

CAMERTON RALLY 7th. & 8th. July.

Saturday started off dull with a light shower around one o'clock, but soon brightened up. There was a good turn out of Wessex members. Jackie Lambert did a grand job of running the Club Stall over the weekend, with help from Marg Dring on the Saturday. Diane Emery's confectionery and Rob Lambert's mum's cakes sold within the first hour and the stall took a grand total of £12 towards the club's funds.

Sunday turned out to be a lovely day after the smog from SOMEONE'S engine had cleared. G. Jones' Petter Handyman (5hp. 1909-10) and Les Deaville's 3hp Gardner (1902) were very eye-catching. Also, nestling in the shade of the Club tent was a beautifully grown and tended (rather than restored!) Amanco Floribunda of Tony 'Wheatcroft' Jones!

A lovely air display entertained us on the Sunday afternoon and even Colin took time off from stoking the Merryweather to ask how the water stayed in the boiler when the pilot looped the loop!

Eric Brain could have done a roaring trade if he had charged for rides in his lovely Austin Seven, and some of us had a sneak preview of Tom Randall doing an impersonation of Dan Dare in a World War 2 gas mask! I expect he will repeat this at the club dinner & dance!!! (I might - if Kev 'Digby' Dring gives me my gas mask back! T.R.)

As always at Camerton, a very nice rally enjoyed by all.

Kevin Dring.

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HEDDINGTON & STOCKLEY RALLY. 7th. & 8th. July.

In spite of clashing with Camerton Rally, the Heddington & Stockley Rally was well attended by Wessex members. Nearly a hundred engines of all makes and sizes, along with 40 vintage tractors were on show. If the rumour is correct that there will not be any more Dodington Rallies, then this rally could well be the best in this area. I might add that the safety code is practised here. All engine enclosures are double roped and we can park behind our engines.

SHERBORNE ABBEY APPEAL RALLY. 1st. July.

I think that Bill Foster was very pleased with his rally, held in spacious grounds in front of Sherborne Castle. It was well attended with about 100 engines and 20 tractors taking part. Some Wessex members were here. Judging by the crowds who came in the steam engines were not missed. During the afternoon we had a free aerial display by the Fairey Swordfish based at Yeovilton. It was supposed to do a display on the other side of Sherborne! We asked Bill to make it a two-day event in future. How about it Bill?

WOODCOTE RALLY. 14th. & 15th. July.

It was a nice warm weekend and many thousands of people came to see the rally. About 60 stationary engines were on show, mostly open cranks of various makes, Listers of all sizes, also Petters. As far as I know I was the only Wessex member there, although another member had booked in and was listed in the programme but did not come. Either he had gone to Lychet Maltravers or Bristol Steam! One thing I noticed going along the A4 was that petrol was getting dearer towards London. It was 117p for 4star at Chippenham and 122p for 4 star at Reading.

Farm Sale at Marston, Devizes. 19th. July.

An E27N Fordson with a cracked block was sold for £165 and a tank holding



145 gallons of TVO fetched £140! An old horse plough went for £44 and a cracked Bentall root pulper, £38. A Reeves hand, one-row seed drill with a brush that was nearly bald, £28. It seems that everyone is getting in on the vintage goods and pushing the prices up!

NETLEY MARSH RALLY, July 20th, 21st & 22nd.

As I did not get there until Saturday morning, I do not know what happened on the Friday. It was nice to see the Wessex club well represented by Messrs Heath, Crouch brothers, Fry, Appleby, & Jennings, sorry if I have missed anyone out! It is always the same few that attend rallies, where are the rest of the members? This is the best attended rally, the engines were double-rope as they should be and a good selection of engines was on show. While my van was parked at Netley Marsh, someone syphoned the petrol out of my tank! It was a good thing that I had a spare can of petrol or else I should not have got home. Take a tip from me and always carry a spare can as I do, since you cannot get petrol or diesel at many places on a Sunday evening.

ROSS-ON-WYE RALLY, MUCH MARCLE. July 28th. & 29th.

On the Saturday the usual sale was held on the rally field with a good selection of spares and auto-jumble. A Villiers water-cooled engine was sold for £100 whilst two Lister D types made £14 and £11. A Standard Fordson made £135. The club was again represented by the usual ones, Messrs Fry & Heath and myself. Why cannot more members attend rallies?

Harry Champien.

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NATIONAL STATIONARY ENGINE RALLY - BEAULIEU. August 5th. 1979.

The 'Enginemen's Gathering' on Sat. evening was, as usual, well attended. Brian Johnson gave the address and welcomed everyone to Beaulieu. Two films were shown, loaned by the Motor museum library.

Most engines were in-situ on Saturday evening. These were still well covered, and not until early Sunday morning did they reveal their true selves in the glorious sunshine. Brass and paintwork gleamed as the covers were removed.

All were excellently restored engines ranging in size from the tiny 1/40th. hp. 1893 Robinson hot air engine to the 12hp. 1928 Hamworthy.

Among the more unusual exhibits were Domestic, Challenge, Deutz diesel, Elgin, Glasgow, Standard and a Nelson Bros. "Duz-Go", which might more aptly be re-named "Duz'nt-Go" - the owner having some difficulty with starting. Last, but by no means least, and possibly never before seen on a rally field, a 1½hp. Massey Harris, discovered in the Australian out-back by a club member - Alison Springs perhaps? It appeared to be running quite well on kangaroo petrol!

It was nice to see so many W.S.E.C. members in attendance - club Tee-shirts being very much in evidence.

