



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

The Wessex Stationary Engine Club's monthly newsletter

From the Sump

And so another year passes. My memory of it is that it was rather more moist than not & that several of our members were towed off site at rallies they attended. Still, we are a fickle lot & if things were otherwise, we'd grumble about global warming and complain about yet another hosepipe ban. If the Government did the Right Thing & brought water, electricity, gas and the railways under State control, at least we'd only have one body to complain about!

Our rally date in June is now cast in stone & remains as previously announced, the 20/21st June. I was relieved to find that the 1000 Engine Rally is (phew!) the weekend after, thus giving our members & guests the ideal opportunity to get our exhibits up together & have a nice informal rehearsal "at home" as it were, before showing it to the Broad World. Eric Gay has been very active & successful in getting together all the major components for the event – a site, a marquee, an entertainer, a 500 gallon water bowser, Portaloos etc, etc. Paul Chant has agreed to help with driving in stakes etc, but we could do with more help & in particular some section stewards to deal with engines, commercials, steam etc & anyone who can help should contact Eric direct on 01225 754374.

You'll notice that "Moving the Metal" has vanished! I thought I'd run a Services column which will alternate with MtM on a monthly basis, thus the reader will never be more than one issue from Useful Stuff. This is intended to be principally a service by members for members and if you want to put your BRIEF details into this feature, you will be most welcome. Long, wordy ads will be shortened!

As I write this, Christmas looms & the round of celebration and cheerfulness is before us. Soon, we'll be lighting the candles on cake & tree and ignoring the sausage rolls & mince pies! We know we'll have lots of them to eat just after Christmas in the company of good friends as the engines chuff & steam in the chilly wan daylight. But the year will turn as it always has & before us lies the burgeoning of leaf and lengthening days that lead to summer. **A very Happy New Year to you all!!**

Services

Vintage Magnetos. We repair and supply :-

- parts for British and American magnetos as fitted to Veteran and Vintage stationary engines, motorcycles, cars and tractors .
- Repair and supply 6v and 12 v control boxes.
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Phone - Martin Dry, Tel: 0117 9675225

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Gaskets & a wide range of engineering materials

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Exhausts made to your specification Stan Manley, 72, Pinnex Moor Road, Tiverton, EX16 6JZ. Tel: 01884 257611

If you have a service to offer, please let me know.

Call for agenda items for the Annual General Meeting of the Wessex Stationary Engine Club Ltd.

At The Old Down Inn, 8.00pm Feb 23rd 2009

Items for the agenda are now sought. These must be both Proposed and Seconded by Adult, paid up members of the club and must be sent direct to the Hon. Secretary, Arthur Smith, Coombe Castle, Heytesbury, Warminster, Wiltshire. BA12 0AE. The Agenda will accompany the January edition of the newsletter.

Remember, decisions are made by those who turn up!

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