

THE SARUM MODEL TRACTION ENGINE CLUB

Affiliated to the Southern Federation of Model Engineering Societies.

Newsletter number 23. January 2013

www.sarummodeltractionengineclub.co.uk

Welcome to the Sarum Model Traction Engine Club newsletter, the committee would like to wish all of our members and families a happy new year.

Your Committee members are:

Pete Parrish, Chairperson
Charlie Warne, Treasurer
Roger Melton, Committee member
John Findley, Committee/webmaster
Martyn Jones, Secretary/Newsletter editor

Contact details: <http://www.sarummodeltractionengineclub.co.uk/contact-us.php>

Forth Coming Events. (provisional more events to be added)

- 16th, 17th March** **Model Engineering and Hobbies Exhibition.** At the Michael Herbert Hall, South Street, Wilton. 10.00am-5.00pm. Further details contact Pete Parrish, club stand details contact Martyn Jones.
- 24th March** **Spring Steam Up and Boiler Test Day** at the club house, Andover.
- 19th April.** **Club AGM,** venue Idmiston and Porton Village Hall, 7pm for 7.30pm start.
- 4th, 5th May.** **Annual exhibition and model steam rally at Woodgreen, Nr Fordingbridge.** Coal and water supplied plus light refreshment. Camping will be available, details from Charlie Warne 01725 512805 (note two day event this year)
- 14th July.** **Durrington Village Show and Classic Vehicle Gathering.** Coal and water supplied. Details. Martyn Jones 01980 653385.
- 4th August.** **Club steam up, road run** and bring your own picnic at the club house, Andover.
- 25th August.** **Wallop Vintage Gathering and Car Boot Sale** at the Over Wallop Sports Field, Salisbury Lane. 10.00am-4.00pm. Sarum Club has been invited to attend. Entry forms from club secretary.
- 26th August.** **Newton Tony Steam Up and Road Run**(Bank Holiday Monday, Newton Tony Village Feté) Coal and water supplied, details Pete Parrish.
- 6th December.** **Christmas Meeting, venue Idmiston and Porton Village Hall,** 7pm for 7.30pm start. Christmas fair and raffle prizes most welcome.

It is planned to hold further events including steam ups and centralised boiler testing etc at the club house situated in Derek Marders Yard, Jubilee Farm, Ox Drove, Andover, further details will be publicised as soon as they become available.

December 7th Club Christmas Event.

The number of members attending were down on last year probably due to the poor weather but those that did attend were entertained with a slide show of old photographs picturing steam road vehicles of all shapes and sizes in accident situations, some quite horrific from Pete Parrish's collection. The second batch of slides were taken at club events and steam shows around the area. After the buffet and tea the raffle was held with most attendees winning a prize or two, our thanks to Joan, Paul and Ted for selling and folding the raffle tickets and to Jackie and Joan for organising the teas in the kitchen not forgetting club members who kindly brought seasonal food for the buffet.

December 16th Mince Pie and Steam Up.

Once again Derek Marder invited his many friends and club members to his annual Christmas Mince Pie and Steam Up at Jubilee Farm, Andover, several club members supported the event and completed the short road run to the Wyke Down Inn with their engines. Back in the yard two full size rollers were in steam and a fairground organ provided the back ground music whilst inside the large workshop hot drinks and cakes were available for all the friends and enthusiasts attending. Again our thanks to Derek for his hospitality and welcome.



(left) Dan Brockway and his father along with Trevor Clay (right) returning from the road run.

A Life Time Passion for Steam, by Mike Penny. (continued from the November Newsletter)

May 1959, Highcliff Festival

The next event I remember attending in 1959 was the Highcliff Festival held over the Whitsun Bank Holiday Weekend towards the end of May. I believe the "Prince of Wales" was driven down during the week before, but I had no part in this, I was picked up early on the Saturday morning of the event by Bob Bailey who was driving the Prince at this time, we drove to Highcliff, the rally field was quite large and the engines were lined up along the back boundary. On the right of the Prince was Fowler Showmans Engine number 15319 built 1921 "Queen Mary", at this time she was owned by Mr Michael Salmon from Weymouth who also owned a Burrell 5 ton tractor number 3433 built 1912 and named "Peter Pan". In later years Mr Salmon moved north to Shropshire. To the left of the Prince was Fowler Showmans Tractor number 14412, 3nhp, built 1918 named "Tiger" owned by Mr James Harris from Poole.

We unsheeted the Prince, Bob raked out the fire and cleaned the ashpan then lit the fire, I started cleaning the brass this used to take me about four hours and used the contents of a 7fluid oz. tin of Brasso, the Brasso was bought in one gallon cans and I used to pour it into the smaller tins because they were easier to handle when climbing about on the engine. Towards the end of the morning the owner Mr P Barber arrived, he helped us finish cleaning the Prince.

