

THE TORNADO TELEGRAPH



60163 TORNADO
New Steam for the Main Line

Welcome to issue No. 91 of *The Tornado Telegraph*.

Many of those involved with operating *Tornado* lately might be starting to feel jinxed. Following a very successful winter maintenance period at Locomotive Maintenance Services in Loughborough, the locomotive ran faultlessly at the Great Central (North) prior to its departure to haul 'The North Briton'; alas it was during the FTR examination before *Tornado's* return to Network Rail that a problem with the locomotive's upgraded TPWS system manifested itself, preventing the locomotive from hauling a 'Belmond British Pullman'. This intermittent fault appeared to have been resolved and the locomotive ran light engine to Doncaster where, unfortunately, the fault re-appeared meaning No. 60163 had to run with a Class 66 piloting the train. Following a scheduled move to the North Yorkshire Moors Railway the first weekend of a week's planned running was subsequently cancelled due to very heavy snowfall.

While she was based at the NYMR our engineers continued to burn the midnight oil as they worked their way through the entire AWS system before finally identifying the source of the trouble. We are pleased to be able to report that the issue has been resolved. As an intermittent fault it was not easy to diagnose, nor had such a fault occurred previously on *Tornado* or any other locomotive fitted with the same system. We are grateful to Sharpe Engineering Solutions, Locomotive Maintenance Services and Thales for their help in diagnosing the problem. A minor modification to the electro-pneumatic system has now resolved the issue.

In a further difficulty, a bridge bash prevented *Tornado* leaving the NYMR as planned and a short notice road move was required to ensure *Tornado* met its commitments at the Severn Valley Railway Spring Gala. After a successful Gala attendance, we now look forward to our next main line tour - 'The Sulis and Sarum Express' to Bath and Salisbury.

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Editor of *The Tornado Telegraph*



Wetheral Viaduct, another stunning location for 'The North Briton' - *Neil Whitaker*

NEWS BRIEFS

- **RUNNING DESPITE THE ODDS** - Running main line tours can be a challenge at the best of times and the failure of a relay in *Tornado's* TPWS system while she was at the GCR(N) caused the burning of much midnight oil. Alas, during preparation for 'The North Briton' the replacement component also failed, leaving no time to rectify the fault. Rather than cancel the train the decision was taken to run with a DBC Class 66 on the front to give the train the signalling protection it needed.
- **SUCCESSFUL VISIT TO YORKSHIRE** - Despite the atrocious weather of the first weekend of *Tornado's* visit to the North Yorkshire Moors Railway which prevented trains from being run, the rest of the locomotive's sojourn was a huge success with large crowds and some welcome Spring sunshine (even if it didn't last long!)



The visit to the NYMR was marked by frequent snow showers - *Mandy Grant*

- **TORNADO RETURNS TO THE BLUEBELL RAILWAY** - We are pleased to confirm that plans are at an advanced stage for the Bluebell Railway to again host *Tornado*. The locomotive will be at the railway for five days in 2018 to include the Spring Bank Holiday Monday on May 28th; days of operation will be: Friday 25th to Tuesday 29th May inclusive. Events around the visit and rostering of duties are still being finalised - keep watching the website for more details.
- **TORNADO AND PADDINGTON 2 AT THE NENE VALLEY RAILWAY** - During May, *Tornado* will be visiting the Nene Valley Railway to attend a very special PADDINGTON 2 event. For children of all ages, this one not to be missed! You can find full details [here](#).
- **'THE SULIS & SARUM EXPRESS'** - Especially for our friends in the West Midlands we're really delighted to announce another great tour featuring No. 60163 throughout, heading to the beautiful West Country cities of Bath and Salisbury. On Saturday 24th March, the tour begins at the handy 'park and ride' railhead of Tame Bridge Parkway before calling also at Birmingham New Street, Bromsgrove, Worcester Shrub Hill and Cheltenham Spa. We then travel by way of Bristol Parkway, and Dr Day's Junction to reach Bath, then onward via Westbury and Warminster to arrive at Salisbury. The return trip will see *Tornado's* first ascent of the Lickey Incline with a railtour - not to be missed! Full details and booking link [here](#).
- **'THE CANTERBURY TALE'** - This promises to be a wonderful day trip; not only visiting one of the country's most historic cities where the sights and sounds of old England can be enjoyed, but also the beautiful journey will take the train along the foot of the iconic White Cliffs, providing passengers stunning views of the Kent coast. On Saturday 19th May, Canterbury bound, the train departs from Peterborough station and heads south, with station calls at St. Neots, Stevenage, Potters Bar and Finsbury Park. The train then continues out of the capital heading East towards Maidstone and Ashford, before the final leg of our outward journey to Canterbury. The return run follows the White Cliffs of Dover before heading inland and home; a really delightful route for passengers from East Anglia and North London. Full details [here](#).
- **NEW TOUR! 'THE DEVONIAN'** - Departing from Birmingham Snow Hill station on Saturday 8th September, our train will be hauled as far as Bristol by a Class 67 diesel locomotive. At Bristol *Tornado* will be waiting to take our train west across the Somerset levels and on through Whiteball Tunnel to emerge in to the beautiful Devon countryside. After passing Exeter our train will traverse Brunel's iconic sea wall where the railway runs along the coast weaving between the beaches, through tunnels under cliffs and passed the deck chairs and the ice cream vendors. Once away from the sea our route

