

# Wings and Wheels Society News

...enthusiasts of Aviation + Rail + Road + Sea

## Hello and welcome...

to this, our **fourth** Wings newsletter... **a Bumper issue**, and what better to start it than with this recently taken image of the Merchant Navy locomotive 'Clan Line'. Simmering here at Kemble in the evening sunshine.

As usual we have included articles and photographs that have been sent to us during the *pandemic*... now classed in the UK as *Endemic*.

The next Issue of our newsletter will probably be early 2022, so please keep your stories and photos coming in... Ta, Ed.

We try our best to keep the accuracy of each story line, however we reserve the right to edit included articles in order to fit them into the newsletter.

If you've any articles for future issues, please drop us a line at:

[rich@debsillustration.co.uk](mailto:rich@debsillustration.co.uk)



More details of how we intend to start our forthcoming online meetings from October '21 can be found on the last page of this newsletter.

During the current situation, especially through the Winter months, it is important we all take care and look after loved ones, friends and neighbours.



**35028 Clan Line at Kemble on its return trip to London from Worcester 21-8-2021 © Rich Kelsey**

For the latest information on all the society's future meetings and how you can participate as well as our contact details, previous newsletters, photo galleries and much more, please visit our website:

[www.wingsandwheelsociety.org.uk](http://www.wingsandwheelsociety.org.uk)

**Disclaimer:** Any opinions expressed here are personal to the individual authors, which don't necessarily reflect those of our society. Wing and Wheels Society, Dursley with its voluntary team of helpers, accepts no responsibility for inaccuracy of information and the copyright is owned solely by the relevant authors.

## Featured Articles:



- P.2 Modelling through Pandemic now Endemic ...thank goodness for hobbies!**
- P.3 Fred's Travels - Part 4**
- P.4 LMS Ivatt Class 2 46443 locomotive - A local preservation story**
- P.6 Aviation Days Out & News...**
- P.8 Railway Journeys 2021 Gallery... by various members**
- P.9 A Visit to Scotland & the Isle of Man...**
- P.10 Members 'All sorts' Gallery... planes, trains, automobiles & more**
- P.12 Notices: Future Meetings , Charity Donations & Special Thanks**





## Modelling during the Pandemic now Endemic... thank goodness for Hobbies

### US Navy and Airforce model special!

As you have seen in previous issues of this newsletter the 'Woollard household' has certainly become a Mecca for modelling in the recent lockdowns etc.

Modelling trains to ships and tanks in various scales, so it's with pleasure, we include a couple of Summer 2021 projects from Thomas & Charlie.

Thomas' **1/48th F14 Tomcat** model, based on a Top Gun theme, is sat on a carrier deck made from a piece of Perspex. Also a very detailed completed kit of a US Navy **F4 McDonald Douglas Phantom**, from young Charlie's second ever paint and build.



Meanwhile member Ian Edwards is still building his rather large scale kit built models - the most recent he's completed is this from Hobby Boss; a 1/18th scale North-American **F-86F-30 Sabre**.

A few stats on the model will show you how big this is:

**Dimensions:** Length: 620mm Wingspan: 625mm

**Number of parts:** 190+

**Number of clusters:** 13 clusters and fuselage

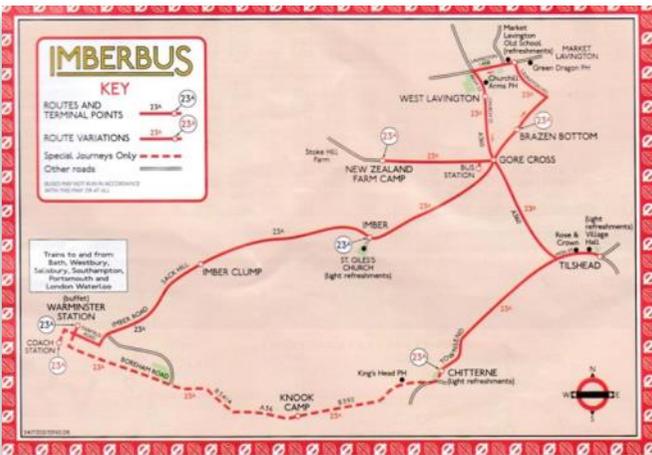
**Metal parts:** axle, screws, ballast all included!





