



# IMechE Glasgow

**David Elliott** 

**Director of Engineering** 

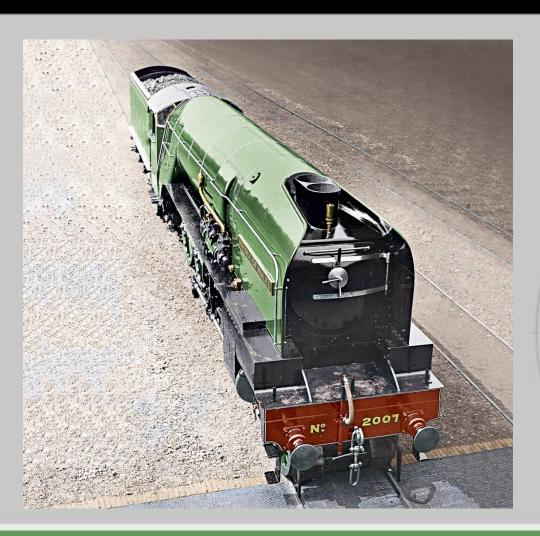
The P2 Steam Locomotive Company Limited

Building Britain's most powerful steam locomotive

#### **Introduction**



## Our mission



"To develop, build and operate an improved Gresley class P2
Mikado steam locomotive for main line and preserved railway use"

#### Introduction



## Why build a new P2?

- To realise the potential of the original Gresley design
- The most powerful express passenger steam locomotives to operate in the UK
- All rebuilt as Pacifics in 1943/44 and scrapped by 1961
- Fills one of the most significant gaps in preserved steam
- The "procession to the plinth" continues
- We had so much fun building Tornado!

#### **Introduction**



### A P2 in the 21st century

- Powerful locomotive capable of running on large part of the national network
- Increased haulage capacity Perth to Inverness
   Exeter to Plymouth
- Similar outputs to *Tornado* 110+miles between water stops
- 75mph but potential for slightly higher

### Why were the P2s built?



## More power required



Gresley class A3 – final deliveries in 1934



Class C10/11
NB Atlantics –
double heading
frequent
Edinburgh to
Aberdeen



Gresley class P1 delivered in 1925 – 100 wagon trains



## No. 2001 Cock O'The North under construction in 1934







## The finished article, May 1934



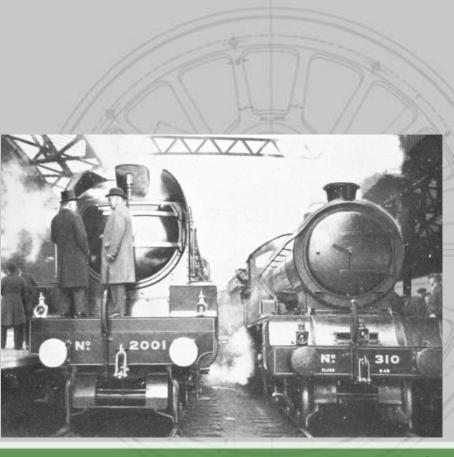
- 2-8-2 Mikado wheel arrangement
- 50 sq ft firebox grate
- Kylchap chimney/blastpipe arrangement
- ACFI feed water heater
- Chime whistle

- Lentz rotary cam poppet valve gear
- Semi-streamlined and a V-shaped cab front
- All-welded tender with spoked wheels
- Gill Sans nameplate



# Cock O'The North unveiled to the press







## No. 2001 on test



At Vitry-sur-Seine near Paris, France



## 'Giant locomotive' a celebrity during the 1930s

#### "COCK O' THE NORTH " IN CHOCOLATE,

A chocolate model of the L.N.E.R. Company's latest super-locomotive, "Cock o' the North." has been placed in the shop window at 68 High Street, Dundee, of James Keiller & Son, Ltd.

Nearly four feet in length, the model is made exactly to scale, and reproduces faithfully the huge boiler and diminutive funnel of the engine. An engine-driver dressed as Santa Claus is peeping from the cabin, while the tender is packed with chocolates instead of coals.





Cock O'The North was the only LNER locomotive to have a Spitfire named after during WWII



### No. 2002 Earl Marischal – the 'conventional' sister –October 1934





## And then came the streamliners – June to September 1936



No. 2003 Lord President - first of the streamliners



No. 2004
Mons Meg
- bypass
valve to
divert
exhaust
from the
blastpipe



No. 2005 *Thane of Fife* - single (non-Kylchap) chimney



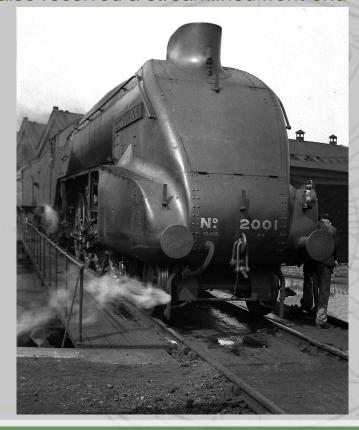
No. 2006 Wolf of Badenoch - longer combustion chamber in firebox to aid combustion prototype for *Tornado's* boiler



## Nos. 2001/2 rebuilt as streamliners in 1936/7



No. 2001 was similarly treated in September 1937 with the ACFI feed water heater removed and its poppet valves replaced with Walschaerts/Gresley valve gear No. 2002 entered Doncaster Works in October 1936 for its first heavy repair and also received a streamlined front end



#### The demise of the P2s



# Thompson's ungainly rebuild



### **History of the Gresley class P2s**



### On-going research

mitra. Salon l'expression conraste, elle risornemis-tica del la risolatane miscata, con contra l'accidente del la risolatane miscata, consent. Per contre, si la risolatane miscata, per rosse mistica, pressata appit ser cui, exercett un mitra. Del lors, en fainat vatire le risolata, des rouleur, il est possible de rigier la vitiene et miscata, il est possible de rigier la vitiene et determisée. Also lors, en fainat vatire le risolata des détermisées. Also lors, de la rigier la vitiene et détermisée. Also los conditions de l'expérience prevent-elle d'its indéfinitent renouvelées. Mais une difficille était à vateure, elle du



