



The Ramble 451 - 31/07/23

Monday 7th August [452]
Monday 14th August [453]
Monday 24th August [454]
Monday 31st August [455] - Bank Holiday Monday.

Monday 7th August [452]
Monday 14th August [453]
Monday 24th August [454]
Monday 31st August [455] - Bank Holiday Monday.

Monday 4th September No Ramble - On Holiday
Monday 11th September [456]
Monday 18th September [457]
Monday 25th September [458]

Holidays

I have had a very busy two weeks away and I came home late last night. I have had part of today to do some work on the Ramble but it is not a full edition.

The Ramble tends to be an on-going thing that I do in bits. When I go on holiday things are paused and when I come back it is madness.

There will hopefully be a holiday report but it will depend on time. I even managed to get to Germany, VT 742 at Heimbach on 18th July.



For The Diary

Bocq Railway Festival [Main Bocq Website [here](#)]

Saturday 12th August

Sunday 13th August

Monday 14th August - Photo Safari

Tuesday 15th August

In addition to the material of our association (PFT/TSP), circulation and/or exhibition of old and modern locomotives, coaches and wagons of companies*

Locomotives in service on 12th, 13th and 15th August 2023

- 5183 PFT
- 5205 PFT
- 6305 Infrabel
- Tubize n°2069
- 5512 TVM SNCB on Sunday 13/08
- 7402 PFT
- 7305 PFT

Equipment on display and accessible

- 2715 "New Look" Exclusive to PFT
- 21** SNCB
- 1187 SNCB
- 5166 SNCB
- Flirt 3 Arriva
- 6400 DB Cargo
- Vectron DB Cargo
- Class 66 Railtraxx n°266 031-4
- 7800 TUC RAIL
- TRAXX 186 TCA Rail new exclusive livery!
- 4506 PFT
- 5927 PFT
- 4602 PFT
- SNCB i6 coach
- SNCB SR3 "Bar Disco" coach with drinks bar and music
- SNCB Resto carriage with possible meals on board

PFT coaches in circulation

Halbertad + Mitropa + generator van
i5
K
M1

*subject to confirmation

This is a change to previous information and the biggest change is that the Railtraxx Class 66 is now static and will not be working.

Nederlands Open Days [Main Page [here](#)]

Saturday 15th September

Sunday 16th September

On 15th and 16th September 2023, everyone in the Netherlands can see how fascinating the rail sector is. Companies proudly open their gates to the public and offer them a warm welcome. Construction projects, stations and exhibitions can also be visited by everyone.

In addition to guided tours, there are workshops, competitions and other challenges for young and old. From 21 June, all locations to be visited with their specific rules will be listed on this site.

List of sites - <https://railydagen.nl/deelnemende-locaties/>

Of interest to some of you is the open day at Alstom [nee Shunter] site at Blindeweg - Rotterdam

<https://railydagen.nl/locatie/alstom-maintenance-depot-rotterdam/>

Den Haag Trams

De Werf [Sunday only] - <https://railydagen.nl/locatie/htm-locatie-de-werf/>

Gravenmade [Sunday only] <https://railydagen.nl/locatie/htm-locatie-s-gravenmade/>

Rotterdam Trams - <https://railydagen.nl/locatie/ret-beverwaard/>

There is also an event in Amersfoort as well

The Control Centre in Utrecht is also open - <https://railydagen.nl/locatie/operationeel-controle-centrum-rail/>

CFV3V Steam Festival 50th Anniversary Event [Main CFV3V Website [here](#) - Event Page [here](#)]

Friday 22nd September

Saturday 23rd September

Sunday 24th September

Train 1900 at Fond de Gras Diesel Day [Main Website [here](#)]

Sunday 1st October



Belgische Nachrichten Nouvelles belges Belgisch Nieuws

Withdrawals

On 25th May 2023 - 2145, 2156, 744, 756 & 975.

