

CARDIFF & AVONSIDE RAILWAY SOCIETY

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www.cardiffandavonside.org.uk



MAGAZINE

Issue 616

June 2023

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Magazine

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Front Cover Photo June 2023 Issue 616:

[K. Davies]

The new order on the Penarth to Rhymney route with 231007 heading north through Cardiff Central on 10/04/23.

Rear Cover Photo June 2023 Issue 616:

[K. Davies]

The relatively new but now old order with 769008 heading for Penarth passing through Cardiff Central on 10/04/23.

FUTURE EVENTS

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday 08/07/23

**** NOTE that the venue was not available for the date proposed in last months magazine and so the meeting will now be held on Saturday 8th July**

This years Annual General Meeting will be held in the upstairs room at the Pen & Wig public house, 22-24 Stow Hill, NEWPORT, NP20 1JD on Saturday 8th July 2023, commencing at 12.00 midday. The meeting should finish by 15.00.

This will be a milestone 50th Annual General Meeting so it would be good to see as many members as possible in attendance. Food will be provided for those members attending.

The pub is a short walk from Newport railway station. From the station entrance, cross the main road and turn left following the main road for 150m. Turn right down a paved street opposite the old station entrance. Stow Hill is a left and then right zig zag from the bottom of this street. The Pen & Wig is approximately 50m up the hill on the right.

SOCIETY NOTICEBOARD

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.

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.

NOTES & NEWS

Bristol Parkway, Stoke Gifford, Pilning, Yate and Westerleigh

20/04 There was no wagons for the diverted (due to the Nuneham Bridge, Oxfordshire closure) 6M50 1040 Westbury - Bescot Engineering sidings departmental, 70808 + 70812 + 70809 operating in the path as 0M50 light-locos passing Yate at 1145.

23/04 The GBRf 'modular' weed-killing train worked to south Wales as 3Q02 1231 Whitemoor yard - Margam (1947) passing St.Neots at 1358 (2 early), Reading 1707 (1 late) and Patchway 1837 (6 late) formed with locos 66790 + 66782 top n' tailing KFAs TIPH 93382 + VTG 95379 + TIPH 93394.

24/04 66151 failed between Severn Tunnel junction and Magor whilst hauling 6B51 0448 Llanwern Exchange sidings - Swindon Stores (0658) steel formed with a 13 IHA/6 BYA wagon consist, 66041 being the rescue loco, the move later passing Westerleigh junction at 0738 (109 late).

25/04 DC Rail 60055 working 6Z21 0642 Appleford - Tytherington Quarry stone empties was involved in a fatality at Stocks Lane level crossing between Swindon and Didcot Parkway and once eventually allowed to proceed, reached Challow loop by 0800.

60024 working 6A11 2153 (Mon) Robeston - Theale loaded fuel tanks was delayed as a result near Steventon having passed Wantage Road at 0650.

26/04 66556 + 66510 top n' tailed 6X04 1555 Taunton Fairwater yard - Taplow (2030) track replacement train (trt) via Bristol Parkway passing Taunton station at 1609 (9 late), Lawrence Hill 1708 (12 late) and Swindon Highworth junction 1858.

28/04 A failure believed with 4-car 756103 (the only sub class member delivered to Transport for Wales so far) during the previous day, believed linked to pantograph deployment saw the sets mileage accumulation workings operate with 231004 in case of any further issues, the possibly rare 756 + 231 3Q31 0856 Newport - Swindon combination run passing Pilning at 0940 (with no booked loop stop).

The pair had also worked 3Q30 0719 Cardiff Canton sidings - Newport (0851) via a Parkway reverse (booked 0803 - 0827) earlier in the day.

Also, 756002 was a second set in use on mileage runs during the day having earlier passed the same location as 3Q36 0759 Cardiff Canton sidings - Swindon at 0850.

Later steam legend 60103 Flying Scotsman arrived in Bristol prior to West Country rail-tour duty during the following day as 5Z42 0833 York NRM - St.Philips Marsh HST depot (1714) with support coach passing Church Fenton at 0912 (2 late), Cheltenham 1534 (6 late), 'Ocean' Stonehouse 1618 and Lawrence Hill 1700 (8 late).

29/04 At 1550 Stoke Gifford 'downside' held; 59203/4. 66415/6. 66539.

66587. The two Class 59s were a 0T59 light-engine arrival from Westbury Cement Works stabling sidings, 'booked in' for wheel turning at St.Philips Marsh depot on 1st May.

01/05 An 'object' on the track which required a safety check and line closure, north of Pilning affected south Wales services with the Midland Blue HST set (with power cars 43055 + 43046) being held near Patchway having passed Horfield junction at 0907 (1 early) working a 'Llandudno Victorian Pullman' 1Z43 0516 Bournemouth - Llandudno (1337) and later the unaffected 1Z44 1601 return to Bournemouth (0014), the outward eventually continuing onwards and passing Pilning at 1052 (95 late), IET 800319 on 1B05 0748 Paddington - Swansea being held at Parkway until 0957 (52 late) and not diverted (as initially proposed) via Gloucester, whilst 1F06 0601 Portsmouth Harbour - Cardiff Central with 158745 + 158767 was returned to Temple Meads eventually going forward at 1023 (96 late) and 'Castle' HST set 43094 GW02 43162 working 2C75 1256 Cardiff Central - Taunton was also held in Temple Meads due to late running.

02/05 Having arrived Yate with 4C08 stone empties from Westbury 66125 was stopped for a short period until the branch engineering occupation was lifted (booked 1200) departing the mainline and onto the branch at 1158. Two delayed following services were Turbo 165134 with the 2V60 1037 Westbury - Gloucester held at Yate South and Voyager 221135 behind on 1S45 0927 Plymouth - Edinburgh.

With the line now cleared, 70807 was another record passing Yate later at 1222 with the diverted 6M50 1040 Westbury - Bescot Engineer sidings departmental formed with coal-fish wagons carrying spent ballast. The 6X04 1555 Taunton Fairwater - Tilehurst (2112) via Bristol and Hullavington track replacement train with locos 66510 + 66556 in a top n' tail formation having passed near Worle at 1632 (2 late) was also later recorded Parkway at 1715 (15 late).

03/05 The 4E18 0947 Taunton Fairwater yard - Doncaster Wood yard (1922) used sleeper train (with a consist of only two loaded IFA wagons) was routed via Cheltenham passing Yatton at 1035 (4 late) and Westerleigh junction 1045 (1 early) headed by 66413, this being later followed by 70803 working 6M50 1040 Westbury - Bescot Engineers sidings departmental with an 8 IFA / 1 YEA / 1 OCA / 8 coal-fish wagon consist passing Lawrence Hill at 1141 (9 late) and Yate 1212 (24 late).

06/05 66567 ran 0Z18 1210 Stoke Gifford - Haresfield loop (via Tuffley junction) light passing Westerleigh junction at 1353 to collect a failed 66607 and the previous days 6E18 departmental wagon move from Doncaster Wood yard (terminated Haresfield loop at 2054 - 1 early with an unspecified, believed wagon problem), then going forward as 1340 Haresfield loop - Taunton Fairwater yard passing Yate at 1503 with a 1 IFA / 1 YXA / 3 IFA wagon consist.

08/05 A Coronation Bank Holiday planned 'Get Involved - Big Help Out Day' Railway Children charity outing using the LSL 'Blue Pullman' HST set as 1Z68 1112 Paddington - Newport (via the Berks & Hants and Avon Valley) and 1Z69 1324 return to Paddington (via the Great Western mainline) was cancelled - reason unknown.

09/05 70803 + 56051 formed a 0M50 Westbury - Bescot light-loco move (no departmental wagons for movement again today) which passed Yate at 1145. Heavy late afternoon rain-fall saw some flash flooding (5mm of rain was reported as falling in an hour in Somerset) and the main line closed north of Bristol.

An affected service was IC 125 livery 43184 XC02 43239 working 1S51 1227 Plymouth - Edinburgh (2108) which was terminated at Temple Meads and returned as 1Z58 1645 Temple Meads - Penzance and then 2C80 2208 return to Plymouth.

Locos recorded on Westerleigh fuel tank duty have included; 60010/040.
Locos recorded on Tytherington stone duty have included;
60028/055. 66005/013/015/044/078/097/098/103/107/114/125/151. 66183/188.

Bristol Temple Meads, Barton Hill and Kingsland Road

21/04 Two early afternoon workings through Lawrence Hill were; 68005 + 68016 - 6M63 Bridgwater - Crewe nuclear flasks at 1304 and 66712 - diverted 3F04 Marchwood - Kineton MoD stores (1901) with a VGA + 4 FAAs (8 containers) + VGA van consist, noted 1340 (5 early) the latter also being recorded as passing Yate at 1411 (11 early) and Gloucester yard junction 1445 (16 early).

23/04 A return departmental was 66188 passing North Somerset junction at 0939 with 6W98 0815 Standish junction - Westbury conveying a 12 JZA / 1 YEA wagon consist.