L'ILLUSTRATION

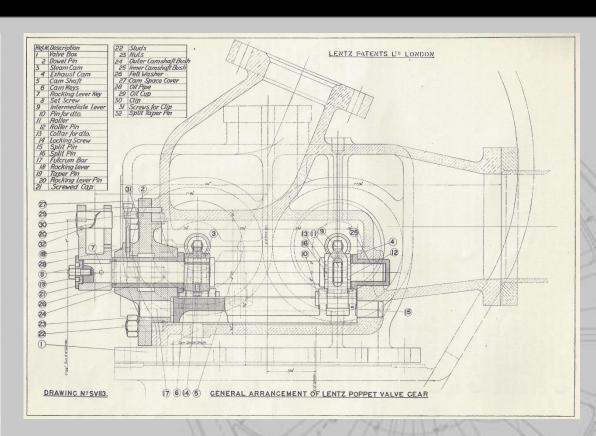


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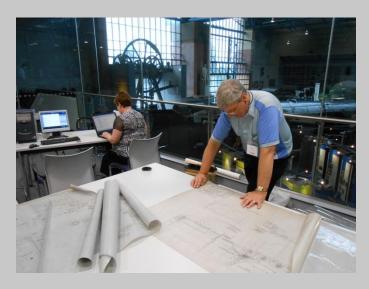
Six paires de roulesux sont accoupiles sux freim hydrauliques. Chaque freis peut absorber une puissance de 1,200 ch. la vittnee maximum à la juste des rouleuxs peut atteindre 160 km.-h. et la charge supportée, 15 tonnes par rouleux. Une locomotive prototype britannique venue faire ses essais a la station de Vitry-sur-Seine







## It starts with the drawings...



Tony & Gill Lord scanning P2 drawings at the NRM





## Key design principles

- The final design will be aesthetically similar to P2 No. 2001 Cock O' The North. This is a construction and development project, not an opportunity for major redesign
- The design will make maximum use of systems, fittings and processes in use on A1 No. 60163 *Tornado*. Any changes to the original design will be either for operational, ease/cost of manufacturing or certification reasons
- The design must take into account the needs of the operator and customer. All decisions to be judged on value for money
- The design must meet current and foreseeable regulatory standards to allow the locomotive to operate as intended



## Key design principles cont'd

- Whole locomotive to be drawn in 3D CAD
- Existing design to be used except:
  - Alterations to alleviate known problems with original design
  - Changes required to meet modern operating requirements
  - Equivalent Tornado design can be used
  - Improvements to assist maintenance and life-cycle costs
- Materials at least equal to and preferably better than original
- Achievement of compliance with rail industry standards