heads in land and here *Tornado* will be working close to its maximum as we climb over the fearsome South Devon Banks, a legacy from Brunel's Atmospheric Railway. After such hard climbing we traverse over viaducts on the sinuous route through the picturesque landscape before descending into the Naval city of Plymouth. You can see full details [here](#).

- **10TH ANNIVERSARY SPECIALS** - As part of *Tornado's* tenth anniversary celebrations, The A1 Steam Locomotive Trust is pleased to present a lunchtime and evening circular traveling around Yorkshire from Darlington. Tickets for these birthday trains are at a special price so that more passengers can join *Tornado* on the main line in her 10th year in steam. Details can be found [here](#).

TOURS

[Download your 2018 tour brochure here](#)

- Friday 16th to Sunday 18th March - Severn Valley Railway
- Saturday 24th March - 'The Sulis and Sarum Express' - West Midlands Stations to Bath and Salisbury - bookings through [UK Railtours](#)
- Friday 30th March to Monday 2nd April - East Lancashire Railway
- Saturday 14th April - 'The Ebor Flyer' (First 90mph train) London to York - **SOLD OUT**
- Saturday 21st April - Midland Railway Centre
- Saturday 28th April - 'The Ynys Mon Express' - East Midlands and North Staffordshire stations to North Wales Coast (Option: Ffestiniog and Welsh Highland Railway) - bookings through [UK Railtours](#)
- Tuesday 3rd to Sunday 13th May - Nene Valley Railway
- Saturday 19th May - 'The Canterbury Tale' - Peterborough, St. Neots, Stevenage, Potters Bar and Finsbury Park to Canterbury and Dover Coast - bookings through [UK Railtours](#)
- Friday 25th to Tuesday 29th May - Bluebell Railway
- Saturday 2nd June - 'The Yorkshire Pullman' - Belmond British Pullman luxury train from London to York and Scarborough - bookings through [UK Railtours](#)
- Saturday 21st July - 'The Talisman' - London to Durham (Option: Beamish) and Newcastle. Return journey with Deltic diesel locomotive D9009 *Alycidon* - bookings through [UK Railtours](#)
- Saturday 28th and Sunday 29th July - 10th Anniversary Party - Darlington
- Sunday 29th July - Anniversary Special Circulars around Yorkshire - there are two circulars and information can be found [here](#).
- Saturday 1st August - 'The Mad Hatter' - 10th anniversary train - Darlington, York and Wakefield to Chester - bookings through [UK Railtours](#)
- Saturday 18th August - 'The Bard of Avon' - Manchester Piccadilly to Stratford-Upon-Avon - bookings through [UK Railtours](#)
- **NEW** - Saturday 8th September - 'The Devonian' - Birmingham to Plymouth and return (*Tornado* Bristol - Plymouth - Birmingham) - bookings through [UK Railtours](#)
- Saturday 13th October - A1/P2 Convention - Darlington.

