**From:** Victor Allen
**To:** Victor Allen
**Subject:** Gricer!
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Gricer!

The (Homo)sexuality of Steam!

This book has everything for the railway enthusiast and former trainspotter - it takes us from naughty little schoolboys, wanking each other off, writing down engine numbers, "bunking" engine sheds and evading shed foremen; and dodging "funny men" on the way; through careers in the Civil Service, British Railways, and later with two of the most prestigious UK holiday Companies, Thomson and Laker, where however the author spent most of his time roaming around Europe photographing steam; joining the Fregata Organization and starting "The Magic of Steam in Poland" , a country where, as in most Communist countries, photographing trains had been fanatically forbidden as they were considered part of the military infrastructure; and finally forming Trainseurope and Enthusiast Holidays, leading suppliers of international rail tickets to the British public and to the travel trade, and a market leader in the business of operating steam tours worldwide for a new generation of steam enthusiasts, taking them to wherever in the world steam still operated, and reproducing as faithfully as possible, that which was no longer available in ordinary service.

Through this journey we will encounter some of the beautiful girls with whom the author came into contact - quite literally in some cases! - and some fascinating and influential people, some homosexual, others not - but all having something about them which elevated them from the ordinary!

Although an autobiography, this book is primarily an album of stunning photographs, very probably unique in railway literature as it covers the last working steam trains on British Railways but also in Continental Europe and much of the rest of the world besides.

Included with every printed copy of the book, is a USB memory stick, on which are also links to video clips - from short early silent footage - admittedly pretty awful! - taken on a 9.5mm cine camera in the 1960's, to rather better - but still silent - 16mm Kodachrome, digital video, HD and even 4K footage shot very recently on the East German narrow gauge where steam still reigns supreme, albeit mostly for tourists.

Links to our own full length videos on youtube - Eritrea, Java, and Jugoslavia, and a BBC Radio 2 interview on one of our 1980’s Polish tours, make book plus memory stick exceptional value for money, and we hope this monumental work will be a treasured part of your library for many years to come.

This will be £60 very well spent !

Sent from my iPhone