

The Times

August 2012

A journal of transport timetable history and analysis



Inside: Riding the "Mentaliner"
Frankston difficulties
Dùn Èideann am Glaschu ceathrar dol

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The Times

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On the front cover

The timetables of self-propelled trains of very different provenances are reviewed this month— Amtrak's silver-quick, one-off, schedule for the Metroliner of 1969 and Scotrail's ubiquitous services that thread the Glasgow-Edinburgh glacially-carved low-lands along 4 different routes. The Metroliner time out of New York has never been beaten; Scotrail's DMUs are anything but glacial.

Rossum's Universal Robots (R.U.R.) A play by Karel Čapek (1923), translated from the Czech by David Wyllie (2005). The play is most famous for popularizing worldwide the Czech word 'robot' (slave/worker).

Act One [...]

Dr. Gall: You see, there's a ship on its way here now. An ordinary mail boat and right on the time it says in the timetable. It will be dropping anchor at exactly eleven-thirty.

Domin: Punctuality is a wonderful thing, lads. There's nothing that gladdens your soul more than punctuality. Punctuality means order in the world. (raises glass)- To punctuality!

Helena: So... that means... that everything's alright?

Domin: Nearly everything. I think they've cut the cable. It's only if the timetable is operating again.

Hallemeier: If the timetable is operating again, then human laws are operating again, and God's laws are operating again and the laws of the universe are operating again and everything is operating that should be operating. The timetable means more than the Bible, more than Homer, more the anything ever written by Kant. The timetable is the most perfect product of the human soul. Helena, I'll have another little drink.

-Thanks to Brendan Whyte for bringing our attention to this.

Contributors Brendan Whyte, Geoff Lambert, Rod Milne, Robert Henderson, Jim Wells, Duncan MacAuslan

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A pair of moments

Submitted by Geoff Lambert, with help from Wikipedia

K. folks—you all hang on real tight now. We'll be leaving in a pair of moments."

Thus was our introduction to Amtrak's New York—Washington *Metroliner*, back in 1975.

At the New York Medical Center's Department of Psychiatry where I worked at the time, the train was known colloquially by the Medics as the "Mentaliner", for the number of psychiatric cases who fled Washington for New York on it. But that was OK—we were headed the *other* way.

The Metroliner was a premium express train service between Washington, D.C. and New York City in the United States from 1969 to 2006. It was first operated by Penn Central Transportation, successor to the Pennsylvania Railroad, and later by Amtrak.

Originally operated with self-powered electric multiple unit cars, which were later replaced with locomotive-hauled train-sets, the train offered reserved business-class and first-class seating. A trip between New York's Pennsylvania Station and Washington, D.C.'s Union Station took approximately 3 hours.

Amtrak later replaced Metroliner service with high-speed (150 mph or 240 km/h) *Acela Express* train-sets. Metroliner service was discontinued on 27 October 2006.

The initial schedules included one train daily in each direction between Washington and New York. A second train per day in each direction was soon added; non-stop service between Washington and New York was added on April 2, 1969. Successful from the beginning, the Metroliner remained under Penn Central operation until the creation of the National Railroad Passenger Corporation (*Amtrak*) in 1971.

The earliest timetable I can find for the Metroliner is in my Penn Central Employee Time Table (ETT) for 27-Apr-1969, about 3 weeks after the Metroliner had been introduced. The ETT has been modified by pasting-in a "Lick'em and Stick'em" from General Order 304, effective 2-Jun-1969. Holding the page up to the light, one can discern that the original schedule times (for train 2-131) were 20 min earlier than that specified in GO304.

The meaning of the ⊠ symbol at the top of the column is not given, but it is probably code for "non-stop". It was the only south-bound train so marked in the book and was the only train in the 2000 number series. Its counterpart, Northbound 2004, was also introduced with GO304 and had similar timings. It may perhaps have been an early



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_	4. M.	_	A.M.	-	A.M.		3.00	_	-		4.	_	A.M.	-	A.M.

experimental schedule.

This train, #2005, the 0730 from Penn. Station, passes Trenton at 0806, an average speed of 95 mph. This was not bad, seeing as the maximum allowable speeds for the first 11 miles to Hunter ranged from 35 to 70 mph. This meant the average speed over the 37 miles Union to Trenton was 117 mph—the speed limit table specifies only 115 mph! The average speed of the trains which surround it on this page is about 52 mph... this Metroliner was fast. Indeed it was considerably faster to Trenton than today's Acela Express and two-thirds faster than the Pennsylvania train which it replaced. I do not have any Penn Central PTTs of this period, so I cannot say whether this super-fast train ever appeared in one.

With the coming of Amtrak two years later in 1971, the railroad world turned topsyturvy. Amtrak issued many types of timetable over the years, generally falling into (at least) the following classes (in the current century, anyway):

- 1. Form T1, System timetable book– this contains all its trains.
- 2. Form T2, National timetable book—this contains all trains except those in the North East Corridor (NEC).
- 3. Form T3, NEC timetable book
- 4. Other timetable books
- 5. Specific train timetable leaflets.

In my time in New York (when the form numbering system was different) most were readily available from the timetable racks and booths in Grand Central and Pennsylvania stations.

My next timetable to show Metroliner service is an Amtrak NEC PTT of 19-May-1974- a summer timetable. In this PTT, there were 15 Metroliner services (out of a total of 25 NY-Washington trains) on weekdays, with fewer on weekend days, particularly Sundays. These trains departed on every half-hour from 06:30 to 20:30 and usually made the journey in 1 minute under 3-hours even, although a handful were a tad slower. Stops varied, but usually included any or all of Metropark (the former Iselin), Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore. A page of this PTT is shown at right—the Metroliner services are the ones with the "train" symbol near the top of the column.

In 1981 Amtrak replaced the Budd Metroliner cars, which had developed problems with their DC motors limiting their speed, with conventional locomotive-hauled trains powered by the Swedish-developed AEM-7 locomotives pulling conventional Amfleet I and II coaches, whose design was derived from the first-generation Metroliner design, at speeds up to 125 mph (201 km/h).

WEST AND SOUTHBOUND EASTERN CORRIDOR SERVICE

BOSTON - PROVIDENCE - WORCESTER - SPRINGFIELD - HARTFORD - NEW HAVEN - NEW YORK-NEWARK - TRENTON - PHILADELPHIA - WILMINGTON - BALTIMORE - WASHINGTON

Train Number		101	237	61	103	165	105	205	107/131	161	161	109	141	111
Train Name		(III)		The Mon- trealer	(III)	The Murray Hill				The East Wind	The East Wind		Connec- ticut Yankee	
requescy of Operation		Mo thru	Mo thru Sa	Daily	Daily	Daily	Mo thru Sa	Daily	(B) Daily	Mo thru Sa	Su Only	Daily	Daily	Daily
ype of Service — ->	Miles from Bos.	D		⊨×ň	be-	9	pe		pe	9	6	0	6	pe
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HARTFORD Berlin (New Britain) Meridea Walkingford NEW HAVEN A	133 141 147			3 58 s 4 09 a 4 19 a 4 45 a						7 58 a			7 40 a 7 51 a 8 00 a 8 10 a 8 30 a	
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TRENTON, NJ Bristol, PA North Philadelphia PHILADELPHIA, PA (30th St. Sta WILMINGTON, DE	300 318 322 349	NFTROLL 7 48 a 8 12 a	7 41 a d 8 15 a 8 25 a	8 02 a 8 33 a 8 48 a 9 15 a	8 45 a	9 05 a 9 33 a 9 43 a 10 18 a	9 48 a 10 12 a	10 00 s	10 15 a 10 41 a 11 05 a	11 27 a	11 00 s 11 27 s 11 38 s 12 12 p 1 13 p	11 43 a 12 07 p 12 53 p	d12 28 p	12 45
BALTIMORE, MD (Penn. Sta.) Capital Beltway, MD	447	8 58 a		10 15 a d10 45 a 10 59 a	9 56 a d10 19 a 10 34 a	11 20 a	10 58 a		11 51 a	1 13 p	1 13 p	12 53 p		2 2

For explanation of Reference Marks, see Page 6.

