

BANCROFT

MILL ENGINE MUSEUM

Gillians Lane, Barnoldswick. BB18 5QR

ENGINE STEAMING, SUNDAY 15th March 2015



Doors open 11.00am.

Engine runs 1.00pm to 4.30pm

Entertainment by the Lancashire Society

Refreshments, souvenir shop, free parking, Bradley Engine rebuild,

NEWS

THE NEWSLETTER

After a straightforward recovery from major surgery I have been persuaded to return to this particular task, communicating with the many friends that we've made over the last years. Oh and I hope to be uploading to the website too. There will only be half as many newsletters as previously,. Therefore you will have a notice of steaming just as before, roughly seven days before the event, any news and photographs from that event will come to you with the next steaming notice, 3 weeks' afterwards

THIS WEEK'S PHOTOGRAPH was taken by Vincent Ng and is a great shot from several that he generously sent to us, it was taken as we were closing down late on a Sunday last summer.

ELLENROAD STEAM MUSEUM

Our member Zoe Burtonwood has been duly elected Chairperson of this group, our congratulations go to Zoe with the genuine hope that she can keep the committee men in order! It's an onerous task which realistically means that we will not see her quite so often at Bancroft. She succeeds Keith Crabtree, also a Bancroft member, who has suffered from ill health recently, we wish Keith every success in his return to good health.

U3A VISIT

Back in December Bancroft welcomed a 52 seater coach full of U3A members anxious for a tour of our site. Due to the numbers involved even our Chairman was pressed into guiding one party. Four other members also participated. It was a very



successful visit, our guests left on time for lunch in the Dales.

Here's Andy B. describing the Bradley engine to one sub-group.

Note that the lower part of the engine flywheel is in place.

Meanwhile our Chairman explained the purpose and operation of the boiler to another sub-group. Who better to do it?

Most of our visitors were from the Wharfedale area and we overheard a lady commenting that so-and-so should be congratulated on organising such an interesting visit.

Ian M operated the loom for each group in turn and captivated all.



FUEL As many of our visitors will be aware we burn timber in the Cornish Boiler to provide steam for the engines and it is of considerable benefit to Bancroft as well as to some local companies that we do so. Pallets form the bulk of our fuel as individually it is not cost effective for most recipients to return them to source. Bancroft offers an alternative to the expensive option of land fill. If you have pallets that you will not need we'll accept them gratefully and help you unload if we know that you're coming. A call to 01943 602118 (after 05 Mar) will organise an open gate and help, we hope to set up a permanent line for this purpose very shortly. Watch this space!

A problem has beset us over the winter, water flooded our boiler houses with it eventually becoming apparent that the problem was a blocked drain. The water has now been pumped out and the drain cleared and after a further week all is still well and water is running away freely. The problem was partly caused by brickwork coming loose and falling into a drainage pit.

The annual boiler inspection took place a couple of weeks ago and all is well for another year so no work is needed.

New babbits for the HP piston rod on the Roberts engine have been ordered, hopefully we can have them in place in time for a trial run before the first steaming.

Tees Cottage Pumping Station. Work continues to address safety issues and it is hoped to open to visitors again, perhaps as early as May this year.

More info from:

Ian, 01695 424166

Harry 01943 602118 (newsletter info inwards)

www.bancroftmill.org.uk

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bancroft_Shed