

Now the winter months are approaching it becomes harder for us to do the things outside. Derek and myself have recently been concentrating on working on either inside our wagon, or inside the lean-to, the extensions to the lean-to have helped us to do more inside work. Derek's old shed has been rebuilt and added to the rear of the workshop area and access is within the workshop. Over the last few months we have moved the old post office electric trolley wagon from the rear of the lean-to to a position near to our railway wagon and have cut away most of the awkward parts of the underframe which caused problems when trying to move it. A new wooden underframe is to be built as and when it can be done so that we can refit some wheels some time later, the iron frame has had a coat of primer ready for a top coat later, we hope later on to be able to use it and display it as it was, a post office electric letter and parcel vehicle, some of the old equipment such as lights, charging socket, dial, and number plates still survive and will be added later, the sliding doors need some attention and it is hoped that we can use part of the vehicle to house our generator.

We have recently erected a new set of steps up to our wagon, these will lead directly into our kitchen area. Repairs to the roof of the wagon have been done and the kitchen area has been repainted, there has also been some repairs to one of the doors and outside panels of the wagon. I have also been sorting out the electric wiring to the lean-to and wagon so now we can plug in and plug out the wagon for when it's moved.

TRAM 48

Some work has been done on No 48 generally tidying up inside, removing some of the damaged parts of the ply ceiling panels, most of which will need replacing. A small glass window at one end on the bulkhead section of the tram revealed a glass mirror. After removing paint the mirror showed a clear circle which is thought to let the inside light shine through. The beveled edge mirror itself is in a poor condition and would need to be resilvered. Outside I have been working on removing the nails that had been used to fix the chicken wire which was covered in concrete when it was in use as a holiday home at Camber, Sussex. There is so much to be done but slowly we seem to be making progress.

OTHER NEWS

Cliff Millett told us of his experience as a tram driver in Blackpool, he had paid for a driving course and was delighted to be able to drive along the seafront there, his female instructor gave him good marks for his driving, well done Clifford. Pity we have nothing for him to drive at our end, but who knows! Tunbridge Wells are thinking trams.

EVENTS

During October Derek took over running the stall at the family history event at the Horntye centre Hastings as I was on holiday, we didn't make a lot but every little helps. He saw to all the displays and we had our usual 'pick a ticket'.

Next meeting - The RAFA Club, Hastings - Tuesday 25th November 2009 at 8pm.