

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT.

It is with great pleasure that we welcome Charles Hudson as a new member to our Club. Charles is of course well known for his articles which appear in the Stationary Engine Magazine. His stationary engine experience goes back about fifty years and was first kindled as a lad when he used to watch the household lighting plant driven by a Petters 'M' Type. It is a great asset to the Club to be able to add the name of such a leading authority to its membership list.

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CLUB MEETING, JUNE 25th. Evening Rally at the Old Down Inn.

Last years' evening rally was so popular that it was repeated for 1979 and drew twenty-five engines of various types and a good crowd of spectators. Amid the noise and smoke were to be seen Philip Harris' beautifully restored Bamford 6HP open-crank and Mike Harris' Ruston Hornsby OK 3½HP, the latter refusing to run smoothly until it was moved to a more prominent level position, in the centre of the roadway! Smoke rings emanating from the long grass of the verge proved to be from the 4HP Petter M Type of D.Rogers. Completing the smoke screen, on the other side of the road, was the 1½HP Petter of Dave Heal. Ian Harvey, of Wootton Bassett, revealed his 'North of the Border' ancestry when he was observed emptying a large (semi-magnum) bottle, with a 'Dewars' label, into the fuel tank of his Ruston Hornsby PT 1½HP - well, if we have to have a rally at a pub.....! Surely petrol is not yet that expensive!!!

Engines out for their first airing were the Lister Junior of John Spear, the 3HP Amanco of Mr. B.Petty and the 4HP Ruston Hornsby PR of Eric Brain. Lister D-Types were well represented, those present being owned by John Spear, M.Tilley, and John Emery who was also exhibiting a 4½HP Ruston PB.

Three generating sets were on display, namely Bill Appleby's Homelite, M. Barrington's Scott and Rod Dring's Douglas. Tom Randall's Hobbs ran well but unfortunately sustained superficial damage when it fell over on the trailer during a complicated loading-up manoeuvre. (Fortunately only a paint scratch as it turned out - Ed.)

An interesting diversion was provided by a non-member, John Powell who, having read of the rally in the local press, brought along a small air-cooled engine for identification. It was identified as being made by Auto Carriers Ltd., better known as A.C.Cars Ltd. and was probably from their tricycle of pre-1914.

Twilight fell only too soon. The empty pint mugs were all collected up, cooling water drained off (except for Rod Dring!) and both spectators and exhibitors headed homeward, agreeing that a small event like this could be organised more often.

Emerson Brantingham.

Footnote:- The Somerset Guardian sent a photographer out to cover the event and a nice photo of Mr. Petty's daughter, Maxine, and her Dad's 1918 3HP Amanco was featured in the following Friday's paper. Ed.

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EXHIBITORS WANTED for Wedmore Harvest Home Rally, Friday 17th. August at

Clements Close Field, Wedmore, from 2.00 pm onwards. Refreshments will be laid on and a plaque will be given. Interested exhibitors please get in touch with Tony Andrews, 32, Stoneleigh, Westbury-sub-Mendip, Wells. Telephone:- Priddy 482.

THE BIRTHDAY PRESENT

Like it or not, we all have birthdays. We either love or abhor them, the latter in most cases as they seem to arrive with almost too regular a monotony and unfortunately much quicker as one grows older. Club member Michael (Tangye) Cannon was no exception and recently had a birthday. It was in some ways just like all the other birthdays, the postman bringing the bundle of cards from his relations and a further two from all his friends. The former were typical and depicted racing cars, pipes and slippers, just as Auntie always buys. The other two (unsigned of course) hinted in no uncertain terms that his eye for the opposite sex far surpassed that of any other Club Member, which with the Wessex Club is really saying something !

However this year among his many presents was something a little different. He pushed aside the run of the mill gifts such as, hot tubes, sight feed glasses, rubber anti-splash trousers, bottles of Dr.Tangye's anti-blow-by tablets, two pairs of Stourpaine slippers- rubber and knee high, a set of A.G.K. ear plugs and a Do-it-yourself suicide kit ready parcelled for a good friend. These were the normal engine enthusiasts gifts, but this one was something different and could be classed as 'attire'. He eyed it carefully in its display box. The gift was long, hand knitted in beautiful colours of red, white and blue, AND of great interest. It had a multi-coloured piece of wool to make it secure when fitted. What a useful present he thought, then he carefully put it in a safe place until the winter.

Next winter on really cold days, club member Michael Cannon will be wearing a smile knowing fully well that a certain part of his anatomy is being kept very warm, so even if other club members never see this multi-coloured warmer, just look for his tell-tale smile and think and think and think....

Strictly Anonymous.

