

# CARDIFF & AVONSIDE RAILWAY SOCIETY

Established 1971

[www.cardiffandavonside.org.uk](http://www.cardiffandavonside.org.uk)



## MAGAZINE

Issue 594

August 2021

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### Front Cover Photo August 2021 Issue 594:

66601 6B11 Hayes Tarmac - East Usk Yard at Patchway on 24/05/21.

[M. Crew]

### Rear Cover Photo August 2021 Issue 594:

387165 387152 9U54 London Paddington-Bristol Parkway at Coalpit Heath on 24/05/21.

[M. Crew]

## FUTURE EVENTS

Owing to the largest size of Minibus we can obtain at the moment all one day trips will be limited to 12 people. The exception is the Scottish in August which will be limited to 10. You are advised to book early if you want to go on a trip.

Trip participants are requested to take a lateral flow test prior to coming on a trip. The kits are available free of charge from pharmacies and contain enough equipment for seven tests. The results can be registered on the computer. The process is very simple and explained in full in the document which comes with the kit.

<b>Trip 565</b>	<b>SCOTLAND</b>	<b>Friday 27/08 - Tuesday 31/08/21</b>
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A flyer style trip providing four nights accommodation in Rutherglen. There will be no additional visits because sites are unable to commit to having visitors yet. A deposit of £135 is required (Hotel fees).

**Proposed Trip Fare** = £235      Fare with Day Membership = £253

**Proposed Itinerary:** A four night stay in Glasgow to do as you please

**Departure Time:** Not yet finalised. It will depend on the participants for an acceptable time

**Return Time** to Bristol area = approx 2130 pm on the Tuesday night

**Book By Date** = 26/07/2021 - an early date to allow for deposits and the Hotel booking

**Safety Equipment** (PPE) required: Reflective jacket and strong shoes

<b>Trip 566</b>	<b>DONCASTER</b>	<b>Saturday 18/09/21</b>
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A flyer style trip to Doncaster.

**Proposed Trip Fare** = £28      Fare with Day Membership = £31

**Proposed Itinerary:** A day trip to Doncaster to do as you please

**Departure Time** from Bristol Parkway = 0630 am

Other pick-up points by negotiation with Dave FORSE

**Return Time** to Bristol area = approx 2130 pm

**Book By Date** = 04/09/2021

**Safety Equipment** (PPE) required: Reflective jacket and strong shoes

**Trip 567**

**MANCHESTER**

**Saturday 02/10/21**

A flyer style trip to Manchester, using Navigation Road as the starting point.

**Proposed Trip Fare** = £27      Fare with Day Membership = £30

**Proposed Itinerary:** A day in Manchester to do as you please

**Departure Time** from Bristol Parkway = 0630 am

Other pick-up points by negotiation with Dave FORSE

**Return Time** to Bristol area = approx 2130 pm

**Book By Date** = 19/09/2021

**Safety Equipment** (PPE) required: Reflective jacket and strong shoes

**Trip 568**

**LONDON**

**Saturday 13/11/21**

A day trip to London. Please note the early departure time in order to see the sleeper stock at Euston

**Proposed Trip Fare** = £27      Fare with Day Membership = £30

**Proposed Itinerary:** A day trip to London to do as you please

**Departure Time** from Bristol Parkway = 0530 am

Other pick-up points by negotiation with Dave FORSE

**Return Time** to Bristol area = approx 2130 pm

**Book By Date** = 30/10/2021

**Safety Equipment** (PPE) required: Reflective jacket and strong shoes

**Trip 569**

**LIVERPOOL & PRESTON**

**Saturday 11/12/21**

Originally intended to visit the Merseyside area looking for the new Class 777s. However, because they will not all have been delivered by this date the emphasis may drift towards Preston.

**Proposed Trip Fare** = £28      Fare with Day Membership = £31

**Proposed Itinerary:** Under review

**Departure Time** from Bristol Parkway = 0630 am

Other pick-up points by negotiation with Dave FORSE

**Return Time** to Bristol area = approx 2130 pm

**Book By Date** = 28/11/2021

**Safety Equipment** (PPE) required: Reflective jacket and strong shoes

## **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 has passed.

Forms should be submitted either on a trip, or by post to John Dicks, or by downloading from the Society web site [Cardiffandavonside.org.uk](http://Cardiffandavonside.org.uk) and e-mailing the completed form to: [bookings@Cardiffandavonside.org.uk](mailto:bookings@Cardiffandavonside.org.uk)

Members are also reminded to keep the Bookings Secretary informed of their intentions regarding their participation on trips.

## **Trip Departure Times**

Please note that the advertised departure times for trips is about 06.30am from the Bristol area. However there are occasions when this time will have to be moved to an earlier time slot, depending on the trip destination or other circumstances that are outside of the control of the Society. Participants will be notified of any of these changes in departure time at the earliest opportunity.

## **Payment Facility**

Members are reminded that the Society has the facility for debit and credit card payments to be taken on trips.

\*\* However can trip participants please ensure they also have an alternative method of payment as the card reader can sometimes be unreliable.

Please note that it is also possible to pay for trips by bank transfer (BACS) directly into the Society's bank, sort code 09-01-51, account 97698301. Please let Kevin and John know when you make such a transaction.

## **Important Notice for Trip Participants**

Members are reminded that to ensure the smooth running of a trip that participants must follow the direction and instructions given by the leader of the trip on the day.

Members are also reminded that where an individual leaves an in-progress trip to pursue their own interest then it is the responsibility of that individual to rejoin the trip at the pre-agreed time and location.

## **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 Dave Forse to arrange a pick up point that is mutually convenient.
2. The fare structure for Society members is as follows  
ADULT - FULL FARE.  
CHILD - QUARTER FARE.  
DAY MEMBERSHIP (TRIP MEMBER) - AS ABOVE + £3 per trip day  
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 Day Membership rate (£3 per day).
3. The discounts highlighted above for family members refer to travel costs only. Accommodation, and permits / admission fees will be charged at cost price.
4. Members who wish to go on a trip must contact John Dicks 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 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.

## **NOTICES**

### **Magazine Anniversary**

We are fast approaching the 600th edition of the Society magazine. To help us celebrate this landmark event we are looking for digitised photos from around May 1971 that we could use for the magazine cover of the 600<sup>th</sup> edition. If any member can help then please forward them to Kevin Davies at [photos@cardiffandavonside.org.uk](mailto:photos@cardiffandavonside.org.uk)

In addition we are also inviting articles from those formative days of the Society. If any member is able to contribute then please contact the Magazine Editor.

## Media Content

Members are welcome to submit photographs and videos for the magazine cover, website and social media platforms. Content should ideally be from within our area and preferably digital, although any content of interest will be considered for publication.

Please send via e-mail to Mike Crew & Kevin Davies at the e-mail addresses at the front of the magazine. Any photographs submitted which don't make it onto the magazine front cover will be considered for publication on the Society web site and social media platforms alongside the photos normally taken on Society trips, unless a request is made not to publish them.

## NOTES & NEWS

### Bristol Parkway, Stoke Gifford, Pilning, Yate and Westerleigh

**20/06** A return engineering train report was; 66767 - 6G72 0915 Horfield junction - Westbury (via Swindon West loop) formed with 1 OBA / 2 YLA / 2 FCA / 2 OCA / 1 OAA wagons and reported passing Bradford junction 1125.

**22/06** There was a slight variation on the days Electro-star Class 387 workings with 387147 + 387155 working 9U44 0712 Paddington - Parkway and 9L43 1019 return to the Capital, but then 5T53 1244 Paddington - Swindon empty stock arriving at 1346 (4 late) and 5Z54 1451 empty to Parkway and 'as booked' 9L53 1510 Parkway - Paddington, 9U66 1712 return to Parkway and 5Z66 1904 empty stock to Reading Train-care depot. 387146 + 387159 were reported as working the diagram correctly three days later.

**23/06** With the 3Z22 2337 Temple Meads - Cardiff (via Exeter) cancelled 37612 with test train moved to Parkway (not Cardiff) to work 3Z64 1027 - Hither Green PAD (1515) from the rear departing at 1134 (67 late) and passing Swindon at 1224 (55 late).

**24/06** 37612 was back in the area passing Westerleigh junction at 1530 (1 early) leading a 1125 Hither Green PAD - Cardiff Canton sidings (1708) departmental 'transit' move. The train was then allocated 3Z33 2359 Canton sidings - Bristol TM high-level (0731) via Swansea and Barton Hill depot.

**25/06** 43013 + 43299 (in former LNER red/grey livery) worked the usual monthly Fridays only 1Z20 0507 Paddington - Derby RTC (1531) which arrived Swansea at 0909 (10 early) and passed Cardiff Central at 1124 (14 early) and Westerleigh junction 1211 (8 early) on the return via Cheltenham.

**26/06** 66006 + 66060 + 66118 formed 0012 1248 (SO) Newport ADj - Westbury week-end departmental light-engine move passing North Somerset junction at 1338 and arriving Westbury at 1415.

An engineering train record was; 66604 - 6Y97 1727 Westbury - Barry (0025) via Reading West curve and Margam, cwr train formed of 1 YEA and 12 JZA wagons which passed Parkway at 2104 (7 late).

**28/06** 66514 + 66617 were paired on a 7Z55 0720 Stoke Gifford - Merehead wagon move which passed Filton Abbey Wood at 0725.

**30/06** 66724 moved former 'London Overground' EMU 317888 as 5Q76 0934 Ely Papworth sidings - Newport Docks (1600) Sims Metals for scrapping passing Goring & Streatley at 1307 (8 early), Westerleigh junction 1418 (4 early) and Pilning 1441 (7 late). The two former Class 508 EMU coaches were in use as barrier vehicles, Labezerin (64707) + Livet (64664). Turbo 166209 was in use on 'Castle' HST diagram during the day commencing with 2U04 0611 Taunton - Cardiff Central and 2C69 0611 return the later 2U14 1112 Taunton - Cardiff passing Pilning at 1244 and 2C79 1400 Cardiff - Taunton



return being noted passing the same location at 1436 for the 2U24 1610 return. A freight record was 66101 + 66112 passing Yate at 0707 working 6B17 2100 (Tues) Robeston - Westerleigh loaded fuel tanks, the pair later passing Gloucester at 1308 with the 6B41 1204 return empties.

**01/07** The return 6B47 Westerleigh - Robeston empty fuel tanks with 60010 failed at the terminal, 66086 being the rescue loco sent light from Newport and routed via Parkway.

