

THE MIKADO MESSENGER



2007 PRINCE OF WALES
Building Britain's Most Powerful Steam Locomotive

Welcome to edition No. 21 of The Mikado Messenger. The Messenger aims to provide a regular bulletin of news about the construction of No. 2007 *Prince of Wales*.

Work continues at Darlington Locomotive works, and June has seen significant progress on several fronts, especially the smokebox.

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Editor of The Mikado Messenger

CHIMNEY

The chimney casting has been delivered from South Lincs Foundry and will be sent for machining shortly.



WHEELSETS

Timsons Engineering at Kettering continue making good progress with machining the axle and cannonboxes and manufacturing all the spacer and thrust rings for the roller bearings. With the imminent arrival of the first of the proof machined crank axle parts from South Africa, a programme has been agreed with South Devon Railway Engineering to assemble the wheelsets.



SMOKEBOX

The smokebox is making significant progress. The barrel has had the superheater access cover and two anti-vacuum valve covers made and fitted, the door hinge brackets completed, the hinges blacksmithed to fit the door, the door centre boss, lamp bracket, handrail and opening knob made and fitted. In order to check the alignment of the smokebox front with the sloping panel work behind the front footplate, the smokebox has been set up on a temporary frame stay which represents the cylinder block.



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CAB

The cab roof has been completed including fitting steel expanded metal mesh screens to the four sliding ventilators - a modern requirement for main line operation to prevent the fire irons being inadvertently projected above the roof, particularly necessary when working under 25kv electrification.

Ian Matthews and Mick Robinson have completed smithing, forming and fitting the 2 inch round beading on the rear edges of the cab sides, and fitting the beads round the cab side windows.



The cab has been temporarily reassembled and mounted on the frames to enable accurate measurement of the height of the roof in order to check that it will be inside the modern 13' 0" loading gauge limit. If it is high, a small amount will be trimmed from the bottom of the cab sides before the angles which attach the cab to the footplate are permanently riveted on.

