

6880 Betton Grange

6880

Building the 81st Grange for the 21st Century

6880 Newsletter

Issue 9 - Summer 2006

Newsletter

I have to apologise for the missed Spring issue of the newsletter, unfortunately the increasing pressure on my time, and the fact that news does not arrive at timed intervals in neatly formed chunks has led to this delay. As a result I have made the decision to step down

from this role, and also that of membership secretary.

Simon Holden. July '06

**Can You Help?**

If you have basic computer skills, a computer, internet connection, and feel you can help out in the role of Membership Secretary, please contact us on the address below or via email:

quentin@6880.co.uk

At the moment there is no-one to take over this role, and I'm unable to take it on even as a temporary position, but while an important part of the group it will take no more than a few hours per month and is easily managed. Please get in touch if you can help.

Quentin McGuinness

In this Issue

6880 Gala 2007

Sponsorship

2006 Year to date

Express Scheme

Membership renewals



STEEL, STEAM & STARS, a mega gala at Llangollen.

(April 20th-22nd 2007)

This event is the first of two schemes to bring in a large chunk of money. We realised that to complete the chassis structure of 6880, the massive forgings at the front (extension frames) to hold the cylinder block would have to be made. The likely cost of these based on the experience of Didcot's Saint project is approx. £30k. Based on our current monthly income, it would be a long time before we could raise the amount.

We have approached the Board of the Llangollen Railway and gained approval to hire the railway for a Gala event. We will pay for all the costs and take all the profit. That means a lot of hard work organising and in particular marketing it.



**STEEL, STEAM AND STARS.
A MEGA 3 DAY GALA AT
LLANGOLLEN.**

**20TH - 22ND
APRIL 2007**

If you don't go to any other Gala in 2007 you have got to be at this one!

The full details of the event will be available on a dedicated website (under construction) linked to the 6880 website. A comprehensive

leaflet will be printed in November with between 10,000 and 25,000 copies. A database of all railways, railway societies, model railway clubs, model engineering societies and other transport organisations is being developed for a mailshot with the leaflet. Major Galas at other railways will be attended, as will large model railway exhibitions, in the lead up to ours, in order to distribute the leaflets. Major adverts are being prepared for the railway press.

With the event currently looking to have a massive 10 engine line-up (5 home fleet and 5 guests), two autocoches, trade stands, a five inch gauge railway and a Beer Festival. Attractions will include pay to drive, pay to ride a brake van and an intensive timetable running from 8am till 11pm on the Friday and Saturday (8-5pm Sunday), it should pull the crowds. We are hoping to match the KWVR gala which saw 4200 people over two days.

We hope you as members will do your bit to help us. This could be in advance by helping to distribute the leaflets in your area or on your travels. Alternatively you could help with marshalling at the event. Some of you may have useful contacts. Already we have some members who are obtaining sponsorship for barrels of real ale. Do you know someone who works for a local brewery that could donate a barrel in return for advertising in the beer festival program? Please get in touch if you can help!!

"Sponsor a part"

The sponsor an item scheme has been very successful.

Introduced to allow people to 'put their name' against a particular part of the loco, it has with the exception of one item, been taken up 100%.



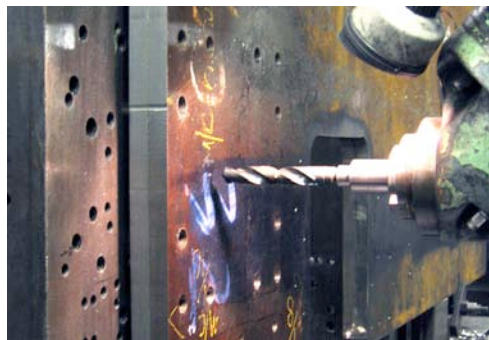
The item still requiring sponsorship is the brass cabside numberplate.

This requires a contribution of £200. Tony Jackson of Exmouth kindly sponsored the first of the pair. So do we have another member out there, who would like to point at the polished numbers and say "I paid for that"?

If there is, please let me know at the address below.

The current sponsorship scheme is focused on the drilling of the holes in the mainframes (see separate story & pic). With 400 approx. to be completed at a cost of £2100, we decided to ask for £5 per hole. So far 15 members have contributed a total of £375 between them. With the invoice due to be paid very shortly, it would be good to have some fresh offers from other members!!

Please send any contributions to myself: Quentin McGuinness (Chairman & Treasurer 6880) 4, Bryn-tirion Terrace, Llangollen. Denbs. LL20 8LP. Payable to 6880 Betton Grange (Society) Ltd.



Steve Denton cleans up the mainframe to ready to accept a stretcher. Photo C.Tiley.



Sponsorship List

- Splasher Beadings -
 - John Pearse, Bradford-upon-Avon.
 - Marcus Mayers, London.
 - David Rouse, Somerset.
 - M.Hitchings, London.
 - Roger McGuinness, Australia.
 - Paul Johnson, Minehead.
- Cabside Sheets - Gareth Haines, S.Wales.
- Cab Spectacle Plate - John Sugg, Huddersfield.
- Cab Roof - John Sugg.
- Nameplates - John Buxton, Gloucs.
- Cabside No. Plate - 1. Tony Jackson, Exmouth.
- Cabside No. Plate - 2. ?
- Copper Cap - Richard Cadge, Solihull.
- Stretcher Machining - Steve Jones, Llandudno.



