

## **2022        Anniversaries**

### **1422        600th anniversary**

1422 -- -        Fraternity of the Holy Cross completes Abingdon bridges across the Thames.

### **1522        500th anniversary**

1522 -- -        Birth of John Trew, civil engineer (Tonbridge) (d. after 1588)

### **1722        300th anniversary**

1722 May 7    Tranent to Cockenzie Waggonway construction begins.

1722 -- -        Driving on the left required on London Bridge.

### **1772        250th anniversary**

1772 Mar 28    Staffordshire & Worcestershire Canal completed throughout.

1772 Apr 1     Chester Canal authorised.

1772 May 21    Market Weighton Canal authorised.

1772 Sep 21    Staffordshire & Worcestershire and Birmingham Canals connected at Aldersley Junction.

1772 Sep 27    Death of James Brindley, canal engineer (Turnhurst) (b. 1716).

1772 Sep end    Boulter's Lock opens on Thames, first new pound lock on the river since 1630s.

1772 Oct c.     Trent & Mersey Canal opens Wilden Ferry (R. Trent)–Stoke, including Dove and Trent aqueducts.

1772 Dec 31    Bridgewater Canal Runcorn locks open.

1772 -- -        Newark Dyke authorised.

### **1822        Bicentenary**

1822 Jan 15    HM Coast Guard established under authority of Board of Customs by merger of Preventive Water Guard, Revenue cruisers and Riding, by direction of HM Treasury.

1822 Jan 22    Stockton & Darlington Rly appoints George Stephenson as engineer following his production on Jan 18 of a report on the route.

1822 Jan 25    Birth of Robert Jacomb-Hood, LB&SCR civil engineer (Riseley, Beds.) (d. 1900).

1822 Feb 22    Birth of Thomas Bouch, railway civil engineer (Thursby, Cumb.) (d. 1880).

1822 Apr 5     Birth of George Armstrong, GWR locomotive engineer (Bewcastle or Canada) (d. 1901).

1822 Apr 9     Chichester Canal opens Chichester–Birdham.

1822 Apr 11    Death of Ralph Dodd, civil engineer (Cheltenham) (b. 1756).

1822 Apr 22    Black Ball Line Atlantic packet *Albion* drives ashore at Old Head of Kinsale (46 killed).

1822 Apr c.     Conway Suspension Bridge construction begins (Thomas Telford, engineer).

1822 May 11    Edinburgh & Glasgow Union Canal opens throughout Fountainbridge (Edinburgh)–Camelon (near Falkirk) (Hugh Baird, engineer).

1822 May 18    Iron PS *Aaron Manby* (erected on the Thames this year) arrives in Boulogne having crossed the English Channel en route to service on the Seine.

1822 May 23    Stockton & Darlington Rly first rails laid ceremonially at Stockton.

1822 Jul 17    Birth of D. Kinnear Clark, railway locomotive engineer (Edinburgh) (d. 1896).

1822 Smr -     Cartland Craggs bridge completed over Mouse Water near Lanark (Thomas Telford, engineer).

1822 Sep 11    London–Ipswich mail coach robbery: £31K in banknotes stolen.

- 1822 Sep 19 Portsea Canal opens.
- 1822 Sep 28 Aire & Calder Navigation begins construction of Goole (George Leather, engineer).
- 1822 Oct 23–24 Caledonian Canal opens throughout (Thomas Telford, engineer).
- 1822 Nov 18 Hetton colliery railway opens, using steam locomotives and inclines (George Stephenson, engineer).
- 1822 Nov 28 Henry Bell's PS *Comet* begins regular Glasgow–Inverness service through Caledonian Canal.
- 1822 -- - John Kingson of Newport begins a passenger service over Sirhowy Tramroad on 4 ft 2 in. (1.27 m) gauge, horse worked (not the first).
- 1822 -- - Galton's Canal (Somerset Levels) first recorded use.
- 1822 -- - Trinity Buoy Wharf river (Lea) wall constructed (Ralph Walker, engineer).
- 1822 -- - Peterhead North harbour and graving dock completed (Thomas Telford & John Gibb, engineers).
- 1847            175th anniversary**
- 1847 early - SER opens Ashford works, having transferred from New Cross Gate; first workmen's cottages occupied Oct.
- 1847 Jan 1 Manchester, Sheffield & Lincolnshire Rly formed by merger of Sheffield, Ashton-under-Lyne & Manchester, Sheffield & Lincolnshire Junction and Great Grimsby & Sheffield Junction Rlys.
- 1847 Jan 1 Eastern Union and Ipswich & Bury Rlys worked as one.
- 1847 Jan 1 Montgomeryshire Canal Eastern Branch sold to Shropshire Union Rlys & Canal Co.
- 1847 Jan 14 Eastern Counties Rly opens Ely–Peterborough to passengers.
- 1847 Jan 14 Point of Ayr life-boat capsizes off Rhyl (all 13 crew killed).
- 1847 Jan 15 Trent & Mersey Canal vested officially in North Staffordshire Rly.
- 1847 Jan 26/7 Manchester & Leeds Rly Denby Dale (wooden) viaduct collapses under construction in gale.
- 1847 Jan - Manchester & Leeds Rly completes first locomotive at its Miles Platting works.
- 1847 Feb 15 Norfolk Rly opens Wymondham–Dereham to passengers.
- 1847 Feb 15 Whitehaven Junction Rly opens Harrington–Whitehaven.
- 1847 Feb 16 Bideford Quay accident: Torrington & Bideford omnibus overturns into Torridge due to horses taking fright (10 killed).
- 1847 Feb - J.E. McConnell succeeds Edward Bury as L&NWR Southern Division locomotive superintendent.
- 1847 Mar 1 L&SWR opens Bishopstoke (Eastleigh)–Milford (Salisbury) to passengers (goods Jan 27).
- 1847 Mar 1 Newcastle & Berwick Rly opens Newcastle (Heaton Junction)–Morpeth.
- 1847 Mar 1 Glasgow, Paisley, Kilmarnock & Ayrshire Rly opens Kilmarnock–Barassie–Troon via Gatehead, partly by conversion of Kilmarnock & Troon Rly to standard gauge edge-rail line.
- 1847 Mar 3 Drumpeller Rly opens for coal traffic on 4 ft 6 in. (1.37 m) gauge.
- 1847 Mar 15 LB&SCR opens Chichester–Havant; extended Jun 14 to Portsmouth Town (joint with L&SWR from Portcreek Junction).
- 1847 Mar 16 Leeds & Bradford Extension Rly opens Shipley–Keighley, worked by Midland Rly; extended Sep 8 to Skipton.
- 1847 Mar 20 Whitehaven Junction Rly opens.