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SOUTHBOUND CORRIDOR

Boston • Springfield	• 1/	Acela	Acela	Acela	phia • Metroliner	- week	Aceta	Acela	Acela	Newp	Acela	Keyston
Train Number >	_	Express	Regional	Regional	September 1	- Charles	Regional	Regional	Express		Regional	100000
Train Number ► Normal Days of Operation ►	_	SaSu	183 Mo-Fr	153 SaSu	107 Mo-Fr	207 Su	155 SaSu	141 Mo-Fr	2153 Mo-Fr	209 Sa	143 SaSu	643 SaSu
	-	3630	MO-FI	3a3u	MO-FT	- Su	3430	MO-FT	MO-FT	34	5854	2430
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New Haven, CT Bridgeport, CT Stemford, CT New Bookelle, NY	Ar Do							7 28A 7 38A 7 58A 8 24A 8 47A	6 18A		8 00A 8 11A 8 31A 8 56A 9 15A	
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Philadelphia, PA St. Sta. Wilmington, DE Newark, DE Aberdeen, MD Jallimore, MD-Penn Sta.	Dp I	9 10A 9 30A 10 10A	9 27A 9 30A 9 52A	9 33A 9 36A 9 59A	10 14A 10 35A	10 14A 10 35A	10 33A 10 36A 10 59A	10 58A 11 08A 11 31A 11 57A 12 20P	11 05A 11 25A	11 14A 11 35A	11 35A 11 36A 11 59A	To Harrisbur
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Richmond, VA	Ar Dp											
Rewport News, VA (ET) Business class service available.	Ar	W The t	me shown	2		2						

We jump ahead now to the NEC timetable of 30-Sep-2001, just after the Acela Express (HST) trains were introduced. At right bottom of our previous page is its page 5, which allows a comparison between the Acela (Mon-Fri) and Metroliner (Sun); both have a 10 AM departure from New York. The travel times to Union Station, Washington are 2h 42min and 3h 01min respectively. Not that much of a saving, really.

The Acela Express is Amtrak's current high-speed rail service along the NEC. It uses tilting technology which allows the train to travel at higher speeds on the sharply curved NEC without disturbing passengers, by lowering lateral centrifugal forces, based on the concept of banked turns. Acela Express trains are the only true high-speed train-sets in North America; the highest speed they attain is 150 mph (240 km/h), though their average is less than half that speed. The Acela has become popular with business travelers and by some reckoning has captured over half of the market share of air or train travelers between Washington and New York.

Acela services (numbered in the 2100-2299 series) seem to have been "fleeted", running NY—Washington services in the morning and returning in the afternoon. The Metroliner services (numbered in the 100 series) were then relegated to the mirror image" services—North in the morning, South in the afternoon. A double-page spread from the 28-Oct-2002 ETT is shown at right and shows two of the remaining afternoon Metroliners—but of course no Acelas. A notable feature of this ETT is its improved layout and greatly increased number of timing points.

The Acela service is generally considered a success; by 2005, Amtrak's share of the transport market between New York and Boston had reached 40% from 18% pre-Acela. With the increasing popularity of the faster and more modern Acela Express, the Metroliner service was phased out; the last operated on October 27, 2006.

The last PTT to speak of Metroliners was

New York A Bergen Swift		P.M.	[M-F] P.M.	[Su] P.M.	[SaSu] P.M.	Days run Leaving	1	[M-F] P.M.	[M-F] P.M.	[M-F] P.M.	[M-F] P.M.
A Bergen Swift	Arr Dep		S 4.01p	S 4.01p		New York	Arr Dep		S 4.31p	S 4.20 S 4.36p	S 4.46p
bergen Swift		3.42	4.02	4.02	4.07	Ą	i	4.07	4.32 4.37	4.37 4.43	4.52
		3.47	4.07	4.07	4.13	Bergen		4.13 4.15	4.40	4.45	4.55
Hudson		3.50	4.10	4.10	4.15	Swift	i	4.16	4.41	4.46	4.56
		3.51 S 3.55	4.11	4.11	4.16	Hudson		S 4.20	R 4.45	S 4.50	S 5.00
ewark funter		S 3.55 3.57	R 4.15	R 4.15 4.17	S 4.20	Newark Hunter	1	4.23	4.47	4.53	5.02
ewark Airport Sta.		S 4.00	4.17	9.17	S 4.25	Newark Airport Sta.		S 4.25	7.77	1,00	
ilmora		4.04	4.20	4.20	4.29	Elmora		4.29	4.50	4.56	5.05
inion		4.07	4.23	4.23	4.23	Union		4.33	4.53	4.59	5.08
selin		4.09	4.25	4.25	4.35	Iselin		4.35	4.55	5.01	5.10
etropark	1	4.03	S 4.27	S 4.27	S 4.37	Metropark		S 4.37	\$ 4.57	S 5.03	
fenio		4.10	4.28	4.28	4.38	Menlo	1	4.38	4.58	5.04	5.11
incoln		4.12	4.30	4.20	4.40	i Lincoln		4.40	5.00	5.06	5.13
ew Brunswick	į	4.72	4.50	4.30	4.40	New Brunswick		4.10	. 0.00		i
County		4.16	4.34	4.34	4.44	County		4.44	5.04	5.10	5.17
fidway		4.20	4.34	4.38	4.44	Midway		4.48	5.08	5.14	5.22
rinceton Jct.		7.60	7.00	, 4.00	4.40	Princeton Jct.			0.00		L 5.29
am		4.28	4.45	4.45	4.55	Ham		4.55	5.15	5.21	5.35
air		4.30	4.46	4.46	4.57	Fair		4.57	5.16	5.22	5.36
enton		L 4.32	7.40	1.40	S 4.59	Trenton		S 4.59		S 5.25	L 5.39
forris		4.36	4.48	4.49	5.04	Morris		5.03	5.18	5.30	5.45
irundy		4.40	4.52	4.53	5.08	Grundy		5.07	5.22	5.34	5.49
ornwells Hts.		L 4.46	7.02	7.00	3.00	Cornwells Hts.		0.0.			L 5.55
loimes		4.50	4.58	4.59	5.14	Holmes		5.13	5.28	5.40	5.59
hore		4.54	5.02	5.03	5.18	Shore		5.17	5.32	5.44	6.03
orth Phila.		L 4.58	J.UL	J.00	3.70	North Phila.		1			1
lo. Phila		4.59	5.05	5.06	5.21	No. Phila		5.20	5.35	5.47	6.0
oo - Mantua	į	5.02	5.07	5.08	5.29	Zoo - Mantua		5.22	5.37	5.49	6.10
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Phil		to HAR	5.17	5.18	5.34	Phil		5.33	5.47	6.13	to HA
aldwin		IO HAH	5.22	5.18	5.39	Baldwin		5.38	5.52	6.18	10.11
ook			5.26	5.27	5.43	Hook		5.42	5.56	6.22	
olly			5.28	5.29	5.45	Holiy		5.44	5.58	6.24	İ
andlith			5.31	5.32	5.48	Landlith		5.47	6.01	6.27	:
imington			S 5.34	S 5.36	S 5.52	Wilmington		S 5.51	S 6.04	S 6.31	1
ard			5.36	5.38	5.54	Yard		5.53	6.06	6.33	:
agan			5.37	5.39	5.55	Ragan		5.54	6.07	6.34	;
avis			5.42	5.44	6.00	Davis		5.59	6.12	6.39	l
ewark			j J.42	3.44	0.00	Newark			1	1	1
acon			5.48	5.50	6.07	Bacon		6.06	6.18	6.46	
erry	i		5.52	5.54	6.13	Perry		6.11	6.22	6.51	İ
race	1		5.53	5.55	6.14	Grace		6.12	6.23	6.52	1
erdeen	1		0.00	0.00	0.74	Aberdeen		S 6.18		Į.	1
ush			5.59	6.01	6.19	Bush		6.22	6.29	6.57	
ood	i		6.01	6.03	6.21	Wood		6.24	6.31	6.59]
unpow			6.03	6.05	6.23	Gunpow		6.26	6.33	7.01	1
ddie	- 1		6.15	6.18	6.34	Biddle		6.36	6.45	7.12	
ltimore			S 6.19	S 6.22	S 6.39	Baltimore		S 6.41	S 6.49	\$ 7.17	
iton		-	6.23	6.26	6.43	Fulton		6.45	6.53	7.21	İ
VI Airport Sta.			S 6.32	S 6.35	S 6.52	BWI Airport Sta.		\$ 6.54	S 7.02	\$ 7.30	1
rove	į	ļ	6.36	6.39	6.57	Grove		6.59	7.06	7.35	İ
owie			6.40	6.43	7.01	Bowie		7.03	7.10	7.39	1
w Carroliton			D 6.45	D 6.49	D 7.06	New Carrollton			D 7.16	D 7.44	1
indover			6.47	6.50	7.08	Landover		7.08	7.17	7.46	į
P Avenue			6.56	7.01	7.21	CP Avenue		7.21	7.26	7.55	i
ashington	Arri		S 6.59	S 7.04	S 7.25	Washington	Α	rr S 7.25	S 7.29	S 7.59	1
	Dep	j		1			De	p	-	İ	1
P Virginia			,			CP Virginia					
riving	1	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	Arriving		P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.N

the Spring-Fall issue of 2006, where just one Metroliner schedule appeared, a 6 PM departure out of Penn. Station, still running to its now almost age-old time of 2h 59m. The equivalent Acela Express in this timetable was only 4 minutes faster.

