

Twyford Waterworks Trust

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HLF Return to Steam Team

Graham Feldwick—HLF Project Director, Geoff Bailey, Colin Billingham, Richard Broadway, Ray Caine, Alan Down, Chris Fairlie, Matthew Feldwick, Terry Forder-Stent, Martin Gregory, Ian Harden, Jim Jones, Mike Matthews, Morley Slade, Steve Smith

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| Restoration Co-ordinators | Geoff Bailey, Alan Down, Matthew Feldwick, Steve Smith |

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| Steam Team Leaders | Alan Down, Steve Smith, Andy Dickson |
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| Twyford Waterworks Railway | Graham Feldwick, Matthew Feldwick |
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| Webmaster | Alan Tearle |
| Tuesday Evening Gang (6pm - 9pm) | Matthew Feldwick |
| Housekeeping | Ian Harden |



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From the Chairman

Welcome to your newsletter, I hope you find plenty of articles and information of interest, and many thanks for your continuing support. As I am sure you now know Graham and the RTS team have finally overcome the remaining hurdles and smoke has at last emerged from the chimney. We have finally 'returned to steam'!! On behalf of the Board of Trustees, and Friends I want to extend our thanks to Graham and the team for their perseverance and sheer hard work.

I hope you were able to attend the special Friends steaming day we held on the 15th October. My thanks to Lesley for organising this. It was great that so many of you could attend. If you were unable to make it there will be further opportunities in 2018. We are planning a formal launch on the 22nd April. We also intend to steam on our first 2018 open day Sunday 6th May and the following day Monday the 7th May to coincide with the Friends of King Alfred's Winchester bus running day. The rest of the year should follow the normal pattern of the first Sunday in every month until October. Once again if you want

to help please let me or one of the team know, even a day can make a huge difference.

Our 2017 season has been very successful but our normal luck with the weather finally ran out with a wet Sunday in September, but despite threats of rain for October we had excellent visitor numbers. Overall visitor numbers have held up for the year and the visitor appreciation continues to be very high. My thanks to all our volunteers, exhibitors and visitors without whom this would never happen!

We had a very good AGM in July with lots of interest and good questions. We have agreed to move next year's AGM to September or October which will give more time from the submission of the report and accounts to enable these to be available much earlier to Friends prior to the AGM.

As always your thoughts and questions are most welcome to chairman@twyfordwaterworks.co.uk. With very best wishes,

Mike

Mike Southgate

Return to Steam – our Heritage Lottery Project

We're back in steam!

After all the planning, meetings, emails, documentation, and much physical hard work by many it was a great day on Tuesday 22nd August when the boiler and engine were both brought back to life again, and even greater on the 23rd August when our insurers passed everything! After yet more work and a further steaming for training we were able to open the Works for a very special Friends Day on 15th October, so that everyone who has supported the Trust and the project through thick and thin had the opportunity to join together to witness what has been a magnificent achievement!

So now we are turning our thoughts to the first year of steamings in 2018, starting with a public launch and celebration on Sunday 22nd April. Before then there is a long list of things to finish off, so that we can finally complete the HLF Project in May.

Once again, here's another

summary of what we've achieved since the last edition of 'The Works', together with some details of what's left to do:

The Steam Part

Alasdair McEwen and his team completed most of the boiler work by early August and, after an initial trial steaming, had everything ready for 22/23 August. It was a great relief all round when the boiler and engine were passed! McEwen now just have the pipe lagging to put on, which we are expecting to be done shortly. Applying an authentic fabric finish to this will be a volunteer task, and please let me or one of the Steam Team know if you would like to help with this.

There's quite a list of steam-related jobs to do over the winter months to ensure that everything is ready for next year, and the Steam Team is already hard at work on these, which will keep everyone busy. The boiler is now drained down, and it is planned to restart steam training in the very early spring.

Having a fully trained Steam Team is vital to the continued success of returning to steam – we

have an enthusiastic core team who would love others to join them. The Steam Team is now headed up by Alan Down, Steve Smith and Andy Dickson, who will be overseeing all team training, and the operation and maintenance of all things steam. In line with all other steam organisations anyone who joins the Steam Team will need to be trained and 'passed out' regardless of their previous experience either at Twyford or elsewhere.