**07/07** 66951 returned the 0947 Taunton Fairwater - Doncaster Wood yard (2152) used sleeper train running as 6E18 today formed with a single YSA 92703 only passing Taunton station at 0957 (4 late), Yatton 1033 (2 late), Parsons Street (Bristol) 1045 (2 late) and Parkway departing at 1135 (1 early) heading for Swindon, Oxford and Banbury.

**10/07** 66169 + 66171 passed Patchway at 1311 and arrived Westbury at 1424 running 0012 1053 (SO) Margam Lip - Eastleigh light-engines. Later, 37175 + 37254 top n' tailing dept c/stock; 96604, 6262, 9810, 999606, 9702 passed Pontyclun at 1108 and Patchway 1213 as a 3Q19 1045 Margam - Bescot test train (via Swindon and Oxford) and the Northern Belle diner, running as 5Z41 1913 Cardiff - Tyseley Steam Trust (2242) passed Parkway at 2014 and Cheltenham 2050 (2 early) as an empty stock positioning move with 57601 + 47802 in a top n' tail formation.

**11/07** 66104 passed Lawrence Hill at 1751 and Filton Abbey Wood 1759 working a 22 wagon 6C04 1626 Westbury - Tytherington empty stone train (with 7 wagons still loaded!)

**13/07** 'ROG' 37611 passed through the area as 0V69 0844 Derby - Bicester MoD (1524) which passed Charfield at 1047 (1 late), Yate 1053 (2 late) and Swindon 1142 (19 early) following a reverse at Parkway. The loco was to collect a Wembley bound stock move.

**16/07** 70805 passed Filton Abbey Wood at 1004 running 0Z84 0853 Westbury - Severn Tunnel junction sidings light to collect track machine DR75407 and form 6Z84 1054 to Rugby (1516) via Cheltenham passing Parkway at 1114 and Cheltenham 1210. Later an evening points failure between Parkway and Patchway and a safety device activated in the Severn Tunnel saw the 1B20 1518 Paddington - Swansea IET terminated at Parkway, 1B21 1548 Paddington - Swansea IET diverted from Parkway (departing at 1737) via Gloucester and the 1B19 1448 Paddington - Swansea (held near Patchway) and 1L28 1623 Swansea - Paddington (held Newport) IETs both severely delayed.

Locos recorded on Westerleigh fuel tank duty has included;  
60010/011/015/066/092. 66079/086/091/101/112/120/134/161.

Loco recorded on Tytherington stone duty has included;

66006/014/023/051/054/078/097/102/104/111/131/144/155/170/171/174/183.

### **Bristol Temple Meads, Barton Hill and Kingsland Road**

**20/06** Steam 46100 Royal Scot worked Saphos Tours 'English Riviera Express' 1Z27 0751 Bristol TM - Kingswear for Dartmouth (1233) via Bath and Westbury and 1Z28 1640 return to Temple Meads (2059), the outward passing Bathampton junction at 0818, Castle Cary 0942 and Starcross 1748 on the return. 47805 / D1935 which had been attached to the rear of the train, later returned the ecs north as 5Z28 2115 to Crewe HS (0023).

**22/06** Test train activity saw 37612 arrive at 0413 working 3Z20 2122 (Mon) Derby RTC - Temple Meads (via Birmingham NS) test train which arrived at 0413 (152 early!) having earlier been reported in Derby station at 2120 (4 early). The loco and train was later allocated 3Z22 2357 Temple



Meads - Cardiff Central (0748) via Lawrence Hill and Exeter St.Davids.

**23/06** It was the turn of Loco Services 45231 'The Sherwood Forester' to work the day's Saphos Tour train from and back to Bristol with 47593 + 47614 powering the 'Torbay Riviera Explorer' 1Z25 0542 Shrewsbury - Bristol TM (0842) and 1Z28 2044 return to Shrewsbury (2354) legs of the trip the outward departing Hereford at 0656. On departing Temple Meads as 1Z26 at 0949 to Kingswear (1330) for Dartmouth (with 47614 attached to the rear), the steam working passed Parsons Street at 0955 (3 late) and Yatton 1008 (6 late) with no 'booked' loop stop taking place here. The trains c/stock was recorded as; 35465 (loco support), 3330, 1203, 17159, 13227, 3148, 3100, 3122, 80044, 3045, 3125 and the booked steam hauled return section was 1Z27 1630 Temple Meads (1950). Also DC-Rail 60029 was back on Bristol stone duty working 4Z23 0402 Willesden - Bristol West Freightliner (0736) formed with 24 JNA boxes and reported arriving Westbury at 0633 (4 late), passing Hawkridge junction at 0719 (29 late), Keynsham 0748 (32 late) and Parsons Street 0901 (92 late), following a delayed stop in Temple Meads. The 6Z24 1459 loaded return to Willesden (2101) passed North Somerset junction at 1506 (5 early) and Freshford 1632 (2 late).

**25/06** 166211 ran 5Z76 1100 Temple Meads - Exeter St.Davids empty for crew training / route learning duties which included Crediton. 165128 the previous set in use had been returned as 5Z74 0915 Exeter Tmd - Bristol TM. 66514 worked 6Z15 0922 Westbury - Taunton Fairwater wagon move which arrived Temple Meads at 0922 and passed Worle junction at 1029 (8 late). The loco later returned 0Z16 1148 Fairwater yard - Stoke Gifford (1313) light passing Highbridge & Burnham at 1210.

Later 66607 passed Keynsham at 1405 working 6M36 Westbury - Tunstead cement empties. Also for the day, 37612 with DVT 9708 were reported stabled Temple Meads their next allocation being; 3Z21 2209 Bristol TM high-level sidings Derby RTC (0545) via Birmingham NS.

**26/06** What would have been a loco and coaches in years gone by, Turbo 165136 worked 1073 0905 Bristol TM - Weymouth (1125) and 2V96 1728 return to Bristol TM (1946) 'relief' departing Bath outward at 0930. Plans for a 'Castle' HST and even a five-car Turbo formation having not taken place for the first run! Later 47593 brought in the following days steam rail tour stock as 5Z26 1346 Crewe HS - Bristol TM (1646) passing Leominster at 1510 (9 late) and Lawrence Hill 1640 (2 early) formed with c/stock; 35465, 3330, 1203, 17159, 13227, 3148, 3100, 3122, 80044, 3045, 3125.

**27/06** Steam 46100 Royal Scot worked the third Saphos Tours 'English Riviera Express' 1Z27 0751 Bristol TM - Kingswear for Dartmouth (1233) and 1Z28 1640 return to Temple Meads (2059) the outward passing Keynsham at 0802, Bathampton junction 0819 and departing Frome at 0905 with 47593 which had brought the coaches in during the previous afternoon, attached to the rear. The 1Z28 was reported to have been delayed at Lawes Bridge, Torquay due to flooding following heavy localized rain fall.

**30/06** GW HST power cars 43027 + 43155 with coaching set GW08 (formed 48122 + 49108 only) worked 5V84 1130 Doncaster Wab-tec - Laira Trsmd move which passed Westerleigh junction at 1445 and Taunton 1531 (56 early).

**01/07** A fourth appearance for Loco Services BR green livery D213 / 40013 (so far in 2021) saw the popular loco work Saphos Tours 'Bristol 40' 1Z40 0740 Bangor (Gwynedd) - Temple Meads (1306) departing Colwyn Bay at 0810 (2 late), passing Ryecroft junction (Walsall) at 1038 (9 late), Worcester Parkway 1146 (2 early), Yate 1228 (13 early) and Stapleton Road 1240 (18 early) with c/stock; 6311, 3330, 1203, car no.17159, 13227, 3148, 3100,

3122, 80044, 3045, 3125. The ecs was then worked 5Z41 1316 to Bristol East yard via, arriving at 1351 (5 late) and becoming the first loco visitor to the newly created (and temporary) Arriva XC servicing/stabling point here then 5Z42 1512 to Bristol West (1519). The train was then steam worked as 5Z43 1542 Bristol West to Temple Meads arriving platform 15 at 1529 (16 early) for the return 1Z44 1603 to Bangor (2250) headed by 46100 Royal Scot + 45231 Lancashire Fusilier (for the purist not in a traditionally 'historic' loco hauled train formation, with the Scot leading the Stanier 5 for passenger traffic over the former Midland route north out of Bristol!) passing Yate at 1624 (1 early) and Cheltenham 1659 (4 early) the Class 40 having run 0Z44 1547 light-engine Bristol West - Crewe (2151) to take over from the steam here for the final leg to Bangor with an 'Irish Mail' headboard being reported as carried!

On the freight side, DC Rail again hired in a DB loco, this time 66063 to work 4Z23 0517 Willesden DC sidings - Bristol West Freightliner stone empties and 6Z23 loaded return to Willesden the outward passing Newbury at 0719 having departed at 0543 (26 late).

**02/07** The NRMT HST with LNER livery Network Rail branded power car due 43299 + 43290 worked the usual monthly Friday only 1Q18 0611 Reading Triangle sidings - Paignton (via Penzance) passing Taunton down at 0829 (30 late) and 1Z18 1539 Paignton - Taunton (via Bristol East) which passed Highbridge & Burnham up at 1701.

**03/07** 47593 + 47614 (47853) double-headed Statesman Rail's 'Cornish Riviera Statesman' 1Z45 0450 Derby - Penzance (2259) and 1Z46 1500 return to Derby (2229) the outward passing Westerleigh junction 0753 (1 early), Uphill junction 0841 (7 late), Stoke Canon 0925 (4 early), Teignmouth 1010 (1 early), Liskeard 1121 (5 early) and Dawlish at 1745 (-) and Uphill junction 1855 (-) on the return. The trains c/stock formation was listed as; 3426 Ben Nevis, 3384 Pen-y-ghent, 3344 Scafell, 3348 Ingleborough, 1211 Snaefell, 3312 Helvellyn, 3438 Ben Lomond, 80043, 3188, 3229 Snowdon.

**05/07** 43154 + 43004 moved intermediate coaching set GW01 north as 5E23 0800 Laira Trsmd - Doncaster Works wagon shops passing Worle junction at 1024 (21 late). Meanwhile 150261 + 150233 were in use on a 'Castle' HST diagram working; 2C05 0526 Bristol TM - Penzance, 2U20 1050 return to Cardiff Central, 2C85 1700 return to Taunton, 2U30 1907 return to Cardiff Central and 2C95 2200 return to Temple Meads.

