

Northern Counties Transport Society



NORTHERN COUNTIES TRANSPORT SOCIETY

MAGAZINE NUMBER 33

PUBLIC RELATIONS

A. Fawcett,
11, Westfield Road,
Barnoldswick,
Via Colne,
Lancs.
Tel (0282) 81 2735

TREASURER

G. Barlow,
C/O 32, Hedge Lane,
Palmers Green,
London N13.

ASSISTANT TREASURER

A. Howells,
571, Mancjester Road,
Wardley,
Swinton,
Manchester.
Tel (061) 793 8383

SALES OFFICER

G. Howarh,
"Blundells"
D'urton Lane,
Broughton,
Preston,
Lancs.
Tel 0772 862729

BOOKING SECRETARY

C. Carpenter,
2, Beverly Road,
Fallowfield,
Manchester,
M14 6TG.
Tel (061) 225 4079

TOURS CO-ORDINATOR/
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

J. Wade,
138, Newman Road,
Sheffield,
Yorks.
Tel 0742 614405

OFFICIAL

M. Roger,
29, Cherrington Close,
Northenden,
Manchester,
Lancs.

The Committee always welcome your comments regarding Society Tours etc, and Railways in general, but please remember to send an S.A.E. if a reply is required.

Please telephone only if essential and NEVER TELEPHONE AFTER 9 PM.

Articles published are as written by the contributors. Opinions etc. contained in them are those of the writers, and are not necessarily endorsed by the Committee or the Society in general.

PAGE THREEE EDITORIAL

The Society's tenth anniversary year has got off to a very good start with various problems plaguing the tours which have managed to run so far. Thanks go to all the members who have stuck with us, and realised that most of the problems have been outside our control. Steps are being taken to alleviate the difficulties without the need to increase our tour prices, and you should see some improvement in the future. Due to conflicting opinions about Society affairs, Harry & Penny Howells and Ian Collier, have decided to resign. All three have given long service to the club, and have enjoyed the work they have done, the decision to resign has not been an easy one, but was inevitable.

We have a new coach firm called 'Pennine Way' it comes quite naturally, from the Nelson & Colne area (where else), let us hope that things will now improve, in the general running of Society tours.

Booking for Tours

When booking for tours please note the following points:-

1. Always book as early as possible, by sending the required booking form, deposit etc. and pay the balance at least 7 days before the tour.
2. Send an S.A.E. and your current membership card with all bookings.
3. Cheques/P.O.'s crossed A/C PAYEE and payable to N.C.T.S. not to officials please, ALWAYS retain the counterfoils and never send cash through the post.
4. Last minute bookings by telephone are accepted at the discretion of the Booking Secretary, in exceptional circumstances.
5. Departure times are adhered to unless a request for a delay has been approved by a Committee Member. There will be no refund for Non-attendance, unless a medical certificate is produced, or your place can be filled by another member.
6. The coach will pick up at the points advertised in the tours programme, prior arrangements may be made, at the time of booking, for pick up on the route of the tour.
7. Members should note, that the Committee will not be held responsible, if a member has decided to get off the coach at an advertised depot near to their home, and due to unforeseen circumstances, the tour does not visit that depot. The onus is on the member to get himself to and from the advertised picking up and dropping off points.

SWINDON & EASTLEIGH

Tour to include Swindon, Woking, Eastleigh, Salisbury, Bristol, Westbury and others.	
Departing as follows:	
Barnoldswick	16.50
Colne	17.00
Nelson	17.10
Burnley	17.20
Bury	18.00
Manchester	18.30
Cost will be £8.50	
Min. Deposit £2.50	

TOURS PROGRAMME

Tour No 79.11

Sat/Sun 28th/29th April

LONDON & UNIT DEPOTS

Tour to include Stratford, Old Oak Common, Willesden, Hither Green, Stewarts Lane, other depots, main line Station, and some unit depots.

