

Tuesday 5 September

RAILWAY 90

Hexham	1232	£4.05 adv sing *
Carlisle	1327 1349	£6.90 adv sing *
Preston	1457 1510	£1.95 adv sing *
Ormskirk	1541 1549	£5.20 anytime day single
Liv Central	1623 1622	
Hamilton Sq	1627 1631	
Lime Street	1638 1654	£6.90 adv sing *
Manch Vic	1728 Metro	£4.30
Cornbrook	Metro Metro	
Trafford Park	Metro Metro	
Deansgate	Metro Metro	
Picc Gardens	Metro	

The advanced through ticket Hexham to Manchester is £57.55 - I managed it rather cheaper. My normal taxi to the station, then across to Carlisle. Worth taking my camera to Haydon Bridge at some point soon - a proper box, signs and semaphore signals. I'm sure I even saw a couple of telegraph poles still in place. Lovely view over the viaduct at Wetheral, and I want the Station Master's house.



We came into Carlisle a few minutes early, and the WCML seemed to be working. I watched an Azuma opposite, then a Liverpool train head south a Manchester Airport train head south, and a steam loco head north. "Blast", then it came south through the station. I got some



photos, and had time to get over to the other platform for some photos in the sun. 46115 Scots Guardsman, built by the North British Loco Company in Glasgow in 1927. I have now found out that this is the loco featured in the film "Night Mail" It was hauling a railtour, and as we went south on my Pendolino it was stopped for coal and water.







Down to Preston, and then a ride on the branch to Ormskirk. Class 150 101 is a forty year old diesel unit, built in York. To my surprise we stopped at Midge Hall signal box and I watched the signalman hand the driver a token. On facebook I wrote "For those not in the know, a token is a physical key which is handed to the driver at the start of a single track section. Only one key can be taken out of the signalling system at one time, so only one train can be on the single track. The token was handed back to the next signaller at Bursough. (I didn't put that photo on facebook) There are very few places on Network Rail where physical tokens are handed over any more, quite a few places have gone electronic, so I was surprised to see this - and failed to photo it. Wonderful old technology."







At Ormskirk I changed onto Merseyrail, and their new class 777 trains. What is wonderful is that they have level boarding - see, it can be done.

I stayed on until Liverpool Central then went and finished the circle by crossing the Mersey

and then heading back. Up to the main line at Lime Street and time to grab some food and a tea before my booked train at 1724. The 1654





As I was in Manchester early, I decided I had time to have a tram ride. I have never done the Trafford Park branch, so off I went. It would have been fascinating to travel the area when the Railway with all its sidings was still functioning. There is a derelict hotel that is crying out for renovation. Back in the centre I did the curve St Peter's Square to Piccadilly Gardens, so that is two sides of the triangle done. A night at Lynette's, and lovely to have a meal with her and John.



was delayed in departing, and the guard let me travel half an hour before my booked ticket. Across to Manchester on the Liverpool and Manchester. I remembered the description of Fanny Kemble the actress on the footplate with George Stephenson, and how he had enjoyed the company of a pretty young lady. Today the sun was shining, and George would have loved the young ladies travelling - though he would have been shocked at the amount of flesh on display.

