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***** WESSEX CAR TREASURE HUNT 7th October

With the Lombard RAC Rally moving its venue to more distant parts this year, the WSEC had hoped to fill a spot in the local motorsport calendar with its first annual Car Treasure Hunt.

Crews left the Old Down Inn at about one minute intervals armed with clues to enable them to navigate their way around a 16 mile route. The first 100 yards saw the Astra, crewed by the President and family, and the Fiat of Mrs. Newsletter Editor heading in opposite directions eventually meeting up again at the church at Emborough. The route took us all past the Slab House Inn to Horrington and back via Masbury, past Henry Esain's farm, to Ashwick and Stratton on the Fosse and on to Chilcompton; thence to the Old Down Inn again. 94 Clues were to be answered and 8 'treasures' to be collected en route. 12 General knowledge questions were thrown in for good measure and all telephone boxes seen on the way were to be counted.

The Mini of Mike Hodgson's family was withdrawn part way round due to the illness of one of the crew members and President Randall returned last man home at 6.40p.m. Back at rally control, it was felt that he may have called at the Oakhill Manor Railway to see if it was still as bad as the last time he visited there (reported in a recent Newsletter), but eventually the Astra swept into the car park to be met by Secretary Diana with a most welcoming hot cup of coffee. Final results were 'computed' as follows:

1st..Fiat 126, Ann & Eric Brain; 2nd..Vauxhall Astra, Tom & Ester Randall & family; 3rd..Opel Kadett, Miss Mandy Smith; 4th..Mini, Alison Eyrl. Quote of the day was from Mike Hodgson's general knowledge answers; in answer to 'when was Chitty Chitty Bang Bang built?' he wrote 'When British Leyland was formed..!'

Thank you Steve Emery and Joanne Penny for the time and trouble taken to provide us with an enjoyable event; and to John and Diana Emery and Margaret Penny for their administration...although the courting couple in Ashwick Church Yard didn't seem to appreciate the intrusion into their Sunday Sporting event!

Emerson Brantingham

***** CRANK-UP held at the Full Quart Inn, Hewish on Sunday, 30th September

Despite and grim weather forecast for the Sunday, the weatherman couldn't have been more wrong; fine weather prevailed all day and made this annual event most enjoyable.

About a dozen Wessex members arrived at the rally site on Saturday and an Enginemian's Gathering took place during the evening in the bar. All the usual chit-chat and legpulling made this quite an evening; it seemed to all be too much for the Chairman, he decided to go and sit somewhere else during the evening! (Probably deciding a priming and painting schedule to turn that super Ingeco into a proper RESTORED exhibit..! Ed.).

By Sunday morning the field was full to capacity with engines, tractors, organs, mowers, swing-boats, vintage cars and lorries. Eyecatchers in the stationary engine lines included that Ingeco from over the bridge which has now found its way into the Skuse stable, all in original condition and mounted on a 'four wheel (restored..Ed!) trailer. Another engine which is not seen very often these days was Stuart Ashman's National Gas 4 hp K type out on its autumn holiday. The Munt drag-saw held a captive audience all the time it was running, as did Terry Heath's efforts to get his 'Duz-Go' to live up to its name. Pete Holloway's Bamford pumping outfit ran very well and was a shining example of restoration work. (Exhibitors of unrestored engines, please take note..Ed.). For myself, it was a good chance to get some barley ground up for our chickens helped by Gerald Harris and his roller mill - thanks Gerald.

A nice display of model engines had Christine Rogers busy polishing the brass while husband Don looked on ('He's got it right..!'). One or two stalls were dotted around the field. Lyn Castell and her drawings, Eileen Maybee and Evelyn Cox with a CLIC stall; also raffle stall was held with a lot of prizes. A good public attendance filtered around the displays which must have made all the hard work put in by Roy and Ivor Cox and all the helpers worthwhile. By the way, the model paper aircraft expert at the Club Tally in June was seen to have really progressed by Full Quart time; this time to a 'pop-up' version of the Kharma Sutra no less...!

V.C.

***** THE THOUGHTS OF A TRAVELLING PETTER ENTHUSIAST

Whilst reading my Newsletter I did see

a two verse ditty referring to me.