24/04 70807 + 70803 were paired on the diverted 6M50 1040 Westbury - Bescot Engineers sidings (1634) departmental which passed Bathampton junction at 1113 (1 late) and Lawrence Hill 1145 (13 late) with a 1 JZA / 5 MLA / 5 JNA wagon consist and 70808 followed with 6M40 Westbury - Stud Farm Cliffe Hill 'virtual quarry' ballast empties with a 19 IOA wagon consist passing Trowbridge at 1155 (2 late), Lawrence Hill 1245 (1 late) and Yate 1330 (1 late).

Engineering records through the area included; 66413 + 66587 'One Container' (pink livery) passing Lawrence Hill at 1723 with a 20 loaded auto-ballaster consist and 66510 + 66556 top n' tailing 6X04 1555 Taunton Fairwater yard - Taplow (2030) trt train which passed Uphill junction at 1644 (18 late) and Lawrence Hill 1717 (20 late).

27/04 A return departmental was 66587 + 66413 top n' tailing a 6Y43 1412 Park junction - Westbury (1616) passing Severn Tunnel junction at 1530 (47 late), Lawrence Hill 1556 (42 late) and Bath 1619 (50 late).

28/04 The same pairing, 66587 + 66413 top n' tailed a further Park junction (Newport) - Westbury (6Y45) working passing Lawrence Hill at 1659.

29/04 Due to the Nuneham rail bridge (between Radley and Culham) closure, Pathfinder Tours put back their 'Cornish Spring Explorer' from Dorridge - Penzance via Bristol (using West Coast Class 37 locos) until 6th September.

30/04 Steam 60103 Flying Scotsman made its West of England 'Centenary Tour' working Railway Touring Company 'Royal Duchy' 1Z45 0907 Temple Meads - Par (1445) and 1Z47 1806 return to Temple Meads (2258) with c/stock; 35486 (loco support). 99128. 99371. 99712. 3143. 3098. 99311. 5032. 99723. Despite poor weather conditions, most vantage points on bridges and line side were taken with Yatton being a major focal point (with in the morning crowds gathering at 0830 having received in correct arrival information!) as the train was picking up and setting down passengers here (almost certainly a Scotsman first!).

Timing record reports included arriving Yatton at 0924 (3 early) and departing at 0931 (1 late), passing Wellington (Somerset) at 1021 (1 early), Starcross 1138 (2 late), Totnes 1203 (3 early), Saltash 1358 (-)

and St.Germans 1407 (3 late) and the return passing Lostwithiel at 1817 (2 late), departing Taunton at 2206 (5 late) arriving Yatton at 2243 (6 late) and departing at 2246 (6 late).

Flying Scotsman was turned on the recently reinstated to operation turntable at St.Blazey at Par for the return working.

West Coast support diesel loco was 47802 which arrived Exeter St.Davids platform 2 at 1307 as 0Z99 Temple Meads - Plymouth light-engine and later returned the trains stock as 5Z50 2345 to Southall (Wcr).

Also during the day, the Midland Blue Pullman HST with power cars 43046 + 43055 was in the area as a 5Z43 0845 Crewe HS - Eastleigh Arlingtons (1334) rail-tour positioning move passing Abergavenny at 1043 (1 late), Patchway 1133 (4 early) and Bathampton junction 1159 (3 late).

One hundred specially produced and priced at 10p platform tickets were sold at Temple Meads to mark the locos Bristol visit for the occasion.

02/05 Steam 60103 Flying Scotsman returned north with support coach 35486 as 5Z14 0910 St.Philips Marsh depot - Steamtown Carnforth (1815) via Cheltenham passing Westerleigh junction at 1005 (2 early).

Later, what must rank as 'area working of the year' (so far!) was the movement of HST power car 43272 (in old LNER red / grey livery with Colas diamond branding) 'solo' as 0Z20 1148 Derby RTC - Laira Trsmd (1954) passing Cheltenham at 1617 (34 late), Yatton station 1722 and into the loop (as booked) departing here at 1747 (12 early) and passing Taunton at 1827 (6 late).

03/05 The afternoon Taunton departmental was routed via Bristol as 6Z73 1217 Westbury - Fairwater yard (1407) headed by 66510 with a consist of 2 IFA / 1 YXA / 2 JNA / 2 JJA wagons, passing Bradford junction at 1236 (6 late) and Uphill junction 1341 (7 late). The morning outward move with the same loco had also run via Bristol as 6Z84.

04/05 68003 + 68004 worked the 6M67 Crewe Coal sidings nuclear flasks departing at 1359 with a 3 FNA (709229012-1 + 709229035-4 + 709229008-1) wagon consist.

05/05 The Colas NRMT HST set formed 43290. 977984. 975814. 977993/4/5. 43274, was on the Reading - Paignton (via Penzance) monthly working, then as booked 1Z18 1539 Paignton - Taunton (1822) via Bristol East prior to the return to London, the up move through Worle junction being recorded at 1646 (18 early).

08/05 Morning freight and departmental records included; 70801 + 70803 - 6M50 Westbury - Bescot with a 15 HQA auto-ballaster consist passing Dr.Days junction at 1132 and 66547 - 4E18 Taunton Fairwater - Doncaster Wood yard used sleepers passing the same location at 1054 and Cam & Dursley 1134 with a 12 wagon consist.

Also Colas 56051 running 0Z56 Port Talbot - Westbury light-engine passing Dr.Days junction at 1033 was noted now recently named 'Survival' and carrying 'This locomotive runs on Green Fuel for a Green Future-Act Now for a Sub-sustainable Future' word branding (part on a green colour background).

Later, 66131 powered 6M60 1557 Exeter Riverside - Bescot downside (2201) loaded china clays passing Worle junction at 1738 (2 late) and Yate 1830 (4 late). The loco had earlier run 0M60 1120 St.Blazey - Exeter (1507) light to collect the train.

09/05 Arriva XC coaches 41026. 42051/3. 42097. 42379. 44012, formed a 5E23 1001 Laira Trsmd - Doncaster Wabtec (1705) move which passed Worle junction at 1143 (1 early) and Yate 1227 (1 early) power cars in charge

were 43208 (front) and 43378 (rear).

Also LSL locos 47810 / D1924 + 47805 / D1935 top n' tailed 5Z64 0945 Crewe HS - Goodrington CS (1444) rail-tour ecs passing Horfield junction at 1249 (16 late) and Worle junction 1324 (19 late) with a consist of;

3231 Lochnager. 3330. 3107. 1863. 3148. 3100. 80044. 3122. 3045. 17159. Steam loco 60007 Sir Nigel Gresley (now in a BR blue livery ex. Wartime British Railways black) and carrying a 'Sir Nigel Gresley Loco Trust' headboard formed a 5Z07 0930 Crewe HS - Bishops Lydeard Wsr (1839) support coach move which departed Chester at 1042 (-), passed Pilning at 1559 (8 early) and Worle junction 1743 (1 late) having called St.Philips Marsh depot en-route.

On the freight side the Cornish china clay empties were again re-timed as 6V99 1807 Cliffe Vale - St.Blazey (0616) passing Uphill junction at 2256 (9 early) formed with 8 JIAs headed by 66131.

10/05 Steam 60007 Sir Nigel Gresley (with 47810/D1924 on the rear) worked Saphos Trains 'Welsh Marches Express' 1Z65 0545 Paignton - Shrewsbury (1305) and 1Z66 1550 return to Paignton (2213) onwards from Temple Meads being recorded departing Newton Abbot at 0630 (3 late) and passing Uphill junction at 0827 (2 late) with top n' tail Class 47s and passing Patchway steam hauled at 0941 (14 late).

The late Temple Meads departure running time was increased in Wales as a signalling problem in the Hereford area saw a 1306 (55 late) arrival time in Shrewsbury.

Sir Nigel Gresley as in previous years, had run 5Z65 0543 Bishops Lydeard (Wsr) - Temple Meads (0904) with support coach passing Uphill junction at 0636 (9 late) and Yatton 0647 (11 late).

Also during the day the last Class 67 in 'old' EWS colours 67016 worked 1V80 0947 Victoria - Bath and 1092 1556 return to Victoria (1946) the inward arriving at 1321 (16 late) where followed 5C80 and 5092 1537 return ecs moves to Bristol East loop for stabling.

11/05 BR green duo 47805 + 47810 double-headed the return 5Z70 1456 Goodrington CS - Crewe HS (2049) rail-tour ecs passing Newton Abbot West junction at 1518 (1 late), Taunton 1631 (36 early), Yatton 1653 (40 early) and Patchway 1719 (42 early).

12/05 68004 + 68003 passed Worle junction at 1215 (20 early) working 6M63 Bridgwater - Crewe Coal sidings empty FNA flasks 709229016-4 + 709229022-2 + 709229028-9.

14/05 37610 returned a 3Z01 1815 Kingsland Road - Derby RTC (2151) test train via Hereford passing Patchway at 1550 and Abergavenny 1634 (7 late). Engineering train activity included; 66136 + 66080 top n' tailing - 6W01 2044 (Sat) Westbury - Westbury (1651) via Carmarthen (0550-0610) which on the return passed Lawrence Hill at 1358 (119 early) and Bath 1421 (119 early) and 66015 - 6W97 0750 Severn Tunnel junction - Westbury (1724) which arrived Newport ADj at 0806 (to recess 'as booked' until 1536) and later passing Lawrence Hill at 1620 (20 early) with a 1 YEA / 12 JZA wagon consist.

