

Railway Herald

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The electronic journal for the railway enthusiast

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

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Railway Herald is published weekly, 47 times a year.

Submissions

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

Good quality scans of colour slides and prints are also acceptable. There is currently 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 back issues of the magazine and is available at www.railwayherald.com

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Welsh Highland Railway extension opens

Following the opening earlier this year from Rhyd-Ddu to Beddgelert, the Welsh Highland Railway has extended its operating line through the scenic Aberglaslyn Pass to Hafod-y-Llyn, prior to a full opening to Porthmadog later in 2009.

Full story on
Page 20

Railway Herald Publishing

All books and DVDs published by Railway Herald Publishing can be obtained direct from ourselves by mail order by visiting our website at <http://www.rhpublishing.co.uk> or telephoning 01904 500175.

In addition, several of the heritage railways and Waterstone's high street bookshops stock or can order any book title for customers.

www.rhpublishing.co.uk

Railtours : 'Ups & Downs'

- Northern Charters projected 'The Ayr Brush' charter from Crewe to Glasgow Central on 6th June, scheduled to feature Class 86/1 No. 86101 *Sir William A Stanier FRS* and Class 87 No. 87002 *Royal Sovereign* has been postponed due to low bookings, and a new date in August or September is being sought.
- Flamboyant Trains has taken the early decision to cancel its proposed 29th August outing to Blackpool due to a low level of interest in the tour. The operator's other tours, to Whitby on 4th July, Brighton on 25th July and Lowestoft on 3rd October remain unchanged.

Profitable Eurostar?

The EU has approved a £5.2 billion state aid package, aimed at making Eurostar (UK) a profitable organisation that can be sold

[Click here to read the story on Page 3](#)

Metrolink naming

Stagecoach Metrolink has named one of its light rail vehicles after the East Lancashire Railway. The tram will be used to promote the heritage line.

[Click here to read the story on Page 5](#)

Blackfriars underway

The upgrading and modernisation of Blackfriars station in London has commenced. The work will create the first station that will span the Thames.

[Click here to read the story on Page 8](#)

Eastleigh 100

Extensive pictorial coverage of the biggest open weekend of the year - Eastleigh 100 - celebrating 100 years of the locomotive works.

[Click here for World News on Page 24](#)

Essentials

|| Railtours & Excursions

News from the charter scene, with comprehensive tour listings.

30 Diary

The dates of slide shows and information presentations.

Front Cover Caption:

Three out of the four Bulleid Pacifics at the Eastleigh Works open weekend line up outside the workshop buildings. **Mike Kynaston**

£5.2 billion state aid plan to make Eurostar profitable

The expected break-up of London and Continental Railways (LCR) has moved a step closer after the European Commission approved a British plan to advance the business £5.2 billion of state aid.

LCR, which is a private company effectively controlled by the Government, owns the Eurostar train service in this country, the 68-mile high-speed line to the Channel Tunnel, and land in Stratford close to 2012 Olympics site. The Government plans to auction the train, property and infrastructure businesses separately, but first required state-aid approval to pay off LCR's debts and cut track access charges on the high-

speed line, which is necessary for Eurostar UK to become profitable. Potential bidders for Eurostar UK include Deutsche Bahn, which has expressed an interest, while Eurotunnel and investment funds are also expected to bid.

Meanwhile, Deutsche Bahn is reported to be close to securing a concession from Eurotunnel that would allow the German national railway to send its high-speed trains through the tunnel and offer direct services from Germany to London. The German operator wants to develop passenger and freight routes into Britain using High Speed 1, but present safety regulations permit only Eurostar trains that are configured as two trains joined

together with a locomotive at each end. To send its trains through the tunnel, Deutsche Bahn needs to gain consent for trains that do not have the special Eurostar configuration that can split in the middle.

Industry sources say that Deutsche Bahn is close to an agreement in this respect, and is keen to develop direct services using its ICE fleet of high-speed trains. It has been said that there is every possibility by 2012 of the departure board at St Pancras International showing departures for the likes of Cologne and Frankfurt with services operated by Deutsche Bahn, although SNCF may feel uneasy about sharing the current Eurostar route with its powerful German rival.

Chinese rolling stock possible for LM?

CSR Nanjing Puzhen Rolling Stock Co. Ltd is one of four bidders that have confirmed interest in the contract to supply London Midland with between 40 and 120 new EMU vehicles under the DfT HLOS DMU Project.

London Midland issued an Official Journal of European Community (OJEU) in early April, which specified that the new trains should have a top speed of 100 mph, be capable of high acceleration and be formed into four-car or three-car units or a combination of such formations. The new trains are intended for both inner

and outer commuting services on the London Midland franchise.

David Shipley, Managing Director of CSRE Limited, CSR Nanjing Puzhen's European representative said: "Our multiple units, which are branded 'Pacemakers' in Europe, are already operating successfully on a number of railways across the world. We believe that a combination of Chinese engineering excellence and competitive pricing will make the 'Pacemaker' a highly attractive proposition for UK train operators seeking to introduce high quality new rolling stock on electrified routes."

Blackberries prove fruitful for Northern

At a cost of £140,000, Northern Rail is providing BlackBerries to more than 1,000 conductors, to enable them to provide passengers with faster and more accurate information, and becomes the first train operator in the country to issue such hand-held computers to all of its conductors.

The BlackBerries have replaced a system in which Northern's operations control centre sent messages to conductors using mobile phones and text messages. The text messages had

a limited number of characters, which restricted the amount of information that could be sent.

The introduction of the BlackBerries means that Northern's control centre can now send messages by email and, because there is no restriction on the length of the message, this means they get all the information they need in a single message. In addition, the machines have Internet access to live departure boards, which means conductors can provide people with up-to-date information about onward connections.

Class 92 modifications for HS1 freight

HS1 Ltd and DB Schenker (UK) have agreed to co-operate in the development and modifications necessary to enable Class 92 locomotives to operate freight on the High Speed 1 route of the Channel Tunnel between London and Dollands Moor.

DB Schenker has obtained funding from the European Commission

and HS1 will lead the software development of the TVM cab signalling to ensure that the modifications required will be available to other owners of Class 92s who may also want to operate over the HS1 infrastructure. The two companies have also agreed preliminary terms for a track access agreement in anticipation of freight operating on HS1 next year.

▼ A Eurostar set from Paris Nord crosses the River Medway at almost sunset consisting of Class 373s Nos. (37)3217 & (37)3218. **Brian Morrison**



Oxted gains step-free access from 'Access for all'

The Department for Transport's 'Access for All' project to provide better facilities for passengers with mobility problems has gained another addition to the list of stations being improved in this way, Oxted being the latest, with full step-free access following the installation of a new lift that provides a link between the station entrance and Platforms 2 and 3.

Significant improvements are also being made to booking hall facilities, making the station easier to use and more accessible for everyone. The project, which also includes new CCTV cameras (now totaling 50), telephone links in the lifts, and a new waiting shelter on Platforms 2 and 3 have been undertaken by Network Rail and Southern through a £1.4 million funding from the DfT scheme. Oxted station, which is the start or end for over 1.4 million journeys every year, is also benefiting from other improvements in the booking

hall. This has been completely redesigned, offering a new and modern refreshment facility, which is adjacent to the new open-plan seating area, complete with breakfast bar, along with new wall panelling, new flooring and complete redecoration. Also, two new ticket windows have been installed which, at the press of a button, will move down to accommodate easy use by wheelchair users, better access from Platform 1 to the booking hall via two sets of bi-folding automatic doors, new flat screen information monitors and a modern lighting scheme in the booking hall.

