



# UPDATE

## 28 April 1998

# 37003 IS OURS!

JUST as all hope had virtually disappeared of saving 37003, we received a letter on 17 April asking if we were interested in re-tendering for the locomotive.

Since missing out in the previous tender earlier this year, the locomotive had moved from Immingham to Crewe to donate parts to a sister loco. However, the loco has a power unit and its traction motors in place so after a lot of discussion it was felt it was worth submitting a much lower bid for 37003.

As the deadline for tenders approached at 10am on Friday 24 April a number of points needed clarification. EWS agreed to a three hour extension to the deadline and after further phone calls a revised bid, the third of the day, was duly faxed to EWS. Verbal agreement of sale followed and the long struggle for 37003 was finally won.

THE Class 37 Group has suffered from some challenges over the last few months.

We lost our editor last year when Ken Carr moved to a new job and it's been extremely difficult to find a replacement. In addition Graham Potts has resigned as Membership Secretary & Secretary which caused a major re-evaluation of the Group.

As a result Mike Millward is now Membership Secretary & Secretary, Steve Potter remains as Treasurer and now that his job has settled down we are pleased to announce that Ken Carr has agreed to come back as Editor.

We deeply apologise for the last few months and Graham has done a sterling job of holding it all together and for that we all thank him deeply.

Things will now settle down again. All correspondence for any committee member should be addressed to our new central mailing address:

The locomotive was delivered to Stratford in December 1960, bearing the number D6703. In March 1964 the loco was fitted with *The First East Anglian Regiment* nameplates, these were never unveiled and the loco carried them boarded over for about a month. Under TOPS the loco received the number 37003. (A full history will be included in the next issue of *SYPHON!*)

By the time this reaches you, the loco will be either be at or en-route to MC Metals. A requirement of the sale was the removal of blue asbestos believed to be in the loco. Once this has been accomplished, the loco will head for its new home (negotiations are now taking place to find a suitable location). This movement will probably take place in early June. Members will be notified in advance if at all possible.

**The Class 37 Group**  
**P.O. Box 37**  
**Lowestoft**  
**Suffolk**  
**NR33 0FJ**

As you will already have read we have managed to acquire 37003, now is your chance to preserve a truly historic locomotive. The fact that the loco is contaminated with blue asbestos has added a considerable cost to the overall purchase price.

This is where you as a Class 37 enthusiast can help. 37003 requires investment in both time and money, at this moment the latter is most important. Any donation and/or quick renewal of your membership, will assist this pioneer of the modern railway age to return to life. 37003 will be 40 in the year 2000, let's ensure it really is a case of life begins at 40 for OUR new acquisition.

### NEW...NEW... NEW...

TO CELEBRATE OUR NEW PURCHASE, A HIGH QUALITY LIMITED EDITION FULL COLOUR '37003' T-SHIRT IS AVAILABLE  
**FEATURING A COLOUR PHOTO OF 37003 ON THE FRONT & THE GROUP LOGO ON THE SLEEVE.**

PRICE IS £10 + £1 p&p,  
ORDER BEFORE 15 MAY

Orders to:

The Class 37 Group, P.O. Box 37, Lowestoft, Suffolk, NR33 0FJ

Cheques payable to: *The Class 37 Group*

**ALL PROFITS HELP THE RESTORATION PROGRAMME - PLEASE ORDER NOW**

The Next Issue of  
**SYPHON!** will be  
despatched at the end of  
May with all the latest  
news on 37003.

If you have any photos of the loco  
please send them to our new  
address ASAP