On 25th June 2023 - 2133, 2136, 2159, 2749, 752, 760 & 772.

HLE 13

Looking for the Revision Dates for 1308 and 1338

Graham photographed 1358's Revision Date



HLE 18/19

1907 and 1921 are both back in service after an RIK2 Revision.

HLE 28/29/186

There has been quite a bit of TRAXX action whilst I have been away. An event called Tomorrowland took place at a venue in Boom. The problem is that Boom is not the best place to hold a large event like this from a railway point of view whereas Pukkelpop at Kiewit is much better placed to handle crowds. The problem is Line 52 is double to Boom and then goes single track round to Puurs and is then single track again to Sint Niklass. The curve going the other way towards Mechelen was there and even a subject of a railtour, but is no longer. So all the crowds come to Antwerpen Centraal and then get on the local trains to Boom! NMBS/SNCB does run extra trains but they are not loco hauled great rakes of M5, M6 or M7 stock as I suspect the power supply is not up to it.

The trains worked in on Thursday 20th/27th and worked back on Monday 24th/31st.

Thursday 20/07 - Lineas 186 422 + 13 carriages (12 I 11 + 1 WR)

Amsterdam: 09:34

Rotterdam: 10:37/11:00

Roosendaal 11:39/46

Essen: 12:00 [crew change]

Antwerpen-Centraal: 12:27 [Then ecs to Schaarbeek Sidings: 13:26]

Thursday 20/07 - Lineas 186 295 + 8 carriages (7 I11 + 1 Bar Disco)

Düsseldorf: 10:30

Venlo 11:48/12:09

Roosendaal 13:42/45

Essen: 14:00 [crew change]

Antwerpen-Centraal: 14:27 [Then ecs to Schaarbeek Sidings: 15:26]

Monday 24/7 - Lineas 186 294

Antwerpen-Centraal: 15:34

Essen: 15:58 [crew change]

Amsterdam: 18:13

Monday 24/7 - Lineas 186 456

Antwerpen-Centraal: 11:34

Essen: 11:57 [crew change]

Düsseldorf: 15:31

Thursday 27th - Lineas 186 456+ 13 carriages (12 I 11 + 1 WR)

Seen here at Amsterdam on Thursday 27th



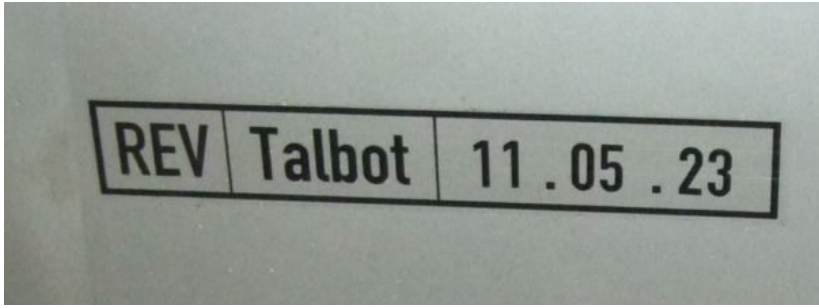
I did not need 186 456 to ride behind as it had worked some of the Ski Trains in 2018. The loco I was interested in was 186 427 which I think has never worked a passenger train before. So I made my way down to Roosendaal and did the Frituur for food and Wi-Fi. I went onto Roosendaal station and kept an eye out for the TRAXX. I was on the platform where the Puurs stopper goes from but the train actually stopped way over on the far end of Platform 4. I had to run a bit and it was not a pretty sight. I got on and was directed to take a seat by the Train Manager who I have know for a number of years.

The music on board was loud and not really my scene. There was some Flat Eric type stuff and some Reggae on speed but most of it was crap. The actual Tomorrowland package is quite good and each seat had a newspaper on it with the weekend's events and who was playing what. It is not a Glastonbury type of festival where you watch acts perform on a stage. The "acts" at Tomorrowland are DJs who basically play their mixes to the audience. Tomorrowland is not cheap either for an event with no live music but it looks a good overall package. My idea of a DJ is somewhere between a bloke in a nice jumper and the sound of a swingin' cymbal. I would not be surprised if the site at Boom is not used for other music events aimed at different age groups with different tastes.

