BN 105

DECEMBER

2018

The Newsletter of the Blowlamp Society - Editor Graham Stubbs - blowlampsociety@gmail.com

www.blowlampsociety.com



QUIZ : ENGLISH METHS LAMPS MATCH THE NAMES TO THE NUMBERED PHOTOS. Answers on page 2

ABBOTT BIRKS HANDY **MOORE & WRIGHT** SHAMROCK

ALFRED SHIRLEY J.S.&S MOSERS TOGA

BIGGS WALL L GUMLEY PARKINSON W & W

McNUME R. MELHUISH WACO

COTTON & JOHNSON FG UNDERHAYS MONUMENT BRAND **ROSS COURTNEY**



MEMBER'S COLLECTION EOLIPYLES: PART SEVEN ENGINE STARTER LAMPS

LANCASTER / SPITFIRE LAMP **HORNSBY & LAMP VARIATION KATZENBERGER SHSI**

ABOUT FUTURE ISSUES OF BLOWLAMP NEWS

From the editor to all members of the Blowlamp Society:

The December number of Blowlamp News has customarily included a subscription notice, but the present issue does not. The likelihood is that publication of the newsletter will cease at the end of 2019. Funds remaining from past years subscriptions are estimated to cover the costs of production and postage through the next year.

Blowlamp News has relied on material from a shrinking number of contributors, to who the Society is indebted for their loyalty. The combination of the slowing of submitted content and the continuing reduction in the Society's membership numbers suggest that, after twenty-seven years, this is the time to bring publication of the newsletter to an end.

This does not mean that the Blowlamp Society will go away; our website <u>www.blowlampsociety.com</u> is planned to continue indefinitely. An online forum for exchange of information and news about blowlamps could be established provided that someone will step forward to set up and maintain it. Your editor is willing to provide initial assistance to such an effort

COVER: ENGLISH METH LAMPS QUIZ By Michel Duval

Answers to the quiz. They are methylated mouth-blown spirit lamps, all from England.

1 WACO	"WACO" is stamped underneath the tank		
2 SHAMROCK	A three-leaved shamrock is stamped underneath the tank. (Trademark of Marples)		
3 W & W	"W & W" is stamped underneath the tank. (Also see page 6 of this issue)		
4 Mc NUME	"MC NUME" and "BRITISH" (almost erased) is stamped underneath the tank.		
5 J S & S (John Shaw & Sons) "J.S & S" and the Governor logo is stamped on the side of the tank.			
6 HANDY	"Handy", the Handy logo and "HATTERSLEY & DAVIDSON Ltd SHEFFIELD" is		
	stamped on the filler cap.		
7 ABBOTT BIRKS	"ABBOTT BIRKS" is stamped on the shoulder tank.		
8 MOSERS	"MOSERS Ltd G.L.C.C." is stamped underneath the tank.		
9 FG UNDERHAYS	"FG UNDERHAY'S LONDON N° CLOSET REGULATOR NEW PATENT" is		
	stamped on the shoulder of the tank.		
10 ROSS COURTNEY	"ROSS COURTNEY & Co. ASHBROOK Rd LONDON N." is marked on a soldered		
	plate.		
11 ALFRED SHIRLEY	"ALFRED SHIRLEY Ltd FA 15031 1955" is stamped underneath the tank.		
12 PARKINSON	"PARKINSON" is stamped underneath the tank.		
13 L. GUMLEY	"L. GUMLEY & Co AMERICA SQUARE LONDON" is marked on a soldered plate.		
14 MOORE & WRIGHT "MOORE & WRIGHT SHEFFIELD ENGLAND" is stamped underneath the tank.			
15 R. MELHUISH	"R. MELHUISH Ltd FETTER LANE LONDON" is marked on a soldered plate.		
16 TOGA	"TOGA BRITISH MAKE" is stamped on the side of the tank. (Trade name of Buck $\&$		
	Hickman)		
17 MONUMENT BRAND "MONUMENT BRAND" is stamped underneath the tank.			
18 BIGGS WALL	"BIGGS, WALL & Co. LONDON" is marked on a soldered plate.		
19 COTTON & JOHNSON "COTTON & JOHNSON'S N° PATENT" is marked on a soldered plate.			

