The Railway Herald

www.railwayherald.co.uk

Issue 132 - 23rd May 2008
ISSN 1751-8091

Contents

Rail Minister outlines improvements to South Central franchise area **Page 3**

New Stobart/DRS livery for recently outshopped Class 47/4 No. 47832 **Page 4**

New use for abandoned tunnel **Page 5**

TURNING THE CLOCK BACK
Brian Morrison looks at Stratford-upon-Avon in the 1950s **Page 14**

Railtour Listings **Page 6**
Preservation View **Page 12**
Events Diary **Page 18**

Front Cover

With Severn Bridge Junction signal box clearly evident, Class 67s Nos. 67014 and 67026 arrive at Shrewsbury on 17th May, in 'top and tail' mode with the 08.17 London Marylebone to Wrexham service. **Dave Pagett**

Rear Cover

On 9th May, Class 37 No. D6700 awaits departure from Goathland with the 09.50 freight to Grosmont, during the NYMR Diesel Gala. **Nick Wise**

Publication

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

Submissions

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

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

Website

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

www.railwayherald.co.uk

National Rail Timetable

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

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

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

Newsdesk

LATE NEWS ■ LATE NEWS ■ LATE NEWS ■ LATE NEWS ■ LATE NEWS ■ LATE NEWS ■ LATE ■ LAT

▲ ***Having arrived for the forthcoming 'Cotswold Festival of Steam' weekend, the National Railway Museum's Southern Railway 4-6-0 No. 850 Lord Nelson made its debut on GWR services on 22nd May. It is pictured passing Manor Lane, near Gotherington, heading to Cheltenham Racecourse on the 14.30 departure from Toddington.*** **Jack Boskett**

▼ ***One member of the Merehead-based locomotive fleet that is rarely seen in the railway press is the Yeoman-liveried EMD-built Bo-Bo Switcher No. 44. Prohibited from leaving the quarry due to its height, the locomotive is pictured receiving a general washdown on the apron at Merehead Depot on 16th May.*** **Richard Dunn**

CHANGE OF PUBLICATION DAY

Since *Railway Herald* first commenced publication in 2005, the magazine has always aimed to publish on a Friday.

However, changing demands and a desire on our part to continue the high-quality reporting that *Railway Herald* offers means that we are changing the publication day. With effect from Issue 133, *Railway Herald* magazine will now be published every **MONDAY**.

We believe this will also benefit our advertisers with better lead-times to events, railtours and promotional activities.

As a result, there will be no issue published on Friday 30th May, with Issue 133 being released on Monday 2nd June.

Editorial Team:

Richard Tuplin	Editor	editor@railwayherald.co.uk
Brian Morrison	Contributing Editor	brian.morrison@railwayherald.co.uk
John Whitehouse	Railtour Editor	john.whitehouse@railwayherald.co.uk

Editorial Address:
The Railway Herald, PO Box 252, Scunthorpe, North Lincolnshire. United Kingdom. DN17 2WY
Telephone: 0844 870 0735 **E-mail:** editor@railwayherald.co.uk

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

© Copyright Railway Herald Ltd 2006-2008

Major improvements for South Central franchise area announced by Rail Minister

Under significant service improvement proposals outlined by Rail Minister, Tom Harris MP, on 22nd May, rail passengers in South London, Surrey and Sussex are set to benefit from 10% more capacity across the South Central franchise area.

The proposals are part of the consultation document that details the services that the future operator of the South Central franchise will operate. The franchise will comprise services currently run by Southern and will include Gatwick Express trains and the Redhill-Tonbridge route currently operated by Southeastern.

Apart from the extra capacity, smartcards are also to be introduced throughout the franchise area, and the winner of the franchise must help facilitate important projects like the East London Line Extension and the £5.5 billion Thameslink Programme, both of which will provide a significant increase in capacity in and through London.

Proposals in detail include around 25% more capacity on most routes in South London where trains will be extended from 8 to 10 coaches, more than 3,700 additional seats in and out of London at the busiest times because of retained doubling of peak-time express trains between Brighton and London Victoria in the high peak. Two extra trains between Redhill and London at peak times will also be retained. and these will start later this year

Later trains provided from Central London to places such as Sutton, Tulse Hill and Crystal Palace at around 00.30 compared to 23.30 or midnight today, and later services will also operate on the Uckfield route.

It is planned to investigate smartcards across the franchise area, including provision for Oyster Pay as You Go and regulated fare increases will be capped at RPI+1%. Views are being sought on how fares could be made simpler, as well as how they could be linked to performance.

Safer stations by including extended hours of staffing, provision of automated ticket gates at around 30 stations and enhanced CCTV across the franchise.

A new Sunday service between Brighton and Southampton will be introduced, along with better facilities for travel to stations and around 1,000 more car parking and 1,000 cycle parking spaces

Expressions of Interest in the franchise have now been invited and the Invitation to Tender will be issued in autumn this year, the successful bidder being expected to be announced in early summer 2009. The new franchise will commence on 20th September 2009. The franchise will run for five years and 10 months, with the final year dependent on performance. An extension of up to two years is available at the Department's discretion.

There will be at least a 10% increase in capacity across the franchise area as a result of train lengthening on South London routes, the introduction of around 106 extra coaches across the franchise area and the extra services that will be introduced following changes to the Gatwick Express franchise this summer. This does not include the capacity increase that will be provided by the Thameslink Programme or the East London Line extension.

It was announced last year that Gatwick Express would be retained as a non-stop service between Gatwick Airport and London every 15 minutes and at the busiest times of day the service will also run beyond Gatwick to Brighton, doubling the number of express services between Brighton and London Victoria in the high peak. At least two extra trains will also run between Redhill and London in the peak as well as additional Redhill to London services off-peak. These service changes will start in December 2008.

The new franchise will need to accommodate major timetable changes to facilitate delivery of key infrastructure projects, notably the East London Line extension to Crystal Palace and West Croydon and major works at London Bridge to facilitate delivery of Thameslink. Some disruption to services as a result of these projects is inevitable but bidders will be asked to detail how they will keep passengers informed and provide high quality replacement services to mitigate these impacts.

The provision of additional, later evening and Sunday services are subject to agreement with Network Rail.

Railway walks in support of Helston railway re-opening project

The Helston Railway Preservation Company hopes to reopen a stretch of the long-closed branch line between Helston and Trevarno and will be holding an open day for visitors to Trevarno Gardens near Helston, on Sunday, May 25th.

Visitors will be able to view progress by volunteers towards reopening a section of the former GWR branch line and look around the diesel trains.

There will be guided walks of the railway track bed and a historic walk of Trevarno Gardens. starting from the Courtyard at 11.00. Visitors need to book this walk by telephoning 01326 574274.

The two guided walks of the railway track bed will take place from the railway bridge at Trevarno. The first is at 12.30 and the second at 15.00. Visitors on the historic gardens walk will be able to join the first walk when they reach the railway bridge. Pre-booking is not necessary for the railway walks, but visitors are advised to bring stout footwear and waterproofs if wet. Access to the Estate will be via Trevarno's main entrance and the normal garden entrance fees will apply. However, supporters of the Helston Railway will be entitled to a 25% discount on production of their membership card.