I took 427 to Antwerpen and got off to take some photos bumping into Padders who has also boarded at Roosendaal. 186 427 at Antwerpen Centraal on 27th July



I had been in Antwerpen Centraal at the same time the previous week and I already knew there were not many loco hauled trains. So I walked over and got on a loco hauled train to Essen from the adjacent platform. Myself and Bart crossed and I didn't see him.



The one thing I could do is photograph the Revision Date on 427. This also shows that Talbot is doing some of the Revisions on the Railpool TRAXX fleet.

Monday 31st - Lineas 186 456 did the Amsterdam Train and 186 427 went to Düsseldorf.

I had 186 457 on the European Sleeper Train on Monday 17th July and then 186 422 was put on the Sleeper so I had a run with that as well. Three Lineas TRAXX in two weeks is good form.

Gwenaël was out on Monday 24th July and his photos show the vinyled stock well.

BR 186 294-456 "Lineas" (Rpool) + HV I11 (SNCB) + HV I10 SR3 17903 "Bar-Disco"-WR 16005 "Resto" (SNCB) + HV I11 (SNCB), CHART "Tomorrowland Express" Amsterdam-Düsseldorf - Schaerbeek, Pays-Bas (NL), PR, le lundi 24 juillet 2023. © Gwenaël PIÉRART :

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/135235560@N07/albums/72177720310018577>

186 422 at Utrecht on Wednesday 26th July after a storming run.



BR 105 ICE-L



This photograph was forwarded to me by Bas who got it from Facebook. The locomotive is on it's way to Vienna for climate testing. The first full ICE L rake should be at Velim by now for dynamic tests.

The 105 plus its train being tested will be the key first step to approval. Then the train goes on the German network...and then the Prorail one...Going on current form with the paperworks in Germany and the Netherlands, Princess Catharina-Amalia will have ascended the Dutch Throne before it is in service.

It is possible the ICE-L stock and the locomotive could be in service by December 2024. The stock is due to enter service before the locomotives do and the stock will be hauled by Vectrons until the 105s come into service. The risk is with the locomotives.

Class 193

Some possible locos for NS. This is a post placed on ERG

SŽ - End of Vectron Hire by Jon Hills - July 28

The hire of 193.723 and 193.730 to SŽ for their Euro City trains EC150/151/158/159 ends at the end of this month with the locos to be returned to the leaser.

The Vectrons are supposed to take over the Amsterdam – Berlin trains in December 2023 when the trains will be Vectron throughout without a locomotive change at Bad Bentheim.

Also from December 2023 the Bistro Cars on the Amsterdam – Berlin trains are being withdrawn so you will no longer be able to enjoy a beer in a proper glass glass on the train from then on.

NS TRAXX

I was very surprised to see 186 112 still running on Wednesday 26th July as the word on the streets was it had gone in for repainting into the new Alpha Livery at Zaanstraat.



186 112 + 16130 + 186 034 10:25 Amsterdam Centraal – Rotterdam Centraal. This set and locomotives were still out on Sunday 30th July

High Speeds Line Slow

Prorail have introduced an 80km/h speed limit on one of the structures on the HSL south of Schiphol Airport. It is where the A4 Motorway which has run alongside the railway descends and goes under the railway at Hoogmade near Leiden.



The line speed at this point should be 300km/h.

It appears mistakes (calculation errors) were made during construction resulting in cracks now having appeared in some welds. The track has also shifted laterally by 8cm since services began as there also seem to be problems with the foundations/soil. Computer modelling is to be used to try to work out a solution. There are other bridges/viaducts that have been built the same way!

