

# BANCROFT MILL ENGINE TRUST

GILLIANS LANE, BARNOLDSWICK, BB18 5QR,  
NEAR TO COLNE AND SKIPTON



## Steaming, Saturday and Sunday 10/11th September

This steaming weekend has been part of the annual Heritage Open Days occasion and was, again, a great success. Saturday was extremely busy with people from far and wide as well as locals coming to see the engine run. Our first visitor on Saturday was from Markham Grange Engine Museum, Bancroft has been the recipient of two vertical engines for rebuild from that museum and he, George Dickinson, had been our guide around the Markham Grange site and organised loading the engines onto transport for us. Our last visitor of the day was the Mayor of Pendle, Cllr. Nadeem Ahmed on an official visit. As has become traditional, His Worship started the engine, but then took a protracted tour of the site, plying his guides with many questions before settling down for a cup of tea. His interest in the museum was quite stimulating, Fred F is here showing The Mayor the starting technique. Throughout the day our member and volunteer, Mrs Myra M, demonstrated spinning wool by hand and gave instruction to many visitors who wanted to try their hand, it's a little known fact that one of the Barnoldswick mills actually wove woollen cloth in the past.

The Craven Radio Amateur Group meanwhile, operated a radio station from the office during most of the day. Many stations were contacted and it gave us great pleasure to find that lots of German operators already knew about Bancroft Mill and the Heritage Open Days; some were viewing our website whilst in contact with CRAG. The countries contacted are listed on the current website version of the newsletter.

Sunday's steaming was hectic, the first visitor arrived around 10.00am, and the last of hundreds left about 4.45pm. Notable were many groups taking part in walks organised by Pendle Council, no-one can remember fifteen persons in one group walking in from the road before, rucksacks and all! The Trust raffled a replica of the Roberts Engine manufacturer's plate as we have done in previous years; a very young visitor was invited to make the draw and drew his own ticket! He remains anonymous.

The next steaming Sunday will be on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2011 when we hope to have entertainment in the breaks from a father and son duo with narrow boat interests. More details in our next newsletter.

[www.bancroftmill.org.uk](http://www.bancroftmill.org.uk)

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