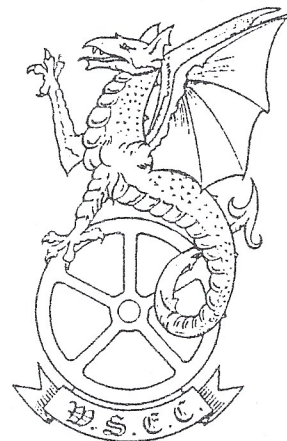


WESSEX STATIONARY ENGINE CLUB LIMITED

APRIL 2002

*The Editor : Brian Baker
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NEWSLETTER



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

I would like to remind exhibitors now that the rally season is starting to make sure they observe the safety code as it is a long time due to the foot and mouth epidemic since some of you took out an engine. At all events let common sense prevail, enjoy your rallies this year. The club has appointed two safety officers who have offered their services, they are Committee Members Phillip Marshall and Brendon Hill, Phillip will also be assisted at the Wessex Rally by Bill Coombes, so watch out, they will be looking for anyone flouting the safety rules.

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

The recent problems the committee have had regarding the rising membership and insurance has been resolved. Our Insurance Company expressed concern about having some members insured and some not, and see no problem increasing the insurance cover as the membership rises, with a pro-rata increase in the premium. In fact they are going to look at the premium at the next renewal date to take into account some members do not exhibit or some do not even own engines. So our premium could become cheaper as a result. So the Committee have decided to leave the membership exactly as it is at present, and if the membership rises above the insured limit we will pay the extra premium to raise it. This means there is now no limit on the membership to the W.S.E.C. The membership this year is already close to 350, the highest its ever been so early in the year. I hope this decision meets the approval of most of you.

******* BIRTHDAY GREETINGS *******

The club would like to extend birthday greetings to two of our members who have birthdays this month. They are- Our Vice Chairman Eric Gay who has reached the big Six O, and committee member Tony Davis, who is a bit shy about divulging his age, but I can tell you he can now travel much cheaper on the bus. Many happy returns to you both.

******* ANNUAL COACH TRIP *******

The annual coach trip this year is to the St Fagins Museum complex in South Wales. The coach will leave Nunney Catch car park at 8.00 am, picking up at Shepton Mallet, Farington Gurney, or any place en-route to Bristol by arrangement. Book early to avoid disappointment. The fare for the coach is £6, children free. The entrance to St Fagins is free. Ring Jackie on 01373 463526 to book your seat.

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

For the rally in June goods are wanted to sell in the club shop, any saleable item will be acceptable, clothes, books, bric-a-brac, household appliances, in fact anything in good condition we can sell. Also wanted is prizes for the raffle, any unwanted bottles of drink left over from Christmas would be most welcome. We also appeal to members to support the Auction to be held on the Saturday morning of the rally, this is a golden opportunity to turn your junk into cash as we pay out on the day in cash, deducting just 10% for club funds. If you have any items for the above please contact me or any committee member.

A SHORT REPORT OF THE AGM HELD ON 25th FEBRUARY 2002.