Grand Central use Riviera Class 47s for Sunderland shuttle

Following the on-going major problems with the powercar fleet Grand Central has reverted to a contingency HST timetable.

The temporary service comprises the 06.41 Sunderland - London King's Cross service, returning with the 11.27 King's Cross - Sunderland as far as York, where the HST set will terminate and form the 14.16 York to King's Cross, returning north to Sunderland as the 16.50 booked train.

Connecting with these services and providing the advertised timetable (amended in places) between Sunderland and York and vice-versa is a loco-hauled shuttle service.

This service will use four Riviera Trains Mk2 vehicles, with 'top-and-tail' Riviera Class 47/8s locomotives.

Loco-Hauled services

10.08	York - Sunderland	11.49
12.30	Sunderland - York	14.08
14.29	York - Sunderland	16.11
17.30	Sunderland - York	19.11

▶ ***BR green-liveried Class 47/4 No. 47815* Great Western *and No. 47805* Talisman *are pictured leaving Tyne Yard with the shuttle stock on 21st May.*** **Ian Britton**

❖ Work to transform part of Platform 5 at Crewe station has finally been completed. A 48-metre square garden has been created as the result of a competition for Reaseheath Horticultural College and developed by 'Visit Chester & Cheshire'. It is part of a Cheshire-wide campaign to promote the 'Cheshire's Year of Gardens 08' initiative, a series of events and activities centred on Cheshire's 29 'Gardens of Distinction'. Virgin Trains station manager for Crewe, Sam Dixon, who has been involved in the project from the beginning said: "There is a lot of unused space at Crewe and we wanted to do something to make best use of it."

❖ National Express East Anglia (NXEA) has installed £180,000 of new CCTV equipment at Southend Victoria station, the cameras placed to cover the station entrance, concourse and platforms with the aim of reducing crime and providing reassurance to passengers and station staff alike. CCTV at Wickford and Rayleigh stations has also been upgraded, the new equipment complementing investment already made by NXEA in fitting its fleet of Class 321 EMUs with CCTV.

❖ The concessionary pilot scheme in Wales to provide free travel on trains to bus pass holders is to be extended to the Cambrian Coast railway during the winter months, and the Welsh section of the Wrexham – Bidston line will be available to Flintshire and Wrexham passholders from 18th May. In addition, Gwynedd passholders will be eligible for free travel between Machynlleth and Pwllheli with some restrictions on busy school trains, between October and April, and the Heart of Wales line will be extended for a further year, but only providing free travel from October to April due to overcrowding during last summer. The Conwy Valley scheme will continue to operate all year. This second year remains a pilot scheme and the Welsh Assembly Government will continue to monitor it closely.

❖ The Stobart Group Ltd has announced that it has won a £15 million, five-year contract from Tesco's to operate a second rail service for the supermarket chain. The new six days-a-week service will run from Grangemouth to Inverness in Scotland, replacing over 13,000 lorry journeys each year. A freight facilities grant of £525,000 has been obtained from the Scottish government to help pay for the 70 swapbody containers needed to move the Tesco traffic, as well as funding of up to £457,600 aimed at encouraging container transport by rail rather than road.

New signage

National Express East Anglia has launched new signage at Colchester Town station, which has been produced in partnership with Colchester Borough Council and East of England Tourism, with the aim of encouraging more people to visit Colchester by rail.

The signs feature iconic images from Colchester town centre, including the ancient Augustinian Priory and the striking new purpose-built art gallery Firstsite, due to open later this year.

The new signage highlights Colchester town centre's many attractions and bolsters its reputation as a centre of cultural and historical significance.

▲ *Representatives of National Express East Anglia, East of England Tourism and Colchester Borough Council at Colchester Town station with an example of the new signage.* **NXEA**

'Wish list' for Devon and Cornwall published

The chairman of Devon and Cornwall Railfuture, an independent organisation campaigning for better rail services for passengers and freight, has drawn up a 'wish list' of extensive work that the organisation wants to see carried out to rejuvenate Cornwall's railways.

These include an hourly service from Penzance to Paddington, with line speed improvements at key places in Cornwall and elsewhere, allowing some trains to complete the journey in four-and-a-half-hours; more CrossCountry trains to the North of England, including the restoration of Penzance to Glasgow services on the direct route through Crewe and Carlisle; Newquay ceasing to be a railway backwater, more trains running there, including through services to Plymouth, Exeter and further afield.

Also called for was the direct route from Newquay to St Austell via St Dennis to be re-opened as a passenger line and for the former station at Carn Brea to be reopened as a 'park-and-ride' at Pool.

First Great Western Regional Manager Julian Crow said: "The thing about the 'wish list' is it's exactly that. Financially, there is no business case for providing them. Cornwall has more through high-speed trains to London than it's ever had and we're moving to a position where service to the branch lines will be better than ever."

He went on to say that half-hourly summer services would run from St Erth to St Ives, a passing loop would operate at Penryn, a high-speed train from Newquay to London would be introduced, Looe trains would have extra coaches, and extra stops at Hayle, Saltash and St Germans were also being introduced.

Calls for Alloa line extension to Dumfermline

Although the Stirling-Alloa-Kincardine line has only been opened for days, calls are already growing to extend the route for passengers eastwards towards Dunfermline.

Following the rebuilding of the route, the last stop for passengers using the line is currently at Alloa, where services from Glasgow Queen Street terminate. However, the route continues through Kincardine to Longannet.

The matter was raised in the Scottish Parliament on the same day that the line opened, when it was said that the trains that now run from Stirling to Alloa should go right the way through Kincardine and on to Rosyth and Dunfermline. The line is all there, it is just a question of whether it is viable or not and whether there is a need to extend it.

▼ *Following a repaint, the unique Victa Westlink Rail-liveried Class 47/4 has been outshopped in another unique livery, this time carrying the rather large bodyside branding of Stobart! No. 47832 passes through Carlisle on 19th May, with a test run to Penrith and back.* **Malcolm Brown**

Please mention *Railway Herald*, **when responding to advertisers**

▲ *Northern Line trains for High Barnet and Mill Hill East await departure from Morden on 20 June 2007, Driving Cars Nos. 51558 & 51668 leading.* **Brian Morrison**

Northern Line timetable changes

Following a year of detailed study, a series of changes to London Underground's Northern line schedule is resulting in more trains running on time.

Modifying the service in response to customer demand has led to increased reliability and has reduced journey times by around a minute. This probably doesn't sound very much, but readers should take into account that the line is the busiest on the system, carries around three quarters of a million people daily and trains run about every three minutes!

The new schedules also mean that services can recover more quickly if there are delays. Work has now begun to upgrade the line with modern signalling and a new automatic train control system, completion of which is scheduled to for 2012.

New use for abandoned railway tunnel

The long-abandoned Rodney Street tunnel in Canonmills, Edinburgh, is being re-opened after 40 years to allow cyclists and walkers to avoid a busy road on their way between the city centre and the city's foreshore.

