

CARDIFF & AVONSIDE RAILWAY SOCIETY

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Issue 532

June 2016

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Front Cover Photo June 2016 Issue 532:

[Richard Giles]

HST at 40 - 1. A retro late 1970's view of 41001 (252001) and W43002 / 253001 which had been named "Sir Kenneth Grange" earlier in the day outside the former DMU shed at St.Philips Marsh Open Day on 02/05/16.

Rear Cover Photo June 2016 Issue 532:

[Richard Giles]

HST at 40 - 2. Top of the yard line up on 02/05/16 power cars from right to left - 43187 (GWR Green), 43048 (EMT), 43300 (Virgin XC), 43013 (Network Rail), 43423 (Grand Central) and 43172 (GWR Poppy livery).

FUTURE EVENTS

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2016

Saturday 02/07/16

The Annual General Meeting will again be held in the upstairs meeting room at the Pen & Wig public house, Stow Hill, Newport city centre on Saturday 2nd July, commencing at 1200 hours. This is the same venue as last year.

Details of the venue can be found at <http://jwbassettpubs.com/the-pen-wig/>

A choice of a jacket potato or ciabatta from the pub menu will be provided

Trip 515

MERSEYSIDE

Saturday 09/07/16

Proposed Trip Fare = £31.00 Reduced Fare for Society Members = £28.00

Proposed Itinerary: Emergency Services Training Centre, Wirral; Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service, Bootle; James Street Station, Liverpool; Knowsley Safari Park, Prescot; Lakeside Miniature Railway, Southport; A.E. Lewis, Simonswood; Merseyside Development Corporation, Bootle; Museum of Liverpool, Liverpool; Museum of Liverpool Vehicle Workshop, Bootle; Primary School, Newton-Le-Willows; Pier Railway, Southport; Tramway & Transport Museum, Birkenhead; Croxteth Park Railway, Liverpool; Royden Park Miniature Railway, Wirral; Albert Dock Merseyside Maritime Museum, Liverpool.

This trip also includes a 'flyer' option for those people wishing to concentrate on Merseyrail Units/Mainline in Liverpool.

Permits: To be applied for.

Departure Time from Bristol area = 0630 am

Return Time to Bristol area = approx 2130 pm

Book By Date = 25th June 2016

Safety Equipment (PPE) required: To Be Advised

Trip 516

WEST YORKSHIRE MINIATURES

Saturday 13/08/16

Visiting the various miniature railways that are located in the county

Proposed Trip Fare = £35.00 Reduced Fare for Society Members = £32.00

Proposed Itinerary: All-in-one Miniature Railway, Knutsford; Hemsworth Water Park Miniature Railway, Pontefract; Huddersfield Society of Model Engineers, Huddersfield; Kirklees Light Railway, Clayton West; Pugneys Light Railway, Wakefield; Rio Grande Miniature Railway, Leeds; Shibden Miniature Railway, Halifax; Thornes Park Railway, Wakefield; West Riding Small Loco Society, Wakefield; Lions Mane Model Engineers Miniature Railway, Leeds; Eddercliffe Miniature Railway, Cleckheaton; Bradford Miniature Railway, Shipley; Outgang Micro Brewery, Kinsley.

Permits: To be applied for.

Departure Time from Bristol area = 0630 am

Return Time to Bristol area = approx 2130 pm

Book By Date = 30th July 2016

Safety Equipment (PPE) required: To Be Advised

Trip 517

STATFOLD BARN & CHASEWATER RAILWAY

Saturday 10/09/16

Proposed Trip Fare = £35.00 Reduced Fare for Society Members = £32.00

Please Note: A deposit of £10 is payable prior to the Book By Date to purchase the Statfold Barn Open Day Ticket.

Proposed Itinerary: LH Group Ltd, Barton-under-Needwood; Statfold Barn Railway, Tamworth; Chasewater Light Railway, Brownhills; Quattro Plant, Brownhills.

Permits: To be applied for.

Departure Time from Bristol area = 0630 am

Return Time to Bristol area = approx 2130 pm

Book By Date = 27th August 2016

Safety Equipment (PPE) required: To Be Advised

Trip 518

BLUEBELL RAILWAY & HOLLYCOMBE COLLECTION

Sunday 09/10/16

Proposed Trip Fare = £24.00 Reduced Fare for Society Members = £21.00

Proposed Itinerary: Bluebell Railway, All Locations; Hollycombe Steam Collection, Liphook.

Permits: To be applied for.

Departure Time from Bristol area = 0630 am

Return Time to Bristol area = approx 2130 pm

Book By Date = 24th September 2016

Safety Equipment (PPE) required: To Be Advised

Trip 519

DONCASTER FLYER

Saturday 19/11/16

Approximately 8 hours free time to do as you wish.

Proposed Trip Fare = £28.00 Reduced Fare for Society Members = £25.00

Proposed Itinerary: None

Permits: None

Departure Time from Bristol area = 0630 am

Return Time to Bristol area = approx 2130 pm

Book By Date = 5th November 2016

Safety Equipment (PPE) required: None

Trip 520

LONDON FLYER

Saturday 17/12/16

Approximately 10 hours free time to do as you wish in the capitol.

Proposed Trip Fare = £26.00 Reduced Fare for Society Members = £23.00

Proposed Itinerary: None

Permits: None

Departure Time from Bristol area = 0630 am

Return Time to Bristol area = approx 2130 pm

Book By Date = 3rd December 2016

Safety Equipment (PPE) required: None

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.

NOTICES

General Trip Information

Refer to last months magazine for General Trip Information

NOTES & NEWS

Bristol Parkway, Stoke Gifford, Pilning, Yate and Westerleigh

21/04 A morning Signalling problem east of Parkway caused major problems for up trains and some diversions, the 1M25 0700 Cardiff Central - Manchester Piccadilly (via Temple Meads) being returned to South Wales (via the Severn Tunnel) for a reverse move via Lydney, having passed Filton junction at 0813 (7 late) heading towards Patchway. The working

which had departed Cheltenham at 0923 (43 late) was however eventually terminated at Birmingham NS at 1004 (38 late).

23/04 At 0640, Stoke Gifford 'downside' held; 66526, 66539, 66550, 66551, 66559 and 66601. Later, 66019 + 66175 set out on the Saturdays Only 0019 1106 Margam - Eastleigh light-loco move, but with the latter detached at Newport ADJ, 66019 passed Patchway solo at 1318 and Bath Oldfield Park 1351. A light engine loco move in preparation for evening engineer's trains was; 66504 + 66501 - 1116 Stoke Gifford - Oxford Hinksey yard via Westbury passing Stapleton Road at 1125 (66501 in fact continuing on its own from Westbury as a 0Y61 1215 working). A freight report was 60039 working the 6B33 Theale - Margam fuel tank empties which were diverted via the Berks & Hants and Bath passing here at 1430. Engineering train records and loco allocations included; 70802 - 6C24 1030 Westbury - Ashchurch (1315), which suffered a load incident at Westbury and was reported passing Bath at 1224 (84 late), Lawrence Hill 1247 and Charfield 1317, 66132 + 66018 top n' tailing - 6W38 0944 Westbury - Cheltenham Alstone level crossing (1319) formed of falcon wagons which was reported passing Bath at 1018, Lawrence Hill 1138 and Standish junction 1220.

24/04 66604 made an unusual sight working three empty HXA coal wagons (370583, 370567, 370513) as a 6C04 1710 Aberthaw PS - Stoke Gifford (1937) move which passed Cardiff Central at 1746 (2 early) and Pilning 1831 (13 early).

25/04 66849 was used on a Colas route learning light loco move as 0Z09 0818 Oxford Hinksey yard - Oxford Hinksey yard via Evesham, Worcester (reverse) and Parkway (reverse). Local area reports included; passing Yate down at 1224 (6 late) and 1253 (-) on the return, having earlier arrived Parkway at 1233 (6 late). An engineering train loco allocation and report was; 66109 + 66132 top n' tailing - 6W42 2301 (Sun) Westbury - Westbury (0632) via Pontypool & New Inn (booked 0241 - 0251), which passed Pilning at 0617 (38 late) and Bradford junction 0715 (54 late).

27/04 Arriva XC Voyager set 220004 working the 1M25 0700 Cardiff Central - Manchester - Piccadilly service was involved in a fatality at Abbotswood junction at 0900. With the line closed, Cross Country services were disrupted with Voyager or HST sets either side of the closed section being turned back in the unused paths for each direction. For example, a 1Z48 1102 Cheltenham - Plymouth operated with 221129 (in the path of the 1V48 0645 Newcastle - Plymouth service) which had arrived on the 1M33 1000 Bristol TM - Manchester Piccadilly (1259) service. Later, 220004 moved to Spetchley loop arriving at 1125 (151 late) to be taken out of service pending an examination.

28/04 The 'Great Britain IX' 1Z46 0815 Bristol TM - Grange-over-Sands (1856) behind steam 44871 which passed Patchway at 0833 (3 late), departed a water stop from Magor at 0833 (3 late) and passed Abergavenny at 1015 (4 early). 47832, which had arrived with 44871 during the previous day, departed Temple Meads at 0851 (18 late) as a 0Z46 Bristol West - Crewe light move which passed East Usk at 0922 (8 late) having over taken the steam loco being watered at Magor. Coronation Class 46233 Duchess of Sutherland was originally planned to take the train forward from Bristol.

03/05 Having been on show at St. Phillips Marsh, the GWR green set 150247 was on the 2C43 0623 Bristol Parkway - Penzance service.

06/05 The 6B33 1300 Theale - Robeston (2047) fuel tank empties was reported as in trouble exiting the Severn Tunnel on the Welsh side headed by 60066. An assisting 1Z99 rescue loco was requested from Newport ADJ and

in the meantime, the 1F27 1630 Cardiff Central - Portsmouth Harbour was terminated at Severn Tunnel junction station and returned to Newport at 1724 and on the English side the 2U22 1457 Taunton - Cardiff Central was terminated at Severn Tunnel East at 1723 (40 late) and returned to Bristol along with the 1B48 1515 Paddington HST service with power cars 43142 + 43169 at 1738 (50 late) which eventually went forward to South Wales via Gloucester later passing Severn Tunnel junction at 1859 (126 late). Some freight services were also affected although the 6A34 1436 Moreton-on-Lugg - Acton loaded stone passed via the up loop departing at 1654 (12 early), but the 4Z47 1303 Acton - Cardiff Docks Ryans (1913) empty stone formed of 17 HKAs behind 66024 was held until 1826 (93 late) and the 6B49 Swindon Stores - Llanwern (1746) steel service with unidentified hauling power, which was stopped behind left at 1830 (71 late). Diversions and a large number of cancellations followed the 6B33 being later reported passing Newport at 1859 (120 late).