RECRUIT A FRIEND!

If you know of anyone who has a keen interest in railways, *Tornado* or even someone who simply likes photographing *Tornado* please forward this email to them in an attempt to encourage them to sign up to being a monthly supporter of No. 60163 *Tornado*. More information can be found [here](#).

**ONE LAST PUSH TO GET (A TENDER) BEHIND
*TORNADO***

The last few months have seen tremendous progress in our campaign to purchase No. 60163 *Tornado's* tender. Membership of the extended 163 Pacifics Club has grown steadily since its launch in September 2013 and at the time of writing, 173 Pacifics of the extended 210 locomotives have already found new shed allocations, leaving only 37 remaining for sponsorship. With *Tornado* having attained the magic 100mph and scheduled to haul her first 90mph train, 'The Ebor Flyer', on 14th April 2018, let's complete the project we embarked upon in 1990 through the purchase of No. 60163's tender before the start of her 10th birthday celebrations in August 2018. Any surplus raised will be allocated to the tender's next overhaul.



Tornado's newly re-painted tender at DLW
(John Wilkinson/A1SLT)

How you can help:

We need to raise £200,000 by 2021 to purchase *Tornado's* tender. Following the success of our Regular and Dedicated Donation schemes for the construction of *Tornado*, the Trustees have on a similar method for the purchase of the tender. However, instead of "an A1 for the price of a pint" and "use your loaf", we've decided to raise the funds in a different way, "The 163 Pacifics Club". Although *Tornado* carries the number '60163', her pre-nationalisation LNER number would have been '163'. If 163 people were to donate £10pm over the eight years until we need to purchase the tender (or alternatively make a one-off donation of £960) with the addition of Gift Aid (£2.50pm or £240 one-off) this would raise £195,600. Due to popular demand, an additional 46 'Pacifics' were released from the Raven class A2s, Thompson classes A2/1s, A2/2s, A2/3s, Peppercorn class A2s and Gresley class A4s (including destroyed No. 4469 *Gadwall*). One supporter has chosen to sponsor the 'honorary Pacific', Gresley class W1 4-6-4 No. 10000/60700 which was un-named but also had 6ft 8in driving wheels.

Remaining Pacifics:

No. 2401 <i>City of Kingston upon Hull</i>	No. 2403 <i>City of Durham</i>	No. 2404 <i>City of Ripon</i>
No. 60053 <i>Sansovino</i>	No. 60066 <i>Merry Hampton</i>	No. 60073 <i>St. Gatien</i>
No. 60075 <i>St. Frusquin</i>	No. 60083 <i>Sir Hugo</i>	No. 60095 <i>Flamingo</i>
No. 60503 <i>Lord President</i>	No. 60504 <i>Mons Meg</i>	No. 60507 <i>Highland Chieftain</i>
No. 60508 <i>Duke of Rothesay</i>	No. 60510 <i>Robert the Bruce</i>	No. 60512 <i>Steady Aim</i>
No. 60513 <i>Dante</i>	No. 60514 <i>Chamossaire</i>	No. 60515 <i>Sun Stream</i>
No. 60516 <i>Hycilla</i>	No. 60517 <i>Ocean Swell</i>	No. 60518 <i>Tehran</i>
No. 60519 <i>Honeyway</i>	No. 60520 <i>Owen Tudor</i>	No. 60521 <i>Watling Street</i>
No. 60522 <i>Straight Deal</i>	No. 60524 <i>Herringbone</i>	No. 60526 <i>Sugar Palm</i>
No. 60527 <i>Sun Chariot</i>	No. 60528 <i>Tudor Minstrel</i>	No. 60529 <i>Pearl Diver</i>
No. 60531 <i>Bahram</i>	No. 60534 <i>Irish Elegance</i>	No. 60535 <i>Hornets Beauty</i>
No. 60536 <i>Trimbush</i>	No. 60537 <i>Bachelors Button</i>	No. 60538 <i>Velocity</i>
No. 60539 <i>Bronzino</i>		

