



CRANKING



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The Wessex Stationary Engine Club's Monthly Newsletter

From The Sump

Well that's Summer 2021 over - the show season that nearly happened but sadly didn't in the end. We have to be grateful for the events that did take place in a somewhat 'lite' format though.

I write this as I'm sat inside our motorhome during a heavy rain shower at the excellent Morwellham Engine Rally, sharing 4 days of "engining" and banter amongst great company from all over the UK. Hopefully this will be just a small shower for Saturday morning and we can get on with what we enjoy shortly.

Hopefully you've been able to make it out to a few events this year with your prized engines and displays.....they've all come a bit thick and fast for September with many unfortunate clashes, but we should be grateful for the shows that have been put on with little time to spare. Bridgwater Classic was a good show, with a varied entry of tractors, car, lorries, engines etc but it was disappointing to see large gaps in the engine line caused by no-shows. I guess circumstances beyond people's control may have had an effect, but I think the time between booking in and the event may have been a factor, people simply forgot where they had booked!

The Crank Up at Sweets, Wallop Vintage Gathering, the excellent Club display at White Horse and the Morwellham Engine Rally were all events that were well supported by Club members who put on great displays.

With the Somerset Festival of Transport closing the showground as I write, The Organford Classic Show in early October, our Club Sale at Cranmore on the 9th together with a few late-season events locally, this brings a bumpy 2021 to a close, hopefully 2022 brings what we've all been missing over the past 2 years. I can still vividly remember that drive back home from the Whaddon Crank-Up in March 2020, listening to the dire news and sombre music on the radio about COVID and the impending lockdown etc, but I thought it would all blow over by August at the latest.....how wrong I was.....

In closing, I must say how nice it has been to be receiving such lovely feedback in person about the magazine; to have people come up to me and say how much they enjoy reading Cranking and thanking me for putting it together, makes it all worthwhile - thank you! As always, reports of events you've been to, write-ups on your projects, pleas for help, For Sale & Wanted adverts, are always welcomed from the members. My contact info is at the foot of the back page - you can email, write or even call me, I don't mind.

Best Wishes to all - *David*

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Here we are racing towards the year end but fear not, there are still a few shows and rallies that are going ahead, one being the Charlton Park event over the weekend of the 25th & 26th. This is something new, never been staged before. Lots of live music, classic vehicles, stationary engines, steam exhibits, working displays and much more.... Interested? Give me a ring I am sure they will find you a space.

It is with some sadness that I have just learned of the sad death of Ruben Smith, a long-time club member, until a little time ago. Age catches up with us all, Ruben was a framer and strawberry grower in Cheddar, but not only this he was a very talented engineer, owning at one time his own Foden Steam Wagon. Then moving on to model engineering, building a showmans engine, an electric light engine, a portable steam engine along with his well-known set of gallopers - this I saw at many model engineering shows.

Ruben is the only person I knew that built model ploughs; I have been told that he put in a huge amount of time researching the subject. I have seen many of them and I know that many club members have seen them and they truly are a work of art. To all of Rubens family and friends, I know you would all wish to express our sincere condolences.

The Committee commenced their monthly meetings at the Old Down Inn, on the 14th September, with our club meetings on the last Monday of the month which will be the 27th September. I very much hope that I will see many of you there as it has been a very long time since I have seen or spoken to many of you. So, if it is possible for you to come along to the meeting, please do so and give us your support.

On Sunday 5th September I made the long trip from Trowbridge to Westbury, to attend the White Horse Classic Car Event. The Club had, via Ted, been invited to exhibit our handy work at the show and around twenty plus engines turned up, a very good day was had by all.

The icing on the cake came late in the afternoon when we were asked if we would return next year when it is hoped to stage a two day show, the event gets bigger each year with not only cars, motorcycles, commercials but many other attractions besides, so keep an eye on your newsletter for the date of the event.

We are about to start planning events and social evenings for 2022, I am in need of speakers for our evening meetings, can you help? If you know of anyone that can give an evening talk, film show, or even any company that may be able to come along and give us a talk on their products, any help would be appreciated. Please help if you can, I hope you all have my telephone number or if not use 01225 754374.