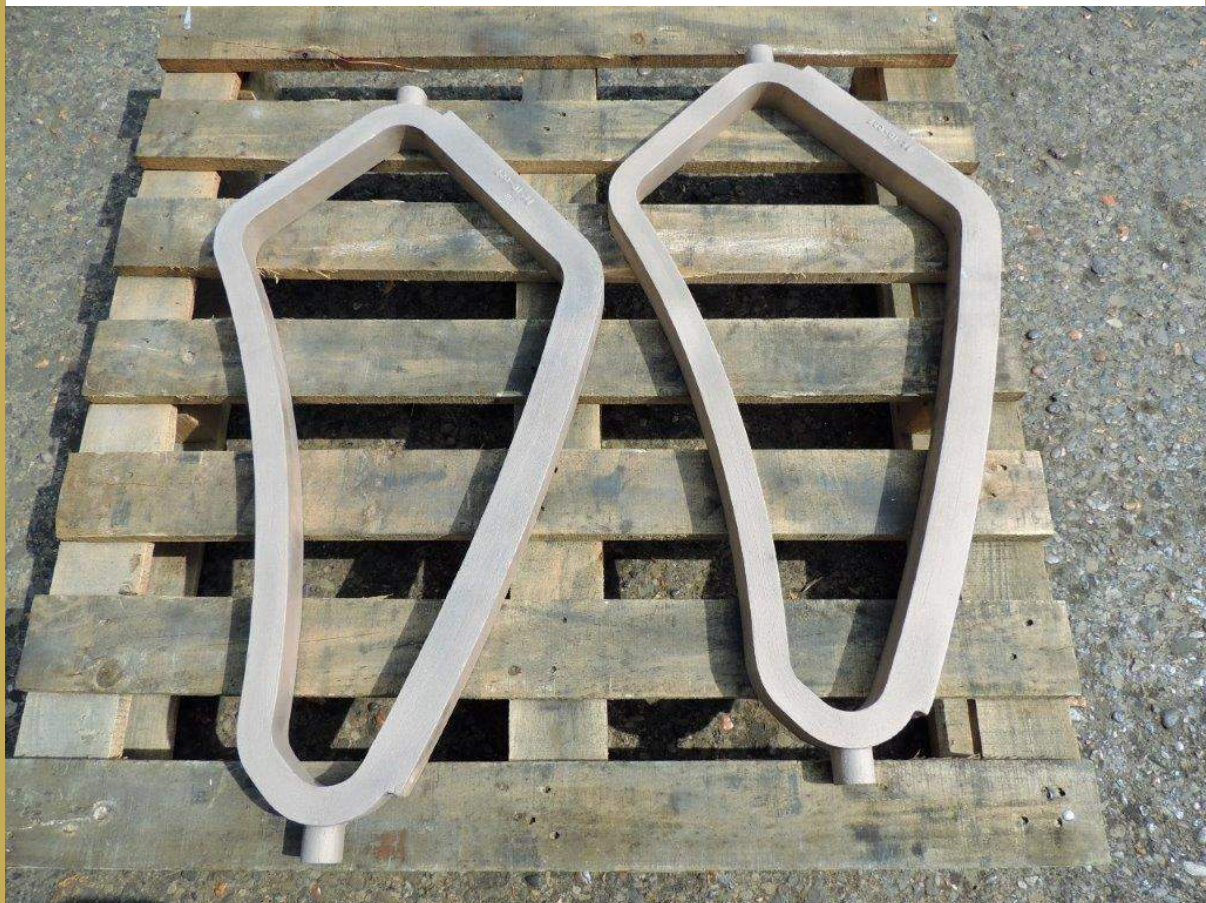


Longstanding *Tornado* and *Prince of Wales* supporter Colin Vickridge has finished the teak side window frames and supplied the wood for the window runners. Stainless steel strip has been ordered to complete the window runners which along with the recently supplied cab window glazings will enable completion and fitment of the windows when the cab is fully riveted together.

The leaded gunmetal castings for the spectacle windows have been delivered and will shortly be sent for CNC (computer numerically controlled) machining.



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OTHER NEWS

As part of a sponsorship agreement with Virgin Trains East Coast, apprentices from Bounds Green depot in London are being given the opportunity to

experience a different railway environment at Darlington Locomotive Works. Michael Olley and Simon Nadolny have completed a two-week stint with us and have got stuck in with our regular staff including helping with permanent installation of three large fabricated frame stays and assembling the smokebox smoke lifting sheets. Two more apprentices are expected in August.







FUNDRAISING

Public interest in seeing a new Gresley class P2 become a reality sooner rather than later is high and 770 people have already signed up to the 'P2 for the price of a pint of beer per week' (£10 per month or more) covenant scheme since its launch a year ago. In addition to this core scheme, funds have been raised through The Founders Club (over 360 people have donated £1,000 each - target 100 people, now closed), The Boiler Club (over 100 people have pledged £2,000 each - target of 300 people), The Mikado Club (70 people have pledged £1,000 each - target 160 people/£200,000), Dedicated Donations (over £170,000 from existing supporters sponsoring a variety of components) and the sponsorship of the locomotive's distinctive front-end by The Gresley Society Trust. This means that the project has

already received pledges of over £2m (including Gift Aid) of the £5m needed in just two years since the launch of the project.

For more information on how you can help to build Britain's most powerful steam locomotive visit www.p2steam.com, email enquiries@p2steam.com or call 01325 460163.

THE MIKADO CLUB

WE WANT EIGHT AND WE WON'T WAIT - £200,000 appeal launched to wheel No. 2007 *Prince of Wales* by the autumn.

On 29th March we announced a new £200,000 appeal to wheel No. 2007 *Prince of Wales* by autumn 2016. When achieved, it will be the first time for over 70 years that one of this iconic class of locomotives has stood on its wheels - the last original Gresley class P2 No. 2003 *Lord President* was rebuilt into an ungainly Thompson class A2/2 Pacific in December 1944.

Following the success of The Founders Club (to get the project to the point of cutting the frames) and The Boiler Club (to fund the construction of the boiler), the Trust has decided to establish The Mikado Club to raise an estimated £200,000 required to wheel No. 2007 during 2016.

If the project to complete No. 2007 *Prince of Wales* in 2021 is to remain on schedule the engine needs to be wheeled this year. The Trust has therefore set itself the challenge of raising £200,000 through The Mikado Club from 160 supporters each donating £1,000 (plus Gift Aid) to the project in up to eight payments of £125 by standing order. This estimate excludes the components already ordered or delivered such as wheels, tyres, axles, bearings and cannon boxes some of which are still available to sponsor as Dedicated Donations.

In return for supporting this appeal, special benefits for members of The Mikado Club include:

- Reserved seat on No. 2007's first main line train
- Reasonable access to No. 2007 at all times
- Exclusive Mikado Club badge
- Opportunity to join one of the teams building No. 2007
- First choice of other components to sponsor
- Special limited edition version (signed/numbered) of Stephen Bainbridge's new painting of No. 2007 *Prince of Wales* at Darlington station
- Special Mikado Club day with *Tornado*.

