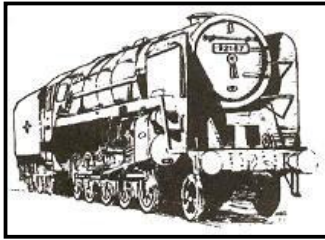
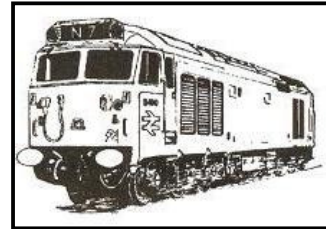


OXFORDSHIRE RAILWAY SOCIETY
NOVEMBER 2016

bufferstop@gmx.co.uk



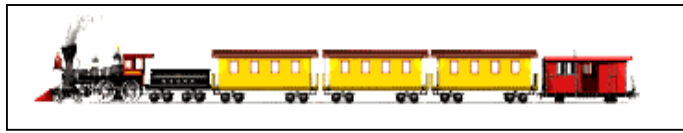
Buffer Stop



This evening, **Brian Stephenson** is giving a presentation on *The locomotives of the Great Western Railway (plus the Great Western and Great Central Joint Line)*. Mr Stephenson will be well known as a photographer and as editor of *Locomotives Illustrated*. From the archive of work by some leading railway photographers of the past which he has assembled he has kindly provided the above classic view of Great Western 'Star' 4038 *Queen Bernegaria* passing Twyford East Box on a down express about 1929.

Last month, Malcolm Wood described how the remarkably small staff of the Railway Heritage Trust assist in the preservation and enhancement of the historic railway infrastructure. As well as the more obvious features such as station buildings and signal boxes their work embraced a cemetery gate and memorials to fallen railwaymen of World War I.

Next month on **Wednesday 14 December** will be our 30th Annual Bumper **Film Show**, presented by Frank Banfield, with suitably festive refreshments.



OXFORDSHIRE RAILWAY SOCIETY

FREIGHT MELTDOWN?

October 18 last looks set to be a significant date in the history of British rail freight. DB Cargo UK announced 900 redundancies, a third of its staff, following a similar reduction in railborne coal. On the same day, Dutch investment house EQT Infrastructure made a firm offer to buy GB Railfreight from Groupe Eurotunnel.

AWARD FOR OXFORD PARKWAY

Chiltern Railways won the medium-size ‘Station of the Year’ at the National Rail Awards for Oxford Parkway station, opened in October 2015. The judges described it as an “iconic” new station and praised not only the location, but also the staff, who they said were “setting the highest standards of service”. They commented that the station features an outstanding ticket hall, with innovative ticketing and information systems.

SOCIETY NOTICES

The Society **Annual General Meeting** is on **8 February**. We are looking for members to give *short* talks or presentations afterwards – please sign up if you’re interested. Also look out for the entry forms for the annual photographic competition.

Would you be interested in a **Society Dinner**? Suggestions are invited for a suitable venue, time or possible combination with a trip.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Sunday 13 November: 10:00–16:00: Oxford & District Model Railway Club, Matthew Arnold School, Arnolds Way, Botley: *Oxrail 2016* exhibition. ORS stall present

Wednesday 16 November: 18:00 for 18:30: Railfuture Thames Valley Branch, Jericho Community Centre, 33a Canal St, Oxford: presentation from Network Rail on Oxford corridor schemes

Wednesday 23 November: 19:45: Basingstoke & District Railway Club, Wote Street Club: *The Welshpool & Llanfair Railway – an update* (Simon Bowden)

Friday 25 November: 19:30: Great Western Society, Oxford Branch, 58 Banbury Road: *The Paul Riley Collection, part 2* (Tony Bowles)

Monday 12 December: Chiltern Railways: Oxford Parkway–Oxford station rail services resume. “Limited service” on preceding day announced

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE: FRIDAY 2 DECEMBER

Editor: Matthew Searle

Contributions for “*Buffer Stop*” (however large or small) are always welcome and can be sent to the Editor at 17 Lovelace Road, Oxford, OX2 8LP, or via e-mail to bufferstop@gmx.co.uk

“Buffer Stop” is published by the Oxfordshire Railway Society; the views therein are not necessarily those of the Society or the Editor. Meetings are held at the Seacourt Day Centre, Seacourt Road, Botley, Oxford at 7.30pm on the second Wednesday in the month.