Yesterday I went to a place I had never visited before. My daughter Catherine, Maureen and myself visited Warminster Park, if you have never been and are in the area it is well worth the visit. Even the heron is very friendly, it must be very used to people. Swans, ducks, geese and much more wildlife, you can spend all day there, the park has lots to offer.

It was just a few days ago I was asked to help out with a Petter oil engine of 1 ½ hp and it brought back memories of how I acquired my own. The sale at the Great Working of Steam Engines, at Stourpain Bushes, now that is a lifetime ago. I bid on a couple of engines, but my pocket was under funded, well walking away from the sale later I got a tap on the shoulder "you interested in they old engines" was the question I got asked, and I was soon told about this 1 1/2hp Petter laying in Salisbury. It was around six weeks later that I got a phone call telling me that if I wanted the engine to come up to Salisbury on Saturday, £45.00 changed hands and I had a 1 1/2hp petter – it had no magneto but that was soon put to rights. I would love to find one today for £45! How times have changed.

Well that is it for another month, keep well and keep safe everyone, I hope to see many of you soon.

Eric Gay, Chairman WSEC 01225 754374

TAPPETS TEA TIME TEASERS

Here is your monthly memory workout - see how many you can get out of 10!

1. What is the currency of Denmark?
2. Which Tennis Grand Slam is played on a clay surface?
3. In which European country would you find the Rijksmuseum?
4. How many films have Al Pacino and Robert De Niro appeared in together?
5. What was the old name for a Snickers bar before it changed in 1990?
6. Who was the head of state in Japan during the second world war?
7. Who wrote the novels *Gone Girl* and *Sharp Objects*?
8. Which legendary surrealist artist is famous for painting melting clocks?
9. Which football club plays its home games at Loftus Road?
10. If there are 20 people in a room and they shake every other person's hand once and only once, how many handshakes would take place?

WEDMORE CRANK-UP AT SWEETS TEA ROOMS - 22ND AUGUST 2021

The eagerly-awaited Wedmore Crank-up has taken place at Sweets Tea Rooms. The weather leading up to the day was a bit suspect, but on the day the sun came out....we had perfect weather.

The gates opened at 8:30am and soon the exhibitors started to arrive. Sadly, some exhibitors were unable to attend and apologies were received from Mike Snook, Chris Peters and family, Ted Edwards and Phil Harris. Even so we had a good all-round selection of engines and equipment.

Kevin and Carol Phillips brought their Fairbanks Morse complete with Crompton Dynamo. And, of course the star attraction of the show – Rosie the dog!

John Thorne was next with his Webster, made in the USA 1899 (possibly the oldest engine displayed). Also displaying a Hartop 1 ¼ hp.

Robin Lambert brought his hot air engines display and Chris McDevitt brought his Lister Junior circa 1946 driving a water pump.

Next in line was a Stuart Turner engine 2 ½ hp, owner Richard Cook. He also brought his 1918 Fairbanks Morse 1 ½ hp

Next in line was Brian Giles with a Norman generator. Edward Carp brought along a Bamford Tulip top circa 1927 and a local man Tony Grimstead brought his Amanco chore-boy 1918 2 ¼ hp engine driving an excellent display which included a compressor, a generator and a magic butter churn which attracted a lot of attention. Then we had Ted Durbin our President with a Lister 'D' driving a water pump. Steve Baker from Wells brought his 2 ¼ hp Amanco. Anne and Roger Kempston was next with a little flat twin Norman engine Mk 1.

Next our editor David Lacey with his beautifully displayed Lister generator set, followed by Gordon Gulley with a very impressive Blackstone Type O circa 1929 9 hp engine.

A very nicely restored Lister 'D' 1957 driving a well restored Bamford chaff cutter displayed by Paul Mulcock was next in line.

John Sims from Bromham brought along his Amanco 1918 2 ¼ hp engine complete with Amanco water pump (was this used on the market gardens of Bromham, John?)

Finally Mike Andrews and his Amanco 2 ¼ hp engine. We apologise if we have missed anyone.