07/05 The 0X12 1245 Newport ADJ - Westbury light-loco move was formed; 66117 + 66018 + 66094 + 66250 + 66097 + 66147 + 66005 + 66102 + 66181 and reported passing Patchway at 1346, Lawrence Hill 1357 and arriving Westbury at 1454. Test unit 950001 was booked to run from Cardiff Canton - Parkway twice during the day as a 5Z90 move.

09/05 66552 was 'hired' to GBRf for the 6M40 1156 Westbury - Cliff Hill (Stud Farm) ballast which departed Westbury at 1209 (13 late), the loco having run 0Z40 0929 Stoke Gifford - Westbury light, arriving at 1045.

17/05 History in the making with the appearance of the first Hitachi Japanese built Class 800 'bi mode' IEP unit at Bristol. Set 800002 (formed 811002, 812002, 813002, 814002, 815005) worked a GBRf manned 5X81 0033 Acton Main line - Stoke Gifford empty stock move under its own power, as opposed to the expected loco-hauled drag. A booked stop at Reading took place with an arrival of 0103 (1 early) and departure of 0455 (6 early) being recorded as well as passing Westerleigh junction at 0613 (23 early) and arriving Parkway platform 4 at 0619 (23 early) where management and officials were able to inspect the new train before its departure at 0641 (9 early) for the new Hitachi built depot at Stoke Gifford, completed to time in September last year where the arrival was at 0644 (9 early). The unit which has a similar HST interior with high seat backs that are not aligned with the windows is to remain here for several weeks for staff familiarization regarding maintenance and driving as well as covering and testing clearances of the newly laid track and installed overhead wires within the depot area.

Locos recorded on Westerleigh fuel tank duty has included;
60039/066/091.

Bristol Temple Meads, Barton Hill and Kingsland Road

19/04 Having arrived as a 0Z56 1130 Washwood Heath - Barton Hill (1558) light move passing Yate at 1514 (1 late) during the previous day, 56303 worked a 5Z34 1211 Barton Hill - Wembley (1741) with refurbished coach 12603 which passed Filton Abbey Wood at 1216 (7 early) and Westerleigh junction 1221 (8 early). Later, a 3Z18 1815 Derby RTC - Bristol High level sidings (2318) 3 coach test working was propelled outward by 37601 being recorded passing Yate at 1919 (41 late), then departing Temple Meads at 1953 (46 late) for Swindon and back, passing Keynsham at 2004 (51 late). An engineering train loco allocation and report for the day was; 66018 +

66087 top n' tailing - 6W50 0520 Trehafod - Westbury which passed North Somerset junction at 0704.

20/04 Although a previous report suggested that the final West Country Colas log train had run, 70808 worked a further 20 wagon 6V54 0535 Chirk Kronospan - Exeter Riverside yard train of empties passing Abergavenny at 0750, Nailsea & Backwell 0930, Bridgwater 0956 and Taunton 1009.

21/04 57306 + 57003 were paired on the 6V74 / 6M63 Crewe - Bridgwater and return nuclear flask trip, the outward being reported as passing Parkway at 0707. The late 0830 arrival at Bridgwater was reported due to the train being diverted in the Birmingham area and through New Street station. Further DRS loco activity saw; 37059 + 37610 run 0Z36 Crewe - Eastleigh light-engine, for rail tour duty being reported passing Severn Tunnel junction at 0914, Patchway 0947, Narrows Hill junction 0959, Bathampton junction 1022 and Dean (Hampshire) 1122. The locos took charge of Pathfinder Tours 4-day 'Spring West Highlander' (1Z36 0513 Eastleigh - Carlisle via Swindon and Oxford being the first part) over the following day and 37612 + 37609 on a 1Z23 0708 Temple Meads - Tyseley Lmd (1927) test train, via Severn Tunnel junction (reverse) and Swindon, reports being; passing Patchway at 0828 (2 late), departing Severn Tunnel junction at 0910 (25 late) and Temple Meads at 0952 (15 late) following another reverse move and later passing Bathampton junction at 1013 (20 late) heading towards Chippenham.

22/04 £1,050 per person was the cost of this year's Cornish VSOE outing from London, the 1Z78 0948 Victoria - Truro (1803) which was reported as passing Oldfield Park (Bath) at 1246 (1 early), departing Temple Meads at 1337 (2 late), passing Bridgwater at 1415 (2 early), Taunton 1424 (9 early), Dawlish 1508 (28 early) and Lostwithiel 1712 (13 early) headed by Royal Train dedicated 67005 + 67006. The following day's itinerary was different to previous years with an afternoon out and back trip to Taunton being replaced by a run to Penzance and back instead. Also there was no evening visit to Kingswear. On the freight side the loaded 6M54 Exeter Riverside - Chirk Kronospan loaded logs with 70808 returned during the early evening.

24/04 The VSOE made its usual Sunday return back through the area from the Cornish weekend as 1Z83 1220 Truro - Victoria (2045) headed by 67006 + 67005 which passed Dawlish at 1504 (25 late), Taunton 1546 (22 late), Uphill junction 1605 (15 late), Bath 1722 (17 late) and Trowbridge 1751 (29 late). Engineering train records for the day included; DBC 66132 + Colas 70802 top n' tailing - 6C24 0938 Alstone level crossing - Westbury yard (1233) formed of 26 wagons which departed at 1051 (73 late), passed Yate at 1137 (43 late) and Keynsham 1235 (45 late).

25/04 The latest HST power car repaint 43002 lead the 1C20 1530 Paddington - Weston-super-Mare service arriving in the seaside resort at 1753 (3 late). The set was booked to return on the 1A29 1802 departure back to the Capital. The power car now carries a black roof and hood in place of blue and a full yellow end.

27/04 Day 2 of the 'Great Britain IX' saw the return from the West Country as 1Z86 1000 Penzance - Bristol TM behind steam 46100 Royal Scot making a preservation debut in Bristol. The train, which had diesel 57316 attached to the rear 'dit', was reported as passing; Dawlish at 1455 (6 early), Taunton non-stop at 1639 (16 early), Bridgwater 1714 (5 late), Yatton 1735 (1 late) and arriving Temple Meads at 1744 (4 late). A repaired steam loco 44871 previously reported as out of service (along

with support coach and diesel 47832) worked 5Z85 Crewe - St.Phillips Marsh (2047) which departed at 1609 (117 late) for the following days 'Great Britain XI' duties (also see Bristol Parkway, Barton Hill and Kingsland Road notes & news), being reported passing Abergavenny at 1950 (38 late) and Patchway 2036 (23 late). Also during the day, DCR de branded green 31452 worked a further 5Z34 0611 Barton Hill - Wembley Lmd Chiltern Trains stock move with coach 11031 which passed Parkway at 0626 (-) and returned with blue/grey 11029 for attention as 5Z35 Wembley Lmd - Barton Hill (1425) passing Didcot at 1254 (6 early) and Parkway 1355 (10 early). An engineering train report and loco allocation was; 66018 + 66019 top n' tailing - 6W55 0530 Whitland - Westbury which passed Margam Moors junction at 0806 and Newport 0918.

28/04 37605 + 37069 worked the 6V74 / 6M63 Crewe - Bridgwater and return nuclear flak trip which was reported as passing Parkway at 0556 and Bristol West 0605 inward and the return departing Bridgwater at 1107.

30/04 GWR green livery 57603 became the first exhibit to arrive in Bristol for the '40th HST Anniversary' charity open day at St.Phillips Marsh HST depot arriving as 0Z91 0303 light-engine from Temple Meads having been detached from the rear of the 1C99 2345 Paddington - Penzance (0752) via Bath sleeper service which had specially called at 0204 (16 early) and departed at 0226 (17 early) headed by 57310. Continuing the theme of Class 57 locos, West Coast 57315 + 57313 top n' tailed the 'Cornish Explorer' 1Z88 0510 Chester - Penzance (1344) and 1Z89 1518 return to Chester (2349) rail tour with c/stock; 3395, 3326, 99679 Windermere, 3392, 3352, 6724, 6012, 6103, 99680. The trip, which ran each way via the Marches and the Severn Tunnel was recorded on the outward departing Temple Meads at 0907 (-) and passing Bridgwater at 0939 (2 late) and on the return passing Uphill junction at 1854 (7 early) and departing Temple Meads at 1934 (-). Loco convoys were the order of the day during the early afternoon, the first two being destined for the St.Phillips Marsh depot open day; 50007 + D400/50050 + 47749 (carrying covered 'City of Truro' nameplates), all in ex-works condition formed a 0Z50 1043 Washwood Heath Metro Cammell - St.Phillips Marsh (1317) which passed Westerleigh junction at 1159 (44 early) and Narrowways Hill junction 1215 (36 early); 66757 + D182 (46035) + D213 (40013) + 50035 + 5580 (31162) as a 0Z69 1027 Kidderminster SVR - St.Phillips Marsh (1336) move which made a brief stop at Cam & Dursley station at 1224 (25 early), passed Charfield at 1233 (24 early) and Narrowways Hill junction 1255 (24 early) and 66140 + 66168 + 60007 forming the usual Saturdays Only 0012 1025 Margam LIP - Eastleigh yard light loco move, which on the day was started at Newport ADJ and passed Lawrence Hill at 1323 and arrived Westbury at 1411, for 66176 (not actually part of the days working from South Wales!) to continue onwards passing Dean (Hampshire) at 1619. Another open day arrival was Thames Turbo unit 166214 as 5Z40 1450 Reading Traincare depot - St.Phillips Marsh (1655) which passed Swindon at 1530 (5 early) and Bath 1555 (23 early). On the freight side, 60039 was diverted via Chippenham and Bath working the 6B33 1125 Theale - Robeston (2035) fuel tank empties which passed Swindon at 1317 (6 early), Bath 1350 (4 early) and Lawrence Hill 1530 (6 early). An engineering train report for the day was; 66849 - 6C97 2032 Westbury - Tiverton loop (2355) via Bristol rail train which passed Nailsea & Backwell at 2109.

01/05 Further open day exhibits arrived in Bristol with 37884 + 56098 on a 0Z37 Leicester Depot - St.Phillips Marsh (1735) move which ran early

throughout passing Yate at 1144 (316 early), Filton Abbey Wood 1151 (321 early) and Lawrence Hill 1157 (325 early). The Class 37 was originally booked to work a 5Z37 1320 Tyseley - St. Phillips Marsh steam loco and stock move, but this was cancelled. During the evening a 5Z43 1925 Hotchley Hill (East Leake) - St. Phillips Marsh (0113) HST stock move was formed; 43300 + 43013 + 43423 + 41001 + 12072 + 10206 + 11074 + 41190 + 43048 which passed Yate at 2241 (108 early), Parkway 2247 (110 early) and departed Temple Meads at 2322 (95 early) following a reverse move. Two Class 59s were reported at Merehead, one being 59004 in ex. works condition carrying the Aggregate Industries livery, awaiting a driver to attend the Bristol event but never made it in the end. Following the closure of the open day at 1630 and when a decent period of sun started to set in, exhibits started to be moved: Turbo set 166214 passed Oldfield Park, Bath at 1913 (30 early) and Trowbridge 1948 (15 early) running 5Z41 1915 to Reading Traincare depot (2126) via Temple Meads the set having arrived as a 5A36 2359 (Sun) working from Reading at 0154 (28 early) and 37884 + 56098 passed Stapleton Road at 1910 (42 late) and Yate South 1920 (40 late) as 0Z37 1815 St. Phillips Marsh - Leicester (2107). Later, the two north facing HST power cars, 43300 and 43423 were turned using a Class 08 in between and at the rear via North Somerset junction and Bedminster and Bristol West junction and the complete returning train formation passed in the opposite direction (with East Midlands 43048 leading) back to St. Phillips Marsh ready for the return north during the following morning.