### Timeline



**Detailed design work** 

**Frames** 

**Cylinders & valves** 

**Smoke box & fittings** 

**Boiler** 

**Wheels** 

**Motion** 

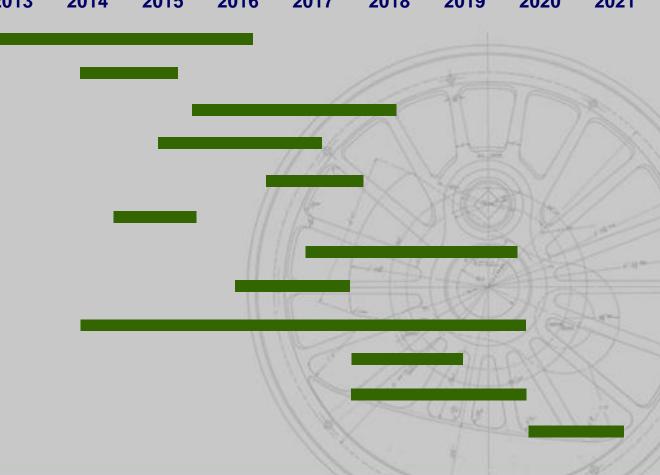
Pony truck & Cartazzi

**Electricals** 

**Tender** 

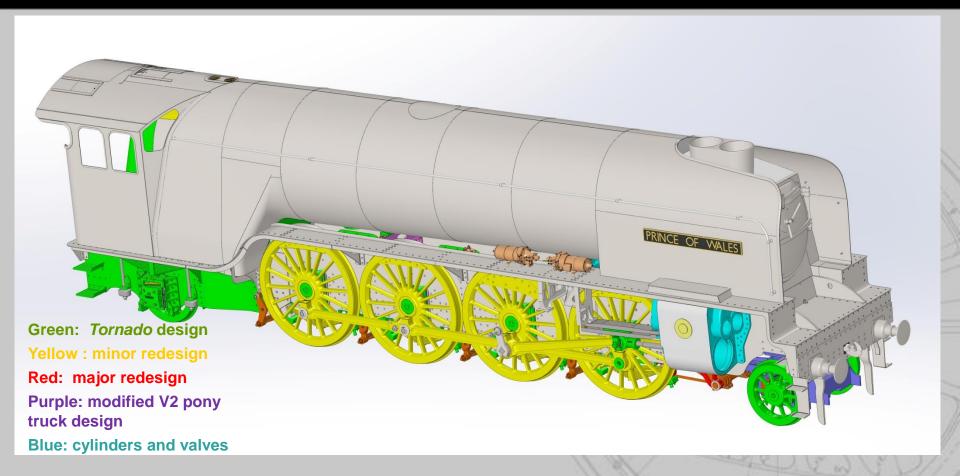
**Fitting out** 

**Trials & testing** 



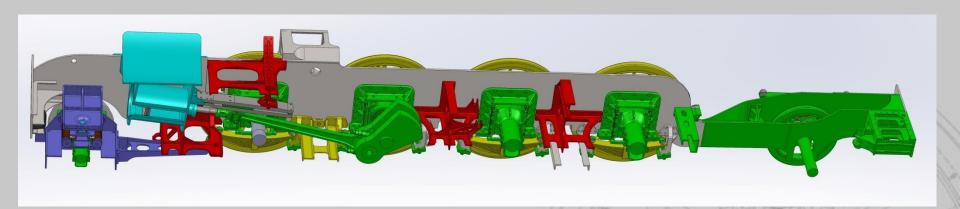


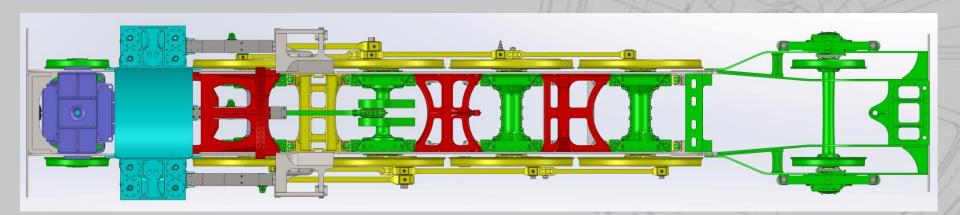
## Commonality with *Tornado* and new design





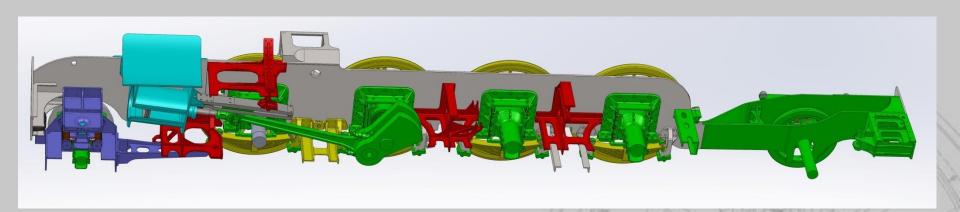
## Some more views

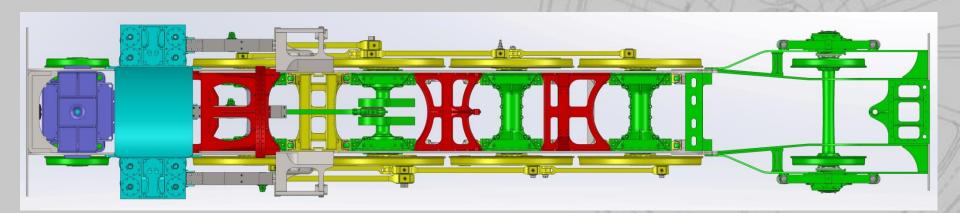






## Some more views





#### **Construction starts**

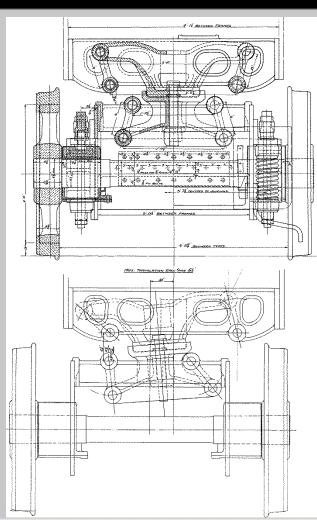


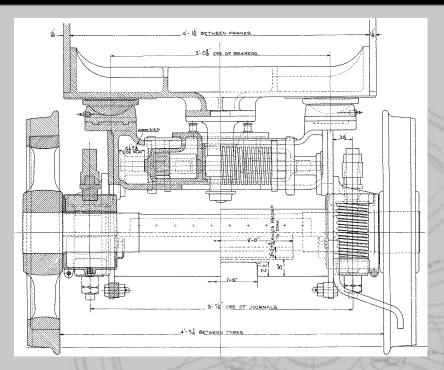
## The first parts appear!





