

Railway Herald

Issue 214 - 8th March 2010



The electronic journal for the railway enthusiast

Editor
Richard Tuplin

Contributing Editor
Brian Morrison

Railtour Editor
John Whitehouse

Advertising Manager
Ken Brunt

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

Publication

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

© Copyright Railway Herald Limited 2006-2010



Kenilworth station to reopen by late 2012?

Warwickshire County Council has agreed to the purchase of land, which is crucial to the development of a new station at Kenilworth. It is hoped that the station on the Leamington Spa to Coventry route will be open by late 2012.

Full story on
Page 7

Elsewhere in this issue



9 Notable Workings Pictorial

Our weekly round up, from a pictorial viewpoint, of newsworthy and unusual workings across the country.

15 Preservation News

The latest news on the forthcoming gala weekends at the North Yorkshire Moors and West Somerset Railways, plus progress updates on the LSWR 'T9' and the Battle of Britain Locomotive Society receives an unexpected boost.

In This Issue

No London train for Arriva

The Office of Rail Regulation (ORR) has rejected the restoration of a direct train link between Aberystwyth and London by Arriva Trains Wales

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

Meridian derails at speed

The RAIB is carrying out an investigation into the high-speed derailment of an EMT seven-car Class 222 Meridian set.

[Click here to read the story on Page 4](#)

Metro & Light Rail News

Heaton Park Tramway announces appeal to fund purchase and movement of four Blackpool trams to Manchester

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

Sunderland progress

The £7 million project to refurbish Sunderland station moved ahead on 15th February, when the main entrance reopened to passengers.

[Click here to read the story on Page 6](#)

Essentials

|| Railtours & Excursions

News from the charter scene, with comprehensive tour listings.

Front Cover Caption:

During an official roll-out in its new livery, LMS 'Duchess' Pacific No. 6233 *Duchess of Sutherland*, now in LMS lined black, stands outside the West Shed at Swanwick Junction on the Midland Railway - Butterley, on 23rd February.

John F. Stiles

ORR says no to Arriva's Aberystwyth plan

The Office of Rail Regulation (ORR) has rejected the restoration of a direct train link between Aberystwyth and London, last run in 1991.

Arriva Trains Wales is quoted as being "extremely disappointed" that the three daily services to Marylebone have been turned down. The ORR said it was concerned about the financial viability of the proposed new service, as it would have run via some of the same stations used by the

Wrexham and Shropshire rail route to Marylebone.

Wrexham, Shropshire & Marylebone Railway (WS&MR) expressed fears last year that a rival service could put it out of business, but Arriva said its rail link would have boosted the economy and tourism in mid-Wales and Shropshire. In April last year, Virgin Trains dropped plans to run a competing service between Wrexham, Shropshire and London after the WS&MR again said it may not survive.

Homebase transformation for Carlisle



▲ Virgin Class 221 No. 221107 is pictured next to the filming equipment for the Homebase advert at Carlisle station on 12th February. **Aled Williams**

Carlisle Citadel station now has a new look, the waiting room has been turned into a lounge, a garden has been created on one platform, the connecting bridge has been painted, and even a kitchen has been installed among other developments.

Local people have welcomed the changes, part of a campaign from national DIY retailer Homebase to transform spaces across the UK. Ann Turner, Station Manager at Carlisle for Virgin Trains, said: "We're very proud of our station, which looks amazing. The station is full of history and we

love it. What has happened has really transformed it and shows what can be done. Response from the local community has been great. We've noticed passengers arriving a little bit earlier to allow extra time to enjoy the station and take it all in".

The process will now be filmed for a national advertising campaign for Homebase to appear in the spring and summer starring local Carlisle people as extras. The aim of the Homebase activity is to inspire and encourage people to transform their own homes and gardens. The advertising featuring Carlisle will be on TV from March.



▲ The 11.27 Grand Central HST from King's Cross to Sunderland passes through Hadley Wood station on 28th February 2009, led by Class 43 powercar No. 43068 with No. 43123 on the rear. This is one of the sets that have been sold to Angel Trains on a leaseback deal. **Brian Morrison**

Grand Central sells and leases back HST sets

Angel Trains has purchased three High Speed Train sets from Sovereign Trains, sister company of open access operator Grand Central Railway.

The trains will be leased back to the operator under a contract running to December 2016. A performance and reliability improvement

programme will start in June, with Brush Traction to install MTU engines in the six power cars and undertake modifications to the coaches at its sites in Loughborough and Kilmarnock.

The sale and leaseback of the HSTs will allow a fast-track refurbishment and re-engineering of the vehicles.

New local plan for bringing Clapham up to standard

Recently named the second worst station in the country, another action-plan for upgrading Clapham Junction station has been published, this time by Wandsworth Council.

The document sets out what are considered the key measures needed to bring the complex

up to standard, and to increase capacity. Clapham Junction is recognised as the busiest station in the country, and has over 1,700 trains and 40,000 passengers passing through every day. Objectives of the 10-point plan are to complete the East London Line link and introduce a Tube link to Central London, complete

the new station entrance at St John's Hill to improve pedestrian access and improve the station environment, provide new links to Heathrow and Gatwick Airports, improve interchange and connections, lengthen trains, provide Metro-style services on local lines, and improve customer services.

Meridian derailed at speed by axle fault?

The Rail Accident Investigation Branch (RAIB) is carrying out an investigation into the high-speed derailment of one pair of wheels on the East Midlands seven-car Class 222 Meridian forming the 14.55 service from St Pancras to Sheffield on 20th February.

The unit was carrying nearly 200 passengers as well as train crew, when the wheels derailed, but the train remained upright. No injuries were caused, although significant damage was caused to the track and signalling equipment over a distance of two miles. There were also reports that one or more road vehicles on an adjacent road were struck and damaged by debris as the derailed train passed. The evacuation of the passengers into

another train was completed about four hours after the derailment. The line was then closed for a period of three days to enable train recovery and repairs to the infrastructure.

The RAIB's preliminary examination has identified that the derailment is likely to have been the result of the failure of an axle in proximity to the final drive. The exact nature of the failure and associated factors will be the subject of detailed examination, with the co-operation of the operator and rolling stock maintainer, Bombardier. Any urgent safety issues arising during the investigation will be the subject of a notification to all the industry parties affected. To date, there is no evidence that the condition of the railway infrastructure or signalling contributed to the derailment.



◀ DRS Class 37/0 No. 37194 christened the new level crossing at Sheringham ahead of the historic visit of 'Britannia' No. 70013 *Oliver Cromwell* this coming week. The final sign-off of the paperwork was received from Network Rail on Friday permitting an overnight possession on 6th/7th March. The last 17 metres were all that remained as the main part of the crossing had been installed over 20th/21st February. The final connection was made in the early hours on 7th March and at 12.40 that afternoon, No. 37194 crossed from Network Rail to the North Norfolk Railway, bringing the first rail crossing since 1975, when a temporary link was installed for one weekend. The connection is the first permanent connection since the crossing was lifted by BR on 28th January 1970.

John Day (picture)/Steve Allen (words)

If you want to see trains . . . come and see them at

THE RAILWAY STATION .tv

we've got trains from across the world, and across the years, steam, diesel, archive . . .



What is it? It's the NEW internet railway television channel - your one-stop tv station to see trains from across the world, all filmed to professional standards.

The best way is to see for yourself: just **CLICK HERE** to go to

THE RAILWAY STATION .tv

Or **HERE** to see a preview on YouTube

NELPG Enterprises presents

The Blyth Spirit

on Saturday 8th May 2010

TAKE A HERITAGE STEAM TRAIN TRIP AROUND DURHAM & NORTHUMBERLAND WITH KI 62005

From: Carnforth, Skipton, Leeds, York, Eaglescliffe, Middlesbrough and return.

