



<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:** Mick Haynes, the late Tim Godfrey FCI, F Inst D, FFB  
**Group members:** Hugh McQuade (Ch), Stewart Clark, Mike Cranmore, Colin Griffiths, Richard & Doris Gunning, Richard Hill, David Massey

## LNERCF & LNERCG NEWSLETTER No.66

### GRAFFITI CHRISTMAS PRESENT

This was the unwelcome sight that greeted SVR volunteers arriving at Kidderminster on Boxing Day morning to work the railway's Festive Season services. A 'person or persons unknown' had spent their Christmas doing this to two of our historic vehicles. The vehicles were in coaching sets that had been stabled at the station after the SVR Santa Trains service on Christmas Eve. Comment is superfluous.



The two carriages involved were our award-winning 96-year-old Great Northern Corridor Composite 2701 (one of the nine Gresley teaks hauled by FLYING SCOTSMAN during that loco's SVR visit in 2016) and 80-year-old GWR Corridor Third 1146.

The good news is that both carriages are being repaired for a return to traffic as quickly as possible. GNR 2701 is in the Kidderminster Works paintshop and should be finished in time for the February half-term services. Volunteers' painstaking work has removed 2701's offending paint. The next step will be the time-consuming, professional gold-leaf lettering repairs and re-lining, prior to applying several coats of varnish to bring the vehicle back to its proper glory. The GWR coach will then follow – though all this comes at the price of delays to the SVR's already long programme of overhauls. Unfortunately the Kidderminster paint shop can only accommodate one coach at a time.

At <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F3x7mHbklUQ> there is a video of the work needed, with a commentary by Hugh McQuade, who manages the Kidderminster paintshop and is the Chairman of the SVR Charitable Trust. Lesley Carr, the SVR Trust's Communications Officer, has also been interviewed on BBC Hereford & Worcester. Her piece starts around 2:42:30 in the three-hour magazine programme, which is at <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p05rpf6m>

There has already been a generous public response with donations to help cover the repairs, which are likely to cost around £10,000. Any reader wishing to make a donation (with gift aid where that is possible) can do so at:

[https://www.justgiving.com/pxevjdpzin/donate/?utm\\_source=website\\_cid143202&utm\\_medium=buttons&utm\\_content=pxevjdpzin&utm\\_campaign=donate\\_dd\\_purple](https://www.justgiving.com/pxevjdpzin/donate/?utm_source=website_cid143202&utm_medium=buttons&utm_content=pxevjdpzin&utm_campaign=donate_dd_purple)

It is moving to see that donors who have left comments there include thoughtful gifts from overseas as well as from other heritage railways. Significantly, these include givers from the North Yorkshire Moors Railway, whose entire LNER teak set of carriages suffered major damage at the vandals' hands not so very long ago.



Below are stills from a BBC *Midlands Today* report about 2701's repairs now in hand by Kidderminster volunteers. The chief expense will be the sign-writer's and gold leaf craft to finish the details to SVR's usual professional standards.



## FOOTNOTES

### ANOTHER CHARITABLE TRUST FILM

The SVR Charitable Trust has issued another short video. This time it is about their corporate partner membership programme. Well worth a viewing, this can be seen at: <https://vimeo.com/246430958>

### A HIGH SPEED JOURNEY BEWDLEY-BRIDGNORTH

See what a three minute journey on SVR would be like!

This YouTube video is also notable because it shows (if you don't blink) our one-time scumbled teak carriage – the honorary tenth 'teak' in the LNER set at Bridgnorth. This is E3083, the SVR's unique Doncaster-built experiment prototype open first of 1957. In the 1990s the SVR turned E3083 out in a mock-up livery of how Eastern Region named trains might have looked, had the management of the time used their new livery freedom to adopt an LNER-style. Link at: <https://youtu.be/6Ot4wAs7pvs>



### ELECTRIC CANAL BARGE AT KIDDERMINSTER IN 1931

Here's another little known corner of local history – a sort of water-borne trolleybus! The YouTube piece is brief and dark – but well worth a viewing. See: <https://www.britishpathe.com/video/electric-canals/query/electric+canal+barge>



### IS THE PRIME MINISTER A CLOSET GRESLEY FAN?

The editor couldn't resist this Seamus Jennings' pre-Christmas cartoon published in the Sunday Telegraph. This shows our Prime Minister on an accurately drawn footplate of the preserved streamlined A4 60009 *Union of South Africa*.

Maybe a fresh look at transport policy and a return to steam?

A Gresley A4 should get us to the chosen destination. After all *Gresley Was Right...*

**A Happy New Year to all our readers!**

**LNCR Carriage Group**

**January 2018**

**LNCR (SVR) Coach Fund**

Earlier editions of this newsletter may be downloaded at: [http://www.lncrvcoachfund.org.uk/news\\_letters.html](http://www.lncrvcoachfund.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.lncrvcoachfund.org.uk/> <http://lncrv-rollingstocktrust.org.uk/>

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