

# CARDIFF & AVONSIDE RAILWAY SOCIETY

Established 1971  
[www.cardiffandavonside.org.uk](http://www.cardiffandavonside.org.uk)



## MAGAZINE

Issue 611

January 2023

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Magazine

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**Front Cover Photo January 2023 Issue 611:**

7820 Dinmore Castle takes on water at Toddington station on the Gloucestershire Warwickshire Railway 03/08/22.

**[S.Chainey]**

**Rear Cover Photo January 2023 Issue 611:**

A nostalgic 43093 awaits departure from Newport on 10/06/22.

**[S.Chainey]**

## FUTURE EVENTS

**Trip 586**

**PRESTON AND MANCHESTER**

**Saturday 28/01/23**

A one day trip to the Preston and Manchester area.

**Proposed Trip Fare** = £33      **Fare with Day Membership** = £36

**Proposed Itinerary:** Preston station for Class 331s; Manchester for new trams and possibly Class 197s

**Departure Time** from 68 Long Road, Mangotsfield, BS16 9HP = 0600 am

Other pick-up points may be arranged with Dave FORSE.

Please note this departure time may change to 0500 if no objections from persons attending to make most of the daylight hours.

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

**Book By Date** = 21/01/23

**Safety Equipment** (PPE) required: None

**Trip 587**

**LONDON FLYER**

**Saturday 25/02/23**

A one day trip to London to do as you wish.

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

**Proposed Itinerary:** None

**Departure Time** from 68 Long Road, Mangotsfield, BS16 9HP = 0500 am

Other pick-up points may be arranged with Dave FORSE.

Please note the early departure in order to see the sleepers at Euston.

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

Departure from Ealing Broadway will be 1800 with no exceptions

**Book By Date** = 18/02/23

**Safety Equipment** (PPE) required: None

**Trip 588**

**LIVERPOOL**

**Saturday 25/03/23**

A one day trip to the Liverpool area.

**Proposed Trip Fare** = £33

**Fare with Day Membership** = £36

**Proposed Itinerary:** To see what Class 777s are in use; Opportunity to photograph and if interested to travel on the old Class 507/508 units

**Permits:** Kirkdale and Birkenhead will be applied for;

**Departure Time** from 68 Long Road, Mangotsfield, BS16 9HP = 0600 am

Other pick-up points may be arranged with Dave FORSE.

Please note this departure time may change to 0500 if no objections from persons attending to make most of the daylight hours.

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

**Book By Date** = 18/03/23

**Safety Equipment** (PPE) required: Hi-Viz vest, Stout shoes

Thoughts on additional trips for 2023 include:

- 4-day Easter North East - April 7<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> 2023

### **Bookings**

Please note that the current practice of members putting their name forward as a "provisional" booking will no longer continue. Only confirmed bookings will be taken by the Bookings Secretary.

Trip bookings will 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 where possible regardless of whether they are a member or non-member.

Forms should be submitted either on a trip, or by post to Dave Forse, 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 0630am 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 Davies and Dave Forse 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 Dave Forse 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**

### **Redvers Perry**

As many of you will know Red Perry collapsed and was hospitalised whilst on a trip to London back in the summer. After some time in hospital in London he was eventually transferred to Bristol.

Mike Godfrey has now provided the following positive update on Red's condition.

When Mike saw Red back in November whilst he was still in the Bristol Royal Infirmary he was very difficult to understand, very frustrated, continually agitated and kept trying to get out of bed.

Having visited him again just before Christmas his progress is wonderful to see and he was wearing his CARS jumper.

He has lost the agitation and is now very calm, how we all remember him. His memory is returning and his conversation level has improved greatly, particularly if he is speaking to you, definitely the old Red. He does however struggle when you talk to him as he has a problem with his right hand side hearing.

He talks about going home and driving again. Let's hope he achieves both, but both could be a long way off, if at all, particularly driving again.

He was planning to spend Christmas Day with his niece Melanie which will be his first day away from hospital since the accident (hospital transfers excluded).

It would be good if you could get into see him, his face lit up when he was visited by Mike.

As at the end of December he is in Room 23 at The Frenchay Brain Injury Rehabilitation Centre, Briggs Road, Frenchay, BS16 2UU. It's within the vast housing estate which now occupies the old Frenchay Hospital site, not far from the new school.

### **Committee Help**

There remains a pressing need for help in running the Society. If anyone is willing to assist with any of the committee roles, either on a formal or informal basis, then please contact any member of the committee.

### **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 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.

### **Society GEN News Group**

There is a Gen Group on groups.io which you can subscribe to allow you to get e-mail alerts for any workings or reports posted by other group members.

We also use this to provide you with any updates on Society events. To join you can use the link on the Home page of the Society web site [www.cardiffandavonside.org.uk](http://www.cardiffandavonside.org.uk)

The more members who join and contribute will help all members of the society.

### **Society FaceBook Group**

The Society has a Facebook Group. If you have a Facebook account you can find us by searching for "Cardiff and Avonside Railway Society" or by clicking on the link on the home page on the Society website.

We will use the site to publish information about forthcoming trips and obviously for members to share and information and photographs.

## **Society Twitter Account**

There is now a Society Twitter account with the Twitter handle @CarsRailways and full url [www.twitter.com/carsrailways](http://www.twitter.com/carsrailways)

## **Railway Stock Information**

Members are reminded that links to web sites giving various information about railway stock locations, and other railway related web sites that may be of interest, can be found on the Society web site [www.cardiffandavonside.org.uk](http://www.cardiffandavonside.org.uk)

## **Introduce a Friend**

Society members who introduce a friend to the Society are entitled to a £4 credit amount when that person joins the Society. This can be put towards the cost of a future trip or future membership renewal. Membership forms are available on the Society web site, or from the Membership Secretary.

## **Magazine Articles**

If you have an area of railway knowledge which might be of interest to other Society members then why not consider submitting a short article for possible inclusion in the magazine? Contributions by email to the Magazine Editor are always welcome.

## **NOTES & NEWS**

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

**20/11** 56105 + 70816 passed Bradford junction at 1520 (4 late) and Yate 1409 (2 late) as 0Z54 Westbury - Toton North yard (1818) light-locos.

**22/11** The china clay empties ran again in an amended path as 6V99 0738 Bescot Downside - Exeter Riverside (1253) passing Washwood Heath East junction at 0813 (11 early), Yate 1046 (14 early), Uphill junction 1151 (15 early) and Taunton 1159 (15 late).

**24/11** Having been initially cancelled, 66002 delivered the first new Transport for Wales 'Flirt' tri-mode DMU set 756001 as 5Q99 0237 Ripple Lane - Cardiff Canton (0907) departing Swindon at 0707 (41 late), passing Badminton at 0736 (41 late) and Parkway 0750 (38 late).

**28/11** Following DB problems with 66133 and train on the Tytherington branch with DC Rail providing the rescue loco back on 14th November (see last months Magazine) it was the turn of Freightliner to provide assistance for that operators loco 60046 which had failed east of Westerleigh junction around 0840 (having passed Chipping Sodbury at 0837) working 6Z21 0700 Appleford - Tytherington (1011) stone empties! 66509 + 66570 were the 1Z99 rescue locos on an 'extended' 0Y98 0820 Westbury - Stoke Gifford (0929) light-loco move being used to haul the whole train onwards to Bristol Parkway (downside) arriving at 1050 (120 late).

Some GWR service diversions took place via Bath with several Arriva XC



services also affected including; 220002 - 1S41 0715 Plymouth - Newcastle having departed Parkway at 0951 (7 late) held near Coalpit Heath the working then passing Westerleigh junction at 1009 (20 late), 221139 - 1V45 0705 Manchester Piccadilly - Bristol TM (1012) stopped at Yate being later reported passing Yate South at 1006 (12 late) arriving Parkway 1030 (30 late) and departing 1034 (31 late), 220016 + 220001 - 1V46 0645 York - Plymouth held north of Yate having passed Charfield at 1012 (3 late), later departing Parkway at 1046 (24 late), bi-directional working was believed to have taken place on at least two down trains.

Meanwhile DC Rail had sent 60055 as 0Z60 Willesden DCR sidings - Bristol Parkway (1712) light to take over from 60046, passing Swindon at 1552 (29 early).

**05/12** 'ROG' 37884 conveyed former Great Eastern EMU sets 315838 + 315847 (the last unit along with 315856 in service being used on a farewell tour, see notes & news entry for 19th December) as 5Q86 1104 Ilford EMU Depot - Newport Docks (1503) Sims Metals for scrapping passing Gospel Oak at 1148 (3 early), Swindon 1333 (-) and Pilning 1421 (2 late).

**14/12** An Industrial action day, but DC Rail 60029 was reported passing Swindon at 0837 (3 late) and departing Bristol Parkway at 0911 (31 early) following a loco run round with 6Z20 0751 Appleford - Tytherington Quarry (1027) via Chipping Sodbury, 22 JNA stone empties.

**15/12** 66604 hauled JHA wagons ARC 17921 + ARC 17917 as a 6Z67 1122 Whatley Quarry - Stoke Gifford sidings move passing Bath at 1351 (84 late).

**16/12** A problem between Westerleigh junction and Wootton Bassett junction (possibly in one of the two tunnels at Chipping Sodbury or Alderton) saw this section of mainline closed during the morning period resulting in diversions via Bath and Filton Bank (also see Newport notes & news) including 60029 working 6Z20 0939 Appleford - Tytherington Quarry (1027) stone empties reported passing Chippenham at 0939 (off route) and Parkway 1136 (108 late).

**19/12** A further 5Q76 1104 Ilford EMU - Newport Dock (1717) Sims Metals scrap EMU move formed with 315837 + 315857 and allocated 'ROG' 37884 was cancelled due to a train brake problem.

The Class 315/8 sets saw their final Great Eastern use towards the end of last year 315847 + 315856 being used on a farewell tour organised by the Branch Line Society between Liverpool Street and Shenfield on 26th November.

Locos recorded on Westerleigh fuel tank duty have included; 60010/017/020/024/055.

Locos recorded on Tytherington stone duty have included; 60028/029/046/055. 66011/021/113/142/168/221.

