

# CARDIFF & AVONSIDE RAILWAY SOCIETY

Established 1971

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



## MAGAZINE

Issue 619

September 2023

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| <b>Kevin</b>   | Treasurer<br>Webmaster<br>General Secretary |
| <b>Dave</b>    | Events Secretary<br>Bookings Secretary      |
| <b>Simon</b>   | Membership Secretary<br>Disclosure Officer  |
| <b>Paul</b>    | Assistant                                   |
| <b>John</b>    | Assistant                                   |
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Magazine

Printing & Distribution

**Society Mobile (Trip Days only):** 07511 156583

#### Front Cover Photo September 2023 Issue 619:

[M.Crew]

69005 69006 1Z69 Tame Bridge Parkway - Penzance at Filton Abbey Wood on 24/06/23.

#### Rear Cover Photo September 2023 Issue 619:

[M.Crew]

60015 6B13 Robeston - Westerleigh at Severn Tunnel Junction on 24/06/23.

## FUTURE EVENTS

**Trip 593**

**NORTHAMPTONSHIRE PRESERVED**

**Saturday 16/09/23**

A one day visit to preservation sites in Northamptonshire.

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

The trip fare does not include the cost of entry to any of these locations

**Proposed Itinerary:** Daventry freight depot view; Ironstone museum; Northampton industrial museum; 4 Northampton steam railway Broughton

**Permits:** N/A

**Departure Time** from 68 Long Road, Mangotsfield, BS16 9HP = 0700 am  
Other pick-up points may be arranged with Dave FORSE.

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

**Book By Date** = N/A

**Safety Equipment** (PPE) required: N/A

**Trip 594**

**CHESTER FLYER**

**Saturday 21/10/23**

A one day flyer visit to Chester with the option to go Liverpool.

**Proposed Trip Fare** = £25      **Fare with Day Membership** = £28

**Proposed Itinerary:** None

**Permits:** N/A

**Departure Time** from 68 Long Road, Mangotsfield, BS16 9HP = 0700 am  
Other pick-up points may be arranged with Dave FORSE.

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

**Book By Date** = N/A

**Safety Equipment** (PPE) required: N/A

**Trip 595**

**DONCASTER FLYER**

**Saturday 25/11/23**

A one day flyer visit to Doncaster to do as you wish.

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

**Proposed Itinerary:** None

**Permits:** N/A

**Departure Time** from 68 Long Road, Mangotsfield, BS16 9HP = 0630 am  
Other pick-up points may be arranged with Dave FORSE.

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

**Book By Date** = N/A

**Safety Equipment** (PPE) required: N/A

**Trip 596**

**LONDON FLYER**

**Saturday 09/12/23**

A one day flyer visit to London to do as you wish.

**Proposed Trip Fare** = £26      **Fare with Day Membership** = £29

**Proposed Itinerary:** None

**Permits:** N/A

**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

**Book By Date** = N/A

**Safety Equipment** (PPE) required: N/A

**Trip 597**

**BLACK COUNTRY FLYER**

**Saturday 13/01/24**

A one day flyer visit to the Black Country to do as you wish.

**Proposed Trip Fare** = £20      **Fare with Day Membership** = £23

**Proposed Itinerary:** None

**Permits:** N/A

**Departure Time** from 68 Long Road, Mangotsfield, BS16 9HP = 0700 am  
Other pick-up points may be arranged with Dave FORSE.

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

**Book By Date** = N/A

**Safety Equipment** (PPE) required: N/A

### **Bookings**

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

Trip bookings will only be accepted on a Trip Booking Form. Completed Trip Booking Forms should be returned to the Bookings Secretary prior to the Book-By Date.

To secure participation on a trip it is the responsibility of the individual to ensure that their completed Trip Booking Form is submitted in advance of the Book-By Date. Booking requests received on a Trip Booking Form after the Book-By Date will be filled on a first come first served basis where possible regardless of whether they are a member or non-member.

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

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

### **Trip Departure Times**

Please note that the advertised departure times for trips is about 0630am from the Bristol area. However there are occasions when this time will have to be moved to an earlier time slot, depending on the trip destination or other circumstances that are outside of the control of the Society. Participants will be notified of any of these changes in departure time at the earliest opportunity.

## **Payment Facility**

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

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

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

## **Important Notice for Trip Participants**

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

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

## **General Trip Information**

1. Although trip timings and costs advertised are based on Bristol area departures, fuel/train fare to an advertised departure point from Cardiff and Newport will be paid by the Society upon agreement with the Events Organiser. If you live outside the areas served by these points but on route for a trip please contact Dave Forse to arrange a pick up point that is mutually convenient.
2. The fare structure for Society members is as follows  
ADULT - FULL FARE.  
CHILD - QUARTER FARE.  
DAY MEMBERSHIP (TRIP MEMBER) - AS ABOVE + £3 per trip day  
A child is a person who has not yet reached their seventeenth birthday and is still in full time education. People who are not Society members or family members will have their fares increased by the Day Membership rate (£3 per day).
3. The discounts highlighted above for family members refer to travel costs only. Accommodation, and permits / admission fees will be charged at cost price.
4. Members who wish to go on a trip must contact Dave Forse prior to the book by date to confirm that they still intend to go on the trip.
5. Where a trip is organised with an itinerary to a specific area, it may sometimes be possible to drop off a member en-route. This is known as the Trip Flyer option. Availability and exact duration of stay will be at the discretion of the Events Organiser. The fare for this option will be negotiable, depending on the drop off point and seat availability.
6. For members living outside the normal pick up/drop off areas it may be possible to be picked up en-route. This is known as the Trip Hiker option. Fares and availability are at the discretion of the Events Organiser.
7. The Society mobile will be switched on throughout the duration of society trips. Please do not use it outside these times for time critical communications as voice mails and texts may not be picked up

immediately.

8. Participants who confirm their booking on a Trip Booking Form prior to the "book by" date will have priority regardless of whether they are a member or non-member. Booking requests received on a Trip Booking Form after the "book by" date will be filled on a first come first served basis regardless of whether they are a member or non-member.

## **SOCIETY NOTICEBOARD**

### **Society GEN News Group**

There is a Gen Group on groups.io which you can subscribe to allow you to get e-mail alerts for any workings or reports posted by other group members. We also use this to provide you with any updates on Society events. To join you can use the link on the Home page of the Society web site [www.cardiffandavonside.org.uk](http://www.cardiffandavonside.org.uk)

### **Society FaceBook Group**

The Society has a Facebook Group. If you have a Facebook account you can find us by searching for "Cardiff and Avonside Railway Society" or by clicking on the link on the home page on the Society website. We will use the site to publish information about forthcoming trips and obviously for members to share and information and photographs.

### **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**

**23/07** Sunday engineering trains operating in association with a Westerleigh - Standish junction blockade included;  
66791 - 6G70 1555 Parkway - Oxford Hinksey yard (1859) passing Lawrence Hill at 1606 (2 late) and Swindon 1703 (24 early) with 4 JNA / 6 MLA boxes and 7 MXA 'lobsters', 66720 - 6G71 1430 Parkway - Westbury (1540) passing Lawrence Hill at 1439 (1 early) and Bath 1503 (3 early) with 7 FEA flats / 9 JNA / 4 MLA / 1 IEA box wagons, 66744 + 66751 top n' tailing - 6G72 1307 Parkway - Oxford Hinksey yard (1458) with 8 JNA / 11 MLA / 1 IEA wagons passing Stapleton Road at 1338 (21 late) and Bath 1357 (17 late) and 66705 - 6W03 1730 Parkway - Westbury (1818) with an 8 MLA / 10 JNA consist passing Lawrence Hill at 1647 (51 early) and Bath 1722 (31 early)  
**25/07** 66002 delivered new units 756105/7/6 to south Wales as 5Q99 0240 Ripple Lane - Cardiff Canton sidings (0719) passing Swindon at 0501 (22 early), Patchway 0617 (13 early) and Cardiff Central 0715 (1 late).  
**28/07** Two morning freight records were; 66546 - 6V82 0250 Lawley Street - Stoke Gifford stone empties passing Westerleigh junction at 0536 and 66104 - 6M60 0457 (FO) Exeter Riverside - Bescot china clays which arrived Parkway at 0654.

**01/08** Freight divers (due to further River Severn side bank stability work) included; 66424 - 4V44 1045 Daventry - Wentloog TESCO containers formed with 17 IKA wagons passing Abbotswood junction at 1243 and 66084 - 6Z33 1224 Bescot - Cardiff Tidal sidings (1654) passing Walsall at 1233 and Yate 1535 (4 late) formed with 24 empty MBAs (these wagons being from a 6E55 Cardiff Tidal - Sunderland working held in the Midlands from 28th July - reason unknown).

**02/08** 'ROG' 37884 moved further EMU sets 321335 + 321336 for scrapping as 5Q86 0938 Wolverton Centre sidings - Newport Docks (1600) Sims Metals passing Swindon at 1343 (2 early) and Patchway 1422 (33 early), the loco later returning 0H72 1820 Newport Docks - Wembley LHS (2229) light passing Newport at 1818 (10 early) and Swindon 1944.

Chepstow line divers for the day included; 66032 - 6V05 0915 Round Oak - Margam steel passing Patchway at 1244 (and later passing Newport at 1355 as 0V05 1418 light-engine from Llanwern) and 66424 - 4V44 1045 Daventry - Wentloog TESCO containers recorded Yate at 1353.

Later, 66750 working 6M31 1835 Swindon Cocklebury - Liverpool EMR loaded scrap, also diverted via Bristol and the Marches (due to Radley area engineering and bridge work) was in trouble between Swindon and Wootton Bassett as metal sheets (which are normally transported in a compacted block form) and assumed accidentally loaded above the 6 inch wagon side safety line were taken by the wind and allegedly struck an IET set travelling in the opposite direction. The GWR service believed to have been affected was 1L34 1818 Carmarthen - Paddington (2209) with set 802111 which having departed Parkway at 2113 (18 late) arrived Swindon at 2311 (124 late) and departed 2322 (123 late) following a stop (between Wootton Bassett and Rushey Platt) for safety checks eventually arriving in the Capital at 0039 (150 late). Meanwhile the freight train was terminated Bristol Parkway at 2327 (195 late) and diverted to Avonmouth BBHt (off route) departing at 0204 (370 late) where a full visual incident inquiry could be undertaken over the coming days.

**04/08** 'Stadler tri-mode' 756101 + 756104 were out on mileage accumulation runs passing Parkway at 1134 running 3Q38 1118 Newport - Swindon (1235). The booked return was 3Q39 1250 to Newport (1438).

'Castle' HST set 43172 GW09 43156 worked 2E91 1138 Temple Meads - Worcester Foregate Street as far as Gloucester where Turbo 165112 took over and returned as booked on 2T46 1349 Worcester Foregate Street - Bristol TM, with the HST set again taking over for the return from Gloucester being noted departing Parkway at 1518 (2 late).

The Turbo set had earlier worked the return 2T44 1149 Worcester Foregate - Temple Meads as far as Gloucester only, reason unknown.

**07/08** Diversion records included; 66425 - 4V44 1045 Daventry - Wentloog TESCO containers passing Yate at 1349, 66076 - 6V05 1112 Round Oak - Margam steel passing Standish junction at 1356 and 66095 - 6V92 1034 Corby Works - Margam passing Bromsgrove at 1348.

**08/08** Further freight divers included; 66041 - 6V05 0915 Round Oak - Margam passing Kidderminster at 0917 and 66422 - 4V44 1045 Daventry - Wentloog TESCO containers passing Cheltenham at 1336.

**09/08** 66425 passed Pilning at 1428 working the diverted 4V44 1045 Daventry - Wentloog TESCO containers with 66175 following on 6V92 1034 Corby BSC Works - Margam steel passing Ashchurch at 1432 and Westerleigh junction 1556 (37 early).

**10/08** 'ROG' 37884 moved former Great Anglia EMU sets 321331 + 321333 as



5Q98 1047 Wolverton Works - Newport Docks (1549) Sims Metals for scrapping, passing Reading at 1317 (-), Westerleigh junction 1452 (4 late) and Pilning 1503 (3 late). A diversion record was; 66421 - 4V44 1045 Daventry - Wentloog TESCO containers passing Yate at 1549.