In four months, The Mikado Club has already recruited 70 members and therefore raised £87,500, over 40% of the way there! We would encourage those of you who haven't yet contributed to this exciting project to help us to meet these deadlines by becoming a member of The Mikado Club. It's time to get on board!

To become a member of The Mikado Club, email enquiries@p2steam.com, call 01325 460163 or visit www.p2steam.com for more information.

THE BOILER CLUB

It is our desire to leave No. 2007 *Prince of Wales* debt free upon completion and therefore our aim is to raise at least £600,000 for The Boiler Club from 300 supporters each donating £2,000 to the project (in up to 40 payments of £50 by standing order).

Special benefits for members of The Boiler Club:

- Opportunity to buy a ticket (seat already reserved) on No. 2007's first main line train
- Reasonable access to No. 2007 at all times
- Opportunity to buy exclusive Boiler Club badge
- Opportunity to join one of the teams building No. 2007
- First choice of other components to sponsor
- Special limited edition version (signed/numbered) of the first official painting of No. 2007 *Prince of Wales* with No. 60163 *Tornado*
- Special Boiler Club day with *Tornado*

Since to launch of The Boiler Club, 103 supporters have pledged £2,000 each meaning we are now over one third of the way there!

For more information on how you can help to build Britain's most powerful steam locomotive [visit our website](#), [email us](#) or call 01325 460163.

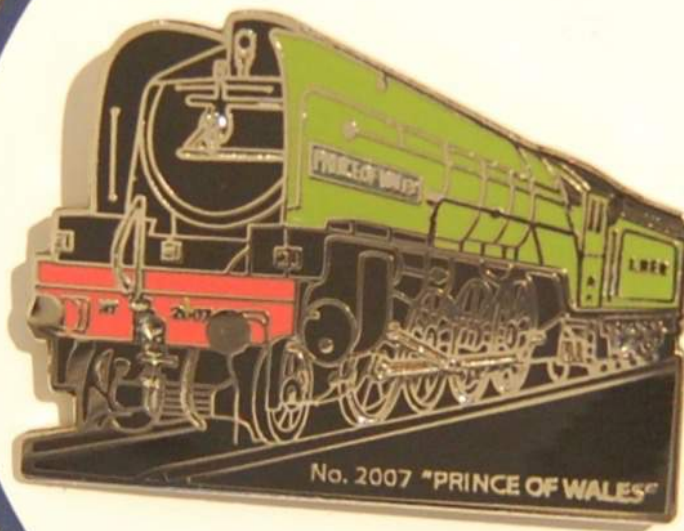
P2 BOILER CLUB EXCLUSIVE BADGES

P2 BOILER CLUB EXCLUSIVE BADGES ARE NOW AVAILABLE TO BUY!

To purchase your badge please send a cheque for £5 made payable to The P2 Steam Locomotive Company to The A1 Steam Locomotive Trust, Darlington Locomotive Works, Hopetown Lane, Darlington DL3 6RQ

Not suitable for children under 36 months

A GENUINE GOMM BADGE



EST. 1908
R.E.V. GOMM
LTD

DEDICATED DONATIONS

April to July saw an amazing increase in component sponsorship, firstly due to the fact that the scheme was opened up to non-supporters for a limited period of time on the run up to Father's Day and secondly because we have recently sent out a targeted 'Dedicated Donations' leaflet to our regular supporters, this has also proved successful and we are grateful to our supporters for their ongoing support!

Since its launch in 2014, well over 200 components have now been sponsored as part of the Dedicated Donations Scheme, totalling over £170,000

If you would like to sponsor a component on No. 2007 *Prince of Wales*, please contact dedicated.donations@p2steam.com

PRESENTATIONS

If any railway society - or indeed other interested group - would like a presentation on the project they should contact us by email enquiries@p2steam.com

VOLUNTEER

As ever we are looking for more volunteers. It takes a lot of people to both keep *Tornado* on the main line and also to build *Prince of Wales*. There is always so much more that we can achieve with the right volunteers with the right skills and can-do attitude. Please email enquiries@p2steam.com if you think you can help.

For more information on the project to build Gresley class P2 No. 2007 *Prince of Wales* please visit www.p2steam.com, email enquiries@p2steam.com or follow us on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn.



Facebook



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Website



Email

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