CARDIFF & AVONSIDE RAILWAY SOCIETY

Established 1971 www.cardiffandavonside.org.uk



MAGAZINE

Issue 482 April 2012

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Front Cover Photo April 2012 Issue 482:31285 was employed as motive power for the gauging train seen at Bristol Temple Meads on 23/03/12. [Chris Weeks]

RICK KING

It is with sadness and regret that we must report that long-standing Society member Rick King has passed away.

Rick had been diagnosed with a terminal illness a year ago but despite this he had stayed positive and active until early May when he was admitted to the Bristol Royal Infirmary. He received many visits from his friends in the Society during this time but sadly he passed away on the 25th May 2012.

Richard Morgan King was born in Bristol in 1952 and joined the Society in its formative years of the early-mid 1970's.

He joined the Committee as NEWSHEET EDITOR on 1st January 1975, although he had been present at committee meetings as an observer/advisor from 19th October, 1974. In those days before computers and word processors the Newsheet Editor's job really was a labour of love!

Rick served on the committee until the AGM on the 15th May 1982 at which point he was made an Honourable member in recognition of his contribution to the Society.

Rick accepted the position of Society Auditor at the AGM on 13th May 1995 and for many years since then has provided a valuable service and financial guidance to the Society. Due to health reasons he was replaced as Auditor by Paul Carpenter at the AGM on 25th June 2011.

Even those members who did not know Rick personally will be aware of one of the other valuable contributions he made to the Society. Rick was a regular contributor to the Society magazine, including the monthly Stock Alterations section which was compiled by Rick for many years. Even whilst knowing that he was seriously ill Rick would still send in his contributions to the magazine, something he continued to do until as recently as February this year.

The funeral has been arranged for Wednesday 13th June at 1.30PM at the South Bristol Crematorium, subject to Rick's elderly mother being fit enough to attend following a recent operation. Red Perry is liaising with Rick's family on behalf of Rick's many friends within the Society. For those members who wish to be kept further informed of the funeral arrangements and who have contact details for Red Perry then please contact Red direct for the most up-to-date information.

Rick will be sorely missed

FUTURE EVENTS

Trip 466

East Midlands

Saturday 23/06/12

Itinerary

Aggregate Industries (Bardon Hill & Croft Quarry); Brush Traction (Loughborough); Lafarge Aggregates (Barrow-Upon-Soar); Abbey Pumping Station (Leicester); Snibston Discovery Park (Colville); Peter Thomas (Blaby); Welland Valley Traction Club (Market Harborough); Greenlea Light Railway (Burbage); Conkers Discovery Centre (Moira); Armourgeddon (Husbands Bosworth).

Book by date - 23/05/12 Fares - £40.00, Trip Members = £42.00

Safety Equipment - Hi-Viz vest and safety shoes.

Timings (from Bristol area) - Depart 06:30 Return 20:00

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2012

Saturday 30/06/12

This years Annual General Meeting will be held at the Engineers Arms in Newport on Saturday 30^{th} June, commencing at 13:00 hours.

A buffet lunch will be provided

Trip 467

Derbyshire

Saturday 14/07/12

Itinerary

W.H. Davis (Langwith Junction); Leander Architectural (Dove Holes); Tarmac Cement (Tunstead); Terry Gibson (Derby); Gullivers Kingdom (Matlock Bath); Little Mill Inn (New Mills); Peak Rail (All Locations); Derbyshire Dales (Rowsley); Mike Strange (Tansley); Tramway Village (Crich); Crich Store (Clay Cross).

Book by date - 14/06/12 Fares - £40.00, Trip Members = £42.00

Safety Equipment - Hi-Viz vest and safety shoes.

Timings (from Bristol area) - Depart 06:30 Return 20:00

Trip 468

East & West Sussex

Saturday 04/08/12

Itinerary

Drusilla's Zoo Park (Berwick); Lavender Line (Isfield); Great Bush Railway (Hadlow Down); Alan Pragnell (Horsted Keynes); Rother Valley Railway (Robertsbridge); South Downs Heritage Centre (Hassocks); Volks Electric Railway (Brighton); Kingston Light Railway (Shoreham-by-Sea); Hollycombe Steam Collection (Liphook).

Book by date - 04/08/12 **Fares -** £34.00, Trip Members = £36.00

Safety Equipment - Hi-Viz vest and safety shoes.

Timings (from Bristol area) - Depart 06:30 Return 20:00

Trip 469

Statfold Barn Open Day Saturday 15/09/12

Itinerary

L.H. Group (Barton-under-Needwood); Statfold Barn Railway (Tamworth); Churnet Valley (Cheddleton); Moseley Railway Trust (Apedale).

Safety Equipment - Hi-Viz vest and safety shoes.

Timings (from Bristol area) - Depart 06:30 Return 20:00

Please use the trip bookings form or send an email to the Bookings Secretary if you wish to participate on any of the above trips

IMPORTANT - BOOKINGS

Trip bookings will now only be accepted on a Trip Booking Form. Completed Trip Booking Forms should be returned to the Bookings Secretary prior to the Book-By Date. To secure participation on a trip it is the responsibility of the individual to ensure that their completed Trip Booking Form is submitted in advance of the Book-By Date. Booking requests received on a Trip Booking Form after the Book-By Date will be filled on a first come first served basis regardless of whether they are a member or non-member.

Please also note that any "provisional" booking which has not been confirmed by a Trip Booking Form will not secure participation on the trip and will not be chased by the Bookings Secretary after the Book-By Date

Forms should be submitted either on a trip, or by post Roy Morris, or by

downloading from the Society web site cardiffandavonside.org.uk and e-mailing the completed form to: bookings@cardiffandavonside.org.uk

GENERAL TRIP INFORMATION

- 1. Although trip timings and costs advertised are based on Bristol area departures, fuel/train fare to an advertised departure point from Cardiff and Newport will be paid by the Society upon agreement with the Events Organiser. If you live outside the areas served by these points but on route for a trip please contact Roy Morris to arrange a pick up point that is mutually convenient.
- 2. The fare structure is as follows:

ADULT - FULL FARE.

CHILD - QUARTER FARE.

TRIP MEMBER - AS ABOVE + £2.

A child is a person who has not yet reached their seventeenth birthday and is still in full time education. People who are not Society members or family members will have their fares increased by the trip-member rate (£2 per day).

- 3. The discounts highlighted above for family members refer to travel costs only. Accommodation and Permits will be charged at cost price.
- 4. Members who wish to go on a trip must contact Roy Morris prior to the book by date to confirm that they still intend to go on the trip.
- 5. Where a trip is organised with an itinerary to a specific area, it may sometimes be possible to drop off a member en route. This is known as the Trip Flyer option. Availability and exact duration of stay will be at the discretion of the Events Organiser. The fare for this option will be negotiable, depending on the drop off point and seat availability.
- 6. For members living outside the normal pick up/drop off areas it may be possible to be picked up en route. This is known as the Trip Hiker option. Fares and availability are at the discretion of the Events Organiser.
- 7. The Society mobile 07510 224197 will be switched on throughout the duration of society trips. Please do not use it outside these times for time critical communications as voice mails and texts may not be picked up immediately.
- 8. Participants who confirm their booking on a Trip Booking Form prior to the "book by" date will have priority regardless of whether they are a member or non-member. Booking requests received on a Trip Booking Form after the "book by" date will be filled on a first come first served basis regardless of whether they are a member or non-member.

Notes & News

Avonmouth

01/11 DRS livery 66413 departed West Wharf on a loaded stone service at 15:30 around 120 minutes late.

02/11 66413 was again active on stone duty, passing Brentry on inward stone empties to West Wharf at 14:29. DBS livery 59206 had earlier departed on 6A83 loaded import stone to West Drayton ARC.

03/11 66413 was again visible in West Wharf sidings on stone empties.

04/11 Having passed Pilning at 12:25 hauling two empty HIA stone wagons,

- 66597 passed Brentry at 14:58 on a full rake of empties, later passing the same location on a up loaded train at 20:35.
- **09/11** Ex.LM green livery 150101 was noted on Severn Beach line duties during the day.
- 11/11 66595 brought in 6C38 13:23 Pengam Avonmouth West wharf stone empties passing Filton West junction at 14:25.
- 12/11 The 3S59 Barton Hill water cannon top n'tailed with 66079 + 66143 passed Avonmouth at 11:41 heading back to Bristol from Welsh Valley branch line spraying duties.
- 17/11 DRS livery 66413 (on loan to Freightliner) worked 6C38 08:06 Bristol Barrow road Avonmouth stone empties for a Theale working. Later 66598 arrived with a second train of stone empties to load for at West Wharf for Angerstein Wharf.
- 18/11 66079 top n'tailing 66085 passed Brentry at 00:22 with the overnight Barton Hill-South Wales water cannon working (3S59).
- **22/11** Having arrived at Stoke Gifford light the previous day from Llanwern for a loan period (which lasted until 25/11) Colas 66846 made a company loco debut at Avonmouth passing Brentry at 08:25 with inward stone empties from Pengam, then returning at 15:22 on a loaded service.
- **23/11** 66846 worked 6Z39 13:14 Avonmouth Didcot loaded stone passing Brentry at 13:50
- **24/11** 66951 was on the 6Z39 13:14 loaded stone departure for Didcot, the train's eventual destination being Crawley.
- 12/12 FLHH were noted using the Bulk Handling terminal as the Portbury branch was flooded (the line re-opening on 16/12). 66509 was reported to have loaded a late running 6F90 service to Uskmouth P.S., being still present at 13:30 before departure.
- 14/12 DRS livery 66429 was reported as working the 6F65 09:24 coal service to Uskmouth and later a second DRS loco 66422 arrived with the 4V04 coal empties for a loaded 6F90 13:00 service, again to Uskmouth (Also see Portbury branch line notes & news). Some trains were also loaded at West Wharf during the period although which ones remained unconfirmed. Freightliner last used the Bulk Handling terminal during May 2010 (see the August 2010 Magazine) due to import coal positioning issues in the stock yard at Portbury. A new cement flow from Avonmouth docks for onward rail movement by DBS could be set up in the future using road 7 (previously used for HTA repair work) in the Bulk Handling terminal. Further details will be confirmed when known.

