# LTSV-RD User Guide Part 1 – Using LTSV-RD

Issue 1 – 5<sup>th</sup> March 2023

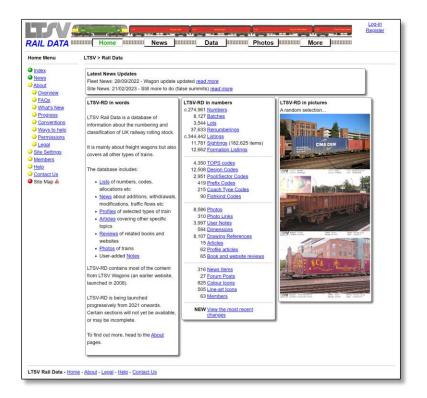
This User Guide gives help on how to use the **LTSV Rail Data** website (LTSV-RD). This part covers the basics of what the LTSV-RD website is about and how you can use it to find particular information. See part 2 for details of how to register for an account and start contributing your own information.

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### 1.1 Introduction and Overview

### 1.1.1 What is LTSV?



### 1.1.1.1

LTSV-Rail Data (LTSV-RD) is a website mainly about the numbering and classification of UK trains. It was launched in 2021 as a replacement for an earlier site that only covered wagons. The home page should hopefully give visitors a good idea of what is within.



### 1.1.1.2

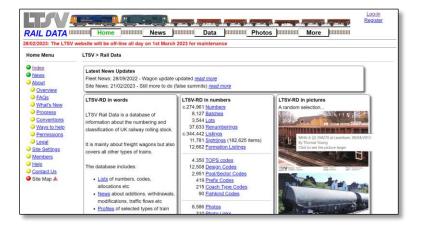
LTSV-RD is one of four websites under the LTSV brand, all of which are transport-related and slightly interconnected. If you click on the LTSV logo in the top left corner of any page, you will be taken to the LTSV Portal page, from where you can visit any of the four sites.

### 1.1.2 How it all works

LTSV-RD was originally envisaged as a collation and collaboration tool, to enable the bringing together of information from lots of different sources. Technically, it uses a MySQL database, with PHP pages to extract and display information. Practically, the site is mainly made up of list pages and detail pages, enabling data to be viewed, and related information to be accessed through links.

### 1.1.3 Standard Page Layouts





### 1.1.3.1

Most pages on LTSV-RD are to a standard layout, with a number of common features.

LTSV logo (grey box) – Use to access the LTSV portal.

Train graphics (blue box) – Purely for decoration. The graphic will randomly change.

Account info (green box) – To log-in, view account details, etc.

Main menu (pink box) – All content is grouped under one of five main headings. Status updates (orange box) – These will only appear when there are important messages.

Secondary menu (green box) – Each of the five main areas has its own sub-menu. Coloured balls show whether each link is to a primary data page (green), a secondary data or content page (yellow), or not yet available (red).

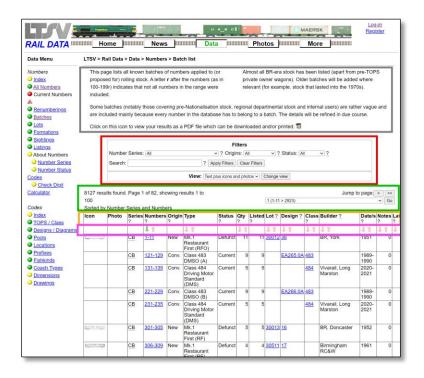
Breadcrumb trail (purple box) – Shows what page you are on, and other pages in the hierarchy 'trail'. Each is a link.

Page content (red box) – The actual content of each page appears here.

Footer menu (black box) – Provides additional links to a number of key pages.

### 1.1.3.2

Many clickable elements (such as links and thumbnails) will have tool-tips to give more information. For example, hovering over one of the random photos on the home page will tell you more about the photo.



List pages themselves have a standard layout common to most. Elements include: Introduction (grey box) – Tells you what the page is about.

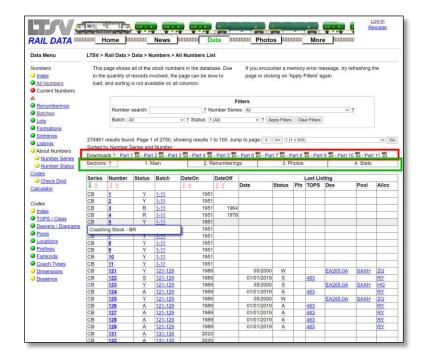
Filters (red box) – Allow you to refine which records are displayed.

Navigation (green box) – Tells you what page of results you are looking at and provides tools for jumping to other pages. Column headings (orange box) – Tells you what is in each column. Many have helptips (underlined question marks) that will give more information when you hover over them.

Sorting tools (pink box) – Most tables can be sorted as well as filtered. Clicking an arrow in any column will sort by that column.

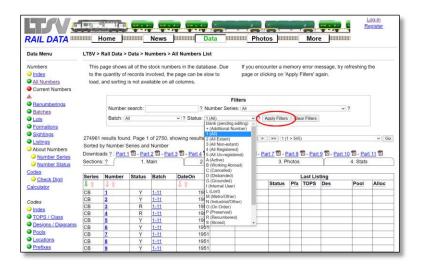
The last three are usually repeated at the bottom of each table.

The LTSV-RD website has been designed to work on a variety of screen sizes, but some of the tables contain a lot of information and are best viewed as large as possible. For example, the screenshots in this guide were all taken using a window about 1200 pixels wide. However, some tables (such as the one above) do not really fit into this. I will be looking at improving this in due course.

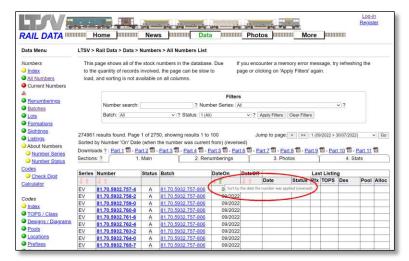


### 1134

There are differences on some list pages. For example, the All Numbers list (shown here) has multiple PDF links (in the red box), to enable the results to be downloaded. It also has tabbed pages to allow additional columns to be displayed (green box). As well as help-tips, there are explain-tips, often used in conjunction with abbreviations. For example, hovering over an underlined CB in the first column will tell you that CB is the code for BR Coaching Stock numbers. Similarly, hovering over a letter R in the Status column will tell you that this signifies that the item has been renumbered.

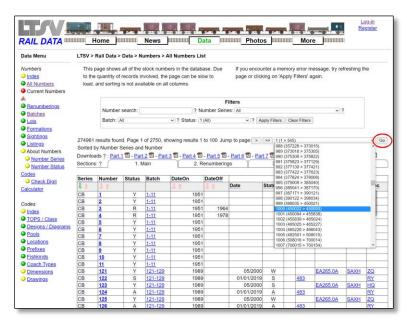


The filters often contain a mixture of text boxes (in which you type a value) and list boxes (in which you select a value). Multiple filters can be selected, though none will be applied until you click on the **Apply Filters** button. To go back to showing all results, click on the **Clear Filters** button.



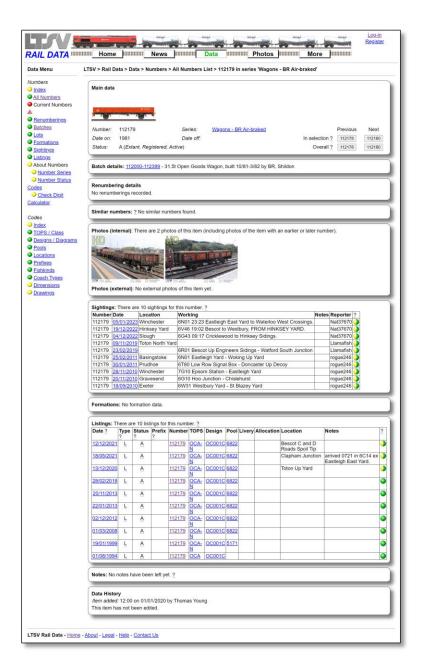
### 1.1.3.6

The currently applied sort order is shown by a green arrow (others being red), and is also detailed in the navigation area. Hovering over any sorting arrow will give guidance as to what order it will apply when clicked.

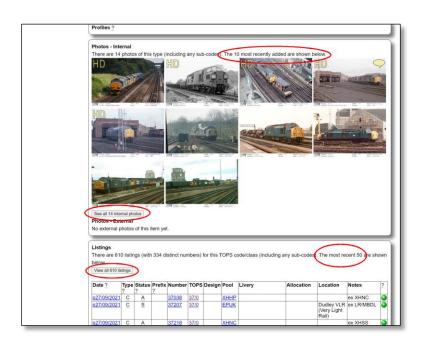


### 1.1.3.7

The drop-down box in the navigation area on many list pages enables you to jump to a particular page within the results. By default, each page will only show up to 100 records, so there may be lots of pages. The drop-down gives some pointers to what you will find on each page, and it does take into account any sorting or filtering you have applied. In the example shown, the drop-down shows that page 1000 will contain numbers 450022 to 450093. You can select this but you also then need to click on the **Go** button.



As well as list pages, there are detail pages, showing information about a particular item (number, TOPS code, Diagram, Sighting etc). Most detail pages have multiple boxed sections, many with links to related information. For instance, in the Sightings section, you can click on the date of any listed sighting to see its full details.



Some detail pages will only show some of the related information - they would be way too long otherwise. To illustrate, this is part of the detail page for TOPS class 37/0. Both the Photos and Listings sections show only the most recent items, with a button provided to view more.

### 1.1.4 Standards and Conventions



### 1.1.4.1

There are lots of conventions and abbreviations used on this website to enable the rather varied data to be sorted and displayed in a logical way. To read more about these, go to the Conventions page (Home / About / Conventions).

### 1.1.5 LTSV-RD in the future (When will it be finished?)

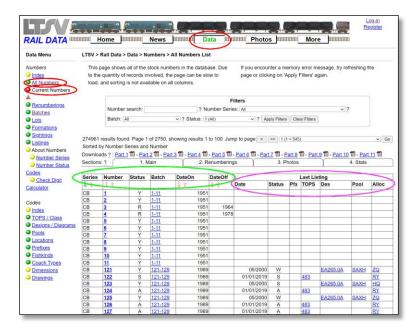
LTSV-RD is a big project and it is important that users realise that it is a 'work in progress'. The design and functionality aspects are now nearly complete, with just a few more areas to be added. There will however be continual improvements and fixes and I would be interested to receive any feedback or suggestions.

The data and content is another matter, and I suppose these will never be 'finished'. There are gaps in the information at present, and there is masses more (both new and historical) that has yet to be added. Likewise the photos, articles and profiles will be periodically extended and improved.

### 1.2 Using LTSV-RD

The next sections describe how to use the search, filter and sorting tools on various data and other pages.

### 1.2.1 Looking at Numbers and Renumberings



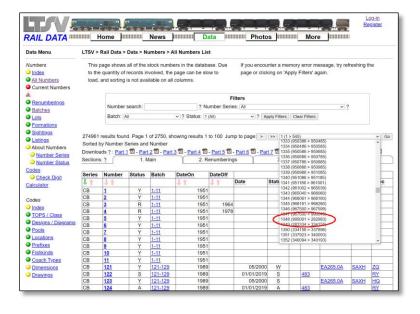
### 1.2.1.1

To look at numbers of individual items of rolling stock (be they locos, coaches, units, wagons or whatever), the best place to start is the **All Numbers** page. Access this using the side menu of the Data area.

In the default view, the first 6 columns (highlighted in green here) give basic details for each number, such as its status and the dates it was current. Note that some information is missing. LTSV-RD is an ongoing project and it will be some time until the masses of available data has all been added.

The next 7 columns (highlighted in pink) show the most recent recorded information. If blank, then no listings for these numbers have been added yet.

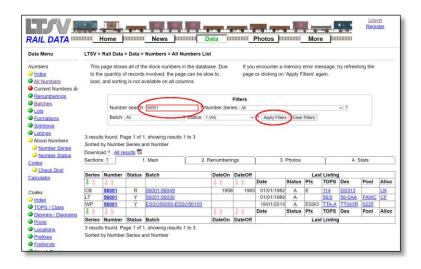
Note the **Current Numbers** link, highlighted in red here. It is planned to add a simplified version of the All Numbers page in due course. This will only show numbers that are still current.



### 1212

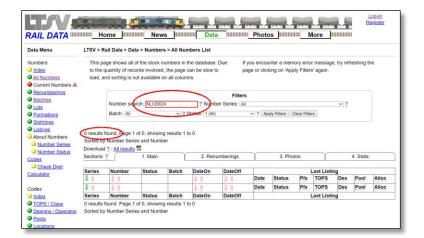
The most obvious task would be to find information on a particular number. There are several ways to do this. Firstly you could use the drop-down in the navigation area to find which page the number appears on.

A potential snag with this is that the details in the drop-down can only only show one piece of information (unless the sort order has been changed, this will be the numbers). But the sorting of numbers is by series *then* by number. For example, page 1348 in the results will show numbers from 995001 in series WA (Wagons, Air-Braked) to 282983 in series WB (Wagons, B-Prefixed).



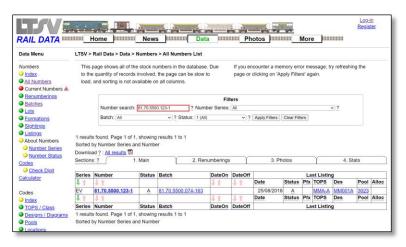
A more logical way to find a number would be to search for it. Enter the number in the box highlighted here, then click on **Apply Filters**. This has returned three numbers that are an exact match. There is one in the BR coaching stock number series (CB), one in the TOPS locos series (LT) and one in the private-owner wagon series (WP).

Filters are 'session-persistent', meaning they will stay in place until you either reset them or you close your browser. To remind visitors of this, any filters that are active will be highlighted with a red outline, as seen on the Number search box above. To remove all active filters, click on the **Clear Filters** button.



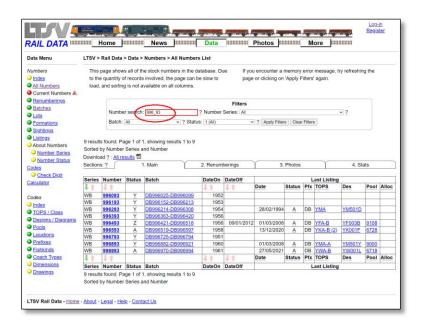
### 1.2.1.4

With the exception of D- and E-prefixed locos, all alphabetic prefixes (and suffixes) are treated as being separate from the number. Hence, if you try searching for NLU29024 (as shown), you will not get any results, even though this is technically correct. Only use the numeric part of the number.



### 1.2.1.5

The downside of this is that, to find a particular RIV number/EVN, you need to enter it in full, including the exchange code and check-digit, with each section separated with a period, and a hyphen before the check-digit. There is a way around this though.....



- SV

Photos More

Apply Filters | Clear Filters

Last Listing
Status Pfx TOPS Des

RAIL DATA Home Home News Data

Batch: All

Download ? : All results 
Sections: ? 1. Main

Sorted by Number Series

LTSV > Rail Data > Data > Numbers > All Numbers List

Number search: %5500.12%

10 results found. Page 1 of 1, showing results 1 to 10

and Number

This page shows all of the stock numbers in the database. Due

to the quantity of records involved, the page can be slow to load, and sorting is not available on all columns.

Data Menu

Numbers
Index
All Numbers
Current Number
Renumberings
Batches
Lots
Formations

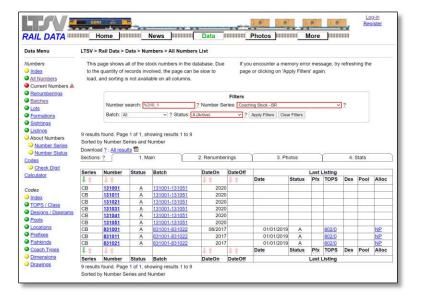
Sightings
Listings
About Numbers

Number Series
Number Status

Ocheck Digit

Codes
Index
TOPS / Class
Designs / Diagrams
Pools
Locations
Prefixes
Fishkinds
Coach Types
Dimensions

# Pool Alloc



### 1.2.1.6

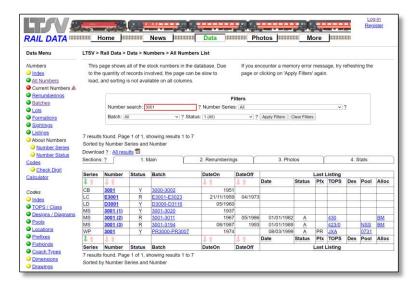
The search tool becomes more interesting if you get to grips with wildcards. These can be very useful if you noted only a partial number. For example, Salmon wagons were notorious for having barely legible numbers. If you noted DB996?93, you could put 996 93 in the search box. The underscore character tells the search to match any single character, so 9 results are found. From the listings, you will see that only 996593 and 996993 are likely to still be around.

