

Heartbeat of Hythe



The newsletter of Hythe Pier Heritage Association

October 2022 Issue 22

Our Community Working Together to bring our Heritage and History to life

Welcome

This month, we have updates on the current track restoration on the pier, as well as what is happening behind the scenes with projects, including work on the latest carriage. Some of us have also been out and about, representing HPHA. More on these visits as well as dates for your diaries in this month's issue.

Jill Gower
Secretary and Editor



An unusual view from below decks

Hythe Pier Heritage Association is a Charitable Community Benefit Society
The Grove, 25 St Johns Street, Hythe SO45 6BZ Email: info@hythepierha.org.uk

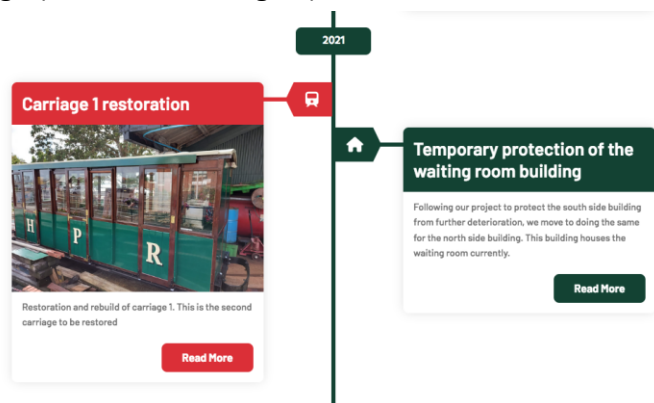
Keeping up to date with HPHA Projects

HPHA has undertaken many different pieces of work, both large and small, on Hythe pier, the pier buildings and railway. We call these pieces of restoration or repair work “projects”. Many of these projects have been easy to recognise and their completion has been celebrated at a large public event, such as the “Back On Track” event in May 2021. “Back On Track” celebrated the end of projects that saw the return to service of restored train carriage 4 and train tractor unit 1.

Other projects may be invisible and happen out of the public eye. An example would be the repairs to the building and roof which houses the waiting room. Unless you noticed the scaffolding in place during the work it is unlikely that you know about this project.

To date HPHA has run 19 separate projects and spent, or committed to spend, £180,000 in total on them. A lot of work and projects have been already completed but several are currently in progress, including, for example, a viability/initial design study for the restoration of the whole Pier, and another to restore the next train carriage (known as Carriage 2).

So that our community can have the best information on our work, we have developed a new part of our website to list all of our projects. The projects are listed in reverse chronological order. Clicking on the “Read More” button (available on every short project synopsis) will lead to a page with further details of that specific project.



The projects page is available on our website at <http://hythepier.org.uk/projects>

Viability study

In preparation for major fundraising for the large scale restoration of the pier and buildings, we have launched the Viability Study project. This study aims to assess the approach to restoration and develop a list of the likely costs of doing the work. This study is funded by the The Charles Burnett Memorial Fund (see poster elsewhere in this newsletter) and funds raised by HPHA from our community events.

The viability study project consists of a series of disparate “sub-projects”, all aiming to answer different questions relating to the future restoration. As an example of such a sub-project, you may have noticed that half way along the pier are small prisms and holders attached to the pier. These are part of a monitoring sub project checking for small movements in the pier. Information gained from this monitoring project will help us determine how much money may be needed to handle any movement detected during the restoration.

Once all parts of the viability project are complete HPHA will build plan that outlines the cost of restoration and how we might go about the work. These documents will be the basis for conversations with potential funding organisations.

Anthony Smith

Funded by The Charles Burnett Memorial Fund

Charles Burnett (1956-2018) resided at Newtown Park House, near Lymington in Hampshire and was very well known locally as the land-speed record holder for a steam-powered car, which he had developed at his house alongside a team of engineers. Prior to setting the steam car record, he was the class II offshore power boat champion between 1993 and 1996.

The Charles Burnett Memorial Fund has been established by the family of the late Charles Burnett, to assist charitable projects and resources across the area where he lived.

In his lifetime, Charles supported many worthwhile causes and this new £1 million fund will continue his great charitable legacy, meeting the needs of future generations in our communities and providing a lasting memorial in Charles's name.

Charles was a generous philanthropist, enthusiastically supporting a wide range of local charitable causes.



HiWCF
LOCAL GIVING FOR LOCAL NEEDS

HiWCF proudly manage the
Charles Burnett Memorial Fund
www.hiwcf.org.uk

The Orchard, White Hart Lane, Basingstoke, Hampshire, RG21 4AP
Registered Charity No: 1100417, Registered Company No: 4534482

Alan Keef Limited – 50th Anniversary Celebrations

Alan Keef Ltd is a family owned and run business in rural Herefordshire. They are widely recognised and acknowledged authority on all aspects of narrow gauge railways, both in the UK and worldwide. Their expertise spans all sectors from parks and private gardens to commercial and industrial, and everything in-between. With in-house design and manufacturing, building new locomotives and carriages as well as having extensive rebuild/restoration and replica capabilities together with servicing and maintenance for all makes of locomotive. Coupled with our site surveying, track laying and inspection services, they provide an unrivalled solution for all narrow gauge railway requirements.

Alan Keef has been looking after Hythe Pier Railway for some 50 years and HPHA have recently engaged them to oversee the train carriage restoration works, signing off completed carriages, surveying Phase one of our Track restoration works in the Station area and will undergo laying of new track.

