



WESSEX STATIONARY ENGINE CLUB LIMITED

**DECEMBER
1999**

*The Editor : Brian Baker
27 Wickham Way
SHEPTON MALLET
Somerset BA4 5YG
Tel: 01749 342671*

NEWSLETTER



Opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the policies of the Club. All rights reserved

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

The Chairman and the Committee would like to wish all members a very merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year. This coming year is a unique occasion as it heralds a new Millenium. A new Century and a new rally season. Sincere best wishes to you all for 2000.

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

I sincerely hope the present trend continues next year. I refer to the magnificent turnout of members to our meetings and events. The November meeting at The Old Down Inn was absolutely packed to capacity to hear Dave Bullock give a talk on agricultural bygones. The raffle raised the splendid amount of £51, probably a record for an evening meeting. Only a week later another record turnout for the Anti-Freeze Crank-Up at Nunney. Fifty engines displayed and running plus several other static displays, with 50 prizes on offer the raffle realised £159. A really magnificent response from our members. Please keep this up in the year 2000. A very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to one and all.
BJB.

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

FOR SALE. PETTER 'A1' good original condition on trolley with 4 nylon wheels £40. Contact John Rashleigh on Weymouth 01305 773250. Free Climax pump with engine.

******* NEW MEMBERS *******

The Wessex Stationary Club Ltd would like to welcome the following new members, we hope your membership of this Club will be a long and happy one; Mr J Leek from Hope Under Dinmore, Herefordshire and Mr Mike Jennings from Temple Cloud, Nr Bristol.

******* BEST WISHES AND A SPEEDY RECOVERY *******

The Club would like to wish all the best for a speedy recovery to Club Member Hazel Atherton who is going into Hospital for surgery to her foot. Get well soon and keep us informed on your progress.
BJB.



Merry Christmas & Happy New Year



***** SATURDAY 16TH OCTOBER *****

I was invited to attend a weekend get together for friends by Alan Chambers who recently had a disastrous fire caused by lightening that had devastated his vast collection of stationary engines and many other effects. With the help of several friends he has been able to rebuild the burnt sheds into a very useful building that can be used to entertain friends and their exhibits. Many stationary engines were in position all merrily running of their respective speeds. Tractors were also there in quite a number. The newly layed yard was being rolled by none other than Alec's own Marshall roller - the FITZHEAD FLYER supported by the Marshall traction engine owned by Owen Slade of Braunton. During the Saturday two stationary engines with generators were positioned so that they could light up the area in the evening for a B-B-Q. Besides all this there were cars and some lorries also in support. For the young lads there was a model fire engine and a model tractor to drive around. This they made good use of to amuse themselves. Jack Chaplin - The Traveller gave rides around the ground and down into the village with his horse and wagonette to everyone's delight. All day long food was being provided by Topsy Scott in the form of baked potatoes, hot dogs etc with hot drinks. Towards the evening a spit was set up to roast some beef that was turned gently by a Lister D, with a large brazier providing some heat between the engines. With regards to the 'bar' this was a self service by pump or tap for anyone who wanted to help themselves. Alas I had to leave by about 8.00 in the evening as I had to attend another outing the next day. Thank you Alec for such a wonderful day. You did us all proud, and to all of your helpers, a big welcome to you all. It is good to see so many turn out to help when the need arises. BRIAN LOVELL.

***** SUNDAY 17TH OCTOBER - WEST DORSET CLUB VISIT TO THE BIG PIT MINE AT BLAENAFON *****

Having parked my van safely at Alan Fry's, I boarded a coach already full of friends eager to experience what it was like below ground. For we were going to the coal-mine known as 'The Big Pit' near the Welsh town of Blaenafon. On arrival we were greeted by friendly miners who explained what we were about to see, and why we could not take anything with batteries in it down the mine all in the line of safety after being kitted out with hats, lights and batteries. We were lowered 300 feet in the cage and conducted through a mile of workings to see a coal face, stables for the pit ponies and experience the darkness, after we had turned out our helmet lamps. This was the most eerie darkness I have ever seen. Back on the surface we could explore the site to see the winding gear in action and examine the various workshops and artifacts. We returned via Abergavenny - Chepstow to have a meal Near Shepton Mallet. I extend my gratitude to the organisers for a well planned day out in great company. BRIAN LOVELL.

