

# ***BLOWLAMP NEWS***

**BN 93**

**DECEMBER**

**2015**

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

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## **Vive La France!**



**November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015** As I begin to assemble this issue of ***BLOWLAMP NEWS*** it has been two days since the terror attack in Paris. That evening I emailed one of my blowlamp friends in the Paris suburbs asking about the safety of his family and the people he knows. He replied, “Yes, all who we know are safe. A friend of mine and his wife were very close to one of the attacks in Paris last night. They were very lucky but they are very shocked...We are afraid, we are disgusted, the attack was unjust, and all the 128 victims were innocent!!! But we must not give in, we must continue! Tomorrow morning, I will go to the secondhand market...”

It's a time to reflect upon the small world that we live in. This hobby of collecting blowlamps is international in scope. The lamps come from many parts of the world, not just the particular country in which each of us lives and our interests are shared by collectors worldwide. Without the generous provision of information, photographs and articles by Blowlamp Society members residing in France, our organization and our newsletter would be so much the poorer. Thank you to all our French friends, and **VIVE LA FRANCE!**

Graham Stubbs, Editor

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The lamp with three burners shown above is the French F.J. “Lampe N° 4”

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## PROPOSED BLOWLAMP SOCIETY WEB SITE

Two of the three organizations for collectors of blowlamps / blowtorches maintain websites.

### American Website

The site for the American group, **BTCA**, the Blowtorch Collectors Association, is at [www.vintageblowtorches.com](http://www.vintageblowtorches.com)

The BTCA site includes:

- Tips for cleaning & restoration
- History of blowtorches
- Past issues *THE TORCH* & an index
- List of 900 plus US patents
- Members-only page
- Links to other sites



### French website

The French group, L'Association Française des Amateurs d'Outils Anciens à Flamme has a site (in English) at [www.lampeasouder.com/en](http://www.lampeasouder.com/en)

The French site includes:

- Sections for lamps from each country
- Photo gallery
- Documentation
- History of makers
- Curiosities & unknowns
- Members-only page
- Links to other sites



### A Future Website for the British group.

I propose to create a site for the **Blowlamp Society**, modeled on features of the above sites.

The website would include:

- All past 90 plus issues of Blowlamp News
- Photo Galleries
- List of 300 plus UK patents
- Members-only pages etc. etc. ... and what members want.

**HOWEVER**, it will only happen with some **active** participation by members who are willing to help. I don't need assistance to set up the site initially, but I do need a few people to help with planning what should be on the website, and to assist with maintaining it.

If you want this to happen contact me **Graham Stubbs** at [gstubbs222@aol.com](mailto:gstubbs222@aol.com)

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### IN THIS ISSUE

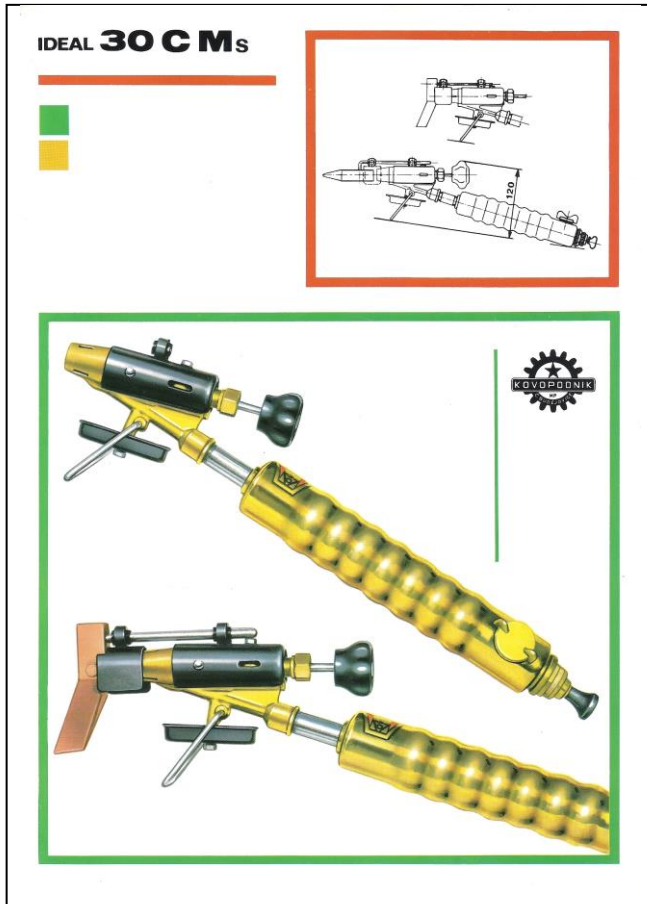
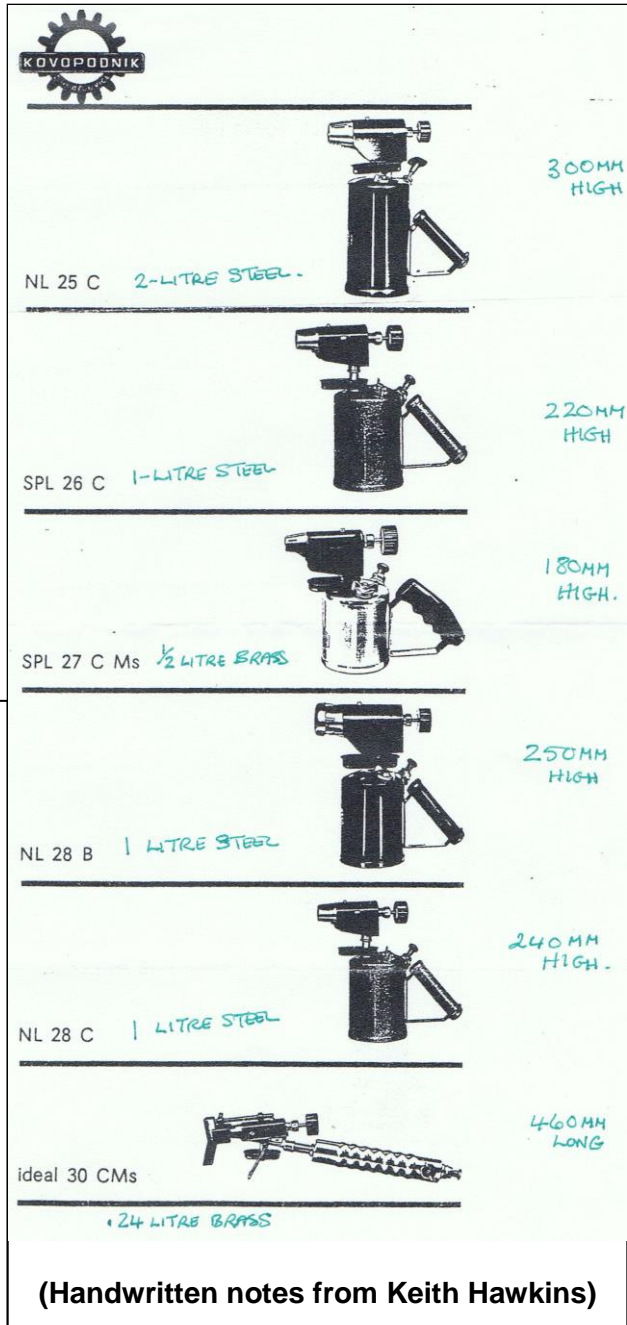
AN AUSTRALIAN COLLECTION  
SIEVERT LIST OF MODELS Part 3  
MORE ABOUT COTTON & JOHNSON

