

Railtalk | Magazine

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Submissions

Pictures, articles and news can be entered through the forum, or by email to us at:

entries@railtalk.net

Please include a detailed description and credits.

Railtalk Magazine is published monthly by

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Welcome to Issue 97 of Railtalk Magazine. Each month we bring you a round up of pictures, news and reports.

Well I know I've probebly mentioned them too many times for a number of readers likings, but I'm glad to say it's finally here... The X-Factor live finals(!), no... the RHTT Season. Ironically not one move has made it into this issue, because they actually started late this year. But rest assured, I already have an inbox filled with a excellent selection of images for your pleasure next month.

Moving on, and as the nights close in and the summer fades away, all I can think about is how it makes our hobby more and more difficult to pursue. To achieve great photos we are always told that you require as much light as possible. Not only because photos look a lot better with a bit of sun, but it always helps when trying to stop say a Pendolino at 125mph on the WCML. But is this the case any more... technology is at a point now where we can photograph about anything and come home with studio quality snaps. Take Chris Morrison's photos of the Tube Stock move on Page 77. A fantastic example of technology at it's finest. The Class 20 hasn't stopped in the platform, yet is fully sharp and well framed. So my request, please send in your night-time photos and I'll publish the best of the collection next issue.

As always, night-time or daytime, please send us your photos to the email address on the left.

Andy

This issue wouldn't be possible without: Ken Abram, John Alborough, Michael J Alderdice, John Alsop, Steve Andrews, Geoff Barton, Robert Bates, Brian Battersby, Barry Beeston, Sam Bilner, Matthew Bird, Amy Bucki, Ben Bucki, Pete Cheshire, Julian Churchill, Liam Coates, John Coleman, Lorenzo D'aniello, Keith Davies, Neil Davies, Robert Duff, Derek Elston, Eddie Emmott, Dave Felton, Paul Fuller, Jonathan Gill, Paul Godding, Carl Grocott, Richard Hargreaves, Dave Harris, Darrel Hendrie, Brian Hewertson, Stuart Hillis, David Hollowood, Derek Hopkins, Colin Irwin, Jon Jebb, Richard Jones, Michael Lynam, Steve Madden, Phil Martin, Jonathan McGurk, David Mead, Lewis Mitchell, Chris Morrison, Ken Mumford, Alan Naylor, Gerald Nicholl, James Passant, Dave Peel, Ian Platt, Neil Pugh, Wayne Radford, Charlie Robbins, Gary Smith, Gary S. Smith, Stewart Smith, Daniel Stanbridge, Chris Stanley, Steve Stepney, Craig Stretten, Simon Sugden, CJ Sutcliffe, Alex Thorkildsen, Steve Thompson, Alan Usher, Tim Ward, Stuart Warr, James Wise, Shep Woolley and the guys at RailUK.

Front Cover: LMS Stanier Class 5 4-6-0 No. 45407 'The Lancashire Fusilier' rounds the last part of Horseshoe Curve and begins the climb to the summit at Tyndrum. CJ Sutcliffe

This Page: On August 2nd, Class 20 142 and 20 189 sandwich the Swedish built Railvac and a single

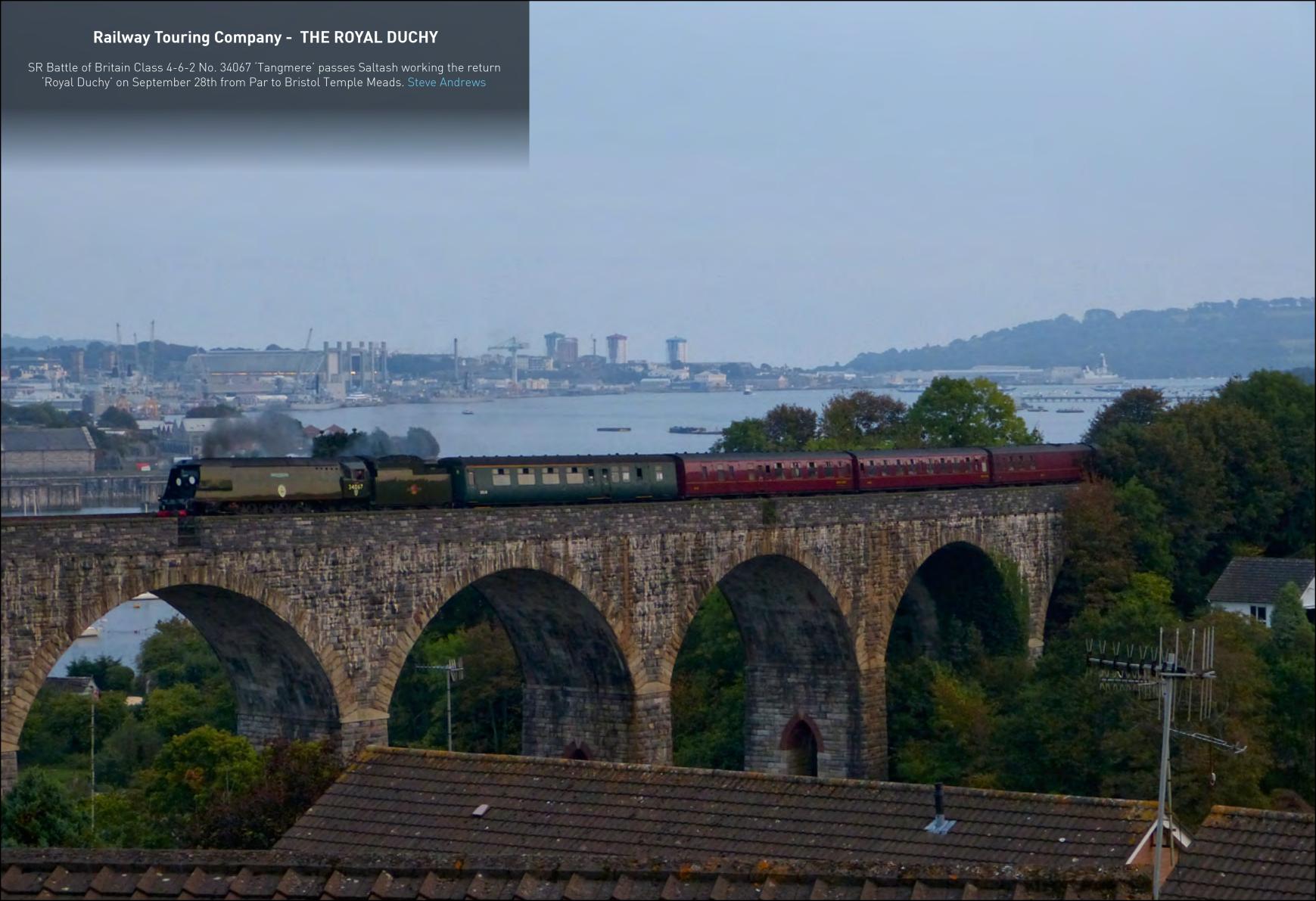














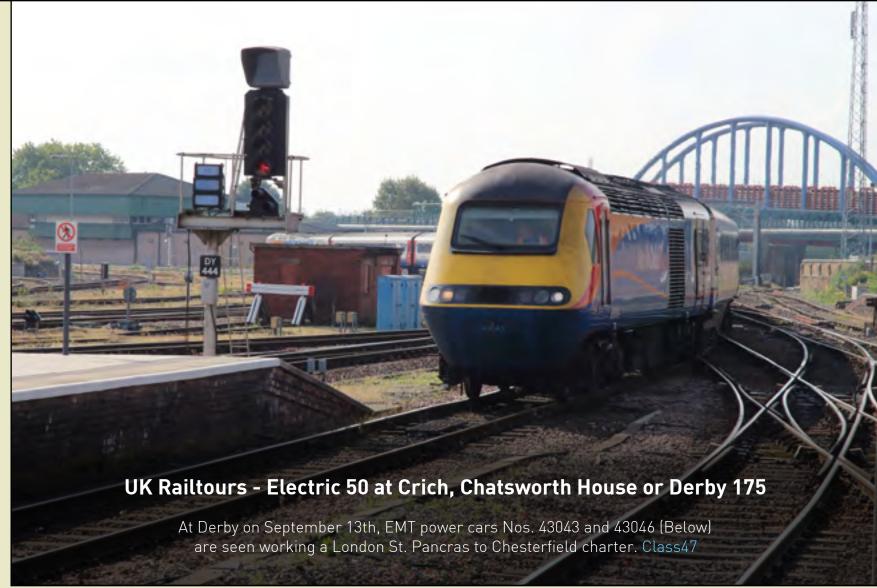






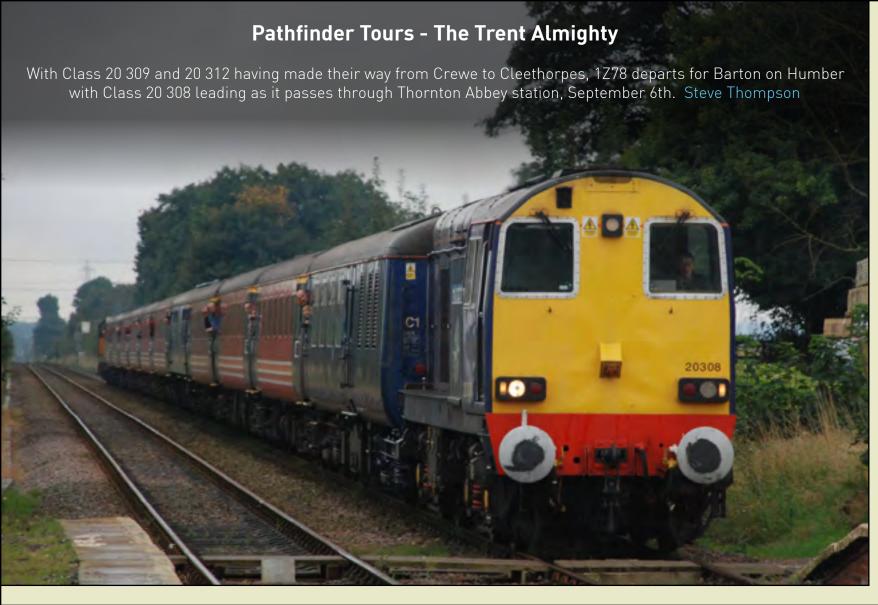




































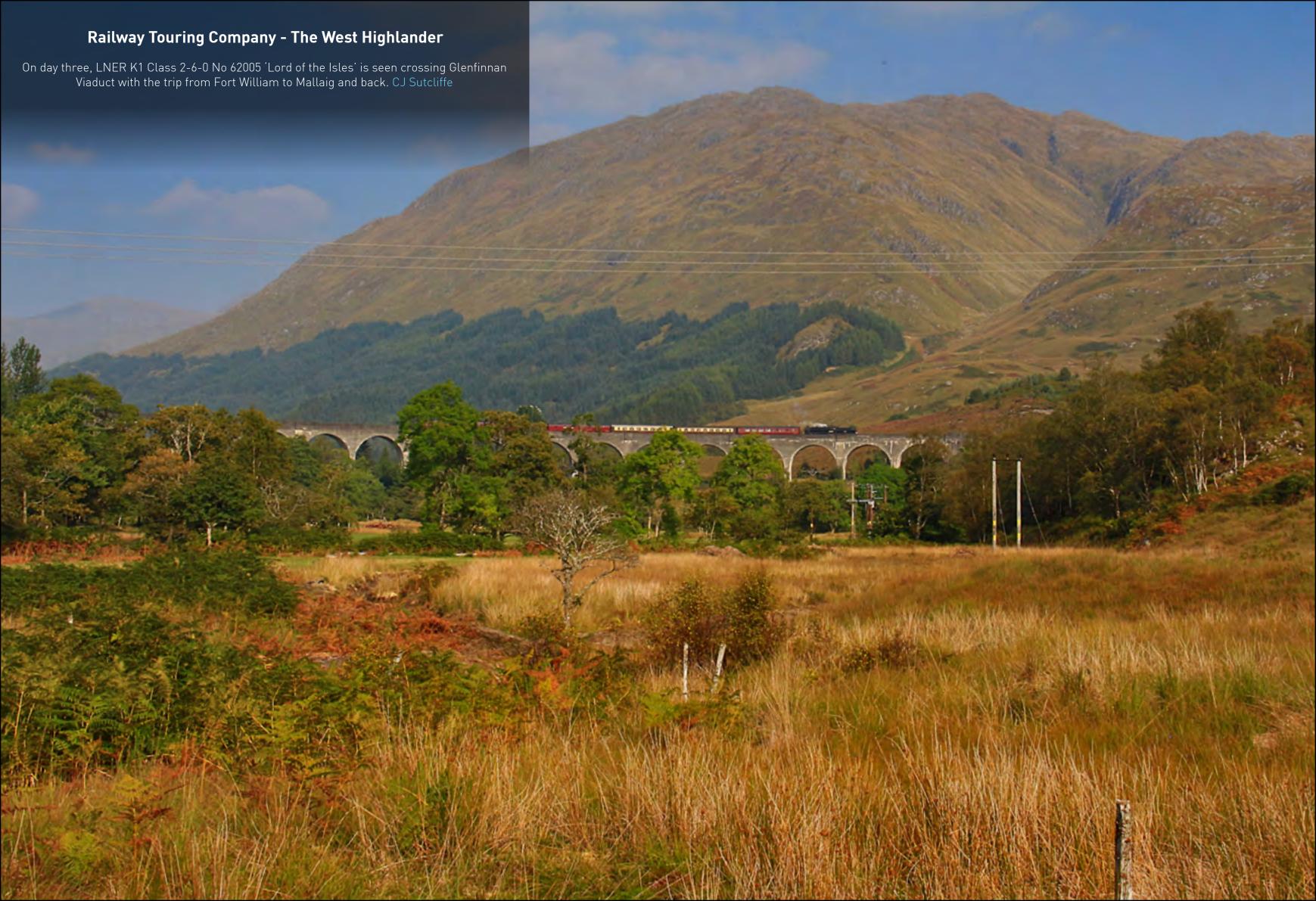
Railway Touring Company - The West Highlander

