

BR WESTERN REGION REPORTING NUMBERS – SUMMER 1953

Compiled by Ed Chaplin

The Summer Timetable from Monday 8 June to Sunday 20 September 1953. I do not have a precise record of the numbers that applied EXCEPT I believe they were almost the same as those that applied in Summer 1952. I fear they may be some errors/omissions in the 500 – 599 range. I am aware of several changes that were made for 1953 compared with 1952, and are included here

The Summer timetable 1953 ended Saturday 20 September and all, with very few exceptions, Friday Night and Saturday Only trains ceased. Indeed most trains listed here as FO or SO ran only on specified periods within the 8 June – 20 September timeframe, at school holiday, town holidays and Wakes Weeks times; and these were termed 'dated trains'.

Certain trains from South Devon to the Midlands had paths left for them from South Devon to Bristol, and then beyond to destination in the London Midland Region, depending on which town had their holiday fortnight (e.g. Castleton, Derby, Huncoat, Macclesfield),

One important fact about 1953 was that the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II took place on 2 June, and in the period shortly before and after that date, some additional fitments signifying Coronation Crowns (see photos) were added above the title plate of certain titled trains. I include this note here as it relates to June 1953, although the date of the Coronation was a few days before the Summer 1953 timetable began.

The lists show when the number was to be carried, but this does not mean the train was limited only to run on the day when a number was to be carried.

The 9.55 a.m. down train that formerly operated to Neyland was now 'upgraded' to a weekday train, the Pembroke Coast Express, leaving Paddington at that time, reaching Swansea after 3 hours at 1.40 p.m., and the through portion finally reaching Pembroke Dock at 4.25 p.m.

D – Daily (i.e. Mon – Sat and Sun), every day of the week
FO – Friday only (including overnight)
LMR – London Midland Region (destination varied weekly)
MX – Mondays excepted (i.e. Tue – Sat and Sun)
SO – Saturday only
SuO – Sunday only
SX – Saturday excepted (i.e. Mon – Fri)
W – Every Weekday (i.e. Mon – Sat)

010 2150 FO Paddington – Penzance
011 2212 FO Paddington – Penzance
012 2235 FO Paddington – Penzance
013 2300 FO Paddington – Newquay
014 2330 FO Paddington - Paignton
015 2335 FO Paddington – Penzance
016 2350 FO Paddington – Penzance
018 0015 D Paddington – Penzance (newspapers)
019 0020 SO Paddington – Penzance
100 0530 SX Paddington – Penzance (SO Minehead) via Bristol
102 0655 SO Paddington – Penzance
103 0700 SO Paddington – Kingswear
105 0705 SO Paddington (or 0725 SO Ealing Broadway on some dates) – Penzance
107 0730 SO Paddington – Paignton (SO Kingswear) via Bristol
108 0740 SO Paddington – Paignton
110 0810 SO Paddington – Paignton
112 0830 SO Paddington – Penzance
114 0835 W Paddington – Weymouth Quay
115 0845 SO Paddington – Weymouth Quay
(The 'high speed' under 2 hours nonstop down Bristolian, train 116, did not start until 14 June 1954. Before that the lesser speed down Bristolian with the Bath stop was train 119)
117 0850 SO Paddington – Paignton

- 119 0905 W Paddington – Bristol (SO Weston-super-Mare)
- 120 0915 SO Paddington – Durston
- 122 0930 W Paddington – Falmouth + Newquay
- 123 0935 SO Paddington – Minehead
- 125 0940 SO Paddington - Paignton
- 128 1020 SO Paddington – Kingswear
- 130 1030 D Paddington – Penzance
- 131 1035 SO Paddington – Penzance

(131 also ran 1020 Paddington – Penzance on Fridays and also Mondays in late July and during August This was regarded as a Relief to the 1030 and it was normal practice to carry the next higher number to that of the main train, irrespective of whether it ran ahead of or behind it; see also 636.)