03/05 As expected, the newly named 'flying bananas' Inter-City 125 livery W43002 was attracting attention being formed with 43033 as part of OC50 (41180, 46015, 40101, 42516, 42100, 42264, 42283, 44093). Following the previous days open day unveiling it worked 3D57 1415 St. Phillips Marsh - Paddington (1645) via Temple Meads platform 11 being reported departing here at 1440 (6 late) non-stop to the Capital, passing Swindon at 1522 (7 late). The sets next working (with W43002 on the rear) was 1B63 1715 Paddington - Carmarthen (2119) which departed Parkway at 1856 (13 late) and Newport 1920 (9 late). Exhibit moves from the previous days open day were; HST stock and power cars 43300 + 43013 + 43423 + 41001 with c/stock; 11074, 10206, 12074 + 43048 as 5Z43 St. Phillips Marsh - Derby Etches Park (1123) carrying a red 'Rail Operations Group' headboard, which departed at 0620 (9 early) and passed Stapleton Road at 0640 (6 early) and Yate 0654 (9 early) and 50050/D400 + 50007/D407 + 47749 as 0Z50 St. Phillips Marsh - Washwood Heath (1344) which passed North Somerset junction at 1004 (56 early), Parkway 1016 (60 early) and Yate 1022 (60 early). Other reports for the day included; 31452 which worked 0Z31 1107 Barton Hill - Crewe light passing Parkway at 1119 and test unit 950001 running as 2Q08 0507 Bristol TM - Plymouth Laira (1212) via Whatley and Merehead quarries, being reported outward passing Bath at 0508 (11 early) and on the return to Bristol departing Temple Meads at 0813 (-) and Yatton loop 0854 (7 early). An engineering train record and loco allocation was; 66174 + 66060 top n' tailing - 6W51 0544 Cardiff Queen street - Westbury which passed Bath at 0900.

04/05 A further ex open day move was a 0Z48 1242 St. Phillips Marsh - Swanage Motala (Norden) ground frame (2047) which was headed by 66757 and formed; D213 + D182 + 50035 + 5580 and reported on the up through line in Temple Meads at 1251 (48 early), having run via a loco run-round at Bedminster and later passing Keynsham at 1310 (37 early), Bath 1317 (41

early) and Swindon 1404 (41 early). Having worked to Crewe from Barton Hill depot during the previous day, DCR 31452 continued north to collect former DRS 47828 destined for preservation on the Dartmoor Railway at Okehampton. The booked return working was 0Z47 1416 Carlisle - Exeter Riverside (0131) which was reported passing Oxenholme at 1516. Part of the day's duties for the latest HST power car celebrity W43002 were; leading the 1L05 0352 Swansea - Paddington (0730), then on the rear of the 1C05 0800 Paddington - Bristol TM (0943) and then leading the 1A13 1030 Bristol TM - Paddington (1214). An engineering train report was; 66107 + 66053 top n' tailing - 6W61 Westbury - Carmarthen junction which passed Filton at 1916.

05/05 The first appearance of a Class 68 loco west of Temple Meads was recorded with 57003 + 68014 (in Chiltern Trains silver livery) working a two wagon (FNA + FNA D), 6V74 0200 Crewe Coal sidings - Bridgwater nuclear flask train which passed Worle junction at 0525 (43 early), Uphill junction 0554 (17 early) having been held here for the 2C42 0524 Bristol Parkway - Penzance GW service to pass (as booked via the Weston station loop) and arrived Bridgwater at 0608. The return 6M63 for Crewe Coal sidings (1829) departed at 1205 (7 late) and passed Uphill junction at 1225 (2 early), Flax Bourton 1240 (2 early), Filton Abbey Wood 1310 (3 early) and Yate 1323 (13 early). The Class 68 was reported as running in following an exam. The days confirmed operating diagram for W43002 (with 43033) was reported as; 1C14 1300 Paddington - Temple Meads, arriving at 1412 (3 early), 1A22 1500 Bristol TM - Paddington, then 1C90 1706 Paddington - Bristol TM. The power car had formed part of the 1100 Oxford - Paddington service earlier in the day. 31452 + preserved DRS livery 47828 (in a now weathered DRS livery from storage at MoD Longtown) formed a 0Z47 1416 Carlisle - Exeter Riverside (0131) light loco move which departed Parkway at 2220 (75 early) during the previous evening and was terminated at Barton Hill. The move later continued as 0Z47 1628 Barton Hill - Okehampton (1920) again behind 31452 (which had during the day worked to Wembley and back on Chiltern Trains coach moves!) being reported passing Parsons Street at 1606 (46 early) and Bridgwater 1642 (37 early). The loco returned as 0Z31 2000 Okehampton - Barton Hill (2251) light and was recorded passing Uphill junction at 2037 (86 early) and onto the Weston station loop.

07/05 A planned Railway Touring Company 'Heart of Wales' trip from Bristol - Shrewsbury using steam 48151 was cancelled.

08/05 Sunday engineering train records included; 66102 - 6W31 1003 Blatchbridge junction - Westbury (1402), 60007 - 6W32 1403 Blatchbridge junction - Westbury (1846) via Taunton and Bristol, which was reported passing Taunton towards Fairwater yard at 1410 (37 early), Nailsea & Backwell 1800 and Bath 1858 (37 late), 66147 + 66005 top n' tailing - 6W40 0822 Cardiff West - Westbury (1005), noted Lawrence Hill at 0932, 66107 + 66018 top n' tailing - 6W98 Tram Inn - Eastleigh recorded through Lawrence Hill at 1035 and 66953 + 66553 top n' tailing - 6Y19 0800 Rumney River Bridge junction - Taunton Fairwater yard (1101) MOBC which passed Lawrence Hill at 0921.

09/05 43028 + 43041 formed a back to back HST power car move working 0Z70 1045 St. Phillips Marsh - Old Oak Common (1425) being reported departing Temple Meads following a reverse at 1158 (55 late), passing Parkway at 1221 and Swindon 1308 (75 late). Continuing the HST theme, the Arriva XC 1V50 0606 Edinburgh Waverley - Plymouth (1443) service was

terminated at Birmingham NS at 1236 (87 late). 43285 + 43357 (which had run 5Z50 empty from Barton Under Needwood) were later recorded passing Filton Abbey Wood at 1355 with a 1Z52 1220 Birmingham NS - Plymouth 'relief' working in place of the 1V50, the set later returning on the 1E67 1625 Plymouth - Leeds service in place of the normal Voyager unit.

10/05 A second Class 68 to work south of Bristol was 68016 leading the 6V74 Crewe - Bridgwater nuclear flask trip (FNA 550037) with 37716 on the rear in a top n' tail formation being reported passing Westerleigh junction at 0534 and arriving Bridgwater at 0643. The 6M63 1158 return working to Crewe was double-headed with the Class 37 leading and the Class 68 switched off behind and was reported as departing Bridgwater station at 1110, passing Worle junction at 1125, Nailsea & Backwell 1133, Temple Meads 1149 and Bristol Parkway 1206. The inward 6V74 today and the previous weeks 6M63 both in a top n' tail formations would suggest an engineering block or diversion from the workings normal booked route although where this took place for each working remained unknown. Other reports for the day included the returning preserved locos from the previous weekends Swanage gala (and for the forthcoming Severn Valley Railway diesel gala) as 0M40 1000 Motala (Norden) ground frame - Kidderminster SVR (1814) via Reading formed; 66748 + D5580 + 50035 + D182 + D213 + 20142 + 20205 and reported passing Winchester at 1237 (1 late), Highworth junction (near Swindon) 1445 (5 early), Bath 1539 (1 early), Bristol Parkway 1620 (1 early) and Yate 1630 (1 late) and 37603 + 37609 top n' tailing a 1Z00 1300 Derby RTC - Bristol TM (1556) with dept c/stock; 6262, 5981, 72616, 9516 which passed Yate at 1535 (5 late) and Stapleton road 1550 (1 early). The latter working continued as 1Z00 Bristol TM - Exeter Riverside yard (1900) via Paignton (not Plymouth as originally booked) and departed at 1600 (2 late), passed Uphill junction at 1626 (1 early) and departed Taunton at 1650 (1 early).

11/05 Steam 60163 Tornado, standing in for 35028 Clan Line headed a 13 coach Belmond Pullman VSOE working as 1Z91 0844 Victoria - Bristol TM (1310) out and back via Newbury being reported passing Reading at 1039 (3 late), Trowbridge 1238 (17 late), departing Bath at 1301 (16 late) and Temple Meads for Bristol East depot for servicing (via Bedminster) as 5Z91 with the ecs at 1338 (20 late). The 1Z93 return to Victoria (2101) departed platform 3 at 1644 (5 late), Bath at 1708 (7 late) and passing Trowbridge at 1724 (3 late). Later, 'Thumper' DEMU set 1112 was collected from the West Somerset Railway for a second visit to St. Phillips Marsh for further wheel lathe attention by 66552 which had run light from Stoke Gifford sidings (noted passing Bridgwater at 1246), the return being 5Z05 1114 Minehead - St. Phillips Marsh (1732) which passed Taunton at 1626 (1 early), Bridgwater 1638 (-) and Yatton 1702 (1 early). Another unit move was refurbished SWTs 159104 which passed through the area as a 1346 Loughborough - Salisbury depot (2104) empty move which passed Yate at 1827 (49 early), Dr. Days junction 1856 (41 early) and Trowbridge 1943 (26 early). Also, the Class 37 test train top n' tailed with 37603 + 37609 returned north as 1Q42 1100 Exeter Riverside - Derby RTC (1843) passing Bridgwater at 1203 (4 early), departing Temple Meads at 1304 (2 early) and passing Yate at 1323 (1 late). Heavy rain throughout the day which amounted up to 40 mm in some areas caused flooding at Wootton Bassett junction, with GW HST diversions taking place via the Berks & Hants and Newbury. A landslide was also reported as delaying services at an unspecified location north of Gloucester.

12/05 A return to normality with 37069 + 37607 paired on the 6V74 Crewe - Bridgwater and 6M63 return nuclear flask trip consisting of a single FNA 550059 which departed Bridgwater at 1139 and passed through Temple Meads at 1219.