## Fred's Travels-Part 4: 'Imberbus' is back! by our top enthusiast Fred (Dave) Winter from Aug' 21

After a year's absence 'Imberbus' is back. For those who don't know, Imber is a small village near Warminster that was taken over by the military for training purposes in WWII. The villagers were led to believe they could go back after the war, but this never happened. There is very limited public access, and public transport is confined to one day each year, when a fully licenced bus service, No. 23A, operates from Warminster station.



From Imber you can choose to continue your journey to such exotic destinations as Brazen Bottom or New Zealand Farm Camp. In reality, these are just desolate spots on Salisbury Plain, but Chitterne has an attractive church and the village hall here serves delicious home-made cakes at very reasonable prices.

To add to the fun, an interchange bus station has been created on MoD land at Gore Cross. Every thirty minutes a fleet of buses arrives, passengers play 'musical chairs', and the buses all depart again. A return to Imber costs a *fiveer*, while a day rover costs a *tenner*. The buses on display are mainly ex-London Transport, predominately Routemasters; the older RT, or the newer Boris variant, and a few local models providing disabled access.



I managed to complete all main routes and 11 vehicles, probably around half the fleet that was in action, without really trying.

The event is widely supported from the bus industry. Sir Peter Hendy, Chairman of Network Rail, with his own Routemaster, is hands on in driving, organising and also providing interviews and PR for the event. Even with the current rail disruption in the



Bristol area, this event is still very easy to access by train. I travelled from Yate to Filton Abbey Wood. Then my 166 took me on to Warminster, avoiding Temple Meads and my return journey, again avoiding Temple Meads, ended at Bristol Parkway. Despite the lousy weather first thing, and severe weather warnings, it proved to be a very worthwhile day out. Please enjoy a selection of photos that I captured on the day...Enjoy Fred.





## LMS Ivatt Class 2 46443 locomotive - A local preservation story by Mike Smith & Rich Kelsey inc. reference info

Steam locomotive No 46443 was built at BR's Crewe works in April 1950 and was based at Derby for 11 years. In 1961 46443 moved to Saltley, where duties were limited to infrequent rush hour journeys. A final move to Newton Heath, near Manchester in 1966 was shortly followed by withdrawal in March 1967.

The loco was purchased for £1750 from BR by traction engine owner Richard Willcox from Stonehouse following withdrawal in March 1967. Richard also bought one of a rake of LMS-designed coaches, purchased for the SVR from British Railways for £250 each. In 2021 this would be the costs representatively in O gauge!

BR agreed to the locomotive moving to the SVR in steam, with a final week being spent on shed pilot duties to assess the steaming capabilities. The move from Newton Heath to Bridgnorth via Crewe and Kidderminster took place on 22 April 1967, with 46443 becoming the second engine to arrive on the Severn Valley Railway.

46443 was reunited with a 21A Saltley shed plate upon arrival at Bridgnorth and saw use on the SVR in the early gala events before the official opening of the SVR.

On 27th September 1969, 46443 and 3205 together with a few other items of SVR rolling stock were piloted by a BR Class 47 from Bewdley to Tyseley to take part in an open day there. 46443 was one of the locomotives used on the opening weekend in May 1970.

SVR bought the locomotive in 1972. She was taken out of service in early 1973 after the right trailing axle box caught fire. Repairs lasted until the following year, with the locomotive re-entering revenue earning service on 19th May 1974.

She continued in use until being withdrawn at the end of 1979 due to the poor condition of the flue tubes. She had covered more than 29,000 miles on around 600 steaming days, more than any other SVR locomotive in the same period.

In late 1983 SVR announced that the locomotive had been sold as part of the deal that brought 45690 Leander to the SVR, and that the locomotive would move to Loughborough after repairs to the boiler had been carried out.



**46443 nr Long Ashton Junction on a Portishead - Bristol TM special  
15-9-1985, Photo © D Markey**

However, the move did not take place, and a fund was launched to 'buy back' the locomotive, during which time it gained the nickname 'The Peoples Engine'.

It is now owned by the SVR 46443 Fund, having been re-acquired in Autumn 1984. Following completion of the boiler repairs, the locomotive re-entered service in October 1984. Although only a Class 2 locomotive, she has fully earned a place in the list of SVR locomotives that have worked on the main line.

