



CRANKING



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FROM THE SUMP

As the rally season draws to a close, what a fabulous season we've been blessed with – I think I'm correct in saying most of if not all rallies have enjoyed fine and mainly settled weather this season. I hope you've had an enjoyable and memorable summer of showing and enjoying your exhibits – I certainly have! As I write, I have just two events left, namely the Somerset Festival of Transport at Frome where I expect I will see a good few of you – and the final bash of the year at Burley Steam Fair at the beginning of October. I'm especially looking forward to this one as I'll be meeting up with friends who I haven't seen since mid-summer.

A continental trip beckons for me in the near future – a road trip to the Netherlands, having never driven for any great distance abroad, I'm slightly apprehensive! More on this soon!

It'll soon be time to oil up those flywheels, wrap those magnetos up, drain down fuel/cooling systems (nowadays it's even more important to do this given the ethanol content in modern fuel) and place our lumps of iron away for the winter months, leaving just an engine or two for winter events. Think I'll try and get some of my lesser-seen engines out this winter.

I wish you all good luck with the sale at Cranmore in October where both buyers and sellers will come away happy – with an 8am start, the early birds will be out in force no doubt!

Thank you to well-known Club member John Thorne for his lovely write up of the Shrewsbury (Onslow Park) rally further into this issue – please, if you've been to a rally, just drop me a line with a few words and maybe some photos – I'll do the rest.

Anyway.....until next month....*David*

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

It was the 9th of September that I, with many other members of the Wessex Stationary Engine Club gathered at Haycombe crematorium to say our last goodbye to Christine Rogers.

Christine, Don and Will have been Club members for as long as I can remember, I still have the copy of Stationary Engine Magazine with William on the front cover looking over a certain Bulldog engine - he was the around three years old and that seems just like yesterday, where have all those years gone?

I know that all who knew Christine will remember that she was always smiling and would always greet you with a smile and a cheerful word or two. The Club members that knew Christine along with the Committee would want to express their sincere condolences at this sad time to Don, William, all Christine's friends and relations, Goodbye Christine may you rest in peace.

Well in late August I got my trailer returned to me after waiting since May to get the repairs done after the nutter at the Three Okefords rally crashed into the rear and did a lot of damage. It was returned just a few days before I was due to set out on my annual pilgrimage to the Great Dorset Steam Fair. Hectic preparation then followed, the loading of an engine and corn mill plus all the bits and pieces that go along with this, like tools, sacks, scales, flour bin and much more.

Once this was done it was to find the sleeping bag, some spare clothes, boots, washing kit - Oh yes.....I do wash at times, believe it or not, well I find if one starts to smell, people just walk by rather fast and do not want to stop and talk!!

Well.....all packed up and away I went on the 24th arriving around mid-morning and started to unload at my given spot, now, is it me or is it just that I am older.....a few years ago I can remember as soon as you opened the doors of your trailer or van you would get many offers of help to unload, but not now! How things have changed. I had to struggle, lumping a corn mill is not an easy task. If I ever attend again and I hope I

do, as I find it a wonderful event, I doubt that I will be taking the corn mill. I had a great week at Dorset meeting up with many friends that I had not seen for quite a time. I must admit that there were quite a few gaps in the lines of engines and some faces for years gone by were missing, but the Wessex Club was well represented I'm pleased to say, perhaps some of our members that have never attended should give it a try.

One thing that happened in the stationary engine area was that a lorry with a large engine in the back had a fire in the living accommodation, the fridge went up in flames. Later a collection was made to help the owner, and yes, I did contribute. But the more I thought about this I became angry, as the vehicle had road traffic act insurance and this would have covered the fire damage that was not to great.

As usual it was a great show and may it long continue, it must take untold hours for all those concerned to arrange the greatest show on earth and we, the exhibitors owe everyone involved a debt of gratitude and thanks for all their hard work.

Next it was the Clubs get together with the Lions Club car show at Westbury. Ted and I banged in a number of stakes and tied up the ropes along with Pearl & Steve. With around fourteen engines a good day was had by all, or was it.....I know someone was not to happy when his Petter apple top stopped and would not restart - now I wonder who that belonged to?? It had lost its return earth path for the sparks department. Well, the good news is that we have been asked to do it all again next year so look out for details of the event next year.