Locos recorded on coal duty during the review period have included: 66008/009/016/025/040/043/050/069/076/078/080/084/089/125/145/151/156/186 66187. 66419/422. 66509/510.

Locos recorded on stone duty during the review period have included: 59203/206 66413/597/598/846/951.

Bristol Parkway, Pilning and Westerleigh

- 01/11 Both morning tank trains were present at Westerleigh together. 60024 was reported as passing Yate at 12:55 with the 6E41 Lindsey tank empties whilst 60007 had passed earlier at 12:07 on the 6B13 loaded fuel tanks from Robeston.
- **02/11** A 1Q13 10:07 Old Oak Common Old Oak Common test train top n'tailed by 37611 + 37604 was reported as making several trips between Swindon and Bristol Parkway, passing Keynsham at 13:01, Bath 13:08 (right time) and into Swindon platform 3 at 13:32 (4 early) and departing at 14:10 (10

- late), passing Bath at 14:42 (12 late) and near Keynsham at 14:48 heading towards Day's Curve and Parkway. A late, and final run of the day was recorded as departing Swindon at 20:55 (8 late) for Didcot.
- 04/11 66012 made an early afternoon appearance through Parkway on 6Z42 Acton Cardiff docks stone empties.
- **05/11** The 0X12 11:06 Margam Westbury light-engine move was formed with: 66111 + 66102 + 66127 + 66230 + 66014 + 66156 + 66106.
- **06/11** Observations between Bristol and Bath recorded 66601 + 66602 top n'tailing a 6Y12 Cheltenham Westbury yard departmental (JNA Falcon wagons) passing Bath at 13:30 and later, near Keynsham at 15:49 and 66598 + 66601 + 66602 running light locos from Westbury Stoke Gifford passing near Saltford at 15:49.
- **08/11** 66175 worked a 6V42 Tilbury Trostre steel service and blue livery 66623 worked 6B42 Stoke Gifford Neath (Jersey sidings) stone empties later running loaded as 6B75 14:54 to Pengam.
- **09/11** 66070 worked 6B36 Acton Moreton-on-Lugg stone empties through Westerleigh junction at 06:36. Another stone working later in the day was the 6V87 Crawley Bristol Barrow Road empties which were delayed at Swindon, where the loco DRS 66413 (but Freightliner owned) was detached and departed 16:00 light for Chippenham to help a failed 1C19 15:00 Paddington Bristol TM HST, however the loco was not needed in the end, the stone train eventually arriving in Stoke Gifford down yard at 20:16. **10/11** 66595 ran 0Z28 07:10 Stoke Gifford Newton Abbot Hackney yard for rail train duty (6Z28 10:38 to Westbury yard via Castle Cary). Another
- report for the day was 66531 on a 6Z25 09:08 Bow Pengam empty stone. **11/11** There were delays and the cancellation of the First/GW 2E16 06:38 Westbury Cardiff Central service following the failure of the 6C83 05:25 Westbury Avonmouth empty stone service at Trowbridge.
- 12/11 66551 + 66559 top n'tailing the 6Y33 07:32 Stoke Works junction Taunton Fairwater track replacement train was recorded passing Filton at 08:50 and near Uphill junction at 09:46. Later, the 0X12 11:06 Margam Westbury light loco move was noted formed: 66142 + 66113 + 66126 + 66059 + 66144 + 66175 + 66137 + 66104 when passing Filton Abbeywood at 13:45. A early evening arrival at Stoke Gifford was FLHH loco 66413 (in DRS livery) on 6V60 empty stone HIA wagons from Angerstein Wharf.
- 13/11 The Swindon Didcot section of the GWML was closed during the day, so the Colas 6078 13:53 Llanwern Dolland's Moor export steel with 66846 was diverted via Bristol (noted Ashley Hill at 14:27), Dr. Day's junction, Bath, Westbury (Hawkridge curve and the Berks & Hants route to Reading. At 14:25 Stoke Gifford sidings held: 66413, 66598, 66601. A return 0X14 20:15 Eastleigh Margam (via Salisbury 20:58) balancing light loco move operated with: 66059 + 66069 + 66051 + 66103 + 66097 + 66238 + 66230. 66110 + 66142 were also booked to move but remained behind. A stop at Westbury for this working was scheduled from 21:21-21:51.
- 15/11 Shanks split livery 66522 worked 4V13 Ratcliffe P.S. Stoke Gifford coal empties passing Standish junction at 12:40 (123 early) whilst later a single coach 5Z25 Rampart Derby Yeovil junction move was formed with 67025 and BSK 35317 (steam loco support coach) now in a carmine and cream livery, passing Westerleigh junction at 14:25 and Westbury at 15:20.
- 17/11 66598 worked 6V44 Angersten Wharf Stoke Gifford stone empties.
- 20/11 Stoke Gifford downside held: 66415 and 70004 at 16:00.
- 22/11 On loan DRS livery 66419 passed Westerleigh junction at 15:30 with coal empties for Stoke Gifford sidings from Uskmouth P.S.

23/11 DRS 'hire' 66419 worked the 6M07 03:45 Portbury - Rugeley P.S. loaded coal service via the usual route, Pilning and the Severn Tunnel. Two engineering train reports were as follows: 66155 - 6W35 05:30 Cardiff East - Westbury yard CWR train and 66614 + 66601 top n'tailing - 6Y11 04:08 Thingley East junction - Taunton Fairwater yard (via Bristol Parkway) HOBC passing Uphill junction at 06:30. The latter had worked Taunton Fairwater - Bathampton junction during the previous evening. 24/11 Colas 66846 returned stone empties to Stoke Gifford sidings as a 6V44 20:00 departure from Angerstein Wharf. The loco was also reported as stabled in the yard at 06:40 during the following morning. 26/11 Steam Dream's 'Cathedrals Express' (1Z31 08:06 Paddington -Shrewsbury and 1233 16:56 return) was worked by steam 60163 Tornado being recorded as passing Didcot at 09:37 (15 late) and arriving in Parkway down loop for water at 10:44 (right time) and departing at 11:15 (1 early). Timekeeping on the return however was not so good due to a points failure en route and water stop problems at Craven Arms which saw a departure time of 18:44 (63 late), later passing Pontillas at 19:49 (67 late) and Patchway at 20:58 (70 late). For the record the train's c/stock was as follows; 21258, 35469, 3110, 3122, 3147, 1671, 3100, 3112, 13227, 1842, 4991, 4959, 5322. This was one of three trains to call at Ludlow for the Christmas Fayre during the day, the ECS going on to Coton Hill for stabling after arrival in Shrewsbury (also see Bristol TM, Barton Hill and Kingsland Road and Newport notes & news sections). This Saturday's light loco convoy ran as 0X12 12:44 Newport ADJ - Westbury and was formed: 66085

reported as leaving Newport at 11:55 (49 early).

27/11 Arriva XC services were noted running via the Severn Tunnel, Newport (reverse), Chepstow, Lydney and Gloucester during the day. An engineering train report was: 66093 - 6W42 10:55 Lydney - Westbury (via East Usk), whilst DRS livery duo 66415 + 66419 ran 0Y13 Westbury - Stoke Gifford light having powered a 6Y13 12:15 Wootton Bassett - Westbury autoballaster earlier in the day. The days balancing return light loco move: 0X14 18:30 Oxford Hinksey yard - Margam with 66006 + 66070 + 66098 was routed via Westbury to collect 66093.

+66156 + 66201 + 66168 + 66070 + 66093 + 66121 + 66074, which was

28/11 Over running PW work in the Didcot area saw the 6V32 Dagenham - Cardiff Tidal loaded scrap metal with 66622 diverted via Salisbury, Westbury and Bath being reported as passing Filton at 06:20. The 4V51 Southampton Millbrook - Wentlooge containers with 70001 was also affected as the train was held in the Didcot area until the work was completed. 66419 ran 0Z66 07:33 Stoke Gifford - Taunton Fairwater light-engine, passing Highbridge at 07:19, being later used on a West Somerset Railway 'triangle' spoil train, before working back to Fairwater yard by just after mid-day. The 1Q13 radio signal tests train (formed 977997, 5981, 9481) was back in the area top n'tailed by DRS 37038 + 37604 being reported through Bromsgrove at 13:37 (1 late) and then routed via Cheltenham, Kemble, Swindon (reverse), Kemble, Birmingham (reverse), Cheltenham and Bristol Parkway with a booked arrival time in Temple Meads being 20:50.