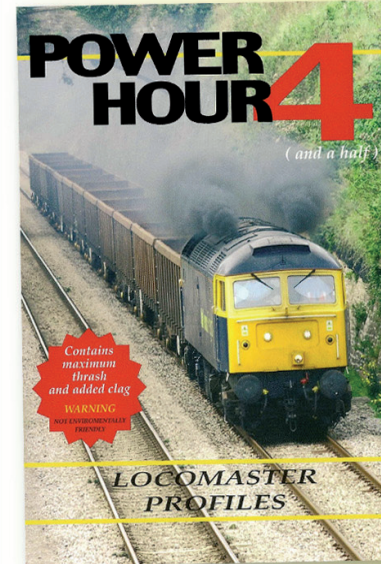
Other Southern stations that have already benefited from 'Access for All' improvements are Balham, Purley, Three Bridges and Worthing, and work is now underway at Clapham Junction, Dorking, Forest Hill, Horley, Streatham Hill, and Thornton Heath, while improvements are planned to get underway soon at Brockley and Hassocks, New Cross Gate and Streatham Common.

DRS takes National Express to the seaside

▼ DRS Class 47/4 No. 47501 *Craftsman* approaches Great Yarmouth on 30th May with the 08.48 Norwich Crown Point - Great Yarmouth ECS, to form a service to London Liverpool Street, Class 90 No. 90010 being 'dead in tow' behind. **Keith Partlow**



NEW from Locomaster Profiles... **POWER HOUR 4** *More noise, thrash and clag!*



If you enjoy the sight and sound of heritage main line diesel locos being pushed to the limit, then this latest DVD might just be what you've been looking for. This spectacular collection of scenes from around Britain's national rail network were filmed over a 15 year period from 1993 to 2008, and include 14 different loco classes on gems such as these....

56 090 pounding up Hatton Bank with the Swindon-Longbridge Rover vans; 33 025 & 33 202 storming through Oxford with scrap wagons; 37 425 blasting pigeons out of Castle Bar Park tunnel; 33 065 clags away from Tonbridge on a weekend infrastructure train; 37 890 at full tilt on the 6E89 Mossend to Immingham enterprise; 20 075 & 20 187 powering a Bescot-bound ballast; 37 114 slipping and sliding on the Birch Coppice branch;

60 033 & 56 037 in tandem struggling up Sapperton with a 3,000 tonne steel train; 31 552 proving that load is not equal to thrash; classes 37, 56 and 58 suffering major meltdown in France, 56 035 screaming out of Coventry for VXC; D1015 obliterating the Central Wales Line; trademark 'Deltic' clag as 55 019 blasts away from Tyndrum Upper, and 50 031 doing battle with Hemmerdon bank.

In fact there is so much impressive footage that we have added an extra 30 minutes to the programme.

So that's POWER HOUR 4 and a half! This DVD is available now priced at £19.95 (post free) from the address below. Alternatively you can pay by credit or debit card by calling us on our CREDIT CARD HOTLINE on 01753 545888.

LOCOMASTER PROFILES
Freepost (SL2253), Langley, Slough, SL3 6BP

Progress for Glasgow Airport Rail Link

The Glasgow Airport Rail Link project has taken a major step forward with the completion of a seven-month project to replace overhead power line equipment on part of the existing two track section between Glasgow and Paisley.

The overhead power lines have been transferred to new supports, while redundant structures have been removed between Gower Street in Glasgow and the Arkleston area of Paisley. This will allow construction of a new third line throughout this section, which is required to increase capacity for the rail link and the Ayrshire and Inverclyde services. The work has been undertaken by Network Rail on behalf

of Transport Scotland, the activity also helping with work to install new infrastructure crucial to the project.

Transport Scotland's project director said: "Across the various areas of necessary work, we continue to make progress on this vital project for the economy of the west of Scotland and beyond." The aim of the project is to see passenger services to and from Glasgow Airport beginning in advance of the Commonwealth Games in 2014 and paving the way for significant improvements to Ayrshire and Inverclyde services in advance of the new fleet of 38 eco-friendly electric trains being introduced to the west of Scotland by the Scottish Government in September 2010".

Open house at Long Marston

The forthcoming Long Marston Open Day will see a wide variety of exhibits on show as the ex-MoD depot throws open its doors again.

The weekend is being held on 6th/7th June and confirmed guest locomotives are unique Loadhaul-liveried Class 50 No. 50135 *Ark Royal* and recently restored classmate No. 50026 *Indomitable*, together with Class 20/9s Nos. 20901 and 20905, Class 37/0 No. 37308, Class 47/4 No. 47580 *County of Essex*, Class 66/7 No. 66723 *Chinook* and Class 73/0 No. 73006. A Virgin Trains' Class 57/3 is also scheduled to make an appearance. All other locomotives on site will be positioned for photographs. Unfortunately it has not proved possible for Class 37/9 No. 37906 and Class 50 No. 50044 to attend due to maintenance work.

A shuttle around the site will be operated by Austerity tank No. 15 in 'top and tail' mode with Class 04 No. 11230 from the Gloucestershire Warwickshire Railway, the latter it is believed, has not worked a passenger train in preservation. In a first for the Long Marston Open Days, the event will also feature a special night shoot on the Saturday evening - visit <http://www.longmarstonopenday.co.uk> for further details.

After a huge demand for tickets, the organisers have made arrangements for members of the public to pay on the day at the gate - prices are £15 for adults, with accompanied children (aged 14 and under) free. For those using public transport, a Routemaster bus will be shuttling to and from Stratford-upon-Avon station and a Bristol RE bus will be linking the site with Honeybourne station - there is also free car parking available on site.

A raffle will be held with numerous prizes, the top three being a cab-ride on a diesel locomotive on the Gloucestershire Warwickshire Railway (1st), two First Class tickets valid on Wrexham and Shropshire services (2nd) and a one-year subscription to *The Railway Magazine* (3rd).

Metro and Light Rail News

1938 stock in action

London Underground's preserved 1938 Stock will be out on the Northern Line on 21st June as part of the Hendon Pageant celebrations of the RAF Museum.

Colindale station is to be given a World War II look with sandbags and staff wearing the uniforms of the day.

Two 80-minute runs are to be made, departing from Edgware station at 11.00 and 14.00, and travelling to Colindale via the Kennington loop.

Tickets are available at £20 and can be booked in advance on 0207 565 7298.



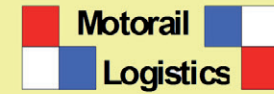
▲ Blackpool 'Balloon' double-deck tram No. 723 passes through Cleveleys while in use as a driver-trainer on 22nd May. **Colin Brazier**



◀ ▼ In a kind gesture between GMPTC and Stagecoach Metrolink, tram No. 1007 was named *East Lancashire Railway* at Bury Interchange on 31st May by ELR Preservation Society President **Pete Waterman. ELR**



Long Marston Open Weekend



Saturday 6th & Sunday 7th June 2009 www.longmarstonopenday.co.uk

During the 2008 Open Day, Motorail Logistics Raised Over £30,000 for Local Charities,

This year, the chosen charity is "Help For Heroes"



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- 73006 - 66723 "Chinook" - 47580 - Loadhaul 50035/50135
- 86233 - 47829 - 20901 - 20905 - ETS 86's

* All Locomotives Subject To Availability

Rebuilding the Doric Arch moves closer

Large stones that are almost certain to have been part of the Euston Doric Arch, the 70ft Grecian edifice that stood at the front of the station for 123 years until its destruction by what has been called "official vandalism" in 1962, are being retrieved from the Prescott Channel, an east London waterway near Bromley-by-Bow.

The stones were used at the time to fill a large pit in the riverbed. Campaigners want to reconstruct the arch using as much of the original stone as possible, and British Waterways has agreed to lift the stones from the channel to enable

barges to use the lock to transport materials in and out of the Olympic Park for the 2012 Games.

Historian Dan Cruickshank described the arch as, "the first great building of the railway age" and said its destruction was an "act of barbarism".

