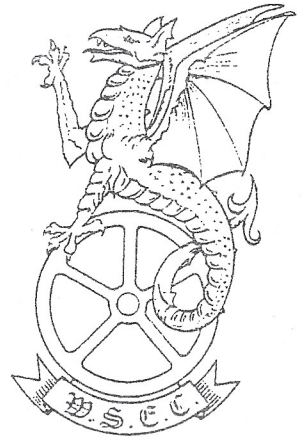


# **WESSEX STATIONARY ENGINE CLUB LIMITED**

**MARCH 2003**

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## **NEWSLETTER**



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### **##### EDITORIAL #####**

With the rally season about to start I would like to appeal to members not to enter an event unless they have every intention of attending. It is very disappointing for section stewards and organisers to have a certain number of exhibitors booked in only to find a lot of them do not actually turn up on the day. This means that too many expensive plaques are ordered and large gaps appear in the engine line up which is not good from the paying general public's point of view.

### **##### CHAIRMANS REPORT #####**

The AGM at the Old Down Inn in February was well supported with members attending from as far afield as Hampshire. I am always surprised at the AGM when it comes to Any Other Business as members then have a chance to speak and air any question they like, but nobody says a thing, with the rally moving from Cheddar to a new location and a different date I would have expected someone to comment on this issue as I'm sure every member was not in agreement with this decision. However the AGM as usual passed very quickly and new members were elected to join the committee and run the club on your behalf for yet another year. The club visit to the FLEET AIR ARM Museum at Yeovilton saw about 15 members attend. I have never visited this museum before despite the fact it is "on my doorstep" I can only say it was a brilliant display which took nearly all day to view it. Our Junior reporter Jonathon was wandering around with his notepad and pen so I think we shall have a report for a future newsletter. The other day I was reading a report of a committee meeting held when the club started over 25 years ago and recorded in the minutes book, the committee were discussing where they could hold an event or rally, someone suggested they went in with a fete or an organisation such as Clutton Flower Show, 25 years down the road we are doing exactly that, what took so long? Also at the same meeting it was suggested the secretary write to David Sheppard at Cranmore Railway Station to see if events could be held there, 25 years on our "Sortouts" are moving to Cranmore Railway Station, what amazing coincidences.

**B.J.B.**

### **ENGINES WANTED — ENGINES WANTED — ENGINES WANTED**

Engines are wanted at the following events. **BISHOP SUTTON LOCAL HISTORY DAY** at the village hall on Saturday April 26<sup>th</sup>. For times and details ring Judith Hill on 01275 332749. Also **HOLCOMBE PLAYING FIELD GALA DAY** on Saturday July 5<sup>th</sup>. Ring Dave on 01761 239221 for details. Both these local events are good venues to show your engines and "fly the flag" for the W.S.E.C.



\*\*\*\*\* CLUB NIGHT AT THE OLD DOWN INN\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\* 26<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2003 \*\*\*\*\*

Again we had a full house at the Old Down Inn for our evening meeting. I did not count those present, but with a room full to bursting point with members and guests the total must have been well over sixty. One of our guests we were pleased to welcome was George Train, George brought along his very fine traction engine to last years rally at Cheddar, and we hope we will be welcoming George and his engine to Clutton in August. I hope you enjoyed your evening with us at the Old Down Inn George. Well the evenings talk and slide show was going to be all about the Road Trains of Australia. This was given by Martin Phippard, Martin has been around trucks all his life following in his fathers footsteps, Martin started out driving trucks in Canada and later in Europe as well as Britain, he would not now want the responsibility or the pressure that are now put on today's drivers. A change then came along and Martin moved into full time journalism working for Canada's leading trucking magazine. This was way back in the 70's, later still another move saw him selling trucks for a living, this gave him more time to pursue this hobby of photographing, filming and recording the history and development of road transport. Martin has been pursuing this since the late 1960's and he tells me it is like a drug, well I know another hobby that has the same effect. Martins hobby has taken him to 44 different countries ranging from Australia to Zimbabwe and including some really unusual places such as Cuba, Jordan, Mexico, and South Africa, but this is not without it's hazards. These include nearly freezing to death in the Soviet Union in 1982, being threatened at gun point in Jordan, and Martins friend Peter being actually shot at while filming in South Africa in 1999. I will stick with stationary engines, they are not quite so hair raising. Well lets get on with the subject of the evenings talk and slide show. Australia is a big country, it's largely unpopulated and you can travel for hundreds and hundreds of miles with no sign of habitation, and that is what makes it seem so huge. It was the size of the country and the remoteness of the communities in the outback which created the need for, and the development of the road train. The very first trains were mule and camel trains, driven for hundreds of miles across the outback of Australia. The camels and their drovers came mainly from Afghanistan. The 1960's saw the gradual erosion of the British built tractor unit. Along came the Americans with their B61 Macks. Martin showed us many slides of the most modern tractor units with their multi wheeled trailers, the tractor units with twin steer front axles, and three driven rear axles, one just had to see the slides of these trucks to appreciate the physical size of them. Most of them being 175 to 200 hp and 175 ft long, all this operated by just one man. Now all you lorry drivers can really get upset as they have no driving limit on hours and no spy in the cab (taco). Its when you pull in to fill her up with fuel that the fun starts. Good day mate, fill her up will you, about 1000 gallons of diesel should do it, and these trucks only do about 2 miles to the gallon, and I thought my car was thirsty. I cannot put everything into this article that Martin told us, I have given an insight into the wonderful evenings entertainment Martin gave us all, and I hope that we can invite Martin back again in the future. I am sure that all those members present would wish me to thank Martin for a marvellous evenings entertainment