29/11 Stoke Gifford sidings held: 66551 and 70004 stabled on coal empties. 30/11 Serious problems in the Severn Tunnel when 143621 working the 2U12 09:33 Exeter st. Davids - Cardiff Central service struck a sheet of metal believed to have fallen from a freight working and blown into the Tunnel caused cancellations and delays. The unit suffered a smashed gearbox being

rescued and moved by another set to Severn Tunnel junction where the passengers were de-trained. The 143 was then moved to the Tunnel emergency compound close to the M4 motorway over bridge. In the meantime with the tunnel closed there were First/GW HST diversions via Gloucester along with three reported freight diversions: DBS livered 66152 on the 6B35 Hayes -Moreton-on-Lugg stone empties (via Kemble and the Stroud Valley), 66597 with the 4F56 10:42 Uskmouth P.S. - Stoke Gifford coal empties and the 4V50 Southampton Maritime - Wentlooge containers which were reported off Swindon for Kemble at 14:09 with unidentified hauling power. Some Portsmouth Harbour trains were terminating and restarting at Parkway, for example 158958 working the 1F14 10:23 Portsmouth Harbour - Cardiff Central was used to form the return 1F19 13:30 Cardiff - Portsmouth train departing Filton Abbeywood at 14:09 (right time). The First/GW 1B25 10:45 Paddington - Swansea HST, which departed Parkway at 12:07 with power cars 43132 + 43071 ran 'off route' to Filton Abbeywood where a reverse took place to the South of the station so the Gloucester diversionary route could be taken, a 12:47 (101 late) arrival time being later recorded at Cardiff Central!! Also a HST shuttle using power cars 43128 + 43136 was noted running between Temple Meads and Parkway. Other reports for the day were: 66059 on 6Z35 Moreton-on-lugg - Acton loaded stone, reported Parkway loop at 15:36 and 70004 passing Yate at 12:26 with 4V06 Rugeley P.S. -Stoke Gifford coal empties and later through the same location at 15:28 66510 on 4V47 coal empties from Rugeley P.S. again for Stoke Gifford where arrival was recorded at 15:46.

- **01/12** DRS livery 66419 ran 0Y27 Stoke Gifford Newton Abbot (Hackney yard) light then returning a 6Y27 16:59 Hackney yard Awre rail train. The working returned West as 6Y27 05:45 Gloucester Signal 31 Newton Abbot (Hackney yard) during the following day but only as far as Stoke Gifford where the train was noted stabled with 66601 attached to the other end. Stabled locos during the day included: 66545, 66606, 66623.
- **02/12** A late running 6V10 Dollands Moor Barry intermodal freight was noted passing Pilning at 12:00 headed by 66095 + 66187, whilst later in the day, the 1E73 16:24 Plymouth Leeds Arriva XC HST service was diverted via the Severn Tunnel, Newport (reverse), Chepstow and Gloucester reason unknown. A freight train report for the early afternoon was 70004 on 4V06 Rugeley P.S. Stoke Gifford coal empties passing Yate at 12:57.
- 03/12 The Saturday 0X12 light-engine move was reported as running from Newport ADJ Westbury and formed: 66070 + 66095 + 66120 + 66142 + 66031 + 66230 passing Filton Abbeywood at 13:48 and arriving in Westbury at 14:48. Also 66622 worked the 6L33 13:04 Cardiff Tidal Dagenham empty scrap wagons and 70006 arrived at Stoke Gifford with 4V06 coal empties from Rugeley P.S.
- **05/12** The 4V06 08:53 Rugeley P.S. Stoke Gifford coal empties arrived behind 66419. 66597 noted in the yard this evening, joined later by 70004 with empty MGRs. An Avonmouth Didcot MGR service passed through hauled by 66084.
- **06/12** Blue livery 66623 ran 0M40 Stoke Gifford Westbury light for the 6M40 Stud Farm ballast.
- **08/12** 70011 brought in the 4V47 11:15 Rugeley P.S, Stoke Gifford coal empties. Locos stabled in the yard this evening were 66621 and 70011. 66509 arrived with an empty mgr destined for the yard and 66084 passed by with mgr empties for Avonmouth. Newport ADJ Didcot freight was seen with 66116 up front. NR HST also seen using power cars 43013/062.

- 09/12 What was believed to be the final Class member working in the Bristol area, 143617, formed the 2C77 13:00 Cardiff Central Exeter st. David's First/GW service. During the evening 66416 was recorded on the 6M37 22:10 Westbury 'la Farge' Hope (Earles sidings) empty PCA cement tanks. 70011 again worked in on the 4V47 coal empties from Rugeley P.S. 10/12 The Saturday afternoon 6L33 13:04 Cardiff Tidal Dagenham dock empty scrap wagons were powered by 66616 being reported passing Severn Tunnel junction at 13:50 and later Oldfield Park (Bath) at 15:24. The popular Saturday working, 0X12 11:06 Margam Westbury light-loco move was today formed: 66111 + 66187 + 66184 + 66037 + 66174 + 66012 (reported Severn Tunnel junction at 12:45 and Bath Oldfield Park 14:11) arriving in Westbury at 14:45. During the afternoon, Stoke Gifford sidings held: 66536, 66562, 66572, 66621.
- 11/12 For the third Sunday in a row, a coal train off Portbury loaded during the previous afternoon went forward during the morning to Uskmouth P.S. Today's hauling power was 66419. A departmental CWR train move was headed by 66623 on the 6Y27 09:20 Eckington loop -Taunton Fairwater being reported as passing Standish junction at 11:00.
- 13/12 Stoke Gifford sidings held the following during the early evening: 66509, 66419, 66422. 66419 had brought in 4V47 coal empties from Rugeley P.S.
- 19/12 Four Class 66s seen this evening, 66186 working loaded mgr from Avonmouth to Didcot and empties in the reverse direction hauled by 66066. 66510 arrived with mgr empties for the Yard and 66011 worked the Newport ADJ Didcot service.
- **21/12** Daytime visit between 11:45 15:20 saw the following, stabled in the yard 66525/542. Two Avonmouth Didcot loaded mgrs hauled by 66069 and 66213 respectively, a Stone train headed by 66044 and 70004 arrive with empty MGR service.
- 22/12 This evening saw 66506 stabled in the yard and 66186 work past with an Avonmouth Didcot loaded mgr service plus 66185 with the Didcot bound freight from Newport ADJ.

Bristol Temple Meads, Barton Hill and Kingsland Road

- O1/11 Ex.LM 150104 was recorded in the area, working the First/GW 2C43 06:42 Bristol Parkway Penzance service. The day's Arriva HST XC services were covered by the following sets and intermediate coaches: 43207 XC02 43357 1V46 06:32 York Plymouth / 1S55 13:23 Plymouth Glasgow Central. 43384 XC03 43301 1V50 06:06 Edinburgh Waverley Plymouth / 1E63 15:23 Plymouth Leeds. 43321 XC04 43378 1V44 06:00 Leeds Plymouth / 1S51 17:23 Plymouth Glasgow Central. 43285 XC05 43304 1V54 06:32 Dundee Plymouth / 1E73 17:23 Plymouth Leeds.
- 02/11 Problems at Dawlish on the seawall with a high tide along with strong winds around 13:00 saw Voyager sets (prone to failure with the passage of water through the roof vents) terminating (westbound0 at Exeter and where possible returning North in a booked path of a normal up working. Likewise, sets were being terminated and returned West at Newton Abbot. The 3S59 Barton Hill water cannon with locos 66143 + 66079 departed Temple Meads for Weston-super-Mare at 12:02, having been earlier reported passing Severn Tunnel junction at 11:00.
- **03/11** The 3S59 water cannon was reported 'off route' having made a reverse move at Chippenham around 20:10.

- 04/11 This Year's West of England Rail Conference was held at the Mercure Holland Hotel (close to Temple Meads) between 09:00 - 16:00. The after dinner part of the proceedings was travelling on 150246 provided by First/GW over some of the Bristol area freight only lines, with a return to passenger use possibilities. A DBS conductor was present alongside the First/GW driver on the 14:04 Temple Meads - Temple Meads (16:02) which was noted passing Ashton Gate at 14:15 and returning through the same location just after 15:00, having reversed just inside the Portbury dock gate following arrival at 14:35 (1 early). The set was booked away at 14:47 and noted alongside 66056 waiting to follow on 6B69 15:00 loaded coal to Aberthaw P.S. After covering the Portbury line the train ran via Filton Abbeywood to Avonmouth (booked 15:39 - 15:40) via the Henbury loop and through Clifton Down back to Temple Meads. The train carried a number of rail support and action group members and attracted good evening local television coverage. For Spitfire's 'Jorvic Growler III' trip (postponed from 15/10/11) West Coast Railways provided 37676 + 37685 (not DRS Class 37s as expected) and 57601 (on the rear) the ECS however running as 5Z21 Carnforth - Preston only for the 1Z21 09:25 Preston - Exeter (18:09) trip being reported as departing Hereford at 13:00 (right time), passing Pilning 14:15 (2 late), Filton Abbeywood 14:23 (1 late), Worle junction 15:06 (2 late) and Bridgwater 15:20 (1 late). The move would normally have operated the long distance from the North-West to Exeter as ECs instead of carrying fare paying passengers.
- **05/11** Spitfire operated their 'Jorvic Growler III' (1Z23 05:20 Exeter st. Davids York and 1Z25 15:56 return) with 37676 + 37685 top n'tailing 57601 with c/stock: 99680 (17102), 3150, 3148, Windermere (99679), 99350, 99347, 1861, 5032, 99327, 99328 being recorded outward as departing Taunton at 05:56 (right time) and Weston-super-Mare at 06:33 and returning west during the evening departing Bristol TM at 21:12 (20 early) and Weston-super-Mare at 21:40 (27 early).
- **06/11** The stock and locos of Spitfire's 'Jorvic Growler III' railtour returned North, sensibly carrying passengers instead of ECs as 1Z27 10:23 Exeter St. David's Preston headed by 37676 + 37685 (with 57601 attached to the rear). The train departed Exeter at
- 10:35 (12 late), Taunton at 11:10 (5 late) and Temple Meads at 12:05 (right time) also being noted through Parson's Street at 11:45 and later passing Keynsham at 12:11. The tour was routed homeward via Bath, Trowbridge, Newbury, Reading West curve, Didcot, and Oxford.
- 07/11 The First/GW 1A40 Penzance Paddington sleeper service, with 57604 was confirmed as routed via Bristol TM and Swindon. The route of 57602 on the balancing 1C99 however was not known. Some FLHH loco reports for the day were: 66595 on a 6Z28 09:10 Eastleigh Newton Abbot Hackney yard train of MTA and MHA wagons, being reported through Highbridge at 12:42, 66559 on 6C73 (MO) Westbury Taunton Fairwater departmental recorded passing Bath at 13:45 and 66604 with 6Z85 09:52 Taunton Fairwater Taunton Fairwater HOBC turning move via Temple Meads, Bath and Westbury. Newly formed 158960 and 158961 were noted in use for First/GW on Portsmouth Harbour Cardiff services.
- 10/11 Steam 5029 Nunney Castle ran 5Z29 08:55 Bishop's Lydeard (WSR) Tyseley via Parkway and Yate, being reported through Bridgwater 09:37 (4 early) and Yatton at 10:01. The booked Temple Meads time was from 10:21 11:04 for water. Later in the day DRS 66419 (on loan to FLHH) passed Temple Meads at 14:58 with coal empties for Portbury.