**11/08** 60059 passed Yate at 1250 (66 late) northbound working 6B13 0500 Robeston - Westerleigh Puma (1543) loaded fuel tanks diverted via the Severn Tunnel and heading for a loco run-round at Gloucester yard.

**12/08** 66701 + 66711 passed Westerleigh junction at 1425 (19 late), departed Pilning loop at 1524 (6 late) and Cardiff Central 1617 (14 late) top n' tailing 3Q98 1125 Kings Norton Overhead Line Plant Depot - Margam (1707) GBRf modular weed-killing train 'transit' move.

**14/08** 'Stadler tri-mode' sets 756101 + 756105 were on running in mileage accumulation runs passing Parkway at 1033 (15 early) as 3Q37 1028 Hullavington - Newport (1119), the sets having outward worked 3Q36 0757 ex. Cardiff Canton sidings. Stoke Gifford 'downside' held; 66594.

**15/08** Morning chaos with a serious failure of 'ROG' 37884 close to the Severn Tunnel Western portal area at 0625 hauling two EMU sets 321423 + 321430 for scrapping as 5Q86 2140 (Sun) Worksop Up Reception - Newport Docks (0730) Sims Metals which had passed Reading at 0254 (31 late) and Parkway 0544 (2 early). The loco suffered a broken pipe above the traction motor and needed a mobile technician to attend as no further movement was possible until repairs were carried out.

With the Chepstow line closed for engineering work down trains following the 37 were most affected, with the up line eventually becoming 'bi-directional' as loco repairs were underway. 'Castle' HST set 43016 GW12 43189 held between Patchway and Pilning working 2U04 0611 Taunton - Cardiff Central passed the latter at 0806 (20 late) and departed Severn Tunnel junction station at 0822 (29 late), IET 802001 with 2U02 0628 Bristol TM - Cardiff Central held Filton Abbey Wood eventually departed here at 0712 (32 late) and later Severn Tunnel junction 0735 (41 late), the following 1C00 0523 Paddington - Swansea stopped Temple Meads departed here at 0723 (16 late) and then Filton Abbey Wood 0731 (16 late), reaching its destination at 0932 (34 late), 802013 stopped at Severn Tunnel junction station with 2C50 0657 Cardiff - Bristol TM departed at 0734 (14 late) and Filton Abbey Wood 0749 (15 late).

A cancellation was 1F02 0558 Westbury - Cardiff Central with 158747 which terminated Temple Meads at 0648 the set eventually returning south with 158767 on 1F09 0923 Temple Meads - Portsmouth Harbour and the south Wales 'Electro-star' 1B04 0712 Paddington - Cardiff Central working with EMU sets 387144 + 387146 was terminated Swindon at 0814 (3 late).

5Q86 was later on the move after 0930 being reported Llanwern West junction at 0955 (197 late). An unaffected later freight diversion was DB Coronation blue 66023 working 6V05 0915 Round Oak - Margam steel which passed Cheltenham at 1101 (8 early) and Parkway at 1211 (1 late).

**16/08** A fully revived 'ROG' 37884 returned north as 0M57 0950 Newport Docks - Derby RTC (1415) light-engine passing Yate at 1025 (12 early). Another freight diversion duty for Royal 66023 was 6V92 1034 Corby Works - Margam (1843) with loaded scrap (in 5 SSA wagons) behind the loco and empty steel wagons passing Parkway at 1609 (16 late) the train having earlier been routed via Birmingham NS and Worcester.

Other divert records for the day were; 60059 - 6B17 2112 (Tues) Robeston - Westerleigh loaded fuel tanks (via Gloucester) passing Yate at 0355 and onto the branch and the same loco with 6B41 1145 empties (via Gloucester)

passing Patchway at 1419 and 66115 - 6V05 0915 Round Oak - Margam steel passing Droitwich at 0846.

**17/08** 'ROG' 37608 worked 0V81 1002 Derby RTC - Parkway DGL (1313) light-engine, to collect a Transport for Wales Class 67 loco from south Wales. Diversions included; 66424 - 4V44 1045 Daventry - Wentloog TESCO containers passing Cheltenham at 1302 and 66041 - 6V92 1034 Corby Works - Margam steel empties passing Landor Street (Birmingham) at 1333.

**18/08** 'Stadler' unit 756101 arrived Parkway at 0850 as a 3Q36 0757 Cardiff Canton sidings - Hullavington mileage move.

Later the unit worked 3Q39 1252 Swindon - Newport (1507) which departed Parkway at 1325 (61 early).

Also recorded during the day was the Colas HST test train with power cars 43277 (in new Colas/NR livery) + 43290 as 1Z20 0441 Paddington - Derby RTC (via Swansea and Yate) departing at 1246 (32 late). The train had visited Severn Beach in the early hours in and out via Clifton Down (as booked). Although 66432 passed Lydney at 1344 (normal route) with 4V44 1045 Daventry - Wentloog TESCO containers, 66084 was still routed via Bristol working 6V51 1239 Burton yard - Cardiff Tidal sidings (1747) steel formed with 26 VGA vans passing Standish junction at 1523 (28 early) and Parkway 1554 (33 early).

Locos recorded on Westerleigh tank duty have included; 60010/059.

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

**20/07** A second train of a 'possible' new construction sand freight-flow (also see last months Magazine) operated with 70811 as 4Z57 2240 (Mon) Longport LR sidings - Burngullow (0651) formed with 20 JNA boxes, passing Temple Meads at 0215 (9 early) the loaded booked return being during the following day (see below).

Also following assistance to the steam 60007 Sir Nigel Gresley test run during the previous day (see last Months Magazine) LSL 37521 returned north as 0Z38 0945 Bishops Lydeard (Wsr) - Crewe HS (1446) light-engine departing Bridgwater at 1014 (3 early), passing Yatton at 1031 (12 early) and Pilning 1054 (25 early) and later GBRf branded (but back in Colas use!) 67027 hauling 70807 passed through the area as 0Z67 0900 Barnetby sidings - Westbury (1501) light-engines passing Filton Abbey Wood at 1353 (2 late). Apparently financial irregularities re payment between the two freight operators is expected to see the loco again active on Colas rhtt use later this year and in a re-branded 'unique' Colas livery! Meanwhile 'sister' 67023 which had been in Scotland had been road-moved to Crewe with a fault.

**21/07** 70811 worked the second 6Z59 0445 Burngullow - Longport (1224) loaded 'infill land recovery' sand which passed Taunton at 0518 (1 early), Temple Meads 0611 (9 early) and Patchway 0631 (1 early).

The load had been moved over the Devon Banks to Exeter in two 10 JNA portions, as booked during the previous day.

**25/07** 'ROG' 37608 hauled barrier coaches 6346 + 6344 west as 5V84 0735 Derby RTC - Laira Trsmd (1424) for a following day stock move passing Cheltenham at 1003 (6 early), Uphill junction 1123 (46 early), Taunton 1143 (47 early) and Dawlish Warren (on the up line) at 1229.

**26/07** 'ROG' 37608 returned with 'off lease' all de-branded HST stock 48133/2/1 49111 (GW11) and barriers 6344 and 6346 at either end as 5L46 0955 Laira Trsmd - Ely Papworth sidings (2039) passing Totnes at 1015 (10

early), Dawlish 1045 (-), Yatton 1204 (2 early), Temple Meads 1218 (4 early) and Yate 1244 (8 late).

Two departmental workings were; 70803 on 6F07 Westbury - Ebbw junction passing Stapleton Road at 1621 and 66568 + 66548 top n' tailing a 30 YDA / 2 YOA / 2 ZWA / 1 YSA wagon consist 6X37 1750 Taunton Fairwater yard - Tilehurst East junction HOBC passing Temple Meads at 1900 (6 late).

**27/07** Steam 60007 Sir Nigel Gresley worked 5Z50 Bishops Lydeard Wsr - Bristol TM with support coach 21096 passing Uphill junction at 0636, to take over Saphos Trains 'Welsh Marches Express' 1Z49 0547 High Wycombe - Salisbury (1352) and 1Z52 1548 return to High Wycombe (2300) being top n' tailed by Inter-City livery 47828 + Scot-Rail 47712, the outward passing Swindon at 0803 (-), Bath 0832 (-), Horfield junction 0941 (17 late) with steam now in charge and Severn Tunnel junction 1008 (26 late) with 47712 still attached to the rear. The return was later recorded Pilning at 1941 (46 late) and departing Temple Meads diesel hauled again at 2024 (21 late), the c/stock being listed as; 17013. 3045. 3122. 80044. 3100. 3148. 3125. 1863. 3107. 3231. 3330.

Also during the day, 66548 departed Yatton at 1328 with the diverted 6C73 1218 Westbury - Taunton Fairwater engineers and 68001 + 68034 were paired on 6M67 Bridgwater - Crewe Coal sidings nuclear flask duty formed with 3 FNAs (709229001-6 + 709229035-4 + 709229012-3) passing Uphill junction at 1431, the inward 6V74 0433 ex. Crewe having passed Standish junction at 0744 (2 early) and Uphill junction 0906 (9 early).

**28/07** A Rail-Adventure operated 5Z43 1059 Laira Trsmd - Kings Norton Overhead Line depot (1630) move formed with ex. GWR 'de-branded' HST stock 43022. 48101/3. 49101 (GW01) passed Taunton at 1257 (3 early), Uphill junction 1316 (2 early) and Westerleigh junction 1409 (5 late). Steam 45699 in BR lined green but with 45562 (Alberta) cab-side numbers and 45627 Sierra Leone nameplates and smoke-box number was a 5Z17 0933 Carnforth Steamtown - St.Philips Marsh (1646) arrival with support coach 80204 having passed Lancaster at 1003 (1 late).

**30/07** Steam 45699 Galatea made its passenger train debut over the Bristol - Taunton mainline with the Railway Touring Company 'Royal Duchy' 1Z33 0740 Slough - Par (1442) and 1Z35 1704 return to Slough (0028) and c/stock; 99128. 99316. 3093/8. 3143. 99311. 5032. 99723, which passed Bath at 0901 (5 early) headed by West Coast 47802 for the steam loco (with support coach 80204) to take over in Temple Meads departing here at 1022 (13 late), passing Yatton at 1039, Uphill junction 1045 (11 late), departing Taunton at 1112 (8 late) and passing Totnes at 1249 (4 early). Having become the first 'Jubilee' class steam loco over the Tamar Bridge and into Cornwall, the return trip was of interest (with the train reported as being over loaded by one coach!), 45699 was down to 6.5mph climbing Hemerdon Bank on a damp rail and later a 6 minute stop was to take place near Parsons Street junction arrival here being at 2215, departure following at 2223(16 late), the loco having actually run out of steam!

**31/07** The multiple guise steam 45699 Galatea departed the area (with support coach 80204) as 5Z39 1042 St.Philips Marsh - Carnforth Steamtown (1859) via Hereford, passing Lawrence Hill at 1014 (48 early) and Pilning 1052 (26 early).

**01/08** 68033 + 88007 worked 6V74 Crewe Coal sidings - Bridgwater nuclear flasks passing Uphill junction at 0731 with a 3 FNA (709229022-2 + 709229028-9 + 709229001-6) consist.

The 6M67 later passed the same location at 1433 as 6Z67 and unusually operated via the Lickey Incline (assumed using the 'Z' head-code for the route change?).

**04/08** 68033 + 88007 departed Bridgwater at 1329 top n' tailing a return single FNA 6M67 move to Crewe Coal sidings, later passing Yate at 1436. 'Castle' HST set 43122 GW09 43156 saw use in place of a DMU set on 2E91 1138 Bristol TM - Worcester Foregate Street and 2T46 1349 return to Temple Meads.

Arriva XC HST stock allocations were; 43366 XC05 43378 - 1V50 0606 Edinburgh Waverley - Plymouth / 1E63 1527 Plymouth - Leeds and 43304 XC02 43357 - 1V44 0612 Leeds - Plymouth / 1S51 1227 Plymouth - Glasgow Central.

