

WESSEX STATIONARY ENGINE GLUB LIMITED

JANUARY 2002.

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NEWSLETTER

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

With the problems due to foot and mouth for rally organisers and clubs now behind us hopefully we can look forward to a good season of rallying during 2002. One thing I would like to see during 2002 is for every exhibitor displaying a discriptive log sheet of the details of their engine by their exhibits. Also if you enter an event make an effort to attend, as too many organisers are getting let down by non attendance of people who have entered. A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL.

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

The last event of 2001 was the Mince Pie Crank Up which was held at a new venue at Ston Easton, Not far from the Old Down Inn where we hold our monthly meetings. Although it was a bitterly cold day about 30 engines turned up, and a steady stream of members and friends came and went during the day. There were hot mince pies and sausage rolls on offer and unlimited cups of tea and coffee. These refreshments were in the capable hands of Christine and William Rogers, Linda Pike, Freda Kerley, Mary Verrall and co, many thanks to you all. A super raffle that had about 50 prizes on offer thanks to the generous donations from members raised about £130, after paying for the hall, the food and the raffle prizes we still had £48 for club funds. Thank you to all who braved the weather and attended, and thanks to all who contributed to the raffle. A full programme of events are already planned for 2002. The forward planning for the rally is well advanced with all the services booked including the bar and the catering. The next major event is the AGM, lets have a really good turnout for this. Also a good response is required for the "SOMERSET SORTOUT" at Cheddar, turn out your unwanted "junk" and turn it into cash, only a fiver for a pitch.

OBITUARY

THE SUDDEN DEATH HAS RECENTLY OCCURRED OF JOHN MOORE. JOHN WAS A MEMBER OF SOMERSET VINTAGE FARMING CLUB AND WAS A REGULAR EXHIBITOR AT ALL WESSEX STATIONARY ENGINE CLUB EVENTS. JOHN COULD ALWAYS BE SEEN WITH HIS TRAILER MOUNTED ENGINE AND LARGE CORN MILL, JOHN USUALLY HAD MORE FLOUR OVER HIMSELF THAN OVER THE MILL. HIS CHEERFUL PRESENCE WILL BE SADLY MISSED AT FUTURE EVENTS.

R. I. P.

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

The Wessex Stationary Engine Club would like to welcome the following new members to our club. Mr Trevor Ware of Congresbury and Mr and Mrs Tony Carter of Bruton Somerset. We hope your membership with our club will be a long and happy one.

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

The Club would like to wish a very happy birthday to Bill Appleby who had a birthday on the 6th January. Bill is one of our oldest and longest serving members and we all wish him well

MINCE PIE CRANK UP AT STON EASTON THURSDAY 27th DECEMBER 2001

There seemed to be quite a good turnout for this little event, although a cold wind and a new location may have kept some people away. This crank up is normally held at Nunney Catch Transport café, but Gordon and Jackie had gone away on holiday, leaving their daughter in charge and didn't feel it was fair for all of us to visit! A good selection of about 30 engines attended, as always driving an assortment of pumps and generators. One engine which seemed to be attracting a lot of attention was Brian Reeds from Langford unrestored Bernard B2 No 38810. This engine was bought at the Yeovil "Sortout" 6 weeks ago and this was its first rally. Unfortunately Brian has no history for this engine, but it certainly looks interesting. Also being exhibited was a 1942 Fordson Standard Steel Agricultural tractor owned by Brian Lovell from Ilton. This beautifully restored tractor starts on petrol and then runs on paraffin. An interestingly named engine was the one and a half horsepower Associated Line "Johnny Boy" made by The Associated Manufactures Co, Iowa, USA. Due to the cold conditions the raffle was held at 1-35 in the village hall, where teas, coffees and mince pies and sausage rolls were being served all day. With over 50 prizes to choose from, (Colin Baker managed to leave a few for the rest of us) after winning 7. After the raffle ended, I think most people made a quick getaway to warm homes, but the event was thoroughly enjoyable. JONATHAN HOCKEDY.

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OF INTEREST TO MEMBERS WITH ACCESS TO THE INTERNET.

Below are listed some web sites that may be interesting to stationary engine enthusiasts.