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- FOR SALE. One Porta-Potti 22 caravan toilet £25. One toilet tent, £10. One large Calor Gas refridgerator, £95. One Super Ser wall-mounting heater, £25. One tow-bar to fit Mini saloon or van (used), offers. All items new, together with many other small caravan and camping accessories, all 1977 prices. Apply weekdays only to G.Jennings. 60, Oxford Street, Burnham-on-Sea, Somerset. TA8 1EN. or telephone B-o-S 784109 after 6pm.
- FOR SALE. DC generator. 24/28/32 volt up to 150 amps at 1000 rpm. Offers, or exchange for smaller generator. Lister 7HP CD diesel, runner, £45. John Bruce, 60, Turin Court, Roman Way, Andover, Hants. Tel:- Andover 65193.
- FOR SALE. Various agricultural machinery for driving. Contact Keith Myers, 21, Dean Lane, Bristol, 3. Tel:- Bristol 666327.
- WANTED. HANDBOOK, to purchase or copy, for Ransomes MG crawler tractor. Also any spares, especially carburettor. Tom Randall, address on back page.
- SPECIAL OFFER. INDUSTRIAL FACTORS LTD. 194, Whiehall Road, St. George, Bristol. will supply paint and all painting supplies at trade prices to Wessex Stationary Engine Club Members. This includes Masons Polyurethane Enamel and Synthetic Enamel in a wide range of colours. For colour chart, see Eric Brain or phone I.F.Ltd. and ask for Mike Branch, on Bristol 556957.
- FOR SALE. Victoria Engine Nameplates, curved for cylinder fixing or flat. Only three left. £3 each blank, or £3.50 with your engine details stamped on with old punches. Tom Randall, address on back page.

U.S.B.C. / LHM. LACKHAM. SEPTEMBER 1st. & 2nd. 1979.

This is the last opportunity we have to tell you all about our forthcoming 1979 Club Rally. About 60 entries have been received so far, many of those from non-members. Whilst it is appreciated that there is a clash of dates with the S.S.P.S. rally, nevertheless we hope that more club members will get their entries in soon. We are hoping to make this the largest Club rally yet and we have a superb location with every facility and other attractions, so come on and get those entry forms in as soon as possible. All entrants will get a plaque featuring another very early oil engine, and it has been suggested that we produce our annual plaques in a matching series, which would make a nice collection with different engines each year. Club awards will be as last year with the addition of presentation plaques for the best visitors engines in horizontal & vertical classes. The social gathering on the Saturday evening will be held in the Students Bar which will be for our exclusive use. This gathering will also take the place of the August Club meeting, so as well as a Ham & Salad supper for the modest sum of 50pence; there will be normal Club business with the distribution of newsletters, and a special competition so easy that everyone can enter with a bottle of whisky as the prize! During the day, or rather the weekend, on the field there will be a club sales stall to help our fund raising, and donations of items for sale will be much appreciated. Anything from plants, cakes, home-made items, bric-a-brac etc., please help in any way you can. There will be an on-field competition to guess the date of an engine. The engine in question has already been selected and will be dated from records held by the Stationary Engine Magazine which can pin-point it to the day! So try your skill on that one! Overnight camping and caravan parking is available on the site and arrivals can commence Friday evening. Each entrant will receive an acknowledgment of his entry with an entry number and a car pass which will permit free entry to the College grounds, and the excellent agricultural museum. So, get those entries in, and send a stamp or s.a.e. to keep the costs down. See you all at Lackham!

Tom Randall.

CLUB EVENTS

- SEPT. 24th. PAUL ELKIN from Bristol Industrial Museum will be the guest speaker at the Old Down Inn.
- OCT. 29th. CLUB FILM NIGHT with films from John Kyte and Mike Harris.
- Nov. 26th. ENGINE QUIZ run by Eric Brain. I hope you are all taking a good look at all the engines on the rally field this year because your memories will be put to the test in a light-hearted way.
- DECEMBER 8th. CLUB DINNER & DANCE. Star Hotel, Wells. The Star is now under new management and although the tickets are a little more expensive this year, nevertheless they do promise us a first class meal. The menu is Roast Somerset Turkey with Savoury Stuffing & Cranberry Sauce, Vegetables & Roast Potatoes; Christmas Pudding with Brandy Sauce. Tickets are £5 per head and application forms will be in newsletters from August on.

-AND FINALLY.....

I apologise for the brevity, and the "Typographical Inexactitudes" of this month's newsletter - a bit of a rush job I'm afraid. Apologies also to those who have sent in Rally Reports, they are not forgotten. Hopefully August's newsletter will be back to three sheets and as usual I will need all the material I can get, so keep it coming!

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