

THE MIKADO MESSENGER



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

Welcome to edition No. 44 of *The Mikado Messenger*. The *Messenger* aims to provide a regular bulletin of news about the construction of No. 2007 *Prince of Wales*.

A flurry of activity at Darlington Locomotive Works saw the cladding completed and lifted into place on the frames. In the West Country, South Devon Railway Engineering (SDRE) have fitted the tyres to the driving wheels and started final machining of them. In other news the tender for the boiler has been issued and over ten expressions of interest have already been lodged. With the filling of The Cylinder Club and The Mikado Club, attention is now focussed of funding the larger motion parts through The Motion Club - you can find full details of how to help with this [here](#). Donations to the project have now passed £2m - over 40% of the £5m needed to complete the locomotive - and pledges towards building the locomotive have now topped £3m.



Stunning! The cladding in place on the locomotive - *David Elliott*

CRANKPINS FITTED - The tyre fitting has been done at SDRE using the ex-Swindon works tyre heating equipment. The quartering machine is a special form of horizontal borer which can bore crank pin holes or turn crank pins (if already fitted) from both sides of the wheelset at the same setting; provided the setting is not altered whilst swapping wheelsets, this ensures that the distance between the crank pins and the axle centres and the angle between the crank pins is consistent for all four wheelsets which is vital for smooth running of the finished locomotive. You can see a full set of photos [here](#).



The leading coupled wheelset in the quartering machine - *David Elliott*

WHEELS TYRED - Excellent progress continues to be made with the process of wheeling and tying at SDRE. You can see the process [here](#) illustrating the steps involved in preparing the wheel centres (now all fitted to their axles) for the tyres to be shrunk on. Assembling *Tornado's* wheels used numerous contractors and multiple road miles so, for the Trust, having a 'one stop shop' that could do all the work has saved a lot of haulage and time.



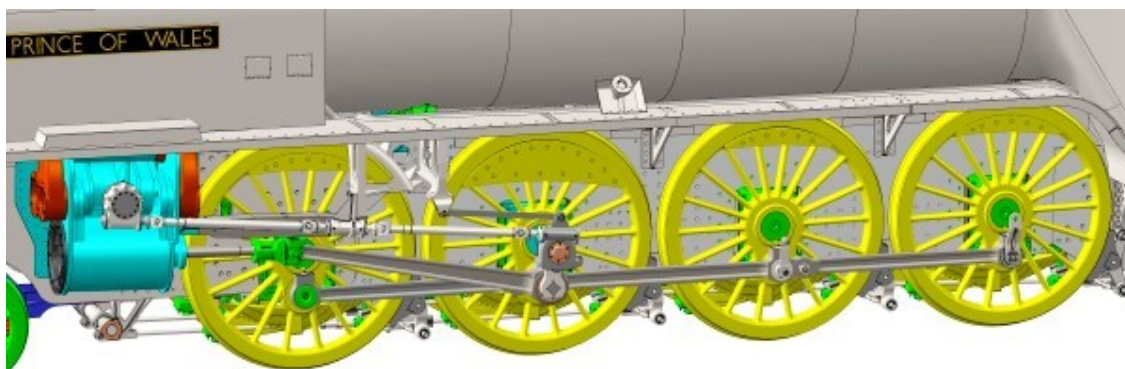
Machining back faces on the other wheel lathe and boring crank pin holes on the quartering machine - *David Elliott*

BOILER ACQUISITION STARTED - The Trust is seeking expressions of interest in the manufacture of No. 2007's boiler. The boiler for *Prince of Wales* will be similar to that which was built by DB Dampfloswerk

Meiningen, Germany for *Tornado* in 2006/7, being a fully welded design with a steel firebox. The Trust owns the design rights to the boiler and it is intended that a number of minor modifications that have been applied to *Tornado's* boiler since it was originally built will be incorporated into this design. The Trust has already sent the arrangement drawing to ten potential manufacturers in the UK and overseas but is still open to approaches by other interested parties. You can read more about the tender process [here](#).