All too soon 4 o'clock arrived and the winners were announced. Judging had taken place during the day. Not surprisingly Tony Jones won a prize with his superbly restored Amanco Hired Man, even without the added embellishment of flowers. Well done Tony.

After the prizegiving, by Lord Montague's son, it was loading-up time. Everyone agreeing that it had been an excellent weekend and well worth a visit whether spectating or exhibiting.

The Emerys.

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MONTHLY MEETING REPORT - 30th. JULY.

This wet and windy evening drew a slightly less than average number of members to the Old Down Inn, Emborough, where our Membership Secretary & Hon. Treasurer, Stuart Ashman, gave a most interesting slide show and talk. The subject was, 'Engines in California, U.S.A.' following Stuart's recent visit.

It was pointed out that California has no great abundance of engines, unlike the more agricultural states, no rallies and few collectors. However, he did discover two derelict engines, one in a 'ghost town' on a disused water pump and the other lying in the road outside a saloon, in a typical Wild West setting. This latter horizontal open crank engine was so large that it would have needed all the sheriff's posse to remove it for restoration!

Most of the slides were of engines belonging to two Californian collectors, both of whom are familiar names to readers of the Stationary Engine Magazine. Jim Hickey specialises more in air-cooled engines and John Toom goes in for the larger and older engines. Unfamiliar makes shown were, for example, Aermotor, with tall fluted 'chefs hat' hopper, C.H. & E., New-Way, Doak, Novo and many more. A nice early open crank type was the 1909 International which was beautifully restored.

After the interval for the usual refreshments, Stuart showed some slides of early PRATT'S oil sales brochures and, following a visit to the works of Fielding & Platt at Gloucester, we saw some early F. & P. engine sales literature and photographs of their machine shops early this century.

To round off the evening, we saw a number of slides of the Longleat Rally, the most memorable of which was one of Bill Foster, microphone in hand, in the commentary van.

Thankyou Stuart for an enjoyable evening - and those members who did not attend, please do a Rally Report for this newsletter as a penance!!!

Emerson-Brantingham (Model U).

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 '1000 ENGINE RALLY' LONGLEAT.

The world famous 1000 Engine Rally run by the Stationary Engine Magazine did not get much in the way of press coverage outside of the local papers, so for the benefit of those further afield, here is the report from the Somerset Guardian of June 22nd.

## Engines roar at Longleat

THE LIONS of Longleat took a back seat at the weekend. Pride of place went to Britain's biggest rally of stationary engines.

Although entitled "One thousand Engines at Longleat," it did not quite reach this figure, probably because of fuel shortage fears among owners.

Mr David Edgington who, with his wife Doreen, organised the rally, hopes it will become an annual event.

The Edgingtons, of Lodge Wood Farm, Hawkeridge, have about 20 engines of their own. The hobby provides a welcome change from Mr Edgington's full

time job as an importer of Alfa Romeo spares.

There were no competitions at the rally, whose engines ranged in age from the 1890s to the present day and in size from units as small as a sewing machine to a 1943 triple expansion Marine steam engine weighing 20 tons and exhibited on its own trailer by Mr A. W. J. Huish, of Weston-super-Mare.

The farthest travelled exhibitor was Mr Ross Foster, who came 13,000 miles from Melbourne, Australia, shipping his 1909 Buick four-horsepower Buick petrol-powered engine, made in the early 1920s, ahead of him as a cost of £120.

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 WANTED... Open crank engine in rally condition in exchange for Allis Chalmers D 272 petrol/TVO tractor complete with fore-end loader. F.B.Booy. 5, Cattybrook Road, Shortwood, Pucklechurch, Bristol. Tel: Marshfield 560 - daytime only.

WANTED...Glass oiler bowl, 3 inch diameter, 3 to 3½ inch high with ¾ inch dia. outlet in base. Have for sale or exchange, Lister A starting handles, old 18mm spark plugs, original nameplates for 2 & 5hp Petter M and Petter-Light. T.Randall (Address on back page.)



COMMITTEE.

Tom Randall.....Chairman.  
Rod Dring.....Vice Chairman.  
Diane Emery.....Secretary.  
John Spear.....Assistant Secretary.  
Stuart Ashman.....Treasurer(Membership, Insurance etc.).  
Eric Brain.  
Adrian Stride  
Bill Appoleby.  
Herb Gane.  
Mike Harris.

Secretary:- 'Odstax,' Wells Road,  
Hallatrow,  
Bristol.

Treasurer:-Moorledge Farm Cottage,  
Knowle Hill,  
Chew Magna, Bristol.  
Tel:Chew Magna 2655.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Joint Membership(Engaged/Married Couples)....£2.00per year.  
Individual Membership.....£1.50per year.  
Junior Membership(Under 18).....£0.50per year.

THIRD PARTY INSURANCE.

£1.00 per paid-up member per year.(Not available to Junior  
Details available from the Treasurer. Members under 16)

MEETINGS.

The Club holds its meetings at the Old Down Inn, Emborough,  
(at the junction of the A367 and the B3139, 5 miles North  
of Shepton Mallet.), on the last Monday in every month.  
It is as well to check meeting dates since the last  
Monday is occasionally impractical. Meetings start at 8pm.

NEWSLETTER ITEMS. Send all contributions, articles, adverts., etc.,  
to Tom Randall, Welton Hill Cottage, West Road,  
Midsomer Norton, Bath, BA3 2TL.

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS.

David Edgington.(Club President and Editor of  
'The Stationary Engine' magazine.)  
Bill Foster.