

Steam News From The Eastern Free State

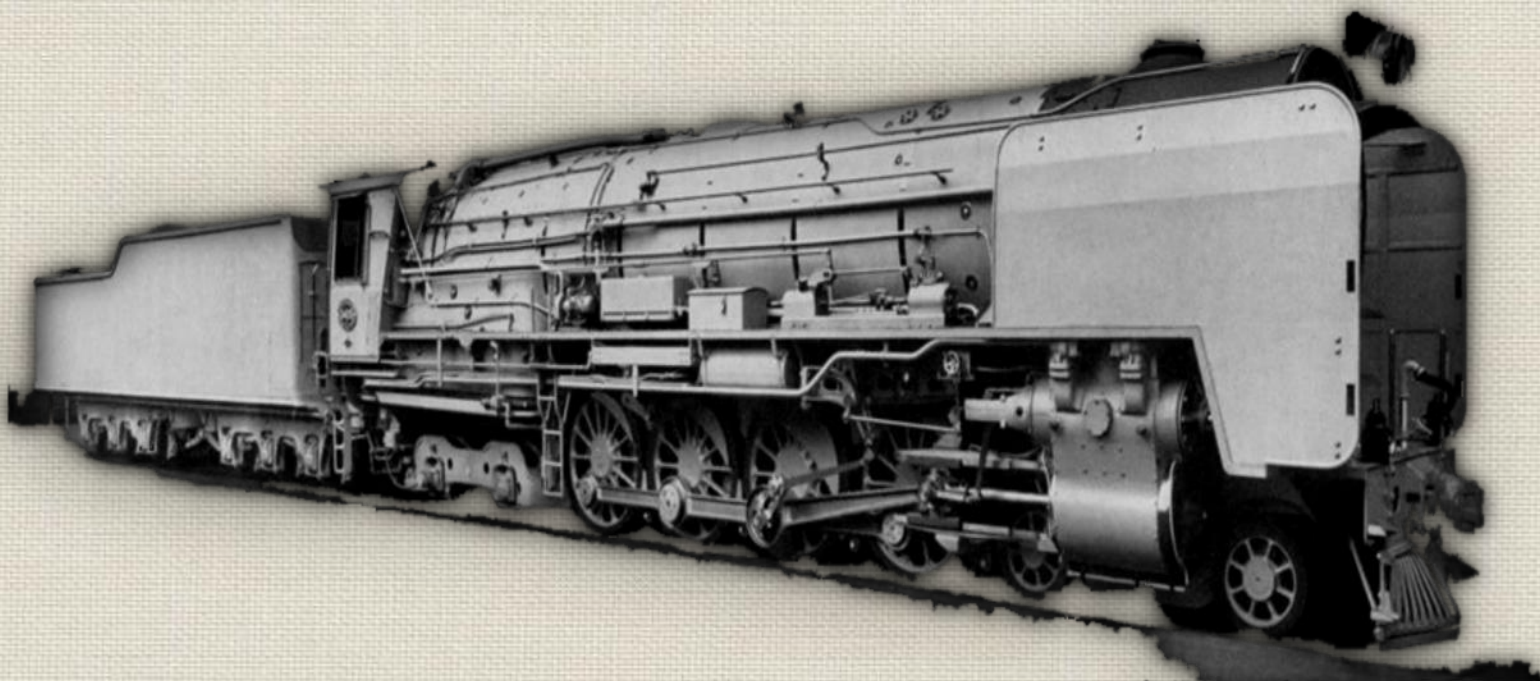


Sandstone Estates Steam Railway News 5 February 2016



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

- 1.) Steam Locomotive News
- 2.) Bagnall Diesel Locomotive Vacuum pipes
- 3.) TZ Cooler wagon Restoration
- 4.) 3'6" Dining Car restoration
- 5.) Little Bess 1 restoration
- 6.) Little Bess 2 restoration
- 7.) Otavi wagon Restoration
- 8.) Shed paint upgrading and cleaning of locomotives and vintage tractors.



Steam Locomotive News!

Class NG 15 Number 17

We were very fortunate this week as the Bloemfontein Steam Team came down to Sandstone Estates to assist with the preparations of all the boilers for Boiler Inspections due very soon.

This week Isak fitted all the gauge columns and test corks that were removed to be serviced.

Below left: Isak facing the cone joints of our NG15 number 17



He then fitted back the gauge columns and plumb them to be perfectly aligned.



He then fitted back the gauge glasses after he was sure that all of them were aligned.



Isak also fitted the pressure gauges that were removed to be calibrated and cleaned.



Steam Locomotive News!

Class NG 4

Our NG4 was recently washed out and Isak fitted all the washout plugs, serviced the gauge columns and Cleaned them.



Below: Facing the cone joints on the gauge columns before he could fit them back.



Below right: The cleaned NG4 gauge columns. Well done Isak!



Steam Locomotive News!

Lawley, Decauville

Below: Isak fitted the gauge columns of the Lawley and also fitted all the washout plugs that were removed for washout.



Below: All washout plugs are secured and marked with an X so that we know which were done.



2.)The Bagnall Diesel Locomotive

Our Bagnall Diesel Locomotive suffered from a defective vacuum train pipe and Thinus had to remove all the panels to remove the old vacuum pipe. He then assembled it again on the floor and is now making new 2" vacuum train pipes for the Bagnall. When he removed the panels he found a very serious defect on the driving shaft and it will be fixed soon



Below right: The driving shaft flange (red) has broken all bridges and was about to turn of completely.



