

# WESSEX STATIONARY ENGINE CLUB LIMITED

NOVEMBER  
1999

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## NEWSLETTER



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### \*\*\*\*\* EDITORIAL \*\*\*\*\*

The last rally season this century has just ended. Next years rallies will be the first in the new millenium. Try and make 2000 a bit special. Bring out engines that haven't been exhibited for years, try and have them driving something instead of just ticking over doing nothing else. Also display details of the engine so the general public know what it is and when and where it was made, make an effort, make 2000 extra special.

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

The Committee has already completed a programme of speakers and events for the new millenium, year 2000. We hope you will support them as well as you have in the past. Details of some of them are in this newsletter. The engine jumble at Cheddar went ahead smoothly but numbers of sellers and buyers were down compared to the spring sale, probably due to the adverse weather, however a useful contribution to the club funds was the end result. Thanks to the members who helped out on the day and made this event possible. With only a couple of crank-ups to attend this year that will be the end of the stationary engine events and activities this century. What we have to look forward to is a new millenium and the year 2000. What I intended to do in the new year was stand down as Chairman and take a back seat and a rest. But guess what, what a surprise, no-one on the present committee is willing to take over as Chairman. I have therefore decided to carry on for just one more year as Chairman and see the Club into the next Century (providing you'll have me that is). However we do have committee members standing down who have to be replaced and it is very important for the future well being of the club that someone comes forward with nominations to fill these vacancies. Nominations must be submitted to the Secretary no later than 21 days before the A.G.M. in February with a member to second the nomination. I look forward to seeing you all at Wessex events and meetings in the year 2000 and please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any problems or requests that I could help with.

### \*\*\*\*\* THE MARKET PLACE \*\*\*\*\*

**FOR SALE. DENNING CAST IRON** saw bench with fast and loose flat belt pulleys with Petter air-cooled engine. All in need of restoration £35 the lot. Contact Tom Randall on 01761 418926 (Midsomer Norton)

**FOR SALE. 2 PETTER 'Ms'** tank cooled, 3 hp and 4 hp £250 each. One Petter 'M' 5 h.p. Lister 'L' type £80. Le roy Co 2 cyl. American engine £80. Webber 6 h.p. Petter 'M' solid fly wheel 5 h.p. water pump £60. Ring Martyn or Andrew after 6pm on 01179 675225 for further details.

**FOR SALE. NUTS, BOLTS, STUDS,** Whitworth, BSF, UNC, UNF and metric. Various diameters and lengths. Steel and brass. Unions and union nuts in brass. Iron pipe fittings 1/8" to 2". Iron pipe, black and galvanised, various lengths. Ring David Griffiths with your requirements on Frome 01373 464808.

**FOR SALE. OFFERS INVITED.** Wolseley WD2 1.5 h.p. and Sigmund pump with large copper tank on trailer. Two J.A.P. engines (would make one good one). Wolseley 16-60 car. 1968. Blue and snowberry white £300 ono, lots of spares, all bills for work done, plus original manuals, in need of attention, ring 0207 5371464 for further details. All items stored in Chippenham area.

**WANTED. 6" BELT PULLEY** to fit Lister 'D' if you can help out ring Reuben Smith on 01934 741344. (Cheddar)

**WANTED. 18" SOLID FLYWHEEL** to complete a stationary engine project. ring Ray Earle on 01458 251758

**\*\*\*\*\* FULL QUART 'CRANK-UP' \*\*\*\*\***

The weekend weather forecast for the 'Crank-Up' was not very hopeful, rain, as usual, was promised. Saturday, setting up the ropes etc turned out to be a fine day and began to dry out the already sodden ground rapidly. But at 5 o'clock it rained and the damage was done. More heavy rain during the night and Sunday dawned as a damp dismal day. Our faithful exhibitors started arriving and we managed to get the stationary engines and tractors onto the soggy ground at the rear of the pub. On the large pub car park we had 2 steam wagons and a traction engine also old cars, commercials, motor cycles, 3 small organs, displays of bygones etc., bric-a-brac, cake stall, Roger (look at the size of my turnips!) Pike's veg and fruit stall and Alan & Ann Carney's wonderful model railway which is always a favourite with the younger visitors. Once again an excellent array of draw prizes all kindly donated by the exhibitors. This year on the day we raised £773.24. Our old treasure chest for the season collected £171.95. Tencrest Crank-Up donated £240.95 making a grand total, for the kids of £1,186.14. A huge thanks to all exhibitors and a special thanks to our long distance travellers. Also a pat of the back to our loyal helpers for growing the weather. Perhaps next year we will have a fine day!

ROY & IVOR COX.