If you would like to join in with operating either the boiler, the engine or both do let us know. If you are not a regular volunteer then why not have a word with our Friends Secretary Lesley?

The Building Work

As mentioned in the June Newsletter this is now completed.

The Interpretation

This too is completed, but a few of the outdoor boards have not lasted well and will be replaced before we open to the public in 2018.

Southern Water

Regular RTS updates have been

emailed to Southern Water throughout this exciting period, but to date there has been no official response so we assume that all is well to return to steam now on a regular basis. Hopefully TWT and Southern Water will work together on the public launch day.

Finishing the Project

This is the time to look back at all the things we planned to do as part of the HLF Project, identify which still need to be tackled and work through them. This includes training, not just for the Steam Team but for 'the regulars' too to help our Trust present an even more professional front at our Open Days. There's also many things that we need to buy – PPE, tools, furniture, etc. There is still some HLF money allocated to this, but thank you if you made a donation as part of the 15th October Day as this money is very welcome to ensure that we have everything we need.

Graham

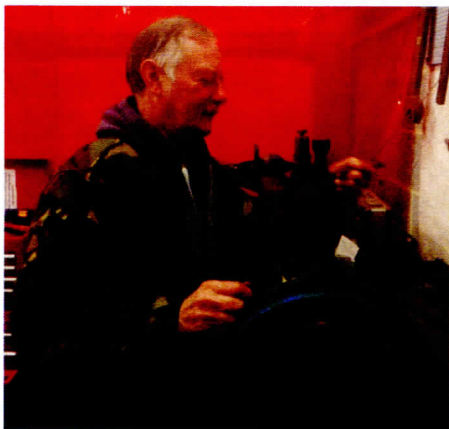
HLF Project Director

feldwick@globalnet.co.uk

01929 552973

News from the Diesel House...

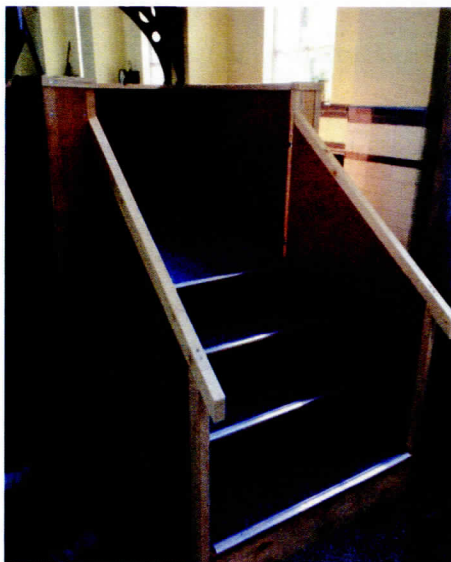
Having said the Swift Radford was running sweetly it failed miserably on the August Open Day, again due to the magneto, which has now been sent off for rebuild. We were hoping it would be back in time for October 1st but the chap we sent it to went away on holiday so it will just have to wait for its next public outing until next year.



The Ruston 6PS airstart unit for the Diesel House has also gone away to have the bearings re-whitemetalled and line bored but has also fallen foul of the dreaded holiday season and although we did stress that we wanted it back for the end of

September (in time for the Open Day) it was not to be. However once it returns work will go on apace and it may even be ready to run for the May Open Day.....but don't hold me to that.

The one item of good news is that the cylinder and piston for the Williams and James compressor which we hope to site behind the workshop to provide a reliable remote air source for all the big Rustons, has now been rebored and sleeved by Owslebury Crankshafts (OCS Automotive Engineering) in Winchester, so another project will shortly be coming to fruition.



The viewing platform behind the Ruston 3VER well-pump set in the Diesel House has now been completed and gives visitors a chance to see the inner workings of a diesel engine, while the front of the engine will be cosmetically restored to maintain the

appearance.