Top Left: Gresley K4 2-6-0 No. 61994 'The Great Marquess' ascends Beattock with the 1Z56 Preston - Glasgow Central on September 19th. This was day one of the four day tour. CJ Sutcliffe

Bottom Left: On day three. LMS Stanier Class 5 4-6-0 No. 45407 'The Lancashire Fusilier' is seen arriving into Crianlarich, where the train was booked for a 2 hour stop for water. CJ Sutcliffe

Below: Again on day three and with the mountains towering behind her, No. 45407 is seen working the West Highlander back to Glasgow Queen Street shortly after passing Bridge of Orchy. CJ Sutcliffe

























































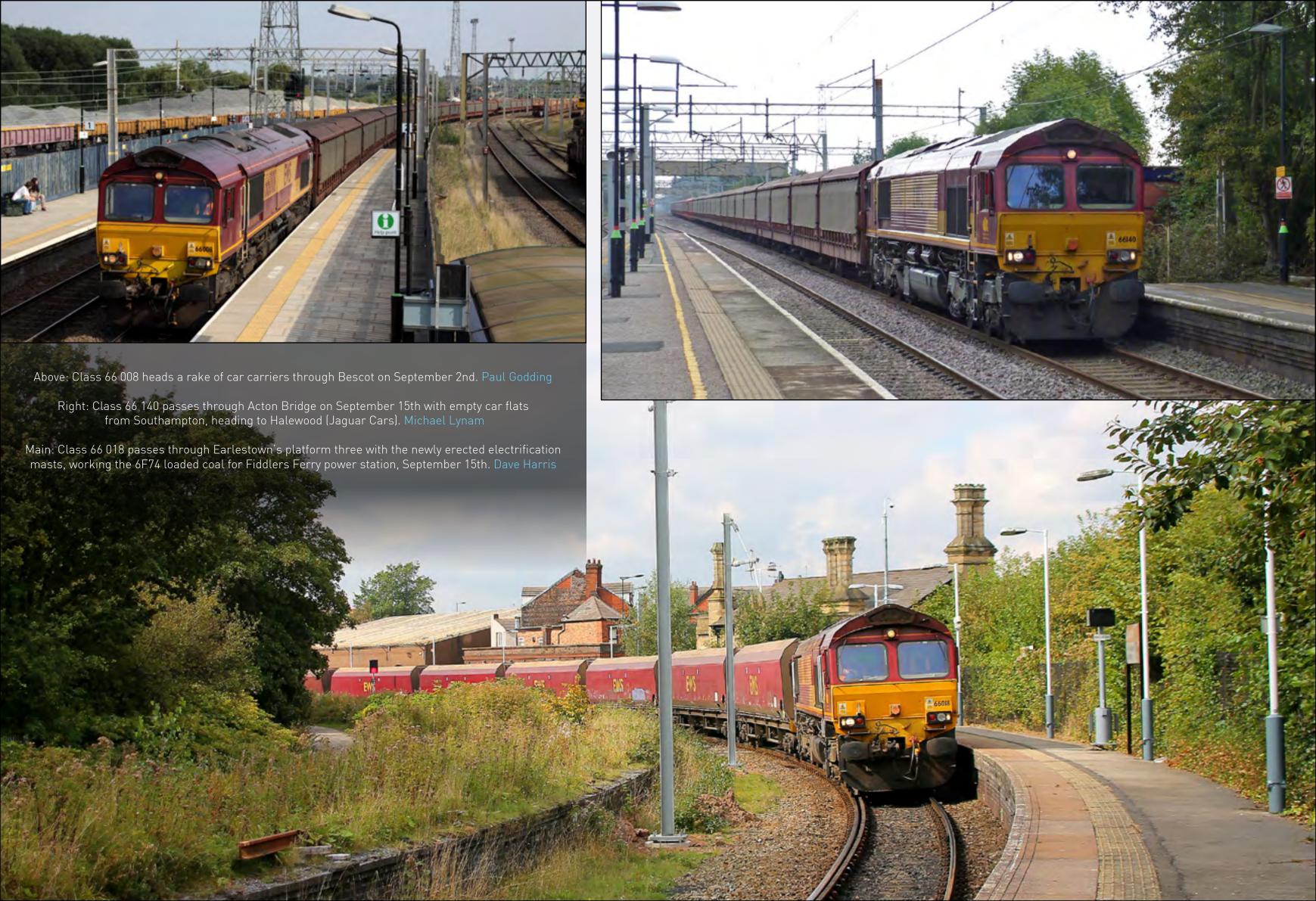








































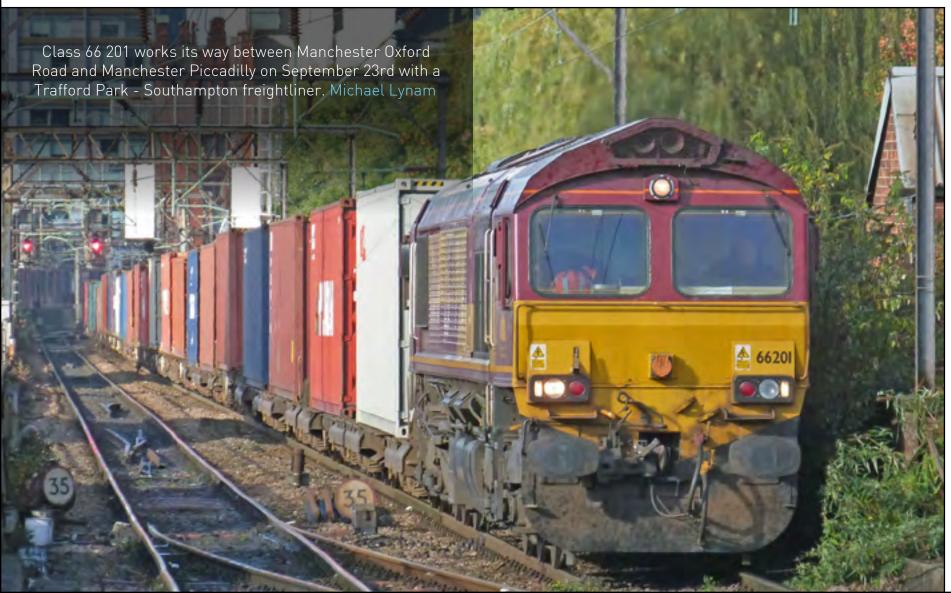


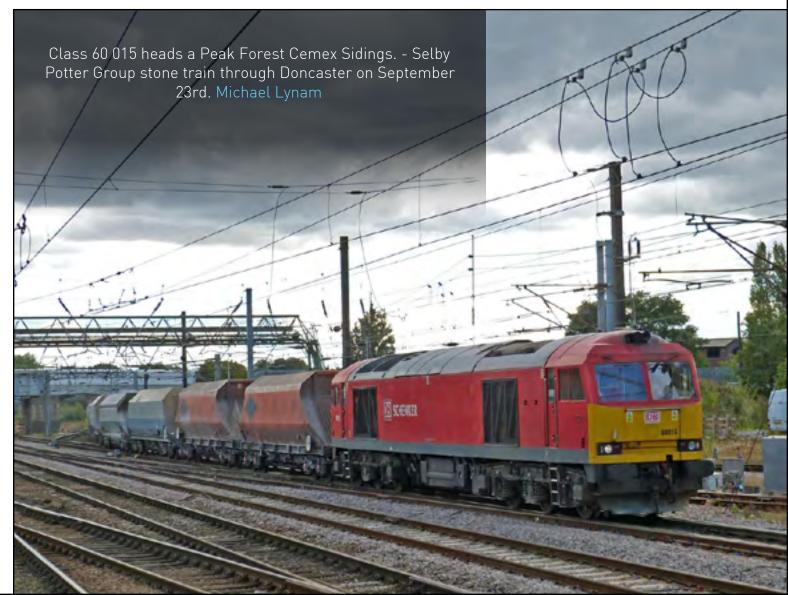




























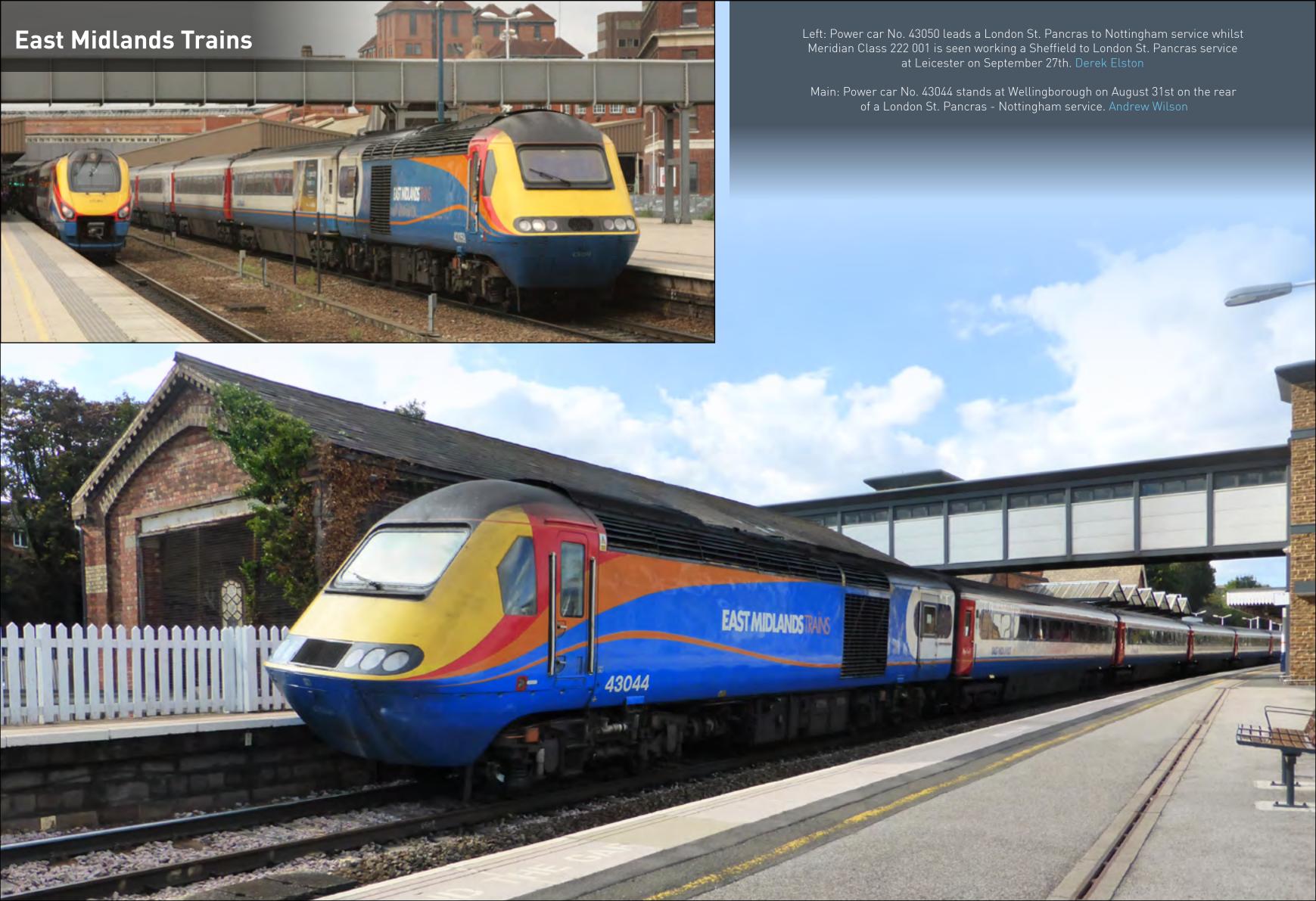




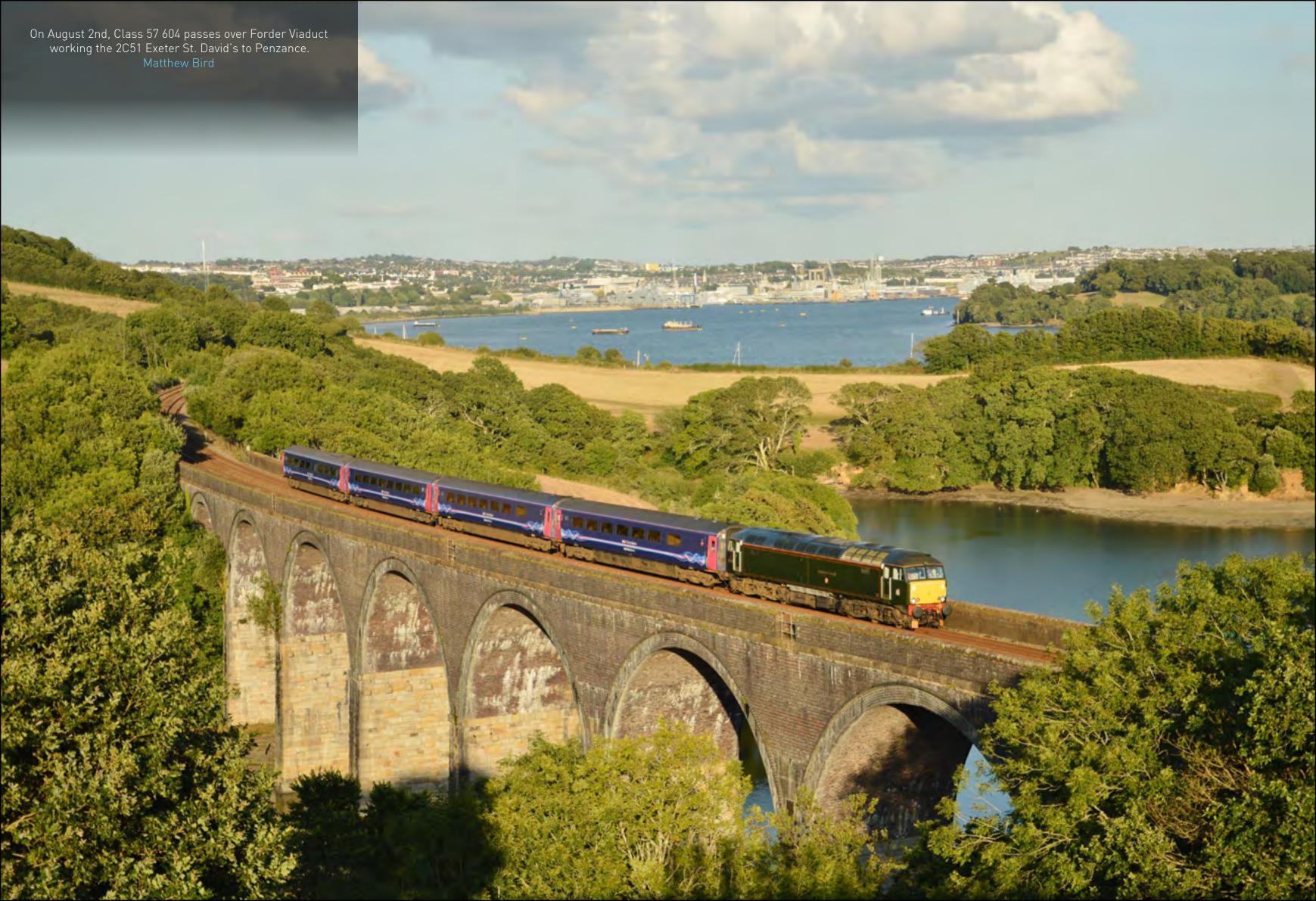








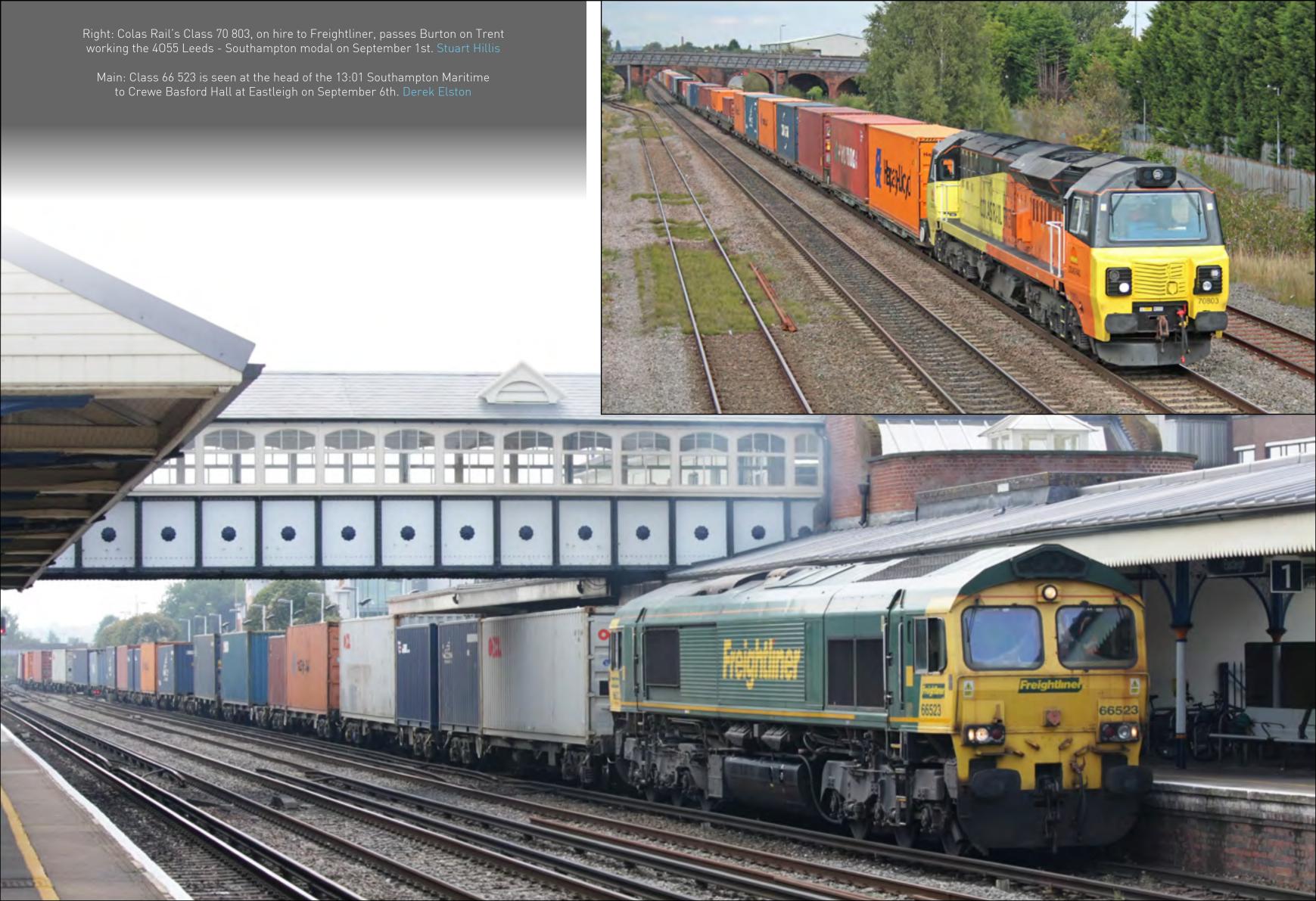






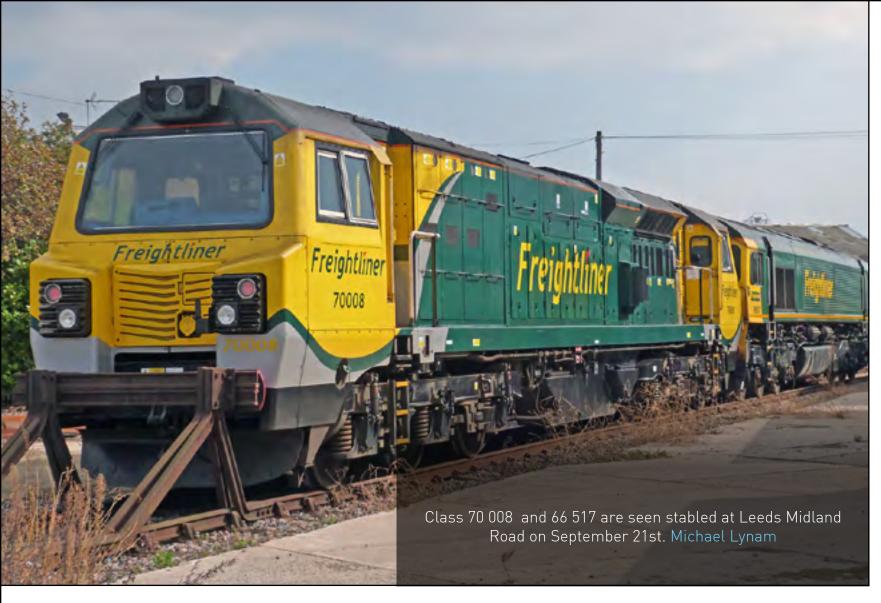












