

# ***BLOWLAMP NEWS***

NOVEMBER

1997



**No 21**

This front page *special accolade* goes jointly to one of our longest subscribing members and to one of the most recent.

You are aware that for a couple of years I have been vainly appealing for enough volunteers to come forward to start an index. The idea was to divide the task into four or five groups so that each person had only a relatively small amount to do. Imagine my surprise, and delight, when, within a day or so of each other, there arrived recently two thick envelopes each containing a comprehensive index list. Since they refer to the complete list of newsletters they are very large and, indeed, must have taken a considerable amount of time and effort to compile. They vary slightly so when I have studied them both to see how they can be combined I'll print one list for each member and hope to update it with each issue, if time, space and cash permits, or annually, at the end of each year. So we must all be extremely grateful for their efforts to **Sylvia Black** and to **Tony Bridle**. *Well done*, but please note that with this lead we all look forward to still more co-operative feed back from every member. It is the way forward, and the means whereby we may all learn more about our hobby

**S**ourpaine was strange indeed for me to be only an organising spectator. However I did see some of you, as my caravan was parked opposite the "Welsh Polisher". I hope the directors keep to their idea of alternate years so some of our other members get a chance to show their collections. This year we were in a slightly better site, even though the centre was on a bit of a slope and in the early stages we were pressed for space. This was relieved when some of the collectors, not normally associated with our section, decided to go elsewhere, but that was a bit too late for those who were already tightly packed in. Despite the mud I believe most visitors enjoyed the show and I am grateful for Keith and Sheila keeping the social activities going. Sheila and Dick Cleaver also put on a good display. There were plenty of lamps in the Autojumble but some prices were bordering on the ludicrous. It was heartening to find that some sellers had some of their overpriced lamps left afterwards so perhaps they will learn something from that.

### Further update on B/N 19

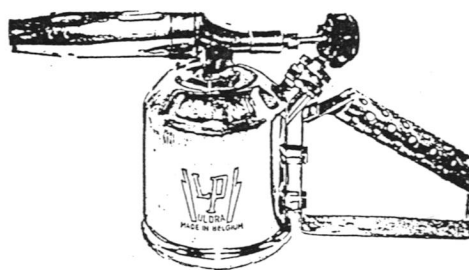
VIBHA appears in John Byrne's quiz so there is at least part of the answer for our French colleagues. Keith Hawkins tells me that "Sheen" is still in production. I'm awaiting more information about them and will let you know in due course.

### Badges.

A very slow response and not yet enough to place an order. I've got the latest list but I wonder if many of you thought you had already indicated your interest in the past. If that is the case please update me now that we have a definite price to offer.

### B/N No 20 page four drawings

The **logos** are of two Belgian lamps which together with another marque UVELCO are all so similar in appearance as to suggest a common manufacturer. The illustration is of the ULdra which like the UDRA has a pump. The UVELCO picture I have does not. Michel Duval has kindly written in with some photocopy material which shows that, in what is a very early picture, the firm Verbeek-Briquet & Co( see John's Quiz) were making blowlamps in Brussels. A later picture includes the name de Raet at the same address. Michel explains that UdR is Usine de Raet (the factory of de Raet) and that possibly UDRA has the same explanation. There does not appear to be a simple explanation to include UVELCO or ULdra, but maybe someone can come up with one. Also "L P" on the ULdra needs clarifying! As you will see from the illustration the handle in **B/N 20** is that of the ULdra and is the same on all three of the Belgian lamps under consideration. So many questions - so few answers!



The **Filler Cap** is from a SURMELIN and contains a standard format spring loaded safety valve. An interesting question - did Surmelin use the old safety wire device and did they ever "dimple" the globe as in the Sievert "Rapid" I've not seen one. Also, I have recently acquired a Surmelin which has the traditional cylindrical shaped half pint petrol tank with the usual small dished plate above the burner jet ( This presumably is a reflector to assist lighting ). Anyone any information on this variant?

