

84030 Rebuild Project

Newsletter No4 April 2022

The weather during the winter months although dry on most of our working days but having to work outside it was pretty cold and at times far from pleasant. Despite this progress has been made in a number of areas.

The gantry we refurbished has now been passed by the inspector, just in time to be put to good use in erecting the bunker onto the engine frame.



Front and Rear Bunker Panels and the Refurbished Gantry

Work on the bunker has been made in a number of areas and following Vic Short's completion of final manufacturing drawings for the 2 bunker rear panels, 4 shovelling plate doors and the 2 cab sides adjoining the bunker, orders were placed on Accurate Laser in Oldbury, West Midlands. These were delivered within a week and being outside were immediately given a coat of protective paint.



Protective Painting off the Rear Bunker Panel



Top Section of the Rear Bunker Pane

We have now completed all the bunker cab end bottom panel fixings including welding them on, this will now allow the panel to be positioned and bolted down on the frame. Once in position the shovelling plate and associated support structure can then be erected.

On completion of the front end, the rear 2 panels will be erected, this will confirm the dimension between the front and back of the bunker allowing Vic to finalise the side panel drawings.

A supplier has now been found for the hinges on the bunker shovelling plate and tool box doors, offering very competitive prices, this will save a lot of time and difficulty in not having to make them.

Nick Wren, Brian and myself recently made a visit to KESR to discuss the manufacture of the side tanks. This resulted in a very informative meeting resolving a lot of question and will now allow Nick to finalise manufacturing drawings. It was also decided to build the right hand tank first allowing for any lessons learnt to be incorporated in the final manufacturing drawings for the left hand tank.

It is hoped to have the right hand tank manufacturing drawings completed by the end of April with panel orders by end of May. Subject to confirmation a supplier who can handle profiling panels over 5m long has been found, this will eliminate the problem of a visual seam weld on the outer panel.

Please remember this project is self-funding and progress can only be made through a constant supply of funds. To make donations, no matter how small, to the fund please see [our dedicated web page](#) on the Bluebell website under the heading Locomotives Under Overhaul where a donation form can be found.

We plan the next newsletter in the summer when hopefully we will be well on with the bunker and have started on building the right hand tank.

Chris Wren

The Standard Class 2 Working Group