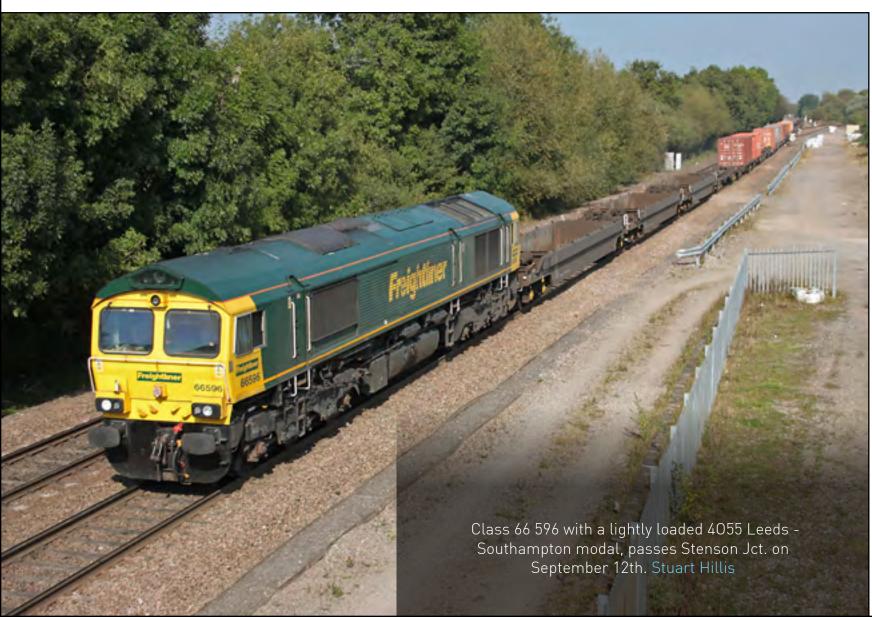












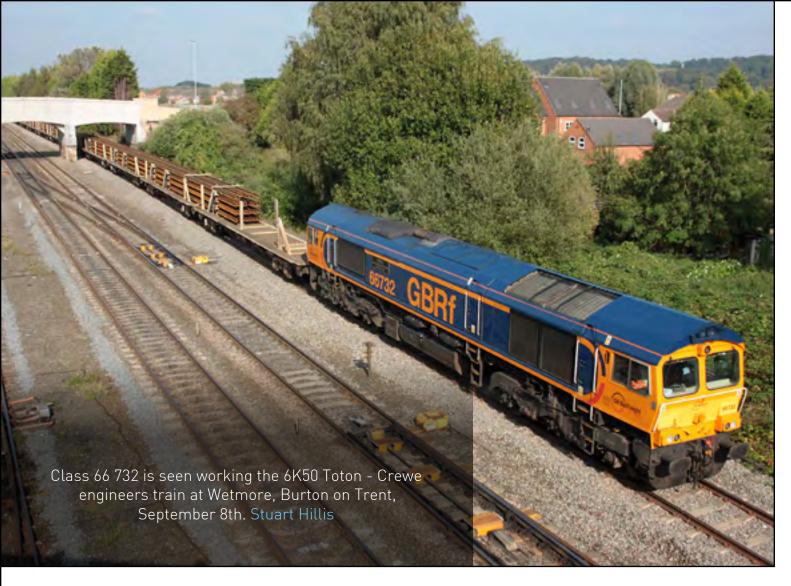


















































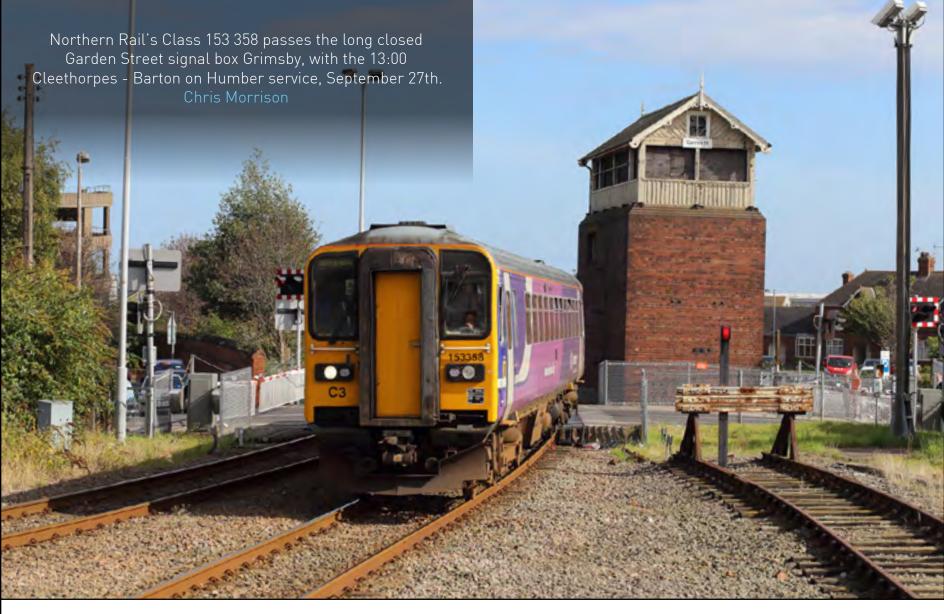




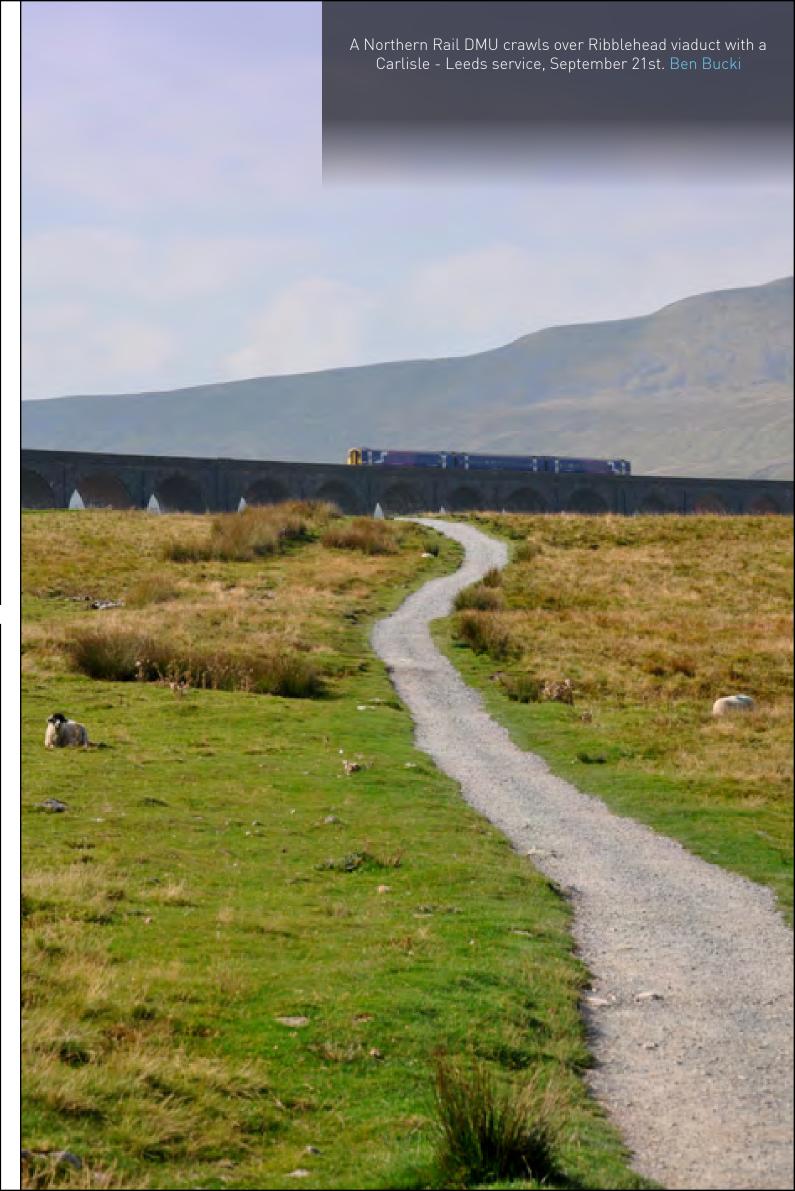










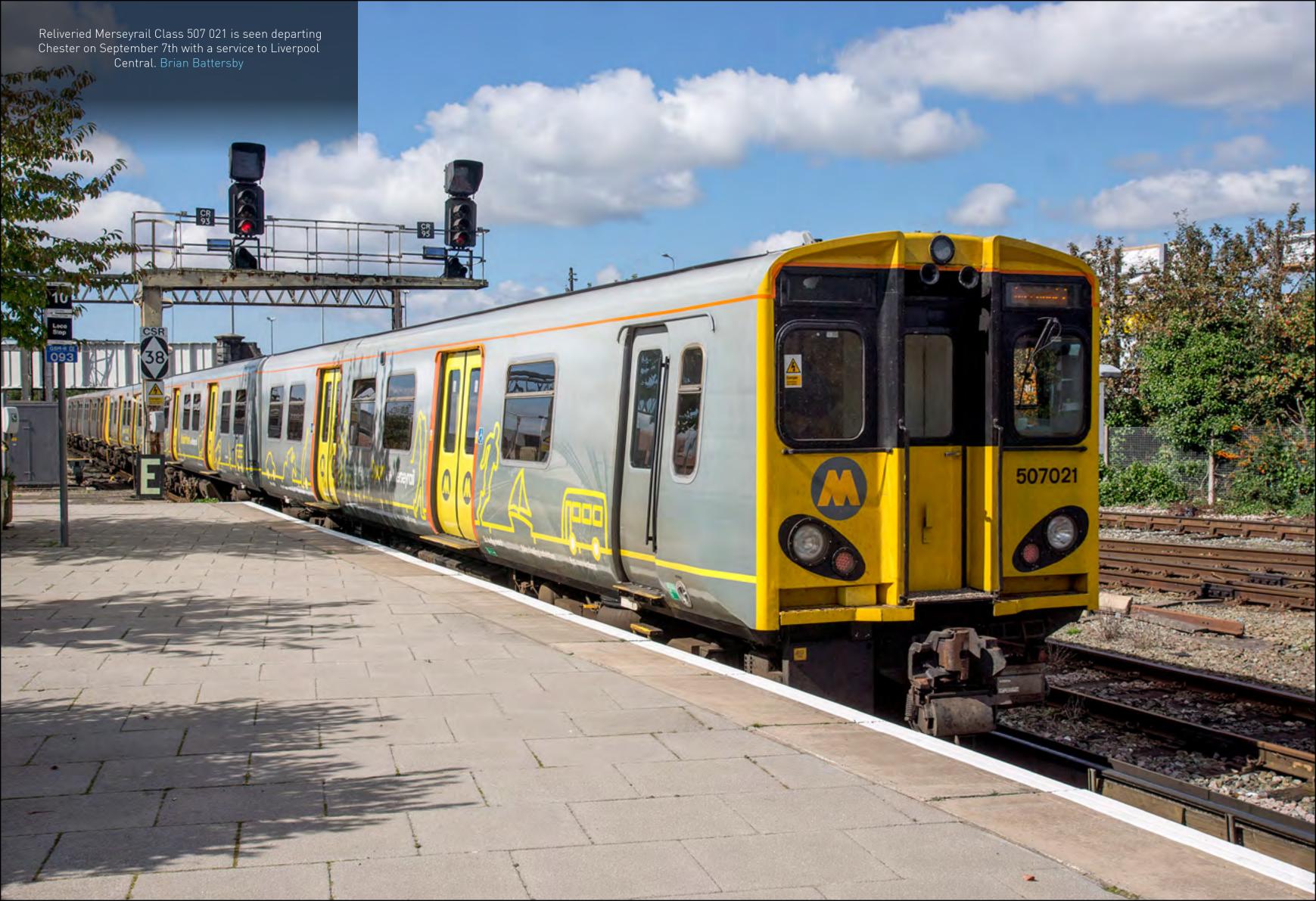




























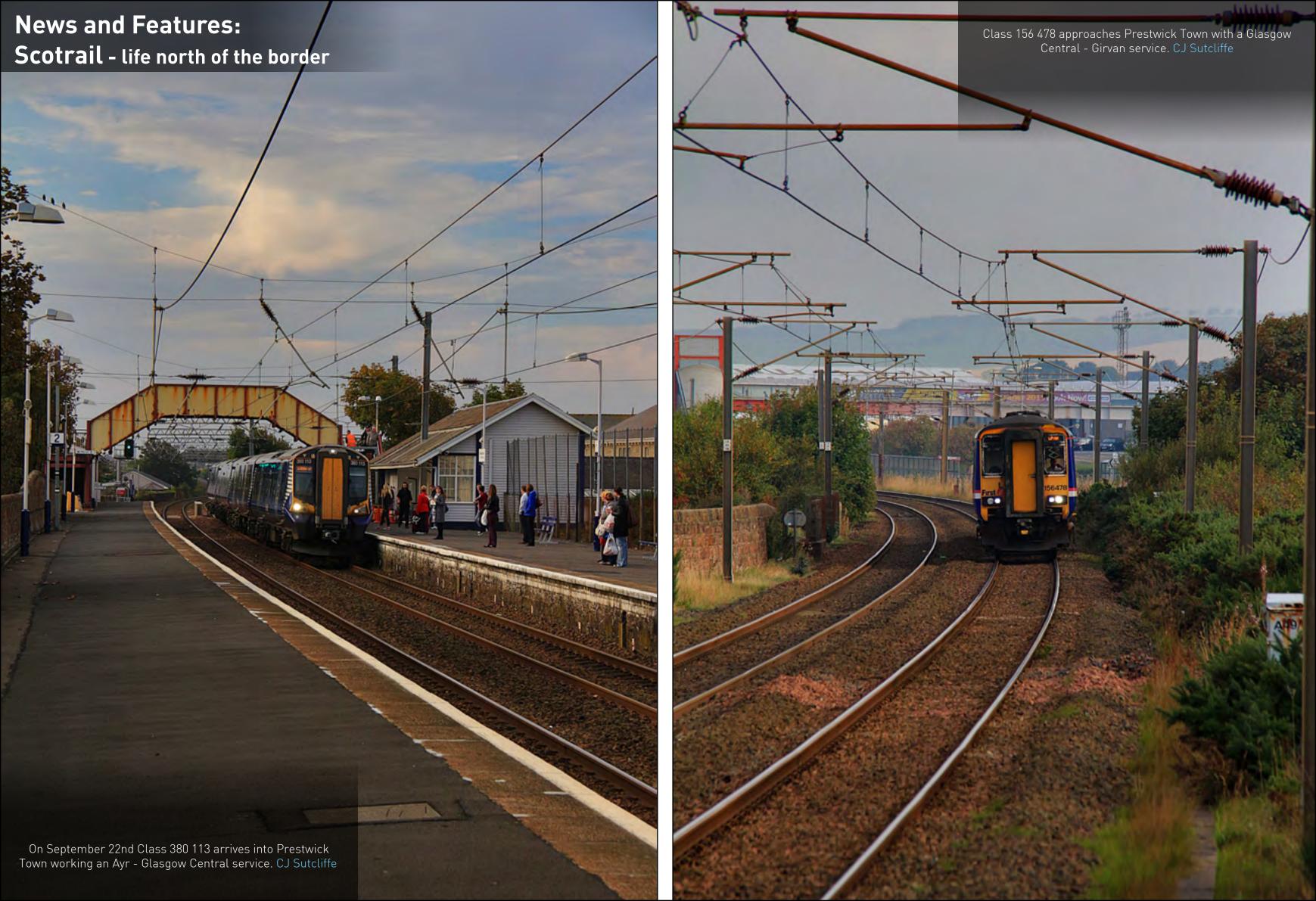
















Fares Advice with RailUK

This month more questions and answers on the complex ticketing system of Britain's Railways.

