

## 92240 Split and Shed



Photo contributions to this article come from 'Awake the Giant' team members: Tom, Andy, Martin, Mark, John, Howard, Paul and Kieth.

Words by Tom.

Since our last updates, team has made huge progress on the overhaul of 92240. Primarily the focus is on the tender, before the front end is worked on and overhauled. 92240 has been split and the tender has been placed in the maintenance shed, at Sheffield Park.

The team have recently suffered a great loss, with the sad passing of our Stall Manager, Tom P. A wreath was worn on the smokebox door of 34059 Sir Archibald Sinclair in memoriam of Tom P and the wreath, at the end of the day, was then placed on the smokebox door of 92240, pictured below, which currently resides in the milk dock, adjacent on platform2.



The 'Awake The Giant' team are always welcome to new team members joining us, for working parties, supporting the stand or by donating. If you are interested in joining the team or would like to find out more, please contact Andy on [andy.taylor@bluebell-railway.co.uk](mailto:andy.taylor@bluebell-railway.co.uk) Any support or donation of monetary or time would be very much appreciated. More details of 92240 and the overhaul can be found at [Awake the Giant - Bluebell Railway in Sussex \(bluebell-railway.com\)](http://Awake the Giant - Bluebell Railway in Sussex (bluebell-railway.com))

### **Loco Progress**

The tender holds seventeen chambers and at the time of this article being written, fifteen and a half have been cleaned, by wire brushing and rust cleaned out of each single chamber before being painted. The team are continuing to use a bitumen paint, which should help preserve the inside of the tender for a number of years and protection from any rusting in the near future. The tender sides have continued to be rubbed down and painted with layers of undercoat.



Whilst the painting and rubbing down has continued, a number of parts have been removed from the tender. Earlier in the overhaul of 92240, the water scoop was removed, as it was highly unlikely, we would be using this on the Bluebell line, anytime soon.





The tender plates have been removed, ready to be cleaned and painted, also removed was the filter lid which has been cleaned and coated in primer. The fall plates have also been removed, although quite a challenge to the team at the working party, which required a lot of heat from a blow torch, impact engineering. The team found that a number of bolts had seized up and later on a hand grinder was used to smooth out the edges of they were lethal.



The buffer beam has received a large amount of work, the boot plates have been removed, sand blasted before having primer added onto it. It is the hope of the team, whilst continuing to raise funds whilst using 'Sustainable Funding' to have the tender completed by the end of the year.















Sustainable funding will mean that all the money raised for the 'Awake the Giant' project will ensure there are funds for the current overhaul and any future works that may be needed, meaning the amount of time that 92240 is left out of traffic in the future will be minimised. It is also hoped that a pool of locomotives will follow this fundraising effort and open up a wider pool of locomotives in preservation and in steam on the Bluebell line.

Over the bank holiday weekend, of the opening of the 'Beachy Head' launch gala, the 'Awake the Giant' team had a stall adjacent to 92240 on the Friday and then moving into Steam Works for the remainder of the bank holiday weekend. The stall proved popular and generous donations were made and good sales of the merchandise. As well as running a stall, some members of the team took to the tender and carried on painting in the chambers, with four of the chamber ceilings now painted, as seen in the photos below.











The team are working hard on fundraising and collecting funds for 92240 and are currently working towards a milestone amount of £500,000 but can we wonder if we can get to £92,240 before the ending of the season?

### **Buy 92240 a Present!**

Launching later this year, will be an opportunity for supporters of 92240's restoration to buy a present for 92240! This will offer the opportunity for supporters to buy gifts that will aid the work of the restoration and overhaul of the 9F and currently, no other society on the railway is doing this! This will be a new and exciting initiative for all to show their support, instead of a monetary donation. Full details are currently being finalised for this and will be out in the Autumn editions of the Bluebell Times, Awake the Giant webpage and social media channels.