The Acela carried 3.2 million passengers in fiscal year 2010. The Acela Express is one of the few Amtrak lines to operate at a profit; the two train lines generate more than half of Amtrak's total revenue.

They are yet to beat train 2005 of 1969.



Back to Kywong – boys will be boys...will watch trains

Letters about trainspotting from Rod MILNE and ROBERT HENDERSON

find your two mags. often of interest and found the little piece on the Kywong trip in 1950 fascinating.

I think you will find the esteemed gentleman who did that run was the late and sorely missed Ken Winney.

Photos of his of that trip in 1950 have been published in the past, so he may be the source or another who travelled with him.

Those southern NSW branch lines were fascinating and it is not a well known fact that when they were dieselised in 1962, only one 48 class loco was needed to run all the services. It started off the working week Monday morning at Culcairn, running the weekly job over to Holbrook before coming back to Culcairn and then doing the run to Corowa back. The next two days saw runs to Oaklands and Humula as required, while Thursday's workings for that loco comprised a morning run to Corowa and back and then later than

evening a weekly goods train to Rand and back in the hours of darkness. Friday finished the week with a return goods train up the long branch to Tumbarumba and back. The use of the single loco involved many placement runs comprising the loco and van to position itself at each junction for the branch run. For instance, on Thursday, the 48 and van off the train from Corowa worked up to Henty to do the weekly Rand goods train.

I liked the photos of Hobart suburban trains particularly the one of Y4 on the Cadbury train clearly coming back off the branch at Claremont in the morning.

Rod Milne

lbert Isaacs' letter in the July 2012 issue of The Times about keeping times books reminded of when my wife Katrina and I travelled by train to Canberra for the 1997 AGM of the AATTC.

In the booked seat train, sitting coincidentally immediately behind us were two other members going to the same event. And they were recording the times of the train.

Katrina never fails to remind me from time to time of an incident that occurred on that journey. When the train stopped at either Bungendore or Tarago (I cannot quite remember which), these two gentlemen were outspokenly critical of the driver or observer taking what they considered an inordinate length of time to detrain and appear to use the lavatory facilities on the station. I have wondered ever since whether details such as that were actually recorded in their so-called "times" books.

Robert Henderson



Let's do it for Frankston

JIM WELLS

ervices on the Frankston, Dandenong and Ringwood lines in Melbourne on weekends day time have been improved.

In Frankston's case this means a train every 10 min which by any standard is a good service for off peak. This service has been operating Mon – Fri for a few months now.

Here's the route map (right, upper) and a sample of the weekday timetable (right, lower).

It is my contention that this service pattern is not optimal for the market.

The key problem is slowness. Sixty two minutes to cover 42.7 km is hardly ground-breaking stuff. The trains from Geelongabout 75 km-are generally quicker.

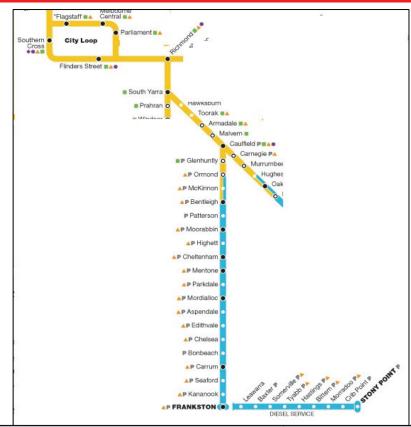
The problem is not poor track alignment. Yes, there are one or two issues such as the very sharp curve on the down side of South Yarra and the tramway crossing at Glenhuntly (p8, top right), but quite high speeds can be achieved over much of the route.

The problem is the number of intermediate stops. Twenty four by my count. It is my contention that any rail journey that has more than about twelve or fifteen stops becomes irritating and it doesn't matter whether the journey is a suburban one or quite a long distance one (see box, p9). It helps with a suburban one if the operation is 'snappy', short dwell times and smooth but high acceleration and braking. Melbourne's trains aren't too bad in this respect.

The traditional solution to this problem is to have short 'terminators' that stop all stations so that long distance trains can run non stop in the area served by the short distance trains. This is the pattern that operates in the peak hour; indeed use is made of the third track between Moorabbin and Caulfield to allow fast trains to overtake slower ones.

The difficulty is the transfer problem – someone travelling from say Ormond to say Bonbeach would have to change trains somewhere.

A service out of Flinders St with three trains an hour stopping all stations to Cheltenham and three trains to Frankston semi fast to Cheltenham would save a train set or two so would be more economic than the six all the way to Frankston. If the authorities aren't too concerned about cost then we could have four trains an hour on each service. This would integrate better with the Dandenong line four an hour ser-



Wheelchair Accessible Services	6	e	<u>e</u>
Morning (am) / Afternoon (pm)	am	am	am
Frankston Station (Frankston)	10:22	-	10:32
Kananook Station (Seaford)	10:24	-	10:34
Seaford Station (Seaford)	10:27	-	10:37
Carrum Station (Carrum)	10:31	-	10:41
Bonbeach Station (Bonbeach)	10:33	(E)	10:43
Chelsea Station (Chelsea)	10:35	-	10:45
Edithvale Station (Edithvale)	10:37	_	10:47
Aspendale Station (Aspendale)	10:39	-	10:49
Mordialloc Station (Mordialloc)	10:42		10:52
Parkdale Station (Parkdale)	10:45	-	10:55
Mentone Station (Mentone)	10:47	-	10:57
Cheltenham Station (Cheltenham)	10:49		10:59
Highett Station (Highett)	10:52	-	11:02
Moorabbin Station (Moorabbin)	10:54	-	11:04
Patterson Station (Bentleigh)	10:56		11:06
Bentleigh Station (Bentleigh)	10:58	-	11:08
McKinnon Station (Mckinnon)	11:00	200	11:10
Ormond Station (Ormond)	11:01	-	11:11
Glenhuntly Station (Glen Huntly)	11:03	-	11:13
Caulfield Station (Caulfield East)	11:07	11:17	11:17
Malvern Station (Malvern)	11:09	11:19	11:19
Armadale Station (Armadale)	11:11		11:21
Toorak Station (Armadale)	11:13		11:23
Hawksburn Station (South Yarra)	11:15		11:25
South Yarra Station (South Yarra)	11:17	11:24	11:27
Richmond Station (Richmond)	11:20	11:27	11:30
Parliament Station (Melbourne City)		11:30	
Melbourne Central Station (Melbourne City)		11:32	
Flagstaff Station (Melbourne City)		11:34	
Southern Cross Station (Melbourne City)		11:36	
Flinders Street Station (Melbourne City) ARI	11:24	11:40	11:34

vice. A compromise might be four an hour to Cheltenham; two beyond.

This is the service pattern on Sydney's East Hills line – it works well.

One accepts that Cheltenham or Mordialloc may not be suitable as turn back stations. Ideally a turn back station on a busy two track railway needs a turn back road between the two running lines. The turn back road may or may not have a platform; there are advantages for passengers interchanging if the turn back road does not have a platform.

To solve this problem we need detailed origin-destination data. With the sort of ticketing data Melbourne used to have, that data would be difficult to come by, but one suspects that most off peak travel is CBD-oriented. Caulfield has a uni. campus and there is a major shopping centre, Southland, near Cheltenham.

The good burghers of such delightful places as Bonbeach and Aspendale would lose their "no need for a timetable" frequency. This really is only relevant if there is a lot of local traffic in the area, such as going from Bonbeach to Aspendale.

This sort of traffic is often better catered for by bus. A bus operates at a fraction of the cost of a train. Yes, in Victoria trains are single manned, as are buses, but the killer for trains is maintenance. A frequent bus service along the parallel Nepean Highway would be appropriate, a major side benefit being service to places distant from the railway stations.

The current 706 operates on the back road from Mordialloc to Chelsea only three times a day (wow!) and the 708 (Hampton – Carrum) serves the interior areas away from the railway half hourly. So amplification would be required.

However, I believe that what's really needed is to give Frankston itself a very fast service at least once an hour.

Frankston is a major suburb and rail head for most of the Mornington Peninsula. The population of the Mornington Peninsula Shire (2006) was 148,394 (Wiki.) and the City of Frankston had a similar number.

Frankston is the commencing point for the diesel service to Stony Point and has a major bus interchange.

A fast service from Frankston stopping only at Caulfield should reach Flinders St in no more than 40 minutes.

So what are the issues associated with this, apart from finding additional train sets to run the service?

