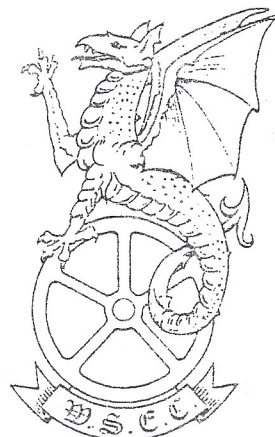


WESSEX STATIONARY ENGINE CLUB LIMITED

MAY 2003

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NEWSLETTER



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

We have been informed by our insurers that next years insurance premium will be substantially increased, this coupled with the recent increase in postal charges will inevitably mean that next years membership fee will have to be raised. The committee has not raised the membership for at least five or six years so I do not suppose a modest rise will be too disastrous. I just thought I would warn you in advance.

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

What a brilliant night our April meeting at the Old Down Inn turned out to be. Chaz Boyak put on a first class presentation on the "RED ARROWS", part video and part talk, truly memorable. Those members who did not attend really missed out big time. The club has now purchased a 10 foot banner with WESSEX STATIONARY ENGINE CLUB emblazoned across it. This was first displayed at Mells, and will be used at future events including the club display at this years Royal Bath and West show. The club has also purchased a new epidiascope which projects photographs etc onto a screen. This will be used at club meetings, the first probably the August meeting after the table top auction. The preparations for the rally at Clutton are going ahead smoothly, entries for all classes continue to arrive, so all we need for this event to be successful will be fine weather.

BJB

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

The club would like to welcome the following new members, Mr Andrew Freeman, Ryan and Jake from Street. Ms Bernice Freeman and Craig from Street. And Mr and Mrs D Sprinks from Holcombe. We hope your membership with the club will be a long and happy one and we look forward to meeting you at our meeting and events.

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

The club would like to wish member Bert Holloway from Fawley near Southampton a happy 75th birthday which was celebrated on May 6th. Sorry it's a bit late Bert but you know me, I'm always behind.

MELLS DAFFODIL FESTIVAL
MONDAY 21st APRIL 2003-05-07

For a small village, this must be one of the best known shows in the country. A huge range of attractions, from terrier racing to town criers, and classic cars to circus skills filled the field next to the church, whilst the village streets offered stalls selling, among many more, plants, home made soaps, and glass art. 41 stationary engines packed into a section of the large field, displaying the full range of engines and applications, from large open-cranks to ¼ scale models. Machinery being driven varied from the Lister-D powered Stanley Engineering diaphragm pump owned by T. G. Wilcox to a Wrigley Motor Cart, driven by a Villiers 1 hp and owned by Mrs Lynn Attwell. A challenge in more ways than one is the gas engine owned by R.D. and A.L. Gill. Described as a "very early" petrol engine, it was converted to run on gas. It came to it's present owners in bits, with no piston, con-rod or form of ignition. It was probably made from a set of castings, but make, date and history are unknown. Next to the stationary enclosure, two long rows of over 150 classic cars glinted in the sunlight. A car with a lot of history behind it is a Mercedes 230 originally owned by Mr Robert Hemingway, head of UN Planning. Purchased by The United Nations in October 1968 for Mr Hemingway's personal use, the car has worked in Cyprus, Malta, Italy, Switzerland, Washington DC, Canada and Peru. It returned to Britain in 1977, where it continued to be used by Mr Hemingway until the present owner purchased it in 1987. A car which attracted a lot of attention was the Wolseley 4/44 Police car, used by the regional Police Driving Schools. 9 Hillman Imps from the Imp Club completed the car line up, with a small group of motorbikes at the other end. In front of the cars, a convoy of military vehicles lined up on parade, comprising six Willys Jeeps, two Dodge trucks, two Land Rovers, a Kfz1 Kubelwagen and a Bedford. The 1944 Kubelwagen, literally meaning "tubcar" was the German equivalent of the Willys Jeep and was built 1940-45. It was powered by a Volkswagen 1131cc 4cylinder, producing a top speed of 50 mph. This example is believed to have been used in Czechoslovakia during the war, where it was repainted and used as an everyday civilian car until 1999. 8 tractors and 12 commercial vehicles completed the vehicular attractions. The ring events included terrier racing, majorettes and marching bands. For the hungry, many food establishments catered for the masses, and for the energetic there were bouncy castles, skittles, circus skills including tightrope, stilts and juggling. Climbing over the wooden steps crossing the church wall, sculptors, woodturners and bee keepers showed their craft. Lining the streets were many stalls, raffles and tombolas, as well as face painting, and Morris dancing completing the attractions. Returning to stationary engines, an excellent show of exhibit boards, although there were a few notable exceptions- you know who you are! Raising the profile of the club, a live radio interview by our club President for Radio Bristol, plus a new 10 ft long WSEC banner. An excellent crowd turnout, good weather and many attractions all came together to make a thoroughly enjoyable show.

