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No 342 May 2023

Fri 5 May 'The Great Train Robbery' All the events of 8th August 1963 are recounted by Ian Boskett.

Bristol Temple Meads On 15th April 40013 "Andania", 47810 "Crewe Diesel Depot", 34046 "Braunton" 1Z40 06.20 Rugby-Bristol TM.

On 16th 47810 0Z16 08.37 Bristol TM-Holyhead Carriage Depot 34046/40013 1Z47 17.04 Bristol TM-Rugby, 44932/47802 17.34 Plymouth-Bristol TM

On 16th 44932 5Z95 10.03 St Philips Marsh HSTD-Carnforth,66847+66849 6C23 18.00 Jersey Marine North Jct-Westbury, 66044 6A03 18.54 Severnside-Brentford

On 19th 43208/43304 5V84 10.10 Doncaster Wabtec-Laira

(Stock: XC03 41194 45005 42038 42342 42037 42380 44052)

On 21st 97302+37254 1Z67 05.33 Bristol Temple Meads-Pwllheli returning as 1Z68 16.23 Pwllheli-Bristol Temple Meads at 01.04 then 5Z68 01.40 Bristol Temple Meads-Burton On Trent Wetmore Sidings (Stock: 5921 5929 1200 3390 3345 3386 1657 3364 3325 17105).

North Somerset Jct On 11th April 66104 6X50 Westbury-Bescot.

St Phillips Marsh HSTD A most unusual arrival here for wheel turning lathe attention was Hunslet 0-6-0ST steam loco No. 25 Northian (works number 3797 of 1953) from the Kent & East Sussex Railway on 2nd April. A view of the surrounds during the following day saw no signs of the loco being assumed as inside the shed, the S.A. Smith road transport delivery lorry was however still parked in the car park. Also, on 3rd Turbo 166203 was undergoing driver and coupling training for staff and was moving up and down the sidings alongside the wheel-lathe building.

Lawrence Hill On 11th April 66592 6C68 Avonmouth-Whatley, 66588 4L32 Wentloog-London Gateway, 66614 6Z58 Avonmouth-Theale

On 15th 66155 6A12 Tytherington to Acton. On 21st 68005+68016 6M63 Bridgwater-Crewe.

Stapleton Road On 12th April Chiltern Trains 165023 5V65 08.29 Wembley L.M.D-Bristol Barton Hill.

Severn Beach Branch On 9th April 37175 3Q58 10.55 Derby RTC-Bristol Kingsland Road (Stock; 99666 72630 9806 6262 9701).

Filton On 3rd April 66591+66510 6X04 04.56 Fenny Compton-Fairwater

On 4th 43046+43055 5Z31 15.33 Goodrington C.H.S-Crewe H.S.

(Stock: 41059 41183 40802 41176 41169 40801 41182 44078)

On 12th 68016+68017 6V74 02.00 Crewe-Bridgwater returning on 6M67, 66848+66850 6C45 05.40 Crosskeys-Westbury, 60055 6Z21 07.16 Bristol East Depot-Tytherington, 70803+66849 6C97 04.45 Moreton-in-Marsh-Westbury, 66107 6M78 06.21 Tytherington-Quainton, 66503 4L32 10.00 Wentloog-London Gateway, 43046+43055 "English Riviera Pullman" 1Z51 05.51 Hull-Paignton, 66529 09.47 Fairwater Yard-Doncaster Wood Yard, 66849 6M50 10.40 Westbury-Bescot returning on 6V46 at 22.10, 70808 6M40 11.42 Westbury-Cliffe Vale, 66078 4V45 18.33 Acton-Tytherington

On 14th 45596 'Bahamas' 5Z96 09.34 Keighley & Worth Valley Railway-St Philips Marsh HSTD On 15th 66849+66847 6C23 Westbury-Jersey Marine

On 16th 66597+66546 6Y42 10.25 Westbury-Llandeilo Jct

On 22nd 37610 3Q21 22.27 Bristol Kingsland Road-Derby RTC, 66098 6M58 02.08 Tytherington-Quainton railhead, 66503 4O51 09.45 Wentloog-Maritime, 66078 6A12 10.45 Tytherington-Acton.

Pilning On 3rd April 66562 4V50 04.33 Maritime-Wentloog, 756001 3Q31 08.56 Newport-Swindon On 16th 66542 6B82 14.47 Stoke Gifford-Port Talbot Grange Siding On 17th 66507 4L32 10.00 Wentloog-London Gateway. **Bristol Parkway** On 3rd April 60055 6Z25 04.04 West Drayton-Tytherington On 6th 60020 6B33 13.49 Theale-Robeston On 7th 66506 6F02 14.20 Reading West Jct-Westbury On 8th 43184+43366 0Z43 15.30 Laira T&RSMD-Neville Hill T&RSMD On 17th 66060 6V71 15:07 Stoke Cliffe Vale-Exeter Riverside Yard, 37610 3Q40 18.58 Derby RTC-Reading Triangle (Stock: 96604 6262 9808 62287 9703). On 18th 60055 6Z22 11.13 Tytherington-Appleford via Chipping Sodbury, 60020 6B33 13.49 Theale-Robeston On 19th 66044 6C03 09.33 Northolt Sidings-Severnside, 70807 6M40 11.42 Westbury-Stud Farm

