

A brief history of MR21282

Date of despatch from Motor Rail works (Bedford) 4/9/1960

Class 20/28hp Engine Dorman 2DWD, no 68193

Gauge 2' 0" Weight 2½tons

Customer Diesel Loco Hirers Ltd (Motor Rail associated company)

No information on hire customers. Returned to Motor Rail, date n/k

Ex hire fleet 3½ton loco 28/4/1965 to Eastwoods (this is an earlier name for Kempston Hardwick Brickworks operator, Eastwoods Flettons Ltd became part of Rugby Portland Cement in 1962, then Redland (Flettons) Ltd until 1971, then London Brick Co Ltd)

From London Brick Co, Kempston Hardwick, Beds, to Alan Keef (Bampton, Oxon), 2/1973.

Hired to Elmet Industrial (Tractors) Ltd, South Milford, N.Yorks., 2/1974 (used on contract for Yorks Water Authority at Booth Ferry Bridge, Asselby).

Hired to Haunchwood Lewis, Cheslyn Hay Works, c6/1974.

Returned to Alan Keef (Cote, Ox) by 4/1975.

Hired to Butlin's Ayr, c5/1975 to 31/5/1975.

Sold to Meirion Mill Railway, Gwynedd, 6/1975.

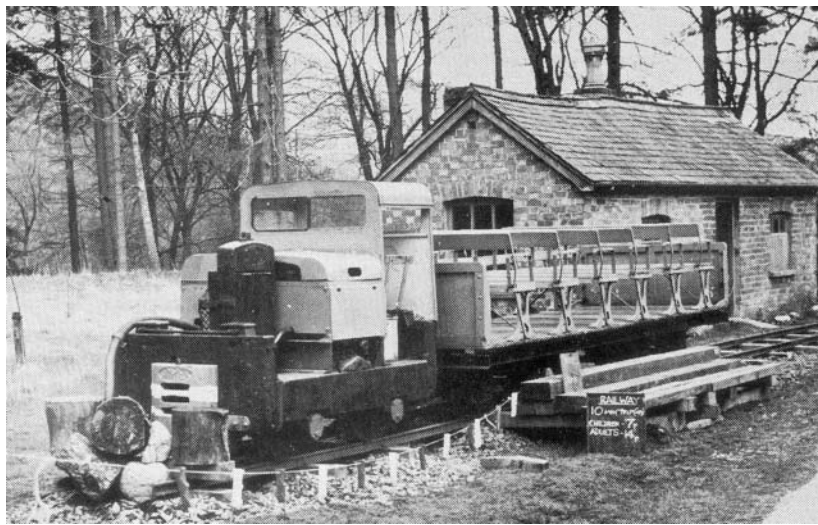


Photo:- MR21282 at Meirion Mill, on 11/4/1977

In 1977 the loco looks to be a standard 20/28hp model. At sometime between 1977 and sale to Lea Bailey Mine in 1993, the loco had a Deutz 3 cylinder air-cooled diesel engine fitted in place of the water-cooled Dorman 2 cylinder diesel fitted when built. A home-made wooden cab was apparently fitted after its sale to Lea Bailey Mine, removed 2012.

Railway closed, recently overhauled loco for sale £750, 7/1977

To Cumberland Moss Litter Industries Ltd, Anthorn, nr Kirkbride, Cumbria, 10/1977

Cumberland Moss Litter Industries Ltd taken over by Fisons Ltd, by 6/1980

From Fisons, Kirkbride, to Alan Keef, 26/7/1989

Hired to Taylor Woodrow, Woodhead Cable Tunnel, 23/7/1990

Returned to Alan Keef, Lea, 20/8/1991

Used on track lifting at Hewitts Farm, 9/1991

Hired to Taylor Woodrow, Isle of Grain, by 12/1991

On hire at Rochdale Canal, by 1/6/1992

Returned to Alan Keef, Lea, by 28/9/1992

Sold to Lea Bailey Mine, Newtown, Glos 9/1993

Moved from Lea Bailey to Clearwell Caves, c1996.

Moved from Clearwell back to Lea Bailey c1997

Moved from Lea Bailey back to Clearwell c2003

Moved from Clearwell to Lea Bailey 20/9/2012 where it currently resides

Sources of information:-

A Tale of Many Railways, an autobiography and history of Alan Keef Ltd, pub by Lightmoor Press 2008.

Various Industrial Railway Society handbooks

Photograph and associated news item on Meirion Mill from the long-defunct magazine Narrow Gauge Times