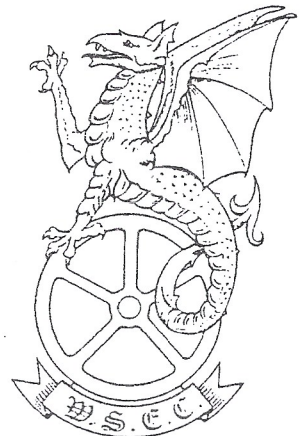


# **WESSEX STATIONARY ENGINE CLUB LIMITED**

~~JUNE~~ 2001  
JULY

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## **NEWSLETTER**

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### **\*\*\*\*\* EDITORIAL \*\*\*\*\***

With a membership in excess of 300 I would reasonably expect a steady supply of articles and material for publication in this Newsletter. This however is just not happening, you are all being put to shame by a thirteen year old schoolboy who regularly reports on our Crank-Ups etc, Jonathon Hockedy is one of our Junior Members and calls himself 'Junior Reporter'. Thank you for your valued contribution to this Newsletter Jonathon, long may it continue.

### **\*\*\*\*\* CHAIRMAN'S REPORT \*\*\*\*\***

A number of members have asked me lately why we run a rally? With all the hard work involved and considerable financial risk, when we could have a Crank-Up instead, which are proving to be very popular with members at the moment and incur little effort and no risk. Well this was discussed at a recent Committee meeting and a unanimous vote for holding an annual rally was the result. So circumstances permitting we will be putting on our usual Rally in 2002. After writing about thefts of engines and parts in last months Newsletter, it appears that some of the engines stolen from the Anson Museum have been recovered, no doubt the facts of this theft will be known to us all in the due course of time. The June meeting at The Old Down consisted of a brilliant talk and slide show by our own Rob Armstrong, Rob was given the task of clearing a site in Portsmouth Docks that had been a Royal Navy storage area for arms and ammunition and explosives since the 1700's. One of the methods Rob used to completely clear one building of explosives was to burn the building to the ground. Drastic action indeed. His entire talk kept the assembled audience enthralled, added to by touches of Rob's wry humour. Many thanks Rob for a very entertaining and informative evening. Robs talk was followed by a tabletop auction. A variety of goods were on offer ranging from a pair of boots to a very old D.C. converter. I conducted the auction (a job I always enjoy doing) and with the raffle raised a welcome sum for the Club.  
BJB.

### **\*\*\*\*\* CONGRATULATIONS \*\*\*\*\***

Congratulations to Roger and Linda Pike on becoming grandparent's for the first time. A Grandson Harry. Linda has now got to get used to being called 'Granny' and Roger is on the look out for a Lister 'D' for Harry.

### **\*\*\*\*\* SATURDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> - BIRKIN HOUSE, STINSFORD, DORCHESTER \*\*\*\*\***

The occasion was the annual fete held on the front lawns of this very well kept house. The many stalls included books, bric-a-brac, plants, hoopla, crafts, skittles, archery etc, together with the beer tent, refreshments including the cake stall and ice creams. In the car park members of the West Dorset Club organised a display of engines and tractors, a large raffle was held, organised by Less Cuff and Wendy Bevan with the proceeds going to the Air Ambulance. Also in support were a good selection of classic cars.

**BRIAN LOVELL.**



## **TRIBUTE TO DENNIS ARTHUR HODGES WHO DIED PEACEFULLY AT HIS HOME IN COLEFORD ON MONDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2001, AGED 73 YEARS.**

Dennis was a W.S.E.C member since the early days of the Club. Since I joined the W.S.E.C. I have got to know Dennis very well and have always regarded him as a very good friend indeed. Whatever adversity befell him, Dennis always seemed to be happy and smiling, his humour, quick wit and friendly banter will be sadly missed. He was a regular exhibitor with his engines at Wessex events and a regular attendee at the monthly meetings at The Old Down. He was involved with many activities including Coleford Flower Show, the local Carnival Club, the local church and he like his gardening. Men of his calibre can never be replaced, and I am very proud indeed to have been one of his friends. Dennis recovered a couple of years ago from a serious illness and operation from which he was not expected to survive, survive he did, only to be struck with another illness which eventually took his life, both these illnesses he took in his stride and battled bravely against them without complaint. I am privileged indeed to have known Dennis. The World in general and the W.S.E.C. in particular will be a sadder place without him. Our sincere sympathy and condolences go out to Sybil and their two Sons and their Daughter in their very sad loss.

