

Twyford Waterworks Trust

Company limited by guarantee 1904919. Registered Charity No. 291720
President: Dr Edwin Course

Board of Trustees

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22A Ropers Lane, Wareham, BH20 4QT.
chairman@twyfordwaterworks.co.uk

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HLF Return to Steam Team

Geoff Bailey, Colin Billingham, Richard Broadway, Ray Caine, Alan Down, Will Ertle, Chris Fairlie, Graham Feldwick, Matthew Feldwick, Terry Forder-Stent, Martin Gregory, Jim Jones, Mike Matthews, Terry Rittey, Morley Slade, Steve Smith.

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Terry Forder-Stent
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Open Day Co-ordinators Martin Gregory 01962 861489
Vicky Feldwick 01962 714716
Newsletter Editor Graham Feldwick
Webmaster Matthew Feldwick 07709 035148
Tuesday Evening Gang (6pm - 9pm) Ian Harden
Housekeeping



From the Chairman...

Welcome to the Spring edition of The Works! The winter period at the Waterworks is always busy, but this one has seen unprecedented activity as we've continued our journey towards returning to steam. Now at an advanced stage of our Heritage Lottery Funded project, we thought that this edition should record where we've got to so far, as a great record of our achievements and a testimony to the skills, and often the tenacity, of our volunteers, and to the support that our many Friends have given us over the years.

Our journey, however, is not quite over and we still have a number of significant milestones to pass before we steam again. Most importantly we have hydraulic tests and steam tests to pass to satisfy our insurers for both the boiler and the pumping engine. Then there's the training of sufficient volunteers to operate everything in a correct and safe way.

Additionally we have to look very carefully at what we will be doing and ensure that this isn't going to cause any issues with the commercial water pumping operation on the site, a critical step in the overall process. Finally we need to put our new interpretation together, so that our many visitors will be able to easily understand how water was pumped at Twyford 100 years ago, and gain an appreciation of what we've all worked so hard on to preserve in working order.

I make no apology for finishing by asking, if you are not already a volunteer, whether you could join in. We are not looking for a week by week commitment, although we need more of that too, but for more volunteers to be able to help with restoration and maintenance, and at Open Days or Guided Tours or other special occasions. Help with anything we do would be appreciated, even if just occasionally - we have vacancies in the new Steam Team who will be operating and maintaining the boiler and engine, and we would welcome help in every other area too - from working on preserved machinery and buildings through to conserving our wildlife, and from operating an engine through to welcoming our visitors. Please give me a call or have a word at an Open Day.

Graham

HLF Return to Steam Project

As Graham has mentioned, our HLF Project is at an advanced stage - there's still lots to do but much has been completed and we are hopeful of a return to steam later in the year. We remain cautious about providing a date for this because there are still too many variables, any one of which could cause a delay. Such is the nature of the tasks that we've taken on!

So, let's take a virtual walk around the site and see how each part of the project is shaping up:

Toilets

The all-important part of the project! The new toilets are almost complete apart from a few 'snagging' points, and the temporary toilets in use last year have now gone.



From the outside, the toilet building looks very similar to the old, and the new extension is not readily obvious to the casual observer. The roof was completely stripped during the rebuilding, and with all new slates and a modern membrane under these, is watertight, so there'll be no more drips of rainwater down the



necks of those visiting the Gents! Just to confuse our regular visitors, the Gents has become the Ladies and vice versa, so take care! Inside, a modern easy to clean finish, automatic lights and extractor fan, low level heating and hot water on demand are

standard throughout. The Gents and Ladies have both been expanded to cater for increases in visitor numbers, whilst the extension houses a smart disabled toilet to correct specifications. We'll also be providing a baby changer to cater for our younger visitors.

Outside surfaces

The blocks outside the Tea Room have been relaid, so that interesting dip by the door is no more! The area from the Filter House to the Ampert Pump has had new drainage installed and has been resurfaced, and we are hopeful that we may be able to extend this at the end of the project.



