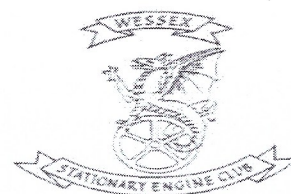




CRANKING



Issue 2/18

Feb-18

The Wessex Stationary Engine Club's Monthly Newsletter

Editors Note

This is my last editorial for the Club. So just a big thank you for sending in all your reports in the last two years, for your patience if I got things wrong and for your understanding when I had to miss a few.

I hope that you will support your new Editor as you have done me and keep the news flowing.

We have two of the children getting married this year and hopefully the long awaited hubbys gallstone operation, but hopefully we will still get to some of the Rally's this year and see you there. I wish all our members a happy and warm rally season.

Karen Gumm

Obituary - David Harris

I had a sad telephone call today to tell me that David Harris has passed away.

Club members with Lister Machinery will most certainly have in the past been in contact with David as he had access to all dating records and was a tremendous help for those requiring information. I had only met David once around 30 years ago and of all places it was on a cross channel ferry. I believe he had been working overseas for R A Lister. He very kindly sent me a copy of Lister's 'The first Hundred Years'. David was a regular contributor to the S E magazine and will be very much missed by all who benefited from his vast knowledge of R A Lister products, our condolences go out to his wife Mary.

Robin Lambert

Club Events 2018

26th Feb	CN - Annual General Meeting
17th March	Cranmore Vintage Sale - East Somerset Railway, Somerset BA4 4QP.
18th March	Whaddon Lane Crank Up - Nr Trowbridge 01225 755448/344710
26th March	CN - Giant of the Air (the Brabazon) by Mr Chris Bigg
15th April	Crank Up and Vintage Day - White Horse Country Park BA13 4LX
30th April	CN - The ships of the Vikings by Mr Tim Bowly
May 13th	Wedmore Crank up - Sweets Peat and Science Museum, Nr Wedmore
May 21st	CN - Out of the earth, Bath's mineral wealth, stone, clay & coal by Mr S Burroughs
June 16/17th	Wessex Vintage Show - Semington Nr Trowbridge. Details 01225 754374

Market Lavington Vintage Meet 14th & 15th July 2018

Market Lavington Parish Council are resurrecting their Vintage meet, helped along by some of our committee members. They would welcome exhibitors of the smaller nature, stationary engine, miniature steam, classic cars, vans and motorcycles etc. There will be provision to camp overnight and evening entertainment provided.

Please contact :- 01380 812450 Evenings Only for more details or download a form on

www.marketlavington.org.uk/Links.html

Chairman's Report February 2018

I start this report with two thank you's, as you are aware this is the last newsletter that will be compiled and edited by Karen. Over the last two years Karen has done a wonderful job in producing our newsletter and we all owe her a great BIG THANK YOU for all the hard work and dedication that she has had to put in to making sure that we all had our newsletter ever month. Now from myself... Thank you Karen for all your time and help over the last years. A thank you is never enough when one has done so much for the Club as yourself.

The next thank you goes to our youngest member Tommy Gear, it was great to read the report on the Christmas party. It was nice to know that you had an enjoyable time. The bonus was that you also enjoyed the food, let me know next year if there is anything you would especially like and I will have a talk with Maxine. Now if you would like to write some more reports for our newsletter we would be very pleased, so thank you once again Tommy.

Now my appeal in the newsletter did not bring forth any offers to take on the job of newsletter editor. However I am pleased to tell you that the Wessex Stationary Engine Club Ltd has a new editor for the newsletter through the efforts of Linda Pike, a good friend of Linda joined the committee of the Wessex Midsummer Vintage Show and this dear lady has agreed to take on this role. As from March 2018 our newsletter editor will be Sacha Pride, 10 Radstock Road, Midsomer Norton, BATH, BA3 2AJ, 01761 415517. Now please give her your support we need your input, your Social news, reports on events, news of any events, write ups on your latest restoration project, sales and wanted adverts. Please help us so we can have an informative and interesting newsletter.

Now on Monday 29th the Club had a talk by Paul Barnett (not Peter Lamb my mistake). Paul came to give us a talk on what really happened at Rorke's Drift. Now I am sure you will all have seen the film Zulu with Stanley Baker, well the true story is a great deal different from the film. One thing is that Henry Hook V C was never a drunk, barrack room lawyer or womaniser as portrayed in the film. In fact he was so highly thought of by the military that when many years later Henry passed away he was given a full military funeral, carried on a gun carriage at slow march for the eight miles to his final resting place, with many hundreds of people attending the service. In the film the colour sergeant is portrayed by a very smart officer in his, I should say, late forties, in real life the colour sergeant was the youngest soldier ever in the English army to hold this rank at the age of 21. Paul's talk and film presentation was the finest evenings entertainment I think we have ever had at the Old Down Inn, it was truly captivating and would you believe we had two Club members that had distant relations at the Battle of Rorke's Drift. I am so pleased to say that the room at the Old Down Inn was full with club members and visitors, so please come along to our other talks and presentations throughout the year at the Inn and to those members we do not see at the evening meetings why not come and join us we would like to see you.

Now I know that most of you will have been out in the workshop finding all those goodies you no longer want so you can sell them at Cranmore on Saturday the 17th March. Please note the new start time sellers @ 9am buyers @ 10am, and I hope you all make lots of money.

Time is rushing by and our first engine event is March the 18th at Whaddon Lane Farm, Hilperton near Trowbridge, This event is under cover so if the weather is bad, yes you can run your engines inside. For full details ring Gordon 01225 755448 or Pete on 01225 344710.

