

CARDIFF & AVONSIDE RAILWAY SOCIETY

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www.cardiffandavonside.org.uk



MAGAZINE

Issue 612

February 2023

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Front Cover Photo February 2023 Issue 612:

[S.Chainey]

66127 undertakes shunting duties at Westbury Yard watched carefully by 66617 on 6M20 1038 Westbury - Churchyard Sidings 24/02/22.

Rear Cover Photo February 2023 Issue 612:

[R.W.Giles]

During the first Colas rhtt 'hire' stint West Coast 37668 passes Hewish near Weston-super-Mare on 21 October 2022 with 66850 on the other end heading for a Weston reverse.

FUTURE EVENTS

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 = 0600 am
Other pick-up points may be arranged with Dave FORSE.

Return Time to Mangotsfield area = approx 2130 pm
Departure from Ealing Broadway will be 1700 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 777's 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 7th - 10th 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 and e-mailing the completed form to: 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.

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

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.

NOTES & NEWS

Bristol Parkway, Stoke Gifford, Pilning, Yate and Westerleigh

21/12 New Transport for Wales Stadler 'Flirt' DEMU set 231001 was recorded arriving Parkway at 1302 (13 late) and departing 1327 (18 late) as a return 3Q63 1200 Swindon - Cardiff Central (1422) mileage accumulation/driver training run.

DRS 68007 + 88009 returned 6M63 Bridgwater - Crewe Coal sidings nuclear flasks (with a FNA consist of 70922902-5 + 709229036-2 + 709229014-9) departing Parkway at 1250 and passing Yate at 1301.

24/12 Christmas Eve engineering train activity for work east of Westerleigh junction (with workings inward via Swindon) included; 70801 - 6C20 0847 Oxford Hinksey yard - Parkway (1126) formed with 9 MLX / 12 JNA / 1 IEA wagons passing Swindon at 1004 (7 early) and later reported in platform 4 Parkway from 1320-1355, 70803 - 6C21 1015 Westbury - Hullavington (1222) passing Swindon station in the up direction (prior to a loco run-round) at 1114 with a consist of 16 JNA / 5 MLA / 1 IEA box wagons, 66589 - 6X40 0738 Oxford Hinksey yard - Parkway passing Swindon at 0853 (35 late) with a wagon consist of 1 OBA / 8 IFA / 1 YRA / 5 YWA / 2 KFA / ZOA crane DRK81611 / 2 FKA wagons and 66515 - 6Y41 0853 Westbury - Chipping Sodbury with a consist of 10 MLA / 11 JNA / 1 IEA box wagons arriving Swindon Transfer yard loop at 1005 and departing down at 1051 (following the loco run-round).

29/12 Parkway station was closed from this date until 1st January 2023 for area track work, all Arriva XC services being diverted via south Wales putting an extra 35 minutes on travel time, whilst Yate and Cam & Dursley were road bus served to and from Gloucester through to Parkway.

30/12 A suspected water flow through Patchway Tunnel on the up line brought ongoing chaos during the early afternoon, with the route already in use for trains diverted from the mainline via Yate! Affected services included 66030 working a 6V08 1018 Margam - Exeter Riverside (1455) wagon for storage move which arrived Pilning loop at 1122 and departed at 1328 (64 late), passed Highbridge & Burnham at 1428 (42 late) and Cowley Bridge junction 1522 (31 late), with a consist of 610107/6. 610145/6 (FCAs), 610202/1 (FYA). 7049381476. 704980056. 7049381696 (FIAs) wagon types rare west of Parsons Street junction (the loco later returning 0M08 1630 Exeter Riverside - Margam (2110) light-loco passing Brent Knoll at 1635), 'Castle' HST set 43122 GW02 43189 with 2C75 1200 Cardiff Central - Taunton (1352) terminated Severn Tunnel junction at 1244 (21 late) with passengers de-trained and transferred to an Arriva XC service, later continuing east (after the line was reopened) as 5C75 1224 to Temple Meads (1412), Voyager sets 220012 + 220018 on the diverted 1V48 0744 York - Plymouth (1448) being held in the Magor area passing Pilning at 1337 (77 late) and terminated Newton Abbot 1407 (76 late) and 220024 + 220016 forming 1V50 0606 Edinburgh - Plymouth, held Newport until 1351 (29 late), then being terminated Temple Meads at 1407 (32 late).

04/01 Two industrial action day freight movements were DC Rail 60029 working 6Z22 Tytherington Quarry - Appleford loaded stone, departing at 0941 (1 early), passing Latteridge crossing (on the branch) at 1240, Yate 1310 (18 late), Westerleigh junction up at 1407 and Swindon Highworth junction 1440, and Freightliner 66528 + 66542 double-heading 4Z49 1203 Southampton Maritime - Wentloog containers (via Basingstoke and Didcot) which departed Eastleigh at 1257 and passed Rushey Platt, Swindon at 1439.

05/01 'ROG' 37884 hauled the final two Class 315 EMU sets 315837 + 315857 for scrapping as 5Q76 1036 Ilford EMU Depot - Newport Docks Sims Metals (1531) passing Ealing Broadway at 1148 (1 early), Swindon 1310 (31 early), Pilning 1342 (60 early) and East Usk 1355 (1 early).

It is interesting to record that 37884 moved the first sets of this Class (315828 + 315841) for scrap at Newport Sims as long ago as 6th November 2018 (also see December 2018 magazine - issue 562).

11/01 'ROG' 37601 still the oldest Class member currently in front line use, having entered service in January 1961 as D6705 (and subsequently re-numbered 37005 and 37501 over the years), moved barrier coaches 6378 + 6379 the 'long way round' as 5V95 0508 Ilford EMU Depot - Long Marston (1231) via the Great Western mainline, Severn Tunnel and Hereford passing Twyford at 0753 (7 early), Swindon 0847 (4 early), Patchway 0927 (-) and Cwmbran 1022 (10 early).

12/01 Heavy rainfall saw the main line closed at Chipping Sodbury (a 5mph restriction being initially brought in on the up line through the tunnel with the down line closed) between Westerleigh junction and Wootton Bassett junction and later at Box Tunnel (also see Bristol TM, Barton Hill and Kingsland Road notes & news).

14/01 The Badminton route was reopened, although only for a short period with IETs 800013 + 800011 departing Parkway at 0734 (38 late) and arriving Swindon at 0814 (56 late) with 1L04 0525 Swansea - Paddington as flood water was reported to be again rising west of Chipping Sodbury tunnel! Later in the morning 800023 + 800005 with 1L14 Swansea - Paddington (which was started Cardiff Central at 1018 due to more flooding between Cardiff and Bridgend) was in trouble around 1055 passing through the flood water at near line speed and suffering unspecified underside damage. Meanwhile, 800316 with 1H08 0932 Paddington - Bristol TM was diverted via Gloucester, Severn Tunnel junction and a reverse at Newport and later the 1L22 1324 Swansea - Paddington with 800011 + 800013 was terminated Parkway at 1522 (29 late) becoming one of a number of cancellations during the day.

Two affected freight services were 66564 working 4V30 London Gateway - Wentloog containers which had arrived Hullavington at 0840 (296 late!) but was able to run-round and work as 4Z30 back to Swindon (and then continue as 4Z30 to Southampton Maritime passing Hawkridge junction at 1509) and a diverted (due to engineering work north of Gloucester) 6V02 1852 (Fri) Tees Yard - Margam freight which on arrival at the same location at 1011 (432 late!) saw the loco detached and work back to Didcot light-engine! Also present 'stranded' in Parkway were two 'Electro-star' EMU sets 387151 and 387144 at the east end of the station.

