

WESSEX STATIONARY ENGINE CLUB

Newsletter

August 1977

Beaulieu 1977

What a glorious event, surely not to be missed off any enthusiasts calendar. Weather, setting, facilities engine after engine to see, hear and enjoy.

Nice to see a good turnout of W.S.E.C. members especially Bill Appleby's newly restored Victoria, prizewinner Rod Dring's Lister N-Type, Ted Ashman's National Gas and Terry Heath's Petter Light and many many more too numerous to mention.

From the largest to the smallest, there was something to please everyone, lamp start, hot air, steam, single and double flywheel, horizontal, vertical and all nicely restored to. Rarities included a "sundial" engine made in the US, Cushman 4HP, Filter open crank. Wonder 1 HP and many many more.

All the engines were reluctantly loaded up by their owners and helpers after a very enjoyable weekend.

Thankyou once again Brian Johnson.

Signed Anon (who gets his name in too many things already)

Fairford Rally 20th-21st August

Although both the start and finish of Fairford Rally was marred by a downpour of rain, the weather cleared sufficiently during the two days to ensure a most enjoyable weekend for exhibitors and public alike.

This was a big rally, the stationary engine section being well supported with over 100 engines on show - some to a very high standard of restoration. All engines were open to judging, the prizewinners being as follows:-

Open Crank Section

1st	1912 Fairbanks 4 h.p.	Mr P Whittington, Cheltenham
2nd	1924 Blackstone 8 h.p.	Mr John Kyte, Market Lavington
3rd	1900 Morton	Mr P Williams, Telford.

Closed Crank Section

1st	1923 Crossley 7.h.p.	Mr T Heath, Sherborne
2nd	1917 Petter 5 h.p.	Mr B Wall, Carterton
3rd	1920 Delco Light 1½ h.p	Mr K Appleby, Bath

Other engines which were not favoured by the Judges, but which we thought worthy of a mention were -

Continued.....2/

1926 3 h.p. Petter Handyman and Pump owned by Mr A Green, REading

1930 Powerl, owned by Mr M Reeves, Ross-on-Wye, and

1929 Ruston Hornsby with twin sheepshears owned by Mr G Shears (who else!) of Castle Eaton. It was also nice to see several examples of the humble Lister 'D' type beautifully restored and a credit to their owners.

Wessex Club members were represented by Mike Harris with his two Amanco's, Mike Cannon with his Tangye and Amanco, the Dring family with their 7 h.p. Lister, and Ken Appleby with his Lister 'L' and 1920 Delco lighting plant which took third prize in the judging - congratulations, Ken.

The marshalling was in the capable hands of Mr John Batchelor, the Cotswold Oil Engine Club ran a barbecue on Saturday evening complete with folk singers who were well received by an appreciative audience; there was even a Grand Draw - the first prize being a newly restored stationary engine ! Inspiration for future Wessex Club raffles perhaps !!

All in all, in spite of the rain, a successful and most enjoyable Rally.

P.S. Three guesses to identify the Wessex Club member who spent most of the Rally fast asleep - we won't mention any names !

Pam and Ray Saunders

Many thanks indeed to the Chairman for his report on Beaulieu and to Pam and Ray for theirs on Fairford, see I didn't leave anything out, though you must appreciate I need the sleep to give me strength to tackle this lovely newsletter! thats my excuse anyway.

Welcome to New Members

Mr E M Pincott
Mr C H Poucher
Mr R G Boaden
Mr T Heath
Master M Fozwell (Junior)
Mr E Mills
Mr P Sheldrake
Miss J Pearce
Mr B Pearce
Mr E Fenton
Mr T E Filby
Mr F G Rogers
Mr R Frampton

Which brings us up to 76 members

Chairman's Report

Following last months newsletter, an encouraging amount of suggestions etc have been received from club members. Also offers of help have been much appreciated - keep it up members; dont need to let the Committee do it all. Last months meeting was well up to expectation with a first class film show by Mr and Mrs Charles Hudson, anyone missing it should be kicking themselves. Thank-you Charles and all who participated including "behind the scenes" Dave Chapman and Ben Whittock (The 'Black-out brigade'). Incidentally we were pleased to welcome Mr and Mrs Sheldrake from Thirsk Yorkshire who were so impressed that they joined the W.S.E.C. on the spot.

A good chance to help the W.S.E.C. for EVERYONE is the jumble sale coming up soon to boost the club funds on November 5th. Not an easy date to forget!! Any unwanted junk will be most welcome - No David Chapman no old bears this time please, Any volunteers for stall holders, raffle ticket sellers, general fetch and carriers, will be very welcome.

We would also be pleased to know of more DINERS AND DANCERS for the Club Annual Dinner and Dance so far a poor response to an expensive event. Forms and enquiries to Mary Chapman as soon as possible please.

Eric Brain

Forthcoming Events and Club Meetings

Bradford Warf Show	3-4th September
Stonehouse	"
Selwood	10-11th September
Silver Jubilee Fair	
Cheltenham	10th September
Jubilee Sports Westfield	"
Stourpaine Bushes	23-24-25th September
Club Meeting	26th September
Cranmore	1-2nd October
Hulavington	7-8th October
John Kytes	7-8th October
Club Meeting	31st October
Jumble Sale	5th November

THE CROSSLEY HUNT

Chapter Two

As the Land Rover swung into the rough drive leading down to the scrap yard, the driver noticed a strange fog covering the entire yard. The reason for it being strange was that it only held on the yard itself. The rest of the

Continued.....4

surrounding country side was clear. Undaunted, he continued. He stopped at the yard entrance as, just inside of the entrance, there was an old static caravan with smoke billowing from its rusting chimney. As he got out of the Land Rover a person climbed down the step from the caravan. At this point he was only clear on the fact that it was a person. As for its sex he was at a total loss.

