

The Railcar Association News Bulletin



EDITORIAL

Welcome to Issue 122. A modest sized issue this time, perhaps as groups have been stuck into winter overhauls and maintenance. This month sees the first DMU events start up, with the East Lancashire and Dean Forest Railways offering events during March.

Apologies once again for a late bulletin, this was caused by myself having to spend a short time in hospital after an accident. It seems once again that a smooth and on-time bulletin was thwarted!

Chris Moxon

NEWS

Barry Tourist Railway: Ex Class 121's 55027 & 55031 were preserved in February and moved to the line where it is hoped to return one to service, the second donating missing components.

Worth Valley Railway: Railbus 79962 has been sold from the railway to the Vintage Carriages Trust, who aim to fully restore the vehicle over the next three to four years and operate it both on the K&WVR and on hire to other lines.

North Norfolk Railway: The first DMU operations of the year are now complete with seven days during half term week being operated by Class 101 set M51192/E56062. This is a revised formation which has been created after the National Railway Museum's trailer car M56352 was discovered to have several issues with its doors and surrounding bodywork and was promptly removed from service for repairs. E56062 has been taken from storage (where it had been waiting for its partner E51228 to return to traffic) to replace M56352 which is now in store awaiting the door repairs.

Meanwhile, E51228 is now progressing again with a contractor currently rebuilding two engines for the vehicle.

Keith & Dufftown Railway: Class 108 DMBS 53628 received an engine change in summer 2013 and after sorting out a few teething problems was back in service for Santa Specials at the end of the year.

DMCL 51568 is currently in the shed receiving a repaint into BR Green to match partner 52053 which has already been repainted. This is the 4th of the 5

108 cars to be repainted. Speed whiskers and lining shall be applied when the painting is complete.

DTCL 56224 has also had its toilet fixed so it is now operational again, this is the first time in a few years since it has been used.

RESTORATION NEWS

Class 104 56182: At the Churnet Valley Railway it has been announced that this vehicle is (in time) to be fully restored to passenger carrying standards. This plan has been made possible due to a restructuring of the group's volunteer labour which has resulted in two working members moving away from the Churnet Valley due to work commitments. Rather than lose the volunteer input it has been agreed the recently "displaced" workforce can progress another restoration project while the remainder of the team continue at the CVR. To support this decision, new funding has been sourced to facilitate the proposed additional restoration work on 56182.

The first phase of the restoration has involved the removal of the interior woodwork for restoration off site in

Norfolk, the stomping ground of many Eastern Region allocated 104's in BR days.

Class 117 51342/51384: At the Epping & Ongar Railway the Carriage & Wagon department have progressed the restoration of their 117 set. The cabs of both vehicles have been repainted, and are now awaiting replacement lino before the driver's seats can be refitted. 51384's interior saloons have been repaired and repainted (including the ceiling) with seating refreshed and reupholstered. 51342's saloons are slightly behind with the above work still being undertaken, however the guards van woodwork has been repaired/repainted, with a "disabled companion" seat fitted to one wall and upholstered with spare materials. Once the interior work is completed the two vehicles will be handed to a separate team to return the mechanics back to operational condition and to repaint the vehicles.

W&M Railbus 79963: The restoration of the East Anglian Railway Museum's DRB continues slowly due to other site commitments. with replacement of the flooring to the original layout in the vestibule areas with a view to moving forward to the North end passenger and

cab areas. The battery charger alternators have been fitted and the system awaits testing once the batteries have been installed. The central air passenger doors have been satisfactorily powered up and tested for operational integrity, but both require removal for final repairs to the top catch mechanisms, installation of the new nosing rubbers and painting. Air gauges have been overhauled, however the North end duplex brake cylinder and train-pipe gauge is beyond redemption and is being replaced by 2 small remotely mounted gauges of proprietary manufacture.

MOVEMENTS

Class 108 51933 & 54504, based on the Swanage Railway, have repeated a move made previously in 2010 where the set was moved by rail to Eastleigh Works. Whilst a reason has not yet been given for this latest visit, it is speculated that it involves work to the unit to allow use on the mainline, following last year's announcement that the railway intended to upgrade parts of its DMU fleet to operate a link from Swanage via Network Rail metals to Wareham, a long term aim of the railway.

Class 121's 55027 & 55031 have moved from the mainline at Cardiff into preservation and to the Barry Tourist Railway (see news section).

ELR DMU DAY

Once again the ELR will be hosting its DMU theme day on Saturday 15th March 2014. Normal fares apply for full details visit the [ELR website](#).

TIME TRAVELLER

Green Era

[Class 100 - Alvechurch - 1962](#)

[Class 101 - Whitby - 1964](#)

[Class 108 - Chester Northgate - 1959](#)

Blue Era

[Class 101 - Grosmont - 19/6/79](#)

[Class 105 56115 - Wrabness - 17/6/83](#)

[Class 128 - Royal Oak](#)

Blue/Grey & Later

[Class 101 - Wood Ditton 12/1/91](#)

[Class 108 52062 - Conwy - 18/5/92](#)

[Class 114 E54004 - Dore - 19/9/84](#)

[Class 117 51354 - Oxford - 18/2/92](#)

CLASS 122 IMAGES

Green Era

[Baptist End - 31/8/62](#)

[Exeter St Davids - 1967](#)

Blue Era

[W55016 - Sandplace - 8/11/69](#)

[W55003 - Bearley Junction - 31/12/79](#)

[TDB975042 - York - 25/12/80](#)

[SC55013 - York - 6/2/81](#)

Blue/Grey & Later

[W55009 - Dawlish - 12/8/88](#)

[55012 - Exeter St Davids - 1993](#)

[55012 - Preston le Skerne - 1/6/99](#)

[55012 - Melton Ross - 9/7/99](#)

FOR SALE

Class 108 51942/54270 - Vehicles in un-restored but complete condition.

Enquiries through the [editor](#).

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

15th March - East Lancashire Railway DMU Day - Class 108, 117 & 121/122

22nd March - Dean Forest Railway Railcar Day - Class 108 (x2) & Visiting 150

SUBMISSIONS

Hopefully the contents of this bulletin was both interesting and informative. If you know anyone who could provide similar material found in this issue for future bulletins, please make yourself or them known to railcar@live.co.uk The following types of submission would be most welcome:

- Photographs of vehicles in service
- Restoration articles
- Reports on special events
- DMU modelling articles
- Articles on DMU history
- Recollections of DMUs on the national network.
- Requests for information
- News & images of recent DMU activity

- Anything that may be of interest to readers

Feel free to send submissions at any time to railcar@live.co.uk but no later than April 30th for Issue 123 (due out May)



Front Cover: Class 122 M55005 poses with similar automobile vintage at Shenton on the Battlefield Line

Rear Cover: Class 117 SC51402/Sc51367 pause at Broomhill on the Strathspey Railway, 20/2/14 (B.Faulkner)

GALLERY



W51073 shunts at Wirsworth, 9/8/14 (C.Walker)



M79900 stabled at Wirsworth, 9/8/14 (C.Walker)



W55006 stabled at Wirsworth, 9/8/14 (C.Walker)



E55012 stabled at Wirsworth, 9/8/14 (C.Walker)

