

# BANCROFT MILL ENGINE MUSEUM

GILLIANS LANE,  
BARNOLDSWICK  
NR. COLNE,  
LANCS.  
BB18 5QR  
[www.bancoftmill.org.uk](http://www.bancoftmill.org.uk)

April 6<sup>th</sup> 2014

**This steaming, 32 years after the Trust first ran the Roberts Engine** marks the passing of yet another milestone in Bancroft's history. The original founders of the Trust, people such as Newton Pickles, Walter Fisher and Les Say, have left a wonderful legacy for those of us who have followed; we can only pay tribute to their joint engineering skills and their business acumen that saved this engine, put it into running order again and made the museum possible. Then, ably assisted by other Trust members, including David Normanshire, Peter Robinson and Mrs. Chapman, still with us today, all contributed in their individual ways to the running and development of the site. Our picture shows the engine house a few days before demolition of the shed commenced.



## **Barnoldswick's Patricia Jones**

again entranced us by demonstrating her skills in the engine hall producing a Dales landscape from scratch during our opening hours and exhibiting a lovely group of her paintings for the visitors. Just as last year it was very impressive. Seen here in serious mode!



**Bradley engine.** Work continues on this engine since the arrival of machined bronze bearings and fitting has started on the big-end bearing as shown above. It is hoped, during the latter half of this year to have another showcase day, especially for those who came last year. More details later.

**A Rolls Royce Merlin XX** will feature at a further steaming later in the year accompanied by its owner, Peter Grieve. It is hoped to run the engine for visitors during that visit. More details later.

**Crossness engines.** There were a number of Bancroft members travelled to Keighley last week to hear an illustrated talk by Sandy McLure on the history of this important site and to see footage of the rebuilding of one of its four huge engines built to pump London's waste out from a 25M gallon underground holding tank just after high tide. It made a pleasant and interesting event, we shall advise you of any similar talks organised by the Keighley Association of Engineers who are very welcoming.

**The Heritage Lottery Fund** has given a grant of nearly half a million pounds to the Boiler and Engineering Skills Training Trust that is based in Boroughbridge, North Yorkshire. Sixteen trainees will be placed for a twelve month training period, spread over two years, with organisations that have the skills to train them as boilersmiths. Mill boilers, rail locomotives, traction engines and road rollers will all be covered by the course.



**NEXT STEAMING** is on **27<sup>TH</sup> April** when we shall have Mr. and Mrs. Derek Gifford who have kindly agreed to entertain with folk songs in the intervals, Long popular, they have performed at Bancroft previously as members of the Lancashire Society.

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