



# CRANKING



Issue 1/17

Jan-17

## The Wessex Stationary Engine Club's Monthly Newsletter

### From the Editor

Happy New Year !

Keeping it brief this month and next as it is the tax silly season.

**Club Events :-** As you have all had a calendar I am going to publish only FOUR months worth of events each issue - leaving space for all the articles you give me.

**Membership :-** Renewals due now , form is enclosed with this newsletter please remember to send an SAE this year.

**Wessex AGM:-** The voting forms for the AGM will be out in the next issue please return as soon as you can - every vote counts !

**Karen Gumm**

### Club Events 2017

KEY:- CN - CLUB NIGHT EV - EVENT

CN Held at Old Down Inn, Emborough

- |           |                                                                                               |
|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Jan 30th  | CN Mr T Coverdale - Presentation of the early Avon Valley Copper and Brass Industry 1700-1750 |
| Feb 27th  | CN Annual General Meeting                                                                     |
| Mar 12th  | EV Early Year Warm Up -<br>- Hilperton *** See Page 2 Note                                    |
| Mar 18th  | EV Vintage Sale Cranmore at the East Somerset Steam Railway                                   |
| Mar 27th  | CN Mr C Bigg - Power of the Gods History and Building of the Bristol Aero Engine.             |
| April 9th | EV Westbury Vintage Day                                                                       |

### Christmas at the Old Down Inn

With over 50 members attending the Club's Christmas Party the Club Room was full to capacity by 7.30pm , with several tables seating eight or nine people. The evening started with welcoming words from our Chairman Eric, who then presented two bouquets one to Linda and one to a lady I think her name was Ruth, for their outstanding help at this year's Club Rally. Anne was busy selling raffle tickets and the evening got off to a great start as our Star Entertainer Oliver Baker broke into music and song with a nice cross section of Blues, Country and a superb rendition of 'Pretty Woman' in which his guitar was note perfect. Well done Ollie. Around 9pm an orderly queue formed for a sumptuous buffet, all laid out neatly in the adjoining room , with an abundance of cuisine, neatly presented, all ready to be consumed. With everyone well fed and watered the Draw took place and the prizes were breath-taking with no less than 10 hampers, all beautifully assembled by our Newsletter Editor Karen, who unfortunately was a bit under the weather and couldn't attend the evening , (get well soon Karen). After the Draw our Club President Roger gave a vote of thanks to Eric and all who helped organise the evening which was backed by applause by all in the room. Before the music began again it was nice to move around the room and have a chat and find out what everyone's been up to. Herb and Wendy are just back from a cruise and confirmed you cant sink in the Dead Sea, which will give some idea as to where they holidayed. Dianne and John were not going to visit Oz this year (perhaps next year) and they told me they had been in contact with Marg and Rod Dring ( a past Club Chairman) and they were fine. Jackie's Bryan is undertaking a massive restoration at a generating plant and Henry Baker is busy with voluntary work at an Animal Farm travelling on the buses' and playing snooker (well done Henry). Roland and Rose had the right idea, so as they could sample the Pubs fine Ales they booked a room at the pub and travelled home next day. Liz and Arthur answered all the questions on the quiz that was handed out and when Gordon gave us the answers I think they got most correct. To sum up then I am sure I can speak for all and say a great night was had , many thanks to the organisers and our hosts.

**Robin Lambert**

## **Chairman's Report December 2016**

I thought that the Club meeting on the 28th November may not have had a huge amount of Club members attending, it was to be an alternative hobbies evening. Well how wrong can one be, we had a great evening with a good attendance. My thanks must go to all the Club members for going to a great deal of trouble to make the evening a success. To Kevin, for bringing along a display of model trains that he runs at the model club in Cheddar and to Anne for trying to teach your Chairman how to spin, I am sure this is the first time the Wessex has had a spinning wheel at meeting, Anne and Kevin thank you very much.

Now can anyone remember when we last had a display of painted Eggs at a meeting, these were brought in by Paula Guley from Hilpertons the Club's eggs lady ! I am sure that all of you who come along to the Semington Rally will have seen Paula's poultry display but that is only a small part of her poultry flock. Paula goes to many agricultural shows with eggs and her birds, winning many events across the West Country and beyond. Paula also had a display of unusual eggs including Ostrich, Emu, Quail, Goose and many more. Paula is a superb artist and paints many scenes for carnival floats etc., so thank you to Paula for coming along and putting on such a great display.

Now who was sat in the corner but Mr Punch along with his good friend Brian Munt. Brian had come along with Mr Punch and Judy, they had left the baby at home with the baby sitter as Brian said it cries a lot and can get on people's nerves. Brian told us quite a few tales of his adventures with his Punch and Judy show that he has operated for many years. He said it was a bit of a change from running stationary engines. Thanks to Brian for giving us all a good laugh and helping make the evening a great success.

There was also a display of steam models brought along by some old chap but we won't dwell on that so once again thank you all very much.

Hopefully you will have all received your calendar of events for 2017, I hope that you like what we have planned and look forward to seeing you all at some of the events. Any suggestions for future events please let me know.

I have just received the news that I shall be having my hip replaced in late January so I may not be up and running for a bit, I hope that Pete will take over until I am back on my feet.

By the time you read this our Christmas party will be over, Christmas gone for another year and we will all be looking forward to 2017, so I wish you all a very Happy and peaceful New Year, with lots of good events to attend and lots of good friends to be with at those events.

