

News & Messages – December 2007

Grand Central commences operation tomorrow (17/12/2007)



Grand Central will begin its Sunderland to Kings Cross service from tomorrow, Tuesday 18 December 2007. Initially with just one HST set available, the first train will be the 0646 from Sunderland due into Kings Cross at 1032. The service returns from the capital at 1650 arriving into Sunderland at 2035. This pattern of services will run Mondays to Saturdays, augmented with an 1127 Kings Cross to York and 1410 return.

No Grand Central services are scheduled to operate over the Christmas break from 23 - 26 December 2007 inclusive. The timetable is resumed from 27th December with the 1230 from Sunderland. The full service of three trains a day is expected to commence from the second-half of January 2008. Full details on the Grand Central web site.

GNER becomes National Express East Coast (09/12/2007)



Today sees the end of the GNER franchise, which has operated services on the East Coast Main Line since 1996. National Express, which was the successful bidder for the East Coast route, takes over today, trading as National Express East Coast. It is the fifth change to train operators in the last month and brings to a conclusion the latest round of franchise awards and one of the most significant periods of change on the railways since privatisation.

If you have any photos of the final days of GNER and the first of the new National Express East Coast franchise, we would be delighted to receive them. You can e-mail your pictures to us [here](#).

Visit the National Express East Coast web site for details about the new franchise

Web Site Updates (08/12/2007)

A new 'Features' section has been created on the Web Site. Both End of the Line and Silverlink Swansong articles have moved to this new section. The Site Index has been updated

The Members Sightings pages have now moved to the Rolling Stock section

The feedback form on the web site has been removed due to the increasing amounts of spam being received via this method. If visitors or members wish to comment on the web site you are welcome to e-mail us.