1847 Mar 27 Stourbridge Extension Canal absorbed by Oxford, Worcester & Wolverhampton Rly.

1847 Mar 29 Newcastle & Berwick Rly Chathill–Tweedmouth.

1847 Apr 1 Colchester, Stour Valley, Sudbury & Halstead Rly opens Hythe branch.

1847 Apr 4 Par Canal opens. Par Rly opens to mineral traffic May 18.

1847 Apr 21 Kendal & Windermere Rly opens.

1847 Apr 28 Cockermouth & Workington Rly opens.

1847 Apr 28 12.30am Brig *Exmouth* wrecked off Islay carrying emigrants from Londonderry bound for Quebec (250+ killed, only 3 survivors).

1847 Apr - Economic Conveyance Co. introduces the first double-deck bus (built by Adams & Co., Bow).

1847 May 1 GWR first runs its first 4-2-2, *Iron Duke* (probably first locomotive in Britain with this wheel arrangement; no bogie, broad gauge), turned out of Swindon works Apr.

1847 May 3 Eastern Counties Rly opens Wisbech–March.

1847 May 3 Railway passenger service over Blyth, Seghill & Percy Main system begins officially [*not* Mar 3]. By Dec the title Blyth & Tyne Rly is adopted.

1847 May 4 LB&SCR replaces atmospheric system on Croydon line wholly by steam.

1847 May 10 LB&SCR extends Croydon–Epsom.

1847 May 11 Harbours, Docks & Piers Clauses Act permits appointment of port police.

1847 May 17 Edinburgh, Leith & Granton Rly completed to Princes Street through Scotland Street Tunnel.

1847 May 24 Dee bridge disaster: Chester & Holyhead Rly cast iron girder bridge designed by Robert Stephenson collapses under Shrewsbury & Chester Rly train due to structural failure (5 killed).

1847 May 24 Dundee & Perth Rly opens to Barnhill (officially May 22).

1847 May 28 Eastern Counties Rly opens March–Wisbech.

1847 Jun 1 East Lancashire Rly opens Blackburn & Preston line to passengers.

1847 Jun 1 Southampton & Dorchester Rly opens, worked by L&SWR (bus substitution round Southampton Tunnel during first week).

1847 Jun 14 Eastern Counties Rly opens Canning Town–North Woolwich.

1847 Jun 17 York & Newcastle Rly opens Pilmoor–Boroughbridge.

1847 Jun 26 GS&WR opens Ballybrophy–Maryborough.

1847 Jun 30 Upper Avon Navigation lease by Stratford-upon-Avon Canal is surrendered.

1847 Jun - Bradshaw's continental railway guide begins publication.

1847 Jun - LB&SCR takes delivery of first 2-2-2 *Jenny Lind* class locomotive from E.B. Wilson of Leeds (David Joy, designer).

1847 Jul 1 Newcastle & Berwick Rly opens Newcastle (Heaton Junction)–Tweedmouth by completion of Morpeth–Chathill section.