Locos recorded on Westerleigh tank train duty have included;
60010/020/024.

Locos recorded on Tytherington stone duty have included;
60029. 66041/099/105/112/168/179/187/190/199.

Bristol Temple Meads, Barton Hill and Kingsland Road

20/12 The Arriva XC 'back to back' HST power car driver training run with 43207 + 43208 running as 5Z43 0820 Laira Trsmd - Laira Trsmd (1555) via Bristol (Bedminster) was turned back at Exeter St.Davids arriving at 0947 and departing at 0950 due to flooding at Hele & Bradninch (also see MISCELLANEOUS - Great Western Railway notes & news).

21/12 Arriva XC 1V50 0606 Edinburgh - Plymouth service formed 43303 XC04 43285 was terminated in Temple Meads at 1233 (-) with a train defect and the rear power shut down.

31/12 The 1V62 1445 York - Plymouth Arriva XC service formed with HST 43378 XC05 43239 having arrived Temple Meads at 2147 (4 early) was terminated due to flooding in Devon near South Brent (also see MISCELLANEOUS - Great Western Railway notes & news).

03/01 A further industrial action day saw a limited service between Bristol and Paddington with GWR advising passengers not to travel. Some Great Western line suburban services were also still operating in the Thames Valley.

05/01 Test train headed by 37099 with dept c/stock; 96604. 6117. 9808. 62257. 9701 was returned north early due to forthcoming industrial action as 3Z21 1006 Kingsland Road - Derby RTC (1559) passing Lawrence Hill at 1026 (3 early) and Yate 1045 (9 early).

08/01 Ex. Works HNRC livery 37405 (on 'hire' to Colas) worked a delayed 6Z37 1250 Shrewsbury Coleham isu - Westbury (1700) FEA rhtt wagon move (642016 + 642027 + 642045) passing Pontrilas at 1549 (96 late), Filton Abbey Wood 1652 (79 late), Keynsham 1712 (80 late) and Trowbridge 1750. Another Colas move during the day was 70803 on an out and back 0Z70 1020 light-loco working assumed a driver route or training run from Westbury (1418) via Cardiff the outward passing Bath at 1102 (3 late). For the record the move was terminated at Cardiff Rhymney River bridge junction prior to the return move from south Wales.

09/01 68016 + 68018 arrived Bridgwater at 0635 with a 4 FNA wagon (709229030-5 + 709229006-5 + 709229014-9 + 709229017-2) train. The loaded return later passed Uphill Junction at 1216 in the early 6M63 1200 departure path.

10/01 The 'Inter-City 125' livery power car 43184 was noted back in traffic at the rear of 43303 XC02 departing Temple Meads with 1S51 1227 Plymouth - Edinburgh service at 1440 (5 late). On the freight side 59201 was unusually booked to run via Bath and Bristol with a 6C19 0314 Whatley - Exeter Riverside loaded stone using 22 JNA box wagons passing Temple Meads at 0546 (39 late), Weston-super-Mare station 0622 (off route) and Taunton station 0702 (22 late).

11/01 A 0V84 0828 Doncaster Wabtec - Laira Trsmd 'back to back' HST power car move saw 43285 + 43207 pass Swindon at 0828 (2 late), Kemble 1255 (off route), depart Swindon following a reverse move at 1327 (off route), pass Temple Meads at 1407 (17 late) and Worle junction at 1420 (15 late). The power cars had moved a 'ROG' operated 5E23 1001 Laira Trsmd - Doncaster Wabtec stock working with set XC04 during the previous day. HNRC ex.works orange livery 37405 ran 0Z37 1925 Westbury - St.Philips Marsh (2040) light-engine passing Bath at 1950 (21 early) for a 6Z37 move to Swindon during the following day.

An outward engineers was 66554 passing Lawrence Hill at 1915 (7 early) and Newport 1954 (17 early) with 6Y40 1821 Westbury - Barry (2345) via Margam with a consist of 8 JNA / 1 IEA / 1 MLA box wagons.

12/01 37405 return 6Z37 1130 St.Philips Marsh - Swindon Transfer yard (1256) rhtt wagon move was cancelled the loco being visible out side the wheel-lathe shed late morning switched off.

The down mainline was closed between Bathampton junction and Chippenham due to flooding in Box Tunnel with the up line subject to a 5 mph restriction by late morning.

13/01 37405 returned the two FEA wagon sets as 6Z37 0637 St.Philips Marsh - Swindon Transfer yard via Bristol West (off route), then passing Temple Meads at 0708 (3 early) and Bath 0722 (4 early). The loco and train then formed 6Z38 to Oxford Hinksey yard (1057) with three FEA wagon sets departing at 1052 (85 late). The Class 37 was then allocated 0Z38 1245 light-engine to Coleham Isu, Shrewsbury (1651) via Oxford, Banbury, Hatton and Wolverhampton.

The NRMT HST set formed 43274. 977995. 975814. 977993/4. 975984. 43290 worked 1Z18 1539 Paignton - Taunton (1922) via Bristol East loop passing Yatton in the up direction at 1719 (12 late). The set despite some adverse weather conditions had made the normal Reading Triangle sidings - Paignton (via Penzance) movement earlier in the day.

14/01 Following high winds and heavy rain the 6M30 Tytherington Quarry - Quainton Railhead (0658) struck a fallen tree at St.Annes (Bristol) having passed nearby North Somerset junction at 2224 (72 early). The train was eventually able to continue several hours late, being diverted to Westbury (off route) for further checks and loco change working onwards during the following morning.

As the day progressed there were other weather related problems with flooding at Chipping Sodbury (see Bristol Parkway, Stoke Gifford, Pilning, Yate and Westerleigh notes and news) and at Flax Bourton early afternoon where a number of cancellations and diversions were recorded including; 'Castle' HST 43029 GW05 43188 - 2U16 0852 Penzance - Cardiff Central (1412) being terminated Weston-super-Mare, returning as 5U12 1100 empty to Taunton then continuing onwards departing here at 1256 (6 late) via Westbury and later departing Temple Meads at 1349 (26 late) and 43153 GW09 43155 - 2U14 1043 Exeter St.Davids - Cardiff Central (1521) which was also terminated at Weston and returned as 2Z71 1159 to Penzance arriving Taunton at 1233 (5 late).

Also 220017 + 220003 - 1B49 1127 Plymouth - Gloucester (1411) ran via Westbury and Bath departing Taunton at 1254 (1 late) and later Temple Meads 1415 (40 late).

Later, 43027 GW14 43172 with the 2U20 1050 Penzance - Cardiff Central (1620) which departed Weston-super-Mare at 1449 (1 late) and Temple Meads 1531 (12 late) and 43042 GW06 43009 departing Temple Meads at 1555 with 2C79 to Penzance became the first up and down services through.

Both the 2C73 1100 and 2C75 1200 Cardiff Central - Penzance and Taunton services respectively were on the large cancellation list.

Bristol West Freightliner

08/01 66603 ran 0Z81 0800 East Usk yard - Bristol Freightliner light arriving at 0838 (28 early) to collect a 6Z81 1011 empty stone wagon move to Port Talbot Grange sidings (1248) which departed at 0954 and passed Filton Abbey Wood at 1021.

Avonmouth and the Severn Beach branch line

21/12 66848 powered a 6C41 Avonmouth - Westbury engineers passing Brentry on the Henbury loop at 1340.

23/12 DB red 66021 (having passed Brentry at 1605) brought in 6C03 Northolt - Severnside SITA refuse containers which had 'recessed' in Didcot Yard for around 120 minutes enroute, the loco out-stabling over the Christmas period on Severnside.