'Twas about the Petter Rally at the Egham Royal Show,
thats near Windsor and Staines. Well, didn't you know?

It mentioned my Petter 'S' and singed facial hair

but said nothing about the other engines there.

One hundred & fifty from the Yeovil factory

less six that were missing - but no, not me.

Arrival was rainy but we did not lose heart,

the thought of warm hands on a good old lamp-start.
Eleven 'S' types were the number I counted,
but the number of 'M' types left me astounded.
Eight horizontal 'Handymen' were in attendance
even Petters own model graced us with its presence.
Apples and pears and acorns and squares,
all these shapes attracted the stares.
Wessex members were few and far between,
but Windsor is a long way for the usual team.
Oldest engine there and beautiful she stood
was the 1901 Handyman of Alan Underwood.
Driving generators and pumps and many types of equipment
Joe public stood and stared in astonished amazement.
A pale skinned visitor from the Land of the Sun,
simply could not believe what we enthusiasts had done.
A trip round Staines factory was enjoyed by many
to see hundreds of parts going down for assembly.
The latest Petter engine was proudly presented
but with no mag. or blow-lamp it looked rather rejected.
The end of the rally soon came into sight
as engines and trailers drove home for the night.
A really worthwhile show, thanks to one and all
but one thing concerns me now we're in the fall;
as I sit and regrow singed facial hair
I wonder if the Petter smog is still there!

Michael Cannon without (eyebrows that is!)

THE SEPTEMBER MEETING The Munt Comic Postcard Show

This meeting was opened by Brian Munt in the absence of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman. He introduced himself and the Club's new epidiascope, then explained a little of the history of comic postcards; including the fact that they have been 'cleaned-up' in recent years possibly due to the Obscene Publications Act.

We were then treated to a hilarious hour with postcards seen on the big screen, the sort of thing we have all browsed through surreptitiously at some time at holiday resorts. The couple of new members present probably wondered what all this was to do with stationary engines, but they were seen to be obviously enjoying it as well as Bill Appleby, whose laughter became infectious. At the interval, we all had the opportunity to inspect the newly purchased projection equipment while Herb got on with the raffle. The prizewinners were as follows: Mr. Bevan, bottle of Martini; Mr. Whittle (new member), a pot plant; and Mike Bailey, a purse.

For the second half of the evening, Brian showed us what the new machine is really capable of; he very cleverly chose some front cover pictures from 'The Stationary Engine' magazine and while he projected them the audience played guessing games as to the make, type and/or model of the engine thus depicted. This caused a great amount of controversy and proved that even though we all read the 'Stationary Engine' from cover to cover, we all rarely read the cover itself! (with the possible exception of Mark Tilley that is...!).

Thank you Brian for stepping into the breach, so to speak, and providing us with a most enjoyable evening.

Emerson Brantingham

CHAPELTON BARTON The Devon Traction Engine, Veteran & Vintage Car Club Rally at Barnstaple

This was the Club's 21st anniversary and the first time I had visited this rally; it was very interesting too, as most of the engines were new to me; many coming from Devon and Cornwall, some were very nicely restored and some were unrestored.

This was also a good opportunity to see some of our Wessex members that, due to distance we don't see very often and whose only link to us is through the Newsletter.

Seven Blackstone engines, all running, well, caused a great deal of interest, as did some of the more unusual engines; for example, Aeromotor, Hobbs, Bates & Edmonds Bullpup, Warwick Eagle, International Famous and a Rock Island. Wessex member, John Thorne, had his Gardner 'O' type, 1 hp gas engine on display - just the right size to fit into a car boot! Centre piece of the showground was an original set of Gallopers driven by a Savage steam engine, which, the owner told me, was found recently on Hampstead Heath. (Come to think of it, the Wombles must have found a few engines on Wimbledon Common too...! Ed.). 21 Steam engines to look at, also a large collection of motorcycles, totalling 80 in all, with over 60 tractors made an impressive display with one or two at the part restoration stage, showing the huge amount of work which goes into making a proper job of the full restoration of a

machine. Cars, commercials and military vehicles all added to the show, plus lots of stalls and ring events. This was a very enjoyable show.

