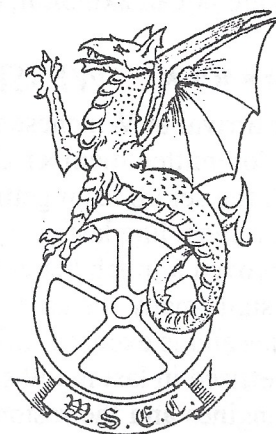


WESSEX STATIONARY ENGINE CLUB LIMITED

AUGUST 2000

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NEWSLETTER



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

At last the Club is back on a sound footing with the appointment of a new Secretary. Also it is really pleasing to see one of our younger members join the Committee. The Committee is at present compiling next years programme of Guest Speakers for our monthly meetings. If any member knows of anyone who can give a talk or slide, or film show on any subject please get in touch with any Committee member. Also as Editor I would welcome any material for the Newsletter, as with the Rally Season soon coming to an end Newsletter material gets a bit thin on the ground.

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

The July meeting which was a Crank-Up at The Court Hotel, Emborough was once again a resounding success. We had a good selection of engines plus 2 Trusty tractors, a couple of commercials, motorcycles, Colin Bakers superb display of petrol cans and motoring memorabilia, and Fred Biggs with a couple of Classic Cars. The cups were awarded for the most unusual engine and the best restored, Arthur Smith won the most unusual and Colin Baker won the award for the best restored engine with a Wolseley WD1 that had paintwork so shining you needed sunglasses on to look at it. Thanks to Leslie Nicholson, the raffle realised the grand sum of £84. After the prizes were paid for over £60 went to Club funds.

******* OBITUARIES *******

It is with sadness I have to report the recent death at the age of 92, of our oldest member, Les Emery. Our sympathy and condolences to John and Diane Emery on their sad loss. I last saw Les early in the year when the Club visited Radstock Museum. He was still supporting the Club events and taking an interest in things historical. He will be missed by all who knew him.

BJB.

The Wessex Stationary Engine Club has just lost a long standing, stalwart member with the death after a long illness of Adrian Miles. Our sympathy and condolences to his Wife Jill and family on their tragic loss. Adrian was well know at rallies where ploughing took place, by competing with his three wheeled Gunsmith tractors. He also exhibited regularly with his stationary engines. The Club has just lost a very valuable friend and member.

BJB.

***** IMPORTANT CHARITY EVENT *****

SUNDAY 24TH SEPTEMBER. CRANK-UP at THE FULL QUART INN, HEWISH. This is run by Roy and Ivor Cox, Don Rogers and Co. and each year it raises a large sum of money for C.L.I.C. so give it plenty of support. If you are not an exhibitor, come along and support it as a visitor. For details ring Roy on 01934 419826.

