

WESSEX STATIONARY ENGINE CLUB LIMITED

MAY 2000

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NEWSLETTER



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

After the A.G.M. I appealed to members to come on the Committee to bring the Committee up to strength. The response to this appeal was absolutely zero, rather pathetic for a Club that boasts over 300 members. Well the position is much more urgent now as two members have now resigned from the Committee, which puts running the club in jeopardy. I would now like to once again appeal to members to come forward and help run the Club to which you belong, or the future of the Club is at risk. I would especially like to see some of the ex committee members bring their experience of running the club back to the committee. Please contact me on 01749 342671 if you would consider joining the Committee. The members resigning are Alan & Anne Carney (Secretary). So we are also looking for a new secretary. B.J.B.

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

As you will see from the Editorial we desperately need new members to come on the Committee, including a Secretary, come on give it some thought. The Rally preparations are coming together at the moment with entries still coming in for all sections, the bar and entertainment will this year be in a marquee in the rally field, not in the barn as last year, and this year we will have our own car park field. Any member who can help with the various jobs on the rally field will be appreciated.

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

FOR SALE. THE FROME ELECTRICITY SUPPLY CO. A chance to own your own generating plant consisting of a 8hp Ruston and Hornsby model 'A.P.', trailer mounted, complete with 110 volt dynamo and control box. A nice exhibit that has been rallied and owned by Bill and Robin for the past 20 years £1400. 1.5hp Fowler £150. Petter 1.5hp 'M' type, rugby ball hopper, needs new piston rings, a nice engine for £250. Petter 'A1' petrol £20. Petter 'A1' petrol-paraffin £25. Amanco 1 3/4hp hit and miss £450. Scott air-cooled 1.5hp rare engine £100. Coburn air-cooled 1.5hp £50. Delco lighting plant 1.5hp control board missing but believed to be 12 volt, easy restoration £75. For all of the above contact Robin on 01373 463526 who will arrange for viewing.

FOR SALE. PETTER 'A1' in really good condition on trolley with wide 3" iron wheels, new exhaust, must be seen £65 ono. Stuart R3M 3hp, 1930, 2 stroke, boot size engine £50. Can be seen at Speecheuse Rally. 3/4 ton axle trailer for sale, factory built, hardly used, can be used for sleeping in 6' x 4'6", tube frame height to 4'6" with fitted zip cover for extension and flat cover for normal use. Jockey wheel and corner legs, new tyres, spare wheel, this is ideal for rallies and must be seen, it was made to specific order, galvanised frame, Tel 029 20736437 (Wales).

FOR SALE. LISTER A easy restoration, choice of 2 £50 each. Stuart pump, ready to rally £50. Lister domestic pump, excellent condition £50, Large 12 volt dynamo and control box £25 Ring 01749 342671 for further details.

FOR SALE. BEAUTIFUL LITTLE 1973 Bailey Maru 2-berth caravan, housed all its life, pristine condition throughout £700, absolute bargain, new tyres just fitted, no offers. Wrigley three wheel truck, villiers engine, new tyres £150 Ring 01761 413020 for further details. Chilcompton area.

******* NEW MEMBER *******

The W.S.E.C. would like to welcome new member Mr A Renwick, we hope your membership will be a long and happy one.

***** **TONIGHTS SPEAKER – ANDY WESTLAKE** *****

After graduating to a powered 2 wheeler in 1969 in the form of a 125cc Vespa that saw sterling service to and from college Andy has motorcycled continuously during the ensuing 30 and a bit years. In that time he has owned and ridden some 57 machines, many of them Italian, has gained a reputation as being a fount of knowledge on bikes Italian and has restored several to show winning standard. He's competed in several of road disciplines and won numerous awards in long distance classic trials. His travels have taken him to many parts of the world (usually on Moto Guzzis) and tonight's talk is about his trip along Americas Route 66 which was part of his coast to coast ride which saw him win the I.M.T.C's Jock West Trophy for the most meritorious tour of the year.

