#### **MARCH 2006**



# WESSEX STATIONARY ENGINE CLUB LIMITED

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# NEWSLETTER

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\*\*\*\*\*\*\* EDITORIAL \*\*\*\*\*\*

As Editor and Chairman I was sorry to see Robin stand down as President as he was always there for help and advice whenever needed, however he is now on the committee and I'm sure that input will continue. I would like to welcome Brian Verrall as the new President of our club. Brian has been a good servant of the club in the past, serving on the committee for a number of years and was Chairman before me for five years. It is quite noticeable that it is the same dedicated members who continue to hold office in this club without much change, it is time other members took responsibility in running the club, put your name forward to come on the committee now.

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

After the full house we had at the Old Down Inn for our January meeting I thought the AGM would not be very well supported, so I was pleasantly surprised when we had quite a good attendance. The AGM went quite smoothly and I was pleased that this time under AOB we did have some questions from the floor, usually no one has anything to say. The only disappointment was, not one nomination was put forward for the vacancies on the committee. Our spring Sort-Out at Cranmore was well supported with sellers and buyers, despite snow falling a few days before, and a not very favourable weather forecast, but sunshine on the day was very welcome. As you see from this newsletter I like to report on what is happening to our members, hospital visits, birthdays, births etc, so please give me any information that I can use, it helps to keep the newsletter interesting and keep members in touch.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* BAMFORDS \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Dennis. A. Barlow 17, Atkins Way Rochester Nr Uttoxeter Staffs ST145LW Dear Sir.

I am writing to you because I think you and your members might be interested to know that my brother and I are founder members of the Bamford Engines & Machinery Group. We run only Bamford Stationary engines and my brother does the helpline in Stationary Engine Magazine. There is a website for Bamford machinery which were manufactured in Uttoxeter Staffordshire. Anyone wishing to find out anything about Bamford Machinery can visit the website at <a href="http://henrybamfordandsonsuttoxeterengland.co.uk">http://henrybamfordandsonsuttoxeterengland.co.uk</a> we will be happy to assist with dating of engines and any information we can help you with. You can also contact me on my e mail address <a href="mailto:dennis@barlowdennis1.wanadoo.co.uk">dennis@barlowdennis1.wanadoo.co.uk</a>. Yours sincerely DENNIS A BARLOW.

#### RETIRING PRESIDENTS ADDRESS A.G.M. 2006

Looking back over the past 12 months it's almost unbelievable how quickly the year has passed us by. Club meetings here at the Old Down Inn and outside events organised for us never seem to take a backward slide in their quality, things for our club members to enjoy just seem to get better and better. A quick look through last years programme listed around eleven organised events, 2 at Camerton, 3 at Nunney Catch, 2 at Cranmore, 1 Court Hotel, 1 at Mells and not forgetting Fred's fantastic BBQ. We also held our annual two day rally at Clutton. All these things do not just happen. Planning, discussion and effort by someone has to take place first and help from our membership has been exemplary, just look at how many of you turned up at the Rally site to help set up and again to clear up on the Monday, many hands make light work and what is nice to see it that those that take are also prepared to give something back. What a wonderful attitude.

Our year of inside club meetings that took place started of with young Jonathan Hockedy's illustrated talk on bank notes from around the world, we all had a history lesson that night as he was so informative and knowledgeable on this subject he showed depth that was beyond his years, we had ships in bottles, Les Davis the Mendip Warden, SS Gt Britain, Isle of Man Railways and the fearsome King Eric Blood Axe alias club member Kim Siddorn that put the fear of god into our junior members and some senior one's too with his Viking evening, a very educational and entertaining evening. Our Skittle evening had around 60 club members and friends attending even more than last year perhaps it's the fish and chip supper that draws the crowd, well done Tony & Diana for laying it all on.

During the passed year some of our club members passed away leaving a void in the lives of all who knew them. They will all be sadly missed but never forgotten.

As we all know the club does not run its self the people sat here around the table tonight make things happen for us all and they should be congratulated on how well they planned the last year. I would also like to give a special mention to our club secretary, Arthur who behind the scenes pretty well puts together our yearly programme for the committee's endorsement. Also Brian our newsletter editor who still manages to produce a four page newsletter every month as well as doing his Chairman duties, also Mary who does a stirling job making sure you all receive your newsletters, not forgetting Diana our raffle lady and the ladies than stand in for her from time to time.