**\*\*\*\*\* TO ALL THE MANY FRIENDS OF CLIC \*\*\*\*\***

Each year when this wonderful sum of money comes in from the Crank Up at the Full Quart, I wonder how on earth you do it. I woke up on the Sunday of this event and it was raining and it really got down to it later on in the day. I remarked to my husband that the Crank Up folk couldn't possibly get much money this year because the weather was so awful. I could not believe it when Carol announced that you had raised £1,186.14. THAT is HARD WORK and that is true dedication. How can we thank you wonderful people adequately. The money that you have all worked so hard for will make such a difference to some family who is going through the trauma of having a child with a life threatening cancer, I know, I have been there. On behalf of CLIC, please accept our deepest thanks for your tremendous efforts, God Bless you all and here's to next year, I shall pray for a brilliantly sunny day!

PAT DAIN

PRESIDENT - WESTON AND DISTRICT BRANCH OF CLIC

**\*\*\*\*\* CLUB NIGHT AT THE OLD DOWN INN - OCTOBER MEMBERS EVENING \*\*\*\*\***

A good entertaining evening was enjoyed by a fairly packed audience for Rick Cross an ex Sergeant from the Police Diving Team. Rick was a member of the Force for over thirty years until his retirement. He is now the police diving technician looking after and servicing their equipment. He brought along a dry diving suit which you needed a tin opener to get into to along with the helmet. The suits are so tight so as to make it impossible for the divers to get wet and also eliminate the risk of any skin infection. It takes two men helping one another to put the suit on - an impossible task by oneself as the suit is put on by climbing through the neck! Once in the depths of deep water everything was done by touch as vision is very limited. An eerie sensation when you are trying to locate a body! The diver used a rope which was secure diagonally across the banks of a river to feel his way to search the river bed. On reaching the other bank the end of the rope was moved this way he could search the river in a zig zag pattern. One story he told us was of a wheelchair bound man who tried to commit suicide by going over the end of Bristol docks. When the divers finally managed to locate him and raised him to the surface into the inflatable (with which they had been using for training purposes at the time) it unfortunately punctured one section of the boat. Because these boats are inflated in separate sections they managed to safely get back on to dry land. The story did have a happy ending and the gentleman survived and was deeply sorry for all the trouble he had caused that day. A very personal story which Rick told us about was the time he was called to recover a man's body from the very deep Vobeser Quarry at Mells. He recalled the man had saved a young boy from an upturned raft which I was able to inform him was the man's six year old son and then unfortunately never surfaced again himself. The divers found the body on a ledge over 80 feet down. This 28 year old man was my cousin and was a very sad occasion which took place in the summer of 1977. The usual raffle was held and I even won a bottle of wine (second prize in ten years - not bad?)

THE SECRETARY - ANNE CARNEY.

\*\*\*\*\* **SODBURY SORT-OUT** \*\*\*\*\*

Brian and myself made a visit to the new venue of Jim Wilkies Sodbury Sort-Out. This is now situated on a very good site at Newbury Showground, the site is adjacent to the M4 motorway so it is very easy to find by leaving the motorway at junction 17. We made the mistake of driving up the A4 to Newbury then it was much more difficult to find. There was a good selection of stalls, probably about the same amount as at old Sodbury with some stallholders coming from a different area, of course there was plenty of buyers. The weather was very good which of course helps this kind of event, on the downside it costs two pounds fifty to enter for buyers.

RAY BAKER.

\*\*\*\*\* **FOREST OF DEAN ROAD AND RAILWAY RALLY** \*\*\*\*\*

Once again Brian and myself and young Henry made our annual trip across the Old Severn Bridge to Lydney to exhibit Brians two Coventry Victors at the Forest of Deans Railway 'Road and Rail Event'. As usual this event was very well organised, credit must be due to George Lockyear and his band of helpers including quite a contingent of Wessex Club Members under the watchful eye of Roy Cox. After having a ride on the first train of the day, an early diesel multiple unit, this runs from Norchard to Lydney and back, we then transferred to a 2/0/2 steam locomotive which then done the same run. Later in the day we climbed aboard an early Bristol E5c bus to go to the opposite way up the tracks to Parkend where the Dean Forest railway are doing extensive work reconstructing a station. Most of this work is being done by contractors owing to good awards of money by various heritage groups. There is so much to see at this rally including a large amount of buses and coaches of all makes and ages. Many classic cars, motorcycles, tractors, stationary engines and a selection of stalls. For any one who has never visited Norchard this rally is indeed a very good day out. We only took one hour and a quarter from Shepton Mallet, we were blessed with very good weather, all in all we enjoyed a good day out.

RAY BAKER.