Thinus will remove the shaft and fix it as soon as the vacuum pipe work is done.

TZ Cooler Wagon Restoration

The restoration of the TZ Cooler wagon in the Steam Shed is now complete and the wagon will now be shunted to The Woodwork Shed for their part of the restoration needed. After this the TZ wagon will come back for brake tests and will then be a part of our exquisite consists.



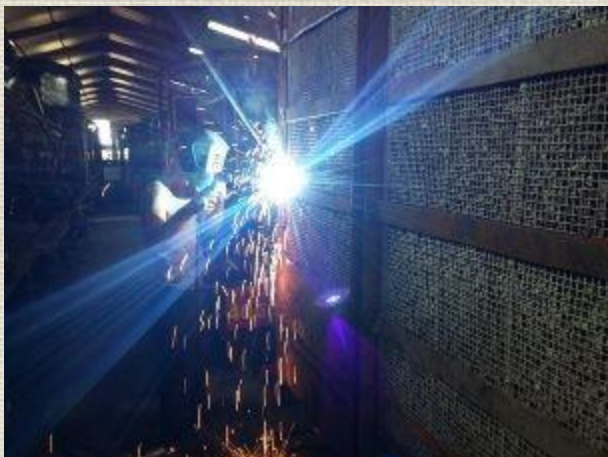
This week Petrus did the last Steel work needed on the TZ Cooler. We asked Thinus to help us with all the welding work needed on this wagon.

Petrus

then grinded the rough sides away. It is now ready to be painted silver again.



Below: A professional welder at work!



TZ Cooler Wagon Restoration

Thinus then fitted new dummies and vacuum pipes to the Cooler Wagon and the painting commenced.



3.) TZ Cooler Wagon Restoration



On Monday we will shunt this wagon to Ben who will attend to the woodwork.



4.) 3'6" Dining Car Restoration.

The restoration of the Dining car is going very well. This week Ben finished the door and prepared the glass for sandblasting. He fitted the small windows inside the wagon and made 2 new wooden frames to fit in the large window panes. He repaired the roof and painted the front side as well.



4.) 3'6" Dining Car Restoration.

Below right: Small windows are fitted back.



Below: Rotten pieces of the roof were removed and new ones fitted. He painted the front of the wagon.



This week Ben will spend some time to do the wood restoration on the wagon of the TZ Cooler and he will then continue with the Dining Car again.

4.) 3'6" Dining Car Restoration.

Below left: The wooden Door



Below: The door glass prepared to be sandblasted.



Below: New wooden frames for the larger windows of the Dining Car.



5.) Little Bess coach 1

This week Joseph went on with the restoration of the first Little Bess coach. Wouter finished the steel work on the Second Little Bess coach and it was shunted out to the Woodwork department so that Joseph can build this coach according to the first coach.



Ben assisted Joseph, training him on the finer details needed for a quality finish.



Below right: Ben, explaining how Joseph must box the corners for a professional look.



5.) Little Bess coach 1

Below: The wooden arm rests being fitted.
Wouter will join the woodwork team after he finished the steelwork needed on the Otavi wagon.



6.) Little Bess coach 2

Last week we shunted the second Little Bess coach to the Steam Shed for the steelwork needed on it. Wouter then removed all the corroded steel and fitted new square tubing. The wagon steel restoration was completed and it was shunted out.

Below: Wouter was cutting out the corroded steel piece by piece, replaced square tubing at the same time until he was able to remove the rest without removing the roof. Thus saving time.



6.) Little Bess coach 2



6.) Little Bess coach 2

Below: The final welding and steelwork completed.



Below: The second Little Bess coach arrived at the Woodwork Team



7.) Otavi Wagon Restoration

The Otavi wagon was shunted into the Steam Shed. The steel restoration on the wagon will take us another week or two and then we will shunt the wagon the Woodwork Shed. Wouter will then do the woodwork on this wagon.

Wouter will be making the second sliding door as well as the handbrake gear and handrails on the roof.



8.) Shed paint upgrades and Cleaning.

This week we cleaned and painted the Inspection pit as well as the front of the shed. We also painted a second coat of green paint on the right side of the Steam Shed.



Below: A clean and very neat Inspection Pit.



8.) Shed paint upgrades and Cleaning.



Below right: Cleaning of Steam Traction engines in the Vintage shed.



Below: Our Sentinel Steam Lorry.



8.) Shed paint upgrades and Cleaning.

Below: The inside of the Sentinel Steam lorry.



8.) Shed paint upgrades and Cleaning.

Our garden team joins us every time we have bad weather; this helps us to keep all the vehicles neat and clean.



OUTLOOK FOR NEXT WEEK!



- 1.) Prepare Boilers for Boiler Inspection.
- 2.) Calibrate all pressure gauges
- 3.) Calibrate all vacuum gauges
- 4.) Washout NGG 16 number 153
- 5.) Complete the new steel vacuum pipe for Bagnall
- 6.) TZ Cooler Wagon Restoration (wood side)
- 7.) Otavi Wagon Restoration
- 8.) 3'6" Dining Car Restoration.
- 9.) Little Bess coach 1 restoration.
- 10.) To collect wagons in Port Elizabeth (Petrus)
- 11.) Class 6 C cosmetic upgrade.

Steam Greetings The Steam Team!



A huge Privilege and honor to work for the Sandstone Steam Railway.
This
Is our pride and joy!