During the 1985 GWR 150 celebrations 46443 hauled the Bristol - Portishead shuttles. In July 1987 was asked to punch well above her weight when sent to Wales to replace Class 4MT 75069 on the BR Cardigan Bay Express service.

On arrival, the BR footplate crews expressed the opinion that they would be "**creeping around with three coaches at 20 mph!**" The first on-time arrival at Barmouth brought forth the comment "She steams quite well, doesn't she!". An early return to Machynlleth gave rise to "**She isn't a bad little engine, is she!**".

Within two days, "**I'd take ten to Pwllheli with her anytime!**" In addition to these main line appearances, service continued on the SVR until 1991, when 46443 failed with burst small tubes while on hire to the Llangollen Railway.



## Continued: 46443 locomotive - A local preservation story

Following a full re-tube and other repairs, 46443 returned to service in summer 1993. On 16th August 2004, the locomotive was involved in a collision with a van on Fishermen's Crossing.

The SVR was later cleared of any blame for the accident. 46443 was prematurely withdrawn from service after the 1998 Autumn Steam Gala weekend, once again suffering from issues with various boiler tube leaks.

The 46443 returned to service once more in time for the 2001 Santa Special services. She served a full 'ten-year ticket' but shortly after gaining an extension, but suffered a steam leak due to a corroded superheater header.



46443 At Highley Engine House (as a static exhibit pending overhaul) 21-5-2019, Photo © R Kelsey

She was then finally withdrawn in October 2011 having covered 145,997 miles in preservation.

The locomotive is now on static display in The Engine House awaiting its next overhaul. 46443 features on the pub sign of The Railwayman's Arms at Bridgnorth.



The Peoples Engine 46443 proudly is depicted on the Railwayman's Arms at Bridgnorth 21-5-2019, Photo © R Kelsey

Here are some further side notes on the article which Mike Smith would also like to add the rest of his thoughts, from the time he was involved with 46443 in its early days of preservation...

The loco was in full working order when it arrived at Bridgnorth so we did not have to restore or overhaul it. We cleaned it and did a few minor jobs, but nothing major.

When it arrived from Newton heath, the inside of the cab was painted with red lead primer. We painted it cream and the last time I saw the loco, the inside of the cab was still cream.

David Shepherd came to see us and 46443 at Bridgnorth and told us he had just bought an engine but didn't know what to do with it? Many of the early volunteers on the SVR were Birmingham area BR footplate crew.

One of them told me he couldn't understand why Tyseley bought Kolhapur because it's smokebox needed patching. If only that was the biggest problem facing owners of steam locos today!

Traction engine owner Ewan Jones (*not sure about the spelling of his Christian name*) from South Wales, brought his Merryweather steam fire pump to Bridgnorth so that we could carry out a boiler washout.

The boiler probably needed a washout. It didn't have to be done with a steam driven fire pump, but it was more fun that way.



## Aviation Days Out & News... Headcorn Battle of Britain Airshow July 2021, report by Kevin Davison

Wings member Kevin visited Headcorn airfield recently for their Battle of Britain Airshow. Kevin stayed for two days in his camper van, and the weather was not kind to him with dark skies for much of the Friday, the Saturday was a little better.



However there was an exciting mix of aircraft in attendance ranging from light aircraft such as Jodel's Tiger Moth's, and Stampe's, up to a Heavy American Bomber in the form of Sally B with lots of other different aircraft types in between. Featuring many types of Spitfire plus the NHS one featured in our previous newsletter. Kevin did well to get as many good images as he did.



Many thanks to Kevin for supply the images to us. You can see a full hit of his excellent images on our Society website, please visit:

<https://wingsandwheelsociety.org.uk/gallery.htm>





## Aviation Days Out & News...

Society member Adam Whitlock from Bristol sent us these interesting images from 'The Airbus Playground' at Monks Park near Filton, Bristol. Monks Park itself is a northern suburb of Bristol that takes its name from James Henry Monk, an 18th Century Bishop of Bristol and Gloucester.

These metal sculptures are part of a set installed as a salute to Bristol's great aviation Heritage in kit form!



### Local Aviation News: The Buccaneer Aviation Group

As reported in previous newsletters, things have been happening at Kemble especially since the Buccaneers arrived by road in the summer of 2020. Since then the Buccaneer Aviation Group (TBAG), based here in Gloucestershire, have spent the pandemic time preparing to give us something exciting to see in future!