Dressed in knee length rags, which could loosely be described as trousers, ankle socks and filthy white daps, the lower half of this being gave no clue as to whether our intrepid driver should address it as mister or missus. Merely raising his hand as a polite gesture, he started to walk towards it. It became clear to him that the task of identifying it was not going to be made any easier by a closer look at the top half. All was pretty flat and straight forward there too. This was going to be tricky. However, he must persevere in his hunt for the Crossley. The cigarette dangling from the left side of the mouth, the stained yellow fingers and the singed eyebrows gave him the answer to one question, that the fog was really her cigarette smoke. Only when she spoke was the answer revealed, either that high voice was due to an operation or it must be a woman. He took a chance.

" Ah, good morning madam". No smack in the mouth followed so he assumed he must be right. He continued.

"I'm searching for an old engine, and was wondering whether you might be able to help me".

"There's plenty of old engines round yer me dear, which un be looking for in particular?"

"It's a Crossley actually"

Her face dropped. The cigarette fell to the ground landing in a muddy puddle extinguishing itself with a hiss. Her head slowly shook from side to side, shaking her short, greasy, slimy hair with it. She was obviously upset at the mere mention of the name. She breathed out deeply. The hairs hanging down her nose shook and shuddered.

"Were it a 4½ h.p. single flywheel engine of the permanent lamp variety?" she asked seemingly quite well versed on such matters.

"yes, thats it " he excitedly replied

"No never heard of it, never seen one in me life"

*The driver was a wise man, he didnt believe her but he knew better than to argue with a woman. He thanked her and left her attempting to retrieve the cigarette from the puddle.

He turned the Land Rover and headed back down the drive, On reaching the end he stopped, shouldhe turn left or right in his hunt for the Crossley engine. He chose left. Has he made the right decision, should he have turned right Should he have left his wife and six shildren to come on this venture. Should he have had Weetabix this morning. Should I be writing this rubbish, find out in next months thrilling adventure, part three of the "Crossley Hunt".

*(Surely he must be a candidate for future Chairman of the Committee !!)

Paul S Helliker

Thankyou Paul for a thrilling story.

Dinner Dance

Dont forget to send in your forms to Mary Chapman for tickets to our Dinner Dance.

Continued....5/

The White Horse Show - Uffington: 28th-29th August

N.B. There has never been a rally report in the Newsletter this quickly before!

This was the first time that the W.S.E.C. had been represented at this Rally. The weekend started with a very warm personal welcome from Richard Fawcett, the organiser. This welcome extended throughout the whole weekend which was equally matched by the superb weather.

Among the 67 engines gently reciprocating to themselves, and the much admiring (and often amazed) spectators, were, Mr R Saunders award winning single fly-wheel Lister 'A' type driving an unusual Lister pump. From Ramsbury Mr F Dyers Collection of Avon and Witte drag saws keeping placque-board hunters satisfied for seasons to come. From Cheltenham, Mr P Whittington bought his superbly restored Fairbanks Morse Bulldog, Lambourn Society members, Mr P Penfold with his 10½ h.p Ruston Hornsby and Mr G Renaut with a rather nice 1½ h.p. of the same make. A rare Pilter 4 h.p. was shown by Mr D Smith from Cirencester and outstanding among the several Amanco's was an early 2¼ h.p. model with a bell-mouth carburetter of Mr A Harris from Cheltenham which ran an Amanco pump. First time out was Mr Eric (instant engine rebuild) Brain's Petter M type. Engine rebuilds with the help of Mr M (carries everything in his toolbox) Cannon.

The programme was amply supported by the many and varied fascinating side-shows including a heavy horse show, dog show, vintage cars and motorbikes, sheep dog trials, police dog demonstrations and Her Majesties Armed Forces.

First time campers, complete with a 2 litre 'tent' were kept amply warm by some thoughtful Club members who surrounded the couples nocturnal quarters with a wall of hay. The recipient couple showed their gratitude by getting up at 6 a.m. (I thought only David Chapman could do that) persuading everyone that they should be up too.

Unfortunately the end of the Show drew all too soon to a close and after a personal thankyou by the organiser, we all went our respective ways with a feeling of great satisfaction and all looking forward to next year.

A Spark and H T Lead.

The AGM is fast approaching, it is on the 28th January 1978. We need nominations now for the Committee which is made up of 5 officers and 5 ordinary members. This is your club and it is up to you to nominate your committee. Your votes count please do not waste them, give it careful thought fill in the form below and place in the ballot box provided at Club meetings November and December, or send it to Eric Brain, who will pass it on to the President.

I hereby nominate the following persons

1.	Chairman	2.	Vice Chairman
3.	Secretary	4.	Treasurer
5.	Asst Sec	6.	
7.		8.	
9.		10.	

From whom 5 officers will be elected at the A.G.M