The first is a political one. Yes, it might be nice for Frankston but there would be an immediate clamour for similar services to Lilydale, Dandenong, Eltham – who



knows where else? This would be difficult to handle politically quite apart from operationally.

Depending on the pattern of ordinary services as discussed above it may not be possible to 'path' such a service. Use of the third track south of Caulfield would almost certainly be necessary; in effect this track would become a single line with alternate trains running in opposite directions. If things go astray it might get messy and integration with peak services may be difficult. Timetablers like to have 'robustness'.

With the introduction of the 10 minute service to Dandenong V/Line Gippsland services running non stop or one stop Caulfield to Dandenong are now quite slow. For example train 8413 to Bairnsdale on Saturdays leaves Caulfield at 12:13 pm, five minutes after the preceding suburban train and dawdles along to reach Dandenong three minutes after it – 12:39, say arrival 12:38. This is a speed of just 47 km/h. The road is straight and near level. On a

well managed railway the average should be at least double that.

Frankstn station, like suburban stations generally, are not designed to handle a very large number of exiting passengers. How large is very large? It may be possible to enlarge the platform exits and ease the flow of people out to the street. Capacity limitations may be a problem with the bus interchange.

One envisages the Frankston expresses running at high speed along the strip between Mordialloc and Carrum. This is an interesting railway as it runs right alongside a major road on the western side and often a minor road on the eastern. At most of the stations there is a boom barrier controlled level crossing and traffic lights on the roads. What a mess! Below is a Google view of Chelsea; the station can be seen on the right.

It is understood that the railway has a technique of adjusting boom barrier times depending on the stopping pattern of trains.



Nevertheless there may be concern about trains operating through these stations at high speed.

It would not be possible without major

track amplification to run an express service in peak hour. This would severely detract from the overall benefit of the arrangement.

Let's hope the Victorians review this situation and use their scarce resources more effectively.

How many stops should suburban train services have?

Australian railways are notorious for having suburban services with a large number of stops. Frankston is mentioned above – 24 intermediate stops, Belgrave likewise if one doesn't include East Richmond. Hurstbridge has 22; Pakenham 25 including all stations South Yarra to Malvern.

In **Sydney** the distances are typically somewhat greater and with the exception of Berowra services (21 stops from Town Hall) and Liverpool via Bankstown (24), all long distance trains skip at least two but normally more stations. For real tedium try Campbelltown via Granville – varies, 34 stops typical although this is a little unfair as almost all passengers from Glenfield south will use the alternate East Hills route to access the City. Richmond is almost a country service as the distance is greater than 70 km – 25 stops.

Brisbane has Ipswich with 21 intermediate stops, Caboolture 22 and some of the other lines also have a large number of stops. It helps in Brisbane that the operation is 'snappy'.

Adelaide – Gawler Central 24, Noarlunga Centre – varies 9 is typical. This line has off peak short working from Brighton.

Perth – none exceeds fifteen from a quick look. –

I did a quick survey of **London** suburban (National Rail) routes and couldn't find any with more than fifteen stops. These services typically don't serve inner areas to any great extent. Based on the 1996 timetable (it wouldn't have changed much) here's a sample (off peak only – M-F): Chingford 7, Gidea Park 9, Southminster 14, Welwyn Garden City 14, Luton 9, Slough 8, Guildford 8, and Orpington 11.

It's true that some of the **London Transport** train services have many stops. Piccadilly Line services have 19 intermediate stops to reach Heathrow (T5) from Piccadilly Circus

Much the same situation exists in **New York**. "Local" services on the subway can be very tedious but there are plenty of Express ones on main routes.

Let's look at the "normal" railways. Port Washington (LIRR) - 11 intermediate stops, Babylon - 17 (all stops), Port Jervis - 24 (long distance), Raritan (NJT) - 11.

And now, what about **Paris**? Having landed at *Charles-de-Gaulle* airport Terminal 2 – how many stops to Chatelet on RER Line B? There's a mix of fast and slow trains – the former has two intermediate stops, the latter 11. When these trains continue to the south side of Paris the number of stops is reasonable.

The difficulty here is drawing the line between suburban service and regional ones. The latter should not have any more stops as they should run express through inner suburban areas.



Frankston station—image courtesy *Railpage*[©]. Photo by Andyroo64

Dùn Èideann am Glaschu ceathrar dol.

By Duncan MacAuslan

ince 12 December 2010 the two main Scottish cities, Edinburgh and Glasgow, have been connected by no fewer than four rail routes:

The E&G - by Falkirk High.

The Caley by Carstairs.

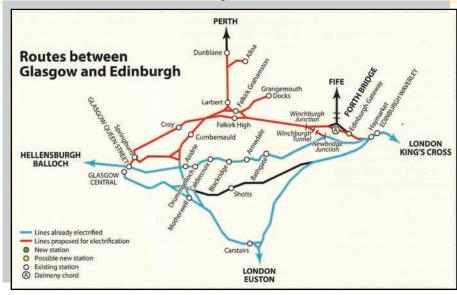
Monklands-by Airdrie and Bathgate.

Across the moors – by Shotts.

This came about with the reopening, after a 56 year hiatus, of the line between Airdrie and Bathgate which had been closed in January 1956 and the track lifted from February 1982.

All trains within Scotland are branded ScotRail Scotland's Railway and operated by the First Group of companies. Scottish Gaelic is further used to distinguish the brand from other operators from England and Wales operators. Many coaches are branded ScotRailRèilena h-Albaand for many places both English and Gaelic names are shown on signage and maps. For example Glasgow's Queen Street station becomes SràidnaBanrighinn whilst Falkirk High is Bràighna h-Eaglaise Brice. The title of this article translates, I think to Edinburgh to Glasgow Four Ways. That very few Scots speak the Gaelic is not an issue.

ScotRail's timetables are published in



three sizes: A5 booklets; 9cm by 17.2cm stapled booklets and sheets folded to A7 pocket sized. There are twenty different timetables for Scotland plus Caledonian Sleepers and books for other operators such as East Coast, Cross Country and Virgin Trains.

The four timetables referred to in this article are sheets folded to A7. The covers are red for Falkirk High, dark green for Carstairs, pale green for Airdrie/Bathgate and pink for Shotts.

The E & G

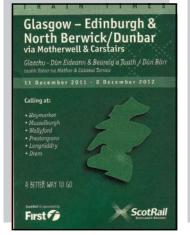
This is the main line and the oldest

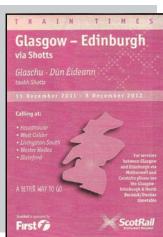
route. The Edinburgh and Glasgow Railway opened on 21 February 1842 from Glasgow Queen Street to Edinburgh Haymarket and was later extended east to meet the North British Railway at Edinburgh Waverley. The line accesses Queen Street by the famous Cowlairs Incline. Earlier this year plans were announced to electrify the line and reduce the journey time by 10 minutes.

The current red covered timetable provides a very intense four trains an hour service, Mondays to Saturdays, between 06:30 and 19:30. There's an early train at 05:55 and after 19:30











		7	VEEKDAYS	ONLY		
Bilaburgal Waverleylet. Si Haymark Si	6 26 23 6 58 6 26 23 6 58 6 96 35 7 5 6 96 35 7 5 6 176 43 7 18 6 21 6 43 7 18 6 21 6 43 7 18 6 21 6 43 7 18 6 22 6 51 7 23 7 20 6 22 6 53 7 25 7 20 6 23 7 7 3 6 7 4 7 34 7 3 6 37 7 4 7 34 7 35 7 30 6 41 7 7 7 38 7 4 7 34 7 34 7 34 7 34 7 34 7	754 - 748 - 748 - 758 - 748 - 758 -	7 46 7 48 7 48 8 1	8 22 8 55 8 56 8 6 8 6 8 6 8 6 8 6 8 6 8 6 8	7 97 8 8 8 9 9 1 9 1 9 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	1147* 1279 1210 1210 1210 1211 1212 1214 1215 1214 1224 1225 1234 1227 1229 1221 1229 1221 1229 1221 1229 1221 1229 1229 1229 1229 1229 1239 1231 1239 1231 1239 1231 1239 1231 1239 1231 1239 1231 1239 1231 1239 1231 1239 1231 1231 1231 1231 1331

Edinburgh (Waverley 29 Haymarket 19 Haymarket 19 Haymarket 19 Junior 19 Haymarket 1	1285 1281 1282	2 42 250 2 192 33 2 182 35 2 182 40 2 122 44 2 212 44 2 212 44 2 232 25 2 352 25 2 352 25 2 352 25 2 352 35 2 352 352 35 2 352 352 35 2 352 352 35 2 352 352 35 2 352 35 2 352 35 2 352 35 2 352 35 2 352 35 2 352 35 2 352 35 2 352 35 2 352 35 2 352 35 2 352 35 2 352 35 2 352 35 2 352	4 6 4 6 4 17 1 2 2 4 4 17 1 2 2 4 4 17 1 2 2 4 4 17 1 2 2 4 4 17 1 2 2 4 5 4 17 1 2 2 4 5 4 17 1 2 2 4 5 4 17 1 2 2 4 5 4 17 1 2 2 4 5 4 17 1 2 2 4 5 4 17 1 2 2 4 5 4 17 1 2 2 4 5 4 17 1 2 2 4 5 4 17 1 2 2 4 1	5-13 5-13 5-13 5-13 5-21 5-21 5-24 5-33 4-55 5-37 5-31 5-32 5-33 5-33 5-33 5-33 5-33 5-34 5-35	\$ 12 \$ 12 \$ 12 \$ 12 \$ 12 \$ 12 \$ 12 \$ 12	9 55
0 Ar	A 25th Sept. only rive 6-27 p.m.		rdays only † ; H Arrive 5-53 p.m.		§ Mondays only — ; Excust contay Waverley to Ha	ropt Mondays ymarket Passengers

trains run half hourly until 23:30. On Sundays the service is hourly until 12:30, half-hourly until 21:30 and then hourly. The trip time is usually 50 minutes.

