

BANCROFT MILL ENGINE MUSEUM

GILLIANS LANE, BARNOLDSWICK NR. COLNE, LANCS.BB18 5QR

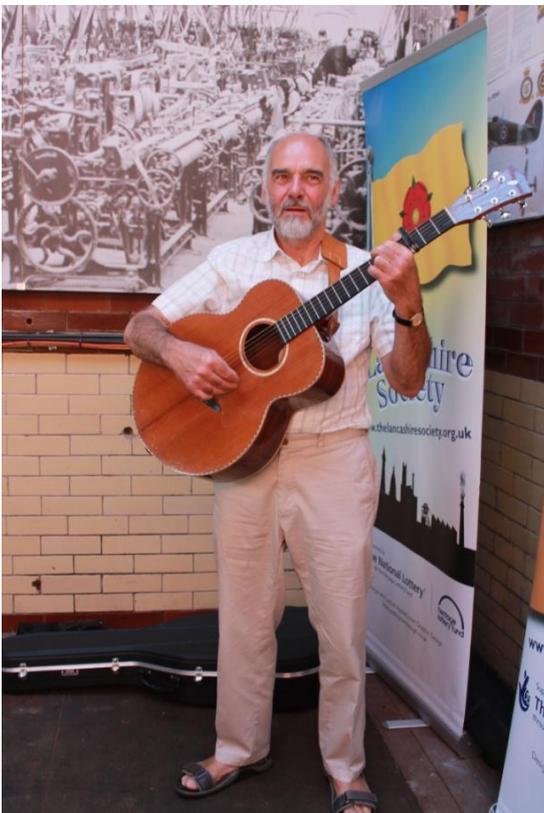
April 19th 2014

STEAMING on 27th April

We open at 11.00

The engine starts at 1.00pm

We close down at 4.30



We shall have **Derek Gifford** who has kindly agreed to entertain with folk songs in the intervals, Long popular, he has performed at Bancroft previously as a member of the Lancashire Society.

APOLOGY TO DEREK AND THE SNAPES

Due to his appearance in September 2012 at Bancroft along with The Snapes and others his photograph from that date was inadvertently exchanged with theirs in the last newsletter.

I apologise to both, unreservedly. You'll enjoy Derek's performance on Sunday but will have to wait until the end of June to see the Snapes again I'm afraid.

OTHER NEWS

NEWCOMEN BEAM ENGINE OPEN DAYS:

This wonderful old engine, situated near Barnsley is currently undergoing restoration.

You can see the restoration of the Newcomen Engine up close and witness the work of experts as they conserve what has been described as 'the most important piece of industrial heritage in the world', including its deep Georgian mineshaft. See intriguing artefacts and historic documents too.

Two open days in 2014 have already passed but two opportunities still remain:-

10am to 4pm, Wednesday 23 April 2014

10am to 4pm, Wednesday 15 May 2014

More details from:

<http://www.elsecar-heritage-centre.co.uk/1604/newcomen-beam-engine-open-days/>



BANCROFT MEMBER RUNS THE LONDON MARATHON

Our newest member, Zoe Renshaw, has raised around £3000 for Crohnes Disease sufferers by completing the London Marathon last weekend. A sufferer from Crohnes herself, Zoe hasn't let that stand in her way, we are pleased and proud to feature her efforts. Here she is after 26+ miles!

Zoe has long worked for a number of charities and it's hard to find a time when she wasn't running for "something or other" or marshalling at a field event. Above all, she's been a member and volunteer at Ellenroad for a number of years and was heavily involved in the painting of their beam engine.

The Ellenroad Chairman, Keith Crabtree has been undergoing some pretty unpleasant treatment of late. He's also a member of Bancroft, we wish him a speedy recovery.

PHOTOGRAPHS by Vincent Ng. We had mail from Vincent with 65 super pix. He says:-

Apr 6, 2014

Gillians Lane, Barnoldswick, Lancashire. photos: 65 – 20 MB.

Located at Barnoldswick is the Bancroft Mill cross compound Corliss valve condensing steam engine, lovingly cared for and operated by a group of dedicated volunteers. My visit was on one of their steaming days. It is well worth choosing to come on one of these days as it gives you the opportunity to appreciate how the engine works. The volunteers are very happy to explain how it all works, but seeing it running majestically as well, brings it all to life. This mill was the 13th and last one built in Barnoldswick. Although work on the mill started in 1915, the Great War delayed its completion until 1920. James Nutter was the founder of the company but he died in 1914, the business was then carried on by his sons. The mill was ceremonially started by James' daughter Eliza on March 13th 1920 and worked for the next 58 years, finally closing down in December 1978. The Bancroft Mill Engine Trust was formed in 1980 to preserve, maintain and run the engine.

Two of Vincent's pictures are on our next page with his kind permission:



An unusual shot with the engine in motion and Fred F. keeping a fatherly eye on things.



The Airpump on full song.....

For these and the remaining 63 super photographs you can go to his Picasa album:

Ctrl+click on this link,

<https://picasaweb.google.com/103921152911232195615/BancroftMillSteamingDay?feat=email#5999687997268582882>

Finally we attach overleaf two pieces of nostalgia, "Ode to a loom" was sent to a newspaper with no sender's address, just her name; we're unsure whether the "88" is her age or the year! (Provided by David Steel)
Fire Scare provided by a visitor.

Ode to a Loom

The picking stick beats the rhythm
of the shuttles dreadnought boom,
whilst the dust floats heavens higher
from the cotton's seedy bloom.

A weaver reaches inward
probing the grey yarn web,
the jacquette card flips over
above the toilers head.

Studded with its elfin bats
the dobby calls the tune,
patterned cloth is driven forth
from within the iron loom.

The staves like frantic dancers
are leaping up and down,
plucking the strings of the warp
they make a resonant sound.

Shrouded in their cotton wraps
spirits wait neatly in a row,
to enter the shuttles chamber
and be battered too and fro.

Spinning wheels and jostling pulleys
each piece forms a part,
of the mighty looms motivation
like a deafening, throbbing heart.

IRIS WAREING 88.

From the Barnoldswick and Earby

Times:

Friday July 7th 1961

FIRE SCARE AT LOCAL MILL

Fire engines from Barnoldswick and Earby raced to Bancroft Shed in the early hours of Sunday Morning after Mr. Eddie Spencer raised the alarm. At about 12.02am Mr. Spencer who lives in Sackville Street, Barnoldswick thought that he saw Bancroft Shed on fire. He raised the alarm and the fire brigade was soon on the scene.

It was, however, a false alarm with good intent. The cause of the trouble was steam escaping from a valve in the boiler room.

We, at Bancroft, hope that you are enjoying the fine weather and having a lovely Easter

www.bancroftmill.org.uk

www.facebook.com/BancroftMill

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bancroft_Shed

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