

BANCROFT MILL ENGINE MUSEUM

GILLIANS LANE,
BARNOLDSWICK
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LANCS.
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www.bancoftmill.org.uk

October 21st 2013

BRADLEY ENGINE DAY



Andy G explaining a point to our visitor from Spain

It was a pleasure to be able to clear the decks in the Bradley Engine House and have visitors surround the build as it has progressed up to now. With quite short working Saturdays and busy Sundays we have found it difficult to allow visitors closer to the engine than just inside the door. This weekend was an exception and the volunteers having spent a couple of Saturdays preparing for an influx of visitors were not disappointed. Even car parking was pushed beyond the limit with a substantial number parked on the road, luckily there was enough parking space inside for the one gentleman with a wheelchair who it seemed hadn't had as good a Sunday afternoon for some time!

It was especially interesting for those with Bradley Cross Lane Mill connections, some of them were meeting for the first time in many years; it was a happy reunion between old friends and between the friends and the engine that had powered the Bradley mill from 1901 to closure. Amongst the visitors were many whose parent or a grandparent had worked at the mill, one ex weaver, their spouses, a villager or two and a nice young lady from Spain! The 'locals' came from all over Yorkshire and Lancashire, memories and names were swapped and lost friendships rekindled.

The engine was donated to a Bancroft member by Fray Design Ltd., now of Skipton, it was moved, in pieces from Bradley to Bancroft some ten years ago and the first tentative steps towards running it again were taken. A large extension to an existing building was constructed together with nearly 70 tons of wet concrete poured for properly formed engine foundations. Lighting and heavy lifting gear were installed, whilst rebuilding work has been continuing over the last six years.

There is no date yet for completion of the engine but if suitable funding can be found, work should continue seamlessly. Meanwhile visitors have suggested that there is an annual Bradley Engine Day, continuing on from 2014, the Trust expects and hopes to organise it. We would like to record our thanks to the Bradley Parish Council, the Clerk to the Council and even the landlord of the Slater's Arms for their help in contacting interested parties. We look forward to another visit next year.

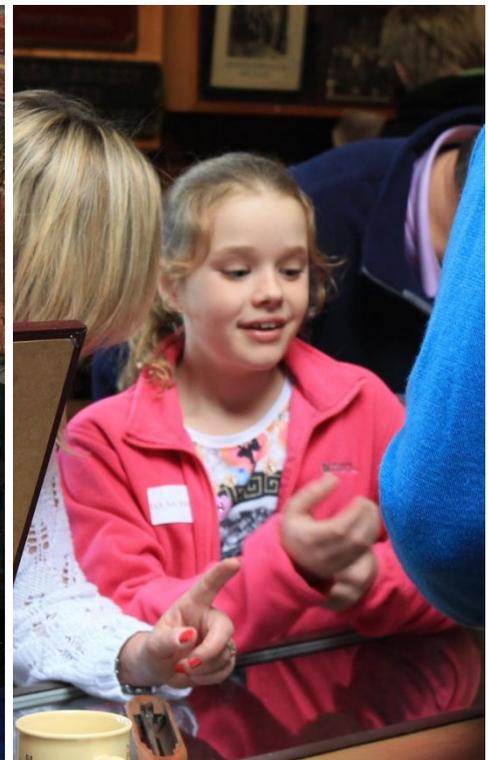
ACTING CHAIRMAN OF ELLENROAD Engine House Steam Museum.



We were pleased to have another visit from the acting Chairman of the Ellen Road Museum on Sunday who doesn't admit to "seeing how the others do it"! Keith Crabtree is here joining the overflow from the Bradley engine house to see the Bancroft Engine Start, (he's the smart one in the dark suit!). Those of you who have visited Ellenroad will remember Keith as the announcer in their engine hall who has lately filled a gap in the Chairmanship at the museum.

**Ellenroad Engine House Steam Museum:
steaming on Sunday 3rd Nov.
Featured will be: A display and sale of work by
West Pennine Wood Turners.**

ALSO SEEN ON SUNDAY



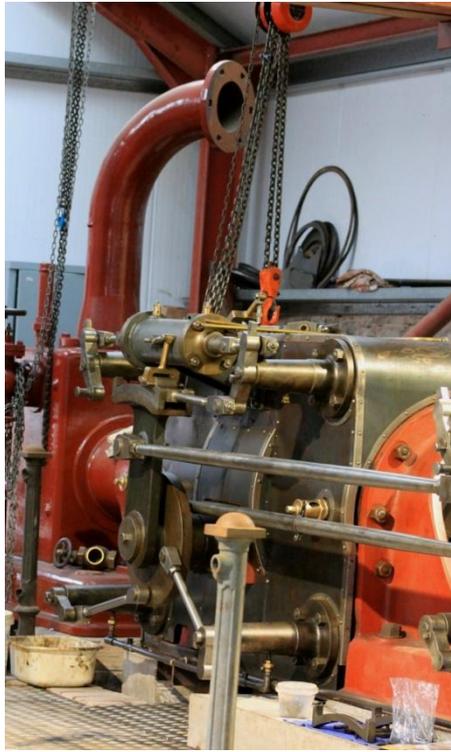
Clockwise from left above:

- Tony N (the driver) takes tea with visitors
- Young Josh makes a start on a cast-iron lintel
- A young visitor makes her selection at the shop
- Visiting Aerial twin, somewhat rare.





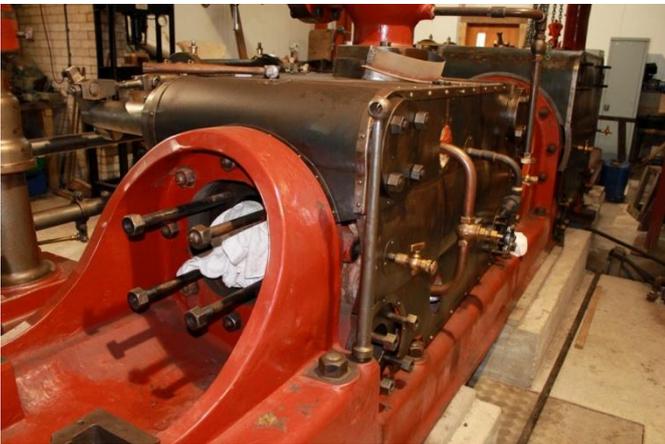
Detail of the governor and drive



The low pressure cylinder



Crankshaft



The Bradley high pressure cylinder



The Bradley low pressure cylinder

We hold higher definition files of these pictures, if you need one, ask harrym@talktalk.net for one at once please!

NEXT STEAMING

Our Halloween Steaming will be on 10th November when "Stone the Crows" have promised to show us how Welsh Border Morris Dancing *should* be done. More in our next newsletter.

Further details from:-

our website: www.bancroftmill.org.uk.

:Ctrl+click to go to our Facebook page >



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