

37890 The Railway Observer

by Alan Cooke, Andrew Lait & Bob Wallen

'Log' of the activities of 37890 covering the years 1994 (from its naming at Hither Green on 23rd February) to the present time. After its return from use in France in 2000, we are recording major changes but not sightings and workings. Note that, in this 'log', RO refers to The Railway Observer, the monthly magazine of the RCTS.

1996: -

16th January	Peterborough depot - Stabled at 07:00
19th January	Peterborough depot - Stabled at 07:00
20th January	Peterborough depot - Stabled at 07:00
27th January	Nottingham – Westbound diverted freightliner (07:20)
3rd February	South Tottenham Junction – 'Topping and tailing' 00:55 Southampton to Ripple Lane (4L62) with 37703
5th February	Taunton - Working Fawley to Tavistock Junction tanks
6th February	Taunton - Working Fawley to Tavistock Junction tanks
20th February	Wandsworth Road – Light to Stewarts Lane with 73108
March 1996	Ownership transferred to English Welsh & Scottish Railway on privatisation Still allocated to Stewarts Lane, but now in Pool EWDB (Chiltern & Heathrow Infrastructure)
1st March	Exeter St Davids (18:16) - Working Fawley to Tavistock Junction tanks
28th March	Worked 09:20 Fawley to Margam tanks, the last working of this train
17th April	Stratford – Down ballast
24th April	Peterborough depot - Stabled at 07:00
9th May	Peterborough depot - Stabled at 07:00
10th May	Peterborough depot - Stabled at 07:00
28th May	Southbound at Chesterfield at 15:50 towing 37238
6th July	Didcot - Stabled
16th July	Taunton (17:50) - Working Fawley to Tavistock Junction tanks
19th July	Basingstoke – Working Eastleigh to Hoo Junction
19th August	Taunton (18:05) - Working Fawley to Tavistock Junction tanks
20th August	Southampton – Working 13:34 Fawley to Tavistock Junction tanks; also noted Taunton (18:05)
25th August	Eastleigh depot
27th August	Taunton (17:55) - Working Fawley to Tavistock Junction tanks
6th September	Southampton – Working empty tanks to Fawley, returning later with Fawley to Tavistock Junction tanks, which was also noted Taunton (17:45)
16th September	Leamington Spa – Working northbound steel with 37715
17th September	Southampton – Working Fawley to Tavistock Junction tanks; also noted Taunton (17:55)
18th September	Clapham Junction – Working up ballast on Windsor line
11th October	Exeter St Davids (18:45) - Working Fawley to Tavistock Junction tanks
21st November	Stratford – Light engine in early evening
23rd November	Levington, between Ipswich and Felixstowe - Working a Leeds to Felixstowe container train (photo on page 32 of RO 75th Anniversary issue)
26th November	Peterborough – Stabled
9th December	Wandsworth Road – Working Three Bridges to Hoo Junction ballast empties

Acknowledgements are due to The Class 37 Group, RAIL Magazine and the End of the Line website, which have been valuable sources of information. Members' observations make up a large part of the log and we would like to thank those members and others who have kindly responded to our requests for information.

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In particular we would like to thank Brian Garrett for his complete record of all workings by 37890 on 6V62 Fawley to Tavistock Junction loaded tanks from 1994 to 1998. Including five workings before it was named and some that it worked Fawley to Westbury and then on to Tavistock Junction it did a total of 68 loaded workings and presumably the same number of return empties although few of those were recorded. This must also be, by far, the working on which 37890 most often appeared.

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