

# *Railway Herald*

Issue 270 - 6th June 2011



*The weekly railway enthusiast's magazine*



# Railway Herald

Issue 270  
6th June 2011

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## Submissions

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

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Kev Gregory



## Rolling out the 'Golden Oldies' at the GCR

Photographic coverage of the Great Central Railway's second 'Golden Oldies' event, which included the replica Liverpool & Manchester Railway (L&MR) 0-2-2 Rocket from the NRM and replica L&MR 2-2-0 Planet from the Manchester Museum of Science & Industry.

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

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## Essentials

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Including comprehensive listings.

**20 Diary**  
The dates of slide shows and information presentations.

### Front Cover Caption:

WCR Class 47/4 No. 47804 leads  
Compass Tours 'Pennine and North  
Eastern Explorer' railtour past  
Malvern Wells signal box on 4th June.  
**Neil Pugh**





## EMT Meridian named *The Carbon Cutter* at St Pancras

**The Secretary of State for Transport, Philip Hammond, joined representatives from East Midlands Trains, Bombardier and Eversholt Rail at a naming ceremony at St Pancras International on 31st May, to recognise a successful joint industry approach to delivering greener trains.**

The naming of East Midlands Trains' Class 222 Meridian No. 222006 as *The Carbon Cutter* marked a joint investment of £4 million from the Stagecoach-owned train operator, Bombardier and Eversholt Rail, which has led to the introduction of an innovative new engine stand-by mode estimated to save around 800,000 litres of fuel a year. The new mode has been introduced across the entire East Midlands' Meridian fleet of 27 trains, the introduction allowing the number of diesel engines on the train to be matched to the duty required to reduce diesel consumption, noise, emissions and maintenance costs. It is believed to be the first retrospective application of this type of technology in this country.

Tim Shoveller, Managing Director of East Midlands Trains said: "The rollout of our Meridian Energy Saving Mode has taken many work hours and a huge commitment to deliver. It has required true partnership to create an innovative approach that will deliver long-term sustainable benefits and will also unlock long-term benefits for the rail industry."

In addition to the naming ceremony, the Transport

Secretary also had an opportunity to see first-hand, the improvements being delivered through East Midlands Trains' £6 million refurbishment of its Meridian fleet. Once complete, passengers travelling on Meridians will enjoy added benefits such as luxury leather seats in First Class, new carpets and seat covers throughout, as well as additional luggage space and a new space for buggies. No. 222006 is the first seven-car Meridian to be refurbished.

▲ **The Secretary of State for Transport, Philip Hammond, unveils the name on Meridian No. 222006 at St Pancras International on 31st May.**

▼ **The Refurbished First Class interior of an EMT Class 222 Meridian. Both: Brian Morrison**



## 100 million miles for Pendolino fleet

**Virgin Trains Class 390 Pendolino tilting train fleet, has just clocked up 100 million miles since the first train entered service in June 2002.**

The 52-strong fleet is now covering 16.8 million miles a year, meaning that each train is covering a million miles in little more than three years. Top of the mileage table is No. 390022 Penny the Pendolino, which had totalled two million miles at the beginning of May this year.

The 125mph Pendolinos emit on average 76% less carbon dioxide per seat than domestic airlines, and are also saving energy and reducing pollution as they return energy to

the electrical feeder stations every time they brake. The trains are also fitted with electronic control systems that cause the traction motors to provide braking effort by generating electricity back into the supply system. This achieves an overall energy saving of around 15%. Regenerative braking used on the Pendolino trains also reduces the use of the friction brakes, dramatically reducing brake-pad dust and pollution, to provide a double environmental benefit.

The Pendolinos were designed with a life-expectancy of 30 years, by which time the fleet will have covered 500 million miles, equating to over nine-and-a-half million miles per train.

## The last Pullman to Shepperton



▲ **One vehicle not often featured in the railway press is Pullman Coach Malaga, located at Shepperton. The coach forms part of the Ian Allan Publishing Head Office that is located in a section of the station building. Brian Morrison**



## Engineering work continues throughout the Bank Holiday



**During the three-day Spring Bank Holiday weekend, Network Rail successfully undertook engineering works to improve capacity and reliability.**

One of the main areas of work was between Kingham and Wolvercote Junction on the Cotswold Line, which signalled the first commissioning stage of the double-tracking project.

The work was the start of a nine-day closure of the route to allow four-miles of double-track railway to be introduced. The next stage will be the commissioning of the remaining 16-miles between Moreton-in-Marsh and Evesham.

▲ With building work underway everywhere, Class 319/4 No. 319437 arrives at Blackfriars on 31st May, and despite the destination displayed in the route indicator panel, forms the 17.20 St Albans City-Sutton First Capital Connect service! **Brian Morrison**

▼ The new platform is rapidly taking shape at Ascott-under-Wychwood on the Cotswold Line, seen on 31st May. At this point the level crossing still required rebuilding and concrete was being piped into the base of a building next to the platform. **John Stretton**



## Refurbished translators accepted by GBRf

**GB Railfreight joined Angel Trains to celebrate the completion of its refurbished translator vehicles, and the relationship that has been forged between the two companies, on 27th May, at Knight Rail Services' Eastleigh works, where the refurbishment of the vehicles was undertaken.**

Kevin Tribble, Chief Operating Officer of Angel Trains said: "Angel Trains is delighted to be entering into a lease with GB Railfreight for these vehicles. It is the culmination of an extensive and innovative overhaul and modifications package demonstrating Angel Trains, Arlington Fleet Services and GB Railfreight's commitment to investing in a partnership approach to projects. Our collaborative approach will deliver a superior service for our combined customer and supplier base. GBRf has focused on providing Angel Trains with a consistently reliable and flexible service supplying locomotives, translator vehicles and

drivers to undertake the programme of movements agreed with Angel Trains. The result of this has seen GBRf undertaking a much increased level of movements and this now includes contracts for Class 153 and 158 units between Cardiff and Doncaster; Class 314s between Shields Road, Glasgow, and Springburn and Class 465s between Slade Green and Doncaster".

The work on the translators was undertaken by Arlington Fleet Services at Eastleigh Works, and included exterior and interior painting, corrosion works, reconditioning and recalibration of translator equipment, installation of diesel generators and various other modifications to 'future proof' the vehicles, while making them more user friendly to GBRf. The vehicles Nos. 975978 and 975974 are being leased to GBRf with a view to undertaking further movements of Class 465 Networker units between Slade Green and Doncaster, and the vehicles now carry the names *Perpetiel* and *Paschar*.

▼ Mk1 Translator vehicle No. ADB975974 stands at Eastleigh Works.





■ Passengers faced major delays on the East Coast Main Line on 25th May, due to damaged overhead power lines between Grantham and Stamford. Approximately 200 metres of overhead equipment was damaged, affecting all four lines. As a result, no services were able to operate between Grantham and Peterborough, but a shuttle did run between London King's Cross and Peterborough, and between Grantham and destinations north.

■ Translink NI Railways has revealed that 10.4 million passenger journeys were made on local services in Northern Ireland in 2010/2011, beating the previous record of 10.2 million two years ago. Both figures being levels not otherwise achieved since the 1960s.

■ A solution to the long-running problem of a notorious bridge in the Black Country being struck by vehicles too high to fit underneath has been found after a Height Detection Warning System was installed at the bridge in Great Bridge Road, Sandwell that is traversed by the Midland Metro. The 13ft bridge has been the subject of a number of incidents since Metro opened it in 1999, and the past five years alone, 19 strikes have occurred despite warning signs being erected. Centro

has now teamed up with Sandwell Council to share the cost of installing a £52,000 warning system, which uses an infra red beam that crosses the highway on the approaches either side of the bridge, which if broken by an over height vehicle triggers a flashing display advising the driver that the vehicle is too high and to turn back.