He is a member of the Euston Arch Trust, which wants to rebuild the arch between two existing lodges on Euston Road. He said: "The careful raising of a number of its stones - a magnificent gesture on the part of British Waterways - moves the rebuilding campaign forward significantly, and means that a great cultural wrong committed in the 1960s can yet be put right".

Could passengers return to Grangemouth?

A consultation to assess demand for the passenger service to Grangemouth to be reinstated has suggested that a large majority of residents are in favour of the idea.

The study was implemented by Central Scotland MSP Jamie Hepburn, who sent out questionnaires asking if locals would use the service and how often. Over 1,100 people replied with more than 95% in favour of reintroducing the trains, which finished when the station was closed in 1968. Since then rail users in the town have had to travel to Falkirk to access services. The survey's results will now be passed to Falkirk Council, Network Rail, SEStran and Transport Scotland. The line remains open for freight between Falkirk and Grangemouth.

UK News In Brief

■ East Midlands Trains has announced the installation of new automatic ticket gates at St Pancras International, to become operational from 2nd June. The company says that the gates have been introduced to reduce the number of people travelling without a valid ticket, estimated to cost the rail industry around £200 million every year, and they will also help improve security throughout the station.

■ London Midland introduced the first of nine dedicated peak time shuttle services to London Euston

for passengers in Watford, Bushey and Harrow on 18th May, the first of the shuttles being the 08.03 from Watford Junction to Euston, calling at Bushey at 08.06, Harrow at 08.11, arriving at Euston at 08.25. The other shuttles will also operate on weekday mornings and evenings and will be phased in throughout the year.

■ Scottish Transport Minister, Stewart Stevenson, formally introduced a £1 million 'Stations Community Regeneration Fund' on 26th May at Dunblane station.

The fund aims to benefit passengers through improved facilities at stations, bring redundant buildings back into use and foster new opportunities for job creation and community involvement. The Minister introduced the fund at The Ironing Station, an innovative business housed in the former waiting room at Dunblane station, illustrating the type of enterprise that could be assisted under the scheme.

■ Smitham station, on the Tattenham Corner branch, is to

be given a major overhaul, which will include a new ticket office. The station will have its 100-year-old brick building knocked down and replaced with a new one, to house office space, a ticket office and passenger waiting area, and an external area for storing bicycles will also be installed. The work is being carried out as part of the Department of Transport's National Stations Improvement Programme.

■ Network Rail has tabled long-term proposals to electrify the line between Blackpool and Manchester

as part of a multi-million pound investment in the future of the National Network. The plan could also involve diversionary routes being opened, which would mean that passengers would not have to use replacement bus services when main lines are shut. Currently some 40% of the network is electrified, the main focus of future plans in this respect being the Midland Main Line, including services from London St Pancras to Sheffield, and the Great Western Main Line covering services from London Paddington.



▲ First Great Western Class 43 powercar No. 43163 has been named *Exeter Panel Signal Box 21st Anniversary 2009* without a ceremony and has been released into traffic. The powercar is seen at Newton Abbot during a booked station stop in early May. **Both: Nathan Williamson**

▼ Wrexham & Shropshire ran three 'Footex' trains to carry Shrewsbury fans to Wembley on 23rd May. Here, one of the Shrewsbury to Wembley services passes Old Milverton 'topped and tailed' by Class 67s Nos. 67010 and 67021. **Jamie Course**



Work starts on Blackfriars station redevelopment

Network Rail reintroduced a historic City of London byelaw to officially celebrate the start of major work on the £350 million redevelopment of Blackfriars station on 26th May.

In a unique ceremony, presided over by the Lord Mayor of the City of London and supported by the former Mayor of Southwark, a bundle of straw was hung from the underside of a rail bridge span to warn river traffic that work was taking place overhead.

The byelaw states "When the headroom of an arch or span of a bridge is reduced from its usual limits but that arch or span is not closed to navigation, the person in control of the bridge shall suspend from the centre of that arch or

span by day a bundle of straw large enough to be conspicuous and by night a white light."

The traditional act by the Lord Mayor was said to be a fitting tribute to the history of one of London's most recognisable landmarks, and also marks the start of a new chapter in the life of Blackfriars station as its new guise will transform it into a world-class station.

First Capital Connect Managing Director Jim Morgan said: "This fantastic new station – the first-ever to span the River Thames – will be able to accommodate the new-generation of 12-carriage trains we'll be running on the Bedford to Brighton Thameslink route as they are introduced between 2012 and 2015. We

are already operating new air-conditioned Electrostar trains and have almost 2,500 more rush hour seats thanks to the Thameslink Programme. Ultimately we'll have trains leaving Blackfriars every 2-3 minutes".

The new Blackfriars station will be opened fully in 2012, but longer, 12-car trains are scheduled to be in operation by the end of 2011.

▲ **The approach tracks to the former terminus platforms at Blackfriars station have now been removed as part of the Thameslink Programme major upgrade to the station. This scene was photographed on 22nd May. **Ray Walkington****



The News In Pictures

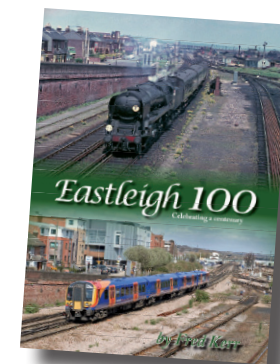
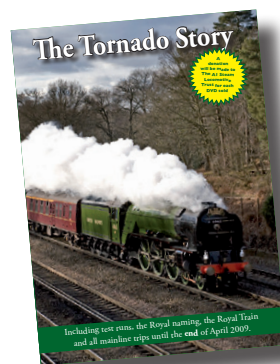
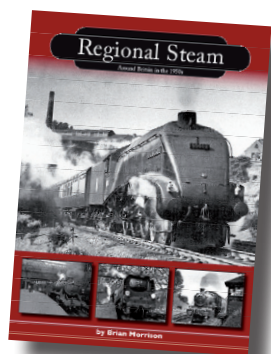


◀ Chiltern Railways employed longer trains on 23rd May, due to the West Coast Main Line closures. Here Class 165s Nos. 165029, 165009 and 165003 arrive at Banbury with a service to Birmingham Snow Hill.
Robert Jefferys

▼ Ex-SouthEastern operated Class 508/2 No. 508203 leads classmates Nos. 508207 and 508211 past Wandsworth Road, forming the 12.44 Stewarts Lane to Gillingham Depot stock movement on 20th May.
Brian Creasey



Available now from Railway Herald Publishing



Regional Steam

By Brian Morrison

Featuring the work of the well known railway photographer Brian Morrison, this 128-page title is the first book from Railway Herald Publishing and forms the authors fortieth title.

The book is arranged in regions and contains over 200 quality black & white illustrations. Each region commences with a clear map showing the area covered by the region in 1954 and this is followed by a selection of images depicting scenes from across the region between 1951 and 1959. Classic scenes include the Cambrian, Beattie Well tanks at Wadebridge, LNER A4 Pacifics on the ECML and Duchess Pacifics at work on the West Coast.

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The Tornado Story



The building and successful operation of the first mainline steam locomotive to be built in the UK for 40 years is covered on this special 60-minute DVD, filmed over recent months in co-operation with the A1 Steam Locomotive Trust.

Archive film of the 'A1s' in the 1960s is included, together with all mainline operations up to the end of April 2009 and the Royal naming by TRH The Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Cornwall. Tornado's visit to the Barrow Hill LNER weekend and the NYMR Steam Gala also feature. A donation from the sale of each DVD goes to the A1 Steam Locomotive Trust to support the continued operation of the locomotive.

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Buy Now

Eastleigh 100

By Fred Kerr

A limited print run publication, produced to mark the centenary of Eastleigh Works.

This 56-page book covers from the early years of the town through to the present day activity at the works. The book describes how the London & South Western Railway's (and later the Southern Railway and British Railways) works at Eastleigh came about and its development over the intervening years.

In addition, ex-Eastleigh fitter, Ron Cover, gives us an insight into day-to-day operations, including some of the more comical aspects of the job!