***** **MARCH CLUB MEETING – ROUTE 66** *****

On arriving at The Old Down Inn with our guest speaker – Andy Westlake, I was horrified to see the state of the meeting room – the floor had been dug up and all the plaster hacked off the walls, a major refurbishing job was taking place, so what about our meeting room and the expected 50 odd club members we are now getting regularly on club nights. After a chat with the landlord, who thought it was a committee meeting only, he let us have an L shaped room at the opposite end of the pub, not ideal for what was about to take place, but better than nothing. After Andy had set up his equipment and a major chair moving exercise had taken place with a room overflowing with club members our Chairman Brian introduced Andy Westlake who was about to give us an illustrated talk of his trip along the famous American Route 66 with his 1000cc Moto Guzzi motorcycle – Andy shipped the motorbike to the U.S.A. approximately two months before he flew to join up with his bike. The bike was firstly driven to Southampton, placed on a pallet secured with straps and put in a container. The return cost for the bike was £750. Andy flew from Amsterdam to the East Coast collected the bike and did a few hundred miles up and down the coast before his epic journey began. He explained that unlike our roads, many of which were plotted and built as far back as Roman times, Route 66 was relatively new around 100 years ago, and although originally it was just a very long dirt road from East to West across America eventually most of it was paved with tarmac. Andy's slides showed us the contrasting scenery on route from the small Hamlets to the big Cities, also including a visit to the Grand Canyon. He met many interesting people on route including one chap who had never heard of England!!! Route 66 was around two and a half thousand miles long, although he did travel on to New York and did over four thousand miles in total. His fuel costs were £120 for petrol and his bike averaged 50 miles per gallon, which shows how cheap fuel is over there. Accommodation averaged £15 to £20 per night in motels and eating out is very cheap. His return plane fare was £450. The only problem he had over the four-week journey with his machine was a broken Speedo cable, and he did have a spare one on board. Andy has toured most of Europe on motorcycles also New Zealand and may be planning another trip with some friends to South America. If this does come off I hope we can have him back again for another excellent entertaining evening – very professionally presented.

ROBIN.

***** **OUR VISIT TO THE NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM, LONDON – 9TH APRIL 2000** *****

I left home early on Sunday morning to meet friends and board a Coach at Dorchester for the journey to London. We had a short stop at Fleet services before arriving at the Museum at about 11.30. The building that houses such a vast collection was opened in the 1880's, is very striking and beautiful with its many columns, arches and carvings. There were of course the skeletons of the Dinosaurs and many fossils decorating the walls of the corridors. The hall with the mammals showed a full size model of a blue whale and many skeletons of whales all suspended from the ceiling surrounded by elephants, moose, rinos and many others. In one section we experienced the reconstruction of an earthquake. The floor moved violently, walls shook and moved in all directions, to give this the air of realism an actual recording of the noise was played making the entire demonstration very real. Everything was there to show how the earth and man have evolved over so many millions of years. Our visit was over all too soon and so boarded our coach for the return trip. As is the practise on these trips we stopped at a prearranged restaurant for an evening meal before arriving back in Dorchester. Grateful thanks are expressed to Sue and Ian Thompson the organisers for the West Dorset Club and to the good company I had during the day. You're roving scribe – BRIAN LOVELL.

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

17TH & 18TH JUNE. Club Rally at Winchester Farm, Cheddar.

MON 26TH JUNE. Club Night at The Old Down Inn, 8pm, rally autopsy, followed by Table Top Auction, usual raffle.

MON 31ST JULY. Crank-Up at The Court Hotel (just past the Old Down Inn) Bring and Buy, usual raffle, 7pm onwards.

SUN 24TH SEPT. Crank-Up at The Full Quart Inn, Hewish to book your place Ring Roy Cox on 01934 419826.

***** **THE ANSWERS TO THE 'BRAIN TESTER' QUIZ** *****

1. Poole. 2. Gloucester. 3. Trowbridge. 4. Warminster. 5. Devizes. 6. Taunton. 7. Bath. 8. Bath. 9. Bath. 10. Frome. 11. Bourton, Dorset. 12. Bridport, Dorset. 13. Bristol. 14. Bristol. 15. Fowler PA. 16. Hawker Siddeley Group. 17. 1992. 18. S.U. carburettors. 19. Editor of the Stationary Magazine. 20. Robert Ashton. 21. Fairbanks Morse. 22. Petter. 23. Lister. 24. Lister/Wisconsin. 25. Petter. 26. Amanco. 27. Bradford. 28. Petter. 29. Hartop. 30. Ruston Hornsby. 31. Bristol Wagon & Carriage Co. 32. Bentall. 33. Bamford. 34. Amanco. 35. Wolseley. 36. Crossley. 37. Lister D. 38. Ruston Hornsby. 39. Petter. 40. Lister. 41. Petter. 42. Petter.

I was rather disappointed to receive not **ONE** single reply to this quiz despite saying a prize was on offer, so I will drink the bottle of Brandy myself.

BJB.

