



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



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

Coach Fund President: David Williams CF Vice Presidents: Tim Godfrey FCIM, F Inst D, FFB and Mick Haynes
Trustees: Hugh McQuade (Ch), Stewart Clark, Mike Cranmore, Colin Griffiths, Richard & Doris Gunning, Richard Hill, David Massey

LNERCF & LNERCG NEWSLETTER No.39

43600's RESTORATION COMPLETE - AFTER ONLY 34 YEARS ON SVR!



The project to upgrade the interior of this hard-working Tourist Third Open carriage has been completed, and a public announcement will be made shortly. But our friends and supporters merit an early view of what has been achieved since fund-raising started in 2009 – including a 'first' with LED lights. Thank you for your loyal support. We hope you like the result. The carriage is planned to be in service in the Teak Train for the 10.30am/2.05pm Kidderminster departures and the 12.15pm/4.35pm Bridgnorth departures on 15th/16th and 22nd/23rd November – and, oh dear, just in time to face the knocks and hazards of buffet trolleys on the Santa trains...

GNR 2701 has now taken 43600's place in the Kidderminster Carriage Works for its own overhaul.



LNER KITCHEN COMPOSITE 7960 RESTORATION

Through the offices of the Severn Valley Railway Charitable Trust, dogged determination and incessant phone calls, a supplier of tableware has very kindly donated ceramics worth over £2,000 to help fit out this exquisitely restored kitchen composite. The other good news is that sufficient funds now appear to be available to complete the kitchen, allowing this vehicle to become fully



operational. A start has been made with the addition of a water boiler and steel panelling on the walls.

BEWDLEY STATION SHOP

Don't forget our shop for your Christmas shopping. There is a good selection of gift items available. Thank you to those who ordered the Phil Jones calendars; these will shortly be available for collection.

BRAKE THIRD PROJECT

All the 'A' 'B' 'C' & 'D' teak panels are now sponsored – just five 'E' end panels at £80 or £90 each awaiting adoption by some kindly supporter. And we have our first sponsor for a pigeon basket shelf (£40); there are eleven more of these awaiting your support. It all helps.

We also have the structures of four compartments. These

transform the 'feel' of the vehicle and allow us to check the seat and other dimensions. Many new opportunities exist for sponsorship here! Items needing finance include: bench seats (£200 each); luggage racks (£150 each); mirrors (£75 each); compartment pictures (£35 each); picture frames (£50 each). And if you are looking for 'that special Christmas gift' you can even sponsor the toilet compartment for £300. The WC cistern is in place for its 'first flush'.

We hope to hear from you! At Kidderminster good progress is being made in overhauling the bogie wheel sets.



DAVID ST JOHN THOMAS RIP

A piece of sad news is the death of David St John Thomas in August. Mr Thomas played a significant part in the history of our project carriage 70759. He was the 'David' in the 'David & Charles' publishing company. In the 1970s the company bought three carriages from BR, including 70759, for use at their Newton Abbot premises. BR then promptly lost them and disclaimed responsibility for their delivery! BR said that they could neither find the coaches nor refund the purchase money. Helped by enthusiasts, the carriages were traced to York's marshalling yard, where one of them had been pressed into service as a staff mess room. The yard master said there would be a strike if the company tried to remove the vehicles, so matters were left undisturbed for a month for other arrangements to be made.



Eventually the three carriages did move to Newton Abbot. There they were used for publicity purposes close to the David & Charles office and the passing main line. BR then niggled that the transfer terms didn't allow the company to advertise; in response the company said that the offending destination boards were not advertising but merely stated where the coaches were going!

This picture shows No.70759 in its Newton Abbot days, where it was visible to main line passengers for many years.

LNER Carriage Group

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LNER (SVR) Coach Fund

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

<http://www.svrtrust.org.uk> <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 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 use the 'easysearch' search engine earning a halfpenny for each search, now regularly producing more than £1 per week

<http://svrct.easysearch.org.uk/>