



December
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of publication
**www.wessex
-sec.co.uk**

The Wessex Stationary Engine Club's Monthly Newsletter

Oak and Willow

By J. Kim Siddorn

A ghost story for Christmas

The wind soughed restlessly across the pool, stirring the sedge along the edge. It was an easterly and carried a hint of sleet, driving in a light, scrunchy drift along the edge of the riem. It gnawed into the face of the young man cycling along the path and the turned up collar of his British Warm did little to turn it away. He screwed up his eyes as a gust brought a freezing blast. Not far now.

The path was overgrown and icy puddles covered much of the way – time for another load of stone to be dragged up the mettled way but he grinned to himself at the thought. Fat chance that the company would rise to that particular occasion, he could just imagine the terse note that would come back when he asked.

He leaned his bike against the wall of the engine house and (using his sleeve) he grasped the polished brass door knob and went inside. It was gratefully warm, the waft of machine oil and a tad of exhaust gas lifting his spirits. He banged his boots against the step above that coir mat that proclaimed “North Somerset Water Limited” , hung his coat on the hook and looked in the mirror to straighten his tie and button his waistcoat – the bottom buttons always came undone on the bike. He took his card from the rack, shoved it in the slot and banged the brass handle of the clock. “Ching!” it said cheerfully. He’d used up one minute of his three minute allowance.

“Morning Albert” he said, nodding to the older man who covered the night shift.

Albert took his watch from its fob and peered at it “Morning? It’s near afternoon. Hours I’ve been waiting, my bed calls so loudly to me I’m surprised you didn’t hear it.”

Edward ignored the sally and enquired “Cup ‘o char afore you go? Bloody freezing out there, mind.”

“Go on then. I could do with a wake up sup. that I could.” *Continued on page four*

**Moving the Metal
For sale**

Detroit 2.5 HP vertical, circa 1913. £750. **International Titan** 1HP horizontal £1,050. **International**, M type, LT, 3HP, 1920, £450. Tel John: 0122 5340432 or email wjohnfire@virginmedia.com.

Bamford 6bhp open crank engine, s/no: 8496. As-found, totally original on a trolley, unrestored, 99% complete, needs an oiler & petrol tank repair. Dry stored for 30 years. Lovely engine and a reluctant sale. £975. Tel. 01761 418926 or email tom.randall@dsl.pipex.com

Fred Biggs is selling his chaff cutter exhibit.

Lister D on 4 wheel trolley. A free standing 2 pulley reduction gear. A “Dennings of Chard” 2 speed chaff cutter, mounted on wheels and driven by a 4 foot pulley! For sale as a going concern - £300 no offers please. Phone Fred on 01761 413020

Wood-effect 15” high glass lined barrels. Just the thing for a small cooling tank. £15 each

Stuart Turner P55 Industrial engine. (photo 1 below) No magneto, but in good order. £80.00 ono.

Both above, phone Kim Siddorn 0117 964 6818

WANTED

BWCW Victoria engine. Phone Andy Vincent on 01749 812598

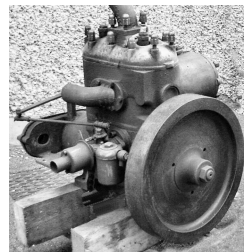
ABC engine. Particularly 1915 250cc Firefly but anything considered. Good price paid for right engine!

Stuart Turner flat twin generator complete. Alternatively, I just need the (apparently!) special dynamo. PLEASE look under your bench for one! (photo 2)

Both above, phone Kim Siddorn 0117 964 6818

PLEASE NOTE

- **In future I'll run ads for TWO months. If you want to run it again, you'll have to phone me.**
- **I'm prepared to print a SMALL photo of your engine etc in this column IF I have space.**



I wish you all a very cheerful holiday. May your God go with you, your engines always start and your pots never crack in the Frost!

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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