**07/07** Rail-tour activity included; 47593 + 47614 (47853) top n' tailing - Statesman Rail 'Cornish Riviera Statesman' 1Z80 0500 Shrewsbury - Penzance (1300) and 1Z81 1524 return to Shrewsbury (2349) which on the outward departed Abergavenny at 0636 (-), passed Parsons Steet at 0810, arrived Yatton loop at 0820 (1 late) and departed 0828 (5 early) having allowed two workings to pass; 220007 - 1V41 Bristol TM - Paignton and 66511 - 0C17 0801 Stoke Gifford - Taunton Fairwater yard light-loco, pass Taunton 0901 (10 early) and Totnes 1030 (2 early) and 67021 + 67024 top n' tailing - 1V80 0949 Victoria - Bath (1301) and 1092 1556 return to Victoria (1945) VSOE, with interim ecs moves 5C80 1310 Bath - Bath (Oldfield Park) dgl / 5092 1443 return to Bath (via Bristol West and Bedminster) which passed Trowbridge outward at 1242 (1 early) and Bathampton junction 1602 (2 late) on the return. The trains c/stock formations were listed as; 1Z80 - 17056, 3229 Snowdon, 3188 Cadair Idris, 80043, 3438 Ben Lomond, 3312 Helvellyn, 1211 Snaefell, 3348 Ingleborough, 3384 Pen-y-ghent, 3426 Ben Nevis and 1V80 - 6313, Zena, Ione, Gwen, Perseus, Minerva, Ibis, Audrey, Lucille, Phoenix, Vera, Baggage car 11

(99545). Turbo 166220 was on at least part of a 'Castle' HST duty operating; 1353 Exeter St.Davids - Cardiff Central (2U20), 1700 return to Taunton (2C85), 1907 return to Cardiff Central (2U30) and 2200 return to Bristol TM (2C95).

A freight record was 68016 + 88007 heading the 6V74 Crew - Bridgwater single nuclear FNA flask which passed Worle junction at 0615 and 6M63 1200 return passing Yatton at 1131 (67 early) and Cheltenham 1259 (64 early) with the Class 88 leading, this being the first Class member to reach Bridgwater since May (88008) last year.

**09/07** West Coast 57314 + 57601 top n' tailed 5Z36 0210 Carnforth Steamtown - Bristol TM (1107) Northern Belle diner ecs which passed Wem at 0641 (2 early) however issues with the lead loco after arrival at East Usk at 0922 (39 late) saw 57601 moved to the front departing double-headed at 0957 (17 late). On arrival at Bristol the train formed 1Z36 1124 Temple Meads - Par (1449), passing Flax Bourton at 1132 (2 late), Exeter St.Davids 1404 (88 late), Totnes 1439 (86 late) and arriving Plymouth at 1507 (88 late) and terminated due to the late running. Initially 47772, then 47802 was allocated 0Z36 1010 Southall Wcr - Exeter St.Davids (1350) 'failed' 57314 replacement light-engine passing Southall station at 1219 (64 late) and was attached at the rear (to lead the return) in Tiverton loop (where the train had arrived at 1224 - 5 late) instead of Exeter so no platform lines were blocked at St.Davids station and also more time was recovered. The revised 1Z37 return to Temple Meads (1926) left at the booked Plymouth departure time of 1655 (-) with 47802 leading and 57314 + 57601 attached to the rear and was noted arriving Taunton at 1845 (4 late) and departing at 1850 (5 late), the train then running 5Z37 1941 Temple Meads - Barry Tourist Railway (2211) ecs passing Lawrence Hill at 1948 (3 late). The trains c/stock formation was the usual; 10729 Crewe, 10734 Balmoral, car no 17167 Mow Cop, 325 Duart, 3247 Chatsworth, 3275 Harlech, 1566 Caerdydd, 3273 Alnwick, 3174 Glamis, 99025 Amber.

On the freight side, 66607 worked a 24 JGA wagon 6M36 1217 Westbury Cement works - Tunstead empty tank train (via Hereford) passing Bradford junction at 1307 and 66597 brought in a 4M65 1345 Southampton Maritime - Bristol West Freightliner (1715) empty flat wagon 'storage' move which passed Redbridge at 1349 and Westerleigh junction 1646. Another record for the day was 37610 stabled in the Temple Meads area and allocated 3Q79 2106 test train return to Derby RTC (0259) via Cardiff (reverse) and Cheltenham the dept c/stock being listed as; 96606, 6260, 9808, 62287, 9703.

Activity at Bristol East yard on the first evening use for train stabling saw; 220009 + 220002 arrive at 2113 (11 late) as 5V66 2054 empty stock from Temple Meads, 170623 + 170397 as 5C17 2237 empty stock from Gloucester to Bristol East (0014) and 221136 (running as a 4 -car) + 221133 as 5V71 2351 from Temple Meads at 0031 (32 late).

For the record; 220009 + 220002 had worked 1V66 1539 from Newcastle, 221133 - 1V70 1607 from Edinburgh Waverley, 221136 - 1V71 1707 from Edinburgh Waverley (arriving Temple Meads at 2338 - 8 late), 170623 + 170397 as 5C17 2237 from Gloucester (the former having previously worked 1V17 2018 Leicester - Birmingham NS, not Gloucester as booked, then 5V17 2130 empty to Gloucester with 170397)

Unit and set allocations (for 10th July) were as follows; 170397 - 5M00 to Cardiff Central (0605) departing at 0520 (1 late) for 1M00 0640 service to Nottingham, 220002 + 220009 - 5S35 0535 to Temple Meads (0543) for 1S35 0603 to Edinburgh Waverley, 221136 - 5C11 0544 to Temple Meads (0552) for

1C11 0607 to Plymouth, 170623 - 5L00 to Gloucester departing at 0608 (14 late) for 1L00 0705 to Stansted Airport and 221133 - 5V41 0747 to Temple Meads (0755) for 1V41 0810 to Exeter St.Davids. Later 221141 + 220005 were noted in Bristol East loop at 0930 having departed Temple Meads at 0923 (1 late) with the 1S41 0723 Plymouth - Edinburgh Waverley service and then routed via Dr.Day's (the 'rhubarb' curve) a move in place for Arriva XC services during the first part of the works period. Work on lifting and replacing the up through, up and down 'relief' and main Filton lines was underway with platforms 3 - 5 closed and only 11 - 13 in use, this arrangement being planned to stay in place until 6th August.

**10/07** Further Northern Belle workings saw 57601 + 47802 top n' tail 1Z38 0555 Cardiff Central - Weymouth (0945) and 1Z40 1453 return to Cardiff Central (1906) via Yeovil passing Oldfield Park (Bath) at 0714 (1 early) and departing Westbury at 0756 (4 early) outward and Freshford 1734 (4 late) and Keynsham 1800 (10 late) on the return.

**11/07** The Northern Belle was back in the area passing through as a 1Z21 0900 Coventry - Weymouth (1351) via Parkway and Westbury and 1Z22 1632 return to Coventry (2155) working top n' tailed by 57601 + 47802 and recorded passing Ashchurch at 1036 (1 early), Castle Cary 1237 outward and the same location on the return at 1750 (-), then Trowbridge 1817 (2 late) and Lawrence Hill 1856 (2 late) with 47802 leading. East junction engineering train records included; 70811 - 6F01 Dr.Day's junction - Westbury (1926) formed with 2 IEA / 16 JNA / 2 MLA wagons which was routed via Bath and not Parkway as booked, departing at 1603 (57 early) and 70812 - 6F02 1012 Westbury - Bristol West junction (1300) via Taunton which passed East Somerset junction at 1028 (1 early), Highbridge & Burnham 1410 (106 late) and Uphill junction 1419 (106 late), losing time at Taunton due to a points failure in Fairwater yard (also see Taunton notes & news). At Bristol West Freightliner, 66597 which had brought in a rake of flats from Southampton during the previous day and remained here overnight, removed the 20 KTA 'pocket wagons' moved here from Birmingham Lawley Street on 20th January by 66590 (see Magazine 589 - March 2021) as a 4Z65 1120 departure to Southampton Maritime (1346) via Salisbury which passed Bath at 1130 (35 early) and Bradford-on-Avon 1145.

**12/07** Bristol East junction engineering train records via Taunton Fairwater yard were listed as; 70812 - 6F02 1125 Dr.Day's - Westbury via Swindon which arrived Hullavington at 1057 (and booked off at 1431) formed with 9 JNA / 1 IEA / 10 MLA wagons, 66047 - 6W50 0611 Westbury - Bristol West junction (0900) which passed Somerton at 0647 (12 early) and Uphill junction 0940 (64 late), 66006 - 6W51 Westbury - Bristol West junction (1530) which departed at 1014 (10 early), passed Taunton station down at 1130 and Uphill junction 1438 (28 early), both trains formed with 40 coal-fish wagons and 66023 - 6W52 1819 Westbury - Bristol West junction (2200) which arrived Taunton at 1930 and passed Uphill junction 2057 (21 early).

**13/07** The return 6M63 Bridgwater - Crewe Coal sidings nuclear flask service departed at 1145 (15 late) with 68003 + 68033 in a top n' tail formation due to a booked diversion via the 'rhubarb' (Dr.Day's curve) following a reverse at Bristol East due to East junction track work. Two Bristol East junction engineering train records were; 70812 - 6F07 0947 Westbury - Bristol West junction (via Taunton) which passed Castle Cary at 1148 (93 late) and 66713 - 6G72 1820 Westbury - Bristol West junction which passed Bruton at 1847 (2 early) and Taunton station down at 1922 (9 early), formed with 16 JNA / 2 MLA / 2 IEA ballast loaded box wagons.

**14/07** 67023 + 67027 arrived on an 'amended' 1Z22 test train from Tyseley in a top n' tail formation (via Oxford, Westbury and Weymouth) the train being noted passing Fairwood junction down at 1423 and Clink Road junction up at 1814 on the return.

An engineering train record was; 66504 - 6Y60 0705 Westbury - Bristol West junction (1051) via Taunton Fairwater yard passing Taunton station down at 0806 (1 late) and Uphill junction at 0937 (6 early) formed with ballast loaded MRA side-tippler wagons.

**15/07** Test train activity saw, 37610 power 3Q53 2305 (Wed) Swindon Transfer - Exeter Riverside (0440) via Paignton (with dept c/stock; 96606, 6260, 9808, 62287, 9703) departing Weston-super-Mare at 0108 (33 early) a booked visit to Portbury having not taken place and 67027 + 67023 return as 1Z23 0813 Bristol Parkway - Tyseley Tmd (1913) via Newport and Oxford passing Severn Tunnel junction down at 0839 (12 early) and later departing Didcot Parkway at 1138 (9 early) following a reverse move the trains dept c/stock being; 9523, 977997, 72631, 975091. The latter had been route affected by the East junction blockade.

