

NBL Preservation Group

Honorary President Sir Hugh Reid

September 2011 Newsletter



VOORBAAI UNDER THREAT – North British 19D and Class 24 locos left stored in the open air.

Reports received from South Africa this month raise serious concerns that the 20 or so remaining steam locomotives at Voorbaai shed near Mossel Bay are simply being left to rust away and are in grave danger of eventually going for scrap. Many of the engines at Voorbaai are in good condition and the list includes celebrity engines such as Class 24 No. 3675 'Bartholomew Diaz' which became the 2,000th locomotive to be supplied to the South African Railways by NBL and its constituents when it entered service in 1949.

Other North British locos at Voorbaai include four of the well known 19D Class 4-8-2's that were built in 1948 with their distinctive Vanderbilt tenders and five more Class 24 2-8-4's, some of which are already marked for scrap. These locos have a very light axle load and excellent route availability.

Voorbaai was effectively South Africa's last working main line steam shed but it lost many of its duties when the scenic George to Knysna branch was closed following heavy flooding in 2006. The steam hauled Outeniqua Choo Tjoe train service continued to run on a different route until 2010 but this too has now been withdrawn. A new group called the 'Friends of the Choo Tjoe' is trying to save at least part of the Knysna line and we wish them every success. A regular newsletter is published and details can be found on their website : www.friendsofthechoo-tjoe.co.za please support their efforts if you can.

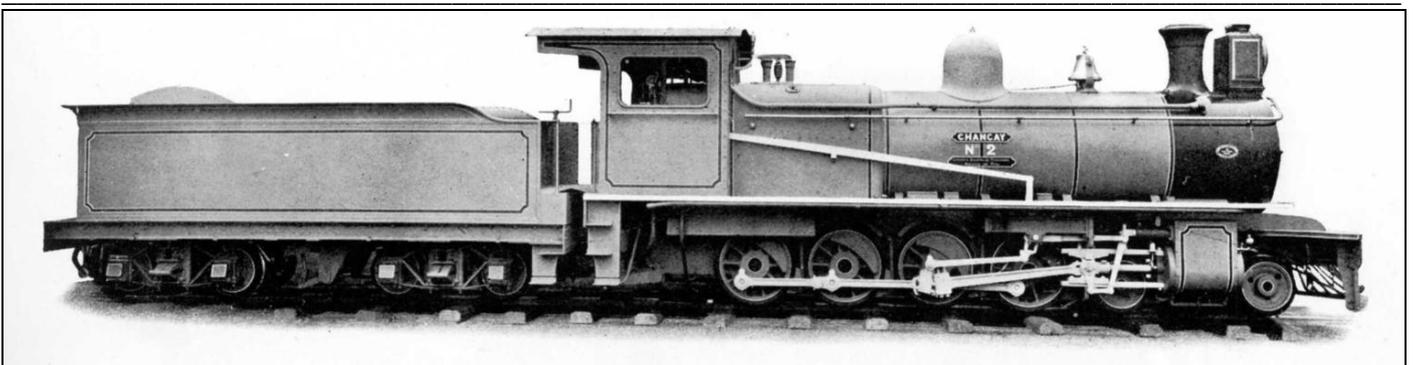
FC HUACHO CENTENARY



Last month's query from Bruno Gutiérrez Torero regarding the **Ferrocarril Huacho** in Perú has turned up some interesting information and photographs.

Construction of this line, known in the UK as the Peru North-Western Railway, started from Ancon, passed through Las Salinas and eventually reached Huacho, 148km north of Lima, in December 1911. There were also branches to Chancay and Sayan. It had 7 locomotives, 3 passenger coaches and 100 freight wagons, and amongst other things, it carried salt to Lima. As the only comprehensive railway running parallel to the coast, was often called the **Rail Costero**.

The seven locomotives are of particular interest to us as six of them were 4-8-0's designed and built by NBL between 1911 and 1926. FCH No. 25 (NB 23056) and No. 2 'Chancay' (NB 19561) are featured here. A Mitchell Library photo of No. 26, (NB 23371) shows the loco carrying the name 'TD Hamilton' and it would be of great interest if someone could confirm the identity of this gentleman.



The FC Huacho celebrates its centenary in December this year. Bruno is preparing an exhibition for the event and would be very grateful for any further information or photos of the locomotives in operation or of the line in general. He can be reached by email at : brunogt@ec-red.com Hopefully Bruno will give us an update regarding the centenary at a later date.

(Photos courtesy : Bruno Gutiérrez Torero)

INTRODUCING THE NBLPG 'STEAM MASTERSHOT' SERVICE



Merchant Navy Pacific No. 35028 'Clan Line' approaches Basingstoke with the VSOE Orient Express.

I'm delighted to announce a new service that we are introducing to help raise funds for our projects. We intend to provide a personal travel service to take enthusiasts out and about to photograph and chase main line steam and visit preserved railways in the UK. Subscribers will be collected from their home, hotel or airport by private car with an expert guide to take them to the photographic locations of their choice.

There will be no fixed schedule for our trips and itineraries will be tailored to meet the individual's personal requirements. This could simply be a single run past of the 'Flying Scotsman' at a favourite location or a full day out chasing, pacing or leapfrogging a main line steam special. If you prefer, trips will be arranged to take you to some of the best photographic locations on Britain's superb preserved railways. Although primarily intended for overseas visitors to the UK, who may not know the countryside first hand or may not have ready access to a car, we will be delighted to take out home enthusiasts too if requested.