1847 Jul 1 Norfolk Rly opens Reedham–Lowestoft branch (May 3 to goods).

1847 Jul 1 SER opens Walmer (Deal) branch.

1847 Jul 1 Midland Rly opens Rolleston Junction–Southwell and authorised to acquire Mansfield & Pinxton Rly.

1847 Jul 1 York & North Midland Rly completes conversion of Whitby & Pickering line to locomotive working.

1847 Jul 9 Lancashire & Yorkshire Rly incorporated by amalgamation.

1847 Jul 9 L&NWR leases Huddersfield & Manchester Rly & Canal and Leeds, Dewsbury & Manchester Rly.

1847 Jul 9 MS&LR absorbs Manchester & Lincoln Union Rly & Chesterfield & Gainsborough Canal.

1847 Jul 14 Alderney Rly opens for breakwater construction.

1847 Jul 16 North British Rly opens Musselburgh branch.

1847 Jul 20 South Devon Rly opens Newton (Abbot)–Totnes on broad gauge (*Pegasus* and *Leo*).

1847 Jul 22 East Anglian Rly formed by merger of Lynn & Dereham, Lynn & Ely and Ely & Huntingdon Rly.

1847 Jul 22 Wear Valley Rly absorbs Bishop Auckland & Weardale Rly, Wear & Derwent Junction Rly and Shildon Tunnel Co.

1847 Jul 22 Sir John Ramsden's Canal passes to control of L&NWR (authorised 1845 to Huddersfield & Manchester Rly & Canal Co.).

1847 Jul 22 York & North Midland Rly authorised to acquire Market Weighton, Pocklington, Leven and Sir Edward Vavasour's Canals. Market Weighton sale agreed Nov 23.

1847 Jul 22 South Yorkshire, Doncaster & Goole Rly authorised, with powers to take over Don Navigation (including Sheffield and Dearne & Dove Canals).

1847 Jul 22 Town Police Clauses Act gives powers to local police commissioners to licence cabs.

1847 Jul 22 Post Office (Duties) Act: mail sent by rail need not be accompanied by a mail guard.

1847 Jul 26–7 Monkland Rly converted from 4 ft 6 in. (1.37 m) to standard gauge.

1847 Jul 27 North Wales Mineral Rly opens Wheatsheaf Junction–Minera; colliery branches by Nov.

1847 Jul 28 Bristol & Exeter Rly opens Clevedon branch on broad gauge.

1847 Aug 3 Bolton, Blackburn, Clitheroe & West Yorkshire Rly opens Blackburn–Sough; Tonge Viaduct collapses under construction (2 killed).