WESSEX STATIONARY ENGINE CLUB. http://www.bath.ac.uk/~ensegb/wsk.htm

ERIC BRAIN.

http://www.bath.ac.uk/~ensegb/home.htm

ERIC'S LINKS.

<hath://www..bath.ac.uk/~ensegb/ebeng3.htm>

STATIONARY ENGINE CLUB.

HARROLDS HOMEPAGE.

<http://www.oldengine.org/members/harrold/>

PETER FORBES ENGINE PAGES.

<www.oldengine.org/members/diesel/->

HAPPY SURFING. The Editor would like to thank founder member Eric Brain For supplying the information for this article.

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

FOR SALE 1994 TWO BERTH COMPASS CARAVAN. Complete with porch awning, fridge, heater, toilet, spare wheel, wheel lock, step and gas cylinder. This caravan has hardly been used and is a very reluctant sale. £1500. Please ring 01454 411487. (Bristol Area).

FOR SALE ADJUSTABLE PRESS. Approx 6 ft high, 2ft 6 ins wide. Of steel channel construction. 18 ins spiral wheel with ratchet control. £30. Tel Robin on 01373 463526 Frome area.

FOR SALE COLCHESTER 6 inch STUDENT LATHE, which has 3 inch gap bed and can swing up to 18 inch material, complete with 3 and 4 jaw chucks including inside and outside jaws, faceplate, lots of tooling, and has multispeed gearbox, runs on single phase motor and is ready for work. £650. Tel 01373 463526. Frome.

FOR SALE PEGSON WATER PUMP. On barrow type trolley £30. Lister domestic water pump, on base with tank, £40. Ring after 6 pm on 07974 660949. Glastonbury area.

WANTED FARMER WANTS A WIFE. Must be good at keeping house and cooking, good at ploughing, milking, mucking out, haymaking, hedge laying etc. Must own modern tractor. PLEASE SEND PHOTOGRAPH OF TRACTOR.

I joined a coach party at Bridgwater for a visit to the JCB works at Rocester in Staffordshire, organised by a member of the Sedgemoore Club. We arrived at a very modern building that is fronted by several ornamental lakes that are stocked with fish, and home to a very wide selection of waterfowl. Our guides received us ans had an introduction to the creation of the company JCB by way of an introductory film in a very plush theatre, then we split into 4 parties for our tour, which was most interesting. Our tour started with the cutting out of flat plate ,the familiar shapes that we have all seen on the finished machines we all know. Following the jigging and welding there came the making of the pins. As we proceeded there was the shotblasting and then the painting process where every part is painted before assembly. On the assembly line there were all sizes of Diggers being produced, not just one size. There were telescopic handlers also being built on another line. After assembly each machine is put through a rigorous session of operation over a period of 40 minutes, where every movement the machine can make is made to happen to see if it will fail. The visit was over far to quickly after which we had refreshments, and time to purchase items from the gift shop. Our visit had lasted about three and a half hours and we had walked three miles during our most enlightning and instructive tour. During the return journey our party stopped at a prearranged friendly hostelry where we had a meals of our choice served by an efficient staff without having to wait. In all, the days trip had been most enjoyable, a comfortable coach, a considerate driver, good organisation and above all, good company.

YOUR TRAVELLING SCRIBE

BRIAN LOVELL:

****** NEWS IN BRIEF *******

WROUGHTON: Fans of vintage transportation will have more chances to check out the collection at the Science Museum in Wroughton from this year. A new programme of guided tours around the collection will take place on the first and third Wednesday of every month. As they are open on a daily basis the idea is to provide another chance for people to have access to the collection. The Science Museum at Wroughton Airfield houses vintage aircraft dating back to the 1920s as well as old tractors, cars, lorries, buses, and fire engines. For more information call Swindon 814446.

This snippet was sent in by club member J P Millar of Swindon.

SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 2002 ARE NOW DUE. £10 FOR A DOUBLE, £8 FOR A SINGLE AND £1 FOR JUNIOR MEMBERS UNDER !8. PLEASE SEND SUBSCRIPTIONS TO JACKIE LAMBERT 15 BEECHWOOD AVENUE FROME SOMERSET BA11 2AX. MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO WESSEX STATIONARY CLUB LTD.