- 135 1040 SO Paddington – Paignton
- 138 1100 SO Paddington – Penzance
- 140 1105 SO Paddington – Penzance
- 142 1115 D Paddington – Weston-super-Mare
- 144 1130 SX Paddington –Penzance (SO Minehead)
- 146 1200 D Paddington – Kingswear
- 147 1205 SO Paddington – Plymouth
- 149 1325 SO Paddington – Kingswear
- 150 1330 D Paddington – Penzance
- 152 1520 SO Paddington – Paignton
- 153 1530 W Paddington - Penzance
- 154 1615 W Paddington – Plymouth
- 155 1705 W Paddington – Weston-super-Mare
- 157 1730 W Paddington – Plymouth
- 158 1823 FO Paddington – Bristol
- 159 1830 D Paddington – Weston-super-Mare
- 161 0755 SO Paddington – Carmarthen
- 162 0840 SO Paddington – Pembroke Dock
- 163 0855 SX Paddington – Pembroke Dock
- 164 0955 SO Paddington - Neyland
- 165 1055 W Paddington – Pembroke Dock
- 166 1135 SO Paddington – Neyland
- 167 1155 D Paddington – Milford Haven
- 168 1350 SO Paddington – Carmarthen
- 169 1355 W Paddington – Neyland
- 170 1545 W Paddington – Fishguard
- 171 1555 W Paddington – Neyland
- 172 1655 W Paddington – Cheltenham
- 173 1755 W Paddington – Carmarthen
- 174 1750 W Paddington – Swansea
- 176 1835 D Paddington – Cheltenham
- 178 1855 W Paddington – Fishguard Harbour
- 179 1915 FO Paddington – Fishguard Harbour
- 180 0910 W Paddington – Birkenhead
- 181 0900 SX Paddington – Wolverhampton (SO Pwllheli)
- 183 1010 W Paddington - Aberystwyth
- 185 1145 W Paddington – Hereford
- 186 1345 W Paddington – Hereford
- 187 1610 W Paddington – Birkenhead
- 189 1645 W Paddington – Hereford
- 192 1710 SX Paddington – Wolverhampton
- 195 1810 D Paddington – Birkenhead
- 198 1845 D Paddington – Hereford

The block 200 – 249 is offered as a starter. It covers trains that used the Shrewsbury, Hereford and Newport line. Both LMR and WR locos used this line. In the early 50s, the LM Region had similar train numbers to those used by WR, and during the 50s, WR attempted to rationalise matters by giving even numbers to southbound trains, and odd numbers to northbound trains. This is an attempt to show most of the numbers used in 1952 and there were more changes later in the 50s.

205 2125 FO Manchester (London Road) – Newquay
 210 2100 FO Manchester (Victoria) – Paignton
 213 1730 FO Glasgow (St. Enoch) – Plymouth
 215 2235 FO Manchester (Victoria) – Paignton
 220 2315 FO Manchester (London Road) – Penzance
 225 2315 FO Manchester (Victoria) – Paignton
 230 2335 FO Liverpool – Penzance
 231 0125 D Crewe – Cardiff
 233 0015 SO Manchester (London Road) - Paignton
 235 0025 SX Manchester (London Road) - Penzance (0035 SO – Plymouth)
 235 0140 SuO Crewe - Plymouth
 238 0810 SO Manchester (London Road) – Penzance
 240 0850 SO Liverpool – Penzance
 (0905 SO Birkenhead – Plymouth, unknown Reporting Number believed in this range this year, it was 216 then 213 in 1957 then 1958)
 243 0820 SO Preston – Cardiff
 245 0910 SX Manchester (London Road) – Plymouth (SO – Paignton)
 247 0906 SX/0915 SO Liverpool - Plymouth
 248 0925 W Manchester (London Road) – Swansea
 249 0915 SO Blackpool North - Cardiff

 250 0645 W Wolverhampton – Paddington
 255 0730 W Shrewsbury – Paddington

Trains 250 and 255 were hauled by Stafford Road Kings or Castles. Their return duties, respectively, were the 1110 and 1410 ex Paddington, neither of which were numbered at this time. The locos were turned at Ranelagh Bridge and the up train numbers were left fitted. Some photographs show the subsequent down trains carrying the up train number, and hence caption errors, claiming it is the up working.

