

NBL Preservation Group

Honorary President Professor Dugald Cameron OBE

May 2018 Newsletter



EXCITING PLANS FOR MAINLINE STEAM

(Photo : Jim Nolan)

New Zealand's Mainline Steam Heritage Trust, who's Stock List includes a good number of North British steam locomotives, have announced exciting plans to construct a new operational base and steam centre at Mercer which is located around 40 miles from Auckland in the North Island.

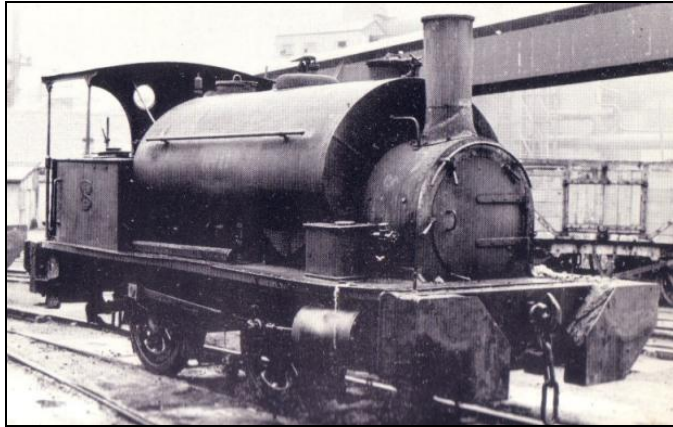
It is intended that the new depot will have a 70mx32m shed to house the group's rolling stock and its associated maintenance operation. There will be a back shunt to assemble excursion trains and a turntable. The longer-term intention is to build a half - roundhouse with 16 roads as a museum, based on the design of the former NZR steam depot at Elmer Lane, Greymouth.

Negotiations concerning the Mercer site have been ongoing since 2016 and there has been immense support from all section of the community. We will try to bring more news of this excellent project as it becomes available and in the meantime our photo above illustrates Ja Class 4-8-2 No 1275 (NB 27104) at Parnell depot, this is one of the superb locomotives that will hopefully move to Mercer in due course. Further details of Mainline Steam's activities can be found on their website : <http://www.mainlinesteam.co.nz>



NEILSON RESTORATION

(photos courtesy Keith Sargeant / RMweb)



After a number of years in store, Keith Sargeant reports that Neilson 0-4-0ST No 11 (formerly known as Alfred Paget) has been shunted into Chasewater Workshops so it's restoration can begin. This fine little locomotive was built in 1882 by Neilson & Co under Works Number 2937 and delivered to William Baird & Co at Bedlay Colliery near Glenboig, where it was given the number 11.

In 1938 the company was reorganised and entered voluntary liquidation. William Baird and Co Ltd was reconstituted and the company's Lanarkshire interests merged with the Scottish Iron & Steel Co Ltd to form Bairds and Scottish Steel Ltd. In 1939 Bairds and Scottish Steel linked their Gartsherrie Works with the Northburn Steel Works. With the nationalisation of the coal industry in January 1947 the locomotive passed in to the ownership of the National Coal Board (NCB).

It returned to Bairds & Scottish Steel Ltd at Gartsherrie Ironworks, Coatbridge, in about 1950 and following withdrawal, was acquired in June 1968 by Railway Preservation Society, Hednesford, Staffordshire and later went to the Chasewater Light Railway.



Keith tells us that he plans to restore the engine to as near original condition as possible and he is looking for drawings, plans and an appropriate set of buffers. Please contact Ken if you are able to help and I will pass on any messages and contact details. We wish Keith every success in his task and look forward to seeing this interesting locomotive in steam again in due course.

Details of the Chasewater Railway can be found at : <http://www.chasewater railway.co.uk>

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61662 UPDATE



(photos KL Collection)



Work continued on the running plate and valance this month and a template was made and successfully trial fitted for the difficult Gresley curves. This was then sent to our supplier so the steel version can be produced



We are delighted to say that one of our recent members is very kindly taking on our 61662 Sales activity on a trial basis and if successful this will be a useful aid to our fund raising. The next outing for our Sales Stand will be at The East Anglian Railway Museum at Wakes Colne on Sunday 8th July so please go along and support us if you can. Books, models and other railwayana is needed for the Stand so if you have any surplus items that you would like to donate, please take them along on the day or contact Ken to arrange collection.



