



The Ramble

571 of 25th May 2026



Monday 1st June	[572]
Monday 8th June	Holiday
Monday 15th June	Holiday [North Norfolk Diesel and Beer Event]
Wednesday 24th June	[573]
Monday 29th June	[574]
Monday 6th July	[575]
Monday 13th July	[576]
Monday 20th July	Holiday [Tomorrowland]
Monday 27th July	Holiday [Tomorrowland]
Monday 5th August	[577]
Monday 10th August	[578]
Monday 17th August	Holiday
Monday 24th August	Holiday
Monday 31st August	Holiday
Wednesday 9th September	[579]
Monday 14th September	[580]
Monday 21st September	Holiday [Innotrans]
Monday 27th September	Holiday

Bank Holiday Monday

For all those whose bin day was today, when will it be collected? Leeds City Council were collecting the brown garden waste bins this morning on a Bank Holiday!



Paul Cragg - Gonk

Gonk's funeral is on Wednesday 3rd June 2026 at 11.30 at Grantham Crematorium.

The wake is in the Nobody Inn.

Gonks wishes are for no formal wear. Shorts and tee shirts are acceptable.

For The Diary 2026

If you know of an event, let me know and I will put it here.

The Braunschweig and Hannover Explorer - Sat 13th June to Mon 15th June

This has been organised by Ramble reader Paul Griffin for the Branch Line Society [BLS]. This three day series of tours will visit the extensive Verkehrsbetriebe Peine-Salzgitter (VPS) network, goods lines in the Braunschweig area, the Hannover freight ring, two docks systems in Hannover, a heritage railway, a peat railway and possibly a tram tour of Braunschweig.

Details on the tour are on the BLS website on their fixtures page. There is not a direct link to the web page advertising the tour, you have to go to the Branch Line Societies Fixtures page and scroll down to find.

<https://www.branchline.uk/current-fixtures.php>

Stoomtrein Dendermonde-Puurs - July 4th & 5th

On Saturday 4th & Sunday 5th July the SDP usually kicks off their tourist season with Scheldeland in Steam.

Chemin de Fer Touristique de la Vallée de L'Aa - Le Festivallée 4th & 5th July

The festival at the Chemin de Fer Vallee de L'Aa is a regular preserved railway gala weekend. Arques Station is about 5km or 3 miles from Saint Omer station. Catch the Number 3 & 6 bus to Arques Centre Ville [Place] but note there are no buses on Sundays and Public Holidays.

There is 15 km of railway up the Aa valley in the heart of the Regional Natural Park of Caps and Marais d'Opal.

Tramway touristique de l'Aisne à Érezée 60th Anniversary Event 4th & 5th July

<https://www.facebook.com/tramwaytouristiquedelaisne.erezee>

Tomorrowland

First Weekend Wednesday 15th [AMCS] & Thursday 16th inbound [AMCS & Düss]
Monday 20th outbound [AMCS & Düss]

Second Weekend Wednesday 22nd [AMCS] & Thursday 23rd inbound [AMCS & Düss]
Monday 27th outbound [AMCS & Düss]

Chemin de fer à vapeur des 3 vallées [CFV3V] - July 17th

On Friday 17th July there is a photographic event at the CFV3V.

Chemin du fer du Bocq - August 15th & 16th

The 2025 Festival is just Saturday 15th and Sunday 16th with the Photo Safari on Friday 14th. The main themes of this year's event are the renewal of the railway line and 100 years of NMBS/SNCB. Special attention will be given to the renovated Spontin station, now expanded to three tracks, as well as the track doubling works in Bauche.

They hope to be able to present a large number of NMBS/SNCB railway vehicles during the event.

I have given the Organiser some suggestions. You can be proactive or start asking questions on Facebook a month before the Gala.

Pukkelpop - Thursday 20th to Sunday 23rd August

Sometimes there are extra trains and it is always busy in the Hasselt area.

European Railtours 28th & 29th August 2026

Two days of tours based in Rotterdam with a short Friday tour and a full days tour on Saturday. RailExperts are again facilitating the tour. Booked my hotel.

I have had e-mails and questions about these tours. I have asked the Organiser when the details will be available but had no reply at the time of writing.

Stoomtrein Maldegem-Eeklo - 5508 Running day - 20th September 2026

<https://stoomtreinmaldegem.be/nl/evenementen-2026/20-september-2026-rij-mee-met-de-5508/>

De Lijn - Antwerpen PCC Tram Event - 26th September 2026

Farewell to the PCC event in Antwerpen.

