

# THE TORNADO TELEGRAPH



60163 TORNADO  
New Steam for the Main Line

Welcome to issue No.76 of The Tornado Telegraph.

We'd like to wish our Covenantors and supporters a very Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year as well as thanking you all for your support during 2016. Next year promises to be an even more exciting one with a varied choice of A1SLT tours heading to all points of the compass in the UK; so don't miss out, make sure you book a trip with us in 2017.

## NEWS BRIEFS

- **SEVERN VALLEY SURPRISE!** - *Tornado* featured in the Severn Valley Railway's 'Season Finale Gala'. From November 4<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> the SVR ended its year in style, with an intensive service of trains running into the early evenings. *Tornado* was a surprise visiting locomotive to star in the event, returning to the Railway following the hugely successful 'Pacific Power' event with *Flying Scotsman*. The visit also allowed our engineering team to do some essential routine maintenance using the SVR's excellent facilities.



*Tornado is seen at Bewdley - Duncan Langtree (Inspiring Images)*

- **‘THE BATH CHRISTMAS SPA EXPRESS’ ON THURSDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER** - *Tornado* clocked up another impressive run to Bath, a regular haunt for her with the ‘Belmond British Pullman’, although this time she conveyed a train of happy supporters to the Georgian resort.



Under azure skies, *Tornado* passes Crofton with ‘The Bath Spa Christmas Express’ - *Tony Bartlett*

- **‘THE CHRISTMAS CANTERBURY TALE’ ON MONDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER** - Canterbury was an appropriate destination for this Yuletide run and allowed *Tornado* to stretch her legs on the racing straight east of Tonbridge. Passengers enjoyed some spirited running on this seasonal jaunt through the ‘Garden of England’.

- **‘THE RED ROSE’ ON SATURDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY** - With St Valentine’s Day on the horizon, how about taking a main line steam trip to the beautiful city of Shrewsbury, hauled *Tornado*? A Victoria start gives easy travel options from many points on all sides of London. The route is via the West London Line, linking up with the West Coast Main Line at Willesden, followed by a fast run via Rugby and Coventry. Passing Birmingham and Wolverhampton the train arrives at Cosford, Telford Central and Shrewsbury.

Cosford station is alongside the RAF Museum, where admission is free of charge. With over 70 aircraft on display, each special in its own way, there is a lot to see. Passengers will have over four hours available. There are model displays, interactive features and refreshment facilities. Please note that a walk of a few hundred yards is involved and the station platforms are accessible only by flights of steps.

The next stop is Telford Central where coaches will be waiting for the transfer to Blists Hill Museum at Ironbridge. Experience life as it was over a hundred years ago through the sights, sounds, smells and tastes of a recreated Victorian Town. Don’t worry if the weather isn’t too great - there is plenty to see inside the faithfully restored houses, shops and the wonderful old-fashioned pub. There’s a café available too. Passengers will have nearly three hours at Blists Hill.



The final destination, Shrewsbury, is a real gem of a town, always worth visiting at any time of year. The statue of its greatest citizen, Charles Darwin, stands in Castle Gates, just a few minutes’ walk from the station. The place is a shopper’s paradise, and the old streets lead out to the old Town Walls and down to the banks of the River Severn. Passengers have some three hours at leisure here.

The return route from Shrewsbury, Telford and Cosford is via Wolverhampton, Walsall and Water Orton, rejoining the West Coast Main Line at Nuneaton for the journey south.

Timings (provisional):

STATION	OUTWARD	RETURN
London Victoria	07:45hrs	20:40hrs
Watford Junction	08:50hrs	19:35hrs
Milton Keynes Central	09:30hrs	19:00hrs

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. Online and telephone bookings are handled by our booking agents UK Railtours. Go to [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.

## TOUR DIARY

### 2017 NEW A1SLT TOURS!

- Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> February - 'Belmond British Pullman' - The Golden Age of Travel (Surrey Hills)
- Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> February - 'The Red Rose' - London Victoria to Cosford, Telford Central and Shrewsbury - A1SLT promoted tour - bookings through [UK Railtours](#)
- Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March - 'The Saint David' - London Paddington to Cardiff - A1SLT promoted tour - bookings through [UK Railtours](#)
- Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March - 'Belmond British Pullman' - The Golden Age of Travel (Surrey Hills)
- Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> April - 'The North Briton' - Leicester to Carlisle - A1SLT promoted tour - bookings through [UK Railtours](#)
- Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May - 'The Heart of Midlothian' - Peterborough to Edinburgh - A1SLT promoted tour - bookings through [UK Railtours](#)
- Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May - 'The Talisman' - London King's Cross to Darlington - A1SLT promoted tour - bookings through [UK Railtours](#)
- Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May - 'The Cornishman' - London Paddington - Penzance - 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 nearly there with 128 of the 163 having already found new 'shed allocations' - don't miss out!



*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 >](#)

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