

CRANKING

The Wessex Stationary Engine Club's Monthly Newsletter

November
2012
Thirty fifth year
of publication
www.wessex-sec.co.uk

From the Sump **READ THIS NOW!!**

The Committee extends a very warm welcome to Mrs Wendy Gane, our new Membership Secretary. Please send your postal renewals to her at 45, Welsford, Wells, Somt. BA5 2HX.

And so the leaves drift against the workshop door for another year. Everywhere the smell of wet wood and the few glorious days we have left on the slow, inexorable drift into winter.

Time to see to the engines, run them all once more before winter, run the carb dry, oil everything in sight. Cover with an oiled cotton cloth and tuck it under the wheels. As I say every year, park your heaviest engine across the door into the lane and take the wheels off – damned inconvenient thing a wheel-less stationary engine weighing five hundredweight when you have come to steal easy things! Unscrew all the oilers, wrap them individually in newspaper and put them in a big polythene rubbish sack in the roof of the house (say). If I can, I often take magnetos off and put them in a cardboard box in the airing cupboard for the winter. At the least, turn over to compression, take the points cover off and put a bit of thin oiled card between the points. A quick clean next spring is so much better than ozone slowly corroding the steel over months of damp storage.

This year has been a staggering collection of missed days out, disappointing long journeys only to turn round and come home again. We might grumble about the lack of notice in many cases, but I would like to recall that this year we had to cancel our rally and the team worked so well that we only had ONE person turn up on the day. I think this is pretty good myself. I just hope it's a better year in 2013!

It was sad to read in Alan Vicary's report on the Stockbridge Rally that Betty Holloway had passed away, Betty with her husband Bert were popular figures around the vintage rally scene for over three decades and it was always a pleasure to be in their company. There was always a warm welcome at their New Forest home where, with a cup of tea, past memories were often reflected. Our condolences go out to Bert and his family at this very sad time. *Robin Lambert*

Moving the Metal For sale

Petter AVI 5HP Diesel Ser No 618657. Restore or spares. Some frost damage £35

Petter A11 Ser No 519471 1.5 HP petrol complete. Requires restoring. £25

Petter A1 Ser No 53748-6 1.5 hp petrol £25

JAP 3A. Two air-cooled engines, 1 complete, 1 for spares. £20

Contact **Brian Verral Cheddar** 01934 743460 evenin

Lister 1948 28 DH, s/n 1/17438. Rocker gear dismantled but all parts available. Turns over with compression. Ex milking parlour, no trolley. Needs restoring but probably never been apart. Dry stored. With factory handbook. Frome area. Open to offers but £650 on as a starting point!

Phone **John** 07517 036026

Lister Junior. Runner, nice condition, original trolley.

The David. Small belt driven Compressor.

Phone **Mike Upton** 07595 421409 **£225 the pair**

Petter A1 on good trolley, partial restoration. All complete with good Magneto **£55 (prices reduced!)**

Petter A1 parts. Block/Crankcase/ Flywheel/

Casings & Brass plate /Fuel tank £25

Pulley 12" Dia 4" Wide 1.425" (36 mm) Bore. £15

All above Phone **John Light** 07885 466464

Farnborough

Award Night Star Caravan, Has all mod cons inc cooker, Fridge, Shower etc, Can be viewed at Chapmanslade Nr Frome, Asking price £700.

Contact **Jeff** on 07564818529.

Scott PAB Generator complete except for a couple of gauges. This is a very rare find and only the second one I've seen in ten years. It has had a lick of paint but could do with some work. offers £350 ish

Lyon/Norman gen set, bought by the seller's father just after the war and in good order

Wisconsin/Jaeger close coupled water pump, Fully restored from rusty wreck!

Contact **Keith Kerley** by e-mail

Diane Atkinson <miss.diane@btinternet.com>

WANTED

Wanted; Wiko or Lucas RS1 Magneto, counter-clockwise on cog drive end.

Phone **Terry Williams** 07845 137796

No. 52 Steel Detachable Chain as used on conveyors. Need 10 yards, but any quantity will do.

