

THE MIKADO MESSENGER

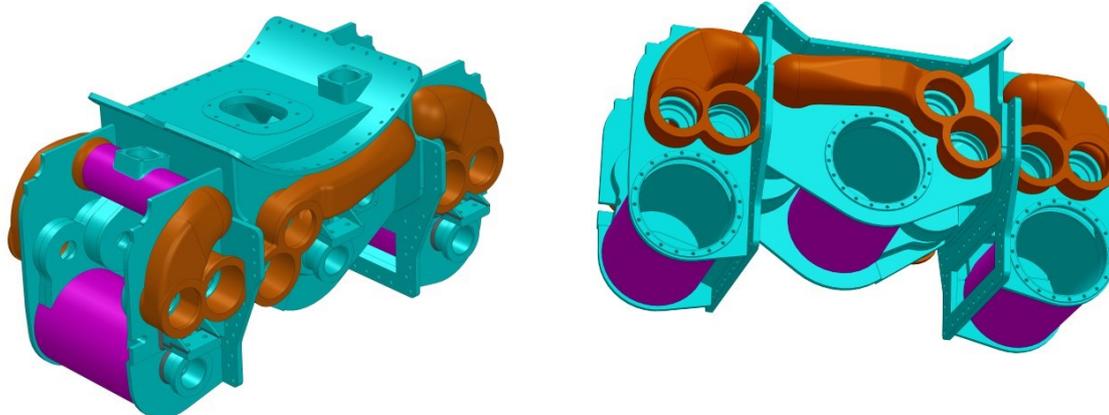


2007 PRINCE OF WALES
Building Britain's Most Powerful Steam Locomotive

Welcome to edition No. 36 of *The Mikado Messenger*. The Messenger aims to provide a regular bulletin of news about the construction of No. 2007 *Prince of Wales*.

THE CYLINDER CLUB LAUNCHED AND OFF TO A FLYING START!

We are delighted to announce a new £100,000 appeal to make the cylinder block for new Gresley class P2 No. 2007 *Prince of Wales*. If the project is to remain on schedule to complete No. 2007 by 2021 we need to order the cylinder block in 2017. The A1 Steam Locomotive Trust has therefore set itself the challenge of raising £100,000 through The Cylinder Club from 100 supporters each donating £1,000 (plus Gift Aid) to the project in up to eight payments of £125 by standing order. During the first three weeks of this initiative over 47 people signed up to the club, raising over £58,750 in donations and pledges. You can see the full details and list of benefits for club members [here](#).



PRINCE OF WALES IS TWINNED WITH HMS PRINCE OF WALES

The Royal Navy and The A1 Steam Locomotive Trust are delighted to announce a 'Bond of Friendship' between new aircraft carrier HMS *Prince of Wales* and new Gresley class P2 steam locomotive No. 2007 *Prince of Wales*.

HMS *Prince of Wales* (R09) is the second *Queen Elizabeth*-class aircraft carrier under construction for the Royal Navy. She is the seventh Royal Navy ship to have the name HMS *Prince of Wales*. Construction of the ship began in 2011 and she was formally named on 8th September 2017 at Rosyth Dockyard by The Duchess of Rothesay (The Duchess of Cornwall).

At this year's Annual Convention in Darlington, the 'Bond of Friendship' was cemented by the exchange of gifts - from the Royal Navy to the Trust the crest of HMS *Prince of Wales* and from the Trust to the Royal Navy the painting 'Dream Team' by renowned railway artist Chris Ludlow featuring both No.

2007 *Prince of Wales* with No. 60163 *Tornado*. Upon receiving the painting, Lt Cdr David Wright, commented, "It gives me great pleasure to introduce myself and the Ship's Company at the beginning of what we trust will be an exciting and beneficial Bond of Friendship between both No. 2007 *Prince of Wales* and HMS *Prince of Wales*. You can read the full story [here](#).



