



Issue No: 6/15

# CRANKING

*44 Years of Publication*



June 2023

## **The Wessex Stationary Engine Club's Monthly Newsletter**

### **CHAIRMANS REPORT**

Once again I start my report with sad news, the Club has lost one of its long standing members, one that will be sadly missed by all who knew him. Andy Gale left us after a very brave fight against cancer. I last saw Andy when he attended the club event at the model club on the White Horse Country Park.

Sadly this was to be the last event that Andy was to attend; he looked so very ill and was so brave to come along. Many of you I am sure will remember Andy doing the great sweet give-away at our Semington Rallies, driving around the ring in one of his model Land Rovers.

I knew Andy for more years than I care to remember, it was him and our good friend Bob Hallan that got me to join the Committee (so now you know who to blame)

Shirley, Andy's wife was for many years the Club Secretary and when she stood down she was sadly missed. To Shirley and all of Andy's family we express our sincere condolences at this sad time.

On Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> May the Club held its evening meeting at The Old Down Inn, a week early due to the bank holiday at the month end. It was a talk and music evening and very nice it was. The presentation was given by Mr. John Dando from Glastonbury and everyone who attended had an enjoyable evening, THE WHOLE NINE OF US! If we do not get more members attending our meetings we will have no option than to stop the evening meetings, and that may lead to the closure of the Wessex Stationary Engine Club. The evening cost the Club £60 00 and this is just not viable when only nine members attended, so please come along and give us your support! Your Committee work very hard to keep the Club running and to supply you all with evening entertainment but without your help and support we may not be able to survive.

Now as you know we will be staging a new event at Bradford on Avon over the weekend of September 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> and I am appealing for help over the weekend – to this end we need just a few willing hands to help on the gate to take the money, remember our events like this help to finance the club and keep the yearly subs low, so please if you can give us just a few hours of your time we would love to hear from you.

Now many of you will already know that in June of next year the Wessex Club will be staging our Midsummer Vintage Show on the old Selwood site at Southwick, this is a large site and we will need to fill it with exhibits, so how would you like to come along and join the organising committee, or help out on the weekend as a steward, we will need someone to take charge of our military section, help with car parking, organise and run the catering section, man the pay gate and more besides. Please don't leave it to someone else come and join us, give us your help you never know you may find you enjoy helping and meeting new people.

I am always at the end of the phone I will give anyone all the help I can as the Club needs to make this new venture a success and without your help this will not happen and that would be a great loss to the club, creating a dent in the Club's future so please don't let my appeal fall on deaf ears come and give us your support in this new venture.

Now the weekend just past I set off for pastures new, I had never been to Stoke Row Steam & Vintage Rally. This was wonderful event, forty plus steam engines, steam wagons, around a hundred miniature steam engines, cars, commercials, Land Rovers, the Sealed Knot, Military Display that covered a huge area, tractors, motorcycles, horses even mounted cowboys.

On both days we were treated to fly over; on Saturday a Spitfire that did three passes over the venue, followed in the early afternoon by the Red Arrows, they just did a fly past. Sunday we were treated to a Hurricane flying three circuits of the show field.

Stationary engines well Lister must have sold a huge number of engines around that area as nearly every engine on display was a Lister product, only around six engines from the whole display of around forty were not Lister.

Now I have only one complaint The Rally is nowhere near Stoke Row, it is at Whitchurch Hill and it is one hell of a job to find, the signage is abysmal and I came very near to returning to home. I stopped in Goring and asked a local lady where I could find Stoke Row Steam Rally, "Never heard of such a thing around here" but she did luckily know how to find Whitchurch Hill I was then about two miles from the rally, the only sign I happened to see was a piece of yellow paper laying against a tree with an arrow saying stream rally.

I was not alone as over the weekend I spoke to others that had had the same trouble, I did 117 miles trying to find the site, on my return journey I covered 69 miles this included missing the A4 road leaving Reading and having to retrace my footsteps.

Will I go again? I will have to give it very careful consideration and see what events are near at hand or maybe get the organisers of Stoke Row to get it better signed.

Now just to remind you all that on August 12<sup>th</sup> we are invited to put on a show of engines at Seend Fete on the A361 Devizes Road, the Club supported this event many years ago, it is now run by a friend of mine and he has asked me if I can get a few engines along to the fete, so if you have a free Saturday please come along, no entry forms just turn up and enjoy yourself.

Well that it for another month enjoy this fine summer weather and enjoy the the shows you visit.

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

## **SWEETS TEA ROOMS – CRANK UP**

The Wedmore Crank-Up at Sweets Tea Rooms took place on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> June. For those of you who are not familiar with the area, it was the land of the 'Somer People'. It was previously marshland and formed in the drier summer months, hence Somerset. The land was drained in medieval times and formed a grid system of drainage ditches and channels by monks from Glastonbury.

This allowed farming for most of the year and the extraction of the peat-rich layers beneath. It was used as a fuel for many years and also used in the horticultural industry, in more recent years it has become less acceptable to use peat in this manner and so people making a living in this way have had to find alternative means of making a living, the Sweet family here are no exception.

We have used this lovely rural venue for a number of years and find it a very good site with plenty of footfall from passing cyclists, walkers and motorists alike.

We must thank the Sweet family for the use of the site.

Seventeen stationary engines and exhibits arrived on the day, the weather was kind to us.

