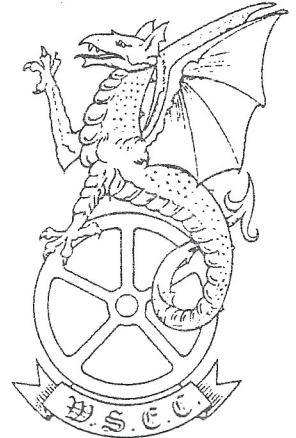


WESSEX STATIONARY ENGINE CLUB LIMITED

SEPTEMBER 2001

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NEWSLETTER



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******* EDITORIAL *******

I am please to report that my request for Newsletter material has prompted a few of you to put pen to paper, well done, now keep it up. Thanks to Foot and Mouth this has been a year of 'Non-Events', however we still have a few events on our calendar, skittle evening, sortout, couple of crank-ups and of course our monthly meetings : The Old Down, so lets all make an effort to make sure these are well supported and successful.

******* CHAIRMAN'S REPORT *******

Our August meeting at The Old Down Inn had less members present than usual due to a lot of them being on Holiday, the members who attended were entertained by Philip Thornton Evison who put on a splendid slide show of engines from the numerous rallies he attends with his camera. These slides were accompanied with Phillip's usual banter and wit, which really was a brilliant presentation. Thank you Phillip. The 'Mendip Mayhem' Crank-Up at Brians Fear's garage was well attended and enjoyed by all who attended, thanks to Roger Pike and Co for keeping this popular Crank-Up going year after year. The Committee have completed next years programme, so you can look forward to a good years entertainment once again (I don't know how we do it).
BJB.

******* CLUTTON FLOWER SHOW - 11TH AUGUST *******

Having arrived in good time, I was able to watch this village flower show come together. First came the stalls with their varying assortment of tents and gazebos. The beer tent and the large marquee was indeed very busy as the many varied flower and vegetable exhibits were put into place. What a wonderful sight. There was a small fun fair for the children with a juvenile roundabout, striker and coconut shy, to mention just a sample. Throughout the day a large band played the 'Glen Miller' type sound on a stage made of two curtain side lorry trailers parked side by side. What a good idea. There were 18 stationary engines, 12 tractors, together with a display of classic cars. All afternoon there was fun and games in the ring with the agility dog practice and competition. This was a very well supported show with visitors coming and going all afternoon. All good things come to an end with the tractors and cars being paraded in the ring before everyone left for home.
HENRY AND HIS GUARDIAN.

******* BIRTHDAY GREETINGS *******

Our Secretary Arthur Smith is reaching a milestone in his life on the 19th October. The **BIG 60**, Birthday Greetings Arthur from all Wessex members.

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

SATURDAY 6TH OCTOBER – SOCIAL EVENING AND SKITTLE MATCH AT CHEDDAR FOOTBALL CLUB 8pm. Supper – faggots, chips and peas and ploughman's. Ring Jackie on 01373 463526 if you wish to attend. Usual raffle, prizes would be most welcomed. £2 per head towards the food.

SATURDAY 20TH OCTOBER – SOMERSET SORT-OUT THE W.S.E.C. AUTOJUMBLE AT WINCHESTER FARM, CHEDDAR. 8 am onwards, pitches only £5, buyers £1. For further details ring Brian on 01749 342671.

MONDAY 29TH OCTOBER – CLUB NIGHT AT THE OLD DOWN INN Guest Speaker Mr Ron White – A talk on the life of a Formula 1 Racing mechanic during the 1950's and 60's. Usual Raffle.

******* THE MARKET PLACE *******

1911 LISTER 19hp air-cooled, 2 cylinder, diesel, fixed 1500rpm with output gearbox of 750rpm. Offers please. Ring Alan on 01963 32742 or Reg on 01963 33054. Wincanton area.

**STATIONARY ENGINE
MAGAZINES**

Early No's. 3, 13, 20, 21, 22, 23, 25, 26, 30, 32, 33 £1.50 each or £14 the lot.
Ring 01458 210929.

METRO 1.0 E REG

5 door, silver, grey trim. New mot, low mileage, excellent condition, cheap tax, ideal first car £395. Ring 01749 342671 for further details.

RALLY

ROTOVATOR

Model RYX820, 2 year s old (cost new £600) has 5hp Briggs and Stratton engine, forward and reverse gears, complete with all manuals £300. Telephone 01373 461284 (Frome area).