Emma Peddar with the "6880 Game", a tom-bola style game created by member Mick Prior. Another way of raising funding when we attend events.





The first half of the year has seen a concentration of effort being put into work on the frames, but with some attention being paid to work on the boiler. Strip down enabled a thorough inspection and this has revealed the good news that this boiler was only 5 years old when Willington Hall was sent to Barry as scrap. We have been surprised with just how good the condition really is, prompting the comment 'almost as good as new!' There is still a lot of work to do, but we have a very good base to begin with. The frames were dispatched to Jay Engineering for precision machining, and were delivered back at the end of May with all the work completed.



Once the frames were returned to us we started the transformation from a flat-pack set of parts into the basic shape, and all without an Ikea Allen key in sight! This was mostly accomplished over a single weekend, but it was nearly a non-event due to lack of M64 threaded bar to finish off the new adjustable frame jacks which we needed to make the final adjustments to the frames. A few phone calls and a mad dash to RCF in Tipton on Friday afternoon by Will saved the day. We thought we had enough for all our stands, and those made for Hugh Shipton, but we had a last minute red-

ign approved by Dave Owen so we went with the new design. We have ended up with 6 finished, and two still to be made, but we now own a set



a stands you could stack six Kings on. Despite several minor injuries by the end of Saturday the frames were on the stands and we had made a start on the levelling, this was finished on Sunday. We now have the frames on the stands, the stretchers attached and everything is level. Future jobs include some countersinking, replacing some of the angle irons which look a little thin after machining and more preparation for riveting everything together. The team is now in close discussion with Llangollen Engineering regarding the accurate assembly of the frames. It is likely that they will receive the job of completing the next stage.

The company is now VAT registered, and we have submitted another Gift Aid claim, both of these tax reclaims will help your donated pounds go a long way further. As always, thanks for your contribution, without you it would not be happening



New Funding Scheme "Express".

Last year, new member Richard Cadge made a very interesting proposal. Concerned that with only a very gradual increase in members paying £10 per month, it might take several decades to complete the project, he proposed a new direction.

His idea is to find a total of 50 people (including himself) to put in £68.80 a month for 100 months, making a total of £6880 each. This would raise £344,000 which with the gift aid and our other members contributions and fundraising etc, would bring in the £500,000 required. The locomotive would be built in an 8-9 year period if take-up of the 50 places is rapid. We have decided to go ahead with this proposal and named the scheme "Express". The scheme will be promoted with a new infor-

mation pack designed by Craig Tiley, containing all the required information. A limited number of these will be printed and given to members and contacts with a serious interest in the scheme. We hope to launch it very soon!!



INCENTIVES FOR BECOMING AN "EXPRESS" MEMBER:

1. Print of a specially commissioned 6880 painting by top railway artist Malcolm Root.
2. Free admission to the Steel, Steam & Stars Gala including all payable additions and any subsequent Galas run by 6880.
3. Footplate Experience at Llangollen (Up to 4 times in the 8 years).
4. Hornby Grange Model Presented as 6880.

5. Life Membership of Llangollen Railway.

6. Craig Tiley's Print

7. B & R Video/DVD about the Granges/6880.

8. Membership Certificate

9. Section of boiler tube (mounted) from 7927's boiler.

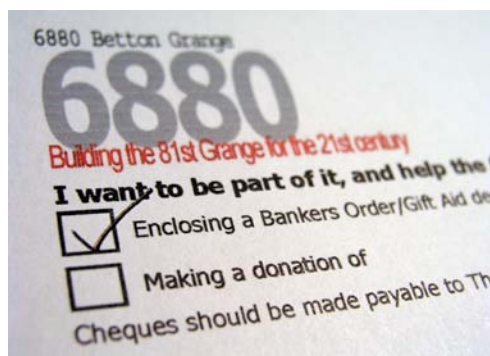
10. Invitation to travel in a reserved carriage on the inaugural train.

11. Access to view construction of 6880.

We would like to see at least 10 people join the "Express" scheme before we advertise it formally in the Railway Press. If you have a desire to be part of this and can make the commitment of 100 payments of £68.80, please contact me a.s.a.p. This will ensure completion of 6880 in a sensible timescale!

Quentin McGuinness

Membership Renewals



It's been over two years since we started accepting membership payments for the 6880 Society and we now have over 80 members, a number which grows on an almost weekly basis, but we are also seeing a number of standing order payments now expiring, so our income is in danger of declining. We

have sent out reminders to anyone in this position to urge you to renew your subscription, but the response has been less than we would have expected. Included with this copy of the newsletter is a membership renewal form, and we ask that anyone who has not got round to renewing their standing order, or who made a payment by cheque, please consider making a monthly payment to our account.

If you are unsure if your current standing order subscription is still valid please contact us to confirm your status.

It is only with your generous contribution that we have got this far, and we need every little bit of help in building 6880, Betton Grange.

Board of Trustees

Quentin McGuinness — Chairman
Alan Naylor — Secretary
Will Naylor — Engineering Liaison
Simon Holden — Web-site.

Newsletter and Web

Comments, ideas or contribution to either the newsletter or web-site, use either the address below, or e-mail;

web@6880.co.uk

The newsletter is published quarterly and is available free of charge to members and donators. If you want a copy for your club, society or could help us to promote the project, let us know.

Enquiries

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