PULSATING LAMPS  
SUBSCRIPTION DUES (SEE BACK PAGE)  
MORE ABOUT KOVOPODNIK

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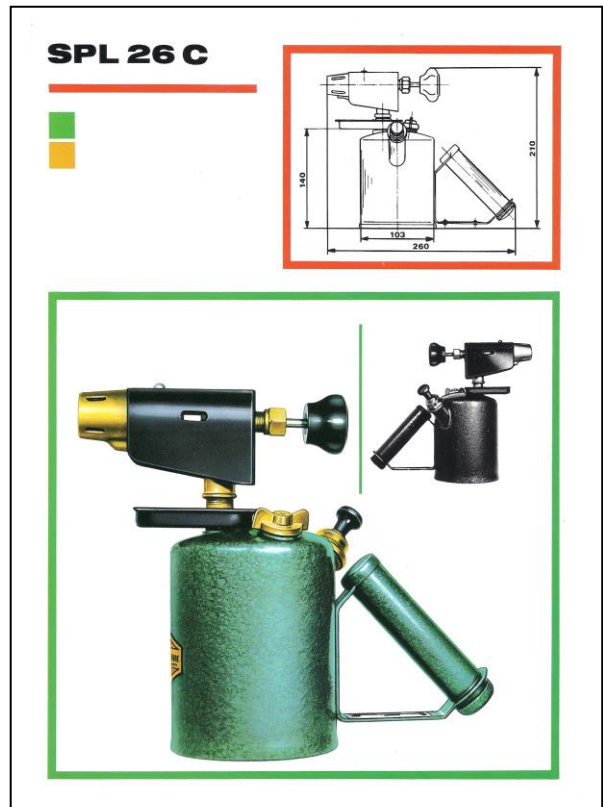
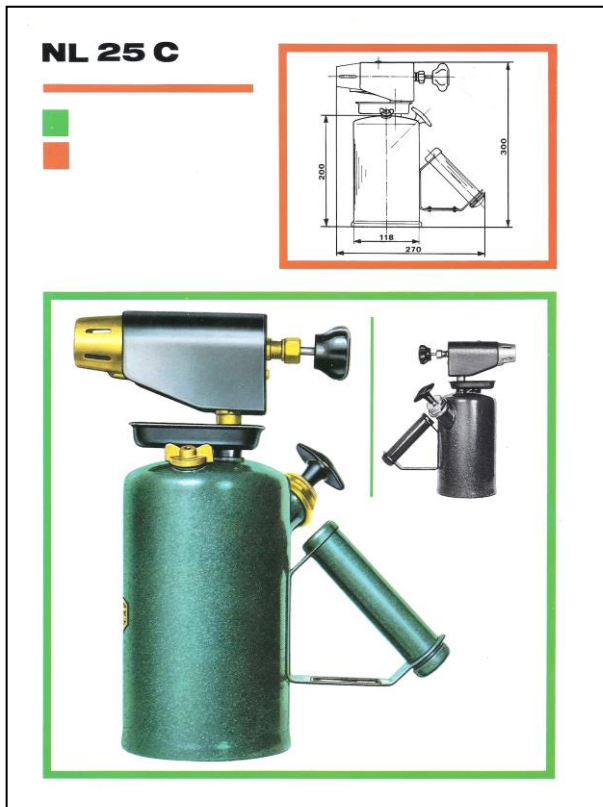
**MORE ABOUT KOVOPODNIK**

The photo of a KOVOPODNIK lamp in BN92 prompted submission of catalogue material and more photos. Michel Duval provided the scans from a 1997 catalogue. Keith Hawkins sent photos of more KOVOPODNIK lamps.