Meanwhile, 66515 which had brought in 6C67 Westbury - Avonmouth West wharf

loaded stone which had passed Filton Abbey Wood at 0529 returned 0C68 1138 light-engine to Stoke Gifford passing Hallen Marsh junction at 1059.

24/12 The last passenger train to operate for Christmas Eve was the 2Y41 1546 Avonmouth - Temple Meads service formed with Turbo 166218.

28/12 From this date until 30th December the 6C03 Northolt sidings - Severnside SITA refuse containers was top n' tailed, the return being booked via the Henbury (North Bristol line).

Locos involved were; 66179 + 66099 (28th) and 66001 + 66112 (both 29th and 30th). The days working was routed via the Great Western mainline, Chippenham and Filton passing Swindon at 1248 (2 late), Bath 1322 (2 late) and Stapleton Road 1400 (7 late).

31/12 66190 powered 6C03 0928 Northolt sidings - Severnside SITA (1534) passing Uffingham at 1155 (2 early), Clifton Down 1447 (2 late) and Portway Park & Ride station (not open) at 1457.

02/01 Recently returned from mainland Europe 66179 powered 6C03 1201 Northolt sidings - Severnside SITA loaded refuse containers passing Swindon Highworth junction at 1419 and Brentry on the Henbury loop at 1532 with a consist of 6 FYA / 16 FCA twin-flats.

04/01 Again operating on an industrial action day, 66179 worked a 6Z03 1041 Severnside SITA - Northolt sidings (1444) via Clifton Down (as no GWR passenger services were operating) empty refuse container train which passed Avonmouth at 1103 (3 early), Sea Mills 1110 (5 early), Bath 1149 (1 early) and Swindon 1225 (1 late) with a consist of 20 FCA / 2 FYA wagons. The loco, the latest to be returned from France, was noted still carrying its French red wasp strip panels beneath the cab window at either end.

Locos recorded on stone duty have included; 66515/539/544/607/621.

Locos recorded on cement duty have included; 66766/791/798.

Locos recorded on refuse container duty have included;

66001/021/099/105/112/133/179/188/190.

Portbury Branchline

22/12 Following a previous evening Bristol arrival, Colas test HST set formed 43272. 6263. 72631. 975091. 72612. 43257 departed as 1Q18 0645 Bristol Kingsland Road - Derby RTC (2030) via Portbury, Newport, Temple Meads, Swindon and Evesham passing Parsons Street down at 0626, arriving Portbury 35 minutes early and departing at 0700, calling Pilning loop from 0920-0922 (18 late) on the return from Newport and departing Temple Meads at 0955 (13 late) towards Bath.

Bristol area workings during October

4C12 / 6A12 Didcot - Tytherington Quarry and return loaded stone to Acton (DB)

29/10* 66160.

4L32 Wentloog - London Gateway containers (G&W)

05/10 66587. 06/10 66564. 13/10 66416. 17/10 66546. 24/10 66510.

26/10 66567. 31/10 66534.

4L35 0532 (MO) Portbury Auto Terminal - London Gateway containers (G&W)

31/10 66566.

4L36 Wentloog - Felixstowe containers (G&W)
06/10 66502. 13/10 66418. 17/10 66542. 20/06 66516. 21/10 66543.
24/10 66543. 25/10 66501. 26/10 66504. 31/10 66543.

4L50 Wentloog - Tilbury containers (G&W)
05/10 66565. 17/10 66502. 26/10 66550.

4051 (SO) Wentloog - Southampton Maritime containers (G&W)
22/10 66531. 29/10 66533.

4057 Wentloog - Southampton Maritime containers (G&W)
07/10 66555.

4V35 0815 (SO) London Gateway - Portbury Auto terminal containers (G&W)
15/10 66525. 29/10 66566.

4V79 Tonbridge - Pengam stone empties (GBRf)
31/10 66708.

4Z35 (* 4Z91) Didcot - Tytherington Quarry stone empties (DB)
02/10 66002 + 66011. 26/10* 66133.

4Z86/6Z85 Little Kimble - Tytherington Quarry empty and return loaded
stone (DB)
05/10 66170 + 66188. 06/10 66188. 12/10 66176. 13/10 66114.
19-21/10 66133.

6A27 (* 6A86 Moreton-on-Lugg) East Usk yard - Hayes loaded stone (G&W)
05/10 66614. 07/10 66604. 20/10* 66414. 20/10 66620. 31/10 66607.
Note; Train on 31/10 ran as 6A85 East Usk yard - Hayes.

6A53 Tytherington Quarry - Appleford loaded stone (DB)
06/10 66002 + 66041. 07/10 66002 + 66041. 19/10 66002 + 66041.
21/10 66002 + 66041.

6A83 (*6C85 to Stoke Gifford) Avonmouth Bennetts - West Drayton loaded
stone (G&W)
03/10 66605. 06/10 66570. 13/10 66540. 20/10 66589. 22/10* 66541.
24/10 66607.
Note; Trains on 03/10 66605 and 24/10 66607 ran 6Z57 (MO) loaded to
Theale.

6A87 East Usk yard - West Drayton loaded stone (G&W)
19/10 66414.

6B11 Hayes - East Usk yard stone empties (G&W)
20/10 66614. 31/10 66607.

6B33 Theale - Robeston (Margam SO) fuel tank empties (DB)
05/10 60017. 06/10 60017. 07/10 66075. 12/10 66075. 15/10 66175.
20/10 66065. 21/10 66065.

6B51/6B52 Llanwern Exchange sidings - Swindon Stores loaded and return empty steel (DB)
31/10 66041.

6B91 (SO) Theale - East Usk yard stone empties (G&W)
22/10 66620.

6C02 (TO) Cardiff Dock Ryans - Avonmouth Bennetts loaded and 4002 return empty to Ferme Park ash (GBRf)
04/10 66712. 11/10 66769. 25/10 66749.

6C03 Northolt sidings - Severnside SITA loaded refuse containers and 6A03* return empties (DB)

01/10 66160. 05/10 66127. 06/10 66125. 07/10 66125. 08/10 66114.
12/10 66161. 13/10 66185. 14/10 66169. 17/10* 66004. 20/10 66207.
21/10 66207. 24/10 66004. 25/10 66088. 26/10 66088. 26/10 66088.
29/10 66188. 30/10 66188. 30/10* 66188. 31/10 66188.

Note; Trains on both 01/10 and 08/10 ran as 6Z30 starting at Brentford.

6C42 (SO) Theale - East Usk yard stone empties (G&W)
05/10 66604. 26/10 66607.

6C48 Appleford (*6C58 Oxford Banbury Road) - Machen Quarry stone empties (G&W)
15/10 66604. 31/10* 66540.

6C67/6C68 Westbury - Avonmouth West Wharf loaded & return empty stone (G&W)
05/10 66617. 07/10 66607. 10/10 66614. 11/10 66607. 13/10 66614.
14/10 66607. 24/10 66607.

Note; Empty train on 24/10 started from East Usk yard.

6M36 Westbury - Crewe cement empties (G&W)
11/10 66601.

6M42 Avonmouth Hansons - Penyffordd cement empties (GBRf)
07/10 66726. 12/10 66707. 24/10 66726. 26/10 66726. 28/10 66726.
31/10 66726.

6V32 Tilbury - Trostre steel (GBRf)
07/10 66752. 14/10 66752. 21/10 66752. 28/10 66793.

6V41 Penyffordd - Avonmouth Hansons loaded cement (GBRf)
20/10 66726.

