



York Society of Engineers

7:30 pm. Thursday 05 March 2026

Live Lecture

Room SLB/118, Spring Lane Building, Campus West, University of York

Prince of Wales, Britain's most powerful steam locomotive

by

Graham Nicholas



Britain's most powerful steam locomotive.

2007 *Prince of Wales* a Gresley Class P2 Locomotive, by the A1 Steam Locomotive Trust.

The presentation by Graham will cover the reasons why the A1 Steam Locomotive Trust has decided to build a P2, including a brief history of the class of locomotive.

The project will demonstrate how the most powerful class of express passenger steam locomotives to operate in the UK can be fully realised. Modern computer design and modelling techniques will be used to enable it to deliver its true potential hauling passenger trains at high speed across the national network.

The *Prince of Wales* is a re-creation, *not* a restoration.

The construction will be illustrated using original engineering drawings and the use of new components. Accompanying these illustrations will be a description of the engineering behind the creation of the parts, comparing the resources to hand today, with those for the original design.

The management of the Trust, especially the engineering and fund-raising aspects will also all be illustrated in detail.

Please note, this lecture will be a live talk in Room P/L/001, Physics/Electronics Building, Campus West, University of York.

Wearing of masks is encouraged (but not mandatory); taking a lateral flow test prior to the meeting (with negative result) is also recommended. There is plenty of space in the lecture theatre for “social distancing”.

Please see the Covid-19 guidance below from the University of York:

The safety of our audience members and staff is our priority, and the University of York continues to have strict cleaning regimes and enhanced ventilation in place.

Please note that the University of York is promoting a message of protect, respect and be kind in relation to Covid-19 and we therefore politely ask that all attendees consider wearing a face covering whilst moving around indoors, washing hands regularly and taking a lateral flow test in advance of the event.

We also ask that you do not attend if you experience any symptoms that could relate to a Covid-19 infection OR if you are self-isolating. Events staff will wear face coverings (unless exempt) and clear signage will be available to access hand sanitizer and hand-washing facilities.

The **York Society of Engineers** welcomes applications for membership from those engaged or interested in Engineering. Membership brings several benefits; please search “York Society of Engineers” on your browser, or visit our website directly at <https://www.yorksocietyofengineers.org> for more details and an application form.