

# ***BLOWLAMP NEWS***

**BN 92**

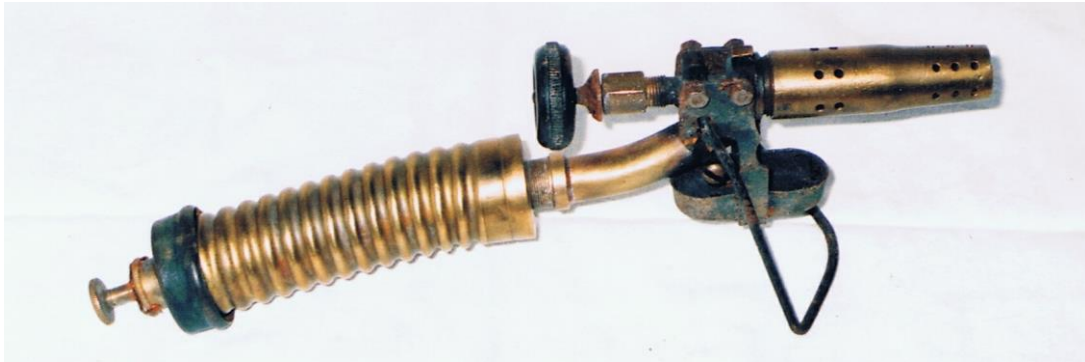
**SEPTEMBER**

**2015**

The Newsletter of the Blowlamp Society – Founded by Les Adams, August 1992

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## **SMALL SELF HEATED SOLDERING IRONS (SHSI's)**



**M LEJEUNE EXCELSIOR No. 4**



**M LEJEUNE EXELSIOR No. 0**

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**SMALL SELF HEATED SOLDERING IRONS (SHSI's)****By Keith Hawkins**

The small self-heated soldering irons (SHSIs) illustrated in these pages and on the cover have fuel capacities in the range .03 to .10 litre.

**COVER PHOTOS**Top:**M LEJEUNE EXCELSIOR No. 4.**

Petrol, with pump, .01 litre fuel capacity. Although the tank appears to be bent, I think it was designed to be like this as it is a perfect fit in one's hand, and in a catalogue I saw a picture of it looking this way.

Bottom:**M LEJEUNE EXCELSIOR No. 0**

Petrol, no pump, .03 litre fuel capacity. The two examples were probably produced on different dates. Note the spelling of the name EXCELSIOR. Although the catalogues have a "C" in the name, there are examples in which the "C" is omitted.

**STAYHOT**

Brand name used by Thermos Gas Products of Brooklyn, NY. Wadding filled tank inside wooden handle. All brass metalwork with copper tip. 11 inches long.

[Ed. End of handle unscrews to reveal filler cap and cleanout wire]

**KEYMODE QS-200**

Made by Keymode Mfg. Co. Westbury NYC and which used them "Quick Shot" brand name for its cartridge fueled soldering iron (See page 225 of Vintage Blowtorches and also page 155 of More Vintage Blowtorches) 11 inches long. It seems to have a spring loaded pump and the soldering iron head is of copper.

**F.J. THERMO-SOUDEUR**

Small French torch of 10 cl. Capacity & which would burn for approx. 20 min on one filling of petrol. Produced from early 1900s.

**SMALL SELF HEATED SOLDERING IRONS (Continued)**



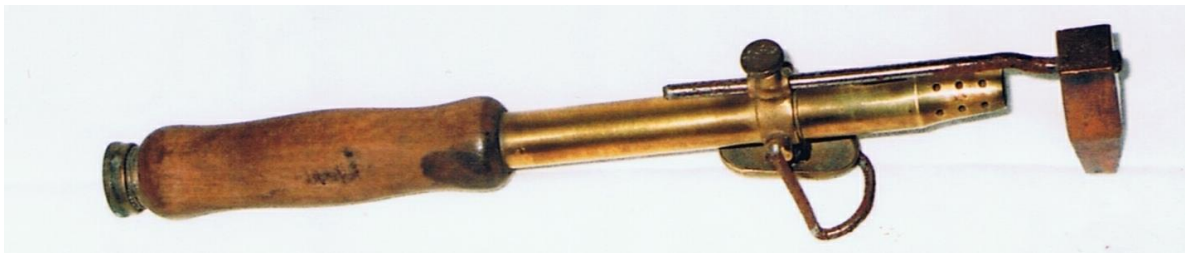
**JUVENTUS**

Silvio-hava from Torino, Italy. About 0.08 litre and petrol fueled. As far as I know there is no information available. It does however have a pump.