It was a great shame that Herbs event at Sweets Tea Rooms was held on the same day but this could not be helped, The event at Wedmore was again a success for Herb and all his helpers, I am told around twenty engines were on show along with other exhibits such as cars and motor cycles, we will make sure that the two events do not clash in 2023.

Now I want to appeal to you all as you will know the Club has lost its Treasurer, We are in great need of a new Treasurer - please if you think that you could take on this important role to help your club please get in touch with me or any committee member.

We will help you all we can, without a new Treasurer soon we will find it very difficult if not impossible to carry on.

At the last committee meeting we made a start on planning for 2023, events meetings etc. We need speakers for our evening meetings at The Old Down Inn. Can you help? Do you know anyone how can give a talk on any subject? Or if you have any suggestion for anything you would like the committee to arrange let us know we will do the rest.

Now Christmas is raising its head once more and if members would like a Christmas or New Year dinner, now is the time to let me know if you would like to attend - ring me on 01225 754374.

Well, that's it for this month keep well and safe everyone, I am just about to load the trailer for my next adventure, Berwick St. John.

Eric Gay, 21 Rutland Crescent, Trowbridge, Wiltshire, BA14 ONX. Tel: 01225 754374

CHRISTINE ROGERS

It is with great sadness that I tell you of the passing of Christine Rogers, wife of Don and mother of William. Christine has been a well-recognised figure on the rally circuit for some 46 years.

She passed away on August 16th after a hard-fought battle with cancer which eventually won. She will be greatly missed; Chris was the best sister-in-law I could have wished for. Rest in peace with your brother Roger, maybe start a rally up there in heaven, there are certainly enough of you up there!

Your loving sister-in-law, Lin

PROPOSED VISIT TO SHEPTON MALLET PRISON - Date to be arranged

It is proposed to organise a club visit to the old prison at Shepton Mallet, the details are as follows: -

Shepton Mallet Prison visits take place every weekday at 2pm (also 11am on school holidays and weekends)

The cost per person is £22 per person and the tour takes around 2 hours

A discount is available for groups over 15 or over.

ARE you interested? Please let us know, ring me Eric on 01225 754374 or Ted Edwards on 07751 918283.

UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS

October 1st – Cranmore Sale at East Somerset Railway – 8am start

A bit of advance notice for another local sort-out which many members also attend

SEDGEMOOR VINTAGE SORT OUT - SUNDAY DECEMBER 4TH 2022

THE R.O.F CLUB
WOOLAVINGTON ROAD BRIDGWATER
SOMERSET
TA7 8AD

TEL 07785 765826 www.sedgemoorvintageclub.co.uk

RALLY REPORT – ONSLOW PARK

The rally was held on Onslow Park just a few miles outside the town, with a large catchment area it attracted very large crowds.

This being a steam rally it had a very large steam entry of 71 vehicles plus an extra 15 Sentinels of which were made just down the road in Shrewsbury.

All sections were well attended with over 120 cars and 100 motorcycles, 136 commercial and buses plus 125 tractors.

The stationary engine section was very well organized by Andrew Wild, with a nice souvenir programme given to you when you booked in. With a good cross section of all makes and models on display, the largest being a 54 hp Gardner marine engine; also very impressive was a 15 1/2hp Blackstone Portable and still in the same family from new, complete with the original tools and paperwork, on the other end of the scale the smallest was a 1/4 hp Tom Senior simplex gas engine, another small engine with local interest, (Frome) was a 3/4 hp Hobbs which was running really well.

I took my Robinson X type which made a total of 80 engines which the public found very interesting by the number of questions we were being asked.

This is a very large show and well organized with free vintage bus trips into Shrewsbury on the Saturday, we missed the last bus back and had to get a taxi but the pubs were good! (*That's the spirit John!!!! - Ed*)

This was a great weekend and well worth the distance travelled and I got to make some new friends in our great hobby. *John Thorne - Bridgwater*

WEDMORE CRANK-UP AT SWEETS TEA ROOMS

This years event took place a little later on due to lots of other events taking place. It was decided to hold this event on September 4th hoping the long dry spell of weather would continue, however, the weather forecast leading up to the day was pretty awful!