13/05 A 3Q22 2236 (Thur) Derby RTC - Bristol TM high level (0815) test train was worked by 37601 from the rear and passed Abergavenny at 0627 (1 late) and Filton Abbey Wood 0802 (1 early). The train's c/stock formation was reported as; 977969, 999606 now carrying 'Digital Railway - Ultrasonic Test Unit' branding, 9701 and returned north as 3Z23 2348 to Derby RTC (0830) again via the Marches, passing Lawrence Hill at 2331 (19 early). Another arrival later in the day was DRS 57305 + 57306 top n' tailing - 1Z10 0634 Sheffield - Bristol TM (1210) via Cheltenham, Stroud, Swindon and Chippenham and 1Z12 1712 return to Sheffield (2318). The inward working was reported departing Bath at 1156 (-) and arriving Temple Meads at 1209 (1 early) with c/stock; 2174 Glamis, 3273 Alnwick, 1566 Caerdydd, 3267 Belvoir, 3182 Warwick, 3275 Harlech, 3247 Chatsworth, 325 Duart, 17167 Mow Cop, 10734 Balmoral, 10729 Crewe.

14/05 GBRf 66737 worked Pathfinder Tour's 'Yorkshire Dales Explorer' 1Z31 0450 Salisbury - Leeds (1316) and 1Z32 1545 return to Westbury (2339) with a road bus back to Salisbury due to track work. The outward trip was reported departing Bath at 0604 (-), Filton Abbey Wood 0629 (-), passing Pilning, with no loop stop at 0636 (9 early) and departing Cwmbran at 0728 (2 late), the c/stock formation being noted as; 35469, 3097, 3123, 1671, 3098, 3121, 3149, 3147, 1651, 3120, 4998. Loco 66737 is of interest, the name Lesia carried is that of the managing director John Smith's wife, part of its number '37' was adjusted to reflect her age at the naming and this alteration still remains! Recent loco parts have received red paint colouring including wheel parts this being apparently applied to match her favourite red shoes and these changes were revealed at the recent unveiling ceremony of 66779 at York! A circular out and back HST worked special from London was thought to be a GWR management special, the set formation being; 43170, 40710, 41116, 41144, 40733, 42350, 42295, 42297, 44039, 43154 and ran as 1Z10 1133 Paddington - Paddington (1549) via the B & H outward and the GWML on the return and was reported departing Frome at 1315 (-), passing Bath at 1346 (-), Bristol Parkway 1407 (-) and Swindon 1432 (-). Arriva XC had to operate an 'emergency' service during the day following the closure of the mainline north of Cheltenham at Abbotswood following a bridge wall being demolished onto the track by a stolen road digger. Cross Country HST or Voyager sets each side of the affected location were terminated at Gloucester or Birmingham NS and returned either west or north in the path of an affected service now unable to complete its through journey. For example, HST set 43304 XC01 43384 working the 1V44 0600 Leeds - Plymouth was terminated at Birmingham NS and returned north as a 1S37 0903 Birmingham NS - Edinburgh Waverley service whilst 43301 XC05 43378 formed a 1Z37 0525 Plymouth - Gloucester and was returned as 1V44 0855 Gloucester - Plymouth and then booked to work 1S51 1225 Plymouth - Gloucester and 1V56 1555 Gloucester - Plymouth return (then 5V58 empty stock to Laira depot).

15/05 Following the failure of 47830 which was again 'on hire' to the Rail Operations Group' from Freightliner for a Kilmarnock Barclays - Laira refurbished HST stock move, DRS 66425 was the replacement loco from DRS. The Class 47 and train was booked to recess at Swindon overnight due to a PW blockade north of Ashchurch, but the working had only reached Derby by

Saturday evening. A 5V47 0900 Derby - Laira depot (1520) operated, the trains formation being recorded as; 6338 (barrier coach), 41018, 40811, 40106, 42025, 42362, 42024, 42026, 44008, 6330 (barrier coach), being reported passing; Barnt Green at 1034 (53 early), Cheltenham 1251 (42 late - having been held in Blackwell loop for engineering work to finish), Yate 1324 (44 late), Temple Meads 1339 (41 late), Yatton 1408 (58 late) and Taunton 1439 (55 late). The loco then returned with a 5Z47 1845 Laira - St.Phillips Marsh fuelling point (2248) move which passed Exeter at 1954 (3 early), Taunton 2019 (14 early) and Parsons Street 2059 (83 early) conveying HST coaches; 6348 (barrier coach), 44086, 42250, 42200, 42129, 42581, 42245, 40743, 41158, 6330 (barrier coach). Engineering train loco allocations and reports for the day included; 70802 + 70808 top n' tailing - 6C23 1437 Westbury - Gaer junction reported passing Stapleton Road at 1519, 70806 - 6C25 0937 Cheltenham - Westbury recorded Parkway at 1214 (116 late), 70807 - 6C97 0740 Cowley Bridge junction - Westbury which passed Bridgwater at 0718 (102 early) and Bath 1012 (4 early), 70808 - 6X54 0835 Aish Crossover - Westbury noted passing Taunton at 0944 (6 early) and Uphill junction 1008 (8 early) with a rail-vac machine (no 4), 66550 - 6Y70 0850 Westbury - Castle Cary (via Taunton Fairwater and Bristol) passing Taunton station up at 1105 formed of 20 wagons, 66953 - 6Y71 1000 Castle Cary - Westbury (via Taunton Fairwater and Bristol) noted passing Taunton up at 1132 (7 late) and Yatton 1208 (6 late) formed of 3 lobster, JNA and MLV boxes carrying spent ballast, 66560 - 6Y72 1400 Castle Cary - Westbury (via Taunton Fairwater and Bristol) recorded arriving Yatton loop at 1308 and departing at 1311 and passing Bath at 1438 formed of 3 lobster and 17 JNA and MLA box wagons and 66957 - 6Y74 1500 Castle Cary - Westbury (via Taunton Fairwater and Bristol) which passed Bridgwater at 1615 (18 early) and Bath 1831 (84 early) formed of 46 coalfish wagons.

16/05 66425 continued north as 5S47 1200 St.Phillips Marsh - Kilmarnock Barclays passing North Somerset junction at 1126 (39 early) and Cheltenham 1217. The train had stabled overnight in the HST set sidings in the wheel lathe area. An engineering train report and loco allocation was; 70802 + 70808 top n' tailing - 6C23 0932 Maindee West junction - Westbury which was reported passing Severn Tunnel junction at 0959. Later another Colas loco report was a 0F75 1312 Westbury - Cardiff Canton light-engine move which passed Stapleton Road at 1410 formed with 70801 + 70808 + 66849.

18/05 37606 + 37610 passed Worle junction at 0555 with the 6V74 Crewe Coal sidings - Bridgwater nuclear flasks (FNAs 550039 + 550043).

St.Phillips Marsh Open Day - 'The HST at 40'

02/05 Wheel lathe / HST stabling sidings; 08663/822. 37884, 47749. 56098. 57603. 66757. preserved locos; D182 (46045), D213 (40013), D400 / 50050, D407 / 50007, D7017, 5580 (31162), 50035. HST coach; 41146 (GW green). steam loco; 46100 Royal Scot with support coach 35317. Car park area; isolated 'staff training' c/stock; 4598. 5636. Maintenance platform (next to Marsh junction shed); dmu 158798 (52798 + 58715 + 57798 in a Springboard special charity livery). Front of wheel lathe shed; dmu 150247 (52247 + 57247 in GW green). HST power car line at the HST shed end of the yard; 43187 (GWR green), 43048 (East Midlands, blue, white and orange) with coach 41190, 43300 (Virgin red and white), 43013 (NR yellow), 43423 (Grand Central black), 43172 (GWR special 'poppy' livery). Alongside the HST shed; dmu 166214 (58114 + 58614 + 58135 in GW green). Inside the main

HST shed; HST power car; 43127 on the end of a set. 'Old Adelante' servicing road; dmu car 57219 (150219). Front of Marsh junction sheds; HST power cars 41001 (from the prototype set 252001), 43002 / 253001 (in a newly applied 'Inter City 125' blue and yellow livery) fitted with Sir Kenneth Grange (the HST designer as well as playing a part in the Kenwood Chef food mixer and instamatic camera designs!) name plates (which at 1030 was named by Sir Grange) with c/stock; M10206, M11074, M12092 (all carrying the prototype HST grey and blue livery). Also present on site; industrials; 'Muffin' BE Niteq B188/2002 (inside wheel lathe shed), Rail-cat BE SET / 2009 (carrying a white sticker with number fgw 435163 - 00016620 and a barcode!) in the wheel lathe area sidings, r/r N842 HFB (979098-9) Renault 1995 r/r fire engine (front of main HST shed) based at St. Andrews Road Fire station, Avonmouth for area tunnel emergencies. Notes; The main HST shed, old fuelling point (Coalfield sidings), washing plant and the Victoria siding areas were not open for the event. A HST set was visible in the distance on the main through running line towards Bristol West. Ex. GWR steam locos; 4965 Rood Ashton Hall and 5043 Earl of Mount Edgecumbe failed to appear due to staff sickness and a lack of volunteers at Tyseley. The Hall was also reported to be 'out of gauge' for the planned 'booked' route move, at an unspecified location. Other attending loco information was the; Class 31 5580 (31162) received wheel lathe attention following the open day whilst the move of Hymek Class 35, no D7017 by road from the West Somerset Railway at Bishops Lydeard to and from the event was due to it being vacuum braked only. DMU coach 57219 (150219) in the main HST shed was part of the set which was involved in the recent Plymouth station collision during April (see the May 2016 Magazine under Great Western news). Two unidentified wagons, a former air braked van and a low-mac flat were present at the east end of HST shed. A free connecting bus service was operated from Temple Meads to and from the event throughout the day, the depot entrance in use being in Albert Road next to the wheel lathe. Although the combined 1991 'Triple Gold' open day with Bath Road depot will best be remembered, a 'low key' family & friends event was held here during 2013 when £10,000 was raised for charity.

Society members noted were; R.W.Giles, C.Weeks, D.Forse, P. Carpenter, P. Nicholson, along with the following former member sightings; C.Forse, M.Godfrey, I.Chancellor, P.Lippett, P.Doudney, T.Knott.

Bristol West Railport

Locos recorded here on container duty have included;
66501/504/516/570/571/587/590/591/593/594/954/955/957.

Avonmouth and the Severn Beach branch line

22/04 66526 was noted in the terminal at 0945 and later departed to Parkway as a 1220 move to Stoke Gifford, with an assumed loaded train.

