

YEOVIL & DISTRICT RAILWAY SOCIETY

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NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2006

Taunton Fairwater reactivated by FHH

Freightliner Heavy Haul (FHH) will be stabling locomotives at Taunton Fairwater Yard as part of the Great Western Main Line renewal programme.

Over the next three to four years, trains will use the depot as a stabling point. Up to 15 Class 66's are expected to be stabled at the site, which until recently was disused.

The operation of the yard will be leased to First Swietelsky and it will become a High Output Operations Base for the West of England. It will work alongside similar sites at Reading and Margam.

Permanent way works at the depot has seen tracks and ballast relaid for the depot to play a role in the Wootton Bassett blockade from August 25 to September 4.

Work is set to start on fitting out accommodation at the site while several buildings will also be 'kitted out'.

Network Rail has said it is also considering undertaking trials on some points and crossing equipment at Fairwater Yard, and installing inspection pits to assist with maintenance.

30850 Lord Nelson finally makes it to the WSR

The much awaited return to steam of 30850 Lord Nelson finally came to fruition on Wednesday 16 August, when although only in light steam she made the journey from Eastleigh to Minehead in a train hauled by Class 66 diesel No. 66128.

The locomotive will spend nearly 10 weeks on the West Somerset Railway conducting running-in turns before departing on the 21st. October return leg of the Trafalgar Express to Southampton via Bristol and Salisbury.



'Lord Nelson' passing through Castle Cary some 2 hours late on Wednesday 16 August 2006.



59206 & 66004 with Railtrack infrastructure trains awaiting departure from Westbury on 29 July 2006.

Bodmin & Wenford 2006 Steam Gala

The Bodmin & Wenford Railway held their 2006 Steam Gala over 1 - 3 September. In addition to their four ex-BR resident working loco's, the event was attended by large Prairie 4160 from the South Devon Railway.



Beattie Well Tank No.30587 at Bodmin Parkway on Friday 1st. September.

Forthcoming Railtours

Sat. 9 Sep. The Eden & Penzance Explorer.
Bournemouth, Salisbury Yeovil Junc. Penzance.
Kingfisher Railtours - Class 37 haulage
Sun. 8 Oct. The Devon Belle.
Victoria, Salisbury, Exeter return via Taunton
and Westbury - 34067

MEETING DIARY

Tues. 5th. September 'Rails around Ely'
by Max Wilkinson.
Tues. 3rd. October 'To be advised'.