1847 Aug 3 L&NWR opens to Huddersfield.

1847 Aug 3 Wear Valley Rly opens to Frosterley, worked by Stockton & Darlington Rly.

1847 Aug 7 Edinburgh & Northern Rly (not yet open) absorbs Edinburgh, Leith & Granton Rly, by Act of Jul 22.

1847 Aug 9 Newcastle & Berwick Rly renamed York, Newcastle & Berwick.

1847 Aug 10 East Anglian Rly opens Narborough–Swaffham.

1847 Aug 10 York & North Midland Rly opens Church Fenton–Spofforth.

1847 Aug 14 *Chemin de fer de Paris à Saint-Germain introduces atmospheric traction.*

1847 Aug 17 Eastern Counties Rly opens Cambridge–St Ives, also working East Anglian Rly St Ives–Huntingdon.

1847 Aug 23 SER reopens Gravesend–Rochester.

1847 Aug 27 Ant & Bee Co. ss *New Cricket* boiler explodes at Hungerford Pier, London (6 killed).

1847 Aug 28 Edinburgh & Glasgow Rly opens Shieldhall branch.

1847 Sep 2 Eastern Union & Hadleigh Junction Rly opens branch from Bentley (Aug 20, formal; Aug 21 to goods).

1847 Sep 6 Midland Rly opens Erewash Valley line Long Eaton Junction–Codnor Park and Ilkeston branch.

1847 Sep 10 Caledonian Rly opens first section Beattock–Carlisle, with probable first use of Carlisle Citadel station.

1847 Sep 13 South Devon Rly introduces atmospheric traction for passenger services Exeter–Teignmouth.

- 1847 Sep 15 L&NWR opens Trent Valley line for limited services (Jun 26 to goods; Dec 1 to all through traffic).
- 1847 Sep 16 L&YR Sowerby Bridge accident: train derailed by broken rail (2 killed).
- 1847 Sep 20 Edinburgh & Northern Rly opens Burntisland–Cupar and Ladybank–Abdie (Lindores); latter extended to Glenbirnie Dec 9.
- 1847 Sep 22 RCH recommends adoption of Greenwich Mean Time on railways. Adopted from Dec 1 by West Coast companies.
- 1847 Sep - Bogie carriages introduced on Waterford & Limerick Rly.
- 1847 Oct 1 LB&SCR opens Keymer Junction–Lewes.
- 1847 Oct 1 Stockton & Darlington Rly leases Wear Valley and Middlesbrough & Redcar Rlys under terms of Act Sep 29.
- 1847 Oct 4 York & North Midland Rly opens York–Market Weighton.
- 1847 Oct 19 *Birth of Jean Baptiste Flamme, locomotive engineer (Mons) (d. 1920).*
- 1847 Oct 20 York & North Midland Rly opens Filey–Bridlington.
- 1847 Oct 23 GWR opens Gloucester (Tramway Junction)–Cheltenham St James station on broad gauge, also Gloucester loop avoiding line and T station.
- 1847 Oct 23 Eastern Counties Rly steam inspection car makes first run Shoreditch–Cambridge (vertical boiler; Samuel James, designer; W. Bridges Adams of Fairfield Works, Bow, builder).
- 1847 Oct 25 Bank Charter Act of 1844 suspended as a result of the financial Panic of 1847.
- 1847 Oct 26 East Anglian Rly opens Downham–Ely; also Swaffham–Sporle.
- 1847 Oct 29 Oakham Canal sale to Midland Rly completed for incorporation into its Syston & Peterborough line.
- 1847 Nov 1 L&YR opens Oldham Werneth–Mumps.
- 1847 Nov 1 South Staffordshire Rly opens Bescot–Walsall.
- 1847 Nov 13 GS&WR Ballybrophy stationmaster is murdered by dismissed labourer John d’Arcy.
- 1847 Nov 16 Death of Thomas Kirtley, locomotive engineer (Brighton) (b. 1811).
- 1847 Dec 8 LB&SCR opens Southerham Junction–Newhaven to passengers.
- 1847 Dec 21 GWR opens Berks & Hants line Reading–Hungerford on broad gauge.
- 1847 Dec 22 Birth of Michael Holroyd Smith, pioneer of electric tramways (Halifax) (d. 1932).
- 1847 Dec - GWR introduces electric telegraph for signalling through Box Tunnel.
- 1847 by end Eastern Counties Rly completes Stratford locomotive and carriage works and machinery transferred from former Romford works.
- 1847 -- - GWR Medical Fund established.
- 1847 -- - L&NWR locomotive *Cornwall*\* built in original form at Crewe works to the design of Francis Trevithick.
- 1847 -- - Pickfords withdraw from carrying on waterways. Grand Junction Canal Carrying Establishment set up.
- 1847 -- - BCN Rushall Canal opens.
- 1872        Sesquicentenary**
- 1872 early GWR Medical Fund Society Cottage Hospital at Swindon officially opened.
- 1872 Jan 1 L&NWR opens Huyton–St Helens and Ince Moss–Whelley to passengers.
- 1872 Jan 2 GNR opens Sleaford–Bourn Junction to passengers.

- 1872 Jan 15 NER opens Durham–Ferryhill to passengers.-
- 1872 Jan 15 Channel Tunnel Co. Ltd incorporated in London.
- 1872 Jan 23 Donald Currie & Co. (Castle Line) begins service of steamers picking up mail at Dartmouth for Cape Town, using chartered *Icelandic*; first own ship on run Oct, *Walmer Castle*.
- 1872 Jan 27 GWR and L&NWR open Wrexham & Minera Joint Rly to minerals; L&NWR opens Coed Talon–Ffrith Junction.
- 1872 Jan ? Wotton Tramway opens to passengers, horse worked; first steam locomotive\* delivered Jan 27; extended to Brill Mar or later.
- 1872 Feb 1 L&NWR extends Outer Circle Broad Street–Addison Road services to Mansion House (District).
- 1872 Feb 1 GWR takes over Milford Haven steamer service.
- 1872 Feb 1 Dublin Tramways Co. begins horse tram operation College Green–Rathgar.
- 1872 Feb 8 Death of Joseph Pease, railway promoter (Darlington) (b. 1799).
- 1872 Feb 24 Midland and G&SW Rlys agree amalgamation (for a second time), subsequently rejected in Parliament.
- 1872 Feb - GWR completes laying mixed gauge Didcot–Swindon.
- 1872 Mar 1 Blyth & Tyne Rly opens North Seaton–Newbiggin.
- 1872 Mar 1 NER opens Pelaw–Harton Junction (South Shields) and Tyne Dock.
- 1872 Mar 2 Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants registered with Registrar of Friendly Societies (J. Baxter Langley, president).
- 1872 Mar 11 GWR and B&ER open Bristol Harbour Rly to freight on mixed gauge.
- 1872 Mar 18 *Peruvian Government SS Yapura (built by Thames Ironworks, 1862) launched on Lake Titicaca.*
- 1872 Mar–May Duke of Bedford opens Covent Garden Flower Market hall in London (London Transport Museum\* from 1980) (William Rogers, designer; Cubitt & Co., contractors).
- 1872 Apr 1 Midland Rly admits 3rd class passengers at 1d/mile to all trains. This is followed by other companies, e.g. GER, GNR.
- 1872 Apr 1 GNR opens Finchley–High Barnet.
- 1872 Apr 22 Severn & Wye Rly opens Lydney Docks and Tufts Junction–Crump Meadow Colliery mineral loop; by mid-Jun extended to Drybrook Road and Wimberry Junction; in interim portions of S&W are operated by steam and horse traction on mixed broad, standard and tramroad gauges.
- 1872 May 1 Buckfastleigh, Totnes & South Devon Rly opens to Ashburton worked by South Devon Rly on broad gauge.
- 1872 May 1–22 GWR converts entire South Wales line (Gloucester (Grange Court)–Neyland) to standard gauge (up and down lines successively) with associated lines in Forest of Dean and Wales (last broad gauge train in Wales runs May 11), followed by Swindon–Gloucester (completed May 28). During month, Swindon works turns out its first passenger coaches, on narrow gauge.
- 1872 May 7 (or 8?) East Cornwall Mineral Rly opens Kelly Bray–Calstock Quay on 3 ft 6 in. (1067 mm) gauge.
- 1872 May 20 Birmingham & District Tramways Co. begins horse tram operation on 3 ft 6 in. (1067 mm) gauge in Black Country.
- 1872 May 26 Midland Rly abandons broad gauge on Bristol & Gloucester line.
- 1872 May 27 GER opens Bethnal Green–Stoke Newington; extended Jul 22 to Lower Edmonton; Aug 1 to Edmonton Junction, extending services to Enfield.

