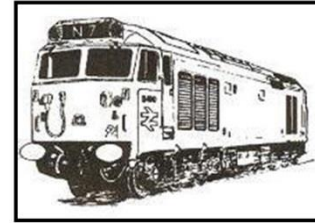
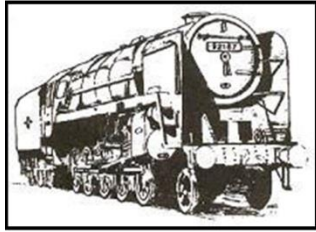


OXFORDSHIRE RAILWAY SOCIETY



🎄 12 DECEMBER 2022 🎄

Season's greetings from the editor and all the Committee.

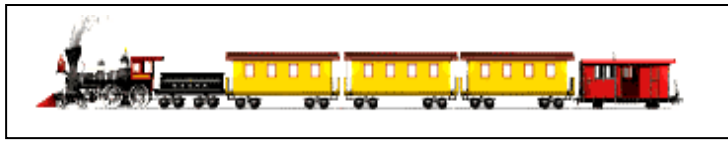
This snow-sprinkled view of Thames Turbo (as they were known back in 2004) 165 129 on an up local will be rendered even more historic by the end of next year with the pending demolition of the Youth Hostel and down side reconstruction at Oxford station.

Tonight we welcome **Michael Clemens** to present our annual film show.

Next month, at 19.00 on Monday 9 January, local ex-railwayman and photographer **John Hubbard** will be giving a presentation on *Railways of Oxfordshire 1965–1989*.



Not what it seems: This Metropolitan Railway train at Amersham is a half-scale model built in 2020.



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RAIL NEWS



Extension of through running on the Elizabeth Line has created some previously-unlikely links, such as the combination of Paddington and Clacton on this departure screen at Shenfield station.

The Chancellor's Autumn Statement confirmed that the East West Rail project, as well as HS2, is to

continue, following questions raised during the late political perturbations, so planning for the eastern section will be resumed. AMT Coffee, who operate a number of stalls at stations in the Oxford area, have been bought out of administration by SSP Group, owners of Upper Crust and other brands. The down side buffet at Oxford station has closed, prior to reconstruction of this side of the station.

The Office of Rail and Road have just approved Grand Union Trains' renewed application to run a Paddington–Carmarthen service, intended to use bimodal trains and to be introduced by the end of 2024.

GHOST EXORCISED?

Last Wednesday, Chiltern's once-weekly one-way 11.17 Ealing to West Ruislip "ghost" service ran for what might be the last time. Preparatory work at West Ealing for GWR's trials of a battery train are causing it to be replaced by a similarly once-weekly bus, but it is not certain that the rail passenger service will be reinstated. The service has been timetabled to run empty on other days for maintenance of route knowledge. Start of the battery train trial on the Greenford branch had been suggested as January but seems certain to be affected by Vivarail entering administration from the start of this month, just as London Northwestern has replaced class 230s on the Bedford–Bletchley line by buses.

Incidentally, Drayton Green on the Greenford branch is currently reckoned as London's least-used station. While we're in the area, this month's issue of *Hornby Magazine* includes a description of a most evocative model of Old Oak Common depot in the diesel era; you should be able to read an online version at <https://www.keymodelworld.com/article/old-oak-common-western-region-oo-gauge-depot>. The real-life site is now obliterated by HS2 works.

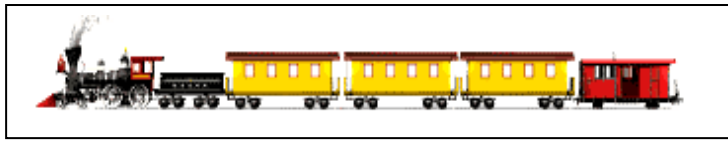
ADVANCE NOTICE

The Cotswold Line Promotion Group are running a 'Cotswold Torbay Express' on Saturday 22 April 2023, at 06.30 from Oxford to Worcester and then down to Paignton. ORS has a couple of member's rate tickets available – speak to Chris Brennan if you're interested.

