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No 376 March 2026

**Fri 6 Mar AGM followed by, 'Midland Blue – Midland Railway Lines in the 1980s'
Presented by our Treasurer Stewart Jolly.**

Portbury Dock Branch line The latest GBRf Stadler loco arrivals 99005 + 99006 were delivered by sea on the 'ro/ro' ship 'Canadian Highway' on 18th February, being off loaded during the following day. Having departed Valencia, Spain on the 2nd, the initial booked rail departure was for 20th, but the late arrival saw a 0Q33 14.10 Portbury Auto-Terminal - Leicester LIP take place on 25th with 57305 (which had arrived as a 07.13 light move from Leicester) being the hauling power. With an early inward arrival at 11.04 being recorded, 99006 was moved to join 99005 and coupled up at 11.35. An early departure followed not long after 12.00, with branch reports of 12.28 passing Pill, arriving Ashton Gate sig. BL2192 (token) at 12.52 and departing here at 12.55 (87 minutes early), later departing Temple Meads at 13.18 and passing Yate at 14.06 (62 early). It is also interesting to mention that 57305 was the first-Class member (still carrying former Northern Belle colours) to cover the Portbury Dock (Portishead branch) in November 2018 on a TPE new 'import' coaching stock move.

Bristol Temple Meads On 5th February 950001 2Q08 02.07 Exeter Riverside-Kingsland Road at 05.36
On 25th 57305 0V33 07.13 Leicester L.I.P.-Portbury Auto Terminal at 10.29 then 0Q33 14.10 Portbury Auto Terminal-Leicester L.I.P. at 13.15 (with 99006+99005)
On 27th 40013/50050 1Z70 Bristol Temple Meads-Goodrington CHS at 09.15 (Stock: 6706 99993 35467) 800036 1Z80 09.15 Bristol Temple Meads-Goodrington C.H.S at 09.15 set then worked 1Z81 14.28 Goodrington C.H.S-Bishops Lydeard then 1Z82 16.50 Bishops Lydeard-Bristol Temple Meads at 18.04 then worked 5Z83 18.15 Bristol Temple Meads-Stoke Gifford IET Depot at 18.13

Filton On 4th February 59005 6C79 09.58 Avonmouth-Whatley at 10.06
On 17th 60095 6A60 08.30 Machen Quarry-Appleford Sidings at 10.28

Brentry On 2nd February 66616 6C79 09.58 Avonmouth-Whatley at 09.45, 59206 6C79 Avonmouth-Whatley at 09.52. On 4th 66303 6M42 09.36 Avonmouth-Penyffordd at 09.42, 59005 6C79 09.58 Avonmouth-Whatley at 09.52, 66786 6V84 Clitheroe-Avonmouth at 16.34. On 5th 66613 6C79 09.58 Avonmouth-Whatley at 09.58. On 6th 66303 6M42 09.36 Avonmouth-Penyffordd at 09.49, 66179 6C03 Northolt-Sevenside at 14.05. On 9th 66622 6A77 Avonmouth-Theale at 11.59, 59005 6B51 Whatley-Avonmouth via Bristol Parkway at 21.00. On 10th 59005 6C79 09.58 Avonmouth-Whatley at 09.43
On 11th 66303 6M42 09.36 Avonmouth-Penyffordd at 08.38 then again on 13th at 08.49
On 17th 66416 6A83 Avonmouth-West Drayton via Bristol Parkway at 13.48, 66011 6C03 09.57 Northolt-Sevenside at 14.14. On 23rd 66786 6V84 Clitheroe-Avonmouth at 17.11
On 24th 66564 6A83 Avonmouth-West Drayton at 13.50, 66097 6C03 09.57 Northolt-Sevenside at 14.05
On 25th 66750 0V84 Tuebrook-Avonmouth at 15.40 (rescue loco for 66786 which failed on Monday 23rd while working 6V84 Clitheroe-Avonmouth)
On 26th 153379 2Q55 10.03 Exeter Riverside-Cheltenham Signal 422 at 11.26
On 27th 66124 6C03 09.57 Northolt-Sevenside at 14.13