Taken at Bruntingthorpe in August 2016. Photos © Dave Lamb.

### What to look out for next year!... can't wait!

The Buccaneer Aviation Group (TBAG) is a not-for-profit organisation of volunteers based at Cotswold Airport (formerly RAF Kemble) dedicated to the preservation and maintenance of two ex-Royal Air Force Buccaneer aircraft XX894 and XW544.



There will be a ground display to honour the service and dedication of air and ground crews, the people who built them and the memories associated with the Buccaneer. TBAG plan for both the jets to regularly perform fast-taxis to the public and to take part in photographic night shoots. TBAG is the only organisation which is entirely dedicated to this aircraft type, the group supports and provides assistance to preserved Buccaneers around the world. For more information, see:

<https://the-buccaneer-aviation-group.com>



## Railway Journeys 2021 Gallery... our 'Front of House' man, Nick takes us on a Summer South East Rail tour in July '21

First rail tour since Covid saw me travel up to Paddington in the July heatwave. After several cancellations and missed connections sufficiently bad for a full refund, I got to hotel in time for a fish & chip supper.

After a stuffy night I opted for the circle line to Victoria. Reduced service due to "ping-demic" effecting traincrew availability, but 85% plus wearing masks. Victoria was shockingly quiet – all that could be heard was the 12 cylinder Sulzer beat of class 47 that had brought the ECS in with LMS Jubilee Bahamas at the business end.



Once clear of the 'Smoke' we enjoyed a fine run into Kent, with a rousing climb of Bedstead Bank where my previous ill-feted trip with Britannia had literally come to standstill.



The trip gave several destination options between Margate and Faversham. I like many, stayed on to Faversham. Lovely old market town famous as the home of Shepherd and Neame's Brewery, so I naturally enjoyed a couple of pints of the local brew in the Sun Inn. Strange new process – just walk in without a mask, go up to bar, order beer, pay cash and take pint to beer garden. How delightfully retro!! Now I was back in the groove it was time to find the Elephant.

Nothing to do with David Shepherd - this is allegedly the only free house in town and a cracking boozier. After a couple of fine Kentish Ales, it was time to return to the station. The run home was a competent one by the same route, as gauging issues with the Jubilee's cab prevented the rare passage of steam on the Catford Loop.

After a couple of snaps at Victoria it was time for a pint – most London pubs were packed with young people partying in the heat. However my next stop, The Leinster



Arms in Bayswater proved a nice quiet back street boozier oasis in which to round off an interesting day. I've a soft spot for the Great Central and the newish Class 68 diesels, so opted to return the next day via Marylebone using Chiltern Rail's £6.80 single offer to Birmingham Moor Street. Barely a mask to be seen the length of Birmingham's New Street as I ventured to the Wellington pub for a few cheeky Black Country ales before returning home.



All Photos © Nick Clarke, enhanced by a few healthy excellent ales, Cheers and well done... Ed!



# Highlights of our recent travels - visits to Scotland & the Isle of Man

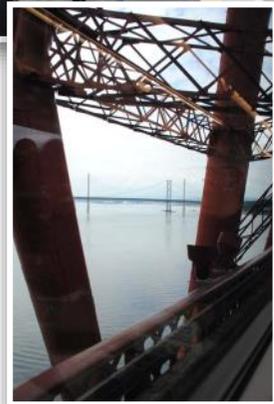
In July 2021 Ian and his wife, Jill travelled North of the border with the Railway Touring Company. They took the train from Kings Cross to Aberdeen visiting The Royal Deeside Railway and Caledonian Rly at Brechin.

Next they took ferry to Orkney for four days on the island including a ferry from Stromness to Scrabster. Later back to the mainland to Wick for the train to Inverness also visiting the Strathspey railway and back to London from Inverness, and home.

Photos © Ian Thomas



In August 2021, the couple also visited the Isle of Man concentrating mainly on the islands Trams and Steam Power! The weather never stopped them from having a great time or from reaching the foggy summit at Snaefell at 2036ft. Enjoy ...very impressive Ed.





