

THE WARRIOR

The Newsletter from the LMS-Patriot Project

September 2009
Issue 5

The LMS Patriot Co. Ltd. Company Registered in England & Wales No. 6502248 Registered Charity No. 112352

Appeal Launched For 'Patriot' Wheelsets

By Andrew Laws, Marketing Director

With the frame plates for 45551 'The Unknown Warrior' now at the Llangollen Works, an appeal has been launched for the wheelsets. We aim to raise £160,000 for the driving wheel castings, tyres, axles, crank axle, hornguides and axle boxes. This will enable the new 'Patriot' to become a rolling chassis. Through this issue of the Warrior we are appealing to our members who now total around 250 to help us raise this sum. We are therefore offering the opportunity to sponsor the wheelset components.

The cost of some these items are as follows:

Wheels (6) £7000 each

Axle (2) £2000 each

Crank Axle £5000

Spokes (126) £333 each

We have around £10,000 towards this target but need a further £40,000 before we can order the wheels. If we can raise this money quickly, 45551 'The Unknown Warrior' will be a rolling chassis within 12 months from now. Please help us achieve this goal.



Engineering Update

By David Bradshaw, Chairman

The Frame Plates have been installed in a set of frame stands at the Llangollen Railway Works, awaiting the arrival of the various parts necessary to complete the frames.

The front and rear buffer beams and the materials necessary to fit them to the frames have now been delivered to Llangollen. Flanged plates to fit buffer beams to the frames have now been ordered. Drawings are in progress for four cast steel frame stretchers. A new drawing has been completed for

the Bogie Bolster and quotes for the pattern and casting are being obtained.

The Drag Box which will be delivered to Llangollen as a kit of parts and assembled and fitted on site was ordered during August.

Our Design Engineer, Kevin West, is drawing up the hornguides. There are 12 in all, which for the middle and rear driving wheels also incorporate frame stretchers. These will be castings and we will require three different patterns costing around £150 each. Completion of these will permit the driving wheelsets to be installed in the frames. We have raised sufficient funds for all of these items to be made and fitted within the next six months.

Buffer Beam Sponsored by LMS-Patriot Project Member

David Hancox, an active supporter and Member of The LMS-Patriot Project, has kindly made a donation of £300 to sponsor the front buffer beam that will be fitted to 'The Unknown Warrior'. David visited the Llangollen Railway Works during the Autumn Steam Gala (September 11th-13th) and was able to see the newly drilled buffer beam that

he has sponsored.

The rear buffer beam can be seen below the front buffer beam in the photo below, and is also available to be sponsored for £300. Please contact us, if you would like to sponsor this, or indeed any other item. Your name will be included on our 'Roll of Honour' that will be displayed at Llangollen, and other sites.



Membership Matters

By Richard Sant, Company Secretary

Around 250 members have now joined the Company and the recent inserted leaflet in Seam Railway magazine has had a major impact – although that will take a while to filter through. It is not uncommon to have an application coming through several weeks or even months after a gala event – everybody welcome! This is also the time of year which marks the launch of the membership scheme last July. And so renewal letters are being posted out, on one fixed date in the month before you joined: and so far nearly everyone has renewed. That is hugely encouraging and shows the enthusiasm which has marked this project as special.

As always you are being encouraged to become regular donors, as we would rally want all our members to also be all our donors.

But I do recognize that these are not good times economically and so the membership renewal form does ask you to indicate if you do not want

to receive a reminder about donating.

As a final thought while I used to be able to remember your names once we have grown to this extent it helps me if any letters or emails have your membership number on it.

Patriot Facts

45500 'Patriot' was said to have been a good performing and popular engine with steam crews towards the end of its working life. The loco always seemed to be dirty in appearance as it was always in service, and not able to receive the attention of the cleaners!

45507 'Royal Tank Corps' was the only Patriot to be cut up at Horwich Works.

Photo Feature – Frame Plates Arrive at Llangollen



The Frame Plates for 45551 'The Unknown Warrior' were transported to Llangollen on 3rd July 2009, by County Cranes and Transport. Seen here arriving at Llangollen.



The two frame plates weighing over 2 tons each and measuring around 39' in length were carefully unloaded at the Llangollen Railway Works.



The frame plates were then craned inside the Loco Works.

