

THE WESSEX STATIONARY ENGINE CLUB

NEWS LETTER JANUARY 2016.

Dear Members It is with great sorrow that I must tell you all of the sad death on Christmas day of our long time News Letter Editor KIM SIDDORN. I received a phone call from Hazel on Sunday 27th of December telling me this very sad news, and I don't care who knows, but I shed a tear when I got this news. I knew that poor Kim was quite ill but I did not know how serious it was,

The Wessex Stationary Engine Club has lost a very valued member. Not only as the editor of our news letter for many many years. Kim did a great deal more behind the scenes. When it was decided to restart our rally at Semington it was Kim and his loyal band of viking warriors that for a number of years came along and re-enacted many a viking and saxon battle with Kim giving a commentary on how the battle was fought and the type of weapons carried by the bands of warriors. He saved the club a great deal of money by looking into the club insurance and not only on one occasion.

I still remember the evening he came along and gave the members gathered at the Court Hotel a talk on his other great love, the re-enactment of Viking History not only a talk, he dressed in full regalia of King Eric Blood Axe The Viking King, Kim even carried a ancient viking knife found in the river Thames, with his sword, chain mail coat, helmet and wolf pelt cape Kim really did look the reincarnation of a Great Viking Warrior. Kim left the committee but his input did not stop, as he gave me his support, advice and help, which I shall all ways remember and thank him for.

You are a sad loss, Kim May You Rest In Peace. I know that you will all with me want to express our sincere condolence to Hazel & Family at this very sad Time. Eric Gay.

I cannot produce a news letter anywhere near the the quality or layout as Kim has done, he had a way with words, I don't, so for now I hope you will all bare with me as I try to do my best. The Club will need a news letter editor and I can only hope that one of you the club members will come forward and take his job on please give it your consideration and let your chairman know.

Now please note that the Wessex Stationary Engine Club Ltd., HAS A NEW and fully upto date WEB SITE = [www.wessexsec.com](http://www.wessexsec.com) not only this but even more modern technology A FACE BOOK PAGE take a look at Wessex Stationary Engine Club. I am told we had around 700 visits in the first hour of this going live.

The Committee is working hard to produce a calendar of Events for 2016  
THIS WILL BE PRINTED & SENT OUT IN DUE COURSE.

TO DATE THE FOLLOWING HAS BEEN ARRANGED.

JANUARY 25TH OLD DOWN INN EMBOROUGH, 8PM CHRIS WITTS THE SEVERN BORE

FEBRUARY ~~19~~<sup>22</sup>ND OLD DOWN INN EMBOROUGH 8PM ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

MARCH 19TH VINTAGE SALE CRANMORE (EAST SOMERSET RAILWAY)

MARCH ~~14~~<sup>21</sup>TH MIKE CHIPPERFIELD ( ACROSS AMERICA BY MOTOR CYCLE

PLEASE NOTE This is one week early because of BANK HOLIDAY.

8AM ONWARDS.

APRIL 10TH WHITE HORSE COUNTRY PARK VINTAGE DAY 10am - 4-30pm  
in conjunction with the WWSME SITUATED ON THE A350 TROWBRIDGE  
TO WESTBURY ROAD. ENTRY FORMS ERIC GAY 21 RUTLAND CRESCENT  
TROWBRIDGE WILTS BA14 ONX tel 01225 754374.

APRIL 25TH OLD DOWN INN EMBOROUGH 8PM CHRIS SPERRING ( OWL'S )

MAY 23 TO BE ANNOUNCE

JUNE 18TH & 19TH THE WESSEX MIDSUMMER VINTAGE GATHERING, SEMINGTON  
VILLAGE A361 TROWBRIDGE TO DEVIZES ROAD. OTHER DETAILS, ERIC  
01225 754374.

JUNE 27TH THE OLD DOWN INN EMBOROUGH 8PM  
MR. DAVIS, A TIME TRAIL THROUGH THE MENDIP HILLS.

JULY 25TH OLD DOWN INN EMBOROUGH 8PM MR. MIKE ROWLAND (BRUNELL9

The full calendar will follow .

If you have any events, for sale, write ups, news, reports, wanted, stories,  
articles or any thing else send them to me. I will do my best for now  
BUT I WILL NOT BE PRODUCING A NEWS LETTER ON A REGULAR BASIS. I have to  
much other work for the club to be able to do this as well please someone  
HELP.

FOR SALE and WANTED.

1 FULLER & JOHNSON 2.5HP 1923.  
HIT & MISS FULLY RESTORED  
ON VERY NICE TROLLEY,  
£850 ONO.

HORSE HAIR COOBING MACHINE  
BUILT BY GAUNTLETTS & SONS  
OF TROWBRIDGE WILTS.  
bit of Trowbridge history.  
£350 ONO.

AMANCO BRASS BODIED MAGNETO  
WITH DRIVE GEAR FOR 4HP ENG.  
WILL FIT 2½ HP, FULL WORKING  
ORDER £300.

HEMMINGS STEAM BOILER,  
(MODEL BOAT) THIS BOILER  
IS NEW NEVER BEEN USED  
GAS FIRED, £400 00  
the retail at just under  
£1000 00.

AMANCO 2½ HP CYLINDER HEAD  
£100 00.