### The alcohol fuelled automatic lamps.

- a) No response from this so I have reproduced what is discernible of the impressed logo. It appears from the format to be French but the essential letters are not deep enough. Does it give anyone any more clues?
- b) Courtesy of Tom Bartlett this lamp is by Otto Bernz and contains two separate fuel tank compartments, for the alcohol, within the cylinder. The lower filler also holds a needle for cleaning the jet.

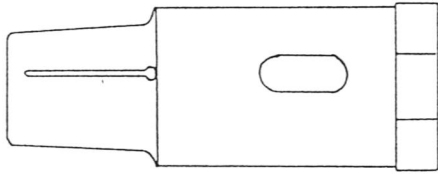


The **Flame gun** is by the McAllan Company of Walton-on-Thames and is stated to be type "Paramajor No 24" Accessories included a hood and wheeled chassis. If anyone would like a copy I have some of the original instructions for use and a diagram with the spare parts numbers

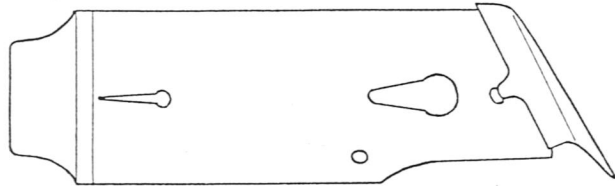
## B/N 21 Illustrations

A new venture for your comments please. Four **burner tubes** ( called thus because we still await more replies to the *Blowlamp Parts Survey* of many years ago, before Dave Nichols processes the data for us to use a common terminology. ) In this respect Ron Carr in America is trying to establish the same common use of terms, but possibly here we may run into a similar language problem as with some of the replies already sent in by our French and Belgian friends. In America, of course, they have their own brand of English!! ( Not serious Ron)

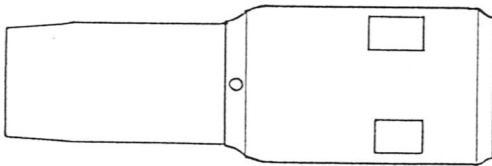
a)



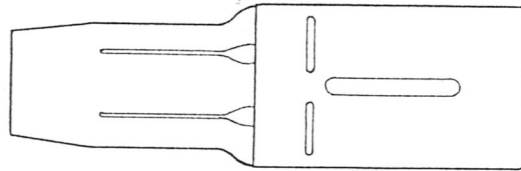
b)



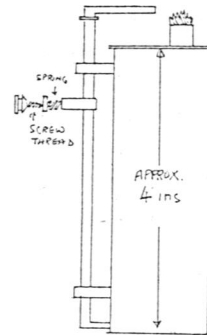
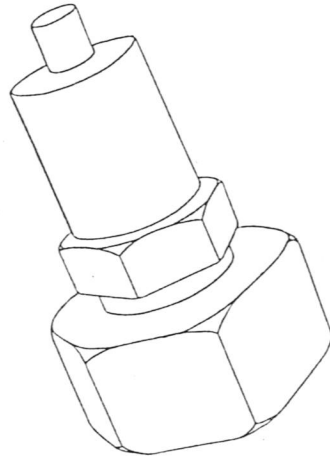
c)



d)



## B/N 21 Filler Cap



## Missing Lamps

Still no news of Brian's lamps so it is not possible to dismiss the worst interpretation that someone deliberately stole them!. To help with identification of one of them, for the other three are well known Brian has supplied a sketch of the "one-off" lamp which is above, alongside the B/N 21 Filler Cap. Should anyone ever see this lamp on show anywhere you will know where it came from and will be able to challenge the exhibitor. Please let either Brian or me know for I would have no hesitation in exposing the thief or at least requiring a very satisfactory explanation of how he came by it.

