BLOWLAMP NEWS

No 40

April 2002

Unfortunately this is a belated first edition to greet 2002 - almost coinciding with the start of the Rally season some dates of which might well be modified by the Golden Jubilee alteration to Bank Holiday weekends. Still most people will now have brushed off the winter dust from their lamps and be getting that final drop of Brasso from last year's tin to prepare their exhibits - Taff has certainly ordered another tanker load for this year.

MEETINGS

One, I am told already appears to have broken all records, and there are moves by several members to explore the possibility of meetings at new venues.

So let's start with:-

MOUSCRON 2002

Yet again an outstanding success though one, unfortunately, I had to miss this year. There was a return to the original hall for the exhibits but the meal, which this year was a cold buffet was held at a different venue. As usual our members were well represented, though with Taff and myself missing the average age dropped a bit!! Michel Duval reports that there were 75 people present and this must be a record. Apparently trading was good, both with exchanges and purchases, and most people I've heard from have said how well they had done. It is reported that, as usual, John Tingle couldn't get his case closed after all his dealings! Two newcomers, Paul Whiddett and Ray Hyland, were there and now understand the attraction of going to the Belgian meeting.

BLETCHINGLEY Saturday May 25th

Same venue, format and timing as before.

Gina and I are very grateful that Andy and Vera have taken over this meeting and we wish them every success - please come and support Andy and "Mavis", in their first venture

Andy reports that the menu will be a cold buffet including meats, quiches, sandwiches, pies, sausage rolls etc with vegetarian dishes where required. Mavis and her helpers will provide drinks, cakes etc during the day. To assist catering Andy would like to know numbers beforehand so would you please let him know well in advance. He can be contacted by phone on:- 01883 722079 or 01342 870533 or e-mail at ANDREWANDVERA@AOL.COM. There is of course still the old fashioned snail-mail and his address is:-

Ovtod

Surrey RH8 0JN

The cost will be £8-00 per head or if you have supported Spike Milligan in the past - £4-00 per foot !! If any newcomers don't know how to get there let me know and I'll send on the route map we have found useful in the past.

See you all there.

SHOWS

I have only reported shows up to the end of July and will include those of August onwards in the next newsletter. If members intending to exhibit will let me know in time, I will publish their dates to enable others to arrange to meet there.

Keith Hawkins Enfield Pageant of Motoring - June 1/3, Lister Tyndale Rally,

Dursley, Glos. - June 15/16; Chiltern Rally, Prestwood, Bucks - July 6/7; Croydon Country Fair, Selsdon Woods - August 17/18:

Taff Abbey Hill, Yeovil - May 4/5/6; Castle Combe - May 11/12; Bletchingley May 25;

Bath & West Show - May 29/30/31/ June 1; Wilts Steam Rally, Wroughton June 8/9;

Parham - June 15/16; Banbury - June 29/30; Bromyard Gala - July 6/7;

Much Marcel, Ledbury - July 20/21; Netley Marsh, Southampton - July 26/27/28:

Norman Penny Wroughton Science Museum June 8/9

Malcolm Farnsworth "Wings, Wheels and Steam", Rougham Airfield, Bury St Edmunds, June 29/30 - Gosfield Airfield Essex, July 6/7

All would be pleased to meet members at these shows

Two rallies where members are involved with the organisation:-

Seymour Moss would welcome members to The Enfield Pageant of Motoring June 1/3 as would Rob Starling to the 25th "Aldham" Old Tyme Rallye & Fayre June 8/9 at White Colne west of Colchester Rob has offered the use of a marquee if anyone would like to arrange a blowlamp members meeting at his show.

David Fielder has written to say that Bledlow Ridge has a good village hall with car parking which he feels might be a good venue for a meeting as a number of members live not too far away. He also feels he could find parking for caravans overnight. He'd like to know if there is sufficient interest for him to enquire about possible dates. (phone 01494 - 481023 e-mail fielder@pangardening.com) Give him a call and see if something can be arranged. He says they also still have a village pub!!

B/N 38 DRAWINGS

From Brian Grainger. Otto Bernz is a No 9 of ¾ pint capacity whose spirit tray is not missing, it is the depression in the top of the tank Brian's lamp has a spiral wound wire control knob, not the cast 6 lobed version shown. The C & L No 8 similarly has the spirit tray in the tank top. The Precision Scientific Co Lab lamp is also known by the name Humbolt Mfg Co of Norridge III. who are probably the original makers of this lamp

SWISSCO is believed by Michel Duval to be Indian because of the similar shaped filler cap and markings and the name formed by horizontal grooves (similar to the American Optimus B/N 30:- and the I B M logo) He has a collection of 17 different Indian lamps the newer ones of which he says are of poor quality. He says an easy way to distinguish most of these lamps is by their lightness and poor quality finish, though I don't think he would recommend squeezing them too hard

Norman Penny has an unused Indian lamp with the only markings "Original" on the filler and air release. Again a 632 look-a-like which he says is in *Original* condition (but I think we can excuse him that pun and put it down to the Salisbury air!)

Trevor Bateman reports an Original "ANIL" - yet another Primus 632 look-alike

B/N 39 DRAWINGS

Torches a) and b) are both by the National Safety Device Co of Chicago

a) is the Pumpless Safety Torch no. 100 with the soldering attachment no. 100A

b) is the Pumpless Safety Torch no 200

Both are without spirit trays but have a ring brazed on the top of the tank forming a well for ignition.

