

THE MIKADO MESSENGER



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

Welcome to edition No. 31 of *The Mikado Messenger*. The Messenger aims to provide a regular bulletin of news about the construction of No. 2007 *Prince of Wales*.

We are delighted to announce the achievement of significant milestones both in construction and fundraising. Work has started on assembling the crank axle at South Devon Railway Engineering Ltd in Buckfastleigh, Devon and The Mikado Club fundraising initiative to pay for the wheeling of the engine has reached its initial target of £200,000 pledged almost three months earlier than anticipated.



The partly assembled crank axle at SDE - *David Elliott*

MIKADO CLUB EXTENDED!

The Mikado Club was launched at the end of March 2016 to raise £200,000 from 160 members to wheel the engine. Following a fundraising drive by the Trust, the last three weeks has seen over £33,000 donated to The Mikado Club and the achievement of its initial £200,000 pledged target almost three months ahead of plan. With a £142,500 order recently placed with I D Howitt Ltd of Crofton, West Yorkshire, for the assembly of the locomotive's tender frames and another for £33,000 with William Cook Group for the remaining 67 castings for the locomotive, the Trust has decided to extend The Mikado Club's membership to 200 to raise sufficient funds to also wheel the tender. You can learn more about and join the Mikado Club [here](#).

HARNESS THE POWER OF STEAM THIS FATHER'S DAY

Sponsor a component and help to build Britain's most powerful steam locomotive. As the project to build No. 2007 *Prince of Wales* prepares for the wheeling of the engine in the autumn, only four years after its launch, a new batch of components has been released for sponsorship in time for Father's Day on Sunday 18th June 2017. You can see full details of components available for sponsorship [here](#). 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. 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

CABBED AFTER A 30,000 DAY WAIT

Alan Golton got to fulfil a childhood ambition during a recent visit to Darlington Locomotive Works - you can read the incredible story [here](#).

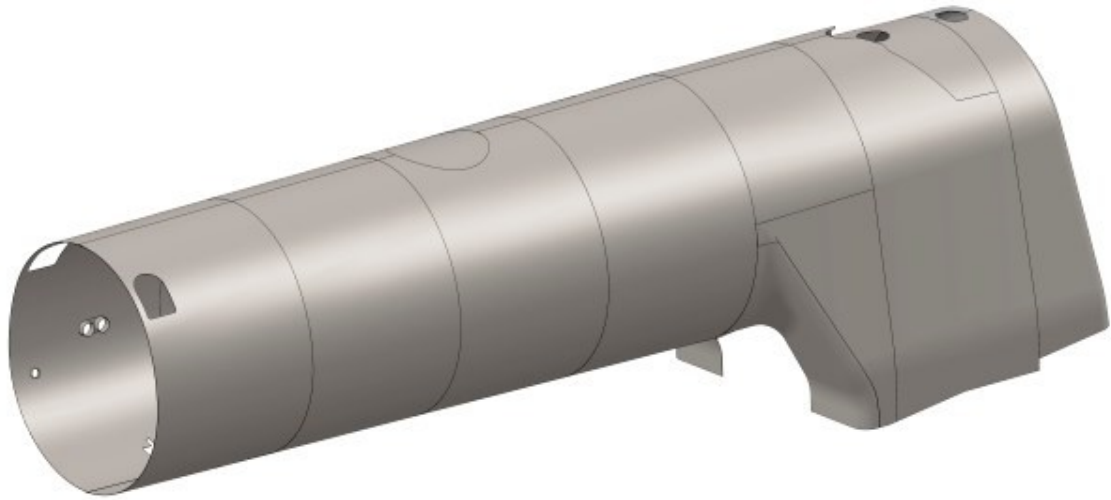
CONSTRUCTION

- **FRAMES** - Steady progress has been made by the volunteers to finish machine the brake hanger brackets. Ian Matthews has fabricated the Cartazzi spring safety brackets and machined the Cartazzi spring brackets from profiles. These have now been permanently fitted.
- **WHEELSETS** - Assembly of the crank axle is under way at South Devon Railway Engineering (SDRE); the fully machined Cartazzi and pony truck axles and all the crank pins have been received at Darlington Locomotive Works from Unilathe of Stoke on Trent. The Cartazzi axle and wheels are shortly to be sent to South Devon Railway Engineering for assembly. You can read more [here](#).
- **SMOKEBOX** - The smoke lifting screen beading is now fully fitted. Volunteer Ray has made a nice job of polishing out the remaining machining and smithing marks on the door hinges and centre boss.
- **SANDBOXES** - Ian Matthews has assembled and fitted the leading and forward driving sand boxes and fitted them to the frames, and now has the kits for the back sandboxes.



Sandboxes and sandbox fillers - Bob Hughes

- FITTINGS - The superheater header is now at DLW.
- CLADDING - With a delay affecting the delivery of the wheelsets, a decision has been made to start work on the cladding. Once the cladding is finished and primed, it can be dismantled and stored pending fitting to the boiler.



CAD of the boiler cladding - David Elliott

- BRAKE AND SPRING GEAR - Orders have been placed with I D Howitt Ltd at Crofton for brake hangers and spring gear details. For those who have been with us during the building of *Tornado*, Ian Howitt was a major contractor working both at Darlington and in his own workshops at Crofton.
- TENDER - We are delighted to announce that the P2 Steam Locomotive Company has placed a £142,500 order with I D Howitt Ltd of Crofton, West Yorkshire, for the assembly of the locomotive's tender frames. Ian Howitt was a major contractor during the construction of No. 60163 *Tornado*, working both at Darlington Locomotive Works and in his own workshops and was responsible for the assembly of the almost identical tender frames for *Tornado* from 2005 to 2007. Once Ian Howitt has made progress with manufacturing the fabricated drag boxes and has machined the castings, the fully machined tender frame plates (presently in store at Darlington Locomotive Works) will be moved to Crofton for assembly. It is expected that the frames will be delivered to Darlington Locomotive Works in late 2018.
You can read a full engineering update in the current edition of *The Communication Cord* [here](#).

AN AUDIENCE WITH THE *PRINCE OF WALES* - NEXT STOP NEWCASTLE

We continue to promote our P2 Project as widely as we can and have already held four of our P2 Roadshows in London, Peterborough, Doncaster, York and Darlington. All 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 17th June 2017 - Newcastle Mining Institute, Newcastle
- Saturday 1st July 2017 - Edinburgh Jury's Inn, Edinburgh
- Saturday 14th October 2017 - Dundee Heritage Trust Discovery Point, Dundee
- Saturday 25th November 2017 - Aberdeen Jury's Inn, Aberdeen.

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



An audience with *Prince of Wales*, literally, in Darlington - Mandy Grant

FUNDRAISING

Our project to build Gresley class P2 No. 2007 *Prince of Wales* continues to make solid progress on all fronts 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 £2.4m just 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 over 820 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 £17.13 per covenantor (including Gift Aid) and the projected monthly income for our P2 project from the monthly covenant scheme is now running at 109% of that of *Tornado* - a remarkable achievement in such a short period of time thanks to the generosity of our supporters.

We do, however, need to complete our funding of the extended Mikado Club as soon as possible - so if you haven't already joined please do consider coming on-board and help us to make a Mikado! 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) to and driving wheel casting & proof machining at £12,000 (or from £200 per month for 60 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 £1m converted into metal (over 20% of the total required), over £1.4m raised (over 28%) and over £2.4m pledged (over 48%). We are now hopeful that we will have completed the rolling chassis for No. 2007 *Prince of Wales* by autumn 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 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 or subscribing to The Mikado 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.

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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