

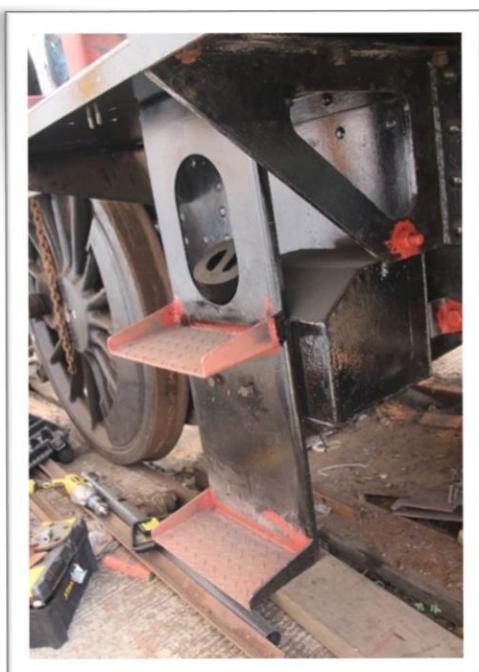
BR 2MT 84030 Rebuild Project

By Chris Wren

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.

Some progress has been made on the cab floor supports but before bolting down in their final positions 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 4 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 must be fitted around the reversing pedestal.



Parts of the splashers

Once the balance pipe, floor supports and splashes 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.



FIND OUT MORE

For more information about the 84030 project, and details of how to donate, see
www.bluebell-railway.com/trust-project/br-standard-class-2-tank-84030/