OLD FIRE EXTIGUISHER RIVETED  
MAKE GOOD COOLING TANK  
£15 00 ONO

WANTED BY THE W S E C

1 SOMEONE TO TAKE ON THE JOB  
OF NEWS LETTER EDITOR  
INTERESTED PLEASE RING ERIC  
01225 754374.

MEMBERS TO JOIN THE COMMITTEE  
OF THE WSEC AND HELP RUN THE  
CLUB AND KEEP THE WESSEX CLUB  
RUNNING SO THAT WE HAVE A FUTURE.

WANTED MEMBERS OF THE WESSEX  
STATIONARY ENGINE CLUB OR ANYONE  
THAT WOULD LIKE TO COME AND JOIN  
US IN RUNNING THE NOW LEEDING  
VINTAGE RALLY IN THIS AREA PLEASE  
COME AND HELP.

YOUR CLUB NEEDS YOU

PLEASE GIVE ERIC A RING  
01225 754374

Now I know that many of the members of the W S E C attend the Westbury Transport and Vintage Gathering. This event is to be staged over the weekend of April 23rd & 24th 2016, at the Top Field Bratton Wiltshire, BA13 3PJ. for any other information why not give Keith or Will Miller, a call on 01373 864166 or 07516599179.

Today I have had the posters printed for our Vintage Day, at The White Horse Country Park, again this will be in conjunction with the West Wilts Model Engineering Society. The restaurant bar toilets and hard standing for our exhibits will be again provided by the White Horse Golf Club.

For those that could not make it in 2015, the site is on the A350, Trowbridge to Westbury Road, adjacent to the Westbury cement works. If you get lost just ask anyone for the cement works, I will have signs out on the weekend. If you would like to come along and join us PLEASE let me know, its just so I know how many exhibits to allow for. Our friends from the West Wilts Model Engineering Society will again running steam loco's on the day, so why not bring the family and grand children I bet they would all like a ride on miniature steam train or even a miniature traction engine.

Now a bit of the technical stuff, Yer av Eee got an engine that is reluctant to get up and go after the winter lay up This could well be the **CURSE OF ETHANOL** you may all know that modern petrol is now more chemicals than oil and one of those is the dreaded **ETHANOL** so beware. Did you know that this lovely stuff absorbs water out of the atmosphere, that's why your tank is full of rust, that's why your fuel line has been eaten away, that's why our jets even in our very old engines are clogged or again even eaten away, and most of this is down to the wonderful EU well who would believed that. Well take a tip from me **DRAIN YOUR TANK** if you intend to leave your beloved engine for any time out of use. I may give you a bit more info later.

They tell me that from today the 6th January the nights will start to get lighter (well twer on the wireless so must be true) now just think, it will soon be time to get out in the garden, then go in and get wife or girl friend to give you a going over with Deep Heat, pain killing gel or get out the pain killers from the bathroom cabinet. Now it would have been far better to have gone into the shed or work shop and got on with something more important and less painful like that engine you have been going to restore for ages far better than digging the garden, anyway I have always said that doing the garden is women work, and I have often told her indoors this but it ent done no good somehow I still has to do it. It makes no difference how many times I tell Er it dunt make no difference, and I be forced to do the blessed garden now if any of Eee knows how I can get out Oh it let I know will Eee.

It was good news, when I rang our Linda (Linda Pike) a few days ago, Linda is now up and running, well maybe not running, but after her recent knee replacement she tells me that things are going well and she will soon be back in full working order. Roger has now retired but he was missing the chicken so much that he just had to go back for couple of days a week. I reckon its a case that he cant find enough engines to restore and he like so many more of us cant find anything worth watching on tele.

Now if that is the case with any nice club member we your committee can do with you, why not come and join us, its not that arduous and we also have fun as well.

Now I know I have ask before but I am having a hard time finding speakers speakers for 2016, and I have 3 slots to fill, May 23rd, August 29th September 26th can anyone help please, and if so give me a ring on 01225 754374. A crank up in May would be nice so if you can help me with a venue somewhere in proximity of the Old Down Inn, or any place else for the the evening I would be most grateful .

I have had the offer from Mrs, Michele Goddaed of Bromham, Nr. Devizes to have a visit to their engine and steam collection later in the year, Michele and her family have a very large collection of steam and stationary engines, including many Brown & May engines made in Devizes and they are also part of the Brown & May trust. At this time in their workshops they are restoring a very early Brown & May engine that I believe has been returned to this country form South America, to help with raising funds for restoration the WSEC will be ask to make a small donation.

I was very lucky about eighteen months ago to be invited to attend another event at the premises of Mr, & Mrs Goddard and this was a great day with their collection and workshops on view, believe me this will be well worth a visit.

I will keep you all informed of progress and the date for this visit.

Our dates for the two new events, Gillingham & Sweets Museum Nr. Wedmore will hopefully be May 22nd, Wedmore Gillingham 7th August both dates are yet to be confirmed, but I will verify the dates in the very near future and let you all know.

Our friend Rob Armstrong is making good progress after having an operation on his eye, of to see the eye doctor again very soon to hopefully get his other eye sorted out, I am sure that you would all want to wish Rob well and hope the next operation is again a complete success.

**NOW DONT FORGET ITS THE CLUBS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING ON FEBRUARY 22ND 29  
SO PLEASE COME ALONG, THIS IS THE TIME WHEN YOU CAN AIR YOUR VIEWS IN  
PERSON, LETS HAVE A GOOD TURN OUT AND I HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE.**

Eric Gay  
chairman.