23/04 Track relaying work between West Town road level crossing (which was closed to road traffic over the weekend period) and Avonmouth station brought the following locos and engineering trains onto the branch via Clifton Down and returning via the Henbury loop; 66501 - 6Y61 1525 (Sat) Oxford Hinksey yard - Avonmouth (1910), formed of 4 salmon flats and 36 coalfish wagons, 66953 - 6Y62 1624 (Sat) Oxford Hinksey yard - Clifton Down (2010) via Newbury which passed Lawrence Hill at 1956 formed of 4

salmon flats and 36 coalfish, 66548 - 6Y63 1725 Oxford Hinksey yard - Clifton Down (2100) via Newbury which passed Lawrence Hill at 2054, formed with 4 flats and 36 coalfish, 66524 - 6Y64 2042 Westbury - Clifton Down (2205) which passed Lawrence Hill at 2242 again formed with 4 salmon flats and coalfish wagons. Although no reports were received, a 6Y65 2303 Westbury - Clifton Down (0005) train also ran headed by 66551.

24/04 Further engineering train arrivals were; 66560 - 6Y66 1319 Westbury - Clifton Down (1425) with coalfish wagons which passed Bradford junction at 1316 (14 early) and Redland station 1403 (19 early) and 66550 - 6Y67 1637 Westbury - Clifton Down (1730) formed of 30 ballast loaded coalfish wagons which passed Lawrence Hill at 1725 (9 late) and return train reports during the day included; 66501 - 6Y61 1020 Avonmouth - Oxford Hinksey yard (1313) via Newbury which passed Hallen Marsh junction at 1120 (60 late), passed Filton Abbey Wood at 1146 (70 late) and Bath 1228 (93 late), 66953 - 6Y62 1100 St. Andrews junction - Oxford Hinksey yard (1510) via Newbury which passed Hallen Marsh junction at 1140 (38 late), Filton Abbey Wood 1223 (62 late) and Bath 1255 (75 late), 66548 - 6Y63 1404 St. Andrews junction - Oxford Hinksey yard (1812) via Newbury which passed Hallen Marsh junction at 1528 (82 late), North Somerset junction 1603 (95 late) and Bath 1618 (98 late). GW continued to operate a Sunday passenger service to and from Clifton Down during the day.

25/04 Booked engineering train returns in the early hours were; 6Y64 0115 St. Andrews junction - Westbury (0223), 6Y65 0145 St. Andrews junction - Westbury (0250), 6Y66 0215 St. Andrews junction - Westbury (0319) and 6Y67 0245 St. Andrews Road junction - Westbury (0349). With the days 6V35 Bescot - Avonmouth Hansons cement service cancelled, the wagon set was found stabled in the former lpg sidings during the morning as repair work appeared to be taking place on the nearby discharge offloading area.

28/04 The NRMT HST set with power cars 43014 + 43062 visited Severn Beach for a second time, arriving at 0007 (26 early) and departing at 0017 (33 early) as part of the Thursdays 1Z17 1756 Derby RTC - Old Oak Common (0403). The set had passed Avonmouth inward at 2357 (27 early) and Clifton Down at 0036 (32 early) on the return. The rest of the diagram was the usual up and down workings via Bath to Swindon with a return to the London area (via Paddington) through Parkway. It was assumed the re-laid track at Avonmouth and the newly installed Sita Severnside (Seabank) freight terminal connection were both checked.

08/05 A second weekend of track replacement work in the Avonmouth area took place between West Town road and Gloucester road level crossings. Freightliner again provided the hauling power for the six trains in attendance, these being recorded as; 66564 - 6Y44 1000 Holesmouth junction - Oxford Hinksey yard (1303) which departed the worksite at 0910 and unblocked the Gloucester Road level crossing which had been closed for several hours and was later noted passing Brentry at 1003 and Lawrence Hill 1026, 66560 - 6Y45 1030 Holesmouth junction - Oxford Hinksey yard (1415) noted Lawrence Hill at 0938, 66512 - 6Y46 1502 Holesmouth junction - Oxford Hinksey yard (1811) formed with four salmon flats and coalfish wagons and recorded passing Brentry at 1604, 66550 - 6Y47 1830 Holesmouth junction - Westbury (2022) also formed with four salmon flats and coalfish wagons, 66552 - 6Y48 1203 Westbury - Sea Mills (1259) which departed at 1409 for the Avonmouth worksite with 25 ballast loaded coalfish wagons, 66563 - 6Y49 1506 Westbury - Sea Mills formed of 25 ballast loaded

coalfish wagons (1559) which passed Montpelier at 1730 and crossed the 2K36 1610 Weston-super-Mare - Clifton Down GW service with 150123 at Clifton Down station. The inward overnight working details were; 6Y44 1603 (Sat) Oxford Hinksey yard - Avonmouth (1910), 6Y45 1946 (Sat) Oxford Hinksey yard - Sea Mills, 6Y46 2046 (Sat) Oxford Hinksey yard - Sea Mills and 6Y47 2310 (Sat) Westbury yard - Sea Mills and another outward booked return workings was; 6Y48 1928 Holesmouth junction - Westbury (2022).

09/05 66005 + 66094 top n' tail FCA twin flats 610253 + 610254 as a 6Z47 0930 Newport ADJ - Severnside Sita working becoming the first train into the newly completed energy recovery centre freight terminal arriving at 1101 (5 early) having passed Brentry at 1030, and departed St. Andrews junction at 1045 (-). With the wagons left behind for gantry crane and container load tests, the locos then ran 0F53 1300 Severnside Sita - Newport ADJ (1440) light being reported as reversing at St Andrews junction and passing Hallen Marsh junction at 1328 (22 early) and Patchway 1418 (1 late). The working was originally expected to run via Temple Meads and the locos returned to Margam, but these plans were changed. Further information on the new facility is that the new junction is at 12 miles 70 chains as opposed to the original which was 12 miles 35 chains, a new signal SA653 controls the new link into the loop area and another ground signal GF4, controlled from the ground frame allows trains to leave. Control is from the St. Andrews junction signal box, where the freight service can be 'locked' in off the branch line as required.

16/05 A third 3-car Class 150/2 was noted in service for the first time, 150938 (formed with 52238 + 57719 + 57238) was recorded on Bristol - Avonmouth and Severn Beach services during the day including the 2K06 0703 Bristol TM - Severn Beach (0737) and 2K07 0751 Severn Beach - Bristol TM (0832) return. Coach 52719 from 150219 was the undamaged car involved in a recent collision at Plymouth (also see last month's magazine under Miscellaneous the Great Western section). A freight train mystery took place during the morning with a reported 6A03 0514 Severnside Sita - Acton operating with 66089 the loco being noted passing Swindon at 0814 (68 late) with a rake of 17 HJA (former National Power wagons, some in blue and others in maroon) and 3 HKA (in DB Schenker red) wagons which had been diverted to Avonmouth (reason unknown) on 12th May working as a 6V38 Acton - Moreton-on-Lugg empty stone. A departure of 0639 (85 late) was recorded and a pass time at Narrowways Hill junction of 0713 (62 late). It is believed the train, following a cancelled Bennetts yard - Southall working during the previous day, started from the bulk handling terminal (and ran via Henbury) and not from Severnside Sita as reported.

Locos recorded on coal duty have included;
66509/512/524/526/548/550/551. 66552/553/560/564.

Locos recorded on stone duty have included;
59201. 66037/102/109/132/172. 66187.

Locos recorded on cement duty have included; 66002/170.

Portbury Branchline

28/04 An unexpected and unusual working saw 66524 work a 6M04 0950 Portbury - Rugeley PS loaded coal formed of 21 HHA wagons and reported passing Stapleton Road at 1151. An unconfirmed report suggests the train had been part loaded at Avonmouth prior to a move to Portbury for completion, but this remained unconfirmed. The wagon set had arrived as a

4V89 0112 York Holgate sidings - Stoke Gifford move which passed Cheltenham at 0838 (215 late). Rugeley PS was announced as closed to any coal deliveries earlier this year and an investigation found this was the only inward coal rail move for the whole week! Once the working was completed, the wagons returned back to York for stabling. Another 'stored' Freightliner empty coal set formed of 19 HHA wagons still remain in Gloucester yard.

The now Thursday only inward container traffic have been confirmed as originating at Dow Corning's chemical works, Barry for use by an unknown company on the Portbury Dock estate.

Locos recorded on coal duty have included; 66524.

Locos recorded on gypsum duty have included;

66702/711/720/739/749/750. 66763/768.

Locos recorded on car duty have included; 66006/044/128/199.

Bristol area workings during March

4L31 0903 Bristol West Railport - Felixstowe containers (FL)

07/03 66571. 21/03 66502. 22/03 66589. 23/03 66541.

24/03 66954. 30/03 66414. 31/03 66503.

4L32 1100 Bristol West Railport - Tilbury (*London Gateway) container (FL)

07/03 66414. 16/03* 66595. 21/03 66589. 22/03 66541.

24/03 66587. 29/03 66414.

4M18 0947 Taunton Fairwater Yard - Washwood Heath RMC (via Parkway) loaded used sleepers (FLHH)

08/03 66585. 09/03 66565. 11/03 66536. 14/03 66536.

16/03 66507. 18/03 66536. 23/03 66536. 30/03 66546.

4025 1625 Bristol West Railport - Southampton Maritime containers (FL)

23/03 66954.

4057 1329 / 1529 (MO TO*) Wentloog - Southampton containers (FL)

07/03 66588. 14/03 70014.

Note; 14/03 Train diverted via Gloucester, Parkway, Bath and Trowbridge.

4059 (4V50) (SO) Wentloog - Southampton containers (FL)

05/03 66592. 12/03 66502. 19/03 66516.

4070 (4V51) Wentloog - Southampton containers (4059 SO) (FL)

01/03 70010. 02/03 70014. 03/03 70014. 04/03 70007.

07/05 70010. 10/03 66589. 11/03 70020. 14/03 70013.

17/03 66594. 18/03 70002. 21/03 66517. 23/03 70020.

24/03 70010. 30/03 66558. 31/03 70013.

Notes;

04/05 Train reported as running as 4051.

22/03 Train diverted via Trowbridge.

6A83 Avonmouth Bennetts - West Drayton / * Westbury (6A63) loaded stone (DB)

07/03 66177. 11/03 66177. 14/03 66206. 16/03 59103.

21/03 66095. 23/03 59206. 30/03 66168.

Note; 07/03 Train ran to Theale.

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

03/05 66060. 05/03 60019. 12/03 60019. 15/03 60019.
17/03 60091. 18/03 60092. 19/03 60091. 23/03 60091.
24/03 60091. 29/03 60092. 31/03 60091.

Note; 23/03 Train diverted via Bath.

6(4)B35 Hayes - Moreton-on-Lugg stone empties (DB)

04/03 66019. 17/03 66250. 18/03 66174. 23/03 66030.
29/03 66005. 31/03* 66187.

Note; Train ran as 4Z36 Acton - Moreton-on-Lugg.

6B49 / 6B50 Llanwern - Swindon Stores steel and return empties (DB)

04/03 66079. 07/03 66044. 11/03 66019. 18/03 66090.
21/07 66021.

6B68 0925 Avonmouth BBHt - Aberthaw PS loaded coal (DB)

07/03 66162. 21/03 66055.

