Update on activity at the Lakeside and Haverthwaite Railway - October 2023

General Status

September has followed the pattern of previous months with passenger numbers noticeably higher compared to 2022. This improvement is significantly influenced by the increase in coach parties. As with July and August, the Bagnalls (Victor and Princess) have shared the service trains. We expect that Barclay No. 1245 will get some time in service during October. Princess has had some new brake rigging made and this will be fitted shortly. This will provide more adjustment to accommodate brake block wear and should save us from having to scrap brake blocks prematurely.

Locomotive Status

Bagnall 'Princess'

Bagnall 'Victor'

Barclay 1245 'Carron Iron Works No. 14'

Barclay 'David'

BR Class 20 20214

BR Class 110 DMU

BR Class 03 D2117

BR Class 03 D2072

BR Fairburn 4MT 42073

- LMS Class 11 7120
- Simplex Tram 'Rachel'

- Operational
- Awaiting overhaul

Locomotives under overhaul:

Ivatt 2MT 46441

The John Fowler engineering team - with assistance from several volunteers - are making great progress on the Ivatt reassembly. The copper pipework has been annealed and footplate fittings are virtually all in place. Just the speedometer plus calibrated pressure and vacuum gauges remain to be fitted - as can be seen in the photo (right).





The boiler lagging and cladding has been completed. Photo (left) shows Jack Walker from John Fowler & Co checking over his lagging handiwork before he fits the final lower section.

The boiler top feed pipes plus the ejector and its steam supply pipes are now fitted. In the photo (right) Peter Akrigg can be seen preparing the mounting holes for the boiler handrails which are now fully fitted.







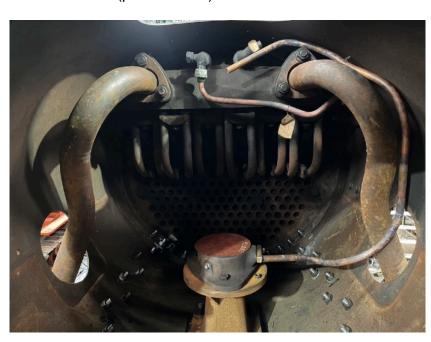
The photo (above left) shows the assembly status early on September 19th but the large team working on it made significant visual progress over subsequent days.

The smokebox has been bolted down on the saddle, the main steam pipes have been fitted as have the atomiser feed pipes (photos left and below).

The new blast pipe and blast pipe cap are assembled and a new blower pipe is in the process of being fabricated by Jack Dibnah (photo below).

Key tasks still to complete are; fitting and setting the piston valves, fitting and aligning the chimney along with fitting the ejector exhaust and chimney petticoat.

New spark arrestor baffles and mesh screens made to the original self cleaning smokebox design style are currently being manufactured and fitted by Alistair Colquhoun.



BR Fairburn 4MT 42085

On the Fairburn chassis, Alistair
Colquhoun and Peter Akrigg from John
Fowler & Co. have completed the steam
brake stretcher repairs. This has
necessitated welding in several new
plate sections. (Photo right).
In addition steady progress is being
made by the volunteers on preparing the
newly accessible frame plate areas for
painting.



Hunslet Austerity 'Repulse'

Following firebox repairs, Repulse's boiler arrived back at Haverthwaite on September 4th (Photo right).





A fire was lit in the firebox on the 18th September and the boiler was checked over whilst in steam. The photo (left) was taken (in the rain) the day after - as evidenced by the soot marks around the firehole door.

John Fowler & Co. Have fabricated a new ashpan for Repulse (photo right) and this has also been delivered to Haverthwaite for reassembly.



Volunteering opportunities at the L&HR for 2023.

New and returning volunteers are always welcome. Locomotive, carriage or wagon overhauls and S&T repair/replacement continue to give us plenty opportunity for a variety of restoration tasks.

We welcome you to join our midweek gangs (or indeed any day of the week) to work on maintaining and improving our railway, including the rolling stock overhauls. We can certainly make a big difference to the visual standard and the pace of work that is done. Just get in touch and we can provide more detail. It is a friendly place and we all find it really rewarding! We shall endeavour to ensure that you are directed towards (and supported on) the appropriate tasks.

If your preference is to volunteer on some of the wider range of tasks that you will see taking place at our railway (or via this newsletter), including gardening, permanent way maintenance or locomotive crew/train operations, then again, please get in touch either by e-mail to info@lakesiderailway.co.uk or phone 015395 31594 Option 1

This and the previous monthly newsletters may be found at: https://www.lakesiderailway.co.uk/newsletters/