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

**20/11** 66850 collected rhtt FEA wagons 642025 + 642046 following wheel-lathe attention as 6Z19 1800 St.Philips Marsh - Swindon Transfer yard (1908) passing Bristol Parkway at 1825 (5 late).

**22/11** West Coast 37668 + 66850 top n' tailing 3S59 0911 Hereford - Swindon Transfer yard (1437) passed Parsons Street junction at 1204 (2 late), arrived Weston-super-Mare at 1228 (-) and departed 1234 (2 early) and departed Swindon station at 1414 for the nearby Transfer sidings.

**24/11** The return of the Christmas Market in Bath running for the first

time in full since 2019 (due to now lifted Covid restrictions) and expanded was expected to bring in an additional £30 million income for the City. Around 10 rail-tours were operated to run and support this years event originating from various parts of the country, including three using the 'Blue Pullman' HST set.

**25/11** 68001 + 68007 worked 6V74 0200 Crewe Coal sidings - Bridgwater nuclear flasks with an FNA consist of 709229021-4 + 709229007-3 + 709229040-4 arriving at its destination at 0647 (1 late), the 6M63 1200 return to Crewe (1831) being later recorded Yatton at 1210 (52 early) and Cheltenham 1422 (-).

Area workings for the review period by the number of received records was LSL services 37688 with 5Z34 0905 Exeter Riverside New yard - Newport Docks (1127) with a consist of withdrawn HST stock 42094/5 (from Laira). 42566. 44100 (both from Penzance), with barriers 6394 and 6393. 6336. 6348 (together), at either end the move being recorded passing Stoke Canon at 0905 (5 early), Uphill junction 0948 (8 early), Yatton 0953 (11 early), Temple Meads 1006 (13 early) and Horfield junction 1016 (9 early).

Two departmental moves were; 66509 conveying trt wagons DR92684 (YXA) + DR78802 (YJA) for wheel-lathe attention as 6Z50 1018 Taunton Fairwater yard - St.Philips Marsh passing Nailsea & Backwell at 1139, the loco then running 0Z50 1301 to Stoke Gifford (1449) light-engine passing Filton Abbey Wood at 1257 and 66505 on 4V18 1322 Doncaster Wood yard - Taunton Fairwater yard sleeper empties with a 10 IFA / 4 YXA consist which passed St.Catherines junction (near Doncaster) at 1345 (26 early), Cheltenham 2006 (30 early) and Temple Meads 2059 (76 early).

**26/11** Industrial action day with a further ASLEF driver walk-out saw only 7 GWR Paddington and 1 Reading train departure from Temple Meads throughout the day, Bath Spa station being noted locked as early as 1915! Not affected by the 24 hour walk-out stoppage, Saphos Trains were however able to run their 'Great Western Envoy' 1Z73 0543 Crewe - Temple Meads (1248) via Banbury and Oxford and 1Z74 1604 return to Crewe (2219) with steam 70000 Britannia and 47614 providing diesel support from the rear with c/stock; 35461 (loco support). 5991. 1863. 3107. 3125. 3148. 3100. 80044. 3122. 3045. 17159, reported passing Stechford at 0759 (2 early), Swindon 1126 (23 early), Oldfield Park (Bath) 1231 (-) and Keynsham 1238 (1 early) on the outward.

**27/11** West Coast 57313 + 47854 top n' tailed a Northern Belle 'Historic Spa and Christmas Market at Bath Spa' 1Z60 0857 Chester - Bath (1309) via Banbury and Oxford dining special and 1Z62 1728 return to Chester (2210) the outward passing Swindon Highworth junction at 1246 (3 late) and Bathampton junction 1305 (-).

For the record the train ecs moves were; 5Z61 1319 Bath - Bath Goods loop (1323) and 5Z62 1606 return to Bath (1723) via Bristol East this move being seen passing Keynsham up at 1711 (2 early).

**29/11** Two 'specials' during the day saw the first of three 'Blue Pullman' HST operated, 1Z53 0603 Newcastle - Bath (1128) and 1Z55 1529 return to Newcastle (2118) with power cars M43046 + M43055 passing Swindon at 1121 (20 late) outward, the ecs then passing Keynsham at 1152 (13 late) and departing the booked Temple Meads reverse move at 1204 (1 late) as 5Z54 1133 Bath - Bristol East (1209) which later returned as 5Z55 1438 to Bath (1518) arriving Temple Meads at 1442 (2 early) and departing 1503 (-) and Pullman dedicated 67021 working a 1V80 0947 Victoria - Bath (1305) and 1092 1556 return to Victoria (1945) Belmond VSOE which passed Warminster

at 1214 (-) and Bathampton junction 1302 (1 late) outward and Trowbridge 1612 (3 early) on the return, the ecs moves for this train also being serviced in Bristol were 5C80 which arrived East Depot at 1323 (5 early) and 5092 return to Bath arriving 1549 (1 early).

Both workings were present at Bristol East during the afternoon together, the HST set using the 'back' siding.

**30/11** Unusually for a second consecutive day (but with a different loco), 'Platinum Jubilee' livery 67007 powered the VSOE as 1V80 0947 Victoria - Bath (1305) and 1092 1556 return to Victoria (1945) which passed Warminster at 1220 (6 late) and Trowbridge 1237 (6 early) on the inward and Bathampton junction 1601 (1 late) on the return.

A freight and departmental record saw a first double Class 88 appearance, 88002 + 88009 on 6V74 Crewe Coal sidings - Bridgwater nuclear flasks and 6M63 1200 return which passed Uphill junction at 1220 (9 early), Yatton 1228 (14 early), Temple Meads 1244 (19 early), Filton Abbey Wood 1257 (14 early) and Cheltenham 1401 (9 early) with a 3 FNA (709229040-1 + 709229016-4 + 709229034-7) wagon consist and 66617 working 4E18 0947 Taunton Fairwater - Doncaster Wood yard (1831) used sleepers via Parkway and Hullavington passing Uphill junction at 1042.

**01/12** The second 'Bath Christmas Pullman' Midland blue HST Bath Christmas Market outing formed with power cars M43055 + M43046 ran as 1Z60 0640 Leeds - Bath and 1Z62 1656 return to Leeds (2304) which arrived 1324 (24 late) in platform 2 (off route) as IET 800306 was allowed to use platform 1 with the 1C13 1202 Paddington - Bristol TM service which arrived at 1332 (8 late) and departed 1334 (8 late).

The HST set later passed Newton-st-Loe (Twerton) at 1341 as 5Z61 1307 empty stock to Bristol East yard, the 5Z62 1615 return from here to Bath (1647) being recorded Keynsham at 1645 (4 late) for the Leeds return.

**02/12** 68008 + 68007 passed Bristol Parkway at 1330 working 6M63 Bridgwater - Crewe Coal sidings nuclear flasks with a 2 FNA wagon consist.

**05/12** Following wheel-lathe attention, 56113 ran 0Z50 1100 St.Philips Marsh - Port Talbot Up sidings (1253) light-engine passing Lawrence Hill at 1119 (2 late).

Also 43208 + 43207 (which had passed Totnes at 0848) were back to back Arriva XC driver/diversionary route learning trainer platform 13 arrivals at 1134 then returning at 1140 operating 5Z43 out and back from Laira Trsmd, not running to Bedminster (as booked on this date).

Later steam 4498 Sir Nigel Gresley was an arrival (carrying a BR black 'war-time' livery) working Steam Dream's 'Bath Christmas Market' 1Z90 Victoria - Temple Meads and 1Z92 1656 return to Victoria (2116) with c/stock; 35479 (loco support). 5991. 1863. 3107. 3125. 3148. 80043. 3100, which passed South Acton at 0922 (14 early) and Freshford 1318 (22 late), 47805/D1935 being attached to the rear.

There were problems regarding a late coal delivery at East Depot, resulting in a 1756 (100 late) 5Z92 ecs departure from here to Bath via Temple Meads for a platform 15 reverse, leaving at 1812 (98 late), passing Keynsham at 1822 (100 late) and 1851 (115 late) back to Victoria off Bath! Departmental services included; 66566 - 6E18 0947 Taunton Fairwater yard - Doncaster Wood yard (2159) via Parkway which departed Taunton station at 1110 (77 late), passed Yatton at 1158 (87 late) and departed Hullavington loop at 1250 (34 late) with a 5 JJA / 13 MLA / 3 JNA wagon consist and 66518 + 66572 top n' tailing - 6Y72 0720 Stoke Gifford - Westbury passing Dr.Days junction at 0756 with a consist of 7 MLA / 9 JNA / 2 IEA box

wagons.

**06/12** Vintage Trains 'Merchant Venturer' 1Z70 0819 Solihull - Bristol TM (1233) and 1Z72 1633 return to Solihull (2018) via Oxford and Swindon was top n' tailed with steam 7027 Clun Castle + 47773/D1655 with c/stock; W96100 (water carrier). 35470 (loco support). 99971, 99361, 99349 (all former Pullmans). 5198. 5212. 5191. 5157. 9101, the outward passing Oxford at 1003 (3 early), arriving Bath 1215 (1 late) departing 1219 (1 late), passing Newton-st-Loe 1224 outward and Keynsham at 1642 (1 late) on the return.

The trains loco and stock was service at Bristol East as 5Z70 1243 Temple Meads - East Depot (1317) and 5Z72 return to Temple Meads (1621) via Lawrence Hill (booked 1518 - 1527).

**07/12** Loco Services operated 'Bath & Bristol Christmas Statesman' 1Z41 0634 Preston - Temple Meads (1221) and 1Z43 1633 return to Carnforth (2224) via Oxford was top n' tailed throughout by 47593 + 47828 and was reported as departing Crewe at 0905 (91 late), passing Portobello junction (West Midlands) 0953 (87 late) and Keynsham 1240 (26 late) with c/stock; 3426. 3384. 1211. 3312. 3229. 80044. 3188. 3438. 17056.

A track circuit failure south of Lancaster saw the train start at Preston instead of 0600 at Carnforth.

Also special 'Platinum Jubilee' livery 67007 powered a 'Bath Christmas' Belmond British Pullman 1V80 0947 Victoria - Bath (1305) and 1092 1556 return to Victoria, the outward passing Basingstoke at 1107.