We held a raffle for the Alzheimer's Society and raised a grand total of £131.50

We would like to thank everyone for attending the event. Due thanks to Brian Verrall and Phil Harris for helping set up on the Friday and Saturday. Big thanks to Carol Phillips for selling the raffle tickets for us too, you did a wonderful job.

Thanks must also go to Jo & Graham Watson for helped on the day too. Junior member Alfie Butlin for all the help he gave when clearing up the site, we hope to see you next year!

Thanks to Gerald and Hazel Atherton for bringing along their fairground organ.

Last but not least, thank you to all the engine exhibitors who came along with their lovely engines.

We were also supported by the Vintage Motorcycle Club with their interesting bikes and also a Morris 1000 Traveller. *Herb & Wendy Gane*

## CLUB EVENTS 2023

June 26	Club meeting, Quiz Night
July 31	Club meeting, Eric Reminisces
Aug 12	Seend Fete Engine Display Sat Nav - SN12 6NS - Show 1 – 5pm
Aug 21	Club meeting, John Dando, The West Country Carnivals
Aug 26	Roger Pike Memorial crank-up at Lilleys Cider
Sept 16-17	Bradford-on-Avon crank-up
Sept 25	Club Meeting, Eric Gay. That Poor Apprentice

## MY TRIUMPH T10 TRIKE – By Mary Chapman

Some 30 years ago I was lucky to be given a gift from my husband, as I have always loved the odd and quirky especially in historical engineering, my gift was the Triumph T10 Trike. So began my quest to find the history.

The Trike was taken to several events and people were telling me that it was a homemade mockup. However, the quality of the engineering of the gearbox and drive mechanism would suggest that this had been made with quality engineering and a possible project if nothing else.

So having met Jeff Clew, author of many motorcycle books and contributor to several magazines, on several occasions I decided to contact him.

Having discussed this with Jeff by phone and then sending him some photos, he kindly told me that he had remembered there was an article in the Motorcycle News about a similar scooter. Contacting the editor of The Motorcycle News may help get further information. In fact, contacting the editor proved very useful, they were very interested in writing an article about the Trike briefly outlining that these had been manufactured in the late 60's and early 70's.



The response was better than anticipated, I was told about one that had been used in the Coventry area as a parts delivery vehicle to one of the large garages. After some time and much research I managed to speak to the Managing Director of the company and he said that had been correct it had been used for delivering spares in the Coventry area but it was now scrapped and his grandchildren had played with it and it was rusted away in his orchard in Hereford.

The Motorcycle News magazine had a sister mag called International Scootering and one of their reporters then contacted me as he wanted to write an article about my odd trike so 'Sticky' - the reporter arrived and took photos and set about writing about me and my wacky trike.

At first, I did not learn anything from it but as time went by and several months later I was no nearer finding anything out when there was a fire at the National Motorcycle Museum and during the television coverage they showed the burnt out wreck of a T10 Trike in the background!

So that then gave me evidence that there were at least two more out there I just needed to keep looking. Writing to the museum for some information was also prudent.

Several more months went by, I came back from work one day to my daughter say 'Hi Mum, a bloke rang from America to speak to you about your scooter'.....well my friends and family do like to rag me about my obsession so to be honest I did not believe her!!

*Continued next month.....*

## FOR SALE

Petter A1 3HP at 1500 rpm mounted on professionally made hardwood trolley complete with four cast iron wheels, running at 750 rpm driving Argosy water pump also on separate professionally made trolley with cast iron wheels. There is also recirculating tank and associated stands and hoses included. A complete set up that would suit somebody new to vintage engines.

Please see photos and for any enquiries please call me on 01305 773250 (Weymouth).

**\*PRICE DROP\*** £275.00 on collection please.

*John Rashleigh*



**BAMFORD NO.0 CORN MILL** in working condition, I would like around £200 for it.

I would be interested in a part exchange deal with a good small butter churn, anyone interested please give me a call on 01225 754374 - *Eric Gay*

## ENGINES & WORKSHOP EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

I am writing on behalf of the family of Frank Foxwell of Chilcompton, a member who died last autumn. They have a three of Frank's engines for sale:-

1. Turner diesel, 1947, 5 HP, water cooled.
2. Lister 'D' coupled to Goodwin water pump, on vintage Pugsley trolley.
3. Petter Type A1, 2 BHP, 1,000 rpm, on trolley.

Also:-

4. Trailer, INDESPENSION CHALLENGER, with ramp, tailgate, hand winch and spare wheel. 6' x 4' bed x 68" wide overall.
5. Smart & Brown centre lathe, pillar drill and a large collection of engineering workshop tools and equipment and general spares.

If members are interested, would they please call Austin Foxwell, son, on mobile number 07484 881151.

In need of a Trailer? Well, here is a the one you may be after!

**IFOR WILLIAMS 2600kg Twin axle trailer** in superb condition, width 5ft inside, 6ft 3" outside width overall, length 11ft 6" 14ft 11" with tow bar roller shutter door at back height 5ft 6" trailer height 6ft 6".

Pull out awning on side, spare wheel, solar fan in roof plus opening sky light, wired for electrical hook up. Many accessories, 2 wheel clamps, 4 wheel covers, jack, metal ramps, portable step, plus much more Cost when new over £5000 priced to sell at £3000.

Please call John or Margaret on 01202 393 855.

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