



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

<http://svrtrust.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.43

TWO RESTORED GRESLEY TEAKS LAUNCHED IN A SINGLE DAY!



Honestly! You wait years for a Gresley carriage restoration to be finished – and then two newly completed vehicles turn up on the same day, much like the proverbial buses!

A special pictorial Supplement is attached to this edition to mark this momentous day in LNER restoration history. The adjoining pictures here are respectively by Bob Sweet (SVR 7960) and your editor (NYMR Brake Third 3669).

OUR BRAKE THIRD PROJECT



The WC compartment has made considerable progress to the point where it has been possible to lay the marmoleum flooring (see picture). Fitting out is now in progress.

The Brake Third has acquired its 'throne'. Even the toilet seat has its own history, originating from a 1933 York-built Travelling Post Office (TPO) sorting van No.2152, later renumbered 70301. This was one of a batch of three to Diagram 165 which included an electric tea urn, gas oven and a value parcel locker. Four other Diagram 164 TPO vehicles completed the set, which operated the 8.25pm King's Cross-North East TPO (replacing an earlier gas-lit set). The 1933 vehicles had flat ends, a flat ended roof, screw couplings and the characteristic offset gangways. All had been withdrawn by the early 1970s. Prior to our acquisition postmen alone had had exclusive use of this seat!

Work continues at Bewdley on the many detailed parts that can be finished later like the luggage racks and pigeon basket shelves. The latter, while still requiring more work, have had an initial fitting in the Brake end of the vehicle.

Six of these shelves are still available for sponsorship at £40 each...)

Just one of the remaining exterior teak panels still seeks a sponsor – Panel E11 at £90. There must be someone out there who can complete this saga and 'give this last orphan a home'. Two-thirds of the 600 feet of beading is sponsored – at a £1 a foot (mostly in £10 tranches) – this is something where everyone can feel able to contribute.



VARNISHED BEAUTY

Much has been done to restore the end-vehicle doors at the corridor connection. This has involved stripping multiple layers of old paint and rebuilding both doors to repair damage.



They have now been superbly varnished, as also have the newly fitted pelmets over the corridor sliding doors – only one of these is a



restored original fitting, but can you work out which one? The shaped metal 'Guard look-out' is a fine example of teak scumbling, here applied with consummate skill.

BRAKE THIRD - MECHANICAL OVERHAUL

Later in the year we hope to be able to send the Brake Third to Kidderminster for its mechanical overhaul, an essential step in preparing the carriage for its SVR public service. At Kidderminster the vehicle will also be revarnished – its six coats are already showing signs of weathering from exposure to the elements at Bewdley. As part of the work the carriage's lining out and other external decorative features will be added. The cost will no doubt be fairly daunting – possibly into five figures – as it will involve paid time work by the SVR's Carriage and Wagon professionals. So please don't forget us. We need your continuing financial support if you'd like to ride with us in the completed carriage!

The work at Kidderminster will be spread out over time, and entry into service remains at least two years away, but the consolation is that the vehicle will be under cover there.



SVR TRUST DAY AT THE RACES - 24TH JUNE

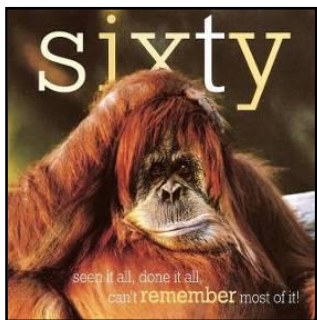
Sponsored by Thurstfields, this will be a great day for the SVR Charitable Trust and for everyone attending the event. Details can be downloaded at:

<http://www.worcester-racecourse.co.uk/whats-on/fixture/24-june-2015/>
Tickets are now available directly from the Worcester Racecourse, either by phone – **01905 253 64** – or via their website. To support the Trust it's best to buy the £8 central enclosure tickets, as £3 of the ticket price will go to the Trust and its work. Other ticket packages are available.

The Box Office opening times are 9am – 5pm (Monday-Friday).

The course postal code (SatNav) is: **WRI 3EJ** (Pitchcroft, Worcester)

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS.....



... to our esteemed Coach Fund and SVR Trust Chairman, Hugh McQuade, who recently reached one of those 'significant dates'. Diplomacy requires me to gloss over the precise number – but the adjoining picture (left) may give a hint! We offer a huge message of thanks to Hugh for the great work that he does for our wonderful Railway. As you will see from the second picture, Hugh moves in high circles these days. Here he is showing the Princess Royal the final stages of work on the LNER Kitchen Composite No.7960 during her recent visit.



Picture © Bob Sweet

... AND A TAIL-END REMINDER OF THE SVR'S WONDERFUL 2012 SPRING GALA

This delightful picture, by David Wilcock, echoes memories of that great gala when 1930s-liveried A4 BITTERN hauled our eight-carriage Gresley Teak Train – a preservation era 'first'. It won't be too long now, with your help, before we can make that a train of nine teaks. Sheer poetry!!

Picture © David Wilcock



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/>