**17/07** Engineering train records included; 66140 - 6W02 2026 Westbury - Bristol West junction and 66784 - 6X70 1002 Westbury - Lawrence Hill (1414) via Swindon which was noted passing Swindon Transfer yard at 1455, departing Swindon East loop at 1503 (178 late) and passing Bristol Parkway at 1540 (107 late).

**18/07** Engineering train and associated records included; 66140 - 0W02 1100 Dr.Day's junction - Westbury via Swindon light-loco which passed Bristol Parkway at 1130 66085 - 6W03 0706 Westbury - Bristol West junction (0930) via Taunton Fairwater which passed Castle Cary at 0732 (1 early), Highbridge & Burnham 0858 (2 early) and Parsons Street 0940 (13 late) formed 2 IEA / 10 JNA / 10 MLA box wagons and 66784 - 6X70 0830 Bristol TM - Westbury (via Taunton) which passed Highbridge & Burnham at 0942 and Clink Road junction 1129.

**19/07** 'Freedom Day' with all remaining Covid 19 restrictions (except overseas travel) lifted still recommended the use of face masks whilst travelling on train services which was retained as mandatory by the Welsh Government for public transport travel in Wales.

Engineering train records included; 56302 - 6C44 2200 Westbury - Westbury (0524) via Bristol and Exeter Riverside formed with 10 auto-ballasters which passed Freshford at 2228 and Uphill junction 2327 (15 late), 70817 - 6F19 1716 Westbury - Bristol West junction (2005) via Taunton which arrived Taunton station at 1832 for a loco to run-round and passed Uphill junction at 1931 (4 early) and 66561 - 6Y42 1115 Westbury - Bristol West junction (which was started at Taunton Fairwater, the train having arrived here during the previous day), passing Taunton station at 1430.

Locos recorded on Bristol West Freightliner loaded stone duties included; 60029. 66063 (on 'hire' to DC Rail). 66511/540/543/562.

#### **Avonmouth and the Severn Beach branch line**

**28/06** 66154 passed Challow at 1205 and Parkway 1411 on the return running 0Z61 1133 Didcot yard - Didcot yard (via Avonmouth) driver route knowledge trainer refresher light-engine.

**05/07** 66093 was on the 0Z61 Didcot - Didcot training run (via Parkway and Clifton Down) passing Brentry down at 0922 towards Avonmouth.

**06/07** A repeat performance for 66093 which passed Brentry at 0853 and

Clifton Down 0948 (7 early) running 0Z62 0652 Didcot - Didcot (via Parkway, Avonmouth and Bath).

**12/07** With the start of the East Junction blockade, Severn Beach line services were starting and terminating at Lawrence Hill with road bus links to and from Temple Meads.

**18/07** 70809 passed Brentry at 2128 on a 6C97 Westbury - Hallen Marsh rail train.

Locos recorded on stone duty have included;

66511/514/524/540/549/604/616/617/622/770.

Locos recorded on cement duty have included; 66704/710/774/779.

Locos recorded on refuse container duty have included;

66006/014/023/054/104/155/170/177/183/188.

Locos recorded on ash duty have included; 66006/188.

Locos recorded on container duty have included; 66420/534/546/562/598.

### **Portbury Branchline**

**19/07** Having departed at 0940 (130 early!) and passed Parsons Street at 1550 (2 late), 66748 struck a fallen tree in the Sandstone no. 3 tunnel area of Leigh Woods working 6B59 Acton yard - Portbury Auto terminal stone empties. This location saw tree removal work carried out under Network Rail / Metro West supervision by Forestry England towards the end of last year.

With no injuries reported, the train eventually reached its destination at 1925 (183 late) following safety checks and clearance work at the scene.

Locos recorded on stone duty have included; 66714/732/748/755/786.

### **Bristol area workings during April**

4C04 Acton - Tytherington stone empties (DB)

18/04 66096. 19/04 66096.

4L36 Wentloog - Southampton Maritime containers (G&W)

01/04 66523. 08/04 66596. 09/04 66564. 12/04 66514.

13/04 66548. 14/04 66528. 16/04 66503. 19/04 66587.

22/04 66543. 23/04 66564. 28/04 66587. 29/04 66503.

30/04 66525.

4L50 Wentloog - Tilbury containers (G&W)

07/04 66541. 14/04 66502.

4051 (SO) Wentloog - Southampton Maritime containers (G&W)

10/04 70019. 17/04 70007. 24/04 70002.

4057 1329 Wentloog - Southampton Maritime containers (G&W)

01/04 70002. 02/04 70004. 08/04 70001. 09/04 70019.

12/04 66523. 13/04 66502. 14/04 70019. 16/04 70019.

26/04 70019. 29/04 70019. 30/04 70019.

4071 Wentloog - Southampton containers (G&W)

13/04 70019.

6A27 East Usk - Hayes loaded stone (G&W)

01/04 66619. 08/04 66603. 29/04 66542.

6A83 Avonmouth Bennetts - West Drayton (\* Theale MO) loaded stone (G&W)

06/04 66622. 10/04 66514. 12/04\* 66553. 13/04 66413.

14/04 66957. 15/04 66957. 19/04 66518 20/04 66518.

21/04 66585. 22/04 66591.

Note; Train on 10/04 and 21/04 ran to Stoke Gifford whilst on 20/04 the West Drayton train was diverted to Stoke Gifford.

6A86 Moreton-on-Lugg - Hayes loaded stone (G&W)

10/04 66591.

6B11 Hayes - Stoke Gifford (\* East Usk yard) empty stone (G&W)

22/04\* 66542. 29/04\* 66621. 30/04\* 66621.

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

01/04 60054. 03/04 60011. 07/04 60054. 10/04 60066.

13/04 60020. 15/04 60020. 16/04 60020. 21/04 60054.

22/04 60054. 24/04 60020. 30/04 60020.

6B51 / 6B52 Llanwern - Swindon Stores loaded and return empty steel (DB)

09/04 66143. 12/04 66013.

Note; Train on 12/04 returned as 6Z52.

6B58 / 6A59 Acton - Portbury Auto terminal stone empties (GBRf)

07/04 66752. 13/04 66752. 14/04 66752. 20/04 66778.

21/04 66778. 27/04 66755. 28/04 66755.

6B77 Colnbrook - Avonmouth West Wharf empty and return loaded stone (GBRf)

08/04 66701. 29/04 66735.

6B80 Avonmouth Hansons - Gloucester New yard cement empties (GBRf)

01/04 66702.

6B80 / 6C80 Stoke Gifford - Machen empty and return loaded stone (G&W)

17/04 66524.

6B91 (SO) Hayes - East Usk stone empties (GBRf)

10/04 66603. 17/04 66522. 24/04 66522.

6C02 / 6A02 (TO) Cardiff Docks Ryan's - Avonmouth Bennetts loaded ash (DB)

13/04 66115. 20/04 66113.

6C03 (\* 6A03 return empties Brentford) Northolt - Severnside Sita refuse containers (DB)

01/04 66149. 02/04 66149. 03/04 66133. 05/04 66133.

06/04 66149. 07/04 66149. 08/04 66020. 10/04 66020.

12/04 66020. 13/04 66003. 14/04 66020. 15/04 66020.

17/04 66200. 18/04\* 66200. 19/04 66200. 21-23/04 66200.

24/04 66097. 25/04\* 66097. 28/04 66069. 29/04 66080.

30/04 66080.



6C19 Stoke Gifford - Westbury stone empties (G&W)

06/04 66549.

6C43 Theale - Stoke Gifford (\* 6C42 East Usk) stone empties (G&W)

14/04 66613. 28/04\* 66542.

6C67 / 6C68 Whatley - Avonmouth West Wharf loaded & return empty stone (G&W)

01/04 66549. 07/04 66623. 12/04 66606. 13/04 59104.

14/04 66568. 15/04 66568. 18/04 66613. 19/04 66613.

20/04 66617. 21-23/04 66617. 28/04 66617.

6L94 Westbury - Parkeston ballast empties (F&W)

30/04 66567.

6M15 0707 Tytherington Quarry - Calvert loaded stone (DB)

01/04 66152. 08/04 66007. 12/04 66115. 14/04 66107.

16/04 66107. 22/04 66020. 23/04 66113. 28/04 66106.

6M42 Avonmouth Hansons - Penyffordd cement empties (GBRf)

02/04 66707. 05/04 66707. 07/04 66707. 09/04 66707.

12/04 66707. 14/04 66707. 16/04 66707. 21/04 66707.

23/04 66707. 28/04 66707.

6M49 0354 Tytherington - Calvert loaded stone (DB)

27/04 66149.

6M60 (FO) Exeter Riverside yard - Bescot chinan clay china clay freight (DB)

09/04 66150.

6M63 (6V74) Bridgwater - Crewe nuclear flasks (DRS)

07/04 68002 + 68005. 14/04 68003 + 68018. 21/04 68003 + 68004.

6V32 Tilbury - Trostre steel (GBRf)

07/04 66782. 09/04 66752. 14/04 66782. 17/04 66748.

20/04 66748. 22/04 66748. 24/04 66748. 27/04 66748.

30/04 66748.

6V33 Westbury - Parkeston loaded ballast (G&W)

27/04 66567.

Note; First train routed via Birmingham, Cheltenham and Bristol for this new HOBC associated working.

6V35 Clitheroe - Avonmouth Hansons loaded cement (GBRf)

16/04 66702. 23/04 66702.

6V41 Penyffordd - Avonmouth Hansons loaded cement (GBRf)

11/04 66707. 21/04 66707. 23/04 66707.

6V63 0300 Tytherington - Calvert loaded stone (DB)

27/04 66097.

6V64 (\* 6C64) Westbury - Tytherington stone empties (DB)  
07/04 66007. 08/07\* 66133. 14/04 66113. 20/04 66095.  
29/04 66020  
Note; Train on 29/04 ran as 4V64.

6V84 Clitheroe - Avonmouth Hansons loaded cement (GBRf)  
05/04 66702. 07/04 66707. 12/04 66702. 14/04 66702.  
19/04 66702.

6V99 (TO) Bescot - St.Blazey freight (DB)  
06/04 66170. 13/04 66118. 20/04 66104. 27/04 66104.

6Z18 Bristol West Freightliner - Banbury Reservoir sidings loaded stone  
(G&W)  
06/04 66514. 08/04 66514. 11/04 66518  
Note; Train on 11/04 ran 6Z92 to Banbury Oxford Road sidings.

