

**4253**  
Supporter

# Newsletter

Keeping Shareholders Informed



Issue 26

Summer 2024

The 4253 Locomotive Company Limited, based in Rolvenden, Kent, is a non-profit, non-political organisation. Reproduction of photos by permission of The 4253 Locomotive Company.

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# Boiler Update!

As some shareholders may have seen on our weekly Facebook page, the boiler has passed its boiler inspector's hydraulic test with 260 psi showing on the gauge. Another *very* major milestone!

The initial hydraulic test was carried out by HBSS prior to the boiler inspector's visit (on Monday 24th June), so that any leaks could be rectified. Just to remind everyone, a hydraulic test is where the boiler is filled with water under pressure to see if there are any leaks – and there were a few, as you can see from the picture below!

Given the amount of work done to our boiler over the last few years, leaks were only to be expected. The list of new parts on the boiler is endless, but just to briefly remind shareholders of what work has been done, here is just a

selection: new back-head plate work, new side wrapper platework, two new plate-work 'patches', hundreds of new rivets, longitudinal stays, new crown stays, new tube plate, new tubes, new superheater tubes and new water trays . . . the list goes on.

## ***What happens now?***

Now that the boiler inspector is happy with this initial test, the boiler will return to Rolvenden to be reunited with the rest of the loco. Arrangements are already underway and our haulier is sorting out the logistics to slot the boiler in with other work (it's much cheaper that way!)

*With the return of our boiler now imminent, the huge amount of final assembly work that lies ahead of us will now begin.*



**A big thank you to everyone  
that has supported and continue to  
support the work on 4253.**

With the major milestone of the boiler's completion now upon us, we would like to take this opportunity to thank all shareholders that have supported the project over the years, together with the volunteers who have worked, or continue to work, on 4253.

The nature of a locomotive restoration is that it takes many years, much money and organisation to complete. During the 13 years it has taken us to get to this important stage, we would like to remember those volunteers that are no longer with us.

Those volunteers put huge amounts of effort and money into the project, but unfortunately did not live long enough to see their beloved locomotive back in steam.

We thank everyone — shareholders and volunteers — who have made it possible for us to get to this exciting stage with our locomotive.

The months that lie ahead of us, with much work now to be done in reuniting the boiler with the loco to make it a fully working steam locomotive, will be very exciting ones indeed.

*They will lead us all to the completion of a project that many said could never be done.*

**All we have to do now  
is put it all back together again!**

# ***500TH SHAREHOLDER***

**When the project was first started back in 2011 and people were offered to buy a share in The 4253 Locomotive Company Limited, the directors at that time thought that perhaps they might get 50 or maybe 100 shareholders . . . how wrong they were!**

**With the 500th shareholder almost reached, we thought that it was an achievement that should be marked in some way.**

**FOR THE SINGLE SHARE PRICE OF  
£500**

**THE 500TH SHAREHOLDER WILL BE  
PRESENTED WITH A  
SPECIAL SHARE CERTIFICATE  
TO COMMEMORATE THE OCCASION**

***PLUS***

**A GUARANTEED FOOTPLATE RIDE ON  
GWR 4253 LOCOMOTIVE  
WHEN BACK IN STEAM!**

***If you would like to be the 500th Shareholder please contact our Company Secretary for more information on:***

***[gwr4253@gmail.com](mailto:gwr4253@gmail.com)***

**4253** Please Donate via our new QR code!



**Our latest QR Code above, allows you to quickly and easily donate an amount of your choice.**

**Just scan this QR code with either your phone camera or QR app, to donate any amount of your choice towards the restoration of your loco.**

**Alternatively you can use this link:**

**<https://pay.sumup.io/b2c/QOZ2ZVRN>**

***Thank You!***

**Every £ counts towards the restoration of your locomotive.**

**Don't forget, we are non-profit making, so every single penny goes towards getting 4253 back in steam.**



## GWR 2-8-0T Locomotive No. 4253 Share Application Form

Please complete the form below in BLOCK CAPITALS and return to:  
The 4253 Locomotive Company Limited, 28 Archer Road, Folkestone, Kent CT19 5RZ

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby make an application for \_\_\_\_\_ share(s) in The 4253 Locomotive Company Limited.  
I enclose a cheque made payable to The 4253 Locomotive Company Limited (£250 per share) / a completed Bankers Standing Order (*please delete as appropriate*).

I am a member of The Kent and East Sussex Railway: Yes / No (*please delete as appropriate*).

I consent to being contacted by 4253 Locomotive Co. via email/post for information updates about 4253 progress and activities.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Bankers Standing Order Form (if you wish to pay by monthly Standing Order)

To the Manager: \_\_\_\_\_ (Your) Bank

Your Bank Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Please pay £ \_\_\_\_\_ on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of every month commencing on \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ to:  
The 4253 Locomotive Company Limited, Account Number 47817011 National Westminster Bank Plc.  
20 High Street, Ashford, Kent. TN24 8SH. Sort Code 60-01-21.

Account Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Sort Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Please quote Reference Number in all payments \_\_\_\_\_ \* to be entered by 4253 Project Staff.

Reg Office: The 4253 Locomotive Company Limited, Old Chilmington Oast, Chilmington Green, Ashford, Kent TN23 3DP