6V71 (MO) Cliffe Vale (Stoke) - Exeter Riverside china clay empties (DB)
03/10 66006. 17/10 66027. 24/10 66027. 31/10 66115.

6V74/6M63 Crewe Coal sidings Bridgwater and return nuclear flasks (DRS)
05/10 68009 + 68018. 13/10 68009 + 68018. 19/10 68002 + 68007.

6V84 Clitheroe - Avonmouth Hansons loaded cement (GBRf)
12/10 66758. 17/10 66756. 19/06 66758. 26/10 66774.

6Z20 Willesden DCR sidings(* 6Z21 Bristol East yard) - Tytherington Quarry stone empties (DC Rail)
24/10 60028. 25/10* 60028. 26/10* 60028.

6Z52 Oxford Banbury Road - Machen Quarry stone empties (DC Rail)
05/10 60046. 12/10 60046. 19/10 60055. 20/10 60055.

6Z86 West Drayton - Machen Quarry stone empties (G&W)
05/10 66414. 06/10 66414. 11/10 66414. 14/10 66414. 21/10 66414.
24/10 66414.

Gloucester

23/12 'ROG' 37884 delivered EMU set 315856 to the Dean Forest Railway and into preservation as 5Q76 1104 Ilford EMU Depot - Lydney Up Goods loop (1507) passing Swindon at 1403 (2 early), Stonehouse 1438 (6 late) and Gloucester 1447 (2 late).

05/01 Despite the line closure and £25 million embankment stability work during 2022 a further landslip occurred between Purton and Lydney linked to heavy rainfall closing the line again. Diversions during the day included 66144 passing Yate at 0944 with 6M96 Llanwern - Corby steel coils and 60020 on 6B13 Robeston - Westerleigh Puma loaded fuel tanks passing the same location at 1244 heading for Gloucester and a loco run-round for a re-traced route back to Yate and Westerleigh.

11/01 An engineering train record was 66116 passing Standish junction at 0733 on a 6W01 0541 Westbury - Gloucester New Yard working formed with 3 KFA runners and Z0A crane DRK81612.

12/01 DRS 68005 + 68017 passed Cheltenham at 0717 with a 6V73 0433 Crewe Coal sidings - CEGB Berkeley low level radioactive waste service formed with a single PFA wagon, DRSL 92768. This train had not operated for several months.

15/01 Engineering train allocation records for area track and tunnel work included;
66846 - 6C23 1758 Horton Road - Oxford Hinksey yard.
70807 - 6G72 1850 Horton Road - Oxford Hinksey yard.
66221 tnt 66116 - 6W01 1946 Horton Road - Oxford Hinksey yard.
66087 - 6W02 1923 Horton Road - Oxford Hinksey yard (0129) passing Newport up at 2200 (29 early).
66723 - 6W03 1909 Horton Road - Westbury (0030) via Newport Adj, Bristol TM and Taunton Fairwater yard formed with 19 new MLA box wagons, reported passing Lawrence Hill 2157 (19 late) and Temple Meads 2159 (10 late).

Swindon

Locos recorded on 6V15 Boston (Sleaford sidings)- Swindon Stores (6M53 return) import steel service have included;
20/12 60015. 12/01 60062. 19/01 60062.

Chippenham

06/01 A further £3 million financial investment here will see a third passenger lift brought into use with improved disabled access. Also cycling storage and station path links will receive attention.

Westbury

24/12 A Christmas Eve area loco line up recorded; down yard 66078.

66179. 66735. 66791. Colas 'Elephant House' maintenance shed 66847. 70811. up yard 66105. 66416. Colas siding 70803. 70815.

27/12 66513 + 66589 + 66415 + 66506 + 66416 formed a 0Y41 1710 Westbury - Taunton Fairwater yard (1810) light-loco move passing Castle Cary at 1549 (108 early) and Taunton station 1615.

01/01 A New Years Day line up at 0925 recorded the following; down side 66035. 66105. 66168. 66742. Colas 'Elephant House' 70801 (inside). 70811 (outside). Up yard (short siding) 66561. 66567. Colas sidings 66847. 66850. 70803. 70807.

05/01 A 0A66 1200 Taunton Fairwater yard - Stoke Gifford (via Westbury) light-engine move passed Castle Cary at 1205 (33 early) formed 66416 + 66415 + 66589 + 66506.

07/01 At 1045 the following were reported in the area; down yard 66078. 66105. 66125. 66742. Colas 'Elephant House' 70801. Colas sidings 70803. 70807. 70815. up yard (west end) 66179 (with wagons).

10/01 A return engineering train record was; 66519 + 66567 top n' tailing - 6Y43 0520 Risca South junction - Westbury passing Bradford junction at 0732.

11/01 Engineering train records included; 66784 - 6G99 0546 Bedwyn - Westbury passing Heywood Road junction at 0613, 66564 - 6Y40 0404 Cardiff Central - Westbury passing Bradford junction at 0609 and 66546 passing the same location at 0724 working 6Y44 0520 Risca South junction - Westbury.

12/01 With both the Bristol Parkway and mainline closed between Thingley junction and Bathampton junction due to flooding diversions operated via the Berks & Hants and Newbury route which included several freight services including; 70801 - 6M40 Westbury - Stud Farm empty virtue quarry ballast which departed at 1148 (6 late), 66538 - 6Z86 1108 West Drayton - East Usk yard stone empties passing Southcote junction at 1319, 60029 - 6Z22 1108 Tytherington Quarry - Appleford loaded stone reported passing near Bradford junction at 1335, 66518 - 6C58 1210 Oxford Banbury Road - East Usk yard stone empties passing Reading West curve at 1325 and 60010 - 6B33 Theale - Robeston fuel tank empties which departed and headed west at 1411 (22 late).

14/01 An afternoon loco line up recorded the following; down yard 66544. 66709 (allox. 6G97 cwr train to Par with 66770). 66770 (allox. 6G97 cwr train to Par with 66709). Colas siding 70801/3. next to power signal box 66508. 66602. Also an arrival at 1457 was 66127 running 0012 (SO) Margam Lip - Eastleigh light-engine.

15/01 The final OAA 'bass' wagon left in service 100048 was expected to leave the area on the following days 6M50 0801 Westbury - Bescot departmental service, destined for scrapping at Toton. This type of long wheel base wagon had entered service by the mid 1970s and could be seen locally on front-line 'air-braked' freight services from the West Country via Bristol to Scotland. A covered van version of this wagon type still remain in traffic in departmental or MoD use.

A return departmental was; 66770 + 66709 top n' tailing - 6G97 0810 Liskeard - Westbury (1353) formed with 13 wagons passing Totnes at 1102 (1 early) and Taunton 1215 (44 early).

18/01 A return departmental was 66567 + 66592 arriving at 0825 top n' tailing 6Y46 0520 ex. Risca junction.

19/01 Return engineering train records included; 70807 - 6C42 2126 (Wed) Westbury - Westbury (via Gloucester New Yard) passing Bradford junction at 0742 on the return and 66592 + 66546 top n' tailing - 6Y47 0520 Risca

South junction - Westbury which passed North Somerset junction (Bristol) at 0741.

Locos recorded on Exeter stone duty included; 59104. 59204. 66605/623.

Taunton

09/01 66416 + 66515 top n' tailed 6X04 2050 Fairwater - Bridgwater trt train (2047) formed 7 YXA / 3 IFA / 2 YXA / 4 YJA / 1 ZWA / 2 YDA / 1 YSA / 2 JNA wagons arriving at its destination at 2140 (53 late).

12/01 66416 + 66515 again top n' tailed the return 6X04 0500 Bridgwater - Fairwater yard trt passing Taunton station at 0615.