16/05 Celebrity BR green 66779 'Evening Star' worked the first diverted 6M47 1218 Marchwood - Kineton (2040) MoD stores working via Bristol with a 2 FYA / 2 FAA (both empty). 1 VGA / 1 VKA vans. 2 FAA (empty). 1 VKA / 1 VGA vans, passing Dean at 1341 (-), Keynsham 1515 and Stonehouse (near Standish junction) at 1558 (46 early).

19/05 68016 + 68001 were the 6V74 Bridgwater flask locos arriving at 0629 with a 709229012-3 + 709229016-4 FNA consist.

Also Harry Needle orange/black livery 37607 returned from Devon test train work as 3Q62 2119 Exeter Riverside - Derby RTC (0600) via Birmingham NS passing Taunton at 2241 (46 late) and Weston-super-Mare (on the loop) at 2326 (50 late). The train covered the Okehampton, Exmouth and Barnstaple lines on 18th and Portbury Dock and Paignton the day before (also see Portbury Branch line notes & news).

Bristol Temple Meads Work

During the review period an application was made to refurbish the former Bonaparte buffet building on platform 3 along with a room above the premises.

Avonmouth and the Severn Beach branch line

21/04 59206 passed Brentry at 1033 as a 0C68 Avonmouth - Whatley return light-engine move.

25/04 66572 was noted Filton Abbey Wood at 0627 as 0C67 Westbury Cement works - Avonmouth light-engine the loco later returning 6C68 0958 stone empties to Whatley Quarry passing Fairwood junction (near Westbury) at 1145.

15/05 66089 + 66087 top n' tailed a five wagon auto-ballaster set as 6W50 2248 Westbury - Redland (2358) passing Bath at 2328 (12 late) for overnight ballast drops along the Severn Beach line as far as Sea Mills where the train terminated and later returned as 0357 Dr.Days junction to Westbury (0438).

18/05 66740 headed 6C90 0552 cement empties to Cardiff Pengam sidings passing Newport at 0638, this location having been used in recent days to recess trains instead of Gloucester yard.

19/05 A further branch line engineers saw 66848 + 66850 top n' tail a return 6C43 0440 Holesmouth junction - Westbury, which was reported as arriving at its destination at 0732.

During the month, the demolition of the Port of Bristol's Spillers Mill located close to the former Gloucester Road dock entrance was completed. This building which was closed in the 1980s, although not like Granary 5 (which could hold 25,000 tonnes of grain in 80 covered silos for road vehicle loading and closed at a similar time and became the final resting place for the Industrial diesel loco fleet in a 'new' shed building extension) demolished last year, was at one time rail siding linked for wagon loading (also see November 2022 Magazine issue 609).

Locos recorded on stone duty have included;

59101/103/205/206. 66414/503/519/542/597/603/605/614/618/619. 66735/754.

Locos recorded on cement duty have included; 66740/756/766/798.

Locos recorded on refuse container duty have included;

66005/013/015/021/024/044/078/094/152/158/183.

Portbury Branchline

20/04 More problems on the branch with the return 1Z23 Kingsland Road - Derby RTC (2054) NRMT Colas hst set formed 43251. 9481. 72639. 977997. 6263. 43274, which passed Parsons Street down at 0733 (34 late) and the same location again at 1117 (200 late) and Bath (having left out the booked Newport visit) at 1145 (113 late) as scaffolding had been brought down at an unspecified location, the train having been reported as

dragging an attached rope. A very much unconfirmed report suggests a BT Police criminal investigation is to take place regarding the incident.

11/05 A first ever early hours visit for the new GBRf 'modular' weed-killing train (with locos 66782 + 66790 allocated) as 3Z98 2230 (Wed) Margam - Margam (also taking in Severn Beach) was cancelled.

17/05 Having arrived in Bristol during the morning with 3Q87 1858 (Mon) Derby RTC - Bristol Kingsland Road (0709) via Hereford and Westerleigh Puma, HRNC 'orange/black' livery 37607 continued with West of England test duties as 3Q53 2019 Kingsland Road - Exeter Riverside (0232) via Portbury, Weston-super-Mare and Paignton with dept c/stock; 96609. 977986/5. 9803. 999602. 9708. The working was recorded passing Temple Meads at 2042 (18 late) for Portbury dock stop board (booked 2052-2108) where Pill village was passed at 2116 inward and 2141 on the return, departing the token stop at signal BL2192 (Ashton Gate) at 2200 (33 late) for the Temple Meads reverse move to continue west.

Locos recorded on container duty have included; 66536.

Bristol area workings during February

4C12 (*4C90 **4V42 Westbury) Acton yard - Tytherington Quarry stone empties (DB)

06/02* 66111. 07/02* 66206. 08/02** 66120. 13/02* 66113. 14/02* 66085.
22/02* 66200. 23/02* 66143. 25/02 66172.

Note; Train on 25/02 returned as 6A12 loaded to Westbury

4E18 (*6E18) 0947 Taunton Fairwater - Doncaster Wood yard used sleepers (G&W)

06/02 66565. 13/02 66520 + 66522. 14/02 66520. 22/02* 66517.
27/02 66419.

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

06/02 66501. 07/02 66501. 08/02 66525. 13-15/02 66558.
16/02 66533. 17/02 66516. 22/02 66514. 23/02 66593. 24/02 66523.
28/02 66523.

4L36 Wentloog - Felixstowe containers (G&W)

06/02 66513. 07/02 66559 + 66540. 08/02 66551. 09/02 66567.
10/02 66563. 13/02 66567. 14/02 66514. 15/02 66557. 17/02 66516.
21/02 66537. 22/02 66558. 23/02 66516. 24/02 66510. 28/02 66526.

4L50 Wentloog - Tilbury containers (G&W)

13/02 66541. 22/02 66596.

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

04/02 66545. 11/02 66558. 25/02 66547.

4O36 (MO) Portbury Auto-terminal - Southampton Maritime containers (G&W)

27/02 66568.

4V34 (SO) Southampton Maritime - Portbury Auto-terminal containers (G&W)

25/02 66568.

4V53 0600 (MO) Portbury Auto terminal - Westbury container transfer (G&W)
13/02 66541.

4Z86 Westbury - Machen Quarry (DB)
11/02 66061.

Note; As a 'one off' supporting load working a second loco 66025 due to
tonnage was needed to double-head the 6Z48 1155 return to Appleford.

6A27 (* 6A86 SO) East Usk - Hayes loaded stone (G&W)
11/02* 66618. 25/02* 66515.

6A83 (*6Z57 Theale MO) Avonmouth Bennetts - West Drayton loaded stone (G&W)
07/02 66515. 14/02 66623. 16/02 66951. 21/02 66618. 23/02 66603.
27/02* 66623. 28/02 66561.

6B11 Hayes - East Usk stone empties (G&W)
07/02 66618. 09/02 66618. 13/02 66620. 16/02 66515. 20/02 66610.

6B33 Theale - Robeston (Margam SO) empty fuel tanks (DB)
07/02 60020. 14/02 60015. 17/02 60015. 21/02 60015. 23/02 60044.
28/01 60011 + 60010.

6B51/6B52 Llanwern Exchange sidings - Swindon stores loaded and return
empty steel (DB)
06/02 66077.

6B77/6C77 Colnbrook - Avonmouth Bennett's empty and return loaded to
Pengam sidings stone (GBRf)
23/02 66778.

6B91 (SO) Theale - East Usk stone empties (G&W)
25/02 66623.

6C03 Northolt sidings - Severnside Sita loaded and return empty (*
6A03 to Brentford) refuse containers (DB)
03/02 66111. 04/02 66028. 06/02 66028. 08/02 66068. 10/02 66040.
12/02* 66129. 13/02 66129. 14/02 66005. 15/02 66005. 16/02 66190.
21/02 66005. 22/02 66005. 23/02* 66005. 27/02 66098.

6C48 Appleford - Machen Quarry stone empties (G&W)
25/02 66618.

6C58 (*6Z58) Oxford Banbury Road - East Usk yard stone empties (G&W)
06/02 66538. 13-15/02 66538. 16/02 66415. 21/02* 66542.

6C67/6C68 Westbury - Avonmouth West Wharf loaded & return empty stone (G&W)
13/02 66515. 14/02 66603. 16/02 66603. 21/02 66544. 22/02 66603.
23/02 66605. 24/02 66605.

6M42 Avonmouth Hansons - Penyffordd cement empties (GBRf)
03/02 66798. 08/02 66798. 13/02 66798. 15/02 66798. 20/02 66798.
24/02 66798.

6M78 Tytherington - Quainton rail-head loaded stone (DB)
08/02 66206. 13/02 66172. 14/02 66097. 15/02 66200. 21/02 66182.
22/02 66143. 23/02 66097.

6M90 Avonmouth Hansons - Gloucester New yard cement empties (G&W)
09/02 66791.

6V32 Tilbury - Trostre steel (GBRf)
10/02 66304. 24/02 66762.

6V41 Penyffordd - Avonmouth Hansons loaded cement (GBRf)
12/02 66798. 19/02 66798.