6B77 1701 Avonmouth BBHt - Aberthaw PS loaded coal (DB)

14/03 66113. 18/03 66012. 23/03 66113. 24/03 66012.
31/03* 66006.

Note; 31/03 This was the final booked DBC coal service to be loaded at the terminal.

6B80 / 6C83 Westbury - Machen Quarry stone empties and loaded return (SO) (DB)

19/03 66187.

6C99 (TO) Newport ADJ - St.Blazey freight (DB)

15/03 66149. 29/03 66101.

6V35 (MFO) Bescot (downside) - Avonmouth Hansons loaded cement 6M90 (TThSO) return to Clitheroe (DB)

02/03 66011. 07/03 66082. 14/03 66007. 18/03 66124.
23/03 66082. 30/03 66150.

6V47 Tilbury (Riverside) - Trostre steel (DB)

03/03 66162. 31/03 66194.

6V51 0303 Warrington Arpley - Portbury empty car carriers (TThO) (DB)

03/04 66005. 10/03 66121. 17/03 66137. 29/03 66015.
31/03 66186.

6V54 (6M51) Chirk Kronospan - Exeter (Riverside) yard empty and return loaded logs (Colas)

09/03 70804 (10/03).

6V74 / 6M63 Crewe Coal sidings - Bridgwater and return nuclear flasks (DRS)

02/03 37605 + 37612. 09/03 37602 + 37605. 16/03 37419 + 57305.
31/03 37603 + 57306.

6V80 / 6E81 (6E89 SO) West Burton PS / * Gascoigne Wood - Portbury Coal terminal loaded and return empty gypsum (GBRF)
05/03 66732. 08/03 66732. 10/03 66708. 15/03 66708.
16/03 66708. 17/03 66743. 22/03* 66715. 23/03* 66715.
24/03* 66715.

6Z47 Wembley - Cardiff Docks Ryan's empty stone (DB)
15/03 66023. 17/03 66207. 31/03 66134.
Note; 31/03 train ran as 4Z47.

Gloucester area workings

21/04 6b47 Westerleigh - Robeston 60039 Gcr 1903; 6e30 Margam - Hartlepool 66140 Gcr 2007; 4m36 Wentloog - Daventry 66421 Gcr 2013; 6e09 Onllwyn - Immingham 66031 Gcr 2131; 6v35 Rotherham Steel Term - Cardiff Tidal 66250 Gcr 2217; 6m90 Avonmouth Hansons - Clitheroe 66170; 6v80 Doncaster - Portbury 66720; 6m63 Bridgwater - Crewe 57003/306;
22/04 6m03 Robeston - Bedworth 66128 Gcr 0347-0412; 6m96 FO Margam - Corby 66250 Gcr 0910; 6v92 Corby - Margam 66097 Gcr 1459; 6Z35 Shipley - Cardiff Tidal 56098 Gcr 2016; 6V55 Bedworth - Robeston 66128 Gcr 2000;
23/04 6w38 Westbury Yard - Ashchurch 66132/018 Standish Jn 1220; 6C24 Westbury Yard - Ashchurch 70802 Standish Jn 1332;
24/04 0900 Alstone Level Crossing - Westbury Yard 66018 Standish Jn 1030 6w38; 0938 Alstone Level Crossing - Westbury Yard 66132/70802 Standish Jn 1109 6c24; 1037 Westbury - Rugby 6J88 Dr 77901; 6v29 1624 Kingsbury Sdgs - Cardiff Tidal 66144 Gcr 1850; 4Z35 1855 Newport Ad Jn - Bescot Downside 66012 Gcr 2005;
25/04 4v38 Daventry - Wentloog 66433 Gcr 1050; 6B13 Robeston - Westerleigh 60039 Gcr 1111; 6v05 Round Oak - Margam 60091 Gcr 1143; 6v80 Gascoigne Wood - Portbury 66720;
26/04 6Z34 Cardiff Tidal - Leicester Depot 56098 Gcr 1040; 4v38 Daventry - Wentloog 66433; 3Z05 Derby RTC - Cardiff Canton 37421-72612-72639-977974-9481-37175 Gcr 1359; 6v69 Tuesday Only Bescot Downside - Newport Ad Jn 66077 Gcr 1933; 6z44 Aberthaw - Lindsey 66031 Gcr 2006; 4m36 Wentloog - Daventry 66433 Gcr 2020; 6v65 Saltley EMR - Cardiff Tidal 66144 Gcr 2030;
27/04 6b13 Robeston - Westerleigh 60091 Gcr 1111; 4v38 Daventry - Wentloog 66421 Gcr 1123; 6v05 Round Oak - Margam 66059 Gcr 1150;
28/04 4V89 York Yard South - Stoke Gifford 66553 Standish Jn 0905 198 late; 6m63 Bridgwater - Crewe 37069/605 Standish Jn 1246; 4v38 Daventry - Wentloog 66421 Gcr 1102; 6b13 Robeston - Westerleigh 60066 Gcr 1111; 6v05 Round Oak - Margam 66059 Gcr 1125; 3Z05 Cardiff Canton - Derby RTC 37175 72612 72639 977974 9481 37421 Gcr 1201;
29/04 6m60 FO Exeter Riverside - Bescot Downside 66077 Standish Jn 0549; 6m96 FO Margam - Corby 66128 Gcr 0910; 4v38 Daventry - Wentloog 66426 Gcr 66426; 6b13 Robeston - Westerleigh 60066 Gcr 1110; 6v05 Round Oak - Margam 66078 Gcr 1101; 6v55 WFO Bedworth - Robeston 66097 Gcr 2030;
30/04 6v05 Round Oak - Margam 66078 Gcr 1101; 6b13 Robeston - Westerleigh 60091 Gcr 1138; 6v06 Handsworth - Cardiff Tidal 66039; 0Z50 Washwood Heath - St Phillips Marsh 50007/50050/47749 Standish Jn 1141 38 early; 0Z69 Kidderminster S.V.R - St Phillips Marsh 66757-40013-46045-50035 Standish Jn 1214; 2G55 1146 Cheltenham - Maesteg 175110; 2L49 0845 Cheltenham - Maesteg 175109;
01/05 0Z37 Leicester Rog L.I.P - St Phillips Marsh 37884-56098 Standish

Jn 1128 291 early; 4v38 Daventry - Wentloog 66433 Gcr 1114; 5Z43 Hotchley Hill - St Phillips Marsh 43300-43013-43423-41001-4 Mk3; Coaches-43048 Haresfield 2219 104 early;

02/05 6B71 Cardiff Tidal - Swindon Cocklebury 66174 Gcr 0730; 4v38 Daventry - Wentloog 66426 Gcr 1051; 0Z37 St Phillips Marsh - Leicester L.I.P 37884/56098 Gcr Standish Jn 1935 39 late; 6v80 Gascoigne Wood - Portbury 66768;

03/05 6b13 Robeston - Westerleigh 60091 Gcr 1109; 4v38 Daventry - Wentloog 66303 Gcr 1402; 6v69 Bescot Downside - Newport Ad Jn 66101 Gcr 1908 26 early; 0Z31 Barton Hill - Crewe 31452; 0z50 St Phillips Marsh - Washwood Heath 50050/50007/47749 Standish Jn 1036;

04/05 0z47 Carlisle - Exeter Riverside Yard 31452 47828 Standish Jn 2156; 4v38 Daventry - Wentloog 66434 Gcr 1054;

09/05 6b13 Robeston - Westerleigh 60091 Gcr 1112;

11/05 4v38 Daventry - Wentloog 66434 Gcr 1052; 6v80 Gascoigne Wood - Portbury 66763 Standish Jn 1000; 1Q42 Exeter Riverside - Crewe 37609/603 Standish Jn 1337;

Westbury

26/04 70808 passed Bradford junction at 0822 working the 6M50 0755 Westbury - Bescot departmental, part of the trains consist being crane (ZOA) DRK81601 with runners (KFAs) 97401 + 97402.

29/04 70802 + 70804 top n' tailed a 6X54 0610 Westbury down yard - Exmouth junction rail-vac move which arrived Tiverton loop at 0656 (47 early) and 0838 (-) at its destination. Later, 70806 + 70802 + 70804 + 70808 + 70809 departed Westbury at 1631 on a 0A28 light loco move to Oxford Hinksey yard.

02/05 At 0815, the following were recorded in the area; 59202, 59204, 60007, 66068, 66107, 66132, 66512, 66553, 66564.

03/05 70804 returned a 6C54 rail-vac move as 6C54 1100 ex Exmouth junction which departed late and was reported passing Taunton at 1337. The loco had earlier run 0C54 0827 Westbury - Exmouth junction light to collect the machine. Later a 6C20 1825 Westbury - Par autoballaster working was top n' tailed with DB 66093 + Coals 66849. This working passed Taunton at 1920 with ballast destined for use on the Newquay branch line.

04/05 60007 was unusually employed on the 7V16 Farnham stone service and the 7035 1250 return empties to Westbury (1441) which passed Salisbury at 1356 (6 early).

07/05 At 1400, the following were present in the area; 08799, 60007, 66019, 66053, 70801, 70805, 70808, 70809.

10/05 The 6V46 Bescot - Westbury departmental passed Thingley junction at 0257 (39 early) headed by; 70805 + 70802 + 66848 + 66850.

11/05 70802 + 70805 + 70809 powered the 6M50 0755 Westbury - Bescot departmental which passed Wootton Bassett at 0855 (11 late) formed with salmon flats DB996955 and DB996942. An engineering train report and loco allocation was; 66056 + 66055 top n' tailing - 6W55 0602 Cardiff Queen Street - Westbury which passed Westbury station at 0819 (186 early).

15/05 66737 from a previous day's rail tour (also see Bristol TM, Barton Hill and Kingsland Road notes & news) and stock were noted stabled in the station area during the morning prior to the return to Eastleigh which had been blocked during the night due to PW work.

18/05 Two overnight Cornish mainline engineering train workings were; 66847 + 66848 top n' tailing - 6C38 Westbury - Penwithiers junction

autoballaster (which passed Taunton at 1835) and 70807 - 6C97 1641 Westbury - St.Austell cwr train (noted passing Taunton at 1739).

Newport

17/04 Correction (May Magazine) - 66421 with the late running 4V38 TESCO container service from Daventry - Wentloog, passed Lydney at 1429 (50 late), not 950 late as stated.

19/04 67022 worked the 1V91 Holyhead - Cardiff Central 'Wag Express' passing Marshfield at 0946 being on the rear of the train.

20/04 Problems and service delays were encountered involving the 6A34 Moreton-on-Lugg - Acton stone service headed by 66152 formed of 30 PGA wagons, one of which close to the loco was shedding its load. The passing 6M86 1029 Margam - Dee Marsh steel service was stopped at Hereford, the driver reporting window damage to his loco north of Tram Inn, the 6A34 then being initially stopped here at 1632 (as the GMSR cab phone had no signal) and then at signal PO4 at Pontrilas where a wagon check took place this being completed by 1645, the working then going forward to Pentag loop to recess finally leaving here some 300 minutes late.