**MORE ABOUT KOVOPODNIK (Continued)**



**MORE ABOUT KOVOPODNIK (Continued)**

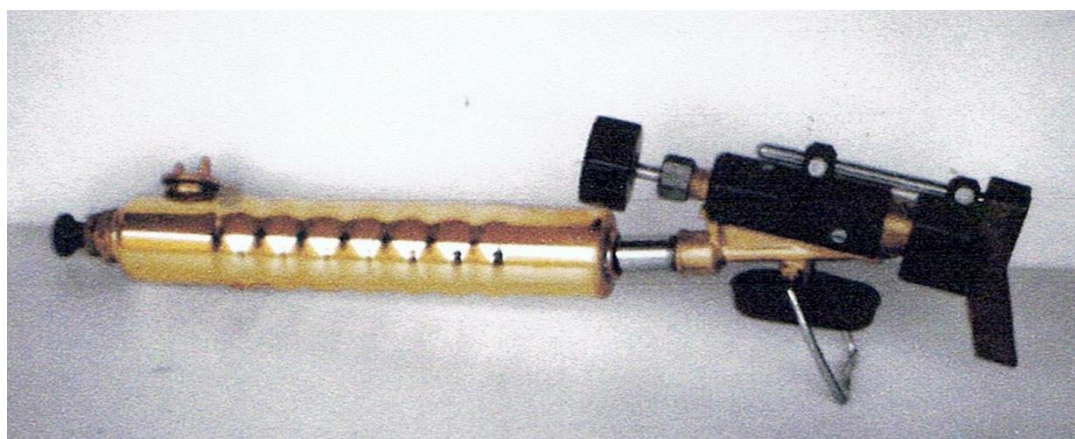
KOVOPODNIK ... lamps from the collection of Keith Hawkins.

Keith identified the KOVOPODNIK lamp shown in BN92 as the model SPL27c

In response to my comments about why petrol torches continued in Czechoslovakia after they ceased to be made in Western Europe, Keith said that the reason was the unavailability of bottled liquefied gas in all countries behind the Iron Curtain.



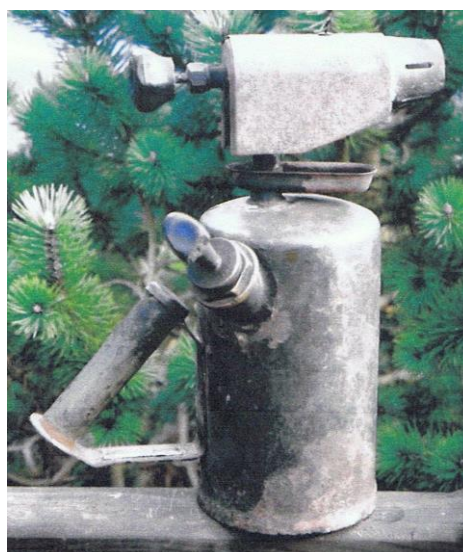
**KOVOPODNIK NL28A  
1 LITRE PETROL**



**KOVOPODNIK SHSI  
IDEAL 30 CMS**



**KOVOPODNIK  
.45 LITRE PETROL**



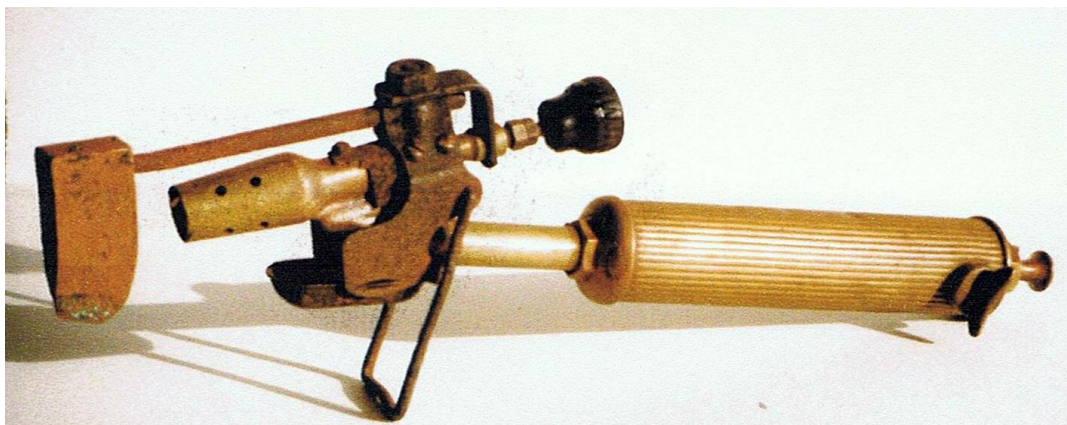
**KOVOPODNIK NL25C  
ALL STEEL 2 LITRE PETROL**