## Members 'All sorts' Gallery...

Below is an original vintage poster from a July 1960 Rail Excursion from Coaley Junction to Weymouth... **what a find!**

**Cafeteria Car**  
*Excursion*

SPECIAL CAFETERIA CAR EXCURSION

ON  
**SUNDAY, AUG. 14th**  
TO  
**WEYMOUTH**

FROM	DEPART	RETURN FARES Second Class only	ARRIVAL ON RETURN
STROUD	8:50	17/6	12:35
CHELTENHAM SPA (St. James')	9:0	18/3	12:15
CHELTENHAM SPA (Malvern Road)	9:2	18/3	12:10
CHURCHDOWN	9:10	17/9	12:0
GLoucester (Eastgate)	9:20	17/6	11:50
STONEHOUSE (Bristol Road)	9:40	17/6	11:35
COALEY	9:50	15/9	11:30
CHARFIELD	10:5	14/0	11:15
YATE	10:15	13/0	11:5
WEYMOUTH	arrive	1:20	
Return from WEYMOUTH	depart	8:0	

1-Change Stations at GLOUCESTER in each direction.

Keep Britain Tidy

Tickets in advance and full details from Stations, Offices and Agencies

Paddington Station July 1960

BRITISH RAILWAYS

Courtesy of the G Markey Collection



This newsletter's 'star' photo was recently taken by society member, Jerry Mathews of Italian FS rail Class 640 no 143, the loco was built circa 1907. The photo was taken in Milan after riding the train from the Como Italian lakes area where a tourist service runs regularly in summer.

Also we have a recent photo of Jer at home with his bar and railway hand pumps plus his cat... **awesome Ed**





# Members 'All sorts' Gallery...



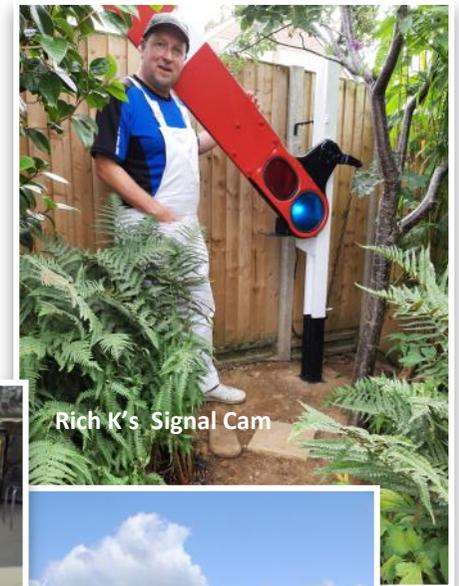
Ian & Jill @ Seaton



APT & Deltic @ Shildon by Bill



D1015 on test train @ Berkeley Rd by Rich K



Rich K's Signal Cam



LMS 5025 at Strathspey by Bill



MGB @ Whitby by Ricky T



Gloucester Retro Day by Ian



Ian & Jill @ Kingswear



Gloucester Retro Day by Ian



## Notices: Future Meetings



## Dates for your diary

### Well folks - when's the next meeting?

Our team has taken the decision to go online from October 2021 to March 2022 to avoid any uncertainty in the current situation.

However, fingers crossed we may be able return to the Community Centre for the April to May 2022 talks, but this still needs to have the covid situation assessed, so we will confirm if face to face meetings are happening in 2022, so please watch this space...

Worth noting, while sorting out the new programme we had to consider that some of our speakers currently only do on-line meetings at present, and others would rather wait until our winter 2022-2023 season, so all this was taken into account.

### Our first online meeting: Thurs 14th Oct 2021

Speaker James Rendell gives an illustrated talk on the 1940's Airspeed Horsa Glider

The talk includes stories of the actual pilots and crews that flew them. This meeting has no charge.

We will email you the join details one week before our first October online. If you would like to be notified of our monthly online talks and have recently changed your email address, please update us with your details.

We would also like to thank our Colleagues in the Stroud Vintage Transport & Engine Club (SVTEC) that have assisted us with the use of their online meeting platform. They are also starting the season carefully by using the online platform.

### Remembrance Sunday 14th November 2021

Cam Parade from 10.30am

Dursley from 2.30pm



'Clun Castle' blasting through Stonehouse on 25-9-2021 Photo © R Kelsey

## Charity Donations

Before we return to the Community Centre in 2022, we still intend to give the Centre a donation—so watch this space!

## Special Thanks

A 'Big thanks' to all newsletter contributors and snippets from articles that were emailed to us.

We hope you'll find these articles of interest.

*Bye for now.*



'Mayflower' with regulator open as she passes Minsterworth on 4-9-2021 Photo © R Kelsey