■ The Rail Regulator has launched a consultation which will contribute to shaping the future of Great Britain's railways. It is the first phase of the Periodic Review for 2013 that establishes funding and outputs for Network Rail through to the end of the decade. The review provides a means of addressing a number of key issues for the railways, including how best to help drive down the rail industry's costs by £1 billion a year by 2018

■ Around 50,000 new bolts and 35,000 litres of paint will be used in Network Rail's restoration of the Royal Albert Bridge. The £10 million improvement scheme will see work take place over the next two years to strengthen and repaint the bridge. The project will be carried out in five stages, starting concurrently from each end of the bridge, and aims to minimise disruption to passengers and the local community.

## Metro and Light Rail News

### 1938 Stock heads to Heathrow

**Treat your father, take a trip down memory lane and have fun with your family this Father's Day, Sunday 19th June!**

Continuing with the 'Heritage Vehicles on the move' 2011 programme, London Transport Museum will run its 1938 Tube Stock train along the westbound end of the Piccadilly Line on the day, the first time since it was withdrawn from service in 1975 that it has travelled so far west on the Piccadilly Line, making a first trip to Heathrow.

The day will be full of firsts and rare opportunities; leaving Northfields, the train travels to High Street Kensington, via Earl's Court, where there will be an unusual crossover from the Piccadilly to the District Line, a manoeuvre not usually available to the general public. From here the train travels back down the District Line, changing onto the Piccadilly again at Acton Town.

The highlight of the day will be when the 1938 Stock runs from Hatton Cross, taking a left turn down to Heathrow Terminal 4, where it will then carry on to Terminals 1, 2 and 3. The journey will last approximately 2 hours.



▲ An annual event on London Underground is the operation of the weedkilling train, composed of two battery locos and a water wagon. The train visits most open-air parts of the system each spring, and is seen here departing South Ealing eastbound on 1st June 2011 on its way to Acton Town.

▼ The Weedkilling Train does not spray in tunnel areas, but needed to reach Heathrow Terminal 5 station in order to reverse while operating on the west end of the Piccadilly Line. The train is pictured arriving at Terminal 5. **Both: Kim Rennie**





# Station Improvements *Round-Up*

**Major improvement works to create a step-free route between the entrance and all four platforms at Denmark Hill station has begun.**

The project includes the installation of a new footbridge and three new lifts, which include CCTV and telephone links, to make it easier for everyone to use train services, especially those with reduced mobility, parents with young children or people with heavy luggage. The first phase of the work is to remove

vegetation from either side of the railway to make space for the new bridge. The work will be a real benefit for the local community, especially with King's College Hospital being near by.

The main construction work is scheduled to be completed in summer 2012. As previously reported, this is one of 148 stations in Britain to receive funding to provide better access to stations through the Government's £370 million 'Access for All' programme.

▼ As part of the improvements at Charlbury station, under the Cotswolds Re-doubling Project, a new footbridge has been provided to link to the newly constructed second platform. On 29th May, the main structure is in place, in pseudo-GWR brown and cream paintwork, waiting for the next stage of the 'down' platform ramp to be swung into place. Of note is the new platform surface that is now approaching completion. **John Stretton**



## The Irish Angle

### Additional Rotem units arrive at Dublin Port

**The first delivery of the additional ICR units for Iarnród Éireann took place on 28th May.**

Set Nos. 22047, 22048, 22049 and 22050, all three-car DMUs, were offloaded at Dublin Port on 30th May, from where 081 Class No. 085 was booked to move the vehicles to Dublin Heuston, via North Wall. However, operational issues on the day, resulted in No. 085 hauling sets 22049 and 22050 to North Wall, from where 201 Class No. 201



took them to the Rotem facility at Heuston, while No. 085 left later in the evening with sets No. 22048 & 22047.

▲ 081 Class No. 085 hauls set Nos. 22049 and 22050 along the tramway on Alexandra Road, within the port.

► One of the driving vehicles of set No. 22047 has its plastic wrapping removed, having been offloaded at Dublin on 30th May. Both: **Chris Playfair**



### Northern Ireland Class 80s stored

On 5th June NIR transferred seven of the refurbished 80 class vehicles to Ballymena for storage and eventually scrapping.

The consist was top & tailed by GMs 111 & 112 leaving York Road at 08.30 and arriving at Ballymena by 10.00.

► The consist, with GM No. 111 leading, comprised vehicles 89, 747, 754, 82, 733, 738 and 93, seen here passing a wet Ballyclare Junction, near Mossely West. **Chris Playfair**





## Rare German wagon discovered in Bath vaults

**A rare German wagon, which has emerged for the very first time from the historic vaults at Bath Spa station, now needs a new home.**

Currently being delicately restored in Bristol, the wagon was manufactured by Orenstein & Koppel, a German company that provided railway equipment to serve the trenches on the German side during the First World War.

The narrow gauge wagon was uncovered in the vault nearly 10 years ago. Apart from the wagon, a short section of track and a small

turntable were also found underground.

Until 1953, a small 50cm gauge wagon tramway system was in operation in the vaults next to the rear of the London-bound platform at Bath Spa station. It was installed shortly after the adjacent privately-owned power station was taken over by Bath Corporation in 1897. A shunting horse at high level had drawn wagons of loaded coal around a sharp curve at the rear of the platform, with the contents dropped down chutes to be moved to the power station next door.

## Salisbury to Exeter resignalling project awarded

**Invensys Rail has been awarded a contract by Network Rail for the Salisbury to Exeter resignalling.**

The work includes all design, testing, installation and commissioning of the new re-interlocking and lineside signalling, covering the 90-mile route between Salisbury and Exmouth Junction. Signalling control is to move

to Basingstoke and the existing building will be modified to accommodate a combined signaller-control and indication panel, and will include provision for a further panel to be installed at a later date as part of the Poole to Wool Project. Four existing manually-controlled barrier level crossings will be remotely controlled from Basingstoke.



▲ A rare sight captured in pouring rain! Colas Rail Class 66/8 No. 66842 waits with its load of sleepers and ballast alongside the new track at Ascott-under-Wychwood on 30th May, having arrived from Oxford Hinksey Sidings, and destined for Bescot once it departs from the possession. This was the first time a Colas train had operated within an engineering possession for Network Rail.

**John Stretton**

## HERITAGE OPERATIONS PROCESSING



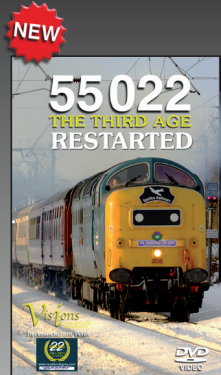
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## The News In Pictures

◀ The unseasonable gales on 23rd May, resulted in poor rail head conditions across Scotland. As a result Network Rail employed one of its RHTT sets in southern Scotland, with motive power provided by DRS Class 37s. Here Class 37/6s Nos. 37601 and 37611, in 'top and tail' mode working from Grangemouth to Grangemouth, wait in the loop at Alloa on 28th May, as 'Europeanised' Class 66 No. 66033 passes with a Hunterston to Longannet loaded coal service. **Alex Napier**

◀▼ Class 66/0 No. 66110 heads along the branch from Corby station to the Tata (formerly Corus) tube-works with a lengthy Margam to Corby steel coil train on 31st May. The line to the left of the train is currently out of use and terminates at the former GEFCO automotive facility, where there are presently proposals to build a multi-modal railfreight terminal. **Robert Gray**

▼ East Midlands Trains' Class 158/0 No. 158813 stands at Matlock on 1st June. This picture shows the new track layout with the Peak Rail platform and track to the right of the train and a connection to NR metals forward of the unit. The end of the branch stop board has been positioned in the middle of the Platform 2 line, which will result in further costs being incurred prior to the line being brought into use. **Peter Sikes**





