



CRANKING

August
2007
Thirtieth
year of
publication
www.wessex-sec.co.uk

The Wessex Stationary Engine Club's monthly newsletter

From the Sump

It being our fortieth wedding anniversary on Sunday 12th August, Hazel and I went off to Welsh Wales for a few days. After tramping then boating around Ramsey Island off the Pembroke coast, we drove on up to the Internal Fire Museum on Sunday, spending a happy day pottering about amongst the engines.

I'd not seen their award-winning blast injection Sultzer in action, so Paul was kind enough to start it for me, an arcane piece of complex and mystic ceremony not devoid of risk as with all blast injection engines. It ran beautifully, whirring and tacking away to itself, the various antique solutions to making a heavy oil engine go making a number of interesting studies.

The rare lamp start Clayton & Shuttleworth two stroke Diesel was also caused to function, being a lot simpler to start.

As Paul Evans (the curator and owner) and I know each other a little, I was allowed to get my hands a bit grubby assisting volunteer Bob Leonard in getting a 10bhp Bamford horizontal engine to go. It is an unusual beast, was bought at auction in Class2/3 ish condition & is at the museum on loan.

Although it probably has not worked hard in its life, it shows the traces of a succession of unknowing hands – for instance, it has a direct draw carb & the Lister D tank was mounted well above the carb on a bit of steel tube. Bob tried various positions for the tank & finally got it to fire, the Wico book mag providing a surprisingly good spark. There followed some fiddling with the carb, but eventually it was reliably eight stroking without load & not running too rich. The water tank was filled and despite a number of pipe leaks, the engine fired up again and settled down to a steady beat.

Sadly, after about twenty minutes, it blew the head gasket in a cloud of steam, the engine being stopped smartly without damage, water squirting from the exhaust!

A search for the correct spanner ensued, followed by the removal of the cylinder head, revealing a gasket which proved to be of graphited cardboard, not a material suitable for the task. Bob took it away to make a new and better one.

Moving the Metal

For sale

Briggs & Stratton ZPZ generating set, restored. £150.
Ruston Hornsby PT on trolley, restored. £150.
Wolseley WD 1.5hp on trolley, restored. £170.
Bamford EG1 1.5hp on trolley, restored. £180.
Lister D & Lister H1 pump on wheels, restored. £180.
All above - phone Mr P. Newton. 01373 812461
Kerrison Predictor generator. Complete & mounted on a trailer. Never seen another! – ready to tow away. £350.
JAP 2A driving a small compressor. On a steel carrying frame, Unusual first exhibit. £95.
WW2 Lauson engine driving a small compressor. On a steel frame. Even more unusual first exhibit. £95.
Both restored & painted to a high standard.
Petter A1 on four-wheeled trolley. Still in its Admiralty grey paint. Frugal first time starter. £95.
Petter PU8, rare WW2 marine engine on wheeled carrying frame. Not run for a couple of years £95.
WANTED - "Stationary Engine " Magazine. Now only missing 16,17,18,19,24-34,36. Have early copies to swap!
All above – phone Kim Siddorn 0117 964 6818
Amanco 3hp. Restored & ready to exhibit. £500.
Phone R. Savage, 0117 962 2028
Amanco 2.25hp. £650 ONO. Restored using many new items & mounted on 4-wheeled trolley. Was exhibited at Mells 2006. Getting too much for me now.
WANTED - Flywheel magneto for 1.5hp Ruston PB. Must be complete & with brass starting dog.
All above - phone Richard Gill – 01934 517322
Allan scythe/mower. Circa 1950. Spare engine.
Generator, needs attention. £30.00.
All above - Parsons, 01761 452565
Chaff cutter. Good condition - £20.
Grindstone, foot operated £25.
All above, phone Dennis Hudd 01225 754749
Drummond lathe. Good condition, bench mounted with .1/4hp motor. £80.00 - phone Gordon 07941 724625
Stuart Turner P55, Free to good home.
Phone Geoff on 0161 941 1167 (Near Astle Park)
This column works!
Several items & engines sold here last month
Please remember to phone the editor if it sells.
Ads will be run for two editions in future. Please resubmit if you need to – a phone call will do.

It was a great day out and the time simply flew by. They have a shop selling "paraffinalia" - books, some engine bits, nick-nacks etc. If you have anything you'd like to donate, please take it along when you go on the coach trip in September.

Articles, cartoons, photos etc are always very welcome – this is not a one-man band, but an expression of all our thoughts and experience. Submissions can be handwritten, (if brief), typed or word-processed - it is the content we're after, not the grammar or spelling, so please don't feel your efforts will be ignored. Opinions expressed in this newsletter may or may not represent club policy

Post to the Editor

J. Kim Siddorn, 9, Durleigh Close, Bristol. BS13 7NQ or by e-mail to kim.siddorn@blueyonder.co.uk.