**ARARA L420**

From Germany. About 0.08 litre capacity with petrol. Otherwise no catalogue material available.



**MAKER / MODEL UNKNOWN**

Another pumpless lamp but with no name or markings on it anywhere. Tank inside the wooden handle is filled with wadding.

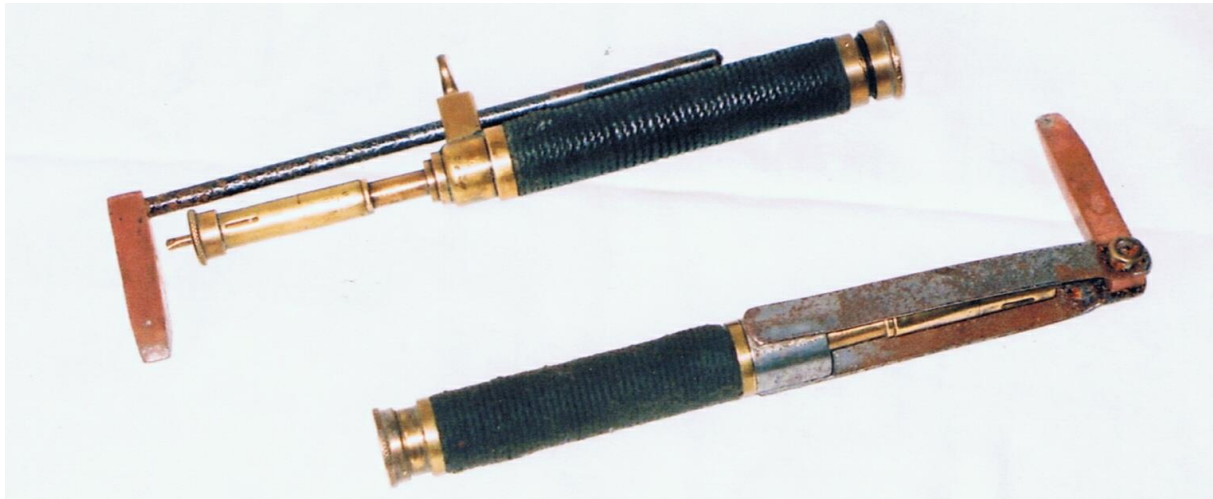


**MAKER / MODEL UNKNOWN**

Possibly Herberg 132. Perhaps another version of the one above.



**SMALL SELF HEATED SOLDERING IRONS (Continued)**



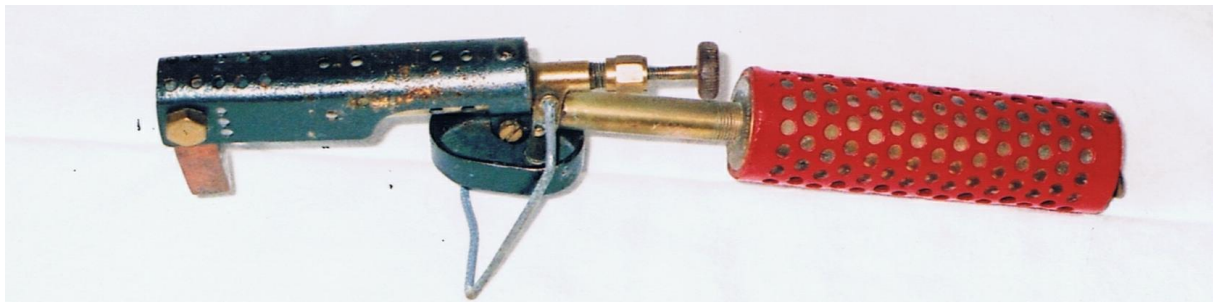
**TOP: LAMB No. 11 TORCH & SOLDERING IRON**

L.T.T.C LAMB LAMP & TORCH Co. Actually made by John Shaw & Co. Wolverhampton. This one was first made in the early 1900s and continued into the 1930/40s. It would burn for 30 minutes.

**BOTTOM: LAMB No. 10 TORCH & SOLDERING IRON**

The No. 10 would burn for 20 minutes.

Both were used for household soldering jobs including wireless & small electrical, plumbing & thawing out pipes etc. Also marketed with the "GOVERNOR" Brand.



