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All the pictures are in month order so there is no need to have any page numbers this issue

Front Cover

71000 'Duke of Gloucester' at Arnside working the "Cumbrian Mountain Express" on 9th February.

lan Furness

Submissions

If you have ever wanted to submit pictures to a magazine, here is your chance.

Send us your news and pictures to email:

entries@railtalk.net

When do we publish?

Railtalk Magazine is published on the last Sunday of each month.

More information can be found by visiting Railtalk forums.

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From The Editor

Welcome to this special issue of Railtalk Magazine, Best of 2008

What a difficult decision, so much so that it has taken us nearly a month to decide. We do get so many really great pictures every month, and we thank you all for sending them to us, we really appreciate it.

However, we have been looking through the past year and thinking, do we use pictures that have already been in the magazine?, do we use all shots that havent been used before???

To compromise, we've gone for a mix of both.

Some of these pictures on the following pages you may recognise, some you definatly have not seen, but we hope that you will enjoy them all and reflect at what a wonderful year it was overall.

We may have moaned ad the year progressed, but with the exception of some decent sunshine, it is pleasing to note that we enter 2009 with more loco hauled services that in many recent years. Yes the Class 37 fans may be disappointed that their numbers have dwindled but who would have thought that in 2009 there would be any at all. It is good to see the Class 56s making a return to our rails and that there will soon be more Class 58s abroad than in the UK, combine that with the current export of Class 87s and the Eurocargo Class 66s then a trip to Europe could soon be an important part of scratching those fleet lists.

I look forward to an interesting 2009, with all the new unit deliveries and the rebranding of EWS as DB, we could be in for a bumper year.

Andy

























Railtalk Magazine In connection with Liverpool "Capital of Culture" several Class 507's were reliveried, including this one 507019. Brian Battersby
It was not a good start to the year for Grand Central, repeated HST failures meant hiring of locos and stock including Virgin Class 57s. Class47



engine failure later in the year and awaits repair. Hopefully a return to main line duties will not be too far away. Carl Grocott















interesting coaching stock and an excellent minature railway. Well worth a visit, especially on a gala day. Richard Hargreaves







This shot is of the first train down the recently relaid Donnington branch, on the Shrewsbusy to Wolverhampton line. Carl Grocott



