

# WESTERN LINESIDE

## ***News from the Western Locomotive Association - February 2006***

Editor's note. Here is your newsletter keeping you up to date with all the latest WLA news. The next Western Courier magazine will be out in the summer – don't forget to send me any articles or photo's that you would like included! Send them to:- Steve Draper, 32 Coryton Crescent, Cardiff, South Glamorgan, CF14 7EQ.

### **Chairman's Notes** by Roger Smith

Well it's not too far away from the running season again and I'm sure that everyone (our members at least!) will be looking forward to the sight and sound of a "Western" on the Severn Valley. The dates for your diary are given below and it might be worthwhile checking the web site ([www.westernloco.com](http://www.westernloco.com)) now and again to see if there are any additional dates or alterations, particularly as these have only just been issued and subject to finalisation. It's worth pointing out that on the 15<sup>th</sup> July, we are attaching the GWR Observation Coach (the "Obbo") again. This is primarily for the WLA Committee and Working Members as a thank you for all their work during the year but there should also be plenty of space available for other WLA Members if they would like to travel as well. The numbers are limited to about 25 people, so there shouldn't be too much of a problem in accommodating people on at least one or two of the trips, if you would like to join in the fun!

Although there is no SVR Diesel Gala this year, there may be some additional dates with the Schools Education Service but these have yet to be discussed. In some respects, if we do end up with slightly fewer running days, then more time can be given to the overhaul of Western Courier. The running dates are as follows:-

Saturday, 13 <sup>th</sup> May	(Thomas)	
Sunday, 14 <sup>th</sup> May	(Thomas)	
Friday, 19 <sup>th</sup> May	(Driver Experience)	
Friday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	(Driver Experience)	
Saturday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	(Table C)	
Saturday, 17 <sup>th</sup> June	(Table C)	
Friday, 14 <sup>th</sup> July	(Driver Experience)	
Saturday, 15 <sup>th</sup> July	(Table C + Obbo)	
Friday, 11 <sup>th</sup> August	(Driver Experience)	
Saturday, 12 <sup>th</sup> August	(Table C + Evening Diner)	MEMBERS DAY
Saturday, 26 <sup>th</sup> August	(Table C)	
Friday, 8 <sup>th</sup> Sep	(Driver Experience)	
Saturday, 9 <sup>th</sup> September	(Thomas)	
Saturday, 10 <sup>th</sup> September	(Thomas)	

As you've probably noticed, we are having a "Members Day" again on Saturday, 12<sup>th</sup> August. This is where we will have our workshops open to WLA members and to give people the chance to look around D1062 Western Courier, to see the advanced state of restoration. D1013 Western Ranger will hopefully be in traffic for the whole day on the Table C service and also on "The Golden Hind" evening diner train from Kidderminster to Bridgnorth return. Ticket prices are £35 which includes travel (including the Table C diesel service!), a four course meal and at least one (probably more!) glass of wine. A booking form is enclosed or it can be printed off from the web site but please book early to avoid disappointment as the train will probably be full this year!

Good progress is being made on the WLA membership front as we managed 275 members by the end of last year! Many thanks to all of you who "did their bit" to find new members but we still have a long way to go if we are to reach our target of 500 by 2007! Needless to say a Membership Form is enclosed with this Lineside so please use it if you haven't yet renewed or use it to recruit a new member. To stand a good chance of achieving some of our major goals (including Main-line running), we must all keep up the pressure on recruiting new members (and inviting previous members to re-join). This year, we will be including one-year's free membership to those non-WLA members who attend a Driver Experience Course. It is down to each one of us to do what we can – if we can build on our strengths then it will all be worth the effort! Forms can easily be printed off from the WLA web but please remember WE STILL NEED MORE MEMBERS!!



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## D1062 Transmission Update

Great news has been received from Voith in that they are likely to test D1062's "B" end transmission at their German factory, in June of this year. If so, it could mean that the transmission is back in time and possibly reinstalled before the end of the running season! If you want to see the sort of work that Voith have had to cope with in overhauling the transmission, take a look at the web site in the Members Section (you'll get straight in if you are a WLA Member!). Also, to get up to date news, it's as well to visit our web site regularly and take look on the Forum Page as updates are easily posted there.

## D1062 Western Courier Appeal by Henry Coates

The good news is that D1062's transmission is being overhauled by Voith and should be ready this year – the bad news is that we have to raise sufficient funds to cover the increased costs of repair due to the damage to one of the gear wheels. Although most of the repair costs have been covered by the lottery grant, there will still be a shortfall of around £6,000. However, although this is a small price to pay for a £50,000 repair, we still need to raise the money, plus extra for new windows, brake overhaul, paintwork and many other items. The total appeal target is £10,000 and so far, we have raised almost £2,000. We know that many of you have been very generous and supportive in the past and we do rely very heavily on peoples' goodwill and donations. At the present time, we are holding back on any further major expenditure, which will inevitably postpone D1062's return to traffic, unless we can secure funds fast! The target date for D1062's return is July 2007 – the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the "Western Reunion". We have come such a long way with the locomotive's restoration and we all want to see her back just as soon as possible. Please could you consider the following:-

- A donation to the appeal to complete D1062
- Joining the thousand club by making a monthly donation
- Becoming a life member with a donation of £1,000
- Encouraging friends to join the WLA

There are some incentives to donors to this appeal:-

- For £1,000 you get Life Membership of the WLA
- For £500 you get a Driver Experience Course on D1062
- For £250 you get a Cab Ride on D1062

If you give any amount, you have the pleasure and satisfaction of knowing that you have helped to return D1062 return to service and back where she belongs – at the front of the train with both engines running!

Please make donations payable to "Western Locomotive Association Ltd" and send them to our Treasurer – Stefan Mead, 82A Aslett Street, Wandsworth, London, SW18 2BQ

## The 2005 Annual General Meeting by Henry Coates

The 2005 AGM was held in Birmingham on the 12<sup>th</sup> November 2005. The meeting heard that 2005 had seen a number of important developments, including a new logo for the WLA, new web site at [www.westernloco.com](http://www.westernloco.com) and a new look Western Courier magazine. We had been successful in making an application to the Heritage Lottery Fund for the repairs to D1062 "B" end transmission, which was now at Voith in Germany. Membership had increased during the year and D1013 had run successfully, including a visit to the Mid Hants Railway. The Dining Car train and Observation Saloon trips had been very well received and would be repeated in 2006, including the Members Day. A new Education Page for the web site was about to be launched. Engineering work included an overhauled dynostarter at a cost of £960 and transmission shafts at £2,800. A turbo-charger was due for overhaul and new windows were required for both locomotives at £2,600 per locomotive, subject to funds. The existing Chairman and Committee were re-elected and Neil Parsons was elected as Members Representative. A discussion took place on the location of the next AGM and it was unanimously agreed to hold future meetings at the SVR's museum at Kidderminster, where a room had been offered for £30 (including tea and coffee!). The next AGM date would be 11<sup>th</sup> November 2006, with Committee Meetings being held on 18<sup>th</sup> February, 13<sup>th</sup> May and 7<sup>th</sup> October 2006.

Don't forget to visit us at [www.westernloco.com](http://www.westernloco.com)