JONATHON HOCKEDY

WSEC JUNIOR REPORTER

***** **LETTER TO THE CLUB** *****

Mr A E Smith

Secretary Wessex Stationary Engine Club,

Dear Arthur,

TALK ON THE RED ARROWS. I am writing to thank you and your members, for your kind hospitality on Monday 28th April, I could not have asked for a better audience and I sincerely appreciated the obvious interest shown by their attention and by the many questions that were asked. Thank you for all that and for the generous donation to the

Royal Air Force Association.

Yours sincerely,

Chas Boyak. Branch Chairman RAFA.

After every meeting where we have a guest speaker our secretary Arthur always writes to thank them for entertaining us, but I think this is the first time a speaker has thanked us for having him. ED.

THE MARKET PLACE

FOR SALE 1980 Reliant Scimitar Automatic. 2.8 model SE6B. For restoration, £475 o.n.o. Or exchange for a stationary engine. Climax water pump £15. Lister water pump £15. A number of books, the earliest dated 1908, giving information on Gas, Oil, Diesel and Marine engines. Please contact for more details and prices. Volume 5 of "The Modern Motor Engineer." Technical and wiring details for many popular 1950's cars, lorries and tractors £20. Micrometres- "Starrett" 14-15in £15. 5-6in £10 (unused). 1-2in £3-50. Moore and Wright adjustable, 2-6in boxed £15. 2 Vernier calipers £2-50 each. Telephone 01225 719407.

FOR SALE 1939 Lister "D" on trolley. Lister Domestic Pump. F/P (Frank Perran) Pump. Ex GPO 24v Generator two Stroke (Not Gas). I have no idea of prices so only sensible offers considered, either as single items or as a job lot, to include miscellaneous belts, pulleys, 24v bulbs etc. Contact Eric Hagon on 01980 620785 Evenings only.

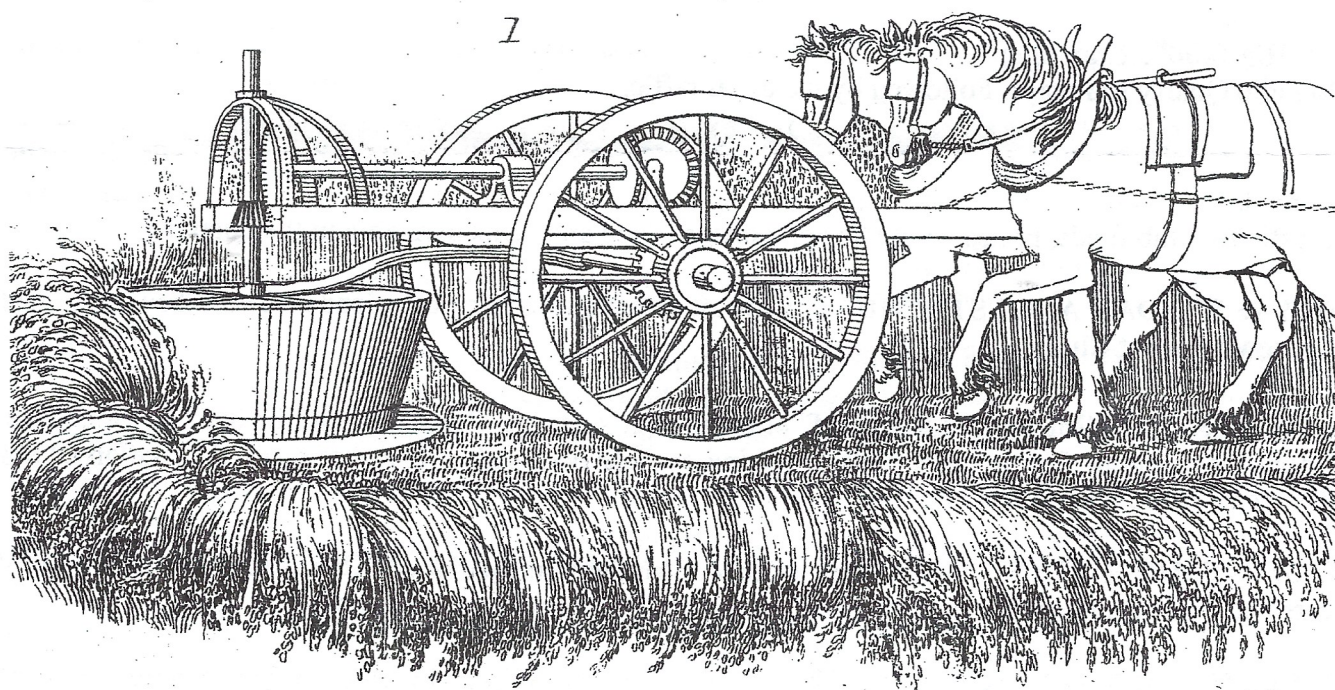
FOR SALE Restored 3/1 LISTER C.S. Tank Cooled, on trailer ready to rally £450. Unrestored LISTER C.S. Tank Cooled. Complete. Offers. 4 unrestored LISTER "D's" plus one F Type. FREE to a good home. 1 LISTER "D." Good runner, offers. Unrestored LISTER "A" type, tank cooled, (no tank), offers. Wolseley WD 2. Complete, £40. Unrestored Petter A.1. Complete. Offers. 6 Unrestored Villiers and Jap's. 2 Howard Bantam Rotavators, one restored the other for spares. 1 Clifford Rotavator with JAP engine 6/8 hp. Radiator cooled Bristol Compressor. 4 sets of cast iron wheels. Large amount of engine spares, magnetoes, gaskets, pulleys, belts and starting handles. To make any offers on the above contact Nigel Early on 07885399869 after 6pm or Peter Early on 07909671933 daytime.