Then look out for our show with the West Wilts Society of Model Engineers at the White Horse Country Park Coach Road, Westbury, Wiltshire on the A350 Trowbridge to Westbury Road. All types of vintage exhibits welcome, we have a number of entries for this event, even commercials coming from Bristol. If you want any help or information please ring 01225 754374.

I hope you are all coming along on the 26th February as remember this is the Annual General Meeting, a chance to have your say into how you want the club to proceed and what you would like your committee to do in the way of events or entertainment.

by Eric Gay

Into the New Year

So here we are then into a New Year, many of you will be thinking what lies ahead and the events you would like to attend, no doubt your garages and workshops will have been busy over the winter months producing new exhibits and fine tuning old ones to look all smart for presenting to the Show's visiting public. For us over the past years our Hot Air Engine Display will have to do again as we have reduced our collection to a trailer mounted Exhibit, making things a bit easier to move around. Although it may seem a bit 'sammie', we can interchange a lot of bits and pieces the Engines drive.

The 2018 Exhibitors forms have been dropping through the door thick and fast and we have returned thirteen with ten to go so all being well we would like to think we could do it all again this year. Of course the weather will play a big part as to how things go but we have no control over that and thinking back to last year West Bay had to cancel their two day event and the Selwood event was washed out on their third day as was Stithians. Such bad luck but these things happen.

This may well be my last contribution to our Club's newsletter as we all know Karen is giving up the Editorship and I must say (not wanting to embarrass her) , what an excellent job she has done, often under difficult circumstances, so thank you Karen for doing what can be a time consuming job while having a full time job yourself, (I should know I did it myself for seven years), and with the added worry if nothing drops through the letterbox how do you fill four blank pages ! Plus all those years ago there was no such thing as e-mails !!

Robin Lambert

SALES AND WANTED

Fuel Tanks and Crank Guards Made
Tel :- John Hedges 01635 268359 or
Mobile :- 07831 410473

Villers WX 11 1. 1/2HP - not on a trolley
2 Wolseley air cooled engines on trollies with
spare engine for each as spares.
Ruston Hornsby PB 1. 1/2 HP on trolley
Carburettors for Ruston's and Wolseleys
2 Stuart water pumps
1 Lister domestic water pump
Wolseley & Ruston bell pulleys
Phone Steve Morris on 0117 9504 167 for Prices

Spark Plugs

www.sparkplugs.co.uk

Tel :- 01244 679903

Starting Handles

Lister 2" Bore Part No :- 9/5124 £ 15.00

Lister 2" Bore Part No :- 9-5-24 No Pawl £ 10.00

Lister 2.1/4" Bore Part No :- 23-3452 £ 15.00

Petter 1.7/8" bore, stamped G:R £ 12.00

As a lot £ 40.00 , Buyer Collects

Phone Tom Randall 01761 418926

Midsomer Norton -

For Sale :- 3hp Petter 'A' driving turntable all on Trolley £ 65.00 Phone Percy on 01373 812461

WANTED :- Stuart Turner R3 Head Please phone Rob Champion on :-01275 892944

Last Date for Submission in the March Newsletter Sunday 17th March 2018

E

Mail :- wessexsec1@gmail.com Tel :- 01761 415517

Mells Daffodil Day, Easter Monday 2nd April 2018
Amendment

Correction to last months issue - entry forms **HAVE** been sent out to previous exhibitors
New exhibitors to contact Herb Gane on 01749 674402 .

The Technical Bit

Now over the years of playing about with old engines I have been asked many times 'where can I get a none return valve ?'

My answer has always been the same, why not make one it's not rocket science. If it is to be fitted in a copper fuel line 1/4" , 5/16" or 3/8" just go to your local plumbing merchant and buy a straight coupler, remove one of the nuts and olive's and with a small countersinking drill bit, countersink the inside land of the straight coupler just a small amount. Once this is done one has to find a ball bearing that will drop inside and lay in the counter sunk hole. Next move is to find a bit of brass rod or something similar to use as a punch. Now give the ball a sharp tap with your hammer and brass punch. Fit the none return valve in the vertical plane with the ball uppermost and that's the job done, it has always worked for me.

Many of us have found engines and restored them, reassembled and then found the compression is not what it should be, so it is a case of opening the wallet and paying out for a set of rings and this can be quite costly in fact it can be a total rip off. Now why not put the springs back into the rings, rings get very tired over the years, you would if you were flying up and down a bore for fifty years or more as some of our engines have done. How to do this is quite simple. First get hold of a couple of fire bricks, bricks from electric storage heaters are just the job. Next cut a V shaped wedge from a piece of steel, insert this into the ring gap and open it up about 3/16", lay the ring flat in the fire bricks and heat until dull red all over. You may need two gas torches if you are working on large rings as the plan is to heat the ring evenly all over, once this is done allow the ring to cool slowly, **DO NOT QUENCH THE RINGS** let them cool down slowly. Refit the rings to the piston and refit into the cylinder, compression should now be better and it will not cost you an arm and leg, just a bit of time and some gas.

So next time you restore an engine and find that it has not got the compression you would like give this a try, it has worked for me on more than one occasion.

Eric Gay

Please note that by submitting your details for inclusion into our newsletter you acknowledge that this information will be sent to all our members and posted on our website and facebook page to keep all our members informed and updated and to promote the Club and so your consent to use the details you supplied is assumed.

*All information given will be as accurate as can be, for any errors or omission I apologise in advance for being human .
Please note that opinions expressed may or may not represent club policy.*

Wessex Stationary Engine Club Ltd Number 02916481