6Z23 / 6Z24 Willesden - Bristol West Freightliner empty and return loaded  
stone (DC Rail).  
14/04 60055. 21/04 60046. 28/04 60028.  
Note; This is a new area flow providing a loco, wagons and train crew to  
support G&W HS2 aggregate movements from this location.

6Z32 Westbury - Tytherington stone empties (DB)  
06/04 66160. 08/04 66040.

6Z60 (ThO) Parkindillack (St.Blazey) - Bescot china clay freight (DB)  
01/04 66053. 15/04 66118.

## **Gloucester**

**22/06** 60062 powered 6V15 2018 (Mon) Boston Sleaford sidings - Swindon  
stores (via Kemble) loaded steel which arrived Swindon at 0634 formed with  
the usual 20 BYA wagons. Also and for the third week in a row, 68003 +  
88009 powered 6V73 0433 Crewe Coal sidings - Berkeley CEGB low level  
radioactive waste service passing Cheltenham at 0800 formed with a single  
IKA wagon 6849099815. The same loco combination appeared yet again on this  
working two days later.

**26/06** 66192 powered a 33 MEA wagon loaded 6V81 1330 Masborough FD -  
Cardiff Tidal sidings (2122) train of loaded scrap passing Toton Centre at  
1339 (54 early), Cheltenham 1902 (2 early) and Gloucester 1928 (11 early).

**27/06** 66194 worked 6M98 0929 Cardiff Tidal - Saltley EMR scrap empties  
passing Ashchurch at 1039.

**28/06** 66056 passed Stoke Works junction at 0650 working 18 empty MBA  
wagons operating as 6V72 0125 Warrington Arpley - Swindon Cocklebury yard.

**29/06** 60062 worked 6V15 2028 (Mon) Boston Sleaford sidings - Swindon  
Stores steel with the usual 20 BYAs arriving at its destination at 0652.

**30/06** A gas leak near Gloucester station affected some Arriva XC  
services.

**01/07** 68003 + 68033 were on the 6V73 0433 Crewe Coal sidings - Berkeley  
CEGB low level radioactive containerized waste with wagons DRSL PFAs 92736  
+ 92766 passing Cheltenham at 0652 and Gloucester Yard junction at 0710  
and later GBRf livery 50007 + 50049 ran 0Z50 1013 Kidderminster SVR -  
Stewarts Lane (1540) light-engines for forthcoming VSOE duty originally

'booked' via Tyseley, Banbury and Oxford but actually on the day routed via Cheltenham, Kemble and the Great Western mainline passing Stroud at 1158 and Swindon 1222.

**03/07** Very rare VSOE Belmond Pullman hauling power was 50007 (carrying 50034 Furious number and nameplate on at least one side) + 50049 to mark the 30th anniversary of the 'Class 50 Alliance' organization working 1Z95 0904 Victoria - Worcester Shrub Hill (1223) via Oxford and Evesham and 1Z96 1640 return to Victoria (2037) the outward being reported passing Kensington Olympia at 0920 (2 early) and Cheltenham 1705 (1 early), Stonehouse 1720 (1 early) and Bourton (near Swindon) 1756 (1 early) on the return the c/stock being reported as; Baggage car 11 (995450), Vera, Phoenix, Lucille, Audrey, Ibis, Minerva, Perseus, Gwen, Ione, Zena, 6313.

**08/07** 68033 + 68003 were paired on the 6V73 Crewe Coal sidings - CEGB Berkeley low level radioactive waste trip.

**09/07** 66056 passed Gloucester yard junction at 0632 and Kemble 0701 working 18 MBAs as 6V70 2353 (Thur) Liverpool Eurometals - Swindon Cocklebury yard scrap metal empties.

Later GBRf 50049 ran 0Z50 1013 Kidderminster SVR - Lydney junction (1200) light-engine passing Gloucester at 1137 (1 late) to collect preserved 31466 (in EWS red/gold livery) the return being 0Z51 1330 to Kidderminster SVR (1500) which passed Cheltenham at 1301 (58 early). The 31 is believed to be lined up for use on engineering train duties over the line.

**10/07** 66101 powered a 29 MEA wagon 6V81 1330 Masborough FD - Cardiff Tidal sidings (2122) loaded scrap service passing Alfreton at 1339 (35 early) and Gloucester 1838 (61 early).

**15/07** 68006 + 88001 passed Cheltenham at 0801 (9 early) working 6V73 0433 Crewe Coal sidings - Berkeley CEGB (0928) low radioactive container train formed with DRSL PFAs 92766 (loaded with two grey containers) + 92736 (empty). The 6M56 return to Crewe (1832) with both wagons empty, departed at 1250 (38 early), arrived Berkeley Road junction at 1308 (33 early) and departed at 1310 (31 early) following 158956 on a 2E94 1200 Cardiff Central - Great Malvern service.

This was reported to be the first visit of 88001 to Berkeley and the final Class member to appear on either this or the Bridgwater flask working.

**16/07** 66011 arrived Swindon at 0639 working 6V70 2349 (Thur) Liverpool EMR - Swindon Cocklebury yard scrap empties formed of 18 MBA wagons.

## **Westbury**

**20/06** 'RSS' Class 08 08730 arrived at Whatley Quarry in a pale blue livery for a 'hire' period. A return engineering train record was; 66951 + 66561 top n' tailing - 6X08 1120 Appleford - Taunton Fairwater (1413) track replacement train which passed Swindon at 1143 and Castle Cary 1307.

**22/06** An engineering train record was; 70817 + 70812 top n' tailing - 6C41 2028 Westbury - Crediton which passed Stoke Canon at 2151 formed 8 MLA / 11 JNA / 1 IEA wagons.

**26/06** At 1430 the area loco line up was as follows; down yard 66076, 66094, 66151, 66713, 66767. up yard 66604 (alloy. 6Y97 1727 Westbury - Barry cwr train). Colas siding 70805, 70817.

**27/06** An afternoon visit to the recently opened Westbury Cement works stabling point recorded; 59001, 66542, 66549, 66622. The Class 59 later departed as a 0F59 1558 light-engine working to Bristol St.Philips Marsh passing Bradford junction at 1621. Engineering train reports included; 66006 + 66060 top n' tailing - 6W01 2028 (Sat) Westbury - Westbury (via

Port Talbot Parkway) formed of 10 HQA auto-ballasters and reported passing Lawrence Hill at 1040 and North Somerset junction 1043 and 66951 + 66561 top n' tailing - 6X08 1120 Didcot West curve - Taunton Fairwater which passed Wantage Road at 1029 formed with 28 wagons.

**30/06** West Coast used former 'ROG' 47813 as a 0Z77 0918 Southall Wcr - Westbury (1511) and 0Z78 1548 return to Southall (2124) driver route refresher light-engine via Weymouth the 0Z78 return departing Castle Cary at 1613 (4 early).

**01/07** The NRMT HST with 'hire' LNER power cars was in the area working Reading - Salisbury (via Exeter) noted passing Axminster down at 0843 and departing Pinhoe at 1048 on the return and later 1Z22 / 1Z23 Salisbury - Salisbury via Southampton passing near Dilton Marsh outward at 1443.

**02/07** 66850 powered 6C20 1820 Westbury - Lostwithiel (2304) engineers passing Taunton at 1921 formed with loaded sleeper wagons and a crane.

**03/07** An area loco line up recorded; Cement works sidings 66604, 66616. down yard 66060, 66713 (allox. 6G71 with 66723), 66723 (allox. 6G71 with 66713). up yard 66094 with 66129 + 66183 which arrived as 0012 Margam Lip - Eastleigh light-engines. An engineering train record was; 66723 + 66713 top n' tailing - 6G71 1824 Westbury - Lostwithiel (2205) passing Taunton at 1922, Stoke Canon 1953 (4 early) and Starcross 2008 (5 early).

**04/07** Return engineering train records from track relay work towards the china clay loading terminal end of the Fowey branch line were; GBRf 66723 + Colas 66850 - 6C20 1505 Lostwithiel signal 4 - Westbury (2052) empty cwr train with crane which passed Ivybridge at 1653 (2 late) and Starcross 1811 (6 early) and 66713 - 6G71 1403 Lostwithiel signal 4 - Westbury (1750) formed with 5 HQA / 5 JJA auto-ballasters which passed Liskeard at 1423 (10 early), Tavistock junction yard 1610 (47 late), Starcross 1658 (46 late) and Taunton 1752 (55 late).

**07/07** An engineering train allocation was; 66023 - 6W97 1613 Westbury - Lostwithiel (0015) via Ponsodane.

**10/07** Steam 60163 Tornado with support coach 21249 ran 5Z30 1125 Southall - Bishop's Lydeard WSR (1554) loco and coach passing Iver at 1148 (4 early), Westbury station platform 2 at 1434 and departing Taunton station at 1527 (11 early) for 'Royal Duchy' rail-tour duty from Taunton during the following day. Engineering train records included; 70811 + 70809 - 6C21 top n' tailing - 6C21 0800 Crediton - Westbury (1011) passing Taunton at 0915 (7 early) formed with 20 HQA auto-ballasters.

**11/07** 66003 hauled MPV DR98957 + DR98907 as a 3Z15 0915 Didcot - Exeter Riverside yard (1229) positioning move passing Lavington at 1015 (10 early) and Wellington (Somerset) 1143, the loco then returning 0Z15 1400 light-engine back to Didcot. Engineering train records included; 66561 + 66511 top n' tailing - 6X08 0755 Heyford - Taunton Fairwater yard (1329) track replacement train passing Didcot East junction at 1034 (29 late) and Newbury 1202 (65 late).

**13/07** GBRf 59003 worked 0Z60 1012 Eastleigh yard - Plymouth (1615) light-engine departing Eastleigh station at 1034 (12 early), passing Castle Cary at 1202 (10 late), Stoke Canon 1331 (2 late) and Dawlish 1414 (7 late). This was reported to be the first ever visit for this loco to Devon, which had spent time working in Germany from 1997 to 2014 (also see MISCELLANEOUS - GBRf).

**15/07** Colas 56302 returned to the area as 0Z59 1310 Crewe Basford Hall yard - Westbury (1730) via Hereford light-engine passing Pilning at 1603 (-) and Lawrence Hill 1620 (-) for West of England engineering train duty

during the following week.

**16/07** Two engineering train records were; 66511 + 66561 - 6X08 0508 Theale loop - Taunton Fairwater yard (via Didcot and Swindon) track replacement train which passed Chippenham at 0647 and Trowbridge 0711 and 66849 + 66850 top n' tailing - 6C26 Westbury - Lostwithiel, formed with loaded track panels and auto-ballasters which passed Clink Road junction at 1649, passed Bruton at 1710, departed Taunton at 1807 and passed Tiverton Parkway at 1831.