Pilning On 17th February 60095 6A60 08.30 Machen Quarry-Appleford at 09.40

Patchway On 28th February 40013/50050 5Z50 09.32 St. Phillips Marsh HST-Crewe HS at 09.32

Stoke Gifford Yard On 4th 66605 6C20 07.06 Stoke Gifford-Tytherington at 07.06, 66616 6C81 09.55 Stoke Gifford-Avonmouth at 09.59. On 5th 66420 6C20 07.06 Stoke Gifford-Tytherington at 07.06
On 13th 66603 6C20 07.06 Stoke Gifford-Tytherington at 07.06
On 14th 66603 6Z21 08.28 Tytherington-Stoke Gifford
On 16th 66606 6Z12 11.26 Stoke Gifford-Appleford at 11.03
On 19th 66603 6C20 07.06 Stoke Gifford-Tytherington at 07.06, 66416 6C81 09.55 Stoke Gifford-Avonmouth at 10.00

Bristol Parkway On 4th February 66303 6M42 09.36 Avonmouth-Penyffordd at 09.59, 66605 6Z42 11.27 Tytherington-Appleford at 13.13, 66616 6C85 13.31 Avonmouth-Stoke Gifford at 13.52, 66100 6C03 09.57 Northolt-Sevenside at 14.05, 66556 6Z50 14.02 Machen-Appleford at 16.00
On 5th 66787/66725 6A66 05.25 Tytherington-Quinton at 06.35, 66420 6Z42 11.42 Tytherington-Appleford at 13.50, 66098 6M53 11.46 Parkandillack-Cliffe Vale at 22.49
On 6th 66206 6C03 09.57 Northolt-Sevenside at 14.00. On 11th 66614 6A18 07.04 Tytherington-Oxford Banbury Road at 10.27, 66613 6Z42 11.42 Tytherington-Appleford at 12.29
On 12th 66603 6C20 07.06 Stoke Gifford-Tytherington at 07.06, 66603 6Z42 11.42 Tytherington-Appleford at 12.59. On 13th 66303 6M42 09.36 Avonmouth-Penyffordd at 09.55, 165102 5Q81 12.28 Doncaster Wabtec-St Phillips Marsh at 17.06, 66035 6V73 14.27 Cliffe Vale-Westbury at 19.39
On 16th 66603 6A18 07.04 Tytherington-Oxford Banbury Road at 10.30
On 17th 60095 6V60 01.22 Willesden-Machen Quarry at 04.05
On 19th 66606 6A18 07.04 Tytherington-Oxford Banbury Road at 10.35, 60095 6A60 08.27 Machen-Appleford at 11.31, 66603 6Z42 11.27 Tytherington-Appleford at 12.59, 66416 6A83 14.10 Avonmouth-West Drayton via Didcot at 13.46
On 20th 66603 6Z42 11.27 Tytherington-Appleford at 13.00, 66556 6Z50 14.02 Machen-Appleford at 15.59
On 27th 43013/43062 1Q20 05.34 London Paddington-Swansea-Leicester L.I.P at 06.53 heading to Swansea and again at 12.16 heading to Leicester

Westerleigh Jct On 11th February 66622 6B30 08.59 Theale-East Usk Yard at 10.48, 66507 4L33 09.59 Wentloog-London Gateway at 11.09
On 12th 66416 6A83 14.18 Avonmouth-West Drayton via Didcot at 13.43, 66206 6C03 10.54 Southall Yard-Sevenside at 13.53. On 16th 66517 4L33 09.59 Wentloog-London Gateway at 11.12
On 20th 66507 4L33 09.59 Wentloog-London Gateway at 11.28, 66603 6Z42 11.27 Tytherington-Appleford at 11.39