- 12/11 Ex. LM green livery 150202 was on the First/GW 2C67 08:00 Cardiff Central Taunton service whilst the 2C18 12:42 Gloucester Frome working was formed 150233 + 153361 + 150248 + 150261. Due to cable theft in the Limpley StokeValley at Avoncliff, the 0X12 11:06 Margam Westbury light-loco convoy was diverted via Box with a reverse at Thingley junction and onwards through Melksham to Westbury (due 14:45). The day's loco formation was as follows: 66142 + 66144 + 66113 + 66175 + 66059 + 66126 being noted passing Pilning at 13:38 and Melksham at 16:38.
- 14/11 Arriva XC HST allocations for the day were as follows: 43321 XCO4 43378 1V44 06:00 Leeds Plymouth / 1S51 12:23 Plymouth Glasgow Central, 43301 XCO1 43304 1V54 06:32 Dundee Plymouth / 1E73 17:23 Plymouth Leeds, 43285 XCO5 43303 1V46 06:32 York Plymouth / 1S55 13:23 Plymouth Edinburgh Waverley, 43366 XCO2 43384 1V50 06:06 Edinburgh Waverley Plymouth / 1E63 15:23 Plymouth Leeds. 43207 XCO3 43357 were reported as the day's 'spare' set. An evening arrival on a 1Q13 test working from Derby RTC was 37604 (with DBSO 9701) being reported passing Bath at 19:29 (67 early).
- 15/11 66085 was reported as a replacement for 66143 on the Barton Hill water cannon (3S59). The 1Q13 test train was active in the area with 37604 and DBSO 9701 running as 1Q13 08:00 Temple Meads Tyseley being reported through Yatton at 08:24 and back up through Bridgwater at 09:20. The rest of the route was booked via a reverse at Avonmouth (10:38 10:52), the inward working being noted passing Hallen Moor at 10:23 and another reverse at Severn Tunnel junction. To complete the diagram the train again visited Avonmouth (booked 12:08 13:14) and ran over the Weston loop and reversed in Highbridge loop prior to the return north, a passing time of 16:51 later being recorded at Parsons Street.
- 16/11 66085 + 66079 with the 3S59 Barton Hill water cannon departed Weston at 11:59 for Bristol.
- 17/11 31106 with test train and DBSO 9714 worked 3Z14 09:20 Temple Meads Temple Meads (via Weymouth booked 13:09 13:53) being reported through Bath at 09:47. 66549 worked a 6V87 10:04 Bow Bristol Barrow Road empty stone train, being reported through Chippenham at 14:29. Ex. LM green livery 150216 + 153368 were used on the 2M72 21:49 Exeter st. Davids Bristol TM First/GW service,
- 19/11 Northern Belle duo 47832 + 47828 top n'tailed a 1280 08:04 Cardiff Central Kensington Olympia and 1281 18:37 return 'West End Show' dining trip, being reported outward through Filton Abbeywood at 08:59 (8 late) and departing Bath at 09:26 (3 late).
- 20/11 66079 was recorded as joined by 66035 on Barton Hill water cannon duties (3S59).
- 21/11 A 1Q11 10:30 Derby RTC Westbury test train was top n'tailed with 37601 + 37603 being reported as passing Cheltenham at 12:51 (7 late). Having recessed at Temple Meads during part of the afternoon, the train departed at the booked time of 18:05 having missed out a visit to Weston-super-Mare on a high mileage outing via Westbury, Castle Cary, Taunton, Exeter (reverse), Taunton, Castle Cary, Frome (reverse), Castle Cary, Yeovil Pen Mill, Weymouth (reverse), Yeovil Pen Mill (reverse), Yeovil junction, Honiton, Exmouth junction (reverse), Yeovil junction, Yeovil Pen Mill, Castle Cary to Westbury (04:09). Another report for the day was 66206 working 2Z99 10:00 Bescot Exeter St. Davids breakdown train (formed of a 75 ton crane and 3 re-railing vans) to attend the de-railed 66111 on catch points on the bank between St. Davids and Central stations whilst

working a engineers train. The working was reported as passing Parkway at 15:46, Bridgwater at 16:45 and arriving in Exeter at 17:32.

22/11 66008 + 66088 were used on the overnight 2Z99 23:10 (Mon) Barton Hill - Barton Hill (02:13) snow plough test running via an early hours reverse in Taunton station (due 00:58) and booked away at 01:10. The working has used Gloucester as a turning point in more recent years. 142001 + 142068 passed Parsons Street at 10:30 on a Exeter - Bristol empty move, these two sets having been used on shuttles between Exeter Central and Exmouth during the previous day whilst the line was blocked by the derailed 66111. A FLHH move during the day involved 66551 on 6Z28 09:41 Eastleigh - Newton Abbot Hackney yard rail train being reported as passing Worle junction at 11:28. During the evening, 66053 was noted standing in platform 1 at Weston-super-Mare with the 6C99 21:47 Newport ADJ - st. Blazey freight service at 23:36 with the 2C98 23:06 Bristol TM - Taunton First/GW local service waiting to gain platform space behind it! 24/11 66035 + 66079 top n'tailing the down 3S59 Barton Hill water cannon passed Milton Halt on the Weston-super-Mare loop at 12:23. In Bristol, steam 34067 Tangmere (standing in for 44932) arrived with the Railway Touring Company ' Bath & Bristol Christmas Express' (1287 10:15 Poole -Temple Meads and 1288 17:36 return) having been reported as arriving in Bath at 13:51 (9 late) and Temple Meads platform 10 at 14:12 (6 late) formed of 11 coaches with 47760 attached to the rear. The return was reported through Keynsham at 17:45 and Westbury at 18:25 (7 late). The train took on water at Salisbury in each direction.

25/11 37601 + 37603 having departed Exeter the previous evening at 21:59 (98 late) and routed overnight via Exmouth and Barnstaple, on the return 1Q11 to Crewe LNWR, NMT train via Parkway, was reported as passing Yatton at 06:05 (33 early).

26/11 Pathfinder Tour's 'Marches King' (1Z24 06:06 Eastleigh - Shrewsbury and 1Z26 16:00 return) were both worked from and back to Temple Meads with steam 6024 King Edward I using c/stock: 35333 (loco support), 5366, 4949, 1842, 3144, 3146, 3107, 3140, 1692, 3098, 3295, 6310. The outward working, which arrived with unspecified diesel hauling power from Southampton was recorded as passing Patchway at 09:19 (1 early) and the return back to Bristol close to time. This was one of three railtours visiting Shrewsbury during the day, calling at Ludlow for the popular Christmas Street fayre en route (also see Bristol Parkway, Pilning and Westerleigh and Newport notes & news sections). Two evening top n'tailed engineering train reports were: 66549 + 66551 - 6Y33 20:07 Taunton Fairwater - Lydney due 22:25 (via Gloucester) track replacement train and 66601 + 66614 top n'tailing 6Y11 20:46 Taunton Fairwater - Wootton Bassett HOBC (reported Nailsea & Backwell at 22:14).

