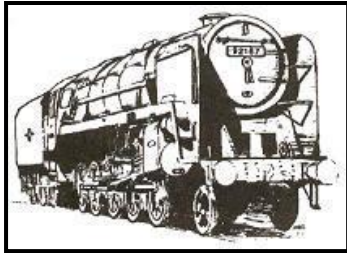
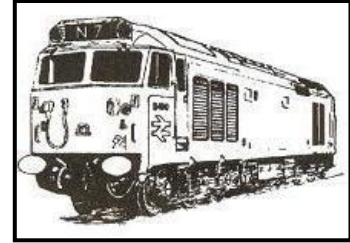


OXFORDSHIRE RAILWAY SOCIETY  
OCTOBER 2020

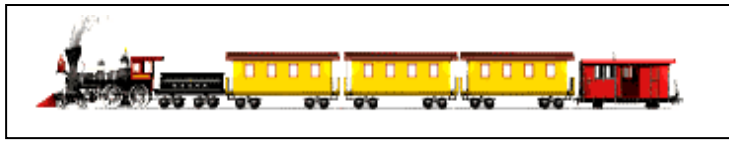


**Buffer  
Stop**



*Didcot, 1980*

We're taking the opportunity this month to pay tribute to Standard 9F No. 92220 *Evening Star*, named at Swindon Works on 18 March 1960 by ex-GWR man Keith Grand, sixty years ago this year, as the 251st in the class and last steam locomotive built for British Railways. Diesel railcar No. 4 was restored for display on the occasion. 92220 went new to Cardiff Canton shed and that summer was found to be the equal in performance to the 'Britannias' on 'The Red Dragon'. In August 1962 she was transferred to Bath Green Park, apparently just so she could be used on the last 'Pines Express' to use the Somerset & Dorset route (before the train was diverted via Oxford) at the start of September. After a month spent at Old Oak Common, she was resident at Oxford from November 1962 to August 1963. The 9Fs were not strangers to Oxfordshire with quite a few allocated to Banbury as well as the handful at 81F. A return to Green Park seemed rather pointless given the now much reduced traffic over the S&D and by October 1963 she was back at Cardiff East Dock (Canton having closed to steam) although she could still be seen visiting Oxford (not always in immaculate condition) after that. She was withdrawn from Cardiff in March 1965, giving a working life of five years. She was damaged in a shunt at this stage and readers of *The Railway Magazine* in 2010 were exercised by the suggestion that this necessitated a frame swap or even a clandestine substitution (at least as mysterious is a photograph taken a couple of weeks before her naming apparently showing her in black). It is literally true that 92220 was destined from new for preservation since she appeared on British Transport Commission's list of locomotives to be saved drawn up before her first birthday, and, via storage at Pontypool Road, was moved to Crewe for restoration in 1966/67. She was steamed in the '70s and '80s but it seems probable that she will see the remainder of her long retirement as a static exhibit.



## OXFORDSHIRE RAILWAY SOCIETY

### Broad gauge revival ...sort of

I understand that the 1854 trainshed at High Wycombe, terminus of the Wycombe Railway, stranded in the goods yard after ten years when the station was moved to its present alignment, is in course of a major refurbishment for a new use intended to be sympathetic to its surviving original features.

### Pioneering the future on the Cotswold line

On September 29 the HydroFLEX hydrogen cell-powered train 799 001 made its first test run on the national network between Long Marston and Evesham. This is a joint project between The University of Birmingham Centre for Railway Research and Porterbrook using class 319 bodysells.

### Society news

The Editor of *81F*, Peter Heath, is still keen to receive any contributions for the next issue, which will be needed by December. Our Easyfundraising total now exceeds £621.

### You may like...

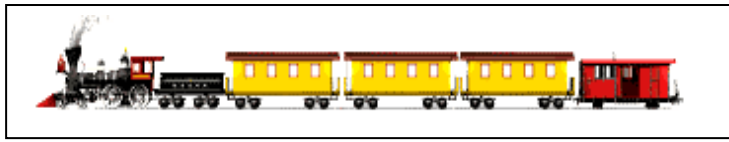
The Hornby Magazine Show – Hornby Centenary Special at [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3iA14c\\_pIr8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3iA14c_pIr8) . And for more railway model videos (with something of a westcountry slant) try the SDJR7F88 Channel on YouTube, while the “RJAS 365” channel offers some low-key slideshows and videos of visits to heritage lines.

