Starts 17.30

Permanent Way Institution (Manchester & Liverpool Branch)

Ove Arup Offices, St. James Building, Oxford Street, Manchester. TBC. Meeting commences at 12.30. Contact Rob Cummings on 0161 228 5321 for further details

Permanent Way Institution (South & West Wales Branch)

Kings Hotel, High Street, Newport. 'Modular S&C' by Geoff South, Network Rail. Starts 18.00. Contact Andy Franklin on 0207 557 8664.

York Railway Circle

Archbishop Holgate's School, Drama Studio, Hull Road, York. 'Steam & Diesel 1960s to 1980s' slide shot by Barry Plues. Meeting commences at 19.30. Membership available. Non-Members £2

15th April 2007

Permanent Way Institution (West Yorkshire Branch)

The Pullman Room, The Golden Lion Hotel, 2 Lower Briggate, Leeds. 'The Welsh Highland Railway' by Andy Savage, PWI President. Starts 18.30. Contact Martin Woofe on 07747 160949 for further details and information.

16th April 2007

Permanent Way Institution (Glasgow Branch)

Upstairs Lounge, The Iron Horse, West Nile Street, Glasgow. 'Scotlands Railways - A 20 year vision for rail in Scotland' by Clair Keggie and David Prescott, Rail Policy, Transport Scotland. Meeting commences 17.30

Permanent Way Institution (Nottingham & Derby Branch)

Holiday Inn Hotel, Castle Marine, Nottingham. Welding Developments by 'The Welsh Highland Railway' by Andy Savage, PWI President. Contact Colin Cowey on 01949 837067.

17th-26th April 2008

Locomotive Club of Great Britain (Oversea's Tour)

'Fedecrail Tour' in Austria. Participants must be members of LCGB for insurance purposes. Further details visit the website at <http://www.lcgb.org.com>

18th April 2008

Great Western Society (Taunton Group)

Stoke St. Mary Village Hall, near Taunton. 'Bespoke Buildings' by Martin Prior. Starts 19.30. Contact Peter Triggs on 01823 334188.

23rd April 2008

Basingstoke & District Railway Society

Miniature railways by Colin Brading. Wote St. Club, New Road, 8.00 pm. Contact: 01256 326096. Visitors welcome.

Internet Links

Further contact details for the clubs and societies list in this column can be obtained from our new-look website by [clicking here](#).

A MAJOR UPDATE OF THE INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THIS COLUMN WILL TAKE PLACE OVER THE NEXT WEEK

▼ *South-West Trains Class 121 'bubblecar' No. 960012 John Cameron has been used by the company in recent days on route-learning duties between Salisbury and Yeovil Junction via Westbury. Here, the single car negotiates the curve south of Westbury at Witham Friary on 5th March. Tom Curtis*



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