## UK Steam &amp; Modern Traction Railtour Listings

**6th June 2011**

WCRC Jacobite Pool Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig and return (two trips)

**7th June 2011**Compass Tours 2xWCRC 47 Liverpool Lime St-Runcorn-Crewe-Shrewsbury-Telford-Wolverhampton-Leamington Spa-Oxford-Reading West-Winchester-Bournemouth-Poole & return  
WCRC Jacobite Pool Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig and return (two trips)**8th June 2011**

WCRC Jacobite Pool Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig and return (two trips)

**9th June 2011**

WCRC Jacobite Pool Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig and return (two trips)

**10th June 2011**Rail-Blue Charters DBS Class 67 Doncaster-Sheffield-Langley Mill-Kettering-Luton-Clapham Jct-Maidstone East-Ashford-Canterbury West-Minster-Folkestone-Ashford & return  
WCRC Jacobite Pool Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig and return (two trips)**11th June 2011**Railway Touring Co. 34067 Poole-Southampton-Westbury-Bath Spa-Newport-Cardiff Central & return  
Ranger Trains DBS 67 Nottingham-Swanage & return as outwards **Cancelled**  
Statesman Rail WCRC 47/57 Newport-Leominster-Shrewsbury-Crewe-Blackburn-S&C-Carlisle & return  
Steam Dreams 6024 (London Paddington)-Bristol Parkway-Severn Tunnel-Abergavenny-Shrewsbury & rtn  
SRPS Railtours 2xWCRC 47 Glenrothes with Thornton-Kirkcaldy-Edinburgh Waverley-York-Leeds-Keighley-Skipton-(ECS to Leeds)-Leeds-Skipton-S&C-Beattock-Edinburgh-Glenrothes  
VSOE (Northern Belle) 2xDRS 47 York-Leeds-Doncaster-Finsbury Park-Gospel Oak-Kensington Olympia & return**12th June 2011**

Torbay Express Ltd 6024 Bristol Temple Meads-Taunton-Exeter-Newton Abbott-Paignton-Kingswear &amp; rtn

**13th June 2011**

WCRC Jacobite Pool Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig and return (two trips)

**14th June 2011**Railway Touring Co. 34067 London Victoria-Redhill-Canterbury West-Ashford-London **Cancelled**  
WCRC Jacobite Pool Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig and return (two trips)**15th June 2011**

WCRC Jacobite Pool Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig and return (two trips)

**16th June 2011**Railway Touring Co. 30777 London Victoria-Clapham Jct-Woking-Bournemouth-Swanage & return  
WCRC Jacobite Pool Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig and return (two trips)**17th June 2011**Compass Tours 2xWCRC 47 Clitheroe-Preston-Shap-Carlisle-Edinburgh Waverley and return  
SRPS Railtours 55022 Linlithgow-Edinburgh Waverley-Kirkcaldy-Aviemore-Inverness  
WCRC Jacobite Pool Fort William-Glenfinnan-Arisaig-Mallaig and return (two trips)**18th June 2011**

Statesman Rail tbc Peterborough-Loughborough-Alfreton-Swinton-Hellifield-S&amp;C-Carlisle &amp; return

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

**BLACK** Charters expected to operate as booked.**RED** Tours cancelled by the operator**GREEN** Tours postponed to a future date by the operator**BLUE** Provisional excursion

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

## First Cambrian charter since ERTMS switch on

**Statesman Rail and Railtourer promoted the first charter train over the Cambrian line since the introduction of the full ERTMS system on 28th May, which ran successfully, albeit it with some delay on both legs of the journey.**

The charter, operated by West Coast Railway, originated at Hull behind Class 47/4 No. 47826 and Class 57/6 No. 57601, which provided the motive power as far as Crewe Gresty Lane, where a pair of Network Rail Class 97/3 locomotives, Nos. 97303 and 97304, were added for the final section to Shrewsbury and onwards to Aberystwyth. The '97/3s' being used because of the requirement for ERTMS signalling.

Issues with the timing of the train did cause some of the delay. According to Network Rail, part of the problem was a late-decision to use two Class 97/3s rather than one, due to the trailing weight of the train. This resulted in a number of speed-restrictions being applied to the charter as a result of being triple-headed, with the outcome that the timings did not, in places, accurately

▼ On the outward working, Class 97/3s Nos. 97303 and 97304 pilot WCR Class 47/4 No. 47826 through the reverse curve past the location of the station at Hadnall, closed in 1960. The remaining buildings of which certainly look to be in excellent condition. **John Whitehouse**



reflect the operational requirements of the railway. A problem with a track balise at Weig Lane Level Crossing, near Caersws, also resulted in a delay to the outward journey while the problem was investigated and a movement authority obtained from the ERTMS signalling system.

The return journey was fairly uneventful, although the train was 38 minutes late at Welshpool, part of which was due to crossing a service train at Newtown instead of Welshpool. Having detached the two Class 97/3s, the WCR motive power then returned the train to Hull and while booked via Stafford, a joint decision was taken by Network Rail control and WCRC to route the train via Nantwich in order to make up some of the lost time, the final arrival back at Hull being on schedule.

It is pleasing to note that the first 'one-off' day excursion along the Cambrian route, since the ERTMS signalling system went live, operated successfully, despite the issues on the day, and it no-doubt highlighted areas where additional consideration needs to be given in the future.



## Railtour Spotlight

**Two steam workings within a short time of each other through the Severn Tunnel is the feature of this coming weekend's railtour programme.**

First out in the morning should be Steam Dreams' 'Cathedrals Express' from Paddington to Shrewsbury, with No. 6024 *King Edward I* replacing 'A4' No. 4492 *Dominion of New Zealand*, with the steam section also revised and now commencing from Bristol Parkway and operating through to Shrewsbury and back, with a diesel covering the remainder of the tour.

The reason for the change is down to timing problems, as the train was originally booked for No. 60163 *Tornado*, which has a better operating envelope for performance, water consumption and servicing than other locomotives that permit much tighter timing, as well as being able to manage longer steam-hauled itineraries. In this instance, without *Tornado* at the helm, it was simply not possible to cover the whole route with steam and get back into Paddington at a reasonable hour.

Following the 'Cathedrals Express' will be the Railway Touring Company's 'Welshman' from Poole, which is due to feature steam-haulage throughout via Southampton, Eastleigh, Salisbury, Westbury and Bath to Cardiff with No. 34067 *Tangmere* as the booked traction. The changes to the Steam Dreams' working will now also result in a busy

by John Whitehouse

weekend for the green 'King's' support crew, as No. 6024 is also booked to work the second 'Torbay Express' of the season between Bristol Temple Meads and Kingswear.

Compass Railtours start the ball rolling for modern traction charters with West Coast Type 4 traction booked for its 'Dorset Coast Express' from Liverpool Lime Street to Brockenhurst, Bournemouth and Poole on 7th June, which starts from Crewe and heads to Wolverhampton via Shrewsbury, before progressing south via Oxford. Rail Blue Charters will also be heading to the South East on 10th June from Swinton, picking up at principal stations via Sheffield, the Erewash Valley and the Midland Main Line for a visit to Canterbury West, with a DBS Class 67 for traction.

Two tours feature on 11th June, both of which include the Settle & Carlisle in their itineraries. The first being SRPS, operating from Glenrothes with Thornton, via the Fife Coast to Edinburgh Waverley, and then directly south over the East Coast Main Line to Leeds and the final set-down points of Keighley and Skipton. The tour returns by way of the S&C and Beattock.

The same day, Statesman will be taking on 'The Long Drag' both ways with its tour from Newport, which follows the North & West to Shrewsbury and then onwards by way of Crewe. West Coast traction should appear on both workings.

