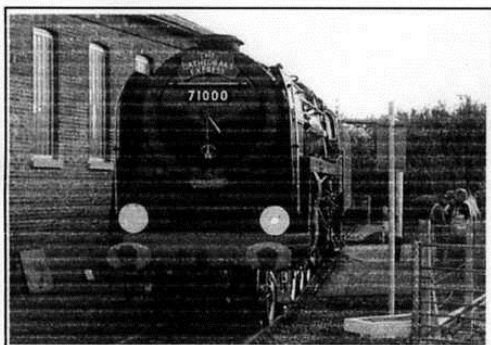


Near thing for Cathedrals Express

The first steam railtour to Exeter over the former LSWR metals for some time was run on Sunday 9th. July. The train hauled by 71000 'Duke of Gloucester' started at Kensington Olympia and was hauled throughout to Exeter by steam. However, it was a near thing as high winds during the previous night brought a tree down across the line near Honiton. Unfortunately an early morning empty stock working by a Class 159 unit from Salisbury to Exeter ran into the tree and sustained front end damage. It was some time before the unit was removed to a siding at Honiton and normal service being resumed. In the end the railtour ran to time throughout its journey to Exeter. The locomotive returned to Yeovil Junction during the afternoon for servicing before resuming at the head of the train for its return to London.



**71000 Duke of Gloucester
at Yeovil Junction 9th. July. 2006**

Forthcoming Railtours

Wed. 2 Aug. Sunny South Special.
London to Weymouth return - 45231
Wed. 16 Aug. Sunny South Special.
London to Weymouth return - 71000

MEETING DIARY

Tues. 1st. August 'Members Films & Slides'
Tues. 5th. September 'Rails around Ely'
by Max Wilkinson.

Pen Mill 150 celebrations kept on track despite lack of steam.

The celebrations on Saturday 29th. July held to mark the 150th. Anniversary of the opening of Pen Mill Station was heralded a success even though the anticipated steam special was diesel hauled. Preparations for the event were made over the previous week starting with the arrival of Prairie Tank No.4561 from the West Somerset Railway which was on static display. The locomotive was joined by two Class 59's on the Friday evening that were on loan from Mendip Rail. The event itself, which was opened by Paul Atterbury from the BBC's Antiques Roadshow, was well attended despite the showery weather which was insufficient to cause any real problems. However, the same could not be said about the hot weather during the days leading up to the event. Despite repeated pleas from the organisers Network Rail were unwilling to let steam haul the Bristol to Weymouth railtour. In the event the train arrived behind a Class 67 diesel No.67013.

Our society was represented at the event along with many other stall holders and exhibits. A free vintage bus service was run between the event and South Somerset District Council offices in an attempt to relieve the parking congestion, but the amount of slow moving traffic within the town gave participant a much longer ride than they had bargained for!

Our thanks go to all our members (and their wives) who gave up their time, not only on the day, but during the lead up to the event to make it a really enjoyable time.



**Some of the Yeovil Railway Society
members who helped on the day.**