Photos by Bob Sweet



The Llangollen Railway's diesel crane was used for all the lifting and handling of the frame plates.



The two frame plates are held in specially made steel stands until the stretchers that will join the two plates together arrive.



The second frame plate is carefully lowered into position inside the Works.

Photos by Bob Sweet

Future Events

We will be attending the following events with our exhibition and sales stand:

- Tyseley Works Open Day
25th October 2009
- Warley National Model Railway Exhibition
22nd–24th November 2009
- Great Central Railway Winter Steam Gala
29th – 31st January 2010
- Stafford Railway Circle Model Railway Show
6th – 7th February 2010

If you would like to volunteer at any of these events by helping out on the Sales Stand, please contact us. Thanks very much to the Sales Support Team: Neil and Karen Kinsey, John Hastings-Thomson, David Hancox, and Les Green who helped out at recent events.

First Patriot Company AGM and November Remembrance Events

The Annual General Meeting is being held at Llangollen during Sunday 8th November. Further details are to follow and all Members will be notified under separate cover.

The AGM is the culmination of events involving The Llangollen Railway, The LMS–Patriot Project and a series of other events over the week leading up to Remembrance Sunday on 8th November. Details are still being finalised, but we are pleased to announce that The–LMS Patriot Project is organising a Remembrance Exhibition – titled ‘From the unknown warrior to The Unknown Warrior’. This will be held in the Robertson Suite from 2nd – 8th November.

The Llangollen Railway is also planning to run special Remembrance trains over the weekend of 7th and 8th November and a special Remembrance train is due to depart Llangollen station at 12pm on the 8th.

Tyseley Wash Out

The usual gang attended Tyseley Works Open Weekend on 27th and 28th of June. Perhaps we met you there? One of our members had helped to find a gazebo, as the display stand and sales stock were outdoors, and so a little vulnerable to the Brum climate.

And so it came to pass that while we had put up the roof and back of the gazebo we had not fitted the two sides. In fact it had taken a lot of head scratching to put that much up (who are these guys trying to build an engine...can't even erect a plastic tent!). And having it mostly open did help with the air-conditioning and general openness for the sales. At around 4.00pm on the Saturday afternoon, the rains came down with thunder and lightening. Instantly we were all wet through and our sole intention now was to save the stock.

Andy borrowed my very thin mac and ran for the van which he could only get as far as the entrance where the gates were locked – not being able to go backwards or forwards. Leaving me to find someone amongst the Tyseley people who had a key. After a bit one gives up and accepts that you can't shelter and skin is amazingly waterproof (what are clothes for anyway?). Bit liberating sloshing through puddles..... back to being a toddler again...

Eventually the key was found and the van came in and the stock loaded up leaving the gazebo and anything not likely to be affected to dry out for the Sunday.

As it happened Andy was staying with me so we loaded up the washing machine, and he borrowed a spare pair of trousers to come down to the local pub for a meal. It was a very severe storm with one teenager nearby being struck by lightning and hospitalised, but driving home along the M6 it was completely dry!

Richard Sant a wet sales stand volunteer!

The LMS–Patriot Company Limited

Building the New Royal British Legion Endorsed National Memorial Engine – ‘The Unknown Warrior’

Company Registered in England and Wales No.: 6502248

Registered Office: Barry Island Station Buildings, Barry Island, CF62 5TH

Registered Charity No: 1123521

Board of Directors and Trustees

Chairman: David Bradshaw

Company Secretary: Richard Sant

Director: Andrew Laws (Marketing, Publicity and Events)

Director: Kevin Finnerty (Governance and Archive)

Director: Steve Blackburn (Engineering and Quality Management)

Director: Richard Sant (Membership and Donations)

Project Support

Administrator: Claire George

Engineering Design Team: Peter Rich, Fred James, Kevin West, Derrick Baker

Documentary Video: Andrew Kennedy/Oakwood Visuals

Sales Support: Les Green, Neil and Karen Kinsey, John Hastings–Thomson, John Barrowdale, David Hancox

Locomotive

Loco Assembly: Dave Owen/Llangollen Railway plc

Tender Restoration: John Buxton/Cambrian Transport Ltd.

Project Address:

PO Box 3118, Hixon, Stafford, ST16 9JL

Email:

lms-patriot@hotmail.co.uk

Website:

www.lms-patriot.org.uk

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OAKWOOD VISUALS