Open Day at Mechelen and Salzannes Works - Sunday 4th October 2026

Both works have an Open Day on 4th October 2026.

HAVE YOU BEEN MIS-SOLD A WEST HAM SEASON TICKET?

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Belgische Nachrichten Nouvelles belges Belgisch Nieuws

Bauche Station

I have asked about the works at Bauche Station. The answer is that “the works in Bauche have not started yet. We are still waiting for authorization from the Government’s Environment Department.

The works cannot begin before a specific period in order to ensure that the natural habitat of local wildlife is not disturbed during the critical spring season.”

Photographs and information will be published when the works start.

Spontin Station

A good video by PFT/TSP of the works around Spontin Station.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N6bvlrOc21w>

Bocq Railway

The Bocq Railway reopened for passenger trains on Saturday 23rd May with further running on Sunday 31st May. The timetables are on the PFT / TSP Facebook Page.

Lucas Senechal took these photographs of Diesel traffic on Sunday 24th May.

7402 and 8223 on the shuttles between Ciney and Spontin
5205 driving with Helena and 5183 between Ciney and Bauche



I do wonder if the hourly Spontin – Ciney – Spontin service and a separate Spontin – Bauche service is going to be the method of working at future events.



Line 11 Electrification

This was posted by a Ramble reader to Linked In, reposted by a Ramble reader and a Ramble reader took the photographs!

Mattias Catry reposted this



Brecht Teerlinck

12h · Edited



Strong partnerships are built on consistent delivery!

When **DB Cargo Belgium** began transporting tamping machines for **De Witte Vandecaveye bv** last year, we had the opportunity to demonstrate that our commitment goes beyond words. That track record led to something bigger.

Several weeks ago we were asked to support a prestigious infrastructure project involving the installation of overhead line equipment between the **Infrabel** shunting yard at Antwerpen-Noord and the **Combinant nv** and **BASF Antwerpen** terminal. The doubling of track capacity and the installation of overhead lines in this area are concrete measures to support the modal shift and strengthen rail as a structural alternative for industrial logistics.

DB Cargo Belgium is proud to contribute to this project as an operational partner in railway construction works. Supporting rail contractors across the full scope of their activities is part of who we are.

A big thank you to **Jan De Witte, Jonas B.** & **De Witte Vandecaveye bv** for their trust and collaboration!



Photographs by Robin Melis



Maxim Weedkiller Train

The Weed Express is back in action. Maxim Herman took these pictures on 10th May in Hoboken.

Take a look at the new camera system, the images are transmitted wireless to the operator in the train. As the camera is mounted under the roof of the T77, perhaps only T77s will power the weed killer train in the near future.



Mechelen

Taken by Chris Westerduin on Thursday 21st May from a special vantage point!



HLE 17

Chris Westerduin went out on Monday 18th May to photograph the tests of 1703 and 1704 on the Hanzelijn. The test train worked out of Zwolle to Almere Oostvaarders.







AR/MW 41

Marcad keeps a list of Revision Dates for the units and he has supplied this list of AR/MW Revision Dates which have been updated.

White The Revision Dates Marcad has personally observed.
Yellow Revision Dates Iain has estimated.
Red Withdrawn
Orange Date of last passenger working
Order of leaving Salzannes

Between eight and fourteen will be stopped this autumn and either sold or scrapped.
Withdrawn - 4102, 4166, 4175 & 4182 [4] [4102 is heavily robbed of parts]

Not Overhauled - 4135, 4177, 4181 & 4187 [4]

Up to six more of the worst condition or longest hours ones may also be stopped.

At the same time as some overhauled ones are going to be withdrawn, 4109 is being overhauled at Salzannes!

4133 has not worked since 24/03/24 and is at Salzannes.