## Pony truck



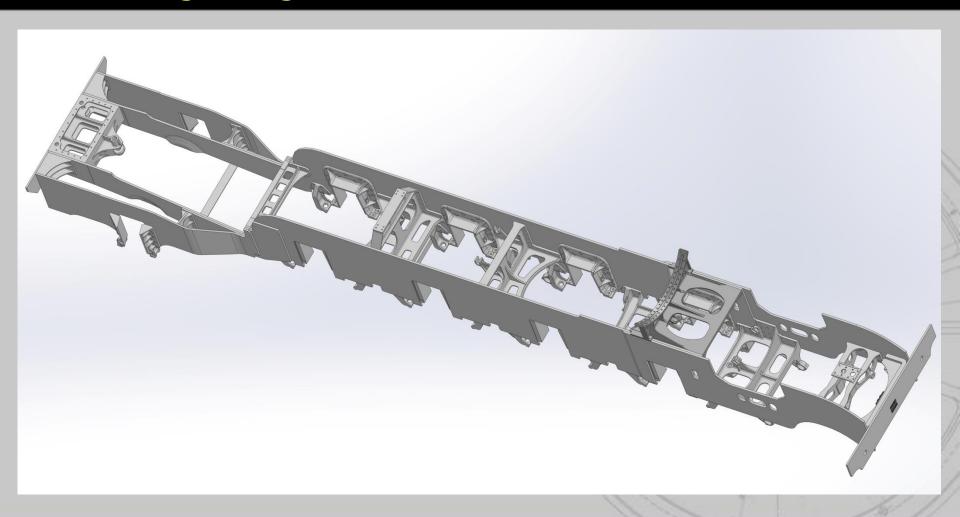


Post war V2 side control spring design

Original swing link design



# Frame design — original No. 2001





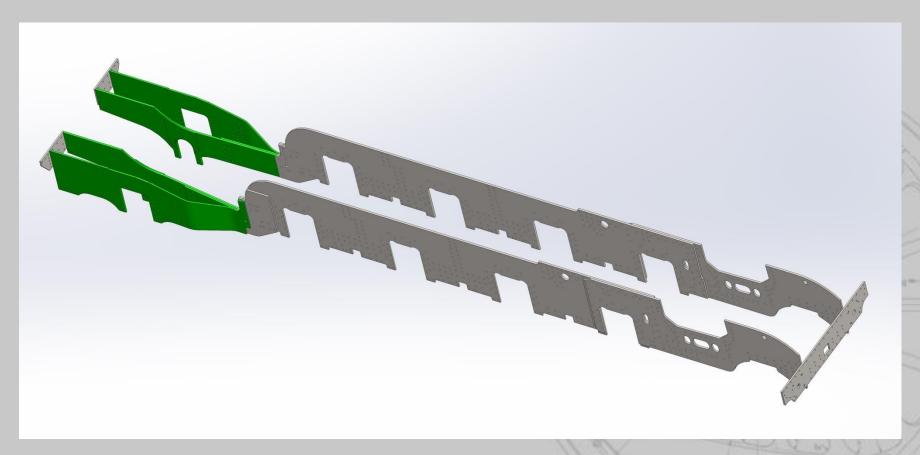
# Frame design comparison – rear end







# 3D Model



• Frame plates – 3D model

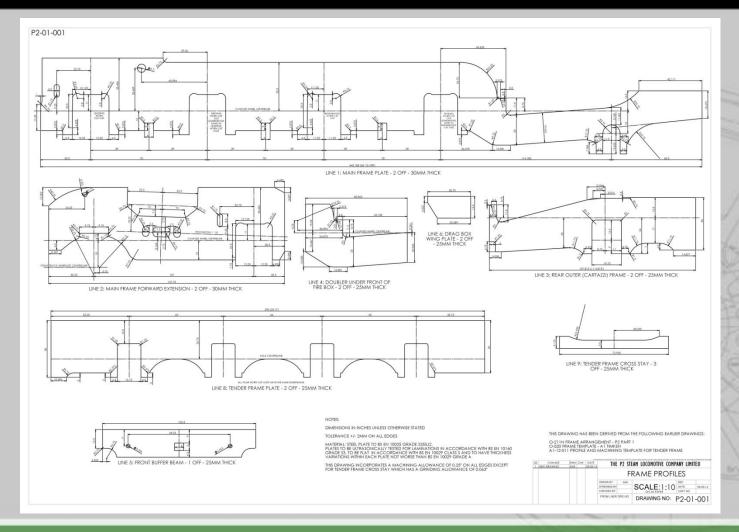


# The frame plate material is rolled 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2014





## Profiling drawing





## Sir Nigel Gresley's grandsons start the profiling on 21st May 2014

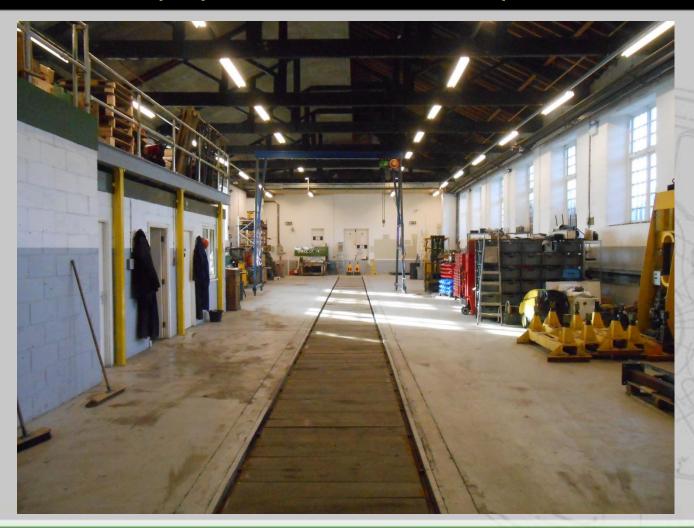




**Ben and Tim Godfrey start the profiler** 

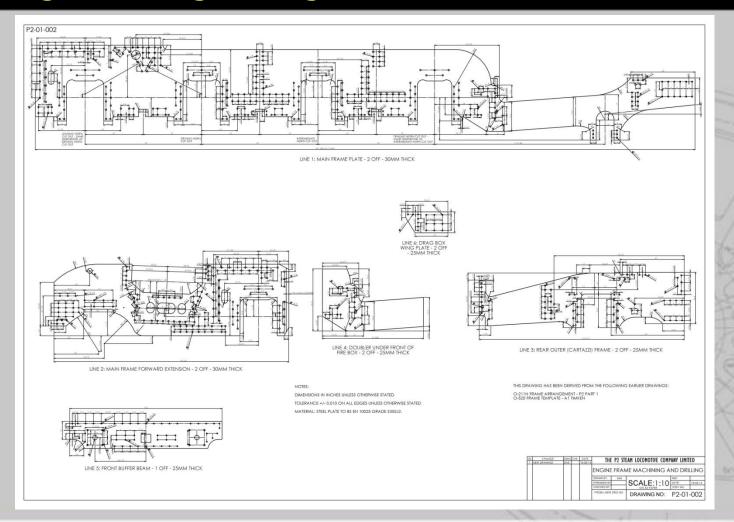


# Darlington works is prepared for the new occupant





# Machining and drilling drawing





# Machining frame plates at Boro' Foundry





# A flat pack kit arrives at Darlington...





# ....and assembly starts





## The rear frame is heated and bent







# Mick Robinson surveys his handiwork





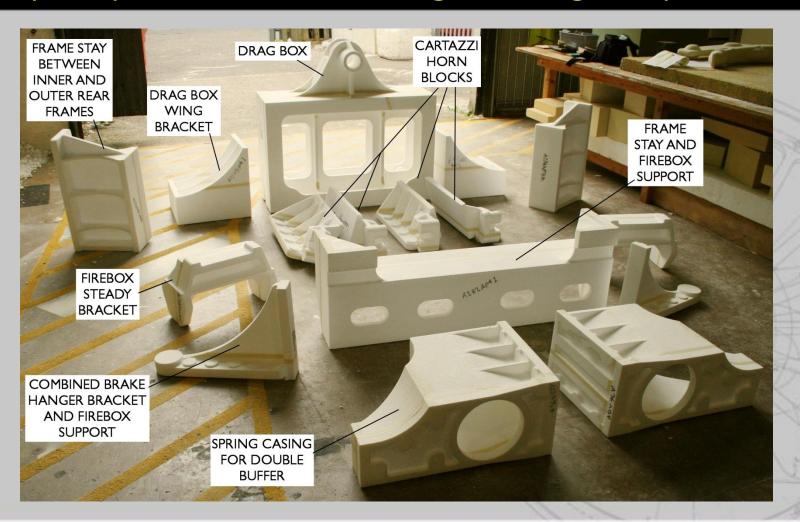
## Doublers are riveted on







### Polystyrene patterns for frame castings – castings completed



### **Frames and wheels**



## Some of the 66 castings made so far.....

















## Tornado meets Prince of Wales!



#### **Cylinders & valves**



### Cylinders

- P2 cylinders were 2in wider overall than A1 cylinders
- Modern track has reduced clearance between rails and platforms
- No. 2007 must be no wider than *Tornado* to retain route clearance
- 250psi boiler permits reduction in cylinder diameter to 19¾in to maintain tractive effort
- Use of improved design will enable No. 2007 cylinders to be no wider than those on *Tornado*

#### **Cylinders & valves**



### Valve gear

- No. 2001 was equipped with Lentz rotary cam poppet valve gear
- Originally with continuously variable cut-off
- Modified to stepped cams providing limited cut off settings following excessive wear on original cams