# MAX SIEVERT

This is PART 3 in a series of features about the Swedish maker of blowlamps and related apparatus, **MAX SIEVERT**. The following website has much more about collectible SIEVERT lamps:  
[www.max-sievert-branders.webklik.nl](http://www.max-sievert-branders.webklik.nl)

On this page are pictures of two **SIEVERT** self-heated soldering irons (SHSIs). From Keith Hawkins. Keith had the following comments about the entry in the table in BN91 which listed the AKP2 as the old version of models 284 and 294: He points out that the photos are very different; the ribbing on the tank is fine on the AKP2 and much more pronounced on the 294. The burner is cast with all the works on the AKP2, but is a separate screwed on part on the 294, which also fills through the pump Assembly. Even the control valves are different.



**SIEVERT AKP2**



**SIEVERT 294 (Petrol)**

The pages following, listing **SIEVERT** blowlamps designated “**VAPOURIA**” models were prepared by Michel Duval, originally for French newsletter the “Gazette”.. **VAPOURIA** lamps were intended exclusively for paraffin; they are particularly favoured by French collectors.

Three classes of lamps are identified by coloured background in the table below.

- |                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| 1. White (no colour) | = Blowlamps and brazing lamps                         |
| 2. Blue              | = Industrial Heating lamps                            |
| 3. Yellow            | = Engine Heating lamps ( <b>MOTORLAMPEN</b> in Dutch) |

(Editor's note: the distinction between industrial and engine heating lamps is probably not absolute)

**SIEVERT LISTING PART 3. "VAPOURIA" BRAND ONLY**

Model	Burner	Characteristics	Years	Capacity litres/(pints)
2 (old 112)	Horizontal burner with swiveling cover	Pump in handle	1929 / 1937	0,50
3 (old 113)	Horizontal burner with swiveling cover	Pump in handle	1929 / 1937	0,75
4 (old 114)	Horizontal burner with swiveling cover	Pump in handle	1929 / 1937	1,00 / 1,10
5	Horizontal burner with swiveling cover	Pump in handle/ metal-strap at the base of the tank	1934 / 1937	1,30
6	Horizontal burner with swiveling cover	Pump in handle/ metal-strap at the base of the tank	1934 / 1937	2,15
7	Horizontal burner with fixed cover	Pump in handle/ metal-strap at the base of the tank	1937	3,00
8	Horizontal burner with fixed cover	Pump in handle/ metal-strap at the base of the tank	1937	3,00
10	Inclined burner English type diameter 13.7 mm (Horizontal or vertical on request)	Pump in tank Folded handles	1917 / 1937	0,25
11	Inclined burner English type dia 17 mm (Horizontal or vertical on request)	Pump in handle	1917 / 1937	0,40
11/555	Inclined burner English type	Pump in handle	1961	
555	Inclined burner English type	Pump in handle	1965	
11b (or 11B)	Inclined burner English type	Pump in handle	1934	0,50
12/556	Inclined burner English type	Pump in handle	1961	
556	Inclined burner English type	Pump in handle	1965	
12	Inclined burner English type dia 19 mm (Horizontal or vertical on request)	Pump in handle	1917 / 1937	0,60
13	Horizontal burner with fixed cover	Pump in handle	?	0,75
14	Horizontal burner with fixed cover	Pump in handle	?	1,00
15	Horizontal burner diameter 36 mm, with fixed cover	Pump in handle	1917 / 1937	2,00 / 2,25
15B pipe 13°	burner with fixed cover, Inclined at 13°	Pump in handle Separate tank on tripod	1925	2,00
15H tube	Horizontal burner with fixed cover	Pump in handle Separate tank on tripod	1925	2,00
15P Engine (Motor)	Horizontal burner with swiveling cover (Used with Bolinder engines.Ed.)	Pump in handle Separate tank on tripod	1925	2,00
15R vertical	Vertical burner	Pump in handle Separate tank on tripod	1925	2,00