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UK Steam & Modern Traction Railtour Listings

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

6th June

Compass Tours	2xDBS 37	Preston-Crewe-Tame Bridge Pky- Exeter-Torquay-Paignton & return	
Northern Charters	86101/87002	Crewe-Preston-Glasgow Central-Ayr-Glasgow & return	Postponed
Railway Touring Company	5690/45407	Mill hill Broadway-Melton Mowbray-York (& return)	Postponed
Railway Touring Company	70013	Poole-Eastleigh-Salisbury-Westbury-Bath Spa-(Bristol TM) & return	
Steam Dreams	60007	(London (tbc)-)Banbury-Crewe-Chester and return	
UK Railtours	DBS 67	London Euston-Kidderminster-Long Marston & return	
Vintage Trains	5043	Tyseley Warwick Road-Crewe-Chester-Llandudno Junction & return	

10th June

VSOE	35028	London Victoria-Staines-Woking-Salisbury-Westbury-(Westbury-Bath Spa-Bristol TM (break/rev)-Bath Spa- Westbury)-Newbury-Reading-Kensington Olympia-London Victoria (Route tbc)	
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13th June

CFPS	40145	Rawtenstall-Heywood-Manchester Victoria-Crewe-Shrewsbury-Welshpool-Machynlleth-Aberystwyth & return	
Past Time Rail	6024	London Paddington-Kidderminster	Cancelled
PMR Tours	6233	(Sheffield-Chesterfield-Alfreton & Mansfield Pky-Uttotterer-Stoke on Trent-)Crewe-Holyhead (break/rev)-Crewe (& return)	
Railtourer	2xWCRC 47	Whitby-Ruswarp-Sleights-Grosfontb-Egton-Castleton-Nunthorpe-Middlesborough-Eaglescliffe-Darlington- Leeds-Skipton-S&C-Carlisle-Hexham-Durham-Darlington	
Railway Touring Company	70013	(London Paddington-Newbury-Exeter-Kingswear-Bristol TM-(& return)	
SRPS	tbc	Glenrothes-Kirkcaldy-Edinburgh Waverley-Durham-York-Leeds-Harrogate-Knaresborough-York (rev) & return	
Statesman Rail	tbc	Birmingham International-Tame Bridge Parkway-Penkrigde-Stafford-Stone-Stoke on Trent-Congleton-Macclesfield-Stockport-Manchester Piccadilly-Bolton- Hellifield-S&C-Carlisle (break/rev)-Workington-Grange over Sands-Carnforth-Bolton & return	

14th June

Steam Dreams	34067	London (tbc)- Canterbury & return	
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16th June

Past Time Rail	tbc	Manchester-Stockport-Wilmslow-Crewe-Stafford-Wolves-Sandwell & Dudley-Birmingham New St-Birmingham International- Ascot	
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17th June

Past Time Rail	tbc	Crewe-Sandwell & Dudley-Birmingham NS- Ascot	
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18th June

Past Time Rail	tbc	Manchester-Crewe-Birmingham New St-Ascot	
Steam Dreams	tbc	London (tbc)- Minehead & return	

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

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

The Week Ahead

All the action this coming weekend takes place on Saturday 6th June, with a good variety of tours are on offer.

Three steam-hauled excursions feature, with perhaps Vintage Trains' 'Welsh Highlander' being the tour of the day. It features 'Castle' class 4-6-0 No. 5043 *Earl of Mount Edgcumbe* throughout from Tyseley Warwick Road to Llandudno Junction, via Walsall, Wolverhampton, Crewe and Chester, thus providing the unusual sight of a 'Castle' on the North Wales mainline. The added feature of the tour is that it includes a return trip on the Welsh Highland Railway, which is now operating as far as Hafod-y-Llyn, between Nantmor and Porthmadog - the section which has only recently opened to public services (see news pages). Operating from Dinas to Beddgelert via the scenic Aberglaslyn Pass. Vintage Trains' point out that this will be a long day out, but very much worth it! It will also be a busy day for Chester, as in addition to Vintage Trains', Steam Dreams has a 'Cathedrals Express' running to the city featuring 'A4' No. 60007 *Sir Nigel Gresley*, which will work the train from Banbury and back in the evening, running via Birmingham International each way. The train originates at London Paddington. Meanwhile, from the south coast is Railway Touring Company's 'Bath & Bristol Express' featuring 'Britannia' No. 70013 *Oliver Cromwell* throughout,

starting its day at Poole and heading north via Bournemouth, Southampton and Salisbury to set down, as the title suggests, at both Bath Spa and Bristol Temple Meads.

UK Railtours will be operating its re-dated outing to the Severn Valley Railway and Long Marston, the latter having an open weekend on 6th/7th June. The train is booked from London Euston and runs via the West Coast Main Line and the West Midlands to set down initially at Kidderminster (for the SVR) and then continues via Worcester, Evesham and Honeybourne for the visit to Long Marston. Vintage buses will be available to convey tour passengers around the site. DBS traction will feature, with Class 90 haulage to Nuneaton and then a Class 66 onwards via Water Orton and Birmingham New Street to Kidderminster and Long Marston. There is an option to join the train at Worcester Shrub Hill for the visit to Long Marston only. On the return, the tour will continue to Stafford with the Class 66, where it will reverse and return south with the Class 90.

A pair of DBS Class 37s are the booked traction for Compass Railtours on its 'Devonian', charter, which runs from Preston to Paignton with additional set down point at Exeter and Torquay. The tour picks up at Wigan North Western, Warrington Bank Quay, Crewe, Stafford, Wolverhampton and Tame Bridge Parkway.

▼ **Class 37s Nos. 37670 and 37401 stand outside St Blazey Depot in the sunshine, with the 'Cornish Parker' charter on 16th May. Class 66/0 No. 66115 is in the shed. Colin Dixon**



The Yorkshire 'Cathedrals Express'

◀ The A1 Steam Locomotive Trust's LNER Class A1 Pacific No. 60163 *Tornado* approaches Moor Lane, Copmanthorpe, on 23rd May, hauling the 'Cathedrals Express' from King's Cross to York.

Paul Braybrook

▼ The return trip from York on the same day was worked by Grosmont-based LNER 'A4' Pacific No. 60007 *Sir Nigel Gresley*, carrying 'The Golden Jubilee' headboard. Here, the locomotive powers through Doncaster bound for London King's Cross and passes DB Schenker Class 67 No. 67020 on stand-by duties. **David Wragg**





LMS 'Princess Coronation' Pacific No. 6233
Duchess of Sutherland heads south along the
West Coast Main Line at Brock, near Preston,
with the return 'Royal Scot' charter from
Carlisle to Milton Keynes on 30th May.
Alan Taylor



Class 40 No. 40145 approaches Helsby on a Compass Tours' charter from Holyhead to York and Darlington on 25th May, recalling memories of the numerous Class 40 hauled 'Merrymaker' tours from Holyhead in the 1970s, several of which were to also York! **Steve Morris**

Duchess of Hamilton takes pride of place in NRM's new exhibition on Streamlining



▲ The new look 'Duchess' No. 6229 *Duchess of Hamilton*, stands centre-stage in the new Streamlining exhibition. **John Whitehouse**

The long-running battle between the LNER and LMS for supremacy on the London-Scotland corridor is legendary, and led directly to the creation of the 'A4s' and 'Princess Coronations' ('Duchesses').

However, the onset of World War II effectively put an end to the competition, each company being subsumed in war work. However, the locomotives

did not disappear, and today under the auspices of the National Railway Museum, the LNER and LMS battle is resumed. Not with a view of passenger market share between London and Scotland, but in terms of impact on the general public visiting the Great Hall.