Workshop

Walk round to the back of the Boiler House and you can't miss the new workshop building which is nearing completion - with a roller door for easy access of bigger items and a new electrical supply all we are going to need now is some workshop equipment to go in it! If you know of anything that is in good condition and needs a new home do please let us know - HLF have paid for the building but cannot pay for machinery so we need to somehow find that for ourselves.



Boiler House

Turn around and head into the Boiler House and you'll quickly realise the scale of the work that's being undertaken. Everywhere has been rewired, and the walls have been scraped down and repainted, all through our contractors Gregory Havant Ltd. You'll notice that much of the new wiring is in keeping with the building with just a few up to date touches, most noticeably the fire exit signs.



Photo: J.L.E.C Electrical

This is low level to enable everyone to look inside at the water tubes and the fire grate, which of course can't usually be seen. Our Trust has responsibility for quite a lot of the 'background work' in the Boiler House, including the excellent painting of the boiler itself, which really completes the job.

Boiler 3 is now set apart from the rest of the Boiler House by an impressive corrugated iron wall, which has been erected exactly where the original corrugated wall would have been before the Boiler House was extended to take all the boilers. There is a real feeling of moving from new to old when passing this point.



Alongside Boiler 3 is the new Interpretation area – this large space boasts a raised floor and even a skirting board, and is ready for fitting out as our main 'discovery' area to welcome visitors on Open Days, and our starting point for tours. The area is dominated by Boiler 3, which now looks magnificent in its exposed state, with some excellent replacement brickwork.

So now we've reached Boiler 2, now with its side brickwork completed to original specifications, and with all its ironwork replaced. Our oldest boiler, it will remain a non-working exhibit unless someone in the future decides they need a second operating boiler!



Boiler 1 will be our working boiler, and much of the heavy activity, and the total cost of the project, is being centred around this. In the November 2014 Newsletter we reported that all the water tubes and headers had been moved to Yorkshire by our contractors, H A



Photo: Alasdair McEwen

McEwen Ltd. A few weeks ago the new assemblies were returned – completely rebuilt with new tubes, and tested. Since then everything has been heaved back into place, and all the tubes into the boiler have been expanded in. The defective rivets in the boiler itself, found during our initial HLF work in 2010, have been replaced and we are now getting close to carrying out the hydraulic testing of it all. McEwens have yet to replace the steam pipes, the hotwell and the blowdown

tank – we generally keep this newsletter non-technical so if you want to know more about this side then pop over one Sunday morning for a chat!

The amount of effort that some – and at times, all - of our volunteers have put into this has been enormous, enabling the contractor work to proceed relatively smoothly, which is vital to keep to budget.



Engine House

Walking through into the Engine House you'll immediately notice the redecoration of the walls - no mean feat and all completed by our own volunteers. Here too, the electricians have carried out a complete rewiring, so everything is in place for returning the Hathorn Davey engine to life! This also is a volunteer-led task; during last year the reheaters were stripped down waiting for their hydraulic test, which will be carried out at the same time as the boiler.



Interpretation

One part of the project which has yet to really get underway is the Interpretation. Of course, the actual boiler, Boiler House and engine are very much part of telling the story of Twyford Waterworks in Edwardian days, and this will be enhanced through the 'discovery' area by Boiler 3, where visitors will be able to begin to understand the unique story of the site. There'll be graphic panels and banners with text and images, and low-tech interactives for those who enjoy learning in this way. We'll also have further graphic panels around the site,



whilst more in-depth information will be given through printed materials such as family trails, and through a new website.

With all of this there is still plenty of opportunity to join in if you haven't already.



Around the Works

While most of our efforts have been directed towards the Return to Steam project and several Tuesday nights have been thwarted as the electrics were renewed, we have nevertheless made some significant progress around the Works.

The water meter and telemetry display in the Engine House is

coming together nicely with items from our collection moved into the building and new furniture constructed to hold these instruments securely while allowing



visitors to observe their workings and listen to their clockwork mechanisms ticking away.

In preparation for the Open Days this year the Tea Room is being redecorated. Currently the woodwork, including the large doors leading to the Engine House, has had a fresh coat of paint applied and the walls and floors will follow in the next couple of weeks. This should allow a brighter ambience for our patrons to enjoy the fabulous fare served up!



