



BAHAMAS LOCOMOTIVE SOCIETY Ltd

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45596 "BAHAMAS" – BOILER LIFTED AT TYSELEY LOCOMOTIVE WORKS

The Bahamas Locomotive Society (BLS) is pleased to announce that the boiler of its 'Jubilee' class 4-6-0 45596 "Bahamas" was lifted from its frames at Tyseley Locomotive Works (TLW) on Thursday 16th January 2014.

"Bahamas" was unloaded at TLW on 27th November 2013 and work began immediately on its overhaul which is being supported by a £776k grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF).

Work undertaken so far has included the stripping and removal of the cab, the stripping of the smokebox and the removal of the main steam pipes, blastpipe, brake gear, superheater elements and the removal of tubes from the firebox tubeplate.

The boiler was lifted cleanly from 45596's frames and TLW hope to have removed the boiler casing and tubes by early February which will enable a detailed examination to be made including ultrasonic thickness testing. This will determine the amount of remedial work that is necessary.

The BLS ordered the tyre rings separately and with some work has already been carried out at the South Devon Railway.

Meanwhile, at the BLS base at Ingrow 45596's old tender tank was removed on 11 December and shipped to Hill & Webster Ltd. at Ashbourne to assist in the fabrication of a new tank.

The BLS's Riding & Tool Van built by the LMS in 1924 returned to Ingrow on 22nd January after external restoration by Shildon-based Rail Restorations North East Ltd. prior to it being positioned in the dock at the KWVR's Ingrow West Station where it will be transformed into 'The Learning Coach', a key element of the BLS's successful HLF bid.

See www.bahamas45596.co.uk

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