



Issue No: 11/14

# CRANKING

44 Years of Publication



November 2022

## The Wessex Stationary Engine Club's Monthly Newsletter

### FROM THE SUMP

A strange time of year this, nothing much on apart from the odd sale and gathering, the nights really drawing in and the temperatures dropping. Pleased to report the SSAPC Sale at Yeovil bucked the trend of this year with a bumper sale with many sellers and buyers alike, also good to catch up with many like-minded enthusiasts before the year end. I was fortunate enough to find a Shell VP Oil enamel sign to go up on my display wall, it's in fab condition and looks great.

I hope many of you will be able to attend Gordon's Mince Pie Crank-Up in December, further info further on in this issue.

My trip to Holland that I mentioned in the last issue went well, 18hrs and 45mins of driving totalling 972 miles, we made it back safely. I can confirm that there was absolutely no customs interest in this rusty old iron coming back into the UK, which was good.

The December edition will not hit your inboxes or doormats until after Christmas, so may I take this opportunity to wish you all a safe and happy Christmas with your families and loved ones and I look forward to seeing those who can make it to the Mince Pie Crank Up at Whaddon Farm.....I can taste the apple crumble already!

Until next month....*David*

### CHAIRMANS REPORT

Once again I start my report with sad news, we have lost another valued club member, Frank Foxwell. Frank passed away on the 18<sup>th</sup> of September at The Royal United Hospital in Bath. Frank left us after a short illness due to complications that arose after contracting covid. To Rose, family, relations and friends, we send our sincere condolences at this very sad time.

Now as all of you know the Wessex Stationary Engine Club lost its Treasurer in the early part of the year, no-one has come forward to take on this role, Ted nor myself can cope with a higher workload. With over a membership of 200 there must be someone that can take on this task, the paperwork involved is not that arduous as the accounts being finalised by a registered accountant. It just needs someone to keep monthly records of income and outgoings; we need someone to do this job and therefore keep the club alive, can this be you? Please help the committee as without a Treasurer it will become near impossible to keep the club running and no one wants that to happen.

The committee of the Wessex Midsummer Show have been looking for a new site for 2023, this is due to the White Horse Country Park Site being developed into holiday homes....what a waste of a good rally site. To date no site has been found, we still have one or two irons in the fire so please keep your fingers crossed that we find somewhere, so if any club member can suggest a site or help please give me a call.

For 2023 for our evening meetings I have four talks planned for you at the Old Down but I still need to find more speakers for April, June, September and October - do you know someone that may be able to give us a talk/presentation/film etc? If so, please give me a call 01225 754374.

I have for next year two new venues for one and two day crank ups so please watch this space it will be something new for 2023, one site will be hard standing with space for around thirty engines plus the other will possibly a two day crank up with room for many more, this will be in September so keep watching this space.

Now at the last evening meeting at the Old Down Inn I was given a book written by the late Kim Siddorn. Kim was the Club's newsletter editor for many years and a valued member of the committee bringing a wealth of input and help to the Wessex Club. The thing I did not know was that Kim wrote books and the one I was kindly given is, you will never guess, is concerning engines and is entitled From Somme to Beverley by way of Sunderland and is illustrated with the most fantastic photographs. It covers the ABC engines in military service 1915 to 1971, if you get a chance to obtain a copy, grab it, it is a very informative book in many ways.

In the last newsletter I asked if anyone could loan me a 500 volt megger and low and behold at the evening meeting I was given a loan of a megger.....why do I want one I hear you ask....Well I was going to keep this a secret but I will tell you.

At the Great Dorset Steam Fair this year my pride & joy started to run badly, it was Sunday and with only Monday to go it was best left alone. Well, the next weekend was Longstock Rally, I had done all the normal tinkering and hoped I had cured the problem, not on your life!! Betty Bamford gave up and stopped. No matter what we did it could not be restarted. And so I returned home, I was intending to stay overnight but decided to return to the workshop and try to remedy the trouble overnight.