Our President Robin Lambert welcomed everyone to this years AGM, the 24th one held since the club was formed 25 years ago, there was a good turn out from the members that made the effort to be there, I would like to thank those who made the long journey to Emborough, Namely Alan Vicary and Ray Basset from Basingstoke, Terry Heath and Helen from Yeovil and Bill Loosemore from Exeter, plus the many who have to travel 20 miles or more, including myself to get to this once a year event. Apologies were received from Bob and Jill Hallam, Derek and Dot Watts, Bill and Marg Appleby, Reg and Mary Butler, Rob and Francis Armstrong, Rubin Smith, Bill Coombes, And Ian Skuse. Our Chairman Brian Baker started his report by saying at the very first meeting in March 1977 there were just 20 members present, and now the club has on its books over 300, he then mentioned that although 2001 was a disasterous year for the rally scene in general, with many well known rallies being cancelled due to the foot and mouth epidemic, the club had a good year. The cancellation of the annual rally at Cheddar was compensated for by holding a grand crank up at Nunney Catch Transport Café, thanks to Gordon and Jackie Callow for allowing us to use their lorry park. Brian then pointed out that the annual subscription will remain the same for another year, making this the 5th year without an increase. He ended his report by thanking our treasurer Jackie Lambert who has looked after the clubs business matters for the last 18 years, he then thanked the rest of the committee for all they have done over the past year. Jackie our treasurer read out her as usual excellent financial report, she explained with great detail the breakdown of each item on the balance sheet and pointed out that most of the profit made from club events is due to the dedication of Lesley Nicholson selling raffle tickets, and also the large number of prizes donated by members that attend the meetings. The final figure of the accounts showed a very healthy bank balance. The presentations this year were given to Mary Butler who makes sure you all get your newsletter on time, during the course of the year she sends out approximately 2500, her husband Reg is now on job seekers allowance as he is now a redundant stamp licker thanks to the new self adhesive stamps. Next to receive a presentation was Lesley Nicholson for running the club shop and for helping to put an extra £900 in the bank from the raffles. Linda Pike also received a gift for also helping out with the raffles. The winner this year of the Editors cup for the best contribution to the newsletter was our junior reporter, Jonathon Hockedy for the excellent reports he sends in on Wessex events. Our President Robin Lambert finished the meeting by saying it was good to see some of the founder members present at the AGM, especially Tony Andrews and Tom Randall who were some of the first members to join the club 25 years ago. He said that last years calendar was well thought out with no less than 19 events laid on for the members, he said this involved a huge amount of work by the committee. He thanked member Rob Armstrong for stepping in on more than one occasion when guest speakers had to cancel through unforeseen circumstances, he certainly gives the most explosive talks guaranteed to end the evening with a bang. He thought that the most demanding role on the committee was that of Chairman and secondly that of newsletter editor and said that as Brian does such an excellent job of both he should find no time for stress. He then thanked Arthur Smith for all the effort he puts in as club secretary, this was seconded by Ray Baker. As usual there was a huge rush from members to stand on this years committee but only one managed to push his way to the front of the queue, this was Steve Davies who was proposed by Colin Baker and seconded by Brian Baker. He was voted for unanimously by all members at the meeting. The club officers for 2002 are, PRESIDENT: Robin Lambert. CHAIRMAN: Brian Baker. VICE-CHAIRMAN: Eric Gay. SECRETARY Arthur Smith. TREASURER: Jackie Lambert. COMMITTEE MEMBERS. Lesley Nicholson. Colin Nicholson. Tony Davis. Simon Nicholson. Phillip Marshall. Brendon Hill. Steve Davies. Ray Baker expressed his thanks to the committee for all the hard work they do throughout the year. The president declared the meeting closed at 9-12pm. Lesley then drew the raffle which had the usual large selectin of goodies to choose from.

ARTHUR SMITH
SECRETARY.

NEW MEMBERS

The club would like to welcome the following new members. We hope your membership of the Wessex Stationary Engine Club will be a long and happy one and we look forward to seeing you at our meetings and events.

Mr Bob Burgess and Mr Colin Dipper both from Heytesbury Wilts. Mr M Rideout from Andover Hants. Mr K Phillips from Bristol. Mr F Pearman from Easterton Devizes. Mr P Harris from Bristol Mr A Potter and Miss S King from Patchway Bristol. Mr Jamie Smith from Warminster and Mr K Wright from Plymouth.