**MANUFACTURE FRANCAISE D'ARMES ET CYCLES, DE ST. ETIENNE**

Petrol, 0.08 litre capacity. Burns for 45 minutes. Very similar to ML EXCELSIOR No. 0. I think it is also claimed as a MALIVERT 15-2531



**BARTHEL "PICCOLO"**

No pump; capacity 0.07 litre (I have come across this lamp being marketed by an Italian firm.) (Catalogue No. 1 in 1922. Alberto Stortislione in Turin.)

**SMALL SELF HEATED SOLDERING IRONS (Continued)**



**MAKER / MODEL UNKNOWN**

Petrol 0.08 Unmarked but I think may be a PHOEBUS from Austria.



**WETTSTEIN OERLIKON OURAGAN W+ASM49WZ**

I believe these SHSIs were used in the Swiss Army in the 1940s and 50s.



**"WUCO"**

Made in Germany. I found this one in Norway in 2006 for three pounds!

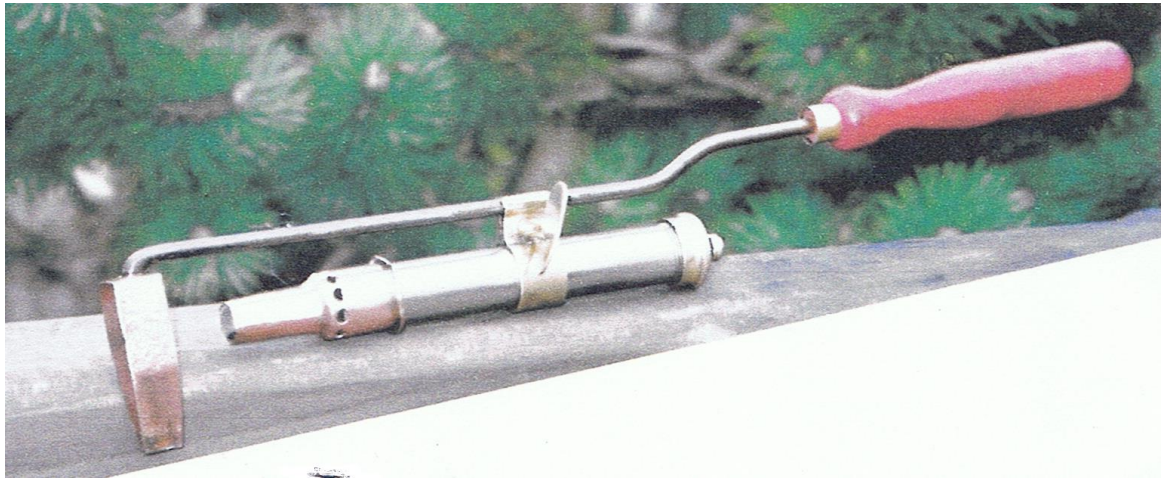


**PHOEBUS No. 123**

Made in Austria. Capacity 0.08 litre. Burning time 50 minutes. With pump. Catalogue code name "NIXE".



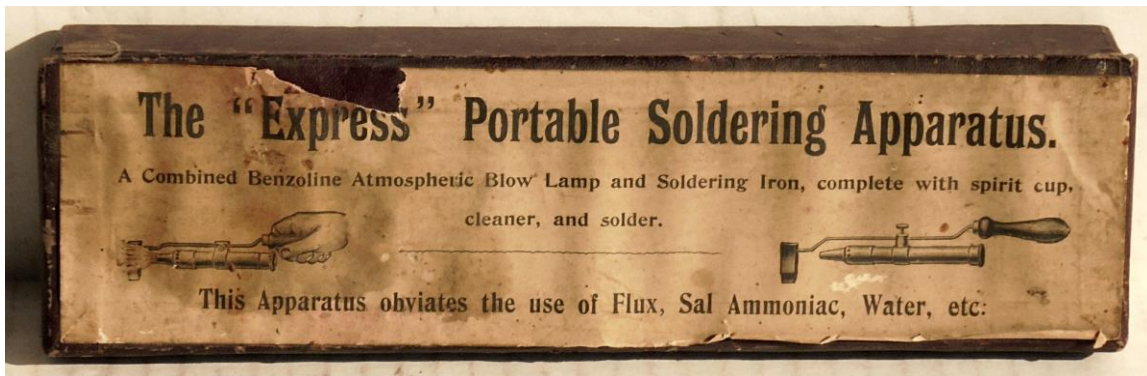
**SMALL SELF HEATED SOLDERING IRONS (Continued)**



**MARKED "PAT 51647 BREVETE DRGM with a Cross"**

No information, although "look-alikes" are frequently seen in catalogues from different makers. (Could be Swiss or Austria – Hungary when those countries were combined pre-1914)

Editor's note: Shown below is one of those "look-alikes" intended for the British market, the "EXPRESS" Portable Soldering Apparatus. (Not to be confused with the French "EXPRESS" brand.) The instruction leaflet specifies petrol or benzoline for fuel. Lighting it required the use of a separate methylated spirits lamp to preheat the burner.