### **92240 Photo Competition**

The annual photo competition, to raise funds for 92240 has returned for 2024 and is now open. There are three categories and all are welcome to enter. Prizes include 92240 goodie bags and Bluebell vouchers. A suggested donation of £3 per entry (per photo) is suggested. Full details can be found on the 'Awake The Giant' web page on the Bluebell Railway's website, or by picking up a leaflet from the stand.

**WIN!**  
Official Merchandise  
&  
Bluebell Vouchers

**3**  
New  
Categories

All Proceeds go  
to  
restoring 92240

**AWAKE THE GIANT**  
92240's Restoration Appeal  
**PHOTO COMPETITION**

**Awake**  
the **GIANT**

The photo competition ends on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2025, with winners being announced in February 2025's edition of the Bluebell Times.

The 2024 categories are;

Under 15s (with Parental consent) 'Beautiful Bluebell' – any photo of the Bluebell Railway.

16s and Over 'Bluebell at its Best' – any photo of the Bluebell's home fleet.

For All Ages 'Visiting Bluebell' – any photo of visiting locomotives to the Bluebell Railway.

## Gazette

Mark has been working tremendously hard on the 'Giant Gazette' which, is now one year old and is the quarterly news about 92240. The Gazette not only contains engineering reports, 92240 updates, puzzles and articles from members of the 'Awake The Giant' team, the gazette also shows a selection of archived materials, from 92240 in steam days and early preservation. Copies of the Gazette are available from the stand and a subscription is also available as well, which can be made by emailing [giantgazette92240@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:giantgazette92240@yahoo.co.uk).

## Merchandise

Ken has been working hard on creating a wide range of merchandise and exclusive 92240 products. The current product range has included; t-shirts, hoodies, stationary, mugs, coasters, badges and new for 2024 we have latte mugs and travel flasks, which are pictured here. Merchandise is all available from the stand, on most weekends and galas. A small selection of our merchandise will be available inside the carriage shop, later this year.

**Awake the Giant merchandise.**  
**Show your support for 92240.**



T-shirt £15:00 Hoodie £35:00 Kids' T-shirts £11:00 Baseball cap £12:00 Postcard £1:00 Pen £2:50  
Ruler £3:50 Badge £3:00 Coaster £3:50 Mug £12:00 Calendar £12:00  
Bottle-opener £2:00 Giant Gazette £2:00 92240 Restored £2:00 Tote bag £3:50 Teddy Bear & bag £9:00

## Archive

Tom N has been continuing to research the history of 92240 and source a number of materials, predominantly photos but some video clips to. These will be on display, on the stand in the near future. Archive photos are also available to be seen in the 'Giant Gazette', details above. If you have any materials containing 92240 and are happy for them to be shared and published, please get in touch with Tom at [awakethegiant@outlook.com](mailto:awakethegiant@outlook.com).

## 92240 Needs You!

Our stand is ever growing and is becoming more and more popular at the railway as well as a lot of interest of 92240 and the stand at external events including model railway shows and society meetings. The group's aim will be to continue to publicise 92240 as much as possible and at main events, including the children's days, to have stands at multiple locations over the railway. If you are



interested in assisting with the stand at the railway or taking the stand to a show, please email [awakethegiant@outlook.com](mailto:awakethegiant@outlook.com).

### **Other 92240 Projects**

The team are currently promoting 92240's restoration on Facebook and on the Bluebell Railway's new website. In the coming months, we will be expanding our outlets of where we promote including a Twitter account and a YouTube Channel.

David has recently held one of these talks and the team are getting a large amount of interest in hosting talks on 92240 and the restoration, to railway groups, societies and model railway shows and meetings, if you are interested in having a talk at one of your meetings or events, then please get in touch with the team at [awakethegiant@outlook.com](mailto:awakethegiant@outlook.com).

The team will come prepared with an interactive slideshow about the 9Fs and 92240s working life and journey into preservation as well as being able to bring a range of merchandise and archived images. There will also be time for Question and Answer sessions.