Westerleigh Jct On 17th April 60055 6Z26 11.09 Tytherington-West Drayton On 19th 60055 6Z22 11.13 Tytherington-Appleford via Chipping Sodbury On 22nd 66623 6Z92 09.15 Theale-East Usk Yard

Brentry On 3rd April 66725 6V84 Clitheroe-Avonmouth On 5th 66706 6M42 Avonmouth-Penyffordd

On 7th 66706 6M42 Avonmouth-Penyffordd via Severn Tunnel On 18th 66614 6A83 Avonmouth-West Drayton, 66711 6O02 Avonmouth-Crawley New Yard On 19th 66706 6M42 Avonmouth-Penyffordd, 66766 6V84 Clitheroe-Avonmouth

On 20th 59101 6C68 Avonmouth-Whatley, 66754 4B77 Colnbrook-Avonmouth.

Portbury Branch The normally once 4 weekly area 'high speed' test train visit was back in the hands of a Colas HST set, in place of top n' tail Class 37 locos and stock which has been the norm for several months now. However, following the incident close to Sandstone No. 3 tunnel on 23rd March which saw the train collide with a fallen tree damaging the lead loco, another unspecified incident (believed not tree related) delayed the 20th April working running as 1Z23 06.45 Kingsland Road-Derby RTC and formed with 43251. 9481. 72639. 977997. 6263. 43274 which having passed Parsons Street and onto the branch at 07.33, did not return until nearly 4 hours later, then missing out the Newport part of the booked return route to recover some time running onwards to Bath direct from Temple Meads.

Bath Spa On 11th April 70000 *"Britannia"* 5Z72 Swanage-Crewe On 18th 66847+66849 6C41 21.18 Westbury-Crosskeys On 22nd 66078 6A12 10.45 Tytherington-Acton Yard via Newbury

Bathampton Jct On 9th April 66188+66080 6W97 Landore-Eastleigh.

Swindon On 3rd April 66061 6B51 04.48 Llanwern-Swindon Stores, 66507 4L32 10.00 Wentloog-London Gateway. On 6th 60062 6V15 20.21 Boston Sleaford Sidings-Swindon Stores On 7th 66041 6E11 11.07 Appleford-Milford Sidings via Cheltenham On 8th April 66848 6F23 07.38 Reading West Jct-Westbury via Bristol Parkway On 10th 66792 6Z71 Reading West Jct-Westbury, 66703 6G70 Reading West Jct-Westbury. On 17th 60055 6Z25 04.07 West Drayton-Tytherington, 66182 6E11 11.07 Appleford-Milford Sidings via Kemble / Kings Norton, 756004 3Q34 14.03 Swindon-Cardiff Canton, 66542 6B11 12.28 Hayes Tarmac-Stoke Gifford, 66302+66761+66755+66125 6X01 10.18 Scunthorpe Trent Yard-Eastleigh Yard. On 18th 59206 6A15 03.54 Whatley-Appleford, 66302 6O01 10:18 Scunthorpe Trent Yard-Eastleigh Yard On 19th 66763 6V70 23.48 Liverpool EMR-Swindon EMR, 66014 6E11 11.47 Appleford Sidings-Milford Sidings via Kemble.

Bradford Jct On 6th April 66001 6M78 06.21 Tytherington-Quainton Railhead On 17th 66546+66597 6A40 13.23 Westbury-Abercynon On 19th 66563+66566 6Y60 18.37 Westbury-Westbury via Bridgend.

Fairwood Jct On 3rd April 66618 6Z40 10.58 Westbury-Whatley, 59205 7B12 11.23 Merehead-Wootton Bassett, 59201 6V16 11.55 Fareham-Whatley, 66558+66618 6L21 13.21 Whatley Quarry-Dagenham Dock, 66551 6C48 12.49 Appleford-Whatley

On 6th 66510 6C84 08.40 Fairwater Yard-Westbury, 66592 6C68 11.01 Westbury Cement Works-Whatley On 15th 44932/47802 1Z10 07.11 London Paddington-Plymouth then 1Z13 17.34 Plymouth-Bristol Temple Meads. On 17th 66506 6C73 12.18 Westbury-Fairwater, 66614 6L21 13.21 Whatley-Dagenham Dock On 18th 66618 7V97 04.09 Eastleigh Aggregates-Merehead On 19th 59202+66619 7A17 10.24 Merehead-Colnbrook. Westbury On 3rd April 66848+70807 6M50 08.01 Westbury-Bescot

On 6th 70808 6M50 11.40 Westbury-Bescot via Cheltenham

On 8th 66792 6G72 10.33 Westbury-Reading West Jct via Melksham, 66304 6G73 12.33 Westbury-Reading West Jct via Chippenham, 66848 6F24 14.34 Westbury-Reading West Jct via Bristol Parkway On 17th 70808+70803 6M50 10.40 Westbury-Bescot via Cheltenham, 59103 7A17 10.24 Merehead-Colnbrook, 70807 6M40 11.42 Westbury-Stud Farm via Cheltenham.

