

BLOWLAMP NEWS

No 18

December 1996

I hope most of you will receive this in time to read it and contemplate the blowlamp parts names while you finish digesting the last of your Christmas pud, nuts and port.

Feed-back (no pun on Boxing Day dinner!) has been quite good following B/N 17.

Many have expressed interest in badges and a Spring meeting at Bloxham.

Ray Hyland has made some enquiries and given me the name of another supplier who may prove to be the most economical for the badges. I've sent a copy of the picture for their quote and details of fixings, colours etc which are available. With the response so far it looks more encouraging that we shall get them.

John Byrne has come up with the name of an insurer who will cover for public liability for displays. I'll check with that broker after Christmas to see if a "Club" deal could be arranged. We may have to become properly constituted to obtain this, but that sort of thing could be discussed at Bloxham, especially if we knew the terms of any deal he had to offer.

John is also intent on persuing the idea of a "Club" marquee at Stourpaine next year to exhibit 1000 lamps. This means that with the directors consent we shall need to provide a marquee and about 8 - 10 collectors each bringing 100- 125 lamps each. Someone will also need to monitor what each member brings in order that there shall be minimum duplication. A decision would also need to be made about the format of the display. Whether to be one display with all lamps shown together in groups of the same country of origin and the same manufacturer or whether each member will show his own on separate displays. Don Rixon writes that he has had a number of refusals from show organisers who had already accepted one blowlamp display. His point was how many stationary engines do you see at shows, how many model steamers, motor cycles etc? I wonder if some Show Secretaries are taking notice of the cartoon of Old Glory earlier this year which seemed to explain that all you need to get a free pass into a show is to offer to display a few dirty old blowlamps! I'm afraid that to some extent this may be true but not only of blowlamps.

The official feeling about stationary engines at Stourpaine was determined some time ago when they said that all engines were to be working by 10 o'clock and attended throughout the day. They also frowned upon people leaving before Sunday and many were refused entry the following year if they did not conform to this.

Now as to B/N 17.

No real news of John Wheeler's lamp which is undoubtedly an engine lamp. John Byrne reports that Gardner made oil engines at Lincoln near to Ruston Hornsby but later moved to Manchester. Both used lamps to start and run their engines and generally used lamps made by other firms specialising in blowlamps. Bladon, similarly made lamps for Tangye. The lamp looks American but the coincidence of the name Lincoln on the control knob and the Gardner pressure gauge is in favour of it being English.

B/N 17 Filler caps.

a). **Monitor.** Mine is on a Monitor 39, a two pint paraffin lamp with the pump in the handle. I've also seen it on a large brazing lamp. They were of course needed where there was no side tube for the air release valve in the side of the filler tube. Dates unknown. Philippe has expressed surprise that we have little information on a comprehensive Monitor catalogue.

It does seem as though the French and German manufacturers were more keen to produce their own catalogues while over here we tend to get small entries in general tool catalogues, sometimes covering different makers on the same page. Anyone have any comments to add to this?

b) Is the variant that Norman Penny referred to following B/N 14 I suspect that this one with straight sides is a later version but this is based on hunch rather than fact!

c) Bladon from the early 1930s onwards. When I can get enough drawings done for the Bladon date survey perhaps we can get some more information here. Usually the petrol versions had a safety valve recessed into a tube in the front of the tank whereas most of the filler cap safety valves I have seen have been on the one and two pint paraffin lamps.

B/N Spirit lamps

- a) DANDY JIM No 80B Made in U S A Cambridge Massachusetts (Willy Mouton)
b) SWIFT JET Made in England (Norman Penny reports it is a poor copy of Valtock with pressed aluminium caps) Other variants have been reported:- Lenk "Selfblo", (Philippe) Willard Brown (Ray Webb) Lenk "Improved" (Tom Bartlett). Tom also has an un-named one, which looks American.

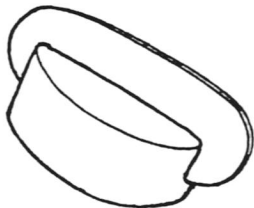
Hurricane lamps I found a few names while on holiday in Portugal but know no more about them.

Hipolito 124 (Portugal), Meva 865 (Czechoslovakia), FeuerHand 275 (Germany), Moonlight HM102(China), Chalwyn Tornado (England). These are all wick-type lamps. Pressure paraffin lamps ("Tilley" type) include Tilley, Coleman (petrol), Vapalux, Bialaddin, Hipolito, Primus and Sievert. What others are known and what is known about them?

Now for B/N 18

Filler caps.

a)



b)



Logo of Lenk. Kindly supplied by John Byrne some time ago. Incidentally the lamp drawn in B/N10 is designated "High Heat" and has a variant for petrol as well as methylated spirit. Named in the U S A gasoline and alcohol



I've just received a most interesting letter from Philippe together with the enclosed stick-on "club badge" apparently from Norway! The Club (or Union) appears to have been founded in December 1985 and again it is



strange that we have not heard about it earlier. There is also an

American Club who also apparently have a Newsletter. Philippe has said that representatives from that club will be visiting him in May next year, after which he will let us have further details. There's certainly a world-wide interest in blowlamps (and blowtorches!), but we're the last to hear! He also included a list which seems to be of members of a German based group. If I obtain permission to publish this, I will include it next time for your information and interest. Suffice it to say for the moment that one of the names on that list is Keith Hawkins.

Members requests.

Owen Pearson wants to contact anyone with an interest and some knowledge of Coventry Climax engines, of which he has recently acquired one.

Michel Duval would like to obtain a Valtock No3, can anyone help?

Advertisement

WENOL. This is a German polishing paste which I can thoroughly recommend. It is a soft, non-abrasive paste sold in 100ml tubes at £3-95 inclusive of post and packing. Ray Everett has sent in the name and address of the supplier over here:-

Andrew Scott "Cloudburst" 17 Gosport Road, Stubbington Hants PO14 2AS
01329-663136

Only a two pager this time I'm afraid. Pressure of time and postal weight with the enclosures.

Please study the blowlamp parts drawings, complete them and return with your subscription forms so we can have an agreed list of names for Dave Nichols' computer database.

Have an enjoyable Christmas and I look forward to seeing many of you at the Spring meeting of which I'll let you know the date when it is agreed with Sheila booking the hall.

Cheers
Jeff