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Caring for Gresley carriages on the Severn Valley Railway

The Railway Station, Bewdley, Worcestershire, DY12 1DP

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LNERCF & LNERCG NEWSLETTER No. 62

GREAT EASTERN MEETS GREAT NORTHERN







One of 2017's highlights has been the Gala visit of Great Eastern Railway Y14 0-6-0 from the North Norfolk Railway. This class worked lighter branch line goods and passenger trains and in LNER days was known as J15. Your editor recalls putting a few bob into the Midland & Great Northern Joint Railway Society's appeal for funds to save this engine, then running as BR 65462. It is a lovely survivor of a versatile and capable class. With a low axle loading these locos could run virtually anywhere on the GER network. Even in their twilight years, a J15 rescued a failed Thompson B1 4-6-0 and hauled the complete East Anglian express into Liverpool Street.

We look forward to a visit by the NNR's GER B12 4-6-0 to the 2018 spring gala!

On the right are two young admirers viewing the then newly purchased unrestored Y14/J15 at Sheringham in 1971.



OVERHAUL OF WHEELCHAIR CARRIAGE TTO 24105





Steady progress here. The body overhaul is largely done. The roof timbers are secure again with nearly 1000 new bolts holding them firmly into the steel frame hoops; and the new roof canvas has its traditional white finish. The new tables, the redesigned & reupholstered seats and other fixtures

are now in their rightful places. The toilet compartment's complete redesign is not quite finished. The aim here is to make wheel-chair access easier and more practical; and the plumbing is being simplified too. (Your editor well recalls his days as a travelling ticket inspector, when he was often called upon to 'drain down' this carriage's exotic pipework at times of frost risk). Externally, the revarnishing and lining out is done. So 24105 now just awaits its mechanical overhaul prior to a return to traffic.





SEVERN VALLEY
RAILLWAY
CHARITABLE TRUST







GWR'TOAD'BRAKE VAN 17410









Good progress here too. The exterior is again looking respectable and, with a waterproof roof, it can lose its cover. The interior is also coming together well. The July 'Peep behind the Scenes' day produced a steady flow of visitors, aided by a new Trust poster to advertise our project. Our collection bucket raised £55.85. With sponsorship and gift aid, nearly £90 was raised on the day, a fair result for a wagon. The SVR Trust raised £2625 from 'Peep' entry wristbands. We've also had some more of floorboards sponsored - but another 21 of these still await a sponsor at £15 a panel...

<u>Please keep the Toad donations coming. A donation form and a list of available items are at:</u>
http://lnersvrcoachfund.org.uk/Donations and Gift aid TOAD 17410 form.pdf

VANDALISM TO THE NYMR'S LNER TEAK SET

Many readers will have read about the vandalism outrage inflicted on the North Yorkshire Moors Railway's superb set of Gresley and Thompson carriages in July. These historic carriages have been painstakingly and lovingly restored, over many years and at great cost, by our very good friends in the LNER Coach Association. The worst damage was in Buffet Car No.641, with all its windows smashed and other damage and wanton mess. Seats were slashed throughout the set, and damage done to mirrors, light bulbs and lamp shades, including the specially made lamp shades in Thompson Corridor Third No.1623. Quite apart from the repair costs, all this has caused considerable distress to the Moors' LNERCA restoration teams and the carriage repairers. Our thoughts go out to them.

A 'teak-set-appeal' fund set up by NYMR quickly raised £50k enabling progress to be made in remedying the damage. It is good to report that, apart from Buffet Car 641, the set has already returned to service.

FOOTNOTES

GNR 2701 We understand that Stoneyford Lodge, Derbyshire, from where our GNR 2701 was rescued (after a failed pub restaurant coach project), has closed for demolition. GNR 2701's body had been found resting on packing in the car park with its bogies nearby. Messrs Allelys, the heavy lift experts, somehow managed to extract them all in one piece down a very narrow lane. A video of the 'big lift' is at:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vhHzsWTW5nl

AND ANOTHER 'SAVED' GNR CARRIAGE GNR Open First No.397, built 1912, has a continuing existence in the north-east as a much modified 'Valley Junction Restaurant' in Jesmond. This can be viewed at:

https://www.valleyrestaurants.co.uk/valleyjunction.php

Who knows, one day this too might run again as a restored vehicle – at least it is being cared for in the meantime. (Information by courtesy of David McIntosh's excellent new book entitled 'Gresley's Legacy: Locomotives & Rolling Stock').



YOUR EDITOR'S NEW PC WALLPAPER'

Thanks to the talented artistry of John Austin available as a greeting card, your editor's PC now welcomes him with this cheering desktop image from one of John's wonderful paintings. This shows the LNER's iconic *Coronation* train crossing the border in pre-war days. Oh, to be able to recreate this as a full scale reality in the 21st century! At least the locomotive A4 4488 is still with us, though seemingly for ever trapped in the drab BR green livery and, 'ere long, to become a static museum piece in Scotland.

LNER Carriage Group

September 2017

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://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/

••• And for the TOAD PROJECT download the donation form at:

http://lnersvrcoachfund.org.uk/Donations and Gift aid TOAD 17410 form.pdf