# MAX SIEVERT

This is PART 2 in a series of features about the Swedish maker of blowlamps and related apparatus, **MAX SIEVERT**. On this page are pictures of two unusual **SIEVERT** lamps.

The pages following, listing **SIEVERT** blowlamps with alphabetical model designations were prepared by Michel Duval.

Michel offered some comments about the **UNKNOWN MODEL** lamp shown at right. The photograph was submitted by **G rard Muller**.

“There are similarities between this lamp and the **SIEVERT** Sievertia, so I think it could be used for the same purpose: preheating an engine with a separate tank/pump connected by a long and thin hose, not present here. It was probably a specific order of a Sievert customer.

It consists of parts from several sources. The tank and the handle seem to be a Saturnus model. There is a modification with the small pipe (with the wick) under the burner, probably for preheating the burner (like a priming cup). The pressure gauge comes from a big container used with separate burner, for example a brazing apparatus. The burner, which is steel, probably comes from Sievertia model, and is probably explained by the high heat near the engine. Also because of the high temperatures, the pump is separate and the long thin tube down the side of the tank could be used to connect this lamp to a separate tank/pump.”

The **SIEVERT** No. 466 one pint lamp, shown at bottom right, has the control valve in an unusual configuration, operated with a rack and pinion, with a side-mounted control knob.

The burner jet is also unusual. Instead of the customary needle jet hole, the jet block has two saw cuts at right angles, forming a cruciform.

The tip of the nozzle is flattened, as in lamps for paint burning and ski waxing.

The **SIEVERT** No. 466 closely resembles the **RADIUS** No. 52.

## INFORMATION PLEASE

If any reader has information or comments about either of these two lamps, please contact the editor of Blowlamp News - see rear cover for contact info.



**SIEVERT – UNKNOWN MODEL**  
Photo G rard Muller



**SIEVERT No. 466**  
**UNUSUAL SIDE CONTROL**

**SIEVERT MODELS (ALPHABETICAL)**

Model	Fuel	Pump	Capacity	Burner	Notes / Date
A	petrol	none	0.40 litre	horizontal	wooden handle 1925 / 1950
A 1	petrol	none	0.25 litre	horizontal	1937 / 1938
A 1 F	petrol	none	0.25 litre	horizontal flattened	1937
A 2	petrol	none	0.40 litre	horizontal	1937
A 3	petrol	handle	0.40 litre	horizontal	1937
A 4	petrol	handle	0.50 litre	horizontal	1937
ABC	petrol	internal	0.20 litre		SHSI without wind shield 1913 / 1925
AKP	petrol	internal	0.20 litre		SHSI without wind shield 1925 / 1932
AKP 2	petrol	internal	0.20 litre		SHSI with wind shield 1932 / 1937
AKP 2 L	petrol	internal	0.20 litre		SHSI without wind shield 1937
AKP 2 M	petrol	internal	0.20 litre		SHSI 1937
AL	petrol	none	0.25 litre	horizontal	1929 / 1937
ALF	petrol	none	0.25 litre	horizontal flattened	Ski waxing, folding handles
APH	petrol	handle	0.50 litre	horizontal or inclined	1925 / 1950
APL	petrol	handle	0.75 litre	horizontal or inclined	1929 / 1934
APLb	petrol	handle	1 litre	horizontal or inclined	1929 / 1934
APM	petrol	handle	0.40 litre	horizontal or inclined	1929 / 1950
APS	petrol	handle	0.40 litre	inclined	1937
BSA (N° 3210)	petrol	internal	0.70 litre		SHSI branding iron 1933 / 1937
D	petrol	none	0.33 litre	horizontal	wooden handle 1913 / 1937
DAB	petrol	internal	0.20 litre		SHSI without wind shield 1913
DGP	petrol	internal	0.20 litre		SHSI without wind shield 1922 / 1925
DIP	petrol	internal	0.10 litre		SHSI without wind shield 1922 / 1937
DKR	petrol	internal	0.20 litre		SHSI without wind shield 1922 / 1925
DKS (N° 3211)	petrol	internal	0.20 litre		SHSI branding iron 1933 / 1937
DL	petrol	none	0.25 litre	horizontal	butt holder 1920 / 1925
DLM	petrol	none	0.25 litre	horizontal	with 2 melting cups 1920 / 1925
DMP	petrol	internal	0.17 litre		SHSI without wind shield 1922 / 1937
DPH	petrol	handle	0.33 litre	horizontal	1920 / 1937
DPS	petrol	handle	0.33 litre	horizontal	1920 / 1925
DRP	petrol	internal	0.20 litre		SHSI without wind shield 1922 / 1925



