



<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*

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

LNERCF & LNERCG NEWSLETTER No.55



© BBC Midlands Today



© BBC Midlands Today & LNERCG (2nd)

WOW! WHAT A PARTY THAT WAS!

The SVR Charitable Trust's special fund-raising trains on 21st September were a hugely enjoyable and a resounding success. The whole 'not-to-be-missed' complex operation went extremely well. All the recent months' of close planning of the day, both on and off the trains, paid off and can only have enhanced the Railway's reputation for excellence. Running three full round trips with the nine-carriages Gresley set in among the SVR's ordinary service trains was quite a challenge. But your editor heard only praise and admiration for the staff involved in making the day such a



success. This includes those 'behind the scenes' activities such as the huge efforts to complete the interior upgrade of our open carriage 52255; the 200+ hours spent cleaning and polishing the nine teaks; the organisation, delivery and distribution of the hundreds of hampers and picnics to passengers of each train; the on-train and station volunteer staff; and dealing quietly and effectively with all the rubbish generated (up to 30 full-size bin-bags for each special train). The whole carriage set and the wider SVR shone, and your editor felt great pride in being part of such a special day. Among our passengers (2nd lower picture first page) were Tim Godfrey, Sir Nigel's grandson, with his wife Ann and Marion Crawley, wife of the late Malcolm Crawley, a former chairman of the Gresley Society Trust and Doncaster Premium



Apprentice with Arthur Peppercorn (the post-war AI Pacifics' designer, of which new-build *Tornado* is the modern 50th class member). The adjacent picture shows your editor inspecting new Brake Third 24506, which proved its worth as the operating hub for organising the excellent on-board food hampers (supplied by the *Deli in the Village* of Hagley – see menu).

It is too early to say what the financial return for SVR and the Trust will be, but it is much to be hoped that those who enjoyed their day with us will respond generously and make the Trust's fund-raising the success it deserves to be. To tempt you, dear reader, to support the Trust's aim of raising £1m before June 2017, the donations form for the special limited availability HLF-supported SVR Restoration Appeal is also circulated with this newsletter.

This was a significant day in the history of the SVR and of the Charitable Trust. The event brought together the iconic locomotive Class A3 60103 *Flying Scotsman* and, for the first time since 1964, a complete train of nine teak carriages designed by Sir Nigel Gresley. For the three fully-booked special return trains those attending were all invited to enter into the spirit of a '1930s occasion'. The passengers certainly did so with great enthusiasm, as did our wonderful set of nine restored Gresley teaks, which all came in their 1920s and 1930s livery of fully lined varnished teak. Perhaps the only attendee which hadn't read its invitation sufficiently closely was 60103 itself, as it turned up in a 1960s outfit that didn't quite match the theme of the day! Even new-build Class A1 60163 *Tornado* appeared for the *Pacific Power* event in an appropriate apple green livery that nicely matched the Gresley teaks.

Every passenger on the Trust's trains received an attractively produced souvenir booklet which focussed on the locomotive and the restored set of Gresley teak carriages. Sadly, but perhaps unsurprisingly, the media attention on the event focussed solely on fame of the locomotive and entirely missed the significant rolling stock milestone achieved that day. But that's nothing new in the world of railway preservation...

PIGEON BRAKE THIRD 24506

The running-in period was successfully completed, and 24506 has now taken up its rôle as the LNER set's main brake. Brake Composite 24068 will now be rested until it can be slotted into the overhaul programme in the coming months. The picture shows 24506 in 'running-in mode' as the set's end vehicle.



TTO 52255 JUST MADE IT TOO!

Freshly overhauled with a smartly upgraded interior following TTO 43600's improvements, 52255 had its test run on 14th September. TTO 52255's very first revenue-earning work was as part of the SVR Charitable Trust's fund-raising day with *Flying Scotsman* on 21st September. That's cutting things a bit fine, but we made it! Congratulations are due to all those who made this possible, allowing 52255 to share a place in railway history. The pictures below were taken during 52255's test run and show some of those who have worked on its upgrade. (Well, someone had to quality-test the efficacy of Kitchen Composite 7960's newly approved cooking facilities prior to its big day on the Trust's special trains on 21st September – hence the presence of 7960 in the test train).



GWR 'TOAD' BRAKE VAN 17410

The latest news about 'Toad' 17410 can now be found at: <http://svrlive.wixsite.com/svrlive/news-130916-1>

Work continues with the ballast boxes, de-rusting, replacing corroded steel, making replacement doors and windows. The cabin doorpost bases were badly corroded, and new sections have been fabricated and fitted. Buffers and the buffer beam on the veranda end have been cleaned and painted.

This internet link to news updates is of wider merit too, as a deal of other information on the SVR is now being covered comprehensively at: <http://svrlive.wixsite.com/svrlive/news>

NEW BBC TV PROGRAMME ON RAILWAYS

A new BBC1 programme "Railways: The Making of a Nation" is on Wednesday 28th September. The SVR will feature in the West Midlands edition. **Please note** there are regional variations, so care is needed if you are setting a recorder. It helps that the whole series is being repeated on BBC4 starting at 8.00pm on Thursday 29th September.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR FRIENDS ON THE NYMR!

Our colleagues in the Moors' LNER Coach Association have also reason to celebrate a superb restoration achievement. This time our Yorkshire friends have put into service their wonderfully restored Thompson Third Corridor No. 1623. This is after long and painstaking work to get this now rare vehicle into service as part of the NYMR's LNER Train. Here's a picture of 1623 from the Grosmont webcam, taken earlier this month.

Pictures of the vehicle may also be found at:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/lnerca/>

You can get the webcam picture at Grosmont Station by clicking on:

[https://www.nymr.co.uk/live-](https://www.nymr.co.uk/live-webcam?utm_source=sendinblue&utm_campaign=WELSH_THEMED_AUTUMN_STEAM_GALA&utm_medium=email)

[webcam?utm_source=sendinblue&utm_campaign=WELSH_THEMED_AUTUMN_STEAM_GALA&utm_medium=email](https://www.nymr.co.uk/live-webcam?utm_source=sendinblue&utm_campaign=WELSH_THEMED_AUTUMN_STEAM_GALA&utm_medium=email)



... AND IN CONCLUSION



All this including each carriage having an appropriate roof board, plus the presence of AI Pacific 60163 *Tornado* on the Gresley teaks, two Bulleid Pacifics and a pair of GWR Manor class locos on the normal SVR trains (which included full working sets of LMS & GWR coaches). Four working 4-6-2 Pacifics is surely some kind of heritage era record.



A TRULY WONDERFUL EVENT! FORWARD LNER! FORWARD SVR!

LNER Carriage Group

September 2016

LNER (SVR) Coach Fund

Earlier editions of this newsletter may be downloaded at: http://www.lnersvrcoachfund.org.uk/news_letters.html

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

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