6V71 (MO) Cliffe Vale - Exeter Riverside china clay empties (DB)
06/02 66106. 13/02 66106. 20/02 66106. 27/02 66106.

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

01/02 68004 + 68018. 03/02 68004 + 68018. 07/02 68004 + 68018.
10/02 68001 + 68016. 14/02 68004 + 68018. 17/02 68009 + 68018.
21/02 68009 + 68018. 24/02 68009 + 68018. 28/02 68001 + 68004.

6V84 Clitheroe - Avonmouth Hansons loaded cement (GBRf)
01/02 66791. 06/02 66791. 22/02 66734.

6Z21 Appleford* / Bristol East yard - Tytherington Quarry and 6Z22 return
loaded stone (DC Rail)

01/02 60029. 06/02* 60029. 08/02 60029. 13/02 60029. 15/02 60029.
21/02 60029. 22/02 60029. 23/02* 60029. 27/02 60028. 28/02 60028.

6Z25 / 6Z26 Appleford (* Bristol East yard) - Machen empty and return
loaded stone (DC Rail)

07/02 60029. 14/02* 60029. 16/02 60029.

6Z86 West Drayton - East Usk yard stone empties (G&W)
06/02 66415. 10/02 66415. 13-15/02 66415. 16/02 66538.
23/02 66542. 24/02 66542.

Bath

24/04 A serious fire overnight saw the historic former Green Park station damaged affecting two business owners (one being the local base for the 'Big Issue' charity magazine) who used the former Midland/Somerset & Dorset Railway train shed where a full £1.5 million roof re-glazing project was nearing completion after 2 years of work.

Gloucester

20/04 Diversions have continued via Cheltenham and the Stroud Valley due to the Nuneham Bridge (River Thames) closure with 66721 powering 6001 1018 Scunthorpe Trent yard - Eastleigh departmental being recorded passing near Swindon at 1710. 66751 was on this train four days later operating as 6X01 which included a ZOA crane (709319013-7) in the consist.

Also recorded during the day was the seventh Class 701 EMU 701034 move for storage as 5Q66 1009 Willesden South-West sidings - Long Marston (1541)

headed by the 'regular' (so far!) GBRf 47749 passing Swindon at 1235 and Cheltenham 1352. The move operated (as booked) via Worcester for the loco to run-round.

27/04 GBRf 47749 hauled another EMU set, 701050 as 5Q64 0710 Eastleigh Trsmtd - Willesden South-West sidings (0929) then onwards as 5Q66 1009 to Long Marston (1545) via Kemble passing Slough West at 1014 (1 late). Also 66720 worked the diverted 6001 1018 Scunthorpe Trent yard - Eastleigh also via Cheltenham and the Stroud Valley.

28/04 66014 working diverted 6E11 1107 Appleford - Milford West sidings empty fly-ash tanks passed near Brimscombe St.Mary's crossing (in the Stroud Valley) at 1245 followed shortly afterwards by 47749 at 1259 hauling EMU set 701052 as 5Q66 1009 Willesden South-West sidings - Long Marston 'storage' working.

01/05 66710 + 66751 were paired on 6X01 1018 Scunthorpe Trent yard - Eastleigh East yard (2056) via Kemble, Didcot, Newbury, Westbury and Salisbury departmental wagon move passing Cheltenham at 1506 (3 early), Swindon Highworth junction 1632 (-) and Heywood junction (Westbury) 1855 (26 late) with a 6 FEA wagon consist.

03/05 66148 passed Swindon at 1159 and Kemble at 1211 working the diverted 6E11 1107 Appleford - Milford West junction empty fly-ash tanks formed with 18 FCA wagons.

DRS (long term loan from DB) 66122 was on a 0Z36 0630 out and back Crewe Gresty Bridge (1736) light-loco route learner via Gloucester passing Droitwich at 0936 (5 late) and Cheltenham 1042 (3 early) outward.

04/05 Colas 70803 + DB 66084 were an unusual combination for the 6M50 Westbury - Bescot departmental whilst GBRf 47727 (a loco change from 47749) moved South-Western Trains EMU set 701018 as 5Q66 Willesden - Long Marston storage working passing Acton Mainline at 1118, Swindon 1340 and Standish junction 1411.

This 'Aventra' unit on arrival became the 100th set currently in store at Long Marston.

05/05 70803 + 66848 + 66846 passed Charfield at 1202 heading 6M50 1040 Westbury - Bescot Up Engineers departmental formed 8 MLA /1 IEA box wagons and the days diversion records via the Stroud Valley included, 66129 passing Uffington at 1146 with 6E11 Appleford - Milford West sidings fly-ash tank empties (18 FCAs) and 66767 passing Oddingley at 1540 with a single wagon (FEA 704524081-6) 6001 1018 Scunthorpe Trent yard - Eastleigh yard, 66749 having worked this train on 3rd with 66792 appearing on the 11th, 66728 + 66792 (running as 0001 light-engines) on 15th and 66780 on 18th.

06/05 Engineering train activity associated with the relaying of the up main line south of Cheltenham included; 70808 - 6C20 1505 Gloucester Yard junction - Westbury (1823) passing Haresfield at 1609, Yate 1631 (57 late) and Lawrence Hill 1656 (20 late) with a 10 YKA / 1 IEA / 7 JNA / 1 MLA wagon consist, 66849 - 6C21 1705 Gloucester Yard junction - Westbury (1846) passing Haresfield at 1640 and Lawrence Hill 1739 (24 early) with 11 MLA / 8 JNA / 1 IEA wagons, 66848 - 6C22 2004 Gloucester Yard junction - Westbury passing Haresfield at 1811 and 66077 - 6W01 0902 Bescot - Abbotswood junction passing Besford at 1055

07/05 Two return engineering train records were; 66114 + 66005 top n' tailing - 6W02 Gloucester Yard junction - Westbury passing Filton Abbey Wood at 1920 with box wagons and empty salmon flats and 66040 + 66183 top n' tailing - 6W03 Gloucester Yard junction - Westbury passing the same

location at 0948 with auto-ballasters.

16/05 GBRf 47727 passed West Ealing at 1035 and Reading 1110 hauling the latest South-Western Railways Class 701 EMU to store set 013 as 5Q66 1009 Willesden South-West sidings - Long Marston.

701026 was moved by the same loco during the following day passing Langley at 1031.

Also DB 66087 passed Gloucester Barnwood junction at 1410 working the diverted 6M40 1142 Westbury - Stud Farm Cliffe Hill ballast empties and later 66780 was reported Kemble at 1653 (30 early) working the also diverted 6001 1018 Scunthorpe Trent yard - Eastleigh East yard with a KFA 95389. 95412. Balfour Beatty crane DRK81611. KFA 95410 consist.

18/05 The 2G50 0915 Maesteg - Cheltenham service was unusually operated by 153369 solo departing Gloucester at 1135 (18 late).

The set later returned with 2L55 1145 to Maesteg as booked.

19/05 66025 was on the diverted 6E11 1107 Appleford - Milford West sidings fly-ash empties formed with 18 FCA flats passing Kemble at 1214, 66085 having worked this train two days previous.

Swindon

Locos recorded on 6V15/6M53 (return) Boston Sleaford sidings - Swindon 'automotive' import steel service; 60059 (27/04), 66181 (18/05).

Locos recorded on Liverpool EMR - Swindon scrap metal empties 6V70/6M71 loaded return; 66303 (03/05).

Westbury

22/04 At 1440 the following were recorded in the area; down yard 66001. 66125. 66776. 66792. up yard 66066. 66188. Colas siding 66849. 70803/7/8.

25/04 66618 working 7B12 Merehead - Wootton Bassett stone empties was diverted via Newbury, Reading West curve and Didcot passing Rushey Platt, Swindon at 1620.

An engineers train was 66952 working 6Y89 2156 (Tues) Westbury - Pinhoe (0035) passing Taunton at 2248 (4 early) the return being 6Y89 0425 Yeovil junction - Eastleigh yard (0655) via Sherborne with a 5 JJA consist.

26/04 66792 worked a 6G73 2248 (Tues) Westbury - Westbury 5 JJA auto-ballaster departmental via Taunton Fairwater yard (loco run-round) and Weston-super-Mare passing Castle Cary at 2307 outward and Bradford junction 0550 on the return.

27/04 66846 + 66849 top n' tailed a 5 JJA auto-ballaster wagon 6C46 0432 Westbury - Thingley junction (0758) via Newbury passing Uffington at 0548 (78 early) and Swindon 0736 (2 late) on the return.

The locos later powered a 6C42 1842 working to Newbury (1942) again with 5 JJA wagons passing Challow at 1845 (178 early).

04/05 DC Rail 60029 passed Acton Mainline at 0959 powering a 6Z50 Willesden - Westbury train of stone empties.

05/05 A return engineers saw 66846 pass Newton Abbot up at 0630 and depart Exeter St.Davids at 0712 with an overnight 6C43 2049 (Thur) Westbury - Westbury (via Par) 15 HQA auto-ballaster workings.

06/05 At 1530 the following were located in the area; down yard 66017. 66587. 66706. down reception 66088 (running 0012 Margam - Eastleigh light-engine). Colas siding 70803/7.