- Resulted in reduction in economy due to wide steps in cut-off and continued problems with high wear rate
- Investigations pointing to improved version of Lentz gear using the 1940s developments by Franklin in the USA
- Major design study will confirm selection



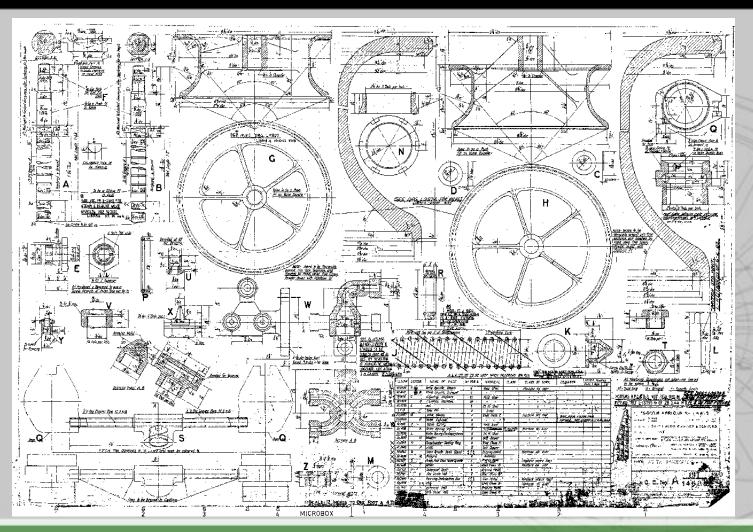
## Shortage of original P2 Lentz valve gear drawings



South African 15E class similar in size and built in 1934/5 with Lentz valves



## Copies obtained of 15E valve gear





## Franklin development of Lentz gear with infinitely variable cams





# Franklin drawings lent by Charles Smith



#### **Wheelsets**



### Wheels, axles and bearings

- All wheel castings completed for engine and tender
- Roller bearings for engine and tender delivered (mostly!)
- Tyres delivered
- Quotes sought for axles and assembly
- Axle and cannon boxes cast



# From 3D model to casting







# Final driving wheels are cast









# And proof machined...







# Engine tyres delivered



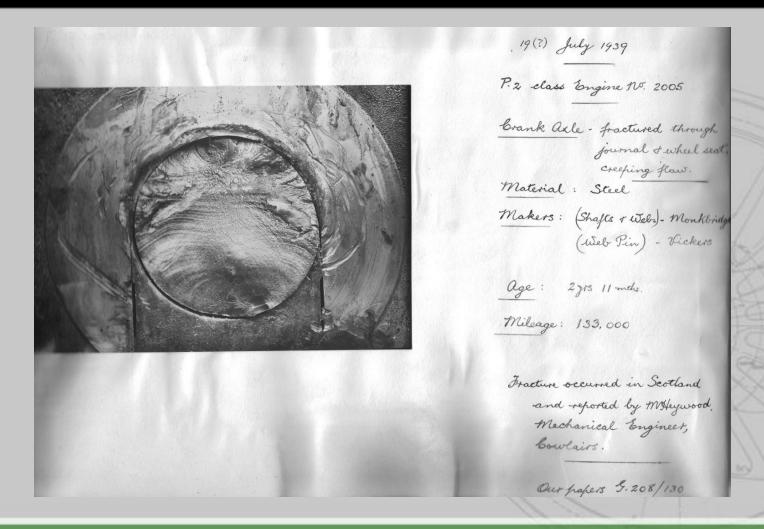


## Axle and cannon box castings





### A problem – crank axle failures





### Crank axle failures

- At least 5 crank axle failures in a class of 6 locomotives over a maximum of 10 years
- 2 likely causes
  - High starting torques max piston force approx 34 tons compared with similarly equipped A3 class with max piston force of 30 tons
  - 8 coupled wheels reducing tendency to slip in high torque conditions
  - Sub-optimal design

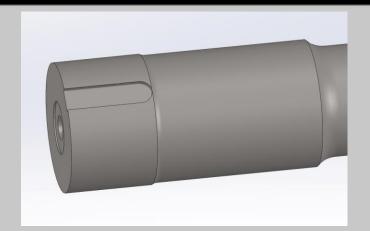


### Solutions

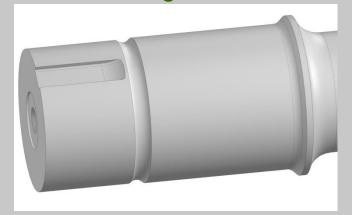
- Use Timken A1 crank axle design modified to incorporate BR BASS504 design criteria
- If insufficient, increase diameter of axle in bearings from 9.625" to 10" – Timken bearings available with larger bore that will fit in existing axleboxes.
- Target fatigue life in excess of 250,000 miles at which point following LNER practice, crank axle will be renewed



