

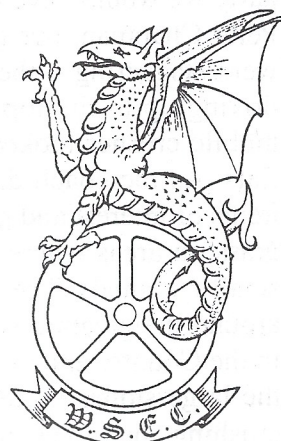


WESSEX STATIONARY ENGINE CLUB LIMITED

APRIL 2000

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NEWSLETTER



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******* EDITORIAL *******

This month sees the start of the rally season with Crank-Ups at Nunney and Mells. I would like to remind all members who exhibit their engines to observe the safety code at all times, we must keep our hobby safe and accident free. If at any event you see blatant disregard of safety rules report it to stewards or organisers.

******* CHAIRMANS REPORT *******

Events organised for members this year are very well supported at the moment. The visit to Radstock Museum attracted about 40 members who spent a very pleasant Sunday afternoon looking around this splendid new museum full of interesting exhibits depicting the coal and railway history of Radstock and North Somerset. Another visit which was very well received was the conducted tour of Yeoman Quarry (which is the largest quarry in Europe). A big thank you to Robin for organising this one. On arriving at The Old Down Inn for the March monthly meeting we were told the function room was not available due to extensive building work taking place in it. We had to make do with the small dining room – bar area. Well it was like the proverbial 'sardines', our Guest Speaker was Andy Westlake who gave us a brilliant talk supported with slides on his trip from coast to coast along 'Route 66' in America on a V twin Moto Guzzi. This really was entertainment at its best. We were given no notice at all that the normal club room would not be available, we do not seem to enjoy the same hospitality as when Gordon was the Landlord, I think the Club will eventually have to find alternative headquarters. If any member has any ideas on this subject please contact me. May Club Night at The Old Down Inn – Monday 22nd May, Brian Munt. A trip down memory lane. Those members who were lucky enough to attend Brian's talk last year will definitely not wish to miss this one.

******* THE MARKET PLACE *******

FOR SALE. HOWARD ROTAVATOR. Model 350, good working order £150 ono Tel 01934 750704.
FOR SALE. 1926 LISTER TYPE 'A' spec. 15 serial No 53837, this is one of the first of the twin flywheel versions yet it still has the external caged valves as fitted to the original single flywheel model, although I only know of two others there must be more, but not a lot! Runs very well giving 2.5hp @ 600rpm recently restored and fitted to a new hardwood trolley (old cast wheels) £200. **ALBION CORN MILL** built by Harrison Ms Gregor & Co Ltd, it has a new hopper but needs some further restoration although I am using it and making bread with the flour and muesli with the bran! Comes with a bag of wheat. £70. Tel Graham on 01489 572070 Hampshire.

******* NEWSLETTER APPEAL *******

Once again I am finding difficulty in getting enough material for the Newsletter. What is required is news of members restorations, new acquisitions, adverts, rally reports, etc, etc. Come on switch that television off and pick up your pens, surprise me.

******* WANTED WANTED WANTED *******

Stationary Engines for Coxley County Show May 21st, 2000. Details ring Tony Davis on 01373 464982.
Stationary Engines for Chewton Mendip Dairy Show, August 27th. Details ring George Coles on 01373 813647.
Stationary Engines for Draycott Strawberry Fair, Sat. 10th June 12 – 5pm. Contact Brian Verrall on 01934 743460.
Stationary Engines for Clutton Flower Show on Saturday 12th August at 12 noon. Ring Roger Parsons on 01761 452565. Also other exhibits wanted such as tractors, cars, motorcycles, static exhibits etc.