Model	Fuel	Pump	Capacity	Burner	Notes / Date
G 6	petrol	handle	0.75 litre	horizontal dia. 18 mm	1935 / 1938
G 61	petrol	handle	1 litre	horizontal dia. 18 mm	1935 / 1937
G 62	petrol	handle	2 litres	horizontal dia. 18 mm	1935 / 1937
G 7	petrol	handle	1 litre	horizontal dia. 24 mm	1935 / 1939
G 72	petrol	handle	2 litres	horizontal dia. 24 mm	1935 / 1937
G 8	petrol	handle	2 litres	horizontal dia. 35 mm	1935 / 1937
G 83	petrol	handle	3 litres	horizontal dia. 35 mm	1935 / 1937
H	petrol	none	0.33 litre	horizontal (usual or flattened)	wooden handle 1913 / 1925
HE	petrol	none	2/3 pint	horizontal	wooden handle 1934 / 1937
HLL	petrol	handle	0.75 litre	horizontal / Serpentine	1897 / 1937
HLL b	petrol	handle	1 litre	horizontal / Serpentine	1922 / 1937
HLL c	petrol	handle	1.50 litre	horizontal / Serpentine	1922 / 1937
HLL d	petrol	handle	2 litres	horizontal / Serpentine	1922 / 1937
HLL F	petrol	handle	0.75 litre	horizontal / Serpentine (flattened)	1937
HP	petrol	handle	0.40 litre	horizontal	1913 / 1937
HPR	petrol	handle			1920
HPS	petrol	handle			1920
HSL 1	petrol	handle	2 litres / 2.33 litres	horizontal / Serpentine	1897 / 1937
HSL 2	petrol	handle	3 litres / 3.50 litres	horizontal / Serpentine	1897 / 1937
HSL 3	petrol	separate	4 litres	horizontal / Serpentine	1913 / 1937
HSL 4	petrol	separate	6 litres	2 x horizontal / Serpentine	1913 / 1937
K (1)	petrol	none	0.08 litre		SHSI adjustable handle 1937
K (2)	petrol	none	0.17 litre		SHSI without wind shield 1922 / 1925
KR	petrol	none	0.17 litre		SHSI without wind shield 1913 / 1925
KRL	petrol	none	0.14 litre		SHSI without wind shield 1913 / 1925
KRP	petrol	internal	0.20 litre		SHSI without wind shield 1913 / 1932
L	petrol	none	0.15 litre	horizontal	1929 / 1937
LF	petrol	none	0.15 litre	horizontal flattened	Ski waxing 1937

Model	Fuel	Pump	Capacity	Burner	Notes / Date
MARS 1	paraffin	internal	0.50 litre	inclined	1917
MARS 2	paraffin	internal	1 litre	inclined (tubular)	1917
MARS 3	paraffin	internal	0.50 litre	vertical	1917
MARS 4	paraffin	internal	1 litre	vertical	1917
MARS 5	paraffin	internal	0.50 litre	inclined flattened	1917
MARS 6	paraffin	internal	1 litre	inclined flattened (tubular)	1917
R	petrol	none	0.33 litre	vertical (usual or flattened)	1913 / 1937
RLL	petrol	handle	0.75 litre	horizontal / Serpentine	1913 / 1937
S	petrol	none	0.33 litre	inclined (usual or flattened)	without metal-strap (1882) 1897 / 1950
SATURNUS 1	paraffin	internal	0.40 litre	inclined	wooden handle 1917 / 1937
SATURNUS 2	paraffin	internal	0.50 litre	inclined	wooden handle 1917 / 1937
SATURNUS 3	paraffin	internal	1 litre	inclined	wooden handle 1917 / 1937
SATURNUS 4	paraffin	internal	0.50 litre	vertical	wooden handle 1917 / 1937
SATURNUS 5	paraffin	internal	1 litre	vertical	wooden handle 1917 / 1937
SATURNUS 6	paraffin	internal	0.50 litre	horizontal	wooden handle 1917 / 1937
SATURNUS 7	paraffin	internal	1 litre	horizontal	wooden handle 1917 / 1937
SB	petrol	none	0.33 litre	inclined (usual or flattened)	with metal-strapped 1913 / 1937
SBP	petrol	none	0.33 litre	inclined (usual or flattened)	automatic pilot light 1913
SM	petrol	none	0.25 litre	inclined (usual or flattened)	1913 / 1934
SML	petrol	none	0.25 litre	inclined	folding handles 1913 / 1934
SPIRITIA 114 P	petrol	handle		horizontal	1914
SPIRITIA 12	petrol	handle		horizontal	1914
SPIRITIA 15	petrol	handle		horizontal	1914
SPIRITIA 16	petrol	handle		horizontal	1914
U	petrol	none	0.25 litre	inclined (usual or flattened)	spherical tank 1897 / 1922