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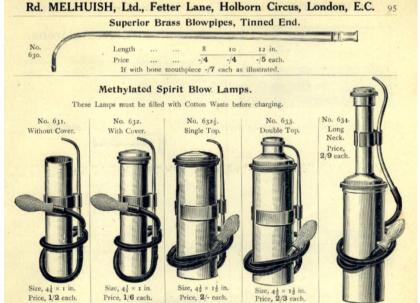
The United Kingdom was the world's largest producer of this style of blowlamp. Terminology includes mouth-blow lamp, spirit blowlamp, spirit blow torch, plumbers' blow lamp, blow pipe, soldering lamp or torch, etc. They are strong, small and easy to use. By the way, does anyone have examples of the mouthpieces? The mouthpieces have mostly disappeared by the time the lamps are in collections.

Here is a selection of advertisements for some of the brands named in the quiz.

ABBOTT, BIRKS & CO., LTD., 90-91 Blackfriars Road, London, S.E.1 Telephone: WATerloo 4006 (4 lines) Telephone: WATerloo 4006 (4 lines) Telephone: WATerloo 4006 (4 lines)

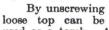


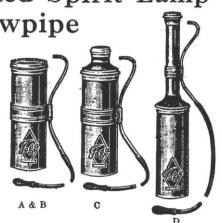




Methylated Spirit Lamp and Blowpipe

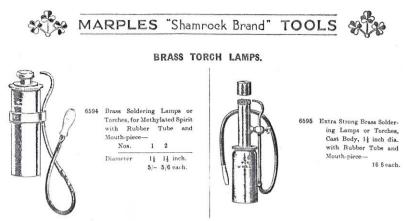
A handy and useful article for gas-fitters, plumbers, etc. Fitted with flexible indiarubber tube and mouthpiece enabling it to be used in places where it would be difficult or impossible to work with an ordinary blowpipe.



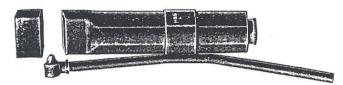


used as a torch. Adjusted to any height by pulling up slide.

PRICE,	A, with Single Screw Top, small size	10/- each
	B large	14/- ,,
**	C, with Double Screw Top, size	16/- ,.
,,	D, New Pattern, with long neck, size	19/- "



The nineteen lamps in the quiz are all part of my collection. I am looking for other makes, for which I only have catalogue illustrations, such "Metropolitan", "Multum-in-Parvo", "Rowe Bros & Co". See the following scans.



S 83. SOLDERING OR BLOW LAMPS. The "Metropolitan." Brass, without Rubber Tube. 104/- dozev.



A handy and useful article for plum-Fitted gas-fitters, bers, etc. with flexible indiarubber tube and mouthpiece enabling it to be used in where places it would be difficult or impossible to work with an ordinary blowpipe.

By unscrew-ing loose top can be unacrew- Style A and B

used as a torch. Adjusted to any height by pulling up slide.

PRICE A, with Single Screw Top, small size large "

- D, New Pattern, with long neck





No. 3654. TORCH BLOW LAMP, 2/9 Specially adapted for Gas Fitting.



2/6 each . . 3/6

4/8 • • 54 ..

MORE FROM RUSSELL HARROWER

In December 2016, BN 16 included a profile of long-time Blowlamp Society member Russell Harrower. The next issue included photographs of some of the rare blowlamps in his collection, including an ACME SHSI, a Sunbeam lamp, and an RM COB blowlamp with a COB transfer. Russell recently sent in more photographs, shown below with notes:

This lamp is identical in all aspects including the reinforced base and could easily be a forerunner of Moore & Wright. The "W&W" could possibly stand for an earlier company name



The Coleman lamp, at left below, was acquired during a holiday in Alberta, from an Antique shop in Edmonton. (Editor's note.: See <u>www.blowlamp.co.uk</u> for more about Coleman Lamp & Stove Company of Toronto, and Butler Stamping & Machine Screws Limited.) The lamp at right is a Unique model "0".