On 18th 70808 6M50 10.40 Westbury-Bescot via Cheltenham, 70807 6M40 11.42 Westbury-Stud Farm via Cheltenham, 66519 6C77 12.20 Wembley Yard-Merehead

On 19th 66506+66510 6X04 05.15 Didcot Parkway-Fairwater Yard, 66847+66849 6C41 05.40 Crosskeys-Westbury, 70808+70811 6M50 10.40 Westbury-Bescot via Cheltenham, 66614 6A24 10.18 Whatley-Appleford via Newbury

On 21st 37610 3Q36 00.09 Westbury-Bristol Kingsland Road via Southampton Central (Stock: 96604 6262 9808 62287 9703), 66792+66846+66847+66776 6O41 10.14 Westbury-Eastleigh.

Fairwood Jct On 3rd April 66618 6Z40 10.58 Westbury-Whatley, 59205 7B12 11.23 Merehead-Wootton Bassett, 59201 6V16 11.55 Fareham-Whatley, 66558+66618 6L21 13.21 Whatley Quarry-Dagenham Dock, 66551 6C48 12.49 Appleford-Whatley

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Parson Street On 20th April 43251/43274 1Z23 06.45 Bristol Kingsland Road-Derby RTC via Portbury / Newport / Bristol TM / Didcot / Bristol Parkway / Worcester (Stock: 9481 72639 977997 6263).

Flax Bourton On 10th April 66028 6M60 Exeter Riverside Yard-Bescot.

Highbridge On 8th April 37667+37521 1Z25 06.55 Bristol East Yard-Truro (Stock: 6705 46014 6706 99993 6708 10520 17159 6311).

Bridgwater On 6th April 68003+68009 6V74 02.00 Crewe CLS-Bridgwater On 18th 68001+68018 6V74 02.00 Crewe CLS-Bridgwater.

Taunton On 4th April 70811 6C40 21.32 Westbury-Plymouth-Westbury On 11th 37667+37521 1Z31 08.45 Kingswear-London Euston On 21st 66510 6C73 12.12 Westbury-Fairwater Yard.

Fairwater Yard On 3rd April 66591 6C84 08.40 Fairwater Yard-Westbury 66589+66597 4E18 09.47 Fairwater Yard-Doncaster Wood Yard On 20th 66510/66556 6C76 12.49 Bishops Lydeard-Fairwater Yard then worked 6X04 18.26 Fairwater Yard-Tilehurst. Bristol Area Railtours and Visiting Excursions (Provided in good faith, but not guaranteed accurate!)

Date	Tour	Destination	Haulage	Pick-up	Fare	Operator
Sun 30 Apr	Royal Duchy	Par	60103 , 47/57	TM 09.07	FULL	RYTC
Mon 1 May	Midland Pullman	Llandudno	HST	BTH 08.45	FULL	LSL
Wed 10 May	Welsh Marches Ex	Shrewsbury	60007	TM 09.10	FULL	Saphos
Mon 29 May	Torbay Venturer	Paignton	33X2	BPW 10.10	£129	Pathfinder
Sat 3 Jun	English Riviera	Kingswear	Steam	WSB 09.35	£165	Saphos

Wed 10 May	British Pullman	Victoria-Salisbury-Bath 13.05		Belmond
Sat 20 May	ACE	Waterloo-Salisbury-Exeter-TM-Salisbury-Waterloo	45596	RYTC
Wed 24 May	Bath Spa	Victoria-Staines-Woking-Bath	34046	STDR
Thu 25 May	British Pullman	Victoria-Salisbury-Bath 13.05	67	Belmond
Sat 27 May	Devon Explorer	Woking-Reading-Westbury-TM-Taunton-Plymouth	45596	RYTC
Sat 27 May	Devon Belle	Huddersfield-Stockport-Crewe-TM-Paignton	50	Retro
Wed 7 Jun	Cardiff Express	Paddington-Reading-Swindon-Parkway-Cardiff	60103	RYTC

Dates for your Diary

Outdoor Fixtures

Thursday 8 June – Observation afternoon & evening Eastleigh Station Tuesday 20 June - Observation afternoon & evening Newport Station Wednesday 12 July - Observation afternoon Oxford & evening Didcot Station

Wednesday 2 August – Midweek lunchtime visit to the Avon Valley Railway Meet up to ride or photograph trains and enjoy lunch in the buffet. First departure 10.45.

Fri 1 Sep – 'My 49 Year Railway Career' – A first visit to the branch by Dennis Flood.