

THE TORNADO TELEGRAPH



60163 TORNADO
New Steam for the Main Line



Dorothy Mather 'cabs' *Tornado* at the first steaming in Darlington - A1SLT

Welcome to issue No. 66 of *The Tornado Telegraph*. Please accept our apologies for the late arrival of this issue. We have been experiencing some technical difficulties that have led to delays in the distribution of *The Tornado Telegraph* and *The Mikado Messenger*. These problems have now been resolved and normal service will resume for 2016.

Sadly we have to record the passing, on 10th November, of Dorothy Mather, Honorary President of The A1 Steam Locomotive Trust, the age of 99. Dorothy was working at 'The Plant' (Doncaster Works) when she met and later married Arthur Peppercorn; alas, Arthur died prematurely in 1951 and although Dorothy remarried, she was once again a widow when, in August 1993, Dorothy was approached by the Trust about the A1 Project. She was sufficiently impressed to join us informally and from there her involvement grew. She was there at BSD Leeds to start the CNC machine that cut *Tornado's* frameplates, at the Trust's first

convention that September and at Tyseley in December for the ceremony marking erection of the frameplates. She attended many subsequent A1 Trust events and in September 1995 she became joint vice-president, later president.

Not just a figurehead, she did a tremendous job for the Trust in countless interviews with press and television. She proved quite as vital as our ISO 9000 quality standard because, if *Tornado* was good enough for her, it would be good enough for Arthur Peppercorn. Those of us who knew her will miss her quiet dignity, kindness and valued contributions to any conversation about the work of her first husband.

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Editor of *The Tornado Telegraph*

TORNADO TO HAUL 'THE DEVON BELLE'

On Saturday 2nd April 2016 *Tornado* will set out from London Waterloo station and head for Devon and the historic city of Exeter. With the assistance of South West Trains we will be making a fast turn from London to Woking via Surbiton and on through Surrey and Hampshire to pick up more passengers at Basingstoke. We then head via Andover to Salisbury where the locomotive will take water. Our route is then via the former LSWR route via Yeovil including the steep climb to Honiton Tunnel, a real test for *Tornado*.

After a break in Exeter our return route starts with the climb to Whiteball tunnel which marks the border between Devon and Somerset. Heading back towards the capital we take the former GWR route via Castle Cary, Westbury and Newbury, a beautiful scenic route as well as one that will challenge *Tornado* with its fast running and long climbs. At Reading passengers who joined us at Basingstoke leave us for a short trip by service train to Basingstoke. *Tornado* steams on taking us back to London Victoria station via Ascot and Twickenham.

[BOOK YOUR TICKETS](#)

GET (A TENDER) BEHIND *TORNADO*

Join 'The 163 Pacifics Club' and make *Tornado* debt free. The first debts to be repaid by the Trust were the bridging and personal loans that financed the

final dash to completion. In July 2013 we were able to announce the early repayment of the £500,000 Bearer Bond at the end of the 2013. The final step to make *Tornado* debt-free is to purchase 60163's tender, which is currently on a 15 year lease from William Cook Cast Products Ltd. 'The 163 Pacifics Club' is starting to gain traction with over 70 of the 163 having already found new 'shed allocations' - but there is still a long way to go.



Tornado's newly re-painted tender at DLW - John Wilkinson

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.

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

- A numbered certificate (1-163) recording the details of the donation and the number/name of your favourite express passenger pacific from the Gresley A3s/A4s, Thompson A1/1s and Peppercorn A1s.
- 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.

UPCOMING EXCURSIONS

ONLINE STORE

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

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

[For just £200 you could own one of the smoke box number plates carried by *Tornado* in service!](#)

PHOTO COMPETITION

During 2015 we will be running a photographic competition. We will pick a winning entry from images taken of *Tornado* during the year with the lucky contestant landing a brace of premier dining tickets on one of our trains in 2016.

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 covenanter, 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 >](#)
- 163 CLUB - join The 163 Pacifics Club to complete the financing of *Tornado*. [Learn more here >](#)

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