Project 22 The New Build Diesel Hydraulic Group



Project 22 was established in 2014 with the aim of building the 59th Class 22 Locomotive. Unfortunately, no Class 22's made it to preservation with the last of the class being cut up in 1972 at Swindon Works. Known as the NBL D6300's and built in Glasgow from 1959, this small type 2 Diesel Hydraulic had a very poor start and wasn't renowned by many for its reliability, and soon gained a poor reputation in the railway industry.

Plagued with design issues, very little development planning before introduction to service and the demise of the North British Locomotive Company, this small and useful engine was soon to become one of a kind as the only Type 2 Diesel Hydraulic. This resulted in there being difficulties with replacement parts when needed, resulting in many Class 22's being un available for duty when needed. Many locos were cannibalised for parts, but these parts we often found to be non-standard which delayed maintenance even further.

As the issues were rectified, maintenance and driving crews became familiar with procedures that helped prevent issues, such as engine fires, they settled down to be well liked up until the end.

We believe that there is still a future for the class, history is not fully written for the Class 22; in D6358.



You can help us build a Class 22

Project 22

The first stage was the idea, which came from a group set up on Facebook in 2014. This group very quickly gained a following and it became clear there was a very big interest in such a project.

The second was to see if a group could be formed to take a project forward and create a committee and a membership. This was tackled very quickly and Project 22 was born. "The Project Class 22 Society" was the first step forward.

The project has evolved with the introduction of a Project Manager, Component Engineer, and a Business Manager. We have managed to purchase an original NBL/MAN power unit, number 220, formally used in Class 22's and Class 43 Warships. The engine is in store at our base in South Wales.

We have been very busy with research and above all locating the necessary drawings need to complete the build. This is an ongoing task and is making excellent progress.

We are also very busy identifying and locating compatible components. One of the widest searches is looking for an original Voith Transmission LT306R Type. We have managed to identify number possible sources across Europe and Worldwide.

We are still very much at the beginning of this project and are very confident in its eventual success. Many of us missed these locomotives and we would dearly like to see one running on British Heritage Railways.

We have been inspired by the success of the British new build steam projects, and have been lucky to be able to draw on these groups for advice and guidance.





Right: We have D6322 looking well when carrying BR blue taken at Barnstaple yard late 60's © Ken Baker.

Below left: NBL MAN Engine 220, taken at our yard.

Below: D6329 Newton Abbott June '66. © G Wareham.



How Can You Help Build a Class 22 Locomotive?

Project 22 are currently an Un-Incorporated Society, which has suited our needs through the early first few years. We are now in the process of becoming a Non- Profit Charity. We are working with The Heritage Railway Association to facilitate this. Funds that are raised through donations or sponsors are used solely for the build process. These funds are placed in a trust account and are only drawn on if necessary. All other costs including advertising and administration is raised through trading. For this purpose, we are establishing "The Project 22 New Build Ltd."

All donations received will be transferred into shares in the company when the locomotive is completed. If we decide not to carry on for any reason we would donate all funds raised that have not been used to an another appointed to other Diesel Hydraulic Groups or return to the investor.

Your money is safe with us and it will be working to towards building the locomotive. Our overall target budget is £1.2M. This is the broad estimate we are using at this stage.

You can become an active working Committee Member or an Operational Volunteer, please contact us to discuss this, as we need all the help available.

Sponsorship

You can make a one-off donation of any amount or for a specific component or area of the build. These programs are always available and advertised on our website.

Investor

Make a monthly donation to Project 22, starting from £5.00 a month up to as much as you can afford.

We usually range between £15 – £50 a month. As an Investor, you will receive a printed three yearly Journal "Lister" full of lots of Class 22 and Diesel Hydraulic information and pictures.

Most importantly you will be the most important part of bringing a Class 22 back to life.

Thank You



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To receive "Lister" Please register on our secure site"

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