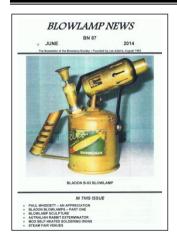
BLOWLAMP NEWS

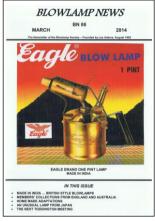
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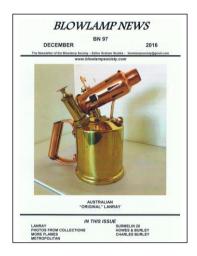
The Newsletter of the Blowlamp Society - Editor Graham Stubbs - blowlampsociety@gmail.com























THE PRESENT - THE PAST - AND THE FUTURE

From the editor of *BLOWLAMP NEWS* to all members of the Blowlamp Society:

This print issue of **BLOWLAMP NEWS** is the last to be published. It is dedicated to the twenty-seven year history of the newsletter and of the Society, with images capturing the people, events and discoveries that have marked the many years of camaraderie, learning and enjoyment from this collecting hobby.

In recent years the newsletter has relied on material from a shrinking number of contributors, to all of whom 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 this is the time to bring publication of the newsletter to an end.

The Blowlamp Society is not going away. The email roster of members will be maintained, and notices will be distributed about developments of potential interest to members. The Society's own website www.blowlampsociety.com will continue indefinitely.

LES ADAMS

A few years after his retirement as a physician, Les's wife Gina bought him his first lamp at a jumble sale; like many of us blowlamp collectors, Les was soon bitten with the bug. At the great Dorset Steam Fair (GDSF) he learned that there were others like him. He founded the Blowlamp Society in 1992 having taken the initiative to send a first newsletter to fellow lamp enthusiasts. In 1998 he and John Tingle attended the first convention of the American Blowtorch Collectors Association (BTCA), in Mt. Vernon, Washington State. Relationships between the organizations were formed that continue to this day. He created and edited the quarterly newsletter Blowlamp News from 1992 until he passed away in 2003.

At right-- Les with his display at the GDSF in 1989, talking to Keith Hawkins (stripy shirt) and Ken Longden (cap).

Below -- At the American Convention and talking to me.







PHILIPPE TOUILLET

French collector Philippe Touillet published two books about blowlamps. "American Blowlamps Since 1856", published in 1998, and "A Background to British Blowlamps", published in 1999. Both books are accumulations of manufacturers' advertising material. The British catalogue material was provided mostly by members of the Blowlamp Society. The latter book remains the only volume published about British blowlamps. The catalogue contents, with an expanded index, are available at the Blowlamp Society's website. Philippe passed away in 2000 after a long illness.





RAY HYLAND

Ray Hyland's collecting interests extended to farm machinery, stationary engines and steam ploughing. He ran a design and planning service from his home office in Stowmarket, Suffolk. He carried his business experience over into the high quality of newsletters that he produced when he



RAY HYLAND, PAUL WHIDDETT & GRAHAM STUBBS



2007 RAY HYLAND with WILLY & BRIGITTE MOUTON

took over as editor of Blowlamp News following Les Adams death in 2003. In 2010 Ray invited me, as well as John Tingle and Paul Whiddett, to join him on a trip by van to Belgium for the blowlamp meeting. Ray passed away after a short illness in 2012 at the age of 62.



MEETINGS

The Blowlamp Society held annual meetings from 1997 to 2008, and two more in 2012 and 2014.

1997 Bloxham 1998 Great Chart, Kent 1999 Bletchingley, Surrey 2000 Bletchingley, Surrey 2001 Bletchingley, Surrey 2002 Bletchingley, Surrey 2003 Lingfield, Surrey

2004 Lingfield, Surrey 2005 Copthorne, Surrey 2006 Copthorne, Surrey 2007 Toddington, Beds. 2008 Toddington, Beds. 2012 Toddington, Beds. 2014 Toddington, Beds.

Here are photos from three of the meetings.

2004 Lingfield



After the nine-eleven terror attack in New York, it was no longer possible to travel by plane with blowtorches, so my display was all photographs..



ANDY FEAST, meeting organizer.



My display took the form of photos, mostly of American blowtorches



Blowlamps displayed on one of the custom-made racks.