NEW TREMBLER COIL

Made in U.S.A. £50. Atlas 10" F series metal lathe with thread cutting gears, on cabinet £300. Set of 4 12" x 3" iron wheels on pair of axles £15. National gas engine LPP, 1662, year 1926, petrol/paraffin with flyball governor. 7.5 – 8.5 hp on road trailer £2,500. Stationary engine Magazines, complete sets 1981-1989, also 1994 plus others, 148 in total £45. Telephone 01458 832608 for further details.

**WANTED
ZENITH**

24.2 carburettor for Petter A series air-cooled engine. Telephone John Cross on 01749 840833.

******* PORTLAND STEAM AND VINTAGE SHOW – 18TH/19TH AUGUST *******

The Show was held at Southwell Business Park that was part of the former Royal Navy shore base for the secret testing of weapons. As Saturday dawned it was windy and showers but this did not deter the arrival of the exhibits. Although low in some sections like cars and motorcycles, the commercials, stationary engines and tractors were good. Steam showed quite strongly with Alan Fry's 'Princess Royal' and George Trains 'Queenie', not forgetting John Pattens 'Stratton Lady' and many others in support. Trade stands and auto jumble were well represented. The Sunday was even better, sunshine, no wind and a wonderful support by the public. To sum up, despite the long climb and isolated position this show was a pleasure to attend, good company, helpful organisers and a good atmosphere. A hearty well done to the organising committee.

BRIAN LOVELL WITH HENRY.

OBITUARY

EDWIN JOHN ROUTLEY (TED) of Oakhill, died 31st August, aged 70. Ted was a Wessex member for a great many years and served on the Committee for a number of them. The Club would like to extend our sympathy and condolences to his Wife and Family.

***** LETTERS TO THE EDITOR *****

Dear members of the Wessex Stationary Engine Club. Just a short note of thanks to you all for sending me a copy of the Newsletter in which you had written a lovely tribute to my Husband Dennis. As you know Dennis loved his engines and during his time as a Wessex member we made many good friends. I know that many of you attended the service held at Holy Trinity Church, Coleford on Friday 20th July to celebrate Dennis's life, and many more of you have sent cards. I know that Dennis would have wanted me to thank you for your kindness. I hop that I will get to see you at a Rally soon, but in the meantime the kettle is always on here at Grove House, and you would all be very welcome to visit.

Yours Sincerely,
SYBIL HODGES

***** LETTERS TO THE EDITOR *****

Dear Brian,

Will you please convey my thanks to the Wessex members who attended the Clutton Flower Show on the 11th August. There was 21 engines from W.S.E.C (what a good line up). Thanks to Ken for his display of cans, bottles, etc. and thanks to Mike Snook for driving his tractor whilst transporting his engines in the trailer. Once again many thanks to you all who attended. Hope to see you all again next year.

ROGER PARSONS

*** MENDIP MAYHEM – SUNDAY 2ND SEPTEMBER ***

Fortunately the weather was not as bad as expected, and this crank-up displayed 35 engines, a selection of cars, a tombola, raffle and bootsale. John Emery displayed his collection of over 100 spark plugs of various shapes, sizes and ages for the first time. His collection includes plugs from cars, commercials and airplanes, from countries such as France, USA and Sweden. The vehicles included a Rover P6 3500, Porsche 911, Wolseley Hornet MKIII, a Rickmans Velocette motorcycle and Ray Skinner from Shepton Mallets 1958 Austin A35, 'Syd'. Ray bought Syd in April 1997 from Bruton with no brakes, perished tyres, rotted headlining and seats, no doors and hand-painted bright cherry red. Syd was bring used daily in this condition! Over 1997-1999 Ray restored Syd to its original condition, and it is now painted in a rather better looking Oxford grey. As always at these Crank-Ups there was a variety of items for sale, both in front of engines and on the bootsale and CLIC stalls. These ranged from clothes to spanners and copper pipe to a complete 998cc Triumph Herald gearbox! The raffle was held at 2.30pm in the rain, which was supposed to have come in the morning. Together with the churn at the entrance, and the Club table, an amazing £376.53 was raised for CLIC and £23 for the Club. I think the threat of rain kept some people away, but this was still a very good crank-up, my only quibble being that, although a lot of engine had exhibit boards, a lot didn't.

JONATHAN HOCKEDY – JUNIOR REPORTER.

***** CLUB NIGHT AT THE OLD DOWN ON AUGUST 21ST *****

This meeting was brought forward a week due to the following Monday being a Bank Holiday, despite this there was a good turn out of members. Our Guest Speaker for the evening was one of our own members Philip Thornton Evison who came all the way from Oxford to give us a very interesting slide show from various rallies with a very wide selection of engines from the very smallest to the largest, far too many to remember, but it was a very interesting show, but then Philip always does us very proud. The evening finished with the usual raffle of over 20 prizes, many given by Club members.