07/05 Over running engineers between Witham and Fairwood junction saw service delays.

15/05 DC Rail 60029 powered a 6Z60 0952 Willesden DC Rail sidings - Merehead (1301) train of 20 JNA box wagon empties which departed Westbury at 1213 (13 late).

19/05 66507 worked a two wagon (ARC 17931 + 17924 JHA) 6Z59 0816 Whatley Quarry - Stoke Gifford move passing Fairwood junction at 0900. The same loco later returned a 6Z60 1153 departure to Whatley with a consist of 1 JNA / 3 JHA / 1 HOA wagons.

Taunton

20/04 66510 + 66556 top n' tailed a 6C76 1249 Bishops Lydeard - Fairwater yard return Norton Fitzwarren waste ballast train arriving back early at 1157, the pair later being allocated 6X04 1826 track replacement train (trt) to Tilehurst (2112) with a 1 YXA / 7 IFA / 2 YXA / 4 YJA / 1 ZWA / 2 YDA / 1 YSA / 2 JJA wagon consist.

07/05 66556 + 66510 top n' tailed the return a 22 wagon 6X04 0741 Lipson junction (Plymouth) - Fairwater yard (via Devonport) trt passing Totnes at 0820 (12 early) and Dawlish 0838. The same loco combination was again on this working 7 days later.

19/05 The same locos worked the return 6X04 0500 Highbridge - Fairwater yard trt passing at 0518.

Exeter

26/04 MPV DR98956 + DR98906 passed Cowley Bridge junction at 1811 with a 3Z15 1340 Didcot Fuelling point - St.Blazey weed-killing, believed 'transit' positioning move.

03/05 159008 + 159107 on the 1L60 1525 service to Waterloo came to a stop on the incline to Central station where the second set was detached with a serious fault, the train eventually continuing onwards with 159008, over 60 minutes late.

Weymouth

13/05 Stabled in the platform area were; 444016/9. 444040/4, with Turbo 166210 located in the 'Jubilee siding' electrical compound. Industrial action had seen 444044 (still retaining South-Western Trains, white orange/blue lined livery) as the days only arrival at 0021 with 1W85 2135 (Fri) ex. Waterloo.

Newport

20/04 'Stadler' 756004 was reported as to be on driver training / mileage accumulation runs to and from Bristol Parkway and Swindon during at least part of the day.

21/04 Believed to be a new Colas/Network-Rail livery area debut for power car 43277 which was an arrival as part of a 1Q20 0559 Derby RTC - Derby RTC (via Newport) test move which departed Crewe at 0818 (2 early), arrived 1045 (23 late) and departed 1108 (8 early) with 43290 leading inward.

23/04 A Sunday freight record was 66010 passing Pyle at 1508 (24 early) and Newport 1642 (12 early) working 6Z20 1521 Margam - Masborough FD (0137).

An engineers working was 66587 'One livery' + 66546 top n' tailing 6A46 0732 Westbury - Abercynon (1319) passing Yate at 0828 (1 late), Severn

Tunnel junction 0941 (2 early) and Cardiff Central 1235 (2 late) with a 3 MLA / 2 JNA / 1 IEA box wagon consist.

24/04 'ROG' 37800 hauled former Mersey-rail EMU sets 507024 + 507025 to south Wales for scrapping as 5Q78 2255 (Sun) Birkenhead North EMU depot - Newport Docks (1059) Sims Metals (booked to recess at both Shrewsbury and Craven Arms) passing Leominster at 0809 (5 late) and Newport 1043 (6 late).

The loco returned as 0M57 1228 light-loco to Derby RTC (1704) passing Gloucester at 1417 (45 late).

A return engineers was 66066 + 66188 top n' tailing - 6W97 0430 Genwen - Westbury passing at 0703.

25/04 A further delivery of new Transport for Wales Stadler DEMU sets 756003/006/007 headed by 66002 departed the station at 0717 as a 5Q99 0253 Ripple Lane - Cardiff Canton sidings working.

On the freight side, 60010 working 6B10 0920 Newport Docks - Margam (via Llanwern works) departed Llanwern at 1005 (142 early) the consist being 20 BTA steel carriers.

02/05 With overnight and morning track work under way on the Tytherington Quarry branch, Machen Quarry was again used for Appleford construction stone traffic with 60028 passing Patchway at 0624 with 6Z21 stone empties from Bristol East yard.

06/05 66088 passed Severn Tunnel junction at 1229 as 0012 1106 (SO) Margam LIP - Eastleigh light-engine.

13/05 66089 + 66075 + 66015 + 66136 + 66080 ran 0012 1106 (SO) Margam LIP - Eastleigh light-engines arriving Westbury at 1537 where the latter three locos were detached.

14/05 Although cancelled for a Bristol area visit during the previous week, the 'new' modular GBRf week-killing train formed with 66776 + 66782 top n' tailing KFA wagons TIPH 93382 + VTG 95379 + TIPH 93382 made a Sunday 3Q98 1228 out and back Cardiff Taff Vale Railway sidings (2007) via Lydney signal 419 (booked 1434 - 1519) and Cadoxton trip passing Newport outward at 1231 (88 early) and Severn Tunnel junction 1434 (79 early) on the return, the train terminating in Cardiff Central station and not visiting Cadoxton (as booked).

Cardiff

20/04 Inaugural run for a new 6E87 1601 Trostre Steel works - Middlesbrough Dawsons (0518) steel flow (via Hereford, Shrewsbury and Wolverhampton) with 66755 was noted departing Central station (platform 2) at 1733 (2 late) and passing Abergavenny at 1947 (8 early).

21/04 'Stadler' DEMU set 756005 was noted stabled at Barry.

22/04 66179 + 66120 passed at 1139 and Bath 1237 as 0012 1106 Margam LIP - Eastleigh light-engines.

Saturday Transport for Wales loco and stock diagrams were in the hands of 67010 (HD01) - 1W55 0849 Cardiff Central - Manchester Piccadilly, 1B42 1230 return to Cardiff, 1W63 1630 return to Manchester, 5K53 2025 ecs to Crewe CS and 67013 (HD04) 1V34 0627 Manchester Piccadilly - Cardiff Central, 1W57 1052 return to Manchester, 1V46 1430 return to Cardiff, 1W65 1855 return to Manchester and 1J76 2233 return to Cardiff.

DMU cover was with 150229 - 1W11 0435 Cardiff Central - Manchester Piccadilly, 1V37 0830 return to Cardiff, 1W59 1252 return to Manchester and 1V54 1630 return to Cardiff and 175011 - 1V31 0454 Crewe - Cardiff Central.

24/04 With two Transport for Wales loco hauled diagrams covered by Class 67s, DMU 150241 was on 1V31 diagram whilst 1V33 was cancelled.

25/04 West Coast 47813 + 47815 ran 0Z94 1110 Landore Tmd - Burton Wetmore sidings (1759) light-engines, having completed Mk IV coach tests, passing Pontyclun at 1152 and Cheltenham 1406 (3 early).
Ebbw Vale services were cancelled as signalling work was under way with road bus replacements in operation taking a 1 hour 45 minutes against the normal rail timing of 1 hour 10 minutes to complete.

27/04 DMU loco hauled train cover was worked by; 150213 (1W55), 150232 (1V31) and 175103 (1V91).

29/04 66170 + 66151 passed Central station at 1211 running 0012 Margam LIP - Eastleigh week-end departmental light-locos.

30/04 A Sunday freight record was 66549 passing Central station at 1002 (45 late) with 6B81 East Usk yard - Port Talbot Grange sidings stone empties.

03/05 70803 was unusually used on Barry Dock container duty the 4B49 1446 return passing Cadoxton at 1415, but later 66536 was used on the 4L50 return containers to Tilbury instead of the Class 70 arriving Swindon Highworth junction loop at 1854.

05/05 Two TfW Class 67 and stock DMU cover moves were; 150282 (1V31) and 175009 (1W55).

Having visited Westbury (routed via Bath), Swindon (via Melksham) and Parkway (via Hullavington) on the return concentrating on the mainline, over 15th/16th the GBRf modular weed-killing train returned to its Kings Norton Overhead Line depot (1300) base as 3Q98 0932 ex. Taff Vale sidings passing Central station (following a reverse at Penarth Curve North junction) in the up direction at 0940 (1 early) and Chepstow 1040 (10 late).

18/05 With only two Class 67 and Mk IV coach sets in use, DMU cover was in the form of;

150280 (1W91), 175011 (1W55) and 175113 (1V31).

66848 + 66849 top n' tailed a return 6C42 1819 (Wed) Westbury - Westbury (via Haverfordwest) departmental passing Bridgend at 0734.

19/05 The days loco and stock DMU cover was in the hands of;

150278 (1V31) and 153369 + 153333 (1W57) with 1V91 0533 Holyhead - Cardiff Central cancelled.

A multiple axle counter and related signalling failure between Gaer and Ebbw junctions, Newport caused problems during the late morning / early afternoon with IET 800313 held and eventually cancelled working 1L17 1150 departure to Paddington at platform 3.