2012 Toddington



KEITH HAWKINS & CHRIS NAYLOR



RAY EVERETT & TREVOR BOLD



JOHN TINGLE & MAX RHODES



DAVE THOMAS, BEN WELHAM & DAVE NICHOLS



MAX RHODES, BRIAN GRANGER & MALCOLM FOSTER



TREVOR BATEMAN & PAUL WHIDDETT



JOHN TINGLE with MARNIK & KATY VAN INSBERGHE



PAUL WHIDDETT, MARNIK VAN INSBERGHE, GRAHAM STUBBS & JOHN TINGLE

2014 Toddington



KEN LONGDEN, MAX RHODES & DAVE THOMAS



TONY SMITH & KEITH HAWKINS with DAVE & SARAH WELHAM



Lunch, KEITH HAWKINS standing at the end of the table



JOHN TINGLE, MARNIK VAN INSBERGHE, PHIL HARRIS & DAVE NICHOLS



RAY EVERETT & KEN LONGDEN



MONICA LONGDEN, SARAH WELHAM, STEPHANIE STUBBS, SHEILA SMITH, CAROLYN RHODES & BARBARA CRAWFORD

BELGIUM

British members of the Blowlamp Society traveled to a number of the meetings organized on the continent.

1999 Mouscron, Belgium

Michel Duval identified some of the people in the picture at right in this 1999 photo.

- 1 Michel Duval
- 2 John Byrne
- 3 Dave Rees
- 4 Les Adams
- 5 Jean-Claude Rodelis (ex-treasurer of French Club)
- 6 Tom Bartlett
- 7 Charles Walburger (ex-member of French Club),
- 8 Joan Rees
- 9 Willy Mouton (Belgian collector)

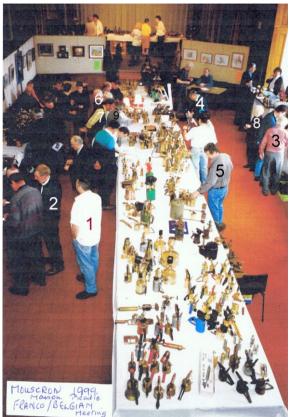
2010 Langemark, Belgium



Announcing the publication of VINTAGE BLOWTORCHES



2013 Langemark, Belgium











KEITH HAWKINS



KEITH HAWKINS



KEN & MONICA LONGDEN



PAUL WHIDDETT, KEITH HAWKINS, JIM CAMMACK (back to camera) & KEN LONGDEN



A VERY PROFESSIONAL DISPLAY

KEITH HAWKINS & FRIENDS

After Ray Hyland passed away in 2012, Keith became the central figure in keeping the Blowlamp Society going. It was Keith to whom I responded when a need for editor became clear. Keith was also able to convince Carolyn, wife of collector Max Rhodes, to act as treasurer, collector of subscriptions and preparer of mailing labels.

These photos from steam fairs where Keith took his RV, include some of Keith's many friends.



KEN LONGDEN, KEITH HAWKINS, RAY HYLAND, TOM BARTLETT, MAX RHODES In Keith's garden.



KEITH HAWKINS, MICHEL DUVAL & DAVE REES



DAVE REES, TOM BARTLETT, HYWELLTHOMAS, EWAN EVANS & KEITH HAWKINS



TOM MARSDEN & KEITH HAWKINS Cromford, Derbs.



KEN LONGDEN & JOHN TINGLE Honiton Hill, 2005



GDSF 2005 TOM BARTLETT, TED RAWSON & KEITH HAWKINS



JAMES WYATT, TED RAWSON, **KEN WYATT & TOM BARTLETT**







KEITH HAWKINS napping in his RV

THANK YOU

Thank you to all the members who have supplied the steady flow of articles, which contributed to the growing body of what is known and documented about blowlamps.

In particular I must thank the **AUSTRALIAN** collectors who, in recent years, have contributed articles describing blowlamps made for and in Australia.

The contributions of Dr. Charles Smith and Michel Duval have been indispensable.

CHARLES SMITH

Dr. Charles Smith of Tuscaloosa, Alabama had a long-time interest in blowlamps and became an early member of the Blowtorch Collectors Association of America, the BTCA. In 2007 he joined Ron Carr and myself in preparing and publishing **VINTAGE BLOWTORCHES** an identification and rarity guide.

He has frequently contributed articles for Blowlamp News, culminating in the ten-part study of the three-piece lamps known, from their French origins, as "Eolipyles".

He earned his Ph.D. at the University of Texas in Dallas. Professionally he is a microfossil (nannofossil) paleontologist, after working for a number of major oil, or petrolleum, companies, for fifteen years he conducted paleontological research with the Smithsonian Museum of Natural history in Washington, DC. He published more than 250 professional papers in geology. The Blowlamp Society has been fortunate to benefit from his skills and enthusiasm.





MICHEL DUVAL

Michel Duval and his wife Danièle live in Longjumeau, ten miles south of Paris. He is a member of the French "Club des Amateurs d'Outils Anciens à Flamme", which serves members in France and other countries. He is the Blowlamp Society's "go-to" expert on blowlamps from France and other Continental European countries. He has been extremely supportive of Blowlamp News, and has contributed many articles and special studies.

