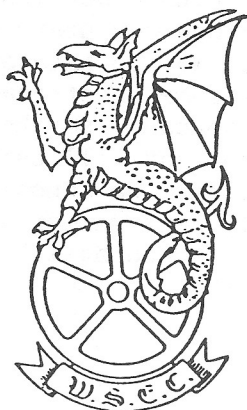


WESSEX STATIONARY ENGINE CLUB LIMITED

NEWSLETTER



NOVEMBER 1997

Please send Newsletter material to:-
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**** EDITORIAL ****

With the 1997 rally season now over and with Christmas and the end of the year fast approaching it will soon be time to think of 1998 and all that it holds in store for us. This is the time of the year when most members have the time to work on their engines and new projects in readiness for a new season. It is also the time of the year when the committee plans next years rally and programme of events and meetings. The committee can only function if it has enough members to serve on it, and with the A.G.M. arriving early in the new year and new committee members required, we would like to appeal to you all, if you feel you would like to put 'something back' into our club, or if you know of anyone who would like to serve on the committee, put your name or their name forward for consideration to any committee member.

**** CHAIRMANS REPORT ****

Its good news for once, the committee have decided once again, despite rising costs to make no increase to membership subscriptions for next year. Each year we require your membership subscription to cover the cost of producing and posting the newsletter each month, and the cost of your club insurance, at the moment these costs are covered by your subs so no rise is necessary. The other good news is that our rally in 1998 will not clash with the Lister-Petter rally at North Nibley. The date of our 21st Anniversary Rally is the 13th & 14th June. North Nibley rally is 20th - 21st June. Tatton Park rally is the 27th & 28th June.

THE MARKET PLACE.

FOR SALE - TWIN CYLINDER WEBBER. 1920's. VERTICAL TANK COOLED. ON TROLLEY. CLASS 2. £550. RING 0117 868549. KEYNSHAM AREA.

FOR SALE - LISTER 'L'. 1926. £260.
LARGE GODWIN PUMP. £30.

LISTER 'DK'. 1½HP. RUNNING ORDER. ON TROLLEY WITH BASE FOR PUMP. £70.
WOLSELEY WD. II. ON TROLLEY £65.

STUART R2. 2 STROKE PUMP SET. COMPLETE WITH STUART PUMP ON CAST BASE AND WHEELS - OFFERS WANTED.

BABY WINNOWER AND GRAIN CLEANER IN WORKING ORDER. ON WHEELS. LOOKS GOOD WHEN WORKING. NO REASONABLE OFFER REFUSED.

6 - RESTORABLE ATCO MOWERS. 1920's to 1950's.

PLEASE RING ALAN ON 01380 830344. WESTBURY, WILTS.

FOR SALE - TRAILER MOUNTED GENERATOR SET UP, TRAILER IS CONSTRUCTED FROM ALL NEW PARTS. COMPRISING OF A PETTER 'M' TYPE. 3HP. 1938. ONE OF THE LAST 'M' TYPES WITH MECHANICAL LUBRICATOR. (CLUB AWARD WINNER IN 1980) DRIVING A LARGE FLATHER 50 VOLT DYNAMO. 10 AMP. WITH A VERY NICE REBUILT SWITCH BOARD. THE TRAILER HAS A TAILOR MADE CANVAS ROOF AND COMES COMPLETE WITH A STUART TURNER P4 ENGINE AND BASE PLATE BELONGING TO THE FLATHER DYNAMO AND SWITCHBOARD. PREFER TO SELL COMPLETE BUT MIGHT SEPERATE. PLEASE RING TONY JONES ON 01373 465189 AFTER 7 PM WITH SENSIBLE OFFERS. FROME AREA.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Dear Brian,

I am writing on behalf of the pupils, staff and the governors of Rowdeford School to express our sincere thanks for the monies raised by members of the W.S.E.C. towards the development of our new computer room. Your donation of £300, together with other monies raised by the "Friends of Rowdeford" allowed us to purchase four brand new computers and everybody concerned with the school is highly excited by the prospect. We now have a total of six computers, all equipped with CD ROM, and the computer room will come on stream for general teaching purposes immediately after the half-term holiday. Also can I say how much I personally enjoyed meeting you and the other members of your committee and will certainly be taking you up on your kind offer to demonstrate some of your engines at the school fete. Perhaps you would be good enough to notify me of the date of your rally next summer so that I can ensure that the schools annual fete does not clash with it again. Once again, many thanks to you and all your members. Best Wishes.