Patrick Keef is now Managing Director of Alan Keef and remembers his trips to Hythe as a boy whilst his Father Alan inspected the train tracks and delivered new bogies for the carriages, it is his knowledge and expertise that I call upon whilst our train carriages are undergoing restoration.

We were invited to their 50th Anniversary celebrations in Lea, near Ross on Wye in September and I attended the celebrations along with some 100 guests whom have engaged Alan Keef Limited past and present. It was a very enjoyable day meeting groups from across the country and listening to stories of restoration, one group in particular from Amerton Railway who have restored Baguley Train Carriages – the same company who originally built ours in 1922! Of course being a narrow gauge train expert, one of their locomotives and carriages were on a track and yes, open to rides by all!

Tina Brown



Carriage 2 Restoration Underway

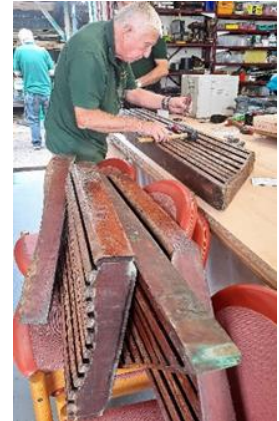
Carriage 2 (Asset 1327) is at present in the Blue Funnel workshop. Volunteers from the Hythe Shed (at the Pier) have removed the seating and have started the disassembly of the bodywork.

As with those in the two previously restored carriages, the slatted seating has been found to be in good condition and will accordingly be replaced, needing just a deep clean and revarnishing.

This carriage carried King George VI along the pier in May 1944 during his visit to the area to inspect the vessels being assembled for the impending D Day landings.

Perhaps, one day, our new King Charles III might follow in his grandfather's footsteps.

Alan Titheridge



News from The Shed (At the Pier)

The volunteers have started disassembling the next carriage. The doors are removed, cleaned, restored and repainted. All the seating is removed, taken apart, stripped, reassembled and revarnished and now in store ready for reinstallation. While waiting for the new supply of timber to arrive, they have taken the old platform apart to clear space ready for the new track to be fitted.

Allan Fairhead

HPHA at Solent Sky Tram Event



HPHA had a stand at the Solent Sky Tram Event in Southampton over the weekend of October 8th and 9th. Interest was shown in the progress of our restoration with a remote control model of locomotive 16307 attracting attention.

Alan Titheridge

Hythe 2000 Christmas Tree Festival 2022



Feeling creative?

Why not decorate a Christmas tree on behalf of HPHA.

Where? St John's Church, Hythe

When? Saturday 26th November -Tuesday 13th December

Contact us at info@hythepier.org.uk for more information

Invitation to a TROPIC Fundraiser

On Friday 18th November, between 11am and 4pm, I will be hosting an Open house, Early Bird Festive shopping event.

I have been a Tropic Ambassador since 2019. My main aim, apart from sharing these gorgeous products with others, is to donate all my profits to HPHA. If you have never heard of Tropic, they are a British company, producing award winning skincare. They are also in partnership with a variety of charities such as United World Schools, Trussell Trust, Reef Restoration Foundation and more recently Women's Aid. I love their ethos, most products now sold are recyclable and refillable, a certified Carbon Neutral company and so much more.

Find out below:

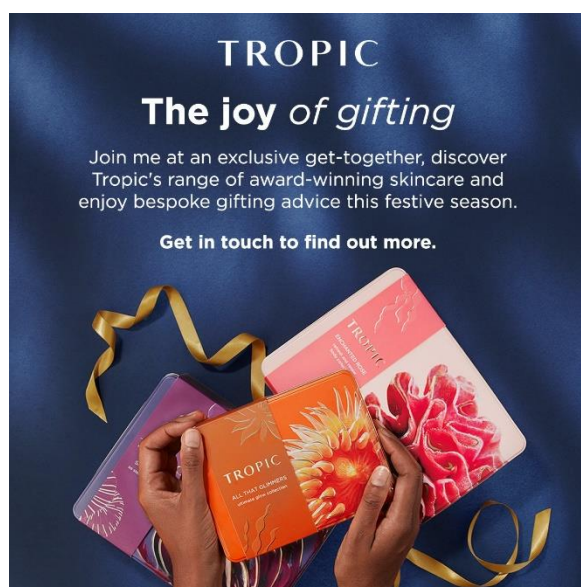
https://issuu.com/tropicskincare/docs/2022_glowmagazine_issue4_issuu

Also on Facebook 'Jill's Fundraiser Tropic Group'

Come and browse the Festive Gifts, have a cuppa and some home made treats. Contact me for more information and to book a time.

Jaegower56@gmail.com

Don't forget ALL THE PROFITS GO TO HPHA.



Board Meeting dates and procedures

Normally the Board is attended by all Board members and other non-Board members, volunteers or external experts as required to support agenda items.

This a reminder that Board meetings may also be attended on an irregular basis by members of HPHA as observers. Such attendance must be requested at least 7 days in advance of the meeting by contacting any Board member.

Observing members will be accommodated on a "best efforts" basis as limitations may be imposed upon us by technology considerations or Coronavirus regulations.

Currently all HPHA Board meetings are held using Microsoft Teams online technology. Your computing equipment will need to be compatible with this technology in order to become an observer of the Board meeting.

The dates for the year are as follows:

Thursday, 20 October 2022

Thursday, 24 November 2022

Thursday, 15 December 2022