When you look at this aerial view from Google Earth you see that there are a lot of long beams and I bet that is where the problem is. Usually a bridge or tunnel is built and then the road or railway built diagonally across the structure. Me thinks someone might have been a bit too clever.

NSR units

ICNG

3224 entered service today [Monday 31st July].

ICM

Stored: 4018, 4032, 4035

4032 and 4035 were moved from Onnen to Arnhem Goods on 27th July.

VIRM

Out of Service (fire damage) : 8671

On 13th July there was a fire in part of the interior of the top floor mBv7 of set 8671 when it was en route as train 2276 between Oudenbosch and Roosendaal.

Blast From The Past

On the morning of the 11th July 2023 Aad de Meij took the picture below of Kerkhof van Brussellaan in Brussels. On 26th June 1967 he was at the exact same location (photo below again) and then the world looked very different.....



Sik Corner

This week's Sik is 307 and is seen here at Houten (temporarily, for a model railway exhibition) in March 2010.



Photo by Philippe De Gieter

307 was built by Werkspoor and is Works Number 768 of 1940.

Owner - Veluwsche Stoomtrein Maatschappij.

Location - Apeldoorn.

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/hanswiskerke/51821633800>

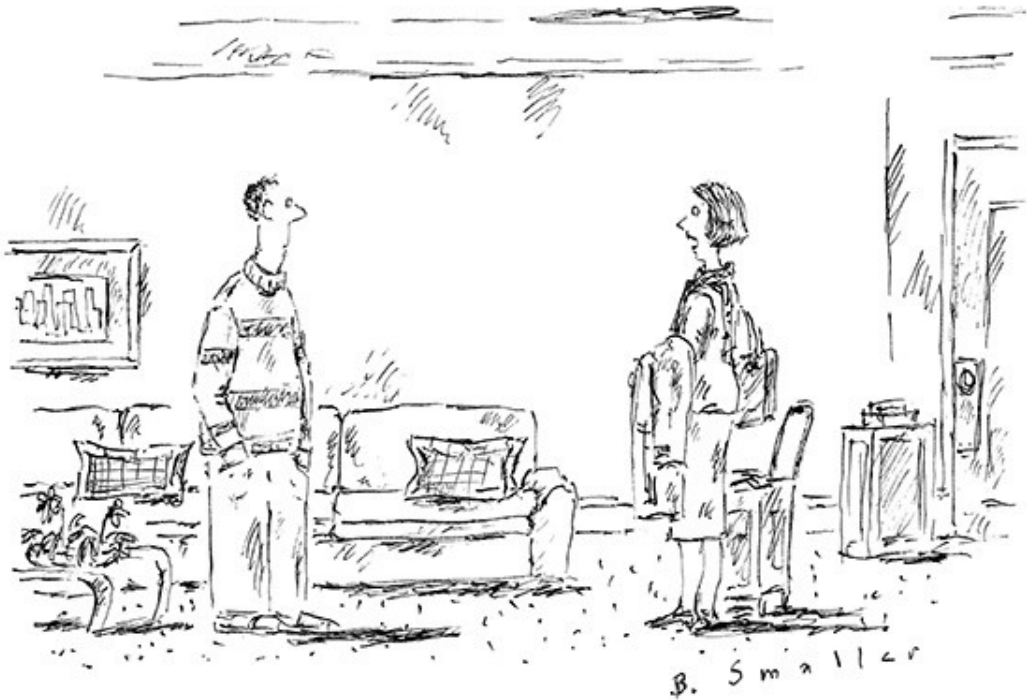
Information from <http://locomotor.nl/index.php/locaties/>

No Photograph Found 221, 233, 239, 269, 272, 275, 277, 280 & 304.

A number of Siks were destroyed during World War II and I am assuming that no photographs exist of these locomotors.



Other News



"You do meet my needs, but I'm looking for someone who anticipates my needs."







Have a nice week

Tain