Steam hauled: Middlesbrough-Stockton-Durham-Newcastle-Holywell-Bedlington-North Blyth-Ashington-Bedlington-Morpeth (break)-Newcastle-Middlesbrough-York.

62005 'top and tailed' with a heritage diesel with over 140 miles of steam haulage. Buffet available.

FARE: Standard class - £60

Download booking form from <http://nelpg.org.uk/> or **click this advert**



For booking details call 0191 257 0980

(Please do not call after 20.30)

NELPG Enterprises trades for NELPG Registered Charity No 1002017

Metro and Light Rail News

Upgrade for West Jesmond

Nexus, which owns, manages and is modernising the Tyne & Wear Metro in a £350 million programme, is carrying out some structural maintenance and applying new floor coatings at the 100-year-old West Jesmond station, commencing 1st March.

The footbridge, subway and ticket concourses are to be closed for short periods during the month for maintenance, the work being carried out in phases to enable the station to stay open throughout.

It is one of the busiest suburban stations on the Tyne & Wear Metro, and is used by two million passengers a year.

Four new trams for Manchester's Heaton Park Tramway

Heaton Park Tramway has announced that it has arranged to buy four redundant tramcars from Blackpool Transpore.

The vehicles concerned are Brush car No. 623, Railcoach No. 680 and double-deck 'Balloons' Nos. 702 and 704. The tramway at Heaton Park is currently in the process of being extended and the additional vehicles will help to relieve the pressure on the heritage fleet, while providing vehicles to allow an 'all-year' service. A fund has now been started to cover the cost of acquiring and transporting the vehicles, to which donations are urgently required. An appeal donation form can be downloaded by [clicking here](#) or visiting the society's website at <http://www.heatonparktramway.btik.com>.

Of the four vehicles

purchased, No. 286 was built in 1937 and remained operational throughout 2009, mainly on tram driving experiences. Railcoach No. 280 had a working passenger life of over 70-years, operating as a twin-car for part of that time, although out of traffic for overhaul between 1989 and 1992, it last operated in late-2008. The final two vehicles are both 'Balloon' double-deck trams. No. 239 originally being an open-top 'streamliner', before being converted to an enclosed car in 1982. In operational condition, it has only had occasional use in recent years. The final purchase is 'Balloon' No. 704, which last worked in 2003, and has been used as a spare parts donor to support the rest of the fleet - its purchase is seen primarily as a source of spares, although long-term restoration is possible.



▲ Under the 'Access for All' programme, Forest Hill is one of the stations receiving a new footbridge and lifts, due to open in May this year. Passing under the new structure on 19th February, Class 377/5 No. 377522 forms a First Capital Connect Thameslink service from Bedford to Brighton. **Bill Turvill**

End of the line for rail-connected Port of Stranraer : New plans

The Scottish Government has approved a Harbour Empowerment Order for the development of a new port approximately eight miles north of Stranraer at Old House Point, Cairnryan.

This facility will be used by Stena, which intends opening it in the autumn of 2011, and it will see the end of Stranraer as a ferry port - 149 years on from the first rail/ferry service, which started in October 1862. The new £200 million port will not be rail connected, having only road access, resulting in 40,000 passengers a year being lost to rail as they are to be taken by bus to and from Ayr, as currently happens to passengers arriving off the ferry from Belfast.

Many say that this is a good example of uncoordinated strategic transport planning and environmental thinking, as even the Chinese and Indian Governments, countries not noted for their environmental sustainability, provide rail facilities to new ports. Also the environmental

damage will be considerable as the A77 corridor currently contributes in excess of 45,000 tonnes of carbon into the atmosphere of which over 26,000 tonnes derives from the Stranraer and Cairnryan areas alone. It is hard to reconcile this decision with the Scottish Government's climate change agenda.

The ports of Stranraer and Cairnryan have also declined over the last decade with reductions in cars (down 36%), passengers (down 38%) and lorries (down 21%) at Stranraer and in cars (down 16%) and passengers (down 18%) at Cairnryan. This suggests that although Cairnryan may have some advantage over Stranraer, the decline is structural. It is interesting to note that local authorities in North Wales are lobbying for a rail freight facility at Holyhead in complete contrast to Dumfries & Galloway and South Ayrshire Councils. Ironically the amount of rail/ferry passenger traffic at Stranraer has increased over the last six years.

The overhaul of Wem level crossing in north Shropshire is part of a £22 million scheme proposed by Network Rail for new 'modular signalling' on the Shrewsbury to Crewe route.

The plans would be introduced in Wem in November 2011 and if proposals get the go-ahead, it is likely that Wem signalbox could be scrapped and replaced with an automated system controlled from a centre in Cardiff. The crossing is a notorious blackspot for motorists.

■ Plans to upgrade Swansea station are going on show for the first time. The project is part of a £150 million programme backed by the Department of Transport to improve stations in Wales and England. A larger concourse, a new booking office with extra ticket machines, toilets, shops and CCTV cameras are among the improvements. Arriva Trains Wales, Network Rail and the Welsh Assembly Government jointly lead the revamp.

■ Northumberland Council leaders are being asked to give the go-ahead to a £1.5 million transport scheme, which would involve a new station being constructed in the village of Belford, north of Alnwick. The site currently has trains travel into the old station to reverse, but there is no platform, as it was removed in 1969 when services were axed. A new station at Belford would allow passengers to use these services. As well as the proposed new station at Belford, there are further plans for a programme of improvements at Morpeth, Cramlington and Alnmouth stations. The scheme is at an early stage, and further studies and land investigation works still need to be completed, but it is hoped that work could commence in early 2011.

■ The project to reopen the line between Edinburgh and the Scottish Borders at Tweedbank has officially started, the Scottish Transport Minister being in Galashiels on 3rd March to cut the first sod and activate

the Waverley Rail Act, the bill that means the link must now be built. As well as providing economic benefits, the line will open up south east Scotland to rail passengers for the first time in more than 40 years. The project will consist of 35 miles of track, 10 stops and seven new stations. The cost estimates range from £235 to £295 million, and the current target for completion is 2014.

■ Eurostar services between St Pancras International and Brussels Midi returned to normal on 1st March, when the high-speed lines near the site of the train accident in Belgium reopened.

■ The campaign to electrify the Midland Main Line received a significant boost from the House of Commons Transport Committee on 15th February, when its report 'Priorities for investment in the railways' was published. A number of factions across the East Midlands and South Yorkshire, including the East Midlands Regional Assembly, the South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive, the East Midlands Development Agency and the Sheffield City Region all submitted written evidence supporting the electrification running through the East Midlands to Sheffield. Local Authorities have also been active in raising the profile of such an investment. The Transport Committee announcement said that the electrification of the Midland Main Line between Bedford and Sheffield should be given top priority.

Sunderland station modernisation project moves forward

The £7 million project to refurbish Sunderland station moved ahead on 15th February, when the main entrance reopened to passengers.

The main south concourse now provides the only access to the platforms by lift, stairs and escalator, and all trains now call at Platforms 2 and 3 at the south end of the station. The north entrance, which has been the only way in and out since last September, will close while building work moves to this end of the complex. Nexus, operators of

the Tyne & Wear Metro that uses the station alongside the national network operators, is investing £7 million in refurbishing the platform areas, which are owned by Network Rail and managed by Northern. The refurbished platforms will feature new lighting, ceilings, floors and wall panelling to give the station a new look.

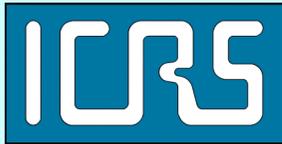
Bernard Garner, Director General of Nexus, said: "The re-opened platforms give a taste of the big improvements we are making, with a new glass waiting room, better floors and brighter lighting. The

work is far from finished, however, some column and wall claddings still have to be put in, as well as new customer information systems and signs, which will be done overnight in the next few months. The walls facing each platform are also still to be refurbished with lighted glass blocks on one side, and bricks cleaned and a new artwork installed in the bays on the other".

