



# CRANKING



Issue 8/17

Oct-17

## The Wessex Stationary Engine Club's Monthly Newsletter

### ***Editors Note***

Firstly apologies for the lack of newsletters the last two months but as some will be aware the ill health of my husband and related hospital and doctors appointments took a toll on my business commitments and it just was not possible for my eyes to cope with anymore screen work. Reviewing my future commitments sadly I will be unable to continue as Newsletter Editor past February 2018. I hope that by giving this notice we will find another member able to give around 5 hours of their time every month to take this job on.

I will be happy to go over the job with anyone interested - I think the only main criteria required will be some computer skill, access to e-mail and a telephone.

Secondly in my position as Club Treasurer I can confirm that the 2016 accounts have now been finalised and submitted to Companies House. The Club's final profit was £ 29.00 for the year as opposed to £ 3528.00 in 2015. We do however maintain a healthy bank balance. The final figure was down by £ 300.00 on the draft report presented at the AGM in February 2017 which was due to the accrual for the Hospice donation for 2016 not actually being paid until 2017.

Anybody wanting additional information or figures can of course get them on request to myself.

***Karen Gumm***

### ***Club Events 2017***

KEY:- CN - CLUB NIGHT EV - EVENT  
CN Held at Old Down Inn, Emborough

Oct 30th	CN Presentation of John Padmore the engineer - Mr Tony Coverdale.
Nov 27th	CN Photographic and Digital Image Evening - Bring your own images
15th Dec	CN Christmas Party at Old Down Inn

### ***Social News***

I had another chat last night with Henry Simmons. He has been back in hospital again ! This time to have work done on both eyes ( a double dose of problems). Margaret has told him to get sorted soon as she wants to give up the driving job ! Henry told me he was in town the other day and met Francis Armstrong, she told him Rob is still poorly so we wish him well and are always thinking about him.

Lyn Pike our President's wife, called to say that Evelyn Cox has passed away aged 87. Known to us older Club members as Ev along with her late husband Ivor, they were always great supporters of the Wessex events and this will be sad news for all that knew her.

***Robin Lambert***

### ***Christmas Auction***

As per Eric's August report we are auctioning at our Christmas Party the wood carved Fox holding a gun. In order to be fair to all members I thought we would offer to those that cannot attend the opportunity to place a bid before the event. This can be done by e-mail or telephone to me . Hopefully this will also maximize the money raised which goes direct to the Children's Hospice South West.

### ***Chairman's Report - July 2017***

It was so nice to see the room at the Old Down Inn so full once again for our talk by Penny Deverill, "Two Penneth of Poison". This talk was different than most of our previous evening entertainment. Quite a number of our members were familiar with the area of Bristol where the action took place, Kevin seemed to know the area very well.

As I said in my last report the Rally went very well, I just wonder if we have a nice club member that may like to become the Club photographer. Why? I hear you ask, well Selwood, Rainscombe and Heddington Rallies along with a great more events in the West Country get reports in the vintage press like the Stationary Engine magazine, Vintage Spirit, Old Glory just to mention a few. So why not the Wessex. We now have a fair number of outside events, and we should make the most of these to help promote the Club and to show others that the Wessex Club is alive and well and is worth being a member of. If you feel you are a whizz with the camera give me or another Committee member a call.

The weekend of the 16th July and we shot off to Durrington in deepest darkest Wiltshire. This is a one day show and to say the field was full of exhibits is an understatement. I am sure if it gets any bigger a new site will have to be found. There were tractors, cars, commercials, a motorcycle section that would put even the Great Dorset to shame, and a good selection of engines. We met Liz and Arthur at the show, poor Liz has had another spell in hospital. I know that all of you who know Liz and Arthur would like to wish them well. Phil Gumm has not been well but did get to Durrington but without his lorry and Karen who was working.