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

**SUNDAY 5TH DECEMBER.** Anti-Freeze Crank-Up at Nunney Catch Transport Cafe, Nr Frome. 9am onwards. A good selection of engines required. Cooked breakfast and cooked lunches available at very reasonable cost from the cafe. Grand raffle to be held after lunch. Prizes donated would be welcome. If you require further details ring 01749 342671.

**MONDAY 27TH DECEMBER.** Mince-Pie Crank-Up at Nash's Timber Yard, Evercreech Junction, Nr Shepton Mallet. Free tea, coffee and hot soup and food. Grand raffle in the afternoon, donations of prizes would be welcome. If you can't bring an engine turn up for a natter and a mince pie. Bring and buy sale.

**MONDAY 3RD JANUARY, 2000.** Vintage Tractor and Engine Autojumble at Avon Livestock Centre, Chew Road, Winford, Bristol. 9am. Pitches £5, Buyers £1, refreshments.

**SUNDAY 20TH FEBRUARY 2000.** Club visit to the Radstock Museum. This is a brand new museum that has just opened this year. It is situated right in the centre of Radstock and is easy to locate. Just turn up at 2pm. The entry fee is only £3.

**SATURDAY 4TH MARCH 2000.** The Wessex Stationary Engine Club Ltd second Spring 'Engine Jumble' at Winchester Farm, Cheddar. Sellers £5. Buyers £1. 8am onwards. No need to book. For details ring 01749 342671.

**SUNDAY 9TH APRIL 2000.** Spring Crank-Up at Nunney Catch Transport Cafe.

**MONDAY 24TH APRIL 2000.** Mells Daffodil at Mells, Nr Frome. More details in the New Year.

**SPECIAL WESSEX EVENT.** The Club have arranged for a conducted tour of Foster Yeomans Quarry at Merehead, Nr Frome on Sunday 26th March. We have arranged to meet at the Strode Arms, Cranmore (near the steam railway) where we will depart by coach for the tour of the largest quarry in Europe. The actual tour starts in the quarry at 3pm and lasts for approx. 2 hours. The cost to cover the coach hire is just £2 per head. This is offered on a first come first served basis so give Jackie Lambert a ring on Frome 01373 463526 to secure your seat. (P.S. make a good day out and arrive at the 'Strode Arms' early enough for lunch, it is renowned for it's food and real ale.

\*\*\*\*\* W.S.E.C. LTD. ENGINE JUMBLE \*\*\*\*\*

On Saturday the twenty third of October a few members of the Wessex Club assisted by Brian Verrall organised and held a auto jumble at Winchester Farm in Cheddar. A total of thirty six stalls set up, selling a large variety of bits and pieces including some stationary engines, buyer's came from far and wide, Southampton, Bideford, Basingstoke, even Essex. Stalls must have been doing good business, I was up the track taking the entrance money which was a reasonable one pound and there was a steady stream of goods being carried back to the car park. I think we must have had about two hundred and fifty as buyers. As a result of the jumble it made a good contribution to club funds.

