

# THE TORNADO TELEGRAPH



*Tornado before her recent move to Carnforth - Charlotte Graham/A1SLT*

Dear Supporter

**Welcome to Issue No. 120 of *The Tornado Telegraph*.**

Welcome to the latest issue of *The Tornado Telegraph* containing the latest updates on *Tornado*, the restart of operations and how you can support the Trust.

The good news is that *Tornado* has been out and about stretching her legs on the main line once more, albeit a short move to West Coast Railways at Carnforth, where our support coach is to receive some bogie maintenance. A brief visit to 10A had been scheduled between raitours earlier in May but COVID-19 put a stop to that.

Following a prolonged period out of traffic in the bay at the National Railway Museum, York, a very small team completed a full inspection of the locomotive prior to the light engine move. This involved an A exam<sup>+</sup> and a boiler washout as even though we had completed a few steaming days, elapsed time and the prospect of re-starting our mainline programme in September meant this was a sensible time to complete this maintenance and reassure ourselves that nothing untoward had occurred whilst out of traffic. All of this was completed whilst having to observe the new social distancing and COVID-19 protection rules, which made some tasks slightly more challenging, but luckily not impossible! Thankfully, all was well and No. 60163 and her support coach travelled across to Carnforth on Friday

24<sup>th</sup> July without incident and very nicely well ahead of booked timings.

Now safely at Carnforth, we await the outcome of an inspection by the Carriage & Wagon team there. They have been busy preparing their own stock to return to traffic and we should know the outcome of their inspection of the bogies and agree the scope of work to be completed. In the meantime, the team have been cleaning *Tornado* ahead of the planned Aberdonian duties at the beginning of September. One disadvantage of the A exam is the fresh grease applied to the axle boxes on the locomotive continues to exude from the seals coating the frames and motion with the excess! The lockers in the tender front have been emptied and cleaned and are in the process of receiving some fresh paint, which will keep things clean and make it easier to find items at the back of the locker.

We are watching the developing COVID-19 restrictions situation carefully, but hope to be ready to move to Scotland at the beginning of September to meet the first 'Aberdonian' on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September. There are seats available and our booking office is open on 01325 488215 if you would like to call. Alternatively, you can make a booking via [www.a1steam.com](http://www.a1steam.com) where there are full details of all our tours, including our first visit to Liverpool with *Tornado*.

It has been a difficult 2020 for everyone but we will soon be able to enjoy the sight and sound of an A1 back at work on the national network. If you are not already a Covenantor then please do give consideration to supporting *Tornado* - 'An A1 for the price of a pint a week' is how we all came together to build *Tornado* and provides the essential support to keep her on the main line into the future. We are grateful to all those who continue to support the locomotive.

**DOWNLOAD YOUR A1 COVENANTOR FORMS**



**THE A1 STEAM LOCOMOTIVE TRUST**

# ANNUAL CONVENTION 2020

In what is The A1 Steam Locomotive Trust's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary we had hoped to make this year's Annual Convention a special celebration of what this amazing organisation has achieved. Sadly, the continued impact of COVID-19 has scuppered our plans for this year and we will have to revisit them at a later date once the world has returned to some semblance of normality.

However, we do intend to go ahead with our Annual Convention on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2020, albeit in an on-line format. This year's Virtual Convention will run from 10:30hrs to 12:00hrs on The A1 Steam locomotive Trust's YouTube channel. This is the link for the channel - <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UClqGYIL2vDP7cJuidkfSqwQ>. It will then be available for viewing via [www.a1steam.com](http://www.a1steam.com) after the event.

As usual, the presentations will look at the Trust's achievements since the last Convention including *Tornado's* unfortunately limited main line operations and look forward into the 2021 programme.

It will also provide a progress update on the construction of *Prince of Wales* and the opportunity to 'virtually' view the current state-of-play with the locomotive at Darlington Locomotive Works. If you have any questions that you would like addressing, please submit them via [enquiries@a1steam.com](mailto:enquiries@a1steam.com). There will also be an opportunity to submit further questions following the presentations.

## TORNADO 2020 RAILTOURS



August 2019 - *Tornado* hauling 'The Aberdonian' over the Montrose Basin Viaduct - *Glyn Lewis/A1SLT*

We are very much looking forward to *Tornado* taking to the rails once again in September and welcoming passengers on board. Whilst much about the experience will be the same, in line with all tourist and hospitality organisers we have made some changes. These include reducing capacity in each coach, provision of temperature checks and PPE for staff, hand sanitizer and enhanced cleaning on board and other similar changes. We don't think they'll impact on your enjoyment of the journey.

Sadly, following the derailment near Stonehaven earlier this week we have had to cancel 'The

Aberdonian' tour on 3rd September as are advised that the railway will not be reopened in time. We still hope to be able to run our tour to Aberdeen on the 10th September and there are seats still available in Premier Dining and Standard Class, however First Class is sold out.

Whilst we are keen to be back running we have missed a number of tours in 2020 and are redating those into 2021. The first of those is the Fen and Fells Flyer which will now run on the 27th March 2021, now travelling both ways over the iconic Settle to Carlisle Railway. We are working hard to confirm dates with our operators for the remaining affected tours and hope to be contacting those passengers affected just as quickly as possible, We have also been developing our programme for 2021 and will be sharing that with you at the end of September. We hope to release one or two trains before that with the re-dated trains taking priority.