## Ups & Downs

■ Ranger Trains' efforts to get to Swanage seem doomed. Last year it was due to problems with *Tornado*, which caused the train to be cancelled, and now this year, having gone for the safe diesel-option, the inability to reverse at Nuneaton from off the Leicester line onto the Coventry line meant that the 'Purbeck Ranger' on 4th June would have to be

routed via Birmingham. This effectively put an hour each way onto the journey, to the detriment of the time available at the destination, Swanage. Solution: tour cancelled! By the way, the reason the website is down is no more sinister than a technical issue, and it should be up and running again in a few days. The Ranger Trains programme remains as advertised.

## Railtours & Excursions



◀ DRS Class 37/0 No. 37229 passes Copmanthorpe, south of York, on 28th May, with the return Spitfire Railtours 'Salopian Viking' charter from York to Birmingham. Between the arrival and departure of the main train at York, a mini-tour operated northwards to Newcastle. West Coast Railway Class 33/2 No. 33207 was attached to the rear of the train.

Paul Braybrook

## Warmer weather brings high fire risk for main line steam

▼ Railway Touring Company's 'The Devonian' charter from Bristol Temple Meads to Plymouth operated behind GWR 'King' No. 6024 *King Edward I* on 4th June, but the train was piloted by Class 57/6 No. 57601 forward from Taunton, due to the fire risk. This was the scene at Yatton, around 30 minutes after the steam charter had passed, with the fire brigade attending to a lineside fire. The blaze, which resulted in trains being cautioned and the fire appliance being on-site for over two hours, has been classed as 'accidental' by Avon Fire & Rescue Service, and whether the steam loco played a part in the incident or not, it does serve to prove how tinder dry the surrounding landscape is, given the recent warm weather. Mike Ware





## UK Railtours end of year programme takes in Ludgershall and Stratford-upon-Avon

**UK Railtours plan to see the year out with some classic steam traction, commencing on 10th December when the operator has No. 35028 *Clan Line* on a rare non-VSOE British Pullman working from London Victoria to Canterbury West, outwards via Swanley, Maidstone East and Ashford, and returning along the coastal route through Dover and Folkestone, Tonbridge and Redhill, back to Victoria.**

Later, as a parting gesture to 2011, it has 'The William Shakespeare', evoking memories of 'Kings' on the direct 'InterCity' route,

which takes the Chiltern line from London Paddington through to High Wycombe, and then onward to Banbury and Leamington Spa, before diverging to Stratford-upon-Avon at Hatton Junction. The train will be hauled by the green 'King' No. 6024 *King Edward I*, and will also feature tender-first haulage between Stratford and Tyseley, along the North Warwickshire Line. The 'King' will run round at Tyseley, and work back to Paddington by way of Solihull and Dorridge to Leamington Spa, Banbury and High Wycombe.

Ludgershall, on the stub of the old Midland & South Western Junction Railway line from Andover to Cheltenham Spa, is the feature of

the 'Salisbury Plain Christmas Diner' on 16th December, which works out of Paddington, picking up at Slough and Reading, and then following a circular itinerary via Westbury and Salisbury to Andover, for the reversal to Ludgershall. The return continues through Andover to Basingstoke and Mortimer, before rejoining the outward route at Reading.

The Christmas programme gets underway on 26th November with a visit to the Ludlow Christmas Fayre from Basingstoke, picking up at Woking, Staines, Clapham Junction, Watford Junction and Milton Keynes Central and then via Wolverhampton and the Abbey Foregate Curve. This is followed on 3rd December by

the 'Lincoln Christmas Market 125 Special', featuring an East Midland Trains' HST from St Pancras International, Luton Airport Parkway and Bedford.

Carol concerts have also been arranged at both Winchester and Beverley Cathedrals on 9th & 17th December respectively, the former running from Hitchin, Stevenage, Hertford North and Finsbury Park, while the latter sets out from King's Cross, picking up at Potters Bar, Stevenage and Peterborough and running via Doncaster, Goole and the Anlaby Curve on the outskirts of Hull.

Watch out for two more 'Forgotten Tracks' to complete UKRs programme for 2011.

▼ The freight-only line from Lostwithiel to Fowey Docks was visited by Pathfinder's 'Curnow Interrupter' charter on 28th May, with a pair of DRS Class 37s at the helm. Here, Class 37/0s Nos. 37087 Keighley & Worth Valley Railway and 37194 (with DBS Class 66/0 No. 66135 on the rear) lead the train past Golant on the outward journey. **Daniel Phillips**





Retro Railtours operated a special charter for the Southend Air Show on 28th May, from Leeds to Thorpe Bay. Motive power was provided by Class 31/1 No. 31190 and Class 31/6 No. 31601, with DBS Class 67 No. 67029 *Royal Diamond* attached for ETS purposes. The return working passes Renwick Road Junction, between Dagenham Dock and Barking. **Brian Morrison**







▲ On its first day of public passenger operations away from Didcot, BR-liveried 'King' No. 6023 *King Edward II* departs Dereham, on the Mid Norfolk Railway on 4th June. **David Richardson**

## Unfortunate start to first trip for *King Edward II*

**The much-anticipated arrival of blue 'King' No. 6023 *King Edward II* at the Mid-Norfolk Railway did not go quite to plan, because at Dereham it was found that the locomotive was shorn of its safety valve bonnet.**

The problem appears to have happened on the latter stages of its journey by low-loader from Didcot, when it is believed to have caught a low hanging tree while passing through Swaffham, some 12 miles from Dereham. The loss, which also includes some of the boiler cladding that surrounds the pipework leading to the safety valve, was not noticed until the locomotive had arrived at Dereham, which prompted a rapid search mission to be undertaken along the low loaders route.

There are eye-witness reports of someone carrying an object fitting the description of the safety valve bonnet away from the scene of the incident, which is reported to be close to a traffic island near the Waitrose store at Swaffham. Appeals for its return have been broadcast on local radio, and it is believed a reward is also being offered. Meanwhile, a replacement was urgently acquired from Didcot, and fitted to the locomotive in time for it to take up duties on the Mid-Norfolk Railway from 4th June. The locomotive is due to remain with the MNR until 17th July, and is scheduled to be in action each weekend until then, with additional turns on Wednesdays and Thursdays from the end of June.

Full details of the visit are available [online](#)

## Prototype railcar for Llangollen gala event

**A unique prototype single car unit will be the star of the next Llangollen Railcar Gala, which will take place over the weekend of 25th/26th June.**

Constructed by BREL in 1984, incorporating a Leyland bus body, No. RB004 was a demonstrator principally for the USA market and resembles a single-car Class 141 unit, and it commenced its career on the Newport Rhode Island Line, followed by a move along the eastern seaboard to the Long Island Railway. After a period on display at the International Exhibition of Transportation Systems

in Washington, it moved under its own power to enter public services in New Orleans, and finally to Cleveland, before being repatriated to this country. Although described as an operational success, it did not generate any orders.

It will be at Llangollen for one week only during the gala alongside examples of DMU Classes 104, 108, 109 (Wickham) and 127, plus GWR 6400 class 0-6-0 Pannier Tank No. 6430 working with auto trailers. A comprehensive 14-train timetable will be in operation during the event.

For further details [click here](#).

## Successful gala for Isle of Wight Railway

**The Isle of Wight Steam Railway is celebrating a hugely successful three-day Bank Holiday Gala, when despite the weather, it carried 4,700 passengers over the three days of the event.**

The gala was the culmination of its 40th Anniversary events to-date, but by no means the last. At the end of this month there will be 40 hours of non-stop operations, with trains running continuously from 06.00 on Saturday 25th June until 22.00 on Sunday 26th June. Services will all be in the hands of the home fleet, as the gala visitors have now left the Island.