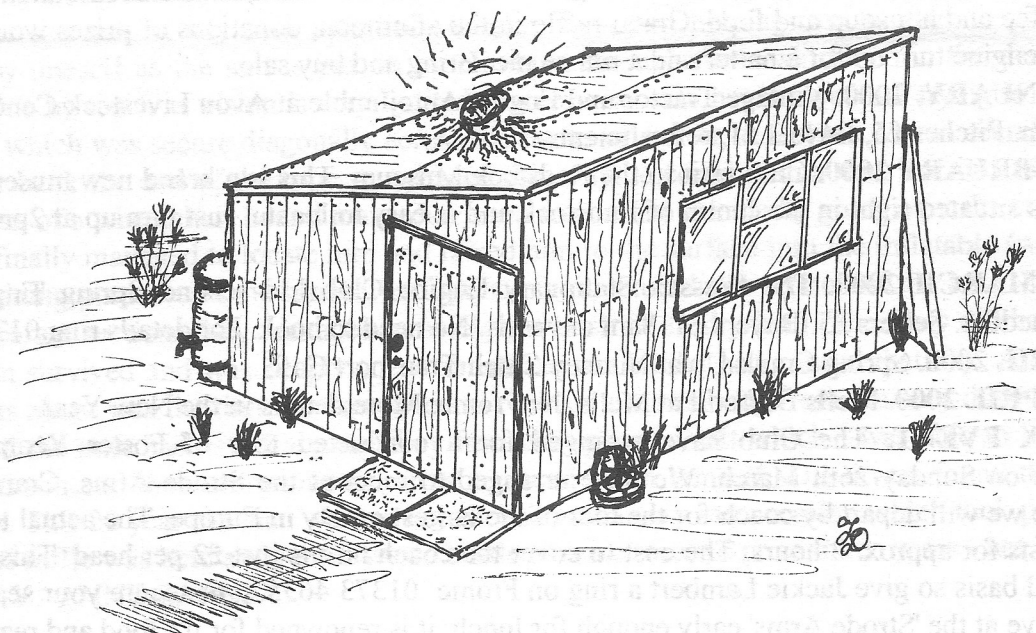
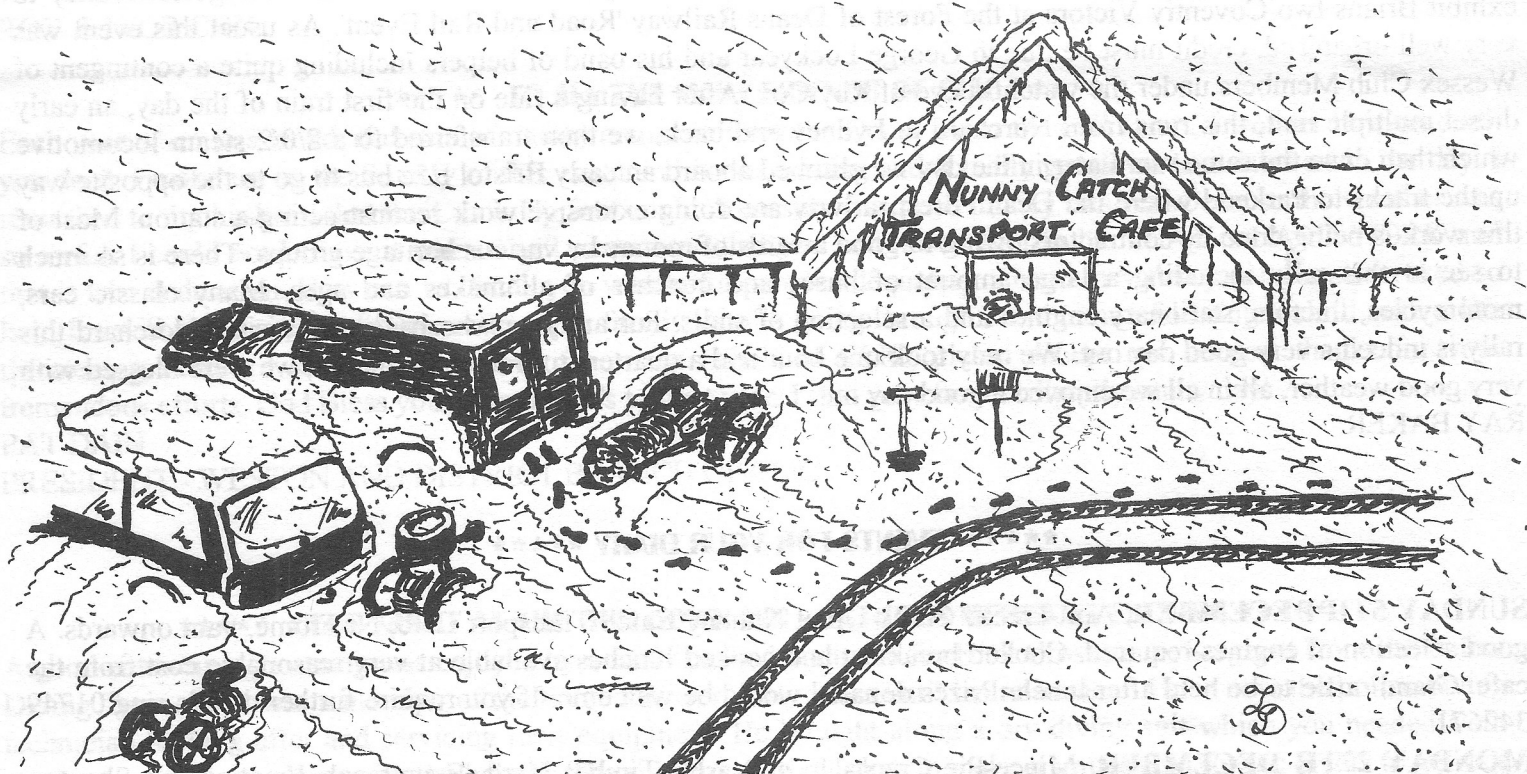
RAY BAKER.

\*\*\*\*\* WANTED \*\*\*\*\* WANTED \*\*\*\*\* WANTED \*\*\*\*\*

Through the winter months articles, adverts, reports, restorations, finds, news etc. are required for the newsletter so pick up your pen and help me to keep the newsletter interesting.

ED

WHO'S BRAIN WAVE WAS IT TO HAVE  
THE "ANTI-FREEZE CRANK-UP" UP HERE!



1 THINK WE NEED TO RESET THE TIMING!