



December
2009
Thirty second
year of
publication
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From the Sump

A very Happy Christmas to you all!

A tale to make you smile at the festive season. The first engine I owned myself was a Trojan Minimotor & it clipped onto the back of my pushbike. It was OK in the dry, but slipped badly in the wet. It should have had the industrial sandpaper roller, not the grooved version designed for desert use.:o)

In the dry, it whizzed along & the Lord alone knows how fast it went going down hill! One time, I was going down a long hill, concentrating on hiding behind the steering head nut and enjoying the frantic "eeeeeeeeee" from the exhaust - wasp's in coke tins were nothing on this thing - when the freewheel locked up & the pedals suddenly started to go round.

I wish I could have witnessed it from the safety of the pavement as the rather corpulent, totally inexperienced and bewildered young motorcyclist suddenly found himself aboard a device possessed of the Devil incarnate. We arrived like an act of God amongst the traffic stopped at the lights, feet flailing, machine wobbling and engine screaming - never thought to shut the throttle. Eventually, the brakes took hold and we shuddered to a halt. The roller was slipping on the tyre by now & clouds of noxious smoke arose from it. I pulled in the clutch, lifting the engine off the wheel. The howling engine note rose & fell as points bounced and induction tried to keep up with exhaust. Finally, I thought to close the throttle & sat there in the blessed silence, a quivering wreck.

"Beep"! Went the car behind me as the lights changed. Would it start? Of course not. Later that afternoon, my dad took the plug out & looked mystified at the melted centre electrode. "Need a harder plug in that" he said - and thereafter it oiled them up for a pastime. If I'd known then a tenth of what I know now about Mr Day's engines, my life would have been so much easier.

Special Notice

Vintage Sortout at the Vintage Tractor Show. Bath & West Showground, Sunday (only) February 7th 2010. 9am onwards. Pitches from £5-00. South Somerset and Wessex SEC members - £5 max! For further details ring 01749 342671

Sort out organised by the Wessex SEC Ltd

Obituary – Michael Oliver, MBE

We record with regret the passing of Michael Oliver MBE, the founder and Director of the Great Dorset Steam Fair. He died peacefully at Dorset County Hospital on Sunday 29th November 2009 aged 75 years.

Moving the Metal

For sale

Bamford EG3, 1946. Good runner. **Saw bench** for logging, fast & loose pulleys, good condition. **Petter A1**, rough. **Lister DK**, non-runner. **Lister D** x 2 (1936?). One runs. (*Bindon Abbey, Dorset*)
All above, phone Frank on 01929 406212

Douglas 540cc 1949/50 engine on steerable trolley. Not run for 3 years & dry stored. Buyer collects. £130. **"Ferm"** wood turning lathe, type FHB940. On tradesman built timber stand. 5 turning speeds, 36" between centres. As new, buyer collects. £130.

Turning tools. 11 assorted+large & small callipers £50
All above, phone Tony Davis 01373 464982

Lister D. 18DH. Sold to Lewis & Son, Kettering on 9/9/37. Very well presented on a four wheel oak trolley. Phone Phil on 01933 354072 (*Higham Ferrers*)

Lister D 1942. On nice two wheeled trolley. Runs well, very tidy. Plus near complete spare engine. £85. Phone Robin Gardener on 01373 465797 (*Wilts*)

Drummond Lathe. 1917, Has an interesting history. Needs to be seen and no reasonable offer will be refused. Phone William Bennett – 01749 – 830052

Petter 8hp. 1919, M type. Class One prize winner, totally rebuilt, reluctant sale. Best offer near £1.100. Phone Eric Gay - 01225 754374

JAP Model 55. The unusual vertical twin! & apparently unused. Easy starter. Very sexy finned manifold. Apparently in good order. Might swap for something small & interesting. £140.00.

Phone Kim Siddorn 0117 964 6818

Stationary Engine Magazines. July '95 (257) to Dec '06 (393) in six official binders. £50.

"On Four Wheels". '75-'76. Complete set in 8 official binders. £40. All in good order.

Phone P. Riley 0117 932 4345

WANTED

Dorman 10 HP 4 cyl petrol engine, mid 1930's. Phone Martina Chant – 01761 417636

ABC engine. Particularly 1915 250cc Firefly but anything considered. Good price paid for the right engine!

Triumph twin WW2 genny or parts.

All above, Phone Kim Siddorn 0117 964 6818

**This column works -
an engine sold here last month!**

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 should be preferably typed or word-processed or even handwritten, (**if brief**), - 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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