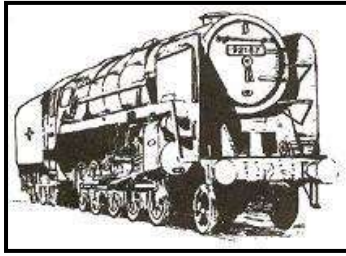
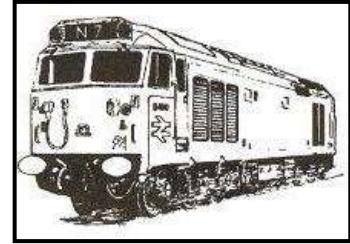


OXFORDSHIRE RAILWAY SOCIETY
9 JUNE 2021

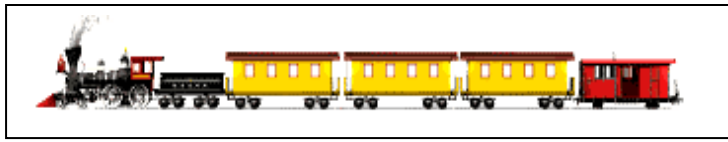


*Buffer
Stop*



FURNESS VETERANS

Thoughts of the possibility of visits to the great outdoors like the Lake District and some 2021 anniversaries combine to bring you some Furness Railway survivors. The first section of the Furness Railway opened 175 years ago in June 1846, with passengers first carried in August. Locomotive No. 3 had been shipped from Bury, Curtis & Kennedy in Liverpool in February. Less well known, SS *Raven* entered service as the FR's cargo steamer on Windermere 150 years ago in 1871 and is still there, now in the care of Windermere Jetty Museum near Bowness. Consult *1 Kings* 17 for the origin of the name. The Furness has some other remarkable survivors: locomotive No. 20, built in 1863, will return to being Britain's oldest steamable example when her current overhaul is completed (and her owners now care for a slightly younger sister); the unorthodox steam launch *Gondola* of 1859 provides a memorable period cruising experience on Coniston Water; and the 1891-built *Tern*, although long since converted to diesel power, is still available to cruise on Windermere (although perhaps less so since the launch of a new boat by her owners last year).



OXFORDSHIRE RAILWAY SOCIETY

OXFORDSHIRE RAILWAY SOCIETY

Your committee met today but you will not be surprised to know, in view of prevailing uncertainty, that we are still unable to say whether, when, where or how we can meet again in the new season. Be assured we will let you know when we can come up with a plan.

OXFORD CORRIDOR DEVELOPMENTS

At the beginning of this month, Network Rail submitted a Transport Works Act Order to the Department for Transport to acquire land for the expansion of Oxford station to accommodate East West Rail while allowing additional freight paths. This should include a new platform, rebuilding of Botley Road bridge and three high-speed crossovers at North Junction. Associated works include closure of both the Sandy Lane and Yarnton Lane level crossings at Yarnton. Meanwhile, infrastructure works at Southampton now enable Freightliner to run 775-metre-long intermodal trains out of the port.

HORSPATH RESTORATION

Agreement has been reached between Highways England and Oxfordshire County Council for repairs and reinstatement of the parapets on the bridge over Cuddesdon Road at Horspath which formerly carried the Thames branch and was adjacent to the halts which served the village. This has been welcomed locally, particularly after reports that Highways England, as guardian of the residual railway estate, are considering widespread demolition of redundant structures nationally to save maintenance.

COMING EVENT *[subject to confirmation]*

Saturday 12 June: 09:00 pu Didcot: Railway Touring Co: *The Cotswold Venturer*, Paddington–Worcester, both directions via Sapperton: 60103.

CURIOSITY CORNER

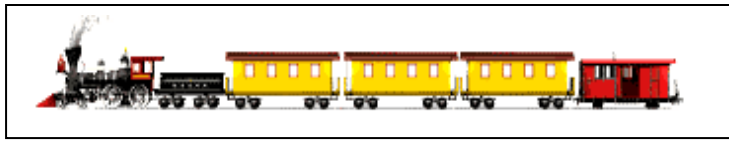
Europe's steepest funicular never saw hordes of happy trippers as it was used to haul supplies to Inishtearaght lighthouse in the Blasket Islands west of Ireland, which also made it by some margin the most westerly rail system in Europe. It was operable from 1913 to 1988.