### Curiosity corner

There have been four British stations named Waterloo. Just a fortnight after the opening of the London one, another opened on the Liverpool–Southport line (as a temporary terminus); this is still with us (with the name suffix “Merseyside” in case anyone gets confused). There was a short lived Aberdeen Waterloo terminus for the Great North of Scotland Railway. Then in 1908 a Waterloo halt opened on the Brecon & Merthyr line. With a ground-level platform of about half a coach length it had the unusual feature that only up trains called – at this point up and down lines ran on opposite sides of the valley and the equivalent stopping place for down trains was Fountain Bridge. This Waterloo may have seen fewer passengers in its 48-year life than its better-known namesake in a day.

### September quiz answers

1. A – 1959; B – ‘Enterprise’; C – Sir Nicholas Winton, who organised Kindertransport; D – Thomas Cook; E – 650 V DC
2. A – 2’3”; B – 2’7½” or 800 mm; C – metre; D – 4’6”; E – 5’3”
3. A – Bletchley; B – Stratford; C – Bournemouth; D – Southall; E – Toton
4. A – London & North Western, Caledonian, Glasgow & South Western, Maryport & Carlisle, Midland, North British and North Eastern; B – Great Eastern and Midland & Great Northern Joint; C – Great Eastern (the owner), Great Northern, London & North Western (from Oxford) and Midland (via Huntingdon); D – Lancashire & Yorkshire; E – Market Drayton and Crewe
5. A – Wilbert Awdry; B – Teddy Boston; C – Peter Denny; D – Eric Treacy; E – Victor L. Witchurch
6. (*picture question*) A – Hunslet; B – Manning, Wardle; C – Peckett; D – Bagnall; E – Fowler; F – Motor Rail (Simplex)



## OXFORDSHIRE RAILWAY SOCIETY

### OCTOBER QUIZ

1. Some general questions.

- A. What is a “Harrington Hump”?
- B. To which countries have class 86 electric locomotives been exported?
- C. What sort of vehicles were produced at Brighton works after it ceased locomotive production in 1957?
- D. What is the principal motive power of the Merioneth and Llantysilly Railway Traction Company?
- E. What feat did Joe Duddington achieve in 1938?

2. In what year did the serious accidents at the following locations occur?

- A. Salisbury
- B. Abermule
- C. Harrow & Wealdstone
- D. Clapham Junction
- E. Hatfield

3. Another one for the spotters: names, please, for the following numbers:

- A. 6010
- B. 34059
- C. 46203
- D. 60017
- E. D9007

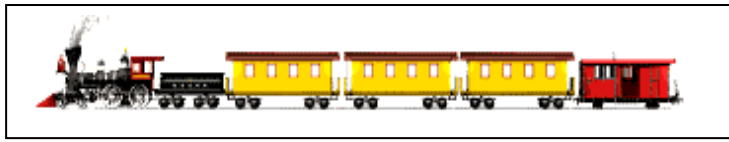
4. How’s your model railway knowledge?

- A. What does EM gauge stand for?
- B. What was the Liverpool street address of the (original) Hornby factory?
- C. What was the name of the model railroad created by John W. Allen in Monterey?
- D. What is the name of John Ahern’s layout, now at Pendon?
- E. What was the very first locomotive modelled by Rovex?

5. Some abbreviations to interpret

- A. BTK (coach)
- B. CTRL (and what does it mean in Porthmadog?)
- C. GSM-R
- D. SPAD
- E. TPWS

6 (*picture question – overleaf*). Photos taken at heritage steam sites, but not very familiar views. What are the locations?



## OXFORDSHIRE RAILWAY SOCIETY

A. No trains or track here now



B. Don't be fooled by the bizarre motive power



C. Great Western steam power



D. Recently insolvent



E. Since restored



F. Gravity assisted



*"Buffer Stop" is edited by Matthew Searle <[matthew904@btinternet.com](mailto:matthew904@btinternet.com)> (who also took the photos) and published by the Oxfordshire Railway Society; the views therein are not necessarily those of the Society. Closing date for next issue: 31 October*