The ecs was booked the usual Bristol service with a 5C80 1310 move to East yard and 5092 1536 return.

Freight and departmental records included a second double-head Class 88 with 88009 + 88002 appearing again on 6V74 0200 Crewe Coal sidings - Bridgwater formed with 3 FNA wagons which arrived at 0642, with the 6M63 return passing Uphill junction at 1240, Parsons Street Junction 1259 and calling Temple Meads from 1305-1316 and 66550 with 4E18 0947 Taunton Fairwater yard - Doncaster Wood yard (2157) via Parkway and Swindon used sleeper train which passed Yatton at 1004 (27 early) with a consist of only 2 IFA wagons!

**09/12** 68003 + 68007 passed Flax Bourton at 1237 working 6M63 1200 Bridgwater - Crewe Coal sidings nuclear flask service.

**10/12** The final weekend of Bath Christmas Market rail tour associated 'additions' saw two workings; firstly steam 6233 Duchess of Sutherland top n' tailing 47815 with Railway Touring Company 'Bath & Bristol Christmas Market' 1Z82 0847 Victoria - Bristol TM and 1Z84 1638 return to Victoria with c/stock; 99041 (loco support). Pullman Diamond. 1961. 99371 Victoria, Pullman Sapphire, 99128 Pamela, Pullman Topaz. 1861. 4940. 4973. 99723., which departed Basingstoke at 1105 (16 late), Bath 1343 (40 late) and passed Newton-st-Loe 1348 and departing Temple Meads at 1720 (42 late), passing North Somerset junction at 1723 (42 late) and departing Bath 1742 (45 late) on the return and secondly the 'Midland Blue' HST on its third 'Bath Christmas Pullman' outing running 1Z57 0600 Holyhead - Bath (1227) and 1Z59 1628 return to Holyhead (2241) formed of M43046. M41178. M41062. M40801. M41182. M41169. M41176. M40802. M41183. M41059. M43055, the outward passing Swindon at 1203 (-) and 5Z58 1242 Bath - Bristol East yard (1302) via Temple Meads empty stock passing Newton-st-Loe late at 1316 the 1Z57 having been delayed and held after passing Thingley junction at 1217 (1 late) along with several other trains by a points failure at Bathampton junction, which also saw the 1A23 1400 Bristol Temple Meads - Paddington

(800304) returned from Bath and routed via Parkway this set having earlier been diverted via Badminton and Parkway on 1C13 1202 Paddington - Temple Meads arriving at 1340 only 5 late and 1A24 1430 Weston-super-Mare - Paddington (which was started at Temple Meads with 802114) having departed Bath at 1459 (16 late), reaching Paddington at 1656 (48 late) having also been routed back via Parkway.

Turbo 166218 on 2E67 1340 Westbury - Worcester Foregate Street (1616) was the most affected local service eventually departing Bath at 1537 (87 late) and later terminated at Gloucester.

Both rail-tour trains were serviced and stabled in Bristol East yard, 47815 leading 5Z83 1333 Temple Meads - Bristol East (1339) to the down loop, steam 6233 being detached with support coach and serviced with coal and water on one of the run round loop lines whilst the 'Midland HST' used the 'back' siding which it had used before.

Return ecs moves from Bristol East, were 5Z59 1549 to Bath (1619) via Temple Meads which passed North Somerset junction at 1616 (6 late) and 5Z84 1512 to Temple Meads (1518) for the steam working.

Further records from the Bristol East area (with a North Somerset junction passing time in brackets) were; 66079 + former Euro-Shed 66028 - 6012 1106 Margam Lip - Eastleigh rhtt wagon (FEA 642029 + 642030) move, which had been delayed at Filton Abbey Wood (1541), 56113 - 0F75 1330 Port Talbot Up sidings - Westbury light-engine (1544), 66544 + 66523 + 66509 - 0Y40 1547 Stoke Gifford - Westbury light-engines (1552) and 66021 - 6A12 1300 Tytherington Quarry - Acton loaded stone in 22 box wagons (1558).

**12/12** Another 48 hour walk-out saw around 20% services operating, with Cheltenham and Gloucester seeing no trains during the day.

**13/12** The Weston-super-Mare loop witnessed a full 'non DMU' day with all of the days services being in the hands of 'Castle' HST sets listed as 43004 GW12 43010, 43009 GW?? 43016, 43187 GW15 43092, 43029 GW?? 43194 and 43022 GW02 43189.

**14/12** The second of the two industrial action days again saw no services to Gloucester and Cheltenham, Yeovil and Weymouth and west of Plymouth.

**15/12** Former East Midlands (and assumed still carrying blue/red livery?) Derby RTC test-unit 153385 worked 2Q82 1119 Eastleigh Marshalling yard - Kingsland Road (1456) via Temple Meads passing Keynsham at 1314 (78 early).

**18/12** Test unit 153385 returned north as 2Q50 1403 Kingsland Road - Derby RTC (1704) passing Parkway at 1421 (-) and Cheltenham 1503 (1 early).

**19/12** The 6V74 0158 Crewe Coal sidings - Bridgwater nuclear waste now 'de-commissioning' train was booked for 68007 + 88009 with FNA wagons 709229007-3, 709229009-1, 709229037-0.

A return engineers saw 66520 pass Nailsea & Backwell at 0706 with 6Y98 0450 Ivybridge - Westbury (via Bristol and Bath) with a consist of 12 JZA / 1 YEA wagons.

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

**20/11** Operating an amended rhtt working (thought to be linked to industrial action) West Coast 'hire' 37668 led 3S59 1554 Swindon Transfer - Moreton-on-Lugg rhtt through Avonmouth and Henbury, the train being recorded earlier departing Clifton Down at 2037 (129 late).

**23/11** West Coast 37668 + 66850 passed Brentry at 0035 with 3S59 Swindon Transfer yard - Hereford rhtt.

**24/11** 66096 passed Brentry at 1510 running 0C03 light-loco from Severnside SITA to Didcot yard.

**28/11** A token issue involving 66142 with 6C03 0933 Southall - Severnside SITA (1539) refuse container empties which had passed Filton West junction at 1407 (3 late), saw the working later pass Hallen Marsh junction at 1558 (49 late) following the Bulk Terminal visit loco run round and as a result, Turbo 165116 was held at Avonmouth having arrived here at 1617 (5 late), then departing at 1635 (22 late) with 2K42 1510 Weston-super-Mare - Severn Beach service, eventually reaching the terminus at 1645 (22 late).

**30/11** 37610 + 37612 top n' tailed the monthly 1Z22 Derby RTC - Kingsland Road test train which was reported passing Trowbridge down at 1413 and later Brentry (on the Henbury loop) at 2202 down and back up at 2229 having reversed as usual in the Hallen Marsh area.

**08/12** Problems on the branch with Turbo set 166210 suffering a dragging brake problem and stopped whilst on 2K33 1401 Severn Beach - Weston-super-Mare service, the unit eventually reaching Avonmouth station reported at 1556 (104 late) and terminated with smoke!  
In the meantime, 166211 with 2K34 1310 Weston-super-Mare - Severn Beach was terminated at Avonmouth and returned as 2Z33 1411 to Bristol TM the 2K37 1501 departure from Severn Beach being cancelled.

**09/12** The NRMT HST with power cars 43299 + 43274 covered the branch as 1Z17 1733 (Thur) Derby RTC - Paddington (via Bedminster and Swindon) passing Clifton Down down at 0022 and arriving at the lines terminus at 0038 and departing at 0049 back towards Bristol.

**13/12** The 0820 Brentford - Severnside SITA (1334) refuse containers operated in the 6Z30 path (which has been used previously on industrial action days) with 66168 passing Bristol Parkway at 1201 (4 late) and Brentry (on the Henbury loop line) 1206.

**14/12** Having brought in 6Z30 loaded containers from Brentford during the previous day, the same loco 66168 powered 6Z03 1041 Severnside SITA - Northolt sidings (1444) empty containers passing Clifton Down at 1111 (12 early) and Oldfield Park, Bath at 1149 (1 late).

**15/12** With a clear route due to strike action and no passenger services running, 66021 with 6C03 0933 Northolt - Severnside SITA (1334) loaded refuse containers was again routed via Clifton Down having arrived Reading at 1111 (21 early) and departed at 1120 (12 early), passing Swindon at 1303 (16 early) and recorded Holesmouth junction at 1445 (25 early).

**16/12** 66021 was again routed via Clifton Down with 6Z30 0820 Brentford - Severnside SITA loaded refuse containers passing Langley at 0849 and St.Andrews junction 1224 (49 early) with a consist of 6 FYA /20 FCA wagons.

Locos recorded on stone duty have included;  
66414/520/523/572/604/607/951. 66795.

Locos recorded on cement duty have included;  
66707/716/735/737/796.

Locos recorded on refuse container duty have included;  
66021/096/142/168/169/221.

### **Portbury Branchline**

**23/11** West Coast 37668 + 66850 (with FEAs 642032 + 642012) passed Pill at 1143 working 3S59 0911 Hereford - Swindon Transfer yard (1410) rhtt train, the working having used Dr.Days curve and Bristol East enroute to

reverse, the second time this 'off route' move was known to have taken place.

The Wednesdays only return from Portbury stop board was later noted Ashton sig BL2192 (for token) departing at 1219 (11 early) having arrived 1211 (17 early) and later passing Swindon station at 1330 (33 early).

**26/11** On an industrial action day 66516 still worked 4V35 0815 (SO) London Gateway - Portbury Auto terminal loaded containers with a consist of 12 FEA / 12 FSA / 4 FTA wagons and was reported passing Pangbourne at 1143 (-) and Parkway 1319 (15 early) with a 1408 (30 early) arrival time being recorded.

**30/11** Although the following days 1Z23 test train visit was cancelled (with locos 37610 + 37612) 37099 + 37116 top n' tailed 3Q53 2016 Kingsland Road - Exeter Riverside (0231) via Portbury and Paignton, the outward departing Ashton Junction at 2122 and the return being noted passing Weston-super-Mare at 2318 (6 late) having reversed in Temple Meads.