***Eric Gay***

## **Early Year Warm Up - Whaddon Lane Farm**

On Sunday 12th March we are having a crank up/social get together at Whaddon Farm, Whaddon Lane, Hilpertons, Trowbridge, Wiltshire, BA14 6NR. There will be bread and cheese, home made soup, tea and coffee and possibly apple crumble available at no cost to our members, this will run from 10am til 2.30pm. Hopefully the weather will be fine but if not Gordon and Paula have plenty of available space for us to run engines in a ventilated area under cover. As there is food being provided it would be useful if you could let us know if you intend to come, this will give us a rough idea of the amount of food we need to provide. Could you please contact Pete on 07584 325266 (phone or text) or at :- [petergear@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:petergear@hotmail.co.uk) or Gordon and Paula on 01225 755448.

Would be great to see there , please come and join us.

***Pete Gear***

## **The Technical Bit**

Now over the years working on old engines, you know the sort, most have one cylinder and go pop if you are lucky and at times they just will not want to play !

Now I have seen over the course of time many engines owners having great trouble with the wonderful Wico EK Magneto. I even know of one Magneto repair company that refuse to look at them. I have an engine with an EK Magneto, and when acquired the magneto was in a very sorry state. Well I set out to find out as much as I could about this magical device, (its magical that anyone gets one to work !). Saying that though don't be disheartened as all spares are available, try Hit and Miss in America, and it is not rocket science to rebuild one.

Now I have seen many owners on the rally field fiddling with the dreaded EK and resetting the points. WELL YOU DON'T and here is the correct way to adjust the points setting on an Wico EK Magneto.

If your engine is fitted with an Eccentric strap drive, the points should open when the armature is 1/16" away from the magnet faces, turn engine over until the trip arm starts to unlatch the armature from the magnet face, when gap is 1/16" away the points should be just opening ,there is NO set gap as in a points set in a rotary magneto.

If your engine is fitted with push rod drive to the latch, the points should open when the armature is 3/32" away from the magnet face.

To set the points remove the moving parts and undo the lock nut on the stem of the breaker points, replace the moving bits ( the armature) and place between the magnet faces a spacer of either 1/16" or 3/32" according to the type of drive. Hold the contact from turning (there is a key for this but I have never seen one), now turn the screw until the points are just open around 1 thou". Now remove the armature and do up the lock nut against the lock washer and contact, but take care that the adjusting screw does not turn, replace armature and check the gap at points when the armature is the correct gap away from the magnet face.

Now that is the correct setting for the points set in the Wico EK Magneto. If it is not set correctly you will never get the engine ignition timing correctly set. One other thing is to make sure the gap at the armature when operated by the trip arm does not exceed 1/4" as if it does this will put great strain on the latch arm and this may break or cause a great deal of unnecessary wear.

Eric Gay

### **Newsletter Information**

Please let me know if there is any information that you feel is missing or would be a useful addition to the newsletter and we will endeavour to include it.

## SALES AND WANTED

### **FREE TO A GOOD HOME**

I have acquired a very large collection of Stationary Engine Magazines, which belonged to the late Kim Siddorn our previous editor and Club member. There are complete sets from 1980-1982 and 1988-2001 plus many odds and ends which might be of interest.

If you are interested please contact Roger Kempson on 01275 837532

Troy Tractorvater Mk1 with mower head and

Troy Tractorvater Mk2 with plough

Both £ 80.00 each

Allen Scytile F type Villier Mk25 4 stroke £ 100.00

Howard Barton Rotivator, needs TLC - Sensible

offers

Loads of Howard Bantam Spares - again Sensible

Offers

Merry Tiller Cadet £ 50.00

Contact Tony Lawrence 01264 398210

Fuel Tanks and Crank Guards Made

Tel :- John Hedges 01635 268359 or

Mobile :- 07831 410473

**WANTED** :- Van Body, something like a British Telecom Sherpa would be nice, but will consider anything. Please leave a message on answerphone 01934 852670 Gerald Atherton, Churchill.

**WANTED** :- Parts for Ferguson T20 for young enthusiast. Please ring Gary Sainsbury for full details on 01373 865535 or 07872 643306. I know its a tractor but it has just been reunited with the son of the original owner, it was sold by his Dad many years ago, and now Dad is no longer around they would appreciate any help in the restoration.

**WANTED** :- Carburettor from a cycle master or any parts, most needed is the float and needle valve. Please call Eric Gay 01225 754374

**WANTED** :- Fuel injector to fit 1936 Ruston Hornsby 1XHR 8hp Diesel  
Phone Bryan Coles 07840 883019

Looking for a good home - two dismantled Stationary Engines, a Lister D and A Jap Engine for just a donation.  
Please e mail [juliebrann@hotmail.com](mailto:juliebrann@hotmail.com)

### **Current Committee Members**

Chairman :- Eric Gay

Secretary :- Jackie Coles

President :- Roger Kempson

Vice Chairman :- Pete Gear

Also contact for Website and Facebook queries

Treasurer :- Karen Gumm

Also contact for Newsletter Queries

Committee Members:- Bryan Coles, Herb Gane, Gordon Guley, Roy Sanford,  
Tony Lawrence, Gary Sainsbury.

Find Us at :- [www.wessexsec.org](http://www.wessexsec.org)  
and like us on Facebook  
Wessex Stationary Engine Club

Last Date for Submission in the February Newsletter Wed 25th January 2017  
[karen.gumm@btinternet.com](mailto:karen.gumm@btinternet.com) 01373 822461

*All information given will be as accurate as can be, for any errors or omission I apologise in advance for being human  
. Please note that opinions expressed may or may not represent club policy.*

Wessex Stationary Engine Club Ltd Number 02916481