158820 working 1W18 1045 Swansea - Manchester Piccadilly was terminated at Central station at 1152 (4 late), 158822 on 1V37 0838 Manchester Piccadilly - Cardiff terminated Newport whilst 1M64 1045 Swansea - Nottingham was able to start Newport at 1159 using 170108 which had earlier also been terminated here.

Meanwhile IET 802017 was returned to Central station on the 2C73 1100 service to Penzance (1642) at 1433 having been trapped close to Ebbw junction, 'Castle' HST set 43162 GW03 43016 was however used to restart this working onwards from Bristol Temple Meads at 1155.

Transport for Wales Loco Loggings

67008 - 1V91 (HD02) 09/05. 1V33 (HD02) 10/05.
67010 - 1W01 (HD01) 24/04. 1V33 (HD01) 25/04. 1V33 (HD05) 05/05.
67012 - 1V91 (HD06) 26/04. 1V33 (HD04) 03/05. 1V33 (HD05) 12/05.
67013 - 1V91 (HD06) 03/05. 1W91 (HD06) 05/05. 1W91 (HD06) 12/05.
1V33 (HD06) 11/05.
67025 - 1V91 (HD05) 24/04. 1W91 (HD05) 26/04. 1W91 (HD05) 27/04.
1V33 (HD04) 19/05.
67029 - 1V91 (HD04) 05/05. 1V91 (HD02) 12/05. 1V33 (HD06) 18/05.
1W91 (HD06) 19/05.

Coaching Stock Formations;

HD01 - 12225. 10325. 11323. 12454. 82226.
HD02 - 12219. 10328. 11324. 12304. 82229.
HD04 - 12211. 12310. 10318. 11319. 82201.
HD05 - 12224. 12326. 10321. 11320. 82200.
HD06 - 12222. 12323. 10330. 11321. 82227.

Train diagrams - see May Magazine Issue 615.

Locos recorded on Daventry - Wentloog TESCO container service included;
66422 (20/04, 24/04), 66425 (15/05, 17/05). 66434 (28/04).

Locos recorded on Baglan Bay log duty have included;

56051 (25-27/04, 03/05, 05/05). 66849 (17/05, 18/05).

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

66053/075/080/111/170.

Locos recorded on Corby steel duty have included;

66098/170/179.

Locos recorded on Dee Marsh steel duty have included;

66755.

Locos recorded on Round Oak steel duty have included;

66015/017/053/077/080/089/119/170/185.

Locos recorded on Barry Dock container duty have included;

66506. 70803.

Locos recorded on Machen Quarry stone duty have included;

60028. 66539/542/605.

PRESERVATION & INDUSTRIAL MATTERS

Avon Valley Railway, Bitton

P. YOUNG

07/05 The following were present;

Platform 2 - maroon livery coach (unidentified), carmine & cream coach (unidentified), blue coach (in poor condition), tube wagon B733150, DS56971, 20t brake van B954127, Mk 1 coach E34541 BSK (now BR blue ex. SR green), toad brake van 68784.

Station platform sidings - RSH 7151/44 built Newcastle 1944 0-6-0T under restoration (boiler ticket expired 2014). Manning Wardle 2018/22 0-6-0ST under restoration, maroon coach (unidentified), coach ROSE.

In service - train ride(1 round trip);

Wimblebury steam loco with brake DW17464, coach M25040, coach Angela, coach Martha, coach Doris.

Bitton Station sidings;

07010 BR blue, 08202, 08663, D4157 (08927), grey/black 08 (or 09) shunter (no number possibly 09015?), 31101, 31210.

Industrial now numbered WD824 Andrew Barclay 'Grumpy' (0-4-0DM no. WD70031 'GRUMPY').

Tkh 4015 KAREL, SOMERDALE Fry's steam under restoration.

Dog-fish DB983583, VCA 200453, YGB DB982894 40t Sealion, 13t NE 292701 13t bolster flat, 12t pal-van B80703, B783717, 52624 10T 4w 5 plank, 86582 10t 4w 5 plank, 10931 10t 4w 5 plank, Cowans Sheldon small crane makers number 34571 built 1984, PDA MODA 7454, coach S3991, 22t 4w tank 48331, PMV S1153S, coach 93749, Thomas Smith & Sons, Rodley, Leeds large crane.

Colne Valley Railway

02/05 Former First Group blue livery 43023 has arrived from Ely Papworth sidings, to join the '125 Heritage Fleet' vehicles located here which includes already preserved power cars 43071, 43073 and 43082.

East Somerset Railway

P. YOUNG

07/05 The following were present;

Sidings - CCT M94798, DMU M51909 + M56271, unidentified 4w ventilated van, coal wagon 80637, guards van ESR 49028, unidentified low-mac 4w, W35413 4w brake toad branded 'Wells RU not in common use', Unigate Dairies tank W3035 6w tank milk, 4w machinery flat wagon E278494, unidentified tank possibly milk, 4w steel open B460239, coach W18572, BSK coach IUO 083636, KDB730339.

In service - steam 46447 with CK W16263, BSK W35204, TSO W4562, S S1000 (now in maroon formerly SR green).

Hanson Aggregates, Whatley Quarry near Frome.

R.W.GILES

23/04 A local 'Community Open Day' (postponed from September last year due to the Queen's State Funeral) was held here with equipment, plant old and new, open buildings and coach tours available to the viewing public visitors.

This Somerset location (along with nearby Torre Quarry at Merehead) was opened in the 1960s with an industrial railway connected line from Frome which was substantially modified in the 1980s as a through route for mainline loco hauled trains this included a steel river bridge crossing and two tunnels.

Currently around 6 million tonnes of limestone are moved for construction use to long established terminals in the South-East and Dagenham Dock but in more recent times material for HS2 and to the new £2.6 billion Hinkley Point 'C' nuclear power station site on the Somerset coast (currently the biggest construction site in Europe) due to open in 2027 have been moved, the latter via a near week daily move to Avonmouth for a journey completion by sea and coastal shipping following off loading at West Wharf.

The current level 8/9 for downward quarrying now well below the water table, has been reached with around 20 years of extraction allowed left and an early 2040's return to nature with part infill work planned.

The inner rail sidings were part open on the day for viewing with on display;

ex. BR blue MRL branded 08650 (D3817) - outer yard/reception sidings pilot. Hanson's blue/silver livery 59101 Village of Whatley (one of the four delivered new to the location towards the end of 1990 for the then Amey Roadstone Company (ARC) operator, this loco receiving nameplates in May 1992 as part of the 'Village' Class 59/1 loco fleet) and Freightliner 59202 Pride of Ferrybridge (Genesse & Wyoming) being the current mainline operator serving the location having taken over from DBS in November 2019), with Industrial 'switcher' 120 Kenneth John Witcombe (in MRL blue) GM 37903/72 - inner sidings/loading area 'out of gauge' pilot, present.

Mainline Preservation

21/04 Deltic 55022 Royal Scots Grey worked a 'one way' passenger only 1Z55 1315 Kings Cross - Edinburgh (2002) outing with electric loco 90001 as support, this being a test run for the Class 55.

All did not go to plan with an exhaust problem recorded at Grantham platform 4 at 1547 (34 late), Darlington later being passed at 1831 (101 late) and Edinburgh eventually reached just over an hour down.

The booked ecs return was 5Z56 2015 to Crewe HS (0320).

Road Movements

26/04 Ex. GWR steam 4555 southbound M5 junction 27 (Tiverton) at 1100.

15/05 Ex. GWR steam 1369 northbound M5 junction 21 (Weston-super-Mare) at 1948 en route from South Devon Railway to Dean Forest Railway for forthcoming the 'Panniers & Prairies' gala week-end (also featuring 5541 and 9681).

Swanage Railway

09/05 40145 (BR green livery) set out from Carnforth Steamtown as 0Z40 1102 light-engine to Castleton Hopwood (East Lancs Railway) ground-frame (1349) to collect 'Peak' 45108 (BR blue) then going forward as 0Z41 0827 to Eastleigh Arlingtons during the following day, where 50021 (large logo blue) + 50026 (Network South-East) were collected for the 4-loco 0Z42 1848 move to Swanage (2115) on 11th for the forthcoming diesel gala the move passing New Milton at 2014 (7 late) and Poole 2038 (9 late).

12-14/05 The full 2023 diesel-gala line up read; D345. D6512. D6515. D8568. 33111. 45108. 47830 carrying a 'Freightliner Eastleigh On Tour' headboard. 50021/6. 73107. 73201, with the 'London Transport' 4TC set also in use.

MISCELLANEOUS

Caledonian Sleeper

01/05 SPRS owned 37405 (which had been in South Wales on rail-tour duty on 11th March) was unusually used to pilot Electro-Diesel 73967 onwards from Edinburgh Waverley with the King's Cross - Aberdeen sleeper service formed with two coaches.

Class 58

As reported in a previous Magazine, work has now started on scrapping a number of ex. BR Class 58 locos stored at Alizay following the end of contract work in France.

On 2nd May, with 58033 already dismantled work was underway on 58034 with 58001 next in line. The locos were believed to have had an asbestos problem prohibiting any movements.

Class 60

26/04 Former DB 60014 was extracted from Toton Yard and moved by road haulier Allelys to Longport, Stoke for a possible 'trial' engine conversion which will also include a project costing investigation, GBRf being the operating company involved.