258 0745 W Worcester – Paddington
 260 0650 W Wolverhampton – Paddington via Worcester
 265 0710 SX Wolverhampton – Paddington
 280 1635 SX Wolverhampton – Paddington
 290 1440 W Birkenhead – Paddington

 303 0925 SO Weymouth Town – Birmingham
 305 1000 SO Weymouth Town – Birmingham
 310 1020 SO Weymouth Town – Birmingham
 320 1112 SO Weymouth Town – Paddington
 330 1540 W Weymouth Quay – Paddington
 335 1610 SO Weymouth Town – Paddington
 340 1618 SO Weymouth Town – Cardiff
 360 0900 SO Bournemouth Central – Cardiff
 365 0850 SO New Milton – Swansea
 370 0937 SO Fareham – Cardiff
 375 0933 SO Portsmouth & Southsea – Cardiff
 380 1034 SO Portsmouth & Southsea – Cardiff
 385 1137 SO Portsmouth & Southsea – Cardiff
 390 1100 SO Brighton – Cardiff

400 1557 FO Newcastle - Penzance
 403 1914 FO Sheffield – Newquay
 405 0105 FO Bristol – Penzance
 408 2112 FO Nottingham – Paignton
 410 2200 FO Nottingham – Paignton
 413 2220 FO Sheffield – Paignton
 415 2050 FO Bradford – Paignton
 417 2210 FO Hull - Paignton
 418 2105 FO Newcastle – Paignton

420 0700 SO Swindon – Penzance
423 0830 SO Weston - Super - Mare – Weymouth Town
425 0935 SO Bristol – Penzance
430 0635 SO Walsall – Kingswear
433 0640 SO Leicester – Paignton
435 0745 SO Nottingham – Plymouth
438 0806 SO Sheffield – Kingswear
440 1345 SO Bristol – Penzance
442 0730 SO Newcastle – Paignton
444 0930 SO Leeds – Paignton
446 0922 SO Bradford – Paignton
450 0700 W Weston - Super - Mare – Paddington
455 0820 W Weston - Super - Mare – Paddington
457 1042 SO Weston – Super – Mare - Paddington
460 1145 SO Bristol – Paddington
462 1105 SO Weston - Super - Mare – Paddington
463 1350 SO Bristol - Paddington
465 1358 SO Weston - Super - Mare (Locking Road) – Paddington
470 1615 SX Bristol – Paddington
475 1635/SX /1641 SO Weston - Super - Mare – Paddington
480 1405 SO Weston - Super - Mare (Locking Road) – Birmingham
490 1350 SO Weston - Super – Mare (Locking Road) – Cardiff – Swansea
493 1930 FO Swindon - Sheffield

500 0700 SO Kingswear - Paddington
503 2230 FO Paignton - Nottingham
505 0800 SO Kingswear – Paddington
508 0905 SO Minehead – Paddington
510 0945 SO Churston – Paddington
512 1040 SO Minehead – Paddington
513 0605 SO Paignton - LMR
515 1035 SO Torquay – Paddington
517 2350 FO Paignton – Wolverhampton
518 0630 SO Paignton - LMR
520 1120 SO/1125 SX Kingswear – Paddington
522 1155 SO Minehead – Paddington via Bristol
523 0655 SO Paignton – LMR
525 1130 SO Torquay – Paddington
527 1000 SO Torquay – Birmingham
528 0710 SO Paignton – LMR
529 1218 SO Newton Abbot - Paddington
530 1330 SO Paignton – Paddington
533 0745 SO Paignton - Newcastle
535 1340 SO Kingswear – Paddington
537 1035 SO Paignton - Wolverhampton
540 1345 SO Paignton – Paddington
542 1415 SO Minehead - Paddington
543 0840 SO Paignton - Nottingham
545 1445 SO Paignton – Paddington
550 1615 SO Paignton – Paddington
552 1015 SO Teignmouth – Bradford
553 0852 SO Paignton - Sheffield
555 1635 SO Kingswear – Paddington via Bristol
557 1215 SO Kingswear – Wolverhampton
560 1055 SO Ilfracombe – Birmingham
563 0845 SO Kingswear – Bradford
565 2310 FO Paignton – Manchester (London Road)
567 1355 SO Paignton – Wolverhampton
568 0640 SO Paignton - Stockport
570 0745 SO Newton Abbot – Swansea