Genuine inter-TOC competition at Milton Keynes

Virgin and London Midland both carry passengers between Milton Keynes and London and I believe this benefits passengers making this journey in terms of fares.

There are a lot of fares available, and recently some fares have come down, I believe due to competition.

There are operator restricted tickets for both London Midland and Virgin, and for travelcards there's even a Southern only option! Fairly recently London Midland cut the cost of their travelcard by 50p, which made them the cheapest for this ticket type. I was pleasantly surprised to see, the other day, that Virgin have matched London Midland's lower price! Which leaves poor old Southern as the least frequent but most expensive option... (besides any permitted).

I also now discover Virgin are selling advance tickets for this flow, when previously it used to be just London Midland!

As for off-peak day singles, London Midland have introduced a temporary new fare to undercut the Virgin Trains Only fare, but as I believe as London Midland are considered the main operator this cannot be offered for any longer than 12 weeks.

The downside of all this is the perhaps confusing array of options about who to travel with!

But to try and sum it up...

For travelcards...

Southern

Pros: Earliest departure from Milton Keynes for an off peak ticket, at 0913. Useful if you have to be in west London early but cheap.
Offers an alternative route and destinations which may prove more convenient depending on the case.
Power sockets in standard on most trains- new 5 car trains have them

Cons: Most expensive operator specific travelcard. Least frequent service. Slow, stopping service. Earliest 'last train back', particularly early at weekends.

Virgin

Pros: Fastest journey time.
Joint cheapest off-peak option.
Cheapest anytime option. Often
perceived to have nicer rolling stock/
journey experience (others would
disagree) (shop- power sockets
in standard, 2+2 seating). Seat
reservations available.

Cons: Later start (weekends)/earlier end of service than London Midland. Latest services are slower (as slow as a LM stopper!) and less frequent-stopping at Watford Junction and pathed more slowly. Uneven spacing of off peak London departures at Milton Keynes. Lack of peak time departures! (pick up/drop off only, or sailing straight past). Latest (weekday) first off-peak departure/arrival into London.

London Midland

Pros: Very early and very late ervices offered. Fastest services are not much slower (but less frequent) than Virgin. The most services. Joint cheapest off-peak option. Earliest weekday off-peak arrival into Euston.

Cons: Generally and mostly slower than Virgin. Very expensive travelling in the peak- no London Midland Only option. 3+2 seating on a significant chunk of rolling stock. No power sockets in vast majority of standard class (I am yet to board a 350/3).

Advance fares...

London Midland have the cheapest fare. Virgin tiers come just above the LM equivalent.

Anytime day single: Virgin Only cheaper than Any Permitted by 50p Off Peak day Single: (apart from LMs temporary £12 fare) Virgin Only cheaper by £1.

Anytime Day Return: Virgin Only £9 cheaper than Any Permitted, but can be made use of on very few departures.

Off Peak Day Return: LM only and Virgin only same price, £8 cheaper than Any Permitted.

Off Peak Return: Virgin Trains Only £10 cheaper than Any Permitted

Ticket Advice for All

Advice on rail ticketing is available on railforums.co.uk in the 'Fares, Tickets & Routeing' section. We believe this to be the best source of UK rail fares advice available anywhere, as we have a team of people who are familiar with thecomplex rail fares system who can help you.

Never pay over the odds again, and ask us if you need help! See you there!

Who wants a train named after them for their birthday?

GBRf recently celebrated one of their very own employees by giving them a train......well not quite, they had a locomotive named after them. Not the normal present we know, but Sarah Whurr has worked tirelessly for GBRf over the past few years and there was no better way to honour her achievements and commitment to the team. On her request, no reference to her age can ever be released into the public sphere!







Loco Fleet List 2014

This publication gives a reference to all the Diesel & Electric Locomotives which have operated on Britain's railways from the early experimental era right up until the present day.

This information has been put together to give an easy reference to the numbering and official naming of each locomotive and includes all withdrawn, preserved and currently operating locos in TOPS classification order.

Contents

- Diesel Locomotives
- DC Electric & Electro-Diesel Locos
- AC Electric Locomotives
- Eurotunnel Locomotives
- Unclassified & Prototype Locos
- Locomotive Names

Loco Fleet List 2014 is available via mail order for just £7.99 plus £1.99 P&P with a cheque or postal order made payable to: L Miller and sent to: 7 Wood Street, Warrington, WA1 3AY or by using Paypal when visiting the Milz Publications website.

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2014

THE COMPLETE
LIST OF DIESEL
AND ELECTRIC
LOCOMOTIVES TO
RUN ON BR AND
THE NATIONAL
RAIL NETWORK

Web:www.milzpublications.co.uk Email:lee@milzpublications.co.uk

KAREN BOSWELL IS 'WOMAN OF THE YEAR 2014'

East Coast Managing Director, Karen Boswell, scooped the prestigious 'Woman of the Year' Award at a ceremony in London on September 16th. The Women 1st Shine Awards are designed to shine light on women who are already making their mark in industry. As Woman of the Year 2014, Karen Boswell now joins the elite Top 100 Club of Britain's most influential women in hospitality, passenger transport, travel and tourism.

Speaking about her award, Karen Boswell said: "This award is one for the team; it's for every one of my colleagues in East Coast who has helped to transform our business over the last five years. I'm absolutely thrilled to have won this award, and we're all really so proud of what we've been able to achieve together to turn around this jewel in the crown of Britain's railways."

In an industry where women account for just 20% of the workforce, Karen Boswell has made her mark. She took over at East Coast in 2009, after the business had failed twice previously. The Company operates long-distance rail services between London, West Yorkshire, the North East of England and Scotland on the East Coast Main Line. Staff morale was at an all time low in 2009, but her conviction that the bottom line benefits when employee engagement is high, together with Karen's relentless focus on the customer, has created a remarkable turnaround at East Coast.

Under Karen's leadership, EastCoast has created a successful business model and developed a people strategy that focuses on delivering talent and innovation. At 91%, customer

satisfaction is the highest since records began on the line, and East Coast now holds the top customer score of any long-distance franchised rail operator in the UK. And at 73%, East Coast's employee engagement rating is also a record for any previous operator on the East Coast Main Line; the Company is also now one of Britain's

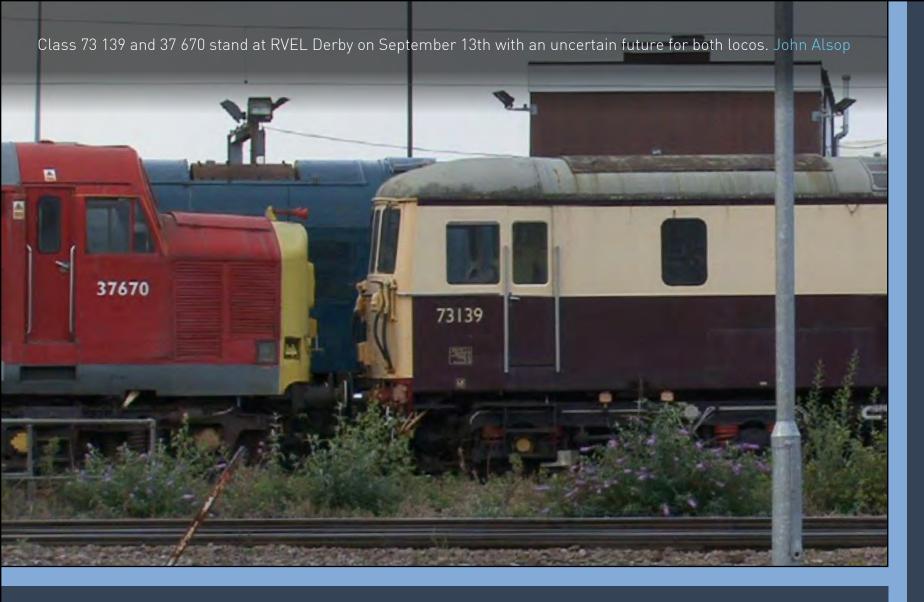
most profitable train companies, delivering strong returns for the taxpayer.

Karen Boswell's colleagues at East Coast describe her as "an authentic spirited leader" who has created a unique "Brand Boswell", respected by her industry peers, and political masters alike. Karen also supports and mentors other women in the East Coast business, and is an active member of Forward Ladies, which seeks to inspire women in professional life.



'Women 1st' was established in 2009 by skills and workforce development charity, People 1st, with a clear mission to have at least one female candidate on the long-list for every board or executive team position by 2017. But the last word goes to Karen Boswell: "I'm really grateful to Women 1st, for shining a light on the place of women in business - and for supporting over 1,200 women though it's training and mentoring programmes. And that's just fantastic."

East Coast is planned to be returned once again to public sector operation in March 2015, value-added, and in excellent commercial and financial shape.



DB Schenker Rail UK wins first 50' freight flow

DB Schenker Rail UK has begun running a new service for WH Malcolm on 31st August between Daventry and Grangemouth. This freight flow is in addition to the Daventry to Mossend service which DB Schenker Rail UK has been running since early April. The new flow will transport goods seven-days-a-week for a large number of high profile retailers and manufacturers.

Each year DB Schenker Rail UK will now move over 40,000 containers for WH Malcolm. The latest win means that the major traffic flows to Grangemouth remain on rail, saving over 13,000,000 road miles per year. This further develops a commitment to the environment through the use of rail. The new service also carried the first 50' containers to travel by rail in the UK.

Offering an enhanced capacity for the domestic market, and by using existing railway wagons the Malcolm 50' container is a real game changer.

Neil McDonald, Head of Sales at DB Schenker Rail UK says: "This is another fantastic win for DB Schenker Rail UK so soon after beginning the service from Daventry to Mossend. This demonstrates the level of service and efficiency that DB Schenker Rail UK is bringing to each contract, providing true efficiencies and reliability for our customers. "It is also great news for the local area that these shipments remain on rail, supporting jobs in Grangemouth and keeping lorries off the road."

Andrew Malcolm, Chief Executive of The Malcolm Group says: "We chose DB Schenker Rail UK because they provided an effective solution, which delivered our demanding requirements. Our business is built upon practical solutions and building successful partnerships, and the award of this second service highlights the relationship we are building. DB Schenker Rail UK have worked with us to get our new 50' units on the train, allowing us to offer more capacity to our customer base."

Welcome to Thameslink and Great Northern



Thameslink and Great Northern rail services commenced on Sunday 14 September, the first phase of the new franchise.

GTR is the largest rail franchise in the UK in terms of passenger numbers, trains, revenue and staff; and the first one to start operating under the Government's new franchising programme.

At the launch of the new franchise, Charles Horton, GTR Chief Executive, said: "I'm very excited to be leading the team dedicated to running the UK's biggest franchise. Over time we will be making real improvements to passengers' experience and managing the major changes that are happening on this part of the rail network.

"We've listened to what people want, and will be increasing capacity on busy commuter services, improving reliability and punctuality, introducing three new fleets of trains, spending £50 million on station improvements, and investing in our employees' training and development.

