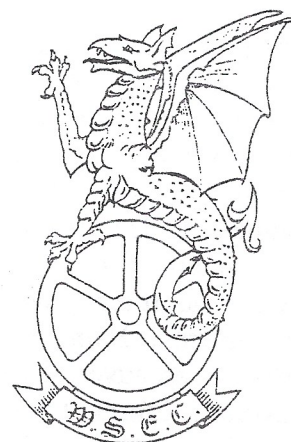


# **WESSEX STATIONARY ENGINE CLUB LIMITED**

**NOVEMBER 2002.**

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## **NEWSLETTER**



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### **EDITORIAL**

I would like to remind all members that the end of the year is fast approaching and subscriptions for 2003 will soon be due. Once again we have not raised subscriptions and the price remains at £8 for a single membership or £10 for a double. (husband and wife), and only £1 for a junior member under 18 years old. New members who joined after September will not have to renew until 2004. I would also remind members that we require three new committee members to help run the club, it is essential that we fill these posts to ensure the continued success of the WSEC.

### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

I can now tell members that the WSEC rally for 2003 will be on August 9<sup>th</sup> -10<sup>th</sup> in the village of Clutton, this is on the A37 about 8 miles south of Bristol. We will be holding an auction on the Saturday morning, a barbeque on Saturday evening, and hopefully a car boot sale on the Sunday morning. To ensure the success of this event we shall be looking to the members to assist the committee with the various jobs that arise. We are holding this in conjunction with Clutton Flower Show, but the flower show is for the Saturday only. The change of date means that we no longer clash with the Lister-Petter rally. I'm sure that our ex President and founder member Eric Brain will think we have moved to Clutton to ensure that he attends, as he lives within walking distance from the site, but I can assure Eric that it is purely coincidental.

### **GET WELL SOON**

The club would like to wish a speedy recovery to Cecil Giblett from Street who has been in hospital recently for major heart surgery. All members wish you well and hope to see you soon at meetings and events.

### **BIRTHDAY GREETINGS**

The club would like to wish a very happy birthday to committee member Leslie Nicholson who has a birthday on the 30<sup>th</sup> November. I never divulge a woman's age but Leslie will never be 49 again. Many happy returns Leslie.

### **CONGRATULATIONS**

Congratulations to committee member Brendon Hill and his wife on becoming the very proud parents of twin boys. Brendon has now swapped engine restoration skills for his new pastime of nappy changing and bottle feeding. We wish all four of you a very happy future.

## MONDAY OCTOBER 28<sup>th</sup> CLUB NIGHT AT THE OLD DOWN INN.

When I arrived At the Old Down Inn at around 7-30 it was almost standing room only, I counted 54 members present and still they came. The evenings entertainment was going to be a talk and slide show by by our past President and founder member of the Wessex Stationary Engine Club, Eric Brain. We did not have a clue what Eric was going to talk about, and I guess that like myself, most of those present thought it was going to be about our hobby of stationary engines. Well it was in some ways, for Eric gave us an insight into his work at the engineering department of Bath University. Well I wish I could turn the clock back and have the chance to study and receive training at such a place as Bath University. For what Eric showed us and talked about had me spellbound, it really was a great insight into what takes place at a university with such a high grade engineering department as Bath. Eric started work at the university after being made redundant from his previous job, he answered an advert in the local paper and hey presto, he had a job at the engineering department of the university. I think it may have been the lure of the chance to work on steam plant that attracted him in the first place, but he told me this type of work did not last for long, but he did get to work on a steam plant for Moultons of Bradford-on-Avon, the makers of the famous Moulton bicycle. In the field of internal combustion engines, work ranged over a great many different types, from Coventry Climax through to Honda. One engine that Eric showed was most interesting, this could be run as a petrol engine with magneto ignition or as a diesel, in both forms the engine had a variable compression that could be altered at will. We saw how the engines were mounted onto the test beds and run against a load, the load being applied in most cases by a water brake dynamometre. On some engines an electric brake was used but it would seem to me that the water brake was more efficient. Mid evening we had our usual raffel with a tremendous range of prizes, and when this was over and many a glass refilled, Eric moved on to show us the work carried out by students, this ranged over many different fields of automotive engineering. The work carried out for the Ford Motor Company alone is quite an eye opener, this covered the testing of engines for fuel efficiency, oil pressure, heat distribution, induction pressures, and exhaust emissions etc, and all this carried out at different speeds and loads. The students at Bath have not only carried out testing of engines, but have designed and built engines for the Ford Motor Company. On notable example being a diesel engine for the Ford Transit van, this being constructed from four engines supplied by Ford. These were then cut in two and rebuilt in a different form so that the friction was greatly reduced. This was achieved by designing a "V" shaped crank shaft, all the design, machining, assembly work, right through to the running and testing is carried out by the students. The motor cycle industry also uses the services of Bath University, look out Honda, I have heard that Kawasaki engines are better than yours. Now I for one would like a job where I got a chance to go racing, well that's what happens in the engineering department of Bath University. Yes they do, they not only go racing, but they design and build the cars, right through from the body shell, chassis, suspension, steering and other items. The engine is limited to 600cc, but this can still reach 140mph in unrestricted form, but the engine is restricted by limiting the induction intake size to 20mm, therefore speed must be found in other ways, lack of friction being one, and aerodynamics another way to gain speed over the rest of the competitors. Bath did very well on their first attempt, they finished 12<sup>th</sup>, not bad for ones first outing. If the car that has been built for the coming year goes as well it looks as though it will be a winner. This type of racing started guess where? Yes that's right, in the USA, but its not just a fun thing, it is very serious engineering and is backed by industry with sponsorship coming from tyre companies and others, so what is learned on the track and in the classroom can be put to good use by the automotive industry. Going back to my beloved motorcycles, a MZ motor cycle was fitted with a Robin diesel single cylinder engine at Bath, this was ridden by one of the instructors at the university and he was thrilled with it, not a fast motorcycle, but it would go up any hill, and one never had to change gear, it would pull a house down. They also take part in another type of competitive engineering at Bath and this is their Eco Car, this is again powered by a Robin diesel, and has achieved 1,117 on one gallon of fuel, Bath university has won this event no less than six times in succession, that can't be bad. Now most of the students stay at the university for five years, four in the classroom and one out in the industry itself, with 95% of the students having a job to go to before they leave. One thing that Eric told us was that girl students were better than the boys, "women better than men I just can't believe it". I now know more than I did about the workings of a university, I just wish I was young again and