28/11 Steam 6024 King Edward I following rail tour duty worked 5Z64 09:20 Barton Hill - Southall with support coach W35333 via Bath being reported as passing Swindon 62 minutes early. Another report for the day was 66614 on 6Z73 12:17 Westbury - Taunton Fairwater part HOBC move passing Uphill Junction at 14:07. Also, 66079 + 66035 top n'tailing the 3S59 Barton Hill water cannon were reported passing Hewish (near Weston-super-Mare) at 12:38. The two main workings which attracted the most interest during the day however were 47375 + 56302 running 0Z21 10:00 Burton Wetmore Wagon works - Par light for a stored wagon move two days later being reported as passing Gloucester Barnwood junction at 12:25 (37 early), Standish junction 12:31 (28 early), Parkway 13:30 (6 early), Temple Meads departing

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at 13:48 (29 early), Worle junction 14:09 (23 early) and Bridgwater 14:23
(23 early). The second working was the movement of 'off lease' Class 142
units north following the timetable change. 142009 +142063 + 142068
forming 5Z42 12:29 Exeter - Newton Heath which departed 26 minutes early
and was reported through Bridgwater at 13:07 and departing st. Phillips
Marsh at 14:05 (with 142063 removed to rectify a wheel flat problem) and
passing Yate at 14:22 (10 early). Units 142001 +142063 + 142068 had worked
a 'Class 142 Farewell Tour' organized by First/GW during the previous day
from Exeter visiting the Alphington Road scrap terminal, Heathfield,
Okehampton, Meldon Quarry and Barnstaple. On the return to Exeter, 142009
+ 142001 then formed a 'fast run' to Plymouth and back during the evening
this marking the end of Class operation in the West Country.
29/11 57604 was confirmed as working via Temple Meads and Bath with the
First/GW 1A40 Penzance - Paddington sleeper service. Two other reports for
the day were: 66951 on 6Y27 05:20 Gloucester signal 31 - Newton Abbot
(Hackney yard) rail train arriving in Temple Meads at 03:38 (151 early)
and 37038 + 37604 top n'tailing the 1Q13 test train departing Temple Meads
at 08:04, passing Bridgwater at 08:31 and returning here northbound at
09:17 following a Taunton reverse. The train was later recorded as passing
Pilning at 11:50 for Avonmouth (following a Severn Tunnel junction
reverse) and heading back to Taunton visiting the Weston-super-Mare loop
being noted in the station at 14:11 (18 early) then passing Bridgwater at
14:24 and returning at 14:48 following a second Taunton reverse. The train
also covered further Bristol lines during the rest of the day, ending up
at Didcot for overnight stabling. Another report for the day was 66079 +
66035 top n'tailing the 3S59 Barton Hill water cannon, being recorded
passing Hewish (near Weston-super-Mare) at 12:38 heading for Bristol.
30/11 An interesting observation session at Narroway's Hill junction
logged: the remaining Class 142 units, 142001 + 142030 + 142063 on 5Z42
12:29 Exeter - Newton Heath empty move (the latter being collected from St.
Phillips Marsh en route) at 14:43, 66304 + 66421 with the 6M67 14:02
Bridgwater yard - Crewe Coal sidings single FNA nuclear flask at 15:08 and
BR blue livery 47375 + 56302 (in former Fastline company colours) on 6Z23
10:00 Burngullow - Burton 14 empty TEA bogie china clay tanks at 15:12.
The Class 142 move was reported as passing Worle junction at 13:22,
Parsons street 13:42 and departing Temple Meads at 14:19 for st. Phillips
Marsh and passing Yate at 14:56 whilst the TEA tank move was reported
passing Dawlish 12:18 (1 early), Exeter St. David's 12:31 (21 early),
Cogload junction 13:16 (28 early), Worle junction 13:42 (40 early),
Parsons Street 13:58 (72 early), Narroways Hill junction 15:12 (6 early),
Parkway 15:18 (8 early) and Yate 15:27 (7 early). Following the early
arrival in Bristol the train was held at West junction so the scheduled
path could be resumed. The 14 former china clay silver bullet wagons (now
in a poor external condition) are to be refurbished at the Burton Rail
facility (formerly the EWS wagon repair shops) for use on a new freight
flow from Scotland to Mainland Europe. The new operator at this site
Nemesis Rail used to carry out mainly loco refurbishing work at the Barrow
Hill round house preservation centre. Two locos were needed on this trip
so the shunt moves during the previous day at Burngullow to form the train
ready for departure, could be carried out. Another report for the day was
37038 + 37604 on a 1Q13 08:38 Didcot - Didcot test train which included a
run via the Berks & Hants and Hawkridge curve into the area and a reverse
in Bath down goods loop at 13:55, being later recorded through Trowbridge
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at 14:19 for the return route again via the B&H line. A early afternoon arrival in Bristol was 150002 + 150209 running as 5Z69 11:22 Eastleigh Works - Barton Hill (via Chandlers Ford) for refurbishing and a repaint, the latter set was to be disbanded the coaches being used to form 150121 and 150127 into three car sets. A steam tour arrival was 4492 Dominion of New Zealand (alias 60019 Bittern) on the Torbay Express Ltd 'The Bath Spa Christmas Express' (1Z87 08:57 Poole - Bristol TM and 1Z88 16:38 return) arriving in Bath at 12:21 (5 late) and departing at 12:27 (9 late) and arriving in Temple Meads at 12:52 (19 late). The return was noted passing Keynsham at 16:55.

01/12 Steam 70000 (Britannia) worked Steam Dreams 'Cathedrals Express' (1Z82 08:30 Rainham - Temple Meads and 1Z83 17:04 return), the return working being reported through Keynsham at 17:16 and Swindon at 18:16 (14 late). The train's c/stock was reported as: 35465 (loco support), 5171, 5237, 5236, 5249, 1961, 99350, 99347, 9104, 13440, 1860, 99318, 5216. Blue livery 66623 arrived at Barrow Road with 6V87 stone empties from Bow. Following arrival the loco was booked to run 0V87 17:08 light loco to Stoke Gifford (17:56), due Bristol Parkway 17:30 - 17:35.

02/12 A road bridge strike in the Ivybridge area affected the 1A12 07:40 Paignton - Paddington service as the HST ECS from Laira could not pass so the train ran as far as Temple Meads formed of units 150108 + 153329 which had run 2D04 Exeter st. David's - Taunton in the path of the HST (instead of the sets booked 5D04 empty move).

03/12 Blue livery 31106 was reported as departing the former Bath Road depot spur at 11:39 northbound on a two coach test working with DBSO 9703. An afternoon power car move saw 43170 + 43022 run 0Z77 st. Phillips Marsh - Laira. Two evening departmental reports were: 66614 + 66601 top n'tailing - 6Y11 Taunton Fairwater yard - Wootton Bassett HOBC and 66549 + 66510 top n'tailing 6Y33 Taunton Fairwater - Lydney (via Gloucester) track replacement train.

04/12 The Colas 6078 08:15 Llanwern - Dollands Moor export steel with 66846 in charge was diverted via Dr. Day's, Bath, Hawkridge curve and the Berks & Hants route.

Sunday PW train reports included: 66606 with 6Z28 16:30 Stoke Gifford - Newton Abbot Hackney yard long welded rail train and 66549 + 66510 top n'tailing the 6Y33 10:30 Caldicot - Taunton Fairwater track replacement train passing Patchway at 12:06 having reversed in East Usk yard. 66419 + 66606 were also reported as running 0Y13 14:05 Westbury - Stoke Gifford light during the afternoon.

05/12 37606 + 37602 top n'tailing a 1Q13 Derby RTC - Laira test train departed Temple Meads at 09:22 and was noted passing Yatton at 09:34. The train was then to visit the Newquay and Falmouth branch lines overnight. As mentioned in previous Magazines (although a starting dates of 08/11 and 22/11 had been expected!), the new Colas timber train was finally a runner using loco 66847 on 6250 09:05 Gloucester New Yard - Teingrace level crossing (via Heathfield). Some recorded times for the working which used 14 KFA open bodied wagons (converted from former 'cube' wagons with their sides removed and vertical load holding bars added) were as passing Parkway at 09:50 (1 late), Temple Meads 10:07 (2 late), arriving Yatton loop at 10:26 (6 early) and passing Bridgwater at 12:06. This new flow is expected to run once (or possibly twice) weekly for the next 3 years, the wood being sourced from Buckland-on-the Moor, the Glyn Valley or from the Sidmouth area. The working is required to run to the end of the Newton

Abbot - Heathfield branch for a loco run-round and stable the train on the Newton Abbot side of the road crossing at Teigngrace. Following the loading of the first four wagons, a move is needed to propel the train back over the level crossing, and detach the loaded wagons, to complete the loading operation of the remaining 10. The loco stables in the former motorail bay at Newton Abbot Station between turns.

06/12 66121 on the 6V62 departed Cadland sidings, Fawley at 12:29 (over 200 late) having had to return a single TTA, reducing the load from 41 to 40. The train was later recorded in Temple Meads as 6C62 at 17:30 (128 late).

07/12 The 6V74 Crewe Coal sidings - Bridgwater nuclear flasks passed through the area unusually with a single loco - 66421 after 57010 was removed at Washwood Heath having been working 'off route' via Sutton Park and colliding with a fallen tree. The train was recorded as passing Birmingham Landor Street 222 minutes late and in the Bristol area through Nailsea & Backwell at 10:17 and Highbridge at 10:44. The return 6M67 was surprisingly not late, 66421 departing at 12:34 with a single FNA wagon. Other reports for the day included: 66601 + 66606 passing Yatton at 06:23 with the 6Y11 05:10 Bath Spa - Taunton Fairwater yard HOBC, 37606 + 37602 top n'tailing a return 1Q13 07:33 Plymouth (Laira) Cambridge test train being reported through Bridgwater at 09:36 (right time) and 66598 having run 0Z28 Stoke Gifford - Newton Abbot light returning a 6Z28 10:36 Hackney yard - Eastleigh rail train (via Temple Meads, Bath and Westbury). The first return loaded Colas log train operated as 6Z51 14:42 Teingrace -Chirk Kronospan with 66846, being recorded as passing Teignmouth at 15:35 (3 early), Taunton 17:21 (5 early) and Patchway 19:02 (32 late). The train is expected to run alternately to Chirk with a timber service already operating from Dent on the Settle & Carlisle mainline. Two passenger tours saw: Royal dedicated 67005 work 1V80 09:44 Victoria - Bath and 1092 15:55 return) with the inward working being reported arriving at Bath at 13:04 (3 late), and the ECS running on to Bristol for servicing and stabling and the Torbay Express Limited 'Bath Spa Christmas Express' (1287 08:05 Poole - Bristol TM and 1288 16:38 return) with steam 60019 Dominion of New Zealand (alias 60019 Bittern) the inward being reported as arriving in Bath at 12:23 (7 late) and passing Bathampton junction at 17:15 on the return.