"There's no underestimating the challenge of the task ahead. But I'm confident that we have the people and the plans in place to make a real difference to the service we give our passengers, and that for our staff GTR will be a great place to work."

There will be £430 million investment in the GTR franchise during its seven-year term, bringing significant improvements for passengers, including:

- •New trains three new train fleets for Thameslink, Great Northern and Gatwick Express
- •More services 26% more carriages and 10,000 additional seats on trains to London in the morning peak, and additional services

- •Increased capacity 50% more room for passengers
- •Improved reliability and punctuality restructured timetable, improved operations
- •More ticket options flexible ticket options and new GTR smartcard 'the key'
- •Better connections up to 24 trains an hour through the Thameslink core in peak periods, links to Gatwick and Luton airports and Crossrail
- •Improved stations Wi-Fi at 104 stations, staffing from first to last train at 101 stations, ticket machines and information screens at all stations

The Thameslink and Great Northern routes connect important regional centres north and south of London such as Peterborough, Cambridge, Bedford, Luton, Brighton, Portsmouth and Southampton. The services have direct rail links to Gatwick and Luton airports, and to Eurostar at St Pancras International. And from 2018 trains to Farringdon station will connect with Crossrail, bringing fast links to Heathrow, Canary Wharf and central London.

In July 2015 the Southern and Gatwick Express routes will be incorporated into GTR, and a small number of services and stations currently operated by Southeastern will transfer to the franchise in December 2014.

GTR will carry about 273 million passenger journeys per year, employ around 6,500 people and generate annual passenger revenues of approximately £1.3bn.

The basis of the franchise is a management contract, which means that Govia passes the ticket revenues directly to the Government rather than the company retaining the revenue. This is due to the complexity and scale of the changes to the services and infrastructure.



Rail minister visits £280m rail project in Lincolnshire

Minister of State for Transport, Baroness Kramer, visited Lincolnshire on Thursday 11 September to view progress on the £280m project to upgrade and modernise a key rail artery that will enable more and better services to run. The Government-funded 'GNGE project' will finish later this year and will help to meet growing demand for rail services in the region. It will also become an important diversionary route for the East Coast Main Line, allowing improved services to run during improvement work and times of disruption Baroness Kramer officially opened a new underpass in Heighington which provides a safe walking route underneath the railway for the many school children who use the route every day. The minister also visited the reinstated rail bypass at Sleaford that enables freight services to bypass Sleaford, improving rail capacity and reducing congestion in the town centre.

Transport Minister Baroness Kramer said: "It is a huge pleasure to be here in Lincolnshire to see how this vital project is already benefiting local people and passengers. Our ambition is to have a railway fit for the 21st century which is why we are investing more than £38bn over the next five years to maintain and enhance our network. That means more trains, seats and quicker and more reliable journeys for passengers." Justin Page, area director for Network Rail, added: "This is a complex project involving many miles of railway line between Peterborough and Gainsborough which is used by both passenger and freight trains. This vital project will enable more trains to run, helping to meet growing demand for rail services. It will also act as an important diversionary route for the East Coast Main Line at times of disruption or engineering work."

Stephen Phillips MP for Sleaford and North Hykeham said: "I welcome the completion of the Heighington underpass, as it will ensure that local residents, particularly children, are safer when crossing from one side of the line to the other. I am also glad to see that the Sleaford rail bypass has now been returned to full use, so freight trains can bypass the town significantly reducing traffic congestion. These projects show how important Government investment is to communities like ours, and I am delighted to see the fruits of this funding in our area."

Technology broadcaster Maggie Philbin and Network Rail team up to show girls how tech and trains can lead to a great career

BBC Tomorrow's World presenter and technology broadcaster and TeenTech founder Maggie Philbin has joined forces with Network Rail to help dispel myths about working in IT and encourage more girls to pursue a tech-related career.

Maggie is helping Network Rail launch the second year of its award-winning Could IT Be You? competition for girls, which was set up in 2013 by the company's chief information officer, Susan Cooklin, after she raised concerns about the rapid slide in the number of women entering the UK's IT sector.

According to the employer body e-skills UK, the number of women working in the IT industry in Britain is falling

dramatically. In the 1980s it was as high as 38% but by 2011 has fallen to just 17%. Every year the IT and telecoms professional workforce requires almost 21,000 new entrants directly from education, but at present, only 15% of students on IT-related degrees in the UK are female.

Commenting on why girls aren't choosing the technology path given how much it impacts on our lives, Maggie Philbin said: "With the world of technology, and the opportunities within it, hurtling forward at lightning speed – it is so important that we support girls getting into IT careers and show how they too can help drive this industry forward. Projects like this are a fantastic way of getting young women excited about the opportunities that are out there and showcasing exactly how they can turn their passion into a valuable, exciting career.

"With the launch of our own awards calendar on the horizon, it's a really exciting time to be linking up with Network Rail and I look forward to seeing the competition entries in a few months' time."

Susan Cooklin, Network Rail's chief information officer and founder of Could IT Be You?, said: "Popular culture has helped create a perception among young women that a career in IT is all about writing code in basement offices – the reality couldn't be

further from the truth. The winners from last year's competition all showed a creative mind for solving problems and good communications, and these are the skills that business leaders are after. Technology plays an absolutely crucial role in moving 4m people by rail in Britain, safely and reliably, every day. This competition is a great way to help young women realise what a career in IT is really about and the fantastic career opportunities that a company like Network Rail can offer."

The Could IT Be You? competition is open to girls aged 16-18 and asks them to explain how technology can improve their lives and make things better. The winner gets their first year of university fees paid for by Network Rail, and with three runners up, two weeks paid work experience and mentoring with the company's IT team. Network Rail will also take part in events organised by TeenTech, founded by Maggie in 2008, which runs lively one-day events to help the 'X Factor' generation understand their true potential and the technology opportunities available in the modern workplace.

Photo: Could IT Be You? winners take up their paid work experience prize - here at Wembley signalling centre. © Network Rail





DB Schenker Rail UK to fit 'stop-start' technology on locomotives

DB Schenker Rail UK are seeking to save over 4,500 tonnes in carbon emissions every year through the introduction of stop-start technology to ninety class 66 locomotives

DBSR UK has been trialling Auto Engine Stop Start technology (AESS) on a Class 66 locomotive since February 2014. The loco No. 66 176 has been working in Cornwall on the Imerys traffic flow.

The trial has provided data which confirmed a reduction in fuel consumption when the stop start technology is used, resulting in a lower impact on the environment.

The technology, manufactured by ZTR, works in a similar manner to stop start technology in a car, stopping the engine from running when idling. Results showed that the amount of time the engine was running was reduced by approximately one third. This would reduce CO2 emissions by over 50 tonnes, equating to a saving of over 4,500 tonnes of CO2 for the ninety class 66s that will be fitted with the technology by the end of 2015 - approximately a 10% reduction overall.

The company also anticipates that the technology will help improve reliability for customers. Tests indicate that use of the stop start technology will reduce the number of flat batteries as well as the potential for locos to freeze in cold weather conditions. All relevant safety checks have also been carried out.

The rollout will commence this year with 90 planned to be completed before the end of 2015.

Andrew Byrne, Head of Maintenance and Infrastructure DBSR UK, said: "The Auto Engine Stop Start technology (AESS) provides huge opportunities to improve the environment impact of rail freight. Although rail freight is a more environmentally friendly mode of transport solution than road, we continuously seek to find ways in which the impact of rail freight can be reduced further. We aspire to become an eco-pioneer, and this project is a key part of that strategy."

Exhibition charting the railway's role in World War One arrives at Leeds station

A new exhibition telling the story of the vital role Britain's railway and its staff played in World War One has arrived at Leeds station.

The free exhibition uses original photographs, documents and historical facts to bring to life the achievements of the railway in helping to transport hundreds of thousands of troops and thousands of tonnes of equipment.

Produced by the Rail Delivery Group, which brings together Network Rail and rail operators, it also tells the story of the women who kept the network running while men were fighting on the Front Line, sowing the seed of social change in the process.

After war was declared at 11pm on 4 August 1914, rail helped move troops from across Britain to London. In the first few weeks of war, trains helped mobilise:

- around 118,000 army personnel;
- 37,000 horses:
- 314 guns;
- 5,200 vehicles:
- 1,800 bicycles, and
- over 4,500 tons of baggage.

The city of Leeds was crucial in the war effort:

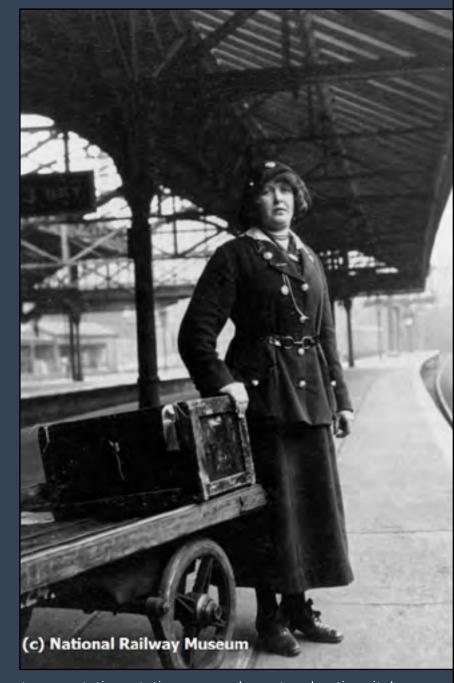
- More than 80,000 men from Leeds enlisted
- The first 80 wounded men arrived at the Leeds Midland Railway Station after the Battle of the Marne in September 1914
- Leeds was the biggest manufacturer of ammunition in World War One

The exhibition will remain on Leeds station's north concourse until Tuesday, 28 October.

Michael Roberts, Director General of the Rail Delivery Group, said: "As the country commemorates World War One, this exhibition marks the important contribution made by the railway during the conflict which also saw thousands of men from across Yorkshire depart Leeds by train to travel to the front.

"The pictures and words in the exhibition touring some of Britain's biggest stations help tell the story of labour shortages that threatened vital supplies getting to the Front Line and how women kept the railway running."

Warrick Dent, area director for Network Rail, said: "When Britain declared war against Germany in 1914, it was the railway that enabled the rapid mobilisation of British forces and their equipment to France. From that point on, rail played a crucial role in the war effort, not just through

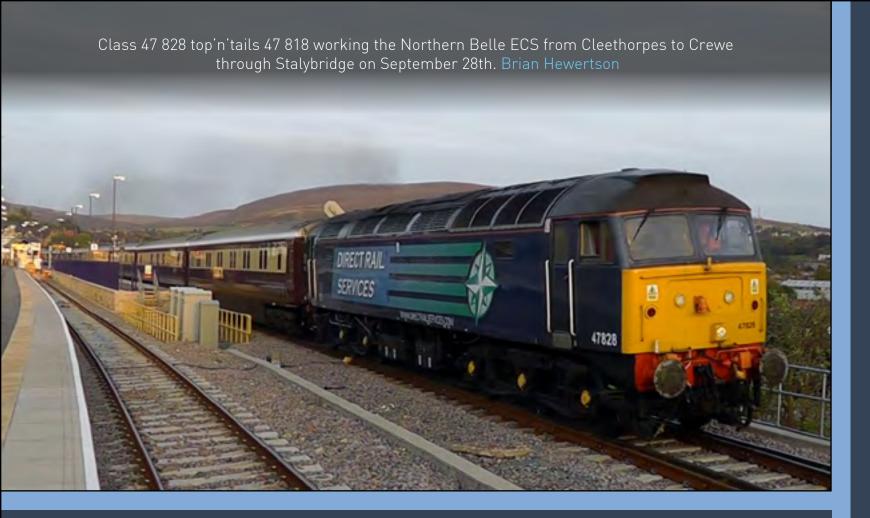


transportation; stations were places to advertise vital information and feed and welcome home troops on leave or those brought back injured.

"It is also important that the bravery and efforts of people from different parts of the country are remembered and local history is preserved. Over 80,000 people from Leeds enlisted to fight in the First World War and we are pleased to help tell their story, and the railway in Yorkshire.

"As Britain commemorates the centenary of the start of the war, there are so many stories but we wanted to make sure that those railway workers who fought abroad and worked at home were remembered and their story told to a new generation of rail staff and passengers alike."

Photo: Female porter on the Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway, 1917 © National Railway Museum / Daily Herald Archive



Rail services resume as Selby Swing bridge re-opens for business

Rail passengers are able to catch their regular train on the York - Selby - Hull routes once again after Network Rail completed key stages in its £14m investment at Selby Swing Bridge.