Yours sincerely, Glen R. Darnell. Headteacher.

Dear Friends of C.L.I.C.,

I cannot believe that a whole year has gone by since I was writing my letter of thanks to you. Once again you have "Cranked-Up" and achieved the magnificent total of £1,056.63p, I don't know how you continue to reach such a target. Every year it is over a thousand pounds, what can one say about such a superb total. At least this year you were not paddling around in the mud, which I suppose is a great improvement on last year. I do wish you to know on behalf of CLIC, how grateful we are for all your efforts, I know it is tremendous hard work and we are all mindful of the fact that there is other deserving charities, but CLIC does do a magnificent job and many hundreds of families with small children have cause to remember, and be grateful for the work of CLIC. Once again, our congratulations and thanks and best wishes for many more successful and happy "Crank-Ups".

Yours sincerely, Pat Dain. President - Weston & District Branch of CLIC.

FULL QUART CRANK-UP. SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 28TH
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The 17th Annual "Crank-Up" arrived and this year we were blessed with a warm sunny day. We had a nice selection of everything this year, stationary engines, cars, tractors, motor-cycles, steamers, commercials, small street organs and static exhibits, all restored or in original condition. One engine comes to mind was Rob Lamberts stationary steam engine which he built himself, well done Rob. This year on the day we raised £771.91, the treasure chest collected this rally season £164.22, Tencrest crank-up £116.50 and not £226.44 as reported in the October newsletter. Linda had got her fingers and thumbs mixed up; the final count gave us a grand total of £1,056.63. We would like to thank all the exhibitors, especially those who travelled a great distance and mileage to support us, and to those friends and helpers who helped and assisted us in any way. Many thanks to all who donated draw prizes, all very much appreciated on the day.

THE COX FAMILY.

JOHN KYTE'S GARDEN PARTY. 4TH & 5TH OCTOBER.

I was only able to attend Johns rally on the Sunday and arrived around nine-thirty to find one or two more exhibitors unloading. This has to be done in the main street as space is very limited at the rear of Johns house, as most of the space is taken up with his own exhibits, and the ones that arrived on Saturday. It seemed very subdued around the engines, was this the after effect of Saturday night? or perhaps everyone had gone to church. Most likely not the latter, but eventually the whole place came alive with engines and machinery dotted about everywhere. A new exhibit of Johns was a small stone crusher, belt driven from a 5hp Lister, this crunched up old house bricks quicker than you could feed the crusher, the end product is to be used for a new path base. Next to the crusher was a winnowing machine which I think belonged to Paul Martin, this ran well and was blowing chaff off the corn being fed into it. A large open crank Andrew engine ran beautifully next to the garden wall, I remember seeing this engine at Tatton Park Rally, a superb restoration job done by the Barnes Family from Poole. Steam man Ron Frampton was busy stoking a large boiler which in turn brought two steam engines to life, and under its massive canopy, Johns giant Brush engine sprang into action. Engines dotted around the garden consisted of Amancos, Listers, Petters, Wolseley and a Henrici hot air engine belonging to Albert Crittle. It was nice to see Wessex members exhibiting and viewing as to put on this event means a lot of hard work beforehand. My thanks to Bob Hallam for his help loading up after the event, and to our hosts John and Doris for a great day.

ROBIN LAMBERT.

(3)
GETTING IT RIGHT.