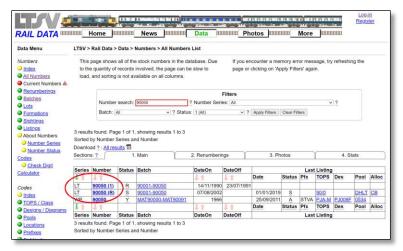
### 1.2.1.7

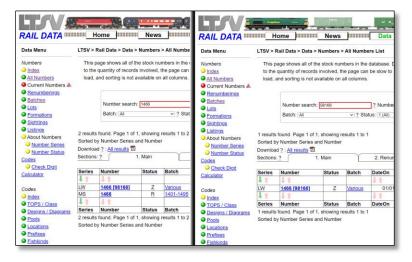
Another wildcard is the percent sign (%), which will match any number of characters. Here I have entered %5500.12% in the search, and 10 results have been found. If they existed, this would have also found numbers such as 31.87.5500.129-9 and so on.

### 1.2.1.8

You can use any number of wildcards as required, and you can combine them with the other filtering options. In the example shown, I have searched for all numbers in the BR Coaching Stock series, that are still active and which end in 310(something)1.







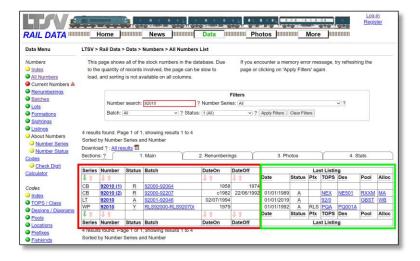
Having mentioned D- and E-prefixed numbers, I should add that the search tools will also find these. For example, if you search for 3001 you will get 7 results, including D3001 and E3001. Note also there are three results in series MS (Southern multiple-units). When numbers within a series are re-used, they are given a sequential number in brackets. So, 3001 (1) was the first SR MU numbered 3001 (from 1937). 3001 (2) was the second (from 1967 until 1986) and 3001 (3) was the third (from 1987 until 1993).

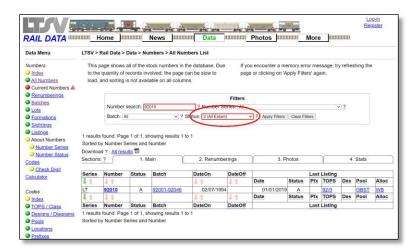
### 1.2.1.10

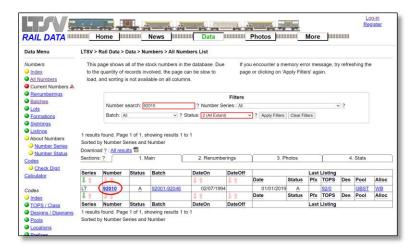
The suffixes used on LTSV-RD to indicate reused, reverted or additional numbers are ignored by the search filters. To illustrate, if you search for 90050, you will get two results in series LT (TOPS locos). The first is for when the loco carried the number 90050 from 1990 until 1991. It was then renumbered to 90150. The second result is for the same loco when it was renumbered back to 90050 in 2002, this reversion being indicated by the (R).

### 1.2.1.11

A forthcoming change will be the addition of some preserved steam locos to the database, primarily those that are registered to work on the mainline. Such locos are allocated a TOPS number in class 98, though this is only ever displayed inside the cab. The search filters have been revised so that you can find a loco by searching for either its painted number or its TOPS number.







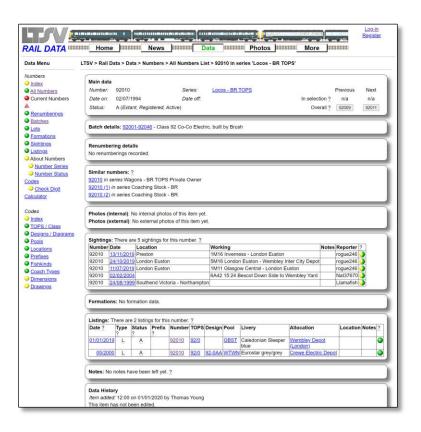
The default view of the All Numbers list page combines both current and older data. For example, if you search for number 92010, you will see four results. The section highlighted in red shows the current status of each number (hover over any status code for an explanation), and its dates of currency. The section highlighted in green shows the last recorded data for each number. These may be quite old, as in the listing for 92010 (2) being dated 1989. 92010 (1) was even older, being deleted in 1974 and hence not yet having any listings at all.

### 1.2.1.13

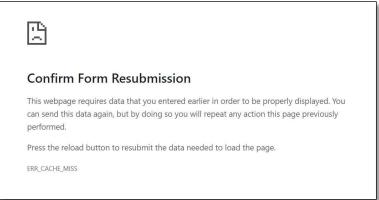
If you are only interested in current numbers, then you should probably apply a suitable filter. However, if you pick **A** (Active) in the Status filter, you will not see any items that are stored, preserved etc. As an alternative I have added some numbered status codes. For instance, pick **2** (All Extant) to only show numbers that are still current (be they active, stored or whatever). As mentioned, in the near future there will also be a separate page to look at just current numbers.

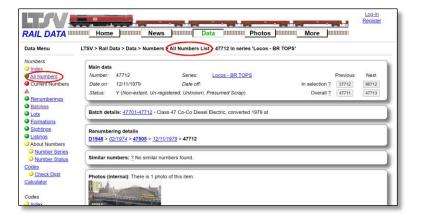
### 1.2.1.14

Other features on this page (such as the tabbed sections, the PDF links and the navigation tools) are hopefully self-explanatory. The next stage would be to look at the details for an individual number. You can do this by clicking on the link in the **Number** column.



This will open the **Number Details** page, which has a lot of information on it.





### 1.2.1.16

Before looking at the **Number Details** page, here is a useful tip. Try to get out of the habit of using your browser's **Back** button. Most pages on LTSV-RD 'talk' to each other. For example, when you click on a link, the page you are on passes information (such as what to display) to the page you are going to. This process does not work if you use the **Back** button, and you will usually see an error message like this.

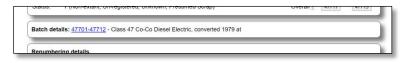
### 1.2.1.17

You can reload the page, to force it to get the information back, but this is not ideal, especially during editing/inputting data. As an alternative, remember that a lot of functions on LTSV-RD are session-persistent. So, imagine you filter the All Numbers list to see all numbers ending in 712, then you look at the details of one of the results. If you want to then go back to the list, don't use the Back button. Use the links to the All Numbers page (either in the Breadcrumb trail or the side menu, as highlighted), and you will have no problem.



The **Number Details** page is broken down into multiple boxed sections. The first shows the number, which number series it is in, the dates it was current from and to (where known) and its current status.

On the right of the Main data box are **Previous** and **Next** links, which are another way to avoid using the Back button. The two upper buttons show the previous and next numbers in your last selection. I had searched for numbers ending in 712, so when I look at 47712, the previous number is 37712 and the next is 66712. The two lower buttons show the previous and next numbers overall (regardless of any filtering or sorting you applied). Not surprisingly, for 47712 these are 47711 and 47713 respectively. Clicking any button will take you to the **Number Details** page for that number. You can also use your keyboard, press P or N (upper-case, using Shift or Caps Lock) to access the previous or next numbers in your selection, or press p or n (lower case) to access the same from the overall set.



### 1.2.1.19

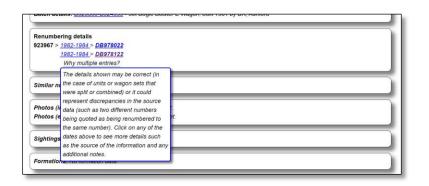
Every number in the LTSV-RD database has to belong to a batch, and the next section details this. Details shown are the number range (which also acts a link to view the relevant **Batch Details** page - see section 1.2.2), the type or class, and the date/place of origin. 47712 was a rebuild (from 47505) rather than a new-build, and these often do not have an origin place added yet (think it was Crewe Works?).



### 1.2.1.20

The next section down is headed

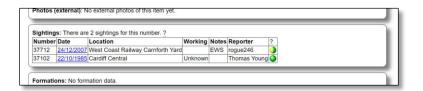
Renumbering details, and this should show the complete numbering history for the item of rolling stock, both before and after the number being looked at. For example, the loco that became 47712 was new as D1948, becoming 47505 in 1974 and finally 47712 in 1979. The numbers are links to the relevant Number Details page, while the dates are links to the relevant Renumbering Details page. The latter can be useful if (for example) you wanted to see the source of the information.











Most renumberings are one-to-one, which will display as shown for 47712. There may be other cases, such as when a unit is split or combined, or when the source data has errors. Shown here is the page for BR wagon B923967, which has been given as the original number for both DB978022 and DB978122 (obviously an error). An explain tip is then provided.

### 1.2.1.22

Next is the **Similar numbers** section. 47712 has none but loco 92010's detail page will have links to the various other 92010s. If you find yourself looking at the wrong instance of a number, these links are a quick way to get to the right one.

### 1.2.1.23

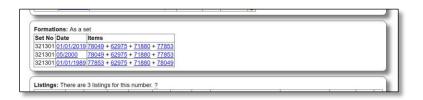
Photos are next. Internal photos (i.e. photos in the LTSV-RD website) are shown as thumbnails. Hover over any thumbnail to view the details, or click on it to view the photo full-size. Note that photos of the item under earlier or later numbers will also be shown. For example, this screenshot is actually from the detail page for loco 37712, but the only photo is of it when it was numbered 37102.

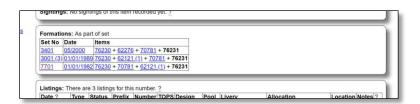
### 1.2.1.24

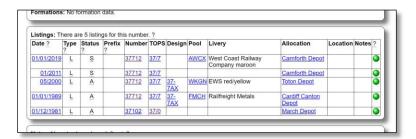
External photos are text-only links to photos on other websites or in books, which I call Photolinks. If the photo is on a website, clicking the entry in the **Source** column will take you to that website (will open in a new browser tab or window)

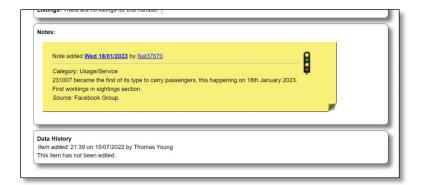
### 1.2.1.25

**Sightings** are fairly self-explanatory. As with photos, sightings of the item under earlier or later numbers are also shown. Click on a sighting's date to see full details. The coloured balls show the approval status for each contributed sighting.









The **Formations** section is most relevant to multiple units, or coaches formed into units. Shown is the section for unit 321301, which shows the unit's formation at selected dates.

### 1.2.1.27

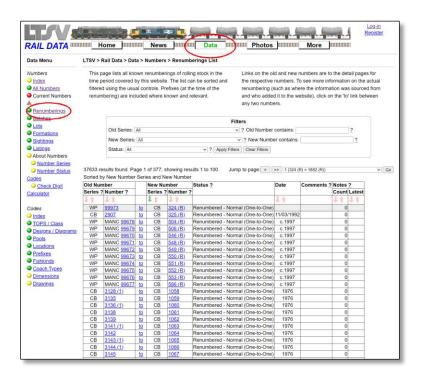
Here is the same section for coach number 76231. This shows that it was in unit 7701 in 1982, in 3001 (3rd instance) in 1989 and in 3401 in 2000.

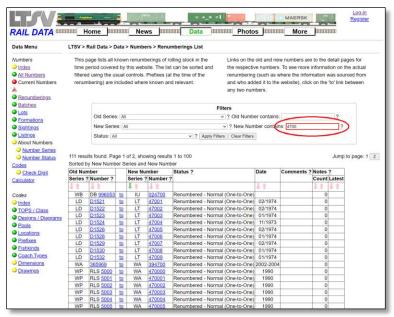
### 1.2.1.28

Listings are snap-shots of the item's details at given dates. This can include prefixes, allocations, liveries, TOPS and design codes, pools etc. Once again, earlier and later numbers are also included. Click on any listing's date to see full details (such as the source).

### 1.2.1.29

The last two sections are for any related notes (which are styled to resemble post-it notes) and the item's data history (when it was added and the details of any subsequent edits).





Another page that deals with individual numbers is the one that lists renumberings. To access this, click on the **Renumberings** link in the side menu of the Data section.

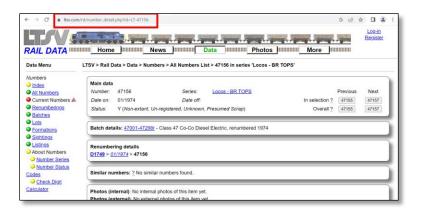
On this page, each record is a change from one number to another. The default is to sort these by the new number, but this can be changed by clicking any of the small red arrows in the column headings.

Prefixes are included in the Number columns if applicable at the time of renumbering (and if known). Hovering over any prefix will show its meaning.

### 1.2.1.31

The filters and navigation tools are very similar to those on the **All Numbers** page. One exception is that wildcards are not needed. For example, if you search for 4700, you will see all numbers that contain 4700.







If you click on the links that form the numbers in the Renumberings list, you will be taken to the relevant **Number Details** page. However, if you click on one of the links in between (on the word 'to') you will get to the **Renumbering Details** page. This will show additional details such as the source of the information, when it was added, whether it has been edited and if any notes have been posted about it.

For example, no date was given for the renumbering of DB996053 to 024700. However, it must have been before 1992, as the source of the information was a book published in that year.

### 1.2.1.33

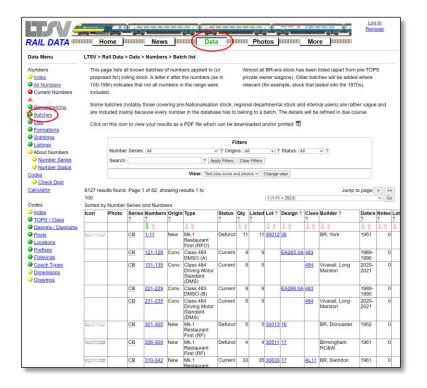
There is one more way to quickly get from one number to another. If you are on the details page for a given number, you will see that the number is the end part of the URL. This is highlighted in the browser address bar here.

### 1.2.1.34

You can type over part of this, then press the Return or Enter key to jump to another page. For example, you could replace 156 with 207 to get from 47156 to 47207.

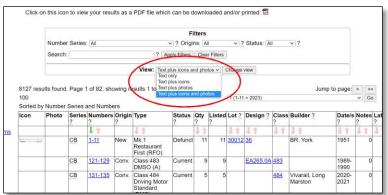
The URL actually contains the LTSV-RD ID for the number, rather than just the number. In most cases these can be worked out easily. For example, the ID for TOPS loco 47156 is LT-47156. Things get a bit more complicated with RIV numbers/EVNs, and with numbers that were re-used or reverted. This jumping technique is therefore not always suitable. It is however also usable with most data types on LTSV-RD, such as batches, TOPS codes, Designs/Diagrams etc.

### 1.2.2 Looking at Batches and Lots



### 1.2.2.1

As mentioned above, every number in the LTSV-RD database belongs to a batch. Batches are just sets of numbers (usually consecutive) that have common attributes. To view all batches, click on the **Batches** link in the Data area.



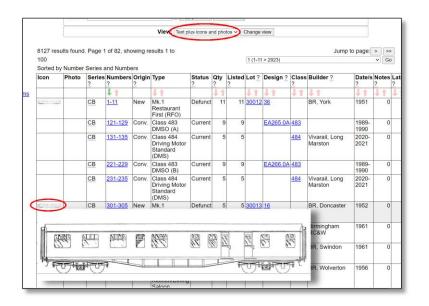
### 1.2.2.2

This is another page that really needs a wide screen to view properly. There is something I can do about that though. Underneath the Filters box is a second box marked View, which contains one dropdown. The default view is **Text plus icons and photos**.



### 1.2.2.3

If you change this to **Text only**, then click on the **Change view** button, the first two columns in the table below will disappear. This can improve the appearance on smaller screens.

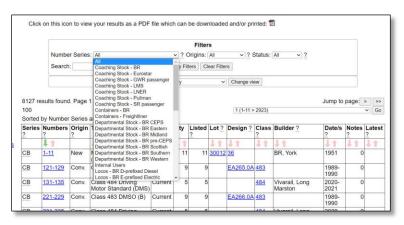


I'll just revert to **Text plus icons and photos** view for a minute, to cover these elements. When displayed, the first column will now display any icons (side views) that are relevant. Hovering over any icon will show a larger version.