Class 73

24/04 73109 + 73136 + 73128 + 73212 + 73201 + 73141 + 73213 + 73107 passed Tonbridge station at 0453 (38 early) forming a 0X35 0345 Kentish Town - Tonbridge West yard (0527) light-loco move.

Class 313 Finale

29/04 Govia Thames-link, Angel Trains, BLS and James Rail Services organised and operated a 'Sussex Rambler 313 1976-2023' farewell tour using blue/grey livery 313201 + green/grey Southern 'Coastway' livery 313213 commencing as 1Z31 0900 Brighton - Portsmouth Harbour, then 1Z32 1040 return to Littlehampton, 1Z33 1259 to Three Bridges, 1Z34 1413 return to Hastings and Ore before the return to Brighton, both Bognor Regis and Newhaven branch lines also having been covered.

£25,000 was raised by the trip on the day for the Railway Children and Chestnut Sussex charities.

All the remaining 313s were to be taken out of service following the 21st May timetable change with Class 377 EMUs taking over their duties.

Class 321

29/04 As well as the Class 313 farewell (see above), Greater Anglia used 321307 + 321314 on an area EMU Class farewell tour on this date.

The working which started and finished at Liverpool Street was booked to cover most of the main and branch line locations familiar over the years including;

Clacton, Walton, Harwich Town, Stowmarket, Shenfield and Southend Victoria.

The working again supported and raised funds for several local area Children charities.

Class 398

Additional information May Magazine issue 615 - (under MISCELLANEOUS) 'Tram-train' set 398008 was missed off the Class summary list as located at Taffs Well depot present with 398007.

Cornwall

22/04 Following restoration and an overhaul, the turntable at St.Blazey depot (Par) was returned to use from this date with testing undertaken initially using 2 China Clay CDA wagons and then DB loco 66131.

Cwmbargoed DP

The line used to load coal mainly for steel production at Port Talbot works with occasional trains to Hope (Earles) Cement works is under threat as the UK's largest open-cast coal mine at Ffos-y-Fran near Merthyr Tydfil is set to close after 16 years with permission for an operating extension into 2024 refused. The extension is reported as not fitting in with the Welsh Governments current policies regarding climate change.

DRS

The company offered 37069, 37402, 37423 and 57002 for sale by tender in early May.

Further Strike Disruption

12/05 ASLEF drivers working for 16 companies held a 24 hour Friday walk-out during the day with RMT Union members following suit over the following day these being the first stoppages since March.

Great Western Railway

01/05 57604 working the 1C50 (Sun) 2350 Paddington - Penzance sleeper was noted with barrier coach 6348 in place of BSO 17174, the coach eventually being replaced by 17173 at a later date.

05/05 An 'additional' hourly service was operated from south Wales and Temple Meads into the following morning to help convey some of the expected 1.2 million people attending King Charles III London Coronation ceremony and celebrations.

IET set 802103 was released in a special 'Flying Carolean' King Charles III livery incorporating the Coronation logo and name still in GWR green with gold lettering (applied at Stoke Gifford depot).

The set arrived in Paddington platform 3 at 0759 as 1L62 0553 from Cheltenham and then proceeded to work to south Wales as 1B07 0848 to Swansea (1131) where 'Y Carolean Hedegog' lettering which had been applied to the other side of the set was also on show in recognition of the Prince of Wales title carried for 59 years by King Charles prior to his new appointment.

Also during the day on what is normally a Class 158 turn, 150238 was noted departing Pinhoe at 1758 with the 2L92 1631 Barnstaple - Axminster service.

10/05 Now with an extended time of service into 2024, 'Castle' HST set 43186 GW14 43188 formed 3Z91 0955 Laira Trsmd - Worcester Shrub Hill (1420) for use at the forthcoming 4-day Severn Valley Railway diesel gala passing Worle junction at 1206 (1 early) and Yate 1245 (8 late).

The set was then booked to go forward as 5Z43 1449 to Kidderminster (Svr).

11/05 With power car 43088 stood down earlier in the week, it was the turn of 43158 for withdrawal on this date, its final workings with set GW09 and 43154 were 1C71 0700 Gloucester - Penzance, 2U24 1250 Penzance - Cardiff Central and 2C89 1900 Cardiff Central - Plymouth which departed Weston-super-Mare at 2029, 43158 'Kingswear Castle' being on the rear.

15/05 Due to 'stand alone' industrial action no sleeper services operated from this date until 19th May.

19/05 DMU set 150261 suffered a serious engine failure whilst working the 2L95 2005 Liskeard-Looe service being terminated at Sandplace at 2026, this resulting in the return and the following out and back service (the last of the day) being cancelled.

Once 'revived' the set was able to run 5Z74 empty to Exeter during the following morning.

Stop Press; For the new 2023 Summer Timetable change 3-car Class 158 sets 158956 and 158957 are planned to be disbanded with 2-car 158748, 158768 and 158771 're-created' for service.

Harry Needle Railway Company

Class 20, 20168 has been out-shopped from Barrow Hill in a HRNRC blue livery carrying '2 Breedon' branding and is to see use on a 10 years contract at Hope Quarry.

Massive Bridge Strike!

17/05 At 0800 a 300 ton tug-boat struck one of the Royal Albert River Tamar rail-bridge supports at Plymouth, on the Devon/Cornwall border. Until Network Rail could undertake a complete check, the main line was closed as a precaution until early afternoon.

Rail Operations Group

Following on from 37800, 37611 has become the latest Class 37 fleet member to receive the full company blue/silver lines livery.

Royal Tannoy

Over the Coronation weekend the new King and Queen Consort voices could be heard over the Queen Elizabeth Line and London Underground network giving out modified 'stand clear of the doors' and other safety messages at a number of station locations!

Trans-Pennine Express - Re-Nationalised

The operator who is part of First Group will lose the franchise from 28th May and become 'now run as operator as last resort' on behalf of the Government, this being the fourth rail company to do so since 2018. Figures so far in 2023 saw January and February operate with a 25% service cancellation rate, although an improvement was recorded in March to 17%, but previous figures and ongoing customer dissatisfaction played a major part as the company continued to state a driver shortage and Rail Union interaction regarding rail-strikes was attributing factors outside of their control.

TRACK MACHINES & DEPARTMENTALS

21/04 Doncaster CHS - DR79231/2/3/6/7 (allox. 6Z08 2154 to Plymouth Tavistock yard) Note; DR79234/5 from this set are in store at Derby RTC.

22/04 Newport Park junction - VEVAN rrv caterpillar VER017. VER018. trailers 010854-6. 010875-1.

25/04 Penzance (Ponsondane sidings) - DR73907.

26/04 Southall ISU - DR77910 (allox. 6Q10 to Westerleigh).

30/04 Westerleigh sidings - DR77910 (912508-1). TXM rrv 6212 (917093-5). Training centre compound (incomplete list) NR 'Rail-Whale' rrv OV15OUC (917093-5). OV15OTZ (917016-8). OV15??? (917098-4).

05/05 Totnes - DR77010 (709125010-7) + DR73122 (709123122-2) passing at 1035 as a 6Q55 0906 Taunton Fairwater - Newton Abbot Hackney yard (via Laira jcn) move.

14/05 Newton Abbot Hackney yard - DR77010 + DR73122 both arriving together as a 6Q55 0910 working from Hemerdon. Liskeard - DR80301 (named 'Stephen Cornish') allox. 6U40 1356 to Cardiff Taff Vale Railway sidings.

18/05 Weston-super-Mare - DR73920.

19/05 Taunton Station sidings - DR77010 + DR73122 having passed through the station at 0518 with a 6Q55 0500 on a from Bridgwater.

TRIP REPORTS

TRIP 588

LIVERPOOL

25th March 2023

Compiled from notes provided by John Dicks, Simon Reeve and Mike Crew courtesy of wwrail.net and <https://freightmasterinteractive.uk>

Bescot Yard

Locos 08825 66718 Sir Peter Hendy CBE

Liverpool South Parkway

Emu Sets 508120/131

Passing Allerton Depot

Emu Sets 319367/378/386 323234 331011/023/025/026 769431

Hunts Cross

Emu Set 508131

Sandhills

Emu Set 507024

Bank Hall

Emu Set 507026

Hall Road

Emu Set 508136

Freshfield

Emu Set 507037

Hillside

Emu Set 508114

Southport

Dmu Sets 150106/134

Emu Sets 507013/029 508111/120/128/131 769456 777003/004/010/012

Hightown

Emu Set 507026

Bootle Oriel Road

Emu Set 508136

Sandhills

Emu Sets 777009/049

Passing Kirkdale Depot & Station

Shunting Loco Niteq B226/2006 (assumed) (P345, 18EL)