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had the opportunity. Well the evening came to an end, but I guess like me, other members at the meeting would love to see some of the projects undertaken in the flesh, I for one would like to see the rotary piston engine built by one of the students to a design by the great Phil Vincent, (maker of the Vincent motorcycle). I would like to thank Eric for a wonderful evenings entertainment, not only from myself, but the members and committee of the Wessex thank you very much for a great evening's entertainment.

**THE OTHER ERIC.**

## THE MARKET PLACE

**FOR SALE** FORD TRANSIT VAN. 1992 J REG, LONG MOT, SIDE WINDOWS, DIESEL ENGINE, VERY GOOD CONDITION, £950. O.V.N.O. FOR FURTHER DETAILS RING BILL ON 01373 466782.

**FOR SALE** LUCAS TYPE AMI 34509A MAGNETO. FULL WORKING ORDER. £70. FELLOWS TYPE EAI No 3645. FULL WORKING ORDER. £80. ML TYPE MGK FULL WORKING ORDER. £30. THOMPSON BENNET TYPE ACL SWOP ONLY FOR TYPE ADL. 6inch EXTRACTOR FAN. NEW. £15. WANTED MAGNETO BRACKET FOR LISTER "B" TYPE 2.5 hp. FOR FURTHER DETAILS RING ERIC GAY ON 01225 754374. TROWBRIDGE.

**FOR SALE** AMANCO 2 ¼ hp HIRED MAN. GOOD CONDITION. NO TROLLEY. £ 500 ONO. PETTER "M" 6hp UNRESTORED. 1926. TANK COOLED. ON TROLLEY. GOOD CONDITION AND A RUNNER. £350. LISTER DOMESTIC WATER PUMP. OFFERS. PEGSON WATER PUMP. OFFERS. FOR DETAILS RING KEVIN ON 01458 833609. OR MOBILE NO 07974 660949. GLASTONBURY AREA.

**FOR SALE** AMANCO 2 ¼ hp CHOREBOY 1916? NO MAG OR TANK. ENGINE NEEDS ASSEMBLING. ON TROLLEY. £300. RING 01749 342671 FOR FURTHER DETAILS.

**The following are letters of thanks sent by CLIC to the organisers of the Mendip Mayhem Crank Up and the Ships at the Castle Crank Up.**

Dear Mrs Pike, What a lovely surprise it was to get your letter this morning with the fantastic sum of £385-37p in it for our favourite charity – CLIC. With tremendous regret, we had given up the idea that the crank up at the Full Quart would ever function again, so your contribution makes sure that somewhere it is still alive and kicking. Well done, it was such a marvellous event even though you seemed to attract the rain whenever you held it. However, Im sure you must have had a good day to raise such a superb amount. I do wish to thank you very much on behalf of CLIC, for such support. Please thank all the people who helped raise this money and remember me to all the people who have helped so much in the past. Pat Dain. President – Weston and District Branch of CLIC.