**05/08** BR green livery 47805/D1935 + Scot-rail 47712 double-headed Statesman Rail 'Cornish Riviera Statesman' 1Z25 0525 Derby - Penzance (1329) and 1Z26 1605 return to Derby (2347) the outward passing Totnes at 1030 (2 early) and the return St.Budeaux (Plymouth) 1803 and Uphill junction 1954. The c/stock formation in use was listed as; 3384. 3344. 3426. 3348. 1211. 3312. 3229. 80043. 3188. 3438. 17056.

**06/08** West Coast provided the popular pairing of 33025 + 33029 for Pathfinder Tours 'Pembroke Coast Express' 1Z25 0758 Salisbury - Tenby and 1Z26 1620 return to Salisbury (2205) with c/stock; 6042 (ex. Anglian blue/white livery). 6054. 5929. 1212. 3325. 3340. 3333 (all blue/grey), 1651 (choc/cream). 3345. 3390 (both blue/grey), the outward passing Hawkridge junction at 0846 (1 late), departing Trowbridge at 0854 (-), passing Avoncliff at 0904 (-), Freshford 0907 (2 late), departing Bath at 0920 (-), Filton Abbey Wood 0957 (-), passing Patchway at 1003 (1 late) and Pilning 1008 (3 late). Class 33s once had a spell of passenger operation in South and West Wales back in the 1980s. Later, DC Rail worked the now normal Sunday 6Z19 1158 West Drayton - Bristol East yard stone empties passing Chippenham at 1408 with a 21 JNA consist.

**08/08** 68033 + 88006 arrived Bridgwater at 0631 with 6V74 0200 FNA wagons 709229022-2 + 709229004-0 from Crewe Coal sidings.

**09/08** The monthly 'high speed' test train visit was worked by a HST set with power cars 43251 + 43272 as 1Z22 0757 Derby RTC - Kingsland Road (2300) via Evesham, Oxford, Swindon, Westbury, Avonmouth, Bath, Parkway and Hallen Marsh junction and was reported passing Willington at 0814 (12 early) and Longbridge (Birmingham) 0930 (3 late).

An engineering train record was; 66751 - 6G78 2133 Westbury - Parsons Street (2227) passing Bath at 2202 (-) with a 12 JZA / 1 YEA rail-train. The booked return during the following day was; 6G98 0500 Yatton - Westbury (0717) via Taunton Fairwater yard.

**11/08** 88005 + 68002 passed Uphill junction at 0641 (23 late) and arrived Bridgwater station at 0658 (25 late) with 6V74 0200 ex. Crewe Coal sidings working with FNAs 709229029-7 + 709229035-4.

**14/08** Following problems during the previous evening (also see MISCELLANEOUS Great Western Railway notes & news) and the working being covered by an IET set, 57603 returned sleeper ecs west as 5Z77 1520 Reading Traincare depot - Penzance Trsmd (2208) passing Swindon at 1614 (12 late), Bath 1636 (4 late), departing Temple Meads at 1719 (-), passing Uphill junction at 1744 (1 late) and Taunton 1803 (2 early).

**16/08** Having arrived in Bristol during the previous day, as 5Z56 1108 ex. Carnforth Steamtown to East yard (1858) passing Filton Abbey Wood at 1844 (1 early), 57601 + 57313 top n' tailed a 5Z57 0907 Northern Belle ecs

to Cardiff Central (1028) which again passed Filton Abbey Wood at 0921 (3 late) - also see Cardiff notes & news.

Another premier dining train, the VSOE later appeared with Pullman livery 67024 as 1V80 0947 Victoria - Temple Meads (1303) and 1092 1556 return to Victoria (1946) the outward passing Salisbury at 1151 (1 early) and Trowbridge 1235 (8 early) with c/stock; 6313. 99536/5. 99546.

99539/0/2/4/7/1. 99541/5. Bristol East ecs stabling and servicing moves were; 5C80 1308 ex. Bath and 5092 1537 return.

Also during the day the second XC 'retro livery' HST power car 43007 was released to traffic in Inter-City 125 blue/yellow livery and with IC '253051' 43184 and coaching set XC02 worked 1E63 1527 Plymouth - York (2102) service being interestingly noted passing Narrowways Hill junction at 1740 (2 late) on the 'relief' line with a 20 minute late DC Rail 60055 on the main heading 6Z23 1356 Appleford - Tytherington stone empties formed with 22 JNAs, the HST not long after regaining the main line at Horfield junction.

**18/08** 68004 + 68002 were the 6V74 Crewe Coal sidings - Bridgwater FNA nuclear flask locos with FNAs 709229027-1 + 709229026-3 + 709229031-3, the 6M67 1408 return to Crewe (2115) passing Parkway at 1426 (48 early).

Later, Steam 46115 Scots Guardsman in BR green livery arrived in the area as 5Z29 0933 Carnforth Steamtown - St.Philips Marsh (1646) with support coach 80204 arriving Crewe at 1136 (4 early), departing Hereford 1458 (6 late), passing Severn Tunnel junction at 1559 (-), Pilning 1607 (8 early), Filton Abbey Wood 1621 (2 early) and Lawrence Hill 1631 (-).

The loco was thought to be making a Bristol debut in the mainline preservation era (since 1995).

Following a south Wales visit (also see Newport notes & news) 37116 returned north as 3Z21 2150 Kingsland Road - Chaddeston sidings (0326) passing Lawrence Hill at 2152 (22 early) and Yate 2225 (14 early).

Replacement CDA china clay wagons were moved as part of 6V73 1506 Stoke Cliffe Vale - Exeter Riverside yard (0024) behind 66190 departing Temple Meads at 2123 (72 early) and passing Taunton at 2230 (55 early) also see MISCELLANEOUS notes & news - Cornwall.

The 22 wagon train was to later continue west with the same loco as 6Z73 1432 Exeter Riverside Network yard - St.Blazey passing Totnes at 1525 (4 late) and terminated in Lostwithiel down goods loop.

**19/08** The following days Royal Duchy rail-tour ecs behind 47802 arrived as 5Z30 1215 Southall Wcr - Kingsland Road (1512) formed with 99723. 5032. 99311. 3143. 3098. 3093. 99316. 99128, passing Bath at 1434 (25 early).

### **Bristol West Freightliner**

**24/07** Recent activity here saw 66588 work a 4057 0724 empty flat train to Southampton Maritime passing North Somerset junction at 0743.

The loco had earlier arrived as a 0V53 0327 light-engine move from Maritime passing Temple Meads at 0543.

A later return move, 4V54 1015 ex. Maritime empty flats which departed Temple Meads at 1227 ran with the same loco which again returned light this time as 0054 1425 to Maritime arriving Westbury at 1451.

The head-shunt had been cleared of vegetation and was back in use.

**26/07** Further movement here with unknown loco hauling power was; 4Z91 0147 Southampton Maritime - Bristol Freightliner (0450) and 4V92 return to Southampton (1041) which departed at 0747 (13 early) and passed Bath at 0844 (6 early), with what appeared to be another container flat

wagon set swap.

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

**24/07** 66952 worked 0C67 0427 Westbury Cement Works - Avonmouth light-engine passing Filton Abbey Wood at 0510, the return 6C68 stone empties later passing Brentry at 0937 and Fairwood junction 1118.

**31/07** With construction having started late (due to the pandemic and financial changes) in February 2022 and completed by the end of the year (but should have been ready for the 30 minute frequency time-table change for this section of the Severn Beach line in December 2021!), Portway Park & Ride station, Shirehampton was opened with Weca Mayor Dan Norris, Councillor Don Alexander and Transport Secretary, Forest of Dean MP Mark Harper in attendance along with other GWR, NR and Bristol City Council officials. Turbo 165112 working the 2K10 0910 Temple Meads - Avonmouth (0939) normal service train was used to convey the party arriving at 0940 and departing 0942 (6 late), 166214 being later used for return opening party transportation with 2Y31 1346 Avonmouth - Weston-super-Mare calling at 1352, this becoming the second working to stop at the £5.8 million, new 5 coach platform complete with self service ticket machine and close to 800 (actually quoted as 792) car parking spaces, which is also A4 Portway road bus served.

**01/08** History in the making as the first Bristol City area railway station for nearly 100 years (Parsons Street being the last in 1927 with South Gloucestershire's Filton Abbey Wood being the most recent closest in 1996) saw its first public passenger train with 165108 on 2K00 0510 Temple Meads - Severn Beach (0548) calling from 0537 - 0539 (5 late). This was then followed by 165102 on 2K02 0537 Temple Meads - Severn Beach (0615) calling 0602-0603 (2 late) and 165108 returning on 2K01 0553 Severn Beach - Temple Meads (0634) 0607-0609 (3 late). This station once open had become the 2,577 on the current rail network, Society Magazine records quoted 2,449 as being in use 23 years ago in August 2000.

**06/08** 66750 with the loaded 6M31 Liverpool EMR scrap train (from 3rd August) was noted present in the Bulk Terminal stabled on the no. 3 arrival road. This was the first train to have used this loop for many years (also see Swindon and Bristol Parkway, Stoke Gifford, Pilning, Yate and Westerleigh notes & news).

**09/08** The 'impounded' Liverpool scrap train (with a wagon overloading issue) was moved into the docks area so the load could be flattened down with a road vehicle grab fitted, 66754 was believed to have been the assisting train loco (for the Hallen Marsh junction 'shunt' move) which ran 0V01 1100 Maindee North junction - Avonmouth BBHt light-engine and 0V02 1315 return to Cardiff Castle Works (1515) the outward passing Patchway at 1134 (6 late) and the return Brentry 1313 and Pilning 1325 (41 early).

**12/08** 66750 and the Liverpool EMR loaded scrap train was noted present stabled in the West Wharf rail container terminal.

**13/08** After 10 days, 66750 worked 6Z73 1500 Avonmouth Bulk handling terminal - Bescot Engineers sidings (2158) empties (the loaded scrap in the end actually having been off-loaded to road vehicles) passing Brentry at 1537, Yate 1554 (31 late) and Cheltenham 2021 (4 late) following a 'booked' recess in Gloucester yard. The train was later 'booked' to run empty to Saltley EMR for loading then forming an onward movement, believed to be for Cardiff (not Liverpool as originally booked).

**16/08** Having been cancelled earlier in the year the GBRf modular weed-

killing train top n' tailed by 66701 + 66304 reached Severn Beach having passed Brentry inward at 2320. The 3Q98 2112 (Tues) Margam - Margam (0544) was routed to the terminus where arrival was recorded as around 0015 via a reverse at St.Andrews Road signal box. The train then proceeded onwards via Clifton Down to Temple Meads where a reverse took place the working then returning via Clifton Down and retracing the inward route via Henbury back to Patchway and the mainline.

Locos recorded on stone duty have included;

66418/503/541/546/556/593/602/604/606/610/619/952. 66725/732.

Locos recorded on cement duty have included; 66727/756/759/769.

Locos recorded on refuse container duty have included;

66006/013/024/028/047/067/090/111/151/181/182.

### **Portbury Branchline**

**05/08** Two Saturday container trains operated with 66547 passing Acton West at 1001 powering the usual 4V35 0815 ex. London Gateway and earlier 66524 passing Bradford junction at 1126 (264 late) on a 4054 0535 departure to Southampton Maritime (via Salisbury).

**10/08** The monthly Colas operated 'high speed' test train visit was back in the hands of a HST set formed 43251. 6264. 5981. 977983. 977868. 43272, running 1Z23 0645 Kingsland Road - Derby RTC (2158) via Newport, Temple Meads, Oxford, Evesham and Tyseley and reported passing Parsons Street down at 0737 (38 late) and 0857 (60 late) on the return and Severn Tunnel junction outward (for Newport) at 0941 (74 late).

Also rail-grinding set DR79231/2/3/6/7 ran 6Z08 2222 Bristol East depot down goods loop - Ashton junction arriving at 2249 (14 late) for use along the branch.

Locos recorded on container duty have included; 66413/519/524/538/547/558.

### **Tytherington Quarry**

Outward DC Rail load destinations have been amended to;

6Z20 1717 Bristol East yard - Tytherington Quarry (1930),

6Z21 2129 Tytherington Quarry - Didcot Milton sidings (0159),

Then (following day); 6Z22 1012 Didcot Milton sidings - Appleford sidings (1024), 6Z23 1336 Appleford - Tytherington (1904) booked Bath 1703 and Filton Abbey Wood 1724.

