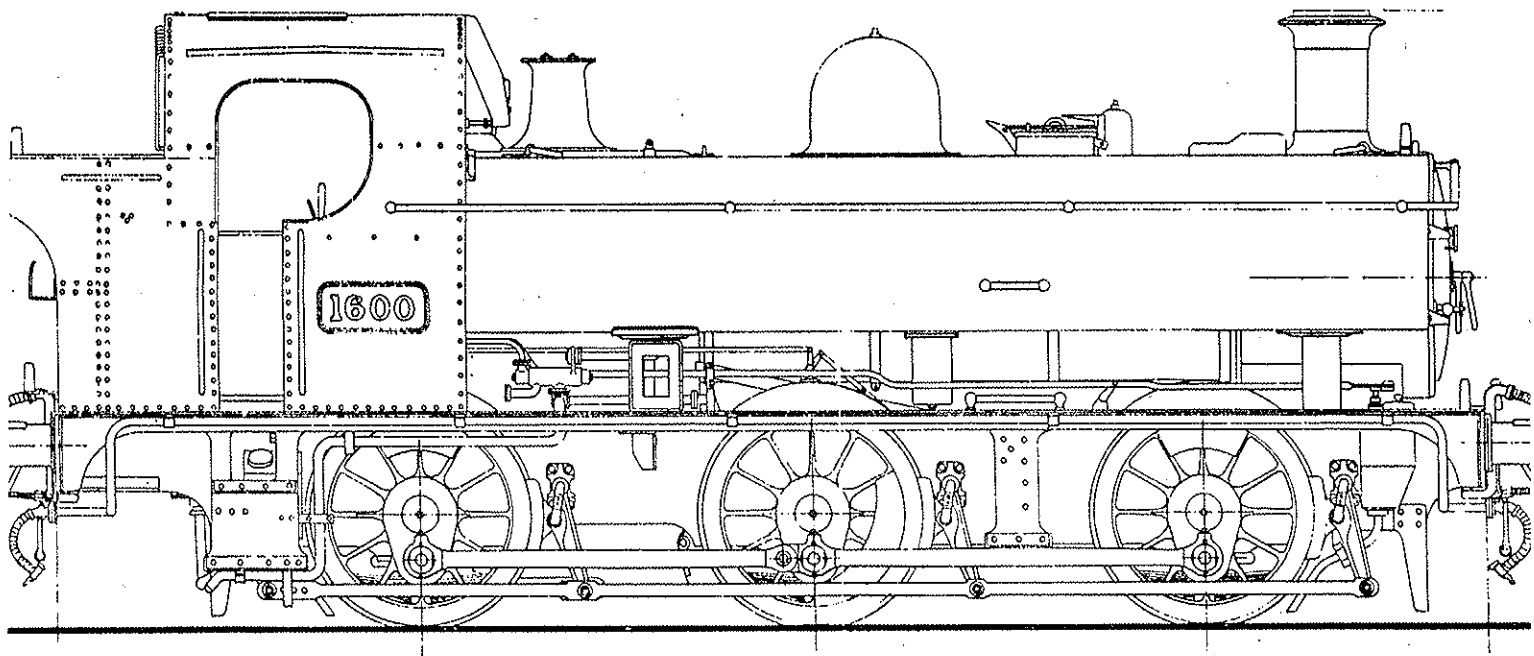


COCK O' THE NORTH

Newsletter of the Angus Railway Group



0-6-0 PT 16xx CLASS

December 1975 Newsletter

EDITORIAL

At our closing meeting of the year, held high above the bustling suburb of Ardler, we were particularly fortunate in being subjected to an eloquent talk by our Chairman. His fluent, forceable and apt use of language gave those present a vivid picture of the railways which once straddled the rich agricultural country between Perth and Kinnaber Junction. Thanks also to our hosts for the excellent supper and maintenance of the lift.

It remains only to wish all members of the Group a Happy and Prosperous 1976.

A LETTER FROM THE CALEDONIAN

We have just recently received a reply from the Caledonian Railway Company, in answer to our query about five light Great Central engines being sighted near Burrelton. We are informed by a senior official that the rumours which have been heard in Perth are basically correct. The journey described did in fact take place in June 1920. If any similar movements are contemplated in the future, we are promised to be notified well in advance.

CUMMINGS AND GOINGS AT PERTH

Near the end of November, while shunting at the top end of the arrival road No 2 at Perth yard, No. 08 426 became derailed.. The Dundee breakdown crane had had to be summonsed and arrived hauled by a Class 25. The accident had happened at 03.00 but by mid - morning the 08 Class shunter had been rerailed, none the worse. By midday, the Dundee crane departed for home in readiness for an urgent invitation to attend on some other occasion.

One Friday during the same month, a loaded Vanfit became derailed over the points in the yard at Coupar Angus while being propelled by Class 40 066.

As the engine's train was trapped in the loading bank, the Class 40 returned to Perth as a light engine. During the weekend B.R. staff rerailed the wagon and a light engine and brake van were sent out to recover the train on Monday morning.