Departing as follows:-

Approx. return time

Barnoldswick	17.45	21.50	
Nelson	17.55	21.40	
Burnley	18.05	21.30	
Bury	18.45	21.00	
Manchester	19.15	20.30	Cost will be £6.50
Sheffield	20.45	19.00	<u>Min. Deposit £2.50</u>

Tour No. 79.12

Sat/Sun 12th/13th May

NEWCASTLE TRIP

This tour to include all major depots & stabling points in the North Eastern area, plus others en route.

Departing as follows:

Approx return time

Barnoldswick	17.45	21.50	
Nelson	17.55	21.40	
Burnley	18.05	21.30	
Bury	18.45	21.00	
Manchester	19.15	20.30	Cost will be £6.50
Sheffield	20.45	19.00	<u>Min. Deposit £2.50</u>

Tour No 79.13

Sat/Sun 26th/27th May

OVERNIGHT NORTH WEST AREA
AND THE WEST MIDLANDS.

Tour to include installations in the North West, Merseyside (including unit Stabling points) Shrewsbury, Stafford, Birmingham, Crewe, including the loco works, and others.

Departing as follows:-

Approx return time

Barnoldswick	17.00	21.50	
Nelson	17.10	21.40	
Burnley	17.20	21.30	
Bury	18.00	21.00	Cost will be £6.50
Manchester	18.30	20.30	<u>Min. Deposit £2.50</u>

Tour No 79.14

Sat/Sun 9th/10th June

SWINDON & EASTLEIGH

Tour to include Swindon, works, Eastleigh, Salisbury, Bristol, Westbury and others.

Departing as follows:

Barnoldswick	16.50	22.00	
Colne	17.00	21.50	
Nelson	17.10	21.40	
Burnley	17.20	21.30	
Bury	18.00	21.00	Cost will be £6.50
Manchester	18.30	20.30	<u>Min. Deposit £2.50</u>

Tour No 79.15

Sat/Sun 23rd/24th June

SOUTH WALES

Tour to include Hereford, Worcester, Carmarthen, Landore, Margam, Canton, Severn Tunnel, Ebbw Junction, and all other installations and stabling points in S. Wales.

Departing as follows:-

Approx return time

Barnoldswick	16.50	22.00
Colne	17.00	21.50
Nelson	17.10	21.40
Burnley	17.20	21.30
Bury	18.00	21.00
Manchester	18.30	20.30

Cost will be £6.50

Min. Deposit £2.50

Tour No 79.16

Sunday 8th July

DONCASTER & HULL

Tour to include, Tinsley, Doncaster Depot, and Plant (permit subject to availability) Goole, Hull and others.

Departing as follows:-

Approx return time

Barnoldswick	5.50	22.00
Colne	6.00	21.50
Nelson	6.10	21.40
Burnley	6.15	21.30
Bury	6.40	21.00
Winwick	7.05	PICK UP ONLY
Manchester	7.30	20.30
Sheffield	9.00	19.00

Cost will be £4.00

Min. Deposit £2.00

Tour No 79.17

Sat/Sun 21st/22nd July

GLASGOW & EDINBURGH

Tour to include all major depots and stabling points in the Glasgow & Edinburgh areas and also Carlisle.

Departing as follows:-

Approx return time

Barnoldswick	16.50	22.00
Colne	17.00	21.50
Nelson	17.10	21.40
Burnley	17.20	21.30
Bury	18.00	21.00
Manchester	18.30	20.30

Cost will be £6.50

Min. Deposit £2.50

Tour No 79.18

Sat/Sun 4th/5th August

OVERNIGHT MIDLANDS

Tour to include Westhouses, Toton (Subject to permit being available), Coalville, Burton, Nottingham, Peterboro, March and others in the Midlands.

Departing as follows:-

Approx return time

Barnoldswick	17.35	22.00
Colne	17.45	21.50
Nelson	17.55	21.40
Burnley	18.05	21.30
Bury	18.45	21.00
Manchester	19.15	20.30
Sheffield	20.45	19.00

Cost will be £6.50

Min. Deposit £2.50

Tour No 79.19

Sunday 19th July

CREWE WORKS ONLY

Members wishing to visit Crewe on this occasion MUST book in the usual way, sending their visit fee of 30p to the Booking Secretary. Meet at the Goddard St. entrance for the 2.30pm.