#1	4133	03/07/15	#36	4191	03/11/20	#71	4105	04/09/24
#2	4101	08/04/16	#37	4121	26/01/21	#72	4145	30/09/24
#3	4127	23/05/16	#38	4194	02/03/21	#73	4106	31/10/24
#4	4139	27/09/16	#39	4111	09/04/21	#74	4164	19/12/24
#5	4132	21/12/16	#40	4119	18/05/21	#75	4154	22/01/25
#6	4134	24/02/17	#41	4184	25/06/21	#76	4159	26/03/25
#7	4137	17/05/17	#42	4142	04/08/21	#77	4158	28/03/25
#8	4130	16/06/17	#43	4192	08/09/21	#78	4160	17/06/25
#9	4136	07/09/17	#44	4152	15/10/21	#79	4188	23/09/25
#10	4108	27/10/17	#45	4185	17/11/21	#75	4154	22/01/25
#11	4140	30/11/17	#46	4110	24/12/21	#76	4159	26/03/25
#12	4161	19/01/18	#47	4156	27/01/22	#77	4158	28/03/25
#13	4138	02/03/18	#48	4196	04/03/22	#78	4160	17/06/25
#14	4141	13/04/18	#49	4148	08/04/22	#79	4188	23/09/25
#15	4124	30/05/18	#50	4179	12/05/22	#80	4169	18/12/25
#16	4162	12/07/18	#51	4114	17/06/22	#81	4103	20/03/26
#17	4174	10/09/18	#52	4146	01/08/22	#82	4123	24/04/26
#18	4171	19/10/18	#53	4107	09/09/22	#83	4167	11/06/26
#19	4180	29/11/18	#54	4190	06/10/22	#84	4195	29/07/26
#20	4178	25/01/19	#55	4153	07/12/22	#85	4109	24/09/26
#21	4173	04/03/19	#56	4151	12/01/23	#86	4168	05/11/26
#22	4170	29/03/19	#57	4116	07/02/23			
#23	4193	20/05/19	#58	4120	15/03/23		4135	30/04/26
#24	4189	21/06/19	#59	4126	21/04/23		4177	25/05/26
#25	4172	25/07/19	#60	4186	26/05/23		4181	24/05/26
#26	4163	03/09/19	#61	4155	29/06/23		4187	23/05/26
#27	4122	11/10/19	#62	4104	24/08/23			
#28	4129	20/11/19	#63	4128	29/09/23	Wdn	4102	06/10/25
#29	4118	20/01/20	#64	4147	26/10/23	Wdn	4117	Cut Up
#30	4157	17/02/20	#65	4112	27/11/23	Wdn	4131	Cut Up
#31	4183	08/04/20	#66	4165	26/01/24	Wdn	4166	06/10/25
#32	4176	29/05/20	#67	4143	01/03/24	Wdn	4175	06/10/25
#33	4115	03/07/20	#68	4149	08/05/24	Wdn	4182	06/10/25
#34	4113	28/08/20	#69	4150	21/06/24			
#35	4125	08/10/20	#70	4144	18/07/24			

4137... no date on it. 4106 has not a full date.

4154 has the wrong year in the RG date = 22-01-24 (note also on it : PUH 20 FAZ 11/24)

HLE 13

After the Revision Dates on 1313, 1319, 1323 & 1343# [# In Salzinnes Works].

- 1313 on repair at Antwerpen Noord after colliding with a car on the Athus Meuse Line.
- 1333 is at Salzinnes for repair after a collision with a truck in France on 27/02/25.
1333 has a new nose recovered from another 13 and is getting a repaint.
- 1343 is at Salzinnes Works for an Intermediate Revision.
- 1354 is at Salzinnes Works, possibly for an Intermediate Revision.

If any of you do get to Antwerpen Noord I would like a photo of the Revision Date on the side of 1313. Or phone a friend!

HLE 18

Interested in the Intermediate Revision dates on
1841, 1843#, 1845#, 1847 & 1924 [# In Salzinnes Works].

Some of the "ETCS works" may be rectification or a lesser upgrade.

- 1813 and 19807 have ended up at Velim.
- 1816 is back in service after ETCS works.
- 1828 is in Salzinnes for ETCS works.
- 1843 is at Salzinnes Works for a RI2 Revision. Back in service whenever.
- 1845 is at Salzinnes Works for a RI2 Revision. Back in service in early June.
- 1860 is in Salzinnes for ETCS works.
- 1863 is back in service after ETCS works.
- 1866 is back in service after ETCS works.
- 1870 is back in service after ETCS works.
- 1875 is back in service after ETCS works.
- 1881 is in Salzinnes for ETCS works.
- 1882 is back in service after ETCS works.
- 1895 is in Salzinnes for ETCS works.
- 1923 is in Salzinnes for ETCS works.
- 1924 is back in service after a RI2 Revision.

HLE 28/29/186

Interested in the Revision dates on 186 256, 186 348, 186 446, 186 447, 186 454 & 186 492#.

- 186 492 is at Talbot Aachen for revision.