08/12 Preserved ex.BR Class 03 D2178 was reported in the wheel lathe area of st. Phillips Marsh depot having arrived the previous day for wheel turning. For the first time in the area, the newly painted in choc/cream colours, 47790 + 47832 worked a 1Z22 11:38 Cardiff Central - Southampton Northern Belle dining circular passing Patchway at 12:31 (8 late) a reverse in Temple Meads (booked 12:42 - 13:02) and Bathampton junction 13:25 the 1Z23 15:02 Southampton Central - Cardiff Central return being noted leaving Temple Meads double-headed at 17:21 (9 late) and passing Patchway at 17:37 (10 late). (Also see Cardiff notes & news).

09/12 The Arriva XC 1V50 06:06 Edinburgh Waverley - Plymouth service was formed with a Voyager 221 set in place of a HST set.

10/12 The Saturday only 6M60 Exeter (Riverside) - Bescot (downside) freight service, headed by 66141 + 66139 also conveyed a railhead treatment wagon set following the end West Country water cannon trains on 08/12 Two railtour arrivals in the area were: steam 34067 Tangmere (with West Coast 37685 on the rear) on the Railway Touring Company 'Bath Christmas Market' (1Z84 07:52 Three Bridges - Bristol TM and 1Z85 17:34

return) using c/stock: 35518, 99128, 99121, 99712, 99125, 3093, 99127, 99348, 1860, 4905 and 57001 + 57601 which top n'tailed a 'Bath & Bristol Christmas Statesman, (1Z91 06:20 Preston - Temple Meads and 1Z93 16:35 return) using c/stock: 17080, Apollo (3231), Sovereign (3188). 1659, Ennerdale Water (552 / 99675), Rydal Water (550 / 99673), Bassenthwaite (549 / 99672), 99311, 4973, 5487. The 1Z93 was reported as passing Didcot at 12:02, Swindon Highworth junction 12:20 (25 early), Chippenham 12:59 and Keynsham 13:24. The actual arrival in Temple Meads was at 13:27 (1 early), the train having being held at Swindon after an early arrival, until it's correct booked time of 12:44. Also, a 'West Somerset Railway' Christmas Shoppers Special operated using First/GW units 150232 + 150261 as 2U12 Minehead - Cardiff (being reported as departing Temple Meads at 11:21) and 2C83 return. One departmental report was blue livery 66623 on a 6Y27 18:37 Newton Abbot (Hackney yard) - Eckington loop rail train having worked 0Y27 west light-engine during the afternoon.

- 12/12 The Monday's only 6C73 Westbury Taunton Fairwater yard departmental was headed by 66606. Arriva XC HST allocations for the day were as follows: 43207 XC04 43366 1V46 06:32 York Plymouth /1S55 13:23 Plymouth Edinburgh Waverley, 43321 XC05 43285 1V44 06:00 Leeds Plymouth / 1S51 12:23 Plymouth Glasgow Central, 43357 XC02 43384 1V50 06:06 Edinburgh Waverley Plymouth / 1E63 15:23 Plymouth Leeds with 43303 XC03 43378 stabled at Craigentinny and Voyager set 221127 covering 1V54 06:32 Dundee Plymouth / 1E73 17:23 Plymouth Leeds.
- 13/12 150001 + 150106 arrived at st. Phillips Marsh on a move from Tyseley. 150001 immediately went to Barton Hill for refurbishment.
- 14/12 37423 with a test train, having been stabled at Plymouth (and having worked 3Q55 22:19 Laira Exeter Riverside (via Penzance the previous day) during the morning, departed Exeter at 21:59 for Temple Meads via the Severn Beach branch.
- 15/12 143621 damaged in the Severn Tunnel incident on 30/11 (see Bristol Parkway, Pilning and Westerleigh notes & news) was present on St. Phillips Marsh. Later, Colas 47727 + 47749 arrived in Temple Meads at 13:37 (20 early) as 0Z47 10:42 Washwood Heath Temple Meads light locos, having earlier passed Cheltenham at 12:37 (2 late). The locos were needed for engineering work in the Westbury area. Also stabled in Platform 2 at Temple Meads was DRS 37423 on a test train formed with dept c/stock: 6263, 999602, 9703. This train was due to run from Bristol Derby RTC (via Llanelli) during the following day.

Cardiff

- 01/11 57315 was stabled on Canton depot, being also present here on 7th, 9th and $15^{\rm th}$ of the month.
- **09/11** Problems with 60007 saw 60049 take over on the 6B13 05:05 Robeston Westerleigh loaded fuel tanks, the train being reported passing Pontyclun (between Cardiff and Bridgend) at 12:33 (215 late). A revived 60007 was later reported as working the evening 6E30 Margam Immingham freight service.
- 17/11 70010 worked 6Z97 Crewe Margam loaded coal (via Craven Arms and Newport).
- 30/11 66618 was on the 6Z97 Killoch Grange sidings loaded coal.
- 03/12 57314 + 57316 top n'tailed a 1V44 10:38 Holyhead Cardiff Central relief for the Wales v Argentina Rugby International held in the Millennium Stadium.

- **07/12** Having been out of service on Margam on the $29^{\rm th}$, 60054 worked 6H23 Margam Llanwern steel trip departing at 06:26. A pre Christmas dining specials saw the arrival of the Northern Belle set in the area as 5Z22 07:50 Crewe Cardiff Central top n'tailed with 47790 + 47832. The train then ran 1Z22 12:08 Cardiff Central Fishguard and 1Z23 15:00 return. The ECS was then moved as 5Z22 18:15 Cardiff Central Pengam sidings (18:28) for overnight stabling prior to working 5Z22 10:45 ECS to Central station during the following day for a further working from Cardiff to Southampton and back (also see Bristol Temple Meads, Barton Hill and Kingsland Road notes & news).
- 14/12 70006 powered the 6V95 Killoch Grange sidings loaded coal (via Craven Arms and Newport).
- 15/12 A lightening strike at Llantrisant caused signalling problems and a number of service diversions via Barry and the Vale of Glamorgan line.

Gloucester

- **02/11** GBRf 66716 worked the 6Z97 15:02 Beeston Cardiff tidal sidings scrap empties.
- **04/11** DBS red 66097 was in charge of the 4E66 Margam Redcar loaded coke, 60049 worked the 6V05 Round Oak Margam steel empties passing Cheltenham at 11:06.
- **06/11** Engineering work north of Cheltenham saw all Arriva XC services terminating (and restarting) at Gloucester from the West.
- 10/11 66080 was on the 6A36 Ashchurch Didcot MoD trip running early being reported as passing Swindon at 13:18.
- 11/11 Colas 66847, having arrived light from Llanwern, moved a track machine to Washwood Heath.
- **16/11** 66730 was on the 6Z97 Beeston Cardiff Tidal loaded scrap service repeating this duty again two days later,
- **28/11** 66085 was on the 6B36 Didcot Ashchurch MoD trip passing Swindon at 08:36 consisting of vans and Land Rovers.
- **01/12** Colas 66847 was noted stabled in New Yard having arrived in Gloucester the previous day with timber wagons from Chirk for a new flow to Teigngrace (Devon) on the Newton Abbot Heathfield branch 9also see Bristol TM, Barton Hill and Kingsland Roads notes & news)..
- **05/12** New unit 172311 visited Gloucester station on a test working during the day.
- **06/12** 66050 powered the return 6A36 Ashchurch Didcot MoD trip taking the Stroud line at Standish junction at 13:11.

Newport

- 09/11 60007 worked the 6E30 Margam Immingham freight service.
- 11/11 60065 was reported as passing Severn Tunnel junction at 06:11 with the 6Z94 Lindsey Aberthaw fuel tanks. The loco later worked the morning Llanwern Birdport steel trip. These 'as required' trips are now booked to depart Llanwern at 10:17, 18:22 and 22:00. Another Class 60 working during the morning period was 60049 on the 6V19 Immingham Margam freight passing Llanwern at 06:30.
- 12/11 66517 worked the 4V64 (SO) Crewe Basford Hall yard Wenlooge containers.
- 16/11 66730 was on the 6Z97 15:09 Beeston Cardiff Tidal scrap train, reported as running over 90 minutes late.
- 21/11 A Royal visit to Abergavenny saw the Royal Train pass East Usk at