CHRISTMAS OFFER

Here's a Christmas present idea (for yourself): *1st Take Ltd* have just produced a DVD *Branch Lines of Oxfordshire*. It's available for you to buy at the **special price of £14.95** with free p&p if you **quote offer code J81BL** and ring them on 01454 321614 with your credit/debit card details, or write to 1st Take, PO Box 1840, Yate, Bristol BS37 4WB enclosing a £14.95 cheque payable to 1st Take Ltd. This offer is **not** available online where the normal price of £16.95 + £2.50 p&p applies. 1st Take <www.1st-take.com> produce many other railway DVDs including branch lines of other counties. They will be advertising in the 2023 edition of *81F* so please consider giving them your support.

"Buffer Stop" is edited by **Matthew Searle** <matthew904@btinternet.com> (who took the pictures) and published by the Oxfordshire Railway Society; the views therein are not necessarily those of the Society or the Editor; events may change. Society meetings are held at the Kidlington Baptist Church hall, High Street, Kidlington, Oxford at 7.00pm on the second Monday in the month. **Closing date for next issue: 2 January**



OXFORDSHIRE RAILWAY SOCIETY QUIZ

1. General questions

- A. What have (or had) locomotives 86 229, 20 227 and one of those on Southend Pier in common? (Clue: think of St Pancras station.)
- B. HST power car 43081 is reckoned to have brought the total number of locomotives built at Crewe to what figure?
- C. Former London Underground stock has been extensively used on the Isle of Wight. On which other island has it been used?
- D. How is La Ligne de Cerdagne popularly known?
- E. In what railway works did car designer W.O. Bentley serve his apprenticeship?

2. Out of the ordinary

- A. Alfred Hickman's Bilston steelworks in the Black Country had the only example in Britain of what sort of locomotive?
- B. What is unusual about BR coach S1000S?
- C. What unique feature for the class did 9F 92079 have – and why?
- D. LMS "Jinty" 0-6-0Ts 7456 and 7553 ended up significantly different from the rest of the class – how?
- E. What was unusual about the first GWR locomotives numbered 1381 and 1382?

3. Name the (pregrouping) railway companies that owned the following **tramways**:

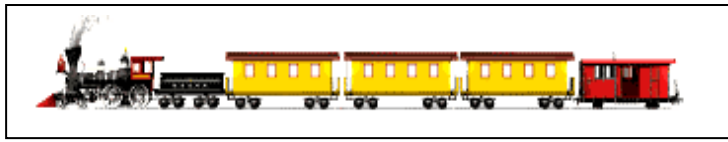
- A. Burton & Ashby.
- B. Wolverton & Stony Stratford.
- C. Hythe & Sandgate.
- D. Cruden Bay Hotel.
- E. Hill of Howth.

4. Named coaches

- A. Over what scenic route did Pullman observation car *Maid of Morven* operate?
- B. What is the name of the 2' gauge version of *Maid of Morven* on the Welsh Highland Railway?
- C. Two Western Region auto-trailers were named after birds – which?
- D. What was the name of the Budd stainless-steel coach demonstrated on BR and CIE by Pressed Steel?
- E. What 1865 event involving sleeping car *Pioneer* made Pullman famous in the United States?

5. The music round

- A. From what track and station does the Chattanooga Choo-Choo leave?
- B. Whose engine had to be pushed all the way to Nant-y-Glo?
- C. What accident happened on the mighty rough road from Lynchburg to Danville?
- D. How would you travel from Miller's Dale for Tideswell to Windmill End?
- E. What's the quickest way to ride the New York Subway's Eighth Avenue Express to Harlem?



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6. **The picture round:** Details from some (more or less) historic photos of stations in (present-day) Oxfordshire to name.



. A – The name *Sir John Bejeman*. B – 8000. C – Alderney. D – *Le petit train jaune* / Little Yellow train of the Pyrenees. E – Doncaster. 2. A – Shay. B – Plastic (GRP) body. C – Electric headlight as jockey banker. D – Converted for use in Northern Ireland. E – 3 ft gauge. 3. A – Midland Rly. B – L&NWR. C – SER. D – Great North of Scotland. E – Great Northern (Ireland). 4. A – Callander & Oban. B – *Glaslyn*. C – *Wren and Thrush*. D – *Silver Princess*. E – Use in Lincoln's meral train. 5. A – Track 29 of Pennsylvania station in New York City (but only in song). B – osher [i.e. Crawshay] Bailey's. C – *Wreck of the Old 97*. D – *By Slow Train* (Flinders & Swann). E – *Take the 'A' Train*. 6 – A. Banbury Merton St. B – Heyford. C – Appelford. D – Abingdon.