Locos recorded on Tytherington stone duty have included;

60055. 66005/012/013/019/028/067/076/099/128/151/181.

### **Bristol area workings during May**

4C12 / 6A12 (SO) Westbury - Tytherington empty and return loaded to Acton stone (DB)

06/05 66107. 27/05 66115.

4C90 / \*4V42 Acton - Tytherington stone empties (DB)

03/05 66114. 03/05\* 66183. 04/05\* 66078. 16/05\* 66015.

Note; Train on 03/05 ran 6V42 part loaded to Grovesend Quarry.

4B77 / 6C77 Colnbrook - Avonmouth Bennetts empty and return to Cardiff Pengam loaded stone (GBRf)

11/05 66735.

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

01/05 66416. 03/05 66413. 08/05 66547. 15/05 66951. 22/05 66506.  
24/05 66558. 29/05 66415 + 66536.

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

03/05 66568. 15/05 66533. 30/05 66546.

4L33 Wentloog - London Gateway containers (G&W)

22/05 66585. 23/05 66585. 24/05 66524. 26/05 66566.

Note; Train is believed (but unconfirmed) a variation route wise on 4L32.

4L36 Wentloog - Felixstowe loaded containers (G&W)

03/05 66588. 05/05 66541. 18/05 66528. 19/05 66588. 22/05 66532.  
23/05 66418. 24/05 66564. 30/05 66952. 31/05 66420.

4L50 Wentloog - Tilbury containers (G&W)

03/05 66536.

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

27/05 66545.

4V18 Doncaster - Taunton Fairwater departmental (G&W)

02/05 66622. 06/05 66567 + 66607. 09/05 66523. 12/05 66538.  
19/05 66506. 26/05 66596.

Note; Train on 06/05 ran 'additional' 4Z18 Haresfield loop - Fairwater yard following a loco failure here.

6A83 Avonmouth Bennetts - West Drayton (\*6Z58 Theale) loaded stone (G&W)

03/05\* 66542. 11/05 66519. 15/05\* 66614. 18/05 66503.  
22/05\* 66603. 23/05 66569. 25/05 66569. 30/05 66503.

6A86 East Usk - Hayes loaded stone (G&W)

06/05 66602.

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

03/05 60010. 05/03 60010. 18/05 60040. 23/05 60040. 26/05 60024.

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

05/05 66098.

6C03 Northolt sidings - Severnside Sita (\*6A03 return Brentford. \*\*6Z03 Started Brentford) loaded refuse containers (DB)

02/05 66024. 04/05 66044. 05/05 66044. 06/05\*\* 66013. 07/05\* 66013.  
08/05 66013. 10/05 66094. 11/05 66152. 15/05 66005. 16/05 66183.  
17/05 66183. 18/05 66044. 19/05 66070. 20/05 66070. 23/05 66088.  
26/05 66182. 29/05 66056. 30/05 66115. 31/05 66115.

6C08 (\* 6M58) Tytherington - Westbury loaded stone (DB)

02/05 66125. 20/05\* 66173.

6C48 Appleford - Machen empty stone (G&W)



06/05 66605.

6C58 Oxford Banbury Road - East Usk yard stone empties (G&W)

11/05 66509. 16/05 66509. 23/05 66594. 31/05 66560.

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

09/05 59205. 11/05 59103. 15/05 66597. 18/05 66618. 22/05 66618.  
24/05 59206.

6M40 1140 Westbury - Stud Farm/Cliff Hill ballast empties. Booked  
Diversion (Colas)

22-24/05 70808. 30/05 70807. 31/05 70805.

6M42 Avonmouth Hansons - Penyffordd cement empties (GBRf)

03/05 66756. 05/05 66756. 12/05 66798. 17/05 66798. 19/05 66798.  
22/05 66798. 24/05 66798. 29/05 66798. 31/05 66798.

6M50 (\*6X50.\*\*0M50 light) 1040 Westbury - Bescot departmental - Booked  
Diversion (Colas)

02/05 70807. 05/05 66848 + 66846 + 70803. 08/05 70808 + 70803.  
09/05\*\* 70803 + 56051. 15/05 66849. 17/05 70803. 18/05 70808.  
19/05 66847. 22/05\* 70803 + 66848. 23/05 70803.  
24/05\*\* 70803 + 70807. 29/05 70807. 30/05 70808 + 66847.  
31/05 70807

6M60 (MO) Exeter Riverside - Bescot loaded china clay (DB)

08/05 66131.

6M78 Tytherington - Quainton Rail-head loaded stone (DB)

03/05 66013. 04/05 66107. 05/05 66151. 15/05 66015. 18/05 66015.  
19/05 66103. 23/05 66158. 24/05 66182. 26/05 66183. 30/05 66136.  
31/05 66093.

6M90 Avonmouth Hansons - Clitheroe (\* 6C90 Cardiff Pengam) cement empties (GBRf)

02/05 66740. 18/05\* 66740.

6V32 Tilbury - Trostre steel (GBRf)

05/05 66776. 16/05 66790. 18/05 66790. 23/05 66755.

6V41 Penyffordd - Avonmouth Hansons cement empties (GBRf)

02/05 66756. 21/05 66798.

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

04/05 68003 + 68004. 12/05 68003 + 68004. 16/05 68009 + 68018.  
19/05 68001 + 68016. 25/05 68009 + 68033. 31/05 68002 + 68007.

Note; A return of head-code to 6M67 and the later departure time had taken  
place from 16th May.

6V84 Clitheroe - Avonmouth Hansons cement empties (GBRf)

03/05 66740. 08/05 66740. 10/05 66740. 17/05 66740. 22/05 66740.  
24/05 66740. 31/05 66740.

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

02/05 60028. 03/05 60028. 15/05 60028. 18/05 60055. 26/05 60055.  
30/05 60029. 31/05 60029.

Note; Train on 02/05 was loaded at Machen.

6Z26 Tytherington Quarry - West Drayton Frays loaded stone (DB)

05/05 60028. 19/05 60055. 22/05 60029.

6Z86 West Drayton - East Usk yard stone empties (G&W)

15/05 66542. 16/05 66542. 18/05 66569. 23/05 66509. 31/05 66594.

## **Gloucester**

**29/07** LSL BR green livery 47805 + Large-logo blue 47593 top n' tailed Satesman Rail 'Dorset Coast Statesman' 1Z93 0550 Shrewsbury - Weymouth (1301) and 1Z95 1514 return to Shrewsbury (2239) via Gloucester, Kemble, Swindon, Basingstoke and Eastleigh the outward departing Severn Tunnel junction at 0811 (-), passing Standish junction at 0907 (2 late) and departing Swindon at 0954 (4 early) with c/stock; 17056. 3438. 3188. 80043. 3229. 3312. 1211. 3340. 3426. 3344. 3384.

**31/07** 66799 worked diverted (due to Botley/Oxford area engineering work) 6M26 0850 Eastleigh yard - Mountsorrel (via Didcot) stone empties passing Swindon at 1123 (19 late) and Standish junction 1157 (16 late) with an 8 IOA / 6 JNA wagon consist whilst 66776 + 66777 worked 6001 1019 Doncaster Up decoy - Eastleigh (2028) departmental passing Washwood Heath at 1346 (57 early) and Standish junction 1641 (29 early).

**01/08** Diversions included; 66799 - 6M26 0850 Eastleigh yard - Mountsorrel (1640) stone empties (9 IOA / 3 JNA wagons) arriving Basingstoke at 0926 (-) and passing Standish junction at 1129 (2 early) and 66794 - 0001 1009 Doncaster Up Decoy yard - Eastleigh light-engine.

**05/08** 66723 + 66776 top n' tailed a 6G97 2238 Westbury - Gloucester engineers.

**06/08** A return engineers was; 66776 + 66723 top n' tailing - 6G97 0815 Gloucester - Westbury which arrived at its destination at 0920 with a 12 JZA / 1 YEA rail-train consist.

**08/08** Engineering train activity included; 66849 + 66846 top n' tailing - 6C24 1605 Westbury - Gloucester (1751) passing Lawrence Hill at 1725 (21 late) and Yate 1747 (25 late) with 5 FEA flats / 7 MLA and 6 JNA box wagons, 66723 - 6G70 1124 Westbury - Gloucester (1252) passing Freshford at 1138 (3 early) and Lawrence Hill 1209 (3 late) with 1 FEA / 9 MXA wagons, 66549 - 6Y42 1221 Westbury - Gloucester (1552) formed with 11 MLA / 7 JNA wagons passing Lawrence Hill at 1324 and Yate 1344 (4 late).

**09/08** Chepstow line engineering trains included; 66847 + 70809 allocated - 6C22 2100 Horton Road - Westbury (0107) with a 5 MLA / 9 JNA / 7 YKA wagon consist, 66849 - 6C24 1700 Horton Road - Westbury (1857) which passed Yate at 1740 (12 late) and Lawrence Hill 1801 (19 late) with a consist of 6 FEA / 7 MLA / 6 JNA wagons 66549 - 6G70 1900 Horton Road - Westbury (2146) with 9 MXA / 1 FEA wagons passing Yate at 1920 (70 early) and 66846 - 6Y42 1800 Horton Road - Westbury (2019) with an 11 MLA / 7 JNA wagon consist passing Yate at 1835 (39 early)

**12/08** 66791 hauled 10 empty container flat twins as 4Z36 1040 Kineton Mod - Ashchurch (1634) via Worcester passing Stroud at 1337 (7 early) and

Cheltenham 1451 (44 late) having been held in Gloucester yard. This was thought to be the first train onto the Ashchurch MoD site since late 2019.

**13/08** 66791 returned a 6Z35 1421 Ashchurch MoD - Marchwood Mod (2054) loaded container service (which departed at 1332 and was held Gloucester yard to close to time) passing Standish junction at 1449 (7 early) and Swindon 1545 (1 late).

A rescue plan was later underway with 66115 allocated 0Z92 2235 Newport ADj - Haresfield loop (2334) via Bristol light-engine where 66092 (on wheel skates) + 66143 were present having been stopped due to a 'hot box' issue around 7 days earlier on an 8Z92 move, which was to resume at 0030 (Mon) to Didcot yard (0547) where a road lorry and trailer move was to take place for 66092 back to Toton. The defective loco had in fact been removed from a Margam based rhtt at Whitland, West Wales towards the end of last year and had taken eight months to reach Gloucestershire and Haresfield loop!

**16/08** 66791 powered a further Ashchurch MoD container service ex. Bicester passing Uffington at 1841. The same loco had also powered a Donnington (Salop) - Marchwood MoD service via Hereford on 15th August.

**17/08** 66791 was again used to move a further rake of 10 empty FYA MoD container flats as 6Z39 1422 Ashchurch - Marchwood (1915) via Kemble and Swindon passing Cheltenham at 1402 (38 early) and Swindon 1521 (9 late).

**19/08** After yet another failed attempt six days earlier using 66115, 66092 (with 'rear company' escort loco 66143) was finally on the move with 66084 in charge as 8Z92 0401 Haresfield loop - Swindon Cocklebury yard (0626) passing Kemble at 0651. 66084 had run 0Z92 (Fri) 2251 light-engine from Newport ADj to Haresfield (2335) via Gloucester.

### **Swindon**

**01/08** Having started out during the previous day, the 6V70 0302 Small Heath - Swindon Cocklebury yard scrap empties headed by 66750 (with 21 JNAs) suffered several problems en route. Having operated via Worcester (off route) the train was stopped near Tibberton with a serious wagon defect (requiring a 'wheel-skate') being held at Stoke Works junction arriving here at 0459.

On 1st August, the train (having eventually reached Gloucester) then went forward as 6Z70 0548 New yard - Swindon now with 19 JNAs, however this was not the end of the problems for this working as the 6M31 loaded return lost part of its load not far into its diverted journey via Bristol and Hereford (also see Bristol Parkway, Stoke Gifford, Pilning, Yate & Westerleigh notes & news).

### **Westbury**

**24/07** DC Rail 56091 + 56301 worked south on 4Z43 Chaddeston sidings - Wembley stone empties the formation being reported as destined for Mendip stone duty following a Class 60 loco failure.