Well that never worked did it, I have owned the Bamford for around 45 years and in all that time it has never let me down, I have now spent countless hours trying to bring life back into the old girl but to date nothing has worked, I have checked the resistance in the insulation of the igniter with a multi meter, resistance is down but as soon as I get time I am going to send 500 volts across the igniter that will show any breakdown in the insulation, I have tried everything else I can think of so if you have any ideas, please let your poor old chairman know.

Well, that's it for another month the only other thing left to do wish every one of you a very Happy Christmas, a peaceful and happy New Year.

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

## **A SAD LOSS**

It is with great sadness that I inform you of the passing of my dear friend Shirley Pride. She was the long-term partner of John Allen, who passed away two years ago. Shirley's funeral will be held on the 24<sup>th</sup> November at 11.30am at Ston Easton church, near Midsomer Norton. Shirley and John were well known on the rally field for a number of years and they were our best friends, having known them most of our lives.

May they, along with Roger, rest in peace. *Linda Pike*

## **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 EVENTS**

### **Whaddon Mince Pie Crank-Up**

Engines running for 10 am, please arrive from 8.30am or so. All in the barn as usual, but if the weather is pleasant then some may be able to go outside.

Raffle in aid of Alzheimer's, raffle prize donations would be very welcome

Catering by Paula, those who know, know!! ☺

All welcome, non-members too, just bring proof of your insurance cover.

Please email or text me with what engine you would like to bring so that I know approximate numbers for space needed and catering.

Hope to have the adjoining buildings to accommodate more engines if need be!

If you haven't been before, then simply follow the Wessex Stationary Engine Club signs from the top of Whaddon Lane to BA14 6NR

Any other questions please give me a ring 01225 755448, mobile/text 07786 542782 or email using RGuley@outlook.com

## **SEDGEMOOR VINTAGE SORT OUT - SUNDAY DECEMBER 4<sup>th</sup> 2022**

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

TEL 07785 765826 [www.sedgemoorvintageclub.co.uk](http://www.sedgemoorvintageclub.co.uk)

## ROGER PIKE MEMORIAL RALLY 2023

Next year we will be holding the Roger Pike Memorial Rally on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> August at Lilley's Cider, Bunns Lane, Nr Frome. BA11 5ES

As before, it will be in aid of Dorothy House and donations of cakes to sell will be very welcome. Further details to follow nearer the time.

Don't forget you could win the cup!

Please register your interest by ringing Linda on 01761 233028 or email [pike1954@btinternet.com](mailto:pike1954@btinternet.com) Thank you, *Linda Pike*

## SUBSCRIPTIONS DUE 1<sup>st</sup> January

Please can we remind members that subscription renewals are due at the end of the year, the subscription period runs from 1st Jan – 31st Dec.

Subscription rates have been held at 2022 rates which always offered fantastic value for money. Please renew as soon as you can as the Club will be shortly purchasing the insurance that allows us to show our engines. *Membership Sec*

## SERVICES

I am still quiet with repairing and reconditioning Amanco Igniters.....but wait until the rally season is again upon us.....then it will be "Can I have it back for the weekend?"

I also have numerous handbooks and literature for a wide variety of engines...I could have that odd manual you have been looking for! Just give me a call.

I also have a base for a direct drive Lister D engine together with couplings to suit.

I look forward to hearing from you!

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

## FOR SALE/WANTED

For sale:- Petrol tank removed from Bamford engine size 14.5 inches long 5.25 inches wide and 4.25 inches high, This appears to be a replacement tank in very good condition £25.00.

Oil bath air filter for Petter A1 complete with fixing bracket good condition £30.00.

Leather drive belt approx 1.5 inches width by 60 inches total length £10.00. These items are priced to sell. Please call me on 01305 773250 for more information. I would like any information or parts on 1923 Petter m type, free tea and cake if you are visiting the in the Weymouth area. Many thanks John Rashleigh (*Photos to come next month, Ed*)

**CLUB WEBSITE** – Don't forget to check out the Club's website at [www.wessexsec.org](http://www.wessexsec.org) where you can browse through newsletters from years gone by, photographs of past events, see who is on the Committee, manage your subscription and much more!

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

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[editor@wessexsec.org](mailto:editor@wessexsec.org)

**Deadline for copy submissions is always 20<sup>th</sup> of the month**