



## Bluebell Railway Goods Division

### Rapid repair and repaint of SR 8-plank open wagon No. 37786 *February 2023*

The wagon entered the main carriage works during the Goods Division's working week, on 13 February 2023.



Jack Gregory – 13 February 2023

With a very tight deadline that it should be out of the shed again the following Monday, there was no intention at that stage to do more than give it a repaint. The wagon was, along with many of our other wagons, required for some forthcoming filming work, so the deadline was very real.

However, on closer examination one body plank and two door planks, on the side seen above, were partly rotten, and since some of the planks removed from 62002 were re-usable, the decision was taken to swap out just those three planks.



On the Tuesday the replacement planks were prepared and primed, and flaking paint on the body also removed and primed.

Jack Gregory –  
14 February 2023

By the Wednesday all the steelwork had been brushed to remove flaking paint, and primed, and similarly flaking paint removed from the timbers and primed.

As can be seen here, some areas had also received undercoat.

The three replacement planks are yet to be fitted.



Matt Lander – 15 February 2023

As seen below, the following day topcoat had been applied to part of the wagon. There was no time to fully re-letter the vehicle in the post-1936 style which it should carry, and in fact, because the film company were expecting to see it in this lettering style, we couldn't have changed it even if there had been time.



Laurie Anderson – 16 February 2023

Note also that the replacement planks are now in place, as Matt topcoats around the lettering, trying to preserve as much of the outline as possible.

By the Friday evening, the majority of the wagon was in topcoat.



Matt Lander – 17 February 2023

Because of shortage of time, whilst the planks and solebars had been properly prepared and patch-primed, it hadn't been possible to do much in the way of an undercoat.

The floor will need replacing at some point soon, so this is only a short-term fix to keep the vehicle looking respectable for a few years pending a more major overhaul.



Matt Lander – 18 February 2023

By the close of play on the Saturday most of the top-coat had been completed, and the repainting of the lettering nearly finished.

As required for the expected Monday Shunt (which in fact didn't take place until Tuesday) the repaint was completed on the Sunday.

During the same week the team also completed a lot of work on the SR Bulleid wagon 12058, and partially repainted the end of the SR Pillbox brake van outside the shed, which is also required for the forthcoming filming work.



Laurie Anderson – 19 February 2023



Matt Lander – 19 February 2023



Richard Salmon – 22 February 2023

37786 is seen under stormy skies on the following Wednesday, in the company of 12058 (which still requires a tiny amount of work to complete it, largely the Tare weight lettering) having been shunted out of the shed the previous day.