If we've missed any models in this or IN the previous issue, please contact the editor.

The third and final section of the table of Sievert model designations will appear in the next issue of Blowlamp News (December 2015)

## **HEINRICH WETTSTEIN AND THE LYSS, WETTSTEIN, RECORD, ORKAN & OERLIKON BRANDS**

An email from French collector Gérard Muller with photos of this blowlamp prompted me to dig into the history of several Swiss blowlamp makes and marks. The results of a study that included early Swiss blowlamp patents surfaced some interesting connections between the various brands and Swiss inventor Heinrich Wettstein.

The windshield over the burner is embossed with the name **RECORD PATENT**, a Swiss mark usually associated with tubular self-heated soldering irons from **OERLIKON**. The burner resembles to some extent that on the **LYSS** lamps, pictured in the last issue of Blowlamp news, BN 91.



In the August 2012 issue of Blowlamp News BN81, there was a discussion of OERLIKON and the trade-marks ORKAN or ORCAN and its French equivalent OURAGAN (they all translate to "hurricane" in English). These were marks on lamps which incorporated a feature patented by Heinrich Wettstein, who at one time resided in the Swiss town of Oerlikon.



I set out to find what I could about the inventor. His numerous patents revealed, in addition to the details of the inventions, where and when he worked. Additional information surfaced in Google searches using his name.

An interesting discovery was from Heinrich Wettstein's first invention in 1903 (CH27484) for a faucet. The patent listed the little Swiss town of Lyss, which was also the location of the Fonderie et Robinetterie de Lyss, maker of faucets and LYSS blowlamps. Lyss was a small place and I doubt that there was more than one faucet-making factory. So we have Wettstein, who would later invent the OERLIKON lamps, working earlier at LYSS at the same time that that company was making blowlamps.

The next sighting of Wettstein was in 1910 is on another faucet patent (CH49234) which states that he was working in the Swiss town Oerlikon, near Zurich..

A history of the Swiss company Armaturenfabrik H. Nyffenegger of Oerlikon, includes the information that Heinrich Wettstein was hired about 1911 and that he already had patents for faucets. The company's products were said to include, in addition to faucets, Benzinloetkolben (petrol soldering irons).

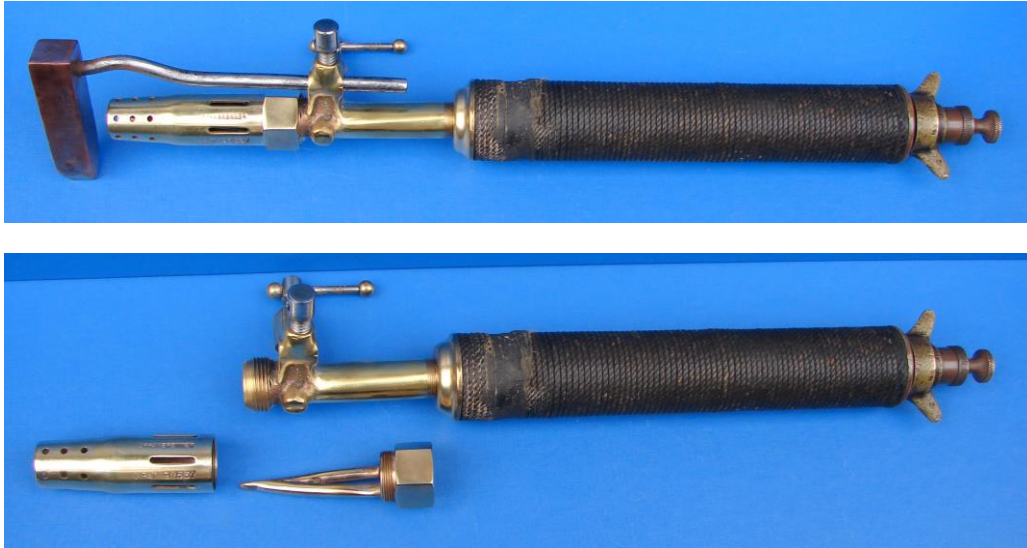
By 1916, Wettstein had formed his own company (this is deduced from a 1945 Zurich manufacturer's directory, which lists Heinrich Wettstein & Co. as a maker of Oerlikon brand blowlamps, with the information that the company had been in business for twenty nine years.)