- 15:40, having earlier been recorded through Cheltenham at 13:53 and Cam & Dursley at 14:31. The train's running formation was reported as; 67005 + c/stock: 2921, 2922, 2923, 2916, 2917, 2915, 2920 + 67006. Also during the afternoon following railtour duty, 50044 + 50049 returned to their home depot in Cardiff as 0Z45 09:32 Carnforth Canton Pullman (due 15:26) light loco move via Crewe and the Marches.
- 22/11 Having arrived earlier in the day as part of a freight service, 67001 passed East Usk in the down direction at 10:30 on a driver trainer turn.
- **23/11** 60049 handled the 6V05 09:25 Round Oak Margam steel service. A number of former MGR wagons (HAA and HNAs) were noted being loaded onto road lorries at East Usk yard during the day for onward movement to Booth's, Rotherham for scrap.
- 25/11 Still on steel duty, 60049 passed Pontyclun at 07:07 with the 6H23 Margam Llanwern freight service.
- 26/11 60054 worked 6B67 believed to have been a Trostre Llanwern steel service. The morning 6M60 Exeter (Riverside) Bescot (downside) freight service, headed by 66150 was noted leaving Newport also conveying the Bescot BTU re-railing vans and crane which had attended a de-railed loco (66111) at Exeter (also see Bristol Parkway, Pilning and Westerleigh notes & news). Three special trains ran to this year's Ludlow Christmas Fayre with steam 6024 King Edward I, 60163 Tornado (see Bristol Parkway and Temple Meads notes & news for full details) and 67005 on a 07:13 departure from Basingstoke routed outward via Woking and Birmingham with c/stock: 17015, 3120, 3097, 1691, 3068, 3119, 3149, 3123, 80042, 3121, 5341. The stock for this train was reported as stabling at Hereford prior to the return working via Newport.
- 28/11 60049 departed Margam at 06:22 on the 6H23 steel trip to Llanwern. Later DBS red 66097 worked the 6V67 Redcar Margam coke empties.
- 30/11 60049 worked 6M11 Margam Round Oak loaded steel.
- 06/12 60091 headed the overnight 6V19 Immingham Margam freight,
- 09/12 70005 was on the 4Z98 Grange sidings Stoke Gifford coal empties passing East Usk at 13:25.
- 11/12 DRS livery 66419 worked an afternoon Stoke Gifford Uskmouth P.S, loaded coal service, this being unusual for a Sunday working.
- **15/12** 66717 worked the 6V11 Lindsey Cardiff tanks. The NRMT HST formed with power cars 43013 + 43062 (with c/stock; 977995, 977994, 977993, 975814, 977984) passed Newport station westbound at 17:00 returning in the up direction at 18:08.

Portbury Branchline

- 12/12 DBS restarted their Aberthaw P.S. coal service from this date, 66043 working the 6B86 13:00 departure.
- 14/12 The line was closed due to flooding believed to be in the Pill area until the $16^{\rm th}$. A number of coal services were loaded at Avonmouth during this period (also see Avonmouth notes & news).
- The line will be closed for track relaying for up to 16 days during July/August. Preparation work will be undertaken in the Pill and Ashton junction areas during February and April 2012, drainage will also be improved at both of these locations.
- Locos recorded on coal duty during the review period have included: 66016/043/056/089. 66415/419/506/519/522/531/595/597/598. 70004/006.

Severn Beach Line

Class 143 units are now a thing of the past, none were recorded during the month and the stock in use is now Class 150/1 & 150/2 with the odd 153 working. One major change is that peak hour services are now formed of 3 car units, a 153 being attached to the C1150.A further rumour is that the unit known as 150209 (57209 + 572111) is to be split and a car inserted into a couple of C1150/1's to make a permanent 3 car units for use on this line.

Westbury

23/11 Having de-railed at Exeter the previous day, 66111 arrived lightengine following an examination (also see Bristol Temple Meads, Barton Hill and Kingsland Road notes & news).

03/12 A visit recorded the following: 08737. 66063/201. 59002/004/101/102. 06/12 Central green livered 150202 de-railed on pointwork to the west of the station blocking several lines and access to all platforms. Delays of up to 60 minutes followed with First/GW HST services calling at Frome and Cardiff - Portsmouth trains running over the down reception line and using Trowbridge or Warminster instead to stop and pick up via road bus connections. Bristol - Weymouth services were suspended until 16:00, when a track circuit signalling block and manual hand point cranking was introduced for two platforms. Normal services were not restored until the following morning. The damaged car 52202 was eventually moved by road to Bristol and then onwards to Wolverton Works for repair.

09/12 DRS livery 66416 was on the 6C17 Westbury - Moorswater loaded cement (being reported as passing Taunton at 08:50). The loco returned with the 6C66 14:43 empties from Moorswater.

12/12 Blue livery 66623 worked the 6M50 Westbury - Stud Farm departmental.

Units seen during the review period have included:

142001/009/030/063/068

143617/620/621.

150001/002/101/102/104/108/120/121/122/123/124/126/127/128/129/130/131 150202/209/216/219/221/233/234/239/243/244/246/247/248/249/261/263/266.

153318/325/329/333/361/368/369/370/372/373/377/380.

158749/763/766/798/880/881/886/889/950/951/952/953/954/955/956/957/958/959 158960/961.

159002/004/008/010.

220002/003/004/005/007/008/009/011/012/014/016/020/24/025/027/029/030/031. 221121/125/127/128/129/132/125/127/132/135/137/138/139/140/141.

950001.

Arriva XC HST power cars: 43207/285/301/303/304/321/357/366/378/384.

LOCAL LOCO HAULED PASSENGER SERVICES

1V31 / 1W91 05:32 Holyhead - Cardiff Central/16:15 return 'Wag Express' 01/11 57316 (1V31). 02/11 57315 (1W91). 03/11 57315 (1V31). 04/11 57316 (1V31). 07/11 57316 (1V31/1W91). 08/11 57315. 09/11 57316 (1V31/1W91). 10/11 57316 (1V31). 11/11 57316 (1W91). 13/11 57314. 16/11 57314 (1V31) 57315 (1W91). 18/11 57315 (1V31/1W91). 21/11 57311* (1V31/1W91). 22/11 57311* (1V31/1W91). 26/11 57314. 28/11 57314 (1W91). 29/11 57311* (1W91). 12/12 57316.

Note: * 57311 was 'on hire' from Virgin Trains. C/stock formation: Reported on 16/11 - 9539, 6137, 6183, 10259.

LOCAL FREIGHTLINER SERVICES

4V51 / 4051 Southampton Millbrook - Wentlooge containers

04/11 66589. 05/11 66556. 07/11 70007. 09/11 66503. 10/11 66541 11/11 66956. 12/11 66502. 15/11 66504. 17/11 66590. 23/11 66956. 25/11 66589 26/11 66516. 30/11 66418. 02/12 66540. 03/12 66533. 05/12 70001. 09/12 66558 10/12 66539. 12/12 70001. 14/12 66412. 15/12 66539.

4V50 / 4087 Southampton Maritime - Wentlooge containers

01/11 70009. 02/11 70001. 03/11 66589. 04/11 66956. 07/11 66556 09/11 66956. 10/11 66533. 14/11 66535. 15/11 70001. 28/11 70001. 06/12 66588 07/12 66567.

6M61 08:26 Portbury - Rugeley P.S. loaded coal

25/11 66415. 05/12 66614. 12/12 70002.

6F65 / 4F56 Portbury - Uskmouth P.S. loaded coal/empties to Stoke Gifford 03/11 66519. 15/11 66531. 23/11 66415. 02/12 66598. 03/12 66598.

6F90 10:50 Portbury - Uskmouth P.S. loaded coal

03/11 66597. 04/11 66595. 14/11 66522. 17/11 66522. 21/11 66522. 24/11 66415. 08/12 70004. 09/12 66419.

6M04 10:50 Portbury - Rugeley P.S. loaded coal

01/11 66506. 02/11 66506. 05/12 70004.

6M36 Westbury 'la farge' - Hope (Earles sidings) cement empties (MFO) 11/11 66618. 28/11 66616. 05/12 66526. 12/12 66603.

The Container Count - Bristol West (Railport)

The following have been recorded with headcode listed where known: 01/11 66588. 04/11 66504 (4L32). 08/11 66541. 09/11 66542. 12/11 66537. 66540 (4V34). 14/11 66540 (4L30). 15/11 66532 (4L32). 16/11 66532. 17/11 66556 (4024). 18/11 66556. 19/11 66412 (4V34). 21/11 66537 (4L32). 25/11 66534 (4L32). 66951. 26/11 66535 (4V34). 02/12 66570. 03/12 66516 (4V34). 66569. 05/12 66516 (4L30). 66569. 07/12 66541 (4L32). 10/12 66572. Train Notes: 4V34 04:45 (SO) ex. Felixstowe. 4L32 11:00 - Tilbury. 4024 11:00 - Grain (Thamesport). 4L30 10:00 (MO) - Felixstowe.

LOCAL DBS SERVICES

6B13 Robeston - Westerleigh loaded fuel tanks

01/11 60007. 03/11 60007. 04/11 60007. 08/11 66113. 09/11 60049 10/11 60049. 12/11 60049. 14-17/11 60049. 19/11 60049. 21/11 60049. 22/11 60049. 23-25/11 60054. 28/11 60054. 29/11 60049. 30/11 60054. 02/12 60054*. 03/12 60071. 05-10/12 60071. 12-15/12 60071.

6E41 Westerleigh - Lindsey fuel tank empties

01/11 60024. 03/11 60054. 10/11 60099. 12/11 60024. 15/11 60099 17/11 60099. 19/11 60071. 21/11 60071. 22/11 60071. 24/11 60099. 26/11 60099 28/11 60099. 29/11 60099. 01/12 60024. 02/12 60024. 15/12 60045.

6B49 / 6B50 Llanwern - Swindon stores yard loaded steel (TThO) 15/11 66232.

6B33 Theale - Robeston (Margam SO) fuel tank empties

01/11 60071. 05/11 60049. 08/11 60007. 09/11 60049. 10/11 66113 12/11 60054. 15/11 60054. 17/11 60054. 19/11 60054. 22/11 60054. 26/11 60049 01/12 66004. 03/12 66141. 10/12 60054. 13/12 66037. 15/12 60054.