Yate On 11th February 66657 6B13 05.00 Robeston-Westerleigh at 12.55
On 12th 66614 6A18 07.04 Tytherington-Oxford Banbury Road at 07.34
On 13th 66659 6B13 05.00 Robeston-Westerleigh at 12.50

Tytherington Quarry Branch line On 19th February 66603 6Z42 11.27 Tytherington-Appleford at 11.17

Bristol Kingsland Road On 6th February 950001 2Q08 10.00 Kingsland Road-Reading Triangle Sidings via Pilning at 10.00. On 9th 37254/37057 Derby-Bristol Kingsland Road at 01.23
On 19th 43301/43303 1Q23 07.52 Bristol Kingsland Road-Derby RTC via Newport at 07.52
(Stock: 6260 72639 9810 6122)

St Phillips Marsh HSTD On 27th February D213 (40013), D400 (50050) were noted stabled on the depot.

Bath On 1st February 66787+66725 4V76 17.46 Eastleigh East Yard-Bristol East Yard at 20.18
On 2nd 950001 2Q08 03.29 Derby RTC-Plymouth at 06.37, 70805 6M50 08.23 Westbury-Bescot at 08.53, 70802 6M40 10.31 Westbury-Stud Farm at 11.05
On 4th 66847+66848 6C41 06.00 Standish Jct-Westbury at 07.02
On 5th 70806 6X24 04.33 Bescot-Eastleigh Yard via Chippenham at 09.50
On 12th 67021 1V80 09.47 London Victoria-Bath at 13.05 then 1Z92 15.56 Bath Spa-London Victoria at 15.56 (Stock: 99545 99541 99530 99546 99539 99535 99531 99534 99543 99536 6313)
On 14th 66011 6W97 19.54 Westbury-Standish Jct at 20.24
On 18th A road vehicle collided with a railway bridge which affected all trains running between Bristol Temple Meads and Bath Spa. Due to the incident, all lines were blocked as trains were delayed by up to 30 minutes or revised. Network Rail staff were sent to the bridge to conduct an inspection of the bridge. The line was reopened by 16.50.

Chippenham On 12th February 66754/66704 6G99 04.28 Hanwell-Westbury at 08.42
On 16th 59206 6A16 07.43 Whatley-Oxford Banbury Road at 09.03

Swindon On 2nd February 66736 6M26 08.55 Eastleigh Yard-Mountsorrel at 11.34, 66010 6C03 09.57 Northolt Sidings-Severnside at 13.18, 66767 6X01 10.18 Scunthorpe Trent Yard-Eastleigh Yard at 17.23
On 4th 66725/66787 6A66 05.25 Tytherington-Quainton at 07.32, 59205 6B12 11.43 Merehead-Wootton Bassett at 14.00, 66605 6Z42 11.27 Tytherington-Appleford at 14.00
On 5th 66656 6V15 18.58 Boston Sleaford Sidings-Swindon Stores at 10.45 (Train came to a stand at the summit of the line between Gloucester and Swindon, due to slippery rails), 70806 6M28 13.47 Eastleigh Yard-Bescot at 16.15. On 11th 66420 6A16 07.43 Whatley-Oxford Banbury Road at 09.05
On 12th 66754 6G99 04.28 Hanwell-Westbury at 06.36, 66561 6A16 07.43 Whatley-Oxford Banbury Road 08.50, 66751 6B77 10.45 Colnbrook-Avonmouth at 13.57
On 13th 59102 6A16 07.43 Whatley-Oxford Banbury Road at 09.00
On 16th 66603 6A18 Whatley-Oxford Banbury Road at 11.31, 57306 5Q70 14.35 Long Marston-Wimbledon Park Depot Sidings at 17.25 (Stock: 701509+701512)
On 17th 70805+66068 6M50 08.23 Westbury-Hinksey (then onwards to Bescot) at 08.30
On 19th 66656 6V15 18.58 Boston Sleaford Sidings-Swindon Stores at 06.36, 66572 4L33 09.59 Wentloog-London Gateway at 11.47
On 20th 66614 6A16 07.43 Whatley-Oxford Banbury Road at 08.45, 66082 6C03 09.57 Northolt-Severnside at 13.27. On 23rd 66553+70802 6M50 08.23 Westbury-Bescot at 08.30
On 24th 66505 4L33 09.59 Wentloog-London Gateway at 12.23, 60099 6B60 West Drayton-Machen at 12.30, 70816 6M40 Westbury-Cliffe Vale at 12.30