All in all the Internal Combustion Team has a busy winter ahead, so if you are considering volunteering and you have some mechanical knowledge then we'd be only too pleased to see you.

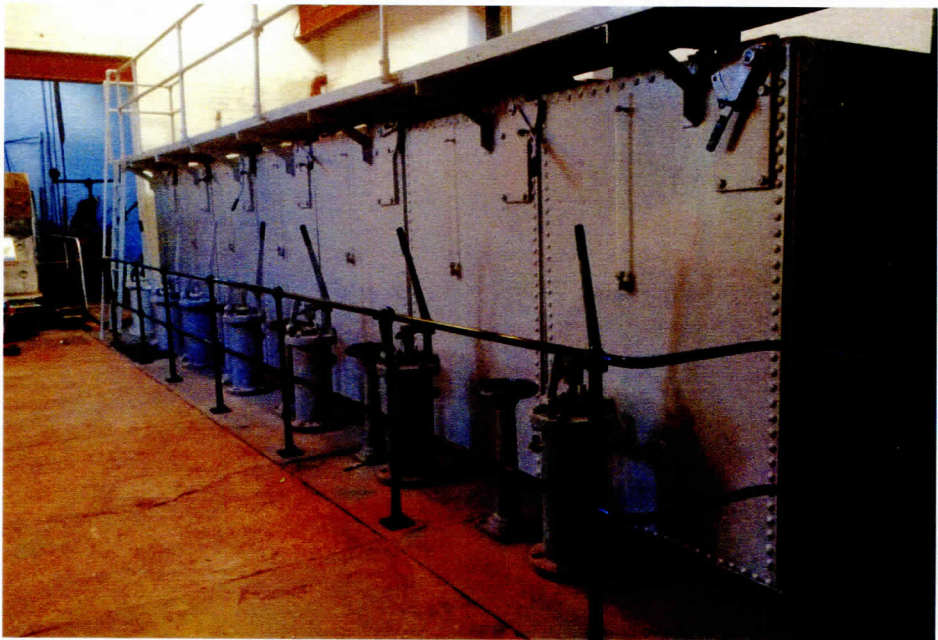
Geoff

Meanwhile in the Filter House....

Significant progress has been made in the Filter House over the past few months with the tanks now almost complete. New brass securing nuts, each with a unique thread, have been turned for the

water gauge glasses and the specially bent handrails have been installed.

At present the final painting is taking place before the chill of winter sets in after which time we can declare this herculean project finished!



Returned to steam!

