

THROUGH THE LENS – LONDON'S TRANSPORT THROUGH THE LENS OF JASON CROSS

by Jason Cross

A report of the LURS meeting at All Souls Clubhouse on Tuesday 14 May 2019

Jason began the meeting by informing the audience that some subjects were away from London Underground but 70% were related. Jason advised that he did not use a drone but a 10m pole for the aerial shots. The camera at the end is connected by a cable to a tablet which is used to take the photographs. Jason split the photographs in his presentation under the following headings:

S STOCK MOVES

- Melton Mowbray station with a pair of class 20s taking an S8 unit to Old Dalby for ATO testing.
- An S7 unit at Old Dalby with temporary ATO equipment bolted to the front.
- An unexpected shot of an S Stock unit being hauled by a class 08 diesel shunter at Old Dalby.
- Also at Old Dalby Jason captured a Crossrail Aventura class 345 on test.
- Units are moved from Bombardier at Derby to Old Dalby and then on to London usually by the Rail Operations Group (ROG). The next photograph showed top and tailed ROG class 37s on a Class 710 London Overground unit.
- Jason then captured a ROG class 37 hauling a Crossrail class 345 at Harrowden Junction.
- Two more shots then showed class 345s at Liverpool Street and Paddington where they are in service until Crossrail opens.

RAILTOURS, CHARTER AND HERITAGE TRAINS

- Class 87 number 87.002 was shown at Paddington on a GBRf railtour. This locomotive, which is usually used on the empty stock of the Caledonian Sleeper, was only the second electric locomotive to be seen at Paddington. Other images were also shown from Paddington including class 73 Electro Diesels and A4 60009 Union of South Africa.
- Then followed shots of the Belmond British Pullman at Victoria and Kensington Olympia, a South Eastern and Chatham Railway C class locomotive at Kings Cross for film work and a class 86 electric locomotive at Euston.
- Next was a video taken at Chorleywood of a class 33 leading the 4-TC set with two class 20s in London Transport livery on the rear.
- 20.205 was then shown near Ruislip station having just come off Ruislip Depot with the 4-TC set and 20.412, 9466 and Met 1 on the rear. This was going empty to Harrow-on-the-Hill to take up its tour duties.
- Later in the day this train is seen passing through Chorleywood station.
- Also on the same day the train is approaching Chalfont & Latimer northbound so Met. 1 is leading.
- The 1938 Tube Stock featured next with a picture taken between South Ealing and Acton Town on its tour to Upminster. Then on its trip round the Circle Line, one near Ravenscourt Park and later in the day approaching Sudbury Town.

THE LAST DAYS OF THE D STOCK

A short video of the D Stock Farewell Tour passing through Fulham Broadway started this section. Jason was waiting at West Kensington to photograph some Battery Locos when a D Stock train unexpectedly arrived, which he duly captured. Then followed several pictures of D Stock at Acton Town (luckily two in the same shot), Chiswick Park, Turnham Green, Temple, West Ham and Barking.

VIVARAIL

The ex-D Stock conversions were covered next. 230.001 was captured on its second night of testing passing through Dorridge. There were also shots of two trains being delivered to the Marston Vale line. 230003 passing Daventry International Rail Freight Terminal and 230.005 passing through Northampton. The final picture was a night shot of 230.003 on test at Millbrook Station.

RAIL ADHESION TRAINS

- D Stock at Harrow-on-the-Hill and Northwood.
- A Stock at Harrow-on-the Hill, Amersham and Alperton.

- 1962 Tube Stock 5-car train at the west end of the Central Line at East Acton, North Acton and inside Ruislip Depot,.
- 1962 Tube Stock 8-car train at the east end of the Central Line at Buckhurst Hill and Hainault.

CENTRAL LINE

The Central Line's 1992 Stock featured next with pictures at Ruislip Depot, West Acton, East Acton, Chancery Lane, Liverpool Street, Leytonstone, Wanstead and Barkingside.

VINTAGE BUSES

These were preserved London Transport buses in re-enacted scenes of when the buses were in service. The photographs were night shots taken in historic locations over London. These included:

- Leyland 7RTs and Routemasters at Newbury Park and Sudbury Town stations and also on Westminster Bridge.
- Leyland 7RT and Guy Arab II on Lambeth Bridge and at Old Palace Yard.
- AEC Regent I and Leyland Tiger PS1 at Whitehall Court/Horse Guards Avenue.
- AEC Regent III and Routemaster on Chelsea Bridge.
- AEC Regent III outside the Aldwych Theatre, Marylebone Station and on London Bridge.
- Leyland 7RT and AEC Regent III at Ludgate Hill and outside the Bank of England.
- Guy Arab II and Routemaster on Tower Bridge.