As you will see from your agenda your current President is retiring. I have had the honour of this position for seven going on eight years and it's been a pleasure to have been your President for all this time it has been an accolade that I will never forget. Your committee has chosen your new President and before I introduce him to you I thought it would be nice to have a look back through the club records over many years to see how he had spent his time with the W.S.E.Club. We need to look back some 23 years to 1983 which saw him co-opted onto our committee where he always played an active roll which became even more active for him as in 1987 to 1991 he was to be the clubs main liaison and organiser of our annual rally at Cheddar Football Club, in 1990 he was elected club chairman and remained in this position for the next five years when he decided it was time for a rest, but he was back on the scene again when after a few annual rallies at Semington we were back at Cheddar only this time at Winchester Farm, once again he was in the thick of things and to this day can still be seen doing his bit for the club at many of the events we hold. So may I without further ado welcome to the table and introduce you to your new President of the Wessex S E Club - Mr Brian Verrall

### \*\*\*\*\*\*\* IT'S THE TRUTH AND NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH \*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Two Somerset Police Officers were called to attend an elderly gentleman's address in Shepton Mallet to do observations on a street where there had been a spate of milk bottle thefts. These officers arrived promptly at 7-30 am and after greeting the gentleman and checking it was still in order for them to carry out their observations from his home, they settled down by his kitchen window and waited. After an hour, and becoming anxious that there had been no movement in the street, the officers asked the man what time the offences had taken place? With a deadpan expression the old chap replied, "Oh the milkman doesn't deliver on Thursdays."

The Wiltshire Moonraker

#### **CHAIRMANS REPORT FOR 2005**

This is coming up to my twelfth year as Chairman so this is the eleventh Chairman's report I have given. And each of those years it has been a repeat of the year before, namely another successful year for the club. Our meetings and events for 2005 was well supported and attended which justified the hard work by the committee putting them on. The membership was as high as ever, and despite rising costs the membership subscription is lower than a lot of other clubs and is excellent value for money. The club finances are sound and this is thanks to our treasurer Jackie who does a marvellous job looking after the accounts and finances. We had a very good programme of events and meetings with brilliant guest speakers here at the Old Down Inn, this is due in the main to our secretary Arthur who seems to have an endless list of speakers year after year. We had a bit of a fright earlier in the year when we discovered the Old Down was changing hands, we only found this out the same week as it changed, despite having a meeting here the week before, when Bill said nothing to us. And we did not know if we could still use this as our meeting place. However the new landlord and landlady have made us very welcome and our future here is assured The only downturn last year was the rally, the rally field was all set up with the help of a brilliant team of members, the exhibits were all in place and then it rained all day on the Saturday which turned the general public away. We were lucky to be offered Clutton's marquee for our evening barbeque which turned out to be a successful end to a wet miserable day. Around a hundred members and friends assembled and enjoyed the free drinks available and polished off loads of burgers and hotdogs. The auction on the Sunday is growing, it attracted a good entry and a large crowd of buyers and seems to be popular with the members. I would like to thank all the members who contribute prizes for the raffles held during the year as these raffles are an important part of the clubs income and helps to keep the subscription charge down. It is thanks to you the members they are very well supported. I would like to thank the committee for their dedication and hard work they put in running the club and I look forward to working with them in the coming year. I can't end this report without thanking the members retiring from the committee especially Phil Marshall who has done an excellent job for the last three years, the committee will miss his input. Finally thanks to our retiring President Robin who has contributed invaluable help and advice during his presidency. I would like to welcome our new president Brian Verrall who is no stranger to serving this club as he has been on the committee before, and was Chairman before me for five years.

B.J.B.

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I would like to thank the club members who for the card and all the good wishes I received while in the Royal United Hospital in Bath, and special thanks to Arthur Smith for visiting me in his unofficial roll of the clubs welfare officer. A big thank you to all, from Henry Simmons. P.S. I have had a couple of visits at home from Jill and Bob Hallam, I am making slow progress, I hope to Make the march meeting at the Old Down Inn.