In 1917 Wettstein was awarded Swiss patent CH75469 for method of attaching a soldering copper to a blowlamp nozzle. This appears to be what was later referred to as the **RECORD PATENT** design.

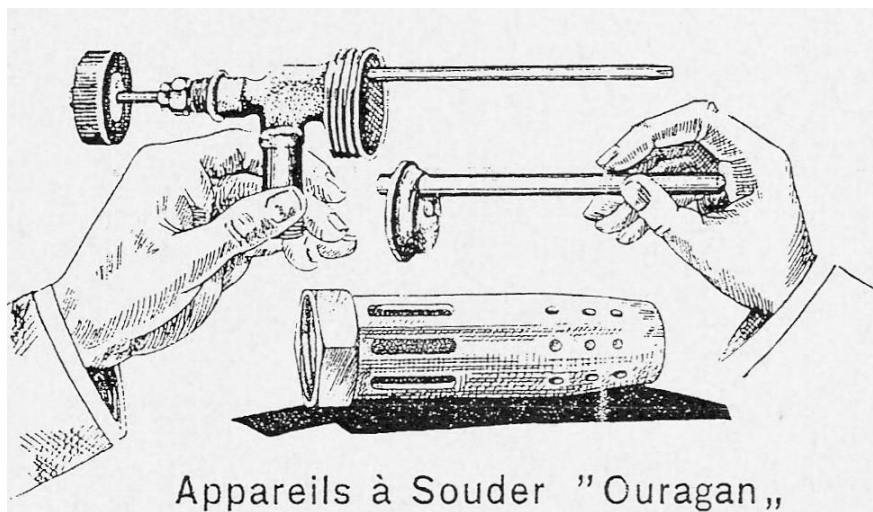


**HEINRICH WETTSTEIN (Continued)**

Wettstein was awarded patent CH97537 in 1921 for a version of a fuel preheater, located longitudinally within the burner. The SHSI shown here is marked with that patent number and incorporates the patented preheater method, a predecessor to the **ORKAN** design. This SHSI also incorporates the method of positioning a soldering copper at the end of a rod, secured to the burner with a clamp, a feature of the 1917 patent.



His patent of 1925 (CH117884) was for a simpler pre-heating device located longitudinally within a blowlamp's burner. It was the basis for the **ORKAN / OURAGAN MARKS**.



It appears that the Wettstein & Co. continued as an engineering company in addition to being a supplier of blowlamps. During the 1930s and until 1945 there were more Swiss patents awarded to Heinrich Wettstein, sometimes jointly with his son, and sometimes to his company. These were mostly for pumps, atomizers and the like. None were for blowlamps.

More about **WETTSTEIN** and **OERLIKON** in the next issue of Blowlamp News.

## TYERS RESTORATION By Ted Rawson



"I have just been to a farm auction and spotted this plumbers furnace in a sorry state. I know it's not a blowlamp but it was part and parcel of my apprenticeship when we used to use one to melt lead for caulking joints in cast iron soil stacks. I even used one containing solder in my early days to use with a ladle and splash-stick to make a wiped solder joint on a lead pipe. Very hard work!!! I decided to restore it to its former glory as there are not many left and it seemed a shame to leave it to rot!!!"

[Editor's note: See BN 85, December 2013, for more about Tyers and The Portable Furnace & Patents Company of Carrington]



**NEW MEMBER**

**Arthur Warhurst**



“Attached (at right) is a picture of a Cotton Johnson lamp. Someone has cut a small part of the badge off; it now reads Cotton John. The blow pipe was damaged beyond repair; I found a site with a picture of a Cotton Johnson on so it might be wrong. As an apprentice gas fitter in the early 60's we used an Abbott Birks lamp to solder lead joints. I bought a Bladon lamp several years ago to solder electrical connections on motor bikes. I decided to sell the lamp on eBay. Then I noticed an Abbott Birks on eBay which I bought. I then started to collect methylated spirit lamps.”