C COLEMAN MABE IN CANDA THE COLEMAN LIAR DOS STORES COMPANY LIMITED TORONTO CANDA UNITED UNMARINE COREXS LIMITED ON PRESTON ON TRAIN CANDA TYONSFER



U. N. I. Q. U' E TORCHES FURNACES BURNERS UNIQUE MEG CO. CHICAGO USA

Transfer

MORE AUSTRALIAN BLOWLAMPS

THE LANCASTER SPITFIRE By Mal Mutimer & Arthur McNamara

This series of blowlamps derived the name "Lancaster" from the embossed name "Lancaster MFG. CO. MELBOURNE" on the red-bakelite knobs as seen on the larger lamp below (Figure 2). More recent research has located an advertisement for this lamp in the August 1941 edition of the *Hardware & Machinery* Journal. The sole Australian Selling Agents, Estee Trading Co Pty Ltd of 51 Hardware St Melbourne introduced the *SPITFIRE* Patented Blowlamp. Collectors seem to have their own preference as to what the lamp should be called, but the fact that at least two other Spitfire blowlamps have been manufactured in Australia (See BN No 77), lends weight to the use of the name LANCASTER.

In March 1939, Louis George de Chateau, engineer, of 136 High St Prahran Melbourne, lodged an application for a Patent "Improvements in and relating to burners for oil and other liquid fuels" (Application No 1370/39). This was accepted in July 1940 (Patent No 111,149/39).

Below are two examples of the blowlamp. On the left (Figure 1) is a lamp of one-quart capacity and on the right (Figure 2) is a lamp of two quarts capacity.





Figure 1: One-quart Lancaster Spitfire

Figure 2: Two-quart Lancaster Spitfire

The one-quart lamp is marked on the burner PAT APP 1370/39 whilst the two-quart lamp is marked PAT No 111149/39. These markings are stamped into the front compartment of the regulating mechanism. An exploded view of this mechanism can be seen in Figure 3. We can assume that the one-quart lamp was produced first, before the patent had been accepted, and may have been a prototype. Several modifications can be seen to the tank, burner and handle, in the latter two-quart lamp. As can be seen both lamps depicted have brass tanks. A third one (in Arthur McNamara's collection) has a steel tank and was originally chrome plated.

The object of de Chateau's patent was to provide an improved burner capable of operating on liquid fuel, such as crude oil, and which was adapted to be automatically fed with fuel by suction, or by the aspirating effect of air that was delivered to the burner. This allowed Estee Trading Co, when introducing the Spitfire Patented Blowlamp to claim – "No Waiting, No Priming, No Pumping, No Pricking". The air supply was to be drawn from any air compressor and no pressure was built up within the tank. A major selling point was its lower cost of operation, being able to use fuel or waste oil of any kind. This would have made it a very handy tool to have around a factory in the 1940s. Advertising of the lamp ceased after 1948.

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Our research to date has failed to throw any light on the Lancaster Manufacturing Co. P/L. In 1936 the Commonwealth Aircraft Corporation (CAC) was set up in Melbourne to examine the building of the Beaufighter and Lancaster bombers in Australia. Was the Lancaster Manufacturing Co. P/L part of the CAC, or an associated company?

Engineer Louis G de Chateau gave his address as 136 High Street, Prahran, which may have been his place of work. This is the address of the Swinbourne Technical College, which had a strong engineering emphasis in the 1940s. Was Louis de Chateau a member of the teaching staff? Did Louis de Chateau or the Swinbourne Technical College have a collaborative association with either the CAC or the Lancaster Manufacturing Co?

The new features of this lamp - a source of portable heat, and on/off flame instead of having to pre-heat a kerosene lamp, the use of waste oil instead of refined kerosene should have made this a popular tool. However, if we can use second-hand sales on eBay as a guide, it would



be safe to say that this blowlamp is rare. Between the two of us we have three such lamps in our collection, and besides three others on which I lost the bidding war on eBay, we are unaware of any further examples in collections. If you do have a Lancaster Spitfire we would be pleased to receive details of the lamp and perhaps a photograph.

Figure 3: Control Mechanism - exploded view.

KATZENBERGER SHSI

Gérard Muller provided these photos of a rare older model Katzenberger SHSI. In reference to the article on page 7 of BN103, with a photo of Clive Finch's SHSI and the advertisement, Gérard pointed out that in the advertisement illustration a girl is holding an SHSI which differs from the larger illustration of the actual tool, in that it has no side-mounted regulator knob. The regulator function in the older version is achieved by turning the end knob.



Inscriptions on the lamp include Swiss Patent No. 43669 (issued in 1908), and French Patent No. 402597 (issued in 1909). The inventor was Ernst Längin-Grether, of Basel, Switzerland.