Cycling groups, however, are complaining about the delay in the work as no progress has been made on the £350,000 scheme for almost a year after work was stopped due to a funding shortfall.

Transport charity Sustrans has finished reinforcement work on the tunnel but work to create a cycle path and walkway and light the tunnel has yet to begin. The council says that the remaining money for the project has to come from the Scottish Government, something that it is working with Sustrans to achieve.

Originally built in the 19th century, Rodney Street tunnel was designed to take trains from Canal Street station – on the site of Waverley Station – to the Granton ferry, before the Forth Bridge was built.

NEW ZEALAND GREAT STEAM PHOTO TOUR

12 - 31 October 2008

19 days of fabulous photo opportunities!

Starting and finishing in Auckland, we take in some of New Zealand's most stunning scenery on a tour packed with fascinating visits to private steam lines and museums.

The tour includes a journey on the famous **Kingston Flyer** and a four-day stay in Palmerston North to enjoy steam excursions and other events marking the **North Island Main Trunk Centenary Celebrations.**

During many miles of shadowing steam trains along coastal railways and across gorges, with numerous photo opportunities, we visit such places as Queenstown, Dunedin, Christchurch, Wellington, Masterton, Ormondville, Gisborne, Wanganui and Hamilton.

The holiday of a lifetime for the rail enthusiast!

FULL ITINERARY AND FURTHER DETAILS ON OUR WEBSITE

EERailtours
Birchwood, Shatterford, Nr Bewdley, Worcs. DY12 1TP
E-mail: enquiries@eerailtours.eu
Tel: +44(0)1299 861529 Fax: +44(0)1299 861058
www.eerailtours.eu

YOUR BUSINESS COULD BE HERE

With fast, efficient service and cost-effective prices with our 'flat-rate' policy, this space could be yours.

Whether your business is aimed at the enthusiast or the professional, be it books and DVDs or special day trips and gala events, advertising with *Railway Herald* is competitive and responsive.

Contact *Railway Herald's* Advertising Manager now and discuss how we can help your business succeed.

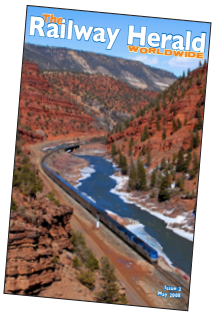
advertising@railwayherald.co.uk or call 0844 870 0835

The Railway Herald WORLDWIDE

All the news and some of the best railway photography from around the world each month.

Issue 3 includes:
American Railroading: The Cajon Pass
A beginners guide to the railways of Germany
A pictorial look at the German Rhine Valley.

Visit www.railwayherald.com/worldwide for more details



Issue 3 available now

by John Whitehouse

UK Steam & Modern Traction Railtour Listings

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

22nd May

Royal Scotsman	2xWCRC 47s	**Classic Tour-Day 2:** Keith-Tain (rev)-Dingwall-Kyle of Lochalsh	

23rd May

Royal Scotsman	2xWCRC 47s	**Classic Tour-Day 3:** Kyle of Lochalsh-Aviemore-Boat of Garten	

24th May

5305 Loco Association	70013	Tyseley-York (and return)	**Postponed**
Kingfisher Railtours	71000	(Ealing Broadway-)Taunton-Kingswear	**Postponed**
NENTA Traintours	2xCR Cl47	Norwich-Peterborough-Newcastle upon Tyne and return	
Past Time Rail	2xEWS 37s	London KX-Doncaster-S&C-Carlisle-Hexham-York-London KX	
Past Time Rail	tbc	Shrewsbury-Hereford-Abergavenny-Bristol TM- Par & return	
Pathfinder Tours	6201	(Birmingham)-Preston-S&C-Carlisle	**Cancelled**
PMR Tours	6233	(Gloucester-)Crewe-Shap-Carlisle-Crewe (and return)	
Railtourer	48151	(Hull-Knottingley-)-Hellifield-Appleby-Carlisle (and return)	
Railway Touring Company	60009	(Huddersfield-)York-Edinburgh Waverley (and return)	
Royal Scotsman	2xWCRC 47s	**Classic Tour-Day 4:** Boat of Garten-Dunkeld-Perth-Dundee	
SRPS	55022	North Berwick-Falkirk High- Fort William-Mallaig and return	
UK Railtours	tbc	London KX-Potters Bar-Stevenage-York and return	
UK Railtours	2xEWS 67s	London KX- York (break)-Gainsborough-Newark-& return	
Vintage Trains	5029	Tyseley Warwick Road- Chesterfield-Pontefract-York and return	

25th May

Railway Touring Company	60019 & 71000	London Waterloo-Exeter SD and return	**Cancelled**
Royal Scotsman	2xWCRC 47s	**Classic Tour-Day 5:** Dundee-Edinburgh Waverley	

26th May

Heartland Rail	2xCR Cl47	Gloucester-Southend and return	**Cancelled**
Kingfisher Railtours	tbc	Carnforth-Grange over Sands-Ravenglass and return	
Mark Elderkin	D1015	London Paddington-Weymouth and return	**Cancelled**
Pathfinder Tours	2xEWS 37s	Swindon-Kemble-Welshpool-Portmadog-Pwllheli and return	
Royal Scotsman	2xWCRC 47s	**Classic Tour-Day 1:** Edinburgh-Montrose-Aberdeen-Keith	
Vintage Trains	2xClass 47	Tyseley Warwick Road-Burton-Leicester-Barking-Southend Central	
WCRC	34067	York-Knaresborough-Harrogate-Leeds-York-Scarborough and return	

27th May

Royal Scotsman	2xWCRC 47s	**Classic Tour-Day 2** : Keith-Kyle of Lochalsh	
WCRC	34067	York-Knaresborough-Harrogate-Leeds-York-Scarborough and return	

28th May

Kingfisher Railtours	tbc	Hellifield-Appleby-Carlisle and return	
Royal Scotsman	2xWCRC 47s	**Classic Tour-Day 3** : Kyle of Lochalsh-Boat of Garten	
WCRC	34067	York-Knaresborough-Harrogate-Leeds-York-Scarborough and return	

29th May

Royal Scotsman	2xWCRC 47s	**Classic Tour-Day 4** : Boat of Garten-Dundee	
WCRC	34067	York-Knaresborough-Harrogate-Leeds-York-Scarborough and return	

30th May

Royal Scotsman	2xWCRC 47s	**Classic Tour-Day 5** : Dundee-Edinburgh	

31st May

Compass Tours	2xRiviera 47s	Holyhead- Warrington Bank Quay-Preston-Shap-Edinburgh & return	
Kingfisher Railtours	2xEWS 37s	Peterborough-Chester-Llandudno Junction-Blaenau Ffestiniog & rtn	
Past Time Rail	2xEWS 67s	Northampton-Milton Keynes Central-Watford Junction- Kings Lynn	
Pathfinder Tours	6201	(Swindon-Preston-)Carlisle-Hellifield-Preston (& return)	
Railtourer	48151	(Skegness-Hellifield)-S&C-Carlisle (and return via Hexham)	
Railtourer	48151	(Scarborough-Hellifield)-S&C-Carlisle (& return)	**Cancelled**
Railway Touring Company	60009	(Sheffield-Edinburgh Waverley)-York-(& return)	**Cancelled**
SRPS	55022	Dunbar-Kyle of Lochalsh and return	**Cancelled**
Steam Dreams	60007	(London KX- Leeds-York)-York-Leeds-London KX	

1st June

Steam Dreams	6233 & 60019	London Waterloo-Salisbury-Yeovil Jct (6233)-(Yeovil Junction-Castle Cary)-Castle Cary-Exeter SD (6233)-(Exeter St.Davids-Yeovil Jct)-Yeovil Junction-Salisbury-London Waterloo (60019)	
Vintage Trains	9466	Tyseley Warwick Road-Cosford and return	**Cancelled**

Regular Scheduled Steam Operations

Services detailed below, do not appear in the main listings above, being regular itinery operations.

