

Suggestion for the renovation of the Scroll Casing

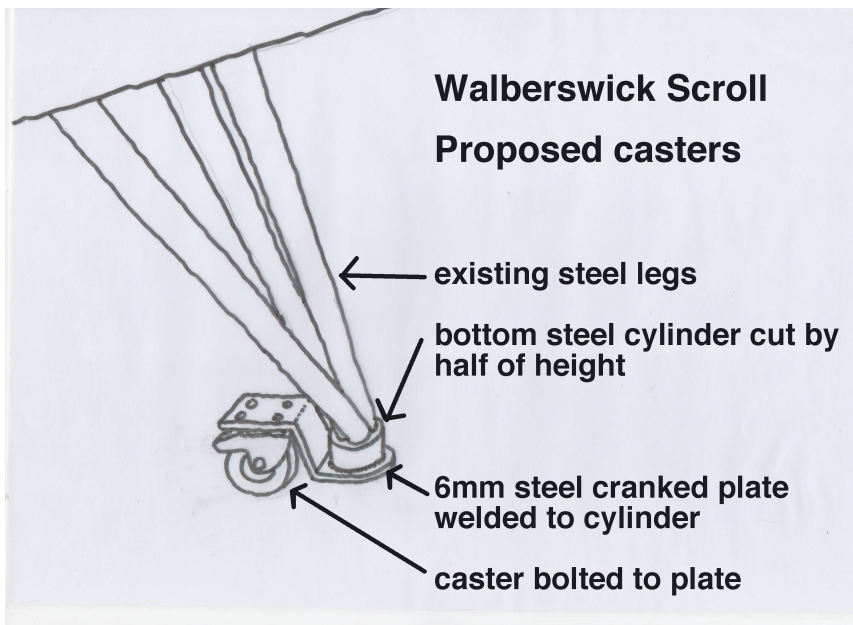
We note that, as part of the building works to renovate the Heritage Hut, it is the intention of the WCLC to achieve a controlled temperature of 20degrees C and a humidity of 50% in the main hall of the Hut. These proposed standards fall within the recommended parameters of storing paper artworks. Because of this the Scroll will be able to stand safely on its own against the back wall without any protection other than its existing case. It will, however, need to be fitted with lockable casters so that it can be pulled into the centre of the hall easily and without damage to the floor. Because of its permanent and prominent position in the hall, it will want to look at its best. At the moment the case is beginning to show its age and needs some refurbishing. However, SAG considers that any change must respect the finish and form in which Tony Whittenbury designed and made it. It has become a village icon.

On inspection, the inner moving parts seem as good as ever, and although the structure is very solid and heavy, when mounted on casters, this weight should not matter. However the cover does need to be lifted on and off so ways could be investigated to remake this, in the same image but, in a lighter form.

The ply casing is damaged and scratched in places and the brass angle trim has rough edges and there are bits missing.

SAG considers that the damage to the ply should be repaired and filled as necessary and the whole case wet-and-dry sandpapered and re-varnished. Should the damage have gone too far the case might have to be painted, but this is not our first choice. 18x18mm stainless steel angles could replace the existing brass.

So as to avoid raising the overall height for viewing, each of the four legs should be unbolted and 50 mm trimmed from the tubular bottom cylinder. A cranked steel plate could be welded to each and casters bolted to them. (see sketch)



It is vitally important to protect the Scroll by keeping it environmentally safe and in the dark while the work is going on. As can be seen from the photograph it revolves on two large spindles. At one end there is a piece of linen which is stitched to the paper and this linen strip is in turn wound round the spindle and fixed with drawing pins. We recommend that these pins are removed and the scroll rolled onto a single spindle. This spindle can then be unbolted and released from the driving chain and the whole lifted free and stored in an MDF box (see sketch).



SAG also recommend that a small plate be mounted on the case stating its ownership by WPC, its authorship by J Domen Turner, and with a dedication to Tony Whittenbury and to Richard Scott..

Who will carry out the work has yet to be decided. The cost of the work will be met by the SAG.

SAG seeks the prior approval of the WPC to any work, and makes a request that the council inform the insurers of the proposals.