ENGINE LAMPS Photos from KEITH HAWKINS

Keith Hawkins provided these photographs of engine starter lamps"



HOTO La : BARTHEL' MODELL LANZ 33' WIND Shield OHL



PHOTO ID : BARTHER - wind shield in place.



HORD Za: IMBERT- used on WANZ BULLDOG TEACTOR.



Pitoro 26: additional view of '2.

Does anyone know which engines or tractors these French Express No.1004 lamps were used for? Keith thinks that the one on the left was from a Vierzon tractor.



HORNSBY ENGINE STARTER LAMP VARIATION

From Nick Major

Here's a follow up for article on the Hornsby cast iron lamps article. I enclose a picture of my small starter lamp for a Hornsby 1 1/2 hp engine. The lamp has no legs; the part number cast on the lamp is ZP33 The Hornsby lamps all vary in size for the hp of engine and the application e.g. portable engine or fixed on concrete base or other applications.

As far as I know Blackstone never used a Hornsby cast lamp, A brass Primus lamp was always supplied in with engine when supplied new, sizes varying again with size of engine. Blackstone did use a cast iron lamp on very early engines and were not in the style of the Hornsby lamp. When I brought my Hornsby lamp I was told it was for a Tangye engine; I knew it wasn't ... things certainly get twisted around





EOLIPYLES PART SEVEN

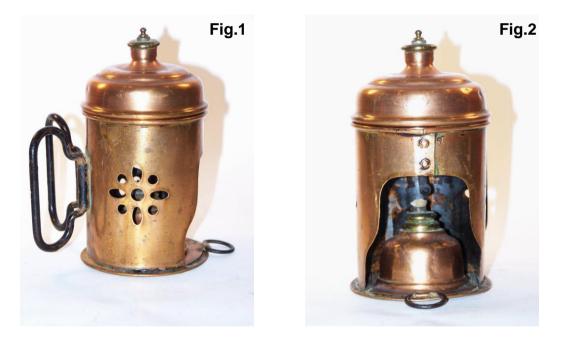
Magnet, Manufrance, and Molard

By Charles Smith

NOTE: This is the seventh article in a series of contributions about three-piece Eolipyles. For earlier "background" information, please refer to the last few Society Newsletters.

MAGNET, PARIS (unmarked) Circle-Ellipse-Circle Cutout Pattern

Magnet Eolipyles are characterized by having a cutout pattern consisting of a central small circle with small ellipses both north-south and east-west of the circle. Between each pair of ellipses is another small circle (Fig. 1). The Eolipyles are known with both a copper stand, as shown in Figure1, as well as an iron stand. They are known to have been manufactured in six sizes, with the size, denoted by a number from 1 to 6, smaller to larger, stamped into the upper front part of the stand to the right of the front opening. The sheet metal making up the stands of both the copper and iron versions is overlapped and braded in the front above the front opening (Fig. 2). Both types also have large "loop" handles made of iron, braded to the back of the stand. The lower alcohol lamp is made of copper with a brass wick holder and circular "pull" on the front of the lamp. The upper fuel tank is also made of copper with a combination brass pressure-release/filler cap and a brass burner tube beneath the tank.