18/01 66416 + 66515 top n' tailed 6X04 Fairwater yard - Aish emergency cross-over (1930) departing at 1650 (11 early) and passing Dawlish at 1821 (2 early) with a 2 JJA / 1 YSA / 2 YDA / 1 ZWA / 4 YJA / 2 YXA / 3 IFA / 2 YXA wagon consist at 1345 ft long and 1259 tonnes.

19/01 66416 was on a 6C75 1025 Fairwater yard - Bishops Lydeard waste ballast train passing Norton Fitzwarren inward at 1024.

Newport

23/12 70815 passed at 0915 light-engine as 0Z55 0945 Baglan Bay - Westbury.

24/12 With the 4V38 inward double-headed using 66427 + 66425 the return 4Z36 Wentloog - Daventry (1702) TESCO container service passed Newport at 1246 (53 early) and Cheltenham 1405 (36 early) again with the same two locos with a consist of 8 IKA wagons.

30/12 Colas HST test train 43272. 6263. 72631. 975091. 72612. 43257 worked 1Q16 0649 Crewe - Crewe (1144) via Newport passing Wrenbury at 0708 (2 late) and Cwmbran at 0940 (15 late) on the outward. The set was later allocated 1Q18 1216 Crewe - Derby RTC (1426).

With the mainline closed north of Westerleigh junction via Yate, 66766 with 6V84 Clitheroe - Avonmouth Hansons loaded cement was diverted via Hereford passing Shrewsbury at 1334 and Pilning 1630 (28 late).

31/12 66168 passed Newport at 1244 running 0O12 1106 (SO) Margam - Eastleigh light-engine and 66433 was noted at 1439 working a 4Z36 1521 Wentloog - Daventry TESCO container service having brought in a 4V38 loaded working earlier in the day.

09/01 Colas 56049 was returned for log duty as 0Z51 1035 Gloucester Horton Road - Baglan Bay (1309) light-engine passing Newport at 1035 (51 early).

Cardiff

20/12 What was reported as the first through Transport for Wales Class 67 service to Manchester, 67022 having worked 1V91 0533 Holyhead - Cardiff Central and next 1W57 1052 return to Manchester Piccadilly, but a DMU set 175108 was used for the booked 1V46 1430 return to Cardiff Central and 1W65 1855 return to Manchester.

The 'Midland blue' HST set with power cars 43059 (IC livery) + 43055 worked a 1Z61 0627 Cardiff Central - Edinburgh (1325) 'Edinburgh Christmas Pullman' which departed Newport at 0649 (4 late) and Cheltenham 0804 (14 late). The booked return was 1Z63 1626 to Cardiff Central (2346).

On the freight side, the 6B13 Robeston - Westerleigh loaded fuel tanks headed by 60010 was reported in trouble in West Wales at Clarbeston Road having stopped just before 0600. 60020 was allocated train rescue duties

arriving light-engine and moving the working onwards to Margam where it was terminated at 1354 (338 late!).

22/12 67022 suffered a brake failure which was thought to have been stock related whilst working 1V96 Holyhead - Cardiff Central service at Craven Arms. 67020 assisted as the 0Z99 light-engine the train eventually arriving in Central station at 1852 (146 late), then moving on to Canton sidings at 1858.

Also during the day NR yellow livery Class 37's 97304 + 97303 top n' tailed dept c/stock; 5995. 5971. 9801. 999605/6 as a 3Q64 1018 departure from and back to Taff Vale sidings (1908) via Gloucester and Swindon, passing Newport at 1034 (17 early), departing Swindon at 1440 (2 late) on the return and later passing Gloucester at 1704 (20 late). The locos and train were later allocated 3Q84 2310 Taff Vale sidings - Chester (0658).

29/12 A DMU set covered one of the TfW loco hauled diagrams being booked to work 1V91 0533 Holyhead - Cardiff Central, 1W93 1122 return to Holyhead and 1V98 1636 return to Cardiff Central.

30/12 A further DMU 175114 covered one of the TfW loco and coach duties commencing with 1W91 0648 Cardiff Central - Holyhead.

03/01 67014 working 1W96 1714 Cardiff Central - Holyhead was failed at Flint with a door fault, the train then completing the journey as an ecs move.

05/01 New Stadler 'Flirt' set 197011 made a class operating debut as a 3T03 1400 Landore Tmd - Canton sidings (1546) move via Newport which arrived Central station at 1535 (35 late) and departed 1547 (46 late) being then reversed at Marshfield (instead of Newport) assumed due to the late running.

07/01 The Aberdare line was closed due to flooding.

09/01 A return engineers was 66571 + 66519 top n' tailing 6Y97 0540 Clarbeston Road - Westbury which passed Bridgend at 0646.

10/01 With the new Manchester loco hauled service up and running operating issues were causing problems, not necessarily being loco related but with the stock and DVT vehicles. Firstly 67029 and train (HD06) failed near Abergavenny having departed Newport at 1143 (4 late) with 1W93 1125 Cardiff Central - Holyhead (1619) at 1211 (7 late), the train eventually being able to move back to Canton sidings ecs with DMU 150283 continuing the working forward and later 67025 and train formed with recently returned to service coaching set HD01 failed near Morton-on-Lugg having departed Leominster at 1708 (44 late), 67029 being despatched as a 1Z99 assisting light-loco passing Central station at 1907.

There followed numerous amended and cancelled services with DMUs 150285 + 153909 working 1V97 1430 Holyhead - Cardiff Central (1925) behind the Class 67 and train eventually terminated Leominster at 2336 (340 late!) and both 175112 with 1V50 1630 Manchester Piccadilly - Swansea (2042) and 175108 on 1V58 1730 Manchester Piccadilly - Cardiff Central (2101) services were terminated Shrewsbury at 1751 (9 late) and 1907 (18 late) respectively. This service failure seemed 'serious' as a 5D97 1825 Cardiff Central - Shrewsbury working (believed to be DMU set 175009) drew alongside the stricken train for a passenger transfer departing Leominster at 2057 (76 late) northbound! This unit was assumed to eventually have part formed the first through train service south as 1V66 2120 Crewe - Cardiff Central (with 175006) reaching Central at 0210 (115 late!), the preceding line clearance move involving 67029 hauling the train to Hereford having been 10mph restricted!

11/01 Following the previous days train failures, DMUs 153318 + 153922 worked at least the 1W91 0648 Cardiff Central - Holyhead and 1V96 1133 return to Cardiff Central part of that diagram, whilst 67013 was used on the 1V91 0533 Holyhead - Cardiff Central, 1W57 1052 Cardiff Central - Manchester Piccadilly and 1V46 1430 return to Cardiff Central. Also during the day 67025 + 67029 with the defective HD01 coaches worked 3V98 1415 Hereford - Crewe CS (1741) for attention.

12/01 Late in the day the south Wales mainline between Cardiff and Bridgend was closed due to flooding with divers operating via the Vale of Glamorgan route and Barry, but by around 1900 the extra traffic was building over the route with DMU 150257 on 2E48 1638 Merthyr Tydfil - Bridgend service, 175009 with 1B52 1747 Cardiff Central - Milford Haven (at Llantwit Major), which later departed Bridgend at 1923 (76 late), a 0B24 1700 Newport ADj - Margam light-loco and IETs 800004 + 800016 with 1B19 1448 Paddington - Swansea all in separate following signalled sections, the IETs being recorded near Aberthaw having departed Cardiff Central at 1813 (94 late) and later Bridgend 1943 (163 late), this service also having earlier been diverted via the Berks & Hants route due to flooding at Chipping Sodbury and Box (also see Bristol Parkway, Stoke Gifford, Pilning, Yate and Westerleigh notes & news)!