**27/07** 56301 + 56091 powered 6Z61 Merehead - Willesden DC Rail sidings (2117) loaded stone this being a very popular working with the local area enthusiasts who could reminisce over past Quarry workings with this loco Class during the 1980s, the inward empties arriving as 6Z60 0951 from Willesden. Following a return departure at 1723 (55 late) passing records being recorded as; East Somerset junction arriving at 1709 (27 late) and Newbury 1924 (3 late).

**28/07** 70809 + 66849 + 70803 + 70811 passed Challow at 1445 as a 0Z28 1326 Westbury - Oxford Hinksey yard weekend engineering train positioning move.

**29/07** The King's Coronation special blue livery 66023 ran 0Z14 1030 Westbury - Westbury (1944) light (as a rhtt driver refresher working) via Par passing Taunton outward at 1125 (1 late), Stoke Canon 1150 (2 late), Dawlish 1209 (6 late) and Totnes 1228 (1 early).

Also, 66519 powered a 6F09 1728 Westbury - Charlbury (2330) via Parkway and Worcester engineers with box wagons passing Lawrence Hill at 1820 (7 late) and Yate 1842 (11 late).

**30/07** Engineering train records included; 66519 - 6F02 0800 Foxhall junction - Westbury which arrived at 0902 with 7 MLA / 12 JNA / 1 IEA box wagons, 66520 - 6F04 2030 Foxhall junction - Westbury (2145) with a 13 MLA / 7 JNA consist passing Swindon at 1957 (63 early) and 66067 - 6W97 0650 Westerleigh junction - Westbury 13 JZA / 1 YEA rail-train arriving at 0913. 66519 later returned as 6F02 0800 Foxhall junction - Westbury which arrived at 0902 with 7 MLA / 12 JNA / 1 IEA wagons.

**31/07** Two west bound stone empties were; 66503 + 66598 + 66604 passing Slough at 1628 on 6C76 1421 Wembley yard - Westbury, whilst 59005 (with 59203 mid-train) had also earlier passed the same location at 1614 with 6V64 1448 Wembley yard - Westbury.

**01/08** Radley/Oxford area track work trains included; 66550 - 6X10 0700 Radley - Westbury passing Swindon at 0927 (80 late) formed with 12 IFA / 1 YRA / 5 FEA wagons and 66848 - 6X16 0641 Westbury - Radley (0800) passing Melksham at 0745 (45 late) and Didcot North junction 0846 (52 late) with 8 IFA / 1 YRA / 6 FEA wagons.

**02/08** Engineering train records from Botley/Oxford area track work included; 66551 + 66541 top n' tailing - 6Y38 0600 Appleford - Westbury which arrived at 0747 formed with 7 MLA / 3 JNA boxes and 66188 - 6Z17 0702 Didcot yard - Newport ADj passing Swindon at 0753 with a 5 JNA / 1 JRA wagon consist.

The HOBC top n' tailed with 66568 + 66548 was also in the area and departed as 6X37 0828 Appleford - Taunton Fairwater yard passing Tilehurst at 0914 although the return route was unconfirmed.

**03/08** Two return departmental point carrier moves were; 66519 - 6X16 Oxford Hinksey yard - Westbury passing Chippenham at 0922 and 66848 - 6X17 Oxford Hinksey yard - Westbury passing Steventon at 0958.

**04/08** DC Rail 56091 + 56301 were back seeing use on 6Z60 0951 Willesden DC Rail sidings - Merehead Quarry stone empties passing Hungerford at 1334 (68 late). 60029 had apparently failed and with only one other Class 60 'serviceable' and in use at Tytherington, the Class 56s were believed to be the only locos available, again operating as a pair in case of any problems.

**08/08** 66503 + 66544 passed Clink Road junction (Frome) at 0758 powering a 41 wagon / 3,720 tonne at 1,966 feet in length, 7A09 0712 Merehead - Acton yard 'jumbo' stone service and later 66772 passed Romsey at 1333 working 6M47 1218 Marchwood - Kineton MoD (1809) stores move with a 3 VKA / 1 VGA / 16 FYA wagon consist. At Westbury this working eventually departed at 1526 (54 late) and then ran off route via the Berks & Hants, Newbury and Reading West curve.

**12/08** An area loco line up at 1030 recorded the following; down yard 67027 (now rebranded Colas from GBRf, in an ex. works condition). up yard 66012. 66023. 66028. 66054. 66602. 66723. 66797.

Colas siding 66849. 70803/9. 70811.

Later, 66849 passed Taunton at 2016 (8 early) with a 6C20 1924 Westbury - Goonbarrow junction (2350) engineers. The booked following day return was 6C20 0830 Goonbarrow junction - Westbury (1356) which passed Marsh Barton, Exeter at 1054. The track component trainload conveyed was for track relaying in the china clay works yard at Goonbarrow.

**16/08** DC Rail 60029 was back in action on 6Z50 Willesden DC Rail sidings - Westbury stone empties passing West Ealing at 1021.

The booked return was 6M16 1723 Westbury - Willesden DC Rail sidings the consist being 19 JNA box wagons.

A sign of the nearing Autumn leaf fall season, ex.works DB red 66012 hauled ex. Works blue FEA tank wagons 642031 + 642035 as a 3Z90 1243 Westbury - Exeter Riverside yard (1708) working passing Taunton down at 1333. The loco later returned light passing Cowley Bridge junction at 1503

**17/08** 57601 + 57313 top n' tailed 1Z27 0711 Coventry - Weymouth (1323) via Leamington Spa, Oxford and 1Z83 1749 return to Coventry (2316) passing Swindon outward at 1059 (3 early), Westbury 1141 (6 late), Fairwood junction 1143 (4 late), Dorchester West 1307 (1 late) and Clink Road junction (Frome) at 1934 (2 late) and Trowbridge 1946 (8 early) on the return (also see Cardiff notes & news for c/stock formation).

The 6M40 Westbury - Stud Farm Cliff Hill 'virtual quarry' stone empties was routed 'as normal' via Oxford and departed at 1149 behind 70811 with a 19 empty IOA consist.

Some area freight records included; 60029 - 6Z60 0951 Willesden DC Rail sidings - Westbury (1351) stone empties which passed Woodborough at 1230 (13 early) and Clink Road junction 1308 (15 early) and 6Z61 1628 loaded return to Willesden passing the same location at 1648 and 66507 + 66513 (with 59103 mid-train) - 6V64 1448 Wembley Reception 1-7 sidings - Merehead Quarry (1902) stone empties passing Clink Road junction at 1826 (6 early).

Locos recorded on Exeter stone duty have included; 59104. 66604/619/620.

## **Taunton**

**29/07** A private GBRf charter was operated with the still popular 50007 + 50049 as 1Z50 0707 Ipswich - Paignton (1253) and 1Z52 1700 return to Ipswich (2237) with c/stock; 17105. 1212. 3390. 3345. 1651. 3333. 3340. 3325. 1657. 3364. 3397, departing Ealing Broadway at 0929 (6 late), calling Westbury at 1104 (2 early) - 1105 (1 late), passing Taunton at 1141 (5 early) and Dawlish 1230 (1 late) outward and passing Dawlish Warren at 1721 (5 early), Taunton 1759 (11 early) and Newbury 1916 (6 early) on the return.

**05/08** A rare and unexpected visitor was Class 40 D213 (40013) top n' tailing 47593, working a Saphos Trains 'English Riviera Express' 1Z27 0516 Northampton - Kingswear for Dartmouth (1309) and 1Z28 1635 return to Northampton (2328) the outward passing Wembley Central at 0651 (-), Reading 0752 (3 late), departing Swindon at 0858 (6 early), passing Trowbridge at 0937 (1 late), Castle Cary 1010 (2 late), Cogload junction 1029 (4 late), Wellington (Somerset) at 1111 (2 late) and Dawlish 1206 (2 late) now with steam 60007 Sir Nigel Gresley in charge having taken over at Taunton, with 47593 still on the rear.

D213 had been left at Taunton and was later noted in the downside sidings. C/stock in use was listed as; 35461. 3330. 3231. 3107. 1863. 3125. 3148.

3100. 80044. 3122. 3045. 17013.

**08/08** 66568 + 66548 top n' tailed a return 6X37 0625 Heywood Road junction - Fairwater (0734) HOBC working passing Castle Cary at 0612 (43 early) and Taunton station 0704 (24 early).

**12/08** Further rail-tour arrivals again both via the Castle Cary route from Westbury were; LSL BR green 47805/D1935 + BR 'large logo' blue 47593 top n' tailing Saphos Trains 'English Riviera Express' 1Z27 0635 Poole - Kingswear for Dartmouth (1309) which departed Salisbury at 0859 (1 late) and Taunton 0958 (-) for steam 60007 Sir Nigel Gresley to take over (leaving 47805) at Taunton, the booked return being 1Z28 1655 to Poole (2248) and steam 45596 Bahamas with the Railway Touring Company 'West Somerset Express' 1Z29 0700 Paddington - Minehead (1312) and 1Z30 1516 return to Paddington (2117) the outward passing Castle Cary at 1031 (4 early).

**19/08** Another Saphos Trains 'English Riviera Express' was top n' tailed by 47593 + 47805/D1935 as 1Z27 0520 High Wycombe - Kingswear for Dartmouth (1212) and 1Z28 1500 return to High Wycombe (2216) with c/stock; 35465. 17013. 3045. 3122. 80044. 3100. 3148. 3125. 1863. 3107. 3231. 3330, the outward passing Uffington at 0721 (1 early), departing Swindon at 0750 (5 late), passing Castle Cary at 0901 (7 early), departing Taunton at 0959 (2 early) with steam 60007 Sir Nigel Gresley again in use and now in charge (and 'D1935' still being attached to the rear) later passing Stoke Canon at 1030 (18 early).

### **Exeter**

**27/07** The Colas HST test train formed; 43290. 977984. 975814. 977993/4. 975984. 43251, as 1Q23 0556 Reading Triangle sidings - Salisbury (1520) via Exeter, Honiton and Westbury passing Exeter Central down at 0927 (2 early) and departing Pinhoe on the return at 1048 (-). The set was then booked 1X23 1525 Salisbury - Salisbury (1650) via Southampton Central and 1Q23 1704 return to Reading Triangle sidings (1817).

**18/08** The 1L36 0640 Exeter St.Davids - Basingstoke service was unusually formed 159018 + 159017 + 158888, which was also reported as used to cover the 0550 Axminster - Exeter working.

### **Newport**

**23/07** A Sunday freight record was 66623 passing Severn Tunnel junction at 1049 working 6B34 1054 Stoke Gifford - Moreton-on-Lugg stone empties. Arriva XC HST diversions (probably the last for the type via Newport) were; 43303 XC02 43357 - 1V60 1105 Edinburgh - Plymouth and 43304 XC05 43378 - 1V48 0811 Leeds - Plymouth which had been held in Gloucester station from 1122 - 1212 due to a 'technical issue' involving the second coach where it was reported air bags were fitted above the bogies by 'on hand' GWR fitters!

As a result the train was terminated Newton Abbot at 1509 (58 late) and the balancing return 1E67 1525 Plymouth - Leeds service cancelled.

**24/07** Departmental train activity (routed via Margam) included; 66550 + 66514 - 6A46 0900 Pontypridd - Westbury (1219) passing Cardiff Central at 0904 (29 early) with 1 IEA / 6 JNA / 8 MLA box wagons, 66593 - 6F02 0832 Westbury - Ebbw Vale junction (1400) passing Twerton (Bath) at 0904 (3 early) and Lawrence Hill 0941 (3 early) and 70803 - 6F03 1531 Westbury - Ebbw Vale (2010) with a 9 MLA / 9 JNA / 1 KFA / 4 FEA wagon consist passing Lawrence Hill at 1620 (2 early) and Cardiff Central

1734 (8 late).

**25/07** Further area departmental train records were; 66550 - 6F04 1918 Maindee West junction - Westbury (2128) passing Severn Tunnel junction at 1812 (80 early) and Lawrence Hill 2032 (3 early) with a 6 FEA flats / 7 MLA / 6 JNA / 2 IEA boxes.

**27/07** 66055 powered 6M73 2046 Margam - Hardendale Quarry freight formed with 18 FCA flats passing Marshfield at 2145 (24 early) and Abergavenny 2257 (7 early).

