

THE TORNADO TELEGRAPH



60163 TORNADO
New Steam for the Main Line

Welcome to issue No.74 of The *Tornado* Telegraph.

September proved to be an exciting month for the Trust. *Tornado* returned from the Nene Valley Railway and was immediately despatched to Bristol to cover a 'Torbay Express' on 4th September. Back in London she worked a 'Belmond British Pullman' on the 7th before hauling 'The Severn Valley Venturer' on the 8th, which should have been a positioning move for the Severn Valley's Pacifics Gala had she not been called back to Bristol for a further 'Torbay' on the 11th! After a very successful time on the Severn Valley Railway, *Tornado* returned to London to work the Pullmans again on the 30th. On the 1st October the 'faithful' gathered in Darlington for one of the most well attended Conventions ever, over 230 folk crammed into The Ballroom at the Mecure King's Hotel to listen to the presentations (more of which later) and over 100 attended the dinner.

NEWS BRIEFS

- 2016 CONVENTION, 1st OCTOBER, DARLINGTON - Some amazing announcements were made during the presentations at this year's Convention, here are just some of the highlights!
 - A NEW TRAIN - The Trust announced that it would be building a state-of-the-art charter train. The train is to be constructed from locomotive hauled Mk3 carriages currently in use in East Anglia which will be extensively refurbished and overhauled for their new role.
 - 90MPH RUNNING - The Trust also announced that *Tornado* would be undertaking test runs in spring 2017 which will pave the way for 90mph operation on selected routes. Engineering activity is now developed to enable tests, which has the full support of the Trust's operator DB Cargo. The ability to run at 90mph will enable shorter journey times and for *Tornado* to fit in better with the increasingly congested modern railway.
 - A NEW HEADQUARTERS - It was also revealed that the Trust is seeking a new site in the Darlington area with larger facilities for new steam locomotive construction, maintenance, operations and education. The new site would be main line connected with the potential for a turntable and a carriage shed for the new train.
 - ANOTHER LOCOMOTIVE - Finally, it was announced that the Trust's next new steam locomotive to follow new Gresley class P2 No. 2007 *Prince of Wales* would be a Gresley class V4 2-6-2 mixed traffic locomotive which was Sir Nigel Gresley's last design. Work will be starting within the next twelve months on a design book to be created within 3D CAD, with this to be followed by a Gresley class V3 2-6-2 tank engine.



Covenantors pack The Ballroom at the Mercure King's Hotel - *Bob Hughes*

- **‘THE SEVERN VALLEY VENTURER’**

This tour proved to be an excellent jaunt with *Tornado* back on a train less than ten hours since she had arrived at Victoria with the ‘BBP’! Taking *Tornado* from London to Kidderminster and Bridgnorth for Severn Valley Railway’s Autumn Steam Gala, the trip saw some good running on the Cotswold Line in glorious autumn weather.



The Severn Valley Venturer’ is seen at Oxford - *James Corben*

- **TORNADO ON ‘THE TORBAY EXPRESS’ AGAIN - AGAIN!**

Tornado was used for ‘The Torbay Express’ on Sundays the 4th and 11th of September, concluding ‘The

Torbay Express' season for 2016. Substituting for *Braunton*, the A1 put in two good days work with more promised for next year - watch this space!



Tornado at Taunton on 'The Torbay Express'- Paul Davies

- **'THE MAGNA CARTA' ON SATURDAY 8TH OCTOBER** - London to Lincoln via Peterborough and Spalding, three hours in Lincoln and return via the East Coast Main Line.

On Saturday 8th 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 or 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 1ST DECEMBER** - A festive foray to Bath and Bristol from London (Victoria).

The graceful city of Bath is a wonderful place to visit at any time of year, but never more so than in the festive tide. Bath Christmas Market sees the centre of Bath transformed into a magical Christmas paradise as over 170 chalets packed full of individual Christmas gifts line the streets surrounding the Roman Baths and Bath Abbey. The aroma of warming mulled wine and freshly baked mince pies, enjoyed with a generous sprinkling of cheering carols, will get even the biggest of humbugs into the Christmas spirit! Bath is a compact city and the station is only moments from the Baths and the Abbey. This trip also offers an alternative destination, Bristol, awash with centuries of seafaring history. Maybe hop on a sightseeing bus to visit the dramatic Clifton Suspension Bridge, the SS Great Britain or the historic docks. Here also, the Christmas shopping possibilities are endless.

One of two Christmas steam specials, as *Tornado* ventures into Great Western territory. The route, outward and return, is via Reading, Newbury, the Westbury East Chord and along the bucolic Avon Valley by way of Trowbridge. Passengers will have around four hours in Bath, or around three and a half if they choose Bristol. To meet the great demand at this time of year most seating is First Class Dining but a limited number of Standard Class seats are also available.

Provisional timings:

STATION	OUTWARD	RETURN
London Victoria	09:00	21:50
Staines	10:10	21:05
Ascot	10:30	20:45

Ticket prices:

Standard Class: £99.00

First Class Non Dining £149.00

First Class Dining £ 235.00

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.

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- 'THE CHRISTMAS CANTERBURY TALE' ON MONDAY 12TH 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.

TOUR DIARY

- Saturday 8th October - 'The Magna Carta' - London King's Cross to Lincoln - A1SLT promoted tour, bookings through [UK Railtours](#)
- Saturday 22nd October - 'Belmond British Pullman' - The Golden Age of Travel (Surrey Hills)
- Friday 4th November - 'Belmond British Pullman' - The Golden Age of Travel (Surrey Hills)
- Thursday 1st December - 'The Bath Spa Christmas Express' - A1SLT promoted tour, bookings through [UK Railtours](#)
- Wednesday 7th December - 'Belmond British Pullman' - The Golden Age of Travel (Surrey Hills)
- Monday 12th December - 'The Christmas Canterbury Tale' - A1SLT promoted tour, bookings through [UK Railtours](#)
- Saturday 17th December - 'Belmond British Pullman' - The Golden Age of Travel (Surrey Hills)

2017 NEW A1SLT TOURS!

- Saturday 11th February 'The White Rose' - London King's Cross to Leeds - A1SLT promoted tour, bookings through UK Railtours
- Wednesday 1st 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 over 125 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 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 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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