### 1.2.2.5

Some batches will also have a representative photograph. If you hover over the small photo, a larger copy will appear, while if you click on the small photo, you can view it full-size.



### 1.2.2.6

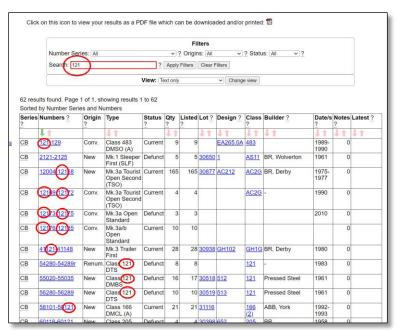
Right, I have turned the icons and photos off again. The filters are fairly standard. You can show only batches of numbers in a particular number series.

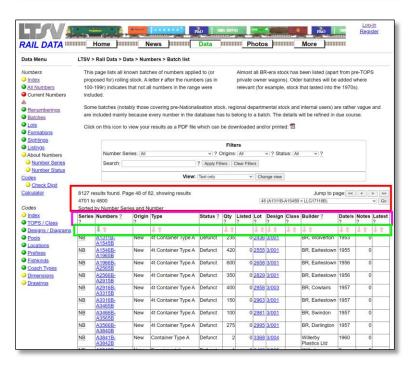


1.2.2.7

Or you can show only batches that were new builds, conversions, renumberings etc







Or you can show only batches that are Current, Defunct or Cancelled. Defunct indicates that no numbers from the batch remain, whereas Current indicates that at least one number from the batch is still current.

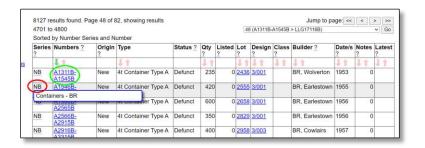
### 1.2.2.9

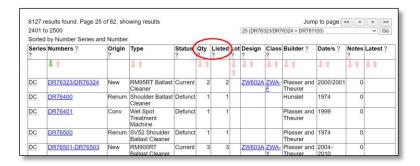
You can also search. This will look for your input in any of the number range, the type description or the builder details. For example, searching for 121 returns various batches which contain 121 somewhere.

As always, you need to click on **Apply Filters** to apply any filters you have entered or selected. Filters in use will be shown by red outlining. All filters can be cleared by clicking the **Clear Filters** button.

### 1.2.2.10

The navigation section (highlighted in red here), column headings (pink) and sorting row (green) all work exactly the same as for the **All Numbers** page.



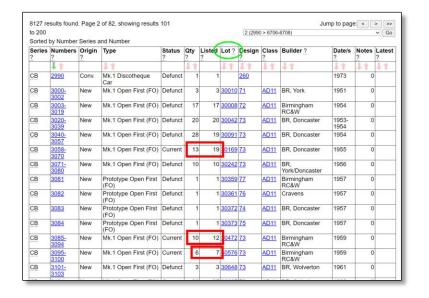


There are several linking functions within the body of the table. The **Series** column (in red here) shows the number series and has an explain tip to give the meaning of the abbreviations used. The links in the **Numbers** column (in green here) are links to the **Batch Details** page (of which more in a minute).

### 1.2.2.12

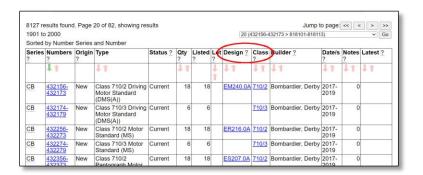
The **Qty** columns shows (where known) how many numbers were built/converted in this batch, while the **Listed** column shows how many of those numbers are in the LTSV-RD database.

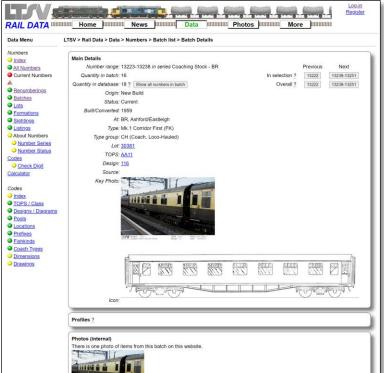
For most batches, the two numbers (Qty and Listed) will be the same. However, this will not always be the case. Many older numbers have not been added to the database, as very little is ever likely to be known about them individually. For example, the large batches of Mineral wagons and Containers (see 1.2.2.11) are generally not populated. On the other hand, reversions (where a loco or coach regains a number it had previously carried) can result in the Listed amount being higher than the Qty, since reversions are counted as separate records. This can be seen in the batches highlighted in red in the next screenshot.



### 1.2.2.13

Where a batch was all built (or converted) to one lot number, this will be shown in the **Lot** column, the number itself acting as a link to the **Lot Details** page (which will be covered shortly).









Entries in the **Design** and **Class** columns are all links. These are only shown if they apply to all numbers in the batch. They are also generally the details that applied at the time of building/conversion, and it may be that some or all have since been altered.

### 1.2.2.15

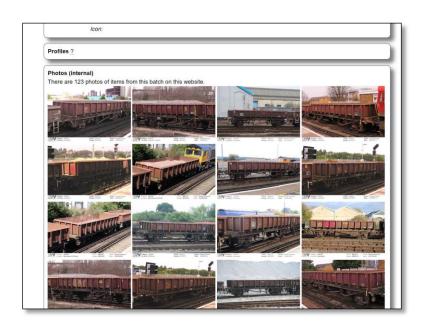
Clicking on the number range for any batch will open the **Batch Details** page, as shown here. Like the **Number Details** page, various sections are shown in distinct boxes, the first being the Main Details. This basically repeats the information from the Batch List page, albeit more clearly. At the right are Previous and Next links which work exactly the same as on the **Number Details** page (see 1.2.1.18).

### 1.2.2.16

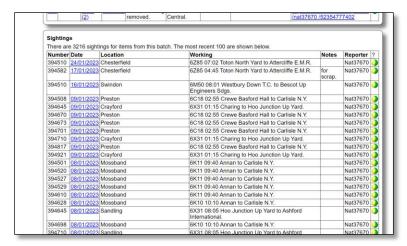
**Profiles** are articles I have written covering specific types of trains. If a batch is mentioned in a profile, links to that profile will appear in the second box on the Batch **Details** page.

### 1.2.2.17

Next are **Photos**, which (as with those on the Number Details page) are either internal or external. If only one photo of a batch is shown, it will most likely appear both here and in the Main Details section.



If there are loads of photos for a given batch, they are all shown (in number order). I am working on a way to be selective with this, as per the sightings and listings (see below). Hovering over any photo will show its details (subject, location, date etc), while clicking on it will allow you to view it full-size.



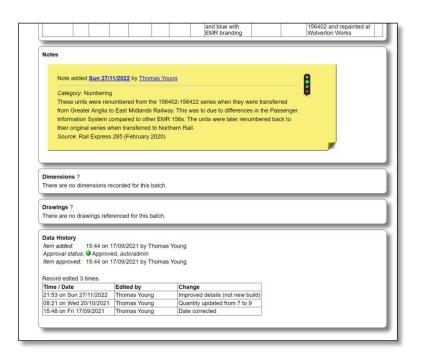
### 1.2.2.19

Following the Photos are the **Sightings**, which include sightings of any number from the batch. If there are lots of sightings, only the most recent 100 are shown. I hope to work out a way to be able to provide a button to view all relevant sightings. Clicking on the date of any sighting will allow you to view the sighting details.



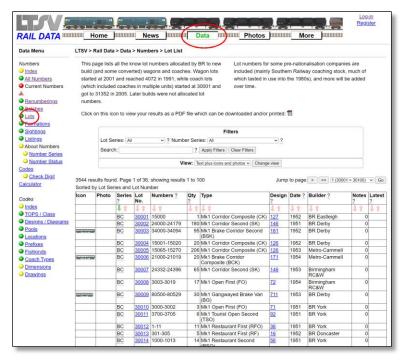
### 1.2.2.20

As with the sightings, **Listings** are limited to the most recent 100. If there are more, a button is provided to view them all. The links in the date column will open the relevant **Listing Details** page, while other links will open the relevant Number, TOPS, Design, Pool or Allocation Details page as appropriate. Explain tips are provided for abbreviations in the Type and Status columns.



The last four sections are for Notes (as per the Number Details page), Dimensions, Drawings and Data History.

Dimensions and Drawings are normally related to a particular Design or Diagram rather than a batch, so will only rarely appear here.

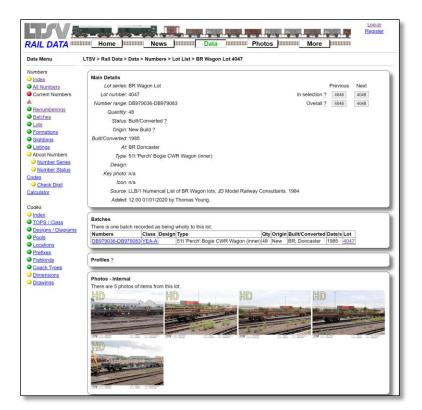


### 1.2.2.22

Closely related to Batches are **Lots**. Up until the mid-1990s, most new-build coaches and wagons were built against a particular lot number, a 'lot' being effectively an order. The page works very much like the **Batch List** page so I won't repeat the details.

-	200.000		-000	(FPA ex SAA)			10
BW	4051		0	Spoil/Ballast Hopper Wagon (ex HTV)	?	?	0
BW	4052	DB979610-DB979615	6	36t 'Perch' Bogie CWR Wagon (stabling)	1985- 1986	BR Doncaster	0
BW	4053	DB979406-DB979411	6	51t 'Perch' Bogie CWR Wagon (clamping)	1985	BR Doncaster	0
BW	4054	DB979510-DB979515	6	18t 'Porpoise' Bogie CWR Wagon (with chute)	1985	BR Crewe	0
BW	4055	DB979084-DB979131	48	51t 'Perch' Bogie CWR Wagon (inner)	1985	BR Doncaster	0
BW	4056	DR89010-DR89015	6	CWR Train Power Wagon	?	?	0
BW	4057	550020	1	50t Flatrol Nuclear Flask MJ	1984	BR Swindon	0
BW	4058		0				0
BW	4059	921000	1	Bogie Steel- carrying Wagon	1985	BR Derby	0
BW	4060		0				0
BW	4061		0				0
BW	4062	375000-375123	124	31.5t Covered Hopper Wagon	1987- 1988	BR Doncaster	0
BW	4063	550027-550060	34	50t Bogie Nuclear Flask Wagon	1988- 1989	Procor, Wakefield	0
BW	4064		0				0
BW	4065	961000-961003	4	Bogie Steel- carrying Wagon	1990	RFS, Doncaster	0
BW	4066	962000-962003	4	Bogie Steel- carrying Wagon	1990	RFS, Doncaster	0
BW	4067	963000-963003	4	Bogie Steel- carrying Wagon	1990	RFS, Doncaster	0
BW	4068	605001-605027	27	Freightliner Low	1991	Powell Duffryn	0

All BR coach and wagon lots have been added, along with a growing number of pre-Nationalisation lots. Lot numbers were sometimes also issued for conversion jobs, so the details such as numbers and quantities may not always be available. There are also gaps where no information is known for certain lot numbers. It is likely that these were issued for orders that were then cancelled.

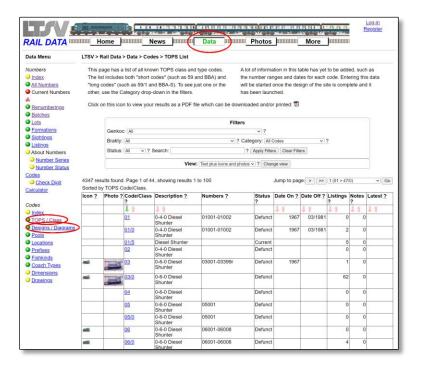


### 1.2.2.24

Clicking on any lot number will open the **Lot Details** page, as shown. This page is almost identical to the **Batch Details** page already described.

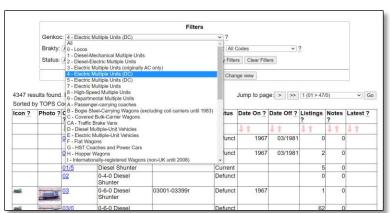
You may be wondering why Batches and Lots needed to be treated as separate entities on LTSV-RD. The simple answer is that every number can be related to a particular batch of numbers, but not necessarily to a particular lot. For example, lots were not issued for private-owner wagons, nor for any rolling-stock built since the mid-1990s.

### 1.2.3 Looking at TOPS codes and Designs/Diagrams



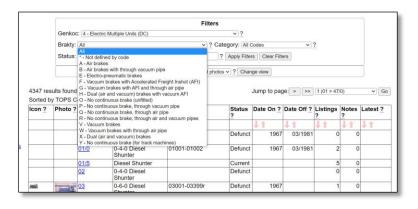
### 1.2.3.1

TOPS codes and Diagrams/Design Codes are the main ways of categorising items of rolling stock by their characteristics. TOPS codes are primarily for operational distinctions, with Designs for technical aspects. Both have a list page that can be accessed from the links in the Data submenu. Shown here is the TOPS list page. This has a lot of commonality to the Batches and Lots list pages, such as the inclusion of Icons and Photos, and the ability to change the View type to omit these.



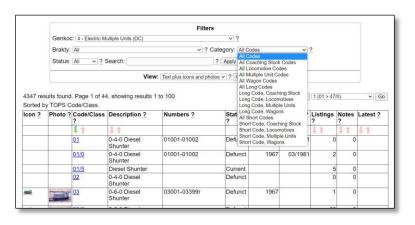
### 1.2.3.2

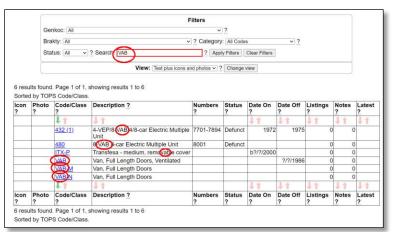
The filters on the TOPS list page are a little different. The GENKOC refers to the first letter of the TOPS code, this being the highest level of classification. For example, you could choose to view only codes starting with a 4 (these being DC EMUs).



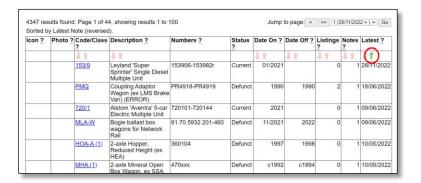
### 1.2.3.3

The BRAKTY is the third letter of TOPS wagon codes and shows the brake type. Numerical TOPS class codes do not define the brake type.





### 41.70.6723.001-110 04/2017 c01/2010 Bogie Hopper (Reduced Length, Outer 110 Defunct 110 04/2017 c01/2019 HRA-B Bogie Hopper (Reduced Length, 41.70.6723.001-41.70.6723.00 01/2019 20 ?/?/2000 Coal Hopper Wagon, 13t Bogie Coal Hopper Current ?/?/2000 Bogie Coal Hopper (with Buffers) Curren 292 897 Bogie Coal Hopper (centre doors Bogie Coal Hopper Coal Hopper Wagon, 21t Current



### 1.2.3.4

The Category is my own means of grouping TOPS codes depending on what they relate to and what level of detail they show. For example, 47 is a Short Code for locos, 47/4 is a Long Code for locos. Likewise, BBA is a Short Code for wagons, while BBA-F is a Long Code. As usual, filters are only applied when you click on the **Apply Filters** button.

### 1.2.3.5

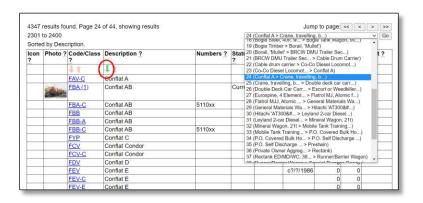
The search function looks at both the class code and the description but is case-insensitive. Hence, searching for VAB will find several different types.