There are two stopping patterns during the weekdays. All trains, both ways, stop at Haymarket and Falkirk High. Trains on the hour and halfhour also stop at Croy. Here passengers from Edinburgh can, after a 10 minute wait change to the trains from Stirling or Alloa to get to Lenzie and Bishopbriggs. Trains at quarter to and quarter past also stop at Linlithgow and Polmont. Similarly trains from Glasgow offer connection at Croy from Bishopbriggs and Lenzie.

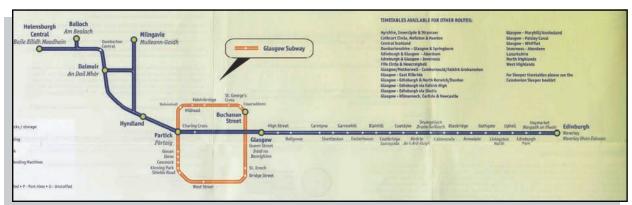
This pattern continues in the evening and Sundays on the hour to Croy and half hour at Polmont with all trains stopping at Linlithgow.

Class 170/4 TurbostarDMUs are used on this line in six car formations; each set providing 400 seats.

The Caley

The Caledonian Railway opened 15 Feb 1848 as a main line from Carlisle to Carstairs with branches from there to Glasgow Central and Edinburgh Princes Street. Keen to get a share of the Edinburgh and Glasgow—later North British—traffic they included a chord at Carstairs allowing cross country services. There's still an irregular service provided to this day, despite the significantly longer journey time. Edinburgh's Princes Street station closed in 1965 and trains were diverted to Waverley.

This line was electrified as part of the West Coast Main Line. Some trains continue to North Berwick on



Mondays to Satu	ırda	ays																						
					SX		SX	SX		SX	SX		SX	SX		SX	SX		SX	SO	SX			
Edinburgh	d	W.	-	w	-	-W	0607	*	0621	0637	-	0648	0707	_	0721	0737	-	0754	0807	30	37	0821	0837	-
Haymarket	d	Tops	W	T	-	v	0611	W	0625	0641	· W	0652	0711	70	0725	0741	70	0757	0811		. *	0825	0841	- 10
Edinburgh Park	d	-	Y	w	-	-	0616	*	0630	0646	*	0657	0716	-	0730	0746	-	0802	0816	-	v	0830	0846	79
Uphall	d	7	*	197	-	-	0624	4	0638	0654	-	0705	0724	4	0738	0754	-	0809	0824	-	-	0838	0854	-
Livingston North	d	~	-	w	4	w	0627	*	0641	0657	W	0708	0727	W	0741	0757	v	0813	0827	-	*	0841	0857	
Bathgate	a	4	4	4	4	4	0633	4	0646	0703	4	0713	0733	4	0746	0803	Y	0817	0833	-	4	0846	0903	9
Bathgate	d	4	0536	0551	W	0621	0634	4	0647	0704	197	0717	0734	de	0747	0804	-	0818	0834	0834	*	0847	0904	
Armadale	d	190	0540	0555	4	0625	W	A.	0651	4	de	0721	W	de	0751	W	*	0822	-	-	*	0851	-	A
Blackridge	d	- 7	0543	0558	A	0628	196	*	0655		200	0725	A.	197	0755	A	~	0825	4	de	100	0855		4
Caldercruix	d	40.	0550	0605	100	0635	10000000	-	0701			0731	*	di.	0801	~	4	0832	Y	*	*	0901	*	. 4
Drumgelloch	d	7	0553	0608	7	0638	0646	-	0705	0716	-	0735	0746	7	0805	0816		0835	0846	0846	~	0905	0916	
Airdrie	a		0556	0611	7	0642	0649	- 3	0711	0719		0741	0749		0811	0819		0841	0850	0850	4.5	0911	0919	
Airdrie	d	0535	0557	0612	0627	0642	0650	0657	0712	0720	0727	0742	0750	0757	0812	0820	0827	0842	0850	0850	0857	0912	0920	
Coatdyke	d	0537	0559	0614	0629	0644	0653	0659	0714	0722	0729	0744	0752	0759	0814	0822	0829	0844		-	0859	0914	1	09
Coatbridge Sunnyside	d	0539	0601	0616	0631	0646	0653	0701	0716	0724	0731	0746	0754	0801	0816	0824	0831	0846	0853	0853	0901	0916	0923	09
Blairhill	d	0542	0604	0619	0634	0649	-	0704	0719	0727	0734	0749	0757	0804	0819	0827	0834	0849	*	-	0904	0919		09
Easterhouse Garrowhill	d	0546	0608	0623 0625	0638	0653	4	0708 0710	0723	Y	0738	0753	*	0808	0823	4	0838	0853	-	_	0908	0923		09
Shettleston	d	0548 0551	0610 0613	0628	0640	0655 0658	*	0710	0725 0728	-	0740 0743	0755 0758	W	0810 0813	0825	*	0840	0855	*	~	0910	0925	~	09
Carntyne	d	0553		0630	0645	0700	v	0715	0730	-	0745	0800	w			4	0843	0858	-		0913	0928		09
Bellgrove	d	0556	0615 0618	0633	0648	0700	-	0718	0730	_	0748	0803	-	0815 0818	0830 0833	-	0845 0848	0900	_		0915	0930	*	09
High Street	d	0558	0620	0635	0650	0705	0710	0720	0735	0740	0750	0805	0810	0820	0835	0840	0850	0905	0910	0910	0918	0933		09
Glasgow Queen St	d	0601	0623	0640	0653	0710	0713	0723	0740	0743	0753	0810	0813	0823	0840	0843	0853	0910	0910	0910	0920	0940	0940	09
Charing Cross	d	0603	0625	0642	0655	0712	0715	0725	0742	0745	0755	0812	0815	0825	0842	0845	0855	0912	0915	0915	0925	0940	0945	09
Partick	a	0607	0629	0647	0659	0717	0720	0729	0747	0750	0759	0817	0820	0829	0847	0850	0859	0917	0920	0920	0929	0947	0950	09
Hyndland	a	0609	0632	0649	0702	0719	0722	0732	0749	0752	0802	0819	0822	0832	0849	0852	0902	0920	0922	0922	0932	0949	0952	10
Milngavie	a	-	w	0722	0722	0752	0737	0752	0822h		0829	0852	0839	0852	0923	0907	0923	0320	0937	0937	0952	0949	1007	10
Dalmuir	a	0624	0647	0659	0717	0729	0741b	0747	0759	0811b	0817	0829	0843b	0847	0859	0911b	0917	0929	0942b	0942b	0947	0959	1011b	
Dumbarton Central	a	0634	0700	0708	0729	0739	w	0800	0808	-	0830	0838	Y	0900	0909	-	0930	0939	7	1000b	1000	1009	*	10
Balloch	a	0644	0711	0741b	0741	0811b	*	0811	0841b	-	0841	0911b	w	0911	0941b	-	0941	700	w	1011b	1011	4	100	10
Helensburgh Central	a	0656g	W	0724	*	0754	*	*	0824	*	*	0855	*	~	0924	*	*	0954	*	w	*	1024	\forall	4
																					SX	50		
Edinburgh	d	0848	0907	4	0921	0937	*	0948	1007	4	1021	1037	A.	1048	1107	-	1121	1137	-	1148	1207	1210	4	12
Haymarket	d	0852	0911	.Ar.	0925	0941	-	0952	1011	A	1025	1041	W.	1052	1111	de	1125	1141	Y	1152	1211	1214	A	12
Edinburgh Park	d	0857	0916	4	0930	0946	*	0957	1016	4	1030	1046		1057	1116	V	1130	1146		1157	1216	1219		12
Uphall	d	0905	0924	+	0938 0941	0954	4	1005	1024	7	1038	1054	-	1105	1124	*	1138	1154	*	1205	1224	1227		12
Livingston North	133	0913	0933	+	0941	0957 1003	4	1013	1027	+	1041	1057 1103	-	1108	1127	-	1141	1157	4	1208	1227	1230	4	12
Bathgate Bathgate	d	0917	0934	-	0940	1003	-	1013	1033	-	1046	1103	-	1113 1117	1133		1146	1203	-	1213	1233	1233		12
Armadale	d	0921	0934	-	0951	1004	*	1021	1034	-	1051	1104	-	1121	1134	-	1147	1204		1217	1234	1234	-	12
Blackridge	d	0921	w	707	0955	1760	Tor-	1021	-		1055	V	_	1125	-	-	1151		-	1221	-	-		12
Caldercruix	d	0931	-	*	1001	w	v	1025	~	w	1101	~	w	1131	-	w	1155	4	-	1225 1231		-		12
Drumgelloch	ď	0935	0946	760	1005	1016	w	1035	1046	w	1105	1116	*	1135	1146	-	1201	1216	W	1231	1246	1246		13
Airdrie	a	0941	0950	-	1011	1020	-	1041	1050	-	1111	1120	-	1141	1150	-	1211	1220	-	1241	1250	1250	-	13
Airdrie	d	0942	0950	0957	1012	1020	1027	1042	1050	1057	1112	1120	1127	1142	1150	1157	1212	1220	1227	1241	1250	1250	1257	13
Coatdyke	d	0944	7	0959	1014	V	1029	1044	-	1059	1114	-	1129	1144	7	1159	1214	1220	1229	1244	1230	1230	1259	13
Coatbridge Sunnyside	d	0946	0953	1001	1016	1023	1031	1046	1053	1101	1116	1123	1131	1146	1153	1201	1216	1223	1231	1246	1253	1253	1301	13
Blairhill	d	0949	-	1004	1019	7	1034	1049	~	1104	1119	-	1134	1149		1204	1219	-	1234	1249	7233	1255	1304	13
Easterhouse	d	0953	w	1008	1023	*	1038	1053	w	1108	1123	*	1138	1153	*	1208	1223	v	1238	1253	*	-	1308	13
Garrowhill	d	0955	195	1010	1025	100	1040	1055	4	1110	1125	w	1140	1155	*	1210	1225	4	1240	1255	4	· m	1310	13
Shettleston	d	0958	190	1013	1028	707	1043	1058	100	1113	1128	7	1143	1158	*	1213	1228	-	1243	1258		700	1313	13
Carntyne	d	1000	*	1015	1030	7	1045	1100	195	1115	1130	T	1145	1200	w	1215	1230	W.	1245	1300	w	v	1315	13
Bellgrove	d	1003	V	1018	1033	(W)	1048	1103	V	1118	1133	V	1148		¥	1218	1233	10"	1248	1303	w	*	1318	
High Street	d	1005	1010		1035	1040	1050	1105	1110	1120	1135	1140	1150	1205	1210	1220	1235	1240	1250	1305	1310	1310	1320	13
Glasgow Queen St	d	1010	1013	1023	1040	1043	1053	1110	1113	1123	1140	1143	1153	1210	1213	1223	1240	1243	1253	1310	1313	1313	1323	13
Charing Cross	d	1012	1015		1042	1045	1055	1112	1115	1125	1142	1145	1155	1212	1215	1225	1242	1245	1255	1312	1315	1315	1325	13
Partick	a	1017	1020	1029	1047	1050	1059	1117	1120				1159	1217	1220	1229	1247	1250	1259					
Hyndland	a	1019	1022		1049		1102	1119	1122	1132		1152	1202			1232				1319				
Milngavie	a		1037	1052		1107	1125	~	1137	1152	v	1207	1222	w	1237	1252	*	1307		~	1337	1337	1352	. 9
Dalmuir	a	1029	1041b			1111b			1142b			1211b			1243b	1247	1259		1317	1329				13
Dumbarton Central	a	1038	T	1100	1109	-	1130	1139	190	1200	1209	4	1230	1239	Ψ	1300	1309	*	1330	1339	V	*	1400	14
Balloch	a	AL.	w	1111	4	*	1141	4	w.	1211	de	w	1241	4	1	1311	· We	100	1341	-	W.		1411	200