Tour No.79.20

Fri/Sat/Sun/Mon 24th/25th/26th/27th
JULY

GRAND SOUTHERN TOUR

Tour to include depots and installations in London, plus most major depots and Stabling points on the Southern region, including Dover, Ashford, Portsmouth, Eastleigh, Bournemouth, Salisbury, Basingstoke.

Coach will depart FRIDAY

Approx return time MONDAY

Barnoldswick	16.50	22.00
Colne	17.00	21.50
Nelson	17.10	21.40
Burnley	17.20	21.30
Bury	18.00	21.00
Manchester	18.30	20.30
Sheffield	20.00	19.00

Cost will be £24.00
Min. Deposit £10.00

All money to be paid at least 14 days in advance. The cost includes 2 nights Bed and Breakfast, plus Ferry & Train fares to the Isle of Wight from Portsmouth.

Tour No 79.21

Sunday 9th September

SHEFFIELD & IMMINGHAM

Tour to include Tinsley, Doncaster Shed, Wath, Froddingham, Immingham, and others in the Yorkshire area.

Departing as follows:-

Approx return time

Barnoldswick	5.50	22.00
Colne	6.00	21.50
Nelson	6.10	21.40
Burnley	6.15	21.30
Bury	6.40	21.00
Winwick	7.05	PICK UP ONLY
Manchester	7.30	20.30
Sheffield	9.00	19.00

Cost will be £4.00
Min. Deposit £2.00

PLEASE REMEMBER to include your Membership Card when booking for tours, then your card can be marked with money paid and your place number. Enclose a stamped addressed envelope with your booking, or a stamp for your reply.

A MIDLANDS CAR BASH

On a bleak Saturday night way back last November, three friends and myself embarked on an arduous overnight trip in a Ford Cortina, armed only with food, ale and Donna Summer cassettes to sustain us over the weekend.

Five o'clock came, Man City had lost yet again and off into the darkness we set, chased by a gale force wind, only for disaster to strike before we had reached Doncaster, the first port of call. Yes you've guessed it the cassette batteries had expired! Recovering remarkably well from this mini-catastrophe, we arrived in total blackness at Doncaster Depot.

40020 and 45121 were among the notable foreigners but enough of this trainspotting as the pubs had been open at least an hour.

A short spurt down the motorway ensued, when I proved beyond all shadow of a doubt that it was possible to do 100m.p.h. in the car after all. Scunthorpe was the next place on the map and we arrived at Froddingham depot after a great deal of trouble in locating the entrance to the depot, which was a bit of a blow, because we could actually see the locos stabled outside in the distance. What eventually happened was that we parked near the station and scrambled across some sidings to get to the depot, where amongst others 25248 and 40195 were noted.

When we got back to the car however, we were in for another heart stopping experience, as the car would not start, the fault being - that it was ill! (Sorry, I'm not a car mechanic). We eventually bump-started it and set off on the road for Immingham, which was found amazingly easily, and we tiptoed round, noting absolutely no unusual locos whatsoever.

Coming out of Immingham village, this brick wall with a crash barrier affixed to it jumped out in front of us, causing us to lurch frighteningly onto the other side of the road, but as I wasn't driving, it was to be expected!

Lincoln was the next stop on the agenda and as we were early, we decided to do the shed before a pub and chippy stop, but were stopped in the process by this seedy looking character who proclaimed himself to be the foreman, who read us the 'Gospel according to British Rail'. I'm certain he had no idea who his father was.

A Petrol crisis occurred near Worksop, so it was a good job we bumped into a 24 hours service station. After that disappointment it was a case of bringing on the cans of Lager and whatnot. Midnight saw the arrival of Shirebrook, where long lines of Class 56's waited for us. My God, it was cold, I could have thought of 64 million things I would have rather been doing than going round a depot, that night.