**07/12** 66849 + 66850 top n' tailing the return 3S59 Swindon Transfer rhtt was noted Ashton passing up at 1235.

**10/12** 66570 powered 4V34 1115 (SO) ex. Southampton Maritime (1438) loaded containers, the first for this starting point so far recorded. The working was noted passing Twerton (Bath) at 1353 (45 late) and reported Parsons Street and onto the branch at 1426 (21 late).

**14/12** The biggest ever vessel to visit Royal Portbury dock was recorded with the arrival of the Panama registered 20 year old container ship 'MSC Loretta' at 303.94 metres long from Sines (Portugal) having called previously at Barcelona and Valencia. Following offloading and reloading the ship was on its way again being noted departing just after 1300 on 17th December with a destination of Antwerp.

A weekly inter-modal rail container service commenced delivery here for the first time from July this year.

Locos recorded on container duty have included;  
66516/537/544/570.

### **Weston-super-Mare**

**01/12** 66951 arrived here at 0959 as a 0Y09 light-engine from Taunton Fairwater yard, believed on RILA survey work move, the loco then returning south.

### **Bristol area workings during September**

4B77 Colnbrook - Avonmouth Bennetts stone empties (GBRf)  
22/09 66761. 27/09 66712.

4L32 Wentloog - London Gateway containers (G&W)  
20/09 66553. 26/09 66511. 28/09 66515.

Note; Working reported restarted to London Gateway in part due to the loss of 4057 to Southampton Maritime earlier in the year.

4L35 0532 (MO) Portbury Auto Terminal - London Gateway containers (G&W)  
05/09 66508. 20/09 66555 + 66531.

4L36 Wentloog - Felixstowe containers (G&W)

02/09 66522. 05/09 66533. 08/09 66570. 20/09 66502. 26/09 66528.

4L50 Wentloog - Tilbury containers (G&W)

21/09 66511.

4O42 Avonmouth Bennetts - Tonbridge West yard (GBRf)

13/09 66764.

4O51 (SO) Wentloog - Southampton Maritime containers (G&W)

03/09 66420. 10/09 66539.

4V35 0815 (SO) London Gateway - Portbury Auto Terminal containers (G&W)

03/09 66508. 17/09 66513. 24/09 66596.

4V79 Crawley - Pengam stone empties (GBRf)

19/09 66764.

4Z86/6Z85 Little Kimble - Tytherington Quarry empty and return loaded stone (DB)

02/09 66030 + 66198. 05/09 66169 + 66198. 06/09 66120 + 66002.

07/09 66099 + 66199. 08/09 66099 + 66188. 13/09 66002 + 66041.

14/09 66063 + 66087. 21/09 66002 + 66063 + 66087.

19/09 66063 + 66087. 26/09 66002 + 66063. 28/09 66041 + 66002.

29/09 66002 + 66041.

Notes; Train on 05/09 operated as 4Z85 0841 empties from Westbury, whilst the outward loaded service on 19/09 ran to Acton Yard. The train empties on 21/09 had Grovesend Quarry as the terminating destination.

6A27 (\*6A86 Moreton-on-Lugg) East Usk yard - Hayes loaded stone (G&W)

02/09 66621. 21/09 66621. 24/09\* 66620.

6A53 Tytherington Quarry - Appleford loaded stone (DB)

02/09 66063 + 66087. 05/09 66063 + 66087. 08/09 66063 + 66087.

09/09 66063 + 66087. 21/09 66170 + 66188. 22/09 66170 + 66188.

6A83 (\*6C85 to Stoke Gifford) Avonmouth Bennetts - West Drayton loaded stone (G&W)

01/09 66540. 08/09 66565. 13/09\* 66531. 29/09 66503.

6B11 Hayes - East Usk yard stone empties (G&W)

01/09 66601. 05/09 66621. 22/09 66620. 29/09 66620.

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

01/09 60010. 02/09 60010. 03/09 60062. 08/09 60059. 09/09 60059.

10/09 60010. 20/09 60059. 22/09 60059. 24/09 60059. 27/09 66030.

28/09 66030.

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

26/09 66115.



6C02 Cardiff Dock Ryans - Avonmouth Bennetts loaded and return empty to Ferme Park (4002) ASH.  
13/09 66764. 27/09 66712.

6C03 Northolt sidings - Severnside SITA loaded refuse containers (DB)  
01/09 66149. 02/09 66149. 03/09 66099. 08/09 66120. 09/09 66120.  
10/09 66198. 14/09 66035. 16/09 66198. 17/09 66096. 20/09 66096.  
24/09 66099. 26/09 66099. 27/09 66063. 28/09 66063. 29/09 66112.

6C42 (SO) Theale - East Usk yard stone empties (G&W)  
28/09 66604.

6C67/6C68 Westbury - Avonmouth West Wharf loaded and return empty stone (G&W)  
01/09 66617. 02/09 66620. 06/09 66620. 08/09 66620. 09/09 66620.  
20/09 66617. 21/09 66610. 23/09 66617. 26/09 66621. 28-30/09 66607.

6C80 Machen Quarry - Stoke Gifford loaded stone (G&W)  
03/09 66617. 10/09 66565.  
Note; Train on 03/09 empties started from Appleford.

6M42 Avonmouth Hansons - Penyffordd cement empties (GBRf)  
02/09 66719. 07/09 66719. 09/09 66719. 12/09 66719. 21/09 66719.  
23/09 66719. 30/09 66719.

6M60 (FO) Exeter Riverside - Bescot loaded china clay (DB)  
02/09 66172. 09/09 66172. 16/09 66006.

6M90 Avonmouth Hansons - Gloucester New Yard (GBRf)  
27/09 66772.

6V32 Tilbury - Trostre steel (GBRf)  
02/09 66750. 09/09 66750. 22/09 66722.

6V35 Clitheroe - Avonmouth Hansons loaded cement (GBRf)  
02/09 66772.

6V41 Penyffordd - Avonmouth Hansons loaded cement (GBRf)  
02/09 66719. 11/09 66719. 20/09 66719.

6V74/6M63 Crewe Coal sidings - Bridgwater and return nuclear flasks (DRS)  
02/09 68001 + 68007. 07/09 66423 + 66425. 12/09 68009 + 68018.

6V84 Clitheroe - Avonmouth Hansons loaded cement (GBRf)  
07/09 66772. 12/09 66772. 21/09 66772. 26/09 66772.

6Z50 (\*6Z52 Oxford Banbury Road) Willesden DCR sidings - Machen Quarry empty and return loaded stone (DC Rail)  
01/09\* 60046. 05/09 60046. 26/09 60046. 27/09\* 60046. 28/09\* 60046.

6Z86 West Drayton - Machen Quarry stone empties (G&W)  
01/09 66565. 05/09 66565. 08/09 66414. 26/09 66414. 27-29/09 66414.

## Gloucester

**26/11** 66118 passed Tamworth at 1229 (98 early) and Gloucester 1444 (64 early) with 40 molten waste slag loaded MEAs as 6V03 1102 Masborough FD - Cardiff Tidal sidings (1744).

**08/12** 47812 (now in West Coast maroon livery) + 57313 top n' tailed a further area Northern Belle dining special running 1Z08 1234 Gloucester - Oxford (1500) via a reverse at Worcester and 1Z09 1518 return to Gloucester (1722) the outward departing Cheltenham at 1252 (3 late).

The trains ecs had run 5Z08 0824 from Landore Tmd - Gloucester (1218) and return was booked north as 5Z09 1735 to Burton Wetmore sidings (2013).

**15/12** The Golden Valley route via Kemble and Stroud was closed as icicles measuring around 1-2ft in length were reported around 0830, posing danger in Sapperton Tunnel.

**19/12** A Colas loco convoy, formed 70815 + 66847 + 66848 (both in a rhtt grime livery!) + 70803 running 0Z75 0901 Rugby OLE depot - Westbury light-locos saw 70815 detached here and run 0Z51 1105 light-engine to Baglan Bay passing Chepstow at 1234, the main formation being later reported Bradford junction at 1329.

## Swindon

**03/12** With 'Deltic' 55002 King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry, recently returned to mainline status being not available, Class 40 40145 worked Pathfinder Tour's 'North-Eastern Christmas Market' 1Z40 1322 Swindon - Newcastle (1308) and 1Z41 1608 return to Swindon (2249) with West Coast 57012 on the rear, the outward departing Oxford at 0708 (-).

On the return the ecs ran 5Z43 2259 Swindon - Southall Wcr (0016) with 57012 and not to Burton Wetmore sidings (during the following day) as originally booked.

The Class 40 was expected to have been removed at Derby on the return run.

**08/12** With the end of this years rhtt season, 56078 + 56094 ran 0Z56 1022 Swindon Transfer yard - Nottingham Eastgate (1640) via Banbury passing Oxford at 1159 (1 early).

## Westbury

**20/11** 66415 was on a 0C66 0924 Westbury - Reading (1238) via Taunton route-learning light-loco, passing Castle Cary down at 0945 (4 early) and near Somerton at 1053 (6 early) on the return.

**24/11** With a double (66849 + 66850) loco replacement on 3S59 south Wales / Bristol area rhtt, West Coast 'hire' 37668 ran 0Z37 0820 light from Westbury to Severn Tunnel junction sidings (0945) passing Bath at 0908 (9 late) to collect failed 66846 (coolant leak) returning as 1014 Severn Tunnel junction sidings - Westbury passing Bath at 1106.

**25/11** Following Colas rhtt 'hire' use, 37668 was returned to West Coast at Southall as a 0Z37 1233 light-engine departure via Newbury passing Lavington at 1227 (16 early) and Reading 1350 (2 early).

**27/11** At 1410 the following locos were in the area; down yard 66004. 66021. 66063. 66103/4. up yard 66416. 'Elephant House' Colas shed 70811. next to platform 3 66080. Colas sidings 66951. 70803.

An engineering train record was; 66721 - 6G70 1844 Westbury - Tilehurst (2210) via Lavington passing Newbury at 1933 (119 early).

**28/11** 56094 worked south as 0F75 Nottingham Eastcroft - Westbury light-engine for rhtt duty passing Cheltenham at 1354 (66 early) and Bristol Parkway 1433 (66 early), 56096 being due for replacement and a 'B exam'.