Emu Sets 507001/009/010/024 508139 777005/006/009/015/026/049 777142

Liverpool Central

Emu Sets 507009/027 508125/130

Passing Chester Depot

Dmu Sets 175103 197011/017

Chester Station

Dmu Sets 150284 153367 158821/826/827/835 158919 175104 195114/123

197006/007 Happy Valley/009/012/013/021

Emu Sets 507015/032 508103

Hooton

Emu Set 507032

Bromborough Brake

Emu Sets 507002/012

Rock Ferry

Emu Sets 507011 508125

Moorfields

Emu Sets 507024 508114

Liverpool Central

Emu Sets 507024 508136

Liverpool South Parkway

Emu Sets 331011/026

Birkenhead North Depot

Dmu Sets 230006/007

Liverpool South Parkway

Dmu Set 195105

Edge Hill

Emu Set 390112

IET Set 802215

Tuebrook

Locos 60021 Penyghent/095

Liverpool Lime Street

Dmu Sets 158810/856

Allerton

Emu Sets 319367/378/386 323234 331011 331030

Warrington Central

Dmu Set 195103

Manchester Piccadilly

Locos 66035 Resourceful (4Z57 Trafford Park - Bescot) 66747 Made in Sheffield (4M18 Felixstowe - Trafford Park)

Dmu Sets 150108/138/140/146 156406/425/459 158865/866 185105/117/129
195012 195122/130 /133 197012/018

Emu Sets 331001/002/003/015/016/019/024/027/028/029/030/031

323225/227/229/237 390104 Alstom Pendolino 397003/008

Longsight TMD

Emu Set 397010

Crewe

Emu Set 390006 Rethink Mental Illness

Crewe Coal Yard

Loco 68005 Defiant (4M27 Mossend - Daventry)

Acton Bridge

Locos 66066 Geoff Spencer (6E26 Knowsley - Wilton) 66080 (0R01 Warrington Arpley - Bescot)

Warrington Arpley

Locos 60017 66075/140

Warrington Bank Quay

Locos 66183 (4S49 Daventry - Grangemouth) 60026 Helvellyn + 60095 (6E17 Liverpool - Drax)

Dmu Sets 195114/123/125 197006/009

Emu Sets 390006 Rethink Mental Illness/008 Charles Rennie Mackintosh/050
390118/154

Preston Brook Tunnel

Loco 68004 Rapid (4S44 Daventry - Mossend)

Weaver Jn

Loco 66711 Sence (6L48 Garston - Dagenham)

Crewe Heritage Centre

Locos 37401 Mary Queen of Scots 43018/081 47712 86622

Crewe LSL

Locos 87002 Royal Sovereign 90001 Royal Scot/002 Wolf of Badenoch

Crewe

Locos 57304 Pride of Cheshire 68014
Emu Sets 350114/126

Runcorn

Emu Set 390121 Opportunity

Widnes Alstom

Locos 08454/721

Garston

Loco 08580

Liverpool South Parkway

Dmu Sets 158846/858 195105/120

15/04/23**BASFORD HALL****Members Private Trip**

Report provided by John Dicks, Brady, Dave Forse and Mike Crew courtesy of
wwrail.net and <https://freightmasterinteractive.uk>

Water Orton

Locos 66601 The Hope Valley (6G67 Tunstead - Small Heath) 66730 Whitemoor
(4D62 Seaforth - East Midlands Gateway 70007 (4M62 Southampton Maritime -
Lawley Street)
Dmu Sets 170102 170397 170619/622/638/639
Demu Sets 220013/017/022
Wagons 92617 93398/412 607043/091 608001/008/119/121/198/308/322/366/
455/531 640095/197 641041 70 5891 522-1/542-9

Bescot (From M6)

Locos 66704 Colchester Power Signalbox/717 Good Old Boy 69006

Crewe Basford Hall Junction

Locos 67009/024 (1Z39 London Victoria - Liverpool South Parkway)
88006 Juno (4S43 Daventry - Mossend)
Demu Sets 221104/117
Emu Sets 350102/105/123 350238/240/242/246/261 390050 390115 Crewe -
All Change/121 Opportunity
Coaches 213 Minerva (99535); 243 Lucille (99541); 254 Zena (99536);
255 Ione ((99539); 280 Audrey (99537); 281 Gwen (99546); 284 Vera
(99543); 301 Perseus (99530); 302 Phoenix (99531); 308 Cygnus (99532);
6313; Baggage Car 11 (99545).

Gresty Bridge Depot (Viewed)

Locos 57309 Pride of Crewe 66421 Gresty Bridge TMD 68006 Pride of the North/027 Splendid

Passing Loco 66956

Crewe Station (Viewed from the North Car park)

Loco 66735 Peterborough United (6G92 Hindlow - Small Heath)

Dmu Set 197019

Emu Sets 331009 350156 350228

Wagons 70 5932 757-4/758-2/759-0/760-8/761-6/762-4/765-7/766/769-9/770-1/771-5/772-1/773-1/775-6/776-4/777-2/778-0/779-8/780-6/781-4/784-0

Basford Hall

Locos D1845/47830 Beeching's Legacy 56105 66418/425 (4S44 Daventry - Mossend) 66502 Basford Centenary 2001 66183 (6016 Ditton - Dollands Moor) 66522 East London Express (6Z87 Northampton Castle Yard - Tunstead) /524/532/596 66620 66717 Good Old Boy (4H90 Bescot - Hindlow) 66956 70003/006 86604/605/607/608/609/610/612/613/614/625/627/632/637/638/639 90003/004/005/007/008/011/012/013/014 Over the Rainbow/016/042/043/045/046/047/048/050

Wagons 29013/021/062/068/178/179/268/319/336/356/379/425/444/467/482/510/548 92516/613/616/715 93345/346/366/388/447/460/479/602/612/741 97708/725/765/768 110299 112058/168/321 370188/195/227/267/393

380137/210/312/337 394036/070/090/093/129/140/170/179/201/205/251/331/628/657/779/866 396034/069/088/098 470051/169 500202/203/210/236/237/241/250/266/267/277/290/309/310/311/316/319/321/323/325/326/335/339/349/350/335/339/343/349/350/386/399 501202/210/236/241/243/266/290/297/303/313/316/318/319/323/325/326/335/343/372/376/386/395/396/397/557

503043/064/556/557/558/564/573 605010/013/014 606006/008/113

607006/007/074/109 608143/145/201/312/423/424/445/473/538/558

640479/575/576 950327/357/384/994 996389/629 979510;

68 4909 068-1/483-2/487-3; 68 4943 077-0; 81 70 5500 430-0/503-4/521-6/525-7/539-8/550-5/561-2/564-6/568-07/572-9/573-3/576-0/577-8/579-4/582-8/583-6/588-5/595-0/598-4/618-0/773-3/774-1; 70 5892 001-6/005-7;

70 5932 151-0/153-6/154-4/155-1/156-9/157-7/158-5/159-3/160-1/161-9/162-7/174-2/180-9/221-1/231-0/236-9/252-6/255-9/263-3/268-2/ 312-8/313-6/316-9/316-9/317-7/323-5/347-4/358-1/367-2/368-0/371-4/377-1/385-4/393-8/398-7/400-1/401-9/402-7/451-4/452-2; 70 5992 005-6; 81 70 9316 034-6/054-4

Miscellaneous/ Internal User Wagons DE230956 B462783

Withdrawn Wagons 394120/633 396074 951003/120

Plant 979510

Snowplough ADB965241

Notes

The two miscellaneous wagons are at the very south of the yard.

They are obscured by being parked at the south end of a building and being under the road overbridge.

The Class 86 locos are stored pending sale abroad.

Rickerscote

Demu Sets 220026 221121

Bescot Station

Locos 66757/774/783 The Flying Dustman/794
Emu Sets 350235/259
Wagons 12904/970

Bescot Depot Sidings

Wagons 112164 996327

Bescot Yard (viewed from the riverside walk and a train from Thame Bridge Parkway)

Locos 08670/825(D3993) (Chinnor & Princess Risborough Rly) 60074 (6M99 Immingham - Bescot) 66006 + 66028 (6R01 Bescot - Wolverton) 66059 + 66060 (6W02 Bescot - Cheltenham Spa) 66524 (6Y72 Bescot - Whitacre Jn Tame Bridge Parkway) 66704 Colchester Power Signal Box/730(6G53 Bescot - Northampton)/757(6G51 Bescot - Northampton) 66779 + 66791 Whitemoor (6G52 Bescot - Northampton) 66766 + 66771 Amanda (6G50 Bescot - Hanslope Jn) 69006
Wagons 12904/910/914/916/929/935/937/939/949/951/952/955/956/957/963/965/968/991; 29082/167/241/263/265/308/322/332/363/404/471/547; 93330; 380031/184/191/192/195/404/504/610/611/612; 391001; 500212/213/224/235/248/258/260/268/271/287/291/300/301/303/313/315; 503027/034/040/053/066/543; 950273/821; 951171; 966115/256; 996135/312/332/421/433/434/597/811/923; 81 70 4524 103-8; 81 70 4908 086-1; 81 70 4938 004-7/103-9; 81 70 5932 175-9/176-7/178-3/179-1/183-3/187-4/188-2/190-8/191-6/194-0/195-7/197-3/209-6/224-5/234-5/396-1/451-8/459-7
Plant 78215 81626

Passing Dmu Sets 350192/195

Thame Bridge Parkway

Emu Set 350101 350239

Filton Abbey Wood

Locos 66849 + 66847 (6C23 Westbury - Jersey Marine)

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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