Dates	Operator	Train	Route	Loco Pool
26-30 May	NYMR	Whitby	Pickering-Whitby and return (three trips)	NYMR Pool
26-30 May	WCRC	Jacobite	Fort William-Mallaig and return	TBC
2-5 Jun	NYMR	Whitby	Pickering-Whitby and return (three trips)	NYMR Pool

Key to tour listings:

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

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

The Week Ahead

A foretaste of summer is provided during the forthcoming week of tours, with plenty of mid-week action over the spring Bank Holiday week, leading to another busy weekend.

A number of the 'regular' trains planned for the summer commence operations, including the 'Scarborough Spa' with No. 34067 *Tangmere*, which will operate between 26th-29th May, Kingfisher's 'Cumbrian Coast Express' on 26th May and the inaugural 'Dalesman' on 28th May, both of which are booked for WCRC No. 48151, and of course both 'The Jacobite' and NYMR Whitby trains, which commenced their activities earlier. Don't forget also Pathfinder's 'Snowdonian' to Pwllheli on 26th May with a pair of EWS Class 37s.

The highlight of the weekend's activity has to be Steam Dreams celebrating the 60th Anniversary of the 1948 Locomotive Exchange Trials. Featuring two trains, the first mainline outing of No. 60007 *Sir Nigel Gresley* is provided on 31st May from York to London King's Cross, which it will be recalled should have featured No. 6024 *King Edward I* on the original route of the trials from Leeds to King's Cross. However, this plan went awry as the 'King' would not be available due to ongoing repairs and the Leeds section was changed to York for pathing reasons. However, the return of *Sir Nigel Gresley* should be more than adequate compensation. The following day has not escaped late change either due to gauging issues west of Salisbury, as reported last week, but again there is the compensation of travelling behind a 'Duchess' at full bore over Whiteball summit instead of being speed restricted over Honiton. No. 6233 *Duchess of Sutherland* marks the presence of No. 46236 *City of Bradford* on Southern metals during the 1948 Exchanges, when it will take the train from London Waterloo to Exeter St Davids, via Salisbury, to Yeovil Junction, where the train will then be dragged to Castle Cary with a diesel. No. 6233 will then be let loose on the Great Western mainline to Exeter. The return will be diesel-hauled to Yeovil Junction, again due to those gauging issues, where No. 60019 *Bittern* will be waiting to usurp the role of No. 60033 *Seagull* (that replaced No. E22 (60022) *Mallard* following its failure in the early stages of the trials) for the run back to Waterloo.

The Settle & Carlisle has two steam excursions planned, both on 31st May, commencing with a northbound run with No. 48151 from Hellifield to Carlisle for Railtourer from Skegness. The return is scheduled for a 'Heritage diesel', travelling via the Tyne Valley and ECML back to Skegness. Also in action is No. 6201 *Princess Elizabeth* for Pathfinder, which will cover the Carlisle to Preston leg of the 'Cumbrian Mountain Express' from Gloucester, which includes a layover in Appleby en-route. Locomotive haulage to Blaenau Ffestiniog is not an everyday event, and is particularly notable when a pair of EWS Class 37s are involved, which is exactly what Kingfisher's 'Welsh Mountaineer' is scheduled to do. The tour is from Peterborough and travels via Loughborough and Burton-upon-Trent to Crewe and the North Wales Coast, before threading its way along the highly scenic Conwy Valley branch. Meanwhile, Compass Railtours also bring locomotive haulage to the area with the 'North Wales Scotsman', which originates at Holyhead and picks up along the coast to Chester, and then it is WCML all the way to Edinburgh with a pair of Class 47s. King's Lynn is the destination for Past Time with its 'Sandringham Flyer', which should be Class 67-hauled from Northampton.

Useful Weblinks

- Online railtour listings
- Tour operators contact details
- Current fire-risk status info
- Email the railtours editor

Full steam ahead for Kingfisher Railtours' 'End of Steam Commemorative Railtour'

Kingfisher's 'End of Steam Commemorative Railtour' on 3rd August, which celebrates the RCTS Tour which took place on 4th August 1968, has been something of a 'will it or won't it' affair due in the main to pathing and resourcing issues.

The good news is that the tour is definitely now on, and will start at Crewe with No. 70013 *Oliver Cromwell* in charge to work via the Manchester area and Copy Pit to Blackburn, where 'Black 5s' Nos. 45407 & 48151 will attach to continue to Preston via Hellifield, Wennington and Carnforth. The train returns to Crewe diesel-hauled.

The route of the 1968 train is being followed as far as possible, with only the Skipton to Colne and Bury sections not being available due to closure and conversion to a tramway, respectively. Nos. 70013 and 45407 were involved in the 1968 working, the former from Stockport to Manchester in the morning and from Lostock Junction to Stockport in the evening, while the 'Black 5' worked the Blackburn to Lostock Junction leg. In 1968 the Manchester Victoria section was covered by '8F' 2-8-0 No. 48476 & BR Standard 5MT 4-6-0 No. 73069, the latter being the only class not represented in this year's train.

Shepherd Neame sponsors Faversham steam

It is good to see tours being sponsored by major companies, and it is even better when that support becomes an annual event.

Kent-based brewers Shepherd Neame are top of this list, as they are for the fourth successive year promoting a weekend of steam activity in the south-east as part of the annual hop-picking season celebrations.

The trains mirror the name of the company's most famous brand, Spitfire bitter, a bottle of which is included in the fare price for every passenger over 18 years old.

This year No. 34067 *Tangmere* will once again be the traction, for the charter which commences on 30th August with a London Victoria to Faversham return working, outward in the morning and returning early evening. In between the main train workings, *Tangmere* also undertakes a return afternoon outing from Faversham to Ramsgate via Whitstable.

Next day, Brighton is the starting point, with steam to Eastbourne, where a diesel will take over for the onward leg to Hastings and Ashford, where steam again takes charge onwards to Faversham. Again, there is an afternoon excursion involved which is to Gillingham and Sheerness-on-Sea, which will have No. 34067 *Tangmere* in charge for the return working, prior to heading the main train back to Brighton.