Trains will be running hourly during the daylight hours, and every two hours during the night. Full details of the times will be available on the website [www.iwsteamrailway.co.uk](http://www.iwsteamrailway.co.uk). Refreshment facilities will be open throughout the 40 hours of operations, but the real ale bar will be limited to licensing hours. A film show of the island's railway past and present will be screened also during Saturday night. Rover tickets covering one or two

days are available and can be booked directly from the railway, which, incidentally, can also arrange your ferry tickets if travelling from the mainland.

Looking ahead, the railway will have a 'Celebration of Island Steam' over the weekend of 25th/26th September, when it was hoped to have three island locomotives in traffic, but unfortunately 'Terrier' No. 11 *Newport* will not be finished in time to join fellow 'Terriers' No. 8 *Freshwater* and No. 24 *Calbourne* for the weekend. It is understood that a visitor to replace *Newport* is being negotiated for at the moment, so look out for an announcement soon.

Two coaches are also being repainted into the maroon livery that was current in the 1950s, to complement the present rake of ex-Southern green-liveried vehicles. Other anniversary events are planned throughout the year, including a model railway exhibition, a 1940s weekend, and several walks along the formation of the closed lines on the island. Full details can be found on its website.





▲ The National Railway Museum's Stirling Single No.1 returned to London Waterloo International overnight on 25th/26th May, prior to the revival of 'The Railway Children' show. The loco is pictured in the old Eurostar terminal on 1st June. **Ken Ward**

## Steam supreme on the Wensleydale this summer

**The Wensleydale Railway has announced details of its steam programme for the summer peak operating period.**

Steam-hauled trains will be running every Friday, Saturday and Sunday between 1st July and 9th October, with the exception of 23rd-25th September.

LMS 'Black 5' No. 45305 *Alderman A E Draper* is due to arrive on 20th June by rail, in preparation for the Steam Gala on 1st-3rd July. The loco will remain until the end of August.

Meanwhile, GWR 5600 Class 0-6-2T No. 5643 is scheduled to arrive by road from Llangollen on

28th June, and will share duties with No. 45305 during July.

BR Standard 2MT Mogul No. 78019 should arrive from the Stainmore Railway by road at the start of September, and will be in service until early October, when it will return to the GCR.

Finally, the NRM's GWR 'City' 4-4-0 No. 3440 *City of Truro* will also be in attendance for the weekend of 8th-9th October.

Elsewhere, an evening of fine food and drink will be available on 9th July, when 'The Taste of Wensleydale Express' departs from Leeming Bar at 19.00 for a return journey through to Redmire on the Wensleydale

Railway. The train is operating to raise funds for Herriot Hospice Homecare, which offers care to terminally ill patients in their own homes across Hambleton and Richmondshire. The fare of £20 will cover the return trip, which is to be hauled by visiting 'Black 5' 4-6-0 No. 45305, and includes beer and cheese tasting en route, a hog roast at Redmire, Brymor ice cream and on-board entertainment.

The Wensleydale Creamery and Wensleydale Brewery are supporting the event, and the evening certainly has all the necessary ingredients to make it one to remember.

## Bewdley rolls-out restored Auto Coach

**Tangible evidence of the Severn Valley Railway's determination to get the finances back on track was clearly evident with the roll-out from Bewdley Carriage Works of ex-British Railways Western Region Auto Coach No. W238W on 24th May.**

The carriage works was made an individual profit centre for the SVR last year and the restoration of the auto coach, owned by Wantage-based enthusiast Mike Little, was its first outside contract. The coach has been the subject of considerable restoration, as it was stripped of many of its fittings when converted into a Directors & Observation Saloon when first preserved. Following the manufacture of many of the lost fittings, it is now once again a fully functioning auto coach, and has now moved to its permanent home on the Dean Forest Railway. The vehicle carries the name *Chaffinch*; it was the Western Region's intention to name its fleet of auto coaches after birds, but in effect only two were so named, which were W220W and W221W, which served on the Ealing-Greenford services, and were known as *Thrush* and *Wren*, respectively. However, the proposed list of proposed names has survived, and Mike Little has chosen the name as the WR originally intended.

Meanwhile, the carriage works has also completed two 'internal' contracts, being Great Western Collett brake third No. 650 for the Great Western (SVR) Association and Class 108 DMU vehicles Nos. 50933 and 51941 for the DMU Group (West Midlands). The carriage works enjoys an enviable reputation, as can be seen by its quality of restoration evidenced in the SVR coaching stock, and unsurprisingly further outside work is currently being negotiated.

The need for greater financial focus

throughout the railway has been highlighted by the announcement of an eye-watering £239,922 loss for the last trading year, compared with a profit of £70,527 the previous year. A significant loss had been expected, as the SVR had already indicated.

Of note, the railway's turnover was down compared with 2009 in every department except contract engineering, and in his Chairman's Statement, Michael York commented on the effect that the downturn in the local economy has had on not just the SVR, but also on most local visitor attractions. However, the SVR's members and shareholders are very loyal, and further investment in company shares throughout the year has had the effect of offsetting the trading loss in cash terms. The railway is not standing still, either; as a strict strategic plan has been introduced that is monitored very closely, and it is understood that any negative deviance from the agreed budget has an effective back-up plan, which will be instigated with all speed. The good news is that trading up to the end of May has been ahead of budget, despite the ongoing dire economic indicators.

As mentioned last issue, Jeremy Hoskings' BR Class 9F No. 92212 is due to arrive at the SVR in early June. The locomotive was to receive ash pan and motion repairs prior to departure from Ropley, and has been brought in to cover the home fleet, pending the return to traffic of Churchward 2800 class 2-8-0 No. 2857 and 4500 class Prairie No. 4566 after attention to its valves. Also, the SVR has agreed to loan the 'Flying Pig', that is Ivatt Class 4MT Mogul No. 43106 to the North Norfolk Railway in August, which in the absence of No. 92212 would have put the home fleet under further pressure at its busiest period.



# Restoration news round-up from AC Locomotive Group

**The AC Locomotive Group has issued an update detailing the progress being made on the restoration of a number of locomotives in its fleet. In ascending order:**

**81002:** Has been repainted into BR blue livery. This locomotive is privately owned and in the care of the ACLG.

**85101:** The electrical restoration has progressed and power has been run through the primary traction circuits from the main transformer through the rectifiers and control equipment to all four traction motors. Proving of auxiliary electrical systems has commenced, with power being applied to several pieces of equipment, including the transformer oil pump for the first time since entering preservation. A considerable amount of mechanical and cosmetic restoration remains to be completed on this locomotive, which is also privately owned and in the care of the ACLG.

**86213 Lancashire Witch:** The repaint at LOROL Willesden has now been completed, but instead of the planned application of BR blue, it has been returned to its previous 'InterCity swallow' livery. The locomotive will return to carriage ETS and shunting duties at Wembley Depot when some outstanding repairs have been completed.

**86401 Northampton Town:** The long awaited bogie exchange with No. 86424 has now been completed, and a number of other items of repair are being undertaken prior to the locomotive returning to carriage ETS and shunting duties at Willesden Depot.

**89001 Avocet:** The refurbishment

of one traction motor and field converter will be completed shortly. The two items will then be connected and tested together to ensure that the field converter functions correctly across the range of motor operating characteristics. Meanwhile, repairs to the damaged No. 2 motor are ongoing, with a number of components needed to be remanufactured before reassembly can take place. An element of good fortune has entered this project, as the ACLG has been able to source a number of rare and long obsolete power transistors to provide a spares float for the refurbishment of the field converters.