Ahead of the Workshop being completed and signed over to the Trust several volunteers have been

working to examine potential equipment we have. Part of this has included the overhaul of the lifting gantry ready for reuse in the new building where it will be permanently erected by the main door to facilitate items entering and leaving the workshop.

We need your help - come and join us!

Twyford Waterworks Trust – AGM

Make a note of the date now! All Friends of Twyford Waterworks are invited to our AGM on Sunday 19th July at the Phoenix Inn, Twyford at 2.30pm. Come along and find out the latest on all our projects and what we have planned for the year ahead – it's also a great opportunity to meet up and enjoy a couple of hours together.



Board of Trustees

Would you be interested in playing a larger role within the Trust? Our trustees meet 4 times a year, and also work together throughout the year to steer the Trust to ensure that it continues to grow and develop in line with our aims.

From July we'll have the following opportunities:

Trustee - a great way to join the Board, representing our many Friends

Secretary - Following Mark's death last year we are very grateful to Suzanne for standing in as our Secretary, and now we need to appoint someone for 2015/16. Ability to take notes at the Board Meetings (4 times a year) and Management Team Meetings (also 4 times a year) and turn these into Minutes is required, along with occasional letter writing as necessary.

Chairman - Graham is standing down as Chairman this year, after almost 10 years. A large part of Graham's work has been related to the HLF Return to Steam Project, which he will continue to manage until it's completed. This is a great opportunity for someone to take the helm and bring fresh ideas to the Trust.

Interested? Have a word with Graham or Terry, or drop Graham an email at feldwick@globalnet.co.uk

Open Days

We are always in need of extra help at the Waterworks Open Days. Help is needed in the Tea Room, the barbeque, taking groups on tours, helping see in exhibitors, keeping the mess room well stocked and talking to our visitors. If you think you can give any time to the works then please do get in touch.

Kiosk Team

Twyford Waterworks is looking for people to help in the Kiosk before and during its open days in 2015. No experience needed as full training will be given but if you have any experience in customer service then that would be fantastic.

Before - on the day before the open day a couple of people are needed to clean, tidy and set up the kiosk, ensure the welcome signage is ready and take a stock check. This takes about two hours and can be done at any point during that day.

Then, on the day, we need a rota of people to welcome visitors, sell admission, be on hand to answer questions, run the small gift shop, welcome exhibitors, and take any entrance/exit surveys required. The day runs from 08:30 to 17:30 but Shifts at different times of the day are available. Typically these are:

- 08:30-10:30 setting up and welcoming exhibitors shift
- 10:30-12:30 kiosk shift 1
- 12:30-2:30 kiosk shift 2
- 2:30-4:30 kiosk shift 3
- 4:30-5:30 clear up shift



Jobs are all totally voluntary but tea and coffee are provided, you get free entry for that day (just one shift minimum commitment), plus you'll be getting invaluable experience of running a small gift shop, customer service and money handling. A training session will run before each open day (as required) at 09:30 lasting for approximately 30 minutes. This should be attended by all new kiosk team volunteers on their first day and anyone who would like a refresher.

If you're interested in joining this team please email Vicky : viclizwhite@aol.com



Railway Update

Within most enthusiast groups there are 'grape vines' of networking contacts and routes whereby knowledge, information or gossip can be exchanged. The industrial railway fraternity is no exception and it often pays to keep a listening ear to what is happening with similar projects elsewhere or to receive information from others with similar interests. It was this latter type of communication we received in early February alerting us that Murphy Group's Tunnelling Division were looking to dispose of some redundant equipment that included a number of battery-electric locomotives and some wagons.



The opportunity to visit the Kentish Town depot where these items were stored was one not to be missed so on 26th February Graham, Matthew and Colin travelled up to London to view what was available and the state they were in. The emphasis was on 'look' and not 'purchase.'

On arrival we were shown an impressive selection of locomotives of varying sizes, although our interest was on the condition of the smaller examples. Several had already been sold, including two back into industry at Ayle Colliery near Alston, Cumbria.