**17/07** An area loco list at 1055 recorded; down yard 59003, 66023. up yard 66014, 66784. up yard (short siding) 56302. Colas siding 70805, 70810. An engineering train record was; 66559 + 66561 top n' tailing - 6X08 1835 Taunton Fairwater yard - Oxford North junction (2301) track replacement train which passed Taunton station at 1843 (5 late) and Clink Road junction (Frome) 1938 (3 early).

**16/07** Following at least one run between Plymouth and Penzance during the previous day, GBRf 59003 returned as 0Z67 1038 Plymouth - Eastleigh passing Ivybridge at 1053 Teignmouth 1120 and Taunton 1218. 37610 worked 3Q63 2312 Exeter Riverside - Westbury (0726) via Exmouth and Barnstaple, passing Fairwood junction at 0651 (30 early) formed with dept c/stock; 96606, 6262, 9808, 62287, 9703. The train was then booked 3Q62 2307 Westbury - Derby RTC (0917) via Cheltenham and Kidderminster.

**18/07** 'Jubilee' Steam 45596 Bahamas made what was thought to have been an area debut passing Crofton (near Bedwyn) at 1100 and Westbury 1129 on a Steam Dreams 'Cathedral Express' 1Z51 0903 Paddington - Salisbury outing with c/stock; 14060 (loco support), 5200, 4940, 9104, 5236, 5249, 5237, 1666, 3098, 3120. The booked return was 1Z55 1737 to Paddington (2101). Return engineering train records included; 66850 + 66849 top n' tailing - 6C26 1503 Lostwithiel sig 4 - Westbury (following work on the Fowey branch line) which passed Liskeard at 1601 (2 late), called Totnes from 1706 - 1712 and departed Taunton at 1839 (86 early), 66561 + 66559 top n' tailing - 6X08 0755 Tackley - Taunton Fairwater track replacement train which passed Crofton (near Bedwyn) at 1110 and 66561 - 6Y42 1632 Westbury - Taunton Fairwater passing Clink Road junction at 1637 formed with 14 JNA / 5 MLA / 3 IEA wagons.

Locos recorded on Exeter stone duty included; 59201. 66604/617

## **Taunton**

**30/06** Loco Services 47593 + 47614 were back in the West Country on another Statesman Rail 'Devonian Statesman' 1Z73 0620 Wolverhampton - Paignton (1312) and 1Z73 1626 return to Wolverhampton (2316) the outward departing Birmingham NS at 0659 (1 early), Swindon 1004 (-), Trowbridge 1039 (-), Bruton 1119 (13 early), Taunton 1039 (-) and Teignmouth 1242 (-) and the return (routed via Bristol and Bath) passing Starcross at 1702 (4 late) and Yatton 1829 (6 early). The train's c/stock formation was that as listed earlier on 3rd July under Bristol TM, Barton Hill and Kingsland Road notes & news but also included 17056.

**11/07** Routed this year away from Bristol due to the East junction track replacement work, the first Railway Touring Company 'Royal Duchy' 1Z31 0846 Slough - Par (1453) and 1Z34 1738 return to Slough (2338) was worked to and from Taunton and on the return by former Rail Operation Groups 47813 (still retaining blue livery and fitted with snow-plough brackets) the outward departing Castle Cary at 1032 (1 late) arriving Taunton

station at 1101 (-) and departing at 1105 (2 late) for Fairwater where steam 60163 Tornado took over the departure this however not taking place until 1317 (106 late) due to a points failure between the station and the yard. Further train passing records included; Dawlish 1359 (86 late) and Totnes 1417 (84 late) outward and Lostwithiel 1754 (10 late), Dawlish 1941 (4 late) and departing Taunton diesel hauled at 2121 (2 early) on the return, the trains c/stock being listed as; 99723, 5035, 1860, 3143, 99125, 99347, 99352 Amethyst, 99712, 3058, (21249 being the steam loco support coach). To complete the days 'Royal Duchy' records, 47813 ran 0Z31 1115 Norton Fitzwarren - Plymouth light-loco passing Totnes at 1215.

**12/07** Steam 60163 Tornado returned to Southall WCR from Bishop's Lydeard with support coach 21249 during the day.

**16/07** 47746 + 47237 double-headed a Saltburn Railtours 'Torquay 21' 1Z18 0748 Saltburn - Torquay week-end excursion passing Clink Road junction at 1727, Taunton 1759, Tiverton Parkway 1813, and Dawlish 1850.

**19/07** 47237 + 47746 top n' tailed the return 1Z19 1009 Torquay - Saltburn (2130) excursion which passed Taunton 1125 (6 late), Frome 1157 (3 late) and Wishford (near Salisbury) 1240 (9 late). The trains c/stock formation was listed as; 99371, 13320, 504 (99678), Pullman 350 Tanzanite, Pullman 348 Topaz, 14102 (99680), 586 (99677), 5229, 99316, 99127, 99121.

## **Newport**

**21/06** The 1V91 0534 Holyhead - Cardiff Central service departed Newport at 0949 formed with coaching set HD02 12219, 12467, 11324, 10328, 82229 although the Class 67 loco at the rear was unrecorded.

On the freight side the DB 6V31 0155 Scunthorpe Trent yard - Margam steel service formed of 24 BBA wagons was in the hands of GBRf 'hire', 66790 passing Chepstow at 0650. The same loco powered this train 2 days later passing Lydney at 0640 with a single BBA wagon less in consist.

**22/06** 66060 arrived Llanwern at 0510 working a 4Z49 2339 (Mon) Scunthorpe BSC - Margam formed of 21 HTAs and 66601 passed Llanwern West junction at 0850 working 24 HIA wagons as 6L56 0843 East Usk yard - Tilbury (via Swindon).

**23/06** 67008 with coaching set HD02 (12219, 12447, 11324, 10328, 82229) departed Newport at 0945 working 1V91 0534 Holyhead - Cardiff Central service. Freight records included 56094 passing Newport station at 0629 with 6Z54 0353 Chirk Kronospan - Baglan Bay log empties the loco then being allocated 6Z51 1602 loaded return to Chirk Kronospan (0010) and 66034 + 66068 passing at 1035 top n' tailing the 6V67 1509 (Tues) Scunthorpe BSC - East Usk Birdport branch steel working.

**26/06** 66118 which worked 6F07 0945 Margam - Newport docks steel trip passing Pontyclun at 1022 later joined 66006 + 66060 on 0012 1248 Newport Adj - Westbury light-engines (also see Bristol Parkway, Stoke Gifford, Pilning, Westerleigh and Yate notes & news).

**27/06** NR Class 37 97303 moved an MPV set as a 3Z16 1025 Coleham - Margam passing Sutton Bridge junction at 1029.

Later Colas 56105 arrived in South Wales for log train duty as 0F84 1201 Bescot Engineers sidings - Cardiff Canton sidings (1704) light-engine departing Stafford at 1247 (12 early) and passing Caldicot at 1621.

**28/06** GBRf 66737 worked DBs 6V31 0055 Scunthorpe Trent - Margam formed with 24 BBA wagons passing Severn Tunnel junction at 0637.

**29/06** 67025 departed Cwmbran at 0929 at the rear of the 1V91 0534 Holyhead - Cardiff Central service formed with c/stock; 12225, 12454,

11323, 10325, 82226 (HD01), the same formation and working being noted again at Cwmbran at 0930 during the following day.

On the freight side, 66068 + 66161 top n' tailed 6V67 1502 (Mon) Scunthorpe BSC - East Usk Birdport branch steel working passing Newport up at 1056 and earlier 60011 + 66117 top n' tailed the return 6H46 Margam steel trip off the branch passing Cardiff Central at 1052. Later 56105 passed at 1521 working 6Z51 1224 Baglan Bay - Chirk Kronospan loaded logs.

**30/06** GBRf 'hire' DB steel workings were; 'Royal Scotsman' Pullman livery 66746 - 6V31 0055 Scunthorpe Trent yard - Margam which passed Gloucester at 0633 and 6E31 1501 Margam - Scunthorpe Trent yard (0252) which passed Cardiff Central at 1548 (6 late) and recessed Llanwern until 2008 (booked) and 66752 - 6Z27 0656 Trostre Steel works - Newport docks which passed Marshfield at 0838.

**02/07** 67010 departed Craven Arms at 0830 and the rear of the 1V91 0534 Holyhead - Cardiff Central services with DVT 82226 leading.

**07/07** Morning freight records included; GBRf 66739 - DB 6V31 0055 Scunthorpe Trent - Margam steel passing 0815 and Colas 56105 - 6V54 0535 Chirk Kronospan - Baglan Bay log empties which passed Abergavenny at 0753.

**11/07** 66623 headed 6B81 0850 East Usk yard - Port Talbot Grange sidings stone empties passing Bridgend at 0937 then later returning 6Z39 1120 loaded wagons to Stoke Gifford passing Newport at 1252.

**13/07** Some observation notes at Ebbw junction (with passing times in brackets) recorded; 56105 on 6V54 Chirk Kronospan - Baglan Bay log empties (0821), 66170 + 66128 passed Ebbw junction down at 0956 with 6V67 Scunthorpe - East Usk Birdport branch steel trip, via Cardiff Tidal sidings (0956), 67008 at the rear of the 1V91 0534 Holyhead - Cardiff Central passenger service (0948) and 57316 + 57314 running 0Z56 0900 Barry Tourist railway - Carnforth Steamtown light-engines (1035) the latter loco having failed on the weekend Northern Belle dining train programme (also see Bristol TM, Barton Hill and Kingsland Road notes & news).

**15/07** 56105 passed Newport at 0818 again on 6V54 0535 Chirk Kronospan - Baglan Bay log empties the same loco again appearing at the same location with the same train at 0814 during the following day.

**16/07** 66504 departed Machen at 1433 (8 late) working a 6Y43 departmental move to East Usk yard, the outward train working being 6Y43 0610 ex. Westbury which passed Dr.Day's junction at 0700 formed 13 JNA / 2 IEA / 3 MLA box wagons.

**17/07** 66161 + 66117 + 66085 + 66140 passed Newport station at 1235 running 0012 1053 (SO) Margam Lip - Eastleigh light-locos.

**18/07** An engineering train record was; 66504 - 6Y43 0850 Pontrilas - East Usk yard (via Hereford) which passed Abergavenny up at 1310.