6V62 (6C62) Eastleigh - Plymouth Tavistock yard loadeds fuel tanks (TO) 01/11 66128. 08/11 66127. 15/11 66008. 22/11 66116. 29/11 66162. 06/12 66121. 12/12 66145.

6V51 Warrington - Royal Portbury dock steel and car empties 01/11 66141. 03/11 66061. 08/11 66068. 10/11 66207. 15/11 66069. 17/11 66068. 24/11 66156. 14/12 66001.

6A83 Machen quarry - West Drayton ARC loaded stone

07/11* 59205. 16/11 66147. 02/11 59206. 09/11 59201. 23/11 66111. 25/11 59203. 30/11 59205. 07/12 59206. 14/12 59206. Note* Ran as 6C83 loaded return to Westbury only.

6M60 Exeter (Riverside) yard - Bescot (downside) freight (SOO 05/11 66090+66204. 12/11 66014. 19/11 66206. 26/11 66201. 03/12 66031. 10/12 66141+66139.

6C39 St. Blazey - Newport (ADJ) freight (ThO)

03/11 66183. 10/11 66111. 17/11 66037. 24/11 66154. 01/12 66155 15/12 66174.

6C99 Newport (ADJ) - st. Blazey freight (TO) 22/11 66053. 29/11 66061. 06/12 66185. 13/12 66174.

6A29 Wentlooge - Didcot wagon load freight 17/11 66065.

LOCAL GBRf WORKINGS

6F30 / 6F31 Cardiff Tidal sidings - Exeter (Alphington Road) loaded scrap 03/11 66716. 10/11 66716. 15/11 66716. 17/11 66730. 22/11 66730. 24/11 66730.

Notes: The train was recorded from 15/11 to 6C55 / 6B56. The train on 22/11 ran to Newport Docks, however the working two days later was reported to be the last - this freight flow being lost to road transport.

LOCAL COLAS WORKINGS

6078 / 6278* Margam / Llanwern - Dolland's Moor export steel

01/11 66847. 05/11* 66847. 08/11 66847. 13/11 66846. 14/11 66744. 15/11 66846. 22/11 66744. 26/11 66846. 04/12 66846. 06/12 66846.

11/12 66846. 13/12 66846.

6V78 / 6Z78 * Dolland's Moor - Llanwern / Margam steel

01/11 66847. 03/11 66744. 10/11 66847+66744. 15/11 66846. 29/11 66846.

02/12* 66744. 08/12 66846. 15/12** 66744+66846.

Notes: ** As far as Didcot only.

LOCAL DRS WORKINGS

6V73 / 6M56 Crewe coal sidings - CEGB Berkeley nuclear flasks 01/11 37423+37601.

6V74 / 6M67 Crewe coal sidings - Bridgwater nuclear flasks.

02/11 37604+37607. 04/11 57009+57011. 09/11 20309+37612.

16/11 20309+37612. 23/11 37218+37229. 25/11 37602+37606.

30/11 66304+66421. 07/12 57010+66421*. 13/12 37229+37602.

Stock Alterations

Locomotives

Transfers

08428 - Milford J

EPXX Europhoenix Locomotives 56101/115/117 86229

HTLX Hanson Traction Locomotives - 56091/103 MBDL 57005

Stored

BU: 09019. 56115/117. CE: 09201. 67010/014/022/029. 92001/031. CP: 60046.

SE: 08925. TO: 60045/074. 66016/092/102/103/105/113/175.

Washwood Heath: 56091/103. Wembley: 08451/887. Toddington: 08927

Class 37s reported last month, are stored at Perpignan

Traffic

08445 -Daventry, 08605 -TO, 08865 -TO (Bescot), 60079.

66040/097/101/119/194/204 -TO.

67011/016. 90035. 92011/016/-CE.

Disposals

EMR: 08492

Mid Hants: 08032

S&D Railway Project: 08881

Renumbered

66411 - 92 70 006 6411 4

New Stock

70019/020 -LD

Europort

Registered: 21906/907 -CO (PTXX)

Diesel Multiple Units

Transfers

153366 (NR) -TS

Traffic

150117 -NH

Formations

150121 (52121 + 57212 + 57121) 127 (52127 + 57209 + 57127)

Electric Multiple Units

Stored

460008 @BM

Traffic

317709/714 -IL

Disposal

Raxstar: Cars S2 & S7 @ZG

Coaching & NPCC Stock

Transfers

1657.80042 -EH (Riviera Trains), 3312.5797.5912/91 - Railfilms

Stored

AL: 10242. 82104. BY: 10222/257. 11027. EC: 9506.

40208/209/228/709/717/725/726/731/736/738/744/474 -Wabtec Scotland

Traffic

10202 -AL

Disposals

Booth: 5750/54. 5881/86/99.5905

Mid Norfolk: 6059. 9500/05

Northumbria Rail: 9497

Renumbered

82131 - 82307, 82144 - 82306

MISCELLANEOUS

First/GW December Timetable Change and Unit Reformations

Extra coaches were provided between Bristol, Bath and Westbury on certain services from 12/12 with the influx of a further 8 ex.LM 150 units. These included 150001 and 150002 which following refurbishment at Bristol Barton Hill will be destined for use on Reading - Basingstoke services along with the Henley-on-Thames branch. 150209 was to be split and the coaches used within sets 150121 and 150127 on Cardiff - Taunton trains, both to be st. Phillips Marsh based. Up to 15 additional coaches for HST sets are to be converted from stored MkIII catering vehicles to strengthen current operating formations, as well as the expected return of 3 Class 180 'Adelante' sets (believed to be 180103/106/108) for Paddington - Oxford line services. Class 143 and 153 units will move west from the Bristol area to cover off loan Class 142 units being returned to the Manchester area.

GWML Electrification news

With construction company Amey awarded the building contract for this multi million pound project, a new maintenance depot is to be built at Swindon to house specialist equipment. At Bristol Temple Meads station, Brunel's old train shed, currently in use as a car park, museum and functions hall is expected to be electrified and provide extra platform space following the closure of the Bristol Panel signal box expected in 2016.

PRESERVATION & INDUSTRIAL MATTERS

Bristol Area Mainline Steam Operating Dates - 2012

The following are planned: TORBAY EXPRESS (Bristol - Kingswear and return) - 01/07, 08/07, 15/07, 22/07, 29/08, 09/09. Expected 'loco pool': 35028 Clan Line, 70000 Britannia, 71000 Duke of Gloucester (Operator Torbay Express Limited). WEYMOUTH SEASIDE SPECIAL (Bristol - Weymouth and return)

- 01/07, 08/07, 15/07, 22/07, 19/08, 26/08, 16/09, 23/09. THE ROYAL DUCHY (Bristol - Par and return) - 29/07, 05/08, 12/08, 02/09, 09/09. Expected 'loco pool': 5029 Nunney Castle, 34046 Braunton, 34067 Tangmere (Operator Railway Touring Company).

Avon Valley Railway

20/11 Ex.GWR 4247, now in a BR black livery made a short visit to the line and was working passenger trains on this date. The loco had received attention at the Flour Mill, near Bream in the Forest of Dean and the visit was used as a running in exercise on the way back to the Bodmin & Wenford Railway. This was a return visit for the loco which appeared in 2005, again for only a short period following a works visit to the Flour Mill. Two not previously recorded anniversaries for the Bitton line during 2011 were the $45^{\rm th}$ anniversary of the closure of this former Midland route out of Bath Green Park to passengers and the $40^{\rm th}$ anniversary of the complete closure of the line following the end of coal traffic to Bath gasworks in 1971.

Road Movements

15/11 08641 M5 Exeter services at 07:15 en route from Loughborough - Laira. 22/11 Ex,GWR 4247 M5 junction 20 (Clevedon) westbound at 17:00 en-route from the Avon Valley Railway (Bitton) - Bodmin & Wenford Railway.

TRACK MACHINES & DEPARTMENTALS

- 05/11 Ashchurch: 73115. 77327/903. Westbury (Old Bovis siding): DR80302/303.
- 06/11 Topsham (Exmouth branch): DR73907.
- 07/11 Bristol Barrow Road bridge: r/r Hydrex 4260 with an unidentified support trailer.
- 08/11 Westbury: DR73925/931.
- 10/11 Newport: DR80302 + DR80303 westbound at 05:58.
- 12/11 Westbury: DR73907.
- 15/11 Westbury: DR73929/931. Eastleigh yard: DRP78224 (crane).
- 21/11 Lydney junction: DR73114. DR77903. Severn Tunnel junction: DR73103.
- 24/11 Swindon: DR73913.
- 30/11 Exeter depot: DR75406.
- 02/12 Bristol Kingsland Rd: DR73115. DR80211.
- 05/12 Westbury: 77327. DR73931. Yatton: DR73935 westbound at 10:27.

THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING WHO HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THIS MAGAZINE:

R. KING, CHAPPIE, A.TURNER, KP, L.SOLWAY, C.CATT, C.WEEKS, J.A.DICKS, D.FORSE, R.GILES, N.HOSKINS.

Also thanks to the following whose information has been used in the organisation of trips to industrial and coaching stock locations:

INDUSTRIAL RAILWAY SOCIETY, PETER HALL.

Can all information for the magazine please be sent to Kevin Davies by the $20^{\rm th}$ of the month, either at the address at the front of the magazine or by e-mail to: magazine@cardiffandavonside.org.uk