



<http://www.lnersvrcoachfund.org.uk>



Caring for Gresley carriages on the Severn Valley Railway
The Railway Station, Bewdley, Worcestershire, DY12 1BG

Coach Fund President: David Williams **CF Vice Presidents:** Tim Godfrey FCIM, F Inst D, FFB and Mick Haynes
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LNERCF & LNERCG NEWSLETTER No.27

WE HAVE THE NEW TEAK PANELS!

Readers may have been wondering about the reduced flow of newsletters. The reason is that, at last, we have the teak to finish 70759's exterior panelling and have been busy with the fitting. Despite March and early April having been unhelpfully cold and windy, we have already fitted the larger panels and are now getting on with the smaller ones.



Many panels remain unsponsored at prices from £25 upwards. We are aware of the many pressures for donations, not least the SVR share offer. But please remember our needs too. You are assured your donations to the SVR Trust for the LNER

Carriage Group work are carefully applied to completing Britain's longest preserved LNER teak train.

One aspect of the teak delivery that we had not previously appreciated is that the trees used to meet our order show signs of damage, though not enough to compromise the panelling work. It is thought that these trunks, legally purchased in Germany, became available as part of the flotsam from the Japanese tsunami. This is a sobering reminder of the human tragedy that arose from that disaster. We shall never know what story our teak could tell. But 70759 will be some small way of remembering the lives lost in that awful event.

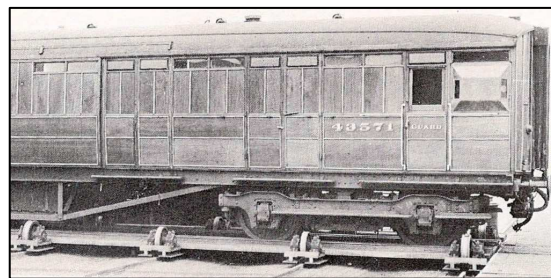
Readers will notice that some panels show marks and mottling giving an unsatisfactory appearance. We have not encountered this problem before. It may come either from discolouration absorbed during the tsunami or from the wet condition of the wood as delivered after its machining. Unless care is exercised, such wetness results in splits as the panels dry out – a condition only worsened by keeping them in storage where the edges and ends dry out and shrink faster than the middles. The best course was to fit the panels as quickly as possible, leaving the outside faces bare to allow more even drying, followed by oxalic acid treatment as the usual method of removing stains before flattening and varnishing. This proved not entirely satisfactory as we'd treated only one panel before several splits opened up in the ends of the bare panels. As an emergency measure we



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then linseed-oiled and varnished the outside faces of the panels as these were fitted. This reduced the tendency to split but left several panels with a patchy appearance. Experience shows that such mottling can reduce over time with the effects of sunlight and changes in moisture content – and there is some evidence of this happening already. And the panels certainly become less prone to splitting. If the appearance problem doesn't resolve itself naturally over the coming months, we will be stripping back the affected panels to bare wood again, applying oxalic acid and then re-flattening and revarnishing. We ask our supporters and readers to bear with us while we tackle this unwelcome problem, not met in previous restorations. You can be assured that our best endeavours will be applied to getting 70759's appearance right before it enters service. Such panel variations did also occur in LNER days – see picture.



SVR MEMBERS & SHAREHOLDERS WEEKEND - 20TH & 21ST APRIL

Note these dates for your diary, when we'll be pleased to see our supporters and show them the progress at Bewdley.

ANTIMACASSARS FOR 7960

The Kitchen Restaurant carriage has gained a finishing touch in the passenger saloons, and work progresses to finish the pantry and kitchen areas. 7960 has also undertaken its first revenue earning charter work.



NEW WEBSITE FOR THE SVR CHARITABLE TRUST

The SVR Trust now has a 'new-look' website reflecting the name change and expanded rôle of the new charity. This can be accessed at: <http://www.svrtrust.org.uk/>

This is a 'work in progress' task as some of the old features have still to be incorporated, eg our 70759 PDF appeal leaflet download, the LNER newsletter downloads and the PDF for setting up the 'easyfundraising' and 'easysearch' web facilities.

VOLUNTEER JOB OPPORTUNITIES

We currently have two vacancies, details of which are described in the PDF that accompanies this Newsletter.



GRESLEY SOCIETY TRUST GOLDEN JUBILEE

This year sees the 50th anniversary of the Gresley Society, which originally emerged in the early 1960s from the group that had been trying to buy and preserve a Gresley A3 Pacific – only to be forestalled by Alan Pegler's purchase of 4472 *Flying Scotsman*.

The Society's anniversary was marked by a special meeting at the Institution of Mechanical Engineers in London, where Gresley's portrait hangs in the Institution's lecture hall. He was made President of the IME in 1936.

LNER Carriage Group

April 2013

LNER (SVR) Coach Fund

Websites with information about the Teak Train and current developments can be found at:

<http://www.svr-trust.org.uk/index.html>

<http://www.lnersvrcoachfund.org.uk/>

<http://lner.svr-rollingstocktrust.org.uk/>

Either of the second or third addresses takes you to a shared website covering all aspects of the SVR teak train.

- Support the Severn Valley Railway Charitable Trust (Charity 1092723) for free when shopping online with over 500 popular retailers including Amazon, Next, M&S, John Lewis, Comet and many more that make donations to our Charity when you buy through this site: <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/svrct>
- For a similar free benefit to the SVR Charitable Trust (Charity 1092723) use the 'easysearch' search engine earning a halfpenny for each search, now regularly producing more than £1 per week <http://svrct.easysearch.org.uk/>

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