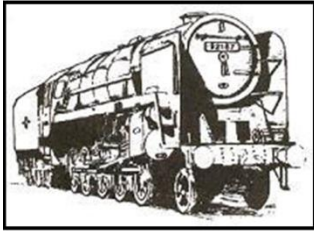
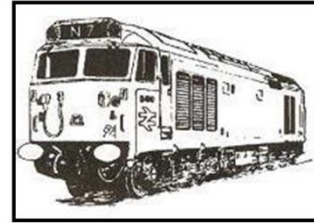


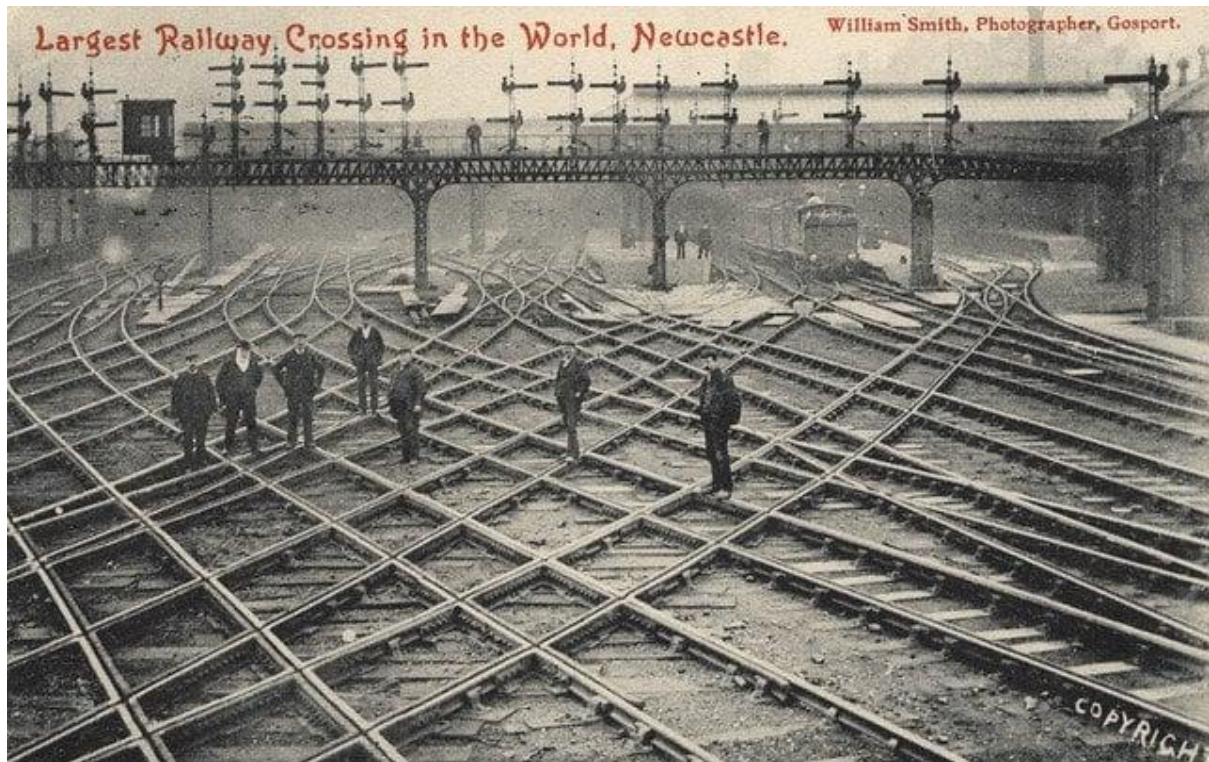
OXFORDSHIRE RAILWAY SOCIETY



Buffer Stop



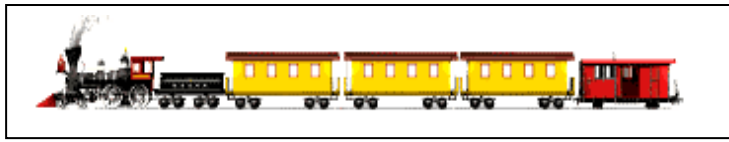
10 NOVEMBER 2025



Tonight we welcome back **Colin Brading** who is going to give us a presentation under the title *Keeping track – how permanent way has changed over two centuries.*

Last month we marvelled at the quality of undergraduate J.D. Edwards' photographs, chiefly around Oxford, presented by Laurence Waters. Next month on **December 8** Michael Clemens returns to present our annual film show.





OXFORDSHIRE RAILWAY SOCIETY

LOCAL RAIL NEWS



On October 23 the government announced £120M funding to reopen the Cowley branch to passengers, with an intermediate station at Littlemore, perhaps with completion in 2029. Of course, the ongoing rebuilding of Oxford station is partly to take account of this. Rebuilt ‘West Country’ 34028 *Eddystone* took the honours as the first steam locomotive to traverse the reconstructed Bicester–Bletchley section of East West Rail, working a Slough–Chester special eastbound on 25 October and a Manchester–Reading tour westbound on 1 November (as seen in the editor’s photo at Bicester Gavray Junction).

50 YEARS ON

In headlines from the ORS’s founding year of 1975, on November 1 CIÉ ran the last trains (locomotive hauled) on its Loughrea branch, the last surviving rural branch line in Ireland. Also this month English-built SNCF 140.C.38 worked a freight from Gray dépôt which would be the last commercial steam-hauled train in France.

COMING EVENTS

Tuesday 18 November: 14:00: RCTS, Didcot Civic Hall: *The History of the North London Line* (Adrian Wright)

Saturday 22 November: 06:25 dep Oxford Parkway: Pathfinder [*their penultimate tour!*]: *Chester Christmas Explorer*: Class 37

Wednesday 26 November: 05:50 dep Oxford: Midland Pullman: *Edinburgh Christmas Pullman*

“Buffer Stop” is edited by **Matthew Searle** <matthew904@btinternet.com> 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 Kidlington Baptist Church hall, High Street, Kidlington at 7.00pm on the second Monday in the month. **Closing date for next issue: 1 December**