



6. 'Up for the Cup'. A 'Hall' class locomotive heading for London, carrying Aston Villa supporters to the Cup Final of 1957, approaches King's Sutton. It passes a 7200 class 2-8-2T working the morning pick-up goods from Oxford to Banbury.

the mid-1960s, several hauled by 'Kings'. On 20 April 1963 *Flying Scotsman* was greeted by thousands of spectators at Snow Hill when it hauled a special carrying supporters of the Festiniog Railway from London bound for Porthmadog. On 28 September of that year the members of the Talylyn Railway Preservation Society travelled to Wales behind Southern Region 'Battle of Britain' class 34064 *Fighter Command*. From 1968 British Railways banned the use of steam locomotives on special trains but since that ban was rescinded many preserved locomotives have worked trains over the Bicester cut-off.

Freight Trains.

Freight trains on the Bicester cut-off were never numerous, although in 1913 the Great Western 2-8-0 locomotive no 2834 set a record by hauling a 100-wagon train from Banbury to London. The most important workings took place in the hours of darkness. In the 1930s a pick-up class 'K' train