Phone **Gerald Atherton** - 01934 852670

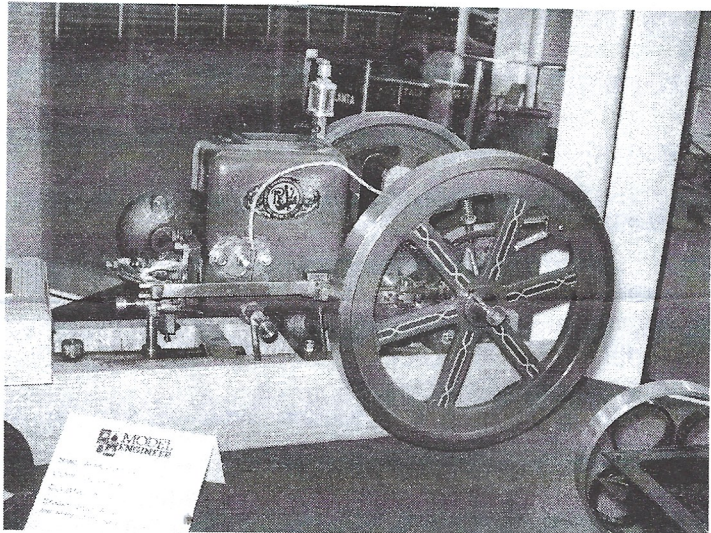
Articles, cartoons, photos etc are always very welcome – this is not a one-man band, but an expression of all our thoughts and experience. Submissions should be preferably typed or word-processed or even handwritten, (if brief), - it is the content we're after, not the grammar or spelling, so please don't feel your efforts will be ignored. The editor reserves the right to change, edit, augment or lessen your Deathless Prose and asks all to note that opinions expressed in this newsletter may or may not represent club policy

Phone - 0117 964 6818

J. Kim Siddorn, 9, Durleigh Close, Bristol. BS13 7NQ or by e-mail to kim.siddorn@blueyonder.co.uk.

Featured Engines 70 At Sandown Park Model Engineering Exhibition By Robin Lambert

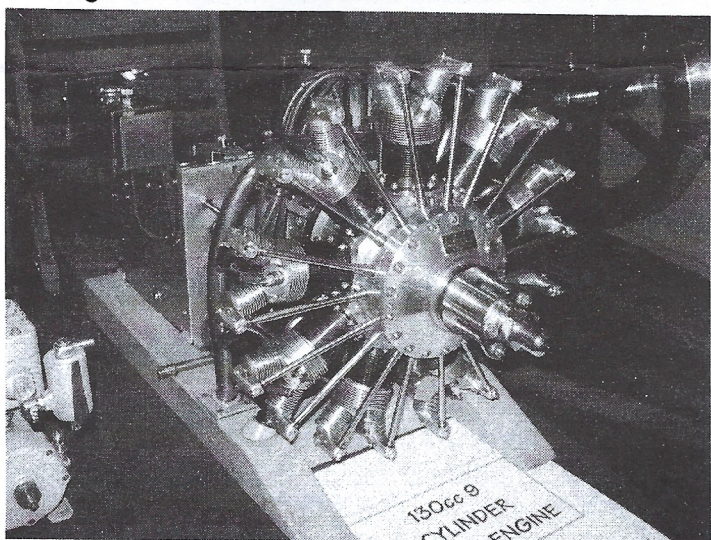
This Sandown Park Model engineering event was well worth a visit and as in other years was packed to capacity with exhibits of all kinds. As the song goes "Trains and Boats and Planes" played just a tiny part here, meaning if you had seen it in full size there was a scaled down version somewhere in this vast exhibition centre.



It is located next to the racecourse and approx half a mile from Esher Railway Station. A free courtesy bus was laid on and ran all day long ferrying people to and from the venue,

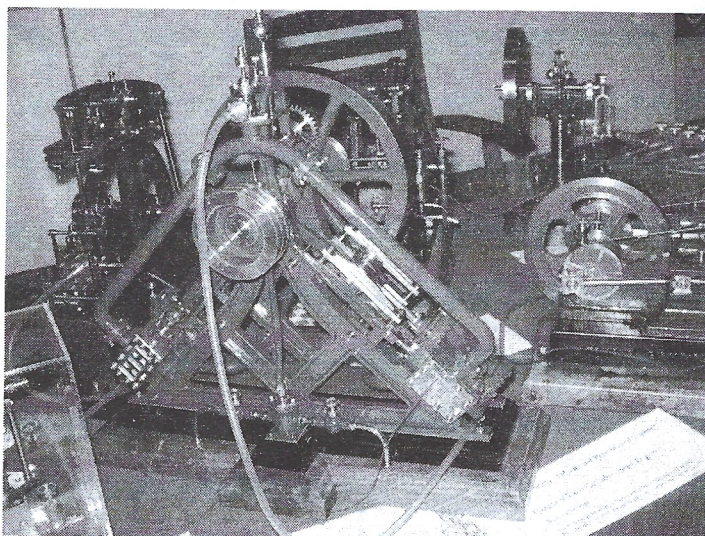
There was a few 3 and 4 inch scale steam Traction Engines moving around the outside of the entrance which gave a nice feeling to visitors as to what they are likely to see inside.