It has been a difficult year so far with the pandemic but we are looking forward to being back out on the network for everyone to enjoy

All our tours can be booked through our [website](#) or by calling 01325 488215.

**DOWNLOAD THE 2020 RAILTOURS BROCHURE**

**EASYFUNDRAISING**

The screenshot shows the easyfundraising interface for the A1 Steam Locomotive Trust. At the top left is the trust's logo and name. A pink button labeled 'Support this cause' is in the top right. The main heading reads 'Support A1 Steam Locomotive Trust with easyfundraising', with another 'Support this cause' button below it. A vertical 'Feedback & Support' button is on the right. The central text states: 'easyfundraising® is the UK's biggest charity shopping fundraising site. It's simple to use and it's free. Since we launched in 2005, we've helped thousands of good causes raise money simply by shopping online. Our community of over 1.8 million loyal supporters has so far raised over £31 million.' Below this is a three-step process diagram: 1. Get started (Choose a cause to support then join for free), 2. Start shopping (Visit retailers and then shop online as normal), and 3. Raise donations (Your cause receives free donations). Each step is accompanied by an icon: a shopping bag, a shopping basket, and a pound symbol.

It's a challenging time for so many organisations and businesses. However, if you are shopping online over the coming weeks, please consider using easyfundraising before going directly to your preferred retailer. It's simple to use with no cost to yourself!

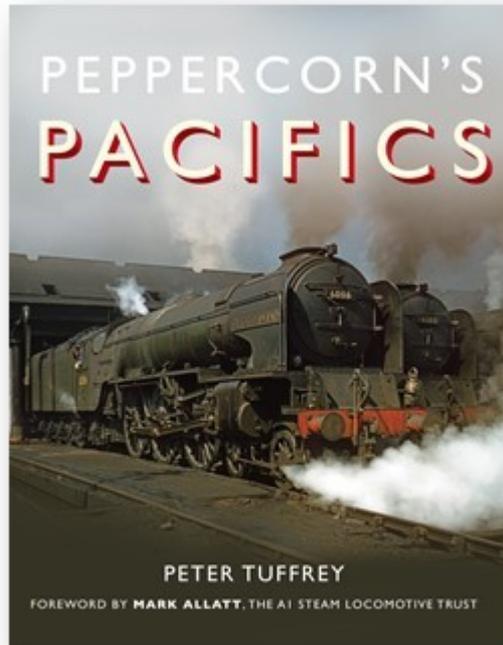
*How does it work?* easyfundraising turns your everyday online shopping into free donations.

*How?* Just start your online shopping first at easyfundraising, then shop as normal.

The selected retailers will then make a small donation to say thank you. There are 4,113 retailers to choose from! So far, our supporters have raised £3,845.53 for The A1 Steam Locomotive Trust, by shopping online through easyfundraising.

Find out more [here](#). Please contact us at [enquiries@a1steam.com](mailto:enquiries@a1steam.com) if you have any problems.

# PEPPERCORN'S PACIFICS BOOK OFFER



Peter Tuffrey's *Peppercorn's Pacifics* book is a remarkable collection of photographs which feature rare colour and black & white images of Arthur Henry Peppercorn's class A1 and A2 locomotives.

Only one of his famous 'Pacifics', Peppercorn class A2 No. 60532 *Blue Peter*, was preserved but none of the Peppercorn class A1s - hence the formation of The A1 Steam Locomotive Trust to build a brand new class A1, No. 60163 *Tornado*, as the next in the class. The book includes black & white and colour photographs of all 49 original class A1s and 15 class A2s. The photographs show the 'Pacifics' under construction, from the lineside and on-shed. A full history of each locomotive features strongly in the text beneath the images. The book also details Peppercorn's life with many personal photographs and a foreword from our own Mark Allatt.

The book is now available at the offer price of only £15 (post free in the UK, overseas orders, will be subject to the usual postage charges) - the usual price of the book is £25. Please use the link below to place your order as any that come through this will be recorded as coming from The A1 Steam Locomotive Trust and we will receive a donation from each copy sold. The link

is: <https://www.gnbooks.co.uk/product/peppercorns-pacifics-a1trust/>

## ONLINE STORE

Our online store has everything for the *Tornado* enthusiast, from pens to models and children's T-shirts to adult's fleeces. With many people looking for things to do, our 1,000 piece jigsaw of *Tornado* on 'The North Briton' at Wylam is a wonderful distraction! Visit our [online store](#) to get your hands on some great *Tornado* merchandise.

Also, contact [shop@a1steam.com](mailto:shop@a1steam.com) for details of smokebox number plates and headboards carried by *Tornado* - available to buy from just £200!

## COVID-19 MEASURES

With regards to the ongoing COVID-19 situation, our staff are still working from home or at Darlington Locomotive Works (DLW) where they are taking all the necessary precautions. The Works remain closed to volunteers, non-essential staff and visitors. We hope you understand that these circumstances are beyond our control and the restrictions are very necessary at this challenging time.

As a small charity we value your continued support and are reviewing all our activities on a frequent basis to protect everyone involved with the Trust and to secure our long-term future. Please keep an eye on our website and Facebook pages for updates or call 01325 460163 or email [enquiries@a1steam.com](mailto:enquiries@a1steam.com) if you have any questions.

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