**03/12** An area loco line up recorded; down yard 66080. 66745. 66784. Colas loco ('Elephant House') shed 70811. up yard 66086. 66564. 66572. next to DB office 66742. 66047 arrived Westbury at 1407 as 0012 (SO) Margam Lip - Eastleigh light-engine.

**04/12** A return engineering train record was 66774 passing Bradford junction at 0920 working 6G97 0926 Cheltenham Alstone Road level crossing - Westbury.

**05/12** Colas 37219 was an evening test train arrival as 3Z36 1230 off Derby RTC with dept c/stock; 5995. 5971. 9801. 999605. 9703, having passed Bordesley junction (Birmingham) at 1535 (62 late). The train was then allocated an overnight 2227 Westbury - Westbury (0706) via Cardiff Central / Swindon and Temple Meads move. A 6Y65 Westbury - Truro engineers was top n' tailed by 66546 + 66520 and reported passing Stoke Canon at 0654.

**06/12** Still present 37219 was allocated a further 3Q36 2240 out and back test working (via Southampton).

**07/12** Engineering train details included; 66520 + 66546 top n' tailing - 6Y65 0830 Truro - Westbury passing Totnes at 1310 formed with 7 MLA / 6 JNA / 1 IEA / 4 OCA wagons and 66594 + 66570 top n' tailing 6 HQA auto-ballasters as 6Y67 0938 Truro - Westbury (1415). The previous evening booked 6Y67 move was 1644 ex. Westbury - Penwithiers junction (2300).

**08/12** 66105 + 66129 top n' tailed FEAs 642031 + 642035 as 3Z11 2100 (Wed) St. Blazey - Westbury marking the end of the rhtt season, the working passing Fairwood junction at 0623.

**11/12** A return departmental service working was 66079 + 66028 top n' tailing - 6W98 0825 Totnes - Westbury which passed Newton Abbot at 0927 with a 1 YEA / 10 JZA wagon consist. The previous evening outward move was 6W98 2018 (Fri) Westbury - Totnes (0015) which passed Taunton at 2147 (-), the work site being between Ivybridge and Plymouth.

**12/12** Having earlier worked 0Z23 0753 Taunton Fairwater yard - East Usk yard (1022) light-engine 66518 later passed Tiverton Parkway at 1343 again light (the move having started as 0Z27 1118 from Westbury instead of Whatley) returning a 7C28 1557 wagon move to Merehead Quarry (1949) which passed Taunton at 1715 (11 late).

**14/12** At 1000 the area locoline up recorded; down yard 66850. 70811. up yard 66028. Colas siding 66846. 70801. Colas 'Elephant house' shed area 59201. 66544. 66702.

**19/12** 47812 + 57313 top n' tailed a 1Z08 1250 Victoria - Westbury (1527) and 1Z09 return to Victoria (1900) Northern Belle dining trip with c/stock; 99025. 3272. 3174. 3273. 1953. 3267. 325. 17167. 10734. 92904 passing Newbury at 1443 (7 early) and Lavington 1515 (4 early) outward. Later, 66520 passed Taunton at 2221 (34 late) powering 6Y98 1737 Eastleigh yard - Hemerdon (0001) via Plymouth which was delayed at Totnes due to flooding.

### Salisbury

**08/12** Southampton based 'special duties' BR green livery 47830 worked a 0W45 1227 Maritime - Yeovil Junction (1417) and 0W46 1433 return route refresher light-engine being reported as passing outward Salisbury at 1302 (2 late).

**15/12** Platinum Jubilee livery 67007 + 67021 top n' tailed a Belmond Pullman VSOE 'Salisbury Carol' 1Z82 0947 Victoria - Salisbury (1209) and 1Z84 1630 return to Victoria (1946) the outward passing Worthing Junction at 1141 (23 late). The ecs was stabled in East yard between trains.

### **Taunton**

**20/11** 66509 + 66518 top n' tailed a return 6X04 1700 Saltash - Fairwater yard trt train passing Totnes at 1826 (1 late).

**23/11** LSL 37688 in retro 'construction blue/yellow square' livery passed at 1621 with barrier coaches; 6348. 6336. 6393/4, as a 5Z31 Reading Traincare Depot - Exeter Riverside yard move to collect withdrawn HST stock from both Penzance and Laira over the following two days.

### **Exeter**

**21/11** DMU 158798 was noted working 2Z90 1825 Honiton - Exeter St.Davids (not Axminster) due to landslip near Honiton tunnel.

**24/11** LSL 37688 continued west for part one of a two part stock move as 5Z32 0754 Exeter Riverside - Penzance (Long Rock) Trsmd (1058) with barrier coaches passing Exeter St.Thomas at 0757 (1 early), Starcross 0809 (5 late), Dawlish 0836 (29 late), Aller junction 0846 (30 late) and Totnes 0857 (31 late).

With the return 5Z33 1158 Penzance Trsmd - Exeter Riverside (1736) formed 6394 (barrier). 42094/5. 42566. 44100. 6393. 6336. 6348 (barriers) this move departing Penzance station at 1421 (100 late), the whole train being brought in by 08645 at 1331 to reverse, passing Totnes at 1758 (91 late), Newton Abbot 1810 (91 late) and Exeter St.Davids 1843 (72 late).

The reason for the late Penzance station departure remained unknown.

**26/11** South-Western 159015 was working a once two hourly service from St.Davids to Axminster (to connect with a Waterloo bound service) during the day due to reduced capacity and line speed east of Honiton tunnel which had been affected by a landslide.

### **Newport**

**20/11** Following working the return Railway Touring Company 'Christmas Cheshireman' during the previous day (also see last months Magazine under Bristol TM, Barton Hill and Kingsland Road notes & news), steam 6233 Duchess of Sutherland with support coach 99041 stabled overnight in Newport and not Gloucester as was originally planned and was returned as 5Z41 1145 East Usk yard - Carnforth Steamtown (1819) via Bromsgrove passing Severn Tunnel junction at 1200 (1 late), Gloucester 1235 (2 late) and Cheltenham 1245 (3 late).

Earlier, the trains coaching stock had moved 5Z40 1113 East Usk yard - Southall Wcr (1424) behind diesel support loco 47804 passing Patchway, Bristol at 1141 (1 late) and Swindon 1242 (9 early).

The 3S59 rhtt was terminated at Hereford at 0614 (138 late) with an unknown train defect, still with West Coast 'hire' 37668 and Colas 66846 in charge, the amended path with a 1554 (Sat) departure from Swindon Transfer yard - Moreton-on-Lugg (0404) was routed via Oldfield Park, Bath (reverse), Westbury (reverse), Avonmouth, Tir-phil (reverse), Merthyr Tydfil (reverse), Weston-super-Mare (reverse), Bath and Chippenham.

A return departmental was 66604 + 66602 top n' tailing 6C20 0756 Abergavenny - Westbury (1212) via Margam passing Bridgend at 0931 (11 early), Newport 1024 (15 early), Patchway 1104 (8 early) and Bath 1138

(7 early).

**21/11** 67015 worked 3W41 1006 Cardiff Canton - Hereford then 3W42 1126 return to Canton (1253) newly formed HD04 coaching stock running in and driver training turns, the outward departing at 1036 (8 late).

3S59 rhtt problems saw 66846 replaced by 66850 (instead of 'on hire' 37668!) at Severn Tunnel Junction sidings the train having passed Abergavenny at 0722 from Hereford on an amended diagram due to strike activity.

66850 + 56113 had worked 0Z51 1216 Westbury - Severn Tunnel sidings light-locos passing Severn Tunnel junction at 1340, the Class 56 then going on as 0Z52 1400 to Baglan Bay (1546) passing Bridgend at 1502, for log train duty.

66850 had earlier run 0Z50 1043 Swindon Transfer yard - Westbury light passing Chippenham at 1058.

A freight record was 66069 + 60010 top n' tailing 6H45 0431 Margam - East Usk Birdport branch steel departing Newport at 0620.

**23/11** 'Stadler' 231007 passed at 0806 (15 early) with a 3Q62 0717 Cardiff Central - Hullavington (0848) mileage accumulation turn and later departed at 0959 on the 3Q64 0855 Hullavington - Cardiff signal 2328 (1005) return.

**07/12** The 3S32 1107 Cheltenham Lansdown loop - Swindon Transfer yard (1448) via Newport was surprisingly reported passing Llanwern West junction at 1206 (40 early) with a single loco 56078 only, having run-round at Newport the move being later recorded passing Gloucester Horton Road at 1042 (35 early).

Earlier in the day the booked 3S31 move was reported as running round at Worcester (on return from Hereford) and not Longbridge, where a loco end change would have been impossible at this location.

Also during the day, DRS 57307 was on route learner light-loco duty as 0Z36 1130 Crewe Gresty Bridge - East Usk yard (1640) and 0Z37 1745 return to Crewe Gresty Bridge (2143) the outward passing Kings Norton at 1354 and Gloucester 1459 (50 early).

**08/12** Having worked north light, 66172 moved 9 MBA wagons as 6Z54 1348 Bescot - Alexandra Dock yard (1729) passing Walsall at 1348 (18 early) and Gloucester 1543 (37 early).

**14/12** Industrial action day freight activity recorded; 66198 - 6Z65 0748 Llanwern - Newport docks steel passing at 0826 and 66607 - 6Z27 0843 East Usk yard - Hayes (1211) loaded stone passing Bristol Parkway at 0935 (2 late) with a consist of 21 HHAs.

**15/12** 66796 passed at 1148 (131 late) powering 6M75 0921 Pengam sidings - Clitheroe cement empties formed 2 JPA bogie tanks and 20 PCA 4-wheelers.

**16/12** A further strike day saw freight workings including; 66561 - 4V30 2329 (Thur) London Gateway - Wentloog containers which arrived Westbury at 0543 (off route) and later passed Bath at 1011 (372 late!), 66118 - 6Z65 0748 Llanwern - Newport Docks steel passing at 0835 and 66592 - 4Z52 0941 Wentloog - Southampton Maritime containers which passed at 1004 and later Wootton Bassett 1131 (24 late) having been diverted via Bath and Chippenham.