For more details telephone 01795 542285 or go to www.shepherd-neame.co.uk/tour/train

❖ Vintage Trains' 1st June trip to the Cosford Airshow, one of the major West Midland attractions, has been cancelled through lack of bookings. It was due to feature 9400 class 0-6-0PT No. 9466 from Tyseley, via Walsall and Wolverhampton.

❖ The inaugural 'Settle & Carlisle Tourist Train' for Kingfisher, which is essentially a diesel-hauled 'Dalesman', will feature 'top and tail' WCRC Class 33 traction on 18th June. It is the first of nine planned workings between June and September that pick up at Skipton, Hellifield and Settle, setting down at Appleby and Carlisle. Look out for other WCRC 'heritage diesel' traction on future workings.

❖ Kingfisher's train celebrating the 40th anniversary of the Keighley & Worth Valley Railway on 29th June will now start at Stockport and pick up at Hathersage, Sheffield and Meadowhall before proceeding to Keighley via Barnsley.

▼ ***LNER 'K4' No. 61994 crosses the Forth Bridge on 18th May with the second of the SRPS tours around the Fife Circle.*** **Ian Lothian**

▲ *Recently converted Mk2 DBSO No. 9714 is propelled by Class 31/1 No. 31105 through Hatton North Junction on 21st May with a Foxhall Junction (Didcot) to Derby test run.* **Peter Tandy**

▼ *On 20th May, Intercity-liveried Class 31/4 No. 31454 stands in Didcot Yard, as it awaits its next duty with a Network Rail test train. On the other end of the set was green-liveried Class 31/1 No. 31110.* **Richard Dunn**

▲ *Pictured working the modern-day equivalent of a pick-up freight, the unique Medite-liveried Class 66/7 No. 66709 passes Evesham on 20th May with the Leeds Hunslet to Long Marston working. This train is open to any customers who require vehicles moving into and out of Long Marston to or from the Midlands, North-West or Yorkshire.* **Peter Tandy**

▼ *Fastline started its coal operations on 12th May and as previously reported, the company is hiring both locomotives and wagons from First GBRf. On 15th May, Metronet-liveried Class 66/7 No. 66719* **Metro-Land** *is pictured at Derby with the 14.22 Derby Chaddesden to Daw Mill Colliery service. The leading seven wagons are at present the full compliment of Fastline Freight vehicles, the remaining being First GBRf.* **Tony Fielding**

▲ *Northern Rail-liveried Class 142 No. 142035 arrives at Lostock Gralam on 15th May with the 11.05 Chester to Manchester Piccadilly service, displaying the latest non-pictorial version of the Northern livery.*

◀ *Arriva Trains-liveried Class 158 No. 158820 departs Whitchurch on 14th May with the 10.26 Shrewsbury to Crewe local working.*

▼ *Shortly after departure from Chester, Class 158 No. 158834 passes through Sandycroft on 14th May with the 13.20 Cardiff Central to Holyhead service. This unit retains its Wessex Alphaline basic livery, although now carries Arriva branding.* **All: Phil Beard**

▲ *It is unusual to see Freightliner Class 86/6s working solo on anything other than Daventry DRIFT-Ipswich workings, although occasionally a single loco is pressed into service on a more long distance duty. Here, No. 86628 sweeps through the curves on the approach to Lichfield Trent Valley on 16th May with the 08.49 Felixstowe-Crewe Intermodal service, normally booked for a Class 90.* **John Whitehouse**

▼ *EWS Class 67 No. 67016 heads the Dowlow-Warrington Arpley trip freight through Northwich on 15th May.* **Phil Beard**

Canadian Pacific bows out

The Mid-Hants Railway's Merchant Navy Pacific No. 35005 *Canadian Pacific* worked its final passenger services before undergoing a major overhaul, on 18th May.

The expiry of the locomotive's boiler certificate, leaves just one operational Merchant Navy locomotive, in the form of No. 35028 *Clan Line*.

◀ ***With the locomotive's boiler certificate due to expire on 19th May, No. 35005 Canadian Pacific climbs through Alresford Cutting with the 11.00 Alresford to Alton.***

▼ ***The final train of the day, the 15.00 service from Alresford, complete with the 'Royal Wessex' headboard, heads for Alton.***

Both: David Warwick

▲ *BR Standard 9F 2-10-0 No. 92203* **Black Prince** *simmers in the yard at Toddington on the Gloucestershire Warwickshire Railway.* **Ian Crowder**

Lord Nelson arrives for Cotswold Festival of steam

The Gloucestershire Warwickshire Railway's (GWR) five-day 'Cotswold Festival of Steam' will be held this coming Bank Holiday weekend 24th-26th May, and on the weekend following, 31st May-1st June. The normal timetable operates in between.

'Star billing' goes to troubled Lord Nelson class 4-6-0 No. 850 *Lord Nelson*, which following successful steam tests at the National Railway Museum, York, has been delivered by road to Toddington, where GWR staff have installed the brick arch. The locomotive is rostered to run every day from 24th May to 1st June.

Other motive power includes David Shepherd's Class 9F 2-10-0 No. 92203 *Black Prince*, which appears in the condition that it was handed over to David almost exactly 40 years ago. On 1st June it will be properly cleaned for a ceremonial fitting of the *Black Prince* nameplates at Winchcombe. The loco used to work on the Somerset & Dorset and other veterans of that line are also appearing, such as 4F class 0-6-0 No. 44422 and West Country Pacific No. 34007 *Wadebridge*.

Resident locomotives appearing are No. 3440 *City of Truro*, 'Hall' 4-6-0 No. 7903 *Foremarke Hall*, 4575 class Prairie No. 5542, which will be working with auto-trailers, and 5600 class 0-6-2 tank No. 5619, recently overhauled at the Flour Mill.

Rover tickets for the event are £14 for the weekends and normal fares for the mid-week trains. A working timetable is available on http://www.gwsr.com as well as a summary of the loco diagrams for each day. Lineside passes are available from Toddington station. First departure each of the weekend days is at 09.00 with the two-car auto working with No. 5542.

Swindon & Cricklade Railway celebrates 30th anniversary

The Swindon & Cricklade Railway (S&CR) will celebrate its 30th anniversary over the Bank Holiday weekend, with two key new attractions.

Services will be operating on Sunday 25th and Monday 26th May, with an official opening ceremony of the line's new half-mile long extension towards Cricklade taking place on 25th May at 11.45 at Hayes Knoll station.

Later that afternoon, the railway will open its new training and lecture room. This building has been superbly restored by volunteers after being donated to the S&CR by a local farmer.

The building was rescued from Malmesbury station many years ago, where it served as the parcels office. Its restoration has taken some time to complete, but the finished product will compliment the station area well.

Over the two days a frequent passenger service will operate featuring two industrial steam locomotives, *Salmon* and *Slough Estates No. 3*, while diesel traction will also play a part. The allocated locomotive is expected to be Class 03 No. D2022. Fares are priced at £5 adults, £3.50 children and a family ticket (2+2) is attractively priced at £15.