***** NOTHING IS NEW. *****

This is an engraving of a horse operated ROTARY SYTHE mowing machine circa 1880. It shows just how clever our Victorian grand parents were. The horses are pulling the machine via the pole and whiple trees. How efficient this machine was we shall never know, but many years passed before the principle of the spinning disc was reintroduced as it now is on all modern mowing machines.

FRED BIGGS.

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Crank-up at Nunney Catch Transport Café
Sunday 6th April 2003

33 engines attended this crank-up, the latest in a long line of excellent crank-ups. Engines from the Victoria, Lister Junior, Bernard W110, Stuart Turner and Stover and Pilter lined up in the car park on a fairly cold and overcast morning. In addition to the engines, there were displays of motoring memorabilia, 2 gallon petrol cans, and old photos relating to dairy and farming, and a Wolseley 1500 car, with the original invoice for £666-6/-4d. Towards the end of the line, perched on top of a trailer, was a uniquely interesting engine, the Rapier missile generator owned by Alan Rogers. Powered by a 750cc OHC Coventry Climax FWMB engine, the set generates 200v. Running for the first time at this crank-up, it is easy to see why the engine is nicknamed "Screamer" in the Army, as it runs at over 4000rpm, producing a whistling noise. The engine could either be towed behind the Rapier Missile Launcher, or manhandled into place. Look out for this engine at future crank-ups! An example of the engineering skill of earlier times is the Stuart Turner ½ hp owned by Phil Marshall. The engine was produced 1921-1926 in the form of castings, which the enthusiast of the time assembled himself, although some complicated parts could be manufactured by Stuart Turner themselves- at a price. In 1923, a set of castings cost £6-10/, and came with a full set of drawings. Another example, this time of the "badge engineering" mentioned recently in the Stationary Engine Magazine, is the Stover/Pilter Type YA. The vertical open-crank 2hp was made by Stovers in the USA, shipped to Pilter and Co. Ltd, in London, where they were re-badged and sold as Pilters. Several other companies re-sold or copied this engine, including the "Southwell Brothers". The brothers later went on to work for Lister and designed Lister's first engine, based on the Southwell/Pilter. In total 4349 YA's were built, production ending 1921. If engines could speak, the Lister D owned by T.G. Wilcox could probably tell some tales. The 3hp a/c petrol generator plant was installed in Bristol Police Station in 1941, as a back up generator. It was later scrapped, and remained in a pile of scrap until rescued in 1988. Another excellent raffle was held at 2.30, with over 60 prizes on offer. This must be the first time our Chairman has gone home without a sore throat, thanks to a microphone and amplifier. After the raffle, the exhibitors rapidly dispersed, I'm sure feeling happy after an excellent crank-up. Thanks should go to Gordon and Jackie Callow and staff for providing excellent breakfast's and lunches, which fortified many during the day.

JONATHON HOCKEDY
WSEC JUNIOR REPORTER

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

MONDAY JUNE 30th. Club night at The Old Down Inn. Guest speaker Robin Jacob giving a talk and slide show on Mendip Quarry Railways. Followed by the usual raffle.

MONDAY JULY 28th. Club Night. Crank-up at The Court Hotel near Chilcompton. Just turn up on the night, no need to book. An award for the most unusual engine exhibited, bring something different, you might win. The usual raffle for club funds, prizes would be appreciated. Food and drink available in the hotel bar.

SATURDAY & SUNDAY AUGUST.9th-10th. The most important day in our calendar. The WSEC Annual Rally at our new venue at Clutton.

SUNDAY AUGUST 31st. "MENDIP MEYHEM" at Brian Fear's garage, Oakhill. Crank-up and Car Boot Sale. Sorry no room for camping. For an entry with an engine or a car boot stall ring Roger or Linda Pike on 01761 233028. The usual raffle with the proceeds going to CLIC.

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 7th. Club visit to Haynes Motor Museum at Sparkford. This is the best collection of restored cars and motorcycles on display anywhere in the country. Meet up at the museum at 2pm.

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 21st. Cranks at the Ship. Crank-up at the Ship and Castle at Congesbury. Ring Ian Skuse to obtain an entry as room is limited. Roast Dinners and other food available in the pub. Telephone 01934 834943.