

# THE MIKADO MESSENGER



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

Welcome to edition No. 34 of *The Mikado Messenger*. The Messenger aims to provide a regular bulletin of news about the construction of No. 2007 *Prince of Wales*.

The new Mikado continues to make the headlines, half the funding for the construction has now been pledged, firms continue to offer sponsorship and assembly of the big 2-8-2 storms ahead at Darlington Locomotive Works and elsewhere.

## FUNDING FOR THE P2 REACHES HALFWAY STAGE IN LESS THAN FOUR YEARS

£2.5m of required £5m already pledged and over £1.3m turned into metal. Pledges towards the building of *Prince of Wales* have already reached £2.5m in less than four years since the launch of the project in September 2013. The new locomotive is already over a quarter complete in terms of engineering effort, with over £1.3m spent to-date. This rapid construction has been fuelled by the project's successful fundraising campaigns, which have seen donations and pledges of over 50% of the £5m required to complete Britain's most powerful steam locomotive over 7-10 years. In only three years since the launch of the project's 'P2 for the price of a pint of beer a week' (£10 per month) regular donation - or covenant scheme, funds either already donated or pledged by Standing Order have already passed £2m.

## PAINT FOR No. 2007 SPONSORED BY CRAFTMASTER PAINTS

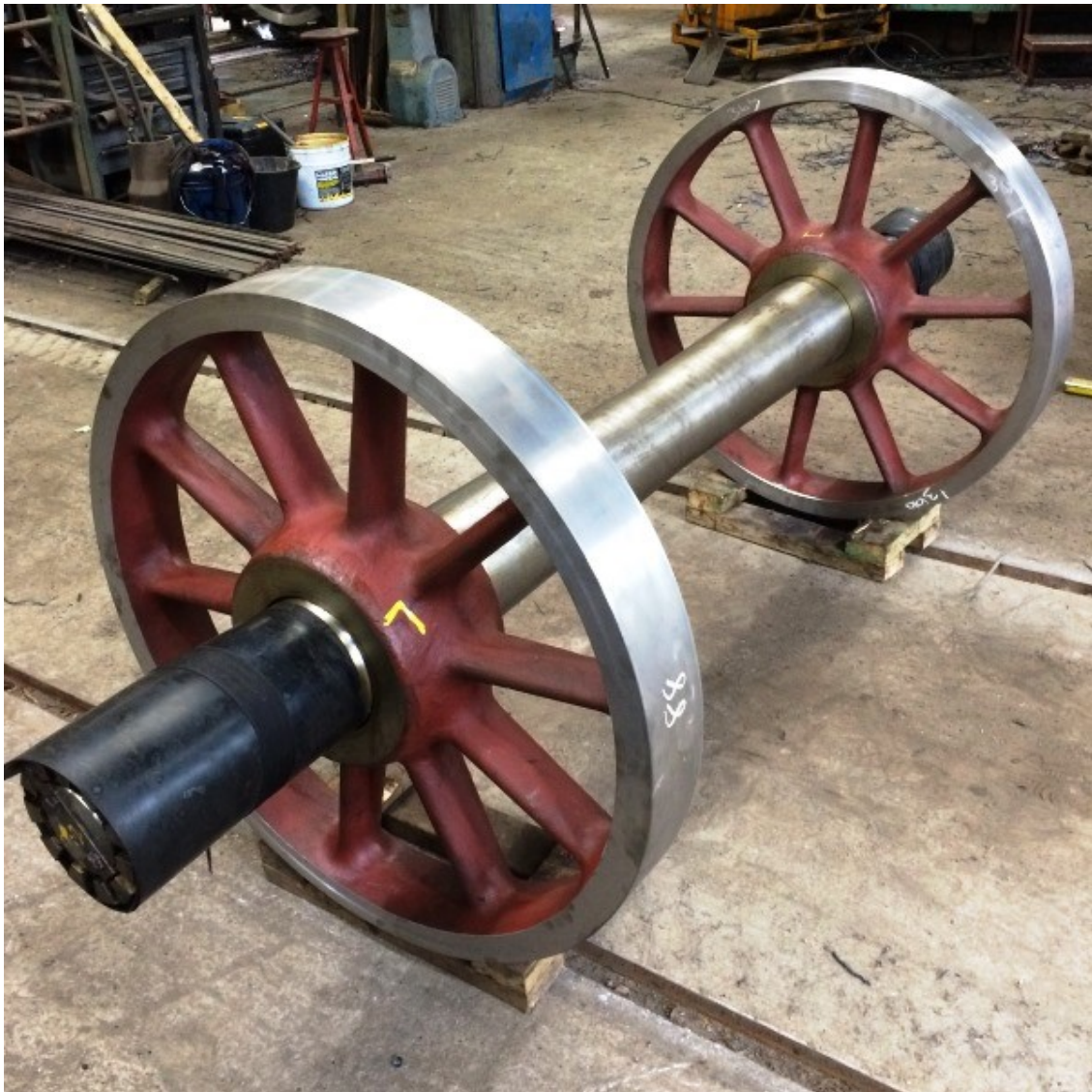
Cambridgeshire-based Craftmaster Paints Ltd, the leading traditional paint supplier to the UK's heritage restoration & inland waterways markets, is supply the paints for the new locomotive. Craftmaster Paints has been a sponsor of The A1 Steam Locomotive Trust for almost a decade, providing free-of-charge the works grey paint for No. 60163's unveiling in August 2008, the LNER Apple Green paint for *Tornado's* main line debut and naming in February 2009, the British Railways Green paint in May 2011 and British Railways Express Passenger Blue in November 2012. With the support of Craftmaster Paints, *Tornado* reappeared post overhaul in her iconic Apple Green livery in June 2015.