Westbury On 2nd February 59103 6O68 09.11 Westbury Cement Works-Crawley at 09.20, 56103+56045 6M18 16.06 Merehead-Willesden at 17.32
On 4th 70805 6M50 08.23 Westbury-Bescot via Cheltenham at 08.10, 67027 0Z67 10.02 Swanage-Westbury at 13.31, 43013/43062 1Q23 05.53 Reading-Salisbury via Exeter at 14.48 (Stock: 975984 977993 975814 977984)
On 5th 70802 6M40 10.31 Westbury-Stud Farm via Cheltenham at 10.21, 60055 6M51 10.20 Merehead-Quainton at 11.18. On 11th 70802 6M40 11.34 Westbury-Stud Farm at 11.20
On 12th 66607 6C31 10:14 Theale-Whatley at 08.45 (243 early), 60028 6M51 09.42 Merehead-Quainton at 11.15, 70802 6M40 11.34 Westbury-Stud Farm at 11.27, 59202 6B12 11.43 Merehead-Wootton Bassett at 12.36. On 15th 66759/66725 6G70 07.45 Stockley Jct-Westbury at 10.26
On 16th 60055 6M51 09.42 Merehead-Quainton at 11.14, 60095 6V23 08.30 Willesden-Merehead at 13.28, 6M18 16.49 Merehead-Willesden at 17.58
On 19th 70816 6M50 07.13 Westbury-Bescot at 07.00, 60055 6M51 09.45 Merehead-Quainton at 11.18
On 20th 70805 6C43 03.58 West Ealing Plasser Works-Westbury at 07.12, 60028 6M51 09.45 Merehead-Quainton at 11.20, 66566/66414 6Y97 05.15 Whitland-Westbury at 11.29

Fairwood Jct On 4th February 59202 6V98 04.02 Eastleigh Aggregates-Merehead at 05.57, 60099+60028 6V23 10.34 Willesden-Merehead at 13.28 then 6M18 16.06 Merehead-Willesden at 17.07
On 5th 59203 6V97 03.36 Botley Aggregates-Merehead at 06.08, 66613 6C79 09.58 Avonmouth-Whatley at 11.24. On 6th 66098 6V76 10.35 Westbury-Goonbarrow Jct at 10.17
On 11th 70805 6C41 20.32 Westbury-Westbury via Plymouth at 06.35, 59203 6T02 06.38 Merehead-Westbury Cement Works at 07.18, 60029 6M51 09.42 Merehead-Quainton at 10.57, 66606 6C79 09.58 Avonmouth-Whatley at 11.18, 59004 6C68 10.35 Oxford Banbury Road-Whatley at 12.42, 60095 6M18 16.49 Merehead-Willesden at 17.21. On 12th 59202 6V97 04.26 Botley Aggregates-Merehead at 07.24
On 13th 66621 6V98 05.04 Eastleigh Aggregates-Merehead at 07.11, 59201 6T02 06.38 Merehead-Westbury Cement Works at 07.17, 60029 6M51 09.42 Merehead-Quainton at 09.56, 66606 6A70 14.08 Whatley-Dawley Loop at 15.12
On 19th 59202 6V97 02.57 Botley Aggregates-Merehead at 05.15, 59205 6T02 06.38 Merehead-Westbury Cement Works at 07.19
On 20th 175112 5V84 12.10 Wolverton Centre Sidings-Laira TMD at 15.04, 60095 6M18 16.49 Merehead-Willesden at 17.31
On 27th 57312/57604 5Z58 12.28 Fairwater Yard-Reading Traincare Depot 13.43 (Stock: 10534 10563 10596 10616 10219 12161 17175)