***** **A TRIP TO FOSTER YEOMAN QUARRY AT FROME** *****

What a change – the weather was wet!!! Nevermind – we all gathered in the reception hall of the Company and listened intently to the background and history of the Quarry. The Quarry was opened in 1965 and the rail link was established six years later. The Company employs over 300 people in the area and the Foster Yeoman Quarry is a family run business. Apparently thousands of people come to tour around the Quarry and find the visit really interesting. Unfortunately Alan and myself never arrived until 3pm and the room was full to capacity so we had to listen really hard to what our guide Peter Chapman was saying. The coach filled up (a full coach load – quite strange what things interest our members) and we trundled along the tarmac road to the top of the quarry to take a look down over the bowels of this huge great dig. It was quite immense and I have never seen anything like it before. I suppose unless you work in these sort of places you don't tend to visit them too often. Of interest to the engineers amongst us was the seven storey high mobile crusher that weighs 1200 tonnes and walks in the quarry every day. This is the only one in the country and is a sight to behold. The tour lasted for two hours and we were taken up some very steep inclines to see the picnic area that the Company had kindly donated to the public for use in better weather. From the site you could see all the surrounding countryside and anyone is welcome to use this facility without visiting the quarry itself.

SECRETARY.

***** **WANTED WANTED WANTED WANTED** *****

Engines for Radstock and Midsomer Norton Lions Fun Day. June 11th. Enquiries to Mr Denham on 01761 470276.

WANTED – A single furrow plough for a Mayfield 2 wheel garden tractor, plus any other garden tool attachments for a Mayfield. Tel 01225 754434.

WANTED - Goods for sale for the **CLUB SHOP** – bric-a-brac, china, books, household appliances, clothes, toys, infact anything that could be sold to raise funds for the Club. Contact Lesley Nicholson or any committee member.

WANTED – **RAFFLE PRIZES** for the Rally Raffle.

WANTED – Goods for the **RALLY AUCTION**, your chance to turn your unwanted junk into cash – paid out in cash on the day – less 10% commission.

WANTED – Goods for the **TABLE TOP AUCTION** at The Club Night at The Old Down Inn Monday June 26th – again a chance to turn your surplus goods into cash, 10% deducted for Club funds.

***** **NUNNEY CATCH CRANK-UP** *****

This is certainly become a very popular venue for Crank-Ups. About 40 engines turned up despite the cold and windy weather. Engines of all makes and sizes were soon up and running with the exception of our President Robin who could not coax his Ruston into life. He fiddled with it all day, and even enlisted the help of David Griffiths for most of the day, it did burst into life for a brief spell but unfortunately failed to start again. John Brooks was doing a brisk trade with his assortment of spares etc for sale. Lesley Nicholson done a magnificent trade with the raffle, selling over one hundred pounds worth, with over 40 prizes on offer nearly everyone had a prize. Gordon and his wife and staff were really busy in the café serving food and drinks all day. We must really thank Gordon and his wife for allowing us to use this wonderful venue. This year we gave a prize of a bottle of Brandy to the member who had travelled the furthest to get to the rally, this was won by Arthur Smith who came from New Zealand, landed at Heathrow that morning and then came straight to the Crank-Up. All too soon it was time to load up and head for home.

BJB.

***** AWARD WINNER *****

Several years ago when Robin was Editor the Wessex Stationary Engine Club's Newsletter was judged to be the best in the Country by the Stationary Engine Magazine and Robin received a splendid silver cup for the Club. After I became Editor Robin and myself decided the Editor would present this cup annually for the best contribution to the Newsletter for that year, the cup to be presented at the A.G.M. For the last couple of years it has been given to members for their literary contributions to the Newsletter, but this year it has been awarded for something entirely different, not literary achievement but for sheer dedication and hard work, making sure all three hundred of you get your Newsletter every month, this was in my opinion the most outstanding contribution to the Newsletter this year. Well done Mary Butler, thank you very much indeed for your dedication for a great number of years.
B.J.B.