In the meantime all services had been held until 1715 and it was not until well into the evening that the timetable returned to normal.

26/04 67022 was noted in Newport at 0938 working the 1V91 Holyhead - Cardiff Central 'Wag' Express, the loco being on the rear of the train. Later 37175 + 37421 passed at 1506 (40 early) top n' tailing a 3Z05 1052 Derby RTC - Cardiff Canton sidings (1620) test train formed of dept c/stock; 72612, 72639, 977974, 9481. This working had earlier passed Cheltenham at 1347 (2 early).

On the freight side, UK rail leasing 56098 worked a 6Z34 0915 Cardiff Tidal - Leicester Lip (1336) wagon move which passed at 0938 (7 early).

27/04 66749 passed Newport at 0421 working 6V00 1929 (Tues) Port Clarence - Cardiff Docks tanks, 70806 was reported departing Hereford at 0721 working 6V54 0535 Chirk Kronospan - Baglan Bay log empties and 60039 + 66007 working the 6B58 0852 Llanwern - Margam steel service passed Newport station at 0915.

An engineering train record and loco allocation was; 66018 + 66019 top n' tailing - 6W55 Whitland - Westbury which passed Margam Moors junction at 0806 and Newport 0918.

28/04 Colas 37175 + 37421 left the South Wales area having covered various main and branch lines over the previous day in a top' tail test train (1Q59) formation as 3Z05 1102 Cardiff Canton - Derby RTC (1732) working via Chepstow which passed Cardiff Central at 1103 (4 early) and Bishton crossing box 1125 (8 early).

16/05 Colas 47739 passed Newport at 1101 (18 early) hauling barrier coaches; 6365 6364 as 5V47 0900 Washwood Heath - Cardiff Canton sidings via Chepstow.

17/05 70801 unusually arrived in East Usk yard to run round at 1810 (off route) working a Baglan Bay - Chirk Kronospan loaded log train. The working was booked to go forward at 1913, the reason for the 'detour' being unknown.

Cardiff

27/04 66512 passed Central station at 0710 (184 late) working 4C53 0150 Aberthaw PS - Stoke Gifford coal empties.

05/05 67022 worked the Cardiff Central - Holyhead 'Wag Express'. The loco was also recorded working this service on; 06/05, 09/05, 13/05 (with c/stock; 12176, 12179, 12181, 10259, 82307 on the last date).

09/05 A view of the weighbridge area at the Cardiff Celsa steel works found; 08818, 08924, 08925 and industrial Celsa DH-2.

13/05 Two freight reports for the afternoon period were; 66169 passing Central station at 1727 working a 11 wagon 6017 1632 Barry docks - Dollands Moor freight service, the loco having brought in the balancing 6V10 earlier in the day and 66200 + 60066 on a late running 24 wagon 6B33 1300 Theale - Robeston empty fuel tanks at 1755.

18/05 70808 passed Cardiff Long Dyke junction at 1843 (having run round at Pengam sidings) working a 5Z47 1805 Cardiff Canton - Barry depot (1911) barrier coach move formed of 6364 and 6365 which had arrived from Washwood Heath two days earlier.

Locos recorded on 4V38 Daventry - Wentloog and 4M36 TESCO container duty have included; 66303 (03/05, 05/05, 09/05), 66304 (13/05, 17/05), 66421 (19/04, 24/04, 27/04, 28/04), 66425 (20/04), 66433 (25/04, 26/04, 01/05), 66434 (04/05, 06/05, 11/05, 16/05, 18/05),

Locos reported on Aberthaw Coal duty has included; 66509/512/524/526/548. 66550/551/553/560/563/564.

PRESERVATION & INDUSTRIAL MATTERS

Dartmoor Railway

08/05 Having only arrived four days earlier, former DRS owned 47828 was noted in service hauling Laboratory Coach 11 and EMU driving coach S61743.

GWS Didcot

D.Forse

27/04 Visiting steam locos for the forthcoming Bank Holiday weekend gala included 1450 and 9466 were visible together outside the main shed.

Mainline Preservation

26/04 There had already been numerous loco availability problems and substitutions for this year's Railway Touring Company 'Great Britain IX' with what is the yearly round Britain high mileage outing planned to feature steam throughout. In more recent times however diesels have featured this year's being no exception with 57316 standing in for steam 44871 with 46100 Royal Scotsman being the trip starters.

The 1Z82 0844 Victoria - Plymouth was formed with c/stock; 35317 (loco support), 326 (Pullman), 99128, 99127, 99351 (Pullman), 1961, 3058, 99125 and reported passing Fairwood junction (near Westbury) at 1156, Taunton 1327, departing Exeter St.Davids at 1431 and passing Totnes at 1327.

07/05 Pathfinder Tours recreated an Ian Allen Ltd sponsored special run during 1966 - 50 years ago which saw Western Class 52 D1010 Western Campaigner, depart London Paddington at 0735 and arrive Penzance at 1250 following a planned and reported to have been non-stop run. The excursion was then returned by Warship Class 42 D823 Hermes for another non-stop attempt back to Waterloo via the Southern route to Okehampton and Yeovil, but there was a brief stop at Keyham in the Plymouth suburbs. Using D1015 Western Champion, on the day carrying D1010 Western Campaigner

and D1058 Western Nobleman number and nameplates on either side, the 'Western Challenger' (1Z52 0737 Paddington - Okehampton via Plymouth and 1Z53 1650 Okehampton - Waterloo via Yeovil) was reported passing Newbury at 0828, Taunton at 0932 (15 early), Dawlish 1017 and departing Plymouth at 1235, passing Totnes at 1304, Newton Abbot 1316 and departing Exeter St.Davids at 1347.

Other reports for the return were; arriving Honiton at 1806 and departing Salisbury at 1916. The trains c/stock formation in use during the day was recorded as; W4959, W4949, W4946, W4998, W1813, W3098, M3120, W3123, W1671, M3097, M35469.

It was reported the train only made a 2 minute stop at Mutley tunnel on the approach to Plymouth station to gain a platform, the time taken from London being 3 hrs 16 minutes with an 18 minute early arrival. During the journey the maximum permitted speed of 90 mph was achieved at several locations, Whiteball was passed at 58 mph following a good run on the approach reaching 88 mph through Taunton, however 31 mph was recorded at Dainton and 30 mph before Tigley on wet rails but a respectable 61 mph was reached passing Totnes. The time between Plymouth - Exeter on the return was clocked at 66 minutes, with low speeds of 19 mph and 22 mph recorded on Hemerdon and Dainton banks respectively. The maximum permitted line speed over the Okehampton branch line was reached after Coleford junction.

15/05 As well as an 'advertising ban' due to many trespassing incidents down to the locos popularity in recent weeks, a Borders 60103 Flying Scotsman trip also saw a Network Rail ban and possibly diesel haulage each way over the recently reopened Tweedbank line due to gauging issues! However, the outward Steam Dreams 'Border Scotsman' 1Z22 1045 Edinburgh Waverley - Tweedbank in the end was headed by the steam loco arriving at its destination at 1210 (1 early), the 1Z23 1556 return to Edinburgh Waverley (1727) was diesel hauled, West Coast Trains being the workings operator.

Another interesting trip in the south of the country on this date was what must have been the first mainline steam hauled football special since the 1960s, 34046 Braunton (running as 34052 Lord Dowding on the day) working a Clapham junction - Southampton Central trip for the Crystal Palace v Southampton premiership league game. The Crystal Palace co-owner Jeremy Hosking a steam enthusiast organized the sold out trip for the club supporters for the final day of the league season with manager Alan Pardew reported as traveling on board for part of the journey. His team was also this year's FA Cup finalists with Manchester United.

Mid Hants Railway

22-24/04 The planned visiting locos, 37905, 56006 and 56081 were unable to attend the gala event due to a landslide which blocked the line between Farnham and Alton. Also 33053 another planned visitor failed. The railway in the end had to use their own fleet of locos which included 37901 and 50027 for the event.

NRM York

D.Forse

10/05 GBRf 66779 was fully revealed just after 1300 having been moved from Newport docks - York (via Doncaster Roberts Road) 'under cover' earlier in the year with the final group of imported Class 66 locos to be delivered to the UK. The loco carries a 'BR' lined green livery complete

with a lion and wheel emblem on each side near the cab ends. 'GBRf' body side lettering is in white, which has also been applied to the side cab window surrounds and a small yellow warning panel is carried.

The Evening Star nameplate, which has a commemorative plaque beneath, is in the same style as that carried on the last steam loco to be built 92220 which on the day was positioned on the Great Hall turntable facing the Class 66/7.

The GBRf managing director John Smith announced during the ceremony on the day that the loco will be offered to the National Collection at York in 40 years time as the last Class 66 loco design to be built.

Vale of Berkeley Railway, The Engine Shed, Sharpness Docks D.Forse
16/05 Ex BR steam; 44027, 44901 (both in pieces under restoration). Ex BR diesel; Ex BR diesel; D2069 (under overhaul - engine removed). D9553 / 54 (stored). Ex LMS diesel; 7069 (under overhaul - engine removed). Industrial; British Gypsum No. 2 (TH 184V/67) serviceable. C/stock; 041838 (M94109)

West Somerset Railway

14/05 UK Railtours ran a Class 59 - 30th Anniversary 'Quantock Pullman' special using the VSOE stock to and from the Somerset coast as 1Z59 0815 Victoria - Minehead (1450) and 1Z60 1715 return to Victoria (2205) using 59205 from the London to Westbury and 59201 onwards and for the return from Minehead. The c/stock formation in use during the day; 99545 Baggage car no. 11, Vera, Perseus, Ibis, Audrey, Minerva, Phoenix, Cygnus, Gwen, Ione, Lucille, 6313 Generator car and outward reports were passing Andover at 1031, departing Westbury following a loco change at 1147 (8 early) and departing Taunton at 1241 (6 early) and the return which departed at 1718 (3 late) departed Taunton at 1846. This was the first ever appearance of the VSOE over the Minehead branch line.

18/05 The line was closed at Watchet station from late morning following the discovery of what appeared to be an unexploded bomb. The area was cordoned off by the local police prior to the arrival of a bomb disposal unit from Tidworth Barracks, near Andover. The war relic was eventually taken away for disposal and was thought to have been unearthed by a foraging wild animal overnight.

MISCELLANEOUS

Electrification is Coming - 20

The Cardiff Road over bridge at Newport saw a part reopening by the end of April now with higher sides needed as a safety requirement however the London end of the structure still remains closed.

Nearby at Somerton Road (near East Usk) the bridge here along with the one at Church Road were set to reopen following attention in late June. A footbridge connection link into the football ground will however remain closed until late 2016.

Over the Bank Holiday weekend from 30th April - 2nd May the mainline was closed between Wootton Bassett junction and Westerleigh junction. A road bridge at Wootton Bassett was demolished and part rebuilt during the closure period.

