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Caring for Gresley carriages on the Severn Valley Railway

The Railway Station, Bewdley, Worcestershire, DY12 1DP

Coach Fund President: David Williams CF Vice Presidents: Tim Godfrey FCIM, FInst D, FFB and Mick Haynes

Trustees: Hugh McQuade (Ch), Stewart Clark, Mike Cranmore, Colin Griffiths, Richard & Doris Gunning, Richard Hill, David Massey

LNERCF & LNERCG NEWSLETTER No.47

GOOD NEWS ABOUT THE BRAKE THIRD....

Our project vehicle is now in the Kidderminster Carriage & Wagon Paintshop for the final stages of fettling and lining out the body, installing the upholstered seats and applying further coats of paint and varnish. This stage should be completed sometime in January. Thereafter, when space can be found in a busy schedule, the mechanical and electrical overhaul will be done along with fitting the overhauled bogies, gangway ends and testing brakes and steam heating.

Still a way to go before the carriage can take its place in a nine-carriage Gresley Teak Set, but exciting times indeed for the New Year 2016. Here are a few pictures to illustrate the stage now reached...





Lining-out
LNER corridor
stock is a slow
process harking
back to times
when labour was
cheap. That now
being applied to
the Brake Third







is the first lining this vehicle has ever had in its 72-year life.

Hugh McQuade tells us that each Gresley carriage needs about a third of a mile of lining (and a lot of patience) – that's <u>three miles of lining</u> for the full carriage set. The process applied to the beading has a $\frac{3}{8}$ " primrose line edged both sides with a $\frac{1}{16}$ " red line. Terminations of these lines have a small arrow-head device. Next time you travel in a Gresley carriage have a closer look at the artistry and intricate work involved.













WE NEED YOUR HELP TO FINISH THE JOB!

As well as the expensive final overhaul costs now with us, we still need sponsors for the following items please:-

- three pigeon shelves (£40 each)
- three luggage racks-£150 each)
- three mirrors (£75 each)
- two heater controls (£100 each)



All would make suitable Christmas gifts!

Please email the editor at richardhill@Inersvrcoachfund.org.uk.

Meanwhile work on the overhaul of TTO 52255 also continues as and when time permits, as evidenced by this door under repair and the pile of seating items being re-upholstered - completed pieces are above, those awaiting the upholsterer below.

- five pictures (all now sponsored)
- five picture frames (£50 each)
- four corridor handrails (£85 each)
- 120 feet of teak beading (£10 per ten feet)





'60163 A1 TORNADO VISIT'





Your editor's own pictures in Newsletter 46 were taken on a dull day and so lacked 'a bit of life'. Through the kindness of Martin Creese, one of our supporters, I can include a couple of his pictures taken on a rather better day. Thank you, Martin, very much appreciated! Doesn't apple green 60163 look great in the sun with the teak carriages!





CHRISTMAS GREETINGS ***



We send our best wishes and thanks to all our supporters and readers for very happy Christmas and a cracking New Year. We very much hope that 2016 will prove to be a rather special one for the SVR's Gresley Teak Train, especially as the renowned Gresley A3 Pacific 60103 FLYING SCOTSMAN is due to visit us for the Autumn Steam Gala.

This newsletter also comes with a special seasonal greeting card to our readers. This can be found at: http://m.smilebox.com/mobile/play?id=nUflB8CxVpZQ..&sb=I

The picture there shows Gresley A3 60059 TRACERY in its latter-day BR condition forging through New Barnet station with a northbound express on a snowy day in the winter of 1961/62, a few months after receiving its German-style smoke deflectors. Vehicles at the head of the train include ex-LNER carriages, one at least a Gresley teak and one a Thompson. We hope you enjoy it – but share a thought for the A3's crew in such conditions!



AND FINALLY...

One of our supporters has sent this picture of a model pigeon carrying a camera. This reflects part of wartime history. It was taken at the Intelligence Corps Museum at Chicksands, Bedfordshire, echoing the wartime use of pigeons including at Bletchley Park where thousands of racing pigeons were kept & used during World War II. Our recreated pigeon-carrying features in the Brake Third, while primarily reflecting the important peacetime railway traffic for racing pigeons, will be a special tribute to the rôles of pigeons and their links to the railways both in wartime and as a leisure pastime. Thank you Patricia.

LNER Carriage Group

December 2015

LNER (SVR) Coach Fund