The VMCC motorcycle club supported us with a number of bikes including Triumphs, Nortons, Motor Marini etc. Interesting cars on view included a 3 wheel Morgan 1934 owned by Martin Wheway and Nick Wait brought his newly restored 1939 Ford Coupe Dragster, excellently restored by him over 15 years.

A series 2 Marshall Tractor popped in in the afternoon to add to the line-up.

It was decided not to hold a raffle but a milk churn was placed in a strategic position for donations to the Alzheimers Society. People were very generous with donations from club members and the general public amounting to a grand total of £352.00.

Last but not least we would like to thank everyone at Sweets Tea Rooms for their support; also thank you to Brian Verall for all his help. Thank you to Jo and Graham Watson for travelling from Devon and their help on the day.

Herb & Wendy Gane

OBITUARY

It is with sadness I learn of the death of Ted (Edwin Phillips) of Coleford. Ted had a lot of friends in our Club who will be saddened to hear this news, he was a good supporter of Club events and like many of us as old age creeps in had to give up the hobby he loved. Our thoughts are with his Family at this very sad time.

Robin

EVENTS CALENDAR 2021

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

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

If you are in need of any grinding operations, anything from precision grinding, to cylinder head skimming. Contact Martin Thrower, PDQ Precision Ltd. Lufton Trading Estate, Yeovil. BA22 8RR 01935 424976.

WANTED TO BORROW FOR COPYING - Service Manual/ Instructions for a Scammell Ultra Lightweight Fire Pump. If you can assist, please contact Graham Drew on 01225-314128

TAPPETS TEA TIME TEASERS – ANSWERS

1. Krone
2. The French Open (Roland Garros)
3. Netherlands
4. Four (The Godfather Part 2, Heat, Righteous Kill, The Irishman)
5. Marathon
6. Emperor Hirohito
7. Gillian Flynn
8. Salvador Dali
9. Queen's Park Rangers
10. 190 handshakes ($19+18+17+16+...+3+2+1=190$)

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

Manual of gear design. Section 1, 2, 3 & 4 – 1944. In excellent condition, 4 hardback books £10.00

Nonferrous metals 1963. Interesting book. £3.00

Bearings, All Types 1963. Interesting book. £3.00

Design news data. Many, laws of physics, electrical data, kinetic energy, super strength alloys and a huge amount more. £5.00

Operation and care of Petter A1, A2, W1 & W2 engines. £5.00

J.A Prestwich Industries Ltd, Model 2A handbook. £3.00

J.A Prestwich a Practical Guide covering JAP stationary engines by A.C Fenner. Reprinted by D.W Edgington. £5.00

Applied Mechanics 1907. Interesting old book £5.00

All of the above are open to offers. Please ring Eric on 01225 754374

FOR SALE

1 large three leg puller, ex / WD legs adjustable though 360 degrees. Used for the removal of hubs from battle tank drive axels. Wonderful for removing flywheels. £40.00 01225 754374

7ft of 1 1/4" black iron bar (trolley axles etc) £15 01225 754374

Wanted good coil for Villiers flywheel magneto, small size = 2 1/2" in length ring Eric on 01225 754374

FOR SALE

1 two wheeled trailer 5ft x 4ft approx. with winch and electrics. Good condition £350 ono

1 small JAP engine £35

1 WD gen/set battery charging set £35

1 swan gen/set 14v x 21 amp charging unit in carrying frame very nice condition £60

2 Norman air cooled twins (around 1943) in restored condition, very nice £350

1 J.A.P minor dynamo unit very nice condition. Kick start £60 ono

2 small hand winches as new £15 each

1 air min generator 24v x 350watt £25

Electric motor 230/240 volt 3.7 amps £25

1 Clarke work bench (metal) good condition £25 ono

1/2 ton chain hoist good condition £45 ono

Phone David on 07968 735 880 Somerset

PARTS WANTED

Solex 26 MV Updraft brass carb to fit Boulton and Paul 2E

Chris Cleford

Devizes Wilts

chrisstonky@aol.com

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