

# THE MIKADO MESSENGER



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

Welcome to edition No.28 of *The Mikado Messenger*. The Messenger aims to provide a regular bulletin of news about the construction of No. 2007 *Prince of Wales*.

Our project to build Gresley class P2 No. 2007 *Prince of Wales* continues to move forward. Recent weeks have seen substantial press coverage not only in the railway press but on both ITV and BBC news, the latter covering the return visit of our supporter, TV presenter and part-time fitter James May, to Darlington Locomotive Works. You can read about the substantial progress being made at both DLW and off-site in the winter edition of *The Communication Cord*. All this means that we have now spent over £1m on construction, have raised around £1.25m and have received pledges of £2.25m - not bad when compared to other new build projects which were launched many years before our P2 project in Autumn 2013.

## JAMES MAY AT DARLINGTON LOCOMOTIVE WORKS (AGAIN!)

James May, TV presenter, media celebrity and steam enthusiast has made the appropriately named 'slacking cock flange' for No. 2007 *Prince of Wales*. The TV presenter of *Top Gear* and *The Grand Tour* fame has already applied his engineering prowess in crafting the first component for No. 2007 when he last visited Darlington Locomotive Works in February 2013. Then he manufactured the smokebox door dart, the component at the front of the locomotive that secures the smokebox door shut (resembling the hands on a clock). This time, using materials and tools at Darlington Locomotive Works, James created the more complex 'slacking cock flange' which connects the high-pressure hose (slacking pipe) to the boiler and controls the volume of water used to wash away coal dust on the footplate of a steam locomotive.



James is filmed by Tom Ingall for the BBC's 'Look North' programme - *Sophie Bunker-James*

## **AN AUDIENCE WITH THE *PRINCE OF WALES***

We continue to promote our P2 Project as widely as we can and have already held the first two of our P2 Roadshows in London and Peterborough. Both were very well attended and resulted in substantial donations and sign-ups on the day with more coming in over the following weeks. The presentation will run from 11:00hrs to 13:00hrs on each of the days listed below, no booking is required, admission is free and are open to existing supporters and interested members of the public:

- Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2017 - Doncaster Museum & Art Gallery, Doncaster
- Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2017 - York Railway Institute, York
- Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2017 - Darlington Locomotive Works, Darlington
- Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2017 - Newcastle Mining Institute, Newcastle
- Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2017 - Edinburgh Jury's Inn, Edinburgh
- Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2017 - Dundee Heritage Trust Discovery Point, Dundee
- Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2017 - Aberdeen Jury's Inn, Aberdeen.



The Peterborough Roadshow - Mandy Grant

These presentations are open to anyone interested in the project and we are encouraging our existing supporters to bring along interested family and friends.

## CONSTRUCTION

Progress has been made on so many fronts and many components have recently been produced that it is best to read the coverage in winter edition of *The Communication Cord*. Some of the highlights have included the delivery and installation of the final frame stay (the leading brake stay), cab and footplate steps, the fitting of the hornblocks and setting up of their liners, the application of beading to the smoke lifting plates and the casting of the superheater header. Parts delivered to Darlington Locomotive Works have included the pony truck pintle and nut, crankpin nuts and bolts, a full set of roller bearing spacer, thrower, abutment and adjustment rings as well as the Trunnion guides for the leading and driving coupled axleboxes.





William Cook Cast Products (principal sponsor of *Tornado*) decided that casting the cylinder block was too complicated a task; however, the firm is prepared to help with the smaller castings intended for incorporation in the otherwise fabricated cylinder block where the shape of steam passages and valve chests are difficult to achieve by fabrication. The firm has quoted for all the remaining steel castings for the locomotive including all those required for the tender. This would permit a start on erecting the tender frames later this year.

## FUNDRAISING

Pledges towards building No. 2007 *Prince of Wales* have passed £2.25m (45%) just 2½ years after project's launch. 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 £1m converted into metal (20%) and over £1.25m raised (25%). Public interest in seeing a new Gresley class P2 become a reality sooner rather than later remains high and 800 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 (115 people have pledged £2,000 each - target of 300 people), Dedicated Donations (almost £200,000 from existing supporters sponsoring a variety of components) and the The Mikado Club (now 115 members). In addition sponsorship of the locomotive's distinctive front-end by The Gresley Society Trust has meant 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 hopeful that we will have completed the rolling chassis for No. 2007 *Prince of Wales* during spring 2017 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!

## THE MIKADO CLUB

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. We now have 115 members in The Mikado Club, almost 75% of the number we need.

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*.