## Historical Note

The **Craftsman** brand lamps referred to in B/N 14 as marketed by Sears Roebuck Co were manufactured by The Turner Brass Works Co of Sycamore Illinois. This company was founded in 1871 after the great Chicago fire by a Mr E S Turner who in 1880 sold it when it became incorporated as The Turner Brass Works. A new factory was erected in 1907 and subsequently in 1916 the claim was made that it was the world's largest manufacturer of Torches, Furnaces and Brazers. Their two Trade Marks are "Hot Blast" and "Double Jet" and their logo is the Trapeze Gymnast as in B/N 8. This research is due to Ron Carr, of whom you will be hearing quite a bit in the next few issues of B/N. - But let's try to give him something in return for his efforts

## John's Quiz

This, I think, frightened a lot of people so that only four entries were received, despite being allowed an extension to the time to reply. Philippe Touillet was judged by John to be the winner with 36 correct answers, followed by Tom Bartlett with 35, Keith Hawkins was third and Ray Everett fourth. When I rang John tonight he said that Philippe had decided to pass the prize on to Tom, so congratulations to Philippe for being the winner and to Tom for receiving the prize. Thanks to John for supplying all the information which is as follows.

A.E.....	Britain & USA	Le Lion.....	France
Adler... ..	Austria	LU-B3.....	Franco/German
Ashton.....	USA	Moonlight.....	China
Breuzin.....	France	William Marples.....	Britain
Brownboggs.....	Canada	Prabhat.....	India
Cemag.....	Belgium	Pajeni.....	India
Cotton & Johnson.....	Britain	Samson.....	India
Dafor.....	France	Sona.....	France
Dimeca.....	Franco/German	Szevafem.....	Hungary
Doesit.....	Britain	Talisman.....	France
D.P.A.....	France	Tecalemit.....	Germany
Draeger.....	Germany	U'bethetwtamit.....	Russia
Elto.....	Italy	UdR.....	Belgium
Enders.....	Germany	Uldra.....	Belgium
Greens.....	Britain	Ultimus.....	Austria
Imbert.....	Germany	Universal.....	Belgium
Italia.....	Italy	VEB.....	E. Germany
K.F.E.....	Sweden	Verbeek-Briquet.....	Belgium
Kovopodnik.....	Czech.	Vibha.....	India
		Vitale.....	France

Where the country is given as Franco/German this is an indication that some of the border town French manufacturers of blowlamps were forced by Germany during the wartime occupation to continue making their lamps for the German services.

Now you can all add these names to the lists I sent you with B/N 13 in November 1995. Perhaps if I had had more such names sent in as the response to that request more of you would have known a few of the answers ! However I'm told more names are coming but what about some pictures of some of these lamps? There must be some somewhere.

- In October, during a visit to my son in Seattle, I called on **Ron Carr** who is the founder of **The Blowtorch Collectors Association** and editor of **The Torch**. He has a very good collection of mostly old American lamps and a vast and well organised documentation including names of American lamps we've never heard of. He has also published a list of Non-American lamps which I believe may need some corrections. With this in view I have enclosed his list for you to make your comments and advice so he is able to update his members accurately.

We have agreed to exchange information and we agree that we should try to differentiate makers from marketing agents and duplications of makers' names and their trade names and model names. For example the relationship between Townson & Coxson, Burmos, Regency and Empire should be separated so that it doesn't imply that they are all different blowlamp *manufacturers*.

Also I have put in the latest list of American collectors so you can correspond and arrange swaps if you wish. If any of you are going to the USA anytime and find yourself in the neighbourhood of one of their members I'm sure they will be delighted to meet you.

As a reciprocal gesture I've sent our members list to Ron Carr so their people will know who we are.

**New Members.** Welcome to:-

Piers DAYE 60 Silversea Drive, Westcliff on Sea, Essex. SS0 9XE 01702 - 79308

Marc FOWLE 3 Goldcrest Road, Ipswich, Suffolk IP2 0SF 01473 - 213116 (day)  
01473 - 682998 (eve)

Cheers for and keep the *Feed-back* coming, December is a notoriously thin month.