

SYPHON EXTRA

THE CLASS 37 GROUP

NUMBER 23 - MAY 1990

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EDITORIAL: The sharp eyed amongst you will have noticed the disappearance of our Publicity Officer from the headings above, Mike Millward having tendered his resignation. The remainder of the Committee felt, unanimously, that these duties could be covered adequately by themselves, and there being a desire to limit the turnover on the Committee, where possible, within the Group year.

Questionnaires: My thanks to all those of you who have returned these so far. I will try and reply to those which raise specific points and where I know the identity of the sender but please bear with me. I will be raising all 'non-magazine' suggestions at a future Committee meeting and aim to give a report of the resultant discussion in a future "Syphon!" One suggestion made by a number of people is covered in the next passage.

Railtour: OK folks, it's time to come clean. Since last October we have been laying the foundations for the Groups first railtour and I am at last able to announce the great news that we have received official confirmation for a class 37 hauled tour involving a number of freight lines on Saturday September 8th 1990. This has been mad possible by the actions of a small number of Group members who have risked quite larg sums of their own money on the basis of such a charter being a financial success. We have deliberately maintained a silence until final confirmation was received as there is no point in giving out speculative information on something that might not happen (and after a couple of false starts 1 did begin to wonder!).

Briefly, we will be picking up/setting down at Sheffield, Leeds and York, and then proceeding to Newcastle via the entire Leamside diversion route via Ferryhill from Norton South Junction to Heworth, then down the coast line through Sunderland and ont Skinningrove and Boulby, across to Eastgate via Darlington and then back to Sheffield We hope that a booking form will be ready in time for distribution with the June "Syphon!" - those will be sent outomatically to all Group members. If you want one as soon as possible, send a SAE to Neil Murphy at the above address. Motive power will o course te 37 (or 37's perhaps?).

Sales: Inflation affects us all, including The Class 37 Group as we have just found out while replenishing our stocks of sweatshirts. This increase will have to be passe on and the price of these will therefore rise to £13:50 for those in stock and £15:00 for special orders. This still compares very favourably with prices in the shops.

By the time you read this Bescot will have been and gone. In the next couple of months you should be able to catch us at least at the following: Doncaster Works - Sunday May 20th; Coalville - June 3rd; Gloucester - July 1st.

MONTHLY DRAW: Winner for the second month running was Michael Gibson! 22 to the Membership Secretary will get you entered into the final 2 draws of the current serie

PRESERVATION FUND: The donations letter has weaved its magic, the total on 1st May standing at £1994:81. Apart from a small amount transferred as monthly draw income, this is thanks to donations from: R.Parr, R.D.Lovell, T.Streton, M.D.Unwin, Michael Gibson, M.Warwick, Bob Upton, R.Allsopp, Andrew Garten, Harry Egrenont, I.R.Mayoh, A.P.Sayer and D.F.Symes. Why not send a donation to the Treasurer - you know it makes sense!

NEW MEMBERS/RFNEWALS: It's been a great mouth for renewals in particular aswell, including 100% renewals for March. The complete list reads as follows: Mr P Baxter-Smith (37008); Mr S.King (37012); Keiron Lewis (37014); John Perry (37016); Kevin Green (37019); Michael Gibson (37020); Peter King (37023); John Forge (37027); David Ruddick (37080); Harold Green (37083); Rod, Diane & Nathan Saunders (37085/086/087); Desmond Game (37110); Mr K.Spicer (37121); Mrs L.M.Spicer (37122); A.Sayer (37123); R.Cavanagh (37124); Mr J., Ms J., Ms L & Mr S.Chambers (37125/125/127/129); Mr M.Reynolds (37130); R.Keyes (37134); M.D.Unwin (37135); T.Dawe (37136); D.Warren (37137); T.Stzeten (37139); D.Symes (37140); P.Entwistle (37145); A.Gooch (37146).

THANKS will be credited next month, keep the letters rolling in:

DEADLINE for the June "Syphon!" will be Saturday May 26th.

NEWSDESK

Depot and sector reallocations for the period 29.3.90 - 26.4.90 were as follows:

37025	ED-IN	DCHA-DCEA	37888	SF-IM	FPFS-FPFR	37902	FMCK-FMHK
37378	TI-TE	FGET-FCTY	37890	SF-IM	FPFS-FPFR	37903	FMCK-FMHK
37407	IM-ED	DCEA-DCHA	37891	SF-IM	FPFS-FPFR	37904	FMCK-FMHK
37705	SF-IN	FPFS-FPFR	37892	SF-IM	FPFS-FPFR	37905	FMCK-FMHK
37706	SF-IM	FPFS-FPFR	37893	SF-IM	FPFS-FPFR	37906	FMCK-FMHK
37709	SF-IN	FPFS-FPFR	37901		FMCK-FMIK		

FCTY = Railfreight (Thornaby) Trainload loco's, Chemicals traffic. FPPP = Railfreight (Petroleum) Lamirohem, class 37/7 outbased at Ripple Larg.

Some interesting ones among that lot, including the transfer of 37407 back to Eastfield after spells at Cardiff and Immingham. As had been expected for some time, Stratford has lost its allocation of 'heavyweights'. Major maintenance and exams will be undertaken at Immingham with minor repairs and exams performed at Ripple Lane. This has reduced Stratfords 37 allocation to seven, 140/144/211/216/218/219 and 354. The 37/9's have lost their seperate pool and are now part of the 37/7 pool.

Another of the CP7 bogic fitted examples has been renumbered, 37357 reverting to 37079. Recently transferred to Eastfield, 37693 was named 'Sir William Arrol' on March 23rd at Edinburgh Waverley Station by Sir Bob Reid. Also on the naming front, the 'Isle of Mull' plates formerly worn by 37403 have been attached to 37424.

Liveries: The following are newly reported: 213/693/694/800 - triple tone Coal; 133 - departmental grey; 203/241/506 - triple tone Metals; 355 - triple tone Specilink (correction on February livery list).

SUMMER PREVIEW: What little passenger gen I have for April will have to wait until June's "Syphon!". The summer timetable has again produced a 37 diagram between Norwich and Yarmouth, it is booked to work the following: 1895 0924 Yarmouth-Norwich, 1193 1205 Norwich-Yarmouth, 1M18 1325 Yarmouth-Norwich and 1L81 1430 Norwich-Yarmouth, All these services carry compulsory reservation restrictions and are not booked to stop at Norwich. According to the diagrams there was also a 37 booked to work 1L82 0800 Liverpool-Yarnouth (to Norwich), returning on 1MO8 1607 Yarnouth-Liverpool (from Norwich) but it is understood this has now been swopped for a Stanlow pooled 47. The Norwich-Yarmouth 'portion' loco is a Stratford based example. Elsewhere, the Cambrian is to be the preserve of a mere 2 37/4's this summer. There should be at least one 37/4 diagram on the North & West route, this being the one that starts with the 0507 from Cardiff, and there is a 37/4 booked to work the 0807 Cardiff-Weymouth and 1653 Weymouth-Cardiff Monday to Fridays only, In Scotland 37/4's will operate a selection of services 'across the top' between Aberdeen and Inverness and at least one train to Eyle of Lochalsh. Summing up, it's probably best to stick to the rail tours, especially the one on September the 8th!