Lt. Alex Chenery, Huw Parker and Lt. Cdr. David Wright at DLW - *Mandy Grant*

A NEW HOME FOR THE A1 STEAM LOCOMOTIVE TRUST

Also at the Convention plans were announced for a new multi-million-pound main line connected base in Darlington. If its fundraising attempts are successful, the new site will be operational in time to play a central role in the celebrations marking the 200th anniversary of the opening of the Stockton & Darlington Railway in 2025. At the heart of the new base will be the four-track Whessoe Road engine shed which was built by the Stockton & Darlington Railway in 1861. Designed by William Peachey, it was one of the S&DR's last developments before the company was absorbed by the North Eastern Railway in 1863. The Trust also plans to build a purpose built, three-road workshop, complete with overhead cranes and educational facilities, where it can maintain and overhaul its locomotive and carriage fleet, as well as build additional locomotives, such as its planned third new steam locomotive, Gresley class V4 No. 3403. Other planned features of the new 'Darlington Locomotive Works' include a 70-foot diameter turntable and a carriage shed to house the Trust's proposed BR mark 3 carriage-based charter train. Full details of this incredibly exciting development can be found [here](#).



The rather sad-looking building at Whessoe Road - *Paul Bruce*

RAISING THE PRESSURE

The campaign to raise £600,000 for the P2's boiler has now passed the half-way stage. Launched in October 2014 to raise the £600,000 needed pay for the manufacture of the boiler, The Boiler Club now has over 130 members who have each donated or pledged £2,000 (plus Gift Aid) meaning that almost £330,000 has been raised so far for the boiler.

Mark Allatt commented, "Reaching the half-way point in the funding of No. 2007 *Prince of Wales*' boiler through The Boiler Club marks a significant milestone in the project to build Britain's most powerful steam locomotive. It is our desire if possible to complete No. 2007 debt-free and so we launched The Boiler Club in October 2014 to raise £600,000 to fund *Prince of Wales*' boiler."

You can read this story in full and to find details of how to join The Boiler Club [here](#).

CONSTRUCTION CONTINUES

Work progresses on many fronts in several different locations. Here is a summary:

- **Frames** - The frame stay and four spring hanger brackets fabrication is nearing completion at North View Engineering
- **Wheelsets** - Unilathe has completed the turning work on the assembled crank axle and are in the process of machining the keyways
- **Sand boxes** - The sand boxes have been grit blasted and painted, and the final details welded on
- **Fittings** - Tom Jones (formerly of M Machine and now with ElecMech in Darlington) is machining a new live steam injector control valve to replace the one previously made which is presently on *Tornado*
- **Tender** - Ian Howitt has put the tender drag boxes out for quotation. Further liaison has been made with Cleveland Bridge including sending them full drawings of the tender tank. Orders have been placed for tender tyres and axles

- **Cladding** - Ian Matthews is making rapid progress with the boiler cladding; having used the Cleveland Bridge apprentices to help with the heavy work of rolling the cladding sheets, he has fitted all four conical cladding sheets.



Boiler cladding is beginning to clothe 'Craig the Cretaceous' at Darlington - Mandy Grant

P2 FUNDRAISING

Our project to build Gresley class P2 No. 2007 *Prince of Wales* continues to make solid progress on all fronts with and we are still on target to complete the new locomotive by 2021 provided we can keep up the current pace of income growth. Pledges towards building No. 2007 *Prince of Wales* have passed £2.6m just over three years after the frames were rolled at British Steel's plant in Scunthorpe. Public interest in seeing a new Gresley class P2 become a reality sooner rather than later remains high and almost 840 people have already signed up to the 'P2 for the price of a pint of beer per week' (£10 per month or more) covenant scheme since its launch in March 2014. The average monthly donation is now £17.51 per covenantor (including Gift Aid) and the projected monthly income for our P2 project from the monthly covenant scheme is now running at 104% of that of *Tornado* - a remarkable achievement in such a short period of time - thanks to the generosity of our supporters. What is even more striking is that only 27% of A1 covenants (36% of P2 covenants) are regular donors to both locomotives, meaning that the overwhelming majority of the funds are being given by new supporters of the Trust. You can find out more about our covenanting scheme [here](#).