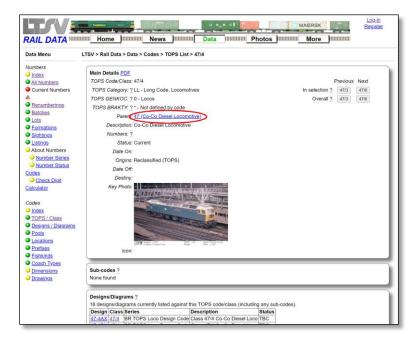
### 1.2.3.6

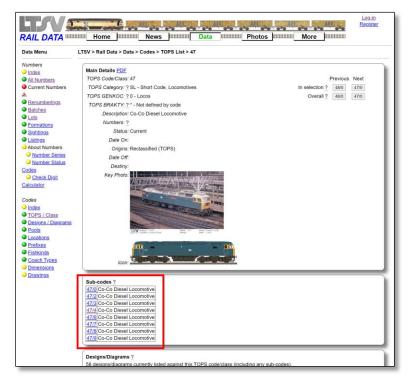
Numbers are only shown where they can be easily defined, and these are not exclusive. For example, the number range for HRA hoppers covers both HRA-I and HRA-O subtypes. Dates are provided where known but much work is still needed on these.

### 1.2.3.7

The last three columns show how many listings there are on LTSV-RD that relate to each TOPS code, then how many notes have been posted and when the last was posted. All columns can be sorted using the arrows.







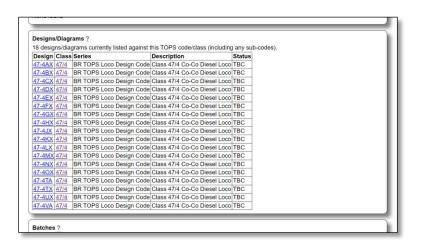
Talking of sorting, you will see that the navigation tools change depending on the applied order. For example, if you sort the TOPS list by Description, the page jump drop-down list will show the range of descriptions that will appear on every numbered page (longer entries are truncated). This feature applies to most list pages.

### 1.2.3.9

Clicking on any TOPS code will open the TOPS Details Page, as shown here. Every 'Long' TOPS code is treated as a child of a 'Short' code. For example, class 47/4 is a child of class 47. If looking at the details page for a long-code (child), a link to the short-code (parent) will be provided in the Main Details box. Other elements in the Main Details are very like those already seen for Batches and Lots.

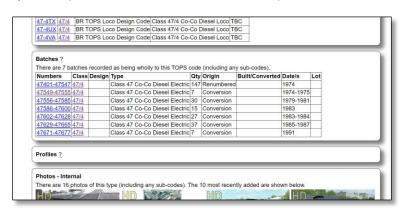
### 1.2.3.10

If looking at a short code (parent), any related long (child) codes will be shown (with links) in the second section, marked **Sub-codes**.



Design codes provide a finer level of classification than TOPS codes. As such, all items to any given design code should be to the same TOPS code. With locos this is self-evident. Any loco to design code 47-4AX was obviously a 47/4. With wagons this distinction is not always so clear cut. All design codes and diagrams known to relate to a given TOPS code are listed in the next section, with links. Sub-codes are included where appropriate. Hence, if looking at class 47, you will see design codes relating to classes 47/0, 47/3, 47/4 etc.

More work is needed on the data for designs. For example, as seen above, the descriptions do not yet show what the actual differences between each design are. Likewise the status information has not yet been updated (TBC stands for To Be Confirmed).



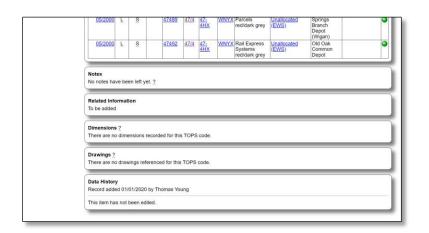
### 1.2.3.12

The next section lists batches that are associated with the TOPS code (including sub-codes if looking at a 'parent'). Note that only batches that were wholly to a single TOPS code will be shown. The number range of each batch acts as a link to the relevant **Batch Details** page.

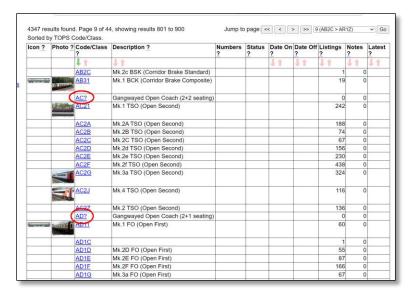


### 1.2.3.13

The Profiles, Photos and Listings sections are very like those on the Batch Details page. One difference is that only the 10 most recently added photos will be shown, with a button provided to see more.

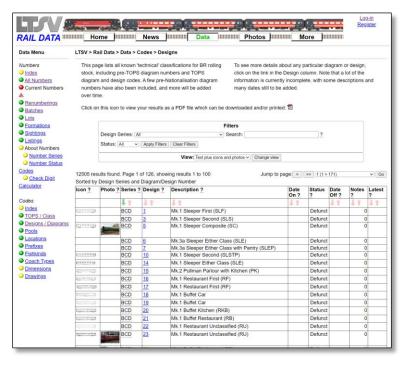


The last sections on the **TOPS Details** page are again similar to those on the **Batch Details** so will not be described in detail.
The box marked **Related Information** is for a feature that has not yet been implemented.



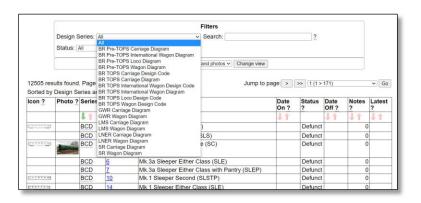
### 1.2.3.15

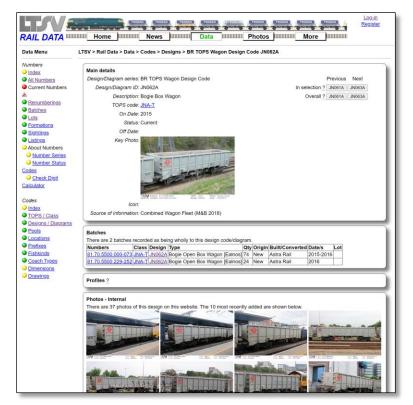
Going back to the TOPS List page, one anomaly will be apparent in the codes for coaching stock. I have added codes such as AC? and AD?. These were required for instances where the design code was known (such as AD201.0A), but the TOPS code was not.



### 1.2.3.16

Design codes and Diagrams are broadly similar to TOPS classes/codes, but provide a greater level of technical differentiation. They are also more varied, in as much as that a loco design code is quite different to a coach one, which is different to a wagon one. There are also different codes used for 'international' wagons, plus a variety of defunct types (such as pre-TOPS wagon diagrams). All are listed on the **Designs List** page.

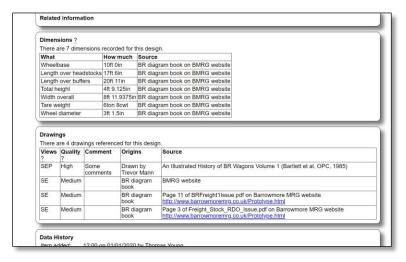




The only really difference between this page and ones already described is the **Design Series** drop-down in the Filters. You can use this to view only the designs in one of the various series.

### 1.2.3.18

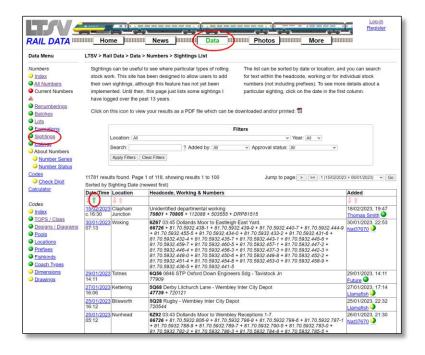
Clicking on any individual design code or diagram will open the **Design Details** page. The sections on this page are almost identical to those on the **TOPS Details** page, so see above for more information.



### 1.2.3.19

Dimensions and Drawings are more likely to be recorded against a design/diagram than against a batch or TOPS code. Only a few dimensions have been added so far, but most known drawings have been referenced. This is the page for BR wagon diagram 1/001. Where the drawings are online, a link will be provided.

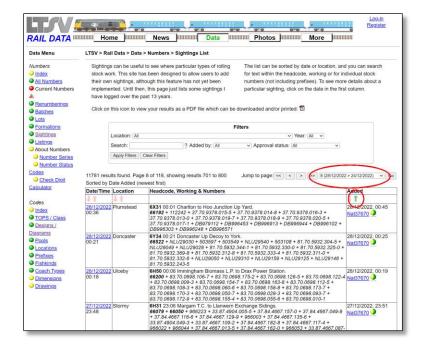
### 1.2.4 Looking at Sightings



### 1.2.4.1

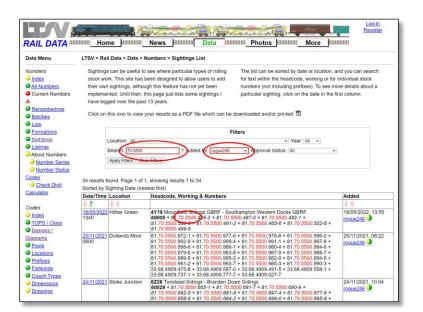
I decided to add a feature whereby sightings of trains could be recorded. This may be of use to see which types are working where. To view the main sightings list page, click on the **Sightings** link in the Data menu. The default view is sorted by sighting date/time, with the most recent shown first. Sorting and navigation functions are as per other list pages.

Most of the information on this page should be self-explanatory. All column headings have explain tips to give more information. When you enter a sighting, adding the time is optional, so some sightings will only have a date. Headcodes and loco numbers are highlighted in bold.



### 1.2.4.2

The sighting list can be navigated, sorted or filtered the same way as any list page. Here I have sorted the list by date added (reversed), then used the page jump navigation to view sightings that were added over Christmas 2022.



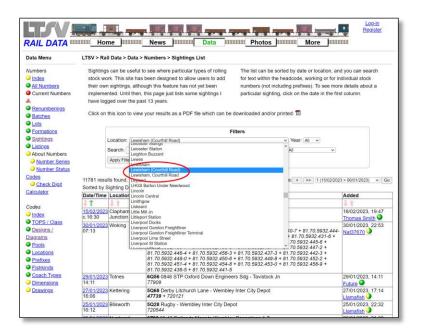
### 1.2.4.3

Here I have filtered the list to only show sightings added by user rogue246 which contain the text '70.5500'. Note that all instances of the searched phrase are then highlighted in red.



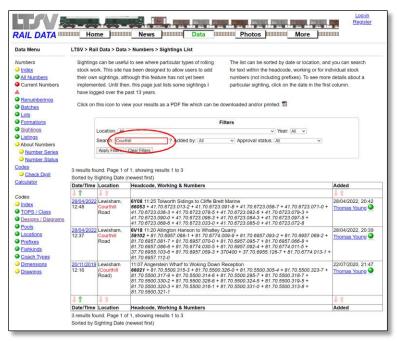
### 1.2.4.4

The search tool looks at the location, headcode, working and numbers, and wildcards are not needed. Hence, searching for 6Y4 will find trains with headcodes 6Y41, 6Y42 etc.



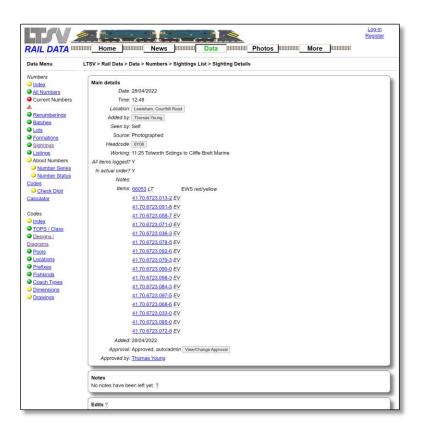
### 1.2.4.5

You can filter by location using the dropdown list, but it should be noted that users can enter anything in the location field. In this example, some sightings have been entered as **Lewisham (Courthill Road)**, while others are **Lewisham, Courthill Road** (this was my fault!). As such, you cannot use the drop-down to find all sightings at this location.



1.2.4.6

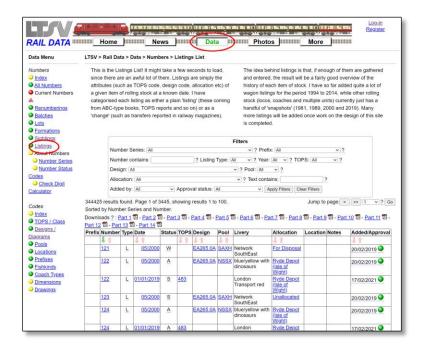
On the other hand, if you searched for **Courthill** you will see all sightings from this location.



### 1.2.4.7

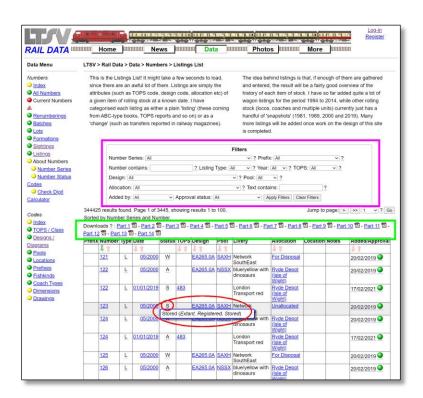
If you click on the date of any sighting (or indeed anywhere on the location, headcode, working or numbers section), you will be taken to the Sighting Details page, as shown. This shows all details for the sighting. In the top section there are buttons that will allow you to view all sightings at the same location, by the same person or with the same headcode. In the lower section are all the numbers that were recorded. Each is a link to the relevant Number Details page, while alongside is shown the number series (hover for an explanation of the abbreviations), and any comments that have been added about individual items within the sighting. Finally there are sections that show any notes that have been added about the sighting, and details of any edits of the sighting.

### 1.2.5 Looking at Listings

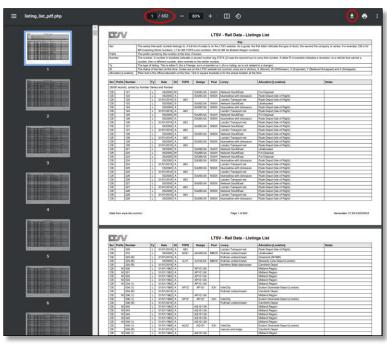


### 1.2.5.1

As mentioned when looking at the **Number Details** page, listings are snap-shots of the details for a number at a given date. To see all listings, click on the **Listings** link in the Data submenu. The page may take a few seconds to load, as there are an awful lot of listings already in the database.

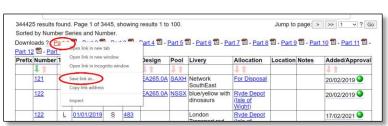


The **Listings List** page is similar to most list pages on LTSV-RD, except that it has rather more filters (shown in the pink box), plus a lot of PDF links (in the green box). Abbreviations in the main data are explained when you hover over them.



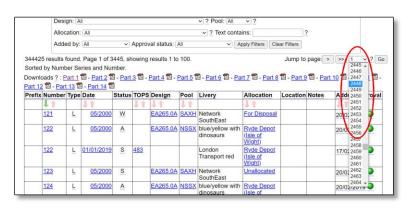
# 1.2.5.3

The PDF links allow the data to be downloaded. Because there are so many listings, the page will automatically break down the results so that each PDF contains no more than 25,000 records. Clicking on any of the PDF links will open the PDF in a new tab/window of your browser. Note that this part alone runs to 652 pages! You can download the PDF by clicking the icon in the top right. The files should be no more than 3MB each.

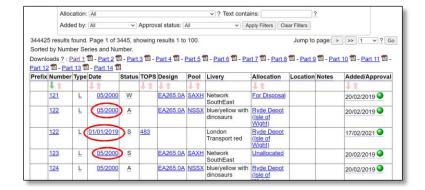


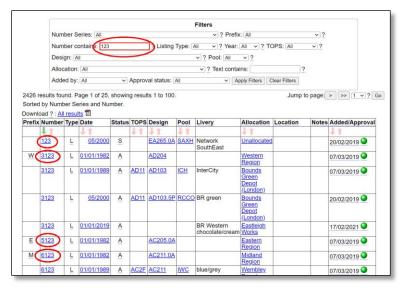
#### 1.2.5.4

Another way to download the PDFs is to right-click the link and select **Save link as**. Most list pages will eventually have options for downloading, though this is still being worked on.