***** ANTI-FREEZE CRANK-UP, NUNNEY CATCH, SUNDAY 5TH DECEMBER *****

For me the day got off to a poor start. The Transit had a flat battery. However it didn't take too long to get it started and I set off for Nunney. When I arrived at 9am I was most surprised to see so many engines unloaded and set up. I proceeded to do the same and then set to, and set up the raffle. A steady stream of engines arrived also a constant supply of prizes for the raffle. By the time we finally arranged them the raffle consisted of fifty prizes, most certainly a record for the W.S.E.C. Gordon Callow, who owns the site (and is a Wessex member) soon had the cafe open and was soon doing a good trade with his full cooked breakfasts for the bargain price of only £3. I certainly felt good after partaking of one. The weather was really good, nice and sunny but cold and everyone seemed to be enjoying themselves having a good natter and meeting old friends. Quite a few members asked me why we bother with all the work and hassle of a rally when a crank-up like this that takes very little organising, and no financial outlay or risk, is so successful. This was without a doubt the best crank-up the club has organised. I counted fifty engines on display. Also we had a Morris Bull Nose Cowley belonging to Sam Jackson. Steve Smith brought his superb BSA Goldstar motorcycle. Alan Rogers had a display of various old footpumps, Bob Hallam had his display of motoring memorabilia and Katrina, Paul Allens girlfriend had a nice display of old household items. John Brooks and David Griffiths had plenty of goodies for sale. At lunchtime the cafe was packed with people queuing for tables, Colin and myself decided to wait until the rush was over and then go in for a roast lunch, but when we did go in the roast was sold out. However the fish, chips and peas went down a treat. The raffle was scheduled to take place at two thirty but some members were still in the cafe stuffing themselves with delicious looking puddings. I won't say who it was holding up the raffle because I don't want to embarrass Linda Pike and Ev Cox and Co. Leslie Nicholson had worked really hard all day selling tickets and had collected the magnificent sum of £159. After the prizes were paid for the club funds gained about £135, thank you very much Leslie. The raffle took off with prizes distributed evenly throughout the large assemble crowd. Young Henry couldn't believe his luck when one of my numbers was drawn and I told him to go and collect the giant box of liquorice allsorts he had his eye on, it really made his day. This was without doubt a very very popular and successful event. Many thanks indeed to Gordon and his wife for allowing us to use the site. Many thanks to all members and friends who donated raffle prizes and a big thankyou to Leslie for selling the tickets and finally thanks to all members who turned up and made this Crank-Up a super day out.

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

WESSEX RALLY SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER REPLY.

The call for more support and help with running the WSEC Ltd Rally by the Vice Chairman Eric Gay is in very poor taste, he didn't even attend the rally or help in any way with the preparation before or after the event, in fact he hasn't supported any of the crank-ups, engine jumbles etc. that have been arranged by the Committee over the last 12 months. As a senior officer of the Wessex Committee he should be setting an example and be fully involved with things going on, if he is not prepared to do his share he should seriously consider his position as a Committee member to resign.

BRIAN VERRALL.

I have been waiting to see whether any member was prepared to comment on Mr Gays letter in the September Newsletter, requesting help from us the members at our rally. I for one have offered my services to help to no avail. Personally I thought Mr Gays letters a bit strong, especially, when, club members are scattered far and wide and don't all live in Somerset. Also I would suggest he puts his own ship in order before commenting on others e.g. apart from committee meetings when was the last club function he attended, to boost club funds, it certainly wasn't the last five e.g. Anti-Freeze Crank-Up, Mince Pie Crank-Up, Engine Jumble at Winchester Farm, Rally at Winchester Farm, Social Evening at Cheddar Football Club. So I would suggest to you Mr Gay, being as you hold Vice Chairmans position a little more effort be made by you also to support Club activities (or stand down)

A K VICKERY

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

MONDAY 27TH DECEMBER. Mince-Pie Crank-Up at Nash's Timber Yard, Evercreech Junction, Nr Shepton Mallet. Free tea, coffee and hot soup and food. Grand raffle in the afternoon, donations of prizes would be welcome. If you can't bring an engine turn up for a natter and a mince pie. Bring and buy sale.

MONDAY 3RD JANUARY, 2000. Vintage Tractor and Engine Autojumble at Avon Livestock Centre, Chew Road, Winford, Bristol. 9am. Pitches £5, Buyers £1, refreshments.