In addition to this core scheme, funds have been raised through The Founders Club (over 360 people have donated £1,000 each - target 100 people, now closed), The Boiler Club (over 130 people have pledged £2,000 each - target of 300 people - meaning half of £600,000 target now pledged), The Mikado Club (almost 180 people have pledged £1,000 each - target extended to 200), Dedicated Donations (over £200,000 from existing supporters sponsoring a variety of components). The Gresley Society Trust has also sponsored the locomotive's distinctive front-end for which we are most grateful. There are also a considerable number of wheeling-related Dedicated Donations still available for sponsorship, ranging from a driving wheel spoke at £600 (or from £25 per month for 24 months) to a Cartazzi axlebox casting at £1,300 (or from £50 per month for 26 months) and leading coupled axle at £6,100 (or £100 per month for 61 months).

We are delighted with the level of support that the project to build Britain's most powerful steam locomotive has received since its launch. This means over £1.3m (over a quarter of the total required) converted into metal, around £1.7m (one third) raised and over £2.6m (52%) pledged.

We are now hopeful that we will have completed the rolling chassis for No. 2007 *Prince of Wales* in winter 2017/18 and we remain on-track for completion of the new locomotive in 2021. However, to maintain this rate of progress we need to continue to raise more than £700,000 per year, which given the nature of the regular donation scheme becomes more challenging as each year passes.

We would encourage all our supporters who haven't yet contributed to this exciting project to help us to meet these deadlines by becoming a monthly covenantor, joining The Boiler Club, taking out a Dedicated Donation, subscribing to The Mikado Club or joining The Cylinder Club. It's time to get on-board!

For more information on how you can help to build Britain's most powerful steam locomotive visit www.p2steam.com, email enquiries@p2steam.com or call 01325 460163.

AN AUDIENCE WITH THE *PRINCE OF WALES* - NEXT STOP ABERDEEN!

As you will be aware, we are holding a series of presentations at major towns and cities along the route of the East Coast Main Line from London to Edinburgh and all the way to Aberdeen during 2017 and we have had a number of societies and organisations come and see the progress of No. 2007, these include The Cleveland Archaeological Society, The Head of Steam Museum (ex. North Road Workers), The Derby Railway Engineering Society and Keighley and Worth Valley members along with DLW opening for the Heritage Open Days and Darlington's Festival of Ingenuity. The next roadshow will run from 11:00hrs to 13:00hrs on:

- Saturday 25th November 2017 - Aberdeen Jury's Inn, Aberdeen.

The presentations are given by David Elliott and Mark Allatt and are also attended by other volunteers and supporters. Please do come along to support the project, hear the latest news and ask any questions that you might have. Even better if you can bring a friend or two!

We are planning to continue our P2 roadshows in 2018 but replacing some of the lesser attended locations with others from around the country, possibly including Bristol, Birmingham, Leeds and Manchester.

For more information on the P2 roadshows visit www.p2steam.com, email enquiries@p2steam.com or call 01325 460163.

TORNADO'S TOURS

For more information on *Tornado's* tours and where you can see her, click [here](#).

The Trust respectfully requests that anyone wanting to see *Tornado* follows the rules of the railway and only goes where permitted.

PRESENTATIONS

If any railway society - or indeed other interested group - would like a presentation on the project they should contact us by email enquiries@p2steam.com

OPEN DAYS AT DARLINGTON

We hold public open days at Darlington Locomotive Works on the third Saturday of every month. During April through to September we are open 10:00hrs to 16:00hrs, October through to March, we are open 11:00hrs - 15:30hrs.

VOLUNTEER

As ever we are looking for more volunteers. It takes a lot of people to both keep *Tornado* on the main line and also to build *Prince of Wales*. There is always so much more that we can achieve with the right volunteers with the right skills and can-do attitude. Please email enquiries@p2steam.com if you think you can help.

For more information on the project to build Gresley class P2 No. 2007 *Prince of Wales* please visit www.p2steam.com, email enquiries@p2steam.com or follow us on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn.



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