Model	Burner	Characteristics	Years	Capacity litres/(pints)
16	Horizontal burner 42 mm. dia. with fixed cover	Pump in handle Separate tank on tripod Optional pressure gauge	1917 / 1937	3,00 / 3,40
16B tube 13°	Horizontal burner with fixed cover Inclined at 13°	Pump in handle Separate tank on tripod	1925	3,00
16H tube	Horizontal burner with fixed cover	Pump in handle Separate tank on tripod	1925	3,00
16R vertical	vertical burner	Pump in handle tank on tripod	1917 / 1925	3,00
17	Horizontal burner 48 mm dia. with fixed cover	Pump in handle tank on tripod optional pressure gauge	1917 / 1937	4,00 / 4,50
17B tube 13°	Burner with fixed cover, slanted at 13°	Pump in handle Separate tank on tripod	1925	4,00
17H tube	Horizontal burner with fixed cover	Pump in handle Separate tank on tripod	1925	4,00
17R vertical	Vertical burner	Pump in handle tank on tripod	1925	4,00
90	Slanted burner, special shape	Pump in handle Adjusting air ring on the burner	1917 / 1925	0,60
110	Flat rotary Inclined burner	Pump in handle	1917 / 1925	0,25
111	Flat rotary Inclined burner	Pump in handle	1917 / 1925	0,40
112	Horizontal burner 18mm dia. With swiveling cover	Pump in handle	1917 / 1925	0,40
112R vertical	Vertical burner	Pump in handle	1925	0,40
113	Horizontal burner 22 mm dia. With swiveling cover	Pump in handle	1917 / 1925	0,60
113P motor	Horizontal burner With swiveling cover	Pump in handle Reinforced tank	1925	0,75
113R vertical	Vertical burner	Pump in handle	1925	0,60
114	Horizontal burner 27 mm dia. With swiveling cover	Pump in handle	1917 / 1925	1,00
114B tube 13°	Burner with fixed cover, slanted at 13°	Pump in handle Separate tank with threaded stem	1925 / 1929	1,00
114H tube	Horizontal burner with fixed cover	Pump in handle Separate tank with threaded stem	1925	1,00
114P motor	Horizontal burner with swiveling cover	Pump in handle reinforced tank	1925	1,25
114R vertical	Vertical burner	Pump in handle	1925	1,00
3001	Vertical burner, English type	Pump in handle with control knob	?	2,30 (4 pts)
3002	Vertical burner, English type	Pump in handle Without control knob	?	1,15 (2 pts)
3038	Elongated vertical burner	Pump in handle	1925	1,00 (2 pts)
3039	Elongated vertical burner	Pump in handle	1925	0,60 (1¼ pt)



Model	Burner	Characteristics	Years	Capacity litres/(pints)
3046	Vertical burner, English type 19 mm dia	Pump in handle	1925	0,40 (¾ pt)
3047	Vertical burner, English type 19 mm dia	Pump in handle	1925	0,60 (1 pt)
3048	Vertical burner, English type 19 mm dia (Angled when used with Tangye engines Ed.)	Pump in handle	1925	0,57 (1 pt)
3049	Round Inclined burner, large diameter, extra tall	Pump in handle	?	¾ pt (0,40)
3050	Heating lamp with one vertical burner diameter 38 mm	Pump in tank Without handle	?	2 ¾ pts (1,60)
3053	Heating lamp with one vertical burner diameter 76 mm	Pump in tank With folding handles	?	3 pts (1,70)
3066	Heating lamp with one vertical burner diameter 38 mm	Pump in tank With folding handles	?	3 pts (1,70)
3067	Heating lamp with one vertical burner diameter 51 mm	Pump in tank With folding handles	?	3 ½ pts (2,00)
3068	Heating lamp with one vertical burner diameter 63 mm	Pump in tank With folding handles	?	4 pts (2,30)
3069	Heating lamp with one vertical burner diameter 76 mm	Pump in tank With folding handles	?	5 pts (2,80)
3070	Elongated inclined double burner, extra tall	Pump in tank	?	1 ¾ pt (1,00)
3071	Round inclined burner, large diameter extra tall	Pump in tank	?	1 ¾ pt (1,00)
3089	Heating lamp with one vertical burner diameter 51 mm	Pump in tank With folding handles	?	3 pts (1,70)
3091	Vertical burner, English type	Pump in tank: With control knob	?	?
3094	Large round horizontal burner, steel shell	Pump in handle	?	?
3095	Round inclined burner, large diameter, extra tall	Pump in handle	?	1 ¾ pt (1,00)
3096	Heating lamp with one vertical burner diameter 38 mm	Pump in handle	?	1,50
3097	Heating lamp with two vertical burners diameter 38 mm	Pump in tank, no handle	?	2 ¾ pts (1,60)
3098	Heating lamp with three vertical burners diameter 38 mm	Pump in tank, no handle	?	4 pts (2,30)
3099	Heating lamp with four vertical burners diameter 38 mm	Pump in tank, no handle	?	5 pts (2,80)
3111	Vertical burner, English type dia.25 mm	Pump in handle With control knob and serpentine coil	?	2 pts (1,14)
3112	Vertical burner, English type, dia.25 mm	Pump in handle With control knob and serpentine coil	?	2 pts (1,14)
3113	Vertical burner, English type dia.25 mm	Pump in handle With control knob and serpentine coil	?	3 ½ pts (2,00)
3114	Vertical burner, English type dia.25 mm	Pump in handle	?	3 ½ pts (2,00)