I did enjoy viewing and chatting to the exhibitors who brought along dozens of hot air engines - what a clever and inventive bunch they were with too many different designs to mention here using all kinds of materials.



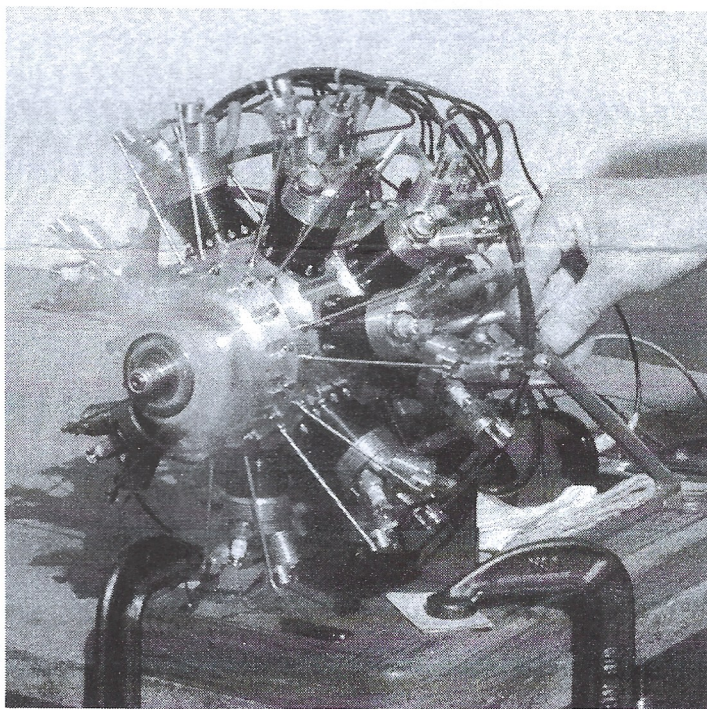
I gazed in awe at the Radial Aero Engines and the skills required to make such a model, There were cutaway versions of houses, shops and boats,

all equipped with furnishings and fittings. Lots of miniature fairgrounds complete with ride and stalls.



Talking of stalls, all the Traders with bits and pieces were here. Metals of all shapes and sizes, workshop tools for lathes and mills and all the bits we usually see around the Rallies.

I spent around 5 hours there which included half an hour in the restaurant which had hot and cold food available. When my legs were tired, I thought it's time to call it a day and, on my way to the exit, I discovered that there was another whole floor under the one I had been viewing!! So I had a quick whiz around downstairs, but just had to give up and make my way to the entrance for the bus back to the Station for a restful journey home which included several sessions of 40 winks.



The final photo here is from the Internet, the others are from Robin. Thanks!

Calendar of Events

Key. CN = Club Night. CU = Crankup E = Event

December – No meeting this Month.

Dec 27th. CU. Mince Pie Crankup at The Court Hotel
All events are listed in good faith. You should always ascertain if an event is taking place before you go. If in doubt, ring Brian Baker on 01749 342671

Chairman's Monthly Report

by Brian Baker (*printed as received*)