The whole project is now expected to finish in June this year, a month later than planned after delays caused by the long spell of cold weather in January.

▼ **While the locomotive may not look out of place, the wagons certainly do!** Army-liveried Class 60 No. 60040 *The Territorial Army Centenary* passes Copmanthorpe on 27th February, with a Redcar to Santon (Scunthorpe), via Barnetby, iron ore working. With the mothballing of Redcar Works, the remaining stocks of iron ore were moved to Scunthorpe in three trains, this being the middle one of the three, giving a rare outing for the wagons, away from their usual Immingham to Scunthorpe circuit. **Paul Braybrook**





Inter City Railway Society

website: icrs.org.uk

ICRS Inter City Railway Society



UK Rail Series No.1 UK Pocket Book 2010

All Network Rail Registered Locomotives (including Preserved & Private Owner), Diesel & Electric Multiple Units, Coaching Stock plus Light Rail & Underground Units & Locos

Nos.2 - 8 are A5 size with laminated card covers and are spiral bound, allowing them to be laid flat. UK Pocket Book, No.1, is A6 size (not spiral bound)

Please visit our website to order online via PayPal or order from:

ICRS
14 Partridge Gardens
Waterlooville
Hampshire PO8 9XG
Make cheques payable to ICRS (not banked until prior to dispatch)
Post & packing post free to UK

ICRS Inter City Railway Society



UK Rail Series No.3 UK Wagons 2010

All Network Rail Registered, Privately Owned, Air Braked, International RV, Engineers and Internal User Wagons plus Track Machines, Channel Tunnel Shuttle Wagons and London Underground, DLR & T&W Metro Engineers Stock

ICRS Inter City Railway Society



UK Rail Series No.2 UK Combine 2010

All Network Rail Registered Locomotives (including Preserved & Private Owner), Diesel & Electric Multiple Units, Coaching Stock plus Light Rail & London Underground Units & Locos

UK Rail Series - New 2010 Editions

(previously published as UK Datafiles)

Just Arrived

No.1 UK Pocket Book (240 pages) **£8.99**
the most comprehensive on the market

Available & selling fast

No.3 UK Wagons (160 pages) **£11.99**

Imminent

No.2 UK Combine (268 pages) **£14.99**

all updated to 1st January 2010

ICRS members receive 20% discount

In Preparation

No.4 UK Name Directory **TBC**

No.5 UK Locomotives **TBC**

No.6 UK Diesel Units **TBC**

No.7 UK Electric Units **TBC**

No.19 Irish Railways **TBC**

Nos.5 - 7 updated to 1st Jan. & Nos.4 & 19 to 1st Mar.

Chiltern route upgrade work commences

The £250 million upgrade work by Chiltern Railways to make journeys into Marylebone faster and more frequent started on 7th March.

It will take place over the 31 weekends until December. The project will enable fast trains from Beaconsfield to

reach Marylebone in about 21 minutes - six minutes faster than the time currently published by Chiltern Railways - while trains from Gerrards Cross will get there in 18 minutes, a predicted saving of three minutes. The increase in speeds will be made possible by changes to the track and signalling to

allow for faster running and the introduction of the new Class 172 Turbostars.

However, Beaconsfield will continue to be served by fewer trains than Gerrards Cross, despite the fact that it has a population of 12,000 compared to 7,000, and some commuters from Beaconsfield feel hard done by as a result.

Council buys land for new Kenilworth station

Warwickshire County Council has agreed to the purchase of land on which to construct a new station at Kenilworth.

The land is crucial to the development of a new station, which when completed is forecast to handle more than 700 passengers a day. The Council is to work with Buildbase, the current owners and occupiers of the station site, to find another location for the

business within Kenilworth. The town now has a population of almost 24,000, 50% more than when the old station in the town was closed in January 1965.

The John Laing company is working with the Council, and has previously undertaken a similar role to deliver the schemes at Coleshill Parkway and Warwick Parkway stations. It is hoped that Kenilworth station will be open by the end of 2012.

▼ **Headed by Class 47/4 No. 47529, the 11.55 London Paddington-Wolverhampton service passes through the closed Kenilworth station on 11th April 1981. Brian Morrison**



The News In Pictures

▼ Ex-DRS Class 66/4 No. 66403 hauls large logo-liveried Class 73/2 No. 73207 and Class 66/7 No. 66713 through Mill Hill Broadway at the London end of the Midland Main Line on 26th February. The convoy was travelling from Peterborough to St Leonards Depot.

Stuart Chapman

▼◀ Class 66/7 No. 66712 hauls Class 325 No. 325011 through Crewe on 24th February, working from Crewe - Willesden PRDC after the '325' had received repairs.

Richard Moxon

▼ Having emerged from the Severn Tunnel, Virgin Class 57/3 No. 57305 *John Tracy* approaches Pilning station with the 14.00 Cardiff - Weston Super Mare service on 1st March, with classmate No. 57309 *Brains* on the rear.

Edward Gleed



Notable Workings Pictorial

◀ The latest Class 66 locomotive to carry the Colas Rail livery, No. 66843 passes Brock, near Preston, on the West Coast Main Line with the Carlisle Yard-Chirk log train on 1st March. **Anthony Roberts**

▼ Colas Rail Class 47/7 No. 47739 *Robin of Templecombe* passes Shawford on 3rd March, hauling preserved 'slam-door' Class 412 4CIG EMU No. 1881 from Eastleigh Works to Barrow Hill Roundhouse. **Stuart Chapman**



Notable Workings Pictorial

◀ Due to the match between Manchester United and Aston Villa at Wembley, Wrexham & Shropshire operated Class 67 No. 67015 on a 'Footex' special from Witton (in the West Midlands) to Wembley Stadium. Here, the train passes Denham Golf Club on 28th February. **Ken Brunt**

◀ DRS Class 37/4 No. 37423 *Pride of the Lakes*, with the Network Rail Inspection Saloon *Caroline* in tow, passes West Runton on 24th February, with the 08.44 Ely - Sheringham observation special. **John Day**

▼ On 3rd March, DBS-liveried Class 67 No. 67018 *Keith Heller*, with EWS-liveried classmate No. 67030 on the rear, passes through Stirling with the Millerhill to Perth carriage cleaning trip, with the coaches off the Fife Circle loco-hauled working in tow. **Alasdair Eadington**



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.

11th March 2010

Railway Touring Co. 70013 London Liverpool Street-Colchester-Ipswich-Diss-Norwich-(Norwich-Cromer-Sheringham (NNR)-Holt(NNR) and return

13th March 2010

Railway Touring Co. 70013 London Liverpool St-Bishops Stortford-Ely-Peterborough-Newark-Lincoln-Barnetby-Cleethorpes(-New Holland)-New Holland-Barnetby-Gainsborough Central-Worksop(-Retford-Peterborough & return)

UK Railtours 2xDBS 67 London Paddington-Cardiff-Llandrindod Wells-Craven Arms-Abbey Foregate Curve-Telford Central-Leamington Spa-Oxford & return

NYMR tbc Grosmont - Whitby & return (twice)

14th March 2010

NYMR tbc Grosmont-Whitby-Battersby-Whitby-Battersby-Whitby-Grosmont

19th March 2010

Railway Touring Co. 70013 (Leicester-East Midlands Parkway-Stoke-Crewe)-Warrington BQ-Shap-Carlisle-S&C-Blackburn-Crewe-(& return)

Vintage Trains 4965 Tyseley Warwick Road-Nuneaton-Leicester-Loughborough-Burton on Trent-Tamworth-Coleshill Parkway-Tyseley Warwick Road

