

# AMBERLEY

working museum

1979-2004

Silver Jubilee Year

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**PRESS RELEASE**

## POLAR BEAR'S 100<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY

2005 sees the 100th birthday of the Amberley Working Museum's Bagnall 2-4-0T steam locomotive Polar Bear, and in conjunction with their friends and colleagues from the Groudle Glen Railway on the Isle of Man, for which line the locomotive was originally built in 1905, the Museum is planning to celebrate the event in style.

In a historic move, Polar Bear's older sibling, Sea Lion, built in 1896, has been invited to visit Amberley in July. Sea Lion is scheduled to make trial runs on the Museum's railway over the weekend of 2/3 July, in preparation for their Annual Railway Gala Weekend on 9/10 July. At this event, Polar Bear and Sea Lion will be in steam together: the first time that this has occurred on the English mainland since restoration of either loco to working order.

This will be followed by a return visit of Polar Bear to the Isle where both will operate over two or three weekends on the line for which they were built. A number of the Railway volunteers from Amberley will accompany Polar Bear to the Isle of Man.

Any further information and publication-quality images can be obtained from Amberley Working Museum, Amberley, Arundel, West Sussex. BN18 9LT, telephone 01798-831370. There is also available a dedicated e-mail enquiry service available at [pb100@amberleynarrowgauge.co.uk](mailto:pb100@amberleynarrowgauge.co.uk)



**Above:** Polar Bear and Sea Lion on the Groudle Glen Railway in 1996, a scene we plan to repeat in 2005 both on the Isle and, for the first time ever, at Amberley.

PRESIDENT HRH PRINCE MICHAEL OF KENT CHAIRMAN GRAHAM TOOLE-MACKSON DIRECTOR HOWARD STENNING

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