



# Welcome to the Steam Apprentice Club Monthly Newsletter.

Dear Parent, Guardian or Volunteer!

**I'm pleased to enclose the March issue of our monthly newsletter as we head into spring, with start of this year's events now on the horizon.**

In this issue, you'll find details of an additional Driving Day added to our 2026 calendar, an update on the exciting restoration of "Lady Sylvia" ahead of her return to the rally field – and confirmation that our full rally programme for the year has now been finalised. We're also keen to hear your views on some potential new SAC merchandise, as we explore ways for apprentices to show their connection to the club.

As always, thank you for your continued support in helping the next generation discover and enjoy the world of steam.

Kind regards,

**Paul Stingmore**

Chairman, Steam Apprentice Club

 [sac.chairman@ntet.co.uk](mailto:sac.chairman@ntet.co.uk)



## Extra Driving Day added at Klondyke Mill



We are delighted to announce that an extra Driving Day has been added to our diary of events. This will take place on 11 October 2026 at the North Staffordshire and Cheshire Traction Engine Club at Klondyke Mill, Staffordshire. [Click here](#) for details or to book.

Our Driving Days offer an opportunity for apprentices to spend a full day working with road steam – a mix of theory and practical and takes our apprentices through a standard 'day of steam'. You can check the full schedule [here](#).

**Let's go** 

## "Lady Sylvia" to be ready by Easter



We can now reveal that restoration works on "Lady Sylvia" have begun. Lady Sylvia, named after Sylvia Dudley (one of the founders of the SAC).

Built by apprentices ten years ago, she is a miniature Burrell traction engine for use by apprentices.

These restoration works were part of the winter spruce-up and will keep Lady Sylvia running for several more years to come. This could be described as the vintage version of a spa retreat!

Lady Sylvia is used by the SAC to teach apprentices how to run and drive miniature steam engines at various rallies.

She is due to be finished by Easter and her first outing will be at the Hertfordshire Steam and Country Show on 30 and 31 May.



## 2026 Rally list finalised

We have agreed the list of rallies for attendance this year:

- **Eastnor Castle** .....24/25 May
- **Hertfordshire Steam and Country Show** .....30 and 31 May
- **High Weald Steam Working Weekend** .....13 and 14 June
- **MSRVS Tewkesbury** ..... 20 and 21 June
- **Weeting Steam Engine Rally & Country Show** .....17-19 July
- **South Gloucestershire (South Cerney)** .....31 July - 2 August
- **WESES Stithians** .....14-16 August
- **Bedfordshire Steam & Country Fayre** ..... 18-20 September

## New merchandise – would you be interested?



The Steam Apprentice Club is exploring the possibility of producing some new club merchandise, including SAC bucket hats and T-shirts. These could be a great way for apprentices to show their connection to the club at events and rallies.

Before we go ahead, we'd like to hear from parents and guardians about whether there would be enough interest. At present, the estimated price would be around £15 per item for either a bucket hat or a T-shirt.

We appreciate that affordability is important, so we're keen to get a sense of whether families would be happy with this price point before making any decisions.

If you think your apprentice might be interested, or if you have any thoughts on the pricing, please let us know by emailing the SAC Chairman at the SAC email address. Your feedback will help us decide whether to move forward with the order.

**Steam Apprentice Club is the youth section of the National Traction Engine Trust.**

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