



CRANKING

The Wessex Stationary Engine Club's Monthly Newsletter

June 2011
Thirty fourth year
of publication
www.wessex-sec.co.uk

From the Sump

In Tony Davis' advert & event info last week. I transposed his phone number incorrectly. All that was wrong is that the last number –“2” – was missing, probably due to poor a cut-and-paste. Makes no odds though, it still didn't work. My apologies to him and those who were inconvenienced by my error.

As usual at this time of year the “Moving the Metal” column has gone rather quiet – people are interested more in running and displaying than selling and buying! I've been shifting a few on ePay recently and prices are not exactly through the roof. Good time to buy if you are thinking of getting something else.

Eric will be writing a full report for the next edition I have no doubt, but I'll just say that the Wessex Midsummer Gathering went off well. It rained early on Saturday morning which always keeps visitors away, but Sunday was much better and there were a good number of public about. Over 120 engines were booked in and on Sunday Don told me that he was having trouble finding space to put them all! I took my little Stuart Turner flat twin and having taken the precaution of dismantling the plugs for a thorough cleaning the night before, it ran faultlessly.

I was filming with the BBC last week in West Wales and was not needed for a few hours, so I snuck off to the Internal Fire Museum to see what was new. Paul and his team have now erected a roof over the space between two buildings and have already installed some big engines – as in a good deal taller than me! – They were still working on the structure and have a way to go yet, but it is up and weatherproof in a Dutch Barn sort of way. At least one of the engines runs but has not been finished painted. Whilst I was there, Paul was making the arrangements to go to an Island off Ireland to remove the foghorn signalling equipment and have it helicoptered off. You know what he's like, if its there it has to work – how his neighbours hearts will sink within them when they see a vast Irish Sea foghorn coming up the road!

He was kind enough to run up the Ex Princetown Proteus gas turbine installation for me. It is now complete and fills a whole room with the ancillary equipment. What an impressive thing to share an indoor space with!

There are many new exhibits it really is time you should make another visit. You won't regret it.

Moving the Metal

For sale

Petter Junior “Safety” engine, 1924. Fully restored on hardwood trolley and in first class order. £650 ONO or may PX for small steam boiler & engine etc. WHY? Cash either way.

Lister D, running, not on trolley - £80 ONO.

Lister generator 50/75 Volt 17 Amp, nice bit of kit. £250.

RS1 Magneto £60. ML CK type1 magneto – good spark £60. ML CK 1 requires overhaul £15. I have other mags – give me a ring. All the above - Eric Gay 01225 754374

Steerable wooden trolley, heavy duty, 4'8" long, 1'10" wide. Matching 6 spoke 14" wheels. Needs a little TLC. £650ono. Phone Ed Carp on 01458 210929

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.

Slate switching board by Nevill, 38" by 28". 6" brass cased instruments. In totally unmolested and unrestored condition. Photos available by e-mail. £450 ONO. phone Kim Siddorn 0117 964 6818

WANTED

8" or 10" iron wheels – can you help? Eric Gay 01225 754374

Four to five inch **flat belt pulley**. Petter A1 starting handle. Phone R. Champion 01275 892944

Vincent industrial engine powered compressor.

Pultra lathe or parts. 1510 Or 1710 considered.

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

Obituary

It is with sadness we report the death of Doris Kyte. Many club members will remember the happy times we all had with John and Doris at their garden parties at Market Lavington, They had many friends within our club that I know will be sad to hear of Doris' Passing. John has told me that they were planning to move back to Wiltshire in the near future.

Our thoughts are with John and others touched by this bereavement.

Robin Lambert.

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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