DECEMBER 2006



WESSEX STATIONARY ENGINE CLUB LIMITED

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

NEWSLETTER

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

As Editor and Chairman I would like to wish all our members and readers a very merry Christmas and a very happy New Year. After a very successful year for the club during 2006 I shall look forward to seeing you all at the events and meetings planned for 2007. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the members who supported club events in the past year, and also supported the raffles with gifts of prizes.

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

Monday 27th November saw a "full house" at the Old Down Inn for an evenings entertainment by our old friend Mike Horler giving a brilliant talk and slide show entitled "The Wheel-rights Shop." Mike used to employ five men making wheels and carts in his workshop. His work was for customers such as the Science Museum, Showerings, famous Brewery's etc. He also had a selection of tools of the trade on show. I think the members who attended must agree it was a splendid presentation enjoyed by everyone present. Mike's talk was followed by the usual large raffle for club funds. Another well supported event was the "Anti-freeze crank up at Nunney Catch Transport Café. Despite a very unfavourable weather forecast we had quite a good turn out of engines of all shapes and sizes. We also had two world war two Jeeps, one of which belonged to our secretary Arthur, two 1930's Morris 8's, one of these was a 1937 two seater tourer that Colin Baker had only purchased the week before. A nice Riley Elf was brought into the line up by Sam Jackson and a Morris Minor completed the car line-up. The Café was doing a roaring trade with cooked breakfasts and roast dinners. Jackie Callow and daughter Emma came back for the day to cook for the new owners, so many thanks to Jackie and Emma for looking after us all so well. Since Gordon and Jackie sold the Café Emma has gone back there to work full time. Despite an awful weather forecast the day stayed dry. When everyone had finished their lunch and vacated the café we held the raffle. With over fifty prizes on offer nearly everyone had a prize. Young Oliver had the first winning ticket out, he promptly picked up a vintage car book that he knew Colin had his eye on and gave it to him, quite an unselfish act I thought. After the raffle was over everyone loaded up and headed for home, glad to get out of the cold wind that always seems to blow at Nunney. Many thanks to all the members who attended, and a very big thank you to the members who brought along prizes and made the raffle so successful. Diane Davis done sterling work selling raffle tickets all the morning in the bitter cold wind and raising the magnificent sum of £133. Well done Diane.

I have been Editor of this newsletter since I took over from Robin in 1994. I have had great pleasure in doing the newsletter over the years but now it is time to hand over to someone else. I would like to thank all the members who have kept me supplied with material for all that time and I sincerely hope you will do the same for Kim who is my successor. Would you now send your articles to **Kim Siddorn 9 Durleigh Close**, **Headley Park**, **Bristol**. **BS13 7NQ**. Any copy that I have not had room to publish yet will be passed on to Kim for future use.

FOR SALE Lister "A" Tank Cooled. In good working order, with rebuilt magneto and new cooling tank. £300 o.n.o. Petter Junior Oil Engine. 1926. 5hp. As found, in good running order. £340 o.n.o. May part exchange both engines for good model engine or W.H.Y. For full details ring Eric on 01225 754374. Trowbridge area.

The club would like to wish the following members a very happy birthday. Herb Gane and Maureen Gay both celebrate their birthdays on December 3rd. best wishes to you both. A happy birthday to Colin Baker who celebrated his birthday on the 8th December by buying himself a vintage Morris 8. A very special birthday wish to Liz Smith who has a birthday on December 22nd. Liz has been waiting for a long time for a kidney transplant as she has to undergo daily dialysis, we wish you well Liz and we hope Arthur has spared no expense on your present. Last but not least birthday wishes to Dot Watts who always celebrates her birthday on the same day as our mince-pie crank-up, December 27th. Hope to see you at the crank-up Dot, Ill buy you a birthday drink.

The club would like to send a get well message to Sally Marshall who has broken her arm, to make matters worse it is her right arm. I guess Phil will have to do the cooking and housework from now on. Anyway Sally we hope you soon make a speedy recovery.

Gwen and Dave Large have both recently been in hospital with illness, they are both now back home and we wish them a speedy recovery and hope to see them soon.

The club would like to thank Tom Randall for once again producing another excellent Christmas card for the club. Tom has been doing this for the club for many many years and we are deeply indebted to him for carrying out this important task for us at this busy time of the year. Thanks Tom.

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 27th. MINCE-PIE Crank-up at the OLD DOWN INN. This is the last event of the year so a good turn out would be appreciated. Hot mince pies and sausage rolls will be handed out, come early and make sure of yours. The pub will be open for drinks etc. goods for sale will be welcome. The usual Wessex raffle will take place, prizes will be appreciated. Come along and get some fresh Mendip air in you and work off all that Xmas turkey.

MONDAY JANUARY 29th. Club night at the Old Down Inn. Guest speaker, member Keith Nash. A talk and slide show on the travels and history of a 1919 Gregoire Car. This is the first meeting of yet another new year, lets have a good turnout to support one of our own members taking the hot seat for the evening. I can tell you it will be an evening not to miss. The usual raffle will complete the evening's entertainment.

<u>SUNDAY 8th FEBRUARY</u> Crank-up at the Portman Arms East Chinnock. On the A30 between Yeovil and Crewcerne. 9am onwards. For further details ring John Patton 01460 242039. Food is available in the pub.

MONDAY FEBRUARY 26th A.G.M. at the Old Down Inn. Be there.