ERIC GAY.

GET WELL SOON

The club would like to wish member Roy Cox a very speedy recovery after going into hospital this month for a hip operation. We all wish you well Roy and hope your operation will be successful and you are soon out and about again, but I believe you will be absent from the rally scene for about three months. Keep us informed as to your progress.

The Committee elected at the AGM to run the affairs of the W.S.E.C. for the year 2003 is as follows.  
**President.** Robin Lambert. **Chairman.** Brian Baker. **Vice - Chairman.** Eric Gay. **Treasurer.** Jackie Lambert.  
**Secretary.** Arthur Smith. **Committee Members.** Tony Davis. Diane Davis. Phil Marshall. Steve Davies.  
Brenden Hill. Ian Skuse.



## CLUB NIGHT AT THE OLD DOWN INN FEBRUARY 24<sup>th</sup> 2003

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

### PRESIDENTS ADDRESS 2003

When I was looking back over the archives to check the dates of Ian's chairmanship I noticed that 1984 was the year that Jackie took over as Treasurer, Diane Emery was our Club Secretary, newsletter editor was Eric Brain, our raffle man was Herbie Gane, Tom Randall was club President and Brian Verrall was co-opted earlier in the year to replace Gerald Atherton. All these names and many more from this era still remain members of the W.S.E.C. I believe this speaks for itself in so much that looking back to when the club was first formed we have been fortunate in having people who care and understand what our club is all about, and are prepared to give up their time to manage our club affairs. Some 25 years on what we have now has been built on past knowledge and hard work by many dedicated people and I do so hope this will still continue for many years to come, but this can only be done if members are prepared to come forward and offer their help and but a little back if they have taken something out.

The past year has probably been one of the busiest with around 24 events laid on for members to enjoy, these vary from very entertaining club nights here at The Old Down Inn, to Crank-up's, some of which are organised by club members themselves. We also had our coach trip to St Fagans and afternoons out such as Bowlers of Bath, and Derek Hardwick's at Rangeworthy. We also gave our support to Radstock Museum with an engine display and have been asked back again this year.

You will have heard our Treasurers Report that our club is in good stead financially, much of this is due to our members in the way you generously donate raffle prizes and then purchase raffle tickets to win them back again.

Our Secretary has had a very busy year as it's often down to him to put your yearly calendar together and make sure it all runs smoothly. He is constantly on the look out for new guest speakers to come along here and entertain us, so if you know of anyone please tell Arthur and he will do the rest.

Two evenings here that I found outstanding were John Budgen and his talk on restoring church organs and Martin Phippard's presentation of Australian Road Trains. Just two very entertaining evenings never to be forgotten.

And last but not least our very own Chairman Brian, the person who oversees the team and puts our newsletter together every month. I know he has had a very successful year heading the committee meetings. He is forever worrying that he hasn't got enough material to fill 4 pages of A4 every month when the printers deadline is approaching at lightning speed.