**BJB.**

### **\*\*\*\*\* SUNDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> JUNE – THE WESSEX CRANK-UP AT NUNNEY CATCH \*\*\*\*\***

Due to the cancellation of this Clubs annual Show it was decided to hold an extra Crank-Up at this now regular venue during the winter months. I arrived at about 8.30 to find many engines already in place at this well known 'Truck Stop', with its large area of concrete parking. When the event was in full swing, there were 60 stationary engines driving a wide variety of pumps, generators and agricultural appliances, a collection of very nice petrol cans and of tobacco tins, 1 Triumph motorcycle, a Wrigley motor truck, 2 Austin 7's, a Ford Anglia and a Fordson model N, backed up by 7 stalls and autojumble to sort over for bargains. After having a cooked lunch in the café, the usual raffle was conducted by Brian Baker assisted by many of his hard working committee. Well done lads for a most enjoyable day.

**BRIAN LOVELL.**

### **\*\*\* WRINGTON SCHOOL FETE \*\*\***

On the 30<sup>th</sup> June at 12.30pm we arrived at Wrington Primary School where it was the first Fete they had held there. The Fete started at 2.30 by then there were 15 engines and 2 tractors in the line up. It was a lovely day with a bit of a breeze blowing. Bob Lodge organised the engines and also ran a raffle with some nice prizes, which made £28.50 for the School. There was also games and sports for the children (young and old). But it was too windy for the hot air balloon to be inflated. A young lad named Daniel Thornwell with a Petter 1.5hp won a prize for the best engine.

**COLIN NICHOLSON.**

### **\*\*\*\*\* GET WELL SOON \*\*\*\*\***

The W.S.E.C. would like to wish a speedy recovery to member Ed Thorne of Bridgwater who sustained numerous serious injuries recently when he fell from his roof, his Son John has since told me he is now on the mend and out of Hospital. (Next time you get on your roof to adjust your aerial for goodness sake wear a parachute). **ED.**



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

**SUNDAY AUGUST 5TH - ANNUAL COACH TRIP TO SWINDON RAILWAY MUSEUM AND SHOPPING COMPLEX.** Depart Nunney Catch 9am, fare including entrance to Museum £8.50, children free, your last chance to book, ring Jackie on 01373 463526.

**SATURDAY AUGUST 11TH - CLUTTON FLOWER SHOW.** WANTED stationary engines, tractors, cars, motorcycles, static exhibits etc. Contact 01761 470186 for further details.

**MONDAY AUGUST 20<sup>TH</sup> - CLUB NIGHT AT THE OLD DOWN INN.** Talk by Philip Thornton-Evison. Please note early date due to Bank Holiday, Usual raffle.

**SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 2ND - MENDIP MAYHEM AT BRIAN FEARS GARAGE, NR OAKHILL.** Crank-Up and Car Boot, usual raffle, prizes appreciated. This event goes ahead with approval by the N.F.U and local farmers. For further details or to book your place ring Roger on 01761 233028, sorry no room for camping.

**SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 23<sup>RD</sup> - 'CRANKS AT THE SHIP'.** Crank-Up at The Ship and Castle, Congesbury. Ring Ian on 01934 834943 to book your place.

**SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 22<sup>ND</sup> - 12 Engines required for THE SOMERSET AND DORSET RAILWAY** at Midsomer Norton Station, extends to evening entertainment and B-B-Q. For further details ring Roger on 01761 452565.

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

**TWO LISTER D TYPES**, both in good mechanical condition with correct serial plates, but both dismantled and about 95% complete, they are both good to make one out of two, but as they are both partly dismantled and in one box it would be easier to sell them together, dry stored, not rusty £25 each or £40 the two.

**COVENTRY CLIMAX 850cc 4 cyl. 3.5 KVA petrol generator set**, ex W.D., ex miners Arms, Priddy as a stand-by owned by me for over 20 years, manual available, offers over £100 please.

**RICHMOND AND CHANDLER** corn roller mill, complete in original colours, but needs a repaint/restoration £30, might throw in a Bentall Chafcutter as well for the price if I'm in a good mood on the day. 200 volt dc motor/generator, not big, not heavy £20.

*For further details ring Eric on 01761 452633, Clutton area.*

**SMALL SAWBENCH**

Cast iron frame, single phase, electric motor, approx. 8" saw £50.

Tel: 01749 840821.

Gurney Slade.

**SERVICES.**

**SIGNWRITING OR LINING**

Ring Stephen Morris on Gurney Slade **01749 840130**, he comes highly recommended by one of our members who had engine lining done by him, reasonable charges.