On Sunday 1 July 2018 the Darjeeling Himalayan Railway Society (DHRS) is holding its special 20th Anniversary Event at Adrian Shooter's Beeches Light Railway – home to 'B' Class No 19, one of many DHR locomotives built by Sharp Stewart and Co. and its successor, the North British Locomotive Company. The superbly restored No 19 is the only 'B' Class to have left India and still has its original 1889 boiler.

Recognising the strong link between the two societies, the DHRS would be very pleased to welcome NBLPG members to join in the activities of this special day. This will include two visiting steam locos, the impressive Indian Hill Railways layout, photo displays and the launch of the DHRS's latest publication – the definitive story of the 'B' Class locos.

The Beeches Light Railway is located at 'The Beeches', Heyford Road, Steeple Aston, Oxfordshire, OX25 4SN near Bicester and within a 15 min walk from Heyford Station. The event starts at 11am.

Tickets for NBLPG members are at the special price of £35 which includes DHRS membership for the rest of 2018 and the February and May issues of the Society's quarterly magazine 'The Darjeeling Mail'. The ticket price includes unlimited train rides, an Indian-style buffet lunch and complimentary tea/coffee and soft drinks throughout the day. (Personal guests of NBLPG members are also welcome at £25 per head).

Applications for tickets and further details should be made to the DHRS Event Organiser : Janine Bird at membership@dhers.org by not later than Saturday 16 June 2018. (As a strictly private event there is no facility for un-booked admission on the day). Ticket numbers are limited, so early booking is strongly recommended for what should be a splendid day.

1994

DUNN'S

ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES

1994

Tel: (0135) 903310 Fax: (0135) 902522 Price Street, Industrial Sites, P.O. Box337, Witbank 1035, R.S.A.

SOLID FUEL & ELECTRIC BOILERS CONVEYOR PULLEYS
DISMANTLING MANUFACTURING GENERAL ENGINEERING LOCOMOTIVES SALES VIBRATORY STRESS RELIEVING

For many years until the firm closed in 1994, Dunn's Engineering was the only private company in South Africa able to offer a comprehensive steam locomotive overhaul and repair service. They also had a fleet of locomotives for hire and their stock list included a considerable number of veterans and antiques that many museums or preserved railways would be proud of ! Most of these engines were out of service by the 1990's but the firm continued to attract repair business from a number of Mines in the local Witbank Coal Fields.



Above left : Built in 1897, Dubs A Class 4-8-2 Tank No 150 was one of Dunn's celebrity Works Shunters.
Above right : Greenside Colliery's 14R No 4 (NB 20829) is seen being steam tested after an overhaul at Dunn's in February 1994. This loco continued to work at Greenside for a further five years and is expected to move to the Wonderboom Military Museum shortly where it will be restored as SAR number 1908.



Theoretically, Dunn's didn't have a scrap line as any of their locomotives could potentially be returned to service if required ! The storage line in February 1994 included five NBL / Constituent locomotives – two Industrial 12A's, Dubs 7A No 1019, 24 Class 2-8-4 No 3647 and the last surviving H Class 4-10-2 Tank. When the site was finally cleared, seven of Dunn's most historic engines were transferred to Witbank shed for possible preservation. They remain stored there to this day but hopefully some of them may eventually be restored. More photos on : <https://www.flickr.com/photos/trains-travel/sets/72157633187057070>

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WORKSPLATE BONANZA

(photos courtesy Great Central Railwayana Auctions)

An amazing total of 12 North British steam locomotive worksplates are being offered for sale in the Great Central Railwayana Auctions at Stoneleigh Park on 2nd June. The sale also includes Sharp Stewart and Neilson Reid worksplates plus Cabsides and Nameplates amongst the 21 NBL related items on offer.



'Eire' was a North British / LMS Jubilee Class 4-6-0 built in 1934 under Works Number 24130. It's sheds included Trafford Park, Bristol Barrow Road and finally Shrewsbury from where it was withdrawn in 1964. The nameplate has a guide value of £7,000 to £9,000.



Several SAR cabside plates are on offer including NBL 15F No 3141 (NB 26025) and 25NC 3531 (NB 27391). The latter locomotive was originally built as a condenser, hence the unequal 'NC' lettering which was added after the condensing apparatus was removed in the late 1970's.



