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CRANKING

44 Years of Publication

December 2024

The Wessex Stationary Engine Club's Monthly Newsletter

FROM THE SUMP

As another year passes us by where many of us have been able to rally our engines and displays at various events up and down the country. It seems an age ago that we were enjoying our engines in the warm summer sunshine well into the evenings out on those fields – bit of a contrast to today's weather as we endure storm Darragh and the high winds. Hopefully your sheds will not have suffered any collateral damage during this storm. Perhaps you may have even put your vintage generating sets to good use as many of us are suffering from long power cuts today, with projected fix times in excess of 48 hours in some cases.

I'd like to wish those members of WSEC who have been suffering a little of late, I shan't name any names but you know who you are and we look forward to seeing you back out and about very soon.

A somewhat compact issue this month, not a lot to write about, nothing has been sent in and the printers are on holiday until early January so a home printed issue it is. Hopefully January's issue will be a bit fuller.

Thank you to those who have submitted articles for the newsletter over the course of the year. *David*

CLUB MEMBERSHIP 2025

Please be reminded that your Club membership (and insurance cover) will have expired at the end of December, it's really easy to renew online https://wessexsec.org/
Thank you to those who have already renewed. Any problems please get in touch using the details provided on the membership page.
Membership cards with insurance details will be posted out as soon as they have been printed. *Ted*

CHAIRMANS REPORT

Well here we are heading towards the new year, but we still have one more Club event for you all before the years end and that is the Crank-Up at Whaddon Lane Farm, Hilperton nr Trowbridge. Gordons event is in the barn so do come along and spend an enjoyable few hours running your favourite engine and having a chin-wag with other club members - I hope to see many of you on the 29th December.

Now a few days ago the Nissan went on a long trip down into darkest Devon, near to Hartland Point. I have wanted a small barrel type butter churn for some time, but this one is a table top churn, then why did I buy it?

Because it is very old around, 1840 and it has all the tools to go with it even butter cutters, now you don't find the tools with all the other bits, they are like new.
So l am still looking for a small barrel type churn. This week I have spent a great deal of time writing letters to perspective exhibitors for our rally in June, the club started supporting the Children's Hospice some twenty years ago, so this year we are trying to make the rally something very special, I am sure that members will want to help us in our efforts to raise a substantial sum to help the life limited children of the Hospice.

The committee of the event is looking for exhibits from all factions of the Vintage movement, if you know anyone with any type of exhibit that may enhance our event in any way, do please give me a call, I will do the rest.
Now that there is no Stationary Engine Magazine as we all once knew it, just a few pages in Old Glory, no sales, no parts-mart - Where are we going to advertise that engine that we want to sell or try to obtain that spare part, why not advertise in the Club newsletter, as we don't all have the internet and I know David will welcome your adverts or for that matter any other input or articles that you would like to write.

Please do not forget our club meal the Old Down Inn, at the end of January we need to know the numbers of club members and friends that would like to attend so do please give me a ring so that I can compile a list for Maxine and the staff at the Inn.

I have just received my wall calendar from Vintage Spirit Magazine (a far better mag than Old Glory) so it is time to start planning the events that I hope to attend in 2025
And no doubt many of you will be doing the same, if you know of any events that may be of interest to other club members no matter how large or small please let us all know via the newsletter.
That's it for 2024, may I wish you all a Very Happy and above all a peaceful New Year.
Eric Gay, WSEC Chairman

CLUB SOCIAL EVENTS

There are still some places left at the club meal. Would anyone who hasn't given me their preferences please do so by the end of the month. *Ted*

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For Sale:- Belt driven barley roller. Contact Ted secretary@wessexsec.org or 07751 918283

The views expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily represent those of the committee or its members. Although the greatest care is taken in compiling this newsletter, the editor takes no responsibility for any errors or omissions
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