20th March 2010

Pathfinder Tours D1015 Bristol Temple Meads-Barnt Green-Birmingham NS-Derby-Chesterfield-Wakefield-Huddersfield-Stalybridge-Stockport-Chapel-en-le-Frith-Buxton-Buxton-Peak Forest-Edale-Hathersage-Chesterfield & return (Poole-Bournemouth-Eastleigh-)Westbury-Bristol TM-Taunton-Exeter St.Davids-Newton Abbott-Paignton-Kingswear & return

Railway Touring Co. 60019 Basingstoke-Reading-Slough-St.Albans-Keighley & return

UK Railtours 2xDBS 67 Wolverhampton-Stafford-Crewe-Wilmslow-Stockport-Stalybridge-Huddersfield-Wakefield Kirkgate-York-Whitby & return

Statesman Rail tbc Hastings-Battle-Tunbridge Wells-Tonbridge-London Victoria-Sutton-Dorking North-Arundel-Chichester-Portsmouth & Southsea-Portsmouth Harbour-Portsmouth Harbour--Portsmouth & Southsea-Chichester-Worthing-Hove-Gatwick-London Victoria & return

Hastings Diesels Ltd Hastings Unit

Railtourer 2xWCRC 47 Milton Keynes Central-Carlisle & return **Cancelled**

NYMR tbc Grosmont - Whitby & return (twice)

Spitfire Railtours DRS 57 Birmingham International-Burton upon Trent-Derby-Sheffield

2xDRS 20 Sheffield-Shipley-Hellfield-S&C-Carlisle

DRS 66/4 Carlisle-Hexham-Newcastle Central

2xDRS 37 Newcastle-Durham-York-Church Fenton-Sheffield & return

21st March 2010

NYMR tbc Grosmont-Whitby-Battersby-Whitby-Battersby-Whitby-Grosmont

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.

You can view the long-term line-up of railtours by visiting the railtours section of our website - [click here](#) or visit www.railwayherald.com

The Week Ahead

Without doubt the tour of the week, and probably a candidate for one of the tours of the year considering what it celebrates, is Railway Touring Company's 'The Broadman' from London King's Cross to Holt on Thursday 11th March.

Holt is the western terminus of the North Norfolk Railway (NNR), and the train will be celebrating the first use of the newly reinstated level crossing between the Network Rail station at Sheringham (a single platform affair) and the NNR's substantial and attractive ex-Midland & Great Northern Joint Railway's station.

Hauled by 'Britannia' Pacific No. 70013 *Oliver Cromwell*, 'The Broadman' will make a return journey over North Norfolk metals between Sheringham, Weybourne and Holt, after making the historic traversal of Station Road, Sheringham, to reconnect the NNR to the National Network. The train is steam-hauled throughout, except for the section between Norwich and Cromer (where a reversal is necessary) in each direction. Norwich is reached via Cambridge and Ely from London King's Cross.

Oliver Cromwell has a busy few days, as on



by John Whitehouse

13th March, again for the Railway Touring Company on the 'Lincolnshire Coast Express', the locomotive heads for Cleethorpes from London Liverpool Street, running once more via Cambridge and Ely before diverging for Peterborough, Newark, Lincoln and Grimsby to reach the North Sea resort. The return working takes a diversion to New Holland, diesel-hauled from Cleethorpes, following which the 'Britannia' will again take over for a run via Gainsborough Central and Retford to Worksop (where steam terminates). The train reverses at Worksop, and then returns diesel-hauled to London.

UK Railtours provides the remaining tour of the weekend, with the 'Heart of Wales' working from London Paddington, via Swindon, the Severn Tunnel and Cardiff to the Central Wales line. The customary break will be taken at Llandrindod Wells, before the train continues north, via Craven Arms and Shrewsbury Abbey Foregate Curve, and then back to Paddington through Wolverhampton, and Oxford. There is an option to visit the Brecon Mountain Railway by way of a road coach connection at Newport, which will then reconnect with the train at Llandrindod Wells. A DBS Class 67 should feature on the charter throughout.

◀ **The A1 Locomotive Trust's Peppercorn A1 Class Pacific No. 60163 *Tornado* made its first visit to Wales on 1st March at the head of a Steam Dream's 'Cathedrals Express'. With the 08.45 charter from London Victoria to Swansea, *Tornado* passes Callow Hill, west of Wootton Bassett, on the outward journey.**
Ken Brunt

Ups & Downs by John Whitehouse

■ There has been a significant change to the itinerary of Steam Dreams 'Coronation' weekend, as the middle day will now involve a trip to Ayr with 'K4' Mogul No. 61994 *The Great Marquess* instead of a circular via the Tyne Valley with an 'A4'. The train will still depart from Edinburgh, heading via the Shotts route to Troon and Ayr via Uddingston, the south side of Glasgow and Paisley Gilmour Street.

■ UK Railtours will be providing a bonus to passengers on the outing to Okehampton and the Dartmoor Railway on 17th April, as the tour will, instead of reversing upon arrival at Exeter St. David's now continue via Exeter St Thomas, and take a trip down the short Alphington branch at Exeter City Basin Junction. The branch goes as far as March Barton, where the train will now reverse and continue back via Exeter St Davids and Cowley Bridge Junction to Okehampton. Track bashers please note!

■ Advance notice from Pathfinder of more tours featuring No. 60163 *Tornado*, the highlight of which is a double-header with King 4-6-0 No. 6024 *King Edward I* to Plymouth on 27th September. Two weeks earlier *Tornado* is booked for its first visit to Penzance on a weekend charter. Carmarthen is set for a visit on 10th July and Plymouth on 21st August. Full details of originating points and routes will follow. A finalised route is that on Friday 22nd October, when the locomotive is booked to work throughout from Doncaster to Edinburgh.

Enjoy a Grand Tour of Great Britain - a snip at £8,000 per person for eight days!

So, you have a spare £8,000 that is burning a hole in your pocket and you are looking for ideas of how to spend it? Those nice people at Royal Scotsman have a potential solution: what about a grand tour of Great Britain?

For interested travellers, a preference for West Coast Class 47 traction would be an advantage, although a Class 37 might put in an appearance at some point. And guess what? They have just the thing, setting out from Edinburgh Waverley on 9th July.

The Grand Tour of Great Britain will span eight days, departing from Waverley at 13.42 for a meander along the Highland Main Line to Aviemore, to overnight on the Strathspey Railway at Boat of Garten. Day 2 remains in Scotland, running via Inverness and Elgin, before taking the East Coast route south to Dundee. Next day will take the tour

into England, to call at Chester, before heading into Wales for the night at Llandudno. It then heads south to Bath on Day 4, before proceeding via Oxford to the Nene Valley Railway for the night to complete Day 5. Scarborough is the final destination on Day 6, after having called at both Cambridge and York en route. The penultimate day is spent visiting Durham and Alnmouth, prior to leaving Northumberland on Day 8 for an early afternoon arrival back at Edinburgh Waverley.

Quite a tour, which is likely to be popular with visitors to the UK, and particularly those from the U.S.A. The off-train attractions are numerous, varied and in some cases exclusive, as one would expect for the price tag. And by the way, if you want to take the better half along, that will be another £8,000 or thereabouts!

The number for reservations is 0845 077 222.