Departmental train records included; 70803 - 6F07 0900 Maindee East junction - Westbury (1219) with 5 FEA / 9 JNA / 7 MLA / 2 IEA wagons passing Severn Tunnel junction 0929 (13 late) and Dr.Days junction 1001 (94 early) and 66593 - 6F08 1548 Maindee West junction - Westbury (1900) arriving Pilning loop at 1439 (95 early) and passing Lawrence Hill at 1754 (2 late), 66952 allox. 6F10 0923 Westbury - Ebbw junction (1500) via Margam with 7 FEA flats / 7 JNA / 6 MLA / 1 IEA box wagons and 70809 - 6F11 1047 Westbury - Ebbw junction via Margam (1610) passing Bath at 1114 (1 early) with 11 FEA / 4 JNA / 4 MLA wagons.

**28/07** Area engineering train records included; 70809 - 6F11 0843 Maindee West junction - Westbury passing Stapleton Road at 1114 with 11 FEA flats and 4 JNA box wagons and 66593 - 6F12 1430 Maindee West junction - Westbury passing Filton Abbey Wood at 1516 with a 5 JJA /15 HQA auto-ballaster consist.

**03/08** A 'ROG' 5Q78 1354 (Thur) Birkenhead North EMUD - Newport Docks (1223) Sims Metals headed by 37884 with EMU sets 508127 + 507005 move was terminated Shrewsbury at 1620 (85 late), thought to initially have been due to a points failure in the north end of the station area.

The working was reported as later returned to Crewe South yard.

Colas 'hire' 37610 with dept c/stock; 96609. 977969. 9803. 999602. 9708, passed at 2252 (67 early) working 3Q64 2151 Cardiff Canton sidings - Derby RTC (via Hereford) return test working. The train had earlier arrived 3Q83 2129 (Tues) Bangor - Canton sidings (0707).

**04/08** The previous days EMU 5Q78 move stopped at Shrewsbury was booked to continue as 5Q42 1324 to Newport Docks again with the same loco. Another report regarding the previous days cancellation was that the train had split its couplings but on the move when still in the area!

**05/08** 66054 ran 0Z12 light-engine from Westbury to collect 6Z12 1248 Newport Adj - Eastleigh Trsmd (1641) departmental with a 2 FEA / 3 KFA wagon consist later passing Newport station at 1300 (6 late), North Somerset junction 1340 (1 early) and Bathampton junction 1358 (2 late).

**08/08** 66593 passed at 1406 (18 late) working 6M81 1319 Machen Quarry - Birmingham Lawley Street (2147) loaded stone routed via Swindon and Oxford.

**12/08** A departmental train move saw 66012 pass Filton Abbey Wood at 1729 (-) and Severn Tunnel junction 1746 (2 late) with 6W01 1622 Westbury - Ebbw junction (2151).

**16/08** Colas 37116 was a south Wales arrival on a 3Z49 1533 Derby RTC - Cardiff Taff Vale Railway sidings test train which passed at 1956. The train was booked to run as an out and back 3Q49 2145 overnight via Cardiff Queen Street, Penarth, Radyr, Barry Island, Ebbw Vale and Machen on 18th August but was cancelled.

**17/08** 'ROG' 37884 brought former Mersey-rail EMU sets 507009 + 508138 in for scrapping as 5Q78 0755 Birkenhead EMU depot - Newport Docks (Sims Metals) passing Upton at 0802 (-), Abergavenny 1128 (11 early) and

departing Newport station at 1155 (17 early).

**18/08** 'ROG' 37608 hauled Transport for Wales 67008 north as ON42 0916 Cardiff Canton sidings - Crewe Electric depot (1250) passing at 0941 (8 early) also see Bristol Parkway, Stoke Gifford, Pilning, Westerleigh and Yate notes & news.

**19/08** 66041 + 66124 formed the 0012 1106 (SO) Margam Lip - Eastleigh light-loco move passing at 1241.

## **Cardiff**

**23/07** Sunday Transport for Wales loco and stock diagrams were; 67017 (HD05) - 1W00 0832 Crewe - Manchester Piccadilly, 1V70 0930 return to Swansea and 1W60 1455 return to Manchester.

**25/07** 'Stadler' DMU sets 197008 + 197006 + 197012 + 197015 formed a 3Z98 1015 Chester - Carmarthen empty move, the latter two being left at Central station for area driver training work.

**29/07** A Saturday Transport for Wales loco and stock diagram was covered by 67008 with coaching set HD02, as 1V31 0536 Shrewsbury - Cardiff Central, 1W57 1057 return to Manchester Piccadilly, 1V46 1430 return to Cardiff Central and 1W65 1855 return to Shrewsbury.

**30/07** Two Sunday Transport for Wales loco and stock diagrams were; 67008 (HD02) - 1W00 0832 Crewe - Manchester Piccadilly (see above for booked diagram) and 67014 (HD05) - 1W56 1032 Swansea - Manchester Piccadilly, 1V18 1330 return to Swansea.

**02/08** The Colas HST was in West Wales and returned as 1Q16 0303 Landore Tmd - Derby RTC (via Fishguard Harbour and Yate) departing Tenby at 0620 (6 early) and passing Pilning at 1436 (61 early) formed 43277 (Colas/NR livery). 977984. 975814. 977993. 975984. 43290.

Also 66598 worked 6A40 Westbury - Pontypridd (1117) engineers formed with 3 IEA / 4 MLA / 8 JNA wagons departing at 0753 (29 early), passing Lawrence Hill at 0845 (27 late) and Newport 0944 (37 early).

**03/08** 67012, 67020 and 67029 were reported as working Transport for Wales loco and coaching stock diagrams during the day, although which diagrams remained unconfirmed.

**05/08** Saturday Transport for Wales loco and stock services were covered by; 67014 (HD05) - 1W13 0530 Swansea - Manchester Piccadilly, 1V39 1030 return to Cardiff, 1W61 1453 return to Manchester, 1V62 1830 return to Cardiff, 67020 (HD04) - 1V31 0454 Crewe - Cardiff Central, 1W55 0849 return to Manchester Piccadilly, 1B42 1230 return to Cardiff, 1W63 1450 return to Manchester, 5K53 2025 return ecs to Crewe HS and 67017 (HD02) - 1V34 0627 Manchester Piccadilly - Cardiff Central, 1W57 1052 return to Cardiff, 1V46 1430 return to Cardiff, 1W57 1052 return to Manchester and 1J78 2233 return to Crewe.

66598 + 66594 top n' tailed a return 6A40 0400 Pontypridd - Westbury departmental with an 8 JNA / 4 MLA / 3 IEA wagon consist passing Filton Abbey Wood at 0722 (157 early).

**06/08** 67014 with coaching set HD05 was on a Sunday 1W56 1032 Swansea - Manchester Piccadilly and 1V20 1730 return to Swansea passenger diagram.

**13/08** 66701 + 66304 (which had replaced 66711) worked a 3Q98 1042 Margam - Margam weed-killing trip via Machen, passing Newport up at 1316 (30 late), Marshfield down at 1651 (19 early) following an East Usk yard reverse and Central station 1703 (16 early) heading for Barry and the Vale of Glamorgan line to Bridgend.

A freight train report was 66622 passing Ebbw junction at 1659 (4 early)



working 6M39 1536 Port Talbot Grange sidings - Crewe Basford Hall yard loaded stone.

**16/08** Pullman livery 57313 + 57601 top n' tailed 1Z57 1045 Cardiff Central - Par (1449) and 1Z58 1508 return to Cardiff Central (2028) Northern Belle diner with c/stock; 92904. 10734. 17167. 325. 3247. 3275. 3267. 1953. 3273. 95325 (renumbered from 99025 Pullman Amber), the outward passing Lawrence Hill at 1134 (7 early), Worle junction 1212 (5 late) and Plymouth 1610 (14 late), Totnes 1633 (9 late) and Worle junction 1831 (4 late) on the return.

The train then worked 5Z58 2043 ECS to Crewe (0153) and 1Z29 0711 Coventry - Weymouth and 1Z83 1749 return to Coventry during the following day (also see Westbury notes & news).

**18/08** An engineering train record was 66598 passing Central station at 1333, Filton Abbey Wood 1556 (12 late) and Bath 1631 (25 late) working an 11 MLA / 4 JNA box wagon 6A43 1300 Pontypridd - Westbury (1642) move.

**19/08** Transport for Wales loco and stock diagrams in use were covered as (see 5th August for reference); 67014 (HD05) - 1W11 & 67015 (HD02) - 1V31.

#### Transport for Wales Loco Loggings

|                            |                    |                    |
|----------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 67008 - 1V91 (HD02) 28/07. | 1W11 (HD02) 27/07. | 1V33 (HD02) 31/07. |
| 67010 - 1V91 (HD04) 24/07. |                    |                    |
| 67012 - 1W11 (HD01) 28/07. | 1V91 (HD01) 31/07. | 1V91 (HD01) 03/08. |
|                            | 1V91 (HD01) 06/08. | 1V31 (HD01) 08/08. |
|                            | 1V31 (HD01) 09/08. |                    |
|                            | 1V33 (HD01) 10/08. |                    |
| 67013 - 1W11 (HD07) 24/07. | 1W13 (HD06) 09/08. |                    |
| 67014 - 1W91 (HD01) 24/07. | 1V33 (HD05) 18/08. | 1V33 (HD05) 09/08. |
|                            | 1V91 (HD05) 10/08. | 1V31 (HD05) 16/08. |
|                            | 1V31 (HD05) 17/08. |                    |
| 67017 - 1V33 (HD05) 28/07. | 1V31 (HD05) 24/07. | 1V91 (HD05) 27/07. |
|                            | 1V91 (HD02) 02/08. | 1W11 (HD02) 16/08. |
|                            | 1V91 (HD02) 17/08. |                    |
| 67020 - 1V31 (HD04) 03/08. | 1V91 (HD04) 07/08. | 1V33 (HD04) 08/08. |
|                            | 1V91 (HD04) 09/08. |                    |
| 67022 - 1V91 (HD07) 18/08. |                    |                    |
| 67025 - 1V31 (HD06) 28/07. | 1V31 (HD06) 27/07. | 1V31 (HD06) 31/07. |
|                            | 1V91 (HD06) 01/08. | 1V33 (HD06) 07/08. |
|                            | 1V91 (HD06) 08/08. |                    |
|                            | 1V33 (HD07) 16/08. |                    |

Coaching Stock Formations; see July/August Magazines Issue 617/8.

Train diagrams; see July Magazine Issue 617.

Locos recorded on Daventry - Wentloog TESCO container service included; 66421 (10/08). 66422 (08/08, 13/08). 66424 (31/07, 02/08, 17/08). 66425 (07/08. 09/08). 66432 (18/08, 20/08).

Locos recorded on Baglan Bay log duty have included;

56096 (27/07, 01/08, 02/08, 03/08, 08/08, 16/08).

Locos recorded on Margam/Port Talbot (from Cwmbargoed coal duty) have included; 66077/095/171/188/207.

Locos recorded on Corby steel duty included; 66023/041/095/102/115/175.

Locos recorded on Dee Marsh steel duty have included; 66754/797.

Locos recorded on Round Oak steel duty have included;

66002/023/025/032/041/054/076/095/143/171.

Locos recorded on Barry Dock container duty have included;

66420/524/542/549/551.

Locos recorded on Machen Quarry stone duty have included;

66418/510/514/538/547/593.

## **PRESERVATION & INDUSTRIAL MATTERS**

### **Avon Valley Railway**

**05-06/08** The line operated a members and prospective new members weekend using steam 0-6-0ST Wimblebury NCB 7 (HE 3839) with 5 coaches and diesel 31130 on a 'demo' freight train.

### **CDA Preservation**

**25/07** The National Wagon Preservation Society (NWPS) have shown their intention to DB-Cargo in purchasing up to 12 CDA wagons to be based on the Bodmin & Wenford Railway.

**11/08** Hopes were boosted with an unnamed individual buying a wagon out right! Monies raised for this NWPS project by mid-August was close to £2000, it is believed each wagon could be tendered out from between £2500 - £3000.