No trains have been able to run over the bridge since the evening of 26 July while engineers replaced track, repaired steelwork, completed work to strengthen the bridge and improve the hydraulics and also repainted the structure.

Mark Tarry, area director for Network Rail, said: "This is the most significant improvement made to the bridge since it was built in 1889. Many parts of it will not need any further work for decades.

"Our engineers have worked around the clock to complete this work in the shortest possible timeframe and we thank passengers and local residents for their patience while it was carried out.

"An existing speed restriction on passenger services and a weight restriction for freight services can be lifted, improving the reliability of rail services on the route."

A spokesperson representing the train operators said: "The long-term approach by Network Rail to the improvements on the bridge means less disruption in the future for our customers. It's important for us as operators that customers feel our services are consistent as well as reliable and this investment will surely see that in place.

"We have worked hard to keep customers informed and up to date and we believe that the alternative travel arrangements have worked well. We'd like to thank rail passengers for their continued patience and understanding."

The bridge will not require further intervention on the same parts for: Paint = 25 years; Hydraulics = 20 years; Strengthened Spans 3 & 4 = 60 years; Reconstructed spans 1, 2 & 5 = 120 years

EAST COAST SALUTES 30 YEARS OF THE HIGHLAND CHIEFTAIN

Thirty years of proud railway service to the Scottish Highlands were celebrated in style on September 30th with the naming of an East Coast train at Inverness station

The Depute Provost of Inverness, Cllr. Jean Slater, joined Inverness-born Doug Sutherland, Chairman of East Coast's parent company Directly Operated Railways, and East Coast Managing Director Karen Boswell, to name High Speed Train power car number 43308 'Highland Chieftain' at the city's railway station today.

The Highland Chieftain service has been connecting the Highland capital city of Inverness, Edinburgh and London daily since 1984 – providing a vital link for business and leisure travellers, and making an important contribution to the region's economy.

Invited guests and passengers witnessed the ceremony prior to the train's departure for London at 07.55, as a red and silver brass 'Highland Chieftain' nameplate was unveiled on the side of the locomotive by the Deputy Provost, to the sound of a traditional Scottish salute provided by a lone piper.

Depute Provost Cllr. Jean Slater said: "As a regular user of this service I am delighted to be part of the celebrations here today. Everyone involved in this service should be proud of the standard of the dedicated on board train crew who go out of their way to make the journey special for both business travellers and visitors to the Highlands.

"With tourism being at the heart of the highland economy, the Highland Chieftain provides a vital link and gives travellers the chance to view our wonderful Highland scenery whilst travelling in comfort. With all the exciting developments taking place in and around Inverness and the highlands, I look forward to the Highland Chieftain continuing to play an important role in the future."

Directly Operated Railways Chairman Doug Sutherland said: "It's a proud day for me personally, as a native of this fair city, to return home on this auspicious occasion for Inverness. "Although this is as far north as we go with East Coast, it's far from the end of the line for the railway Inverness station stands proudly as the gateway to some of the finest and most stunning railway scenery in the world, on the Kyle and Far North lines.

"The city offers a warm Highland welcome and an enviable choice of attractions for the thousands of visitors we bring by this train directly to the capital of the Highlands. "Over its thirty years, the Highland Chieftain service has contributed greatly to the economic and social well-being of this city and the wider region. Our newlynamed train will now proudly promote the Highlands as it travels the 581.75 railway miles between Inverness and London King's Cross."

East Coast says the Highland Chieftain service is popular with business travellers, with on average 59% of First Class seats on the 'Chieftain' occupied north of Edinburgh, compared with 39% in First Class across the East Coast route as a whole.



East Coast Managing Director Karen Boswell said: "This is a great day for all of us at East Coast, for the people of Inverness and the Highland region." With almost 20 million passenger journeys on our trains, up four and a half percent on last year, and an operating profit before tax and service payments to the Department for Transport of £225.3 million, the Highland Chieftain service continues to play an important role in East Coast's success.

"For the future, we can look forward to a brand-new fleet"

"For the future, we can look forward to a brand-new fleet of trains, the InterCity Express, entering service from 2018. The first prototype train is being tested right now in Japan, and construction work on a factory to build the trains in Britain is well underway. "As we look forward to exciting times for our railway, we also look back with pride today at 30 years of the 'Highland Chieftain' service to this beautiful city and region. The 'Chieftain' is a very important contributor to the economic and social well-being of the Highlands, and we know from the feedback we receive from our customers just how important and valued the service is."

DB Schenker Rail UK chalks up another win in the Intermodal market

DB Schenker Rail UK's presence at UK Ports including Felixstowe, Southampton and London Gateway, together with its ongoing commitment to the Intermodal market, has led to the company winning new business.

DBSR UK ran the first train out of London Gateway on 23 September 2013, and since then has seen an increase in terms of containers moved to and from the port. The company expects to have moved c4,000 containers by the first anniversary of the port opening.

Customers are moving to DBSR UK for a complete portfolio of services including terminal management, loading, unloading and delivery. New customers are enjoying improved levels of service and the availability of DBSR UK's industry leading order-tracking software, Anubis.

DBSR UK works with each customer to understand its individual needs with the aim of optimising inventories, reducing time-to-market and total spend, as well as adding value. Key facts about DBSR UK's intermodal provision are:

- Performance achieved provides for 98% right time arrival
- Imports through the port are primarily from South Africa and South America and include tinned foodstuffs, specialised wooden products, including plywood and furniture, and Castor Oil
- Exports through the port include high value British foodstuffs, as well as recognised brands.

Neil McDonald, Head of Sales at DB Schenker Rail UK said: "The intermodal market is buoyant as customers look to the most cost efficient and environmentally friendly way of moving freight across the country. DB Schenker Rail UK is committed to a market where all customers can access good value, flexible and reliable services. Our new customers are telling us they want more choice - not just in their decisions between moving containers on road or rail, but also between rail freight providers."

"We are delighted that customers are turning to us in response to the improvements we've made in performance. We seek to build long term relationships with our customers, and provide services built around their individual needs. We are the only provider in the UK that offers a range of flexible options for customers, allowing them to move smaller quantities of goods by purchasing only a proportion of the train - an option which is serving our customers' needs well."

Following new business wins from MOL, Evergreen, Hamburg Sued, Hapag Lloyd, OOCL, and Hyundai, DBSR UK has won business with Deutsche Afrika-Linien shipping line, whose UK agent is Cory, to move containers from Trafford Park to London Gateway.

Caron Friston, Liner General Manager at Cory Brothers said:

"Since the move of our DAL Deutsche Afrika-Linien service to London Gateway, DB Schenker Rail UK has demonstrated a willingness to work with us in a very positive way. The train timetable was changed very quickly to accommodate the SAECS vessels arrival and departures at London Gateway and they have displayed a proactive approach to understanding the needs of Cory Brothers, DAL and our client base. Every opportunity has been taken to involve us."

"We feel the relationship we've built and joint cooperation developed between Cory Brothers and DB Schenker Rail UK will be mutually beneficial to our businesses as we seek opportunities to grow through London Gateway - this new route from Trafford Park is a great example of that."



Leeds Bradford Rail Wi-Fi Installation Begins For Northern

Leeds and Bradford commuters travelling on Northern Rail's electric trains, will soon benefit from free Wi-Fi when travelling on Airedale and Wharfedale routes, as installation of the equipment begins, with connectivity for customers by the end of 2014.

The project is a joint initiative between Northern Rail, Leeds City Council, City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council and the West Yorkshire Combined Authority, and is thanks to an investment of £750,000 from BDUK (Broadband UK, an arm of the Department for Culture, Media and Sport).

This is the first Wi-Fi installation of its kind for Northern and free Wi-Fi will be available on Northern's electric trains, which operate between Leeds and Skipton, Ilkley and Bradford Forster Square.

Rob Warnes, Planning and Programmes Director for Northern, comments: "We are really excited to be offering free Wi-Fi to our customers travelling on our electric trains in Yorkshire. Installation starts next week and we will launch the free digital connectivity at the end of this year."

Phil Cole, Project Director Leeds Bradford SuperConnected Cities programme, said: "High quality internet access is becoming an increasingly important aspect of everyday life. As well as offering people the opportunity to access free Wi-Fi in places like Millennium Square and Briggate in Leeds and City Park in Bradford, the Superconnected Cities programme is providing free Wi-Fi in libraries in both cities and working with public transport providers. This project is an important first step in providing free Wi-Fi for passengers travelling between the two cities."

EDINBURGH TRAIN DEPOT TEAM CELEBRATES 100 YEARS OF SERVICE TO BRITAIN'S RAILWAYS

Train operator East Coast has) celebrated the centenary of its Craigentinny train servicing depot in Edinburgh by unveiling commemorative insignia and crests on its own flagship locomotive, which will be seen by millions of passengers from the Scottish Highlands to London.

Andy Cope, Non-Executive Director at East Coast's parent company Directly Operated Railways, and a former shift manager at Craigentinny depot, unveiled the insignia and crests. Also in attendance at the unveiling was East Coast Managing Director Karen Boswell, and Cabinet Secretary for Justice and MSP for the Edinburgh East and Musselburgh constituency Kenny MacAskill.

The newly unveiled train features striking new insignia with the words 'Craigentinny 100', and two cast-iron crests, each bearing a Scottish thistle and the simple message '100 Years, 1914-2014'. The locomotive will carry its message across Britain, promoting the 100 years of service at Craigentinny Depot.

The diesel High Speed Train locomotive is based at Craigentinny Depot, and travels extensively throughout East Coast's route network between Scotland and London, including on the company's longest route, the 580-mile 'Highland Chieftain' service between Inverness and London King's Cross.

Andy Cope told guests at today's ceremony: "Craigentinny has had and continues to have an important role in the railways of the UK and the East Coast route in particular. It was opened just before the First World War as a primarily carriage cleaning facility by the North British Railway. In the 1930s it saw the stabling of the iconic LNER Flying Scotsman and later The Coronation train sets, and the installation of one of the early exterior carriage washing machines.

"The 1950s and 1960s saw it become a cleaning location for the new Inter City diesel units introduced for the <u>Edinburgh-Glasgow service</u>, which could not be effectively cleaned at the maintenance depot at Leith Central.

"Finally in 1978 the introduction of HST services to the East Coast route saw the building of the current maintenance facility with some enhancements coming later. A further remodelling took place in 1991 with the introduction of the IC225 electric sets.

"Through all this time, the one thing that has marked the depot out is its ability to grab work from all sorts of sometimes unlikely directions to keep the place viable. Only by the determination of Craigentinny people and by adapting to changed workloads did the depot survive.

"But above all else, Craigentinny should be recognised for its contribution to East Coast and we are here to rename power car 43300 'Craigentinny'. And like the depot itself, this magnificent machine has gone through various changes: it was originally 43100 and was an original Craigentinny allocated power car."

East Coast Managing Director Karen Boswell and senior company personnel, local councillors, business stakeholders and representatives from the depot's 250-strong workforce also attended the event at the depot on Mountcastle Crescent in the east of the city.

Karen Boswell said: "Craigentinny is East Coast's main depot in Scotland, and plays an important role in the local economy and community in this part of Edinburgh. It is the place where humble carriage sidings opened at the start of the Great War in 1914, and grew to inherit the mantle of the oncegreat steam shed at St Margaret's, becoming Edinburgh's long-distance passenger train depot. Over the past hundred years, the East Coast route has seen many famous locomotives, including the iconic 'Flying Scotsman' and 'Mallard' in the steam era, and the powerful Deltic locos into the 1960s.

"Today, as well as providing an overnight base for the electric trains that operate the modern-day 'Flying Scotsman', Craigentinny is home to East Coast's High Speed Train (HST) fleet which provide sterling service on our longest-distance routes, including the 'Highland Chieftain' which makes the 582-mile journey between Inverness, Edinburgh and London each day. The Craigentinny team also maintain trains for other operators including Cross Country and First TransPennine Express.

"East Coast carries almost 20 million passengers a year between Scotland, North East England, Yorkshire and London. We're delighted to celebrate Craigentinny's centenary with the dedicated team who provide such an important service to Britain's railway."

Originally built for what was then part of the former North British Railway from Edinburgh to Berwick-upon-Tweed, Craigentinny depot has a proud history of excellence in railway engineering that continues today.

The depot operates twenty four hours per day, seven days a week and 365 days a year. It is home to East Coast's fleet of 14 diesel High Speed Trains, which serve its longest routes between Inverness or Aberdeen and London.