the Lothian coast where the short branch was electrified as part of the East Coast Main Line.

Monday to Friday trains from Edinburgh are at 06:24, 07:22 from Dunbar, 08:33 ScotRail from North Berwick, 09:11 from Darlington, 11:11 from Birmingham, 13:12 from Bristol, 15:11 from Plymouth, 17:11 from Penzance, 17:42 ScotRail, 18:24 ScotRail from North Berwick, 19:11 from Plymouth, 20:16 East Coast from London King's Cross, and 21:14 from Plymouth (operated by Cross Country

unless indicated).

Weekday trains from Glasgow operate at 06:01 to Plymouth, 06:50 East Coast to London King's Cross, 07:05 ScotRail to North Berwick, 07:50 to Penzance, 09:00 to Penzance, 10:59 to Penzance, 12:51 to Plymouth, 15:00 to Bristol, 15:14 ScotRail to North Berwick, 16:52 to Birmingham, 18:59, 19:49 ScotRail, and 21:05.

There is also a more intensive Edinburgh to North Berwick local service.

A variety of train types are used

mainly class 43 HSTs for Cross Country and East Coast whilst ScotRail services use class 380 EMUs.

By the Monklands

Waggonways into the coal mining region east of Glasgow known as the Monklands date from 1800 onwards. Several of these were combined and eventually came under North British ownership and, on 28 July 1863, was extended east from Airdrie to Coatbridge and Bathgate, where the line met the Edinburgh to Bathgate line (opened 12 November 1849). The ac-

Dunbar / North	Ber	wick	- Ed	inbu	rgh -	Glas	gow																his tim on onl		le coi	nve
Mondays to Frid	lays							7								For co	onfirm	ation o	f othe	r Oper	ators'	times,	please o	all 08	457 48	8 49
		XC			XC		GR			хс		GR		GR		XC			XC		XC			XC		
lunbar	d		-	*	0700	v	0742	¥	v	T	¥	0854	S 540	0956	~		1049		1137	v	v	1250	7	1341	×	
lorth Berwick	d	*		0644	w	0720	7	*	0756	Y	0843	-	0927	Y	1027	Y	-	1127	4	1227		Y	1327	*	1427	
rem	d	+	0615	0651	*	0727	-	4	0804	-	0851	Y	0934	-	1034	*	Y	1134		1234		7.		Y	1434	
ongniddry restonpans	d	-	0626	0657	-	0738		0807	0810 0814	-	0856 0901	-	0940		1040			1140 1145		1240		-	1340 1345	7	1440	
Vallyford	d	w	0629	0705	101	0741	w	0810	0817	w	0904	w	0948	OF.	1048	700	w	1148		1248		w	1348	W	1448	
lusselburgh	d	*	0633	0709	37	0745			0822	Y	0909		0952		1052	W	1109			1252		1309			1452	
dinburgh	a	~	0640			0755	0810	0822		-	0916	0924	1000		1100	Υ.	1115	1200	1203	1300			1400	1410	1500	
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lasgow Central	a	0727	*	*	0824	*	*	*	0959	1026	*	*	v	*	~	1214	7	*	*	*	141	2 7	*	¥	*	1
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lunbar Iorth Berwick	d	1505	1526	1541	1627	-	4	1702	-	1727	1743	1752	1827	*	1901	Y	1926	1945	-	2026		2127		2157	2227	,
rem	d	-	1533	*	1634	Y	Y	¥	Y	1734	-	1/33	1834	*	1901	-	1933		v	2020		2134		-	2234	
ongniddry	d	w	1539	*	1640	Y	*	w	Y	1740	w	~	1840	¥	1912	v	1940		*	2038		2140		*	2240	
restonpans	d	-	1544	*	1645	V	4	Y	W	1745	.90	W.	1845	-	1917	*	1945		w	2043	3 +	2145	*	¥	2245	5
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arstairs	a	.4	W	*	W.	Y	v	*	1816	4	*	1909	*	4	7	2023	. W	-	-	Y		~	*	V	Y	
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ongniddry restonpans	d		0621		0734		0839		7	093			10				134			1234	T.		1334	~	1403	
Vallyford	d	-	0629		0742		0842		-	094			10							1242	-		1342	-	1411	
lusselburgh	d	~	0633		0746		0846		- *	094			10				146		1215		*		1346	*	1415	
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otherwell	а	0712		0814		w	1000	100		w	7	3			52	v.	w.	T	w	w	1352	190	296	v.	196	
lasgow Central	a	0742	100	0832			1015				7			12	13		*	*	100	7	1413	3	. *	rotari		
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restonpans	d	*	1508			1608			*	170					39		908 1	939	7	2039	-	2139	W	W.	2239	
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laymarket	a	1515	*	W	w	*	*		5 172		79		14 18	27		15	*		2017	*	2116	w	W	v	*	
arstairs	а	Y	w	W.	-Y	7W.	Y	V	. *	W	- 4	1 13	19	09	v 3	w.	Ψ.	797	*	4	*	W	.W.	360	PARE	
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tual story of these lines is fascinating and too complex to relate here (see http://www.jhowie.f9.co.uk/ monkland.htm).