Lamp c) has so far no I D

Brian Grainger reports having two type 200 lamps, one in brass and the second chrome-on-brass which also has the flame spreading accessory no. 200A.

QUESTIONS

Keith Hawkins asks for any information about a glass tanked alcohol fuelled Japanese lamp which he says is like a lamp illustrated in Philippe's book (p 209) marketed by Dixon of Newark, New Jersey. He also enquires about a "Liberty" which is a Primus 632 look-a-like including the perforated handle with the blank space for the model number. Is this another Indian?

Paul Whiddett would like to know the significance of the number 5102 stamped around the base of his Paquelin

I have recently acquired a Barthel soldering torch No 62 details of which I have been unable to find.

Nos 59 61 and 63 I have found listed but not 62. Could this be because it has a steel tank ,which itself is very unusual and could it possibly have been a military version? Any suggestions?

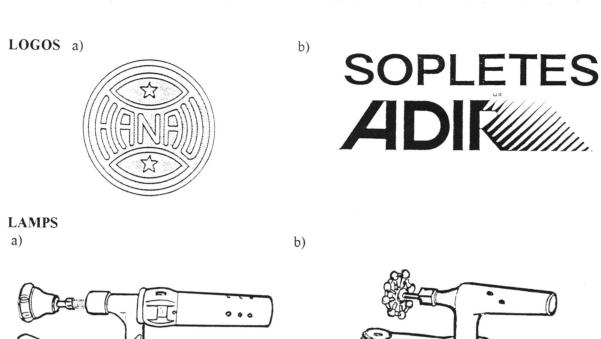
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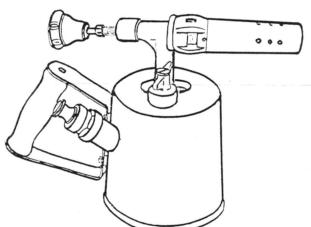
Ray Hyland is grateful to Keith for supplying the Nautilus which now completes the Petter "Handyman" engine which had its first outing at The Abbey Pumping Station Open Day. This has resulted in a further request to complete a lamp -this time a Primus 659. Ray has an incomplete lamp which needs the brass wind shield and its steel support bracket,. Has anyone such a spare, or indeed a complete lamp. He says the windshield is similar to, but larger than, that on the Primus "Vesuvius". Also he is looking for a Tangye blowlamp but hasn't specified the type.

COMMENTS

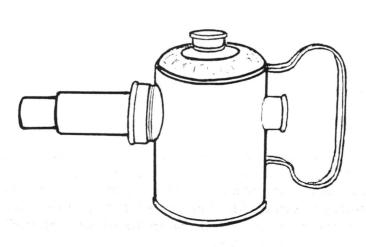
Keith Hawkins who has had a similar experience says that Ray Webb's caravan could have been removed very rapidly to Ireland which apparently is very common practice. So, insure well and use whatever security you can - especially if you have blowlamps stored in it at a show

B/N 40 DRAWINGS









c)

SNIPPETS

Norman Penny has sent me part of a poster of Bladon adverts which lists some of the numbers we've been looking for. From this it seems that the 1 pint paraffin Bladon with the external pump and spring cut off is No B 66.

Brian Grainger reports two of these lamps neither of which bears the "B" number. One has the Diamond logo and is dated 1933 and the other, though undated, has the later Bladon logo on the side.

Norman also reports a steel tank 2/3 pint petrol Burmos dated 1943 and stamped GPO and the broad arrow on the burner but the "caution" about use inside a building is embossed on a brass plaque which is soldered on to the side of the tank. This is also dated 9/43. The handle is of the traditional Burmos type with the two screw- driver access holes but the handle is soldered on to the tank. I have a similar G P O "caution" soldered on to the side of a tank, this time on to a 2/3 pint brass Governor lamp. There is also supposed to be a Sievert variant G P O lamp but so far no one reports having seen it.

Anyone else have any other variant G P O lamps

Michel Cochard kindly sent me a beautiful photograph of his collection of Surmelins. I am trying to treat it so I can print it in B/N. He shows the set of five spherical tanks including one number 3 with the flattened burner for paint burning, two traditional shaped tanks of different sizes and a soldering torch. If that isn't calculated to create envy I don't know what is.

Keith Hawkins says he is now in the market to produce wooden control and pump knobs. He needs either an annotated drawing or the model number of the part required.

Sylvia Black has sent information on the Valtock soldering iron attachment. This is a small soldering bit which aligns with the flame from the burner tube and is attached by a clip to the front tube. Anyone have one or seen one?

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Jayne Johnson 54 Ledbury Close, Matchborough East,, Redditch, Worcs B98 0BS Colin Smith The Old Railway Station, Station Road, Coltishall, Norwich Norfolk NR127JG Phone, 01603-737069

Amended addresses

Bryan Hiley's address should read 3 Rectory Road. Dave Thomas' Post Code is now CH65 6QQ Hilton Shackley's Post Code is now CH66 2JW - a change from the old Liverpool Post Codes This should please Dave who can no longer be called a "scouser"

Phone changes.

Barry Coxshall 01534-726446 ---- Hilton Shackley 0151-355-6114

George Youngman 0208-478-2660

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There must be many more so send me any I've not included

Good luck in 2002 and I hope to see some of you at Bletchingley

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