

# BANCROFT MILL ENGINE MUSEUM



# Christmas Steaming

**With a choir from Barnoldswick  
C. of E. School**

**Sunday 1st December, Open at 11.00am  
Mill Engine starts at 1.00pm  
Cafeteria, weaving demos., Shop,  
Bradley engine build**

**22.11.13**

**Gillians Lane, Barnoldswick. BB18 5QR**

### FROM BANCROFT MILL

It's fitting to my way of thinking that my last officially organised event occurs on 1<sup>st</sup> December with Mrs. Jameson, her mother on the keyboard and some inspiring children singing Carols for us. They've been practising awhile and there isn't an event in the Bancroft calendar that I look forward to with greater anticipation than I do to this. Each year the children sing their hearts out and I always wonder if any of them will go on to perform as adults. To Mrs. Jamieson, her mother and the children I offer our grateful thanks.

### STOP PRESS

We shall be welcoming their Worships, the Mayor and Mayoress of Pendle to the steaming, Cllr. Smith Benson and Mrs. Margaret Ingham. It is an official visit. We shall also be visited by our Member of Parliament, Andrew Stephenson, a staunch supporter of Bancroft Mill.

### ELLENROAD Steam Museum

Despite an incident during the last steaming the huge engine on this site should again be steaming on 8<sup>th</sup> December, to accompany a Christmas Fair. There will be live music from "The Moonshiners" and a Brass Ensemble playing Christmas Carols. Allegedly an elf is expected to put in an appearance although we haven't yet been told exactly who *she* will be!- We're proud to tell readers that the new Chairman at Ellen Road, Keith Crabtree, is supporting us by becoming a Bancroft member and forging another link between the two groups.

AND Guess who else is coming.....



### TECHNICAL

We have noticed during recent steamings that the Bancroft HP tail rod has been following a strange path and, was making the metallic packing follow its excursions which were mainly vertical. Considerable theorising has continued and the correspondence has been impressive too. On Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November Tony N and your scribe set about to discover some facts. One theory was that the slideway carrying the "tailstock" had sunk relative to the rest of the engine or that it has worn more at mid travel than the ends. We set up a precision parallel beam on calibrated SKF rollers supported at the points giving minimum droop and then checked the gap between it and the slideway with slip gauges. The slideway was found to be within 0.002" of flat along its length and



when checked with a high precision box level was co-planar within 0.002"/36" of the crosshead slideway. With the 1910's equipment available to William Roberts for manufacture, the kind of kit for installation and after 90 years of work, these are amazing results

Checks on the tailstock showed that it was very well worn on its lower and upper guide surfaces and needs attention.

We are indebted to a member at Marton Grange Engine Museum for encouragement and helpful suggestions designed to nail the cause of this tail rod problem. Shy maybe, but he knows who he is!

Finally: we reproduce one of two fine images received of Bancroft Shed which were taken in May 1978 when the last orders were being woven out. They were taken by Ken Catford on transparency film and lately were scanned. Ken is a volunteer at the National Waterways Museum and we are much indebted to him and Margaret Harrison of The Canal & River Trust, a new charity entrusted with the care of 2,000 miles of waterways in England and Wales who forwarded them to us. There were 1252 looms in this shed!



CONTACT US OR SEE MORE AT:-

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

[www.facebook.com/BancroftMill](https://www.facebook.com/BancroftMill)

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bancroft\\_Shed](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bancroft_Shed)

more info from:

Ian, 01695 424166

Or Harry, 01943 602118



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