



CRANKING

April
2008
Thirty first
year of
publication
www.wessex-sec.co.uk

The Wessex Stationary Engine Club's monthly newsletter

From the Sump

First off, I am pleased to pass on the news that the Sodbury Sort out is not only back in the Calendar, but still on the M4. It is now scheduled for Sunday 3rd August this year at the NMSI premises at Wroughton near Swindon. The Sortout is being held as part of The Wroughton Classic Show. This is principally for cars, bikes & commercials plus an Autojumble. www.wroughtonclassic.org.uk You should be aware that the entrance fee is as follows. One person in a car, van whatever is £5.00 Two or more people in a vehicle – regardless of size or number of bodies – will be £10.00.

Brian Baker has requested that I do not edit his reports in future. As Club Chairman, I naturally extend this courtesy to him and his reports will normally appear as I receive them.

You will find enclosed an invitation to attend our annual rally at Haynes Motor Museum on 14/15th June. Please complete & return to Arthur Smith enclosing an SAE if you wish to attend.

The April crank up at Nunney Catch found about fifty of us strolling around the tarmac looking at thirty two engines brought for display. The weather was kind & the sun shone. There were a few spring gremlins about though: one crept into the rear bearing of a Crossley 1075 & brought proceedings to a halt & another could be seen being exorcised from an alternator. At one time, some of it had even crept into the owner's digital multi-meter as that too was to be seen with its entrails exposed to the spring sunshine! My usually reliable Stuart Turner flat twin was possessed of a small demon & it was determined to run fast or not at all, even dropping out the RH cylinder until I shortened the plug gap. A good day out in pleasant company & you can see Mike Hodgson's photos at

<http://good-times.webshots.com/album/563087485>

The next crank up will be the new venue at Bitton Station. As I have said before, this is very much a toe-in-the-water job for the Railway and we only have a small area in which to set up perhaps ten engines. These will have to be offloaded and wheeled in through the foot passenger gate to the left of the station and parked on the grassy triangle you'll find there.

Moving the Metal

For sale

Amanco mag bracket & gear £60 ono. **Magnetos**, Lucas RS1, a/c, gwo £40 each ono. EIC, gwo £80 ono. **Vauxhall Vectra**. Top of the range, ring for details. For all above ring Eric on 01225 754374

WW2 **Lauson engine** driving a small compressor. On a steel frame. Even more unusual first exhibit. £95. *Both restored & painted to a high standard.*

Iron Horse 12V 300W generator. Complete & in original paint. Manufacturer, "Outboard Company of Canada". Electric start & runs smoothly. Email me for photo. £70 OVNO

"**Old Glory**". Stack a foot high 80's & 90's – tenner.

WANTED "Stationary Engine" Magazine. Now only need 16, 17, 18, 24-34, 36. Have early copies to swap! All above, phone Kim Siddorn 0117 964 6818

WANTED Oil filler/drainer for **Ruston PB 1.5hp**. Phone Richard Gill 01934 517322

This column really works! Sold last month - a trailer & four Lister engines. Let's have your engine and similar stuff that you have for sale up here for a month before putting it in SEM - you might see it at rallies if sold locally!

I would hate to put anyone in the position of turning up only to find all the places are taken & therefore I'm asking those intending to support this event to contact me in advance. I'll then collate the responses and personally telephone those attending with final details. Sorry to have to do this & I hope that the next event there will be in the top car park with plenty of room for all.

Following the success of the D Day Crank up last year, we thought we'd invite you to bring along a military exhibit of some kind (if you can) for this year's event on June 4th. Please note that this is NOT a condition of attendance!

It appears that some of us have more than just 1940's engines to hand & if you wanted to augment your display with a steel bowler or a Model 19 radio, please feel free to do so. We only have room for ONE Tiger tank or U boat, so please ask before you bring yours ;o))

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. The editor reserves the right to change, edit, augment or lessen your

Deathless Prose and asks all to note that opinions expressed in this newsletter may or may not represent club policy
J. Kim Siddorn, 9, Durlough Close, Bristol. BS13 7NQ or by e-mail to kim.siddorn@blueyonder.co.uk.