



Awake The Giant

April 2023

Awake the Giants Tender
steps into Spring!

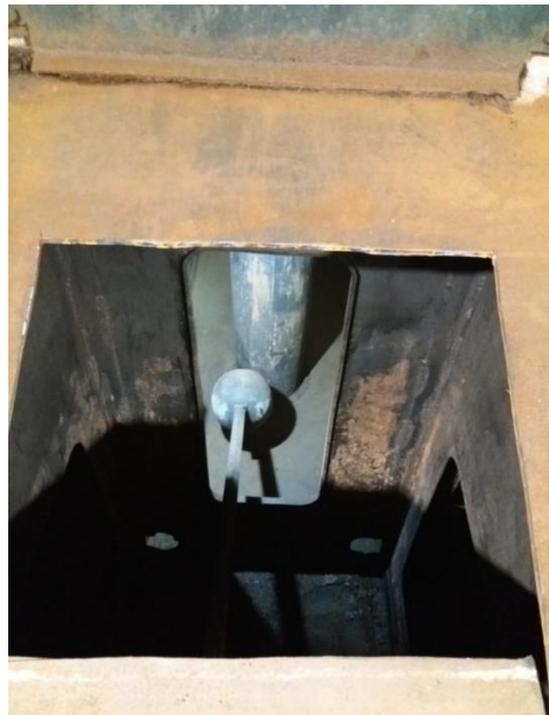


If you are interested in joining the team, signing up to monthly donations or wanting to show your support to the overhaul and restoration of 92240 then please email Andy at andy.taylor@bluebell-railway.com or awakethegiant@outlook.com.

With the great news reported in December 92240 is now safely back at Sheffield Park, initially in the milk dock on platform two before being moved to the dock at the end of Platform One. At the beginning of 2023 we had our first working party.

There was a good turnout of members at the first working party with work concentrating work on the tender. The first work was removing algae and lightly rubbing the tender sides down then applying an etched primer to any areas of exposed metal. This lovely green paint makes a firm bond by eating into the metal and giving a super strong hold and protection. The same was applied to the lockers in the cab. Other work undertaken was to make a second point of access into the water tank this would aid removing dust, rust and water scale from the tank. Around 20 angle grinder discs later! Martin finally made the neat hole as you can see below.

The pictures here are courtesy of Ken Upton, Phil Wilson, Mark Wilson and Martin Payne.



Right: The cut out plate in the coal space in the tender looking into the water space. The float the size of a beach ball is part of the system that gives an indication in the cab of the water level.



As you would expect when working on this Giant of a locomotive the tender and water space is vast. The water space floor was covered in rust scale andsnails! these were thought to be either water snails that set up home in the tender or from birds that used the tender as a restaurant.



Above and left: Inside the Water tank before the first working party started.

In early March 92240 was moved undercover for the first time in many years. This enabled the locomotive to dry out and work to continue on the tender with around 10 members working around the engine.

Work continued in the water tank, being further cleared and

ready to be rubbed down. The tank is in extremely good condition so we are working with a specialist paint company who have worked with Clan Line to ensure the tank will be fit for purpose for at least the next 30 years plus with minimal further work needed in the future.

Right: After cleaning.

Even though the tender was new in the 1980s great care was taken to exactly copy the original drawings even to the point of the water scope pipe and mushroom. No use on the Bluebell you would think, but think again! 2 x 3" pipes will run





up this enabling a low level fill point. This will mean the tender is easily filled in the yard from low level.



Lastly concerning the tender the coal space has been completely cleaned out and is now ready for wirebrushing then the first coat of protective paint.

2 drains are at the front of the coal space one clearly seen in the middle of the first picture, then one nearer to the shovel plate this second one is completely blocked with coal dust so we are trying to clear this and get it back into operation. In the second photo you can see both drain pipes in the water space.

Work on the outside of the locomotive



With much elbow grease all running plate bolts have been loosened greased and placed back. This will aid the amount of time needed in the works to remove the cladding.



9 F Club!

The Bluebell Railway's 9F club have also joined our work recently and their most recent working party saw them working on the Bluebell's 9F, 92240, rubbing down and cleaning the footplate steps. Thank you to all the 9f club and we hope to see you all again very soon.

To help fund the restoration of 92240, the team have a number of incomes alongside the monthly direct debits which bring a steady flow of income to the project the team are ever expanding their merchandise range with thanks to Ken. Currently the team have bottle openers, pens, t shirts (adults and kids) as well as mugs, hoodies and there are more items soon to be produced!

Other bits and bobs

Team member Mark has also been working very hard behind the scenes on a new 'Awake the Giant' Gazette which will be an up to date newsletter which will be a subscription service. More details of this will be coming out in future articles.

Apart from working parties, a vital way to attract new supporters both of interest and financially comes from events and this year the team will be attempting to attend all the major events including; Flying Scotsman's visit, Bluebell on Parade, Branch Line Gala, Road Meets Rail, Steam Fair and many others.

If you would like to be involved, then please contact Andy on the email above or the 'Awake the Giant' email address, which is above with your contact details and your interest. Jobs the team does, apart from working on the locomotive, is working with Tom P on the stall, promoting the project around the railway.

Photo competition launch

The Awake the Giant's Photography Competition returns for a third year and these have been proven to be very, very popular. This year we will be introducing new categories for all ages. The categories for this are:

Under 16s

'Bluebell at its Best' (Any photo of the Bluebell)

'Visitors and Galas' (Any photo representing Bluebell visiting locomotives and Galas)

16s and Over

'Bluebell in Bloom' (Any photo of Bluebell's home fleet)

'Visitors and Galas' (Any photo representing Bluebell visiting locomotives and Galas)

Both Age Groups

'Flying Scotsman Flies South' (Flying Scotsman at the Bluebell Railway 2023)

All details can be found on [the News section of the 'Awake the Giant' page on the Bluebell Railway's website](#). The competition opens on the opening day of the 'Branch Line Gala' and is running and will close on Friday 1st December 2023, with winners being announced in January 2024.

Then finally, Tom N has been working behind the scenes to start planning the new publication about 92240 but has also started building an archive of 92240 at Barry's, arrival at the Bluebell Railway and working days. If you have any materials and are willing to add them to the archive and publication, please contact Tom N at awakethegiant@outlook.com.

The team would like to thank everyone for their continued support and would like to wish everyone a very Happy Easter and the team look forward to meeting and speaking to you all soon at the Bluebell Railway.