Nur	nber S	eries: All					∨ ? Prefix	c All		v ?	
Nur	nber c	ontains:			? Listing	Type:	All > ? Year:	All v ? TOP	PS: All	v ?	
Des	sign: A	Al .					∨ ? Pool: All	<b>v</b> ?			
Allo	cation	All					✓ ? Text conta	ins:		?	
Ado	ded by:	All	~)	Approv	/al status:	All	~ A	pply Filters   Cle	ar Filters		
4425 results	found	Page 1 of 3	3445, sh	nowing	results 1 to	100.			Jump to	page: >	>> 1 v? G
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rt 12 🖺 - Pa	rt 13 T	- Part 14									
efix Numbe	Time	Doto	Chatura	TORC	Design	Pool	Livery	Allocation	Location	Massa	Added/Approval
CIIX ITUIIIDE	Type	Date	Status	1005	Design	PUUI	Livery	Allocation	Location	Notes	Added/Approval
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121		05/2000	W A	*****	EA265.0A	SAXH	Network SouthEast blue/yellow with	For Disposal	)	Notes	20/02/2019
121	L	05/2000 05/2000	W A	J†	EA265.0A	SAXH	Network SouthEast blue/yellow with dinosaurs London Transport red	For Disposal  Ryde Depot (Isle of Wight)  Ryde Depot (Isle of	)	Notes	20/02/2019 20/02/2019
121	L	05/2000 05/2000 05/2000	<u>W</u> <u>A</u> <u>S</u> (	J†	EA265.0A	SAXH NSSX	Network SouthEast blue/yellow with dinosaurs London Transport red Network	For Disposal  Ryde Depot (Isle of Wight)  Ryde Depot (Isle of Wight)  Unallocated	Location	Notes	20/02/2019 20/02/2019 17/02/2021





One more difference on the **Listings List** page is that the page jump controls do not give information on what each page contains. To do so would have required some very complex queries and these were either very slow or caused memory errors. You will just have to estimate which page you want, or filter the list to narrow your options.

### 1.2.5.6

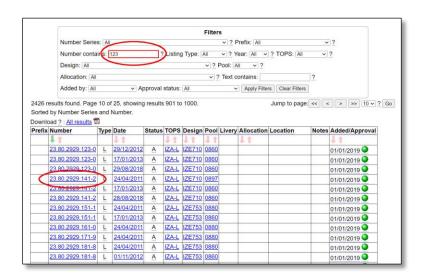
Most of the links in the main listings list are to the relevant details page (these are highlighted in red). For example, clicking on number 122 will take you to the **Number Details** page for that number, clicking on 483 will take you to the **TOPS Details** page for class 483 and so on.

### 1.2.5.7

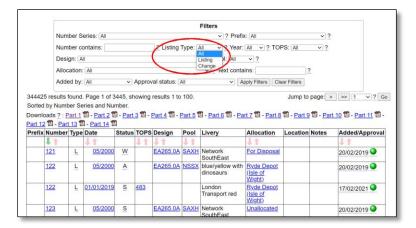
To see more details about a particular listing, click on its date (as shown). This will open the **Listing Details** page, which I will get to in a minute.

#### 1.2.5.8

Most of the filters on the **Listings List** page work the same as those elsewhere. For example, you can view only those listings for numbers in a given series, or with a particular prefix. The **Number contains** text box will find any matches. Hence entering 123 will find 123, 3123, 61232, 923123 and so on. Each number can of course have multiple listings.

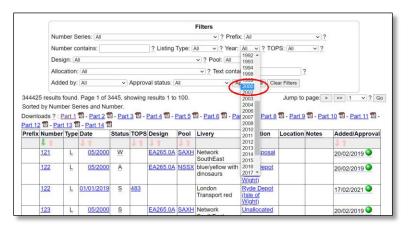


The number search can produce some old results with RIV numbers. This is because it actually searches the Number ID field. For example, searching for 123 returns 23.80.2929.141-2, because the ID for this number is actually EV-802929141232. If you want to see all listings for an individual number, it would be easier to use the **Number Details** page (see section 1.2.1).



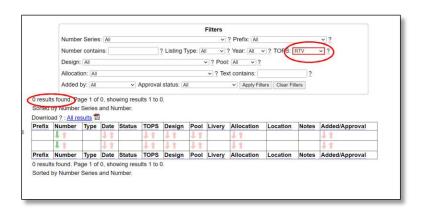
#### 1.2.5.10

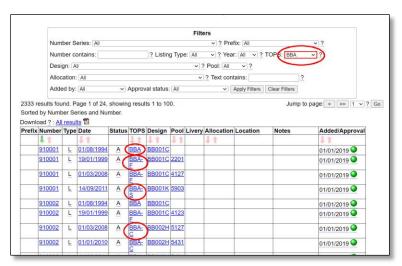
All listings are either listings or changes. The former just show the details at a given date (as for instance the information provided in an ABC), while a change shows the details from a given date (such as with transfers reported in a news magazine).

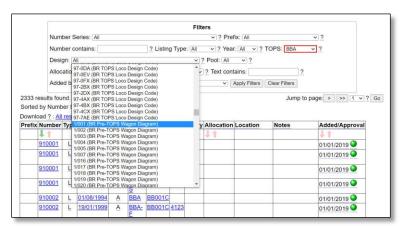


### 1.2.5.11

The **Year** drop-down enables you to view only listings dated in a particular year. As with all filters, you can select a value by clicking on it, but the filters are not actually applied until you click on the **Apply Filters** button.







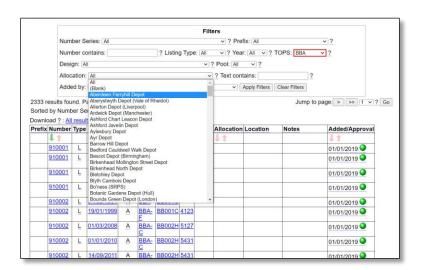
The next few drop-downs in the filters area all get their values from other tables, which means they may not all have associated listings. For example, you could pick RTV from the TOPS drop-down and you will get no results. Most listings are from the early 1980s onwards, while most RTVs (diesel brake tenders) had gone before then.

#### 1.2.5.13

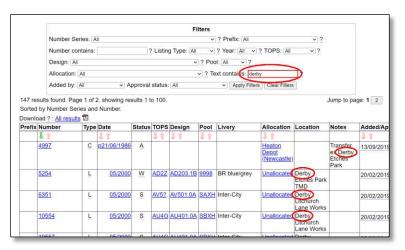
The TOPS filter is also slightly different in that it will also find related 'child' TOPS codes. For example, if you filter to show BBA, you will also get results for BBA-C, BBA-F etc. If you filter to show BBA-F, you will only get BBA-F. Likewise, if you filter to show 47, you will also get 47/0, 47/3, 47/4 etc.

# 1.2.5.14

The Design drop-down will show all know designs and diagrams, even though many will have no listings. The list is sorted by series then by design, hence 1/001 (in series DBWD) appears after 97-7AE (DBLT). To assist, the actual design series is shown in brackets.

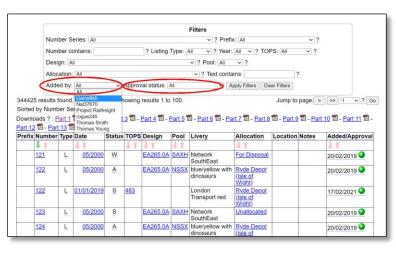


Allocations are shown by location name rather than depot code (because codes are sometimes changed).



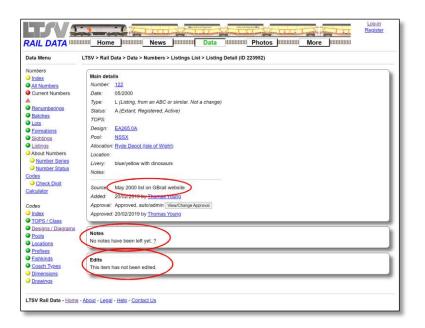
# 1.2.5.16

The Text search only works on the Location and Notes fields. Allocations and Locations are used differently. An item may be officially allocated somewhere but actually used or based somewhere else. In these cases the latter location would be shown in the Location field. Conversely, searching for Derby (as shown) will not return items that are allocated to Derby.



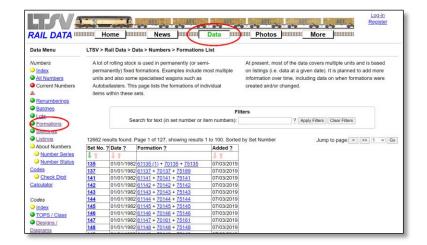
# 1.2.5.17

Finally you can choose to show only listings posted by a particular member or (if you have appropriate permission) with a particular approval status.



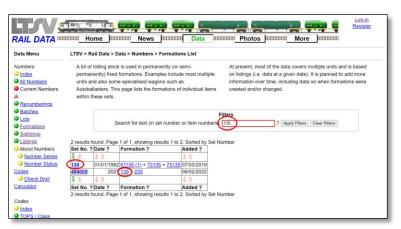
As mentioned, clicking on the date of any listing will open the **Listing Details** page, as shown here. Most of the information is the same as on the list page (including links to relevant details pages), but you can also view the source of the information, any notes that have been added, and details of any edits.

# 1.2.6 Looking at Other Data Pages



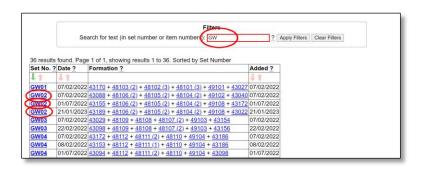
#### 1.2.6.1

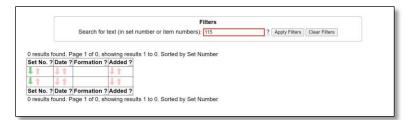
There are various other pages in the Data section, which I will look at only briefly as they work on the same principles as all others. Shown here is the **Formations List** page. Formations are mainly of multipleunits or coaching sets. As with listings, formations are snap-shots at particular dates, so one set may be listed several times.

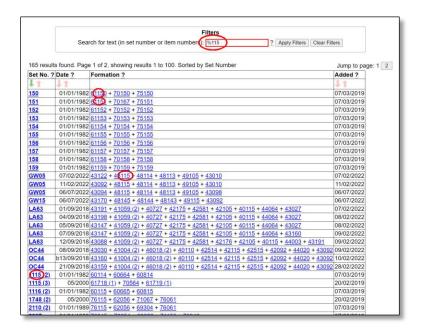


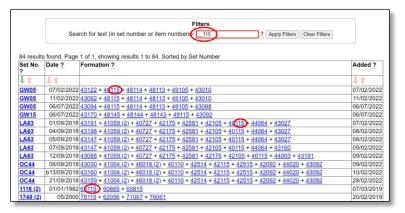
# 1.2.6.2

The only filter on this page is a number search. This looks for numbers (in either the set number or the items) that start with your input. Set numbers include two types. The first are numbers that exist in the numbers table (such as TOPS unit number 484005), the second is numbers that do not exist in the numbers table (such as the unofficial set numbers by which class 501 units were sometimes referred to.









To give another example, these sets numbered in the GWxx series are GWR class 255 HST sets, but the GWxx numbers are not in the LTSV-RD database. Note also how one set can have multiple listings. These are shown in date order from the oldest to the newest.

#### 1.2.6.4

The search looks for the beginning of each number, hence searching for 115 returns no results, as no formations contain a number starting with 115.

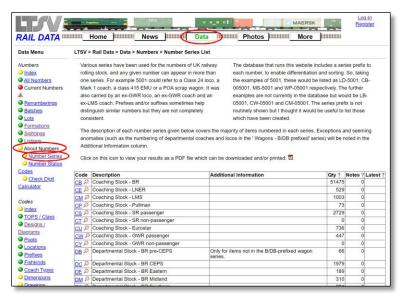
## 1.2.6.5

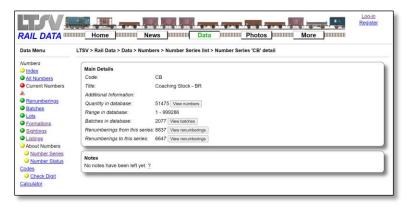
If you use the % wildcard, you can find all formations with numbers that contain 115 (such as items 61150 and 48115, and set 1115). The % wildcard matches any number of characters.

### 1.2.6.6

The underscore is another wildcard, but this matches any single character. This can be useful. Say you wanted to find any 5-digit number ending in 115, you could search for '\_\_115' (i.e. two underscores then 115).







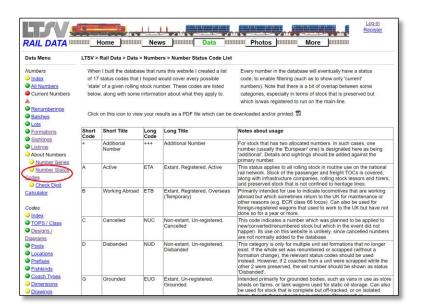
Clicking any number within a formation will open the relevant **Number Details** page. However, if you click on the link in the **Set No** column, you will get to the **Formation Details** page, as shown here. This will show the source of the information, plus any details of any notes or edits. The link on the set number here will take you to the **Number Details** page.

#### 1.2.6.8

In the **About Numbers** section of the Data submenu are two links. The first will open the list of all the different number series. These are crucial to the way the LTSV-RD database works. The quantity of numbers in each series is shown, though this is only the quantity of numbers in the LTSV-RD database, not necessarily the total quantity of numbers that have been used.

#### 1.2.6.9

Clicking on any number series' code will open the **Number Series Details** page as shown. This shows all the details and also has buttons to view related data. These all link to pages that have already been covered in this user guide. Any notes about the number series will also be shown.

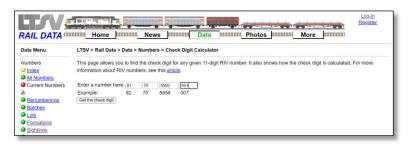


The other **About Numbers** page is the list of Number Status Codes. This is another aspect that is important to how the database works but which users probably don't need to know too much about.



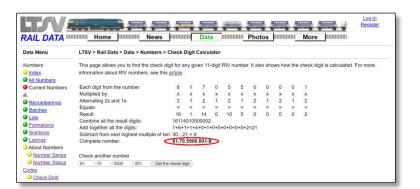
#### 1.2.6.11

Continuing down the menu, the next link is to the **Check Digit Calculator**. This can be used to work out the check digit for RIV numbers (also known as European Vehicle Numbers).



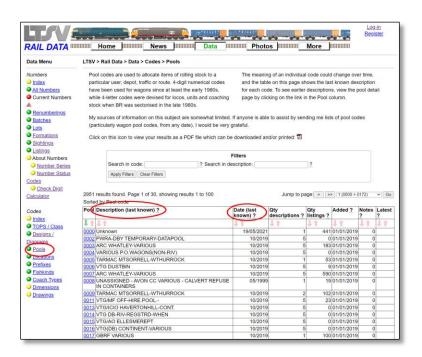
#### 1.2.6.12

To use this page, enter a number in the boxes, separating it into sections as follows: Digits 1 and 2 – The exchange code Digits 3 and 4 – The country code Digits 5 to 8 – The class/type block Digits 9 to 11 – The serial number Then click on the **Get the check digit** button.

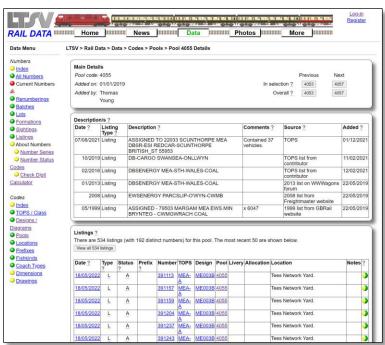


# 1.2.6.13

The page will then show the full number (with check digit), as well as revealing how the check digit is calculated.

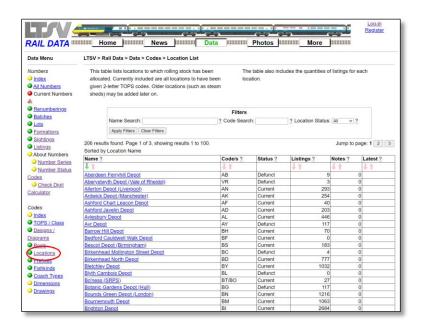


In the Codes section of the Data submenu is a link to the **Pools List** page, as shown here. Note that the meanings of pool codes can change over time. The last known description is shown for each, along with the date when the information was current.

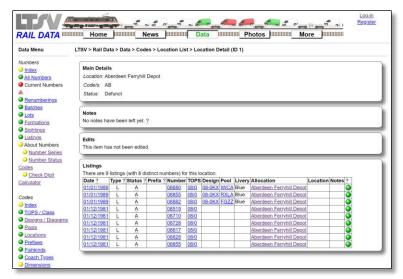


#### 1.2.6.15

Navigation, sorting and filtering here is similar to other list pages. Clicking on any pool code will open the **Pool Details** page. The first box contains the main details (along with buttons to view the previous and next items). The second box lists all known descriptions for this pool, showing the date and source of the information. The third box shows listings related to this pool. There is a fourth box below this, which will show any posted notes.

