

THE MIKADO MESSENGER



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

Welcome to edition No.24 of The Mikado Messenger. The Messenger aims to provide a regular bulletin of news about the construction of No. 2007 *Prince of Wales*.

The project to build new Gresley class P2 steam locomotive No. 2007 *Prince of Wales* continues to make rapid progress, with the locomotive's 'face' now complete, only three years since its launch in 2013. Over 240 supporters, family and friends attending The A1 Steam Locomotive Trust's annual convention in Darlington on Saturday 1st October witnessed a sight not seen since No.2001 *Cock o'the North* was rebuilt in 1937.

graham.langer@p2steam.com
Editor of The Mikado Messenger

2016 CONVENTION

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.
- 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 gather at Darlington Locomotive Works with 'their' P2 - *Bob Hughes*

SMOKEBOX

Not since September 1937 - when class pioneer No.2001 *Cock o' the North* was rebuilt with the streamlined 'A4'-style nose used on the last four 'P2s' - has this unique shape been seen 'in the metal'. The second member of the class, No.2002 *Earl Marischal*, had already received the 'A4' outline during its first heavy repair at Doncaster in October 1936. On 1st October, supporters saw the ghost of *Cock o' the North* reappear, with the smokebox assembled on the front end, complete with the closure plates around the door and the distinctive smoke lifting plates.

The front footplating, and the raised platforms over the cylinders, had been permanently fitted to allow this, completing the running plate as far back as possible before the cylinders and motion brackets are fitted. North View Engineering is making good progress with the leading brake stay - the last of the major frame stays - and at the opposite end, the cab has been fully riveted together.



The impressive sight which greeted Covenantors arriving at DLW – *Mandy Grant*

WHEELSETS

It had also been hoped to have the locomotive on its wheels by this time - but the assembly of the wheelsets has been held up by the late delivery of the axles from South Africa, and with a queue of such work at the South Devon Railway, the wheeling of the 'P2's frames is now expected to take place in the first quarter of 2017.

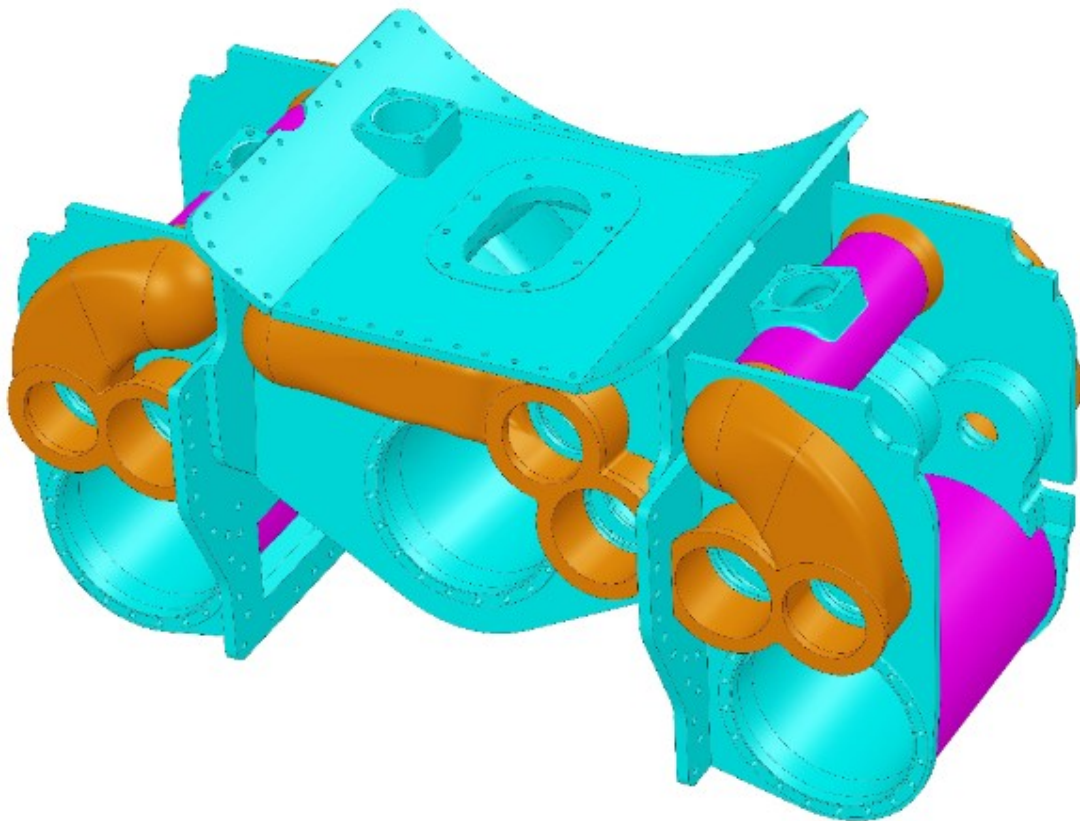
But The Mikado Club - the sponsorship scheme to pay for the wheeling, has reached an important milestone, over 100 supporters have now signed up, with one of the latest members generously donating over the required £1,000 and donated a five-figure sum. A further 55 places in the 'Club' remain - for details, call 01325 460163 or visit www.p2steam.com



Pony and Cartazzi axles have recently been delivered – *David Elliott*

CYLINDERS

The drawings for the ‘monobloc’ arrangement have been produced, with modifications made to the original design both to improve efficiency and reduce the locomotive’s width by two inches to increase route availability.



Turquoise - fabricated from profiled plate
Brown - castings for steam chests and passages
Mauve - cylinders and steam chests from thick walled tube

David Elliott

BOILER

The manifold casting and fittings have been delivered to Darlington and the

chime whistle manufactured (although this still needs to be tuned!)



Boiler manifold and components and the chime whistle – *David Elliott*

FUNDRAISING

Public interest in seeing a new Gresley class P2 become a reality sooner rather than later is high and almost 800 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. 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 (well over 100 people have pledged £2,000 each - target of 300 people), The Mikado Club (over 100 people have pledged £1,000 each - target 160 people/£200,000), Dedicated Donations (over £180,000 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 45% (including Gift Aid) of the £5m needed to complete the new locomotive by 2021.

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 one of No. 2007's first main line train
- Reasonable access to No. 2007
- Opportunity to purchase an 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*.

We are confident that we will have completed the rolling chassis for No. 2007 *Prince of Wales* in early 2017 having reached over 65% of our target for The Mikado Club. 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 one of No. 2007's first main line train
- Reasonable access to No. 2007

- Opportunity to purchase an 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*

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 & MIKADO CLUB EXCLUSIVE BADGES

P2 BOILER CLUB & MIKADO CLUB EXCLUSIVE BADGES ARE NOW AVAILABLE TO BUY!

These badges are only available to Boiler Club or Mikado Club members.

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

DEDICATED DONATIONS

Since its launch in 2014, 236 individual components have been sponsored as part of the Dedicated Donations Scheme, this is in addition to many of the smokebox components which have been sponsored directly by The Gresley Society Trust.

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

PRESENTATIONS

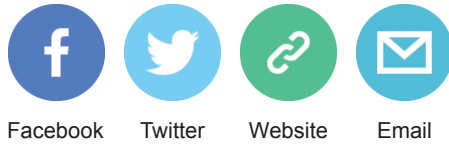
If any railway society - or indeed other interested group - would like a presentation on the project they should contact us by email enquiries@p2steam.com

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.



Copyright © 2016 The A1 Steam Locomotive Trust, All rights reserved.

Our mailing address is:

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