Meanwhile, its two main line registered locomotives, Nos. **86101 Sir William A Stanier** and **87002 Royal Sovereign** will both feature on Rail Blue Charter's 'Mark Honey Memorial' between Euston and Glasgow Central on 6th August, while more recently, No. 86101 made a visit to the Mid-Norfolk Railway to appear in their 'Drags and Rescues' Gala.

The specialist nature of the restoration and refurbishment of the electric fleet has required the services of outside expertise, and the ACLG wish to acknowledge the assistance of HNRG, Bowers Electricals Ltd, Fletcher Moorland Ltd, LNWR and LOROL. The Group itself is the only organisation dedicated to the preservation of 25kv AC locomotives, and was formed in 1996 and currently has 130 members.

More details of the aims and how to join can be found on the website, [www.aclocogroup.co.uk](http://www.aclocogroup.co.uk)



▲ LNER A1 Pacific No. 60163 *Tornado* climbs through Darnholme with the 09.30 Grosmont to Pickering service on 4th June. The 'A1' will head to Didcot on 8th June, via Tyne Yard, Carlisle, Crewe and Bescot.

**Philip Benham**

► Class 55 'Deltic' No. 55022 *Royal Scots Grey* was hired to GBRf for further use on Bank Holiday Monday, this time working the Alcan tanks south from Fort William as far as Mossend. The locomotive is pictured in fine form on the final section of the climb to County March summit. **Alex Napier**





## GCR Golden Oldies gala weekend

► As the clouds part, Liverpool & Manchester replica 0-2-2 *Rocket* heads the 14.40 Loughborough to Quorn & Woodhouse local service during the GCRs 'Golden Oldies' gala on 28th May. **Kev Gregory**

►► Ex-Furness Railway 0-4-0 No. 20 departs from Loughborough with the 15.55 local service to Quorn & Woodhouse on the same day.

►▼ The Vintage Carriage Trust's 0-6-0WT *Bellerophon* is Loughborough-bound with the 13.23 service from Rothley on 28th May. **Both: Roger Brown**

### DIDCOT RAILWAY CENTRE

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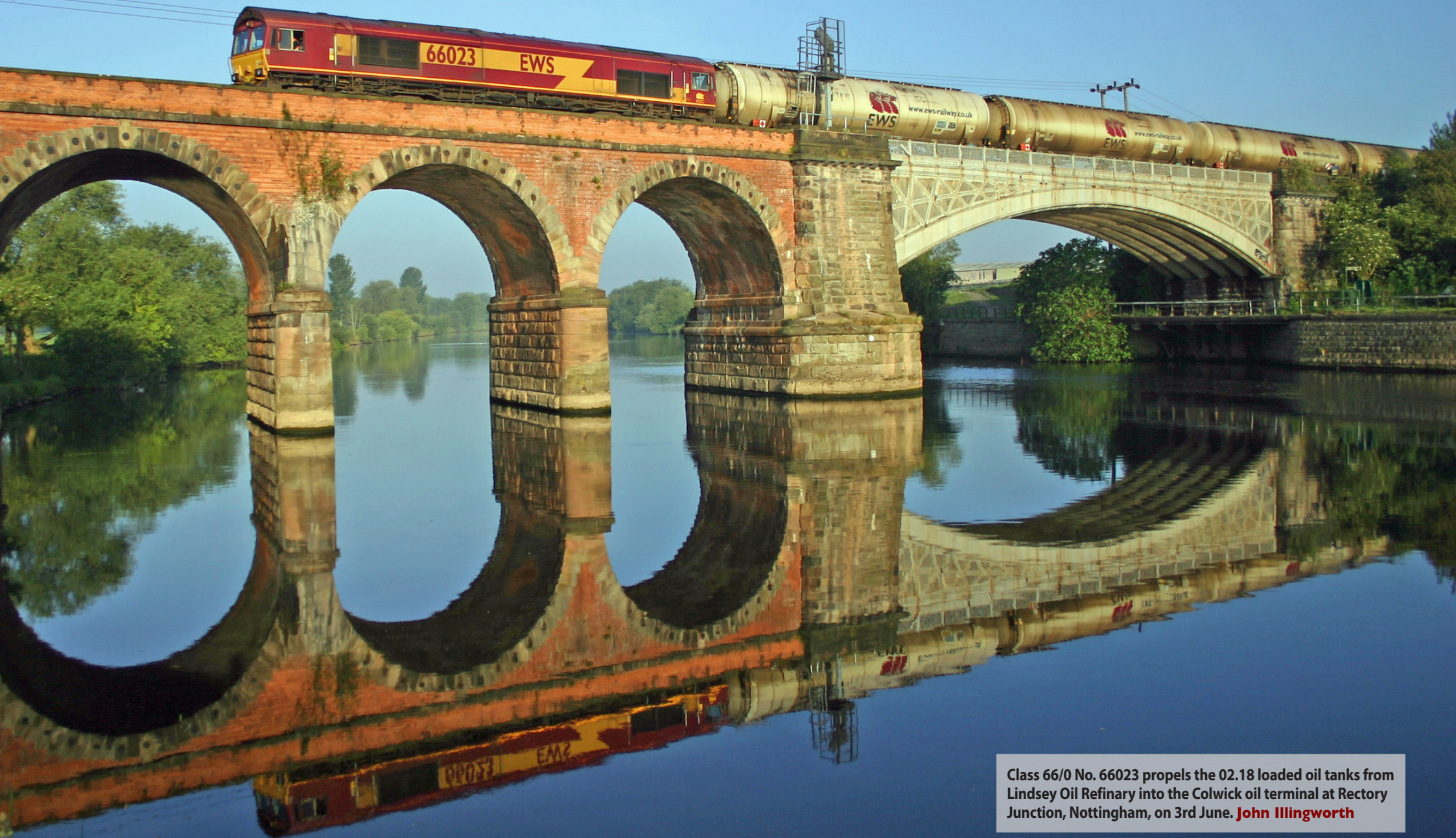







DRS Class 66/4 No. 66421 was hired by Colas Rail for its Carlisle to Chirk timber traffic on 19th May, pictured climbing towards Ais Gill Summit. **Eddy Marshall**





Class 66/0 No. 66023 propels the 02.18 loaded oil tanks from Lindsey Oil Refinery into the Colwick oil terminal at Rectory Junction, Nottingham, on 3rd June. **John Illingworth**



An aerial photograph of the Ribbleshead Viaduct, a long stone bridge with many arches, stretching across a green valley. A train is crossing the viaduct. The surrounding landscape is a mix of green fields and brownish hills. A road and a stream are visible in the foreground. In the distance, some buildings and a station yard can be seen.

On 30th May, an unidentified Northern Rail Class 158 crosses Ribbleshead Viaduct with a Carlisle-bound service, viewed from the summit of Whernside. Ribbleshead station and yard can also be seen in the distance. **Will Jagger**



## 7th June 2011

**Locomotive Club of Gt Britain (North London)**  
2 Stuart Crescent, Wood Green, London N22. 'Open Evening'. Starts 19.00. Contact Tony Stratford at stratford\_tony@hotmail.com.

## North East Essex Railway Association

1st Floor, The Community Centre, The Triangle Centre, Frinton-on-Sea. 'Cuban Sugar Railways' by Alan Pearce. Starts 19.45. Admission £1.50. Contact 01255 677165.

## Permanent Way Institution (Wessex)

Summer Technical Visit - Eastleigh. Contact Richard Workman on 01428 645771 for further details.

## Southern Electric Group (South Hampshire)

Eastleigh Railway Institute, Romsey Road, Eastleigh. 'Members' Slides Evening'. Starts 19.30. Admission £2. Contact John Goodrich on 02380 670028 for further details.

## Weston super Mare Railway Society

Function Room, Conservative Club, Alexandra Parade, Weston super Mare '45 Years of Railway Photography Part 1' by Les Nixon. Starts 20.00. Contact Lionel Jones on 01934 628289 for further details.