▼ **DRS Class 37s Nos. 37038 and 37607 approach Colton South Junction on the misty, grey Saturday morning of 27th February, with a Spitfire Railtours charter from Crewe to York, via Birmingham. The train was booked to go forward to Shildon and Stanhope as an additional mini-tour. WCRC Class 47/4 No. 47826 was attached to the rear of the train for the return working and to provide heat. Paul Braybrook**





The first visit of BR Standard 7P No. 70013 *Oliver Cromwell* on the Ashford - Hastings Line, was at the helm of the Railway Touring Company's 'Sussex Belle' charter from London Victoria on 24th February, pictured passing Rye Windmill. **Andrew Wood**

MANCHESTER TO

PENZANCE, FALMOUTH, NEWQUAY & ST. IVES

Featuring Class 40 and 52 haulage



THE EAST LANCS CHAMPION

Saturday 15th & Sunday 16th May 2010

Proposed route and motive power

The CFPS are proud to announce a weekend tour from the North West to Cornwall.

Saturday - 40145 - Crewe, Warrington Bank Quay, Manchester Victoria, Stockport, Stoke, Stafford, Birmingham International (attach D1015), Banbury, Oxford, Swindon, Bristol Temple Meads, Plymouth (D1015 to rear) to Penzance (short break). Early evening - Penzance (dep. 1940) to Truro, **Falmouth**, Truro, St. Erth, Penzance (2215).

Sunday - D1015 front, 40145 rear - Penzance, St. Erth, **St. Ives**, Penzance, Par, **Newquay** (40145 leads to Newquay), Plymouth (40145 run-round to front) 40145/D1015 in tandem to Oxford via Bristol Temple Meads & Swindon as outward. 40145 solo from Oxford returning via the same route as outward.

An extra set down & pick-up at St. Erth has been added to help with accommodation

Provisional Timings		
Joining Points	Saturday Depart	Sunday Arrive
Crewe	0600	2359
Warrington Bank Quay	0625	2335
Manchester Victoria	0655	2305
Stockport	0720	2235
Stoke-on-Trent	0805	2055
Stafford	0825	2135
Birmingham International	0915	2045
Banbury	1015	1950
Oxford	1040	1925
Swindon	1130	1825
Bristol Temple Meads	1230	1740/1745
Plymouth	1455/1510	1455/1520
Penzance	1700a	0900d

Fares

Bookings received by 15th March qualify for a 5% discount on all tickets, the prices opposite show the fares including and excluding the discount. There is **NO** discount for the 'Table for Two' supplement.

Timings

All timings shown as just an estimate at the moment, more details will be posted on the CFPS website ([click here](#)) when known.

On the train

A catering service will be available all weekend, selling a selection of hot/cold drinks, sandwiches, crisps and confectionary.

Ticket allocation

Tickets for the charter will be allocated on a first come, first served basis, so please get your bookings in **PROMPTLY** to avoid disappointment.

Accommodation

Accommodation for the night in Penzance is the responsibility of the individual. Please contact the local tourist board for details. We hope to have some details on our website (www.cfps.co.uk) of possible accommodation.

Please note: ALL juniors must be accompanied by an adult.

Fares (all points)

	Adult	Junior (Under 16)
Bookings received by 15th March		
Standard Class	£128.25	£66.50
First Class	£180.50	£118.75
Bookings received AFTER 15th March		
Standard Class	£135	£70
First Class	£190	£125

Private 'Tables for Two' seats available in First Class at a supplement of £10 per PERSON.

NO early booking discount off the supplement

FIRST CLASS is likely to be in the middle of the train.

ENQUIRIES: email chairman@cfps.co.uk. Tel: 075 000 40145 or visit www.cfps.co.uk

BOOKINGS: Mr. J. Stephens, CFPS, 38 Watkins Drive, Prestwich, Manchester. M25 0DS

Major restoration planned for Loughborough station canopy

Work is set to begin on one of the Great Central Railway's (GCR) biggest maintenance projects, the refurbishment of Loughborough Central station's impressive overall glass canopy, which is expected to cost around £500,000 and could take two years to complete.

The canopy, described locally as Loughborough's Crystal Palace, is now in its second century of service. The station was built in time for the opening of the line to London in 1899. The repair plans are thought to be the biggest single refurbishment the structure has ever undergone.

Members of the line's supporters club, Friends of the Great Central Main Line, are due to receive details of the scheme in the latest edition of the society's magazine *Main Line*, published at the beginning of March, entitled the 'Raise the Roof' appeal, to raise at least £120,000 towards the project. GCR director Tony Sparks is leading the project and said: "Without doubt this is an ambitious plan. The canopy is a complex structure and needs a full refurbishment to see it fit for another century. We have a funding plan to raise the money

and we hope supporters will help us on the way raising at least £120,000. They have already been generous with collections during our recent Winter Gala raising £1,000. The David Clarke Railway Trust has also pledged £50,000, meaning we are 10% of the way there already. We will make a start on the repairs in April".

The David Clarke Railway Trust, the charity that supports the GCR, is arranging the appeal. Gift aid can be collected on donations. The money will be ring-fenced for the canopy appeal. The GCR is providing incentives for donors, including the chance to travel on the footplate and brake van trips during gala events. Appeal leaflets are available from GCR stations and are being sent to members of the Friends of the Great Central Main Line. Donations can also be made on line from 1st March through the Great Central website at www.gcrailway.co.uk

Appeal forms can also be downloaded from the website. Cheques made payable to "David Clarke Railway Trust" can be sent to: DCRT c/o Great Central Railway, Great Central Road, Loughborough, Leics, LE11 1RW



▲ The Princess Royal Class Locomotive Trust formally rolled out No. 6233 *Duchess of Sutherland* in its new lined-black LMS livery on 6th March for the benefit of patrons and the general public. By way of contrast the newly re-liveried 'Duchess' was stood next to stablemate No. 46203 *Princess Margaret Rose* which carries BR maroon livery. The first outing for No. 6233 in black livery is to Scarborough from Derby on 10th April. **John Whitehouse**

West Somerset hosts six-day 'Standards' gala as part of GWR 175

The West Somerset Railway will be operating a six-day gala later this month, in conjunction with the 'GWR 175' celebrations, but concentrating on the locomotives introduced in the British Railways era, namely the 'Standards'.

An impressive collection of BR Standards have been marshalled, which includes at the time of writing No. 71000 *Duke of Gloucester*, 9F 2-10-0s Nos. 92201 & 92212, Standard 2-6-4T No. 80104 and 'Mickey Mouse' Class 2MT 2-6-0

No. 78019. With No. 6024 *King Edward I* putting in an appearance alongside 'West Country' No. 34046 *Braunton*, together with 'Prairies' Nos. 4160 & 5553, this promises to be a memorable event.

The gala is spread over two weekends, commencing on 20th /21st March, with the main running days between Thursday 25th and Sunday 28th March. A full working timetable has been produced, which is part of a souvenir programme covering the entire event that will be available from Minehead at a cost of £3 from mid-March

onwards. The sheds at both Minehead and Williton will be open to visitors, and it will be possible to view locomotives being turned on Minehead's turntable.

Lineside photographic passes are available, and must be applied for in advance. For visitors travelling by rail, a free bus service will operate between Taunton main line station and Bishops Lydeard.

Full details of the gala are available at www.west-somerset-railway.co.uk or the unofficial site at www.wsr.org.uk

NYMR Bridge reopening weekend

To celebrate completion of the renewal of Bridge 30, the North Yorkshire Moors Railway will be running its red timetable on 27th-28th March.

A number of trains will be worked by DMU, ideal for giving passengers a good view of the new bridge, and musical entertainment is planned at stations.

The first passenger service over the bridge will be a single engine and the GWR Saloon, simulating the director's saloons of old. This will leave Grosmont at 09.30 on 27th March for Goathland, and carries a £10 supplement (passengers will need to also purchase a valid travel ticket). Numbers are strictly limited to 25, but there many other opportunities to travel over the bridge during the weekend on the scheduled service trains.