573 1058 SO Paignton – Nottingham
575 1006 SO Exeter – Manchester (London Road)
577 1455 SO Paignton - Wolverhampton
578 0805 SO Paignton – Manchester (Victoria)
579 0905 SO Paignton - Manchester (London Road)
580 1010 SO Paignton – Cardiff
583 1425 SO Paignton - Sheffield
587 0925 SO Ilfracombe – Cardiff
588 1020 SO Kingswear – Crewe
590 1205 SO Paignton – Cardiff
593 1715 SO Paignton - Nottingham
594 1230 SO Paignton – Manchester (London Road)
595 1520 SO Kingswear – Cardiff
597 2230 SO Paignton - Manchester

600 0700 SO/0715 SX Plymouth – Paddington
603 0725 SO Plymouth – Paddington
605 0830 W Plymouth – Paddington
608 0730 W Truro - Paddington
610 0815 SO Perranporth – Paddington
615 0835 SO Falmouth – Paddington
620 1115 SO Plymouth – Paddington
623 0940 SO Falmouth - Paddington
625 0820 SO Penzance – Paddington
630 0920 SO St. Ives – Paddington
635 1000 W Penzance – Paddington
636 1215 Q Plymouth - Paddington
638 1000 SO Newquay – Paddington
640 1230 SO Newquay – Paddington
645 1150 SO Penzance – Paddington
647 1350 SO Newquay – Paddington
649 1320 SO Penzance - Paddington
655 0800 WO Newquay – Manchester
660 0955 SX/1005 SO Penzance – Liverpool
663 1020 SO Penzance – Cardiff
666 1535 FO Plymouth – Bristol Stapleton Road
670 0740 SO St. Austell - Birmingham
672 0730 SO Penzance – Wolverhampton
675 1035 W/1110 SO Penzance – Wolverhampton
678 1115 SO Newquay – Wolverhampton
683 0805 SO Newquay – Newcastle
685 1100 SO Newquay – York
688 1045 SO Penzance – Sheffield

700 0700 SO Cardiff – Paignton
703 0810 SO Newport – Paignton
704 0805 SO Cardiff – Kingswear
705 0905 SO Swansea – Kingswear
708 0817 SO Carmarthen – Penzance
710 0335 SO/0405 MO Fishguard Hbr - Paddington
711 0355 MX/0435 SuO Fishguard Hbr - Paddington
712 0425 MX/0505 SuO Fishguard Hbr - Paddington
715 0630 W Swansea – Paddington
716 0750 SX/0743 SO Cardiff – Paddington
718 0455 MX Fishguard Hbr/0815 MO Swansea – Paddington
719 0820 SO Swansea/0945 SX Cardiff – Paddington
720 0730 W Carmarthen – Paddington
722 0955 SO Cardiff – Paddington
724 0705 W Cheltenham – Paddington
725 0705 W Cheltenham – Paddington