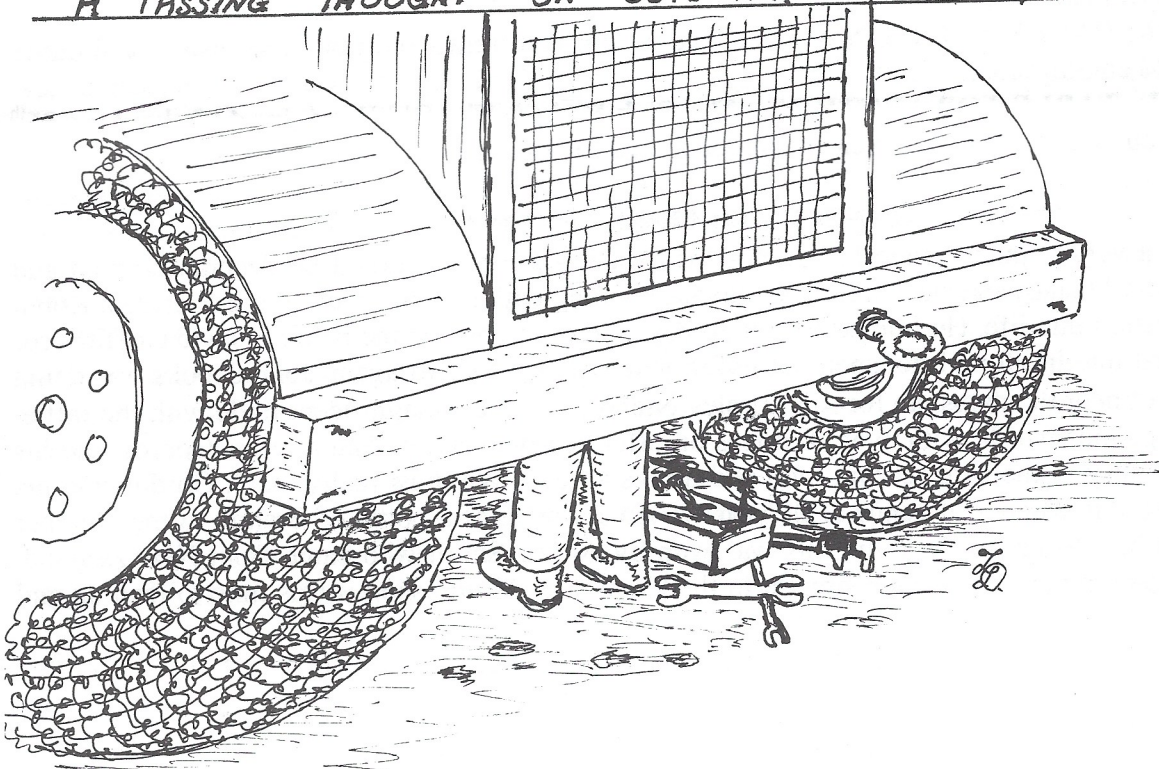
***** ANNUAL COACH TRIP *****

Sunday August 6th to Kew Bridge Steam Museum, London. Coach to leave Nunney Catch Transport Café at 7.30am picking up at Frome and Trowbridge. The Coach fare and admission to the museum will be £12 per person for adults and £6 for children. Please ring Jackie on 01373 463526 to book your seat, book early to avoid disappointment. Kew Bridge Steam Museum has a wonderful collection of water pumping machinery, many of their engines are in steam every weekend including the Grand Junction '90', the massive Cornish Beam engine which pumped water to West London for over a Century. It is the largest working beam engine in the World. The museum is housed in a magnificent 19th Century pumping station, and as well as the five original Cornish engines they have a unique range of more modern steam and diesel pumping machinery. Kew also has its own steam Locomotive on site, this will also be in steam. The museum is located close to Kew Gardens, details of the gardens will be in later Newsletters. Book NOW to avoid disappointment.

***** GET WELL SOON *****

The Club would like to wish the following members a speedy recovery from their recent illnesses, operations and accidents; Bill Appleby hope you are soon well after your recent stay in Hospital. A speedy recovery to Stan Kerley who has recently had a new hip fitted (Stan was worried he would not have recovered in time to drive his car to our Rally). Our Best Wishes for a speedy recovery to Muriel Rabbits who has been seriously ill in Intensive Care recently but is now recovering at home (look after her Bill). Finally our Best wishes to member Tony Andrews who is self-employed but is unable to work due to a broken wrist which isn't healing all that quickly. This was caused by simply tripping and falling over, we hope you are soon back to work Tony. My very good friend Dennis Hodges has recently been in Hospital again for surgery. I'm pleased to hear it was successful and he is back home again, our best wishes for a speedy recovery Dennis. Our Best Wishes also to Reg Williamson who for a long time has not enjoyed good health and had to go in Hospital recently, our thoughts are with you Reg.

A PASSING THOUGHT ON OUR WAY ROUND YEOMANS QUARRY



COME OUT BRIAN YOU WILL NEVER GET IT ON A TROLLEY!