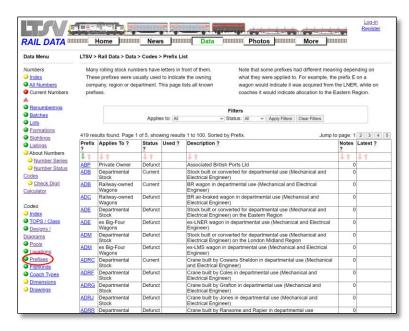


The **Locations List** page shows all locations to which rolling stock has been allocated. It can be navigated, sorted and filtered as per other list pages. The data includes the quantity of listings and notes related to each location.



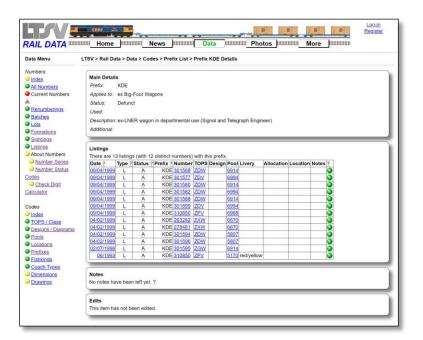
## 1.2.6.17

Clicking on any location name will open the **Location Details** page. This shows the main details, any related notes and edits, plus any relevant listings. Up to 50 listings are shown, with a button to view all (if required). Listings are shown with the most recent first. Here it can be seen that Aberdeen Ferryhill had an allocation of 3 08s in 1989 and of 6 08s in 1981. Listings for other dates may be added in due course.

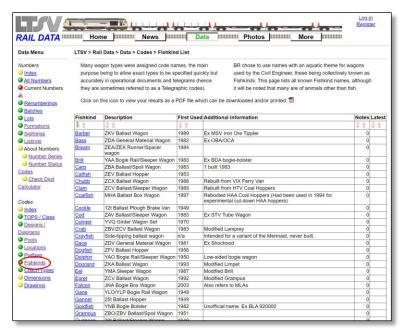


# 1.2.6.18

The **Prefix List** page shows all known prefixes that have been used. It shows what stock the prefix applied to and what it signified. Note that some prefixes had multiple meanings. For example, M could mean a BR coach allocated to the Midland Region, or a BR wagon that was built by the LMS. It was also briefly used by Mainline Freight in the 1990s. Navigate, sort or filter as usual.

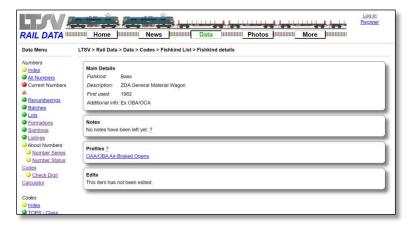


Clicking on any prefix will open the **Prefix Details** page. This shows the basic information, any related listings, plus any notes and/or edits.



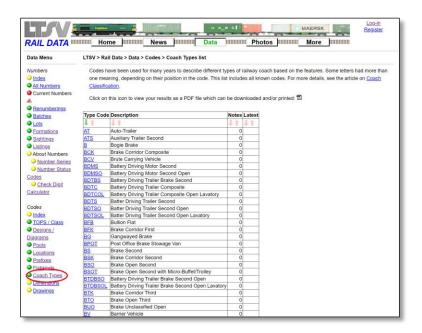
# 1.2.6.20

The **Fishkinds List** includes all the known marine code names used to identify Civil Engineer's rolling stock.

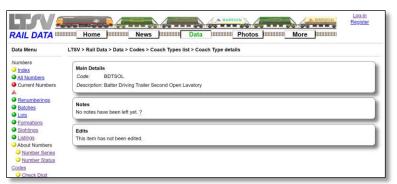


### 1.2.6.21

Clicking on any Fishkind name will open the relevant detail page. Besides the usual main details, notes and edits section, this page will show links to any relevant profile articles.

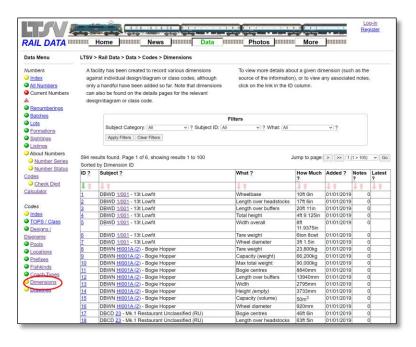


The **Coach Types** page lists all known abbreviations used to identify different coach types (such as BDTSOL).



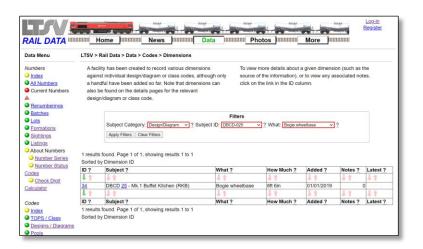
# 1.2.6.23

Click on any code to open the detail page, though there probably won't be much on it!

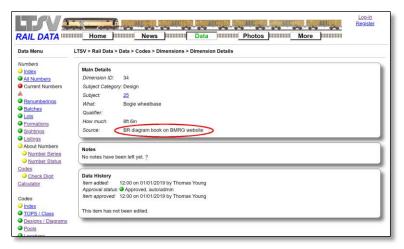


## 1.2.6.24

The **Dimensions** page lists dimensions that have been added to the LTSV-RD database (fewer than 600 so far). Dimensions can cover various aspects and units (length, weight, seats, etc) and are usually related to a particular design/diagram.

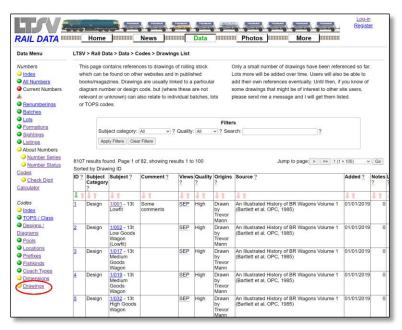


The dimension list can be filtered to find particular information, but you will need to know the ID of the design/batch/TOPS code you are looking for. For example, BR coach diagram 25 has an ID of DBCD-025. It would be simpler to look at the relevant **Design Details** page (see section 1.2.3).



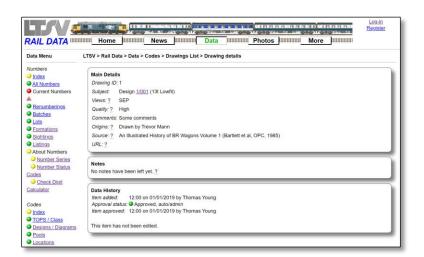
# 1.2.6.26

There is a **Dimension Details** page (accessed by clicking on the ID in the list page). The main use for this would be to see the source of the information.



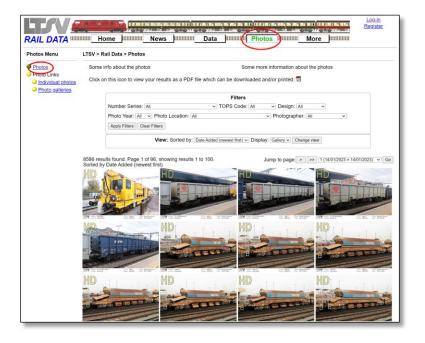
## 1.2.6.27

Finally there is the **Drawings List** page. It should be pointed out that this will tell you where you can find drawings, but the drawings themselves are not in the LTSV-RD website. Most drawings are linked to a particular design/diagram. The **Views** column shows whether the drawing has elevations, plans, end-views etc (hover for an explanation).



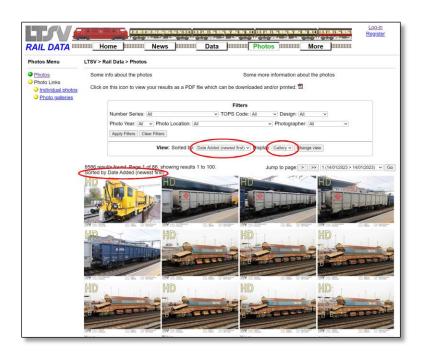
As you may have guessed, there is a **Drawing Details** page (accessed by clicking a drawing ID number on the list page), though there is little on it that is not visible in the list page.

# 1.2.7 Looking at Photos, Photolinks and Galleries

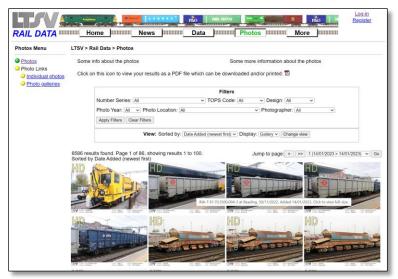


## 1.2.7.1

There are a lot of photos in the LTSV-RD website (8,586 as of March 2023) with more being added all the time. It has to be said that there is some repetition. For example, some wagon types are represented by numerous, seemingly identical photos. As already covered in this guide, photos of a particular number or type can be found on the relevant detail pages. To see all photos, click on the **Photos** menu button.

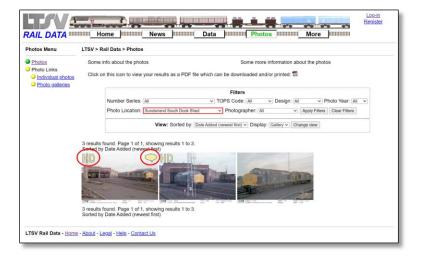


The main photos page has a collection of filters, options to change the view type and sorting, and controls to navigate to different pages of the results. The default is to show a gallery-type view, with the most recently added photos first.



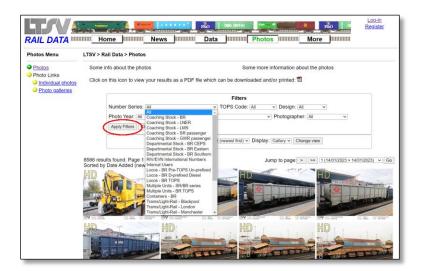
#### 1.2.7.3

In gallery view, small copies of each photo (300 pixels wide) are shown. Hovering over any photo will show the details, while clicking on it will allow the full-size image to be viewed.

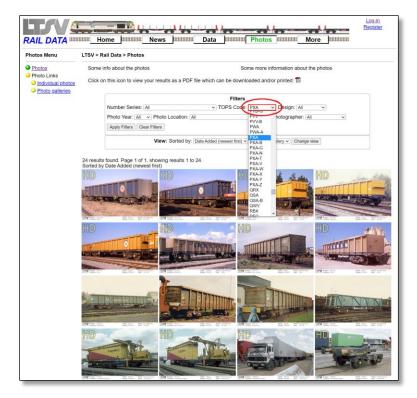


## 1.2.7.4

Full-size images are normally 1200 pixels wide. Many photos also have a larger copy (at 2400 pixels) wide, and these are indicated by a HD (High-Definition) marking in the top left of the thumbnail. If notes have been left about a photo, a speech bubble marking will appear in the top right.



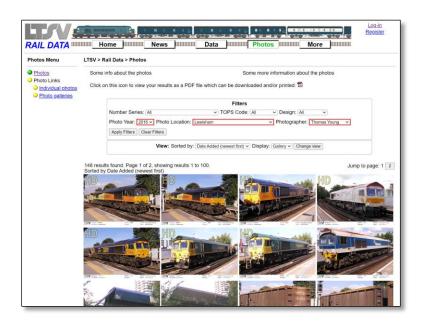
The photo list can be filtered to show photos of trains with numbers in a particular series, or with a particular TOPS or design/diagram code. As usual, any selected filters are not actually applied until you click on the **Apply Filters** button.



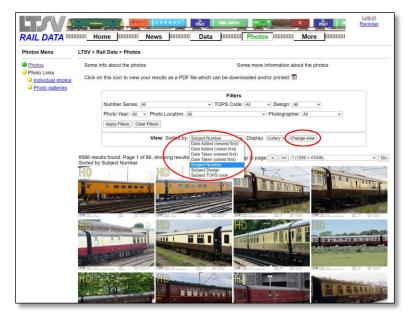
### 1.2.7.6

The TOPS filter also shows sub-codes. For example, if you select PXA, you will see photos of types PXA-B, PXA-G, PXA-N etc. Likewise if you select class 47, you will see photos of 47/0, 47/3, 47/4 etc.

Another point is that photos are linked to the number and code carried by the subject at the time of the photo. All of the PXA wagons seen here were photographed in the late-1980s, though most were recoded to JXA in 1990.

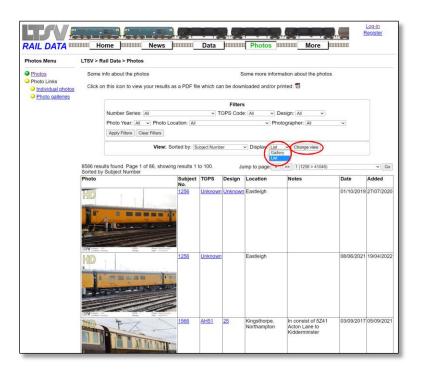


Other filters allow you to see only photos taken in a particular year, at a particular location or by a particular person. Any applied filters are highlighted in red and are session-persistent (meaning they will stay in place until you change them or you close your browser). The **Clear Filters** button will reset all filters to the default.

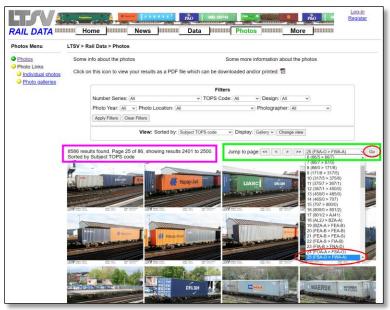


## 1.2.7.8

Below the filters are controls to change the sorting order. Pick a value from the list then click on the **Change View** button. Note that sorting by **Subject Number** actually sorts by Number Series and then by Number. Hence coaches appear first.



Also in the View box is a control to change the view type. The two options are **Gallery** and **List**. In List view, the photos are shown in a table, along with the details of the date, location, comments etc.



# 1.2.7.10

Above the photos are the navigation controls. On the left (highlighted in pink here) is information about how many photos have been found, which photos you are looking at and what order they are in. On the right are controls to move between pages of photos. The page jump drop-down shows what you will find on each page, and will change depending on the sort order applied. Here I have sorted by TOPS code, then used the drop-down to jump to page 25 (which has types FSA-O to FWA-A). You need to click on the **Go** button to actually go to the selected page.

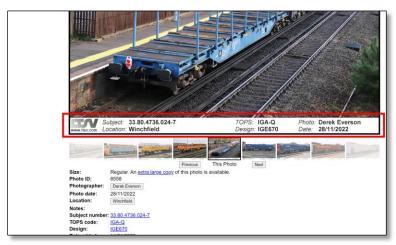


## 1.2.7.11

Each page will show no more than 100 photos, and the navigation controls are repeated at the bottom.







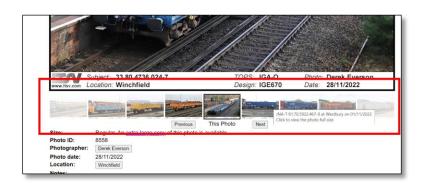
I have tried to make the pages of LTSV-RD 'responsive', meaning that they will hopefully look OK at various different screen/window sizes. For example, in a much larger window, you will see more thumbnails on each row.

# 1.2.7.13

When you click on any small photo, you will be taken to the photo view page, as shown. This will show the larger copy of the photo. It may be shrunk to fit your window, but it will never be larger than the actual image.

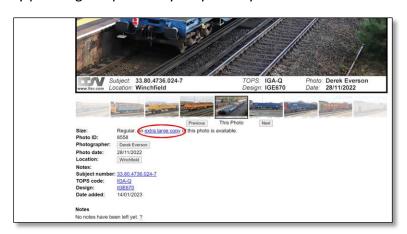
# 1.2.7.14

Key details of the photo (date, location, photographer etc) are shown at the bottom of the photo. These are actually added to the image itself, the benefit of which is they are still accessible if you choose to download the photo (q.v.).



Underneath the photo are nine thumbnails. These show the current photo (in the middle) and up to four each of previous and subsequent photos, fading out as they get towards the edges. What photos appear here will depend on what filters and sorting you have applied. Hovering over any thumbnail will show the details, while clicking it will open the relevant photo view page.

There are also buttons to move to the immediately Previous or Next photo, and you can do the same thing by pressing the p or n key on your keyboard.



## 1.2.7.16

The next section down the page shows the details of the photograph, including the size being viewed. If a larger copy is available, there will be a link to view it.

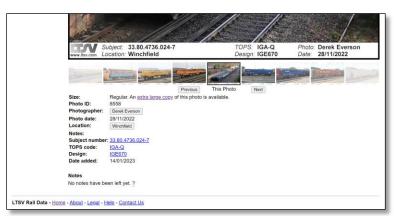


# 1.2.7.17

If you click on one of these links, you will see the extra-large photo. Note that regular photos are set to 'shrink-to-fit' (if required), but the extra-large ones are not. It will therefore almost certainly be bigger than your window! You can use you browser's scroll bars to move around the image, or you can download the photo (q.v.).