For a long time *Mallard* and *Duchess of Hamilton* stood side by side, with the A4's streamlined casing no doubt swaying the opinion of the

public, while the 'Duchess' looked the part in its final de-streamlined form. But now all that has changed, as of 19th May the 'Duchess' has been re-streamlined to 'as-built' condition and wears a completely different coat, and the result, seen for the first time in 60 years is quite stunning.

For most people a streamlined 'Duchess' was an image in a picture, of which few actually did the design

justice. The real thing, however, is a sleek machine, and in the forthcoming years the demand to see it back on the main line may well become irresistible. Co-incidentally, it was in May 1949 when the last streamliner, No. 6243 *City of Lancaster*, had its streamline casing removed.

The visitors' first sight upon entering the Great Hall is No. 4468 *Mallard* now alone and standing proud as the world steam traction speed

record holder. But then carry on around the corner and suddenly the outline of *Duchess of Hamilton* appears, so noticeably different to the surrounding locomotives, the bulbous nose and the chevron style gold bands of the lining standing out against the background of LMS crimson lake quite takes the breath away.

No. 6229 is the central exhibit of the NRM's new 'Streamlined: Styling - An Era' exhibition which explores the links between 1930's society, engineering and design. The 'Duchess' is all about design, whereas *Mallard's* streamlining had an operational benefit. The LMS 'streamliners' were more a product of the marketing department of the LMS rather than their operating department, for whom the streamlined casing was a hindrance to services and of questionable value in terms of enhancing performance. Indeed, the then un-knighted William Stanier resisted board pressure to streamline the new class, but was over-ruled by the marketeers within the LMS. He retaliated, however, with the alleged statement that he 'had decided it is better to please a fool than tease him', adding that 'they can have their bloody streamliners if they want them but we will build five proper ones as well'. Which is what he did, but the story of the exploits of Nos. 6230-6234 will have to wait

for another day! Today is the day that once again we have a streamlined 'Duchess' to enjoy, and enjoy it you will! The exhibition runs until the end of the year and is free to view. For more details go to www.nrm.org.uk

The finance for the project to re-streamline *Duchess of Hamilton* was provided by the 229 Club, a support group affiliated to the Friends of the National Railway Museum and who were responsible for returning the then No. 46229 back to the mainline in 1980, and from donations made by readers of a national printed railway magazine.

The locomotive was sent to Tyseley Locomotive Works for the work to be undertaken, and its Chief Engineer, Bob Meanley, tells of the challenges his team faced, ranging from sourcing the correct gauge of steel for the streamline plate work to designing the bulbous doors that cover the smoke-box door, the drawings for which were based on detailed photographs as the originals could not be found. After these challenges had been overcome, there remained the question of the correct shade of LMS crimson lake paint and also the huge task of lining out the locomotive.

Let it be said, quite simply, that Tyseley has undertaken a magnificent job, one that Crewe Works in 1938 would have been equally proud of.



Beattie to visit Dean Forest Railway

Bill Parker's Class 4575 Prairie Tank No. 5521 will not now be a part of the Dean Forest Railway's celebratory event on 13th/14th June as the National Railway Museum has requested that it remains in York.

However, Bill Parker has stepped in to help his near-neighbours at Norchard, and has arranged

replacement with one of the 0298 class 2-4-0 Beattie Well Tanks No. 30587, on which Parker's Flour Mill Works at Bream did the restoration work. The engine, which was built in 1874, was part of the 'Eastleigh 100' celebrations last weekend and is one the oldest preserved locomotives working in the British Isles.

Peak Rail-based LMS '8F' works its first public trains since restoration

◀ The newly restored LMS '8F' 2-8-0 No. 8624 has entered passenger service at Peak Rail. The crimson lake-liveried loco runs-round its train at Rowsley South on 23rd May. The locomotive moved under its own power for the first time in almost 44 years on 25th April, the culmination of a 28 year restoration of the engine from Barry scrapyard condition. **Paul Hatton**

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Photograph by Colin Smith

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The Railway Station, Haworth, Keighley, West Yorkshire BD22 8NJ
Telephone 01535 645214 Fax 01535 647317 www.kwvr.co.uk

Keep up to date with the KWVR 24hr Info 01535 647777 All locomotives subject to availability Members concessions not valid on this weekend

WORTH VALLEY

Limited Edition Print Commemorating the 50th Anniversary of No. 60007 Sir Nigel Gresley's Post War Speed Record

The Sir Nigel Gresley Locomotive Preservation Trust Ltd receives £5 from each print sold



Sir Nigel Gresley
Illustrated by Robbin Gray

London & North Eastern Railway 4-4-2 Class A1, No. 60007 Sir Nigel Gresley
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Printed in the UK by www.locos-in-profile.co.uk

This extremely detailed print shows *Sir Nigel Gresley* in the condition it achieved 112mph on 23rd May 1959 hauling the Stephenson Locomotive Society's Special.

• Scale: 8mm/ft (Print size 720mm x 305mm) • 350 signed and numbered • £28 (FREE p&p)

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Bishop Auckland branch on track for July re-opening

The Weardale Railway is on target to open a service to Bishop Auckland in July to link to the National Network line to Darlington.

An inspector from the Railway Inspectorate has travelled aboard the first official train to run over the 10 miles of line from Wolsingham to Bishop Auckland to check on progress since an earlier visit in March, and he noted that vegetation clearance now allowed safe passage of the train and that the level crossing gates on the outskirts of Witton-le-Wear had been replaced.

Work has also taken place on the new lineside footpath between Witton-le-Wear and the Low Barns Nature Reserve. A programme of further work was agreed, which includes the installation of road traffic lights at the Witton crossing, improvements at another road crossing and some track restoration work near Bishop Auckland. The inspector will visit again in July and if this results in a successful judgment then the railway will be on target to re-open the line by the end of July. This is also the date by which Network Rail has undertaken to restore the direct rail link at Bishop Auckland station.



▲ The Mid-Hants Railway held a successful diesel gala weekend on 30th/31st May, featuring visiting Battlefield Line locomotives Class 56 No. 56098 and Class 37/9 No. 37905. Class 73s Nos. 73201 *Broadlands* and 73107 were also present. No. 56098 arrives at Ropley with at Alresford bound service. **Neil Walking**

▼ LNER 'B1' 4-6-0 No. 1306 *Mayflower* now a resident on the line, is currently facing south, opening up a number of new photo opportunities. Here, the locomotive stands in Shenton station on 23rd May. **Graham Gifford**



NER autococh restoration plans

As previously reported, there are plans to restore the surviving NER petrol electric autocar No. 3170.

This was the first non-steam powered railcar in the world and the 'great grandfather' of today's passenger trains. The Trust responsible for this project has made significant progress at the planning stage and is now starting a formal appeal for funds. The aim is to raise £25,000 in the next six months. While the Trust has passed Phase I for a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) to cover much of the cost of restoration, it still needs to raise balance funding and finance initial expenses.

The first of these is the engineering drawings the Trust intends commissioning. These will provide a detailed assessment of the technical aspects of the restoration and establish that the project is practical. The assessment will also provide a full breakdown of costs for the mechanical and electrical elements

of the restoration, firm quotes for the necessary materials and work, a timescale and critical path. Together with Railway Inspectorate approval, these will all be required before active restoration of the autocar and its trailer autococh can begin. The urgency is due to the timescale of the project, as the Trust has until December 2010 to submit detailed plans to HLF and raise the balance of funds. Although HLF has been supportive of the project, failure to raise matching funds for any grant they may award would result in the application being automatically rejected.