Kenny MacAskill said: "Craigentinny depot has been part of the local community in the East of Edinburgh for a century. It has a long and proud history of railway workings and has acted as a vital maintenance hub that is integral to the UK's rail network. It is an important part of our national rail heritage, and I am delighted that East Coast has marked its 100th anniversary with a locomotive which bears the proud name of Craigentinny.

"The East Coast railway line is hugely important to the economic health of a number of areas of the country as it is a key north-south artery. Over the past hundred years, Craigentinny depot has been one of the three main rail depots for the East of Britain and with 250 skilled employees at the depot, it is an important facility for us and the local community."

The Craigentinny depot team is responsible for every aspect of locomotive engineering, from light maintenance, such as safety checks, cleaning and refuelling, to heavy-duty repairs.

As well as looking after East Coast's own fleet, Craigentinny depot also carries out maintenance work for other operators, including Virgin, Scotrail and CrossCountry, Other occasional visitors to the depot include the prestige Royal Scotsman charter train, along with rail infrastructure owner Network Rail's maintenance trains.



New Street station concourse soon to be flooded with natural light as new roof is completed

The final piece of Birmingham New Street station's new atrium roof covering was put into place on September 16th, marking another important milestone in the station's redevelopment.

Made from the same high-tech material as the Eden Project in Cornwall and the Allianz Arena in Munich, the translucent roof covering will allow natural light to stream down through the atrium onto the huge new concourse below – but not before demolition experts remove around 6,000 tonnes of concrete over two floors of the old Pallasades shopping centre.

Chris Montgomery, Network Rail's project director for the Birmingham New Street project said: "As our work to transform New Street station continues, excitement among our 1,000-strong workforce is really starting to build. Piece by piece, the design and concept for the station is being brought to life and it's great to see the last section of the new roof covering lifted into place.

"Completing the atrium structure and covering it in its Eden Project-like material is a real milestone but we're already looking forward to the next step. Demolishing part of the former Pallasades will flood the new concourse with natural light from above, transforming the experience of millions of passengers who will use this fantastic new station when it opens in about a year's time."

Transport Minister Baroness Kramer said: "Birmingham needs a station that reflects the city's growing reputation as a strong, vibrant and modern city and I am confident that, with just over a year to go before the work is complete, New Street will deliver that.

"This is a great achievement and a fantastic example of how the £38billion being invested in the UK's rail network, as part of our long-term economic plan, is making real improvements for passengers."

Demolition engineers from specialist contractor Coleman & Company will work round-the-clock over the next six months to remove thousands of tonnes of concrete, creating what will become the heart of the new station structure. To keep noise levels down during night time work, a special machine has been designed, known as the "Mega Muncher", that 'eats' the concrete. This approach is significantly quieter and less disruptive than traditional jackhammer-type methods.

Martyn Woodhouse, Mace's director of project delivery said: "Demolition by its very nature can be noisy work so we have carefully planned this work with Coleman's so we cause as little noise as possible. During the demolition we are using a machine which has been specially made to 'munch' through or crush the concrete beams. The traditional method of 'hammering' or 'pecking' the concrete would have been much noisier. The noisiest work, concrete slab breaking, will be restricted to the daytime."

Mark Coleman, managing director at Coleman & Company, said "To demolish 6,000 tonnes of cast reinforced concrete from the centre of a busy city centre construction site, above a live operational rail station, without noise, dust and disruption is a huge engineering challenge. Some of these beams weigh more than the equivalent of 30 Range Rovers. Our engineers have been working closely with Network Rail and MACE. assessing the structure and crunching the numbers, to ensure that all works are completed to the highest standards.'





Passengers to benefit from major investment for Brighton Main Line - but check before you travel this autumn

A multi-million pound investment in the one of the country's busiest rail lines is planned for this autumn, bringing new track, new signalling, better drainage and even a new footbridge. Work will take place on the Brighton Main Line on four weekends in October and November, with buses replacing trains between Brighton/Lewes and Three Bridges. An intensive, timetabled bus service for Southern and Thameslink passengers is planned to keep people moving as the vital upgrade takes place.

Network Rail's route managing director, Dave Ward, said: "We know that people want to travel by train and not a bus, but this railway carries a huge amount of traffic and we have to keep it in top condition so it can continue to run. "By upgrading the track at two important junctions we will reduce the need for ongoing maintenance, which actually means less disruption for passengers in the long-run, and we'll also improve the smoothness and reliability of their journeys. Doing our drainage and signalling upgrades at the same time means we are making the best use of the time we have while the line is closed.

"I'd like to thank passengers in advance for bearing with us this autumn as it will mean some changes to their travel plans."

Southern's deputy managing director, David Scorey said: "The work will mean that journeys on the Brighton Main Line south of Three Bridges will have to be made partly by bus, but to get a more reliable railway, which is something we and our passengers very much want, the work needs to be done. Making sure that our passengers know what's going on and how it affects their journeys is so important, which is why we've got a detailed communications plan in place with Network Rail."

Posters advising of the upcoming disruption are displayed at affected stations, along with leaflets which are available from station ticket offices, or can be downloaded at www.southernrailway.com.

At the Ribble Steam Railway on September 13th, Visiting loco 0-4-0 'Vulcan' from Barrow Hill sits with the Victorian coach as Andrew Barclay 2261/1949 0-4-0 tank No. 6 arrives with a service train. Michael Lynam

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Work commences on the final section of walkway at Dawlish



Network Rail's 'orange army' has reached an important milestone at Dawlish by starting improvement work on the final section of walkway between Rockstone and Coast Guard footbridges. Once completed, this improvement work will mean that every section of the walkway from Dawlish Warren to Teignmouth is once again open to the public. The work includes building a new wall in front of the existing sea wall to provide further protection against any future extreme weather, and reconstructing the walkway so that its height is level with the sections on either side. This will mean that it can be used in all tidal conditions, whereas historically this section was not accessible during high tides.

To undertake this extensive work and ensure the railway can continue to operate as normal, a temporary barge has been set up on the beach, next to the railway line, to act as a base from which the 'orange army' can work. Next month, a second barge will be installed in order that the work can be completed as expediently as possible.

Tom Kirkham, project manager at Network Rail, said: "Commencing our construction on this last section of walkway marks a significant step in the progress of our work to repair the damage caused by the storms and make the area more resilient for the future.

"I would like to thank the local community for their continued patience and support, and reassure them that our staff are working round-the-clock to complete this essential work as quickly and safely as possible."

It is anticipated that the improvement work on this section of walkway will continue until early next year. During this time, the walkway will remain closed and the high tide diversion route via Exeter Road will remain in place.

Odds'n'Sods - Ken Mumford

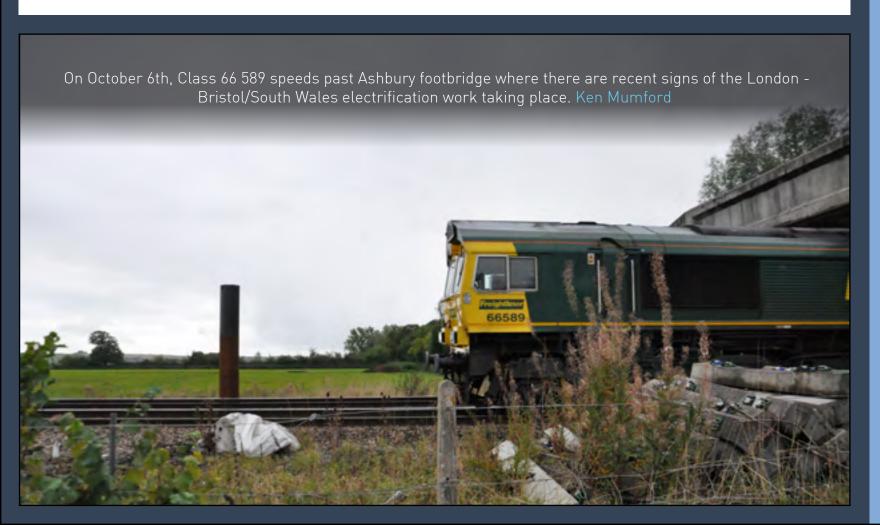
Painting in dim light?

In the late 1940s the story goes that often steam locomotives (when not in use) were painted at night. As a result of the poor light in the sheds, it was difficult to see what one was doing.

Interestingly the painters used whatever paint they found, thinning it with paraffin if the paint was too thick or mixing oil with it to make it darker if it was too light!

When someone asked how they got the colours to match the standard regional green, the simple answer was that often it didn't! So, one side of a locomotive would be a different shade to the other, or to its tender in certain cases. When anyone noticed and complained, the job had to be done again; and it was often repeated without much enthusiasm causing paint to be slopped on anyhow, sometime obscuring lining and/or lettering - again often done as best they could in the poor shed light.

There were times when it was very evident in daylight of the bad job that had been done - but towards the end of steam if there was any of the aforementioned poor paint work no-one seemed to care much.























































HISTORIC LEASE SIGNED TO ENABLE TRIAL PASSENGER TRAIN SERVICE LINKING SWANAGE & CORFE CASTLE WITH WAREHAM

An historic lease for railway land has been signed to enable an important trial passenger train service – linking Swanage and Corfe Castle with the main line at Wareham – to run for the first time in more than 40 years.

Dorset County Council has acquired three miles of trackbed from fellow Purbeck Community Rail Partnership member Network Rail, the line running from a quarter of a mile south of Worgret Junction to Motala, half a mile east of Furzebrook, which is the start of the existing Swanage Railway. The county council has now leased that land to the Swanage Railway on a 99-year lease – enabling the award-winning heritage line to gain access to the three-mile line and upgrade it for running passenger trains at 25 mph.

Estimated to take a year, that major work includes track restoration – replacing some 1,700 wooden sleepers – repairs to bridges, clearing six miles of embankments, the examination and repair of six miles of lineside fencing as well as a level crossing and road-rail interchange just west of Norden station. Swanage Railway Company Chairman Peter Sills signed the historic lease agreement at a special ceremony held at Purbeck District Council's headquarters in Wareham on the afternoon of Monday, 8 September, 2014, witnessed by members of the Purbeck Community Rail Partnership.

Mr Sills said: "The signing of the 99-year lease with Dorset County Council is a very important and historic day for the Swanage Railway and the development of public transport in Purbeck. "It enables the final stage of work to take place to ensure the delivery of a trial train service linking Swanage and Corfe Castle with the main line at Wareham from late 2015. "I'm very grateful to Swanage Railway Trust Chairman Gavin Johns and Mick Stone, our lands and property specialist, for their professionalism and determination in leading the detailed and lengthy lease negotiations," he added.

Thanks to a £1.47 million Government grant from the Coastal Communities Fund, a trial two-year passenger train service linking Swanage and Corfe Castle with the main line at Wareham is set to start from late 2015 and run on 140 selected days over the following two years.

Swanage Railway Trust Chairman Gavin Johns said: "Completing the lease is an important milestone for the Swanage Railway and the Purbeck area. It provides a sound long-term basis on which to plan the Swanage Railway's growth and development, encapsulating commitments to develop a vision for rail travel with the Purbeck Community Rail Partnership.

"The Swanage Railway has a significant role to play in Purbeck's future transport needs and we look forward to playing our part in this. I am grateful to our partner, Dorset County Council, for demonstrating its commitment through the course of the lease discussions to enable this important stage to be concluded.



"Many of our staff and volunteers have contributed much time and effort to reach this stage and I'd like to thank them all for their support and commitment in reaching this important point," explained Mr Johns who is also a volunteer Swanage Railway signalman. The historic 99-year lease from Dorset County Council also includes the six and a half mile Swanage Railway, from Motala to the Northbrook Road bridge at Swanage station which was previously on a shorter lease. Swanage Railway Project Wareham Director Mark Woolley said: "The negotiations with Dorset County Council have taken many months and now the Swanage Railway has the security of a 99-year lease."The new lease will enable the Swanage Railway to fully access the Coastal Communities Fund grant to develop a train service to Wareham which has been a founding objective of the Swanage Railway since it was formed in 1972.

"The lease enables the Swanage Railway to strengthen its position and allow applications for significant grants to be made to the Heritage Lottery Fund and other major grant-making bodies," added Mr Woolley who is also a Swanage Railway Trust and Swanage Railway Company director.

Photo: Swanage's Peter Sills & Cllr Peter Finney DCC with the lease at Wareham station. © ANDREW PM WRIGHT









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