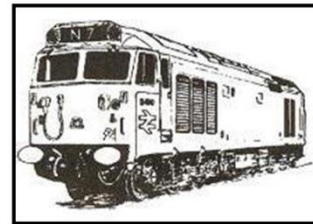
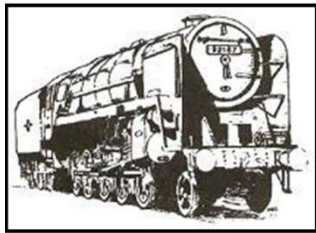


## OXFORDSHIRE RAILWAY SOCIETY



4 DECEMBER 2023

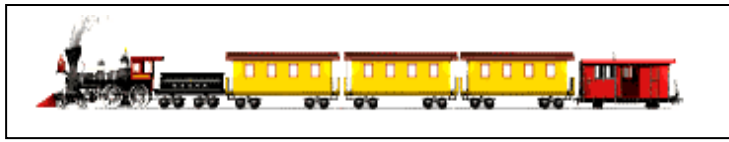
**SEASON'S GREETINGS FROM THE EDITOR AND ALL THE COMMITTEE!**



Tonight, Michael Clemens is delivering our annual film show. We are expecting coverage of the Oxford/Basingstoke area, the north east, and London & North Western lines near and far.

Last month, Colin Brading ably showed us the 'Island Treasures' that are the railways of the Isle of Wight.

Our first meeting of the New Year will be on **January 8** when Richard Storer (who worked on the project) will be giving a presentation on *Delivering Crossrail*. Subscriptions (at the new annual rate of £25) will be due at that meeting.



## OXFORDSHIRE RAILWAY SOCIETY



Above: *Newcomer 31 270 Athena in action at Didcot Railway Centre last week.*



Top right: *A glimpse of 46115 Scots Guardsman passing Hinksey two weeks ago. Was this a first appearance in Oxford?*

Right: *Another Didcot visitor.*



### PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

Entries are now due for our annual photographic competition. You can enter up to three pictures in each of the four categories: Steam; Diesel & Electric; Railway Related; and Railways at Night. Entries, which should include a title for each photograph, should be sent to [matthew904@btinternet.com](mailto:matthew904@btinternet.com) no later than **10 January**.

### COMING EVENTS

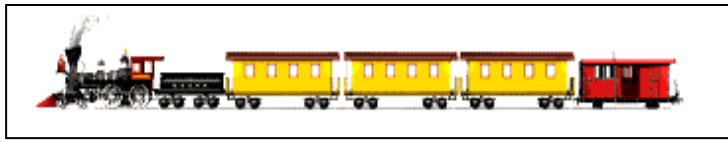
**Tuesday 5 December:** 10:05 pu Oxford: Vintage Trains: *The Merchant Venturer*: Solihull–Bristol: Castle

**Saturday 9 December:** 05:50 dep Oxford: *Midland Pullman*: Oxford–Edinburgh

**Wednesday 13 December:** 11.31 arr Oxford Parkway: *Belmond British Pullman* ex Victoria: Class 67

**Saturday 8 June 2024:** Visit to Ickenham & District Model Engineers – sign up tonight

*“Buffer Stop” is edited by Matthew Searle <[matthew904@btinternet.com](mailto: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. Who designed the 1931 London Underground diagram?
- B. What place does Samphire Hoe nature reserve on the south coast of England have in recent railway history?
- C. The basement of St Pancras station's trainshed – now the Eurostar departure lounge – was originally designed to store what?
- D. Which town had stations called Central, Clegg Street, Glodwick Road, Mumps and Werneth?
- E. Across which stretch of water did the world's first train ferry operate?

#### 2 Current affairs – the following questions relate to events during the past year.

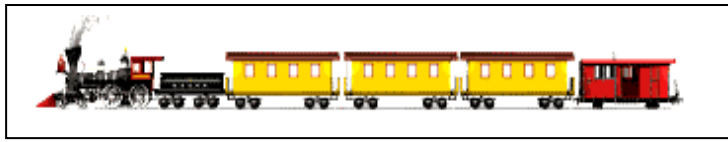
- A. What event happened at Nezalezhnosti metro station in Kyiv on 17 December 2022?
- B. ASLEF and Glenda Jackson were both in the news in 2023, but what historically was the connection between them?
- C. What is the name of the mechanical bull unveiled at Birmingham New Street station in July?
- D. L&SWR No. 563 steamed in 2023 for the first time since 1948, but where was it built originally?
- E. A livery variation was applied to *Flying Scotsman* in 2023. What was it and why?

