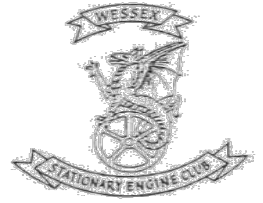


CRANKING



Issue No: 7/13

43 Years of Publication

July 2021

The Wessex Stationary Engine Club's Monthly Newsletter

From The Sump

Another month is now upon us - if you find the time drags, may I suggest you become a newsletter editor? The 20th of each month seems to arrive ever-quicker these days, no sooner have I produced Cranking and sent it out, it's time to think about the next issue and by about the 15th I'm starting to either panic about fitting everything in or frantically trying to find something to fill that blank space!

Hopefully the unsettled weather has now turned a corner and we can now look forward to and enjoy some decent weather. It's just a shame there are so few shows going ahead with the cancellations of major events for one reason or another.

I've been lucky enough to have been to a couple of good events lately; the Lister Petter Rally at the fantastic Morwellham Quay venue in early July was a big success with 80 engines on display, it really was a buzz to get out to that one with fellow minded people. The on-site pub did very brisk trade that weekend. I urge any of you that haven't been before to give it a try, it really is a great event. *(There is another event there in September, all engines welcome)*

Bicton Steam Fair was also a nice event in a wonderful location, with stationary engines positioned within the actual gardens with ropes to allow passing members of the public to view and admire our engines. This is one of the draws of Bicton for me as the public interaction is always quite involved and interesting as many passers-by have little or no idea about our engines, so it's good to chat to them and educate them that they aren't steam engines, as everyone seems to think they are!!

This event was sadly marred on the Sunday afternoon by some very poor behaviour from entrants from other sections, that ultimately caused the Crank-Up event planned for August to be cancelled.

A great shame, but hopefully the events at Bicton will return next year.

Well, that's enough from me for this month, might see you at an event or two over the next month. *David*

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

It is with great sadness that I have yet again to inform you all of the passing of yet another club member.

I have only just learnt of the death of long-time Club member and staunch supporter of the WSEC, John Pagett of Midsomer Norton. I do not know how long John was a member but it must be some considerable time.

John was a great supporter of our Club Crank-ups and never seemed to miss any of our events at the Nunney Catch transport café, good old times we all had there. I am sure that like me, many of you will miss him. John left us around eight weeks ago after a long stay in hospital, to all Johns family and friends we send our condolences.

I very much hope that my next report may be one where I do not have to start with sad news, this is getting to be a bit of a habit and I don't like it. By the time you read this lockdown will hopefully be lifted, we may then perhaps be able to start planning for 2022, with Club evenings, talks, films, our great quiz night and even our monthly raffle. Let us hope so! Well, that's a little in the future but not so far away, will be our bring and buy sale at the East Somerset Railway on the 9th October...I very much hope I may be able to see many of you there, I very much hope we have a good turnout with lots of sellers and buyers. (Further info to follow nearer the time)

Now I hope you have not all been sat about getting bored, have you been out in the workshop and pulled out that engine that has been hidden away for some years and now, at last, got around to restoring it? If so, I am very sure that David would love to hear from you with a write up on the end result.

Now I have a small request – does anyone know if I can acquire some carbide, if you can then please let me know on 01225 754374.

Well, that's it for yet another month, so to you all keep safe and well, I hope to see you all in the near future.

Eric Gay

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I am fascinated to know what has happened to our WSEC membership. I always thought the idea behind 'Zoom' was to make contact between members easier. I know that not every member has a computer and that not everybody is always available at the required time, but out of two hundred plus members, I would have thought there would have been a

greater following of the WSEC 'Zoom' meetings as there is no problem regarding driving great distances and you can still join in the meeting in the comfort of your own armchair.

Amongst others, the last meeting was an extremely poor turn out on 'Zoom'. Out of the sixty plus members that have registered with the WSEC Ltd Secretary, regarding 'Zoom' contact, I think there were only 10 contacts made for the quiz. Anne Kempson had spent a lot of time and effort compiling the quiz, Ted Edwards had also spent a great deal of time putting the programme together with cartoons relating to the questions.

Do I take it that members only join the WSEC Ltd for the insurance and have no great interest in the Club as a whole? Perhaps the Club meetings should be suspended until further notice. Please try and support the 'Zoom' meetings.

Gerald Atherton, WSEC Ltd member (since 1981) and previous committee member.

(Any feedback is welcomed – Ed)

TAPPETS TEA TIME TEASERS

Time to enjoy delving into the depths of your knowledge again!

Question 1 - What is the Cornish name for Cornwall?

Question 2 - What is the chemical symbol for Potassium?

Question 3 - When was the first internal combustion motorcycle fuelled by petroleum invented?

Question 4 - Where is the deepest mine in the world, and how far down does it go?

Question 5 - Which predator's name comes from the native word meaning "he who kills with one leap" and on which continent is it commonly found?

Question 6 - What are the ingredients to make a Harvey Wallbanger?

Question 7 - What year was the company Heinz established?

Question 8 - Who has been the First Minister of Wales since December 2018?