730 1145 SO Cheltenham - Paddington
733 0730 SO Pembroke Dock – Paddington
735 0800 SO Neyland – Paddington
736 0925 SO Carmarthen – Paddington
739 1020 SO Pembroke Dock – Paddington
740 1110 W Milford Haven – Paddington
745 1200 W Milford Haven – Paddington
750 1205 SO Pembroke – Dock – Paddington
753 1310 W Pembroke Dock – Paddington
755 1435 W Neyland – Paddington
760 0900 SO Cardiff – Portsmouth & Southsea
765 0928 SO Cardiff – New Milton
770 1008 SO Cardiff – Portsmouth & Southsea
775 1030 SO Cardiff – Portsmouth & Southsea
780 0920 SO Swansea - Bournemouth
783 1253 SO Cardiff – Portsmouth & Southsea
785 1300 SO Cardiff – Brighton
790 0810 SO Swansea - York
795 1115 W Swansea – Manchester

805 2150 FO Wolverhampton – Penzance
808 2240 FO Wolverhampton – Paignton
810 0700 SO Birmingham – Penzance
812 0730 SO Birmingham – Paignton
815 0655 SO Wolverhampton – Paignton
818 0830 SO Birmingham – Weston - Super - Mare
820 0855 SO Wolverhampton – Penzance
823 1055 SO Birmingham – Paignton
825 0900 SX Wolverhampton – Penzance
826 0910 QSX Wolverhampton - Kingswear
827 1035 SO Wolverhampton – Paignton
830 1050 SO Wolverhampton – Minehead
848 0750 SO Birmingham – Weymouth
850 0800 SO Birmingham – Weymouth
855 0910 SO Wolverhampton – Paignton
865 1105 SO Wolverhampton – Weymouth
873 0910 SO Birmingham – Pembroke Dock
875 1830 FO York – Swindon
877 1545 W Birmingham – Swansea
881 2142 FO Newcastle – Bournemouth
887 0837 SO Newcastle – Bournemouth
891 1336 SO Sheffield – Cardiff
893 1015 SO Newcastle - Swansea

903 0605 SO Birmingham – Bournemouth West
905 0728 SO Wolverhampton – Hastings
908 0840 SO Birmingham – Portsmouth & Southsea
910 0905 SO Birmingham – Portsmouth & Southsea
913 0840 SO Wolverhampton – Portsmouth Harbour
915 1010 SO Birmingham – Margate
918 1020 SO Birmingham – Margate
920 1040 SO Birmingham – Hastings
923 0735 SO Birkenhead – Ramsgate
925 1215 SO Birmingham – Bournemouth Central
927 0920 SO Birkenhead – Bournemouth West
929 0930 SO Birkenhead – Bournemouth West
953 0850 SO Portsmouth – Birmingham
955 0911 SO Portsmouth Harbour – Wolverhampton
958 0855 SO Margate – Birmingham
960 0932 SO Bournemouth Central – Wolverhampton

963 0848 SO Hastings – Wolverhampton
965 0930 SO Bournemouth West – Birkenhead
968 0910 SO Margate – Wolverhampton
970 0856 SO Ramsgate – Birkenhead
973 1150 SO Bournemouth Central – Birmingham
975 1311 SO Portsmouth Harbour – Birmingham
978 1330 SO Portsmouth Harbour – Birmingham
980 1218 SO Hastings – Birmingham
983 1438 SO Portsmouth Harbour – Wolverhampton
985 1530 SO Portsmouth Harbour – Wolverhampton
993 1025 SO Poole – Bradford Exchange

POLITE NOTICE.

This PDF is protected by copyright and reproduction is prohibited without the prior consent of the © owner. If you are unclear how copyright legislation works, there is a term called 'Fair Dealing' which describes the extent one can use copyrighted material without seeking authorisation.

- 1) A copy can be made for the purposes of research or private study.
- 2) A copy can be made for non-commercial purposes, providing the source of the material is acknowledged.
- 3) The person downloading material cannot make further copies available to others...in other words, they must not profit from it!

Ed Chaplin does not profit from this PDF. His sole aim is to share his research with others. In its simplest terms, it is a question of respecting his rights as the originator of the work and only using the material when it is correct to do so. If you wish to use the contents of the PDF for any other reason please contact the email addresses to be found at the bottom of Page 23 - 'BR Western Region 3'... www.davidheyscollection.com/page23.htm