Thankfully, the weather on the day was pretty good, what with a small drizzly shower very early on, the day turned out fine. The gates opened at 8.30am and exhibitors started arriving and setting up in the field. We had some 21 engines in total arrive and run for the day.

First in was Tony Grimstead with his 1918 Chore Boy driving a generator, water pump and butter churn. Next in the line was Herbie Gane with his 1918 1 1/2hp Bulldog. Wedmore man Phil Harris had his Ruston Hornsby 1 1/2hp ZPR engine.

Adrian Grant brought along an interesting 1920 Aeromotor engine. David and Mary Chapman next with their Frank Hartop 1 1/2hp engine which ran well. John Tulley with his 1943 Lister D and Mike Green brought his 1948 Ruston engine driving a Stuart water pump.

Next along the line was our Club President Mr Ted Durbin with his Lister D driving a Lee Howell water pump. Edward and Gloria Carp brought along their lovely tulip-top 1927 Bamford engine with Pete Frost beside them with his 1915 1 1/2hp Amanco engine. Brian Giles was next up with his Norman generating set.

Linda Pike brought along her late husband Roger's 1916 Amanco Chore-Boy, which has been owned by them since 1976.

Phil Webber was next to Linda with his 1920 Model V Pilter engine driving a Lister water pump.

Ken Barnett brought along his excellent display of vintage oil cans.

Richard Cook brought along his newly-acquired radiator-cooled Lister D and his 1940 International Harvester LA engine. Chris Mcdevitt travelled all the way from Poole to display his 1944 Lister D also driving a water pump.

Next along the line was our Newsletter editor David Lacey, displaying the largest engine of the day, one being a 6hp radiator cooled 1936 Petter Atomic diesel engine which was driving a 2.5kw alternator and a 1927 3hp Petter Apple-Top engine in fantastic original condition.

John Thorne had his 1906 3hp Blackstone oil engine and 1905 Robinson hot air engine on display.

Gerald and Hazel Atherton kindly brought along their 52 key Gloria organ which consisted of old organ pipes built into a new frame. We also had support from the VMCC, with Chris Chipperfield bringing his 1964 Triumph Tiger and Charlie Ollis bringing his early Honda 125, probably the most economic vehicle in the field that day running at 150 miles to the gallon. Possibly the most uneconomic engine of the day was Nick Wait's fully restored Ford Coupe that he uses for drag racing at Santa Pod in Northamptonshire, fully road legal and quite a machine to see.

An interesting machine on site was Merv Sweets peat trenching machine used for digging spits of peat.

Manufactured in 1963 in Germany and owned by the Sweet family since new.

We would like to thank everyone for supporting us, Brian Verrall, Phil Harris, Joanne and Graham Watson.

Due thanks to the Sweet family for the kind use of their field. Between the organ and the milk churn we raised £135 for the Alzheimer's Society, thank you all. *Herb and Wendy Gane*

SERVICES

Amanco ignitors – I'm quiet at the moment with nothing coming in for me to look at – so now is the time to get that troublesome ignitor or magneto looked at.

I also have numerous Stationary Engine leaflets and handbooks, too many to list, so if you're after anything, give me a call....I might just have what you're looking for! Kerwin Harris 01872 273388

FOR SALE/WANTED

Lister LD1/SL1 Single cylinder engine with gearbox, formally from a harbour launch.

A good runner back then but has been stored for some years now.

I'm in Havant Hampshire.

Can supply photo and details on request. Please contact Ted Edwards 07751 918283



Ifor Williams type db model p7e trailer in good working order with only light usage

750 kg gross with e4 lighting (13 pin socket)

Fitted with jockey wheel, tail ramp, winch and lashing points.

Certificate of conformity (for EU use)

Location – Bath £950

Please contact Graham Drew 01225314128

or gcd.kad11weston@talktalk.net

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