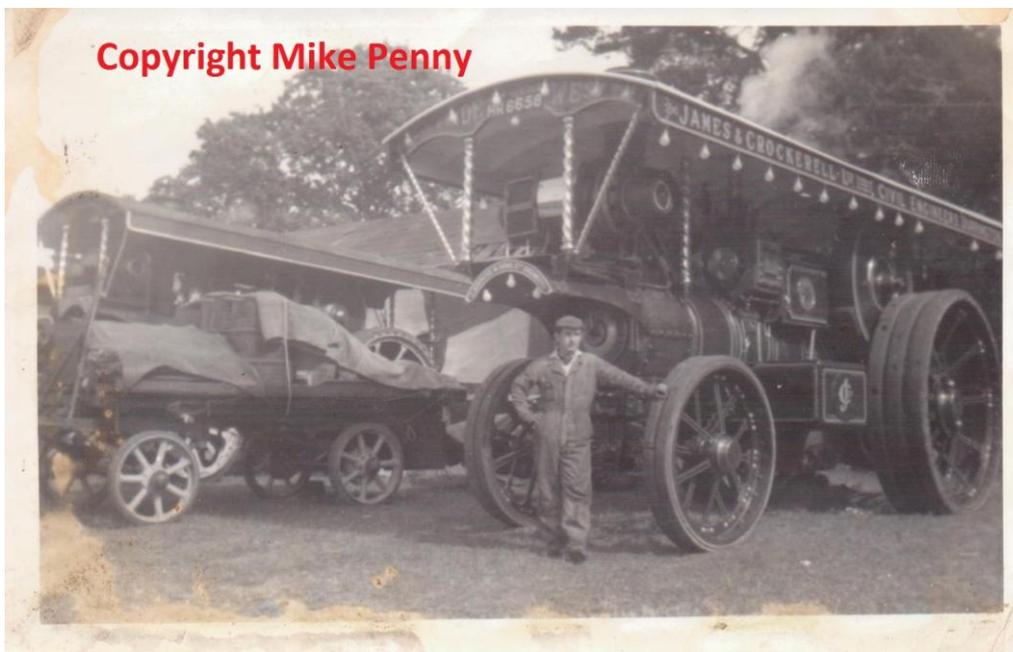
Beyond the fence behind the engine was another smaller field, the grass was quite long but it was obviously used for grazing cattle because just behind us tucked up against the fence was an old Victorian roll top bath, I was sure it was old because it only had one hole for a tap on the narrow end and fitted through this was a ball valve to maintain the water level as the animals drank.

The bottom of the bath was sat well into the ground and I have often wondered since whether it had ball and claw feet fitted to it, not many years after this time those baths became popular again and were sought after, commanding a very good price, who knows as I write this that bath may still be gracing someone's bathroom. After I had washed my hands Mr Barber asked me to clean out the bath so it could be full of clean water, I climbed over the fence with a bucket and baled it out, cleaned and rinsed it then let it refill with fresh water. For some reason which no one told me the Fowler "Tiger" next to us was either low on water or empty. Mr Harris stood up on the belly tank, took out the plug on the steam chest put in a large funnel and I handed him up buckets of water from the bath until the required level was reached, I think he then lit her up.

All this took place up to about lunch time, I do not remember much about the rest of the day, I suppose we took part in the parade and when the show was over sheeted up the engine and went home. What I will always remember is we nearly won the cup for the best engine and the thing that lost it for us was a dirty smoke box, cleaning that was the drivers job, I only cleaned the brass and paint work, the engine that got the cup was Fowler 16nhp Ploughing Engine number 15436 built 1919 named "Princess Mary" owned at that time by Mr Jim Hutchins of Ferndown, the engine had just come out after a complete restoration and looked magnificent, a worthy winner of the cup on that day.

Rallies at this time were only one day but this event carried on, not the next day a Sunday, but the day after, the Bank Holiday Monday. Before we left on the Saturday evening Mr Barber said he could not come again on the Monday but if Bob was free he could come down and steam the Prince, Bob said he would come down and bring his family and asked me if I would like to come down and help, I of course said yes please and Bob said he would pick me up on Monday morning.

(next month, Bank Holiday Monday at the Highcliff Festival).



Mike Penny with the Prince of Wales at the Highcliff Festival

If you are in Salisbury check out the club display in the Library window on the pathway to the central car park.

"Just The Ticket Engineering Supplies", Roger Melton (club member) can supply from stock tools and materials for the model engineer and the light engineering industry. Typical stock includes drills, reamers,

taps and dies, various lathe and milling cutters, BA nuts, bolts and washers, rivets, paints, steel/brass stock and much more. Catalogues are available so please give him a call on 01980 610058.

For Sale and Wanted

Please send/email/ phone your adverts to the editor.

Model Engineering and Hobbies Exhibition

After the success of the exhibitions held in 2003, 2005, 2007, 2009 and 2011 Pete and Anne Parrish are organising another Model Engineering and Hobbies Exhibition on the 16th and 17th March 2013 (10am – 5pm) at the Michael Herbert Hall, South Street, Wilton. Wilts.

Club members are invited to exhibit and we have been allotted table space inside the hall for our models, the stand will be manned by club members throughout the weekend and any additional help on the stand during the exhibition would be appreciated.

Setting up is on Friday 15th March, exhibits must be in place by 8.00am 16th March at the very latest.

If you would like to exhibit please complete the tear off slip and please return to.....Martyn Jones, 6 Westfield Close, Durrington, Salisbury, Wilts SP4 8BY. (closing date the 28-02-13)

Club members proposing to run their models under steam (outside) should contact Pete Parrish direct on 01980 610346. (coal and water supplied)

Name,
Address,
.....
Contact telephone number.....
<u>Details of exhibit</u> (to enable a small detail sheet to be produced).
Model type..... Scale.....
Drawings/Plans supplier
Further details and history.....
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.....
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