Special celebratory steaming for Friends

15th October 2017

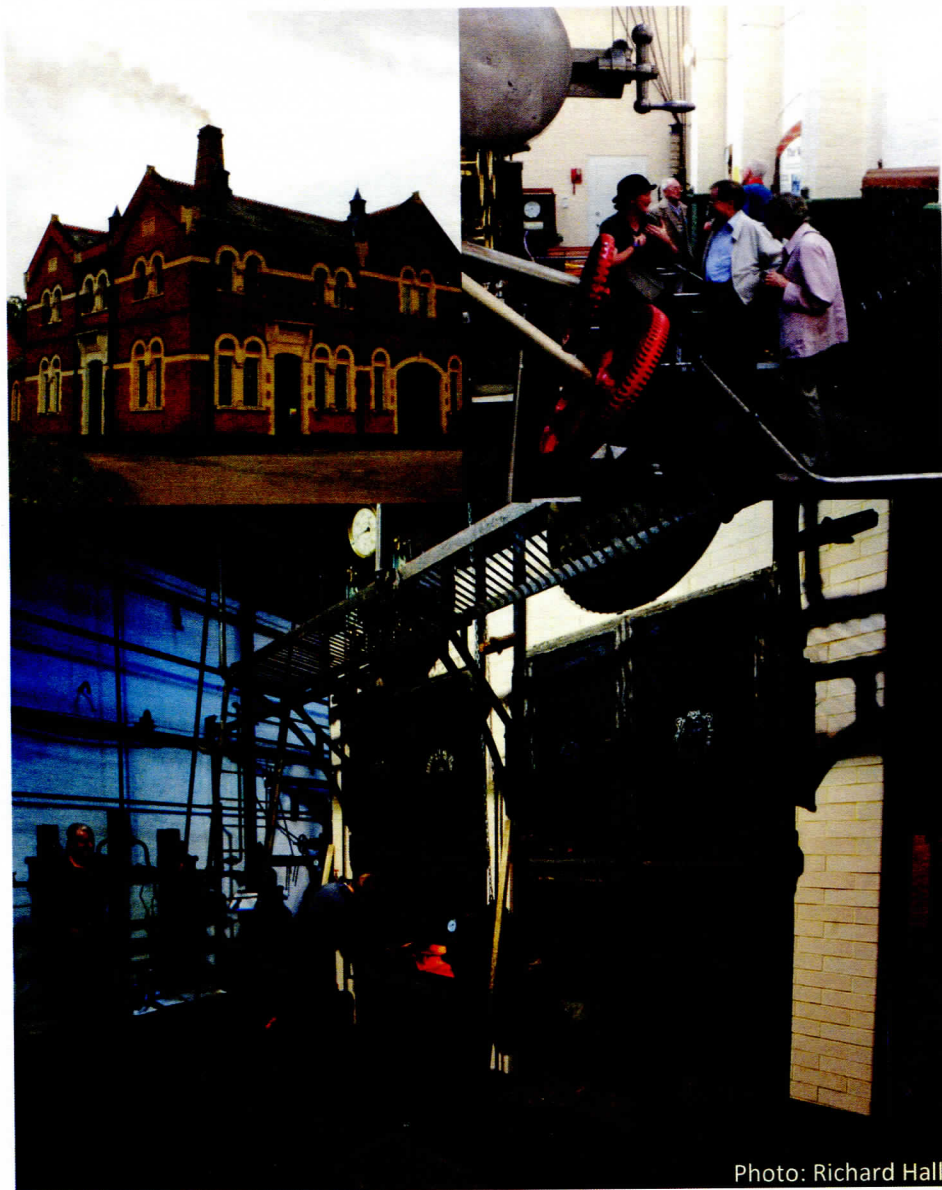
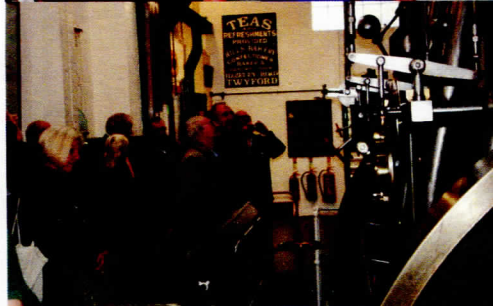
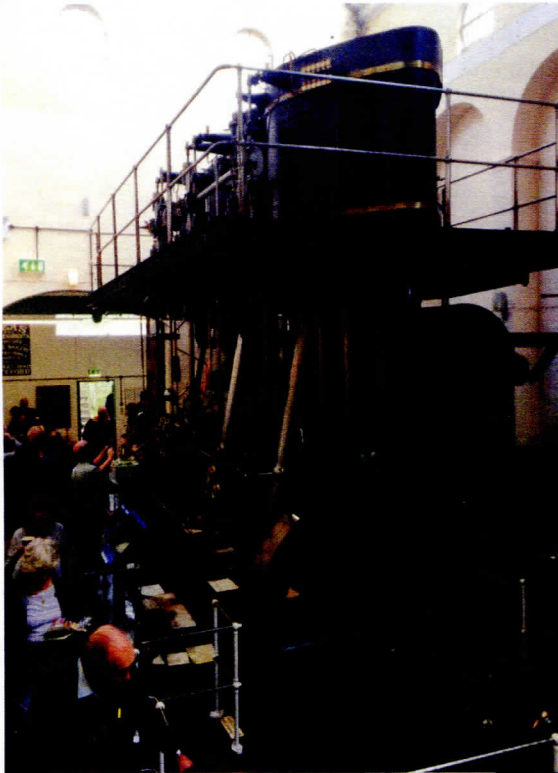


Photo: Richard Hall



Personal Musings of a Trustee on the Return to Steam Project...