## **Cardiff**

**20/06** Sunday freight records included; 66547 - 6B81 0850 East Usk yard - Port Talbot Grange sidings passing Bridgend at 0945 then 6M39 1536 Port Talbot Grange sidings - Crewe Basford Hall yard (via Hereford) loaded stone which passed Margam Moors junction at 1557. Two engineering train records were; 70811 - 6C23 1506 Westbury - Long Dyke junction which passed Severn Tunnel junction at 1630 formed with 10 HQA auto-ballasters and 66713 - 6G71 1000 Cardiff Central - Westbury (1521) via Margam which passed Bridgend down at 1027 (4 early) and later Severn Tunnel junction up at 1324 (2 early) formed with 13 JNA / 3 MLA wagons.

**21/06** 66610 + 70007 passed Marshfield at 1327 heading the 4057 1329



Wentloog - Southampton container service and later 56094 passed Central station at 1728 (3 early) working 6Z51 1602 Baglan Bay - Chirk Kronospan loaded logs. A return departmental service was; 70811 - 6C20 0300 Leckwith North junction - Westbury which passed Bradford junction at 0646.

**22/06** 56094 passed Central station at 0645 working 6Z54 0353 Chirk Kronospan - Baglan Bay empty log wagons.

**27/06** Sunday freight records included; 66601 - 6B81 0850 East Usk yard - Port Talbot Grange sidings empty stone passing Bridgend at 0954 and 6M39 1536 loaded return to Crewe Basford Hall yard (via Hereford) passing the same location at 1636.

**28/06** 56096 returned 56094 as 0F55 1047 Port Talbot Parkway - Nottingham Eastcroft (1624) via Yate light-engines passing Central station at 1129 (5 early) and Westerleigh junction 1225 (7 late).

**30/06** 56105 was noted Central station at 0852 working 6V54 0535 Chirk Kronospan - Baglan Bay log empties.

**07/07** Still in East Midlands livery 153918 (at the rear) + 153323 arrived at 1522 (4 early) working 1B97 1250 Fishguard Harbour - Cardiff Central which had earlier departed Llanelli at 1412 (2 late). The former EMR Class 153 is one of several covering the delayed full introduction of the Class 769 'bi-mode' units. Having arrived during the previous day NR 'yellow' 97304 + 97303 top n' tailed the return 1Q18 0333 Swansea - Derby RTC (2024) via Fishguard Harbour passing Whitland down at 0641 and later Gloucester Barnwood junction at 1507 (6 early) with dept c/stock; 9523, 977997, 72631, 975091. Further Class 37 activity saw the arrival of Colas 37418 running 0Z20 1006 Derby RTC - Canton sidings (1425) which passed Cheltenham at 1202 (4 early) and Newport 1258 (46 early) destined for Valley Class 769 'thunderbird' duty.

**08/07** The 1V91 0534 Holyhead - Cardiff Central, Class 67 + DVT passenger service was noted arriving Hereford at 0849 formed with 175008, this being the second recent day a DMU set has stood in on this duty the other being reported on 5th July running as 1Z91 on that date.

The Valley Lines 'thunderbird' loco swap took place with 37418 working 0Z31 0725 Canton sidings - Rhymney, passing Central station at 0732 (2 late) and arriving at 0845(6 early) and 37099 going the other way (after the inward arrival) as 0Z32 1014 Rhymney - Toton TMD (1633) which passed Newport at 1029 (119 early). Two other Colas 37s, 37175 + 37254 were also reported as at Landore Tmd and allocated an overnight 3Q35 2152 test train circular (via Fishguard Harbour and Pembroke dock) with dept c/stock; 96604, 6262, 9810, 99606, 9702.

**17/07** The Loco Services 'Midland Blue Pullman' worked 1Z49 0548 Preston - Cardiff Central and 1Z50 1421 return to Preston (2214) out and back via the Central Wales line the outward arriving Central station at 1101 and the return passing Pontyclun at 1432 (2 late). The train stock formation was listed as; 43058, 44078, 41169, 40801, 41182, 41059, 41162, 40802, 41108, 41176, M43046. The former power car was carrying the Charter grey /green colour scheme and in use due to dedicated M43055 being out of service following collision damage at Crewe, which saw broken grill and headlight covers as well as ripped side skirting.

**18/07** Sunday freight activity included 60001 passing Pontyclun at 1307 working 6B04 Llanwern - Margam and later 6H29 1806 return, which passed Margam Moors junction at 1811 steel trips.

Barry Docks - the current Freightliner (G&W) container loco and wagon

diagram is as follows; 4V50 (MWO) Southampton Maritime - Wentloog (SX), 4V47 (TThO) Tilbury - Wentloog, 4B48 Wentloog - Barry and 4B49 Barry - Wentloog return, 4L50 (MWO) Wentloog - Tilbury and 4O71 (TThO) Wentloog - Southampton Maritime. The loco is sometimes swapped following 4O71 arrival at Southampton. Dow Corning is the container customer on the docks estate.

Locos recorded on Daventry - Wentloog TESCO container service included; 66421 (01/07, 06-08/07), 66422 (09-13/07, 15-18/07), 66429 (26/06, 28/06), 66431 (20/06, 29/06). 66433 (22/06, 30/06). 66434 (23/06).

Locos recorded on Margam / Port Talbot / Cwmbargoed coal duty has included; 66012/085/108/117/120/124/161/162/174/192.

Locos recorded on Corby steel duty has included; 66076/079/086/120/140/164/194/197/199.

Locos recorded on Dee Marsh steel duty has included; 66012/075/080/086/101/112/120/129/162.

Locos recorded on Round Oak steel duty has included; 66012/069/076/079/086/092/101/112/129/140/161/162/164/171/175/197/199.

Locos recorded on Barry container duty has included; 66415/501/506/510/515/570/571.

Locos recorded on Baglan Bay log duty has included; 56094/105.

Locos recorded on Machen stone duty has included; 66540/563.

## **PRESERVATION & INDUSTRIAL MATTERS**

### **Baglan Bay**

Former GP Tramm (DR)98307 (with Colas branding) has been present here for a number of months having been lined up for use to lead on site empty wagon 'propelling' movements from the mainline junction. The vehicle which had been located and 'semi-preserved' at Darley Dale is currently dumped out of use at the rear of the site (on the former chemical works branch) which currently loads logs for Chirk.

### **Class 52**

The only mainline passed class member D1015 Western Champion is set to make a mainline return working Pathfinder Tour's 'Champion Torbay Express' on 25th September following heavy engine repair work on the Severn Valley Railway, the loco having been operating on a single engine for sometime. The trip starts from Eastleigh (0600) and runs to Gloucester via Basingstoke, Didcot, Swindon, Kemble and Stroud behind a GBRf Class 66 loco for the Western to take forward, the train then being routed via Bristol Parkway (0930), Yatton and Taunton to Kingswear (for Dartmouth) with the Castle Cary, Westbury & Bath route from Taunton being taken on return. The loco now carries an overall blue livery with small yellow ends

### **Class 143**

**P. Harley**

**30/06** Both coaches from Pacer set 143602 was noted on separate road lorry trailers passing Newport on the M4 at 1850 and reported heading for preservation on the Nene Valley Railway.

### **Dartmoor Railway**

**06/07** Mk II coach 3411 was being loaded on a road lorry low loader at 1635 destined for the Loco Services stock storage yard at Great Yarmouth.

### **Mainline Preservation**

**20/06** Swanage based Steam 31806 worked a 'Hampshire Countryside' Fathers Day special tour 1Z31 1345 Portsmouth & Southsea - Brockenhurst (1524), with 61306 Mayflower (West Coast pool) being used on the 1Z52 1600 return to Portsmouth & Southsea (1726).

**09/07** This year's Railway Touring Company 'End of Southern Region Steam' working was in the hands of normally north of England based steam 35018 British India Line running as 1Z50 0820 Victoria - Yeovil junction and 1Z54 1740 Weymouth - Victoria (2301) arriving at 1414 (4 late). The loco then following servicing and turning ran 0Z54 1532 Yeovil Down platform - Weymouth (1648) light-loco arriving Pen Mill at 1542 and departing at 1559 (9 late), the main tour train proceeding behind West Coast diesel 47245.

### **NRM Shildon**

Recently withdrawn former EMR power car 43102 has been moved here for static display. The Museum also now has 43159 (currently located at Burton Wetmore sidings) in their collection having been donated by Porterbrook. This was the second power car in use with 43102 on the record breaking East Coast speed run reaching 148.5 mph in 1987.

### **125 HST Group**

43044 has been recently been repainted into a retro Inter-City 125 grey/yellow livery at Leeds Neville Hill depot. Both 43048 and 43089 also belong to this organization.

### **Road Movements**

**06/07** Class 25 D7612 was noted on an SA Smith lorry road trailer heading westbound on the A303 near Amesbury during the morning returning from the Mid Hants to the South Devon Railway, Buckfastleigh following a gala appearance.

### **'SK Restaurant', West Bay, Bridport**

**R.W. Giles**

**17/09** Ex GWR Churchward coach 2370 (ex. DW309) of 1911 in choc/cream livery on a track section forms part of the Station Kitchen diner here also using the former station platform and building. A semaphore signal is also in place at the Bridport end of the site.

### **West Somerset Railway**

The company has organized a 'SOS Funding Appeal' to raise a further £1 million to help with 2020 losses linked in with reopening and the lines current day to day operation. This follows Government support and a previous successful £500,000 fund raiser.

A safety upgrade of the Seaward Way road crossing close to Minehead station currently prevents through passenger train running over the section to and from Dunster.

An unconfirmed report suggests the railway will need an additional £1 million funding each year until 2025.

**17/07** D7018 was in use during the day on a three coach passenger working becoming the first 'timetabled' diesel hauled diagram since 2019.

The workings were; 1132 Bishop's Lydeard - Dunster and 1325 return to Bishop's Lydeard (1525) via an out and back run to close to the mainline junction at Norton Fitzwarren.

## MISCELLANEOUS

### **Arriva XC - 'Longest day 2021'**

The companies 1V60 (SO) 0820 Aberdeen - Penzance (2139) Voyager service calls at 45 stations at a distance of 774 miles with close to 1850 litres of fuel used. Cheapest ticket to fully travel on this train is £460!

### **Cheshunt**

**15/07** Passengers waiting on the platform were surprised to see a Land Rover 4 x 4 pass at speed on the rail running lines! Hertfordshire Police had stopped a suspected stolen car near the station which as a means of escape sped off leaving the road at the level crossing and onto the track where the vehicle was eventually abandoned and the occupants escaped leaving two police officers injured.