The first through train will be the 09.00 Pickering to Whitby on the 27th, and the GWR Saloon will shuttle between Goathland and Bridge 30 each hour from 10.05 to 13.05 on both days. Tickets for these shuttles cost £10 and can be purchased in advance (maximum 25 per shuttle). The railway's Civil Engineer, Nigel Trotter, or Bridge Engineer, Roger Bastin, will be on hand to talk about the bridge renewal work. It is hoped that the saloon will be worked by newly overhauled LMS 'Black 5' 4-6-0 No. 45428 *Eric Treacy*, but the severe weather at Grosmont has delayed the final stages of reuniting the boiler with the frames so it is touch and go as to whether the locomotive will make the event or not. If it does, it is unlikely to be fully painted.

A formal reopening ceremony will follow later in the spring. Meanwhile NYMR is most grateful to many people for getting the bridge work done despite the worst winter weather for over 30 years. Over £650,000 has so far been contributed through donations and grants, and the appeal is still active as there is still around £100,000 to raise.

Spring Steam Gala to be a joint fund-raiser for Llangollen and LMS Patriot Project

The Llangollen Railway Trust and the LMS-Patriot Project, the team responsible for the new build steam locomotive *The Unknown Warrior* have announced that the spring steam gala on the Llangollen Railway will be a joint fund raiser for both charitable trusts.

The gala, to be held from 23rd to 25th April, will raise funds for the 2.5 mile Corwen extension, for which the railway has applied for a Transport and Works Order, and also for the LMS-Patriot Project, which has both an ongoing appeal for £60,000 to

build the wheel sets and also want the Llangollen Railway workshops to build a cab, smoke deflectors and a smoke box to go on display at Crewe Heritage Centre.

The frames of the new 'Patriot' 4-6-0 are being erected in the works, and these will be on display for visitors to see during the gala. The project is endorsed by the Royal British Legion.

The Corwen extension construction is expected to cost in excess of £4 million, of which the Llangollen Railway trust will be required to find some £800,000 in cash, materials and volunteer hours.



▲ The boiler of Merchant Navy No. 35006 *Penninsular & Orient Line* is reunited with the locomotive's rolling chassis at Toddington on 24th February, having been returned from restoration work at Chatham Docks. **Chris Ardy**

T9 on target for September On its way to flying high

The restoration of the LSWR T9 class 4-4-0 No. 120 (30120) at the Flour Mill Workshops at Bream is progressing well.

The loco is expected to return to Bodmin in time to be run-in during the coming summer, prior to hauling passenger trains again at the Bodmin & Wenford's steam gala in September. It is hoped that the Swanage Railway' M7 class 0-4-4T No. 30053 will also be able to visit the gala, where with the resident Class 0298 Beattie Well Tank No. 30587, it will provide a line-up of three Southern engines.

The Battle of Britain Locomotive Society has received an anonymous donation of £50,000 for the restoration of Pacific No. 34081 92 Squadron.

The only reward the donor wants is to be able to drive the Pacific on three or four occasions a year. The locomotive is currently at Sheringham, having been withdrawn from traffic on 21st May 2008, having failed a boiler exam. Restoration will now start in earnest. Anyone interested in contribution, should [click here](#) for details.

GWR Prairie Tanks Nos. 5542 and 5199 pull away from Oakamoor Loop, heading towards Froghall, during an photographic charter on the Churnet Valley Railway on 12th February. **David Gibson**



Weekly Pictorial

East Midlands Trains 'Meridian' Class 222/0 No. 222016 heads a Nottingham to St Pancras International service at Bush Bridge, Wellingborough on 2nd March. The wrap-round yellow livery on the cab gives a completely different impression of the design to the rest of the fleet, and is as a result of having a new cab fitted following its involvement in a fatality at Elstree in February. **Steve Madden**

The low sun in the afternoon of 1st March casts long shadows at Crowborough station as two Southern-operated four-car Class 171/8 units Nos. 171805/806 arrive with the 15.08 departure from London Bridge to Uckfield. **Stuart Warr**



Livery variations at Warrington Latchford

◀ During a brief lunchtime interlude at Warrington Arpley on 3rd March, Class 59/2 No. 59206 *John F. Yeoman Rail Pioneer*, carrying the latest DB Schenker livery, weaves out of Latchford Sidings, after reversal of a loaded coal service from Liverpool Bulk Terminal to Fiddler's Ferry Power Station

▼◀ Freightliner Class 70 No. 70006 eases past Arpley Yard with a coal service from Ellesmere Port to Fiddler's Ferry, en route to Latchford Sidings, where it will run-round the wagons, prior to heading under Warrington Bank Quay to gain access to the power station

▼ Carrying EWS livery, and proudly displaying its American fitted bell, Class 59/2 No. 59201 *Vale of York* weaves out of Latchford Sidings with an empty rake of HTA wagons, bound for Liverpool Docks, and running, in this case via the low-level route. **All: Fred Kerr**



8th March 2010

Lincoln Railway Society
St Hugh's Church Hall, North Hykeham, Lincoln. 'Stretton's 60s' by John Stretton. Meeting starts 20.00. Contact 01522 705365 for details

RCTS (Ipswich)

Bridge Ward Social Club, 68 Austin Street, Ipswich. 'British Diesels' by John Chalcraft. Starts 19.30. Contact ipswich@rcets.org.uk for details.

RCTS (Sheffield)

St Matthews Church Rooms, Carver Street, Sheffield. 'Mainly Steam on Three Continents' by Mike Swift. Meeting commences at 19.30.

SVR (Wolverhampton)

Old Wulfrunians Club, 253A Castlecroft Road, Castlecroft, Wolverhampton, WV3 8NA. 'The Moseley Collection' by Phil Robinson. Meeting starts at 19.30.

Southern Electric Group

Deall Road, Southwick Community Centre. 'War Locomotives' by Mike Hudson. Starts 19.30. £2 Donation requested. Contact Bruce Cakebread on 01273 462094 for further details.

Stephenson Loco Society

New Trinity Parish Hall, Saltcoats, Ayrshire. 'A Year in the Life of a Camera' by Ian Lothian. Meeting starts 19.30. Contact the Secretary on 01294 822303 for further details.

Wrexham Rly Society

St Mary's Catholic Club, Regent Street, Wrexham. 'Coping with Corporate Blue' by Brian Roberts. Starts 19.45. Admission £2.

York Railway Circle

The Library, Archbishop Holgate's School, Hull Road, York. 'Locos Built in Leeds' by Donald Townsley. Starts at 19.30. Contact Robin Patrick at locopatr@aol.com for details.

9th March 2010

Abergavenny and District Steam Society
Upper Room, The Hen & Chickens, Flannel Street, Abergavenny 'Brunel & the Vale of Neath Railway' by Terry McCarthy. Starts 20.00. Contact Ken Mumford at ken.mumford@ntlworld.com for details.

Great Western Society (Bristol)

BAWA, 589 Southmead Road, Filton, Bristol BS34 7RG. 'Steam on Road & Rail' by Malcolm Ranieri. Meeting commences at 19.45. Contact the Secretary on 01454 324230 for further details.

Permanent Way Institution (Lancaster, Barrow & Carlisle)

Station Hotel, adjacent to Preston Station. 'Kirkby Thore Track Stabilisation' by Stephen Townley. Meeting commences at 18.00. Contact the Secretary, Philip Bull on 07920 702614 or at bullp@pbworld.com for further details.

Permanent Way Institution (Manchester & Liverpool)

Ove Arup Offices, St James Building, Oxford Street, Manchester. 'Alderley Edge New By Pass Road Bridge' by Steve Townley. Meeting commences at 12.30. Contact the Secretary, Rob Cummings on 07798 858784 or at rob.cummings@networkrail.co.uk for further details.

RCTS (Nottingham)

Nottingham Mechanics, Ground Floor, 3 North Sherwood Street, Nottingham. 'Rails to the Arctic' by Phil Lockwood & Enid Vincent. Meeting commences at 19.30.