Michel worked at one time for the French blowlamp manufacturer Express. He specializes in collecting at least one example of every known maker or mark, and he has more than five-hundred varieties.







MICHEL & DANIELE DUVAL

PHOTOS OF CUTAWAY SAMPLES

For this final issue, I selected these rare photos of some of the hardest lamps to find, salesmen's "cutaway" samples.



WALL



BERNZ



SIEVERT APM



BARTHEL



VULCANO 424



ML M35

PHOTOS OF FLAMES

Also for this final issue I selected these photos, from the pages of BLOWLAMP NEWS, of blowlamps with flames. (Note that The Blowlamp Society discourages collectors from lighting their lamps.)



OPTIMUS 1322, HAHNEL 29, SIEVERT (HLLC)



BREUZIN DOCIMASTIQUE



PARASENE 1/2 PINT



SIEVERT 542N



VALTOCK MAJOR



F.J. (FOUILLOUD JOSEPH) No.4

THE WEB SITE

www.blowlampsociety.com

The Blowlamp Society's web site will continue, with additional material added from time to time. If you have fresh material that you would like to have seen appear in the printed Blowlamp News, please submit it through the website, for inclusion in a new section of the site..



The **NAVIGATION BAR** on every page carries these selections:

HOME PAGE: Is where the site opens

MEMBERSHIP: How to join the Blowlamp Society
CARTOONS: Cartoons from Blowlamp News
WHAT'S NEW: What's new on the website

BLOWLAMP NEWS: Index and pdf copies of all past issues of Blowlamp News

A to Z of BRITISH BLOWLAMPS: Table of British blowlamp makers and brands CATALOGUE ILLUSTRATIONS: Pages reproduced from makers catalogues

PHOTO GALLERY: More than three hundred photographs of British blowlamps

FLAMES: Photos of blowlamp flames

HISTORY: A short a history of blowlamps, British and other

AUSTRALIAN BLOWLAMPS: Articles from Blowlamp News, Australian patents, photos of

Australian blowlamps

PATENTS: A list of British patents related to blowlamps and related

devices.

BTCA BOOKS: Refers to the two American BTCA books and includes

combined index

CONTACT US: Contact information for the Blowlamp Society, and a place for

questions, comments and suggestions.

MEMBERS PAGE: Members of the Blowlamp Society are provided a user name

and password for access.

LINKS: Links to websites for other blowlamp collecting organizations

and collectors.

THANK YOU ... TO YOU - THE MEMBERS

By Carolyn Rhodes

Now is the time to wish you well and publish this last issue,
The Blowlamp News has been top notch and, yes, we're going to miss you.
You, the members, played your part and sent in many features,
But internet is now the thing, so blowlamps can still reach us.

We are a group with common tastes, so this is not the end, So use the site, and have your say, or email and press send. We'll still be here to do our bit, on that you can rely, And questions will be answered with our earliest reply.

But take a minute, if you will, remember those passed on, They're still blowlamp collectors even now that they have gone. We've had some meets, met friends, had eats, and shown our prized possessions, And spouses too, we came along, but we had our own sessions.

Our thanks go out to Graham too, a first class job he's done, And others, in the background, and for all the work they've done. But most of all there is one thing that we should all remember, This only was, for all these years, because of you, THE MEMBERS.



CAROLYN & MAX RHODES

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

For the last several years preparation and distribution of *BLOWLAMP NEWS* has depended a great deal on people who have given up their time and energy to make it happen.

Keith Hawkins, who entrusted me with continuation of the publication of Blowlamp News as its editor. Keith handled the final steps of getting copies printed, stuffing envelopes, and posting them.

Chris Naylor, who helped me get things going, and who contributed the magnificent study of British makers and marks.and much more.

Carolyn Rhodes, who stepped in to run the financial aspects of maintaining the roster of members, collecting dues and keeping track of the money.

Max Rhodes, who has been a constant source of advice and information, and who provided the many photos that I used for the web site.

Stephanie Stubbs, my wife, for her forbearance, and for proof-reading many of the newsletters.

I'll leave you with one of my favorite photographs a brilliantly restored American Volcano twoburner blowtorch, which John Tingle brought to the 2010 meeting in Langemark, Belgium.



INDEX to ISSUES 1 - 109 (August 1992 - December 2019)

A cross-referenced index to all issues of **BLOWLAMP NEWS** will be available online at www.blowlampsociety.com

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Front page: Eleven covers from recent issues of BLOWLAMP NEWS