We then had the opportunity of following "the drunk driver", an interesting game where lots of abuse can be hurled at times, but hazardous if you don't know the rules. The Police in Nottingham must have been as blind drunk themselves, if they couldn't spot that he was roughly 12 pints over the limit. Still, those drivers always seem to get away with it. Apologies to Jack Parnell, the band leader, of course.

After that we arrived at Toton at 1.35, by which time I was getting just a wee bit sleepy, and not feeling one bit like driving, but on I pressed to Coalville, where I could put my head down for a few hours. Oh, by the way, local stuff only seen at Nottingham, Toton, and Coalville.

It was then down to Leicester which doesn't look too appealing by the way, at three in the morning, or at any time come to that, if we're going to be honest with ourselves. The one way system there must have been designed by Houdini himself, and the coppers excell themselves, in being as unhelpful as possible to lost motorists. Three measly locos was our reward for messing about there, and we encountered difficulties in leaving the place. If you want London, or the M1 North, fine, but Peterborough, they make it awkward for you.

The Police told us to move on to Peterborough as we were "causing an obstruction". At five in the morning, come off it Sgt. Dixon.

continued.

Be moved swiftly through the early morning, taking in March, Cambridge, Hitchin, and Bedford, before being invited to go round the depot by the amiable foreman at Bletchley. By Cambridge, guess who was in the drivers seat again? Well it wasn't me so there. We ambled along or rather sleep walked round Wellingborough before our petrol guzzling machine demanded yet more of our money, and arrived in Northampton, expecting, wine, women, song and my last two shunters. The shunters were there, the wine was a couple of pints of bitter, the song came from the Smurfs on the Juke Box, and the women came in the form of a couple of School girls in the tap room of the Fox & Gynacologist. Crossing the Midlands up the M1 was like being on the Isle-of-Man Ferry, there was that much spray about, but after visiting Rugby everyone was so Knac tired (??) that it was next point home, apart from Westhouses, which was just off the Motorway. All in all, anyone who went on the trip must have been a grade one, certified Lunatic to go chasing round the country for locos on a Saturday night, but a good time was had by all, the one snag we found, was -where to put all the cans of beer when the boot was full of them.

MARK TIPTON.

Incidentally, anyone interested in going on car bashes from the Manchester Area, splitting the petrol and the dirty books, please contact me on 339 5589 between 5pm and 6pm weekdays only.

St. Rollox Works list 15th April

- 08540, 08827, 08347, 08520, 08346, 08473, 08718, 08144.
- 20026, 20125, 20181, 20153, 20089, 20116, 20133, 20191, 20015.
- 25066, 25005, 25146, 25144, 25237, 25149, 25049.
- 26007, 26012, 26046, 26026.
- 27019, 27109, 27003, 27043, 27024.

Scrap lines

- 08003, 08167, 06010, 20010, 20082, 20217, 25098.

continued.

Loco Workings on the Leeds - Skipton Line January - March 1979

Friday 5th January	9.35	Carlisle to Nottingham	45147	TO
Saturday 6th January	9.35	Carlisle to Nottingham	47469	IS
Monday 8th January	10.25	Nottingham to Glasgow	47024	LA
Friday 12th January	Leeds - Keighly local goods		31261	MR
	11.50	Glasgow to Nottingham	47464	ED
Monday 15th January	10.25	Nottingham to Glasgow	47088	CF
Wednesday 17th Jan	9.35	Carlisle to Nottingham	47472	ED
Monday 29th January	11.50	Glasgow to Nottingham	47171	CF
Thursday 1st Feb.	10.25	Nottingham to Glasgow	45124	TO
	Leeds - Keighly local goods		25180	CW
Friday 2nd Feb.	Tinsley to Carlisle goods		47335	BS
	10.25	Nottingham to Glasgow	47102	CD
Saturday 3rd Feb.	9.35	Carlisle to Nottingham	47551	YK
	10.25	Nottingham to Glasgow	47128	CF
	15.52	Nottingham to Carlisle	47443	CD
	16.10	Glasgow to Nottingham	47467	ED
Tuesday 6th Feb.	9.35	Carlisle to Nottingham	47546	IS
	11.50	Glasgow to Nottingham	47273	HA
	Plumton Junc to Lindsay Oil Sdgs.		47223	IM
Tuesday 13th Feb.	10.25	Nottingham to Glasgow	47098	CF
Saturday 17th Feb.	7.15	Nottingham to Glasgow	47008	BR
	15.52	Nottingham to Carlisle	47530	CD
Friday 23rd Feb.	7.15	Nottingham to Glasgow	47184	SF
Monday 26th Feb.	7.15	Nottingham to Glasgow	47004	SF
Tuesday 27th Feb.	10.25	Nottingham to Glasgow	47150	SF
Saturday 3rd March	St. Pancras to Keighly special		47262	CD
Tuesday 6th March	11.50	Glasgow to Nottingham	47054	OC
Wednesday 7th March	Leeds to Keighly local goods		31229	MR
	10.25	Nottingham to Glasgow	47151	LE
Friday 9th March	11.50	Glasgow to Nottingham	47049	CD
Saturday 10th March	Ealing to Keighly special		47069	CF
Monday 12th March	11.50	Glasgow to Nottingham	37176	CF
Thursday 15th March	Ballast Train		37095	TI