****** MILITARY VEHICLE TRUST RALLY ******* BERKELEY CASTLE JULY 4th and 5th.

Last year Val and I visited the Military Vehicle Trust Rally at Berkeley Castle. We enjoyed the ring events and the wonderful variety of transport of all sizes spanning most of the 20 century from all over the globe. We put it down on our list to go again this year. We were at the Castle Coombe rally this year and I got talking to the severnside group of the MVT, and asked them if I could bring my military generators. The response was as long as it's military bring it along, and I got an entry form. The pass and details duly arrived so I prepared the machinery and got ready to go. We were unable to attend on the Saturday and camp because of family issues and the fact Val had been under the weather recently, so I loaded up and took of on Sunday morning. I followed the signs and drove around the outside of the field looking for somewhere to stop. The situation is great there with the red bulk of Berkeley Castle overlooking the field. I came across an unoccupied spot between the "Israeli Army" and a family with a smart air-portable Land Rover and an equally smart Canam 500cc Bombadier Motorbike. I asked the man with the bike where to park and he replied "anywhere you like mate". I disposed of my yellow Ford Escort Mk 1 (sticking out like a sore thumb) to the other side of the bridge where the civvy tents, caravans and cars were kept. For once my drab looking engines did not look out of place, like they do when they are in amongst all the shiny, red, blue, and green, brass covered machinery. I have now found a source of the right colour paint for the small generator, but it comes in 5 litre tins! More than one person said they had one and didn't know what to do with it. I plugged the Stationary Engine Magazine and the Wessex Stationary Engine Club. The main attraction were the military vehicles with ring parades and an old friend of the Wessex, Gerry Burr assisting with the comentary. His knowledge of the vehicles was great, and he could relate tales about driving a good few of them . A recovery demonstration took place with a huge American "Ward la France wrecker towing two Stuart Light Tanks (also known as Honey's) around the arena. Stuart tanks aren't all that light- the ones at the show were fitted with two Cadillac V8 engineseach. There were reenactments which involved firing cannons from all ages by the Honourable Corps of Artillery. If you have an engine which was used by the military, British, US, French, Czech, Russian or whatever and it is in military colours then you can enter to. Brian and Henry had better do a quick repaint on those blue Coventry Victors! The organisers do not cater for engines so you will need your own ropes and stakes. British engines with a military pedigree are; Douglas, both vertical singles and flat twins, Scott, Jowett, Petter "A" Villiers, The v engine Mk 25, Coventry Victors, Norman, Singles and twins, Wolseley WD's, JAP models 2A, 4B, 5and 6 and a water cooled one, BSA Chore Horse, OEC Cub Diesel, Royal Enfield singles and twins, (two stroke, petrol and diesel,) Stuart Turner, Fowler, Scammell, Fire Pumps, Coventry Climax, Triumph 500 all alloy twins (becane the GP Motorcycle engine and was raced after the war, Turner diesel singles and twins were used on board Navy ships, I hope I havent left many out. While our cousins from across the Atlantic had; Onan, Johnson Iron Horse, Pioneer G ene- Motor, Blue Diamond, Briggs and Stratton, models Nand Z, Hercules, etc. We will be going again.

VAL AND ALAN ROGERS. E-mail alan_g6htz@talk21.com

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

MONDAY FEBRUARY 25th. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AT THE OLD DOWN INN. STARTS AT 8pm. THIS IS YOUR CHANCE TO HAVE YOUR SAY HOW THE CLUB IS RUN AND TO ELECT THE COMMITTEE FOR THE COMING YEAR. ONLY PAID UP MEMBERS WILL BE ALLOWED TO VOTE.

SATURDAY MARCH 2nd Wessex "somerset sortout" at winchester farm cheddar. 8pm onwards. Pitches only £5 regardless of Size. Buyers only £1. For further details ring 01749 342671.

MONDAY MARCH 25th Club night at the old down inn. Talk by John pomeroy including slide show on the restoration of his albion lorry and the road run to John-o-groats.