***** WESSEX ANNUAL RALLY AT CHEDDAR 17TH/18TH JUNE 2000 *****

Our arrival at Winchester Farm was just before midday on Friday and on entering the rally field we were greeted by Committee member Colin Nicholson who was taking a well earned rest having spent the past three days along with the set up team getting the field ready for what is our Clubs main event of the year. The field layout this year was almost like last year, except the beer tent and catering vans were much more central to the show which was to be proved a much better location as the weekend passed by. My job this year was to give Bill a hand in setting up his stall (many thanks to all who lent a hand and helped unload and set up, as most of you know Bill is on light duties and is excused lifting heavy objects) and a special thanks to all who purchased many of his engines that were advertised in last months Newsletter. Back to the rally – This year must have been one of our biggest yet exhibition of engines and the restoration quality was first class. Club member Brian Read of Langford should have a medal for bringing along, not one but four Victoria's, where else in the country could you see such an exhibition. Close to Brian was a row of 6 Amanco's from the smallest to one of the largest, a superb display and effort by the exhibitor. Our usual trophies were presented on Saturday evening in the beer tent, what a difficult job trying to decide who should have the awards. I'm sure that if you had ten different judges you would have ten different results, but well done to all the winners who are as follows:- Best Engine – Paul Seward from Tatworth. Best Vertical Engine – Nigel Scorse of Cullompton. Best Horizontal Engine – Bill Coombs of Gurney Slade. Best Working Engine – Mr Pethick of Cornwall. Junior Shield – Nathan Hole of Evercreech. Backing up the engine line were a fine selection of motorcycles, probably our biggest entry yet and the commercial vehicles looked splendid in the bright sunshine that was to grace our event – One excellent lorry was a 1934, four-wheeled flat bed Foden exhibited by Colin Duck and driven around the ring by his Brother Phillip. The lorry was restored and painted in green livery of W&E Every (Frome & Chantry). Some members may remember that we had a slide show on this Company at a Club Night. There were giant 8 wheelers, artic units and a lovely little ford 5-cwt pick-up exhibited by Dave and Pat Wells of Frome. The tractor selection was well represented with most makes which included a tractor with winch mounted front and rear which I believe was fitted by the now gone, Auto Mower Co of Norton St Phillip, Nr Bath. The vintage cars, beautifully restored were a credit to their owners and along with some military and all the other vehicles did their tour around the ring on both days with an excellent commentary and interview by Club Member Brian Verrall. The auction took place on Saturday morning at 11am, Chairman/Auctioneer Brian Baker lotted up with the help of the Coleford Army Cadets who also did the running back and forth to the Auction office where Mary Butler and Jackie saw awaiting the sheets, plenty of lots to get through and this made £115 for the Club. Thanks must go to George Coles who organised the Coleford Army Cadets for us, they did a wonderful job helping with the auction, helping on the gate and with the raffle and on Sunday morning were even out litter picking before breakfast. Also worthy of a mention were the collections and exhibitions to name just a few, Colin & Justin Baker who had their fuel & oil can display, always an eye catcher is this, and creates a great deal of interest as did Charlie Moore with his horticultural display, excellent restorations done here on machinery of yesteryear and very well presented. Bob & Jill Hallam had his oil can display and David Griffiths had his trailer laden down with all the fittings and bits and pieces we are all looking for (I found a piece of bearing material here, just what I was looking for) thanks David. Our old friend Andy Mercer from Berwickshire in Scotland arrived on Friday and presented our Chairman with a cup which he wanted to go to a 'collection' type exhibit rather than a particular engine and in the end he chose the recipient himself which was 'The Road Work Gang' who had a great display complete with elephant tent, braziers, old red oil lamps, barriers, signs, shovels, picks and even an old wood 'privy' complete with someone's welly boots, visible under the short front door, they would have had Ford Brothers steam roller as part of the display but found, having raised steam at the show entrance, the roller clack valves had stuck and would not free up so the fire had to be dropped for safety reasons. Thanks to Andy for this and it was nice meeting you again, he wished to be remembered to Rod Dring and family, also Diane and John Emery whom he knew when Diane was our Secretary (If you come again next year Andy don't forget your kilt). To sum up, what a great weekend, probably the best rally to date and tremendous effort by all who helped to lay it on, a lot of hard work that was very much appreciated by all exhibitors. Looking forward to next year.

R&J.

- LOOK -

***** IMPORTANT WESSEX EVENT – SATURDAY 21ST OCTOBER *****

ENGINE JUMBLE at WINCHESTER FARM, CHEDDAR. Buyers and sellers wanted to make this event successful. All pitches regardless of size only £5. Admission for buyers only £1. Ring 01749 342671 to book your pitch or for further details. 8am onwards.

***** **CRANK-UP AT THE COURT HOTEL** *****

We set off from Cheddar running late. We arrived at The Court Hotel where everyone was already set up and running, so we quickly set our engine and started to mingle. It was the first time out for my open crank Ruston which ran well all evening (thank goodness). There were approx. 16 engines with one Ruston for sale. Also there was two small tractors, two vintage lorries and a few cars. There was two cups, one for the most unusual engine which was won by Arthur Smith and one for the best restored engine which was won by Colin Baker. The judges for this was Eric Gay and Bob Hallam. Lesley done a great job at selling raffle tickets which took about £84 with a large selection of prizes. Colin Baker had a display of oil cans and Justin Baker had a display of models. The food available at The Court Hotel was very enjoyable. One sad note was that a mag went missing from in front of one of the engines, but other than that it was a most enjoyable evening had by all.

COLIN NICHOLSON.

***** **JUNE CLUB NIGHT** *****

The June meeting of The Wessex Stationary Engine Club, held at the Old Down Inn comprised of a table top auction and a autopsy on the Cheddar Rally. First of all we had the autopsy when Chairman, Brian invited comments from the floor for or against., but it turned out that there was no complaints but plenty of praise. It was a pity that the music man departed with no real excuse, but with some help from Colin Nicholson the evening finished alright. The one comment from the floor stated that a member of the Club was seen to be filling an engine with petrol whilst it was still running. Please do not indulge in this practise as it can be very dangerous and cause serious injuries. The auction was very interesting with a wide selection of goods including pumps, books, tools and various objects including a bottle of whiskey donated by a very generous member, its price it raised going to Club funds. As usual Chairman, Brian done a good job as auctioneer with Brother Colin doing the clerking. I considered it a very good interesting evening.

RAY BAKER.