The visit to the cider farm at West Pennard on the evening of the 6th of October has to be the "Event of the Year." Thanks must go to Kevin House and his Uncle Trevor and Staff for putting on such a marvellous show. Thanks also to Herb and Wendy for organising the event, and also for the splendid repast of bread and cheese, pickles and pasties that was laid on, not to mention the unlimited supply of excellent cider. (I know it was excellent, I sampled it). A super article by Herb and Wendy appeared in last months newsletter for which I would like to convey my thanks, but words cannot describe such a wonderful evening's entertainment. To the members who did not attend, you really do not know what you missed. The Autumn Sortout at Cranmore was once again blessed with decent weather, just a few drops of rain early on and quite cold, but dry. The sellers were slightly up on last time, with slightly less through the gate. This is an easy way to raise a few bob for the club without much work involved, the only thing I would like to see next time is a few volunteers to man the gate for a brief spell. I would like to thank Eric for his excellent report on this event that appeared in the newsletter. The club night at The Court Hotel on the 29th October was one of the best supported meetings this year; nearly every table in the big room was filled with the collections that members had brought along. They ranged from golliwogs (Di Emery,) to seventy model Ice cream vans, (Henry Baker). I asked Anne and Roger Kempson to judge the exhibits, they chose a super model Ransoms plough made by Rueben Smith from Cheddar, and he received a bottle of wine as a prize. I think we will have a more detailed report in the newsletter as I saw our President Brian doing the rounds with a pad and pen. I appealed in last months newsletter for someone to organise the skittle match in the Autumn, well this has been resolved, Diane rang me to say she would carry on as before, so the event is safe for another year, the alley has been booked and paid for. Thank you very much Diane. Our Vice-Chairman Eric has just come out of hospital after having a replacement hip. I'm glad to say it went very well and appears to have been successful. Eric tells me he is now waiting for the other one to be operated on; the club wishes you a speedy recovery Eric and hope to see you running around the rally fields soon. I'm pleased to say Mary Butler is now home and recovering from her recent operation. The club sent Mary flowers while she was in hospital, many thanks to Jackie and Robin for taking them to

her, Mary sent me a very nice card thanking me and the club members for this gift. Best wishes from all of us Mary; we hope to see you soon at the meetings. Get well wishes to Liz Smith who has been in hospital recently for an operation, Liz had a kidney transplant some time ago but I don't think it was the success she hoped for. Get well soon Liz as we hope to see you at our events and meetings. Another member who has been under the weather lately has been our editor Kim; we all wish you a speedy return to good health. (*I'm fine now, thanks, a shot across my bows to get me to have the annual flue injection which I have failed to take up in the past! – Ed.*) The programme for next year is now completed with plenty of events and meetings to look forward to. The club cannot function on its own so we will be looking for members to join the committee at the AGM in February. If you wish to contribute to the running of the club please give me a ring on 01749 342671.

A Request for Assistance

I was hoping that you may be able to help me. I am looking for a Lister H2 water pump for my father-in-law. During a very bad winter their water pump froze and split. Sadly it is ruined but I hoped that you may know someone with one for sale or at least maybe give me a pointer in the right direction.

Any reasonable price will be paid of course and we only need the pump as we have everything else. It doesn't need to be pretty as it is a working pump so any condition considered. Any help will be very much appreciated. Jim Whitson, 01721 730 727 day or 01721 730 352 eve.

Hobbies Club Night 29th Oct

by Brian Verrall

The October meeting at the Court was well supported by members with a good selection of their hobbies on show, so after Chairman Brian had started proceedings with a welcome to everyone and a few announcements it was around the room to see and hear about what was on the tables. Kevin Philips started with his collection of model boats with which he has become quite competitive but wasn't too impressed when beaten by his wife Carol, a complete novice, well done Carol.

Young Henry Baker had a good collection of Corgi, Dinky and Matchbox ice cream vans collected over the last 10 years with, I suspect, some help from Brian. Diane Emery displayed a collection of memorabilia from Robertsons' jam and marmalade manufacturers from Bedminster, Bristol (sadly no more), this included the enamel badges of Golliwogs, Mugs, Plates, Cheese dishes and Dolls etc. Next was Ruben Smith with one of his model ploughs, a Ransomes this is one out of his collection of 13 different ones all made to scale. Not satisfied with that he also brought along the Organ Unit from a set of steam yachts he built modeled on the ones owned by Carters which appear on the Beach Lawns at WSM each year. Also on the same table was the shafts, fore-carriage and wheels of a Caulson portable Steam Engine, backed up by the

photographs of what was acquired at a car boot sale in quite a sorry state. Fortunately, the cylinder, piston con-rod, crank, flywheel etc. are reusable and currently a new boiler is in the making with the help from my daughter at Western Steam Ltd.

