

THE *A1* STEAM LOCOMOTIVE TRUST

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A1 TRUST LAUNCHES AWARD SCHEME AND NEW COVENANTS TO DOUBLE GROWTH RATE **Major advances at Darlington Locomotive Works**

The A1 Steam Locomotive Trust, the registered charity that is building the first new mainline steam locomotive in Britain for almost 40 years, has launched an Awards Scheme to double its rate of growth in covenanted income from 15% to 30% growth next year. In addition the Trust launched an further range of covenants for young people, companies and for those wishing to contribute to the project after their death.

The A1 Steam Locomotive Trust is raising £1.6m to build a new Peppercorn class A1 No. 60163 *Tornado* at its Darlington Locomotive Works through Deeds of Covenant for 'the price of a pint of beer a week' (£1.25 in the North East when the project was launched in 1990). Although *Tornado* is around 50% complete by weight, if the Trust cannot raise another £700,000 quickly it could be up to another 4 years until the new steam locomotive can be completed at current rates of growth in income.

The Awards Scheme is open to all existing covenantors to the Trust and is in three levels:

Bronze award

- limited edition print of a Gresley A4 or Stanier Duchess steam locomotives

Awarded to:

- all multiple covenantors (£10 or more per month) are automatically given a bronze award
- a covenantor who recruits another covenantor through the Recruit a Friend scheme is entitled to a bronze award

Silver award

- limited edition colour print of *St Mungo* at York shed

Awarded to:

- multiple covenantors (£25 or more per month) are automatically given a silver award
- a covenantor who recruits another five covenantors through the Recruit a Friend scheme is entitled to a silver award

Gold award

- a certificate, signed by the Vice Presidents recording the part played in the construction of *Tornado* will be presented at the annual convention
- a footplate pass in leather holder for *Tornado* valid for one journey on a preserved railway

more follows...

Awarded to:

- multiple covenantors (£50 or more per month) are automatically given a gold award
- a covenantor who recruits another 10 covenantors (or equivalents) through the Recruit a Friend scheme is entitled to a gold award
- a covenantor who has performed outstanding service which materially enhances the construction programme or its funding.

All covenantors being given the above awards will have their name recorded in *The Pioneer* (the Trust's quarterly journal) and will be given a certificate recording the part played in helping to build *Tornado*.

In addition to the Awards Scheme the Trust has launched a new range of covenants for young people, companies and for those wishing to contribute to the project after their death to add to its ordinary, overseas and dedicated (sponsorship of a specific component) covenant schemes:

Heritage Covenants

Available to:

- existing covenantors on behalf of young people under 18 years of age at start of the covenant

Special benefits:

- as per ordinary covenant but in name of young person and paid for by covenantor
- A1 birthday card received by nominated young person on birthday
- special A1 badge and teddy bear
- other benefits as per ordinary covenantor

Eternal Covenants

Available to:

- individuals donating legacy in excess of £1,000

Special benefits:

- name inscribed on the official roll of honour at Darlington Locomotive Works
- opportunity to have ashes scattered onto fire of *Tornado* during run on mainline or preserved railway or at Darlington Locomotive Works

Corporate Covenant

Available to:

- organisations that have performed outstanding service which materially enhances the construction programme or its funding.
- organisations that have covenant £50 per month over five years or donate £3,000 or more

more follows...

Special benefits:

- organisation's name and logo inscribed on the official roll of honour at Darlington Locomotive Works
- a certificate signed by the Vice Presidents recording the part played in the construction of *Tornado*
- framed limited edition colour print of *St Mungo* at York shed
- a footplate pass for *Tornado* valid for one journey on a preserved railway
- reservation of four first class seats for a journey on a preserved railway or mainline railtour hauled by *Tornado*
- special hire rates for *Tornado* on completion

David Champion, Chairman of The A1 Steam Locomotive Trust, commented whilst speaking to 200 Covenantors at the Trust's recent Annual Convention on the East Lancs Railway in Bury, Lancashire:

“Although the Trust has - thanks to its covenantors - made significant progress during 1998 and has raised its income to over £10,000 per month, a further £700,000 in cash, discounted work or sponsorship is still needed next year to complete the locomotive in 2000. When *Tornado* can be completed by is purely determined by the rate at which funds can be raised.”

Construction Update

Work to enable *Tornado* to be wheeled continues, although production delays have put completion back to around April 1999. It is the first time that this very specialist and expensive job has been done since the completion of British Railway's last steam locomotive in 1960:

- Firth Rixon Special Products Ltd of Rotherham have delivered the two bogie axles, two plain driving axles and rear carrying wheel axle to Ian Riley's East Lancs Locomotive Works at Bury. They have also supplied components for the crank axle for the leading driving wheels and the six outside crank pins. In addition, they have supplied a scrap axle to carry out pressing tests.
- William Cook Cast Products at Burton upon Trent has cast a dummy wheel centre in the same material as the driving wheels. The axle and dummy wheel centre will shortly be used to perform a series of scientific tests to derive the optimum interference between axles and wheels for assembling by the traditional pressing method. This method has to be used instead of the more modern shrinking process to avoid the risk of heat damage to the roller bearings which will have already been fitted to the axles.
- The driving wheels have been sent to TM Engineers at Kingswinford under contract from William Cook Cast Products to have the bosses machined to finished dimensions and the rims proof machined. Coincidentally, TM Engineers are the company that machined the locomotive's main frames. The bogies and trailing carrying wheels have had similar operations performed by Pattinsons at Sheffield and have since been delivered to Bury for final assembly. Meanwhile, Ian Riley has completed machining of Bogie and rear carrying axles. In addition the 5" thick crank webs for the crank axle have been machined all over.
- Timkin RBS of Northampton has delivered, under a very generous sponsorship arrangement, a total of 16 roller bearings for the locomotive totalling over half a ton in weight to Bury and Tyseley Locomotive Works, Birmingham.

more follows...

Other recent construction activity includes:

- the smokebox door assembly is nearing completion at the workshops of Ian Howitt Limited at Crofton near Wakefield.

Sponsorship

An original 51A (Darlington) shed plate has been donated to the Trust for fixing to *Tornado* by The Nameplate Club. The rare plate was presented to Trust Director Andrew Dow by the club's chairman Ian Wright of Sheffield Railwayana Auctions at a recent club dinner in Swindon.

Macready's has delivered a sizeable quantity of bar and strip for making numerous components for the locomotive.

Darlington Locomotive Works

There have been significant developments in the Works over the past few months. Bill Brown has been appointed as volunteer works manager and since his appointment has commissioned several donated machines, including a large centre lathe, a radial drill and a shaping machine. In addition, the range of welding equipment donated by M H Spencer of Coventry has been commissioned. Richard Spencer of M H Spencer has also donated a new set of oxyacetylene cutting and welding equipment.

The lathe is being used to manufacture tender brake pins and the first of these, the first components to be manufactured at Darlington Locomotive Works, was presented to David Elliott, technical director, at the Annual Convention by Bill Brown. Work has also started on fabrication of platework for the locomotive including the lagging sheets for the cylinders and the drain cock apparatus.

There will be open days at Darlington Locomotive Works on Saturday 10 January 1999 between 11am and 4pm and Thursday 14 January 1999 between 6.30pm and 9.30pm for skilled volunteers interested in working on the construction of *Tornado*.

In addition to the developments at DLW, the Trust has appointed Anne Wilson, who currently works at the Ken Hoole Study Centre in the Darlington Railway Centre & Museum as its part-time administrator. Anne has joined the volunteer team to provide additional administrative support to the Trust's ambitious growth plans.