

31 Towners Rd.,
Hillside. Sub.
22nd Dec. 1954

Dear Wal,

Twelve months ago tonight I pulled into York So. What a drive. My leading hand at work "Paddy" was driving through to Elmore today, not a bad jump.

I thank you for your cards, the photo of the T 94 was very good, they looked real pretty with the tall stack instead of that damn stovepipe they finished their days with.

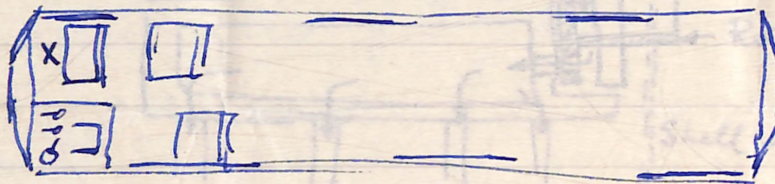
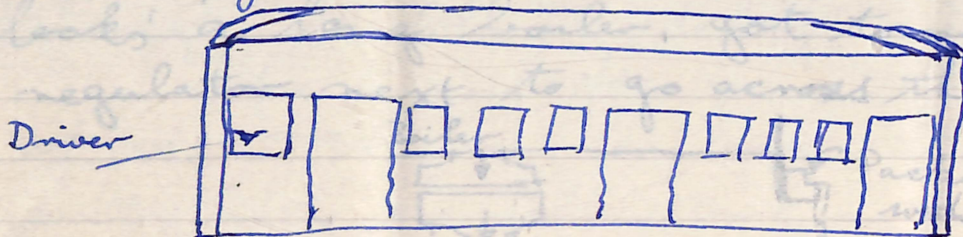
I thank also for the VRN letters (3) which are in good hands. If they are ~~is~~ going to be hard to get would you like me to get them posted direct. I'll go through your letter again later.

I bought you album today, first time I've been in town for over two months. It is a light royal blue cover, with light blue sheets, there are no filler strips available, I got 100 sheets, docket enclosed.

A gear-box apparently seized on #251 RM at Orvingham about 14 days ago so they switched it off and took the tail shaft off and ran 250, 251 on 3 motors to E Morgan until two more boxes failed and it caught fire, ^(smolder) in the "tropol" insulation alongside one engine muffler. The joke is

We discover on dismantling the box we could find nothing wrong with it! I bet the engine laughed to itself every time it left Adelaide.

Reported that 300 class suburban RM will be out by end of March with 12 by (which) Xmas.



When sitting in seat ~~at~~ X one can't see the track ahead only signal poles. window sill too high.

I think these cars will earn a nick name of "Stinkers", the chap who designed them is Murdock. (An English radio comedian is "Stinker" Murdock) Working through this Xmas except holidays.

Gala day at M.E. was huge success, a 3½g. 0-4-0T opened the day then followed by beautiful 3½g. Pacific of LNER type. on one trip started load of ~~10~~ 10 fair size men.

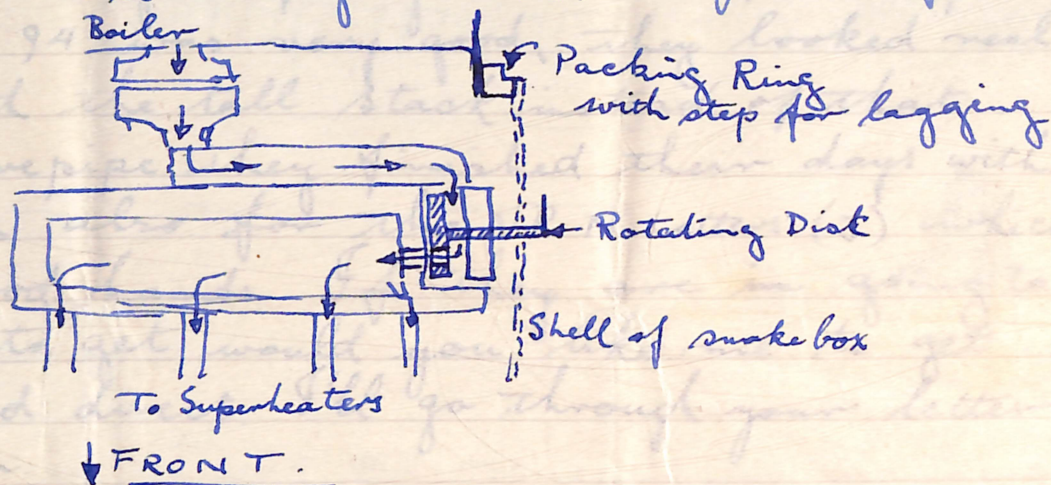
During film show later, of 1952 Exhibition I saw

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you when taken outside on the Sunday 8th morning when cleaning up.

Last Saturday on a private run a small 2½" g 2-8-0 GWR Kero fired went around in 56 sec to mile (scale speed 140 MPH). Last weekend I made part of Maisie's smoke box, hell, shee looks a long boiler, got to make the regulator next to go across the front of boiler

PLAN



I think it best to hold your parcel till after the New Year until traffic quieters off slightly.

I have a copy of new VR time table (3 rousing cheers) but I'll write as soon as its away from here.

I will try and sort some films out for you by then.

Time for bed.

Yours locomotively

Merry Xmas

Happy New Year

Dont get drunk

Owen.

also from Mother