There have been the usual amount of 40's and 'peaks' through. Other 47's that have been through include the following. 47093/179/197/209/210/258/298/348/368/402/422/435 47453/436/462/470/518/522/526 and 541. In general the year started very well, and there have been rare locomotives. Due to the closure of Holbeck the 31's that appear at Bingley are often foreign with examples based at March, Finsbury Park, and Old Oak Common.

On Friday 23rd March the Bradford to Keighly local goods produced 31264 FP, actually this locomotive has appeared at Bingley no fewer than fifteen times this year, but this was the first time I had seen it. On the same date 46002 appeared on the 9.35 Carlisle to Nottingham,

John C. Allen (3976)

The Armchair Spotter Rides Again

It is now two years since the Armchair Trainspotter broke his established habit of rising at the crack-of-lunch to undertake a gruelling round-Britain one-day railtour which was recorded in detail in a previous magazine. On 14th January the bug struck again, and 7.30am found him and two companions speeding towards Picadilly Station to catch the 08.12 Boat-Show excursion special to London. The train was full of typical upper-class boat-owning types who were bemused by the sight of notebooks and early morning enthusiasm. It took most of the journey and the donation of our free Boat-Show tickets to convince one person that there was a possibility of seeing every single B.R. loco. (I decided not to tell him that I only wanted eight for my second time around, and Allen only wanted three). 25311 (TO), was noted outside Mayfield parcels depot, but otherwise there was little of interest until Bescot, where we managed 22 locos, including 40097 (KD), 45150 (TO), 47119/233 (CF), 47284 (BR), and 47499 (LA). Being Sunday, the journey took longer than usual but in return produced a good selection of Class 25's and 08's on Ballast/Engineering trains, especially on the section between Rugby and Watford. Arrival at Euston was 30 mins late which left us exactly seven hours to sample the sights of London. The first such sight was Graham Barlow who naturally, was to be our courier for the day. He immediately dismissed our itinerary as impossible, and we set off for Finsbury Park feeling that somehow Graham seemed as though he had done all this before. Stratford next, and although there were 03008 (CA), 31174 (YK), 31177/79/239, 37036/37/41/43/51/90/109 (all MR), 31288 (GD), and 37173 (TE), amongst the 54 locos on shed, this depot has steadily decreased in quantity over the years. It is not long ago that 73-80 on a Sunday was normal. An impressive sight however was 47005 & 47085 being hand painted in preparation for a Royal Train working. We then proceeded due-east to Ripple Lane where 47209/224 (IM), and 47226 (CF) were stabled, and then South, via New Cross Gate to Hither Green which contained 17 locos including 47106 (CF). No sign of 33050 though (one of my two London locos) but I was very lucky in getting the other one - 73128 at Norwood Junction. Including Stewarts Lane and Clapham Junction we saw seventeen class 73's which from my experience of London trips is very good. From Clapham we travelled north to Old Oak Common which like Stratford is now a shadow of its former self, being full of Class 31's and 47's, and very little else. At Willesden (which never changes) we did see 08121 with the red "doofa" under its number, as previously reported by Allan Fawcett. Cricklewood was the last depot and we finished off with a pint of London beer (which is always a last resort) and a B.R. sandwich (the perfect partner) at Kings Cross Stn. Buffet. We arrived at Euston with one minute to spare, having been to nine depots and five stabling points, and seen 306 different locos.