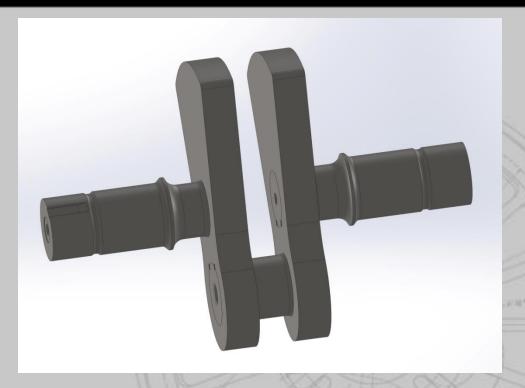
## Solutions



Original



10" bearing seat with BASS504



Timken A1 design with BASS504

#### **Boiler**



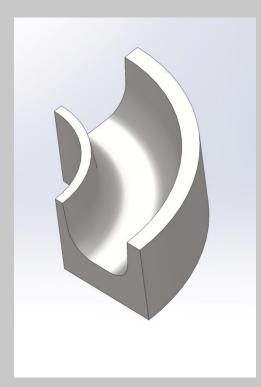
### Boiler design

- Use of diagram 118A Tornado boiler with detailed modifications to improve overhaul life
- Interchangeable with *Tornado* boiler
- Tornado boiler is 17in shorter than P2 boiler smoke box will be extended within cladding
- 250psi retained to improve economy and increase maximum power

#### **Boiler**

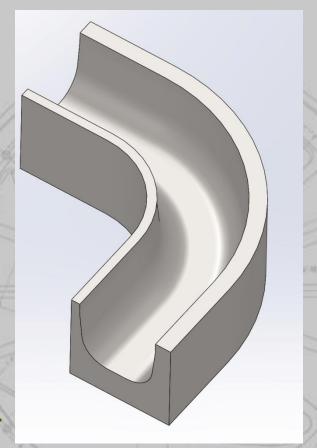


## Boiler life improvement - forged foundation ring corners



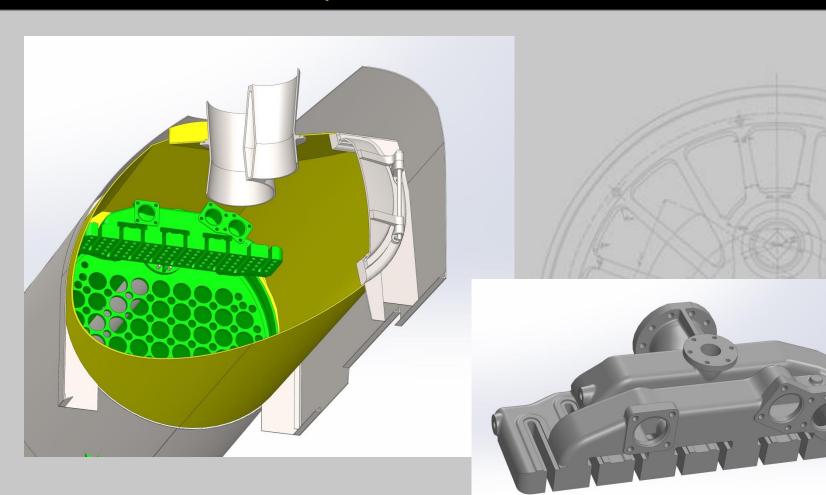
Original design machined from solid plate

New design as forging with extended ends and height to facilitate replacement on existing boiler





## Model of *Tornado's* superheater header to check that it fits —it does!

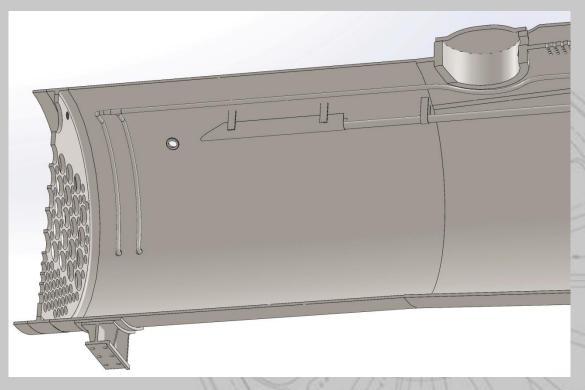


#### **Boiler**



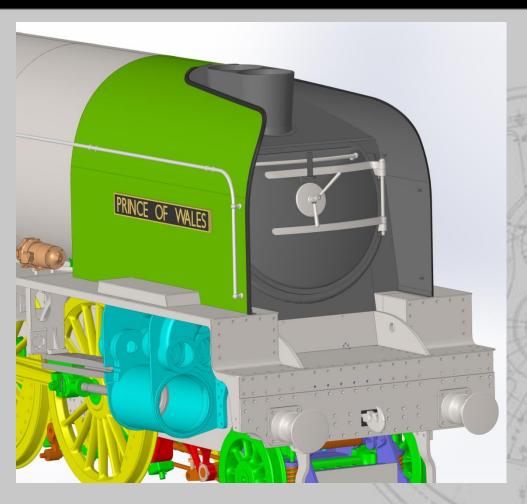
## Re-routing of steam pipes to atomiser and whistle







