



84030 Rebuild Project



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During the summer and autumn months progress was made in several areas including the bunker which is now complete except for painting the inside panels and the doors.



Inside of the bunker showing doors and shovelling plate.

All access steps to the bunker, cab and front of the engine are now complete, installed and mostly painted



Steps in their final positions

Some progress has been made on the cab floor supports but before bolting down in their final position's attention was turned to the rear balance pipe between the two side tanks as this runs under the floor.

Although the original BR design was for 3" copper pipe the decision was made to make it from schedule 40 steel pipe work. A drawing was made of the pipe which required a number of bends to allow for obstacles such as water valve connecting rods. To allow for assembly the balance pipe was made in 4 sections each section being bent according to the drawing.

The pipes now need to be cut to fit and joined together including flanges at each end and a connection in the middle to allow for final installation. A flange drawing for profiling is currently being produced



Balancing pipe sections

Before the balancing pipe can be fitted studs need to be installed in the side tanks to allow the flanged end of the balancing pipe to be connected. This will be no easy job!

Splashers to protect the crew from getting wet from the spray of the driving wheels have been fabricated and painted and are now ready for installation. The splasher on the fireman's side consists of 3 sections and will be easily fitted. The driver's side is more complicated and consists of 9 sections as it has to be fitted around the reversing pedestal.



Parts of the splasers

Once the balance pipe, floor supports and splasers have been installed we will then start to build the cab. To date we have already had the side panels and backs to both the drivers and fireman's seat area profiled and they are currently being painted before final fitting.



Profiled cab side panels

The bracket to hold the water valves for the injectors has been fabricated and trial fitted before painting



If you know anyone interested in joining the working group please ask them to contact me, Chris Wren on ccwren@gmail.com and remember the project can only progress by providing a stream of income, one way is by donation(s). Please see our web page on the Bluebell Web site under department news, loco works.