***Eric Gay - Chairman***

### ***White Horse Crank on Sunday 10th September 2017***

Unfortunately there was a very poor turn out from the Wessex Stationary Engine Club. Those present with engines were Herb and Wendy Gane with their 'Fairbanks Bulldog', Sam Jackson brought along his Fairbanks morse 'Jack of all trades' and Carol and Kevin Phillips brought their United engine driving a pillar drill. It was good to see Wessex members Margaret and Henry Simmons. Gary Sainsbury and Roy Sanford arrived early to set up the site. There was also a Cross Engineering display of motor cycles and Lister D engine with a cross rotary valve conversion.

The model engineers showed various displays, model steam traction engines, model planes and trains, which were all very interesting.

A good day, the weather bright and blustery, pity it was not better supported. Many thanks to the West Wilts Model engineers for supplying our lunches.

***Herb & Wendy Gane***

### ***SALES AND WANTED***

<p>Fuel Tanks and Crank Guards Made Tel :- John Hedges 01635 268359 or Mobile :- 07831 410473</p>	<p>Spark Plugs <a href="http://www.sparkplugs.co.uk">www.sparkplugs.co.uk</a> Tel :- 01244 679903</p>
<p>Villers WX 11 1. 1/2HP - not on a trolley 2 Wolseley air cooled engines on trollies with spare engine for each as spares. Ruston Hornsby PB 1. 1/2 HP on trolley Carburettors for Rustons and Wolseleys 2 Stuart water pumps 1 Lister domestic water pump Wolesley &amp; Ruston bell pulleys Phone Steve Morris on 0117 9504 4167 for Prices</p>	<p>Starting Handles Lister 2" Bore Part No :- 9/5124 £ 15.00 Lister 2" Bore Part No :- 9-5-24 No Pawl £ 10.00 Lister 2.1/4" Bore Part No :- 23-3452 £ 15.00 Petter 1.7/8" bore, stamped G:R £ 12.00 As a lot £ 40.00, Buyer Collects Phone Tom Randall 01761 418926 Midsomer Norton</p>

WANTED :- Stuart Turner R3 Head Please phone Rob Champion on :-01275 892944

## ***Chairman's Report - August 2017***

August Club night was a bit on the quiet side, not a great crowd at the Old Down Inn for an evening of fractional hp engines, only one member took the trouble to bring along a couple engines- guess who ! We had an enjoyable evening with a bit of a talk by me, a couple of bowls of chips soon got devoured by the hungry hoards and we had our raffle run by Roger. Thanks for getting the prizes and selling the tickets, we did make a small profit on the evening.

Now back in July Maureen and I visited Cold Harbour Mill at Uffculme, Cullompton, Devon. If you remember I tried to arrange a trip to the mill but had no response. I can tell you all it is an interesting place to visit, we went on a non-steam day and it was great, to go on a day when the whole mill is driven by the original engines would be magnificent. One thing I did not know was that they had the beam engine that once drove the Ushers Brewery in Trowbridge, fully restored and in working order. I would love to return in a steam day just to see that running, and the mill still produces cloth on a commercial scale even today. I would run a coach trip if enough members were interested, so if you are give me a ring soon and I will see what I can do for 2018.

We went to Middle Wallop vintage day at the end of August, the event was well supported by members of the Wessex. This is a great one day show with lots going on, and those that have money burning a hole in their pockets can spend nearly all day looking out bargains in the very large boot sale.

Since then things have taken a downward spiral, I am writing this recovering from a lung infection that has laid me low for the last few weeks. I have not been able to get out and about, so I was unable to attend the West Wilts Society of Model Engineers Gala day at Westbury. I have been contacted by their Chairman telling me they made a profit of just under £ 1000.00, not bad on a manky day weather wise. It was a shame that more members of the Wessex did not support this event as we get an invite each year and all the exhibitors get fed and watered, only 4 engines and one of those came via Cross Engineering. We arranged to get stakes,ropes,chairs and tables on site and then this has to be collected and returned to our store. All this work by just a couple of club members and one non club member is it worth staging outside events , when we are getting so little support ?