HLR 77/78

7701 is at Salzinnes for repairs to collision damage after a shunting accident with 7705.
7705 is under repair at Salzinnes Works after a shunting accident with 7701.
7709 is in Salzinnes Works for the fitting of ETCS and repainting into Infrabel Blue.
7710 is in Salzinnes Works for the fitting of ETCS and repainting into Infrabel Blue.
7729 is in Salzinnes Works for the fitting of ETCS and repainting into Infrabel Blue.
7743 is at Salzinnes Works for ETCS fitting.
7758 is at Salzinnes Works for ETCS fitting.
7765 is at Salzinnes Works for ETCS fitting.
7774 is at Voith Turbo, Kiel for Revision.
7775 is at Salzinnes for Revision.
7782 is back in service after Revision at Salzinnes.
7810 is at Brouwer Technologie BV Roosendaal for installation of ETCS.
7812 is back in service after installation of ETCS.
7815 is at Brouwer Technologie BV Roosendaal for installation of ETCS.
7830 is back in service after installation of ETCS.
7832 is at Brouwer Technologie BV Roosendaal for installation of ETCS.
7843 is at Brouwer Technologie BV Roosendaal for installation of ETCS.
7852 is back in service after installation of ETCS.

Lineas are now well on with fitting ETCS to their HLR 78 locomotives. 7708 has been fitted but all the others are in the 7800 series. It is expected that there will be a swap round soon between the unfitted 7800s which are on hire to Infrabel and the fitted 7800 series locomotives. If you look, a lot of the gaps are on hire to Infrabel.

Great Continental Railway Journeys

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episodes/b01rdqn7/great-continental-railway-journeys>

For those of us in the UK, or those who live elsewhere with a VPN, Michael Portillo has been travelling round Belgium as part of his Great Continental Railway Journeys.

You can only view the iPlayer if you are in the UK. However, a VPN can place you here and therefore able to watch the series.



Norichten aus Lëtzebuerg

All the CFL information this week has come from the Lëtzebuenger Eisebunn, Tram & Bus Frënn Group on Facebook. This is a closed group and you have to apply to see the content.

CFL 3000 Farewell on 23rd June 2026

Luxembourg 09:30
Troisvierges 10:28 – 10:58
Kleinbettingen 12:34 – 12:55
(straight via Sandweiler?)
Wasserbillig 13:57 14:27
(via Syren and Esch?)
Rodange 16:02 – 16:25
(via Dippach?)
Luxembourg 16:56

No details about loco, exact route or stops.

Found at Facebook GAR <https://www.facebook.com/gar.asbl> and a lot of FB-pages about railways in Luxembourg.

Nothing on <https://www.gar.lu/actuel.html>

CFL 2400



2455 on Luxembourg Depot on 17th May with 2456 also in attendance on shed.

Photo by Eric VM Wnglr

I do not know if 188 183 is in Luxembourg yet but Mr Stickers will have a set of Owl or Bee stickers to apply. Sometimes it is easier to take a screen dump than to cut the picture and then write out all the credits!

 **Weis André** · Follow
Admin Group expert All-star contributor · 17 May at 19:08 · 🌐



 Christian Klotz
for Railcolornews.com

 **Railcolor**
14 May at 10:48 · 🌐

Will they ever meet again? CFL Cargo 188 183 and ARF 188 005. A unique get together in Kassel 12.05.2026 by Christian Klotz

Ex-CFL 2000

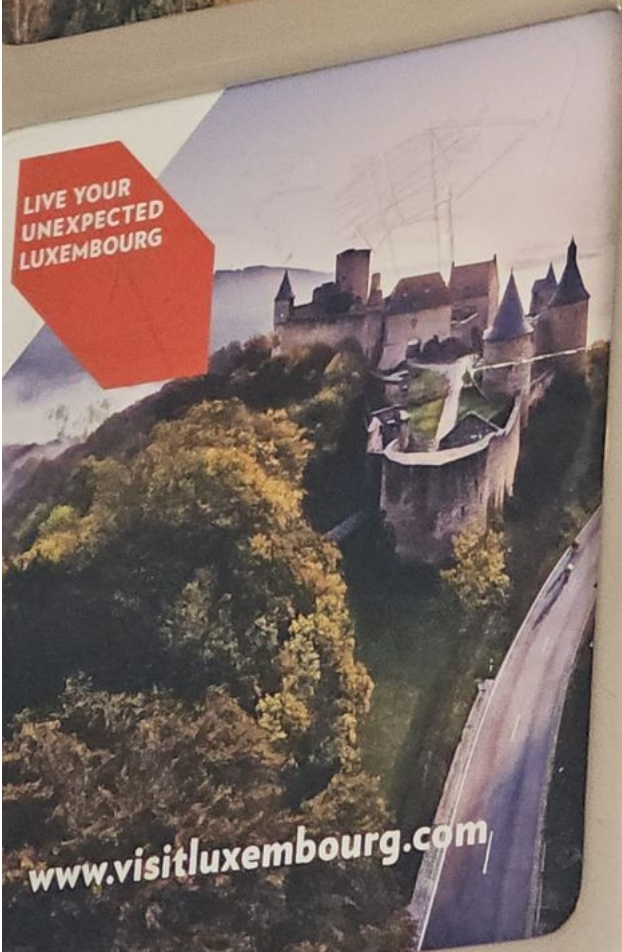
Mark Armstrong wrote that on my trip to Romania I came across the CFL Class 2000 in Constanța and in București. The adverts still remain for Luxembourg.