## 8th June 2011

## Basingstoke & District Railway Society

Wote Street Club, New Road, Basingstoke RG21 7NG. 'Gosling's Most Recent Gallivants' by Paul Gosling. Starts 20.00. Contact the Secretary on 01256 819401 for details.

## Swiss Rly Society (London)

The Model Railway Club, Keen House, 4 Calshot Street, London N1 9AT. '1990' by Nick Freezer. Starts 19.00. £3 donation. Contact Ron Dawes on 0208 660 3532 for details.

## 9th June 2011

## Bath Railway Society

Bath Green Park Station Meeting Room. 'AGM and Railway Heritage Committee' by Neil Butters. Starts 19.30. Contact Kevin Plummer (evenings) on 01225 312564 for details.

## Continental Rly Circle

St.Paul's Church Centre, Rossmore Road, Marylebone, London NW1 6NJ. 'Down Latin American Way, Paraguay, Argentina and Brazil' (after AGM) by Ray Schofield. Starts 19.15. Admission £2. Call Adrian Palmer on 01932 850624.

## Grantham Rly Society

ChristChurch Hall, Castlegate, Grantham. 'Railways Across the Fens' by Andrew Ingram. Starts 19.30. £2 Admission. Contact Phil Mason on 01476 407569 for further details.

## Permanent Way Institution (Birmingham)

The 11th Floor Boardroom, Network Rail Offices, The Mailbox, 100 Wharfedale Street, Birmingham B1 1RT. 'Track Asset Management' by Jon Pegg. Starts 18.00. Contact Jon Wells on 07714 064898 for details.

## 11th June 2011

## Bournemouth Rly Club

Winton Methodist Community Centre, All Purpose Room, Junction Alma Road & Heron Court Road, Winton, Bournemouth BH9 1DE. 'Southampton's Railways' by Bert Moody. Starts 14.30. £2 donation. Contact Martyn Thresh on 01202 742099 for further details.

## 13th June 2011

## Driffield & East

## Yorkshire Rly Society

The Sidings, Middle Street South, Driffield, YO25 6PX 'Narrow Gauge Railways of India' by David Colnutt. Starts 19.30. £2 donation. Contact the Secretary on 01377 254068.

## Lincoln Railway Society

St Hugh's Church Hall, Harewood Crescent, North Hykeham, Lincoln LN6 8JG. Members Slide Show. Starts 20.00. All welcome, £3 admission. Contact 01522-705365 for details.

## SEG (Sussex)

Deall Room, Southwick Community Centre, Southwick. 'Railway & Shipping at Southampton' by Paul Gosling. Starts 19.30. £2 Donation. Contact Bruce Cakebread on 01273 462094 for further details.

## 14th June 2011

## Monmouthshire Rly Society

Room A10, UWCN City Campus, Usk Way, Newport, S.Wales NP20 2BP. 'B.R.Diesels, The First 50 Years, 1933-82' by Arthur Turner. Starts 19.15.

## 15th June 2011

## Permanent Way Institution (London)

10th Floor, 55 Broadway (LUL HQ), London. 'Presidential Address' by Phil Ransom. Followed by The Tech X Factor. Starts 18.00. Contact Alison Stansfield on 07703 326080 for further details.

## 16th June 2011

## Barrow Hill Engine Shed Society

Roundhouse Lecture Theatre, Barrow Hill Depot. 'The Ashover Light Railway' by Richard Booth. Starts 19.30. £1.50 Admission. Contact the Organiser at beardspaul@aol.com.

## Marlow & District Railway Society

Bourne End Community Centre, Bourne End SL8 5SX. 'Exeter to Plymouth by the "other" route' by George Reeve. Starts 20.00.

## 17th June 2011

## Great Western Society (Taunton)

Village Hall, Stoke St. Mary, Nr Taunton. 'Railways Around Bristol' by Chris Rails. Starts 19.30. Contact Terry McCarthy on 01823 334188.

## 20th June 2011

## Great Central Railway Society (Spinkhill)

The Angel Hotel, 26 College Road, Spinkhill, Sheffield S21 3YB 'new England in the Fall by Train' by Bob Gellatly. Starts 19.30. Contact Frank Greaves on 01909 473927.

## 22nd June 2011

## Basingstoke & District Railway Society

Wote Street Club, New Road, Basingstoke RG21 7NG. 'Narrow Gauge Railways of the First World War' by Kim Winter. Starts 20.00. Contact 01256 819401.

## 23rd June 2011

## Stevenage Loco Society

The Community Arts Centre, Roaring Meg Retail Park, London Road, Stevenage SG1 1XN. '2012 London Olympic Transport Delivery' by Mike Lampert. Meeting commences at 19.45. Admission £2. Contact 07803 046076 for details.

## 26th June 2011

## Weston super Mare Railway Society

Annual Outing - Buckinghamshire Railway Centre & Pendon Museum. Contact Lionel Jones on 01934 628289 for further details.

## 27th June 2011

## Permanent Way Institution (Ashford)

The Elwick Club, Church Road, Ashford. 'The Crossrail Project' by Colin Burnikell. Starts 18.30. Contact the Secretary, Ted Hamer on 01227 711897 for details.

## 30th June 2011

## Stevenage Locomotive Society

The Community Arts Centre, Roaring Meg Retail Park, London Road, Stevenage SG1 1XN. 'Cuba' by David Eatwell. Starts 19.45. Admission £2. Contact the Treasurer on 07803 046076 for further details.

▼ Freightliner Class 86/6s Nos. 86609 and 86614 power northwards with a Tilbury to Crewe Basford Hall intermodal service, as Bombardier-livered 'Super-Voyager' No. 221115 brings up the rear of a Chester - Euston service at Rugeley Trent Valley on 3rd June. **Richard Holmes**



## Southern Electric Group (Sussex)

Deall Room, Southwick Community Centre, Southwick. 'Vintage Albm' by John Minnis. Meeting commences at 19.30. £2 Donation. Contact the Secretary, Bruce Cakebread on 01273 462094 for further details.

## 13th July 2011 Basingstoke & District Railway Society

Wote Street Club, New Road, Basingstoke RG21 7NG. 'Railway Insignia' by Stephen Bigley. Meeting commences at 20.00. Contact the Secretary on 01256 819401 for further details.

## RCTS (Hitchin)

Hitchin Christian Centre, Bedford Road, Hitchin. 'Pioneer Steam Locomotives' by Norman Hill & 'The Central Wales Line' by Cyril Crawl. Meeting commences 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.



## Swiss Railways Society (London)

The Model Railway Club, Keen House, 4 Calshot Street, London N1 9AT. (near Kings Cross station) 'Five Countries to Switzerland' by Alan Pike. Starts 19.00. £3 donation requested. Contact Ron Dawes on 0208 660 3532 for further details.

## 14th July 2011

**Continental Rly Circle**  
St.Paul's Church Centre, Rossmore Road, Marylebone, London NW1 6NJ 'Eastern Mysteries based in the Middle and Far East' by Colin Boocock. Starts 19.15. Admission £2. Contact Adrian Palmer on 01932 850624 or at akpalmer@talktalk.net for further details.

## Grantham Railway Society

ChristChurch Hall, Castlegate, Grantham. 'So You Thought They Were Clean Part III' by Chris Youett. Meeting commences at 19.30. £2 Admission. Contact Phil Mason on 01476 407569 or at fastrack@cottesmorepress.fsbusiness.co.uk for further details.

## 15th July 2011

## Great Western Society (Taunton)

Village Hall, Stoke St. Mary, Nr Taunton. 'The Midland & Great Northern Joint Railway' by Max Wilkenson. Meeting commences at 19.30. Contact Terry McCarthy on 01823 334188 for further details.