Question 9 - How many Olympic gold medals does Sir Mo Farah have?

Question 10 - What is the next number in the series: 2, 9, 30, 93, ...?

Answers as usual on page 4

EVENTS CALENDAR 2021

July 28th (Wednesday) Dunster Country Fair - <https://www.dunstercountryfair.co.uk/>

Aug 14th - 15th Bridgwater Classic <http://www.classicshowsuk.co.uk/classic-car-show-event-information/classic-car-show-by-date.asp?id=1187>

Aug 22nd Club Crank-Up, Sweets Tea Rooms – Further info in this issue

Sept 5th White Horse Classic & Vintage Vehicle Show <https://www.whitehorsevehicleshow.org/>

Sept 17th, 18th & 19th – Morwellham Quay Crank-Up, all makes welcome. Further info to follow

Sept 25th – 26th Somerset Festival of Transport 25th – 26th Sept

<https://www.facebook.com/somersetsfestivaloftransport.co.uk/>

Oct 9th – WSEC Sale at East Somerset Railway, Cranmore. More info to follow.....

Please note this list is not exhaustive and I cannot take any responsibility for the events running or not – please check with the relevant links to check whether the events are running or not. Pre-booking your exhibit in will be essential if you are showing. Ed

CLUB CRANK-UP!

WSEC has arranged with Sweets Tea Rooms to hold a small crank-up on Sunday 22nd August. The tea rooms are between Wedmore and Glastonbury on the B3151, postcode BS28 4UE

The crank-up will be between the hours of 9am and 4pm and will be for Club Members only.

We will have space for 30 engines due to social distancing requirements.

To enter, please contact Herb or Wendy Gane on 01749 674402 **on or after 22nd July** with your details, we will then send out a pass and entry number. If no answer, please just leave a voicemail with your details.

On the day, please provide a clear info sheet on your engine so people can read about and understand your exhibit.

There will be no raffle but a donation to the Alzheimer's Society would be most welcome.

Please do keep an eye on the Wessex Facebook page for updates due to COVID or inclement weather.

Any problems do call us on the number above.

The Club cannot accept any responsibility to illness due to the pandemic.

The tea rooms can supply all manner of tea, coffee, cake and take-away food, I'm sure they will be glad of your generous support during these hard times. Herb & Wendy Gane – 01749 674402

SERVICES

Amanco Igniters overhauled, Magnetos checked, overhauled, re-coiled and repaired

I also have quite a few stationary engine booklets, instructions, spare parts lists – too many to list so if you are looking for one, do give me a call. I also have quite a few bits and pieces for magnetos so do give me a call if you are looking for something, you never know your luck!

Kerwin Harris, 30 Hillcrest Avenue, Truro, Cornwall TR1 3NE 01872 - 273388

Parts made, parts repaired, turning, milling thread cutting studs made and much more. Contact David on 01225 755357

FOR SALE



The matching one you have been waiting for, electric motor slide rail, overall length 20½", Width 2½", Slot Width ½". £10
Gerald Atherton 01934 852670

WHADDON FARM CRANK-UP

The long-awaited Whaddon Crank-up on 11th July was the first event for a good while for the Club.

The event was planned to be outdoors at Whaddon Farm but the delightful July weather forecast put paid to that and at the 11th hour the decision was made to hold it inside the barn that we usually use for the Mince Pie Crank-Up in December. We really are so lucky to have the excellent facilities that Gordon and Paula so kindly allow us to use; the decision to hold it indoors maybe looked a bit over-cautious in the morning but by mid-afternoon the heavens opened and we were all very glad to be under cover!

I think I am correct in saying there were 20 engines in attendance with all of them running, one or two were close shaves as to whether they were going to start (no names mentioned!) but it was good to see a nice variety of engines running, from Blackstone engines to a small Lister 2 stroke engine, there was something there for every taste. Being the first event for a good while there were some new engines that we hadn't seen before, Pete Gear's Blackstone engine was good to see and hear running. A pair of Petter Atomics gave a great soundtrack whilst Stephen William's little 2 stroke Lister engine ran very well for long periods without trouble. Richard Cook's well turned out water pump gave a little trouble with intermittent seizing, not sure what was the cause. Paul Mulcock's display always looks good with the Wolesley engines driving the butter churn and power hacksaw; Ken's display of oil cans is always nice to see. Gordons Blackstone spring injection diesel thumped away quietly all day however I find it intriguing how the lights stay on when the engine is stopped though?

Special mention must be made of the Leek engine that our late President cherished; Linda brought it along on its first outing since his passing and she did both Roger and the engine proud! It was lovely to see you there and the engine running Linda, I'm sure Roger was looking down on us that day, enjoying the fantastic atmosphere. A small breakdown mid-way through the day when the governor drive belt snapped was soon overcome with help from Gordon in the fashion of a bit of fish tank water hose and a suitable joiner. But, to our amazement, after fixing it in this fashion, a quick look through the toolbox revealed a few spare belts!!

Good to see some new faces coming along to their event and subsequently joining the Club, we hope you enjoy your membership.