MELLS DAFFODIL FESTIVAL
APRIL 1st 2002

Not wanting to miss anything of this large and popular event, my Grampy and I arrived on-site at 7.45, only to find that we were the first stationary engine exhibitors there! Other exhibitors soon began to arrive however, and the field was soon full of cars and stationary engines, and the streets jam packed with a variety of stalls. The local radio station, 3trFm's bus was situated by the main entrance and was playing music, giving live broadcasting and later on, commentary on ring events. The stalls and attractions lining the streets included many charity stalls, such as Bath Cats and Dogs Home, Selwood Pony driving Club for the disabled, and Somerset Wildlife Trust, and busking for Mells First School, and both traders and villagers selling various items. The stationary engine pens were situated close to the ring, and so many members of the public stopped by to take a look at the 45 engines and one hot air driven fan. The ring events included terrier racing, which attracted a good deal of attention and laughter, the town crier competition, brass bands and Stardust Majorettes. Awards were also presented at the 3trFM bus for the photographic competition, Scarecrow and Scarecrow trail winners and the silly hat competition. Arranged around the ring were inflatable bouncy castles, basketball shooting a gyroscope which involved being strapped to a chair inside a plastic bubble and spun around, and a "surf rider". An interesting collection was a display of ceramic glass telegraph and power line insulators from as far apart as Canada (where the owner bought his first two in a flea market), Bosnia, Antiga, and Portugal. Over 100 classic cars were on show next to the stationary engines, and if I were even to mention a quarter of them, I'd need another newsletter! A few that caught my eye included a 1966 Angus Firefly 400 gallon water tender in the livery of Dorset Fire Service, owned by Mr Geoffrey Winsor of Frome, a gleaming 1947 Armstrong Siddeley Hurricane drophead coupe owned by A Pugh, and the 1957 Foden 321 lorry, powered by a two stroke diesel engine, owned by "Spud Taylor", also from Frome. I was disappointed, however, to see next to the German equivalent, the 1944 Volkswagon Type 82 (Kfz. 1) Kubelwagon, a long standing club member's Willy's Jeep. It seems he has changed his alliance from a flywheel to four wheels (you know who you are...) Those of us who stick with our stationary engines brought exhibits which included a Lister J, manufactured in January 1930, which the current owner Mr Melvin Hole bought from the original owners son-in-law in 2000. The first owner was Mr A J Chaffee of Bruton, was a wheelwright and beer barrel maker, and the engine was used to drive a bandsaw, lathe and stand up drill. Mr Hole also has the service book, in which Mr Chaffee has written dates when the oil was changed etc. In contrast to this rather large Lister was the smallest Lister I've ever seen, the 1938 1200 rpm Lister ABL, owned by Mr A E Attwell driving a Lister Domestic pump. A second pen of engines included a new arrival to the rally field, Mr A Vickery's 3hp Cooper XC petrol engine, which was manufactured by the Sunbeam Corporation of Australia somewhen during the 1950's. It was bought in a seized condition and this is it's first outing. An inspiration to us all is the "B" gas engine, manufactured by A B Baker of Leyton, London at some point between 1900 and the outbreak of the First World war in 1914. When found the engine had no piston, conrod. Crank or flywheel, but it has been restored to original condition, and the resulting engine looked wonderful. The weather, public and exhibitor's attendance was brilliant, and the festival has returned from last year's cancellation due to foot and mouth even better.

JONATHON HOCKEDY
JUNIOR REPORTER.

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

FOR SALE Mechanical Power Hacksaw. £75. Large engine trolley with turntable. £50. Compressor – no motor or tank. £10. Large Wolf portable drill 5/8 chuck with 3' pillar stand. £40. Large Jap engine (ex roller) needs new head gasket. £50. Galvanised lightweight Saw Bench, 3' cut with guide bars etc. 240 volt motor. £80. Fergi T20 finger mower all complete. £80. Turfor 3 ton Portable Winch, complete with 20 mtrs wire rope. £25. For all above please ring Bert on 01373 812340. Frome Area.

FOR SALE 150 Gallon Tank. Clear Plastic. Mounted on fixed pallet with tap. Ideal for shows or rallies. Etc. Ring 01761 452565. Clutton Area.

FOR SALE Bailey Pagent Landau Caravan. 1987. 4 Berth. Twin Axle. Needs Minor Attention. £2000 o.v.n.o. For further details ring 07774906428 After 6pm. (mobile number). Bournemouth Area.