The winter 1954/5 timetable shows only two through trains on weekdays and three extras on Saturdays – for the football? Of note is that then all trips run to Glasgow's forgotten terminus at Hyndland. Closed in 1960, the old station, on a branch to Hyndland Road, once hosted through coaches from King's Cross.

The through service closed to passengers on 9 January 1956, with track

lifted between Moffat Mills in Airdrie and Bathgate from February 1982. From then on the line operated as two branches: local trains between Edinburgh and Bathgate and electric services from Helensburgh, on the Clyde west of Glasgow, to Airdrie. Only two trains an hour operated between Bathgate and Waverly.

In Glasgow the main station is Queen Street Low Level which is under, and at right angles, to the main station. This line was originally electrified as part of the famous Glasgow Blue Trains scheme in the 1960s.

However the population growth in central Scotland meant that there became a case to re-establish the through service and the A2B, as it was known, saw the reinstatement of double track and the creation of a new cycle path to replace the one on the old track bed between Airdrie and Bathgate and reduplication of the Bathgate to Edinburgh line. Four new stations were opened between Airdrie and Bathgate: Drumgelloch, Caldercruix, Blackridge and Armadale.

The first through train from Edinburgh was the 08:37 to Helensburgh arriving

Mondays to Sat	urda	ys																					
		Z	Z	SX Z				SO	SX														
dinburgh	d	0555	0630	0645	0700	0715	0730	0745	0745	0800	0815	0830	0845	0900	0915	0930	0945	1000	1015	1030	1045	1100	1115
laymarket	d	0559	0634	0649	0704	0719	0734	0749	0749	0804	0819	0834	0849	0904	0919	0934	0949	1004	1019	1034	1049	1104	1119
inlithgow	d	0613	0648	0704	*	0733	0748	0804	0804	-	0833		0903	-	0933	-	1003		1033	7	1103		1133 1139
Polmont	d	0619	0655	w.	0721	*	0755		*	0822	0839		0909	-	0939	Χ.	1009	****	1039	1051	1109	1124	
alkirk High	d	0624	0700	0713	0726	0742	0800	0813	0813	0826	0844	0854	0914	0924	0944	0954	1014	1024	1044	1054	1114	1124	1144
Croy	d	0634	0710	0723	~	0752	0810	*	*	0836	7	0903	7	0934		1003	A	1033		1103	v	1133	Y
Lenzie	a	0650	0720	0750	7	0805	*	0825	0825	0850	-	0920		0950	4	1020		1050		1120	-	1150	-
Bishopbriggs	a	0654	0725	0755	-	0810	*	0829	0836	0854		0924		0954	4000	1024	1006	1054	1106	1125	1137	1154 1150	1206
Glasgow Queen St	a	0649	0725	0738	0750	0807	0825	0840	0840	0855	0907	0919	0936	0950	1006	1019	1036	1049	1100	1119	1137	1150	1200
		V2.022				4000	40/5	4200	4245	1220	12/6	1400	1415	1430	1445	1500	1515	1530	1545	1600	1615	1630	1645
Edinburgh	d	1130	1145	1200	1215	1230 1234	1245 1249	1300	1315	1330 1334	1345	1400	1415	1434	1449	1504	1519	1534	1549	1604	1619	1634	1649
Haymarket	d	1134	1149	1204	1219	1234	1303	1304	1333	1004	1403	7	1433	-704	1503	*	1534	W	1604	7	1633	-	1706
Linlithgow	d	-	1203	100	1233	-	1303	-	1339	v	1409	-	1439	w	1509	w	1540	Y	1610	-	1639	Y	1713
Polmont	d	1154	1209	1225	1244	1254	1314	1324	1344	1354	1414	1424	1444	1454	1514	1524	1545	1554	1614	1624	1644	1653	1718
Falkirk High	d	1154	1214	1234	1244	1303	1314	1333	7	1403	-	1433	w	1503	-	1533	*	1603	-	1633	-	1703	*
Croy			*	1250	-	1320	-	1350	- 14	1420	V	1450	1795	1520	W.	1550	V	1620	*	1648	*	1720	*
Lenzie Bishanbriggs	a	1220 1224	-	1254	W	1324	W	1354	w	1424	-	1454	-	1524	-	1554	-	1624	-	1652	~	1724	4
Bishopbriggs	a	1220	1237	1249	1306	1319	1336	1351	1406	1419	1436	1448	1507	1522	1537	1551	1607	1619	1636	1651	1707	1721	1740
Glasgow Queen St	a	1220	1231	1245	1500	1515	1550	1001				- SURVERI											
										Α	Z	Z	Z	Z	Z	Z	Z	Z	Z	Z			
Edinburgh	d	1700	1715	1730	1745	1800	1815	1830	1845	1900	1915	1930	2000	2030		2130	2200	2230	2300	2330			
Haymarket	d	1704	1719	1734	1749	1804	1819	1834	1849	1904	1919	1934	2004	2034	2104	2134	2204	2234	2304	2334			
Linlithgow	d	*	1733	*	1804	4	1833	Y	1903	A	1933	1948	2018	2048		2148	2218	2248	2318	2348			
Polmont	d	7	1739	*	1809	-	1839		1909		1939		2024		2125	2457	2224	2257	2329	2359			
Falkirk High	d	1724	1744	1755	1814	1825	1844	1855	1914	1925	1944	1957	2029	2057	2130	2157	2229		2339	0009			
Croy	d	1734	7	1805	W.	1835	Ψ.	1905	*	1934	Y	2007	- 4	2107	-	2207		2307	2344	0009			
Lenzie	a	1750	1.00	1811	980	1850	70	1920	-34	1950		2020	Y	2120	-	2220		2324	2350	0014			
Bishopbriggs	a	1754		1825		1854		1924	****	1954 1949	2007	2024	2051	2124		2223	2250	2322	0001	0026			
Glasgow Queen St	a	1751	1806	1823	1837	1850	1908	1923	1936	1949	2007	2022	2031	2121	2131	LLLJ	LLJO	LULL	0001				
Sundays																							
T. C. C. C. C. C. C. C. C. C. C. C. C. C.			Z								Z						-	2000	- 20.00	777	Z	Z	Z
Edinburgh	d	0800	0900	1000	1100	1200	1230		1330			1500	1530	1600				1800		1900			
Haymarket	d	0804	0904	1004	1104	1204	1233	1304	1334		1434	1504	1534	1604				1804	1834	1904	1934		
Linlithgow	d	0818	0918	1018	1118	1218	1248	1318	1348	1418	1448	1518	1548	1618			1748	1818	1848	1918	1948		
Polmont	d	0824	0924	1024	1124	1224	4	1324	V	1424	¥	1524	- 4	1624		1724	4 7 7	1824	4000	1924	1000	2024	
Falkirk High	d	0829		1029	1129	1229	1257	1329		1429		1529	1557	1629		1729	1757	1829	1857	1929	1957 2007	2029	2107
Croy	d	0839		1039	1139	1239	1307		1407	W	1507	-	1607	4	1707		1807	-	1907 1951	-	2007	1.070	2107
Lenzie	а	4	0955	1055	1152	1252	1352	*	1452	·W	1555	*	1652	7/	1752		1854 1858		1951	-	2052		-
Bishopbriggs	а	Y	0959	1059	1156	1256	1356	***	1456	****	1600 1522	1551	1656 1622		1756 1722				1922	1951			2122
Glasgow Queen St	а	0859	1000	1101	1156	1254	1323	1351	1423	1451	1522	1551	1022	1001	1/22	1/52	1022	1001	1966	1931	2022	2031	
		Z	Z	Z	Z					No	otes												
Edinburgh	d	2100		2300						а	Ä.	rrival tir	me						Remei	mber			
Haymarket	d	2104		2304	2334					d		epartur								talic typ	e indica	ites	
Linlithgow	d	2118		2318	2348					A				availabl	e on Sat	urdays a	only			cting tra			
Polmont	d	2124		2324	2354					Z		o cateri				- duys							
Falkirk High	d	2129		INDEDICATION OF THE PARTY OF TH						S		aturday		Stull									
Croy	d	2139		2339	0009					5)		aturday		ed									
Lenzie	a	2152		-	w								- Section 1975	-									
Bishopbriggs	a	2150		2355	0025																		
Glasgow Queen St		4100	6600	6333	0023																		

10:44. The first train from Helensburgh was the 07:55 to Edinburgh arriving 10:07.