The Trust would welcome any donations readers can offer, either from cheques or postal orders or by setting up a Standing Order or Direct Debit. For donations, further information and membership applications, write to NER 1903 Electric Autocar Trust, Orana, Bells Folly, Potters Bank, Durham, DH1 3RR or visit <http://www.electrictocarcar.co.uk>



▲ The East Lancs Railway hosted a Class 37 Theme Day on 30th May using its fleet of 'Tractors' to work two of the three Saturday diagrams. Fresh from a repaint into BR blue, No. 37109 is passes Townsend Fold with the 15.40 Rawtenstall-Heywood service. **Ian Tunstall**



▲ Class 37/4 No. 37418 heads for Bury at Irwell Vale on the same day. **Ian Tunstall**
▼ Class 37/0 No. 37109 is well-matched with the Blue and Grey Mk1 stock as it approaches Ramsbottom with the 10.40 Rawtenstall to Heywood service. **Jonathon Stevenson**



Preservation News

The Gloucestershire Warwickshire Railway held its Summer Steam Gala over 23rd-25th May, with a number of visitors.

◀ On loan from the Bressingham Railway Museum, A1X class 'Terrier' 0-6-0T No. 662 heads towards Hailes Abbey with the first train of the day on 26th May, during the 25th Anniversary Cotswold Festival of Steam. **Stuart Chapman**

◀▼ GWR Class 4500 2-6-2T No. 5526 saunters towards Winchcombe station with an afternoon auto-trailer local service on the same day. **Geoff Sandles**

▼ GWR Hall class 4-6-0 No. 5972 *Olton Hall* makes a very rare appearance on a heritage railway, as it heads away from Toddington that afternoon during the Festival with a service for Cheltenham Racecourse, complete with the Hogwarts Express headboard. **Stuart Chapman**





Through the scenic Pass of Aberglaslyn

◀ The weekend of 16th/17th May saw special trains run for supporters over the next extension on the Welsh Highland Railway. On 17th May, 'Garratt' No. K1 worked from Caernarfon to Hafod-y-Llyn and back and is seen on the outward journey, having just crossed the Bryn-y-Felin bridge south of Beddgelert, before running onto the stretch taking it through the Aberglaslyn Pass. **John Stretton**

On 22nd May, public services commenced and three days later 'Garratt' No. 87 arrives at the temporary terminus of Hafod-y-Llyn (▲) and heads through the Pass of Aberglaslyn (▼). **Both: Andrew Wood**





An East Midlands Trains' Class 158, still carrying the remains of its TransPennine Express livery, departs from Ely on 23rd May. **Thomas Blampied**



Advenza Freight gains its Class 66/8s

Advenza Freight has taken delivery of its first Class 66 locomotive, and in the process has brought about the first renumbering within the UK fleet. Several months ago, Direct Rail Services returned Class 66/4s Nos. 66401-66410 to the leasing company, with five being stored at Freightliner's Leeds Midland Road Depot until recently, when they were moved to Wembley and the remaining five (Nos. 66406-66410) being stored at Glasgow Works. With the lease by Advenza Freight, No. 66406 becomes No. 66841, and No. 66407 becomes No. 66842, while No. 66408 is to become No. 66843 and finally No. 66409 will return as No. 66844.

◀ Class 66/8 No. 66841 passes Whifflet with a Glasgow Works to Longport 'light engine' move on 20th May. Unfortunately, the locomotive failed south of Carlisle and returned to Glasgow the following day, before finally arriving at Longport on 22nd May. **Kenny Marrs**

▼ On 1st June, Class 66/8 No. 66841 worked a rake of container flats from York to Tilbury in preparation for the commencement of a new Advenza contract moving gypsum from West Burton Power Station to Tilbury. The train passes Colton Junction, south of York. **Ron Cover**





▲ The 17.28 Thameslink service from St Albans to Sevenoaks approaches the Swanley stop on 14th May, formed of hired-in Southern Class 377/2 Electrostars, led by No. 377207.

▲► Colas Rail Class 47/7 No. 47749 *Demelza* heads the Thursdays-only 13.05 service from Burton-on-Trent to Dunkirk, via Dollands Moor, through Swanley on the same day, while the 18.37 First Capital Connect Thameslink service from Sevenoaks to Kentish Town heads in the opposite direction, formed of Southern-liveried Class 319/0s with No. 319012 on the rear. **Both: Brian Morrison**

► Near Shortlands on 15th May, Advenza '47/0' No. 47237 hauls the 11.00 Sheerness-Stockton empty steel scrap train and passes Class 465/9 Networker No. 465911, forming the 12.34 London Victoria to Canterbury West service. **Bill Turvill**





The long-awaited open day at Eastleigh Works finally took place on 23rd-25th May.

The event saw crowds in their thousands pass through the gates over the three day event, with over 19,000 people visiting the site, giving an average of over 6,000 people each day. The local media also joined in the

celebrations and covered the event well, with both BBC and ITV regional teams reporting and undertaking live broadcasts from the site.

For the visitors, a wide array of locomotives and exhibits were on show and the organisers are to be congratulated on the positioning of the attractions to make the most of the photographic opportunities.

It is also understood that the longer term future of the site may also be more secure following the event, which served to highlight the facilities that Eastleigh can offer. Most of the planned exhibits appeared, although Freightliner was unable to provide any locomotives for display due, it is understood, to a motive power shortage.

▲ An overview of the Eastleigh site, with a wide range of exhibits on show. **Ken Brunt**

▼ Merchant Navy No. 35005 *Canadian Pacific*, Battle of Britain No. 34070 *Manston* and West Country No. 34028 *Eddystone* line up outside the works. **Mike Kynaston**

Eastleigh Works



CENTENARY
1909-2009





The Eastleigh Open Weekend brought with it a logistical exercise of moving the exhibits to and from Eastleigh. The majority of the moves were undertaken by West Coast Railway Company. (▲) WCRC Class 37/7 No. 37706 leads Battle of Britain No. 34070 Manston, West Country No. 34028 Eddystone and 'M7' No. 53 through Parkstone (Poole), while en route from Swanage on 22 May. (▼) Deltic No. 55022 Royal Scots Grey arrives at Eastleigh on 18th May with a convoy of diesel locos from Swanage, including Class 33 No. 33103 Swordfish, Class 31/1 No. 31108 and Class 45 No. 45060 Sherwood Forester.



(▲) Tyseley's Class 47/4 No. 47580 County of Essex was utilised as motive power for a movement from the South Devon Railway, comprising Class 33/0 No. 33002 Sea King, Class 20 No. 20110 and Class 25 No. D7612, pictured passing Langstone Rock at Dawlish on 21st May. (▼) Complete with a 'Lymington Flyer' headboard, blue & grey liveried Class 421/7 3CIG No 1498 Farringford arrives at Eastleigh on 22nd May, the day prior to the weekend.

Mark Abbott, Nathan Williamson, David Kirwin, Brian Morrison





▲ Three of the 'Eastleigh 100' motive power in attendance on the evening of 22nd May 2009: 0298 2-4-0WT No. 30587, Ivatt 2MT 2-6-2T No. 41312 & Merchant Navy Pacific No. 35005 *Canadian Pacific*. **Brian Morrison**

▼ Class 73/1 No. 73136 *Perseverance* and Class 37/4 No. 37422 stand inside one of the shops. **Ron Cover**

► The setting sun casts a soft light across Battle of Britain No. 34070 *Manston* and 'Lord Nelson' No. 850 *Lord Nelson* on 23rd May **Both: Jack Boskett**



Eastleigh 100 : Report

◀ Specially repainted into LoadHaul livery for the event, Class 50/1 No. 50135 *Ark Royal* stands in attendance at Eastleigh Works on the evening of 22nd May in readiness for the start of the event, the following day. **Brian Morrison**

▼ BR Blue-liveried Class 73/0 No. 73006, SWT-liveried Class 73/1 No. 73109 *Battle of Britain 50th Anniversary* and BR blue-liveried No. 73119, which was named *Borough of Eastleigh* during the event, form one of the line-ups outside the workshops. **Jack Boskett**





▲ Class 59/1 No. 59103 *City of Mells* and LSWR M7 0-4-4T No. 53 stand at Eastleigh on 22nd May, in readiness for the commencement on the event, when the 'M7' gave brakevan rides. **Brian Morrison**

◀▲ Class 73/2 No. 73201, repainted into BR Blue colours was rededicated *Broadlands* at the event. **Jack Boskett**

◀ The South Devon Railway-based Class 33/0 No. 33002 *Sea King*, proudly displaying its 'Dutch' livery, provided a representation of Southern Region diesel traction

◀▼ The only Class 59/2 to presently carry DB Schenker livery, No. 59206 *John F. Yeoman Rail Pioneer* stands beside stored Silverlink Class 508/3 No. 508301 in the works yard.