***** **TORR QUARRY** *****

On arriving at Torr Works we were greeted by a very cheerful security guard, who said as there was so many in our party we would have to park in the lorry park. After a short wait we were all assembled in the reception area where Peter Chapman, our guide for the visit introduced himself and gave us facts and figures about the Quarry. These were staggering – they all seemed to be in ‘Millions’. Our party then filled the coach, which started our tour by driving up to the top of the hill, where we got a stunning view over the Quarry. What an enormous hole! The mobile crusher looked small, resting on a lower level, but we were told it was as tall as a seven-storey block of flats. As the coach drove around and then slowly down to the bottom it stopped at certain places, while various items of interest and processes were explained to us. The Company has an environmental policy, planting trees and grass on areas where they are no longer working; this now supports various forms of wildlife, such as birds and small mammals. The only wildlife we saw, outside the coach, was a Buzzard hovering overhead. Our coach drove around the gigantic walking primary crusher, which unfortunately was not working on our visit. It is the only one in the Country and visitors do come from abroad to witness it in action. After the blasting has broken the rock face, the large stones up to a metre in diameter are fed into the crusher by two Cat 99D wheel loaders. After primary crushing the stone then travels on a mobile conveyor system, onto a series of crushers and sieves, linked by conveyor systems, breaking the stone down into graded sizes. Some of the stone is used by concrete and asphalt plants on the site, 80% of the stone is transported from the site by rail. Near the end of our tour the coach slowly made its way up a steep twisty track out of the quarry onto some grassland, part of which was laid out as a picnic area, with seats and information plaques about the flora and fauna to be seen in the area. This alone is worth a visit, as the views are spectacular, the quarry below with its pool of aquamarine coloured water and various rock colours, and beyond Westbury white horse, Cley Hill, Heavens Gate and King Alfreds Tower. In the other direction on the railway line, quarry trucks and Class 59 locomotives were seen, parked awaiting the call for action. This view point and picnic area are open to the public and may be reached by a bridle way. Our coach took us back to the car past the rail loading bays. This was a very interesting afternoon, a big thankyou to the committee members who organised it.

MARGARET SIMMONS.

***** **MEMORIES OF WHEN I WERE A YOUNGUN** *****

Now I remember Grandad from when I were just a kid, Grampy was a haulage contractor and coal merchant. With four and six in hand to Radstock he did go to load his wagon with the best of Somerset coal, with his team pulling hard back to Trowbridge he would come with several tons behind them, how those horses worked. The best time with Grampy was when we would walk hand in hand up to the stables where those gentle giants would stand. Hay and feed in manger and water close at hand, if only I could go back to that time, how grand. I still remember when I was a youngun to go with Grampy on the Carlit was an absolute delight, for Grandad would work the local council at times collecting salvage, this was from the local shops, paper, cardboard, etc. My part was to collect all the comics that were tied in bundles outside the shops. I was very popular at school after the Summer holidays as I sold comics at 1d each. I was taken with Grampy hay making, this was done by the horses and I still recall those wonderful days in the fields walking with that dear old man behind the hay rake, riding on the wagon with him, tossing hay upon the wagon and then on the rick, watching the men build the ricks and then thatch them. The mowing machine was horse drawn but the cutting knife was driven by a Barnard engine. At this time in my life I only wanted to be with my beloved shire horses, what I would give to stand in their stable with them once again to smell them, the hay, the feed, the leathers and the harness, this is something that the younguns of today will never know. My Grandfather would take his wagons and horses to the local carnivals I can still see him sat in his old armchair polishing his brasses and harness ready for the carnival. We would stand and watch as he proudly drove the team through the crowded streets of Trowbridge on carnival nights with brass all shinning, wagon clean, displaying his name on the side boards A Holloway & Sons, Coal Merchant & Haulage Contractor. Now thur wur somet else Grandad did but twer afore I wur born, that wur a bit special. Barnes of Southwick just tother side of Trowbridge wur road contractors boiling water was there delight in Aveling and Porter steam rollers shinning bright. The first metalled road in Trowbridge was Roundstone Street, this back in those days being the main road in the town. Grandad with his tipping carts hauled the road stone and Barnes rollers, rolled it in then with tar pot behind the engines, gravel and tar was laid. So you see the shire horses played its part even with road making and my Grandfather had a small part in the history of Trowbridge. Now I remember Earney but that another story, I will tell you in the future.

E.J. GAY

***** **EVENTS FOR YOUR DIARY** *****

SUNDAY 9TH APRIL. Spring Crank-Up at Nunney Catch Transport Café, Nr Frome. Breakfasts and lunches available in the café. Usual Grand Raffle. Just turn up, no booking, bring and buy, this will be the best 'Crank-Up' this year.

MONDAY 17TH APRIL. (Please note early date due to Bank Holiday). Club Night at The Old Down Inn. Terry Sanger. Trials and tribulations of Motor racing. Usual raffle.

MONDAY 24TH APRIL. Mells Daffodil Rally at Mells, Nr Frome. For details ring Robin on 01373 463526.

APRIL 30TH/31ST/MAY 1ST. Abbey Hill Steam Rally, Yeovil. Contact Les Simpson, 42 Little Sammons, Chilthorne Domer, Yeovil, BA22 8RB.

SUNDAY 7TH MAY. North Dorset Stationary Engine and Tractor Club Rally at Hazelbury Bryan Playing Field. Large car boot and auto jumble. This is the premium one-day event in the calendar. Details from Dickie Plummer on 01258 817597.

SUNDAY 7TH MAY. Vintage Festival and funday, Green Meadow Community Farm, Cwmbran. Entries from Mrs Marion Davies, 46 Beaumaris Drive, Llanyrafon, Cwmbran, Torfaen, NP44 8JD.