We can only illustrate a few of the NBL worksplates on offer but the selection includes plates from engines built between 1919 and 1962. The classes include GWR 57xx, LMS 8F, WD 2-8-0 and LNER B1 etc. All three of the North British Glasgow loco factories, Hyde Park, Queens Park and Atlas Works are represented.

Full details and guide prices for the 500 Lots can be found on the Great Central Railwayana website <http://www.gcrauctions.com> This website also provides full details of forthcoming Auctions.



After a longer than expected spell in black, the repainting of our Dubs Tank No 196 into Natal Green livery is due to start next month at the Mizens Railway. As can be seen from this recent photograph, the temporary coat of black paint is starting to fade. Some preventative maintenance was carried out during the winter though and the loco now sports a new steel chimney cover which replaces the original wooden version. Donations towards the cost of the repaint are welcome and should be sent to the usual address.

The movement of our Hendrie 1A Class 4-8-0 No 1301 from Greenside Colliery was unfortunately delayed last month due to heavy rain and flooding in the loco storage area. Ben Minnaar from the Wonderboom Military Museum tells us that the mine now has urgent work to do cleaning up the site and are currently unable to provide labour to help with loading the three steam locomotives. However, WMM have applied for special approval to use their own people for the move so hopefully it will be underway soon.

Project 22, who are building brand new North British Type 2 diesel hydraulic locomotive No D6358, have indicated that, although they have been keeping a low profile of late, a great deal of work has been going on in the background with respect obtaining smaller parts and producing 3-D computer aided drawings etc. If you would like more information about this exciting project please visit : <http://project22society.co.uk>

Many of our readers will be aware that significant changes in the UK Data Protection rules come into force this month so we are reviewing our Newsletter Circulation listing. Please note that in future, we will only be able to send out regular Newsletters to our Members and Friends who give us express permission to do so. The Newsletters will be posted on our website as before but if you would like to continue to receive them by email, please send an authorisation message to ken.livermore@btinternet.com as soon as possible.

**Thank you all once again for your continued support.
More news to follow next month, Best Regards, Ken**

MEMBERSHIP & INFORMATION

If you would like to comment on our preservation activities or would like further information on any of our projects, please contact our Secretary Ken Livermore by letter or by e:mail. NBL related Photos can be uploaded direct to our Facebook page at : <https://www.facebook.com/NorthBritishLocomotives>

New Members and Supporters are always welcome and funds are urgently needed for all our projects. Please join us and help to preserve North British locomotives from around the World. Our Website Address is : www.nbloco.co.uk Please send items for the website to Dave Fox at : webmaster@nbloco.co.uk

Remember, **there is no annual Membership Fee**, just a one-off joining fee of £10 which will give you regular news updates and the option to participate in our locomotive preservation projects. All donations and membership fees will be acknowledged in writing. For further details, please email our Hon. Secretary : ken.livermore@btinternet.com

If you would like to join us or make a donation, please complete the form below and send it to : Ken Livermore, **Hon. Secretary, NBL Preservation Group, 4 Porchfield Close, Earley, Reading, Berks, RG6 5YZ**. Alternatively, you can make a direct Bank Transfer to the NBL Preservation Group, Barclays Bank, **Account Number 03113302 Sort Code 20-71-03** (please email to advise if you use this option)

**NORTH BRITISH LOCOMOTIVE PRESERVATION GROUP
A NOT FOR PROFIT ORGANISATION**

MEMBERSHIP / DONATION FORM

NAME :

ADDRESS :

TELEPHONE NUMBER :

E:MAIL ADDRESS :

ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP JOINING FEE (Optional) : £10

DONATION TO HENDRIE 1301 TRANSPORT FUND : £

DONATION TO ENGINE 61662 APPEAL : £

DONATION TO 19D 2767 RESTORATION COSTS : £

DONATION TO DUBS TANK 196 REPAINTING COSTS : £

TOTAL ENCLOSED : £

All donations, loans and subscriptions will be acknowledged, thank you for your interest and support. Please make cheques or orders for Donations or Membership payable to ‘NBL Preservation Group’

****Please make Cheques for Shares in Engine 61662 payable to ‘Engine 61662 Appeal’ thank you.**