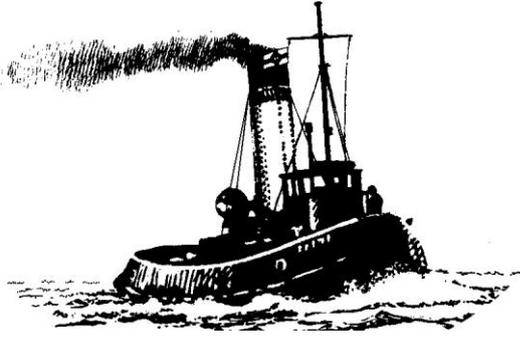


Steam Tug Brent Trust



www.steamtugbrent.org

Email: info@steamtugbrent.org



Steam Tug Brent of 1945



Steam Tug Brent (@steamtugbrent)

NEWSLETTER April 2015

Dear Brent Supporters

Throughout the winter months Brent has sat under her cover undisturbed in her berth. Occasionally we have been aboard to check that all is secure and that it is dry down below, which it is. A change of outlook from on board, though; the Brent now has the sailing barge Dawn moored outside her.

While little has been happening aboard Brent, this winter has been very busy for the trustees and for the group of volunteers who helped out during January when we were at the Boat Show. We were proud of our stand. Having discovered a spare towing hook in the after cabin bilge during our activities on board in the summer, we decided that this should form part of our display.

James, having cleaned up and painted the towing hook, made some bollards, so we could set up the scene with Brent towing a lighter.



Our stand was very different to anything else at the London Boat Show and we had excellent publicity from the Boat Show organisers. Twice in the 10 days of the show, I was on Radio Essex. We made some good links with other people involved with heritage vessel preservation, in

particular the SS Robin, the last steam coaster, which is now on a pontoon in Victoria Dock and the SS Freshspring a steam water tanker. They are at a similar stage as us on the long road to restoration. Although both of these vessels are much larger than the Brent, we can learn from each other and possibly work together.

All her working life Brent worked for the Port of London Authority, and one outcome of the Boat Show is renewed contact with her former owners.

Richard Albanese, our chairman has written two excellent and well illustrated articles about Brent. The first one you can read now. It is out this month in the Old Glory magazine. The second one is in the May issue of Sea Breezes, which should be on sale soon.

January saw the launch of our crowdfunding campaign. We have a specific webpage at www.mamawatta.com which details our campaign. It is a system whereby if you donate to our funds then, to show our appreciation of your gift, we give to you.

A few examples:

Donation min. £80
Candle holder fabricated from Brent boiler tube
Item available June

Buy from us

A DAY
On the Tug!
Donation min. £100
Tour of the Brent and lunch with the Trustees
Time available to suit July / August

Donation min. £10
Ship's Cat Postcard, with handwritten message on the back.
Random selection from 3 cards
Give 3 times to collect all of them.
Item available May

Buy from us

Donation min. £10
Brent Sunset geese
Item available May

We need to have an enormous input of donations during the Boat Show. We are aiming to raise £30,000. To do it through the Crowdfunder we need to start by May 1st.

succeed. We need to achieve this by

We are trying to raise money to use as match funding; the Trust is not able to fund 10 to 20% of it ourselves. It is crucial for us to have the boat restored; her boiler can only be repaired at a specialist boiler works.

we need to be able to fund 10 to 20% of it ourselves. It is crucial for us to have the boat restored; her boiler can only be repaired at a specialist boiler works.

If you are able to give and/or know of others who may, then please do support us. It is vital for Brent's future to raise this money.

If you wish to give in the more traditional way, you can also give through our website, or you can write a cheque to Steam Tug Brent Trust and send to the address below.

We are going to be on board this weekend and be open to the public on Easter Sunday and Easter Monday. We will be open again on the afternoon of Saturday, April 26th which is the day of the Maldon Mud Race.

We will shortly be starting work on board again and will be meeting on Brent on the first Saturday of May. Richard Albanese will be here to discuss the programme of work for the summer. If you have worked as a volunteer already, I will be informing you of times. If you wish to volunteer then please contact me.

Let's hope for good weather this summer, so that a lot can get done.

If any of you are interested in fundraising for us then that would be excellent. And thank you to those of you who are already assisting us.



Wishing you all a good summer and good sailing.

Kindest regards

Janet

Trustees: Richard Albanese, Chairman
Richard Seager, Chief Engineer
Janet Hall, Secretary

Don't forget to follow us on Facebook and Twitter