Tewkesbury Railway Society

YMCA, Church Street, Tewkesbury. 'BR Steam in B & W part 2' by Ken Horan. Meeting starts at 19.45.

10th March 2010

Basingstoke & District Railway Society
Wote St. Club, New Road, Basingstoke. 'Pilgrimage to the prancing horse' by Tony Bagwell. Meeting commences at 20.00. Contact the secretary on 01256 819401.

Bromsgrove Rly Club

St Godwalds Church Hall, Aston Fields, Bromsgrove. 'BR Steam in the 1960s' by Adrian Lock. Meeting commences at 19.45. Contact Dave on 01527 873800 or Gordon on 05127873609 for further details.

Locomotive Club of Great Britain (Dorking)

Friends Meeting House, Butter Hill, South Street, Dorking, RH4 2LE. 'Ken Nunn; Southern District' by Graham Stacey. Meeting starts 19.30.

Oxfordshire Rly Society

Seacourt Day Centre, Seacourt Road, Botley, Oxford OX2 9LN. 'And You Thought They Were All Clean' by Chris Youett (HMRS). Meeting starts at 19.30. Visitors welcome £3.

Permanent Way Institution (London)

10th Floor Restaurant, 55 Broadway (LUL HQ), London. 'New Engineering Train Fleet' by Clive Maxwell & Malcolm Trotter. Starts 18.00. Contact the Secretary, Shazma Mahmood-Shakoor on 07921 943820 for details.

Permanent Way Institution (North Wales)

The Town Crier Inn, City Road, Chester. 'Wireless Remote Stress Free Temperature Monitoring' by Peter Shrubbsall. Starts 18.30. Contact Lynn Garner on 07771 672274 for details.

RCTS (Cardiff)

Old Church Rooms, Park Road, Radyr. 'Yet More American Wanderings - The Great Plains Drifter' by Gordon Davies. Meeting starts 19.30. Contact the Secretary at noelinda@noel65.fsnet.co.uk for further details.

RCTS (Hitchin)

Hitchin Christian Centre, Bedford Road, Hitchin. 'The Railways of Northern France' by Michael Bunn. Meeting commences at 19.30.

Stephenson Loco Society

YMCA, Bridge Street, Guildford. 'BR Steam in the 1960s' by Edward Talbot. Starts 19.30. Contact 01372 379216 for further details.

Swiss Railways Society (London)

The Model Railway Club, Keen House, 4 Calshot Street, London N1 9AT. (near Kings Cross Station) 'Gotthard, Part 2' by John Jesson. Starts 19.00. £2 donation requested. Contact Ron Dawes on 0208 660 3532 for further details.

11th March 2010**Continental Railway Circle(London & The Home Counties)**

St.Paul's Church Centre, Rosmore Road, Marylebone, 'The Whitehouse Experience part 2' by Michael Whitehouse. Starts 19.15. Contact Adrian Palmer on 01932 850624 for details

Locomotive Club of Great Britain (St Albans)

United Reform Church, Watford Road, Chiswell Green, St Albans. 'Robert Stephenson; Wider Horizons' by Dr Michael Bailey. Starts 19.30.

Permanent Way Institution (Birmingham)

The 11th Floor Boardroom, Network Rail Offices, The Mailbox, 100 Wharfside Street, Birmingham. 'High Speed 2 - Turning Hope into Action' by Andrew McNaughton. Starts 18.15. Contact, Ian Wardle at ian.wardle@networkrail.co.uk for details.

▼ **Class 31/6 No. 31602 Driver Dave Green brings up the rear of a Doncaster to Hull test working, passing along the little-used Anlaby Road Curve in Hull on 2nd March. The consist included test vehicle No. DB999508 with leading motive power supplied by Class 31/4 No. 31459 Cerberus. Richard Young**

**Permanent Way Institution (Croydon & Brighton)**

Matt MacDonald House, Sydenham Road, Croydon, CR0 2EE. 'Track Renewal on Light Rail' by David Bateman. Starts 17.45. Contact Martin Cresswell on 07815 968245 for further details.

Permanent Way Institution (South & West Wales)

Kings Hotel, High Street, Newport. 'Modular S&C - The Signalling Challenge' by Darren Wells & John Alexander. Starts 18.00. Contact Andy Franklin on 07824 410762.

RCTS (Newcastle)

The Brunswick Methodist Hall, Newcastle. 'When Ripon had Rails' by David Beeken. Meeting commences at 18.30. Contact the Secretary at jimbrick@fsmail.net for further details.

12th March 2010**Altrincham Electric Rly Preservation Society**

Altrincham Methodist Church Hall, Barrington Road, Altrincham. 'The North Staffordshire Railway in the LMS Era' by Basil Jeuda. Meeting commences at 19.30. Admission £3. Contact, Andrew Macfarlane on 0161 928 9394 for further details.

Great Western Society (Swindon)

Lawn Community Centre, Guildford Avenue, off Windsor Road, Lawn, Swindon, SN3 1JE. 'A European Railway Holiday' by Ken Birkbeck. Meeting commences at 19.30. Contact the Secretary on 01793 495976 for further details.

RCTS (Peterborough)

Lecture Room, City Museum, Priestgate, Peterborough. 'Along the North Wales Coast Part 3' by David Scudamore. Meeting starts at 19.30.

Should your society information be listed on this page?

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

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

Web Links

Links to the various society websites can be found by [clicking here](#). Is yours missing? Send the details to the editor.

Shropshire Railway Society

The Gateway Arts and Education Centre, Chester Road, Shrewsbury. 'Preservation Miracle' by Simon Hopkins. Meeting starts at 19.30. Minimum donation of £3 requested.

13th March 2010**Bournemouth Rly Club**

All Purpose Room, Winton Methodist Community Centre, Alma Road/ Heron Court Road, Bournemouth. 'Yeovil to Exeter; by John Nicholas. Starts 14.30. Admission charge £2. Contact Martyn Thresh at martyn.thresh@ntlworld.com for details.

Cornwall Rly Society

The Community Centre, Foundry Row, Redruth. AGM followed by 'Helson Branch Project' by Stuart Walker. Starts 18.30. Contact the Secretary, Derek Buttivant on 01637 860627 for further details

Irwell Vale Railway Photographers

Irwell Vale Village Church, Irwell Vale, Rossendale. 'An Evening of Nostalgia' by Ian Wright. Starts 19.30. £3 donation requested. Contact Mike Taylor at mike10fmpd@tiscali.co.uk for further details.

RCTS (Exeter)

Conference Room, Great Western Hotel, Exeter. '50 Years of Railway Photography' by Les Nixon. Starts 19.00. Contact the Secretary at fixtureswoe@rcts.org.uk for details.

Stephenson Locomotive Society

Kidderminster Railway Museum, Kidderminster. 'The Hereford, Hay & Brecon Railway' by David Postle. Meeting starts at 14.00. Contact the Secretary on 01242 582152 for further details.

15th March 2010**Great Central Railway (Spinkhill)**

The Angel Hotel, 26 College Road, Spinkhill, Sheffield S21 3YB. 'The Fall and Rise of the Chesterfield Canal' by John Lower. Meeting commences at 19.30. Contact the Secretary, Frank Greaves on 01909 473927 for further details.

RCTS (Chester)

The Town Crier, City Road/Station Road, Chester. 'The Fall and Rise of BR Steam 1955-2009' by Berwyn Stephens. Meeting starts 19.45. Contact the Secretary at geoffreymorris@tiscali.com for further details.

RCTS (Coventry)

Maudslay Hotel, 190 Allesley Old Road, Coventry. 'The Welsh Highland' by Dave Kent. Meeting commences at 19.30.