The beginning of the 'new electric era' will pass an important milestone

on the 28th May with the planned switch on at 2230 of the first overhead line wired section of the Great Western main line between Reading and Didcot from 37m 67c - 54m 51c.

The Revised Project Completion Dates are now; Maidenhead - Didcot - December 2017, Didcot - Wootton Bassett junction - December 2018, Wootton Bassett junction - Bristol Parkway - December 2018, Reading - Newbury - December 2018, Bristol Parkway - Cardiff Central - December 2018, Didcot - Oxford - June 2019, Wootton Bassett junction - Bristol TM - February 2019 - April 2020.

Great Western Trains

02/05 SWTs 158882 was reported 'on hire' to GW over the Monday Bank holiday.

West Coast

13/04 Further information to last month's report concerning an incident at Bath on a return Bristol TM - West Brompton charter has revealed that NR had wrongly reported the train length as being 242 feet instead of 770 feet and the driver of the train (with locos 47760 + 47580) had stopped short of the correctly designated stopping point.

On restarting the train he had failed to realize that the on board stewards had released and opened some carriage doors and passengers were boarding.

An ORR investigation is underway but station, on board train staff and stewards have not been implicated in their findings so far.

The driver was on a rest day from his normal GWR driving duties and was as already reported, replaced by the second man who was also in the cab, at Westbury. The train had also made a stop in Bathampton up loop following the Bath departure, which was assumed for safety checks.

TRACK MACHINES & DEPARTMENTALS

21/04 Castle Cary - DR80301, DR80302.

22/04 Bristol TM - DR75407 passing at 1129 working 6J84 Swindon Cocklebury - Newton Abbot.

23/04 Avonmouth West Town Road level crossing (beneath the M5 overbridge) - Rosenqvist clipper (new); 909310-0 (owned by Speedy Hire), TXM r/r; 4724 (911055-0), 4650 (911057-6), 6893 WX58YSR (940674-3), 6984 (940704-8), bull dozer r/r; 4721 (914047-4), trailers; RT130 (011118-5), RT199 (010201-0). Pilning - AMCO (Amalgamated Construction Co); trailer; (010585-6), Keltbray; trailer; T1008 (010977-5), TRS (Total Rail Solutions); access platform; TRS907 (912128-4), Kubota; TRS940 (975026-4).

24/04 Westbury - DR77901 later running 6J88 to Reading dmu sidings passing Lawrence Hill at 1134 (3 early).

25/04 Castle Cary - DR75407 passing at 1140 heading to West Ealing Plasser.

01/05 Charfield (South Gloucestershire) - TRS r/r; TRS 702 (940696-6), trailers; TRS350 (010866-0), TRS1355.

09/05 Barton Hill depot - DR73114, which had arrived the previous day as a 6U12 move from Lydney, Kingsland Road - 73911, 80205.

10/05 Gloucester station - MPV DR98908 + DR98958 arriving at 0418

working 6Z05 Barton Hill - Barton Hill. Avonmouth TXM, Yara Estate - Txm platform lift 7090 (912127-8).

11/05 Reading - DR75407 which passed at 1107 running as a 6J83 1005 West Ealing - Newport Maindee depot move.

12/05 Bristol TM - DR80205 at 1032 working 6U25 1020 Kingsland Road - Kingsland Road (via Westbury and Swindon).

TRIP REPORTS

TRIP 512

LONDON FLYER

23rd April 2016

Ealing Broadway Station

Locos 37518 37706 47760 (All three on a Stratford-on-Avon to Paddington charter) 43032/036/128/137/144/153/158/165/172/174/175/177/181/182 Dmus Sets 165103/107/117/119/123/130/134/137 166206/211/221 Reading Train Care Depot Emu Sets 332002/003/005/008/011 360201/202/203/204 Coaches 1666 5171/216 5236/249 9104 13320 Anna 13440 99371 (3128) Amethyst (352 - 99352) (All charter stock) Central Line 2-car Sets 91335/ 343 92180/184/ 260/335/343 93180/184/260 District Line S7 Sets 21387/388/ 477/478 22387/388/477/478 23388/478 24387/388/477/478

Acton Yard (Two passes)

Locos 66069/088/093/098/148/199/200 Wagons 17902/928 Large unidentified Kirov Crane

Passing Old Oak Common

Locos 08483/836 Emu Set 332004 360201

Passing Ladbroke Grove

Locos 66847 70805

Westbourne Park (Two passes)

Locos 66772 70807/808 Industrial Loco Schoma 6321/08 rblt Schoma 6844/15 Hammersmith & City S7 Set 21341/342 22341/342 24341/342 25342

Paddington Station

Loco 43182 Dmu Sets 165109 166205 Circle & District Lines S7 sets 21329/330/351/352/371/372 22329/330/351/352/371/372 24329/330/351/352/371/372 25330/352/372

Charing Cross Station

Emu Sets 375618/628 465008/041/156/166/171/179/244

Charing Cross - Lewisham

Dmus Set 171804 Emu Sets 375826/922 376003/031 378146 455828 465037/150/172/182/920/927

Lewisham

Loco & Wagons 12.42 6Y08 Tolworth - Cliffe 66090 + 17520/512/233/244/518/514/ 509/505/501/517/519/503/241/507 Emu Sets 376001/002/003/008/012/025/028/031

465004/007/008/015/028/035/042/043/049/151/152/157/158/159/162/168/176/180
/183/184/191/192/196/197/236/247 466020/023/026

Peckham Rye

Emu Set 378141

Denmark Hill

Emu Sets 319454 378140

Clapham High Street

Loco & Wagons 4Y19 Mountfield - Southampton 66713 + 640682/687/686/673/
647/666/634/635/660/684/653/641/678/657/642/644/688/693

Emu Sets 375602/607/610/611/713/821/905/915 378139/150/210/218

465015/022/038/040/159/178/189/901/915 466020/023

St. Pancras International

Locos 43044/045/054/073 Demu Sets 222005/020/102

Emu Sets 395007/015/ 017/019/020/025/028/029

Eurostar 3015/4001/4002/4005/4006

Stratford International

Emu Set 395005

Notting Hill Gate Station

Circle or District Line S7 Set 21481/482 22481/482 23482 24481/482

High Street Kensington Station

Circle or District Line S7 Set 21367/368 22367/368 24367/368 25368

Sloane Square Station

Circle or District Line S7 Set 21399/400 22399/400 23499/400 24400

Victoria Station

Emu Sets 377110/145/152 377411/475

Victoria Sidings

Emu Sets 377408/4532/442/456

Clapham Junction Station

Dmu Set 159107 Emu Set 377421 444007 455738 458511/527

Thornton Heath

Emu Set 377204

Selhurst Area

Emu Set 377603

East Croydon Station

Dmu Sets 171802/804/806

Emu Sets 377101/102/104/106/110/115/121/122/123/128/134/138/142/147/153/
158/162/164 377208/212/214 377401/402/404/405/419/421/428/430/435/449

377603/604/609/614/615/623/626 387103/109/124/125

442402/404/413/421/423/424 455806/815/818/822/824/825/828/829/842

On Track 08-4x4/4S-RT Tamper 73918

Trams 2531/532/533/534/536/537/538/539/540/541/542/543/544/545/546/
547/548/549/550/551/552/553/554/556/557/558/559/561/562/563

Wandle Park Station

Tram 2554

Ampere Way Station

Tram 2545

Therapia Lane Station & Depot

On Track Quattro Road Railers 106 940406-0 Philmor Rail/Komatsu 130
K32002: QNI 2615 482 942016-2 LJH/Mecalec 11CX 02552: AJZ 9911 485
942021-5 LJH/Mecalec 11CX 02625: Trams 2535/536/537/540/543/544/551

Note;

Enquiry at the Depot revealed that trams 2555 and 2560 were inside and
permission to view them was refused.

Wandle Park Station

Tram 2556

Reeves Corner Station

Tram 2541

West Croydon Station

Emu Sets 378135/148 455811/822/823

Passing Selhurst Depot

Dmu Sets 171730 171803 Emu Sets 377425/469 377621

Norwood Junction Station

Emu Set 455815

Sydenham Station

Emu Set 378151

Honor Oak Park Station

Emu Set 378142

New Cross Gate Station

Dmu Sets 171802/804 Emu Sets 377106 377208 377402 378136/137/138/
142/143/145/146/148/154 378226 455815/825/828/829

Passing New Cross Depot

Emu Sets 378146 378201/203/214/216

Surrey Quays Station

Emu Set 378144

Shadwell Station (East London Line)

Emu Sets 378135/139/141/145/147/148/150/151/152
378208/216/218/219/226/256

Shadwell Station (Docklands Light Railway)

Emu Sets 357020/024/028/042 357205/210 357318
03/05/10/12/16/23/41/44/46/48/58/63/70/71/77/83/84/88/93/94/106/112/113/
116/118/120/121/122/123/130/140/146/147/148

Limehouse Station

Emu Sets 54/64/81/99

West Ferry Station

Emu Set 145

Noted at Poplar Station

Emu Set 76

Canary Wharf Station

Emu Sets 22/51/103/131/141

West India Quay Station

Emu Sets
10/15/16/28/35/38/41/43/47/50/54/59/60/63/64/69/78/79/83/85/87/90/95/99/
106/109/111/112/114/118/122/129/136/137/142/143/145/146/148/151/154

Poplar Station & View of Depot

Loco 92 Wkm 11622/86 Emu Sets 08/27/33/52/57/101/133

Langton Park Station

Emu Sets 22/51

Bow Church Station

Emu Sets 60/79

Pudding Mill Lane Station

Emu Sets 43/85

Stratford Station

Isolated Steam Loco Robert AE 2068/33 Loco 90002/004/014 Norfolk and
Norwich Festival
Emu Sets 315814/818/820/821/822/823/824/825/826/827/830/831/837/841/
844/846 317551 321306/319/323/326/334/348/351/357/358/360/423/427/432
357010/014/022/025/030/043/314/323 357323 360101/104/107/108/109/
111/113/115/118/119 378202/207/209/212/215/217/224/233/255
Coaches 82114/ 127/133
Central Line 2-car Sets 91119/203/225/309 92048/080/119/132/203/220/
225/309/452/464 93048/080/ 132/220/452/464
Jubilee Line 3 & 4-car Sets 96005/ 024/025/039/052/056/063/085/089/090
96108/122 96205/224/225/239/252/256/263/285/289 96322 96405/424/425/
439/452/456/463/485/489/490 96508/522 96605/625/639/663/685/689 96890
96908
DLR 22/28/35/43/51/55/56/60/79/80/85/91/92/95/101/102/115/119/126/128/
132/133/144

Ealing Broadway Station

Locos 43021/070/127/149/164/183 Dmu Sets 165101/106/120/135

Emu Sets 332008 360201
Central Line 2-car Sets 91297/299 92144/297/299/424 93144/424
District Line S7 Set 21301/302 22301/302 24301/302 25302

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