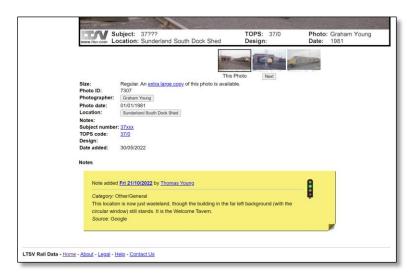


To return to a regular size photo, scroll down to below the photo and click on the **View regular size** link as shown.



#### 1.2.7.19

Other information in this section should be self-explanatory. The photographer and location are shown as buttons. Clicking either will show all photos with the same attributes. Data for numbers, TOPS and design/diagrams act as links to the relevant details pages.



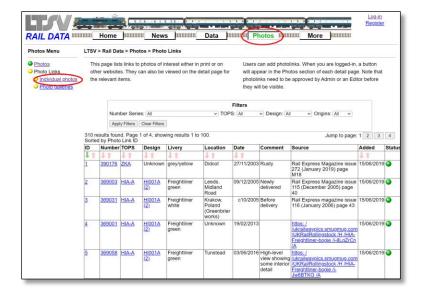
# 1.2.7.20

If any notes have been posted about the current photo, these will be shown underneath, styled to resemble a post-it note.



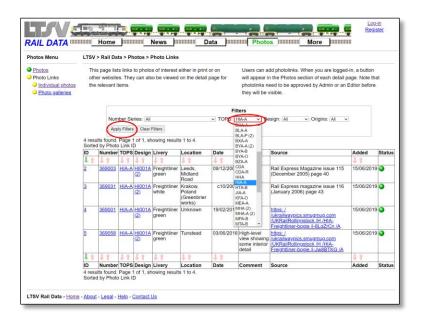
You can download (save) a copy of any photo from LTSV-RD, either at regular size or extra-large (if available). Just right-click on the photo and select **Save image as**. You can download as many photos as you want, but please do not re-post any photos to any other website or forum without first seeking permission from me.

Downloaded photos will by default have a filename based on their LTSV-RD ID number and size (for example, 8487L.jpg). As mentioned, the text block that shows the photo details is part of the image so you will still have this information.

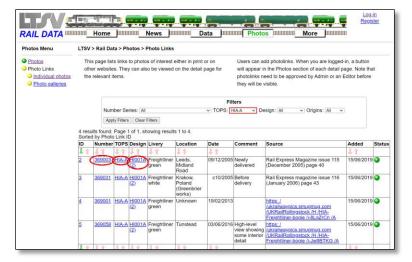


#### 1.2.7.22

As well as actual photos, the LTSV-RD website has a growing number of photolinks. These are text-only references to photos on other websites or in printed publications. To see all photolinks, click on the **Individual photos** link in the Photos sub-menu.

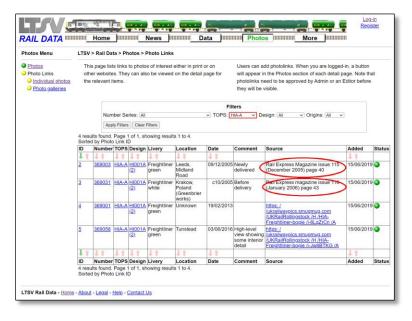


A photolink can relate to an existing number, a TOPS code/class, a design/diagram, or any combination of the three. The list of photolinks can be navigated, sorted and filtered just like other list views. Active filters are session-persistent and will be shown by a red outline.



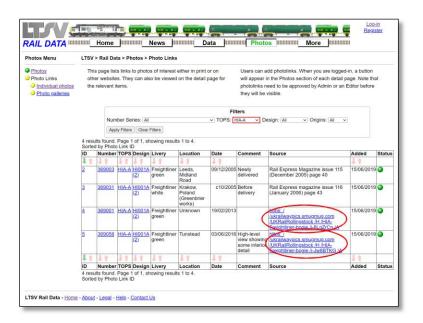
## 1.2.7.24

The links in the Number, TOPS and Design columns all go to the relevant details pages.

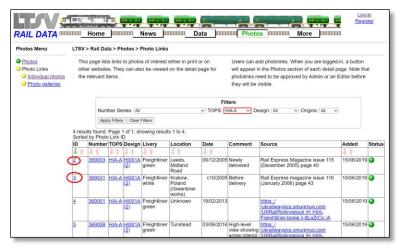


### 1.2.7.25

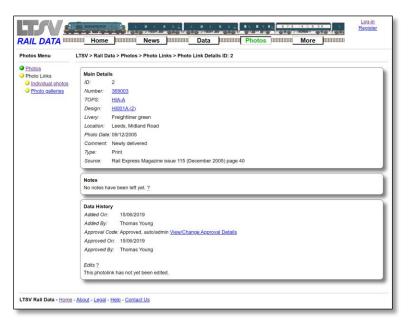
If the photo is in a printed publication, the details will be shown in the **Source** column.



If the photo is in a website, a link will be shown in the **Source** column. Clicking one of these links will open the other website, in a new tab or window.

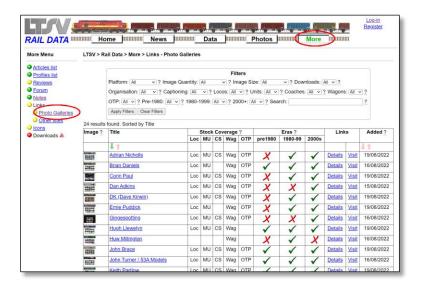


1.2.7.27 Links in the **ID** column will open the relevant **Photolink Details** page.

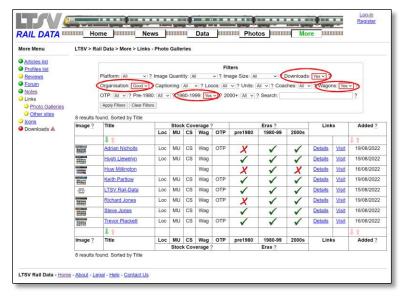


## 1.2.7.28

The **Photolink Details** page will show some additional information, including who added the photolink, when it was approved, and whether it has any notes or edits.



One more way to find photos is to use the Galleries List. This can be found by clicking on the **Photo Galleries** link in the Photos submenu, or in the More submenu (as shown).



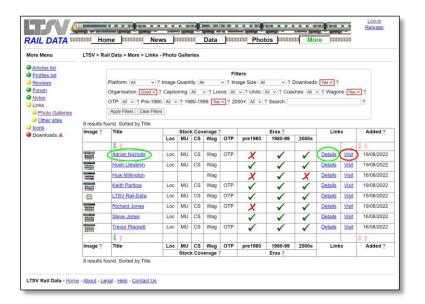
#### 1.2.7.30

The aim of this page is to be able to refine searches for photos in the numerous online photo galleries. Only a handful of galleries have been listed so far, but more will be added over time. You can use the filters to limit the list. For example, here I am looking for galleries that allow downloads, are well organised, have photos from the 1980s and have photos of wagons.

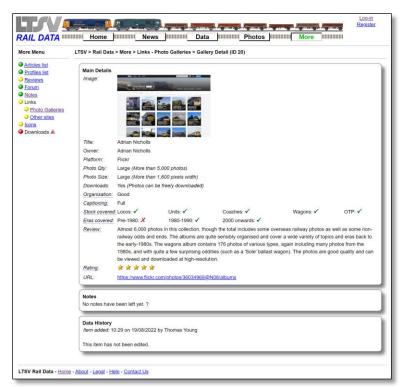


# 1.2.7.31

The first column has a sample image. Hovering over any image will cause a larger copy to pop-out.



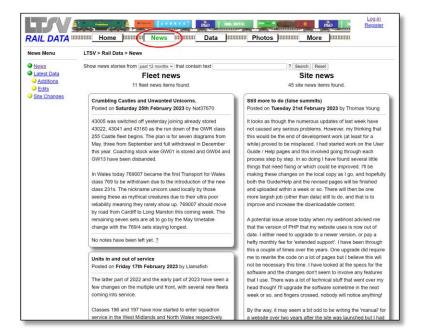
To view any of the galleries, click the **Visit** link (highlighted in red here). This will open the website in a new window or tab. To find out more about the gallery before visiting it, click on the **Details** link, or on the gallery title (as highlighted in green here). This will open the **Gallery Details** page.



### 1.2.7.33

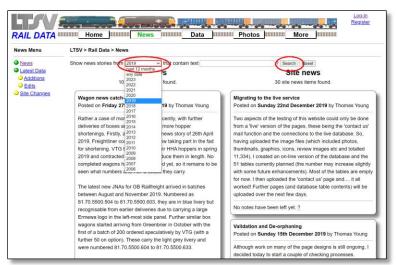
The **Gallery Details** page shows more details about each gallery. Some of the information here is subjective (in particular the review and rating). Any related notes will also be shown on this page.

# 1.2.8 Looking at News and Reviews



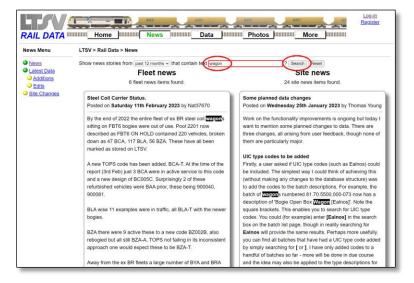
#### 1.2.8.1

To view news items, click on the **News** menu. News items are split into **Fleet News** (about trains) on the left and **Site News** (about LTSV-RD) on the right.



## 1.2.8.2

The default view is to show only news items from the past 12 months, but you can choose to see items from any year using the drop-down list and **Search** button.



#### 1.2.8.3

There is also a search box, which you can use alone or in conjunction with the year drop-down. Matching results are highlighted in reversed colours to make them easier to see.

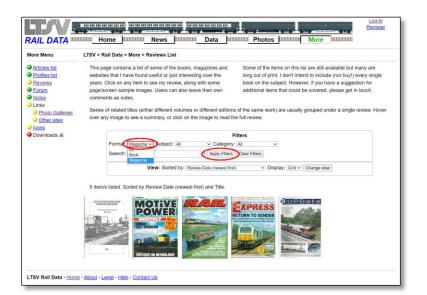


Some news stories will include photos. In most cases these act as links to the page where you can view the photo full-size.



#### 1.2.8.5

LTSV-RD has a number of reviews of books and magazines that may be of interest. To view these, click on the **Reviews** link in the More sub-menu.

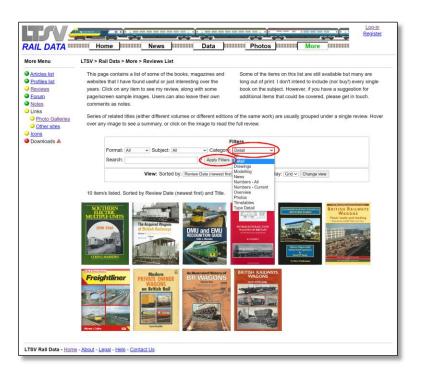


The reviews cover both new books and older ones which may be long out of print but still worth tracking down. The list of reviews can be filtered using various controls. For example, you could choose to see just reviews of magazines (websites were originally included in this section).

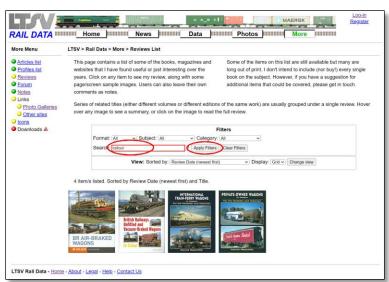


1.2.8.7

Or you could look at reviews on books/magazines on a given subject. As normal, filters are session-persistent (click on **Clear Filters** to reset), and any active filters are shown with a red outline.

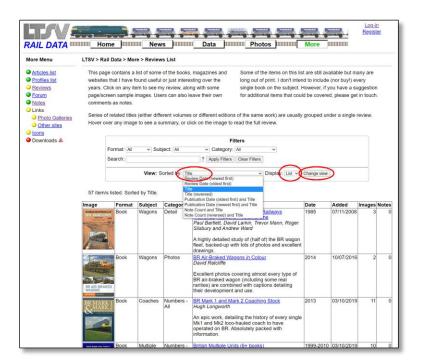


Another option is to filter by category. As with most pages on LTSV-RD, filters are only applied when you click on the **Apply Filters** button.



#### 1.2.8.9

A search text box has been provided, and this will work on the title and author of each item. Here I have searched for items containing the word colour.

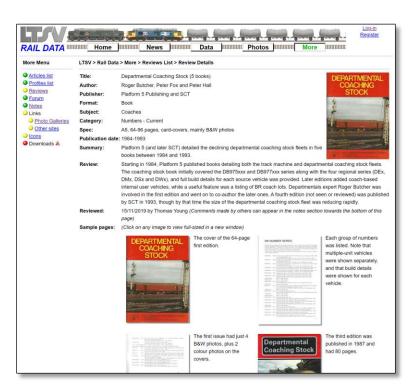


Below the filters are tools to change the view. You can sort the list in various ways (default is with the most recently added reviews first – here I have changed it to **Title**). You can also change the view from a grid to a list, where more details will be visible.

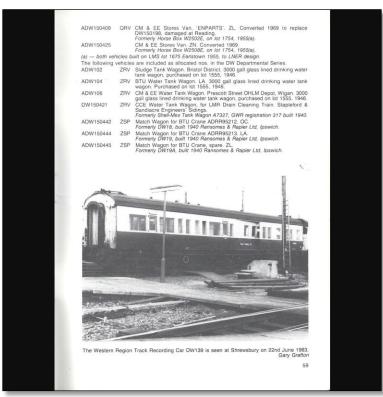


# 1.2.8.11

Each review has an image of the cover of the book/magazine (although some reviews cover more than one individual title/edition). Hovering over any image will bring-up a box containing more information. Clicking on any image will open the **Review Details** page.



The **Review Details** page has the full details of the review. As well as basic information, this will include my own views about the quality and usefulness of the item. Below this will be a number of sample pages, to give users an idea of what the book contains.



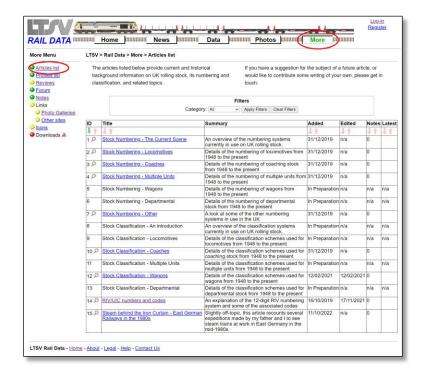
#### 1.2.8.13

When you click on one of the sample page images, a larger copy of the image will be opened in a new tab or window. When you are done, just close this tab/window to return to LTSV-RD.



Some reviews may have lots of sample pages (in particular reviews that cover a whole series of books). Below the sample pages will be shown details of any related notes or edits.

# 1.2.9 Looking at Articles and Profiles



### 1.2.9.1

I have written some articles for use on the LTSV-RD website. Those that relate to a particular type of train are called **Profiles**, while those on more general topics are called **Articles**. Both can be accessed from the menu in the More section. Here is the **Articles List** page, which shows there are 15 articles, although 6 of these are not yet available.



# 1.2.9.2

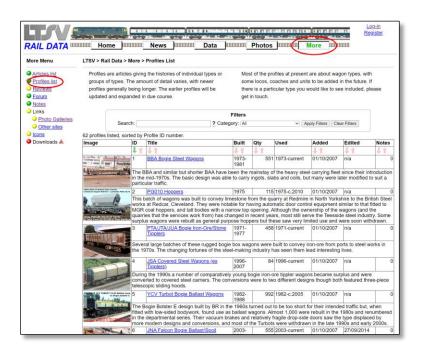
You can filter or sort the articles list as normal, or click on any active article title to read it. Here is the view page for the article on current stock numbering.



# 1.2.9.3

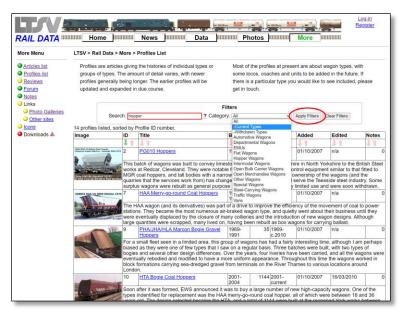
Somewhat out of place in a website about British trains is one I wrote about travelling to East Germany in the 1980s! This does illustrate that articles will eventually all offer a downloadable PDF version.

I hope to have all the existing articles (and perhaps some new ones) finished during 2023.



