

January 2011

27th January 2011

NXEA's 170205 was observed passing through Milton Keynes Central shortly after 13.00 en route from Norwich Crown Point to Wolverton Works.

26th January 2011

90047 continues to perform on the Pretendolino duty. Unusually today it was out and about whereas normally it does not run on a Wednesday or Saturday to enable maintenance to be undertaken. It is understood that 90047 will be swapped for 90041 next week.



90047 is seen here running about 6 late on the 12.30 ex Birmingham New Street (13.19 from Milton Keynes Central) to London Euston.
Photo: Mark Richards

23rd January 2011

90047 replaced 90045 on 'Pretendolino' duties last week and ran every day except Wednesday, which seems to be a regular occurrence. See photo on our main page of 90047's Thursday working. At the moment the diagram runs SX with no reported booked workings on the weekend. It is hoped to publish details of the regular diagram here shortly.

The East London Line extension to Highbury & Islington from Dalston Junction is reportedly due to open on 28th February although there has been no official confirmation of this date.

16th January 2011

FCC's 319429 was seen at St Albans (City) yesterday the victim of a severe graffiti attack that has left one of its carriages completely obliterated including the windows. Its partner set yesterday 319007 had also been damaged but not to the same extent.

The Pretendolino with 90045 made a brief appearance on Friday working half its diagram and apparently finishing with 12.30 ex-Birmingham New Street. The 18.46 (FO) to Preston was booked to be worked by a 5-car Voyager.

70009 has returned to Newport Docks after taking its sisters 70008 and 70010 to Stoke Gifford on 11th. During the move 70009 developed a seized axle at East Usk causing a delay of over 360 minutes. 70008 and 70010 were then taken in the early hours of the 12th by 66609 to Crewe Basford Hall.

Meanwhile 70012 remains at Newport Docks now covered in tarpaulin to cover its shame. New photos taken on 15th courtesy of David Elliott are available in our Fotopic gallery.

This is our original report from the homepage:

70012 remains at Newport Docks and has been loaded on a road transporter. Photos seen indicate that the loco is very badly damaged with the body shell badly misshapen and bent. It seems likely that all useable components will be recovered and the loco scrapped.

The next five Freightliner Class 70 locomotives 70008-70012 arrived at Newport Docks at the beginning of January.

In an unfortunate accident during the unloading of the locomotives onto the quayside it would appear that 70012 was dropped back into the hull of the ship and landed on a cargo of grain. Initial reports suggest that the loco was badly damaged with all axles broken and twisted frames.

It is believed that 70012 is to be scrapped and is understood (as at 8th January) to be on its way to Ghent.

Further photos of the successful delivery of 70008-70011 to the quayside at Newport can be found in our Fotopic gallery here.

9th January 2011

As reported on the home page, the next five Class 70 locos, 70008-70012 were delivered to Newport Docks last week. Unfortunately 70012 was dropped while being lifted out of the ship and is now expected to be scrapped. Latest reports indicate that it was on its way to Belgium.

Freightliner 90045 has been on hire to Virgin West Coast for the last two weeks working the loco hauled set mainly on a Birmingham diagram. It has so far only worked Monday to Friday circuits; presumably there are enough units to cover weekend diagrams.