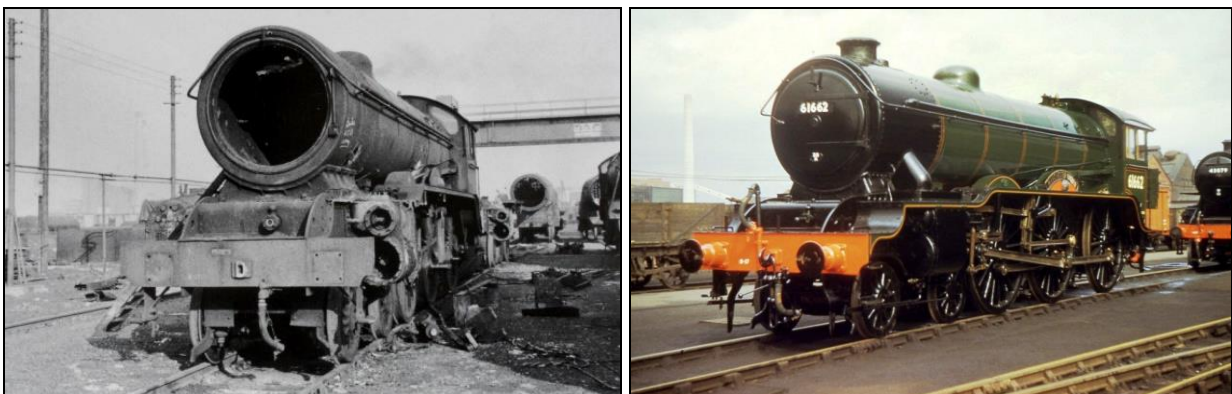


The two rather melancholy black and white photographs featured this month depict what was almost certainly No. 61662 'Manchester United's final appearance in front of a camera lens. They were taken at Doncaster Works scrapyards in February 1960 when the locomotive was in the final stages of dismantling. They clearly illustrate the wrong we are trying to put right by rebuilding the loco. No. 61662 is to the left of the photo above in the company of Classmate No. 61658 'The Essex Regiment'. Quite incredibly No. 61662 still carries at least one 'Manchester United' nameplate ! (Photos courtesy Irwell Press & Colour Rail)

To illustrate how far No. 61662 had fallen from grace our colour photo shows the same engine on a happier visit to Doncaster Works after an overhaul just seven years previously in 1953. All was not completely lost on that sad day in Doncaster scrapyards however, as No. 61662's boiler, which was only four years old at that time, has been marked up 'Boiler Wanted' with double underlining to make the point ! Her tender has also been detached and both these items would have probably seen further service on LNER B1 Class 4-6-0's.



Fast forwarding to the present time, we are delighted to announce that our lucky draw to win the Hornby 00 Gauge Model of No. 61662 has been won by one of our keen supporters, Peter Hall of Leek in Staffordshire. Congratulations Peter, a small ceremony to present the loco to him will be arranged asap. Sandblasting work to clean up No. 61662's 'new' Tender ready for painting is booked for Thursday 24th October and funds are urgently needed to cover the costs. We are very keen to get a new coat of paint on the tender before the winter sets in so any help would be greatly appreciated. Please forward donations, no matter how small, to Engine 61662 Appeal, 4 Porchfield Close, Earley, Reading, Berks, RG6 5YZ. Details of how to make donations via Paypal or by credit transfer etc can be found on our website : www.engine61662appeal.co.uk
Thank you very much for your support and interest. Ken Livermore, Project Leader