



CRANKING

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

The Wessex Stationary Engine Club's monthly newsletter

From the Sump

For whatever reason, it seems to me that twenty one engines at the annual rally of one of the biggest stationary engine clubs in the country is a surprise. There are several reasons that might be examined, clashing with the popular West Bay rally, the rally site being in the south of our membership demographic, the ever spiralling cost of fuel – I'm sure you can think of other equally pressing reasons. For myself, I was working that weekend & my task took me to Chester & smart though I may be, I cannot be in two places at once!

I see parallels here with my other hobby and it is – in my humble opinion – at least possible that as we arrange a number of crank ups, two half annual sales and a speaker every month at club night, the membership feels fairly well "connected" to the club. Perhaps they feel that the extra effort and expense involved in attending an annual rally is just one more thing to do in a busy year – I don't know, just guessing really. However, A.N. Other club might have very few crank ups, infrequent speakers and a well attended rally simply because the membership relishes the "see and be seen" aspect of their annual event. Whatever the reason or reasons, we need to find out.

I know that I am not alone in believing that it is time we took stock & asked the membership directly what they want in an annual rally. It is easily achieved so long as a sufficiently large sample reply when the question is raised because whatever the consensus of replies tells us, that is what we must do.

On a completely different tack, I've been away for nearly a month filming on location in Yorkshire. Sounds great – how exciting: except it rained relentlessly damned near every day. On one memorable day, I prepped and rigged a Viking ship replica on a reservoir in the North Yorkshire Dales. There were five of us and although mildly moist, it wasn't raining that much as we set off to row across the lake simply for the fun of sailing back. About a mile downwind, we turned the ship and got her under sail just as a monumental downpour filled the air with water, making holes in the lake where the drops fell. Despite reasonable outer layers, I was soon soaked right through. water running down my

Moving the Metal

For sale

Lister B 1935. Unrestored, not seized. No mag. £80

Amanco 2 1/4hp. 1916-1922 (gooseneck striker) model. Unrestored, not seized, complete with LT mag. On original(?) skids and later wheels. No fuel tank. Throttled governed (not hit and miss). £450

Petter M-type 5hp tank cooled. 1922-1930. Restored and running many years ago, now in bits but complete. Has a cracked flywheel on one side and other problems. However, it does include a professionally rebuilt BTH mag. Suitable for rebuild or possibly to break for spares. £150

Wheels and axles, 2 sets suitable for very heavy engine.

All above, phone Steve Teuber in Poole. 01202 700689 or 07974 798111.

steveteuber@waitrose.com

ATCO Ride on Lawn Mower. Free to a good home – please someone take it away! .

Phone Ken on 01373 826265 (Near Frome)

WANTED Oil filler/drainer for **Ruston PB 1.5hp.**

Phone Richard Gill 01934 517322

"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

chest under my tee shirt. The only bits that were dry were my feet! However, we sailed on, there being precious little cover on an open ship under sail. That was day one & we rowed and sailed every day for a week, the high point of the work for us.



You can see the fruits of our labours in February of next year in two ninety-minute episodes on Channel Four. I'll tell you the title in due course.

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
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