### **Class 66**

DB 'hire' locos 66213, 66202 and 66210 were returned from France towards the end of June. Originally 66032, 66073 and 66205 had also been listed for return.

### **Class 68**

13 DRS Class members were reported as out of service during June as cracks had been detected in underside electrical equipment. Two Chiltern Train 'dedicated' passenger locos 68010 and 68013 were both affected with DRS 'general use pool' 68008 on standby as cover.

### **Class 69**

**05/07** 66776 hauled 69002 south as a Longport FD - Eastleigh light-loco move passing Portobello junction (Birmingham) at 1517.

### **Class 197**

**13/07** A CAF Llanwern works built coach from 197001 was noted on a road lorry trailer during the early evening on the M5 near junction 11a.

### **Class 442**

Former South-Western Railways EMU set 2423 arrived at Newport Docks for scrapping by Sims Metals from Bournemouth on separate road lorry trailers towards the end of June.

### **Elephant & Castle**

**27/05** Six people were hurt with smoke inhalation as fire took hold following a reported explosion in the railway arches beneath the London station which resulted in platform closures as smoke billowed up from below. Around 100 fire fighters and the London Ambulance were in attendance around 1345 with Govia Thameslink, St.Albans - Sutton and Blackfriars - Seven Oaks services being affected and suspended due to the incident alongside the Northern Line which was also as a precaution closed. A phone box and six cars were totally destroyed by the flames.

### **GBRf**

**14/07** 59003 completed a West of England 'route learning / refresher' visit with booked runs to and from Penzance following arrival during the previous day (see Westbury notes & news), the loco passed Burngallow

junction down at 0955 (8 early) and 1217 (4 early) on the return as 0Z61 0904 Plymouth - Penzance (1100) and 0Z62 1129 return to Plymouth (1324) light-engine runs. A further return moved was booked as 0Z64 1436 Plymouth - Penzance and 0Z65 1630 return.

### **Great Western Railway**

**21/06** 57603 + 57605 top n' tailed the 1C50 2350 (Sun) Paddington - Penzance sleeper service arriving Plymouth at 0543. Later 57605 returned the stock as 5C50 1457 Penzance - Paddington ecs passing St.Erth at 1537 (52 late), Truro 1603 (45 late), departed Plymouth at 1720 and passed Taunton at 1851. The 1A50 2115 (Sun) Penzance - Paddington sleeper had failed before setting off from Penzance and returned to depot with a loco fault, IET set 802104 standing in departing at 2330 (135 late), being 72 late at Exeter and reaching Paddington at 0448 (5 early!).

**24/06** Turbo 165128 worked 2F05 0525 Temple Meads - Exmouth as far as Exeter St.Davids only, to take up driver training duties then working 0724 Exeter St.Davids - Crediton via Newton Abbot driver trainers during the day, whilst 166202 took over the booked passenger diagram working 2T08 0724 Exmouth - Paignton onwards, 166210 being in use on the second Turbo diagram during the day.

**28/06** Three IET sets unusually stabled on Laira Trsmd overnight these being; 800029 which worked 1A72 0903 Plymouth - Paddington, 800302 - 1A72 0534 Plymouth - Paddington and 800321 'The Mask' 2C00 0540 Plymouth - Penzance, then the 1A80 0815 Penzance - Paddington.

**29/06** DRS 'hire' 57306 passed Taunton at 1621 (7 early) as a 0Z79 1400 Reading Traincare depot - Penzance Trsmd (2051) light-engine. The loco then worked 1A50 2145 Paddington - Penzance sleeper service which was terminated at Didcot at 0417 and then ran ecs to Reading Traincare depot due to no release loco being available for Paddington.

**01/07** 57306 was again active on sleeper duty, departing Exeter St.Davids at 0354 and later Par 0645 working 1C50 which was operating as 0049 Reading - Penzance formed with c/stock; 17174, 12161, 10217, 10612, 10534, 10584, 10590.

**04/07** Heavy rainfall and flooding in the Plymouth Laira junction area saw disruption and some time table cancellations late morning.

**07/07** A new DRS 'hire' loco was reported on sleeper duty with 57310 working 1C50 2345 (Tues) Paddington - Penzance departing Liskeard at 0619 formed with c/stock; 17173, 12142, 10225, 10616, 10532, 10563, 10596.

**10/07** 'Hire' loco 57310 still on sleeper duty departed Lostwithiel at 0625 and Par 0632 working 1C50 2345 (Fri) 2345 Paddington - Penzance formed with c/stock; 17174, 12161, 10219, 10612, 10534, 10584, 10589.

**13/07** IET 800019 worked 2P51 0725 Exeter S. Davids - Plymouth in place of the 'booked' 'Castle' HST set.

**14/07** DRS 'hire' 57310 departed St.Austell at 0658 working 1C50 2345 (Tues) Paddington - Penzance sleeper service. An additional 'Castle' HST diagram during the Bristol East junction blockade has been reported as; 2E50 0500 Bristol TM - Worcester Foregate Street, 2T12 0855 return to Cardiff Central, 2E94 1200 return to Great Malvern, 2T80 1441 return to Cardiff Central, 2E74 1806 return to Great Malvern, 2T36 2116 return to Cardiff Central and 5T36 2343 empty stock to St.Philips Marsh, worked by 43093 GW04 43041 on this date.

**16/07** DRS 57310 + 57604 top n 'tailed 1A50 2115 Penzance - Paddington sleeper service which departed Truro at 2232.

**17/07** The other 'DRS' but this time long term 'hire' 57306 departed Par at 0638 working 1C50 2345 (Fri) Paddington - Penzance sleeper.

**19/07** 57310 again worked the 1C50 sleeper service departing Bodmin Parkway at 0721 and later led 57603 in a top n' tail formation on the 1A50 2145 Penzance - Paddington sleeper service which departed Camborne 2212.

### **Loco Services**

**12/07** The company 'tourist' HST set in a green and grey livery with power cars 43058 + 43059, lined up for Summer work over the Settle & Carlisle main line was released as 5Z64 1337 Eastleigh Arlington works - Crewe HS (1804) empty stock passing Basingstoke at 1410 and Oxford 1502.

### **Long Marston**

**02/07** 'ROG' 57312 brought in 4 EMR HST power cars and 2 Mk III coaches as a move from Burton Wetmore sidings.

### **LNER Auction**

Following the end of the company East Midlands HST operation several Class 43 name plates were auctioned on 24th July these being; Lincolnshire Echo (43208), 43257 Bounds Green and 43274 Spirit of Sunderland. All proceeds went to the LNER partner charity, 'Campaign against Living Miserably'

### **Okehampton Branch**

**30/06** 70815 was present in the station area loading recovered sleepers for re-cycling at Westbury.

### **Saphos Tours**

**14/09** The rail-tour company is planning to operate a steam hauled rail-tour commencing on the Torbay Steam Railway at Kingswear 0800 and calling at Churston, Paignton, Torquay, Tiverton and Taunton (1010) for Cardiff Central. The trains dining tickets are reported as already sold out!

**30/10** Preliminary organizing is underway on a Preston - Plymouth (via Bristol) excursion using D213 (40013) + 40145 in multiple throughout. The tour is titled 'Double Devonian 40'

### **Sherrington**

The viaduct here, located on the mainline between Westbury and Salisbury has received sleepers made of re-cycled plastics with a life expectancy of around 50 years.

The location which is subject to a weight restriction also had limited clearance making their installation easier.

This type of sleeper had been used earlier this year as part of the reopening of the late 1970s closed Gas Works tunnel which has increased station capacity at London's King's Cross as well as on several preserved lines including the Festiniog Railway, North Wales.

### **'Speed-link' Remembered**

An announcement in December 1990 stated the 'Speed-link' freight distribution network would be ending in July 1991, 30 years ago having been officially set up in 1987 to attract 'wagon load' customer business. During the first six months of 1990 Rail-Freight distribution were in talks with all its customers regarding closure and the possibility of transferring their traffic to a 'full' train operation if possible, this

following recent yearly losses of around £30 million on a mere £45 million turn over on 'wagon load' traffic.

### **West Drayton**

A second stone terminal has fully opened by Hanson during July despite trains having visited the site in the old coal concentration depot area where a single siding still existed (alongside the now electrified main running lines) during June. The re-laid track location is set to handle 250,000 tonnes of aggregate a year rising to 400,000 during 2022. The current depot in use nearby at Dawley, is 1 mile to the east also on the up side. On 10th July, 66604 powered 7C80 0435 West Drayton - Machen (0831) stone empties which arrived Bristol Parkway at 0702 (28 early) and departed at 0727 (5 early) the loaded return running in the usual 1410 path (again as 7C80) to Stoke Gifford (via Chipping Sodbury) passing Severn Tunnel junction at 1501.

As well as Machen, Tytherington Quarry is also expected to become a supply point at a later date with Freightliner (G&W) being the main operator. It is interesting to note the next terminal in the London direction at Hayes has a canal loading dock so rail moved aggregate can be forwarded for use by barge.

### **Colas 70's For Sale**

Four Colas Class 70's have been put up for sale, these being 70801, 70802, 70803 and 70804.

### **TRACK MACHINES & DEPARTMENTALS**

- 22/06** Bristol East yard - DR79401-404 which later passed Swindon station at 0535 (4 early) on a 4Q02 0500 move to Swindon Transfer yard.
- 27/06** Ready-Power, Portskewett (Severnside Ind Estate) - rrvs FR1324, sky-lifts FR1373 (912132-6), FR1375 912134-2), FR1442 (912218-3), (912076-5). trailer (010009-7).
- 28/06** Cardiff Taff Vale sidings - DR75406; allox.6J83 0954 to Tavistock Jct.
- 30/06** Pilning - DR80210 passing up at 1312 on a Little Mill - Chipping Sodbury working and later returning at 1359 back into South Wales.
- 05/07** Ashchurch - DR73924 later noted passing Stoke Canon at 1240 en route to Crediton. Newton Abbot Hackney yard - DR77909 + DR73120 the pair later passing Stoke Canon at 1505 on a move to Taunton Fairwater yard.
- 13/07** Cardiff Taff Vale sidings - DR75407 which later worked 0958 to Didcot.
- 16/07** Severn Tunnel junction sidings - DR75407.
- 17/07** Par - MPV DR98907 + DR98957 which passed at 0714 on a 3Z15 0602 Exeter - St.Blazey working.
- 18/07** Weymouth Jersey sidings - L&W rrv RRV157 (940917-6), RRV158 (940916-8). Trailers (010333-1), (010348-9).

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