

Letter from the Romney Hut

21st June 2011

Hello Everybody,

I do apologise for the long period between letters in recent months, this has been due to me and others, Horace and Uncle Ebenezer being away from Bo'ness for a while with Stress. Stress I must hasten to add is Horace's Girl friend and she is an Olympic Athlete no less. She has a personal best at eating 1lb of cheese 4min 5sec, three seconds outside her Commonwealth record and only 1 sec from the World Championship. Her aim of course is to claim Olympic Gold, with the 4min pound. Hence we had to visit London for two reasons, one secure accommodation for the Olympics next year, accommodation is quickly taken up by Ordinary Railway Rodents (ORRs) and others and of course to attend the wedding last April. No we were not invited personally, but the lack of an invitation has never stopped us before, I am sure that Prince William and Kate would have been disappointed if we had not turned up. We found very good accommodation in the Palace Mews, so we just stayed for the trooping of the colour. In our Palace accommodation there was a central heating Boiler, of a type and pattern very similar to that in the running shed bothy. This of course reminded me of a contretemps between **Alisdhair** and **Twinkle Toes**. Read on Mc Duff.

Heating Lumps of Cast Iron

In the Running Shed Bothy at Bo'ness there is also a Palace Boiler and when it is on we heat our freezing feet on it, you can well imagine our disdain when we heard no less a person than big **Alisdhair**, our resident Nautical Highlander, say "That biler should be thrown in the skip." "It creates more dirt than heat". We had to find a supporter to keep the Biler, Lo and behold **Twinkle Toes**, wiz to say the least, a bit pit oot, in fact he was livid that someone should even think about removing the heat transfer equipment. Furthermore, **Twinkle Toes** was incandescent that the matter of the Biler's removal was even being discussed and reminded all those within the Burgh Boundary of Bo'ness, helped by the timpani effect of the corrugated iron of the Romney Hut, that this boiler did valiant work at Falkirk, where it performed faultlessly and spotlessly. I do Quote **Twinkle Toes** "You could huv eaten your dinner off the flair in front O' it." It is always so rewarding to have some like **Mr Toes** representing one. It may be news to our erstwhile Chairman of "Keep the Palace Boiler" team, but we have always eaten off the floor. In Buckingham Palace the Boiler was attended regularly by liveried footmen. Maybe if we can persuade someone to volunteer for that role in the running shed, **Alisdhair** would not be so against the keeping of the boiler.

Doubting Jims

This band saw is not working declares the Vice Chairman, The band saw is working says someone else, No it is not, O yes it is. Nothing short of a demonstration, together with a detailed technical teach in would satisfy the doubter that the Band saw was indeed in full working order. O ye of little faith.

Holeless Balance Pipe

There is a hole in the balance pipe of No 1. It took a little time to understand if this was a statement of fact, or an alarm that there was hole where there should not be one. If balance pipes don't have a hole right up the middle they tend not to work. The hole that should not have been there, was found after Horace was caught having a shower in the fine spray emitting from the balance pipe. The Romney Hut Technocrats swung into action and remedied in part the water spray with high Tech JUMBELBEE clips. No more showers for Horace.

Rumblings

We, Uncle Ebenezer and I, have been tasked with carrying out a seeckurity check for Terrorists in our national transport system. This duty has taken us far and wide across the nation and Europe, checking all the usual and unusual places to seek out any nefarious activity. You can imagine our dismay when Horace, who was keeping the home fires burning as well as eating all that he could find, sent us this photograph. The Taliban in Bo'ness. Identity unknown.



Look ye under every tool box and in every Smoke Box.

Wet Wet Wet

Many congratulations are due to John Evans, our Chairman and his very able assisting plumber, for achieving the difficult task of making the shower in the Romney Hut Bothy to work. Many thanks

Bye for now,

Shaper Mouse