▼ The heritage diesel traction line-up comprised 'Western' No. D1015 *Western Champion*, 'Peak' No. 45060 *Sherwood Forester*, 'Deltic' No. 55022 *Royal Scots Grey* and Type 4 No. 47580 *County of Essex*. **All: Mike Kynaston**



During the Saturday evening photo shoot, Merchant Navy
No. 35005 *Canadian Pacific*, Battle of Britain No. 34070
Manston and West Country No. 34028 *Eddystone* stand in
front of the works. **Brian Morrison**



1st June 2009**RCTS (Ashford Branch)**
The Elwick Club, Church Road, Ashford. 'A Digital Extravaganza' Branch Members. Starts 19.30.**RCTS (Northampton Branch)**

East Midland Day Ranger. (depart 1st northbound train after 09.30 from Wellingborough). Contact D.Pick on 01604 810613 for further details.

2nd June 2009**Gravesend Railway Enthusiasts Society**
Emmanuel Baptist Church, Windmill Street, Gravesend, DA12 1BB. 'Kent & East Sussex Railway' by Graham Baldwin. Meeting commences at 19.45. Contact Roger Hart on 01474 833320 for details.**Locomotive Club of Great Britain (Bedford Branch)**

St John's Church Hall, St John's Street, Bedford. 'Abandoned Stations of the London Underground' by Jim Connor. Meeting starts at 19.30.

Locomotive Club of Great Britain (Croydon Branch)

United Reformed Church Hall, Addiscombe Grove, East Croydon. 'Half a Century Ago' by Charles Firminger. Meeting starts 19.15.

Locomotive Club of Great Britain (North London Branch)

Wood Green Labour Club, 3 Stuart Crescent, Wood Green, London N22 5NJ. Members Slides Evening. Meeting commences at 19.30.

Permanent Way Institution (Wessex Branch)

Technical Visit to the Bluebell Railway. Contact the Secretary, Richard Workman on 01428 645771 or by e-mail at richardworkman5@tiscali.co.uk for further details.

RCTS (Watford Branch)

St. Thomas's United Reformed Church, Langley Road, Watford. 'French Railways - The Advent of the TGV' by Michael Burn. Starts 19.30.

Southern Electric Group (South Hampshire Branch)

Eastleigh Railway Institute, Romsey Road, Eastleigh. Members' Slides. Starts 19.30. Contact John Goodrich on 023 8067 0028 for details.

Weston super Mare Railway Society

The Function Room, The Conservative Club, Alexandra Parade, Weston super Mare. '30 Years on Railways' by Robin White, The Chairman of the WSR. Starts 20.00. Contact Lionel Jones on 01934 628289 for further details.

3rd June 2009**Burton Railway Society**
Marston's Social Club, Shobnall Road, Burton upon Trent. "The Popular Annual Railway Quiz" by Dave Hook. Meeting commences at 19.30. Admission £1.50 non members. Contact Mark Ratcliffe on 01283 221537 for further details.**Permanent Way Institution (Thames Valley Branch)**

Davidson House, Reading. 'P'Way of the Swindon and Crickdale Railway' by Clive Thompson. Starts 17.45. Contact, Peter Simmons at peter181102@yahoo.co.uk for details

4th June 2009 GC Railway Society (Rotherham Branch)

The Three Horseshoes, Bawtry Road, Wickersley, Rotherham S66 2BW. 'My 1060s Slides and the Back Door to Russia in 1942' by Robin Patrick. Starts 19.30. Contact Mick Hayes on 01709 820544 for further details

RCTS (Bristol Branch)

Afternoon and Evening Observations at Newport Station. Contact Paul Udey on 01225 427779 or by e-mail at paul.udey@talktalk.net for details.

5th June 2009 Slough & Windsor Railway Society

The Manor, Slough West Car Park, Slough Railway Station, Brunel Way, Slough. 'Memories of 81B' by Brian Maynard. Start 19.30. Contact John Coke on 01753 860567 for details.

6th June 2009**Permanent Way Institution**

(Darlington and North East, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Lancaster, Barrow and Carlisle, Manchester and Liverpool Branches) The Lakes Court, Carlisle. Annual Inter Section Quiz. Meeting commences at 13.30. Contact Dave Lugsden on 01904 389838.

8th June 2009**Permanent Way Institution (London Branch)**

10th Floor Restaurant, 55 Broadway (LUL HQ), London St James Park tube. 'Victoria Line Upgrade' by John Hardy. Doors open at 17.30 for 18.00. Contact Alison Stansfield on 07703 326080 for details.

Southern Electric Group (Sussex Branch)

The Deal Room, Southwick Community Centre. 'Current Signalling in the Brighton Area' by David Larkin. Meeting commences at 19.30. Donation of £2 requested. Contact Bruce Cakebread on 01273 462094 for further details.

9th June 2009**Abergavenny and District Steam Society**

Upper Room, The Hen & Chickens, Flannel Street, Abergavenny 'Back for the Future with 1054' by Pete Skellon. Starts 20.00. Contact the Secretary, Ken Mumford at ken.mumford@ntlworld.com for details.

RCTS (Merseyside Branch)

Afternoon and Evening Observation at Warrington Bank Quay Station. Contact Geoff Morris on 01244 376808 or by e-mail at geoffrey.morris@tiscali.com.

10th June 2009**Basingstoke & District Railway Society**

Wote St Club, New Road, Basingstoke. 'Gosling's Gallivants' by Paul Gosling. Meeting starts at 20.00. Visitors welcome. Contact the Secretary on 01256 326096 for details.

Grimsby and Cleethorpes Railway Group

Royal Air Force Club, 5 Alexandra Road, Cleethorpes DN35 8LQ. 'The A-Z of Football Club Railway Connections' by Colin Briggs. Meeting commences at 19.30. Contact Mike Hartley on 01724 341358 for further details.

RCTS (Hitchin Branch)

;Hitchin Christian Centre, Bedford Road, Hitchin. 'Wolverton & Stony Stratford Tramway' by Bob Ayres. Meeting commences at 19.30.

Swiss Railways Society (London Branch)

The Model Railway Club, Keen House, 4 Calshot Street, London N1 9AT (near Kings Cross Station). 'Switzerland 1989' by Nick Freezer. Meeting commences at 19.00. A £2 donation is requested. Contact Ron Dawes on 020 8660 3532 for details.

▼ *Railway Herald's Advertising Manager Ken Brunt and Contributing Editor Brian Morrison, await the crowds on the Railway Herald stand at Eastleigh Works on 23rd May. Thanks to all those readers who stopped by to say hello and for all the very positive and kind comments you voiced about the magazine. Jack Boskett*

**Should your society information be listed on this page?**

If so, then please email the details to the editor, remembering to include the date, starting time and location, together with details of the event, speaker and entrance charges if applicable.

It is not necessary, but helpful to people, if you can also include a contact name and phone number/ email address for the organisation that can be published.

Railway Herald reserves the right to edit details entered in this section, which may also be displayed on our online events diary. The information is believed to be correct at the time of publication.**Internet Links**Links to the various society websites can be found on the website, or by [clicking here](#).

RCTS**(Northampton Branch)**

Line-side Observation at Bedford Station from 17.00. Contact D.Pick on 01604 810613 for further details.

RCTS**(Shenfield Branch)**

Shenfield Parish Hall, 80 Hutton Road, Shenfield. 'Photocharters UK' by Adrian Palmer. Starts 19.30.