FUNDRAISING

DO THE LOCO-MOTION WITH US - The Trust has now launched The Motion Club, established to fund the manufacture of the heavy motion for No. 2007, setting the challenge of raising £210,000 from 175 supporters each donating £1,000 plus Gift Aid. We have welcomed over 50 members of The Motion Club, potentially worth over £62,500 including Gift Aid - a remarkable achievement thanks to the generosity of our supporters. You can find links to The Motion Club Leaflet and how to donate on The Motion Club [page](#).



The Lantz/Franklin valve gear drawn in CAD - *David Elliott*

MONTHLY COVENANTORS - Our monthly Covenantors continue to increase, with over 860 supporters donating from £10.00 per month. We would encourage anyone who is not yet a monthly Covenantor to join us to help us hit our completion date of 2021. For more information about becoming a Covenantor please click [here](#).

PROGRESS TO DATE

- Frame plates for engine and tender rolled and profiled; engine's frames erected at Darlington Locomotive Works; all major engine frame stays, brackets, horn blocks, axle boxes and buffers cast (44 in total); over 1,000 fitted and driven bolts ordered and delivered, approximately 800 now fitted to the frames
- All 20 wheels for engine and tender cast and proof machined; roller bearings for all engine and tender wheelsets and engine axles (including crank axle), tyres and crank pins delivered, tender axles order, tyres delivered and wheelset assembly is well under way at South Devon Railway Engineering
- Preliminary discussions held with boiler manufacturers and forged foundation ring corners manufactured and machined; start made on boiler fittings with castings for combined injector steam and delivery valves
- Study into ride and suspension completed using rail industry standard Vampire® software; finite Element Analysis completed on re-designed crank axle to ensure locomotive complies with modern standards; assessment and notified body appointed to oversee certification - first site visit made
- Cab erected and cab side window frames fitted; engine footplating and splasher kits delivered and permanently fitted to frames
- Smokebox door pressed details made and door completed, door frame manufactured, smokebox delivered and erected; chimney cast and fitted
- Crosshead castings received
- Boiler cladding assembly jig built, cladding crinolines and hoops rolled and fitted to jig, cladding sheets procured, rolled and are now fitted to the jig

- Tender frame construction under way, axlebox and other tender castings ordered from William Cook Cast Products
- Nameplates and chime whistle delivered
- Over £1.7m spent, £2m donated and over £3m pledged.

A VISIT TO DLW

On Saturday 16th June, Jenny Chapman MP (Darlington) visited Darlington Locomotive Works with the Shadow Defence Secretary Nia Griffiths MP (Llanelli). Jenny was presented with a framed print of 'The Dream Team' painting by Chris Ludlow depicting *Prince of Wales* and *Tornado* together to mark Darlington's 20 year association with The A1 Steam Locomotive Trust.



Mark Allatt, Nia Griffiths MP, Jenny Chapman MP and David Elliott - *Richard Maughan*

AN AUDIENCE WITH THE *PRINCE OF WALES*

We will be holding a series of presentations on the project to build new Gresley class P2 No. 2007 *Prince of Wales*. Each presentation will feature key Trust personnel including Mark Allatt and David Elliott and will cover the background to the project, progress to-date, future plans and details of how to get involved. We would encourage you to attend one of these Roadshows and bring along some friends and family members who would be interested in hearing about the project. The two hour presentation will run from 11:00hrs to 13:00hrs on each of the days listed below and are open to existing supporters and interested members of the public:

ROADSHOW DATES FOR 2018:

- Saturday 1st September 2018 - Doubletree Hilton Hotel City Centre, Bristol
- Saturday 8th September 2018 - Derby Conference Centre, Derby
- Saturday 3rd November 2018 - Manchester Conference Centre, Manchester
- Saturday 8th December 2018 - Hilton Leeds City Hotel, Leeds.

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

EASYFUNDRAISING

Now is the time of year when many people start thinking about booking a summer holiday. Why not help the Trust at the same time by doing your online searches through EasyFundRaising, painlessly raising cash for The A1 Steam Locomotive Trust every time you spend online? You can find details of how to do this [here](#).

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.

TRAVEL WITH *TORNADO*

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.

OPEN DAYS AT DARLINGTON

We hold public open days at Darlington Locomotive Works on the first and 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.



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