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NS Units

ICM

Withdrawn: 4221

Arnhem Goods to Onnen (towed)(for spares recovery)

12th May: 4221

ICNG

In Service are 73 examples. As with all things ICNG, "Service" is open to interpretation.

ICNG-5 3101, 3102, 3103, 3105, 3107, 3108, 3109, 3110 [8]
3111, 3113, 3114, 3115, 3117, 3118, 3120 [7]
3121, 3123, 3124, 3126, 3127, 3128, 3129, 3130 [8]
3131, 3132, 3133, 3134, 3135, 3136, 3137, 3138, 3139, 3140 [10]
3141, 3142, 3143, 3144, 3145, 3146, 3147, 3148, 3149 [9]
ICNG-8 3205, 3206, 3209 [3]
3211, 3212, 3219, 3220 [4]
3221, 3222, ~~3223~~, 3224, 3225, 3226, 3227 [7]
ICNG-B 3304, 3305, 3306, 3307, 3308, 3309 [6]
3311, 3312, 3313, 3314, 3315, 3316, 3317, 3318, 3319, 3320 [10]
3321 [1]

Accepted [owned by NS] and ready for Passenger Service is .

In Commissioning/Acceptance/Testing are 3110, 3116, 3119, 3310, 3351 & 3352.

3110 entered service on 15th May 2026.

3116 arrived on Sunday 3rd May 2026 and was out on test on Friday 17th April 2026.

3119 arrived on Saturday 2nd May 2026 and was out on test on Friday 17th April 2026.

3125 arrived on Wednesday 13th May 2026 and was out on test on Friday 15th May.

3136 is the next unit to go to Alstom Brugge for retrofit work.

3140 is back in the Netherlands after retrofit work.

3223 is at Alstom Brugge for retrofit work.

3310 arrived on Friday 3rd April and was out on test on Wednesday 8th April.

Blast From The Past



3608 at Longwy about to run round a rake of Wegmann stock.
Photograph by Rob Dale.



Belgian Can Can

46 / 144



By 27th March 2022, 2122 was out of use at Hasselt. I think it had been used as a shore supply to test the coaching stock which is maintained at the depot.



Other News

THE **JAMES BROWN** TO DO LIST

- GET UP
- GET ON UP
- GET UP AND DO MY THING
- GET UP OFFA THAT THING
- GET ON THE GOOD FOOT
- GET PAPA A BRAND NEW BAG
- GIVE IT UP AND TURN IT LOOSE
- MAKE IT FUNKY
- DON'T TAKE NO MESS
- STAY ON TH SCENE

A SHERMDOG PRODUCTION



4000 years & we are back to same language 😊🤔



2006 B.C. vs 2016 A.D.



Archaeologists excavating a pyramid in Egypt have found a mummy covered in chocolate and hazelnuts

They believe it to be Pharaoh Rocher

How To Distract An Egyptian God





"One day, son, all of these perfectly good A.C. adapters, which have long outlived the products they were originally designed for, will be yours."

WHAT A LOVELY HOUSE

AND THE MORTGAGE IS ONLY £500 PER MONTH!

SORRY, WE'VE LOOKED AND DON'T THINK YOU CAN AFFORD THIS

GLAD WE PASSED THOSE CREDIT CHECKS

HEY PERSON WHO ALREADY OWNS 5 HOUSES, WE'D LOVE TO SELL YOU THIS HOUSE YOU'LL OBVIOUSLY RENT OUT

AND THE RENT IS ONLY £700 PER MONTH!

The World Cup starts in a few weeks



Have a nice week

Tain