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

Dear Brian,

Thank your members so much for attending our School Fete on Saturday with your display of engines. We much appreciate you all giving up your time, I am delighted to report we raised an amazing £2800. We were extremely fortunate with the weather, but our success was as a direct result of the support from people such as yourself. Thank you once again, and I do hope you all enjoyed the time spent with us. Yours sincerely,

**GLEN DARNELL**

**HEADTEACHER, ROWDEFORD SCHOOL, ROWDEFORD, DEVIZES.**



\*\*\*\*\* **CRANK-UP AT NUNNEY CATCH TRANSPORT CAFÉ**  
**– SUNDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2001** \*\*\*\*\*

As always, there was a large turnout for this Crank-Up, so cars had to be packed very tightly. The weather was, thankfully, dry, but there was a cold wind. 61 engines were displayed, a Fordson tractor, Rigley motortruck, and a Ford Anglia super Sportsman. There was also a large amount of various engine parts/spares for sale and a Club stall selling clothes, ornaments and various other items. There was also a large collection of polish and tobacco tins, an interesting and unusual addition. The smallest engine displayed was a Stirling Cycle hot air engine, running on a butane/propane mix, owned by Mr R Grant. The Stirling engine was invented by Robert Stirling, a Scottish Minister, in 1816 as a safer alternative to steam engines, as it could not explode. The largest engine was a Victoria 7 bhp hit and miss engine of about 1910/11, owned by Mr Brian Read, who bought it in 1982 and restored it over 1990/91R. It is the oldest engine of its size known to exist and was made by the Bristol Wagon and Carriage works. The Rigley auto (or motor) truck, believed to date from the early 1950's was found in a sorry state in a bramble bush in Coleford in 1997 and restored over 2000-2001, including the addition of a cab and trailer. The engine is a 350 Villiers, giving 3 forward and 1 reverse gear. An interesting story is that of the 1993 Austin 7 van owned and restored by Mr J Nash. The farmer whose shed it was in begged him to take it, and Mr Nash paid just £3 for it. The Fordson tractor was a model N from 1942 and was in regular use at Henlade, Nr Taunton until 1970, when it was laid up until the dispersal sale in 1978. It was subsequently discovered in a Transport yard in a very poor condition in May 1979. It was restored by Mr Brian Lovell over the next two years and is now as original. The raffle was held at 2.30pm with 48 prizes and raising £145 for the Club. After were presentations, judges by Gordon Callow and Bob Hallam and presented by the President Mr Robin Lambert, for the categories of:

**Best Engine on display – Mr Arthur Smith**      **Best Vertical Engine – Mr Alan Vickery**  
**Best Horizontal Engine – Mr Bill Coombes**      **Best Working Engine – Mr Don Rogers**  
**Best Junior Members Engine – Henry Baker**

A new award this year was the Adrian Miles Memorial Shield, awarded for **Best Original Engine – Mr Jones**. This was another good Crank-Up, my only complaint being that the clearing up and tidying away was left to the same few members again. All in all, a successful and enjoyable Crank-Up.

**JONATHAN HOCKEDY (AGED 13) - JUNIOR REPORTER**

\*\*\*\*\* **SATURDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> JUNE – WITH THE ILMINSTER LIONS CLUB** \*\*\*\*\*

This event took place at Swansmead School in Ilminster. The days events started with a tournament of 6 a side football for the under 10 year olds. This was most enlightening, as I marvelled at the skill of these young lads. During the morning we were subjected to some very heavy showers but just as the public arrived for the afternoons delightful array of stalls and displays the sun shone and everything was great. To the accompaniment of a Youth Silver Band, a car boot sale was taking place. Supporting these celebrations there were 4 stationary engines, 5 tractors, 2 lorries a model traction engine and a gentleman with his pole lathe, demonstrating his skills in turning a log into something decorative. The Ilminster emergency services in the form of Ambulance and Fire Service were also on display.

**YOUR TRAVELLING PEN**  
**BRIAN LOVELL.**

\*\*\*\*\* **SUNDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> JULY – CLASSIC CAR & BIKE SHOW,**  
**CHILCOMPTON, NR RADSTOCK** \*\*\*\*\*

When I arrived, there were the advanced signs of what was to be a very successful show. The main part of this show was Classic Cars of a very wide range of manufacturers. The motorbikes were also of a mixed make, both from home and further abroad. The commercial and army section was not too well supported, but the stationary engines and 20 tractors more than made up for the absence of the commercials. In support of these vehicles, were a good selection of displays, trade stands, bric-a-brac and the all so important auto jumble, where so many bargains and vital parts are to be found. A session of children's sports took place in the ring much to the approval of everyone, judging by the interest shown around the ring. Each group of vehicles had its turn to parade before the public. A very enjoyable event as one day shows go, but next year it is to be two days over the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> July.

**HENRY'S GUARDIAN (ALIAS BRIAN LOVELL)**