#### 3. Out of the ordinary.

- A. What did up trains have to do at Dorchester South until 1970?
- B. What happened to trains leaving Glasgow Queen Street until 1908?
- C. How did the Festiniog Railway work loaded slate trains until 1940?
- D. On which English railway did the means of propulsion include sail power and a converted racing car?
- E. One Western Region station had enamel nameboards in blue with yellow lettering rather than cream on chocolate – which?

#### 4. Minimum gauge (and others).

- A. Through its history, what gauges have been used on the Fairbourne Railway?
- B. Through its history, what gauges have been used on the Ravenglass & Eskdale Railway?
- C. Who designed the original locomotives for both the Ravenglass & Eskdale and Romney, Hythe & Dymchurch Railways?
- D. Sir Arthur Heywood built 15" narrow gauge lines at his own Derbyshire home and for the Duke of Westminster – name the respective locations.
- E. Who ran the 7¼" gauge Carolwood Pacific Railroad at his home?



## OXFORDSHIRE RAILWAY SOCIETY

### 5. Accidents and aftermaths.

- A. The Regulation of Railways Act 1889 was passed in response to a major accident only a couple of months earlier – where?
- B. The Great Northern adopted somersault signals in response to an 1876 accident in snow where?
- C. What modification was made to Western Region ‘Britannias’ following the 1955 Milton accident?
- D. What component of class 52 ‘Western’ diesels was modified following the 1973 Ealing accident?
- E. Where did the 1957 accident commemorated in “The Ballad of John Axon” take place?

### 6. What do the following past and present abbreviations or acronyms stand for in a railway context?

- A. ETHEL.
- B. SPT.
- C. MOGO.
- D. TRSMD.
- E. AHB.

### 7. What major piece of railway infrastructure lies between the following pairs of locations?

- A. Arnside and Grange-over-Sands.
- B. Dalmeny and North Queensferry.
- C. St Leonards Warrior Square and West St Leonards.
- D. Winchcombe and Gotherington Halt.
- E. Victoria station and Battersea Pier Junction.

### 8. Western men – some brief biographies from the Great Western (or its constituents).

- A. Rose from telegraph boy to general manager (1921–29), later with AEI.
- B. Scotsman who retired as Rhymney Railway general manager three years before his death aged 89.
- C. Appointed first telegraph superintendent on GWR – or any British railway – in 1855.
- D. Swindon apprentice, works manager at Morris Cowley, Western Region chairman.
- E. Locomotive engineer recalled to the GWR as chairman.

## ANSWERS

- 1. A. Harry Beck. B. It is largely made up of chalk excavated from the Channel Tunnel. C. Barrels of Burton beer. D. Oldham. E. Firth of Forth (but Plymouth Sound is also an acceptable answer).
- 2. A. Ukraine’s Eurovision Song Contest entry was decided. B. The union sponsored her as an MP. C. Ozzy. D. Nine Elms. E. White-painted cab roof for hauling royal train.
- 3. A. Reverse into the platform. B. Rope-hauled up Cowlairs Incline. C. By gravity. D. Spurn Point Military Railway. E. Penychain (for Butlin’s holiday camp).
- 4. A. 2’, 15”, 18” (part) and 12¼”. B. 3’, 15”, Standard (part). C. Henry Greenly. D. Duffield Bank and Eaton Hall. E. Walt Disney.
- 5. A. Armagh. B. Abbots Ripton. C. Smoke deflector handrails replaced by cut-out handholds. D. Battery box door catches. E. Chapel-en-le-Frith.
- 6. A. Electric Train Heating Ex-Locomotive. B. Signal Post Telephone. C. Motor car Goods van. D. Traction and Rolling Stock Maintenance Depot. E. Automatic Half-Barrier.
- 7. A. Kent Viaduct. B. Forth Bridge. C. Bopeep Tunnel. D. Greet Tunnel. E. Grosvenor Bridge.
- 8. A. Sir Felix Pole. B. Cornelius Lundie. C. Charles Spagnoletti. D. Reggie Hanks. E. Sir Daniel Gooch.