



CRANKING

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

The Wessex Stationary Engine Club's monthly

From the Sump

At the recent Sodbury Sort out, I was amazed to come across an incomplete early 1930's ABC water-cooled sidevalve twin APU. It had been amongst a collection of vintage outboards that went to form a permanent public exhibition, was recognized as being out of place & sold on. I was keen to buy it, but was assured that it was not – nor would be – for sale. However, at the Enstone sale I came across the owner again & he suggested a price that I accepted & the deal was done. It won't be a five minute job, but I shall restore the engine to running order as it is & if in due course, other parts appear, so much the better - I doubt if more than ten exist anywhere. It just goes to show that you must never give up hope of finding even the most uncommon engines and mechanical contrivances. Keep looking and if found & isn't for sale, it is always worth leaving your contact details.

One occasionally hears of mucky engines – not the desirable old-oil-and-sawdust type delightfully found under old benches, but the less attractive kind that you occasionally fetch up next to at a rally. Any two stroke – especially the older types running off load - can fill the air with smoke and tiny spots of filthy black oil, thus spoiling the quiet enjoyment of anyone unfortunate enough to be downwind, fellow exhibitors, Joe Public 'an all. This is no new thing & I have seen the subject raised in SEM on several occasions over the years.

It seems to me that it is inexcusable conduct in anyone with pretensions to good fellowship and with more than a schoolboy's grasp of engineering principals. Obviously, a lightly loaded engine needs less oil than when doing real work and it is clearly the owner's duty to run the engine at home to establish a thinner mix that that suggested by the manufacturer perhaps seventy years ago. Further, modern two stroke synthetic oils are far stickier and have better lubricating properties than anything our fathers used when our Iron Toys were new.

Noise is another potential nuisance & the high-pitched howl of a small two-stroke or the jack-hammer banging of a four stroke not equipped with a decent silencer can wear the patience of a Saint as the day goes on. I well remember being next to a

Moving the Metal

For sale

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.

Phone Richard Gill – 01934 517322

Allan scythe/mower. Circa 1950. Spare engine.

Generator, needs attention. £30.00.

Lister L. 1923, 5HP. On a trolley & ready to rally. £250 ONO. Free delivery within 20 miles of T/ Cloud.

Trailer. Flat bed 5' x 3'. Pin hitch. £30.00

All above - Parsons, 01761 452565

Small old fashioned box trailer. Needs some TLC. Has spare wheel, lights fitted to tailboard & 50mm hitch. Tow away for £25 – no offers. Kim Siddorn 0117 964 6818

Wind or weather vane. Amanco on it, cancelled special order. £30. Phone Tony Davis – 01373 464982

Wanted Ads

“Stationary Engine “ Magazine. Pre number 49 to complete my collection. Phone 0117 964 6818.

Flywheel magneto for 1.5hp Ruston PB. Must be complete & with brass starting dog.

Phone Richard Gill – 01934 517322

Carb No 2654 on left & air filter No 4445 on right facing starting handle for a **Norman T300.**

Phone Tony Davis 01373 464982

This column works!

***Three engines & a caravan 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.

beautifully restored Lister D lighting set, complete with instruments, bulbs and arcane switchgear. The dynamo worked a treat & the engine ran on near enough full load all day. A pity the owner had not equipped it with anything more than a simple pepperpot silencer as it sounded like a field gun!

As a matter of interest, pollution hazards are not an insurable risk. Any club safety officer would be well within his rights if he were to demand that a noisy or excessively smoky engine be turned off as no Third Party insurance will cover the hazards that the thoughtless exhibitor is producing.

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.