

# THE TORNADO TELEGRAPH



60163 TORNADO  
New Steam for the Main Line

Welcome to issue No. 73 of *The Tornado Telegraph*.

During August *Tornado* worked a 'Torbay Express' on the 7<sup>th</sup>, a 'Belmond British Pullman' on the 12<sup>th</sup> and 'The Robin Hood' on the 13<sup>th</sup> before finishing the month at the Nene Valley Railway for their 'East Coast Revival' event. Barely pausing for breath she returns to the south to work two additional 'Torbays' either side of 'The Severn Valley Venturer' during September. Make sure you enjoy a trip out with our hard-working locomotive!

## NEWS BRIEFS

- **'THE ROBIN HOOD' - SO GOOD IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN OUTLAWED!**

'The Robin Hood' was a new itinerary for *Tornado*, the route taking in the familiar ECML but including *Tornado's* first passenger trip on the Stamford route and involving a first visit to Nottingham. The run north was also well to time with an early arrival at Alfreton (for Crich) and Chesterfield (for Chatsworth). The train then ran onto Barrow Hill for servicing.

The return to Chesterfield was necessarily via Sheffield but the arrival at Chesterfield was, however, a few minutes late due to following a late running Plymouth service. The failure of the water tanker after the Oakham stop meant that Lincolnshire Fire Brigade had to use their appliance and a nearby hydrant to water the locomotive at Grantham. Thanks to the cooperation of Network Rail (giving the train the fast line to Huntingdon) a 31 minute deficit was reduced to a three minute late arrival at King's Cross!



- **TORNADO ON 'THE TORBAY EXPRESS' AGAIN - AGAIN!**

Once again we have been asked if we could step in at short notice and use *Tornado* for 'The Torbay Express' on Sundays the 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> of September, concluding 'The Torbay Express' season for 2016. *Tornado* substituted for *Braunton* on 7<sup>th</sup> August, working 'The Torbay Express' between Bristol and Kingswear, returning the Peppercorn Pacific to some familiar haunts in the West Country on a route where she has recorded some remarkable performances. However, a problem with the exhaust injector during the fitness to run examination during the week meant that the support crew burnt some midnight oil to ensure she was available for traffic. As it was No. 60163 travelled down to Bristol on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> August for the run the next day; as usual, *Tornado* handled the duty with aplomb!



*Tornado* at Dawlish on 'The Torbay Express' - Richard Harnetty



Dignity and impudence at the Nene Valley Railway - Richard Harnetty

- **‘THE SEVERN VALLEY VENTURER’ ON THURSDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2016** - London Victoria to Severn Valley Railway.

Here’s something a little different! Enjoy a special midweek tour, taking *Tornado* all the way from London to Severn Valley Railway. The train originates at London Victoria, taking a route via Kensington Olympia, Willesden, Acton, Slough and Reading, past Oxford’s ‘dreaming spires’ to Banbury for water. The train passes through Leamington Spa, Solihull and Tyseley and Birmingham Snow Hill, thence via Smethwick, Old Hill and Stourbridge Junction to Kidderminster and Severn Valley Railway.

With No. 60163 still at the head, the train calls at Bewdley before travelling the length of this superbly preserved railway, passing through idyllic countryside before reaching Bridgnorth. Here you have a break of around three hours. For the return journey from Bridgnorth to Bewdley we have requested the use of *Bulleid* ‘West Country’ Pacific No. 34027. At Bewdley a DB Class 66 takes over for the return journey which re-traces our outward route to London Victoria. Your tour ticket will also be valid for travel on scheduled Severn Valley Railway trains, giving a variety of alternative itinerary opportunities. Details and bookings at [UK Railtours](#). This trip is selling well so be sure to book early to avoid disappointment!

STATION	OUTWARD	RETURN
London Victoria	08:30	21:35
Slough (for M25)	09:25	20:45
Reading	09.55	20.25

Standard Class (a buffet is available): £99.00

First Class Non-Dining (includes complimentary tea or coffee. A buffet car is available): £149.00

The First Class Dining (includes the Great British Breakfast, morning coffee and a four course dinner): £225.00

Terms and conditions are available on request. Guaranteed ‘tables for two’ in First Class Dining and First Class Non-Dining are available for a supplement of £25.00 per person. All profits from this tour go towards keeping *Tornado* on the main line in future years

- **TORNADO AND FLYING SCOTSMAN OPERATE TOGETHER FOR THE FIRST TIME** - *Tornado* will also be making several heritage railway and centre visits during 2016, including sharing the limelight with *Flying Scotsman* at the Severn Valley Railway’s Power Pacific event in September.
- **2016 CONVENTION, 1<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER, DARLINGTON** - A final reminder that the 2016 A1SLT Convention is to be held on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> October. Held again in Darlington, at the home of the Trust, the day will be hosted at the King’s Head Mercure hotel, followed after lunch by bus transfer to Darlington Locomotive Works. The Convention Dinner will be held at the Mercure on the Saturday evening. The invitations and schedule have now been sent out and must be returned before Friday 16<sup>th</sup> September.
- **‘THE MAGNA CARTA’ ON SATURDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER** - London to Lincoln via Peterborough and Spalding, three hours in Lincoln and return via the East Coast Main Line.

On Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2016 No. 60163 *Tornado* will set out from London King’s Cross station and head to Lincoln with this main line steam railtour, picking up passengers at Potters Bar (for M25) and Stevenage. ‘The Magna Carta’ will feature No. 60163 *Tornado* throughout, hauling historic carriages with

passengers in First Class Dining receiving a traditional silver service throughout the journey. It will be *Tornado's* first visit to Lincoln since 2013.

Lincoln is a great destination at any time of year. In the 'low town', close to the station, is the modern Brayford Pool waterfront, a vibrant centre with many places to eat and drink. Alternatively, passengers can make their way uphill through the superb shopping centre and to the 'high town' where lots of little shops and inns cluster around the castle and cathedral. Lincoln Castle is notable for housing an original copy of the 1215 Magna Carta and Lincoln Cathedral, the tallest building in the world for almost 250 years, the home of the legendary Lincoln Imp.

The outward journey takes 'The Magna Carta' from the newly restored King's Cross station via Peterborough and Spalding, heading on through the glorious wide-open Lincolnshire landscapes. *Tornado* will arrive in Lincoln at lunchtime for a break of over three hours. On the way home 'The Magna Carta' heads cross-country to Newark where it joins *Tornado's* spiritual stamping ground, the East Coast Main Line, to head south through Grantham and down Stoke Bank. From Peterborough 'The Magna Carta' retraces its outward route back to King's Cross station.

Provisional timings:

STATION	OUTWARD	RETURN
London King's Cross	09:00	21:00
Potters Bar (for M25)	09:30	20:30
Stevenage	09:55	20:00
Lincoln	12:45	16:45

First Class Dining- £225.00: Seats at a table for two\* or four in a First Class carriage. Includes a silver service full English breakfast on the outward journey and a four course dinner on the return leg from Lincoln.

First Class Non-Dining - £145.00: Seats at a table for two\* or four in a First Class carriage. Includes complimentary teas and coffees. As well as afternoon tea during the return journey.

Standard Class - £99.00: Seats at a table for four in a heritage carriage. An on-board buffet serving snacks and hot & cold beverages will be available.

Online and telephone bookings are handled by our booking agents UK Railtours. Go to [www.a1steam.com](http://www.a1steam.com) or [www.ukrailtours.com](http://www.ukrailtours.com) to make an online booking, or call 01438 715050 to book over the phone. In the event of cancellation or haulage problems please see our full terms and conditions of carriage.

- **'THE BATH CHRISTMAS SPA EXPRESS' ON THURSDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER** - A festive foray to Bath and Bristol from London (Victoria).
- **'THE CHRISTMAS CANTERBURY TALE' ON MONDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER** - A gentle perambulation from London (Victoria) round the 'Garden of England' via Tonbridge to Canterbury followed by a return run through Sandwich, Deal and Dover.

- Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September - 'Belmond British Pullman' - London Victoria to Bath & Bristol
- Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> September - 'The Severn Valley Venturer' - London Victoria to The Severn Valley Railway - A1SLT promoted tour, bookings through [UK Railtours](#)
- Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> September - 'The Torbay Express' - Bristol to Kingswear and return - bookings through [Torbay Express](#)
- Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> to Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> September - Severn Valley Railway Gala, 'Pacific Power'
- Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September - 'Belmond British Pullman' - The Golden Age of Travel (Surrey Hills) (Belmond Provisional Date)
- Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> October - 'The Magna Carta' - London King's Cross to Lincoln - A1SLT promoted tour, bookings through [UK Railtours](#)
- Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> October - 'Belmond British Pullman' - The Golden Age of Travel (Surrey Hills)
- Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November - 'Belmond British Pullman' - The Golden Age of Travel (Surrey Hills)
- Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> December - 'The Bath Spa Christmas Express' - A1SLT promoted tour, bookings through [UK Railtours](#)
- Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December - 'Belmond British Pullman' - The Golden Age of Travel (Surrey Hills)
- Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December - 'The Christmas Canterbury Tale' - A1SLT promoted tour, bookings through [UK Railtours](#)
- Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> December - 'Belmond British Pullman' - The Golden Age of Travel (Surrey Hills)

### 2017 NEW A1SLT TOURS!

- Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> February 'The White Rose' - London King's Cross to Leeds - A1SLT promoted tour, bookings through UK Railtours
- Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March - 'The Red Dragon' - A1SLT promoted tour, bookings through UK Railtours

You can download the 2016/17 Tour Guide [here](#)

## 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 108 of the 163 having already found new 'shed allocations' - but there is still a way to go.



*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 Trust have decided 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.

## 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](mailto: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.](#)

## P2 PROGRESS

You can see all the latest news on the [P2 website](#).

## 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](mailto: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](http://www.a1steam.com)

Edited by [graham.langer@a1steam.com](mailto:graham.langer@a1steam.com)  
Picture Editor [tony.watson@a1steam.com](mailto:tony.watson@a1steam.com)

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**Our mailing address is:**

The A1 Steam Locomotive Trust, Darlington Locomotive Works, Hopetown Lane, Darlington. DL3 6RQ  
Tel. 01325 460163