- 1872 Jun 1 Northampton & Banbury Junction Rly opens Towcester–Cockley Brake Junction to passengers.
- 1872 Jun 10 Bedford & Northampton Rly opens, worked by Midland Rly.
- 1872 Jun 12 *First section of railway in Japan opens, Yokohama–Shinagawa (Tokyo), British financed and equipped (official opening Oct 14).*
- 1872 Jun 18 Carmarthen & Cardigan Rly Pencader Tunnel derailment.
- 1872 Jun 21 Manning, Wardle begin trials of a Fell locomotive on Goathland incline.
- 1872 Jun 22 GER opens Hackney Downs–Copper Mill Junction.
- 1872 Jul 1 G&SWR opens Annbank–Cronberry Junctions to passengers (Jun 11 to goods).
- 1872 Jul 1 NBR opens Monktonhall Junction–Ormiston and Macmerry branch to passengers.
- 1872 Jul 12 Cardiff Tramways Co. begins horse tram operation.
- 1872 Jul 17 Preston Corporation acquires section of Lancaster Canal tramroad.
- 1872 Jul 18 L&SWR opens Bideford–Torrington (new Bideford station Jun 10).
- 1872 Jul 18 Severn Bridge Railway authorised.
- 1872 Jul 26–27 L&NWR porters strike.
- 1872 Jul 29 Millwall Extension Rly extended to North Greenwich, locomotive worked.
- 1872 Aug 1 GWR begins Middle Circle Moorgate–Mansion House service via Edgware Road and Addison Road.
- 1872 Aug 1 Greenock & Ayrshire Rly vested in G&SWR (authorised Jul 18).
- 1872 Aug 1 Cambrian Rlys opens Minffordd station for interchange with Festiniog Rly (goods Apr).
- 1872 Aug 15 Watlington & Princes Risborough Rly opens.
- 1872 Aug 17 Dublin, Wicklow & Wexford Rly opens Enniscorthy–Wexford.
- 1872 Aug 18 Licensing Act creates offence of being drunk in charge of a vehicle or animal on the road.
- 1872 Aug 19 Glasgow Tramways & Omnibus Co. begins horse tram operation.
- 1872 Aug 22 *Overland telegraph line Darwin–Port Augusta (Adelaide) connected at Frew's Ponds, completing the England–Australia link.*
- 1872 Aug 28 LB&SCR turns out the first class A “Terrier” 0-6-0Ts from its Brighton works, 71 *Wapping* (enters service Sep 13) and 72 *Fenchurch\** (enters service Sep 7); when the latter ceases work on 3 Nov 1963 it will be BR's oldest locomotive in service.
- 1872 Aug 28 Belfast Street Tramways Co. begins horse tram operation on Irish standard gauge.
- 1872 Sep 2 Midland Rly opens Yate Junction–Thornbury.
- 1872 Sep 2 Penicuik Rly opens to passengers (goods May 9).
- 1872 Sep 29 Lower Avon Navigation lease by Worcester & Birmingham Canal is surrendered.
- 1872 Oct 1 L&NWR opens Whitchurch–Tattenhall Junction; also Pen-y-Groes–Nantlle station to passengers (Aug 1 to freight) by conversion of part of Nantlle Rly to standard gauge and locomotive operation.
- 1872 Oct 1 Great Southern & Western Rly opens Fermoy–Lismore.
- 1872 Oct 2 Caledonian Rly Kirtlebridge accident: express runs into shunting goods due to failure in staff communication (12 killed).
- 1872 Oct 11? In the last notable “tea race” by sailing clippers around the Cape of Good Hope (starting Jun 18 from Shanghai), *Thermopylae* docks in London a week ahead of *Cutty Sark* (which requires her rudder replacing en route).
- 1872 Oct 14 Gas Light & Coke Co. opens Beckton branch to freight.