## Smokebox being sponsored by the Gresley Society





# Smokebox door







# Smokebox door pressed from CorTen steel

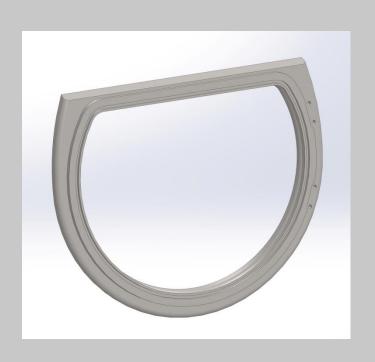








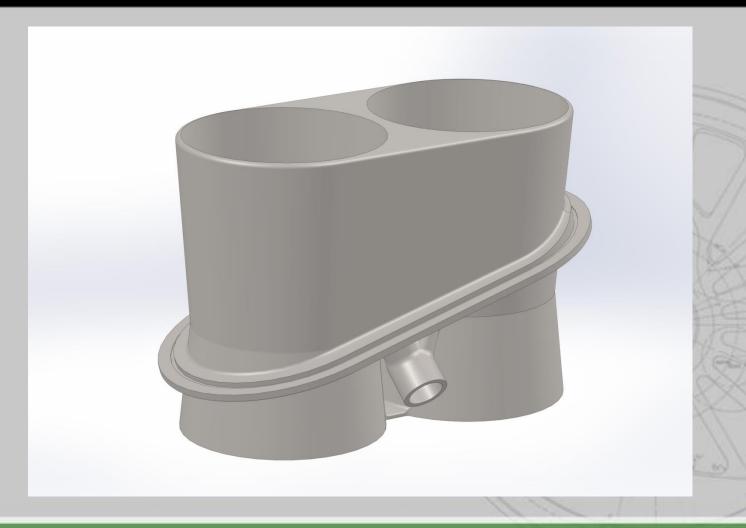
## Smokebox door frame to be machined from slab







# Chimney pattern and casting ordered



### **Progress**



# Frames and footplating









# Cab 3D model

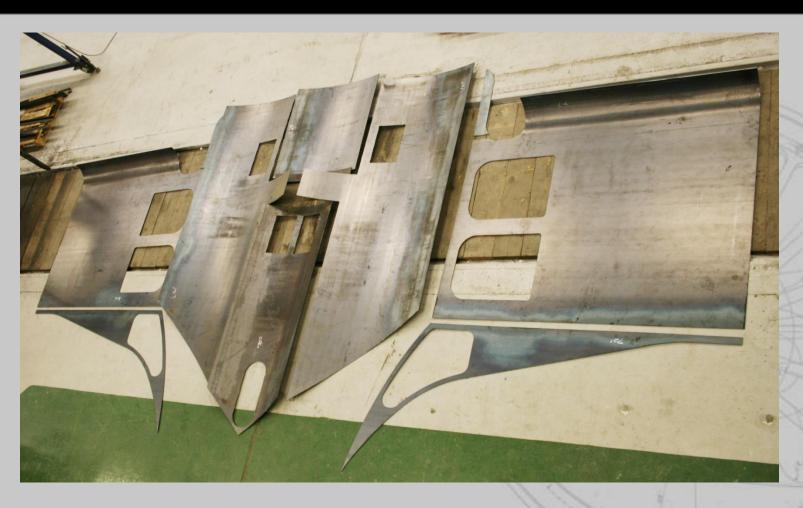








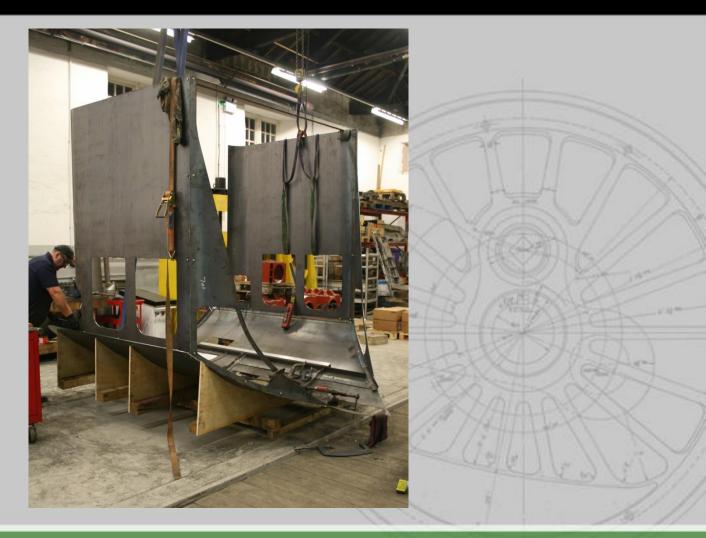
# Cab kit







# Cab assembly



#### **Electrical system**



## The A1 Electrical System – Starting from a Clean Sheet

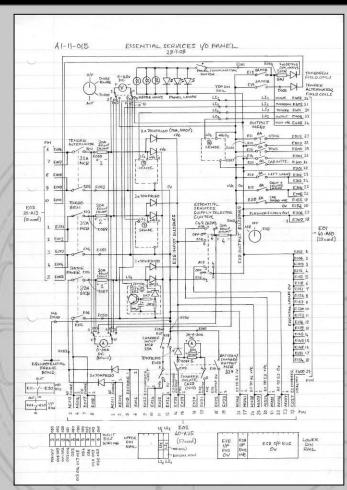
- Some UK steam firsts for the A1:
  - On-board power supply for TPWS and OTMR
  - Two independent electrical generators
  - Full electronic battery charge control
  - Dual redundant power supplies
  - Fixed head, tail and marker lamps to GM/RT 2483, for speeds above 60 mph
  - Lamp health indicators in the cab
  - Low Smoke Zero Halogen (LS0H) wiring and enclosures used throughout
- and even...
  - a 'Hazard Warning' mode to flash the headlamps in an emergency
  - and a mobile phone charger!