In place of the usual Class 24, 25 or 26 used on the Forfar branch, Brush Class 47 274 was a visitor on the 4th December 1975. (Our Coupar-Angus correspondent reports that the track now looks much cleaner - Ed)

Interfrigo wagons are again reaching Perth for the carriage of potatoes from Strathmore to European Countries. These wagons normally arrive in Glasgow loaded with tomatoes or green peppers and after unloading are despatched to Perth for dispersal to Auchterarder, Alyth Junction and Forfar. One also arrived empty in Perth bound for Dewars whisky bottling plant, a very rare occurrence indeed, and returned south for the continent via Harwich.

A stranger into Perth several weeks ago was 37 370, which arrived from the south with 55 empty Vanfits for the potato traffic. The engine returned to Grangemouth with 40 mineral wagons destined for Yoker in Glasgow. (B.R. should know by now that you can't put potatoes in mineral wagons! - Ed.)

Another stranger to Perth during the same week was an unidentified Peak Class 46, which arrived in Perth with 20 empty tube wagons destined for Inverness. As Inverness crews cannot drive Peaks they are banned from the Highland Line and any locos like these that do reach Perth are returned south, as this one was, on a mixed goods train for Millerhill.

I would like to thank an unnamed British Rail employee for the above notes.

JOHN CUMMING.

The Editor would like mention that if any member wishes to make use of Interfrigo services the address to contact is :

Interfrigo,
Wettsteinplatz 1,
BASEL (CH).

DINNER DANCE REPORT

Saturday, 8th November 1975, was a fine day in Dundee and in houses across the city people were bathing, washing, shaving and getting ready for the night to come. Meanwhile at the city's police headquarters, officers were attending a hurriedly called briefing session and photographs were being issued.

By 20.00 hours a mottly band of people had assembled in the Cliffburn Hotel, Arbroath and once again the law enforcement agency had been outwitted.

Those who attended the hotel of whom we have descriptions included Ian Johnstone, our organiser, Lawrence Burness, Ian Rattray and his wife, David Mahony with his young lady, Lindsay Horne and John Cumming and their partners, Thomas Smith, Ian Stewart and his party, together with other guests.

After a few drinks in the lounge to warm the company, there was a movement into the large hall for the main event - an excellent meal, which was enjoyed by all.

There are some fine dancers among our Group. Lawrence was to be seen dance with the lovely Mary Kendal, while Lindsay Horne as usual caused havoc wherever he went and one of our young lady guests will not forget her dance with our infamous Chairman.

Our thanks must go to Ian Johnstone and Lindsay Horne for all the work they put into our night out.

IAN RATTRAY.

N.B. Readers are asked to note that any critical remarks relating to individuals are solely those of contributors! - Ed.

ANNUAL RAFFLE

The draw for prizes was made at our meeting on Sunday, 14th December. A list of winners appears elsewhere in this issue. It is heartening to note that £ 60 was raised. Thanks to everyone for their efforts in selling tickets.

Solution to October CrosswordAcross

2. Table
 5. Rich
 7. Abt
 9. Mad
 10. Incite
 11. Drinking Pal
 15. Signal Cabin
 19. Cherub
 21. Inn
 23. She
 24. Lace
 25. Mince

Down

1. Era
 2. Think
 3. Bacon
 4. Eat
 6. Idling
 8. Beta
 9. Modes
 12. Ill
 13. Public
 14. Linen
 16. Inch
 17. Aeron
 18. Cable
 20. Hem
 22. Net.

Prize Draw

Our draw this year has raised the fine sum of £60, for which I would like to take this chance to thank all our members for amassing this sum, thanks must also go to the members who gave prizes for our draw, with an extra mention going to John Simpson, and George Mitchell, for turning up on Sunday night with extra prizes, it is good to see members helping in this way.

PRIZE DRAW WINNERS LIST

Below you will find a list of the prize winners of our 1975 prize draw, please check if any of the tickets you sold have come up, and get in touch with Ian Rattray for the winners prize, which you can then deliver.

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|----------------------|--|
| 1. Bottle of Wine | F. Holligan, 3 Rowanbank Gdns B/Ferry |
| 2. £2 Gift Token | L.R. Burness Arbroath |
| 3. Bottle of Whiskey | G. Bell, Tay Health Board |
| 4. Box of Chocolates | Mrs J. Stewart, 56 Addison Pl. Arbroath |
| 5. Bottle of Wine | D. Shunn, G.P.O. |
| 6. Bottle of Wine | F. Holligan, 3 Rowanbank Gdns B/Ferry |
| 7. Bottle of Sherry | Ronnie McNaughton, 249 Dickson Ave. |
| 8. Food Tray | L.R. Burness, Arbroath |
| 9. Railway Book | M. Kendall, 31 Balunie Ave. |
| 10. Hamper of Food | Nicola McGuff, 978 Rosemount Road. |
| 11. 3lb Roast | Julie Osborne House, Kirkaldy |
| 12. Handbag | Janet Scott, 13 Ballochmyle Drive. |
| 13. Writing Set | R.B. Halley, 47 Wilson Street, Perth |
| 14. Bottle Whiskey | E.S. Campbell, 119 Dochart Tce. |
| 15. Chicken | Mrs M.B. Johnstone, 12 Glenesk Ave, Arbroath |
| 16. Pen & Pencil Set | Garry Cumming, 20 Perth Road, Scone. |