Frome Rambler

FULL QUART INN CRANK-UP (Organiser's Report)

Sunday, 30th September arrived and for the fourth 'Crank-Up' the sun shone for us again. We were well supported by exhibitors (with 60 stationary engines, 20 tractors, 3 fairground organs, a steam roller, cars and lawn mowers etc.) and by the public.

This year we had a beer tent which seemed very popular with a good selection of beers, cold meats, salads, etc. Judging by the plate-fulls of food being consumed around the field, all went down as well as the beer! The draw was kept busy selling tickets which had some 40 prizes. Nice to see all the ladies enjoying themselves helping on the draw. Thanks girls and thanks to all who donated those lovely prizes. As you know all money raised at the 'Crank-Up' goes to CLIC, Cancer & Leukaemia in Children. This year the draw, collection boxes, CLIC stall, donations from exhibitors and public raised £390.10. Also during the rally season various members of the Wessex Club carry Derek Maybee's CLIC treasure collection box. This season it raised £202 and added together with that raised at the Crank-Up totals £592.10. I think you will all agree a super effort for the rally season to end on.

Everybody seems to have enjoyed themselves at the Full Quart which give the chance for members of various clubs to have a good natter at the end of the season. I was asked by Brian Munt if I asked 'God' to the Crank-Up, being so lucky once again with the weather! No Brian I prayed for a large log for you to get your teeth into and was pleased to see you enjoying yourself by getting the old drag saw working as it was meant to.

What about Stuart Ashman's juggling act with his fire clubs? Pity it was so near the end of the day, next year Stuart ought to be our star turn. How about it Stuart - say 2 o'clock in front of the organ?

We are grateful to all exhibitors and helpers for your support, some of whom travelled many miles. Many thanks one and all.

Roy Cox

CONGRATULATIONS.....to Tony and Alison Barrett (nee Dring) on the birth of their son, Jamie Paul, 9lbs 4oz on October 26th. Another 'stoker' for the Dring Donkin.....

AND COMMISERATIONS.....to our long distance member, Andrew Mercer, from Lauder, Berwickshire who fell over whilst carrying his Norman engine at Morpeth Rally near Newcastle and landed on his back with the engine on top of him, thus injuring his ribs. Best wishes Jock, for a speedy recovery, we hope your sporran escaped injury and that your kilt preserved your modesty.....!

SCIENCE MUSEUM OPEN DAY, WROUGHTON 1984

Would all Wessex exhibitors who attended this Rally and who have not yet received their plaques as related in last months Newsletter, please note that they have now arrived...and can be obtained from Diana. Tel. Temple Cloud 52939

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

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|---------------------|---|
| Dec.8th | Dinner & Dance at the Masonic Hall, From. Dancing to the local 'Farmer John' Disco. Details have already gone out in a previous Newsletter but if you are really keen to come along it may not be too late. Contact Diana on Temple Cloud 52939. |
| Jan.28th | The Roy Pady Filmshow, films of rallies and restoration all over the West of England including, we hope, a return of the Bo Derek of the engine scene...Cindy! |
| Feb.25th | The Annual General Meeting where you are all requested to come along if you can to air your views and voice your opinion about the policy of the Club. Also YOU are wanted on the Committee...! |
| March 25th | ***Talk on the 'Bath Stone Quarries' by Paul Weaver. |
| April 29th | ***'Mining in the Mendips' a talk by Mr. Barnard. |
| May 20th | The Annual 'Crank-Up' at the Old Down Inn. Please note that this is not the last Monday in the month due to the Spring Bank Holiday. |
| June 15/16th | The Wessex Club Rally, this year at Longleat, the home of Lord Bath, near Warminster, Wilts. Only room for 150 engines, priority will be given to Club Members who can attend for BOTH days. Otherwise things will be much the same as previous Stationary Engine Magazine rallies at this venue. Entry forms soon...! |
| June 24th | Club meeting - to be finalised later. |
| July 29th | ***White-metalling, a talk by Mr. Greg. |
| August 19th | Member's Evening, a chance for anyone to bring along films, slides, videos, etc. or just to stand up and give us all a talk on your favourite subject. NOTE , this is NOT the last Monday in the month. |
| Sept.30th | ***'Things in People's Attics', an illustrated talk. |
| Oct.28th | ***'Dinky Toys' a talk on the fascinating miniature models by Colin Pask. Bring along some of your own for a free valuation. |

Nov.25th Another Winter Crank-Up...especially if this one (1984) has proved popular.
(Dates above noted thus *** are provisional and subject to confirmation)

Stourpaine Rally 1985 will be earlier than ever, August 29th to September 1st - this is Summer Bank Holiday weekend.