## NEW MEMBER

## Clive Finch

“Yes, it’s me on one of my many bikes; this one is frameless - almost, I first made the exhausts then clamped everything else to them via billet 6068 aluminum. See my website at

[www.twizlecustoms.co.uk](http://www.twizlecustoms.co.uk)

I’m fairly well known around the world amongst the custom chopper and trike folks. I’ve had my work featured in all the main custom bike magazines for many years and I have dozens of custom show prizes, most are for best engineering. I have a fully equipped home workshop over a hundred foot long and I’ve spent the past 40 odd years welding, fabricating, machining and metal polishing.

I’ve always liked very old antique / vintage brass n copper tools, and I regret not actively collecting blow lamps when I was much younger. I’ve been collecting very old gas cutting n welding torches for a lot of years and I’ve hundreds of them, blow lamps I’ve bought as and when if I’ve seen them at a decent price but until recently I’ve not been seeking them out.

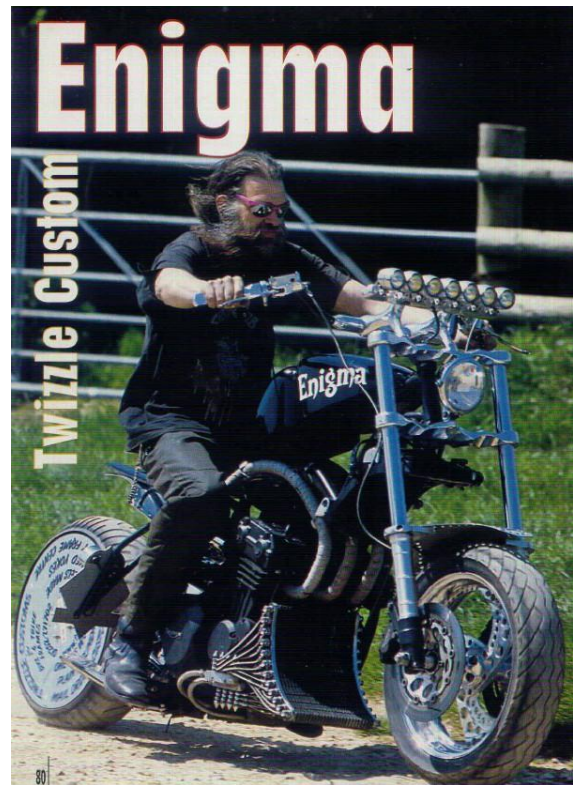
I currently have 50 or so round pot types of blowlamps mostly European made, 5 American made, 2 flat auto torches and 26 horizontal lamps 1 of which is British made and the others are continental. As far as I know none are rare unless an ENDERS one is?

Amongst my other old brass tools I have 6 gas soldering torches, oxy-hydrogen torches, oxy-coal gas torches, brass plumb bobs, brass n wood levels, and lots of old beer taps.

My most recent buy is a vertical nozzle lamp with a steel tank. SH&S, dated 1944; it has a hexagonal brass pump shaft with a patented pump locking setup, and a screw knob pressure release valve built into the filler cap, sorry to say the lamps handle is missing; I plan to use a handle from an ordinary SHS lamp to complete it.

I don’t know if this lamp is rare or not but I’ve certainly never seen another like it.

Does anyone know the purpose of the clips either side of where the handle attaches?” (Keith Hawkins suggests the clip was for a jet-block tubular spanner)



**KOVOPODNIK**

This modern lamp is from the **Kovopodnik** Company, located in České Budějovice, in the Czech Republic. (Because of the unfavorable difference in cost of bottled liquefied gas versus petrol, petrol blowlamps continued to be manufactured in Czechoslovakia after they had ceased to be made in England, France, Germany and the USA.)

The company is still in business, but I don't know if blowlamps are still manufactured there. The plastic handle contains several accessory or spare parts, including washers and a jet block, shown below.



Does anyone have more information about **Kovopodnik** lamps?

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**NEXT ISSUE**

More about **SIEVERT, WETTSTEIN, OERLIKON** and your contributions of stories from steam fairs, unusual lamps, and photos of collections

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**INDEX to ISSUES 1-88 (1992 – 2014)**

A cross-referenced index to all issues of **BLOWLAMP NEWS** is available from Keith Hawkins on request, with a contribution to cover the costs of printing and postage.

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