**17/12** A second industrial action, strike day freight service saw 66086 pass at 1348 heading a 6Z07 1401 Llanwern - Newport Docks steel service.

## Cardiff

**20/11** Sunday freight activity included; 66607 - 6B81 0851 East Usk yard - Port Talbot Grange sidings stone empties passing Central station at 0921 and 66118 - 6Z20 1613 Margam - Immingham passing Pontyclun at 1631.

**22/11** Steam 46233 Duchess of Sutherland worked Railway Touring Company 'Cardiff Christmas Express' 1Z80 0822 Victoria - Cardiff Central (1425) via Gloucester, 1Z83 1635 back to Gloucester (1805) and 1Z84 1837 return to Victoria (2308), the outward passing Swindon at 1244 (71 late) following loco watering delays at Challow and passing Standish junction 1243 (36 late) despite trespassing issues in this area, a booked water stop at Kemble from 1150-1220 having been left out to recover time. The Cardiff arrival time was in the end only 17 late, the ecs then going to Pengam sidings for servicing prior to the 1Z83 1635 return to Gloucester which on arrival was booked for the steam loco and support coach to turn as a 5Z84 1808 out and back to Gloucester station (1808) via the triangle.

**23/11** 67017 departed Newport at 0901 at the rear of coaching set HD04 12211. 12310. 10318. 11309. 82201, with 3V43 Hereford - Canton Depot believed to be a stock running in staff training turn. The train then formed 3W41 1006 Canton Depot - Hereford which was again noted Newport calling from 1033-1034.

**24/11** Stadler flirt DEMU 231006 reached Barry at 1454 as a 3A10 1359 driver training turn from Pontypridd then returned at 1506 as 3A30 1456 to Cardiff Canton.

**26/11** Former East Anglia based 'Turbo-stars' 170270/1/2 were all booked for movement to Barrow Hill and into store, having come off lease from Transport for Wales.

Area engineering train allocation records included; 66416 - 6Y42 2043 Westbury - Leckwith North junction (2320) formed with a consist of 4 MLA / 14 JNA / 2 IEA box wagons and 66951 - 6Y44 2217 Westbury - Leckwith North junction (0010) with a 4 YWA / 1 YWA / 1 OCA wagon consist. Other departures from Westbury - Leckwith North junction with unknown loco allocations were; 6Y40 at 1916, 6Y41 2013 and 6Y43 2114 also a 6Y40 1916 to Miskin Loops was booked to run.

**27/11** Further Vale of Glamorgan freight diversions via Barry included; 66759 - 6M30 0927 Margam - Dee Marsh steel which passed Bridgend at 0941, 66513 - 6B81 0850 East Usk - Port Talbot Grange sidings stone empties passing Bridgend at 1012 and 66057 - 6H25 1014 Margam - Llanwern steel coils passing Cowbridge Road at 1049.

**29/11** Inter-City livery 37419 ran 0916 Crewe - Wentloog light-engine, believed to be for the collection of a failed Class 66 loco, the 0Z37 1445 return to Crewe passing Newport at 1345 (92 early).

**30/11** Another Stadler flirt DEMU to reach Barry was 231008 arriving as a 3A06 1049 driver training turn from Pontypridd and then returned as 3A07 1140 to Cardiff Canton passing Barry Dock at 1143.

**04/12** A second weekend of diversions via the 'Vale of Glamorgan' line recorded; 66603 - 6B81 0829 East Usk yard - Port Talbot Grange sidings stone empties passing Bridgend at 0948, 60024 - 6H25 0833 Margam - Llanwern steel, Barry 0942, 66603 - 6B81 0829 East Usk yard - Port Talbot Grange sidings empty stone, Bridgend 0948, 66760 - 6M30 1037 Margam - Dee Marsh steel, Bridgend 1056, 66060 + 60024 - 6B04 1240 Llanwern - Margam steel, Llanwern West junction 1255, 66610 - 6B82 1453 East Usk yard - Port Talbot Grange sidings stone empties, Newport 1449 and 66603 returning -

6M39 1427 Port Talbot Grange sidings - Crewe Basford Hall (via Hereford) loaded stone, Margam Moors junction 1441.

An engineering train summary recorded; 66742 - 6G71 1047 Westbury - Leckwith North junction (1300) passing Stapleton Road at 1135 and Cardiff Central 1232 (23 early) with a 10 JNA / 9 MLA / 1 IEA box wagon consist, 66515 - 6Y40 0921 Bridgend - Oxford Hinksey yard (1624) via Margam which passed Pyle down at 1118 (112 late), Barry up at 1325 (36 late), Newport 1405 (35 late) and Bristol Parkway 1435 (12 late) with a 9 YKA / 7 MLA / 3 JNA wagon consist, 66518 - 6Y41 1133 Bridgend - Westbury (1729) via Margam passing Newport at 1606 (64 late) and Lawrence Hill 1646 (18 late) with a 7 MLA / 2 IEA / 3 JNA box wagon consist and 66572 - 6Y42 1532 Bridgend - Westbury (2029) via Margam reported Llanwern West junction at 1255 with a consist of 9 JNA / 2 IEA / 7 MLA box wagons.

**05/12** The Class 67 loco and stock diagrams were covered by DMU sets 158827 (commencing 1V91) and 158826 (starting with 1W91).

Also 66028 (the third recently 'repatriated' and reinstated Euro-Shed following on from 66010 and 66190) passed Caerphilly at 1018 working 4V01 (Sun) Earles (Hope) sidings - Cwmbargoed DP coal empties.

**06/12** DMU sets active on Class 67 and stock cover were; 175104 with 1W91 0645 Cardiff - Holyhead (with 67012 taking over this diagram working 1V96 1133 Holyhead - Cardiff and 1W96 1716 return to Holyhead) and 175109 on 1V91 0533 Holyhead - Cardiff.

Also during the day, West Coast 47812 + 57313 top n' tailed 5Z84 0858 Carnforth Steam town - Landore Tmd (via Hereford) Northern Belle ecs for area work, which departed Lancaster at 1102 formed with c/stock; 99025. 3275. 3174. 3275. 1953. 3267. 3247. 325. 17167. 10734. 10729.

**07/12** Both loco and stock diagrams were covered by DMU sets; 175005 commencing 1V91 and 1W93 return and 153913 (reported solo?) commencing 1W91 and 1V96 return.

Stadler flirt DEMU 231007 was noted working a late-running 3A07 1140 driver training turn from Barry to Cardiff Canton passing Barry Dock at 1210.

**08/12** DMU SET 175104 covered one of the Transport for Wales loco and stock diagrams commencing with 1V91 0533 Holyhead - Cardiff Central.

**12/12** Bi-Mode 769421 working 2F10 0743 Rhymney - Cardiff Central suffered what was thought to be a brake problem following the Aber stop. The set reached Caerphilly at 0924 (60 late) where passengers were able to transfer to 769008 which had arrived at 0847 as a 5P15 0749 empty working from Pengam, the train eventually arriving Central station at 1007 (83 late!).

**14/12** Industrial action day two again with no passenger trains west of Cardiff and a limited Valley Lines service during the day.

**18/12** Some Sunday movement records saw 60010 + 66152 work 6H25 1015 Margam - Llanwern steel passing Bridgend at 1036 and 66030 + 66086 + 60010 later passing the same location at 1408 as 0B04 1240 Llanwern - Margam light-locos.

**19/12** 70815 passed Central station at 1708 (27 early) and Newport 1734 (19 early) working 6Z51 1602 Baglan Bay - Chirk Kronospan (2351) loaded logs formed with a consist of 2 IWA / 5 KSA wagons.

#### Transport for Wales - Loco Loggings

67012 - 1V91 21/11 (HD02). 1V91 23/11 (HD02). 1W91 24/11 (HD02).  
1W93/1V98 25/11 (HD02). 1V96/1W96 06/12 (HD02).  
67014 - 1V91 24/11 (HD03). 1V91 25/11 (HD03). 1V93 26/11 (HD03).  
67025 - 1V91 08/12 (HD02).

#### Train diagrams;

1V91 0533 Holyhead - Cardiff, 1W93 1122 return to Holyhead, 1V98 1636  
return to Cardiff Central.  
1W91 0645 Cardiff Central - Holyhead, 1V96 1133 return to Cardiff, 1W96  
1716 return to Cardiff.

#### Saturday Only;

1V93 0631 Holyhead-Cardiff Central, 1W96 1723 return to Holyhead.

#### Coaching Stock formations;

HD02 - 12219. 10328. 11324. 12447. 82229.  
HD03 - 12217. 10312. 11325. 12446. 82216.  
HD04 - 12211. 12310. 10318. 11309. 82201.

Locos recorded on Daventry - Wentloog TESCO container service included;  
66422 (30/11, 07/12), 66425 (20/11, 21/11, 04/12, 05/12), 66428 (18/12,  
19/12), 66432 (22/11, 24/11, 25/11). 66433 (06/12).

Locos recorded on Baglan Bay log duty has included;

56113 (21/11, 23/11, 24/11, 06/12, 08/12), 70815 (19/12), 70817 (28/11).

Locos recorded Margam / Port Talbot (from Cwmbargoed) coal duty;

66063/069/079/089/118/207.

Locos recorded on Hope / Earles cement coal duty have included;

66028/030/144/168.

Locos recorded on Corby steel duty have included;

66057/080/172/192/198.

Locos recorded on Dee Marsh steel duty have included;

66759/760.

Locos recorded on Round Oak steel duty have included;

66002/030/034/055/057/063/080/119/140/198/207.

Locos recorded on Barry Dock container duty have included;

66516/536/554.

Locos recorded on Machen stone duty have included;

66415/509/537/544.

### **PRESERVATION & INDUSTRIAL MATTERS**

#### **Bodmin & Wenford Railway**

During December, EX. GWR steam L92 (5787) on loan from the South Devon  
Railway and home based 47306 saw use on 'Santa Specials' between Bodmin  
General and Bodmin Parkway.