SATURDAY 5TH FEBRUARY. Large clearout vintage spares at Selwood Club, Rode Bird Gardens, Rode.

SUNDAY 20TH FEBRUARY 2000. Club visit to the Radstock Museum. This is a brand new museum that has just opened this year. It is situated right in the centre of Radstock and is easy to locate. Just turn up at 2pm. The entry fee is only £3.

SATURDAY 4TH MARCH 2000. The Wessex Stationary Engine Club Ltd second Spring "Engine Jumble" at Winchester Farm, Cheddar. Sellers £5. Buyers £1. 8am onwards. No need to book. For details ring 01749 342671.

SPECIAL WESSEX EVENT. PLEASE NOTE NEW DETAILS. SUNDAY 26TH MARCH. Conducted Tour of Foster Yeomans Quarry at Merehead, Nr Frome. Only go to The Strode Arms, Cranmore if you require a pint or lunch, otherwise meet at the entrance to the quarry by 2.45pm for the conducted tour by coach (the quarry is over one mile across and is the largest quarry in Europe). The cost is only £2 per head. The coach is already filling up fast so if you wish to reserve your seat ring Jackie on 01373 463526 now or you will miss out.

SUNDAY 9TH APRIL 2000. Spring Crank-Up at Nunney Catch Transport Cafe.

MONDAY 24TH APRIL 2000. Mells Daffodil at Mells, Nr Frome. More details in the New Year.

***** A WARNING TO ALL MEMBERS *****

I know how much you all enjoy an auction, but I feel you should be made aware of the extortionate terms that were levied by the Auctioneers, Staggs of Tiverton over their sale at Finlake in October. I put in 10 lots that made £48.50. When I received my cheque I could not believe my eyes, for I only received £24.41, the commission taken was £20.50. In other words they charged £2 per item or 10% whichever ever the greater. Another Vendor had almost £400 deducted, another who brought 80 lots finished up owing £1.50 to the Auctioneers. For these unscrupulous people to have taken advantage of our fellow members and our hobby is too bad, and when I spoke to the Auctioneers expressing my disappointment they were not at all bothered and told me they do not want small lots at their sales. I informed them that I felt it my duty to inform my Club of the results of this sale, to which they were not at all concerned.

BRIAN LOVELL.



BRAIN TEASERS



Solve the following anagrams. Clue; they're all engines!

ONE APPLE		HE MARRY'S SASI	
LOAN TINA		N. ZOREL	
RED GRAN		DAB MORF	
STARE		TRIVIA CO.	
NOBS TACKLE		ELIE MOTH	
STILER		V.TOSER	
FLOWER		HELL! NO WAND	
SAM OWED		O FARMER BAN KISS	
E.Y.GNAT		DRAB ERN	
TIMER SPAN		AQUA BEAN	

WORDSEARCH-

Find the words from the list in the grid below, but beware, there will be one you cannot find.

W I C O A B T N I F F A R A P
E E X H A U S T L R A P U M P
G N S N E N I Y D B U L E E Y
C G E S Y R W J U K W N T M B
O I R I E H A L N A D R A M S
M N T T E X L A T C O G A L N
P E A E E D R E B L N T E T R
R D L R O C R B N E H N N F O
E Y R G R T R O T I O K E A H
S E A M A N C O E T M Q B H N
S L T N Y R E T S I L A Y S O
I L K E C O L I E S N L I M T
O O I L E R P J E V L A V A S
N R R G G I R G L A C E U C U
S T A T I O N A R Y E A Y J R

AMANCO MAGNETO BULLDOG
OILER CROSSLEY PISTON
CRANK UP PETROL COG
COMPRESSION PARAFFIN PUMP
CAMSHAFT RALLY ENGINE
RUSTON HORNSBY EXHAUST
STATIONARY FLYWHEEL TROLLEY
GRIGG VALVE HOBBS
WICO LISTER WESSEX
WATERTANK

The missing word is.....

SOLVE BOTH ANAGRAMS AND THE WORDSEARCH FOR A YEARS FREE MEMBERSHIP - SEND ENTRIES TO
JACKIE LAMBERT, 15 BEECHWOOD AVENUE, FROME, SOMERSET BA11 2AX

The winning entry will be drawn at the January club meeting. If you don't want to cut up
your newsletter, send a photocopy or answers on a postcard, but please remember to add your
name and address

Name.....

Address.....