**13/08** By this date 6 of the wagon type had been secured for preservation.

### **Mainline Preservation**

**18/07** An ex. works in Greater Manchester PTE orange livery (with BR line emblems) 142003 was moved as 5Z42 Eastleigh Works - Crewe via Basingstoke, Didcot and Leamington Spa.

**22/07** Despite it being an industrial action Saturday steam 45596 Bahamas worked the Railway Touring Company 'West Somerset Express' 1Z52 0700 Paddington - Bishops Lydeard Wsr (1142) and 1Z53 1642 to Paddington (2110) with c/stock; 14060 (loco support). 99723. 4854. 5032. 99311. 3143. 3098. 3093. 99712. 99128. 99371, the outward passing Bruton at 1046 (5 late), departing Taunton station at 1131 (7 late) and passing Castle Cary at 1758 (3 late) and Aldermaston 1929 (6 late) on the return.

The West Somerset Railway provided ex. GWR hauling power 7828 Odney Manor + 7812 Erlestoke Manor to and from Minehead.

However a fully booked Saphos Trains 'English Riviera Express' from Woking - Kingswear involving 60007 Sir Nigel Gresley was cancelled due to strike action, but has been re-dated to 18th October 2023.

**26/07** Steam 45596 powered a Railway Touring Company 'Dorset Coast Express' 1Z82 Victoria - Weymouth and 1Z83 1636 return to Victoria with diesel 47802 (in place of steam 31806) attached to the rear, the outward passing Dorchester South at 1346 and the return Upwey at 1641.

**17/08** Steam 45596 (and 31806 attached at Southampton 'unconfirmed'), worked Railway Touring Company 'Dorset Coast Express' 1Z92 0845 Victoria - Weymouth (1349) passing Dorchester junction at 1337 (4 late).

Later turning moves 5Z92 1333 Weymouth - Yeovil Heritage platform passing the same location at 1347 and 5Z80 1353 Weymouth - Yeovil Junction followed. The return working was 1Z93 1636 to Victoria (2219).

### **Road Movements**

**01/08** Ex. BR Class 25 D7535 stopped in Membury Services (near Swindon) enroute from the South Devon Railway, Buckfastleigh to Spa Valley Railway, Tunbridge Wells.

### **Severn Valley Railway**

**20/07** The line is holding a 'Magnificent 7' Diesel-hydraulic Operating

weekend event from 28th September - 1st October.

**16/08** Still suffering financial problems the railway have sold 'Black Five' 45110 to West Coast Railways at Carnforth, the loco tender being reported to having already arrived by around this date. This loco was one of the last to operate a steam train for BR back in August 1968. Other locos and stock could also follow.

### **Tarka Valley Railway**

**05/08** Close to 41 years on from the last BR train to reach Torrington (31158 + 31174 heading a 14 coach 'Last Atlantic Coast Express' from Bristol TM on 6th November 1982), the preservation society operated their Pacer set 143617 over a small section of restored track at the Bideford end of the station area.

Both the then Exeter based driver and guard, Fred Gale (now aged 92) and Graham Braund from the BR train were present for the event which took place at 1100.

The railway is planning to relay and open a further section of track to the bridge over the River Torridge as their next project.

### **West Somerset Railway**

**22-24/09** The Williton based Diesel & Electric Preservation Group (DEPG) have had to cancel their 50th Anniversary celebrations as an incident reported on 4th August has seen Class 35 'Hymek' D7017 receive engine damage having moved crushing safety 'choc-blocks' having moved on its own as preparation work was taking place for an up coming 'Magnificent 7' Severn Valley Railway hydraulics gala (due to have been attended with D7018). The Group are however continuing fund raising for an extensive roofing repair programme to the their Williton Goods shed.

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

### **Cornwall**

**08/08** 66199 powered the final 6G09 1302 Goonbarrow junction - Fowey (Carne Point) loaded CDA train which departed Lostwithiel loop following the loco run-round at 1402 (25 early).

The booked return was 6G05 1957 Fowey Docks - Goonbarrow junction (2123) passing Par at 1749 (190 early).

For the record the 6G09 consist was listed as; 375063. 375087. 375108. 375082. 375112. 375075. 375114. 375095. 375050. 375083. 375061. 375067. 375091. 375113. 375121. 375116. 375117. 375118. 375093. 375074. 375085. 375071.

Replacement wagons are expected to arrive from Bescot during the following week out of store from Long Marston, with possibly up to 12 JIA or 5 JGA (with 7 JIA) bogie wagons.

**11/08** The final day for CDA china clay wagon use saw 66199 depart Lostwithiel loop at 0745 on 6P07 0721 Fowey - Parkindillack (having departed at 0655) and later arrived Burngullow at 0811 (112 early) with 36 wagons. The 6P24 0925 return empties to Fowey Dock (Carne Point) which departed 3 hours early, arrived Lostwithiel for a loco run round at 1345 (184 early). The final 'booked' move was 6P25 2208 Fowey (Carne Point) - St.Blazey yard (2315) empties again with 66199 which arrived Lostwithiel very early at 1832 for a loco run-round and was terminated at its

destination at 1913 close to four hours early.

These purpose built 4-wheel 'internal' china clay wagons (with a few converted from other wagon types) had been on the Cornish railway scene for nearly 36 years.

**12/08** A further empty CDA positioning movement saw 66199 haul 9 wagons as a 6G03 1006 St.Blazey - Goonbarrow working passing Middleway crossing (St.Blazey) at 0714. A number of 'stored' CDAs have been gathered in the former St.Blazey freight yard area near Middleways.

**14/08** The new JIA bogie wagons were reported in use over the Fowey (Carne Point) branch with revised load discharge arrangements now taking place on the traverser alongside the quayside.

**17/08** 66057 moved 'addition' wagons for use in Cornwall to fully replace the CDA fleet as 6Z24 2227 Long Marston - Bescot (0110) which passed Evesham at 2313 (-), the consist being; NACOs 19194/6. 19177. 19188. 19192, all ex. Rylstone Tilcon Tarmac aggregate JGAs and 700894011-2 + 700894020-3 both JIA hoppers.

It has been calculated that 1 bogie JIA wagon equates to 2.5 4-wheel CDAs! Also during the review period, planned re-signalling due to take place in November this year has been put back to March 2024 this involving the closure of Lostwithiel, Par and Truro signal boxes.

### **Class 73**

Network-Rail are offering former test train locos 73138. 73951/2, for sale by tender, the former being located at Rowsley, Peak Rail.

### **DBC**

The freight operator announced during the review period that work is to start on the scrapping of the large store of Class 60 locos in Old Bank sidings, Toton yard.

The operator have also stood down their Class 90 electric loco fleet due to operating costs thought to be in the region of around £1,000 for an out and back round inter-modal working. Some class members are already in storage notably at Crewe Electric depot where 12 members currently reside. Of this 50 strong late 1980s introduced loco class, currently (25th July) 24 are active, but their diagrams will all eventually be covered by Class 66 diesel locos until energy costs return to a lower level.

### **DRS**

**01/08** The company also announced the standing down of their Class 88 locos on frontline including Anglo/Scottish duties due to electricity operating costs. Their use still continues on diesel with work such as nuclear flask trains.

**10/08** 68034 + 68001 top 'n tail a further 6Z62 0100 Crewe Coal sidings - Winfrith empty radioactive sludge container train passing Brockenhurst at inward at 0734.

### **Eastleigh**

**07/08** The third Class 153 single car DMU 153376 was again out on test as 2Q20 0913 Eastleigh yard - Eastleigh yard (1544) via Chard Junction SB passing Salisbury at 0951 (3 early).

**10/08** New test DMU conversion 153376 was again active as 2Q20 0913 Eastleigh East yard - Eastleigh East yard (1544) via Chard Junction SB passing Dean outward at 0944 (6 late). This unit carries a light blue

colour scheme.

153311 and 153320 are also seeing use in this new guise both last reported in former East Midlands colour

#### **GBRF**

**18/08** 59003 was to re-enter traffic from this date. This loco was involved with the removal of Class 158/159 DMU units involved in the Salisbury Fisherton Tunnel collision back in October 2021 (see December 2021 Magazine-issue 598). The loco suffered major wheel-set damage which had been caught on striking Youtube video footage and had become the subject of inter-rail financial operator costings re repair.

#### **Gravity Campus, Bridgwater, Somerset**

No sooner had the Bridgwater MISCELLANEOUS item in the July 2023 Magazine issue 617 been written, further interest and as a result a £4 billion 'GiGa' Factory (with Government funding) producing electric car batteries is now set to open on the former ROF Puriton Royal Ordnance Factory site, latterly owned by BAE Systems.

The new production plant which includes a near 2 mile in length intact railway trackbed (which once linked onto the Bristol - Taunton mainline at Huntspill) is to be operated by TaTa Jaguar/Land-rover with an opening date of 2026 now given creating around 4,000 new jobs.

#### **Great Western Railway**

**31/07** Having arrived during the previous day former GWR HST set 43158 + 43022 with coaches ran 5Z43 0957 Kings Norton Overhead Line depot - Ely Papworth sidings (via Nuneaton and Leicester for further store).

**02/08** DMU set 150202 was returned from works attention as 5Z50 0744 Wolverton Centre siding - Exeter Premier Transport (1412) passing Nuneaton at 0903, Cheltenham 1041 (5 early), Lawrence Hill 1124 (54 early), departing Temple Meads at 1247 (2 early) and passing Uphill junction at 1315 (9 late), the workings final destination being Exeter Tmd.

**05/08** DMU 150219 was used on 1A81 1055 Paignton - Paddington to Taunton returning as 1C77 1035 to Paignton, back onwards from Taunton (booked off at 1235).

All was not well however with 150202 (see above) and the set was return with several rectifications needed on work mods done (and a couple of new issues!) as 5Z50 0855 Exeter Tmd - Wolverton Centre siding passing Cogload junction at 0931.

**05/08** North Atlantic named storm Antoni caused some weather related problems in the West of England; IET 802103 struck a fallen tree near St.Germans whilst working 1A88 1218 Penzance - Paddington, with another tree down near Totnes, a garden shed was reported as on track near Liskeard and a landslide at an unspecified location on the Newquay branch saw services suspended over the line.

A wind gust of 78 mph was recorded at Berry Head, near Brixham, Devon.

**07/08** By this date only six Turbo sets 166201/2/3/7/9. 166211, remained in service still retaining the First Blue Group livery scheme. 166221 had gone to Wolverton replacing the recently completed and returned in GW green 166215 on 3rd August.

**14/08** IET set 800319 was used on the 1C50 2350 (Sun) Paddington - Penzance sleeper service in place of the booked loco and stock. Meanwhile 57602 + 57605 worked the balancing 1A50 2145 (Sun) Penzance - Paddington

service with c/stock; 10589. 10594. 10584. 10534. 10612. 10219. 12100. Also during the day, 'Castle' HST set 43172 GW15 43009 worked 2T33 1457 Exmouth - Paignton being noted calling Torre from 1623-1624 having taken over from 150221 at Exeter St.Davids the HST set returning as 2F27 1640 Paignton - Exmouth (as far as Exeter St.Davids) and not 2U34 2106 Paignton - Cardiff Central as originally reported.

**15/08** DMU set 150202 was returned from Wolverton Works, following mods 'rectification' as 5V83 0725 Wolverton Centre siding - Exeter Tmd (1222) which passed Northampton at 0741, Cheltenham 0948 and Worle junction 1107 Graffiti coach attacks seem to be on the increase with IET 802114 noted calling Taunton at 1135 working 1C75 0938 Paddington - Plymouth with both driving coach 839114 and next in the train formation 837114 (second class) having suffered paintwork damage.

**18/08** Turbo 166621 was returned in GWR green as 5Q81 0633 Wolverton Centre sidings - St.Philips Marsh (1208) passing West Ealing at 0829 (1 early), Swindon 1043 (2 early), arriving Parkway at 1114 (13 early) and passing Lawrence Hill at 1141 (8 late).

166202 was ready to be forwarded to Wolverton as the next for a repaint. IET 800312 working 1C80 1203 Paddington - Penzance with only 2 of 5 engines working was allowed to pass through Totnes at 1500 (16 late) and miss the booked stop here so enough power was available for the climb over Rattery Bank and onwards to Plymouth. This was apparently an operating allowance also in the days of full West of England HST operation at this station where only one power car was running and an assisting pilot loco had not been attached at Exeter.