The Trolleybus Museum at Sandtoft was visited next with a shot of a London Transport AEC Regent III and a K2 class London Trolleybus. Then to the East Anglian Transport Museum at Carlton Colville where shots of a K2 class London Trolleybus and H1 and HR/2 London Trams were captured.

TRAMS

- A London Transport E1 and a London United Tramways W class at the National Tramway Museum at Crich.
- Several shots taken in and around Croydon.

DOCKLANDS LIGHT RAILWAY

This was covered next with pictures from Poplar, Blackwall, Limehouse, Stratford, West Ham and Abbey Road.

JUBILEE LINE

Stratford, the entrance to Stratford Market Depot, Swiss Cottage, north of Dollis Hill, the flyunder before Wembley Park and Stanmore were covered in this section.

PICCADILLY LINE

- A 1996 Tube Stock train going for brake testing was captured at Northfields.
- A 1972 Tube Stock train was seen returning to the Bakerloo passing Sudbury Hill. It had been to Acton Works for life extension mods.
- 1973 Tube Stock Trains were then shown at various locations: Ruislip Siding to reverse, Uxbridge, north of Park Royal crossing the Central Line, near Hounslow Central, Osterley, between South Ealing and Acton Town, Ravenscourt Park, Hammersmith, Green Park, Covent Garden, Arnos Park Viaduct, Bounds Green and Cockfosters Depot.

THE FORMER GREAT NORTHERN & CITY RAILWAY

Jason showed photographs of the old GN&CR platforms at Finsbury Park which are used by the westbound Piccadilly and southbound Victoria Lines. There were also shots from Highbury and Islington where the southbound Victoria Line and the southbound National Rail line also use the old platforms. The class 313s that use the line to Moorgate and their replacements, the class 717s, were also featured.

LONDON TERMINI

Jason showed various photographs from the main London termini showing many trains that are shortly to be replaced with new types

BAKERLOO LINE

Jason showed images of:

Marylebone, London Road Depot at 3am with a full complement of trains, Lambeth North, Regents Park, north of Queen's Park by what was Kensal Green Goods Yard, the approach to Wembley

Central after the tunnel under the West Coast Main Line, Wembley Central and Harrow and Wealdstone in the reversing siding.

ENGINEERING TRAINS

Jason started with a short video of the diesel powered Rail Grinder at Kilburn Park on the Bakerloo. Then followed shots of various Battery-Electric hauled trains:

- Holland Park, White City and St. Paul's on the Central Line.
- Russell Square was shown with a train for Kennington which was about to traverse the King's Cross Loop to access the Northern Line.
- Night shot at Sudbury Town.
- North of North Ealing with a train from Wimbledon heading back to Ruislip.
- Railvac Train at West Harrow.
- Cement Mixer at Harrow-on-the-Hill going to work between Finchley Road and Baker Street.
- Hillingdon with a train from Ruislip to Uxbridge for a weekend possession plus a view of the train at Uxbridge.
- In the cutting east of Earl's Court and one of the trains at Chiswick Park the next day.
- Paddington with a spent ballast train returning to Ruislip followed by a pair of Schöma diesels passing through Notting Hill Gate.
- Queen's Park during a possession with a green light in the South Shed indicating that the power was off.
- Dawn shot at Rayners Lane of train returning to Ruislip.

NORTHERN LINE

Images were shown of:

Morden station with three trains in shot, Balham, Clapham North, Charing Cross, Belsize Park, East Finchley, High Barnet with the Great Northern station and signal box, Brent Cross and Hendon Central with one going in and one coming out of the tunnel.

AND FINALLY ...

Jason had just been to the Arlington Works at Eastleigh and had photographs of Spoil Ballast Wagons undergoing refurbishment, Inspectors Saloon 'Florence Nightingale', Sarah Siddons, Schöma diesel No.9 and old tube cars awaiting asbestos removal.

This report can only give a brief description of the images shown at the meeting. Credit must be given to Jason for the excellent quality of his photographs and his presentation for which the audience duly showed their appreciation.

Maurice Lees