A return engineers working was; 66846 + 70807 top n' tailing - 6C98 0620 Morlais junction - Westbury passing Margam Moors junction up at 0809 (55 early) and Central station 0842 (65 early).

18/01 Stadler 'Flirt' DEMU set 231007 was in use on Valley Line passenger duties working 2P47 1200 Bargoed - Penarth and 2R12 1303 return to Rhymney as part of the days diagram, 231004 also being observed as stabled at Rhymney.

Rumours suggest some or possibly all the TfW Class 769 sets could be on their way back to the leasing firm Porterbrook on the forthcoming Summer May timetable change.

Also during the day Colas HST set 43274. 977995/3/4. 975984. 43290 was reported in West Wales on return test train duty as 1Q16 0333 Landore Tmd - Derby RTC (2024) via Fishguard Harbour passing Whitland outward at 0644 (5 early), Carmarthen junction 1105 (10 early) and Gloucester 1425 (38 early) on the return.

19/01 New Government 'levelling up' funding (part of the Conservative manifesto pledge) will see a £50 million investment into the Cardiff Central - Cardiff Bay rail-link. This will in the long term form part of the Cardiff City 'Cross-Rail project' which will include new station openings with Butetown already at the advanced planning stage.

Transport for Wales - Loco Loggings

67013 - 1V33 (HD05) 09/01. 1W91 (HD05) 10/01. 1V91 (HD05) 11/01.

67014 - 1W91*(HD04).

67020 - 1W91 (HD04) 29/12. 1V91 (HD04) 30/12.

67022 - 1V91 (HD04) 1W57 only. 20/12. 1W91*(HD04) 22/12.

67025 - 1V91 (HD01) 03/01. 1W91 (HD01) 09/01. 1V91*(HD01) 10/01.

67029 - 1V91 (HD06) 09/01. 1V33*(HD06) 10/01.

* Diagram affected by stock failures (see Cardiff notes & news).

Loco diagrams Mon-Fri (from 9th January 2023) billed as 'Inter-City 225';
1. 1V91 0533 Holyhead - Cardiff Central (0959), 1W57 1052 return to Manchester Piccadilly (1415), 1V46 1430 return to Cardiff Central (1743),

1W65 1855 return to Manchester Piccadilly (2227), 5K65 2230 ecs to Crewe CS.

2. 1W91 0648 Cardiff Central - Holyhead (1118), 1V96 1133 return to Cardiff Central (1618), 1W96 1714 return to Holyhead (2141).

3. 5V33 0513 Crewe CS - Manchester Piccadilly, 1V33 0626 return to Cardiff Central (0956), 1W93 1125 return to Holyhead (1619), 1V98 1634 return to Cardiff Central (2128).

Coaching stock formations;

HD01 - 12225. 10325. 11323. 12454. 82226.

HD04 - 12211. 12310. 10318. 11319. 82201.

HDO5 - 12224. 12477. 12326. 10321. 11320. 82200.

HD06 - 12222. 12461. 12323. 10330. 11321. 82227.

Locos recorded on Daventry - Wentloog TESCO container service included; 66425 (23/12, 24/12 with 66427, 29/12, 30/12), 66427 (24/12 with 66425), 66429 (22/12), 66433 (31/12).

Locos recorded on Baglan Bay log duty have included; 56049 (11/01, 12/01, 18/01). 70815 (22/12, 23/12 as 6Z54 outward empty only, 29/12).

Locos recorded on Margam / Port Talbot (from Cwmbargoed) coal duty have included; 66006/050/168.

Locos recorded on Hope/Earles cement coal duty have included; 66174.

Locos recorded on Corby steel duty have included; 66144/168/172.

Locos recorded on Dee Marsh steel duty have included; 66759.

Locos recorded on Round Oak steel duty included; 66050/144/172/198/207.

Locos recorded on Barry Dock container duty have included; 66413/520.

Locos recorded on Machen Quarry stone duty have included; 66538.

PRESERVATION & INDUSTRIAL MATTERS

Avon Valley Railway

20/12 Class 31 31130 was assisting on 'Santa Train' duty during the day top n' tailing with steam 4015 Karel (Chrz 4015/54), due to a high and fast flowing water level below the River Avon bridge at Saltford Riverside preventing a loco run round in the station here as booked.

06/01 BR blue livery 08202 was noted on the Oldland Common end of the line from Bitton on a single wagon bagged ballast working.

Bristol Harbour Railway

The footpath alongside 'the cut' and Cumberland Road is expected to reopened in May this year at a cost of £11 million. Nicknamed the 'chocolate path' due to its surfacing style, the walkway had been in part closed due to subsidence for the past 5 years but shut-off completely when the January 2020 landslide occurred. The road is expected to reopen also this year, but the railway not until 2024 when contractors have completely cleared their work site yard and cabins close to the bonded warehouses.

Dean Forest Railway

09/01 The line is set to become the home for 10 BP green livery TTA 4-wheel fuel tank wagons (seven having been saved already by this date). The National Wagon Preservation Group 'Project Petroleum' is expected to raise the £35,000 needed to secure their purchase, the wagons being

currently located at Gascoigne Wood yard having arrived there on 15th November 2022. They have seen use in certain parts of the country particularly on depot fuel runs from refineries including East Anglia, from Ripple Lane and in Scotland out of Grangemouth.

15/01 The preserved EMU set 315856 temporary stored here (also see Gloucester notes & news for 23rd December 2022) had been moved from the station area at Lydney junction to a siding near the A48 road crossing following a graffiti attack on one coach.

The set is destined for the Llanelli & Mynydd Mawr Railway at Cynheidre.

East Somerset Railway

Large ex. GWR 'Prairie' tank 4110 had been out shopped from Cranmore works in early January ready for steam testing.

The loco will see use over the East Somerset Railway for the next three years as part of the restoration deal prior to a move to the Torbay Steam Railway which will become its permanent base.

Hythe Pier Railway (Hampshire)

Following on from the announcement made in December that the line was to close permanently on 31st December 2022 (see last months Magazine) it is now good to report that another operator has come in to save the Southampton Water ferry operation and secure the historic electric pier railways future.

MISCELLANEOUS

'D' Stock Conversions

For the benefit of any members who may not have access to an up-to-date stock book, here is a table showing which D stock cars were converted by VivaRail into Class 230 / Class 484 units. As reported in last months magazine the Long Marston based company sadly ceased trading following the end of financial support during late November 2022.

SET no.	New side no.	D stock	New side no.	D stock	New side no.	D stock
230001	300001	7058	300201	17058	300101	7511
230002	300002	7122	300202	17091	300102	7067
230003	300003	7069	300103	7127		
230004	300004	7100	300104	7500		
230005	300005	7066	300105	7128		
230006	300006	7098	300206	17066	300106	7510
230007	300007	7103	300207	17063	300107	7529
230008	300008	7120	300208	17050	300108	7065
230009	300009	7055	300209	17084	300109	7523
230010	300010	7090	300210	17071	300110	7017
484001	131	7086	231	7011		
484002	132	7068	232	7002		
484003	133	7051	233	7083		
484004	134	7074	234	7111		
484005	135	7124	235	7093		

230001	Prototype named 'Viva Venturer'
230002	Railroad Development Corp. - Pennsylvania
230003 - 230005	London Northwestern Railway - Bletchley Depot
230006 - 230010	Transport for Wales - Chester Depot
484001 - 484005	Island line - Ryde St.Johns Depot

Bristol Temple Meads Redevelopment Plans

Future proposed station and associated area work is the transferring of the main entrance via the 'old' Brunel building with new entrances also on the Feeder Canal side as part of the new Uni-Campus on the former Royal Mail building site and a retail supported entrance off Bath Road next to the fish dock and currently where the Kwik-Fit tyre centre is located. The still currently busy main approach road will become a new 'plaza' type area with very limited if any space for road vehicle movements. Two new retail units are also planned for platform 3. Work on the former Bath Road depot 'Temple Island' site will commence for residential and retail use and the Grosvenor Hotel is expected to be finally demolished. A new car park is planned for the remaining cleared old goods shed and Temple Quay area land alongside the planned new 'old' station main entrance.