Craftmaster Paints has kindly agreed to supply the paints required for No. 2007 *Prince of Wales* on the same basis as those for No. 60163 *Tornado*, with the primers and undercoats at substantial discount and the top coats of LNER Apple Green and varnish free-of-charge. It is estimated that painting the new Gresley class P2 will require up to 14 gallons (60 litres) of each of the primer, undercoat and top coat.

## FIRST WHEELSET ASSEMBLED

The first wheelset for the new steam locomotive has been assembled by South Devon Railway Engineering at Buckfastleigh, Devon. The Cartazzi wheelset has had its wheels pressed onto its axle and

its tyres are due to be shrunk onto the wheels within the next fortnight. This is a significant milestone in the £250,000 wheeling of the new locomotive.



The cartazzi wheelset is assembled at South Devon Railway Railway Engineering - *Rob Le Chevalier*

Numerous suppliers from across the UK continue to work on different parts of the wheeling project, including:

- The newly-assembled crank axle is at Unilathe at Stoke-on-Trent for finish machining before delivery to Darlington Locomotive Works (DLW) for the fitting of its bearings and axle boxes
- The three-replacement plain coupled axles have arrived from Swasap of South Africa and have just been delivered to Unilathe for finish machining before also being delivered to DLW for the fitting of their bearings and cannon boxes
- The finished pony truck axle is now at DLW awaiting arrival of cannon box from Timsons of Kettering it is being finish machined to enable the fitting of its bearings and cannonbox
- The eight 6ft 2in coupled wheels have been weighed at DLW and measured to determine centre of mass for balancing calculations
- All four tender axles have been ordered from Unilathe to be made from forgings produced by Firth Rixson Forgings of Rotherham with delivery expected in October 2017
- Tender tyres have been ordered Railway Wheelset and Brake Ltd for delivery in November 2017.

## P2 SMOKEBOX NUMBERPLATE FOR SALE



Great Central Auctions are offering a smokebox numberplate from No. 60503, Lord *President* at their 2nd September sale. Rebuilt at Doncaster in December 1944 as a Class A2/2 4-6-2, the locomotive was renumbered 503 in 1946 and became BR 60503. Allocated new to Haymarket where it remained until moving south of the border in November 1949 to York from where it was withdrawn on 27th November 1959 and cut up at Doncaster Works. The estimate is £3000-4000.

## AN AUDIENCE WITH THE *PRINCE OF WALES* - NEXT STOP DUNDEE!

We continue to promote our P2 Project as widely as we can and have already held the first seven P2 Roadshows. All were very well attended and resulted in substantial donations and sign-ups on the day, with more coming in over the following weeks. The remaining presentations for 2017 will run from 11:00hrs to 13:00hrs on each of the days listed below, no booking is required, admission is free and are open to existing supporters and interested members of the public:

- Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2017 - Dundee Heritage Trust Discovery Point, Dundee
- Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2017 - Aberdeen Jury's Inn, Aberdeen.

These presentations are open to anyone interested in the project and we are encouraging our existing supporters to bring along interested family and friends.



The crowd at Edinburgh Jury's Inn, Edinburgh on 1<sup>st</sup> July - Mandy Grant

## THE MIKADO CLUB

As you may know, The Mikado Club was launched at the end of March 2016 to raise £200,000 from 160 members to wheel the engine. Following a fundraising drive by the Trust, The Mikado Club achieved its initial £200,000 target almost three months ahead of plan. With a £142,500 order recently placed with I D Howitt Ltd of Crofton, West Yorkshire, for the assembly of the locomotive's tender frames and another for £33,000 with William Cook Group for the remaining 67 castings for the locomotive, the Trust has decided to extend The Mikado Club's membership to 200 to raise sufficient funds to also wheel the tender. We currently have 165 members of the club. You can learn more about and join The Mikado Club [here](#).

## NEW WEBSITES

The A1 Steam Locomotive Trust have recently had their websites redesigned to make the websites more user friendly.

Why not take a look at the new design at [www.a1steam.com](http://www.a1steam.com) and [www.p2steam.com](http://www.p2steam.com).

## TORNADO'S TOURS

For more information on *Tornado's* tours and where you can see her, click [here](#).

The Trust respectfully requests that anyone wanting to see *Tornado* follows the rules of the railway and only goes where permitted.

## 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](mailto:enquiries@p2steam.com)

## OPEN DAYS AT DARLINGTON

We hold public open days at Darlington Locomotive Works on the third Saturday of every month. During April through to September we are open 10:00hrs to 16:00hrs, October through to March, we are open 11:00hrs - 15:30hrs.

## 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](mailto: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](http://www.p2steam.com), email [enquiries@p2steam.com](mailto:enquiries@p2steam.com) or follow us on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn.



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