▶ ***The superbly restored parcels office from Malmesbury station now has a new life as the S&CR's training room.*** **Ken Brunt**

TURNING THE CLOCK BACK

Stratford-upon-Avon on 15th August 1958

Brian Morrison looks back to the late 1950s and traffic on the edge of the Cotswolds

Stratford-upon-Avon today is a reluctant minor terminus, served by diesel units on a branch from Hatton or the line from Tyseley.

At the time these pictures were taken, Stratford-upon-Avon was a 'hub' of four routes. To the north, the line to Wilmcote (which then diverges for Birmingham or Leamington Spa), west was a branch to Alcester (with connecting lines to Reddich and Evesham), to the east to Kineton, Fenny Compton and Banbury and finally, to the south to Long Marston, Broadway and Cheltenham, the latter for many years being the booked route of 'The Cornishman' to the south-west travelling over what is today the preserved Gloucestershire & Warwickshire Railway between Toddington and Cheltenham.

Stratford-upon-Avon receives services from

▲ ***Gas lamps, large watering hose, discarded trolley wheels and smart station staff in uniforms and caps. All rather different to the Stratford-upon-Avon of today! On 15th August 1958, 'Castle' 4-6-0 No 5070 Sir Daniel Gooch heads the 11.15 cross-country service (678) from Newquay to Wolverhampton.***

◀ ***With Taunton (83B)-allocated 'Grange' 4-6-0 No 6969 Penrhos Grange at the head, the 10.55 Ilfracombe-Wolverhampton cross-country working departs from Stratford-upon-Avon. On this occasion the train reporting number 560 is merely chalked onto the smokebox door.***

All: Brian Morrison

Turning the clock back

London Marylebone and the likes of Birmingham Snow Hill and Worcester Shrub Hill, but its days as a prime cross-country route are long-gone – and freight is but a memory.

This selection of images was taken on a hot summer day nearly 50 years ago, and although 'Hall' 4-6-0s predominated, there was, nevertheless, many other class types to see.

▶ ***Hauled by 6959 Class 'Modified Hall' 4-6-0 No 6916 Misterton Hall (with straight-sided tender), the 07.30 Penzance-Wolverhampton cross-country express departs from the town. On this occasion a paper train identification number, 672, is used.***

▼ ***Empty coaching stock to form a return charter from Manchester London Road approaches the waiting day-trippers at Stratford-upon-Avon, hauled by 'County' 4-6-0 No 1025 County of Radnor.***

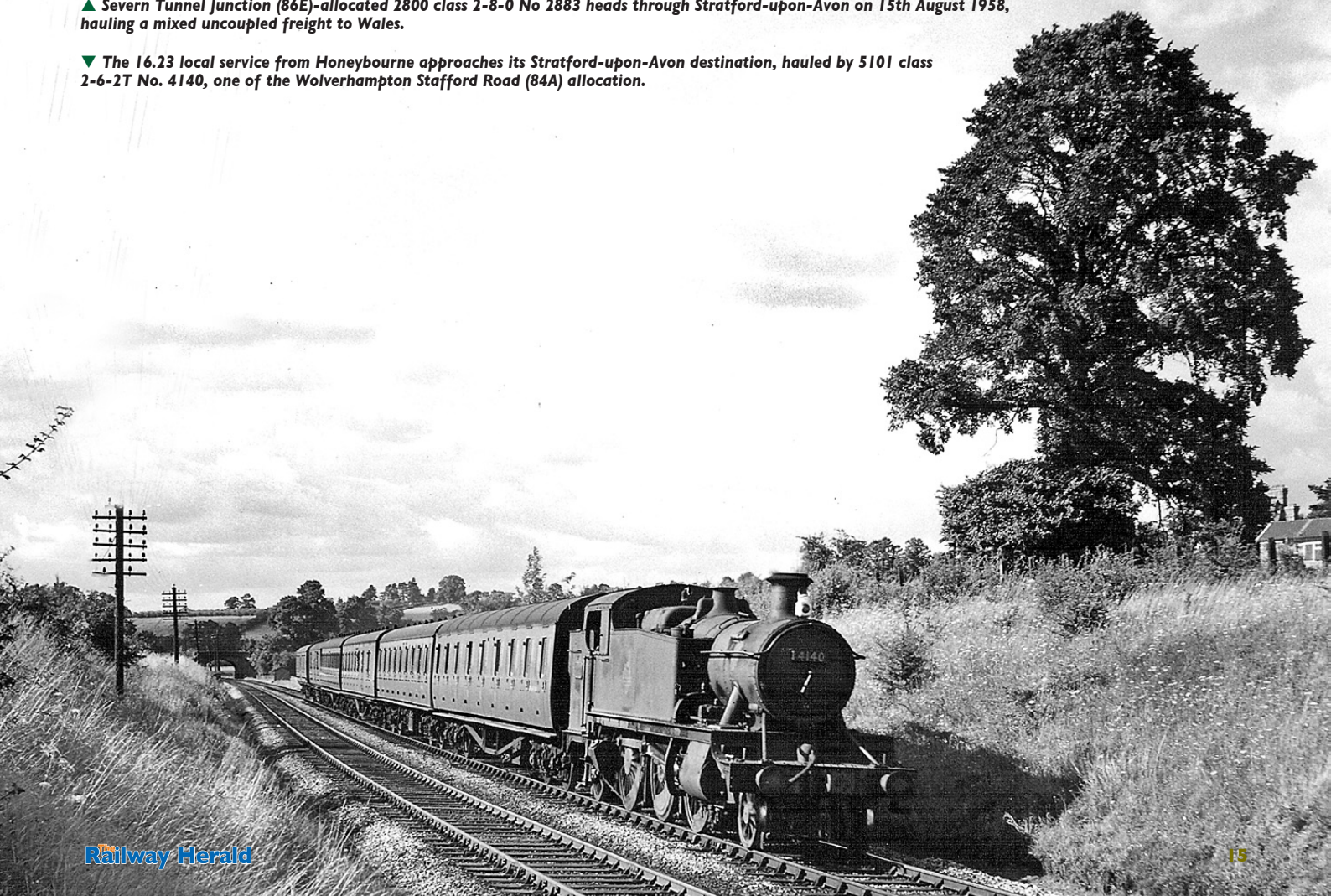
Turning the clock back

▲ *'Hall' 4-6-0 No 4973* **Sweeney Hall** *departs from Stratford-upon-Avon on 15th August 1958 hauling an express service from Birmingham to Cardiff and Swansea.*

▼ *Carrying proper train identification numbers affixed to the smokebox door, the 10.35 Paignton-Wolverhampton cross-country express (537) approaches Stratford-upon-Avon, powered by 'Hall' 4-6-0 No 4980* **Wrottesley Hall**. *Class 5101 2-6-2T No 5163 is looped with a freight awaiting its passing.*

▲ *Severn Tunnel Junction (86E)-allocated 2800 class 2-8-0 No 2883 heads through Stratford-upon-Avon on 15th August 1958, hauling a mixed uncoupled freight to Wales.*

▼ *The 16.23 local service from Honeybourne approaches its Stratford-upon-Avon destination, hauled by 5101 class 2-6-2T No. 4140, one of the Wolverhampton Stafford Road (84A) allocation.*



Diary

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

Details should be sent via email to ***editor@railwayherald.co.uk*** and should include a brief outline of the event, including the speakers name if appropriate, date, time and location, together with contact details (either telephone, web or email). *Railway Herald* cannot accept any responsibility for any inaccuracies or events which are amended, cancelled or postponed. Information, such as advance programmes and club meeting line-ups can also be sent through the post to the editorial address.