- 1872 Oct 29 Cornwall Rly Burngullow accident: train runs away on wrong line but collision avoided.
- 1872 Oct c. Lloyds Signal Station on Bass Point, The Lizard, begins reporting by telegraph.
- 1872 Nov 1 Wolverhampton & Walsall Rly opens, worked by L&NWR and Midland Rly independently.
- 1872 Nov 4 GER opens Bishopgate Low Level.
- 1872 Nov 17 Birth of James Clayton, SECR locomotive engineer (Stockport) (d. 1946).
- 1872 Nov 25 Iron sailing ship *Royal Adelaide* runs aground on Chesil Beach (6 killed).
- 1872 Nov 26 GWR abandons broad gauge Didcot–Oxford; Abingdon branch converted to standard gauge; Oxford goods (old passenger) station closes.
- 1872 Dec 2 Poole & Bournemouth Rly opens Broadstone–Poole, worked by L&SWR (old Poole station renamed Hamworthy).
- 1872 Dec 4 *American-owned merchant brigantine Mary Celeste found adrift in the Azores.*
- 1872 Dec 7 Death of Joseph Cubitt, civil engineer (London) (b. 1811).
- 1872 Dec 19 Festiniog Rly stages press launch of new double Fairlie locomotive *James Spooner* (designed by G. Percy Spooner, built by Avonside) with new bogie carriages 15\* & 16\* (bodies by Brown, Marshall).
- 1872 -- - Robert Shaw starts a carrier's service in Silverdale, Lancs., origin of The Travellers Choice coach operator of Carnforth.
- 1897            125th anniversary**
- 1897 Jan 19 Glasgow District Subway resumes regular operation.
- 1897 Feb 1 Elizabeth Camp is bludgeoned to death in a L&SWR train between Putney and Wandsworth, the first woman railway murder victim; her assailant is never found.
- 1897 Feb 9 GWR Coldrennick Viaduct accident: working platform collapses during reconstruction (12 workmen killed).
- 1897 Mar - St Malo & Binic Steam Ship Co. floated (by Piprell family of Guernsey); this year also Alderney Steam Packet Co. established (former will take over latter 1929). St Malo company takes delivery of new steamers in Jul.
- 1897 Apr 1 Birmingham New Street station becomes joint between L&NWR and MR.
- 1897 Apr 9 Snowdon Mountain Rly resumes operation.
- 1897 Apr 26 Bomb explodes on a Metropolitan Circle line train at Aldersgate Street station (2 die of injuries).
- 1897 May 10 Marconi sends the first ever wireless communication over open sea with the message "Are you ready" transmitted from Lavernock Point in South Wales to the island of Flat Holm.
- 1897 May 15 L&SWR opens Tipton St John–Budleigh Salterton.
- 1897 May 20 Death of John Ramsbottom, locomotive engineer, L&NWR (Alderley Edge) (b. 1814).
- 1897 May 22 London County Council opens Blackwall Tunnel, the world's longest subaqueous road tunnel at this date.
- 1897 May 24 Thomas Tilling Ltd invites applications for shares.
- 1897 May c. Plynlimon & Hafan Tramway opens on 2 ft 3 in (686 mm) gauge to mineral traffic. (Trial passenger working Aug 19.)
- 1897 Jun 2 Jubilee Bridge opens at Queensferry across the River Dee.
- 1897 Jun 11 Cambrian Rlys Welshampton rail crash: Sunday School excursion from Royton derailed (11 killed).
- 1897 Jun 21 GWR Diamond Jubilee royal train first used, Windsor–Paddington.



