



Depot Reput – 2008-M12-20 :

The good ol' Staff and Baggage Van had come in for most of the attention on the featured weekend, with the transverse full-width kitchen wall being removed and the entire kitchen and guard compartment flooring lifted up to expose the horrors underneath. The entire exposed floor cavity had been vacuumed out and preparations made to replace the affected support channels.

Michael Thiel, for a change NOT working on Mechanical Stoker Motors, has been tasked with upgrading the built in water transfer couplings on the buffer beams on the GMAM Garratt No.4079. The clamp-on 'depot-made' flexible pipes tend to be too long and they have to be tied up. It looks scruffy and wastes time when the pipes themselves have to be uncoupled and moved to the other end of the locomotive at the destination. Michael spent the day welding together four sets of straight and angled tubing and the cut off heads of bell couplers.

James Thomson is still working on getting a dynamo working for the Class 25NC No.3472 'Elize. I didn't get many pictures of James actually at work because I was busy in the Staff and Baggage Van myself, but I do have some detail pics of dismantled SAR steam locomotive dynamos, which are rather unusual pieces of machinery.

Reefsteamers and cream cakes continue to be a dangerous combination. I've added an extra section to this report covering the hi-jinx as we approached and saw in the New Year together in a typically off-beat way.

Sample Graphics :



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Summary of Depot Report :

n	S&B Van	Removal of Guard's handbrake and vacuum brake.
n	S&B Van	Removal of sliding doors and guard room hardware.
n	S&B Van.	Dismantling of kitchen and removal of transverse wall.
n	S&B Van	Lifting of the rotten floorboards and clearing substructure.
n	25NC 3472	Dynamo Stripping for cleaning.
n	Locomotives	Explanation of permanent magnet generators.
n	GMAM 4079	History, designs and configurations of water couplings.
n	GMAM 4079	Welding and fabrication of new std water transfer couplings.
n	S&B Van	Explanation of cooling system problems of generator.
n	S&B Van	Marking and cutting of interior walls for new vent louvers.
n	S&B Van	Marking and cutting of exterior skin for new vent louvers.
n	S&B Van	Fitting of the pre-boxed louvers.
n	15F 3052	Recap of tube failure incident and disconnecting of valve gear.
n	15F 3052	Detail pictures of removed parts in storage on the locomotive.
n	Shongololo	Vintage Coach Builder's Plates. (1952)
n	Reefsteamers	Pictures of the cream cake fight on New Year's Eve.

Compiled by Lee D. Gates (Jan 2009)
on behalf of Reefsteamers Association