Later, problems in Cornwall with Irish Met named North Atlantic storm 'Betty' caused problems along with a high tide at Long Rock, Penzance with IET set 802003 failing an axle counter check and loosing full power having been struck by a wave whilst working 1A39 1750 Penzance - Paddington service. 802015 with 1C84 1403 Paddington - Penzance was used to assist and push the stricken train (itself having departed St.Erth over 70 minutes late) back to the Cornish terminus where a 2230 arrival time was recorded for both services. The 1A39 had meanwhile been restarted using 800314 from Exeter St.Davids as a 1Z39 2050 departure to Paddington.

## **Mexico**

Former ex. GWR HST power cars 43022, 43158, 43170 with 10 coaches exported from Great Yarmouth are to see use on a new 'Tran Maya' (Mayan Train Project) 948 mile 'Inter-City type' circular route around the country due for completion by the end of 2023 which will take in Palenque (close to the Guatemala border) and Cancun. The former Mk III coaches have been identified as; 41091. 41100. 42026. 42179. 42401/2/5. 44034. 44061. 44053. 44094, and were former East Midland Railways, First Group and Virgin Trains HST stock. All vehicles had arrived at Great Yarmouth for export from between 2nd-8th August.

## **Oxford Phase 2 Work**

Engineering blockade closures for area track work were from 0200 Sat 29th July - 1315 Fri 5th August from Didcot Parkway - Leamington Spa, 1313 Fri 5th August - 0445 Sun 7th August from Didcot Parkway - Aynho Junction. The work will include the replacement of Botley Road bridge, track realignment in line with platform extensions and a new Western end platform entrance constructed. Also area signalling is to be upgraded along with point

renewal with the installation of new higher speed cross overs.

### **Road Movements**

**11/08** DVT coach 82124 south-bound M5 junction 13 (Stroud) at 1025.

### **West Coast Railways**

**09/08** The West Highland Line 'Jacobite' steam specials from Fort William - Mallaig subject to safety operating issues restarted from this date (also see last Months Magazine).

## **TRACK MACHINES & DEPARTMENTALS**

**21/07** Worle (Weston-super-Mare) - DR73936 passing at 1105 (2 late) as a 6J02 1000 Exeter Waggoners Way - Bristol Kingsland Road (1248) move.

**06/08** Bristol Kingsland Road - DR79231/2/3/6/7 (allox. 6Z08 2030 to Tavistock yard, Plymouth)

**07/08** Truro Yard - DR79231/2/3/6/7. Vehicles DR79234/5 are reported as stored at Derby RTC.

**18/08** Bristol Parkway - DR77910 departing at 1002 (25 early) following a reverse, on a 6Q10 0930 move to Chipping Sodbury.

## **TRIP REPORTS**

**TRIP 592**

**W.H. DAVIS**

**28<sup>th</sup> August 2023**

Compiled from notes taken by John Dicks, Pete Dix, Dave Forse, Mike Godfrey, Simon Reeve, Brian Stanway, John Sparrow and Martin Shill

### **W.H. Davis**

**Shunters:** The blue shunter AB499/1965 was missing and it had been sent to Peter Briddon and is now his property. The shunter in worn green livery which was sent by Peter Briddon as a hire loco while the blue loco was under repair was stabled in the yard. It is TH 284V/1979 (Ex Pages 58 and 124, 18 EL). Inside a shed was another loco which is the permanent replacement for the blue loco, again supplied by Peter Briddon.

W.H. Davis held a competition with the local schools to determine its colour. This was decided as green and it was resplendent in its freshly applied paint. The children also decided that it should be called "Dwayne the Train". The identity of this loco is HC D1387/1967 (Ex P294, 18EL)

**Wagons:** New build Bio-Mass wagons were under construction;

80 70 0698 240-4/242-6/243-8/244-6/245-3/246-1/247-9/248-7/249-5 plus those not yet painted (80 70 0698 250/251/252/253/254/255);

33 70 4501 000-3/001-1; 83 70 4520 256-6/257-4/258-2/259-0/330-9/331-7;

83 70 4521 064-3/065-0/101-3; 81 70 5932 250-2

### **Harry Needle, Worksop (Viewed from various locations)**

Locos: 08714 92021/040/046 Dmu Set: 144005

Emu Sets: 701005/008/010 701505 West Midlands Trams: 26/29

Road/Rail: Bradshaw 943075-0 Thwaites 5t swivel skip dumper 4-90246

### **Peak Rail**

Return Train Ride Rowsley to Matlock comprising:

D8 Penyghent 4974 5235 9404 26025/043

Noted in Rowsley Yard Locos: John Boy AB 512/1966 (Ex P224,18EL) - in use shunting the yard; D2128 (03128, 03901) A Briddon 2011 rebuild of Sdn 1960 (Ex P58,18EL); Coaches: Ex BR 1970; 3277; (13508, NIR924); 15943 (7943); 80777 (92375); 92158 (81533); Ex LMS 7828 (16122, DM395345); Wagons: 2071 (tank) 187825 922648 bogie bolster; 994256 sturgeon; On Track Plant: 98307

Passed at Darley Dale Station

Loco: No.15 RSHN 7063/1942 (Ex P80, 18EL) performing a driver experience duty with brakevan 134747

Passing Briddons Works, Darley Dale

Locos: 14901 (D9524) Sdn 1964; HC D1345/1970 (assumed); LH005 HE 6295/1965 (Ex P84, 18EL); NCB 503 HE 6614/1965 (Ex P224, 18EL); Louise HE 6950/1967 (Ex P246, 18EL); 107 NBQ 27932/1959; (Army 610) S 10143/1963;

Wagons: Ex BR 400198 4w steel flatbed; 778331 4w non vent van; 786951 4w non vent van; Ex PO 6253 4w ventilated palvan (ex Midsomer Norton) 1964

Passed at Darley Dale Station

Loco: No.15 hauling 7828, 1970, 80777 - as detailed above.

#### **Ashover Light Railway, Rowsley**

Loco: No.1 Spondon Spondon 1926 - engaged with pw train.

When visited later the depot was found to be closed.

#### **Heritage Shunters Trust, Rowsley**

Loco: Class 01 D2953 AB 395/1955; Class 02 D2854 YE 2813/1960; (D2866) YE 2849/1961; Class 03 (D2027,03027) Sdn 1958; 03099 (D2099) Don 1960; 03113 (D2113) Don 1960; D2139 Sdn 1960; 03180 (D2180) Sdn 1962; D2199 Sdn 1961; Class 04 D2205 VF/DC D212/2486 pf 1953; (D2229) VF/DC D2678/2552 of 1955; (D2272 Alfie) RSHD/DC 7914/2616 of 1958; D2284 RSHD/DC 8102/2661 of 1960; (D2289, 3945) (Lonato) RSHD/DC 8122/2669 of 1960 - repatriated from Italy; D2337 RSHD/DC 8196/2718 of 1961; Class 05 D2587 HE 5636/1959, reb HE 7180/1969; Class 06 (06003,D2420,97804) AB 435/1959; Class 07 07001 (D2985) RH 480686/1962; Class 08 08016 (D3023) Derby 1953; Class 09 09001 (D3665) Dar 1959; Departmental PWM650 (97650) RH 312990/1952; PWM654 (97654) RH 431761/1951; Industrial 319284 (Faraday) RH 319284/1952; (Bigga) TH102C/1960, rebuild of JF 4200019/1947.

Note - The only loco in the collection not seen was B.S.C. 2 YE 2480/1950.

#### **Rowsley South Station**

Ex LMS coach berthed in a platform (1501, 3031, DM395801) - once at Bitton.

#### **Rowsley Yards**

Locos: (6634) Sdn 1928 Dsm; 97301 (D6800, 37100) EE/VF 3229/D754 of 1962 (Ex P344, 18EL); 37310 British Steel Ravenscraig (37152, D6852) EE/EEV 3327/D826 of 1963; D1501 (47402 Gateshead) BT 343/1962 (Ex P155, 18EL); (46035,D172, 97403 Ixon) Derby 1962; 50029 Renown EE/EEV 37999/D1170 of 1968; 50030 Repulse EE/EEV 3800/D1171 of 1968; 73138 (E6045) EE/EEV 3717/E337 of 1966 (Ex P344, 18EL);

#### **Rowsley Motive Power Depot**



Locos: E1 Castlefield HC D1199/1960; 0-6-0T Dsm assumed to be HC 1822/1949 (Ex, P197, 18EL); 01531 HE 7018/1971, reb HAB 6576/1999; Frame & wheels of 0-4-0 diesel TH 146C (Ex P168, 18EL) - assumed; "Tony" Wkm 9668/1965; Class 108 Dmus: M51950; M52062; Emu Car: 62266; Coaches: Ex BR 1800 (Tintagel) (5970, NIR546); 2080 (sleeper); ADB977449 (3086); (31533); KDB975051 (34131); 35453; (81554); (92061, DB975336) (Fruit D); 93383 94589 (041641); Ex GWR 9082 (sleeper); Ex LMS (6815, DS70257) 8422 (2924? Berlin 946847P, Army 3322) ambulance car; 9205 (ADM395923); 9889; 27109 (65380); RK30005 (3286, DM395223) - unique - track recording car; DM395845 (9864, M6720M); 44407 (Milk Tank); 999501; Ex L&Y 10825 Pullman 287; Ex SR S1235S; Cranes: Large Cowans & Sheldon (95223?); 81139 Smith of Rodley; Wagons: Ex BR 1861 (Esso tank); 230223/783679 grounded; 230280/783422 grounded (Converted snack bar); 230331/782986 grounded; 230418/783418 grounded; 230539/783468 grounded; 230943 (Lowmac); 250943; B313014; 460098 (fictitious) 4w steel wagon; 7xxxxx grounded; 740699/187825 (fictitious) pipe wagon; 741213/187826 (fictitious) pipe wagon; 75xxxx 4w ventilated van; 769951 (fictitious) Palvan; 770697 4w ventilated van; 783292/WGB4179 4w ventilated van; 784580/WGB4192 4w ventilated van; 904524 4w machinery flat; 914905 4w flat ex single bolster; 983904 dogfish; 988443 grampus; 991773 grampus; 993076 4w dogfish; 993768 ballast brake van; 996366 bogie salmon; ADE941753 Crane Runner for ADRC 95223; Ex LMS 12t van ?xxxxx grounded (faded bare wood); 747 4w Brake Van Ex BSC Stocksbridge Steel 1926; 40294 6w Fish Van Wolverton 1949. (By station car park); 44047 Milk Tank, barrel only 1934; 199970 4w Flat Match Wagon 1932; 199990 4w flat Wolverton 1933; 229550 4w Flat 1938; Ex LNER FB228 4w Flat (Ex Stanton Staveley); E178XX6 4w match wagon for crane DRS81139 1935; Ex MR 87 4w 5-plank Open (Fictitious number) 1918; 97 4w 5-plank Open (Fictitious number) 1918; 1060 6w Brake Van 1904; M15346 non vent wooden van G/B 1901 approx; AD40002 4w flat 1913-belonging to Pete Bidon; Ex PO 10 Tank chassis. Ex NCB Royston Drift Mine; AM2335 Lubrication oil 1941. Ex Southall; A7514 Fuel oil tank 1943. Ex Southall; 82733 Fuel oil tank 1978. Ex Southall; Ex RNAD 368 LNER 4w Brake Van 1917; Ex SUKO 67024 Petroleum tank 1967.

Coach Restoration Shed: Ex NIR (1835,687)

Unidentified: Derelict wooden coach

Note - There were many more coaches and wagons which were not identified.

#### Loco Shed

Locos: Frame & wheels (5224) Sdn 1924; 08830 (D3998) HC 1884/1955 - in steam - assumed; Derby 1960; (RRM 192) HL 3138/1915 (Ex P180, 18EL); Frame & wheels of 0-6-0 steam loco assumed to be P1378/1914 (Ex P168, 18EL); WD150 (Royal Pioneer) RSHN 7136/1944 reb HE 3892/1969; NCB 72 VF 5309/1945; (Kent No.2) WB 2842/1946 - red (Ex P200, 18EL).

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