***** **LETTERS TO THE EDITOR** *****

After I was put on the spot at the July meeting, for filling up with petrol over a running engine at The Cheddar rally, and as I apologised to the Chairman and his 'reporters', I thought that was the end of it. Now it seems the rest of the 300 club members must be told. I am very aware of the dangers with hot engines and petrol, it was only after my observations in the Newsletter that prompted the Club into having fire extinguishers and a proper fire point at Crank-Ups. In my defence for my actions, the only reason that springs to mind is that I was running my Bernard at the time and as its still far from right (some may recall my unheeded appeal for help) I knew if it was stopped I would take the rest of the day to get it going again. On that point I rest my case, I do hope the Chairman 'reporters' spotted the same crime being committed at The Court Hotel Crank-Up, and also when our new Club Safety Officer in a polite manner asked two members to turn flywheels away from the public, one did and one lone standing member refused. I hope these will also be exposed to the rest of the Club.

TONY DAVIS.

***** **STOLEN – STOLEN – STOLEN – STOLEN - STOLEN** *****

At the Crank-Up at The Court Hotel members were invited to offer goods for sale by their engines. Wessex member Dennis Hudd from Trowbridge done just that, he had two magnetos for sale down by his engine, during the evening someone **STOLE** one of these magnetos. While I would like to think no Wessex member would stoop so low, if any chance the lowlife who committed this act reads this newsletter I hope you rot in hell.

***** **THE WESSEX STATIONARY ENGINE CLUB LTD COMMITTEE FOR 2000** *****

I am extremely please to announce the appointment of a Club Secretary. Arthur Smith has agreed to take on the task and I'm sure our Club secretarial work is now in very capable hands. I'm also pleased to welcome to the Committee one of our younger members, Simon Nicholson. Simon did an excellent job helping set up and take down the rally. A younger member is definitely what the Club needs and I'm sure he will be an asset to the Committee.

The Committee for this year is as follows:- **PRESIDENT:** Robin Lambert. **CHAIRMAN:** Brian Baker.

VICE-CHAIRMAN: Eric Gay. **TREASURER:** Jackie Lambert. **SECRETARY:** Arthur Smith.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: George Coles, Colin Nicholson, Leslie Nicholson, Simon Nicholson, Tony Davis.

EDITOR: Brian Baker.

Do not hesitate to contact me or any of the Committee if you have any query or problem. BJB.

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

SEPTEMBER 16TH & 17TH. BACKWELL RALLY. Auction on Saturday morning. For details ring 01934 822651.

SEPTEMBER 16TH & 17TH. BERWICK ST. JOHN COUNTRY FAYRE 2000. Held at Manor Farm, Berwick St. John, Dorset. Enquiries Ring Sam Hacker on 01747 830484. This is probably one of the best Rallies I attend. BJB.

MONDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER. CLUB NIGHT AT THE OLD DOWN INN. A talk by John Girvan on Street Games and Toys. Usual Raffle.

SATURDAY 30TH SEPTEMBER. SOCIAL EVENING AT CHEDDAR FOOTBALL CLUB. Skittles, supper and raffle. £2 per person (children free). The supper will be faggots, chips and peas or ploughman's supper. If you wish to attend please ring Jackie on 01373 463526 with your food requirements.

SUNDAY 15TH OCTOBER. LYDNEY ROAD AND RAIL SHOW. This is a really good Rally with a large selection of cars, buses, stationary engine, trade stands etc. and a chance to ride on the Steam and Vintage diesel trains, about 30 minutes drive from the other side of the old bridge.

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

FOR SALE. LISTER 3.5hp 'CS' diesel, slight frost damage, complete with cooling and fuel tanks £50. LISTER 'A' type, running but unrestored £125. 3 LISTER 'D'S' in bits, enough to make one good engine or use for spares, offers. For further details ring 01761 410346. Midsomer Norton area.

FOR SALE. 1927 RUSTON HORNSBY type AP 5hp on skids £500. 1926 LISTER 'L' on skids, 5hp £200. 1930 PETTER 'M', tank cooled, 3hp £300. 1950 LISTER 'DK', petrol/paraffin, 1.5hp on trolley £120. 1927 LISTER 'A' on trolley £120. BENTALL CHAFFCUTTER, restored, power feed, various speeds, on wheels, circa 1928-1930 3120. For further details ring Alan on 01380 830344, Westbury, Wilts area.

FOR SALE. 2 GUNSMITH ride on garden tractors with ploughing attachments etc. £350 each. For further details ring Robin on Frome 01373 463526.

FOR SALE. Small upright type BROOMWADE Compressor suitable for small spraying jobs etc. 100 psi, excellent working order £80. Ring 01748 342671 for further details.

***** **GET WELL SOON** *****

The Committee and Members would like to wish a complete and speedy recovery to Roy Cox who has been ill recently. So put your feet up and obey your Doctors orders Roy because as 'Mr Full Quart' you have soon to get the 'Show on the Road'.