

B17 STEAM LOCOMOTIVE TRUST



(61608 at Kings Lynn in 1954)

GIANT OF STEAM REBORN

The B17 Steam Locomotive Trust (B17SLT) is creating an icon from our past using innovative techniques and modern technology. It will be constructed from scratch to mainline operating standards for use on the mainline network and heritage railways in this country. This brand new LNER class B17 4-6-0 express passenger steam locomotive will capture a previous era of world class engineering for present and future generations to enjoy.

The locomotive will be known as the “Spirit of Sandringham”.

It is planned to fund this project through affordable donations and subscriptions made by the public and sponsorship from British business. Educational and training opportunities for young people in apprenticeships associated with engineering and manufacturing technologies will be provided by this project

LATEST NEWS

Frames cut for “Spirit of Sandringham” B17 steam locomotive bringing a legend of the rails back to life.

The B17 Steam Locomotive Trust is delighted to announce a major success with completion of the first stage of manufacture of the mainframes which marked the moment this brand new B17 locomotive was born. Tim Godfrey, grandson of the original locomotive designer Sir Nigel Gresley, performed the start-up ceremony At TATA Steel Wednesfield on Wednesday 15th April.



Completed profiled frames

Next, the frames will be fully machined and then delivered to The Llangollen Railway where construction is planned. The design of the locomotive will follow the 1935 design, however certain improvements will also be introduced for safe operation on the railways of the 21st Century.

YOUR LOCAL RAILWAY HISTORY

All 73 original class B17s were named after country houses and football clubs associated with the former LNER. The first of class was named SANDRINGHAM after the Royal Family's residence in Norfolk and thereafter established the group name of the class as 'Sandringhams.' The B17's operated on these routes for over 30 years. All B17's were withdrawn from service and scrapped by the middle of 1960 and none were preserved.

They worked mainline expresses between the London Termini of Liverpool Street, King's Cross and the major centres of East Anglia including seaside resorts and ports plus Royal Train duties when members of the Royal Family stayed at Sandringham.

Further information

The general public, railway enthusiasts and engineering professionals or any person or organisation who may wish to find out more about the project are invited to contact Brian Hall, Chairman of the B17 Steam Locomotive Trust by e-mail to brian.e.hall.b17@gmail.com or mobile 07527670436. Further information is also available on the website at www.b17steamloco.com