

5637 Steam Locomotive Group

The 5637 locomotive is approaching the end of its 10-year boiler certificate which expires in April 2020. The 5637 locomotive needs major maintenance as it approaches it's 10th year in steam since the last 10-year Heavy General Overhaul (HGO). Plans are in an advanced state to start the HGO next year (2020).

The East Somerset Railway (ESR) has, as you know, declined to carry out the upcoming 10-year HGO on the 5637 locomotive. The 5637 SLG has approached several organisations with the technical expertise to carry out the 10-year HGO.

5637's last appearance at the ESR will be at their Spring Gala on 21/22 March 2020. After this it is planned to transport the 5637 locomotive to Swindon & Cricklade Railway (S&CR) to commence the 10-year HGO. This will take approximately 2 years to complete, during which the 5637 locomotive will be out of service.

The HGO is a major engineering undertaking requiring much volunteer labour and materials costs. In addition, there are aspects of the HGO requiring specialist 3rd party engineering skills, for example refurbishing the severely worn piston valves. Once the boiler has been removed from the frames it is intended to send the locomotive to Tyseley Locomotive Works for refurbishment of worn components.

The 5637 SLG had accrued sufficient funds to meet the sum the ESR originally assured us would be sufficient to cover their charges for the overhaul in 2020. However, this sum relied on a £20,000 cash reserve provided by the ESR as a condition of hiring 5637 to them for 10 years. This will not now be forthcoming. The current boiler certificate expires in April 2020 and 5637 SLG won't be able to accrue further steaming fee revenue. Therefore, we need your help to make up the shortfall.

Our treasurer, (treasurer@5637.co.uk) is leading the charge to raise funds. The 5637 SLG has 55 Shares available from the original offering (please see website for more information https://5637.co.uk/join-us/). As you will note the shares remain at the original price of £250 each and may be purchased at £25 per month over 10 months as an alternative to outright purchase.

Please help by purchasing another share to contribute to the 10-year HGO and keep this magnificent 5637 locomotive steaming for another 10 years. Why not consider buying your friends and family a 5637 share for Christmas this year? It's the ideal present for the person who has everything!

Once the planned HGO is complete (2022) the 5637 locomotive will be exclusively available to shareholders and guests to ride on the footplate and drive the locomotive during shareholders days at the S&CR.

Thank you for your support.

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