

BLOWLAMP NEWS

No 1 August 1992

Blowlamp News its design and illustrations are Copyright

Dear Colleague and Fellow Blowlamp Collector

A number of collectors and others interested in Blowlamps have told me at various exhibitions that they would be interested in an informal periodical to exchange ideas and information. Everyone is aware that there is no published literature about a subject which is of interest to a surprising number of people in the UK and on the Continent.

I recall taking your name either at 'Stourpaine' or at one of the other shows where I have exhibited my collection, and have taken the liberty of including you in the first pilot newsletter. My proposal is that initially an A4 sheet newsletter, published quarterly, could be produced for £2.50 annually. If the copy requires more than one sheet this annual subscription would need to be reviewed.

I would see the format developing to include drawings or photographs of blowlamps or their component parts, inscriptions and trademarks. This material would be published either for information, or for the purpose of requesting information, on identification, origin or dating details. The aim would be for subscribers to furnish such information for subsequent publication when sufficient detail was available. A pool of information would thus accumulate which would be available to any who might need it. Perhaps a particular topic could be chosen for each quarter - for example handle design, safety valves or trademarks - and opinions canvassed for publication the next quarter.

I believe the first few issues should be concerned with contributors offering opinions and advice on what they would like to see included, and then when the system is up and running there would be more 'meat' in each edition. To start the ball rolling I have included drawings of three handles and two trademarks for comment. I apologise to the experts, but I believe this newsletter is needed by beginners as a guide in their new hobby. In any case, experts often do not agree and can also be wrong!

Those of you who exhibit at other shows might like to list where you will be on the appropriate dates, which might lead to local personal contacts. Also, if you know of others who collect, or who are interested, or who indeed might have useful information through having worked for blowlamp manufacturers or tool merchants and would like to receive newsletters, please send me their details for inclusion in the circulation list. This newsletter might also be used as a means of sale or exchange of collected items or spares.

If you are interested in continuing to receive and to contribute - because without your contributions there will be little to publish - please let me know and I shall be happy to retain your name on the list. Needless to say I shall also be happy to receive your subscription.

On the production side I am proposing to photocopy or duplicate, or even print if numbers justify. If there are any members who have access to equipment or supplies which might assist the economy of the exercise I should be pleased to hear from you. Similarly if any of you have special talents - for example drawing or photography - such help would also be welcomed.

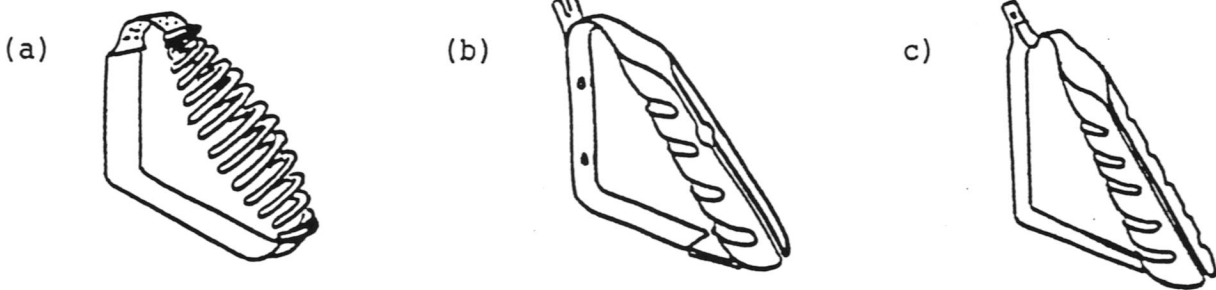
This whole idea has come from you and I hope many of you will find benefit from it. Without your support through contributing it cannot succeed; with it I believe we can learn a lot more about our hobby and derive a lot more enjoyment from it.

I look forward to hearing from you and in any case meeting you again soon at 'Stourpaine'.
Blowlamp News its design and illustrations are Copyright

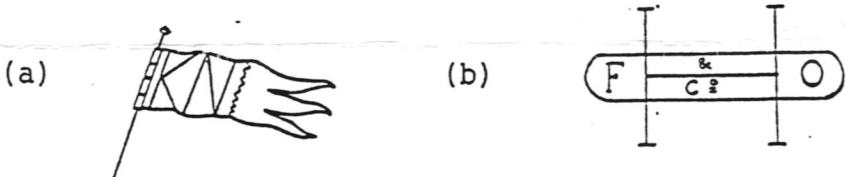
Les Adams

~~~~~

Here are three handles for your comments - manufacturer, type of lamp, date of first use and any other relevant information you may have:



Now two trademarks for similar comment:



Replies please to the address below, together with your subscription, suggestions and comments for future newsletters:

Stacombe Farm  
Docombe  
Moretonhampstead  
Devon TQ13 8SS

Tel 0647 40826  
(answerphone)

I shall be at 'Stourpaine' from August 28 until September 5 and also at the following shows:

Teign Valley Rally  
Blatchford Farm  
Lower Ashton  
Devon

September 19 & 20

Matford Barton Farm  
Alphington  
Exeter  
Devon

September 26 & 27

Country Steam Fayre  
Quarry Farm  
Bodiam  
East Sussex

October 10 & 11