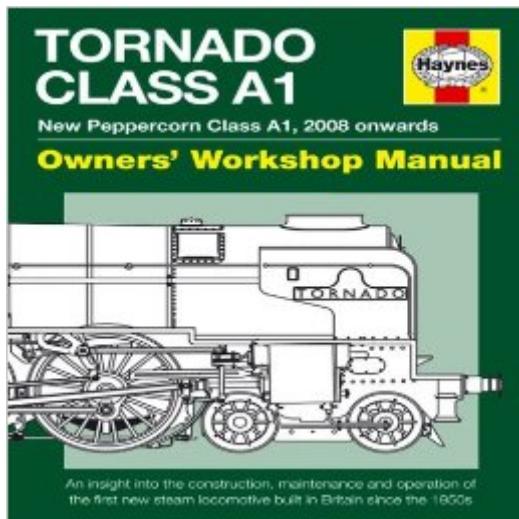


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Tornado Class A1: New Peppercorn Class A1, 2008 Onwards (Owners' Workshop Manual)



Synopsis

This is a manual about the construction of 60163 Tornado, the new steam locomotive that has been making its first public runs in recent months. The locomotive has been built by the A1 Steam Locomotive Trust, a charitable trust founded in 1990 to build Tornado and possibly further locomotives. Tornado was conceived as an evolution of the LNER Peppercorn Class A1 class, incorporating improvements likely had steam continued, and changes for cost, safety, manufacturing and operational benefits, while replicating the original design's sound and appearance. Tornado, completely new-built, is considered the 50th Peppercorn A1, numbered next in the class after 60162, Saint Johnstoun, built in 1949. The 49 original Peppercorn A1s were built in Doncaster and Darlington for the London and North Eastern Railway (LNER). Tornado was built in the trust's Darlington works. The original 49 locomotives were scrapped by 1966 after an average service of 15 years. None survived into preservation, and Tornado fills a gap in the classes of restored steam locomotives that used to operate on the East Coast Main Line.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

In 1990, a group of British train enthusiasts set out to build a working replica of a Peppercorn Class A1 steam locomotive, a type which had been withdrawn from service in 1966, and all 50 were scrapped soon afterwards. This "owners' workshop manual" sets out to describe the A1 Steam Locomotive Trust's 18-year quest to build the 51st A1, and have it conform to modern-day railroad

safety standards. The first section is a brief history of the A1 locomotive and its use with post-war British railways. The middle section of this book is the most interesting, and is an illustrated step-by-step description of the construction of Tornado. From the fabrication of the locomotive's main frames, to the assembly of "the motion", boiler and steam systems, electrical system, tender, and cab controls, the entire process is described in great detail. The final part deals mainly with the difficulties involved with British transportation bureaucracy in getting the train certified for passenger use, everyday maintenance of Tornado, and the train's first year in service. This book is different from Haynes' other "workshop manuals" in being heavily text-driven. While there are a lot of nice color photographs, many of them showing the building of Tornado, diagrams are few and far between. I would have appreciated more of them, especially in more technically-oriented passages. This is not a book for beginners; an average-or-better understanding of how steam trains work is a must. I admit having to dig out my copy of "Stephen Biesty's Incredible Cross-Sections" just to make heads or tails of what I was reading about! Overall, this is an enjoyable book, but one more suited to hardcore steam enthusiasts than the casual reader.

I expect that Haynes write a maintenance manual describing the detailed workings of the loc like they did with the Startrek Enterprise manual. This book has virtually no cutaways or engineering descriptions at all. It is, as said, a history book. I hated history at school and I hate it still. Sorry. Nigel.

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