Ashley Hill Station to Re-open

Plans are now in an advanced stage with funding provided by West of England Combined Authority to reinstate the station at Ashley Hill (near to its original location closed in November 1964) with work planned to commence early in 2024. The new platforms which will serve both relief lines will see the closure of the Concorde Way cycle route which will be diverted from St.Werburghs under the mainline and via Boiling Wells Lane to and from Muller Road.

Arriva XC

01/01 On arrival at Newton Abbot the 1S47 1027 Plymouth - York (1628) formed with Voyagers 220025 + 220007 was stopped as the lead set had defective sanding equipment. Having been detached the unit was moved onto the Heathfield branch and later returned as a 5V47 empty move to Laira Trsmd.

Birmingham New Street

24/12 The station power box was switched out of use at the end of the day, after 57 years of use having opened in 1966. The now Grade 2 listed and at one time 'state of the art' structure transferred all operations to the West Midlands Signalling Centre (WMSC) at Saltley.

Cornwall

The Government has provided £50 million 'levelling up' funding towards development of a Cornish Metro service between Newquay and Falmouth. Signal boxes at Lostwitiel, Par and Truro are set to close by the end of this year with the removal of their semaphore signals, but Goonbarrow box on the Newquay branch is expected to be fitted with an operating 'mini panel' newly controlling a passing loop at St.Dennis junction (to be reinstated) as part of the Metro passenger work and increased line capacity.

DB Cargo

The following Class 60 locos 60012. 60036/7. 60048. 60052. 60068. 60077/8. 60084/9. 60093, were all offered for sale as seen in early January being located at Toton.

Devon - Wales Freight Flow

Following a trial working in January 2022 (see February 2022 magazine - issue 600) Euro-forest, the largest UK provider of logs are keen to move around 250,000 tonnes of timber a year by rail between Newton Abbot and the mill at Pontrilas, being off loaded at Abergavenny up siding with a short road move needed to complete the weekly journey.

The trial saw a starting point at Newton Abbot Hackney Yard, but Teignbridge on the Heathfield (former Mortenhampstead) branch line has also seen use as a loading point for this type of traffic in the past.

DRS

18/01 68016 + 68018 top n' tailed a further radioactive sludge train using the usual PFA wagons and red 'low level' containers from Dorset as 6Z62 0100 Crewe Coal sidings - Wool (0903) which passed Eastleigh at 0713 (3 early) and 6Z95 1603 Winfrith return to Crewe which departed Dorchester South at 1629 (9 late) following a booked reverse move here and passing New Milton at 1736 (10 late) towards Southampton.

GBRf

10/01 As reported in last months Magazine, 69007 (ex. 56037) was released from Arlington works in 'retro' BR blue running 0Z07 Eastleigh West yard - Tonbridge light-engine.

Great Western Railway

20/12 The mainline was closed at Hele & Bradninch due to flooding from the River Culm with trains initially able to proceed at caution at 5 mph, the 1A84 Penzance - Paddington IET service being the last allowed through during the early afternoon.

24/12 The 1A50 2145 (Fri) Penzance - Paddington sleeper service (which additionally called at Ivybridge) was delayed at Exeter St.Davids until 0403 (having arrived at 0107) due to no driver being available, the working eventually arriving in the capital at 0601 (121 late). For the record the trains c/stock consist was; 10563. 10596. 10589. 10612. 10219. 12140. 17173. The down service 1C50 2345 (Fri) Paddington - Penzance was in the hands of 57605 with c/stock; 17174. 12161. 10217. 10616. 10584. 10534. 10594 and was reported departing Truro at 0713.

27/12 Over-running engineering work saw the mainline from Paddington to the North Pole depot area closed until 1030, the 1B09 0918 departure to Swansea (IET 800025), 1C08 0932 to Temple Meads (800022 + 800028), 1C75 0935 to Paignton (802005), 1W01 0946 to Hereford (800009), 1C76 1004 to Penzance (802107) and 2G20 1010 to Greenford (165118) all being the first of a number of cancellations with set/unit allocations. The first arrival was Turbos 165105 + 165104 with 1P60 0918 ex. Reading at 1046 (47 late)

30/12 A 5V03 0812 Eastleigh - Long Marston (1250) via Kemble Class 769 'bi-mode' DEMU move for storage was cancelled. With only 6 of the 19 class needed passed for use all are to be handed back to the leasing company Porterbrook following extensive unsuccessful trialling.

The units were to replace the remaining Turbo sets in the Thames Valley

which will all relocate to Bristol but plans are now set to change with as previously reported other operators older Class 158 or even 150 units (from Transport for Wales where new stock is being delivered) being possible replacements.

31/12 Flooding at South Brent from an over-flowing River Avon saw closure of the main-line at 1615. 'Castle' HST 43027 GW14 43172 working 2U32 1650 Penzance - Bristol TM was terminated at Plymouth and returned west, IET 802108 working 1C84 1404 Paddington - Penzance was terminated at Totnes and returned in the path of 1A94 Plymouth - Paddington as a 1719 departure and another 'Castle' HST set 43187 GW15 43092 thought to have arrived with 2C81 Cardiff Central - Penzance also terminated here and returned at 1917 as 2Z32 (in the 2U32 ex. Penzance path) to Exeter St.Davids (not Bristol TM as originally booked). A track inspection was planned to have taken place in daylight hours during the following day.

02/01 Bank Holiday Monday and DMUs 150233 + 150263 were used on 1A80 0815 Penzance - Paddington as far as Exeter (in place of the booked IET set) for 800310 to take over. The units were reported as filled to standing when departing Totnes at 1042!

09/01 Turbo 166218 worked 1C71 0700 Gloucester - Penzance in place of a 'Castle' HST set departing Totnes at 0943, another 'Castle' 43189 GW02 43022 being available to continue onwards into Cornwall from Plymouth with the Turbo returning 5Z76 1020 empty to Exeter St.Davids.

17/01 DMU 150234 was reported to have received new transmission and was booked a 5Z76 1516 Exeter Tmd - Exeter Tmd test working via Dawlish Warren.

18/01 Following snowfall in Mid/North Devon, DMU 158956 was sent on a 5B77 1219 Exeter - Barnstaple empty as a track safety inspection run.

GWR Support Life

The company passed £77,000 on to the Samaritans from fund raising to the organisation for use on the lead up to the Christmas and New Year period to help vulnerable persons.

A grant has been applied for Community Funding to recruit new volunteers so particularly school and college visits can take place over the next 10 years as non-profit making events focusing on the support of people who may be at risk from endangering themselves at stations or on the railway itself.

In the past GWR in association with the Samaritans have trained platform staff to watch for signs and approach persons where appropriate at stations who may possibly be contemplating suicide.

Industrial Action

27/12 Up to 70% of services nationwide had operated during the day, Arriva XC running no services north of York due to the days strike action which had also seen TSSA office staff from West Midlands and Great Western Railway join the stoppage.