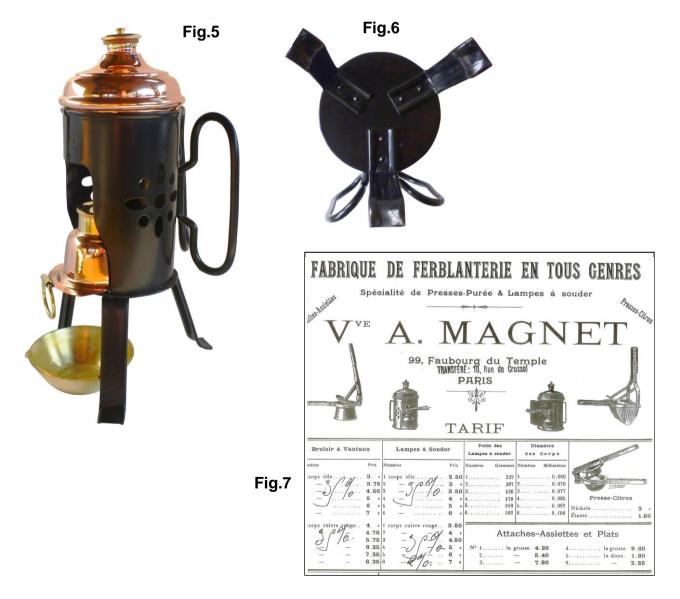


Magnet Eolipyles are also known with movable "wings" or "shields" mounted on the right and left sides of the front opening. The tank is made of thin sheet iron with the iron loop handles and their iron holder braded to the rear of the stand. As is usual, both the alcohol lamp and the fuel container are made of copper. The height is about 14.5 cm and its width is about 7.7 cm. As with other Magnet Eolipyles, this one has no markings to identify its manufacturer. Figure 3 shows the Eolipyle with the wings folded back around the stand. In this position, they almost completely close-off the side cutouts. I'm wondering if this would also reduce the flow of air into the inside, reducing the intensity of the flame. Or maybe they were meant to be folded back for storage, or when not in use. I don't know. Of course the "wings" can be opened (Fig. 4) and in this position are probably meant to protect the flame in the presence of strong winds.





I am also aware of a small-size No. 1 Magnet Eolipyle with an iron body but with three legs riveted to the bottom of the stand (Figs. 5-6). Its owner is Guy Gerard who informs me that other than its size designation there are no other marks on the lamp or stand. We believe that the lamp was issued with these fixed legs and was probably intended for use in a laboratory or other semi-stationary setting.



To my knowledge, none of the Magnet Eolipyles are marked with any manufacturing information. They have only their size designation, numbers 1-6. Were it not for literature, in this case a Magnet catalog sheet, we might not have been able to identify the cutout pattern. Figure 7 is a scan of the upper part of a Magnet sheet, reproduced on page 164 in the French Recueil No. 1 and, in part, copied here. The words "FABRIQUE DE FERBLANTERIE" at the top of the sheet refers to their making tinplate, or of being tinsmiths. Magnet was a very small company in Paris and manufactured only a few items, including potato mashers, lemon squeezers, and coffee pots

Michel Duval has kindly informed me of a two-line "note" in a 1906 trade journal. The note states that Vve A. MAGNET (Vve is the abbreviation for veuve, or widow) is the "boss", or owner, of the A Magnet Company. From this, I think we can presume that the husband A. Magnet was the owner prior to 1906. Although we have no proof, these Magnet Eolipyles must date from the late 1800's.

Magnet Eolipyles with D.P.A and R.B.T Marking

Fig.8

The marking "D. P. A" and "PARIS", and "R.B.T" and "PARIS", separated by images of "bees", or "wasps", is rarely found stamped into the top of the combination pressure release/filler caps of some Magnet Eolipyles (Fig. 8). I have also seen these two markings on the filler caps of Doria Eolipyles. Although the "D.P.A." trademark is almost certainly that of a currently unknown retailer, or a seller of these Eolipyles,



the "R.B.T" marking is the abbreviation of the name "REBATTET", referring to F.M. Rebattet and Co., a tools retailer that was located in Paris.

Magnet Eolipyles with MANUFRANCE Marking

Guy Gerard is the fortunate owner of a Magnet Eolipyle with a copper stand having an additional circular imprint on the base of the stand (Figs. 9-10). The outer margin of the imprint reads "MANUFACTURE – FRANCAISE – SAINT-ETIENNE" meaning "FRENCH FACTORY at SAINT-ETIENNE". Saint-Etienne is a town in the southeastern part of France. The inner circle of the imprint reads "ARMES ET CYCLES" meaning "WEAPONS AND BICYCLES". The imprint is that of Manufrance, a large French retail company that was organized in 1885 and is still

in business today. The company is similar to the US Company Sears Roebuck, or Montgomery Ward, and is a distributor of a vast assortment of things including tools and diverse hardware items.

The notation of "ARMES ET CYCLES" simply refers to two of the various types of items sold in the early days of the company. The imprint on this Magnet Eolipyle indicates that this lamp was once sold by Manufrance.





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Magnet Eolipyles with OL Marking

Michel Duval is the proud owner of a No. 2 Magnet Eolipyle having a copper stand (Figs. 11-12) BUT with the additional mark "OL". The trademark consists of two crossed soldering irons with an "O" to the left of the irons and an "L" to their right. Near the bottom of the imprint and between the two soldering-iron handles is the word "DÉPOSÉ", indicating that the trademark has been registered. The details about this mark and location of the retailer are unknown.





