

# QUESTIONS FOR CHRISTOPHER AWDRY

## *General Questions*

1. What fascinates you most about the world of Sodor?
2. Do you keep up with what the fandom creates?
3. Do you have a favourite engine (steam, diesel or electric), beyond what's on Sodor?
4. What's your favourite part of the NWR, or other railways on Sodor?
5. Are there any engines from the Television Series that you would put in the Railway Series timeline?
6. Do you have a favorite illustrator from the books?

## *The Fat Controller's Engines*

7. How do you imagine the NWR has evolved to compete with the Modern Era?
8. Is it known what Thomas' original number was before coming to Sodor?
9. What did Thomas do to help build the railway?
10. Who were the rivals of Gresley that built Henry?
11. Has Gordon ever carried proper nameplates?
12. Did Percy ever work on the GWR before his Sodor days?
13. What would've Barry's job on the NWR?
14. Is the Works Diesel an NWR locomotive? If so, what is his name and number?

## *Unknown Engines*

15. Who is the engine(s) that takes the push-pull service between Wellsworth and Brendam, mentioned in TIOS (pgs. 26-27)?
16. Who are diesels that help with the "Midnight Goods" service to the Mainland?
17. Who took over as Tidmouth station pilot after Duck?

18. Is Tidmouth Harbour owed by the NWR or by a separate Harbour Board/Port Authority?  
In the case of the latter, do they own their own shunters?
19. Does Gordon's Hill have a dedicated Banker engine?
20. Who are the engines that make up the NWR's electric fleet?
21. Where is the Loop Line from "James the Red Engine" and "Troublesome Engines"?
22. Who are the engines that run the Kirk Ronan and Norramby branches?
23. Are any of the extra model engines that your father had, like GSWR 403, actual engines owned by the NWR?
24. Does the Fat Controller have a private collection of engines he keeps for railtours or museum displays?
25. Before Pip and Emma, were there any other expansions to the NWR's express fleet?
26. Are there more mainline diesels besides BoCo and Bear?

### ***Predecessor Engines***

27. Can you give us more information on the Preservation Society that owns and operates Neil today?
28. Was 'Lincoln' (seen in the "James the Red Engine and the Troublesome Trucks" pop-up book) a W&S engine?
29. What was the main livery of the W&S?
30. Has any of the three precursor railways' rolling stock survived into preservation?
31. What is the origin of the Quarryman's Coach seen on your father's layout?
32. Where did Annie & Clarabel come from?
33. Besides Neil, what are the names of the other pre-NWR engines?

### ***Visiting Engines***

34. What locomotive classes were 98462 and 87546? Did they have names? And where did they get such long numbers in the 1920s?

35. Are the two red engines seen in “The Three Railway Engines” the one and the same?.
36. Have any of the visiting diesels visited the island again? Are any of them preserved somewhere?
37. Has Tornado ever visited Sodor?
38. Does Crovan’s Gate Works offer their services to heritage railways and museums on the mainland? Have they taken on any international restoration projects?

### ***Skarloey Railway***

39. Has Rusty been rebuilt similar to TR No.5 “Midlander”?
40. Was there a fourth open carriage built by the Skarloey Railway to match Ada, Jane, and Mabel, as seen in the Surprise Packet?
41. Who were the two War Department diesels brought over during WW2?
42. Is the MOD’s amunition dump still in operation? What became of the battery-electric “Beetle” engine that ran it?
43. Does the Skarloey Railway still use vacuum brakes, or have they switched over to air brake pumps as on the Talyllyn Railway?

### ***Mid Sodor Railway***

44. Who were the engines owned by the tramway built by the Cas-ny-Hawin Mining Company, before the MSR bought it?
45. Were all of your father’s MSR engine models canon? Or only some?
46. Did Albert and Gerry actually survive? The fandom has been puzzling about them ever since their appearances at the fifth Awdry Extravaganza!
47. Was there any attempt at recovering Stanley?
48. Has there been any attempts at restoring the Mountain Road?

### ***Other Sodor Narrow-Gauge Railways***

49. Did the Cronk & Harwick Railway ever try to get any engines of its own?

50. Is the roadside rail line between Harwick and Ballaswein, seen in early maps of Sodor between 1897 and 1958, still canon? Or has it been rectonned?
51. Has the Culdee Fell Railway acquired any other engines?

### ***People of Sodor***

52. Is Sir Stephen still alive and well?
53. Any updates on the Kyndley family? What is the state of the cottage?
54. What are Richard Hatt's plans for the railway going forward?

### ***Locations on Sodor***

55. What is the current status of Ffarquhar Quarry? Has the tramway been upgraded for heavier modern rolling stock?
56. Where are the cement works, mentioned in your father's notes, located?
57. Are there any railway museums on Sodor?
58. Where is the University of Sodor located?
59. Have any of Sodor's towns ever had street tramways?
60. Does the nuclear plant located near Droghan-y-Claghan use the Hawin Ooyre for cooling?
61. Does Sodor China Clays Ltd have more engines than just Bill and Ben?
62. What other industrial engines might exist on Sodor besides Mavis, Bill, and Ben?
63. Are the steelworks alluded to in *Saved from Scrap* located on Sodor? Or are these the steelworks at Barrow?
64. Is there a quarry at Knapford, like on your father's early Tidmouth-Knapford layout? Or has that been retconned?
65. Has Crovan's Gate Works built engines from scratch? If so have the Works assisted with the construction of any new-builds?