#### Some Statistics

- 31 new schematic diagrams to document the design
- 3 miles (4.9 km) of wire on the loco and tender
- Over 9,000 individual electrical and electronic components, costing £17,000 less than 0.6% of the total build
- 52 military connectors containing more than 500 separate contacts
- 230 separate electrical wire runs
- 36 MCB-protected circuits for power supplies and connected loads



Essential Services I/O Panel Schematic



## **Control and Protection**

- Two separate Input/Output Panels:
  - ES I/O Panel under driver's seat, with TPWS
  - AS I/O Panel under the fireman's seat, with OTMR
  - Miniature Circuit Breakers (MCBs) to protect each input and output circuit
- If one supply fails, all loads can be switched to the other supply
- Two Control Panels mounted above the crew seats



Essential Services I/O Panel



Auxiliary Services I/O Panel with OTMR above



**Essential Services Control Panel** 



## Lighting the Way

- New design of headlamp to meet intensity requirements of GM/RT 2483:
  - designed and built by Optical Physicist, Alan Green
  - daytime headlamp equivalent to a 150W halogen bulb (3 car headlamps)
  - uses 7 high-power LEDs, consumes less than 25W
  - mounted in a custom housing, sponsored and built by John Beesley
- New design of marker and tail lamps, to GM/RT 2483:
  - fit into original Stones housings
  - include red and white LEDs with a beam splitter, selected electronically



John Beesley's custom headlamp housing



LED marker lamp assembly



## Pimp my Pacific!

• We also installed LED strip lighting outside the frames - strictly for cleaning and maintenance purposes of course...



...but they do look good too





'The Royal Borderer', Doncaster to Edinburgh and return, 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2010

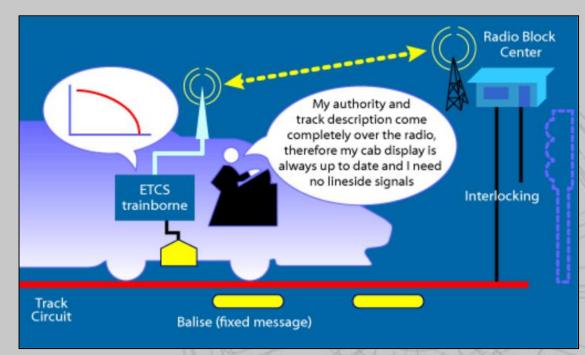


#### **ERTMS for the A1 and P2**



## **ERTMS Level 2**

- ERTMS Level 2 is operating on the Cambrian Coast line in Wales
- The system requires a complex new installation on all trains using the line
- There has been much discussion about the practicality of installing ERTMS on steam locomotives



Level 2 ERTMS schematic



## £5m sounds a lot of money but...

- Over £4m raised by A1SLT since 1990
  - Tornado construction
  - E21249 support coach overhaul and conversion
  - Ongoing maintenance and overhaul
  - £10m if include volunteer time
- Vulcan to the Sky raised over £7m to get Vulcan XH558 back into the air
- Welsh Highland Railway raised over £25m to re-open a 25 mile railway



## Finding £5m - fundraising initiatives

- The Founders Club
- Regular donations by Covenant
- Sponsoring a component by Dedicated Donation
- Commercial sponsorship
- The Boiler Club
- Loan finance
- Legacies
- Grants



## The Founders Club

- We estimated that the pre-launch phase would require at least £100,000
- We sought at least 100 people each donating £1,000 in up to four payments of £250 by standing order
- These funds are being used to get the project to the point of cutting No. 2007's frames

Membership of The Founders Club has now closed but exceeds 360, worth over £450,000



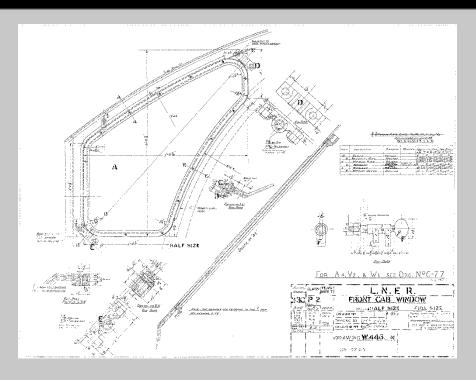
## Covenanting – a P2 for the price of a pint!



- £10pm by standing order
- Price of a pint in North East now £3.10 (up from £1.25 in 1990)
- GAD makes every £10 worth £12.50
- Target of 2,000 £10 equivalents to raise £2m
- Over 680 covenantors already signed up worth over £1m



## Sponsoring a component – dedicated donations



# Over £120,000 already pledged

- From as little as £25 to in excess of £50,000
- Payable either as a single donation or monthly by standing order
- Regular release of components
- Benefits to include an A4 copy of the drawing, a photograph of the component, inclusion in the Roll of Honour
- GAD also applies making every eligible donation worth 25% more
- Launched in July 2014 with a target of raising £1.1m
- Contact Mark & Mandy Grant on dedicated.donations@p2steam.com



## The boiler club

- Boiler and associated systems will cost around £600,000
- We are seeking at least 300 people each donating £2,000 in up to 40 payments of £50pm by standing order
- Special benefits for members of The Boiler Club:

Reserved seat on No. 2007's first main line train

Reasonable access to No. 2007 at all times

Opportunity to join one of the teams building No. 2007 and first choice of other components to sponsor

Exclusive Boiler Club badge and limited edition version of the first official painting of No. 2007 Prince of Wales with No. 60163 Tornado

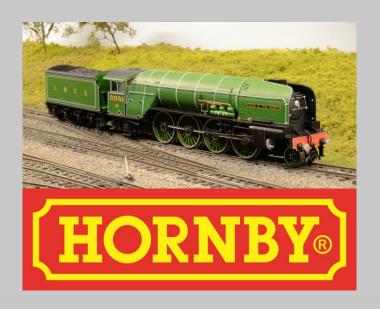
Special Boiler Club day with Tornado

86 members so far, with around £240,000 already pledged



## Commercial sponsorship

- As with *Tornado*, we are working to secure the backing of the best of British business
- The high-profile name will unlock many new opportunities
- Fruitful discussions already started with several potential sponsors
- Target of £1.1m in benefits-in-kind over the duration of the project











## Questions and answers

