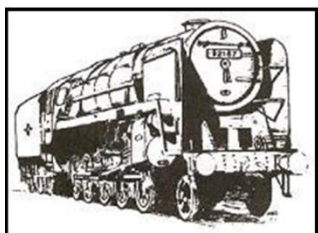
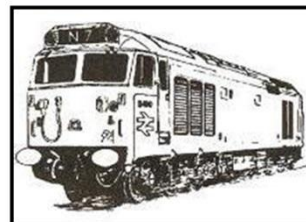


## OXFORDSHIRE RAILWAY SOCIETY



# ***Buffer Stop***



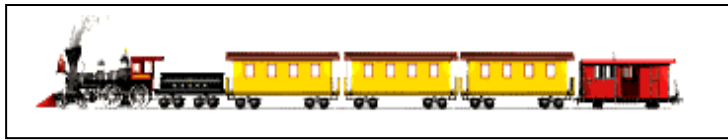
*13 OCTOBER 2025*



Tonight, **Laurence Waters** is giving us a presentation on the work of photographer J. D. Edwards. Here are views by him at Stainmore and Bletchley.

Last month, Paul Finch from the Western Locomotive Association told us about their work in preserving Class 52s. Next month on **10 November**, Keith Brading is coming to talk on *Keeping Track – how permanent way has changed over to centuries*.





## OXFORDSHIRE RAILWAY SOCIETY

We are sorry to record the death last month of former member Brian Wakeford from Witney.

### A HUNDRED AND FIFTY YEARS ON

On 2 October, a plaque was unveiled at Bicester Village station to mark the 150th anniversary of the coming of the railway to the town. The line from Bletchley through to Islip opened on 1 October 1850. The L&NWR extended services to a temporary Oxford station in Banbury Road (approximately the site of today's Parkway) on 2 December, although special trains ran to here on 22 November to carry clergy to a meeting called by the Bishop of Oxford to protest against "Papal Aggression" (an English Catholic hierarchy had just been reinstated, a touchy matter in Victorian Oxford). Oxford Rewley Road didn't open until the following year. Bicester North, is of course, a relative youngster, and its centenary was marked by a plaque in 2010.

### FIFTY YEARS ON

News from 1975, the year of the ORS's establishment: **October 4** London Transport last operated over the Northern City line from Old Street to Drayton Park prior to its takeover by BR as part of the Great Northern electrification project. **October 5** Sealink MV *Hibernia* completed her last crossing on the Holyhead–Dún Laoghaire service, the last conventional mailboat on the route. **October 6** The Scottish Region reinstated passenger services over the 20-mile Perth–Ladybank–Edinburgh route (closed in 1955). **October 27** BR's TOPS installation was officially completed. **October 31** Closure of the dairy at Hemyock brought an end to traffic on the Culm Valley branch in Devon.

### COMING EVENTS

**Tuesday 14 October:** 07:25 pu Oxford: Statesman Rail: *Cornish Riviera Statesman* Dorridge–Penzance: Class 47

**Tuesday 21 October:** 19:00: RCTS, Didcot Civic Hall: *The Mangotsfield Triangle*

**Saturday 25 October:** 09:00 pu Oxford Parkway: Railway Touring Co: *The Varsity Explorer*: Slough–Chester: WCR steam

**Friday 31 October:** 11.45 arr Oxford Parkway: *Northern Belle* ex Liverpool: Class 47/57

**Saturday 1 November:** 13:20 sd Oxford: Railway Touring Co: *The Chiltern Explorer*: Manchester–Reading via EWR: WCR steam

**Saturday 1 November:** 14:04 dep Paddington: Vintage Trains: *Farewell to Steam*: Birmingham–Paddington–Bristol: 7029

*"Buffer Stop" is edited by Matthew Searle <[matthew904@btinternet.com](mailto:matthew904@btinternet.com)> and published by the Oxfordshire Railway Society; the views therein are not necessarily those of the Society; events may change. Society meetings are held at Kidlington Baptist Church hall, High Street, Kidlington, Oxford at 7.00pm on the second Monday in the month. Closing date for next issue: 3 November*