As always thanks to the members who are not on the committee but go about their jobs to help the club. Namely Mary Butler for her hard work in getting the newsletter out every month, this is a mammoth job which she does admirably. Also the girls and William who take over selling raffle tickets when needed.

And finally Jackie and I would like to thank the club for the Honary Membership that has been given to us both. It is indeed an honour to have such an award and we thank the club very much.

**ROBIN**

**PLEASE HELP ME TO HELP THE CLUB.** For the last rally at Semmington and all others since plus crank ups and sortouts etc I have supplied road side and on site signs, up to now I have supplied over 24 boards. For these boards I have taken the prepared art work for committee approval, supplied all the primer, undercoat and gloss paint, most of the sheets of ply and the posts. Some of these boards are in storage at Cheddar, I have two and know of three others, if you know the whereabouts of any of these boards please let me know so I can collect and repair them ready for the next rally at Clutton. The club will have to pay for the next lot of materials as I am no longer in the position to do so. For any help you can give please ring Tony Davis on 01373 464982.

#### **\*\*\*\*\* CLUB SHOP \*\*\*\*\***

The club shop now has a new stock of "Wessex Stationary Engine Club Exhibit Log Sheets, printed on thicker paper, ready for the rally season. Price 15p each. Also WSEC Member Plaques £1-50p each. WSEC Lapel Badges £2-25each. WSEC Key Rings 60p each. WSEC Cloth Badges £1-00 each. WSEC Car Window Stickers 60p each. Baseball Caps with WSEC Badge £3-50 each. WSEC Sweatshirts. Small, Medium, Large, Ex Large, £17 each. For any of these items ring Diana on 01373 464982.



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

**SUNDAY APRIL 6<sup>th</sup>.** CRANK-UP AT NUNNEY CATCH. BRING AND BUY. USUAL RAFFLE. HOT FOOD AND DRINKS IN THE CAFÉ.

**MONDAY APRIL 21<sup>st</sup>.** DAFFODIL DAY AT MELLS. DETAILS FROM ROBIN ON 01373 463526.

**MONDAY APRIL 28<sup>th</sup>.** CLUB NIGHT AT THE OLD DOWN INN. GUEST SPEAKER Mr CHAS BOYAK. A TALK ON THE FAMOUS RED ARROWS.

**SATURDAY-SUNDAY 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> MAY.** ABBEY HILL STEAM RALLY. YEOVIL. Ring DEREK BOWLES ON 01935 863603.

**SATURDAY-SUNDAY 10<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> MAY.** CASTLE COMBE RALLY. TEL D MARSH ON 01454 294117.

**SUNDAY 11<sup>th</sup> MAY.** HAZELBURY BRYAN RALLY AND CAR BOOT SALE. RING DICKIE PLUMMER ON 01258 817597.

**SUNDAY 18<sup>th</sup> MAY.** CLUB CRANK-UP AT RADSTOCK MUSEUM.

**SUNDAY 1<sup>st</sup> JUNE.** TATWORTH PLAYING FIELDS 23<sup>rd</sup> MINI RALLY. TEL MO DUKE ON 01460 220786.

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**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU.**

The club would like to wish many happy returns of the day to Mary Verrell who celebrated her umteenth birthday on March the 4<sup>th</sup>. May you celebrate many many more.  
Best wishes from everyone in the club.

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The club would like to welcome new members **Mr and Mrs W. J. Bullock** from Trowbridge to our club. We hope your membership will be a long and happy one.

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

**FOR SALE** Lister CS Tank Cooled 5hp. Built 1935. Serial No Cs38088. Suitable for restoration. Offers around £50. Contact Bernard Parker on 01380 813559. (Devizes).

**FOR SALE** Radiator Cooled Stuart Turner Engine. 7hp Twin type P55. All complete just needs T.L.C. Plus spare engine. £80 the pair. Ideal for rally's or touring, "Auto Chalet" tent advertised to fit all estates. 180cms wide, 240cms long, PVC and canvas on steel frame. Windows and zip doors. As new. £150. Plus lots more camping gear, ring for prices and details. Telephone 01373 464982. Frome area.

**WANTED** Pulley for Lister Gear Pump. 12 inch diameter. 1 inch bore. 2 ½ inch face and 4 straight spokes. Also wanted 10 cwt or 1 ton trolley for moving pulley block on RSJ, or even a scissor clip to suit a 5 inch wide beam. Ring Gerald on 01934 852670 if you can help.

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