We will be staging the Westbury Vintage Day in April, date to be verified and entry forms will be sent out for the event, so please as soon as you have your forms send it back to me and hopefully we may have a few more exhibits than in 2017.

I have not had a great response from you concerning the Christmas Party - TISS FREE, plenty of good food and a chance to meet up with club and friend before Christmas, and don't forget to bring along my Christmas presents. So if you want to be included you had better ring quick as time is getting short and Christmas will be here before long, remember the date Friday 15th December 2017, you all know my number but just in case it's 01225 754374. We will be having a great raffle and an auction, we will be auctioning the Fox holding a shotgun, made for us by the chainsaw carver at Semington in June.

I am at present compiling next years programmes of events, evening speakers and anything else I can think of, if YOU have a request for any event or evening entertainment please let me know, contact details as above.

Planning for the rally at Semington in June starts on October 11th . This will be the first meeting of the Committee to start arranging things for June. As always we are needing new members to come and join us, why not come along to the Old Down Inn on Wednesday 11th October and see what we do you might like to join us and come and help organise our main event and have your say in how things should be run.

Well I think its time to go back to bed and get over this pneumonia.

***Eric Gay - Chairman***

### ***Out and About with Robin and Jackie***

Apologies from the start if this sounds like a glorified weather report, have you ever watched the Pink Panther cartoon that where ever the poor fellow went this black cloud followed him around and poured on him while those around him basked in sunshine ? ( PP my fav Sat morning entertainment !- Ed). Well I think this may be happening to us . You may have read that Selwood Rally was washed out on Bank Holiday Monday so we were looking forward to 10 days away the following week taking in **Tatworth** and West Bay rallies. All started well when we moved into the tranquil playing fields site a day before the one day event started, situated just a few fields away from the Devon border. The hilltop location has breath taking views back towards Chard and the surrounding area, Sunday the event day started quite well with many of our Club members exhibiting here but it was noticeable that a lot of the usual stalls were missing as no doubt they had been listening to the local weather forecast and around lunch time down it came with no sign of it clearing up. Along with everyone else we started to pack up, at least the Vintage Tractor Run on the Saturday evening had a nice dry sunny time.

So with the rest of our time away we moved location to a farm at Chickerell near Weymouth for a few days before moving on Thursday to the West Bay Rally . On Monday morning I was awake early and listening to the shipping forecast which is a bit on the boring side as it moves all round the UK and half the areas mentioned mean nothing to me , UNTIL it said cyclonic conditions Scilly Isles moving east and then the penny dropped we were east of the Scilly's. True to form it was rough, we were only three or four fields away from Chesil Beach and I repositioned the van head into the storm to try and ease the buffeting and screaming wind. This led us to think what about the **West Bay Rally** so after a telephone call on Tuesday we were told it had to be cancelled due to a multitude of problems caused by the weather, so with the next few days looking bleak as well we decided to head east along with the wind back home, looking forward to our Club Rally with a great weather forecast predicted.

#### **Beaulieu Rally - 1st 2nd July**

Once again another successful two day event took place at this prestigious location, running in tandem with a Vintage Austin Seven Rally, the two events complimenting one another. Lots of our Club members were exhibiting here this year enjoying a sun soaked two days, enjoying two events and all the other attractions Beaulieu has to offer. It's a good chance to see machinery from all over the UK, much of which is on the large side and required craning off their transporters. Our very own Carol once again organised the Raffle which took place on the Saturday night gathering and no less than 98 prizes were in the draw and distributed. There must have been around 20 generating plants providing all the lighting for the Get Together all doing what they were originally intended to do. I must shower praise on Dennis and Chris Barns, their good ladies and all who helped make this such an enjoyable event- well done to you all.

***Robin and Jackie Lambert***

Last Date for Submission in the November Newsletter Sunday October 29th 2017

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Committee Members :- Chairman E Gay, D Chair :- P Gear, Secretary :- J Coles, Treasurer :- K Gumm  
President :- R Pike , H Gane, G Guley, G Sainsbury, B Coles, R Sanford, T Lawrence

*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*