

Giant Strides into 2024



If you are interested in joining the team or wanting to show your support to the overhaul and restoration of 92240 then please email Andy at Andy.Taylor@bluebell-railway.co.uk or awakethegiant@outlook.com. If you wish to donate to the fundraising campaign to restore and overhaul 92240, all donations are gratefully received and appreciated by the 'Awake the Giant' Team and donations are able to be made here, <https://www.bluebell-railway.com/trust/make-a-donation/>

In this article, photo contributions come from members of the Awake The Giant Team, Tom Newble, Andy Taylor, Mark Wilson, Ken Upton and Tom Parsons.

92240 Needs You



92240's team are busy all year round, going hosting a stall at a number of events and galas at the Bluebell Railway. The Team's vision in 2024, not only to progress the loco further into its restoration but for the 'Awake the Giant' stand to be at all the special events at the Bluebell Railway. For the team to be able to achieve this, we need you... we need a team that are able to work alongside our stand manager to assist in promoting the project and selling the merchandise. If you are able to volunteer anytime to assist in the running of the stand, please contact the team at awakethegiant@outlook.com.



The team have also been contacted by fellow societies and model railway clubs for talks about the work and project on 92240. If your Railway club or society is interested in a talk about 92240 and the overhaul and restoration, please do get in touch at awakethegiant@outlook.com.

92240 Goes Undercover

92240 went undercover earlier this year, guising as 92200 with Doncaster shed plates. Later this year, at the most recent working party 73082's, Camelot's, tender was split and placed behind 92240 giving the impression of a double tendered 9F!



92240's Progress

92240 has made amazing progress, since the last articles. The 'Awake the Giant' team have been focussing on the tender primarily, the front end will be the main focus, once 92240 enters the workshop.

The running plates and handrails have all been loosened, ready for the move into the workshop. Prior to the entering of the workshop, the team will remove a number of parts from the locomotive, then label and name the parts for storage. The motion and cladding currently remain on 92240.

The work on the tender has been progressing really well. The team have ordered piping, which is now at the railway, which will go inside the tender to allow low level filling, from the yard. The piping will be welded into the tender in the next year.

Re living the 80's

The tender that is attached to 92240 was built new in the 1980's. As common back in the day the water space (that is under the coal space) was painted with bitumen. This helped waterproof the tank and also protect the steelwork. Roll on 40 years and the bitumen has mostly come off with the steel re exposed.

With the need to robustly clean the tank and re paint, thoughts quickly turned to what this should be with. Originally bitumen was going to be used but considerations were made as to what else was available in the 21st century. This is where Specialist Coatings GB Ltd come in, these guys are a family owned company based just down the road in Battel Kent. We knew they completed the lining of Clan Line water space and after speaking to the head engineer we were convinced this was what we wished to do for a first class job on 92240 tender.

This is where the science comes in, the coating is specially formulated from Chemical compounds that react with each other. The 2 products are made by blending 2 components that react with each other and prior to mixing need to be weighed down to a gram. Firstly the primer is applied which ensures a firm grip on the steelwork and secondly the top coat that has to be applied within 24 hours of the primer to ensure a chemical bound. The other great thing about this product is that unlike bitumen there is no odour from the product as it is not based on solvents for drying. Once dried the coating forms a flexible waterproof bound. When the whole tank is completed it will be light due to the light grey colour and we shouldn't need to touch again for many many years. We thank Peter and the team from Specialist coating GB Ltd for attending the railway and conducting a full mixing and product Demo. We also had volunteers from the Maunsell society and a project 27 present at the demo to understand if it is a product that may be suitable for their projects. Also thanks goes to Andy Sabin for helping to set up a storage location for the product and assisting with the movement of it.





The team from SC GB Happy Martin. Primer coat. Top Coat

92240 The Review of 2023

Over the last year, the team have worked heavily on the tender. The water scoop was removed, it was decided by the team that it is an unnecessary feature and would not be a future use on the Bluebell Railway. The front end of 92240 has had running plates and bolts loosened, meaning that when 92240 is moved into the workshop, it will make it easier and quicker for the removal of parts to progress the overhaul. 92240 is having a winter's rest in the Maintenance Shed. Piping has been ordered, to be welded into the tank to allow low level water filling from the yard, at Sheffield Park.

Moving into 2024, 92240 will be split, with both sections. The tender will remain under cover and allowing the team to finish the paintwork, all being well, it will be fully painted by the summer up to first top coat. The team will then focus their work on the front end of 92240.

As ever, 92240's work and restoration would not be possible with the continued support of our supporters, financial contributors and the team. We would like to wish all of our team and supporters a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and look forward to meeting with new and regular supporters in 2024.

Working Parties

The team's working parties, led by Andy and Martin will be held on every second Saturday of each month. If you wish to be involved in 92240's overhaul and join the working parties, then please do get in touch.

We have been increasing the amount of events that the 'Awake the Giant' team have been attending and promoting 92240.



288 PINTS of Ale!

To help raise funds at this year's beer festival Harvey's Brewery Lewes was again contacted to see if they could support Awake the Giant again. The answer was of course we will and looking to expand on the success of 2022 4 firkin's or 288 pints of Old Ale were ordered. Half of which were kindly donated by Harvey's. As last year The King George the 5th Buffet at Horsted Keynes was used to sell the Ale which was co branded as Awake the Giant Ale and new for 2023 we had a small bar and fundraising stall in the main shed at Sheffield Park. We had an amazing response over the 3 days of the event which generated a large sum of money that has gone directly into the Trust account for 92240 restoration. Special thanks must go to Miles Jenner and the team at Harvey's also Jim Taylor, Lisa Boyle, Megan Laughlin from the Bluebell and Paul free from CAMRA.

Giant Gazette

Mark has been working hard behind the scenes to get the next issue ready for publication and will be available very soon, be sure to grab your copy. Our new subscription service to the 'Giant Gazette' has proven to be very popular to both, guests and working members of the Bluebell Railway and has a number of subscribers. If you are interested in subscribing to this, then please email: giantgazette92240@yahoo.co.uk



Merchandise

Ken has been working on adding a wider range of merchandise to the stall, including new designed t shirts, badges and stationary to name a few. These are all available on the stall.

Ken has been busy behind the scenes ordering and creating new 'Giant' lines of merchandise that is now available to buy, from the stand and the Bluebell shop. Our most recent additions to the current merchandise range include, rulers and coasters.



**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	£9:00	Calendar	£12:00		
Bottle-opener	£2:00	Giant Gazette	£2:00	92240 Restored	£2:00	Tote bag	£3:50	Teddy Bear & bag	£9:00		
Black Magic T	£15:00										

Photo Competition

Thank you to everyone who has entered the Photo Competition, it has proved a popular fundraiser. Winners will be contacted in the new year and announced in the January Bluebell Times.

Archive

Tom N has been working behind the scenes on building an archive of 92240, from its working days, time at Barry's before its journey to the Bluebell and 92240's first restoration. The archive is a 'Works in Progress' and will continually be added to. If you have any material that could be added to the portfolio, please contact Tom at awakethegiant@outlook.com. The archive will be available to see at the Awake The Giant stand in the new year.

92240 Makes the News

92240 has recently featured in and on a number of railway publications, including Bluebell Times, Bluebell News, Rail Advent and Steam Railway magazine. In general, the response back from the public reading these articles has been amazing and very supportive and in turn, this has also boosted the financing of 92240's overhaul.