When I became a Trustee in 2005 there was plenty to think about with the negotiations with Southern Water (SW) for the asbestos removal from the boiler house and the possibilities for funding for reinstatement of the boilers. By 2007 the initial asbestos removal work had been done leaving us with a major reconstruction job. While funding options were discussed, work began on replacing corroded steelwork in the boiler stanchions and drawing up details of how the boiler brickwork should be reconstructed.

The Heritage Lottery Fund was identified as our best hope for adequate funding, and following an encouraging visit by them a development grant was sought in 2010. The award of this grant in the same year heralded a hectic two years of investigations, drawing production, and development of the case in support of the full funding.

Because we had applied for a category of funding that carried a £1 million limit at the time, the initial estimates for our proposed works were found to be too high and we had to do a cost saving review with our quantity surveyors. This led to the adoption of a smaller workshop building (with no rail access), a decision not to rebuild most of the boiler three brickwork, and the omission of the retaining wall and resurfacing of the site behind the pumping station. Of these a further extension of the workshop may prove to be a challenge, whereas boiler three looks good in its revised form and the other work can be done in the future.

In 2012 the full HLF grant was awarded. Contractors' tenders had already been sought and by the end of August all was set to go. Then came the big let down! The discovery of more asbestos in the



boiler house stopped everything. They say that every cloud has a silver lining. In fact, so it proved for the RTS project, because after the delay arising from the negotiations with Southern Water and the cleaning work, the boiler house was in a much better state and all the clutter had been cleaned up and removed to a container.

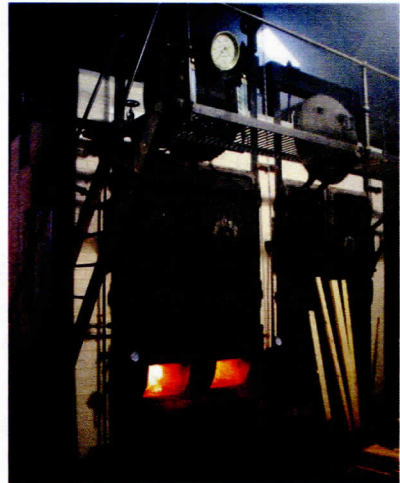
The other “silver lining” was that during that delay period SW carried out their own works to the dosing plant, and major repairs to the pumping station roof without the complication of resolving rival contractor’s conflicting interests.

The other factor worth considering in relation to all the delays to the project is, that compared to our original timetable, we have now had four

additional seasons of Open Days. With the benefit of six dry and sunny days in 2016 and four this year.

It is wonderful to see the boiler steaming and the engine running at last. Our patience and hard work has finally been rewarded and we can plan with confidence for “the age of steam” in 2018.

Ray Caine



Keep in touch with the Friends' Web Page

You don't need an email address for this, just access to the internet, either at home or at your local library etc. Search for the T W T website (www.twyfordwaterworks.co.uk) or type Twyford Waterworks into

Google, click on the Friends 'tab' near the top of the page, and look for the 'Already a Friend?' button. The password changes with each newsletter. The current password is Waterworks17 but this will change on 10th December 2017 to Hathorn14 (that's a capital H, and 14 are numbers). Here you'll find back copies of "The Works" and up to date news.

Twyford's Industrial Railway



The final Open Day on 1st October saw all 4 locomotives on the Kiln Railway – the petrol Lister 3916, diesel Listers 42494 and 52886, and battery Wingrove & Rogers M7550 - operating throughout the day. A few days previously diesel Motor Rail 7374 'Ayala' and battery Wingrove & Rogers 7606 were operated on the Quarry Line for a private group tour, with Motor Rail 5355 on display. On 9th September the railway collection was further strengthened by the arrival of four V skip wagons, a brickcar and



some wagon parts from a brickworks in Essex. The skip wagons are in typical ex-industrial condition and will require a fair amount of restoration, including regauging, which will be started during this winter. Such wagons are now extremely scarce – these once were used on a rope-worked incline so will be at home at



Twyford once our own incline is restored.