Model	Burner	Characteristics	Years	Capacity litres/(pints)
3116	Vertical burner, English type dia.25 mm	With control knob and serpentine coil	?	4 pts (2,30)
3122	Oblong Inclined burner, big volume	Pump in handle	?	?
3132	Heating lamp with 2 vertical burners 38 mm dia	Pump in tank. No handle	1913	1,30 / 1,60
3133	Heating lamp with 3 vertical burners 38 mm dia	Pump in tank. No handle	1913	1,30 / 1,60
3134	Heating lamp with 4 vertical burners 38 mm dia	Pump in tank. No handle	1913	1,30 / 1,60
3136	Heating lamp with 6 vertical burners 38 mm dia	Pump in tank. No handle	1913	3,00
3138	Heating lamp with 8 vertical burners 38 mm dia	Pump in tank. No handle	1913	3,00
3167	Round vertical burner, large diameter	Pump in handle	?	?
3216	Engine heater with vertical burner and cover	Pump in tank With folding handles	?	?
3512	Engine heater with 1 vertical burner diameter 18 mm and cover	Pump in tank. With control valve	1913	1,00
3513	Engine heater with 1 vertical burner diameter 22 mm and cover	Pump in tank. With control valve	1913	1,30
3514	Engine heater with 1 vertical burner diameter 27 mm and cover	Pump in tank. With control valve	1913	1,75
3515	Engine heater with 1 vertical burner diameter 36 mm and cover	Pump in tank. With control valve	1913	2,25
3516	Engine heater with 1 vertical burner diameter 42 mm and cover	Pump in tank. With control valve	1913	3,00
3517	Engine heater with 1 vertical burner diameter 48 mm and cover	Pump in tank. With control valve	1913	4,00
3684	Round Inclined burner, large diameter	Pump in tank	?	?

**AUSTRALIAN COLLECTOR LES TAYLOR**

Les Taylor of Melbourne, Australia provided these photos.  
He has a collection of 150+ blowlamps and blowtorches.



**AUSTRAL SIX-BURNER  
LAMP MADE BY  
RONALDSON & TIPPET  
BALLARAT AUSTRALIA  
(PLENTY OF HEAT!)**



**LES WITH HIS  
PRIMUS 866 BRAZING TORCH  
ABOUT 8 PINTS CAPACITY  
450 MM IN HEIGHT**

**THE "DARLTON"  
COMBINATION TOOL**

Commonwealth Metallic Pty. Ltd., Manufacturers of "Darlton" Products, draw your attention to the following:—Only the best quality material has been used throughout construction.

Skilled operators, expert supervision, careful checking and testing, have been employed in its production. For this reason we are pleased to offer a **GUARANTEE WITH EVERY UNIT.**

To obtain the best results from this iron, proceed as follows:—

- (1) Fill container with Water White Petrol to approximately 2/3rds capacity.  
We recommend "SHELLITE."
- (2) Replace Filler Cap and Gasket.
- (3) Close Control Valve (Plastic Knob) by turning clockwise.
- (4) Pump air into container.
- (5) Fill Pre-heating Cup with Methylated Spirit and ignite.
- (6) When Methylated Spirit has almost burned away, open Control Valve slightly, allowing gas in burner to ignite.
- (7) Allow Burner to gradually gain heat, when the flame can then be adjusted as required.  
gas in Burner to ignite.

WE RECOMMEND "SHELLITE"  
A Shell Product

**AUSTRALIAN "DARLTON"  
COMBINATION TOOL INSTRUCTIONS**



**"COMPANION" BRAND ONE PINT  
CAPACITY  
MADE IN SYDNEY UNDER LICENSE  
FROM MAX SIEVERT STOCKHOLM**



AUSTRALIAN COLLECTOR LES TAYLOR (Continued)



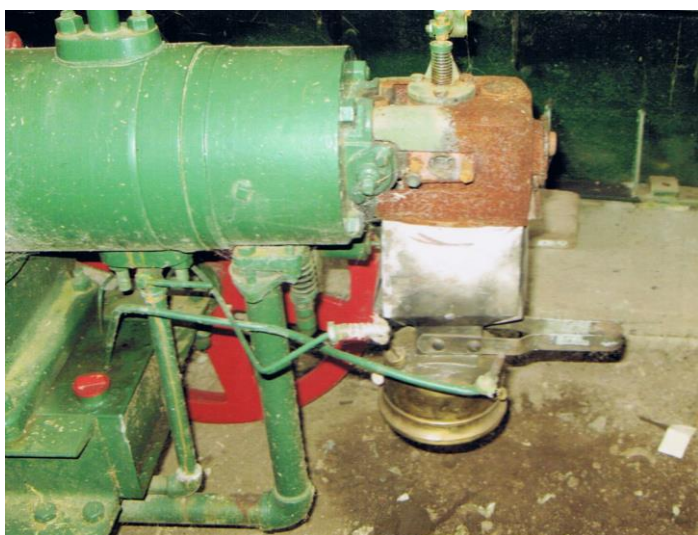
**COLLIN APPARATUS  
HEIGHT 26 CM (10 1/2")**



**COLLIN APPARATUS  
DIS-ASSEMBLED**

Les wants to know what this is. It was found in excellent condition.

Editor's note: Collin was a well-known French supplier of laboratory apparatus and surgical instruments apparatus in the nineteenth and early twentieth century.



**"AUSTRAL" TRACTOR LAMP  
FITTED IN A STEEL BOX  
ON A HOT TUBE ENGINE**



## **TWO AUSTRALIAN LAMPS IN AN ENGLISH COLLECTION**

Ray Everett provided photos of these two Australian lamps from his collection.

On the left is a DARLTON, marked on the filler cap, and on the right is a COMPANION BRAND, stamped "MADE IN AUSTRALIA BY AUTHORITY OF MAX SIEVERT, SWEDEN", on the tank.