#### **Bristol Harbour Railway, Wapping Wharf.**

**R.W.GILES**

**23/11** The M Shed Museum work shop was viewed through the glass revealing  
as present; (Portbury) AE1764/17 (grey livery), Henbury P1940/37 (green)  
and in a yellow repaint, Coles 14090 crane (with name 'Pretty Flamingo'  
now removed).



### **Class 143**

Not previously recorded was the final set 143617 stored at St.Philips Marsh depot move to the 'Tarka Line' Torrington, Devon and into preservation by a Allelys road move on 17th November.

### **Hythe Pier Railway (Hampshire)**

An announcement was made in December that the line will close permanently on 31st December 2022 with the end of the ferry service for which it forms a part link.

Opened in 1881 this 2 foot-gauge electric railway believed to be the oldest running on a pier in the world, operates with Brush Loughborough 1917 built locos (which both at one time were used in an Avonmouth Mustard Gas factory) and provided a well used commuter connection from the town of Hythe to waiting pier-head ferries for the Southampton Water crossing to Southampton.

The ferry service never really recovered from the Covid-19 closure periods re financial operating costs.

The pier received Grade II listed status from August 2021.

### **Mainline Preservation**

**06/12** Steam 44871 worked the Railway Touring Company 'Sherborne Christmas Carol' 1282 0830 Victoria - Yeovil junction which departed Basingstoke at 1031 and arrived Sherborne at 1315.

Mainline legend 60103 Flying Scotsman is lined up for round Britain visits during 2023 marking the loco 100th Anniversary in service (and 60th year since withdrawn by BR) with local area visits listed (so far);

30th April: Bristol - Par (calling Yatton each way) as far as Plymouth (for a diesel onwards and return in Cornwall).

7th June: Paddington - Cardiff Central (calling Bristol Parkway).

### **Warley Model Railway Show, NEC Birmingham**

**26-27/11** 'Guest' standard gauge loco at this years event was the new 'Riddles' 3MT 2-62T 82045 from the Severn Valley (Bridgnorth), with no boiler, but otherwise seemingly very much complete!

### **West Somerset Railway**

**R.W.GILES**

**18/12** Steam 7828 Odney Manor + Class 33 D6575 were noted arriving Crowcombe Heathfield at 1728 and departing 1733 (with D6575 leading) with the 1700 'Winterlights' illuminated train special from Bishops Lydeard. Problems with embankment stability near Coombe Florey actually saw some of the 'specials' run for the first time towards Norton Fitzwarren and made an interesting sight using the 'triangle' (part of the former Barnstaple branch line formation) here to turn!

This was the second year for the operation of this light spectacular over part of the line which was booked to run on selected dates during late November, December and early January with 1700 and 1900 departures from Bishops Lydeard.

## MISCELLANEOUS

### **Birmingham**

**05/12** A serious fire in a disused large warehouse at Horseley Fields, Willenhill Road, Wolverhampton alongside the mainline to Sandwell & Dudley saw New Street routed services withdrawn overnight, with road bus substitutions brought in as fire fighters tackled the blaze. Once the incident was brought under control a high retaining wall which survived and bordered the railway was deemed unsafe.

### **Class 89**

Now part of the Crewe LSL fleet, the unique 89001 'Avocet' is set to receive engine modifications and cab refurbishment at UK Rail Leasing, Loughborough Works with a view to a return to mainline operation during 2023.

The loco which had been located at Barrow Hill, will be road moved to Loughborough for the necessary work.

### **Clydach-on-Tawe**

**R.W.GILES**

This freight-only line which left the Swansea District mainline at Felin Fran passed its 30th anniversary of closure on 22nd September 2022, with 60065 delivering a final train of bogie butane gas tanks from Fawley on that date.

The location which at one time was planned as a through link to Abernant Colliery and Gwaun-cae-Gurwen served a Mond Nickel Works and Chemical plant with latterly a once weekly Monday service;

6V08 0902 Fawley ESSO - Clydach via Westbury (booked North Somerset Junction 1232), the service continuing as a re-routed 6V08 0902 (MO) Fawley ESSO - Margam via Didcot, Swindon and Badminton (Patchway 1347) delivering depot fuel only (the other train main consist, although some TTA loads were used at the chemical works) in 4 wheel-TTA tanks, the regular distinctive white orange band livery 4 wheel butane wagons having ceased by the end of September 1992 and believed transferred to the Avonmouth gas train originating at Furzebrook (Dorset).

### **Confirmed Coal Revival**

The Government have now passed planning consent for the first coal mine for over 30 years to open in this country.

The North-East West Cumbrian Mining Project (established in 2020) pit near Whitehaven, will see coking coal mined for steel production with up to 85% quoted destined for possible export. Currently coking coal is imported from countries which have included Russia.

An initial report suggests up to 4 trains a day could be moved from the location.

### **GBRf**

The company are planning to release their latest Class 56 to 69 conversion during January, 69007 in a 'retro' BR blue livery, the locos former identity being 56037.

## Great Western Railway

**24/11** 57605 + 57602 top n' tailed the 1C50 down 'sleeper' which started Reading at 0049 due to point work damage on the relief line between here and Paddington, the service being later recorded departing Par at 0647 with coaching set PZ88 17174. 12161. 10217. 10616. 10532. 10534. 10584.

**25/11** The 1C50 down sleeper service to Penzance was again started Reading with 57603 + 57602 in a top n' tail formation which later departed Exeter St.Davids at 0502 (51 late) and Par 0708.

Also 'Castle' HST set 43187 GW15 43092 worked 3P51 0545 St.Philips Marsh - Exeter St.Davids empty stock and then covered 2P51 0725 Exeter St.Davids - Plymouth in place of an IET set.

**28/11** DMU 150221 was used complete with a 'Dartmoor Line' headboard to convey rail officials and management on the 2K05 1032 Exeter Central - Okehampton working (1117) to attend a NR/GWR event at Okehampton marking the first year of operation completed since reopening, with the 250,000 passenger journey mark having been reported as passed.

The set however was to fail later during the day!

**30/11** The 1A50 2145 Penzance - Paddington sleeper service was reported double-headed using locos 57605 + 57603. 57604 was on the balancing 1C50 2345 (Tues) Paddington - Penzance working.

**06/12** The 1C50 2345 (Mon) Paddington - Penzance sleeper services was noted arriving Plymouth at 0516 in a top n' tail formation with 57602 + 57603 using c/stock; 17173. 12142. 10219. 10612. 10589. 10590. 10596. 57602 + 57605 were in use on the same service during the previous morning with a 0543 Plymouth arrival time being recorded.

Later 'Castle' HST set 43094 GW13 43192 failed at Totnes whilst working 2U12 0850 Plymouth - Cardiff Central service and was returned ecs to Laira Trsmd. DMU set 150243 was used onwards as a 2Z12 replacement from Exeter St.Davids.

**12/12** IET 802021 failed prior to departing on 2P51 0727 Exeter St.Davids - Plymouth service and was moved empty to New Yard, the service being cancelled.

**14/12** The 2U20 1243 Plymouth - Bristol TM service formed 'Castle' HST 43005 GW11 43097 was stopped near Starcross with a fire in the lead power car.

The local fire brigade were in attendance, but it was found when it was time for movement that the second power car 43097 was low on coolant and failed to restart!

Eventually 43010 GW12 43004 which had been terminated at Exeter St.Davids working 2C77 1358 Temple Meads - Plymouth service was used as a 'rescue' set.

The defective unit was booked 5Z77 1540 Exeter St.Davids - Laira Trsmd during the following day.

**17/12** A frozen point at Totnes (West End) saw an unusual move involving IET 802114 on 1A16 0815 Plymouth - Paddington which passed through the station 'centre road' at 0847 then stopping at the Newton Abbot end before reversing back into platform 1 to collect and drop off passengers!

**18/12** A high tide and strong winds along the sea wall at Dawlish saw several IET sets suffer with engine problems during the afternoon period. 802016 + 802018 passing Totnes at 1355 (70 late) with only 2 out of 3 engines running on each set, with 1C77 1003 Paddington - Penzance followed by 802019 departing at 1415 (5 late) following an extended stop, forming a previous 'Castle' HST working, 2C73 1146 Temple Meads - Penzance.

**19/12** Following heavy rainfall the West of England mainline was closed at South Brent (Devon) due to flooding, but had re-opened at 0823 although several train cancellations and late running was reported.

IET 800019 was later reported departing Totnes at 1013 working 2U14 0937 Plymouth - Cardiff Central service and 802015 on 2U16 1051 Plymouth - Cardiff Central departing the same location at 1130, these trains both being previously part of 'Castle' HST diagrams.

### **Grand Union Trains**

A new operator over the Great Western Mainline, will see 5 return passenger trips from Carmarthen - London Paddington commence from the December 2023 time-table change.

The planned service at that time possibly using Class 91 locos was initially rejected due to line capacity concerns at certain locations, will call at Llanelli, Gowerton, Cardiff Central, Newport, Severn Tunnel junction and Bristol Parkway and be competitively priced as an alternative to Great Western Railway trains operating over the same route.

The new service, which could initially be covered by 'hired in' Class 67 locos and MkIV coaching stock, has been developed by European investment company Serena and Spanish rail-tour operator Renfe and will receive no public funding being 'open access' joining Grand Central, Heathrow Express, Hull Trains and Lumo who are all currently operating a similar arrangement.

'Bi-mode' Class 800 sets will eventually be used by the new operator.

### **Industrial Action**

**21/11** Staff at the Thames Valley Regional power box Didcot held a 24 hour walk-out in support of a dismissed staff member from 0600.

GWR were only able to operate a reduced passenger service between 0730-1830 from Bristol to Paddington and also to Westbury via Bath.

**26/11** 12 TOC and RMT Union members walked out on this date seeing a marked reduction in the days rail operations.

Further stoppage dates (actually announced on 22nd November) were set for 13th, 14th, 16th, 17th and from 24-27th the latter dates mainly affecting planned Christmas period engineering work.

On 16th December which saw 1 in 5 trains operating in a number of locations, 2,700 Network-Rail office staff belonging to TSSA accepted a pay rise, refused by RMT members.