With no more running days planned this year attention has already been turned to track repairs and work on the locos and wagons, to ensure that they are ready for 2018.

Graham

Wildlife at the Works

The Wednesday Conservation Volunteers visited the Works on 11th October, and again lived up to their slogan of 'You can see where we've been'! Work concentrated on pruning the 'new' hedge that runs along the nature trail below the railway line, and



raking grass previously cut in Picnic and Upper Meadows and on Buckthorn Hill. Cutting and raking up the grass is essential to maintain good species diversity, but it is equally important to leave large areas uncut to allow many



insect and butterfly species to successfully overwinter.

On the butterfly front, Richard & Janet Stobart have again recording their sightings throughout the 2017 season, and the results indicate that several of our species had quite a good year, which highlights the importance of the Waterworks site for butterflies and numerous other insects. In particular, Brimstone, Meadow Brown, Ringlet, Gatekeeper, Marbled White, Common Blue, Small Skipper, Green Veined and other Whites were seen in reasonable numbers. One species that is recorded only occasionally is the very attractive Small Copper, and Graham has cleared a small area of grassland above the kilns and sown native seed of its foodplant, Common Sorrel, to see if we can establish a breeding colony. We are indeed most fortunate to have a site that is so rich in wildlife.

Friends of Twyford Waterworks

Well, what a day the 15th October was!

If you came to the Friends' steaming event I know you had a fantastic experience, and if you weren't able to come, I hope that you can get a flavour of it from the photos in this newsletter.

Personally I was so pleased to be able to welcome people at the gate, with the backdrop of an active chimney, and to put so many names and faces together and meet so many Friends – old and new. The grins on everyone's faces said it all.

Huge congratulations go to the Steam Team (both boiler and

engine crews) for bringing it all to life and working together in front of an audience. Congratulations must also go to the Tea Room Team who spent hours planning, preparing and serving such a magnificent spread for us all.

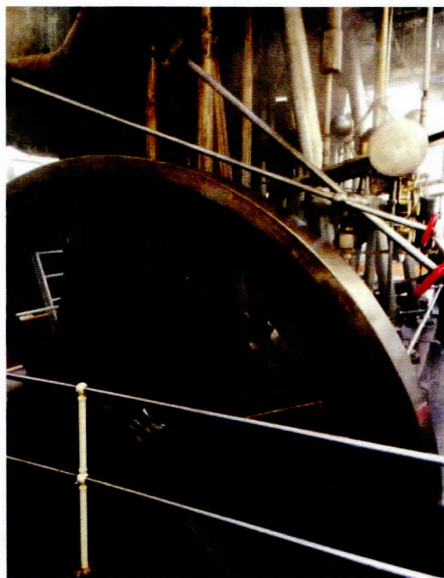
Well done to everyone involved!

If you couldn't make our Friends' Steaming Day, then don't worry – we plan to be in steam on every Open Day in 2018.

I've been asked if we shall have more Friends' events. Our Public Launch is planned for April next year, and the site will need to be Spring Cleaned like never before to welcome dignitaries, special guests and media, so a 'Make A Difference' weekend (anyone remember those from a few years ago?) might be on the cards for starters – more details to follow.

With so much going on now, we will be really pleased to hear from you if you would like to volunteer, or know of someone who would like to get involved. From the practical, real dirty hands stuff, right through to behind the scenes admin and management, and anything in between, there's certainly plenty for everyone – please contact me or call in any Sunday between 10am and 4pm or on Tuesday evenings from 6pm to 9pm.

Finally a very warm welcome to new Friends who have joined at



this really exciting and historic time:

Gareth and Penny Bath, John and Christine Bohringer, Chrysteel and Roger Browne, James and Gemma Dowland, Peter Flavell, Richard Hall, Jill Irons, John Ratcliffe, Gordon Soutar, Neil and Lynda Smith and A Watkin.

Lesley

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friends@twyfordwaterworks.co.uk



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Returned to steam after almost
fourteen years!

The first smoke from the chimney,
August 2017