Big thanks must go to Gordon and everyone who helped get the barn ready for us at short notice; Paula, Sue & Debbie behind the food and drink stall; Paula for her lovely home-made crumbles, so much so, I went back for seconds! Also due thanks must go to Tommy (Nipper) Gear for collecting all the names and contact details of entrants so we fully complied with track and trace requirements.

Donations to the Alzheimer's Society totalled £100.91, so thank you to all who donated. Gordon and Paula would like to thank everybody who made the considerable effort to support this event.

A great event but some very wet weather on the homeward journey, but mindful of this I brought along engines that wouldn't be affected by rain on delicate magnetos etc, so a quick wipe-over and spray with duck oil sorted that once back in the dry. *David Lacey*

ENGINES REQUIRED!

The Wessex Stationary Engine Club has been invited to exhibit at the White Horse Classic & Vintage Vehicle Show to be held at the White Horse Country Park, Westbury on the 5th September 2021. This is a new venue for us and places are limited so please contact me on 07751 918283 or secretary@wessexsec.org by the **25th July** to be included. Passes and details will be sent out once details have been finalised.

MOTORCYCLE SECTION

When I began riding, in 1962, my very first bike was a C15. This was the BSA first unit construction, 4 stroke 249cc OHV Single. Fast forward 60 years and a wander down Memory Lane found me the happy new owner of a 1959 "Ripe for Restoration" complete rebuild!

Thanks to Ted's engineering skills, general all round advice and patience, the project is quickly taking shape. Using as much of the original parts as possible, the aim is to restore the bike to how it should be, whilst taking into account the fact it's 61 years old. So, having had the tin ware blasted and powder coated as per the original 'shiny black' the engine vapour blasted, and the correct paint colour sourced for the rest, we're almost ready to start putting the bike back together. *Liz Harrison*



TAPPETS TEA TIME TEASERS – ANSWERS

Question 1: Kernow is Cornish for Cornwall. It comes from the Celtic word 'kernou' meaning 'horn' or 'headland' aptly describing the shape of the peninsula bordered by the Celtic Sea, Atlantic Ocean, English Channel & the River Tamar.

Question 2: The chemical symbol for potassium is **K**. It comes from kalium, the Mediaeval Latin for potash, which may have derived from the arabic word qali, meaning alkali.

Question 3: In 1882 Daimler and his coworker Wilhelm Maybach left Otto's firm and started their own engine-building shop. They patented one of the first successful high-speed internal-combustion engines (**1885**) and developed a carburetor that made possible the use of gasoline as fuel.

Question 4: AngloGold Ashanti's Mponeng gold mine, located south-west of **Johannesburg in South Africa**, is currently the deepest mine in the world. The operating depth at Mponeng mine ranged from between **3.16km to 3.84km** below the surface by the end of 2018.

Question 5: The **jaguar** can reach up to six feet long and weight up to 249 pounds. Jaguars are known for their immense power and agility, the word "jaguar" is said to come from the Native American word "yaguar" which means "he who kills with one leap." They are mainly found in the Amazon rainforest of **South America**.

Question 6: There's a widely circulated story that this 1970s drink—made with **vodka, orange juice, and Galliano**—was made created by bartender Donato "Duke" Antone at his Los Angeles bar, the Blackwatch, for a surfer named Tom Harvey. Harvey supposedly got so drunk he started running into the walls, hence the drink's name.

Question 7: Henry J. Heinz began packing foodstuffs on a small scale in **1869**. Since 1896, the company has used its "57 Varieties" slogan; it was inspired by a sign advertising 21 styles of shoes, and Henry Heinz chose the number 57 even though the company manufactured more than 60 products at the time.

Question 8: Mark Drakeford (born 1954) is a Welsh Labour Party politician who has been the First Minister of Wales and Leader of Welsh Labour since 2018.

Question 9: Four Olympic gold medals. He first was at the London 2012 Olympic games when he finished the 10,000m in a time of 27:30.42. He won gold the same year for the Men's 5,000m, which he completed in 13:41:66. At the Rio 2016 Olympics, he won another gold medal for the 10,000m, and a fourth gold medal for the 5,000m.

Question 10: 282 (multiply the previous number by three and then add three).

For Sale

Oil engine manual (industrial, rail and road transport) £3

Traction engines past and present (good cond.) £6

Cornish mining £3

The Amateurs Lathe 1949 £6

Dynamo & Motor £3

Fuller & Johnson 11/2hp N type hand book £5

Christy & Norris 1904 catalogue (as new) £8

The Amateurs Lathe late edition £8

A-Z of Stationary Engines (soft cover) vol 1 + 2 £10 **Phone Eric on 01225 754374**

The views expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily represent those of the committee or its members. Although the greatest care is taken in compiling this newsletter, the editor takes no responsibility for any errors or omissions

Contributions to: David Lacey, 8 Dyers Close, West Buckland, Wellington, Somerset. TA21 9JU or (preferably) by email editor@wessexsec.org

Deadline for copy submissions is always 20th of the month