03/01 This was the first of four RMT Union(which included Network Rail and 14 Train Operating Company staff) strike days over pay and working conditions continuing also over 4th, 6th and 7th with ASLEF train drivers stopping work on 5th.

The post Christmas return to work was put back by a large number of employers to 9th January due to the strike action affecting commuter travel.

17/01 The ASLEF driver union announced two further stoppage dates of 1st and 3rd February following a breakdown of talks regarding pay and working conditions.

Loco Services Crewe

09/01 47593 using barrier vehicles 6393 + 6394 moved 'Blue Pullman' HST stock; 43055. 43046. 41162. 40802. 41182. 41059 with two more barriers 6336 + 6348 (which were detached at Reading Depot enroute) as 5Z43 0850 Crewe HS - Eastleigh Arlington Works (1455), believed for Winter covered storage, passing Stafford at 1038 and Leamington Spa 1201 (31 late).

Loram Rail

37606 has been repainted into a 'retro' rail-freight with yellow ends large logo grey livery and re-numbered 37508 at Burton Wetmore destined for test train duty use.

More Locos for GBRf

08/01 The company is to take out a 10 year lease from European Company Akiem for a further 11 Class 77 (Class 66) locos, the first of which had arrived in this country by this date. The contract is reported to be worth £25 million.

Planned Weekend Engineering Blockades

Work dates and times for January were listed as;

Bath - Bristol; 14/01 0115 - 16/01 0600. 21/01 0115 - 23/01 0400.
29/01 0115 - 30/01 0400.

Gloucester - Worcester; 14/01 0200 - 16/01 0345. 21/01 0200 - 23/01 0345.
29/01 0030 - 30/01 0500.

London Underground

10/01 This date marked the railways 160th anniversary of opening.

Rail Fare Increase

The annual January 2023 ticket rise (based on the July retail price index - which was actually around 10%!) has been set by the Government at 5.9%, this being the second highest ever on record. Season ticket pricing will be increased from March.

South-Western

16/01 A serious 44 metre long landslip over a clay based embankment near Hook, between Basingstoke and Winchfield, saw the 4-track mainline closed with the operating company advising passengers not to travel and to use alternative travel routes if possible.

The mainline was expected to be fully closed until the following weekend when engineers were hoping to have two of the four tracks reopened.

TRACK MACHINES & DEPARTMENTALS

23/12 Liskeard - DR73120 + DR77909 being allocated 6Q53 0953 to Taunton Fairwater yard.

29/12 Bath - DR79102/3/4/5 passing at 1218 (53 late) as a 6Q01 1000 Cardiff Taff Vale sidings - Reading Triangle sidings (1330) move.

02/01 Taunton Station yard - DR75407 allocated 6J84 0923 to Liskeard.
 Totnes - DR80210 passing at 1300 as a 6U30 Westbury - Truro move.
08/01 Totnes - DR73121 passing at 1206 as 6Q54 1140 Plymouth Tavistock
 junction - Taunton Fairwater.
09/01 Westbury Yard - DR79102-DR79105 which had arrived as a 6Q01 0400
 move from Romford sidings which passed nearby Bradford junction at 0819.
10/01 Totnes - DR73407 passing at 1204 on a 6J84 1140 Tavistock junction
 - Exeter Old yard move.
14/01 Newton Abbot - DR79263 + DR79273 (allox. 6U03 to Liskeard GF).

TRIP REPORTS

TRIP 571

W.H. DAVIS

26th February 2022

Contributions from John Dicks, Dave Forse, Colin Naisbitt, Red Perry and Paul Young

W. H. Davis

Locos AB 499/1965 (blue - engine removed); TH 284V/1979 (Ex Ps 58 & 124, 18EL) - green

Wagons 371077 32 70 4501 000-3/001-1 83 70 4520 198-0/199-8/330-9/
 331-7/332-5 83 70 4521 101-3/102-1 39 70 4901 017-6/023-4/045-7/048-1
 70 5932 118-9/119-7/129-6/130-4/131-2/132-0/133-8/134-6/135-3/136-1
 70 6791 042-4 33 70 6955 227-3 83 70 6955 306-8/ 314-2/337-3/341-5

Withdrawn Wagon 32 70 4501 011-1

Rubbish Number? 29 4713 164

Toton Depot (Viewed)

Locos 60003/004/009/012/013/019/023/025/027/030/031/032/033/034/036/037/
 039 DoveHoles /041/042/043/048/049/051/052/053/057/058/061/063/065/067/
 068/069/072/073/077/078/079/081/083/084/088/089/091/093/094/097/098/099
 60500 66003/010/025/027/031/042/ 043/047/063/068/070/082/102/105/112/
 125/137/138/143/147/149/175/182 (Charity Railtours logo) /185/205
 66519 66782/797 67003/005/013/019/022/027

Departmental Coach ADB975454

Track Machine 76751

Road/Rail DB Cargo 979112-8 LOK 30 520 Zephir 2925/2021 shunter

Wagons 12901/919/921/931/947/948/951/955/971/979/991 29057/113/118/317/
 357/368/410/532 17194 110774 210437/551/607 320005/007/016/024/026/
 028/040 380001/013/020/029/101/102/103/130/135/136/158/161/163/185/186/
 188/301/309/314/404/405/503/504/505/613/614/615/623/701/702/703/704/705
 396091 460129/140 500196/268 501310 503015/502/504/529/544 964014
 966139/182/196/231 967608 979118 996325/333/468/592/939
 33 70 4908 030-0 31 70 4938 018-9 85 70 4971 021-6 81 70 5500 642-0/
 645-3/650-3 41 70 6723 029-8/041-3/043-9/048-8/049-6/066-0/083-5/086-7
 33 70 6955 077-6/088-3/094-1/100-6 33 70 9228 002-5

Old Dalby

Empty

Ashfordby

Locos 08922 56098
Industrial Loco CD 40 4018/3 U/I
Emu Sets 701502 720519 730004 730102
Wagons 210111/345

Mountsorrel & Rothley Community Heritage Centre

Locos ExBR 47406 VF 3977/1926 (Ex P126, 18EL)
Industrial Colin Andrew AB 1223/1911 (Ex P197, 18EL); Berry Wiggins &
Co. Ltd. Kingsnorth BE 314/1906 (Ex P127, 18EL); RH 393304/1956;
DB965080 (DE320498) Wkm 7595/1957; Ex MSLR Coach 946 (5946,DE320256)
Wagons Ex BR MTM654 (B477060) Mountsorrel Granite Ex LMS 127 (M477031)
Mountsorrel Granite; 501987 Ex LNER MTM539 (E312422) Mountsorrel
Granite Ex MR M860 Ex NCB NCB 23 Ellis & Everard; 402 (DM742591 South
Leicester Private owner 339 (GWR7178, NCB48339) Ex SR 618 (DS61953)
Snibston

Nunckley Narrow Gauge Railway (Same site as above)

Gauge 2' 0" Locos MR 22070/1960; 85049 RH 393325/1956

Bardon Hill Quarry, Coalville

Industrial Locos No.59 Duke of Edinburgh RR 10273/1969; Steelman TH
297V/1981;
Wagons 27104/104/105/107/117 33 70 6955 200-0/202-6/203-4/208-3/213-3/
217-4/218-2/219-0/221-6/225-7/234-9/239-7/246-3/249-7/250-5/252-1/259-6/
260-4/261-2/270-3/276-0/278-6/279-4/292-0/294-6/295-3/297-9/298-7/301-9/
303-5/304-3

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Can all information for the magazine please be sent to Simon Chainey by
the 20th of the month, either at the address at the front of the magazine
or by e-mail to: magazine@cardiffandavonside.org.uk