In last months newsletter I stated that I was standing down as Chairman and Editor. I am really pleased that another member has volunteered as editor and that is one less job taking up my time, and I wish Kim all the best for taking it on. However when it comes to someone taking on the task of secretary and chairman the response has been abysmal to say the least. We have not had one nomination for secretary, and only one name put forward for chairman. Arthur has intimated that he would continue as secretary, but only if I continue as chairman, he is not prepared to carry on under a new chairman. This put me in a dilemma. After much thought, in the interest of the club, I have decided to carry on as Chairman for a further term. In other words I have done what politicians are always doing, a U turn. I hope this meets with members approval. I'm very pleased to say that we have three members wanting to come on as committee members, I hope you will vote all three in at the AGM. This will mean the committee will be at full strength once again.

THANKS, CLUB CHANGES, AND STOP PRESS

You will have read in the last month's newsletter Rob Armstrongs article on how to bring a generator back to life. I hope this excellent report will be of help to any of you that are hoping to raise your volts. May I through the newsletter convey my thanks once again to Rob who found time to make several visits to my home in what was to be a busy time for him.

To fill you in on the power unit driving the generator it's a twin cylinder radiator cooled Stuart Turner that was all boxed in with a tin box that I have now removed to reveal all of the workings and am building a curved canopy to keep the rain off if we take it to a show. The unit is fixed to an old style W.D.type trailer which has old artillery wheels (600 x 20) I mention this as I could do with a spare wheel if anyone has one but give me a ring first as there are several different five stud hole dimensions, so for now I am changing my trailer (see last months add) for a slightly wider one so I can piggy back it around if I want to.

CLUB CHANGES

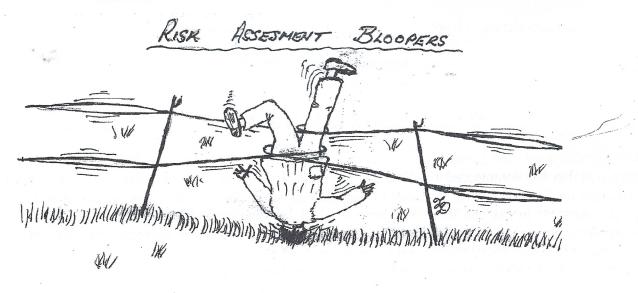
As you know things are changing with our club management, after 12 years as chairman and newsletter editor Brian is going to have a rest, extremely well deserved after such a long stint in this position, holding down two jobs is no mean feat. During his chairmanship we have seen our club membership steadily rise and our event calendar has been filled to capacity with enjoyable fixtures for all of us to enjoy I know we will all wish him well in his well earned retirement and he will leave his position with pride when looking back at the club's achievements. It looks as though another key job on our committee will be coming vacant as our Secretary Arthur is standing down and this position will need to be filled for us to continue running as a Limited Company. Arthur has been Secretary for several years now and has been the main instigator in putting our Event programme together, he has great contacts for guest speakers and is often in touch with other club organisers pooling information, so we will have another void on our committee that must be filled.

When I look back to when our Club was first formed many of us were in our mid thirties and we have all grown older together and now either approaching or in our retiring years we ought to be easing up a bit on how much we take on that doesn't mean you can't play a good tune on an old fiddle but we have to be realistic, to maintain any continuity within our club and keep it healthy and vibrant we have to have new blood and ideas. Please talk among yourselves and come along to the AGM with your suggestions for the future.

STOP PRESS

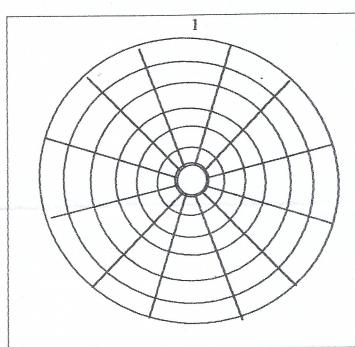
I have just heard from a reliable source that the model engineering exhibition at London's Olympia has been cancelled. It was due to take place at the end of December, I am told a new date and venue is being arranged so don't make the journey until you check this out for yourself ROBIN

Subscriptions for 2007 are now due. They remain the same at £9 for a single and £11 for a double, and only £1 for Junior members under 18. Send your cheques to Jackie Lambert, 15 Beechwood Avenue, Frome, Somerset. BA11 2AX. Made out to WSEC Ltd. Don't forget this newsletter will not continue to drop through your letter box if you are not a paid up member..



Tony Davis

WESSEX MINDBENDER



- 1. Country.
- 2. Kilt Pattern.
- Unkempt Child.
- 4. 1 of 4 Seasons.
- 5. Come Back.
- Man's Headdress.
- 7. ?.. Bowling.
- 8. Sing together.
- 9. Stand Down.
- 10. An Idea.
- 11. Cricket Team.
- 12. Small Dried Grape.

Moving clockwise from the outer circle will spell out a well-known Stationary
Engine. All six letter words ending in N. Answer:-

WHERE CAN YOU FIND THESE TOURIST ATTRACTIONS

Fleet Air Arm Museum	*** ***
Milestones Living History Museum	
The Black Country Museum	
The Anson Engine Museum	
Dingles Steam Village	
The British Lawn Mower Museum	
Which Railway finishes at Boot	
Snaefell Motor Bike Museum	***************************************
The Museum of Army Flying	

Please send all entries to Jackie Lambert, 15 Beechwood Avenue, Frome, Somerset BA11 2AX. The winner will receive a **FREE** membership for 1 year and the winning name will be drawn out at the January meeting.