RCTS (Northampton)

Weston Favell Parish Hall, Booth Lane South, Weston Favell. 'On Narrow Gauge Tracks' by Tom Heavyside. Meeting commences at 14.00.

RCTS (Oxford)

West Oxford Democrats Club, 1 North Street, Osney. 'Railways of the Isle of Man' by Geoff Brockett. Starts 19.30. Contact murraylewis@hotmail.co.uk for further details.

RCTS (Shenfield)

Shenfield Parish Hall, 80 Hutton Road, Shenfield. 'An Insight into Route Planning' by Tim Havill. Meeting commences at 19.30.

16th March 2010**Permanent Way Institution (West Yorkshire)**

The Pullman Room, The Cosmopolitan Hotel, 2 Low Briggate, Leeds LS1 4AE. 'Railway Surveying - Which Way Now' by Chris Preston. Meeting commences at 18.00. Contact the Secretary, Martin Wooff on 07747 160949 for further details.

RCTS (Cheltenham)

Victory Club, Burlington House, Lypiatt Road, Cheltenham. 'The Wantage Tramway and the Bishop's Castle Railway' by Tony Ward. Starts 19.30. Contact the Secretary at paulandpauline@gearey.fslife.co.uk for further details.

RCTS (Hull)

Upstairs, The Highway Public House, Willerby Road, Hull. '40 Years on the Railways' by David Barraclough. Meeting commences at 19.30. Contact the Secretary at richardh@dbroadly.co.uk for further details.

Stephenson Locomotive Society

Fox Covert Inn, High Leven, Nr Yarm. 'Charles Hesterman Merz (1874-1940), the Bringer of Electricity' by Andrew Everett. Meeting commences at 19.30. Contact the Secretary on 01642 321205 for further details.

Tewkesbury Railway Society

YMCA, Church Street, Tewkesbury. 'The Colour Rail Collection' by Paul Chancellor. Meeting commences at 19.45.

17th March 2010**Permanent Way Institution (Bristol & West of England)**

Arup Auditorium, 63 St Thomas Street, Bristol. 'Modular S & C - The Signalling Challenge' by Darren Wells and John Alexander. Meeting commences at 18.00. Contact the Secretary, Phil Harrison on 0117 976 5432 or at philip.harrison@arup.com for further details.

Permanent Way Institution (Glasgow)

Upstairs Lounge, The Iron Horse, West Nile Street, Glasgow. 'Stressing of S&C Layouts' by John McNamara. Meeting commences at 17.30. Contact the Secretary, Jack Scott on 07789 765291 or at jack.scott1@btinternet.com for further details.

RCTS (Eastleigh)

Eastleigh Railway Insitute, Romsey Road, Eastleigh. 'The Swanage Railway' by Mike Stolery. Meeting commences at 19.45.

Severn Valley Railway (South East)

Wenlock Arms, 26 Wenlock Road, Islington, London N1 7TA. 'B & W Slides from Around the UK' by Peter Groom. Meeting starts 19.30.

17th - 25th March 2010**Locomotive Club of Great Britain**

Overseas Study Tour - 'Copper Canyon'.

Permanent Way Institution (Nottingham & Derby)

Hallmark Midland Hotel, adjacent to Derby Station. 'Forth Bridge Refurbishment' by Duncan Sooman. Meeting commences at 18.30. Contact the Secretary, Colin Cowey on 07946 482343 or at colin.cowey@talk21.com for further details.

18th March 2010**Barrow Hill Engine Shed Society**

Roundhouse Lecture Theatre, Barrow Hill, Chesterfield. 'Preserved Steam on Video Mainline 2009'. Meeting commences at 19.30. Admission £1.50 members, £2 non members. Contact the Secretary at beardspaul@aol.com for details.

Breconshire Railway Society

R.A.F.A.Club, The Struet, Brecon. 'Steam in the late 60s including the Somerset and Dorset Line' by Malcolm James. Starts 19.30. Members only. Contact Arthur Robinson on 01982 560219 for details.

Gravesend Railway Enthusiasts Society

Emmanuel Baptist Church, Windmill Street, Gravesend DA12 1BB. 'New Zealand Railway Encounters' by Ray Puddy. Meeting starts 19.45. Contact the Secretary, Roger Hart on 01474 833320 for further details.

Locomotive Club of Great Britain (North West)

The Red Lion, Newburgh, Lancashire. 'My 200 Favourite Slides' by John Field. Meeting commences at 19.30.

Monmouthshire Railway Society

Room LL1, UWNC, Allt-Yr-Yn Ave, Newport, South Wales. '1960s UK Steam in Stills and Video', J.Clemmens Coll. by M.Clemmens. Starts 19.30. Admission £3.

Permanent Way Institution (York)

Park Inn, North Street, York 'Rail/Wheel Interface Issues' by Dr Mark Burstow. Starts 18.00. Contact Martin Fairbrother on 07802 657839 for further details.

RCTS (Darlington)

The Scout Building, Widdowfield Street, Darlington. 'Out and About in the Past Year' by Hugh Gould. Meeting commences at 19.00. Contact the Secretary at jimbrick@fsmail.net for further details.

Stephenson Loco Society

United Reform Church Hall, Mowbray Road, New Barnet. 'Colour Derailed' by Ron White. Meeting commences at 19.30. Contact the Secretary on 0208 368 6200 for further details.

19th March 2010**Great Western Society (Taunton)**

Village Hall, Stoke St Mary, Nr Taunton. 'Narrow Gauge' by Richard Pelham. Meeting commences at 19.30. Contact the Secretary on 01823 334188 for further details.

Locomotive Club of Great Britain (Central London)

Keen House, Calshot Street, London N1. 'Wartime Posters; Military Permanent Way & Signalling' by Mike Walshaw. Meeting starts 19.00.

Purbeck Railway Circle

Catholic Church Hall, Rempstone Road, Swanage. 'The Didcot Story' by Michael Baker. Meeting commences at 19.30. Contact the Secretary, Mike Walshaw on 01929 421913 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

Network Rail's NMT powercar No. 43014 brings up the rear of a northbound test working at Doncaster, while Class 185 No. 185119 awaits departure with a Cleethorpes service on 27th February. **David Hainsworth**

Magazine Information**Editorial Address:**

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

Railway Herald is produced by Railway Herald Ltd (Registered as company number 05837609 in England).
VAT Registration: 942 6509 14
Registered office: Hobarn House, 12 Brompton Road, Northallerton, North Yorkshire, DL6 1DY

Advertising in Railway Herald

We welcome advertisements from any industry, business or organisation connected in some way, shape or form with the railway movement. A rate card is available from our advertising manager. Please email advertising@railwayherald.com for further details. Discounts can be offered on advertising plans covering a longer period and advertisements do not need to appear in consecutive issues. All artwork must be received by mid-day on the Friday, prior to publication on a Monday. Advertising on the Railway Herald website is also available at competitive rates. Please contact our advertising manager for details.

Reading the magazine

Railway Herald would advise all readers to view the magazine using the very latest version of Adobe Acrobat Reader (AAR). This software is available to be downloaded free of charge from <http://www.adobe.com> or click on the button below. If you are viewing this PDF document on a corporate system, you should contact your system administrator for details about upgrading to the latest version of Acrobat Reader. We do not guarantee that the document will view correctly on any other software.

**Copyright, printing and distribution**

The content, design and style of this PDF file, referred to as 'this issue of Railway Herald magazine' is protected by copyright. All photographs remain the copyright property of the stated photographer. Readers are permitted to print copies for their own reading or to provide to friends/colleagues. But being a complimentary magazine, Railway Herald must not be sold by any means, printed or electronic. All of our back issues are freely available from www.railwayherald.com and our PDF files may be passed onto interested parties in either a printed or electronic format.