17th May 2008
Friends of the West Highland Lines AGM.
Regent Hotel, Esplanade, Oban. Meeting commences at 12.00. Visitors are welcome but are reminded that they may act as observers and are not permitted to take part in the business of the meeting.

17th-18th May 2008
Dumfries Model Railway Exhibition
Ice Bowl, King Street, Dumfries, DG2 9AN. Opening hours 10.00-17.00 both days. Further details from the official website, click here. Approximately 20 layouts, comprehensive trade support, free parking and programme. Easy to find: just follow temporary yellow signs from the A75/A76 roundabout, or "Brown" tourist signs for Ice Bowl. Admission Adults: £3.50, Child/Seniors £2.50, Family (2+2) £9.50

19th May 2008
Great Central Railway Society (Spinkhill Branch)
The Angel Hotel, College Road, Spinkhill 'Post-War Modernisation of the Sheffield Railway Scene' by Nick Wheat. Meeting commences at 19.30. Contact 01909 473927 for details.

20th May 2007
Permanent Way Institution (West Yorkshire Branch)
The Pullman Room, The Goldern Lion Hotel, 2 Lower Briggate, Leeds. Energy Efficiency, Recyling and the reuse of resources on the railway by Martin Woofe. Meeting commences at 18.30. Contact Martin Woofe on 07747 160949 for further details and information.

21st May 2008
Permanent Way Institution (Bristol & West of England)
Arup Auditorium, 63 St. Thomas Street, Bristol.
Chairman's address followed by four short papers. Contact Alex Simpson on 01242 519828 for further details. Doors open 17.30 for an 18.00 start.

Permanent Way Institution (Glasgow Branch)
Upstairs Lounge, The Iron Horse, West Nile Street, Glasgow. Sheilds Junction Renewal. Joint Meeting with Railway Civil Engineers Association. Contact Jack Scott on 0141 952 2562 for further details. Meeting commences 17.30

22nd May 2008
Mid-Hants Railway Preservation Society (Thames Valley Group)
Church House, Church Street, Caversham, Reading.
'End of BR Steam in the North West, Past and Present'. Meeting starts 19.30. Donation requested

Permanent Way Institution (Nottingham & Derby Branch)
The Midland Hotel, adjacent to Derby station.
Steam worked railways - A photographic tour by John Birkenshaw PWMM. Contact Colin Cowey on 01949 837067 for further details. Meeting commences at 18.30

RCTS (Sussex Branch)
Brighthelm Church & Community Centre, North Road, Brighton. "50 Years of Taffys Travels - Part 1 Western & Southern" by Peter Jones. Meeting starts 7.30pm. Donation of £1.50 is requested

4th June 2008
Burton Railway Society
Marston's Social Club, Shobnall Road, Burton-upon-Trent.
'The popular annual railway quiz' by Dave Hook. Contact Mark Ratcliffe on 01283 221537 for further details for further details. Meeting commences at 19.30

Permanent Way Institution (Thames Valley section)
Sussex House, Reading.
Reading Remodelling. Contact Rodney Pinchen by email at rodneyp@tinyworld.co.uk for details. Meeting starts at 17.30

5th June 2008
Great Central Railway Society (Rotherham Branch)
The Three Horseshoes, Bawtry Road, Wickersley. 'Nottingham Victoria station' by Ken Grainger. Commences 19.30.

9th June 2008
Lincoln Railway Society
St Hugh's Church Hall, North Hykeham, Lincoln 'Members slide show' Meeting starts 20.00. Contact 01522 705365 for details.

Permanent Way Institution (London Branch)
10th Floor Restaurant, 55 Broadway, London St. James Park tube. Modular S&C by Geoff South, Network Rail Contact Paul Gammage (pjgammage@aol.com) for details. Meeting commences at 17.30

10th June 2008
Abergavenny & District Steam Society
Upper Room' at 'The Hen and Chickens', Flannel Street, Abergavenny. 'West and North Devon' by Peter Gray. Meeting commences at 20.00.

The 8E Railway Association (Northwich Branch)
The Gladstone Club, Station Road, Northwich. Evening visit to Chester by rail. Contact 01606 44959 for further details.

11th June 2008
Grimsby & Cleethorpes Railway Group
RAF Association Club, Alexandra Road, Cleethorpes
'The Stanier Jubilees of the LMS' by Mick Hayes. Meeting commences at 19.30. Contact 01724 341358 for further details.

Swiss Railways Society (London Branch)
The Model Railway Club, Keen House, 4 Calshot Street, London N1 9AT (near Kings Cross station) Show title to be confirmed, presented by George Howe. Meetings starts 19.00. £2 donation. Contact 0208 660 3532 details.

12th June 2008
Permanent Way Institution (Birmingham Section)
The 11th Floor Boardroom, Network Rail Offices, The Mailbox, 100 Wharfside Street, Birmingham. Merseyrail Track Slabs by N. Reynolds. Contact Ian Wardle on 0121 345 3931 for details. Doors open 17.45. Meeting starts 18.15.

16th June 2008
Great Central Railway Society (Spinkhill Branch)
The Angel Hotel, College Road, Spinkhill 'Grimsby & Cleethorpes - created by the GCR' by Bryan Longbone. Meeting commences 19.30. Contact 01909 473927.

19th June 2007
Barrow Hill Engine Shed Society, Barrow Hill Roundhouse.
'Colour Rail - 30 Years of Service' by David Aldis. Ron White is unable to present the show personally but has given permission for the show from the presenter's personal collection. Something for everyone, from pre nationalisation to B.R. steam and diesel. Doors open 7.00pm. Show commences 7.30pm. Admission £1.50 members, £2.00 non members.

20th June 2008
Great Western Society (Taunton Group)
Stoke St. Mary Village Hall, near Taunton. 'Sixty years of Railway Photography' by Philip Kelley. Starts 19.30, Contact Peter Triggs on 01823 334188.

Mid-Hants Railway Preservation Society (Thames Valley Group)
Church House, Church Street, Caversham, Reading.
Members photographic and video evening. Meeting commences at 19.30 for 19.45. A donation is requested

2nd July 2008
Burton Railway Society
Marston's Social Club, Shobnall Road, Burton-upon-Trent.
'Is the Master Cutler a South Yorkshireman?' by Martin Bromley. Contact Mark Ratcliffe on 01283 221537 for further details for further details. Meeting commences at 19.30

8th July 2008
Abergavenny & District Steam Society
Upper Room' at 'The Hen and Chickens', Flannel Street, Abergavenny. 'The County Project' by Terry McCarthy. Starts 20.00.