Dear Mr Skuse, Thank you so much for the kind donation of £367-51 from the proceeds of an engine Crank up held recently at the Ship and Castle public House. Please pass on our sincere thanks to everyone involved. You can be assured that this contribution will help with the continuing efforts here at CLIC. The money will go towards our ongoing work with young cancer and leukaemia suffewrers. It will help in continuing to provide nursing care, research, home from home accommodation and the many other services that these children need. We shall of course keep you up to date with CLIC's progress. However please contact us if you do not wish to receive any further updates. Yours sincerely, Sharon Skinner.

**THE CLUB ARE EXTREMELY GRATEFUL THAT ROGER AND LINDA PIKE AND CO, AND IAN AND CAROL SKUSE AND CO PUT ON THESE MAGNIFICENT CRANK- UPS. THEY ARE VERY IMPORTANT DATES IN THE CLUB CALENDAR.**

## **OBITUARY**

**GANE, ELIZABETH** (Betty) of West Pennard, passed peacefully away at Yeovil Hospital on October 31<sup>st</sup> 2002. Aged 83 years. Elizabeth was the Mother of Herb Gane who has held many committee positions over the years for the WSEC. Elizabeth and her late Husband Ronald were WSEC members for a great many years. The Club would like to offer our deepest sympathy and condolences to Herb and Wendy and the rest of the family in their very sad loss.

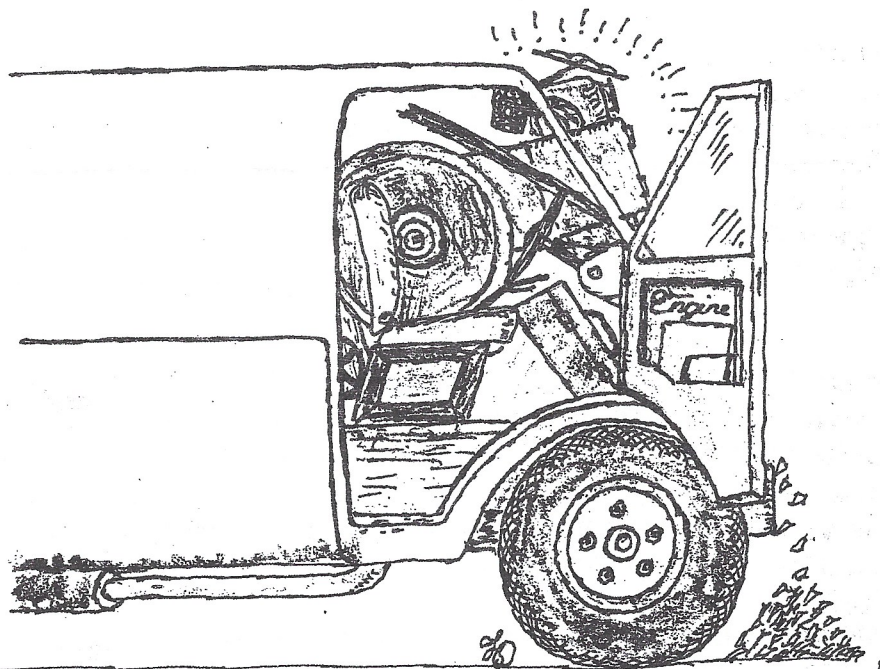
## **EVENTS FOR YOUR DIARY.**

**SUNDAY DECEMBER 1<sup>st</sup>.** **"ANTIFREEZE"** Crank-up at Nunney Catch Transport Café'. Hot food and drinks available. Usual grand raffle, prizes would be most welcome. If you have any items for sale bring them along.

**FRIDAY DECEMBER 27<sup>th</sup>** **"MINCE PIE"** Crank-up at Nunney Catch Transport Café'. Please note no cooked food available. Mince pies and sausage rolls and hot drinks will be on offer. Usual xmas raffle.

## **NEW EVENT FOR WESSEX MEMBERS**

The Wessex Club has been invited to put on a display of engines at the Bath and West Show in 2003. Any member wishing to exhibit an engine, preferably driving something, at this prestige event please let our secretary Arthur Smith know on 01985 840385. We have to submit a list of exhibitors to the Bath and West by December, with the details of your exhibit. The show takes place over 4 days during the last week of May. Don't let the club down, this is a golden opportunity to "fly the flag" for The Wessex Stationary Engine Club.



*THATS WHAT I CALL A DAMN GOOD EMERGENCY STOP!*