

Left Hand Running

The August 2009 Newsletter of The British Train Society
www.britishtrainsociety.org

A View From The Footplate

As you know there was no official meeting last month but two of us made it to the Train Festival in Owosso, Michigan at the end of the third week in July. Also Peter Carr was scheduled to ride one of the steam excursions resulting from this exhibition. Speaking for Martin Venn and me, we found the affair to be excellent. There were eight locos under steam and all running at some point during the four day event. There was also a FP-7 ex-Southern Railway Electromotive diesel, several operating model layouts, some with live steam, a good sized 1/8th scale "garden" layout with up to 7 different trains with a mixture of steam and diesel. At this location there is also a full size turntable that we saw operating. The highlight of the show for us was the newly built, full scale replica of one of the Central Pacific 4-4-0's used at the ceremony for the completion of the transcontinental railroad at Promontory Summit in Utah in 1869. It is a wonderful piece of workmanship and we saw it running albeit just to the turntable and back. See Photo:



Another highlight was Southern Pacific 4449 which was used in the Bicentennial celebration in 1976 to haul the Freedom Train. It was operating daily steam

excursions and presented an opportunity for train chasing.

All in all, it was a very well done affair and a lot of fun. Our next meeting will be at Harry's place on August 15th and we should devote some time, as we previously discussed, to what we would like to see included in our web site, timing, frequency etc. so please think about it and get your ideas talked over. I hope to see many of you there: until then Happy Modelling
Don Buchanan

Calendar of Coming Events

August 9th, 9:30 am – 3:00 pm
Great Midwest Train Show
Wheaton [DuPage County Fairgrounds]

August 15th, 1:30 pm
BTS Regular Meeting
Naperville [Harry Raynis, 1537 Warbler Dr]

September 13th, 9:30 am – 3:00 pm
Great Midwest Train Show
Wheaton [DuPage County Fairgrounds]

September 19th-20th,
Southland Model RR Show
Oak Lawn

October 11th, 9:30 am – 3:00 pm
Great Midwest Train Show
Wheaton [DuPage County Fairgrounds]

October 17th, 1:30 pm
BTS Regular Meeting
Lincolnshire (Mike Perry, 24 Wimbledon Ct.)

Railway Trivia

By George Rowland

I think that most people, in England anyway, know that the railway station with the longest name in Great Britain is:

*Llanfairpwllgwyngyll-
gogerychwyrndrobwll-llantysilio-gogogoch*

It is, of course, located in Wales.

Going the other way, there are at least eleven railway stations in Britain having names of only 3 letters. They are:

Ash

Ayr

Ely

IBM

Lee

Lye

Ore

Par

Rye

Wem

Wye

And then, of course, beginning with a three-letter word in the name is *Bat & Ball*. Yes, there is a *Bat & Ball* station; it is located near Sevenoaks in Kent.



Photo from Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia
Bat & Ball station was opened in 1862 as *Sevenoaks* by the Sevenoaks Maidstone & Tonbridge Railway, was renamed *Sevenoaks Bat & Ball* in 1869 and in 1950 was named simply *Bat & Ball*. The name derives from the Bat & Ball Inn which no longer exists.

This Months' Meeting

Our meeting this month is at Harry Raynis' home in Naperville. Remember that there is a major ongoing construction project at 75th and Washington near Harry's place. To avoid both Washington and 75th, drive south on Naper Blvd. and then west on Bailey Road. If Google maps don't help, call Harry for directions (630) 355-3155.

Harry's layout is about 75% complete. All trackwork is laid and all major scenery installed. People are welcome to come to the meeting early to run trains (yours or Harry's) and to take photographs. Also come and hear about the "Legend of The Southside."

The program for the meeting will be a presentation by Martin Venn and Don Buchanan of their participation in Train Fest 2009. Hope to see you all at the meeting.