With the rally season now at an end for most of us my mind often wonders as to how well and how wrong 1997 went. My year started with Mells Daffodil Day and finished with John Kytes Garden Rally with quite a few events in between, some of which were local others entailed many miles of travelling. Mells for me was the first chance the public would have of seeing my model steam engine and boiler, a new venture for me, and it seemed strange not to bring a can of petrol along to feed my unusual exhibit. As we all know Easter turned out to be a scorcher and folk went home with red sunburnt arms and faces, most exceptional as three years ago at Mells it snowed. My day was fairly successful with my new exhibit although a few people down the engine line got a taste of the boiler exhaust when choking black smoke from dirty coal drifted in their direction, but things were to get worse, the trolley beneath the boiler caught fire and despite the efforts of Paul Martin and lots of water it would continue to light up and smoulder again. Once again another club member came to my rescue, Rodney Harris had some fireproof material that I could laminate between boiler and trolley thus eliminating the fire problem. My next trip out was to be the Pertwood rally near Warminster, more troubles, plenty of fire in the box but hardly any steam, help came from all directions as enginemen could see my frustration, lots of ideas and theories on how to make it perform was offered, and several did in fact work, no. 1 suggestion was not enough air under the fire, no. 2 the fire was too high, right up under the boiler tubes, no. 3 wrong fuel, household coal is useless, no. 4 too much cold water pumped into boiler in one go, it was killing the steam, no. 5 clean the tubes after every firing, all this was enough to make my head spin, but would you believe it? they all worked, so now after modifying the grate airways, changing to Coalite smokeless fuel, feeding the cold water in little and often, keeping the fire lower and cleaning the tubes every day that it is used, I have cracked it. Perfect running throughout the day with no stoppages, which brings me to the point, it is often by listening to others and pooling one knowledge that problems can be overcome. My thanks to all who helped.

ROBIN.

LYDNEY ROAD AND RAIL SHOW. NORCHARD, LYDNEY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

On Sunday October 19th Brian and myself left Shepton Mallet at seven am. en route to Norchard via the Severn Bridge. This rally has now been renamed The Lydney Road and Rail Show. Despite thick fog for half the journey we arrived at Norchard at about twenty past eight. The site was fairly quiet then, but exhibitors soon started to arrive until eventually it was completely filled. The stationary engine entry had to be restricted to twenty seven this year owing to the building of an electricity power station in the corner of the site, and so taking up quite a lot of space, nevertheless it was quite a good showing by Wessex members. Brian won the award for the best engine present with his Ruston Hornsby and hacksaw. The bus and coach section was very well supported by forty-six buses and coaches of all ages and makes, most of these were restored to a very high standard. Next were the commercials, this again was well supported with a good selection of thirty vehicles, again restored to a very high standard. The pre war cars command a large slice of land with an entry of thirty-three cars, with the post war cars numbering eighty-three cars with some very interesting and beautiful models among them. The motor cycle section was again interesting with a collection of thirty-three machines on show. Tractor entries was a little fewer mainly owing to lack of space, but there was still fourteen entries of interesting models. The main site for this rally belongs to the Dean Forest Railway Society which operates the rail centre which owns and runs trains both steam and diesel on a couple of miles of track, on rally days both exhibitors and members of the public (many of which support these rallies) can ride on the trains all day if they wish. The rail centre is operated entirely by the very hard work of a group of volunteers who are continually extending and updating the centre. This rally makes a very good day out both for exhibitors and the public, it is well worth a visit.

RAY BAKER.

**** CALENDAR DATES ****

- SUNDAY DECEMBER 7TH - Anti-Freeze Crank-Up at the Old Down Inn. Bring and Buy. Grand Raffle. 9.00am onwards. Raffle prizes appraised as the proceeds go to Club funds. Turn up preferably with an engine or just visit.
- SATURDAY DECEMBER 27TH- Mince Pie Crank-Up at Evercreech Junction. Free food and hot drinks all day. Grand raffle. Everyone welcome. Just turn up. Any queries ring Brian Baker on 01749 342671.
- SATURDAY FEBRUARY 7TH - Selwood Club are holding a 'Large Sortout' at Rode Bird Gardens, just off the A36 Warminster to Bath Road at the Tropical Bird Gardens, Rode, Somerset. Ring Steve Francis on 01373 466846.

**** SILVER WEDDING ANNIVERSARY ****

The Wessex Stationary Club Members would like to congratulate Mary and Reg Butler on their Silver Wedding Anniversary on the 25th November. Our best wishes to you both for your special day and for the future.