RAY BAKER.

It was with great sadness that I learned of the death of a dear friend Dennis Hodges. Dennis was one of life's real gentlemen, and I was privileged to call him a friend. Whenever we met Dennis he always had a cheery word and always a smile, you will be greatly missed dear friend but never will you be forgotten. My deepest sympathy goes to Sybil and family in their sad loss.

E.J.GAY.

GREAT DORSET STEAM FAIR 2001

It doesn't seem long ago when the Dorset Steam Fair was months away, then it's was weeks away and now it's been and gone. This was my fifth trip to the annual event, and like a lot of other people I wondered if it was going to be cancelled like most of the other shows this year. Anyway the two days that I was at the show were packed full of things to look at and things to buy. For those of you that haven't been before it must be one of the biggest shows of its kind in Europe, and certainly in the UK. The fair boasts everything from a huge auto jumble, trade stands, craft tents, heavy horse ploughing, vintage cars, motorcycles, tractors, lorries, steam traction engines, working equipment, and of course lots of stationary engines. Personally my favourite part is the autojumble, which takes up most of my time. At the auto jumble there are a whole range of items on sale from stationary engines to work shop manuals for vintage cars. The fair runs for five days and attracts people from all over the world, and there is even a huge campsite for those wishing to bring tents and caravans. I found the working equipment very interesting, as there was a host of stationary engines actually driving equipment. Amongst the working equipment area was a road that had been constructed using steam rollers, a crusher driven by a Lister A, an ancient Thwaites dumper truck and of course a workers hut and fire, which seemed to provide an endless source of fry ups and tea. Other items of interest were a set a traffic lights and a thumper! The thumper basically consisted of a cylinder with a piston in it, which was linked to the 'foot' part of the thumper. The thumper was pressed down on the ground, which sucked a fuel/air mixture into the cylinder, the operator then activated a hand-powered magneto which in turn ignited the mixture. This causes the thumper to leave the ground and when it hit the ground again the magneto was operated again to ignite the mixture again. The whole set up was very simple, but had to be treated with a lot of care and respect, as chins and feet were in the line of fire. I remember them when I was a kid, so it was great to see one again. There were around 120 engines in the stationary engines section which ranged from the venerable Lister D's to some more unusual exhibits, that included a 1915 Tangye AA 10hp of 1915 vintage. A Deville 4hp from 1927, an Enfield VS1 diesel from 1946 and an 1899 JEH Andrew size C of 1.5hp. There was the usual contingent from France and Netherlands displaying some very interesting engines, which complemented the British equipment. The only slightly negative point I noticed was that there were a number of engines with no description or information on what they were, which I think is a shame, as not everyone is well informed on stationary engines. Anyway that's the Dorset Steam Fair for another year, roll on next year.

BRENDEN HILL.

WEST COKER VILLAGE VINTAGE FAYRE - 28TH & 29TH JULY

This show started to come together during the Saturday for the proceedings were not due to start until 7.30pm with entertainment by a local band called 'Sweatin Stephens and the Flying Bray Brothers', who were excellent. They were supported by a bar, hog roast, ice cream van and skittles. At Midnight the band stopped and was subjected to a lot of taunting, to encourage them to play on. This they did by popular request to satisfy those present. The hog roast was organised and presented by the local Butcher 'Stuart Saunders'. The bar was conducted and run by the organisers themselves, the evening's proceedings were very well supported. Sunday 29th saw the arrival of some exhibits, there were 2 motorcycles, 11 cars, 8 tractors, 7 stationary engines, 1 chain saw, an organ, and not forgetting Mr Dick Apps with his pole lathe. There were numerous stalls and craft displays to look at. The boys of the West Coker Youth Club gave an entertaining display over an assault course on their Mountain bikes. This was followed by the ever-popular family dog show that brought a lot of friendly 'hounds' to the Show. The children were entertained by Punch and Judy. A good time was had by everyone.

HENRY'S GUARDIAN.

THE PORTLAND SHOW - 18TH / 19TH AUGUST

This was a very good show, better if weather had been good on the Saturday. There was 5 full size steam engines, 1 half size and 10 smaller size engines, 104 stationary engines, 71 classic cars, 37 motor bikes, 17 commercials, 12 tractors, 2 tents, 1 for crafts and 1 for models. Not very many trade stands and very few for the women to look at, I wish they would think of all the women that go with the man, should have some stands to interest them. I hope all rally ad show organisers will get together for next year as a lot are putting their dates back, hope this will not put a lot together one week and none the next, this show has put it to 24/25th August, 2002.

GLORIA CARP.