MAY QUIZ ANSWERS

1. A. Colonel Holman Fred Stephens. B. Left-hand running. C. Peter Parker. D. No. 1. E. Their 100th birthday (Leech went on to 102).
2. A. Doncaster. B. Newton Abbot. C. Crewe. D. Inchicore. E. Swindon.
3. A. Crewe (Diesel). B. Stratford. C. Hither Green. D. Eastleigh. E. Glasgow Eastfield.
4. A. Bristol Temple Meads. B. York. C. Newport (High St). D. Preston. E. Dover (Priory).
5. A. Manchester United. B. Derby County. C. Sid Weighell. D. B17. E. Crewe Alexandra.
6. (*picture question*) A. Fairlie. B. Forney. C. Mallet. D. Shay. E. Heisler. F. Garratt.

Buffer Stop will now take a break, but will be back in September.

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



OXFORDSHIRE RAILWAY SOCIETY

JUNE QUIZ

1. General questions

- A. How many Hymeks were built? How many survive?
- B. What are Florence and Cecilia doing under the Chilterns?
- C. Name the 76 cm gauge railway that runs between Jenbach and Mayrhofen in Austria.
- D. Which locomotive manufacturer built both LMS Black 5s and GWR 56XX 0-6-2Ts?
- E. Which of the following was *not* a locomotive name? *Askham Hall*, *Campion Hall*, *Grotrian Hall*, *Honingham Hall*, *Thornfield Hall*.

2. What was the previous name of the following stations?

- A. Challow.
- B. Culham.
- C. Kingham.
- D. Marylebone (Bakerloo line).
- E. Manchester Piccadilly.

3. The following traction depots are (or were) in or near which towns or cities?

- A. Bescot.
- B. Botanic Gardens.
- C. Currock.
- D. Haymarket.
- E. Central Rivers.

4. Some I.K. Brunel questions.

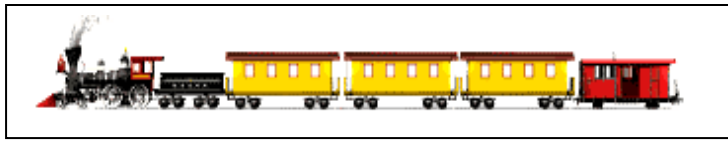
- A. Where was Brunel born?
- B. What was his mother's maiden name?
- C. For which Welsh railway did he recommend standard gauge?
- D. Where did he build a tubular bridge on the South Wales Railway?
- E. The chains for the Clifton Suspension Bridge, completed as a memorial to Brunel, came from a footbridge designed by him: what was it called and what is the railway bridge which replaces it?

5. Some questions on UK Pullmans.

- A. Which was the first British railway company to operate Pullman cars?
- B. Over which railway (surprisingly) did Pullman cars *Mayflower* and *Galatea* operate?
- C. On which line did the first British Pullman observation car operate?
- D. Where was Pullman's Brighton works?
- E. The first all-Pullman train introduced by the LNER ran from King's Cross to where?

6. Picture questions (*overleaf*) – where are they?

- A. Henry Marc Brunel had a hand in this railway bridge; now road-only.
- B. Well out to sea.
- C. Scene of famous trials.
- D. A granary with rail/canal interchange.



OXFORDSHIRE RAILWAY SOCIETY

A



B



C

D



ANSWERS

As there will be a gap before the next Buffer Stop, we're giving you this month's answers here

1. A. 101 and 4. B. Boring the HS2 tunnel – they are the tunnel boring machines. C. Zillertalbahn. D. Armstrong, Whitworth. E. *Thornfield Hall*. # 2. A. Faringdon Road. B. Abingdon Road. C. Chipping Norton Junction. D. Great Central. E. London Road. # 3. A. Walsall. B. Hull. C. Carlisle. D. Edinburgh. E. Barton-under-Needwood, near Burton upon Trent. # 4. A. Portsmouth. B. Kingdom. C. Taff Vale. D. Chepstow. E. Hungerford and Charing Cross. # 5. A. Midland. B. Metropolitan. C. Caledonian (Callander & Oban). D. Preston Park. E. Harrogate. # 6. A. Connel Ferry. B. Southend Pier. C. Rainhill. D. King's Cross.