

'Sunny South Specials' under threat.

The first 'Sunny South Special' of the summer from London to Weymouth run by Steam Dreams scheduled for the 29th. June had to be cancelled due to a weak bridge near Maiden Newton. The train was intended to be hauled by 71000 Duke of Gloucester recently returned to the main line following repairs to its boiler. The weak bridge prevented the running of the locomotive from Weymouth to Yeovil Junction and back for servicing. It is not clear whether this situation will be resolved prior to the running of King Edward I to Weymouth in conjunction with the Pen Mill 150 event on the 29th. July.



71000 Duke of Gloucester at Maiden Newton 9th. July. 2005

'Mystery Solved!'

Following the item in last months newsletter concerning the location of three London Underground trailers in a local garden. The mystery has been solved in that they are to be found in a back garden next to the Salisbury to Exeter line at Semley and not Sherborne, as mis-reported in 'Rail' magazine!

Yeovil Pen Mill 150 Don't forget the date Saturday 29th. July 2006

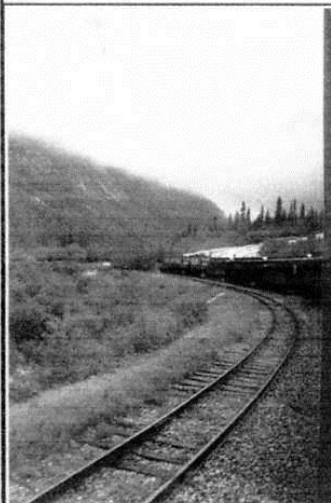
MEETING DIARY

Tues. 4th. July. 'Steam in the 60's' Alan Reeve
Tues. 1st. August 'Members Films & Slides'

White Pass & Yukon Route Railroad

Recently, on the 15th. June, whilst on holiday in Alaska, I visited the White Pass & Yukon Route Railroad that runs from Skagway in Alaska to Cactus in the Yukon, a distance of 67.5 miles. Built as part of the Klondike Gold Rush, the line took two years two months and two days to build and it opened on July 29th. 1900. The railway enjoyed a rich and colourful history throughout its century of operations. The Klondike has gone from gold mining to operations by large corporations who have gained control

of the mining in the Klondike. For decades the WP&YR carried significant amounts of ore and concentrates to Skagway to be loaded on to ore ships. The railway was operated by steam until 1954 when the transition to diesel electric power was made. World metal prices plummeted in 1982, mines closed and the WP&YR suspended operations. It reopened in 1988 to operate as a 3 foot narrow gauge railroad.



Roger Marsh



Caboose and Rotary Steam Snowplough No. 1 on display outside of the railway station at Skagway in Alaska on the 15th. June 2006.