### A SOURCE OF USEFULL SPARES FOR ENGINE RESTORERS.

The following firm stocks a wide range of products suitable for any type of restorations. They are Express Bearings and Transmissions, Anglo Trading Estate, Shepton Mallet. Phone no 01749 330002. E,mail sales @ EXPRESSBEARINGS.CO.UK. Fax 01749 330003. The list of some of their products in stock are -

ADHESIVES - all engineering Types. AEROSOLS - All types. BEARINGS - metric and Imperial, Ball, Needle, Taper and Roller, all sizes. **BELTING** – Types A. B. C. D. and Z section, V belts, Flat Belts, all sizes. Timing Belts and Fan Belts. Bushes - metric and imperial, All sizes. CASTERS and wheels, all sizes. CHAINS - Agriculture, roller, stainless steel. CIRCLIPS - external, internal, stainless steel. FILTERS. Air, fuel, oil, all types and sizes. PULLEYS – A. B. C. & Z section all types and sizes. JUBILEE CLIPS, NUTS, BOLTS WASHERS ETC ETC. All the above and much much more, plus an excellent service, phone them for an immediate response. Hope this will be of some help to other none engineering types in the club. **Tony Davis** 

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WANTED Carburettor and starting handle for a Wolseley WD. Wiko EK Magneto and Petrol Tank for a Ruston Hornsby PD8. Please ring Adrian on 01749 344451.

FOR SALE. Club Shop Sale. These items reduced. Books £3. Club Hats £1-99. Polo Shirts £6. Mugs £2. Please note we are still looking for a volunteer to run the club shop. For any of these items ring Diana on 01373 464982.

President Brian Verrall. Chairman Brian Baker. Vice-Chairman Eric Gay. Secretary Arthur Smith. Treasurer Jackie Lambert. Committee Members. Robin Lambert. Tony Davis. Diana Davis. Fred Biggs. Martin Feeney. Andrea Feeney. These are the members who will be running the club on your behalf for the coming year, if you have any queries at all about club matters do not hesitate to contact any committee member who will attend to your problem. We are still short of at least one committee member at present so if any member would consider serving on the committee please let us know, as we can co-opt a new member on at any time, we don't have to wait until the next AGM.

### \*\*\*\*\*\* NEWS REEL \*\*\*\*\*\*\*

The club would like to wish a very happy birthday to three committee members who are soon celebrating their birthdays. Our Vice-Chairman has his birthday on the 28<sup>th</sup> of March, many happy returns Eric. Fred Biggs will get the champagne out on April 4<sup>th</sup>, cheers Fred. And Tony Davis will celebrate his birthday on 29<sup>th</sup> April with a knees up, try and stay sober Tony. Another member with a birthday this month is Junior member Henry Baker who is 12 years old on the 23<sup>rd</sup> March. Time certainly flies, I started taking Henry to our rallies when he was three years old.

On a more serious note, Edward Carp has just gone into hospital for a new knee, we wish you well Ed and hope you have a speedy recovery. Andrea Feeney goes into hospital on  $20^{th}$  March, our best wishes are with you Andrea and we hope you are soon out and about with us again. Henry Simmons is now out of hospital and slowly recovering from his recent operation, I hope Margaret is giving you star treatment Henry.

#### \*\*\*\*\*\* DATES FOR YOUR DIARY \*\*\*\*\*\*\*

<u>SUNDAY APRIL 2<sup>nd</sup></u> WSEC Spring Crank Up at Nunney Catch Transport Café. The café will be open for hot food and drinks. The usual raffle will be held after lunch. Prizes for the raffle will be very welcome. Static displays, bits for sale, motor cycles and cars welcome.

MONDAY APRIL 17<sup>th</sup>. Mells Daffodil Rally. This rally brings thousands of people to the village of Mells and it certainly attracts a very large entry of stationary engines. To enter ring Robin on 01373 463526

MONDAY APRIL 24<sup>th</sup>. Club night at the Old Down Inn. Guest speaker Mr-Dennis Chedgy, a presentation and talk on EARLY COAL MINING IN RADSTOCK. This sounds like a good evenings entertainment. The usual raffle will be held.

<u>SUNDAY MAY 7<sup>th</sup></u>. Club Visit. Club members are invited to visit Breamore House and Countryside Museum which is situated on the edge of the New Forest just north of Fordingbridge on the A338 main Ringwood to Salisbury road. Details of prices and times of arrival will be in the April newsletter.