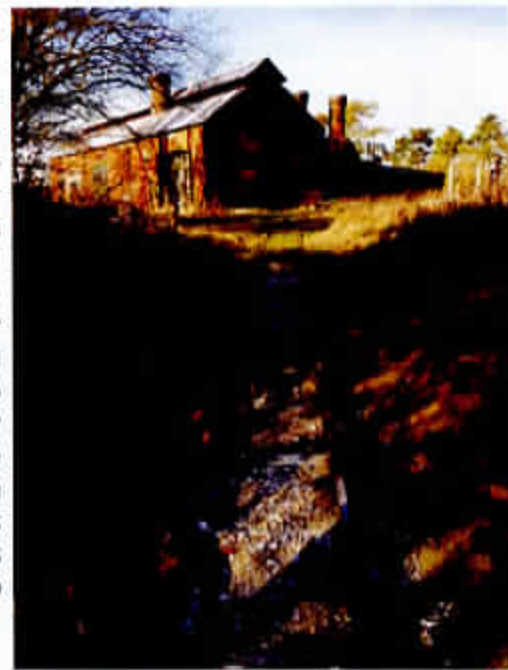
We liked what we saw and, cutting a long story short, by the end of the visit two locomotives and six wagons had been privately purchased by Graham and Colin. None of the equipment had been used for at least ten years although the locomotives had both been stored under cover and received a



basic overhaul after their last contract. The wagons, which were employed originally in the construction of the Stansted Airport tunnel [completed in 1991], are in exceptionally good order although a little large for the railway system at Twyford.

The locomotives (WR N7606/1973 & WR N7621/1973) and a couple of the wagons arrived at Twyford early on 6th March with the lorry making a second delivery with the remainder of the wagons the following Tuesday. While appearing rather modern compared to other locomotives at the Waterworks these locomotives make an interesting addition to the railway stock.

Visitors to the nature trail this year will note that as they walk from the Lime Kilns across the meadow that they are walking along some railway track. As the photograph shows we are spending some time and considerable effort laying track in the turf along this stretch of path. The reasons are two-fold. Firstly, it has always been difficult moving stock on and off the kiln railway. As the wildlife increases and the meadow habitat becomes more established so the desire to drive heavy lorries all over it diminishes. Because all three Lister locomotives are due to attend 'Listermania' at Amberley Museum in July this provides a sensible way of moving them off and then on site again. Secondly, the path here has always been rather uneven and was earmarked to be levelled in a bid to improve access and remove a hazard.



Friends of Twyford Waterworks Trust

April is the time when subs become due for another year, and thank you to all who have renewed their membership. If you've not yet done so, a reminder is enclosed, and if you've had problems making an automated payment, please try adding an additional zero to the front of our account number.

If you pay regularly by Standing Order, or have sent in your donation your new membership card is enclosed.

We've also taken the opportunity this year to update our Gift Aid forms and records. Gift Aid is an easy way for every tax-payer to help the Works by enabling us to claim 25p for every £1 donated, and we are most grateful for this!

I really enjoy meeting Friends at our Open Days, so please do come along and find me this year to say hello.

Finally a very warm welcome to Andrew Rankine and Michael Stephenson who have joined The Friends since the last newsletter.

Lesley



Courtesy of Tourism South East, who were faced with disposal costs for redundant fittings from Rye Tourist Information Centre, the Waterworks has received them two dressers which were surplus to requirements. These were moved from East Sussex in mid-March and will replace some of the life-expired shelving units in the gift shop end of the kiosk.

The kiosk is undergoing some reordering at the moment, before the start of the season, the intention being to make the most of the available space and ultimately improve sales.

Date for your diary....

Sunday 19th July 2015

**Twyford Waterworks Trust AGM
The Phoenix Inn, Twyford. 2.30pm**

All Friends are invited to attend and are able to vote. Why not make a day of it and visit the Works in the morning and then have lunch at The Phoenix Inn. www.thephoenixinn.co.uk.

We look forward to seeing you

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info@sarsenpress.com • www.sarsenpress.com • 01962 854281