Also on this date further 48 hour strike days for early 2023 were announced by the RMT Union to take place on 3rd/4th, 6th/7th January 2023 with ASLEF train drivers walking out on 5th January, a general overtime ban also being put in place over the Christmas and New Year period.

### **Leaf Busting - 2022 (3)**

Didcot - 66011 + 66139.

Margam - 66027 + 66092.

St.Blazey - 66105 + 66129 (operated last on 7th December).

Swindon Transfer yard - 3S31/3S32/3S33 - 56078 + 56096, 56094 replaced 56096 from 28/11. 56078 was in use on the diagram solo on the final day of operation 7th December. 3S59 - West Coast 'hire' 37668 + 66846, 66850 replaced 66846 from 21/11, 66849 replaced 37668 from 25/11, 66846 had replaced 66849 by 01/12, 66849 replaced 66846 from 06/12.

## **Loco Services, Crewe**

**06/12** 20107 + 20096 top n' tailed a 6394 (barrier) + 41108 (HST) + 6393 (barrier) move as 5Z43 1007 Crewe HS - Eastleigh Arlington Works (1528) which passed Oxford at 1252 (2 late) and Basingstoke 1347 (59 early).

## **Most and Least Used Stations**

The annual survey from April 2021 - March 2022 revealed the following (figures recorded in millions);

1. London Waterloo 41.4 (still operating around 50% less than pre lockdown figures)
2. London Victoria 36.7
3. London Bridge 33.3
4. London Liverpool Street 32.2
5. Stratford (London) 28.2
6. London Paddington 23.9
7. London Euston 23.1
8. Birmingham New Street 22.7
9. London Kings Cross 20.5
10. Manchester Piccadilly 19.6

Previously, Stratford (London) had been the busiest in this category.

At the other end of the scale (recorded in single figures);

5. Kirton Lindsay (North Lincs) 68
4. Dinton (Greater Manchester) 50
3. Stanlow & Thorton (Cheshire) 44
2. Teeside Airport (Darlington) 42
1. Elton & Orston (Notts) 40

Most improved from the previous year, in this category was Berney Arms (Norfolk) which had jumped from 42 to 348 possibly due to press and TV coverage for the location which was bottom on that years list!

## **VivaRail into Administration**

The Long Marston based Class 230 'bi-mode' unit conversion company sadly ceased trading following the end of financial support during late November.

Former London Underground stock dating from the early 1980s had been converted and modified internally by the company with sets seeing relatively successful use between Bletchley and Bedford ('Marston Vale' line) and in North Wales from Wrexham to Bidston, a Transport for Wales operation.

## **Weather Issues**

**05/12** Low temperatures of -5C were recorded in South Gloucestershire.

**12/12** Heavy snowfall affected several areas including South-Eastern where passengers were advised not to travel due to disruption.

Other affected operating companies were Greater Anglian, South-Western and London Overground.

## TRACK MACHINES & DEPARTMENTALS

**25/11** Totnes - DR73935 passing at 1018 as a 6J42 0948 Tavistock yard (Plymouth) - Taunton yard move.  
**14/12** Westbury - DR73935.

## TRIP REPORTS

**TRIP 585**

**LONDON**

**10<sup>th</sup> December 2022**

Notes supplied by John DICKS, Peter DIX and Martin LEAR.  
Where notes have been made at the same location but at different times, they have been amalgamated under one heading.

### **Ealing Broadway**

Emu Sets 345011/045  
S7 Underground Set 21343/244 22343/344 24343/244 25344  
Central Line 2 car Set 91189 92189

### **Acton Yard**

Locos 66023/072/103/169  
Wagons 3501 81 70 5500 015-9/353-4/360-9/363-3/374-0/596-8/996-0

### **Acton Main Line**

Emu Set 345007

### **North Pole Depot**

IET Sets 800001/006/007/011 800309/310 802013

### **Westbourne Park Area**

Emu Sets 345022  
IET Sets 800006 802009

### **Tottenham Court Road**

Emu Set 345041  
Northern Line 3 car Sets 51617/618 52617/618 53617/618

### **Euston Station**

Locos 92018/023/028  
Emu Sets 350121/125/131 350231/245/251 350374 350402/ 408/410  
378209/222 390005/016/040 710268  
Mk V Coaches 15002/003/010/011 15101/107/108/109 15202/206/207/208/213/  
214 15303/307/308/311/312/313/317/319/320/324/326/327/332/335/336/338  
Northern Line 3 car sets 51588/633//634/643 52588/633/634/643  
53588/633/634/643

### **Tottenham Court Road**

Emu Sets 345055/057

**Custom House**

Emu Sets 345006/007/011/024/030/032/036/038/046/053/056/057/061/062  
DLR Sets 06/13/51/54/55/58/66/89/103/113

**Royal Victoria**

DLR Sets 51/102/154/155

**East India**

DLR Sets 103/113

**Poplar**

DLR Sets 29/52/55/57/72/86/89/101/126/147

**All Saints**

DLR Sets 104/106/111

**Bow Church**

DLR Sets 138/146

**Pudding Mill Lane**

DLR Sets 72/86

**Stratford Station**

Steam Loco Robert AE2068/1933 (Plinthed in Meridian Square (P150, 18EL)  
Locos 66010/136 66419 Lionesses Roar (Dark sand livery) 66731  
Emu Sets 319320 321308/314/315/319/320/327 345001/003/005/006/008/009/  
014/019/021/022/023/026/028/039/041/047/049/055/059/060/064/067  
357007/035/038/042/043/046 357206 378201/211/220/228 720108/110/112  
720511/512/520/521/533/534/539/546/549/550/556/559/5560/561/570/571/  
580/581/582/584 745002 745108  
DLR Sets 02/11/23/46  
Central Line 2 car Sets 91013/015/017/021/027/031/035/041/043/049/051/  
063/067/077/083/107/113/115/133/143/147/157/167/173/177/197/199/205/221/  
223/229/231/239/243/253/256/259/283/289/293/321/305/325 92013/015/017/  
018/021/027/031/034/035/040/041/042/043/049/051/058/062/063/067/077/080/  
083/088/092/107/110/113/114/115/133/136/143/144/146/153/157/162/164/167/  
170/172/173/174/177/186/188/190/197/198/199/205/221/223/226/228/229/231/  
236/239/240/243/244/253/256/259/254/281/289/293/305/321/325/416/424/430/  
440/448/456/458 93018/034/040/042/058/062/080/088/092/110/114/136/144/  
146/162/164/170/172/174/186/188/190/198/226/228/240/244/264/416/424/430/  
440/448/456/458  
Wagons 93308/403 608169/642/650 640001/002/189/190/236/288/294/376/445  
650023/024/049 81 70 4846 009-8 81 70 5500 096-9/109-0/132-2/398-9/  
402-9/403-7/405-2/425-0/431-8/434-2/444-1

**Bank**

Northern Line 3 car Sets 51679/680 52679/680 53679/680

**London Bridge**

Emu Sets 375020 375606/611/614/616/621/628/629 375701 375801/806/809/  
818/819 375903/913/921 376001/002/005/011/013/015/016/020/021/025/026/  
028/029/035/036 377606/621 377703 465007/018/027/028/031/042/043  
465151/152/155/159/160/166/169/174/176/184/188/190/191/192/193 465904/905

466013/015/022/032/036/041 700002/006/019/022/037/051/056 700103/109/  
112/117/119/123/124/131/134/136/139/145/146/148 707007/010/025/028

### **Farringdon**

Emu Sets 700009/013/025/032/037 700115/134/149  
S8 underground Sets 21027/028/073/074/107/108/113/114 22027/028/073/074/  
107/108/113/114 23027/073/074/107/108/113/114 24027/028/073/074/107/108/  
113/114 25028  
S7 underground Sets 21351/352/517/518 22351/352/517/518 23518  
24351/352/517/518 25352

### **Paddington**

Emu Sets 345011 387132/136/139/142/166/170  
IET Sets 800034 800304/305/306 802108  
S7 underground Set 21505/506 22505/506 23506 24505/506

### **Ealing Broadway**

Emu Sets 345006/025/038/046/054

### **St. Pancras Station**

Eurostar Sets 3007/008 4031/032  
Emu Sets 700032/049/056/058

### **Kentish Town Station**

Emu Sets 700024/037/045 700103

### **Cricklewood Station**

Demu Set 222010

### **Cricklewood Depot**

Emu Sets 700010/012/053

### **Hendon Station**

Demu Set 222004  
Emu Sets 700002/009/025 700105

### **Finsbury Park Station**

Loco 66304  
Dmu Set 180104  
Emu Sets 387102/103 700028/051 717006/012/013/024 801104/112 801209/213  
Wagons 93446 63010 64002 65029 70 4520 291-3

### **Moorgate Station**

Emu Sets 345007/049

### **Liverpool Street Station**

Emu Sets 710106/122 720501/530

### **Whitechapel Station**

Emu Set 345007

### **West Ham**

DLR Sets 03/07/43/109/120/153



**New Cross Gate**

Emu Sets 377205 377449/468 700104/141/146

**Brockley**

Emu Set 377449

**Honor Oak Park**

Emu Sets 378142 378257

**Forest Hill**

Emu Sets 377431 378152 378255 700107/119/140

**Hither Green Station**

Emu Sets 465007/192/193

**Sidcup**

Emu Sets 376015/036 465007/011/018 466007 707007/010

**Slade Green Depot (Viewed)**

Emu Sets 376023/031 465040/178/197 466040 707002/011/012/029

**Slade Green Station**

Emu Sets 376001/013 465179 700006/037

**Grove Park Depot (Viewed)**

Emu Sets 465928 466030/034 707001/004

**Grove Park Station**

Emu Sets 376001/013 465005/011 466007

**Bond Street**

Emu Sets 345017/036/067

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Can all information for the magazine please be sent to Simon Chainey by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month, either at the address at the front of the magazine or by e-mail to: [magazine@cardiffandavonside.org.uk](mailto:magazine@cardiffandavonside.org.uk)



OLD OAK COMMON

HISTORY MAKERS

LAST HST  
OFF OLD OAK COMMON DEPOT  
8th DECEMBER 2018

Old Oak Common  
HST Depot 1976-2018

LEGENDS OF  
GREAT WESTERN

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GAP