1.2.9.4

Profiles were a feature of my original LTSV Wagons website (launched in 2008), and many were adapted for use on LTSV-RD. This is the **Profiles List** page.



## 1.2.9.5

The list of profiles can be filtered by entering a search term (here hopper), or by selecting a **Category**. Note that the first two categories in the drop-down enable you to view profiles about types that are still current, or types that are withdrawn. As always, click on the **Apply Filters** button to apply any selected filters.



## 1.2.9.6

Clicking on any profile's image or title will open the **Profile Details** page. Profiles all share a common format, though they vary considerably in length and detail. This is one of the shorter ones. Small photos on the right are links to photos on other websites.



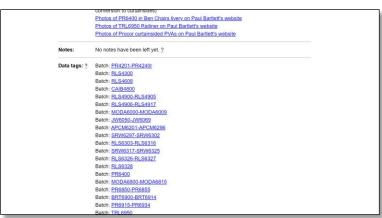
## 1.2.9.7

More recent profiles will tend to be longer, with more detail and in-line photos (which can be clicked to view full-size). Some also have references to show the source of bits of information. Either hover over any superscript number (as shown), or click on it.



## 1.2.9.8

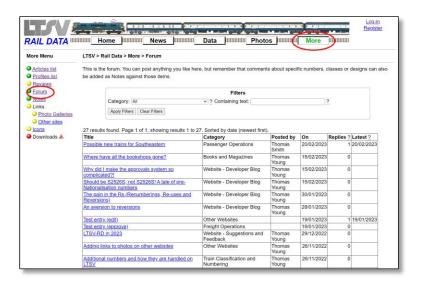
Clicking on a reference will take you to the references table at the bottom of the profile. Note that links in this section are to details of the publications in LTSV-RD reviews, rather than to the publications themselves. Below the references are links to other webpages of relevance.



#### 1.2.9.9

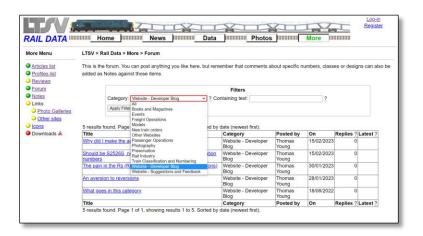
Below the links, any related Notes will be shown, while below that will be a list of 'Data tags'. These are links that will take you to the detail pages for related batches, designs or TOPS codes.

# 1.2.10 Looking at the Forum



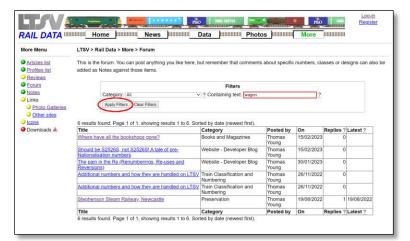
## 1.2.10.1

A forum has been added for any information that does not logically fit anywhere else, plus for general chat. The **Forum** link is in the More sub-menu.



## 1.2.10.2

The forum list can be filtered by category, but the sort order is set and will always show the most recent posts first.



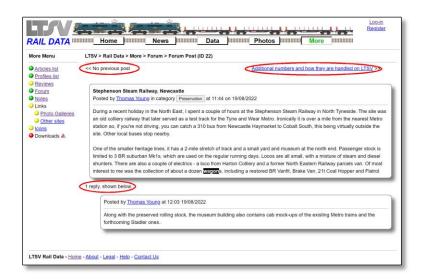
# 1.2.10.3

You can also search for forum posts (or replies) that contain particular words. Here I have searched for items containing the word **wagon**.



#### 1 2 10 4

To read any forum post (together with any replies), click on the link in the title column. This will open the **Forum Post Details** page. If you had used the search facility, any matching text will be highlighted.



## 1.2.10.5

If the post has had any replies, these will be shown underneath, with the earliest first. Also note that there are links to the previous and next post (taking into account any filters applied) at the top of the page.

The forum is still new and not yet busy. The current basic design may be revised if it starts getting a lot of use.

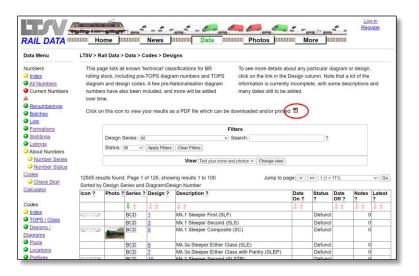
## 1.3 Doing More

# 1.3.1 Downloading Content and Data

I used to think that content on the internet was permanent and would always be accessible. This is of course not really the case. LTSV-RD is a personal website, which I pay to have hosted. If something happens to me, the payments will stop and the site will probably be deleted. As such, I wanted to allow users to download content from my sites.

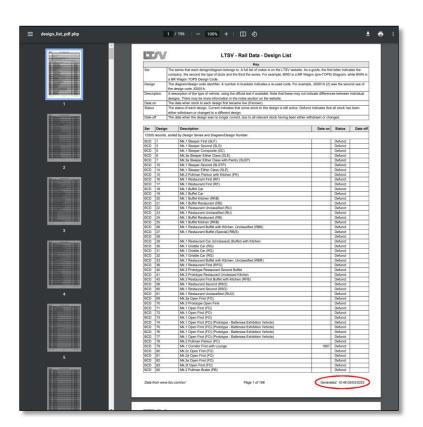
The addition of downloadable content is still ongoing, and the normal method will be to offer PDF files. These will be "dynamic", in that they will show the same data as the user sees on the screen. For example, if a user looks at the **All Numbers** list, filters it to show only numbers ending in 3 and then sorts it backwards, the PDF should show exactly that.

This means that the links to download the PDFs have to be on the same page as where you set the filters etc, rather than all gathered together on one **Downloads** page.



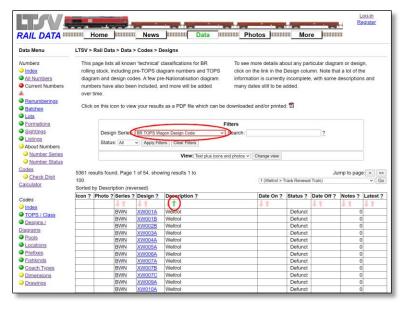
## 1.3.1.1

At present, most PDF links are in the heading information of the page they relate to. Shown here is the link on the **Designs List** page. Left-click on the PDF icon to view the PDF in your browser. Depending on the number of records, this may take a few seconds.



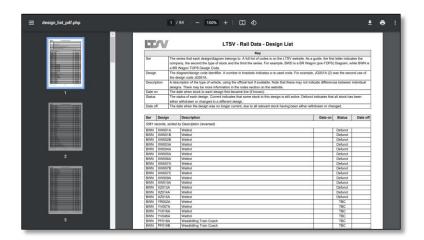
## 1.3.1.2

This is the PDF of the Designs List, without any filtering or sorting applied. Where appropriate, PDFs will include information on the first page (such as to explain the meaning of certain columns). The time and date of generation will be shown in the footer. You can download (or print) the PDF from here using normal browser controls.



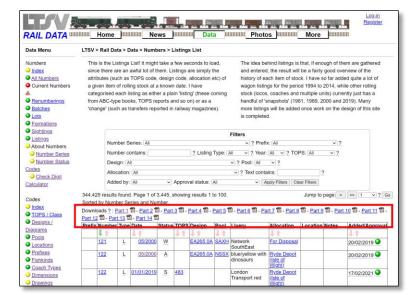
## 1.3.1.3

The PDFs are dynamic and should show the same as the web version of the page. For example, here I have filtered the Designs List to show only BR TOPS Wagon Design Codes, then sorted the list by Description (descending).



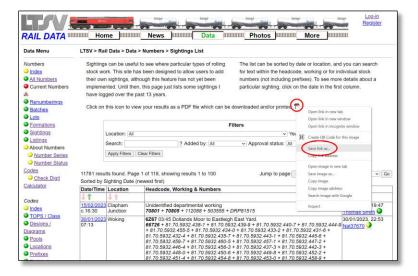
## 1.3.1.4

If I now click on the PDF link, the PDF shows the same results.



## 1.3.1.5

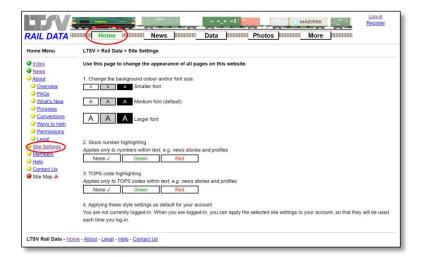
Where there are likely to be a very large quantity of results, the PDF files will be split up, such that none contains more than 25,000 items. This will make them faster to generate and to download. The current arrangement for multi-part PDF files is as shown here on the **Listings List** page, but I am not entirely happy with this and it will be reviewed.



#### 1.3.1.6

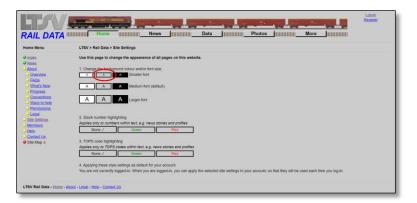
To download a PDF (without first viewing it), right-click the PDF icon and select **Save link as**. The example shown here is the **Sightings List** page.

# 1.3.2 Site Settings



## 1.3.2.1

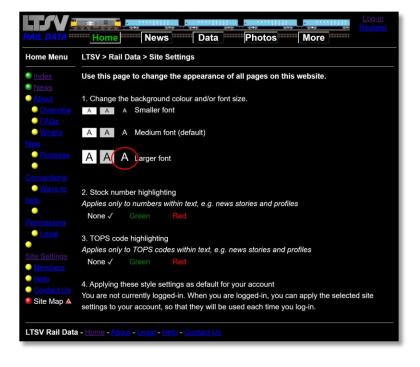
Options have been added that enable you to change aspects of the appearance of the LTSV-RD website. To view the options, click on the **Site Settings** link in the Home submenu.



## 1.3.2.2

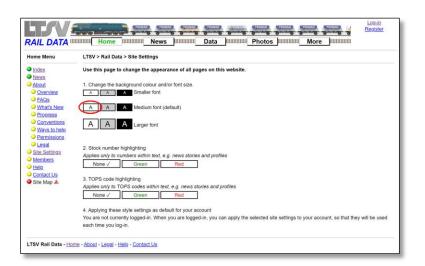
The first section allows you to change the font size and/or the

background/foreground colours. There are 9 options, each shown by a button which you can click to apply the particular style. Here I have clicked on the button for grey backgrounds and smaller fonts.



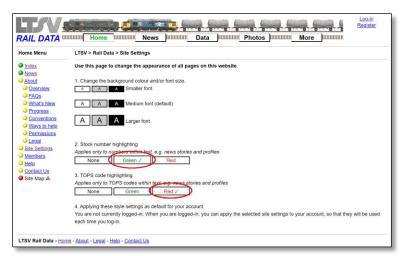
## 1.3.2.3

Here is the result of clicking the button for larger fonts and black background.



## 1.3.2.4

My own preference is for medium fonts on a white background.



## 1.3.2.5

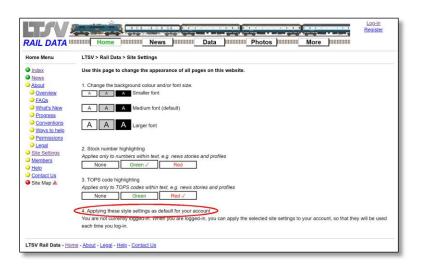
Sections 2 and 3 allow you to add colour highlighting to stock numbers and TOPS codes (respectively). The highlighting only applies to text pages, such as those with news stories or profiles. Click any box to apply the shown highlighting. Current selections are shown by a tick.



#### 1.3.2.6

If I now go to a Profile page, all stock numbers in the text will appear in green, while all TOPS codes will appear in red. I find that this can make it easier to pick out information from long text blocks.

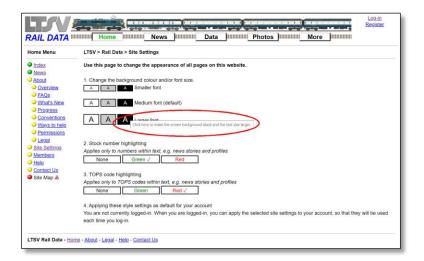
These settings are session-persistent, meaning they will remain in place until you manually change them, or you close your browser.



## 1.3.2.7

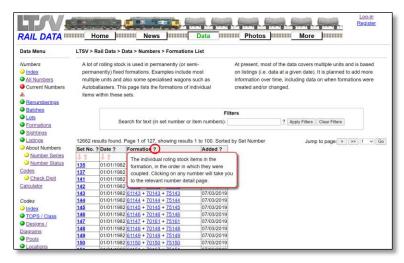
Section 4 of the Site Settings page allows you to associate chosen settings with your account. This only applies to registered users and is covered in part 2 of this User Guide.

# 1.3.3 Help and Contacts



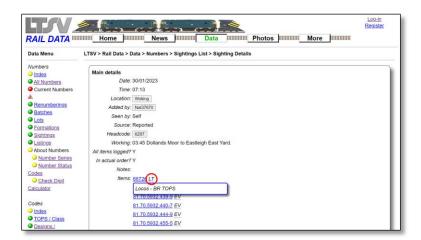
## 1.3.3.1

There are several ways to get help with aspects of using the LTSV-RD website. The first is to make use of tool-tips, help-tips and explain-tips. Most clickable items (such as links and buttons) will have a tool-tip that will appear when you hover over it. This will usually tell you what clicking the item will do.



# 1.3.3.2

Help-tips are usually shown by a question mark underlined with blue dashes. Hovering over one of these will open a box giving more information.



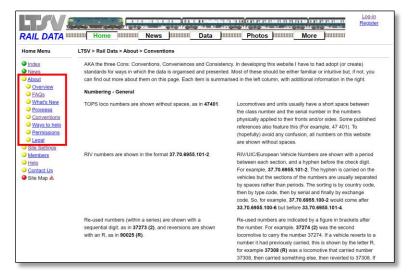
## 1.3.3.3

Explain-tips are similar but are usually used to show the meaning of acronyms or abbreviations. Here it is showing me that the LT number series code alongside 66726 means that the number is in the BR TOPS loco series.



## 1.3.3.4

Another way to get help is to refer to the FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions), a link to which can be found in the Home submenu. Hovering over any question will reveal the answer.



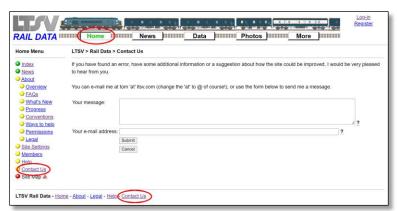
#### 1.3.3.5

Other pages in the About section may also be of use. Shown here is the page on Conventions.



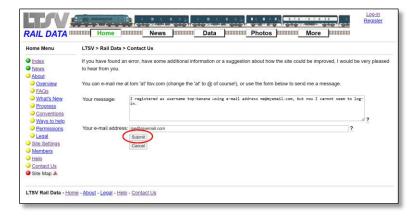
## 1.3.3.6

There is a Help section on LTSV-RD, accessed using the link in the Home submenu, or by using the link in the footer menu. This gives general guidance and also contains links to view and download the User Guides.



#### 1.3.3.7

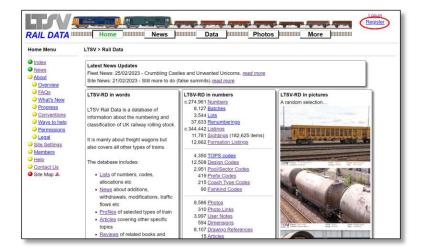
If you still need help, or you have any problems or suggestions, you can use the **Contact Us** form, accessed using the link in the Home sub-menu or the link in the footer menu.



## 1.3.3.8

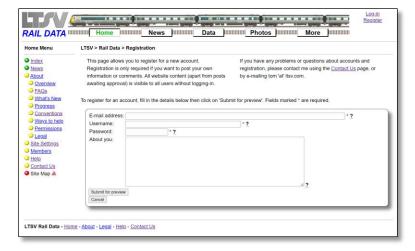
Type your message in the box, enter your e-mail address in the second box (optional, but required if you want a reply) then click on the **Submit** button. Alternatively, you can use your own e-mail program to send a message to me at tom(at)ltsv.com.

# 1.3.4 Registering and Contributing



# LTSV-RD has been designed to be collaborative, meaning that users can register for an account and then start

register for an account and then start adding their own information (sightings, notes, listings, photolinks etc). A **Register** link will appear in the top right corner of every page.



1.3.4.2

1.3.4.1

The registration process is fairly straightforward and is covered in more detail in part 2 of this User Guide.

The End