Wessex Stationary Engine Club Jumble Sale will be held at St.Peter's Church Hall, Westfield, near Radstock on **March 23rd**. Further details in due course, but please start collecting goods for sale, especially bric-a-brac as this is always a good seller. Help the Club funds when they are at their most depleted.

CLUB SALES

Lapel Badges. These are for sale at £1 each from any committee member, try Robin Lambert, Ian Skuse, or Brian Munt especially.

Windscreen Stickers. Price 60p, coloured the same as the Lapel Badge with the Wessex WYVERN (Claude Lowther..!) around a Flywheel and the Club title on a scroll. Try Brian Munt for these.

Stationary Engine Magazine. This monthly magazine is heartily recommended, although we cannot believe that any Wessex member is not already a subscriber. Only £8 for a year's subscription from 5 Rectory Road, Beckenham, Kent.

We also recommend all the publications from the above Magazine, including the transfers for all popular makes of engine. See the price list inside the front cover.

All the above make excellent Christmas presents, so any Enginewife looking for suitable Christmas presents for the Man in her life, please take note.

USEFUL ADDRESSES

Secretary...Diana Emery,'Oxstax',Wells Rd.,Hallatrow,Bristol. Tel.(0761)Temple Cloud 52939

Chairman....Ian Skuse,12 Southlands Way,Congresbury,Nr.Bristol.Tel.Yatton834943.

Vice-Chairman...Robin Lambert,15 Beechwood Ave.,From,Somt. Tel.Frome 63526.

Treasurer...Jackie Lambert, as above

Newsletter Editor...Eric Brain,5 Greenridge,Clutton,Nr.Bristol. Tel.(0761)52633.

REMINDER

The Annual subscription is due on the 1st January 1985 and, subject to confirmation, is unlikely to increase from the present rate. All members who have joined the Club since October 1st 1984 are covered for 1985 but will get new insurance certificate in its 1985 format automatically in January. Present subscription rates are:- Joint Membership - £5; Single - £4; Junior Membership (under 18 years) -£1. Membership fees are to be sent to Jackie Lambert, cheques, etc. to be made payable to 'The Wessex Stationary Engine Club'.

SALES AND WANTS

FOR SALE: Air compressor by Bristol Pneumatics, made in 1947 and is one of their earliest models. Needs about 3 hp for full output but would be good to give a Kerosene engine some work to make it burn cleanly. £40; ML flick magneto, good condition but suffering from a temporary lack of spark. £25; BTH twin-cylinder magneto, similar. £10. Eric Brain, 5 Greenridge,Clutton,Nr.Bristol.Tel.(0761)52633.

FOR SALE: Lister Diesel 5/1 with small generator, reasonably complete and could be useful to help outflank the 'commissars' this winter! Contact John Emery, (0761)52939 for details.

WANTED: Small air compressor unit suitable to drive Mamod models as a rally exhibit for Junior Member. Please contact Mr.Stephen Butler, 20 Horse Road, Hilperton, Trowbridge. Tel (02214)64304.

SERVICES: We have been recommended to try Phil Gibbons of M.E.Castings, 6 Score Road, Langtoft, Market Deeping, Peterborough. Tel.347515 (day) or Stamford 63458 (evenings) for castings in any metals, made to your pattern and requirements.

FINALLY.....Please delete the venue and date of the Wessex Rally as given in last month's Newsletter from your 1985 diaries and note the new information as given in 'forthcoming events' in this issue. Sorry for the change of plan but it can only be for the better and arose out the the Committee's anxiety to get something organised well in advance.