As with the previous schemes, this initiative comes with benefits for those who generously take part:

- A numbered certificate recording the details of the donation and the number/name of your favourite express passenger pacific from the Gresley A3s/A4s, Thompson A1/1s, Peppercorn A1s, Raven class A2s, Thompson classes A2/1s, A2/2s, A2/3s, Peppercorn class A2s and Gresley class A4s (destroyed No. 4469 *Gadwall*)
- Name inscribed on the official Roll of Honour in Darlington Locomotive Works which will detail the pacific sponsored.
- Entry into a draw for a main line footplate-ride on *Tornado*.

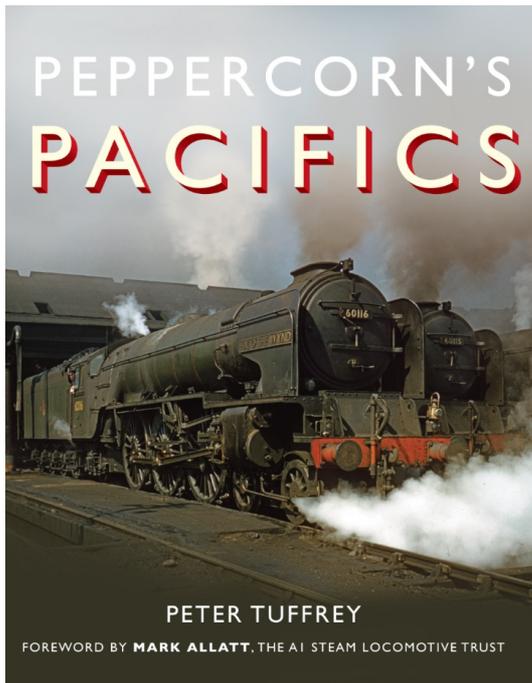
It really is that simple! With your help *Tornado* could be debt free with her paid-for tender behind by 2021 so please complete the [donation form](#) today. Thank you.

ONLINE STORE

Our online store has everything for the *Tornado* enthusiast, from pens to models and children's T-shirts to adult's fleeces.

Contact shop@a1steam.com for details of smoke box number plates carried by *Tornado* - available to buy for just £200!

[Visit our online store to get your hands on some great *Tornado* merchandise.](#)



A remarkable collection (featuring rare colour and black and white images) that documents Peppercorn's A1 and A2 locomotives.

Peppercorn's Pacifics includes black and white and colour pictures of 49 of his A1 locomotives and 15 of his A2 locomotives alongside a full history of each locomotive. Includes a biography of A.H. Peppercorn.

For every one of these books purchased via our [dedicated link](#), The A1 Steam Locomotive Trust receives a percentage.

P2 UPDATE



Progress on No. 2007 - Mandy Grant

For more information about No. 2007 please click [here](#).

Roadshows

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:

NEW ROADSHOW DATES FOR 2018:

- Saturday 7th April 2018 - Darlington Locomotive Works, Darlington
- Saturday 19th May 2018 - Sheffield Hallam University, Sheffield
- Saturday 9th June 2018 - Glasgow Royal Concert Hall, Glasgow
- 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.

HELP THE TRUST

Your support as Covenantors, Donors and Volunteers remains vital.

- DONATIONS - We continue to encourage donations of all shapes and sizes (every pound counts).
- COVENANTORS - We always welcome new Covenantors as we have overhauls and repairs to fund and still need to finance the balance of the support coach conversion - [Become a covenantor, learn more >](#)
- VOLUNTEERS - Do you have skills that could help the Trust? We can always use extra pairs of hands. If you enjoy meeting people, please consider joining our merchandising team at events and on tours. If your talents involve engineering, locomotive cleaning, or back office work, we can always find something for you to do. Contact volunteer@a1steam.com for more details.
- LEGACY PROGRAMME - We now have a Legacy Giving facility. [Learn more here >](#)
- THE 163 PACIFICS CLUB - join The 163 Pacifics Club to complete the financing of *Tornado*. [Learn more here >](#)

www.a1steam.com

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