MANUFRANCE, Saint-Etienne, France

Manufrance was (and still is) a large French retailer of a vast assortment of goods, at one time including Magnet Eolipyles (see Magnet above).

MOLARD, THOMERY, FRANCE 2 Circles, 7 Circles Around Top

This Molard Eolipyle is so distinctive (Fig. 13) that the cutout pattern is of little or no use in its identification. Although its appearance is different from most Eolipyles shown in this series of articles, it still retains the basic three-part construction; it has a removable lower alcohol lamp, an upper alcohol fuel tank with attached burner tube, and an intervening stand (Fig. 14). The total height of the Eolipyle is 17 cm while its diameter is 7.5 cm. The alcohol lamp and stand are made of copper while the "loopshaped" wire handles, the "pull" and wick holder on the alcohol lamp, and the fuel tank and burner tube are made of brass. Note that the brass support for the two brass-wire handles is attached to the stand with two brass screws rather than being soldered, or attached with brads, as on most other Eolipyles (Fig. 15).







The fuel tank and its burner tube are unique to this Molard Eolipyle. As noted above, the entire assembly is made of brass. The fuel tank is cylindrical rather than being ovate, and the burner tube exits the top center part of the tank (Fig. 16). The tube loops around the back of the tank and descends vertically to a point just below the bottom of the tank. The tube then bends sharply, almost at a 90degree angle, and terminates with its burner tip just beneath and near the center of the tank. The "notch" in the back of the stand through which the burner tube is placed (Fig. 16) assures that the burner tip is pointed to the center of the front opening in the stand. The entire burner assembly screws onto and from the top of the tank. When removed, the top of the tank has a recessed opening, or "cup", useful in preventing spills when filling.

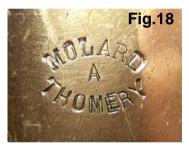
The back of the fuel tank also has a very interesting pressure release mechanism (Fig. 17). It consists of an upside-down "Ushaped" brass holder which is screwed to the top of the tank. Inside the holder is a brass rod fitted with a spring. Its lower tip is equipped with a brass cone which fits inside a small circular opening in the tank. When the tank gets over pressured, the rod is raised upward against the resistance of the spring, thus releasing internal pressure. Once the high pressure is released, the rod is forced downward sealing the tank and allowing pressure to build once more.

Just above the front opening of the stand is the marking "MOLARD A THOMERY" (Fig. 18). Molard was a tinsmith in the small town of Thomery, France, located about 75 km southeast of Paris. As stated previously (see BN 103), this Molard Eolipyle is remarkably similar, possibly identical, to the Gautreau Eolipyles. Because of this, I believe that both the Molard and Gautreau lamps were manufactured by the same company, Henri Gautreau. Thus the marking "MOLARD" is that of the tinsmith and retailer of this lamp.

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Thanks are extended to Michel Duval for his assistance with this and my earlier articles on three-piece Eolipyles. I also wish to express my appreciation to Graham Stubbs for compiling my words and photos into a printable article.

TOM BARTLETT 1930 - 2018

Keith Hawkins provided this photograph, taken at the Greater Dorset Steam Fair in 2005, of long-time Blowlamp Society member Tom Bartlett, who passed away in October this year.

Keith had known Tom since before the formation of the Society, and the two friends traveled every year to many of the UK steam rallies. They were among the first British blowlamp collectors to take lamps to the Continent, when they went to rallies in Dordrecht and Amsterdam. In this photo, he is seen proudly wearing his Blowlamp Society shirt.

The Order of Service for his funeral included these words from his friends:

"How lucky are we to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard."



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1905 HORNSBY 14 HP ENGINE AT GREAT DORSET STEAM FAIR 2008 WITH HORNSBY ENGINE LAMP (Photo from Wikimedia. Attribution BulldozerD11)

WANTED

Charles Smith is interested in purchasing old three-piece Eolipyles similar to those shown in the article this issue. Please send a photo(s) and a note about its condition with your asking price to Charles at <u>ccsmith2@charter.net</u>. Thank you!

INDEX to ISSUES 1-100 (August 1992 – September 2017)

A cross-referenced index to **BLOWLAMP NEWS** is available from Keith Hawkins on request, with a contribution to cover the costs of printing and postage. (Also at <u>www.blowlampsociety.com</u>)

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