- 1897 Jun 21 GER introduces all-night Liverpool Street–Walthamstow passenger service, half-hourly.
- 1897 Jun 26 Charles Parsons' turbine steamer *Turbinia* demonstrated (unofficially) at Diamond Jubilee Fleet Review at Spithead.
- 1897 Jun ? General Post Office 'Jubilee concession' grants free postal delivery to every household.
- 1897 Jul 1 *The Railway Magazine* first published.
- 1897 Jul 1 GWR opens Hatton North Loop.
- 1897 Jul 1 GWR absorbs Pembroke & Tenby Rly.
- 1897 Jul 20 Newport, Godshill & St Lawrence Rly opens Merstone–St Lawrence, worked by Isle of Wight Central Rly.
- 1897 Jul 25 Death of Alfred Sacr , locomotive engineer (London) (b. 1841).
- 1897 Jul–1898 Jan Lockout by Engineering Employers' Federation affects deliveries of locomotives from private builders.
- 1897 Aug 1 Manchester, Sheffield & Lincolnshire Rly renamed Great Central Rly, under terms of Act Jun 3.
- 1897 Aug 6 Bute Docks Co. authorised to change its name to Cardiff Rly and construct a Heath–Pontypridd/Treforest line. Also this year it builds its new headquarters offices at Cardiff pierhead.
- 1897 Aug 6 Death of Samuel Laing, LB&SCR chairman (Sydenham) (b. 1810 or '12).
- 1897 Aug 10 Automobile Club of Great Britain (predecessor of RAC) established in London.
- 1897 Aug 19 Bersey electric cabs, the first horseless taxicabs, begin operating in London.
- 1897 Aug 27 Hundred of Manhood & Selsey Tramways opens Chichester–Selsey.
- 1897 Sep 1 Port Talbot Rly & Docks first section opens.
- 1897 Sep 1 Brighton, Rottingdean & Seashore Electric Tramway opens.
- 1897 Sep 1 LB&SCR Mayfield accident: derailment (driver killed).
- 1897 Sep 10 First conviction for drink-driving in charge of a motor vehicle given, to London taxi driver George Smith.
- 1897 Sep 19 *Norddeutscher Lloyd* four-funnel liner ss Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse begins her maiden voyage Bremerhaven–Southampton–New York.
- 1897 Sep 22 Birkenhead Corporation purchases New (Bebington) and Rock ferries across the Mersey.
- 1897 Sep 25 Yorkshire Motor Car Co. (J.E. Tuke) introduces covered Daimler wagonette Bradford Town Hall–Four Lane Ends.
- 1897 Sep ? Actress Minnie Palmer, on tour in Aberdeen, becomes the first woman car owner/driver when she takes delivery of a French Rougemont model.
- 1897 Oct 9 Tal-y-cafn Bridge opens across the Conwy.
- 1897 Nov 2 Highland Rly opens Kyle of Lochalsh Extension.
- 1897 Nov 2 Chipstead Valley Rly opens Purley–Kingswood officially, worked by SER.
- 1897 Dec 22 Death of Frederick D. Banister, LB&SCR civil engineer (Forest Row) (b. 1823).
- 1897 -- - Grand Junction Canal Wendover arm abandoned beyond Little Tring due to incurable leakage.
- 1897 -- - William A. Stevens established as a motor vehicle manufacturer, Maidstone.
- 1922 Centenary**
- 1922 Jan 1 Lancashire & Yorkshire Rly merged into L&NWR (with George Hughes as CME; agreed by Railway Amalgamation Tribunal Nov 20, 1921); Shropshire Union absorbed by L&NWR (agreed by Railway Amalgamation Tribunal Dec 29 with retrospective effect).

- 1922 Jan 1 GWR (Western Group) Preliminary Amalgamation Scheme comes into effect (retrospectively approved Mar 25): Alexandra Docks, Cambrian, Cardiff, Rhymney and Taff Vale Rlys merged into GWR. Barry Rly merged under terms of scheme approved May 8. Companies absorbed into GWR on this date include Rhondda & Swansea Bay (approved May 9), Brecon & Merthyr (<?Jul 1>approved Jul 27), Bury Port & Gwendreath Valley (approved Jul 24) and Neath & Brecon (approved Jul 1).
- 1922 Jan 1 C.B. Collett succeeds G.J. Churchward as GWR CME.
- 1922 Jan 1 Transport and General Workers' Union formed by merger of fourteen smaller unions under its first general secretary Ernest Bevin, forming by far the largest trade union.
- 1922 Jan 2 SR opens Sheerness-on-Sea spur.
- 1922 Jan 14 *Handley Page O/10 G-EATN flying from Croydon crashes on approach to Paris-Le Bourget airport (all 5 onboard killed).*
- 1922 Feb 11 "Clones affray": gun battle at Clones railway station between Irish Republic Army volunteers and members of the Ulster Special Constabulary travelling to Belfast (5 killed).
- 1922 Feb 28 Viscount Lascelles and Princess Mary travel by GWR Paddington–Shifnal on honeymoon.
- 1922 Mar 1 Railway common user of wagons extended to 4-wheel single and twin bolster wagons.
- 1922 Mar 1 Civil Aviation Authority established.
- 1922 Mar 9 Newell's Express Motor Service, predecessor of Seaview Services, licences its first vehicles on the Isle of Wight for a Seaview–Ryde bus operation.
- 1922 Mar 21 L&SWR opens rebuilt Waterloo station officially.
- 1922 Mar 28 *Death of Leo Daft, pioneer of electric traction in the US (US) (b. Birmingham, England 1843).*
- 1922 Mar 30 Welsh Highland Rly Light Railway Order incorporates WHR which (retrospectively from Jan 1) takes over assets of Portmadoc, Beddgelert & South Snowdon Rly.
- 1922 Apr 1 Midlands & Coast Canal Carriers established by Noah Hingley & Sons of Netherton Ironworks in lieu of Shropshire Union carrying.
- 1922 Apr 1 Irish Post Office takes over responsibilities for its own operations.
- 1922 Apr 7 *Picardie mid-air collision: Daimler Airway de Havilland DH.18 G-EAWO flying Croydon–Paris collides in poor visibility with a Cie des Grands Express Aériens Farman Goliath on the reverse journey over France, the world's first such accident (all 7 onboard both aircraft killed).*
- 1922 Apr 17 West Riding Automobile Services begins motor bus operation as a subsidiary of the Yorkshire (West Riding) Electric Tramways Co., using Bristol vehicles.
- 1922 Apr 24 First section of Imperial Wireless Chain inaugurated, Leafield (Oxfordshire)–Cairo.
- 1922 Apr - Sand Hutton Light Rly opens to Kissthorns and Claxton on 18 in. (460 mm) gauge to freight.
- 1922 May 15 Instone Air Line begins Croydon–Brussels flights (from Oct 1 extended to Cologne Butzweilerhof).
- 1922 May 20 P&O liner ss *Egypt* outbound from Tilbury sinks in English Channel off Ushant after collision in fog with ss *Seine* (86 killed).
- 1922 May 25 Cunard liner RMS *Laconia* sets out on her maiden transatlantic voyage from Southampton.
- 1922 Jun 22 GER war memorial at Liverpool Street station unveiled by FM Sir Henry Wilson, assassinated soon afterwards.
- 1922 Jun 28 Irish Civil War breaks out: railways will be a major target.
- 1922 Jun 29 Bradford Canal abandoned by Act.