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## **AN AUSTRALIAN'S VISIT TO TURKEY**

During a recent visit to Turkey I had the opportunity to visit the Rahmi M. Koç Müzesi in Hasköy, Istanbul. The museum has a very extensive collection of items ranging from a B24 bomber and the submarine TCG Uluçalreis (operational) to miniature models and all kinds of machinery and tools from our recent industrial history - but NO blowlamps.

On returning home I thought I would fill this small yet important gap and forwarded an Australian made 'Companion' one-pint blowlamp (unrestored) to the museum.

Mr Koç graciously accepted the donation and had it placed on display in the Ironmongery Section. If you happen to be in the historical rich city of Istanbul, make sure that you place this museum on your 'to do' list; it is well worth the visit. Ensure you allow a full day. Look out for the 'COMPANION'.

Mal Mutimer

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## **WANTED: EOLIPYLES**

Charles Smith is interested in purchasing little Eolipyles, or self-acting torches (see pages 288-290 in *More Vintage Blowtorches*). Please contact Charles at [ccsmith2@charter.net](mailto:ccsmith2@charter.net).

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**PULSATING OR "HUNTING" BLOWLAMPS**

By Phil Harris

(Phil is the source of many of the "flame " photos in previous issues of BN. Ed.)

I have a modest collection of paraffin and petrol blowlamps, and I like to get them all working if possible. However I have a significant number of paraffin blowlamps that are impossible to use for any length of time because of a very noticeable pulsating or "hunting" of the flame. I have been giving this some thought of late, and have come up with a theory of why it happens - I think it's a symptom of a carbonised vapouriser.

The most significant piece of evidence for my theory is that on the blowlamps that pulsate, the fuel tank gets hot. Very hot, and very quickly; in a matter of minutes the tank becomes too hot to hold. Here is my thinking: in a normal running blowlamp with a clean vapouriser, liquid fuel enters the hot vapouriser where it begins to absorb heat and its temperature rises. Once boiling point is reached at the system pressure, further along the vapouriser, the liquid fuel boils off into vapour which fills the space between the liquid and the jet or orifice. Super-heating of the vapour takes place in the final part of the vapouriser. Equilibrium is reached when the rate of flow of cold fuel entering the vapouriser matches the rate of vapour emission from the orifice. Flow of fuel is in the forward direction only. There will be a temperature gradient along the length of the vapouriser which ensures that the liquid fuel is heated, vapourised and superheated at a steady rate.

In the pulsating blowlamp, where a significant amount of carbon has been deposited inside the vapouriser, the temperature gradient along the vapouriser becomes more marked, because the rate of heat transfer through the layer of carbon is less than that through clean metal. Vapourisation therefore occurs suddenly and further along towards the hottest part of the vapouriser, causing the liquid fuel to flash off into vapour and expand rapidly. In a choked or carbonised vapouriser there is reduced volume into which this vapour can expand, due to the carbon lining the vapouriser walls, so the pressure rises rapidly, and this pressure surge is sufficient to push fuel - and vapour - backwards down the dip tube and into the tank. On contact with cooler fuel in the tank, the vapour condenses and contracts rapidly, releasing its latent heat into the fuel tank, and the pressure in the vapouriser drops rapidly to where it is below the tank pressure. Fuel surges forwards towards the vapouriser again, where it flashes off into vapour, and the cycle repeats. The surging starts as soon as the blowlamp is lit at the end of the pre-heat period, occurs at a regular frequency, once or twice a second, and can't be stopped by pumping more pressure into the tank.

The fact that internal carbonisation has occurred is shown by parts of the vapouriser glowing red-hot during operation, which indicates that heat transfer from the flame to the fuel or vapour at that point is being impeded by the layer of carbon, which acts as an insulator. I have a couple of lamps with the Sievert style of vapouriser with the block end near the flame nozzle, and some of these glow cherry-red at this point due to internal carbon build-up.

As far as I can see, there is little that can be practically done on most blowlamps to clean the carbon out of the vapouriser. I have a couple of Sievert models where there are two small removable plugs, but these are usually seized solid and are unlikely to seal tight again afterwards even if removal did prove possible. I have tried repeatedly heating and quenching a choked vapouriser, then tapping it with a light hammer to break up and shake out the carbon, but I had no success.

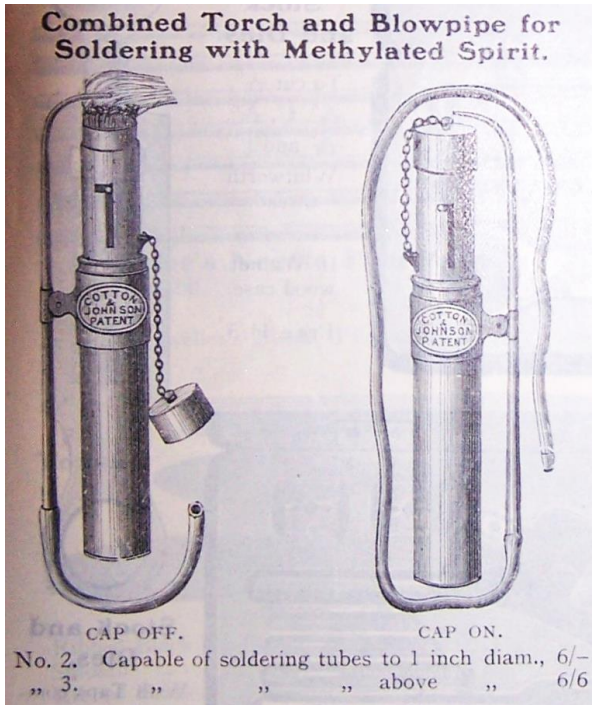
I wonder if any other Blowlamp Society members have encountered this phenomenon or found a way to cure it? I've checked with collectors of pressure lamps (which exhibit the same effect) and those folk don't seem to know either.