13TH & 14TH MAY. Wiltshire County Show, Lower Pertwood, Nr Warminster. Contact 01985 216644.

13TH & 14TH MAY. Castle Coombe Steam and Vintage Workings, Castle Coombe Race Circuit. Contact Mrs P Day on 01380 828459.

27TH/28TH.29TH MAY. Selwood Steam and Vintage Rally, Tropical Bird Gardens, Rode, Nr Bath. Contact Pearl Francis on 01373 466846.

28TH/29TH MAY. Steam Veteran and Vintage Rally, Bailey Park, Abergavenny. Contact Mr I Trotman, Event Secretary, 57 Park Crescent, Abergavenny, Gwent.

4TH JUNE. Tatworth Mini Rally, Tatworth, Nr Chard. Contact Mo Duke 01460 220786.

4TH JUNE. Amberley Museum Stationary Engine Working Day. Contact Ian Sampson, 58 Rusper Road, Horsham, West Sussex, RH12 4BL.

8TH & 9TH JUNE. Sedgemoor Vintage Club Rally, Oaktree Farm, Edithmead, Highbridge. Contact Dave Stuckley 01823 413775.

10TH/11TH JUNE. West Dorset Tractor and Stationary engine Club 25th Rally, West Bay, Bridport. Contact Mr F J Butt, 11 Wellfields Drive, Bridport, Dorset, DT6 3LW.

17TH & 18TH JUNE. The Wessex Stationary Engine Club Ltd Annual Rally at Winchester Farm, Cheddar.

24TH/25TH JUNE. Millennium engine Rally, Astle Park, Chelford, Macclesfield. Contact Mr P Gallimore on 01625 612784.

JULY 8/9TH. Three counties Vintage and Classic Car Club's Motorcade at Pine Lodge Farm, Tincleton, Nr Dorchester (off A35) Show on Sunday – Auto Jumble – Road Run – Ring Events – Tank Rides – Animals to see – Café etc. BBQ on Saturday night, camping available at approx. £2 per night. STATIONARY ENGINES WANTED – Ring Don Payne on 01202 679358. All proceeds to Cancer Ward 11 Bournemouth Hospital.

SUNDAY 9TH JULY. Castle Cary Cavalcade of Motoring. Stationary Engines, cars, commercials, tractors, static exhibits, car boot sale etc. Enquiries to 01963 350182.

15TH & 16TH JULY. South Somerset Steam Spectacular, Low Ham, Somerton.

15TH/16TH JULY. Countryside Cavalcade, Bath & West Showground, Shepton Mallet. Contact Walt Cox 01458 241578.

19TH/20TH AUGUST. Vintage Show and Country Fayre, Hobbs Centre, Bilsham Lane, Yapton, Nr Arundel. Contact Gerry rump on 01273 553099.

27TH & 28TH AUGUST. Honiton Hill Rally, Stockton, Nr Honiton, auction Monday 10am. Contact Mrs A J Mutter on 01395 516484.

6TH/7TH/8TH OCTOBER. Finlake Rally, Devon. Contact Steve Webber on 01392 498934.

***** **THANKS** *****

The Wessex Stationary Engine Club would like to thank Stan Kerley for once again designing this years rally posters. Stan has undertaken this task for the last couple of years and we are extremely grateful for his contribution to the preparations for the rally. Thank you Stan, your talent is very much appreciated.

BJB.

******* BRAIN TESTER QUIZ *******

These engines were manufactured in the West Country, name the Towns.

1. Hamworthy.....
2. Fielding and Platt.....
3. Cordingly and Co.....
4. Carson and Toone.....
5. Brown and May.....
6. Allan and Barker.....
7. Griffin.....
8. Day.....
9. Kingston (A J Coward).....
10. Hobbs.....
11. Hindley.....
12. Britt.....
13. Douglas.....
14. Victoria.....
15. What engine did Arthur Freeman Sanders design?.....
16. On May 19th 1969 who took over Listers?.....
17. What year was the first Semington Rally?.....
18. What do Skinners Union manufacture?.....
19. Who is Gordon Wright?.....
20. What does the R.A. Lister stand for?.....

Who makes what?

21. Model Z.....
22. Universal.....
23. Model Q.....
24. Model AFL 4/5 HP.....
25. Atomic.....
26. Foreman 8HP.....
27. King of All.....
28. M.....
29. M.....
30. M.....
31. Victoria.....
32. Pioneer.....
33. EVI.....
34. Special.....
35. WD.....
36. 1030, 1040, 1050.....
37. F type.....
38. PT.....
39. Tulip top.....
40. Junior.....
41. Junior.....
42. Little Pet.....

There are 42 questions listed. Send your entries to the Editor and we will draw out a winner at the next club meeting. The winner will receive a prize. Answers in the next Newsletter. BJB.