

October 2011

23rd October 2011



37706 leading 37685 *Loch Arkaig* passes Southampton Central with the late running 1Z37 London Paddington to Portsmouth Harbour.

Photo: Mark Richards

Southern Tractors

West Coast 37685 *Loch Arkaig* and 37706 top and tailed a Spitfire Railtours excursion yesterday which covered a number of freight only lines around the Wessex Route as well as visiting the St Albans Abbey branch. Running as 1Z37 07.09 London Paddington to Portsmouth Harbour, the first leg visited the freight only Hamworthy Quay branch and covered the Down and Up Goods Loops at Southampton before running to Winchester. It was scheduled to return via Eastleigh Works before heading via Botley to Fareham and Portsmouth Harbour. The second leg ran as 1Z38 15.40 Portsmouth Harbour to Ealing Broadway, where it was due to arrive at 23.55 after travelling up the Portsmouth Direct with a visit to Aldershot and heading for London Waterloo via way of Virginia Water, the Up Goods Loop at Staines, the Hounslow loop and Clapham Junction. From Waterloo, it was booked to run a circular route via the South West Main Line to Weybridge, returning via Virginia Water, Staines, Twickenham and Barnes to Clapham Junction before taking the West London Line to Watford Junction and then the St Albans Abbey branch. From St Albans Abbey, the booked route was as outward to Willesden No. 7 then via Acton Canal Wharf to Acton Main Line to rejoin the Great Western Main Line to Ealing Broadway.

WCML RHTT

66124 replaced 66167 at the end of last week on the loco-hauled circuit

Arriva 150 in Norfolk

150280 from Arriva Trains Wales has arrived at Norwich to replace 156417 which is currently undergoing repair. This brings to an end the loco-hauled workings on the Norwich to Yarmouth diagram.

17th October 2011**Another Freightliner 90 comes to grief...**

90044 this time caught fire whilst working a container service to Felixstowe being stopped in the Berkhamsted area. It is not known how serious the fire was but is believed to have been connected with the traction motors. Considerable delays were caused, notably to London Midland services with 90044 and its train on the move over 3 hours late.

Stock Moves

Yesterday West Coast 57601 headed a mix rake of coaching stock with 47237 dead on rear as 5Z63 Acton Lane to Carnforth. 378214 moved under its own power yesterday as 5Z10 Wembley Yard to Crewe IEMD.

WCML RHTT

66167+66187 continue to work every day on the southern WCML RHTT circuit, this includes the Bedford to Bletchley branch and Watford Junction to St Albans Abbey, both branches rarely seeing any loco hauled trains.