- 1922 Jul 1 GWR&Midland Rly last operate Hotwells Halt–Sneyd Park Junction in Bristol; line closed for construction of Portway road.
- 1922 Jul 10 L&NWR introduces electric services over 'New Line' Willesden Junction–Watford Junction to replace steam passenger services.
- 1922 Jul 10 Birkenhead–Margate and Cardiff–Brighton through rail passenger services commence.
- 1911 Jul 11 Convention Relating to the Regulation of Aerial Navigation comes into effect.
- 1922 Jul 21 Austin Seven car launched.
- 1922 Jul 28 Trent Motor Traction opens the first purpose-built bus station, at Derby (T.H. Thorpe, architect); on Aug 15, Maidstone & District Motor Services open theirs at Maidstone (G.F. French, manager & chief engineer).
- 1922 Jul 31 Welsh Highland Rly reopens Dinas–South Snowdon (Rhyd-Ddu) to passengers.
- 1922 Jul - Hythe Pier Railway opens.
- 1922 Jul - Fellows, Morton & Clayton (canal carriers) acquire remaining boats of Samuel Allsopp & Sons (brewers), Burton upon Trent.
- 1922 Jul c. Burwell & District Motor Services begins bus operation.
- 1922 Aug 5 A.G. Partridge introduces his Chocolate Express bus operation, the first London independent ("pirate") motor bus service.
- 1922 Aug 8 Rail and road viaducts at Ballyvoile, Co. Waterford, blown up by Irish Republican Army.
- 1922 Aug 21 SECR Milton Range accident: passengers run down and collision in rear following signal passed at danger in fog (5 killed).
- 1922 by Aug Dodge Brothers begin assembly of imported car and commercial components in Fulham.
- 1922 Sep 9 Birth of Tom Cowie, motor vehicle dealer (Sunderland) (d. 2012).
- 1922 Sep - Peak Forest Canal carries last commercial load of limestone from Bugsworth basin.
- 1922 Oct 2 Barquentine *Cutty Sark*\* returns (under tow) from Portuguese ownership to Falmouth in the ownership of Capt. Wilfred Dowman for restoration to her original clipper appearance as a museum and static cadet training ship.
- 1922 Oct 9 R. Chisnell & Sons Ltd (King Alfred Motor Services of Winchester) begin their first stage carriage services.
- 1922 Oct 16 *Second Simplon Tunnel opens.*
- 1922 Oct 18 British Broadcasting Company formed. On Nov 14 it takes over London station 2LO (established May 11 by Marconi).
- 1922 Oct 22 Birth of Ray Buckton, ASLEF general secretary (Rillington) (d. 1995).
- 1922 Oct 30 Electric working of Croxley Green branch begins.
- 1922 Nov 6 Death of John Wilson, GER chief engineer (b. 1846).
- 1922 Nov 16 Retford accident: GNR train collides in rear with GCR.
- 1922 Nov 27 First conversion from tram to trolleybus, by Birmingham Corporation, using all covered-top double-deck vehicles.
- 1922 Dec 9 *Chemins de fer de Paris à Lyon et à la Méditerranée resumes the Calais-Méditerranée Express, now known as "Le Train Bleu" because of its Wagons-Lits cars (some built by Leeds Forge), between Calais Maritime and Menton on the French Riviera.*
- 1922 Dec 23 Cargo ship *Maid of Delos* sinks off Skomer (all 26 crew killed).
- 1922 Dec - Snailbeach District Rlys (horse worked at this time) purchased by Col. H.F. Stephens personally.
- 1922 -- - Birth of R.C. Riley, railway photographer (d. 2009).

1922 -- - Wisbech Canal last commercial traffic passes.

1922 Coach operators established: Atkinson of Ingleby, North Yorkshire; Happy Days of Woodseaves, Staffordshire; Harris of Catshill, Worcestershire; Shaws of Maxey, Northamptonshire; Worths of Enstone, Oxfordshire.

For 75th (1947), 50th (1972) and 25th (1997) anniversaries, go to the RCHS Chronology of Modern Transport (1945–2015) which you can find on the Modern Transport tab under Special Interest Groups.

\* indicates an item preserved today. *Italics indicate selected overseas events.*