The idea is that we will do all the driving, navigating (and parking) leaving enthusiasts free to get out of the car wherever they like to take their photographs. This will include bridges, tunnels, stations and lineside locations of your choice. We will drop you before the train comes by and pick you up when it has passed, ready to go on to the next photo opportunity if required. Trips will be priced to meet individual requirements but at prices from just £100 for a full day trip from the London area to the Bluebell Railway for up to 4 people including car, driver and fuel, we believe that we can't be beaten on price.

From today onwards, the service will be available throughout the year on a daily basis, so if you are visiting the UK on holiday or on business at any time, please get in touch. Our webmaster Steve Knapman is putting the finishing touches to a brand new website for the Mastershot service and this will be available in the next edition of our Newsletter. In the meantime, a quote request form can be found on the following page. This will be a service provided by enthusiasts for enthusiasts with profits going directly to our locomotive preservation projects so please contact us if you would like a good day out with steam.

Steam-Mastershot.co.uk

QUOTE REQUEST FORM

Please use the form below to request a quotation from us for your day out or journey.

There is no obligation to proceed and we will send you an individual quotation based on your own specific requirements.

NAME	
HOME ADDRESS	
EMAIL ADDRESS	
DATE(S) OF REQUIRED TRIP	
'PICK UP FROM' ADDRESS	
REQUESTED PICK UP TIME	
LOCATIONS TO BE VISITED	
SPECIAL ITINERARY REQUIRED	
RETURN TIME	
SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS eg different return address to start point. One way trip as part of journey to new destination etc.	
SPECIAL NEEDS	

Please email the completed form to NBLPG Ltd. Hon. Secretary : ken.livermore@btinternet.com

Or print this form and post to : NBL Preservation Group Ltd. 4 Porchfield Close, Earley, Reading, Berkshire, RG6 5YZ, UK.

'Steam-Mastershot' is promoted by the NBL Preservation Group Ltd. A Not for Profit Organisation, Company Registration Number 7508287.

DIESEL CORNER

One of the less well known preserved NBL products is “Tees Storage”, an 0-4-0 Diesel Hydraulic shunter that was built at Queens Park Works as part of Order No. L71 for 5 such locomotives received from the Ministry of Supply in 1955. Carrying NBL works number 27644 it last worked at the Tees Storage Company in Middlesborough and can now be found stored awaiting repair inside the former NCB Dunaskin loco shed near Waterside Village, some 10 miles southeast of Ayr. The NCB railway system at Waterside in the Doon Valley was one of the largest private systems in Scotland, and was one of the last places where steam could be seen at work. As such it became something of a Mecca for steam enthusiasts after the end of BR steam.

Dunaskin shed is now the home of the Ayrshire Railway Preservation Group who were founded in 1974 with the specific aim of saving some of Scotland’s industrial railway heritage. A good number of industrial locomotives can be found on site including several Barclay 0-4-0ST’s and a varied selection of industrial diesels. Regular open days are held and these are well worth a visit, further information can be found on their website : www.arpg.org.uk

DUBS WORK PARTIES

Although No. 196 is in very sound condition, the loco has been exposed to the elements and some areas of paintwork are starting to need a little TLC. We are therefore arranging a series of work parties to spruce the old lady up a bit and get her ready for the oncoming winter. The first work party will be held at the Mizens Railway on Saturday 8th October from 12-00 till 4-30 pm with further sessions taking place on the first Saturday of each month. Everyone is welcome so please come along and help us if you can.

Additional funds are still urgently required for the Dubs project, to repay existing loans and to cover ongoing maintenance costs so please send what you can to help us keep this fine locomotive in good shape. We look forward to seeing as many people as possible at the Mizens on 8th October.

Thank you all once again for your continued support, More News Next Month, Best Regards, Ken

**Newsletter published by the NBL Preservation Group Ltd, Company Registration Number 7508287
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MEMBERSHIP & INFORMATION

If you would like to comment on our preservation activities or would like further information on any of our projects, please contact Ken or our Webmaster Steve Knapman by letter or by e:mail. Photos and articles for our website should be sent to : steve.k@rubihorn.demon.co.uk

New Members and Supporters are always welcome and funds are urgently needed for all our projects. Please join us and help to preserve North British locomotives from around the World. Our Website Address is : www.nbloco.net

Remember, **there is no annual Membership Fee**, just a one-off joining fee of £10 which will give you regular news updates and the option to participate in our locomotive preservation projects.

If you would like to join us or make a donation, please complete the form below and send it to : Ken Livermore, **Hon. Secretary, NBL Preservation Group, 4 Porchfield Close, Earley, Reading, Berks, RG6 5YZ.** Or e:mail : ken.livermore@btinternet.com

**NORTH BRITISH LOCOMOTIVE PRESERVATION GROUP
HON. PRESIDENT SIR HUGH REID**

MEMBERSHIP / DONATION FORM

NAME :

ADDRESS :

TELEPHONE NUMBER :

E:MAIL ADDRESS :

ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP JOINING FEE : £10

DONATION TO DUBS TANK No. 196 RESTORATION FUND : £

DONATION TO CLASS 11 No. 929 RESTORATION FUND : £

DONATION TO NGR CLASS 1 4-8-0 SHIPPING FUND : £

DONATION TO REPLICA 'ENGINE 61662 APPEAL' : £

TOTAL ENCLOSED : £

All donations, loans and subscriptions will be acknowledged, thank you for your interest and support. Please make cheques or orders payable to 'NBL Preservation Group'