Moving on next was some small wood carvings done by Glen Jones he has only recently taken this up but he put in a fair bit of effort into what he has done so keep up the good work Glen. Robin Lambert brought along one of his Hot air engines he also had some early electrical equipment and some type of meter I believe from his earlier days with the Electricity Board. Arthur Smith and Liz filled a table with a collection of old gramophone needle tins on one half on the other half was a collection of puncture repair kit tins. In both cases, I didn't realise that there were so many different makes. They also brought along an early gramophone and two small engines he has built from castings, a Clanfield and a Perkins.

Next, was Keith Hale with a working model tank which when running sounds just like the real ones. Another hot air engine was demonstrated by Clive King this was smaller than Robins but ran very well when the flame was lit.

Tony Davis had a collection of model Land Rovers and commercials he has collected. Unfortunately I didn't get to see them in more detail. Sorry Tony.

Finally, our Vice Chairman Eric managed to persuade the Landlady of the Court to let him bring in his 3" Marshall Traction Engine into the room, this created a lot of interest but with a smoke detector overhead I am glad it wasn't in steam.

My thanks to everyone who made this a very enjoyable and interesting evening which was rounded off with the usual raffle and a prize for the best model going to Ruben Smith for his plough and Organ Unit.

Visit to the Cutty Sark

By Kim Siddorn

I had to do a business presentation at the Royal Naval College this month and as it was Hazel's birthday, we stayed overnight in Greenwich and the next day visited the last surviving British, renovated-from-the-keel-up tea clipper, the Cutty Sark.

She is an impressive sight, lifted from her dry dock by 10 feet or so, so that the whole 240 foot long vessel floats in space over your head. From the dockside, of course, she towers over you as she never would have done in life, adding greatly to the spectacle of the exhibit. They have spent several million pounds of their – and the insurance company's - money in building a modern, outstanding waterfront attraction and one which is fully accessible to those of us who are somewhat past our sell by date! There are two big lifts, one inside the ship and the other on the quayside, There is a decent gift shop and a very nice – if predictably expensive (slice of Carrot Cake £3.05) – café in the dock under the ship.

The vessel is clad below the waterline with Muntz Metal, a 60/40% mix of copper and zinc with a

trace of iron, equally as good as copper at keeping weed and barnacles away but at half the price. It looks like 9 carat gold, so is very pretty to behold!

Inside the main hold, there are various representations of tea chests mixed in with audio and visual displays to educate you whether you would or no. There is also a distinct smell of leaf tea in the air, no doubt wafted in through the air conditioning! As is the modern style, lots of informative signs are written in pale grey on dark grey and almost invisible in the dim light.

Upstairs and you emerge blinking into the light with a stunning view of the River Thames across the reach at Greenwich, directly opposite Canary Wharf at a remove. The upperworks were not on the ship during the fire having been removed along with masts and rigging to a distant warehouse. It was marvellously lucky (and not to say convenient) that this was the case as the fire destroyed nothing much that was not on the list to be renovated or changed and, indeed, stripped back the interior so a better assessment could be made of the iron-braced wooden hull.

The towering riveted iron masts are set up anew and the rigging is partly new laid and partly as it was from its previous restoration. It looks the part, certainly. The deck is dull grey teak, very neatly pitched in the seams. All the gunwales etc are varnished on the bare wood and all the Iron fittings, capstans, pumps etc are freshly painted. All in all, their efforts to depict the vessel when she was new have not been wasted and in our terms, I'd say she was a Class One restoration, bringing to that title all the implications that the term embraces.

We were there an easy two hours including a cup of tea: we could have stayed longer, but we'd only bought two hours on the pay and display meter and it was about right anyway. The car park is 100 yards away, parking is £2.50 an hour, admission was £9.50 with Crumblies Discount.

The National Maritime Museum at Greenwich is just across the way and if my hip had not been so painful that day, we'd have gone across there and had a walk around the stunning place that it is. And – it should be remembered – it was only ever intended as a rest home and hospital for 250 injured, ailing or distressed Royal Navy "Other Ranks".

To sum up, it is definitely worth a visit, and although expensive by my standards, at London prices, not bad at all.

More stuff for sale!

Lister H2 pump on trolley, all fittings & tank £175 ono
Leo pump with all fittings £ 80 one
Braun Paxiscope –XL, Epidioscope projector with 300w halogen lamp, only used once, with stand and screen £150 - Same as the club's

Phone Ed on 01458 210929