

## **SR 12 Ton VENTILATED VAN 042466 (S49208)**

The working history of this vehicle is somewhat vague. It was ordered by the Southern Railway, on 3<sup>rd</sup> April 1936, in Lot No. 916 to design diagram 1458. The batch of 450 vehicles was constructed at Ashford Carriage & Wagon Works, between February 1937 and January 1938, being allocated numbers 48777 to 49226.

49208 was built with a standardised 4 wheel underframe having a 10 ft wheelbase and two 15 ins vacuum brake cylinders acting on four brake blocks. A hand brake lever on either side applied brakes when stabled in sidings. It weighed 7 tons 14 cwt when empty and carried up to 12 Tons of goods. It was initially allocated number 49208 but, subsequently, was re-numbered as S 49208.

It is understood that up 67 vans, to diagram 1458, were sold to the War Department for various uses during the Second World War both at home and overseas. However, there is no record that 49208 was one of them.

49208 was believed to be the last surviving Southern Railway 12 Ton Ventilated Van remaining on BR metals. It's last duties were in Internal User service, based at York Leeman Road Depot on Eastern Region, being allocated number IU 042466.

It was spotted there on numerous occasions from 1988 until April 2003 by which time it's condition had sadly deteriorated. The site was closed later in 2003 with First Trans Pennine Express opening a new depot on the site in 2004.

042466 was purchased for the Swanage Railway but, unfortunately, it is somewhat down the overhaul queue and is currently still awaiting restoration.

On Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2022, shunter 08436 was scheduled to be despatched from Corfe Castle Diesel depot siding to collect 042466 and shunt it to Arne Road Road/Rail Interchange sidings.

Information compiled by Peter Sykes in 2021 and updated on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2022

Updated by Pete Short 19<sup>th</sup> March 2022