We are confident that we will have completed the rolling chassis for No. 2007 Prince of Wales in early 2017 having reached almost 75% of our target for The Mikado Club. 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](mailto:enquiries@p2steam.com), call 01325 460163 or visit [www.p2steam.com](http://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). We currently have over 100 supporters signed up to The Boiler Club.

Special benefits for members of The Boiler Club:

- Opportunity to buy a ticket (seat already reserved) on one of No. 2007's first main line train
- Reasonable access to No. 2007
- Opportunity to purchase an 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*

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 & MIKADO CLUB EXCLUSIVE**

# BADGES

**P2 BOILER CLUB & MIKADO CLUB EXCLUSIVE BADGES ARE NOW AVAILABLE TO BUY!**

These badges are only available to Boiler Club or Mikado Club members.

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, Hoptown Lane, Darlington DL3 6RQ

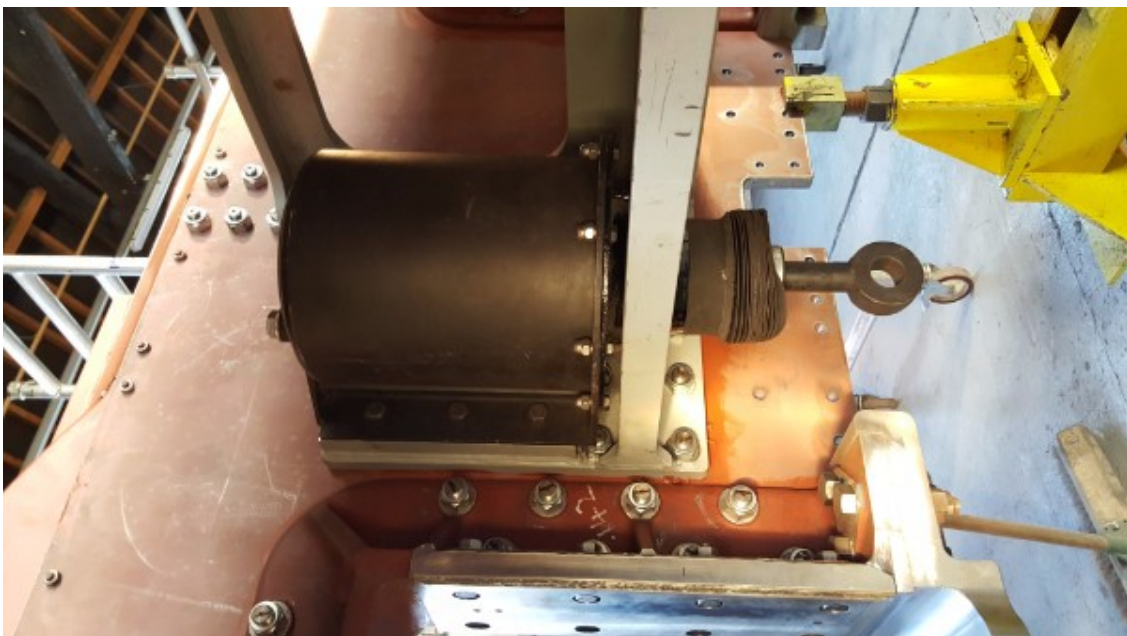
## DEDICATED DONATIONS

December to January saw a healthy increase in component sponsorship following our Christmas campaign. 35 individual components were sponsored, raising £6,655.00 before gift aid. We are most grateful to all of our supporters who have responded to the Dedicated Donations campaign!

Since its launch in 2014, 296 individual components have been sponsored as part of the Dedicated Donations Scheme, this is in addition to many of the smokebox components which have been sponsored directly by The Gresley Society Trust. Components sponsored through the Dedicated Donations Scheme range in price from one of over 1,000 driven bolts & nuts for £25, to the complete exhaust steam injector for £15,000. We have just listed the four x 12" Air Brake Cylinders, (two on the locomotive and two on the tender) and all are available to sponsor at a cost of £1,500 each and can be paid for as a one-off donation of £1,500, or in 25 monthly instalments of \*£60.00.

If you would like to sponsor a component on No. 2007 *Prince of Wales*, or you know of a business owner or company who may be interested in sponsoring an item, please contact us at [dedicated.donations@p2steam.com](mailto:dedicated.donations@p2steam.com)

\*Other payment options may be available upon request. Please contact us at the above email address to discuss.



Trial fit of *Tornado's* spare air brake cylinder - Mandy Grant

## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://www.p2steam.com), email [enquiries@p2steam.com](mailto:enquiries@p2steam.com) or follow us on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn.



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