9th July 2008
Swiss Railways Society (London Branch)
The Model Railway Club, Keen House, 4 Calshot Street, London N1 9AT (near Kings Cross station) To be confirmed. Meetings commence at 19.00, Refreshments available. A £2 donation is requested. Contact Ron Dawes (0208 660 3532) for further details.

10th July 2008
Permanent Way Institution (Birmingham Section)
The 11th Floor Boardroom, Network Rail Offices, The Mailbox, 100 Wharfside Street, Birmingham. Afternoon visit to the Severn Valley Railway, followed by an evening presentation. Contact Ian Wardle on 0121 345 3931 for further details. Doors open 17.45 for an 18.15 start.

14th July 2008
Lincoln Railway Society
St Hugh's Church Hall, North Hykeham, Lincoln
'Annual Quiz Night'. Meeting commences at 20.00. Contact 01522 705365 for further details.

18th July 2008
Great Western Society (Taunton Group)
Stoke St. Mary Village Hall, near Taunton.
'Memories of Steam' by David Butcher. Meeting commences at 19.30, Contact Peter Triggs on 01823 334188 for further details.

6th August 2008
Burton Railway Society
Marston's Social Club, Shobnall Road, Burton-upon-Trent.
'Steaming through Britain' by Graham Briggs. Contact Mark Ratcliffe on 01283 221537 for further details for further details. Meeting commences at 19.30

11th August 2008
Lincoln Railway Society
St Hugh's Church Hall, North Hykeham, Lincoln
'Canklow to Cape Town' by Mike Eggenton. Meeting commences at 20.00. Contact 01522 705365 for further details.

12th August 2008
Abergavenny & District Steam Society
Upper Room' at 'The Hen and Chickens', Flannel Street, Abergavenny. LNER and SR varieties by Colin Jacks. Starts 20.00.

13th August 2008
Swiss Railways Society (London Branch)
The Model Railway Club, Keen House, 4 Calshot Street, London N1 9AT (near Kings Cross station)
'A-Z of Switzerland' - Members Slides. Meeting commence at 19.00, Refreshments available. A £2 donation is requested from attendees. Contact Ron Dawes (0208 660 3532) for further details.

15th August 2008
Great Western Society (Taunton Group)
Stoke St. Mary Village Hall, near Taunton. 'Britannias & Broads' by Max Wilkinson. Meeting commences 19.30, Contact 01823 334188 for details

2nd September 2008
Southern Electric Group (South Hampshire Branch)
Eastleigh Railway Institute in Romsey Road, Eastleigh.
'London and its environs' by Bruce Oliver. Meeting commences 19.30. Entrance fee £2

3rd September 2008
Burton Railway Society
Marston's Social Club, Shobnall Road, Burton-upon-Trent.
'The Southern in the South & West' by Peter Gray.
Contact Mark Ratcliffe on 01283 221537 for further details.
Meeting commences at 19.30

8th September 2008
Lincoln Railway Society
St Hugh's Church Hall, North Hykeham, Lincoln
'NYK' by David Cross. Meeting commences 20.00. Contact 01522 705365 for further details.

9th September 2008
Abergavenny & District Steam Society
Upper Room' at 'The Hen and Chickens', Flannel Street, Abergavenny. 'An evening with Malcolm Ranieri'. Meeting commences 20.00.

10th September 2008
Swiss Railways Society (London Branch)
The Model Railway Club, Keen House, 4 Calshot Street, London N1 9AT (near Kings Cross station)
'Bernese Oberland Revisited' by Paul Russenberger. Meetings commence at 19.00, Refreshments available. A £2 donation is requested. Contact Ron Dawes (0208 660 3532) for further details.

19th September 2008
Great Western Society (Taunton Group)
Stoke St. Mary Village Hall, near Taunton.
'Steam in the 1960s' by Alan Reeve. Starts 19.30, Contact Peter Triggs on 01823 334188.

25th September 2008
Mid-Hants Railway Preservation Society (Thames Valley Group)
Church House, Church Street, Caversham, Reading.
'Zimbabewe Railways' by Simon Bowden. Meeting commences at 19.30 for 19.45. A donation is requested

1st October 2008
Burton Railway Society
Marston's Social Club, Shobnall Road, Burton-upon-Trent.
'20 years of mainline steam', a large format slide show by Malcolm Ranieri. Contact Mark Ratcliffe on 01283 221537 for further details. Meeting commences at 19.30

7th October 2008
Southern Electric Group (South Hampshire Branch)
Eastleigh Railway Institute in Romsey Road, Eastleigh.
'The tramways of Bournemouth and Poole' by Richard Pennell. Starts 19.30. Entrance fee £2

8th October 2008
Swiss Railways Society (London Branch)
The Model Railway Club, Keen House, 4 Calshot Street, London N1 9AT (near Kings Cross station)
Show title to be confirmed. Presented by Martin Fisher. Meetings commence at 19.00, Refreshments available. A £2 donation is requested. Contact Ron Dawes (0208 660 3532) for further details.

13th October 2008
Lincoln Railway Society
St Hugh's Church Hall, North Hykeham, Lincoln 'Steaming around in 2006/2007' by Alex Hurd. Meeting starts 8pm. Contact 01522 705365 for further details.

14th October 2008
Abergavenny & District Steam Society
Upper Room' at 'The Hen and Chickens', Flannel Street, Abergavenny. 'Men of the Mechanicals' (Lickey Incline Memories) by Neville Billington. Starts 20.00.

17th October 2008
Great Western Society (Taunton Group)
Stoke St. Mary Village Hall, near Taunton. 'India by Rail - a Family Evening' by Peter Tickner. Starts 19.30, Contact Peter Triggs on 01823 334188.

23rd October 2008
Mid-Hants Railway Preservation Society (Thames Valley Group)
Church House, Church Street, Caversham, Reading.
'Mid-Hants Railway signalling' by Mike Ball. Meeting commences at 19.30 for 19.45.

5th November 2008
Burton Railway Society
Marston's Social Club, Shobnall Road, Burton-upon-Trent.
'Railways in the Peak District' by Les Nixon. Contact Mark Ratcliffe on 01283 221537 for details.
Meeting commences at 19.30

7th November 2008
Great Western Society (Taunton Group)
Rockwell Green School, Brooklands Road, Rockwell Green, Wellington. Somerset. TA21 9DJ.
'Trains in the Countryside' by Peter Triggs. Starts 19.30, Contact 01823 334188 for detals.

Internet Links
Further contact details for the clubs and societies list in this column can be obtained from our new-look website by clicking here.

Should your club or society event be listed here? If so then please email the editor with the appropriate details.

▼ ***Arrivals and departures at Glasgow Central. The scene at the Scottish city's West Coast Main Line terminus as Class 156 No. 156495 arrives, while Class 390 'Pendolino' No. 390043 Virgin Explorer departs with an ECS working and Class 334 No. 334024 heads for Ayrshire with a First ScotRail working.*** **Richard Dunn**

05
D6700
5