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

SUNDAY MAY 5th. Engine Display outside Radstock Museum. 15 to 20 Engines required, preferably driving something. 12pm onwards. Further details from Brian Baker on 01749 342671.

MONDAY MAY 27th. Club night at the Old Down Inn. A night not to be missed. Robin is putting on a slide show. The subject- you will have to turn up to find out.

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 22nd "CRANKS AT THE SHIP" The second crank up at the Ship and Castle Congesbury. Members wishing to exhibit at this event please ring Ian Skuse on 01934 834943 to book your place.

22nd 23rd JUNE Stationary Engines Wanted. Avon Valley Country Park Miniature Railway. Pixash Lane, Keynsham. Ring Mike Bass on 079601 51286.

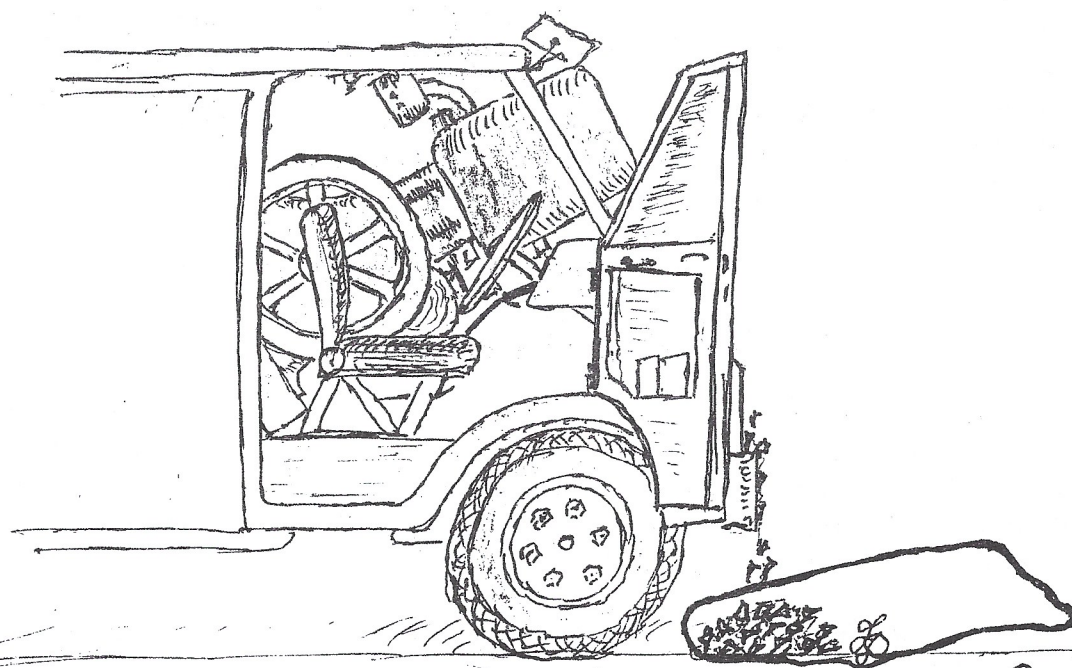
10th AUGUST CLUTTON FLOWER SHOW. Engines, Cars, Tractors, Commercials, etc Wanted. Ring 01761 452565.

25th 26th AUGUST Blagdon Country Fair. Ring Sue Tucker on 01934 852178.

24th 25th AUGUST Portland Steam Up. Southwell Business Park Portland. Ring Melvin on 01305 822048,

14th 15th SEPTEMBER Swanage Railway. Ring Ken on 01202 516478.

12th 13th OCTOBER GWR Toddington. Entry Forms from Bernard Dudfield, 2002 Steam Gala, Woolaway Bungalow, Aston Magna, Morton - in -Marsh Glos. GL569QL.



WHY DID THAT ***** CHICKEN CROSS THE ROAD.?