

THE MIKADO MESSENGER



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

Welcome to edition No. 20 of The Mikado Messenger. The Messenger aims to provide a regular bulletin of news about the construction of No. 2007 *Prince of Wales*.

Work continues in a number of different areas and recent progress has involved the cab, wheelsets and smokebox. All this is possible because of the continued support the project is receiving from supporters, Founders and club members but can only do so if we can keep the cash rolling in - you know what to do!

graham.langer@p2steam.com
Editor of The Mikado Messenger

WHEELSETS

Whilst awaiting the arrival of the plain axles and materials for the crank axle and crank pins from South Africa, arrangements have been put in place for South Devon Railway Engineering (SDRE) to press the wheels onto the axles and to fit the tyres (which are already with SDRE). Meanwhile Timson Engineering at Kettering are making good progress with machining the axle and cannonboxes and making the thrust and spacer rings for fitting the roller bearings.



SMOKEBOX

The smokebox is making good progress with the covers for the superheater and anti-vacuum valves being made and fitted. Work is well advanced on making and fitting the smokebox door details including the hinges, centre boss, lamp bracket, door knob and handrail. Curved plates have been delivered for reinforcing the lower part of the barrel, and to make the distinctive smoke lifting plates





CAB

At Darlington Locomotive Works (DLW), good progress has been made with the cab including forming and fitting the double curvature beading on the back edges of the cab sides. Most of the riveting is complete and the cab has been re-assembled and fitted to the locomotive footplate to check that it is within the more restrictive 13' loading gauge that 2007 is being built to.



BOILER FITTINGS

M Machine continues the machining of the injector control valve castings.

FUNDRAISING

Pledges towards building No. 2007 *Prince of Wales* have passed £2m just 2½ years after project's launch. Public interest in seeing a new Gresley class P2 become a reality sooner rather than later remains high and 750 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 two years ago.

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 (103 people have pledged £2,000 each - target of 300 people), Dedicated Donations (almost £170,000 from existing supporters sponsoring a variety of components) and the sponsorship of the locomotive's distinctive front-end by The Gresley Society Trust. This means that the project has already received donations and pledges of over £2m (including gift Aid) of the £5m needed over the planned seven year build.

We are delighted with the level of support that the project to build Britain's most powerful steam locomotive has received since its launch. Donations received to date have been converted into over one third of the new locomotive now being in existence by weight.

We are hopeful that we will have completed the rolling chassis for No. 2007 *Prince of Wales* this year 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 in excess of £700,000 per year, which given the nature of

the regular donation scheme becomes more challenging as each year passes.

We would encourage all of 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 or subscribing to The Mikado Club. It's time to get on board!

This year will see further major announcements as the construction of new Gresley class P2 No. 2007 *Prince of Wales* gathers pace.

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.

THE MIKADO CLUB

WE WANT EIGHT AND WE WON'T WAIT - £200,000 appeal launched to wheel No. 2007 *Prince of Wales* by the autumn.

On 29th March we announced a new £200,000 appeal to wheel No. 2007 *Prince of Wales* by autumn 2016. When achieved, it will be the first time for over 70 years that one of this iconic class of locomotives has stood on its wheels - the last original Gresley class P2 No. 2003 *Lord President* was rebuilt into an ungainly Thompson class A2/2 Pacific in December 1944.

Following the success of The Founders Club (to get the project to the point of cutting the frames) and The Boiler Club (to fund the construction of the boiler), the Trust has decided to establish The Mikado Club to raise an estimated £200,000 required to wheel No. 2007 during 2016.

If the project to complete No. 2007 *Prince of Wales* in 2021 is to remain on schedule the engine needs to be wheeled this year. The Trust has therefore set itself the challenge of raising £200,000 through The Mikado Club from 160 supporters each donating £1,000 (plus Gift Aid) to the project in up to eight payments of £125 by standing order. This estimate excludes the components already ordered or delivered such as wheels, tyres, axles, bearings and cannon boxes some of which are still available to sponsor as Dedicated Donations.

In return for supporting this appeal, special benefits for members of The Mikado Club include:

- Reserved seat on No. 2007's first main line train
- Reasonable access to No. 2007 at all times
- Exclusive Mikado Club badge
- Opportunity to join one of the teams building No. 2007
- First choice of other components to sponsor
- Special limited edition version (signed/numbered) of Stephen Bainbridge's new painting of No. 2007 *Prince of Wales* at Darlington station
- Special Mikado Club day with *Tornado*.

In three months, The Mikado Club has already recruited 64 members and therefore raised £80,000, 40% of the way there! We would encourage those of you who haven't yet contributed to this exciting project to help us to meet

these deadlines by becoming a member of The Mikado Club. It's time to get on board!

To become a member of The Mikado Club, email enquiries@p2steam.com, call 01325 460163 or visit www.p2steam.com for more information.

THE BOILER CLUB

It is our desire to leave No. 2007 *Prince of Wales* debt free upon completion and therefore our aim is to raise at least £600,000 for The Boiler Club from 300 supporters each donating £2,000 to the project (in up to 40 payments of £50 by standing order).

Special benefits for members of The Boiler Club:

- Opportunity to buy a ticket (seat already reserved) on No. 2007's first main line train
- Reasonable access to No. 2007 at all times
- Opportunity to buy exclusive Boiler Club badge
- Opportunity to join one of the teams building No. 2007
- First choice of other components to sponsor
- Special limited edition version (signed/numbered) of the first official painting of No. 2007 *Prince of Wales* with No. 60163 *Tornado*
- Special Boiler Club day with *Tornado*

Since to launch of The Boiler Club, 103 supporters have pledged £2,000 each meaning we are now over one third of the way there!

For more information on how you can help to build Britain's most powerful steam locomotive [visit our website](#), [email us](#) or call 01325 460163.

P2 BOILER CLUB EXCLUSIVE BADGES

P2 BOILER CLUB EXCLUSIVE BADGES ARE NOW AVAILABLE TO BUY!

To purchase your badge please send a cheque for £5 made payable to The P2 Steam Locomotive Company to The A1 Steam Locomotive Trust, Darlington Locomotive Works, Hopetown Lane, Darlington DL3 6RQ

Not suitable for children under 36 months

A GENUINE GOMM BADGE



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DEDICATED DONATIONS

April to June saw an amazing increase in component sponsorship, firstly due to the fact that the scheme was opened up to non-supporters for a limited period of time on the run up to Father's Day and secondly because we have recently sent out a targeted 'Dedicated Donations' leaflet to our regular supporters, this has also proved successful and we are grateful to our supporters for their ongoing support! Since its launch in 2014, well over 200 components have now been sponsored as part of the Dedicated Donations Scheme.

If you would like to sponsor a component on No. 2007 *Prince of Wales*, please contact dedicated.donations@p2steam.com

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

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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Our mailing address is:

The A1 Steam Locomotive Trust, Darlington Locomotive Works, Hopetown Lane, Darlington. DL3 6RQ