

Milk Tank Photograph References

“Great Western Coaches Appendix Vol. 2” by J.H.Russell

GWR O.39	No.2591	1937 p.236	Platforms
GWR O.42	No.2596	1937 p.237	
GWR O.53	No.1957	1944 p.239	Partial platforms
GWR O.54	No.1970	1946 p.240	Planked walkways and cooling cover
GWR O.55	No.1985	1946 p.241	Planked walkways
GWR O.58	No.3028	1948 p.242	Twin tank and planked walkways

“Great Western Wagons Appendix - A Further Selection” by J.H.Russell

GWR O.23	No.2003	1927 p.74	4 wheel vehicle
GWR O.35	No.2021	1931 p.75	Cooling cover
GWR O.36	No.2073	1952 p.76	Meshed walkways
GWR O.38	No.2507	1952 p.76	
GWR O.39	No.2516	1952 p.77	Platforms
GWR O.44	No.2002	1952 p.77	
GWR O.52	No.1959	1952 p.78	
GWR O.53	No.1957	1952 p.78	Partial platforms
GWR O.55	No.1991	1952 p.79	Planked walkways
GWR O.57	No.3033	1952 p.79	End platforms
GWR O.35	No.2022	1931 p.80	Sideboards and cooling covers
GWR O.38	No.2543	1935 p.81	
GWR O.41	No.1552	1935 p.81	Twin tank
GWR O.42	No.2563	1935 p.82	
GWR O.52	No.1963	1944 p.86	
GWR O.58	No.3027	1947 p.88	Twin tank and planked walkways
GWR O.56	No.3057	1948 p.89	

“On the Milk” British Railways Illustrated Annual No.4

GWR O.23	No.2010	1927 p.63	4 wheeled with sideboards
GWR O.23	No.2008/9&11	1927 p.64	4 wheeled with sideboards
GWR O.23	No.2007	1927 p.65	4 wheeled with sideboards
LMS ?	No.638	1928 p.65	4 wheeled. Diagram not known
SR 3152?	No.4407	1932ish p.66	4 wheeled. Not certain on diagram number
SR 3159	No.4419	1937ish p.66	

“LMS Coaches - An Illustrated History” by D.Jenkinson and R.J.Essery

LMS ?	No.638	1920s p.214	4 wheeled. Diagram not known
LMD D.1994	No.44179	1932 p.214	Cooling cover

“BR General Parcels Rolling Stock – A Pictorial Survey” by David Larkin

GWR O.41	No.2557	1970 p.50	Twin tank
GWR O.50	No.2932	1970 p.50	Twin tank
LMS D.1994	No.44233	1970 p.51	Planked walkways
GWR O.56*	No.1970	1970 p51	

* 1970 was originally built as an Express Dairies GWR O.54 but the milk tank shown is a CWS diagram O.56.

LMS D.2173	No.44520	1970 p.52	End platforms
GWR O.58	No.3120	1970 p.53	Twin tank with no walkways
LMS D.2173	No.44546	1970 p.53	End platforms
LMS D.1994	No.44195	1970 p.54	Meshed walkways
LMS D.1994	No.44181	1971 p.54	Meshed Walkways
SR 3157	No.4465	1970 p.55	Platforms
SR 3161	No.4435	1970 p.55	Meshed walkways
LNER 323	No.70568	1970 p.56	Meshed walkways
LNER 184	No.70531	1969 p.56	
GWR O.61	No.3198	1970 p.57	Partial platforms
GWR O.64	No.3171	1970 p.57	No walkways
GWR O.64	No.3167	1970 p.58	Meshed walkways

Beware there are numerous small errors in the captions in this book.

There are a large number of photographs of milk tanks on Paul Bartlett’s wonderful website. A quick search for Paul Bartlett and milk tank will bring up the relevant pages. Note that all the diagrams listed on there are almost all for the first diagram issued for that particular number rather than what the vehicle actually pictured is. Thus W2007 is listed as an O.23 which it was when built rather than the correct O.44 pictured. DW (ex. M) 44066 is listed as a D.1994 which it was when built but it is pictured as a D.2173 vehicle. Also note that underframes and tanks got swapped around and fittings changed towards the end of their lives. The two pictures of LNER built vehicles (both the milk tank and underframe) have replacement GWR type axleboxes and springs/hangers as well as GWR tie bars. There is also a small error or two. S4430 is listed as Express Dairies when in fact it was Unigate (ex. United Dairies).

There are a number of preserved vehicles but as with all examples that lasted in service until the 1970s some things may have been changed. For example the GWR 0.39 at Quainton has acquired tank supports for a sloping tank from a GWR O.57 or O.60. Also beware the mistakes of preservationists. The Express Dairies livery carried by S4409 at Didcot is incorrect. S4409 was a United Dairies vehicle. Perhaps one day they’ll repaint it into more appropriate colours.

Justin Newitt