The present timetable provides four trains an hour, twice the previous service, each way Monday to Saturday. From Edinburgh those at 07 and 37 past are limited stops and continue to Milngavie (pronounced mul-guy), while those at 21 and 48 past stop at all stations to Helensburgh. An additional half-hourly service operates from Airdrie to Balloch (near Loch

Lomond) hence the irregular departure times from Edinburgh. The limited stops trains take 64 minutes from Waverly to Queen Street while the all stations take 79 minutes.

Class 334 Juniper EMUs are used on this line providing 366 seats per set.

Across the moors

The fourth line is known as the Shotts Line. It was opened on 9 July 1869 as the Cleland and Midcalder Railway and became part of the Caledonian.

Trains depart Edinburgh half hourly during the morning with those at 26 past the hour stopping at all stations except Breich and those at 56 past stopping only at five stations. Breich only gets one train a day; it has no car park and is relatively isolated.

From Glasgow the pattern is 05 all stops but Briech and the 18 past the hour has only five stops.

The all stops services take around 90 minutes for the trip whilst the limited stops journeys take between 66 and 74

Mondays to Sa	turda	avs																					
				SO	SX	so	SX		SX		SO												
Edinburgh	d	0551	0640	0655	0655	0751	0757	0825	0833	0857	0903	0926	0956	1027	1056	1126	1156	1226	1256	1326	1356	1427	1456
Haymarket	d	0555	0645	0700	0700	0755	0802	0831	0837	0901	0907	0930	1000	1031	1100	1131	1200	1231	1300	1330	1400	1431	1500
Slateford	d	0559	7	0704 0707	0704	4	Ψ.	0835 0838	0841	*	0908	0934 0938	4	1035	4	1135 1138	*	1235	4	1334	4	1435	-
Kingsknowe Wester Hailes	d	0605		0710	0710	-	W	0841	0847	Y	0916	0940	w	1039		1141	w	1239 1241	w	1338 1340	19	1439	*
Curriehill	d	0609	v	0713	0713	~	*	0844	0851	*	0920	0944	*	1045	-	1144	*	1245	~	1344	Ŧ	1445	-
Kirknewton	d	0616	*	0721	0721	*	4	0852	0855	*	0925	0952	*	1053	*	1153	7	1253	7	1353	Ψ.	1453	T.
Livingston South	d	0621	0701	0726	0726	0810	0819	0858		0917	Y	0958	1015	1058	1117	1158	1216	1257	1316	1358	1416	1458	1517
West Calder Addiewell	d	0627 0631	0707	0731 0734	0731 0734	0815	0825	0903	w	0922	w	1003	1020	1103	1122	1203 1207	1221	1302 1306	1321	1403	1421	1503 1507	1522
Breich	d	7	v	4	4	-	7	+		-	*	*	7	+	-	7	-	-	Y	7	-	7	-
Fauldhouse	d	0639	*	0743	0743	7	7	0915	*	*	~	1015	*	1115	-	1215	7	1314	~	1415	*	1515	
Shotts	d	0644	0719	0747	0747	0827	0837	0920	-	0934	4	1020	1033	1120	1134	1220	1233	1319	1333	1420	1433	1520	1534
Hartwood Cleland	d	0647 0652		0750 0755	0750 0755	-	-N-	0923		-	-	1023		1123	T.	1223	-	1322 1326	4	1423	Y	1523 1527	-
Carfin	d	0656	~	0758	0758	w	-	0931	*	-	W	1031	*	1131	*	1231	w	1330	w	1431	90.	1531	¥
Holytown	d	0658	~	0800	0800	*	7	0933	7	*	*	1033	7	1133	~	1233	W .	1332	*	1433		1533	-
Bellshill	a	0703	0729	0803	0803	0838	0847	0936	*	0946	*	1036	1045	1136	1146	1236	1246	1335	1347	1436	1446	1536	1546
Uddingston Cambuslang	a	0710	0757 0803b	0807 0831	0826 0831	0858	0858	0940	-	0956 1001	*	1040	1056 1101	1140	1201 1206	1240	1258	1339	1359	1440	1456c	1540	1556
Glasgow Central	a	0716	0752	0824	0829	0856	0903	0957	0959	1001	1015	1055	1102	1157		1255	1303	1355	1404	1455	1501c 1509		1601 1612
P. d'abanah	- 4	4506	SX	S0 1556	4607	1657	C 1718	S0 1748	SX	1756	1824	1856	50	SX	2126	0056							
Edinburgh Haymarket	d	1526 1530	1556 1600	1600	1627 1631	1657 1701	1723	1753	1748 1753	1800	1828	1900	1918 1923	1927 1931	2130	2256							
Slateford	d	1534	₩	*	1635	*	1728	1757	1757	~	1831	+	1927	1936	2134	2304							
Kingsknowe	d	1538	w	4	1639	~	1732	1800	1800		1834	Y	1931	1939	2138	2307							
Wester Hailes	d	1540	-	4	1641	Y	1734	1803	1803	1809	1837	T	1933	1942	2140	2310							
Curriehill Kirknewton	d	1544 1553	4	-	1645 1653	~	1738 1745	4	~	1812 1820	1840 1847	*	1937 1945	1945 1954	2144	2314							
Livingston South	d	1558	1615	1615	1657	1716	1750	1814	1814	1825	w	1917	1949	1958	2156	2326							
West Calder	d	1603	1620	1620	1702	1721	1756	1819	1819	1830		1922	1954	2003	2202	2331							
Addiewell	d	1607	*	*	1706	-	1800	*	7	1833	*	*	1958	2007	2205	2334							
Breich Fauldhouse	d	1615	Ţ	*	1714	-	1808	~	4	1838 1842	*	*	2006	2015	2213	2342							
Shotts	d	1620	1632	1632	1718	1733	1813	1831	1831	1846	10 W	1934	2011	2020	2220	2347							
Hartwood	d	1623	*	*	1721	*	1816	*	*	1849	~	w	2014	2023	2223	2350							
Cleland	d	1628	~	*	1726	*	1821	*	7	1854	*	Y	2018	2027	2227	2354							
Carfin	d	1631	~	4	1729	~	1824	4	-	1857 1859	Y	~	2022	2031	2231	2358					-		
Holytown Bellshill	d	1633 1635	1642	1646	1731 1734	1743	1826	1841	1841	1903	v	1946	2024	2035	2235	0001							
Uddingston	a	1641	1655	1659	1738	1759	*	1856	1856	1907	*	1958	2032	2040	2240	8000		Remem	ber				
Cambuslang	а	*	1700	1704	1744	1804	*	1901	1851	1916	*	2003	2102	2102	2305	0013				indicat			
Glasgow Central	а	1657	1700	1709	1757	1802e	*	1857	1904	1931	1953	2003	2047	2057	2255	0024		connec	ting tra	in times.	8)		
Sundays																							
Edinburgh	d	1224	1423	1623	1824	2023									- 60			Notes					
Haymarket	d	1228	1427	1627	1827	2027												a	Arrival	time			
Slateford	d				1831	2031												b	Arrives	1 minut			
Kingsknowe	d				1834													4		3 minut		on Satu	irdays
Wester Hailes Curriehill	d			1637 1640	1840	2037			at display of	at the	and other							d e		ure time 1809 or		lavs	
Kirknewton	d				1847					at there o ices betwe								C		herwell	. Juturu		
Livingston South	d	1253	1452	1652	1852	2052				stasgaur C								SO	Saturd	ays only			
West Calder	а	1300	1459	1659	1859	2059		1	- Crudical	The Part of the Pa								SX		ays exce			

minutes.

There is only a service between West Calder and Edinburgh on Sundays. Two coach class 156 DMUs form the main service providing 142 seats per set. There are no plans to electrify the line.

Seats

Thus, for two cities, about 65km apart, ScotRail provides four different direct routes and for much of the day operates at least ten trains an hour each way on them.

Each hour during the day ScotRail provides over 3,400 seats each way and from my observations there are times when all are needed. Loadings have increased considerably because of the frequency and high speeds.