(Ian Collier)

John C. Allen (2010)

Remember to enclose a Stamped addressed envelope with all requests for goods, otherwise the goods will be sent without postage and you will be liable to pay at least double to the Postman on receipt.

Rail News

It appears that the loco-naming bug has struck at Allerton, whose Class 08's shunters have been given names. Amongst those noted on the 11th February were 08431 'Runcorn' 08885 'Mars', 08884 'Venus' & 08939 'Garston'. On the same day 24081 was noted on Chester depot, with 25147 (BS), 25135 (TO) and 08084 (NH). The latter was presumably on loan as it was back in the Manchester area by mid-March. 47157 (CF), 47257 (CF), were on Birkenhead, and 40063 (HA), was an unusual sight at Speke Junction. Wigan has again seen some unusual locos including on 3rd March, 25126 (TO), 25200 (KD), 25266 (CW), and 40067 (HM). Even more unusual on 9th Feb, two very rare loco types were seen on the same day. 20140 (TO), double heading a northbound freight train with 40098, probably bound for St. Rollox works, and 37079/167 (TE), which double headed a Teesport - Haydock oil train, usually a Class 40/47 working. 37167 was defective and was removed at Springs Branch depot for repairs, the train continuing behind 37079 alone.

The New Year freeze produced several examples of locos hauling regular DMU-worked trains out of Manchester. Morning and evening rush-hour Manchester/Chester trains were loco hauled, depending which loco was available.

A very unusual sight at Oxford Road Station on 26th January was 85005 hauling 'dead' EMU sets 005/025 from the Altrincham direction. The use of electric locos west of Piccadilly Station is extremely rare, as all Freightliner trains from Trafford Park, are diesel hauled as far as Longsight. Also on 26th January, 40015 was noted hauling a failed 6 car DMU and on 5th February 40029 powered a 2 car unit out of Oxford Road. Two days later, a four car set was seen being hauled in behind 25191 (KD). By mid-February things appeared to have returned to normal. Other recent sightings at Oxford Road have included 25115/135/310 (TO), 25150 (BS), 25311 (TO), 40063 (HA), 40067 (HM), 47032 (LA), 47079/231/233 (CF), 47246 (BR), and 47502 (LE), during February, and 25183 (CW), 25258 (TO), 40050 (HM), 40056 (GD), 47094 (CF), 47148 (LE), 47209 (IM), and 47542 (YK), during March.

Sightings in the London Area (E.R.) recently have included:-

5.3.79	Kings Cross,	31245 (IM), 37050 (MR), 40159 (HA), 40070 (HM), 47079 (CF)
22.2.79		47701 worked 14.15 Kings Cross - Newcastle parcels.
17/28.2.79		40106 (LO), was noted on several occasions on parcels workings
27.2.79		40028 (LO) 31143/153 (TE).
1.3.79		31277 (TE)
23.2.79	Finsbury Pk.	40056/81/83 (GD), 40146 (TE), 40196 (HM), 40167(HA), 40106 (LO) 31406 (GD).
28.2.79		40047 (HM), 40147 (TE).
2.2.79	Stratford	56002 (TI) seen leaving Stratford Works after repairs.

On 10th March a Southampton - Manchester excursion train was hauled as far as Birmingham by 33009. At the time of its arrival, locos from 4 regions of B.R. were in evidence at Birmingham New Street Station on an eastbound passenger train. 'Revenge' stabled at the platform end, 33009 and the usual LMR electrics etc. The excursion train continued to Manchester behind the less spectacular 85023.