

THE TORNADO TELEGRAPH



Welcome to issue No. 98 of *The Tornado Telegraph*.

No. 60163 *Tornado* has been accumulating miles on the Nene Valley railway over the last few weeks. A more detailed statement can be found below.

The Tornado Telegraph

NEWS BRIEFS

- **TORNADO UPDATE** - Saturday 6th October was a significant day in the return of No. 60163 *Tornado* to main line operation. Following two weeks of successful running-in on the Nene Valley railway during which a total of 772 miles were covered, made up of 225 miles light engine and 547 miles loaded, a representative from DB Cargo carried out an audit of the condition of the locomotive and the relevant paperwork which accompanies it including test certificates for the boiler and air reservoirs, ultrasonic testing of the axles, spring weights etc. No significant defects were found, although there were a number of minor deferred defects mostly arising from two weeks of continuous activity which will be attended to during the A exam scheduled to start on 11th October.

This represents a major milestone in the programme to return *Tornado* to the main line after the damage to the inside valve gear whilst hauling 'The Ebor Flyer' on 14th April 2018. We also made the decision to refurbish and renew parts of the outside cylinder valve gear whilst the engine was out of service.

The repair has proven to have taken rather longer to complete than we anticipated due to a number of factors, including having the locomotive based a long way from our own engineering resources; and that the parts of the British mechanical engineering industry that we rely on being very busy. This resulted in long lead times to have specialist machining and welding work done.

Notwithstanding this, we owe particular thanks to Arthur Stephenson Engineers Ltd of Atherton who were able to forge and machine a new union link and combination lever in a short period of time for the inside valve gear, and to Durham Precision Engineering Ltd of Newton Aycliffe who rapidly CNC machined a new crosshead drop link.

We were fortunate in having a casting for a new crosshead "on the shelf", one of three which had recently been delivered by our principal sponsor William Cook Cast Products Ltd of Sheffield, for our new Gresley class P2 No. 2007 *Prince of Wales*.

We also owe thanks to the Nene Valley Railway which has made us most welcome and have gone out of their way to accommodate moves round the yard and the use of their railway to run in *Tornado*.

Whilst we are grateful for the assistance of many other firms and individuals, our sincere thanks goes to David Wright's Locomotive Maintenance Services Ltd of Loughborough and his staff, particularly Andy Morgan and Andy Meredith who have spent many hours at Loughborough and Wansford manufacturing new components, fettling existing parts and fitting them to the engine.

We are now working hard to get *Tornado* back onto the main line where she belongs and anticipate picking up the remainder of our 2018 programme as follows:

- Saturday 3rd November - Linlithgow and Edinburgh Waverley to York via Carlisle (southbound - *Tornado* hauled) and Newcastle upon Tyne (northbound - diesel hauled) - SRPS
- Saturday 1st December - 'The Christmas Border Raider' - West Midlands to Carlisle via the Settle & Carlisle Railway and return - A1SLT
- Saturday 15th December - 'The Chester Chuffer' - Salisbury to Chester and return (*Tornado* from/to West Midlands) - Pathfinder Tours



No. 60163 *Tornado* at Wansford with Thomas the tank engine! Ian MacDonald

TOURS

• 'THE NORTH BRITON' AND 'THE ABERDONIAN'

Join us on 'The North Briton', a brand new series of trains hauled by *Tornado* across the magnificent Settle and Carlisle Railway. Eminent railway engineers of the age proclaimed that it would be impossible to build a main line railway through this hostile terrain. Building the Settle & Carlisle almost broke the Midland Railway but determination was rewarded with a magnificent double-track main line railway sweeping through the hills. More information click [here](#).

Let the 'The Aberdonian', a new steam operation for 2019, whisk you away as we take in some of the best that Scotland has to offer, both on train and off. Crossing the Forth Bridge and the Tay Bridge, the train runs along the coast for much of its route making it an unrivaled way to experience Scotland. In Aberdeen there is a chance to explore this historic city, or take one of our off train excursions that include a castle or distillery visit. You can find out more [here](#).

2018

- Saturday 3rd November - Linlithgow and Edinburgh Waverley to York via Carlisle (southbound - *Tornado* hauled) and Newcastle upon Tyne (northbound - diesel hauled) - bookings through [SRPS](#)
- Saturday 1st December - 'The Christmas Border Raider' - West Midlands to Carlisle via the Settle & Carlisle Railway and return - bookings through [UK Raitours](#)

- Saturday 15th December - 'The Chester Chuffer' - Salisbury to Chester and return (*Tornado* from/to West Midlands) - bookings through [Pathfinder Tours](#)