16th June 2009**Monmouthshire Railway Society**

Room LL1, UWCN, Allt-Yr-Yn Ave, Newport, South Wales. 'Railways Around E.Devon and the Exe Valley' by Peter Gray. Meeting starts at 19.30. Admission: non-members £3.

17th June 2009**Burton Railway Society**

Marston's Social Club, Shobnall Road, Burton upon Trent Natter Night 'A Practical Guide & Demonstration of Constructing Buildings for Model Railways' by David Wright. Starts 19.30. Contact Mark Ratcliffe on 01283 221537 or for further details.

18th June 2009**Barrow Hill Engine Shed Society**

Barrow Hill Roundhouse. 'Around the World by Motorcycle - The Pan American Highway' by Paul Pratt. Doors open 19.00 for 19.30 start. Admission: members £1.50, non members £2.00

Breconshire Railway Society

R.A.F.A.Club, The Struet, Brecon '6000 'The King' at Bulmers, Hereford' by Len Roberts. Meeting commences at 19.30. Contact the Secretary, Arthur Robinson on 01982 560219 for further details

Marlow and District Railway Society

British Red Cross Society, Victoria Road, Marlow. 'A Beginner's Guide to British Railway Signalling - part 1' by Mike Walker. Doors open 19.45 for 20.00 start. Non-members admission £2

RCTS**(Bristol Branch)**

Visit to the Avon Valley Country Park 5" Miniature Railway. Contact the branch secretary, Paul Udey, on 01225 427779 or by e-mail at paul.udey@talktalk.net for further details.

RCTS**(Thames Valley Branch)**

Observation & Photography at Reading Station (for Ascot Trains). Contact the branch secretary Murray Lewis on 0118 942 6681 or by e-mail at murraylewis@hotmail.co.uk for further details.

RCTS**(West Riding)**

Visit to Shipley Glen Tramway and Evening Meal. Contact Malcolm Riley on 01274 589488 or mobile on 07887 908501 for further details.

Great Western Society**(Taunton Branch)**

The Village Hall, Stoke St. Mary, Nr. Taunton. 'Railways of the Exe and Culm Valleys' by Mike Pym. Meeting commences at 19.30.

19th June 2009**Great Western Society (Taunton Branch)**

Village Hall, Stoke St.Mary, Nr Taunton. 'Railways of the Exe and Culm Valleys' by Mike Pym. Meeting commences at 19.30.

Slough & Windsor Railway Society

The Manor, Slough West Car Park, Slough Railway Station, Brunel Way, Slough. 'More Trams & Trolleys' by Graham Bilbe. Meeting commences at 19.30. Contact John Coke on 01753 860567 for further details.

20th June 2009**RCTS****(West Riding Branch)**

Day out to Liverpool & visit Merseyside Tramway Preservation Centre. Contact Malcolm Riley on 01274 589488 or mobile 07887 908501 for further details.

21st June 2009**RCTS****(West Riding Branch)**

Crewe Basford Hall at 12.00hrs. Contact Malcolm Riley on 01274 589488 or mobile 07887 908501 for further details.

24th June 2009**Basingstoke & District Railway Society**

Wote St Club, New Road, Basingstoke. '1000 Eggs on a Bicycle' by Colin Boocock. Meeting commences at 20.00. Visitors welcome. Contact the Secretary on 01256 326096 for further details.

25th June 2009**Mid Hants Railway Preservation Society (Thames Valley Branch)**

The Church House, Church Street, Caversham. 'History of Wokingham Station' by Jack Meatcher. Doors open 19.30 for 19.45 start.

RCTS (Bristol Branch)

Afternoon & Evening Observation at Westbury Station. Contact Paul Udey on 01225 427779 or by e-mail at paul.udey@talktalk.net for details.

26th June 2009**Slough & Windsor Railway Society**

The Manor, Slough West Car Park, Slough Railway Station, Brunel Way. 'Memorabilia of Windsor Railways'. Starts 19.30. Contact John Coke on 01753 860567 for further details.

27th June 2009**RCTS****(West Riding Branch)**

Visit Falsgrave Signal Box and North Bay Railway. Contact Malcolm Riley on 01274 589488 for further details.

29th June 2009**RCTS****(Northampton Branch)**

West Midland Day Ranger and visit to the RAF Museum, Cosford. Contact D.Pick on 01604 810613 .

1st July 2009**Burton Railway Society**

Marston's Social Club, Shobnall Road, Burton upon Trent. 'Preserved Locomotives of the LMS and The North Briton Rail Tour' by Alan Price. Meeting commences at 19.30. Contact Mark Ratcliffe on 01283 221537.

6th July 2009**RCTS (Ashford Branch)**

The Elwick Club, Church Road, Ashford. 'Cairnryan Military Port and Diesel Locos of WW2' by Mike Walshaw. Meeting starts at 19.30.

Swanage Railway**(Bath Area)**

St John's Church Hall, St John's Road, Bathwick, Bath. 'Isle of Wight Transport Roundup' by Malcolm Tong. Meeting commences at 19.30. Admission £1. Contact John Lakey on 01225 315918 for further details.

7th July 2009**Gravesend Railway Enthusiasts Society**

Emmanuel Baptist Church, Windmill Street, Gravesend, DA12 1BB. 'The Art of Railway Photography' by Alan Crotty. Starts 19.45. Contact Roger Hart on 01474 833320.

8th July 2009**RCTS (Hitchin Branch)**

Hitchin Christian Centre, Bedford Park. 'Rebuilding the Welsh Highland Railway' by Andy Savage. Meeting commences at 19.30.

Swiss Railways Society (London Branch)

The Model Railway Club, Keen House, 4 Calshot Street, London N1 9AT (near Kings Cross Station). 'Countries Bordering Switzerland. Members Slides. Meeting commences at 19.00. A £2 donation is requested. Contact Ron Dawes on 020 8660 3532 for further details.

9th July 2009**Continental Railway Circle**

St.Paul's Church Centre, Rossmore Road, Marylebone, London nW1 6NJ. 'White Pass and Yukon Railway' by Philip Wormald. Meeting commences at 19.15. Admission £2.00. Contact Adrian Palmer on 01932 850624 or by e-mail at akpalmer@talktalk.net for further details.

10th July 2009**RCTS (West Riding Branch)**

Peterborough, Nene Valley Railway - March by Mini Bus. Contact Malcolm Riley on 01274 589488 or by e-mail at bigmal.w.br.rcts@talk21.com for further details.

11th July 2009**Bournemouth Rly Club**

All Purpose Room, Winton Methodist Community Centre, junction of Alma Road and Heron Court Road, Bournemouth. 'Colour-Rail in Person' by Ron White. Meeting commences at 14.30. Admission charge £2.

RCTS**(Northampton Branch)**

Visit to the Battlefield Line by Mini Bus. Contact D. Pick on 01604 810613 or by e-mail at northampton@rcts.org for further details.

RCTS**(West Riding Branch)**

Colne Valley Railway, Ipswich by Mini Bus. Contact Malcolm Riley on 01274 589488 for further details.

12th July 2009**RCTS****(West Riding Branch)**

Norwich Crown Point and Mid Norfolk Railway by Mini Bus. Contact Malcolm Riley on 01274 589488 or by e-mail on at bigmal.w.br.rcts@talk21.com for further details.

13th July 2009**RCTS****(Northampton Branch)**

Line-side Observation at Kings Sutton Station from 17.00hours. Contact D. Pick on 01604 810613 or by e-mail at northampton@rcts.org for further details.

Back Issues

All of the back issues of the magazine are available 24 hours a day, on our website www.railwayherald.com

Rear Cover Caption

Resident Class 47/4 No. 47840 pilots DB Schenker Class 67 No. 67002 along the shore at Blue Anchor on the West Somerset Railway on 31st May.

Brian Garrett

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