



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

<http://svrtrust.org.uk/>

Caring for Gresley carriages on the Severn Valley Railway

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LNERCF & LNERCG NEWSLETTER No.67

CHRISTMAS TEAK GRAFFITI



The Charitable Trust received a flood of donations following the attack by vandals on two of the SVR's carriages over Christmas, so impressive that the Trust hit its £10,000 appeal target in **just one week**. The speed and generosity of the response shows the depth of feeling for the Severn Valley Railway and everything it stands for. Aside from a few larger amounts, most of the donations were between £10 and £25. Each was a vote of confidence in the skills of the SVR's restoration volunteers and staff, and we are extremely grateful to everyone for their support, with many expressing a wish to give something back for this senseless act of vandalism.

Work to restore the first of the vandalised carriages, our teak-bodied GNR 2701 corridor composite from 1922, has been completed in the paint shop at Kidderminster, and the carriage is back in the Gresley set for its half-term running. The first picture shows C&W staff celebrating in the traditional way with a mug of tea alongside the restored area. Volunteers spent three days cleaning the offending area by hand. The gold leaf lettering and painted lining on the carriage was badly damaged but has been painstakingly restored. This was followed by several valuable coats of varnish to finish things off. The repair to the refreshed GNR 2701 is well nigh invisible after the revarnishing and a new coat of white paint on the roof. Some timely door maintenance has also been done. Work has since been proceeding on the second vandalised carriage, the metal-skinned GWR 1146. The unscheduled work to restore these two important carriages has, however, meant a delay to planned C&W projects, including an important conversion of a vehicle to provide quality dining accommodation suitable for our wheelchair visitors and their companions.



NEW TYRES FOR TRUST'S GRESLEY CARRIAGES

Also newsworthy are the newly retired Gresley wheel-sets, now returned from the South Devon Railway at Buckfastleigh. These are costly but essential spares. But they mean SVR has now has spares for two carriages, which is two more than a year ago! The tyre blanks have to be ordered from South Africa. They are heated to be expanded onto the wheels. On cooling they shrink back to grip the wheel. The accompanying pictures are by David Mead and Richard Herington.

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FUNERAL OF THE LATE TIM GODFREY

The funeral of our lately deceased LNER Carriage Group Vice President was on an extremely wet Monday 26th January at the parish church of All Saints in Claverley, near Bridgnorth. The beautiful church there can trace its origins back to the seventh century. The service for Tim was very well attended including representation from the SVR Charitable Trust, the Gresley Society, the Sir Nigel Gresley Locomotive Trust and the AI Steam Locomotive Trust. The family commendation during the service was given by Tim's son, Nick, followed by a separate address by the chairman of the Gresley Society Trust, Philip Benham FCILT.

COMING TO A TELEVISION NEAR YOU SOON!

Readers will need to set their recorders for a new three-part Channel 5 documentary about the North Yorkshire Moors Railway. The first episode of "The Yorkshire Steam Railway: All Aboard" airs on Friday 2nd March at 8pm. It will go behind the scenes of the NYMR, which is home to another well-known 'teak train'. The NYMR is celebrating its 50-years Golden Anniversary this year. Your newsletter editor recalls his 1970s days in the Department of Transport dealing with the various stages of the NYMR's statutory light railway order application and the public inquiry. At that time, the concept of volunteers operating private railways was still very much an uncertain area in the nationalised era.

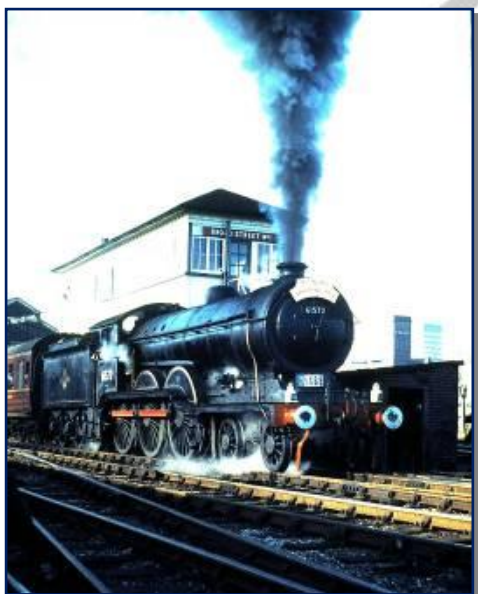
As yet, we do not know when the new Channel 4 series "Railways Restored" will be aired (see Newsletter 63).

SVR SPRING GALA - 16TH - 18TH MARCH

This event will have a strong LNER flavour, with the B12 running with the teak set. The visiting locomotives include:

- The Midland & Great Northern Joint Railway Society's apple green LNER B12 No.8572, the last survivor of its class, which is visiting us from the North Norfolk Railway. Pictured below is the B12 4-6-0 in its BR days hauling the famed October 1963 railtour "The Wandering 1500" from Broad Street. Your editor took this picture, which is now available through *Colour Rail*.
- Also attending is Thompson BI 4-6-0 1264 from the North Yorkshire Moors Railway, perhaps better known recently with its BR number 61264. The loco will appear at our Gala in LNER black livery before being repainted later this year in LNER apple green with a temporary change of identity. The LNER-liveried BI is also working an SVR photo-charter day with our teaks on Tuesday 20th March, and further details may be obtained by email from: don@donbishop.co.uk
- A third familiar visitor will be new-build Peppercorn Pacific A1 *TORNADO*.
- Also visiting is the Haydock Foundry 0-6-0 well tank loco *BELLEROPHON*, which was built in 1874 and now usually lives on the Keighley & Worth Valley Railway – see picture below.
- And if that's not enough for you, another planned SVR visitor is BR-blue-liveried 6023 King Class 4-6-0, *KING EDWARD II*. This is coming to the SVR to undertake some testing, and it too should make a Gala appearance.

Sounds like a *standing-room only* event! Book your ticket early at: <http://www.svr.co.uk/SEItem.aspx?a=65>



TAIL-LAMP

Look out for news of a forthcoming sponsorship opportunity for improvements to one of our teak open carriages...

LNER Carriage Group

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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