Reg and Mary Butler would like to thank Roger and Linda Pike, Don, Chris and William Rogers, the Cox Brothers and their wives for their kind assistance when Reg was unable to start his vehicle at the end of the Dean Forest Rally, unfortunately they were unable to start this 'stationary' engine and we had to finally call out the "4th emergency service". We did eventually get on the road after Mr. AA had worked on the engine for an hour and a half. The cause? Reg had inadvertently switched on the engine immobilizer, we had only had the vehicle for a week and had no idea that the switch existed.

JUNE CLUB NIGHT AT THE OLD DOWN INN.

The committee of the Wessex Stationary Club must have got it right this year, out of the thirty-five people at the meeting not one person had any complaints over how the rally had been run or organised. Only praise was levelled at the committee for running yet again a successful event. The bring and buy auction held the same evening had about the same number of lots as members attending the meeting, the bidding was a bit slow. This brings me to the subject of auctions, and ours held at the Semington rally this year was a great success, so seeing that 1998 is the clubs 21st rally, lets all try to make it really special. I would love to see every active member with an engine at Semington in 1998 to celebrate the Clubs love to see every active member with an engine at Semington in 1998 to celebrate the Clubs Coming of Age. So why not make a new years resolution now, I WILL BE AT SEMINGTON IN 1998. We all want a good show for the 21st so if any of you have any ideas or thoughts on what you would like at next years event please let me or any member of the committee know, we are on the committee to run the club for you, and we would welcome ideas and suggestions. For instance is there anyone out there willing to organise ring events for next year? What about a road run for cars, commercials, motor cycles and tractors? If you have any contact with any other groups or clubs that could put on a demonstration or any other activity in the ring I WANT TO KNOW. Model steam driven exhibits and full size will be welcome with open arms, so if you know of any one with any type of exhibit that would come to our rally, again please let me or any committee member know. Trade and autojumble is another area where anyone who has contact with traders or autojumblers let me know, I will then contact them by letter or phone. This is your chance to help us, help you by putting on a good show for 1998 so you have something to remember for our 21st Birthday. One last request then I will shut up, is there anyone in the club who can produce or obtain the plastic sheeting necessary to make an advertising banner, if so please give me a call.

E.J. GAY.

SERVICES.

IN NEED OF HELP? CALL ALAN BARTLETT ON 01380 830344 FOR ENGINEERING REPAIRS. TURNING. MILLING. THREADING. KEYWAY CUTTING. BRASS BUSHES MADE. PARTS REPAIRED AND MADE. NO JOB TO SMALL. MATERIALS SUPPLIED IF REQUIRED.

SERVICES.

PETROL TANKS. WATER TANKS. OIL TANKS. ENGINE COWLINGS. SPLASH GUARDS. ETC. MADE TO YOUR PATTERNS OR DRAWINGS. VERY REASONABLE PRICES, GOOD WORKMANSHIP. RING FOR DETAILS ON 01458 210929. STREET AREA.

CHRISTMAS IS FAST APPROACHING. Why not treat your loved one to something special this year? POWER OF THE PAST. The latest video from Knight-Macaire has a running time of approximately 59 minutes and treats the viewer to an indepth look at the Ed Bolton collection of early British and American engines. The collection has taken over 25 years to put together and continues to grow, we see work being undertaken on the latest arrival. Engines featured include a mighty 14 n.h.p. Crossley gas engine, Crossley inverted, Crossley model R, the one that appeared in Stationary Engine Magazine some while ago, continuous lamp Blackstone, Dudbridge, Hornsby Ackroyd, Robson, Ohio, Ericcson Ryder hot air engine, International horizontal Famous and others. Priced at £15.95, plus £1 postage.

STATIONARY ENGINE REVIEW. By Patrick Knight. This publication covers a wide selection of engines from the Lenoir to the Lister 'D' type. Chapters include Early days, early oil engines, unsuccessful Pioneers, Horizontal farm type engines, vertical farm type engines and American engines. This book is a must for all stationary engine enthusiasts from the novice to the experienced collector. It contains 166 illustrations, of which 129 are in colour. Available in hardback priced £17.50 plus £2 postage. From PATRICK KNIGHT, 10 UPPER ELMS ROAD, ALDERSHOT, HAMPSHIRE. GU11 3ET.

As a special offer if both video and book are ordered together the postage is just £2.00.