Castle Cary On 15th February 67021/67007 "Jubilee" 1Z80 12.33 Kings Cross-Castle Cary via Newbury at 16.10, then 5Z80 16.29 Castle Cary-Euston via Newbury at 16.29 (Stock: 99545 99541 99532 99530 99546 99539 99535 99531 99534 99543 99536 6313)

Weston-super-Mare The Paignton (Goodrington CS) de-railed and damaged IET set 802105 reached the North Somerset area by 7th February on staggered moves, this section operating as 5Q99 23.14 (Fri) Taunton Station-Bristol Temple Meads calling at Bridgwater, Highbridge & Burnham, Worle and Nailsea & Backwell stations for transit condition checks. With the lead bogie on third coach 833105 noted with wheel skates and staff travelling inside in the seating bays above, the Worle stop was recorded from 02.22, departing 6 early at 02.28, the move having departed nearby Worle junction right time at 02.21, having passed Uphill Junction at 01.41 (2 minutes early). The Junction stop was interesting, as it allowed 57604 working the following up 'Night Riviera' sleeper 1C50 23.45 (Fri) Penzance-Paddington service to pass (as booked) via the Weston-super-Mare station loop, being later noted Worle (now in front of the IET) correct time at 02.14. The IET was on reaching Bristol to continue as 5Q99 04.40 Temple Meads-Stoke Gifford Depot (via Parkway Station).

Taunton On 2nd February 59102 6C28 12.48 Exeter Riverside-Merehead at 13.27

On 6th (Stock: 975984 977993 975814 977984)

On 14th 66547 6Y40 00.20 Westbury-Exeter St Davids at 00.33, 57312/57604 5Z50 08.30 Taunton-Reading Traincare Depot at 08.30 (Stock: 10534 10563 10594 10616 10217 12142 17175), 66565/66616

6Y42 09.31 Westbury-Exeter St Davids at 10.06, 66116 6V76 10.35 Westbury-Goonbarrow Jct at 11.35

On 15th 66616 6Y42 07.45 Exeter Central-Westbury at 09.02, 66561/66565 6Y41 08.30 Exeter Central-Westbury at 09.43

On 17th 43092/43093 5Q43 09.00 Laira TMD-Mid Norfolk Railway at 10.55

(Stock: 49105 48150 48114 48137 49117 48136)

On 20th 37419 3Q62 21.05 Exeter Riverside-Derby RTC via Birmingham New Street at 21.50

(Stock: 96604 6262 9803 999606 9703)

Bristol Area Railtours and Visiting Excursions (Provided in good faith but not guaranteed accurate!)

Thu 12 Mar	British Pullman	Victoria-Salisbury-Bath 13.03/15.56	67	Belmond
Sat 14 Mar	Industrial Explorer	Derby-Gloucesters-Newport-Landore-Parkway	50X2	UKR
Fri 27 Mar	British Pullman	Victoria-Salisbury-Bath 13.03/15.56	67	Belmond
Sun 19 Apr	GB XVIII	Penzance-Plymouth-TM-Hereford-Chester	Steam	RTC

Dates for your Diary

14-16 Mar East Somerset Railway Spring Gala

Locos booked to work are: 4110, 4555, 7754 and GWR Railcar W22

28/9 Mar WSR 50th Anniversary Weekend – Booked locos: 2996 Victor, 7812, 9351, D7017.

28/9 Mar Dean Forrest Spring Steam Gala – Booked locos: Uskmouth 1, D249 Willy, GER 229

Fri 10 April ‘The Bill Potter Collection’ – A Classic Rail Archive 1938-1988 by Chris Smith

Fri 1 May ‘My Father’s Pictures – Bristol, Bath & the S&D by David Cross

Thu 11 June Observation Day at Stafford Station

Wed 8 July Observation Day at Swindon Station