2019

- Saturday 9th February - 'The North Briton' - East Midlands to Carlisle via the Settle & Carlisle Railway and return - bookings through [UK Railtours](#)
- Saturday 16th February - 'The North Briton' - London and East Coast stations to Carlisle via the Settle and Carlisle Railway - bookings through [UK Railtours](#)
- Thursday 14th March - 'The Aberdonian' - Launch Train: Edinburgh to Aberdeen via the Fife Coast - bookings through [UK Railtours](#)
- **RE-SCHEDULED DATE** - Saturday 23rd March - 'The Bard of Avon' - Manchester Piccadilly to Stratford-Upon-Avon - bookings through [UK Railtours](#)
- **RE-SCHEDULED DATE** - Saturday 6th April - 'The Devonian' - Birmingham to Plymouth and return (*Tornado* Bristol - Plymouth - Birmingham) - bookings through [UK Railtours](#)
- **RE-SCHEDULED DATE** - Saturday 11th May - 'The Mad Hatter' - Darlington, York and Wakefield to Chester - bookings through [UK Railtours](#)
- Saturday 8th June - 'The North Briton' - London and East Coast stations to Carlisle via the Settle and Carlisle Railway - bookings through [UK Railtours](#)
- **RE-SCHEDULED DATE** - Saturday 15th June - 'The Yorkshire Pullman' - London King's Cross to York and Scarborough - bookings through [UK Railtours](#)
- Saturday 20th July - 'The North Briton' - London and East Coast stations to Carlisle via the Settle and Carlisle Railway - bookings through [UK Railtours](#)
- Thursday 1st August - 'The Aberdonian' - Edinburgh to Aberdeen via the Fife Coast - bookings through [UK Railtours](#)
- Thursday 8th August - 'The Aberdonian' - Edinburgh to Aberdeen via the Fife Coast - bookings through [UK Railtours](#)
- Saturday 17th August - 'The North Briton' - London and East Coast stations to Carlisle via the Settle and Carlisle Railway - bookings through [UK Railtours](#)
- Saturday 24th August - 'The North Briton' - London and East Coast stations to Carlisle via the Settle and Carlisle Railway - bookings through [UK Railtours](#)
- Saturday 31st August - 'The Aberdonian' - Edinburgh to Aberdeen via the Fife Coast - bookings through [UK Railtours](#)
- Saturday 7th September - 'The Aberdonian' - Edinburgh to Aberdeen via the Fife Coast - bookings through [UK Railtours](#)

TRUSTEE UPDATE

The Trustees of The A1 Steam Locomotive Trust would like to announce that Operations Director Graeme Bunker-James has advised the Board that he wishes to reduce his overall commitment to the Trust after many years of service.

Graeme Bunker-James said:

"After almost twenty years involvement, and ten years of hands on operating of *Tornado*, I wanted to step back earlier than now but it wasn't appropriate after the failure in April. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time, and achieved all there is and more, but it is a commitment that totally dominates your life and there are other things I wish to achieve inside and outside the railway.

"I shall continue to serve as a Trustee, and help guide the next generation, as well as taking a full role in the current and future projects the Trust has in hand such as the P2 and the V4, our own train and expanded base in Darlington. I have also agreed to serve on the SVR (Holdings) PLC Board as a Director, as well as being Vice Chairman of The Gresley Society Trust, which is not compatible with leading the operation of a main line locomotive full time."

As The A1 Steam Locomotive Trust continues to grow, it is becoming increasingly important that Trustees are able to spend more of their available voluntary time in their oversight role. As such, there will be a number of changes to the board in the coming months as the roles of our existing Trustees evolve and we seek to bring new people on-board, particularly expanding our capabilities in both engineering and operations. Graeme's service as Operations Director during *Tornado's* first 10 years in traffic has been invaluable and we are delighted that he will continue as a Trustee, especially inputting to our long-term development plans. The Trust is working up its future plans for *Tornado's* - and soon *Prince of Wales'* - operations and all Trustees are working to ensure a smooth transition as we continue to grow and enhance and improve our new working practices.

BECOME AN A1 COVENANTOR OR RECRUIT A FRIEND!

If you haven't yet signed up to support No. 60163 *Tornado* by giving from just £10.00 per month, as one of our monthly Covenantors, we would urge you to consider it. It costs a lot to keep *Tornado* out on the main line for you to see and enjoy. We need your help to ensure she stays where she belongs.

If you know of anyone who has a keen interest in railways, *Tornado* or even someone who simply likes photographing *Tornado* please forward this email to them in an attempt to encourage them to sign up to being a monthly supporter of No. 60163 *Tornado*. More information can be found [here](#).

[DOWNLOAD YOUR COVENANTOR FORMS HERE](#)

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 UPDATE



Progress on No. 2007 *Prince of Wales* - Mandy Grant

For more information about No. 2007 please click [here](#).

Roadshows

We will be holding a series of presentations on the project to build new Gresley class P2 No. 2007 *Prince of Wales*. Each presentation will feature key Trust personnel including Mark Allatt and/or David Elliott and will cover the background to the project, progress to-date, future plans and details of how to get involved. **We would encourage you to attend one of these Roadshows and bring along some friends and family members who would be interested in hearing about the project.** The two hour presentation will start promptly 11:00hrs and run until 13:00hrs on each of the days listed below and are open to existing supporters and interested members of the public:

ROADSHOW DATES FOR 2018:

- Saturday 3rd November 2018 - Manchester Conference Centre, Manchester
- Saturday 8th December 2018 - Hilton Leeds City Hotel, Leeds.

SUPPORT THE TRUST

Your support as Covenantors and Volunteers remains vital

- **VOLUNTEERS** - Enjoy meeting people? We have established a successful team who travel on trains and attend events to promote *Tornado*, recruit Covenantors and sell the Trust's railtours and merchandise. More people are always needed to help with this, wherever they live. Contact volunteer@a1steam.com for more details.
- **LEGACY PROGRAMME** - We now have a Legacy Giving facility. [Learn more here >](#)

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