## 16th July 2011

## RCTS (Sussex)

'Annual Visit to the Lavender Line at Isfield'. 18.30 - 21.20. Contact the Secretary, Paul Baston on 01444 2533657 for further details.

## RCTS (South Wales)

'Observation at Didcot or Visit to Railway Centre'. Contact Noel Thompson at nl.thompson456@btinternet.com for further details.

## 18th July 2011

## RCTS(South Essex)

'Annual Visit to Mangapps Farm Railway Museum'. Contact the Secretary, John Stone on 01245 464756 for further details.

## RCTS(Thames Valley)

'Observation at Didcot Parkway Station'. Contact the Secretary, Andrew Jenkins on 01793 642533 for further details.

## 20th July 2011

## RCTS(Humberside)

'Evening at Barnetby'. Contact the Secretary, Les Brackstone on 0182 506744 for further details.

## 21st July 2011

## Barrow Hill Engine Shed Society

Roundhouse Lecture Theatre, Barrow Hill Depot. 'King Coal' by Chris Jones. Meeting commences at 19.30. £2 Admission. Contact the Organiser at beardspaul@aol.com for details.

## RCTS (West Riding)

'Members' Evening Meet - Doncaster 17.30'. Contact the Secretary, Bob Green on 0113 2843604 for details.

## 27th July 2011

## Basingstoke & District Railway Society

Wote Street Club, New Road, Basingstoke RG21 7NG. 'Japan' by Bob Sweet. Starts 20.00. Contact 01256 819401 for further details.

## 28th July 2011

## Stevenage Loco Society

The Community Arts Centre, Roaring Meg Retail Park, London Road, Stevenage SG1 1XN 'On Parallel Lines - A Presentation of his New Book' by Ken Horan. Starts 19.45. Admission £2. Contact the Treasurer on 07803 046076 for further details.

## 2nd August 2011

## North East Essex Railway Association

1st Floor, The Community Centre, The Triangle Centre, Frinton-on-Sea. 'Railways in Argentina' by Steve Cobb. Starts 19.45. Admission £1.50. Contact Roger Harvey on 01255 677165 for further details.

## Weston super Mare Railway Society

Function Room, Conservative Club, Alexandra Parade, Weston super Mare. 'Members' Slides'. Meeting commences at 20.00. Contact the Chairman, Lionel Jones on 01934 628289 for further details.

## 8th August 2011

## Lincoln Railway Society

St Hugh's Church Hall, Harewood Crescent, North Hykeham, Lincoln LN6 8JG. 'Railway Oddities' by David Ventry. Starts 20.00 All welcome £3 Admission. Contact 01522-705365 for further details.

## Southern Electric Group (Sussex)

Deall Room, Southwick Community Centre, Southwick. 'Surprise Evening' by Redmore Church & Peter Jones. Starts 19.30. £2 Donation. Contact Bruce Cakebread on 01273 462094.

## 10th August 2011

## Basingstoke & District Railway Society

Wote Street Club, New Road, Basingstoke RG21 7NG. 'Indian Hill Railways' by David Brace. Starts 20.00. Contact the Secretary on 01256 819401 for further details.

## 18th August 2011

## Barrow Hill Engine Shed Society

Roundhouse Lecture Theatre, Barrow Hill Depot. 'After the Blues - A Special Brew' by Peter Crawley. Starts 19.30. £2 Admission. Contact beardspaul@aol.com for details.

## 19th August 2011

## GW Society (Taunton)

Village Hall, Stoke St.Mary, nr Taunton. 'Members' Slides'. Starts 19.30. Contact Peter Triggs on 01823 334188 for further details.

## 24th August 2011

## Basingstoke & District Railway Society

Wote Street Club, New Road, Basingstoke RG21 7NG. 'The GCR in the First World War' by Martin Bloxson. Starts 20.00. Contact 01256 819401 for further details.

## 25th August 2011

## Stevenage Locomotive Society

The Community Arts Centre, Roaring Meg Retail Park, London Road, Stevenage SG1 1XN. 'A Holiday Trip to Cornwall' by Ron White. Starts 19.45. Admission £2. Contact the Treasurer on 07803 046076 or e-mail alan.pitt@lineone.net for details.

## 29th August 2011

## Stevenage Locomotive Society

The Community Arts Centre, Roaring Meg Retail Park, London Road, Stevenage SG1 1XN 'Cuba' by David Eatwell. Starts 19.45. Admission £2. Contact 07803 046076 or at alan.pitt@lineone.net for further details.

## 6th September 2011

## Southern Electric Group (South Hampshire)

Eastleigh Railway Institute, Romsey Road, Eastleigh. 'Trams and Narrow Gauge Steam in East Germany in 1988' by Martin Petch. Starts 19.30. Admission £2. Contact the Secretary, John Goodrich on 02380 670028 for further details.

## Weston super Mare Railway Society

Function Room, Conservative Club, Alexandra Parade, Weston super Mare. 'The Southern Around Nationalisation' by Arthur Turner. Starts 20.00. Contact the Chairman, Lionel Jones on 01934 628289 for further details.

## 8th September 2011

## Continental Rly Circle

St.Paul's Church Centre, Rossmore Road, Marylebone, London NW1 6NJ 'Steam in Turkey' by Ted Talbot. Starts 19.15. Admission £2. Contact Adrian Palmer on 01932 850624 for details.

## Grantham Railway Society

ChristChurch Hall, Castlegate, Grantham. 'Capturing the Present and Recreating the Past' by Jason Cross. Meeting commences at 19.30. Admission Members £1, Non-Members £2. Contact Phil Mason on 01476 407569 or at fastrack@cottesmorepress.fsbusiness.co.uk for further details.

## 12th September 2011

## Lincoln Railway Society

St Hugh's Church Hall, Harewood Crescent, North Hykeham, Lincoln LN6 8JG 'Westwards From Dover looking For Steam' by Peter Groom. Meeting commences at 8pm, non members welcome, entrance fee £3. Contact Publicity Member on 01522-705365 or email graham@the-st.fsnec.co.uk for further details

## Southern Electric Group (Sussex)

Deall Room, Southwick Community Centre, Southwick. 'Winter Steam in China' by David Eatwell. Meeting commences at 19.30. Donation of £2 requested. Contact Bruce Cakebread on 01273 462094 for further details.

## 14th September 2011

## Basingstoke & District Railway Society

Wote Street Club, New Road, Basingstoke RG21 7NG. 'Broad Gauge Railway Journey Pt 2' by Canon Brian Arman. Starts 20.00. Contact 01256 819401 for further details.

## Oxfordshire Rly Society

Seacourt Day Centre, Seacourt Road, Oxford OX2 9LD. 'On and Off the Footplate' by Bill Davis. Starts 19.30.

## Swiss Railways Society (London)

The Model Railway Club, Keen House, 4 Calshot Street, London N1 9AT. (near Kings Cross station. 'Cantons Bern and Solothurn' by Roger Jones. Starts 19.00. £3 donation. Contact Ron Dawes on 0208 660 3532 for further details.

## 15th September 2011

## Barrow Hill Engine Shed Society

Roundhouse Lecture Theatre, Barrow Hill Depot. 'Steaming Through Britain' by GB Productions. Starts 19.30. £2 Admission. Contact beardspaul@aol.com for details.

## Back Issues

All back issues are available on our website, 24 hours a day - visit [www.railwayherald.com](http://www.railwayherald.com) and click on 'Magazine'.

## Rear Cover Caption

The Shard building at London Bridge is visible as an 'Electrostar' departs from London Cannon Street on 2nd June, over the River Thames, in this view taken from Millennium Bridge. Edward Gleed

## Magazine Information

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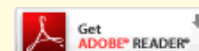
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