**COTTON & JOHNSON**

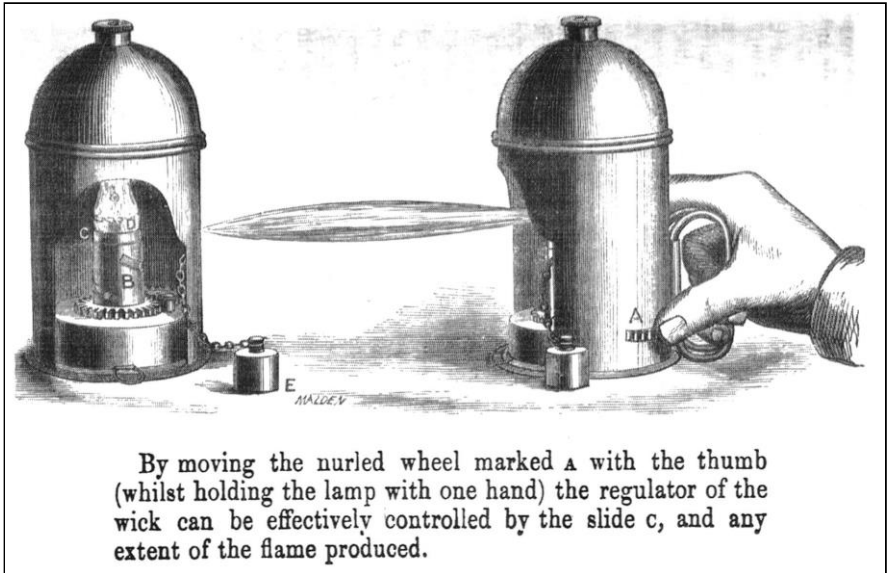
Arthur Warhurst provided a photo of an unusual Cotton & Johnson spirit lamp for the last issue, BN92. He later found a catalogue from this company with an illustration of the lamp. A cover letter accompanying the catalogue is dated 1919. The letterhead says that they had been established for more than a hundred years.

This company, with offices in Gerrard Street, Soho, London W.1, appears to have been a distributor of a broad line of tools, including Swedish blowlamps, with several pages of the catalogue illustrating models well known to collectors. The unusual item is the lamp shown below. They claimed to be patentees of “blowing lamps and combined torches” among other tools.



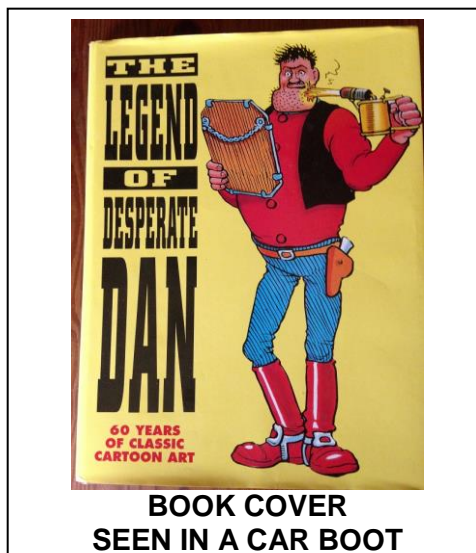
Detail of Arthur Warhurst's Cotton & Johnson lamp.

Editor's note: A corresponding patent assigned to Cotton & Johnson has not yet shown up. However, a search turned up the “Regulating-Flame Torch Blowing Lamp” (eolipyle) shown below, from The British Journal of Dental Science, 1869, said to be patented by Cotton & Johnson.



**FUNNY**

Pictures from Fairs – supplied by Carolyn Rhodes

**TWO DUFFERS****BOOK COVER  
SEEN IN A CAR BOOT**

The big house in the background of the picture is the house/college at the Old Warden Park in Biggleswade, Bedford. This is also where the Shuttleworth collection is - old aeroplanes. Ken Longden and Max were fighting over an old lamp Max was selling on our stall. Ken was trying to beg it for a fiver, Max wanted £15 for some sort of unmarked lamp that Max thinks was probably from Belgium or The Netherlands; the tank was in a bit of a state.

**SUBSCRIPTION DUES**

Enclosed in this issue is a subscription renewal form. Annual subscriptions are: For UK members 15 UK pounds, for International members 25 UK pounds. You may pay by PayPal to [Blowlampnews@hotmail.com](mailto:Blowlampnews@hotmail.com) Alternatively payments may be made by post to: Carolyn Rhodes, Mathom House, 71 Ryecroft Road, Hemington, Derbys. DE74 2RE England. (Note: If you have already paid for two years, including 2016, you may ignore the notice.)

**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.

**BLOWLAMP NEWS** is published in March, June, September and December. Any items for inclusion should be with the editors at least four weeks before the issue date.

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