

784. **LMS Signals No 25 – The LMS Crewe and Preston Re-signalling Schemes**, by Reg Instone and L G Warburton. The usual comprehensive LMS Journal coverage, with 24 pages, 21 photographs an 8 diagrams and maps. The Preston scheme was cancelled due to the recession in the late 1930's but the Crewe scheme continued. The photographs comprehensively cover the ex LNWR infrastructure that was replaced. *LMS Journal* No 30.

785. **Somewhere Between Manchester and Liverpool**. A 3 page feature from the Pendragon archives, consisting of 9 photographs of ex LMS steam locomotives with trains in the BR period. *Backtrack* Vol 25 No 9 (September 2011).

786. **Mr Wheatley's Railway**, by A J Mullan. The article outlines how, in 1875, Thomas Wheatley began to resurrect his career by contracting to run the Wigtownshire Railway. It contains 6 pages, with 7 mostly BR period photographs, a map and a copy of Wheatley's tender. Wheatley had left his post as the NBR's locomotive superintendent after allegations of financial irregularities. Of interest to us: the Wigtownshire Railway formed a junction at Newton Stewart with the Portpatrick and Wigtownshire Joint, jointly managed by the LNWR; Wheatley had been running superintendent of the southern section of the LNWR for a period, and he used ex LNWR coaching stock. *Backtrack* Vol 25 No 9 (September 2011).

787. **Ptarmigan Goes Forth**. A locomotive recollection by Bill Broadbent, passed on by Ted Talbot. A single page with 2 photographs, one of George the Fifth *Ptarmigan* in 1934. The article recounts the exploits of the locomotive in making up time with an up *Royal Scot* in 1928, piloting the failed locomotive forward from Crewe. *Backtrack* Vol 25 No 9 (September 2011).

788. **Locomotives that got away: Express Passenger Classes**. An 8 page article by Philip Atkins. The author suggests that, amongst other companies' locomotives, a Webb 3 cylinder compound 2-2-2-0, George the Fifth or Prince of Wales, a 'Problem' or Lady of the Lake would have been good candidates for preservation or possible new builds. He mentions that the Tyseley 'Bloomer' is underway and hints at a possible new build George the Fifth. Includes 3 LNWR locomotive photos. *Steam Days* (October 2011)

789. **Britain's Titled Trains 40: The Corridor and Mid-day Scot Part One 1893-1934**, by Roger Haigh. A comprehensive text covering the early history of *The Corridor*, with 13 pages and 21 photos/illustrations. *Steam Days* (October 2011)

790. The October 2011 issue of *The Railway Magazine* contains three items of interest in its Steam & Heritage Track Record section:

- the preserved Super D and Coal Tank are booked for the Llangollen Railway's 'Steel, Steam & Stars III' event between 21 & 29 April 2012;
- the ex LNWR steam crane which nearly went for scrap has been purchased by Crewe Heritage Centre;
- the Coal Tank boiler is back in the frames.

791. **More Blackpool Outings**. A further 3 page feature, of 7 colour photographs with extended captions by Peter Fitton, of steam from the BR period around Blackpool. *Backtrack* Vol 25 No 10 (October 2011).

792. **The Road to Holyhead**. Part 2 of Bill Broadbent's account of his railway career, as recorded by Ted Talbot, with 6 pages and 7 photographs. This part covers his various experiences in the Motive Power Department, finishing as shedmaster at Holyhead before leaving railway employment. He enjoyed the friendship of the Beames family, still living at Chester Place, Crewe and played leading roles in saving the Festiniog and Severn Valley Railways. *Backtrack* Vol 25 No 10 (October 2011).

793. **Interface**. A look at couplings by L F E Coombs, through various forms from three links to modern automatic types. 6 pages and 10 photographs, of which 3 are of LNWR/WCJS vehicles. *Backtrack* Vol 25 No 10 (October 2011).

794. **Grand Openings and Gross Inconveniences Part 1**, by Jeffrey Wells. The author's intent is to explore what the railways were doing in 1852, through the content of the *Illustrated London News*. The LNWR figures large in the introductory paragraphs through its involvement in the Great

Exhibition in 1851 and its dominant, expansionist policies under Mark Huish. 7 pages, 7 illustrations/photographs and 16 references. *Backtrack* Vol 25 No 11 (November 2011).

795. **Locomotives That Might Have Been**, by Miles McNair. Primarily a look at a speculative 1930s design for a taper boilered 4-4-0, but includes W A Tuplin's musings about a 4-8-0 based on the Cloughton design. 2 pages with 3 illustrations. *Backtrack* Vol 25 No 11 (November 2011).

796. **The Longridge Branch and the Whittingham Railway**, by John L Flann. A short history of these Lancashire byways, which might have become part of a grandiose scheme to link Fleetwood and Preston with Yorkshire. 6 pages, 7 photographs and 3 maps/track plans. *Backtrack* Vol 25 No 11 (November 2011).

With thanks to Peter Stanton, Steve Weston and Chris James. Thanks also to David Moore, our Webmaster, you should find that entries are posted to our Webb site as soon after publication as our contributors can manage.

Please forward your contributions for Press Digest to Chris James

Email: press.digest@lnwrs.org.uk

Address: 39 Pennard Road, Kittle, Swansea SA3 3JY

Telephone: 01792 234316

We would also very much welcome other contributions, for periodicals not currently covered regularly. Please contact Chris James.